



The Ibex Ski And Snowboard Club

THE OLD GOAT

Meetings: 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of every month

Gatsby's Sports Pub

427 East Rand Road - Arlington Heights, (847) 253-7200

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SPECIAL INTEREST

- *Aspen Pictures*
- *Plans for Activities in the coming year*
- *Lakemoor Golf Outing*
- *Chili Cook-off Recap*
- *Banquet Awards*
- *Looking Forward to the 2009—2010 Ski and Activity Season*
- *Birthday's*
- *And much, much , more!*

LAKEMOOR GOLF OUTING

We assume, most of us have finally put our ski gear away, and brought out the old Golf Clubs. Dust those babies off because the first Ibex outing of 2009 is coming up.



Carl and Greg have returned and will be running it this year. We will be resurrecting the ever popular PIG and CORN roast party after an enjoyable day of Golfing.

DETAILS:

Date: June 13th, 2009

Location: Lakemoor Golf Club-- Lakemoor, IL. (Approximately 15 min. North of Lake Zurich off of Rt. 12)

Time: Tee times start at 9:00 A.M

Price: \$60.00

U.S. Dollars only! No foreign currency accepted-even if its left-over from Bad-Hofgastein The course has been around for many years and lacks some of those high-end amenities. The course does have the qualities that the Ibex members look for, "Bar with cocktails",

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ED'S PHILOSO-FEE

Hello everyone,

As your new president, I want to thank Lou DiFrancisco for all the hard work he has done for Ibex in the past year. Also I want to introduce the new Ibex Executive Board:

Ed Fee, President
 Pam Arnold, Trip Chairman
 Pam Oziemkowski, Activities Chairman
 Jacquie Wodach, Membership Chairman
 Jean Bagel, Treasurer
 Joe Heater, Secretary



Additionally let me introduce the new Board of Directors who administer our long term goals and operations:

Lynne Moon, Ed Bendickson, Denny Gawlik, Kathy Burns, Lou DiFrancisco and Mindy Parry.

Finally, we have some others who are helping with our critical background operations. Cindy McElligott updates our website and Ed Bendickson manages our e-mail systems. Without our Ibex website and

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THE TRIP CONNECTION

Greetings to All!
I hope everyone had a great time at the banquet recapping the year of activities and trips. We are already in the midst of trip planning for next year.

I was in Keystone during the last week in March participating in the Mountain Travel Symposium (MTS). It had been about 15 or 16 years since I was last there so I was pleasantly surprised in all of the changes. They've opened a whole new peak - The Outback. I had the opportunity to experience the Outback Cat Shuttle ride to the top of the South Bowl. We had a lot of fresh powder and my small group was able to make first tracks from the top of the bowl down the top and middle sections of the bowl then through the trees back to our starting point. What a blast ! Keystone Adventure Tours also operates guided Cat skiing tours to Bergman Bowl, Erickson Bowl and Independence Bowl and includes lunch. They also offer Snowcat Scenic Tours for those who just want to enjoy the scenery.

The group was hosted in the Keystone Lodge - a very nice property in a great location. We toured a few other properties as well, all condos, some would work well while others would have definite bedding issues (6 people to 2 bathrooms and 2 queen beds - not ideal for our group). It was nice to be able to see the various properties first hand.

Another takeaway - both destinations and providers realize that they have to better partner with clubs in order to present good value to members. Clubs must make sure that the destination and providers are financially stable - this is the time to select well established destinations and providers. Some clubs have already been impacted, the bankruptcy and closing of Tamarack is a example of this. I expect to see some great values this year - higher end properties reducing prices in order to compete.

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UP-COMING ACTIVITIES

Boy, am I ready for summer! As we transition into the summer season, we are fine-tuning our planning for a variety of activities. We have purchased tickets for three Ravinia concerts, Denny has the picnic permit and I'm working on some new ideas like a brewery tour, several bike rides, and much more. If you have an activity that you like to run, please see me at our next meeting.



