



LIFTLINE

FEBRUARY 2024
NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Mark Wilder
President
president@ocskiclub.org

This is what I've got for February

To some people, it may feel like winter has been around forever already. But to many of us, it seems like it has barely started. We OC'ers are a hardy lot and are making the most of it. There is still time for mother nature to bring it on for us. Meanwhile, Friday and Sunday buses are rolling as always, check out the schedule. Trips are going, you might be able to get a spot on the last couple-don't wait any longer! And don't forget, lessons are available on all buses. They're free and taught by PSIA instructors. Another benefit of the OC Ski Club! There are also Cross Country ski trips available.

And coming up this month, join your OC friends at the annual

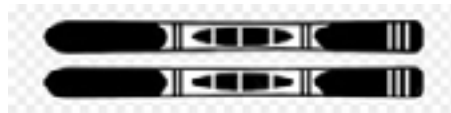
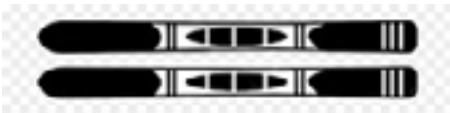
Winter carnival when we take over Plattekill Mountain for the day on February 29th. Celebrate the leap year for only \$20 for members and \$40 for guests. Vintage costumes, games, food and beer! How can you go wrong? If you are willing to help out, contact Lynda Heaney at any meeting to see what volunteer positions may be available. There's always something that you can do.

Pretty soon we will be starting the process of selecting next year's trips. If there is some particular destination you'd like to explore, let us know and we will look into it. See you on the snow!

Think Snow!
Cheers! Mark



Winter Schedule
Every Thursday in Albany
PCC Washington Ave Ext



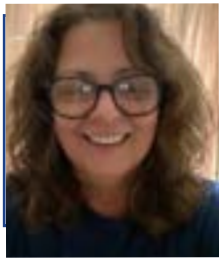
Want to know what is happening??

- 1) [Upcoming Events web page](#)
- 2) OC Calendars on the OC website
 - a) [OC Bus Schedule calendar](#)
 - b) [OC Events & Trips calendar](#)
- 3) Join the [Out of Control Ski Club Facebook page](#)
- 4) Look on the [website](#), choose your item of interest on the navigation bars



Any questions about the Club? All you have to do is click on the "Questions" box on any OC webpage and it will direct you to the correct Officer or Committee Chair's email address for that given webpage's content.

SKIING



Lynda Heaney
Vice President for
Organized Skiing

Get ready for an epic winter adventure at the OC Ski Club Winter Carnival on February 29th! We're taking over Plattekill Mountain and it's going to be an unforgettable day of skiing and fun.

This year, we've rented out the entire mountain just for our club. But that's not all – we've also invited all Ski Clubs that are members of the New York Capital District Ski Council to join us. And let me tell you, the response has been amazing!

Theme is vintage. We've got a whole lineup of exciting activities planned for the day. Get ready to participate in a thrilling fireman hose race, an intense tug-of-war, and a bunch of other games that will test your skills and endurance. It's going to be a blast!

For those looking to improve their skiing skills, we're offering Sharpen your Skills lessons on this special day. However, make sure to sign up in advance as spots are limited and instruction will be in high demand.

Don't worry about food and drinks because the bar will be open, along with the Mountain cafeteria. And if you're craving some delicious grilled treats, we'll be serving a weenie roast in the parking lot. Yum!

To join in on the fun, you can sign up on our website or come to our meeting and pay cash for your lift ticket. We're also organizing bus rides to Plattekill, so if you're interested, make sure to get on the list. And don't forget, we're also taking sign-ups for our bus day trips each weekend.

We're looking for volunteers to help with the games, so if you're up for some adventure and want to lend a hand, please let us know. We appreciate all the help we can get!

So, mark your calendars and get ready for an incredible day at the OC Ski Club Winter Carnival Plattekill takeover, 2024. It's going to be a day filled with thrilling ski adventures, exciting games, delicious food, and lots of laughter. Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity to have the mountain all to ourselves.

