



THE OLDE GOAT

Ibex Ski & Snowboard Club

Meets the first and third Wednesday of each month at:

Crave

1204 W. Rand Road
Arlington Heights, IL

VOL. XLIV NO. VIII

December 2006

November Meetings
Wednesday, Dec 6
Wednesday, Dec 20

Location: Crave
1204 W. Rand Road
Arlington Heights, IL

Brews 'N Schmooze Hour: 7:00PM
Meeting Time: 8:00 PM Promptly



Crested Butte

Ladies and Gentlemen, and children of all ages Crested Butte will be one of this years best trips. We'll fly into Dallas and then to Gunnison. From Gunnison it is a short jaunt to Crested Butte. We will enjoy **4 days** on the slopes and **5 nights** on the town. With almost 2,800 lift serviced vertical feet to choose from there is terrain for the most experienced daredevils and those that prefer a nice relaxing ride down the hill.

As for the night life the setting in Crested Butte is rustic and wild. They have many restaurants and bars to select from, each with their own character and style. The shopping scene will also provide hours of entertainment when you're off the slopes.

The trip leaves **February 22nd** and returns the **27th**. We will be staying at the **Grand Lodge** in Crested Butte. The Grand Lodge Crested Butte Hotel offers exceptional amenities, including a year-round heated indoor/outdoor pool, spa, hot tub, fitness room, steam room, plus a restaurant and deli.



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Don't miss out on the great time, right now we are accepting names for the wait list. Direct any questions that you might have to Crested@skibex.com or contact me at (262) 844-4023.

Paul Mroczenski

Crested@skibex.com



TRIP SPOTS: There still are openings on Cortina (Italy), Sun Valley, and our Midwest trip to Chestnut/ Sundown. There is limited availability on Crested Butte – call me directly if you are interested in that one. For trip details, check the ibex website at www.skiibex.com.

BIG MOUNTAIN is taking waitlists – it is currently full, but you never know when someone has to cancel, so please get on the waitlist if you are interested in that trip.

TIME TO BE NICE . .

to your trip leader. Remember, they work hard to make these trips great for you, and this is the planning time where they need a little motivation and encouragement. So take the time during this holiday rush to say to YOUR trip leader, “Gosh, thanks for doing this for the club and for me. We ever so much appreciate your hard work and dedication.”

TRIP PAYMENTS: Check the payment schedule elsewhere in the newsletter for upcoming payments. We encourage all payments to be given in at the meetings so we can see you. However, if you can’t make the meeting, please mail your payment in to Ibex Ski Club, PO Box 1542, Palatine IL 60078

FROM CMSC:

Please keep in mind that Ibex members qualify for discount benefits from the member services of the National Ski Council Federation, through our affiliation with CMSC. These benefits are in the Members Only section of www.skifederation.org. The User Name is “skiclub” (no spaces, all lower case) and the password is “member” (all lower case). You might have to go through entering the user name and password twice for some unknown reason. Enter the words printed here, not the actual name of your ski club.

Patrice Conaway

ibextrips@skiibex.com



TRIPS 2007

NEW YEARS - BIG MOUNTAIN, MONTANA \$999 taking WAITLISTS
WED 12-27-06 through MON 1-1-07 Grouse Mountain Lodge hotel, 3 days Lift, .
AIR: Northwest thru MSP to Kalispell: OUT 6PM 10:53PM/ RETURN 8:50AM 2:31PM

CORTINA d’AMPEZZO ITALY \$1500 w/ 4 DAY, 3 NIGHT EXTENSION to FLORENCE \$1835 FRI 1-19 through SAT 1-27 Parc Victoria hotel, Ground Transfers, Breakfast & Dinner daily / AIR: Lufthansa thru MUC to Venice: OUT 4:35PM 12:20PM/ RETURN 9AM/ 2PM. EXTENSION: SAT 1-27 through TUE 1-30 Hotel Cavour in Florence, 1/2 day guided city tour, breakfast daily

