



SITZMARKER

Spring 2015

St. Louis Ski Club Board of Directors 2015-2016

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St. Louis Ski Club

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Annual Meeting Results

The Ski Club's Annual Meeting was held on April 23rd at **Ruby Tuesday** in Sunset Hills. At that meeting the current board members were all re-elected for another term: Carole Stevenson – President, Joe Bauer – Vice President, Tom Coscia – Trip Director, and Paul Snyder – Communications Director. All of these board members thank you for your ongoing support, and look forward to working with you throughout this coming year!

At the same meeting a number of bylaw revisions were also approved, most of which involved “cleaning up” some prior revisions, especially in the area of communications to the club, allowing us to do more electronic notifications and save on printing and postage. A significant change involved the method of assigning trip credits, which hadn't been reviewed in many years. Rather than just a flat amount per ski day, we now have a formula which includes both the number of ski days *and* the number of trip participants.

In the near future an updated copy of the Bylaws and Operating Code will be posted at our Website under the “About” tab!

Also, don't forget to renew your membership if you haven't already done so!

Position Available!

**HELP
WANTED**

The St. Louis Ski Club Board is seeking a person to fill the position of **Record Center Coordinator**.

This person will act under the immediate direction of the Board of Directors. He/she will attend all board meetings and perform all duties assigned regarding the financial operation, membership records, and club operation of the SLSC. *(Specific duties can be found at the St. Louis Ski Club Website under the “About” tab, then click on the “St. Louis Ski Club Bylaws” link.)* This is a compensated position, and training will be provided.

If you are interested in discussing, or applying for, this position, please contact Carole Stevenson, President, using the contact information shown at the left!

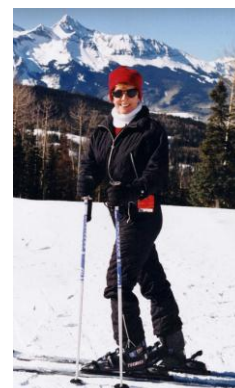
A Big “Thank You, Sue!”

The reason we're searching for a new **Record Center Coordinator** is that **Sue Scott** has decided it's time to step down and let someone else take on the job!

Sue has been filling this position since the 2000-2001 season. She served as the club's vice president in the 1999-2000 season, and prior to that she served two years as the club's newsletter editor. *(And she's still this editor's best proof-reader!)*

Sue has been an active member of the club since 1995, going on many trips during that time, and we certainly hope we'll continue to see a lot of her at all of our events!

THANKS, SUE!





Breckenridge, Colorado

The “One Size Fits All” Resort

Our Breckenridge trip (February 28 – March 7)
Departed and arrived without any major “bumps”!

Members on the trip included last-minute trip leaders Betty Hillig and Susanne Watkins, as well as Vince & Del Briscuso, Nancy Engel, Karen Goessling, Jason Hubele (J.R.), new member John LeFort, Lynne Morse, Bob & Mary Plumlee, Mark Schuler, and Sharon Ann Smith.

Negotiating their way through the maze of halls at the Beaver Run Resort to find rooms, not to mention the welcome wine and cheese party, was a bit confusing for some the first night. Depending on which building people were in, some had to go outside or across a roof patio, through the Skywalk, or maybe through the game room area or the parking garage. Also one (*or more*) elevator rides or flights of stairs might be involved. After a while everyone did get the hang of it!

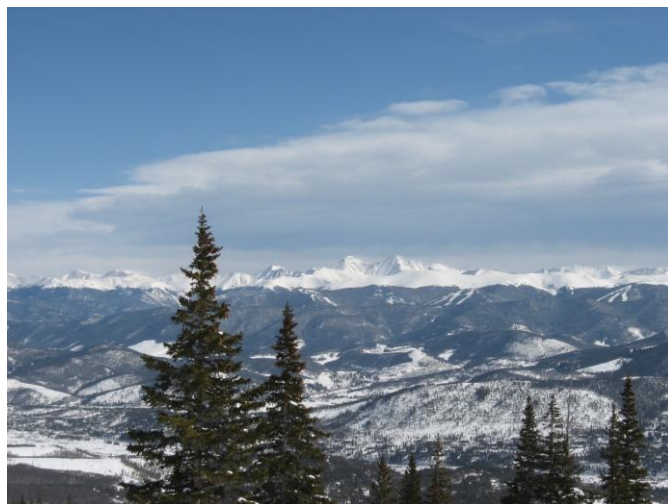
Other than then initial “Beaver Run Maze” it *was* an ideal trip in many ways!

