



News Letter

MIAMI SKI CLUB INC. P.O. BOX 560943 PINECREST, FL 33256-0943

MARCH 2003

Happy Hours

March 7, 6 PM

Shula's Steak 2

Don Shula's Hotel, 6842 Main Street
Miami Lakes (305) 820-8047

March 14, 6 PM

Taurus

3540 Main Highway
Coconut Grove (305) 648-1525

March 21, 6 PM

Ohara's Hollywood Jazz Café

1903 Hollywood Boulevard
Hollywood (954) 925-2555

March 28, 6 PM

St. Michel

162 Alcazar Ave.
Coral Gables (305) 446-6572

Broward HH

THEY'RE BACK!

We apologize for the hiatus from the Broward Happy Hours, but between the holidays and Snowballs, which fell on the third Friday of the month, we just couldn't get the Broward Happy Hours covered. With all of that behind us, the **Broward Happy Hours** are back on schedule. Our first one of 2003 will be held at **Ohara's Hollywood Jazz Cafe**. We will be enjoying special drink prices and hors d' oeuvres out on the patio of Ohara's, right on Young's Circle. Also, if you would like to stay on at Ohara's, they have a live band every Friday night. We look forward to seeing our Broward County members in full force at Ohara's on **March 21**. This, of course, does not get you Dade County folks off the hook...we hope to see you there as well.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO KEVIN & PAM RESSLER ON
THE BIRTH OF THEIR NEW BABY GIRL!**

Theatre night

Wednesday, March 5, 8 PM

Boulevard of Broken Dreams

Coconut Grove Playhouse,
3500 Main Highway (305) 442-4000

You know his lyrics - 42nd Street's "Lullaby of Broadway," to "I Only have Eyes for You," "Tiptoe through the Tulips", and more. He was a genial, fun loving man, songwriter, husband, father, gambler, overeater, drinker and womanizer. He lived by his own rules, he found himself on top of the world, as well as hitting rock bottom. Enjoy the roller coaster ride that was his life in this fascinating musical.

Members \$29, guests \$34. Please make checks payable to **Miami Ski Club** and mail to Sabina Van Tuyn, 7269 SW 54 Avenue, Miami, FL 33143. Checks must be received by February 23, after this date tickets are \$45. Contact SpecialEvents@miamiskiclub.net or (305) 662-SNOW. Please note: I will be out of town until February 20.

Dine-a-round

March 25, 7 PM

GRAZIANO'S PARRILLA ARGENTINA

9227 Bird Road, Miami (305) 225-0008

An evening at **Graziano's** is like spending an evening in Buenos Aires. Join us for a delightful dinner at this Argentinian bistro hidden on Bird Road and 92nd Avenue. The menu for this night includes appetizers of *Chorizos* (famous Argentinian sausage) and *Empanadas*, *Mixed salad*, and your choice of *grilled Angus flank steak* or *free range chicken breast*, and french fries. For dessert, their famous *Argentine style home-made cake*. **Members \$30**, **Guests \$32**. **Cash bar for wine and beverages**. Please send your check payable to **Miami Ski Club** and mail to: **Abbe Bendell**, Miami Ski Club, 7035-H Southwest 47th Street, Miami, FL 33155. Call **Tricia Jacobs** at (305) 447-1000 or (305) 388-2855 for more information.



Letter from the Prez...

Well, folks, the 2003 ski season is well under way. Our first two trips (Winter Park and Vail) have come and gone, and as I'm writing this letter, the next trip (Interlaken) is gearing up to take off. I'm very pleased to report that Winter Park and Vail were big successes! We had 46 participants accompany us to Winter Park, 12 of whom continued on to Vail for a second week of skiing. Vail rang in at 36 participants in total. Surprisingly, the weather was warm for January and in Winter Park, we were graced with three powder days. I LOVE SKIING! Thanks go out to Laurie Hendrickson, trip leader for Winter Park, and Jack Barr, trip leader for Vail, for their

hard work in making Winter Park and Vail wonderful experiences. From the e-mails I've received, we have many happy customers who will return next season for another week (or two) of skiing with the Club.

As many of you know, we start planning for the next ski season even before the current ski season is over. Moreover, we book our trips for the next ski season (at the latest) immediately following the return of our last ski trip for this season. As such, we have signed contracts and deposits in on the next year's trips by June of the current year. Makes sense as we advertise the trips in our July News Letter (publication in June) and put the trips up for sale at the Picnic, which is at the end of July. Unfortunately, despite all of the benefits associated with early booking, there are three potential disadvantages that we must contend with: (1) the airlines have the right to change the flights at their discretion, (2) exchange rates can fluctuate unfavorably (an exclusion under our contracts), and (3) airport taxes can be changed, modified and increased (also not included in our contract price with the vendor).

Due to the current economic and "political" climates, we have been challenged by all three of these issues this season. The most challenging being the exchange rate fluctuation and the exorbitant airport "security" taxes, both of which primarily affect our overseas trips. As many of you know, the U.S. dollar has devaluated against the Euro since last summer, and, due to the "beefed up" security measures at the airports, the current airport taxes for foreign travel is north of \$100 per person. After a review of our trip sheet for Interlaken and very lengthy discussions among the members of the EC, we advised the trip participants that the Club would cover the additional charges this time as we did not believe that the trip sheets clearly disclosed these potential changes. LESSON LEARNED! You will note that on all trip sheets and trip applications for foreign travel with the Club on a go-forward basis (starting with Africa) there will be a disclosure that the price may increase due to changes in the exchange rate and/or application of airport taxes, all of which will be a direct pass-through to the members. We trust that everyone understands this policy and thank you in advance for your cooperation. It's that time again...check out the rest of this News Letter for the fun and exciting activities scheduled for this month. Please note that the Broward Happy Hours are back. Hope to see you all at our events.

