

Ski Trails

The monthly newsletter for Suburban Ski Club

March 2017

Website: <http://www.suburbanskiclub.org>

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Suburban Ski Club Members,

While our schedule of bus trips this ski season has been disappointing, it appears we are in for one last March fling that should be a lot of fun. On **Friday, March 3rd**, we go to Holiday Valley for our annual Skier Appreciation Day. Then we go back to HV on **Saint Patrick's Day, March 17th**, another Friday. Both ski days will be followed by dinner in Ellicottville. For more details, please read the articles by **Melinda Kellerstrass** and **Jack Ganz**.

This weekend, thirty-two Suburban Ski Club members head to the Canadian Rockies for a week of skiing in

Banff. Unlike our lackluster local conditions, we are in for lots of fresh powder and great ski conditions. For many of us, this is a ski trip of a lifetime in one of the most beautiful spots on the continent. We'll be sure to take pictures to share in the next edition of [Ski Trails](#).

On **Thursday, March 16th**, we will have our last membership meeting until next September. At this meeting, we will hold elections for our 2017/18 club officers. Please see the details below. While I will be stepping down as President, I will remain on the Executive Board and I will also be involved in planning and arranging our major trips in 2018. Many thanks go to our slate of candidates for generously volunteering their time. It has truly been a pleasure to serve you.

Special thanks to **Mary Ellen and Ed Noss** for hosting our February EAT at Hopples. It was a unique and well-attended event.

I am happy to report that our membership continues to grow and I want to welcome our newest members to SSC: **Joe Edmiston, Karen Ford, Colleen Gallagher, Gretchen Haas, Todd Izen, Hanna Kreierhoff, Susan Nesbit, Greg Norton, James Reed** and **Elizabeth Wagner**. We are very happy you have joined us and look forward to seeing you at our social events and ski trips.

I must end on a sad note to tell you that we have lost one of our members, **Christe McGraw**. Please read the memorial article later in this newsletter.

Beth Silverman, President of SSC
president@suburbanskiclub.org

ELECTIONS

We will be holding elections for club officers at our Membership Meeting on **Thursday, March 16th**. This will be our last membership meeting before the summer break. Please see the slate of nominated candidates published below. You will notice some new faces and one old face with a new position. **Becky Marx** has been nominated to be our new President and **Cindy Bacon** our First Vice President. Although **Jack Ganz** is relinquishing his position as a Member At Large, Jack has promised to stay involved in the club. **Joe Sullivan** has been nominated as a Member At Large. At our last meeting, the membership approved adding a third Member At Large position. The Executive Board will be looking for candidates to fill that spot and the EB invites your suggestions. **Beth Silverman** will continue to serve as a voting member of the EB as the Immediate Past President.

Later this month we will be sending an Email with an **absentee ballot**. We hope you will return that if you can't attend the meeting. Since our membership has greatly expanded, we will need your absentee ballot to insure a quorum at the meeting.

Suburban Ski Club's Nominated Officers

President:	Becky Marx
First Vice President:	Cindy Bacon
Vice Pres. for Data Mgmt.	Cliff Lewis
Secretary:	Pat Lewis
Treasurer:	Ann McBrian
Member At Large:	Joe Sullivan
Member At Large:	Melinda Kellerstrass

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

This is another edition of our series recognizing the birthdays of SSC members follows. Don't worry, we do not publish the year of your birth, just the month and day! Our data base of birthdays is far from complete. Please remember to include your birthday on your membership form. It is not necessary to give the year of your birth, but we need your day and month so we can publish your birthday. Here are the March birthdays we have on file:

Kevin Duden (3/2), Mark Felber (3/25), Pamela Fenn (3/7), Karen Ford (3/21), Ronald Frederick (3/17), Larry Grewe (3/3), Bill Hersch (3/23), Jane Hughes (3/23), Richard Kluchar (3/25), Phil Meyer (3/4), Ray Neumann (3/16), Robin Olds (3/23), Eugene Pallat (3/28), Joan Rieke (3/17), Kimberly Sandler (3/6), Donna Schultheiss (3/30), Hank Spain (3/18), Mary Ellen Strong (3/19) and Kenneth Vergara (3/31)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to you all.



CHRISTE NORTON MCGRAW (1960 – 2017)

Suburban Ski Club Member Christe McGraw passed away on February 18, 2017. She is survived by her husband, Bill McGraw. Christe was passionate about swimming, cycling, skiing and other outdoor sports. Those of us who knew her as a skier were aware of her commitment to learning more about the sport and her dedication to perfecting her technique. But she was more than just a dedicated skier, she was a wonderful companion on the slopes and fun to be with. One of our members was with Christe in a small lesson group at Telluride several years ago. He remembered her focus on becoming a better skier but he was even more impressed with her thoughtfulness and concern when he took a major fall during the lesson.

