

December General Meeting

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3

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

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. 4 ...

Have a happy holiday season!

THIS MONTH'S MUSIC



Our entertainment for December will be provided by the Do-Wa-Wa. This band is the best of the best. Come and enjoy the dance floor and more.

Next: Music Bingo, on Feb. 4 (no meeting in January)

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MBBraun4@wi.rr.com

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Treasurer Les Radtke
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From the
President
Mary Beth Braun

The Gift of Time

This December brings us more opportunities to have fun with other Vagabonds. We start with our General Meeting on Dec. 3, where we have one of our favorite bands, and a little holiday surprise. We have a Fish Fry, Over the Hump night, and Bowling. See details inside this *Life*.

While November is a month dedicated to gratitude for blessings, December is for *giving*. Our giving doesn't have to be money gifts, our **gift of time** may be the most generous and important. We give of ourselves to family, neighbors and Vagabonds frequently. Now in this season of giving, let's take time to give of ourselves to someone less fortunate, or someone who would love a little visit. We are fortunate to have so much, and we have generous Vagabonds who can do so much for others.

And don't forget to make time to give of yourself to serve our Club however you can. Maybe it's as an event leader or as a member of the board or as organizer of a sporting activity in 2026. If you are a good candidate, please come forward and donate your time and talents to the Vagabond club in 2026.

I wish all of you a wonderful Christmas. May this Season leave your hearts full of joy, hopes and happiness, leading to a great year ahead.

Merry Christmas!

Mary Beth



Vagabond hikers prepare to "enter this wild wood and explore the haunts of nature" on the Seven Bridges trail.



Ski Activities Sally Borchardt

Ski trips

Both of our 2026 ski trips are full and have waitlists. You do not have to pay anything to be on the waitlist. See details for both trips at VagabondSkiClub.com.

Big Sky

Jan. 4-11 (Sunday to Sunday)



The new Kircliff observatory on Lone Peak.

For those who made a down payment on the Big Sky trip ... we are still awaiting some of the \$700 installment payments that were due Oct. 15.

For anyone who can provide their own transportation to Montana ...

Still available -- **Land Only option** -- \$1,760 per person, double occupancy, with two beds per room. Bring a friend!

Didn't get an IKON Pass? No problem! Single lift tickets are available for \$135 each, but you must order them immediately.

Call **Sally** at (414) 349-9359.

Aspen/Snowmass

Feb. 7-14 (Saturday to Saturday)

Attention: Aspen/Snowmass trip participants

- The deadline to buy group lift tickets through the club (not the Ikon Pass) is Dec. 15. Go to VagabondSkiClub.com, click on Upcoming Events and find 2026 Aspen/Snowmass Group Lift Tickets. Pick the number of days and the type of ticket you wish to purchase and pay by credit card.
- If you are traveling with the group and have a United Airlines Mileage Plus number and/or a Known Traveler Number and haven't done so already, please send that information to jszulc@wi.rr.com.
- If you paid a deposit for the trip, final payment is due **Dec. 15**. Invoices will be emailed to those with a balance. Please pay with your credit card.
- Questions? Contact **Joyce Szulc** at (262) 902-3248 or jszulc@wi.rr.com.



Italy

Jan. 24 to Feb. 5

Join other CMSC club members Jan. 24 to Feb. 5 on a trip to **Madonna di Campiglio, Italy**, with an extension to Venice. Price is \$3,397. Contact **Randy Baustert** at SkiWithRandy@aol.com or (847) 254-9396.



Oregon

April 8 to 13

The CMSC's annual Spring Fling will be April 8-13 at **Mt. Bachelor in Oregon**. Price: \$1,508. Contact **Kevin Conlon** at (708) 906-9517 or kconzl@aol.com.

