

# MSC Midwest SPORTSTER

Published by the Midwest Sport/Ski Council www.midwestfun.org Volume 11, Number 2 May/Jun/Jul/Aug 2016

## Barry ZeVan: My Life Among The Giants

**EXTRA! EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT!** – Well, maybe it shouldn't be dramatized in that fashion, but after many years of urgings by friends, colleagues and acquaintances, I've finally written and had published, my autobiographic memoir.

Contrary to what pre-conceived notions people have about those of us blessed to be considered "celebrities" or in the public eye, what you see on television, hear on radio or read in the newspapers isn't always the entire story of that person's journey through life. How they started, where that led, how it evolved (not always in front of a camera or microphone) and the culmination of those years is an odyssey many endure, but, I've been told, none approaching my life's adventures, ups and downs and even near-death experiences.

**THANK YOU, JERRY STILLER...for urging me to write this book...**(with Jerry's written permission to use that sub-title) is sup-  
planted with the main title, **Barry ZeVan: My Life Among The Giants, A Memoir**. This book is the result of encouragement from my longtime friend, Jerry Stiller, to recount the very rich experiences of my life.

As Jerry wrote to me a couple years ago: "You're an express train that

*Continued on page 3.*

[www.mnski.org](http://www.mnski.org)  
[www.midwestfun.org](http://www.midwestfun.org)

## MSC 2016 SPRING FLING PARTY!!

Saturday, May 14, 2016

The MSC is hosting this year's spring get-together at the Oak Marsh Golf Course in Oakdale, MN, located 9 miles east of downtown St. Paul. This event is open to members of MSC clubs and their guests, is being subsidized by the Sitzmark club, and will be held rain or shine. Socializing and cash bar start at 4:00 pm, putting green mixer contest at 5:00 pm, and the Deli Buffet at 7:00 pm. Putters provided. Admission is \$18, by Reservation Only. Your check is your reservation.

You don't need to know how to play golf in order to have fun participating in the mixer.

Names will be drawn for the teams, with the intent to have each team made up of four persons who are not members of the same club. Each team will stay together and rotate opposite all the other teams, mixing and meeting with all the players on each team.

You must be pre-registered by sending a check to the MSC. Friday May 6 is the deadline for receiving your check in the mail. Reservations will not be accepted after that date.

Mail checks (payable to MSC) to: Midwest Sport/Ski Council, 5115 Excelsior Blvd #447, St. Louis Park, MN 55416-2906. Include your club, phone # and email so we can contact

you if necessary.

Golf tee times start at 8:15 to 8:52 AM for 18 holes, and 9:00 to 9:52 AM for 9 holes. Rates are \$50 + tax for 18, and \$30 + tax for 9 holes (includes golf carts). MSC golfers need to finish by 1 pm to accommodate another corporate golf event. Try to fill your 4-some, and email [om@wpgolf.com](mailto:om@wpgolf.com), or call 651-730-8886 to reserve a time, stating that you are with the MSC group.

The golf driving range will be available – bring your clubs.

Directions:

From the Hwy 94 & 494 junction on the east side of St. Paul, proceed 0.9 miles east on Hwy 94 to the Inwood Ave North/Radio Drive exit. Turn north onto Inwood Ave and proceed 0.6 miles to Oak Marsh Drive. Turn west onto Oak Marsh Drive and proceed 0.1 miles to the clubhouse at 526 Inwood Ave N., Oakdale, MN 55128 (651-730-8886) <https://goo.gl/maps/2nFNHWjdBSC2>

MSC golf and party events are located on the golf shop level.

We look forward to seeing you on May 14.

Mike Holland, 651-771-1997 (for questions on the golf events, call Mike)  
Bob Dike, 651-776-3495  
Jerry Schuster, 952-888-0860



## TOUR D'AMICO

July 4, 2016

The Hiawatha Bicycling Club is happy to announce that we will be conducting our 17th annual Tour D'Amico ride on July 4th. HBC co-sponsors this event with D'Amico & Sons Restaurants. The starting location for the event is the Golden Valley Shopping Center, in front of D'Amico & Sons Restaurant. All ages and levels of experience are welcome.

Participants choose from three routes. Mileages available are 31, 44, or 62 miles. The routes are quite scenic, and primarily cover the western suburbs, including countryside. Routes are pre-marked with signs and markings. HBC provides ride marshals who ride the course, and provide assistance to anyone needing help. Other volunteers monitor the course in their vans, and are able to provide ride service if needed. Multiple rest stops are available on each route, providing tasty refreshments and shady areas for well-deserved breaks.

After your ride, refuel and relax with friends and family while eating a delicious lunch provided by D'Amico & Sons. The buffet lunch includes freshly prepared sandwiches, salads, fresh fruit, dessert bars and beverages. This wonderful lunch makes the Tour D'Amico a unique experience.

Registration rates for the 2016 Tour D'Amico remain the same as last year. Registration is now open, at [www.tourdamico.com](http://www.tourdamico.com).

Greg Swanson

Next Sportster Deadline - August 1

# Have fun this summer!



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is an official publication of the Midwest Sport/Ski Council, Inc. and is published quarterly.

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The MIDWEST SPORTSTER is online and available by subscription for First Class mail.. To help defray the cost of printing and mailing, advertising space is sold in the Sportster. For information about advertising in the Sportster, contact:

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**ATTENTION  
VENDORS**

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“How can Barry ZeVan know so many famous people? Beats me, but he does and the stories he tells about them make fascinating reading.”  
**Sam Donaldson of ABC-TV fame.**



Available only on Amazon (print-on-demand only). Portions of sales proceeds go to charities, quarterly, and verifiable.

**PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE**

Greetings Midwest Sportster Readers:  
The date and location of the MSC Spring Fling Party was changed to May 14<sup>th</sup>, at the Oak Marsh Golf Course. Please see the ad and article in this issue.

For another fun event, we are going back to Giants Ridge for the December 9-11, 2016 MSC Winter Carnival, with Chris Mickman chairing this trip for the third consecutive year.

We have decided on the website changes needed to make an attractive high ranking site, and are meeting with the designer and developer of our current website, as to how to implement the changes.

Our Deaf and Hard of Hearing Learn to Ski/Snowboard Program was completed on February 7<sup>th</sup>. Contact me if you are interested in taking an instructor clinic and joining us next season.

Attend our next All Member Club meeting at 6:45 PM, May 17<sup>th</sup> at the Bloomington Knights of Columbus Hall. The MSC welcomes your input. Get involved and consider participating in this organization.

How many of you are aware of “Skier’s Thumb”? It is listed as accounting for 8-10% of all skiing accidents. A fall on an outstretched hand with a ski pole in the palm of the hand creates the force necessary to stress the thumb and stretch or tear the ligament. Look it up on the internet!

Jerry Schuster, MSC President



*Yodelers at Whitefish.* Photo courtesy of Carol Kraus

**ALICE’S ALLEY**


Shades of Whitefish and the Amtrak!! I have fond memories of train riding; both with and without sleepers. The year I went to Whistler, we took the train all the way to Seattle before getting on buses to Whistler. For most of us, the first thing we did on arrival in Seattle was to order a sleeper for the way back!! Mmmm! MUCH better!!

Back in the fifties, my first year to Yellowstone found me on a tain that picked up employees for the summer on a train that started in NY and traveled all across the country to Livingston, Montana, To the old Yellow busses, to deliver us to Yellowstone. No sleepers there, but my first exposure to heavy partying all the way!

Going to Whitefish with Sitzmark, you get to have a whole day to see a lot of Montana, after spending a night partying or sleeping. The sleeper coaches are very nice and you have your own private compartment with them. If you aren’t an all-night partier, the sleepers are worth the money. But if you do want a sleeper, be aware that you have to reserve early as the Seattle people will gobble them up!

I have found the food to be very good on trains. Not cheap, but good. You can easily bring lots of snacks to save some \$\$.

Coming back by air gives you a bit more time to ski, so I see THAT as a plus. Be sure to talk to Chris and Jerry and sign up soon. I think it will be a FABULOUS TRIP!!



Are you a fan of our own Sportster columnist, Barry ZeVan, ‘the weather man’? If you like reading his fast-paced prose, you will enjoy reading his just out memoir, available on Amazon.

As a member of NASJA, a journalist organization, I know that many of our members have been looking forward to seeing it available at last. It has been many years in the making and is finally ready for you to order now. Go to <http://amzn.com/1617662658>, or scan the QR in the ad on this page or the back page, so you can access it with one click from either spot.

As you all know by now, the Sportster is no longer being mailed to all the MSC members. It will be available on the MSC website at [mnski.org](http://mnski.org) shortly after going to press.

We are doing a study of the costs of providing it to subscribers and local ski outlets during this year, to see if it is cost effective to print hard copies.

So if you wanted to but haven’t subscribed yet, give Jerry a call to let him know you are interested. We need enough subscribers who want it mailed first class to them to help make it cost effective. Jerry decided to take the subscriber form out of this issue because there is just one more issue this year, before we complete the study.

So if you want the subscriber option to continue, call or email Jerry.

Have a great summer everyone!  
Alice Williamson, Editor



### ZeVan, Cont'd from page 1.

hasn't reached its destination. You should be more recognized. You're a self-made man."

What I've written involves a lifetime of being welcomed into literally dozens of circles of the world's most powerful individuals, globally, with vivid memories of how they were as 'people'. Rather than "name-dropping", the memories I share in the book are related *in awe and gratitude* of my privilege to have had their private selves be shared with mine, and vice-versa, personally and professionally."

Following are just some of the kind back-cover endorsements for my book and just about describe all of what the book relates and means:

**Former U.S. Vice President, WALTER F. MONDALE**, wrote, "Barry ZeVan, the Weatherman, is the person we watched as a television personality *with* personality. His autobiography tells us there was far more to his life in addition to television weather forecasts and broadcasting. His life story is a compelling read with constant surprises on almost every page. I heartily recommend it to anyone who thinks they know about survival."

"How can Barry ZeVan know so many famous people? Beats *me*, but he *does* and the stories he tells about them make fascinating reading." **SAM DONALDSON, former ABC-TV White House Correspondent, News Anchor, Co-Host of THIS WEEK, 20/20 and PRIME TIME LIVE.**

"Barry ZeVan's memoir is a must-read chronicle of the highest highs and the lowest lows the veteran television personality and producer has experienced, often in the company of the world's most celebrated personalities. It's a tale of bright success fraught with darkness, but always filled with hope.

Want know the price *and* the joys of celebrity? Read this book." **RUDY MAXA, Host, SMART TRAVELS WITH RUDY MAXA, PBS-TV and APT**

The universal consensus is that this book will be of motivational value to those in any walk of life to never give up, but to also realize even the "giants" of this world are also, at the end of the day, simply human beings who "come down to Earth" when occasions arise and dictate. I've been told by those who have read it, the experiences I've had (and sometimes still have) with the celebrated will make you smile and cry, sometimes at the same time.

Regarding skiing, my relationship with the late, great Stein Eriksen was filled with many one-on-one private times for almost 50 years, several of which are respectfully and happily chronicled in the book. Other snow-oriented friendships and adventures with Billy Kidd and Suzy Chaffee are also recalled from times together in Iran to Colorado and many other adventures involving both of them, and others.

There's a 32-page photo section at the end of the book as well as a 12-page index. It's been quite a life, not over yet. At age 78-1/2 and a recent cancer survivor, I'm glad to have been blessed with subsequent good health and the ability to share my odyssey, which I hope you'll consider reading. It's available (print-on-demand form only) on Amazon.

Thank you and all best wishes for a happy summer!

Barry ZeVan

**Editor's note: You can reach Barry at [bnz1@aol.com](mailto:bnz1@aol.com). He welcomes ideas for future columns and is available as a speaker at club functions.**

### CLUB NEWS Information

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**[snowfoolin@outlook.com](mailto:snowfoolin@outlook.com)**

**Next Sportster Deadline - August 1**

## MSC WINTER CARNIVAL

### 2015 Recap & 2016 News!!

We had a great time at Giants Ridge last December, and the naysayers that insisted there wouldn't be enough snow were wrong again. They would have been spot on if we had gone to some of the other Ski resorts that hadn't opened yet. Giant's Ridge had 11 runs open because they had been making snow since late October when temps were less than 28 degrees, so the skiing was fine for most people and great for us that just live to ski after a 6 month hiatus. We had a snowstorm on Sunday, and the good news is no one got hurt (always a plus). The Turtle Races, Human Slalom and Poker Run were a blast as always, although we want to encourage more women and couples to compete for the \$300 that is awarded to the winners of those races. Thanks to Deb Asmussen for her help on our event!



We decided to return to Giants Ridge on December 9-11, 2016 because it is a 3 hour close destination with reliable snow, and more affordable. Most importantly, our bus surveys overwhelmingly said they would like to return to Giants Ridge by a margin of 2 to one. In addition, the vast majority did not want to go to Winter Carnival over New Years or in January due to the higher cost and holiday plans.

We are open to going to other venues in the future, so please let us know what other spot you would like to go to in 2017 on the bus surveys. I'm proud to announce that Gary Heaser from the 3M Club will be working with me and MSC to run the Winter Carnival trip this year and we sincerely appreciate his time, patience, and expertise.

Chris Mickman

## SOUTH METRO

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### ELAN VITAL Information

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## YODELERS

**2015- 2016**

### ASPEN - MICHIGAN MONTANA - CANADA

The 2015-16 ski season in the Midwest started out slow. In December, we had very little snow. In January, the snow came down and so did the temps. Scheduled local trips were quite chilly, but a number of our hardy Yodelers showed up and hit the hills to prepare for our annual trip to Aspen (42nd year!). And Aspen didn't let us down. Four inches of new snow the first day provided us with a week of great skiing. On Wednesday, the place to be was Aspen Mountain. The runs were groomed perfectly, the sun was shining brightly, and Bonnie's was serving Hungarian mushroom soup and strudel! Who could ask for more!

I do have to confess that after 42 years, our evening activities have definitely taken a turn. Instead of the typical nightcap before retiring for the evening, club members opted for nightly ice cream socials. Thanks to all our Yodelers who provided the variety of ice cream flavors each night.

In mid-February, the club travelled to Michigan to ski White Cap and Black Jack. Again the effects of El Nino provided challenges. It rained the night before we got there, giving us icy slopes in the mornings for the downhill skiers. A number of Yodelers took advantage of the wonderful cross-country trails that Michigan has to offer - a great alternative for those who enjoy

the lower terrain. And, as usual, the bus ride up and back was full of entertainment and refreshments!

During the week of leap year, 27 Yodelers took a two-nation ski vacation to Fernie Alpine Resort in British Columbia and Whitefish Mountain Resort in Montana. Fernie's 142 trails and 5 bowls served by 7 chair lifts provided challenging skiing over 3 days of changing weather conditions - including 7+ inches of new snow the last day.

Then it was on to Whitefish for 3 days of skiing on 105 trails with access to bowls and tree skiing served by 11 chairs. Off the summit and in the back bowls, skiers searched out the best runs to take advantage of 4 inches of new snow each day. Stanford Resort in Fernie and The Lodge at Whitefish Lake were great places to relax and recharge after a day on the slopes. Each evening, groups sampled the cuisine at area restaurants. A favorite of many Yodelers was the \$10 Wednesday night seafood buffet in The Boat Club Lounge and Restaurant in The Lodge at Whitefish Lake, while listening to The Bad Larry's (a local favorite bluegrass/acoustic duo).

Even though the weather wasn't always ideal, we had a good 2015-16 ski season. Many thanks to Mike Holland for all the wonderful arrangements he makes every year.

Carol Kraus

**3M Ski, Snowboard & Social Club** - Silvia Fousters -

[sfousters@mmm.com](mailto:sfousters@mmm.com)

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**All aboard for the next stop: Whitefish, Montana!**

We are giddy with anticipation for our Rail/Air/Ski trip to Montana next March 3-11. Picture rolling out of the beautifully restored Grand St Paul Union Depot at ten o'clock pm on a Friday night. You will enjoy having drinks and talking with friends until the wee hours while we are hurtling (trundling?) Westward towards Montana. Later you may retire into to relative comfort of an (optional addl. expense) sleeper compartment on the rail line that James J. Hill of the Great Northern Railroad built in the 1800's. The less expensive base option will be to buy a coach seat that reclines with AC outlets where you will be able to have a comfortable ride and roam parts of the train... See America like some of our ancestors did. We will arrive in Whitefish Montana about 8 PM the following night after seeing some of the foothills of the Rocky Mountains before dark. After a short bus ride and grocery stop we will arrive at our slope side condos.

The luxury condos are in the midst of a mountain village with 5 restaurants/bars and gathering spots and the ability to ride a free shuttle into the town of Whitefish to rustle up some trouble/excitement there. You will



have the opportunity to experience some of the best skiing of your lives with 3000 acres of snow fields and helicopter and Snow Cat skiing as well. Whitefish is known for consistent snowfalls in March of 5"-8" as opposed to infrequent huge dumps of snow. Two or three bedroom Condos are available and trip pricing will be out soon to your club reps so start lining up your room-mates!

A bonus will be an optional ski trip to Fernie Ski Resort in British Columbia for about a two hours bus ride North for the adventurous crew in our cadre.

I'm proud to present our trip co-organizer Jerry Ratliff who is a world traveler with lots of train experience and will answer our questions before and during the trip (we won't be sure if he is making stuff up until later!). Please see our ad in the Sportster and sign up through your Club Reps for one of the greatest ski and vacation experiences that North America can offer. This could be one of the rollicking best ski vacations you will ever experience: The nostalgia of the railroad outbound trip, great friends old and new, World class skiing, and a possible visit with our northern neighbors!

Chris Mickman

**CLUB NEWS Information**  
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**You are to send your Club News to Carol at:**  
**snowfoolin@outlook.com**

	<p><b>TUESDAY WIPEOUTS</b> <b>Park City and Canyons</b> <b>Feb 4-11, 2017</b></p> <p><b>Trip Includes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◆ 7 nights lodging at Snow Flower condos</li><li>◆ Ski-in/Ski-out</li><li>◆ RT air into Salt Lake</li><li>◆ RT ground transportation</li></ul>	<div><p><b>Look for sign up details this summer!</b></p></div> <div><p><b>Contact Info</b> tuesdaywipeouts@gmail.com</p></div>
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Next Sportster Deadline - August 1

TUESDAY WIPE-OUTS

Lots of skiing happened for the Tuesday Wipe-outs despite winter's slow start and early end! .....and I was so worried last December! We had fun skiing at Afton Alps, Giants Ridge, Wild Mountain, Trollhaugen, Welch Village, and Vail, (some of us visited Beaver Creek, too). Several of the group enjoyed cross-country skiing at Hyland Lake Park as well! Not too bad for a short winter! And now we're off and running with our spring and summer activities!

Karen and Ruth are hosting a Spring Hike and Picnic at Silverwood Park in St. Anthony on Tuesday, May 10th. We'll meet at 10 am at the visitor center to hike, and eat afterwards. Bring a lunch or buy something at the cafe/coffee shop

May 17th, the following Tuesday, is our Spring Luncheon at the Lake Elmo Inn and Conference Center. We'll have a nice buffet lunch followed by this year's speaker, Master Gardener, Marge Sagstetter. Doors will open at 11 am for the social hour; we'll eat at noon. Be sure to send your check to register by Tuesday May 10th.

We have two bike rides in June! I love riding my bike! Tuesday, the 7th we'll meet at the trailhead in Welch at 10 am and bike to Red Wing for lunch

at the St. James Hotel. I always like to enjoy the exceptionally good ice cream at the Trout Scream Cafe after biking back to Welch! June 21st is the next bike ride...leaving from Sandra and Kay's place at 9:30 am to enjoy the lovely trails around the Minneapolis lakes. We'll regroup at their home again for a potluck lunch at noon! Yum! TWOs are fabulous cooks!

Our Namekagon trip is July 25-27. We'll canoe a section of the St. Croix on August 16th, and Marge's Pool Party and Potluck will be on August 23rd. We have a three-day bike trip to the Lanesboro area (we stay at a lovely place in Whalen!) September 12-14.

Lastly, our winter ski trip to Park City will be February 4-11, 2017. More info will be available soon.

Hey, just for kicks, email me with the word "snow" in the subject line if you have actually read this far. [kestrelkyrie@hotmail.com](mailto:kestrelkyrie@hotmail.com) Just curious! You can also email me if you'd like to join us for these activities and/or become a member of the Tuesday Wipeouts. We are a women-only ski club with lots of fun activities all year long.

Colleen Belgium



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**Visit our website for ride schedule & Tour d'Amico details.**



**www.HiawathaBike.org**

TRAVERSKI

I know we all had fun in the snow this winter; many enjoyed the annual weekend trip to Giants Ridge in December, playing games in the snow and having fun seeing friends from other groups. One of our own took 1st place in her first Turtle Race. I enjoyed the weekend in the snow, seeing if I remembered how to ski after breaking my leg at the 2014 MSC Giants Ridge trip. I was successful and had a great time! But I think it's time to put away the skis, and get out the tents, canoes, hiking boots and bicycles!

Our big trip this year was to Park City Utah, where 20 of us enjoyed a week of skiing down 100s of trails. The trails and views were spectacular, with sunshine making days beautiful. I was blown away by the skills of skiers on double black diamond mogul hills, while I just focused on my form and staying upright on the hills. We stayed in beautiful condos and walked only half of a block to get the chairlifts. Just a little further and the streets were full of restaurants, bars, and shops with the souvenirs you couldn't go home without. Some of us also had a day of fun on snowmobiles speeding through the trails, then up and down the hills. This was personally my second time on a snowmobile and I can't wait to do it again!

We had our annual charity auction in April. This year, we raised funds for the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI). This group is the nation's largest organization dedicated to building better lives of people affected by mental illness. With a large variety of items to bid on, over \$7,000 was raised! Quilts, metal sculptures, snowshoes, desserts, artwork and many gift certificates given by local restaurants were brought home by shoppers.

We are looking forward to the summer months and will welcome summer with a weekend of camping and playing fun games in the sun. We also plan to explore the Sparta Trail on our bicycles. Our summer meetings will all be outside, where we can play Kubb, volleyball and try Paddle Ball again. We will continue volunteering at Channel 1, never knowing what the job may be, packaging frozen chicken, or measuring bags of popcorn. We will also explore Chester Woods, only miles from Rochester, an area for boating, hiking, biking and camping. The summer months are just around the corner, and we are always thinking of fun things to do and places to go! If you are in Rochester, we always want you to stop by and say hi! Find us at <http://traverski.wildapricot.org>.

Raizel Weinberg



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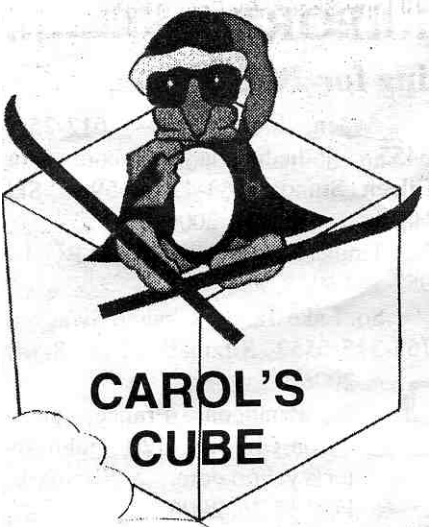
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**WHITEFISH**  
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Alaska...the 49th State; Land of the Midnight Sun; *Alyeska*, The Great Land to the Eskimos. Minnesota's claim to 10,000 lakes pales beside Alaska's 3 million. Within Alaska's 586,000 square miles are also 3,000 rivers, 1,800 islands and 100,000 glaciers. Who *counts* these things?

Anchorage, the largest city, population 285,000, lies near the Chugach Mountains, on Turnagain Arm. (Captain James Cook sailed up what is now Cook Inlet in 1778 hoping to find the Northwest Passage, but alas, had to "turn again," leading him to name the water body "River Turnagain.") The city technically covers 1,955 square miles, and no doubt has more motor homes and RVs per capita than any other state.

When I lived there in the early 1960s, Anchorage had a frontier-like quality. The 1964 earthquake and the oil pipeline helped to change all that. Now it's about as urbane as any other American city.

You don't have to travel far from downtown Anchorage to find plenty to see and do: Earthquake Park, Anchorage Zoo, Ship Creek Salmon Viewing/fishing Platform, parks, biking and hiking trails, numerous museums. The locals go to Goose Lake to swim and picnic. Watch for wildlife there too. Bush flying is big in Alaska, and Lake Hood is a very busy floatplane base.

South of Anchorage, at Portage Glacier, a 1-hour cruise will give you views of the famous glacier. I have a honeymoon photo taken half a century ago with the glacier as a backdrop alongside the road. These days, the glacier has receded to where it is barely visible around the bend at the pool formed by the melt water.

Girdwood, 30 miles south of Anchorage, is home to Mount Alyeska Ski Resort. Originally named Glacier City, after the 1964 Good Friday Earthquake dropped the coast by 10 feet along Turnagain Arm, the town relocated 2.5 miles up the valley.

Mount Alyeska conjures up thoughts of skiing, of course, but during the summer the 60-passenger tram takes visitors to the 2300 foot level for scenic views of Turnagain Arm and seven glaciers. Near the Alyeska Hotel, there's another kind of tram. The trailhead for Winner Creek Gorge Trail leads 5.5 miles through lush forest, and visitors can take a hand-operated tram across the gorge.

At mile 79, Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center, you can see orphaned or injured animals of numerous species that are rehabbed and released, or given a permanent home if no longer able to make it in the wild.

Seward, on Resurrection Bay, is the gateway to the Kenai Fjords National Park, with so much to see and do...kayaking, fishing, a visit to the Alaska Sealife Center. Take a day cruise by launch or catamaran and see wildlife aplenty: seals, orcas, gray whales, sea otters, puffins, eagles and more. View a glacier calving. Towering over Seward is 3,022-foot Mount Marathon, where a friendly wager in 1909 resulted in an annual 3.1-mile run to the peak.

Take a ride on the Alaska Railroad. What began in 1903 from Seward, just fifty miles north, today runs as far as Fairbanks. In place of the old steam locomotive, today's Railroad has bi-level domed cars and outdoor viewing platforms, all powered by diesel engines.

Included in the railroad's route is Denali National Park, dominated by the 20,310 foot mountain, mid-way along the 160-mile Alaska Range. It's said that Mount Denali (The High One) is so massive, it makes its own weather, and it's a rare day when it doesn't hide its head in the clouds. I count myself very lucky to have seen it on a clear, sunny day! Private vehicle access only extends to the first 15 miles of the 90-mile road into the park. Tour buses take visitors deeper into the area. The park is home to 37 species of mammals and 130 bird species, including golden eagles and ptarmigan, the Alaska State bird.

Many people don't know that In addition to Denali National Park, there is also 324,240-acre Denali State Park, adjacent to the southern border. It features campgrounds, hiking trails, excellent wildlife spotting, and exceptional views of Denali.

This space only allows a brief essay on our 49th state. I hope you can visit and see for yourself...and while you're there, watch for the northern lights. Oh, and be sure to pick up an **ulu knife!**

Carol DeVore

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### RED EYE

Morning came early for the Red Eyes on Thursday, Jan 28, 2016 as we began our journey to British Columbia. We left Eau Claire with high expectations and we were looking forward to seeing, skiing and experiencing all that the largest ski resort in North America has to offer. Whistler-Blackcomb is consistently rated as the number one ski destination on the planet by many publications. Check in was smooth and despite the long TSA line we all made it to our gate with plenty of time to spare. Just as we had wanted our travel to SF was smooth and our connecting flight from SF to Vancouver was effortless. Landing in Vancouver we found going through Customs no problem and with the exception of one lost bag, which arrived the next morning in time for skiing, we met several other Red Eyes who made arrangements for their own transportation. We gathered together and away we went all 28 of us. The drive out of Vancouver was both beautiful and informative. Our bus driver expanded on a number of interesting facts about the area and said the drive up the Sea to Sky Highway has been voted one of the top five most scenic drives in North America and we weren't disappointed. Arriving at our hotel check in was smooth and effortless. Pizza was delivered from Misty Mountain along with the bever-

ages. Whistler-Blackcomb staff spoke to the group and provided us with information about the area. We could wait to get started on our 5 or 6 days of skiing. Some took advantage of the day off to go cross country skiing. Breakfast was included with our stay at The Coast Blackcomb Suites, which provided a large number of options on the buffet that satisfied all for the morning fuel up for the day on the slopes. We had a ski storage facility, which was staffed by two full time employees of one of ski shops in town. After picking up our skis it took us 28 steps, that's right 28 steps to walk to the slope and we were on the hill!!! When they say Whistler is big they mean BIG, HUGE and MASSIVE. Over 8,000 acres, 200 plus runs, 37 lifts there is something for everybody and every skiing style. According to the Whistler ski report during the seven days we were there they received 19 inches of snow. The green, blue and black groomed runs along with the trees and bowls provided ample room of untouched snow for several days. The clouds did roll in and out throughout the days making visibility interesting from time to time but certainly nothing we couldn't handle. The sun did pop through the clouds from time to time and gave us glimpses of how big place it really is.

Scott Keuhn

Next Sportster Deadline - August 1

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PARK CITY

February 4-11, 2017 with the Tuesday Wipeouts

After several years skiing the beauty of Colorado, Tuesday Wipeouts will head west to ski Utah at Park City. We will be spending 7 nights at the Snow Flower Condos, offering the best ski-in/ski-out access to the largest resort in the U.S. They are located on the slopes of Park City Mountain's base area just steps from three chairlifts: First Time, Eagle, and Three Kings.

**The Ski Areas**  
Park City and The Canyons are connected by the Quicksilver gondola, now America's largest single ski resort with over 7,300 skiable acres with a good mix of beginner, intermediate, and advanced terrain. There are three distinct base areas, thrilling family adventures, and more than two dozen restaurants. <http://www.parkcitymountain.com>

Deer Valley has over 2,000 skiable acres and is consistently ranked among top ski resorts. Deer Valley was a venue site during the 2002 Winter

Olympics, hosting the freestyle moguls, aerial, and alpine slalom events. Lift tickets for Deer Valley may be offered as a special activity based on group interest. <http://www.deervalley.com>

Snow Flower

The condos are 2 bedroom 2 bath and each will accommodate four people. Condos include kitchens and fireplaces. Amenities include a fitness center, outdoor heated pools and hot tub, laundry facilities, ski locker in each building, wireless internet service. <http://www.snowflowerparkcity.com>.

The trip includes roundtrip airfare from MSP into Salt Lake City, round trip transportation from SLC to the Snow Flower via bus, and baggage schlepping. We stop on the way to lodging to pick up virtuals.

Approximate cost will be \$1499.00 per person plus lift tickets and activity options. Watch for trip sign up coming this summer!

Sharon Misgen



Next Sportster Deadline - August 1

WHISTLER TRIP SUMMARY

Whistler trip update continued from Red Eye Ski Club News :

On Tuesday, however was the day to write home about. Not a cloud in the sky till late in the afternoon. With nothing but sun in the sky Whistler provided us with unbelievable views of the mountains in 360 degrees. Everywhere you looked all you could see was mountain tops. Mark and Matt Prissel went heli-skiing on that day and are probably still trying to come down from once in a lifetime experience. We can't want to see the video. Whistler village has many bars and restaurants and we all ventured out for the experience on more than one occasion. The staffs at the hotel and around the ski resort were amazing and whatever you need it was "no worries" and it was done. With no lift lines, except for Saturday, everybody got in as many runs as they wanted. From short ones to as long as 7 miles we all left the slopes with a smile on our faces.

Only two minor bumps in the road. Mark Prissel hit a massive rock hidden under a snow drift and took an endo which caused him to have to postpone his heli-skiing from Sunday to Tuesday, which turned out to be the best day of the week as indicated. Fred LaGessee had someone run over the front of his skis and took a tumble on Monday. He was checked out and had to take a couple of days off. He was watched over well by our traveling nurses, Mollie and Susan. Needless to say he was in good hands. The club catered in a very fancy buffet style dinner with salmon and chicken with all the fixings and dessert on Monday night, which gave everybody a chance to touch base, catch-up and share stories of the slopes and village.

As we left Whistler-Blackcomb we knew we'd be back; as you never truly say "goodbye" we only say, "Until we meet again".

Scott Keuhn

HBC

Hiawatha Bicycling Club (HBC) is eagerly anticipating our 17th season of cycling. We have added new ride leaders, and plan to ramp up the number and variety of rides that we provide to our members this year. The club has already held a number of rides this spring, to take advantage of the early warm spring weather. As always, new members and guest riders are welcome to join us. Participating in a club is a great way to meet new friends, ride safely, and enhance your cycling abilities.

Information regarding Hiawatha Bicycling Club can be found at our website, <http://www.hiawathabike.org>. Rides are posted on our calendar, as well as sent out via email for those desiring that service. Our website is also used to post information about various club-sponsored events, such as Smart Cycling, which is a series of open events where various members of the cycling community present information about their experiences and expertise.

Club members receive many benefits. Most prominent of these is access to our full complement of rides. Each ride is led by a trained ride leader, and usually includes a map of the ride. Our club prides itself on providing support to any riders experiencing mechanical or other issues during a ride. Accident insurance is provided to members for all club rides. HBC sponsors an annual meeting banquet as well as annual volunteer banquet. Ride participation and

mileage are tracked, and reflected on our web site. On the first Friday of every month, a birthday celebration is held at a restaurant in Edina.

Our major club event, Tour D'Amico, co-sponsored with D'Amico & Sons Restaurants, is conducted on July 4th. This will be our 17th year hosting this event. We provide three different route options of about 30, 45, or 60 miles. There are numerous rest stops with refreshments. Perhaps best of all, at the conclusion of the ride, D'Amico and Sons Restaurant in Golden Valley provides a delicious lunch, which is included in the price of registration. The ride is open to the public, and we heartily encourage one and all cyclists to join us this year. Registration is now open, either via a link from our club website, or [www.tourdamico.com](http://www.tourdamico.com).

Although most of our rides are conducted in the Twin Cities area, many club members enjoy participating in rides outside of the Twin Cities. The club sponsors rides on the Cannon Valley Trail, and also around Lake Pepin. Last year, club members traveled to Michigan for a multi-day Lake Michigan ride. Nine members spent Labor Day weekend at the LaCrosse, WI Bicycle Festival. We will likely participate in this festival again in 2016.

Our club motto is "Let's Ride Together", and we sincerely invite everyone to take us up on that offer.

Greg Swanson



[www.mnski.org](http://www.mnski.org)  
[www.midwestfun.org](http://www.midwestfun.org)

3M SKI, SNOBD & SOCIAL CLUB

The 3M Ski Club had a great season with many events during the year. We hope everybody enjoyed the 2015-2016 season. Our ski club has 100 members, 3M employees and also many non-3Mers with all ranges of ages and snow sport abilities. We run great trips and many social events, so check out our website, [www.hootline.com](http://www.hootline.com), and attend one of our social events.

We just wrapped up the season with our Year-End-Banquet on April 2nd. I want to take this opportunity to thank all the board members who did an outstanding job to make this year so successful and fun. All of our board members will continue for another year.

During the year, we had Thirsty Thursdays at several locations around St. Paul. Over the summer months, our program manager found some wonderful patio locations. We always had a pretty good attendance.

One great highlight was our summer gala at a private lake with cookout, waterskiing, boating and yard games. We went to a Saints game at their new stadium in St. Paul. Many of the members attended the Warren Miller movie night and met for a nice dinner before this event. We had other great activities like kayaking, membership drive, trip sign up night, and curling.

In November, our annual wine tasting had record attendance. The theme was French Bordeaux and we had great food pairing with it. In December, the Wacky Gift Exchange took place at the

home of one of our members. Some gifts were very wacky and people had fun trading their items. Even Santa showed up. We started into the New Year with some of our members attending the ice dive and others cheering them on.

Club trips this year were to Revelstoke, British Columbia and Whitefish, Montana. One of the highlights for some of our members was the helicopter skiing at Revelstoke. For most of the attendees, this was their first time flying up the mountain in a Heli. They were all so excited when they returned, and still talk about this very special experience.

Our year-end banquet took place at the Pool Yacht Club in St. Paul, with a great program and a silent auction as a fund raiser. Fifty people enjoyed good food, a great program with award presentations, and our action auction. Thanks to everybody who helped with booking, food selection, setup, decoration and auction process.

In April, the ski club board started the search for new trip locations for the 2016-2017 ski season. Our members had the chance to select their top 3 locations during the year-end banquet and the answers will be taken into consideration when we select the places we will go next winter. We expect to have everything set and ready to announce, latest in June. Watch for announcements and check out our website, [www.hootline.com](http://www.hootline.com). Cheers!

Silvia Foustiers





## FOUR SEASONS ADVENTURE CLUB

Due to the unusual warm weather we can sing – It's "Summertime Summertime" by the Jamies!

The 2016 FSAC Summer Kickoff will be on Saturday, May 14th at the home of Tom Niters and Lisa Turnquist in Shoreview. Al Anderson will be the chef for the evening. Appetizers will be served at 4 pm with dinner to follow at 5:30. Socializing will be in force for the entire event. This event is a club sponsored event. BYOB. Please RSVP by May 1st to [tomniet@comcast.net](mailto:tomniet@comcast.net) or call 651-895-5010.

The Minnesota North Shore Waterfall Trip is planned for June 3-5. Rooms have been reserved at the AmericInn in Silver Bay. Waterfalls to be viewed include: Gooseberry Falls, Tettegouche, Baptism River, Palisade Head and several others. The cost is \$137 per night per room plus \$5 for incidentals. A continental breakfast is included. Sign-up deadline is May 3rd. Please contact Deb Callahan at [Callahan.deb@gmail.com](mailto:Callahan.deb@gmail.com) or 651-336-2507.

Join us for a St. Paul Saints Baseball game on Wednesday, July 6th. Tickets are \$17.22. Contact Vonnie at [vonnieinver@outlook.com](mailto:vonnieinver@outlook.com) or 612-202-5958.

## SITZMARK SKI & SOCIAL CLUB

Spring has sprung and Sitzmark has a fun schedule of events planned. In May, we have golf events every week-end but one. The first is May 14th, which is the MSC Spring Party, with golf in the morning. The following week, Saturday, May 21st, is Randy Gilbertson's annual golf outing and BBQ. Non-golfers are invited to come over to Randy's around 5pm for the BBQ. For Memorial week-end, we are going to Breezy Point for a weekend of golfing and other activities. We also have our monthly night out in May. This time it will be at Cossetta's in downtown St Paul.

Dan Fattig's Annual June Great Bike Weekend is June 10-12. This year, it will be at Jay Cooke State Park. The following week we will be at Lord Fletcher's on Lake Minnetonka for the June Night Out.

End of June is Sitzmark's Big Summer Trip. We are leaving June 30th to start our Alaskan adventure, first in Denali National Park and then to Seward for the mountain marathon,



New this spring — weekly golf outings with friends during June, July and August, planned by Pat Callahan. You can play 9 holes (later tee time) or 18 holes. The players will gather for lunch after the rounds.

Other spring/early summer activities include local and weekend biking, hiking, Tap Room Tours and Eat Outs in Saint Paul as well as Minneapolis.

Jeanne Hamlin is running a weekend camping trip in south-eastern Minnesota, July 22-24. Fun activities include a cave tour, wine tasting, canoeing/kayaking, golfing, biking and, of course, shopping. A motel, a house or campgrounds are the accommodation options.

The summer meetings will be held at the Green Mill on Grand and Hamline in St. Paul. Meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, with the first meeting scheduled for May 25th. Social hour starts at 7 pm with the meeting being held promptly at 8 pm. Hope to see you there.

If you would like additional information on any of the FSAC activities, please send an email to Jean Braun ([jgbrawny01@aol.com](mailto:jgbrawny01@aol.com)) for details.

Jean Braun

halibut fishing or kayaking around the icebergs. We end the trip in Anchorage with a ride on the Alaska Railroad to Prince William Sound.

July's Night out will be a riverboat cruise on the St Croix. End of July, we will have a summer Picnic, for a Sunday afternoon of relaxing.

Plans are also well underway for the Fall Kickoff. So save the date of October 8th at the Lost Spur Golf & Event Center. Lastly, it is not too early to start thinking of the next ski season. Chris

Mickman has set up a great trip to Whitefish Montana in March 2017. It is going to be a combination train/airplane trip. We will be taking the train out to Whitefish, leaving Saint Paul March 3rd, returning by plane to MSP. March 11th. For more information and to reach the people listed above, go to Sitzmark's website at [www.SitzmarkMn.Org](http://www.SitzmarkMn.Org) or to our Meetup site at [www.meetup.com/sitzmark](http://www.meetup.com/sitzmark).

John Olson



## ULLR SKI, BIKE & SOCIAL CLUB

Ullrs had a fun-filled winter, with downhill skiing locally and in Colorado at The Summit in February. Others went snowshoeing, or hiking when the lack of snow permitted. Social and cultural activities were thrown in during the winter months also.

Looking ahead, we are into biking weekly, golfing a couple times a month, concerts and theater, home parties and local trips. Our summer picnics begin June 8th and are held twice a month at Brookview Park. No need to reserve a spot. Just show up and join us.

The biking kick-off is May 7th and will go from Hopkins to Minneapolis. The weekly bike rides from Lynnhurst Field will start May 12th at 9:15am.

On June 26th, we will head to Waconia for the Triple Winery Tour.



Also in June, the club has rented the entire Good Old Days Resort in Nisswa for four days, June 13-16, where we will bike, golf, swim, eat well and generally have a good time.

In August, we will spend several days in Lansboro, MN, where we will bike those lovely trails, go to the theater, and some will golf.

For singles, monthly game nights are held in members' homes and the next the next one is May 13th. Fine dining night is May 22nd, 5:30 pm at the Yard House.

As you can see, there is plenty to do. Go to the website, [www.Ullr.org](http://www.Ullr.org), for more complete information, and join us at one of these events.

Sandra Shearer

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## MINNEAPOLIS SKI TRAVEL SHOW

**May 12, 2016**

Experts from some of the World's Best Ski Resorts are coming to Minneapolis Thursday Evening May 12, 2016

Plan your evening now! Minneapolis Ski Travel Shows for groups and clubs is coming to the area, Thursday Evening May 12, 2016, **Courtyard – Minneapolis - Bloomington \* NEW LOCATION THIS YEAR** \*.. The Show hours are 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm, with food and prize drawings furnished by many of the ski resorts at 9 pm. Cash bar will be available throughout the evening.

All signups are done through your clubs President or Trips Chair.

For the last 14 years the Minneapolis Ski Travel Show has been highly successful. This event brings together ski clubs/groups, ski resort and tour operators to discuss and negotiate ski trips for next season and the future. The 7th Annual Travel Show promises to be that and a whole lot more.

**Objective of the Show:** To provide more time for club decision makers (Presidents, Board Members, Trip Chairs, Current and Future Trip Leaders), so that they may educate themselves with Resorts, Lodging Companies and Tour Operators to formulate their travel plans for next season and the future.

**Reason to Attend:** Each show is designed to bring the Ski Industry together with Ski Club and Council Leaders for future ski seasons. The schedule gives your club trip decision makers 2 hours to plan trips for next season and beyond. This gives your club a great opportunity to gather trip information and cement relationships with tour operators and destination resort personnel.

Whether your club is searching for that new destination, or just wanting an update on that favorite resort, come to the Minneapolis Ski Travel Show and meet the EXPERTS.

The show will have a number of Western, Canadian, Local and European Resorts along with Tour Operators at the show.

Save time and expensive phone calls – come and meet the resort representatives in person from your clubs favorite destinations. Join us after the show for an informal reception and prize give away.

Mark your calendars and don't miss this year's opportunity to meet with the ski resort representatives who will be hosting your clubs next winter trip.

**Registration OnLine at [www.PRWtravelshows.com](http://www.PRWtravelshows.com)**  
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**MSC Spring Fling Party!**  
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**Saturday  
May 14, 2016**

Oak Marsh Golf Course, 526 Inwood Ave. N., Oakdale, MN 55128

8:15 to 9:52 AM Golf tee times (by a separate reservation)  
4:00 pm Socializing and Cash Bar  
5:00 pm Putting Green **Mixer** (Putters provided)  
7:00 pm Dinner

Admission is \$18 by Reservation Only. You must be pre-registered to attend. Subsidized by the Sitzmark Club.

Friday May 6<sup>th</sup> is the **deadline** for receiving your check. Reservations not accepted after that date. FMI, see the article in this publication or the MSC website [www.midwestfun.org](http://www.midwestfun.org)

# Tour D'Amico

July 4, 2016

New Location

New Bike Routes

Same Great Food!

Golden Valley Commons Shopping Center

31, 44 or 62 Scenic Loops

Includes D' Amico & Son's picnic.

Information and Registration: [www.tourdamico.com](http://www.tourdamico.com)

Proceeds benefit Twin City bike education and trail maintenance programs.

*Announcing*  
**MSC Winter Carnival**  
**December 9th - 11th, 2016**





*at*



**Join us for our Winter Carnival weekend at Giants Ridge**

- Ski-in/Ski-Out Condos with huge Hot Tub and Pool
- Skiing available Friday, Saturday, and Sunday
- 1,2, 3 and 4 Bedroom; Four Condos can sleep up to 9!
- Dinner Buffet Saturday Night
- Great band or DJ at the Lodge Friday and Saturday nights!
- Start recruiting your roommates!

For info: [chris@mickman.com](mailto:chris@mickman.com), [gjheaser1@mmm.com](mailto:gjheaser1@mmm.com) or your Club Reps

	<h1>TUESDAY WIPEOUTS</h1> <p>Park City and Canyons February 4-11, 2017</p> <hr/> <p><b>Trip includes</b></p>	<p><i>Look for sign-up details this summer!</i></p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ 7 nights lodging at Snow Flower condos</li> <li>♦ Ski-in/Ski-out</li> <li>♦ RT air into Salt Lake</li> <li>♦ RT ground transportation</li> <li>♦ Baggage handling</li> <li>♦ Gratuities</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Approx Cost</b> \$1499 per person (lift tickets additional)</p>	<p>Condos are slope side, located near the chairlifts connecting to the new Quicksilver gondola joining Park City Mountain and Canyons.</p> <p><b><i>Ski Park City and the Canyons on your EPIC pass!</i></b></p> <p><b><i>Contact info</i></b> <b><i>tuesdaywipeouts@gmail.com</i></b></p>	 <p>Open to all MSC members</p>



**A MUST READ for all  
Barry ZeVan FANS!!**

Are YOU one of them?? Go to  
<http://amzn.com/1617662658> for  
quick access to get a copy  
**HOT** off the press!!

“His autobiography tells us there was far more to  
his life in addition to television weather forecasts  
and broadcasting. His life story is a compelling read  
with constant surprises on almost every page.”  
**Walter F. Mondale, Former U.S. Vice President**

“How can Barry ZeVan know so many famous people?  
Beats me, but he does and the stories he tells  
about them make fascinating reading.”  
**Sam Donaldson of ABC-TV fame.**

Available only on Amazon (print-on-demand only). Portions  
of sales proceeds go to charities, quarterly, and verifiable.

The book cover for 'My Life Among Famous People' by Barry ZeVan is shown at an angle. It features a collage of black and white photographs of various celebrities and public figures. The title is prominently displayed at the top in a bold, sans-serif font. A small circular inset shows a cartoon illustration of a man in a suit. The overall design is busy and visually appealing, reflecting the book's theme of encounters with famous people.A standard black and white QR code is located in the bottom right corner of the advertisement. It is a square matrix code used for quick access to the book's Amazon page.

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- Ride West on Amtrak Sleeper or Coach for a Nostalgic Experience
- Air return travel or round trip air and land packages available
- WHITEFISH Mountain has 300"+ each year on 3,000 acres, up to 6 days of skiing
- Optional side trip to Fernie in British Columbia
- Slope Side Condos at Morning Eagle Condominiums
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- Leaving at 10pm Friday March 3rd, Arrive WHITEFISH March 4th
- Ski March 5th - 10th and return March 11th



For more info: [cbris@mickman.com](mailto:cbris@mickman.com), 763-434-4678 or [jerratliff@comcast.net](mailto:jerratliff@comcast.net), 651-647-0783