

THE FLAKEY NEWS

Publication of the Fox Valley Snowdrifters

December, 2023

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Fox Valley Snowdrifters

**P.O. Box 697
Batavia, IL 60510**

Hello Snowdrifters,

The following is an inspiration for the start of the ski season....As the first snowflakes grace the peaks and the crisp winter air beckons, let the ski season commence! Embrace the exhilarating rush of gliding down snowy slopes, carving your path through nature's pristine canvas. Unleash your inner adventurer, embrace the thrill of the descent, and savor the exhilaration of each turn. May this season include powder-filled adventures, breathtaking vistas, and unforgettable moments of snowy bliss.

Our Snowdrifters Christmas party is on Tuesday, December 12th at the Open Range Southwest Grill in Sugar Grove. We decided on a different approach this year with dinner and a toy drive in lieu of the gift exchange. This will give us more time to socialize and enjoy the evening with friends while benefiting Cal's Angels, a non-profit whose mission is to help kids fight cancer. We are looking to have a good Club turnout.

Our International Ski Trip Planning survey has had a good response, and the results can be found later in this newsletter. Your input is greatly appreciated as this is your Club and we want to be receptive to your interests. We are currently evaluating the itinerary and cost for a potential August/September 2024 New Zealand/Australia trip and considering partnering with Sanctuary Ski Club for a winter 2025 Japan trip. There is also a high interest for a 2025 Europe trip. More work is required to determine what works best for our Club. Later in the winter we will get your input on US West, Canada, and Midwest trips.

With the ski season approaching, let's focus on our preparation for a safe and enjoyable ski season. A good start is fitness preparation with regular exercise and stretching. A check of the condition of your ski and snowboard gear and maybe a tune up to ensure your gear is safe and ready to go. Make sure to check your helmet for any damage indications from prior falls. Consider how long you have had your helmet as they do have a limited life depending on frequency of use. A rough rule of thumb is to replace every 5 years. Some early runs at our local Midwest resorts will help to test your conditioning and build your anticipation for the season. Once you arrive at the resorts, consider a ski lesson to improve your technique, and assess snow conditions and visibility consistent with your abilities. Keep hydrated, take breaks, and have quick access to the ski patrol # on your phone or resort app.

Have a safe and Merry Christmas

John Walsh

President





Mark Nicholson, a good friend, and skiing partner, passed away on Monday, November 20, 2023. Mark and Lyla attended many Snowdrifters ski trips and Club events. Mark was an experienced skier who liked to ride the slopes at a fast pace, and most of us fellow skiers could not keep up with him. Let us keep Lyla and the family in our thoughts and prayers, and our memories of Mark as a tribute to his life.

The following is an excerpt from his obituary.

Mark R. Nicholson, 68, of Metamora, IL, passed away at 7:50 am on Monday, November 20, 2023, at OSF St. Francis Medical Center in Peoria, IL.

He was born on October 31, 1955, in Sioux City, IA, to Robert N. and Lois I. (Nielsen) Nicholson. He married Lyla J. Kamp on August 22, 1976, in Spring Bay, IL.

Surviving are his wife, Lyla of Metamora; children, Matthew (Sarah) Nicholson of Lowpoint, IL, Jacob (Jenna) Nicholson of Deer Creek, IL, Levi (Blaine) Nicholson of Metamora, and Sierra Nicholson of Eau Claire, WI; seven grandchildren, Miles, Rhett, Maren, and Regan Nicholson, Kimber and Kaylee Nicholson, and Finn Nicholson; mother, Lois Nicholson of Metamora; and sister, Holly (Mitch) Harrington of Oregon. He was preceded in death by his father, brother Dr. David Nicholson, and sister Elizabeth Nicholson.

Mark was a self-employed building contractor. He truly enjoyed his work, both as a builder and as a farmer. He expressed his joy in the opportunity to work with Lyla and all of his children. Mark was a loving son, brother, husband, father, grandfather, and friend. He taught his children to trust in the Lord, to be honest, caring, and hard working. He was a member of Northwoods Community Church in Peoria.

As much as he enjoyed motorcycles and classic trucks, his favorite hobby was snow skiing. Mark had many friends that shared his various interests. He greatly appreciated and respected those he could visit with and laugh with. Although we wish we could have had more time with him, our family is grateful Mark was able to live a full life and was in good health until the time of his passing. Mark leaves behind a strong legacy. We are blessed to remember him as the strong man that he was.