Happy skiing! Lynda Heaney

email skiing@ocskiclub.org



[Detailed Information about Ski Trips are posted to the OC Website](#)

We've conquered another set of breathtaking trips! The joy that radiates from the smiles of our fellow explorers is simply heartwarming. Seeing people have the time of their lives fills us with an indescribable thrill. And oh, the pictures we've witnessed on Facebook! Each snapshot captures the essence of pure adventure and exhilaration. Our journey may have ended, but the memories and the longing for more epic escapades linger on. Stay tuned for our next daring expedition!

[Still open for sign ups](#)

April 5- 7 Jay Peak, VT, Drive up, starts at \$340, many options, 2 Nights, lift tickets included, waterpark incl.

These trips are closed for sign ups.

Ski Trips with Airfare included (USA, Canada & Europe)

Heavenly in South Lake Tahoe \$1775 Jan 19-26 **Trip Completed**

Winter Park \$1,725 (+) Feb 25 - March 3 **SOLD OUT**

Val Di Fassa, Italy \$1878 (starts at), 7 nites, March 9-19, side trip to Milan **Closed, email trip leader**

Banff, Canada \$1,979, March 19-26 **Closed, email trip leader**

Eastern USA trips (Bus trips & Drive-up trips)

Dec 15-17 Whiteface \$253 (+) Golden Arrow Lakeside resort **Trip Completed**

Dec 29 - Jan 1 Quebec City New Years Trip \$520 **Trip Completed**

Jan 9-12 New Hampshire \$309 Indian Head Resort **Trip Completed**

January 12 -15 Smugglers Notch, VT, starts at \$250, **Martin Luther King Weekend Trip Completed**

Feb 4 - 9 Sunday River \$460 (+) 5 Nites **Closed**

Feb 14 - 16 Burke Mountain, VT, \$359 2 Nites, 2 breakfasts, lift tickets included, drive up **Closed, email trip leader**

[OC Website Trip webpage - click here](#)

WINTER Carnival

Attention all thrill-seekers and snow enthusiasts! The Out of Control Ski Club presents its annual Winter Carnival. It's a Take Over of Plattekill Mountain. Brace yourselves for a day filled with adventures, games, door prizes and a whole lot of retro fun! Shenanigans too!

We are starting the vintage feel with the classic lift ticket price. \$20 members and \$40 guests. What a deal! Buy your tickets now as sales are limited to the first 200.

Feeling competitive? Join our retro ski costume contest and show off your best throwback outfit. Whether you channel the iconic style of the ski bunnies or opt for the funky flair of the disco era, our panel of judges will be on the lookout for the most authentic and creative ensembles. The winners will receive epic prizes and, of course, the admiration of the entire ski club.

Of course, at the Heaney Weenie Roast, you can expect a fun-filled atmosphere with plenty of laughter and good vibes. We'll provide all the necessary ingredients for the perfect hot dog, including buns, condiments, and a variety of toppings. Whether you prefer classic ketchup and mustard or want to get creative with relish, we've got you covered.

So, grab your vintage ski gear, gather your friends, and join us at the Plattekill Mountain for the Winter Carnival. Let's celebrate the spirit of skiing, embrace the nostalgia of the past, and create new stories to tell for years to come. This is an event you won't want to miss!

OC Website link for Winter Carnival [CLICK HERE](#)

Questions email skiing@ocskiclub.org



This could be you this year winning a valuable price for one of the cool activities during Winter Carnival

Alpine Bus Committee



The Buses Are Rolling, the Season is in Full Swing

As I write this on a Tuesday, the bus to Whiteface 1/26 has met the minimum numbers. I expect more sign ups as the week progresses. We started combining Alpine and Nordic skiing on the same bus. Many great Nordic resorts are located near Alpine mountains like Whiteface and Mt. Van Hoevenberg. This allows the two groups to mingle and share adventures on the bus. The buses are lively get-togethers with sharing of snacks and beverages. We still hand out water on the trip home.

