



April-May 2026

Spring Meltdown & Elections

Thursday April 23 6:00—9:00 PM

The District Tap—Northside
3720 E. 82nd Street
Indianapolis



An elegant array of free hors d'oeuvres and dinner buffet is offered to club members.

Cash bar available.



Elections for next year's board and officers will be held. A slide show of this year's ski trips will be presented by Brett Farrell.

Register online at the IndySkiClub website now through April 16th.

Limited to the first 80 members.

Visit www.indyskiclub.org for the latest news and to register for our Social Events

April 19th Celebration of Life for Christian Legend at George's Neighborhood Grill.

President's Message

What a season! Our trips have all wrapped up, and despite the worst snow conditions Colorado has seen in decades, we had an incredible time together. We endure, and our Club endures — and that is a true testament to the heart and dedication of our amazing volunteers who make this Club what it is. A heartfelt thank-you to our Board, Committee Chairs, and Trip leaders for their generous gift of time and energy. Because of you, being a member of this Club is truly something special.



Join us for the Spring Meltdown Party on April 23rd at the District Tap in Indianapolis — FREE to all members! Expect a private banquet room, buffet food, and a cash bar. Register online to save your spot.

This event also serves as our annual club meeting, where we'll elect next year's Board. Candidates: Priscilla Johnson, President; John Lomas, President Elect; Carolyn McConkey, VP of Trips; Noli Kay Bentley, Treasurer; Brett Farrell, Secretary; and Jackie Sundbloom, VP of Membership. The VP of Trips Elect position is still open — please step forward if interested!

See you soon,

George Andrews

Japan Trip with the Ohio Valley Ski Council

February 21 to March 4, 2027

Japan portion of trip includes 2 nights in Tokyo, 6 nights in Hakuba, and 3 nights in Kyoto

Extensions are available to Singapore and Borneo.

Item	Double PP	Single	
Japan (land only)	\$4,210	\$5,210	Feb 21 to Mar 4, 2027
Singapore (land)	\$2,710	on request	Mar 4 to Mar 9, 2027
Borneo (land)	\$1,850	on request	Mar 9 to Mar 12, 2027
Roundtrip from Dayton, Cincinnati or Louisville.			
Other cities priced upon request	Too early to price	Too early to price	

For more details, click below:

https://www.ovsc.org/content.aspx?page_id=4091&club_id=493197&item_id=2886063

Contact: Dan Hapner of the Dayton Ski Club 937-657-4750 Email: international_trips@ovsc.org

Greetings, Snow Chasers — and Welcome to April!

Hello everyone!

First of all, I hope to see you at the Spring Meltdown! It's a great opportunity for us to celebrate the end of the season together. Speaking of endings, the VP Trips Chair position is still open. That's right—no one has stepped up to take on this role, which means the club needs your help more than ever! Significant changes are expected if this position is not filled. Please call me to discuss how you can contribute.

Now, on to the good stuff. I know you've filled out those trip surveys and probably wondered if they just disappeared into a black hole. Well, wonder no more — here's a glimpse of what you actually said:



Your Most-Wanted Mountains to Ski

1. Snowmass
2. Big Sky
3. Telluride
4. Snowbird
5. Vail
6. Jackson Hole
7. Mt Bachelor
8. Deer Valley
9. Taos
10. Palisades and Park City, tied

A few other highlights from the survey: Ikon Mountain Resorts crushed it — twice as popular as Epic!

And survey after survey, two mountains keep rising to the top: Snowmass and Big Sky — so much so that you entertain the thought of skiing both yearly. Honestly, are you even the least bit surprised?

Meanwhile, a whopping 43% of skiers are hungry for a 3-day ski trip to be added to the schedule. Consider that noted — and we're working on it.

As for this season — yes, we broke a 45-year snow low, but that means next year has nowhere to go but up. The good news? Next year's program is already in the works, and the destinations are worth the wait. Let's just say Snowmass, Big Sky, Mt. Bachelor, and Japan (with OVSC) are very much on the radar.

Stay tuned for updates, and in the meantime, take advantage of the special events organized by the social committee. Coming up quickly is the Spring Melt Down on April 23rd and the Sign-Up Event on June 27th. Remember to pay your dues and register!

