



# Sitzmark

APRIL 2017

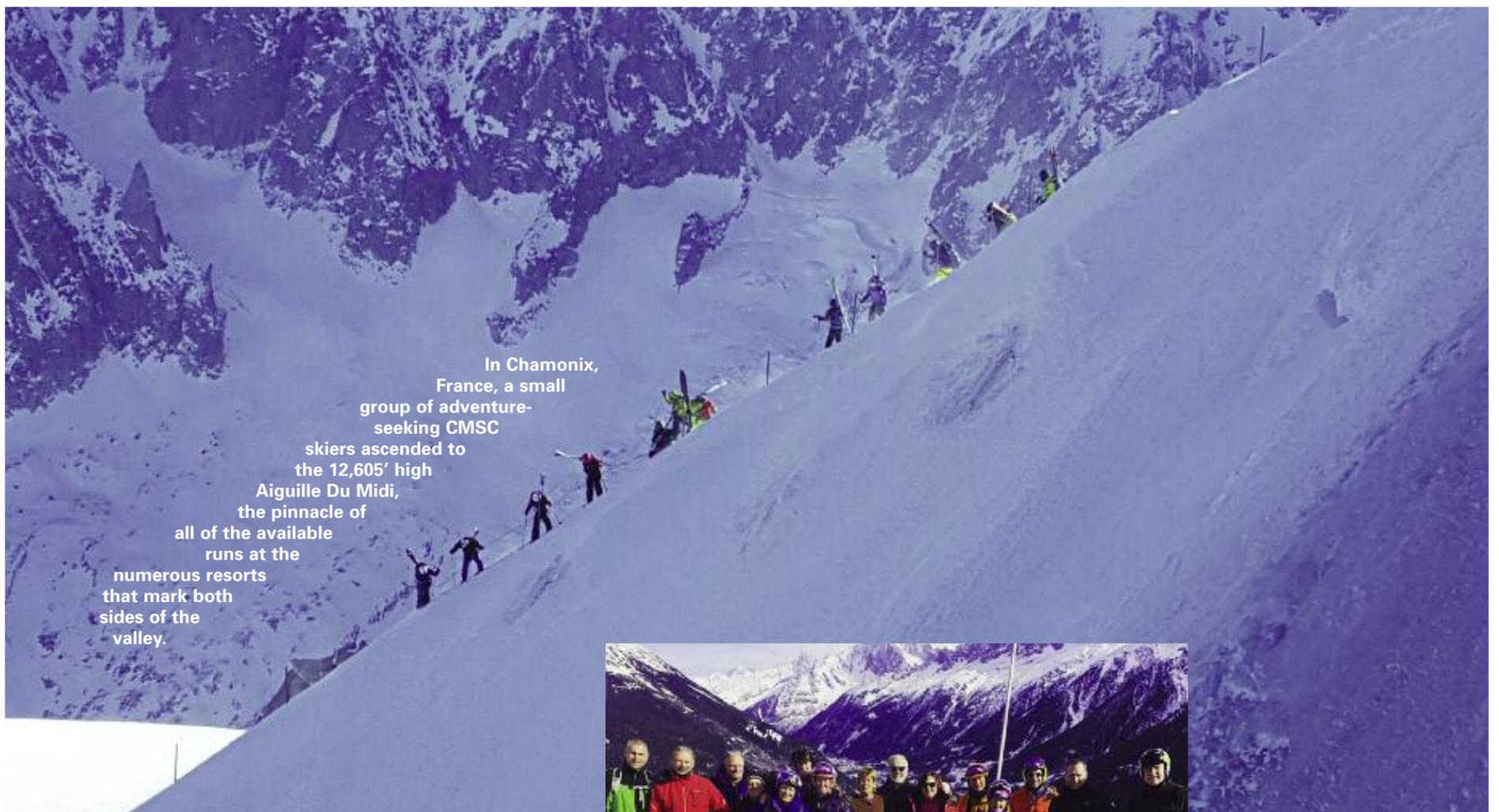
SEASON WRAP-UP ISSUE

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In Chamonix, France, a small group of adventure-seeking CMSC skiers ascended to the 12,605' high Aiguille Du Midi, the pinnacle of all of the available runs at the numerous resorts that mark both sides of the valley.

## CMSC 2017 Trip Reports

By Curtis Bell, CMSC Trip Chair

### CMSC took 96 people to Chamonix, France and 65 people onto Barcelona, Spain

On January 20, 2017, the Cleveland Metro Ski Council had 96 people depart the USA for a great ski trip to Chamonix, France. Several people were going to Europe for the first time while other people in our group had been to Europe several times. In either case, we were all excited and looking for a great time on and off the slopes.

The town of Chamonix was a great town with the true atmosphere of Europe. The charming town was filled with great places to shop, share drinks, and places to eat. Several times after skiing we would meet somewhere for some Après-ski.

This year Europe did not have a stela year for snow, but fortunately a couple weeks before our arrival they received a good amount of snow making our conditions good. We didn't have the powder we had in Zermatt 2 years ago, but we had well-groomed runs to ski on. We had many people go to a variety of ski areas since we had several people.

#### Some participants shared a few short stories about their experiences in Chamonix...

*Emily Paris wanted to tell us about Arnie Rodriguez getting lost in Switzerland and here is what she had to say about this experience:*

Well it was me, the Mike and Tara Popik, Michael Duvall and Craig Healey and we were at Balme and we were close to the Swiss side skiing an off piste bowl and it was closed at the bottom so we were trying to traverse left and he somehow got ahead and separated and ended up getting to the bottom with the resort nowhere in sight and he knocks on a little cabin and this little old couple invites him in for



coffee and he sits and talks ( kind of English) and they offer him a ride back to the lift in the little car on these winding roads...we end up finding him again on the hill like 2 hours later.

