



“A ski and travel club...  
and a whole lot more”

## December at a glance

**Every Sun.** Breakfast Club 10 a.m. at Anton's Island Grill, 16 Mile and Dequindre.

**Every Sun.** Wallyball at 12:30 at Warren Racquet Club  
6 Sat. Christmas Classic Movie at the historic Redford Theatre with the 1947 classic film “**Miracle on 34th Street.**” We'll meet at Steve's Family Diner between 5:00 & 5:30 p.m., or meet in the theater lobby around 7:30 p.m. **Free movie admission for GMSC members**, \$4 for guests. Contact Darrell: 586-899-8203  
11 Thurs. General Meeting - **17<sup>th</sup> Street Bar & Grill.** We'll meet at 7:00 p.m., announcements at 8:00 p.m.  
16 Tue. Board Meeting – 17<sup>th</sup> Street Bar & Grill, Dinner at 5:30, meeting begins at 6:00 p.m.  
20 Sat. Our Annual **Holiday Party** at Craig's house  
Fun starts at 6:00 p.m.! Bring a dish to pass. Contact Les: 248-693-1794

## GM SKI and TRAVEL CLUB

Website:

**[www.gmskiclub.org](http://www.gmskiclub.org)**

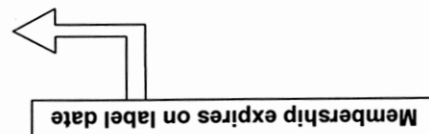
(recent photos, upcoming events, membership applications, bylaws, forms, and fun music)

MDSC Website: **[www.mdscski.org](http://www.mdscski.org)**

### Deadline

The deadline for articles or pictures submitted for inclusion in this newsletter is 5 p.m. sharp on the 20<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month.

Late submissions will be held for the following issue or discarded.



First Class Mail



c/o Darrell Ahlberg  
40377 Kraft Dr.  
Sterling Heights, MI 48310



# NEWSLETTER

SKI and TRAVEL

DECEMBER 2008

WEBSITE: [www.gmskiclub.org](http://www.gmskiclub.org)

GM CLUB: FOUNDED 1957

VOLUME LII, ISSUE XII

OUR GENERAL MEETING IS AT:

**17th Street Bar & Grill**

**3905 17 Mile Rd.**

**Just west of Ryan Road**

Meeting Theme: *The Holidays*

*(For Santas, Elves, snowmen, anything goes)*

***Dress up in your Holiday Attire***

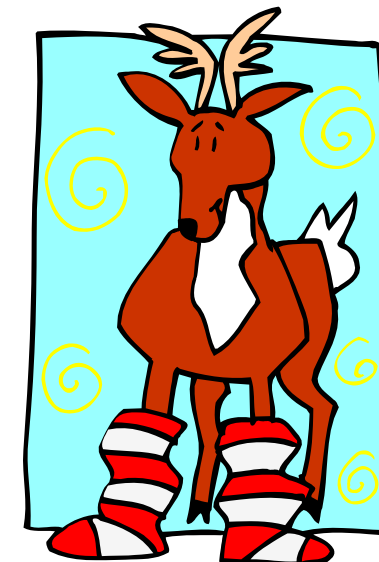
***and we will buy you your first beer!***

*We will also be providing a holiday cake & roll-ups*

*Bring your friends!*

**Thursday, December 11, 7:00 Pm**

***For this festive holiday event***



*See You There!*  
*Hospitality Chair*  
*G. Ronan*

## Our Annual Holiday Party

You're invited to Craig's house for an evening of celebration with friends. Fun starts at 6:00 p.m. to whenever you feel like leaving! A hot tub and a crackling fire add to the eve's delight. Bring a dish to pass; show off your culinary skills!

See flyer inside for more info.

