



A Ski Club... And A Whole Lot More!

NEWS

AUGUST 2016 • GMSKICLUB.ORG • FOUNDED 1957 • VOLUME LIX, ISSUE VIII

GM SKI CLUB

ANNUAL CLUB PICNIC

Saturday, August 20 • 12:00pm
Stony Creek MetroPark

We will be at Winter Cove B Shelter.

**EARLY
BIRD
PRICING**

On/Before Aug 15:
\$15 Members
\$20 Non-Members

After Aug 15:
\$20 Members
\$25 Non-Members



Kayak Outing at 10am

Kayak Contact: Jim Hartwig, jim_hartwig@hotmail.com

CATERED MEAL AT 3:00PM

Featuring BBQ Pork by Chef Paul and drinks.
(Does not include park admission, \$5 for seniors.)



Bike Ride

(We'll gather a group after lunch.)



VOLLEYBALL • BOCCE BALL • EUCHRE WATER BALLOON CONTEST

Make check payable to "GM Ski Club" & mail to:
Stan Sawicki, 35767 Hatherly Place,
Sterling Heights, MI 48310

Picnic Contact: Stan Sawicki at 586-808-3406
or ssawicki@comcast.net

NOTE: Picnic will double as the August General Meeting

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT: Darrell Ahlberg
dahlberg7@comcast.net
586-899-8203

VICE PRESIDENT: Joe Yoblonski
248-852-6561

TREASURER: Dan Boyd,
danny.boyd@comcast.net

SECRETARY: June Siehda
jsiehda@hotmail.com, 586-383-4267

TRIPS COORDINATOR: Dave Duvali
daveduvali@att.net, 586-754-8151

NEWSLETTER: Sherry Letavis
newsletter@gmskiclub.org

WEBMASTER: Kathy O'Driscoll
kathyod7@comcast.net

PUBLICITY: Dennis Dembiec,
dennis4179@gmail.com

PAST PRESIDENT: Stan Sawicki
ssawicki@comcast.net, 586-808-3406

MDSC REP: Chris Luhrs
chris.luhrs@juno.com

HOSPITALITY: Greg Ronan
riverdanceiii@yahoo.com

MEMBERSHIP: Amy Skozke
amy.skotzke@gmail.com

ACTIVITIES: Ken Phillips,
kenphillips@mail.com

SPORTS & SKI INSTRUCTION: Stan Sawicki
ssawicki@comcast.net, 586-808-3406

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Aug 1 Chuck Katko Jr.

Aug 9 Linda Frassetto

Aug 11 Shannon Duke

Aug 13 John LeGros
Shirley Tresh

Aug 19 Anthony Miri

Aug 21 Eric Allman

Aug 28 Tim Boyd
Kathy Zalewski

Aug 30 Bill Given

Aug 31 Darrell Ahlberg
Kathy O'Driscoll



Help build the club & help yourself at the same time!

Simply recruit three new members and get a one year membership for free. Just have the new members designate you as the referring member on their membership form when they sign-up. EASY!



The GMSC is a member of the MDSC. As such we are allowed to attend other MDSC Clubs' advertised trips at their member fee. There are also discounts and many other benefits.

www.mdscski.org

Matthew J. Casey
TAX PROFESSIONAL

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Ohio Office: 46 Chagrin Plaza, Ste. 131 Chagrin Falls, OH 44022
www.bsavent.com



Bernie Stevens
VP of Special Events

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi all, I hope everyone is enjoying the season this year. I'm sure it has occurred to you that the weather this summer is the best summer weather we've had in many years. So I hope you've been finding ways to make the most of it.

At the GM Ski Club, our summer started May 21st at Eastern Market. Since then we've had 16 summer outdoor events including three outdoor general meetings – and we're not finished yet. Already on the calendar, we have another 11 events. These include a Lakefront Paddle Party, Bike Ride, Erie Canal Cruise, our Kayak/Picnic outing, Riverdance Boat Bash, a Corn Roast, a Weekend Cabin Campout at Hawk Woods, a Square Dance, and, of course our outdoor general meetings.

