

**St. Louis
Ski Club
Board of
Directors
2022-2023**

President

Bev Doolin
618-972-3412
info@stlouisskiclub.com

Vice President

Karen Nugent
314-873-5150
activities@stlouisskiclub.com

Trip Director

Tom Coscia
314-780-3021
tripdir@stlouisskiclub.com

**Communications
Director**

Dan McGurk
660-216-3623
commdir@stlouisskiclub.com

Record Center

Pat Pender
314-703-0803
financial@stlouisskiclub.com

St. Louis Ski Club

**P. O. Box 712
St. Charles, MO 63302**
www.stlouisskiclub.com
info@stlouisskiclub.com

**Inside this
Issue**

Copper Mountain	2
Copper Photos	3
Steamboat	4
Steamboat Photos	5
Member Spotlight	6
Q and Suds	7
Club News/Calendar	8



**Sitzmarker
Spring 2022**

President's Message

The burst of colorful spring flowers and return of melodious songbirds is yet another reminder that ski season is officially over. And what a wonderful season it was. For one thing, it was a return to some degree of normalcy after heavily dealing with COVID for the last 2 years. Let's hope and pray things keep moving in that direction – whatever that "normalcy" may look like. Ski trip signups for this past season were fairly robust and, happily, all 3 ski trips were a "go". We are starting to see many more activities and events on our club calendar, and the numbers of attendees to these events have been pleasing.

Note: If there is an activity you'd like to see on our calendar, or if you would like to host an event feel free to reach out to Vice President Karen Nugent.

Election results for our 2022-2023 St Louis Ski Club Board of Directors were disclosed at our April 27 general meeting held at Llewelyn's Pub in Webster Groves, Missouri. Congratulations to our winners! See elec-



tion results on **Page 8**. Have you considered adding your name to next year's ballot? We are always looking for fresh ideas and new talent. Please consider how you could enhance our club. We need YOU!

I would like to thank those who completed and submitted the Trip Destination Survey. That really helps the board with trip planning. We are once again hoping to offer three trips for the coming ski season. One of those three will be the Flatland Ski Association (FSA) trip to Whitefish Mountain Resort in Montana in January. While this is neither an IKON nor EPIC pass resort, the FSA is known to pro-

vide great group discounts on lift tickets for its trips.

The other two trips have not yet been determined. Trip Director Tom Coscia has submitted requests for bids from three vendors and the board hopes to be able to consider these within the next few weeks. Until we can finalize these trips and make deposits with the vendors, they will not be announced as they are subject to change. We hope to have all of this accomplished in time to announce our 2023 ski trips at our annual Q and Suds Picnic on June 3 (**See Page 7**). Our summer Sitzmarker will contain further details.

Do you know that submitting your completed Membership Application and dues (if required) by May 15th gives you priority for signing up for our ski trips? That is, you are allowed to sign up for a trip prior to our official signup night. Information on our club and trip policies can be found on our website and on both our membership and trip applications. Don't miss out. Sign up today! And don't forget about our Refer-A-Friend program: Bring in a brand new member that signs up for a trip and you will receive \$25. It's that easy!

Our Member Spotlight on **Page 6** shines the limelight on a relatively new member, Joe Kellett. As noted in the profile, Joe has skied all over but is finding new excitement in the sport through his involvement in the club.

Looking forward to seeing you June 3rd at our Q and Suds Picnic!



Hike at Mini HaHa - April 2nd

Copper Mountain



The second SLSC trip of the year got off to a grand start on Monday, February 21st. Under the guidance of trip captain Lou Boyer, the group of 12 skiers gathering at the St. Louis Airport that morning included Rika Beckley, Thomas Corcoran, Susan Dietrich, Steve and Nancy Hahn, Scott Kaelin, Dan McGurk, Andy and Larry Micenheimer, Mark Michelsen, and Ann Wrightstone. After a smooth and uneventful flight to Denver and a bus ride to Copper Mountain, our group increased as we were joined by several other club member were taking separate flights. These included Haskins Hobson, Joe Kellett, Marcia Woodward, John and Patricia Smith, and Joan and Amber Scholz.

We were soon checked in to our rooms at the brand- new Element29 Hotel (Copper's first hotel). This was conveniently located a short walk from the shops and restaurants and Center Village and, even more significantly, from the ski lifts. Equally convenient was the Charter Sports shop connected to the hotel where most of our members rented or stored their skis and boots. The hotel contained a large lobby where people could gather in the evenings. It also had a well-stocked bar, although it was lacking a bartender for most of our visit there.

Not that many people spent a great deal of time at the hotel, given that the slopes beckoned for our first ski day on Tuesday. The sunshine was not abundant for our first few days of skiing, but the snow was, with flakes coming down fairly hard the first three nights of our stay. This usually made for some good skiing, especially in the morning hours. There were a few in the group who

had skied Copper before but most were experiencing the mountain for the first time and were not disappointed. There was a good mixture of green, blue, and black runs to suit all skiing levels. Haskins, Larry, and Dan all took advantage of the free mountain tour offered by the resort guides, and found it a good way to get a feel for the mountain. Joe Kellett proved to be an adept salesman at convincing some skiers to try black runs they otherwise might not have touched. Amber Scholz was one of his marks and ended up skiing a black bowl that may have been a little beyond her abilities. Fortunately, she made it back in one piece.



That is not to say there not a few scary moments. Our trip captain Lou fell and sustained an interior fracture of tibial plateau on the first day of skiing. Ironically, it was not the fall itself that caused her injuries but the efforts of a good Samaritan on the slopes who stopped to help her up. While this ended her skiing on the trip, she was able to shake off her crutches after a few days to stay active. She credits her roommate, Susan Dietrich, as well as Nancy Hahn and others for helping her through this ordeal.

Our four days of skiing seemed to keep most people occupied but we also managed to find diversions elsewhere as well. A few people went into the nearby town of Frisco to sample the shopping and dining there but many others stuck to the restaurants in Copper for their needs. The Eagle Barbecue, El Zacatecano Mexican Restaurant, and Sawmill Pizza were among the more popular choices for our skiers. On Wednesday evening, we gathered at the

Ten Mile Tavern for the club party. This provided a varied menu for people to choose from. Thanks to Rika Beckley and Marcia Woodward for helping Lou arrange this event.

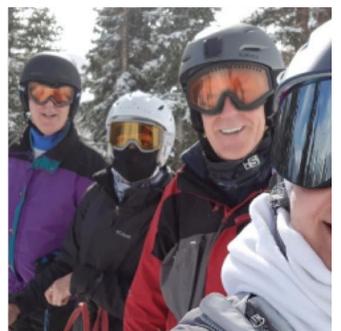
The lounge area in the hotel proved to be popular for some card-playing and board games after dinner. Joan and Amber Scholz had brought along several games, including the ever-popular Uno that provided for some fierce competition.

Friday, our last day on the mountain proved to be the best ski day of all as the sun finally peaked through the clouds. Combined with the snow that had been coming down, this made for a great day on the slopes and made it all the harder to tear ourselves away. That evening, we gathered in the lounge one last time for a "left-over" party where we used up all the food from our rooms that we had not had a chance to eat. Dan McGurk provided a little entertainment to the group with his JFK impersonation.

On Saturday morning the inevitable end of the trip arrived, and we loaded the bus early for our ride back to the Denver airport. After saying goodbye to land travelers who were departing to other destinations, we boarded our flight to St. Louis and once again had smooth travel back. It is always difficult to say goodbye to a week of skiing and comradery, but we had a fun trip to look back on, with memories made both on and off the slopes. Thanks to Lou and the St. Louis Ski Club for organizing another memorable ski outing.



Copper Photos



Steamboat

The final ski trip of the year got underway on Saturday, March 5th, as trip captain Karen Nugent led a group of 15 skiers to tackle the slopes at Steamboat. Our group consisted of Nancy Engel, Dominika Fidala, Ed Goedde, Dan Krack, Annie Merriot, Mary and Miranda Robert, Janet and Lori Rottler, John Shansey, Beata Schunk, Mike Stein, Erni Wood, and John Wood. Andrea Lubershane had been scheduled to be on the trip but sadly had to bow out because of illness.

Our first night there "the boys" (John Shansey, Dan Krack and Mike Stein) hosted a pizza party in their condo. This was also the gathering where the trip captain was supposed to distribute the lift tickets but this plan went a little awry when the kiosks refused to print the tickets. The ticket office was closed so we could only hope and wait until morning. Things went fine though, and the tickets were all printed and distributed by 8:30 am. Not a moment wasted on the mountain!

For a March trip, it felt more like January. It was cold! But we had 18 to 24" of fresh powder as well. Steamboat was living up to its champagne powder legacy from the start.

We all went in different directions. Annie looked for the powder and the chutes. Mike led Ed through challenging powder and terrain. John Shansey's back was injured in December and he was taking it "easy" by



leading some of us on the blues around the mountain and over the top and back again. Miranda and Mary seemed to find their happiest place near the Sundown and Sunshine chairlifts. Lori, Janet and Nancy spent their first few mornings in the rental shop trying to get the kinks of their boots and skis worked out. Nancy finally resolved it by buying new boots. She was a much happier skier after that!

On Monday evening, we all went out to dinner for our club party at LaFiesta where margaritas of various flavors were appreciated. In what would be the start of a trend, everyone was served their food except for Ed. Turns out his roommate John Wood, who ordered tacos, claimed Ed's burrito. Ed eventually got his burrito well after everybody else had been enjoying their meals. The rest of the week, he had similar issues at other restaurants being forgotten or getting served last (and these with no help from his roommate).

As is usual for our club, there were plenty of tales to tell about adventures both on and off the slopes. A few of us went snowmobiling before the big snow, but Miranda went out after the big snowstorm which was even better. About 10 of us went to the Strawberry Hot Springs just outside of the resort. These are beautiful mineral

springs of stone lined pools fed by Hot Springs Creek in a natural outdoor setting and proved to be highly relaxing.

We had various sightings of elk and moose. Miranda and Mary had an unusual sighting under one of the lifts; not the usual dropped ski pole or glove, but a ski with the boot attached! Turns out an amputee lost it on the way up. Good luck retrieving that!

On Friday we finished our week in a meeting room at the condo with leftover food, pizza, group photo and games. We played the usual Left-Center-Right (LCR) dice game and Pass-the-Trash card games. It turned out the favorite game was Family Feud with some very creative answers, some nonsensical and some crude but all very entertaining.

Our trip home was delayed a bit in Denver and we were grateful to get back to STL finally to retrieve our luggage. And guess whose skis didn't come out with the others...Ed's. We all had our skis and luggage and left for home by the time Ed's skis showed up in baggage claim. Hoping the trend is at an end!

We had great skiing and good times at Steamboat. After an uncertain two years, we can all be happy to have a fun and successful ski season behind us.



Steamboat Photos



Member Spotlight:

Joe Kellett



Joe at Mount Rainier in September 2020

Joe Kellett is a relatively new member of the St. Louis Ski Club but hardly a novice on the slopes. During a career with the Army Corps of Engineers, he had the good fortune to ski or snowboard in 13 states and 8 countries. His retirement has brought him back to his native St. Louis and a new group of enthusiastic skiers with the club.

One of Joe's first ski experiences occurred at Hidden Valley shortly after it opened. He went skiing with a group from the Corps of Engineers on what turned out to be a night of near zero-degree weather with howling winds. The combination of the weather and a large number of inexperienced skiers led to pile-ups at the top of the lift. Although many others gave up early, Joe persevered and credits the mechanic's coveralls he was wearing with keeping him from freezing. His friends quickly nicknamed him Jean Claude Goodwrench, the skiing mechanic, for his coveralls. And his love of skiing was born that night.

A few years later, Joe moved to Germany with the Corps of Engineers. He took lessons there with an outstanding Austrian instructor who had competed in the 1980 Lake Placid Olympics. She was a tough, demanding teacher, who followed him down the slopes shouting, "bend your knees, Mr. Wooden Legs!" Despite this, Joe credits her with elevating his skiing and remembers her "wooden legs" moniker with a smile whenever he hits a challenging slope.

Although Joe has lived in the flatlands for much of his life, he has always been drawn to the mountains and most of his vacations have centered around hiking, climbing, or skiing. In 2014, he jumped at the opportunity to live close to the mountains when

the Corps of Engineers offered him a position in Portland, Oregon. He joined the Mazamas, a local mountaineering club, and fulfilled a dream of climbing many of the highest peaks in the Northwest including Mounts Hood and Rainier. The Mazamas also taught him the intricacies of snow camping and backcountry telemark skiing, which have been the highlight of his skiing experience.

In his late 40s, Joe's daughter suggested that they take snowboard lessons. While his instructors were much nicer than his Austrian ski teacher, the falls were far more brutal than he had ever experienced while skiing. With a lot of persistence (and a lot more falls), he eventually mastered the skill and now most of his ski trips are split between skiing and snowboarding. This, combined with his experience with telemark



Joe at Sun Valley in January 2021

skis, allows him to slide downhill anywhere on just about anything.

After his retirement, Joe returned to the St. Louis area to be closer to his grandchildren but was still intent on continuing the activities he had loved in the Pacific Northwest. He found the St. Louis ski club online and signed up for his first club trip to Park City in 2020. Although this trip was cut short by the onset of the pandemic, he still had a wonderful time. When the slopes closed and the town went into lockdown, Lou Boyer and Pat Pender arranged for a hotel conference room where Club members drowned their sorrows, played games, told stories, and generally had fun. Watching Lou and Pat turn lemons into lemonade hooked Joe on the club and on future trips. He has since skied with the club at Telluride in 2021 and Copper Mountain this year. He also rafted through the Grand Canyon with the club in the summer of 2021 in what he called the trip of a lifetime.

Joe has 3 daughters and shares his passion for skiing with them and now with his grandchildren. While he had two great ski trips this year to Wegen, Switzerland and Copper Mountain, the most fun was his trip to Colorado's Granby Ranch with his grandkids. For him, it's exhilarating to see the pure joy they feel when skiing. But perhaps, Joe's best day of skiing was a side trip from Grandy to the Loveland Ski Area with his two oldest daughters. It had been more than 15 years since they had all skied together and they had an adventurous day skiing powder and challenging each other on the steep runs and moguls. Joe said it was wonderful to see how well they still ski, share remembrances of past ski vacations, and simply enjoy the day together.

In retirement, Joe stays busy rehabbing his lake house, playing the guitar (poorly), hiking and climbing when opportunities present themselves and, of course, watching the grandkids. The comradery and well-organized trips Joe has experienced with the St. Louis Ski Club have fueled his determination to keep skiing as long as he can. In his words: "I've made some great new friends through the club and enjoyed sliding downhill with some very accomplished and stylish skiers. I hope that I can continue to ski for years to come and someday bring my grandkids on a St. Louis Ski Club trip."



Joe with grandsons Killian and Theo at Loveland in February 2021

Q and Suds - June 3rd

Come one, come all!

Join us at the Q and Suds picnic at **Tilles Park (St. Louis County) on June 3rd**. We will once again be serving BBQ and hot dogs along with beer and soda. We are providing the side dishes and desserts as well. You need only bring yourself and your appetite! **No charge for current paid members or senior members; \$10 for all others.** Guests are welcome.

No worries if you are not a paid member — we will have membership applications available at the Q. Social hour begins at 5:00 pm, with dinner being served at 6:00 pm. Look for the large blue and white St Louis Ski Club banner in Tilles Park at the Gloria Rogers Pavilion -rain or shine.

Please RSVP to our Meetup page at <http://www.meetup.com/St-Louis-Ski-Club/> so we can get some idea of how many people to expect. You may also contact Karen Nugent at 314-873-5150 or email her at activities@stlouisskiclub.com

Where:

Tilles Park (Gloria Rogers Pavilion)
9551 Litzinger Road
St. Louis, MO 63124

When:

Friday, June 3rd
Gather at 5 pm

Cost:

Free for current paid members
and senior members

\$10 for all others

Q and Suds—2021



Club News

Annual Meeting and Elections

Thanks to all who attended the Annual Meeting and participated in elections for the St. Louis Ski Club Board of Directors. We were happy to be able to return to an in-person annual meeting after two years of pandemic induced cancellations. It was good to see everyone who was able to make it to our meeting at Llywellyn's on April 27th.

The following were all elected unanimously for another term on the board.

President

Bev Doolin

Vice-President

Karen Nugent

Trip Director

Tom Coscia

Communications Director

Dan McGurk

Membership Renewals

Club memberships expired on April 30th 2022

Current members save \$5 by renewing by May 15th

Membership applications are available on our website at <https://www.stlouisskiclub.com/>

Summer Sitzmarker

Beginning this year, club members will no longer receive a print copy of the summer Sitzmarker in the mail. The cost of this mailing has become very prohibitive in recent years, and it is an expense we can no longer justify in a time of tight budgets.

As usual, members will be notified by email with a link to access the newsletter as soon as it is available online.

Hike at Tower Grove Park

Saturday, May 7th at 9:30 am

Meet at the Bandstand Pavilion and look for the blue balloon

Contact activities@stlouisskiclub.com for more details

Mark Your Calendars Now!

Please use our Meetup page at <http://www.meetup.com/St-Louis-Ski-Club/> or RSVP to activities@stlouisskiclub.com

See stlouisskiclub.com for the latest updates!

<u>Date</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Location</u>
Saturday May 7th, 2022 9:30 AM	Hike at Tower Grove Park (See Details Above)	Bandstand Pavilion 2717 Music Stand Lp St. Louis, MO 63110
Friday June 3rd, 2022 5 PM	Q and Suds (See Details Page 7)	Tilles Park (Gloria Rogers Pavilion) 9551 Litzinger Road St. Louis, MO 63124
Sunday August 21st, 2022 6 PM	Trip Sign-Up Night (Details in Summer Sitzmarker)	Llywellyn's Pub 17 W. Moody Ave. Webster Groves, MO 63119