

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

January 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
- 3 Sat.** **Peking House Restaurant**, 215 S. Washington Ave. in Royal Oak. 6:30 pm.,
- 7 Wed.** **Meet 'n' Ski** -at Pine Knob!
- 8 Thurs.** General Meeting - **17th Street Bar & Grill**, 17 Mile and Ryan, 7:00 p.m.,
- 13 Tue.** Board Meeting – Bella Luna, 7750 Metropolitan Pky., S.H., 6:00 p.m.
- 14 Wed.** **GMSC Night** at Don Thomas Sporthaus – 7:00 – 9:00 p.m., 690 S. Old Woodward
- 21 Wed.** **Singles Night** –7:00 – 9:00 p.m., Don Thomas Sporthaus,
- 1/31 – 2/7** **Steamboat Springs** in the beautiful Colorado Rockies! contact Dave Duvali: 586-754-8151

GM SKI and TRAVEL CLUB

Website:

www.gmskiclub.org

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

MDSC Website: www.mdscski.org

Deadline

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

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

OUR GENERAL MEETING IS AT:

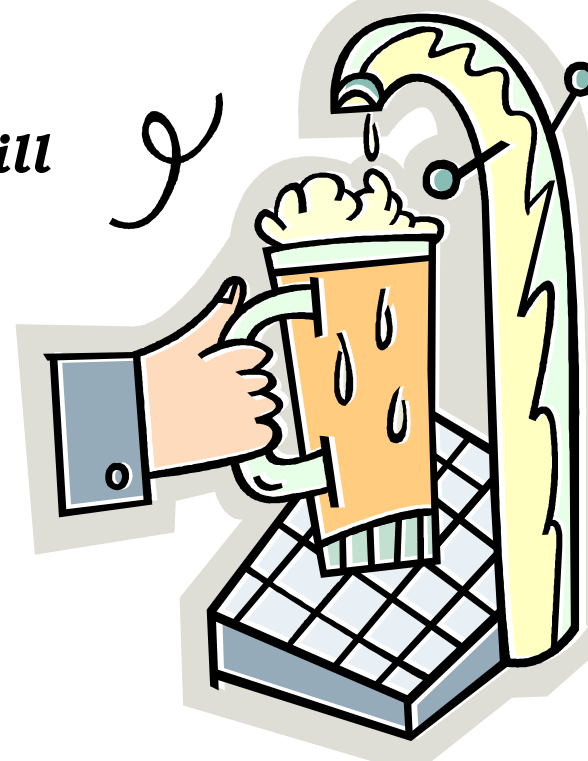
17th Street Bar & Grill

3905 17 Mile Rd.

Just west of Ryan Road

Thursday, January 8, 7:00 pm

See You There!
Hospitality Chair
G. Ronan



**Ski Night At
Pine Knob**

**Wednesday Night
January 7**

Join us for an evening of Skiing at Pine Knob!

As our way of putting your club dues to use
in providing membership value:

The club will pay \$5.00 toward the price of your lift ticket.

Let us know if you're interested. If we get a group of 20 or more,
we will qualify for the resorts group discount: another \$5.00 in savings.

Contact Dave at 586-754-8151 or by e-mail

daveduvali@wowway.com



First Class Mail

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



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:	Skiing Ability:	I'd like to help:
<input type="checkbox"/> Downhill	<input type="checkbox"/> Beginner	<input type="checkbox"/> Ski Trips
<input type="checkbox"/> Racing	<input type="checkbox"/> Intermediate	<input type="checkbox"/> Publicity
<input type="checkbox"/> X-country	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced	<input type="checkbox"/> Meetings
<input type="checkbox"/> Snowboard		<input type="checkbox"/> Activities
		<input type="checkbox"/> 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 **Membership:** Darrell Ahlberg, 586-899-8203
Vice President: Vacant **MDSC Rep:** Debbie Cooke 248-689-7167
Treasurer: Alan Toomey 248-391-5180 **Newsletter:** Michael Bourke 586-776-7685
Secretary: Darrell Ahlberg, 586-899-8203 **Ski Trips:** Dave Duvali 586-754-8151
Activities: Brian De Leo 248-626-6192 **Webmaster:** Darrell Ahlberg, 586-899-8203
Hospitality: Greg Ronan 586-979-9512

