



LEWIS SKI CLUB NEWSLETTER

February 2026

Next up...

Enjoy some chili and help us choose the winner of our 2026 chili cookoff!
Tuesday, February 3rd. Happy hour in the bar at 5pm – meeting begins at 6pm

Donauschwaben German-American Culture Center at Lenau Park
7370 Columbia Rd, Olmsted Township

Bring cash if you wish to participate in the 50/50 raffle + donations to our
refreshment fund are always appreciated!

Coming up...

March meeting – St. Patrick's Day warm-up party.

April meeting – International food fest.

What do you call a slow skier? A slopepoke!

Word Scramble

NAZBOEM OOEETYSWLLN NNNAAIIEOLTR RRTPIOA

Message from our President



Dear Friends of Lewis Ski Club,

February brings us Groundhog Day, Valentine's Day, President's Day, and the dreaded thought that we are already halfway through a sport we plan for all year long!

The alpine activities are moving along as planned with our first trip this year to Holiday Valley in the books. It was another successful trip with great turnout and great conditions led by Allison. We are looking forward to our first midweek overnight trip to Holiday Valley at the end

of February.

At our February general meeting we will be seeking members to assist the trustees with the annual constitution review with the expectation of any proposed changes being submitted at the March meeting. We also need to form a Nominating Committee to solicit nominations for the Executive Board positions in February as well. So, in addition to testing all the various chili entries, we have a few details to work out. Please be sure to bring your best chili for a chance to win BEST CHILI recognition!

Thank you to all of you who keep this club going in even the smallest ways, paying the memberships fees, joining our activities, attending a meeting all make a difference. Thank you also to my fellow board members and trustees who share a commitment to LSC.

Ski you soon!

Kim

Alpine VP Message



(Note: pay attention to trivial details in this article, since so few attendees performed well in the trivia contest at the last club meeting).

A snowy December got the ski season off to a great start, giving the Ellicottville area over 100" of natural snow and our local destination ski resorts of Holiday Valley (featuring The Wall with its 35° pitch) and Holimont a good base. Our sold-out trip on January 16 got 52 registrants, the highest number of participants ever with our partner Suburban Ski Club, perhaps

because members saved \$43 on the lift ticket compared to the price an individual would pay at the ticket window.

Since our registrations for the Suburban-led February 19 (a Thursday) trip to Holimont have been below our expectations, Suburban went way above theirs, and now that trip is sold out with just 11 Lewis Ski Club members. I guess that shouldn't be surprising, as that trip has been an annual tradition for suburban, while our club hasn't been to Holimont for several years. If we try this again next year, our folks will have to act faster!

The popularity of the February 25/26 mid-week overnight trip to Holiday Valley, with its 750' vertical drop and 4 glade runs will allow us to increase capacity to add folks on the waiting list to join the trip. We expect more snowboarders and zero green wigs, in contrast to lone snowboarders and 7 wig wearers in the picture on our website's homepage.

Registrations for all three of our joint 200-mile bus trips are well above their budgeted break-even points, which will help the club financially. We hope this bodes well for the future, and puts previous years' experiences, when the club had to subsidize some trips to prevent their cancellation, in the past.

Mark

Purgatory, Colorado, Feb. 1 – 7, 2026

Have an amazing and fun trip everyone!

Big Sky, Montana, March 21-28, 2026

Our welcome reception will be at 5:30pm on Saturday, March 21st at [Stone Fired Pizza](#) inside Vista Hall and our group dinner will be at [The Cabin Bar & Grill](#) at 5:30 on Wednesday, March 25th inside Arrowhead Mall. The cost of both meals is part of your package, and these venues are within walking distance from Huntley Lodge. I will be scheduling a mountain tour for our group, and I've also provided additional ways to navigate the expansive terrain later in the newsletter. A full itinerary will be provided as we get closer to the trip.

I have special luggage tags to add to your bags. These will help Huntley Lodge identify and deliver them more efficiently upon our arrival. I will be handing them out at the upcoming club meetings on 2/3, and 3/3. If you can't make a meeting, please email me with your address so that I can mail it to you BigSky2026@LewisSkiClub.org.

