



The Flakey News

A Publication of the Fox Valley

Snowdrifters Ski Club

www.snowdrifters.net
Ski Club Officers &
Committee Chairpersons

January, 2017 1st Edition

PRESIDENT:

Tom Quetsch
630-761-1985

quetsch@sbcglobal.net

VICE PRESIDENT

Leo Ahasic
630-309-8885

bahasic@sbcglobal.net

TREASURER & WEBSITE:

Chuck Salisbury
630-584-7680

c.salisbury@computer.org

SECRETARY:

Donna Buckholtz

donnahomeagain@aol.com

TRIPS:

Michele Kinzler
630-513-1987

gbmkinz@gmail.com

&

Frank Hodowal
630-584-0868

fhod@aol.com

SOCIAL:

Pat Quetsch
630-761-1985

quetsch@sbcglobal.net

CMSC & RACING:

Mike Baurle
630-406-0217

mbaurle@comcast.net

MEMBERSHIP:

Sue Stanciu

skstanciu314@gmail.com

Gwenn Bosshardt

Geboss2001@yahoo.com

PUBLICITY & HISTORIAN:

Sarah Richardson

sricha10@yahoo.com

NEWSLETTER & PAST PRES

Joe Hopp

630-896-4320

jhopp23@hotmail.com

REG. AGENT: Frank Hodowal

630-584-0868

fhod@aol.com

▲ Note from Tom

Happy New Year,

Now that the holidays are over, it's time to break out your skis and do a happy dance! Yes sir, it's that time of year again and I, for one, am so excited. We're starting this year out with our Midwest trip. This is to Shanty Creek this year. I've never been there and can't wait to try it out. It will be especially fun for us this year because we're bringing our 5 year old grandson (Someone has to save his papa from killing himself!). We also have Steamboat and Austria leaving this month! It will definitely be a fun skiing month! I hope everyone is ready to go. We will be having our monthly meeting on January 16th so you can get more information on these trips then. I hope to see everyone there.

Stay Fabulous,

Tom Quetsch



MEMBER'S CORNER

Want Ad

Snowdrifter Charter member, **Bill Schrauth**, has lots of 8 mm movie tape but cannot find a projector. If you have one, know of someone who has one or know were to look for one, please call Bill at 630-879-7263.

SOCIAL

Happy New Year!!

During the ski season I will not be adding any activities.

Pat Quetsch

Social Director

SPORTS



Chicago Tribune

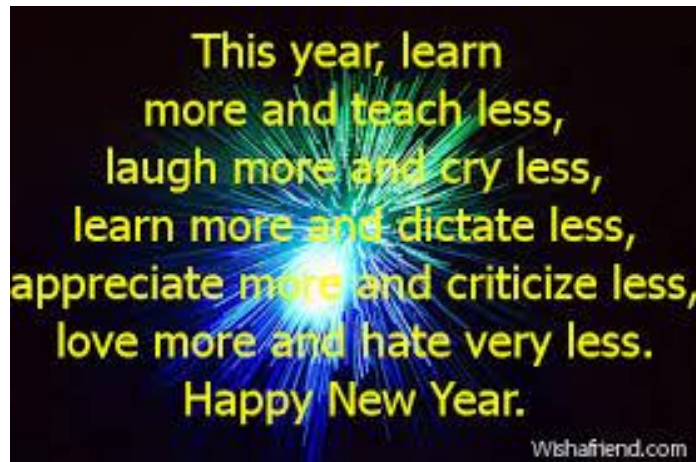
TRIP INSURANCE



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.





Sold out!! & READY TO GO!!!

**Shanty Creek Resort
Bellaire, Michigan January 6-8, 2017**

The Snowdrifters provide trip parking at the Kane County Fairgrounds. Access to the parking lot is via the west side Fairground Main Gate Entrance off Randall Rd. (525 S Randall Rd. St. Charles...just south of West Suburban Bank). Loading of our coach will start at approximately **12:30 p.m. on Friday, January 6th. PLEASE BE ON TIME.** The bus **will leave promptly at 1:00 p.m.** for the trip to Shanty Creek Resort Bellaire, MI. During the bus ride, we will provide drinks (pop, water, beer, and wine), pizza and "munchies." **No glass bottles are permitted on the bus.** We will have a cooler available for you. We will have pizza ready to serve shortly after the bus departs. It would be greatly appreciated if you can bring a treat or snack to pass on the bus.. Also, you can bring DVD movies, but it must be G or PG rated as we will have a few young children traveling with us. For the return trip on Sunday, we plan to arrive back at the Kane County parking lot by 9:00 p.m. or earlier - weather permitting. Questions/issues call or text Sue at 630-306-3494.