Safety tips for skiers



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

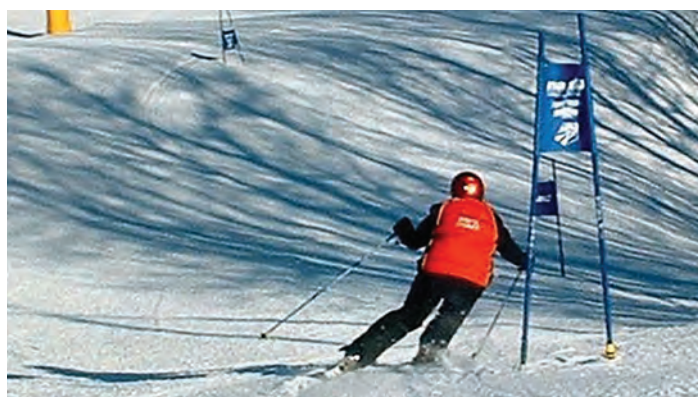
- **Wear a helmet:** The most important safety tip is to wear a certified helmet. Both the National Ski Patrol and the Professional Ski Instructors of America encourage wearing a helmet.
- **Ski patrol number:** Add the local ski patrol number to the contacts on your smart phone. Hopefully, you won't need to use it, but if an emergency does occur, you will be glad it is there.
- **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:** Stay in control and focus on the trail 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. Wear mittens or gloves.
- **Get proper instruction:** Even experienced skiers can polish up their skills with a lesson now and then, especially at the beginning of the season.



Ski racing

The Vagabond Ski Team begins the race season Sunday, Jan. 4, 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 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 practice on Monday and Wednesday nights at Sunburst. 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. **Please note:** To race on the team, you need to be a current member of the Vagabonds; if you need to renew your membership, go to VagabondSkiClub.com. Once you have joined (or re-joined), you should receive information from the ski race team.

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
Jan. 10 – Sunburst
Jan. 17 – Sunburst
Jan. 24 – Holy Hill
Jan. 31 – Holy Hill
Feb. 7 – Sunburst
Feb. 15 – Sunburst

Practices: 6:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays at Sunburst



Sporting Activities

Mary Beth Braun



Forest Exploration Center

Sunday Hikes

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

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

We welcome volunteers to lead hikes in future months. Please call or text **Robert Patzwald** at (414) 791-8775 to have your questions answered. Scheduled hikes without leaders will be canceled.



Sanctuary Woods

Dec. 7 – Scuppernong Trails:

This is a beautiful hike in the Kettle Moraine State Forest Southern Unit in Waukesha County. Meet and park at the trailhead, 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,



Forest Exploration Center

Dousman 53118. The trail is considered intermediate to advanced due to the uneven surface, some inclines and rocks and stones in places.

Food and drink afterward at: In Cahoots, S43 W31325 Hwy. 83, Genesee Depot.

Hike Leaders: **Greg** and **Dorothy Kressin**, (262) 361-2799.

Dec. 14 – Greendale Village and Scout Lake: Meet in front of Greendale Public Library, 5647 Broad St. The Path is 90% paved and 10% groomed with wood chips. After the hike, food at a downtown Greendale food establishment to be determined.

Hike Leaders: **Jay** and **Terese Zinn**, (414) 708-1663.

Dec. 21 – Waukesha Riverside: Meet at the Schuetze Recreation Center, 1120 Baxter St., Waukesha (within Frame Park). We will hike through Riverside Park, Bethesda Spring Park and the Fox River Sanctuary. About 4 miles on pavement. After the hike, we will meet for nourishment at People's Park, 337 W Main St., in downtown Waukesha.

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

Dec. 28 - Whitnall Park: Meet at the golf course parking lot along S. 92nd St., south of College Ave. Wear proper hiking shoes; there may be ice or snow on the trails.

Afterward, meet at Open Flame Restaurant, 5081 S. 108 St., Greenfield, for food and beverages.

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

Weekly one-hour walks

Our Thursday-morning walks are suspended for the winter. They will resume in the spring.

Bowling

Our fun, monthly bowling league started at New Berlin Bowl. We bowl on the third Friday of each month.

Registration is open online.

Practice begins at 1:45 p.m., with games starting at 2 p.m. Substitutes are encouraged to sign up; they pay \$12 each time they bowl.

League secretary is **Dee Holstein- Pizur**, (262) 227-6322.