#### *Karen Moyer and Bob and Patty Jackson:*

What is the attraction to skiing in Europe? Is it skiing the Alps? The challenges that European skiing presents? Or, the check off on the bucket list? The attraction for us was skiing Chamonix, being able to ski multiple countries at one time (France, Italy and Switzerland), and going with fellow Clevelanders. There are lots of things to consider if you want to venture to this part of the ski world; let me review our January trip with Cleveland Metro Ski Council (CMSC).

Six of us from the Chagrin Valley Ski Club (CVSC) joined the CMSC trip to Chamonix, France.

The CMSC group stayed at two dif-

ferent hotels in Chamonix, Hotel Alpina and Hotel Prieure. The CVSC group was all at the latter which had tons of charm. It was a boutique hotel that had been totally refurbished about 2 years ago.

We purchased the Mont Blanc Unlimited pass which gave us access to the most areas and countries we could ski. The ski pass includes local transportation, with a bit of an added charge for some of the areas further out. We ended up skiing 4 days at Brevent-Flegere, Grand Montets and twice at Courmayeur in Italy. We purchased a 6-day pass which included access to some of the great sites in the area which we took advantage of on our day off. The 6-day pass was 300 Euro for me and 254 for those over 65. We got a discount for ordering online and picked up the pass on the day we arrived.

#### *Terri Lastovka met a long lost friend on the trip and here is her experience:*

While gathering all our people when we first arrived at the Geneva airport, the woman standing next to me looking very familiar. Then I saw her husband. Bob's company was a longtime client many years ago. Haven't seen Bob and Patty Jackson in 24 years. How fun!"

Hats seemed to be the thing in Chaminox. At the last happy hour bunches of people showed up sporting new knit hats."

#### *Keri Cavanaugh tells us about her experience at Les Houches:*

We started at the top of the World Cup downhill race course and we wanted to see how long it would take us to get to the bottom compared to the professionals! We of course had to stop a couple times to rest the legs and wait for others but even with those few 20-second stops it still took us eight minutes to get to the bottom and at certain points we were going over 54 miles an hour! It sure is amazing how the professional racers can do what they do!

#### *William Keefe tells about the most adventurous group on the trip:*

In Chamonix, France the Aiguille Du Midi is the pinnacle of all of the available runs at the numerous resorts that mark both sides of the valley. Across

See Trip Reports on page 3

# Looking forward; Looking back – as CMSC turns 50

**By Greg Schmid,  
CMSC President**

Sometimes, I wonder what I am going to write about in my President's Messages. Inspiration comes in all forms (no, I'm not going to write about the weather again). This time, it was the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The February 26, 2017 Plain Dealer had a group of articles in the Arts & Life section about Cleveland's "Hidden Figures." The movie "Hidden Figures" was nominated for three Academy Awards including Best Picture, but did not win. It did, however, win a Screen Actors Guild Award for Outstanding Performance by a Cast in a Motion Picture. The movie casts a spotlight on the black women who were known as "human computers" who worked at NASA prior to its adoption of computers. Cleveland's own "hidden

figures", who worked at NASA Glenn Research Center, included Annie Easley, who was CMSC's President from 1989-1992. Annie died in 2011; however, her legacy at CMSC lives on, as the 96 people who recently spent a week at Chamonix, can attest.

Annie was one of only four black employees at NASA Glenn when she was hired there in 1955 (it was called the Aircraft Engine Research Facility at that time). She was one of these "human computers" who performed complex mathematical calculations crucial to the research of the facility. When computers became available, she became a programmer. She also tutored school students, recruited for NASA, and worked as NASA's Equal Employment Opportunity Officer during her career. She earned her degree in mathematics at Cleveland State while working full time. She retired



from NASA in 1989, and stepped into the presidency of CMSC.

She was also one of the people who inspired me to become involved in my ski club and CMSC. Her enthusiasm and her love of skiing was contagious. She stayed involved with CMSC well after her

presidency ended.

I was also inspired by Paul Webber and Jack Ganz, two of the first CMSC people I met 25 years ago at a Suburban Ski Club function; by Mike Hexter, who took me out west for the first time with Erie Shores Ski Club; by Bob Griffin, who keeps Erie Shores running; by Dianne Oldham, who ran my first trip with CMSC to Whistler; by Bob Maclauchlan, "President-For-Life" at Hi Rise Ski Club; by Pam Korenewych, who got me involved in CMSC; by Mike Gretchko, "Doc" Bob Akamine and Guy Nerren, who infected me with "racing sickness"; by "New Daddy" Justin Forbes, who helped my transition into the CMSC Presidency and who still provides me with his objective outlook on things; by my wife, Jenny Ware, who supports my commitment to CMSC; and by many others who have offered a hug, a hand shake, and a kind

word to me during my journey.

As we look forward to celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Cleveland Metro Ski Council on Saturday, November 4, 2017, we should think about those who made it possible for Curtis Bell to run a trip to Chamonix, France, for CMSC to have 23 ski clubs as members, for the Sitzmark and annual Ski Directory, for the ski and snowboard racing program, for the new CMSC website, and everything else CMSC and your ski club does for you.

Most importantly, your ski club and CMSC is only able to provide these benefits for their members through the hard work of volunteers. I appreciate the officers, trustees, committee chairs, club delegates, and other volunteers, who make sure this organization continues to thrive. As CMSC's 20th President, I also appreciate the hard work of the 19 individuals who served in this office before me, and are listed in the chart below. And lastly, I thank you for this opportunity to serve as President, and for your support during the last two years.

As always, you can email me at [president@skicleveland.com](mailto:president@skicleveland.com) with comments, concerns, questions, compliments, criticisms, etc.

CLEVELAND METRO SKI COUNCIL IS PROUD TO PRESENT

# Gold Rush



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## Sitzmark

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from Brevent the "Needle Point" stands 12,605 feet (3842 meters) and is adjacent to Mont-Blanc. Two 60-passenger trams, whose engineering deserves a museum, will take you 9,202 feet vertically from town to the top of the world. From the ice-cave you can get your first view of the Mer de Glace (glacier) that descends from the top of the Aigullie du Midi. Eight of us decided to hike the ridge line the next day and do the longest, tallest run of our lives.

