



# Ski Tales

Morris County Ski Club  
Newsletter  
April 2008

## PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Paul Van Duyne

The Morris County Ski Club has been meeting at the Parsippany Hilton since July 2007, but starting with the May 13 meeting we will meet at the East Hanover Ramada Inn. Although the Hilton served its purpose for the past nine months the Board felt that the Ramada Inn would be a better meeting location.

The Ramada Inn is located at 130 Rt. 10 West, East Hanover, NJ, 07936, 973-386-5622. The Ramada Inn is located on the west bound side of Rt. 10 a few miles east of Rt. 287. This is the location where we parked cars for the Stratton and Quebec bus trips as well as where we had our April AAF. There is a really fun sports bar (Miami Mike's) for socializing before and after the meetings. The bar has many TVs, a pool table and a good pub menu. We look forward to having our meetings at the Ramada Inn and hope you will join us.

**RAMADA**  
WORLDWIDE

Last month we concluded our ski season with a great trip to Keystone and the nearby resorts. We had a lot of input on our ski survey. Sal and Andy have gone over the results and are currently working on booking trips for next season. Andy went to the Vail Mountain Symposium in early April and brought back a load of information which he is sharing with Sal. Besides skiing we had two successful social events the past month. The first was bowling. When Matt and Kim proposed the event we estimated we would get 25-30 for bowling. The idea was so popular that we had 58 sign up and the event was even held the weekend we had another 30 people in Keystone. The tennis event run by Tim Harvey was also successful as we met our quota and everyone had a good time.

In the next two months we have a number of social activities planned. In May we have a hike, a bike trip

to Cape May and a horseback riding evening. In June we will be participating in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life fundraising, going to a Mets game and will have our Year End Party. The date of the Year End Party is Saturday, June 28, and the location is the Lake Mohawk Country Club. We will have a cocktail hour on the beach and then go inside for a buffet dinner and dancing to a live band. Final details for this event should be available shortly. Hope to see you soon.

## SKI (AND SNOWBOARD) REPORT

Andy Modale



Thank you for filling out the MCSC ski survey this year. We had an excellent response rate of 120 people. The ski survey not only covers trips for next year, but general club events. It's the best way for you to tell us what you like and what can be improved at the MCSC.

With the MCSC ski survey results in hand I was off to Vail for a long weekend to attend the Mountain Travel Symposium (MTS). MTS is an annual ski trip show attended by 70 ski club reps and almost as many global travel agents and resort reps. I packed a few light jackets and sun screen expecting some spring conditions, but Vail got hammered with 30" of snow. The snow sounds good, but we were there to work and MTS participants were always being shuttled around to meet new resort reps and learn about great places to send our club members.



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All of our hard work culminated in an all day "group exchange". Single people can relate this experience to speed dating, but on a very large scale. I arrived at 8 a.m. sharp and sat in my "elaborately decorated" (you get a banner and a few chairs) MCSC booth. Every 10 minutes resort reps would rotate around, visit with me and educate me on their mountains, towns and deals for next season. I pre-arranged these appointments weeks in advance and my schedule was loaded with intriguing people and great locations.

After a really long day, the event ended at 6 p.m. after I had met with 40 resort and travel reps. I came away wishing the club ran 10 trips per season just to ensure that we can get to all of the great locations. Since we can't, however, we'll keep some of these places in mind and hopefully they'll be on a future ski survey.

Japan! This club simply needs to get to Japan. Japan has fantastic modern, un-crowded resorts built to accommodate the entire world, a great currency exchange, snow very similar to what we experience out west, and very willing hosts. The culture is unparalleled as you can experience great food, fantastic touring and even ride the bullet train to and from the resorts. I felt as if MCSC was the only club at MTS that had not been to Japan recently or at all.

Another great international destination is New Zealand for all of you folks with spare time during the summer who don't allow dust to collect on your equipment. Staying in Queenstown accesses three or four great resorts and unbelievable touring. Head to the mountains in the morning, arrive back in Queenstown for an afternoon round of golf, or just relax in the sun.

Whistler scored well again this year and sooner or later we will explore this great mountain and town. Keep an eye on the Olympics as we could actually visit Whistler that year!

Three Valley's France offers some great ski in/ski out, and puts acres and acres of skiing and riding at your door step. It's a true European ski experience as you can travel from town to town and tour on your skis. Three Valleys scored well on the survey this year, so stay tuned for more news on this exciting destination.

How about Bulgaria? Sound interesting? Want to return through Athens for a few days? Anyone still intrigued by Italy? The Italians are true hosts and if the skiing and boarding doesn't get you interested, how about an extension through Venice or Amsterdam?



Back to the good 'ole USA. Alaska was a surprise this year as it scored very well, just behind Crested Butte. The resort Alyeska offers some great extreme skiing as well as touring. Ever fish for salmon or whale watch on a ski trip? How about a winter carnival and the start of the Iditarod dog race? Crested Butte could be a great place for MCSC this winter, stay tuned!

When was the last time you considered a trip to California? Like lots of terrain? Give Mammoth a look and you will marvel at the size and scale of this resort. Don't forget the millions they've spent on the town below; truly a great location. Don't forget about the beautiful views of the Lake Tahoe region, enjoy some gambling at night and take the gondola out of town the next day. Get bored with the local resorts and you can take a boat ride with a party to neighboring resorts!

If you don't have time for a week-long trip we've got some new locations for bus trips this year. New



Hampshire offers some great lodging at the recently renovated Mount Washington Hotel. Built in 1902, this hotel offers great skiing and other Nordic activities. Close by ski resorts include Cranmore and Waterville Valley all can be skied on one ticket.

We had a lot of responses for a New Year's trip and/or a pre-holiday "early bird" trip to the Rockies. Stay tuned and keep the enthusiasm high for these trips; it's been a while since we ran a New Year's trip.

Good luck Sal! Please support your new Ski Director and help him do a great job for you.

## TIPS ON STORING YOUR SKI (AND SNOWBOARD) EQUIPMENT

By Doug Leite

Just a couple of quick guidelines about how to store your skis and ski boots for the season. Doing these tasks will help to keep your boots feeling good (yeah, like that's possible!) and nice clean edges on your skis.

### BOOTS

1. Dry your boots thoroughly before storing them. If you can, unbuckle the boots and pull out the liners for a couple of days in order to make sure they are completely dry.
2. After drying the liners and boots and putting the liners back in, it is extremely important to re-buckle the boots in order for the boots to retain their proper shape. Failing to re-buckle the boots will cause the straps on the boots to straighten and open up and the boots will lose their shape and fail to fit properly.

### SKIS (& BOARDS)

1. Coat the steel edges of the skis, either with wax or a little WD-40 or similar type silicone spray, by putting the substance on a rag and lightly wiping the metal edges. The goal is to coat the metal edges to prevent rust and corrosion.
  2. Lock the rear bindings in (as if your boot is in them) to release the pressure on the rear binding spring. Push down on the rear binding lever while pushing down on the heel socket and then let up on the rear binding lever.
- Finally, store the boots and skis in a dry, moderate temperature environment, (no damp basements and no hot attics).



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## MAY BIRTHDAYS

Andy Modale, 2nd  
Maria Weinman, 2nd  
Kate Griffin, 3rd  
Angela Nadzak, 4th  
Rob Geraghty, 13th  
Brian Sabine, 13th  
Michael O'Krepka, 14th  
Grace Austin, 22nd  
Cheryl Matthews, 28th  
Sandy Ross, 31st



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## MCSC CALENDAR UPCOMING EVENTS & MEETING DATES

(NOTE: New meeting location beginning May 13)

May AAF Happy Hour	May 8	Fairfield, NJ
Wanaque Reservoir Hike	May 10	Wanaque, NJ
MCSC Meeting	May 13	Ramada Hotel, East Hanover, NJ
Cape May Bike Weekend	May 16-18	Cape May, NJ
MCSC Meeting	May 27	Ramada Hotel, East Hanover, NJ
Horseback Riding	May 31	Newfoundland, NJ
MCSC Meeting	June 10	Ramada Hotel, East Hanover, NJ
June AAF Happy Hour w/ Garden St.	June 13	Parsippany, NJ
Ski Trip Planning Meeting	June 14	Sal's House in Norwood, NJ
Mets Baseball Game	June 25	Flushing, NY
Year End Party	June 28	Lake Mohawk, NJ
MCSC Meeting	July 8	Ramada Hotel, East Hanover, NJ
Yankee Baseball Game	July 31	Bronx, NY
MCSC Meeting	Aug. 5	Ramada Hotel, East Hanover, NJ
MCSC Meeting	Aug. 19	Ramada Hotel, East Hanover, NJ

Please contact Beth Malkin at [bethmalkin@yahoo.com](mailto:bethmalkin@yahoo.com) if you would like to lead an event. Please remember that you must lead an event before you can be considered to lead a ski trip.



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## UPCOMING EVENTS: AAF HAPPY HOURS

### May AAF at the Best Western in Fairfield

Join the MCSC for their monthly AAF Happy Hour on Thursday, **May 8**, at the Executive Lounge in the Best Western Fairfield Executive Inn Hotel, Fairfield, NJ. We will have happy hour from 4:30-7 p.m., half-price drink specials and complimentary appetizers. You may also purchase appetizers from the discounted happy hour menu! A full dinner menu is available for those who wish to dine here and after 7 p.m. the Lounge turns into a piano bar. For directions to the Best Western, which is located on Rt. 46 East, please visit their website at [www.bwfei.com](http://www.bwfei.com).



### June AAF with the Garden State Ski Club at Bistecca in Parsippany

Join the MCSC and the Garden State Ski Club for a summer AAF Happy Hour on Friday, **June 13**, at the Embassy Suites in Parsippany, NJ. There will be featured happy hour prices on house wine, light beer, draft and the "promo" drink of the night, as well as complimentary snacks. We will have the pleasure of listening to a live band - at the inside bar - as well as enjoying the outdoor patio. To get to Bistecca, from Rt. 80 West take Exit 43 (Route 287/Rt. 46). Stay to the right and follow signs for Rt. 46. At the fork, bear right and follow to the traffic light. Turn left at the light and turn left at the next traffic light onto Rt. 46 West. Turn right at the light onto Rt. 202 North/Parsippany Blvd. and the hotel is on the right.

## UPCOMING EVENTS: SOCIAL EVENTS

### Wanaque Reservoir Hike

Join the MCSC on Saturday, **May, 31**, at 10:30 a.m. on a moderate six-mile hike to Ramapo Lake. There

will be a few climbs which will offer views of Ramapo Lake, the Wanaque Reservoir and the surrounding mountains. The hike should take about four hours to complete including a lunch break. After the hike we will go to Thatcher McGhee's, an Irish pub. For more information please contact Paul Van Duyne at 973-473-1426 or [p\\_vanduyne@yahoo.com](mailto:p_vanduyne@yahoo.com).



### Cape May Bike Ride Weekend

Join the MCSC **May 16-18** for our Spring Bike Weekend in Cape May. There will be two organized rides - a shorter ride of around 20 miles and a longer ride of 35-40 miles. We will stay at the Atlas Inn, an oceanfront hotel with a sauna, pool and exercise room. Member's cost is \$230 per person, which includes two nights lodging double occupancy and three meals. This event is sold out, but to get on the wait list please contact Beth at 973-670-0065 or [bethmalkin@yahoo.com](mailto:bethmalkin@yahoo.com) for more information.

### Horseback Riding Event

Join the MCSC on Saturday, **May 31**, at 5:30 p.m. for an hour-and-a-half trail ride, Western-style BBQ, live entertainment and lots of quality fun with an old fashioned hayride at the end of the evening. All riders must weigh below 240 pounds including clothing and shoes. The cost is \$60 a person and the event is BYOB. If you have any questions contact Steve Rauscher at 908-507-2256 or [steve.rauscher@andrew.com](mailto:steve.rauscher@andrew.com)

### Mets Baseball Game

Join the MCSC on Wednesday, **June 25**, as we venture to Shea Stadium to see the Mets take on the Seattle Mariners. We have excellent seats to help cheer on the Mets as they battle a team with championship expectations. Tickets for this event



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are \$28 and include a mezzanine level game ticket plus a \$5 coupon for use at any concession stand. Tickets are available only to ski club members until May 28. If any tickets remain on that date, they will become available for guests at the same price. We will carpool to the game beginning at 5 p.m. For more information contact Tony Tarullo at 908-393-4422 or [tonytarullomcsc@yahoo.com](mailto:tonytarullomcsc@yahoo.com).

## Year End Party

Please put a hold on your calendar for **June 28**, as we hold our annual year-end party at the Lake Mohawk Country Club. More details will be posted on the MCSC website soon!



## Yankees Baseball Game

Join the Club as we go to historic Yankee Stadium on **July 31**, to see the NY Yankees. Members have priority access to these tickets through June 10. This is the last year that games will be played in Yankee Stadium. The bus will depart at 3:30 p.m. so we have the best chance at touring Monument Park. The event costs \$50 and includes refreshments on the bus. For information please contact Kim [KimCastellucci@yahoo.com](mailto:KimCastellucci@yahoo.com) or Andy [AndyModale@yahoo.com](mailto:AndyModale@yahoo.com).

## PAST EVENT SUMMARIES

### Keystone Ski Trip

Jill Christensen

Twenty-nine spring skiers disembarked from Newark Airport in late March in search of sun, fun and snow in Colorado, and Keystone did not disappoint.

We arrived at the hotel late Wednesday night, so after handing out the lift tickets it was off to bed to gear up for three great days of skiing. We awoke Thursday to snow, which left a few inches on the mountain throughout the day, interspersed with moments of bright sunshine. The group all skied Keystone, which was within walking distance of our hotel, so we could meet on the mountain for lunch at Labonte's Cabin, followed by a club-sponsored happy hour at the Kickapoo Tavern. It was here that we kicked off our first big party drinking buckets of Corona's, wine and mounds of nachos. We even had a ski instructor join us for the festivities, who helped several club members perfect their abilities.

We continued the Mexican theme into Thursday night as we all headed to Dos Locos, a restaurant across the street from our hotel, for dinner, drinks and Karaoke. This is the point that things started to go south as members of our club felt it was necessary to attempt to serenade the locals, many of whom take this Karaoke thing quite seriously. We did find out that we have one budding American Idol contestant in our ranks. New member Alexia Burnett wowed the crowd with her take on Bon Jovi. We all had a great time even if the other patrons did not, and had no casualties as members had to cross a four-lane highway to get back to the hotel. Many of us ended the night in the roof-top hot tub.

We awoke Friday to a beautiful sun-shining day with temps in the 40s. After another great buffet breakfast at our hotel most people dispersed into groups and traveled to Vail and Breckenridge via local buses. Some people skied Keystone, so they could take advantage of the Blues & BBQ Festival. After gathering at the hotel bar before dinner for drinks, people headed off to River Run, the heart of Keystone village, for dinner followed by drinks at two establishments on either side of our hotel - the Goat and the Snake River Saloon. Live bands were playing at both places, so we danced the night away.



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On Saturday we awoke to more snow, so most people skied Keystone while a small group of six headed to A-Basin to ski Palavicini and the new Montezuma Bowl. We all converged on the hotel's martini bar for a final happy hour before heading to the Snake River Saloon for a group dinner Saturday night. Many of us stayed at the Saloon after dinner enjoying the shots, live music and dancing.

The bus pulled away from our hotel at 6:30 a.m. on Sunday to take us back to the Denver Airport. We had an uneventful flight that actually landed 45 minutes early. It was another great MCSC spring trip out west, so thank you to everyone who joined me for the adventure!



## ADVERTISEMENTS & CLASSIFIEDS

### Classifieds

**Men's Bike for Sale:** Schwinn 10 speed bicycle, men's Le Tour, perfect condition, \$120, red, new tire tubes, needs nothing. Great touring bike and even has extras like bike rack, saddle bag and pump. All ready for you to take on the spring bike trip! Contact Doug Leite at 908-276-8333 or [extreemskier@gmail.com](mailto:extreemskier@gmail.com).

**Bedroom Set For Sale:** White lacquer bedroom set includes a six-drawer dresser, round mirror that attaches to dresser and two-drawer night table. Perfect for a children's bedroom or spare bedroom. Paid \$750 five years ago, sell for \$300. Contact Jill Christensen at 908-590-2221 or [jilljaws@yahoo.com](mailto:jilljaws@yahoo.com).

## CONTACTS

### MCSC Executive Board

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[www.MorrisCountySkiClub.com](http://www.MorrisCountySkiClub.com)