

ULLR HOLIDAY PARTY by Nancy Sand

Ullrs certainly enjoy a party! Seventy-one Ullrs eagerly notified Diane E. they were coming to Nancy Sand’s Gramercy Club for the ULLR Holiday Party on December 2.

When they arrived, they came with bags of new toys to donate to the Marine *Toys for Tots* campaign, and some brought cash donations – all of which were delivered by Nancy S. to the *Toys for Tots* warehouse. Many children had a happier Christmas due to the kind hearts of ULLR members.



Event Co-Chairs Nancy S. and Joan R. welcomed everyone into Gramercy Club’s party room nicely decorated with festive Christmas trees and table decorations. Bill K. arrived in a formal tux and entertained us during the evening with his piano. We even had a sing-a-long of favorite holiday music. Thanks, Bill and Joyce, for helping make our evening so much fun!

Beverages and appetizers were enjoyed prior to a buffet dinner. Conversations flowed all evening among ULLR friends. Just before dinner, ULLR President Mary Jane H. gave an “official” welcome to everyone, and Nancy S. marshaled everyone to the buffet table.

We helped Denny B. celebrate his birthday. Mary H. and Denny provided a beautifully decorated birthday cake for the occasion. And, of course, we sang “Happy Birthday” to Denny. Celebrating a birthday with 70 ULLR friends is very special!

Two of our ULLR friends came with smiles and a surprise announcement. Vern P. and Lorelei S. told us they had recently married.

Congratulations to Vern and Lorelei!



Congratulations to the newlyweds!

Following dinner, Ullrs continued to enjoy each other’s company, and some gathered around tables to play games.

Although Joan, Nancy, and Diane were the main planners for this event, many others helped set tables and helped with the cleanup. Thanks to all of you for your willing helping hands.

December can be a busy month of holiday and family activities. It was fun to see so many Ullrs having a good time at our 2017 ULLR Holiday Party.



Entertainer Bill K & Birthday Boy Denny B

See more Holiday party photos inside and online at ullr.org/Event-Pics.html

2018 IMPORTANT CONTACTS
OFFICERS OF THE CLUB

President

Mary Jane Hochstein:
ULLRPrez@ULLR.org

Executive VP

Joan Roe: ExecVP@ULLR.org

Winter Programs VP

Karen Holmquist: WinterVP@ULLR.org

Summer Programs VP

Mary Ellen Goriesky: SummerVP@ULLR.org

Membership VP

Jan Butler: MembershipVP@ULLR.org

Treasurer

Bill Brechtel: Treasurer@ULLR.org

Secretary

Nancy Navis: Secretary@ULLR.org

Past President/Advisor

James Habeck: PastPrez@ULLR.org

PROGRAM COORDINATORS

Alpine-Nordic

Barb Kolbe: See directory

Ski Racing

Brian Johnson: Racing@ULLR.org

What's Cookin' Cashiers

Carole Nelson & Sharon Pappas:
WCcashier@ULLR.org

What's Cookin' Supply Chairs

Nancy Kastner

WhatsCookin@ULLR.org

What's Cookin' Beverage Chairs

Bruce Warner-beer, Ken Ernst-wine, &
Dale Evans-water, pop
Beverages@ULLR.org

Biking

John Stiefel: Biking@ULLR.org

Singles

Jan Butler: Singles@ULLR.org

Folding Parties

Nancy Sand: FoldingParty@ULLR.org

General Meetings

Joan Roe: ExecVP@ULLR.org

MSC Representatives

Karen Holmquist: WinterVP@ULLR.org

Dolly Eastman: MSCrep@ULLR.org

MSC www.midwestfun.org

ULLR Foundation President

Jan Cady: See Directory

COMMUNICATION

ULLR Webmaster

JJ [Joe] Coursolle: Webster@ULLR.org

NULLR Editor & Designer

Margie Deutsch: NULLR@ULLR.org

ULLRnet

Fran DeWell & Joan Roe
ULLRnet@ULLR.org

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Mary Jane Hochstein



Well here we are, one month into 2018. How are those New Year's resolutions working out for you? Huh, that good? I gave up on making them last year after one of our ministers talked about how One Word, can give focus, vision and clarity to what we are called to be. My word was Harmony. A soft word with many meanings: melody, peace, unison, synthesis, balance, friendship. Harmony means balance in my life, by keeping healthy, taking time for me, doing good for others, maintaining relationships. Focusing on "harmony" helps me to prioritize, stay on track. It worked so well for me last year, I'm keeping "harmony" in 2018. In any event a new year means a fresh start, renewed hope, new commitments, looking at things with new eyes.

