



NEWSLETTER

September 2011

WEBSITE: www.gmskiclub.org

GM CLUB: FOUNDED 1957

VOLUME LV, ISSUE VII

Restaurant of the Month

Ernie's of Clinton Township

16655 19 Mile Road
Clinton Twp, MI 48038
September 16th 6:30 PM

Pub and Grub of the Month

Gus O'Connors

13100 Hall Road (that's M59)
Sterling Heights, MI 48313
September 23rd 6:30 PM

MACKINAC BRIDGEWALK WEEKEND **September 3-5, 2011**



The [annual Mackinac Bridge Walk](#) has been held every year on Labor Day since the Bridge opened in 1957, so, like the [Mackinac Bridge](#) itself, The Bridge Walk is celebrating its 54th anniversary. The 5-mile walk begins at 7am. Last bus across at 11am. We will try to make the 10am bus so we can miss the biggest crowds and allow a little more time for breakfast.

Members participating will be staying at the Coach House Motel in Indian River, Just a ½ hour away. All rooms Double occupancy. 2 nights lodging, 6 rooms 12 participants. The price of the weekend is \$75. The ticket for the bus across the Bridge should be \$5 and that along with your cost of carpooling will be out of pocket expenses. This will be a drive up event, carpooling recommended. Directions and further information will be forthcoming at the next few meetings before the trip. See you there!

Price is \$75.00 Members and \$85.00 non-members. Make checks payable to GM Ski Club. Mail to Les Skrzycki 145 S. Glaspie St. Oxford, MI 48371
Contact info at 248 236-0837 or Skiorsail@yahoo.com

Editor's Notes

Submissions to this newsletter will be accepted in any visual, but not oral, form. Electronic transmissions are preferred. Submissions can be made at any time. There is no deadline.

Contact: newsletter@gmskiclub.org

If your newsletter is coming to the wrong address, it means your information is incorrect in our files. Contact: Anne Demres at ademres@sbcglobal.net.

Treasurer's Report:

\$13,163.42

Alan Toomey. Treasurer



September Birthdays

Debbie Cooke	9/1
Karen McCallister	9/4
Les Skrzycki	9/4
Kathy Clayton	9/5
Theresa Soloman	9/6
Alan Maestri	9/9
Tom Richardson	9/11
Dottie Marx	9/12
Susan Walker	9/13
Linda Hutchcraft	9/14
Larry Frydrych	9/28
Pat Tourney	9/29

GM Ski and Travel Club Board of Directors

President: Darrell Ahlberg
586-899-8203

Vice President: Bill Given
548-540-4547

Treasurer: Alan Toomey
248-391-5180

Secretary: Leslie Musser
734-634-4475

Activities: Darrell Ahlberg
586-899-8203

Hospitality: Cindy Hollister
810-444-3630

Membership: Anne
Demres 248-475-9129

MDSC Rep: Dave Norkus
248-496-2275

Newsletter: Donna Hutchins
248-969-1162

Publicity: Vacant

Ski Trips: Dave Duvali
586-754-8151

Sports and Ski Instruction:
Stan Sawicki 586-808-3406

Webmaster: Kathy O'Driscoll
248-666-9057

Past President: Les Skrycki
248-236-0837

I was told about this web site — it tells you places you can go to receive special offers on your birthday. I don't know anything about the site, I did look at it and it seems you have to join for most of the information, but I am passing the information on — enjoy... <http://dealseekingmom.com/birthday-freebies-clubs-specials/>

Boyne Pictures from July



From the President



By Darrell Ahlberg, President

Membership Renewal Packets Are On The Way!!

Please note that on your copy of the newsletter, the mailing label contains your membership expiration date. Most expire on September 30. I certainly hope you've enjoyed your year with the GM Ski Club and plan to renew. Please watch your mailbox for the arrival of your "membership renewal packet". It will contain a pre-filled membership application along with spots for you to correct/update your formation. If all the information is correct, all you need to do is sign and mail in along with your renewal remittance. Remember if you renew before September 30, you save \$5.00 off renewal.

GM Ski Club Community Service continues in September.

