



# LIFTLINE

MAY 2024  
NEWSLETTER

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Mark Wilder  
President  
[president@ocskiclub.org](mailto:president@ocskiclub.org)

Ski Club elections are now behind us and summer is coming up straight ahead! By now, most of you have hung up the boards and brought out the toys of summer. Although, I know a few of you who just can't quit the white stuff and are still at it. Some people are switching to golf, cycling, roller blading or kayaking. And let's not forget volleyball!

Even as skiing has come to an end, we are planning next season's trips. A few have already been signed and many more to come. VP of Skiing Lynda Heaney

attended the Mountain Travel Symposium and picked up many great ideas for us to consider.

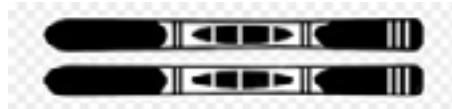
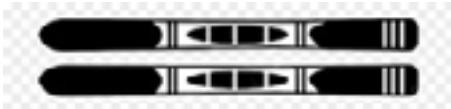
As this club year comes to a close, I want to thank all of the VP's and committee chairs and the many volunteers who helped throughout the season. You are the reason this Club continues to be the best one around.

I hope you all had a great ski season. Here's to an even better one next year!

Cheers! Mark



Summer Schedule  
First Thursday in Albany  
PCC Washington Ave Ext  
Till October



### Ski Trips the OCs did this Past Season!

Heavenly in South Lake Tahoe, Winter Park in CO,  
Val Di Fassa in Italy, Banff in Canada

Whiteface lessons trip, Quebec City New Years Trip,  
New Hampshire, Smugglers Notch, VT  
Sunday River Maine, Burke Mountain VT, Jay Peak VT

Next Season is going to be BETTER!

# SKIING



Lynda Heaney  
Vice President for  
Organized Skiing

I Embarked on an unforgettable journey to the majestic Palisades in Lake Tahoe, where the Mountain Travel Symposium recently took place. Nestled amidst the breathtaking merger of Alpine Meadows and Squaw Valley, this haven for adventure seekers boasts a new gondola that effortlessly connects the two, offering unparalleled views that will leave you in awe.

As a seasoned traveler, I was thrilled to participate in this symposium, where I not only expanded my knowledge, but also forged valuable connections with like-minded individuals and clubs. The experience was nothing short of exhilarating, with each moment filled with discovery and networking opportunities that were simply unparalleled.

During my time at the symposium, I picked up some valuable insights that I am eager to share with fellow travel enthusiasts. Let's dive into some essential air travel tips that will elevate your next adventure to new heights!

First and foremost, when it comes to air travel, securing trip insurance is an absolute must. Remember, safety always comes first, and having the right insurance in place can provide you with

peace of mind and protection throughout your journey. Whether you're booking your own airfare or opting for group bookings, trip insurance is a non-negotiable aspect of travel planning.

If you're considering booking group airfare, ensure that your frequent flyer information is up to date during trip registration to unlock those coveted perks. And if you're a proud holder of an airline credit card, keep in mind that while the free baggage perk is enticing, it may not always align with your expectations, so proceed with caution.

In the realm of airline credits, it's important to note that they may not be applicable for group bookings, prompting many travelers to opt for individual bookings for greater flexibility and potential cost savings. When hunting for cheaper flights, exercise caution when it comes to switching airlines, as cancellation fees can quickly escalate, turning your budget-friendly deal into a costly affair.

As the travel landscape evolves, so do cancellation rules for resorts, with many establishments now requiring earlier non-refundable deposits to secure room blocks. It's essential to stay informed and adaptable in the face of these changes to ensure a seamless travel experience.

A special shoutout to Sara from Sports America Tours for her invaluable insights and guidance. With these tips in your arsenal, you'll navigate the skies with confidence and finesse, embracing each adventure with a spirit of curiosity and excitement. So pack your bags, prepare for the unexpected, and set off on your next escapade with the knowledge that you're equipped to conquer any challenge that comes your way.

Happy travels, adventurers – the world awaits you with open arms!