Donations may be given to St. Jude Children's Hospital, 530 NE Glen Oak Avenue, Peoria, IL 61637.

A World of Skiers

Norrna Magazine, Deep Capturing by Eivind Eidsiott

Any advice to others who would like to visit exotic ski destination around the world?

"Don't just focus on the quality of the snow or the lengths of the runs. Instead, take a moment to pause and appreciate the locals who share the same love of gliding on snow. To me, this is what makes a trip special"

New Members

Please welcome our newest members:

- Connor Talken
- Chris Roller

Thank you!

Cathleen Downs McDonald

Membership



Picture taken by Jill Mattox

Trip Coordinators' Corner:



We are looking forward to having a terrific ski season with the trips that we have booked for 2024. We're just about a month away from our first trip to Big Sky. If you have not yet signed up for a ski trip, there are still openings available for ski trips to Ski the Porkies (UP Michigan), Winter Park, Big White (9 spots available, but closing soon) and Lake Placid. Do not hesitate if you wish to go on any of these trips, we will be closing openings shortly. See the newsletter and trip leaders for trip information and sign-up.

All your final trip payments are now due. We need the funds to make our final vendor payments. Also, you may want to consider ski trip insurance, especially for our Italy and Canadian trips as well as for our domestic trips. Ski Trip Insurance is available through the Club. You can **purchase the trip insurance via our Web Site** where there is a link under "Our Trips." The purchase link is:

<https://fvssc.wildapricot.org/page-1319705>

It is with sad news to report the unfortunate passing of Mark Nicholson, we will remember the good times skiing and socializing with Mark and will miss him. We extend all our sympathy to Lyla and the family.

International Ski Trip Survey – as of November 30, 2023

Are you interested in a ski trip to New Zealand w/side trip to Sydney and Cairns Australia in late August or early September 2024 if the cost was between \$3,500 and \$4,000?

Total 54 votes:

No -25, Maybe – 19, Yes – 10

Are you interested in a ski trip to Japan w/side trip to Tokyo and/or Kyoto if the cost was between \$4,500 and \$5,000? This trip may be coordinated with and/or led by another ski club to attract enough participants. Assume the month of February.

Total 56 votes:

No – 32 Maybe – 12 Yes - 12

If Yes for Japan, what year should the trip be planned.

Total 23 votes:

2025 – 12 2026 - 11

Are you interested in a European seven-day ski trip with a four-day side trip if the cost is between \$3000 and \$3500 in 2025?

Total 55 votes:

Yes – 27 Maybe – 16 No - 12

If yes, where in Europe would you be interested in going? (check all that apply)

Total 127 votes:

Switzerland - 24

Austria - 24

France - 20

Andorra - 18

Germany - 17

Iceland - 16

Italy - 8

If Yes for Europe, do you have any recommendations for a side trip ?

Total 14 votes:

Option - 9

Cinque Terre, Italy - 1

French Riviera - 1

Madrid, Madeira, Gran Canary -1

Places on the Mediterranean are always good (and warmer). Maybe Morocco to be different. - 1

Stockholm – 1

As a closing note: Merry Christmas to you and your family and the very best wishes for the New Year. Wishing you and your family peace, health, happiness, and prosperity in the coming year as well a great ski season!

John and Frank

Trip Coordinators



Let's get ready to ride!



Snowdrifters Holiday Gathering will be a pizza party held from 6-9 pm on Tuesday, December 12, 2023 at the Open Range Southwest Grill's Pine Room, 1 Golf View Rd., Sugar Grove.

This year instead of a gift stealing exchange we are asking you to support Cal's Angels by bringing an unwrapped toy or gift card. Toys are needed all year long for kids fighting cancer and for their siblings. While the stealing is lots of fun, we have become such a big group that the time and space needed is becoming a bit overwhelming.

Watch your email for details on registration and pricing. If you have any questions please contact me. **Registration deadline is December 2nd!**

Thanks,

Maureen Joy
mojoy@comcast.net

cals angels .org
Wishes Awareness Research

Toy Drive

COLLECTING TOYS FOR KIDS FIGHTING CANCER!

Donate Today!

We are hosting a toy box to collect toys and gift cards to support Cal's Angels' mission to help kids fighting cancer.

