



Included in this edition of the SKIBACS newsletter:

- 2010 Trip Reports
- 2011 Trip Agenda
- Retireez news
- Summer activity opportunities
- SKIBACS contact information



## Schweitzer Trip March 11-14, 2010 by Charlotte Lin

21 lucky snow dogs savored 3 nights/days at Schweitzer Mountain, which gave us what local townie-skiers said were the best conditions all season. We got new snow every night, well-maintained with 2-shift grooming on generous swathes of the 2,900 acres (2,400 feet vertical; 1,200 acres of tree skiing) and 32 km of X-ski trails. This little-known gem got us so spoiled we started whining if we had to share a chair with someone outside our group!



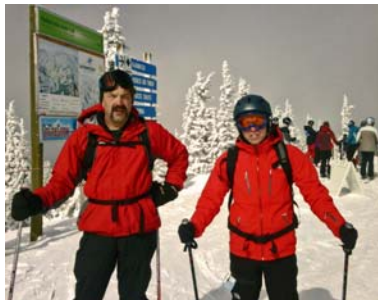
We got to the Selkirk Lodge Thursday at a reasonable hour,

despite having to verbally direct our driver to Oxbow after he drove past the Museum of Flight, then turned into the Developmental Center lot, then... The ride itself was properly uneventful: a couple movies, and few prizes (newest to skiing – Natalie Long: since 2006; most years skiing – Ray Koris: since 1960; most years snowboarding – Jay Spery: since 2000; most years in SKIBACS – Paul Kassen: since 1973; longest drive to catch the bus – Robbi Alberts: 83 miles from Shelton). The lodge was great, with efficient free bell service from bus to rooms; fabulous views of Lake Pend Oreille; convenient ski-in/ski-out; good hot tub and pool (held open when our bus arrived with only a ½-hr before the 11pm closing); generous hot breakfast buffet just for our group. Enthusiastic Schweitzer Mountain Safety volunteers offered daily tours on the mountain. Village amenities

included shopping at Artists' Gallery and Stiles; yummy ice cream and sandwiches at Alpenglow Deli and Mojo's Coyote Cafe; Thor's handmade pizzas; great wine list and menu at the *Wine Spectator*-lauded Chimney Rock Grill.

Friday: Patchy fog then sun; corn snow that got mushy in the afternoon from all the sun. Schweitzer Ski School dedicated two instructors to SKIBACS for a special hour-long mountain tour, with skiing tips. Schweitzer hosted a get-acquainted party with wine, beer, veggies & dip, and cheese & crackers. SKIBACS augmented the feast with meatballs and a 6-layer dip for tostito chips. Door prizes included Ste Michelle wines (Paul Kassen, Marcy Jullian, Dick Morris, Jay Spery, Robbi Alberts, Reen Payne), short-term McCormick & Schmick gift certificates (Ray Koris, Lisa Edelson, Natalie Long), T-shirt (Phil Van Valin), Boeing logo

ware (Carolyn and Frank Chapin, Mark Peterson, Rich Labash), snow-sport helmet (Marc Mahoney), Schweitzer thermos/mug (Matt Beck), Theo chocolate (Bruce Putnam), palm size level / multi-tool (Bill Larson).



Saturday: Classic spring skiing: sun, a brief snow squall at the end of the day followed by brilliant sun. Robbi Alberts and Reen Payne took the 2-hour guided snowshoeing tour. Robbi

then led 15 of us on a special Schweitzer shuttle down into Sandpoint for dinner and post-prandial relaxation at the brewpub and the Coldwater Creek Wine Bar.

Sunday: Brilliant sunshine. Matthias Beck skied with Mark Peterson's helmet-mounted camera; his video footage – and Mark's still photos – is available at <http://gallery.me.com/ridethehill/100186>. Lynda Beaumont and Carolyn Chapin tried the Schweitzer Activity Center's free snowshoeing intro, and did so well they also took the 2-hour guided tour. Our bus driver – WA State driver's license: Santa Claus! – got us home by 10:15, a bit tanned and sore, with fabulous memories of Schweitzer!