In February, Alpine buses go to Sugarbush, Okemo, Pico, Whiteface, Gore, Magic and Plattekill. Variety is the “spice of life,” and we try hard to keep up the variety. Nordic, where possible, will be combined with Alpine buses when possible. Viking Nordic, Mt Van Hoevenberg, Garnet, Prospect are just a few being offered.

Just a few notes: The buses always leave Crossgates at 7 am BUT THE SUGARBUSH BUS 2/2 WILL LEAVE AT 6:30 AM due to distance. It usually takes 15-20 minutes for the bus to arrive at the second stop. So be sure you are at the second stop no later than 15 minutes after the Crossgates start.

Every mountain has a different method for getting lift tickets, so pay close attention to each sign-up process. Dates matter, so be sure you have the correct date.

You can sign up for the bus online, or come to a meeting, or sign up on a bus for a future bus. We try hard to make it easy for you. We do refunds of seats at meetings only. Or you can cancel (24 hour notice please) and roll over the seat money to another bus. We do keep a list of rollover names. Just email or see us at the meeting.

The Feb 29 Winter Carnival bus will be up shortly and we have many buses listed before that date. We update the bus sign up grid every week. You can buy your Plattekill lift tickets on the event calendar.

See you on the bus. Snow Dances are definitely helping.

Pray for lots of snow.

Sylvia Haefeli & Barbara Sorrell, your friendly Alpine Bus Committee email ocbus@ocskiclub.org

Cliff Notes for Bus Sign ups

- 1) Bus sign up info is on [this web page](#) (note that we only list the next 6 buses for sign ups).
- 2) Please read the detail inside the day bus date grid - Don't just click on the PayPal button
- 3) You can also sign up for buses at the PCC meetings or on a day ski bus.
- 4) If the bus unfortunately gets canceled, you can get a refund at any PCC meeting from the Bus Committee.
- 5) The “OC Bus Schedule” **calendar** will have updated/current info.
- 6) Any questions email ocbus@ocskiclub.org

[CROSSGATES MAP](#) Link - this is an exact “pin” location for the parking lot, next to the Tru by Hilton hotel
Also check out the Alpine Bus pick up locations info here [OC Pick Up Locations](#)



AS THE SKI TURNS - OC SNOWSPORTS SCHOOL

SKI AND SNOWBOARD LESSONS

The snow is falling, we are skiing. A benefit of skiing with the Club is the professional level of instruction on all Sunday & most weekday trips. We offer instruction for all levels of Skiing, Snowboarding, Children and Telemark, all at no charge. Join us to get a tour of the mountain and meet skiers with similar interests. Sign ups for sessions on the Alpine Bus trips are usually taken on the bus. Prior arrangements for First timers, Snowboard and Telemark lessons are advised. To learn more, stop by the Snowsports School table at any meeting or contact me at skiinstruction@ocskiclub.org

Save the Dates!

PRIVATE LESSON DAYS

Another free benefit of joining our Club is an opportunity to ski with your favorite instructor and get some individual feedback. Sign up in advance for the 90 min. private lessons at weekly meetings, happy hours or any Club event. First come, First served

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 16-Gore Mt FRIDAY MARCH 15-Gore Mt.

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 29 - Plattekill - at [Winter Carnival](#)

SOME INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR SNOWSPORTS SCHOOL

Lessons are a benefit given to OC Members

Morning sessions on single day bus trips based on availability of instructors

We always give priority to the beginner levels

Prior arrangements are advised for Snowboard, Telemark, Family and First timers

We are a PSIA Certified Snowsports School

Most instructors are certified. All are trained by PSIA professionals

Any Questions-Information available at Meetings, Happy Hours, Bus Trips

LET IT SNOW!!!!!! Jeff Kenton OC Snowsports School Director email skiinstruction@ocskiclub.org

Recap of Quebec Trip Dec 29 - Jan 1

38 OCer's ventured for a return trip to Quebec City to see if we could recapture the memories of 2019 after the disappointing city shutdown just as we arrived for our weekend in 2021/2022. We had some successes and some not so much..... Quebec had some of the same weather issues as our local area so skiing and even the New Year's festivities were slightly impacted but this did not stop the group for there is so much to see and do there!!!

