

February General Meeting

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 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: Music Bingo, followed by dancing

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.

THIS MONTH'S MUSIC

It is time again for Music Bingo with cash prizes. Hosted by Anita Timm, Pam Cole and others. DJ Frank will play the songs for the games and then dance songs afterward, so the winners can dance with cash in their pockets!

In March, we will have live music, featuring 4Wheel Drive. They will make you think back to singing in your first car with the windows rolled down.

Classics				
B	I	N	G	O
Johnny B. Goode	Stand By Me	Johnny Blue	Twist and Shout	My Girl
Unchained Melody	Sherry	Good Vibrations	Great Balls of Fire	I Heard It Through the Grapevine
Under the Boardwalk	You Send Me	FREE SPACE	Surfin' USA	Runaround
Blue Suede Shoes	Can't Help Falling in Love	Respect	Be My Baby	The Twist
I Got You (I Feel Good)	Then He Kissed Me	At Last	Walk Like a Man	Pretty Woman

Next month: 4Wheel Drive

Vagabond Ski & Social Club Inc.

VagabondSkiClub.com

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From the
President
Mary Beth Braun

Events are happening

Have fun on Groundhog Day Feb. 2.

Happy Valentine's Day on Feb. 14.

We have events happening in our Club all month: ski racing, ski trip, Over the Hump get-together, bowling, winter hiking every Sunday, Festival City Symphony, Scrabble, Sheepshead, and don't forget we often have live music at our monthly general meetings. As long as our list of activities is, that's how many helpful hands it takes to execute these activities. And many more are coming in spring and summer.

If you have an idea for an event, contact a director-- Social, Sporting, Skiing, Tennis, Meetings. Maybe this would be an opportunity for you to be involved in your Club. You are too busy? No time to get involved? Our volunteers do not necessarily have the time, but they have the heart ... they have interest ... you can do it, too. There are many friends available to help you.

To date, our friends have been moving us forward. We need more people. We are encouraging our new members to step up and get involved. Show us your talents and strengths, give us your ideas and come to the meetings! We need people to step up and consider helping us on the board as there are positions to be filled in May. Without a board, there will be no Club!

We have some exciting trips coming this year: our international trip to Malta and Sicily, and our national trip to New Orleans. Stay tuned! Do you have an idea for a one-day local trip for the Club? Talk to me or Greg. And let's look forward to tennis, pickleball and golf this summer!

Let's look forward to 2026! And I'm looking forward to seeing you at our winter activities and our next general meeting, Feb. 4.

Mary Beth



Milwaukee lakefront hikers. For the February hike schedule, see Page 4.

Our Vagabond Travelers' Top Choice for 2026

Vagabond Ski & Social Club's 16 Day Spectacular!

Magnificent Sicily – Vibrant Malta – Land & Majestic Danube River Boat Cruise

IMPT: Trip Opens Sunday or Monday, Feb 1/2, 2026

Sept 4 – Sept 19 2026– Best Weather Time of the Year!

NEW: Medical, Air-Evac, Baggage & Trip Delay Insurance Included

\$7,144*

YOU MAY SIGN UP FOR THE TRIP AT

INFORMATIONAL PARTY: Wine, Beer, Soda & Food 2-4 pm, Sunday Feb 1, AT Machine Shed Restaurant,
N14 W24145 Tower Place Pewaukee, WI 53072 (Call for directions 262-523-1322)



Sicily



Malta



Danube

Be part of this phenomenal Vagabond trip to Sicily, Malta, and up the Danube River. Space is Limited! The Land Portion takes us to the Magical World of Sicily, an Island with Unique Geography, Rich History, Vibrant Culture and Complex Character. Malta is known for its Stunning Architecture, Clear Waters, Diverse Culture and Unique Blend of Prehistoric, Medieval and Modern Sites. This 15 Night Trip is an Adventure of a Lifetime!

ITINERARY:

- Sept 4 Lv: by Bus MKE to O'Hare – to Budapest – 1 Stop
- **Sept 5 Board in Budapest - luxurious AMA Waterways River Ship AMALea**
 - **Sept 6, Budapest**
 - **Sept 7, Bratislava**
 - Sept 8, Vienna
 - Sept 9, Weissenkirchen (for Durnstein) / Ybbs / Grein
 - Sept 10, Linz (for Salzburg or Cesky Krumlov)
 - Sept 11, Passau / Vilshofen
 - Sept 12, Vilshofen
- Sept 12 - 16, Lv Munich for Sicily – 4 nights at 4.5 Star Hotel NH Porco degli Aragones Hotel, Cantania
- Sept 16 - 19, Lv: Sicily for Malta – 3 Nights at 5.0 Star Malta Intercontinental Hotel

INCLUDES:

- **AIR** - O'Hare to Budapest + Munich to Sicily + Sicily to Malta + Malta to O'Hare – 1 Stop
- **BUS:** To & from O'Hare, all Airports/Hotels/Cruise.
- **SEVEN** Nights, Luxurious River Boat Cruise - Panorama Window Stateroom (included in price) or *Balcony Cabin both French or Step out Balcony (Add \$1,244 pp.) Total 76 Cabins on ship!