Get a guide, rent crampons, put on this beacon, never stop below the guide... In our group, Jeff Keefe, Mike Garam, Tommy Keller, and myself Will Keefe, met our guide, Deje at the bottom of the tram skis in hand and crampons ready. We went up and up and up, for our 22-kilometer run that would take most of the day and challenge every one on us physically and mentally. After we had donned our crampons for a 20-minute hike, Tommy lead the pack of four down the ridge line. The ridge was a small pathway that had been chewed up by crampons, about 2-foot wide with guaranteed death, from drop-offs on both sides. Tommy, Mike Jeff then myself tied together about 2-feet apart took our steps off the ledge into 50 mile per hour winds as Deje tied us off to the first post. Mike talking to Tommy, our leader, the whole time as Tommy faces his fear of heights head on, step by step. Nothing like 1500-foot glacier falls on each side to get you warmed up for a 22-kilometer ski run. After the most harrowing 30-feet we reach the second tie-off post, where I had to let go of my poles, my only balance against the forceful wind, to tie us off before continuing to the next post, and the next...

Finally, after a day's long 20 minute hike, we reach our rest spot and get to view the Mer de Glace and see our first set of turns ahead. All four of us stay carefully behind the guide and each other, skiing out into the most vast

snow field I've ever seen.

At this point Doug Seib, Mike Popik, and Larry Foote meet up with us as we stop and take in the view for a moment. We see the guide point to his left and we make sure to tighten up our lines and sure enough, the first crevasse! We would see a countless number of them as we continued through fields of house sized rocks floating on the ice, sometimes wedged in crevasses. After a short decent we could view most of the glacier and a fair number of peaks around. This was the moment that felt like you were living in a Warren Miller movie and a postcard all at once. It was glorious. After about 3 hours of following our expert guide through a maze of crevasses and 4,000 vertical feet, we had lunch, where you could sit down and look into the ice until light just didn't go that far.

At the bottom of the Mer De Glace and 17-kilometers later our guide, who had mentioned a short hike to a cat-track, took us up a lateral moraine of rounded boulders for 1,000 vertical feet. We were completely exhausted and felt absolutely accomplished reaching the top of the moraine. The cat track took us very far into town and we made the short 5 minute walk back to our hotel without ever using a bus or car the entire day. Although I will make an effort to do something as spectacular as the Aigulle du Midi in my life, I do not think anything will be able to compare to the 22-kilometer, 9,000 vertical foot ski run in the French Alps.

And, I, Curtis Bell, learned how it is cheaper to ski. I took a day off from skiing to spend time with my lovely wife, Anita. We decided to walk around the town and I ended up buying a new POC helmet and goggles, which I needed, especially the goggles. I then later ended up buying hiking boots, which I also didn't have. I then told Anita on our way back to the hotel that it's cheaper to ski.

## Telluride in March: To be continued...

Our spring trip to Telluride, Colorado was a combined trip between CMSC and Warren Ski Club. At the time of this article we are a few days into the trip and it is going great. We have spring conditions and it is actually snowing more and colder back in Ohio and Western New York. Despite that we have some really good skiing, you just have to avoid the place that are getting the sun all day.

So far, we are had a nice welcome party that allowed everyone to meet and to have some pizza. We also had a poker run / Pub Crawl, which has been a long tradition of WSC to have during a west trip. Pam Korenwyh is running this trip for CMSC so I am having the pleasure of being a regular trip participant. Mary Kirila is running the WSC part of the trip and I must say they are both doing a great job coordinating this trip and everyone seems to be having a great time. I know I am.

## Looking ahead at 2018

I am getting bids and information on several places for 2018 such as Japan and many western destinations. I also received a nice bid on a trip to Italy. Please keep watching CMSC's Facebook page or the website at skicleveland.com.

Any information, please email me at curtiswsc@neo.rr.com.

# CMSC'S 50th Birthday Party!

Save the date to celebrate: Sat., Nov. 4, 2017

Plans for CMSC's 50th Birthday celebration are in full swing!

Mediterranean Party Center (I-271 and Rockside) is the place; starts 5:30 pm; cost: \$50 per person with dinner, open bar, dancing with the Bellaires, surprises and more fun stuff!

**SPREAD THE WORD!** Tell everyone you know. Run into old ski club members at a bar or social event? Tell them to save the date. Flyer will be posted on CMSC's website (Skicleveland.com) soon. It's in this Sitzmark, too. And in your ski club newsletter.

**PHOTOS NEEDED: WE WANT YOUR CLUB TO BE INCLUDED** in our slideshow and keepsake program. We are seeking up to 20 photos from each ski club (your club, then and now-- the early days of your club to today.) Pictures of all the fun your club has had throughout the years. Pictures will be posted on CMSC's website and Facebook. Email pictures to Anne Houdek amh14400@gmail.com or snail mail to 14400 Hubbard Road; Burton OH 44021.



# Holiday Valley

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## 2017 Race Season Wrap Up

### Go home, Mother Nature, you're drunk!



**Becky Bertuzzi**  
CMSC Race Chair

I'm sure that we all had high hopes for a great winter. I know the weathermen kept getting our hopes up with Farmer's Almanac predictions. I really need a job where I can be wrong 50% of the time and not get fired... but I digress.

As the saying goes, when life hands you lemon... you grab some vodka, sugar and do lemon drops (wait, that's not how it goes?) Despite Mother Nature's little bender she took us on and continues to take us on, another race season, and my first season as race chair, is in the books. And my, was it eventful!

