

December 2012
NEWSLETTER



Miami Ski Club 2013 Ski and Exotic Trips

www.miamiskiclub.com/trips

HEAVENLY, LAKE TAHOE plus NORTHSTAR pre-extension
January 26 to February 2, 2013, EMBASSY SUITES: \$1,769.00 PER PERSON

Join the MSC for our first fabulous Florida Ski Council trip. We're staying in the popular EMBASSY SUITES with an easy walk to the Heavenly Gondola. Every unit is a suite with a bedroom and living room, with refrigerator, microwave, and coffeemaker. Daily breakfast buffet with cooked to order omelets, and a **two hour daily** complimentary happy hour are also included!! Heavenly Ski Resort has 27 lifts and 82 runs, with a base elevation of 6,450 feet and a summit of 10,040 feet. Our adventurous skiers will have a chance to compete in the FSC races and this fun trip includes the great FSC evening parties!

Trip Leader: Maggie Zaitz (305) 807-1098 LakeTahoe@miamiskiclub.net

BIG SKY, MONTANA
February 24 to March 3, 2013, HUNTLEY LODGE: \$1,768.00 PER PERSON

Congratulations to Ted Burrow who won the raffle of ski pass tickets. Big Sky gives skiers access to over 5,500 acres of interconnected trails and lifts on one pass. Enjoy a 360 degree view of Yellowstone Park, the Tetons and three bordering states from the 11,166' peak. Big Sky averages around 400 inches of snowfall each year. Big Sky is consistently recognized in national ski magazines for short or non-existent lines. At 11,166 feet, Lone Peak appeals to every age and level of skier and boarder. Runs up to six miles long and glades and bowls covered in 400+ inches of annual snowfall make a day on the slopes something different for everyone. Our ski-in/ski-out accommodations are at the recently remodeled **HUNTLEY LODGE** just steps away from the Explorer Lift. Each room has 2 queen sized beds, high-speed wireless internet, wet bar, refrigerator and maid service. Hot breakfast is included daily. Big Sky is a Florida Ski Council trip which promises non-stop fun and includes FSC Welcome dinner party, Themed Costume Dinner party, NASTAR Ski Race and Mountain Lunch.

Trip Leader: Bill Grieco (305) 721-9154 BigSky@miamiskiclub.net

ST. ANTON, AUSTRIA – PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC

March 15–26, 2013, HOTEL ARLBERG / PRESIDENT HOTEL (Prague) \$3,442.00 PP

MSC combines the best of both worlds in our FSC European Ski Trip with 7 nights in St. Anton and 3 nights in Prague! St. Anton is part of the Ski Arlberg lift system that includes St. Anton, Lech, Zurs, Stuben, St. Christoph, Oberlech, and Pettneu. There are **over 173 miles** of runs with 40% Beginner, 48% Intermediate, and 12% Expert. The 4 star **HOTEL ARLBERG** provides hot breakfasts and dinners daily and is only steps away from the slopes. After 7 nights of spectacular skiing and nonstop après ski atmosphere – fly to the mystical city of Prague. You might think you've arrived at the Magic Kingdom! The views of spires, turrets, and steeples are breathtaking. We chose the 5 star **PRESIDENT HOTEL**, which includes breakfast daily, and is only steps away from the Old Town Square, home of the famed Astronomical Clock. Stroll across the Charles Bridge and visit the historic Prague Castle. Trip includes FSC cocktail party, mountain luncheon, breakfasts and dinners in St. Anton and hot breakfasts in Prague, nonstop round trip air Miami/Zurich, nonstop round trip air Prague/Zurich, all transfers, taxes, and tips.

