

The Avalanche

FEBRUARY 2015

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NEXT MEETING:

- **February 5**
- **7pm, Courtyard Restaurant**

NEXT BOARD MEETING:

- **February 2**
- **7pm, Courtyard Restaurant**

From the Summit

Well, we're really into the heart of the season now. If you aren't skiing yet, you're really missing some terrific conditions. With trips to Sunday River, Killington, Bretton Woods and Whistler, among others, you have ample opportunity to get on the hill with your Ski Club friends. There's more detail inside this newsletter so read on. For a while, it felt as though winter wasn't sure which direction it wanted to go this year. At the boatyard where I work, we measure a winter by the amount of ice (or lack thereof) out in the river in front of the yard. A bad winter will cause a significant amount of ice to form which, eventually, will start pulling the steel pipes that hold our docks in place right out of the mud. If you're lucky, they fall over when they reach the tipping point; however, they can also get caught by the moving ice pack and bent like pretzels. The game is trying to predict how bad it will be each year. We've lost two pipes so far this winter as this latest onslaught has flash frozen the river and made the whole place look like a scene out of Dr. Zhivago. There is a bright side to this though. Very often, bad conditions here mean great skiing up north. It can be hard when you are expending so much energy on day-to-day things: shoveling, scraping windshields, feeding woodstoves, shoveling, trudging through snow and ice, scary driving, shoveling. You forget that a day of skiing sure would feel pretty good right now. You forget that the snow up north is completely different than the snow here—more welcoming, happier to see you, more interested in you having fun. It's also managed by whole crews of people and machines who are, thank goodness, not you. Your job is to enjoy yourself and create a warm memory to carry you through the winter with the mean snow. Oh, and you get to share that pleasure with a bunch of other refugees who are making their own warm memories. How many other outdoor winter activities can you say that about? Not shoveling, that's for sure. I hope to see you on a trip soon.

Warmly, Scott Northrop

President

P.S. There's that Dr. Zhivago music in my head again, "somewhere my love...." Happy Valentine's Day to you and yours!



2014—2015 Ski Trip Schedule

DATE	DAY	DESTINATION	COST	TRIP LEADER	TIME
1/7	Wednesday	Stratton, VT	\$79	Mimi Schlichter	5:00
1/11—1/16	Sun—Fri	Sugarloaf, ME	\$390	Bud Shaw	DY*
2/4	Wednesday	Sunday River, ME	\$79	Scott Northrop	4:30
2/7—2/14	Sat-Sat	Whistler, BC	\$1579	Michael Finegold	FLY
2/11	Wednesday	Killington	\$79	Roger Stokey	5:00
2/21—2/28	Sat—Sat	Steamboat, CO	\$1575	Bud Shaw	FLY
2/25	Wednesday	Bretton Woods, NH	\$79	Mimi Schlichter	5:00
3/4	Wednesday	Attitash, NH	\$79	Steve Carr	5:00
3/18	Wednesday	Wildcat, NH	\$79	Camille Morgan	5:00
4/2—4/5	Thurs—Sun	Jay Peak, VT	\$199-\$249	Michael Finegold	DY*

- *DY—Drive Yourself
- All trips subject to our deposit and liability policies, found elsewhere in this newsletter and on our website.
- Non-members are subject to a \$15 surcharge.
- Live on the south shore or Middleboro area and want to attend our trips? We can stop either on Route 3 (for NH and ME trips) or 495 (for VT trips). Just let the trip leader know!

2015 Trip Leaders

Roger Stokey 508-292-8370	Bud Shaw 508-477-3717	Camille Morgan 508-759-7616	Mimi Schlichter 508-548-3278
Steve Carr 508-563-9498	Len Hills 508-563-3941	Michael Finegold 774-392-2567	Scott Northrop 508-563-6731

~ Deposit/Refund policy ~

Deposits help ensure that a space is reserved for our members. These deposits apply to bus trips, weekend trips, week-long trips and more. Late cancellations are not entitled to a refund, nor is the club responsible for finding a replacement for you. You must find your own replacement, although we will endeavor to help you whenever possible. Deposits are further subject to the conditions imposed upon us by our suppliers, agents or other providers. We make every effort to refund as much money as possible but cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Inquire of your trip leader for specific information regarding your particular trip. The club recommends that you consider trip insurance whenever possible.



