



## April 2019 Update

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

### Ballots to be sent during the first week of May

The ballots for the 2019-2020 Omaha Ski Club board election will be sent via regular first-class mail about May 5th. They can be brought to the May 19th election party or mailed in to: Omaha Ski Club, P.O. Box 3104, Omaha, NE 68103. Mailed-in ballots need to arrive at the club's P.O. box no later than Saturday, May 18th.

### Time to renew your membership...

In accordance with Article II, section 4.C. of our bylaws, membership applications received will now be valid through the 2019-2020 season, until May 31, 2020. Memberships increase by \$5 after September 30th. See page 8 for a membership application.

## Upcoming Events

**May 7th (Tuesday) 7:00 p.m.**

### Board Meeting

**Peony Park Hy-Vee #5, 7910 Cass St, Omaha**

At the north end of 78th St beyond Cass St. All members welcome.

**May 19th (Sunday) 5:00 p.m.**

### Election Party

**El Siebert's residence, 3215 Belvedere Blvd**

All members (new and old) welcome. Bring a side dish to share and BYOB.

**June 4th (Tuesday) 6:00 p.m.**

### Board Meeting

**Peony Park Hy-Vee #5, 7910 Cass St, Omaha**

At the north end of 78th St beyond Cass St. All members welcome.

## Renewal Members

The Omaha Ski Club welcomes the following renewal members:

Tom Cave  
Pat Connelly

**A skier's story**  
**pages 3-4**

**Utah trip**  
**pages 5-6**

**FSA river rafting trip**  
**page 7**

**Membership application**  
**page 8**

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### PRESIDENT

Phil Bintz

(402) 630-4753(H)

[president@omahaskiclub.org](mailto:president@omahaskiclub.org)

### VICE PRESIDENT TRIPS

Teri Hammon

(402) 680-0971(H)

[vp-trips@omahaskiclub.org](mailto:vp-trips@omahaskiclub.org)

### VICE PRESIDENT ACTIVITIES

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(402) 960-1995(H)

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### SECRETARY

Ben Novograd

(402) 291-5704(H)

[secretary@omahaskiclub.org](mailto:secretary@omahaskiclub.org)

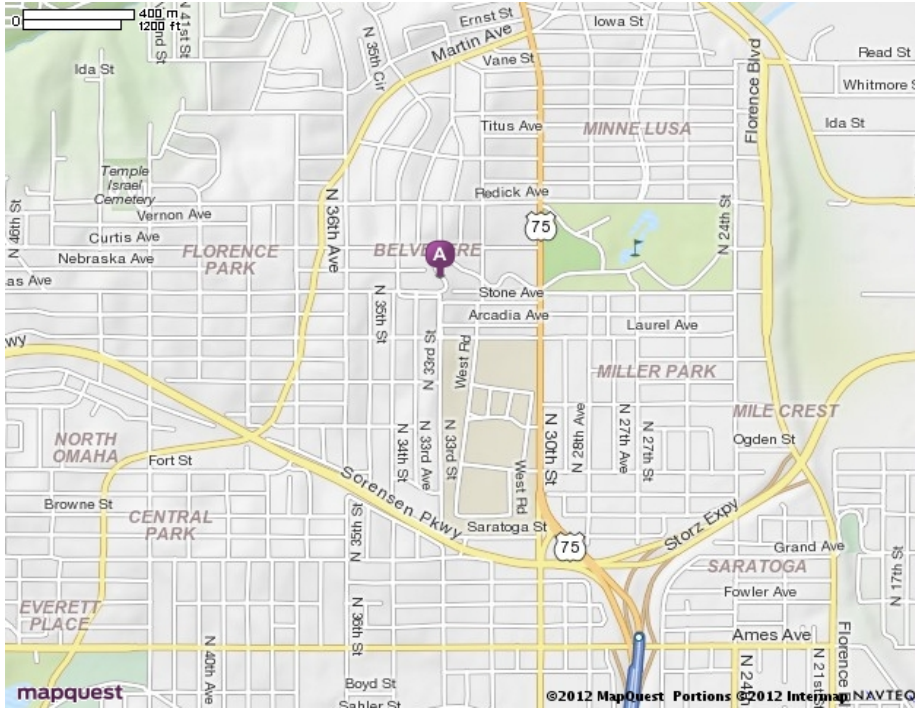
### TREASURER

Joe Reitman

(712) 574-7717(H)