The 2011 GM Ski Club community service initiative continue throughout the summer. In July with our "Christmas In July" theme we collected non-Perishables to benefit the Samaritan House. In August collected school supplies for the Grace Center Of Hope. In September, our theme will be the chili Cook Off. We'll also be collecting donations of Card or Board games for the men and women who defend our country. So if you have a chili dish you're proud of, your admission will be free and you will be entered into the cook off contest. Prizes will be awarded. I'd like to say the winner will get at least one million dollars, but I cannot say that. However, I can say the winner will get a prize, bragging rights, and the satisfaction of knowing he/she helped make the September meeting a success. So come prepared to have a good time, and enjoy some great chili. Be ready to party because we aim to have fun. But let's also please remember those who defend us and donate generously for a good cause.

Vickie Slicker and Al Sleeman. Special Word Of Thanks!

For those who have been following my "From the President" articles, you know I've been encouraging all those with an idea to come forth and introduce your idea any member of the board so we can get it on the calendar and make it happen. To all those who've done so, on behalf of the members of the GM Ski Club, I'd like to offer a huge thank you. In particular, our Restaurant of The Month Coordinator, **Vickie Slicker**, and our Pub & Grub Coordinator, **Al Sleeman** deserve special mention. These individuals have been coordinators of not just one, but regulator monthly happenings for the membership of the GM Ski Club. So I just wanted to take a moment to recognize them for their efforts and thank them. They are always looking for new ideas so if you have an idea for Restaurant Of The Month or Pub & Grub, be sure to see these two with your idea.

Activities Planning Night Is Approaching!!

What is Activities Planning Night? You ask? For the past three years, I've hosted a very special night at my house. All those with an idea for an activity, or just simply a desire to provide input into GM Ski Club activities planning are invited to brainstorm next year's activities. This year's meeting will be held at my house Wednesday October 19. If you have an idea or just a thought, about what you'd like to see on the calendar, your input will be extremely valuable. Details to follow. For now, just mark your calendar and plan to be a part of this very unique event.

That's it for now. I'll be seeing you soon at one of our many great GM Ski Club events.

-Darrell



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TAX PROFESSIONAL

MATTHEW J. CASEY, M.S.T.

OFFICES IN
FARMINGTON HILLS
AND YPSILANTI, MI
248.770.4247

GM SKI CLUB
MONTHLY MEETING
Visit us at GMSKICLUB.ORG

Annual Chili Cook Off! Do you have what it takes?? I have high standards and I strive for perfection! Contact Cindy if you are planning to compete!

We will be collecting donations of card or board games for our TROUPS!

CHILI COOK OFF

SEPTEMBER 8, 2011
AT
HAMLICH PARK

Time 6.00 PM in Warren, MI
Cost \$4.00 members \$6.00 non-members
13 Mile Between Ryan and Dequindre
Contact Cindy Hollister 810.444.3630 ~ cindymhollister@gmail.com



Restaurant of the Month

Ernie's of Clinton Township prides itself on offering creative American cuisine-- such as seafood, steak and ribs-- in a rustic, cozy setting. Daily dinner specials are offered and Ernie's boasts over 200 specialty martini creations as well as live entertainment. Check out Ernie's raw seafood bar for the freshest-tasting seafood around and the new Mediterranean Room which dishes out wine and cuisine from abroad.

COST: Your Tab: RSVP Requested Contact:
Vickie Slicker vslicker@sbcglobal.net or 248 736-4566 by Sept 16th.

Pub & Grub

September 23, 2011
630 pm

Gus O'Connors
13100 Hall Road (that's M-59)
Sterling Heights, MI 48313

Irish Bar Food
Numerous Beer Selection

Band at 9:00 pm



Pub & Grub at Mikes on the Water

Biking

Biking has proven so popular, we've added some dates. Set aside the following dates and be sure to let Stan Sawicki know if you'd like to see more such activities.

