

**The Skiwiport**

*Skiwi Ski Club - Established 1959*



June 2019

## Letter from Past President Rick Kuhn:

Hello, Goodbye!

Many of you know me since I have been in the club for over 30 years and on the Board of Directors for most of those years with more than five as President! I joined the club to go skiing and have fun, my goals have been accomplished! Over the years I've seen the club do a lot of fun and interesting things and I've met a lot of good people. I'd have to say it's the people I've met that kept me in the club so long!

That being said, having fun and interesting events sure help to keep you sticking around, but of course you need people to attend these events for the club to exist. That's where all you come in! The club will continue to plan and run the various events, but we need your support. In addition to actually attending these events, we'd also like your feedback and to know what other kind of things you want to do. Consider helping to plan and/or run an event for the club. If you are interested, talk to someone on the Social Committee or any board member, we'll work with you.

There is another thing this club does, it skis! Officially we're the Skiwi Ski Club, unofficially we are known as the "Skiwi Ski & Social Club". So in addition to the "social" things we do all year long, we plan some of the best ski trips available! Our Ski Committee works hard to bring you all the very best deals we can for ski trips. We try to mix it up and rotate our destinations to provide a wide array of ski locations. This is evident if you look at all the resorts we've visited over the years. We plan to keep doing this and hope you will join us for many years to come!

We had planned to publish newsletters quarterly or seasonally, but it's been about a year since our last newsletter. We now have an Editor and she's been working hard to assemble some articles about the events we have run over the past year. These days things get posted on the website, Constant Contact emails and Facebook, but those things sort of come and then are gone, so having an actual newsletter we can publish and save on our website is a nice way to save some Skiwi history and memories. It's also a nice place to keep a record of things so when we meet new members we have something to refer back to and show people the kind of things our club does. We also welcome articles from our members, so if you are so

# The Skiwiport

*Skiwi Ski Club - Established 1959*



## June 2019

inclined, please contact Dick Marx, our temporary Editor and be sure to check out this newsletter and some of the past newsletters. Share it with your friends too!

So I started off by saying “Hello, Goodbye”. This is because I’ll be stepping down as President after the elections in April. I’ll still be helping out on the board and will certainly be hanging out with all my Skiwi buddies at the events and skiing on trips. It has been fun and will continue to be fun (and interesting) so I think I’ll stick around, hope you will too!

Rick Kuhn

Past President Skiwi Ski Club

## **Snowmass 2019 (Jan. 26 – Feb. 2, 2019)**

**By Rick Kuhn**

We had one heck of a great trip! Everything went smooth with the flight out to Denver and we caught our bus for the four hour ride to Snowmass. Since we had an early flight, we were able to get in and have a pizza, beer & wine welcome party by 5:30pm and still allow enough time to head over to Aspen to see some of the Winter X Games action. A bunch of people went over to get in on the action at the X Games and were able to get some incredible views of the awesome athletes competing in the Big Air (huge aerial jumps) and Super Pipe Finals, and a very unusual snow bike (half motorcycle, half snowmobile) trick jumping competition.



# The Skiwiport

*Skiwi Ski Club - Established 1959*



## June 2019

Our first day of skiing greeted us with good snow coverage and mostly sunny skies. Most people skied their first day at Snowmass and through the week visited Aspen Mt., Aspen Highlands and Buttermilk. We had some weather move in on Monday night giving us a fresh coating for Tuesday's skiing. The end of the week gave us 3 days of clear blue sunny sky skiing!



Through the week a few times we met at one of the trip leader's condo to have a "happy hour" with snacks and euchre games. Some of our trip participants were in the Terracehouse condos and others were in rooms at the Stonebridge Inn, both of these joint properties were top notch and only a short walk to the slopes! Like 100 yards away! There were 2 hot tubs, one for each property, so it was easy to have an après ski hot soak with a cold beverage every night!