REQUESTED ITEMS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS (INFANT-18)
Must be **NEW** and **UNWRAPPED**

- Gift Cards (any amount) to Target, Best Buy, iTunes, Walmart, etc. (gift cards are used for children 13+)
- LEGOS, Board Games, Trucks, V-Tech Toys, Action Figures, Nerf Toys, Balls
- Baby Dolls
- Scrapbooking/Craft Kits, Art Supplies, Play Dough Sets
- Preschool Puzzles & Toys

NO STUFFED ANIMALS please.

Cal's Angels is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization with a mission of granting wishes, raising awareness and funding research to help kids fighting cancer.

For more information email:
Susan@CalsAngels.org

Visit **CalsAngels.org/toy-drive**

The toys and gift cards collected during the Toy Drive will benefit kids fighting cancer and their siblings year round at all Chicago area hospitals.



BIG SKY

<https://bigskyresort.com>

Jan 6th – 12th, 2024

**We are about ready
to go!!**

**Go slow. Be
patient. Trade
smiles😊
It's the Big Sky way.**

SOLD OUT

The trip includes:

- Direct flight from Chicago to Bozeman on American
- Ground transportation to the resort
- Six nights lodging at Huntley Lodge
- Daily breakfast buffet

Lift Tickets:

Big Sky has posted lift ticket pricing for 2024 flex passes ,however, our SkiGroup travel agent has recommended that we wait until Big Sky establishes their group flex pass pricing which will be lower and offered as an add on to the base price for your convenience. Big Sky accepts the Ikon Pass.

American Airlines – direct flight

Jan 6	AA 1501	ORD/BZN	9:55 AM – 12:16 PM
Jan 12	AA 1501	BZN/ORD	1:00 PM – 4:53 PM

Note: In some cases, unexpected expenses, taxes, or charges beyond our control may be incurred on a trip. In such cases, trip prices will be adjusted accordingly.

Trip insurance is recommended for this trip but is **NOT** part of the package price. Get more details on our web page: <https://fvssc.wildapricot.org>

Trip Leaders: **Joe Hopp**
Peggy Courser
Eileen Parsons

jhopp23@hotmail.com
peggycourser@comcast.net
eparsons4@yahoo.com



Ski the Porkies

**Porcupine Mountains State Park –
Michigan's Largest State Park
Jan 18-21, 2024**

COST

Adult Skier - \$375

Adult Non-Skier - \$285

Teen Skier (13-17) \$150

Child (12 & under) \$40

**Could be the most fun trip of the season!!
Don't wait – sign up before it is sold out!**

“The Winter Sports Area“

With a vertical drop of 641 feet, Porcupine Mountains Alpine Ski Area is one of the Midwest's tallest. The scenery is unsurpassed. Panoramas of Lake Superior, and the ever-changing ice floes, provide a backdrop to slopes divided by virgin stands of hemlock, maple, and pine.” Porcupine Mountains Companion by Rafferty & Sprague

Porcupine Mountains Winter Sports Complex

The [Porcupine Mountains Winter Sports Complex](#), located just inside the entrance of the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park, offers a breathtaking view of Lake Superior to skiers and snowboarders in Michigan's Upper Peninsula

The ski hill offers 15 groomed trails, as well as four glade trails. [Cross-country ski trails](#) are also accessible from the ski area, as well as ski and snowshoe rentals. With views this special, there's no rush to get to the bottom of the hill.

Mountain stats

20 downhill runs: 3 Beginner runs, 8 Intermediate runs, 9 Expert runs

3 lifts

1 Triple chairlift, 1 Rope tow, 1 Paddle tow

Natural terrain park

Tree trunk rails, huge boulders and several small to medium cliffs you can use for jumps.
200" annual snowfall
670' Vertical
800' Hikeable
250+ Skiable acres

Tree runs

Glades cut between every run provide wide open spaces and untouched powder.

<https://www.michigan.gov/skitheporkies/plan-your-visit/rentals-and-lessons>

LODGING: Konteka Black Bear Lodge Resort, White Pine, MI

14 dbl queen rooms available.

This is a perfect opportunity for a lower cost family ski vacation. Kids can stay free in the room and discount or free lift tickets are available. Pull out beds are available for a nominal fee.

Amenities: restaurant & bar, pool table, games, gas station, bowling alley, hot tub & sauna

We are working to confirm the use of the A-frame at the base of the mountain as a location for Snowdrifters to gather during the ski days (Friday & Saturday).

