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**Sitzmarker
Summer 2022**

President's Message

It's that time of year –time to announce our trips for the coming ski season! I think you'll like your options. See highlights of our trips in the Trip Director Tom Coscia's trip article on **Page 2**. Pulling together these trips proved not to be an easy task this go around, for far too many reasons to explain. Maybe a sign of the times? Thank you Tom for all your effort and perseverance.

The St Louis Ski Club is going green! As you are probably aware, this summer edition of our Sitzmarker is now an electronic copy only rather than hard copy mailed via the USPS. Printing and mailing costs were taking a big bite out of club funds. Thank you for your understanding on this.

I don't know if the club has ever had 2 trips to Montana in a single ski season as will be the case this coming season. But judging from our Trip Destination Survey results, a lot of you really wanted to go to Montana! Both Big Sky and Whitefish offer some attractive options for skiers of all levels. Our third trip will be to Park City in Utah, making this our first non-Colorado ski year in recent memory! We work at offering trips that appeal to a broad audience, and try to offer a variety from trip to trip. Personally, I'm finding myself pondering which trip to go on, so that's a good sign!

As you sign up for your trip(s), there are a couple of things to bear in mind. First, please fully complete your Trip Application. You will not be put on the trip roster until the completed Trip Application and deposit are received, along with your Member-



ship Application and applicable dues if you have not already submitted those. Note that those who submitted their Membership Application prior to May 15th have priority status for signing up for a trip. Trip applications are available on our website at <https://www.stlouisskiclub.com/>.

Secondly, be sure to pay your balance due by the deadline to avoid being removed from the roster. You will be notified of amount due and deadline for payment. Remember that we do accept payment through PayPal, with an added charge to cover our costs. See our signup page at <https://www.stlouisskiclub.com/join/> for details.

Information regarding our club and trip policies can be found on our website, as well as both our Membership Application and Trip Application. You will want to familiarize yourself with our policies.

It's important to note that the club does not offer or include trip insurance. Often, trip refund policies do not seem to be as lenient in a number of areas as they once were. (But you might find more leniency in other areas, such as cancellations

for COVID for example.) Regardless, you may want to consider purchasing trip insurance to protect your trip investment.

On Page 7 in this edition of the Sitzmarker, we shine the spotlight on club member Rika Beckley. Rika is a relatively new member of the club but has already become a familiar face by participating on trips and appearing at social events. Like most of our members, she has interesting stories to tell from both on the slopes and off and we think you will enjoy hearing these.

I would like to give a big shout out to Vice President Karen Nugent, who has been doing an excellent job of finding new and fun things and venues to fill our club calendar. Attendance at our activities have really picked up. And we have attracted several people from our event postings on Meetup at <http://www.meetup.com/St-Louis-Ski-Club>. Please consider joining us on Meetup if you haven't already. It's free and easy to sign up. Anyone can join our Meetup page, even without officially joining our club. It's a great tool to:

- 1) Know what activities are scheduled
- 2) RSVP for an activity
- 3) Know of any last minute changes and
- 4) Communicate with activity host and/or attendees.

Be sure to mark your calendar for Trip Signup Night on August 21st. See details on Page 5.

Here's to some great skiing in 2023!

Our 2023 Trips

I am excited to report our trips for 2023. This year we feature a 5-day trip and two 6-day ski trips

Our first trip will be to **Big Sky, Montana**, January 8 to 14. We will be staying at the club favorite, Huntley Hotel, with its outstanding complimentary breakfast buffet. This is by far the best breakfast buffet I've had on any club trip. The last time the club was in **Big Sky** was 2015. This trip is being captained by returning ski captain Dan McGurk.

Our second trip will be the Flatland Skiing Association (FSA) trip to **Whitefish, Montana**, January 27 – February 3. We are staying at the Kandahar Lodge. This FSA trip will be for a full week with 6-ski days. The last time the club was in **Whitefish** was 2007. This trip is captained by veteran ski club member Joe Bauer.

