

# National Ski Club Newsflash

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The National Ski Club Officers' Newsflash is emailed each month to America's ski club officers by The National Ski Club Newsletter on a year-round basis to augment our four printed issues which published in November, January, March, and May. If you wish additional club officers to receive the Newsflash, please email their names, club name, their office within the club, and email addresses to <mailto:wilbanks@ski-club.net>

Click on the logo below for a great video to play at meetings to help sell your ski trips to Switzerland.



<http://www.youtube.com/user/myswitzerland>



## **ATLANTIS CASINO RESORT SPA OFFERS SKIING AND GAMBLING FUN**

Winner of the coveted AAA Four Diamond rating, Atlantis Casino Resort Spa is the perfect location to book the ultimate resort experience with the finest service. With the highest concentration of ski resorts in North America, 15 alpine ski resorts and seven beautiful cross-country ski areas can be found within an hour of Reno. Book a ski package at Atlantis starting at \$79. Ski moguls by day and play like one by night. Voted Loosest Slots and Best Table Games, Atlantis offers the best in gaming excitement. From its unparalleled amenities to its casino-wide action, there's always something exciting at Atlantis. For more information, go to <http://www.atlanticcasino.com/offers/getaway-packages/ski-packages/>.

## **KSL BUYS INTRAWEST'S INTEREST IN WHISTLER/BLACKCOMB**

Intrawest ULC, the parent company of Steamboat Ski and Resort Corporation, has reached an agreement with an affiliate of KSL Capital Partners, the Denver-based owner of Squaw Valley and Alpine Meadows ski areas in California, to sell all of Intrawest's remaining 24% stock in Canada's Whistler Blackcomb resort in conjunction with Intrawest's refinancing.

Since its purchase of the Steamboat resort, Intrawest has sold off a number of its resort interests, including Copper Mountain, two French resorts, Panorama Mountain Resort in British Columbia, a golf and beach resort in Florida, and real estate holdings in Squaw Valley. KSL is a private equity firm concentrating on travel and leisure businesses in the hospitality, recreation, clubs, real estate, and travel services businesses. Among its holdings is ClubCorporation, one of the world's largest owners of private golf and business clubs.

## **VAIL BUYS AFTON ALPS AND MOUNT BRIGHTON**

Vail Resorts, Inc., has entered into agreements to purchase Afton Alps in Minnesota and Mount Brighton in Michigan for \$20 million. According to the press release, both areas serve major snow sports markets in the Midwest with more than 468,000 active skiers and snowboarders in the Minneapolis-St. Paul and Detroit areas. Vail Resorts plans to upgrade both resorts and connect guests from each area to its seven resorts in Colorado and Lake Tahoe through season passes which will be available for the 2013/14 ski season. Vail plans to upgrade lodges, increase snowmaking, improve parking, and create more summer activities at the new areas. Afton Alps has 48 trails on nearly 300 acres, served by 18 lifts and four base areas. The area offers night skiing and riding, tubing and an 18-hole golf course. Brighton features 26 trails on 130 acres, six lifts, night skiing, and an 18-hole golf course.

## **SADDLEBACK IS FOR SALE**

Maine's Saddleback ski area is for sale. The asking price is \$12 million for 400 acres that includes the ski trails and lifts, the base lodge, and most of the surrounding 121 condominium units.

## **BRIAN HEAD HAS NEW OWNER**

Brian Head ski resort in southern Utah got a new owner in December. A group named Brian Head Acquisition Partner, LLC, from Missouri and California purchased the resort for an unknown amount of money, a spokesperson for the resort said. The resort has been in business for 48 years and the new owner plans improvements to substantially enhance the guest experience.

## **RENT AN ENTIRE MOUNTAIN**

This winter, **Anthony Lakes**, a 50-year-old ski area in northeast Oregon is offering its "Own the Mountain" option. On any non-holiday Mondays through March, a group of up to 50 skiers can rent the entire 1,100-acre mountain. The \$4,000 cost includes five hours of lift service, lunch at the base lodge, and grooming on two of the 21 runs open for skiing.

**Turner Mountain** in northwest Montana can be rented once a week, for \$3,000, on Mondays through Thursdays (except holidays). "Most groups rent on Thursday, hoping for a powder day if it snows early in the week," said ski area spokesman, Bruce Zwang. One lift accesses 22 runs, half of them rated expert.

## **ROYAL GORGE SALE CLOSES**

The San Diego Business Journal reports that the San Diego-based Douglas Wilson Companies has completed the \$11.25 million receivership sale of 3,240 acres of land including the Royal Gorge Cross Country Ski Resort and the surrounding watershed area of Serene Lakes and the area around Summit Valley.

## **CRESTED BUTTE'S NEW GRAVITY BAGJUMP**

Crested Butte Mountain Resort has just opened the Coke Zero® Gravity BagJump as its latest amenity in the Adventure Park. The 50 feet by 50 feet by 11 feet deep bag is filled with air and acts as a safe and cushioned landing pad for jumpers, tubers, skiers, and snowboarders that can be used year round, from beginners to professionals, for Olympic level training or for recreation. The BagJump will act as a place for kids and adults to sled into on a tube and for skiers and snowboarders to test their freestyle skills. In the summer months, adrenaline seekers can freefall into the bag off an elevated platform. The BagJump will be a part of the Adventure Park ticket for unlimited use and available for Platinum Season Passholders. Skiers and riders will be required to go through a safety course to receive a stamp of approval in order to utilize the BagJump on their skis and boards.

## **SNOWCAT ADVENTURE AT GRAND TARGHEE**

Grand Targhee's Value season Snowcat Adventure package of three nights of lodging, one day of lift skiing, and a full day of Grand Targhee Snowcat Adventure skiing starts under \$400 between January 6 and January 17 and January 21 through February 14, 2013, based on quad occupancy in the Targhee Lodge. The average snowcat run offers 2,000 ft. vertical and 14,000 to 20,000 ft. vertical per day is normal. Maximum daily capacity of the snowcat adventure is 24 persons and four night packages are available.

## **CLUB MED'S NEW ITALIAN RESORT**

Club Med has opened a mountain resort in Pragalato Vialattea, Italy, featuring ski-in/ski-out access to the Milky Way, the second largest ski domain in Europe. It's located just 55 miles from Turin. Club Med's all-inclusive vacations includes everything in one price, including lift tickets. Club Med has 23 ski destinations worldwide, more than 55 years of experience providing all-inclusive ski vacations, and an average occupancy rates of more than 90%. Pragalato Vialattea offers Italian cuisine served in three restaurants, a full bar with premium alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, and nightly entertainment each evening. It has access to 240 miles of ski slopes on 42 black runs, 118 red, 54 blue, and 30 green runs plus 24 miles of cross country slopes located between 4,450 ft. and 9,250 ft. altitude, with 92 ski lifts and six snow parks in the Milky Way. And they will have hiking, snowshoe outings, and Nordic walking. During the summer, guests can enjoy golf, mountain biking, hiking, and a year-round full-service Club Med Spa by PAYOT with seven multipurpose treatment rooms, a couple's treatment room, Turkish bath, sauna, and an indoor heated pool.