HOTEL INFORMATION

We will stay 2 nights at the Lakeview Hotel sitting at the top of Summit Mountain overlooking beautiful Lake Bellaire. The Lakeview Hotel and Conference Center-Shanty Creek Resorts (5780 Shanty Creek Rd., Bellaire, MI, 49615. 231-533-8621) has a heated pool, whirlpool sauna (don't forget to bring your swimsuit!), fitness center, on-site restaurant and lounge. Non-skiers can explore Bellaire and enjoy the local sites, restaurants and pubs. Saturday and Sunday we will ski Schuss Mountain. **On Sunday**, please plan to leave the mountain/town in plenty of time to arrive back at our designated loading/changing station **by 2:00 p.m.**

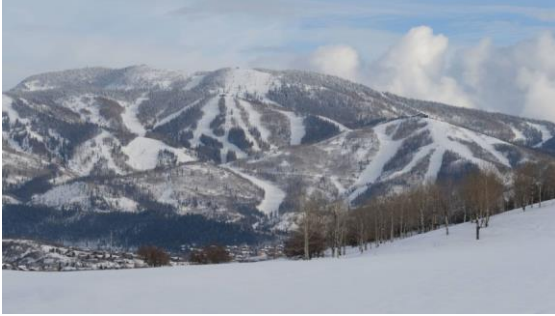
DINING INFORMATION

Everyone is responsible for their own dining arrangements while at Shanty Creek. Reservations are suggested for Saturday evening. If you are looking for fine dining at The Lakeview (reservations are required), you may book as early as today.

Trip leader:

Sue Stanciu skstanciu314@gmail.com

**Steamboat Springs:
The Trip You've Been Waiting For!
January 22-27, 2017**



SOLD OUT – WAIT LIST

The Steamboat Springs trip scheduled for January 22nd – 27th, 2017 is now being finalized. Our flight has been ticketed with American Airlines, Flight No. 3630, departing O'Hare at 12:15 p.m. For those wishing to ride the bus from the Fairgrounds, the bus will be ready to load at 6:30 a.m. and depart at 6:45 a.m. Luggage tickets and any updated trip information will be at the January 16th meeting. Everyone registered for the trip has been sent an email with more detailed information.

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

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: ftnod@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

March 3rd-9th, 2017

SOLD OUT – WAIT LIST

Steve Kennedy is planning to rent a car Saturday morning and head to the Alyeska Mountain for a full day of skiing. Any other hard core skiers that would like to join me are welcome - just split the cost of the rental car and gas among those who join. Send me an email (stevekennedy27@yahoo.com) or give me a call (630.235.8291).

Alyeska Announcements

We have reserved two tours for the Alyeska group but both are additional charges to the package. The tour company would like an approximate number of people interested in the tours by January 15th. Please contact Michele at gbmkinz@gmail.com with your reservation by January 15th.

For those interested in dining in the Seven Glacier Restaurant at the top of the gondola at Hotel Alyeska, they are only open the Sunday night that we arrive at the Resort (March 5th). You should make your reservation (more info at www.alyeskaresort.com) and the tram ride is free with your reservation.

Alaska Ski Trip – Day Tours

Monday, March 6th, 2017 – Day Tour to Seward

We depart at 8:00 a.m. from Hotel Alyeska. It will be a 90 minute scenic drive to Seward with picture stops along the way. We arrive at 10:00 a.m. in Seward. A gray whale watching cruise runs from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. (See below for description.) Or just spend the day in Seward and enjoy a visit to the Alaska Sealife Center (admission is \$20). We then depart Seward at 4:30 p.m. and arrive back at hotel around 6:00 p.m.

The cost of the day tour is as follows:

- \$170 per person for the day trip to Seward including the gray whale watching cruise.
- \$75 per person for day trip to Seward only.

Major Marine Gray Whale Watching Cruise (Seward).

Their website <https://www.majormarine.com/tour/gray-whale-watching-cruise/> states:

Join us for our first cruise of the season as we head out to the opening of Resurrection Bay to witness the annual return of the gray whales.

Gray whales migrate over 5,000 miles from Baja to the Bering and Chukchi Seas each year in search of food. These whales begin migrating north in late February and travel by “line of sight,” meaning that they travel close to the coastline on their migration. Gray whales arrive in Alaska in the spring, spending the summer feeding in shallow Arctic waters before migrating south in mid-October.

Our Gray Whale Watching Cruise takes you through Resurrection Bay to the edge of the Gulf of Alaska in search of our returning visitors. In addition to gray whales, watch for humpback whales, orca whales, Steller sea lions, sea otters, Dall’s porpoises, harbor seals, bald eagles, and many types of seabirds. Our tour is fully narrated by our experienced captains and naturalist crewmembers. Complimentary beverages include coffee, tea, and water. Additional snacks and beverages are available for purchase.

The boat has a heated cabin and restroom on board. The cruise operates rain or shine.

