



April 2008 Update

www.omahaskiclub.org

It's Membership Renewal Time

It's that time of year. . time to renew memberships for 2008-2009. 2007-2008 memberships expire at the end of May. A membership application is included as page 7 of this newsletter. Membership in our club has its privileges. For instance, this past year we sponsored a free picnic at one of the state parks and also offered a free hayrack ride and cookout at Santa's Woods. Our club works hard at getting everyone great deals for some great ski trips and activities. This year we will once again have a drawing for a \$100 trip credit voucher for all those who submit their application at the May 18th election party. If you cannot attend the party, your application must be received at the club's PO Box address (Box 3104, Omaha NE 68103) by May 16th to be eligible for the drawing.

Ballots to be Sent Shortly

The ballots for the 2008-2009 Omaha Ski Club board election will be sent via regular first-class mail at the beginning of May. They can be brought to the May 18th election party and picnic (see below) or mailed in to: Omaha Ski Club, P.O. Box 3104, Omaha, NE 68103. Members without email will receive their ballots together with this newsletter. Mailed-in ballots need to arrive at the club's P.O. box no later than Friday, May 16th.

May 6th (Tuesday) Board Meeting 6 p.m. – 1125 S. 103rd St.

Across from Wheatfields. We'll be in the conference room on the second floor. Watch for signs. All members welcome.

May 18th (Sunday) Election Party and Picnic 5 p.m. – Tills residence, Ft Calhoun

Please bring your filled-in ballots, a side dish or dessert to share, a lawn chair and your beverage. The club will provide meat. Remember to mail in or bring your 2008-2009 membership application and check with you to be eligible for a drawing for a \$100 trip credit. Please RSVP to Sally at 493-6056 or aspendream@cox.net by May 12th. See the email version of this newsletter for directions.

May 21st (Wednesday) Happy Hour 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. – Roja's, 17010 Wright Plaza

SW of 168th St and Center Rd. Come join us for some 1/2 price appetizers, \$3 margaritas and \$2 draft beer. They also have 99 cent tacos. Everyone welcome.

**Breckenridge trip article
pages 3-5**

**Memorial Day weekend trip
page 6**

**See page 7 for a 2008-2009
membership application.**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

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TREASURER

Phil Bintz

(712) 483-2668(H)

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treasurer@omahaskiclub.org

June 3rd (Tuesday) Board Meeting

6:30 p.m. – Feta’s, Miracle Hills Mall

NE of 114th and Dodge St. All members welcome.

June 12 (Thursday) Social Gathering

6:30 p.m. – Rick’s Café Boatyard

345 Riverfront Drive. Everyone welcome.

July 1st (Tuesday) Board Meeting

6:30 p.m. – Feta’s, Miracle Hills Mall

NE of 114th and Dodge St. All members welcome.

July 9th (Wednesday) Social Gathering

6:00 p.m. – Upstream, in the Old Market

Look for us upstairs. Everyone welcome.

Renewal Members

The Omaha Ski Club welcomes the following renewal members:

Felix K.

COMMITTEES

MEMBERSHIP

Don Hammond
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NEWSLETTER

Vacant

newsletter@omahaskiclub.org

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Breckenridge 2008 with the Chicago Metropolitan Ski Council

On Saturday, March 29th, three Omaha Ski Club skiers drove to Breckenridge, Colorado to join the Chicago Metropolitan Ski Council (CMSC) for six days of skiing. The trip consisted of three ski days at Breckenridge, and one day each at Vail, Keystone, and Arapahoe Basin. Pat and Ben left Nebraska early in the morning and arrived at the Beaver Run condo complex at Breckenridge about four in the afternoon after an uneventful drive. That evening, they met many of the CMSC people at an impromptu gathering at a local pub, followed by a dinner at the nearby Mia Casa Mexican restaurant. Mark drove out from Colorado Springs later in the afternoon, and met up with Pat and Ben later that evening.



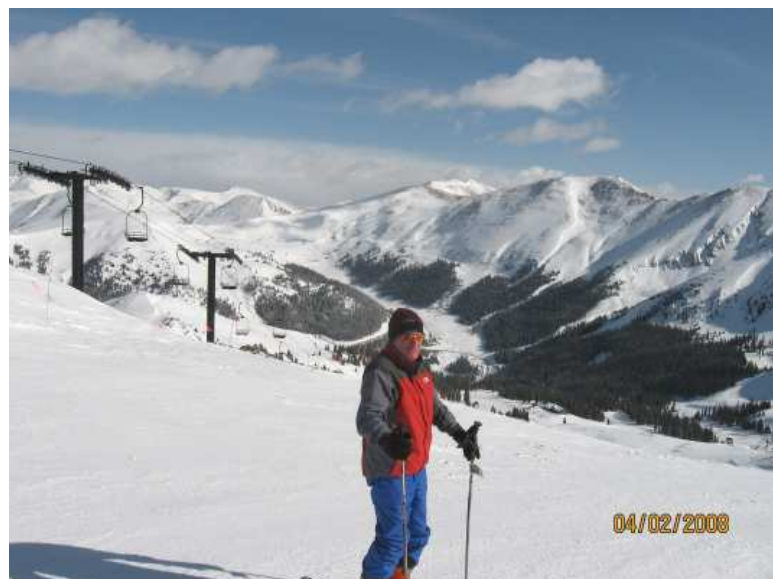
Pat, Mark and Ben began Sunday, the 30th, by attending a free CMSC welcome breakfast at a condo complex downhill from Beaver Run. They then attended a free tour of Breckenridge and skied there the remainder of the day in excellent weather and snow conditions with several CMSC acquaintances from the Three Valleys trip, sampling a wide variety of terrain, including three double-diamond bump runs in the valley between Peaks 8 and 9. This was followed by dinner at the CMSC welcome party at Beaver Run.

Monday, March 31st, was the first of two CMSC race days. Snow and weather conditions continued to be good, with skies clearing after an overnight fall of several inches of new powder. During the morning, Pat, Ben and Mark each did two runs on the Breckenridge NASTAR course. After lunch, the weather deteriorated, with increasing amounts of snow and wind, which forced the closure of most of Breckenridge's upper lifts. Pat, Ben and Mark then moved to



the lower portions of Peaks 7 and 8 and skied there the remainder of the day, followed by drinks at the Copper Top bar at the base of Peak 9. Dinner was held at the Salt Creek Irish pub and restaurant in downtown Breckenridge, which was also the last stop for that evening's CMSC wine and beer tours, "Taste of Breck". Snow continued to fall during the evening, with several more inches accumulating by midnight.

Tuesday, April 1st, was the trip's day at Vail. Mark had to return to work at Colorado Springs Tuesday and Wednesday and couldn't be there; Pat and Ben caught the CMSC bus to Vail early in the morning. Snow conditions were outstanding; Pat and Ben immediately took the lifts to Vail's back bowls to get first tracks on some deep, untouched powder, then explored the Blue Sky Basin area. They had lunch at the Two Elks lodge; then skied the front (north-facing) section of Vail in the afternoon, after the strong April sun had turned the powder in the back bowls to heavy crud. This was followed by a CMSC after-ski party at the Golden Peak base of Vail, a bus ride back to Breckenridge, and a tasty spaghetti and meatballs dinner at a local Italian restaurant.



Wednesday, the 2nd, was designated as a "free day" by CMSC, which meant we were on our own, with no scheduled events. Pat and Ben decided to spend the day at Arapahoe Basin. Snow conditions continued to be excellent. After a short drive from Breckenridge, they began the day by getting first tracks on the East Wall, a wide-open bowl area. This was followed by a detailed exploration of Montezuma Bowl, a brand-new section at the back of Arapahoe Basin which has only been open since January, and lunch at the main base.

After lunch, they moved to the north-facing double-diamond Pallavicini area to avoid the afternoon sun, did several runs there, finished off the day with blue cruisers, and then drove back. Mark returned from work later than evening and met them at Spencer's restaurant in Beaver Run for dinner.



Thursday, the 3rd was spent at Keystone; it was CMSC's second race day. Pat, Mark and Ben



is a professional ski racer, and did several very fast blue cruiser runs. Pat's cousin had to leave early in the afternoon; Pat, Ben and Mark returned to the North Peak and Outback areas of Keystone and completed the afternoon with a mix of expert bump runs and single-diamond cruisers. Pat had dinner that evening with his cousin, while Ben and Mark sampled the food and live music at the Copper Top bar in Beaver Run.

began the day with some practice blue cruiser runs. Mark moved on to the North Peak area to try his luck on double-diamond runs, while Pat and Ben did two runs at Keystone's NASTAR race course. Afterwards, we attended CMSC's post-race mountain lunch near the top of Keystone's gondola, then met up with Pat's cousin, who

Friday, the 4th was the last ski day of the trip; we followed CMSC's schedule and stayed at Breckenridge. The weather on that day was clear, dry, and relatively calm, which allowed the resort to open all their upper mountain lifts and enabled us to explore lots of terrain which had been closed earlier in the week. The three of us began by taking the T-bar up to the top of Peak 7 and exploring the bowls in that area. We then skied to the base of Peak 7 along the northern boundary of the ski area, crossed over to Peak 8 and took the new Imperial lift to the Peak 8 – Peak 7 saddle. We skied along the saddle back to Peak 7, explored the bowls further, and then had a lunch break. After lunch, it was time to investigate additional areas near Peaks 9 and 10. The end of the skiing day consisted of single-diamond Peak 10 bump runs along the southern boundary of Breckenridge. Afterwards, we had a long rest outside at the Peak 9 base, and then attended the CMSC awards banquet that evening. Pat was awarded two CMSC medals – one for second place in his class at the first set of races, and one for third place overall. Ben received a medal for fifth place overall in his racing class. Mark returned to Colorado Springs later that evening, and Pat and Ben had a quiet drive back to Nebraska the following day.



Ben Novograd

Memorial Day weekend ski trip – May 23-26

During ten out of the past eleven years, Ben Novograd and Mark Storz have set up a trip to Arapahoe Basin, Colorado on Memorial Day weekend. They'll be going again this year. This is not a club sponsored trip (but the OSC board thinks it is worth sending out to our members); they're just interested to see if anyone wants to join them.

Skiing on Memorial Day weekend has several advantages:

- Snow conditions can be surprisingly good. We have video taken on past trips. The lower part of the mountain can get slushy in the sun, but the upper portion may have powder. On some of the past trips, new snow has fallen on Memorial Day weekend.
 - Crowds and lift lines are almost nonexistent.
 - Much of the mountain is still open. It's got a high altitude (10 to 12 thousand feet) and northern exposure, so the snow takes longer to melt than other ski areas. Arapahoe Basin is the last Colorado ski area to close for the season. This year, they're closing on June 8.
 - Lodging and lift tickets are relatively cheap. We'll be at the new Arapahoe Inn motel near Keystone, about 6 miles away. They have rooms with two double beds each. We'll be 2 people to a room. The motel has a hot tub. The cost will be about \$250 per person for 3 nights of lodging and 3 days of lift tickets .
 - Frostbite is not a problem. The probability of hypothermia is also reduced. On a sunny day, it's feasible to reduce the number of layers of outerwear worn.
 - The attitude is relaxed and laid back. No glitz, glamour or pretentiousness. Just skiing and snowboarding.
 - The local wildlife has come out of hibernation. Skiers and snowboarders may see mountain squirrels, a marmot (mountain woodchuck), chipmunks, or even a fox. Last year, as in previous years, we saw a herd of mountain goats near the top of the mountain.
 - The ski area is having a "beach party" with live music and their 7th annual "festival of the brewpubs" that weekend. This will be their biggest party of the year.
- Bottom line - you get plenty of skiing and partying for your \$ and time. It's a good value.

This will be a drive out trip. Lodging at the Arapahoe Inn (website: <http://www.arapahoeinn.com>) will be on Friday the 23rd, Saturday the 24th, and Sunday the 25th. Cost: about \$118 per person for 3 nights of lodging and about \$135 for per person for 3 days of lift tickets. Mark and Ben will be making lodging reservations and payment for lodging will be through them. The plan is to drive out Friday, the 23rd, ski Saturday, Sunday and part of Monday, and drive back Monday evening, the 26th - Memorial Day.

For more info contact Ben Novograd at 291-5704.

OMAHA SKI CLUB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
JUNE 2008 – MAY 2009

MEMBERSHIP STATUS: NEW ____ RENEWAL ____ FAMILY \$25 ____ SINGLE \$22 ____

MEMBER INFORMATION - - - PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Street Address: _____ City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: (____) _____ Work Phone: (____) _____ Cell Phone :(____) _____

Email Address: _____

Check this box if you are 21 years or older. For family membership, list all dependent minors on back of application.

If new member, how did you hear about the club? _____

Ski/Snowboard destinations you're interested in: _____

Activities you're interested in: Biking____ Bowling____ Dinners____ Other____
(please list)

Other Interests: (please list) _____

NOTE: BY SIGNING THIS APPLICATION I RELIEVE THE OMAHA SKI CLUB, INC. (OSC) OF ANY RRESPONSIBILITY OR ACCIDENT OR INJURY I INCUR WHILE PARTICIPATING IN ANY OSC ACTIVITIES. I AALSO CERTIFY THAT I AM IF LEGAL DRINKING AGE IN THE STATE OF NEBRASKA.

SIGNATURE _____ **DATE** _____
(Must be signed and dated)

[OSC USE ONLY] MEMBERSHIP NO. _____ BD. _____ TR. _____ NL. _____