- Cruise Meals – All Breakfasts, Lunches and Dinners w/ Beer & Wine on board with Nightly Cocktail Party & Entertainment.
- Tour at Each Port – Choice of Easy, Moderate, Advanced with free Bicycles.
- Hotel Nights at 4.5 & 5 Star Hotels above with Breakfast. 4 nights in Sicily and 3 nights in Malta.
- TOURS – Sightseeing - City Panorama Tours – Sicily & Malta & Budapest.
- **Medical, Air-Evac, Baggage & Trip Delay Insurance**
- **PARTIES - As Usual, Lots of Nightly Parties, Dinners and Surprises, etc., in planning stages!**

NOT INCLUDED:

- **Comprehensive TRAVEL INSURANCE** - Cancellation FOR Reason / Trip Interruption & Cancel for Any Reason available at Extra Group Rate Cost, check with Bob.
- Some optional ports of call tours, additional city / outside of area tours & possible entry fees to some attractions.
- **Tips** (are not included for cruise & others). Meals not indicated above. & possible exchange rate increases, airline & Boat supplemental fuel charges. Taxes & Port Fees.

Trip Opens Feb 1 & 2, 2026 - Send check by US MAIL, FEDX, etc., Postmarked Feb. 1 or 2 (Not before or bring to Info Party): (\$100 for Window), (\$125 for Balcony) "Hold your place in line only - not applied to trip" - payable to "Vagabond Ski & Social Club, Inc." (PLEASE INDICATE CABIN CHOICE on Trip Coupon) & Trip Coupon & Two Address labels To: Trip Leader **Bob Spindell** - 1626 N. Prospect Ave, # 2210, Milwaukee, WI 53202. Questions - Tel: 414-276-6331 / Fax: 414-276-3582. – Bob@Spindell.com **Your \$100 or \$125 ck is 100% returnable through the Trip Informational Party until Feb. 8.**

Payment Schedule by credit card or check – 1st Payment of \$2,000 due NLT Sunday, Feb 8, 2026. Dates of Additional Payments, TBD.



Sporting Activities Mary Beth Braun



Waukesha riverside

Sunday Hikes

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

Please RSVP to the leader of the hike experience you wish to enjoy. We don't want to leave anyone behind! Also, if the weather is questionable on the day of the hike, check with the hike leader. Usually, the hike goes on as planned.

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.

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



Glacier Hills

Feb. 1 – Minooka County Park: Meet at 1:30 p.m. in the parking lot on Sunset Drive in Waukesha, just west of Hwy. Y (Racine Avenue) and just east of Hwys. 164 and 59. A county sticker for park entrance fee is required to enter with a vehicle and park within the park. Optional parking is just outside the park entrance on a side street. Hike from 1:45 to 3:45 p.m., then head to Michael's Restaurant, 1400 S. Grand Ave. in Waukesha, to eat and drink. Hike Leader:

Betty Riley, (262) 888-9978.

Feb. 8 – Whitnall Park: Meet at the golf course parking lot along S. 92nd St. (south of College Avenue). Hike from 1:45 to 3:45 p.m. Wear proper hiking shoes, as there may be ice or snow on the trails. Afterward, meet at Open Flame restau-

rant, 5081 S. 108th St., Greenfield, for food and beverages.

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

Feb. 15 – Lapham Peak State Park: Take I-94 west to Hwy. C, then turn left to park entrance. Meet at the middle parking lot, which is called Homestead Hollow: type "Homestead Hollow, Delafield WI" on Google Maps. From the entrance, go up the main road 0.7 of a mile, the parking lot is on the left. This is where we usually stop for bathrooms. This significantly reduces the number of hills for the hike. We will hike approximately 3 miles, from 1:45 to 3:45 p.m., then head to Revere's Wells Street Tavern, 505 Wells St in Delafield, for food and drinks. Hike leader: **Betty Riley**, (262) 888-9978.



Lapham Peak

Feb 22 – Whitnall Park: Meet at the golf course parking lot at the corner of Whitnall Park Drive and S. 92nd St. Trails are dirt and have rolling terrain. Hike from 1:45 to 3:45 p.m., then head to Bosch Tavern, 5871 S. 108th St. in Hales Corners, for food and drinks. Hike Leader: **Betty Riley**, (262) 888-9978.