We started at the season at Holiday Valley with fair conditions, a new group set up and the reorganization of the snowboard classes. Competition was fierce all around and it was a great kick-off to the season. Some were getting ready to race at Swain in two weeks, while a majority of us were counting down the days to our trip to Chamonix, France. I turned over duties to Bootsie Ricketts, Mike Walters, Heidi and Rick Reinecker, Doug Majkrzak and Janet Slade and bid them adieu. I cannot thank these committee members enough for covering the races at Swain and Snow Trails while we were overseas.

Back in the good old USA, we headed to Boston Mills for our annual charity race. It was a sunny day with a good turnout. This year's charity was OROC (Outrun Ovarian Cancer), a charity that is near and dear to Chuck Horning. We lost Polly last year to ovarian cancer and Chuck helped to raise substantial funds for the organization. Chuck was also selling some of Polly's equipment and proceeds would go to OROC as well.

We headed down the stretch of the season with a visit to our friends at Kissing Bridge where we had the chance to race a slalom on Holly. As always, the KB crew set up great courses and were accommodating to CMSC. There was even a TRex appearance at the end of the snowboard races ... Unfortunately, due to Mother Nature thinking it was an awesome

idea to send a low pressure system full of rain and fog through Ellicottville, we had to cancel the Holiday Valley duals. That left us with Swain and Bristol and the weather at Swain wasn't looking too promising.

Despite the best efforts of Swain to stockpile snow in anticipation of warmer temperatures and wet weather later in the week of the races, we had to cancel the races and Snowboard

Combined. This was a tough call on both the committee and on Swain and was a disappointment for everyone involved.

The warm weather stuck around in the early part of the week of Bristol, but the Bristol race crew kept the snow together with about four tons of fertilizer. We arrived at Bristol Friday night to light snow and the anticipation of a great Ski Combined weekend, with a twist: there would be snowboard races at Bristol. We were even paid a visit by a journalist from Syracuse University to talk about our program and our love of skiing and snowboarding. It was a magical, magical weekend - especially when the unicorns showed up!

We wrapped up the season, crowned our combined champions and headed on down the road, another race season in the books. A shorter race season, but a season of fun, memories and camaraderie nonetheless.

I want to take a minute and thank my committee members: Bootsie Ricketts, Heidi Reinecker, Rick Reinecker, Frank and Anne Houdek, Janet Slade, Larry Foote, Beth Skalak, Jerry Vargo, Doug Majkrzak, Mike Walters, Chuckles McConnell and Bob Reiland. You all have been such a tremendous help to me this year and I appreciate the advice you have given me. I also want to thank the racers. Thanks for coming to race! You made my job enjoyable and it was nice to hear the compliments of a job well done throughout this crazy season. And bring some friends with you next year, okay?

Until next year. Maybe by then Mother Nature will have her meds straightened out.

The Commissioner



## CMSC charity race benefits OutRun Ovarian Cancer (OROC)

CMSC donated \$500 to OROC during the awards ceremony following the Feb 5 race at Boston Mills Ski Area. Boston Mills also donated \$144, representing \$1 for each racer who participated in the day's race. OROC was chosen this year in honor of Polly Horning, longtime CMSC member, racer and good friend to many of us, who passed away in April 2016, and her husband Chuck Horning also made a significant contribution.

OROC is a volunteer driven non-profit organization dedicated to creating an active community of hope and empowerment for those touched by ovarian cancer through awareness, education and early detection.

Jim and Ellena, who is a 14 year cancer survivor, were on hand to tell us a bit about OROC, to pass out free t-shirts, and to accept the donations for which they were extremely grateful.

For more information about volunteering, fundraisers, including their annual 5K Run/Walk on Saturday August 5, 2017, and OROC in general go to [www.oroc.org](http://www.oroc.org). If you would like to join Chuck Horning's team for the walk or run please contact him at [charleshorning@sbc-global.net](mailto:charleshorning@sbc-global.net).



OROC Directors Jim and Ellena Muraco accept CMSC's donation from Race Chairman Becky Bertuzzi.

**Continental Ski Club**

As usual, Continental Ski Club is very proud of our racers. We did win the Division II CMSC trophy for Bristol Mountain Combined with five of our racers (Peter Keefe, Jeff Keefe, Melissa Patterson-Meador, Gillian Martin, and Jim Meador) winning individual combined trophies. We are looking forward to the CMSC Racers' Banquet to be held on Saturday, April 22nd at Reinecker's Party Center. At this event, you will probably hear the same cheer heard at the CMSC racing events this past season, Continental may not win the race, but we definitely win the PARTY!"

As Spring has arrived, CSC is organizing its spring/summer calendar. On Saturday, June 3rd we will host our annual Spring Picnic at Oak Shelter (Cleveland Metro Parks—North Chagrin Reservation). Once a month we get together for a Birthday Nite Out to celebrate those members who had birthdays during that particular month. Also, we have now formed an Activities Committee, which is creating more events for us to participate in throughout the spring and summer, i.e. a day at Geneva-on-the-Lake, overnight at Put-n-Bay, and much more!

Of course, CSC will again participate in the 16th Annual CMSC Metro Cup Golf Tournament on Saturday, July 22nd at Punderson State Park Golf Course. CSC hopes to retain the trophy!

Information regarding these events and others is available at our meetings. Currently, CSC meets at the Captain's Club in Eastlake. We

meet the second and fourth Thursdays of each month beginning at approximately 8:00 pm. For more information about Continental Ski Club, please contact our President Jerry Modica at (440) 974-8599.

**Erie Shore Ski Club**

A fun ski club which meets on the west side of Cleveland at the German-American club (Lenau Park) in Olmsted Township, on Columbia Rd., just south of Great Northern Shopping Center. Our meetings, which consist of good conversation, good food and drink, are on the 2nd Thursday of each month: Sept. is our picnic meeting and then we meet from Dec. to Mar., at 7:00 pm. We also have guest speakers at our meetings and at the February meeting we have a 'best dessert' contest. In July, we have our annual 'Summerfest' which is a fund raiser for our race team.

Our summertime activities include meeting at various locations for 'happy hour' and we are planning an evening in downtown Cleveland around the E. 4th district.