Contact Les: 248-693-1794

GM SKI and TRAVEL CLUB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name:\_\_\_\_\_

Address:\_\_\_\_\_

City:\_\_\_\_\_ Zip:\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (day)\_\_\_\_\_(Evening)\_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

☐NEW MEMBERSHIP \$30

☐RENEWAL \$25

In consideration for me being able to join the GM Ski and Travel Club, I agree to abide by the GM SKI and TRAVEL Club's by-Laws and constitution.

Membership runs October 1 through September 30.

Signature:\_\_\_\_\_Date:\_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about the GM Ski and Travel Club?

☐ Friend

☐ Newspaper

☐ Racing

☐ Event (list)

\_\_\_\_\_

Skiing Interest:

☐ Downhill

☐ Racing

☐ X-country

☐ Snowboard

Skiing Ability:

☐ Beginner

☐ Intermediate

☐ Advanced

I'd like to help:

☐ Ski Trips

☐ Publicity

☐ Meetings

☐ Activities

☐ Other (list)

\_\_\_\_\_

• **Referral:** I am a new member and was referred to the GM Ski and Travel Club by:  
Referring Members Name:\_\_\_\_\_

**Payment made by:** ☐ Cash ☐ Check

Check # \_\_\_\_\_

I like the club so much I wish to make an additional contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

GM Ski and Travel Club Board of Directors

**President:** Les Skrzycki 248-693-1794

**Vice President:** Vacant

**Treasurer:** Alan Toomey 248-391-5180

**Secretary:** Darrell Ahlberg, 586-899-8203

**Activities:** Brian De Leo 248-626-6192

**Hospitality:** Greg Ronan 586-979-9512

**Membership:** Darrell Ahlberg, 586-899-8203

**MDSC Rep:** Debbie Cooke 248-689-7167

**Newsletter:** Michael Bourke 586-776-7685

**Ski Trips:** Dave Duvali 586-754-8151

**Webmaster:** Darrell Ahlberg, 586-899-8203

The board meets once a month, the week after the General Meeting

TO JOIN THE GM SKI and TRAVEL CLUB:

Please send completed application at the left along with check (payable to “GM Ski Club”) to:

GM Ski and Travel Club

40377 Kraft Dr.

Sterling Heights, MI 48310

Or bring the completed application with you to our General Meeting.

Membership runs Oct. through Sept.

Mail changes of address to the above.

**You don’t have to work for General Motors to belong to the GM Ski and Travel Club! (but it’s okay if you do).**

Treasurers Report

\$9483.57

Alan Toomey

Treasurer

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

BRIAN DELEO

DIANE PASIK

JAMES PRICE

MICHAEL BOURKE

12/1

12/2

12/14

12/14

Editor's Notes

Submissions to this newsletter will be accepted in any visual, but not oral, form. Electronic transmissions are preferred.

The deadline is 5:00 p.m. sharp on the 20th of the preceding month.

Michael Bourke16724 Collinson

Eastpointe, MI 48021

Home: 586-776-7685

E-mail: [gmskiclub@yahoo.com](mailto:gmskiclub@yahoo.com)

Calendar of Events

Every Sun. Breakfast Club starts at 10:00 a.m. at Anton's Island Grill, 16 Mile Rd. and Dequindre. No RSVP needed. Just show up, and we'll make room for you.

Every Sun. Wallyball Time! Work off that Sunday breakfast and join us at Warren Racquet and Fitness Club, one block east of Van Dyke at 12 ½ Mile Road. 12:30 p.m. We play for fun! Contact Les: 248-693-1794

DECEMBER

6 Sat. Christmas Classic Movie - Bring on the Christmas spirit at the historic Redford Theatre with the 1947 classic film "Miracle on 34th Street." We'll meet at Steve's Family Diner between 5:00 & 5:30 p.m., 15800 Middlebelt Rd. in Livonia. The Redford is located at 17360 Lahser Rd. in Detroit, just a few doors north of Grand River. Ample free, lighted and supervised parking is adjacent to the theatre. If you would like to skip dinner, meet in the theater lobby around 7:30 p.m. The dinner is \$13 for all attendees; Free movie admission for GMSC members, \$4 for guests. Contact Darrell: 586-899-8203

11 Thurs. General Meeting - 17<sup>th</sup> Street Bar & Grill, 3905 17 Mile Rd. in Sterling Heights, MI 48310. Bring all your friends! We'll meet at 7:00 p.m., announcements at 8:00 p.m.

