



The Flakey News

A Publication of the Fox Valley

Snowdrifters Ski Club

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▲ Note from Tom

**November 2016
1st edition**

Hi All!

I can't believe it's the holiday season already. How fast time goes by! Ski season will start in just the blink of an eye. I hope everyone is getting ready for our trips. We sure have some great ones planned. I know a lot of you wait to sign up for the weekend bus trip but now is the time to get going on that. I'm sure Sue would appreciate it. Then, I think, the only trip we have not filled is Steamboat Springs. Also, I hope a lot of you took advantage of the discount we got at Alpine Accessories. It's a wonderful way to start out a new ski season with new equipment. I hope to see you all at our next meeting on November 21st. You can also come to socialize with other members on November 7th.

Stay Fabulous!

Tom Quetsch



NOMINATIONS

During this election season I want to ask for volunteers for the Vice President and Secretary positions in our Club. Both positions are a two year commitment starting on May 1st. The Vice President is the natural successor to the President of the Club. The Vice President basically is a voting board member that deliberates on Club issues and administers the monthly General Meeting. The Secretary is another voting board member and records the Board Meeting discussion.

We have a very active Club and we need for people to accept these important positions so that the Snowdrifters can continue to provide great ski trips in the future. If you can, and have an interest, please email me or see me at an upcoming meeting.

Thank you for your consideration

Joe jhopp23@hotmail.com



GO!

CUBS

GO!

TRIPS

The pay schedules for the trips are as follows:

	Steamboat	Austria	Alyeska
June	\$200	\$350	\$200
July	\$220	\$350	\$210
August	\$220	\$350	\$210
September	\$220	\$350	\$210
October	\$220	\$350	\$210
November	\$240	\$350	\$210
December	\$0	\$350	\$210

The Shanty Creek, Michigan, January 6-8, 2017 bus trip will require a \$50 deposit to hold a spot. Total cost will be \$300 (non-skier) and \$346 (skier).

Contact trip leaders for questions and possible sign-ups. The remaining spots will fill up quickly.

Please stay current on your monthly payments.

Michele Kinzler

Trip Coordinator

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER

Reminder: As a result of the success of last year's trips, we had funds left over after paying our bills. If you went on a trip with us last year, your portion of the leftover funds has been credited to a trip this year as a "special discount." As we near the end of the trip payment plans, please be sure to check the balance due at the bottom of the receipt that you receive in your e-mail and adjust your next payment accordingly.

People who do not have an e-mail address on file obviously aren't getting e-mailed receipts. If you are one of these people and you skied with us last year, you can e-mail me at c.salisbury@computer.org or ask your trip leader for your current balance due.

Chuck

5 Fun Ski Facts:

- #1. 80 countries offer some form of ski area.
- #2. For several years, skier visits around the world have been estimated at around 400 million.
- #3. France, Austria and the USA each have around 3,000 ski lifts.
- #4. Austria, Norway and Switzerland have the highest participation levels, with at least 25% of their populations skiing.
- #5. 40 US states have ski resorts.

TRIP INSURANCE



Travel Smart. Travel Insurance.

In order to protect your investment in this trip, the Snowdrifters Ski Club strongly recommends that you consider purchasing travel insurance. Trip cancellation happens for a variety of reasons. After certain dates the Club will be assessed penalties and will not be able to recover all or any of your deposit or final payment. You could lose your entire deposit or entire total payment depending on the date of cancellation. But trip cancellation is not the only reason for considering travel insurance. A good policy will also cover you during the trip for items including emergency medical treatment and transportation, and lost, stolen or damaged baggage.

You can purchase a policy any time prior to starting the trip, but additional benefits such as coverage of pre-existing conditions are available if you purchase within a certain time limit after you make the trip deposit to the Snowdrifters Ski Club. So you should make a decision as soon as possible. And remember that by clicking on the Snowdrifters Web page: <http://www.snowdrifters.net> , then to "Our Trips" and "Travel Insurance" and clicking the special link for Travel Guard, you can access a special policy available to ski club members at a price of 7% of the trip cost, regardless of your age. Please review Certificate of Insurance for detail coverage.



