

"A ski and travel club... and a whole lot more"

March 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 6-8 WKND **Chicago Festival** – Ski and party at

WKND **Chicago Festival** – Ski and party at Schuss/Shanty Creek.

12 Thurs. General Meeting – New location! **Tirami**

Su, 7750 Metro Parkway in Sterling Heights, MI 48310. 7:00 p.m.,

14 Sat. Curling –Detroit Curling Club, 1615 E.

Lewiston, Ferndale, MI 48220. 3:30 p.m.

17 Tue. Board Meeting – Tirami Su, 6:00 p.m. 18 Wed. **Night School** –7:00 – 9:00 p.m., Don

d. **Night School** –7:00 – 9:00 p.m., Don Thomas Sporthaus, 690 S. Old Woodward,

21 Sat. Wine Tasting Party – Darrell's House, 40377 Kraft, Sterling Heights, 48310.

27 Fri. Pub & Grub at **Dueling Pianos**, One N.

Saginaw St. in Pontiac. 6:30 p.m.

GM SKI and TRAVEL CLUB Website:

www.gmskiclub.org

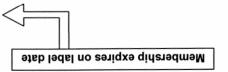
(recent photos, upcoming events, membership applications, bylaws, forms, and fun music)

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.



First Class Mail

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







SKI and TRAVEL

MARCH 2009

WEBSITE: www.gmskiclub.org

GM CLUB: FOUNDED 1957

VOLUME LIII, ISSUE III

GENERAL MEETING

New location!

Tirami Su

Ristorante & Enotecca

7750 Metro Parkway Sterling Heights, MI 48310

Thursday, March 12 7:00 pm

This month's theme is "Obviously Irish." Stop by for hors d'oeuvres

\$2 members, \$4 guests.

Tirami Su
Exciting and new!
Ya gotta check it out!

Hospitality Chair G. Ronan





Join us for a Great Time of

Curling!

Saturday, March 14th

3:30 pm until 6:30 pm

Instruction and equipment in 4 per m: 8 teams; 32 max
These will fill up quickly.

De Joit Trling Club in Jodale.

GM Ski Club i s \$20.

Non-members \$25

Checks payable to cki Club.
Sign up now to reserve

spot.

Debbie Cooke

2880 Roundtree

Troy, MI 48083

248-689-7167

Sunsetcar@aol.com with any questions

GM SKI and TRAV	/EL CLUB MEMBERS	HIP APPLICATION
Name:		
Address:		
City:	Zip:	
Phone: (day)	(Evening)	
Date of Birth		
Email address		
In consideration for me agree to abide by th constitution.	ERSHIP \$30 De being able to join the GM e GM SKI and TRAVEL	M Ski and Travel Club, I L Club's by-Laws and
Signature:	Date:	
•	ut the GM Ski and Travel(paper ☐ Racing ☐	
Skiing Interest: Downhill Racing X-country Snowboard	Skiing Ability: Beginner Intermediate Advanced	I'd like to help: Ski Trips Publicity Meetings Activities Other (list)
Travel Club by: Referring Members Nam	member and was referred ne: 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-Membership: Darrell 693-1794 Ahlberg, 586-899-8203 Vice President: MDSC Rep: Debbie Cooke 248-689-7167 Newsletter: Michael Bourke Treasurer: 586-776-7685 Publiciy: Cathy Schneidt Secretary: Darrell Ahlberg, 586-899-8203 Ski Trips: Dave Duvali Activities: Brian De Leo 586-754-8151 248-626-6192 Webmaster: Darrell Hospitality: Greg Ronan 586-Ahlberg, 586-899-8203 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

\$8,784.58

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



Robert Krieg 6 Teresa Walny 14 Paul (Gary) Barden 16 Jack Maynard 28

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.

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 exercise and for fun! Contact Michael: 586-776-7685.

MARCH

6-8 WKND Chicago Festival -(CMSC and MDSC) at Schuss/Shanty Creek. \$240 quad, \$245 triple, \$265

double, \$350 single, Contact: Gari Chaffin 248-737-2722 or email: GChaffinski@gmail.com

12 Thurs. General Meeting - New location! Tirami Su, 7750 Metro Parkway in Sterling Heights, MI

48310. We'll meet at 7:00 p.m., announcements at 8:00 p.m. This month's theme is "Obviously Irish."

Stop by for hors d'oeuvres and check us out, \$2 members, \$4 quests.