I hope you will join us for as many events as your calendar allows because it's going to be a fun filled summer! See you soon. *(Note: See page 7 for Bar of the Month information.)*

-Pam Oz



ASPEN 2009

Day one; "The Arrival" - It was a bright sunny day in Chicago when the trip started with 35 of the trips 38 arriving at the airport within plenty of time. Check-in was a snap, because American Airlines provided a group check-in line and Ibex was the only group checking-in. The flight was uneventful, arriving in Denver approx. ½ hour early. However since we couldn't notify the bus company of our early arrival, it was a ½ hour until bus showed-up. Then it was off to the Gant with a stop at Apple Jack's to pick up our favorite libations.

After check-in we met for the welcome party, a little orientation and picked up our lift tickets. The good news is the ticket providers issued us four extra 1-day tickets, which were raffled off. The winners were; Joe Johnston, Colette Lozins, Patrice Conaway & Paula Hiller.

Day two; "Spring Skiing"

Almost all of Ibex got out early to take the bus to Snowmass and to rent skis for the week. Both Incline Sports and Four-Mountain Sports provided the transfer of skis from mountain to mountain at no charge and a few Ibex took advantage of their service. There was also a \$5.00 transfer service if you had your own equipment and several Ibex took advantage of this service.

Well it is the end of March, so what more should we expect then frozen crusty un-groomed areas in the morning and getting softer by the end of the day as the bright sun kept warming everything up. The moguls never got soft.

Ed Fee was shocked at the food prices at the on mountain restaurants. Seventeen dollars for chicken Caesar salad and a coke!

There was a small glitch, per the daily itinerary, not-

ing the après ski meeting place as "Sam's Smokehouse" when we really met at "Cirque Bar". Being Ibex and having radios the problem was short lived.

Day three; "Brown Snow ??"



During the night we had light rain/snow but in the morning as we boarded the bus to Aspen Highlands, it was snowing lightly. We had some of the strangest snow conditions that I have ever seen. The snow during the night had pick-up dust from New Mexico, as the snow and dust mixed it produced a brown snow (frozen mud). With the dusting during the day the brown snow underneath the ski runs looked like chocolate swirl ice cream.

Although we did not have any candidates for the broken crutch award, several Ibex came down with the Spring Flu. It started with Ed Fee arriving sick at the airport and passed on to Collette Lozins. Collette passed it on to her condo mate, Jim Boyer. At this point, people were seen using sanitary wipes to clean everything in sight. We didn't want this to go any further!

This was the first "official" day of lessons. Bob Kimicata and Jean Bagel taught several students as it continued to snow.



Bob's class of Paul, Mary Beth and Bill West worked on keeping the weight forward and upper and lower body separation. Jim Boyer and Betsy Burtelow were taking up skiing again after a long hiatus, and joined Patti Blades in Jean's class. Jim stated that Jean beat on them until they got the concepts through their thick heads.

Après ski was at the ZG Grill at the base of the hill. Mike Psaras showed us his new helmet by slipping and falling

in front of the bar window for all to see.

After a few libations we transferred our skis to Ajax, and got on the bus back to the Gant.

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Upon returning to the Gant we made a quick change into swim suits, grabbed a bag full of drinks and headed for the hot tub. The hot tubs were full because the Gant also had a large group from Detroit – The Thunderbird Ski Club. They were friendly and always made room for one more. One of the Thunderbirds even provided some accidental entertainment by dropping his hot tub towel after he had removed his trunks.

Good news it's starting to snow again!

Several people made their way to Little Annie's for burgers and were greeted by Bob, Barb and Brian Kimicata sitting at the front table. The normal wait of 45-60 minutes was reduced to 10-15 minutes due to lack of the spring break crowd.

Day four; "The Sky is Falling"

A phrase, I think, was made famous by Al Gore

This is spring skiing and it is snowing like hell - 13 inches at Aspen Highlands! No extra busses today, just skiing the new powder at Aspen (Ajax) Mountain. Even though this is spring break there are 1/3 the amount of skiers then there were four years ago the longest lift line was about two minutes.

