

# Ski Trails

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The monthly newsletter for Suburban Ski Club

August 2024

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Website: <http://www.suburbanskiclub.org>

## ***A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT***



Dear SSC Members,

The Paris 2024 Olympics have started and the weather outside is HOT, so I will keep this brief so we can all get back to watching these amazing athletes and/or attend to our lawns and suntans.

Reservations for our two major trips are going very well and closing in on capacity. Be sure to read the reports from Trip Leaders **Ann McBrian** (Schweitzer) and **Dan Castele** (Mt. Tremblant) later in this newsletter. If you are considering either trip **DON'T DELAY** signing up and miss out!

Now that we have the dates of our major trips finalized, we are also moving forward with specific day trip scheduling. Again, this year we will be sharing a large bus with Lewis Ski Club for some trips as well as exclusive Suburban trips on the smaller Platinum Bus. Destinations for day trips will include Peek 'n Peak and Holiday Valley. See the article by Bus Trip Coordinator, **Holly Kaskey** on page 8.

A multiday bus trip to include skiing and wine tasting in the Finger Lakes region of New York in mid-February 2025 is on the schedule too. Details are being finalized as you read this and will be released soon. See **Dan Castele's** brief update on this trip just after Holly's article.

Be sure to read about our summer Club events that don't require snow:

**Guardians game in the Club section of the ballpark, 8/13/24:** The response to this event was very strong and we sold out our initial block. We were able to add more tickets, but it is now sold out. We are grateful to **Dan Castele** for organizing this evening at the ballpark. Read about it in the Calendar of Events Section.

**Summer Picnic, 8/17/24:** Once again **Fran Wesley** has graciously opened her home property on the lake in Sheffield for a summer picnic. See the details later in this newsletter and in the attached flyer. Sign-up on the Club website is required, along with a nominal fee and a side-dish.

**Bike Ride on the Towpath, Saturday, 9/7/24:** **Holly Kaskey** and **Cindy Ederer** are organizing this event. Read about it on [page 5](#).

**Restart of Club General Meetings, 9/12/24:** This first meeting of the season will be at the Holiday Inn Mayfield (780 Beta Dr) at 7:00 p.m. A presentation will address the ins and outs of Travel Insurance. It will include an informative video shared by the National Ski Council Federation along with some professional insight from our own **Fran Wesley**. All are welcome to join in with a pre-meeting dinner at Alfredo's at the Inn on site at the Holiday Inn.

Sadly, we must report the death of long-time Erie Shore Ski Club President and friend of many SSC members, **Bob Griffin**. We have reprinted his obituary on the final page of this newsletter

On a happier note, we want to welcome new members **Dana Glova**, **Carol Wagner** and **Paul Wagner**. We hope to see you on the slopes in 2025 and perhaps earlier at our social events and membership meetings.

I hope everyone is having a great summer and I'm looking forward to another fantastic season of skiing and socializing with all of you.

*Gordon Blackburn*  
[president@suburbanskiclub.org](mailto:president@suburbanskiclub.org)

### **A Few Words from Dr. Ruth:**

**Dr. Ruth Westheimer** passed away in July at the age of 96. Most people know her as a frank-speaking sex therapist who appeared frequently on TV. But she was also an avid skier who met her husband on a ski trip. Two SSC members (**John Hersch** and **Patty Costigan**) came across something about Dr. Ruth in her NYT obituary that they thought should be shared with their SSC friends:

*Active people tended to be good in bed, she said, singling out skiing in particular. "Skiers make the best lovers because they don't sit in front of a television like couch potatoes," Dr. Ruth, herself an accomplished skier, told Esquire in 2010. "They take a risk, and they wiggle their behinds. They also meet new people on the ski lift."*



## ***AUGUST BIRTHDAYS***

**Happy Birthday** to the following members born in AUGUST. Our database of birthdays is far from complete. Please remember to enter your birthday when you renew your membership so we can include you in our birthday wishes.

