

The Flakey News

Publication of the Fox Valley Snowdrifters

December, 2021



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Fox Valley Snowdrifters

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Hi Snowdrifters!

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving. Katherine and I were thankful that we were able to celebrate with family this year. Family always makes the holidays better.

Of course, I did overindulge in the desserts. Not my best idea, especially as I struggled a bit more than I care to admit during our November meeting at Fox River Strength and Conditioning. Thanks to Nancy Anderson and the folks at the gym for a great evening. And, thanks to all the Snowdrifters who showed up for a "light" workout and assessment. If you are looking for a gym, keep Nancy and Fox River Strength and Conditioning in mind. Just a little encouragement to support those folks that support us.

Speaking of the holidays. Our party is fast approaching. It promises to be a tasty, fun-filled extravaganza. And the gift swap is always good for a laugh or two. Hmm... I wonder what the over-under is on bottles of Baileys this year?

We are inching closer to our first ski trip this season to Ogden, Utah. As I write this, it's snowing at Powder Mountain. The flakes are flying at Zermatt too. And I just read where the men's downhill at Lake Louise was cancelled – because of too much snow! I couldn't be more excited. Of course, we're keeping a watchful eye on all the travel rules. I'm sure our trip leaders will have more to say at the holiday party.

In closing, I wish everyone happy holidays and a safe, fun-filled ski season.

Greg Olson

President



Greg's Recipe:

Lamb Stew with a Moroccan Twist (about 8 servings)

2 lbs boneless lamb stew meat or boneless Lamb blade steak cut into 1" pieces (or substitute with beef stew meat)
1/3 cup flour
1-1/4 tsp salt
1/2 tsp pepper
1/4 tsp cayenne
2 Tbs canola oil
28 oz can tomatoes, cut up
1 cup water
2 sticks cinnamon about 3" each
2 strips orange rind about 4" each
2 bay leaves
1 Tbs instant minced garlic
1 tsp ground cumin
1/4 tsp sugar
4 carrots, cut into 1-1/2" by 1/2" pieces
2-15 oz cans chickpeas, drained

Combine flour, salt, pepper and cayenne in plastic bag or container. Add 1/3 of the lamb and shake to coat. Remove meat and repeat twice with the remaining meat. Cook meat in batches in hot oil in Dutch oven to brown, about 10 minutes for each batch. Remove from heat. Add all the meat back to the Dutch oven.

Stir in undrained tomatoes, water, cinnamon sticks, orange rind, bay leaves, garlic, cumin, and sugar. Simmer, covered until meat is almost tender, about 1-1/4 hours. Add carrots, cook, covered, until tender, about 20 minutes. Stir in chickpeas and cook until heated through about 5 minutes.

Serve over cooked rice or couscous, or serve as is.

SNOWDRIFTERS' SOCIAL HAPPENINGS



Next up is the Snowdrifters Holiday Extravaganza on Sunday Dec. 5 at the Silver Spur Ranch in Maple Park.

We have almost reached capacity. However, we have had to close the registration as the caterer needed the numbers. I look forward to this fun event!

For the coming few months the ski trips will take up time for many Snowdrifters. Do watch your mail as some Snowdrifters may cook up local fun!

STARVED ROCK HIKE AND LUNCH



The Starved Rock State Park Hike and Lunch at the Lone Buffalo was a good day! 21 hearty Snowdrifters ventured west driving out in the drizzle.

A bit of confusion precluded us all meeting at the west end of the park. However, once we all gathered at the St. Louis trailhead, the weather cooperated although it was chilly, dry and cloudy. But the hike through the protected canyons and up to Starved Rock did wonders to warm everyone up. The fall colors were beautiful!

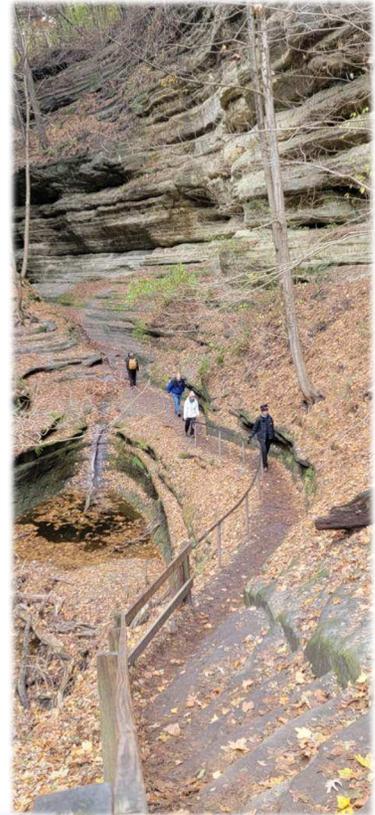
After the hiking, we headed to Ottawa – Home of the Lone Buffalo/Tangled Roots Brewery for libations, food, and camaraderie.

