



## President's Message

This month, as the snow season really kicks off, I thought I would give a brief introduction to how each winter sport works in the Club. We have quite a few new members, and even some of our longer-term members may not have tried all the options.

**Snowshoeing** – what I love about snowshoeing is the silence. You can be out in relatively remote areas in places like the Uintas, where there are not many people, the scenery is stunning and often the snow is falling and damping down sounds. We also do many trails nearby such as Treasure Hill, Silver Star, Summit Park, Pinebrook, Jeremy Ranch, Lost Prospector, Round Valley and Utah Olympic Park. It's inexpensive to try. You can rent gear from places like White Pine Touring. And buying snowshoes is not outrageous.



**Downhill skiing** – I have to admit I was nervous of joining my first downhill ski group as I was worried I wouldn't be able to keep up. Fear not, skiers, there are groups for all levels and, if you have the passes, you could ski every weekday and some weekend days with the Club. Joining the same group each week means getting to know a smaller group of members better, which is also fun. At the end of the week, you can join an Après Ski social on Sundays at 4pm. It's really easy to host too.

**Uphill Skiing** – I had never even heard of uphill skiing (it is an oxymoron, right?!) – but it's such fun. "Skinning up" PCMR as the sun is coming up is truly a one-of-a-kind experience. And hanging out for coffee after is fun. It's a good workout and you can be home by 8.30am. If you want to give it a try, gear can be rented at places like Skimo in Cottonwood Heights, REI, University of Utah Outdoor Adventures rental shop or White Pine Touring. This year Utah Olympic Park sold passes for uphill skiing for the first time too. If you have never tried it, I'd encourage you to give it a go.

**Cross Country Skiing** – There are two kinds of XC skiing: skate and classic. The skating movement is similar to ice skating and rollerblading where you push off of one ski to land on the other ski and then push off of that ski...all of which will propel you forward. Think of the Olympic event of Biathlon. Classic involves skiing linearly in two parallel tracks that have been groomed into the track. The Club tends to go on the groomed tracks at Jeremy Ranch, White Pine, Bonanza Flat and the Uintas.

Sometimes we venture into ungroomed trails. Both sets of equipment can be rented at most of the groomed tracks we visit.

The Snow Blast party took place on Saturday December 7th at Park Meadows Country Club. What a great venue! Good space, excellent food and friendly staff. It was lovely to see everyone dressed up – very different to our normal ski/bike/hiking gear! You all brush up really well, as you will see from the photos.

Thank you to Kathie Manangan Marriott for graciously allowing us to use her membership and to Irene Tendler and Sue Johnson for organizing the event. Thanks also to Jeri Brooke, Pam Carlquist, Josephine Smith and Ellen Sherk for helping with logistics and checking in. We couldn't do it without you!

Look out for notifications to sign up for the members only "Bash" event on March 15.

We are still looking for folks to host TGIFs. It's really easy – you provide the space, plastic/paper plates, cups, silverware and name tags (the Club gives you \$35 towards this). Then the attendees each bring appetizers, mains or desserts for 6-8 people and their own drinks. People arrive at 6pm and leave by 8pm, taking all their leftovers with them and throwing away their garbage. By 8:10pm, you wouldn't know anyone was at your house and you've had a fun evening with old and new friends. If you are interested in hosting, please contact Sophia Lucey at [sophialucey1@gmail.com](mailto:sophialucey1@gmail.com). And if you've never been to a TGIF, please come – it's a great way to get to know our members.

This month's volunteer spotlight features four of our members. Firstly Sue and Bob Johnson, who have served on the board, coordinated the road bike program, lead hikes, XC ski outings, bike rides and help at events (most recently the Snow Blast). Secondly Pris and Bill Watson, who lead downhill skiing at Deer Valley twice a week and host TGIFs and Après Ski events.

### **Sports Events**

December was relatively quiet as we transition from summer sports to winter sports. There were sixteen events held in December comprising three snowshoe/winter hikes, one uphill skiing event, two cross country ski event, one knit and stitch event, three Mah Jongg events, one TGIF, four tenpin bowling events, and one social event. Downhill skiing starts in the first week of January. A special thanks to Diane Gower for all the work pulling the downhill schedule together.

### **Snowshoe-Winter Hiking:**

There were two moderate snowshoe/winter hikes led by Ellen Sherk and one led by Jeri Brooke.

### **Uphill Skiing:**

The first uphill ski of the season was led by Ed Shirey at PCMR.

