

2015-2016 Steve Sutton Award Winning!

# SKIDDOO

A Chicago Metropolitan Ski Council Affiliate  
[www.skicmsc.com](http://www.skicmsc.com)

Volume XLIII February 2021 Issue 6

## Activities

Feb 9	Ski with Quad City group at Chestnut
Feb 11	Zoom Social 6:30-8:30pm
TBD	Post Party
June 5	Spring Picnic@ Meadowlark
Aug 29-Sep 5	Sailing Maine Trip

\* Watch the forum and email for upcoming  
impromptu meetings, ski trips and cross-  
country events!



# EISC

ENJOY THE ADVENTURE

## **BOARD MEETINGS**

The next board meeting is **February 17**.

Members and non-members are welcome.

Time and location of the next board

Meeting can be obtained from **Ruth Van Tol**

## **EISC INFORMATION:**

For more information about the EISC contact:

[members@eastlowaskiclub.com](mailto:members@eastlowaskiclub.com)

Annual Membership fees: Single - \$30; Household - \$60

## **MOVED/MOVING:**

Send address change to:

East Iowa Ski Club, PO Box 843

Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-0843

## **DEADLINE:**

The deadline for the **March** Skiddoo is **February 26**.

Contact **Mary Jean Blaisdell**.

EISC Financials are available on request.

**[WWW.EastIowaSkiClub.com](http://WWW.EastIowaSkiClub.com)**

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**East Iowa Ski Club**

**PO Box 843**

**Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-0843**

	Board Members	Phone	Email address
President	Ruth Van Tol	507-273-4340	<a href="mailto:Ruth@eastiowaskiclub.com">Ruth@eastiowaskiclub.com</a>
Vice President	Kim Jacoby	641-990-7885	<a href="mailto:KimJ@eastiowaskiclub.com">KimJ@eastiowaskiclub.com</a>
Secretary	Dave Meyer	319-432-8959	<a href="mailto:Dave@eastiowaskiclub.com">Dave@eastiowaskiclub.com</a>
Treasurer	Janet Stimson	319-849-1526	<a href="mailto:Janet@eastiowaskiclub.com">Janet@eastiowaskiclub.com</a>
Trip Coordinator	Steve Cummings	319-573-9086	<a href="mailto:Steve@eastiowaskiclub.com">Steve@eastiowaskiclub.com</a>
House and Clinics	Marty Stimson	319-389-4156	<a href="mailto:Marty@eastiowaskiclub.com">Marty@eastiowaskiclub.com</a>
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Special Activities	Keven Lubben	319-533-0822	<a href="mailto:Keven@eastiowaskiclub.com">Keven@eastiowaskiclub.com</a>
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Publicity/Marketing	Mike Buckman	319-389-6055	<a href="mailto:Mike@eastiowaskiclub.com">Mike@eastiowaskiclub.com</a>

## President's Message

I shared with the board last month that I had communication with the CMSC (Chicago Metropolitan Ski Council). CMSC was inquiring how our club was managing meetings, activities and just general existence, given the virus. There was a report of a club folding and several others considering merging with others due to lack of being able to attract new members and other difficulties. Certainly the winter months have added to the difficulty of meeting safely in person, in enclosed spaces. I think for the most part we are doing as well as can be expected. The western ski trip is happening as I write this and the Forum has been used to schedule ski trips to Sundown and Chestnut. I understand several are planning to cross country ski at Morgan Creek the last weekend in January.