Bike Riding Dates For all dates, Meet at the Rochester Hills Library on 500 Olde Towne. All levels welcome. We will eat at a local establishment afterwards. Time: 1:00 pm. Contact Stan Sawicki at 586-808-3406 or ssawicki@comcast.net

9/11/2011. Contact Stan Sawicki at 586-808-3406 or ssawicki@comcast.net

9/25/2011 Contact Dan Butterworth 248-659-8010 danbutterworth@gmail.com

10/9/2011 Contact Darrell Ahlberg 586-899-8203 dahlberg7@comcast.net



This popular event is great for the experienced paddler as well as the novice. Come to Proud Lake and paddle either a canoe or a kayak into the setting sun. Stop briefly for dinner before continuing to paddle. When you return to the canoe rental, a bonfire will be awaiting you. Dinner will be at the park in Milford. No partner necessary, all skill levels welcome. Dress for the weather, including headlamps and water bottles.

Cost: Canoe or kayak for \$30 per person. Includes dinner, boat rental (canoe or kayak) and bonfire. Boat rental only (no dinner): \$25 per person. Dinner and bonfire (bring your own boat): \$15 per person. Bonfire only (no dinner, bring your own boat): \$5 per person.

Preregister by calling Heavner Canoe Rental at (248) 685-2379. Please call in your reservation AT LEAST 24 hours before the event.

Schedule:

Saturday, September 10 Paddle: 7:00 p.m. Sunset: 7:53 p.m. Moonrise: 6:46 p.m.

Saturday, October 15 Paddle: 6:00 p.m. Sunset: 6:52 p.m. Moonrise: 8:43 p.m.

For more information contact Darrell Ahlberg 586-899-8203

HORSEBACK RIDING

I hope you have been able to take time to relax and get refreshed this summer. Being outdoors and enjoying friends would be a nice way to end the summer.

WHERE? Pontiac Recreation Area

3480 Teggerdine, White Lake, MI 48386

WHEN? Saturday, September 17...1 HR RIDE

TIME? 11:00 AM...Please arrive early for paperwork

COST? 30.00 cash only...Lunch after, location TBD...

CONTACT? Carolbarrell1@yahoo.com or 313-443-7527



If you're planning on attending this event, please give a days notice. Thank you and have fun.

Artprize

October 1st and 2nd, 2011
Grand Rapids, MI

It's cultural. It's creative. It's innovative. It's inside, it's outside, It's fun.
It's Artprize!



Art Prize is a competition for artists with a top prize of \$250,000. The winner is decided by a public vote. It draws amazing talent from far and wide! The art is displayed at different venues in the city, with the downtown area and Meijer Gardens showcasing much of it.

The GM Ski Club has reserved a block of rooms at the Amway Grand Hotel downtown, in the heart of the action. If you're interested in participating in this unique event with the club, here's what you do. Call the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel (<http://www.amwaygrand.com>) 800-253-3590 to reserve your room for 1 night, 10/1. Say you are with the GM Ski Club to get the group rate of \$124 per night plus tax. Contact Kathy O'Driscoll to inform her that you booked one of the rooms, and to be added to the email distribution list for this event.

The suggested schedule will be emailed to you with details about Saturday night dinner and more. The event itself is free. You pay for your room, parking and food. For additional information contact Kathy. (kathyod7@gmail.com or 248.421.4001)

Stratford Festival Weekend

17 members joined us in Stratford Ontario for the weekend to see Jesus Christ Superstar. What a great weekend, sun shine, blue skies and great temps allowed us to really enjoy this last weekend of July.

The drive up was pretty clear, the wait at the Blue Water Bridge wasn't too bad and we did get a chance to stop at Duty Free for the purchase of adult refreshments. Most took part or all of the day off, so we started to arrive around 1pm. We went to Bentleys for some late afternoon refreshments then later went to dinner at Pazzo's.

This year we did 2 B&B's rather than the 5 we did last year, it was better having a bigger group in one B&B. After dinner the entire group, sat under the stars and continue with some lively refreshments and talk of the day and made plans for the next day. We sat around and talked about movies and our favorite actors and actresses and much more.

Saturday breakfast started about 9am (I don't think it had anything to do with the previous night's refreshments). After breakfast everyone headed downtown to do a variety of shopping, walking through the Shakespeare Gardens or along the Avon River where the art fair was going on. We enjoyed little concert in the park, ice cream then dinner at the Parlor Restaurant where we had our own room and wait staff.