Friday night we have the entire bowling alley reserved a Snowdrifters bowling tournament and pizza party. Additional games are 3 games for \$7.00. \$1 Shoe rental available. Lanes, darts, pool, air hockey & more.

Saturday night we have a Snowdrifters Dinner at the Konteka Black Bear Lodge. The Konteka is a supper club and we have our room with a smaller menu from which to choose.

You have multiple outdoor options if you prefer not to downhill ski both days: cross country skis and snowshoes are available for rent and lots of trails as well snowmobile rentals. The Porkies are right on Lake Superior and a must see in the wintertime!

Trip Leaders: Maureen Joy – mojoy@comcast.net

John Gamble – john@johngamble.net



Val Di Fassa, Italy & Side Trip to Sicily \$3,300

SOLD OUT – WAIT LIST STATUS

Updated flight information: We are now flying on Air France and Delta for our trip to Italy and back.

JAN. 26th to FEB. 7th, 2024

The trip includes:

- Air Chicago/Paris, Venice; Milan to Catania; Catania/Rome/Chicago
- Ground transfers
- Seven nights lodging at Hotel Astoria – Canazei, Italy
 - Daily Breakfast & Dinner
 - Savory and Sweet Afternoon Buffet
 - Weekly aperitif and Candlelit dinner & live music
- Tour of Bolzano & Legendary Winery
- Four-night Hotel Villa Diodoro – Taormina, Sicily
- Lift Tickets Extra

Italian Sunrise Reveals Fresh July Snowfall

The Italian Dolomites woke up to a beautiful coating of fresh summer snowfall this morning, July 26th, 2023. Check out the photo captured by [Carlo Budel](#) on Punta Penia (10,968 ft.), the highest peak of Marmolada, the tallest mountain in the Dolomites. Marmolada is known as the 'Queen of the Dolomites.'

Payment Schedule:

December - Balance due

NEW AIR INFORMATION:

- **Air: Royal Dutch Airlines (KLM) /Delta**
- KL 0612 26JAN ORD/AMS 16:55 - 7:35 (27JAN)
- KL 1653 27JAN AMS/VCE 09:45 - 11:30
- AZ 1723 03FEB LIN/CTA 12:55 - 14:30
- AZ 1736 07FEB CTA/FCO 07:00 - 8:25
- DL 0067 07FEB FCO/ATL 13:50 - 19:10
- DL 1423 07FEB ATL/ORD 21:30 - 22:34

Note: In some cases, unexpected expenses, taxes, or charges beyond our control may be incurred on a trip. In such cases, trip prices will be adjusted accordingly. For this trip, a passport is required and your passport expiration must be more than 6 months after our return to the USA.

Trip insurance is recommended for this trip but is **NOT** part of the package price. Get more details on our web page: <https://fvssc.wildapricot.org>

Trip Leaders:

Frank Hodowal:	ftnod@aol.com	(630)222-5160
Susan Walsh:	susielou@hotmail.com	(630)309-5041
John Walsh:	jrwexplor@sbcglobal.net	(630)777-9008

Bill & his wife were considering traveling to Alaska. This was a trip Bill had long dreamed of taking. He kept talking about how great it would be to stay in a log cabin without electricity, to hunt moose, and drive a dog sled instead of a car. "If we decided to live there permanently, away from civilization, what would you miss the most?" he asked.

She replied, "You." 😊

I laughed so hard - I had tears running down my legs!

I threw some protein bars in the trash and now the raccoons are bench pressing my neighbors Great Dane in the backyard. 😊



FAMILY & FRIENDS DAY TRIP
CHESTNUT MOUNTAIN RESORT
SATURDAY FEBRUARY 10TH 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM
SKI & SNOWBOARDING

ADULT LIFT TICKETS ONLY (7 AND OLDER): \$75

ADULT LIFT, RENTAL (SKI OR SNOWBOARD RENTAL): \$105 - INCLUDES A FREE GROUP LESSON!

CHILDREN 6 AND YOUNGER LIFT TICKETS ONLY: \$20

LIFT TICKETS & RENTAL (SKI OR SNOWBOARD RENTAL): \$55

HELMETS: \$6

LESSONS: MUST BE 7 YEARS OLD TO BE IN THE GROUP LESSONS. THERE ARE CHILDREN'S LESSONS AVAILABLE ON WEEKENDS BUT THOSE ARE BOOKED SEPARATELY.