As a Board we have been looking at a few things differently. One issue is our General Meetings. We appreciated the 57 members who replied to Joan Roe's survey which asked this question: "Would you like to see meetings changed to a luncheon meeting rather than a dinner meeting?" Responses varied: no longer driving at night; traffics a real problem; more likely to come to meetings. Others questioned the logistics of a change: does KC Hall serve lunch? Will we still be able to defray rental costs? Other responses were: This rules out working members; limits younger membership; interferes with skiing and/or regular daytime commitments; consumes too much of the day; enjoy evening socializing and fellowship. We discussed all these concerns and the possible financial impact on the club and our relationship with the Bloomington Event Center. Given that our schedule of events has already been confirmed through April, this Board has decided not to make any changes. I know this may not sit well with everyone, but the question needed to be raised and conversation has begun. It will require further talks and long-range planning. But let us be hopeful moving forward and continue our support of this fine ULLR Ski, Bike and Social Club.

The **ULLR Foundation** members are starting to gather items for the Bingo Raffle Fundraiser at the April General Meeting. Members will gladly accept your donations for the raffle. Questions? Contact Joan Roe, 952-914-9124

BIKE PLANNING PARTY - Sunday, March 18th, at 4 pm.

There still is plenty of skiing ahead, but Ullrs like to have plans for all of the seasons. Please come to the bike planning party and bring your ideas for bike rides for the upcoming biking season. Main dish & beverages will be provided. Please bring a side dish & \$1. The party will be at the home of John Stiefel, 19595 Near Mountain Blvd., Shorewood, 55331

RSVP to 952-470-5411 or patfitzjohns@msn.com by March 11th.

ULLR Webmaster: JJ [Joe] Coursolle
PO Box 201409, Bloomington 55420
Phone: 612-750-0927;
Webster@ullr.org

NULLR Editor: Margie Deutsch
8940 Northwood Pkwy., New Hope 55427
Phone: 763-545-5845;
Nullr@ullr.org

A Walk down the ULLR Memory Lane as reported in the 1996 February Nullr.

by Margie Deutsch



It isn't only cold now. The ULLR skiers on Dec. 9, 1995, at Powder Ridge by St. Cloud, braved temperatures of -11° to -2° and wind gusts up to 39 mph. A photo that says it is **Lorri Christenson** (you can't see her face behind the mask) did ski with a -50° windchill. The busload of Ullrs were more courageous (or crazy) than other skiers that day. 500 Boy Scouts cancelled their outing!

Thanksgiving morning saw 42 Ullrs fly to Vail for the long weekend. Mild weather and mid-mountain snow conditions made for good skiing. **Jean Berry** and Co-chair **Karen Holmquist** were pictured enjoying the hot tub. **Jim Henn** was pictured resting on a bed with four ULLR women (but no sexual harassment there!) That coziness occurred because icy snow had caused a truck to jackknife. This shut off the road to the airport. Thus Ullrs had an unexpected night being snowbound at the mountain before they could fly out the next day.

Co-chair **Nancy Nelson/Keyes** reported on the successful ULLR Holiday Ball at the Radisson-Plymouth Hotel. 130 Ullrs dined and danced. **Karen Holmquist** showed off her filled Dance Card. Other attendees pictured were **Gwen Kline & Tom Larkin, Karen & David Oakland, Dianne & Don Salmela, Lee Erickson, Hal West, Marv Souba, and Jeff Fischer.**

Lolly Dahlen co-chaired a *Fun-Fun Day at Trollhaugen* on Feb. 3. For \$12.50, guests enjoyed a 9:00 AM brunch and a lunch in the chalet. Many Ullrs even purchased discounted ski lift tickets. (I wonder how many "chaleted" that day?)

Marcia Switenki and **Barb Carpenter** co-chaired an 8-day trip to Steamboat for 38 Ullrs on Feb. 4-11. The trip cost of \$573 did not include the discounted lift tickets.

