



2015

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear MCSC,

It's already April and it's hard to believe that after 3 years, my tenure as MCSC President will be ending in only two months. So, this being my second to last President's Message, I have decided to reflect back on the past three years.

To date, including this issue, I have written 35 President's Messages for Ski Tales, and presided over 56 MCSC Membership and 34 Board meetings. But these are just numbers; the important things I have witnessed in our

So, while you will only see me presiding over a few more meetings, I will continue to be an active part of MCSC going forward.

club during the past three years are the many new members who joined our club, the great trips and events that were organized and well attended, and those who stepped up as trip/event leaders.

Through your participation we traveled to Austria, Switzerland, Italy, Canada, Colorado, Utah, Oregon, New Mexico, Montana and Vermont. We played softball, tennis, we hiked, biked, kayaked, bowled, helped build homes for Habitat, displayed our talents in a painting class, tailgated, golfed and even got to see Derek Jeter play one of his final games at Yankee Stadium.... just to name a few. In typical MCSC style, no matter what we did -- we had a blast and many new friendships developed.

Helen



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## SKI DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ladies and Gents,

April has arrived so ski season is on its last legs. Still some snow up in the mountains for spring skiing on mashed potatoes, if to your taste. So it's a good time for a recap of the season.

We had 32 members who traveled to Italy to ski at Madonna di Campiglio for 7 nights. We visited Trento and Bologna and stayed 2 nights in Florence. A great trip with good weather and snow and a great group of friends. Thanks Trip Leader Cindy Humphrey.

We had 30 people drive themselves up for a weekend at Mount Snow in Vermont. It was very cold but we made the most of it outside and kept hydrated in warm toasty taverns.

We had 37 members fly out to ski at Big Sky in Montana. Big blue skies greeted us most mornings as we fueled up on delicious Huntley breakfasts. Then we skied hard and partied harder apres. Read all about it in our Trip Leader Beth Hyslip's article. Great job Beth.

We had 10 members, and 2 out on their own, fly out to Breckenridge in Colorado for a long weekend ski trip. Gina Maroney, and her assistant Beverly Thomas, will fill us in on the great snow, weather and skiing they had. Welcome home and thanks Gina and Bev.

Another 40+ of us purchased the Pocono Card for discounted lift tickets at 6 of those Pennsy Ski Hills. Thanks Nancy McLaughlin (also for being our Ski Council Rep) and Tony Tarullo for scheduling ski days in PA for the club. So that's it. Stick a fork in it. A Great Ski Season. I'm starting the work for the next one, so stay tuned.

Your Ski Director,

Ed Tideman



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## Morris County Ski Club Hike

### Mount Tammany Delaware Water Gap, NJ

**Saturday April 25, 2015**

**Date: Saturday, April 25, 2015**

**Time: 10:00 AM**

**Meeting Location: Dunnfield Creek Natural Area//Lower Lot**

**Difficulty: Strenuous/Moderate**

**Hike distance: About 8 miles**

**Time: About 5 hours**

**Description:** Join the Morris Ski Club on a challenging hike in the Delaware Water Gap area. The hike starts with a steep climb on the Red Dot Trail to the top of Mount Tammany. This trail is about a mile and a half long with an elevation gain of more than 1200 feet. After completing this challenge you will be rewarded with a spectacular view of the Delaware Water Gap and Mount Minsi in Pennsylvania. We will then have a slightly easier descent from Mount Tammany to the Dunnfield Creek Trail. The remainder of the hike will moderate in difficulty as we hike along the Dunnfield Creek and Delaware River. We will then finish off the day by going to a nearby bar and grill.

Important Notes for the hike:

1. This is NOT a beginner's hike. The trail up to Mount Tammany is very challenging. It is as steep as or steeper than the climb up Buttermilk Falls. The descent from Mount Tammany will not be as steep but is not easy.
2. Hiking boots are highly recommended for climbing Mount Tammany as these trails are very rocky. The trail along the Dunnfield Creek could be a bit tricky if the water level is high.
3. Daypack to carry extra clothing, sufficient water and your lunch.

4. Bring a camera (The top of Mount Tammany is great for photos as is the Dunnfield Creek Trail and the Delaware River portion of the hike).
5. The parking lots fill up quickly but there is additional parking by the visitor's center on the other side of Route 80. It is a short walk from the visitor's center via an underpass to our meeting location.
6. If you would like ascend Mount Tammany but do not feel you are up to a steep climb you can take a less challenging route up to the top.

Directions to the hike location from Morristown:

- Route 80 West towards the Delaware Water Gap.
- Immediately beyond mile post 1.0 take the exit for Dunnfield Creek/Appalachian Trail
- Park in either the upper lot or continue to the lower lot. If you park in the upper lot walk about,

100 yards to the lower lot (our meeting location).

- If you miss the turn off for the rest/picnic area take the next exit (Exit #1) and make a left at the

stop sign. Go under Route 80 and follow signs to the visitor center where there is an office and flush toilets.

- Parking is available at the visitor's center. If you park here follow the white blazed trail AT which will lead to

our meeting location.

- There is a port-a-potty at the trailhead.

