

## **HISTORY: the 90s and the New Millenium**

*This article about our Club's history is presented as we celebrate its 75<sup>th</sup> year.*

Into the 90s and then into the new millennium, our Club would continue to offer a wide variety of activities, add technology, and mature.

The Club started off this new era in January 1990 by banning smoking within facilities under its control, a move that found wide approval. Another 'new era' change would soon follow, as we published our first Magazine that was assembled on a personal computer (versus paper and scotch tape) in June 1990. This saved much money and allowed for later edits. The Club started its web site in 1998, which would open the way to broader communication, and started the email version of the Ski-O-Gram in 2002. Previously, the Ski-O-Gram was a sheet of paper handed out at membership meetings.

As for skiing, there were several trends. Parabolic shaped skis took hold in the 90s, as they made it easier to carve turns versus the older straight skis. Snowboarding became more accepted in our Club, with our ski school providing instruction. We began regular Learn-to-Ski Weekends in 1995. Our skiers began to wear helmets around 2002, with converts to helmets increasing year by year.

In January 1991, Diana Golden made a motivational presentation at a Club membership meeting. Diana, a one-legged skier, was a multi-champion racer and US Ski Hall-of-Famer.

This era included the much-awaited transition to a new Millennium. Ski trip participants at Steamboat Springs, Colorado experienced the moment while watching midnight fireworks at the mountain.

We've had some nifty far-flung activities including: Skiing in New Zealand (1998), Cross-Country Skiing in Norway (2001), Hiking in Nepal (1999), Scuba diving in Mexico (1990), Sailing in the Greek Islands (1994) and Tahiti (1996), Sea Kayaking in Alaska (2001), and adventure in Iceland (2011). Closer to home, we saw bursts of interest in activities such as Dancing (with lots of lessons), rock climbing, and LEDO (group dining out).

The Young Adults Committee was formed in January 1992 to integrate younger members (21-30) into activities and leadership. This became 'TNT' (Twenties' 'N Thirties), and later 'Gen X/Y'. This group would give us wallyball, paintball, and in-line skating. This is the place to acknowledge that our Club has experienced active people deciding to stay active over many years, or age demographics. This situation is generally true for ski clubs all over our country.

Our Club's motto became "Great Sports for All Seasons" in 1997 (as suggested by Past President Gary Rubens), in recognition of the many year-round opportunities provided.

Our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary was celebrated in 1996, highlighted by a dinner event at Union Station (from where our first trip in 1936 originated). During our current 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration, we can properly appreciate our Club's precious history; and so let's participate and enjoy.