



News Letter

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

MAY 2005

Happy hours

- May 6, 6-8 PM** (appetizers!)
Spendido
Alhambra Towers, 121 Alhambra Circle
Coral Gables, Florida (305) 445-5252
- May 13, 6-8 PM** (appetizers!)
Fritz and Franz Bierhaus
60 Merrick Way
Coral Gables, Florida (305) 774-1883
- May 20, 6-8 PM** (sushi appetizers!)
River House
301 S.W. 3rd Ave. (Riverwalk)
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida (954) 525-7661
- May 27, 6-8 PM** (appetizers!)
Ritz-Carlton
3300 SW 27th Avenue
Coconut Grove, Florida (305) 644-4680

Keys dive/snorkel

Saturday, May 1, 8:00 AM

This is the first dive/snorkel event for the MSC for 2005. We will do 2 reef dives with Conch Republic Divers in Tavernier just south of Key Largo. Cost is **\$65 per person** for the boat ride. Make checks payable to the **Miami Ski Club** and send to **Norris Wolford**, 5858 SW 80th St., South Miami, FL 33143. Prices are as follows: Dive including tanks and weights - \$65, gear rental \$35, and nitrox \$6 (all tax included). Contact **Norris Wolford** at (305) 710-4081 or dives@miamiskiclub.net. There's a 5 person minimum reservation by the Wednesday before the trip.

Directions: Turnpike south to Florida City, then south on US1 past Key Largo. At MM 90.8 you will cross Tavenier creek. Exit right after crossing. The marina and Conch Republic will be right there or find a map on our web site, miamiskiclub.com.

Springfest

Saturday, April 30, 7:30 PM Monty's Stone Crab
300 Alton Road, Miami Beach (305) 673-8168
LAST CHANCE TO RSVP!

If you haven't done so already, this is your last chance to join us at our annual gala event! If you have skied with us this year, or been fortunate enough to travel to India with the Club, this event is **free of charge!** We are planning on bringing slides and pictures from our trips, to get you thinking about next year's adventures. The Springfest consists of a fabulous dinner, a cash bar and dancing. Even if you have not been on a MSC trip this year, the \$45 for members and \$50 for guests is still an excellent value. RSVPs are an absolute must, as we have to pre-pay for the dinners, so don't wait and call Sandie Margoluis at (305) 596-9311, or e-mail her at membersipevents@miamiskiclub.net. For more details about this event, please see the RSVP form on the inside back page of this issue.

Evening sail

Saturday, May 14, 5:15 PM - 11:00 PM

Join us for a moonlit evening sail on breathtaking Biscayne Bay. We will cast off at 5:30 PM sharp for a leisurely cruise around the Bay. Then we will jump in the water for a refreshing dip (this is of course - conditions permitting), so don't forget to bring your bathing suit and a towel! Bring your own snacks and food to share with others! Meet us in Coconut Grove at **Dinner Key Marina at Pier 6**. We will meet no later than 5:15 PM.

Cost is **\$40 per member** and \$45 per guest. Reserve today as space is limited. Send your checks made payable to the "Miami Ski Club" to: Sandy Londono, 4000 Ponce de Leon Boulevard, Suite #410 Coral Gables, FL 33146. Come share a sailing memory on Biscayne Bay with your Miami Ski Club friends!



Letter from the Prez...

So what's new? Well, there has been a lot of changes this past month with the Miami Ski Club. Gail West resigned from the Executive Committee and as President of the Miami Ski Club. As many of you know, Gail has devoted considerable time and energy to the Club as a board member (Web Master), trip leader, Vice President of Trips and most recently President. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I'd like to thank Gail for his contributions. During the March Board of Director's meeting, I was nominated to retake my previous position as President, which was unanimously approved by the Board of Directors. I

am pleased to announce that George Ondricek was also nominated and unanimously approved to resume his role as Past President and Bid Director. As most everyone knows, George has been a major contributor to the Club, as a seasoned trip leader (skiing and nonskiing), President, Past President, architect of the News Letter, and publisher of the Miami Skier Magazine. With our revised EC installed, I think you will see positive changes and enhancements to the operations of the Club.

What to expect going forward? First, we will reinstate the *Above board* section of the Newsletter. I personally believe that it is critical to keep our members informed on planning, infrastructure issues, etc. If that is not enough information and you would like to learn more, please feel free to contact any of our Board members. Second, the Board will be looking at ways to better promote our Ski Club. Several options are in the works. Please turn to the *Above board* section of the Newsletter for more details. There is plenty of work to be done and we are anxious to get the ball rolling. If you are interested in keeping the Club exciting and dynamic, get involved.

