

December General Meeting

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 4

New Berlin Banquet Center • 16000 W. Cleveland Ave.
(east side of building)

6 pm: Check-in

6:30 pm: Socializing and event sign-ups

7 pm: General Meeting

7:45 pm: Dancing to the music of Do-Wa-Wa Band

Guests welcome – \$10 admission

Sign up in advance

- ◆ Please register for the meeting online, call (414) 732-9749 or email Jan.Breitbach@gmail.com

Reminders

- ◆ Wear your Vagabond name tag
- ◆ Park on either side of the building
- ◆ Update your name tag at the meeting if you renewed your membership online.

Dinner plans?

- ◆ For a meal beforehand, you might try the New Berlin Ale House (in the same building as our meeting but on the west side).
- ◆ No food or beverages may be brought into the meeting room.

Next meeting: Feb. 5 ...

Have a happy holiday season!

THIS MONTH'S MUSIC



We will have the expanded hall Dec. 4 to welcome the Do-Wa-Wa band, and they will expand your mind with high-energy 1950s and '60s music from the golden period of rock-and-roll.

Bring your friends to hear tunes that will bring back memories.

Next: Close Enuf

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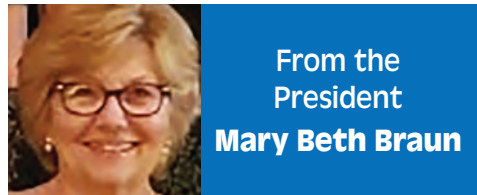
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The Gift of TIME

While November is a month dedicated to gratitude for blessings, December is for giving. Our giving doesn't have to be gifts of monetary importance (although those are wonderful); our **gift of time** may be the most generous and important.

We give of ourselves often with our families, neighbors, and Vagabond friends in conversation and helping out. It means so much to parents (of all ages) when children come home to talk, just to "catch up." Why is it that we never feel it's a waste of time to go to a party for hours with friends – But it's so difficult to give time, to make time to visit an infirmed neighbor, or a veteran, or grocery shop for a home-bound senior, or join a service group.

Our club offers many opportunities all year to have fun. You should take advantage of having fun; life is too short. Yet, we don't need to focus only on ourselves. Vagabonds, it's the Christmas season, we are in the prevailing spirit of Giving. So, let's reach out to other Vagabonds and beyond to anyone in need.

Make time to give of yourself with an effort to serve your club however you can ... maybe it's as an event leader or board member in 2025. You all know by now that our club is facing a deficit in leadership positions on the board come next May. If you are a good candidate, please come forward and be willing to join us and donate your time generously for the Vagabond Ski and Social Club. Contact any officer or director in the club.

I wish each of you a wonderful Christmas filled with blessed and caring days through the Season!!

Mary Beth

Ways to Pay for Vagabond Events

- * The best and preferred way to register for any Vagabond event or to renew your membership is through the club management system Wild Apricot. By signing up online and paying with your credit card, you will receive an email confirmation of your registration, you will receive your credit card points or rewards and you don't have to fill out a paper event coupon. Plus, no stamps, no envelopes and no trip to the post office.
- * If you wish to register at a monthly meeting, we strongly encourage you to pay with your credit card to earn your points, but you will need to fill out a registration form, and confirmation of your registration is delayed until the event leader makes sure there is space for you.
- * The club does accept checks. Please make your check out to VSSC or Vagabond Ski & Social Club. Do not make the check payable to the event leader or to a board member. Please double-check the amount on the check and be sure to sign it. You might be surprised to learn how many checks are made out for the incorrect amount and/or are not signed. You will need to fill out an event coupon.
- * Finally, the club will accept cash at a meeting. But this is the least desirable method of payment due to security risks, lack of traceability and the chance of it being lost. An event coupon is required.



Sporting Activities
Mary Beth Braun

Sunday Hikes

Meet at 1:30, hike from 1:45 to 3:45 p.m.

