



# LEWIS SKI CLUB

# NEWSLETTER

December 2020

## Prez Sez:

Friends,

Get ready for another ski season. Although there is much uncertainty about the 2021 ski season, our trip to Breckenridge is still on. Several resorts open out West and I got intel from several friends that they are currently skiing in A-Basin, Breckenridge and Keystone.

We plan for a lot of downhill, but there is a whole other side of fun with Nordic activities. If you never tried Nordic, try it this year. Check our website regularly:

<https://lewisskiclub.org/>

We will have a winter and there will be skiing and snowboarding. So, get your gear ready and let's have some fun.

T. Vannuyen,  
Club President

## Free 2021 Membership Renewals

The Lewis Ski Club's Executive Board decided at its meeting this month to renew all 2020 memberships for the coming 2021 ski season at NO COST. For those who have already paid for their membership renewal, either a refund will be given, or a free renewal will be provided for the 2022 season (next year). The Board made this decision after realizing that, with so many COVID-19-related travel restrictions still in place, there will likely be few skiing/boarding opportunities that the club can offer this season, and that our operating costs (e.g., meeting room rental & food, annual picnic) will be lower than planned.

If you have any questions on how this decision will be implemented, please attend next week's club ZOOM meeting where this will be discussed.

## Next Club Meeting December 1<sup>st</sup>

We will continue holding our club meetings via virtual ZOOM for now. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:00pm. ZOOM details and login info will be sent out a few days in advance. Come join us!

## Social Event Reports

**Zoom Game Night** - Even though we expected more attendees, Allison, Max, Rebecca, Janet, Matt, MaryAnne, Cathe, me and Tom still had fun!



We started off the night by playing several rounds of *Scattegories*. Our first round was with the letter of B and the second we used the letter "D." This game's goal is to get the most number of points with answers that begin with the chosen letter for items on the category list. Score additional points for double letters but you get zero points if someone else has the same answer so unique answers are key to winning this game.

*Scavenger Hunt* was next, which resulted in a tie between the two teams of Max and Rebecca and Janet and Matt.

We then played “*Are you Smarter than a 2nd, 3rd and then 5th Grader?*” Boy, those kids are smart because some of the questions weren’t so simple to answer.

To end the night, we played “*Conversation Starter,*” which is a great way to learn more about each other. Thanks to Tom for hosting this event. These games are a great way to have fun while social distancing so try these with your family and friends.

***Kendall Lake Hike*** – This hike was in serious danger of being cancelled due to the severe weather that was predicted. Despite all odds, we went ahead, and it was a very good thing because the Weather Gods shone down once again upon the Lewis Ski Club (and my need for exercise!).



Newcomers Annemarie and Natalia joined with Matt, Janet, my friend Renae, me, and our trail guide, Bernadette, who led us along the Kendall Lake Cross Country Trail.



This trail can be challenging with its ins and outs and ups and downs (some hills); and at one point on a

muddy downhill section, it was easy to slip on leaves and mud, so some tricky footwork was required. It is hard to believe that it is a cross country trail! This moderately rated trail, at a pretty healthy pace, can sure get your heart pumping!

I liked the diversity of this hike as it had some lightly forested areas, grassy open spaces, hills, streams,



and towards the end the views of the lake opened up. We elected to take a side route up the “*Sound of Music*” hill for a 360-degree view of the surrounding area. Definitely good training for the ski season! Then we took the twisting trail where we joined with the Lake Trail which offered great views of the lake, the Lodge, and the handiwork of the beaver colonies.



Bernadette with her knowledge of these CVNP Trails did a great job of making us aware of the interesting points and most of all the combination between the Lake and Cross-Country Trails just as she did with the Oak Hill Hike. She knew all the good places to stop, how far we should go, whether we should include certain trail sections or not. She offered suggestions for those who might want to hike a bit shorter or longer. The hike could have been either too hard or too easy, but it was just right! Her

knowledge of the trail made this a great hiking experience!

I know we are hardy skiers so getting wet or cold shouldn't have been a problem, but I can't say enough how lucky we were with the weather! A few raindrops fell before we started but there was no rain while we hiked and just a mild breeze towards the end which was most welcome. We had just enough time to get home before the severe weather hit - hail, gusting winds and driving rain. We are very glad the weather held off until we were all safe inside our homes!

**Zoom Wine Tasting** – Karen D, our wine lady and host, provided information about the selected wines and so much more! Thanks, Karen for a job well done!

