

SCHUSSBOOMER

madisonskiclub.com

April 2013

Presidents' Message

For most of us, the arrival of April marks the end of the 2012-13 ski season, even though the snow is still deep along driveways and sidewalks. This year, nearly 50 club members participated in one or more of our trips to Snowmass, CO; Taos Ski Valley, NM; and Big Sky, MT; 19 joined the club's trip to Lutsen, MN. Thanks to past presidents George and Lavora Baird (Snowmass), vice president Jerry Luedtke (Big Sky), and board members Jerry and Carol McAdow (Lutsen) for hosting those trips. Thanks also to Rick and Peggy Daluge, our travel advisors, for their organizational and logistical support for the club's western trips. The inside pages of this Schussboomer contain reviews of our 2013 trips.

Your Board of Directors is currently evaluating alternative destinations for the 2013-14 season. At this point, we plan to offer Snowmass in December 2013, and another western trip in the winter of 2014. We also hope to offer Lutsen or an alternative extended-weekend Midwest destination. We offer our deepest gratitude to the McAdows, who organized and led the Lutsen trip for 16 consecutive years, and are now stepping aside to allow new leadership the opportunity to continue a Midwest excursion. Many of you may have a favored Midwest destination—the U.P., Granite Peak, or Lutsen. Please contact us if you would consider joining with others in the club to help organize a Midwest trip during the 2013-14 season.

This edition of the Schussboomer breaks with a longstanding tradition—a photo with both co-presidents. We were not able to go on any of the club's trips as a couple this year, so the photo represents the less attractive half of the co-presidency. But it provides an opportunity to make a point. Why do any of us join a ski club, and why do we continue to come back? Whether you're the only skier in your family or everyone skis, the answer is always the same: to have someone to ski with. On some days (or some runs) we look for someone to challenge us just outside our comfort zone; other times, we're happy to provide the opportunity to challenge someone else. Group travel with a ski club allows that variety. Ski clubs provide committed volunteer leaders who want to share their love of skiing and travel. As club members, we get the benefit of their planning and organizing; their research into the best destinations; their reservations of flights and accommodations. In short, we get a great value for our vacation dollar, make easy and lasting friendships with interesting people who share their love for the sport, and always have someone to share the run down and the ride up.



President Bruce at Lutsen

This July, when you're thinking about the next ski season, consider inviting a friend or acquaintance to join the Madison Ski Club for the 2013-14 season.

Mark your calendar for Thursday, July 18, 2013, at the John Wall Family Pavilion at Tenney Park. The club is combining all of the trip reunion picnics and the annual picnic for a big celebration to mark the 50th year of the Madison Ski Club! More details will follow. [Cherie & Bruce Olsen](#)



IF YOU WERE NOT AT LUTSEN IN 2013, THIS IS WHAT YOU MISSED

There were 21 of us this year, which includes the Hollanders and their 2 children, Alexia and Leah. They have been regulars with us for many years and Alexia and Leah have become really good skiers.

Our bus trip to Lutsen was uneventful and included a stop in Rice Lake at Culvers for an evening meal, jokes, movies (1 train video with great Canadian scenery), card playing, reading, Carol's cookies and general R & R. Our first ski day started with a great breakfast at Lutsen Resort and then everyone was off to ski.

Snow conditions were very good. It was a little cloudy but the temperatures were moderate and the runs were fun and friendly.

Our bus took us to Lutsen resort for dinner Friday night. The group took up a collection and bought dinner for Carol and me to express their appreciation for us having led this trip for the last 16 years. Carol and I were and are very grateful for this gesture. For us, it has been a true labor of love to be able to have spent so much quality time with so many excellent friends.

Saturday morning was probably the best skiing of the weekend. There was bright blue sky with moderate temperatures and wind and beautiful Lake Superior for our ever present background. The afternoon turned a little cloudy but the skiing remained excellent.

We had our regular Saturday evening pasta dinner and shared our experiences of the weekend. We had

a little "disagreement" with our host over whether we could take the excess food with us in little black boxes but after some "discussion" with the manager, black boxes were handed out.

We could only ski half a day on Sunday and one of our skiers (Paul Evans) was able to ski only 1 run because at the end of his first run, he "caught an edge" and his skis did not release. He had to be carried off the hill and ended up having a painful ride home. His wife met him at the bus in Madison and took him to the ER where he was diagnosed as having done serious damage to his knee. Surgery is pending. We hope to see Paul back at Lutsen next year.

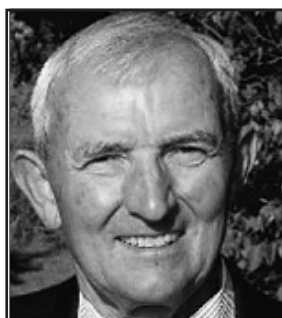
On our way home, we made a short detour to visit the static display of a huge steam locomotive at the Two Harbors lakeside railroad park.