With these blockbuster summer events, it's clear that we are one of the most active and vibrant clubs in the area. I encourage you to partake in as many of these as you can and have yourself a ball. Then, of course, we'll all get together at Christmas and reminisce about all the great times we've had.

I would also like to encourage you to tell your friends. Remember, for every three members that join the club based on your reference, you get a complimentary year of membership. Also, remember that all these events are possible because members like you come up with ideas and run events. So keep it up.

At this juncture, I'd like to give a special shout out to Dennis Dembiec, one of the busiest board members. He is the guy responsible for all our innovative dinner outings we enjoy so much. Among these, we've had dinners combined with a street festival, a night time sailing outing, a dance night in Birmingham Shane Park, and a dance night at Metro Beach. Bravo Dennis. Well done.

– Darrell Ahlberg, President, GM Ski Club



GM Bikers taking the ferry to Harsen's Island



GM Bike Ride

Sunday, Aug 7 • 1:00pm
Polly Ann Trail

2359 Joslyn Ct, Orion Twp.

Meet at the Northern-most parking lot in Canterbury Village. We will eat afterwards at the C-Pub Bar and Grill in Canterbury Village.

Contact: Stan Sawicki, 586-808-3406,
ssawicki@comcast.net

Paddle / Party / More

Sat, Aug 6 • 12pm - ?

4693 Forest Ave, Waterford

Party and paddle at a private home on Watkins Lake. We

will have a water toy vendor on site (from 2pm - 5pm) for you to

try out toys like canoes, kayaks, paddle boards & more. Take one out, bring it back, try something else. Also enjoy pontoon boat rides. Burgers & hot dogs provided. BYOB & a dish-to-pass.

\$15 member, \$20 non-member

Contact: Colleen Karallis
586-504-3401 (call or text)
colleenkaralis@hotmail.com





Tiger Game

**Detroit vs.
White Sox**

Wed, August 3

5:00pm

Meet at Chili's

***We're taking you out to the
ball game... in style!***

***Join us for an special evening with
luxury party bus transportation and
admission to the Members-Only
Tiger Club. Game starts at 7:05pm.***

Luxury Party Bus: Ultimate in luxury travel. Dance floor, bar (chrome rims), premium sound system, 2 TV's, fiber optics. Safe keeping for your drinks & snacks during the game.

Exclusive Members-Only Tiger Club: Luxurious amenities with a spectacular view of the game. You're free to move from the Tiger Club to your Mezzanine level seat and back as you wish.

Optional: Tiger Club Gourmet Buffet Dinner (32.95 + tax & gratuity). Pay your own tab.

Meet at 5:00pm inside Chili's at Oakland Mall. PARK IN REAR LOT.

**Cost: \$49.95 – Prepayment is required before
signup is considered complete.**

Mail check payable to "GM Ski Club" to
GM Ski Club, 40377 Kraft Dr.,
Sterling Heights, MI 48310

Contact: Darrell Ahlberg, dahlberg7@comast.net,
586-899-8203 (call or text)



Dick O' Dows Irish Pub & Shain Park Concert

Wednesday, August 17

5:00pm Cocktails • 5:30pm Dinner

7:00pm Concert

160 W Maple Rd, Birmingham

"A Drink Comes Before A Story"

Dick O' Dow's has a warm, cozy atmosphere, offering an authentic Irish experience with traditional Irish fare. We will assemble in the back room around 5:30pm for dinner. Please RSVP.

Afterwards we'll go to the newly reconstructed

Shain Park band shell to be entertained by **Steve King & The Dittilies**. Bring a lawn chair. Park at the Chester St. structure. It is two blocks west of Dick O'Dows, one block from the park.

If you cannot attend the dinner feel free to join us at the park. It will be a full moon night. Also, the Maple Waterfall and Quarton Lake are only a short walk from the parking structure. Cost: Your Tab.