Shanty Creek Resort
Bellaire, Michigan January 6-8, 2017
Price: \$300

Trip Includes:

- Round trip bus transportation with pizza, snacks and beverages on the bus Friday evening.
- Two nights lodging at the Lakeview Hotel (2 per room with triples and quads available). 183 classically appointed rooms, a full-service restaurant, lounge and bar, indoor and outdoor pools, a 3,000 sq. ft. fitness center and spa (spa fees not included; schedule appointments in advance of trip).
- Buy your lift tickets ahead and pay only \$46 for 2 days of skiing. (*\$346 total package for skiers*)

Tucked away in northern Michigan's snow belt, a little past Traverse City, Shanty Creek Resort is a skiing and snowboarding paradise. Comprised of two ski slopes, Schuss Mountain and Summit Mountain, Shanty Creek provides options for skiers of all levels. At Schuss, you find a 450' vertical drop, 41 runs, and 6 chair lifts. The setup is pretty expansive for a Michigan resort and was created with a thoughtful layout. Skiers of all levels can start at the top together yet take runs that fit their skill-set and still be able to meet up at the bottom of same lift to take the ride back up together. At Schuss, 5 out of 6 lifts take you to the peak.

Sitting on top of Summit Mountain and overlooking beautiful Lake Bellaire, The Lakeview Hotel easily has the best views of the whole resort and serves as the flagship property of the resort. Since the Lakeview is perched on top of Summit, it offers ski-in/ski-out access to the 11 runs on the hill and the newly relocated Alpine Tubing Park. Once you've warmed up on Summit, you can catch the ultra-convenient (and free!) resort shuttle to Schuss Mountain (15 minutes away).

Just minutes away from the slopes is the community of Bellaire, accessible by a free shuttle from the hotel. Don't miss the quaint Victorian shopping district, Short's Brewing Company (nightly entertainment) and Moka Bakery and Coffee Shop. Dining options also include Toonies Fish and Steak House, and Bellaire Bar (Best burgers in Northern Michigan).

The bus will depart locally on Friday afternoon at 1:00 p.m. and return Sunday evening by 9:00 p.m.

Trip leader:

Sue Stanciu skstanciu314@gmail.com

Steamboat Springs:

The Trip You've Been Waiting For!

January 22-27, 2017

ONLY FOUR AIR SEAT POSITIONS ARE STILL AVAILABLE!!



\$1,320 Skier Price w/air

Non-skier \$1,060

No air \$800

Fly directly to Hayden (no long bus ride from Denver) and stay in Eagle Ridge Condos.

4 great days of skiing, 5 nights lodging, all transportation, pizza party, lots of restaurants, shops, and pubs to explore!

Eagle Ridge Lodge has a private shuttle to/from the lifts, if you do not feel like walking. It has 3 community hot tubs, 2 are designated as adult only, and an outdoor pool and a sauna. This complex has 3 stories and elevators. A fitness center is on site, along with free ski storage.

The 2 and 3 bedroom condos feature separate bedrooms and living rooms, balconies, kitchens with breakfast bars and dining tables, gas fireplaces, and ski storage. A private guest shuttle is available to take you shopping or dining. There are many shops and restaurants within walking distance. Trip Advisor rates the Eagle Ridge Lodge at 5 stars.

Steamboat is actually a complete mountain range: Mt. Werner, Sunshine Peak, Storm Peak, Thunderhead Peak, Pioneer Ridge, and Christie Peak. 2,965 acres of terrain offer a diversity of trails for all levels of ability. Gladed areas of Pioneer Ridge, Sunshine and Storm Peak are Steamboat's particular claim to fame, with legendary Champagne powder snow in the trees for the most avid powder hounds.

With 26% more trails and 10% more lifts than the average Colorado ski resort, you'll spend less time in lift lines and more time on the slopes.

