



# Cold Tales

---

Sitzmark Ski Club, P.O. Box 386 Libertyville, IL 60046 WINTER 2014

[www.sitzmarkskiclub.com](http://www.sitzmarkskiclub.com)

---

## The Prez Sez....

It's been awhile since our last newsletter and a lot has happened so I will try and keep this brief but we have a lot of exciting events and ski trips coming up. We have kicked off the 2013-2014 winter ski season. We have two great Western Ski trips Copper Mountain and Big Sky. They are both sold out but if you are interested let us know and we can add you to the waiting list. We also have a number of Midwest trips including a train trip to Welch Village and a trip to Brule. There are still spots left on both Midwest trips. In the past few years they have all been self drive trips so a train trip should be a fun change and new experience for many.

We also have a lot of fun social events planned for this year including bike trips, bar hops and holiday parties. Come on out and join the fun!

We have had a number of new members join since our newcomers meeting. Please introduce yourself when you see them at our meetings and events. Let's continue to promote the club and seek new members to build our club for the future. We continue to seek new avenues to promote the club such as Meetup and Facebook. Any other suggestions are welcome!

We are considering changes to our dues structure. In the past we had a couples/family option because it was cheaper to mail only one newsletter. Since we are now electronic we think it would be fair to charge one amount for

each member single or couple. Probably \$15 or \$20 per person. Let us know if what you think.

We are also in the process of updating our website. Take a look at the new website and let us know if you have any suggestions.

Finally, we are utilizing the Meetup.com service to list our ski trips and now also our bar hops and other social events. Please sign up for Meetup and register there for our events. This should really help our exposure and generate new member signups. The more people we have on Meetup the more popular our events appear to new potential members.

Thanks to all our members for their support and good skiing!

Dave Barboro, President

## News From our Membership Chairman

Sitzmark now has a "meetup" group. We encourage all club members to sign up at <http://www.meetup.com/> .. The information about our meetup events is listed is also described in other club resources. Meetup lets you see who's participating and tells your friends that you're participating. Also last minute event details/changes can easily be shown here.

Glenn

## INDIANHEAD 2013



Back in January, a group of 39 Sitzmarkers took the journey back to Indianhead over MLK Jr. weekend. A total of 31 adults and 8 kids in all. Our travel day was Friday the 18th and the weather was in our favor for the drive. However, the Barboro's (Dave, Betty, son Kevin and his GF Jess), encountered a blow-out only 1 hour into their trip. Despite having brand new tires on their car, a nasty foreign object was the cause of their set-back. Luckily they were close to a Wal Mart and were able to get back on the road again in no time. Betty mentioned that Dave was as cool as a cucumber through the whole thing.

Most of the group arrived at Indianhead around the 5:00 hour. The early birds being the Hansen horde. Lynda & Greg's group was 9 in all, and they arrived around 3 ish. The Gredell clan was missing their youngest, Andy, this trip so Steve, Jackie and her man Josh came up with Al & Alouise. I was traveling up in Laurie's car along with Carol J. and Gina. We arrived around 7ish. The Zettlemoyer family (Karl, Cindy, Eric & Brian), Amber, her man Randy, son Derek and Dean Avgerin's family (wife Lorrie, oldest son Brien and daughters Stacy & Nikki) all arrived safe & sound. The remaining couple to arrive was Dan & Marlo. As most trip leaders know, there is usually 1 or 2 people that have issues arise at the last minute. This trip was no different. I was

informed about a week before the trip by Paul Papineau, that his wife Carol had to stay behind to help with "mom" after some health issues. At the last minute, his son-in-law, Rob was able to fill his wife's spot. Great! Their road trip started late with the 3 of them arriving way late but they arrived safely! (Paul's mom was OK as we heard later the next day). I had 4 lodge rooms and 6 2/BR trail side condos to accommodate our whole group.

Being arrival night means party night to those in the know. This was news to the kids in the Hansen condo when their unit was determined to be party central for the night. Mom & Dad seemed to have no qualms about the crazy conversations and boisterous voices, but the youngest two said it was too loud and went upstairs to try and escape! Ahhh... how life is funny! One big reason we descended on the Hansen's unit was to celebrate Alouise's birthday in style. Lynda's professional baker/daughter made an amazing cake for the occasion. Wow! It looked too good to eat....but of course, we ate cake! I bought some last minute BDay gifts for Alouise while on the trip up. During a pit stop at a gas station, I spotted a gargantuan summer sausage (length & girth!), along with some average sized beef sticks, some Glade room freshener and a very humorous card. For those who were not on a past trip, the joke is that while having a Bloody Mary at the bar, Alouise left her yummy sausage behind and was so distraught that she announced it over her 2-way radio, "I left my sausage back at the bar!" Maybe you had to be there and hear her woeful cry to truly understand her anguish, but it was funny. SOOOO....I figured if the sausage was big enough, there would be NO WAY she'd forget it again.

I won't explain the Glade freshener in this article, you'll just have to ask her if you don't know already. ;) The Big Ass Sausage (BAS) was passed around the unit and someone started a game of Name-the-Sausage (kind of like the Name the Pig game at our pig Roasts). There were some really funny and creative submissions and unfortunately (or fortunately), I can't remember them all. Again, I cannot disclose the "weiner" in this publication. Ask Alouise or me what her weiner/winner was.

After a long night of card games, drinking, joking, cake & munchies and more drinking, people started to wrap-it-up and head to their units to get some sleep. Fun was had by all....except the teenagers who said we were too loud! LOL!

Saturday morning arrived and it was cold..of course. It's the U.P. in January! Everyone got a good start despite a long night. Well...almost everyone. Seems Paul's grandson, PJ spent most of the night barfing (on Paul!) , but little PJ's excitement to get out and ski helped him miraculously heal. Due to a slow start to snowfall this season, only 90% of the runs were open. That still left quite a bit of area to play on, which we did. A few took advantage of our group discounts for lessons and/or rentals. It's a great incentive to improve or learn...at any level, skiers or boarders and not just for beginners or kids. We met for our amazing feast (AKA our group lunch) at 11:30 inside. We had tables set up with actual linen and flatware and then an area with a huge assortment of fixins for sandwiches, 2 kinds of homemade soups and pasta salads, fresh fruits, salad and 2 kinds of homemade desserts. OMG! It's a miracle anyone could zip up their pants after this bountiful buffet. With the help of Betty, we wrangled up the group to take our group photo before getting back out on the mountain. Weather and snow conditions

were really nice and I think most everyone stayed out until at least 3ish, some until 4:00 when the lifts closed.

Back at our rooms, many of us got ourselves ready for the resorts annual Brewski Festival at the main lodge bar (Dudleys Saloon). Saturday night's weather was getting really nasty with severe wind and snow falling & blowing making visibility a joke. It was close if not a blizzard. Sadly this resulted in a lower turnout for the festival and the bar was not too crowded. For those of us staying at the slope side condos, we had to either carpool over or take the resort's shuttles. The four groups that were staying at the lodge only had to walk across the parking lot, but even that was treacherous! It was so bad in fact, that Karl Z and his family who were trying to drive into town for dinner, had to turn around due to very scary conditions. For the rest of us, once inside the bar we commenced to redeeming our drink tickets for samplings of a great variety of domestic & international craft beers. We had our fun while the wind & snow howled outside until it was time to leave. The staff had warned all of us that NO ONE should try and walk to their condos and to please take their shuttles (or drive their cars slowly).

I was with Al, Alouise and Steve, trying to figure out who was going back with whom. Dave & Betty said they could take some back, so when Steve didn't return right away we thought he got a ride and we better get on the last shuttle (aka staffers pick-up truck). Unfortunately, Steve was NOT with Dave & Betty as we noticed as our ride pulled away into the blizzard. That meant that Steve was walking ! Upon this realization, Alouise proclaimed, "I'm a horrible mother! OMG! Poor Steve!" Al asked the driver to put out an A.P.B. for Steve as we headed back to our condos. The visibility was ZERO and all I could think of was the scene from The Shining where Jack Nicholson is found frozen in the maze! Would that be Steve's fate? Worried sick and frantic, the Gredells and I arrived back at our condos and we were about to open the condo door when the Gredells door flew open, and low and behold it was Steve!! A shocked & stunned Alouise asked, "How did you get back before us??" Steve said once he realized everyone was gone, he started walking but then he said he had to pee so bad he RAN all the way back! We all enjoyed a good (and very relieved) laugh. AL called the lodge to let the staff they could call off the rescue search. Whew!

Later on (or very early) Sat/Sun....all but two were passed out in bed. Seems our token red-headed prankster was up to some late night shenanigans, along with his accomplice the Z-man (Karl). Dan decided it would be fun to tie EVERYONE in their units by using some rope he just happened to bring on the trip. Hmmmm....Some of you may know that on this same trip a couple years ago, Dan & Marlo were rudely interrupted by our downstairs neighbors. Dan was so pissed that he decided to ensure these pests STAYED downstairs. He used some rope he had in his truck to tie their door knob to an outside ski locker door which kept them from being able to get out! They ended up calling the front desk to get out! OK...fast forward now. After a long night of drinking, Mr. Harkin decides to DRIVE to all our guests units (during this crazy blizzard mind you) and in Marlo's NEW car to boot, to start on his roping pranks.

This is where Karma comes into play. Due to the blowing snow and the state of the driver, Dan misjudged where the road was and slid into the ditch just a few yards from the condos. Realizing after a few minutes this situation would require a tow truck, the rescue mission started

early Sunday. Greg Hansen and Dave Barboro both came out to see what happened and help Dan. Well, Greg wanted to help but Dave said, "Hell no! I'm getting my camera and taking pictures of this!" By trying to help, Dan & Greg managed to only get the car MORE stuck and it almost tipped over! The rest of us who were in the condos had no idea of this situation yet, until we were having some issues trying to get out of our units due to the ROPE Wranglers (aka Dan and Karl). I managed to get out of my condo by slipping a knife through the narrow door opening, and slicing the rope. I was about to go outside when I got a call from Paul. Seems Rob caught whatever little PJ had, plus a raging hang-over..(I was told he drank EVERY drink ticket he had!), Paul said they were heading back home. Poor Paul! He arrived super late on Friday and now he was heading back early Sunday! Ugh. Oh well. At least Paul had a sense of humor about it and they all got to ski on Saturday.

After the tow truck got Marlo's car unstuck, the two of them joined the rest of us out on the slopes. With the crazy snowstorm the night before, we were greeted with calmer weather and awesome conditions. Sunday was also our Nastar race, and most of the group had signed up. Pretty much everyone that raced won a gold, silver or bronze medal. Unfortunately, my list of who won what is M.I.A.. After racing we split off skiing and boarding on our fave runs. We were on our own for lunch today so some went to the Summit bar to watch football, while myself and others had lunch (and warmed up) at the bar at the base of the lifts. Indianhead is "backwards" compared to other ski areas in that the "base area" is actually at the top of the lifts rather than at the bottom.

After a great day of skiing and boarding, many of us met up the hot tub & pool for a much needed soak and cocktailing. Ahhh...felt good. Once we were pretty pruinny, we called it a wrap and headed back to our rooms to shower and change for our club dinner at the main lodge dining room.

At 7:30 everyone was grabbing a seat at the many tables set up for our group. Dinner was buffet style. One food group that was strangely missing from our usual variety of meat, pasta, potatoes, salad and bread was the veggie medley. I mentioned it to the head cook, John, who took care of it right away. Even with a big dinner, we still had room to help eat the rest of Alouise's leftover BDay cake from Friday night.

Yum!

After dinner, many of us we're feeling pretty tired (too much hot tub?) and headed back to their rooms to relax and start packing for our departure on Monday morning. The rest of us (myself included), went to the bar/lounge area to play LCR (Left, Center,Right). We had a good game with lots of groans, exclamations and the occasional expletive. Ok maybe not so "occasional". I think we played 2 games, but yours truly was getting really, really tired and fading fast. On this rare occasion, I said my good-byes and good nights to the party group before all were ready to leave and went back to my condo. I think the rest of the group left not too much later. Seems the day took its toll on everyone.

Monday morning came and it was COLD!! Below zero cold...and windy!! Packing up was going to be done by the fast and the hearty. Laurie W's car started just fine, so she had it running

while being the “runner” for the packing. Gina, Carol and me handed off all our packed bags to Laurie. What a team!

After I settled up our check at the front desk and said our “thank yous” to manager Suzanne and staff, we were OFF!

As we headed out the driveway to the main road, we all heard a strange “pop” noise. It was Laurie’s windshield! OMG! It was so cold that due to a tiny crack already at the bottom near the wipers, the crazy cold weather and the warm interior, a long crack appeared along the base of her windshield. Luckily it was at the base and not in her line of vision. During the ride home it didn’t get worse luckily.

Another fun time was had by all at Indianhead, MI. The managers, husband & wife team of Dave & Suzanne Nyquist bend over backwards to make sure we all have fun each time we visit. Until next time,

Thank you Indiahead!

Thanks to Laurie, Gina and Carol for being my condo mates and savvy road travel companions. Thanks to Lynda & Greg for providing the party room and amazing BDay cake for Alouise.

## Chicago Week 2013 at Aspen / Snowmass by Dawn Ahlgren



On February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 28 Sitzmarkers joined 11 other CMSC clubs (total 327 people) for the Aspen/Snowmass trip. For the first time, Sitzmark stayed in Snowmass...we were very happy we made that decision! We had wonderful ski in / ski out lodging at the Interlude. We tied colorful bandanas to the fir tree at the edge of the run to help us more easily find the entrance to our lodging after skiing.

We had great conditions with fresh snow on Sunday. **Martin, Sharon, Lori, Barb,** and **Rich** took the poma lift up to the Cirque during their mountain tour. We liked the picture they took so much that **Keith, Dawn, Tom, Eileen,** and **Paul** went up there and took some more pictures. It felt like we were on top of the world! That evening, with the Academy awards playing in the background, CMSC held a cocktail reception at the Hotel Jerome in downtown Aspen. Wine and beer was flowing and we all dressed in our 'Oscar-worthy' attire.

Monday was a beautiful, sunny day! It was a perfect day for the Nastar race and mountain lunch at Snowmass. Twenty-three of our group signed up for racing, but in the end only 14 actually raced for various reasons. Overall our team ranked 3<sup>rd</sup>. Our own **Teri** came in second for fastest female by 2/100ths of a second!

On Monday night **Joe, Bill,** Teri, **Sue,** Martin, Sharon, Rich, Barb, Lori, Keith and Dawn headed back to downtown Aspen for the pub crawl. We visited the J Bar, Finnbar, Limelight, Red Onion, and 39 Degrees. Fun night!

Tuesday, more snow! We all had a great day of skiing. At the end of the day everyone headed to Sneaky's at the Snowmass Base Camp for a great Apres Ski party.

Wednesday was our free day. Lori and I went into Aspen for a fabulous massage. We met with Keith, Paul, Barb, and a few others for lunch and shopping afterwards. Others, including **Judy, Bob, Henry, Stosh, Mary, Brigid,** Teri, Sue, Martin, and Sharon opted for the 6<sup>th</sup> day of skiing and enjoyed the conditions. That night we held our club party in our condo. We ordered some great food from the Venga Venga Cantina and had a variety of beer and wine for everyone. **Glenn** and **Shirley** joined in on the festivities. At **Kathy's** suggestion, we created a Sitzmark pyramid. **Rick, Bruce, Kyle,** and Paul were the bottom row. Henry, Lori, and Stash made up the second level. Kathy and Dawn were the third level. And with a little boost from Keith, Barb made it to the top seconds before the whole thing toppled! **Jake** was our master photographer for this event. We also took some very cool pictures from the second floor looking down on the group.

On Thursday the majority of the group skied at Aspen Mountain. It was a beautiful, sunny day! Afterwards we went to the Cantina for après ski. Food and drinks were great and the Cabo Wabo girls passed shots of tequila and other giveaways.

Friday was our last day of skiing. Most of us stayed in Snowmass where we had fresh snow in the morning and plenty of sunshine in the afternoon. Teri, Sue, Rich, Keith and Dawn had a gourmet lunch at Gwyn's High Alpine (yum!). We had a tough time skiing after that....too much wine! That evening our red carpet farewell reception was held at the Westin Conference Center in Snowmass. Everyone showed up in their finest attire, especially Rick, Henry, Stash, Kyle, and Keith who showed up in their faux tuxedos! Henry had brought a 'special' tuxedo shirt for **Jenny,** but she refused to wear it (don't blame her!). The DJ spun the tunes while the crowd danced. **Carol** particularly liked the line dancing.

While we were in Snowmass, a very large ski group called The Brotherhood was also there. One afternoon **Mary Beth** was walking in the village when a female member of that group fainted and fell on her face. Mary Beth is a doctor and was able to assist until the ambulance came. It always helps to have a doctor in our midst!

On Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> our trip was over. We loaded the bus and headed back to Denver. Unfortunately, the bus stunk. The bathroom had not been emptied prior to our pick-up. People needing to use it (and it's a long drive, almost everyone needed to use it!) tied bandanas over their mouths and noses to lessen the stench. We even covered the vent on the bathroom door to try to keep the smell out. We learned the back of the bus might not necessarily be the best place to sit! Despite that, we had a fun-filled bus ride back to the airport.

Thanks to everyone who joined us on this trip. You helped make it fun for everyone. Thanks to Lori and Keith for helping me lead the trip. Hope to see all of you in Big Sky in February 2014!



### Sitzmark Board and Committee Members:

|                      |                                              |
|----------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| President            | Dave Barboro                                 |
| Vice President       | Carol Janssen                                |
| Treasurer            | Amber Timm                                   |
| Secretary            | Cindy Collins                                |
| Ski Meister/Mistress | Dawn Ahlgren (West)<br>Lori Kushar (Midwest) |
| Membership           | Glenn Betlinski                              |
| Webmaster            | Paul Schmidt                                 |
| Promotions/Publicity | Lori Kushar                                  |
| Newsletter           | Sue Peterson                                 |
| Hospitality          | Open                                         |

### Sitzmark Ski Club Meetings:

Joins us for a fun evening of socializing and event information!

Where: El Barrio Restaurant  
1122 Diamond Lake Road  
Mundelein, IL 60060

When: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday  
of each month

Time: 8:00 PM - ??

WebSite: [www.sitzmarkskiclub.com](http://www.sitzmarkskiclub.com)

Contact: Carol Janssen, VP  
Cwjanssen@aol.com