



## February 2008 Update

[www.omahaskiclub.org](http://www.omahaskiclub.org)

### Two Trips Left – Both Have Spaces Available

The Cooper trip was canceled due to lack of participation; Whitefish has two spaces available. The Breckenridge trip also has space available. See the letter from Teri Hammon, our VP of trips, on page 3 for details.

### March 4th (Tuesday) Board Meeting

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

NE of 114<sup>th</sup> and Dodge St. All members welcome.

### March 6th (Thursday) Cuban Dinner

**6:30 p.m. – Gusto Cuban Cafe**

7910 Harrison St. RSVP to Sally Hammond at 493-6056 or [aspendream@cox.net](mailto:aspendream@cox.net) by Monday March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Come join us for some Cuban food and Mojitos. Check out their web site at [www.gustocubancafe.com](http://www.gustocubancafe.com).

### March 9th (Sunday) Social Gathering

**Whitefish Pre-Trip Party**

**6 p.m. – Senor Matias, 90<sup>th</sup> and Arbor St**

A bit N of 90<sup>th</sup> and Center. Everyone welcome.

### March 12th (Wednesday) to March 19th (Wednesday)

**Whitefish Trip**

See the trips flyer on page 5 for details

### March 27th (Thursday) Social Gathering

**Whitefish Post-Trip Party**

**Breckenridge Pre-Trip Party**

**6:30 p.m. – Senor Matias, 90th and Arbor St**

A bit N of 90<sup>th</sup> and Center. Everyone welcome.

### March 29th (Saturday) to April 5th (Saturday)

**Breckenridge Trip**

See the trips flyer on page 5 for details

### April 15th (Tuesday) Board Meeting

**6 p.m. – Legends, 6910 N. 102<sup>nd</sup> Circle**

NW of the I-680 Irvington exit. All members welcome.

**VP-Trips letter – page 3**

**Trips flyer – pages 4 and 5**

**Winter Park trip article  
pages 6-7**

**Three Valleys trip article  
pages 8-10**

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Ben Novograd

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#### TREASURER

Phil Bintz

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**April 15th (Tuesday) Social Gathering  
Breckenridge Post-trip Party  
7 p.m. – Legends, 6910 N. 102<sup>nd</sup> Circle**

NW of the I-680 Irvington exit, after the board meeting.  
Everyone welcome

**New and Renewed Members**

The Omaha Ski Club welcomes the following new and renewed members:

Maureen H.

Kim L.

Michelle and Ralph M.

Jim S.

Kevin and Maggie S.

**COMMITTEES**

**MEMBERSHIP**

Don Hammond  
(402) 493-6056(H)

[membership@omahaskiclub.org](mailto:membership@omahaskiclub.org)

**NEWSLETTER**

Vacant

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**FLATLAND SKI ASSOC. DIR.**

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**WEBSITE**

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(402) 291-5704(H)

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## **Trips Update 2/24/2008**

It has been a phenomenal ski season! Mother Nature has been kind to all the skiers this year. **Steamboat** was an awesome trip with 42 members and lots of fresh powder. The powder was some of the best I have skied in many years. El Siebert will have more details on that trip in next month's newsletter.

Unfortunately, we had to cancel the **Ski Cooper** trip this year. Several of the members that would have signed up, had commitments for the March 1<sup>st</sup> weekend with the Ski Patrol.

**Whitefish Trip** (March 12-19) will be leaving in a couple of weeks with 26 members signed up so far. ***There are only 2 spaces available.*** We were able to get another condo and additional flights. If you are interested in signing up for this trip, please email Teri at [dragonsrock@cox.net](mailto:dragonsrock@cox.net) as soon as possible. The price with airfare is \$995 (subject to change depending on airfare pricing).

**Breckenridge Trip** (March 29-April 5) with the Chicago Metro Ski Council still ***has space available.*** The cost of this trip is \$825.00 and includes skiing at Breckenridge, Vail and Keystone. CMSC has many activities and parties during the week. If you plan on joining this trip, please email Ben at [benjaminnovograd@cox.net](mailto:benjaminnovograd@cox.net).

### **NEXT SEASON-*WHERE DO YOU WANT TO SKI????***

As we plan for trips for the coming season, I like to ask the members where they would like to ski next year. Email Teri at [vp-trips@omahaskiclub.org](mailto:vp-trips@omahaskiclub.org) with areas where YOU would like to ski next year. This is a club for our members. It is important that you give us your input.