**Ned Finzer (8/23), Percy Finzer (8/7), Jim Gross (8/21), Lori Harrison (8/14), Jane Leschnik (8/3), Wayne Miller (8/20), Bob Pike (8/15), Mike Tuason (8/3), Chris Ujcich (8/12), Mike Wagner (8/20), Betsy Wolf (8/11), Chris Wolf (8/25) and Jacki Zevenbergen (8/8)**

## ***CALENDAR AT A GLANCE***

- ***EVENT:*** Tuesday, August 13: Guardians Baseball Game
- ***EVENT:*** Saturday, August 17, 3:00 PM: Summer Picnic
- ***MEETING:*** Monday, August 19: Executive Board Meeting
- ***EVENT:*** Saturday, September 7, 10:00 AM: Bike Ride on the Towpath
- ***MEETING:*** Thursday, September 12: First Membership Meeting of the Season

## ***COMING EVENTS IN MORE DETAIL***

### ***Tuesday, August 13: Cleveland Guardians Baseball Game***

There was a great response to this event, and we needed to expand our original block of seats. We have 25 fans who will be attending the game. Unfortunately, we cannot get any more tickets.

Seating is in the club section on the upper level along the first base side. We will enjoy buffet style all-you-can-eat food along with free peanuts, popcorn and ice cream all game long.

I sent an Email to those with reservations on **July 23<sup>rd</sup>**. Please read it carefully because it tells you how you will receive your tickets. It involves downloading the MLB Ballpark app.

Prepaid parking passes in the adjacent parking garage may still be available. One of our group told me he found a simple way to get one of these passes. He called a Guardians Customer Service Rep and used a credit card to purchase a pass. He received an Emailed receipt with instructions to use the aforementioned MLB Ballpark app to download his parking pass.

*Dan Castele*  
([djcastele@gmail.com](mailto:djcastele@gmail.com))

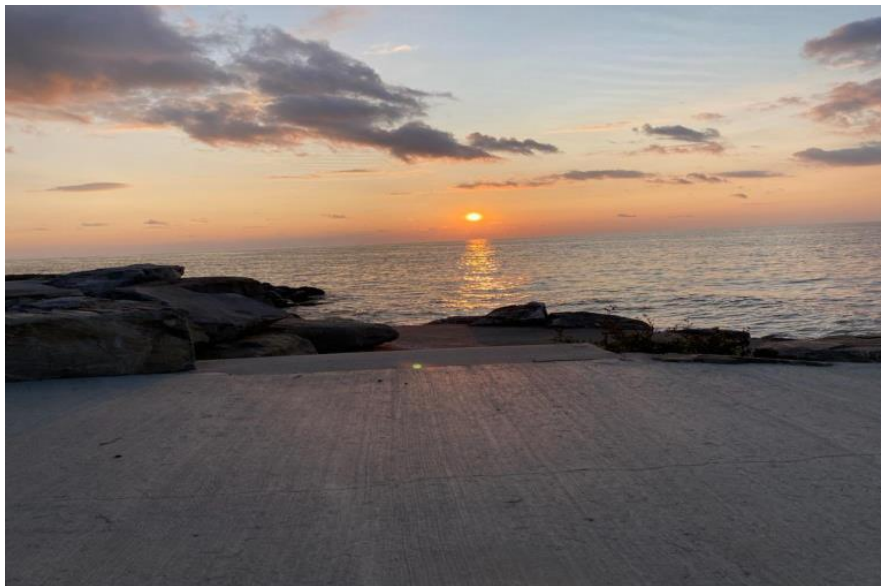
**Saturday, August 17, 3:00 PM: Summer Picnic on the Lake**

**Fran Wesley** has again invited us to a Summer Party at her home on Lake Erie. If you have not already done so be sure to put the date on your calendar and go online to SSC's website to make your reservation:

<https://www.suburbanskiclub.org/summer-picnic-sat-aug-17>

The flyer for this event is attached to the Email that brought you this newsletter. We are also printing that flyer information below:

## ***Suburban Ski Club Picnic***



*Fran Wesley is inviting us to a summer picnic at her home.  
Come join fellow SSC members for a grand evening on Lake Erie.*

*Date and Time*  
**Saturday, August 17 at 3PM to ?**  
*(Hope to see a great sunset)*

*Place Fran Wesley's Lakeside Home*  
**5029 E. Lake Road; Sheffield Lake, OH 44054**

