



News Letter

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

NOVEMBER 2009

Happy hours

November 6, 7:45 - 8:30 PM

Broward Center for the Performing Arts Lobby
For members with tickets to Warren Miller movie
201 SW 5th Ave., Ft. Lauderdale, (954) 462-0222

November 13, 6 - 8 PM

Crazy Pianos
(2 for 1 drink specials and appetizers)
3015 Grand Ave. (2nd floor of Cocowalk)
Coconut Grove (305) 567-2462

November 20, 6 - 8 PM

Mayfair Hotel Lobby Bar (appetizers)
3000 Florida Avenue
Coconut Grove, (305) 779-5100

November 27, 6 - 8 PM

The Charthouse, MSC holiday party
51 Chart House Drive, Coconut Grove
(305) 856-9741 Please bring toys for charity!
For the RSVP form, see page 3.

Magical boat tour

Sunday, November 22, 9:45 AM
Bayside Marketplace, 401 Biscayne Blvd

Enjoy a boat ride along the Miami River with our host, Dr. Paul George from the Historical Museum of South Florida. A 3 hour ride along the banks where ancient Tequesta Indians settled. See the famous Miami Circle archaeological site, witness the colorful tugboats, houseboats, Haitian freighters and drawbridges that bring life to the area. Learn and enjoy facts about Miami's early history. Tickets are limited so please RSVP by Nov. 17 to **Pam Epstein at (305) 772-1500** or socialevents@miamiskiclub.net. Please mail your checks made out to Miami Ski Club, to Pam at 12602 SW 103 Court, Miami FL 33176. Tickets are \$44 for members and \$49 for guests.

Warren Miller film

Friday, November 6

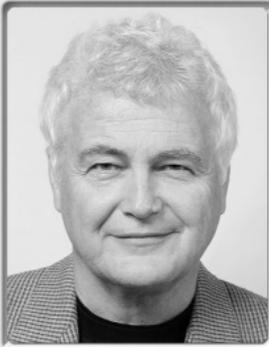
7:45 PM Happy Hour, 8:30 PM Showtime
Broward Center for the Performing Arts

Now celebrating its 60th year, screenings of Warren Miller films are a legendary party experience, not to be missed. This season, Warren Miller's Dynasty comes to the Amaturio Theater at the Broward Center at 201 SW Fifth Avenue. In striking high-definition, sponsored by Peter Glenn Ski & Sport, Dynasty is narrated by skiing icon Jonny Mosley and showcases fresh cinematography that will have you craving vertical lines, deep powder and outrageous adventure and takes you on a breathtaking global ski adventure to locations from China and Norway, to Colorado and California. Come join the fun for the premier of this breathtaking sports adventure. Check out WarrenMiller.com for more information. Please RSVP and mail your check, made out to the Miami Ski Club for **\$12 member** or guest to **Pam Epstein** at 12602 SW 103 Court, Miami FL 33176. You can contact Pam at **(305) 772-1500** or e-mail her at socialevents@miamiskiclub.net.

SNOW a la mode

Wednesday, November 4, 7 PM
Viceroy Hotel, 485 Brickell Avenue, Miami

Miami Ski Club is invited once again to SNOW a la mode, SNOW magazine's second annual ski and après ski fashion event with Plum TV. Arrive at 7 PM to enjoy a free cocktail and mingle with the event sponsors, Ski Portillo, Telluride Resort, Peter GlennSports, Hedi Skis, Viceroy Snowmass and AspenSignature Properties. The fashion show starts at 8 PM with the latest in 2009/10 ski and winter fashions from the top manufacturers, including Bogner, Dolomite, Nobis and many more. Please RSVP to **Pam Epstein at (305) 772-1500** or socialevents@miamiskiclub.net. The event is **\$10** for members and \$15 for guests.



Letter from the Prez...

Greetings!