Lynda Heaney email [skiing@ocskiclub.org](mailto:skiing@ocskiclub.org)



## Epic and Ikon passes discounted rate thru the OC Ski Club

### Season pass program for Members only!

Hey everyone! As we gear up for booking our out west ski trip, we're thrilled to announce that this season we'll be exploring 2 Ikon and 1 Epic destination with our amazing tour operator.

And guess what? For those who purchase through our special link, you'll receive a fantastic \$50 land package credit for full Epic or Ikon passes, and a \$30 land package credit for Epic Local or Ikon Base passes. How awesome is that?

Some fantastic savings up for grabs. First-time Ikon pass holders can enjoy \$90 off the new Ikon pass price (now \$1159 instead of \$1249), and the Ikon Base pass is available at \$829 instead of \$869. Renewal pricing is even \$10 less! Please note that there's no group pricing program for the Ikon Base Plus pass.

This group member pricing offer will be valid until the beginning of September, but remember that price increases will kick in. The first deadline to lock in the lowest pricing is May 3rd, so don't miss out on these amazing deals!

Just reach out to Lynda Heaney at [skiing@ocskiclub.org](mailto:skiing@ocskiclub.org) she will answer any questions you may have.



## AS THE SKI TURNS - OC SNOWSPORTS SCHOOL

SKI AND SNOWBOARD LESSONS So the SnowSports team would like to thank all the great folks who kept our instructors company this past season. We hope you enjoyed our guidance.

LET IT SNOW!!!!!!! Jeff Kenton OC Snowsports School Director email [skiinstruction@ocskiclub.org](mailto:skiinstruction@ocskiclub.org)



# Alpine Bus Committee



We have ended the ski/ride Season on a great note. The 4/21 bus to Killington and Moguls Pig Roast was a huge success. A nearly full bus of OCers arrived to ski/ride on a mountain of soft, slushy snow. Even the trees were do-able. I did Low Rider but I must confess I was not happy! But we did it! Superstar will definitely last well into May and maybe even June.

The Bus Committee is finished with 2023-24 season. We are working on the next season. We have already scheduled the Winter Carnival 3/14 at Pico. Put that date on your calendar and be sure to request that Friday off from work! We will try to offer more dates at Stratton, Okemo and Mt. Snow, 3 mountains that are very popular with our membership. I know the Indy Pass is no longer available (Magic) but the IKON, EPIC and the NY Ski 3 are available. In the Fall, there will be a 4 Mountain Pass from Vermont (sold only on 1 day for about 20 minutes) and the Ski3 Frequent Skier card from ORDA, NY. We encourage you to purchase these passes. The mountains prefer the use of passes rather than discounting day purchase of lift tickets. Our discount prices will not be lower than the use of these passes.

Which pass to purchase will be your greatest issue. NY Ski3 is for Belleayre, Gore and Whiteface. IKON is for Killington/Pico (5 or 7 days combined) and Stratton (unlimited). EPIC is good at Okemo, Mt. Snow, and Hunter. All 3 are unlimited. Our most popular bus was to Gore (9 times). Killington was on the schedule 4 times just for early and late season. We had Pico buses scheduled but they only ran a few times. We did not offer Hunter as we could not contact anyone at that mountain who could make arrangements with us. Halfway through the season, Barbara finally made contact with agents who represented Stratton, Okemo and Mt. Snow and was able to negotiate discount lift tickets and dates. Those 3 mountains will be offered more but that means we probably will offer fewer Gore dates. Bromley is the only mountain who is still not interested in our business. We will try again to set up a couple of dates as we know how much our members like this friendly mountain.

One change initiated this season was the combination of Nordic and Alpine skiers on one bus. We will continue this into the next season. The 2 separate committees will operate as one until the Nordic group gets large enough to run their own buses. Cathy Marvin will be joining Barbara and me as we do a better job of coordinating the 2 groups. MT Van Hoevenberg, Garnet Hill, Mountain Top Inn, Prospect Mountain, Viking Nordic are places we will match with Alpine mountains. Of course most of the Alpine mountains also have their own Nordic courses but I now know that our XCtry skiers like long tracks. Going round and round on short tracks of 3-5 Km is not really fun. But hey, our Alpine skiers will ski all day on the same short 1000 Meter run. What do we know???