There was talk of more hikes to come!

Have a wonderful Holiday Season!

Maureen Joy

Social



MEMBERSHIP

Welcome New Members:

Paul Nepermann
Carolyn Rink
Cristina Rodgers
Jacqueline Rodgers
Diane Legge
David McEachern
Eric McEachern
James Thoresen
Daniel Pooley
Maria Pooley
Jill Mattox
Carlos Salgado
Deb McGrath

Michelle Etherton

Membership



TREASURER'S 2 CENTS



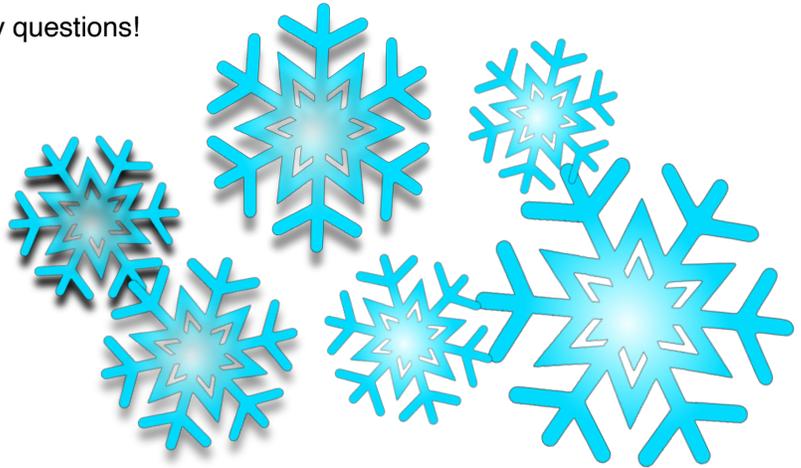
As many of us are reaching the final payment for our trips, keep in mind our balance due might be less than the regular payment. Be sure to check your invoice online before writing that final check for your trip. You can also make the final payment online with a credit card.



Let me know if you have any questions!

Let It Snow!

Peggy Courser
Treasurer



**MERRY
CHRISTMAS
AND HAPPY
NEW YEAR!**



Ogden, Utah - \$1,250

January 7 - 12, 2022

SOLD OUT / WAITING LIST ESTABLISHED

This trip is capped at 42 people and a waiting list has been established. If you are interested, please reply to Joe or Marie that you would like to get on the waiting list. The waiting list is a first-come first-serve with gender considerations (e.g. we may only have one opening for a male or female depending on room assignments).

See October Flakey News for more details

Powder Mountain has the most skiable terrain of any ski area in the United States. The 5,500 acres includes 2,800 lift-accessible acres. 500 inches of snow annually makes the resort famous for its powder skiing. <https://www.powdermountain.com>.

Snowbasin, A Sun Valley Resort, is a large resort in the Ogden area, covering a good selection of runs on varied terrain. It was the site of the Downhill and Super G events for the 2002 Winter Olympics. Snowbasin tends to be much less crowded than the resorts near Salt Lake City. Snowbasin cultivates a European style ski experience, complete with trams and gondolas, fine dining at trailside chalets, and cultural diversity expected of an Olympic venue. <https://www.snowbasin.com>

Lodging: Our lodging is Home2 Suites, located in the heart of downtown Ogden. The Suite rooms have a full kitchenette and offer free high-speed internet, 55" HDTV's, and big bright bathrooms. Free time's fun with a fitness center and game-filled lobby. Mix it up with a toppings-inspired free hot breakfast. See <https://www.VisitOgden.com>.

We will fly non-stop on United:

UA2137	07JAN	ORD/SLC	09:00 AM	11:37 AM
UA2046	12JAN	SLC/ORD	12:40 PM	04:47 PM

* **NOTE:** All taxes that are currently in effect, including airline taxes are included in the price. Please note any additional airline tax or fuel surcharge imposed before our final ticketing is beyond our control and will require an adjustment in the final price. Any fuel surcharge imposed on our ground transfers is also beyond our control and will require an adjustment.

