

# Foxtales



February, 2025

Monthly Meetings are usually held the first & third Wednesday of the month at

**THE BAR**

2435 W. Nordale Dr.  
Appleton.

Upstairs in the Skybox

Social 7 pm

Meeting 7:30 pm

**Meetings:**

**February 5**

Powderhorn Pre-Trip Meeting

**February 19**

Check out our web site:

[www.slyfoxskiclub.org](http://www.slyfoxskiclub.org)

**PLEASE JOIN US**

## **WE NEED YOU!**

**It's time to elect new officers.**

**It's also a great way to get involved and help keep this great club going.**

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## Newsletter Editorial

*From the President*

The first trip of the ski season was a great success. The trip to Zermatt / Nice was full of adventure and good times. Thanks to all who attended and to Sam & Deb for organizing a great trip. The next trip is to Powderhorn on February 14-16. This should be a great Midwestern Trip. Deb is the trip leader and she has lots of good stuff planned for all. The final trip is to Copper Mountain, CO on Sunday, March 30 thru Friday, April 4. We will be staying at the Cambria Hotel which is within walking distance to the ski lifts. We will have 4 days of skiing and it's a great way to end the season.

We need to start thinking about officers for the 25/26 ski season. We are still looking for a treasurer to take Julies place. This position carries a \$300 stipend which can be used on any trip or event. If we want to keep this great club going we need people to step up and get involved in planning future events. Seriously think about volunteering for a position. Nominations for officers will begin at the February 5th meeting.

Look for information in the March newsletter for the Sly Fox Spring Banquet that will be held on May 2.

The 25/26 season is coming up. I know that most aren't thinking that far ahead but we have to start planning early for next season and beyond. We value your input. We would like to know where you would like to go, whether it's a Midwest trip or a Western trip. If you come to the meetings, there is a suggestion box on the table where you enter the meeting room. At the end of the meeting I will ask for suggestions. Please feel free to speak up and let us know. You can bring up anything pertaining to the ski club or any ideas for events. We like new or old ideas. If you don't come to the meetings and still have something to share, you can e-mail me at: [President@Slyfoxskiclub.org](mailto:President@Slyfoxskiclub.org).

Thanks,

**Greg Buss**

**Meet up @ Happy Hour**  
Start the weekend with the Sly Foxes  
FUN BEGINS at 5:00

**This is not an official club function but rather just an informal gathering of members & non-members for Happy Hour at different locations throughout the month. We generally meet in the bar first and then go to a table.**

- **February 7 - Heiting Place**  
1101 W. Northland Avenue, Little Chute  
**920-788-6697**
- **February 14 - Osorio's Latin Fusion**  
1910 N. Casaloma Drive, Appleton  
**920-955-3766**
- **February 21 - Mr. Brews Taphouse (Darboy)**  
W5725 Hwy KK, Appleton  
**920-815-3260**
- **February 28 - Tanner's Sports Bar & Grill (Appleton)**  
110 S Nicolet Rd, Appleton  
**920-815-3567**
- **March 7 - Parker John's BBQ & Pizza (Appleton)**  
12331 E. Evergreen Drive, Appleton  
**920-815-3264**

**PLEASE JOIN US**

## Birthdays

**February**

**8 - Melissa Dorn**  
**13 - Joe Bidinger**  
**16 - Anna Kleinshtein**  
**25 - Sam Fontaine**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

## FRIENDS OF FOXES REWARDS 2024 - 2025

FRIENDS OF FOXES REWARDS program benefits the existing members and builds the membership of our club with new members for the enjoyment and benefits of organized group rate discount ski trips, other club sponsored functions and most of all the camaraderie.

"FRIENDS OF FOXES REWARDS" awards present Sly Fox Ski Club Members with 10 points (or \$10 towards Sly Fox Ski Club sponsored functions) for all New Members they referred, when they join the club.

To receive FOX POINTS, the New Member must document the referring member on their Membership Form when joining the club.

The FOX POINTS can accumulate during the one ski season that they have been earned and can be used towards club trips, the renewal of their present membership dues, Spring and Christmas Holiday banquets.