# The Skiwiport

*Skiwi Ski Club - Established 1959*



June 2019



We also had some impromptu group après ski gatherings at the historic Red Onion, in Aspen, and the (New Belgium) Ranger Station, at close by Snowmass Upper Village, for a few thirst quenching beers after an exhilarating day on the slopes. Later in the evenings, one of the more popular dinner spots was the Hickory BBQ in Aspen.



# The Skiwiport

*Skiwi Ski Club - Established 1959*



## June 2019



On our last night some of us got together for another happy hour in a condo to finish off some booze and share some stories from the week, then we packed it up and got ready to head home. It really was a great week; we had good coverage, good friends, good times and no injuries!



Here is a nice poem about the trip by one of our trip participants – Peggy O’Donnell, enjoy!

# The Skiwiport

*Skiwi Ski Club - Established 1959*



## June 2019

### A Snowmass Poem:

'Twas the night before Snowmass, and all through the house, suitcases were bursting, no room for one more blouse. The socks were rolled up inside boots with great care; some leaving room for a bottle of liqueur.

The travelers nestled, at last, in their beds, while visions of powder danced in their heads. With skis in the trunk and bags in the back, there was time for a short, little last minute nap.

Then after the car ride, the airplane, the bus, Skiwis sprang from their seats to check in as guests. Away to their rooms they flew with a dash, and looked out the windows before the welcome bash.

The moon on the breast of the new fallen snow gave the lustre of mid-day to objects below. When what to their wondering eyes did appear, but blankets of packed powder o'er the entire frontier!

With a shiver of delight, so lively and quick, they ran to get lift passes from trip leader Rick. More rapid than mustangs to his table they came, and he whistled and shouted and called them by name:

Now Jenny, now Dean, now Karen and Beth! On Don, Dave, and Dick! On Shelley and Deb! To the top of The Edge! To the top of Free Fall! Tomorrow we meet at Sheer Bliss, one and all!

In the bright sun of next day, with no crowds in sight, to the chairlift they skied, for their first uphill flight. Up to the top, goggles shining like new, they unloaded, and hooted, and downward they flew!

Their eyes, how they twinkled, their dimples so merry! Cheeks all like roses, noses like cherries! Droll little mouths drawn up like bows, whiskers and chins all covered in snow.

And then, in a twinkling, was heard on Moonshine, Guns & Roses best, Sweet Child 'o Mine! As they planted their poles and were turning around, down the gulley came more Skiwis, whooping like hounds.

They were dressed all in Goretex, from their heads to their feet, and their helmets were bobbing in time with the beat; bundles, like rucksacks, were flung on their backs, and they looked just like a merry old wolfpack.

# The Skiwiport

*Skiwi Ski Club - Established 1959*



## June 2019

Trip boss John sprang ahead, to his team gave a whistle, and away they all flew like the streak of a missile! But they heard him exclaim, as he skied out of sight, see you at Happy Hour in Snowmass tonight!



# The Skiwiport

Skiwi Ski Club - Established 1959



## June 2019

### Skiwi's Second Annual Bike, Boat and BBQ Party

By Sue Fralowicz

On July 22nd, 2018, Sue and Tony Fralowicz hosted the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Bike, Boat and BBQ party for the Skiwi Club. Starting out at the marina, they biked to the point at Metro Beach and then back. The BBQ feast took place upon their return, and members each brought a dish to pass so there was plenty to eat. Everyone then enjoyed a beautiful day on the Fralowicz boat, Best of Times, as they cruised out to Metro Beach where they had been on their bikes earlier.