MIDWEST: SUNDOWN & CHESTNUT \$180
FRI 2-09 through SUN 2-11 0-1 vacation days needed
DRIVE trip to Iowa
Two nights Holiday Inn Dubuque, 2 days Lift, Buffet Breakfast, Pizza party

CRESTED BUTTE, CO —Limited Availability \$1030 THU 2-22 through TUE 2-27 Grand Lodge hotel, 4 days Lift, Ground Transfers, Breakfast AIR: AMERICAN thru DFW to Gunnison: OUT 8:30A 1:16P/ RETURN 2:05P 8:23P

SPRING in SUN VALLEY, IDAHO \$1335
SAT 3-24 through SAT 3-31 In conjunction with Chicago Metro Ski Council—
CMSC CHICAGO WEEK Lodge Apt Condos, 6 days Lift, Ground Transfers, Racing, MANY social events. AIR on ALASKA thru SEA to BOISE: OUT 8:15A 4:55P/
RETURN 9:30A 4:59P



Cortina – Only 2 Spots Left!

The trip to Cortina, Italy with a 3-day extension to Florence begins January 19, 2007. We will fly to Venice via Munich on Lufthansa, therefore you can get United Airlines frequent flyer miles. The flight back for non-Florence extension will leave from Venice. Cost is \$1500, which includes airfare, lodging, ground transport, welcome wine & cheese party, breakfast and dinner everyday in the hotel. It is an additional \$335 for the Florence extension (just includes breakfast). The hotel in Florence is walking distance from the Uffizi, the Duomo, the Ponte Vecchio, the Academia Museum (where David is) and the Pitti Palace among other attractions. Patrice will be the trip leader for the Florence extension.

There are over 465 lifts in the Cortina system and the ski rentals are awesome. We will have side trips to Venice, Innsbruck and possible other local hot spots. John and Debbie will be available for lessons. The Women's World Cup Downhill ski races will be taking place the week that we are there.

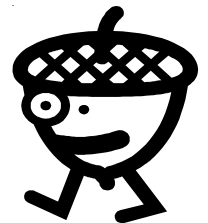
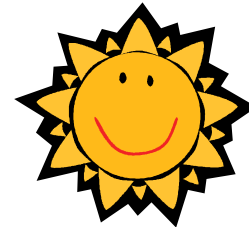
We have 22 spots filled with 2 remaining. If you know of anyone that is interested please let me know. The following link will take you to a website where you can learn anything and everything about Cortina d'Ampezzo.

<http://www.skisnowboarderurope.com/cortinadampezzo/index.html>

Ciao for now!

Sarah

CELEBRATE WINTER @ FEB 9th – 11th



Sundown Mountain is the only Midwest destination granted the National Ski Area Award of Excellence. Chestnut Mountain has added 2 new runs (a black diamond and an intermediate) and 12 new snowmaking guns this year! Dubuque has been named as one of the top 10 places to explore in the Midwest. Enjoy a great ski weekend with friends and family **AWAY FROM THE CROWDS** and a **SHORT DRIVE** from Chicago. Soak in **BREATHTAKING VIEWS** of the slopes, scenic countryside, and the Mighty Mississippi. Get **BIG AIR** and practice your snowboarding skills at the terrain parks.

Sign-up thru December, as **full payment is due Jan. 3, 2007**. Trip package includes 2 nights lodging at the Holiday Inn/Dubuque, 2 lifts, breakfasts, lessons, and happy hour party Sat eve. Pricing is based on 2 adults/room: Adults (\$180), kids 6-12 ys. (\$65) and kids 13+ ys. (\$70). Any questions, call me at (847) 359-4806. Hope you can join us. It's going to be a great time!