Jena Rissman (305) 341-3030
president@miamiskiclub.net

Bike ride

Sunday, March 9, 2003 at 10 AM
George's house to Blackpoint Marina

Back by popular demand! Once again, we'll meet at George's house at 17145 SW 80 Ct, Miami for some coffee, orange juice and doughnut holes, then ride out on the bike path along scenic Old Cutler Road to Blackpoint Marina. We can take a faster group, willing to pedal a few more miles and take a detour through the lush bike road winding through the natural preserve by the Deering

Estate. We'll all meet up and have a leisurely lunch on the terrace of Pirate's Den overlooking the water and listen to some live music. Then mount our bikes for a ride back to the house to spend some quality time hanging out around the pool with drinks and enjoying the company. A very pleasant way to take advantage of the fabulous weather that time of the year!

For more information, directions, or just to be friendly, call **George Ondricek** at (305) 234-7344 or make contact via e-mail at pastpresident@miamiskiclub.net Looking forward to seeing you all!

Season opener

Winter Park And Vail trips enjoyed great skiing weather, good snow and wonderful company. The Florida Ski Council brought 562 people to Winter Park to some of the best organized activities we have seen in a long time. More than half of our group participated in the NASTAR Club Race, which was a hoot as usual. Unfortunately, our valiant effort couldn't match a faster Jacksonville, to whom we had to relinquish the trophy. Maybe next year!

Many of the clubs went on to Vail for the second Club Week, with almost two hundred participants. Vail went out of their way with incredibly discounted lift tickets, two parties overflowing with good food, and a mountain lunch, which set new standards. If this is any indication of what next year's FSC trip to Vail will be like, you are in for a treat! And once again, over half our troops went through the NASTAR timing gates, this time upholding our reputation. Cynthia Florimont came in as the fastest woman on the mountain, and George Ondricek as the fastest male overall. Unfortunately, no trophy to bring home for this race! But we all had good fun, and that's what it's all about!

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In memoriam

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of two unforgettable long time members of the Miami Ski Club. Having successfully persevered in a long battle with cancer, on Thursday, January 30, **Ed Smith** died suddenly from unrelated causes. To many of us, Ed was the very epitome of the Miami Ski Club. One of the founding members, twice President (3 years all together) and at the core of all the happenings, his jovial manner and a great sense humor made the MSC the liveliest organization in town for two decades. His Sam-the-taylor joke and the guerrilla suit will always be part of the Miami Ski Club lore.



During his second presidency (1988-90), Ed had the pleasure of presiding over this Club during its heyday, when our ranks swelled over the two thousand mark, making us the largest ski club in the country. Many of those members still remember Ed for his generosity not only at the bar, but also on the slopes. An excellent skier, he always took time to ski with some of the beginners, initiating them to this great sport of ours. Ed - we all owe you a tremendous gratitude. You may no longer be with us, but your legend will live on through this Club.

January 16, 2003 also saw the passing of **John "Curly" Behrmann**. One of the original Miami Ski Club members, he was best known for his colorful, patch covered jackets. He had not skied with us for a number of years now, but he lived his life to the fullest, having taken up bungee jumping at the age of 75! A great example to us all.

Springfest 2003

Saturday, April 26, 7 to 11 PM
PARROT JUNGLE ISLAND

1111 Parrot Jungle Trail, McCarthur Causeway, Miami

The theme will be an African Safari! Cocktails on the veranda, and a sit down dinner in the ballroom with dancing to Boogie Man George. Do not miss out on this event. Dancing, dinner, door prizes, cocktails!!!! Watch out for the April Newsletter with the RSVP form, which is a must! Members who skied this year go for **free**, other members only **\$45.00**, and guests **\$50.00** per person. Cash Bar. Call **Sandie Margoluis, (305) 596-9311**.



Address correction requested
TIME DATED MATERIAL

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(305) 949-4114

www.miamiskiclub.com

e-mail: mail@miamiskiclub.com



| March 2003 | | | | | | 1 |
|---|-------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----|--|------------------------------------|
| 2 5 pm Lake Louise pre-trip party | 3 | 4 | 5 8 pm THEATRE NIGHT | 6 | 7 6 pm SHULA'S Miami Lakes | 8 Lake Louise trip departs |
| 9 10am BLACKPOINT BIKE RIDE | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 6 pm TAURUS Coconut Grove | 15 |
| 16 | 17 St. Patrick's Day | 18 6 pm Board meeting | 19 | 20 | 21 6 pm OHARA'S JAZZ Hollywood | 22 |
| 23 11 am Breckenridge pre-trip party | 24 | 25 7 pm GRAZIANO'S DINNER | 26 | 27 | 28 6 pm St. MICHEL Coral Gables | 29 Breckenridge trip departs |
| 30 | 31 | | | | | |