It will be a beautiful evening!

Contact: Dennis Dembiec, 248-318-1491,
dennis4179@gmail.com



Erie Canal River Cruise

August 9-13 • \$390

HURRY, JUST FOUR SPOTS LEFT!

5 day/4 night cruise down the Erie Canal. Bring your camera as you rediscover the past. Vistas of natural beauty will pass slowly before your eyes – peaceful historic villages, changed very little this century, unfold as you round each bend. Bring a bike if you want to ride at our stops. Full payment due with sign up. Carpools will be formed.

Contact: Les Skrzycki, 248-877-1794,
skiorsail9@gmail.com



Sunday, August 14 • 1:00pm

6520 Whysall Rd, Bloomfield Hills

Burgers, hot dogs & water will be supplied.
BYOB. Please bring a dish-to-pass. Cost: \$5.

Contact: Debbi Ross, 248-932-3350,
debbiross@gmail.com



Thursday, Aug 18 • 5:30pm

Meet for dinner at 5:30pm at the new Danny J's Brick Tavern (7759 Auburn Rd, formerly Hatchy's) in downtown Utica. Cost: Your tab. After dinner we will walk (or drive) to Jimmy John's Field for a minor league baseball game.

Ticket cost: \$12. Enjoy Thirsty

Thursday Night - \$2 beers.

Pre-payment required by
August 14 for group seating.



Contact: Ken, Kenphillips@mail.com

GM SKI CLUB & SAILING SINGLES PRESENT

Riverdance III 4th Boat Bash



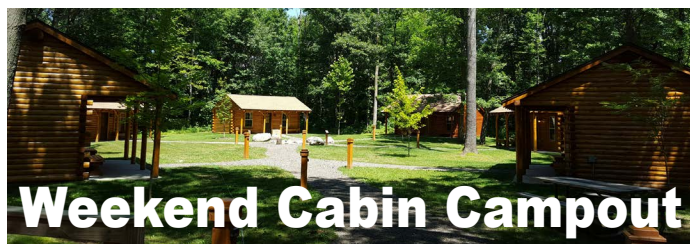
**Sat, Aug 27
1:00pm until ??
Emerald City
Outer Harbor**

24200 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores – Well 416,
Gate Code: 53153 (North of 9 Mile Rd, behind
Brownies Waterfront Restaurant).

Guests responsible for: Grill item(s), dish-to-pass,
beverages, hearty appetite and chair.

Grill will be available to use.

Contact: Greg Ronan, 586-219-7669



September 16-18

Hawk Woods, 3799 Bald Mt Rd, Auburn Hills

This year, we're taking a major step up in the
Cabin Campout. We are renting the entire
Hawk Woods campus. We have all six cabins
and the Lodge. Amenities include:

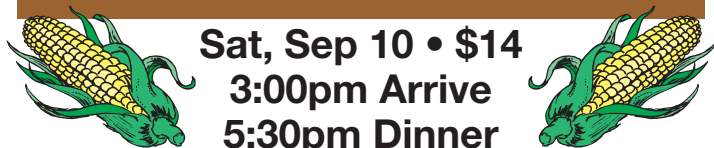
- 6 Cabins (sleep six each), all have electricity
- Heated restrooms with showers (& hot water)
- Several inside & outside outlets
- Fireplace & heat in the lodge
- 13 Picnic tables, 6 grills
- Fire pit
- Trail System: 2 miles long & includes a "right before your eyes" nature interpretation signage system. Note: There is one large set of stairs near the Marsh Boardwalk.



Cost: TBA. There will be weekend rates, as well
as Saturday afternoon-only rates.

