

AE Ski Club Members,

It is with mixed emotions that I write this letter. My time as a board member and has come to an end. As many of you know Mark and my favorite place to ski in the states is Utah. In August of 2016 Mark was laid off. Every lay off has brought us to a better place in our life and this is no exception. Mark accepted a job in Northern Utah working for Northrup Grumman. He found his dream job as a rocket scientist, so to speak. He will start his job in September 10 and I will relocate with him when our house sells.

Fifteen years ago we began to learn to ski at 40 years old. We fell in love with the sport, the beautiful places it brought us and the people we met, especially AE Ski Club members! In 2010, we went on our first AE Ski club week trip to Snowbird Utah. We made lasting friendships and tried to take a trip with the club every year after. With our children graduating high school and starting college the AE Ski Club helped to fill the gap that was left when our kids were no longer home.

In 2013, I was accepted to the board of directors for AE Ski Club and thoroughly enjoyed working with all of the board members. It was so much fun seeing people enjoy being able to ski or snowboard affordably.

Some fond memories for me were traveling to Europe for the first time with Lee Ouelette and Bob Miano to Cortina Italy. It was a trip of a lifetime, skiing the women's downhill (Lyndsey Vonn skied it that same year). Getting pulled by horses from one town to the next on skis; making a snowman off the run and hearing people talk about it on the bus ride home; missing the bus and walking through the town with our ski boots and carrying our skis and getting looked at like "those Americans!". Another trip which we truly remember is the trip I ran with Jeff Bellody to Zermatt Switzerland. We could see the Matterhorn during the day while we skied (not everyone who goes to Zermatt gets to see the Matterhorn because it is fogged in or clouded over). We also enjoyed the igloos, the ice bar and eating lunch at all the Refugio's that were so amazing. They were so popular that you had to make reservations for the one you wanted to go to before you left in the morning or the day before.

Recently we were enjoying dinner with some friends in Cheshire CT. We met them on the Saalbach Austria trip. It warmed my heart when the hosts said that their all-time favorite ski trip was Chamonix in 2017! John Baker and I ran that trip in March of 2017. I really missed my husband Mark on that trip. He was unable to come due to an injury. However, hearing that Chamonix was their favorite trip "EVER" made me so happy.

I would like to thank each and every member for their continued support throughout the years that I have been on the board. The AE Ski Club could have not done it without you! Thank you for your smiles, your laughs, and your appreciation of skiing and snowboarding! You made running the club extremely enjoyable!

I leave the club in good hands as Mark Robitaille will be taking my place as president. Please contact me if you are in the Utah area for skiing or snowboarding or otherwise. We would love to come join you! Mark and I will be living closer to Snow Basin and Powder Mountain!

Think Snow! Ski Utah!

Best Regards, Sandy Hensel