So what's coming up? We have some really great activities planned. Springfest, our annual bash, is Saturday, April 30, 2005 at Monty's Stone Crab in Miami Beach. There will be dining, dancing, and a whole lot of partying. The menu is exquisite. If you want to dress to the nine's, go for it! Otherwise, elegant casual is always in fashion. The best part is, if you skied with us between June 1, 2004 and March 30, 2005 or journeyed to India – come out, the price is free! Otherwise, the cost is \$45 for Members and \$50 for non members. Bring pictures and memories of great vacations. The same weekend, May 1, marks the start of our dive season. We will be headed to the Keys for some great reefs. We have our annual Picnic slated for July 31, 2005, a Keys Weekend getaway to Hawk's Cay the weekend of August 19, 2005, and we will be announcing our South America trip once we have all the details. We will also be working on determining our next adventure - New Zealand and Australia is a strong possibility. We have already gone on a checkout trip. Now, we must put together an itinerary and see where that leads us. Stay tuned for more details.

Cathy Stahlmann (305) 607-8840
president@miamiskiclub.net

Club news

Did you know that we have quite a bit of talent in this Club? **Allen Benowitz** is just closing down his well attended show of his photographs (most of them taken on our trips!) in the Espirito Santo Plaza. On May 2, 2005 at 6:30 PM, **Nansy MacKenzie** will open a show of her watercolors at the Miami Springs City Hall. The themes of her artwork are sea creatures and island motifs - how appropriate! Nansy will also be hosting a small reception at her house on April 29 and a Sunday brunch on May 15. You can contact her at publications@miamiskiclub.net.

Picnic

Sunday, July 31, 12 noon, Hollywood Holiday Inn

It's hard to believe. Our ski trips have just gotten back, and we are getting ready to kick off our 2005-06 ski and travel season! Once again, the picnic will offer a great lunch and a free drink ticket, fun in the sun, use of the pool and beach, not to mention the opportunity to catch up with all your friends!

But most importantly, this is the place where we kick off our ski trips, offer dive trips, meet the trip leaders and maybe a last chance for our exotic fare!

Above board

There has been a lot going over the past fiscal year, most of it good, some of it not. Effective March 13, 2005, Gail West resigned his position as President of the Miami Ski Club. In his announcement to the Board of Directors, Gail cited irreconcilable differences with the remaining four Executive Committee members as the reason for his departure. Two days later, at the following Board of Directors meeting, Sabina Lorion, VP of Trips, stated her intention to remain in her current position as VP so as to gain stronger experience before assuming the role of President. Consistent with the Bylaws, the Board then turned to the remaining EC positions to fill the vacated post. The President's position was next declined by Tricia Jacobs, Treasurer, and then by Michelle Lucking, Secretary. It was at that time, a member of the Board of Directors nominated Cathy Stahlmann, Past President, for the vacant position. The Board of Directors present at the meeting unanimously approved this motion. The Board then nominated and unanimously approved George Ondricek to return to the Executive Committee as Past President and Bid Director. (According to our Bylaws, an election did not need to be called, as only one Executive position had been vacated.)

The financial condition of the Club remains strong. We continue to have ample liquidity to meet our financial obligations. However, we did note a decline in the number of skiers this year. The final accounting for the winter ski trips is not yet complete, but it looks like we have not done well with those trips, mainly due to some management issues. We have also experienced a significant drop in our membership numbers, by as much as 25 percent. This is the first membership decline in five years. Since our March Board meeting, we have already started calling inactive members to see why they have not renewed their membership. At the same time, we are looking for ways to better promote our Club. We are crafting a promotional brochure that will highlight the many awesome things we do. Additionally, we need to get active again with our Hospitality, as well as Dade and Broward Development Board positions. Miami is a difficult market to cultivate long time members, as it is very transient. But, that also means that we have plenty of people moving in and some of them may even want to take up skiing!

Simply put, we need to get back to basics – actively promote our ski trips with literature and actively solicit new members as well as encourage existing members to renew. We also must improve our follow-through on the projects we begin, to promote consistency. The road ahead is long, but the work is worthwhile. This is your Club, get involved and have a voice!

Greece & Turkey

September 7- 20, 2005

We have sold all of our available spaces on this trip, and then by almost an act of divine intervention, we have managed to regain two more cabins on the Wind Spirit, which is our limiting factor on this trip. That space sold pretty quickly, and we were full once again, until we had our first cancellation, making room for a single female. As of this writing, we are looking for a single lady, wanting to go on this trip. Any takers? If you are still thinking about going, we are sure to have a few cancellations, so sign up now! Contact George at greece@miamiskidub.net.

If you have not heard enough about it, this is the most ambitious and luxurious trip we have ever put together. We will be traveling to some of the most fascinating places in the world, at the best possible time of the year. All this, with the best accommodations, the best food, and an itinerary full of incredible places to visit. We have booked the most luxurious coaches with lots of capacity, so you can spread out, and travel in complete comfort. But we won't be spending a whole lot of time on buses, as most of our destinations will be close at hand, and we'll do a lot of exploration on foot.

