

VSSC NEWSLETTER

VALLEY of the SUN Ski Club

November 2023

VSSCskiclub.com

Issue 2

President's Corner

The holidays are upon us, and I trust you will be sharing with family and friends.

In preparation for winter (it is snowing in some areas) we are continuing to finalize our trips. Telluride is full and while we struggled to fill Snowmass, we have been very fortunate, in cooperation with our vendor, to satisfy our commitment.

If you were at the last meeting, you saw that we dispensed with Sharkos setting up and serving and this was because we are trying very hard to save money. We are not on as solid ground as we have been in the past. We are appreciative of everyone's patience and expressed concern for our future. The club needs new members, and along with that, volunteers for the Board positions. It does take a small village to put on our monthly dinner meetings and certainly to plan and organize the trips. Please consider volunteering.

See you at the next meeting on December 7th.

Happy Thanksgiving

Judy Ainsworth, President

Trip Reports

Telluride, CO: January 7-12, 2024

Traveling via BUS.

We will have 4 days of skiing and 5 nights lodging staying at **The Peaks Resort**, ski-in/ski-out, in Mountain Village. This hotel is an upscale venue. Rooms are spacious, with a mini fridge and coffee maker. The contract includes bus transportation, porter from bus to lobby, ski valet, and accommodation. Breakfast is still undecided, but we will let you know if this ends up being an option. **We still may be able to get group rate lift tickets for the rate of \$399 for 4 days, but all skiers were advised to purchase the 4-day EPIC pass before the rates went up Sept 4, AND make reservations to ski.** If you want to inquire about a group rate, contact Margy Simchak.

For those who stayed there last year, remember how nice it was to have your boots warmed overnight and skis laid out for you in the morning! There are many good restaurants a short walk away in Mountain Village and you can take the Gondola down to Telluride for more choices.

2023-2024

Board of Directors

President

Judy Ainsworth
602-909-4333
Judylea@cox.net

Vice President

Gus Osterback
206-550-8856
GusOsterback@gmail.com

Treasurer

Don Larsen
360-790-6968
donlarsen007@gmail.com

Recording Secretary

Sandy Tiedeman
509-860-9644
sandy_tiedeman@yahoo.com

Communications Coordinator

Koni Hohnbaum
360-281-8297
konihoehnbaum@gmail.com

Trip Liaison

Margy Simchak
602-702-5275
MBsimchak@aol.com

Meetings are held at the **Kuentz Rec Ctr Kiva** room, 14401 W RH Johnson Blvd (east of Stardust Blvd). **Our next meeting is Thursday, December 7th - Social Hour at 5:00, Dinner at 6:00. Prepaid dinner reservations are required – deadline is 9pm Sunday, December 3rd.** It's a **BYOB** event.

- Remember to bring non-perishable donations and toiletries for charities.

Trip Leaders for Telluride are Judy Gangi 602-290-4661 and Margy Simchak 602-702-5275

Snowmass, CO: January 28-February 2, 2024

Traveling via AIR.

The contract includes airfare, airport transfer to and from the hotel, 4 days of skiing and 5 nights lodging at **Stonebridge Inn**, porter fee, and breakfast voucher for 5 days including tax and tip. **Adult lift ticket for 4 days is \$360. Senior (65+) is \$320.** This destination is world renowned as a supreme environment for skiing on all levels. It is a quaint village with lots of restaurants and shops within walking distance of our hotel.

Trip Leader is Judy Ainsworth, with Koni Hohnbaum assisting.

CANCELLATION Policy: Please read the cancellation policy in your Hold Harmless Agreement or online at <https://vsscskiclub.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/HHA.pdf> and put the cancellation dates on your calendar. It is important that you **call** or **email** Margy Simchak if you need to cancel a trip. You will receive a full refund if cancellation is received more than 90 days before the departure date. We will start a waiting list for all trips as soon as they are full. Consider purchasing trip insurance.

