



President's Message

It's the New Year and everywhere you look in every news article or on TV, there are conversations about New Year's resolutions like getting fit(ter) or getting healthy(er). One of the things that really jumped out to me is the importance to our overall health of community, friendships and belonging. And it also struck me that community is one of the key things PCMSC gives to our members. It's the opportunity to get together doing activities we enjoy and build lifetime friendships. As I read the volunteer spotlights each month, I see the same theme coming through again and again. "I moved to Park City, didn't know anyone, loved skiing/hiking/biking, joined the Club, met lots of people, and now have lifelong friends."



On a similar theme, this article talks about continuing to ski throughout your life. Some of the stories in it are fascinating and I thought that you would probably enjoy them too.

<https://www.treelinereview.com/learn-skills/older-skiers-how-to-stay-in-shape>

Sometimes joining an activity may seem daunting. Will I be good enough? Will I be able to keep up? Will I even be able to find the group? Fear not. You'll be fine. We joined the Deer Valley Monday ski group last month with trepidation and the leaders have been awesome. You will find them, you won't get left behind, and you'll have so much fun making new friends.

Even if you are new to an activity, there is always a helping hand. For example, I reached out to our Winter Sports Coordinator, Ellen Sherk a few years ago about beginner snowshoeing activities because my one attempt was laughable - I headed out into uncharted snow, immediately fell over some roots, and ended up in a giggling heap. Ellen set up a snowshoeing event at which I learned snowshoe techniques, which snowshoes to buy (that was easy, everyone on that snowshoe hike was wearing the same brand!), and what attributes a good snowshoe should have.

In the past two years, I also started learning backcountry skiing and skinning up. I don't love getting up at 5:45 or 6 AM, but I really enjoy heading up the mountain with a headlamp in the dark and then dawn breaking as we get up the top, skiing back down again and being home in time for breakfast.

If you are interested in trying skinning, we led an RSVP introduction to

skinning/uphill skiing event from Mid Mountain Trail Head to Empire Pass this week. The response was so good, and we had a great time, so we are holding a second one – next Thursday February 6th. We may then make skinning a regular event at a more civilized hour than PCMR allows.

So please reach out to me or another board member if you are looking to try a new activity and would like some advice or want to suggest an activity to add.

Events

In March, the Club sponsored 50 events, comprising 27 downhill ski events, 4 cross-country ski days, 4 snowshoe hikes, 1 MTB event, 2 uphill ski events, 3 Mah Jongg meet ups, 1 Knit & Stitch activity, 4 Après Skis, 3 TGIFs and one special event.

Sports Events

Downhill Skiing:

Our downhill skiing program kicked off at the beginning of January and there were 27 downhill ski events in January, despite interruptions by the strike and the cold.

Our winter downhill skiing schedule consists primarily of events led by the same person or group of people on the same day of the week at a specific resort. In January, the downhill skiing schedule had us skiing at Deer Valley on Monday and Thursday, at Park City on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday and at Canyons on Wednesday and Sunday. In addition, there was a Topsy Tuesday outing to Brighton.

We extend our thanks to the leaders of these downhill ski events, which included Pris Watson, Bill Watson, Vince Gilotti, Billy Mitchell, Jane Sagerman, Steve Peer, Don Winsor, Kathy Kelleher, Diane Jamail, Ray Naudain, Bruce Woelfle, Sharon Heckman, Dan Albano, Howard Kantor, Rusty Gower, Larry Rose, Don Roll, Lisa Hunter, Bruce McLeod, Judy Peterman, Daniel Markels, Bub Carlson and Bill Hertzling. Many of those mentioned led one or even two of the events each week.

Snowshoe-Winter Hiking:

There were four snowshoe-winter hike events in January. Two snowshoe hikes (Jeff and Mary Keefer and Teresa Polistina), one moderate (Tim Lanz) and one moderate plus (Ellen Sherk).

Cross Country Ski:

Four cross-country ski events took place, all led by Eric Klosterman, three at White Pine and one at the Green Heart Nordic area.

Uphill Skiing:

There were two uphill skiing events. One took place at PCMR and an introduction to skinning/uphill ski event took place at Empire pass. Both were led by Kate Stephenson and Jim McClave.

MTB

Don Winsor led one advanced MTB ride to Empire Pass.

Thanks to our winter sports coordinators Diane Gower (downhill), Joan Entwistle (XC) and Jeri Brooke (snowshoeing).

Social Events

Knit & Stitch:

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

Mah Jongg:

Three Mah Jongg events were hosted by Kathie Manangan Marriott.

TGIF:

Three TGIF events were held, one at Maxwell's and the others hosted by Maggi and John Messina and Pris and Bill Watson.

Après Ski:

There were four Après Ski events in January, hosted by Jane and Eric Sagerman, Sherri and Karci Lukac, Lisa Power and Mike Benson and Kate Stephenson and Jim McClave.

