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| Spring 2016 |
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| **OVSC**[**www.ovsc.org**](http://www.ovsc.org) |

The Spring edition



By this time, all of the OVSC clubs have skied their last or almost last trip of the season. I sure hope everyone had a great time!

At the last OVSC Board meeting, we discussed the purpose of the OVSC and what it means to each club within the organization. Deciding that this subject needed some in-depth thought and consideration, we all walked away with “homework” to do. The results were few, as only 2 clubs did the work, and produced comments from their club members. The questions asked were:

\*What does the OVSC mean to you?

\*How does it affect your club?

\*How does it affect you?

\*What is the purpose of the OVSC?

\*How does that relate to you, both as a club and as an individual?

The replies were interesting, in that they hit both ends of the spectrum: I don’t know what the OVSC is or does, to the OVSC is great, as it enables us to go on trips our club would otherwise not be able to do. We then used this data and compiled the SWOT analysis. One of the things that seemed to be a big item:

*Lack of communication from the OVSC to the individual clubs*. I’m not sure how to address this one without perhaps stepping on some toes, but here are the facts: all OVSC Board meetings are open to everyone. The OVSC Board meetings are to be attended by every club’s OVSC Representative. The information discussed at the Board meetings is written in minutes, which are forwarded to each club’s President, OVSC Rep, and Newsletter chairperson.

If your club is not getting the information, please take that up with your OVSC representative and/or club president. The information is there to be shared, and I am not sure where the break down occurs.

*The OVSC gives free trips.* I wish we did, as nothing is free anymore. True, our Trip Directors go on Fam trips, which are not free, and those are a lot of work, if done correctly. If this is thought to be a free trip, and you want to go on it, then welcome, new OVSC Trip Director!

*The OVSC sucks money from my club*. I would like to know how this person thinks that, as the OVSC takes nothing from the clubs. We haven’t charged dues for years.

*The OVSC competes against my club for ski trips.* The OVSC offers 2-3 ski trips a year. We set these trips 2 years in advance in order for the clubs to know when and where these trips are, and to schedule their trips accordingly. This doesn’t always work, and we know this. If for some reason a club member cannot make their club’s ski trip, the OVSC has a few that they may be able to participate on. That is why we are trying to get a list of all club’s trips posted onto the OVSC website. You never know when someone might have a free weekend or week to go skiing, and if you club doesn’t have one for that time, they can go with another club. We’re trying to make the OVSC work for all clubs.

Based on the replies we received, there was discussion of having a mid-year mini-Summit. A full day of discussion, targeting the SWOT analysis, looking at the SMART outcomes, and proceeding from there. This is still a thought, but it has merit. Not a Board meeting, but a more in-depth, how to solve issues, what’s the current status of the clubs, discussion. Anything that a club might want to bring up.

Having all the club’s presidents, trip directors, newsletter chairs, and any others that want to attend to have their voice heard would be more than welcome to attend.

Upcoming Events:

**2016**

March 11 - 19

*Solden, Austria, optional London pre-trip & Greek Isles post trip*

For more information, contact Dan Hapner, rosehapner@aol.com

April 24, 2016

OVSC Board & Summit Committee Meeting

For more information, contact Juli Brace, julibrace1@hotmail.com

OVSC Summit

June 3- 5, Dayton, Crown Plaza

For more information, contact Dan Hapner, rosehapner@aol.com

2017 Trips in the works:

Jan 21 – 28, Big Sky

Feb 11 – 18 , Banff

Contact Bob LeValley, rdlevalley@gmail.com

March 3 – 11

Japan, with exciting post trip TBD

Contact Dan Hapner, rosehapner@aol.com

Next up on the homework list: SMART

**S**pecific, **M**easureable, **A**chievable, **R**ealistic and **T**ime-sensitive

Find something **specific** to dissect.

It has to be **measurable**

What needs to be done to make it **achievable?**

Is this **realistic**?

In what **time-frame** will we do it?

Like what, you say?

