



THE GREAT SCHUSS

April 2011

Spring
Is in the Air



Our LSSC winter ski season is over. I hope you were able to join other members on one or more trips this year. Even more importantly, I hope you had fun on your trip(s). The LSSC Board did our best to offer you a variety of choices, reflecting some board members preferences and favorites while also offering you a few brand new destinations. Please take time to let Board members where you would like to ski next year. The Board must make trip decisions in the coming months and they would really appreciate member feedback. Don't leave it to others to decide for you. Speak up and let your own preferences be heard. They may not be able to offer each and every member a trip to their own personal favorite area next year, but they can certainly look into it.

While on the topic of choice, our next membership meeting is Tuesday, April 5th at the Racquet Club Grill, 3900 Crosby Drive. We will hold our annual Board Elections at this meeting. Your attendance and vote are requested. Please make plans to join us. Catherine's slate is included in this newsletter.



There are some open positions needing to be filled. That means we need you...(why, oh, YOU!), not "oh someone else can do it, I'm too busy"...because without volunteers to take care of the business of running the club, there is no club.

The arrival of spring means that we outdoor lovers will be switching gears, some literally and some figuratively, in order to participate in our favorite warm weather pastimes. Some club members enjoy golf, others like to canoe, raft and kayak, some like to camp, hike and rock climb, some cycle, a few with the Bluegrass Cycling Club, some enjoy water sports – fishing, boating and waterskiing and some spend the warm weather viewing the world from on top of a horse. We are truly a diverse group with diverse interests. Our club has had limited success offering any organized summer activity for members, probably because our interests are so varied. That doesn't mean we should stop trying. If you would like to organize a club activity – please let a board member know. We can attempt to get word about it out there to members either using the listserv or via direct e-mail.

The Club Post-trip Party will be at the May meeting. The location is still pending. Folks need to e-mail Catherine Monzingo their trip pictures. Even better, bring in a flash drive or CD with photos or video to the April meeting to give to her directly. No pictures means no entertainment and no opportunity to tell tall tales about your trip.



CLUB BUSINESS



THE PROPOSED LEXINGTON SKI AND SPORTS CLUB 2012 SLATE

Pres- Elect – **open**
VP Western – Howard Glauert
VP Local - Dan Geiger
Secretary – Janet Jones
Treasurer – Jon Seaman
Newsletter – Jan Clark
Membership - Marty Donaldson
Webmaster - Grant Stephens
Social – Mary Harbour
Marketing – **open**

We need volunteers to fill the open positions. We will not be able to promote and grow the club without a marketing director. LSSC does not happen without volunteers to keep each of the parts rolling. If you are able and interested in filling a position, please come to the April meeting or let our President, Catherine Monzingo know. She can be reached at camonzingo@yahoo.com.



Mardi Gras Party Report Courtesy of Catherine Monzingo

We had a wonderful turnout for the Mardi Gras party held at our March meeting. Blue or silver snowflake beads were passed out to attendees, with no naughty New Orleans-styled requirements. Mary Harbour was particularly in the spirit, bringing her own beads, too. We enjoyed appetizers and King Cake, a traditional Mardi Gras confection akin to a huge sweet roll with gold, green and purple icing. Since I cannot recall for certain who found the baby in his slice of King Cake, one lucky club member is getting out of hosting the party next year, which is the traditional benefit of finding “the prize.” We played a trivia game with questions about Mardi Gras, Winter Olympics, ski resorts and ski lingo. Howard Glauert won with the most overall correct answers and received a gift certificate to Starbucks. Kathy Simon won for the most correct Mardi Gras answers and received a festive party glass.





Revelstoke, British Columbia Trip Report

January 16-23, 2011

Submitted by H.P. Glauert

A group of 8 LSSC skiers and boarders (Grant Stephens, Catherine Monzingo, Jon Seaman, John Samson, Bob Heinrich, Dan Geiger, Howard Glauert and Brian Kruer) left for Revelstoke, British Columbia, on Sunday, Jan. 16. Grant Stephens was the trip leader and did an outstanding job. The trip was ground only, so people were on different flights, and the last of us arrived in Calgary, Alberta around 3 PM MST. We were supposed to take a van to Revelstoke, but the roads were closed due to avalanches. So the tour company, SkiCan, took us to Banff for the night, at the Aspen Lodge. The original plan was for us to ski at one of the Banff areas the next day and then head to Revelstoke. However, in the morning it was apparent that the roads were not going to open that day or even possibly the next few days, so we ended up taking a van back to Calgary, flying from Calgary to Kelowna, British Columbia, and taking another van up to Revelstoke. Revelstoke is an old railroad town for the Canadian Pacific Railroad and is located on the shore of the beautiful Columbia River. We stayed at the Powder Springs Inn, in the center of Revelstoke. The staff was very hospitable and the breakfasts, which were included, were excellent! There also was a restaurant/bar (The Last Drop) adjacent to the hotel, which we went to several times. Other restaurants that we went to included Emo's, that had Italian and Greek food; The Village Idiot, which had pizza, sandwiches, and more; and Bad Pauls, which had steaks, pasta, and seafood.

