



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

NEWS

APRIL 2017 • GMSKICLUB.ORG • FOUNDED 1957 • VOLUME LX, ISSUE IV



GM Bike Ride

Sunday, April 9 • 1:00pm
Clinton River Trail

First ride of the season (weather permitting). Meet at the Rochester Hills Library. We'll head on to the Clinton River Trail for about one hour and then return. We'll eat afterwards at Rochester Mills. All levels welcome. Cost: Your tab.

Contact: Ken, kenphillips@mail.com,
586 242-2003 (text)



It's Time For Club Officer ELECTIONS

PLEASE COME OUT AND VOTE!

If you are interested in helping the club by running for office please contact the election committee: Kathy O'Driscoll at kathyod7@comcast.net or Stan Sawicki at ssawicki@comcast.net

Current Nominees are:

PRESIDENT: Darrell Ahlberg

VICE-PRESIDENT: Joe Yoblonski

SECRETARY: June Siehda

TREASURER: Dan Boyd

Euchre Party



Saturday, April 15 • 6pm
\$15 Euchre • \$5 Party only

Our GM Euchre Parties are designed to be fun. All levels of abilities are welcome. There will be cash prizes and food will be provided. BYOB. People can come just for the party. Cards start promptly at 6:30pm. If paying at the door, cash is preferred.

Space is limited so respond early.

Give or mail payment to: Amy Skotzke,
31 W. Breitmeyer Place, Mt Clemens, MI 48043

RSVP: Amy Skotzke by April 8, amy.skotzke@gmail.com, 231-758-2198



Augie's Bar & Grill

Friday, April 21 • 6:30pm

31660 John R Rd, Madison Heights

This is a new venue for us, but with much to offer. They have a full menu, including specially seasoned burgers and Friday only all-u-can-eat whitefish fish & chips. They offer 'Bar Bingo' on

Fridays where lucky patrons can receive free drinks, plus there will be karaoke starting at 8pm.

Check them out at Augiesbar.com

RSVP: kenphillips@mail.com, 586 242-2003

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

VICE PRESIDENT: Joe Yoblonski
248-852-6561, cheffjosephy1@gmail.com

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:
open

MEMBERSHIP: Amy Skotzke
membership@gmskiclub.org

ACTIVITIES: Ken Phillips,
kenphillips@mail.com

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

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

April 9 Don Phillips

April 12 Tim Pfannes

April 16 Gary Ward

April 18 Jan Burrows

April 22 Russell Boyd

April 25 Josephine Navetta



Your Ticket To FREE Membership:



Recruit 3 new club members.

Have the new members designate you as the referring member when they sign-up – ***It's that EASY!***

SPECIAL SUMMER MEMBERSHIP

New members can join now for only \$10!

Valid now through October 1. Download a membership application from our website and mail it in with a check or sign up at any meeting or club event



**Metropolitan
Detroit
Ski
Council**

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
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www.bsaventures.com



Bernie Stevens
VP of Special Events

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi all, well 2017 keeps marching on. Already Baseball season is starting and GM Ski Club is holding its last winter indoor meeting. Its been a great year being hosted by Bahama Breeze. They gave us the Atrium Room, put us front and center with live entertainment, and provided us with some great service and great food. Please plan to join us in showing our gratitude to Bahama Breeze for being such great hosts. Starting with the May meeting we will move to our summer home at River Woods Park in Auburn Hills.



The April meeting is also Election Night. So in addition to being our final indoor meeting, it is also one of our most significant meetings of the year. In this meeting you will choose the leaders of the club for the coming year. It is not too late for you to run for office. Elected positions are President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. It is not too late to add names to the ballot. If you would like to run for office, contact either of our election committee members, Stan Sawicki or Kathy O'Driscoll. You can find more information on page one. Once the President is chosen, there will be appointments to eight different board positions. You can also let your interest be known to either the election committee or any of the people ultimately elected.