Here's looking to 2027, bringing deep powder and short lines!

Carolyn, your VP Trips for 2027

Social Calendar

April 7 Tuesday Lunch Bunch at Top Golf

Top Golf—Fishers 9200 E. 116th Street

Meet in Lobby by 11:30am Our group will be “walk ins”

\$7 lifetime membership req’d \$40 per hour per bay divided by group

Order lunch from the bay. Golf clubs provided or bring your own.

Please register online



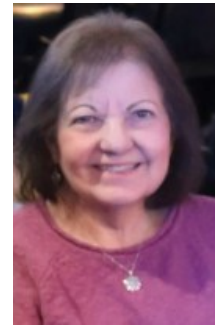
Eldonna Rees

April 30 Thursday Thirst 6:00pm

Giordano’s Pizza—Northside

4110 E. 82nd Street, Indianapolis

Please register online



Patty Pattermore

May 5 Tuesday Lunch Bunch 11:30 am

It's Cinco de Mayo!

Luciana’s Mexican Restaurant & Cantina

3716 E. 82nd Street, Indianapolis

Please register online



May 21 Thursday Thirst 6:00 pm

Big Woods at Speedway

1002 N. Main Street, Speedway

Please register online



June 27 Trips Sign-Up & Summer Party at the Hillcrest Country Club

Save the Date - Watch for the June Schussboomer

Remembering Christian Legend

Christian Legend, 67, passed away unexpectedly on February 20, 2026.

Christian was born April 6, 1958. His parents were first generation immigrants from France. Christian's father Claude Emile Legend had traveled extensively following World War II. From an early age he was fascinated by the United States. Claude completed his engineering studies in Paris. While visiting Alsace Lorraine he met Rosine Zamunero who lived there. They fell in love and were married. In the early 1950's Claude was offered a position with Sorel Industries, Ltd in Quebec, Canada. They decided to accept the position and moved from France. Soon after, Claude was offered an engineering job by Ford Motor Company



and the couple moved to Detroit, Michigan. Christian was born in Detroit but at an early age his family moved again to Cedar Rapids, Iowa before settling in Bloomington, Minnesota.



Christian, Francoise, father Claude, and Jean-Pierre at Hyland Hills ski area in early 1970's

His father had dreamed of owning a house on a hill with a pond in back. He found such a home in Bloomington, Minnesota. This would be where Christian, his younger brother Jean-Pierre and sister Françoise learned to ski. They would ski down the snow-covered hill behind their house. At the bottom they'd remove their skis and hike back up the hill and do it all over again. Later Hyland Hills Ski Area west of town became their ski home. Christian and his siblings spent many summers in Paris and visited with their French cousins while becoming fluent in the French language. One summer their father bought them new French-made Rossignol skis at a ski shop in Paris.

Following high school Christian took some time before college to work on his ski racing skills and practice ski bumming. He served as the Ski School

Director at Hyland Hills in the winter and worked as a waiter in a French restaurant in the summer. He tried to qualify for the 1980 men's Olympic ski team but came up short, although he was ranked in the top 100 male racers. Christian earned an Associate's degree from a community college before graduating from the University of Minnesota with his bachelor's degree in business management in 1981.



Young, tanned and ready to race and win.



Christian Legend continued.

Following graduation Christian went to work for Seagram's/Gallo Wineries as a Distillery Representative. He worked for Seagram's for 21 years and went through their Executive Training program. He lived in Tampa and Fort Lauderdale, Florida and became an Assistant Brand Manager. He lived in Dallas and Atlanta and was Director of the Southeast. Following his work for Seagram's he worked for Constellation Brands. Later he finished his career with Southern Glazer's Wines and Spirits.

Christian discovered the Indianapolis Ski Club in 2022 and instantly fit in. He soon volunteered to serve on the Board of Directors as Trips Vice President-Elect and then as Trips Vice President. He was always enthusiastic about attending Board meetings and enjoyed the club's social events. He participated on two European ski club trips to Paganella, Italy and Les Arcs, France. He organized and led the club's ski trip to Valle Nevado, Chile in August 2025.