16 Tue. Board Meeting - 17<sup>th</sup> Street Bar & Grill, Dinner at 5:30, meeting begins at 6:00 p.m.

20 Sat. Our Annual Holiday Party - You're invited to Craig's house for an evening of celebration with friends. Fun starts at 6:00 p.m. to whenever you feel like leaving! A hot tub and a crackling fire add to the eve's delight. Bring a dish to pass; show off your culinary skills! ... see this newsletter for more info. Contact Les: 248-693-1794

JANUARY

3 Sat. Restaurant of the Month - Peking House Restaurant, 215 S. Washington Ave. in Royal Oak. Cocktails at 6:30 pm., dinner shortly after. ... Contact Brian: 248-626-6192

8 Thurs. General Meeting - 17<sup>th</sup> Street Bar & Grill, 3905 17 Mile Rd. in Sterling Heights, MI 48310. We'll meet at 7:00 p.m., announcements at 8:00 p.m.

13 Tue. Board Meeting - 17<sup>th</sup> Street Bar & Grill. Dinner at 5:30, meeting begins at 6:00 p.m.

1/31 - 2/7 Steamboat Springs skiing adventure! ... Get high (about 7000 feet) for one week in the beautiful Colorado Rockies! Experience skiing at it's best for a very reasonable cost. See this newsletter for more details or contact Dave Duvali: 586-754-8151 or email: [daveduvali@wowway.com](mailto:daveduvali@wowway.com)

FEBRUARY

7 Sat. BaldwinTheater - Stagecrafters present the musical comedy "La Cage Aux Folles," a Tony Award winner for great music, dance, and lots of laughs! We'll meet at Sangria Restaurant, 401 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak, for dinner at 5:30 p.m., ... or meet at the theater at 7:30 p.m. Show starts at 8 p.m., 415 S. Lafayette Ave. Theater only tickets are \$5 for members, \$17 guests. Contact Darrell: 586-899-8203

12 Thurs. General Meeting - 17<sup>th</sup> Street Bar & Grill, 3905 17 Mile Rd. in Sterling Heights, MI 48310. We'll meet at 7:00 p.m., announcements at 8:00 p.m.

13 Fri. Restaurant of the Month - Meet us at Shilla Restaurant, featuring excellent Korean/Japanese Cuisine. 1119 W. Maple Rd. in Clawson. 6:30 p.m. for cocktails, dinner at 7:00. Contact: Brian 248-626-6192

17 Tue. Board Meeting - 17<sup>th</sup> Street Bar & Grill. Dinner at 5:30, meeting begins at 6:00 p.m.

20-22 F/S Lake Anne Winterfest weekend of cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, playing in the snow, or browsing through the town. Perhaps an evening card game or just a relaxing weekend get-away will be all you desire. Downhill skiing is also nearby. Contact Darrell for more details: 586-899-8203

27 Fri. Pub & Grub night at Buffalo Wild Wings, 18673 E. Big Beaver in Troy. 6:30 p.m. pub, 7:00 p.m. grub Contact Debbie: 248-689-7167

MARCH

12 Thurs. General Meeting - 17<sup>th</sup> Street Bar & Grill, 3905 17 Mile at Ryan. Meet at 7:00 p.m., announcements at 8:00 p.m.