14 Sat. Curling - No experience necessary! Detroit Curling Club, 1615 E. Lewiston, Ferndale, MI 48220.

3:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m., \$20 members, \$25 guests. Fee includes instruction & equipment. Contact

Debbie: 248-689-7167 or email: Sunsetcar@aol.com

17 Tue. Board Meeting - Tirami Su, 6:00 p.m. Contact: Darrell: 586-899-8203

18 Wed. Night School - Stop in for free snacks, drinks, games, and activities. GMSC members get 10% off.

7:00-9:00 p.m., Don Thomas Sporthaus, 690 S. Old Woodward, Birmingham. See ya there!

21 Sat. Wine Tasting Party - Darrell Ahlberg's House, 40377 Kraft, Sterling Heights, 48310.

Bring a bottle of wine to share and \$5 members, \$10 non-members. A dish to pass would

be appreciated. 6:00 p.m. - ? ... RSVP Please. Contact: Darrell: 586-899-8203

27 Fri. Pub & Grub at **Dueling Pianos**, One N. Saginaw St. in Pontiac. Not your everyday piano

club! Gather up at 6:30 p.m., dinner at 7:00 p.m. Contact Les: 248-693-1794.

APRIL

9 Thurs. General Meeting - New location! Tirami Su, 7750 Metro Parkway in Sterling Heights, MI 48310.

We'll meet at 7:00 p.m., announcements at 8:00 p.m. \$2 members, \$4 guests.

14 Tue. Board Meeting - Tirami Su, 6:00 p.m. Contact: Darrell: 586-899-8203

17 Fri. R.O.M.- Max & Erma's, 44899 Mound Rd., S.H., MI 48314. Meet at 6:30, dinner soon after. Contact

Cathy: 586-206-2424 or email: "Re GMSC" catdancer23@hotmail.com 🔻

24 Fri. Pub & Grub - Dick O' Dow's Irish Public House where "A Drink Comes Before a Story." Live

entertainment! 160 W. Maple, Downtown Birmingham, 48009. Gather at 6:30 for Guinness and food.

Contact Brian: 248-626-6192 or email: zirton1@aol.com *

MAY

5 Tue. Celebrate Cinco de Mayo! **Juan's Harcienda**, 31313 Dequindre, Madison Heights, 48071. Contact

Debbie: 248-689-7167 or email: Sunsetcar@aol.com *

9 Sat. Eastern Market Flower Day - Our tradition continues for the 20th year! Meet at Vivio's at 8:00

a.m. Enjoy the historic Eastern Market. Reservations are a must! Contact Les: 248-693-1794.

14 Thurs. General Meeting - New location! **Tirami Su**, 7750 Metro Parkway in Sterling Heights, MI 48310.

We'll meet at 7:00 p.m., announcements at 8:00 p.m. \$2 members, \$4 quests.

15 Fri. R.O.M.- Oxford Inn, —the best baby back ribs in town! 1214 S. Main St. In Royal Oak, 48067. Meet

at 6:30 p.m., dinner at 7:00 p.m. Contact Alan: 248-391-5180 ★

18 Tue. Board Meeting -Tirami Su, 6:00 p.m. Contact: Darrell: 586-899-8203

22 Fri. Pub & Grub - Come to **Parrot Cove**, a "Key West" style pub in Troy. 33475 Dequindre Rd., 48083.

6:30 p.m. pub, 7:00 p.m. grub. Contact Brian: 248-626-6192 or email:zirton1@aol.com

29 Fri. Hazel Park Raceway - "A Night at the Races" will thrill you to the bone as the horses run for

the finish line. With dinner in the clubhouse, this is always a popular event. Details coming soon.

ON THE HORIZON

Bocce ball, "A Night at the Races," kayaking, camping, and white water rafting. Plans are underway for the warmer weather. Also coming up—Cruise the Erie Canal in August for a unique vacation that will be unforgettable!

★ Please RSVP two days in advance.

Mary Donahue The Little Lady With A Big Heart

American Lung Association: Climb Detroit: GMSC member Mary Donahue has been training since last November for her March 8 Renaissance Center Climb up 70 floors (1035 Steps) in order to raise money and awareness of the fight against lung disease.

You can still support her efforts by donating whatever you can; even as little as \$1.00 will help. You can get more information and make a donation in her name at the following website:

www.climbmichigan.org
You can contact Mary contact at
performancefitness@comcast.net

313-598-3324.

Ask questions, say hello, or just congratulate her.



Mary Donahue: Climbing for the Fight Against Lung



Janet Burrows: Having traveled 70 miles to see the play, she wins the "Longest Distance Traveled award".