Our third trip of the season is 6-ski days in **Park City, Utah**, February 8-15. We will be staying at the Park City Peaks Hotel. The last time the club was in **Park City** was 2020. This trip is being captained by a long-time member John Shansey. John has captained 3 trips in the past.

Single Person Supplement

For a limited time through August, we are continuing the single person supplement for our members who would rather not share a room.

Note: Besides members paying the additional cost of the room, we must add the cost of other shared trip expenses since each single supplement reduces the number of participants by one. For instance, expenses for the club administrative fee and trip captain trip credits. In addition to the cost of the trip, the following is the single person supplement price by trip.

The full single person supplement is due with your trip deposit.

Single supplements are:

Big Sky:	\$1,080
Whitefish:	\$ 635
Park City:	\$ 830

Procedure Reminders

If you plan on racing on the FSA trip, please be prepared to wear a helmet.

Lift tickets are not included in the trip price, but they are available at a discount through the club. Your trip captain will inform you of the pricing options after signups.

Also, if you need to return lift tickets due to medical issues, a doctor's note is being enforced. The resorts used to be more lenient for lift ticket refunds, but no longer. If you are not sure how many days to ski, go with your minimum number.

Final Notes

We continue to offer PayPal. No more searching for stamps and envelopes. You can do it all on-line.

Check out this issue for more detailed info on our trips. I thank the board for putting together a great group of trips based on your trip surveys. As always, I strongly suggest you sign up early (and often) so you will not be left out.



Tom Coscia
Trip Director

*“Sign up early
to avoid
disappointment”*

Refer a Friend and Earn \$25

We are continuing our successful program from years' past.

If you know of anyone who is interested in becoming a brand new member to the club and they sign up for a 2023 trip, the club will send you a \$25 referral check. The check will be sent to you in April 2023. On the application form there will be a place that the new member can indicate your name.

St. Louis Ski Club 2023 Ski Trips

Ski Resort & Trip Captain	Dates	Lodging	What's Included	Price Info	Ice Breaker
<p><u>Big Sky, MT</u> www.bigskyresort.com</p> <p><u>Dan McGurk</u> danieljmcgurk@gmail.com (660) 216-3623</p>	<p>1/8/23 thru 1/14/23</p> <p>26 Skiers</p> <p>5 ski days</p>	<p><i>"The Biggest Skiing in America"</i></p> <p><u>Huntley Hotel</u></p> <p>2 people per hotel room</p> <p>Outstanding Breakfast Buffet</p>	<p>Lodging / Airfare</p> <p>Transfers to/from Bozeman Airport</p> <p>Welcome Reception</p> <p>Club Party</p>	<p>Trip Price \$1,860</p> <p>Deposit \$960</p> <p>Balance \$900</p> <p>Due* 11/4/22</p>	1/4/23
<p><u>Whitefish, MT</u> www.skiwhitefish.com</p> <p><u>Joe Bauer</u> activities.jb@gmail.com (314) 249-6919</p>	<p>1/27/23 thru 2/3/23</p> <p>30 skiers</p> <p>6 ski days</p>	<p><i>"The Ultimate Skier's Mountain"</i></p> <p><u>Kandahar Lodge (Hotel)</u></p> <p>2 people per hotel room</p> <p>Continental Breakfast</p> <p>Flatland Race Info www.flatlandski.org</p>	<p>Lodging / Airfare</p> <p>Transfers to/from Kalispell Airport</p> <p>FSA Welcome Reception</p> <p>FSA Banquet, Parties & Races</p> <p>Club Party (Racing is optional)</p>	<p>Trip Price \$1,375</p> <p>Deposit \$700</p> <p>Balance \$675</p> <p>Due* 12/2/22</p>	1/19/23
<p><u>Park City, UT</u> www.parkcitymountain.com</p> <p><u>John Shansey</u> john12461@charter.net (618) 581-4713</p>	<p>2/18/23 thru 2/25/23</p> <p>28 skiers</p> <p>6 ski days</p>	<p><i>"The Greatest Snow on Earth"</i></p> <p><u>Park City Peaks Hotel</u></p> <p>2 people per hotel room</p> <p>Skier Breakfast</p>	<p>Lodging / Airfare</p> <p>Transfers to/from Salt Lake City Airport</p> <p>Welcome Party</p> <p>Club Party</p>	<p>Trip Price \$1,535</p> <p>Deposit \$775</p> <p>Balance \$760</p> <p>Due* 12/14/22</p>	2/8/23