Alyeska, Alaska continued

Wednesday, March 8th, 2017 – Lazy Otter Glacier Cruise and/or trip to Portage Glacier Valley and Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center

The following is a sample itinerary, including Lazy Otter Glacier Cruise assuming two groups of people. If we have more than 22 people, the 9:45 a.m. option will be available, otherwise, we will go at 7 a.m.

The morning trip is scheduled to load up at 6:45 a.m. and will depart at 7:00 a.m. from Hotel Alyeska's front door. There will be time for a nice picture stop in Portage Glacier Valley and then at 7:30 a.m. at the tunnel to Whittier. Check in is at 7:50 a.m. at Lazy Otter. We will depart Whittier at 1 p.m., arrive at Alaska Conservation Center at 1:30 p.m. and stay until 3 p.m., and we will be back at hotel by 3:45 p.m.

If needed, the second group will depart Hotel Alyeska at 9:45 a.m. and arrive back at 5:45 p.m.

The cost of the day tour is as follows:

- \$270 per person for the day trip including Lazy Otter Glacier Cruise, trip to Portage Glacier Valley, and Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center.
- \$85 per person for the day trip to Portage Glacier Valley and Alaska Wildlife

Conservation Center (this trip may be scheduled for the same day or a different day).

Lazy Otter Glacier Tour (Whittier)/Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center (Portage)

<http://www.lazyotter.com/alaska-winter-tours.html>

Our journey in Prince William Sound up Blackstone Bay takes us along the shores of this fascinating fjord carved by the ancient glaciers on their great retreat. It is an epic story of the powers between ice and granite. Live the history of glaciations as we cruise among the sheer cliff walls, wide glacier outwash streams, and deep groves and striations scoured in the rock walls.

In less than one hour from Whittier you will be sitting at the face of two tidewater glaciers, Beloit and Blackstone, and see the numerous waterfalls and hanging glaciers, remnants of the giant glaciers' retreat. In route, we'll stop to photo sea otters and harbor seals that make their home in this part of the sound. During our adventure we'll step ashore to experience the natural geology and thick rainforest. Enjoy a snack and hot drink as you reflect on your journey. This is a small boat tour with a preferred group size of 18 (maximum is 22). There is cabin seating with heat.

Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center (AWCC)

<https://www.alaskawildlife.org/>

There is a 1.5 – 2 mile driving loop within the park which will be accessed by the bus. Estimated tour time is 1.5 hours. Walking areas can be muddy/wet depending on the weather.

Trip Leader:

Michele Kinzler gbmkinz@gmail.com

Assistant Leader:

John Walsh jrwxplor@sbcglobal.net



CHICAGO METROPOLITAN SKI COUNCIL
CMSC

SPRING FLING
2017

\$1105
PER PERSON

ASPEN
SNOWMASS

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
- 6 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.



“Forgive others, not because they deserve forgiveness, but because you deserve peace.” Jonathan Lockwood Huie

“The best thing about the future is that it comes one day at a time” Abraham Lincoln

Recipe

Crock Pot Cheeseburger Soup

(Serves 8)

Ingredients

- 4 small potatoes, peeled and diced
- 1 small white or yellow onion, chopped
- 1 cup shredded carrots
- 1/2 cup diced celery
- 1 teaspoon dried basil
- 1 teaspoon dried parsley
- 3 cups chicken broth
- 1 pound lean ground beef
- 3 Tablespoons butter
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 cups milk (I use 2%)
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 1 (16 oz.) package Velveeta processed cheese, cubed OR 2 cups shredded cheddar cheese

Instructions

1. Place potatoes, onions, carrots, celery, dried basil and parsley in a large crock pot. Pour chicken broth over vegetables. Cover with lid. Cook on low heat 6 to 8 hours OR on high heat 4 to 5 hours or until potatoes are tender.
2. About 45 minutes before serving, cook and crumble ground beef in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Drain any grease. Pour cooked ground beef into crock pot. Carefully wipe out hot skillet with a paper towel then add butter. When butter is melted whisk in flour and cook until golden brown and bubbly (about 1 minute.) Whisk in the milk, salt and pepper. Pour mixture into the crock pot and stir to combine everything.
3. Add the cubed velveeta cheese or shredded cheese to crock pot. Stir again. Cover with lid and cook another 30 minutes or until cheese is melted.
4. Serve and enjoy!

Notes

- Cook Time: 6 to 8 hours (because all crock pots heat differently)

Snowdrifters' Calendar



SAVE THE DATES

January 6th -8th

Shanty Creek Resort – SKI SEASON BEGINS!!!
Bellaire, Michigan
Sue Stanciu, trip leader

January 16th

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

January 22nd -27th

Steamboat Springs
Sarah Richardson, trip leader

January 27th – February 7th

Austria - Prague
Frank Hodowal & Joe Hopp, trip leaders

February 21st

Board Meeting 6:45 p.m.
General Meeting 7:30 p.m. Hear all about the January trips!
Photo contest??
@ Old Towne