Sue Linzing

IBEX SKI & SNOWBOARD CLUB 2007 TRIP PAYMENT SCHEDULE										
	BIG MOUNTAIN		CORTINA		SUN NUT IOWA		CRESTED BUTTE		SUN VALLEY	
	Amount	Date due	Amount	Date due	Amount	Date due	Amount	Date due	Amount	Date due
payment 1	\$ 100	7/29/2006	\$ 100	7/29/2006	\$ 50	7/29/2006	\$ 100	7/29/2006	\$ 100	7/29/2006
payment 2	\$ 300	9/20/2006	\$ 450	9/20/2006	\$ 130	1/3/2007	\$ 350	11/1/2006	\$ 400	11/1/2006
payment 3	\$ 300	11/1/2006	\$ 450	10/18/2006			\$ 350	12/20/2006	\$ 400	1/3/2007
payment 4	\$ 299	12/6/2006	\$ 500	11/1/2006			\$ 230	1/17/2007	\$ 435	2/21/2007
payment 5 - optional for Florence extension			\$ 335	12/20/2006						
			\$ 1,500	w/o extension						
total	\$ 999		\$ 1,835	w/ extension	\$ 180		\$ 1,030		\$ 1,335	

December Activities



December 6

December 15

December 30

Christmas Party
& games night, 6:30

BOM

Family Night, Wilmot

Mindy, Ibex

Mark Westlund

Finn McCools

Bill Haussman



Looking Ahead to January...

January 3

January 12

Games night

BOM

Mark Westlund

The Onion Pub & Brewery

December Bar of the Month: Finn McCool's, Schaumburg

Located at 1941 E. Algonquin Road, "The new Finn McCool's brings a taste of Chicago's Division Street pub scene to Schaumburg, with a décor of rich, dark woods, stained glass, a large fireplace and a collection of Celtic artifacts peppered with music and sports collectibles to create a fun and colorful **montage** throughout the pub. "Finn McCool's captures the spirit of Irish warmth and hospitality, with a dash of downtown energy," The BOM is an informal way for club members and potential club members to get together for dinner (if interested) and drinks while socializing with each other. We usually start congregating around 6:30 or so, DJ will be starting around 9 this month. Hope to see you at Finn's this month!

<http://s126613707.onlinehome.us/finns/sch/index.php>

November BOM Recap

Thanks to everyone who joined us at the traditional Mill Rose November 22! There was a crowd 25 strong who came out for some food and drinks. A great time was had by all!

Happy Holidays!!

Already??? It's that time again! Hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving and now Christmas is right around the corner!! The Ibex Annual Christmas Party will be held at Crave on Wednesday, December 6th.

Food...the club will provide pizza and appetizers for everyone and we will be having a holiday snack contest, as always! Whip up a batch of your famous cookies, put together the coveted pie or munchie mix and your fellow Ibexers' will happily try them out!! There will be a gift for the favorite snack given!

Gifts...we will have a gift exchange for those interested!! \$15 max, gender neutral, no white elephant please!

Attire...time to drag out the red and green, reindeer ears and Santa hats!! Come dressed ready to get the holiday season underway!!

Kids Welcome!! Santa will be stopping in to spread some Holiday cheer!

Mindy

IbexActivities@SkiIbex.com

Moons Musing

I hope everyone had a Happy Thanksgiving Holiday. We all ate too much, thinking this morning about getting to the health club, work off the turkey, and start getting in shape for the upcoming ski season.

Seriously, the first ski trip is only 30 days away, if you are not in ski shape, let's get moving. Skiing is a physical sport, 16 ounce curls are not the answer.

The next meeting is the Annual Ibex Christmas Party, Don't miss the great time and maybe, just maybe, there will be a special visitor from the north.

Bad Luck of the month award goes to Chuck Binzel, who broke his foot moving stuff downstairs. Get Well quickly, Sun Valley is only 4 months away.

One more note about your club leadership, as we move closer to elections, again only four months away, think about stepping up and offering to be a leader. I know of at least three spots that are open on the EB. If you have questions or concerns, just talk to one of us at a meeting, trip, or wherever you catch us. As we have said before, the job, while time consuming, is fun and very rewarding.

I gotta run, the plane is waiting.