Brian Blome and Patty Calabrese were seen playing in the pow-pow until oops, someone ran into the top of a mogul!

Lou Di Francisco was missed by his ski buddies when he took a wrong turn and ended up hanging from a tree just off the cat walk.

We all met at The Tavern for libations to end another perfect day at Aspen. Not enough rest and relaxation, it was time to hit to hot tub again. Pete Grosse was heard saying, "what mixers would you like with your vodka?" Paul and Mary Beth Friedrich shared their new found beer at the hot tub, Becks Premiere 64, soon to



be distributed in Chicago. It was also time to get the dryers out after all this powder. Frank Eichsteadt was obsessive about his ski gloves - his dryer ran 24/7.

Day five; "Midweek Break"

This day was a day to sleep in, get a massage and generally take it easy, go shopping and even ski an extra day! Besty Burtelow and Patty Calabrese had a masseuse come to their condo for massages while Brian and Jim were skiing.

I think that Jerry Carlson won the frugal award - he likes skiing in the one piece ski suits and could not find a new one. He found a nice \$350.00 used suit in excellent condition for \$15.00 at the resale shop. Bill West was seen going from shop to shop

try to find the best deal on a new helmet. I think that there were seven new helmets purchased on this trip - our brains are so small we need to protect what we have.

Greg Kujawinski arranged the Pub Crawl this evening. **Good job Greg!** We started at La Cantina restaurant where most people started by having dinner with a few



drinks. The dinner became a little lively when we had a slight disagreement with a table of some local families - you can get details from Ed Fee. We moved as a wave at 8:00 sharp to the J-Bar in the Jerome Hotel, what a great hotel with lots of history. A couple of drinks, some good conversation and it's 9:00 and away we go to Bentley's. We have only lost a few in the moves but the majority moves on. We should have been in the Army, Greg says it's 10:00 and head to the Sky Bar - everyone is out the door! The Sky Bar was the perfect place

for the last bar of the evening. It had some nice big sofas and tables for groups to gather, sit back and talk to friends. Also, it was only a couple of short blocks from the condos. Oh, did it mention that it was snowing!

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Day six; "It Can't Get Any Better"

It has been snowing and we are close to 40" for the week. The airport is closed and so are most of the highways – but who cares we are off to Snowmass again. The buses took almost an hour to get to Snowmass because the roads were a mess. This was the day when Bill Hoffie skied over an edge and his ski buddies left him (Mike Edens, Lou and his wife – Doris). Without any help he climbed out by using his skis as ice axes to make his way back to the top. There was so much fresh snow to ski, most being close to knee high and short lift lines, you could ski anything you wanted all day long. This was day two for lessons with John Brandt working on bumps. Debbie had to change her lesson plan from dynamic parallel to a powder lesson for Lynne Moon and Ed Fee. Mike Psaras, Paula Hiller, and Bill West went with John. Ed later commented that the skills/drills were finally starting to work for him. Lynne was heard saying, "Wow, now I know what it feels like to float in snow".

After lunch Mike, Doris, Bill, and Lou asked Debbie and John to do Long Shot with them. They didn't tell us there was a long hike up the mountain to get to Long Shot. After the hike and a short rest we headed off through the trees – it was a fantastic 5.3 mile run. I hope they put in an escalator next year.

A few drinks at the Cirque Bar, back to Aspen, a few more drinks in the hot tub and it's time for the left-over party. The condo of John, Debbie, Karen Helfrecht & Patty Blades were gracious enough to host a left-over party after Don Starzyk volunteered his condo without checking with his condo mates first. Everyone brought lots of beer, snacks and more beer. We purchased several pizzas with the extra money we got from the sale of the 4 – one day lift tick-



Day 6; "It Can't Get Any Better, +1"

Because the forecast called for a clear day with mostly sun, and it did snow last night, half the group changed the itinerary location from the Highlands to Snowmass.

