



# Circle K Connection: *In need of a Luau*

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And now, a word from our president ...

By Michael Pearson



Hi everybody! Hope you all had a good break. They're always too short, but this semester is going to seem short too. It's a packed semester for us, so keep your eyes out for projects and events you'll want to attend!

We've got lots of great projects coming up this semester, and especially this month. January 31<sup>st</sup> we'll be putting on American Idol: A Cappella Style to benefit Washtenaw Camp Placement. This event is going to have some of the best groups from campus donating their talents for us. Tickets for this concert are just \$8, so make sure to pick some up at a meeting and then tell all your friends to come!

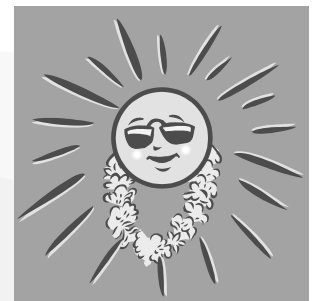
#### Inside this issue:

Crossword Puzzle	2
Ski Trip!	2
Warm the Children	3
Motor Meals Pen Pals	4

Another big project coming up is our Valentine's sorting party on February 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. We'll be proofreading and sorting valentines for all the kids at Mott and patients in the University Hospital. They're telling me we'll have about 100,000 valentines to sort through, so if you can stop by to help out please do. We'll have friends from local Kiwanis clubs and Key Clubs helping us out with this so you can come and meet them as well.

Next month we're having elections on February 13. Please be sure to be there that day so you can vote on next year's board, and also think about running and what you'd like to do with Circle K next year. Your voice is important!

Hope to see you around this semester. We've got lots of great projects I hope you get involved in, but as always if you don't see something you want to do, let one of us know and we'll help you get it started!



# Crossword Puzzle

**ACROSS**

2 We have two \_\_\_\_\_ every year.  
 3 Holiday on Monday  
 6 The committee in charge of children's projects. \_\_\_\_\_ Service  
 9 (Project) \_\_\_\_\_ Place  
 10 Executive Board (abbr)  
 12 What We can't wait for. \_\_\_\_\_ Break  
 14 A Cappella Concert: American \_\_\_\_\_  
 15 Hunger \_\_\_\_\_  
 16 Motor \_\_\_\_\_

**DOWN**

1 Neutral \_\_\_\_\_  
 2 How you get more involved. Join a \_\_\_\_\_  
 4 Circle K is part of the \_\_\_\_\_ family  
 5 Trick or Can, Bowl-a-thon, and VIP dance are all examples of these  
 7 \_\_\_\_\_ The Children  
 8 Circle K meets on this day every week  
 9 \_\_\_\_\_, Friendship, Leadership  
 11 You can sign up for projects \_\_\_\_\_  
 13 Go \_\_\_\_\_!

Constructed using Crossword Weaver

## Hot Tubs, Sausage and the search for a coffee House: The CKI Ski Trip By Casey Goshen

Only one week after winter break, before classes became too intense, a group of 18 Circle K-ers eagerly piled into their cars and headed out towards Boyne Highlands for the annual ski trip. The four hour drive proved longer then expected after encountering some snowy driving conditions, but apparently this was nothing compared to last year's delays due to the snow. Eventually, all arrived to the Super 8 in Petoskey, only a few miles away from a town called Gaylord and even closer to the vacation home of our fellow Circle K-er, Emily Kort.

The festivities began far from the slopes in the hot tub. Some swam, while others sat around the 95-degree, heated pool and discussed ingrown toenails or plotted the death of Smoochie. Still, others felt inclined to knit in the spa or ponder the realization that if there were enough people in the hot tub, you would only need about a gallon of water. The fun could have come to a premature halt at 11:00pm when the pool closed, but the engaging conversation was simply shifted to one of the 5 joined hotel rooms where the topics of choice turned to condoms and sausages. Oh, the joys of adult humor. The conversation dwindled as, one by one, they each drifted off to bed to prepare for a long day on the slopes.

The wake up call was at 7:30 then it was off to the ever-extensive continental breakfast at 8:00, complete with two types of bagels, muffins and juice. Needless to say we weren't too impressed, but, never the less, we were



Aren't we just the coolest?

(Continued on page 4)

## Warming the Children

By Andrea Snider

This was my first year volunteering for the Warm the Children project, and I had heard wonderful stories from others about the experience. I love kids, so when I heard the speaker at the Circle K meeting describe the program I signed up right away. When I received the names of the family I would be shopping with, I phoned them and set up the appointment to meet them at the Meijer's on Carpenter Road. Jaime, mother of two sons, was completely ecstatic to hear my voice. She kept on thanking me for my help and saying how she was looking forward to our meeting. I was excited as well, but I was still waiting to put a face to the voice so I could see in person the people I was going to be making so happy.

I met Jaime at Meijer's on a Sunday morning. She described the meeting place as by some plants near a set of stairs, so when I walked in, I proceeded to the location that fit the description. I waited for about ten minutes and she was not there. I thought about a million times in my head if I was at the right Meijer's and whether I had written down the correct time. After sitting there a while longer, I proceeded to walk down to the other entrances to see if she was there. Completely at the other end of the store, was the plant section with another set of stairs. I knew it was Jaime sitting on a bench looking around for she immediately smiled and fusely for waiting at the laughed it off. I asked and Jordan were, and she prise them this Christmas. I them, but the thought of the gifts Christmas morning She showed me pictures of walking around, describing walked to the jackets and we

*"She kept asking me my opinion on the stylishness of each hat and whether it would be "cool" looking for early teen boys."*

gan windbreaker jackets for each of them. We then looked for gloves, trying each pair on ourselves to make sure they would be big enough for the boys' hands. I ended up trying on the most because she was a tiny woman and by the pictures pf her sons, they looked quite big for their age. We then proceeded to look at hats, which was the most fun. She kept asking me my opinion on the stylishness of each hat and whether it would be "cool" looking for early teen boys to be seen wearing. We tried on all these different hats and kept looking in the mirror just to see how stupid they looked on us, laughing hysterically. We finally settled on two maize and blue (oh yeah) Michigan hats that were quite warm I might add. Lastly we picked up some boxer briefs for the boys and headed to the cash register. Jaime looked a little embarrassed to walk up to the clerk with a voucher, so I grabbed all the stuff and brought it to the counter. Jaime went to the end of the aisle and mouthed a thank you to me.

After signing the receipts and bagging the items, Jaime and I went to the front entrance and I handed her the bags. She brought me into a bear hug and gave me a huge smile, thanking me over and over again. She said how happy her children would be and wished me a happy holiday. As I walked away I couldn't help but smile. It makes me glad to know that I brought that much happiness into someone's life, and I hope to continue with the program next year.



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*"The greatest service to yourself is service to others."*

## The mission of the University of Michigan Circle K is to:

**"Inspire and empower college students to develop a lifetime commitment to serving the community through a variety of projects, a plethora of leadership opportunities, and a dynamic social atmosphere while allowing members to be engaged in what is important to them."**

*(Continued from page 2)*

ready to get to the mountain. After a short, ten minute drive, we arrived at Boyne Highlands and stopped to take a quick picture with the club banner, and as Amy Grude would say, "It's totally cool to bring your Circle K banner along on trips. But if you happen to think that sort of thing is nerdy, it was in Mike's car and no one else had anything to do with it." After getting rentals and lift tickets taken care of we were on our way tear it up in the snow.

Meanwhile, Mattie and Smwats, who didn't plan on skiing and were simply along for the ride, ventured out into Petoskey and Harbor Springs in search of a coffee shop where they could spend the duration of the day. Their search proved unsuccessful after hours of driving lead them to The Holly Bugger, a coffee shop that was unfortunately closed. The two spent the rest of their day at Big Boy and are now plotting their revenge. "We hate Petoskey." say Smwats and Mattie in anger.

On the mountain, our group varied in levels of experience but each person truly pushed themselves to a new level on this trip. Some chose the logical option and took a lesson first thing, and others toughed it out and relied on their fellow club members to help them along. Many took a great amount of time "getting to know the ground." Not even the cold weather could hold the group back as some chose interesting methods of keeping warm. As Payal put her feet warmers into her boots, she yelled, "I feel like I'm putting maxi pads on my feet!" Others chose more traditional forms of keeping warm such as hot cocoa.

As Casey Ronk raced down the slope, he yelled to Mike Pearson, "We just passed a sign that said 'expert' and I have only skied twice." Mike Pearson demanded that, "Casey Ronk should not ski black diamonds until he learns how to turn!" Casey Ronk ended the day with the thought that, "If I wasn't an expert before, I sure as heck am one now!"

All in all, the group had a great time. We ended the trip proving that skiers and snowboarders can actually share the same mountain in harmony. After a long day in the snow, the drive home was all that remained between the club members and their beds, so they piled back into their cars and headed home.

And yes, what drive home would be complete without washing the windshield in 10-degree weather in one's sports bra? Yes, due to extensively fogged windows and lack of windshield wiper capabilities, the heat had to remain on high the majority of the drive home and a certain club member ended up in her sports bra. The windshield needed to be cleaned, what's the big deal?

Finally, we'll end with Emily's words of wisdom "The trip was mad hype, yo!"

### **New project Alert!**

By Charles Law

Motor Meals – Pen Pal Project is co-organized by the Community Service and the Mentorship Committee. As we realize that the people we serve in the motor meal are mostly living on their own, this is a very good chance for us to express our warmth and concern through writing letters or simply giving them a call. Other than delivering meals to our clients every weekend, we will deliver them a letter together with the meal. Afterwards, we will collect the letters from them at the next weekend. Furthermore, if they do not prefer to write, we can also call them over the weekend in order to keep in touch with them.

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