Our first misadventure was when our driver missed the turn for the Duty Free shop before customs....oops.... and deviations to some inhouse party plans had to be made. (A liquor store was found not far from our hotel!!!!) but at least customs was a breeze into Canada. Of course, we had to wait for many rooms as we arrived earlier than planned since we did not shop.

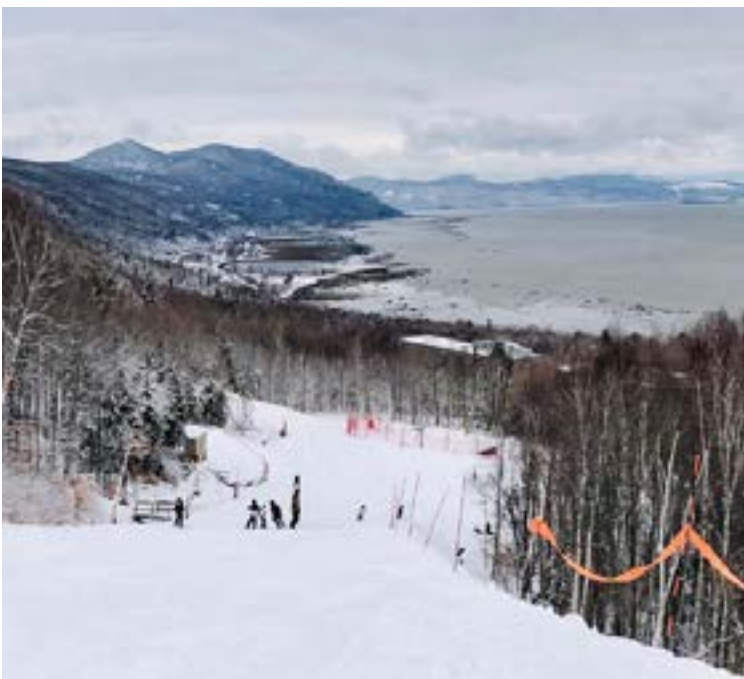
Skiing the first day at La Massif was a challenging day and the sun never came out to give our newbies a taste of the spectacular sites I had promised, but being troopers, they had no complaints. BUT most of those who had planned to ski at Mont Ste Anne the next day bailed so that veteran QC tripper Frank Coleman took Jill Hayes, John Wimmer, and a few others out for an adventure. In the meantime, many of us found tours to explore the city for the day. It might seem freezing on New Year's Eve, but you can surely count on a super warm atmosphere on the streets! Located by the Saint Lawrence River, Vieux-Québec is one of the oldest cities in North America, dating back to 1608. Its narrow historic streets, lined by restaurants and bars, are an excellent destination to celebrate the New Year. The city also kicked off an annual festive program of events, full of music, art, and outdoor fun with a new one: the Toboggan Run.

Because of the wet weather, the ground was too wet/soft to set up the Ferris Wheel but there were stages for music, fire pits and ice bars galore. And then there were the fireworks... yup, there were technical difficulties but we did see one set of flares at Midnight.

Our trip home was uneventful but a long ride that wasn't helped by an hour's wait at the border... From our vantage seats on the bus we were able to observe the Canadian border police doing their jobs as their cars pulled up to return unsuccessful border crossings to those agents on our side....

So, being used to dealing with whatever Mother Nature throws our way the group declared the trip a success and one they would go on again... maybe even a new adventure in the summer to see what the area has to offer for fun at that time of year...

Gretchen and Gail would like to thank our fellow travelers for joining us on this trip.... and to those who didn't we wish you a belated Happy New Year!!!