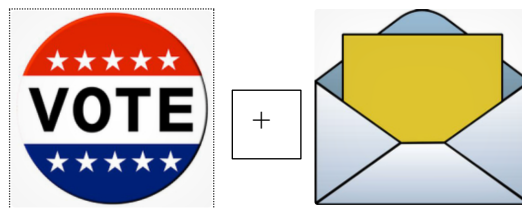


Because the club is as much a social group as a ski club, the board made a decision to purchase a Zoom subscription for the next year. This will allow some virtual social gatherings. A trial run of a virtual group gathering was done by sending an invitation to about a dozen members who are regulars at the Nothing Nights at CJ's on Wednesdays. We wanted to give it a try with a limited number of members first before sending an invite to the whole club. Four members were successful in joining along with 2 board members on January 27. We got to meet two cats who wanted to share the screen time and enjoyed catching up with others whom we haven't seen in several months. The group agreed that there will be a standing Zoom gathering on Wednesday evenings for Nothing Nights from 6 to 8 PM starting February 3. The meeting link was sent out in Social News to all members by **Kim Jacoby**. **Anyone** is welcome to sign in and sign out during that 2 hour time frame. **There will also be a Zoom gathering on Thursday, February 11 at 6:30-8:30pm.** We have some interest to see how many can sign in without needing to have an assigned moderator who would allow when others could speak. We are learning as we go and welcome your feedback. Check it out and give it a whirl.

As you know, clubs need volunteers to help run them. **Mary Jean Blaisdell**, the Skiddoo Editor for nearly the last 4 years, has given her notice that she plans to step aside this fall. She was also editor some years ago for 2 – 3 years. That means the board is looking for someone who would be willing to take on that responsibility. Mary Jean is willing to provide some training and assistance. If you have some questions about job responsibility and tasks she would be willing to answer them. Please step up and let any member of the board know if you are interested in helping the club out with this position.

Last but not least, the election for Board of Directors is this month. There have been some questions about why it isn't being done electronically. That method doesn't allow for a secret ballot. We discussed an option of electronic votes and paper ballots but keeping track of who has voted and by what method was too difficult. Just pick up a piece of paper, write down the names of 4 persons you would like to represent you on the board, put it in an envelope, slap a stamp on it and get it in the mail. It is only 2 minutes of your time. We want and need your votes.

Hang in there, Stay Healthy and Stay Safe,  
**Ruth**



**Birthdays-February:** **Brian Keller** (4<sup>th</sup>); **James Toothaker** (7<sup>th</sup>); **Tammy Keller** (10<sup>th</sup>); **Dave Brown** (13<sup>th</sup>); **Diane Scholl** (14<sup>th</sup>); **Elle Strickland** (15<sup>th</sup>); **Teresa Smith** (17<sup>th</sup>); **Teri Barnhart** (23<sup>rd</sup>); **Cathy Bossard** (28<sup>th</sup>).

## **Family News:**

We are sad to share the news that one of our members, **David Nicholas**, passed away on January 14. We extend our condolences to the family and friends of Dave.

*To fellow EISC'ers:*

*Our mom, Justine Owen (92), passed away on Monday, January 18.*

*Thank you* *to all of our ski club friends for your kind words and condolences.*

**Jeff Owen**

**Janet and Marty Stimson**

# FUTURE EVENTS

## Chestnut Trip - February 9



Hopefully we will have better luck scheduling a ski trip to Chestnut this winter than we did last year. The weather didn't cooperate then.

We are planning a day to join the Mississippi Valley Ski Club from the Quad Cities to ski for a day on Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup>. Lift tickets are \$40. Lift with ski or snow board rental is \$75. The web site recommends you purchase your ticket on-line; however, we had no difficulty walking up to the outdoor window mid-week and purchasing that way. You can also purchase a \$12 lunch for take away or plan to bring your own. Bring your credit or debit cards; they don't deal with cash.

Because of Covid, we aren't planning to do carpooling. Once you arrive, there is limited access to indoor areas for suiting up, warming up or eating and taking a break. Plan to get your boots on and possibly tailgate having your lunch in the parking lot. Masks are required in the lift line and while riding the chair lift with others. Hope you can make it.

*Post script: The temperature forecast doesn't look inviting for the 9th. Please watch for a Forum announcement for any postponement or trip changes.*

~article by **Ruth Van Tol**

## ZOOM Member Meeting - February 11

The EISC Board has set up meeting using Zoom. Last Wednesday, we had our first Nothing Nights meeting with a few brave souls to check it out. The members that attended enjoyed the opportunity to visit with other members safely from their homes. We have set up weekly Zoom meetings on Wednesdays until end of April.

We have also set up a Zoom meeting on February 11<sup>th</sup> for members to ask questions or visit with other members. We hope for a large turnout. As you all know, it will be a little different than meeting at a location so we will need to adjust our conversation style.



