



IBEX SKI & SNOWBOARD CLUB

THE OLDE GOAT



MEETS THE 1ST & 3RD WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT:
GATSBY'S SPORTS PUB
 427 E. RAND RD. ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, IL.

APRIL 2009

MEETINGS

**7:00 PM BOOZE
& SCHMOOZE**

8:00 PM MEETING

> **APRIL 1**

> **APRIL 15**

EVENTS

> **TOPGOLF
- APR 14**

> **BOM
- APR 10**

> **BANQUET
- APR 18**

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IBEX BANQUET

NOW is the time - the April 1st Meeting will probably be the last chance to sign up for the most elegant evening of the year. (I might be able to take a few after that, but PLEASE don't wait.) All of you on the fence see Chris at the next meeting.

Date: Saturday, April 18

Time: 6pm-1am

Where: Chandler's at the Schaumburg Golf Club

Help celebrate the 2008 - 2009 Year The banquet is an awesome place to catch up with people you went on a ski trip with, or biked,



golfed, played volley ball or just shared a beer with. Just \$49.00 buys you a ticket for a whole evening of drinks, fine dining, dancing, awards, goaties & fun. AND don't forget the Chocolate Fountain - seriously, there will be a fountain made of chocolate! This year we will be

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TOP GOLF

This is the chance for all of you to get the rust out of your swing. Loosen-up and have some fun with other Ibex Join us on Saturday afternoon, **April 4**, for some most excellent driving range fun. There is an awesome HEATED out-



door driving range in Wood Dale called Top Golf. It's different than any other practice facility you've ever been to. Instead of just hitting balls out into a field, this place has green-sized targets built into the ground. Each target is divided into segments, much like a dart board, with a different point value for each segment. When you hit your ball into a certain spot, that point value is automatically recorded for you and your score is updated accordingly. How is this possible, you ask? It's quite simple - inside each ball lives a small mountain gnome (though some non-believers, like Lou, claim

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SEBASTIAN AT ZANIES

Join us for a night of Sebastian!!
Where: Zanies, Vernon Hills
When: Saturday May 2
Time: 7:00, doors open at 5:30
Cost: \$25 plus a two drink and/or food item minimum
Note, "first come first serve seating" so join us early to grab a good seat!

Ladies, check out the website, you will not want to miss this one :)

<http://vernonhills.zanies.com/>

I will be taking cash and sign-ups until April 15th.

You can stop by a meeting, Call me at 847.309.0214 or Email me with questions mindyp55@hotmail.com.

-Mindy



A Chicago native seen in the movie "Vince Vaughn's Wild West Comedy Show", Showtime's "Comics Without Borders" & on his new special Comedy Central Presents: Sebastian!

JUNE GOLF

This is the Ibox "STIMULUS PACKAGE" "YES WE CAN" As I write this, the final trip of the year is in Aspen to wrap up the ski season. While you're putting away your ski equipment, now it's time to dig out your GOLF CLUBS for the first Ibox Golf Outing of 2009. Carl and Greg have returned from our sabbatical and will be running the outing this year. Also we will be resurrecting the ever popular pig and corn roast party after a enjoyable day of golfing Preliminary details are as follows:
June 13th at Lakemoor Golf Club— (Lakemoor is approx. 15 minutes north of Lake Zurich on Rt. 12 - In beautiful Lakemoor II.) Starting tee times will be at 9:00 a.m. The course has been around for years but lacks some of those high-end amenities. The course does have the qualities that the Ibox members look for, "Bar with cock-

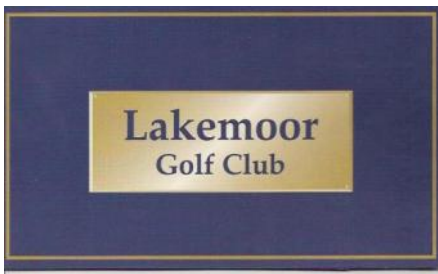
tails" pro shop and a deck to watch the golfers from--all from a modular designed unit that they have named the "Clubhouse".

A new Club house is to be built this year, to add to the ambiance and future price for a round of golf, I'm sure. Tee times starting at 9:00 will allow us plenty of time to get back to Carl's house for fun, food, and Buffoonery-Volleyball and other games. The recession resistant price for this event will be at least as cheap as last year or even less---- "YES WE CAN" --depending on the final numbers.