Contact: Les, 248-877-1794,
skiorsail9@gmail.com

Annual Corn Roast



**Sat, Sep 10 • \$14
3:00pm Arrive
5:30pm Dinner**

53870 Fairchild Rd, Macomb

**DINNER INCLUDES: Corn, meat,
side dishes and dessert. Plates and
flatware provided.**

Guests bring beverages, chair, hearty appetite,
and snacks to nibble. **RSVP by September 6.**

Make checks out to JoAnn Mok.

Mail to: Ann Enghart, 35403 Cathedral,
Sterling Hts, Mi 48312

Contact: JoAnn Mok, 586-749-3540,
jmok11@comcast.net



Still Biking - Harsens Island

I haven't recently written any articles on GM's bike outings for the newsletter but that's not because there haven't been any. Up to around this time we have had them pretty regularly, starting back in April. The incentive for this article is our June 26th ride on Harsen's Island. This was the fourth year Stan Sawicki has scheduled this ride as a change of venue from our usual Rochester area events and it was, again, very well attended— probably more than 20 riders. And, no wonder, it's quite scenic biking along the South Channel. It's a flat and all paved route and the Sans Souci Bar where we stop to eat and watch the freighters cruise by is kind-of charming.

As my pictures show, this year we stopped at St. Mark's church for a little prayer for "none of the threatened rain" and it worked as we had a cloudy but dry trip. On the way back, some of us posed for a picture with the big propeller at the Tashmoo marina. Does anybody have any idea where a word like "tashmoo" comes from? Anyway, it was a great trip.

Stan has yet another venue deviation from our Rochester routes planned for one of our August rides. This will be on the Polly Ann Trail in the Orion Township area. We will start at Canterbury Village. Check this newsletter and/or our web site for specific details. One has to be optimistic that this will be a good ride – right?

For you skiers among us, our bike rides will help you tone up your thighs and get a bit of a cardio workout. So, it's good for you and it's fun. Come out and join us... hope to see you there!

– **Dave Duvali**





One of Colorado's snowfall leaders, Steamboat skiing is almost always incredible. Combine its 350 annual inches with state-of-the-art grooming capabilities and you get ski cruising runs that are among the world's best.

AVOID THE CROWDS 26% more trails & 10% more lifts than the average Colorado ski resort.

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE From expert chutes to our kids-only terrain, and plenty of cruising on well-groomed, open slopes. If you want to try tree skiing, Steamboat has some beautiful, widely spaced evergreen or Aspen glades on some very gentle trails.

APRES SKI With over 100 restaurants & bars there is a broad spectrum of night life for a great time well into the night. And of course, there are the nearby world famous Strawberry Park hot springs.

For a special morning, join **1964 Olympic Silver Medalist/World Champion Billy Kidd**, for some free pointers and a run down Heavenly Daze.

Skiable Area: 2965 acres. **Vertical Drop:** 3667 ft.

Lodging at the West Condos, five days lift tickets and non-stop round-trip flights – for \$1,465. March 11-18, 2017. Trip flyer & application on the next page.

For more information contact: Dave Duvali at daveduvali@att.net or 586-754-8151.

Accommodations at The West Condos

Perched atop its own private hillside, The West Condominiums offer spectacular views of the Steamboat Ski Area and the Yampa Valley.



Also featured are:

- **Heated swimming pool & two outdoor hot tubs**
- **Great location: a mere 200 yards from the Gondola**
- **Clubhouse & much more**

We are opening trip sign-ups at the GMSC ANNUAL PICNIC on August 20th (See page one for details).

The picnic is a great opportunity to enjoy a day of fun, as well as lock in your spot on the Steamboat trip.



STEAMBOAT, CO

- 7 day trip
- Non-stop flights
- All transfers
- 5 day lift tickets
- 2 bedroom condos
- Short walk to gondola



\$500 deposit and trip application are due at sign-up

Payment Schedule: \$500 due at sign-up • \$500 due Oct. 1 • Balance due Nov. 15

Contact: Dave Duvali, daveduvali@att.net, 586-754-8151, 27216 Dover, Warren, MI 48088

On sale at GMSC ANNUAL PICNIC - August 20!