Stage Crafters Longest Distance Traveled Award

This is one of those awards invented on the spur of the moment. But when I found out Jan Burows traveled the 70 miles from her home in Tecumseh, Michigan to join the GM Ski Club in Royal Oak to see La Cage Aux Folles, well, we just couldn't let that fact pass without giving her a special mention.

Happily, she not only made the trek to see the play, but she also joined the club and is now one of our newest members.

Congratulations, Janet, and welcome to the club.

Darrell Ahlberg Membership Chairman

March 21 Wine Tasting

You are cordially invited to a very special wine tasting event on the evening of March 21, 2009. This will be a self-run event. We would ask everyone to bring a bottle of wine which you think is an interesting brand/flavor/vintage to share with other people. When your turn comes, you can tell the group a little about it; and we'll uncork it and pass it around.

The club will be providing a cheese/cracker/fruit platter as well as miscellaneous sundry items, party favors, and pizza. The cost is \$5.00 for members and \$10.00 for non-members. Also, if you would like to bring something to share, it would be much appreciated. All money collected will be used to pay for party extras.



Mingling opportunities: In addition to a great opportunity to learn about and enjoy great company and great conversation, while learning about great wines, wine tasting parties are also great mingling opportunities for meeting new people and making new friends. To help make it even more interesting, here is a suggestion for everyone. If you are a single, we'd like to encourage you to bring a single person of the opposite gender. This would be someone you are friends with and who you think would like to meet other singles. At first it sounds a little crazy, but ultimately makes it a whole lot of fun. So why not go out on a limb and come prepared to have a good time? In addition, your guest will get in at the member price.

This is not to discourage couples from coming. We have many members either married or in committed relationships. Just come and enjoy a good time in fellowship and good wine tasting.

If you are interested, please mail a check payable to the GM Ski Club to the address below.

Please let me know as soon as possible if you are interested. I'd like to know:

What: Wine Tasting Party
Where: Darrell Ahlberg's house

40377 Kraft Dr.

Sterling Heights, MI 48310

Let me know if you need directions.

When: Saturday March 21. 6:00 - ???

Why: Good times, good friend, and good wine.

How: You make it a good party.

Cost: \$5.00—GM Ski Club Members, \$10.00—non-members

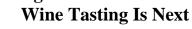
Bottle of wine which offers something special you'd like to share with the group.

Optional but appreciated: dish to pass (finger food of some sort).

I think this will be a great time and I hope you will be able to make it.

-Darrell

GMSC Activities Are Filling Fast



In case you've missed it, this year's agenda of GMSC events have been attracting huge crowds. The Euchre Tournament in September brought over 70 people, the Bald Mountain weekend had over 50 in attendance, Polonia's in November attracted 65 people, and the Redford Theater Christmas Classic also brought over 60 people. The just-completed Lake Ann Cross Country Ski weekend filled up two months in advance, the Stagecrafters Theater Outing sold out at 54 people, and now the Curling Event has a wait list only.

So what's the moral of the story? Get your tickets early. We have many exciting upcoming events soon to be announced.

Next up will be a Wine Tasting Party at Darrell Ahlberg's house March 21. Last time this event was held, it attracted nearly 50 people. It will surely be another popular event so if you're interested, be sure to let Darrell know. Details of the event appear above. Early head's up went out to GM Ski Club members. If you haven't reserved your spot, please do so as soon as possible.

Darrell Ahlberg Membership Chairman





Free Membership The Ultimate in Value

Once again our club has been blessed with membership growth with the addition of **10** new members. Once again our membership is continuing to grow. We now have 36 new members for the year. 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

Connie Casey Ultimate Value Award

Congratulations to Connie Casey in her efforts to spread the work about the great value our club has to offer.

The following three 2009-2009 new members named Connie as the person who informed them about the club:

Matt Casey Elise Lavesseur

Dale Goolsby

Congratulations Connie and on behalf of the club, thanks for helping us spread the word and on behalf of your friends, thanks for letting them know about the "Ultimate Value."

Darrell Ahlberg Membership Chairman

Connie Casey: First
"Ultimate Value"
Recipient. Connie's
2009-2010 member-ship
will be compliments of
the club in appreciation
for her efforts in
recruiting three new
members on the year.



