



The CHAIRLIFT CHATTER

May 2011

www.skissc.com

P.O. BOX 60713 Harrisburg, PA 17106-0713

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I'm writing this column while flying home from the 36th annual Mountain Travel Symposium (MTS), held this year in Beaver Creek, Colorado. Yes, I got in some spring skiing, but more important, I learned a great deal about the ski industry from other club leaders and industry professionals who attended MTS, and am bringing back a number of ideas that may help SSC improve how it does business and meets the needs of its members. More on this later....

What is SSC's purpose? Well, for one, we try to offer ski trips to our members at the best price possible and to the resorts our members want to visit. If you've been keeping up with recent newsletters, there is a change afoot in how we schedule trips to our members' favorite resorts. Rather than visit Vail, Steamboat, and Aspen/Snowmass with a large group once every three years, we are planning to visit three of our members' favorite four resorts each year (the four being Vail, Steamboat, Aspen/Snowmass and Big Sky). 2012 will be our first year under this new rotation; we plan to take 80 members to Steamboat, 40 to Vail, and 40 to Big Sky. Time will tell, of course, whether this new rotation works or not. I'm sharing the plan with you now so you don't panic that we're only sending 40 members each in 2012 to Vail and Big Sky!

Other trip news includes our premier introduction of a summer-time trip to a Colorado ski resort. You know what they say about Colorado residents – they come for the skiing and stay for the summers! Join trip leader Fred Bellis and 19 other members as they see what the summer in Colorado is all about! I'm told that the aspens will be at their peak during our visit September 10-17. Come along to see the wonders that sleep beneath Aspen's winter snow!

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2011-12 TRIPS & LEADERS ANNOUNCED

SSC is again providing its members with a super lineup of trips for the upcoming season. Our 2011-12 major trips and trip leaders will include:

Aspen/Snowmass (September) – Fred Bellis
Telluride – Carolyn Eash
Steamboat – Dianne Paukovits & Dave Gabel
Vail – Mark LaManna
Whistler/Blackcomb – Brenda Bent
Big Sky – Melody Patton

We are also offering a long weekend trip in September to Cape May, New Jersey, led by Anna Kambic. And we'll soon complete our 2011-12 trip lineup with a sampler of day, weekend and longer trips to additional favorite winter playgrounds on the eastern seaboard. Be sure to check out the June issue of the *Chairlift Chatter* for more details.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| Apr 27, 6:30pm | Board Meeting @ Giant (Linglestown Rd., Harrisburg) |
| Apr 30, 5:30pm | Spring Banquet, contact directorlouise@skissc.com |
| May 6, 5pm | Hit the Deck @ Dukes Riverside (Wormleysburg), contact socialcoord@skissc.com |
| May 14, 10:30am | Mt. Gretna & Governor Dick Trail Ride, Mountain Bike Ride & Social, contact fbellis@skissc.com |
| May 20, 5pm | Hit the Deck @ Flinchy's (Hummel Ave./Gettysburg Rd., Camp Hill), contact socialcoord@skissc.com |
| May 21, 10am | Michaux State Park Mountain Bike Ride, contact pastpresident@skissc.com |
| May 21, 2pm | Tumbling Run Hike, contact president@skissc.com |
| May 25, 6:30pm | Board Meeting @ Giant (Linglestown Rd., Harrisburg) |
| Jun 3, 5pm | Hit the Deck @ Morgan's Place (North Front St., Hbg.), contact socialcoord@skissc.com |
| Jun 4 | Motorcycle Poker Run, contact ipredix@comcast.net |
| Jun 5 | Wolf Trap Louisiana Swamp Romp, contact treasurer@skissc.com |
| Jun 17, 5pm | Hit the Deck @ The Wharf (Derry Street, Hbg.), contact socialcoord@skissc.com |
| Jun 17-19 | Raystown Biking/Boating/Camping Weekend, contact directorlouise@skissc.com |
| Jun 25 | Summer Picnic & Trip Sign-up at Camp Reiley, contact tripvp@skissc.com |
| Jun 29, 6:30pm | Board Meeting @ Giant (Linglestown Rd., Harrisburg) |
| Jul 1, 5pm | Hit the Deck @ Stoney Creek Inn (Dauphin), contact socialcoord@skissc.com |

ASPEN/SNOWMASS, COLORADO ~ September 10-17 We are going to the Rockies for some summertime fun!!