SIGN-UPS start at the May 6 meeting So get your calendars marked for the date-June 13 for Golfing fun or just the cookout. We all need a little STIMULUS and this will be a good start for the summer.

More details to come in the May newsletter, so stay tuned!

-Carl and Greg



LOU'S LOG

Where has the time gone?

Having just returned from our phenomenal spring trip in Aspen (thanks again to John & Debbie, and mother nature who provided 42 inches of fresh powder for us), it is now time to focus on celebrating another year in Ibex with our annual banquet. Hurry up and get signed up with Chris real soon. We have some funny stories to share and awards to give out. It is sure to be a good time. We are also playing golf before the banquet, since we will be at a golf course anyway. If you are interested in playing golf before the banquet, let me know, we will be getting some tee times to spend the afternoon golfing before our banquet at Chandlers at the Schaumburg Golf Club.

Along with the end of this Ibex year and Banquet comes my retirement from the EB and the start of a new year in Ibex with new leadership. It has been a real pleasure serving in the leadership of our club. I am proud to be part of an organization that has so many fun and genuinely good people. I have received so many compliments over the years up to and including the Aspen trip that we just finished, on how friendly our club has treated new members who join and how they will be back because they were received so warmly and enjoyed our trips or activities so much. When I hear those compliments it makes every bit of work I have done for Ibex over the years all worthwhile. Our club is built around a collection of old and new friends creating warm memories while having fun enjoying ski vacations and a variety of activities as a big group. It has been a great experience to help continue that Ibex

tradition of friendship and fun going strong.

As I get ready to pass the torch to Ed Fee and the entire new executive board, it is a little bittersweet because I will miss contributing to the day to day decisions that help keep our club moving forward and thriving. On the other hand, I am very happy to know someone who is as passionate as me about keeping Ibex strong and trying to grow the club with both new ideas, and new members, is taking over. I look forward to seeing Ed, and the entire new EB succeed in leading Ibex, because Lucy and I plan on enjoying Ibex as members for a while. We are counting on that success so we can continue to see all of our Ibex friends, old and new, at many more fun Ibex events that are about to be planned soon.

A big thanks to the Executive Board of this year, Ed, Chris, Pam, Jacquie, Bill and Doris (at the beginning), who helped make this trying year a successful one for Ibex. Thanks to all of you who have worked with me to help keep Ibex the enjoyable experience it has been over the past few years.

Finally, Ibex can only succeed when the members participate by offering ideas, organizing events/trips, bringing new members to the club, and especially PARTICIPATING in Ibex events. Do your part as a recruiter, planner, or participant to help the new EB make Ibex bigger and better than ever!

Good luck to the New EB and hope to see you all at the banquet.

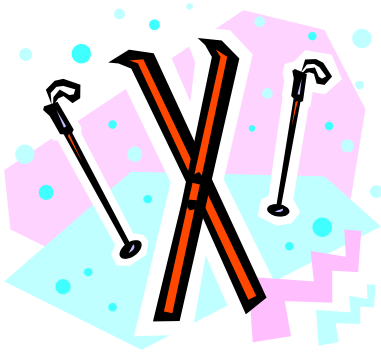
-Lou DiFrancisco



“...Thanks to all of you who have worked with me ...”

April Birthdays	
Wendy Gawlik	04--04
Sarah Schmeichel	04--08
Tom Zagrodnik	04--12
Bob Racanelli	04--20
Lou DiFrancisco	04--21
Deb Kowalewski	04--21
Michael Van Nest	04--21
Cindy McElligott	04--28
Jan Osowski	04--28
Patrice Conaway	04--29

TRIP CONNECTIONS



Greetings & Whew!

What a whirlwind! I hope everyone enjoyed the trips that they participated in this year. Our 2009 Ski Season is officially behind us with fun-filled trips to Whitefish, Bad Hofgastein, Granite Peak, Jackson Hole, and Aspen just serving to pique your interest for next year. I would like to personally thank each of the Trip Leaders: Jean Bagel – Whitefish, Sarah Schmeichel – Bad Hofgastein, Mike & Carolyn Lepsi – Granite Peak, Bill & Bridget Haussmann – Jackson Hole, and Debbie Dukes & John Brandt – Aspen. If you were on one of these trips, please make a point of saying thanks; quite a bit of work goes into making our trips successful and I'm sure our Trip Leaders would appreciate acknowledgement of their efforts.