~ public domain image

To find the link for the Zoom meeting, sign into the website using your membership login. Click on "What's Happening" then "Event Calendar" from the drop down. Each date with a Zoom meeting scheduled will be on the calendar. You can click on the event, then click on the "Where" button on the event to access Zoom meeting. If you don't see the events on the calendar, check to make sure you are signed into the website. The Zoom events are set up for members only.

If you have any questions, please email me at [communications@eastiowaskiclub.com](mailto:communications@eastiowaskiclub.com). I look forward to seeing you on Zoom.

~ article by **Kim Jacoby**

## Cross Country Skiing/Snow Shoeing/Winter Hiking



Are you ready to enjoy winter, get out of the house, forget about the virus and breathe in a little fresh air? If you think we have been cooped up far too long, then this is what we all need: Cross Country Skiing and Snow Shoeing or a good winter hike with fellow EISC members! Let us all get together!

**Check the dates and locations as there have been some changes. Some of the parks are not open to the public. Also, Tim Gull's Boat House event had to be canceled because of the virus. Someday, we will be back to normal.**



These dates are all on Saturdays; with meet up at 1pm.

This is all pending snow conditions.

Matsell Bridge – Meet at parking lot after crossing the bridge.

Twin Pines Golf Course – Meet at club house parking lot.

Morgan Creek – Meet at Arboretum parking lot.

Kent Park – Meet at the Whip-Poor-Will parking lot.

February 6 Matsell Bridge

February 13 Twin Pines

February 20 Morgan Creek

February 27 Squaw Creek

March 6 McBride Nature Ctr.

March 13 Twin Pines

March 20 Kent Park

March 27 Morgan Creek

~article and photos by **Keven Lubben**

## **"Sailing Maine on the Angelique" Aug 29-Sep 5, 2021**

**\$2160 - Ship, Air and Hotel**

**\$1540 - Ship and Hotel**

**\$1230 - Ship only**

**Feb 1 Cancellation Date has passed**

**Final payment due Mar 1<sup>st</sup>: Full package \$602, Ship and Hotel \$396, Ship \$292**

We are headed to sail around the islands off the shores of Maine on the tall ship

**'Angelique.'** The trip will be Sunday, August 29 through Sunday, September 5, 2021, sailing for 5 nights/days on the Windjammer with the last day in the tall ship regatta of the **Camden Windjammer Festival**. We start with a one night stay in a Camden harbor hotel the night before sailing and another night stay in the hotel after to enjoy the weekend festival. Check out the ship on their website at

<https://www.sailangelique.com/welcome-aboard/> .

We are full with three people on the waiting list.



**Brian Keller 319-213-0309 Tammy Keller 319-651-6514**

~article by **Brian Keller**; photo courtesy of Sail Windjammer



## **Board Election**

Every year, your East Iowa Ski Club board holds elections. There are four open seats for the board and six excellent candidates!

Normally, election night is held at our February Member Meeting, but there has been nothing normal about the year 2020 lingering into 2021. We've always offered the mail-in paper ballot option for those who can't make the February Member Meeting. This year, that will be everyone. So, read the candidate profiles and select four. Most of you are receiving this Skiddoo electronically. If you have a printer, you can just print off the page that has the ballot on it and mail that in. Since it is possible that some may not have printers, we are also allowing people to create their own ballots on any piece of writing paper and send that in. **The mailing envelope must have a legible name and return address so a record can be kept of who has voted.**

(Multiple members within a single household can place ballots in the same envelope, but then they would have to be signed or contained within an additional privacy envelope that is signed.)

**Be sure to have your ballots mailed in time to be post-marked no later than February 19.**

The address is:  
East Iowa Ski Club attn. Elections  
PO Box 843  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-0843

Any questions, contact the club or me:  
319-535-3646 (EISC Phone Number)  
Or 319-389-6055 (**Mike Buckman**)  
OR [mike@eastiowaskiclub.com](mailto:mike@eastiowaskiclub.com)



~ public domain clipart

~article by **Mike Buckman**

## **Mary Day**



It's been a pleasure to be a member of EISC since 1994. I have chaired trips and served on the board from 2004-2008. I just retired for the second time. After numerous joint replacements, I no longer ski, but love to travel and experience great fun with fellow club members.

