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# OMAHA SKI CLUB



Volume 1 Issue 4  
April, 2006

## Wrapping Up Ski Season...but not the fun!

It's hard to believe, but Spring is finally here! It was an unusually mild winter in the Midwest. Yet, many ski areas saw record setting snow. As Spring begins, the Omaha Ski Club is wrapping up another successful season of great ski trips. The season started off with a drive out trip to Loveland over New Years weekend. Next we sent 32 members, our biggest trip of the year, to Copper Mountain for our annual get together with the Flatland Ski Association. We partied, raced, ate well and ate lots of cheesecake (some more than others). Our next trip took 18 to grand Jackson Hole, Wyoming on a fly out trip where we joined with the Huntsville (Alabama) Ski Club for a fun week of great skiing. The last group just returned from Aspen where we joined 400 members of the Chicago Metropolitan Ski Council.

Look for lots of fun, with many social activities planned over the summer months before gearing up for the 2007 ski year. Ben's bike rides on Sunday morning have begun. This is a great way to stay in shape (or get in shape!) during the off season for the physical demands of skiing. The annual election party is scheduled for Sunday - May 21st with a barbecue planned at Lake Zorinsky in one of their picnic areas. Details will be posted on the OSC website.

As we wrap up this season and reflect on how it went, I can't help but think that we owe a very emphatic "thank you" to **Ron Bechdolt**. Ron put a great deal of time and effort into organizing our trips. We all benefited from his past experience organizing trips. To accommodate members' wishes, there are a lot of moving parts involved to offer great trips at as low a cost as possible. Things must all come together for smooth running trips – for that we say "Thanks Ron!"

Best Regards,  
**Andrea McMahon**, OSC President



### **April / May 2006 Events**

**April 25 (Tue)** Ethnic Dinner at Edelweiss German Restaurant in Bellevue.  
2403 Towne Centre Dr. Reservations at 7:00pm.

RSVP to Sally Hammond 493-6056 / aspendream@cox.net by Sunday April 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**May 2 (Tue)** Board Meeting at Wing Stop, 120<sup>th</sup> and Blondo.  
7:00pm. All members welcome.

**May 21 (Sun)** Election Picnic at Zorinsky Lake (156th & F Street)  
Bike Ride or Walk at 3:00pm

**CHECK THE OSC WEBSITE CALENDAR REGULARLY FOR EVENT UPDATES.**



## 2006 ELECTION PARTY PICNIC

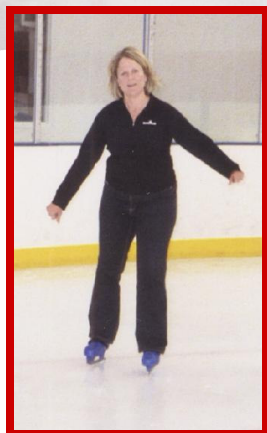
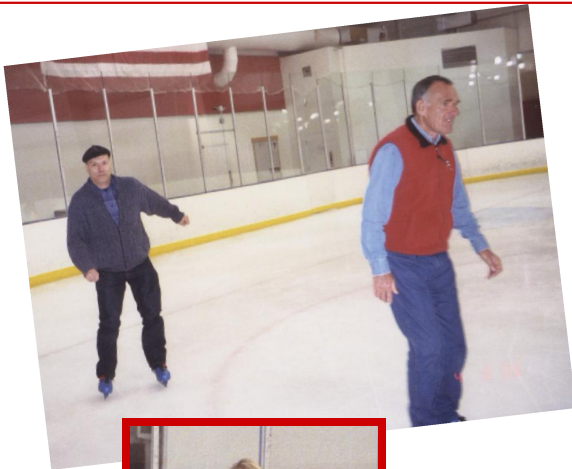
### ZORINSKY LAKE Don't Miss It!