The FOX POINTS must be used by the end of the season on or before April 30th and cannot be carried over to the following year.

The New Member joining the club may not be a past member of the club within the last 4 years or a renewing member.

FOX POINTS are not transferable to another member.

The new and present members must be a minimum of 21 years of age.

The FOX POINTS will be documented by the Treasurer when the New Membership Form with payment is received.



# Sly Fox Ski & Snowboard Club

## Annual Membership Application/Renewal & Waiver Form

Membership year is May 1, 2024 to April 30, 2025

<b>Dues \$25 Per Person</b> <i>Each member <u>must</u> complete an Application/Renewal/Waiver form</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> Returning Member	<input type="checkbox"/> New Member
<b>Name:</b>		<b>Birthdate:</b> MM/DD/YYYY	
<b>Address:</b>		Address / Cell Phone / Email has not changed since last year  NO                  YES	
<b>Home Phone:</b>		<b>Cell Phone:</b>	
<b>Email:</b>			
<i>I am a new member and referred by club member:</i>			
<b>What ski destinations are you interested in visiting?</b>			
We are always looking for individuals to assist on our committees. Can you help us out? <i>Events, WEB, Social Media, Board Member, Marketing, Trip Leader/Assistant Trip Leader</i>			YES NO

### READ WAIVER BEFORE SIGNING

I certify that I am at least 21 years of age and do hereby accept the policies and practices of the Sly Fox Ski Club. I understand that in my participation in club-sponsored events carries a degree of risk for health concerns, injury or death. I hereby unconditionally waive and release the Sly Fox Ski Club, its Officers Directors, agents and members from any and all liabilities arising from any health concerns, injury, property damage or loss I may suffer as a result of my actions.

Further, I hereby grant full permission to any and all foregoing to use any photograph, videotape, motion pictures, recordings or other record of any ski club events for any legitimate purpose. .

**Refund for cancelations** by the participant must be submitted in writing to the Sly Fox Ski Club Board of Directors, P. O. Box 1613, Appleton WI. 54912-1613. The written request must indicate which specific future Sly Fox event any refunds to be credited towards, or for the Sly Fox Treasurer to issue a refund check. Refunds will only be issued after all of the bills related to the trip have been paid. All decisions on refund amount will be made by the Board of Directors and are final. .

By signing and submitting this form, I agree that I have read and accept the trip policies as set for and by the Sly Fox Ski & Club..

All Sly Fox Ski Club policies and other trip information is posted on the website [www.slyfoxskiclub.org](http://www.slyfoxskiclub.org)

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

Mail your completed form with payment to:  
 Sly Fox Ski Club      PO Box 1613      Appleton, WI. 54912-1613

-----  
 Administrative Use      Date: \_\_\_\_\_      Payment Details: \_\_\_\_\_

# Sly Fox Ski & Snowboard Club, Appleton, Wisconsin

## [Slyfoxskiclub.org](http://Slyfoxskiclub.org)

Meeting Agenda 2024/2025, The Bar on Lynndale, Social 7pm/Meeting 7:30pm  
Meeting agenda subject to change. Please notice the change of meeting dates.  
Open meetings, contact us if you have an interesting speaker for 30 min lecture.

- October 2, 2024 1st membership meeting of the year  
Welcome, remaining Ski trips open for sign up, Sly Fox Annual meeting & snacks
- October 16, 2024 Zeller's Ski & Sports Informational speaker ski trends, Ski sale/swap Oct. 25-27, 2024
- November 6, 2024 Pre-conditioning demo-dress in attire to participate  
Cindy Baumgartner, YMCA & Sly Fox Member
- November 20, 2024 FV German Instructor-Kristine Keller
- December 4, 2024 Steven Krause – Krause & Krause Law Office  
Will & Trust information
- December 11, 2024 Holiday Party, see newsletter for sign up form  
Location at Red Ox Seafood & Steakhouse, Appleton
- December 18, 2024 NO MEMBERSHIP MEETING - Happy Holidays
- JANUARY 1, 2025 HAPPY NEW YEAR. NO Membership Meeting  
MEETING DATE CHANGE to January 8, 2025
- **TUESDAY**, January 7, 2025 CHANGE IN MEETING DATE – Same location  
at The Bar on Lynndale Pre-Trip info Zermatt/trip January 10-22, 2025
- January 15, 2025 NO MEMBERSHIP MEETING – Zermatt trip
- February 5, 2025 Pre-Trip informational meeting (Feb. 14-16 trip)  
Big Powderhorn Mt. Resort Bessmeer MI  
Nominations for Sly Fox Officers-Volunteer
- February 19, 2025 Dr. Matt Buch-Total Pursuit Physical Therapy &  
Performance – to participate dress appropriately  
Nominations for Sly Fox Officers-Volunteer
- March 5, 2025 Nominations for Sly Fox Officers-Volunteer
- March 19, 2025 Pre-Trip informational meeting Copper Mt.  
Trip Sun., March 30 - Fri., April 4, 2025  
Final Nominations & Vote for Sly Fox Officers



# 2024 - 2025 SLY FOX SKI SEASON

See full info & sign up form: Sly Fox Newsletter & Website  
[www.slyfoxskiclub.org](http://www.slyfoxskiclub.org)



## ZERMATT SWITZERLAND & NICE FRANCE JANUARY 10-22, 2025 From \$3800\*

Details [slyfoxskiclub.org](http://slyfoxskiclub.org)

Trip opened for sign up May 20

Sorry this trip is full with a waitlist  
Sign ups taken for waitlist  
Interested?

Contact Trip leader Sam Fontaine,  
[trips@slyfoxskiclub.org](mailto:trips@slyfoxskiclub.org)

### WHAT'S INCLUDED!

Round Trip Motor Coach  
Appleton/Green Bay

Round trip Swiss Air-O'hare  
Zurich & transfer to Zermatt

Lodging Zermatt - 7 nights  
4 Star Perren Hotel Zermatt  
Breakfast & dinner nightly

Swiss Air Zurich/Nice France

Lodging Nice France 4 nights  
4 Star Hotel Splendid Nice  
Breakfast daily

Motor coach transfers included



## Bessmer Michigan February 14-16, 2025

**\$360** dbl occupancy  
Initial deposit \$100

Trip opens for sign up Oct. 2.

### WHAT'S INCLUDED!

Round Trip Motor Coach –  
Appleton/Green Bay to Big  
Powderhorn Resort Michigan

Subs, snacks, bottled water,  
ice on the bus to Wakefield.

2 Nights lodging/Quality Inn  
Ironwood (2 queen or 1king).  
Indoor pool with hot tub.  
Also included, two day full  
hot breakfast buffet.

Note: Short motor coach ride to  
Big Powderhorn mountain.

2 Day Lift Pass –  
Big Powderhorn Mountain

Dinner Saturday night -  
Big Shots Sports Bar & Grill  
Right across from our hotel  
Complete itinerary prior to  
departure.

Motor coach schedule:

GREEN BAY: Loads/5pm

Departs/5:15pm

The Woods GC, 530 Erie Road

APPLETON: Pick up 5:45 pm

Appleton Location designated  
area in Northland Mall lot



## COPPER MOUNTAIN COLORADO

Sun., MARCH 30 –  
Fri., APRIL 4, 2025

**\$1635** dbl occupancy

Trip opens for sign up Oct. 2  
meeting or postmarked on that  
date. 40 spots available.

### WHAT'S INCLUDED!

Round trip Motor Coach –  
Appleton & Green Bay to/from  
O'Hare Chicago also  
Denver/Copper.

Round Trip air with Southwest  
Airlines, to/from Milwaukee &  
Denver Colorado.

5 Night hotel lodging (2 per  
room),

Cambria Hotel Copper Mt.

In room mini fridge, on site  
restaurant serving breakfast,  
lunch, dinner with lounge/bar.  
Onsite bonfire pit

Lift pass - 4 day included

Trip Chair Sam Fontaine  
[trips@slyfoxskiclub.org](mailto:trips@slyfoxskiclub.org)

Complete info & sign up in  
Sly Fox in October Newsletter  
& Website.

[www.slyfoxskiclub.org](http://www.slyfoxskiclub.org)

Questions? Contact Trip Chair Sam Fontaine, [trips@slyfoxskiclub.org](mailto:trips@slyfoxskiclub.org)

Sly Fox Ski & Snowboard Club Presents.....



Big Powderhorn Mountain, Bessmer, Michigan

**February 14 – 16, 2025**

**\$360** per person - dbl occupancy

Trip opens for sign up Oct. 2. Meeting or postmarked no earlier. Deposit of \$100 due with sign-up. Final Payment due January 23, 2025

**WHAT'S INCLUDED!**

ROUND TRIP MOTOR COACH APPLETON/GREEN BAY – GB park & pick up, load 5pm/departs 5:15pm or when loaded. The Woods GC, 530 Erie Road. APPLETON, parking & pick up approx. 5:45pm/departs when loaded, location, designated area in the Northland Mall lot.

Provided on the ride up to Bessmer, sub sandwiches & snacks, bottled water & ice. Note: you are welcome to bring your own beverages in a small cooler that fit under the seat. (NO GLASS)

TWO NIGHTS LODGING – Quality Inn Ironwood, pool/hot tub/includes hot breakfast Sat. & Sun. (rooms/2 Queens or 1 king)

TWO LIFT PASSES Big Powderhorn Mountain. Quick motor coach ride to/from Big Powderhorn Resort.

DINNER SATURDAY NIGHT – Big Shots Sports Bar & Grill – across the street from our hotel.

Return trip, Minocqua Culvers food stop (on your own). Full itinerary will be available prior to ski trip

Questions? Contact Sam Fontaine, [trips@slyfoxskiclub.org](mailto:trips@slyfoxskiclub.org)

*Cut & return lower portion with sign up/payment*

**Please PRINT**

**SKIER 1:** \_\_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Emergency Contact (person not on trip): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**SKIER 2:** \_\_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Emergency Contact (person not on trip): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**SKI CLUB:** \_\_\_ Sly Fox \_\_\_ Gelandesprung (To participate on Trips, You must be a paid member of either the Sly Fox or Gelandesprung Ski Clubs for the 2024-2025 season)

If not a member of the Sly Fox or Gelandesprung Ski Clubs, a Membership Form **MUST** be completed & Membership paid. See [www.slyfoxskiclub.org](http://www.slyfoxskiclub.org) for Sly Fox Membership Form & Trip/cancelation policies.

FEBRUARY 14-16, 2025	Big Powderhorn Trip	\$360/**	\$320/***	\$300/****	\$525/*	Skier 1 \$Paid	Skier 2 \$Paid
Roommate request if all parties agree. (triple & quad if available)		**double	***triple	****quad	*single		
<b>Final payment due Jan. 23, 2025</b>	___ Includes Membership dues & form	<b>Check amount:</b>					

**Sly Fox Ski Club Waiver: PLEASE READ BEFORE SIGNING!**

I certify that I am at least 21 years of age and do hereby accept the policies and practices of the Sly Fox Ski Club. I understand that in my participation in club-sponsored events carries a degree of risk for health concerns, injury or death. I hereby unconditionally waive and release the Sly Fox Ski Club, its Officers, Directors, agents and members from any and all liabilities arising from any health concerns, injury, property damage or loss I may suffer as a result of my actions.

Further, I hereby grant full permission to any and all foregoing to use any photograph, videotape, motion pictures, recordings or other record of any ski club event for any legitimate purpose.

Refund for cancellations by the participant must be submitted in writing to the Sly Fox Ski Club Board of Directors, P.O. Box 1613, Appleton, WI. 54912-1613. A written request must indicate which specific future Sly Fox event any refund is to be credited towards, or for the Sly Fox Treasurer to issue a refund check. See general trip cancellation policy posted on the Sly Fox Website & Big Snow Trip Details document. Refunds will only be issued after all of the bills related to the trip have been paid. All decisions on refund amount will be made by the Board of Directors and are final. By signing and submitting this, I agree that I have read and accept the trip policies as set for and by the Sly Fox Ski Club.

<b>Skier 1</b>	<b>Print Name:</b>	<b>Signature:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
<b>Skier 2</b>	<b>Print Name:</b>	<b>Signature:</b>	<b>Date:</b>

**SEND TO & MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: SLY FOX SKI CLUB, PO BOX 1613, APPLETON, WI. 54912-1613**  
 PLEASE INCLUDE A COPY FOR THIS FORM WITH EVERY PAYMENT

# COPPER MOUNTAIN COLORADO

## Sun., Mar. 30 - Fri. Apr. 4, 2025

### \$1635 Complete trip



Open for sign-ups on Oct 2, 2024  
Deposit Postmarked no earlier than Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup> or in person at Membership Meeting

**Trip Includes: 4 Day Lift Pass**

Motor Coach travel from Green Bay & Appleton to/from Milwaukee Airport.  
Departing 2:00 AM, Returning to Appleton 7:30 PM

Southwest Airlines from Milwaukee to Denver. Returning Denver to Milwaukee.

Motor Coach transfer to/from Copper Mountain.

5 nights Lodging at Cambria Hotel Copper Mt. 2/rm, mountain view, includes breakfast  
Outdoor Hot Tubs, Bar and Restaurant on premises. Walking distance to lifts.

Fine Print: You must be a member of the *Sly Fox Ski Club* or *Gelandesprung Ski Club* to participate

Make payments to: Sly Fox Ski Club, PO Box 1613, Appleton WI 54912

*Payment Schedule: Trip is open for sign-up on Oct 2, 2024 either in person or by mail postmarked on Oct. 2  
Do not mail deposit before Oct.2, it will go to the back of the line. Only 44 air and 44 lodging spots are available.*

\$400 Deposit on sign-up; \$500 by Dec. 11, 2024, Balance by Feb. 19, 2025

A \$10 late charge will be assessed for payments made after these dates.

Cancellations: Full Refund before Dec 11, 2024 ; \$400 Cancellation fee before Feb 19, 2025

After Feb 19, 2024, Refunds are limited to whatever refunds we can obtain from the lodging, airlines and lift operator, less \$100 cancellation fee.

Questions?: Sam Fontaine, email samfont@athenet.net

*Cut here and send with payment to: SLY FOX SKI CLUB, PO BOX 1613, APPLETON WI. 54912-1613*

Do Not Mail Before Oct. 2, 2024

Yes, sign me up for the Copper Mountain trip. I have read the conditions stated above and agree to the terms.

PRINT NAME EXACTLY as it appears on your government issued photo ID.

SKIER 1: \_\_\_\_\_ SKIER 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth (Mo/Day/Year) SKIER 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex(M/F) \_\_\_\_\_ SKIER 2: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex(M/F) \_\_\_\_\_

Address (City/State/Zip) \_\_\_\_\_

Cell numbers: Skier 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Skier 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: Skier 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Skier 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact name (not on trip): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

#### WAIVER

I certify that I am at least 21 years of age & do hereby accept the policies & practices of the Sly Fox Ski Club. I understand that in my participation in club-sponsored events carries a degree of risk for health concerns, injury or death. I hereby unconditionally waive and release the Sly Fox Ski Club, its officers, directors, agents and members from any and all liabilities arising from any health concerns, injury, property damage or loss I may suffer as a result of my actions. Further, I hereby grant full permission to any and all foregoing to use any photograph, videotape, motion pictures, recordings or other record of any ski club event for any legitimate purpose.

Signature: Skier 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Skier 2 \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Questions? Contact Sam Fontaine, samfont@athenet.net,

# Sly Fox Ski & Snowboard Club Holiday Party

*Wednesday, December 11, 2024*

**The Red Ox Seafood & Steakhouse**

**2318 S. Oneida St., Appleton**



*It's in the book! A group of 57 Sly Foxes & guests enjoyed the evening with a fabulous dinner, lively conversation & connecting with our ski buddies.*

*We started the evening enjoying a few cocktails without our ski gear, helmets and goggles. Although, it might not be a bad idea to use some of them.*

*The majority of those that did attend, shared our good fortune and celebrated giving by bringing non-perishable food items for the local food pantry also monetary donations.*

*The tables were all decked out for the Holidays. Some members good fortune took home the holiday décor along with the lucky winners of the drawings that were held.*

*We are grateful for the Red Ox to continue allowing our group to occupy the main dining room. We enjoyed a dinner of our choice, but I still do not know how they do a dinner that well for that size of a group. A BIG Thanks!*

*I want to thank all who contributed in organizing and volunteer during the night. Mark Nelsen, running the drawings and all the other assistance with the evening. Lynn Sommers, checked everyone in, accepted all food/monetary donations & is always the first to volunteer.*

*I am very proud to be part of such a wonderful club & thank all of you for being part of this club. Where could you find as much fun that we have had. Let's keep it going & share our good fortune. On to the next adventure. Deb B.*

*Here's to 2025!*



## 6 days of sunshine in Zermatt by Sam Fontaine

We had 66 people enjoying magical Zermatt for a whole week. As the title suggests, the magnificent Matterhorn loomed over us in all its glory day and night. What follows is a short synopsis of the week.

First, on January 10, 51 of us bused to O'Hare airport from Green Bay and Appleton, plus 6 more in a van from Milwaukee. We met with 2 more who flew in from Ironwood, Michigan, and 59 took off in our Swiss International flight to Zurich. As it was snowing a bit, we got 45 minutes behind at the start to de-ice, arriving a bit late in Zurich. There we met 5 more who had arrived earlier. So now we had 64 traveling in 2 buses to Zermatt. That ended up being about a 5 hour drive as our drivers had to take a required 45 minute rest stop at a restaurant along the highway in Gruyere. This is the home of the famous cheese of the same name, often used in fondue. Bite into a crisp fresh baguette filled with this cheese and it is "Welcome to delicious Switzerland." They charge a franc (\$1.10) to use the bathroom here, but hey, they take credit cards!

There are no internal combustion vehicles allowed in Zermatt, so the buses dropped us at Taesch train station for the last leg to Zermatt. Now is when your trip leader got a bit flustered. I had a voucher to pick up 64 train tickets at the ticket window in the station, but it was after 6 pm now and it was closed. The train platform is controlled by turnstiles that the tickets open, but we had no tickets! I finally found a railroad employee, and after a bit of discussion, he took a picture of my voucher with his phone, and then asked "Are all your people here?" "Yes." "Then I will open the gate and you herd them through." So we all went through and got on the shuttle train to Zermatt.

15 minutes later, we arrived in Zermatt. Although there are no internal combustion vehicles in Zermatt, there are a ton of electric vehicles, bigger than golf carts, but not by much. Our hotel, the Perren, had its electric vehicle with a luggage cart attached waiting at the station to take our large bags to the hotel while we walked there with our carryon bags. 10 minutes later we were in our hotel. Two more participants arrived shortly thereafter traveling independently. One hour later, we had our first dinner, and then off to bed after a very long day.

After a sumptuous breakfast, including fried and scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, plus the usual selection of cheese, cold cuts, yogurt, cereal, breads of all kind and croissants, it is was off to rent skis. After that chore, it was time to pick up our lift tickets. Wouldn't you know it, there was a power failure in Zermatt and all the computers and ticket machines in Zermatt went down. So back to the hotel to wait it out, and within an hour, everything was back to normal and we were able to get our lift tickets and ski that afternoon. Then back to the hotel for our Welcome Reception, then dinner. Afterward, a projection screen was set up in the bar so we could watch the Packers-Eagles game. Bunny Jordan used her computer skills so we could get the audio from the States. A few hearty souls stayed up for the whole disappointing game. This writer bailed during the first quarter.

Dinner each night was a set menu with something different each night. First a starter of salad or soup, then the main course plate with a meat dish and vegetables and pasta or potatoes, followed by a dessert. Meat dishes varied from veal, pork, chicken, and of course, Friday fish. The dinner was only for our group, in our own room. Everyone was excited to talk about their day's adventures and the noise could be deafening at times, but it was the sound of happy people.

Monday we had a group mountain lunch at the Riffelberg Restaurant. This was next to the Riffelberg train station on the Gornergrat railway line so nonskiers could attend. The Gornergratbahn is one of the 3 ways to get up the mountain to go skiing. A railway is a ski lift. Another main lift is the Suneggabahn, an underground funicular reached by a pedestrian tunnel 100 yards straight into the mountain. The train cars are built like steps, as is the platform as the train arrives at a vertical 30 degree angle. The funicular zips you up to the slopes inside of a tunnel. Check out Nancy Krejcarek's video on the Sly Fox Ski Club Facebook Page.



The main lift to get you up next to the Matterhorn is the Matterhorn Express Gondola on the far south end of town. After 4 stages, it arrives at Trockner Steg for the last leg, a huge gondola to the Klein Matterhorn station at 12,500 ft . From here, you can ski into Italy to Cervinia. There is also a tunnel here inside the glacier full of ice sculptures that you can tour for 10 francs.

Zermatt itself is a lively town with many shops, bars and restaurants along Bahnhofstrasse, the main drag. There are some outdoor Après-Ski bars throughout town that were quite busy from 3 to 6 every afternoon. Sly Foxes favored Harry's Ski Bar, a block from the hotel. Late night live music was at the Papperla Pub a few blocks away with people on the dance floor in ski boots until 1 am.

Wednesday, 31 of us took off on a day trip to Celliers de Sion for a wine tasting and to learn about Swiss wine. Despite my earlier statement that there were no internal combustion vehicles allowed in Zermatt, there are some exceptions. A few vehicles are allowed in the far north end of town by special permit, and there is even a small parking garage. We met our two 16-passenger buses there (the maximum size allowed into Zermatt) for our day trip. Going to Sion, we crossed the invisible border into the French speaking part of Switzerland. After the wine tasting, we drove to Brig, back in German speaking Switzerland, for a lunch at the Couronne Restaurant in the center of the pedestrian only old city. Then a walking tour of the old city and the Stockalper Castle. The castle, really just a palace built to look like a castle, was the home of Kasper Stockalper, who was, as the one guide described, "The 17<sup>th</sup> century Donald Trump of the region". We were back in Zermatt by 5:30 pm.



By Friday, it was the last day to ski. Late afternoon, we turned in our rented skis and back to the hotel for our Farewell Party. After the usual departure instructions, we went in for our last dinner. After dinner, it was time for Lunar Nominations.

Winner: Tyler Junion left a ski pole at the start gate of the race course. He had to do a 2<sup>nd</sup> run to retrieve it. Prize: a Swiss bell

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Randy Zurbuchen fell flat on his back in the bar at the Perren, no concussion protocol though. Prize: First Aid kit

Honorable Mention: Joe Junion for leaving his backpack on the Matterhorn Express and did not realize it for 2 hours. He got it back at the lost items room at the lift base at the end of the day.

Other Awards: Mike Whitmer, most runs into Italy. Tyler Junion, early morning luggage assistant on departure (see next paragraph).

So the next morning, it was off to Nice. We did get breakfast bags to carry out, plus coffee with to-go cups. Luggage went in the luggage cart at 3:30 am with Tyler while the rest of us walked to the train station at 4:00 am to get our 4:30 am train to Taesch. We had tickets this time to get through the turnstiles and at 4:45 am we were loading our buses and off for the next adventure in Nice, France.

Thanks to my Assistant Trip Leader Deb Bramschreiber, Bus Captain, Party Organizer, Recording Secretary, and Cat Herder. Also thanks to the many people who pitched in to help throughout the week. This was an exceptionally fun group to spend the week with and a lot of new faces and people who have never skied in Europe before. Now they know.

Be sure to check out the posts on the Sly Fox Ski Club Facebook page to see more great photos and videos (Thanks Nancy Krejcarek and Joe Junion). If you have photos from the trip you would like to share, please post to the Sly Fox Ski Club Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/95925732792>

To be continued next month....

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