Joan Roe co-chaired a Valley Weekend Feb. 24-25 skiing at Frontenac and/or Welch. Ullrs went by bus and stayed in Red Wing. Saturday evening they either went dancing in Red Wing or gambling at Treasure Island Casino.

Show a newsletter to a friend to let them know about our active club. Invite them to an event or meeting.

Attend ULLR General Meetings

Members and guests are invited to ULLR Meetings. They are held at the Bloomington Event Center (BEC), the new name for the Knights of Columbus Hall, 1114 American Blvd W, Bloomington, MN 55420.

Make a reservation in the dining room, which opens at 5 PM, by calling 952-888-1492. The costs of our dinners and drinks are credited to the club to offset rental costs. Come downstairs for socializing after dinner.

The meetings start at 7 PM.

Put these General Meeting dates on your 2018 calendar: January 18, February 8, March 15, and April 12.

The Thursday, January 18, General meeting will have a program titled "Turning Memories into a Memoir." It will be presented by author Jan Travis. Her guidebook will be available to buy. NOW is the time to tell your children and grandchildren about your life.



Christine R, new member Kyle M, & Ginny W at the Holiday party.

Directory Updates— see email for information

Changes for:

Barb Carpenter & Joe Fishenich—Florida address
Email: Alan Moore & Kathryn Wenaas

Additions for:

Karen Clarke, Frank Fallon, Wayne Hokemeir, Clareyse Nelson, Bonnie Sargent, Lee Wenzel

Welcome new member: David Ullrich

The Trip still has some spaces. Sign up NOW.

Nisswa Bike and Golf Trip, June 11 - 14, 2018

3 Nights lodging: Monday-Wednesday, 3 breakfasts

Wednesday night Mexican Fiesta Dinner

Cost: \$160 (Due at sign-up)

Make check payable to ULLR Club.

Send to: Carol Bush, 5691 Hyland Courts Drive, Bloomington, MN 55437. Include emergency contact with your check.

Co-chairs: Carol Thelen: 320-333-6642, carolte@me.com

Carol Bush: 952-922-8035, carolsbush@aol.com

ULLR Cancellation Policy applies. See the flyer at ullr.org

UPCOMING SINGLES EVENTS

ULLR Singles' Events are open to all single ULLRs. Contact Jan Butler about ULLR Singles' activities or to volunteer to plan and/or host an event: 952-544-8163, Singles@ULLR.org or jscmunch@comcast.net



SINGLES CARD/GAME NIGHTS

Bring a dish to share, beverage, and any games you would like to play.

Date: Friday, January 12 - 7:00 PM

Host: Char Strand - RSVP: 952-884-5859
10725 James Rd., Bloomington 55431

Date: Friday, February 9 - 7:00 PM

Host: Carol Bush - RSVP: 952-922-8035
5691 Hyland Courts Dr., Bloomington 55437

Hosts are needed for 2018: 3/9, 4/13, 9/14, and 11/9. Call Jan Butler now to volunteer.

2018 SINGLES' FINE DINING

Please RSVP to Ellise Lamb, ellise.lamb@mchsi.com or 952-442-9332 by the Sunday before the event.

January 23 - Lunch - 11:15 AM at *Ike's Food and Cocktails* (adjoining Rasmussen College), 4400 West 78th St., Bloomington 55435; bloomington.ilikeikes.com

February 27 - Lunch - 11:15 AM at *Wildfire*, 3020 Eden Prairie Center, Eden Prairie 55344; wildfirerestaurant.com

March 27 - Lunch - 11:15 AM at *McCoy's Public House*, 3801 Grand Way, St. Louis Park 55416; mccoysmn.com

Singles Dining in 2018 will all be at midday. Meet at 11:15 AM and order by 11:30 a.m. All chosen restaurants do not open until 11:00 a.m.



Follow-up on Bikes for Kids

By Margie Deutsch

This report comes from the Facebook page of Bikes4Kidz. "It's not magic. The hard work of 3,473 volunteers recycled 9,000 bikes this year." Wow! This program operates from October to December.