In addition to Athens and surrounding area, the Greek Isles, the Turkish coast and our grand finale in Istanbul, with a small cruise on the Bosphorus, toward the Black Sea, we also offer a three day extension to Central Anatolia (Turkey), which will introduce us to yet another aspect of this fascinating country. You should visit our web site, click on the Greece & Turkey trip and go through the pictorial itineraries we have laid out for each day. Seeing those pictures will make you understand why this trip is so hot!

Summer ski trip

Proposed Las Lenas, Argentina, Aug. 11 - 21, 2005

Once again, as the summer temperatures reach their peak, we'll be heading south of the equator, seeking not just cooler air, but deep powder snow!

This trip is now in its final planning stages, but we do not yet have signed contracts. As you are well aware, the dollar has been taking a tremendous beating, and planning foreign trips is a bit of a challenge these days. You can expect this trip to be slightly more expensive than last year, but we are trying to have discounted senior tickets, and to have lunches included in the package. By the time the June issue of the Newsletter rolls off the press, we should have firm dates and pricing, so stay tuned!

Keys weekend

August 19 - 21, 2005

It's time to be thinking "island time", without the hassles of passports and airports, where a taste of the Bahamas is only an hour and a half away by car and at half the price! Mosey down to Hawk's Cay Resort at Duck Key on Friday afternoon, join everyone at the happy hour and dinner, then lay back and enjoy two nights and two days of fun in the sun. Hawk's Cay offers an impeccable marina and a beautiful sea blue lagoon; five beautiful pools and great restaurants. Every imaginable water sport available at your front door, including a swim with the dolphins. Hawk's Cay even has a full service spa as well as specially tailored programs for teens and kids, so this is an island weekend for the whole family! We are just signing the contract, and the pricing will be finalized by the time you read this. The package will include hotel for two nights, a buffet dinner on Saturday evening and the renowned Hawk's Cay breakfast buffet for Sunday morning. To get more information, or to sign up, contact Ed and Cathy O'Brien (561) 251-1361 or keys@miamiskiclub.net.

Membership ends!

Did you know that May is the last month of the 2004-05 season? On July 1, the current memberships will expire, so please fill in the membership application on the right and send it in! Not only will you be keeping your membership current, but you will also keep this great organization rolling into it's 37th season! Our budget depends to a great extent on the memberships, so we encourage everyone to sign up early, and to bring in your friends!

We are one of South Florida's most unique organizations, not just because we have been around for this long, but because of the unbelievable variety of activities we offer year round. What will your membership give you access to this year? This Newsletter for one, weekly social gatherings, the Keys Weekend, our annual picnic, Springfest, Snowballs, trips to Las Lenas, Argentina, Greece & Turkey, Zermatt, Switzerland, Snowmass, Copper Mountain, and who knows where else! But above all, you know that you will always have some of your friends to hang out with, party, dine, celebrate and share good times with!

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ADWEB Services proudly hosts the Miami Ski Club website and email announcement list.

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Steamboat report

Our trip to Cowboy Land in Steamboat Springs, Colorado was everything that the Miami Ski Club is about: fun, camaraderie, parties and lots of buddy skiing. We stayed in the beautiful Sheraton ski in - ski out resort. Nine of us enjoyed their first trip ever with the Miami Ski Club!! We were a very solid group - enjoying everything together. We even had Gator Club Members, on our trip! Those Gators are fun!

Our wine and cheese party got us off to a great "getting to know you" start. Then, we hit the slopes. There was plenty of glorious sunshine to keep us smiling, and a solid base of snow! Several in our group ventured off for a day to ski Vail, but made it back in record time. They couldn't miss our end-of-week banquet/party. There were reports of great conditions for the day trip! By the end of the week, we were all great skiers on snow, slush, ice, or whatever... we didn't care.

Winding down during Happy Hours was a necessity after terrific days - skiing. Happy Hour continued well into the night. We even gathered after dinners in the lounge to listen to the piano player and share laughs. Thanks to Barry and Keith for their professional photography, and to all our "amateur" photographers, for giving us memories to share. Next year we'll all sign up early for our ski trip! Come along!!

Trip Leader Application



Miami Ski Club, Inc.
 P.O. Box 560943 Pinecrest, FL 33256-0943
 Phone/Fax (305) 949-4114

TRIP LEADER BENEFITS:

You will have the pleasure and satisfaction of being an integral part of the Miami Ski Club and making your participants happy. Your trip will be paid for, as meager compensation for your labor.

MIAMI SKI CLUB'S SHARE:

The Club and its vendors will handle all contracts, destination selections, pricing, lodging and transportation arrangements. MSC will provide support and advice, as well as handling of payments to all vendors.