It was what we wanted; untracked snow, short lift lines and the sun appeared – it doesn't get any better. Each group went in different directions, found a great place to ski and didn't call on their radios to invite anyone else to share their great skiing/powder spot.

The folks that went to the Highlands got to see a fantastic "Big Air" competition complete with judges and all. Some of the young participants made some very daring and risky moves to entertain the audience.

Adolph and Christine Ciringione went shopping and almost purchased a fossil of enormous proportions. But alas, the store closed before the group dinner was over. They just saved themselves \$1200.

Mike Van Nest and Sara D'Arpa followed their own itinerary. We saw them the first night at the wine and cheese party and then on the last night at the group dinner.



Almost everyone skied the full day, returned their rental equipment and headed back to the condos. It was our last night, do some packing, clean-up and it is time for the group dinner at the "Steak Pit". Everyone was on time and we were seated in a private room. The "Steak Pit" even printed a menu just for "Ibex Ski and Snowboard Club" and provided free appetizers and free desserts along with the main course. Nice size portions and good food – no complaints!

Nobody stayed out too late because we had to have our luggage ready at 6:30 AM for the Gant staff to start loading our bus.

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Day 7; "There is no Place Like Home"

Well it is 6:30 AM and the luggage is going out the door for loading on the bus and depart back to Denver at 7:45 – were on schedule. A quiet ride back to the airport and unload the bus. I also want to thank Joe Johnston, Frank Eichsteadt, Ed Fee, Mike Psaras, Lou DiFrancisco, and Brian Bloom for helping to load and unload the luggage from the bus. If you also helped and I miss your name, I thank you for help and I apologize for not noting your assistance.

We checked the bus for left-on items and we found one scarf and one hat. We did find that both items belonged to May Lou McCann. Thank heavens Mari Lou has Judy Hall to take care of her!

In closing, I would like to say that the entire staff at the Gant could not have provided us any better service from the front desk, bus shuttles and daily room service.

- John Brandt & Debbie Dukes



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The Trip Connection—Continued

We are in the process of developing our short list of desired destinations and soliciting bids from several trip providers. While we are still very early in the process, I can share that Vail resorts are offering some very good deals, no surprise since they hosted MTS this year and shared some unique options that their marketing organization has put together and rolled out at MTS. Some great destinations have made the short list this year – some old favorites along with a few destinations that would be new for Ibex such as investigating a Sept. 2010 trip to Chile! Ed Fee, Patty Blades and I will be attending a ski event hosted by Winter Ski and Sports with several destinations represented. Should be a good opportunity to meet and greet as well as take advantage of a any specials. We also re-

main open to any deals that may be presented by the trip providers at the Trip Seminar which will be held on May 16th this year. Stay tuned for further updates in the next Newsletter!

Pam Arnold Chiechi – Trip Chair

Patty Blades – Trip Assistant

BAR OF THE MONTH



If you're looking to unwind or relax with friends, the Stonewood Ale House in Schaumburg is just the place for you.

Our large bar area has a wide selection of over 60 ice cold draft and bottled beers, with an extensive list of wines, martinis and specialty drinks.

High Definition plasma TV's and big screens with stadium surround sound throughout the bar area make us the perfect setting to watch your favorite sporting event.

Friday, May 8, 2009

Time: 6:00 or later.

Stonewood Ale House

610 Mall Drive

Schaumburg, IL

Between Higgins & Woodfield Mall

Telephone (847) 805-0202

[Click here for Google Map](#)

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Lakemoor Golf Outing — Continued

Pro-shop and a deck to watch the golfers from-- all from a Modular designed unit that they call the "Clubhouse" Supposedly a new Club house is in the works, to add to the Ambiance, and future price for a round of Golf-I'm sure!!!

With tee times starting at 9:00A.M. ,we should have plenty of time to get back to Carl's house for the usual fun ,food, "Buffoonery", volleyball and other games. As previously stated we have trimmed the price to fit in

with the recession and the President's bail-out (We have already applied for aid) to a jaw dropping 60 CLAMS-----"YES WE CAN" and we did

Sign-ups start at the May 6th meeting. So get your calendar marked for the date, June 13th for Golfing fun or just the Cookout (\$15.00 for non-golfers). We all need a little STIMULUS and this is a GREAT start for the summer.