Even though you may have missed the tasting, you may wish to sample these wines yourself, especially during the holidays as they can certainly complement your holiday meals and help you to celebrate the New Year (or any time). The wines selected included:

Campo Viejo Brut Cava, Spain \$9.99 (sparkling/bubbly), Pine Ridge Chenin Blanc / Viognier, California \$13.99, Cupcake Winery's Rose, California \$9.99, Seaglass Pinot Noir, Santa Barbara \$13.99 and Chapoutier's Bila-Haut, Cotes Du Roussillon Villages, France \$14.99



Giant Eagle carries most of the wines on our list with the exception of Bila-Haut which can be found at Heinen's.

Before we started Karen confided that "If you like it, it's good for the holidays". The first wine we discussed was Campo Viejo's Brut Cava, a sparkling wine from North Central Spain. This "bubbly" can be enjoyed as an everyday wine not just to celebrate the holidays. It has palate cleansing features with good acidity and is comprised of 3 grapes, Xarel-lo, Macabeo, and Parellada.

Next was Pine Ridge's Chenin Blanc + Viognier from the Napa Valley where Cabernet Sauvignon and Chardonnay are typically grown. However, the vintner grew two grapes as a side project. Chenin Blanc, known as being crisp and austere and Viognier, plush and unctuous and typically grown in South Rhône. He blended them together and people loved it! This wine is sweet but with enough acidity to offset it. It's good with turkey, sweet potato casserole, Asian spiced foods and crab cakes.

Note that sweeter wines should be kept colder. Interesting that the foods eaten in various regions match the wines grown there.

Cup Cake winery's Rose was next which goes well with dark meat turkey, ham and pork. It is a fun wine and even comes in cans (not necessarily meant to be aged). The shape of the bottle usually indicates what grapes the wine contains but this bottle isn't the same as remembered. Website shows it is made with Grenache, Pinot Noir, Syrah and Merlot)

Seaglass, a Pinot Noir from Santa Barbara was our next pick. Santa Barbara's microclimate with its sandy soil warming during the day paired with the area's foggy coastal cooling creates a unique taste. This wine is a darker sister of the cupcake rose with strawberry and tart cherry notes. This wine is good to sip but also good with food such as salmon and duck.

The last wine we tasted was Bila-Haut from Cotes du Rousillon in southern France. While the Chapoutier family has grown grapes since the early 1800's they didn't make their own wine until later. In the 1990's Michel Chapoutier took over and cut yields, using biodynamic (organic) methods without any pesticides. In 2019 this winery was rated as the 5th best in the world and 1st for French wines. These are Rhône wines which are good with roasted meats, leg



of lamb, smoked turkey. Very meaty but with darker fruit flavor such as blackberry, currents and violets with mineral undertones.

I hope you find this information helpful in your search for your favorite wine! Again, thanks to Karen D for such an informative and delightful presentation.

## Upcoming Social Events

**Zoom Christmas Ale Tasting** – On Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, from 7 pm to 9 pm, please join us as we sample various “Christmas Ales” from several of our local breweries - you can buy single cans of these at your local beverage shop!



Which one will be determined to be the best? If you have a favorite brew, please be sure to let me know so I can include it on the sampling list.

T. Telzrow

## Alpine Update *(reprint from last month)*

As winter sports enthusiasts, we are looking to fulfill our desire to hit the slopes! COVID-19 had other ideas as the 2020 season was coming to an end and it continues to impact the upcoming season as well. We have all been hearing about the restrictions, no walk-up tickets available, reservations required to access the mountain, limitations on chair lifts, and limited apres-ski activities. BUT people are going skiing and the Lewis Ski Club wants you to ski too. We have organized an excellent trip to

Breckenridge, Co. February 20<sup>th</sup> to the 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021. We have secured ski-in and ski-out lodging at the Beaver Run Resort (so no transportation is needed once we arrive at Breckenridge). We understand that the continued concern for COVID-19 has many on the fence about whether to go. We believe that every precaution that can be in place, already is. At this time, we cannot predict the availability of COVID-19 testing. Of course, we would like to give unrelated people who are sharing a condo an opportunity to be screened and tested so the masks mandates could be eased within the condo, but we just don't know that it will be possible. Those of you who are still thinking, please know that **every precaution is being taken** to ensure your safety. The limitations of numbers of skiers on the mountain is a benefit, no long lift lines. There are not many trips going, with some limited to 5 days. Do your research - you'll see that we are prepared!