- The group missed the St. Louis/Illinois ice and snow that week.
- Weather conditions at Breckenridge were ideal for all types of skiers and boarders with overnight snow, fresh powder and snow throughout the day. (*Some days were pretty cold, but others had blue skies and warmer weather.*)
- Lift passes were valid at several resorts.
- Other activities that were available, and taken advantage of, included a day of dog sledding for Karen Goessling (*she says it’s a good companion activity to skiing*), and a day at Vail for Betty, Nancy, and J.R. (*and apparently Betty and Nancy found themselves on an un-groomed black run, but survived by traversing through the crud to a groomed black, after which Nancy described the adventure as “awesome!”*) Vince’s adventure (*a fall on lower Peak 6 and a cracked rib*) wasn’t quite so awesome, but he’s doing fine.

The group enjoyed two club dinners, one at the Quandary Grille and one at the Floating Dredge. The club party was in the captains’ condo, and featured pizza, salad, snacks, dessert, and beverages. Sharon Ann kicked the party up a notch with her cell phone app “Charades” which generated a lot of laughs for all!



More from Breckenridge . . .



Great snow ... great group ... great fun for all!

Member Spotlight: *Bev Doolin Conquers the Himalayas*

The ski slopes are not the only heights that some St. Louis skiers aspire to. Bev Doolin proved this in November of 2014 when she achieved a feat that remains on the eternal bucket list for most people; she hiked to the Mt. Everest base camp in the Himalayas. Bev's interest in this area was first sparked when examining maps for a planned trip to visit her son and daughter-in-law in Myanmar in Asia. This trip fell through but she found herself intrigued with Mt. Everest at the corner of Nepal and Tibet and managed to snag the last available spot on a group trip to the Himalayas. This left her with ten weeks to start a hiking regimen to prepare for the endeavor.

A snowstorm and series of avalanches in Nepal that killed 43 people eleven days before the start of the trip was hardly an auspicious sign. While there were some cancellations on the trip, Bev and six others soldiered on, accompanied by three guides. It took about nine days to reach the base camp, including some acclimation days, in which hikers climbed higher and then descended to spend the night at a lower elevation. Much of the hiking involved trails paved with stones that formed steps in steep grades and crossing rivers on suspension bridges. Water bottles, Camelbaks, water purification tablets, hand sanitizers, and hand wipes were necessities to keep close at hand. In very cold weather, the hand wipes provided for the only "bathing" available. Bev and her fellow hikers all found the hike to be more difficult than expected but her training beforehand helped her struggle less than others. And most of the hardship was made worthwhile by some of the breathtaking views they experienced. In Bev's words, "every day was like a picture straight from a postcard: majestic snow-capped mountains against brilliant blue skies."

All of us in the St. Louis Ski Club challenge ourselves with new and exciting experiences on the slopes and in our other endeavors. There are many, though, who go to "heights" even far beyond what we can see from our ski lifts. Bev is obviously one such brave adventurer and we salute her.

Hiking the Himalayas
Bev Doolin

**Healthy
Living**



Our Condolences ...

The club wants to express its sympathy to Mary Bubash and her family. Her husband, long-time club member Norman Bubash, passed away earlier this year.

We also wish to express our sympathy to Bob & Chris Schnieders. Bob's son Michael passed away in March.

And Get Well Wishes ...

Club member Norman Pratt recently had heart surgery, but we hear he's recovering well! We wish you all the best, Norm!

Officers Afield ...

Board members Joe Bauer, Tom Coscia, and Paul Snyder recently attended the Chicago Metropolitan Ski Council (CMSC) annual Trip Seminar in Chicago. As a member club, this gave them a great opportunity to meet with trip vendors and representatives from ski resorts all across North America and Europe! It also gave them the chance to network with leaders of other clubs and share ideas on membership, communications, and other ways we can all strengthen our clubs and offer great trips!

Mark your calendar ...

St. Louis Ski Club Annual Dog 'n Suds

Friday June 5 – 5:00 pm

Tilles Park

9551 Litzinger Road
Brentwood, MO 63124

Cost – **Members FREE/Guests \$5**

The club will provide:

Hot Dogs & Buns
Potato Salad & Chips
Beer, Soda, Box Wine

Please bring a side dish or dessert to share! We'd love to have you show off your culinary skills!

