



Lift Lines



Volume 8 Issue 1

Bucks Mount Ski & Snowboard Club

January 2004



Wayne C. MacMath

President

Greetings from the Bucks Mount Ski Club.

Once again we are close to the time of year that brings all the skiers together. With the recent dump of snow we are chomping at the bit to buckle our boots, don our winter gear and look for that ever elusive perfect run. Whether it be groomers, moguls, trees or powder runs our hearts are pounding, our breath is labored and we are reaching our destiny. Yes, it is time to test our *mettle*, attempting to earn a coveted Death March Pin, to renew the *medal* we have worked so hard for, or simply to weenie out (eat long, leisurely lunches or head to the bar way before the lifts close). The level **you** achieve will be directly related to the number of hours **you** spend on the snow.

Our fantastic trip director has once again organized a year of trips that will be unforgettable. They start with Big Sky, during Christmas break, which is currently at capacity. The mountains in Montana have been getting snow and it looks to be great skiing from slopeside accommodations.

Karl will lead the Dirty Dozen to Tignes, France for our annual overseas jaunt. Snow conditions are exceptional and the guides are already booked for our arrival.

New England and the East Coast are expecting a lot of snow this season making our weekend trips look even more attractive. The trips are filling at a record pace. Both Okemo and Killington are full with waiting lists. Sunday River

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Our 35th Year

\$100 Trip Giveaway

Okemo winner: Carol Kolongowski

She will receive \$100 discount on the cost of her trip. You are automatically entered if you have a paid deposit on a trip 60 days before departure.

REMAINING DRAWINGS:

SUGARBUSH- Jan. 7th meeting
SUNDAY RIVER- Jan. 21st meeting
KILLINGTON- Feb. 4th meeting

There are seats on the bus for Sugarbush and Sunday River. A waiting list is being kept for Okemo and Killington. A few people actually got off the waiting list already.

If distance or scheduling keep you from attending meetings, you may sign up by mail. Be sure to call Maureen first to assure a spot. (215) 624-7751.

SPECIAL REQUEST FROM THE TRIP DIRECTOR: PLEASE REMEMBER TO MAKE YOUR FINAL PAYMENT ON TIME. (AT LEAST TWO WEEKS BEFORE DEPARTURE DATE). (see chart on page 3). "EARLY" IS EVEN NICER.

FREE TRIP TO ELK

Win a free **trip** to Elk Mountain! Sign up by the January 7th meeting and qualify for the drawing, which will happen at the January 21st meeting.

2004 Club Meetings

January 7th

Pizza & Beer Night
(Tignes Pre Trip @ 7:00 pm)

January 21st

Better Junk Food Night

February 4th

Italian Sausage Night

February 18th

Wings & Dips Night

March 3rd

Seafood Night

March 17th

St. Patty's Dessert Night

March 31st

Vail Pre Trip @ 7:00 pm

Meetings are held at 8:30 pm
On Wednesdays at the

Jesse Soby

American Legion Post
Richardson & Bellevue Avenues
Langhorne, PA 19047

Non-Members Welcome!

Discount Lift Tix

The tickets are here for 2004. Save \$10 or more off your lift ticket for Blue Mountain, Bear Creek, Elk, Montage and Jack Frost/Big Boulder. We also have free coupons for Camelback that will allow you a discount rate at the window (save up to \$8).

The vouchers are for weekdays, all the but Elk Mountain ones can be upgraded to weekends at the ticket window. They are good for the 2003-2004 ski season. The Blue Mountain vouchers are good for 2004-2005, also.

Bill Rittler (215) 788-3276 will have a
(Continued on page 6)

2004 Ski Trips

All day/weekend ski trips depart from 700 New Rodgers Rd. in Levittown 19056 at the Middletown Township Bldg., former police bldg.. (directions and map on the web site). Prices include lift tickets, transportation on a lavatory equipped bus, videos and refreshments on the bus, driver's tip, lodging, meals, and a box dinner on the return trip home. Friday departure times for weekend trips vary: **Okemo 5:00 pm, Sugarbush 4:30 pm, Sunday River 4:00 pm and Killington 4:30 pm**. Most accommodations can be priced for double, triple or quad occupancy. Please indicate your choice on the waiver form when you sign up.

Children 18 years or younger may qualify for rate reductions when staying with their parents. Agreements with lodges vary, so check with Maureen to see what is most beneficial to your family.

