

WLB Ski Club

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Established 1978

WLB Ski Club Reorganization Plans to be Presented at Mar 16 Meeting

The final meeting of the 2009 / 2010 ski season will be held on Tuesday, March 16. If you live anywhere close to West Long Branch, please try to attend.

Harriet & Jerry Warner will be retiring from active organization of the WLB Ski Club ski trips after 31 years.

The new Trip Chairman will be Dottie Binder and the Treasurer will be John Binder. They have been active club members and trip participants for about 26 years!

The Binders are looking for volunteers to help them with ideas and assistance.

The meeting will be at the WLB Community Center at 8pm. The address is Locust Ave at Parker Rd., West Long Branch.

It's Time to Pass the Torch

by Harriet Warner

My husband, Jerry, and I started the West Long Branch Ski Club in 1978 as an activity for local high school students and our own children.

When our youngest child graduated from high school, we thought that we would disband the club but several adults, who had joined the club, urged us to become an adult organization.

Little did we know how much it would impact our lives! We have skied all over the USA, Canada, Europe & South America with a great group of club members.

We traveled to Turkey, Machu Picchu, the Galapagos Islands and Easter Island with club members.

We have made many friends that we otherwise never would have met.

But now, we are at the point in our lives when we have to turn over the reins to someone else or risk the possibility of the club disbanding.

John & Dottie Binder have generously agreed to take over the operation of the club. They are open to new ideas and volunteers to help them.

Why Ski Europe?

by "Horst" John Binder

It always seems to be a struggle to get to Europe to ski. First an overnight 8 hr plane ride then a 3 hr bus ride just to go skiing! When compares to a 4 hour flight to Salt Lake City and a 45 minute bus ride to Snow Bird, I wonder if it's all worth it. But I seem to keep going to Europe every year. So what is it about Europe that makes me go back?

Skiing there seems to be a way of life! Skiers (and that includes us) ski through villages admiring the Tyrolean style houses. Yes, they are even in France...looking at bakeries, butcher shops and, of course, ogling the women who seem to wear "painted on" jeans. Our women seem to prefer the baggy snowboarder style.

But, let's put intangible aside and concentrate on the skiing. We all know that the size of the ski area matters. Otherwise we'd be happy to ski Okemo.

Take it from me, this "Alpe d'Huez" is huge as was last year's trip to "La Plagne". There must have been at least 6 or 7 different villages in the different valleys that we skied. Try coming back without the Club Med Instructor! I can be don but it takes some doing in good weather and on a snowy day ????? Good Luck!

We had sun the first 3 days, so we got an idea of the diversity of the place, but then the snows came and it was blue and green run and good skiing by "braille." Thursday & Friday it dumped about 12" around the hotel and 15" to 18" in the higher elevations. Most people on the trip didn't like that. But me and 6 or 7 of us were in our glory!

On our last day I skied with Victor & Lenora Wechter from California and Claudia Buser and her 12 yr old daughter, Ariel, from Mass. After lunch Victor & Lenora called it a day. Claudia & Ariel followed me for some epic skiing through the woods. It was the most gorgeous day ever! Claudia got stuck in "bottomless" snow and struggled for 15 min to get out. Would she follow me again? You ask her! Ariel loved it and I just know it was the highlight of the trip for her.