INCLUDED IN THE PRICES LISTED ABOVE

A PRIVATE ROOM TO HANGOUT, WARM UP & KEEP GEAR

LUNCH ALONG WITH SOFT DRINKS & WATER

SNACKS & TONS OF FUN FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY!!

NON-MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO JOIN THIS FUN DAY, HOWEVER THEY MUST BE REGISTERED ON THE SNOWDRIFTERS WEBSITE AND COMPLETE THE LIABILITY FORMS

QUESTIONS: CONTACT MICHELLE ETHERTON AT CAREY_MICHELLE@LIVE.COM OR TEXT/CALL 630-777-8549

KATHLEEN MCGRATH AT KMQM207@GMAIL.COM OR TEXT/CALL 630-621-8364



REGISTRATION:

[HTTPS://FVSSC.WILDAPRICOT.ORG/](https://fvssc.wildapricot.org/)

CHESTNUT MOUNTAIN RESORT & HOTEL

8700 W. CHESTNUT MOUNTAIN RD.

GALENA, IL 61036

[HTTPS://WWW.CHESTNUTMTN.COM/](https://www.chestnutmtn.com/)

Managing your weight around the holidays just requires a little planning... For example, I'm taking the batteries out of my scale next week. 😊



Winter Park, CO on the Ski Train

Saturday, Feb. 24th, through
Friday, March 1st, 2024

Per Person Prices:

Coach seat on Train, Air, and Lodging: \$1,195

2-person shared Roomette on Train, Air, Lodging: **One Opening**

Land Only: \$870

Single Supplement at hotel \$484

3-day lift tickets \$255

4-day lift tickets \$340

These group rate lift ticket prices are below the senior rates!

And Winter Park is on the IKON Pass.

To allow for better roommate pairing at the hotel, **we need one more solo male traveler to travel coach and pair with a roommate at the hotel.** If you or someone you know would like a unique ski travel experience, please join us!

The trip includes:

- Overnight sleeper train to Winter Park, return by air to Chicago
 - Amtrak Coach offers a fully reclining business-class size seat at a more affordable price, meals available for purchase in cafe car.

- Return trip via Southwest Airlines WN 3315 01 MAR DEN/ORD 4:30P 8:00P
- Ground Transfers
- Five nights lodging at Vintage Hotel
- \$15 Food voucher per person

Winter Park Resort

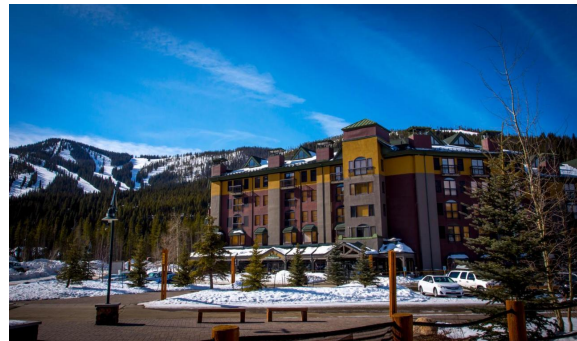


Winter Park Resort is a year-round resort located about a ninety minute drive from Denver, CO. The mountain opened in 1940. The resort consists of three interconnected mountain peaks which share a common lift ticket. There is skiing for all abilities, from beginner to tree skiing and moguls, and it was voted “Best Ski Resort in North America” in 2018 and 2019. There are 23 lifts, and a skiable area of 3081 acres.

For nearly 70 years, a popular way for Denver residents to arrive was by the Ski Train, which arrives right at the resort’s base area. It stopped operating for a time in 2009, but it’s running again, re-started in 2017 as the Winter Park Express. For us non-Denver residents, we will board the “California Zephyr” in Naperville, which uses the same tracks as the Express out of Denver, and takes us right into Winter Park.

Lodging

The Vintage Hotel is located in the center of the Winter Park ski village. The ski resort is reached by a 5 minute ride on the free Village Cabriolet cable car. In the evenings guests can enjoy beverages at the Five Mountain Tavern, the hotel’s lounge bar. A ski storage service is provided daily and free Wi-Fi is provided in all common areas.