All icebreakers will be held Llywelyn's Pub, 17 W. Moody Ave., Webster Groves at 6:00 pm

Trip prices may change due to fuel surcharges. Gratuities for ground transportation/baggage handlers included

Additional fees for airline baggage may apply

Single room supplement is available upon request—Must sign up by August

Lift Tickets are not included in the listed price. They are available at a discount through the club.

Check, cash, and credit cards through PayPal are accepted for payment.

*** Note: Trips may close prior to the balance due date.**

Big Sky, Montana "Biggest Skiing in America"

January 8 - 15, 2023 26 Skiers

Price \$1,860 (Lift tickets not included)

Trip Captain: Dan McGurk

danieljmcgurk@gmail.com or 660-216-3623

The St. Louis Ski Club is returning to Big Sky for the first time since 2015. Do not miss this opportunity to take advantage of nearly 4300 vertical feet and almost 6,000 acres of terrain spread over 3 mountains. This includes 300 named runs (23% beginner, 25% intermediate, 34% advances, and 18% expert or extreme). They are serviced by 39 lifts, including four bubble chairlifts and the Swift Current 6, considered one of the fastest lifts in North America. We are once again staying slope-side at the Huntley Lodge, long renowned for its buffet breakfast, included with the trip price



- Round trip airfare into Bozeman, 45 minute shuttle ride to the resort
- 5 days of skiing, boarding, cross country skiing, or other fun activities
- Discounted lift tickets available for purchase through the club—**The resort is on the IKON pass if you wish to purchase tickets on your own**
- 6 nights lodging at the newly-renovated Huntley Lodge in the heart of Mountain Village
- Ski Valet
- Fitness Center
- Outdoor pool and hot tubs
- Daily hot buffet breakfast
- Free WiFi
- Ski-In/Ski-Out Access
- Club Party
- Welcome Reception
- Numerous opportunities for shopping, dining and nightlife just steps away in Mountain Village
- Opportunities for numerous other activities including snowmobiling, Nordic skiing, fly fishing, and snowshoe tours

Whitefish, Montana (FSA Trip) "The Ultimate Skiers Mountain"

January 27 - Feb 3, 2023 30 Skiers

Price \$1,375 (Lift tickets not included)

Trip Captain: Joe Bauer

activities.jb@gmail.com or 314 249 6919

The FSA Ski and Race trip this year is to beautiful Whitefish Montana (formerly know as Big Mountain). Located only 60 miles from the Canadian Border and a short drive from Glacier National Park, the town of Whitefish has many excellent dining and recreational opportunities.

- Round trip airfare from St Louis to Kalispell, MT, with transfers to and from Whitefish.
- 7 nights lodging at the Kandahar Lodge located in the West Village on the mountain.
- Two queen beds, a small refrigerator and microwave in each room.
- Short walk takes you to the shuttle bus to the main lifts and the free Snow Bus to the lodge and the town of Whitefish.
- Ski-in access from the slopes
- Free continental breakfast daily
- On-site bar and gourmet restaurant
- Six ski days with over 3,000 acres, 111 trails and 4 terrain parks.
- Deeply discounted lift tickets through the FSA plus discounts on ski/board rentals. **Note that Whitefish Mountain Resort does not accept either the EPIC or IKON pass.**
- FSA Welcome Party, Club Party, Awards Banquet with complimentary beverages
- Race Events include options for every ski level from Novice to expert and includes individual ski and snowboard events and fun group activities. All racing is optional. For additional information contact Joe Bauer at activities.jb@gmail.com
- Day trip to Ferny in British Columbia will be available for an additional fee



Park City, Utah

"The Greatest Snow on Earth"

February 18 - 25, 2023 28 Skiers
 Price: \$1,535 (*Lift tickets not included*)
 Trip Captain: John Shansey
 john12461@charter.net or 618-610-2297

We are returning to one of our more popular destinations of recent years! Park City encompasses over 7300 skiable acres and over 3200 vertical feet. With over 330 trails (8% beginner, 42% intermediate, 50% expert), there is skiing to suit all abilities. And nearby Deer Valley offers another 2000 acres of terrain with over 100 named runs. **Deer Valley is on the IKON pass.**

We are once again staying at the Peaks Hotel, which is loaded with amenities, including a hot breakfast served daily. Free shuttle service to the slopes is available.