On Sunday, May 21st the club will hold its annual picnic to elect new Officers for the 2006-2007 season. The picnic is at Zorinsky Lake (156th & F Street). OSC will provide and prepare burgers and brats, while members are encouraged to bring a covered dish (aka - pot luck) and your favorite non-alcoholic beverage (city parks do not allow alcohol).

Events will begin at 3pm with a bike ride or walk around the lake. We'll fire up grills after the ride/walk around 4pm. Feel free to bring sail boats, canoes, wind-surfing boards or no-wake pontoons to share with the other club members.



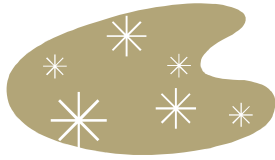
More Information Coming in May. Watch for the next newsletter.



**We're not just skiers,  
we're darn good ice-skaters too!  
Just wait till we get our bikes and roller-blades out!**

**Omaha Ski Club—Not just skiing & snowboarding.**

**Check the OSC website for year-long activities often!**



## Awesome Aspen as seen & told by Ben Novograd (3-25 to 4-1)

Three skiers – **Pat Connelly**, **Ben Novograd**, and **Mark Storz** – attended the Chicago Metropolitan Ski Council (CMSC)'s trip to Aspen. There were a total of 471 skiers from 17 clubs. Two of us (Pat and Ben) arrived in Aspen on Saturday, the 25<sup>th</sup> after an uneventful 12-hour drive from Omaha.

On Sunday, we attended a tasty but crowded welcome breakfast set up by CMSC. The weather turned nasty, with heavy snow and strong winds so after breakfast, we skied the best area for such circumstances – Buttermilk. That mountain's low elevation and easy terrain was most suitable for the near-whiteout conditions. During the morning, we explored all parts of Buttermilk, including the eastern Tiehack section. The weather cleared around noontime, so we took the shuttle to Aspen (Ajax) mountain for the afternoon and skied there the rest of the day. The high winds were still somewhat troublesome but the snow quality was excellent.

That evening, we returned to the Buttermilk base for a CMSC welcome party featuring cake, ice cream, wine and beer. The next day, Monday the 27<sup>th</sup>, we took the shuttle to Snowmass for the first of two CMSC ski races. Mark had to work that day and couldn't attend. The race consisted of two slalom-type courses. Each racer took one run on each course, and the total time of the two runs determined results. Pat was 14<sup>th</sup> out of the 49 racers in his class; Ben was 23<sup>rd</sup> out of 47. Pat won a NASTAR silver medal.

After racing in the morning, we had a tasty, free CMSC-sponsored cheeseburger lunch at Spider Sabich picnic area at the base of the race course, and then skied a variety of terrain at Snowmass the rest of the day. We took advantage of excellent weather, sunny with light winds, by riding the Cirque platter pull lift to the top of Snowmass and skiing down the Cirque Headwall. Monday night we attended a CMSC pub crawl through various bars in downtown Aspen. The most noteworthy establishments were the J and Library bars in the Jerome Hotel and the new "39" techno bar in the Sky hotel.

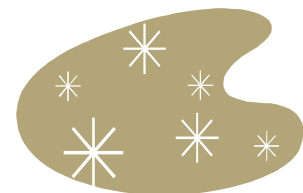
Mark arrived in Aspen early Tuesday morning. The weather continued to be mostly sunny and pleasant, so we took the shuttle to Aspen (Ajax) mountain to ski higher terrain. We attended a fun, CMSC after-ski party at Belly-up, a local nightclub near the Aspen bus station, and followed it with dinner and drinks in downtown Aspen.

On Wednesday, the weather turned snowy and windy again. We returned to Snowmass, but could only ski the middle and lower parts of the mountain due to lift closures and difficult conditions higher up. We visited the rarely-used Two Creeks base area at the far east side of the mountain and also stopped by the Campground base area on the far west side. Wednesday night, we continued to sample the bars and restaurants in downtown Aspen. Pat had been to Aspen many times and knew which establishments provided good value for the money. Thanks Pat!