Bottom line: Schweitzer truly deserves its accolades: "Best Place to Ditch the Crowds";

editors pick - Skiing Magazine, "Top 10 Best Lifts" - Ski Magazine!



## Whistler Trip March 2010 By Boarder John (Stafford)

The March Whistler trip was FUN! The sunny weekend get-away began Friday afternoon when seven of us hooked up with about twenty skiers and boarders from the Bangor Naval Station. We met at the 72<sup>nd</sup> Street Edmonds Park & Ride at 1pm and headed north on a deluxe coach provided by Destination Snow. We enjoyed wine and Subway sandwiches along the way and stopped for provisions at the Duty Free on the border crossing. We all waited anxiously at Customs for several minutes to see if the Canadians would let our Boeing overseas friend into their country. He finally got the nod and we were all on our way again. The bus stopped in



Vancouver to pick up some Canadian guests and a number of us visited the local IGA market to obtain more provisions. We arrived at the Whistler Village Inn & Suites by 8pm.



A few of us enjoyed a burger and brew at the Longhorn with our new Bangor friends before turning in. As the Paralympic Games were underway there were events going on in the square, so we watched pro skiers and boarders putting on an aerial show and leaping through burning Olympic rings. Saturday morning Pat caught the early tracks at 7 am while the rest of us – Julie, Chloe, Mathias, Katrina, Harry, and me – met up with Destination Snow at the top of Emerald Express. We toured runs off Emerald Express, the Peak Chair, Big Red, and Franz's with Martin and Derek. That night,

several of us enjoyed dinner and each other's company at the Mongolian Grill. Sunday was another sunny day filled with groomed runs off of the Jersey Cream and Glacier Express chairs at Blackcomb. Some of us found a stash of deep snow in a natural half-pipe above Jersey Cream. Now that was fun! Eventually the Bangor and Skibacs folks all found their way down the hill and back to the bus by 3:30 pm.

Thank you to all who skied and rode with me at Whistler this year. I hope to see you all on another Skibacs trip next year!

Boarder John





## 2011 Trips Preview stay tuned for details...

**Whistler Blackcomb, BC** (January 6-9, 2011)



**Zermatt, Switzerland** (January 14-23, 2011, with optional Amsterdam extension)

**Sun Peaks, BC** (February 12-18, 2011)

**Canadian Powder Highway Safari** (March 5-12, 2011):

- Kicking Horse
- Revelstoke
- Panorama

**Whitefish Mountain, MT** (March 19-27, 2011)

Don't look a "Gift Horse" in the mouth: the 2011 trips are "Certain(ly)" to be the "Last Chance" to see the "Big Bear" or ride the "Two Trick Pony"! Sign up early for the best deals!!!

## RETIREEZ NEWS

It was another great ski season for the Retireez group. Of course, we had our monthly meetings to catch up on the activities of the club and our friends and enjoy coffee and goodies. Thanks to everyone who attended and especially to Rita Weist for making the meeting room look so pleasant and to Pat Itzen for making coffee.

We had two very successful overnights at the Crystal lodge. For the one in December, we were pleasantly surprised by 8 inches of new snow two mornings in a row. You can't do better than that.

In January, a group of 30 went to Sun Valley Prime Time. We had good skiing and we checked out the new Sun Valley gondola, which goes from the bottom of River Run to the Round House. It works great! We were busy every evening: the Sun Valley reception party, the Skibacs Get-Acquainted party, and several shows at the Boiler Room. We didn't get much new snow, but Sun Valley is expert at snow making and slope management, so skiing was always good.

Then a group of 36 went on our annual trip to Sun Peaks. We stayed at the deluxe Delta hotel. The units were all really beautiful and comfortable. Everyone was very pleased with the hotel. The skiing was fun as always although we didn't get to ski the top of Tod Mt. very often because of fog. We now call it 'Sun Peaks Through Ski Resort'.