Note: In some cases, unexpected expenses, taxes, or charges beyond our control may be incurred on a trip. In such cases, trip prices will be adjusted accordingly.

Trip insurance is recommended for this trip but is **NOT** part of the package price. Get more details on our web page: <https://fvssc.wildapricot.org>. To order you need to know that our carriers are Amtrak and United Airlines and the travel agent is Skigroup.net.

For more information, please contact the trip leader:

Michael Shimkus, 630-447-9529, mgshimkus@gmail.com

Hank Lobbes, 630-643-5597, hanklobbes@outlook.com

BIG WHITE, CANADA BC

March 7th – 12th, 2024



DON'T MISS A GREAT SKI IN/OUT RESORT. BIG WHITE WAS RECENTLY NAMED SIXTH BEST RESORT IN NORTH AMERICA AND SECOND IN CANADA AFTER WHISTLER BY Condé Nast Traveler®. THERE ARE 9 SPACES AVAILABLE. WE WILL BE CLOSING OPENINGS SOON.

Prices:	Air, Land, Adult, four-day skiing	\$1,825
	Air, Land, Senior (65+), four-day skiing	\$1,790
	Land, Adult, four day skiing	\$1,475
	Air, Land only	\$1,165

The trip includes:

- Round trip air from Chicago to Kelowna, BC
- Ground transportation to the resort with a grocery stop
- Five nights lodging at Inn at Big White (ski-to-/ski-from)
 - Superior Hotel Rooms (2Q)
 - Heated outdoor pool with indoor entry
 - Three outdoor hot tubs
 - Complimentary secure overnight storage for your skis
- Four-day Adult Lift Pass
- Club Party

[Big White](#) is Canada's largest totally ski-in/ski-out resort village, located one hour from the Kelowna International Airport, has everything you would expect from a world-class resort. Spectacular scenery of the Monashee Mountains, groomed and powder runs and a state-of-the-art lift system, the resort is blessed with ideal ski and snowboard conditions, receiving over 300 inches of dry powder snow annually! Big White is the third largest resort in British Columbia, after Whistler-Blackcomb and Sun Peaks.

Big White resort was recently named the fourth best ski resort in North America – second in Canada, after Whistler – by Condé Nast Traveler®. It also ranked 10th on The Times UK's 2022 Best Ski Resorts for beginners – the only mountain in North America recognized. There is a multitude of reasons for Big White's shining accolades, with terrain for every ability, consistent champagne-powder snow coverage.

The mountain summit is 2,319 m (7,608 ft) tall with a vertical drop of 777 m (2,549 ft), serviced by 16 lifts. The mountain receives 750 cm (300 in) of annual snowfall. It has 1,119 ha (2,765 acres) of overall skiable terrain.- With 15 ha (38 acres) of night skiing, Big White has western Canada's largest resort night skiing area. It has a central village classified as a designated place by Statistics Canada, which offers accommodations, eateries, bars, and shops. The village is 1,755 m (5,758 ft) above sea level.

LODGING: INN AT BIG WHITE. The Inn at Big White features ski-to, ski-from convenience, huge outdoor heated pool, outdoor hot tub, ski lockers, galley kitchen equipped with cookware and utensils, induction cooker, microwave, coffeemaker. Waking early for first tracks will be easy with complimentary in-room tea and coffee, though if you are a keen caffeine drinker, you are covered with 24-hour service, complimented by an inhouse front desk occupied 24/7. After all, you never know when you will need a refill on your complimentary caffeine supplies or to pick the brains of the staff for those secret spots on the mountain. As the sky shifts from day to night, take up your front row seats at Cantina Del Centro for après hour and watch the sky dance with cotton-candy colors. If Mexican food is not your vibe, stroll the 2 minutes into the village and delve into the variety of bars and restaurants.

Payment Schedule:

- December - Balance due

FLIGHTS: Alaska Airlines

AS 587 07 MAR ORD-SEA 600A 846A
AS 2517 07 MAR SEA-YLW 1200N 112P
AS 2517 12 MAR YLW-SEA 225P 333P
AS 538 12 MAR SEA-ORD 600P 1159P

Note: In some cases, unexpected expenses, taxes, or charges beyond our control may be incurred on a trip. In such cases, trip prices will be adjusted accordingly. For this Canadian trip, a passport is required and your passport expiration must be more than 6 months after our return to the USA.