K. Hulick

## Nordic Update

Unfortunately, with the Covid-19 surge and more travel restrictions, the likelihood of overnight trips to New York and Pennsylvania are getting slimmer. While not totally ruling that out, I'll be focusing more on planning day trips. Chapin Forest and Wilderness Lodge are two areas with groomed trails and ski rentals in the snow belt within a reasonable drive. Look for more information in the January issue.

J. Neumann

## Racing Team Update

Hello Everyone,

The annual race chairs meeting will be held on Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM via Google Meet. I will send out the invitation link about a week before the meeting.

As it stands right now, if Ohio is on New York's Do Not Travel list, we would not race in New York. That list changes week by week, so things could be different by January (hopefully).

I received confirmation from Bristol as to our race weekend as well. So. the 2021 schedule is set!

January 9 - 10	Holiday Valley
January 16 - 17	Swain 1
January 30 - 31	Snow Trails
February 7	Boston Mills
February 13 – 14	Kissing Bridge
February 27 - 28	Bristol
March 6 - 7	Swain 2

I'm getting guidelines from each ski area as to what we need to do to comply with the state regulations. The ski areas hate this as much as we do, but if they want to stay open and we want to race, we're going to have to play by the rules. There are going to be a ton of people bitching - let's not be that group.

I'm hoping to have more information by December 6th.

Pray for Snow!

M. Hyatt

**Lewis Ski Club presents**  
**Breckenridge and Keystone**  
**Sat., Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> – Sat., Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021**  
**\$1,700**



We have a great trip planned, staying in Breckenridge, Colorado and you're invited! Our flight on Southwest has us wheels down in Denver late the morning of Saturday 2/20/21. With most of the day still ahead of us we'll grab our two FREE bags, hit the road, gather supplies and head to the old victorian mining town of Breckenridge.



For seven nights we'll be resting our heads in spacious condominiums at [Beaver Run Resort](#) where the ski in / ski out options are abundant. In the evening we'll store our gear near the front of the complex and in the morning just click in and hop on the Beaver Run SuperChair for some black and blue adventure on Peak 9. But don't limit yourself. Breck boasts 3,400 vertical feet, 1,400 acres of groomers and 187 trails.



If gentle green runs are more your jam, you'll just grab your gear, click and glide down to the Quicksilver SuperChair for a plethora of mellow rolling greens.

When ski in / ski out gets old it'll be time to catch the free shuttle to [Keystone](#) with 128 more trails to explore.



But wait, there's more. Five-day Epic Day passes are included in the package. These passes are valid at Breckenridge and Keystone, including up to two days at Beaver Creek or Vail.



Transportation to [Vail](#) and [Beaver Creek](#) is not included but may be arranged if there is enough interest. Once we've purchased your pass you'll be able to login at [EpicPass.com](#) and reserve your skiing or riding days using the new reservation system. Your pass also includes [Epic Coverage](#).

Already have an Epic pass? No problem! Just omit payment #3.

With great memories and big smiles we'll check two more FREE bags, board Southwest for a direct flight home and arrive back in The Land mid-afternoon on Saturday 2/27/21.

We hope that you'll join us on what is sure to be yet another *Lewis Ski Club adventure of Epic proportion.*

**Are. you. stoked. yet?**

**For more information and to sign-up:**

<http://lewisskiclub.org/trip/2021-02-20/breckenridge-2021>

(Contact information for Shari is on that webpage)

# **Trip Insurance Information**

## Insurance Companies:

Ski Trip Preserver by Red Sky  
Travelguard  
Allianz  
Travelex Insurance

## Things to Consider:

1. Read the fine print and ask specific questions
2. Like any insurance company, if they can get out of coverage, they will
3. Make sure that skiing/snowboarding is a covered sport
4. Not all companies are the same
5. Cross your T's and dot your I's so that you are covered
6. Many don't cover pre-existing conditions for you or your family
7. Pre-existing conditions may be covered if insurance is purchased within a certain time frame and you are able to travel when it's purchased
8. Insurance won't cover a pandemic; quarantines etc.
9. It should cover you if you are sick. Be sure.
10. Some offer different levels of coverage
11. Coverage may include; cancellations (depending on the reason), lost/delayed luggage, injuries, medical, return airfare, hotel etc.
12. Ask about a Cancel for Any Reason policy
13. Check with your employer. Many group benefit plans provide ancillary coverages that include travel assistance.