



Lift Lines



Volume 9 Issue 2

Bucks Mount Ski & Snowboard Club

May 2005



Wayne C. MacMath

President

The 2004-05 ski season has, sadly, come to a close. But lifetime memories have been etched into our mind's eye. Thanks to the many (kind and wonderful) members of our club, we have once again reached a successful conclusion of another ski season. In all, 292 members supported our trips. Our trips this year accounted for 30 days of skiing at 16 different ski areas and 11 or over one third were in powder! Can't wait until next year.

Our strategy for selecting where to ski was successful this season. Okemo and Sunapee were chosen first, because of their extensive snowmaking and deep till grooming. Stowe makes most of their snow in January and February and has a good base by then, plus the greenhouse effect (-14 °) gave us comfortable skiing weather. At Elk you can always depend on either: rain, sleet, snow, ice, thunder, lightning, or sun along with serious grooming. This year it was sunshine and nice 20°-30° temperatures. Sunday River's crowds are virtually non-existent on President's weekend. Plus their snowmaking and grooming always assure us that there will be good skiing. Going to Canada in March means good snow cover, plus not so cold temperatures. We received a bonus this year of fresh snow. The crowds were almost non-existent.

Going out West in March and April can best be described as *unbelievable*. This time of year Aspen generally receives great quantities of snow. We were not disappointed as we received 20-30 inches.

The last three Christmas-Winter Vacations we have skied in the West; twice at Steamboat and once at Big Sky,



Our 36th Year

Montana. We have been fortunate to have not so cold weather and good snow.

This year we are attempting to ski a brand new area for us next Christmas. Crested Butte has been on our radar screen for some time but we feel now is the time to act. Let us know about your feelings at bm_skiclub@yahoo.com or call us.

Finally I cannot say enough about the wonderful members of the club and offer special thanks to our fantastic officers, committee heads and anyone else who offers a helping hand, by collecting 50-50, bringing food to our meetings, running an event or just supporting our trips. Hope to see you at the Banquet, Pool Party (learn about next year's trips), or at the Beach Party. Have a fun filled summer!

Wayne

Upcoming Events

May 14 ----- Annual Banquet

June 24 ----- Trenton Thunder
Ball Game

July 23 ----- Pool Party

August 6 ----- Beach Party

Meetings resume in September

Last Call for Trenton Thunder Baseball Tix

Game time is 7:05 pm on Thursday, June 24. The picnic buffet and cash bar starts at 6:35 and lasts for 1½ hours. Arrive early for free Thunder and Reading team cards. 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.

Pool Party



Save Saturday, July 23 on your calendar for a fun time at our annual pool party.

It is held at Vern and Mary Shaw's house at 705 Autumn Drive in Langhorne, PA (see our web site for directions). It starts at 1:00 p.m. and lasts 'til ?? Steak, clams, burgers, hotdogs, iced tea and soda will be provided. There will be a salad and dessert table, so please bring one of your favorite dishes. Call to avoid duplicates and so we can have a delicious array of treats.

The cost is \$7 per person. For reservations call Maureen MacMath at (215) 624-7751.

This is also the time we will start talking about the 2006 ski trips. Talk to your ski buddies and see which ones they are considering. Remember to bring pictures and albums from 2005 to share.

DUES: Mail your check to Vern now or bring it to the pool party **with the membership renewal form** in this newsletter already filled out.

2005 Trip Recap

STEAMBOAT

Our plane was de-iced in Philadelphia, but everything else was smooth sailing for the thirty-five of us. Our Phoenix condos were perfectly located - through the Ptarmigan property, and we were on the slopes. Everything was open and in good condition. We had one day of fresh powder, enjoyed by all, and comfortable 20° temperatures the remainder of the week. Even though we didn't all get to go, one evening we enjoyed the vicarious pleasure of untracked powder in the videos of Phil and Bob's Snocat Skiing Adventure.

Apres skiers at *Slopeside* and *Bear River Bar & Grill* consumed many a beverage, many a day. Our group dinner was three miles away in town at the *Steamboat Yacht Club* on the Yampa River. Everyone raved about the food. Our annual New Year's Eve party, hosted by the Waltz and Mitchell condos was a great success. We all agreed Steamboat was a great place to start our ski season!

OKEMO AND SUNAPEE

Thanks to the "deep tilling*" method of grooming, Okemo's renowned trail maintenance saved the weekend, otherwise known as the "*Opportunists Weekend*". Due to **lack** of snow and **unlack** of rain the week before, there were **no** glades, **no** bumps and an Eagles game on Sunday at 1:00. This Death March group gives new meaning to the words "weenie skiing." The Eagles game, by the way, was great fun with our bus full of fans at the base lodge in front of the big screen TV in the *Sitting Bull Lounge*.

Our breakfast and dinner buffets were outstanding. Trip participants loved the atmosphere of the *Hartness House* governor's mansion with

the festive Christmas garlands and trees still out to be enjoyed. We were so interested in the historic observatory that the innkeepers told us we could put tours in the schedule next year.

