

Desert Ski Club Tumbleweed News

March 2009

Happy St Patrick's Day

Volume 09 #03

General Membership Meeting

March 3, 2009 (Special Date)

SHILO INN, RICHLAND

6:30 Social - Meeting 7:00 p.m.

General Membership Meetings are usually the 1st Thursday of the month and are held at the Shilo Inn, Richland. DSC Board meetings are usually the Tuesday preceding the general meeting and are held in the Shilo Inn Board room. ALL DSC BOARD MEETINGS ARE "OPEN," AND PARTICIPATION BY CLUB MEMBERS IS ENCOURAGED!

FOR THOSE INTERESTED IN JOINING
YOU CAN FIND AN APPLICATION AT THE END OF THIS
NEWSLETTER

Take Note:

As many members will be off on the Brundage trip on the 5th, we'll hold the Club meeting on Tuesday 3rd March, usual time/place. The DSC board meeting is being held at the Shilo at 6.30pm on Tuesday 24th. I'd encourage anyone who is interested in standing for a board position for next year to come along and discuss ideas for positions and club directions.

Reminder:

The Board needs a nominating committee for the April Election of Officers and Board Members. Please come to this Tuesday's General Meeting and show your support for the club, let us know early that you could volunteer. Nominations will be taken at the March general meeting with the elections held at the April meeting.

Combined DSC - Hawk's Flock Schedule

Trip	Days	Nights	Dates	Price	Comments
Silver Mountain	2	2	Dec 30-Jan 1	\$190	Trip cancelled – flood.
Steamboat Springs	4	5	Jan 14-Jan 19	\$1075	Trip completed. See aftermath writeup in February newsletter.
Panorama	3	3	Feb 5-Feb 8	\$460	Trip completed See aftermath writeup in this newsletter
49 Degrees North	2	2	Feb 13-Feb 15	\$219	Trip completed See aftermath writeup in this newsletter
Mt. Hood	3*	2*	Feb 20-Feb 22	\$345	Trip cancelled
Brundage Tamarack	3	3	Mar 5-Mar 8	\$485	DSC trip: Ski 2 days at Brundage, 1 day at Tamarack
Mt. Bachelor	2-3	2-3	Apr 16-Apr 19	Low	Hawk's Flock & DSC trip: Carpool

THE PRESIDENT'S RAMBLE

I hope you're all getting out there and having some fun on the slopes. It's not an easy season to score powder days around here, but everywhere has a good base and weather has been cold. Hopefully the precip will return soon.



We've had a couple of great weekends out with ski club folks in last two weeks. We caught up with the Hawk's Flock Panorama trip at the end of a little Canada road trip through Revelstoke and Kicking Horse (great ski hills, very good conditions) with some Aussie friends. Panorama was excellent fun, even though the snow was thin in places (it's not a snowy place unfortunately). There was some great bump skiing, lots of fast groomers that ripped especially in the mornings, and fun to be had in Taynton Bowl. It was nice to see lots of familiar, smiling DSC faces up there. And encouragingly, this trip broke the 'Canada Border' hoodoo. It looks like we can run buses up there again and enjoy some of those fabulous ski hills. Thanks for ironing out that wrinkle, Gene!

And I've just got back from a really fine weekend on the DSC 49 Degrees North trip. It snowed for most of the weekend, which superbly freshened up conditions. The trip arrangements went smoothly, and it was a pleasure to show off one of the Pacific Northwest's hidden ski treasures to both old and new club members. Some of the glade skiing was really top quality and the super-wide, well-pitched groomers soft and highly carveable. Saturday was one of the busiest days of the

season at Forty Nine, and there wasn't a single lift line all day. Sunday was even quieter, like having your own private ski hill at times. The bus was filled with lots of happy faces on the way home, which was a pleasure to see. Thanks to Jamie for setting this trip up, and Tami and Kathy for running a highly efficient show. Wes, we know why you're always on time

It's weekends like this that make me remember how much fun trips can be. There's always people to ski with, great camaraderie in enjoying everyone's spills and ambition, and constant jokes to be shared. With new snow falling most of Sunday, we had a wild time in the trees on Chair 4. The Squirrel was flying high, Reid was unstoppable, Paul cruising, Jim path finding around bumps, and Jesper leaving perfect rails in the snow. We had to drag Kathy off the hill as it was so good out there, and feed her a recovery beer before the bus left. It was that good a day.