Christian is survived by his daughter Paige of Denver, Colorado, his mother Rosine Legend and his sister Françoise Michno both of Minneapolis, Minnesota. He is also survived by his niece Chantal, and nephews Jeremie, Stefan, and Jean-Michel. Christian loved his family and enjoyed the time he could spend with them at reunions. Christian was pre-deceased by his father Claude Emile Legend and brother Jean-Pierre Legend.

Photos from upper right: His sister Françoise with Christian. Lower right: Daughter Paige with Christian.

Lower left: Christian and his family and friends at Beaver Creek in 2024

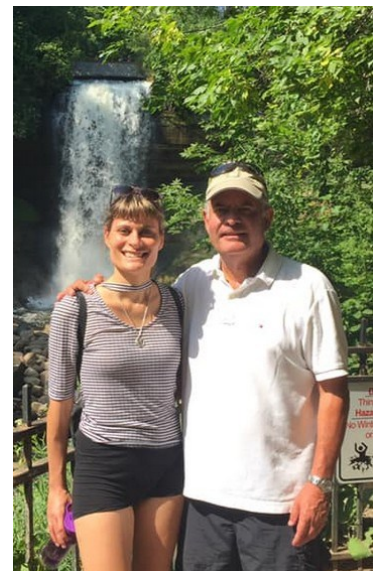
Celebration of Life

Christian Legend 1958-2026

Sunday April 19, 2026 6:00pm

George's Neighborhood Grill

Avalon Crossing 6925 Lake Plaza Drive



Ten Reasons **Telluride** Was (One of) the Best Trips Ever!

1. Bright, sunny bluebird days greeted us, inspiring songs from the chairlift and endless photos. Telluride's beauty was truly unmatched—even our sunglasses needed sunglasses.

2. Despite a 45-year record low for snowfall in Telluride, there was still enough for everyone to carve up the slopes. With every lift running and top-notch grooming, the snow—though not abundant—was perfectly adequate. A little fresh powder would have been the icing on the cake, but we made the most of every run.



3. The week kicked off with a spectacular Welcome Reception—great food, laughter echoing off the walls, and old friendships renewed while new ones were made. It set the tone for the memorable events that would follow. The “girls” were all together again—Jennifer Rhamy (CO), Laryn Peterson (IN), Bev Tyler (OH), and Janet Zusman (KY)—snuggled into their condo and proved that four women and one rollaway bed is the true Olympic event of ski week. Gold medals all around for engineering—and patience!

4. On the second day, eleven intrepid skiers joined our private mountain tour. It was fast and furious, with personalized attention and the thrill of having the mountain to ourselves—a true highlight. Speedy Marilyn Rader amazed us all; she’s as fast as ever!

5. As the week unfolded, a few bumps and bruises appeared—after all, the mountain makes us forget our age (and sometimes our common sense). Bart Rajwa suffered a fractured tibial plateau, which cut his skiing short, but the group rallied around him and he made it home safely. After surgery, he's recovering well and already plotting his comeback. Helmets off to Brett Farrell, who kept his promise to Maria and didn't do anything crazy—or at least, didn't get caught. Way to go, Brett!

6. Adding to the sense of reunion, it was fantastic having Bob Swisshelm back. Years as a national pickleball referee kept him busy, but our former webmaster returned, sharing both skis and stories with the group.

7. Shops and restaurants were quiet, almost ghost-like—Telluride felt like our own private village. The ski patrol strike’s impact was clear, but the shops and restaurants that had reopened welcomed us warmly.

8. Midweek at Crazy Elk, the pizza party was legendary. Every pizza on the menu appeared—cheesy, sizzling, and bursting with flavor—so we sampled both pepperoni classics and wild combos. Crisp salads balanced the meal. The finale: soft-serve ice cream with all the toppings!

9. The Mountain Lodge was the place to be—our hub for adventure and late-night laughs. The condos could use a few more creature comforts and some extra help, but the always-smiling staff went the extra mile. Once fully staffed and updated, it'll be back to its old glory days. The shuttle system was top-notch, making us feel like VIPs.