Yes - September!!! SSC has finally done it. Spend a fun-filled week this September with nineteen fellow SSC members in one of Colorado's top-rated, most beautiful mountain resorts! Aspen/Snowmass is Mother Nature's playground for all seasons: biking, hiking, rafting, fishing, golf and horseback riding are only a few of the fun things to do there in the summertime. Ever try a hot air balloon ride? It's lots of fun! The wildflowers in the Rockies are breathtaking, something we do not see while skiing. And the shopping in Aspen is great, with some of the area's best second-hand shops. Making it easy to fit in all these fun things to do, there is free shuttle service in the Aspen/Buttermilk/Snowmass area; even Glenwood Springs is a free ride!

Now for the best part, we'll fly from Harrisburg to Aspen (no long bus rides), and we'll stay seven nights at the Snowmass Mountain Chalet, only eight miles from the Aspen airport. Daily breakfasts are included. Don't worry about your skis and boots getting lost, all you need is sneakers and flip-flops. The price of this trip is \$1039 per person double occupancy. Optional activities are extra; group pricing will be utilized where available. Contact **trip leader Fred Bellis** at fbellis@skissc.com or 717-649-2130.

MT. GRETNA & GOVERNOR DICK BIKE RIDE & QUENTIN TAVERN SOCIAL

Saturday, May 14

In this ride there's something for everyone – beautiful scenery along the Mt. Gretna rail-trail and thrilling terrain for mountain bikers. We'll meet at the rail-trail parking lot at Colebrook (next to Twin Kiss) at 10:30 am. Rail-trail riders will start their out-and-back ride from this lot and travel towards Lebanon. Distance out is personal preference. Mountain bikers will travel by vehicle to Governor Dick for some top-rated single tracking, featuring log jumps, rock gardens, hills and all the other fun surprises associated with a top-rated, single-track course. After the rides, we will meet at the nearby Quentin Tavern for lunch and adult beverages. Braggin' rights are encouraged!

The rail-trail parking lot is located at the intersection of Mount Wilson Road (Rt 117) and Mount Gretna Road (Rt 241). For GPS users, enter 1550 Mount Wilson Road, Colebrook, PA 17042. For more information, contact **Fred Bellis** at fbellis@skissc.com or 717-649-2130.

IT'S TIME TO HIT THE DECKS AGAIN!

Spring has been a bit slow to arrive this year, but it's finally here and time to celebrate! Whether you're long-time SSC members or looking to become better acquainted with us and what our club has to offer, we welcome you to join us! Here's how it works: We select the location and you take care of your own food and beverages. The evening kicks off around 5 pm. When you arrive, look for table tent cards with the SSC logo. If you have any questions, contact **Anna Kambic** at 717-580-3889 or socialcoord@skissc.com.

May 6 – Duke's Riverside (Wormleysburg)

May 20 – Flinchy's (Hummel Ave./Gettysburg Rd., Camp Hill)

June 3 – Morgan's Place (North Front St., Hbg.)

June 17 – The Wharf (Derry St., Hbg.)

July 1 – Stoney Creek Inn (Dauphin)

July 15 – El Rodeo (Rt. 22, Colonial Park)

July 29 – TJ Rockwell's (Elizabethtown)

August 12 – Dockside Willies (Wormleysburg)

August 26 – Brewhouse Grille (State Rd., Camp Hill)

September 9 – Mount Hill Tavern (Colonial Rd., Hbg.)