Lake Tahoe Trip review Jan 19 - 26

On January 20, 18 OCers boarded the flight from Albany to Reno on an early Saturday morning another joined us from DC, arriving before us to meet the bus. One missed the Albany flight but managed to arrive later in Reno. Three flew out of Newark but their connection was delayed. So, 19 took the chartered bus to Harveys on the Nevada side of South Lake Tahoe and the other four met us an hour later. Total of 23

The first ski day on Sunday was Heavenly. Snow flurries on Monday morning increased in the afternoon, with rain in the village below. Nearly everyone met at Basecamp Beer Garden for our 5 pm Happy Hour. Tuesday was probably the best day of the week with picturesque clear blue skies. Wednesday was overcast with snow flurries, so many decided to take a break that day given the poor visibility and already having skied a few hard days. On Thursday, all 18 who went to Kirkwood preferred that mountain. Most of the 23 OCers attended the group dinner that evening at Fire and Ice. Friday was a pleasant final day with some members skiing and a few opting for a boat cruise on Lake Tahoe. During a week of skiing and meeting others, we gave out many OC buttons and no one got hurt.

Overall, the conditions were good with some challenging trails. We walked a few blocks to the gondola, some would have preferred to stay closer on the California side although that would have meant a huge price increase. A few adventurous souls wandered through the village and discovered its shops and bars as well as the ice skating rink. In spite of the early charter bus departure on Saturday January 27, everyone was onboard and ready for the return flight. Paul Miesing- Trip Leader



Smuggs Trip review Jan 12 - 15

We are happy to share with our clubmembers that Smuggler's Notch did not disappoint despite some challenging weather on Saturday. The mountain did not open until 2:00 on Saturday due to electric power outage, and then it was only the village lift. However, it snowed all night and Sunday was a powder day. This glorious snow continued all day Sunday, and on Monday Madonna's peak was opened for the first time all season. It was deep and wonderful off the Madonna lift.

If you chose not to ski on Saturday, and would like a comp ticket, please email me at smuggs@ocskiclub.org. I will contact our rep at the mountain and verify details. Once again the OC's had powder days for our Smugg's trip on Martin Luther King Holiday weekend, which as we know, is what we all love most!

Carrie Britt - Trip Leader

ADMINISTRATION



Erin O'Brien
Vice President for
Administration
admin@ocskiclub.org

Greetings OCers,

I hope that you have all had a chance to get out on the slopes in January. I have one day under my belt. Let's hope that February brings more snow and more days on the slopes!

For more fun off of the slopes, please join us at Smokey Bones on Wednesday, the 21st of the month. There will be food and drink specials. There will be door prizes! See you there!

Another fun thing to do this month is the Winter Carnival, which will be held at Plattekill Mountain on Leap Day, which is on a Thursday, the 29th of the month. I know that it will be a fun filled day of skiing and games. Sign up soon and support your favorite ski club!

Make sure to check out the newly revamped website for updates on events and buses.

See you out and about,

Erin O'Brien

February Happy Hour

Date/Time: Wednesday February 21

Location: Smokey Bones

1557 Central Ave, Colonie

Details: Hours are 4-7 Great HH Specials!

Door Prizes!

Smokey Bones [Website Link](#)

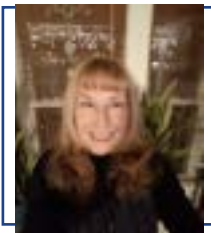


The OC SKI CLUB \$5 referral program still exists.

We bet you forgot. The referral program is still in effect. You will save \$5 per referral on your membership renewal, the following year, with up to 7 per year allowed ($7 \times 5 = \$35$, our annual dues)

Does that mean I can get a free membership just for getting my friends to join this awesome Club? You BET!
Who better to recruit new people but our current members!!!!

Questions email membership@ocskiclub.org



OC SECRETARY

Cynthia Ward

NOTES FROM OC BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 2023



VP of Administration:

- The next HH is at BJ's on January
- The February HH will be on the 21st. Details will be announced as soon as they are confirmed.
- Memberships are up.
- Fundraising is open to suggestions for what types of merchandise members would like to see available.
- Mid-season parties were briefly discussed to increase interest, recruitment and retention.

VP of Organized Skiing

- Buses are rolling!
- Whiteface and the "Tune Up Your Skills" weekend trip was very successful and plans are to have the trip offered again next year.
- Next week's clinic, Ski Care and Tuning, is open to all members and will begin at 6 pm.

Old Business

- Plattekill pricing was revisited given that the OCs are paying \$7500 to rent the mountain on February 29. The decision to charge \$20 for members and \$40 for guests was upheld.

New Business

- Discussion on new member retention revealed that the club has 210 new members, which is good; however, we tend to lose many, especially younger ones. After much discussion, the motion to allocate \$500 for a member retention mixer made by Matt and seconded by Mash was passed.
- The motion to hold the mixer on January 25 made by Cynthia and seconded by Meghan was passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia aka Princess Snowflake



To sign up for the weekly update email, Cross Country news, Family Corner
go to this web page [Email Lists](#)

It is up to you to sign up. We do not automatically put you on an email list

Family Corner

Hello Families

Smuggler's Notch is done. Our second trip to Jay is April 5-7 and is still open for sign-ups. Jamie Britt-Fabrizio will be at meetings to take sign ups. You can also reach her by email JayPeak@ocskiclub.org. You are signed up when Jamie receives your registration forms and deposit payment. One form per participant. Guests are welcome on this trip.

Smuggs was a true success. With almost 80 participants and great conditions, everyone had a fun time. On Saturday, the power was off most of the day. Carrie and Kelly are still working with Smuggs about getting vouchers for future lift tickets. More about that later. Monday was an awesome day, ropes dropping everywhere including under the Madonna lift. Trails I haven't seen open in years were open. Even my grandson did the Black Hole (triple diamond) but his sister did the trees on the side of the Black Hole (Quad diamond??). Love family competition. A few missed out due to Covid and they were missed. But there is always next year. Having the trip on MLK weekend is the best.

Remember kids 7-17 are welcome on the bus as long as they are part of the member's family. If you want your child to have a free ski lesson, just speak to Jeff Kenton of Instruction to set one up. You will be asked to shadow the lesson for safety reasons. Remember instruction is considered "Friends Doing Things With Friends."

Winter Carnival is coming 2/29 and kids are invited too. I know that is a Thursday and a school day, but skiing with friends is a great respite for kids. There will be games and races with prizes. So join the fun. Members and their families pay \$20 per lift ticket. Guests are \$40 each.

I am looking for ideas for summer fun so send in your suggestions to family@ocskiclub.org. A weekend camping trip or picnic with swimming sounds good. Perhaps a BBQ cooking competition would enliven the activity. Please make suggestions.

Sylvia Haefeli, OC Family Chair. email family@ocskiclub.org



Ok Let's Try Again!

Since we got no replies

Guess where this photo was taken. **Free Bus Ride** voucher to the winner!

Resort Only this time. 1st correct answer wins!

If you are in the photo you are not eligible. Even though you might have forgotten! 😊

email
marketing@ocskiclub.org



Photos, Photos, Photos we need photos! Our library of photos is getting old & dusty. We need new photos so please email marketing@ocskiclub.org some photos to use in the Lifeline, Facebook pages and on the OC website. If you send us a photo it means that you have given OC Ski Club, Inc. the rights to publish that photo on one of our media platforms. We promise not to publish any names, especially the one of the skier doing a major yard sale.

Now that we are in our active season PLEASE remember

This Club is run by volunteers. So be kind to those who are working hard so you can enjoy the many events that the OC Ski Club offer to its members. We also need input from our members so we can provide what you are looking for.



The OC Ski Club is a member of the New York Capital District Ski Council (NYCDSC). As a OC member you receive the benefits from that organization which include discount lift tickets to various ski areas in our area plus other benefits. [Find out more HERE](#)



PO Box 13901, Albany, New York 12212

Website - <https://ocskiclub.org/>

Facebook - [OC Ski Club, Inc](#)

Contact a Club Officer or Board Member - [Click Here](#)

Contact a Committee Chairperson - [Click Here](#)

Instagram - [OC Ski Club](#)

OC Facebook Group - [Click here](#)

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 Erin O'Brien - VP for Admin
 Lynda Heaney - VP for Skiing
 Cynthia Ward - Secretary
 John Wimmer - Treasurer

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