[Click here for link to Google Map.](#)

YIP-YIP-YIP

- Carl & Greg

CHILI COOK-OFF RECAP

Before the recap, a special thanks to all the Ibex's member who made chili this year, because without them there wouldn't be a cook-off. The Chili Cook-off was held on March 14th this year and we had a great variety of chilies including beef, turkey and corned beef. The winners for 2009 were as follows:



The Hottest went to Joe Heater,

The Most Unusual went to Kathy Burns (as usual),

The Spiciest award was shared by Ivana Horak and Mike Warta

The Best Tasting chili award went to Ed Fee.

A special mention must also be made to all the Ibex "tasters" who helped picked this years winners. After eating our fill of great tasting chili and enjoying some assorted beverages, the awards were presented to the winners, and the rest of the evening was spent in lively conversation Ibex style.

- Joe Davis

ANNUAL BANQUET AWARDS

Traditional Awards

Ibex of The Year – Denny Gawlik

Most Improved Skiers – Ed Fee and Lynne Moon

Lovers of the Year – Mike Psaras and Karen Stahl

Après Skier of the Year – Ellen Vigil and Diane Schuler

Biggest Mistake – Mike Psaras

Broken Crutch – NONE! Let's hear it for "None"

Bunny of the Year – Mindy Parry.

GQ Award – Sarah Schmeichel

Balls of Courage – Faulds Orchard

2008 – 2009 Goatee Awards

Wet T-Shirt Contest - Patrice Conaway

I Can Hold it Award - Jeff Smith

Survivor Man - Bill Hoffie

Nanny of the Year- Debbie Dukes

Energizer Bunny – George Anagnostopoulos

Hacker of the Year - Carl Berg

Check out next month's edition of *The Old Goat* for a "blow-by-blow description and pictures from this most prestigious event.

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Ed's Philoso-Fee — Continued

e-mail we could not effectively promote our ski trips and other activities! John Brandt is our Director of Ski School. This is pretty special, very few clubs have their own certified ski and snowboard instructors. Ibex is fortunate to have a dedicated group of people who volunteer their valuable time to both stay Instructor Certified and to give out lessons to our membership.

Patty Blades will continue assisting Pam Arnold in her trip duties and Sarah Schmeichel will be assisting Jean Bagel in her Treasury duties.

This brings me to my next point: we need more assistants! Pam Oziemkowski, Joe Heater and Jacquie Wodach can use assistants. Please contact them to discover what you can do to help them accomplish their duties. Though your assistance may actually just be a small amount of your time, this small effort could be a big, big help to Jacquie, Joe Heater and Pam Oz.

The reason they will want assistance is I may be working them harder than any past executive boards have ever worked before!

These are the direst economic times this club has ever faced in its 40 odd years of existence. Ibex needs to needs to maintain and, if possible, increase its social and economical value to our members. Ski trip pricing always seems to keep rising due to increased transportation costs, insurance costs, rental costs, currency exchange rates, etc. However, with the economy being in such bad shape, we may be able to negotiate for additional items such as free or discounted additional parties, rental rates, clothing, lift tickets and booze! We might find that we are getting a lot more bang for our buck than we did just a few years ago.

Another way to increase our negotiating power with Ski Resorts is to use larger numbers of potential skiers. To this end Ibex is going to start

looking at including other ski clubs to our ski trip destinations. There are a number of clubs who are in the same situation as Ibex. So why not combine forces and create ski packages that are more enticing and provide better value to everyone?

While we are at it, since we are getting more social with other clubs, why not include them in some of our social and athletic activities as well? Perhaps start by playing a little volleyball or softball this summer against each other. Or conduct a long scenic bike ride with three or more clubs some Saturday afternoon? The more people we can count on to attend activities and the greater variety of activities we can offer should create a synergistic effect. Then through simple word of mouth I expect additional people will be attracted to joining our club because of all the fun activities we pursue!