10. Our octogenarians showed everyone up on the slopes. Priscilla and Tom Johnson have never skied better! The rest of us can only hope we look that good on skis at 80-plus. And then there's Richard Rader—if you were lucky, you caught him making beautiful turns down the mountain, possibly on his way to the après-ski. As our Telluride adventure drew to a close, we left with sore muscles, full hearts, and enough stories to last until next season. Whether it was conquering the slopes, savoring pizza, or laughing together at après-ski, every moment reminded us why this trip is so special. Until the next bluebird day, keep your skis sharp, your spirits high, and your sense of humor ready for the next chapter. Telluride, we'll be back!





“Dog Sledding Good Times”



“Another Sunny Day in Breck”



“Slope-side Moose on the Loose”

BRECKENRIDGE 2026

Ready to “Hit the Slopes”, we were off to a great start in Indy with great check-in help from United and off to Denver, where we met up with our ski friends who were traveling from other areas. A bit of a delay in getting baggage, but everyone had their baggage and we were off to Breck after our stop to Applewood Village to get groceries and beverages. 31 of us were on the Charter Bus to check in at Beaver Run Resort and meet up with 2 of our other skiers, Noli Bentley and Steve Hoover who drove. (A total of 33) Three members who also planned to go to Breckenridge had to cancel at the last minute. We missed You!

Sunday was our first day of skiing. Snow was a little sparse in places, but it was still a good day of skiing with Sunny Blue Skys, great temps, and enjoying the beauty that the Colorado Rockies has to offer. A “Snow Dance” was definitely needed.

Our Welcome Reception was held at the resort on Sunday evening to enjoy friendship and discussing our first day’s adventures. Brett Farrell and Kristy Williams started off their first day by witnessing a “Moose on the Loose” on the slopes, which made an “interesting” start and Marie Johansen’s son was able to join us. We welcomed two new members, Richard Gibbs and Alan Kurasz to Indy Ski Club. Sadly, we had heartfelt news of the passing of our ski friend, Christian Legend.



“Friends in High Places”

Heading into the second day of skiing, again with sunny skies and nice temperatures, but alas no snow, so we continued the Snow Dance and enjoyed lunch on the mountain and Apres-Ski at the resort for more fellowship.

Our Pizza Party was held at **Fatty's Pizza**. The building was an old Boarding House back in 1881. It was a great space to enjoy pizza, appetizers/salads and again more socializing with each other, and celebrate February birthdays of Kristy Williams, Dave Jarrett and Mike Miller.

Alas! Our Snow Dance worked, as we had snow on Wednesday and Thursday, making all of us happy and hitting the slopes hard, followed by getting together either at Apres-Ski or heading to dinner in downtown Breckenridge or cooking in.

Heading into Thursday with more great skiing. Jean Thompson headed up a group of four (Jean, Jackie Sundboom, Milt Johnson and Paul Ophus) on a Dog Sledding venture, where they got to "mush", ride on the sleds, and enjoy the beautiful hard working sled dogs.

On Friday, our last night, after skiing and more apres-ski, several of the group gathered up the extra food and beverages that we had left over, and we met in an area of the resort to share the last of our food and drink, play cards, and enjoy each other's company before our ride back home on Saturday. It was a Great week, and I had a great time being a first time trip leader. Thank you all for your patience and enduring the early morning text sent each day!

Lyn More



"The Friends U Meet In Breck"



"Oh! The Places You'll Go"



"Isn't it Nice to Be Together!"

Breckenridge Photos



SNOWMASS 2026



On Saturday, March 14, twenty-three skiers boarded a flight bound for Denver. Once there, we met up with Bruce Davison and Kevin Fritts. Our group of 25 enjoyed the trip to Snowmass on our spacious motor coach. We were greeted by eight more club members upon our arrival at Snowmass with a grand total of 33 participants. Everyone settled in and we were ready to hit the slopes on Sunday.

Our first two days were cold and windy, but the following days got progressively warmer. By the end of the week, we had shed most of our layers, applied sunscreen, and were enjoying spring skiing. We went out late to allow the snow to thaw a little, but by the afternoon we had 'mashed potatoes'.

One of the reasons I enjoy leading this trip is the diversity of our group. We had folks from California, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, and, of course, Indiana. We had skiers, non-skiers, and snowshoers. We had folks who worked during the trip, condo decorators, and greeting card makers. Never a dull moment with this group!