			Referred By	
1	Balay	Georgean		
2	BurrowS	Janet		
3	Casey	Connie	Michael Bourke	
4	Casey	Matt	Connie Casey	
5	Dixon	Норе		
6	Donahue	Mary	Teresa Koch	
7	Free	Chris	ski trip	
8	Given	Bill	board	
9	Given	Patti	board	
10	Goolsby	Dale	Suzanne Vivian	
11	Grewe	Jeff	Shannon Duke	
12	Howell	Tina	Teresa Koch	
13	Johnson	Lee		
14	Johnson	Christian		
15	Kent	Carol	Mutual Friends	
16	Koch	Teresa	Darrell Ahlberg	
17	Koebler	Koby	Tina Howell	
18	Lange	Patricia		
19	Lavesseur	Elise	Connie Casey	
20	Legros	John	ski shop	
21	MacCulloch	Janet	Carol Kent	
22	Michilak	Bonnie	euchre	
23	O'Driscoll	Kathy	Mary Donahue	
24	Passik	Diane	ski trip	
25	Roger	David	ski shop	
26	Ross	Phil	e-newsletter distribution	
27	Ross	Debbie	e-newsletter distribution	
28	Schneidt	Cathy	Avid event Participant	
29	Scott	Thomas	hiking	
30	Steigleman	James		
31	Taganora	Xenia	Elena Bankowski	
32	Tompson	Ken	Internet - Steamboat Trip	
33	Tuohey	Marie		
34	Townsend	Lois	Linda Rakocy	
35	Vivian	Suzanne	Connie Casey *	
36	Walny	Teresa	euchre	

^{*} Ultimate Value award winner

3rd Annual Dance Party

Swing into Spring

April 10th 7:20 p.m.-1:00 a.m. Canterbury Village Castle

\$12 to March 31* \$15 thereafter \$20 day of party if not sold out.

A fun evening of dancing with two great cover bands— **Jam Box & 2XL**

Pizza & Cash Bar with "Happy Hour Drink Prices" all Night! **Attire:** Casual, but sharp. Table reservations available for prepaid groups of 8

Space is limited to 170—Get your tickets early and save!

This dance has always sold out.

Directions: 1-75 to Exit 83 (Joslyn Rd.) North 3 Miles to Canterbury Village

For more information: Bob Schutter 248-802-8101

What is the newsletter?

This may be a good time to point out that the purpose and the benefits of the club newsletter. The newsletter is primarily a tool for the membership to communicate with one another. As such, it is mostly used to communicate to you things that are going on with the club, review activities we've had, and perhaps report on things going on in the outside world that affect the club. This year we are striving to enrich the content of the newsletter to make it ever more informative and a fun read.

The newsletter can even be communications vehicle members share information about what they have going on. To this end, you are invited to help. Perhaps you're getting ready to run a marathon and you'd like to share your training experience, or you'd like help fundraising, or perhaps the marathon is over and you'd like to tell us how it went. We want to hear from you. It could be anything from the birth of a new family member to writing a new book and getting published for the first time.

What other ways you can contribute? Suppose you are reading a newspaper and you see an article of news that could affect us in some way. Perhaps a drastic change in air fares, or a great sale on equipment, or a new ski school is setting up shop in our area, or a local ski resort is running a special. You could use the newsletter as a means of sharing this information with your fellow club members.

Bottom line is, with your help, we would like to make the GM Ski Club newsletter a valuable information tool for our members.

Darrell Ahlberg



Meet N'Ski February 25









Stagecrafter's La Cage Aux Folles A Glorious Night of Showbiz Razzle Dazzle

What a night of glamour and glitz! 32 members and 22 guests converged on the City of Royal Oak for a night of dinner and entertainment.

The night started with a delicious dinner of Spanish food at the Sangria restaurant. The restaurant was well prepared for us. Our crowd started arriving around 5:00 and all 54 of us plus a few additional guests (nearly 60 in all) continued pouring in until they started taking dinner orders at 5:30. The wait staff was magnificent. They had us all served and happy by 7:30 when we began leaving for the theater about two doors down.

The Baldwin Theater is where the Stagecrafters Community Theater group

performs all their plays. It is a beautiful and unique setting in the heart of downtown Royal Oak. The gorgeous vaudeville theater was built in 1922 and boasts a beautiful lobby and mezzanine area. It combines the ambience of a theater outing with the intimacy of community theater.

While Stagecrafters musicals are noted for their gorgeous costumes; elaborate stage sets, and accompanying live orchestra, they truly outdid themselves with their production of "La Cage Aux Folles." It was a splendid production of lively music, dance, and comedy.

Quick synopsis: The discreetly gay proprietor of a drag club has brought up his son (product of a one-night stand) with his orchidaceous lover, star of the show: the son gets engaged to the daughter of a homophobic politician called Dindon ('fall guy' in French). A meeting of the families is planned: the drag queen dresses up as the boy's mother. The ensuing chaos is absolutely hysterical. Best of all, there is a happy ending.