September 23 – Bogey Macaws (Chestnut Hill Rd., York)

MICHAUX STATE PARK MOUNTAIN BIKE RIDE ~ Saturday, May 21

All you avid mountain bikers!! Save this date – Saturday, May 21st – for some of Pennsylvania's finest mountain-biking trails. Michaux State Park offers miles of FUN trails to challenge all levels of mountain bikers through its beautiful, rugged mountain terrain! You may even be lucky enough to see some pink lady slippers, a beautiful pink wildflower that blooms in Penn's woods in mid- to late-May. Full-suspension or front-suspension mountain bikes and helmets are a must for this ride! We will meet at 10 am at the parking lot below the Appalachian Trail Museum in Pine Grove Furnace State Park. After biking for 3 hours we will share a picnic lunch at the pavilion with the SSC'ers going on the Tumbling Run hike. Bring a dish and/or beverage to share!

Following lunch, if you're up for more outdoor adventure, you can join Pam for her Tumbling Run hike. For more info about the mountain biking activities on this date, contact **Brenda Bent** at pastpresident@skissc.com or 717-921-2575.

TUMBLING RUN HIKE ~ Saturday, May 21

Does the idea of hiking alongside a cascading mountain stream with beautiful waterfalls and clambering over streamside boulders appeal to you? Do you have a friendly dog that loves to do the same? Come along with us on a hike along South Mountain's Tumbling Run on Saturday, May 21. This hike is rated moderate, starting out easy but becoming strenuous toward the end. This can be hiked up & back along the same trail. Be prepared for wet conditions and bring water, snacks, a hiking stick, and your camera!

We'll meet at the Pine Grove Furnace parking lot below the Appalachian Trail Museum, and arrange carpools to the trailhead. Carpools must be set up in time for our departure for the trailhead at 2 pm SHARP! So come early and join in Brenda's post-ride tailgate/picnic (see article above, please bring food/beverages to share). Or come even earlier to check out the new Appalachian Trail Museum (open 12-4). Contact **Pam Neidig** at 717-507-7196 or president@skissc.com if you plan to join this hike or if you need directions. Here are some links providing information about this trail:

http://www.terntec.com/hiking_tumbling_run.htm; <http://www.satc-hike.org/ofh29.pdf>

<http://www.localhikes.com/HikeData.asp?DispType=0&ActiveHike=2&GetHikesStatID=1&ID=4291>

<http://www.meetup.com/peacetribe/events/13538505/>

MOTORCYCLE POKER RUN ~ Sat., June 4

"Get your motor running... Head on down the highway..."

As if you needed a good reason to jump on your bike and ride! I will give you one anyway – join me for the first SSC Poker Run of the year! We will meet at 9 am at the All American Diner, 510 S. State Road, Marysville, for a hearty breakfast and then take off for a great day of riding together. Throughout the day, playing cards will be handed out at various stops. At the final stop, everyone will show his or her "hand" for prizes. If you're planning to attend, contact **Jack Predix** at 717-957-2925 or jpredix@comcast.net by May 30. In the event of rain, I will contact each person on Saturday morning if we need to cancel. The ride will end with a party in Marysville. Chicken, burgers

 and dogs on the grill and beverages will be provided. Access to a hot tub will also be provided for any interested people, so bring a swimsuit along. Cost is \$10 per person, which includes the party food and drink plus a special "surprise". "BORN TO BE WILD!!"

LOUISIANA SWAMP ROMP ~ Sun., June 5

Get out your Mardi Gras beads and travel with SSC to the 22nd Annual Louisiana Swamp Romp held at Wolf Trap in Vienna, VA near DC at 2 pm on June 5. Bring a blanket, a picnic lunch (concessions available) and your favorite adult beverage for an afternoon of jazz, funk, rock, blues, and Cajun music performed by 4 bands: Trombone Shorty, Sonny Landreth, Geno Delafosse and Steve Riley and the Mamou Playboys. Concert is held rain or shine. We will carpool, leaving around 9:30 am from a site TBD.