- Round-trip airfare to Salt Lake City and shuttle to lodging
- 6 days skiing. Lift tickets not included but available at a discount through the club—**The resort is on the EPIC pass if you wish to buy tickets on your own**
- Lodging at the Peaks Hotel (2 persons per room)
- Pool and spa
- Fitness Center
- Daily hot breakfast
- Onsite restaurant
- Welcome reception and club party

Park City is a unique locale. It was established as a silver mining community. When silver prices dropped in the 1930's, a new commodity was discovered...Snow!! Today, Park City is a unique blend of new and old with remnants of its history still evident. In addition to the majestic mountains, the flavor of the old West is present in the town, with abundant dining, shopping and nightlife. Please sign up and share this amazing experience with us.



Trip Sign-Up Night

When: Sunday, August 21, 2022
 Doors open at 6 pm; Sign-up begins at 7 pm

Where: Llywelyn's Pub
 17 W. Moody Ave
 Webster Groves, MO 63119

Information on signing up early for our trips is detailed below but we would love to see you in person at our sign-up night. This event allows you to hear trip details directly from the trip captains and learn about other club news.

Three fabulous trips will be available: FSA sponsored Whitefish (Montana), Big Sky (Montana), and Park City (Utah). Space on the trips is limited so take this opportunity to sign up early!

Sign-Up Procedures

- Those who renewed their membership by May 15 will have priority status for signing up for a trip if their application and payment is received by 9:00 pm on Saturday, August 20th.
- A waitlist will begin if a trip exceeds the number of spots allotted or if there is space only for a specific gender.
- You can send in the enclosed form with your payment or pay online with your credit card using PayPal (but you will still need to send in your fully completed trip application before your registration will be processed).
- For those not receiving a print copy of the newsletter, the trip sign-up form is available at <https://www.stlouisskiclub.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Ski-Trip-Application.pdf>
- RSVP to [Meetup.com](https://www.meetup.com) or to activities@stlouisskiclub.com
- Look for more details in the **Out and About** email

Q and Suds—June 3rd



Member Spotlight:

Rika Beckley



Rika Beckley may be a new face to many in the St. Louis Ski Club, but she has a history with the club and the city going back decades. She grew up in the St. Louis area and skied for the first time at the now defunct Pere Marquette ski area. She took her first major ski trip to Crested Butte when she was a senior at Lindbergh High School in the early 1980s. She remembers attending some conditioning classes hosted by the St. Louis Ski Club in preparation for that trip.

After attending college at Valparaiso University, Rika headed to Vail with a high school friend. She lived there for two ski seasons while working for the Vail Daily newspaper and KVMR Radio. She later moved to Summit County to start her own temporary service business. During her time in the area, she had the chance to ski all the slopes in the area, with Vail and Beaver Creek being her favorites. She has enjoyed returning to these areas over the years and seeing how much they have changed but also seeing some familiar landmarks that have survived.



Rika and her friend Marcia Woodward at Copper in February

While running her business in Summit County, Rika got a call one day from Warner Brothers studio for help with a film they were shooting in the area. Her duties included answering phones in the location office, buying snacks for the cast and crew, and typing up script revisions. This would

have been an exciting job under any circumstances, but the film happened to be *National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation*, which would soon become a classic holiday movie. She got to meet all the cast members who filmed at that location and even attended the wrap party in Los Angeles when the film was completed. There, she got to talk extensively with 14-year old Johnny Galecki ("Rusty Griswold") and has enjoyed watching his career blossom since then, particularly with his roles in *Roseanne* and *The Big Bang Theory*.