PLEASE NOTE that you must be a member to go on overnight ski trips and you must fill out a color-coded waiver form with your initial deposit. **If you make the required 50% deposit 60 days in advance of the trip, you may take a \$10 discount off of the total cost of each weekend trip and be in the raffle for a \$100 discount. Balance is due a minimum of 2 weeks prior to departure.**

Rates listed are per person, tax and gratuities included.

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| OKEMO, VERMONT AND (SUNAPEE, NH OR ASCUTNEY, VT) (FULL) | January 16 - 18 |
|--|------------------------|

\$308 Double \$278 Triple \$274 Quad

Ski 2 days. Staying in Springfield, VT minutes off I-91 at Vermont's historic inn & observatory. The *Hartness House* was originally the home of James Hartness, inventor, astronomer and Governor of Vermont in 1920. We will be in the newer wing but enjoy dining in the Victorian atmosphere of the original house. The chef will prepare one dinner and two breakfast buffets for us. Saturday we will ski at Sunapee or Ascutney (Decision will be made in January based on current conditions.) Sunday we will ski at Okemo. It's time to try out the new Jackson Gore area. A \$150 deposit per person holds your reservation.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| SUGARBUSH, VERMONT (OPENINGS) | January 30 - February 1 |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|

\$390 Double

Ski 2 days. This "walk to the lifts" location continues to be a hit! Three bedroom *Castlerock Condo*, one bedroom *Village Gate* studio or two bedroom *Mountainside Condo*. The true New England winding trail style skiing continues to be a favorite of the long time skiers. Two distinct interconnected mountains. 115 trails. 18 lifts (7 Quads). Breakfast will be at the reopened *Phoenix Restaurant*. Dinner will be down in the town at the *Waitsfield Inn* for a hearty French country dinner. \$200 deposit per person will hold your reservation.

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| ELK MOUNTAIN, PENNSYLVANIA (OPENINGS) | February 6 |
|--|-------------------|

\$60 Per Person

Ski 1 day. Friday. Come enjoy having the mountain to ourselves amid the camaraderie of friends. Our favorite in PA, Elk boasts 27 trails and 6 lifts. Meet the bus at 5:30 a.m. Park your car. Have juice and Danish. Then take a nap and let the bus take you. Sign up by Jan. 7 and be in the drawing for a free trip.

| | |
|--|-------------------------|
| SUNDAY RIVER, MAINE and WILDCAT, NEW HAMPSHIRE (OPENINGS) | February 13 - 16 |
|--|-------------------------|

\$410 Double \$403 Triple \$393 Quad

Ski 3 days. The perfect place for the busy President's Weekend. Spend two days exploring the 127 trails and glades on 8 interconnected mountains. With the largest snowmaking system and #1 rated lift system in the East, we are returning with confidence for the 15th year. Spend the last day enjoying stunning views of Mt. Washington from scenic Wildcat Mt. The *Town and Country Inn* hosts us with attractive family rates. Buffet breakfast and choice of five dinner entrees. Indoor pool, hot tub, bar and entertainment. A \$200 per person deposit will hold your reservation.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| KILLINGTON, VERMONT (FULL) | March 19 - 21 |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|

\$388 Double \$352 Triple \$334 Quad

Ski 2 days. Endless variety of seven mountains, 200 trails, 32 lifts, including two heated express gondolas. Staying 20 minutes away at the area's most luxurious *Cortina Inn* which we tried and loved last year. Indoor pool, hot tub, sauna, exercise room, sleigh rides and courtesy slope shuttle. Two deluxe hot buffet breakfasts. Cook to order pasta buffet dinner in *Theo's Tavern*. \$200 deposit per person will hold your reservation.

BIG SKY, MONTANA (FULL) December 26 - January 2

\$1,259 Per Person 4 days Big Sky lift, 1 day Bridger Bowl lift, 1 day Yellowstone \$316

Sitting slopeside at the base of the ski area, our spacious four bedroom plus loft *Beaverhead Condominiums* with private hot tubs are at the edge of the Mountain Village and also on the free shuttle route. From the famed Lone Peak Tram to the four passenger gondola to the high speed quads there is terrain and adventure available for everyone on 3500 acres across two majestic mountains. Rental vans will give us the freedom to go to Bridger Bowl (1500 acres), Moonlight Basin (new adjoining area this season) or to Yellowstone National Park in chartered Snowcoaches or to the Museum of the Rockies dinosaur exhibit. \$600 deposit due now to hold your reservation. \$98 insurance.

TIGNES/VAL D'ISERE, FRANCE (FULL) January 16 - 25

\$1,798 Single \$1,534 Double \$1,455 Triple

Our 7th year returning to L'Espece Killy – the combined resorts of Tignes and Val d'Isère, with over 100 lifts and 25,000 acres spreading across 6 valleys. Six days to ski (lift ticket extra) on endless choices of trails for skiers of all abilities: from the high alpine glaciers to the village below the Tignes dam. We will be staying seven nights in the ski-in, ski-out three-star plus *Village Montana Hotel*. A huge breakfast buffet will be served daily and in the evening gourmet French dinners. Relax in the heated outdoor pool, jacuzzi and saunas. The eighth night will be in the historic and gastronomic city of Lyon. \$350 deposit due now to hold your reservation.

VAIL, COLORADO (OPENINGS) April 8 - 16

\$935 Per Person 5 of 7 day lift ticket \$145, 6/9 day \$174, 7/10 day \$200

The Easter trip is back!. Eight nights at the Vail Racquet Club Townhome Resort in scenic East Vail.. Bighorn Bistro restaurant, fitness center, outdoor pool, indoor and outdoor hot tubs, racquetball and squash courts. Located 4 miles from the slopes With the intra-resort bus system, it is easy to come and go as you please.. Rated as one of the top ski areas in North America, Vail (5,000 acres) has earned the premier designation for terrain, snow conditions and challenge. The ultimate ski town Vail Village features more than 250 shops and 100 restaurants and bars. Beaver Creek (1600 acres) is close by and should not be missed. We will also have mini-vans for our convenience and for side trips. \$600 deposit to hold your reservation (all seats are into Eagle/Vail). \$77 insurance—ask for details or see website.

Waiting List for Trips

Note: If you find out a trip is full, call Maureen to get put on the waiting list. Depending on the type of vacancy, it is not unusual for her to go completely through a list looking for someone who can fill the spot.

Final Payments Due

Final payments for ski trips are as follows:

- January 2 – Okemo (please mail)**
- January 7 – Vail**
- January 16 – Sugarbush**
- January 23 – Elk**
- January 30 – Sunday River**
- March 5 – Killington**

Please make your check payable to the “Bucks Mount Ski & Snowboard Club” and give your payment to Wayne MacMath at the meeting or mail it to him at: 3435 Oakmont St., Philadelphia, PA 19136.

End of Season Ski Club Discount Night

LANG'S SKI & SCUBA

1757 N. Olden Ave.
Trenton, N.J.
(609) 538-1970

**THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 2004
10AM – 8PM**

50% off original price of all new clothing, skis, boots & bindings.
40% off original price of snowboards, boots and bindings.
Tune up specials: skis \$29.99 and snowboards \$24.99.

Officers for the 2003-2004 Season

- President -----Wayne MacMath------(215) 624-7751
- V.P. Trips-----Maureen MacMath------(215) 624-7751
- Social Committee -----Ellen Chauncey------(215) 357-8548
- Carol Evans -----(215) 443-0959
- Judy Lott------(215) 321-3485
- Barbara Zurlo------(215) 860-8363
- Treasurer -----Vern Shaw -----(215) 322-4037
- Recording Secretary -----Rita Murtha------(215) 355-0374
- Newsletter-----Karl Flesch------(215) 493-0676
- Helen Lewis -----(215) 945-3794
- Judy Lott------(215) 321-3485
- Raul Valcarcel------(609) 396-9559
- Hospitality -----Barbara Zurlo------(215) 860-8363
- Publicity-----Karl Flesch------(215) 493-0676
- Bill “Sully” Sullivan------(215) 757-6098
- Club Merchandise-----Chuck Mitchell & Evi Paul ---(215) 785-6257
- Discount Lift Tickets----Bill Rittler------(215) 788-3276

Club Hot Line: (215) 364-4790

e-mail
BM_SKICLUB@YAHOO.COM

Website
www.bucksmountskiclub.org

Annual Ski Club Banquet

The annual banquet will be held this year on Saturday May 15th at *Diamonds Riverside* located at 1140 River Road, Trenton, NJ. The restaurant (the former *Landwiers/Merlino's/Larry Perroni's*) is located on Route 29, just north of the Scudder's Falls Bridge. Directions can be found on our web site.

Our menu choices are *Filet Mignon*, *Chilean Sea Bass* or *Rack of Lamb*. Of course, there will be salad, potato, vegetables, coffee, dessert and a cash bar.

The cost is \$35.00 per person. The festivities begin at 7:00 PM. Space is limited, so sign up early. Contact Judy Lott at (215) 321-3485.

Trenton Thunder



Our 2004 outing is scheduled for Thursday, June 10 at Waterfront Park. Come see the Double A affiliate

of the New York Yankees play the New Hampshire Primaries on Fireworks Night. The game will be viewed from the upper level of the picnic pavilion, where we will have our own all-you-can-eat buffet and cash bar.

The buffet starts at 6:35pm and lasts for 1½ hours. The menu includes: Italian sausage, hamburgers, hot-dogs, salads, melon tray, soda and water. Game time is 7:05pm. The fireworks display will take place after the game.

Tickets are \$24 for adults and \$19 for children ages 6-12. Children under age 6 are free. For reservations, contact Clare Longworth at (215) 860-5244 by May 10.

Dear Mountain Mary;

Some people say I'm obsessed when it comes to skiing. I have no clue, quite honestly, why they say this. Would you give me some examples of skiing obsession so that I know if they are right?

*Signed,
Passionate about Powder*

Dear Passionate about Powder; What's normal for one person, may be obsession as defined by another. I have devised the following list to help you determine where you fall.

- You know you are obsessed with skiing;
- If you are jumping around gleefully at the first sight of snow flurries.
- When you find yourself reviewing and reorganizing your ski gear two months before the season starts.
- The look of snow on the ground makes you smile.
- There are never enough people that are willing to take vacation days to ski with you.
- You use most of your vacation time in the winter.
- You are constantly thinking of excuses to use for calling in sick to

add a few extra ski days to your schedule.

- You become restless and irritable if you don't get to ski at least once a week during winter.
- You buy a particular brand of toilet paper because the embossed design reminds you of a freshly groomed corduroy ski trail.
- You find yourself steering your car back and forth as if on a slalom run.
- Whenever you go skiing, your ski buddies can never move fast enough for you when getting their ski gear on before going outside.
- You hate to make any plans in the winter, other than skiing. You could miss a perfect ski day!
- You get that feeling of awe, each and every time you catch the first sight of a ski area.
- You know every customer appreciation day, special discount day and discount voucher available.

Is this obsession? Yes. Is there a problem with it? I think not! If it makes you happy, it feels good and you're not hurting anyone, it can't be a bad thing.

~Flying Dutchman
Ski Trails

Membership

Our membership for 2003-2004 is 180 adults as of December 20th.

Membership Rate: \$25.00 single
 \$40.00 family

Meetings from September to December have been attended by from 50 to 85 people. That is one third to one half for a club of 180 members! Amazing, must be the people! Or is it the food?

If you live close enough to make it, come out and socialize at some of the six meetings that are left. We have free food that ranges from pizza to wings to our popular seafood night. Check out the calendar on the front page.

Discount tickets are sold at the meetings by Bill. Weekend trip balances are taken by Wayne. Vail payments are taken by Maureen.

REAL LIFE ADVENTURES



Bike Ride Fall '03 And the WINNERS are

- \$25 Best Poker Hand (under 16)*
Brandon Cahil
- \$25 Best Poker Hand (way over 16)*
John Le win
- 1st Place Finisher*
Marietta Wade
- Handsome-est Family + Friend*
Wayne, Ellen, Ashley, Katrina
- Best Dressed Couple*
Rita + Jeffrey Murtha
- Best/Whitest Smiles (all day long)*
Christina + Charlene Gregory
- Newest Bikes*
John + Patty Cahill
- Best Culinary Discovery*
Jerry Cape
- Most Improved Bikers*
Brandon + Jim Ridler
- Handsome-est Biking Jacket*
Patty Lewin
- Best Biking Performance by NEW Ski Club Member*
Trisha Cahill, Matt Savona
- Perfect Attendance (7 straight years)*
Barb Zurlo
- Best Bikers in a Supporting Role (helping the hot dog chef)*
Todd Polk, Eric Rothur
- Bring in New Members**

Get in the running for a free lift ticket, good for one day on one of your trips this year. Win by bringing in the most new members for 2003-2004.

In the running so far are (in alphabetical order): Pat & John Cahill, Betty & Brian Grimmett, Clare & Jack Longworth, Joan & Jim Rittler and Bette Stricker.

Chinese or Moroccan Night

TENTATIVE DATE: Saturday, APRIL 24th

Listen at the meetings or check the website for final plans.
Call Barbara Zurlo (215-860-8363) with any helpful ideas.

Snow Flakes...

Wedding Congratulations:

Vanessa Donato & Danny DeStefano—8/8

Judy Parsons & Bryan Freeman—10/14

Brandy Schulz & Dr. John Lewin III—11/28

With a major snowstorm the first week of December and Helen Lewis finally wearing her Death March Pin, it is going to be a cold, snowy winter!

A Riddle: The Death Marchers have their pin and the Anti-Death Marchers have their shirts but what do the people who don't ski who belong to the Club have?

On noting that at a recent meeting there were only 2 members wearing Death March Pins (Wayne was not one of them), Evi questions "does that mean we all get one now?" Nice try Evi.

Answer: Snow balls.

Attention 4th Graders

Fourth graders can ski for free at 21 ski areas in Pennsylvania. You need to pre register at the

www.skippa.com/4index.htm

and fill out the forms. You get one free lesson and then 63 free lift tickets good for lots of Pennsylvania ski resorts. You get a neat ski snow pass with your picture on it and you can ride and ski all winter this year.

HI AND LOIS



Photo Contest

Don't forget to bring in some photos for the bulletin board which will be back at meetings for the Winter. You must have some good ones already. Don't wait until you get new ones for this season only. Look over your ski pictures and bring a few, funny or beautiful. Vern Shaw has volunteered to be an impartial judge. Top prize will be a lift ticket for one of your trips.

Ski Chow

Attention Ski Chow Fans, we haven't had new recipes from you old folks in a while and we haven't had old recipes from any of the new people just joining the Club. If you have attended our meetings you know how wonderful the food is. Wouldn't it be great to make the chocolate and crab fondues at your next cocktail party? How would you get the recipe and know who made it? It would be simple if you sent Joan Ridler the recipe at joan.ridler@verizon.net or brought it to the meetings/gatherings.

If anyone is thinking what I should make for Seafood Night, Leah's Clam Chowder recipe is on the website!

Save Those TABS

Please continue to save the can tabs for charity. This year they are going to help persons on dialysis and the Ronald McDonald House in Philadelphia

Death March Notice

Stay tuned for announcement of awards for wearing of Death March Pin. Some winners have reached enough points to satisfy the DML

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President's Message

(Washington's Birthday Weekend) and Sugarbush (Super Bowl Weekend) still have spots available if you have not yet decided when to ski this year. Also, keep February 5th in mind. That is the date of Elk Mountain, our only day trip. Rita is waiting for you to call. Don't Miss Out!!

The season will end with our eight night, seven day ski trip to Vail, Colorado. If you thought Western trips were over your budget, check this one out. We buy groceries and cook many meals in the condos. There are thirty-five going so far and Maureen just secured more airline seats on flights going from Denver into Eagle/Vail.

Please have a healthy, happy and safe holiday season and we will look forward to socializing with you in January 2004!

Think snow!
Wayne

(Continued from page 1)
Discount Lift Tix

supply of tickets at our meetings. We Recommend that you order for the season.

Unused tickets are refundable, but you must get them back to us on or before the March 17th meeting. We will refund by check once we receive reimbursement from Eastern PA Ski Council.

How Safe is Airline Water?

When Juanita Green needed to take some medications on a flight to Los Angeles, she washed down the pill with a cup of water from the plane's bathroom sink. It tasted funny, but she tried not to think about it. "For peace of mind," says the nurse from Miraloma, California. "I just hope it's clean and sterilized."

For years, flyers have worried about every thing from stuffy cabin air to bad meals. But what about the water? While airlines insist it's safe to drink, some little-noticed studies from Japan to the Netherlands have turned up some unfriendly bacteria in the tank water, including *E. coli* and the germ that cause Legionnaire's disease.

A recent water quality test found: a long list of microscopic life you don't want to drink, from *Salmonella* and *Staphylococcus* to tiny insect eggs. Worse, contamination was the rule, not

the exception: Almost all of the bacteria levels were tens, sometimes hundreds, of times above U.S. government limits.

The good news, of course, is that this water isn't the main drinking supply for passengers, who usually get bottled H₂O from the beverage carts. But plenty of people depend on the plane's taps to wash their hands and brush their teeth. And while the airlines say they rarely serve tap water, many flight attendants say it isn't that uncommon: When the bottled water runs out, they turn to the tanks – which under federal regulations are supposed to provide drinkable water. "It's the way our service works," says Sara Dela Cruz, a spokeswoman for the union of United Airline attendants.

~Nancy Keates & Joe Costello, *The Wall Street Journal*

NANCY



Lift Lines



Bucks Mount Ski & Snowboard Club
P.O. Box 424
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BM_SKICLUB@YAHOO.COM

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