Trip Application

Destination: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____ Apt Number: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Primary Phone: () _____ Alternate Phone: () _____

Email: _____

Gender: ☐ M ☐ F Smoking*: ☐ YES ☐ NO GM Ski Club Member: ☐ YES ☐ NO MDSC Club: _____

*Please see the GM Ski Club By-Laws concerning smoking on club trips or ask the Trip Leader.

Please state any roommate preferences: _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Phone: () _____

In consideration for me being able to participate in this activity, I assume personal responsibility for any risks and hazards to my personal safety and equipment. I release the GM Ski Club, their Directors and Officers, and anyone affiliated with any and all activities from all liability and waive any and all claims I may have or may hereafter acquire related to any and all injuries or damages whatsoever arising as a result of my participation in any and all activities connected directly or indirectly with the GM Ski Club. I also certify that I am at least 19 years of age or older and that I have read and understand the conditions outlined above. I have read and understand the Refund/Cancellation policies applicable to this trip.

Make checks payable to the **GM Ski Club** Amount Enclosed: \$ _____ (\$15 fee for returned checks)

Applicant agrees that by typing name and returning via electronic method constitutes an electronic signature.

Date: _____ Signed: _____

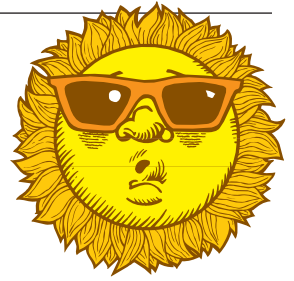
Refund/Cancellation Policy: See the website gmskiclub.org or ask the trip leader.

GM SKI & TRAVEL CLUB UPCOMING EVENTS

EVERY SUNDAY - 10am • BREAKFAST CLUB – Jimmy's Coney Grill,
37246 Dequindre, Sterling Hts. *No RSVP needed, just show up!*

12:30pm • WALLYBALL - Warren Racquetball & Fitness. \$5-\$6 per person.
29901 S Civic Center Blvd, Warren. Contact: Michael, sundaywallyball@gmail.com

4TH WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH - 4:30pm • Grace Centers of Hope
35 E Huron St, Pontiac. Contact: Susan Walker, swneko@aol.com, 248-660-5329



FULL CALENDAR AVAILABLE AT WWW.GMSKICLUB.ORG

Wed, Aug 3 • Tigers Game In Style - Meet at Chili's at Oakland Mall. Time: 5:00pm, Cost: \$50.
Includes: Party bus to and from the game, Tickets to Members-Only Tigers Club, Mezanine stadium seating. Contact: Darrell Ahlberg, dahlberg7@comcast.net, 586-899-8203 (call or text)

Sat, Aug 6 • Paddle / Party / More - 4693 Forest Ave, Waterford. Time 12pm-? Cost: \$15 member, \$20 non-member. Party at a private home on Watkins Lake. Burgers, hot dogs will be provided, BYOB & a dish-to-pass. Contact: Colleen Karallis 586-504-3401 (call or text) colleenkaralis@hotmail.com

Sun, Aug 7 • GM Bike Ride: Polly Ann Trail - 2359 Joslyn Ct, Orion Twp. Meet at North lot in Canterbury Village at 1pm. We will eat afterwards. Contact: Stan, ssawicki@comcast.net, 586-808-3406

Aug 9-13 • Erie Canal River Cruise - 5 day/4 night cruise. Hurry – just 4 spots left! Cost: \$390. Full payment due at sign-up. Carpools will be formed. Contact: Les, 248-877-1794, skiorsail9@gmail.com

Sun, Aug 14 • Pool Party - Debbi & Phil Ross - 6520 Whysall Rd, Bloomfield Hills. 1pm. Cost: \$5. Burgers, hot dogs & water will be supplied. BYOB. Please bring a dish-to-pass. Contact: Debbi Ross, 248-932-3350, debbiross@gmail.com