Rika with her children at Holiday Valley in New York in 2006

Rika returned to St. Louis in 1989, where her two children were born, and left again in 1994. She lived in Indiana, Ohio and Pennsylvania during the next 24 years and her family got a chance to experience many eastern and midwestern resorts, including Seven Springs (near Pittsburgh), Whiteface Mountain in Lake Placid, New York, Alpine Valley in Central Ohio, and Perfect North in Lawrenceburg, Indiana. In 2018, Rika moved to La Crosse, Wisconsin, for a work project and enjoyed skiing the Mt. La Crosse ski area just fifteen minutes from her home. She eagerly joined the nearest ski club, Traverski, out of Rochester, Minnesota and went on trips to Park City and Breckenridge with that group. Altogether, Rika has skied in 14 states and has enjoyed the opportunity to pass her love of the sport on to her now grown children.

Rika returned to St. Louis one more time in 2020 and was happy to see that the St. Louis Ski Club was still active. She has become

a familiar face at our social events and has been on two trips with the club. She especially enjoyed the trip to Sun Valley in 2021 because, despite all her experience, she had never skied in Idaho before. The Copper trip this year was a return to familiar ground in many ways, but she enjoyed seeing a mix of the old and new there.

Rika holds an MPA degree in non-profit management from Indiana University and, when not on the slopes, she keeps busy in her career as a non-profit consultant and as a manager of a vacation rental business she runs from Waterloo, Illinois. In yet another career endeavor, she has been able to indulge her passion for travel into a career as a travel writer. This has taken her to all 50 states and to 48 countries so far. Just before the pandemic, she contributed the lead story to an online magazine with her piece on Iceland. That gave her the chance to stay in Reykjavik with her daughter while learning about the area, its history, and its customs. More recently, she completed a story about Minocqua, Wisconsin, and its supper clubs called "It's Suppertime in Wisconsin's Lake Country."

Like many in the St. Louis Ski Club, Rika took a roundabout route to her membership with us. In her case the path was actually circular. Her combined love of skiing and travel make her a natural fit for the club. She also enjoys hiking and biking and hopes to join us on more of those excursions as well. We are happy to have her aboard and hope that this stay in St. Louis will be a long and enjoyable one for her!



At a St. Patrick's Day celebration in Sun Valley in 2021

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>
Thursday July 28, 2022 5 PM	<i>ThirstyThursday Happy Hour</i>	Kemoll's Chop House 323 W Port Plaza Dr St. Louis, MO 63146
Saturday July 30, 2022 9 AM	<i>Katy Trail and Bike Stop Café (See Details Below)</i>	701 S Riverside Dr St Charles, MO 63301
Thursday August 18, 2022 7 PM	<i>Night at the Muny (See Details Below)</i>	The Muny (in Forest Park) 1 Theatre Dr, St. Louis, MO 63112
Sunday August 21, 2022 6 PM	<i>Trip Sign-Up Night (See Details Page 5)</i>	Llywelyn's Pub, 17 Moody Ave Webster Groves, MO 63119
Saturday October 24, 2022 10:30 AM	<i>St. Charles Oktoberfest</i>	Details and Location to Be Announced

Katy Trail and Bike Stop Café — Saturday, July 30th, 9 AM

Come enjoy a lovely ride to the start of the Katy Trail. We'll start at 9:00am at the Bike Stop Cafe so arrive by 8:45 to unload and prepare and come even a little earlier to get something to eat or drink at the cafe. The ride to Machens trailhead and back is relatively flat and 25 miles total. If interested, we'll stop for lunch afterward in St. Charles. Look for the blue balloon.

Night at the Muny — Thursday, August 18th, 7 PM

Meet us at The Muny to see *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* from the free seats. The show begins at 8:15, but we will meet out back before the show. Outside food and beverages are allowed, but no cans or glass. Softsided coolers are allowed. We will meet in Lichtenstein Plaza at the back near the concession stand on the "Women's" side. Look for the blue balloon.