Barbara Brennan recalled the time many years ago when Bill introduced his new wife to those at a club meeting. He said he wanted the club members to meet the wonderful woman he had married and for them to get to know this lovely person that had come into his life. And, indeed, the members of SSC did get to know Christe and appreciate what an exceptional woman she was.

And when the occasion called for setting aside her ski clothes and dressing up for a special time like the club's annual Holiday Party, Christe would be stunning in her appearance. Many of our members thought she was a professional model.

Lilly Kron knew another side of Christe through the twenty years they spent swimming together. They met at a pool three evenings a week to train for masters competitions. Lilly said she treasured those times when she had the privilege of getting to know Christe almost as a daughter.

All of us in Suburban Ski Club will miss this remarkable woman who brought so much to all our gatherings.

Rest in Peace, Dear Christe.

SSC has made a donation to the Maltz Hospice House at Montefiore in Christe's memory. The Weatherhead School of Management at CWRU has also been mentioned by Christe's family as a place to make a donation in her memory. You can mail your donation to the Busch Funeral Home and they will forward it to the charity you specify: Busch Funeral Home; 21369 Center Ridge Road; Fairview Park, OH 44116

For those who wish to send a message of condolence, Bill McGraw's address is 2981 Scarborough Road, Cleveland Heights, OH 44118.

CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

March 2017

- **SKI TRIP:** Friday, March 3, Skier Appreciation Day: **Holiday Valley**
- **SKI TRIP:** Sunday, March 5 – Sunday, March 12: **Banff/Lake Louise, Alberta, Canada**
- **MEETING:** Thursday, March 16, 7:00 PM: **Membership Meeting – Election of Club Officers**
- **SKI TRIP:** Friday, March 17, newly added St. Patrick's Day trip: **Holiday Valley**
- **SOCIAL:** Thursday, March 30, 6:00 PM: **EAT at D'Agnese's**

UPCOMING EVENTS IN MORE DETAIL

Thursday, March 16, 2017, 7:00 PM: Membership Meeting

The meeting begins at 7:00 PM in the party room of Alfredo's at the Holiday Inn; 780 Beta Drive; Mayfield Village 44143; (440) 461-9200. Beta Drive is only one intersection east of the exit for Wilson Mills Road on I-271. Turn NORTH off Wilson Mills Road at the traffic light on to Beta Drive. You will see a sign for the Holiday Inn as you make the turn.

As usual, we will be assembling early at 5:15pm for cocktails, food and socializing. If dinner is more than you want, order an appetizer, a salad or even pizza. You will find us at the back of Alfredo's.

This is the **Election Meeting for club officers**. It is also the last membership meeting until September.

Thursday, March 30, 6:00 PM: EAT at D'Agnese's

Bob Stern will be our host for this EAT. D'Agnese's is a legendary, casually elegant Italian restaurant that has been around for many years. The menu features classic pasta dishes along with veal, chicken and fish entrees at medium prices. The restaurant is located at 1100 West Royalton Road (Route 82) in Broadview Heights, OH 44147 (two miles west of I 77). Their phone number is (440) 237-7378. Check their website: www.dagneses.com for their menu and more detailed directions.

As usual, we will assemble in the bar at 6:00 PM for drinks and socializing before we proceed to our dinner tables at 7:00 PM. Bob pointed out that D'Agnese's Happy Hour Specials are from 3:00 – 6:00 PM and suggested we might want to arrive a little before 6:00 PM to take advantage of that.

Please RSVP to Bob at rsingleve55@yahoo.ocm or call (330) 467-7120 by Monday, March 27th.

A NOTE FROM OUR EAT COORDINATOR

The destination for our April EAT is not yet finalized but I can tell you that in May, **Lilly Kron** will be taking us back to **Das Schnitzel Haus** in Parma. A review has described it as “an unpretentious place for German cuisine, featuring a covered & heated patio.” Those who went there a few years back will remember dining on that patio and it promises to again be a very nice evening in May. Date and details will follow next month.

On Tuesday, February 21st, twenty-four adventuresome SSC members crossed the Cuyahoga and made our way down to Columbus Road and assembled at **Hoopples**. The views of the drawbridge and downtown were most impressive and the location gave us an alternative perspective on our great city. We enjoyed the tavern atmosphere in this informal and friendly place. The food was very good pub grub and reasonably priced.

As always, we are on the lookout for new and interesting destinations for our EAT get togethers. Please contact me with your ideas and suggestions.

Mary Ellen Noss, EAT Coordinator
maryellen@suburbanskiclub.org

UPDATE ON OUR BUS TRIPS



OK, is it winter or spring? - Old man winter is sure playing a joke on us this year. Despite the weather, early February did provide us with some good spring skiing. Our **Feb 3 trip to Holimont** was great! The ladies loved it as it was men’s day, which meant the men were inside drinking while the slopes were basically ours for the taking. After a lesson on carving from our own **Jack Ganz**, several of us had a great time on a nice little curved run through the woods. Dinner on the way home at Grand River Cellars proved to be wonderful. They treated us “tres fantastic” with superb food and great wine. What a wonderful way to end a superb day of skiing with ski buddies. If you were fortunate enough to join the club on **Feb 9 at Holiday Valley**, you were treated to another great ski day with some of the best snow of the season.