Although we had a short season racing because of the weather, the Mighty Little Race Team of ESSC had a fabulous season with some seasoned racers joining us this year. Congrats to the racers of our team. Six racers, three Combined Trophies!

We have week long western trips and one-day trips to NY and PA with Village Ski and Board. Join us.

For more info, call our President, Bob Griffin, at 440-376-3518 or email at griffin\_b@juno.com.



**Above: Erie Shore's 2017 'Mighty Little Race Team' – six racers; three Combined trophies! Right: Erie Shore members sipping champagne at Lake Tahoe.**



**Good Times Ski Club**

As a midweek, every-week ski club based in the Mahoning Valley, the Good Times Ski Club, experienced

See Club News page 6

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## Club News from page 5

all the ups and downs of the 2017 ski season. Our annual preseason party at Hartford Hill Winery was a great success, the Quaker Steak and Lube preseason parties went quite well, but then the ski season began in earnest after the Christmas holiday. The warm temperatures and rain seemed to follow most every cold spell and snowfall, making it difficult to complete many of our scheduled Wednesday trips to the slopes.

We were rewarded with good conditions on the four out of ten bus trips we did complete. In addition, a small group of "die-hards" from the club drove to New York on a couple of other Wednesdays to find much better-than-expected conditions awaiting them. A season highlight was our first overnight trip to Seneca Allegheny Casino taken on March 1st and 2nd. Thirty-four club members traveled to Ellicottville, although we did not ski at either Holimont or Holiday Valley resorts, as planned. The conditions just did not allow it. Instead, we stopped at Peek 'n Peak on our way back to Ohio, and were pleasantly surprised by great natural and man-made snow covering the slopes. In addition to skiing, this exciting midweek trip offered shopping and sight-seeing in town, and dining, gaming, and spa activities at the casino for a very attractive (midweek) price. Attendees drove from as far away as Kent, Ohio and Pittsburgh, Pa. to meet the bus in Warren and join the fun. We plan to repeat this trip again next year – hopefully with the added benefit of great Ellicottville skiing.

Another bright spot of the season was the continued infusion of new members into our club, looking to enjoy the experience of "no-wait Wednesday" trips to the slopes. Since Good Times Ski Club limits its activities to midweek winter sports fun, many of our members have dual-membership in other clubs as well – Warren, Youngstown and/or Shenango Valley Ski Clubs, with whom they participate in social activities year-round. Dual membership also provides advantages during the ski season -- our members join these clubs on weekend and/or week-long trips, and their members increase the number of days spent on the slopes by skiing Wednesdays with us. We hope that this trend of synergy will grow, and will work to strengthen all area clubs and provide a greater benefit to all of our members.

After two years of warm, rainy winter weather, we are truly deserving of better weather next year. We have confidence that 2018 will bring us a longer, colder, and snowier ski season, and will allow us to show even more CMSC winter sports enthusiasts how much fun midweek skiing/riding can be. To learn more about Good Times Ski Club, check out our website at [www.goodtimes-skiclub.com](http://www.goodtimes-skiclub.com) or visit our Facebook Page, where you can view photo albums of past trips and activities. Consider making 2018 the season you enjoy a "no-wait Wednesday" trip to the slopes with the Good Times Ski and Snowboard Club.

### Goodyear Ski Club

The winter of 2017 has been pretty tough for local ski resorts. GSC had to cancel the January 20 trip to Seven Springs, but then we did have a bit of good luck in February. Our Valentine's Sun-Mon trip to Holiday Valley coincided with a winter storm.



**Good Times' Lisa Dean, Terry Shifflet, Betty Savach, Janet Ball, Isabella Notar and Rick Shifflet ski at Peek 'n Peak Resort March 2 on the second day of Good Times Ski Club's overnight trip to Seneca Allegheny Casino.**



**Good Times Club members stopped skiing for a moment to be photographed during their January 12 trip to Kissing Bridge.**



**Fantastic conditions and new fallen snow encircled members of Good Times Ski Club on their trip February 1 to Holiday Valley Resort.**

It rained all the way to New York on Sunday, but the rain stopped before we arrived. Most people skied that afternoon and evening even though the conditions were pretty wet. Then the temperature dropped, and it snowed all night, so we had a great day of skiing on Monday. We hadn't done a weekend trip for several years, and apparently there was a pent-up demand, because we had a full busload with 51 skiers on that trip.

Our first western trip of 2017 was to Sun Peaks, British Columbia, during the week of January 28 to February 4. Sun Peaks was true to its name, and we skied in the sunshine for five of our six ski days. It was really cold, though, with temperatures in the low single digits. Then on the last day, it started to snow in earnest. We left for the airport at 2:30 AM, but encountered road closings due to downed power lines. Our bus driver made up the lost time, and we did make our flight, but what a terrifying ride! I know I wasn't the only one with eyes closed and hands clasped. Unfortunately, takeoff was delayed, and we missed our connection in Vancouver. They finally got us out of there late in the evening. We ended up spending the night playing Euchre in the Toronto airport and then flying to Cleveland early Sunday morning. The good news is nobody got hurt, and everybody got their luggage. It was a really fun trip thanks to our leader, Mary Beth Grether, who organized a poker run and two great parties for our entertainment.

Officer elections will be held in April as well as the annual volunteer dinner. GSC has great social events all year long. One of our biggest events is the annual family picnic at Wingfoot Lake State Park. Some of our other summer activities include a golf tournament at Arrowhead Golf Club, a baseball game and fireworks at Canal Park, an evening at the Weathervane Playhouse, bike rides, and other outings.

Goodyear Ski Club welcomes guests at our club meetings as well as at our social events and ski trips. We meet at 7:30 PM on the second Tuesday of each month (September through May) at the New Era Restaurant, 10 Massillon Road, Akron OH 44312.