I just got back from the October Snowball, and what a great party that was! Some of the costumes were wonderful and truly in the Woodstock spirit. We had over a hundred of people in attendance, and everyone seemed to have a groovy time. We closed out the Telluride trip, Vail is sold out, and we had to cancel the Winter Park trip, as we only had six participants to date and were facing a deadline, after which any cancellations would have been very costly to the Club. We have also announced the details of the Russia trip,

which we hope to be opening at our November 20 happy hour at the Mayfair in Coconut Grove. We have had this trip 98% ready to go for over a month now, but are still awaiting some pricing from Russia on a few of our special features. As much as I have enjoyed Russia and the variety of things we will have on our trip, I must admit to finding the negotiating process very trying. I am left with the impression that the rigid bureaucratic process is very deeply ingrained in the culture and it will be a long time before that changes. This is one reason why taking a trip with the Club has definite advantages, as all negotiating and arranging is done well in advance and all the details are taken care of. All you have to do is to sign the trip application form and your check, and you are all set! Please take a look at page 7 and read more about this trip!

We are in our election year, with the Elections Committee looking for candidates for the next installment of the Executive Committee. If you know anyone who you think would make a good Treasurer, Secretary, Vice President or President, please contact Howard Margoluis at elections@miamiskiclub.net. Of course, if you would like to get involved yourself, please let us know! The applications for officers have to be in to the Elections Committee by December 1, so there are only a few weeks left! In February, we will be holding the official Elections Meeting at the 94th Aerosquadron on Friday, February 26. At that time, the slate of officers will be announced and we will open the meeting to nominations from the floor. In case we have multiple candidates for any one position, the Club will mail out ballots for our members to cast their vote. The elected officers will then take charge of the Club on June 1, 2010.

While on the subject of volunteers, I sometimes find it hard to contrast the great attendance at our events (60+ at the last happy hour, 100+ at the last Snowball). with the great lack of willingness of our membership to step up and help run this Club. In nearly every Newsletter, we publish a plea for volunteers or specific positions. Almost invariably, the response is a fat zero. I just hope for the sake of this Club that this will change. Would love to hear your thought!

George Ondricek, president@miamiskiclub.net
(305) 234-7344

Notices

We would like to congratulate Steve Honeycutt and Judy Hollins, who have tied the knot last month and thus became the Miami Ski Clubs newest married couple! Again, congratulations!

On a sad note, we have lost one of our long, long time members, Michelle Glennon, who passed away in October. She is survived by her husband Jerry, whom many of you will remember from our Indochina trip. Our deepest sympathies go out to Jerry and their family.

In another tragic event, our friend Eugene Villacian and his wife Maria lost their daughter Elizabeth, whom some of you will remember from our Snowbird trip where she was with her father and fiance. She was struck by a truck while cycle training for a charity triathlon to raise funds for the National Breast Cancer Foundation. The loss to the parents and to her husband is immeasurable, but you can help in continuing her cause by making a charitable donation to the Foundation. Simply log on to www.breastcancerfoundation.org and the web site will guide you through the process.

MSC HOLIDAY PARTY RSVP

Please return this form **by November 22, 2009** to **Sandie Margoluis**
11225 SW 112 Street Miami, FL 33176 or call Sandie at (305) 596-9311 to make reservations.

Please don't forget to bring an unwrapped toy for charity!

Please come and help us celebrate the holiday season!

NAME OF MEMBER _____ FREE

NAME OF MEMBER _____ FREE

NAME OF GUEST _____ @ \$20

NAME OF GUEST _____ @ \$20

TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

PLEASE DETACH HERE AND MAIL TO SANDIE MARGOLUIS 11225 S.W. 112 Street Miami, FL 33176

Friday, November 27 at the Chart House
51 Chart House Dr., Coconut Grove, (305) 856-9741

Holiday Party

TIME: 6 PM TILL 8 PM

ONCE AGAIN, WE WILL BE COLLECTING UNWRAPPED TOYS!

Start off the Holiday Season with your friends at the Chart House, 51 Chart House Drive, Coconut Grove, phone: (305) 856-9741. Please bring an unwrapped toy as a donation, enjoy some hors d'oeuvres, and the company of your fellow MSC members and their guests. The event is free to members and the guest fee is \$20. It is important that you RSVP by November 22. No RSVPs after that can be accepted. Please call **Sandie Margoluis (305) 596-9311** or return the form on the back page of this Newsletter.

If you need to cancel, please let us know as soon as possible!

After the 22nd, please call Bernd Meier at (305) 310-1265 for cancellations.