Wed, Aug 17 • P&G: Dick O'Dows & Shain Park - 160 W Maple Rd, Birmingham. 5pm Cocktails, 5:30pm Dinner, 7pm Shain Park Concert: Steve King & The Dittilies. Bring a lawn chair, park at the Chester St. Parking structure. Cost: Your Tab. Contact: Dennis, 248-318-1491, dennis4179@gmail.com

Thu, Aug 18 • Dinner & Ball Game - Danny J's Brick Tavern, 7759 Auburn Rd, Utica. Time: 5:30pm. Dinner cost: Your Tab. Game at Jimmy John's Field (3 blocks away), Ticket cost: \$12. Pre-payment required by August 14 for group seating. Contact: Ken, Kenphillips@mail.com

Sat, Aug 20 • Kayaking at Stony Creek - 10am. Contact: Jim Hartwig, jim_hartwig@hotmail.com
GMSC Annual Picnic - Stony Creek MetroPark, Winter Cove B Shelter. Includes catered meal and drinks. Time: 12pm. Cost: On/Before Aug 15: \$15 Members, \$20 Non-Members; After Aug 15: \$20 Members, \$25 Non-Members. Contact: Stan Sawicki at 586-808-3406 or ssawicki@comcast.net
NOTE: Picnic will double as General Meeting for August – No meeting at River Woods Park in August.

Sat, Aug 27 • Riverdance III 4th Boat Bash - Emerald City Outer Harbor, 24200 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores – Well 416, Gate Code: 53153. (North of 9 Mile Rd, behind Brownies Waterfront Restaurant) Time: 1:00pm. Bring: Grill item(s), dish-to-pass, beverages & chair. Contact: Greg Ronan, 586-219-7669

Thu, Sep 8 • GMSC Meeting "Tailgate" theme - River Woods Park, 300 N Squirrel, Auburn Hills. Time: 6pm, Cost: \$5 Members, \$7 Non-Members. Wear your favorite team attire. Includes: hot dogs, chips, and up to 2 beverages. Contact: Greg Ronan, riverdanceiii@yahoo.com

Sat, Sep 10 • Annual Corn Roast - 53870 Fairchild Rd, Macomb. 3pm Arrive, 5:30pm Dinner. Cost: \$14. Includes: Corn, meat, side dishes and dessert. Bring beverages, snacks & chair. Contact: JoAnn Mok, 586-749-3540, jmok11@comcast.net

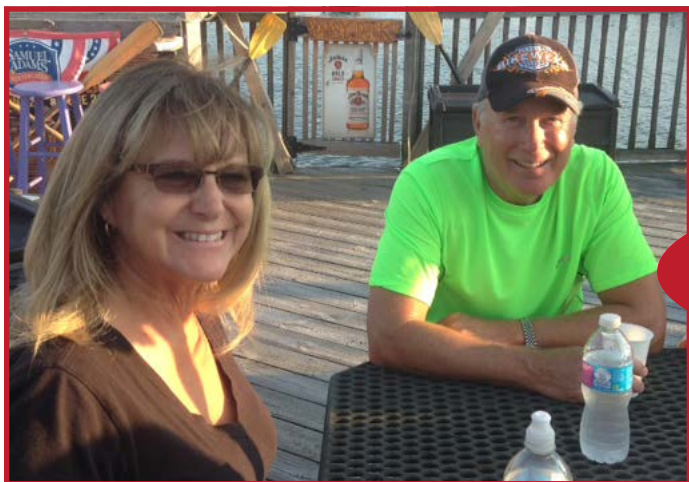
Sep 16-18 • Weekend Cabin Campout - Hawk Woods, 3799 Bald Mountain Rd, Auburn Hills. Cost: TBA. See ad on pg 5 for details. Contact: Les, 248-877-1794, skiorsail9@gmail.com



Ken Phillips' second annual backyard pool party on July 16 in Macomb Twp. was a rousing success. Only one shortcoming - nobody swam. It only reached the mid 70s, so folks just weren't in the mood. However, Darrell set up his Karaoke equipment, and we had guest appearances by Donna Sommer and Whitney Houston, who sang 5 of their hits (performed by Wanda from Legends Live). We also had a nice campfire this time. I predict my pool party in January should attract an equal number of swimmers.