Hike for the Fun of It – or Just for the Health of It!

We welcome volunteers to lead hikes in future months. Contact **Dan Heidemann** at danlmark@gmail.com or (414) 416-1678 if you know you can be a leader. Hikes without leaders will be canceled.

Dec. 1 – Whitnall Park: Meet at the golf course parking lot along S. 92nd Street. (south of College Avenue). Walk from 1:45 to 3:45, then head to Open Flame at 5081 S 108th St. in Greenfield for dinner and drinks.

Hike Leader is **Betty Riley**, (262) 888-9978.

Dec. 8 – Menomonee Park: Hwy Y entrance (on Lannon Road, about a half-mile north of Good Hope, at the Lannon Village Park parking lot on the east side of the road). Meet at 1:30 p.m., hike 1:45-3:45 p.m., then eat and drink at a location to be determined. **Hike Leader needed!**

Dec. 15 – Scuppernong Trails: This is beautiful hike in the Kettle Moraine State Forest Southern Unit in Waukesha County. Parking at the trailhead is located on County Highway ZZ, east of Hwy 67 and north of the village of Eagle: address for your map app is S58 W35820 County Road ZZ, Dousman 53118. The trail is considered intermediate to advanced due to the uneven surface, some inclines and rocks/stones in some places. Gather at Sports Page Bar and Grill afterward for food and drinks.

Hike Leaders: **Joyce Szulc** and **Jim Stephens**. Questions? Call **Joyce** at (262) 902-3248.

Dec. 22 – Havenwoods State Forest: 6141 N. Hopkins St., Milwaukee. Meet in the parking lot at 1:30 p.m. Hike from 1:45

to 3:45, approximately 4.5 miles. No fees, no open bathrooms. Trails of mulch, gravel, grass, pavement, mostly level with some gentle hills. Wear proper hiking shoes, as the ground may be frozen or muddy. From Good Hope Road, go south on 43rd Street (Sherman Boulevard), then right on Douglas Avenue into the park. From West Silver Spring Drive, go north on Sherman Boulevard, then left on Douglas Avenue into the park. Food and refreshments after the hike at the Brick Pub & Grill, 6343 N. Green Bay Road, Glendale.

Hike Leader: **Gary Kovach**, (414) 712-3897.

Dec. 29 – Lapham Peak State Park: Take I-94 west to Hwy. C, then turn left to park entrance. Meet at the middle parking



Rain didn't deter these Vagabond hikers from enjoying Bong Recreation Area.

lot, which is called Homestead Hollow: type "Homestead Hollow, Delafield WI" on Google Maps. From the entrance station, go up the main road 0.7 of a mile, parking lot is on the left. This is the area where we

usually stop for bathrooms. This significantly reduces the number of hills for the hike. We will hike approximately 5 miles. Hike from 1:45 to 3:45 p.m., then head to Revere's Wells Street Tavern at 505 Wells St in Delafield for chili and drinks. **Hike Leader needed!**

Bowling

Our fun, monthly Vagabond Bowling League is looking for substitutes. We bowl on the second Friday of each month at **2 p.m.** at **New Berlin Bowl**. Sign up at VagabondSkiClub.com. Our league secretary is **Dee Hollstein-Pizur**, (262) 227-6322.



A big turnout on a beautiful day at Whitnall Park.



Ski Activities
Joyce Szulc

Safety tips for skiers

Being as safe as possible on the slopes is key to having a good time. Here are some sensible tips for all skiers to follow:

Ski patrol number: Add the local ski patrol number to the contacts on your smart phone. Hopefully, you won't need to use it but if an emergency does occur, you will be glad it is there.

Wear a helmet: The most important safety tip is to wear a certified helmet. Both the National Ski Patrol and the Professional Ski Instructors of America encourage wearing a helmet.

Use proper ski equipment: Don't borrow equipment. Rent from a ski shop. Make sure your ski boots are fitted properly and that your bindings are properly adjusted. Wear ski goggles that fit correctly around your helmet.