We arrived back at the Dutch Mill Park and Ride a little after 9 pm. Except for Paul, we all arrived home in good condition.

Carol and I consider these skiers to be our Lutsen Family. It is a genuine pleasure to spend this weekend with the Lutsen part of our ski family. If you were on this trip and enjoyed it, invite your friends and plan to come again next year. **If you missed this trip, it was your loss but you need not miss it again. Be sure to sign up next year. We are looking for someone to help plan the trip next year.**

Carol and Jerry McAdow

[pictures at flickr.com/photos/madisonskiclub/sets/](http://pictures.at.flickr.com/photos/madisonskiclub/sets/)



Lawrence J. Graham, age 76, passed away peacefully on Feb. 4, 2013.

Larry is survived by his wife, Judy; daughters, Kathy (John) Terrell, and Kristi (Chris) Frankwicz; step-sons, John (Julie) Kelliher and Matt (Jen) Kelliher and many more family and friends, including the ones they made as members of the Madison Ski Club.



Roman J. "Butch" Denissen, age 71, died March 14, 2013, after a battle with cancer.

Butch is survived by his wife, Sharon and their four daughters, Kelly (Dan) Schowalter of New Jersey, Stacy (Eric) Schloesser of Mount Horeb, Amy (Jaysin) Raykowski of Mount Horeb, and Kate (Craig) Borenz of Madison and many more family and friends including his friends of Madison Ski Club.

Taos Ski Adventure:

Sunny days, starry nights; gorgeous sunsets, fabulous sights

Seven members of the Madison Ski Club traveled to Taos Ski Valley, New Mexico, on January 31 for three (or four) days of great weather and great snow, and a delightful sightseeing day in Santa Fe, before returning to Madison on the evening of Feb. 5, 2013.

Seeing the ground pass by from 30,000 feet never gets old. The weather was clear as we headed west from Dallas, across bone-dry and tabletop-flat west Texas, through the brushy foothills and dry riverbeds. As the plane traversed the Sangre de Cristo range just east of Santa Fe, ski slopes cut from white mountaintops began to appear, and we speculated whether we might be seeing Taos Ski Valley. First impressions? Santa Fe must be pretty laid-back, because the airport officials thought it was just fine if we toasted our arrival in the airport lobby with a little wine from our suitcases while we waited for our shuttle.

Susie and Paul Gielenfeldt, our lodging hosts at the Columbine Inn, were super! Hot and hearty breakfasts each morning, and apres-ski snacks every afternoon. Paul shuttled us to and from the base village each day, and transported us to dinner each evening. Paul, an avid and accomplished skier, provided observations to the most adventurous among us about the best powder stashes, ridgeline chutes and coulliers, and suggestions for the rest of us about how best to follow the sun to maximize snow conditions throughout the day. We were greeted each day by blue skies, mild temperatures, and good snow; whether on the well-marked and well-groomed blue and green cruising runs, or on the many mogul options.

We dined together each evening during the trip, to share the adventures of the day, to learn a little more about each other, and to get a start on solving the world's problems. On our second evening, Paul and Susie drove us into the Town of Taos, where we enjoyed indescribably delicious Mexican cuisine at Antonio's of Taos. Ask any of us about the Chili Relleno with pecan brandy cream sauce; it is served only at Antonio's—and undoubtedly in heaven!

Our group separated on the fourth day. Three of us skied. Four of us toured Taos Pueblo, inhabited continuously by that tribe for more than 1,000 years. Picturesque adobe, delightful shop owners, rich cultural heritage, and heartbreaking history; all within an easy walk. When we all rejoined in the late afternoon, our shuttle driver showed us the Rio Grande gorge, from the top down, and, thanks to a series of hairpin turns on a gravel road down to the river, from the bottom up. Incredible! On our way our last night's lodging at the gorgeous Inn on the Alameda in Santa Fe, the mountains revealed the source of their name: in the fading afternoon light, they turned crimson just before darkness overtook them. We spent our final day touring Santa Fe. The Georgia O'Keefe Museum was a highlight for many, and we visited other shops, art galleries, and sculpture gardens. Our luggage made the same trip back to Madison that we did.

Bruce Olsen

More pictures can be found at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/madisonskiclub/sets/>



Big Sky Montana - March 2013

Very early Sunday morning March 10th - and I do mean early since day-light-savings-time took affect that day - 18 members met at 5:00am in the Shopko parking lot at East Towne. Despite losing an hour of sleep and boarding the bus for Chicago in the rain, all seemed excited to be there. We arrived at O'Hare, passed through security with time to spare, and then boarded our direct flight to Montana. After the three hour flight we arrived in Bozeman to find three pieces of luggage from our group had gone missing. After trying to sort that out, we had an hour ride to Big Sky resort. We arrived at the Huntley Lodge at around 2:00pm mountain time and got checked in. Four more members who drove out joined us there, along with Peggy and Rick Daluge's son, daughter-in-law and kids. A special thanks to them for transporting refreshments for our welcome wine and cheese party. We were able to secure a nice sunken lounge area with a large fireplace and comfortable chairs and sofas for the party. This area became 'the' gathering spot for the club.