[treasurer@omahaskiclub.org](mailto:treasurer@omahaskiclub.org)

**Map showing election party location  
(White-purple A) 3215 Belvedere Blvd**



**COMMITTEES**

**MEMBERSHIP**

**Dave Burden**

**(712) 527-0740(H)**

[membership@omahaskiclub.org](mailto:membership@omahaskiclub.org)

**NEWSLETTER**

**Ben Novograd**

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**RACE**

**Phil Bintz**

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**FLATLAND SKI ASSOC. Rep.**

**Teri Hammon**

**(402) 680-0971 (H)**

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**PUBLIC RELATIONS**

**Teri Hammon**

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## **My First Ski Trip: Winter Park, Colorado**

I came. I skied. I conquered.

Truth be told, the only thing conquered that day was the snowplow.

I traveled to Winter Park, Colorado with Ellen Forster and her daughter, Jordyn. Ellen introduced me to the Omaha Ski Club and told me about the Winter Park trip. I wanted to learn to ski and figured this was a great opportunity. If all else failed, I could spend my time behind my camera taking in the breathless wonder that is the snow-covered Rocky Mountains.

By the end of an entire day in ski school in Winter Park, I had mastered the snowplow. Call me a slow learner, but it took me all day to learn to dig in the edges of my skis. As it turns out, the appropriate amount of pressure and the right edge angle make all the difference. Who knew? I sure didn't!

A couple of inches of fresh-fallen snow beckoned me up the mountain. Since I mastered the snowplow, what better way to end my first [full] day skiing than to go up the mountain?? It made sense at the time. I figured I could take the greenest trail that young children appear to handle with ease. Surely, I could handle that, right?

Porcupine Trail and Village Way proved to be very challenging my first day. Not one to back down, I heeded the call – and wiped out three times on that single trip down the mountain!

After each wipe-out, I looked over to find Ellen racing towards me to ensure I was okay. Learning to ski at 44 is NOT easy on the body. My first wipe-out should have kept me down. It was a yard sale. Not sure how many times I rolled. Yes, an expletive or two was uttered. When I finally came to a stop, I laid there, waiting for my body to report what was sure to be painful injuries . . . all clear! A little banged up, but nothing broken, bleeding, twisted, or torn. Whew! Determined to learn to ski, I got back up, dusted off the snow, locked in my skis, and stated, "I'm okay. Let's try this again."

Two more wipe-outs – one being an uncomfortably close call across the fall line in deep powder with two trees! A torn fingernail, a swollen knee, and nearly half an hour later, I approached my final descent off the mountain.

Yikes! The final descent was a steep one. To my tired, snowplowing hips it seemed iffy. At this point, I could barely dig in the edges of my skis. This descent, less than 50 yards, took me about 10 minutes. 10 minutes?!?! Oh my.

While I side-stepped most of the way down, dozens of skiers zipped carefree all around me. I tip-toed to their eager confidence. I envied their mastery, while the two long, waxed boards strapped to my feet made me feel like a penguin out of the water.

"Slow and steady, Pebbles. Now come towards me a little more. Don't look at the gate, just focus on me." Ellen's patient guidance safely got me off the mountain with my nerves mostly intact. I couldn't remove my skis soon enough. Two audible clicks and I was out of my skis almost as soon as I cleared the exit gate.

Why was it that everyone else in ski school with me seemed to catch on so easily while I needed constant repetition just to snowplow?? This left me frustrated. I wanted so badly to learn to ski. Ellen and Jordyn ski with such ease. I just want to go to the top of a mountain and enjoy the adventure of skiing with them. I decided at the end of my first full day of skiing, the fact that I fell less than a handful of times was an accomplishment in and of itself. "Way to go, Pebbles!" I cheered myself on.