Take a break: If you are tired, rest for a while and make sure you eat and drink enough. Skiing burns a lot of energy. Ski with a friend: It is always safer to ski with someone.

Respect your limits: Do not ski trails that are above your skill level. Stay in control and focus on the trail that you are skiing. Distractions can cause accidents.

Follow the rules: Obey posted trail closure and other warning signs. Remember that skiers in front of you and below you have the right-of-way.

Prepare for the weather: Wear layers of clothes, and wear a helmet liner, a hat or a headband under your helmet. Wear mittens or gloves. Bring an extra pair in case the first pair gets wet.

Get proper instruction: Even experienced skiers can polish up their skills with a lesson now or then, especially at the beginning of the season.



Questions? Contact Trip Leader
Joyce Szulc, 262-902-3248 or jszulc@wi.rr.com

Counting Down to Ski Season ...

Our January ski trip to Vail is full, but we had a cancellation for the February trip to Heavenly. We are looking for a male replacement. Contact Joyce if you are interested in going to Lake Tahoe or joining the waitlist for Vail. For details on both trips, go to VagabondSkiClub.com.

◆ Vail

Jan. 11-17 (Saturday-Friday)

\$2,115 (double occupancy)

Join the waitlist

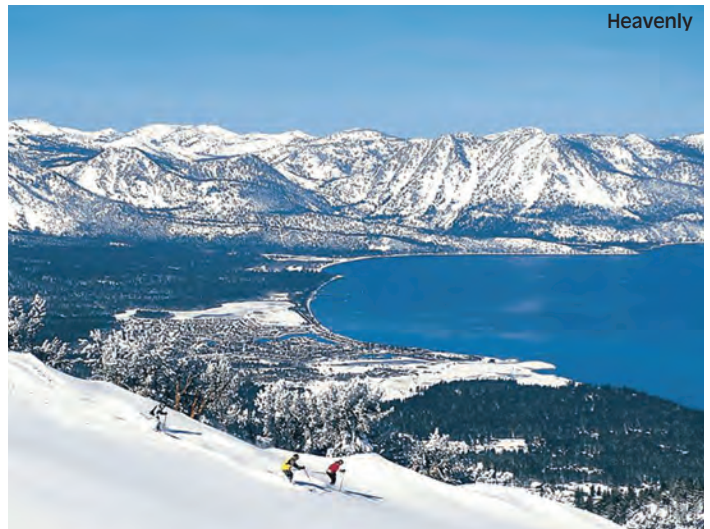


◆ Heavenly

Feb. 9-15 (Sunday-Saturday)

\$1,815

Looking for a male replacement





Ski racing

Your Vagabond Ski Team begins the race season **Sunday, Jan. 5**, at **Sunburst**. Spectators are encouraged to come out and watch the team in action, along with a trophy presentation after the race. Several people have joined our club after experiencing a race day.

Metropolitan Milwaukee Ski Council Senior Racing has 14 races scheduled over seven dates this winter. About 40 skiers compete in one of four non-gender classes based on skill level. Two different courses are run for each race, and the



Pike Lake State Park.

times are combined. Awards are presented in each class at each race. Awards are also given in each class at the end of the season. The Vagabonds will again compete against three other teams, with the fastest four men and two women counting for each team.

Prepare for next season by starting an exercise program focused on your legs. Make sure your equipment is up to date. Get your skis sharpened and your bindings checked. We always have room on the team for new people of any age or ability. Every year, skiers as young as 21 join the club to compete on the race team. It's one way the club has maintained a sense of youthfulness.