Trip insurance is recommended for this trip but is **NOT** part of the package price. Get more details on our web page: <https://fvssc.wildapricot.org>

For more information, please contact the trip leader:

Frank Hodowal:	ftnod@aol.com	630-222-6160
Paul Nepermann:	p_nepermann@yahoo.com	630-404-8477
Mark Green:	marksandy@sbcglobal.net	630-564-1763



Olympic Extravaganza @ Lake Placid, New York



March 19th – 24th, 2024

COST:

Land, Air, Adult Lift: \$2,075
Land, Air, Senior Lift: \$1,909

Have you been contemplating joining the Lake Placid trip -

POSSIBLY THE TRIP OF THE YEAR!

Check out all of the extras - "Just for Snowdrifters"

This trip will give us a wonderful look at the U.S. Olympic History of not one but two Winter Olympics.

We will be able to immerse ourselves in U.S. Olympic History, experience the quaint setting of upstate New York and participate in a variety of activities.

- [Ski and snowboard](#) on the slopes of Whiteface Mountain and in the expansive Adirondack backcountry.
- [Cross-country ski](#) or [snowshoe](#) the miles of scenic trails in and around the area.
- [Ice skate](#) on the historic Olympic Oval.
- [Ice climb](#) using crampons and ice axes or watch climbers from around the region scale the frozen rocks.
- Lake Placid is home to many shops, spas, restaurants for a day of browsing and pampering



Just for Snowdrifters:

- Tour of the 1980 Arena
- Group Curling and happy hour
- Free Shuttle to the ski jump
- Olympic Museum
- Luge or bobsled - TBD

A little Olympic history - READ THIS!!

Through the early 1900s Lake Placid drew increasing attention as a world-class destination for winter sports. Then in 1920 Lake Placid secured its first globally sanctioned event – the International Outdoor Speed Skating Championships. The success of this event put Lake Placid on the winter sports map.

The Lake Placid Club also built in 1920 the area's first ski jump, located at the current Intervales site. No one could have known at that time that simple 35-meter jump would eventually become all that the Olympic Jumping Complex is today, yet in hindsight the excitement of the first jumping competition could have been seen as a signal.



Not long thereafter, the community's leadership made the remarkable happen. With the region's reputation firmly established, Lake Placid made its bid for and was chosen to host the third ever Olympic Winter Games in 1932.

The three-tiered podium was first introduced at the 1932 Lake Placid Games, and the first gold medalist to take the podium was Lake Placid's own Jack Shea, born and raised in Lake Placid, he became a hometown hero when he won gold medals in the 500- and 1500-meter speed skating races in the 1932 Olympics. He is also the father of Jim Shea (Innsbruck 1964), and grandfather of Jim Shea Jr. (Salt Lake City 2002).

After Lake Placid wins the bid in 1974 to host the 1980 Winter Games, its sports legacy took another giant leap forward. Televised around the world, the 1980 Games gave us some of the most inspiring performances and unforgettable moments in the history of winter sports.

Not only is Lake Placid known as the location for the "Miracle on Ice" where the US Hockey team beat the Russian team but also the location of Eric Heiden winning US won gold in the 500m, 1000m, 1500m, 5000m, and 10,000m speed skating events, setting four Olympic records and one world record in the process. He became the first person to win all five speed skating events and the first of only three to win five gold medals in individual events at a single Games (Summer or Winter). To this day, Heiden remains the only athlete to win five gold medals at one Winter Games. <https://lakeplacidlegacysites.com/history/>

Questions?

Contact John johnhgamble@icloud.com or Maureen mojoy@comcast.net

Snowdrifters' Calendar

December 12 th	Snowdrifters' Christmas Party.
December 25 Th	Christmas
January 1 st	2024 – wow that was fast – what happened to 2023!
January 6 th – 12 th	BIG SKY ski trip
January 16 th	Board Meeting 6:30 PM General Meeting 7:30 PM @ Old Towne
January 18 th – 21 st	PORKIES ski trip

CLASSIFIED AD

*Sally placed an ad in the classifieds : "Husband wanted."
The next day she received a hundred letters. They all said the
same thing; "You can have mine." ☺*

Jokes and sayings in green taken from the Orange Peel Gazette ☺

*Wishing you and your families
a Merry Christmas &
A Hoppy New Year
Flakey News Staff, Dana & Joe*

Fox Valley
Snowdrifters
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