Pike Lake

Weekly one-hour walks

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

Bowling • Feb. 20 New Berlin Bowl

Our monthly bowling league needs substitutes. We bowl on the third Friday of each month, starting at 2 p.m. Sign up online. You pay \$12 each time you substitute.

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



Social Activities
Denise Kremel

Fish Fry • Feb. 6

Buckatabon, Wauwatosa



Our next fish fry will be Friday, Feb. 6, at Buckatabon Tavern and Supper Club, 7700 Harwood Ave, Wauwatosa.

Menu choices include a two-piece haddock dinner for \$25.50 and a three-piece dinner for \$28. Perch and crab-stuffed shrimp are also available.

Arrive between 4:30 and 5 p.m. and dine at 5.

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

For reservations, go to VagabondSkiClub.com. Kindly call to cancel if you are unable to attend!

Over the Hump • Feb. 18

Champps Americana, Brookfield

Our next Over the Hump get-together will be Wednesday, Feb. 18, at Champps Americana, 1240 S. Moorland Road, Brookfield.

Show up between 4 and 7 p.m.

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



Scrabble

1-4 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 3 and 17
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 **Feb. 3** and **17**. Non-members are welcome.

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

Sheepshead

6-9 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 10 and 24
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 **Feb. 10** and **24**. 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 • 2 p.m. March 7

Bradley Symphony Center

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

March 7 – Pictures at an Exhibition

April 18 – Faith, Persistence and Celebration





Ski Activities
Sally Borchardt



Vagabonds start ski season in Montana

A group of 17 Vagabonds started out 2026 with a weeklong ski trip to Big Sky. Despite getting in well after midnight, most of the skiers fueled up at the breakfast buffet



Monday morning and then hit the slopes for a real treat: a couple of inches of fresh snow (weather that was repeated on five of the six days).

Ski racing

Vagabond **Dennis Novak** has won three Class 3 races and placed among the top three finishers in four of the other six MMSC senior ski races this season.

Norman Schlimbach, in Class 1, and **Mark Regal**, in Class 2, have each won two races for the Vagabond team.

Other Vagabonds who have won at least one race are **Eric VanWormer** and **Eric Regal** in Class 1 and **Mark Mueller** in Class 4.

Jan Vojta, who joined the Vagabonds in 1967, has been among the top three finishers in seven of the eight Class 4 races.

The Vagabonds compete against three other Metropolitan Milwaukee Ski Council teams. The final three race dates of the season are scheduled for **Jan. 31** at Heiliger Huegel, **Feb. 7** at Sunburst, and **Feb. 15** at Sunburst. Spectators are encouraged to come out and watch the skiers in action, along with trophy presentations after the races.

The teams practice at 6:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays at Sunburst.



The new gondola near our Huntley Lodge accommodations was a convenient way to start the day, and the heated seats on some of the chair lifts were a comfort. Skiers and non-skiers both had a chance to take the tram to the top of Lone Peak to experience the new Kircliff observatory, offering some majestic views.

Half of the group took a day off from skiing to visit Yellowstone National Park and its wildlife,

geysers and steamy, bubbly hot springs.

The club's next ski adventure is set for Feb. 7-14 at Aspen/Snowmass.



Membership
Jan Breitbach

WELCOME NEW OR RETURNING MEMBERS

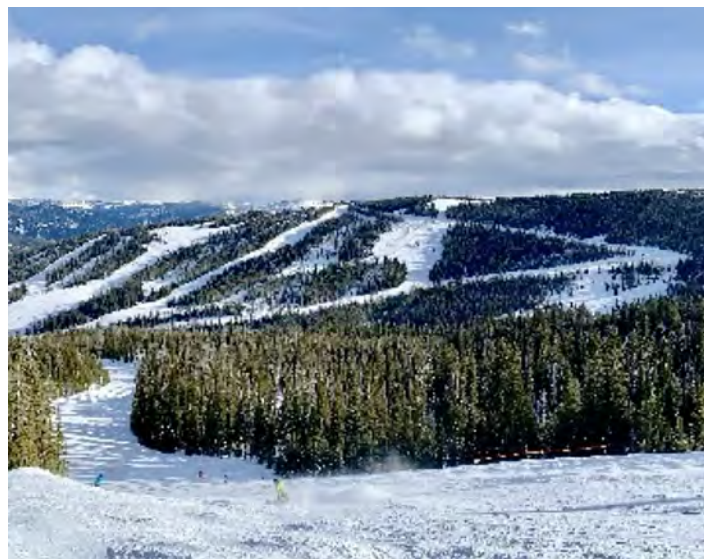
See the online directory at VagabondSkiClub.com for an up-to-date list of current members.

Melody Voskuil

We are always looking for friendly and smiling faces to assist at the Welcome Desk on meeting nights.

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





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