Space is at a premium on the Brundage/Tamarack trip, but if you talk nicely to Diane, she might squeeze a couple more folks in. If it's as good as the Forty Nine weekend, I'd highly recommend it. And it'd be great to get a big group down for some of the best spring skiing on the continent at Bachelor in April. Put the car pool trip weekend in your diary, and remember, there's still a good two months of skiing left in 2009

Ian Gorton
DSC President

WAGONMASTER'S REPORT



Have you ever seen the movie "Failure to Launch"? That's sort of how we felt after the Silver Mtn New Years Eve trip was cancelled due to motel flooding. And then the snow stopped falling everywhere. What a tough year! But along came the 49 Degrees trip and the DSC finally launched its 2009 season with a bus load of skiers making runs in fresh snow. See Kathy's article for more details on a great trip.

On another positive note, the Brundage/Tamarack trip has filled up and is ready to go. We've got 40 people signed up for the trip and Diane has prepared a great itinerary for 3 full days of skiing on "the best snow in Idaho"!

We're also looking beyond the ski season and thinking about running a spring wine tasting bus trip for either the Yakima Valley Spring Barrel Tasting in April or the Walla Walla Spring Release Weekend in May. Give me a call at 528-2020 or

send me an e-mail at jloftjr@charter.net if you're interested or have any suggestions. Hope to see ya soon!

Jamie Zeisloft
DSC Wagonmaster

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

We are up to 102 Members. Sign up as soon as possible so you are able to go on one of the fun trips the Desert ski club has to offer. Membership is \$25.00 payable to Desert Ski Club.

Amy Wilcox
DSC Membership

How to find out what's going on...

Two sources of ongoing club activities are available, our web site and our Google bulletin board.

The DSC web site URL is:

<http://www.desertskiclub.org>

Most topical information is public and is available simply by accessing this URL. Restricted member-only information is available only to club members and requires a user name and password. A temporary user name/password will be enabled on joining the club which you can change by accessing your profile on the home page.

Once a member, your temporary user name and password will be the following:
Username = FirstnameLastname(all run together, no spaces, capitalization DOES MATTER)

Password = FirstnameLastname(all run together, no spaces, capitalization DOES MATTER) –up to the first 10 characters.

Example – JohnSnowboarder would be user name.

JohnSnowbo would be password.

When you first log in as a member, you can change your user name, password, mailing address, phone numbers and email address by clicking on “Edit Your Profile”. In the future, if you forget and have an email address listed, you can request the system to send you your username and password.

Our Google bulletin board is public for reading, but requires an invitation to post messages. You can ask for an invitation on the site.

The Google bulletin board URL is:

<http://groups.google.com/group/3cities-snowtrips?hl=en>

Panorama After Action Report

On Feb 5th, 43 boarded our bus for Panorama. Once underway, the “newbie’s” Karen and Jay began their duty and passed out Mimosa’s to assist in the enjoyment of our box lunch. A short stop at Ritzville for Art and Patti plus a stop at GEG to pick up my son, KC and we were on our way. The other “newbie’s”, Brian, Mary and Dave took up the beer and wine stewardship for the rest of the trip. The early sign up drawings ensued with Don Layfield taking the first prize cash award of \$250. Pat Jenkins was the second place winner with \$25 and Mike Grigsby took a \$5 third place winning. There were a couple of surprise drawings for lift tickets to Mission Ridge too. A “thanks” to a favorable Canadian exchange rate dinner was provided at Frank’s Steak & Schnitzel in Cranbrook after our “hassle free” border crossing. So, we arrived in good spirits with full tummies.