See you at the Christmas Party.

Craig

RENT OR BUY

What is the best for YOU

You are spending \$250 per ski day or more in hopes of lucking into that awesome powder day...why struggle through it on 10 year old skinny skis. Sure old skis mean a week trip instead of a 4 day, but there is an alternative, particularly if you don't ski often.

Tired of:

- 2 trips to the ski shop every year to drop off and pick up your skis for a tune and binding check?
- Hauling your skis through the airport and up the condo stairs?
- Skiing on not last season's but last decade's equipment?
- Storing something you use a few days a year.
- Admiring those fat boys on powder days, those short noodles in the bumps, or a pair of super sharp edges on the race course?

Not excited about plunking down a grand for one pair...let alone 3?
THERE IS AN ALTERNATIVE.

Consider Demo Skis. While demos are on the pricey side, owning ski's is not cheap...and if you are thinking full tune and binding check, or even more replacement...really think demo if you only ski a week or less per year and you like your boots.

When I skied a lot (30+days a season), tuned my own, and comped binding checks and adjustments I traveled with multiple pairs depending on the trip and the anticipated conditions. As my ski days diminished (got married), and my equipment became outdated, I discovered demos as an ideal way to have the right equipment until I skied more frequently.

Nothing is more important than your boots, or should I say "A PROPER BOOT FIT". The chances of finding a high end boot that really fits out of the box is slim, which are why most shops offer free adjustments.

TIP#1 Buy your boots at a shop that provides free adjustments and is convenient enough to take advantage of them. Even if you get a perfect fit the first time, your feet will change over time. Even a mediocre boot fitter can put you in a boot that can be made to fit with time and effort, however you don't want that time to be the first 3 days of your 4 day trip...repeat next year...next year.

If you are committed to skiing and ski annually, even a few days, investing in your own boots should be a prime consideration for both comfort and sanitary reasons. Unless your feet are still growing (kids) or your not sure if you like skiing, buy.

Poles are the least important part of your equipment, and should be treated as such. I ski with steel Colts bought used 20 years ago; now that orange handles are back in style I might actually have to lock them up! Oh never mind, orange was last summer's hot color. As long as they are the right length color does not affect your skiing (sorry ladies). Buy a couple of used pair at the ski show and take 3, so if you break one you don't have to overpay for new poles.

Skis are a tossup, and depend on how and how often you ski. If you are skiing at the higher levels, your equipment needs are unlikely to change. Conversely if you are still growing in your skiing ability your equipment needs might change rapidly. Buying an advanced ski may inhibit your skiing up to the level of your equipment, or you may be beyond what is the right ski for you now in only a few years.

Modern skis significantly reduce the effort and skill required to ski smoother. Skiing smoother means more energy for more difficult terrain and longer nights at the bar! If you are spending \$1,500 for a week ski vacation and still on skinny skis, or even first generation shaped skis, you are short changing yourself. Demo a pair of current shaped skis.

TIP#2 take a lesson geared towards transition. There are significant differences in ski stance and technique, which are easily learned at your current ability level, that are required to appreciate the advantages of shaped skis.

When evaluating whether to demo or buy, include the Ownership Costs such as tuning and binding checks, the hassles, and the fact that you can smuggle several more outfits in your ski bag to increase your effective baggage allowance. Also consider that you can change skis at least daily, or more often if you choose, and demoing at slope side often provides for free overnight or even mid day storage. Also check with your insurance company. They will likely cover theft of rented skis same as your own skis, so you don't have to pay the extra insurance fee. Even at a few dollars more per day it is worth skiing on new well tuned equipment.

TIP#3 Don't wait until the morning of the big dump to get your Fat Boys. You'll miss first tracks in line, if there are even any left. Pick up what you want the night before, and even ski a few runs to get the feel.

TIP#4 Buy a good lock; your new demos are a more inviting target than those 10 year old K2s, even if they did have great graphics.

The attached chart is intended to assist in your evaluation. Prices may vary from resort to resort. An extra column is included to compare costs based on the skis you might buy and how long you might keep them. If you are buying boots, you may get a discount on a package deal that will significantly reduce the ski/binding cost.

ONCE YOU GO FAT YOU NEVER GO BACK!

Bob

IbexSkiSchool@Skilbex.com

Costs	Own	Demo	Your Calculation
Ski Days/Year	5	NA	
Ski Replacement Cycle - Years	5	NA	
New Ski Cost	750	NA	
Ski Cost /Ski Day - \$/25	30	45	
Ski Bag Replacement Cycle - Years	10	NA	
Hard Shell Ski Bag	100	NA	
Bag Cost /Ski Day - \$/50	2	NA	
Tune - 1/5 days	50	0	
Binding Check - 1/year	25	0	
Annualized Costs/Day - \$/5	15	NA	
Airport Bag Fee + Tips (\$5/Trip)	1	0	
Total Daily Cost	48	45	
Potential Savings			
Smaller Rental Car/ Ski Rack Fee		-5	
Free Hand to help a Cute Ski Bunny		PRICELESS	
Adjusted Cost/ Ski Day	48	40	

“Get To Know Us” Party (i.e, New Members Party)

Change is good! Change has happened to what has traditionally been called the “New Members Party.” To better position it as a recruiting tool for the club:

- * the name has been changed to “Get to Know Us” Ski & Board Party
- * the date has been moved back a little later in the ski season to January 13
- * the venue has changed to Wilmot Mountain – now the party is even better, with skiing and snowboarding added (at a small cost).

The party is great way to introduce people to the club. Make copies of the insert to pass out to friends and/or to post at your work, gym, train station, ski shop ,etc. etc. See the insert included in this newsletter for more details and special incentives.

Volunteers needed: We are also looking for volunteers to help with sign ins. Each shift will last for only 35 minutes (2:45-3:20 [2 people], 3:15-3:50 [2 people], 3:45-4:20, 4:15-4:50, 4:45 to 5:20, 5:15-5:50). See me at one of the meetings (up thru January 6) or contact me via phone (847.847.2202) or e-mail.



welcomes its newest member

Jeffrey Forst

IBEX Wine Tasting

Ibex members had a festive kick off to the Holiday Season on Saturday, November 18 in the wine tasting room at Dolce Restaurant in Lincolnshire. Approximately 16 members partook in an evening of wine tasting, appetizer's, wine, fabulous conversation, laughs, giggles, ski stories, and more wine....The evening's activities began at 6PM when the first bottle was uncorked, and sampled. Our Wine Expert Stoner Gray brought a plentiful supply of wine from a range of regions for our enjoyment to pair with appetizers supplied by Docle. The live Jazz Band started around 9 pm, adding to the fun and played late into the evening.

A great time was had by all.....

Thanks to Stoner, Union Beverage and Kimberly Stevens, Dolce Manager for making this fun filled evening possible!

Michelle and Mindy

December birthday wishes to:

Stu Blades	04
Pam Arnold	05
Marshall Fletcher	05
Doris Hoffie	06
Joe Johnston	12
Uncle Hank Kyas	15
Christian Robins	17
Jeffrey Forst	19
Steve Lenius	21
Mike Warta	21
Denny Gawlik	31
Tom Robbins	31

Membership Matters

Please remember to invite people to the “Get to Know Us” Ski & Board Party (i.e., New Members Party) on Saturday, January 13 (see the insert for details). Also, take a handful (or more) of the Ibex business cards. Use them to invite friends to our meetings and other activities.

Membership for 2006-2007 (thru October): 150

Dave

IbexMembership@SkiIbex.com

SCUBA NEWS

CURACAO – November 11 to 18

Five of us just returned from a great week of diving. We had good visibility, a very healthy reef and a great group. We saw lot of fish, eels, lobsters and shrimps. There were banded coral shrimp everywhere. Ask Paula Hiller about her most excellent adventure on the way there. Ask Wayne and Jacquie Wodach about the guest on their porch or the continuing saga of the soap dispenser.

BELIZE – March 17 to 25, 2007

Spend a week diving Lighthouse & Turneffe Reefs from the floating hotel. The Nekton is known for no seasickness.

LITTLE CAYMAN – April 28 to May 5 ???

Bloody Bay Wall has some of the best diving I have ever done. The hotel food is unbelievably good.

BONAIRE – November ????

Bonaire has excellent, easy diving.

Cindy Warta

847-394-8805 IbexScuba@SkiIbex.com



Ibex

Ski & Snowboard Club

“Get To Know Us” Ski & Board Party

Please join Ibex for a night of skiing, boarding, food and fun. Learn about the club and make some new friends. This event is open to anyone – adults and accompanied kids – who likes to ski or snowboard (or anyone who would like to learn).

When: Saturday, January 13, 2007, starting at 3 p.m.

Where: Wilmot Mountain

(located just north of the Illinois/Wisconsin border, 13 miles west of Interstate 94, on Hwy C and Wilmot Rd.)

Lift tickets: \$20 (tickets are good from 3:30 to 11 pm)

Rentals: \$10 for skis, \$20 for snowboards

Lessons: Free (from PSIA-certified ski instructors from either the Ibex Ski School or from Wilmot Mountain)

Party: Free (*come join us even if you don't want to ski or board*)

Besides the on-slope fun, Ibex will be having a party with free food and raffle prizes. Also learn about the club and its many activities, including our upcoming trips for the rest of the season:

European Trip to Cortina, Italy (Jan. 19-27 or 30)

Sundown/Chestnut weekend trip (Feb. 9-11)

Crested Butte, Colorado (Feb. 22-27)

Spring Skiing in Sun Valley, Idaho (Mar. 24-31)

Special bonus incentive: Ski Free!

If you join Ibex during the party, you get to ski free! (For couple and family memberships, two persons ski free.) Yearly membership start at \$20 for singles, \$35 for couples and families. And members who bring someone who joins get to ski for half price.

To guarantee space in a lesson, please let us know by Wednesday, January 10, by phone (847-638-2202) or e-mail (Membership@SkiIbex.com). After Wednesday, lessons will be offered on space available basis.

Besides skiing and snowboarding, Ibex is a year-round sports and social club that facilitates biking, camping, golfing, scuba diving, volleyball and other sporting and social activities.

For more info, visit www.skiibex.com

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

President

Craig Moon (630) 579-8670

Trip Chairperson

Patrice Conaway (847) 749-1946

Assistant Sarah Schmeichel (847) 592-7263

Membership Chairman

David Toy (847) 638-2202

Activities Chairwoman

Mindy Parry (847) 309-0214

Secretary

Ed Bendickson (847) 223-2871

Assistant Diana Clarke (847) 255-8155

Treasurer

Lou DiFrancisco (847) 341-4583

Assistant Joe Davis (847) 985-1699

Thank you for your help with this mailer:

Cindy, David, Patty, Mindy, Patrice, Mark, Bob
Michelle, Joe, Sarah, Bill, Craig, Paul, Jean, Diana, Sue

Ed Bendickson

Secretary IbexNewsletter@Skilbex.com

When life brings changes ...

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

**Membership Chairman Ibex Ski & Snowboard Club
P.O. Box 1542, Palatine, IL 60078**

Or e-mail the information to:

IbexMembership@Skilbex.com

Name: _____

Street address: _____

City, state, zip: _____

E-mail: _____

Home phone: _____

Work phone: _____

Cell phone: _____

2006-07 Membership Rates

	E-mail	Paper
Single	\$20	\$30
Couple/Family	\$35	\$45

IBEX Ski & Snowboard Club

P.O. Box 1542

Palatine, IL 60078

First Class Mail

Check out the IBEX web site

www.Skilbex.com

Email: IbexMembership@Skilbex.com