14 Sat. Curling in Ferndale - And you thought you had to go to Canada? Details coming soon.

17 Tue. Board Meeting - 17<sup>th</sup> Street Bar & Grill. Dinner at 5:30, meeting begins at 6:00 p.m.

21 Sat. Wine Tasting Party - Plans are being made for this exciting, casual event!

27 Fri. Pub & Grub at Dueling Pianos, one N. Saginaw St. in Pontiac. Not your everyday piano club, check this place out! Gather up at 6:30 p.m., dinner around 7:00 p.m. Contact Les: 248-693-1794

ON THE HORIZON

Skiing, curling, bocce ball, restaurants, pubs, movies, theater plays, parties, wine tasting, euchre, karaoke, wallyball, and many friends, so, ..." Let the good times roll!" Wanna try something that we haven't thought of ... let us know!

Watch your email for our up-to-the-minute E-Newsletter for last minute events and activities



# Welcome New Members

I'm pleased to announce that over the past month, the following new people have decided to join our club.

**Matt Casey**  
**Lois Townsend**  
**Mary Donahue**  
**Koby Koebler**

On behalf of the board and the membership, I'd like to welcome all of you to the GM Ski Club. I hope to see you at as many of our activities as your schedule will allow and I hope you make many new friends along the way. I also hope you'll find the value in the activities we offer. But mostly, I hope we will hear from you in terms of what you'd like to see us do in the future. After all, this is your club. Not only does the board want to hear from you, when you're ready, we'd like to extend an invitation to you to participate in board activities. The board meets the first Tuesday after the general meeting. The exact dates and location are posted on the calendar.

**Darrell Ahlberg**  
Membership Chairman

## SHOW YOUR TRUE COLORS!

### GM Ski Club Polo shirts for sale

Dark Blue  
With embroidered Logo.  
XL – 3 available \$20.00  
3X – 1 available \$23.00  
Call **Les** (248) 693-1794 or  
E-mail [lskrzycki@comcast.net](mailto:lskrzycki@comcast.net) if  
interested in purchasing.  
Or see me at next meeting.

# 60 HAPPY PEOPLE



## POLISH FOOD



## MUSIC



## DANCING...



## WHERE ARE WE?⇒⇒ ⇒⇒⇒⇒⇒⇒⇒⇒

# Bald Mountain Campout

## ↘ Les ↙

What a really great outing it was this sunny mid-October weekend in 2008. We had over 30 club members and guests join us at the cabins at Bald Mountain's Tamarack Lake. See Darrell's hike article at right for all those who made the hike along the trails of this recreation area so close to home. Those brave souls who spent the weekend in the cabin, Bill and Patti, Tom, Dale, Dave, Michael, Darrell, Teresa, Tricia, Judy, Kris, Bonnie, and Margaret with sleeping bags and food for an army, I believe got plenty of rest and exercise running back and forth from the fire to the coolers for refreshments.

There was turkey chili and stew for dinner Saturday evening for all to consume. We had plenty of munchies to enjoy while playing cards or Uno. 22 individuals made it for the campfires and the stories that abounded after a few libations. We had target practice with Michael's paint ball guns and Teresa brought out the Hillbilly Horseshoes that a lot of folks played; and I think enjoyed a lot. I have to say it is a game you have to practice to get good at, or just be lucky.

Every once in a while we have a little excitement, and this outing was no exception. Thankfully Tricia is ok from her little fall, which, resulted in a trip to the hospital to stitch her wrist from the broken wine bottle. It pays to have a nurse, Kris J, attending to cover these little incidents. I love to see people having fun and enjoying themselves in the outdoors.

I would like to thank everyone who did so much work to make this event so much fun and to all those who attended. I hope to see you all out here again.

The days were sunny and warm and the nights cool so all could enjoy the bonfire. I look at next year to do this again at the same time.

Cheers, Les

## ↘ Darrell ↙

Saturday afternoon turned out to be the most perfect day for a hike. My thanks to Milton, Mary, Bob, Kathy, Willi, Karen, and Bill, who met us at the Tamarack Cabins (also referred to as the Kervorkian Cabin) in Bald Mountain's North unit.

Along with the hardy GM Members who chose to join in, there were 13 people for the hike. As I'm sure everybody knows and is talking about, the weather was about as good as it could be. The colors, while not exactly at peak, were still splendid. We covered the White Loop, the Blue Loop, and the Orange Loop. In all, we hiked a very leisurely seven miles.