Specific: Attract younger members

Measurable: Your club has how many members under 35 years of age

Achievable: Your club wants to attract members in the 30-40 year old range. What you are going to do to make this happen.

Realistic: Is this realistic? Can it be done?

Time sensitive: We’ll do X, and look at the numbers in 3 months, 6 months, whatever you decide

Evaluate. If needed, do it over again, changing the tactic.

I re-challenge each of the clubs to a SWOT/SMART analysis to see what we have in common, what we might be able to do to help each other out, and strengthen our bond.

Ski on!

Juli Brace, OVSC President

 ![its_spring-12412[1]]()

Spotlight:

Kittyhawk

Kittyhawk Ski Club, Dayton’s “premier ski club” was born in the late 1960s of skiing and winter sports enthusiasts, adventure seekers, bicyclers, and socializers , and met in an area on Wright-Patterson AFB referred to as Kittyhawk. Today, the Kittyhawk Ski Club is a seriously diverse group of not-so-like-minded but of somewhat-similar-interests folks.  Roughly 100 members, rich, vibrant, and very much attached to its past.

What distinguishes KSC from other clubs?  It is associated with Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. Our founders and early members (often military from the UK and Germany) were and many of the folks in KSC now are connected in some way with WPAFB, i.e., active duty, retired military, Civil Service (active or retired), or friends of someone who is or was connected to the base.

The season opens with our signature three-day bus trip to Boyne Highlands, Michigan in early January.   This is very much a social event: party-up, party-back, slope-side, ski-in-ski-out, great kitchen, punctuated with a human ski slalom that begins with each participant being offered a bit of the schnapps from hollow ski poles at the start.  In addition to this, KSC usually participates in the two OVSC western ski trip offerings and typically offers a trip or two of our own.

 Besides skiing, currently in the offing are an April day-trip to Keeneland; a bus trip, social event to the Kentucky raceway to enjoy ‘the sport of kings’; and our annual ‘Slush Cup’ party in early June to celebrate the end of the skiing season.  The coming fiscal year will include a mid-summer pool party and picnic, monthly meetings with programs starting in September, monthly Happy Hours, a Thanksgiving event (which has become a party to watch the OSU-MSU football game), and a Holiday party.

The KSC Board works hard to provide good value trips to our members.  We are already looking ahead to 2017.  We are particularly interested in the OVSC international trip in March, 2017, to Japan and its follow-on trip to Thailand.

Important:  the “2016 OVSC Summit” is in Dayton this year.  KSC will help the Dayton Ski and Board Club (the other ski club in Dayton) host this event.  It should be a great show and a good opportunity to come to Dayton for the Summit experience, visit the Air Force Museum and Carillon Park, see the ‘Wright-Flyer’, to experience the “Oregon District”, the Dragons, our bike paths, and our Arts. Dayton is a great place to live and be a skier!  We even have a couple of totally sufficient ski hills close by (sadly, these will not be open during the Summit weekend).

The KSC looks forward to being with you in Dayton for the OVSC Summit, June 3-5.

 ![Idea[1]]()

**OVSC SWOT ANALYSIS** STRENGTHS:

 Gets info out to OVSC clubs

 NSCF info passed along

WEAKNESSS:

Information is given to Reps, Presidents and Newsletter chairs, but does it get passed along?

Info doesn’t reach individual club members

OPPORTUNITIES:

 Annual meeting

 Offer big $$$ trips for little $

 Bucket list destinations

 Can go on other OVSC club trips

 NSC newsletter

THREATS:

OVSC vs Club trips, activities

 Other NFP organizations

 Other activities/sports groups

 Politics of club

 Competition

We’ve discussed the SWOT side;

 Time to discuss the SMART side.

 Please do the “homework”, pass along

 to your OVSC Rep, club President, or

 myself.