For more information, please contact Warren Ripple at [PresidentGSCI@gmail.com](mailto:PresidentGSCI@gmail.com). The website is at [www.GoodyearSkiClub.org](http://www.GoodyearSkiClub.org).

### Hi Rise Ski & Sport Club

Hi Rise Ski & Sport Club is a year round ski and social club based on the east side of Cleveland in Lake County.

We meet the second and fourth Wednesday of every month at the VFW Hall on Vine Street in Eastlake. The meetings start around 7:30PM and we have various events including, Italian Night, pot luck dinner, breakfast for dinner, trivia, chili cook off, souperbowl night, slave auction and many more. It's a great evening to socialize that usually includes food and always has \$1 draft beer, \$2 wine and liquor.

Ski season is over but that doesn't prevent us from continuing to get together for great times.

Socially we have our Dinner of the Month on the first Wednesday of every month; April is at The Fish Bar in Painesville. We go to Downtown Willoughby in May to enjoy the food at Pranza and we're outside on the Chagrin River in June at Trader Jacks in Eastlake off Lakeshore Drive.

As ski season winds down and the weather gets a little warmer (But not

too warm) we'll have our first one club golf outing on April 8th. Our Annual Banquet is Friday May 12th featuring The Belair's at Guido's in Chesterland that is followed Sunday morning May 21st by a breakfast hike. During baseball season we have rented a Loge June 2nd to see Lake County Captains from directly behind home plate enjoying a meal and beverages. We see the American League Champions play downtown July 21st and after the Indians game the best firework display to music, Rock N Blast. There will be other events organized as the weather continues to warm up including a wine trip that will be organized and run by professionally by Dennis and Carol Rosa.

For more information on these and other Hi Rise events go to: [www.hiriseski-club.com](http://www.hiriseski-club.com)

**Sandusky Ski Club**

Sandusky Ski Club members might call this the "winter that wasn't" or quoting Karen Vagi, "the state of No Snow"; however, it didn't dishearten their enthusiasm for the six (6) fun-filled ski trips of 2017. Although warm temperatures, rain, and lack of snow didn't exactly make it desirable to ski in Ohio five of the scheduled six trips out of state were worthwhile accompanied by wintry temperatures and an abundance of fresh snow.

Trip leaders Daria Deno and Elaine Brown's prayers were answered on the Mt. Snow, VT trip as the heavens opened and showered 34 inches of the fresh new stuff (should we call it "white gold or diamonds" this winter?). Yep, and upon arrival the bus did get stuck at the bottom of the drive to their lodging. Other trips—BOYNE and BLUE KNOB also received fresh snow upon SSC's arrival. Although, the Holiday Valley trip didn't get any fresh white stuff the Rankin's made the trip worth it finding lots of good skiable terrain for us.

NASTAR Racing at Snow Trails March 5th and the Peek n Peak trip February 25th were both cancelled due to poor skiing conditions. With the return of winter the Peek n Peak day trip was re-sched-

uled to March 11th. Jim Schaufler organized NASTAR racing for the Peek n Peak trip.

Trip leaders have volunteered to run two (2) week long West trips for 2018; Beaver Creek CO and Utah—dates TBA. Trip coordinator, Kim Mohr is also looking for trip leaders for the first January trip of 2018, possibly two (2) day trips, and any member(s) who desire other destinations. [mohrleads@yahoo.com](mailto:mohrleads@yahoo.com) or call or text 419-706-0679.

Elaine Brown announced that the club has earned two (2) complementary passes from Snow Trails this year. The cost of the passes is being divided among the 31 pass holders in our club. Elaine will be passing out the cash rebates of \$15 at the meetings in February through April. Thanks Elaine for doing such a great job recruiting members to purchase Snow Trails passes.

The January, February, and March birthday dinners out were held and well attended at Sandusky venues Danny Boy's, Longhorn Steak House, and the Camp Street Tavern, respectively. The Camp Street Tavern birthday dinner venue March 23rd featured game night with euchre and pool tournaments.

Pat Brown invited SSC members to several social events at The Sandusky State Theater on Columbus Avenue in beautiful downtown Sandusky.

For more information on future events at the theater contact Pat Brown at 419-625-0401.

At the February 6, 2017 meeting SSC members voted to suspend having a queen contest for this year. There were concerns about the lack of time to prepare for the contest and also the lack of interested candidates. The board will bring this to the club's attention at the beginning of next year to see if there is interest for the 2018 season.

Nominations for officers and board members took place at the March 6th meeting. If anyone has any interest in holding an office or being a director, please contact one of the current officers

See Club News page 8

Join us for A *Very Special* Night

**CMSC's 50<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY PARTY**

Sat., Nov. 4, 2017

\$50 per person

5:30 PM ▶ *Cocktails & Hors d'oeuvres*

6:30 PM ▶ *Dinner & Surprises*

*Dancing to The Belairs and Sharing Memories with Friends!*

*Open Bar for the Evening*

*Book a Hotel Room @ \$89 + tax (2-4 people/room)  
Hampton Inn Cleveland - Solon*

*6035 Enterprise Parkway, Solon, OH 44139*

*1.800.426.7866 or [clevelandsolon.hamptoninn.com](http://clevelandsolon.hamptoninn.com)*

*Book under Group Code SKI - Deadline Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>*



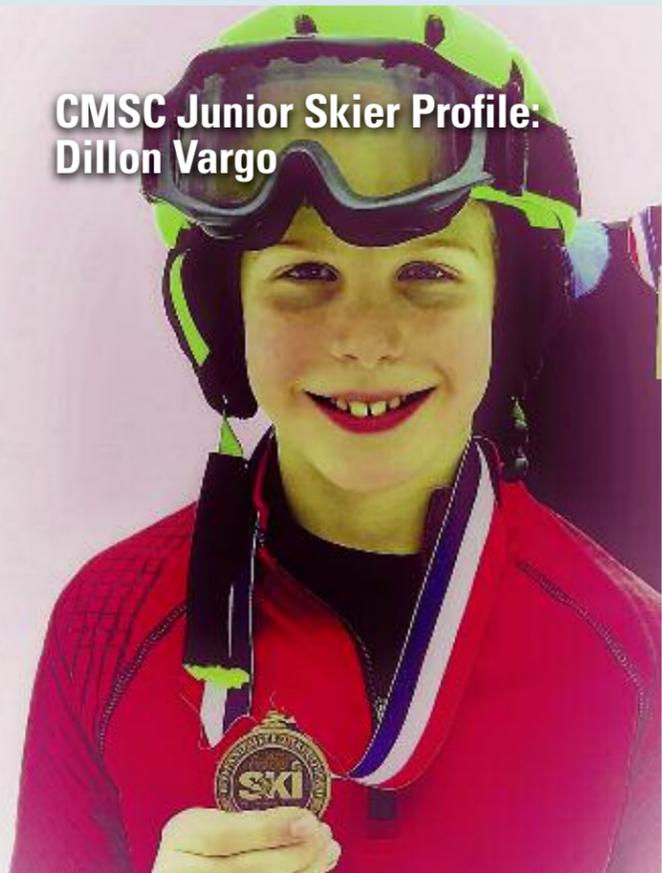
Mediterranean Party Center  
25021 Rockside Rd.  
Bedford Heights, OH 44146

*Make Your Check Payable to CMSC  
Send Payment by Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> to:*

*Terri Lastovka  
2424 Chestnut Dr.  
Westlake, OH 44145*

*Questions ▶ [talcpajd@earthlink.net](mailto:talcpajd@earthlink.net)*

## CMSC Junior Skier Profile: Dillon Vargo



**Name:** Dillon Vargo  
**Ski Club:** Fagowees & Snowballers  
**How old are you?** Ten  
**What grade are you in?** Fourth grade  
**How old were you when you started skiing?** I was 11 months old. I was in my backyard skiing on my little hill. I face planted. My mom picked me up and I came right out of my boots!  
**Does your family ski?** Yes, except for my cat.  
**Skis/Boots/Bindings:** Nordica Fire Arrow Team skis, Marker bindings, and Dalbello DRS Scorpion boots  
**Besides skiing with CMSC, do you ski with other programs?** No  
**Favorite Ski Areas:** Boston Mills, because I'm most used to it.  
**Favorite Skier or Snowboarder?** My mom  
**Favorite Ski Memory:** I went on my first bus trip last year with Snowballers to Kissing Bridge and it was -2 degrees. I thought that was cool and we skied the whole time anyhow.

## Club News from page 7

or board members. Election of officers and board members will be April 3rd, 2017. Absentee ballots have been emailed and/or mailed via USPS.

Shirley Tabellion announced that she has the 2017 Club Directory available for every member. Members may pick them up at any club meeting. The club membership tally as of March 6th is 171.

President Sue announced that Karen Vagi is retiring as newsletter author and webmaster(ess). If anyone is interested in filling this very important and needed position please contact Presidnet Sue Deerhake deerhake@roadrunner.com or call/text 419-967-0622.

Tickets are on sale (\$20 for members; \$30 for non-members) for the 2017 Spring Banquet to be held Saturday April 8th, 2017 at Colonial Gardens Flower Shop and Greenhouse, 3506 Hull Rd., Huron OH. This year's theme is a "A Little Bit Country and A Little Bit Rock n' Roll". Premier Beats DJ will be spinning the tunes again this year for all of the enthusiastic dancers. Cocktails at 5 p.m. BYOB, ice and mix will be provided; buffet dinner at 6 p.m. consisting of the following: Cranberry almond salad; choice of a Grilled Steak or Blackened Salmon entrée; calico beans, corn with red peppers; potato bar with baked and sweet potatoes; assorted snacks. Volunteers are asked to provide desserts. The final date for ticket sales will be Monday April 3rd. Contact Chairperson Vince Deno, vdeno@aol.com or 419-202-6548.

The bi-monthly men's breakfasts are held at 9:00 a.m. on the Thursday

ground near Loudonville OH, July 14th thru' July 16th. For those only interested in canoeing meet at the campground at 11 a.m on Saturday. All are invited to stick around afterwards for games and campfire fun. Further details TBA. Rollie also suggested a possible boating/beach/volleyball day at the Sandusky Bay sandbar may be possible if we have enough members willing to volunteer their boats. Members are encouraged to suggest ideas for other summer outings. Pzcyj30@icloud.com.

Other tentative spring and summer activities (dates, times and venues TBA) are as follows: "Bowl for Kids Sake" April 2nd at Cedar Lanes in Sandusky; Derby Day May 6th on Kelley's Island; biking on Kelly's Island; golf outing(s); annual club picnic; monthly birthday dinner's out celebrations; and Wednesday get-togethers for burger night at the Mason Jar on Mason Road.

Kim Mohr asked for someone to volunteer to host the Annual Club Picnic in August. Contact Kim Mohr, mohrleads@yahoo.com or call/text 419-706-0769.