Trip Leader:

Sarah Richardson sricha10@yahoo.com

Assistant leader needed

Austrian Alps (Mayrhofen) and Prague, Czech Republic



Ten Days - \$2,450

SOLD OUT – WAIT LIST

Trip Includes:

- **Round Trip on United Air: Chicago - Munich; Prague to Chicago**

Jan 27	United	952	Chicago to Munich	550pm	950am
Feb 07	Lufthansa	1403	Prague to Frankfurt	650am	805am
Feb 07	United	90	Frankfurt to Chicago	1255am	335pm

- **Ground transportation from Airport to Hotel and back**
- **Seven Nights at the 4 Star Hotel Zillertalerhof**
- **Daily Breakfast and Dinner while in Mayrhofen**
- **Ground transportation from Mayrhofen to Prague**
- **Three nights with Breakfast at the 4 Star Amethyst Hotel Prague**

A passport is required for this trip and your passport must not expire 6 months beyond our return to the USA.

TRIP LEADERS:

Frank Hodowal: fthod@aol.com 630-584-0868

Joe Hopp: Jhopp23@hotmail.com 630-918-0130

Reason to Buy Trip Insurance? ***Harakiri in Mayrhofen***

The **Harakiri** has an average incline of 78 percent with a vertical drop of 375 meters, the Harakiri is the steepest slope in Austria. Thus, the slope is steeper than the initial trace of a ski jump -- so legendary that it draws a large cheering section of ski enthusiasts who watch the more extreme skiers tackle the run from the comfortable six-person chairlift. If you fall, don't expect to stop or slow down before you reach the bottom! Named after the Japanese ritual of suicide by samurai, Harakiri is "the world's steepest groomed slope, with a pitch of 38 degrees The only thing crazier than skiing it is watching them break out the specialized equipment needed to groom the slope."

You can purchase trip insurance from our web site at: <http://www.snowndrifters.net> then to "Our Trips" and "Travel Insurance" and clicking the special link for Travel Guard.



Alyeska, Alaska

SOLD OUT – WAIT LIST

March 3-9, 2017

\$1460 for the skier \$1345 for the non-skier

The trip will include air/ground transportation, 6 nights lodging, 3 days of skiing, and club dinner

We will be traveling on a nonstop flight from Chicago to Anchorage and will spend 2 nights at the Hilton Anchorage (with 2 people per room). On Saturday, we will be able to watch the Ceremonial start of the Iditarod, and even join in the annual Running of the Reindeer. Anchorage is home to some wonderful restaurants, too. On Sunday, we will head to Alyeska Resort in the town of Girdwood, about 30 miles southeast of Anchorage.

We will be staying at the chateau-style Hotel Alyeska for 4 nights (2 per room). Featured Guest Amenities include:

60-passenger aerial scenic tram, saltwater pool, whirlpool and fitness center, Seven Glaciers Restaurant - AAA *Four Diamond* award-winning mountain-top dining, The Spa at Alyeska, unique world-class dining & shops, and Starbucks™ in-room coffee.

With an average annual snowfall of 650 inches with 2,500 vertical feet of diverse terrain, and short lift lines, Alyeska Resort lives up to – and helps define – Alaska’s spectacular “steep and deep” reputation. And, Alyeska offers a mountain experience for all levels of skiers and riders.

You will have the opportunity to explore other activities around the area. “Lazy Otter” cruises out of Whittier offers a half day glacier cruise on Prince William Sound and the other half of the day is a trip to the Wildlife Conservation Center at the outskirts of Girdwood, where moose, bear, musk ox, lynx, elk and many other animals native to the Alaskan terrain are available for viewing. You will have time to explore the area with a number of different activities. Join us on this spectacular trip!

Trip Leader:

Michele Kinzler gbmkinz@gmail.com

Assistant Leader:

John Walsh jrwxplor@sbcglobal.net

CHICAGO METROPOLITAN SKI COUNCIL
CMSC

SPRING FLING 2017

ASPEN SNOWMASS

\$1105
PER PERSON

APRIL 1ST THRU APRIL 6TH

**Everybody loves Aspen. Everyone loves The Gant.
Now you can have them at a Great Price.**

•CMSC's 3rd Annual Spring Fling is a small late-season trip with a focus on the skiing.

•Aspen has it all: A late season, varied terrain beautiful scenery. PLUS restaurants, night life, and shopping. (Hit those end-of-season sales!)