Shari



After a long day at Holiday Valley, we took a group shot in Ellicottville with Holimont's namesake run Greer in the background.

Holiday Valley Trip

The Lewis Ski Club's first trip of the year with Suburban Ski Club on Friday, January 16, went off well, with 50 members of both clubs making the journey to Ellicottville, NY. After some snacks and hopefully some sleep, the group got off the bus after the journey to a bit of fresh snow (sadly not nearly as much as we had in CLE the previous day) and temperatures in the low 20s.

Most of the resort was open, with some ice in spots, but nothing that got in the way of having a great time. The Mardi Gras lift, which is a high speed 6-pack, was likely the coldest one felt all day. With it being the day before the MLK weekend, there were more kids than usual for a Friday, but nothing that could be called unbearable.

After getting back onto the bus, the group stopped for dinner in Ellicottville, but not before getting a group photo in the parking lot at the hotel there. It wasn't until afterwards I realized the hill in the background was from Holimont and not Holiday Valley, but a picture is a picture. I later learned that members of the group had dinner entrees ranging from fish fry to burgers and even pheasant. Some made it a point to stop by the chocolate store before boarding the bus back home.



Trip co-lead L. Manthey, L. Ferenc, M. Gluss and Trip lead A. Wood taking a break in front of the main lodge.

Allison

Skiing is better with friends!



Welcome to the club Mary Kay, Rob, Stephanie, and Koura!

We're excited to hit the slopes with you and share a season full of community, camaraderie, and amazing ski days!



CMSC/Racing report



It was a great day at Holiday Valley on January 10th for the first race of the new season!!

A terrific Super G course was set that was fun to ski on. Conditions on all the slopes were also top notch. Lisa Lambert rode shotgun for Elise Allen Frankenfield. They really enjoyed the snow before Elise had to race in the late morning. Elise was outstanding in her category, logging in first place and gaining 15 points for the club.

The “us against the world” joint team was still third behind Fagowees and Snowballers.

Thinking about racing? Contact Elise and she will help sign you up.
race@lewisskiclub.com or Elise_allen44118@yahoo.com.

2026 CMSC Adult Race Schedule

February 1, 2026: Peek’n Peak

February 8, 2026: Snow Trails

February 21-22, 2026: Holiday Valley 2

February 28 – March 1, 2026: Swain 2

Save the dates



OFF-SEASON ACTIVITY PLANNING MEETING

April 10th

MAMMOTH MOUNTAIN, CALIFORNIA

January 30th – February 6th, 2027.

We have condos reserved at Juniper Springs with walk-out / lift-off access at the Eagle Express chair.



MT. BACHELOR, OREGON

March 6th – 13th, 2027.

Ski a stratovolcano!

We have rooms reserved at the newly remodeled Riverhouse Lodge in Bend.

Word Scramble Answer

Find out at the February meeting!

HOW DO YOU EAT AN ELEPHANT?

At a resort as Big as the Sky, we'll need a strategy

Plan A – Ski the Sky Loop self-guided mountain tour. Explore new runs and experience some of the best of Big Sky at your own pace with a step-by-step guide to get around the mountain on your own.

The route is intermediate-skier friendly and can be started from any base area.

Record your journey in the Big Sky app or tracker of your choice. Complete the loop, show the team at the Mountain Village Basecamp and get a special pin to celebrate your achievement!

Plan B – Get the lay of the land with complimentary tours and helpful information from local volunteers who will share directions, information, recommendations, and, if you're lucky, their favorite spots to ski. They will point out the advanced and expert runs and can answer all your terrain questions.

South Side morning tour covers terrain off Swift Current, Ramcharger, and Southern Comfort.

North Side afternoon tour covers terrain off Swift Current, Iron Horse, Madison, and Lone Tree.

How many bites will you take?

The Best Strategy

1. Schedule **Powder Time Off**
2. Choose your own adventure!