Have a great summer and know that the "behind the scenes" work is going on. We will run a bus to Big Snow in August and September so you can get your "legs" in shape. Look for our announcements in the August LiftLine. Now back to my golf game.

Sylvia Haefeli & Barbara Sorrell (Cathy Marvin for the 2024-2025 season)

Your friendly Alpine Bus Committee

email [ocbus@ocskiclub.org](mailto:ocbus@ocskiclub.org)



## The OC Ski/Ride Awards are making a triumphant return!

The Diehard Skier Award and Empty Wallet Award are back! If you've skied 20 days or more this season, let your fellow OC'ers know. Share your pride in your accomplishment. And for the one who skied the most days (unpaid), you could score the highly coveted Empty Wallet Award! Just think how great it'll look on your wall!

To secure your spot on the list of OC Champions, shoot an email over to [skiing@ocskiclub.org](mailto:skiing@ocskiclub.org) with your name, award information, email address, and cell number. It's time to show off your snow skills and claim your well-deserved recognition in the ski club.

Sorry not the best photo of Jason Hymes killing the pond skimming at Mount Snow. And YES he made it across. What else would you expect from an OC'er?!



OK here is Fred at Fred's Slot

So what ski resort is he at?  
**Alta, Utah**

Brian Reepmeyer and his correct response beating out 3 others to the wire.

Brain got a [free membership renewal](#) for being quick on the email send button.

## Recap of Banff March 19-26

Boy, did we have a good time! This year we ran a trip out to Western Canada to do some skiing in the Banff area. Wow, what a beautiful area! From the friendly town nestled in the mountains to the wildlife passes over and under the Trans-Canada Highway to the great skiing, we had a great trip. The hotel was fantastic with rooftop hot tubs, great restaurant, and friendly staff (and close proximity to the ski shuttle stops). The skiing was a blast, and we were lucky enough to get some healthy overnight snowfalls greatly improving the conditions! The mountains were full of trails for all skill levels including well groomed slopes, expansive bowl areas, and trees that held snow for days (and everything in between). We even got to sing Happy Birthday at the summit! If you get the chance, I highly recommend a visit to Banff. The town was friendly and welcoming, scenery was amazing, skiing was very impressive, and we even got to see a small herd of elk on the way out of town heading back to the airport.

Thanks to OC for putting together such great trips!



## Jay Peak Trip review April 5 to 7

Another incredible Family Committee trip in the books. The Jay cloud did not disappoint. After months of little snow and mostly ice, we were the lucky one's who got feet of the fluffy stuff. The Jay Peak trip had 50 plus attendees. Lots of new and old members enjoyed the epic skiing and got to splash in the water park! Saturday night we had a wild pizza party at the waterpark. I'm pretty sure everyone had some Miso Ramen, if you didn't you truly missed out! This was one for the record books. We are excited to announce we are already planning the trip for next year! Is it back to winter yet? Bring on the 24-25 season! I love the OC!



# ADMINISTRATION



Erin O'Brien

Vice President for  
Administration

[admin@ocskiclub.org](mailto:admin@ocskiclub.org)

Greetings OCers,

Spring is in full swing! It seems especially colorful to me this year. The forsythia and the magnolias are full of blooms and beauty! Daffodils are up, as well as many tulips! Get out there and enjoy them-they do not last long!

Please join us at this month's Happy Hour, which will be held on Wednesday ,the 15th, at the 110 Grill in Latham. It is in the Fresh Market Plaza on the corner of Rts.9 and 155. Let's see if we can top the attendance of the last one! We had about 75 people come out for it! In the summer we will have 2 Happy Hour events a month. Places will be announced soon!

This is my last column for the Lift Line as VP for Administration. I would like to congratulate Steven Ford for winning the election and thank him for running! I hope that he enjoys the position and gets help from all of you as he takes it over.