2011 GM Ski Club Annual Picnic

The Annual GM Ski Club Picnic was a huge success. We had 52 members enjoying great sunshine; nice temperature sand and really great Ribs... It was an awesome day of playing volley ball, Bocce Ball, walking and just plain relaxation. There were a couple of card games going and a little beer drinking and a whole lot of eating. Chef Paul did another great job of providing us with ribs and chicken and the other fixings. We made a change to Southdale from many years at Eastwood Beach. I really think that this will be our new home for the upcoming few years. We didn't have to run downhill into the parking lot for the volleyball when we missed a hit.

For all the ladies present, they did watch the Marines play a bit of football; you know the shirts and skins game. The rest of us concentrated on the pass of the volleyball and to make sure that no one spilled our beer. We did have a couple of injuries on the court, but a little ice and elevation helped out. I think we did get a picture or 2 so you may see some of the fun loving athletes in action. Anyway a very good time was had by all and look forward to next year's picnic. If you have any ideas for menu item please let me know so we can plan next year's menu as well. I hope to see you all next year. Enjoy the rest of your summer. Cheers! Les Skrzycki



Cruise the Caribbean

January 21-28, 2012



Mark Your Calendar, ready your passport, and think back to last winter. Miserable cold weather, snow and ice. Brrrrrr. Here's a better idea if you're not a winter person.

Trip Includes:

- **Round Trip Airfare** *¹
 - From Detroit to San Juan NON-STOP
- **7 Night Southern Caribbean (San Juan roundtrip)**
 - Cruise Line: Royal Caribbean *²
 - Cruise Ship: Serenade of the Seas
 - Departure: 01/21/2012
 - Cruise Length: 7 Nights
 - Double occupancy *³
 - \$100 Cruise Ship Credit per room
 - Add-on Activities and Excursions are additional cost and planning on your own
 - Meals included – group dining time 6:00pm (additional cost for select dining rooms)

Day	Port	Arrive	Depart	Activity
Day 1	San Juan, Puerto Rico		8:30 PM	
Day 2	Cruising			
Day 3	St. George's, Grenada	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Docked
Day 4	Castries, St. Lucia	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Docked
Day 5	St. John's, Antigua	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Docked
Day 6	St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands	7:00 AM	6:00 PM	Docked
Day 7	Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas	7:00 AM	5:00 PM	Docked
Day 8	San Juan, Puerto Rico	6:00 AM		



Why a CRUISE?

Tropical Theatre
Musicals
Las Vegas inspired shows
Fashion Shows
Game Shows
Guest Talent Shows

Comedy Acts
Parties and Theme Nights
Welcome Parade
Captain's Welcome Party
Toga Party

50's and 60's Night
Honeymooner's Party
Singles Party
Masquerade Ball
Pirate Theme Night
Parades
Sports Deck

Rock Wall
Johnny Rockets
Ben & Jerry's
Shore & Land Excursions

Themed parties and events are based on ship and itinerary

*¹ Base airfare ticket price guaranteed. The GMSC is not responsible for increases in taxes/surcharges that affect ticket price at time of travel and must be paid by the participant. Airfare does not include cost of checked or carry-on baggage.

*² Royal Caribbean International reserves the right to impose a fuel supplement on all guests if the price of West Texas Intermediate fuel exceeds \$65.00 per barrel. The fuel supplement for 1st and 2nd guests would be no more than \$10 per guest per day. The participant will be responsible for this fuel supplement at checkout.

*³ Double occupancy suggests for you to bring a friend. The GMSC would prefer you arrange your own roommate. Single signup will be waitlisted with deposit until a roommate can be found.

NOT INCLUDED: Additional baggage, increases in airport taxes, flight or ship fuel surcharges, ground transfers, any gratuities (**cruise gratuities \$82 per person for the entire cruise includes for the stateroom steward, head waiter, waiter and assistant waiter**), alcoholic beverages and specialty drinks, select on board restaurants & food, shore excursions.

To get started with this great winter getaway vacation, send an email to a.k.toomey@sbcglobal.net and get your signup package.

ONLY 20 spots available.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE – Member Only Pricing/non-member add \$30

	Total Cost ↓	Due at signup (Till Oct 7 th) ↓	2 nd payment (or total due) Nov 4 th 2011	Paid in full (or total due) Dec 16 th 2011
Upgraded Ocean View Room	\$1290	\$322	\$484 (\$806)	\$484 (\$1290)

Notes about - Cruise the Caribbean

I thought I had better give a little conversation about the status of the Caribbean cruise per the attached flyer in this newsletter. Even though it seems such a long way off, Jan 2012, there are some milestones in signups that are quickly approaching.

There are only two general meetings left in order for us to take trip applications for you to participate in this cruise. Even though there is a payment schedule extending beyond the cutoff, the END OF OCTOBER is the date where the size of the trip will must be locked in with the cruise line. We have a block of rooms reserved at a good price with one of the best cruise lines that needs to be filled or release by October's end. It would be much easier to expand the trip than to face reducing it.

Please consider what you would like to be doing come January. I know it's hard to image now in the summer. If your plans are to be sunning, exploring Caribbean islands, and enjoying cruise entertainment in the tropical breeze, you need to take action. Invite your friends. The bigger the group, the better the trip.

I hope to see or hear from you soon. Drop me a line if there are any questions I can answer that would help get you on board.
a.k.toomey@sbcglobal.net Alan – your dedicated trip leader



Vail, Colorado 2012

Feb 11th to Feb 18th 2012

Party and ski with us in America's premier ski destination. We have put together a modestly priced package that will enable you to enjoy the dining, nightlife and the spectacular and vast slopes of Vail and, if you are so inclined, try out Beaver Creek, Breckenridge or Keystone which all share the same lift ticket. We get you there, provide a place to crash, and give you slope access. You just have to eat, ski, party, recover and do it all over again and again. This will be a great trip!



Included in the trip:

- Round trip nonstop air to Denver
- Chartered busses to/from Vail:
- Seven nights lodging in the Simba Run two bedroom, four people per unit condominiums at the Lionshead end of Vail.
- Lift tickets for five of six skiable days, good at the resorts mentioned above.

Cost: **\$1,340.00** for GM members or MDSC affiliated club members; \$30.00 more for those with no MDSC club affiliation.

Contact Dave at (586)754-8151 or daveduvali@wowway.com

Make checks payable to the GM Ski Club

Mail to: Dave Duvali, 27216 Dover, Warren, MI 48088

Ship Skis to Resorts to Save Money

By Bob Wilbanks, NSCA

At \$25 to \$40 one way, shipping your skis to and from resorts via FedEx ground is now a break-even or money-saving arrangement — depending upon what airline you fly and how many bags you travel with when skiing. But with airline fees rising on about everything, sooner or later, shipping skis will be the cheapest way to take your skis on a ski trip. However, to save money by shipping skis to the resort, your club and its members will have to plan ahead.

- * When you negotiate your lodging, ask the hotel or condo if they will accept and hold skis for a day or two before your arrival.
- * The skis must be shipped about five days in advance to get FedEx ground rates — otherwise the price can easily triple if you have to use their air services.
- * While FedEx will accept cloth ski bags if they're well-padded with bubble wrap or a similar product, the hard plastic ski tubes are a better choice to protect your skis.

SIA-FedEx Program to Ship Skis or Snowboards

Seawood Industries America (SIA) has negotiated a discount on shipping skis up to 8% off select FedEx ground services in the U.S. and up to 15% FedEx ground service to Canada processed through FedEx Ship Manager at fedex.com or FedEx Ship Manager Software. To use the program, clubs must apply for a FedEx account, at fedex.com/shippinggear or www.fedex.com/FCU/ALL/enroll-menid=cc13691509. Skis should be shipped in a ski bag or tube and rates are based on a bag or tube size of no more than 72" x 12" x 8".

Calendar of Events

Every Sunday—Our “**Breakfast Club**” starts at 10:00 am at Jimmy’s Coney Grill, 37246 Dequindre, NE corner at 16 Mile. Just show up, and we’ll make room for you. No RSVP needed.

Sunday—Wallyball at 12:30 pm at Warren Racquetball, Van Dyke at 12 ½ Mile. RSVP to gmski-club@yahoo.com

9/3/2011 Mackinac Bridge Walk Mackinac Area

Cost \$75 does not include \$5.00 needed for bus across the bridge Contact Les Skrsycki 248 236-0837 Skiorsail@yahoo.com

9/8/2011 GM Meeting: Halmich Park Halmich Park. 13 Mile Between Ryan and Dequindre Warren, MI

Time 6.00 PM Cost \$4.00 members, \$6.00 non-members Contact Cindy Hollister 810-444-3630 cindymhollister@gmail.com

9/10/2011 Proud Lake Moonlight Canoeing Heavner Canoe Rental, 2775 Garden Rd, Milford, MI

Various cost options. CONTACT: Darrell Ahlberg 586-899-8203 dahlberg7@comcast.net

9/11/2011 Bike ride 500 Olde Towne Rd in Rochester Meet at the Rochester Hills Library. All levels welcome. We will eat afterwards.

Time: 1:00 pm Contact Stan Sawicki at 586-808-3406 or ssawicki@comcast.net

9/16/2011 RoM: Ernie's Restaurant. 19 mile & Garfield. 16655 Nineteen Mile Rd

Time 6.30 pm COST: Your Tab: RSVP Requested Contact TBD

9/17/2011 Horseback Riding 3480 TEGGERDINE RD. WHITE LAKE MI. 48386 Area Restaurant to follow.

Time 11:00 AM Saturday. Cost \$30 for 1.5 hours riding time. Carol StaneK 313-443-7527 carolbarrell@yahoo.com

9/23/2011 Pub & Grub: Gus O’Connors, 13100 Hall Road (M59), Sterling Heights, MI 48313

Time 6:30 pm Contact Allan Sleeman allan.sleeman@ameritech.net

9/25/2011 Bike ride 500 Olde Towne Rd in Rochester Meet at the Rochester Hills Library. All levels welcome. We will eat afterwards.

Time: 1:00 pm Contact Dan Butterworth 248-659-8010 danbutterworth@gmail.com

10/1/2011 Grand Rapids Art Prize Grand Rapids, Michigan Grand Rapids Art Prize Weekend Grand Rapids, Michigan

Contact Kathy O’Driscoll. 248-666-9057 kathyod7@gmail.com

10/13/2011 GM Meeting: Shield's Pizza Restaurant 1476 W. Maple Rd. (Just West of Crooks) Troy, MI 48084

Time 6.30 PM Cost No charge Contact Cindy Hollister 810-444-3630 cindymhollister@gmail.com

10/15/2011 Proud Lake Moonlight Canoeing Heavner Canoe Rental, 2775 Garden Rd, Milford, MI

Various Cost options available. Contact Darrell Ahlberg 586-899-8203 dahlberg7@comcast.net

10/21/2011 Bald Mountain Cabin Campout Tamarack Cabins in Bald Mountain State Park

Time Weekend Cost TBD Contact Les Skrzycki 248-236-0837 skiorsail@yahoo.com

GM CLUB

SKI and TRAVEL

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

September at a glance

Every Sunday Our “Breakfast Club” starts at 10:00 a.m.
At Jimmy’s Coney Grill, 37246 Dequindre, NE corner
at 16 Mile.

Every Sunday Wallyball, 12:30 pm at Warren Racquetball

9/3	Mackinac Bridge Walk
9/4	Bike Ride—500 Olde Town Rochester
9/8	GM General Meeting Halmich Park
9/10	Proud Lake Moonlight Canoe
9/11	Bike Ride—500 Olde Town Rochester
9/16	ROM : Ernie Restaurant
9/17	Horseback Riding
9/23	Pub & Grub: Gus O’Connors
9/25	Bike Ride—500 Olde Town Rochester

GM SKI and TRAVEL CLUB

Website:

www.gmskiclub.org

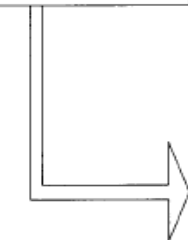
(recent photos, upcoming events, membership applications, bylaws, forms, and fun music)

MDSC Website:

www.mdscski.org

Supporting member of the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame.

Your membership
expires
on label date



First Class Mail



Anne Demers
3593 Normandy
Rochester Hills, MI
48306