### **Cross Country Ski:**

The first two XC ski events of the season was led by Eric Klosterman.

### **Social Events**

#### **Knit & Stitch:**

One Knit & Stitch event at Hugo's Coffee Shop organized by Caryn Harkins and Jennifer Gurss.

#### **Mah Jongg:**

Three Mah Jongg events were hosted by Kathie Manangan Marriott.

#### **TGIF:**

One "TGIF" was hosted by Lisa Power and Mike Benson.

**Ten-Pin Bowling:**

Four ten-pin bowling events were led by Joe Assenheim.

**Social Event:**

The annual Snow Blast Party was held on December 7th at Park Meadows Country Club.

Thank you as always to all the event coordinators, event leaders and volunteers who make this Club function. And Happy Holidays to all of you, however you celebrate.

Until next time,

Kate Stephenson  
**President**

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## Volunteer Spotlight

**Sue and Bob Johnson**

Bob and I are from New Jersey. We have two sons, both married and we have three grandchildren, who all love to come visit and go skiing. When our sons were in grammar school, we would take a winter ski vacation out west, first Colorado then, once we discovered Park City, this was the only place we came. Loving Park City, we bought our vacation home here in 2007. In 2010 we retired and moved here full-time. In 2010 we joined the Sports Club and soon after, I was on the board serving as Secretary, VP, President, past President and then back to Secretary.



It is the Sports Club, the many wonderful people and fun activities that keep us here in Utah. For a number of years, Bob led the road bike program, creating A, B and C level rides. We now still lead hikes, bike rides, Bob – downhill skiing and Sue – XC skiing. We would highly recommend others to lead an activity. It really gets you involved, and you meet such great people!

**Bill and Pris Watson**

Bill and I have been active Sports Club members since February 2006 (I think) and the Club is part of the reason we love living in Park City.

We first met because of skiing, had season passes at Killington from about 1969 or 70 and drove to Vermont almost every weekend until we moved to Park City in December 2005. After our first trip West in 1979 (and it was to UT), we never spent a ski vacation in the East – we were hooked on western skiing. We kept coming back to Park City because of the easy flight and usually good conditions.



After skiing many places, Vail, Big Sky and Park City were our favorites. We purchased lots in Big Sky and Park City but eventually built in Park City based on easy airport access, a real town, great medical, a winter friendly climate compared to northern New England and less expensive than Vail. In the early 1990s we had purchased our lot but waited to break ground until March 2005 and by the second week in January '06 we had moved in as Bill retired. Previously we had a



Time Share at Sweetwater, for about 10 years, at the base of PCMR and were very lucky – we sold it just before the 2002 Olympics and actually made money on the deal.

Because of Sweetwater's location, we skied Park City Mountain most of the time but always for a day or two at Deer Valley. As DV grew, we spent more and more time there and by the 2005-6 season had DV Passes. We arrived not knowing anyone in Park City, but in February of '06 we struck up a conversation on the Wasatch Chair with Dick Pollack or maybe it was Margaret and Terry Riley, and the rest is history about PCMSC. We joined immediately and have enjoyed PCMSC tremendously, especially the DV ski leads. All our dogs, past and present, would sulk if we gave up hosting TGIFs and Après Ski – they love to help host the gatherings. Did we know we were building a party house! When not hosting we always look forward to the weekly TGIF and Après Ski gatherings. What a wonderful way to meet new people with similar interests. The Club has given us a wonderful group of friends – more than we could ever imagine.

I come from a family of volunteers (small town in Northern NJ) and Bill's parents were also involved in volunteer activities. I guess it is in our DNA to get involved and be productive – my father's favorite word. We would encourage any one to volunteer and be more involved with their favorite activities. Retirement gives us time to do this and have fun with it. Of course, we can't join in on the summer fun – we are in Maine from June 1 to the end of October.

Some final thoughts - we knew we would love the skiing; we knew we would love the house we built but we had no idea that we would have so much fun with so many people. Over the years our company has had the pleasure of skiing with the group and/or socializing and they are totally amazed at what we have here. I think they are totally jealous!

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## Photos

Have you taken any pictures on club outings that you'd like to share?  
Please send them to [photos@pcmsc.org](mailto:photos@pcmsc.org).















**Weather can  
cancel an event,  
please check the  
calendar and/or  
contact the leader if  
there might be a  
chance that the  
activity will be cancelled.**





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