I would like to thank all of my committee chairs for all of their help and hours that they have put in to make this Club run. Big shout outs to the Membership committee ,which is comprised of Gail Marotti-Hossan, Bob Hossan, Gretchen Riley, and Meghan Ruby. They have been at every meeting taking your money that supplies your membership and helps make this Club run. Another shout out to Judy Franze Tewey, who has been booking the Happy Hours for the last two years. She has done a great job, and will continue to do so under Steve. The last big shout out goes to Fred Haefeli, who multi tasked during the year doing marketing, putting together the LiftLine every month , and updating the website , as well as taking care of social media! My job was nothing compared to what these people have done! Thank you again to all of you who helped me out ( Bill Corbin, Bobby D., Pete Semerad, Jill Hayes, Rex Lyons) and anyone else that I may not have named. I truly could not have done it without you.

It has been a great second run VP for Administration. Now I am officially RETIRED!!

See you out and about,

**Erin O'Brien**

## May Happy Hour

Date/Time: Wednesday May 15th

Location: 110 Grill in Latham

664 New Loudon Road (Route 9) Latham

In the Fresh Market Commons Plaza

Corner of Watervliet-Shaker Rd and Route 9

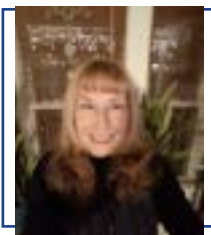
Hours are 4-7

Food/drink specials until 6pm Free raffle

[110 Grill Website Link](#)







## OC SECRETARY

Cynthia Ward

NOTES FROM OC BOARD MEETING  
APRIL 2024



### VP of Administration:

The April 24th HH will be at Ryan's Wake in Troy.

The Installation Party will be at Normanside Country Club on May 3. Tickets at \$50 will go on sale as soon as the button for PayPal is set up.

Membership: See Membership Statistics attachment. Memberships are up slightly.

Congratulations to all who were elected last week and a thank you to Gail for all her efforts in handling the election.

### VP of Organized Skiing:

Lynda is getting quotes for trips to Vail, Palisades, Jackson Hole and Tremblant.

Epic and Ikon passes are now on sale. Ikon prices will go up on 4/18.

The Whiteface trip will be December 13-15.

Sunday River is set for February 9-14.

There will be 2 buses to Whiteface to view the total eclipse on April 8. The lift ticket is \$40.

### Old Business: None

New Business: Erin brought up the idea of moving the start of the business meeting earlier to attract a larger attendance. The decision was made to continue discussion at the next meeting and with the new board and officers

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia aka Princess Snowflake

### **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](mailto:membership@ocskiclub.org)

# Volleyball League Registration

Online Registration for the OC Summer Leagues Opens Thursday April 4

League Formats Include: Monday: Competitive co-ed 4's  
Tuesday: Competitive and recreational co-ed 6's

Registration is required for all league play. [Online registration](#) will remain open until each league is full. Participants must be members of the OC Ski Club and over the age of 18. Registration is on a first come, first served basis.

In-Person League Registration: Thursday April 25 (if necessary) at 7:00 pm

Clean-Up Date: Saturday May 11 at 10:00 am (one member per team must attend)

League Play Begins: Week of May 13 at 6:00 pm

Fall Volleyball Tournament: Saturday, September 14 (save the date!)

For more information on volleyball and to contact the Volleyball Committee, visit this [OC website web page](#) We look forward to seeing you on the courts!!



**Photos, Photos, Photos we need photos!** Our library of photos is getting old & dusty. We need new photos so please email [marketing@ocskiclub.org](mailto: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.



Photos from the OC Whiteface Eclipse Bus trip. It was worth the Looooong ride home!



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](#)

### **Officers**

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

### **Board of Directors**

- |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Greg Bockis         | Kelly Barlow        |
| Matt Fabrizio       | Mike Furdyna        |
| Sylvia Haefeli      | Jeff Kenton         |
| Gail Marotti-Hossan | Meghan Ruby         |
| Judy Franze Tewey   | Jim "Mash" Waugaman |