As you read this Newsletter, I will be attending the Mountain Travel Symposium held at Keystone resort starting March 30. Yes, trip planning does start almost immediately

after the last trip arrives home. We are considering some old favorites that we haven't been to in a while (Vail, Telluride) along with some new destinations. I have heard there is quite a bit of interest in Chile (or Argentina) so we will look into this destination. This will be an excellent opportunity to meet with various providers and resorts and begin the trip selection process. Again, we want to remain as flexible as possible to take advantage of any great deals that we find so we provide our members with the best possible value. I hear that all of the snow that fell for our Aspen trip attendees won't be melting anytime soon so I will be the beneficiary of some great snow. Have an idea of where you'd like to ski? Be sure to call me or send an e-mail.

Now is the time that we PARTY and celebrate another successful Ibex Ski Season! Make sure that you sign up soon to attend the Ibex Banquet Bash on Sat., April 18. I hope to see all of you there!

-Pam Arnold Chiechi

IBEX MEMBERSHIP

We are currently at 151 members.

To help promote our club, we have updated 2008-2009 Postcards which can be used to advertise Ibex at local town events.

Please see me at the next meeting if you have an event to distribute the postcards. We need everyone's help in advertising and communicating to family, friends, co-workers, etc. to grow our club.

Thanks for your help!

-Jacquie



JACKSON HOLE WRAP

We couldn't see anything until the plane hit the runway because of the snow. It continued as the group for Ibex loaded the bus and headed to the lodge. The 7" of fresh snow was a nice welcome to Jackson Hole, it seemed to add more excitement to the group's arrival. The town's old west ruggedness was apparent upon arrival. After arriving at the 49er the club split up with different activities but all met up at the Antler in the evening for a Wildlife dinner. This BBQ style dinner included 50% Elk, 25% Antelope and 25% mule deer and was given great reviews. Plus they even made cake that had "Welcome Ibex" written in frosting.

The first morning, and every day for the rest of the trip, blue skies and sunshine greeted us as we headed over for some breakfast. Afterwards we would all hop on the bus to the mountain. The short bus rides included multiple sightings of elk, mule deer and wolves. On the hill and from the tram, there were multiple moose sightings as well. Off the hill, the Mangy Moose seemed to capture everyone's attention. The après ski bar was always packed and made for a great meeting place. Some people liked it so much that the last direct bus was often discarded for the slower routes to ensure enough Moose drool beer was consumed. One of our members, aka "Didgets", showed us an emergency bar stool evacuation in the Mangy Mouse before we started drinking. Normally this happens after the car bombs.

There were a lot of great skiers and snowboarders that made the trip. We may have set a record for the most ever snowboards with four on this trip. Chuck, Patrick and Paul



lead the way and they even dragging me around for a day on the board. Between all of the Ibex groups, we were able to cover most of the Jackson Hole's most daunting runs. No one tried Corbet's Couloir this trip. Many of our members looked over the edge, even multiple times, but the conditions weren't the best. I guess the Ibex will just have to go back. It is not to say JH didn't hold back. One of our skiers lost one of his ski poles after a nasty fall. The mountain just to remind us that it is serious. Our group was an eclectic bunch of great people. Don, who has been to JH many times, turned in more of his vertical feet for his 300,000 vertical foot bronze belt buckle this trip. Other people including Todd, Mike L, Missy, Jackie and Mindy challenged themselves coming off the tram and skied very well. There were some



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JACKSON HOLE WRAP UP — CONTIUED

(Continued from page 5)

lessons given on Saturday, where Pat and Pat will never be the same at an olive and pimento. I think that



Wayne is ready for the Bear's season, on the first day he accidentally tackled Lou on the slopes. The jury is still out for who was more surprised. Patrick M, Adolph & Mike L all got sick at some point during the trip however they still skied/ boarded and were troopers! Patrick

was actually lucky that Nicole was able to nurse him back to health. They promised to come back and party with us on the next trip. One of our new skier's, Dominic was glad he brought rentals due to some damages on the base of his skis. He was able to keep up with some of our great skiers through some difficult terrain. Rumor has it that Stuart was actually spotted in Casper lodge, relaxing after just having hiked the head wall. Some of our

newlyweds Susan and Vicki often lead us on our après ski parties and long into the night. It has been said that sometimes they get carried away, but this time literally Vicki did get carried away and down a block towards the hotel. Her

shoes were not the best for the icy sidewalks. Susan was the designated bartender for a night. Her drinks were made for experts only and served in the hot tub. Jennine was caught on the dance floor with some of the local cowboys. Mike E, Jerry, and Rich were always out at the bars with our group. These models of control where the Ying to our Yang.