TRIP LEADER RESPONSIBILITIES:

As trip leader, you will be responsible for selling and promoting your trip, which includes attendance at Snowballs and as many other Ski Club events as possible. You will be in charge of making pre- and post-trip party arrangements, as well as organizing activities at the location. You will collect monies from participants, attend some orientation meetings and coordinate with the Vice-President of MSC and the vendors. At the end of your trip, you will provide the Club with a simple accounting of expenses, and you will supply a short story with trip photos for publication in the Miami Skier Magazine. As a representative of the Miami Ski Club, you will be expected to act in a professional manner, consistent with MSC Bylaws and guidelines. You are to promote fun, friendship and comradery to everyone on your trip. You are not to solicit upgrades or any other special considerations for yourself, or anyone in particular. If any such considerations are offered, you are to pass those on to the MSC or your group.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

RESORTS WHICH YOU ARE MOST FAMILIAR WITH

TIME OF YEAR/DESTINATION BEST FOR YOU

TIME OF YEAR/DESTINATION NOT POSSIBLE FOR YOU

LAST NAME _____ SEX _____

FIRST NAME _____ MIDDLE INITIAL _____

ADDRESS _____

_____ APT. _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____ WORK PHONE _____

MOBILE PHONE _____ FAX _____

E-MAIL _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____

Please put a check mark next to the phone number that you wish to have listed

QUALIFICATIONS

HOW MANY YEARS IN MSC _____ HOW MANY TRIPS WITH THE MSC _____

LIST YOUR LAST THREE TRIPS WITH MSC

TRIP _____ YR. _____ LEADER _____

TRIP _____ YR. _____ LEADER _____

TRIP _____ YR. _____ LEADER _____

LIST TRIPS WHICH YOU HAVE RUN FOR MSC

TRIP _____ YR. _____ # OF PARTICIPANTS _____

TRIP _____ YR. _____ # OF PARTICIPANTS _____

LIST OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____



Springfest

R.S.V.P. FOR SPRINGFEST 2005

Name of 2005 ski trip / India trip participant:

Number of non-skiing members (\$45 ea.)

Number of non-members (\$50 ea.)

In celebration of a terrific and very successful ski season, we are proud to invite you to the annual Springfest! If you went on any of our 2005 ski trips, or India, your admission is **free**. For other members, who did not ski with us, this fabulous evening can be attended at a bargain **\$45**. For non-members, the charge is \$50. Seating is limited, and will be assigned on a first come, first serve basis! Please fill out this coupon, detach and mail to Sandie Margoluis no later than April 20, 2005.

This is the event which brings our ski season to an end, and we go all out to celebrate. We sincerely hope that you will attend. This event is an outstanding value for everyone - skier or not!

TRIP YOU WENT ON: _____

\$ TOTAL AMOUNT OF CHECK ENCLOSED

DETACH HERE AND MAIL IN



Spring is in The Air!



Saturday, April 30, 2005 7:30PM till 11:00PM

Monty's Stone Crab , 300 Alton Rd, Miami Beach, Florida, (305) 673-8168

This will be a dinner dance and formal attire is optional. Wear your dancing shoes as Boogie Man George will be there with your favorite songs. There will be a cash bar, sit down dinner of conch chowder, salad, lemon chicken or grilled mahi-mahi with tropical fruit salsa, chocolate lava cake for dessert and coffee or tea.

Members who skied with MSC this year, including Chile, and those who travelled to India are FREE.

Other MSC members \$45, non member guests \$50.

It is imperative that you **RSVP** by April 20 to Sandie Margoluis as we need to give the restaurant a count. (Please specify fish or chicken.) Please RSVP by calling (305) 596-9311 or returning this form to Sandie Margoluis 11225 SW 112 St., Miami, Florida 33176. Make checks payable to the Miami Ski Club. You can also e-mail Sandi at membershipevents@miamiskiclub.net, or call her at (305) 596-9311
You must RSVP to reserve a space!



Address correction requested
TIME DATED MATERIAL

Miami Ski Club, Inc.

P.O. Box 560943
Pinecrest, FL 33256-0943
(305) 949-4114

<http://www.miamiskiclub.com>

e-mail: mail@miamiskiclub.com



1 KEYS DIVE TRIP	2	3	4	5	6 6 pm Splendido Coral Gables	7
8 <i>Mother's Day</i>	9	10	11	12	13 6 pm Fritz & Franz Coral Gables	14 5:15 pm SAILING Dinner Key
15	16	17 <i>Board meeting</i>	18	19	20 6 pm River House Ft. Lauderdale	21
22	23	24	25	26	27 6 pm Ritz-Carlton Coconut Grove	28
29	30 <i>Memorial Day</i>	31	May 2005			