Steamboat®

Due to circumstances beyond our control (i.e., crazy droughts in California that could turn a Mammoth mountain trip into a sans-snow alcohol and binge-fest while admiring the forest fires), we have opted to abandon Mammoth, CA for the much snowier and more reliable Colorado! That's right, we're headed back to Steamboat. If you haven't been, this place is pretty epic. And it's large enough (3,000 skiable acres across six peaks) that you don't have to ski the same trail twice all week (but you probably will, because you're likely to fall in love with some of the trails there). More U.S. ski clubs will visit Steamboat this year than any other resort in the world!

We have two extra special bonus surprises though: 1) We're staying at La Casa Condominiums, which is located about 100 yards from the slopes; and 2) we're flying into Hayden airport, which is just a 30-minute drive from the resort!

The details:

- February 21 - 28, 2015
- 5 out of 7-day lift ticket (with an option for a 6th day)
- Airfare from Boston to Denver to Hayden
- 7 nights lodging at La Casa condominiums




WHISTLER BLACKCOMB

February
7 - 14

Whistler Blackcomb is a sprawling, two-mountain resort that features some of North America's most epic terrain, yet so versatile that even the greenest of skiers and riders will find suitable acreage. The village is perhaps the most attractive feature, with seemingly endless opportunities for food, fun, and whatever other trouble you can think of.

TRIP INCLUDES:

- Round trip Air & Transfers
- 7 nights lodging at Delta Whistler Village Suites
- 5 out of 6-day lift ticket
- One "Fresh Tracks" Mountaintop breakfast

With an excellent location in Whistler Village, the accommodations are rather spacious. They feature daily housekeeping, full kitchen, living room w/ fireplace, balcony, and washer/dryer. Milestones Restaurant & Lounge is located in the building, as is Hy's Steak House. As always, indoor & outdoor hot tubs, heated pool, sauna, steam room, exercise room, and spa are all available.

Jay Peak

April 2—5, 2015

- Ski and Stay - \$199
- Ski, Stay and Swim - \$249 (includes 3 days at the waterpark)

Contact:

Michael Finegold—774-392-2567 or
mfskier@comcast.net.

Announcing: the return of one of our most popular trips ever! For years, Upper Capers made a late-season trek to Jay Peak for some of the greatest possible conditions New England sees. After several years hiatus, the trip has been revived! Jay Peak boasts some of the best snow conditions in the country. That's right—the country! See this local gem for yourself. 78 trails, slopes and glades wait for you but the nooks and crannies are what really set Jay Peak apart. If you haven't been there, sign up and experience the reality behind the legend. From the far-out corners of the backcountry, to the close-at-hand convenience of The Zone learning area, there's a little something for everyone at this larger-than-life mountain. Go for the skiing and riding, but don't miss the indoor water park!

February 11

5:00am

\$79

Contact:

Roger Stokey

508-292-8370



Killington

Killington Resort's six peaks and 4,241' elevation offer 3,000' of vertical drop, exceptional views and ample opportunities for outdoor adventure with the longest on-snow season in the East. The Resort offers multiple terrain features for snowboarders and freeskiers in six terrain parks including Burton's The Stash, an all-natural inspired terrain park with more than 50 features as well as two pipes. If that doesn't interest you, don't fear! 61% of Killington is comprised by green and blue trails. Finally, you won't be able to use the old "it's too crowded excuse either;" with this trip on a Wednesday, we'll have the place to ourselves!

FEBRUARY 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	BOD Meeting		Sunday River		Meeting	Whistler
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Whistler	Whistler	Whistler	Killington Whistler	Whistler	Whistler	Whistler
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
						Steamboat
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Steamboat	Steamboat	Steamboat	Bretton Woods Steamboat	Steamboat	Steamboat	Steamboat



Sunday River®

February 4
4:30AM
\$79
Trip Leader: Scott Northrop

Sure we leave a little bit earlier for this one - but it will be oh so worth it with a vast array of terrain for every level of ski and board ability! While others tend to boast it, the truth is that they're not even close. In terms of sheer size, Sunday River is a very big resort, spanning three miles from White Cap to the Jordan Bowl. In between, eight interconnected mountain peaks, 135 trails, and 870 acres - plus, more hidden spots than a snow leopard on a powder day, thanks to their Boundary-to-Boundary Policy. And while most resorts thank Mother Nature for their winter bounty, Sunday River takes matters into their own hands with the most powerful [snowmaking](#) system in the world!