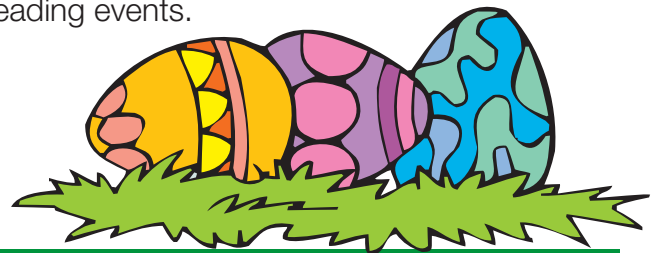
A few special words about this year's Eastern Market outing. The annual event, which will be held May 20th, will be the 30th annual outing. Yep, you read that right. The GM Ski Club has held the same annual event for 30 consecutive years. I am not aware of any event held so consistently for so long by any club. But if that isn't enough, our event has been led by the same individual, Les Skrzycki, every one of those years. So not to be a spoiler, the board is planning something special for this year's event. I hope to see you there to participate and be a part of it.

We are also looking for people to help plan this year's Summer Picnic as well as our Annual Indoor Campout at Hawk Woods. Both are great events and have long storied histories with the GM Ski Club. As such, they are great events to be a part of. If you have ideas or would like to help, we'd like to hear from you.

Before closing, I would like to thank Amy Skotzke who answered the call for coming up with ideas for events and volunteering to lead them. She will be hosting a Euchre party at her house, and she will lead two great paddling outings this summer, one at Kensington Park and one down the Clinton River. Watch the calendar for more details on these great upcoming events. With that, if you have ideas, please let us know. We want to hear from you and we need fresh blood leading events.

Cheers!!

– Darrell Ahlberg, President, GM Ski Club



Hike at Stony Creek

Sunday, April 23 • 1:00pm

Stony Creek MetroPark, 4300 Main Park Dr., Shelby Twp.

We will meet at the Stony Creek Nature Center.

It will be a moderately paced hike of about 3 to 4 miles.

We will eat afterwards. Cost: Park entrance fee, your tab at restaurant.

Contact: Stan Sawicki, 586-808-3406

Bike In Birmingham

Sunday, May 7 • 1:00pm • Shain Park - Merrill St., Birmingham

Park near Shain Park. We will depart just after 1pm. Birmingham resident Terry McGovern will lead us to Cranbrook to tour the grounds and admire the architecture. After the ride, Terry will host a BBQ at his house. Burgers, sliders and sides will be provided. Donations welcome to cover food costs. BYOB and chairs for the backyard.

Contact: Terry McGovern, text 248 496-7282



30th Annual Trek

Saturday, May 20 • 8:30am

Vivio's Restaurant

2460 Market St, Detroit

Come out and join us!

We will be meeting at Vivio's Restaurant at 8:30am. This is a popular outing and well attended. Again, being upstairs we can accommodate everyone and be ahead of the crowd. To start the morning right we will begin with double Bloody Marys and beer chasers or Mimosa's, or a really good coffee drink.

Socialize with friends, order Breakfast and enjoy! Afterwards take a slow walk, through the open air Farmers Market. There will be a lot going on and a lot to see. Enjoy a stroll through the barns of the Farmer's Market to pick up some flowers, plants, fresh fruits, vegetables or some fresh strawberries for pie or with ice cream.

Now that you have been awake for a few hours, we can think about going to the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club open house, or maybe a bike ride? We will fill you in on these events over the next two ski club meetings. Afterwards we will meet up at Jefferson Beach Marina for a BBQ, bring what want to eat and your favorite beverage. Relax at the dock with some of that chilled wine you bought mix with friends and just enjoy. It's all up to you! Let's start our summer time fun.

Please RSVP! We do need to know how many people to expect.

For more information contact: Les Skrzycki at 248-877-1794, skiorsail9@gmail.com

MDSC TRAVEL EXPO



Thursday, May 11 • 6pm – 9pm
DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Detroit

5801 Southfield Expressway, Detroit.

Ski club members are invited to talk to reps from ski resorts, plus vendors in the ski and golf industry. Free food & prize drawings.

Contact: Chris Luhrs, chris.luhrs@juno.com

Golf Scramble

Sunday, May 21 • 1pm
Myth Golf & Banquets

850 Stoney Creek Rd,
Oakland Twp

Join us for nine holes with cart.
All levels are welcome. We will eat afterwards near Tienken and Rochester Roads. Cost: Approx. \$20

Contact: Ken, kenphillips@mail.com, 586-242-2003 (text)



Tigers vs. White Sox

Sunday, June 4 • 1:10pm

\$24 members

\$26 non-members

You must sign-up by May 18 to join our group.
Tickets will be purchased on May 19.