Special Event

Don Winsor invited us to tour the Warehouse Motor Club to see collector grade cars and enjoy a racecar simulator and bar and lounge. It was a fun event in a great location. The co-founder, Jake Wolf, introduced us to some of the stunning cars including Porsches, Ferraris and Lamborghinis. Thanks, Don, for bringing us here.

Thank you as always to all the event coordinators, leaders and hosts who help us build the Park City Mountain Sports Club community.

Until next time,
Kate Stephenson
President

Volunteer Spotlight

Joe Assenheim

Hello fellow PCMSCers, I'm Joe Assenheim. My wife – Donna Sims – and I were several-decade New York City-ites and 18-year Floridians before we became Club members in 2010. Turbo, the Wonder Dog, became an unofficial member in 2014.



We were introduced to the Club by a workout colleague of Donna's while we were still only Park City part-timers. We came for the summers and gradually extended our stays through the Spring, then Fall, then finally arrived as full-time residents in 2020 (on the day Park City closed down due to Covid.)

The Club - from practically our first summer visit - became our primary vehicle for making Park City friendships and laid the foundations for a wonderful network of new friends. This network became an essential friendship bridge as we gradually transitioned from our Florida social structure to Park City. Most notable in this vein were the early TGIF gatherings that brought us together with the exceptional folks who comprise the Club membership; many of whom became close friends.

Along the way I've had the pleasure of volunteering to lead several summer hikes, winter hikes, snowshoe outings and the (temporarily?) dearly-departed Friday bowling events. These, along with occasional TGIFs, kayaking, and a host of Club outings (Moab, Yosemite, Yellowstone, Tetons, Zion, et al) are special delights for us.

Volunteering for the Club is not only rewarding but it is a painless way to pay it forward in return for all the Club offers us. It is a way to share your proficiency in, and joy for, your favorite activities. You'll quickly find that meeting friends who share your enthusiasm is its own reward. One of my favorite things about volunteering is that during the many interactions, I've learned how diverse and expansive is the expertise that your fellow Club members have and how generous they are in sharing their knowledge and experiences with each other. From DIY to home repair to medical and legal (wow, we have a lot of doctors and lawyers!) to science, finance and everything in between, Club members continue to

amaze.

It has been my pleasure to, in a small way, pay the Club back for what they've given me and I encourage anyone who is thinking about volunteering to please do so! A PCMSC membership may be the best bargain in Park City.

Eric Klosterman

What brought us to Park City?

I have been hiking, backpacking, skiing, backcountry skiing, XC skiing, rock climbing, fly fishing, mountain biking, etc for most of my life.

Living in Park City offered all of that as well as cultural activities and easy airport access to the rest of the world.

We have been members of the club for over ten years and met a lot of interesting people and made some good friends.

I enjoy volunteering to lead the XC ski group. I have been skate skiing for over forty years and enjoy helping anyone who wants to learn or to improve their skills.

I hope that more club members will come out and try either style of XC skiing. It is a great alternative to days when alpine skiing conditions aren't great or for those who would like a really good aerobic workout.

I enjoy volunteering because it can introduce club members to new activities and also provide a shared sense of comradery in those adventures.



David Anderson

My family has resided in Utah for several generations. My parents were the source of my interest in the outdoors, including hiking and skiing. They met in the late 1920's in the Wasatch Mountain Club, and my father and uncle were both presidents in the 1930's. A historical note, my father believes that he was in the first group to ski at Brighton in 1919. The road was only plowed to the power station and they cross-country skied to Brighton. My first day of skiing was with my father at Alta in 1953. Our family enjoyed many hikes and camping trips.



I was invited to a Club event by my friend Lade Heaton sometime in 1994 and was invited to join the board of directors as well as become an officer as Director of Marketing as indicated by the minutes of the February 1, 1995 meeting. My job was to request donations from merchants to raise money through auction at the annual membership meeting. In those days the newsletter was printed and mailed. The Club needed funds for this purpose well beyond membership dues. I stayed in that position for awhile and then agreed to become president. A few years later we could not find a candidate for president, so I did it again. I thank my friend Charlie Hawker who served in that role three times.

Since I enjoyed more strenuous hikes, I volunteered to organize and lead, which I did for many years. Thanks to the participants that joined these hikes and kept me company. I also enjoyed road and mountain biking and led some rides. I have also assisted the Club with legal input when requested. My reason for volunteering is

simple, I do not like to hike by myself. So, best to lead hikes I want to do and have pals along for company. Many thanks to those who joined for an enjoyable walk. Organizing a hike is being extremely self-centered. Decide where you want to go and then get other interesting people to join you to keep you amused as well as learning about them. One lesson I learned from Hal Compton, always lead from the front so if there is a mutiny you can move out smartly and stay ahead of the mob.

Many thanks to fellow members who make the Club continue to provide great times and new friendships.

Photos

Have you taken any pictures on club outings that you'd like to share?
Please send them to 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.



Birthdays!

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