During our last skiing day, the morning conditions were okay but the warming temperatures turned the snow in to the consistency of mash potatoes. The spring like conditions made the snow sticky and the slow. These conditions made it easier to get ready for the night ahead. Mike W. and Joe put on the Pub Crawl which included some of the usual suspects: Cadillac, Million Dollar Cowboy Bar, Silver Dollar and the Town Tavern. The town tavern was the last place open on our last night. So everyone left standing ended cozying up to the bar for one last drink. The bar tender, who seemed like she knew us, told us one of our famous lines: "If you can't drink like human beings than you may as well leave", so we did.

The last morning of the trip, the rain made it easier to leave. The late checkout was a blessing for those people who partook the pub crawl. The bus and plane rides back home were uneventful. There were no injuries beyond bruises and tired legs. The rustic western town, hotel hospitality and a challenging mountain seemed to have all the qualities to make this a good trip. But our group of Ibex made this trip one of the best to date. Thank you to everyone who came on the trip. The trip was a great success because of you.

-Bill & Bridget Haussmann



WILMOT SKI DAY

It was a dark and stormy night...followed by a beautiful sunny day in the low 20's when 12 intrepid Ibex and friends (Bill Haussmann brought 6 who will hopefully become members) challenged the hills at Wilmot. Being the weekend after a holiday, we were pleasantly surprised by the virtual lack of rental and lift lines.



Continuous below freezing temperatures since early January provided some of the best snow conditions I have seen at Wilmot and provided for generous size moguls growing from Exhibition.

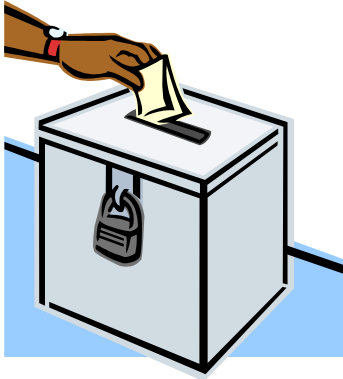
Bill Haussmann was on hand to provide snowboarding lessons, and I provided Ski lessons. These went better than the Video sessions. Camera – check, Tape-check, Spare Tape-check, Batteries Charged-check; what could go wrong? Turns out both tapes were full, so the video has to wait for another day. My apologies to those who wanted to see themselves ski.

We retired to the Keg for Après Ski, where beverages and tales of bravery, personal victories, and minor defeats were shared. Once again we easily secured ample seating at the Keg in prime time. Note to self (and others); weekend after King Day is a good time to ski Wilmot.

The much anticipated/dreaded noon surge never occurred and we were actually able to secure ample eating space in the Keg at noon.

-Bob Kimicata

IBEX ELECTIONS



The nomination process is complete. We have a great slate of officers. All positions are uncontested, so the April 1st elections will be conducted in person at the Ibex meeting, at Gatsby's. Officers will be elected by a vote of acclamation.

Executive Board candidates:

President: Ed Fee
Treasurer: Jean Bagel
Secretary: Joe Heater
Activities: Pam Oziemkowski
Membership: Jacquie Wodach
Trips: Pam Arnold-Chiechi

Board of Directors candidates:

Kathy Burns
 Denny Gawlik.

The new Ibex year starts May 1.

You can still be involved in club leadership. All of the officers will be looking for assistants. Plus, any help on individual events or activities will be much appreciated. The more you are involved, the more Ibex is your club!

-Jean



IBEX BANQUET - CONTINUED

(Continued from page 1)

above ground at the Chandlers Restaurant in the Schaumburg Golf Club. It boasts a beautiful venue and a huge room with a view of the golf course. Did we mention the open bar? Yes, Virginia, there will be an open bar! This is always one

of the best events of the year and for \$49 you just can't beat it.

Lou DiFrancisco is organizing an afternoon Tee time at 1:00 pm prior to the Banquet. Please contact him at ibexpresident2008@skiibex.com if you are interested.