MSC 2010 trips

All Miami Ski Club ski trips are priced per person, double occupancy. Base price includes (except where noted) airfare, ground transportation, lodging and taxes, a farewell banquet dinner, an additional dinner or mountain lunch during the trip; a pre-trip and post-trip party – and last but certainly not least, free admission to the annual Springfest event. Initial trip deposits are \$750, unless specified otherwise. For even more fine print, see your trip flyer and trip application. Please note that, after the time of booking, the airlines may impose additional taxes or fuel surcharges and local taxing authorities may increase existing taxes, which would be passed on to the trip participants. Airlines recently instituted baggage fees which are the responsibility of the trip participant. We also highly recommend that everyone purchase travel insurance. For more detailed information on the following trips, and hot links to our destinations, visit our website at miamiskiclub.com.

CRESTED BUTTE, COLORADO

January 9 - 16, 2010

Grand Lodge Crested Butte, Telluride & Crested Butte two-week package \$ 2,544

This is our warm-up trip for the season and is offered in conjunction with the Florida Ski Council trip in Telluride from January 16 to 23rd. The Grand Lodge Crested Butte is a full-service hotel in the heart of the Mountain Village with on-site restaurant and deli. Our oversized Emmons Studio accommodations contain a king size bed as well as a king size Murphy bed and come equipped with a kitchenette including a refrigerator, microwave, dishwasher and stove. High speed wireless Internet access is complimentary. on-site amenities include an indoor/outdoor pool, hot tub, steam room and spa to soothe your muscles after a day on the slopes. The hotel is conveniently located approx. 200 yards from the Red Lady Express Lift. The resort is situated deep in the Elk Mountain Range, on the edge of a vast wilderness. A free town shuttle gets you into Crested Butte, a Colorado Ski town, with plenty of additional dining options, funky bars with live music and other late night options. The mountain receives about 300 inches of annual snowfall, covers 1167 acres of terrain and provides 16 lifts. There are plenty of choices for beginners, intermediate and expert skiers. back country options are available at the Adventure Center. Your Mountain Concierge can arrange for sleigh rides, on-mountain dinners, snowshoe tours, cross country ski tours and guided back country tours.

Trip Leader: None. There will be no farewell banquet dinner, additional dinner or mountain lunch or free admission to the Springfest. Free admission to Springfest will be earned through your participation in the Telluride trip. Contact our Telluride trip leaders for information at (305) 458-8383 or crestedbutte@miamiskiclub.net

TELLURIDE, COLORADO

January 16 – 23, 2010

Mountain Lodge, \$1,695

Join us for the event of the season as we team up with other Florida Ski Clubs for a week of skiing and fun filled activities sponsored by the Florida Ski Council at internationally recognized Telluride Ski Resort. Founded in 1878, Telluride is a National Historic Landmark dominated by mining and Victorian-era architecture. It is both a bustling ski town and historic jewel nestled among the majestic beauty of Colorado's San Juan Mountains. The sun shines 300 days annually, making the skiing and snowboarding an epic experience. For logistical reasons, we moved our reservation to The Peaks Resort & Golden Door Spa, consistently rated as one of the world's finest resorts for all seasons. Our luxury accommodations are conveniently located next to the Conference Center, in the center of the Mountain Village, where many of the FSC activities take place. Don't want to ski? Enjoy the ultimate in relaxation and refreshment and pamper yourself in one of the 32 spa treatment rooms. Need more action? Try the rock climbing wall. Two heated outdoor pools, one with a slide, as well as several whirlpools invite you to relax your muscles after a hard day on the slopes. Four on-site restaurants will cater to all your food needs. The free gondola is at your fingertips to take you between the Mountain Village and Telluride where you can explore old-time bars, delectable eateries, and art galleries. Telluride receives more than 300 inches of snow each year, offers more than 2,000 skiable acres for all ability levels and boasts no lift lines. A wide variety of trails and bowls offers skiing for the timid to the adventurous. And don't forget the recently opened Revelation Bowl!