# The Skiwiport

*Skiwi Ski Club - Established 1959*



## June 2019

### Whitefish Montana Ski Trip (March 16-23 2019)

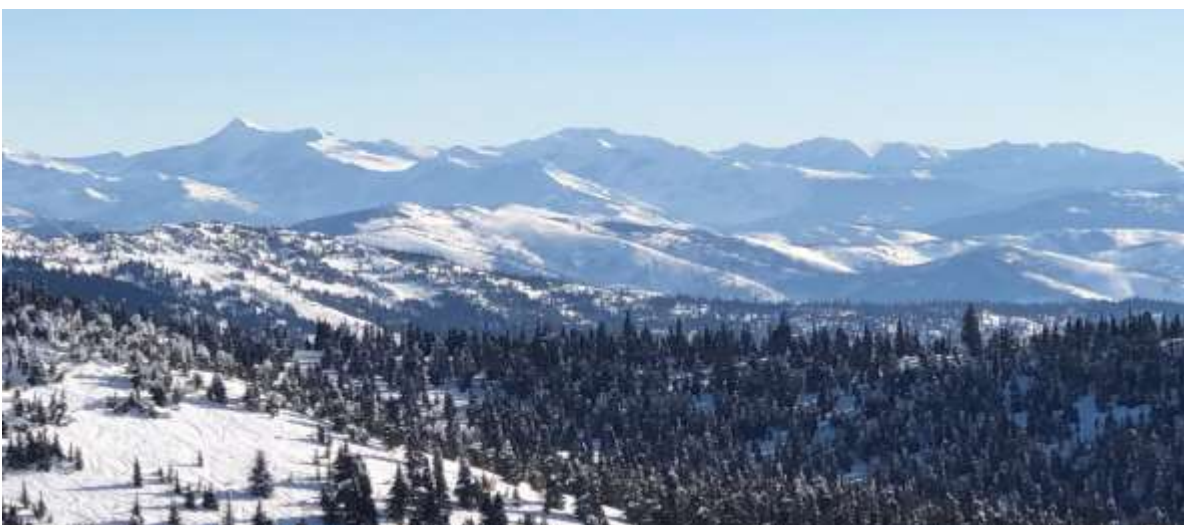
By Peggy O'Donnell

#### **BLUEST SKIES EVER**

Whitefish Montana delivered an abundance of sunshine, glorious mountain vistas, and lodging perks that kept the Skiwis happy all week long. Even when overly warm spring conditions made the mountain nearly un-skiable the last two days, this group's fun did not stop.

From the moment we were met at Kalispell airport, and until our return, the staff from the Lodge at Whitefish Lake made everything easy – the luggage was handled, the lift tickets distributed, the skis and boots valeted every day, the shuttles ran to town or mountain whenever desired, aching bodies were pampered in the spa and hot tubs, and the club was even provided its own hospitality room and outdoor patio with fire pit for morning coffee or for meeting up after dinner to keep the party going. Every morning began with unlimited coffee, hot buffet breakfast, and a view of the moon over Whitefish Lake.

At the mountain, ski ambassadors shared all their best tips for where to ski during which parts of the day, to avoid ice in the morning and slush in the afternoon. Spring conditions meant the full expanse of the mountain was not available to everyone. But all found some favorite runs – Inspiration, Toni Matt, Whitetail, Grey Wolf, Moe-mentum, and many more. Best views were had at the top of Chair 11 and at the Summit. Check this out:



**The Skiwiport**

*Skiwi Ski Club - Established 1959*



## June 2019

Our A-team trip leaders, Debby Rogers and Shelley Scarlett, thoughtfully planned a number of alternate activities, enjoyed by everyone who chose to try them. A welcome party at The Boat Bar and après ski at the famous Bierstube in the mountain village were great ways for everyone to get to know each other and share their alpine adventures over craft beer and food. Dog sledding was a huge hit, as you could probably tell from viewing your Facebook friends' post trip pictures. A large group visited Glacier National Park, via bus tour or snowshoe. The Park's attractions could not all be accessed, as most of the Going-to-the-Sun road is closed during the winter months, but the beauty of the place was evident to everyone who hiked out onto frozen Lake MacDonald. The group also journeyed to the continental divide, after stopping at the famed Isaak Walton Inn for lunch and souvenir shopping in the old railroad bunkhouse.