My very first time skiing was a morning-long adventure in the art of falling down and spending more time on the ground than on my skis at Mt. Crescent just weeks prior journeying to Winter Park. My 12-year old ski instructor Jordyn and I lost count of the number of times I'd fallen that morning, settling on over 20 times. Ellen had more confidence in my ability than I. She talked me into taking the lift up and skiing down once.

That day it took nearly an hour for me to get down off Mt. Crescent. I limped away with bruises on bruises and a hematoma on my left hip the size of a softball. After much-needed time in the hot tub that night, I loaded up on Aleve every 12 hours for the next three days. Each step or attempt to stand up a left reminder of how many times I'd fallen at Mt. Crescent.

Fortunately, my inborn stubbornness and my desire to ski with Ellen and Jordyn, overrode my sense of giving up. The second day at Winter Park started off a bit rocky. I fell immediately off the lift at Discovery Park. Seriously?? Can't I even go two feet before falling?

After many pep talks from my life-long easy-skiing, sassy cheer squad, I dried my scaredy-cat tears, took a deep sigh, and skied about 15 feet towards Jordyn. She moved about 20 feet away and had me ski towards her again. We repeated this routine several times with Ellen cheering me on.

My skis somehow knew I was born for speed. Why didn't they tell me?? Several times that first hour of practicing, still snowplowing, my skis wanted to go faster than was willing. I panicked and got scared, but with time and lots of practice in Discovery Park, I learned to control my snowplowing speed, dig the edges of my skis in hard, and even stop within feet of where I wanted to stop. Woohoo!

By mid-afternoon, everything clicked. From shifting my weight, ski to ski for gentle, gliding curves to French-frying with ease, I wanted to keep skiing. I wanted to go up the lift again and again and again! "I'm doing it!!"

My last trip up the mountain was solo and I absolutely loved it! Too bad it was already 4 PM and closing time on the mountain. I could have skied all night long.

On the second day, I only fell twice, both times right off the lift. Note to self: keep skis shoulder-width apart when standing off the lifts.

Added bonus: Around noon the snow started to fall on the mountain. I was surrounded by the serenity of the fresh falling flakes. We skied through the afternoon in the fresh powder.

Now I see why people are so drawn to skiing. Almost as soon as I returned to Omaha I began looking for ski gear and thinking about next year's trip. I can't wait!

Pebbles Jacobo

# Utah Trip

## March 9-16, 2019

We left for Utah on Friday. Steve was on the train; Chris, Kathy and Vance were spending the night in Cheyenne; and Teri and Phil drove through the night. We were off to a great start, but the train never made it and interstate 80 was shut down in several places due to snow and high winds. The driving was treacherous between Laramie and Rawlins on Saturday, with whiteout conditions and snow pack on the roads. Everyone finally arrived by Sunday.



On Sunday, Phil and I checked out Solitude while we were waiting for the others to arrive. We also wanted to check out the public transportation to and from the area. It was so easy. The bus picked us up at the end of the driveway, and dropped us off across the street from the hotel. We were staying at the Crystal Inn & Suites in Murray UT. Every morning we had a hot

buffet breakfast before we went skiing. Menu items included eggs, sausage, fruit, yogurt, cottage cheese, dry cereal, oatmeal, juice, coffee and hot chocolate. In the evening, the hotel had a complementary light dinner. The menu wasn't too varied, so we mixed it up with the welcome party on Monday at Hopper's Bar & Grill and a couple nights at Red Rocks Brewery where we found good fish 'n' chips, Ruben sandwiches and great burgers.