The new board and I can't think of everything, we need your support and fresh ideas! Denny Gawlik (Our Ibex of the Year) is always talking about how "Ibex used to be;" well maybe we need to revisit those old ideas to see if we are missing out on something good! New ideas, such as Doris Hoffie's idea of adding our Ibex Card to the information packets at each Marathon she participates in, is a another great idea on how to increase membership.

On the internet in Facebook, I started up an Ibex group page for sharing pictures, jokes and sarcastic remarks! Are you a Facebook member? Join our group and add to the fun!

There are all sorts of good ideas for new fun social and athletic activities that Ibex can host or participate in. Do you have a good idea? Please contact me or any member of the Executive Board and let us know!

Thanks,

- Ed Fee

“Da” Back Page

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

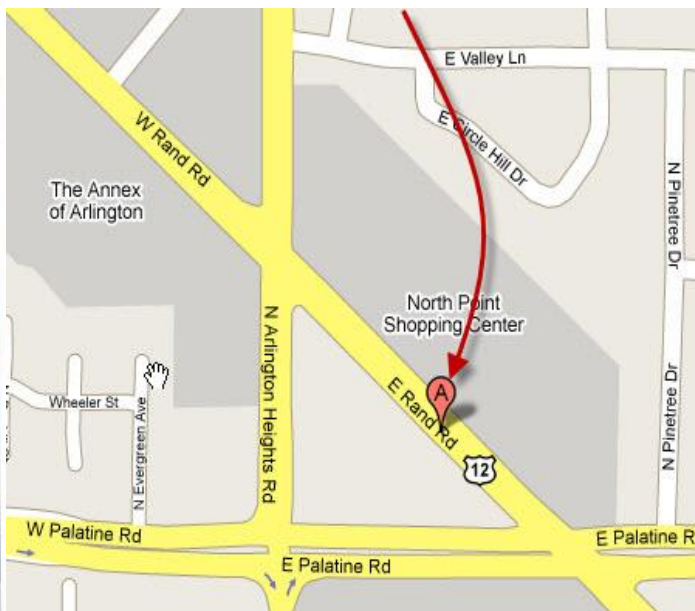
President	Ed Fee	(847) 991-2160
Trip Chair	Pam Arnold	(847) 358-1504
	Patty Blades (Assistant)	(847) 289-0956
Membership Chair	Jacquie Woodach	(847) 223-7932
Activities Chair	Pam Oziemkowski	(773) 427-9298
Secretary	Joe Heater	(847) 991-2160
Treasurer	Jean Bagel	(847) 436-8676

Web Address: WWW.SKIBEX.COM

Meetings: 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of every month

Gatsby's Sports Pub

427 East Rand Road - Arlington Heights, (847) 253-7200



When life bring changes...

Help us keep our records up to date. When your information changes please fill out this form and bring it to a meeting, or mail your new information to:

lbexMembership2008@Skilbex.com

Name: _____

Street: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

2009–2010 MEMBERSHIP RATES

	E-Mail	Paper
Single	\$20.00	\$40.00

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Loretta Low	1-May
Brian Blome	1-May
Cindy Warta	2-May
Sandy Kolseth	6-May
Lucy DiFrancisco	6-May
Mickie Polk	8-May
Peter Ahiern	12-May
Karen Helfrecht	12-May
Joe Davis Jr.	15-May
Mike Edens	15-May
Kathy Burns	18-May
Mary LaLoggia	19-May
Nicole Ferstl	21-May
Patty Blades	22-May
Terry McElligott	22-May
Julie Eichstaedt	25-May
Gerhard Schwartz	28-May
Ellen Vigil	31-May

PARTING SHOTS

From Larry the cable guy....

1. A day without sunshine is like night.
2. On the other hand, you have different fingers.
3. 42.7 percent of all statistics are made up on the spot.
4. 99 percent of lawyers give the rest a bad name.
5. Remember, half the people you know are below average.