Trip Liaison

Margy Simchak
602-702-5275
MBsimchak@aol.com



NOTE: Room options for The Peaks (Telluride)

The Peaks 2 people 2 King \$1,645pp
The Peaks 3 people 2 King \$1,229pp
The Peaks 4 people 2 King \$999pp

Please let Margy know your wishes.

Dinner Reservation Recorder

Mary Ann Vangelisti
602-799-3855
suntracusa@cox.net

Welcome New Member

William Pratt



2023-2024

Meeting Schedule

Thursday, December 7
Thursday, January 4
February, TBD
Thursday, March 7
April, TBD

Please mark your calendar!

Eve's Place

Eve's Place continues to accept donations at their Community Center. Please bring food and toiletries to the meetings. They no longer accept clothing. Thank you.

2024 Trip Schedule

Destination	Dates	Price	Deposit	Balance Due	No Refund After
Telluride, CO (Bus)	Jan. 7-12 (4 ski days)	See above note	\$150	NOW	Oct. 4
Snowmass, CO (Air)	Jan. 28-Feb 2 (4 ski days)	\$1,262 land \$541 air	\$150	NOW	Oct. 28

Trip costs are per person, double occupancy. Single rooms may be available at additional cost. Prices are subject to change due to unforeseen airline or other vendor surcharges.

Reminders

Be prepared!! Stretching, yoga, tai chi. Anything to prevent injury and be ready for the ski season.



Get those skis tuned up before the rush!

From the Treasurer

Important things to remember when making payments:

- Trip Application forms must be sent along with a check for dues (\$20 per person) and trip deposit(s) if you are signing up at this time.
- The Application must be filled out COMPLETELY (both sides) and SIGNED.
- The Hold Harmless Agreement must be initialed on the front and signed on the back.
- **Carefully note the dates for Balance Due and No Refund After.** If you need to cancel a trip, please call the Trip Captain prior to that date.
- Please write, "Balance for XX trip(s)" on the Note line of your check.
- Make checks payable to Valley of the Sun Ski Club, or VSSC, and mail to:

VSSC
P.O. Box 5186
Sun City West, AZ 85376-5186

Note: If you are paying dues only, please include the Dues/Trip Application with your check. Be sure to complete both sides and sign it, along with the Hold Harmless Agreement, initialed and signed.

Trip Invoices

Invoices for BOTH trips with the BALANCE DUE for both trips were mailed out.

If you know anyone who wants to join us, please reach out to me for a trip application.

konihohnbaum@gmail.com. Checks are payable to VSSC and are to be mailed to VSSC, PO Box 5186, Sun City West, AZ 85376-5186.

If you need the Dues/Trip Application or any other information, you can find it on our website at VSSCskiclub.com. A host of information is available under the Valley of the Sun Ski Club menu. Dates for meetings, ski trips, and due dates can also be found on the Calendar page.

Dinner Reservations

All dinners are required to be paid in advance. For the dinner on December 7th, please mail your check and reservation form to:

VSSC c/o Mary Ann Vangelisti
15234 W. Via Montoya
Sun City West, AZ 85375

The cost is \$24.00 for members, \$25.00 for non-members. It is important to make your reservation no later than 9:00 PM Sunday, December 3rd. At this meeting you will have the opportunity to pay for your dinner reservation for the following meeting. Please direct any questions to Mary Ann Vangelisti at 602-799-3855 or email to Suntracusa@cox.net.

Please do not include Trip Applications or deposits for ski trips with your dinner reservation.

Membership Roster

The membership roster will be sent only if you request one. If you elected to be included last year, your signature is valid and stays in force as long as your dues have remained current, unless you request a change in writing or via email. If there is a lapse in membership, then all forms need to be re-signed. If you want to make a change and did not note it on your application, please mail it to Valley of the Sun Ski Club, PO Box 5186, Sun City West, AZ 85376-5186.