For more information please contact Paul Van Duyne C (201) 470-9317.

Email: [p\\_vanduyne@yahoo.com](mailto:p_vanduyne@yahoo.com). Advanced sign up by e-mail is not required is appreciated.

If the weather is questionable the status of hike will be posted on the Yahoo and Meet-up sites.

To contact Paul the day of the hike with any other questions (201) 470-9317.



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## Morris County Ski Club Hike

### Sterling Forest/Bare Rock Tuxedo, NY

**Saturday May 9, 2015**

If the weather is questionable the status of hike will be posted on the Yahoo and Meet-up sites.

To contact Paul the day of the hike with any other questions (201) 470-9317.

**Date: Saturday, May 9, 2015**

**Time: 10:00 AM**

**Meeting Location: Sterling Forest Visitor Area**

**Difficulty: Moderate**

**Hike distance: About 8 miles**

**Time: About 4.5 hours**

**Description:** Join the Morris Ski Club on a moderate hike in the Sterling Forest New York. First we will visit the remnants of an old iron mine and furnace. After a few miles we will arrive at Bare Rock which offers a fantastic view of Greenwood Lake. We will then continue the hike with a climb involving some minor rock scrambling to the Sterling Forest Fire Tower for some additional views. We will then finish off the day by going to a nearby bar and grill (probably Rhodes North).

Important Notes for the hike:

1. Hiking boots are highly recommended as the trails are rocky in spots and can be muddy
  2. Daypack to carry extra clothing, sufficient water and your lunch.
  3. Bring a camera (Bare Rock and the Fire Tower are great for photos).
  4. Restroom facilities are located inside the visitor's center.
  5. GPS Coordinates: **41.19787,-74.256125**
- At the traffic light, turn right onto Long Meadow Road (County Route 84).
  - Long Meadow Road past IBM for a total of 3.5 miles.
  - Turn left onto Sterling Lake Road
  - After 0.5 mile make a right onto Old Forge Road.
  - Parking lot will be on the right.

For more information please contact Paul Van Duyne C (201) 470-9317.

Email: [p\\_vanduyne@yahoo.com](mailto:p_vanduyne@yahoo.com). Advanced sign up by e-mail is not required is appreciated.



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## Morris County Ski Club Year End Celebration! Saturday May 30, 2015

Spring Brook Country Club, 9 Spring Brook Road, Morristown, New Jersey 07960

*Please join all of us on Saturday evening May 30, 2015 at 6:30pm, to celebrate another year of memories from MCSC, mingle with old friends and new and dance the night away !!!!*

Spring Brook Country Club in Morristown will host our celebration. We will be dining in the spacious Grill Room, with a wall of windows and a private terrace with panoramic views of the golf course and beautiful Armstrong Pond.

The cost for this event is \$55 for members and \$60 for guests --- and includes a delicious buffet dinner, scrumptious deserts, music to keep us dancing and a cash bar. If you have any questions, please contact event leader – Helen McLaughlin @ 973-301-0750 or [hjm07@optonline.net](mailto:hjm07@optonline.net).

**The deadline for signing up for this event is Tuesday May 12.**

**For the cash bar, Spring Brook CC will only accept cash – no credit cards – so please plan accordingly.**

Please note the Spring Brook CC Dress Code: The Dress Code for the clubhouse and the dining facilities is country club casual. Women shall be appropriately dressed. Jeans, work pants, cut-offs, sweat pants, tank tops and tee shirts are not permitted anywhere on the Club grounds. Sneakers are not permitted in the Dining Room or Lounge. Hats shall be removed in the clubhouse. Please mail your name and guest name and payments to Helen McLaughlin @ 32 First St, Florham Park, NJ 07932 OR hand in at a membership meeting. Payment must be made in advance of event.



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## Past Ski Trips

### BIG SKY WAS BIG!!!



By Beth Hyslip

Everyone had a great week in Big Sky, Montana. It was filled with a lots and lots of fun, and challenging skiing, followed by great food, drink and socializing.

Thirty-seven of us left on Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup> with clear skies and no major delays. We landed at the Bozeman, MT airport around 3pm. It was warmer in MT than NJ! No need for the ski jacket at the airport. It was around 50-60 degrees out.

From there we had a pleasant one hour and 15 minute ride to our hotel, The Huntley Lodge, right at the base of the mountain. Big Sky has a small base village and everything was a very short walk from our hotel. We even had a ski valet right at the lifts for storing our skis overnight. How convenient!

Once we were settled in our rooms, we headed over to the Basecamp ticket center where the mountain provided a very nice wine and cheese welcome reception and a mountain representative answered our questions about Big Sky.

On Sunday morning we enjoyed our first "Huntley Breakfast" with a custom omelet and waffle bars and huge variety of other breakfast foods.

Finally, it was time to go skiing! The weather was warm and very sunny. We had clear bluebird skies 5 out of 6 days. Rain was predicted on Thursday but it never actually materialized and it just stayed overcast. It turned out to be a great day of skiing.



The snow conditions were spring-like. The temps were in the 20s at night and in the 40s during the day. Big Sky hasn't had a lot of snow this year so there were a few rocks to be found on some of the trails but generally the conditions were very good.