On Tuesday evening everyone gathered at the Hickory House in Aspen for ribs, chicken, and sides in lieu of a pizza party. The meal was served family style and everyone left with a full belly. While there we celebrated three birthdays with brownie sundaes: Mike Morrolf, Eldonna Rees and Arlis Bortner.

Unfortunately, we had a few incidents while in Snowmass. Gretchen Vollmer fell on the first day and spent the remainder of the week recuperating. Tom Johnson was the target of an out-of-control skier and suffered from a fractured ankle. He spent the better part of the week in a boot. Mike Morrolf suffered from altitude sickness and had to return home early. Marion Rust hurt her knee and nursed it most of the week. Whew! That's too many. Hope everyone is on the mend. SHOUT OUT to Loren Rasmussen – he drove to Snowmass and agreed to bring Tom and Priscilla Johnson's skis home for them since Tom was in a boot. Thank you!

Carolyn McConkey got bored and rearranged the bookcase in her condo. Martha Stewart has nothing on her! Eldonna Rees was busy all week making greeting cards – better than Hallmark! Claudia Bossard snowshoed several mountains and according to some Generation Z's (twenty somethings) she is 'RAD'.

Overall, we had a wonderful trip. There was lots of skiing due to the great snow grooming by the Snowmass employees. Hope to see everyone on another trip next ski season!

Cheers!

Joni Lawler

Snowmass Photos



View from the Sky *A Hoosier in Montana* by Mel Crichton

Let's face it, folks. If you ski the Rockies this year, it pretty much sucks. Plain and simple. Looking at snow reports from ski meccas in Colorado and Utah is disappointing. Here in Big Sky, it's been close to dismal, although the resort works hard to preserve the snow we have. The groomed runs are all open and in pretty good shape. And there's still off-groomer skiing, although perhaps a bit thin in places, and my secret powder pockets are gone. But yet, even with scant snow, people are skiing in the West. Midwesterners understand ... "bad skiing is better than no skiing."

We also know that, according to a corollary of Murphy's Law, good snow doesn't happen until you can't ski it. So I figured that it would be OK to get my funky knee repaired before season's end. Ending my season early should be great for the snowpack, making my friends happy. And more snowpack means a better chance of getting through summer's wildfire season without a serious threat.

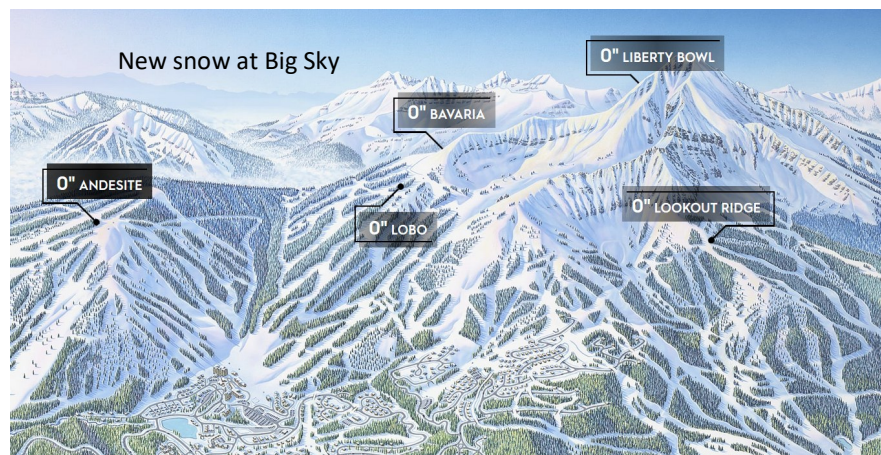
My ski friends grabbed onto the idea.... "Mel can't ski, so get those powder boards waxed!" My buddy Tram Rat offered to buy me beers for the rest of the season with every powder dump.... an offer I couldn't refuse. My doc scheduled a surgery date in February... late enough to get a few more ski days in, but early enough that I'd be back on the hiking trails this summer.... hopefully not posting wildfire warnings.

Ski Country USA, by reputation has some of the best orthopedic surgeons in the world. But those docs demand a lot of preparation before surgery. It felt as if I was training to go to space.... In the month before my surgery I had an EKG, an anesthesia fitness test, two blood tests, a second X-ray, and did daily at-home physical therapy that (I thought at the time) could not be worse than post-surgery PT. I also had to rent a walker, a CPM leg exerciser, a leg compression machine, and a contraption that sits on the toilet rim to raise your butt, likely invented by someone who has never used a toilet. On February 25 my knee said goodbye and was replaced with a chunk of titanium.

OK, bring on the snow. Any day now... We're waiting... Can't wait for all that free beer. Still waiting... Come on, still six weeks of ski season, let it snow.

One stinking wet snow of 6 inches in the last 2 weeks. Murphy, where are you when we are counting on you?

Gonna be a rough wildfire season. At least the knee will be ready.



Obituary

Margaret Ann (Sam) Kelso, of Indianapolis, Indiana, passed away peacefully Saturday, March 14, 2026, two days before her 90th birthday. She lived a remarkable and active life full of career, travel, family, and friends.

Sam was born in Brown County, Indiana, to Earl and Georgia (Myers) Kelso on March 16, 1936 and was the third of 5 children.

After graduating from Helmsburg High School in 1954, Sam worked in various clerical positions before becoming the assistant to Marion County Judge James Payne. This led to a long career in the Juvenile Courts system, during which she put herself through college at the IU-PUI campus of Indiana University. Many years later, she confessed that going back to school after more than 20 years, being surrounded by younger students, most of whom were full-timers, and having to study while working full-time was the hardest thing she ever did. However, she persevered, earning her Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice in 1977, followed by her Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice in 1980, becoming the first member of her family to graduate from college. Obtaining these degrees helped her to advance further within the Juvenile Courts system, where she eventually became the chief administrator of the Marion County Juvenile Detention Center, the position she retired from in 2002. She took great pride in caring for the children and staff at the Juvenile Center, always choosing to work on Thanksgiving and Christmas days to allow other staff to take those days off.

Sam enjoyed travel and the outdoors. She was active in the Indianapolis Ski Club for many years, including serving as its president and leading ski trips to the Rockies and the Alps. In addition to her many visits to National Parks, Sam considered a trip to Hong Kong one of the highlights of her travels.

She found another calling at the Indianapolis Children's Museum, where her record tenure of 25 years as a volunteer was recognized with a special award in 2018.

A Celebration of Life for Sam will take place Saturday, April 25th from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm at the Flanner Buchanan Broad Ripple.



Lindo Mexico Lunch Bunch March 10

Photos by Brett Farrell



Member Birthdays

April

Brian Merrell	04/02
Beverly Tyler	04/03
Gwen Bortner	04/03
Steve Hoover	04/05
Elzbieta (Ita) Wojciechowska	04/06
Laryn Peterson	04/06
Christian Legand	04/06
Michael Bindner	04/08
Jill Morrolf	04/20
Dan Legan	04/23
Chuck Heinrich	04/25
Richard Sexson	04/26
Bill Ihrer	04/27
John Nore	04/29
Louis (Rip) Ripberger	04/30
Gregory Maxwell	04/30

May

Ron Dillon	05/01
Peter Moorton	05/04
Michael Prickett	05/06
Carolyn McConkey	05/11
Nancy Spencer	05/13
Sue McNiel	05/14
Wayne Riddell	05/16
Ray Battey	05/17
Bill Maxwell	05/18
Scott Marr	05/19
Marie Johansen	05/20
Dena Aleksa	05/22
Joe Summers	05/24
Linda Kelley	05/24
Tom Roy	05/25
Mike Rigsby	05/25
Mark S Mongin	05/27
Kevin Fritts	05/29
Darren Ratcliffe	05/31

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Skiing in your 70's is a great way to meet people. Recently I met 2 paramedics, an ambulance driver, a surgeon, several nurses, ... and nearly met Jesus.



Indianapolis Ski Club Officers 2025-2026

see photos at <http://indyskiclub.org/aboutus>

President: George Andrews 636-346-3449
Pres-Elect: Priscilla Johnson 317-289-7776
Secretary: Brett Farrell 317-332-0177
Treasurer: Noli Bentley 317-590-0153

VP Trips: Carolyn McConkey 317-844-6860
VP Trips-Elect: Christian Legand 317-397-1922
VP Membership: Jackie Sundboom 317-413-3358

Articles for next Issue to:

news@indyskiclub.org

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