For more information, contact MMSCSR Chairman **Al Lemke** at (414) 688-2938 or aklemke2993@gmail.com or visit MMSCSR.com

MMSC Senior Race Schedule

- Jan. 4 – Sunburst (CMSC race)
- Jan. 5 – Sunburst
- Jan. 12 – Sunburst
- Jan. 19 – Sunburst
- Jan. 25 – Holy Hill
- Feb. 1 – Holy Hill
- Feb. 8 – Sunburst
- Feb. 16 – Sunburst

Ski and Sightsee Japan

The Metropolitan Milwaukee Ski Council is hosting a trip to **Japan**. Departure date is **March 7**, with optional return dates. The tentative agenda includes three nights in **Tokyo**, seven nights in **Hakuba** and an optional three nights in **Kyoto**. Contact **Mark Harris** at harris_53051@yahoo.com or (414) 453-6914.



Hikers on the Milwaukee lakefront.



Avignon, France

Bike and Barge Trip

France

Sept. 6-13

\$2,000 per person

double occupancy, excluding air

Tour the South of France by boat and bike Sept. 6-13, 2025.

A week of cycling, suitable even for less experienced cyclists. The stages are led by a guide, mainly on back roads from Avignon to Aigues Mortes, with little traffic.

Price: \$2,000 per person, payable by check and based on double occupancy. Does not include airfare or bike rental. Meals included.

For details, go to Sitzmark.org/event-5665633; contact Trip Leader **John Graff** at jgraff1809@gmail.com or (414) 403-3478.



Membership
Jan Breitbach

Welcome New and Returning Members

See the online directory at VagabondSkiClub.com for an up-to-date list of current members.

John & Sally Kronshage • Lisa McClintock

✳️ **New 80/30 members will be recognize at the December meeting.**

Please come and congratulate them. ✳️

The club is always looking for friendly and smiling faces to help at the Welcome Desk on meeting nights. Email Jan.Breitbach@gmail.com or call (414) 732-9749.

Responsibilities of Officers on the Board

President

The President is to preside at meetings of the Board and membership; assign Directors to the director positions and other duties as deemed necessary; represent the Club in associations in which the Club has a membership; and the President shall be an ex-officio of all committees.

Vice President

The Vice President will succeed to the office of President should the president cease to be a member, resign or be unable to serve; shall preside at Board and membership meetings in the absence of the president; shall coordinate certain events and perform other duties as assigned by the president.

Secretary

The Secretary shall record the minutes at the Board and Membership meetings; the Secretary shall have custody of all books, historical records and papers of the Club except those in the charge of the Treasurer; shall maintain a calendar of Club events and activities.

Treasurer

The Treasurer shall keep a current accounting of records, make disbursements approved by the Board, and secure complete paper vouchers/receipts of deposits made in the Club's bank account; shall present a monthly financial report at the Board meetings; shall present to the Board a financial year-end report of all Club matters for the fiscal year; prepare and file any and all required Club tax returns or forms; and arrange for necessary bonding and insurance.



International
Trip
Linda Horn

Winter Getaway

Hideaway at Royalton Riviera, Cancun

Adults-only, all-inclusive resort

Feb 12-19 (Wednesday to Wednesday)

Enjoy a premium getaway in the sun, just south of Cancun, Mexico. The luxury resort of Hideaway at Royalton Riviera offers 11 restaurants, 16 bars, afternoon hors d'oeuvres, high-speed Wi-Fi, satellite television, stocked minibar, reservation-free dining, tennis, pickleball, gym, casino, spa, kayaking, snorkeling, ping pong, yoga, cooking classes, dance classes, trivia games and access to neighboring Royalton Riviera Cancun.

Flights are non-stop charters between Milwaukee and Cancun. Call **Sue** at (414) 421-6248 for availability.



Social Activities
Denise Kremel

Fish Fry

Dec. 6

Double D's, Hales Corners

Our next fish fry will be Friday, Dec. 6, at Double D's Sports Pub and Eatery, 5171 S. 108th St., Hales Corners. Meet at the bar any time after 4:30 p.m. Dine at 5:30 p.m.

Our menu will include baked or fried cod for \$17.50 to \$19.25, including tax and gratuity. Or, for an additional charge, you may choose perch, walleye, shrimp or salmon.