Afterward, several joined up with the GM Ski Club cabin campers for a hearty lunch of hot dogs, pulled port, chicken wings, assorted side dishes, and a cooler filled with water, soft drinks, and beer. In return, the club asked for a five dollar donation and the privilege of having them as our guests. After lunch, we milled around the campfire outside and also played some hillbilly horse shoes—a new game to which several caught on to quickly.

Also showing up after the hike got started was Anna and Patrick. Each ended up doing their own hike and joined up with us for an afternoon of lunch and fun.

It was great to see everyone. It was a lot of fun and a great way to spend the day.

Darrell Ahlberg

We still have openings for three more!



# Steamboat Springs

**January 31 to February 07, 2009**  
(Saturday to Saturday)

Located 7,000 feet up in the majestic Colorado Rockies, Steamboat is one of the largest ski mountains in all of North America. There are 142 trails for skiers of varying skill levels, and Steamboat Colorado boasts about 3,000 ski-able acres.

## Trip includes:

- ⌘ Round trip air to Denver on Northwest Airlines
- ⌘ Ground transportation to Steamboat Springs
- ⌘ Seven nights condo lodging
- ⌘ Five-day lift ticket
- ⌘ Private guest shuttle to slopes
- ⌘ Full kitchens in each unit
- ⌘ Opportunities for shopping and dining

**\$1,295**

(Non-members \$1,395)

## Catch-up payment schedule:

- \$900 initial deposit is due **November 15**  
(non-members \$1000)
- \$395 final payment due **December 15**

To sign up,

Contact Dave Duvali

(586) 754-8151

[daveduvali@wowway.com](mailto:daveduvali@wowway.com)





## Annual Holiday Movie: Saturday, December 6. Redford Theater, Detroit, Michigan.

Mark your calendars and plan on this very special holiday event.

Last year we had an incredible turnout of 55 people for dinner at Steve's Polish Restaurant in Livonia, followed with the screening of "It's a Wonderful Life". Our crowd was so large, Steve's set aside a room special for our group.

This year, we'll be going to see the Christmas Classic, **"Miracle On 24th Street"** on the big screen the way it was meant to be seen. We surely hope you'll join us this year and help to make it even more splendid than last year. Of course, we'll be meeting beforehand at a yet-to-be-determined restaurant near the theater. We welcome your input into the choice of restaurant.

For those who've never been to the Redford Theater, it is run by the all-volunteer Motor City Organ Society who's existence is to restore and preserve one of the few remaining movie houses in the country. The Redford's is a rare vintage cinematic treasure whose showpiece is the incredible sound of one of the few surviving pipe organs from days gone by. Before the movie, we'll be treated to a half hour concert. This is something you've gotta see to appreciate. More information about the Redford can be found at <http://theatreorgans.com/mi/redford/>

The normal admission price is only \$4.00 per person. But to help create awareness of this magnificent facility, to support the efforts of the Motor City Organ Society and to encourage GM Ski Club members to come along, the club will purchase the ticket for members. That's right, as a GM Ski Club member, your admission will be free.

Based on last year's incredible turnout, this will surely be a special evening you won't want to miss.

For more info, contact Darrell Ahlberg at (586-899-8203) or e-mail [dahlberg7@comcast.net](mailto:dahlberg7@comcast.net)

**Darrell Ahlberg**

## Free Membership The Ultimate in Value

Once again our club has been blessed with membership growth with the addition of four new members. So our membership continues to grow. If you're wondering where all these new members are coming from, the answer is they are coming from several different places. Some find out about us from the website, some from our brochures we have around town, and some just from attending our events.

But the most important source of new membership is from our existing membership. We're gratified that, as members you find enough value in the club to tell your friends about it. As an expression of the club's appreciation to you, we'd like to award you a year of free membership for every three new members you recruit. From the following list, you can see that some members are getting close. How about you?? If you know of someone looking for great activities and socialization, why not let them know about your club and invite them to any of our meetings and socials?