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

\$10,017.23

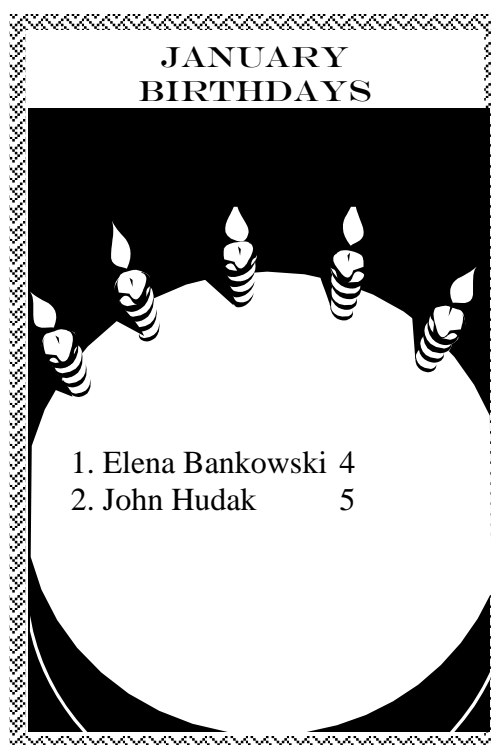
Alan Toomey
Treasurer

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 Bourke 16724 Collinson Eastpointe, MI 48021
 Home: 586-776-7685 E-mail: 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 1/2 Mile Road. 12:30 p.m. We play for fun! Contact Michael: 586-776-7685.

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: 248-626-619
- 7 Wed. **Meet 'n' Ski** - Join us for an evening of skiing & social at Pine Knob! Members save \$5. See this newsletter for more info. Contact Dave: 586-754-8151 or email: daveduvali@wowway.com
- 8 Thurs. **General Meeting - 17th 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 - Bella Luna**, 7750 Metropolitan Pky., S.H., 6:00 p.m. Contact: Darrell: 586-899-8203
- 14 Wed. **GMSC Night** at Don Thomas Sporthaus - Browse and socialize GMSC members get 10% off. Get your skis tuned here, \$30. Invite your friends! 7:00 - 9:00 p.m., 690 S. Old Woodward, Birmingham.
- 21 Wed. **Singles Night** - Free snacks drinks, games and activities. 7:00 - 9:00 p.m., Don Thomas Sporthaus, 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

FEBRUARY

- 7 Sat. Baldwin Theater - Stagecrafters present the musical comedy "**La Cage Aux Folles**. Dine at Sangria Restaurant, 401 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak, at 5:30 p.m., or meet at the theater at 7:30 p.m. 415 S. Lafayette Ave. Tickets are \$5 for members, \$17 guests. Contact Darrell: 586-899-8203
- 12 Thurs. **General Meeting - 17th 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**, for 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 - Malone's**, 32350 Van Dyke in Warren. 6:00 p.m. Contact: Darrell: 586-899-8203
- 18 Wed. **Singles Night** - Free snacks, drinks, games. Bring your friends! 7-9:00 p.m., Don Thomas Sporthaus
- 20-22 WKND **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 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 - 17th 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.
- 14 Sat. **Curling** - You don't have to go to Canada! Detroit Curling Club, 1615 E. Lewiston, Ferndale, MI 48220. 3:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m., \$20 members, \$25 guests. Contact Debbie: 248-689-7167
- 17 Tue. **Board Meeting - 17th Street Bar & Grill**, 6:00 p.m., 17 and Ryan. Contact: Darrell: 586-899-8203
- 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, feather bowling, theater plays, parties, wine tasting, euchre, concerts, wallyball, and many friends, so, ..." Let the good times roll!" Wanna try something else? ... Let us know! Watch your email for our up-to-the-minute E-Newsletter for last minute events and activities

Redford Outing, (contd.)



I would like to thank Darrell Ahlberg for his initiative and hard work putting the Redford Theatre outing together and making such a great success. I would like to thank Teresa Koch for all her help in this event and in making people feel comfortable meeting new friends.

The group that met at El Nibble Nook made it out in grand fashion—even with the freshly falling snow that made driving a bit tricky. We met some new friends and some old as well, while we passed time talking and enjoying our festive drinks. Dinner was good, and we did see a few doggie bags head out the door with folks. Our wait staff did an excellent job of keeping our orders straight and our glasses full.