Bretton Woods

Visit Bretton Woods, New Hampshire's largest ski area with 464 acres of skiing and snowboarding on 62 trails and 35 glades and three terrain parks! Ten lifts, including four high-speed quads, make your ride up the mountain almost as fun as the ride down. If there's snow falling, chances are they've got it - or they can make it with snow-making on 92% of their trails. For an unprecedented second year in a row, Bretton Woods has been ranked #1 in the east for snow and grooming and #1 in New Hampshire overall.

February 25

5:00am

\$79

Contact:

Mimi Schlichter

508-548-3278

\$1 PER RUN!

Mount Sunapee, NH

There are lots of great deals out there—most notably, right here with this club. But when a group of work buddies invited me to play hooky last Friday and join them at Mount Sunapee, I couldn't resist. Sunapee has a "4 gets you 50" deal on weekdays. Buy your ticket on-line at least four days in advance and you get 50% off the price. Three days out gets you 40%, two days—30%, and one day—20%. We paid just \$34.50 for our full-day pass. And the mountain was an easy 3-hour drive, even hitting some Boston traffic.

These particular friends are former racers, so there was little standing around. In fact, I'm not sure there was any standing around! Top to bottom each time (always at excessive speeds) and no lift lines meant we were cranking out the runs. By 2:30, we had 35 runs in—enough to claim \$1 per run status. Granted, we're not talking 4,000 feet of vertical per run here, but it's still a good feeling!

So if the club isn't running a trip on a given week and you're looking for some cheap vertical, grab an advance ticket from Sunapee and see if you can do even better than \$1 per run! Check around too—there are lots of mountains offering similar deals.

Bike & Barge II—May 2—9, 2015



This journey combines cultural highlights and scenic areas in Holland and Flanders. You cycle along flat bike paths from metropolis Amsterdam to Bruges, the Venice of the North. In Holland, impressive cottages, cheese dairies and the 19 windmills of Kinderdijk are seaming your route. In Belgium, the historic Flemish cities of Antwerp, Gent and Brügge take center stage – gables and patrician houses, narrow alleys and rich cultural past finds its expression until today in the architecture and painting.

What's included:

- 7-nights accommodations on board ship
- Breakfast buffet, lunch, 3-course dinner
- Tour guide
- 7-speed hybrid bicycle
- Air-conditioned cabins
- Daily cabin cleaning
- Airfare NOT included

\$1229

Contact: Michael Finegold – 774-392-2567
or mfskier@comcast.net.



Park City + Canyons in 2015-2016 = The Largest Ski Resort in The US



Park City/Canyons -- Whatever Vail Resorts decides to call its combined Summit County, Utah, resort or the 2015-2016 ski season, the joining of Park City and Canyons is going to produce the largest ski resort in the United States of America! Think of an area the size of Vail and Beaver Creek and then add Sunlight. Park City and Canyons would still be larger! It's a game-changer for the North American ski industry—and eventually it may get even larger!

After three years of litigation between the owners of Park City Mountain Resort's base area, Powdr Corporation, and the owners of 2,852 acres of the resort's 3,300 acres of terrain, The Talisker Corporation, over the validity of PCMR's land lease (PCMR had simply forgotten to renew it after 50 years). Vail Resorts, which was already leasing the adjacent Canyons resort from Talisker for the next 50 years, a lease that included the rights to use Talisker's Park City ski terrain if and when it became available, simply purchased the base area and all other interests of Park City Mountain Resort from Powdr Corporation.

Vail immediately announced that Park City Mountain Resort could be accessed on the Epic Pass this ski season, and, by the 2015-2016 ski season, they stated that they would connect Canyons and Park City Mountain Resort with a new gondola, creating the largest ski resort in the nation -- with 7,300 acres of ski terrain served by 40 lifts and two base areas -- all of which can be accessed on their Epic Pass.