-Chris

TOP GOLF - CONTINUED



(Continued from page 1)

it's a computer chip) that records that the ball belongs to you and then another gnome (okay, sensor) knows its location. Totally awesome gnome-based technology at work! We can even play different games just like in darts - well, sort of. What's the best part of Top Golf? TWO bars!! That's right -TWO bars!! So even if you don't want to hit golf ball you can join us for multiple cocktails and get sloshed in the

comfort of the heated bar. My recommendation, though, is to come on out, hit some gnome-infested balls in the comfort of one of the many heated bays, and then get totally sloshed! Come on, join us April 4, price is \$15 if your golfing, bar tab if you're not.

Call me, Jeff Smith, for more information

-Jeff

APRIL ACTIVITIES

April 4
 April 10
 April 18

Top Golf
 Pinstripes
 Banquet

Jeff Smith
 Chris Smith
 Chris Smith



Looking AHEAD

May 2

Zanies

Mindy Parry

BAR OF THE MONTH

BOM - Friday April 10th at Pinstripes.
 1150 Willow Road, Northbrook, 847-480-2323.
 Located on Willow Road About 3 miles east of 294.
 This place has something for everyone, Large menu (many choices for those lent observers), Huge wine list
PLUS Bocce Ball and Bowling.

BOM
 Bar of the
 Month
Pinstripes
 Friday
 April 10th



www.skiibex.com
**THE place to go
 for the latest
 Ibex news &
 information**

WWW.SKIIBEX.COM

Please check out the Ibex web-site. Webmaster **Cindy McElligott** has done a spectacular job updating and modernizing it. This is **the**

place to go to for the latest news on activities and events. Improvements are planned for the future so keep coming back often. *-Ed*

E-MAIL ADDRESSES FOR IBEX

- Ibex Newsletter 2008
- Ibex Trips 2008
- Ibex BOD 2008
- Ibex President 2008
- Ibex Membership 2008
- Ibex Racing 2008
- Ibex Scuba 2008
- Ibex Ski School 2008
- Ibex Treasurer 2008
- Ibex Web 2008
- Ibex Activities 2008

- IbexNewsletter2008@Skilbex.com
- IbexTrips2008@Skilbex.com
- IbexBOD2008@Skilbex.com
- IbexPresident2008@Skilbex.com
- IbexMembership2008@Skilbex.com
- IbexRacing2008@Skilbex.com
- IbexScuba2008@Skilbex.com
- IbexSkiSchool2008@Skilbex.com
- IbexTreasurer2008@Skilbex.com
- IbexWeb2008@Skilbex.com
- IbexActivities2008@Skilbex.com



EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

President	Lou DiFrancisco	(847) 341-4583
Trip Chairperson	Pam Arnold	(847) 358-1504
Assistant	Patty Blades	(847) 289-0956
Membership Chairperson	Jacquie Wodach	(847) 223-7932
Activities Chairperson	Chris Smith	(847) 524-4364
Assistant	Lucy DiFrancisco	(847) 341-4583
Secretary	Ed Fee	(847) 496-7457
Treasurer	Bill Haussmann	(847) 781-8699
Assistant	Joe Davis	(847) 985-1699

When life bring changes...

Help us keep our records up to date.

When your information changes please fill out this form and bring it to a meeting, or mail your new information to:

lbexMembership2008@Skilbex.com

Name: _____

Street: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

2008-09 MEMBERSHIP RATES

	E-Mail	Paper
Single	\$ 20.00	\$ 40.00
Couple/Family	\$ 35.00	\$ 55.00

CHECK OUT THE IBEX WEBSITE!

WWW.SKILBEX.COM

E-MAIL: lbexMembership2008@Skilbex.com

And then the Fight started: Part two of three

My wife sat down on the couch next to me as I was flipping channels. She asked, "What's on TV?"

I said, "Dust."

And then the fight started...

My wife was hinting about what she wanted for our upcoming anniversary. She said, "I want something shiny that goes from 0 to 150 in about 3 seconds."

I bought her a scale.

And then the fight started...

When I got home last night, my wife demanded that I take her someplace expensive... so, I took her to a gas station.

And then the fight started...

After retiring, I went to the Social Security office to apply for Social Security. The woman behind the counter asked me for my driver's license to verify my age. I looked in my pockets and realized I had left my wallet at home. I told the woman that I was very sorry, but I would have to go home and come back later.

The woman said, "Unbutton your shirt" so I opened my shirt revealing my curly silver hair. She said, "That silver hair on your chest is proof enough for me" and she processed my Social Security application.

When I got home, I excitedly told my wife about my experience at the Social Security office.

She said, "You should have dropped your pants. You might have gotten disability, too."

And then the fight started...



PARTING SHOTS