Happy and safe skiing to you all!

Got skis, gotta go....

Teri Hammon  
Vice President of Trips  
Omaha Ski Club

# 2007-2008 Trip Information

Join the Omaha Ski Club this season for some exciting trips. We have included a variety for everyone. Grab a friend and join the club! Sign up early as spots are limited. Participation in a trip requires [current membership](#) and a [trip application](#).

## Copper Mountain CO (Dec 11-16, 2007)

Completed

\$290.00 per person/dbl occupancy. This trip includes 5 nights lodging at the Summit House West 2 BR condos located in the Village at Copper just a short walk to the lifts. Pool and hot tub located in the Athletic Center. Lift tickets are not included. You are responsible for obtaining your lift tickets.

Trip Captain: Pat McCall (402) 342-8898 or cell 659-0911.

Payments: \$100 due Sep 28, \$100 due Oct 28, \$90 due Nov 28

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## Monarch CO-New Year's Trip (Dec 28-Jan 1, 2008)

Completed

\$290.00 per person/dbl occupancy. This trip includes 4 nights lodging at the Monarch Mountain Lodge, (2 bed hotel room style) Newly renovated, including 3 outside hot tubs and new management at the restaurant. Lift tickets can be purchased at the lodge for \$43/day. New Years party (TBA). Lodge has bar, DJ and dancing. Experience the gems of Colorado. Monarch Ski area is a short drive from the lodge.

Trip Captain: TBA Payments: \$100 due Sep 28, \$200 due Oct 28, \$140 due Nov 28.

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## Winter Park CO (Jan 9-13, 2008)

Completed

\$284.00 per person/dbl occupancy. Stay at the base area at Winter Park in the Vintage Resort Hotel. This trip includes 4 nights lodging and welcome party. There is a restaurant and bar on the main level of the Vintage Hotel. Lift tickets are not included. Trip Captain: Ben Novograd (402) 291-5704

Payments: \$50 due Sep 28, \$100 due Oct 28, \$100 due Nov 28, \$34 due Dec 28.

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## Steamboat CO FSA Trip (Jan 30-Feb 3, 2008)

Completed

\$448.00 per person/dbl occupancy. This trip is filling up now with 37 people. We do have one spot left. Join members of the Flatlands Ski Association on an exciting trip to Steamboat. Trip includes lodging at the Timber Run Condos (2 BD 2BR and a hot tub), 4 day lift ticket and the FSA activity ticket to all the events, races, welcome party, final event banquet and après ski parties. Come and socialize, try your skills at racing (just for fun or competition) and meet new friends that love to ski.

Trip Captain: El Siebert (402) 453-9088.

Payments: \$50.00 due Sep 28, \$150 due Oct 28, \$100 due Nov 28, \$148 due Dec 28.

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## Ski Cooper CO (Feb 20-24, 2008)

Cancelled

\$210.00 per person/dbl occupancy. Trip includes 4 nights lodging at the Columbine Inn (2 dbl queens per room) and a welcome party. Lift tickets extra. Great trip for families!

Trip Captain: Sally Hammond (402) 493-6056

Payments: \$50.00 due Sep 28, \$50 due Oct 28, \$50 due Nov 28, \$60 due Dec 28

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## Whitefish Resort @ Big Mountain MT (Mar 12-19, 2008)

2 spaces available

\$995.00 per person with airfare (\$930 if signed up before Oct 26) \$530.00 per person ground/dbl occupancy. Trip includes 7 days lodging at the Morning Eagle Condos (2 bed/2 bath, ski-in/ski-out, complete with hot tub and pool on the roof overlooking the mountain), airfare to Kalispell, ground transfers, 5 day lift tickets and a welcome party. Let's explore a new resort!

Trip Captain: Teri Hammon (402) 571-4517

Payments: \$150.00 due Sep 28, \$270 due Oct 28, \$300 due Nov 28, remainder due Dec 28.

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## Breckenridge CO (Chicago Metro Ski Week) (Mar 29-Apr 5)

Space available

\$825 per person/dbl occupancy. Join the Chicago Metro Ski Association members for a fun filled week at Breckenridge. Trip includes 7 nights lodging (condos), 6 day lift tickets (the group plans on having option of one day at Vail, one day at Keystone). Chicago week activities including a welcome reception, après-ski party, 2 races, mountain barbeque and final night awards dinner/party. It is a great way to have fun and meet new people!

Trip Captain: Ben Novograd (402) 291-5704

Payments: \$150.00 due Sep 28, \$300 due Oct 28, \$200 due Nov 28, \$175 due Dec 28

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All prices stated above are subject to change or cancellation if participation is not adequate. The Omaha Ski Club is able to offer our members great trips because of the member participation. Please support your Club.

For information on any of the above trips, please contact the trip captain or:

Teri Hammon

Vice President of Trips

Omaha Ski Club

(402) 571-4517

[vp-trips@omahaskiclub.org](mailto:vp-trips@omahaskiclub.org)

SEND YOUR DEPOSIT AND A COPY OF THE TRIP APPLICATION TO:

OMAHA SKI CLUB TRIPS

P.O. BOX 3104

OMAHA NE 68103-0104

## Winter Park 2008

On Wednesday, January 9th, four OSC members traveled to Winter Park to participate in the first club trip to that location in several years.

Teri was the first to arrive, in the early evening hours. She encountered falling snow in northeastern Colorado and blowing snow on Berthoud Pass, but made it to our lodging at the Vintage Hotel in good shape. Roberta, Steve and Ben left Omaha later in the day, encountered light rain in central Nebraska then dealt with snowy roads in northeastern Colorado and Berthoud Pass. After some delays, they got to the hotel safely later in the evening. We all checked into our condos, and then settled down for the night.



Thursday morning, the 10th, was cloudy and cold. Several inches of fluffy new snow had fallen overnight, which, together with several days of snow earlier in the week, produced excellent conditions on the slopes. We spent most of the morning skiing the intermediate areas near the Winter Park base. Roberta explored the NASTAR race course, and was awarded a platinum medal; something only the top 5% of racers get! We had

lunch at Snoasis, and watched the snow begin to fall again, then spent several more hours sampling the powder. We tried out the large hot tub visible below our rooms, and then had a welcome dinner at the Winter Park Pub in downtown Winter Park. The accumulated snow outside produced some interesting scenery!



Friday, the 11<sup>th</sup>, continued the trend of cold, snowy conditions, with lots of fresh, fluffy powder. We began by skiing together in central area of the Winter Park section, then split up. Roberta spent some more time at the NASTAR race course, Ben and Teri explored the new, advanced to expert “Eagle Wind” section of the mountain, and Steve used his skills to navigate the double-diamond bump runs near Mary Jane. We reconvened for lunch at Sunspot, and then checked out the gladed terrain under the new six-pack Panoramic Express lift. It contained lots of tree runs and deep powder- good stuff! At the end of the day, we took advantage of the hot tub, and then had nachos and beef for dinner at the hotel restaurant.

The weather on Saturday, the 12<sup>th</sup>, was sunny and dry – great for observing the scenery and taking pictures. It was Steve’s turn to explore the Eagle Wind expert runs, while Ben and Teri checked out the groomed blue-black runs on Mary Jane. At the end of the day, Steve retired to our condo to watch a Nebraska basketball game, while Ben, Teri and Roberta had a fancy German dinner at the Gasthaus Eichler restaurant in downtown Winter Park.



The following morning was partly cloudy and cold. We skied a half day on the groomed runs above the Winter Park base, and then left for Omaha. The weather cooperated for the trip back, which was much less stressful than the trip out. Great skiing!



Ben Novograd  
Trip captain

## Three Valleys 2008

Three OSC members – Mark, Ben and Jim – participated in this season’s Chicago Metropolitan Ski Council (CMSC) Europe ski trip to Three Valleys (“Trois Vallees” in French), from Friday, January 18<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup>. Three Valleys is in southeastern France (red star on map at right) near the triple point where France, Switzerland and Italy meet. The three valleys are actually three interconnected ski areas: Val Thorens, Meribel and Courchevel, each of which occupies its own valley. Each individual valley is larger than any ski area in the U.S. Together, they’re the biggest ski area in the world, with 375 miles of groomed trails. During six days of skiing, on the 20<sup>th</sup> through the 25<sup>th</sup>, we were able to sample many of them. CMSC is a group of over 80 ski clubs; 47 of their people, including three OSC skiers, were on the trip.



Getting to Three Valleys was time-consuming, involving three flights and a 3-hour bus ride. Ben and Jim began the process with a one-hour flight from Omaha to Chicago’s O’Hare airport; Mark’s initial

flight departed from Denver. Once at O’Hare, we picked up our luggage, did a bag drag from the domestic to the international terminal, then checked in again at Air France. We then got on 2 more flights; an 8-hour one from Chicago to Paris and a one-hour connecting flight from Paris to Geneva, followed by a 3-hour bus ride to the ski area and hotel in Meribel-Mottaret. Along the way, we shifted time zones; the time zone in France is 7 hours ahead of Omaha and 8 hours ahead of Colorado. The end result was worth it; great snow, six days of excellent skiing (the 20<sup>th</sup> through the 25<sup>th</sup>) and fantastic scenery. The weather on five of



the six days was dry and mild, perfect for skiing.

The size of the area we were in dictated our plans; the three valleys are too large to cover in one day, so we chose a different valley to ski in each morning. We spent much of the time skiing with a group of about 30 people led by the trip’s assistant captain, who had been to the area before and knew his way around. This was important, because the area has many base points, with few shuttles between them, and being stuck at the wrong base point at the end of the day would have led to a cumbersome and expensive cab ride back to the hotel. Fortunately, we were warned about this issue in advance and didn’t get lost.





We spent the first day, Sunday the 20<sup>th</sup>, mostly in the Courchevel valley. Conditions were excellent, but lunch was expensive – we found out later that Courchevel is France’s equivalent of Vail or Aspen. Spaghetti was 16 euros or \$24 – ouch! At least it was a fancy place. That night, and every subsequent night, we had dinner at the hotel – it was included in the price of the trip. Breakfast at the hotel was also included. That helped make up for the nasty \$1.47 to 1 euro exchange rate; we also bought very little in the local area to keep costs down.

Monday the 21<sup>st</sup> was spent in the southern part of the Val Thorens valley – we took a tram over to its extreme southern end, called Orelle, and had lunch there – cafeteria style, much cheaper. The scenery and skiing were spectacular, and the weather was great – mild, dry, no wind. We did over 25,000 feet of total vertical, went fast on lots of blue cruisers, and did a little bit of “off-piste” bump skiing. Towards the end of the afternoon, we had a nice break at a restaurant at the top of the ridge between the Val Thorens and Mirabel valleys. Fantastic view!



The weather of Tuesday, the 22<sup>nd</sup>, took a turn for the worse – foggy, snowy and windy. Many of the higher lifts were closed. So, we stayed in the Meribel valley – still got some good powder skiing, had a nice lunch at a mid-mountain restaurant. The weather cleared that night, and on Wednesday, the 23<sup>rd</sup>, it reverted back to the usual sunny and dry conditions.

We responded by exploring the northern portion of the Val Thorens valley. Once again, we did over 25,000 feet of total vertical, using every imaginable type of lift except rope tows– pomas, trams, variously sized gondolas, 2 to 6 person chairlifts. That evening, we attended the first of several parties in people’s rooms – got to indulge in lots of tasty French wine and cheese.





Thursday, the 24<sup>th</sup>, was a day to try out some bumps and skiing on non-groomed terrain. We began by checking out the bumps and watching balloons at Courchevel, then returned to the Meribel-Mottaret base near our hotel to get a relatively cheap lunch, then got over to Val Thorens to try some non-groomed terrain there. That night, we had another wine and cheese party – good stuff!

Friday, the 25<sup>th</sup>, was our last skiing day. We spread out and split up; Mark focused on bump runs, while Jim and Ben did mostly blue cruisers to finish out the trip. Once again, conditions were just about perfect. On the way back to the hotel, we got to see some people try to ski in sumo wrestling outfits – rather bizarre.



That night, we stopped by a local dance club, “Discotheque Privilege”. One of the bartenders at our hotel got us in for free. Yes, they still have discos in France. The music was strange – heavy, industrial-strength thumping – and so were the people inside. We got to see a visiting rugby team jump wildly up and down, and swing one of their people around horizontally along the floor. Definitely different. We partied there

until 2 am, got back to the hotel, had an hour nap, then got up at 3 am, had a quick early breakfast at the hotel, followed by the 4:30 am bus ride back to the Geneva airport. On the way, we dropped off 11 CMSC people at a local train station; they continued on with an optional trip extension to Milan (no skiing). The three OSC skiers got on a plane at Geneva, changed planes at Paris, and made it back to Chicago safely on Saturday afternoon. Jim and Ben got on a flight to Omaha that evening; Mark got on a flight to Denver and drove back to Colorado Springs. We all made it safe and sound, no injuries. A memorable trip!

Ben Novograd  
OSC skier