Trip Leaders:	Joe Hopp:	jhopp23@hotmail.com
	Marie Bryl:	mcbryl@yahoo.com
	Caren Werner:	Visit Ogden Manager



Zermatt, Switzerland & Majorca, Spain - \$2,810

Jan 21 - Feb 2, 2022

- **SOLD OUT / WAITING LIST ESTABLISHED**
- **Only fully vaccinated Americans and Canadians will be allowed to travel to Switzerland.**
- **Recovered and tested Americans will no longer be able to travel to Switzerland.**

We have submitted our finalized air and room numbers; however, we may be able to procure one additional space for a male otherwise the trip will be in a wait list status. If you have any questions about the trip, contact Frank at ftnod@aol.com. We will be providing updates on ski rentals and lift tickets directly to trip sign-ups as information becomes available.

Reminder: For those who are behind on payments, we need your payment in order to make an upcoming vendor disbursement.

Below are a couple web sites you may want to check out for Zermatt and Majorca:

<http://www.travelstart.co.za/blog/zermatt-switzerlands-most-charming-village/>

<https://www.spendlifetraveling.com/so-what-is-mallorca-really-like/>

Trip Details: See October Flakey News for more details

- Roundtrip Air - Lufthansa
- 7 nights in 3*** Hotel Perren – Breakfast & 4 course dinner every evening at the Hotel
- Ground Transfers
- Four-day extension to Majorca Spain with air & 4 night in Hotel Puro Palma with breakfast

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

Trip Insurance: Trip insurance is recommended but is NOT part of the package price - see web page: <https://fvssc.wildapricot.org/page-1319705>

Trip Leaders: Frank Hodowal: ftnod@aol.com
Peggy Schmidt: peggy@completeadvertising.com



Banff, Alberta - Canada - \$1,295

February 24 – March 1, 2022

One trip opening left for a female

TRIP COST: The 5 day Banff trip cost is \$1,295 (w/o lift tickets –\$950).

The trip includes:

- Air/ground transportation
- 5 nights Hotel lodging (2 per unit) with a hot and cold buffet breakfast
- 4-day Tri-Area (Big 3 mountains) lift Ticket.
- Trip Cost for Lift Tics: (3 of 4-Day - \$83, 4 Day SR -\$76, 3 of 4-Day SR - \$120)



See October Flakey News for more details

Banff is home to the world's finest ski resorts; immerse yourself in breathtaking scenery and magical runs all within Banff National Park in the Canadian Rockies. Located in the heart of Banff National Park are three of the world's finest ski resorts; Mt. Norquay, Lake Louise Ski Area and Sunshine Village. Banff skiing offers almost 8,000 acres of skiable terrain on one tri-area lift ticket, the seasoned skier or rider will experience plenty of chutes, bowls, steeps and terrain parks to explore, while beginners can get the same thrills on miles of green and blue runs.

While in Banff, we will be staying 5 nights at Caribou Lodge & Spa which a traditional mountain lodge style hotel with excellent facilities and a prime location. Your room key doubles up as a free roaming bus pass for trips around town. The ski shuttle to all the ski areas stops outside the hotel. A flat-screen TV, mini-fridge, and in-room safe are provided in each room. Also included is a daily hot and cold breakfast buffet.

We will fly non-stop on United:

UA5774	24FEB	ORD/YYC	10:00AM	12:50PM
UA5877	01MAR	YYC/ORD	12:30PM	4:50PM

* **NOTE:** All taxes that are currently in effect, including airline taxes are included in the price. Please note any additional airline tax or fuel surcharge imposed before our final ticketing is beyond our control and will require an adjustment in the final price. Any fuel surcharge imposed on our ground transfers is also beyond our control and will require an adjustment.

Trip Leaders: Greg Olson: olsongregv@gmail.com
Tom DeVries: tom.devries@comcast.net



March 10-13, 2022 - \$275

Great deal and lots of openings left

Ski Brule, is a premier ski resort in Upper Peninsula of Michigan. The #1 Midwest Ski Resort is located just over the Wisconsin Michigan border. Ski Brule is perfect for a day trip or a weekend get-a-way. Winter activities for everyone: ski, snowboard, terrain parks, tubing, acrobag, fat bike trails, cross country trails, snowshoe trails, sleigh rides, and more! Pioneer Lodge Condos at Ski Brule are the perfect Michigan lodging option for family vacations and [group ski trips](#). It is carpool trip for transportation. www.skibrule.com

Pioneer Lodge Condos are located across the street from the Main Lodge and Ski Brule Mountain, and the views are amazing!



The Pioneer Lodge Condos feature connecting rooms, so guests have the option of enjoying both their privacy and group time. Guests at the Pioneer Lodge also have access to the two outside hot tubs (not available in 20/21). Pioneer Lodge Condos are a tradition in lodging while enjoying Michigan's number one rated family ski vacation.

Every condo unit includes FREE WIFI, Direct TV, daily maid service, telephone, microwave, coffee maker, cookware, linens (bedding/ towels) and great views of the slopes. Located just a few steps from the lifts and all services, Pioneer Lodge is the most convenient lodging to access the best skiing in Michigan.