 Let’s see what SPECIFICS we are to

 start on

**OVSC SMART ANAYLSIS**

 SPECIFIC

 MEASUREABLE

 ACHIEVABLE

 REALISTIC

 TIME FRAME

**OVSC BOARD AND TRIP DIRECTORS:**

President: Juli Brace, Cincinnati julibrace1@hotmail.com

Vice President: Janet Jones, Lexington jgjones@email.uky.edu

Secretary: Suzy Berning, Cincinnati suzyberning11@gmail.com

Treasurer: Hew Wells, Kittyhawk hswells@woh.rr.com

International/Summer: Dan Hapner, Dayton rosehapner@aol.com

North America: Bob LeValley, Dayton rdlevalley@gmail.com

Racing: Rick Mygrant, Cincinnati OVSCrick@cinci.rr.com





Still Wanted:

News and events from your club to be “published” in the OVSC Newsletter.

Excerpts from your newsletter that you want the other 16 OVSC clubs to know about: ski trips, events and outings, club anniversaries. Photos from your trips and outings, with names, places, dates, etc.

Let me know, please.

Juli Brace

OVSC President

julibrace1@hotmail.com

Below, you will see what one clubs’ responses were to the inquiry: What do you see the purpose of the OVSC to be, and what does it mean to each club.

(The responses on the left are from the same person on the right)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **WHAT DOES THE OVSC MEAN TO YOU?** |  | **HOW DOES IT AFFECT YOUR CLUB?** |
|  |  |  |
| No need for them |  | It sucks $ from us for their own use |
| Very little |  | Very poor communication between club |
|  |  | No regular info rec'd re: trip details |
|  |  |  |
| Opportunity to associate with other clubs |  | Negative effect: our club has to plan trips |
| & other members on trips |  | around them |
|  |  |  |
| Opportunity to go on trips that our club  |  | Positive: Gives an opportunity to run trips |
| doesn’t offer |  | we might not otherwise go on |
|  |  |  |
| Council that my club is a member of |  | Don’t now full effect |
|  |  |  |
| Opp. to travel to ski destinations |  | Discount trips otherwise unaffordable |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| OVSC, but Dayton or Louisville is running show  |  | Treated like red-headed step child |
|  |  |  |
| Brings Midwest friends to do activities together |  | Should be active in advertising their trips  |
|  |  | and ours to them |
|  |  |  |
| Promote skiing activities;  |  |  |
| Networking to other cities |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Ohio Valley Ski Council |  | Positively |
|  |  |  |
| Other than Summit, don't know much |  | Not at all. We run our own trips |
|  |  |  |
| Organization all the clubs share in |  | More activities to offer |
|  |  |  |
| Broader opportunities for activities & travel |  | Self-serving and drains our club |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Additional activities & trips |  | Should offer more trips that as a club we may  |
|  |  | not be able to offer |
|  |  |  |
| Buying power of multiple clubs for trips |  | Bigger group to travel & ski with |
|  |  |  |
| Only inflates the price of trips |  | Does nothing for me |
|  |  |  |
| I have no idea |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  | Ski with other clubs |
|  |  | Competes with our trips |
|  |  |  |
| Ohio Valley Ski Council |  | Additional trips? |
|  |  |  |
| Snow ski trips to different & unknown |  | Gives places to go or ski where I may never |
| places |  | know about or go to on my own |
|  |  |  |
| A great organization |  | Positive |
|  |  |  |
| Poor organization the offers nothing to |  | It drains our club |
| its members |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Only aware of its existence, & that I may have |  | Provides a vehicle for networking |
| the opportunity to go on more ski trips |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Ohio Valley Ski Council |  | Additional ski & trip opportunities |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Connects all the ski clubs in the area |  | Can go on OVSC trips & their club trips |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Camaraderie |  | Opportunities to connect w new people |
|  |  | and great trips |
|  |  |  |
| Ability to go on other OVSC club trips |  | Increases ski trip choices |
|  |  |  |
| Great golf organization |  | Tend to hit it right  |
|  |  |  |
| To organize trips for all OVSC clubs |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Great organization helps clubs w trips, |  | Helps organize ski trips & runs OVSC racing |
| great group to race with |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Seems to be a ski club organization group |  | Not really sure; guess it is supposed to get  |
|  |  | good skiing prices |
|  |  |  |
| Racing; NA & INT trips |  | Racing outlet; offer some trips |