The slope-side accommodations were conveniently located for our skiing enjoyment and nightly adventures. The 4,000’ vertical was groomed and ready for our edges to bite in. Incredible views were to be had from all sides of the 2,850 acres resort during our three ski days. Top-to- bottom, right-to-left, cruisers-to-tree runs, we tried to conquer this gem. That said we were joined by Shannon Powers and husband Zack from Houston; Les Davenport from Battle Ground; Ian’s Australian contingent of 4; Leslie and Dennis; and Kathy with her brother John Rightor to ski. With 55 strong at our “Partee” Friday night the food and spirits flowed as well Panorama memento “pens” were passed out. We were able to take over the Pub for Friday and Saturday night’s dancing as the Canadian tax revenue grew. It was difficult to go to the 3,000 sq ft heat pool without bumping in to a few “Hawksters” enjoying its therapeutic rejuvenation.

Saturday added a “surprise” of a few inches of snow on top. But Mother Nature had limited our access to some of Panorama’s best terrain except for the “big dogs” who took on the challenge in Taynton Bowl. That Canadian exchange rate put on a dinner at Chopper’s Landing Saturday and at our farewell festivity at Frank’s on the way home. A short stop at “duty free”, another hassle free border crossing, and a few movies later we were home.

It was an adventure many have been looking forward to and it did not disappoint. Panorama is a boutique, small by design mountain resort with great slope-side accommodations and great skiing. It challenged all of us in more ways than on its snowy surface.

“Thanks” for your patience, cooperation, and making this trip become a true “blast”.

Hawk Sends

49 Degrees North After Action Report

Twenty percent... that’s what the forecast said. As the bus pulled out of the Tri-Cities for our motel in Colville Friday night, our expectations weren’t high. A 20% chance of snow for the weekend following what seemed like a ‘forever’ string of dry weeks didn’t give us much hope for great snow conditions for the weekend. Fortunately (for us), sometimes 20% is all you need! By the time we arrived on the mountain Saturday morning 49 Degrees North already had enough of the right kind of snow to make a difference, and we were treated to a lovely all day snowfall. By Sunday the white stuff was sticking all the way down to town. Conditions were mostly good throughout the mountain, although some of us found the softest snow off the West Basin chair. It was outright dumping as we sadly dragged ourselves off the mountain Sunday afternoon.

For those who don’t already know, 49 Degrees North has a way of surprising. It is a small, simple resort but it already had the deepest base of all the ski resorts in the Pacific Northwest this year, and its trees and north-facing slopes help keep the snow it has in soft, skiable condition. Never a lift line, and lots of great terrain to boot. And the bar on the mountain is one of those great old après joints – rockin’ live entertainment and an excellent selection of local beers.

It was a fun, friendly, family trip, 32 people strong! We had folks of all ages and snow sliders of all persuasions, and plenty of terrain to keep everyone busy. Thanks to everyone for keeping us on schedule, and making this trip a success. A special thanks to Jamie our wonderful Wagonmaster for his hard work in making this trip happen; and to Phil for his volunteer service as gopher and baggage officer.... who would have thought you could organize ski bags by Dewey Decimal?? ☺

Your trip leaders,

Kathy Rightor & Tami Froelich

SKI TRIPS Remaining

BRUNDAGE/TAMARACK

March 5-8, 2009

PRICE: \$485

Trip Leaders

Diane Nicholson, Randy Smith & Greg Crawford

Hey, are you ready for the Best Snow in Idaho?

Up here in the central Idaho mountains, both Brundage and Tamarack set the standards for *what-you-want-you-got-it* skiing... Don't miss it. We'll be skiing at both areas.

For full trip writeup, go to:
<http://desertskiclub.org/?ID=3>

Mail Trip Deposits to: DSC, 300 Greenbrook Pl., Richland, WA 99352
628-8832, 531-1000

MT. BACHELOR

April 16-19, 2009

This carpool trip to Mt. Bachelor will be further described later.