If you are interested, there is another year-long program in the northern suburb, Ham Lake. Volunteers of all skill levels are needed to clean and/or fix bikes, no experience necessary. You can also donate money for a helmet (one costs \$30,) needed supplies, or an old bike. Go to bikes4kidsmn.org for photos from this year and for more information. Both of these non-profit programs distribute repaired bikes to nonprofit partners and schools. Bikes help a child to be happy and healthy.

April 1 is the deadline to submit a your plan WESTERN SKI TRIP OR WARM WEATHER GETAWAY PROPOSAL GUIDELINES FOR 2018-2019

ULLR Ski, Bike and Social Club has great trips for members who love to ski in the mountains or have a spring, summer or fall adventure trip. Each April our members present trip proposals for the following year. If you have had experience running an ULLR club event and have an idea for a trip, please prepare a proposal for presentation to the Board. It is fun to do, and you will have lots of help along the way to make your event a success. Brief guidelines on how to prepare a trip proposal are viewable or download-able at:

<http://ullr.org/UllrForms.html>

E-mail your proposal to WinterVP@ullr.org

RU FEELING ELECTRIC 2DAY?

Do you know how electricity is generated by making electrons move?

We have toy generators to help you move them and what's an electron anyway?

Which would you rather use to generate your electricity: Alternative Energy; Clean Energy; Green Energy; Nuclear Energy; Renewable Energy and/or Sustainable Energy? What is the difference?

And are any of them really "better" than fossil fuels (coal, oil or gas)?

Of the eight most popular methods used to generate electricity, what do seven of the eight have in common (coal, oil, gas, geothermal power, hydropower, nuclear power, solar power and wind power)? Take a guess.

Do you know which items in your house require the most electricity and how to read your utility bills? And what the heck is a kWh anyway?

To hear the answers and more, bring your utility bills to the discussion.



When: Saturday, Feb. 10, 2018, 2:00 PM

Where: Nancy Sand's Gramercy Club Party Room.
15001 Burnhaven Drive, Burnsville 55306

Contact: Gary Gray at ggray@q.com or 952-895-8960 for more information.

ULLRS "PARTY" AT THE FOLDING PARTY

by Nancy Sand

Twenty-one Ullrs answered the call to help prepare ULLR membership directories for mailing. Host Sally C. welcomed everyone to her charming, holiday decorated home for the event. First on the agenda was socializing and lunch. Ullrs always bring delicious foods to events and are so willing to share recipes. Sally promised to send her recipe for spaghetti pie for the ULLR website. [She did.]

After lunch, it was time to get to work: labeling, folding, taping, and stamping the newest membership directories. With so many helping hands, these jobs did not take long.

Then it was entertainment time! Jan S. brought song sheets and played Christmas music for us to sing. Former elementary teacher Karen H. taught us the hand movements for "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer." That drew a lot of laughs.



"All of the other reindeer used to laugh and call him names" was hard to sing without all these "reindeer" laughing.

See more event photos at ullr.org

WILL YOU BE ON THE ULLR BOARD?

The nominating committee is searching for club volunteers that will serve on the ULLR board for the upcoming year. Will **YOU** step up and volunteer. **We have 3 openings, Summer VP, Winter VP and Executive VP.** The jobs are fun and take very little of your time. The previous board member has a book that he/she will go over with you and explain each step along the way. There are plenty of people that will help you during the year. It is important that each of us gives back to our vibrant club. **Please say that you will volunteer.** The position runs from May 1st thru the following April 30th. Contact any of the current board members for more information, or any of the 3 people on the nominating committee: Patty Fitzgerald (patfitzjohns@msn.com) John Vogt (jvgt11@gmail.com) or Barb Kolbe (651-633-0936) **THANK YOU!**

Of course, Ullrs cannot come to Sally's home without asking her to play her Party Fiddle. Toes were tapping with the music. Thanks, Sally, for a fun time at your home.

Membership VP Jan B. will update the Membership Directory again in May, and we will need someone to host the May folding party. Could it be you? Contact Nancy Sand if you could host the next ULLR Membership Directory Folding Party.



John V & Barb K carefully fold tape over the 3 sides



Ullrs are a-caroling. Front: Patty F, Colleen B, Karen H, Ken M. Back: Alan M, Galen H, and pianist, Jan S.

ULLR Volunteers by Margie Deutsch

If you were to go back and reread all ten of the 2017 Nullrs, you would be amazed at how many individual ULLR members have served on the Board, volunteered to lead an event, cooked and/or served a meal, did an audit, wrote and/or edited newsletters or maintained a website. Willingness to help in some way has made the ULLR Club strong these last 68 years.

If you are fortunate to still have good health, even with a new hip or knee, I hope you will step up and say, "I will do it." I will serve on the Board. I will lead a hike or ride. I will plan a social event. I will help at a picnic. Ask a friend to work with you. Many of us are older-and wiser. We know that a successful club is the result of many helping hands. Please volunteer.

2018 Social Calendar

See ullr.org for flyers

January 12, Friday - 7:00 PM
Singles' Cards & Games Night
Host: Char Strand, 952-884-5859

January 18, Thursday – ULLR Meeting
6:00 Socialize; 7:00 Meeting & Speaker,
Jean Travis: "Turning Memories into a
Memoir"
Contact: Joan Roe, 952-914-9124

January 23, Tuesday - 11:15 AM
Singles' Lunch at Ike's Food and Cocktails
RSVP: Ellise Lamb, 952-442-9332

February 8, Thursday - ULLR Meeting
6:00 Socialize; 7:00 Meeting & program
"Eating Healthy Choices"
Contact: Joan Roe, 952-914-9124

February 9, Friday - 7:00 PM
Singles' Cards & Games Night
Host: Carol Bush, 952-922-8035

February 10, Saturday - 2:00 PM
"R U Feeling Electric 2Day"
Speaker: Gary Gray (see p.4)

February 27, Tuesday - 11:15 AM
Singles' Lunch at *Wildfire*
RSVP: Ellise Lamb, 952-442-9332

March 9, Friday - 7:00 PM
Singles' Cards & Games Night
Host: **Needed**

March 15, Thursday - ULLR Meeting
6:00 Socialize; 7:00 Meeting & speaker
Dr. Marilyn Barnard: "More Questions
About Health"
Contact: Joan Roe, 952-914-9124

March 18, Sunday - 4:00 PM
Bike Season Planning Party
Hosts: Patty Fitzgerald & John Stiefel
RSVP: 952-470-5411

March 27, Tuesday - 11:15 AM
Singles' Lunch at *McCoy's Public House*
RSVP: Ellise Lamb, 952-442-9332

PLAN A WINTER SOCIAL EVENT NOW!
The Social Calendar needs more events.
PLEASE!

Nine Mile Creek Hike by Karen Holmquist

Twelve hearty Ullrs braved the cold for a 5+ mile hike along the Nine Mile Creek in Bloomington. With a low of 27° and a high of 45° it was beginning to feel like winter. We hiked up and down through the woods to the Minnesota River, helping to keep us warm! The return route was level along the river itself. We passed by two tree stumps filled with knickknacks and beads...A hobbit house? The end reward was a yummy lunch at Willy McCoy's Restaurant.



THE ULLR RACE TEAMS

Have you, a friend or relative ever thought it might be fun to be on a ski racing team? If you would like to try racing this winter, we can find a team in the league that needs another racer. Team members are happy to mentor you to help you get started. If you have questions, Contact Brian Johnson at (763) 494-4622 or Lostswede@comcast.net



Ullrs getting ready to go out and hike under the November full moon.

Ullrs like to have fun!

How about you planning an event or party? Maybe a Super or Souper Bowl Party, a Valentines for Everyone Party, a St. Patty's Party, or *your idea* for a party. Or, what about an evening at a comedy club, a Winter Carnival activity, or a college game? Tell your plan to V.P. Joan Roe.

Recalling November & December

A sincere thanks to these ULLRs who organized/ led an event.

November

4, Full Moon Hike
Sharon Tornes

8, Coon Rapids Dam Hike - cancelled
Carol Bush

9, General Meeting
Joan Roe and speakers Mary & Tom VandeHei

10, Singles' Cards & Games Night
Sandra Shearer

15, Nine Mile Creek Hike
Linda Heintz

18, Country Walk around a Lake
Sally Chevalier

20, Mississippi River & Milwaukee Avenue Hike

Patty Fitzgerald & John Stiefel

27, Minnesota River Valley National Wildlife Refuge
Bruce Rollins

28, Fine Dining at Woolley's Restaurant
Ellise Lamb

December

2, Holiday Party
Nancy Sand, Joan Roe & Diane Erlandson

3, Movie: White Christmas
Karen Holmquist

8, ULLR Directory Folding Party
Sally Chevalier & Nancy Sand

10, French Regional Park Hike
Jim Habeck



Snowshoe Schedule

January

16, Tuesday - 10:30 AM

Gale Woods (or hike)

Contact: Bill Brechtel, 952-474-5295

31, Wednesday - 10:15 AM

Hyland Hills (or XC)

Contact: Sharon Marini, 952-893-7408

February

5, Monday - 10:30 AM

Minnesota River Valley National Wildlife Refuge (or hike)

Contact: John Vogt, 952-829-7056

12, Monday - 11:00 AM (or hike)

Whitetail Woods Regional Park

Contact: Nancy Sand, 952-435-5225

17, Saturday - 1:00 PM

Elm Creek Regional Park (or XC, hike)

Contact: Jim Habeck, 763-559-5593

WHITE CHRISTMAS by Karen Holmquist

A few tears, a lot of laughs, wonderful music, both before the movie by singer Maud Hixon, pianist Rick Carlson, and organist Harvey Gustafson, and in the movie itself, made for a wonderful movie showing of *White Christmas*.

Thirty Ullrs enjoyed the movie at the Heights Theater in Columbia Heights, munched on popcorn, and had a delicious dinner at Sarna's Restaurant.



[Some of the happy movie attendees are ready to order their meal.]

Ski Schedule 2017-18

Jan. 5-7, Indianhead & Blackjack

Jan. 11, Thursday, 9:30, Welch

Jan. 17, Wednesday, 9:30, Afton Alps

Jan. 25, Thursday, 9:30, Welch

Feb. 1, Thursday, 9:30, Welch

Feb. 7, Wednesday, 9:30, Afton Alps

Feb. 15, Thursday, 9:30, Welch

Feb. 22, Thursday, 9:30, Welch

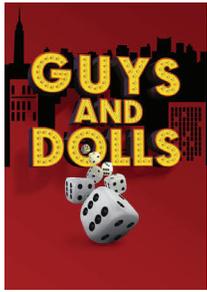
Feb. 25-27, Lutsen

Mar. 4-10, Winter Park

Lutsen Feb. 25-27

Bruce Warner invites you to join him skiing at Minnesota's only true mountain skiing area. Unlike some of Colorado's mountains this year, Lutsen has a good base due to the new snow cannons.

Call Lutsen directly to make your reservation: 218-663-7241, leader # 249353. Let Bruce know you are joining him. 763-229-3377 or bruce.warner@comcast.net



Wednesday, April 11, 2018 - 1:30 PM Matinee

Old Log Theater, 5185 Meadville Street, Excelsior, MN

Meet for lunch at Maynards - 11:30 AM
(Optional and on your own)

Set in mythical New York City, *Guys and Dolls* is considered the perfect romantic musical comedy. It won a bevy of awards, including Tony Awards. The story tells how gambler, Nathan

Detroit needs cash to set up the biggest craps game in town while the authorities breathe down his neck. Nathan turns to fellow gambler, Sky Masterson, for the dough. Sky, then, to settle Nathan's bet, begins to chase straight-laced missionary, Sarah Brown, proprietor of the Save-a-Soul Mission. Favorite tunes include: "Luck Be a Lady," "Sit Down, You're Rockin' the Boat," and "A Bushel and a Peck."

RSVP to Sally Chevalier by March 14, 952-935-7000.

Send a check for \$28 payable to Sally to: Sally Chevalier 4108 Kerry Court, Minnetonka, MN 55345

ULLR cancellation policy applies

ULLRS at WINTER PARK March 4-10, 2018

A WAIT LIST has been started.
Go to the ULLR website for more information about the trip.
Contact a trip co-chair, Sharon Marini, 952-893-7408 or Nancy Sand, 952-435-5225.



Nancy S delivers the collected toys.



At the Holiday Ball

Left: Party photographer, Alan M and Charlotte N

Right: Diane E and Gary G



Some Ullrs still know how to ski! They met at Afton Alps on December 20 to try out those ski legs. Pictured from front, clockwise are Nancy N, Craig N, new member Sam C and his grandson, Patty F, John S, Jim H, Rick N and Barb K