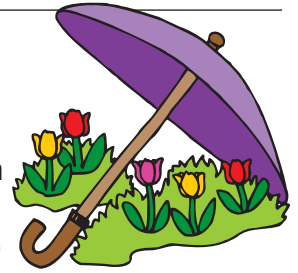
Contact: Ken Phillips, kenphillips@mail.com, call/text 586 242-2003

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. \$6-\$8 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

Sun, Apr 9 • GM Bike Ride: Clinton River Trail - Library Drive, Rochester. Meet at Rochester Hills Library (weather permitting). We will eat afterwards at Rochester Mills. Cost: Your tab at restaurant. Contact: Ken, kenphillips@mail.com, 586 242-2003 (text)

Thu, Apr 13 • GMSC Meeting & Club Elections - Bahama Breeze - 539 E. Big Beaver, Troy - Atrium Room. Time: 6:00pm. Cost: Your tab.

Sat, Apr 15 • Euchre Party at Amy's - 31 Breitmeyer Pl, Mt Clemens. Time: 6:00pm. Cost: \$15 for Euchre, \$5 for party only. Make checks to: Amy Skotzke. If paying at the door cash preferred. Space is limited so respond early. RSVP to Amy Skotzke by 4/8 at amy.skotzke@gmail.com or 231-758-2198

Fri, Apr 21 • P&G: Augie's Bar & Grill - 31660 John R Rd, Madison Hts. Time: 6:30pm. Cost: Your Tab. Karaoke starting at 8pm. RSVP: kenphillips@mail.com or text 586 242-2003

Sun, Apr 30 • Hike at Stony Creek - 4300 Main Park Dr., Shelby Twp. Time: 1pm. meet at the Stony Creek Nature Center. Cost: Park entrance fee. We will eat afterwards. Contact: Stan Sawicki, 586-808-3406, ssawicki@comcast.net

Sun, May 7 • Bike in Birmingham - Meet at Shain Park. Time: 1pm. BBQ at Terry's afterwards. Food provided, BYOB & lawn chair. Contact: Terry McGovern, text at 248-496-7282

Thu, May 11 • GMSC Meeting - Tailgate theme - River Woods Park, 300 N Squirrel, Auburn Hills. Time: 6pm, Cost: \$5 Members, \$7 Non-Members. Wear favorite sports team apparel. Burgers, hot dogs, sides, plus beer, soft drinks and water. Donations of dessert items are always appreciated.
• **MDSC Travel Expo** - DoubleTree Hotel Detroit - 5801 Southfield Expressway, Detroit. Time: 6pm-9pm, No Cost. Free food & prize drawings. Contact: Chris Luhrs chris.luhrs@juno.com

Sat, May 20 • 30th Annual Eastern Market Trek - 2460 Market St, Detroit. Time: 8:30am at Vivio's Restaurant. Cost: Your Tab. RSVP to: Les Skryski, 248-877-1794, skiorsail9@gmail.com

Sun, May 21 • Golf Scramble - Myth Golf & Banquets, 850 Stoney Creek Rd, Oakland Twp. 1pm. Cost: Approx \$20. 9 holes with cart. Conact: Ken, kenphillips@mail.com, 586-242-2003

Sun, Jun 4 • Tigers Baseball - Comerica Park. Game starts at 1:10pm. Cost: \$24 members, \$26 non-members. Must sign-up by May 18 to join our group. Contact: Ken Phillips, kenphillips@mail.com.

Thu, Jun 8 • GMSC Meeting - Cheeseburger in Paradise theme - River Woods Park, 300 N Squirrel, Auburn Hills. Time: 6pm, Cost: \$5 Members, \$7 Non-Members. Announcements 7:15pm.

Sat, Jul 15 • Pool Party - 16922 Mary Wood Dr, Macomb. Time: 2:30pm-11pm. Cost: A vegetable, salad, or fruit/dessert dish to pass or a donation of \$5 members / \$7 guests. You must RSVP. Contact: Ken, kenphillips@mail.com, 586 242-2003 (text)

Jul 28-30 • Camping Weekend - Hadley Metamora Recreation Area. Details coming soon.

Sat, Aug 5 • GMSC Annual Picnic - Stony Creek Metropark. Details coming soon.

Don't forget – there are a lot more great event photos on our website! www.gmskiclub.org



Steamboat Ski Trip March 2017

By Dave Norkus

Twenty-four adventure seeking ski club travelers looking to capture the best ski vacation possible arrived in Steamboat with the sun shining and warm temperatures. The condos were near the lifts and had wonderful views of the mountain. We knew it was a good start. At the beer/wine and food party that Dave Duvali arranged, they surprised us with free ski/boot storage at the gondola all week... now that was fantastic.

Steamboat got its name by the hot springs blowing its steam several times a day and the settlers said it sounded like the Mississippi steamboats going down the river. So of course a band of us had to check out those natural hot springs at Strawberry Park. We chartered a small bus to take us up the mountain to see this oasis of the Rockies. It had three large pools from 100 to 106 degrees with the cold Yampa River running alongside. After rejuvenating in the mineral baths, we sent the girls to jump in the cold river bath to check it out, the temp was about 35 degrees. We promised free beer to the cold plungers and they believed us, go figure. It was a beautiful mid-week departure from the rigors of adventure skiing, and we have the pictures to prove it.

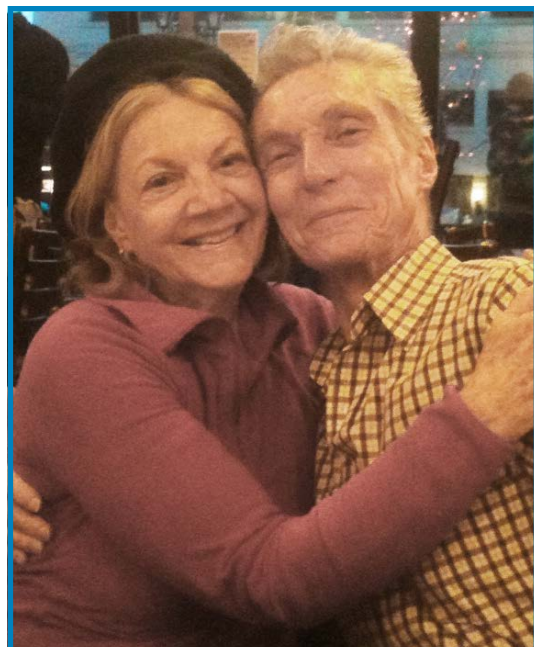
On the last night, we all met at the gondola for a buffet dinner on top of the mountain. The band played country/rock and they were very good. We saw the sunset from the 9,000 ft. elevation, what a sight. The food, including great deserts, was delicious and we closed the place down because we didn't want to leave. It was a spectacular finish to the trip.





Steamboat Ski Trip





Steamboat Ski Trip





Steamboat Ski Trip





Mardi Gras Party

It was the party that was!! The GM Ski Club Mardis Gras party was an absolute blast. So many costumes. So many colors. So many beads. So much great food.

The party featured all of the above, a classic slide show with 100's of Mardi Gras pictures, a whole ton of Mardi Gras zydeco music. We also had great props and decorations which made for some great photo ops, fabulous karaoke entertainment, and a whole lot of dancing. It was one of those parties that is hard to summarize in the little space available here. You simply had to be there to appreciate it. I hope you enjoy the pictures shown here depicting the great fun.

But the real secret to the parties success was the generous help afforded by many of the people who attended the party. Amazing as it sounds, when the party was over, the kitchen was clean and most of the dishes were washed. So a great thanks to all who helped at the party and most of all, special thanks to everyone who provided such a wonderful selection of food.

It truly was a party for the ages.





Mardi Gras Party





Mardi Gras Party

Save The Date!

Pool Party

Saturday, July 15

Camping Weekend

July 28-30

Hadley Metamora Recreation Area

GMSC Annual Picnic

Saturday, Aug 5

Stony Creek Metropark

General Meetings

2nd Thursday of every month

Bahama Breeze • 6:00pm

539 E. Big Beaver, Troy - Atrium Room
(between Rochester & Livernois Roads)



www.gmskiclub.org

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

Supporting Member: US Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame