



March 2011 Update

www.omahaskiclub.org

2010-2011 Ski Season's Trips Completed

All five of this season's trips have been completed. In accordance with section 4.C. of our bylaws, membership applications received after the completion date of the last trip (March 26th) will be valid from now through the 2011-2012 season, until May 31, 2012. See page 6 for a membership application.

Three Board Positions to Be Filled at This May's Election

The terms of three of our board members, Phil Bintz, Teri Hammon and Mary Soar, expire at the end of May. This leaves three board positions to be filled at this May's election. Any current member can run for a board position; anyone interested should contact one of two people: our president, Phil Bintz, at 402-630-4753 (president@omahaskiclub.org) or our secretary, Ben Novograd at 402-291-5704 (secretary@omahaskiclub.org) right away. The club bylaws require us to prepare and distribute the election ballots to current members by two weeks before the election party; to do this, we need candidate information by April 28th. Ballots will be mailed at the end of April.

Bike Rides to Resume in April

As in past years, we'll be resuming the Sunday morning club bike rides in April. The rides are on the local bike trails, usually between 15 and 30 miles long, and start at 10 in the morning when temperatures are cool, then shift to 9 when things warm up and 8 in the morning in July and August to avoid hot temperatures. Later in the season, we also periodically join the Thursday evening taco ride, on the Wabash Trace trail from Council Bluffs to Mineola. Bike ride messages are sent by email to all club members in the local area several days before each ride. This timing allows planning for weather conditions; we normally start each ride against the wind, and finish the end of the ride with a tail wind to ease the stress on tired participants. Rides won't be scheduled on days with a high likelihood of rain or high winds.

April 12th (Tuesday) 6 p.m.

Board Meeting

Gator O'Malley's, 12143 West Center Rd

In the shopping mall at the SW corner of 120th St and W Center Rd.
All members welcome.

April 12th (Tuesday) 7 p.m.

Social Gathering

Jackson Hole Post-Trip Party

Gator O'Malley's, 12143 West Center Rd

In the shopping mall at the SW corner of 120th St and W Center Rd.
After the board meeting. Everyone welcome.

Wolf Creek trip article
pages 3- 5

Membership application
Page 6

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

Phil Bintz

(402) 483-2668(H)

president@omahaskiclub.org

VICE PRESIDENT TRIPS

Teri Hammon

(402) 571-4517(H)

(402) 717-7889(W)

vp-trips@omahaskiclub.org

VICE PRESIDENT ACTIVITIES

Mary Soar

(402) 515-1686(H)

(402) 334-7777(W)

vp-activities@omahaskiclub.org

SECRETARY

Ben Novograd

(402) 291-5704(H)

secretary@omahaskiclub.org

TREASURER

Dave Burden

(712) 527-5980(H)

treasurer@omahaskiclub.org

May 3rd (Tuesday) 7 p.m.

Board Meeting

Zio's Pizzeria, 7834 Dodge St

On the north side of Dodge St, near 78th St.

All members welcome.

May 14th (Saturday) 4 p.m.

Election Party

Burden residence, Glenwood, Iowa

Details to follow next month. All members welcome.

New and Renewal Members

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

John Trousdale

COMMITTEES

MEMBERSHIP

Joe Dotzler

(402) 699-9229(H)

membership@omahaskiclub.org

NEWSLETTER

Vacant

newsletter@omahaskiclub.org

RACE

Phil Bintz

(712) 483-2668(H)

race@omahaskiclub.org

FLATLAND SKI ASSOC. Rep.

Ben Novograd

(402) 291-5704(H)

fsa-director@omahaskiclub.org

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Teri Hammon

(402) 571-4517(H)

(402) 717-7889(W)

marketing@omahaskiclub.org

LEGAL

Dave Lawler

(712) 328-9278(H)

(712) 323-4132(W)

legal@omahaskiclub.org

WEBSITE

Ben Novograd

(402) 291-5704(H)

webadmin@omahaskiclub.org

Wolf Creek and Durango (Purgatory) - February 9 to 13, 2011

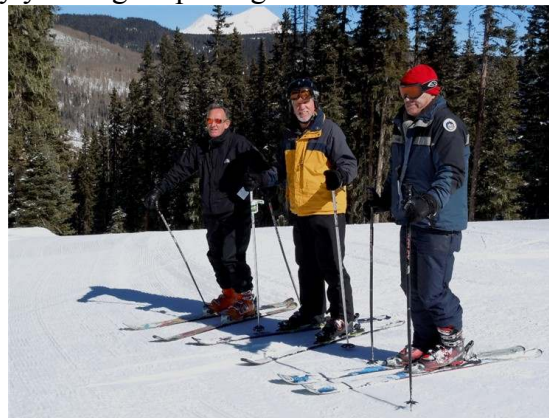
Five OSC members - Teri Hammon, Dave Burden, Ben Novograd, Pat Connelly and Mark Storz - participated in the third Omaha Ski Club trip of the season: four nights of lodging at Pagosa Springs, one day of skiing at Durango, and two days of skiing at Wolf Creek.



Getting to our lodging at Pagosa Springs from the Omaha area on Wednesday, the 9th for Teri, Pat, Dave and Ben involved a 14 to 15 hour, 830 mile drive. Since several of us were going to other locations afterwards, we used 3 separate vehicles. Mark was delayed by work commitments and drove out to join us from Colorado Springs the next day on Thursday, the 10th. The weather cooperated fairly well, with only light blowing snow in the mountains along Rt 285 and no major difficulties along the way. The four of us all made it to Pagosa Springs by 7:30 pm Wednesday evening, where we promptly reconvened for an excellent dinner at a local restaurant, Boss Hogg's, with a prior OSC member, Nancy Ford, who moved from Omaha to Pagosa Springs several years ago. Her guidance and advice on local eateries and attractions was very useful! Boss Hogg's had a \$9.50 ribeye special which most of us took advantage of – it was delicious!



The next morning, on Thursday, the 10th, we drove out to our first skiing destination – Durango Mountain Resort. This ski area is further from Pagosa Springs than some of us realized – it's a 1 hour drive to Durango on Rt 160 followed by a 45 minute drive north on Rt 550 to the ski area. We finally got there around 9:45 in the morning, and started to put on our ski boots. However – our boots had been stored in the (unheated) bed of Pat's truck on the way over – not good. As one unnamed skier put it many years ago – putting on cold ski boots is like giving



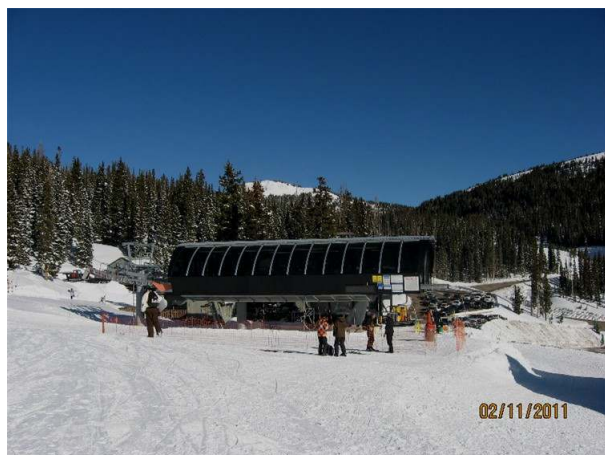
birth in reverse; Time-consuming, painful and difficult. Teri had to help several of us get our boots on, and Pat had to take his boots inside a heated building first. We finally got totally dressed and prepared about twenty minutes later and started skiing Durango's slopes.

Durango is a middle-sized ski area, larger than Cooper or Sunlight and smaller than Copper, Keystone and Winter Park. It was originally named Purgatory, after the creek that runs along its lower boundary, and its lift tickets, pins and some other souvenirs still use the Purgatory name. We first tried out the blue cruisers, which were in excellent shape, then moved on to some bump runs and steeper single-diamond groomed runs, which were also fun to ski on. The weather continued to be dry, cool and pleasant. We then had lunch at one of the



two mid-mountain restaurants, skied some more, and finished off the skiing day with a quick beer at the main base bar. After the drive back to Pagosa Springs, we had a tasty dinner of burgers and salad with Nancy at the local Kip's Grill eatery a few blocks from our motel. Mark joined us from Colorado Springs later that evening.

The good weather persisted on the next morning - Friday, the 11th. After breakfast at the motel (included as part of our lodging), we drove up the pass on Rt 160 to the Wolf Creek ski area. Wolf Creek is much closer (25 miles) to Pagosa Springs than Durango. Wolf Creek is also a middle-sized ski area, with one major claim to fame: on average, it gets the most snow of any Colorado resort. This was not the case when we were there, but we still had a 75 inch base to work with, which was plenty for our purposes. This time, our boots were stored in a warm area, so we got them on easily, and started skiing at 9:30. Like Durango, Wolf Creek has a wide variety of terrain, from green and blue cruisers to an extensive area of advanced to expert steep, tree-covered terrain. We split up according to ability and covered almost all of the area's slopes. Nancy also joined us and skied for the first time in 10 years! She got her ski legs back fast, but we did manage to wear her out by lunchtime. We had lunch at the base restaurant, and then continued to explore the slopes. Ben and Mark hadn't been there since 1993; it was fun checking the place out again. After drinks at the base, we returned to Pagosa Springs and had our welcome dinner at the Bear Creek Grill and Saloon, also only a few blocks from our motel. This restaurant had lots of good BBQ sandwiches and burgers on the menu.



Saturday, the 12th, was warm and dry – warm enough that the snow at Wolf Creek softened up considerably in the afternoon. After driving back up to the ski area in the morning, we met up with Jeff Krinsky, an Omaha Ski Club member from the Denver area who was at the area with a Denver ski club. He skied that day with both clubs. We spent the day sampling most sections of the area again, with special emphasis on the Thumper bump run where Teri and Dave practiced their mogul skills. Ben and Mark also further investigated the steep tree



runs on the left side of the ski area. At the end of the day, we gathered at the base to recuperate and have a beer before the ride back to Pagosa Springs. That night, we had dinner at the Buffalo Inn motel restaurant with Nancy; their fish and chips were excellent.

Sunday, the 13th, was our day to return to the Omaha area – or in the case of Mark, to Colorado Springs.



The weather continued to be warm and dry, which simplified the drive back. Only Dave and Ben drove straight back to Nebraska. Teri returned home later, and Pat continued on to New Mexico to ski at several areas in that state. Everyone eventually made it safely back home. An excellent trip!

Ben Novograd
Wolf Creek trip captain

**OMAHA SKI CLUB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
JUNE 2011 – MAY 2012**

MEMBERSHIP STATUS: NEW ____ RENEWAL ____
Through September 30, 2011: FAMILY \$25 ____ SINGLE \$22 ____
After September 30, 2011: FAMILY \$30 ____ SINGLE \$27 ____

MEMBER INFORMATION - - - PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name: _____ Spouse: _____

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

Home Phone: (____) _____ Alternate 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 RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACCIDENT OR INJURY I INCUR WHILE PARTICIPATING IN ANY OSC ACTIVITIES. I ALSO CERTIFY THAT I AM OF LEGAL DRINKING AGE IN THE STATE OF NEBRASKA.

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

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

Mail to: Omaha Ski Club, P.O. Box 3104, Omaha, NE 68103-0104