On the first day, a large group gathered for the Mountain tour to learn how to get around (did I mention Big Sky is BIG). My Mountain Ambassador was very knowledgeable in showing us the best places to ski in the morning and the afternoon, as well as, providing some Big Sky history.



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Big Sky has an impressive peak called Lone Peak, which is accessible by tram. The elevation is 11,216 feet. The views are incredible and you can see six states and nine mountain ranges. It was worth the trip just for the view! For those of us who skied off the top, there was a challenging black diamond bowl called Liberty Bowl, which was not for the faint of heart.

For après ski, many of us hit the hot tubs. The Huntley pool area has two very large Jacuzzis and a full sized heated pool, which faces the ski slopes with beautiful views. There was even a waiter that took drink orders. It was pretty sweet after a day of skiing.

We met for Happy Hour every day at the various bar/restaurants in the base area, including two club-sponsored happy hours on Monday and Thursday. On our first night people met up at Scissorbills Saloon, a local's bar with inexpensive beers, for a few drinks and to make dinner plans.

On Monday after skiing we all headed to Whiskey Jack's bar at the base for the "All You Can Eat" nacho bar, two complimentary drinks and live music. Whiskey Jack's was also the late night hangout for drinking, dancing, and band watching. I'm sure their profits surged that week.

Tuesday we met at the Carabiner lodge in the Summit hotel for happy hour. The Summit is the most upscale of the accommodations at Big Sky and their bar offered some gourmet pub food and tasty specialty drinks.

Our second club sponsored happy hour was on Thursday at the Andiamo Grill, which is an upscale Italian restaurant in the base village. They served us an abundance of gourmet pizzas, which were delicious. We even had a few pizzas leftover, which we took back to the hotel for snacks later in the evening because no one needed dinner.



About 15 minutes away from the Base Village by bus, there is a small lower village with more condos, restaurants and shops. Everything looks new and modern like it was all built in the last twenty years. On Wednesday evening about 15-20 of us went down to the lower village to check out the Lone Peak Brewery. We enjoyed huckleberry flavored drinks and flights of beer.

On Wednesday, 7 or 8 people made the journey (about 50 miles) to Yellowstone National Park on for an all-day Snowcoach tour. The snowcoaches travel on the park roads to a variety of geyser basins, including a visit to Old Faithful to watch her blow. Everyone came back saying it was a great day and had many beautiful photos of the hot springs and a



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variety of wild animals, like buffalo, elk and even wolves.



On Friday, 15 of us attended a dinner at the "Mountain Yurt". The Yurt is a circular tent that has dinner tables for about 40. It was located halfway up the mountain and requires a snow cat ride to get there. Most of us were able to ride on the top of the cat for a great view on the way up and back. The dinner was delicious and festivities included sleigh riding with some pretty funny wipeouts. A thank you goes to Wayne Rudy for organizing this excursion prior to the trip.



Fortunately we only suffered a couple of minor injuries during our stay. Sal sprained his wrist accidentally launching off a snowboard jump and going about 10 feet in the air. I didn't see it but I heard it was quite a yard sale when he landed.

Thankfully, Big Sky First Aid gave him a soft cast to wear that allowed him to keep skiing the rest of the week. Julie suffered a minor sprain on her leg. Fortunately that didn't happen until Thursday night. Both of them said the doctor, and the medic staff were excellent.



I would like to extend much thanks to Ed Tideman for booking the trip with such a great hotel and 'hard to get' direct flights. The set up was awesome and everyone had a great time!  
Can't wait until next year



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## MCSC Board Members

**President**            **Helen McLaughlin**  
[president@morriscountyskiclub.com](mailto:president@morriscountyskiclub.com)

**Vice President**    **Karen Smith**  
[vicepresident@morriscountyskiclub.com](mailto:vicepresident@morriscountyskiclub.com)

**Secretary**           **Lisa Margolis**  
[secretary@morriscountyskiclub.com](mailto:secretary@morriscountyskiclub.com)

**Treasurer**           **Herb Imbornoni**  
[treasurer@morriscountyskiclub.com](mailto:treasurer@morriscountyskiclub.com)

**Ski Director**        **Ed Tideman**  
[skidirector@morriscountyskiclub.com](mailto:skidirector@morriscountyskiclub.com)

**Membership Director**   **Barbara Gallo**  
[membership@morriscountyskiclub.com](mailto:membership@morriscountyskiclub.com)

## MCSC Committee Members

**AAF Coordinator**    **Lisa Margolis**  
[aliveafterfive@morriscountyskiclub.com](mailto:aliveafterfive@morriscountyskiclub.com)

**NJSC Rep**            **Nancy McLaughlin**  
[skirep@morriscountyskiclub.com](mailto:skirep@morriscountyskiclub.com)

**Ski Tales Editor**    **Elle Bisignano**  
[skitales@morriscountyskiclub.com](mailto:skitales@morriscountyskiclub.com)

**Web Master**           **Beth Hyslip**  
[bdh835@hotmail.com](mailto:bdh835@hotmail.com)