CRYSTAL INN	
Dinner Schedule	
5pm to 7pm Daily	
Monday 11th	Tuna Casserole
Tuesday 12th	Orange Chicken
Wednesday 13th	Chili Cheese Nachos
Thursday 14th	Soup & Salad
Friday 15th	Deli Sandwiches
Saturday 16th	Meat Balls & Mashed Potatoes
Sunday 17th	Chili Dogs

Monday morning, we caught the ski bus to Brighton and Solitude. There was a problem with IKON passes at the lifts. Everyone had to have their passes reprinted! After this, we skied! The snow was great. Phil and I met the others at Solitude after we found the crossover from Brighton, for lunch. We continued to ski during the afternoon then took the bus back to the hotel.

Tuesday, we ventured to Snowbird. We explored the mountain with the mountain hosts. We took the tram to the top and traveled through the tunnel on the magic carpet, looking at the old mining equipment. Lunch was spent at the top of the tram. We skied until the light went flat, then caught the bus back to the hotel. We went to the hot tub where we met up with a group from



the Birmingham Ski Club. We shared stories and socialized during the week.

Wednesday, Phil, Steve and I went to Deer Valley. It was snowing. The snow was heavy and pretty tracked up by the time we arrived. We made a few runs and Steve took a fall. We found the Ski Patrol and the Clinic. Steve fortunately only pulled his calf muscle, but had to rest the remainder of the trip.



Thursday, after a two-and-a-half-hour bus ride to the mountain due to slow moving morning traffic and the canyon road did not open until 8:30 AM for avalanche control, we skied at Alta. The fresh powder was worth it. We made it back to the hotel without a delay and promptly went to the hot tub to soak. We decided that the snow was so good today that we needed to go to Alta again tomorrow.



Friday, our last day of skiing, we enjoyed the snow at Alta. There was still powder to be found. It was a fun day, exploring the whole mountain. We ended the day in the hot tub back at the hotel. Later we went for dinner at Red Rocks Brewery then roamed around the Barnes and Noble book store. We went back to the hotel and packed as we were leaving in the morning.

Saturday after breakfast, we headed for home. Luckily, I-80 was open in western Nebraska after the "bomb" cyclone dumped snow there and lots of rain in eastern Nebraska on top of the snow that was on the ground causing major flooding. We thought we were going to have to detour in order to get home. It took about 13 hours to travel home. We made it without detouring, but there was a lot of water and major flooding of the Platte, Elkhorn and Missouri Rivers with many communities under water. All six of us were home safe and dry. Prayers for all those who are affected by the flooding.



Teri Hammon  
Trip Captain





**June 2020**  
**Come Raft the**  
**GRAND CANYON**  
**With the FSA**

**Dates: May 31 – June 7, 2020**

*(Departs June 1; Overnight at Marble Canyon May 31.)*

**Cost: \$3,224 per Person**

**Deposit: \$500 (non-refundable) Due at Registration**

**To Register: <https://hatchriverexpeditions.remarksystems.com/res/#search:2.7755>**

**By Phone: 1-800-856-8966 & ask for “June 1, 2020 Flatland Ski Trip”**

**For more information, contact:**

**[psnyder@immanuelolivette.org](mailto:psnyder@immanuelolivette.org)**

**or (314) 761-4797**

**Register by April 30, 2019 to make sure you have a seat,  
as half of the available spots have already been taken!**

**OMAHA SKI CLUB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION  
JUNE 2019 – MAY 2020**

MEMBERSHIP STATUS: NEW \_\_\_\_ RENEWAL \_\_\_\_

FAMILY \$25 \_\_\_\_ (\$30 if paid after September 30th, 2019)

SINGLE \$22 \_\_\_\_ (\$27 if paid after September 30th, 2019)

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

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

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

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

Check this box  if you are 21 years or older. For family membership, list all dependent minors on back of application.

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

Ski/Snowboard destinations you're interested in: \_\_\_\_\_

Activities you're interested in: Biking \_\_\_\_\_ Bowling \_\_\_\_\_ Dinners \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
(please list)

Other Interests: (please list) \_\_\_\_\_

**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. \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Omaha Ski Club, P.O. Box 3104, Omaha, NE 68103-0104