Think of it. You have an opportunity to turn a friend or loved one on to a great value and in turn receive that value yourself, free of charge. Now that, my friends, is the "Ultimate Value."

Once again, on behalf of all the GM Ski Club members and board, welcome to the club.

**Darrell Ahlberg**  
Membership Chairman

2008-2009 New Members		
		Referred By
1	Connie Casey	Michael Bourke
2	Chris Free	Steamboat ski trip
3	Bill Given	Former board member
4	Patti Given	Former board member
5	Jeff Grewe	Shannon Duke
6	Tina Howell	Teresa Koch
7	Teresa Koch	Darrell Ahlberg
8	Elise Lavesseur	Connie Casey
9	John Legros	Ski shop brochure
10	Bonnie Michalak	Euchre Party
11	Diane Passik	Steamboat ski trip
12	David Roger	Ski shop brochure
13	Tom Scott	Hiking activity
14	Teresa Walny	Euchre Party
15	Matt Casey	Connie Casey
16	Lois Townsend	Linda Rakocy
17	Mary Donahue	Teresa Koch
18	Koby Koebler	Tina Howell



# Alibi Inn



Our restaurant of the month outing to the Alibi Inn was a great time to be sure, but was not without a few minutes of high drama.

What a popular place. Darrell thought he was arriving ½ hour early to put our name in for seating and found there were already people there. And the stream of arrivals just kept coming from there. We had our name in for 18 people and ended up with 22 people.

The Alibi is a very busy restaurant, and doesn't normally take reservations, but the manager did his best to honor our request for 18 people. It was then that we informed him of our total of 22. The restaurant was packed, and they weren't sure how they were going to seat us all. Enter Steve, our server turned hero for the evening. He told the management how they could get some extra tables from other places in his area and voila! Everyone had a seat. Whew!

From there, things only got better. Although Steve was our only server, he managed to take care of everybody magnificently—first taking drink orders, and then food orders. But wait; there's more. It was one thing that our unexpected crowd all got seated, but we threw in the extra twist. We all wanted separate checks. Wow! One server, twenty-two people, and separate checks. Somehow, Steve managed to pull that one off too.

Did I mention the food? It was great! The Alibi is renowned for their pizza, so most everyone had their own pizza. But their other dishes are all top notch as well. In the end, everyone got what they ordered in fairly fashion.

With all the initial anxiety and the excitement of actually getting seated, the electric atmosphere was full of energy. The whole evening was fun and lively. Everyone had a great time.

**Darrell Ahlberg**

# ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

**Saturday,  
December 20<sup>nd</sup>**

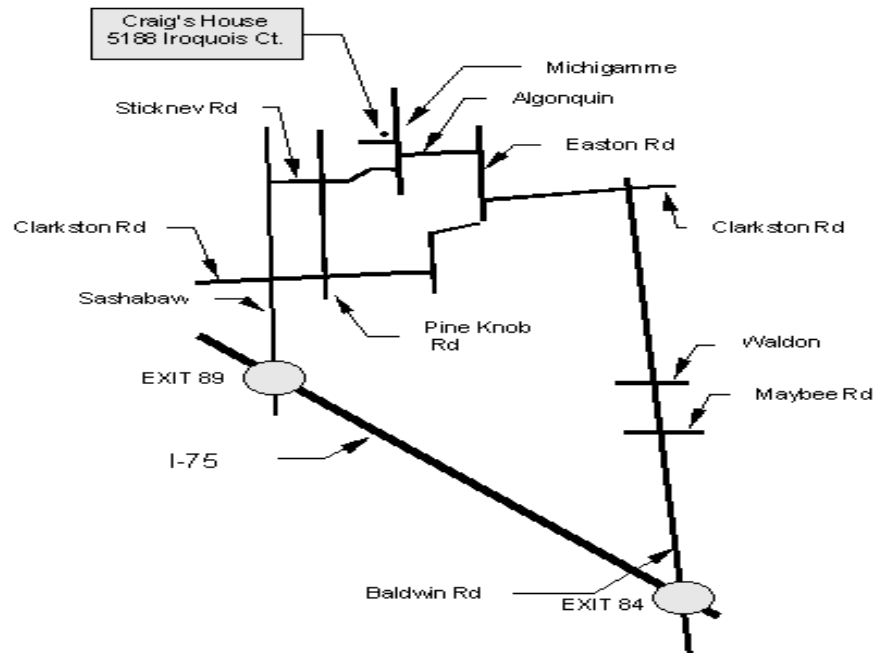
6:00 pm---????