Don’t forget to check the weather and conditions at the resort. We may have green grass here in Cleveland but many times the resorts have great skiing conditions. Due to weather conditions and low enrollment we canceled our Feb 15 trip to Seven Springs but joined up with Lewis Ski Club on Friday, Feb 17 for a trip to the same destination. Reports were that skiing was OK but you did have to be careful. I am told the dinner at the resort was wonderful and meeting skiers from another

club was fun - they even shared their bus snacks with us. We had a nice group of forty-two skiers signed up for our Two-Day trip to Holiday Valley and Bristol on Feb 23 & 24. However, the adverse skiing conditions forced us to cancel. Perhaps we can convince Jack to offer the trip again next year!

Our bus season will end with our annual **Skier Appreciation Day** trip on **Friday, Mar 3**. Anyone who has taken a bus trip with us this year receives a discount on the trip price – i.e., \$69 instead of the usual \$79. We will be skiing Holiday Valley with a dinner stop in Ellicottville.



March is looking to be more “winteresque” than February, so we are **adding an additional trip** to our schedule. Come celebrate St. Patrick’s Day with SSC! Holiday Valley should still have a good base and the long-range forecast looks promising. We would love for you to join us on **Friday, March 17** for skiing at Holiday Valley followed by some apres ski celebrations in Ellicottville promoting our club’s colors with a tint of Irish green.

We are asking you to **sign up now!** We need a basic count by **March 6**. You can sign up later but because it is necessary to have a minimum number so we can go ahead and book the bus, we must hear from you now. Trip cost is our usual \$79 and that covers the bus and lift ticket. Tis the time to wear the green leg band!!! Please visit the website to register.

Whether or not you are going on either of the March trips, help us spread the word by visiting a **new feature on our web page**, scrolling to the bottom, and clicking on the buttons to “Like” and/or “Share” the trips on your Facebook page. Here are some helpful links:

Web Page: <https://www.suburbanskiclub.org/new-holiday-valley-fri-mar-17>

Flyer: <https://www.suburbanskiclub.org/files/2017-0317HV.pdf>

Don’t let the  leave without you!!

It will not be long before we will be scheduling trips for next year. Please feel free to contact me with trip ideas. Think about trips you would like to see offered again or perhaps suggest a new destination you think would be good for our club. Your ideas are always welcome. This is your ski club and we are constantly looking for ways to make it more enjoyable for you and your skiing friends.

Melinda Kellerstrass
melinda@suburbanskiclub.org

HOW THE GRINCH STOLE WINTER

Who is stealing winter? Who did it? Why did they do it?

I checked with WeatherChannelMan and he claimed he was innocent. He said he just reports the truth not fake news. I checked with AccuWeatherWoman and she said it was not her. She hinted that it might be Russian hackers.

Too bad I am not a politician, I could just tell you that ski conditions are great, you will love them, and you would believe me since there is a grain of truth in that. We do have spring conditions but it seems to me they will be OK for a good day at Holiday Valley.

Here is the Holiday Valley forecast as we go to press:

AccuWeather		High	Low	Precipitation
Weather for Thursday	March 2	30	15	45%, snow 0.1 inch
Weather for Friday	March 3	26	12	63%, snow 0.9 inch
WeatherChannel		High	Low	Precipitation
Weather for Thursday	March 2	25	19	20%
Weather for Friday	March 3	26	14	50% Some snow flurries

I like to look at the day before and I can see that it will be cold. Thursday night will be below freezing and we can expect grooming to help. And Friday is below freezing all day. So, the Grinch has not stolen all of winter. I think we will have pretty-good skiing for this time of year.

So, come join me. Don't let those folks who are flying off to Banff have the last taste of skiing. I am confident we will have a great time on the slopes of Holiday Valley. Then we will all go out to dinner in Ellicottville and celebrate the almost last day of skiing – since I am also looking ahead to St. Patrick's Day, March 17. Perhaps the Grinch will look on us with kindness again and give us back another good day of spring skiing.

*Jack Ganz, Friend of the Grinch
jackjbg@gmail.com*

LATE BREAKING NEWS!!!!

Special Sale at Aster's:

Word just came in from Chris Aster that his shop is having a special sale with discounts up to 70% off. Boots, for example, are discounted 50%. (SSC members receive a 10% discount but that will not apply to this sale since the savings are so huge.)

Ferdl Aster Ski Shop is located at 8330 Mayfield Road in Chesterland. Store hours are 3-8pm on weekdays; 10-5pm on Saturday and 1-5pm on Sunday. Phone: (440) 729-9472