A combination Crested Butte/Telluride trip is available. Inquire with Telluride trip leaders. Trip leaders: Lisa and Rick Hagen (305) 458-8383 telluride@miamiskiclub.net

VAIL, COLORADO

February 6 – 13, 2010

Manor Vail Lodge, includes a hot breakfast daily, \$1,595

Vail is the nation's largest ski resort by area. Its Austrian style facades, fabulous shops, restaurants and galleries provide the visitor with a European feeling. Our accommodations are at Manor Vail Lodge, which recently had extensive renovations and enhancements. Let breathtaking views of Vail Mountain and Gore Creek captivate you from our location at the base of Golden Peak, with direct access to the Riva Bahn Express, which is one of the fastest ways to the back bowls. The lodge has luxury amenities, premium guest services, spa services, two heated swimming pools, four hot tubs, fitness facility, on site lounge and an upscale restaurant. We will coordinate optional outings to sample the area's internationally known gourmet restaurants specializing in local game. We will also 'hit' the local happening spots for après ski and live music. For fun activities, visit the Adventure Ridge. Vail's 5,300 skiable acres, abundance of great powder, seven-mile-long mountain face, 193 trails and famous back bowls and Blue Sky Basin will soon remind you why the area has so much international appeal. For the skiers it offers everything, from long intermediate runs through the aspens to the back bowls as well as back-country skiing in the Blue Sky Basin. And there are plenty of green runs for those who want to take it easy. Your discounted lift tickets provide you access to Vail, back bowls, Blue Sky Basin, and Beaver Creek (a ten-minute shuttle ride).

Trip leader: Maggie Zaitz (305) 807-1098 vail@miamiskiclub.net

WINTER PARK, COLORADO

February 21 – 27, 2010

Vintage Resort Hotel, \$749 (providing your own air)

This is our final (six day) trip for the season. We plan to stay at the popular Vintage Resort Hotel in studios with kitchenettes and fireplaces. The hotel, which has been voted one of the top 100 ski resort hotels by Conde Nast, offers an on-site ski shop, saunas, outdoor pools, hot tubs, Mountain Tavern, located just inside the lobby, and a perfect place to relax after a hard day on the slopes. Plus, we have a fantastic rate for a week, including transportation to and from the resort. Our destinations are: Winter Park, Mary Jane (including the Mary Jane Gondola), Vail, and Beaver Creek. The Vail Valley Express Lift, the highest 6-person lift in North America, takes you to the top of Plover Bowl and a view that lives up to its name. 3078 acres of skiable terrain provide an extensive variety for all levels of skiers. So what are you waiting for? Don't want to ski? Try a scenic snow cat tour, dog sled rides, snowmobile tours, sleigh rides or hot air balloon rides.

Trip leader: Carrie Florea (954) 895 - 8830 winterpark@miamiskiclub.net

RUSSIA

May 18 - 31, 2010, pricing to be announced soon!

We were hoping to have the pricing published in this issue, but at the time we needed to go to press, we were still waiting on the pricing of some of our special tours and a few extras we are planning for this very special trip. Hopefully, by the time you read this, we will have all our ducks in a row and the pricing, due dates and opening of the trip will be announced on our web site, so please keep checking in! There is also a large selection of pictures posted on our web site, so please make sure you check them out! These are photos taken during the scouting trip, and they cover all of our destinations, the boat, and some scenery along the way. As you can imagine, words simply aren't enough to describe this trip and all the things you will get to see. The anticipated opening of this trip is scheduled for Friday, November 20, at the Mayfair happy hour in Coconut Grove. As the finalizing of this trip is still in progress, please keep checking the web site for updates, or call the trip leader for the latest information.

Trip leader: George Ondricek (305) 234-7344 russia@miamiskiclub.net

For trip details, contact trip leader, or check the TRIPS page on our web site, miamiskiclub.com. Trip application forms available from trip leader, or can be downloaded from our web site.

RUSSIA



MIAMI SKI CLUB

MAY 18 - 31, 2010

This adventure will have us exploring Russia from Moscow to St. Petersburg, visiting towns and villages along the vast waterways, rivers and lakes connecting the two cities.