Membership
Jan Breitbach

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

WELCOME NEW OR RETURNING MEMBERS

Ling He • Jill Matarrese

Ashley Puccini • Rayna Thompson Jenssen

We are looking for friendly and smiling faces to assist at the Welcome Desk on meeting nights. Assistance is also needed with membership renewal.

Email JanBreitbach@gmail.com
or call (414) 732-9749.



**International
Travel**
Linda Horn

Winter Getaway

Punta Cana • Feb. 5-12

Have fun in the sun with other Vagabonds from Feb. 5-12 at Secrets Royal Beach Resort in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic. This



adults-only, all-inclusive resort offers unlimited dining, 12 restaurants, drinks, wi-fi, nightly entertainment, tennis courts, water aerobics infinity pool, swim-up bar, long beach, and access to Dreams next door.

We were there in 2024 and enjoyed it so much that we are returning. Great food, entertainment, basically an excellent property.

This package includes round-trip, nonstop flights between Milwaukee and Punta Cana, along with the shuttle to and from the resort.

Join the waitlist online or call **Sue** at (414) 421-6248.



Please sign up online
for all events.

Go to VagabondSkiClub.com,
log-in with your email and
Vagabond password to sign up
and pay with your credit card.



On the beach at Grant Park.



Social Activities
Denise Kremel

Fish Fry • Friday, Dec. 5 Diamond Jim's, Hales Corners

Our next fish fry will be Friday, Dec. 5, at Diamond Jim's Steakhouse, 11811 W. Janesville Road, Hales Corners. The two-piece dinner is \$22 including tax and tip, and the three-piece dinner is \$26.

Arrive any time after 4:30 p.m., dine at 5:30.

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

For reservations, go to VagabondSkiClub.com. We are limited to 25 people, so kindly call to cancel if you are unable to attend!



Fish Fry at Café Hollander.

Over the Hump • Dec. 17 Maggiano's, Wauwatosa

Our next Over the Hump get-together will be Wednesday, Dec. 17, at Maggiano's Little Italy, 2500 N. Mayfair Road, at Mayfair Mall.

Just show up between 4 and 7 p.m. Happy Hour food and drink specials go until 6 p.m.

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

Scrabble

1-4 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 2 and 16
New Berlin Ale House



We play Scrabble on the first and third Tuesdays of the month from 1-4 p.m. at New Berlin Ale House. The fee is \$1 per person for the server tip along with a purchase of one beverage, either alcoholic or non-alcoholic. Food is also available for purchase.

This month's games are

Dec. 2 and 16. Non-members are welcome.

Call **Lynn Kozlowski** at (414) 539-8114.

Sheepshead

6-9 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 9 and 23
New Berlin Ale House

We play Sheepshead from 6-9 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at New Berlin Ale House. The next games are **Dec. 9 and 23**. 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.

Festival City Symphony



The Vagabonds have a long tradition of promoting the Festival City Symphony to our members. Hear classical music on Saturday afternoons at the Bradley Symphony Center, 212 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee.

Order tickets online at FestivalCitySymphony.org. The suggested donation for seniors is \$8.

Saturday Classics concerts begin at 2 p.m., preceded by "Unlocking the Score," an onstage presentation at 1:30.

Schedule

Jan. 24 – Mendelssohn's Discovery

March 7 – Pictures at an Exhibition

April 18 – Faith, Persistence and Celebration



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. 4	Big Sky	30	1	2	3	4	5	6
Jan. 4	Ski race			Scrabble	General mtg		Diamond Jim's	
Jan. 24	Italy							
Jan. 24	Symphony							
Feb. 4	General mtg							
Feb. 5	Punta Cana	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Feb. 7	Snowmass	Hike		Sheepshead				
March 7	Symphony							
April 8	Mt. Bachelor							
April 18	Symphony	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		Hike		Scrabble	Maggiano's		Bowling	
		21	22	23	24	25	26	27
		Hike		Sheepshead				
		28	29	30	31	1	2	3
		Hike						



**Christmas
December 25**

December