~bio and photo provided by **Mary Day**

## **Ann Delaney**

I've been a member of the EISC for about 5 years. I joined the club to meet new people and get more involved in outdoor activities. I had never skied before and thought it would be fun to learn. I've gone skiing twice and while I enjoyed the experience and am glad I tried, I'm definitely more into the non-skiing activities such as biking, kayaking and hiking. I've really enjoyed making friends with people who like traveling, seeing new places, and experiencing new things. It's so important to enjoy and embrace the outdoors, especially this year. I hope to help the club continue in that tradition.



~bio and photo provided by **Ann Delaney**

## **David Meyer**



My name is **David Meyer**. My wife Joanie and I joined the ski club in 2014 and have enjoyed our time. I have too many hobbies including skiing, sailing, and working on my vintage cars. We enjoy socializing with other members at our meetings and events and of course very much enjoy our trips. I have been a Board member the last couple years and would like to continue. I am looking forward to helping implement some of the new concepts regarding future travel destinations that the Board has recently proposed to the members. My favorite quote from Warren Miller is, "If you don't do it this year you will be one year older when you do."

~bio and photo provided by **David Meyer**

## **Jeff Sherman**

After 6 years with the club, I have agreed to run for the board. My main interest is in skiing, and I would like to see more short Midwest trips, those accessible to folks that work and don't have vacation time for longer adventures. I have been introduced to many bike trails in the area as a result of EISC trips, and have purchased a new bike to keep up with my speedy peers. I especially like those that involve overnight stays, and camping with friends. While skiing is the link that holds us together, I think we all realize the club is much more than that. Sharing in a variety of outdoor activities with adventurous people is what it is all about. From skiing and biking to picnics, corn roasts, kayaking, hiking, chili cook offs, ballgames, and camping, I enjoy hanging out with the outdoor fun people!



~bio and photo provided by **Jeff Sherman**

## Marty Stimson

For those that may not know me, my name is **Marty Stimson**. I have been a member of our ski club since 1989 when I married my wife Janet. She was already a member and said it was a fun group and she was right. Probably the most enjoyable part I like about our club, besides the social support and gatherings, is all the many varied activities and trips the club does. Ski trips have been a big part of our vacation plans for many years with the club but skiing isn't our only interest. To my picture, boating and fishing is my second biggest interest along with travel and sightseeing in general. I believe as a club, we definitely need to continue promoting and doing ski trips. But with our multi-interest membership, we also need to promote and offer other non-ski trips and activities such as past trips to Europe, or even some US and Canada destinations. Depending on the travel location, trips can be a combination of a variety of activities. Even winter fly fishing! As a continuing board member, I would work to offer a variety of week long, weekend trips, and social outings. ~bio and photo provided by **Marty Stimson**



## Ruth Van Tol



I would like the opportunity to serve another 2 years on the board of directors of the EISC. I have been a member of the club since I moved to Cedar Rapids in 2013 and have been a member of the board for the past 2 years. The club has provided a number of great ski trips that I have been able to go on and I have coordinated several trips. I enjoy almost any other outdoor activity, especially biking during the summer. Using the club's web site forum page was a great tool to schedule bike rides during the summer. 2021 has posed some challenges in trying to find a balance in getting together for activities and socialization but still staying safe. The future looks brighter and I would like to serve you for another 2 years and would appreciate your vote. ~bio and photo provided by **Ruth Van Tol**

\*\*\*\*\*Cut Here and Mail\*\*\*\*\*

**Please select no more than four:**

- ☐ Mary Day
- ☐ Ann Delaney
- ☐ David Meyer
- ☐ Jeff Sherman
- ☐ Martin Stimson
- ☐ Ruth Van Tol

Return postmarked by February 19, 2021  
East Iowa Ski Club attn. Elections  
PO Box 843  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-0843

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## YOU MIGHT HAVE MISSED IT...