Trip Updates:

Telluride is full but we are accepting people on a waitlist.

Snowmass is full, but we are accepting people on a waitlist. Although we were not able to meet our contract, the vender Sandy of SkiGroup, worked with us for both the hotel and the resort to accept our numbers. The trade-off is you will not get a voucher for a drink and apps. We have 16 going and of those 11 will be flying on American Airlines direct to Aspen.

Jan 28 AA#3222 Depart PHX 9:40am Arrive ASE 11:36am

Feb 2 AA#3222 Depart ASE 12:07pm Arrive PHX 2:06pm

Times are subject to change. Your Trip Leader Judy Ainsworth will check the whole group in on-line the day before. There will be a baggage fee- \$30 for the first bag and \$40 for the second unless you have an AA credit card. Skis and boots count as one bag.

Room amenities include a mini fridge, coffee maker, and free Wi-Fi. The resort has a large heated pool, spa, fitness center, restaurant/bar and Incline Ski and Snowboard Rental downstairs. Another rental shop is Snowmass Sports which is in the village right on the ski slope.

Barb Steven 623-546-2811

Trip Leader- Judy Ainsworth 602-909-4333

Valley of the Sun Ski Club
Membership Meeting
November 2, 2023

Martin Umberger presented slide show during Social Hour (5-6pm)
Frank Simchak sold 50/50 raffle tickets.

The meeting was brought to order at 6:45pm
Judy Ainsworth (President) introduced Board of Directors
Gus Osterback Vice President (absent)
Don Larsen-Treasurer
Sandy Tiedeman-Recording Secretary
Communications-Koni Hohnbaum
Trip Liaison-Margy Simchak

Welcome to new members and guests: Cheryl Ley, Mike Wegener, Linda Norton,
Floyd Posey (returning member), Sheryl Henke (returning member).
Introduction of past Presidents: Ursula Parrent, Saunders McDonald, Marie Jones

Treasurers Report-Don Larsen

At the end of our season in May 2023 we had approximately \$1,200 in the account.
Income from membership dues and deposits was \$92,000. Expenses were \$28,000.
The balance as of October 31, 2023, is \$65,713.94.
After final payments to our 2 vendors for Telluride and Snowmass the balance will be around \$3,000.

Membership-Currently, there are 63 members with 24 of them out of the area. All of us need to do our best to recruit new members to continue to grow our club. Many loyal members attend our meetings, but fewer are skiing.

Dinner Coordinator-Judy Ainsworth has agreed to take this position as Barb Stevens has stepped down after serving for several years. The numbers are low for attending the dinner meetings as our membership has declined. Tonight, we had 30. Sharko's Catering has been wonderful to work with and we appreciate their fine meals, but with everything else prices have risen. Services have been negotiated and we will be opting for delivery and self-serve.

Telluride-Margy Simchak and Judy Gangi will be the trip leaders. There are 34 members for this trip. Transportation is by bus from Sun City West to Telluride, staying at The Peaks Resort and Spa in the Mountain Village. Margy says, "Attitude is Everything", so let's have a wonderful time!

Snowmass-There are 16 members currently signed up for the trip (8 rooms). Transportation is by air from Phoenix to Aspen. We are staying at Stonebridge Inn. There are shuttles into Aspen for shopping and dining. We were contracted for 12 rooms but interest in this ski trip has not resulted in filling them. The 4 rooms not filled have been negotiated and the club will not be charged for them. Although this trip is officially closed, there will be a wait list as there may be cancellations.

Thank you to Barb Stevens for working with our vendors!

Judy Ainsworth asked for understanding in decisions that need to be made by the board and encouraged everyone to support our club by doing whatever possible to promote the ski trips and recruit new members.

The total for the 50/50 raffle was \$144. The winners were Saunders McDonald, Marie Jones and Mary Ann Vangelisti.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm.
Sandy Tiedeman, Recording Secretary