In addition, about a dozen retirees joined Tom on the trip he led to Summit Co. in Colorado. We were able to ski Breckenridge, Keystone, Vail, Beaver Creek and Arapahoe Basin. It was hectic, but a great week of skiing. Virgil Robinson, who is an ex Skibacs member, but now lives in the summit area, guided us around both Keystone and Breckenridge. He knows every inch and bump of all the areas by heart even though he has serious vision problem. We really enjoyed his tours and his company.

**I recently updated my operating system and in the process I lost my e-mail address list. I'm in the process of rebuilding it. If you haven't received any e-mails from me in the past several months, it means I don't have you on my list. If you want to get back on it, just send me an e-mail at [bob.weist@juno.com](mailto:bob.weist@juno.com).**

Bob

## Summer Activities:

*We're working on getting some other activities going during the "off" season. Here's a start, along with some club volunteer activities.*

**Social Hike** – Saturday, July 10, 2010. Snow Lake Hike. Meet up with the SKIBACS group in the Alpental parking lot at for a 10:00am departure. Après hike will be at the Gaslamp Tavern in Issaquah. Jean Fedor (253-370-3620 cell; [jean.r.fedor@boeing.com](mailto:jean.r.fedor@boeing.com) ) is the trip leader.

**Social Hike** – Wednesday evening, July 21, 2010. Tiger Mountain 3 Trail. Meet up with the SKIBACS group in the trailhead parking lot for a 6:00pm departure. Happy hour will be at Coho in Issaquah post-hike. Chris Colleran (253-318-5422 cell) is the trip leader.

**Retireez Overnight at Crystal Lodge** – Thursday, August 12, 2010, contact Bob Weist to sign up. 425-746-3608 or [bob.weist@juno.com](mailto:bob.weist@juno.com)

**Evening Social** – Look for information to come on a Happy Hour event sometime in July or August.

**BMA Family Picnic** at Sillyville in the Puyallup Fairgrounds, Saturday, August 7, 2010. Looking for SKIBACS members to represent the club at a booth, answering questions from BMA members and their families. One to two hour slots between 9:30AM and 4:30PM. Contact Chris Colleran ([christinecolleran4077@msn.com](mailto:christinecolleran4077@msn.com)) if interested in helping out.

**Boeing Family Days** – throughout the summer, different Boeing sites within the Puget Sound will hold a Family Day, where employees can bring their families on site. Clubs are invited to participate. The first ones we know of are on Sunday, August 15, from 11:00-3:00, in both Auburn & Frederickson. Looking for volunteers to assist here as well. Contact Chris Colleran ([christinecolleran4077@msn.com](mailto:christinecolleran4077@msn.com)) if interested in helping out.



Just one of the adventures to be had with SKIBACS trips! Sellaronda, Dolomites, Italy

**SKIBACS Newsletter editor is Chris Colleran. If you have comments on the newsletter content or format, you can reach Chris via e-mail at [Christine.t.colleran@boeing.com](mailto:Christine.t.colleran@boeing.com) or leave a message at 425-965-3091**

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**Winter Hours** (October - March)  
Monday -Friday - 12:00 to 4:00 PM

**Off-Season Hours** (April 1st -October 1st)  
Tuesday and Thursday - 1:00 to 3:00 PM

**Crystal Mt. Lodge Pay Phone:**  
360-663-2698

## 2010-2011 Board of Directors

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Facilities	Paul Rossman	
Retirees	Bob Weist	425-746-3608
Receptionist	Mary Vasatka	206-227-6201
Web Design	Post Open	

### Dues:

**Single = \$24; Family = \$30; Retired = \$15**

**For all club activities, memberships, trips, events, make separate checks payable to SKIBACS.**

### Mail to:

SKIBACS, M/S 4H-58

Or

SKIBACS

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