The next 2 questions:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **HOW DOES IT AFFECT YOU?** |  | **WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE OVSC?** |
|  |  |  |
| Would never go on their trips |  | To coordinate all ski clubs |
| Not enough trip info shared |  | Used to be able to get great prices |
| Club trips easier to lead  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  | Should be for the smaller clubs to be |
|  |  | able to offer trips  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| NA trips have more organized activities |  | Don’t know |
|  |  |  |
| More communication to OVSC TL's |  | To organize trips under same umbrella |
| Needs easy to record ski race results |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Fun on post trips |  | Bring clubs together to have a good time |
|  |  |  |
| Share in other club events |  | Share a common bond of activities |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Makes additional trips available |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Positively; more trips with friends |  | Getting more people together |
|  |  |  |
| Not at all, as I don't ski |  | Coordinate clubs and schedule trips |
|  |  |  |
| Gives more choices |  | Share & help clubs; each club can learn from others |
|  |  |  |
| Same people in charge; term limits |  | Original purpose gave additional opportunities for  |
|  |  | surrounding clubs |
|  |  |  |
| More places and meet more people |  | Promote more activities |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| More people to travel & ski with |  | Combine regional clubs, max leverage |
|  |  |  |
| Nothing |  | Gives free trips to certain people |
|  |  |  |
|  |  | I don’t know |
|  |  |  |
| More choices for ski trips |  | Set up ski and other trips |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Additional trips? |  | Not sure; coordinate between clubs? |
|  |  |  |
| Found great little ski resorts never  |  | To arrange ski trips |
| would have found on my own |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| I enjoy the amenities |  | Promote skiing in the region |
|  |  |  |
| The name makes me feel sick |  | Serves a few officers that use it to |
| to my stomach |  | serve their personal desires |
|  |  |  |
| Does not affect me |  | Network with area ski clubs, coordinating |
|  |  | activities, specifically ski trips |
|  |  |  |
| More friends |  | Brought clubs together for racing & fun |
|  |  |  at reasonable prices |
|  |  |  |
| Enjoy larger groups and extra |  | Bring all area ski clubs together |
| parties & events |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  | Making one big happy ski family |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Very little |  | Share trips with other clubs |
|  |  |  |
| Makes me sleepy |  | Help w/ swing & putting |
|  |  |  |
| Most memorable trip was to Austria |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Takes all my time with race results |  | Give members opportunity to meet people  |
|  |  | from other clubs |
|  |  |  |
| Helps me save $'s |  | Not real sure??  |
|  |  | Schedule good ski trips cheaper?? |
|  |  |  |
| Not much; take trip if it fits my |  | Offers racing outlet; Serves smaller members  |
|  schedule/interest |  | more than larger clubs |

And the final question:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **HOW DOES THAT RELATE TO YOU AS A CLUB** |  |
|  |  |
| Bad idea | More trip variety |
| Makes it harder instead of easier |  |
|  | Chance to travel. Europe trips were wonderful |
| Suspect that OVSC facilitates more ski trip options and better pricing |  |
|  | I enjoy the stuff, the OVSC and club |
| Enables me to travel to destinations as an individual |  |
|  | Enough said (in relation to a few officers using it to serve personal desires) |
| Enjoyed trip, but our club gets the shaft |  |
|  | Personally, it is irrelevant |
| Expands trips & activities; Racing has always been a great activity |  |
|  | Better skier from all the racing |
| Makes additional trips available | Went on a train ski trip w another club - unique |
|  |  |
| Positively | Have to report to and support OVSC; Don't enjoy the Summit |
|  |  |
| ? | Have been on many OVSC NA trips |
|  |  |
| Makes my club better with more trips | More choice |
|  |  |
| Give others a chance with different ideas | A good day of golf |
|  |  |
| Gives me more to do | Met some great people, have great friendships |
|  |  |
| Better value on some trips | Saves me money, maybe? |
|  |  |
| Pisses me off | As a larger club, we can pay most trips on our own |
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