



Tri-State Ski Club

formerly: Tri-State Outdoor Adventure Club
P.O. Box 3752 Evansville, IN 47736

Mogul Memos

The Year-Round Sports and Activities Club



Vol. 11, Issue 3

www.tristateskiclub.org

March 2011

I'm doing something different this month. This email version of Mogul Memos is expanded to 6 pages to accommodate the reports of the recent Ski Club trips to Breckenridge, CO and Seven Springs, PA. The printed edition does not contain the ski trip reports, and remains at 4 pages in length. Pete

Spring Nature Hike

Date: Saturday, March 19th

Time: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Location: Dave Gonnerman's family ground around Holland, IN

Weather: Rain or serious threats postpones

Membership: This hike is for Ski Club members only.

Other: Bring your water, food, wine, etc. we may build a fire.

Meet: Teachers Credit Union (on Theater Drive, just off Green-river and ¼ mile north of Morgan Ave). We carpool up there.

We will hike (some hills) and enjoy nature's best as it wakes up for Spring. *Hiking boots are best. Can be some water and mud.*

If you do not hike but want to sit by a lake, read and enjoy nature.... You can do that also.

No restrooms on property. We will stop in Holland when we arrive. Otherwise, bring what you need to be comfortable.

More info: dgonner@wowway.com or 402-0062

Spring – Photography, Nature Hike & Lunch

Date: Saturday, April 16th

Time: 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Location: Audubon Park – Henderson, KY

Weather: Rain or serious threats postpones

Membership: Ski Club members OR guests.

Other: Bring your drinks, food, etc. *They do NOT allow alcohol in Park. (FWIW)*

Meet: Audubon Park, parking lot by **main building** (*big building to left as you enter park*)



Spring will be waking up. Meander around with others or go your own pace. Hike, take photos or just relax in the sun.

We will meet back at the main bldg around Noon... enjoy lunch in the sun. *Hiking boots and tick spray recommended.*

More info: dgonner@wowway.com or 402-0062

Dragonboat Races

For the third year, the TSSC will have a team in the **Dragons on the Ohio** festival. King Mechanical Specialty will sponsor the team, and Wesselman's will provide the food. The date is June 4. We'll have more details at the March meeting.

We'll need paddlers, as well as volunteers to help with set-up and hospitality.

If you're interested in participating, contact Madonna Yancey at 449-4666 or madonna.yancey@gmail.com.



Summary - OVSC 2011 South America, The Three Wonders Trip

Trip Order Galapagos Is. Ecuador, Machu Picchu Peru, Buenos Aires & Iguazu Falls Argentina, Bariloche Argentina

If you're interested in this trip, contact Janet Doyle or Jan Tucker for more details.

	Dates 2011	Lodging	Extra	1 Leg ALONE
Galapagos Islands*	August 1-10	Classic \$4,617 Premium \$4,965 Deluxe \$5,548	Taxes \$72	Classic \$5,344 Plus \$539.92
Machu Picchu*	August 10-17	3 Star \$1,998 4 Star \$2,335	Taxes & Fuel \$467.92	
Buenos Aires & Iguazu Falls*	August 16-24	5/4 Star \$1,775	Taxes \$192	\$2,010 Plus \$659.92
Bariloche	August 23-28	4 Star \$930	Lift Tickets Transport to Skiing	

* Modern Wonder of the World/ UNESCO World Heritage site <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/>

Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 3	Sample 4	Sample 5	Sample 6
Machu Picchu <u>Only</u>	Galapagos & Machu Picchu	Galapagos, Machu Picchu & Argentina	Machu Picchu & Argentina	Galapagos <u>Only</u>	Argentina <u>Only</u>
M	GM	GMA(S)	MA(S)	G	A(S)
3 Star \$1,998 4 Star \$2,335	Classic \$4,617 + 3 Star \$1,998 = \$6,615	Classic \$4,617 + 3 Star \$1,998 + \$1,775 = \$8,390	3 Star \$1,998 + \$1,775 = \$3,773	Classic \$5,344	\$2,010
		Add \$930 for Bariloche	Add \$930 for Bariloche		Add \$930 for Bariloche

Galapagos	Machu Picchu	Argentina	Skiing
1N Quito 8D/7N cruise program with full board and guided visits to the island (Drinks not included) Fees of \$292	2N Lima ½ day Lima city tour 3N Cusco (split) 1N Sacred Valley Full day Sacred Valley tour Train to Machu Picchu 1N Machu Picchu Private guided tour of Machu Picchu	4N Buenos Aires 3½ hour local city tour Dinner and Tango show 2N Iguazu Falls Full day tour of the falls on the Argentina side, including Devils Throat boat ride	4N Bariloche <u>Extras</u> Lift Tickets — \$38 Adult, \$31 Senior, 70+ Free pp per day Shuttle – Bus \$23 for min 20 people, pp per day Taxi \$10-\$30 pp per day

Breckenridge

Breckenridge, Colorado was this year's Winter destination for 12 TSSC members and it lived up to its billing as one of America's top ski resorts. Travelling to Breckenridge were Dave and Mary Ziliak, Coleen and Dave McLaughlin, Gene Brouillard, Sharon Macke, Mike Villines, David Dossett, Jim Milan, Vinay Mehta, Linda Beall and Ron Unfried. There were approximately 200 skiers from OVSC.

We arrived in Denver with the temps in the low 50's but quickly found ourselves in the mountains facing mid 20's. Little did we know that these would be the highest temperatures we would see all week.

Sunday was very pleasant early in the morning and a Mountain Tour was held on top of Quicksilver. Many from our group attended and liked having guides telling tales of this



mountain range. A 'welcome reception' was held that evening and some of our members signed up for various events.

Monday was officially Vail day but some elected to go to Keystone to take in that area as well. Since I, as well as Dave & Colleen McLaughlin along with Linda Beall went to Vail, I can tell you that I thought it to be spectacular. Beautiful slopes, gorgeous vistas, a beautiful Swiss chalet type town with restaurants, shopping etc. I

attended the informative 'trip captains' meeting that evening.

Club races started Tuesday as well as the famous 'Mountain Lunch'. Gene Brouillard won a bronze in NAS-TAR races. Hooray for Gene!

Colorado experienced one of its coldest days for a long time Wednesday. We woke up to a minus 30 degrees. Some die-hard skiers went out for a brief encounter with the slopes and Mother Nature. I went into town for a massage. We had our traditional

pizza party that evening and said our farewells to Dr Vinay Mehta as he had to leave early. Dr Mehta was our candidate for the "Bob Miller Spirit Award" that was presented to one OVSC recipient at the farewell dinner.

Fortunately the weather broke allowing Thursday and Friday to be pleasant. The 'Poker Run' was Thursday and we had 2 individuals do very well. Dave McLaughlin had a runner-up hand and Mike Villines had, now get this, the first-in hand and best-hand. Sara Collins, our Sports America director, mentioned that this was VERY unusual. She made an engineering decision to give Mike one of the prizes and allow another OVSC member to have the other. But a hearty congratulation goes to both Dave and Mike!

The 'farewell dinner' was just wonderful. The bonding of our group and meeting other OVSC members along with a spectacular sit-down dinner was a great way to cap off the week.

Friday was a free day and all of the skiers were out several hours taking in the beautiful blue skies and fresh powder that we

received during the week. Colleen McLaughlin organized a Nordic Snowshoe hike that evening. Colleen and Dave plus Dave Dossett, Mike Villines, Linda Beall and I were guided thru the hills and countryside of Breckenridge at night. This was a wonderful adventure and a new experience for all since none had ever gone snowshoeing. We found snow prints of moose, fox, and other forms of wildlife as well as a good spun tale from our guide during the 2 hour trek. What fun!

Saturday was pack and head home day. That had a bit of excitement since our bus was about an hour and a half late due to new snow. We arrived at the airport just in the nick of time as we ran thru it to get to our gate. We arrived just as the plane was ready to taxi out.

As a side bar, Linda and I took our rookie beginner's school lesson Monday and skied most days except Wednesday. We fell in luv with skiing and look forward to next year.

Submitted by Ron Unfried

Beginning to Ski at Breckenridge

This past February, I went to Breckenridge, CO to see if I was cut out to ski. I tried this sport as a 'cross-off' of my bucket list about 24 years ago and didn't fare well. But having had a 1 hour lesson back then, I was not prepared.

This trip would be different I relegated to myself because I hear many great things about this winter pastime. Why this sport is so popular and I can't do it was something I had to find out. Immediately I signed up for a full day of ski lessons when I arrived in Breckenridge. It was like riding a bicycle. I was as bad as I was 24 years ago and wondered if I would survive the day. Luckily I had good instructors who took pains-taking time in handling my errors. But in the afternoon session, a bulb went off and I could traverse a bit. Wow, this is what all of these guys talk about. At the end of the day, I was prepared to go down an EZ green according to my instructors and so the next day I head to Vail.

Wrong decision. After taking the gondola up the peak, I thought I followed instructions of lift staff down at the gate entrance and headed towards an EZ green slope. Unfortunately I was headed down a mountain access road no wider than my alley. Boarders were zooming past me and

experienced skiers were swishin to my left and my right..... heeeeeelp! I found out how deep the base snow was as I slid off the road and into 4 feet of powder. I was wondering if I would be found before spring. After getting a ski pole to assist me in getting out, I was up and on my way. All of those lessons were swirling around my head as I saw the end of the road coming to where the road adjoined a greater slope coming off the top of one of Vail's mighty peaks which headed towards another lift. Problem was I had to make a U-turn and couldn't traverse enough to avoid a huge cliff ahead. I took a slide versus looking like Willie Coyote on a side of a mountain after riding an Acme rocket.

A search and rescue assistant helped me to the lift. I made an engineering decision to head down the slope since I had over extended my one day of training. My next ski day was a gorgeous, bright sunny Colorado high type of day and so I head to a known EZ slope. I skied fairly gracefully and enjoyed this day immensely. Knowing your limitations and practicing at improving your skill set on a slope you are comfortable with is important. I know I can improve a little bit at a time as long as I don't overdo.

I look forward to my next trip to Chile so I can cross off another adventure on my bucket list.

Submitted by Ron Unfried

Seven Springs

Early in the morning of February 10, 2011, Steve Yancey, Suzanne Boyd, and Pete Wiggan met at the home of Jeff and Patty Cron. We were about to leave with Patty on a skiing adventure to Seven Springs, Pennsylvania.

Patty had arranged for the use of a 33' Winnebago Motor Home belonging to her father for our transportation. The previous day, Patty had relocated the motor home to the curb in front of their house. February 10th was a very cold morning, about 5 degrees, and when we tried to start the engine, it wouldn't. Steve pulled his truck up next to the battery compartment, we gave it a jump, and eventually it started. We were under way about 6:30 AM.

Our first order of business was to proceed out I-64 to the Ferdinand exit, where we met Dave and Mary Ziliak at the CVS parking lot there. They had recently returned from a ski trip to Breckenridge, CO, and were eager for more downhill action in PA. With everyone's skis and travel bags aboard, the six of us were under way.



Everything was fine and dandy until about the time we entered the Pennsylvania Turnpike. Then, suddenly, we lost all electrical power in the motor home. Our alternator had given up. We pulled over, and used a set of jumper cables to "bridge" the battery to the motor home's generator system, which had its own set of batteries. Patty started the generator, and that provided sufficient electrical power to finish the trip to Seven Springs Resort.

As we were checking in to the resort hotel, Patty inquired what she could do about our vehicle problems. The hotel staff said they would have their Vehicle Maintenance department take a look at it; maybe they could fix it. After checking in, we had a very nice meal at one of the restaurants at the resort.

Friday morning dawned clear and crisp, with the temperature about 22 degrees. We had a great breakfast in the posh hotel restaurant. Then everybody donned their skiing equipment. I headed for the equipment rental desk for skis, boots, and poles, and to sign up for beginners ski lessons. By 10 AM everybody was on the slopes.

Seven Springs has a pretty extensive array of runs. There is a total of about 30 runs, with about 10 of them being green

slopes, maybe 13 of them intermediate slopes, and 7 being “Black Diamond” or “Double Black Diamond,”—the most difficult of slopes. That doesn’t include the beginners, or “bunny” slopes—there’s two of those. There are 10 chair lifts to the top of the mountain.

Right about noon, we all met at the ski lodge for lunch. It had already been an exhilarating day skiing.

Seven Springs is said to be Pennsylvania’s largest ski resort, and I believe it. The various ski runs stretched quite a distance north to south on the side of the mountain. The vertical drop at Seven Springs is 750 feet. The average length of the run is over 2000 feet, with the longest run being nearly 7000 feet.

After a few more hours of skiing, and an excellent dinner at the Slopeside Dining Room, we were all quite fatigued, and ready to call it a day.

Saturday morning dawned with snow falling. It was a light to moderate snow, with a light but biting breeze blowing. It made for a living “Currier and Ives” setting for us to ski in. It was quite busy Saturday, with what seemed like every skier in Pennsylvania right there at the resort with us.

Suzanne and I decided to try the green “Boomerang” trail at the south side of the mountain, while Dave, Mary, and Steve went to

slopes on the “north face” to try the more challenging runs there. Patty wanted to try her hand on the “Lost Boy” trail, which is Seven Springs longest trail. You certainly can’t complain about a lack of choices when it comes to the number of ski runs—there are so many of them. I think the biggest complaint I would have about our weekend there was long hike we had to make from our hotel room to the Ski Center; especially while wearing ski boots—which were definitely not made for walking in!

When we finished our day of skiing on Saturday, we learned that Seven Springs’ Vehicle Maintenance department had gotten our motor home repaired! We would be ready to take off on Sunday morning, headed back towards Evansville.

At 6:00 Saturday evening, we all headed toward the Convention Hall Dining Room for an après ski buffet dinner, which was wonderful. We especially enjoyed the Crème Brulee dessert that was provided.

Sunday morning dawned bright and sunny, and a little bit warmer. Patty decided she wanted to get in just a little bit more skiing before we left, but we were on our way by about 10:30 in the morning. We didn’t get back to Evansville in time for the Ski Club meeting, but we arrived around 8:30 PM. It was a really worthwhile trip that everybody enjoyed. *Submitted by Pete Wiggin*

Learning to Ski at Seven Springs

One day when I was in college (this was about 38 years ago) I went with several of my buddies to a place in Michigan to go skiing. It was only a two-day trip, so I didn’t bother with lessons. I just rented the equipment I needed, got a few pointers from the other guys, and went at it. I was black and blue all over for at least a week after that. I never went downhill skiing again.

Not, that is, until I went on the Ski Club trip to Seven Springs in February. Patty Cron told me that Seven Springs is a great place to learn to ski because they have such great ski instruction and “bunny hills” for the beginners. Because of my earlier experience, I was well cognizant of the need to take lessons to *learn* how to ski, and to stay away from the steeper slopes until I knew what I was doing. Plus I figured, since the whole trip was only four days, (two days skiing) there wouldn’t be enough time for me to hurt myself too bad.

So off we went. Late on Thursday, February 10 we arrived. On Friday morning Patty accompanied me to the ski rental center where I was fitted with the proper size skis, boots, and poles. Then I signed up for a ski lesson, starting at 10:00 AM.

The top of the “Bunny Hill” (actually called “Foggy Beginners Bowl”) was located near the entrance to the Ski Center. That’s where the ski lesson was to begin.

It’s amazing how something someone might have learned a long time ago, and then never used for close to 40 years, can come back so quickly. One of the first things the instructor showed us (there were four of us) was the “snowplow” method of slowing down and stopping, something I picked up on that time when I was in college. Gliding down that gentle hill was easy, and I quickly got the hang of keeping my speed from building up using that “snowplow” method.

One big improvement between now and then was the “Magic Carpet” conveyor belt used to return to the top of the slope. I actually fell down first time I used it. Part way up the hill it stopped for some unknown reason, and then when it started up, I was unprepared for the slight jerk. I fell over backwards. But the “Magic Carpet” was lots better than the rope tow used that time in 1973, where you had to grasp it with a sailor’s grip, and allow it to pull you on your skis up the hill. I fell down many times trying to use that.

One thing I didn’t pick up on in 1973 was the correct way to turn. Once I got the hang of that skill, it became fairly easy to maneuver around all the people on the hill. A few times I tried skiing down the other “beginners bowl”, which was just a bit longer, and maybe a little steeper (but not much) than the first one. (The Magic Carpet wasn’t working on that lower

slope, so I had to walk back up the hill, which made the effort almost not worth it.)

The ski lesson was pretty much over by noon, and several of us met for lunch in the nearby ski center. By the afternoon, the whole ski area had become more crowded, so I was able to work on improving my turning skills, trying to avoid all the people.

On Saturday morning, I wanted to try to find out which of the regular ski runs was least challenging, and try to ski that. I was still fearful, I guess, of getting hurt because of my inexperience. Suzanne Boyd agreed to accompany me on the slope, but she first wanted to try her hand at one of the slopes by herself, just to get warmed up. I also wanted to spend some more time on the beginners slope to get used to the skis.

Saturday proved to be very crowded on the slopes. There were lots of people using that bunny hill, so I had plenty of opportunity to practice steering around them. After a couple hours, though, I began to get bored just going down that gentle hill. I wanted something a bit more challenging, and I began to get impatient waiting for Suzanne.

When Suzanne did show up she lamented the fact that the slopes were so crowded, and said most of her time was spent waiting in line to get on the lift. So in that light, we discussed which run would be best for me, both in terms of the number of people present, and lack of steepness of the slope.

We decided on run #2, called “Boomerang Trail.” Since it was on the far end of the skiing area, we thought perhaps fewer people would make the effort to head over that way. It was one of the longer trails, at a little over 3000’, and according to the literature, one of the easier trails.

I had no trouble with the ski lift. I guess some people do, but the only slight glitch I had was that I bumped my head on the overhead frame the first time I rode up.

We made our way south, to the #2 trail, and started down. I hadn’t got too far when someone on a snowboard zoomed in front of me. This unnerved me I guess, and I fell down. That was the first time. In all, I probably fell down four times that first time down the hill.

By the second time down the hill, I was getting used to the increased speed of the downhill run, compared with the bunny hill. I managed to make it down the hill 4 or 5 times without falling at all—but I was using the snowplow method to “ride the brakes” all the way down. Every time. Even then I wasn’t able to slow down quite as much as I would have liked. But Suzanne kept telling me I was doing a great job. She was always behind me, and I never knew just how far.

On my next ski outing, I would like to take an “intermediate” lesson. I would like to get beyond just using the “snowplow” method to keep from building up speed, and I need to learn to turn more effectively.

And there will be a next time.

Submitted by Pete Wiggin



Minutes of the February 2011 Meeting of the Tri-State Ski Club

The February 13, 2011 meeting of the Tri-State Ski Club was called to order by President, Jeff Cron, at 7:10 p.m. at Dave's Den.

Dave Gonnerman is planning to lead a spring hike on his brother's property near Holland, Indiana. Details will follow.

The treasurer's report was given by Joe Scott. For the period from January 9 through February 12, starting balance was \$9,259.37, income of \$1,480.08, expenses of \$2,072.91, with an ending balance of \$8,666.54.

Patty Davis is planning the spring party near the end of May. All were invited to a wine tasting at the home of Steve and Madonna Yancey on Saturday, February 19. The Yanceys are also sponsoring a team for the Midwest Dragonboat Festival scheduled for June 4.

Jan Tucker reported on upcoming OVSC trips to South America, Steamboat, and Big Sky.

Jeff reported that 6 members were returning from the 7 Springs ski trip.

Trip Captain, Ron Unfried, shared photos from the Breckenridge ski trip.

Pattie Davis, chairperson for club officer nominations, reported that all present officers have agreed to run again. If there are no other candidates, Jeff Cron, Steve Yancey, Joe Scott, and Luan Greubel will become President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary for the coming year.

The ½ pot of \$7.50 was won by Jeff Cron.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Luan Greubel, Secretary



Tri-State Ski Club - meeting schedule

The TSSC meets the second Sunday of every month at Dave's Sportsden Pizza and Pub, 701 N Weinbach Ave. To get to the Sportsden, take Weinbach north from the Lloyd Expressway, and turn right just past the railroad track crossing. The family (meeting) room is on the south end of the building, right next to the tracks. Social Hour is from 6:30 to 7:00 PM, Membership Meeting starts at 7:00 PM.

Happy Hour at Fast Eddy's, 507 NW Riverside Drive, across from Casino Aztar, beginning 5:30 PM on the Friday after our Membership Meeting.

Permanent Directors: Ron Barr, Pattie Davis, Ron Mossberger

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Membership Dues:

Single: \$30.00

Family: \$40.00



TRI-STATE SKI CLUB

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March 2011

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
<i>Dave's Sportsden</i> 13	14	15	16	17	18 <i>Fast Eddy's</i>	19 Spring Nature Hike
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		