# The Skiwiport

*Skiwi Ski Club - Established 1959*



June 2019



# The Skiwiport

*Skiwi Ski Club - Established 1959*



## June 2019

The group found many options for dining out in the town of Whitefish. On Saint Patrick's Day, the Irish-for-a-day found deals on green beer and corned beef at the Great Northern Bar & Grill. Cultural diversity was in order the rest of the week too. Who'd have guessed there would be, not one, but two great sushi restaurants (Wasabi and Indah) in a cowboy town? Italian country cuisine was discovered at Abruzzo's. The Last Chair restaurant, walking distance from the lodge, was the secret dining treasure of the locals. But everyone's favorite was Mama Blanca's Cocina Latina. The Mexican/Cuban fusion menu proved delicious and satisfying, the Margaritas refreshing, and the rough, oversized, sturdy wood tables were just made for large



groups sampling food from everyone's plates and shouting over each other like they did at their own family kitchen tables. The Skiwi ski trip planners put together a memorable trip to Montana.

# The Skiwiport

*Skiwi Ski Club - Established 1959*



## June 2019

### Whitefish Montana Escapades Part II

By Shelley Mascarello

Our last western ski trip for 2019 was to beautiful Whitefish mountain on March 16<sup>th</sup>. We flew into Kalispell and were greeted by Ryan and Leanne from The Lodge at Whitefish Lake. This was the easiest transfer ever! We didn't touch luggage again, as it was transferred and delivered to our luxury suites. It was only a 20 minute, comfortable ride to home away from home. All 38 Skiwis gathered in the Viking Lounge for our welcome party of wine, beer and appetizers.



our

our

Our first day of skiing Whitefish Mountain was a bluebird day! It was also St Paddy's Day. Sue F decorated our cheeks and helmets with shamrocks. We found some leprechaun green garb and headed outside! From the summit the scenery was spectacular! Glacier National Park was in full view. Ambassador guides offered tours of the big mountain to orient you to all there was to ski there, and many of us benefitted from this free and fun orientation. The warm temperatures made this definitely Spring skiing. By lunch time you were opening your vents and losing any extra clothing layers.

# The Skiwiport

Skiwi Ski Club - Established 1959



## June 2019



The outside hot tub overlooking the lake was the place to meet before going into town for Green beers, and Corned beef. Some enjoyed the Irish music before 8pm but the band was playing at the Great Northern brewery late into the night. The town of Whitefish closes up at 9pm otherwise. Oh well...more time to

get some sleep so we could be up early to ski!

Tuesday was just as sunny. Early runs were groomed but chunky and fast. It didn't take long before the sun softened the snow making carving so much easier. The moguls became friendlier as well! By 2pm the snow was more challenging as it turned to mash potatoes. So,



# The Skiwiport

*Skiwi Ski Club - Established 1959*



## June 2019

we gathered at the Bierstube for some après ski fun. The Ski Patrol was having their fund raiser. The band played, the sun continued to shine and the drinks flowed. All the Skiwi gals received free souvenir rings at the bar! Check out the pictures! Jealous?

Debbie and Shelley planned a surprise special burger and brew night for the gang. We all met at the Boat House back at our Lodge après ski. The chef prepared Gourmet Burgers for all. We enjoyed acoustic entertainment with the Bad Larry's following dinner until bedtime ...or a late night, full moon hot tub!

Wednesday Debbie arranged for the Glacier Guides to meet us at the lodge. 24 Skiwis were taken by limousine and or party van to tour Glacier National park and surrounding areas. Many magnificent photo opportunities for all to capture! The lunch stop was near the east



entrance to Glacier. Lunch was served in an historic railroad car. The rest of the train cars have also been remodeled, and have become a Bed and Breakfast lodging. Participants found this to be one of the many highlights of the day.

Opportunities to snow shoe in Glacier National Park and or snow mobile on our day off of skiing

were also enjoyed by individuals in our group.

Thursday and Friday were the days we chose to go Dog Sledding with Basecamp Big Fork.



What an absolute thrill to mush your own Inuit husky team. Owners, Mark and Sam shared their love of this invigorating sport with us. We mushed trails in the woods, snow covered meadows and lakes! We even Jumped Beaver dams! All surrounded by the Flathead Mountain range everywhere you look!

# The Skiwiport

*Skiwi Ski Club - Established 1959*



## June 2019

The Italian Feast was the theme of our Thursday night party back in the Viking Lounge. Mckensie River Pizza catered our party. 3 pasta dishes, 2 kinds of salads, pizza and garlic cheese bread sticks filled our ever-expanding stomachs! The week was winding down so we encouraged all to empty and share any beer, wine, and liquor with their Skiwi family.

Friday, beautiful again! The entire week we had blue skies. One last day to ski Big Mountain. Many are now down loading on the chairlift after lunch as the snow is so heavy to ski midmountain to the base. There are always a few hardcore skiers that don't ever quit...John, Mary, Dean? These three took the last snow bus home!

Saturday 4 of us gals participated in a relaxing yoga class before boarding the shuttle back to the airport. Our instructor surprised us with a healthy and refreshing PAMOSA after class.

(Pomegranate juice and champagne.) to send us on our way. Namaste! What a wonderful ski vacation this was.





# The Skiwiport

*Skiwi Ski Club - Established 1959*



## June 2019

### **Skiwi Skating Party at Dodge Park Ice Arena**

**By Julie DiMambro**

While there were only a few Skiwi Members who ventured out to the Dodge Park Ice Skating arena for the Skating Party in January, it was a chance for those few members to get to know each other well and show off their skating prowess and their moves on the ice!



It is not unusual for a few of the dedicated Skiwi members to get together to do some informal and impromptu hiking and snowshoeing too! Contact Sue Fralowicz if you have an idea for a Skiwi get together or for more information on how you can join this busy group of winter-lovers!

Skiwis are not just a great group of ski bunnies. We are skate bunnies, hike bunnies and snowshoe bunnies too!

# The Skiwiport

Skiwi Ski Club - Established 1959



## June 2019

### New York Bus Ski Trip

By Julie Dimambro



Oh what a weekend! We had THE BEST GROUP of people on the Party Bus trip to Holiday Valley in New York. The casino theme on the bus was a blast and gave the 7 new members an opportunity to meet, greet and share stories with the members. The Saturday night arrival was perfect timing for a BAND festival in town. After a welcome party in the Trip Leaders' room the group went out to explore, have dinner and dance to the band music. A few of the group closed the bars as they wanted to see ALL the bands- Treavor, was that you?

Sunday morning we woke up to poor ski conditions however it did not dampen our Skiwi spirit! We played games, explored the shops in town and went bowling at a nearby bowling alley. Thanks to one of our new members- John! Sunday afternoon found most of the group partying at a sports bar watching the MSU vs. UofM basketball game while 1 die hard Skiwi- Paul, braved the elements for night skiing!

Monday morning brought powder and great conditions for a full day of skiing. The Skiwi group had a blast and left Holiday Valley around 4:00



# The Skiwiport

*Skiwi Ski Club - Established 1959*



## June 2019



for the relaxing, movie and game filled bus trip home.

New friends were made and great memories provided for the best of weekends!

Hanne and Julie- Trip Leaders





June 2019

# Skiwi Christmas Party!

By Sue Fralowicz



Skiwi’s Annual Christmas Party was held at the American-Polish Cultural Center in Troy the first week in December, 2018. Sue Fralowicz and Skiwi’s other Social Directors made the dressy affair worthwhile, with great food, drinks and entertainment for the night!

During this seasonal time of giving, Skiwi members who attended each brought a toy to donate to charity.

An opportunity to get dolled up in their best holiday dress, to dance, and share a meal together – all hallmarks of Skiwi participation – helped members fill the evening with holiday spirit and good cheer.

# The Skiwiport

*Skiwi Ski Club - Established 1959*



June 2019



June 2019

## More Social Photos!



Kensington Bike Ride



May Birthday Party



Mt Holly Ski Day



Square Dance

# The Skiwiport

*Skiwi Ski Club - Established 1959*



## June 2019



Heritage Park Bike Riders and Walkers:

We had a great turnout with 20 riders and 3 walkers. Food and beverages were great at the afterglow at Jamboozies. Wonderful night. Julie Dimambro