Tickets purchased through Wolf Trap website will cost you \$29.25; buy them through SSC and save \$2.75 each! Send your check payable to SSC for \$26.50 to **Beth Harfmann**, 105 Willow Rd., Hbg. 17109. Deadline is May 13. Contact Beth at treasurer@skissc.com, or 717-540-1310 for more information. To check out the entertainment, go to www.wolftrap.org. Click on 'Find Performances & Events', then 'Printable Quick Sheet of 2011 Filene Center Season', and then on '22nd Annual Louisiana Swamp Romp'. It's a hoot!

SSC ANNUAL FAMILY SUMMER PICNIC AND TRIP SIGN-UP

Saturday, June 25

ADMISSION PRICE ROLLBACK!!!

Back by popular demand, Harrisburg's YWCA Camp Reiley will serve as the encore location for SSC's annual family summer picnic. The day will include lots of great friends, food, drink and a chance to sign up for our 2011-12 trips. Trip deposits will be accepted at the picnic after 12 noon. SSC will provide a BBQ selection, hamburgers and beverages. Please bring a covered dish or dessert to share with your SSC friends.

Member-only early bird prices are only \$10/adult; prices will be higher after June 13. Send your checks payable to "SSC" to **Mark LaManna** at 4713 Buck Run Lane, Harrisburg, PA 17110-3265. If paying for multiple attendees, please include their names and ages (to qualify for free or youth admissions). Contact Mark at 717-238-3889 or tripvp@skissc.com with any questions or to volunteer. Volunteering is needed and is a way to get involved; please respond ASAP to help out.

Picnic Prices:

Members: ages 21 and up – \$10 through June 13; \$20 after June 13
ages 9 to 20 – \$5 through June 13; \$10 after June 13

Non-members: ages 21 and up – \$20
ages 9 to 20 – \$10 Children 8 and under – Free!!



RAYSTOWN WEEKEND ~ June 17 - 19

A fantastic summer weekend at Raystown Lake has been planned for Friday thru Sunday, June 17-19 for all SSC outdoor enthusiasts. If you enjoy mountain biking, riding rail-trails, boating, swimming or camping, this event is an absolute must. **If you plan to stay overnight, make your reservation now!** Most activities will take place in the vicinity of 7 Points Recreation Area, Hesston, approximately 10 miles from Huntingdon. **Pleasant Hills Resort** in Hesston is holding a limited number of campsites for SSC for that weekend. All sites have 3-way hook-up and are a short walk to the bathhouse and restrooms. A minimum 2-night stay is required. These sites will be released to the public after May 12. When reserving a site tell them you are with SSC. For additional information, visit www.pleasanthills.net, or contact them at 814-658-3986 or 717-987-3184. For other types of accommodations or additional information, go to www.Raystown.org.

Brenda Bent will lead the mountain bike ride on a section of the Allegrrippis Trail system. The system is made up of over 32 miles of trails consisting of 24 trail segments designed in stacked loops. Becky Havice will lead the rail-trail ride on the Lower Trail, which follows the abandoned Petersburg Branch of the old Pennsylvania Railroad, along the Frankstown Branch of the Juniata River. Much of the trail is part of the original towpath for the PA Canal. Both rides will take place on Saturday and start at 9 am. The meeting place for Brenda's ride will be the Allegrrippis trail head. Becky's ride will meet at the Giant store in Huntingdon.

If you own a boat or other watercraft and plan to participate in the boating, please inform Louise Garland so arrangements can be made for everyone to meet on Saturday and Sunday. Those willing to take other members out on the lake with them should also notify Louise and let her know how many people you can accommodate. Members wishing to boat are asked to chip in for gas, provide your own beach towel, lotion, small cooler with lunch and beverages and life jacket. Information on houseboat or boat rentals can be found at www.7pointsmarina.com.

If you plan to participate in any aspect of this weekend, please notify **Louise Garland** at 717-545-2173 or directorlouise@skissc.com no later than June 1. Questions regarding mountain biking can be directed to **Brenda Bent** at 717-921-2575 or pastpresident@skissc.com. Questions re the rail-trail ride should be directed to **Becky Havice** at 717-248-7271 or rplatt@eawireless.net.



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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Trip Vice President - Mark LaManna
Social Vice President - Melody Patton
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Trip Coordinator - Dave Gabel
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Also this September, we are returning for a long weekend to Cape May. We experimented with a trip to Ocean City, Maryland in September 2010, in part due to the tumbledown conditions at our perennial Cape May favorite, the Atlas Hotel. Post-trip feedback following the Ocean City trip was pretty clear – if we could find a way to return to Cape May, we should do so. Earlier in our trip planning process we'd hoped to be able to return to the Atlas. Alas, the Atlas, now known as the Ocean Club Hotel, has new owners who are busy converting it into a modern resort hotel, and the room prices have also been renovated substantially. After a lot of deliberation and a lot of creative input, SSC's board of directors has decided instead to reserve a block of rooms at the Camelot Motel, located at 103 Howard Street. Check out trip leader Anna Kambic's article for more details – we're "on the way [again] to Cape May!"

Lastly, as I did last month, I urge those of you who have yet to get involved in this club to stop thinking about it, and just do it! We have plenty of opportunities for aspiring trip leaders, event organizers, and event volunteers. Also, we have openings in 2-3 critical support roles: Constant Contact associate and volunteer coordinator. Please contact me, or any member of the board if you're interested in getting involved – you won't regret it!

Live to ski another day!

WE'RE ON OUR WAY TO CAPE MAY!!

September 22–25

Come with us and experience the beauty and rich history of one of our nation's oldest seashore resorts. Cape May, New Jersey has that quaint, small town feel that brings people back year after year, decade after decade. This year, we will stay at the Camelot Motel, which overlooks the ocean, from Thursday, September 22 to Sunday, September 25. Our trip package will include 3 nights accommodations plus local taxes; breakfasts are not included as the Camelot does not have a restaurant. Each room includes a kitchenette if you want to make your own breakfast, and there are plenty of wonderful restaurants nearby. Trip planning is still underway but we'll possibly price in a group social event or two, and possibly also group transportation.

SSC has reserved twenty 2-room efficiency units that include 2 double beds in a private bedroom, a hide-a-bed in the living room, a kitchenette, private bath, microwave, refrigerator and coffee pot. An outdoor swimming pool is also available. The Camelot is centrally located, putting you within steps of the beach, promenade, miniature golf and bikes. So come and explore Cape May's renowned Victorian gingerbread houses and ferry. Finally, we are excited to announce that Cape May's 14th Annual Food and Wine Festival and Mall Art Show will be held in the same weekend of this trip! Deposits of \$135 per person are now being accepted and can be made payable to "SSC Cape May 2011." Please mail your check to **trip leader Anna Kambic**, 4088 Continental Drive, Harrisburg, PA 17112. Contact Anna at 717-580-3889 or akambic@skissc.com with your questions!



SSC MEMBERSHIP YEAR STARTED APRIL 1

The membership year runs from April 1 to March 31, so chances are that your SSC membership expired on March 31!! Remember, being a current SSC member is a requirement for you to receive a monthly newsletter and sign up for our trips. If you haven't renewed yet, send your check and completed application today (download from the website or cut out from the April Newsletter). You can also renew through our website. It's easy! Just go to www.skissc.com and click on Join SSC! Join Online or Renew Online. Pay securely online through PayPal! Be sure to complete the payment instructions and you won't miss a single great event! Please note any name, address, phone number or e-mail address changes on your application. If you have any questions, contact **Jesse Eash**, Membership Director, at membership@skissc.com.