### Chestnut - January 5 Recap/Pics

The skiing Forum was used for a very short notice to ski at Chestnut on 1/5/2021. The weather was spring-like with sunshine, no wind and good snow conditions. Just a handful of EISC members were there but it was a great day of skiing.



### Sundown - January 12 - Recap/Pics

On January 12<sup>th</sup> about 15 to 20 members and friends of the EISC responded to the Forum announcement that a few of us were going to Sundown for a day of skiing. We had a great, sunny day in the upper 20's all day. Many of us tried the Smart Pass - buying the lift tickets in advance and avoiding the ticket line and it worked great. There wasn't really much of a ticket line during the week, but this may have saved a few minutes. The snow was really super for skiing all day. It was good to see all of our skiing friends again, although some were difficult to identify behind the masks. The lodges were open for food and drink, but most took sandwiches from home and had lunch in their cars. Sundown resort is having a challenging ski year. They are full on the weekends and fairly empty during the week. They had the beginner lifts and main lift open, but weren't running the far 4 chair lift by the racing area. We were told they didn't have enough lift



operators – there was a colorful sign trying to hire lift operators today! – Free skiing, great benefits! – I don't think they mentioned the pay. A familiar ski instructor guided us to The Barn – a garage type building tucked in under the Bullet run, where they have food, beer, a bon fire and bands in an open area on the weekends. It looked like it would be a lot of fun, but we all enjoyed the empty runs during the week.

Thanks to all that came out for the fun ski day. Please remember the Forum works as well in the winter as it does in the summer for bicycle rides. The Forum is easy for anyone to use and is a great way to communicate with folks to go downhill or XC skiing or snowshoeing.

~article by **Steve Cummings**

~photos by **Kathy Takes**

## Keystone Becomes Crested Butte - Recap/Pics

The East Iowa Ski Club recently completed a successful ski trip to Crested Butte, Colorado. 22 EISC members made the long drive to Crested Butte and were able to enjoy a great week of skiing and fun at this very scenic and impressive, remote ski resort. As much as 17" of snow fell over the first 5 days of the trip, so we enjoyed some powder skiing along with the many groomed runs. The double black chutes and steep drops were not open because of lack of snow over the rocks. This did not affect the club too much, as there was plenty of the mountain to ski. **Kathy Takes** posted daily updates on Facebook of the fun and great scenery the group was enjoying. There were several exciting and challenging areas to ski. There were several mogul runs scattered over the resort – some were well hidden until we were in the middle of the moguls. There was some demanding and tricky tree skiing for those who looked for it. The long blue runs with varying terrain is where most of the skiing was done. The snow was great and gave the EISC members a chance to play in the soft snow and use their carving skills to get down the mountain.



The historic town of Crested Butte was an entertaining place to visit. The town still has the late 1800/early 1900 building fronts all over town. There were many shops, restaurants and bars to explore. The art, people and laid back feeling made for a fun time. One member said it was like Galena on steroids. They do have a Wildflower festival every summer & we thought the posters were really creative. We agreed it would be a cool event to attend someday.

There were other activities than skiing available. We saw many members walking around, exploring the town. We had several EISC members hit some of the many snow shoe trails around Crested Butte. We had one member take advantage of an opportunity to take a snow mobile ride into the mountains. Some just enjoyed the quiet time in our very nice Plaza condos.

This trip was fortunate to occur in this time of Covid, being rescheduled from Keystone about a month before the trip. Crested Butte was only one of 2 resorts that were still green in Colorado's Covid danger ranking system. The bars and restaurants were still at 50% capacity and the hot tubs were all closed causing widespread disappointment. However the EISC was able to adapt, wearing masks and enjoying a welcome party on Saturday and a wine and cheese party on Tuesday. **Kathy Takes** and **Kari Wheeler** did a great job as Trip Leaders and stayed in contact with every room, every day. We were lucky to be able to go on a ski trip during this time and even luckier to have such great trip leaders. The volunteer trip leaders are what make our trips so much fun and why the EISC is able to go on these great trips to these special locations. Crested Butte is truly a special place that all who made the long drive will remember fondly.

~article by **Steve Cummings**; photos provided by **Kathy Takes**