Trip Leader: Lainie Wolfe (954) 907-4450 StAnton@miamiskiclub.net

WINTER PARK, COLORADO (Spring Break Ski Trip)

March 23 - 30, 2013, ZEPHYR MOUNTAIN LODGE \$1,464.00 PER PERSON

Spring break is here! Spring break is here! Bring your friends and family and join in the fun with the Miami Ski Club. There is something for all levels of skiers. The top elevation is 10,700 feet. Winter Park Resort receives over 350 inches of snow annually. Ride the new lifts powered by wind energy credits – Eagle Wind, Super Gauge and the Panoramic Express, and you'll have access to everything you've been waiting for all year. From embracing beginner slopes to the steep and deep, snowmobiling, ice-skating, dining, shopping and exploring - there is something for everyone! Accommodations: Our group is staying at the **ZEPHYR MOUNTAIN LODGE** in luxurious one bedroom / one bath and two bedroom / two bath condominiums - the only Ski In and Ski Out accommodation in Winter Park! The units include gas fireplaces, fully equipped kitchens, ski storage and complimentary shuttle service to nearby towns. Enjoy a complimentary welcome wine and cheese reception at the Zephyr Lodge plus the trip leader will host a pizza party and a farewell dinner. **DON'T MISS OUT ON THE FUN!**

Trip Leader: Joel B. Krieger (305) 858-8585 WinterPark@miamiskiclub.net

10 NIGHT NEW ENGLAND/CANADA TOUR AND CRUISE

MAY 30 – JUNE 9, 2013 Holland America MS Veendam Cruise Ship \$2,524.00 PP

Exclusive 10 night New England/Canada adventure as we spend 2 days exploring Boston before we set sail aboard the **Holland America MS Veendam** on a 7 night cruise. Visit scenic coastal towns such as Bar Harbor, Halifax, Sydney and Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island as we make our way to Quebec. Founded in 1608 by Samuel de Champlain, **Quebec City** is one of the oldest cities in North America. The ramparts surrounding Old Quebec are the only remaining fortified city walls that still exist in the Americas north of Mexico. We are extending our tour by one day, and will stay at the famous **Hotel Chateau Frontenac**. The landmark hotel is perched atop a tall cape overlooking the Saint Lawrence River affording a spectacular view of Quebec City. Trip includes roundtrip air from Miami to Boston and from Quebec City to Miami.

Trip Leader: Elizabeth Silverman (305) 970-1623 canadacruise@miamiskiclub.net

SOUTH AMERICA (Summer Skiing!!)

August 15-26, 2013, LAS LENAS & BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA \$4,495.00 PP

-Senior discount for travelers age 65 and over: \$4200.00 PP

The Ultimate Summer Ski Adventure is waiting for you in Argentina. Start your trip in exotic Buenos Aires in the 5 star Loi Suites located in the famous Recoleta district. After a complimentary hot breakfast at the Loi, spend the day shopping for fine leather goods, stroll the Recoleta and dine in one of the numerous excellent restaurants. Saturday, we will depart to Las Lenas where we will stay at the luxurious **HOTEL ESCORPIO** located at the base of the mountain, where the lifts are literally right outside your door. All breakfasts and dinners are included. **LAS LENAS** is advertised as the largest ski area in South America, comparable to Vail and Snowbird combined and an annual estimated snowfall of over 250 inches. Twelve lifts cover more than 32 miles of trails which are 5% green, 30% blue, 25% black, and 40% double black. After a week of skiing, return to the Loi for two more days and nights and enjoy the shopping and nightlife that only Buenos Aires can offer. For more details, please contact your trip leader Adrianna, who has extensive knowledge of all Buenos Aires as a native born Argentinean!

Trip Leader: Adrianna Demirdjian (305) 979-8378 SouthAmerica@miamiskiclub.net

MIAMI SKI CLUB MEMBERS ONLINE!

The Miami Ski Club has an online members portal where MSC members can sign up for trips, events and local activities and pay online via credit card. Renewal Membership Application and dues payment is also available. (Online transaction fees apply to trip payments only!) Click the link below to go to the MSC Members Online Portal Welcome Page and follow the instructions to claim or create your online profile.

www.miamiskiclub.com/online

Fort Lauderdale Intracoastal New River Boat Tour

Sunday, January 27, 2013, 8:30-11:00 AM

Location: Las Olas Riverfront 300 SW 1 Avenue, Ft Lauderdale

Enjoy a beautiful relaxing boat tour of the New River and the Intracoastal Waterway with Dr. Paul George. See the Stranahan House, waterfront mansions, Colee Hammock, the site of Travis McGee's Busted Flush, Little Florida, Tarpon Bend, and the site of the original Fort Lauderdale.

Advance reservations and payment required by January 24th. Price is Member \$55 --- Guest \$60 – Children under 12 --\$30. RSVP by Thursday, January 24th

Please pay online or send your check made payable to Miami Ski Club, with the name of attendees to Elizabeth Silverman, 1756 N. Bayshore Drive, #12K, Miami, FL 33132 by **Thursday, January 24th** so that we may confirm your reservation with City Tours. Contact Elizabeth at 305-970-1623 or specialevents@miamiskiclub.net

AFTERNOON At The THEATRE - Other Desert Cities
Sunday, February 3, 2013 1PM
Actors Playhouse 280 Miracle Mile Coral Gables (305)-444-9293

Other Desert Cities is the funny and searing play by Jon Robin Baitz and is currently playing on Broadway. In Other Desert Cities, Brooke Wyeth, a once promising novelist, returns home after a six year absence to celebrate Christmas in Palm Springs with her parents, former members of the Reagan inner circle, her brother and her aunt. When Brooke announces she is about to publish a memoir focusing on an explosive chapter in the family's history, the holiday reunion is thrown into turmoil as the Wyeths struggle to come to terms with their past. A scintillating drama about a family pushed to the brink balances comedy and intense drama with rich dialogue and finely crafted characters! Complimentary Wine and Cheese Reception before the show and during intermission.

Doors open at 1:00PM and play starts at 2:00PM, Preferred Seating.

Advance reservations and payment required by January 28. Price is Members \$45; Guests \$50

Please pay online or mail your checks payable to Miami Ski Club, with the name of attendees to Elizabeth Silverman, 1756 N Bayshore Drive #12K, Miami, FL 33132 by **Monday January 28** so that we may confirm your reservation with Actors Playhouse and purchase your ticket. Contact Elizabeth at 305-970-1623 or specialevents@miamiskiclub.net

Florida Ski Council Fall Meeting Results

The afternoon session discussed the January and February locations for the 2014 ski season. The locations had been narrowed down to Snowmass, Beaver Creek and Telluride for January 2014; and Park City, Crested Butte and Squaw for February 2014. Representatives from each resort presented information and we were able to ask questions. The January trip included representatives from the resort. The February trips were presented by tour companies selected by the resorts. The use of tour companies has been used by other ski councils throughout the US and should make trip planning for the clubs easier and allow us to be more competitive.

Sunday morning breakfast was sponsored by Crested Butte and Rocky Mountain Tours. The Sunday morning meeting included the final selection for the 2014 trips by a secret vote. The winners are Snowmass (January 25 – February 1, 2014) and Park City (February 24 – March 1, 2014). Miami plans on going on the Snowmass trip. We are interested in recommendations from our members for the February and March trips for Miami. The short list of ski areas for 2015 included Telluride, Beaver Creek and Steamboat for January and Taos, Whistler and Crested Butte for February. The short list for Europe 2015 included Chamonix, Zermatt, Interlaken and any recommendations from Bob McErlean of Holidaze.

The next meeting of the FSC will be in January 2013 during the Heavenly Lake Tahoe trip. The December FAM trip to Garmisch will be discussed and a vote will be held to choose the 2015 FSC European trip. The Spring FSC meeting will be held at the Mission Inn near Howie in the Hills from May 31 to June 2, 2013. If you would like more information about the FSC meeting, please contact Bill Grieco at FSCdelegate@miamiskiclub.net.

HAPPY HOURS

December 7, 6 - 8PM

Peacock Garden Cafe
2889 McFarlane Road
(Orange Awning near Sonesta Hotel)
Coconut Grove, (305) 774-3332
(Drink specials)

December 14, 6 - 8PM

Mickey Byrnes Irish Pub
1921 Hollywood Boulevard
Hollywood, (954) 921-2317
(Drink specials and appetizers)

December 21, 6 - 8PM

Biltmore Hotel Lounge
1200 Anastasia Avenue
Coral Gables, (305) 445-8066
Festive attire for the holidays!!
(Drink specials & appetizers)

December 28, 6 - 8PM

The Grove Spot
3324 Virginia Street,
Coconut Grove, (305) 774-6696
(Drink specials)



State of the Miami Ski Club Address

The annual Address is a vehicle by which the President accounts to the membership for the fiscal and general health of the Club. The following report covers our 2011/2012 fiscal year, which was the second year of my presidency. On behalf of the 10/12 Executive Committee, it is my pleasure to share the following Address with you.

Introduction

The state of the Club is measured by three components: finances, membership, and participation. Overall we performed well financially. We also did well with participation in our FSC trip to Steamboat and our Park City trip. The present economy has not worked in our favor as leisure activities are usually the first items to be curtailed. We continue to make the best of the situation and have achieved overall success due to the efforts of the Executive Committee (EC), Board of Directors, and the volunteers who have contributed their time and energy.

Finances

The EC members have worked diligently to keep the club financially strong. In 2011/2012, we brought in a net income of \$1,997.

Budget

Our numbers look good! Advertisements on our website gave us an income of \$745. By "going green", the club will be able to save money in years to come. Constant Contact, our weekly event emails expense was \$168. MSC spent \$900 this year for newsletter printing which was a savings of \$1,100 from amount budgeted for the year. We also had a major database cleanup and reduction of mailings to non-members. Also as required by our Bylaws, we carry Directors and Officers insurance coverage. This year's premium was \$2,900 which was \$300 under budget. Office operating expenses for this year was budgeted at \$4,000 and we spent \$2900.

For our two Snowballs and Holiday Fest events, we budgeted \$9,000 and only spent \$7,590. In 2011 the Snowballs had a minimal admission fee for members and we collected \$1,525. Special Events generated a profit of \$480 for us. Membership dues collected totaled \$17,387 which was \$87 over our budget. A portion of our membership dues collected were early renewals for 2012-2013 based on a Free Snowball promotion. The largest contributor to our bottom line was trip income, totaling \$5,653 which was a gain over our \$5,100 projected income. We continue to enjoy a significantly healthy treasury, and as of May 31st, 2012 we had \$126,388 in our bank account.

Trips

The best financial measuring tool is our participation in trips. This year we had 87 members travel with the club, totaling 76 on ski trips, and 11 on our non-ski trip. The trip comps are a significant source of income for the club which diminished this year. In the end, our three trips were in the black. Steamboat ski trip earning \$3,312, Park City, our Spring break ski trip earning \$2,834 and our Alaskan Cruise earning \$1,378. Vail ski trip was cancelled due to lack of participation with a \$352 loss for cancellation fees. The trips remain the backbone of our club.

Conclusion

I am proud to say we have had an extremely good year. It still appears difficult to boost our membership. We are diligently trying with Constant Contact and participation on Face Book as social networking. I enjoyed another amazing year with a dedicated Executive Committee, a great Board of Directors, trip leaders, and volunteers. All the wonderful friendships and acquaintances, I have made in the past 9 years are still priceless. Thank you again to all our wonderful, loyal members, who renew each year and help keep our Ski Club going. New members, it is great to have you. We welcome you all and bring your friends!

Pamela Rose Epstein, Proud MSC Past President