We took the shuttle to Aspen Highlands on Thursday morning, for the second CMSC races. The weather was snowy and foggy which delayed races. Eventually, all three of us raced; Pat was 15<sup>th</sup> out of about 50 racers in his class, Mark was 24<sup>th</sup> and Ben was 27<sup>th</sup> out of 50 racers in their class. Pat won a second NASTAR silver medal and Mark and Ben each won bronze. The weather cleared enough so Mark could ski on the double-diamond terrain. Pat and Ben sampled single-diamond runs and one or two doubles. We were able to use the mountain's new "Deep Temerity" lift.

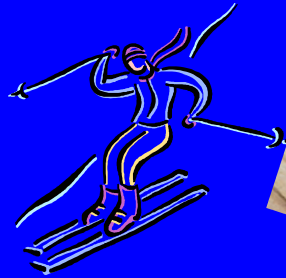
Friday we spent a third day at Snowmass. The weather turned sunny and mild again, and we were able to ski all of the area. Mark and Pat skied the "Possible Gully" double-diamond chute, on which Mark had done a yard sale fall on a previous trip. Pat and Ben took the Cirque platter pull to the top and skied Roberto's and Lower Ladder to the area's base at the end of the afternoon. We finished off with live music at the Cirque slope side bar. That evening, we attended the CMSC awards banquet at the St. Regis Hotel ballroom in downtown Aspen. Since this year was CMSC's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, lots of people wore silver outfits. The banquet featured a creamy chicken breast main course, free red and white wine, and an unusual combination of cheesecake, thin chocolate and raspberries and blackberries for dessert, following by dancing to the sounds of a local DJ.

The next morning Pat and Ben left early for the return trip to Omaha. Mark left a little later for the 4-hour drive back to Colorado Springs after buying new skis in Aspen.





## Postcards from Aspen



### Non-Sponsored Memorial Day weekend Ski trip - May 26-29, 2006

Nine out of the past ten years, **Ben Novograd** and **Mark Storz** have set up a trip to Arapahoe Basin, Colorado on Memorial Day weekend. This is not a club sponsored trip but it's worth a mention to all ski aficionados.

Skiing on Memorial Day weekend has advantages:

- Snow conditions can be surprisingly good. The lower part of the mountain can get slushy but the upper portion often has powder.
- Crowds and lift lines are almost nonexistent.
- Most of the mountain is open due to its high altitude (10 to 12 thousand feet) and northern exposure.
- Lodging and lift tickets are relatively cheap. We're staying at the new Arapahoe Inn motel near Keystone, about 6 miles away. They have rooms with two double beds each. The motel has an outdoor hot tub. Cost will be about \$195 per person for 3 nights lodging and 3 days lift tickets (combined price).
- Frostbite is not a problem. The probability of hypothermia is also reduced.
- The attitude is relaxed and laid back. No glitz, glamour or pretentiousness. Just skiing and snowboarding.
- Local wildlife comes out of hibernation. Skiers and snowboarders may see mountain squirrels, marmot (mountain woodchuck), chipmunks, or even a fox. Last year, we saw a herd of 18 mountain goats near the top of the mountain.
- This year, the ski area is sponsoring a "beach party" with live music and the 5th annual brewpubs festival!!!

**Contact Ben if you're interested in some really great springtime skiing — 291-5704**



## Jackson Hole Wyoming—a Western Wonder By Merry Johnson

Jackson Hole welcomed 18 Omaha Ski Club members, where they discovered its reputation is “big mountain skiing”. We experienced sun, clouds, snow and wind, making the week challenging and entertaining.

If you didn't like the terrain or weather today, just wait until tomorrow!

We shared the motel and mountain with the Huntsville, AI Ski Club with many new friends. Our motel, the 49er, spoiled us with its warm western hospitality. After our first day of skiing, they hosted a welcome wine and cheese party where we shared the days events with the Huntsville Club followed by a pizza supper. The motel's complimentary breakfast turned out to be more of a buffet, where many mastered the making of a Belgian waffle!