Vail has already announced that PCMR's Silverlode and Flatiron quads would be upgraded to high speed six packs for next season as part of a \$50 million improvement package in the two resorts that will also include upgrading Park City's Summit House. In a couple of years, the other older lifts in Park City will undoubtedly be updated and/or replaced with faster, more modern systems -- while the Park

City cruising runs will still be surrounded by the historic mine buildings and equipment that contribute so much to its character; the Canyon's steeps will still be there to challenge your intermediate and better skiers; and the entire experience is less than an hour's drive from the Salt Lake City Airport -- which is a hub for both Southwest and Delta Airlines.

What could the future hold in Park City?

What about the not-to-distant future? Park City's terrain is currently separated from Deer Valley Resort only by a rope on the south side of Park City. Meanwhile, Deer Valley is purchasing Solitude, which is located just over the west side of the mountains from Canyons. Snowbird and Alta are already lift-connected in the canyon south of Solitude and Brighton and all seven of the resorts in the region are actively talking about connecting their ski terrain into one giant European-type ski area. Before it's all over, Utah's Summit County and the Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons in Salt Lake County could end up boasting the world's second largest lift-connected ski resort -- exceeded only in acreage by France's giant Les 3 Vallées! That would be a game-changer!

Canyons Resort, operated by Vail Resorts, was Utah's largest lift-served ski resort -- and the third-largest ski resort in the United States even before Vail purchased the adjacent second-largest resort in the state -- Park City

Park City + Canyons (cont.)

Mountain Resort. The two areas are now connected by shuttle and both accept the Epic Pass, but they'll be lift-connected by next ski season! The purchase of Park City Mountain Resort shot Vail's stock up to \$87.53 (It had been as low as \$16 during the 2009 recession) and thrilled America's destination skiers.

Canyons is the closest ski resort to the Salt Lake City Airport and it's just four miles from downtown Park City for dining and nightlife using the town's free shuttle buses. The resort also has a bit more advanced terrain, and a more upscale base area and mountain facilities than does Park City Mountain Resort. Canyons' base area is centered around a huge outside bar in a round tent and an entertainment venue, the Forum, that's used for Friday après-ski spring concerts and is surrounded by hotels, condo complexes, shops, and the base of the resort's new high-speed quad chairlift with its signature orange weather hood and heated seats.

With miles of groomed runs, great tree skiing, excellent bowls, and lots of canyons (for which the area is named), plus Utah's famous dry powder, and located under seven peaks. The ski area now covers 4,000 acres -- but it also

has almost 3,000 additional acres in which to keep expanding.

Stop for lunch at the on-mountain LookoutCabin restaurant -- with its great views of the ski terrain below and excellent food. For dinner, try the eating establishments in the base area and there are good restaurants for less expensive dinners and a large shopping area in Kimbell Junction, located just a mile from Canyons near Interstate 80. It's where a lot of the locals shop and dine.

Photo: By Bob Bossi and courtesy of Vail Resorts.

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Park City Mountain Resort

- 3,300 acres
- 101 designated runs including one that goes into the town of Park City
- Vertical Rise 3,100 feet
- 16 Total lifts
- 4 six-paks
- 3 high-speed quads
- 7 triples
- 2 double chairlifts
- 3 conveyors

Canyons Resort

- 4,000 acres
- 182 designated runs on nine peaks and nine hotels at the base area
- 3,190 foot vertical rise
- 23* total lifts
- 1 eight-passenger gondola
- 1 six-passenger chairlift
- 6 high-speed quad chairlifts
- 5 fixed-grip quad chairlifts
- 2 triple chairlifts
- 2 double chairlifts
- 1 eight-passenger cabriolet
- 1 surface lift
- 2 ski school lifts

*Plus at least one new lift connecting Park City and Canyons for 2015-2016. Deer Valley -- adjacent to Park City Resort on the south side -- offers an additional 2,026 acres with Dining at Lookout Cabin. 101 runs, a 3,000 foot vertical, and 25 lifts.

Follow Us!

Click on either of the logos below to check our pages!



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Who we are...

The Upper Cape Ski & Sports Club is a group of outdoor enthusiasts that love to enjoy a variety of activities with friends. We're a casual and social group, never particularly serious about anything. Skiing and Snowboarding is our primary interest, although we do throw in other activities such as biking, kayaking, traveling, bowling, and more. Our goal is to provide fun and affordable activities that folks of all ages and abilities can enjoy. Families are always welcome, as are non-members.

<http://www.uppercapeclub.com>