Questions? Call **Cathy Faust** at (414) 429-2384 or **Nancy Drolshagen** at (414) 491-3147.

We are limited to 25 reservations; kindly call to cancel if you are unable to attend.

Festival City Symphony

The Vagabond Ski & Social Club is pleased to continue a long tradition of promoting the Festival City Symphony to our members. Purchase tickets in advance at FestivalCitySymphony.org/order-Saturday-Classics-Tickets, or on the day of the concert at the Bradley Symphony Center box office, 212 W. Wisconsin Ave. The requested donation is \$8 for seniors.

Concerts are at 2 p.m. Saturdays

Schedule

Jan. 25 -- Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto and Beethoven's Eighth

March 8 -- Harmonies of the Heartland

April 12 -- Spanish Dreams and Dances

Visit festivalcitysymphony.org/orchestra-concert-schedule for descriptions of each concert.



Over the Hump

Wednesday, Dec. 18

BJ's, Brookfield

Our next Over the Hump gathering will be **4-7 p.m.** Wednesday, Dec. 18, at BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse, 17430 W. Bluemound Road, Brookfield.

No need to sign up -- just show up.

Questions: Call **Cathy Faust**, (414) 429-2384, or **Nancy Drolshagen**, (414) 491-3147.



Cheer on the Packers

New Berlin Ale House



Tom Martini organizes Vagabond get-togethers at New Berlin Ale House to watch Green Bay Packers games on TV. There is no need to sign up, just show up. Any questions, call **Tom** at (414) 276-0479.

The next daytime game is at noon **Dec. 29** against the Vikings.



Scrabble

1-4 pm Tuesday, Dec. 3 and 17
New Berlin Ale House

We play Scrabble on the first and third Tuesday from **1-4 p.m.** at the New Berlin Ale House. **Fee is \$1 per person** for the server tip along with a purchase of one beverage, either alcoholic or non-alcoholic. Next games are **Dec. 3 and 17**. Food is also available for purchase. Non-members are welcome. Contact **Lynn Kozlowski**, (414) 539-8114.

Sheepshead

6-9 pm Tuesday, Dec. 10
New Berlin Ale House

We normally play Sheepshead from 6-9 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at New Berlin Ale House.

With Christmas coming up, though, December's only get-together will be **Dec. 10**. Non-members, members and all levels of play are welcome.

Fee: at least one food/beverage order (plus tip) plus \$1 per person; bring more money, and you may win or lose. Questions: **Jae Hartnell**, (608) 712-7440.



Branson holiday shows

Those on the bus trip to Branson will be starting the holiday season Dec. 9 when we depart for the six-show Extravaganza.



Information packets have been distributed for the three pick-up locations. Questions: **Greg Larson**, (414) 588-4998.



Over 65 Years of Fun and Friendships

Vagabond Ski & Social Club Membership
 7809 W. Mount Vernon Ave.
 Milwaukee, WI 53213

Facebook Help Wanted

Help us find new members through Facebook: Click Like on the Vagabond Ski and Social Club page. To post pictures from club events, send them to jszulc@wi.rr.com.

Stay Informed

For up-to-date information on club events and activities, including news and photos, visit VagabondSkiClub.com.

DATED MATERIAL

Deliver by November 26

FUTURE EVENTS	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Jan. 11 Vail	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Jan. 24 Switzerland	Hike		Scrabble	General mtg		Double D's	
Jan. 25 Symphony							
Feb. 9 Heavenly							
Feb. 12 Cancun	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
March 7 Japan	Hike	Branson	Sheepshead			Bowling	
March 8 Symphony							
April 12 Symphony							
							
<p style="font-size: 2em; color: #008000;">Happy Holidays & New Year!</p> 							
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	Hike		Scrabble	BJ's			
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	Hike						
	29	30	31	1	2	3	4
Packers Hike	December						