Each day began with a short bus ride to the mountain village. We enjoyed one of the last tram rides up the mountain as the tram will be retired after this season. The view at the top and the choices back down were spectacular. The mountain offers many bowls brimming with cowboy powder and boasts steep wide open runs. Many tried other areas with a “not so fun” ending - surviving it all anyway. A few lucky skiers experienced the “moose siting” in the middle of a ski run. He stuck around for a few photos before “walking” on. The lunch rendezvous was at Casper's mid-mountain. Our “team” occupied a table in shifts, so we met coming and going while exchanging news of good runs and tales of terror! Après ski most days was at the famous “Mangy Moose” a famous Teton Village bar brimming with end of the day skiers bragging about the day's highlights.

As the 4:30 P.M. bus bell rang, our next stop was one of the hot tubs at the 49er— the big question being indoor or outdoor. This is where all the pains and aches of the day were worked out while participating in some good club fellowship.

Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, provided a day of special celebration. It was **Ruth Rahn's** 75<sup>th</sup> birthday. She was our birthday queen! A dinner party was planned at the Red Pepper Grill. Everyone attended and showered Ruth with good wishes, cards and balloons. We all hope she enjoyed her day and wish her many more (secretly hoping we all grow up to be just like her!)

After 3 days of skiing at Jackson Hole Resort, 11 of us found ourselves on a bus ready to experience a day at Grand Targhee. A BIG thank you to Allan for breakfast on the bus. With an early morning, front door pickup, the bus dropped off at the base of Grand Targhee 15 minutes before lifts opened. It looked like an awesome playground, but before many of us even got up the lift, clouds blew in and you couldn't see the difference between the snow and the clouds! After fumbling down a couple of runs—the clouds blew away and opened the door for a great day of skiing! Many thought it was the best snow of the week. We definitely figured out the meaning if the mountain's nickname “Grand Foggy”.

Thursday night, we were invited to a big game BBQ, along with our friends from Huntsville, as both clubs were “return guests” of the 49er Motel. Steve, the owner, said it had been a tradition of the motel for a long time and was also a good excuse to hunt. They served a barbecued elk sandwich and trimmings which were very tasty.

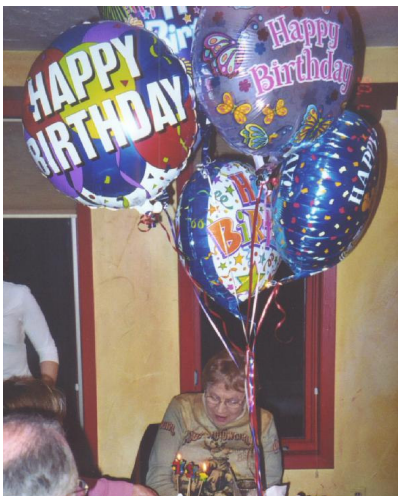
Most nights found us gathered at the Million Dollar Cowboy Bar, a legendary establishment where we were considered locals by the end of the week (No cover charge)! We enjoyed the live band, experienced the dance floor, tried the saddle bar stools and found our favorite beverages. Oh, what a place! A few of us even discovered if you stay late enough, you can chase a herd of wolves—no elk—off main street on your way home!!

Jackson Hole Resort held it all out there for us. It was another exciting chapter in our log book of great places to ski and share with good friends! Happy Ski Trails!!





## JACKSON HOLE, WYOMING



**Birthday Queen Ruth  
75 Wonder Years!**

### Talk Ski Talk

**ski bum:** a person who takes a low paying ski job at a ski resort to watch other people with high paying jobs ski.

**ski school:** where beginners are turned into menaces.

**the snowplow:** a skiing position in which the tails of the skis are pushed into a V-shape and the insides are edged. This is usually the first maneuver beginners are taught. From there they learn more complicated maneuvers like the Snowsit, the Snowfall and the Tipscross followed by the ever popular Faceplant.

**snow:** a form of precipitation that usually occurs three weeks prior to and the morning of your departure from your ski vacation.