We started skiing on Tuesday morning. The mountain has 5600 vertical feet, and has a lower gondola and two upper chairlifts. The area had gotten a tremendous amount of snow the previous couple of weeks--hence the closed roads. It also had snowed the day and evening we arrived before at higher elevations--but rained on the lower part of the mountain and then turned cold--so the skiing on the upper part of the mountain was great (powder!), but the lower part of the mountain, below the 2 upper lifts, unfortunately was ice. We of course stayed on the two upper chairs, except for the last run of the day--although many downloaded on the gondola. One nice thing about Revelstoke is that the powder on the mountain stays around a long time: the mountain is huge, there are limited lifts, and there are not that many people. Another benefit of our hotel was that there was a couple who worked there, Fly and Michelle, who provided guided tours of the mountain. Fly was our guide the first day. In the afternoon, however, he skied off a drop-off, wiped out, slid into a tree, and ended up tearing a muscle in his calf. On Wednesday, Michelle acted as our guide. We got a bunch of snow on Wednesday night, and it continued snowing all day on Thursday. The ice on the bottom of the mountain was covered up, and there was even more powder on top! Two members had backcountry skiing experiences. Brian Kruer joined one of the locals, Jamie Pickett for two days of backcountry shredding where they found plenty of untracked powder in South and Kokanee Bowls. On Saturday, Jon Seaman went heli-boarding. Our van to Calgary left at 4 AM PST on Sunday (of course that is 7 AM Lexington time). It snowed some on the trip back, but the roads were all open, and we made it to the Calgary airport around 10 AM MST.

In summary, it was an excellent trip to a great mountain! Definitely a place for the LSSC to revisit!

Photos from this trip appeared last month.



Sweden, Finland, and Russia Report

Courtesy of Janet Jones

Ten LSSC members joined the OVSC group for five days in Åre and two in Stockholm, Sweden. The skiers found flat light the first two days, making for less than desired conditions, but we managed to make up for it with a day trip to Trondheim, Norway. Wednesday and Thursday found glorious blue skies and happier skiing. Unfortunately, Barbara took a serious spill, resulting in a trip to the hospital courtesy of the Åre ski patrol. A cracked bone in her shoulder and some major bruising in her hip resulted in her being bound to stabilize the shoulder and in a wheel chair, but she bounced back and didn't miss many of the activities! Jerry managed to push the wheelchair through snow and ice, up and down hills leaving others of us in his wake!

Thursday night saw a harness racing on the frozen lake, just outside our hotel. This event takes place once every two years, so we Kentuckians were pleased it happened when we were there to share in the fun! We mingled with the locals, and met many interesting Swedes. Wagering took place and some of our group won big!! Others in our group took part in driving expensive sports cars on the frozen lake, snowshoeing, cross country skiing, dog sledding, and horseback riding. Thursday a group went to Tanforsen Falls, the tallest waterfall in Sweden. Of course, it was frozen in March, but they toured the ice cathedral and hotel and hiked to see the waterfall.

Our time in Stockholm saw us 'doing our own thing', visiting royal palaces, watching the changing of the guard at the palace, visiting the many museums, and walking the streets of beautiful Stockholm. Perhaps there was a bit of shopping as well??!!

Eight of our group continued on to Helsinki, Finland and St. Petersburg, Russia! In Helsinki we had a city tour on the afternoon of our arrival, then pursued our own interests for the next two days. Most traveled by ferry to Suomenlinna Fortress Island to explore the island and the ancient fortress that once protected Helsinki and her harbor. We also took the icebreaker ferry for the two hour trip to Tallin, Estonia, to explore the ancient medieval city. More museums and beautiful architecture, good food and shopping filled our day there.

Our final jaunt was to St. Petersburg on the new high speed train. We had an enjoyable trip, complete with Finnish customs agents, Russian border agents - complete with large dogs and weapons! - and currency exchange while we traveled. In St. Petersburg, there were arranged tours both days, where we saw the main attractions in and around the city – the Hermitage, the palaces, the beautiful churches, and the gridlock traffic! We were all amazed at the gold on the church roofs and awnings and the unbelievable opulence in the palaces.

We returned Sunday, tired, jet-lagged, but with great memories. Perhaps you'll join us for next year's trip?





Brrr! Frozen World Cup Chair



Tarja, Janet & Mary enjoying some sun



Royal Palace Guards - Stockholm



Comrade Terry



Church Of The Spilled Blood



Jerry, Dan, Barb, and Terry



Snow Trotters



Esrael's in UK Blue & White



Barb & Jerry enjoy Trondheim View



LSSC Travels in Comfort



Mary, Pat & Janet at the Summit



Pat visits the Canal



Mt. Bachelor Revisited Mar. 12th – Mar. 19th

A small but adventurous group of LSSC travelers visited Mt. Bachelor near Bend, Oregon in the middle of March. I did not receive a trip report, but did receive some photos and commentary from two members of the group which I have taken the liberty of including below.

“The highlight on the Mt Bachelor was Jesse Sisken's inadvertent assault on the half-pipe in very limited visibility which resulted in a respectable huck move. My highlight was discovering that Bend Oregon has a soul food joint with more soul than any southern barbeque joint I've encountered. I did not try the okra. The only thing out of place was the Portland Soccer team's match on the tube.”

“As I remember, I only saw the sun once for just a couple of minutes. I guess the best I could say about the weather is that some days were not as bad as others. And the winds down low weren't too bad. As Keith may have told you, the back side of the mountain and the summit were closed all week (maybe forever) and the winds at one point at the top of the lift we often rode were said to have reached around 85 MPH.”



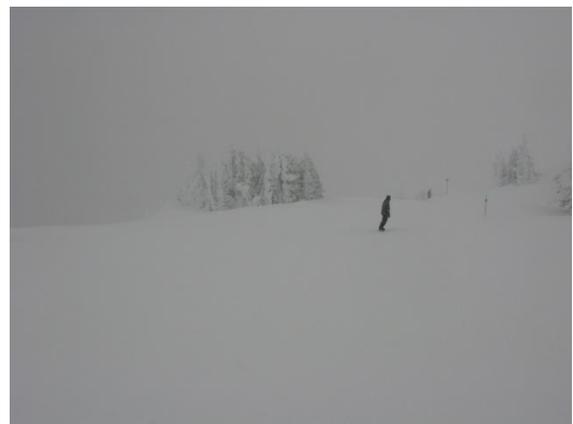
Our Mt. Bachelor skiers



Lots of fresh snow and pine trees to play in



A rare moment of clarity shows the volcano summit



Can you say “White Out”?



Mark Your Calendar!

The OVSC Summit will be Friday, June 3 – Sunday, June 5 at the Hilton Indianapolis Hotel and Suites, 120 W. Market Street, 46204 in downtown Indianapolis. Registration pricing will be as last year: \$49 includes the meetings, Friday night cocktail party, Saturday night dinner and dance, and Sunday breakfast. (There will be a separate rate for the dance only on Saturday night.) Arrangements are being made for tours of Indianapolis – possible the Speedway, the NCAA Hall of Fame and other sights and activities of local interest. A bike ride will be offered as well as a golf outing. Reservations should be made in early by calling 317-972-0600 or 1-800-445-8667, the national switchboard or 1-800-774-1500, for online assistance. Be sure to state the reservation is for the OVSC Summit to receive the \$99 (plus tax) room rate.

Stay tuned for details.....

LSSC 2010/2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Janet Jones jgiones@email.uky.edu

President Elect & Social Chair: Catherine Monzingo camonzingo@yahoo.com

Vice President: Howard Glauert hglauert@uky.edu

Treasurer: Jon Seaman jseaman@cecilseaman.com

Secretary: Mary Harbour labcons2@yahoo.com

Webmaster: Grant Stephens rgsteph@gmail.com

Membership: Charlie Lisle clisle1512@aol.com

Marketing: Jan Clark janclark@insightbb.com

Local Trips: Keith Hubbard hubcat88@windstream.net



All members are welcome to attend our board meetings. We encourage suggestions. We truly appreciate offers to help with activities and duties. Board meetings are usually held the second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 at the Chevy Chase Puccini's. If you are interested in attending, it is recommended that you re-confirm the time with a board member, because meeting locations and dates sometimes are changed. We are volunteers who donate our time to ensure that our members have a club that is fun and responsive to their needs. Please assist us.



The Lexington Ski & Sports Club is a non-profit organization. We are a diverse group of people who enjoy snow sports. We currently offer monthly meetings (except for in July), winter trips to ski resorts, and occasional off snow gatherings for socialization. You can learn more about us at our website: lexskisports.org where you can join up, read our by-laws and policies and download membership applications and other forms.



We also offer a listserve on Yahoo at: <http://sports.groups.yahoo.com/group/LexSki/>. You needn't be a member to use the listserve.



Many of us can be found on Facebook where we have a page called The Lexington Ski and Sports Club. A few photos of our trips are posted on the photo page. If you are already a Facebook user, check us out and join in on the fun. If you aren't familiar with Facebook – give it a try. It's way more fun than the listserve!