Once we arrive in Moscow, you will have the rest of the afternoon to unpack, settle into your cabin on the MS Tolstoy and clean up before dinner. We will have three full days to explore this vast city (sixth largest in the world) and its history. Naturally, one of the highlights will be a tour of the Kremlin, which will probably be a surprise to most. We think of it as the center of Soviet power, but "kremlin" in Russian simply means "fortress", and the Moscow Kremlin has been the center of Russian government for centuries. The vast complex contains palaces, cathedrals, churches and museums housing an incredible wealth of art and history. During our stay in Moscow, our tours will cover not only the museums, cathedrals and historical sites, but will have us exploring the fantastic subway stations, shopping areas and catching a show.

Once we leave Moscow, we will also leave behind the high energy cosmopolitan atmosphere of the city and settle into a more relaxed pace. At first, you will see private yachts, sailing clubs and beautiful luxury homes nestled into the wooded banks of the waterway. Slowly, these will give way to country homes and smaller villages with quaint churches, as we approach the town of Uglich. Here we will have an opportunity to split up and have breakfast in the homes of our Russian hosts, getting a glimpse of every-day life in this city. The churches and cathedral here paint the very picture of Russia you have envisioned, with brightly colored onion domes and interiors filled with Orthodox icons.

Our next stop will be Yaroslavl, which was settled in the 8th century by Finno-Ugric tribes and called Bear Corner. Its colorful history includes the Mongol-Tartar invasion of 1238; being the capital of Russia during the Polish invasion in 1598, and becoming a hub for Russia's wealthy merchants. It saw the construction of the country's first national theater and remained the region's cultural center, even after Peter the Great moved his capital to St. Petersburg and the city lost some of its importance. Our tours will focus on the historical sites of this quaint city with some time allocated to shopping in the expansive local market.

The following day will have us cruising through the beautifully wooded country side, with a stop in the town of Goritsy and the adjoining monastery of Kirillov. The Monastery was founded in 1379 on the shores of the White Lake and by the end of the 17th century became one of the largest and wealthiest religious and military centers in Russia. Consequently, the monastery was surrounded by fortified walls and twenty three towers, which still stand today. Our walking tour will also take us through one of the most impressive collections of religious icons in Russia.

The scenic journey through Russia will reach its northern-most point with our visit to the tiny village on the island of Kizhi. One of the over 1,300 islands in Lake Onega, Kizhi has a population of 64 inhabitants, and is so remote, that during the long winter months can be supplied only by helicopter. Despite it's remoteness, Kizhi could very well be the most fascinating stop on our thousand mile journey. The cluster of churches, farm houses and bath houses is constructed entirely of wood and presents a truly unspoiled picture of rural life in Russia, mostly unaffected by the passage of time. The highlight is the wooden Transfiguration Cathedral built in 1714, boasting twenty three cupolas which dominate the pastoral landscape.

Our journey will take us through the rugged scenery of Lake Onega, which at 10,000 square kilometers is the second largest lake in Europe. Fed by over fifty rivers and a thousand streams, it reaches depths of up to 400 ft and contains some of the purest water anywhere. It is drained only by one river - the Stir, which we will cruise on our way to the largest lake in Europe, Lake Ladoga, which is twice the size of Onega. The more than 650 islands make for impressive scenery as we make our way to the Neva river, which again is the only stream draining Lake Ladoga into the Gulf of Finland near St. Petersburg.

The last stop on our way to St. Petersburg is the village of Svirstroy. Far removed from the very modern Moscow, Svirstroy will give you a good insight into every day life in rural Russia, which has changed little since the Soviet era, barring the enterprising cluster of souvenir and local handicraft cottages. Here, you will be able to walk around the village and probably get invited into someone's home for tea or vodka.

As we approach St. Petersburg, the laid back feel of the countryside will start giving way to the suburbs of the city. With its seemingly endless canals and waterways, St. Petersburg has often been called the Venice of the North. Just as historically Moscow has been the political center, St. Petersburg is the cultural and intellectual hub. The wide boulevards, hundreds of palaces and churches will keep us busy for the next three days. Our tours will include a visit to the Winter Palace and the Hermitage, which is a must on everyone's travel list. The collection is so vast (somewhere around three million objects), that the time required to see the collection in its entirety is estimated from 9 to 11 years.

Part of our tour will be the beautifully maintained battle cruiser Aurora, which in 1917 fired the first shot at the Winter Palace, signaling the start of the Great Revolution. Most of our exploration will concentrate on the historical sites in and around St. Petersburg, including the magnificent cathedral of St. Isaac, Church on the Spilled Blood, Catherine's Palace, and a trip by hydrofoil to Peterhoff, famous for its beautiful parks and 176 elaborate fountains. Peterhoff contains several smaller palaces, some

with a magnificent view of the Gulf of Finland, where the Russian navy lay at anchor in times of Peter the Great. However, with the rich gold ornamentation and the Grand Cascade, the Great Palace dominates this impressive complex of royal splendor. After visiting here, you will understand why Peterhoff is such a unique cultural gem. In the evenings, we will also try to squeeze in some cultural events to give us an even better appreciation of the things this magnificent city has to offer.

This trip will give us a great overview of this vast and diverse country, combined with the relaxation of cruising the beautiful countryside of Russia. Basically everything is included in our package: airfare, ground transportation, tours, admissions to museums and galleries and all the meals. As we know from previous experience, Lufthansa is a premier airline, and the MS Tolstoy is one of the best boats on this cruising circuit. Most of our tours are customized for our group and include many extras. As the ship will be our home-away-from-home for the entire duration of the trip, there is no packing and re-packing, so you will be able to settle in and enjoy this unique vacation.

TRIP INCLUDES:

A pre-trip party; all air and ground transportation costs, cruise, all meals, luggage transfers, current (at the time of booking) taxes; private guides for the entire trip, all entrance fees to historical sites and museums; free admission to Springfest 2010.

TRIP PRICING:

Trip pricing and payment schedule to be announced soon. Please check web site for updates.

TRIP OPENING:

The trip is currently scheduled to open at 7 PM at our Friday, November 20 happy hour at the Mayfair in Coconut Grove. Please keep checking the web site, or contact the trip leader for information.

All prices quoted with a cash/check discount; if paying by credit card, 3% will be added by vendor. Credit card payment form available on our web site.

TRIP REQUIREMENTS:

Current Miami Ski Club membership
Completely filled out and signed:
Russia Trip Application form and the Supplemental Terms and Conditions form. Forms will be available at the sign-up, or can be downloaded from the miamiskiclub.com web site when available. If renewing membership at the same time, membership dues must be paid by a separate check. You will

also need to provide two photocopies of your passport. This can be sent in with your second payment.

As always, trip insurance is strongly advised.

VISAS:

Valid Russian visa is required. Your passport must be valid for at least six months beyond the return date.

AIR SCHEDULE:

Trip departs from Miami, via Lufthansa. Prices quoted with current taxes, which may increase by time of ticketing. Any additional taxes (if any) will be the responsibility of each traveler.

May 18: 3:40 PM depart Miami via Lufthansa #463

May 19: 6:35 AM arrive in Frankfurt, Germany

8:15 AM depart Frankfurt on LH 3182

1:25 PM arrive in Moscow

May 31: 6:00 AM depart St. Petersburg on LH3221

6:50 AM arrive in Frankfurt, Germany

9:55 AM depart Frankfurt on Lufthansa #462

1:40 PM arrive in Miami

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Trip leader: **George Ondricek (305) 234-7344** or via e-mail: Russia@miamiskiclub.net.

Mail applications and payments to:
George Ondricek, 17145 SW 80 Ct, Miami, FL 33157



TIME DATED MATERIAL

Return service requested

Miami Ski Club, Inc.

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

<http://www.miamiskiclub.com>

e-mail: mail@miamiskiclub.net

1 <i>Don't forget to reset your clock!</i>	2	3	4 7 pm SNOW A LA MODE Miami	5	6 7:45 pm PERFORMING ARTS Ft. Lauderdale	7
8	9	10	11 <i>Veterans Day</i>	12	13 6 pm CRAZY PIANOS Coconut Grove	14
15	16 <i>Board meeting</i>	17	18	19	20 6 pm MAYFAIR Coconut Grove	21 <i>Russia trip opening!</i>
22 9:45 am MAGICAL BOAT TOUR Miami	23	24	25	26 	27 6 pm CHART HOUSE Coconut Grove	28 <i>Holiday party!</i>
29	30	31	November 2009			