The Trip also includes:

- Shared condo lodging, great set up for families
- Friday, Saturday lift tickets including night skiing
- One hour group ski lesson
- Free trail use passes for cross country skiing and snowshoeing. Must rent or provide own equipment. Also fat bike trails, inner tubing and rentals available.
- Barbecue dinner and sleigh ride Saturday night.
- Lots of fun and games

Trip Leaders: Maureen Joy, Mojoy@comcast.net 630.846.9647
John Gamble, John@johngamble.net 630.761.9550



March 20 – 25, 2022
\$1,625 (w/o Lift Ticket \$1,325)

SOLD OUT / WAITING LIST HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED

A Wait List will be established in case of cancellations or the possibility to add trip spots at a later date. If you are interested, contact John Walsh or Bob Hoffman to be added to the Wait List. The waiting list is a first-come first-serve with gender considerations (e.g. we may only have one opening for a male or female depending on room assignments).

Sun Valley is America's original destination resort, often voted the number one ski resort in the US. Sun Valley is situated across two mountains: Bald Mountain (very sunny slope that's nearly all downhill) and Dollar Mountain (628 feet of vertical on a treeless slope).

Sun Valley is serviced by a modern lift infrastructure and a well-designed trail system. The resort has terrain for all ability levels and has 2,154 skiable acres. The summit elevation is 9,150 feet with 3,400 feet of vertical drop. There are 121 trails serviced by 18 lifts along with 2 terrain parks, a Super Pipe and Jib Park.

We are staying at the newly remodeled [Sun Valley Inn](#) (hotel rooms). The Inn is now complete with its own steaming outdoor pool, fitness center, restaurants, lobby bar, and friendly staff.

Lift Tickets: The listed price includes a 4-day adult/senior lift ticket. With a multi-day tickets (three or more days) exchange one day of skiing for an in-resort credit for a variety of other activities. All activities and services are based on availability. Lift ticket must still be valid (not expired) to qualify for the Lift Ticket Exchange Program and exchange voucher must be presented at the time of the activity for reimbursement.

Air: We have booked a direct flight into Sun Valley's Friedman Memorial Airport which is a short 15 - 20 minute bus ride to the Sun Valley Village. The Sun Valley Inn will provide transfer to the resort and back.

See October Flakey News for more details

BALANCE IS DUE

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Trip Leaders: John Walsh: jwexplor@sbcglobal.net
Bob Hoffman: bobski48@comcast.net

PORTILLO, CHILE 2022

\$3,150 per person

Package Includes: Airfare to and from Santiago and transportation to Hotel Portillo at the Portillo Ski Area for 4 nights. Over the past 60 years, Portillo has earned a reputation as an excellent destination for skiers and snowboarders from all over the world. The snow quality in Portillo is excellent and is often likened to that of the Rocky Mountains. Skiers of all skill levels find what they are looking for on a mountain and come back year after year. Here is a general breakdown of the terrain: Beginner -15%, Intermediate – 30%, Advanced – 30%, Expert – 25%. The ski area features 1,235 acres of ski-able terrain, 14 lifts and 35 runs. Beginner and intermediate runs are groomed nightly, off-piste runs are challenging and steep, and the powder is often deep. The bowls and shoots perfectly collect the light, dry snow and the above-tree-line landscape turns into a white playground. Pair this with frequently sunny, blue skies and it is easy to understand why many guests, even professional skiers, say they've had some of their best ski days at Portillo.

Rate includes: Full Board, Lift tickets daily Hyatt Centric 3 nights - Santiago Hyatt Centric Las Condes is one of the 5-star hotels in Santiago, Chile, located in the modern district of Las Condes. Offering an ideal location to explore the city, the hotel is close to metro transit, providing a convenient connection to discover Santiago's popular historical spots. This bustling area is surrounded by trendy restaurants, specialty shops, local cafes, and more. Rate in Santiago includes: breakfast daily and all transfers.

Trip Leader for additional questions: John Gamble 630-761-9550

Johngamble@icloud.com





Snowdrifters' Calendar

- December 5th Snowdrifters Holiday Party
5:30 p.m. @ Silver Spur Ranch in Maple Park
- January 7th - 12th Let's Go Skiing!!!
Ogden, Utah ski trip
- January 18th - Board Meeting 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
General Meeting 7:30 p.m. Place TBD
- Jan. 21st - Feb. 2nd Zermatt, Switzerland ski trip

Have a Blessed Christmas

And

A Happy New Year

Fox Valley Snowdrifters
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