Apr 6 – Men's Breakfast @ 9am

Apr 8 – Spring Banquet @ 5 p.m. cocktails; 6 p.m. dinner

Apr 17 – SSC Meeting, starts @7:30pm

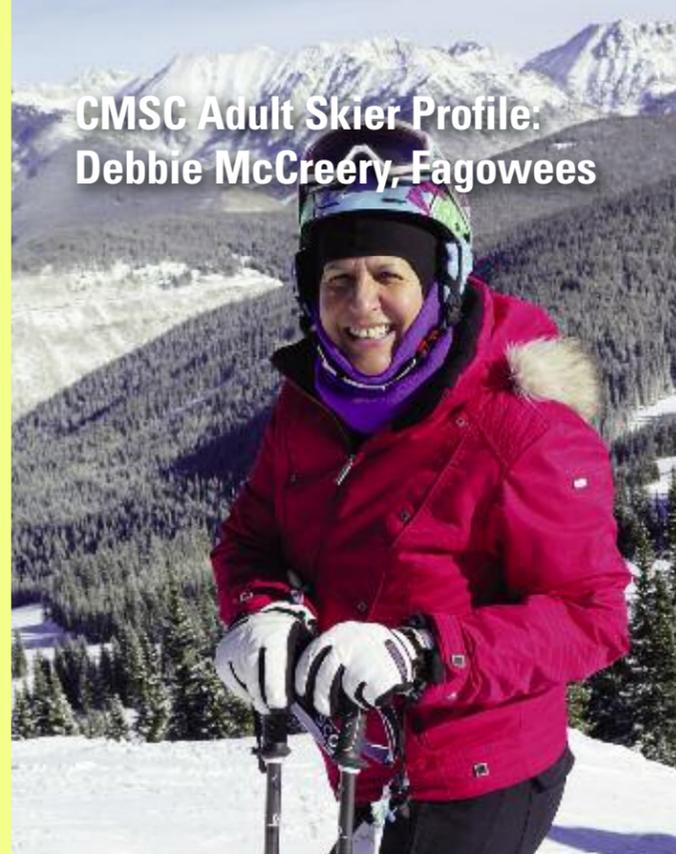
Apr 20 – Men's Breakfast @ 9am

If you wish to volunteer or have an idea for hosting a future event contact Daria Deno, Chairperson for Marketing and Social Committees: Email CakeD45@aol.com or call 419-239-8545.

Club meetings are held the first and third Monday's of each month September through April at the American Legion Hall, 3615 Hayes Ave., Sandusky OH, with membership and trip sign-up at 7:00 p.m; meeting at 7:30 p.m. Both skiers/snowboarders as well as non-skiers/snowboarders of all ages are invited to attend.

For more information on joining the fun and making new friends go to [www.sanduskyskiclub.com](http://www.sanduskyskiclub.com). There, both membership and trip applications may be printed.

## CMSC Adult Skier Profile: Debbie McCreery, Fagowees



**CMSC Position:** Marketing Committee Chair and New Website Chair  
**Skis:** Blizzard Quattro 8.0

**Boots & Bindings:** Lange boots and Marker bindings.

**Occupation:** Director of Marketing at Barrette Outdoor Living.

**Hobbies:** Traveling, skiing, golfing, wine tasting and following our Cleveland sports teams.

**Started Skiing:** I started skiing in high school ski club. We would take the bus to Brandywine, ski for a few hours, and head back to school. This was always a fun time to party on the bus with friends, and the skiing was fun as well.

**Career Highlights:** Going for a weekend to Swain, NY, closing the Sierra and waking up to find out my best friend had registered me to race... Oh No! Got on the hill, terrified, and never looked back. It was a great thrill.

**Favorite Ski Areas:** In the NY area it has to be Holiday Valley and Swain, that's where I have the most amazing fun memories. In Colorado, it is Vail.

**Metro Memories:** There are so many memories it's amazing, from the creation of the IBOD – International Backpack of Debauchery (ask Reno Curati), Swain house dinners and Sierra Inn Saturday evening antics. The not so nice, was falling in the finish of the race course earlier this season and fracturing the tibial plateau of my right knee and being on crutches for 6 weeks non-weight bearing. UGHH – this will pass. But the most amazing is meeting the love of my life, my husband, Harry Baumgartner at Swain I.

## Snowballers Ski Club

Snowballers Ski Club is a year round social club taking part in fun and exciting ski trips and social activities for everyone. We welcome singles, couples and families with over 100 members. Our members skiing abilities range from non-skiers to expert skiers and snowboarders. Snowballers have a race team that participates in CMSC race events supporting CMSC functions. We have 2 major events per year; Ski with a Heart On, typically Valentine's Day weekend which includes an overnight bus to Kissing Bridge. We also have a Cinco de Mayo party at Reinecker's Party Center held on May 5, 2017; cost is \$25.00/person. Meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of each month October to March at Reinecker's Party Center, 8575 Freeway Dr., Macedonia starting at 7:30 pm. During the summer months we meet at various locations around the Greater Cleveland area.

Website: Find out more about Snowballers Ski Club by looking us up on the web at [www.snowballersskiclub.com](http://www.snowballersskiclub.com) or by joining us on Facebook.

## Suburban Ski Club

The weather didn't cooperate with us this winter, or last winter, and we had to cancel several of our bus trips. We still managed to make six one-day trips to Holiday Valley, Holimont, and Seven Springs, as well as a two-day trip to Holiday Valley. Our two western trips were very successful with plenty of snow, 45 skiers going to Steamboat in January, and 32 skiers going to Banff in March. Thanks to all our trip leaders, to everyone else in the club who played a role, and to our skiers and snowboarders.

Suburban Ski Club is a friendly group of skiers with lots of opportunities to ski. We ski every week during the winter months. Our convenient meeting location, Alfredo's at the Holiday Inn just off Wilson Mills Road at I-271, draws members from all parts of the Cleveland area.

Our meetings are typically on the second or third Thursday of the month from September through March (except December), starting at 7:00 p.m. We are done with formal meetings until September, but guests are always welcome at other club events.

Dues are just \$20 per person, and first-time members get a special price of only \$10. Everyone going on our trips must be a member of Suburban Ski Club.

Even though winter is over, we still have plenty of activities coming up during the rest of the year. Watch our web site, <http://www.suburbanski-club.org>, for more information.

## CMSC Snow Dog Profile: Miley



**Parents:** Krista Petrolla  
**Breed:** American Bulldog  
**Club affiliation:** Fagowees

**How old are you:** Seven

**Why do you like going to watch skiing/racing?** Actually, I don't, because I don't get any attention while everyone is racing and people look weird with those helmets and goggles on!

**Okay, then what do you like to do besides (not) watching skiing?** Play ball at my grandpa's house until I pass out.

**What is your favorite thing to bark at?** Other dogs, of course.