



LEWIS SKI CLUB NEWSLETTER

April 2020

(DUE TO CURRENT EVENTS THIS NEWSLETTERS IS LIMITED IN CONTENT)

Prez Sez:

This COVID-19 is an unprecedented event in the history of Lewis Ski Club. Since we are all cooped up in our home, we will have a virtual meeting this coming April 7, 2020.

It's been a frustrating year for all of us skiers and riders. The weather would alternate from lack of snow, cold weather with some snow, and warm weather, and possible rain. Despite all that, we made the best of it and had a bunch of 1-day trips to western NY. We also went to Steamboat, CO and Mammoth, CA. Thanks to all the trip leaders that volunteered to make the trips fun and possible for everyone.

We will vote for officers remotely, and the details will be discussed during the virtual April club meeting. Club government positions elected by the club include: President, Alpine VP, Nordic VP, Recorder, Publicity Director, Treasurer, and Trustees. Please step up and make this the best Ski Club in town.

- T. Vannuyen, President

“Virtual” Meeting Tuesday, April 7th

Our next meeting is will be at our usual time and date, 6:00pm Tuesday, April 7th, but due to “Stay at Home” orders and our own concerns over limiting interpersonal contact, the meeting will be conducted virtually via “Zoom” video and web conferencing. Details on how to participate will be sent directly to current members in an e-mail by April 2nd.

Upcoming Social Events

Chocolate and Wine Fest. Chocolate & Wine Fest has been postponed indefinitely (melted away).



Also, in light of current events, there are no social activities planned for April, sorry to say.

B. Knipple

Nominees for Club Offices

In preparation for the elections of all of our Club positions, the nominating committee has solicited nominations and confirmed their acceptance. With one final opportunity to add nominees at the April meeting, below is the current slate of candidates:

President –	T. Vannueyen
VP Alpine –	K. Hulick
VP Nordic –	J. Neumann
Recorder -	C. Busch
Treasurer –	J. Dubas
Publicity Director –	M. Manthey
Trustee -	J. Breckel
Activities –	T. Telzrow

After the April meeting, after asking for any additional nominations, the final ballot will be sent, and voting conducted, via email.

Trip Reports

Mammoth (Problems) - Mammoth 2020 was by far one of the most challenging trips for the club. We flew out of Cleveland to Denver on Saturday with no issue. However, when we boarded the plane heading to Mammoth Lakes, the captain said they had a maintenance issue and will have some techs check out the AC unit. After about 1/2 hours, the captain informed us that our **flight was canceled** (due to high winds)! United Airline (UA) said it was not safe to try to land the plane at the Mammoth Lakes airport (MMH), so we de-planed in Denver. We spoke to UA Customer Service, but we could not get all of us on board on that day's next flight to MMH, or an alternate flight to Reno, NV. UA suggested we fly out to San Francisco the next day (**Sunday**) and then fly to MMH from San Francisco. UA rebooked us on a flight to San Francisco and then to MMH, and so we **spent the night in Denver**, paying for 10 rooms at the Fairfield Inn in Denver at our own cost. We scheduled 3 early-morning shuttles (starting at 3am!) as there was not a large enough shuttle to take all of us at once. Our flight to San Francisco on Sunday went fine, but then upon arrival UA our flight to MMH was promptly cancelled - again due to high winds, but also snowstorm conditions. They rebooked us for travelling out on **Monday** 3/2 San Francisco to MMH. We declined this option as we lost faith in UA to be able to get us to MMH. We spoke with UA customer service in San Francisco. We opted to ask UA to release our bags back to us. This is when we found that more than **50 % of our bags went to Los Angeles**. We decided that UA would not be able to bring us to MMH. We checked available options from car rentals to hiring a **bus from San Francisco to MMH**. Only one company - Professional Charter Service - was willing to drive us that day (Sunday). The **bus took over 9 hours** to drive us from San Francisco to MMH, where we arrived at Juniper Springs Resort at 9pm.

The **many members** whose luggage, including their ski equipment, was shipped to Los Angeles **had to rent helmets, skis, board, boots etc., to ski Monday** morning. The luggage did arrive that afternoon, between 1-4pm.

Once we had our bags and equipment, we were able to enjoy 5 days of wonderful skiing at Mammoth. Monday and Tuesday were wonderful with some fresh powder from the storm that canceled our flight, and the resort's first snow since December 2019. The rest of the week was sunny and warm with clear, blue skies. We made several trips into town and enjoyed a variety of dinner options and shopping. We were all excited to spend the \$100 vouchers to get souvenirs and food.

On the trip back, our travel troubles continued! Our **flight from MMH to Denver was cancelled** and we were rebooked to a later flight to Los Angeles airport (LAX). After another hour delay, while the airline tried to entice enough passengers to stay back to lighten the load, and then determined that was NOT necessary, we all breathed a sigh of relief when we finally were able to take off and land in LAX. Then we **took the "Red Eye" flight back to Cleveland** and made it back at 6am. Overall, we made the best of the situation and had a good time. Thanks to everyone for being PATIENT as we dealt with the "joy" of traveling for skiing...

T. Vannuyen (Mammoth trip leader)