Craig Petku's House—  
5188 Iroquois Ct., Clarkston  
248-394-0467

**BYOB and a Dish to Pass**



## Map to Craig' s Holiday Party





## GM Ski Club Theater Outing Members Only \$5.00

Mark your calendars now and plan on joining us Saturday, February 7, for our theater outing to see *La Cage Aux Folles*.

Memorable music, fantastic dance, and hilarious drag converge in one of Broadway's biggest hits. This outrageous, wildly funny musical comedy focuses on a gay couple, George and Albin, who run a drag nightclub in St. Tropez. Twenty years of domestic tranquility is threatened, however, when George's son invites his fiancée's ultra-conservative parents for a visit. George and Albin masquerade as husband and wife, which leads to uproarious complications. A wonderful Jerry Herman score, gorgeous costumes and fabulous dance are just a few of the reasons this show garnered a Tony Award® for Best Musical.

**Regular price for this outing is \$17.00. But our club is subsidizing \$12.00 of your cost as members of the club.**

For those interested, we'll meet for dinner beforehand at the Sangria Restaurant, which is just two blocks from the theater.

This event will be limited to the first 40 people, members and non-members, who send in their money. It is being offered to the membership first. After the first of the year it will be offered to non-members at the regular \$17.00 rate.

If you are interested contact **Darrell Ahlberg** as soon as possible to get your spot assured. [Dahlberg7@comcast.net](mailto:Dahlberg7@comcast.net). (586-899-8203).

### ARE YOU AN ACTIVE MEMBER?

Are you an active member,  
The kind who would be missed  
Or are you just contented  
That your name is on the list.

Do you attend the meetings  
And mingle with the flock,  
Or do you stay away from them  
And criticize and knock?

Do you take an active part  
To help the work along,  
Or are you satisfied to be  
The kind who just belong?

Do you ever work on committees  
To see there is no trick,  
Or leave the work to just a few  
And talk about a clique?

So come to meetings often  
And help with hand and heart,  
Don't just be a member,  
But take an active part!





# Polonia's!

**FROM: GM Ski and Travel Club (Hospitality)**  
*I would like to thank all who participated in the polish dinner at Polonia's in Hamtramck on 11-7-2008.*

*With special thanks to the members from: **GM SKI CLUB** Les Skrzycki (President), Gregg Ronan (Hospitality), and Michael Bourke (Newsletter) for working the door.*

*Also thanks to John Zalewski from the **SKIWI CLUB**, Ann Enghart from **SAILING SINGLES**, and Darrell Ahlberg from the **SOLAR CLUB** for making this inter-club activity a big success.*

*Also a warm appreciation goes to **Alicia** from Polonias for preparing the wonderful, buffet-style dinner and keeping people supplied with drinks even after the bar closed.*

*Those of you who brought your own music and had a chance to play it, **thank you**, because it is not easy to find and put together music that everyone can relate to and enjoy.*

*Those of you who just joined any of the clubs and were there and had a wonderful time—we invite you to let your friends know.*

***P.S.** Plans will be made for another outing to **Polonia's** in either six months or a year from now, if the demand is there.*

*To all the clubs, thank for making this a memorable and well-attended event from **GM SKI & TRAVEL CLUB** Membership.*

***Yours Truly**  
**Hospitality Chair**  
**G. Ronan***