The breakfast buffet each morning offered a wide variety of items ready to be heaped onto your plate (scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, pancakes, fruit, cereal, muffins, bagels, and on and on) and a station where you could select ingredients to build your own omelet. The group usually met around 7:30 - 8:00 and made plans for the day over breakfast. The missing bags found their way to the lodge sometime during the night so all were able to hit the slopes the first day. Some of the group took part in a free tour

of the mountain that morning and we had to battle some very strong wind gusts on day one.

Some of the folks skied all five days, while others took a break on Wednesday to tour Yellowstone. Some booked snowmobile excursions and others went by sno-cat. Reports from those who went were all positive and well worth seeing the park in the winter. That evening the club had a second gathering in the fireplace lounge area with beer, wine and cheese, and pizza. Lunches and dinners were typically done in smaller groups and at various locations. From what I heard, the food was very good at all of them. Friday evening brought us all together for one last time in the lounge area. That night folks brought the snacks and drinks they wanted to finish up before packing to return home.

Saturday was check out day and a trip back to Bozeman. We overwhelmed the two people working to check us in at the airport, but still made it through security and to a bar area to watch the Badger basketball team beat Indiana before our flight boarded. Big Sky is a great place to ski with enough variety for all ability levels. Except for the wind on the first day, the weather was good all week, and I'm glad to report there were no major injuries, although there were a few minor ones on and off the slopes. All in all, this was a very good trip.

Jerry Luedtke

more pictures found at

flickr.com/photos/madisonskiclub/sets/



Snowmass, a Madison Ski Club Favorite, Returns for its 8th Year!

Wednesday, December 11 Tuesday, December 17, 2013

Your Madison Ski Club Board of Directors entered 2013 thinking that 2012 was likely the last time that the Club would offer a December destination different than Snowmass. After all, the Club has been to Snowmass for seven years in a row. . . . But many members have spoken in favor of Snowmass, and the Board has heard your voices!

By popular acclaim, 2013 will mark the eighth consecutive year that Snowmass and the Mountain Chalet will be Madison Ski Club's first trip of the ski season. Even sweeter, we expect that the 2013 trip will cost \$188 LESS than the 2012 price: \$1400 per person, double occupancy (\$400 single supplement); initial \$500 payment due by August 1; \$900 balance due by September 15, 2013.

Snowmass is the second-largest ski area in the United States 3132 acres, with 91 trails serviced by 21 lifts. 50% of Snowmass's runs are wide, groomed, intermediate cruisers perfect for those first days of the new season. 6% of Snowmass's slopes are beginner runs, and 44% are challenging expert slopes (with more than 4400 vertical feet of drop). A Snowmass lift ticket also entitles skiers to a free short shuttle ride for ski days at Aspen Highlands, Aspen Mountain and Buttermilk.

Our home for the week will be the Snowmass Mountain Chalet. Enjoy five days of great snow and uncrowded slopes. Start each morning with a complimentary full hot breakfast overlooking a slope-side deck. Take advantage of the ski-in/ski-out convenience to return for a complimentary lunch each day. The Living Room offers a lounge and fireplace for nightly cocktail parties, cards, games, and reading. Warm your toes and soothe your muscles at the end of the day in the outdoor

hot tub and pool. Enjoy dining and finish your holiday shopping at the Village Mall nearby, or take a 15-minute free shuttle ride to picturesque Aspen Village, with its many shops, galleries and dining spots. Check out the Anderson Ranch Arts Center just down the hill from Snowmass Village, a working ranch now converted to an informal artists collective.

Includes: Round-trip airfare, Madison Denver Aspen; van transfer to Snowmass Village. 6 nights lodging at Mountain Chalet. Hot breakfast and lunch daily. Club parties in the Living Room. Price includes all baggage handling and room attendant gratuities, all room and air taxes.

Not included: Dinners, lift tickets, personal expenses. Special MSC ticket prices announced later.

Changes in the airline industry have made group travel more challenging than it once was, and those changes require the Club to make modifications in how it handles trip bookings. Airlines require full payment for group travel earlier and earlier. For that reason, the deadline for full payment of this trip is September 15, 2013. One of the principal benefits of group ski travel is group pricing on airfare and lift tickets. Snowmass requires 20 separate individuals to purchase a lift ticket (one day or longer) to get group pricing. 20 individuals must commit to the trip if the Club is to offer it. It is possible that some Snowmass non-skiers will need to purchase a 1-day lift ticket in order to reach the essential 20-ticket minimum.

Questions? Contact Club co-president's Cherie and Bruce Olsen (608-274-6299) or email (olsens.madison@gmail.com)

pictures of past trips to Snowmass can be found at flickr.com/photos/madisonskiclub/sets/

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