Also, this is a *great* time to bring friends and introduce them to the club!



From our President ...

During my term as club president I have had the pleasure of discovering the extraordinary talents and interesting endeavors of many of our members. I am pleased to announce that starting with this issue of our Sitzmarker, we will be adding a new, regular feature in each edition showcasing the achievements and talents of one of our very own members. This edition is featuring Bev Doolin and her adventure to the Himalayans. Dan McGurk has graciously agreed to share his talents with us and write the articles. Please contact me or any board members with names of members you would like to nominate to be showcased in a future Sitzmarker.

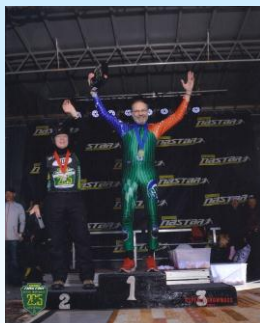
Also, just a reminder that your membership was due on April 30th. If you haven't renewed yet, you can do it at the Dog 'n Suds!

Carole Stevenson



Past (and Current) Club Member **John Heiman** at the NASTAR Finals!

John Heiman had been a member of the St. Louis Ski Club for many years, going back to its early days, and then dropped out for a while. But he's once again joined the club! John competed in the NASTAR Finals at Snowmass at the end of March along with another 1000 skiers. John earned a gold medal this year in his age bracket, so also advanced to race against the other gold medal winners. He ended up finishing in the top 20 (16th) out of this group of 60. Congratulations John!



Big Sky, Montana ... The Biggest Skiing in America



Forty excited St. Louis skiers set out on Wednesday, March 18th for five days of skiing in Big Sky, Montana. This group was led by trip captain Ken Kinsinger and included Alex Andreev, Bob Ansel, Frank Atkinson, Wayne Baker, Joe Bauer, Jan Beinecke, Doug Bender, Lou Boyer, Lola Buyce, Tom Coscia, Carlene Cox, Thomas Crouch, Judith Crouch, Bev Doolin, Candy Girth, Cindy Girth, Ed Goedde, David Hawley, Bill Hayes, Judy Hayes, Dan Heitzman, Randy Helms, Joan Hummel, Don Jones, Scott Kaelin, Ken Kinsinger, Tracy Leverenz, Mary Jane Loeffler, Dan McGurk, Ruth Payne, Pat Pender, Vic Pineda, Mary Robert, Nicole Russom, Paul Snyder, Carole Stevenson, Martha Trbovich, Suzan Wild, John Wood and Arthur Zupka. *(We also had several club member who couldn't get on the actual trip, so "tagged along" and enjoyed time with us, too.)*

Leaving on a Wednesday for a "mid-week" trip was a new experience for the ski club but everyone managed to shake off their St. Patrick's Day partying from the night before and arrive early at the airport for the 9:15 departure. The flight to Bozeman, Montana, went smoothly (although the stopover in Minneapolis was a little rushed), the hour-long bus trip to the resort passed quickly and the check-in at the Huntley Lodge went without a hitch for most people. We arrived at about 3 pm and some people spent the afternoon unpacking, renting equipment at the nearby Lone Mountain Sports, and exploring some of the nearby shops. Our welcome party in the lodge that evening included plenty of wine, cheese, fruit, and crackers (later joined by pizza) and an informative talk from a Big Sky representative. On Thursday morning, those who had never before experienced the famous Huntley Lodge breakfast buffet found it more than lived up to its reputation and it would go on to provide us with six hearty meals. As we headed out to the slopes that first day, all the elements seemed to be in place for a terrific ski vacation except for one thing: the snow. *(Which is highly unusual for Big Sky!)*

Not that there was no snow, just not enough to make it an entirely pleasant skiing experience. It had snowed about 6 inches about the night before we arrived which certainly helped but that unfortunately was almost all we got during our stay there. There was still some good skiing to be had; the trick became to hit a trail after the morning sun had warmed it enough to keep it from being a sheet of ice but before it had turned to total slush. We managed to make the best of what we had and most people found at least a few trails every day that proved enjoyable.

And there were other diversions along the way. Many people (especially first-timers in the area) took the Lone Peak Tram up to the summit of the mountain where there is often a view of three states and both Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks. The summit also offered access to some of the most difficult ski terrain in the country but the St. Louis skiers all chose to take the tram down instead. Marty Trbovich and Pat Pender went on a 4-mile snowshoe tour at the Big Sky resort that turned out to be a little more of an endurance test than they bargained for. Some of the beautiful views they experienced, though, made their efforts worthwhile. On another day, Marty and Pat were joined by Joan Hummel for a tour of Yellowstone National Park and got to see a variety of Montana wildlife in their native habitat, including some rarely-seen wolves. Tracy, Mary Lou, Jan, Lola, and Dan Pilant took the same tour on a different day and had an equally enjoyable time.

Nor did the lack of snow take away from the camaraderie we enjoyed as a group and Ken, Tom, and other club members helped to plan some fun evening activities. The club party at Broken Spoke on Sunday evening provided some excellent barbecue selections. Randy Helms organized a dinner on Saturday night at the Cabin Bar and Grill, a fine restaurant just a short walk from our lodge. And Bucks T-4, considered one of the finest restaurants in the region for genuine Montana game, proved to be a popular draw for club members. Some tried it out early on the trip while others waited for the final evening when Bob Ansel organized a group of 20 to make the trek there in a restaurant-sponsored bus.

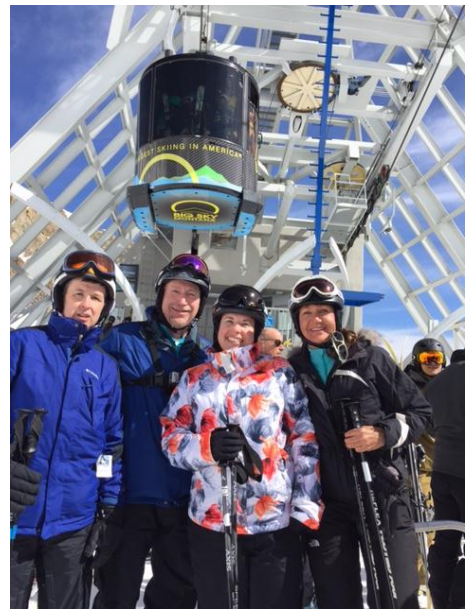
And as usual with our club, there were some fun stories to share. Randy, Joe, John and Suzan set out to enjoy a little wine during a dinner at Hummer's Restaurant but their first bottle turned out to be "nothing but swill". Ordering a second bottle made their wine bill as large as their dinner bill. The "swill" did have its uses though, as Randy managed to finish it off in the hot tub. On another occasion, Randy was convinced the IRS had caught up to him when another skier confronted him outside Moonlight Basin. It turned out Randy had accidentally taken this gentleman's skis (and skied in them for an hour) without noticing they were a fair amount longer than his own.

If the snow was not ideal we can at least be thankful the rain predicted for Saturday and Sunday never materialized. We were actually tantalized by a few snowflakes in the early evening on Saturday but they never amounted to anything meaningful. Naturally the real snow did start in the early afternoon on Monday, just as many were making their way in from the slopes, and would continue for the next day.

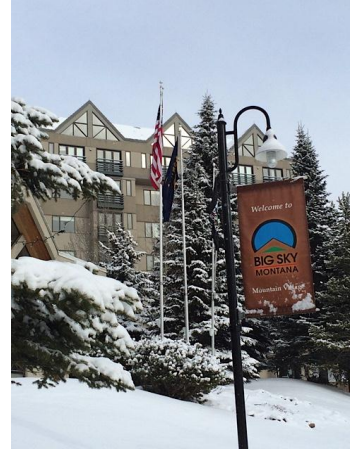
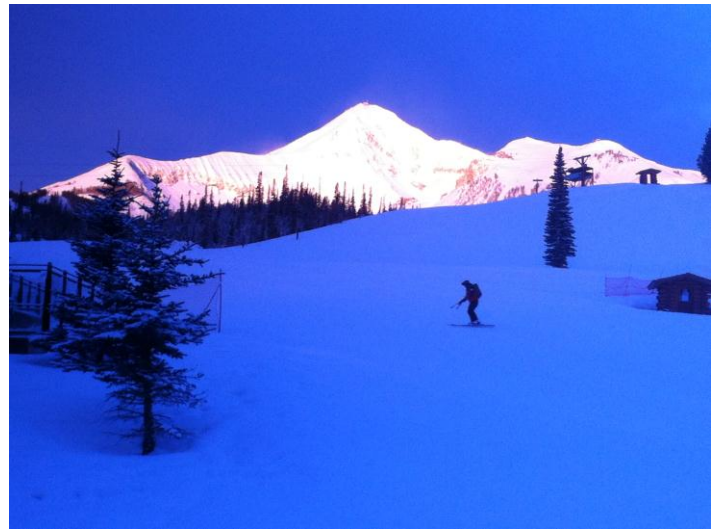
Snowfall is the one element of any ski trip that even the best of planning can't control but that shouldn't take away from this Big Sky excursion being an enjoyable experience all around. We shared good food, good drink, good camaraderie, and some good skiing where we could find it. Thanks to Ken for organizing a good trip that could only have been better with a little more cooperation from Mother Nature.



More Big Sky Fun!









Fun at Fast Eddie's with the St. Louis Ski Club

For the "coldest beer" and "cheapest food" in the region where do you head? **Fast Eddie's**, of course! Last month a group of club members headed up to Alton for lunch at this area landmark. We had a good turnout, and everyone had a great time on a beautiful day. If you'd like to see more activities like this, let our vice president, Joe Bauer, know ... and volunteer to host or organize, too!



What Activities Interest You?

Do you like to hike? Bike? Skate? Golf? Dance? Bowl? Do you like going to shows? Or maybe sporting events? The list could go on and on!

Whatever it is that you enjoy, consider hosting a ski club event! We're looking for events all year long ... not just during the winter months!

If you've got something you'd like to do, contact Vice President Joe Bauer or any other board member with your suggestions and to volunteer!

What's Going On???

Get the most up-to-date info on our upcoming activities in your monthly "Out 'n About". If we have your e-mail address you should be receiving this each month. If not, and you're a current SLSC member, contact Joe Bauer, our vice president, and have it mailed to you!

Imperial Cities 2015

Featuring Prague, Vienna, & Budapest

August 31 – September 10

There's still time to sign up to experience the history, beauty, & excitement of some of the most famous capital cities of Europe with the St. Louis Ski Club and Collette Travel. You'll see beautiful castles, breathtaking scenery, historic cathedrals and buildings, and get to enjoy cities that were the center of European culture for centuries. All this for only \$3,849 (*double occupancy*) and you can still sign up through June 30th, so why delay?

The trip includes round-trip airfare from St. Louis, departing on Monday August 31 for Prague, in the Czech Republic. Prague has been called the "Golden City" or "The City of 100 Spires." You'll love the city's unique culture and architecture! While in Prague you'll see sites like the majestic Hradcany Castle, the gothic St. Vitus Cathedral, and the lovely statue-lined Charles Bridge. You can shop for the famous Bohemian crystal or visit one of the city's outstanding museums. You can also take an optional guided tour of the city's historic Old Jewish Quarter. And, of course, you won't want to miss all of the opportunities to try the various local foods and wines!

From Prague we'll journey to the grand city of Vienna, the former capital of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Along the way we'll stop in the "fairytale" town of Cesky Krumlov and have time to explore the streets lined with baroque architecture. While in Vienna you'll be able to tour the magnificent Schoenbrunn Palace (*and have an optional evening dinner and concert of Mozart and Strauss at the palace*), as well as the city center, the gothic St. Stephen's Cathedral, and a chance to travel along the beautiful blue Danube to the medieval town of Durnstein and through the historic Wachau Valley and the Melk Abbey.

Then, from Vienna, we'll make our way to Budapest, Hungary by way of Bratislava, Slovakia, the former coronation city and Imperial capital of the Hapsburg Empire. You'll learn about the city's multilayered history from local experts. Then it's Budapest, the "Queen of the Danube," truly one of the world's *most beautiful* cities! Some of the sites include the Matthias Church, site of many coronations, the Fisherman's Bastion, Old Buda and Gellert Hill, plus the Parliament. Again, during your free time you'll be able to visit shops, museums, and all sorts of fantastic places to eat! There are optional side trips to the Puszta (countryside) and horse farms where they'll put on a spectacular horse show for your pleasure, or a chance to tour Budapest by Night! The final full day will include a trip to the baroque town of Szentendre and the former Renaissance capital of Visegrad. We'll travel back in time with a visit to a 14th century castle where knights in colorful costume recreate the days of chivalry. And we'll end with a Renaissance-style dinner at the castle with a re-enactment of medieval times before our flight back home to St. Louis the following day! This will truly be a once-in-a-lifetime experience that's not to be missed! Invite your friends – ski club membership isn't required!

For more information visit: <https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/628584>

You can also link to information from the **St. Louis Ski Club Webpage** or contact Paul Snyder for a brochure!