WINE TASTING

Maybe... Tune in later

**THE DESERT SKI CLUB
P O BOX 623
RICHLAND, WA 99352**

2008/2009 Board & Other Volunteers

Board Officers-

President – Ian Gorton 946-1510 gortonator@hotmail.com
Vice President - Greg Crawford 947-0944 gwdcrawford@yahoo.com
Wagonmaster - Jamie Zeisloft 528-2020 jloftjr@charter.net
Secretary – Diane Nicholson 628-8832 acta@verizon.net
Treasurer - Marty Arntzen 375-0969 42967@charter.net
Membership – Amy Wilcox 366-8075 amywilcox_79@yahoo.dcom

Board Members-

Ron Grant 942-9227 rgrant@gagrantinc.com
Kathy Righthor 628-2508 krightor@verizon.net
Maureen Romero 628-8173 mo.small@charter.net
Rebecca Kranz - 528-4591 rkranz02@hotmail.com

Support Members-

Publicity – Jay Reinhart 627-3690 thereinhardt@mail.com
Trip Treasurer - Kathy Nye 582-5257 n5kat@aol.com
Webmaster – Bill Riedeman 943-3266 gwbill@gwbill.com
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Newsletter Editor- Rebecca Kranz - 528-4591 rkranz02@hotmail.com

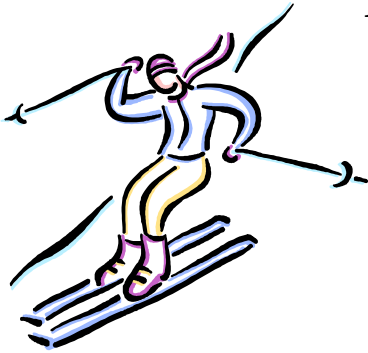
Note: Articles are due by the 15th of the month to be published in the DSC Newsletter. Send articles to: rkranz02@hotmail.com

Refund Policy

The intent of the Desert Ski Club is to provide skiing to its members at a fair price. Trip deposits are required to reserve your place on any ski trip which requires accommodation deposits and transportation costs in response to your sign-up. Refunds will be made for cancellations, provide your place on a trip is filled by a fully paid individual – first by the trip leader from any waiting list and then by an individual provided by you who is, or becomes, a Ski Club member. Individual cancellations which are not filled are subject to cancellation penalty charges and costs which are incurred by the Ski Club in your behalf. Penalties will be deducted from your trip payment prior to refund. Full refunds will be provided for a ski trip which is cancelled by the Ski Club. Your place on a ski trip is confirmed in order of final payment which meets the due dates. Refunds are made to the person who paid the Ski Club for the trip.

Must be 21 years of age

Membership No. _____



THE DESERT SKI CLUB

www.desertskiclub.org

Oct 1, 2008 – Sep 30, 2009

Desert Ski Club
Membership Application
PO Box 623
Richland, WA 99352



- Renewal
 New Member
 Address Change

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____ E-Mail: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

Phone: Home _____ Work _____

Birth date: _____ Sex: M F Marital Status: Single Married

*** Membership Due - \$25.00 per year. Please make checks payable to "DSC" and mail to the above address.**

Do you want your name in the membership directory? Please check desired boxes (Unless you specify otherwise, **BOTH** numbers and **E-Mail** will be published.)

Home Phone Yes No Work Phone Yes No E-mail Yes No

Activity Interest - Please indicate if you are interested in...

Helping to run a ski trip Yes Or a wine tasting tour Yes Or a Hydro-race party Yes

Release:

In consideration of the acceptance of this membership application and being allowed to participate in the activities of the Desert Ski Club, I hereby give up, waive, release, and assume all risks including ordinary negligence in connection with the activities of the Desert Ski Club. DSC provides many services to its members including but not limited to acquiring transportation, lodging, hosting refreshments (which may include alcoholic beverages), and arranging special travel packages. I further agree to hold harmless the Desert Ski Club, its officers and activity leaders from any claim including ordinary negligence by me, my spouse, legal representative, heirs or assigns.

I acknowledge that these activities are inherently dangerous, and I am aware of the risks.

Signature: _____ Date _____

Optional Additional Information:

Do you have ski passes? _____ If yes, where? _____

Areas that interest you for ski trips: _____

What do you prefer to do on the slopes? (i.e., ski or board or both) _____

Is there anything you would like to see the club do? _____

What suggestions do you have to help us make the ski club work better? _____