More than a show about gay rights is a timeless and deliciously funny tale of family values. Moreover, it is a show about performance itself. The musical score includes I Am What I Am, The Best of Times and Song on the Sand.

To cap the evening, about 30 people re-converged on the Sangria for an afterglow nightcap. A great ending to a great evening.



Members Alan Toomey Bill Given Bonnie Michalak Brian Deleo Carol Kent Cathy Schneidt Chris Johnson Connie Casev Dale Goolsby Darrell Ahlberg Debbie Cooke Debbie Ross Diane Reaser Elena Banks Jan Burrows Janet MacCullach Jeff Grewe Jim Steigelman Kathy Clayton Kathy O'Driscoll Koby Koebler Hope Dixon Mary Donahue Michael Bourke

Patti Given

Guests Bob Lawshe Dennis Cieslak Guest Goolsby **Guest Mastromattei Guest Vivian** Jean Chambers Kathy Richardson Kent Broughman Linda Moore Linda Rodrick Liz Fish Lynda Sievewright Michael Nancy Drapalski Phil Rouleau Rocco Mastromattei Sharon Broderick Sharon Fish **Steve Chambers** Tammy Tom Richardson Whitney Vanoost



Erie Canal Boat Trip

August 22 - 29, 2009

Welcome Aboard!



Weeklong vacation on the Erie Canal.

This is a Saturday to Saturday trip.

Depart from Macedon, near Rochester New York, heading west towards Buffalo and return. There are many sites to see on this historic journey down the Erie Canal.

What's the Erie Canal like? Simple navigation, our own pace, a lock or 2. Check out the taverns, parks and farm markets, visit museums, hike or bike the tow path.

Tie up at night is easy, there are a number of canal villages with public docks or anchor in a secluded spot along the banks or the locks.

Carpooling to departure location. What's included on the boat: Fuel, bow thruster for easy maneuvering. 12V DC and 120V AC for inverter for outlets for shaver or CD player. Full galley, cooking utensils, table service and plenty of storage. Fresh hot water system with 100 gal. Capacity.

We have 2, 41 foot vessels that sleep 6 people each. There are 2 bikes included but you may want to bring your own.

Cost: Members \$560.00. Non-Members \$610.00

Make checks payable to G M Ski Club.

Mail to Les Skrzycki 451 Heights Rd. Lake Orion, MI 48362.

Further information please call Les at 248-693-1794 or email at lskrzycki@comcast.net

T Make Checks Payable to the GM Ski Club			
SKI CLUB Trip Application	Destination:		Date:
Name:			
Address:			Zip:
Phone Day: ()	Phone Night:_()	_
☑ Gender: M F * Smo	king: 📉 🔃 GM Ski Club	Member: : Y N or	MDSC (list)
Please state any roommate p	references:		
Emergency Contact:			
In consideration for me being able to par personal safety and equipment. I release from all liability and waive any and all cla arising as a result of my participation in a at least 19 years of age or older and that I have read and understand the Refund/	e the GM Ski Club, their Directors and aims I may have or may hereafter acq any and all activities connected direct t I have read and understand the con	d Officers, and anyone affiliated juire related to any and all injur ly or indirectly with the GM Ski ditions outlined above.	d with any and all activities ries or damages whatsoever
Date:	Signed		
* Please see the GM By-Laws co	ncerning smoking on Club trip	s or ask the Trip Leader.	

98% Moon Sail

(We can't lie to you—it's not going to be quite "full")



Friday, August 7, 6:00 p.m.

Join us Friday at 6:00 p.m. (or whenever you can make it after work) at the gazebo at "A" dock at Jefferson Beach Marina.

We plan a pleasant party with shish kabob (chicken or beef), side dishes, pop, water, other beverages, condiments, and a barbecue grill where you can cook your meal to your own liking. We'll also have a few special treats, including a bottle of Luna di Luna wine per boat.

Boats shove off: 8:00 p.m.

Sunset: 8:44 p.m.Moonrise: 9:20 p.m.

Sign up by contacting Michael Bourke, excelsiormb@hotmail.com, 586-776-7685.

Member's cost: \$15 (non-members \$25)

Deadline to sign up is July 31 at 6:00 p.m.

Deadline to sign u Name	p is July 31 at 6:00 p.m.
Email Phone	
FIIOTIE	
Chicken shish ka	bob Beef shish kabob
	check payable to GM Ski Club): \$\int\\$25 Non-member \$\int\\$45 Full-moon sail and membership good until \$\frac{Sept., 2010}{}\$
☐ I need a map to	know where to get the boat.
Mail to:	Michael J. Bourke 16724 Collinson Eastpointe, MI 48021