*Casual Summer Attire Practice your corn hole skills*

*Club will supply hotdogs, hamburgers, soft drinks and bottled water.*

*Alcoholic beverages are BYOB.*

*Please bring a potluck dish to share*

**Cost \$10 per person**

*Reserve and pay through Suburban Ski website using this link:*

<https://www.suburbanskiclub.org/summer-picnic-sat-aug-17>

*Reservations due by August 12 and will cap at 36 people*

*Please contact Patty Costigan with any questions:*

*Phone 330-836-0381 Email [pcostig@gmail.com](mailto:pcostig@gmail.com)*

### **Saturday, September 7, 10:00 AM: Bike Ride on the Towpath**

Join us for a bike ride on the Towpath on Saturday, September 7. Meet at **57 W. North St. Akron** (The Mustill Store parking lot) and be ready to roll at 10 AM. We will ride north for about 7 miles, turn around and ride back. Lunch following the ride (at approximately 11:30) at Lock 15 Brewery which is across from the Mustill Store. Walkers/hikers are also invited, or you can just join us for lunch.

Please RSVP for lunch to **Holly Kaskey** ([hkaskey@gmail.com](mailto:hkaskey@gmail.com)) or **Cindy Ederer** ([csederer@yahoo.com](mailto:csederer@yahoo.com)) by September 4th.

## **SSC'S 2025 SKIING PROGRAM**

What follows is an update on the two major trips, an article on plans for bus trips and some information on a proposed special bus trip in February.

The two major trips, Schweitzer in January and Mt Temblant in March, are all set, and you can read the final details below. Those details are further expanded in the **flyers for both trips which you will find as attachments to the Email** that brought you this newsletter. Please download and print out a copy of each flyer. You will see that you go online to our tour operator, Sports America, and reserve your spot on each trip by using the provided link.

### ***THE TWO MAJOR TRIPS***

While you should be sure to read the attached flyers for complete information on both major trips, here are photos and dates for each trip long with reports from the Trip Leasers:



## **SCHWEITZER, IDAHO SATURDAY, JANUARY 25 – SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2025**

### **A Report from Trip Leader Ann McBrian:**

Thinking of cooler days? Now's the time to consider skiing at Schweitzer, Idaho in 2025!

The NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) recently released its long-range forecast. All signs are pointing to an abundantly cold and snowy winter for the Inland Northwest thanks to La Nina. Schweitzer appears to be in the sweet spot.

Check out the attached Schweitzer flyer detailing what you can expect to receive during your week-long trip for the package price of **\$2,475**.

To reserve your spot, visit:

<http://www.sportsamerica.com/onlinedev/suburbanschweitzer>

Questions? You may contact me at (330) 618-8450 or [mcbriana@gmail.com](mailto:mcbriana@gmail.com)

*Ann*



**Mt Tremblant, Canada**  
**Saturday, March 8 – Saturday, March 15, 2025**

**A Report from Trip Leader Dan Castele:**

Reservations for Mt. Tremblant have gone very well, and we are close to being sold out. Below and in the attached trip flyer you will find a link to make your reservation with our tour operator, Sports America. However, **please contact me before you go online to sign up.** We are currently working with Sports America to determine exactly how many spots we still have available. Accordingly, you need to contact me before attempting to make a reservation.

The trip package is priced at **\$2,375** and you will find details on what that includes in the attached trip flyer.

If you have already signed up (or may still want to make a reservation), you need to be aware of **an important point re. your passport.** We are grateful to our president, **Gordon Blackburn**, for providing this information:

If you are signed-up (or planning to sign-up) for Mt. Tremblant, be sure to **check your passport NOW** to ensure it is current and not expiring soon.

The State Department recommends that U.S. citizens renew their passports approximately nine months before the date of expiration since many countries require at least 6 months validity left on your passport in addition to the 6-8 weeks standard processing time.

The **link to make your reservation** with Sports America is: [Group Registration: Suburban Ski Club \(sportsamerica.com\)](https://www.sportsamerica.com/group-registration)

But, again, do not go to that site until you clear it with me. Contact me at [djcastele@gmail.com](mailto:djcastele@gmail.com)

## ***THE 2025 BUS TRIPS***



Dear SSC Members,

We are progressing with our plans for next season's day trips. We will have two bus trips with Lewis Ski Club to Holiday Valley. The dates are **Friday, January 17th**, and **Friday, February 14th**. As in the past, we anticipate having apres-ski dinners in Ellicottville on these Friday trips, before heading home.

We also plan to offer a day trip or two, on the smaller bus (Platinum Party Bus), just for SSC members, likely on a Wednesday or Thursday. We are currently working on dates and locations for these trips. The

Platinum bus accommodates a maximum of 28 people.

