



Ski Tales

Morris County Ski Club
Newsletter
June 2009

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Chris Leogrande

Greetings, fellow members!

As this is my first Ski Tales letter to the Club, I want to share what an honor it is to volunteer my time in this way. It is important to acknowledge outgoing Board Members Paul Van Duyne and Tobi Klein for their past 2 years of service in their positions.

Like I stated in my campaign speech, being President will be more about how I will be changing myself than changing the way the club does its business.

Maintaining the good standards established by my predecessors will work hand-in-hand with my style of delegating, facilitating and empowering the other volunteers who step up and help.

Now that summer has officially arrived, I'm sure most of you are well into your seasonal plans of beach rental lodging, outdoor sports, hobbies and cookout dinners. On the activities schedule, we have planned a number of new and interesting events to be announced for participation in the upcoming members meetings. Plan to stop in at one of the meetings and reserve your places. Plus, for those who are familiar with the Club's scheduling, ski trips for the 2010 season will be announced to go on sale in the two August meetings; once we have the final details established. As a reminder, we will have only one members meeting in July, on the 14th, which is the 2nd Tuesday. In August we revert back to meetings on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays.

Yes, summer events also means baseball and attending home games for both of the NY Major League teams. This year is different, in that there are two new, state-of-the-art stadiums to see as well. For some of us, it may be the first time visiting any of these new generation stadium models and a novelty experience. (Personally, I have visited Citi Field and it is outstanding.) We already have purchased 40 tickets

for a Yankees - Blue Jays game in September, which will include bus transportation. In order for us to get the same transportation for a Mets game, we need people to step up in advance and declare enough interest that could prompt the Club to purchase 40 tickets. Otherwise, we can only try, with no guarantees, to work out some kind of group transportation for the amount of tickets we do purchase. Check with the Social Events Calendar, to find the people to contact.

If I don't get to see any of you in person, I want to wish all a great summer of doing everything you want, everything you planned and anything that makes you happy.



SKI DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Sal Rutigliano, Ski Director

Get ready for a great ski season! We will be traveling to Japan January 23 to 31st, 2010 so save the date. This will be an exciting trip with a couple of days in Tokyo. This trip will be going on sale at the second meeting in August.

For New Years we will be traveling to Lake Placid; dates are December 30 to Jan 3rd. Jeff Baldwin will be running that trip so you can count on having a lot of fun.

Telluride is next and we will be staying at the Hotel Telluride. Dates are February 20 to 27th, 2010.

In March we have two weekend trips: Sugarbush, 3/12 to 3/14, 2010 and Breckenridge, 3/24 to 28th, 2010.

Mark your calendars and get ready for a great season of skiing.



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MCSC CALENDAR UPCOMING EVENTS & MEETING DATES

MCSC Meeting	July 14	Ramada Hotel, East Hanover, NJ
AAF	July 16	Bamboo Grille, Basking Ridge, NJ
Beach Bike Ride	August 8	Pt. Pleasant, NJ
MCSC Meeting	August 11	Ramada Hotel, East Hanover, NJ
AAF	August 13	Alice's, Lake Hopatcong, NJ
MCSC Meeting	August 25 (Japan Ski Trip on sale)	Ramada Hotel, East Hanover, NJ
MCSC Meeting	September 8	Ramada Hotel, East Hanover, NJ
NY Yankee Game	September 16 (on-sale July 14)	Bronx, NY
Fall Bike Ride	September 25-27 (on-sale July 14)	Hershey Park, PA
Halloween Party	October 31	Summit Elks Club

Please contact Beth Malkin at 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.

UPCOMING EVENTS



JULY AAF at the Bamboo Grille, 185 Madisonville, Rd, Basking Ridge, NJ

Please come join us on **Thursday, July 16, 2008** at the Famous Bamboo Grille and enjoy the open-air Patio.

Let's catch up with old and new friends while we unwind either at the indoor or outdoor bar. We will have happy hour from 4:00-7:00 with 10% of your drinks and complimentary appetizers. You also can purchase appetizers from a select happy hour menu for ½ price. A full dinner menu is available for those who wish to dine there. We will be able to enjoy our drinks and relax to live entertainment with a band that plays Island Jazz music.



AUGUST AAF - ALICE'S

24 Nolans Point Park Road, Lake Hopatcong, NJ 973-663-9600

Think happy hour drinks, view of a beautiful lake and sharing summer memories with friends! Please come join us on **Thursday, August 13, 2009** for an AAF on Lake Hopatcong.

Happy hour will be from 3-8 with drink specials and discounts. There will also be complimentary appetizers as well as a bar menu for you to enjoy. We will meet in the downstairs bar.

*There is a parking lot at the restaurant as well as parking on the street below. You might want to consider carpooling if possible.

Please contact Lisa at LisaSLP@aol.com with any questions/concerns.



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Beach Bike Ride, Point Pleasant, NJ

Join the MCSC for an event that has grown to be an annual favorite, our mid-summer beach bike-ride on **Saturday, August 8**. The two rides, 15 and 35 miles, are perfect for those who want a good time out in the sun, riding on flat, lightly traveled roads.

Starting Point: Risdens' Beach & Bathhouse, Ocean Ave. and Trenton Ave, Point Pleasant, NJ.

Meeting Time: 8:30AM. Bikes roll at 9:00AM sharp.

We will start and finish at Point Pleasant, which will provide plenty of options for post-ride festivities. Sun-bathing, swimming, boardwalk activities, cocktails and dinner are all within walking distance at this seaside hot spot, and changing rooms with showers are available (for a nominal fee). Since we are expecting a large crowd, group dinner reservations will not be made, but we will meet for afternoon cocktails either at Martell's Tiki Bar on the boardwalk or at the Wharfside. Everyone will then be free to make his or her own dinner and evening plans.

To sign up, or for more information, contact Deborah Schmitt 908-647-3836 or deborahgs@comcast.net.

Yankees Baseball Game



MCSC will be heading to see the NY Yankees at the new Stadium on **Wednesday September 16**. Tickets go on sale at the meeting on **July 14** for \$45 /person. Price includes your ticket, the bus, food and beverages on the bus. The bus will leave from the Ramada. Kim Castellucci and Andy Modale will be running this event.



Fall Bike Ride

MCSC will head to Hershey Park, PA, September 25-27, for the fall bike ride. This event goes on sale **July 14**, and will be run by Laura Connelly and Jim Healy. Don't miss it!



Halloween Party

Once again, Matt Buoncuore will be running the MCSC Halloween party, Saturday October 31 at the Summit Elks Lodge. Save the date!

PAST EVENT SUMMARIES



Spring Bike Trip,

Annapolis, MD

Annapolis MD is the home to US Naval Academy but closer to our hearts, the host of the MCSC annual Spring bike ride.

The journey began early Friday morning for some and as for the trip leaders... well, let us say that we arrived to a sunny and wonderfully humid Annapolis reasonably early. The Historic Inns of Annapolis housed us (in three separate buildings). One of the sitting rooms had a clear plexi-glass floor so that you could see the old coal-fired boiler.

Some headed to the Ram's Head Tavern, near the waterfront, to lunch on the seafood delicacies before heading back to our rooms. The group gathered at Pusser's Landing, the makers of Pusser's rum, for a light dinner, adult beverages, and a few laughs.



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Saturday started with a 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ mile bike ride for a group of brave-souls. For those of us rendered to foot, it was a tour of one of the U.S. Naval Academies, one of the prestigious historic sites. After the Naval Academy, there was lunch and a short trip thru downtown. The evening's activities included a group dinner at O.B. Prime and after dinner some went for dancing and cocktails. Others went on a haunted pub crawl where a ghost decided he needed one of Tony's monkeys.

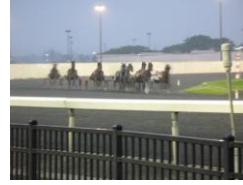
On Sunday, we had a Champagne Sail around the harbor and lunch at the Chart House before heading home. For those wanting a bit more of the Annapolis charm, a quick tour of the State House. John and Alan went the full-monty and kayaked in the late afternoon.



Rock Climbing, Fairfield NJ

On Saturday June 13, 11 of us made our way to the New Jersey Rock Gym, one of the states premiere indoor rock climbing gyms. We arrived about 5:30 pm for 2 full hours of conquering the rock walls. Two instructors gave us advice on how to navigate the wall. We all did well, but there was one very difficult wall, many of us tried multiple times, but no one was able to conquer it; maybe the next time. This was the first time our club tried this activity and personally I thought it was a ton of fun, non stop action, and a great work out.

Having worked up a huge appetite we decided to go for Jose Tejas for some Mexican food. After an hour of waiting, a few margaritas and starting to feel good, we final sat, had dinner accompanied by more drinks and great conversation. All in all I hope our club can do this in the future. It is a wonderful way to stay active in the off season while waiting for it to snow again.



Meadowlands Racetrack, East Rutherford, NJ

On an overcast summer evening nearly 50 ski club members gathered at the Meadowlands for an evening of exciting harness racing. Almost 20 members of the Outer Circle Ski club (Princeton area) as well as 5 members of the Bordentown Ski club (Trenton area) made the journey up north to join the Morris County Ski Club for the event.

Despite the overcast skies, the Meadowlands area had managed to avoid the rain that had plagued the surrounding areas all day. That all changed just as many of us arrived when the skies opened up and hit us with rain showers. Luckily though it was warm rain and not heavy enough to affect the racing planned for later that evening.

To avoid the rain, as people arrived we all gathered underneath a large covered tent area to enjoy the food being served from the grill. Many people raved about the burgers and chicken but yours truly was loading up on sausage and peppers (and an occasional hot dog). Corn on the cob and an assortment of tasty salads accompanied our various meat choices and selections. Afterwards tasty watermelon and some very scrumptious cookies were provided for dessert.

After getting our fill of food we were ready for racing (and the accompanying gambling of course). While most of us were stimulating the economy for the Big M, we did have a few members who managed to turn a profit on the evening.

By the start of the fourth race, the rain had stopped and we were able to more easily wander the grounds. At that point we now had easy access to the outdoor bar area which quickly became the gather point for members of all three ski clubs.



As the evening wore on, we enjoyed the opportunity to mingle with members of other area ski clubs and a number of us gathered near the rail at the finish line to cheer on our horses at the end of many of the races. Several members stayed late into the evening as the horse racing continued until about 11 PM.

Despite the weather all seemed to have a great time that evening and enjoyed the opportunity to meet new people and gather together with many MCSC members that we have not seen in a long time. And of course we look forward to the return trip, so we can collect the money we left behind.

Year End Party, Sparta, NJ

On Saturday June 27th, a crowd gathered for the annual Year End Party. This year we were at the Elks Club on Lake Mohawk. As was the case last year, the lake provided a great back drop for the evening festivities. The band got things going early and many of us danced all night. We must have looked like we were having a good time as many folks passing the club on the boardwalk would stop and peak in. We said good-bye and thank you to outgoing President Paul Van Duyne and Membership Coordinator, Tobi Klein. Chris Leogrande presented each with a gift from the club and he added his own special gift for each. You can ask Tobi and Paul about the bubble bath and the duct tape. Beth Malkin then took over the microphone to present the Member of the Year Award. She just got done explaining that neither she nor Chris knew who the winner was and that they would know at the same time as everyone else, once the plaque was opened. No one was more surprised than Beth to learn that she had been voted Member of the Year.

CONTACTS

MCSC Executive Board

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|----------------------------|--|
| President | Chris Leogrande
biglion2@ix.netcom.com |
| Vice President | Beth Malkin
bethmalkin@yahoo.com |
| Secretary | Matt Buoncuore
CaptMatt8@yahoo.com |
| Treasurer | Lori Baldwin
RNI2Clever@yahoo.com |
| Ski Director | Sal Rutigliano
salrutig@aol.com |
| Membership Director | Diane Engel
dscheneck@msn.com |

MCSC Committee Members

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| AAF Coordinator | Lisa Margolis
lisaslp@aol.com |
| NJSC Rep | Lisa Hallman
Hallmanliconice@msn.com |
| Ski Tales Editor | Helen McLaughlin
hjm07@optonline.net |
| Webmaster | Anthony Caruso
ajc@ajcis.com |

www.MorrisCountySkiClub.com