

INSIDE EDGE

March Social Events | Trip Updates



Mountain Tour at Schweitzer. See more photos on the [DSC Home Page Slide Show](#) and **Page 2!** And read Monica Conrad's report on **Page 3!**

We've got more than one way to enjoy winter! This group took the challenging trek up Trail 9 to the ridge overlooking Lake Michigan at the Indiana Dunes State Park. The views over the lake and the shelf ice were worth the effort!

March-at-a-Glance

CMSC Chicago Week - Snowmass - Feb 28-Mar 7

We have 30 DSC members heading for the fresh Colorado snow at Snowmass/Aspen!

Dine Around - March 11 - See Page 6

We're ready for another night out with our friends! This time we'll meet at Tiny's Coffee Bar in Miller Beach.

Bonus Hike - March 12 - See Pages 6 and 7

Check out the Sandhill Cranes at Cowles Bog.

Mix & Mingle - March 16

The monthly General Meeting begins at 7:30 PM at the Gary Sportsmen Club, South Room, 10101 Madison Street in Crown Point. **Board nominations and Bylaws changes voting are on the agenda.**

DSC Hike - March 26 - See Page 7

Join our next hike in the beautiful Indiana Dunes National Park! Tolleston Dunes is a moderate 3.3-mile hike with an après hike lunch at Wagner's Ribs

President's Corner

The DSC/Nomads Western Trip to Schweitzer Mountain, Idaho, was SO MUCH FUN! Thanks to Trip Leaders Monica Conrad, Chris Hoham, and Fred Pajak for a great week of activities.

The annual DSC Bus Trip filled a full party bus to Petoskey, Michigan, to ski Nub's Nob and Boyne Highlands! Heather Seger, Cheryl Wytovicz, and Jim Buchanan pulled it off despite the hotel snafu – nice work, Trip Leaders!

CMSC Chicago Week is always a highlight of the season, and we are taking over Snowmass at Aspen, Colorado for 2026. DSC flies out February 28! And the snow has finally arrived!

Finally, we are ramping up for registrations and deposits for the DSC Western Trip to Sun Valley, Idaho, in 2027!

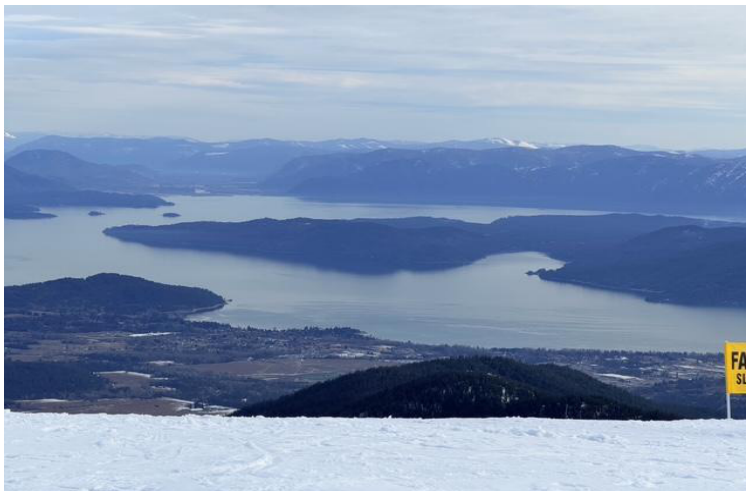
Jerry Mansell

Great memories of Schweitzer Mountain, overlooking beautiful Lake Pend Oreille!



Welcome to Schweitzer Mountain!

Mountain Tour with Cass – Great start to Day 1



A bluebird day on the mountain.

High above Lake Pend Oreille and Sandpoint.



Après ski on the Deck at Taps!

Gourmandie Wine and Cheese Tasting

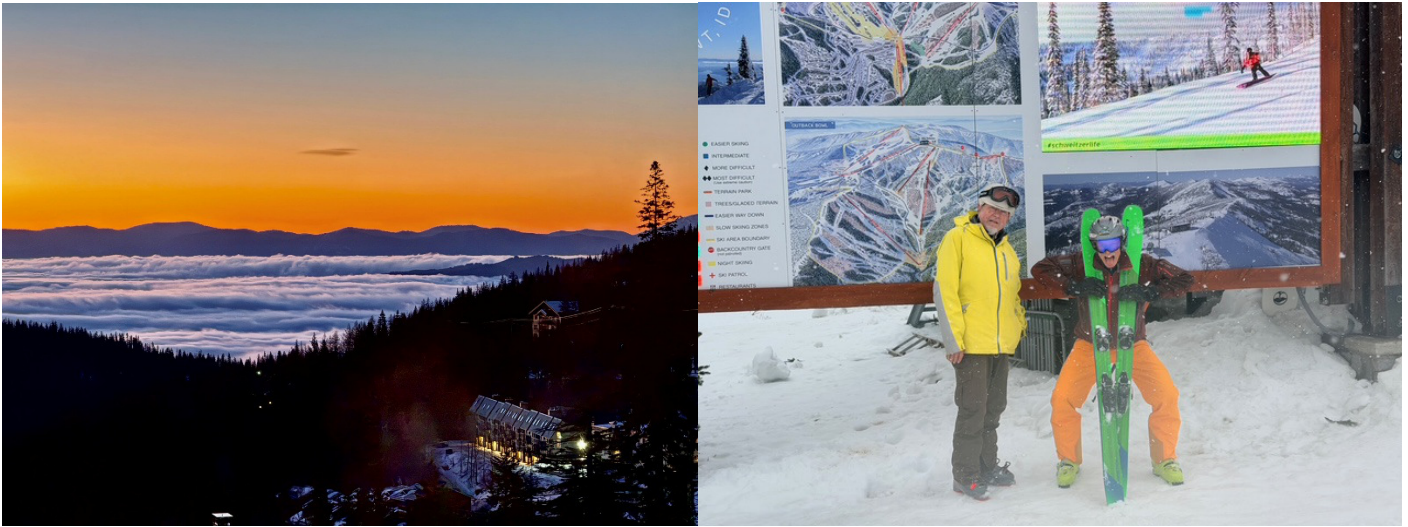
Schweitzer Mountain Trip Leader's Report

The Dunelanders and Nomads visited Schweitzer for 6 days of skiing in Idaho. The travel out started slowly when the initial flight was delayed which caused the second flight to be missed. But as a social club, there was plenty of time to start the trip socializing the time away in Minneapolis. One of the wonderful services offered by the Schweitzer Resort was meeting our big airport bus at the base of the mountain and portaging our bags on a second vehicle to the rooms while we rode up the long and winding road on a smaller bus. A late check-in, but our bags were in the rooms with warm, comfortable beds.

A bit of a drought out West this year with less than a third of normal snow. Blue groomers were kept up well each night with just one night of measurable snow. The inversion made for some challenge skiing for a couple days. Clouds from the lake moved up the mountain and made visibility low. With the sun out, the top of the mountain near the Lakeview lift was above the clouds. Might have been a few skiers in the group taking those black runs above the clouds over the blues in the clouds.

Some fun events in the evening kept the social aspects front and center. One night of pizza in the bar, a trivia night after dinner to show our knowledge of candy, ski movies, and Lyndon Block among other things, an Italian Night Dinner and a night of tasting local wines. The Group Sales at Schweitzer offered some good socialization in the after-ski hours. We found our own on occasion at places like the porch at the clock tower, lunch house at the top of the mountain, and the yurt on the way to the kissing trees.

Monica Conrad



Sunrise over Lake Pend Oreille cloud cover Wayne and Phil clowning around

Duneland-Nomads Bus Trip to Petoskey, Michigan, February 21-23

Skiing at Boyne Highlands and Nub's Nob Resorts



Midwest Bus Trip Leader's Report

What a far out, right on, and groovy time the Dunelanders and Nomads had on a bus trip to Petoskey, Michigan! The conditions were outta sight for both Boyne Highlands and Nubs Nob. The whole trip was fun from the moment we stepped on the bus until the moment we stepped off. The hot tubs provided restorative soaking, and the fresh powder was exhilarating. We had virgin skiers getting taught how to navigate wide blue runs by experienced members, and lifelong memories were made. For those who didn't participate you missed out on a heavy time. May the Force be with you - and looking forward to the next Midwest Bus Trip. ☺

Erik the Red, (Jimmy)

BLONDIE



DEAN YOUNG & JOHN MARSHALL



Retro 70's-Themed Fun in Michigan!



Couples' Costume Winners Alesha & Jay with Mary

So much good snow!



1st Timers Alan & Imani

Bob and the Hot Chicks!

Big Hair Comeback Dawn!

Welcome our newest members:

- Connie Miltner
- Donovan Markovitz

We look forward to seeing you soon!



Time for a DSC Dine Around!

Our March Dine Around is at Tiny's Coffee Bar, located at 555 S. Lake Street in the Miller Beach area of Gary, at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, March 11.

Please RSVP by text to Mary Golding at 219-796-7011 NO LATER THAN Thursday, March 5 at noon so she can make sure we have adequate space.

A Duneland Dine Around is always an opportunity to mix and mingle with our friends - and meet new friends!



Part of the revitalization of the Miller Beach commercial district, Tiny's is an upscale cafe in the historic Miller Bakery Cafe. Don't let the name fool you – it's a great restaurant with excellent beverage selection. Check out their menu! [Tiny's Coffee Bar](#) Enjoy your favorite comfort foods, delicious vegan options, artisan espresso drinks, and prohibition-era cocktails. There's plenty of parking across Lake Street.

To all Active Members of the Duneland Ski Club:

In accordance with our Constitution and Bylaws, the Board of Directors approved submitting proposed changes to the Constitution and Bylaws to be voted on by the active members. Discussion and voting began at the February 16 General Meeting. Ballots will be available for your use at the March 16 General Meeting at the Gary Sportsmen Club, beginning at 7:30 PM. One vote per member – your ballot must be signed!



Recognize these magnificent birds?

Every fall thousands of people drive south to the Jasper-Pulaski Reserve to see - and hear - the Sandhill Cranes fly in for a night's rest on their fall migration south. But the Sandhill Cranes show up in your backyard every year on the northern migration. If you've never experienced the spectacle as they take off, spiral into the air, and gather into V-formations, you need to jump on this **Bonus Hike!**

See details on the next page.

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You've got to HEAR the Sandhill Cranes!

You have to see and HEAR the cacophony as these huge birds start their day's flight going north in the Spring! **Bring your binoculars!**

You must be there early to experience this. So we will **meet at the Cowles Bog North Lot: 1450 North Mineral Springs Road, Dune Acres, IN 46304 at 8:30 AM**. This lot is about 1/2 mile north of US Highway 12, just *before* you reach the Guard Shack for entry into Dune Acres.

This is not really about the hike, though the trails from here are great. This is bird-watching to an extreme! As always, dress for the weather, wear appropriate shoes or boots, and bring your water. We will be standing and watching much of the time.

Please contact Jerry Mansell at 331-777-0593 if you are interested in this event. If the weather conditions require cancellation, we will have a good call list. National Park passes are required. (If you do not have a Park pass, let Jerry know and we can arrange carpooling.)

Tolleston Dunes is one of the most diverse habitats in the Indiana Dunes!

Created by the receding Lake Michigan centuries ago, this rare black oak savannah also includes wetlands and an array of wildflowers through the seasons. This is a 3.3-mile hike with moderate grades.

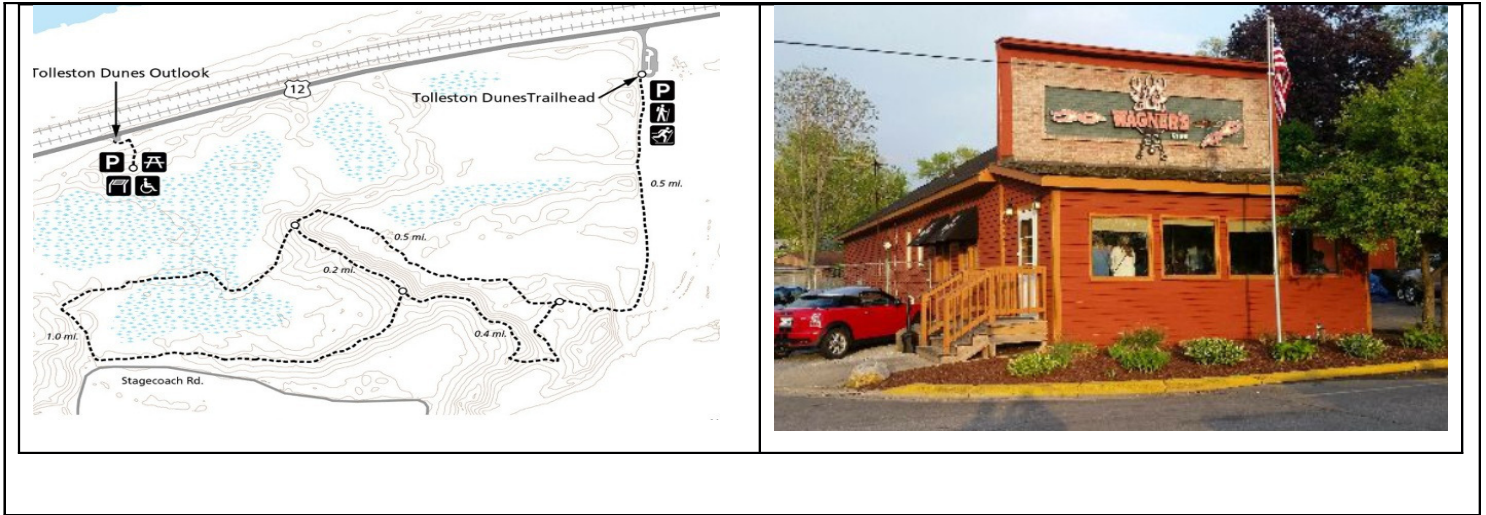
We will **meet at the Main Lot: 5800 U.S. Highway 12 (Dunes Highway), Ogden Dunes, IN 46368 at 9:30 AM on Thursday, March 26**. Sorry, no toilets available here - so plan ahead!

Website: [Tolleston Dunes Trail - Indiana Dunes National Park \(U.S. National Park Service\)](#)

As always, dress for the weather, wear appropriate shoes or boots, and bring your water. Trail conditions can vary, but these trails typically drain quickly after a rain.

Please contact Jerry Mansell at 331-777-0593 if you are interested in this hike. If the weather conditions require cancellation, we will have a good call list. National Park passes are required. If you do not have a Park pass, let Jerry know and we can arrange carpooling from the Ogden Dunes South Shore lot.

Our après hike lunches have become a popular part of our hikes. This time, we will go to **Wagner's Ribs** at 361 Wagner Road, Porter, IN 46304.




Registration for the DSC Western Trip to Sun Valley will begin March 16!


Save the dates: **January 30 to February 6, 2027**. The trip will include direct flights from Chicago to Sun Valley and lodging at 3-bedroom, 3-bath condos at the Sun Valley Lodge Apartments! Use your IKON pass or include discounted lift tickets. More details and pricing will be available soon!

Sun Valley is located in central Idaho's Wood River Valley and is widely recognized as America's first destination ski resort. With 2,457 acres of skiable terrain, 124 trails, and 17 lifts, the resort spans two distinct mountains: Bald Mountain and Dollar Mountain. The vertical drop reaches 3,400 ft from a summit elevation of 9,150 ft, and the area receives an average of 172 inches of snowfall annually, supported by one of the most advanced snowmaking systems in the country.

Visitors choose Sun Valley for its blend of historic charm, consistent snow conditions, and uncrowded slopes. With 36% beginner terrain, 42% intermediate, 20% advanced, and 2% expert, Sun Valley is ideal for skiers of all levels seeking a refined yet approachable mountain experience.

Free Mountain Rides buses connect the airport to Ketchum and Sun Valley, with multiple daily departures. Once in town, the Mountain Rides system offers free and frequent service between Bald Mountain, Dollar Mountain, Ketchum Town Square, and Sun Valley Resort. All buses are equipped with ski and bike racks, and electric buses operate across all routes.

	<p>Check out more information about this top destination:</p> <p>Nordic Skiing Sun Valley — Cross Country Skiing</p> <p>Navigate The Mountain with Our Maps & Guides Sun Valley</p> <p>Dining Experiences at Sun Valley Resort Sun Valley</p>
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<p>ELEVATION</p> <p>5,750' 9,150' 3,400'</p> <p>BASE SUMMIT VERTICAL DROP</p>													
<p>TRAILS</p> <p>124</p> <p>2,829 ACRES</p>	<p>LIFTS</p> <p>17</p> <p>6 TYPES</p>												
<p>SNOWFALL</p> <p>162"</p> <p>ANNUAL SNOWFALL</p> <table border="1"><tr><td>NOV</td><td>DEC</td><td>JAN</td><td>FEB</td><td>MAR</td><td>APR</td></tr><tr><td>10"</td><td>50"</td><td>33"</td><td>42"</td><td>30"</td><td>11"</td></tr></table>		NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	10"	50"	33"	42"	30"	11"
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Historic Sun Valley Lodge with Mt. Baldy behind

CMSC is already looking ahead to 2027 and beyond!

DSC already has spots for Chicago Week 2027 and 2028

CMSC UPCOMING TRIPS

CHICAGO WEEK 2027



FEB. 27-MAR. 6, 2027

FROM \$1649 PER PERSON ^{PLUS AIR*} AND LIFTS*

TRIP INCLUDES:

- 7 NIGHTS LODGING
- GROUND/BUS TRANSPORTATION
- WELCOME RECEPTION
- MOUNTAIN TOUR
- MOUNTAIN LUNCH, RACE
- PUB CRAWL
- TWO (2) APRÈS SKI PARTIES
- DINNER BANQUET WITH MUSIC AND DANCING
- CMSC EVENT CREDENTIAL

*AIR AND LIFT TICKET PRICING WILL BE AVAILABLE THE SPRING/SUMMER OF 2026.

AVAILABLE OPTIONS:

- TRAVEL INSURANCE
- 6TH DAY LIFT, SENIOR LIFT DISCOUNT

IKON PASS HONORED

Located in southwest Montana (approximately 50 miles south of Bozeman and an hour north of West Yellowstone), Big Sky Resort is a popular winter destination known for its vast skiable terrain, consistently receiving an average of over 400 inches of snow annually. The resort boasts over 5,850 acres of diverse terrain, making it one of the largest ski resorts in the US. With a vertical drop of 4,350 feet, it's also one of the longest in the country.

The resort is also the basecamp to Yellowstone National Park and provides daily shuttles to Yellowstone's west entrance.



SPRING FLING 2027



APRIL 4-9, 2027

\$1352 PER PERSON ^{PLUS AIR*}

TRIP INCLUDES:

- 5 NIGHTS LODGING AT THE CAMBRIA HOTEL ONLY A SHORT WALK TO EAGLE LIFT
- 4 DAY LIFT TICKET
- GROUND/BUS TRANSPORTATION

*AIR FARE PRICING WILL BE AVAILABLE SPRING/SUMMER OF 2026.

AVAILABLE OPTION:

- TRAVEL INSURANCE

IKON PASS HONORED

Copper Mountain is located in Summit County, Colorado, about 75 miles west of Denver. It features over 2,500 acres of terrain and offers a variety of activities for both winter sports enthusiasts and summer visitors. The resort is known for its naturally divided terrain, which allows skiers to explore different levels of difficulty, from gentle groomers to advanced terrain parks. Copper Mountain also hosts various events, including the Stifel Copper Cup, showcasing top alpine skiers.

Copper Mountain facilities are divided into three villages: East Village, The Village at Copper (Center Village), and West Village. The ski area is most notable as being designated by the National Forest Service as having the most organized skier layout of any ski resort.

CHICAGO WEEK 2028



FEB. 26-MAR. 4, 2028

FROM \$2367 PER PERSON ^{PLUS AIR*}

TRIP INCLUDES:

- 7 NIGHTS LODGING
- 5 DAY LIFT TICKET
- GROUND/BUS TRANSPORTATION
- WELCOME RECEPTION
- MOUNTAIN LUNCH, RACE
- PUB CRAWL
- TWO (2) APRÈS SKI PARTIES
- DINNER BANQUET WITH MUSIC AND DANCING
- CMSC EVENT CREDENTIAL

*AIR FARE PRICING WILL BE AVAILABLE SPRING/SUMMER OF 2027.

AVAILABLE OPTIONS:

- TRAVEL INSURANCE
- 6TH DAY LIFT, SENIOR LIFT DISCOUNT

IKON PASS HONORED

Steamboat is known for its exceptional skiing, particularly the Champagne Powder snow. The resort spans over 2,965 acres and features a variety of trails suitable for all skill levels, including beginner, intermediate, and advanced options.

Steamboat is celebrated for its family-friendly atmosphere, with activities ranging from skiing to exploring the town's vibrant downtown and hot springs. The resort also offers a range of dining experiences and a lively après-ski scene, making it a comprehensive destination for winter sports enthusiasts.

CMSC Elections are coming soon!

If you have ever . . .

- **Enjoyed a Chicago Week or Spring Fling ski trip**
- **Attended a CMSC Picnic or Baseball Game**
- **Received free tickets to the Travel Show**

Maybe it's time you volunteered to help run CMSC!

Nominations are needed for:

- **Secretary**
- **Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer**

Questions? Call Kevin Conlon at 708-906-9517



Must be Election Season - DSC Club elections are April 20!

OK, you've just read about all the fun things the Duneland Ski Club has lined up for you. Who makes this all happen? Your Board and the members who volunteer to lead the activities. Now think about how **you** might lend your time and talents to your Club!

Nominations for all Board positions will begin at the February 16 General Meeting and will continue at the March 16 meeting. The elections will be held at the General Meeting on April 20, 2026. In accordance with our Constitution and Bylaws, the positions are:

- President
- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Four Members at Large

Contact JoAnn Cleek at 219-983-2575 or cjcleek@comcast.net to submit a nomination!

Let your Board know what's on your mind:

President: Jerry Mansell (jerry.mansell@att.net)

Vice President: Cheryl Wytovicz (ajfluff@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Bill Stover (billvalpo2001@yahoo.com)

Secretary: Sandi Kurowski (sandikurowski@gmail.com)

Membership: Dian Berryman (diberryman21@hotmail.com)

Western Trips: Henry Bottando (corsairski@yahoo.com)

Mary Golding (marygolding@msn.com)

Jim O'Carroll (jjocarroll51@gmail.com)