•Open to signups by CMSC clubs or by individual members of clubs. There is NO minimum signup per club.

•Space is limited (only 48 spots available)

•Travel Insurance available.

Trip Leader: Larry Douglas
douglas375@sbcglobal.net

For more details and trip application visit: skicmsc.com/_SpringFling.htm

Includes:

- Round trip Air Chicago/Denver*
- Bus transportation To/From Aspen
- 5 Nights' Lodging at: The Gant**
(2 bedrooms/2 bath)
- 4 Days' Lifts***
- Wine & Cheese Reception

* Ground packages will be available.
Price TBD.

** Double occupancy. Single supplement pricing available

*** Lift ticket good at all four mountains. 2017 closing dates are; Aspen & Snowmass, 4/16; Aspen Highlands, 4/9; Buttermilk 4/2.



SOCIAL

Starting in October, 2016: The first Monday, during months of October through March, there will be an **Informal Social Gathering** at Old Towne for Snowdrifters that would like to meet for a drink or two. This informal social gathering will take the place of the Snowdrifter General meeting. We will still have our Board and General Meetings on the third Monday of every month.

12/19-Holiday Party- I will update details in next month's newsletter. But keep this date open for the event of the season!

Pat Quetsch

Social Director

Recipe

Pumpkin Pecan Cobbler

Ingredients:

- 1 C + 3 Tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons Baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 3/4 C granulated sugar
- 1 teaspoon Cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon Nutmeg
- 1/2 teaspoon Cloves
- 1/2 C Pumpkin Puree
- 1/4 C milk
- 1/4 C melted butter or vegetable oil
- 1 1/2 teaspoon vanilla

Topping:

- 1/2 C granulated sugar
- 1/2 C brown sugar
- 1/4 C chopped pecans
- 1 1/2 C very hot water

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees

In a medium sized bowl, stir together flour, baking powder, salt, sugar and spices. Set aside.

In a smaller bowl, stir pumpkin, milk, melted butter and vanilla together to combine. Pour wet ingredients into dry ingredients and mix to create thick batter. Pour into a small 8-inch casserole dish with high sides.

In a separate bowl, stir sugar, brown sugar and pecans together. Spread over the top of the batter evenly. Pour hot water over the entire thing (Without stirring a thing) and bake for 40 minutes or once the middle is set. (Be sure to place on a baking sheet in case it bubbles over) Cool 5-10 minutes before serving. Serve with more pecans and vanilla ice cream.

Snowdrifters' Calendar

SAVE THE DATES

November 7th

**Informal Social Gathering 7:00 p.m.
@ Old Towne**

November 21st

**Board Meeting 6:45 p.m.
General Meeting 7:30 p.m.
@ Old Towne**

December 19th

**Christmas Party - details in December newsletter
@ Old Towne**



A RETIREE'S LAST TRIP TO SAM'S CLUB...!!!

Yesterday I was at Sam's, buying a large bag of Purina dog chow for my loyal pet, Owen, the Wonder Dog, and was in the checkout line when a woman behind me asked if I had a dog. What did she think I had, an elephant?

So because I'm retired and have little to do, on impulse, I told her that no, I didn't have a dog, I was starting the Purina Diet again. I added that I probably shouldn't, because I ended up in the hospital last time, but that I'd lost 50 pounds before I awakened in an intensive care ward with tubes coming out of most of my orifices and IV's in both arms.

I told her that it was essentially a Perfect Diet and that the way that it works is to load your pants pockets with Purina Nuggets and simply eat one or two every time you feel hungry. The food is nutritionally complete, (certified), so it works well and I was going to try it again. (I have to mention here that practically everyone in line was now enthralled with my story.)

Horrified, she asked if I ended up in intensive care, because the dog food poisoned me. I told her no, I had stopped to pee on a fire hydrant and a car hit me.

Well, I thought the guy behind her was going to have a heart attack he was laughing so hard.

Sam's won't let me shop there anymore. Better watch what you ask retired people. They have all the time in the world to think of crazy things to say.



Please "like" us on Facebook and post pictures from your trips for all to view and enjoy!