Additionally, see **Dan Castele's brief report below** on plans for an exciting multi-day bus trip to New York in mid-February.

We will keep you updated in future newsletters with details as they become available. I'm excited about getting a great schedule together for next winter!

*Holly Kaskey, Bus Trip Coordinator*  
[holly@suburbanskiclub.org](mailto:holly@suburbanskiclub.org)



## **February Bus Trip**

The club is planning a **multi-day trip to Central NY February 18 through 21**. Details are not finalized but the hope is to ski two days at the Greek Peak Resort outside of Ithica and one day at Bristol Mountain just south of Rochester, with stops at local wineries along the way. Look for Itinerary logistics and pricing information coming out in September.

*Dan Castele*

*djcastele@gmail.com*

## ***THE JULY EAT AT OLESIA'S***

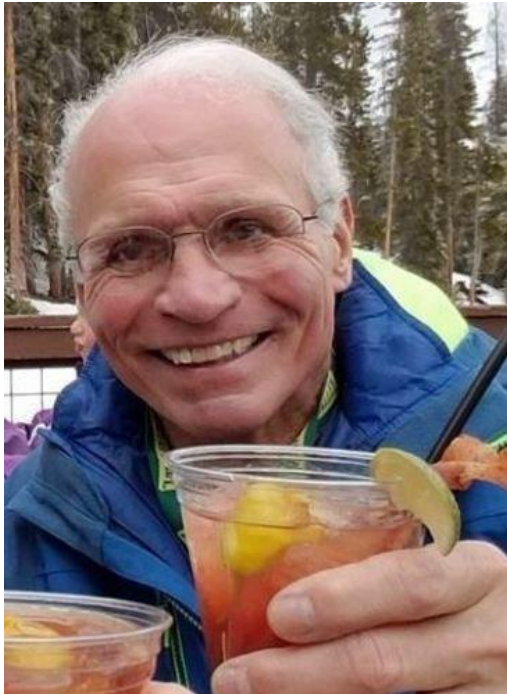
Social Activities Coordinator, **Patty Costigan**, reported the “The rain held off, so we were able to enjoy Olesia’s lovely patio, and everyone had a good meal with lots of lively conversation.” Please contact Patty if you have suggestions for future EATs at (330) 836-0381 or [pcostig@gmail.com](mailto:pcostig@gmail.com)



Clockwise: Fran Wesley, Pam Fenn, Annie Spadaro, Holly Kaskey, Linda Hon, Lynn Miller, Wayne Miller, Bill Hon, Judy Ernest, Casey Kaskey, Jackie Caputo, Patty Costigan and Cindy Ederer

## ***Bob Griffin RIP***

Bob Griffin passed away on July 15<sup>th</sup>. Bob was a long-time president of Erie Shore Ski Club and a friend of many of us in SSC. The club made a donation in Bob's memory. Here is his obituary:



Robert E. Griffin Jr., age 80 of Fairview Park, passed away July 15th, 2024 at his residence. He was born October 11th, 1943 in Cleveland to the late Colette and Robert E. Griffin Sr. After 45 years of service, Bob retired as an electrician from the I.B.E.W. Local 38 in Cleveland.

Bob was a longtime volunteer with the Cuyahoga County Democratic Party. He was a member of the Erie Shore Ski Club, the Cleveland Metro Ski Council and the 70 + Ski Club. Bob enjoyed ski racing and gardening, was an avid tennis player, and loved playing

the piano and guitar.

Bob was the loving father of John Griffin and Lisa Griffin-Bohm; grandfather of Stephen Bohm; brother of Joan (Jerry-deceased) Cahill, Jim (Sally) Griffin, Patricia Monreal and Nancy (Ray) Wilson; cousin of Sr. Jacquelyn Gusdane SND; uncle of many nieces and nephews.

The Griffin family will receive friends and family from 2:00 – 5:00 PM Sunday, July 21st, 2024 at Jeff Monreal Funeral Home, 1000 Mentor Ave., Painesville.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine - Anatomical Gift Program

(<https://www.givecampus.com/campaigns/20437/donations/new>)

To leave condolences visit: [www.JeffMonrealFuneralHome.com](http://www.JeffMonrealFuneralHome.com)