

VSSC NEWSLETTER

VALLEY of the SUN Ski Club

February 2024

VSSCskiclub.com

Issue 5

President's Corner

Dear Board of Directors, Members and Friends of the Valley of the Sun Ski Club.

Due to recent events, it has become apparent to me that it would be best if I step aside for the betterment of the club.

It has been a privilege and a pleasure to serve as your President.

My sincerest gratitude is extended to the board and the volunteers, who enabled this club to enjoy the camaraderie and ski adventures of the last two years.

Respectfully,

Judy Ainsworth

Trip Reports

Snowmass, CO: January 28-February 2, 2024

Traveled via AIR.

16 skiers made it to this wonderful destination. I think I have a new favorite place to ski!

We flew direct from Phoenix into Aspen, then it was less than a half hour shuttle to Stonebridge Inn. Stonebridge Inn is a nice, quaint Hotel and we enjoyed a few nights of relaxing in the hotel restaurant and bar. On other nights people ventured up to The Mall or down to Base Village for a great variety of restaurants. Shuttles ran often so it was easy to get around.

The slopes of Snowmass were just a short walk from Stonebridge Inn. The Mountain offers a broad terrain for all levels of skiers. The existing snow was more than adequate for the days we were there! Some of the die-hards skied all 4 days, while some of us skied 3 days and on our off day took a shuttle into Aspen to shop, eat, and roam around.

We had a good buffet breakfast each morning to start the day. The weather was perfect. The skiing was great. The après skiing and hot tub at the end of the ski day was a wonderful thing! And the great group that went to Snowmass made it a stellar trip.

2023-2024

Board of Directors

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

konihohnbaum@gmail.com

Trip Liaison

Margy Simchak

602-702-5275

MBsimchak@aol.com

Dinner Reservation Recorder

Mary Ann Vangelisti

602-799-3855

suntracusa@cox.net

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

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

And the Paper Plate awards for Snowmass go to....

Don Larsen – 1st Amigo!

Jack Shorr – How many buns can fit on that chair lift? Apparently not yours!

Ray Eccleston – 2nd Amigo!

Gini Baker – For the tuck and roll, landing in soft snow that was deep enough that ski patrol had to assist her out.

Gus Osterback – 3rd Amigo!

The 3 Amigos were early for breakfast and early on the slopes. Even took an afternoon off to tour downtown Aspen.



CANCELLATION Policy: Please read the cancellation policy in your Hold Harmless Agreement or online at <https://vssciskiclub.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



Welcome New Members

George Mosher – Sun City

Chris Stickney - MN



2023-2024 Meeting Schedule

Thursday, March 7
April, TBD – Will be discussed at March meeting.

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.

2025 Trip Schedule TBD

Destination	Dates	Price	Deposit	Balance Due	No Refund After

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. And continue to exercise year-round!!



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

Dues/Trip applications will be sent to the membership in April. Hopefully the 2024-2025 trips will be decided by then.

If you know anyone who wants to join us, please reach out to me for a Dues/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 March 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, March 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.

VSSC Membership Meeting
February 8th, 2024

Attending Board members:

Gus Osterback-Vice President
Don Larsen-Treasurer
Sandy Tiedeman-Recording Secretary
Koni Hohnbaum-Communications
Margie Simchak-Trip Liaison

The meeting was called to order by Don Larsen at 6:40pm.
A welcome was given to guest Maureen DeFrance and past presidents:
Saunders McDonald, Ursula Parrent, Margie Simchak

Treasurers Report-Don Larsen

Dec 31 the account had roughly \$6100.
Jan 31 the account had \$5200.
Feb 29 the account will have about \$3500 after a member refund for the Telluride trip,
payment for the Feb dinner and room rental fee.

The rental fee on the PO Box is on a 6-month basis.

The annual fee on the website is \$330.
Don made a motion to continue to maintain the website. The motion was seconded by Mary
Ann Vangelisi. It was voted on and passed by the membership. This will aid in new, interested
members to be informed of the ski trips and events of the club.

Telluride- Margie Simchak

32 people were on this trip, staying at the Peaks Resort and Spa in the mid mountain village.
With great scenery of the mountains and easy ski in-ski out convenience we had a great time.
Unfortunately, 1 member broke his femur and is now at home recovering after surgery. A get-
well card was available to sign for Roger Schumacher.

Aspen Snowmass-Koni Hohnbaum

16 skiers stayed at Stonebridge Inn which was slope side and an easy alleyway walk to the run.
With good, frequent shuttle service to the shops, restaurants, and town, we enjoyed the variety.
There was no new snow, but the sunshine provided outdoor fellowship around the lodge and
après ski to enjoy some down time.

Membership

There are currently 63 members, and it is up to all of us to recruit new people who are active
skiers. Just a reminder that each member needs to **fill out an application every year** in April.
This is helpful for us to keep an accurate record of the members, trips, and finances.

Martin Umberger maintains a carpool list for skiers wanting to go to Snowbowl in Flagstaff.

Barb Stevens has time share points available and is offering discount lodging for cabins in Pinetop for interested members wanted to ski Sunrise Mountain.

Mary Ann Vangelisti

Trip surveys were sent out to the membership to select ski locations for 2025.

Please return to Mary Ann. Volunteer positions are always welcome.

Mary Ann and Saunders McDonald are on the Nominating Committee for positions on the board. These will be presented at the March membership meeting.

Mary Ann and Richard would like to see the club return to a family friendly group. With no age restrictions this can be accomplished with family and friends joining our ski trips.

Mary Ann gave a brief description of the **Paper Plate Awards** which began in 1997, a portable award of recognition to skiers on trips. These can be presented to someone who had a humorous event occur or any kind of mishap meant to be in all good fun. Fellow skiers write down the story to give to Sandy Tiedeman who presents the awards at the end of each trip. She was given a Presenter of Paper Plate award for her literary talents.

The 50/50 raffle was won by Margy Simchak and Mary Ann Vangelisti.
Mike Wegener volunteered to bring beverages to the March meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05pm

Respectfully submitted by Sandy Tiedeman- Recording secretary



The Snowmass Gang



Ray, Gus, Jack, Koni, Sandy, Don



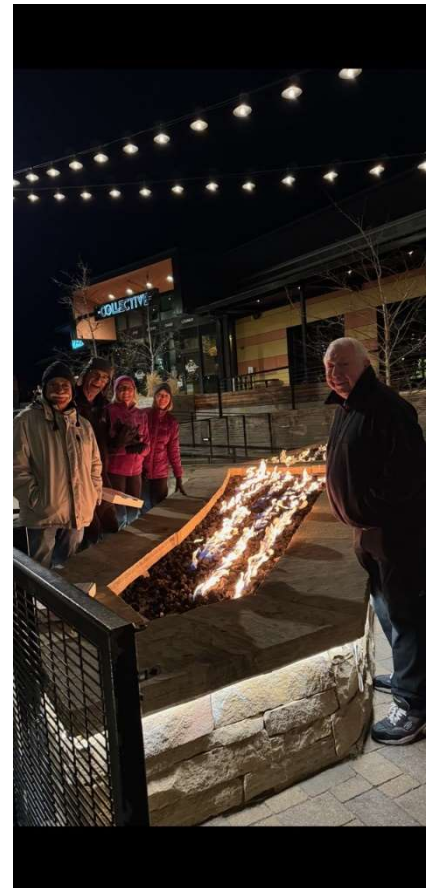
How High Can You Go!



Après skiing with Koni, Mike, Jack, Sandy, and Russ



One of many places on the mountain to enjoy a break.



Wandering in Base Village. Jack, Mike, Linda, Sandy, John