Because of the road conditions, everyone left a bit early to make sure they made the movie in plenty of time. When we arrived there were a lot of members milling around the lobby and getting their picture taken and getting their Rudolph nose from the box next to Santa. Almost everyone I talked to who had been at this theatre as a youngster remarked how nicely it has been restored. Those who were here for the first time couldn't believe that this was such a nice theatre and that the organ played such a big part of its history. Personally, I really enjoyed myself, and I was happy to see so many others have such a wonderful time. I do look forward to next year. Maybe White Christmas will be the next movie we view, and the snow outside will be just as nice.

**Cheers and Happy Holidays
Les**



Miracle (on Lahser and) on 34th Street

Our 2008 Redford Holiday Movie Classic was itself a classic event in every sense of the word. The turnout of over 80 people was so large, we made reservations at two separate restaurants for dinner beforehand. About 20 people enjoyed Mexican cuisine at El Nibble Nook restaurant at the corner of 8 Mile and Grand River and nearly 60 people enjoyed home-made Polish food served family style at Steve's Family Diner on Middlebelt just north of 5 Mile Road. The air was extremely festive at both locations as this event brought people together from different groups and gave everyone a chance to meet each other for the first time.

Camaraderie was rampant right from the start. Everyone had the Christmas spirit, all knowing they were about to be served great food, and afterward be treated to the screening of Miracle On 34th Street on the big screen. **Les Skrzycki** captained the crowd at El Nibble Nook while **Teresa Koch** took on those duties at Steve's. All attendees were given a packet consisting of a GM Ski Club brochure stuffed with their movie ticket, a drink coupon for the theater, and the highly cherished GM Ski Club refrigerator magnet. The club has been passing these out at many of their events this year and some people have reported they are starting a collection. Hopefully at the end of the year some proud member will invite everyone to their house just to see their refrigerator.



Just like last year, Steve, owner of Steve's Family Dining, did not disappoint. He was ready for our crowd right on time. The wait staff made certain everyone was comfortable and had a drink in hand. Like clockwork, they started taking orders for soup and salad right at 5:45. Everyone was served promptly and then the best part began. They started bringing out bountiful portions of lasagna, Polish sausage, stuffed cabbage, and three different flavors of pierogies. Everything was cooked fresh just for our group and really delicious. There was enough, such that many were able to take home a "doggie bag" for meals to be consumed in days to come. The timing was perfect for people to begin paying the bill and be on their way to the theater by 7:00.

Once at the theater, the first thing we noticed was the real Santa Clause sitting in the lobby. This turned out to be a great photo op for many of us. And what a great time to be Santa—all the beautiful GM Ski Club women fighting for a chance to sit on his lap and get their picture taken. But Santa is a patient man and took his time with everyone who wanted a shot.

The other thing we quickly noticed was that everywhere we turned, there was somebody we knew. 85 GM Ski Club members and friends all converging on the same theater. It was like a neighborhood block party in the theater. There was plenty of time to mill around, listen to the pipe organ, get a close-up view of the Dickens display on the stage complete with moving train, and get a great seat. Our group was spread out over the entire theater. Some grabbed a block of seats in the balcony and many grabbed their favorite seat on the main floor.

Probably the highlight of the evening came during intermission. After the organ concert, theater staff came out one stage for announcements, the 50/50 drawing, and then expressed their grateful appreciation to the 85 GM Ski Club members and friends who turned out that night to see a great movie and support the efforts of the non-profit Motor City Organ Society. At this announcement, it seemed the whole theater broke out in applause. It was truly a magnificent moment.

There is something special about seeing an old-time movie on the big screen. It seems to bring out the old-time magic in all of us. And the screening of Miracle on 34th Street is no exception. Of course there are the funny parts which you can share in laughter with a theater filled with people. But you know something special is happening when one thing or another happens in a movie which triggers the crowd's collective consciousness and the audience breaks out in applause. This happened at several points during the movie. And the climax came at the end when the movie was over and the audience gave it a standing ovation. That's something you just don't experience anymore.

After the movie more than half the 85 attendees converged on McVee's Bar and Grille for a little afterglow. Since reservations for this were not made ahead of time, we totally caught the establishment off guard. But still, they worked with us in setting up one big long table and our lone waitress worked the table in superb fashion. It was a great nightcap to a truly miraculous evening.

To all those who came: our special thanks for making it a great evening. For those who were unable to make it, I hope you will plan on joining us next year. We are sure to be planning the 2009 Redford Holiday Movie Classic once again.

Darrell Ahlberg

