



Cold Tales

Sitzmark Ski Club, P.O. Box 386 Libertyville, Illinois 60048
www.sitzmarkskiclub.com

November 2012

The Prez Sez...

–Your Fearless Leader & Promo Gal, Lori Kushar

Greetings everyone! Winter is almost here and by now most of you have been busy signing up for winter trips, but there are still quite a few who have yet to commit. Time is ticking... The early season trip to **Breckenridge is SOLD OUT**. The **Chicago Week trip to Aspen/Snowmass has ONE SPOT open for a female**. Contact Dawn to snag this spot! The first Midwest trip is the **New Years Eve Trip to Marquette MI**. The holidays are right around the corner! So contact Alouise right away to reserve your spot for what everyone says was a blast last year! Patrick Kilbourn needs a (male) roommate. **The Indianhead trip over MLK weekend** in January has been filling up fast. Only a handful of spots are left so contact me if you're planning on signing up. Our **X-country/ Snowshoe trip is to beautiful Elkhart Lake, WI** again. It's a short 2-3 hour drive, fun, relaxing, and enjoyable weekend. No deposits needed, just call Siebkens Resort to reserve your room – then contact the trip leader, Karen Westlake. The last trip of the season is **Winter Carnival to Ski Brule, MI**, which I am running and attending. Our only **BUS trip** and the most bang-for-the-buck trip! Only \$270 gets you the whole party and ski weekend. Send your deposit(s) in by the end of November (NOW). I reserved 12 spots total for Sitzmark and we only have 2 paid with a few others not sure. After 11/30, I am cutting spots that are not sold. After 12/1/12 is pay-in-full.

For anyone not going anywhere, we have the **Sitzmark Annual Holiday Party coming up on Saturday, 12/15**. Please note that the date was changed from 12/8 since so many members would be out of town. The hosts again this year are Gary and Tari Sedlacko at their lovely home in Round Lake. See p. 2 for details. Save the date so you don't miss out on the festivities (like the infamous White Elephant gift exchange!).

Something the club has enjoyed in the past, are **X-Country/ snowshoe outings** to local forest preserves on Sundays. Our former organizer, Rick Olson, is now living in AZ and is a tad out of the way to organize. So...if anyone would like to contribute locations and organize some outings, please contact Jeanne, Dawn, and me so we can make sure the word gets out.

With all this being said, I hope everyone is getting excited for our favorite pastime. I know I am. Snow is around the corner for us, but for many out west resorts, they're already getting dumped on. Whoo-hoo!

October Bar Hop

– Jeanne Leone

Friday, October 19 a few Sitzmarkers ventured out to *Jake Moran's* in Mundelein. Owner Billy Bowes, also a Sitzmark member, made sure we had a good table and beverages appeared quickly. It is a nice place to meet friends and have a burger (they are known for them – check out *Yelp*). In attendance: **Rich Blattner, Richard and Winnie Sitt, Dave and Betty Barboro, Susan Peterson**, and myself. It was my first time there but will not be my last. We could talk without screaming and didn't go broke over the prices. Along with our yummy food, we enjoyed a few adult beverages. Since it was Susan's Birthday the weekend prior, Betty treated us to a shot – of course Lemon Drops were selected. Betty, Susan, and myself imbibed. Rich, Winnie, and I filled in the others about the New Glarus trip, there was a little *Chicago Bears* (mainly Jay Cutler) discussion, and talk about future planned ski trips. It was a nice evening out.



Please join the **Sitzmark Ski Club Group** (click to link) on Facebook! You can RSVP for events, share events with friends, view pics, and see updates of the Club!

Note: The names of Sitzmark Members are bold in each story - first instance only.



SITZMARK ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY!

Saturday • December 15, 2012 • 7:00 p.m.

Join us for Sitzmark Holiday Cheer at Gary (D.B.) & Tari Sedlacko's home.

1030 Sienna Court, Round Lake, IL

RSVP: Jeanne Leone by December 13 at 847.287.4899 or jeannel812@att.net

Club Provides: beer (domestic), some wine, water & pop, plastic ware & napkins.

Bring Your Own: hard liquor, specialty beers or wines. *Please* bring a dish to pass: appetizer, snack, main dish, or dessert! Let's be creative so we have a nice variety!

Gift Game: To participate, bring a wrapped White Elephant gift for the "Rob Your Neighbor" gift stealing game! Visit this online link for a description and rules:

www.online-game-rules.com/8g-rob-your-neighbor-or-white-elephant-rules.html

Cost: Sitzmark members, free; guests, \$5.00.

New Glarus Bike Trip

—Karen Westlake

The day before we left for our biking adventure, temps were in the 70s. Ah, I thought, it will be a beautiful and mild weekend – perfect for biking. Friday dawned raw, cloudy, and cold. With highs forecasted to be in the 40s and lows in the 30s, it was going to take a lot of muscle and fleece to pull this off. I arrived in New Glarus, put the “cows” on ice and headed to Puempel’s to await the arrival of the bikers. I had not even left the hotel, when Gina and Laurie arrived, with Martin and Sharon coming in a close second. While we all agreed it was too cold to sit outside, the warmth of the bar along with the selection at the tap proved very inviting. Around 5ish, Bill, Cindy, and Jeanne arrived so we decided to head back to the hotel to get the welcome party started. And welcome we did! Richard, Winnie, and Judy strolled in. Our group was almost complete. We laughed, visited, ate and drank indigenous until 7:30 when we decided we should stroll over to Ticino Pizzeria for dinner. We ordered our pies and pitchers when a call came in from Lori. We soon started playing “Where in the World is Lori?” While Gina tracked her via GPS, Laurie got out the big map, and soon Lori was seated at our table enjoying pizza and beer. After dinner, some took a leisurely walk back to the hotel while others hit the Sportsman bar where the Staghorn was flowing.

We hoped Saturday would arrive on the wings of sunshine and warmth, but



noooooo – cloudy, windy, and in the low, low 40s. It promised to be a day that would challenge our inner cyclists. After a hearty breakfast, some repair work on Lori’s bike, most of us donned hats and gloves. Richard proved his mettle by wearing shorts – a hearty soul to the core! After Judy bid adieu for her day trip to Monroe, eleven of us headed south on the Sugar River Trail. We had a brief delay while some went back to purchase their mandatory trail pass. Laurie set a quick pace, no doubt to help us get the feeling back in our numb bodies. We blazed onward towards Exeter Crossing Road and ultimately the Badger State Trail. Fortunately, the wind was not as bad once we reached the trail. The fall colors were muted under the cloudy skies, but spectacular nonetheless. Before we knew it the tunnel loomed

large before us. Bill’s uber-bright flashlight and Sharon’s tail light brought us through the tunnel safely –



to waiting beverages. Martin was the first to crack a cold one. We arrived in Belleville where the bank thermometer advised us it was a balmy 46 degrees! No matter, The J & M Bar beckoned. We were soon warm and enjoying hot soup and sandwiches, ice cold root beer, and other indigenous beverages. Back in the elements, we mounted our trusty steeds and were surprised to see it had warmed up to a blistering 49 degrees! As the song “We’re Having a Heat Wave” rippled through our chilled brains, we were on the trail again. The ride back was quick, except for our traditional post tunnel beer. This time all took part – no doubt because it was so much warmer outside. A big “thank you” to our beverage suppliers: Gina, Cindy, Sharon, and Laurie. Before long, we were back at the hotel, with many enjoying the hot tub or checking

(continued on p4)



New Glarus (cont.)



out the New Glarus Brewery. Richard mentioned that the hot tub was a really, really good thing. Did I mention he rode his bike in shorts?!

Our dinner reservations were not until 7pm, so everyone had a chance to kick back and relax. The restaurant at the New Glarus Hotel, had set up a large table for us in a private room. It was perfect. We were able to be ourselves and still be near the salad bar. With dinner almost over, the dessert menu tempted all, but a few chose to indulge. Richard ordered the greenest mint cake I'd ever seen – it was like a Frango mint on steroids. Lori and Gina each had a Swiss Kiss, but seeing as how this is a family publication, I won't go into details. After dinner, a few called it a night, while the rest of us hit the Sportsman where we hung out and drank with the locals. Lucky for us the bartender poured their spirits with both eyes closed. We had enough bourbon for all to enjoy. With the bourbon gone, Sharon finished her whiskey in a 'to go' cup, and off we went into the cold, cold night.

The sun, yes sun, was up before we were. After lingering over breakfast, everyone packed up and hit the road – a cold, but beautiful road. A big "THANK YOU" to: **Martin and Sharon, Jeanne, Lori, Bill and Cindy, Judy, Gina, Laurie, Richard and Winnie** for a great weekend! I'll bike and party with you guys anytime.

See you next year – Karen

Williams Ski & Patio Special Meeting

–Your Fearless Leader & Promo Gal, Lori Kushar

Our only meeting for the month of November was held on 11/7 at **Williams Ski & Patio (Haus)** in Highland Park. The doors opened at 7pm for our private function. The club provided some snacks and refreshments to enjoy while schmoozing, signing up for trips and shopping. Most of our purchases received a nice discount, courtesy of Steve, our host-with-the-most, who was on hand to provide us with great personal service and answer all our ski related questions the entire night.

At 8pm I had everyone (about 20 of us in all) gather in the equipment area of the shop for a brief meeting. Our primary discussion was about all the trips. Once I wrapped up the meeting I introduced Steve who took over to present and demonstrate the new *Fisher* boot fitting system. How new??? So new that Williams is the **ONLY** retailer to carry it in IL. Keith was the lucky guinea pig chosen to receive the royal foot treatment demo. See pictures.

Anyone who has had boot fitting problems (and who hasn't at one time or another?), could really relate to this incredible new system. Once Steve explained and showed all the production involved, it was time for Keith's feet to be custom *molded* into the boots. It took about 5-10 mins for Keith to arrive in foot Nirvana. Now, as one could assume these amazing new boots are a little higher priced – OK, much higher – than most.

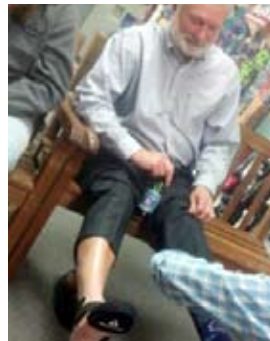
BUT for those who can afford it and can truly appreciate the benefit of having *happy* feet, NO price is too high for foot bliss. If you're still clinging to your old boots but they need some tweaking, bring them by and have Steve take a look at them. They may only need a slight adjustment to last another season or two.

After the boot fitting demo, some people had to depart. But most of us stayed to shop and talk shop. A nice perk for us Sitzmarkers is that we can receive discounts on most rentals, tune-ups, and purchases just by flashing our membership card. If you're planning on any of our upcoming trips, Steve has offered good deals on snowshoes, X-country gear, and tune-ups for skis and/or snowboards. By 10:00 the last of us were packing up and cleaning up before heading home. Please make sure to stop by Williams Ski & Patio for any and all your downhill, X-country and snowboard needs.

Thanks to everyone who attended and especially to our host, Steve.

Williams Ski & Patio

1672 Old Skokie Valley Rd • Highland Park, IL 60035
(847) 831-4300 • www.williamsskiandpatio.com



Halloween Around the Fire(s) –Susan Peterson



Todd and Marta, Carol, and Peggy.

Hostess extraordinaire, Betty, cooked up her wonderful beef stew and a delicious batch of curried butternut bisque. Many of us sipped on the yummy hot cider. Alouise brought apple pie moon shine which was a huge hit with the hot cider. Non-cider drinkers enjoyed their beverage of choice. All in attendance



Looking forward to next year's event, should the Barboros choose to continue the tradition! Thanks to both of you!

Betty and Dave Barboro welcomed Sitzmarkers once again for Halloween Around the Fire(s). In attendance were: **Al and Alouise** and their daughter **Jackie, Gary (DB) and Tari, Jeanne and Paul** – who brought his brother **Greg, Susan, Lori, Gary, Dan and Marlo, Amber and Randy, Joanie,**



brought a variety of yummy snacks and *treats* to munch on.



The trick to the chilly evening was alternating between the kitchen, to retrieve food and beverages, and shifting positions around the fire. Most of us were quite comfortable, we are skiers after all! Luckily there were 2 fire tables AND a patio heater. However, unlike LAST year, we all were very happy that it wasn't raining, and Betty was thankful nobody got wine on the kitchen ceiling, again. (Did I do that?!)



Wine Glass Painting Party and Morgan's Bar Hop

—Susan Peterson



10 of us ascended upon *Artists at Heart* in downtown Libertyville: **Jeanne, Lori, Dawn, Glenn, Alouise, Betty, Tari, Marta, Lynda, and myself.**

We each brought some snacks and our beverage of choice. Betty walked to nearby *Vive la Vine* to pick up a bottle of wine. She was very interested in drinking it rather than painting her

glasses. However after a bit of imbibing, we all were more relaxed and in painting mode. This was a really fun outing which we hope to do again next year. After we wrapped up our party we headed to *Morgan's* and met up with: **Al, Dave, Keith, Greg, and Sandra.** A great time was had by all!



2012-2013 Calendar of Events

Jeanne Leone, VP

Details will follow in weekly updates and the *Cold Tales* newsletters. **NOTE: some dates have changed or items added since the last newsletter and are indicated in RED.** Mark your calendars and watch for more events to come! Some trips and/or events can be paid for via VISA or MC from our website: www.sitzmarkskiclub.com

Dec 5 (Wed)	SITZMARK MEETING – 8:00 pm at El Barrio lounge
Dec 6-10	Western Ski/Board Trip – Breckenridge CO – SOLD OUT
Dec 15 (Sat)	Holiday Party – Hosts the Sedlackos, Round Lake
Dec 19 (Wed)	SITZMARK MEETING – 8:00 pm at El Barrio lounge
Dec 29 - Jan 1	New Years Eve Trip – Marquette MI
Jan 2 (Wed)	SITZMARK MEETING – 8:00 pm at <i>El Barrio</i> lounge
Jan 16 (Wed)	SITZMARK MEETING – 8:00 pm at <i>El Barrio</i> lounge
Jan 18-21	MLK Jr. Weekend Trip – Indianhead MI
Jan 25 - Feb 2	CMSC European Trip – St. Anton, Austria
Feb 6 (Wed)	SITZMARK MEETING – 8:00 pm at <i>El Barrio</i> lounge
Feb 8-10	X-Country/Snowshoe Weekend – Elkhart Lake WI
Feb 20 (Wed)	SITZMARK MEETING – 8:00 pm at <i>El Barrio</i> lounge
Feb 23 - Mar 2	CMSC Chicago Week – Aspen/Snowmass CO – ONE SPOT
Mar 6 (Wed)	SITZMARK MEETING – 8:00 pm at <i>El Barrio</i> lounge
Mar 15-17	CMSC Winter Carnival – Ski Brule MI
Mar 20 (Wed)	SITZMARK MEETING – 8:00 pm at <i>El Barrio</i> lounge

WINTER TRIPS

- **December 2012** (12/6 to 12/10/12) Breckenridge **SOLD OUT**
- **December 2012** (12/29 to 1/1/13) NYE New Years Eve Trip – Sat to Tues – Marquette MI
- **January 2013** (1/13 to 1/16/13) MLK Jr. Weekend – Fri to Mon – Destination: Indianhead, MI
- **January 2013** (1/25 to 2/2/13) CMSC Europe trip to St. Anton, Austria
- **February 2013** (2/8 to 2/10/13) Fri to Mon – X-Country/Snowshoe Destination: Elkhart Lake, WI
- **February 2013** (2/23 to 3/2/13) Sat to Sat – CMSC Chicago Week to Aspen/Snowmass, CO **ONE SPOT**
- **March 2013** (3/15 to 3/17/13) Fri to Sun – CMSC Winter Carnival at Ski Brule, MI

Sitzmark Board

President	<i>Lori Kushar</i>
Vice President	<i>Jeanne Leone</i>
Secretary	<i>Dawn Ahlgren</i>
Treasurer	<i>Keith Schniering</i>
Membership	<i>Glen Betlinski</i>
Newsletter	<i>Susan Peterson</i>
Reg. VP for CMSC	<i>Charlotte Bader</i>
Skimeister	<i>Dawn Ahlgren</i>
Webmaster	<i>Carol Jannsen</i>

Membership Update

– *Glenn Betlinski, Membership*

There will be at least 70 paid Sitzmark Members before the Breckenridge trip. This is an increase of 6% over each the last 2 seasons! Considering that most clubs are losing members (some substantial) – our increase represents a great achievement of our club's creative leadership and activity/event/trip contributors.

32 Women
38 Men
17 Families

Exercises for Ski Season

Ski season is here. The following is a list of exercises to help you prepare:

- Soak your gloves and store them in the freezer after every use.
- Fasten a small, wide rubber band around the top half of your head before you go to bed each night.
- If you wear glasses, begin wearing them with glue smeared on the lenses.
- Throw away a hundred dollar bill, now.
- Find the nearest ice rink and walk across the ice 20 times in your ski boots carrying two pairs of skis, accessory bag and poles.
- Pretend you are looking for your car.
- Sporadically drop things.
- Place a small but angular pebble in your shoes, line them with crushed ice, and then tighten a C-clamp around your toes.
- Buy a new pair of gloves and immediately throw one away.
- Secure one of your ankles to a bed post and ask a friend to run into you at high speed.
- Go to McDonald's and insist on paying \$12.50 for a hamburger.
- Be sure you are in the longest line.
- Clip a lift ticket to the zipper of your jacket and ride a motorcycle fast enough to make the ticket lacerate your face.
- Drive slowly for five hours - anywhere - as long as it's in a snowstorm and you're following an 18 wheeler.
- Fill a blender with ice, hit the pulse button and let the spray blast your face.
- Leave the ice on your face until it melts.
- Let it drip into your clothes.
- Dress up in as many clothes as you can and then proceed to take them off because you have to go to the bathroom.
- Slam your thumb in a car door. Don't go see a doctor.
- Repeat all of the above every Saturday and Sunday until it's time for the real thing.

Sitzmark Ski Club Meetings

Join us for socializing and event information!

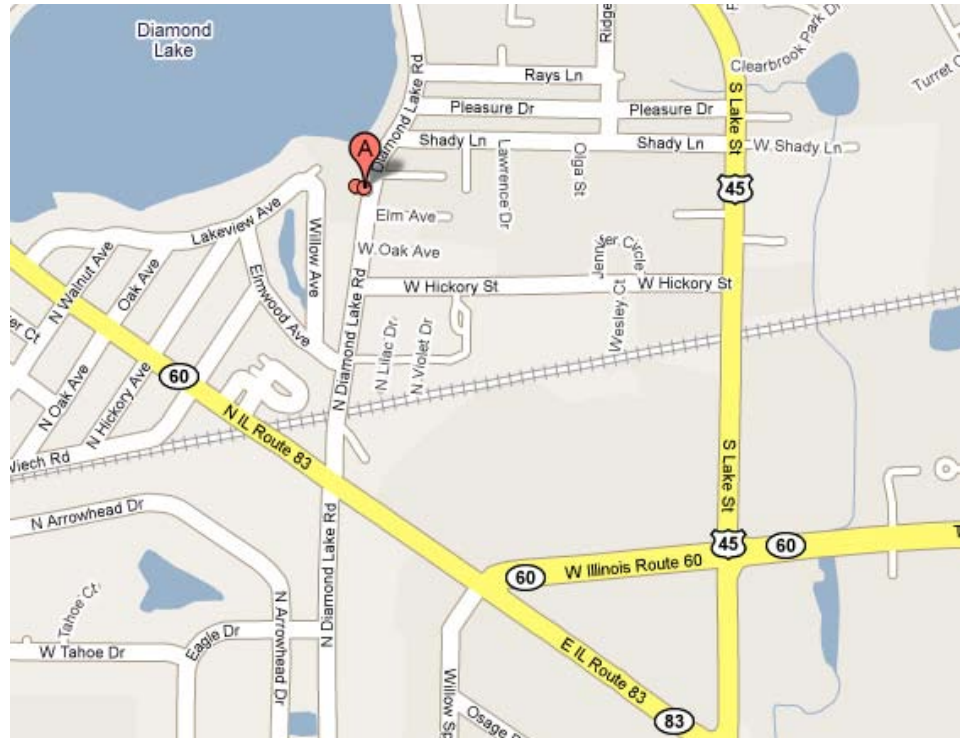
Where: El Barrio
1122 Diamond Lake Rd
Mundelein, IL 60060

Day: 1st Weds: June-August;
1st & 3rd Weds:
Sept-May

Time: 8:00 p.m.

Web Site: www.sitzmarkskiclub.com

Contact: Jeanne Leone, VP
jeannel812@att.net



Sitzmark Ski Club
PO Box 386
Libertyville IL 60048

To:
