



# 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. XLII NO. XII

April 2005

March Meetings  
Wednesday, April 6  
Wednesday, April 20

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

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

### Mark your calendars!!!

We're breaking new ground with a beautiful new venue this year that I think you're really going to enjoy!!!

# *Ibex Annual Banquet*

Location: **European Crystal Restaurant & Conference Center**  
519 W. Algonquin Road, Arlington Heights 60005

Date: **Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> Time: 6:00p – 11:30p**

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# Elections

## For the 2005 - 2006 Year

Will be held at the April 6, 2005 meeting. Ballots will be sent to all members by email or paper mailing based subscription type. On page 3 there are statements from the candidates.

# Bagel's Chips

This will be short. I'm in the midst of getting ready for the Aspen Trip. Not sure if we saved the best for last, or if bigger is better! So far, the Aspen Trip has biggest and last wrapped up. I'll let you know about the best trip when I get back. This trip has potential to be the "Best Ibex trip ever".

I can't believe I have been President for almost two years. You know how time flies when you are having fun! Overall, it has been a great experience. I think things have worked well over the last two years.

I have decided, two years, as President is a "good run". I will continue my involvement on the Board of Directors.

**Ibex Elections** are upon us. April 6<sup>th</sup> will be the election meeting. Election ballots will be forthcoming from Becky for absentee and email ballots. Please vote. Thanks.

**Year End Party you have to attend this!** It will be great! Appetizers, open bar, 5 course meal, DJ, slide show and great times with all of your "trip buddies". This party is a great value and provides so many laughs!

Hey Ho let's Grow! Summer Ibex Activities are around the corner. Invite a friend to play volleyball, golf, or go on a bike ride. Ibex is a great year round social and activity club. Bring your friends to an activity. You like it and so will your friends.

Happy Spring!

Later,

## Bagel

# SLOPE SCOOP

Well it's winding down to the last ski trip of the season. I'm actually packing for Aspen as I write this article. I'm very excited as it is snowing like crazy in Aspen, but it is also snowing here! Welcome to spring in Chicago!

Patrice and I are preparing to tally up the trip surveys and get our bids put together for the ski seminar in May. I hope all of you received your survey via e-blast and have filled it out and sent it on to me or the ski club PO Box. We are very excited to see what the most desired destinations are to be in the '05-'06 ski season for our club.

***"The trip survey is the only way we know where you want to go skiing, so please fill it out and send it in."***

I also hope to see all of your smiling faces at the IBEX banquet this year as we will be in a new venue and it sounds like a great time is to be had.

Hope to see you all soon.

**Lynne Moon – Trip Chair**

**Patrice Conaway – Trip Assistant**

## Banquet

Cost: \$52 per person (due no later than Thurs, April 14<sup>th</sup>); includes the following:

- Hot & Cold Hors d' Oeuvres
- Four hours Premium Brand Bar
- Four Course Dinner with wine service
- Fun Stories and Award Distribution (aka: "Goaties") for the year's best/funniest antics
- Relax, unwind and then let loose to tunes provided by a carefully-selected DJ
- Dancing the night away on a beautiful Brazilian Mahogany Dance Floor

The room is beautiful and the food is exquisite!! I'm really looking forward to the European Crystal hosting our annual tradition this year and I'm hoping to see you all there!!!

## NEEDED: PICTURES AND STORIES

**PICTURES:** Dick Homan has graciously agreed to pull together an electronic slide show illustrating pictures of our events. However he needs one thing: PICTURES! Please forward any pictures you may have taken (or have yet to take) to Dick at [dickandjackie@mac.com](mailto:dickandjackie@mac.com). JPEG files are preferred — if you have another format, we will do our best to help Dick convert the file first.

**GOATIES:** One of the fun traditions we have is nominating our fellow Ibex for awards reflecting some unusual antic in which they unwittingly participated. We call these awards "Goaties" and we need your help to tell us the funny stories you have witnessed so we can pick the best and award the unsuspecting! So think back to any of our trips you were on or any club activities you joined (or pay attention at upcoming events) — if you remember laughing particularly hard,

### THAT'S THE STORY WE WANT TO HEAR!!

So if you hadn't included your story on a trip survey, please forward it to your favorite EB member for nomination.

You can reserve your seat for the banquet at any club meeting or you can notify me at [j9west@comcast.net](mailto:j9west@comcast.net). **Payment must be received no later than Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup>** so that we can secure an accurate count for our reservation.

So mark your calendars, pay attention to your club members' silly antics (and share them with an EB member!) and look forward to a fun-filled evening reminiscing the fun events of the past year over good food with good friends!!!

**Janine**

# Ibex Ski & Snowboard Club Elections for the 2005-2006 Year Candidate Statements

## **Craig Moon - President**

I'm honored to be on the ballot for President of Ibex Ski and Snowboard Club. I have been an active member of the club since 1996, serving on the EB as Trip, Activities, and Membership Chairman, and on the BOD for a two year term. I have also lead various trips and club activities.

I'm confident that I will be able to dedicate the time and effort required to be a leader of the club. The leadership of the club is very important to me, for that reason, I ask for your vote on April 6, 2005.

## **Kathy Burns - Treasurer**

Fellow Ibexers:

I have enjoyed this time that I have had volunteering as the current Ibex Ski Club treasurer. I am seeking to run for another year because I feel a responsibility to the club. I have not been "grooming" someone to take my place. I want to be able to give the person who will be the treasurer for 2006-2007 all of the details and understanding of how the finances of the club are take care of keep during an entire fiscal year for the club. I will be actively searching for the person who will take my place for the following year. Show them during the year, what I have learned by being the treasurer for the last 2 years. Thank you for your vote.

## **Lou DeFrancisco - Treasurer**

As many of you know, I have been involved in the leadership of Ibex for several years (Trips, President, BOD). During this time, I have witnessed some very dedicated people work very hard to keep the Ibex books in order. I am very familiar with the responsibility of the position, and I believe I have some solid ideas on how to modernize the record keeping to make this job substantially easier, more efficient, and more maintainable for future treasurers. I look forward to the challenge and I would appreciate your support

## **Patrice Conaway - Trip Chairman**

I'm Patrice Conaway and I'm running for Trip Chairman for the 2006 ski season. This past year, I served as the assistant Trip Chair, learning a great deal about the trip bid process and running trips.

My goal as Trip Chair is to continue challenging the status quo and simplifying the tasks around running trips. If there are specific steps in the process that no longer make sense to do, then I will challenge the club's leadership to eliminate those steps. A great leader once said that running this club is all about relationships, but a streamlined infrastructure would be of benefit.

## **Ed Bendickson - Secretary**

Hi, I'm Ed and I have been an Ibex member for several years. This would be my second term as Secretary. Hopefully you have found the newsletter to be useful and interesting. I always welcome ideas and comments.

# Highland Woods Golf Outing

Mark your calendars the spring golf outing is in the planning stages!!!!

It will be taking place at **HIGHLAND WOODS** golf course in Hoffman Estates with a date of **Saturday June 18th**. So mark your calendars, after you put the Skis away pull the Clubs out because golfing with Ibex is right around the corner. More details to follow in the May newsletter.



Your Golf Pimps,

*Hank*  
&  
*Carl*



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## **Board of Directors:**

**Joe Heater** - no statement

**Carl Berg** - no statement

**Denny Gawlik** - no statement

**Jeff Smith** - no statement

**Becky Schultz** - no statement

**Patty Zastawny** - no statement

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## **HOT TIME HAD BY ALL CHILI COOKOFF RECAP**

Those Ibex who attended this year's chili cook-off, especially after eating some of the seven different chilis presented for judging this year, had a very hot time. This year's winners were: "hottest chili" - Joe Heater, "spiciest chili" - Patty Zastawny, "most unusual chili" - Kathy Burns and the "best tasting chili" - Paula Cowan. Also a special thanks to our other cooks this year, Maria Santiago, Mike Warta and Joe Davis.

After the tasting and rating of the chili was completed and prizes awarded, the remainder of the evening was spent doing an Ibex specialty, socializing with your favorite beverage. Thanks to all who attended for making this another great cook-off

**JOE**

# Interlaken – It Really Is between Two Lakes (Two Really Big Ones!)

On Friday, January 21, 31 Ibex met at O'Hare to catch our flight to Zurich. Jim Carson met up with us in Interlaken. We discovered two other ski clubs were on our flight – one going to Zermatt and one headed to St. Anton, Austria. Joe Johnston and Eric Stegge's connecting flight from Minneapolis was cancelled due to the weather and they had to take a later flight. Luckily, our flight to Zurich was delayed by about 50 minutes so they were able to make it – just barely.

We arrived in Zurich the next morning and loaded the bus for Interlaken. Some mysterious guy thought that he was on our bus. He soon discovered that he should have been on the other bus so we had to get his luggage, which was unfortunately some of the first luggage loaded. Apparently, this guy saw Ed Fee talking to a guy that was on his trip (St. Anton) so he got confused. Both Ed and Sarah knew people on the other trip. Sarah went over to the other bus and told them not to leave until mystery guy and his luggage were extracted from our bus.

We arrived in Interlaken and checked into our hotel. Some people headed out to check out the town while some napped. Later that evening we had our wine & cheese welcome party. Four people from an Indiana ski club joined us. Eric, the owner of the hotel, told us that the ibex is the mascot of Interlaken. We would see flags all over the area with the ibex on them. Was this a lucky sign? Not sure.

Jane from the travel company and Jon and Sam from Outdoor Interlaken told us about side trips and excursions we could take. Cliff and Loretta invited a former Ibex, Adele, to join us. She now lives in nearby Bern.

The next day most of the group headed for Firstbahn. It was dumping snow, which is normally good but in a place where no one has been before made it very challenging (see some of the brief stories at the end of this article for more details). Much of the group ate lunch at the top of the gondola. We discovered that the Swiss make delicious pomme frites (or as we call them French fries).

After lunch Patrice, Sarah, Bridget, Joe H, Joe J, Eric and Ed B decided to go on a ski hill pub crawl. After some mulled wine in the tepee bar they headed toward Firstbahn. Well, with all the snow and poor maps and signage, we ended way off-off-off piste. We tried to get back onto what we thought was the trail but Joe H discovered the barbed wire fence buried underneath the snow. After skiing through a lumberyard we came across a nice local couple walking their dog. They told us how to get to Firstbahn but more importantly, how to find the Rancher Bar.

We arrived at the Rancher Bar to discover the other half of the Ibex group. This bar had to be built in about 1245 when tall people were about 5'4". Low ceiling. After a few libations, we headed back to catch the bus so we could catch the big bus back to Interlaken. This is where Sarah and Vicki came up with the now blockbuster hit, "Wir Fahren a Fisrtbahn" or "We're going to Firstbahn." Maybe we'll sing it for you. The next couple of days, most of the group spent checking out the various ski areas. Day Two found the majority of the group at Mannlichen. Trust me; we got more than a few chuckles out of that name. Use your imagination.

Bill gave some lessons and then Patrice and Sarah attempted to do another ski run pub crawl.

Some of the group headed to Chili's in Wengen for après ski led by the après ski queen herself, Susan Salerno. Luckily, we discovered it wasn't the Chili's like in the US.

Some of the non-skiers (Joanie, Maria and Traci) spent the time shopping and checking out the other small towns in the area. The trains were spectacular and could get you anywhere.

On Tuesday, some of the group went to Kleine Shneidig (or Kleine Shindig as it became known) and some checked out Murren.

Tuesday evening, a large number of Ibex went on our first excursion – sledging! I highly recommend sledging. I hope it takes off in the US. This was AWESOME! We went with our three guides from Outdoor Interlaken Andy, Tim and Stef. We headed up the mountain to a small town called Isenfluh. We went to a restaurant where we had fondue and some kirsch (aka lighter fluid). After the meal, we made our way to the gondola with our sledges (sleds in case you haven't figured out what sledging is yet) to the top of the mountain.

After adding glow sticks to our apparel and a brief explanation on how to use the sledges, we headed down the mountain (see following stories). Later in the week, some of the group sledged again and again. It's quite fun!

On Wednesday, about ½ the Ibex went on the tri-country tour to Fribourg, Germany and Colmar and Riquewihir, France. We discovered that our Thursday trip to Zermatt was cancelled due to too much snow and avalanche potential.

Thursday finally saw a break in all the snow and those who skied found themselves taking much longer than usual to get down the hill – too many photo ops. Teri, Mindy, Sarah, Beth, Frank M, Joanie and Joe took the train to Luzerne for shopping and sightseeing.

On Thursday evening, the traditional Ibex pub crawl was held. Susan and Vicki led the group so as to show off all the "research" they compiled over the week. We met in the hotel bar and went a couple of doors down to the next stop. There, we discovered members of the Swiss Army. They do really carry Swiss Army knives. The pub crawl was a huge success and many stayed out until about 3 a.m.

Friday was another beautiful day for skiing. Patrice and Ed B took advantage of the views and went parasailing. Traci and Ginny checked out Luzerne.

On Saturday, we loaded up the bus to head back to the airport with the same bus driver that took us to Interlaken. This time, he wisely added a trailer to the back of the bus for all of the skis and snowboards. Jim headed to Paris where had to be for work on Monday (gee, that's tough!) and the rest boarded our flight to Chicago.

It was a great trip and many would like to go back to Interlaken in the summer to take advantage of all the area had to offer.

Thanks to Joe H for his currency conversion calculator, to Frank E for his German speaking skills, to Patrice for compiling the stories, to Ginny for helping with the bus driver tips, to Mike P for doing some pre-trip due diligence as to the night life, to Susan and Vicki for their après ski and pub crawl expertise, also to Susan for her train schedule knowledge, to Bill for his ski instructor skills, and to the men for their heavy-lifting. I hope I didn't forget anyone.

Now to the stories compiled by Patrice with input from the Interlaken Ibex:

Aah, Switzerland – the land of the towering Alps, quaint music, on-time traditions, and, of course, the yodeling marmot. Highlights of the Ibex trip included (in no particular order):

- Switzerland is a land of cows, not marmots, as might be believed. We had cows on top of the hotel, sticking out of the hotel, and real cows actually frolicking in the fields. Swiss cows move a whole lot more than the Wisconsin version. They must not be government controlled.
- **FIRST RUN FIRST DAY AWARD:** Susan Salerno graced the Alps with her presence by uttering a string of profanity while she somehow dropped down a cliff on her back during poling her way off the Grindewald First gondola. She ended up 25 meters down in hip-deep powder. She tried to throw her skis back up to someone helpful, but did not succeed and ended up skiing between Mike's legs.
- **SECOND RUN FIRST DAY AWARD:** Joe Heater, skiing in 5 meter visibility on a cat track, decided that the sign with cryptic symbols meant "go on either side of the sign". It didn't. He chose wrong and ended up cricking his neck, losing his glasses,

and losing visual contact with Patrice. Patrice then called him on the 2 way, and was amazed to hear her own radio transmission, just 15 feet below in a pile of powder. When Joe “Sasquatch” emerged from the pile, he was lucky to find just the tip of his glasses sticking out of the snow.

- The Ibex tradition of mooning abandoned cameras, expertly performed by Moonin’ Mike, continued with a twist. No camera owner has previously been seen deliberately placing their camera in harm’s way. Camera owner: “Oh, look, there’s my camera lying on the table. I’m just going to leave it there while I go dance. Can you watch it for me?”
- We decided in the course of the trip that Mr. Psaras shares a distinction with Kevin Bacon in that there are a maximum of six degrees’ separation between pictures of Mike’s rear end and every Ibex member. Although “Kev” now has some competition from Leaky, who exhibited some previously unknown Ibex heritage on the 1<sup>st</sup> night.
- Who did the snow dance? Yes, we know one should never complain about snow on a ski trip, but the avalanche danger caused train delays and our expedition to Zermatt and the Matterhorn was cancelled. Bummer.
- Every morning at breakfast, discussions on where to ski and how to get there on which train ensued. The hotel considerably provided map placemats that were helpful in these exchanges. Several of us actually took them with us, prompting Frank E.’s odd quote to his friend: “Eric, that’s a placemat, not a map. Look at the real map.”
- George A. is really in good shape. He runs, he loves tennis, he skis. He exercises every morning. And after a hard day skiing though 10 meter visibility, someone was challenging his level of fitness, so he dropped at the bus stop and gave ‘em 20. IN SKI BOOTS. Hats off to you, George.
- “We’re in Sandusky?” Observation made by Sarah in a white-out on the chairlift. We could have been anywhere.
- Mindy (AKA camera owner) really gets into the German clinking songs. That’s not a typo, as she “clinked” parts of a beer mug across the bar floor.
- Teri , AKA track star, managed to leave her backpack on the train after a hard day of skiing. 2 days later, it was recovered. Her only punishment was having to jog 12 blocks round trip to the train station to retrieve it while we were loading the bus back to the airport. She made it, no problem. Her roommate stepped in to help with last-second packing.
- Bill “Leaky” Haussmann managed to enter the record books by having his Camelback “pee” on Mindy’s ski boot. The prank, although cute, wasn’t itself a record-breaker, but Mindy’s 100 decibel scream alerted all of Wenden.
- Patrice had fate intervene when she had to delay her first run to buy ski poles. During the errand, a cute marmot keychain beckoned, and, upon discovering that the little rodent yodeled as well, a trip mascot was born. Fritz was a big hit, especially around 2 way radios, much to the annoyance of fellow gondola passengers and restaurant patrons. Fritz also considerably reminded Patrice he was in her coat every time she bent over to tighten her boots.
- Susan Salerno, AKA Der Gros Pub Crawl Fraulein, expertly planned and executed the most professional pub crawl ever, with the help of her assistant and partner in crime, Vickie, AKA Swiss Corn Farmer and Sledge queen. Susan and Vickie also immediately took to the trains and the buses, a necessity since their extensive pub crawl research made taking the early direct ski bus an impossibility. We see Trip Leader in their futures.
- Joanie Heater discovered new and exciting things in Switzerland, most impressively her “smiling toilet.” The Swiss, ever so efficient, scoff at those plastic bag tubes that rotate on the toilet seats at O’Hare. Instead, they have a cleaning clamp that fastens

onto the back of the toilet seat. Upon flushing, the seat just rotates completely through the cleaning clamp and voila, a clean toilet seat! Ed B has the video.

- Video again came into play for the premiere of Bill’s I CAN SKI OFF A HOUSE demonstration. Of course, that blockbuster was immediately followed by I CAN SINK ONE METER IN SNOW, LOSE MY SKIS, AND TUMBLE FORWARD 3 TIMES, and then by I CAN PUMP MY FIST IN THE AIR AND YELL YES!!!
- Bob Coles, AKA I think I’m in Mexico, challenged the efficiency of the morning ski bus by showing up late and getting us to stop the driver to let him on. The driver went almost apoplectic. There may be floggings in Switzerland for this.
- Sledging, which we call sledding here in the US, became the great equalizer for this trip. Mike P maintains that he had bad equipment – that’s why he was so slow. Initially, it seemed that physics ruled success – the short women went flying by, and Bruce and Cliff were bringing up the rear. But then the maniacal speed and laughter of Ed Fee racing past everyone put that theory to rest. It had to be the equipment – really. Patrice discovered walking was faster than sledging, except when she was knocked over first by Bridget and then by Cliff (again, maniacal laughter – thanks Loretta). And sledging in the dark after drinking kirsch was made infinitesimally safer by the addition of glow sticks to the back of our jackets. OSHA should get this training. Sledgers without equipment problems returned to do it again during the day on Friday. A good time was reported by all.
- Sledging was preceded by Fondue. Our Swiss host, Andy, instructed us on the rules of “futzing” bread pieces into the cheese. On the first drop, one was to kiss the person on the right (Vickie made Ed B’s night with that one). On the second drop, one was to sing a song. We knew that Sarah and Susan were just dropping them deliberately at that point.
- Jason AKA Follow Me Man led Dan into a near-death experience. While Jason athletically jumped the railroad tracks on his skis, Dan ran into them. As Dan tried to extricate skis from the tracks, Jason considerably mentioned that Dan might want to speed it up, as in “THE EFFING TRAIN IS COMING!” Dan threw his equipment and himself downhill in time. Whew.
- Creepy Critter Award. Ginny Johnson discovered some “bites” on her arm after the first night in the hotel. She received some medication and advice from the apothecary across the street, but unfortunately, they plagued her until she got back from Switzerland. Her first stop back in Chicago wasn’t her home, it was the emergency room!

## Sarah





# Chicago Indoor Racing



## **\*\*\* NOTE DATE CHANGE \*\*\***

The original eblast referred to this event being held on April 16<sup>th</sup> — this has been changed. The date is now Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>. Here's the information-scoop again for those of you who may not have read the original eblast:

### **From the information provided to me:**

Two professionally-designed Indoor European Kart Racing Tracks (don't ask me what makes them "European" — it's on the brochure). Drivers over the age of eighteen will be able to race wheel to wheel in specially designed Indoor Racing Karts that are able to provide a real sense of the thrill and excitement experienced by professional racing drivers.

**From my personal experience:** this is a blast!!! The cars can reach up to 35 mph; doesn't sound fast, but when you're sitting inches above the ground you feel like you're flying! A racing suit and helmet are provided. The facility also houses Stewards Bar & Grill which overlooks both tracks; so if you're not feeling like you're racing material, come on out, have a beverage and cheer on your fellow Ibex!!!

### **Now, here's the nitty gritty:**

**Date:** Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>

**Location:** 301 Hastings Drive, Buffalo Grove (just off Lake Cood Road about 3/4 mile west of Milwaukee Road)

**Time:** we're shooting for very late afternoon, say 4p or 5p.

**Race info:** 2-hour event (approx 1 hr for orientation/preparation, 1 hour on the track)

**Cost:** \$70pp

Want to see more info? check out their website: [www.chicagoindoorracing.com](http://www.chicagoindoorracing.com)

**I need email confirmation from you no later than April 13<sup>th</sup>.** You can pay me in advance or the night of, but I can't book these reservations more than 30 days in advance. If I get a sizeable number of people, I might be able to negotiate our own track and/or a group discount.

So mark your calendars and send me a note ([j9west@comcast.net](mailto:j9west@comcast.net)) telling me you're ready to drive!!!!

*Janine*

## Membership Matters

Current Membership for 2004-2005: **160**

### **Welcome to the following new members**

Lisa Spiegel  
Beth Urech

### **Membership categories:**

Single (e-mail)     \$ 20  
Single (paper)     \$ 28  
Couple/Family (e-mail) \$ 35  
Couple/Family (paper) \$ 43

### **April birthday wishes to:**

Teri Drissel	01
Craig Moon	01
Sarah Schmeichel	08
Todd Osterbur	11
Beth Urech	19
Lou DiFrancisco	21
Cindy McElligott	28
Jan Osowski	28
Patrice Conaway	29
Rebecca Muir Schultz	30

*Dave*

IbexMembership@SkiIbex.com

# Big Mountain, 2005

For just a three-day ski trip, Big Mountain was big on fun, sun, and memories. Thanks for the numerous stories and great feedback! If a story was omitted, it was due to limited space or a spacey trip leader!

Our trip started off with a slightly delayed flight causing a dash across the Salt Lake airport for the connecting flight. But the day completed on a good note when we arrived to find very accommodating hotel porters who shuttled us to the Lodge. The shuttle driver even radioed ahead to keep the bar open just for us! After checking in and getting the cribs into the rooms with the real children, two thirds of the group toasted the start of the trip in the bar. Lorna Ballam and Sue Lesson helped close the bar, while Jean Bagel, Diane Schuler, Ellen Vigil, and Ann Bass moved the party out to the lobby for another hour.

Ah, the skiing! Sunny skies gave way to fabulous spring skiing all three days. Although fresh snow was nowhere to be found, our club covered the 85% of the mountain that was open. Ask Kurt Kolseth, our consummate mountain guide, and George Anagnostopoulos, who both managed to ski 100,000 vertical feet within the three ski days. Or ask our fearless tree skiers (Lou DeFrancisco, Cindy and Terry McElligott, and Paul Nearing) who tried to cover all the tree skiing area of Big Mountain's 3000 acres. Was that a fir tree branch stuck in Paul's goggles? We also covered the terrain park with Diane's "spread eagle boob plant" on "the box" in front of a long line of boarders. Ellen, who was the master of the box and picnic table nearly blocked the rest of the run when she literally fell over laughing at Diane's "10" rated stunt.

Ski lessons were another source of surprises and stories. Jean Bagel, our ski club's ski instructor provided some great coaching to seven of us. One of the students was our new club member Terry Schmitz, who we found to be a level one PSIA ski instructor himself! Cindy took a snowboard lesson where she stumped the instructor when he asked: Do you like to carve your turns? Cindy: No. Instructor: Do you still skid your turns? Cindy: No. By the way, Cindy is an expert skier. During an all day ski lesson, an instructor gave Sue and Lorna an exercise to place their polls across their arms, balancing them. Sue made it down pretty well, but when Lorna made her second turn, she went one way and her polls went the other! She lucked out that other club members came along and helped her out as Lorna was laughing so hard she couldn't possibly have walked up to get those elusive polls. Maybe it had to do with those wild ski pants of Lorna's that the ski instructor lusted after.

Our most improved skier was Patty Zastawny. Karen Helfrecht witnessed Patty's first attempt down the Toni Matt Run, which resulted in a 100 yard dead man's slide. After thoughts of "I killed Patty" ran through Karen's head, Patty stopped sliding and got up. The next day Patty again slid down the mountain, but this time she took Jeff Smith down with her. Kudos to Patty though, she made a lot of progress in three days from literally sliding down blue runs to skiing on black runs.

Ah, the dining (and the service)! One night Lorna, Sue, and Pam Oz had dinner in the lodge where they all flirted with the waiter. Pam mentioned that "we like being serviced" and the waiter replied that he was happy to serve them. After that, Sue just couldn't stop making him blush! He was really a good sport. Our group dinner on Friday was very lively, very tasty, and very eye opening. Chris Smith found out about Jeff Smith's supposed checkered past. A few years ago, Jeff introduced himself to Pam and told her that he was an ex-con; it's only taken a few years for Jeff to rescind the story. Also, how big of a tip did the server get from the women by calling them all "Miss" for the entire meal?

Ah, the partying! The pub-crawl started off at the Microbrewery, where we found out too late that nearly expired beer cost \$10 a case! Our second stop was the Bulldog Saloon, which featured BFP (Big F\*\*king Pitchers), which cost \$19 for a gallon of imported beer! Lucy DiFrancisco has the pictures to prove it. Other highlights from that stop on the crawl included Lou's story about the "6-hour vibrator girl" and the R-rated bathroom stall, which the IBEX women frequented – often! Also note Bulldog's web site is [www.fart/slobber.com](http://www.fart/slobber.com). For the third very "towny" bar, the trip leader scored free drink coupons for everyone. The trip leader also connected with a bridegroom on his own bachelor party pub-crawl. Let's just say the dancing, which was documented with pictures, and the partying continued through to the fourth bar with live music. We lost a number of people after this bar, but IBEX's party reps of Jean, Diane, Ellen, and Ann continued to the final bar stop. The dancing and drinking continued until the last shuttle for the lodge at nearly 2AM.

Other notable trip moments are: Sue Lesson was voted as having the best laugh. Our heroic action of the trip was Chris's body sacrificing fall, when she slipped near the pool while she was carrying Brian; the baby was fine and mom's back sprain is on the mend. Angelina demonstrated unbridled enthusiasm with her discovery of ramps under Lucy's patient watch. There were only two members that hooked up on this trip. Brian Smith and Angelina DeFrancisco aren't responding to questions yet —the relationship is too new.

And what about some of the Big Mountain Trip's other "BIG" questions? Was it snow or something else that Ann was supposed to get 6 inches of every night? Did anyone ever really guess what time it was on Sue Lesson's watch? As posed by Sue, Lorna and Pam... Are there any ugly men in Montana? By the way, who was this Marty guy that we were always supposed to blame it on???

*Ann Bass*, trip leader.

[www.montanalinks.us](http://www.montanalinks.us)

# ACTIVITIES CORNER: Things to Do!!!

Greetings, Ibex! Following are the non-trip activities that are going on for the next few months. Come on out and join us in the fun!!!

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Coordinator</u>
Weds, April 6th	Games Night	Mark Westlund
Friday, April 8 <sup>th</sup>	BOM: The Yardhouse	-----
Weds, April 6th	Ibex Meeting	Mark Westlund
Friday, April 22 <sup>nd</sup>	<b><i>Ibex Annual Banquet</i></b>	Janine Westlund
Saturday, May 14 <sup>th</sup>	Chicago Indoor Racing	Janine Westlund (see below)

**GAMES NIGHT:** The games will be held at the first Wednesday meeting of each month starting at 6:30p and breaking for the meeting minutes at 8:00p before resuming play. Everyone's been having a good time improving their "poker faces" in multiple rounds of Texas Hold'em. Chips only: no money's exchanged; so it's easy to bet huge!! Come on out and show your hand!!

**BAR OF THE MONTH:** Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup>

The Yardhouse in Glenview. Like beer? You'll want to be there!!!

**CHICAGO INDOOR RACING:** Due to a scheduling conflict, this event is being rescheduled to May 14<sup>th</sup>. For those of you closet-Mario Andretti's out there, you're going to love this outing!!! See related article in this newsletter for details.

## *Ibex Annual Banquet*

It's this month, so mark your calendars! The Banquet is near!!  
See related article inside this newsletter.

*Janine*

## SCUBA NEWS

### **WARM WEATHER TRIPS**

#### **AMBERGRIS CAYE, BELIZE – May 28 to June 4**

Banyan Bay is a beautiful resort that is a short walk to town. This destination has a lot of activities for non-divers, but also some very good diving. The cost of the suite is \$350 per person. The airfare is around \$750.

#### **TURKS & CAICOS – November 5 to 12**

Enjoy a week of diving off the Caribbean Explorer II. Check the next newsletter for more details.

???????????? - ????????

Any suggestions for next February?

If you would be interested in any of these trips or have other suggestions, please let Cindy Warta know at [mgwarta@msn.com](mailto:mgwarta@msn.com) or at 847-394-8805.

***Cindy Warta***

847-394-8805 [mgwarta@msn.com](mailto:mgwarta@msn.com)



## IBEX on the Internet

### WEB

[www.SkiIbex.com](http://www.SkiIbex.com)

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Web Site:

[IbexWeb@SkiIbex.com](http://IbexWeb@SkiIbex.com)

## April 2005

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6 Ibex Meeting	7	8 12:00a BOM Yardhouse	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Ibex Meeting	21	22 Ibex Banquet	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

## May 2005

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 Ibex Meeting	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 Chicago Indoor Racing
15	16	17	18 Ibex Meeting	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

## EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

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Jean Bagel (847) 749-1932

### Trip Chairwoman

Lynne Moon (630) 579-8670

Assistant Patrice Conaway (847) 749-1946

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Assistant Joe Davis (847) 985-1699

Joe Heater (847) 991-2160

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Jean Bagel, Lorna Ballam, Carl Berg, Lucy DiFrancisco,  
Lou DiFrancisco, Denny Gawlik, Mike Warta, Becky Schultz

Thank you for your help with this mailer: Jean, Cindy, David,  
Patty, Janine, Lynne, Becky, Patrice, Craig,  
Sue, Pat, Mark, Lou, Becky, Carl, Hank, Joe, Sarah, Ann

**Ed Bendickson**

Secretary [IbexNewsletter@Skilbex.com](mailto: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](mailto:IbexMembership@Skilbex.com)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, state, zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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## IBEX Ski & Snowboard Club

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