**Stizmark:** a German word for the imprint left in the snow made by a falling skier.

**Stiz-remark:** an Anglo-Saxon word that can be heard by a fallen skier.

**Ski Patrol:** a group of trained, experienced volunteers or professionals, wearing distinctive parkas with crosses, who are responsible for the maintenance of safety, the elimination of dangerous conditions, and the treatment of injuries at a ski area. A note to skiers: although members of the ski patrol are prepared to respond instantly in any emergency, a broken hot tub is not considered life threatening.

**OMAHA SKI CLUB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION  
JUNE 2006 - MAY 2007**

MEMBERSHIP STATUS: NEW \_\_\_\_\_ RENEWAL \_\_\_\_\_ FAMILY \$25 \_\_\_\_\_ SINGLE \$22 \_\_\_\_\_

***MEMBER INFORMATION - - - PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

For family membership, list all dependent minors.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

If new member, how did you hear about the club?

\_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE:** BY SIGNING THIS APPLICATION I RELIEVE THE OMAHA SKI CLUB, INC. (OSC) OF ANY RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACCIDENT OR INJURY I INCUR WHILE PARTICIPATING IN ANY OSC ACTIVITIES. I ALSO CERTIFY THAT I AM OF LEGAL DRINKING AGE IN THE STATE OF NEBRASKA.

**SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Must be signed and dated)

[OSC USE ONLY] MEMBERSHIP NO \_\_\_\_\_ BD \_\_\_\_\_ TR \_\_\_\_\_ NL \_\_\_\_\_

**Print this page and mail along with membership dues to:**

**Omaha Ski Club  
PO Box 3104  
Omaha, NE 68103-0104**

## OSC Board of Directors

### PRESIDENT

Andrea McMahon.....553-7620 (h)  
[president@omahaskiclub.org](mailto:president@omahaskiclub.org)..361-2021 (w)

### VICE PRESIDENTS

Ron Bechdolt.....498-8969 (h)  
[vp-trips@omahaskiclub.org](mailto:vp-trips@omahaskiclub.org)

Sally Hammond.....493-6056 (h)  
[vp-activities@omahaskiclub.org](mailto:vp-activities@omahaskiclub.org)

### SECRETARY

Ben Novograd.....291-5704 (h)  
[secretary@omahaskiclub.org](mailto:secretary@omahaskiclub.org)

### TREASURER

Phil Bintz.....712-483-2668 (h)  
[treasurer@omahaskiclub.org](mailto:treasurer@omahaskiclub.org)

[www.OmahaSkiClub.org](http://www.OmahaSkiClub.org)

Moving? Change of Email?

Notify Steve Grunberg

## OSC Committees

### MEMBERSHIP

Steve Grunberg.....319-1349 (h)  
[membership@omahaskiclub.org](mailto:membership@omahaskiclub.org)

### NEWSLETTER

Steve & Linda Grunberg.....319-1349 (h)  
[newsletter@omahaskiclub.org](mailto:newsletter@omahaskiclub.org)

### RACE

Phil Bintz.....712-483-2668 (h)  
[race@omahaskiclub.org](mailto:race@omahaskiclub.org)

### PUBLIC RELATIONS

Linda Grunberg.....319-1350 (h)  
[marketing@omahaskiclub.org](mailto:marketing@omahaskiclub.org)

### FSA DIRECTOR

Craig Larson.....992-6997 (h)  
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### OSC WEBMASTER

Ben Novograd.....291-5704 (h)  
[webadmin@omahaskiclub.org](mailto:webadmin@omahaskiclub.org)

Visit the OSC photo  
album for more trip and  
party photos.  
[www.omahaskiclub.org](http://www.omahaskiclub.org)



Never let it be said that the  
Omaha Ski Club doesn't know how  
to party! Take a look at this  
plate of Cajun food from the  
March Ethnic Dinner Night  
at Mother's on Saddle Creek!



P.O. BOX 3104  
OMAHA, NE 68103-0104