[PS: Left behind were a mauve and white striped Jaclyn Smith hat, a 12" stainless steel spoon, and a metal hot/cold drink container.]





Watermark Bar & Grille with Moon Rise



On Wednesday, July 20th, thirty GM Ski Club and Metro Detroit Fun & Fitness members met at the Watermark Bar and Grill located near the Jefferson Marina for a great experience in outdoor dining. This was the third annual full moon event. After enjoying the excellent food served on the beautiful patio, we gathered at the Gazebo located on Dock "A" for an afterglow party.

Captain Michael Bourke brought his special potion mix to share with all attendees. After enjoying a most beautiful evening, those present were offered sailboat rides by GM Ski Club owners: Captains Michael Bourke, Stan Sawicki, Chris Johnson and Terry McGovern. We greatly appreciate their generous invitation. Each guest was assigned a job to do in order to insure a safe launch. At 9pm we all watched the most beautiful sunset on Lake St. Clair. At exactly 9:27pm a mysterious red glow appeared in the eastern sky along the horizon. About ten minutes later a beautiful orange full moon appeared on an evening considered to be ideal sailing weather. What a great experience for all who attended.

– **Dennis Dembiec**



**Watermark Bar & Grille
with Moon Rise**



Square Dance & Dinner



Saturday, September 24
6:45pm • \$25 per dancer
(\$15 for dinner only)

5080 19 Mile Road, Sterling Hts
 Square dance attire is optional, but encouraged. Bring a lawn chair for picnic style dinner and afterglow bonfire. Includes: Dinner, beer, wine, limited liquor, pop, and munchies.

RSVP to Tim or Jan at:
 586-726-0033.

Make checks payable to:
 "Tim Pfannes"

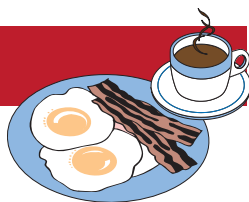
and mail to: 5080 19 Mile,
 Sterling Heights, MI 48314



Breakfast Club

Every Sunday • 10am
Jimmy's Coney Grill

37246 Dequindre (at 16 Mile), Sterling Hts.
No RSVP needed, just show up!



Capitol Steps

Saturday, October 22 • 7:30pm
Macomb Center for Performing Arts

44575 Garfield Rd, Clinton Twp

Always fresh and crispy, right from the headlines. Capitol Steps put the "mock" in democracy.

American political satire group, Capitol Steps, has been performing since 1981, and has released over forty albums consisting primarily of song parodies. They have performed on PBS, public radio and in various small- and medium-sized venues around the United States.

Their show is constantly updated and they have released several albums under the Obama administration, including "Obama Mia."

GM Ski Club has 15 seats in the Gold Circle. This is sure to be a sellout, so get your seats early.

Cost: \$40 Members, \$45 Non-members

Contact: Sharon Rose
 rosesblooming@comcast.net



Thank you to all who participated in making our **Kensington Kayaking** event, held on Saturday, July 23rd, a huge success! One of the hottest days this summer! We started out with a group of 10 enthusiastic bikers for one trip around (8+miles) the park. Then a rest in the shade while we waited for our paddle group to get through the rental line, retrieve their life jackets and paddles. We had an excellent showing of 19 paddlers (5 new to the group) joining us out on the lake. Many rented stand up boards and were happy to share the experience with others while stopping at one of the many island beaches for a swim.

- Amy Skotzke



www.gmskiclub.org

Member of the **Metropolitan Detroit Ski Council**
www.mdscski.org

Supporting Member: **US Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame**