



# NEWSLETTER

March 2012

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

GM CLUB: FOUNDED 1957

VOLUME LV, ISSUE III

## **Pub and Grub of the Month**

Ciccarelli's

46793 Hayes Road

Shelby Twp, MI 48315

Friday March 9th Time 6:30

Cost: Your tab. Contact Al Sleeman

[allan.sleeman@ameritech.net](mailto:allan.sleeman@ameritech.net)

## **Restaurant of the Month**

Brio Tuscan Grille

17430 Hall Road Rd.

Clinton, MI 48038

Saturday, March 17 5:30 PM

Cost: your tab Contact: Stan Sawicki

[ssawicki@comcast.net](mailto:ssawicki@comcast.net)



## GM SKI CLUB



### Visit US at [www.gmskiclub.org](http://www.gmskiclub.org)



*We're at Shields!  
1476 W. Maple Rd.  
(Just West of Crooks)  
Time: 6:30PM*



### MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING MARCH 8TH



**Contact Cindy Hollister at 810.444.3630**

### 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.

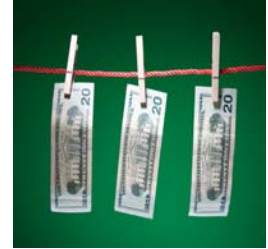
Contact: newsletter@gmskiclub.org

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

### Treasurer's Report:

## \$19,584.34

Alan Toomey, Treasurer



### March Birthdays

Carol Kent	3/02
Jeanne Davis	3/05
Steven Ahlberg	3/11
Darwin Tuttle	3/13
Kathy Thornton	3/14
Paul (Gary) Barden	3/16
Julie Pawlos	3/19
Carol Stanek	3/23
Judy Kennedy	3/23
Jim Hartwig	3/26
Jack Maynard	3/28
Cynthia Wowk	3/31
Julie DiMambro	3/31



### GM Ski and Travel Club Board of Directors

**President:** Darrell Ahlberg  
586-899-8203

**Vice President:** Bill Given  
248-289-6832

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

**Secretary:** Leslie Musser  
734-634-4475

**Activities:** TBD

**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 Skrzycki  
248-238-0675

U.S. Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame  
proudly recognizes

**GM Ski Club**

as a  
contributing member

We appreciate your support!



**WANTED!**  
**THREE NEW FACES**  
FOR GM SKI CLUB MEMBERSHIP!



**REWARD**

RECRUIT 3, AND GET YOUR MEMBERSHIP FREE!  
GM SKI CLUB GROWS BY THREE NEW MEMBERS WHO  
DESIGNATE YOU AS THE REFERRING MEMBER AT SIGNUP!

**Matthew J. Casey**  
TAX PROFESSIONAL

MATTHEW J. CASEY, M.S.T.

OFFICES IN  
FARMINGTON HILLS  
AND YPSILANTI, MI  
248.770.4247

Expires 12/12





## From the President

By Darrell Ahlberg, President

As you've been perusing our list of activities and choosing the ones you'd like to participate in, you may have noticed the variety of people we have organizing and running events. In particular, each Restaurant Of The Month (RoM) events has a different leader. In fact, we have more event leaders this year than ever before. So I'd like to thank all those who've come forward to lead an event. By leading an event, you are actually assuming a vital part in the leadership of the club. With so many leading events, the burden is small for each individual, but the overall result is a rich assortment of activities for the membership as a whole. Even if you haven't yet led an event, by simply participating in them, you are playing a role in making that event a success. In essence, we've become more than just a club. We have become a community. A community built and sustained by the contributions of everyone in it. For one, I feel very lucky to be a part of this community and I hope you feel the same way.

### Election Night

Speaking of participation, remember that the April general meeting is a very important event for the future of the club. That is when you will elect the club's leaders for next year. It is very important that you attend and vote. The April newsletter will contain the ballot with the nominees for each of the four elected positions. President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. If you wish to nominate yourself, or somebody else for any of these offices, contact one of the people on the nominating committee. They are Paul Grosso, Les Skrzycki, and Dave Norkus.

That's it for now. We have a great line up of events for March. I hope to see you at some of these soon.

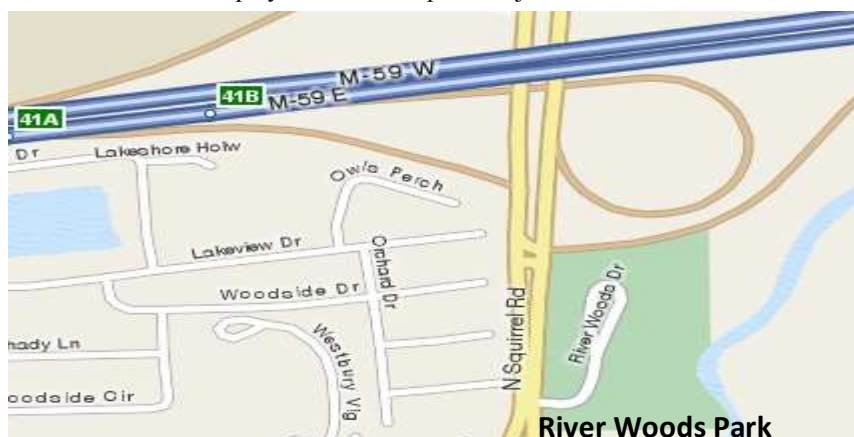
Enjoy!! -Darrell.

## Coming This Summer

The GM Ski Club will move its outdoor meetings to River Woods Park In Auburn Hills

Located on the southeast corner of Squirrel Rd. at M-59, River Woods Park is located along the Clinton River and features a covered picnic shelter with barbeque grills, a paved pathway with a bridge over the Clinton River, basketball courts, and, oh yes, state of the art restroom facilities.

We are very excited about this move and hope you will make plans to join us.



# THE CADIEUX CAFÉ IS THE ONLY HOME OF FEATHERBOWLING IN THE UNITED STATES!!

## FEATHERBOWLING AT THE CADIEUX CAFÉ, SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 2012 7:00-9:00PM

Come test your skill as you try and roll wooden wheels (think wheels of cheese) down a dirt concave alley to come as close as you can to a feather stuck at the other end!! There's nothing to knock down. Finesse is rewarded, rather than testosterone.

We have dinner reservations immediately following. Join us for steamed mussels and other Belgian specialties including more than a dozen Belgian beers!!

The bowling will be limited to the first 24 people who reserve. **Early payment is required.**

Anyone else is welcome to join us after the bowling for dinner and/or beverage but space is limited. We must have final count by "Leap Day" (Wednesday Feb 29).

**Cost: \$15.00 members/\$20.00 non-members. Includes 2 hours of bowling and appetizers. Dinner and beverages: On your own. Contact: Hannah Costello - 586-222-1363 or [nodie1031@yahoo.com](mailto:nodie1031@yahoo.com). Let us know if you're interested in carpooling**

Cadieux Café is located at 4300 Cadieux Rd, Detroit. Take the Cadieux exit (223) off I-94 and head east on Cadieux for about 1 mile. The café will be on your left.



**GM Ski Club Pub & Grub night. Friday March 9, Ciccarelli's 46793 Hayes RD, Shelby Twp., MI 48315**

Owned by former Detroit Red Wings star Dino Ciccarelli, at Ciccarelli's Sports Bar & Theater guests can watch games on three 17-foot-high theater-style projection screens or any of the 50 HD screens on walls around the facility. The menu contains sports bar staples such as burgers, pizza and wings, along with salads, pasta, ribs, and sandwiches, and Sanders famous Bumpy Cake. After 10:00, Friday nights offer the best of Sports and Nightlife with Music and Dancing.

Time: 6:30 Cost: Your Tab Contact: Al Sleeman [allan.sleeman@ameritech.net](mailto:allan.sleeman@ameritech.net)



**GM Ski Club Restaurant Of The Month. Saturday March 17, Brio Tuscan Grille. 17430 Hall Rd., Clinton, MI, 48038**

Italian food inspired by Tuscany, Brio brings the pleasures of the Tuscan villa to the American City. With its menu inspired by Northern Italy and including wood-grilled meat and fish, pasta and flatbreads and pizzas. The ambiance is upbeat and elegant. Built to enjoy "La Dolce Vita" - the good life.

Time 5:30 Cost: Your Tab Contact: Stan Sawicki [ssawicki@comcast.net](mailto:ssawicki@comcast.net)

**THEATER TICKETS SOLD OUT—COME JOIN US FOR DINNER...**

**See Frank, Sammy, Dean and Joey together again!**

# THE RAT PACK SHOW



Saturday, March 17 at 8 P.M. at the Macomb Center  
44575 Garfield Rd. Clinton Twp.

**THEATER TICKETS WITH PREMIUM SEATING**  
**\$44.00 MEMBERS, \$49.00 NON-MEMBERS**  
**Purchase no later than February 14th**

Dinner at the BRIO Tuscan Grille at 5:45 P.M.  
17430 Hall Rd. Clinton Twp.  
*You can come for dinner only – RSVP Stan*



Send Rat Pack check payable to: GM Ski Club to:  
Stanley Sawicki, 35767 Hatherly Place, Sterling Heights, 48310  
Contact at: 586-808-3406 or [ssawicki@comcast.net](mailto:ssawicki@comcast.net)

## **GM Ski & Social Club Presents: Beat the Winter Blahs-Euchre Night at Stus**

**Play Euchre with Fascinating People**

**(Or if you don't care to play, just enjoy a fun party!)**

**Saturday, March 24th**

**At the home of Stu Saxalby**

**2160 W. Buell Rd., Oakland Twp., MI 48363**

The fun starts at 7 p.m. with food and beverages and continues thru the night. Euchre games (please don't take the game seriously!) begin at 7:30. \$15 (\$20 for non-members) for players and \$5 (\$7 for non-members) for the party only. Make checks payable to GM Ski Club and mail to Stu at the above address. BYOB. Cash prizes for lowest score, lucky number and winners. Reserve your spot now.

**Prepayment is required for players.**

**Contact Stu at 248-814-8089 ([stusaxalby@comcast.net](mailto:stusaxalby@comcast.net))**



# Whirlyball

Saturday March 31 3-5pm

Cost \$22 (non-member add \$5)

Limited signup-25 persons

Contact: Judy Kennedy [jkenedy0323@yahoo.com](mailto:jkenedy0323@yahoo.com)

**WHERE:** Clinton Township Location

19781 15 Mile Rd. - on the north side just east of Groesbeck

**Price Includes: Pizza, Salad, Soft drinks and munchies  
2 hours court time (2 play sessions per person)**

Teams will be randomized so there will be a mix of players every game.

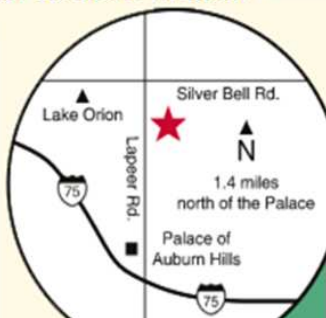
### What is Whirlyball?

Whirlyball is best described as a combination of Basketball, Hockey and Jai-Alai played while riding an electrically powered machine, similar to a bumper car, called a WhirlyBug. Although the WhirlyBug resembles a bumper car, it is a far superior machine. Quicker, stronger and far more maneuverable, the WhirlyBug powers you and your team down court in a five on five game.

In one hand the player has a Jai-Alai style plastic scoop and in the other hand a steering crank. The ball being tossed around is a softball sized whiffle ball. At each end of the court there are vertically hung backboards with a 15 inch hole in the center. Behind the hole is a swing gate equipped with a buzzer to notify the referee when a score is made. The referee will call play by play during the game, keep score and assess any penalties incurred. Before you go out on the court, the referee will go over the rules, give you a brief rundown of how to play and assist you throughout your rental.

# BOCCE BALL

Palazzo di Bocce, Inc.  
4291 Lapeer Road  
Orion Township, MI 48359



### Appetizers Provided

Assorted Meats-Cheese-Veggies

Fried Cheese Ravioli w/ Pomodoro Sauce

Sausage w/ Peppers, Tomatoes, Roasted Potatoes & Onions

Iceberg lettuce w/ Strawberries, Pine Nuts, Red Onion, Gorgonzola Cheese with Poppy Seed Dressing

Snack Style Pizza's

*Date: April 21, 2012*

*Time: 2:30 - 5:30 pm*

*Cost: \$32 for Member*

*\$38 for Non-Member*

**~~ CASH BAR ~~**

**Contact Cindy Hollister at 810.444.3630**



## Cruise the Caribbean – Article by Sharon Rose



Through Antigua's rain forest, against the wind, three courageous souls met the challenge of the trees! Trussed and harnessed like Grandma's Thanksgiving turkeys, we answered the call of the wild. To the hypnotic beat of Caribbean steel drums, we gloved our hands and crowned ourselves with helmets. Boldly, our jaws set in determination that the island's rain forest would be *our* jurisdiction, we approached our perch. Brave gladiators facing down lions were we, readying for the moment of truth. Spirited by those who have gone before us into the fray, we three, Alan, Ed, and Sharon, transformed ourselves into crusaders of the wilderness. As we stepped off our perches in victorious jubilation, we propelled ourselves into the air, screaming, "Wwwwwhhhhhheeeeeee!" And we lived to brag about it!

## Cruise the Caribbean – Article by Alan Toomey

So the cruise is over, and we're back in town. I'll have to say we had a great group of people go on this trip. It was a pleasure to be with them as the spirit of the trip was tested from the start.

We had a direct flight leaving Detroit to San Juan. The only way to travel, or is it? As it turns out, I apparently checked the box requesting we get the aerial view of southeast Michigan aboard the direct flight to San Juan. After our 9:00 am departure and a little over an hour tour, we landed back in Detroit. The plane had a malfunction with the front landing gear door that couldn't be resolved during our tour. So we landed and waited on the tarmac to see if the issue could be resolved, and then about another hour for the "spare" plane to be readied. We all boarded the next plane and off we went. Who would have thought we would eat up much of the San Juan casual time just getting out of Detroit.

As our luck would have it, we landed in San Juan much later than expected. It was going to be a rush to get to the dock in order to get aboard the *Serenade of the Seas*. The pilot came on the speaker and said "You just can't make this stuff up". Uh Oh. As it turns out the San Juan airport had a fire, or something, and was without power. We were sitting on the plane with no control of exiting and time was running out. Several of our group had working phones and started calling Royal Caribbean to let them know we were stuck at the airport on the plane and to hold the ship. After all, we are the GM Ski Club. We were already past the 2 hour advance boarding period and I had pictures of missing the ship running through my mind. After about another hour on the plane, we finally got to exit the plane into a darkened airport terminal. It was a sprint to the baggage area. The plan was for everyone to grab their bags and get to the dock ASAP before the 8:30 ship departure. We found our bags and started grabbing cabs to the dock. Thanks Sharon for throwing other people out of the cabs for our group. Our cab used two wheels around the curves most of the time to get us there.

The dock terminal was pretty much empty, and we were expedited onboard the ship. Mildred and Patty had a separate flight down since they departed from Ohio. They too had issues arriving into San Juan and fell into the same airport issue we did. They were the last 2 to get onboard the ship. I can only picture the ship beginning to push away from the dock and these two throwing bags across and jumping aboard. Probably not that way, but we all were fortunate to make it aboard.

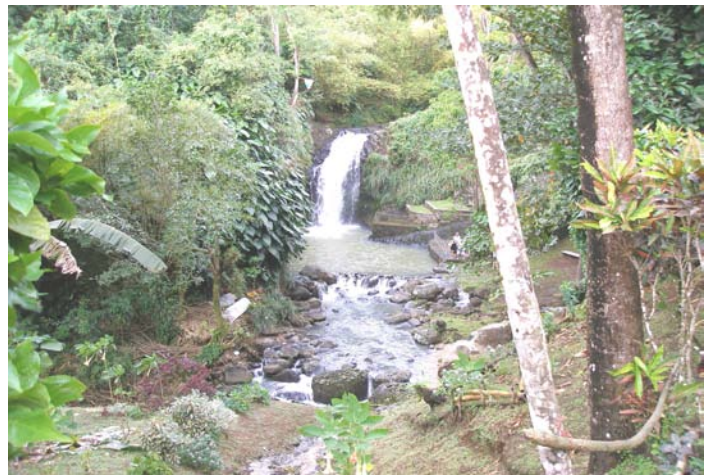
Thanks to everyone who kept a cool head, and asserted themselves during this trial period. As it turned out, this was the only issue we had during the trip. Ed can confess his baggage issue separately. Just advice for anyone, read the tag.

As I said, it was a great group to travel with. Everyone decided what adventures to partake during our 5 island Caribbean cruise. It seemed everyone made choices on what adventures to make. When some had an idea on what to do, some joined in. Others made plans and enjoyed their own adventures. There certainly were enough things to do and it seemed everyone made the most of it. The weather remained beautiful as the Caribbean usually is during Michigan winters.

We had dinner for our group scheduled every night while the cruise ship departed and made way to our next destination. We would discuss what we did and what we would do next. It was a good time to get to know each other. The food was good, as is all the food whether it is breakfast, lunch, or dinner. After dinner we could take in the cruise ship shows or other onboard activities.

My thanks to everybody for making this a special cruise for me.

## Caribbean Cruise Pictures



## Board Member Elections

The April General Meeting is Election Night for our club. The four positions members will vote on are:

**President**  
**Vice President**  
**Secretary**  
**Treasurer**

In addition to these four elected positions, there are several appointed positions on the board. One of the duties of the president is to appoint people to fill these positions. As members, you are highly encouraged to get involved with the governance of the club either by running for any of the above elected positions, or seeking an appointed position.

Anyone who has been a member for at least a year is eligible to run. To nominate either yourself or someone else, contact any of the following members of the nominating committee.

Paul Grosso	<a href="mailto:mithunder1965@comcast.net">mithunder1965@comcast.net</a>	586-822-5613
Dave Norkus	<a href="mailto:dnorkus@comcast.net">dnorkus@comcast.net</a>	248-496-2275
Les Skrzycki	<a href="mailto:skiorsail@yahoo.com">skiorsail@yahoo.com</a>	248-236-0837

Once nominations are in, the nominating committee will publish the names of all nominees. Please plan on attending the April meeting and casting your vote.





# Upcoming Events

## TRAVEL & SOCIAL

<b>Every Sunday—Our “Breakfast Club”</b> 10:00 am at Jimmy’s Coney Grill, 37246 Dequindre, NE corner at 16 Mile. Just show up. We’ll make room.	<b>Every Sunday Wally ball</b> 12:30 pm at Warren Racquetball, Van Dyke at 12 ½ Mile. RSVP to gmskiclub@yahoo.com
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of Month —GM General Meeting</b> Winters at Shields Pizza In Troy, Summers at River Woods in Auburn Hills. Contact Cindy Hollister 810-444-3630 cindymhollister@gmail.com	
<b>Sat 3/3/2012 Cadieux Cafe - Feather Bowling</b> 4300 Cadieux Rd. Detroit, MI (between Mack & Warren) Time: 6:30 Cost: \$15 members/\$20 non-members (Includes 2 hours of Bowling and Appetizers During The Games. Dinner is on your own. Contact Hannah Costello nodie1031@yahoo.com	
<b>Thu 3/8/2012 GM Meeting: Shield's Pizza Restaurant</b> 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	
<b>Fri 3/9/2012 Pub &amp; Grub - Ciccarelli's</b> 46793 Hayes RD, Shelby Twp., MI 48315 Time: 6:30 Cost: Your Tab Contact: Al Sleeman allan.sleeman@ameritech.net	
<b>Tue 3/13/2012 Down Hill Skiing - Mt Holly</b> 13536 S. Dixie Highway, Holly MI Cost: \$20 Time: 10:00 - 5:30 Contact Mike Nalley michaelnalley@hotmail.com	
<b>Sat 3/17/2012 RoM - Brio Tuscan Grille</b> 17430 Hall Rd., Clinton, MI, 48038 Time 5:30 Cost: Your Tab Contact: Stan Sawicki ssawicki@comcast.net	
<b>Sat 3/17/2012 Rat Pack Show - Macomb Center For Performing Arts</b> 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Township, MI Cost: \$44.00 members \$49 non-members Contact Stan Sawicki ssawicki@comcast.net	
<b>Sat 3/24/2012 Euchre Night at Stu's</b> 2160 W. Buell Rd., Oakland, MI 48363 Time 7.00 PM Gathering. Games start 7:30 Cost Players: \$15.00 members, \$20 Non-members. Party only: \$5.00 Members . \$7.00 non members Contact Stu Saxalby 248-814-8089 stusaxalby@comcast.net	
<b>Wed 3/28/2012 Grace Center of Hope</b> 35 E Huron St, Pontiac, MI 48342 Doing our part in giving back to the community by serving meals to those on hard times. Time: Arrive by 4:30 pm Contact: Susan Walker swneko@aol.com 248-660-5329	
<b>Sat 3/31/2012 Whirlyball</b> 19781 15 Mile Rd, Clinton Township, MI Time 2.30 - 5:00pm Cost: \$22 Members / \$27 Non-Members Contact Judy Kennedy jkennedy0323@yahoo.com	
<b>Thu 4/12/2012 GM Meeting: Shield's Pizza Restaurant</b> 1476 W. Maple Rd. (Just West of Crooks) Troy, MI 48084 <b>Election Night -</b> Time 6.30 PM Cost No charge Contact Cindy Hollister 810-444-3630 cindymhollister@gmail.com	
<b>Sat 4/14/2012 Pub &amp; Grub O' Mara's Starring Blackthorn</b> 2555 12 Mile Rd Berkley, MI 48072 Time: 6:30 Cost: Your Tab Contact: Hannah Costello nodie1031@yahoo.com 586-222-1363	
<b>Sat 4/21/2012 Bocce Ball - Palazzo Di Bocce</b> 4291 S Lapeer Rd, Lake Orion, MI 48359 Cost: \$32 Members/\$38 non-Members. Includes 3 hours playtime and appetizers (antipasto tray, insalata di angelo, fried ravioli, sausage & peppers, and Pizza) Time 2:50 - 5:30 Contact Cindy Hollister cindymhollister@gmail.com	
<b>Wed 4/25/2012 Grace Center of Hope</b> 35 E Huron St, Pontiac, MI 48342 Doing our part in giving back to the community by serving meals to those on hard times. Time: Arrive by 4:30 pm Contact: Susan Walker swneko@aol.com 248-660-5329	
<b>Fri 4/27/2012 RoM - Buca Di Beppo</b> 12575 Hall Rd Utica, MI 48315 Time 6:30 Cost: Your Tab Contact: Marge Hall margeahall@aol.com	
<b>Sat 5/5/2012 Cinco De Mayo</b>	
<b>Thu 5/10/2012 GM Meeting: New Location: River Woods - Auburn Hills</b> 300 N Squirrel Rd, Auburn Hills, MI Time 6.00 PM Cost \$4.00 members, \$6.00 non-members Contact Cindy Hollister 810-444-3630 cindymhollister@gmail.com	
<b>Fri 5/11/2012 Pub &amp; Grub TBD</b> Time: 6:30 Cost: Your Tab Contact: Al Sleeman allan.sleeman@ameritech.net	
<b>Sat 5/19/2012 24th Annual. Eastern Market Flower Day: Breakfast at Vivio's</b> 2460 Market St. Detroit, MI 48207 The Grand Daddy of GM Ski Club Tradition. Time 8.00 AM Cost: Your Tab Contact Les Skrzycki 248-236-0837 skior-sail@yahoo.com	
<b>Fri 5/25/2012 Restaurant Of The Month TBD</b> Time 6:30 Cost: Your Tab Contact: Libby Morningstar star001@ameritech.net	
<b>Sat 5/26/2012 Skeet Shooting at Detroit Sportsman's Congress</b> 49800 Dequindre Road Shelby Township, MI 48317 Details to be announced Cost: TBD Time: TBD Contact: Don Phillips bjp21@wowway.com	
<b>Wed 5/30/2012 Grace Center of Hope</b> 35 E Huron St, Pontiac, MI 48342 Doing our part in giving back to the community by serving meals to those on hard times. Time: Arrive by 4:30 pm Contact: Susan Walker swneko@aol.com 248-660-5329	
<b>Fri 6/1/2012 Dude Ranch Weekend - Outback Lodge</b> 12600 Buchanan, Stanwood, MI 49346 This is a dude's dude ranch. Weekend of horseback riding and much more. Cost TBD Contact Julie Dimambro juliemd03@yahoo.com	



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

## March 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** Wally ball, 12:30 pm at Warren Racquetball

3/3	Cadieux Café Feather Bowling
3/8	GM Meeting Shield’s Pizza Restaurant
3/9	P&G Ciccarelli’s
3/13	Down Hill Skiing Mt Holly
3/17	ROM Brio Tuscan Grille
3/17	Rat Pack Show
3/24	Euchre Night at Stu’s
3/28	Grace Center of Hope
3/31	Whirly Ball

## 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)

Supporting member of the U.S. Ski and Snow-  
board Hall of Fame.

FIRST CLASS MAIL



RETURN ADDRESS:

Anne Demres

3593 Normandy

Rochester Hills MI 48306