*(ed. note: Deep tilling goes 12" down and shaves the snow into a sugary consistency.)

TIGNES/VAL D'ISERE

The "baker's dozen" returned to the perennial favorite. We were treated by three nice days of sunshine followed by non-ending snow. Guides Baudouin and Bruno helped us to find the best conditions. There were two new high speed (6-pack) replacement lifts in Tignes Val Claret with a totally new lift in Le Fornet opening in 2006. New next year in Tignes there will be a huge indoor pool complete with water slides next to the Aeroski and lake.

This year we had eliminated the last night stay in either Lyon or Geneva and returned to the US on Saturday. However, due to the Mid Atlantic area's biggest snowstorm of the season, our plane was diverted from Philadelphia to Dulles with an overnight stay in the Washington area. We made it home just in time to see the Eagles beat the Falcons.

STOWE

This was another weekend of *groomers*. It looked to be a cold weekend, -14° on the ride up! But we skied in 20° weather and sunny skies both days. Over 63,000 feet of vertical in two days. Stowe is known for the top to bottom skiing. The DML called his group of contenders, "*The Obedient Ones*". Ask Colin McFarlane and Frank Dattilo if they have recovered yet.

Our first time at the Mountaineer, everyone enjoyed the hospitality of the lodge. It was a great place with very good food and only minutes from the mountain.

ELK MOUNTAIN

Tom Dye drove us again but this year we arrived early at 8:00am. It turned out to be a demo day for Scranton area shops. It was also Ladies Day for the Bucks Mount Ski Club. Everything was open and we skied them all. Conditions were so good, we didn't even come into the bar early.

SUNDAY RIVER AND ATTITASH

Bud Cartwright, our driver, set a new record by getting us to the *Town & Country* before midnight! During the "Award Ceremony" on the bus on the way home he was awarded Death March pin #95 for his efforts. (He worked harder than the *Opportunists*.)

We had two uncrowded (due to the blackout dates for their season pass holders) days at Sunday River, fair conditions, only some glades open (remember *Blind Ambition*?) and on Monday we were rewarded with 8'-10" of new snow! So we had our first powder day of the season at Attitash. It was delightful and unexpected! We skied to the very end. Three mothers even sacrificed their children to the Death March. Ask Jamie, Margaret, and Matt; they loved it!

MT. ORFORD, MT. SUTTON AND JAY PEAK

Glades, glades, glades...all open just for us! Unarguably one of our best weekend trips ever! We stayed at the *Auberge Estrimont* again and enjoyed the dining room and **lots** of

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)
2005 Trip Recap

fine wine. We watched the snowfalls Saturday and Sunday nights from the large picture windows framing Mt. Orford.

Hats off to the *hardy* group of skiers who followed the Death March all weekend. We all skied *sous-bois* (in the woods) on Friday at Sutton with no lines and a little bit of fresh snow. On Saturday, who will ever forget the **‘Waterfall’** at Mt. Orford (actually, trail #44) *Passé de L’Ours - Bear Pass?*

Our reentry into the US went quickly and the group was rewarded with the best glade skiing *ever* at Jay Peak, Vermont. At least 8 inches of fresh snow was waiting for us when we arrived. Remember these names: Bushwacker, Everglade, Bonaventure Glade, Beaver Pond Glade, Timbuktu?

ASPEN

Our second best snow trip of all time, behind only Utah in 1995 (April 13-21). On all but one of the seven ski days, we had powdery, 20°–30° winter conditions. (You missed one of our best trips, Larry). Our condos were within 200 steps downhill to downtown Aspen. There were many people sucking air walking back up the hill at the end of the day (300 steps). The ultimate ski town met our expectations. The shuttle service was so efficient, we rarely waited more than five minutes ever. The club enjoyed many fine restaurants, including the *Genre Bistro* where we held our group dinner. The salmon and the *appletinis* won for “the best.” Presentation was superb; dessert was simply delicious. Aspen closed for the season a week after we left with record base depths.

Last Call for Banquet



Saturday, May 14 is the date for this year’s annual banquet. Cost is \$35 per person. The event begins at 7:00pm at the King George Inn in Bristol, PA. See our web site for directions.

Call Judy at (215) 321-3485 ASAP with your menu selection: Prime Rib of Beef, au Jus; Sauteed Chicken Marsala or Filet of Norwegian Salmon.

Beach Party



The Bucks Mount Ski & Snowboard Club hits the beaches of Wildwood Crest, NJ! Come join the fun at Bill & Cathy Rees’ beach (& bath) house

on Saturday, August 6, from 11:00 am until ? Bring picnic food/drink for lunch on the beach. Enjoy the BBQ cookout with Club members at 5:00 pm. R.S.V.P to Bill & Cathy at (215) 322-4788 or send them an e-mail: **Bill_Rees@MSN.COM** by August 1st.

For directions to Wildwood Crest, check out the activity under “SOCIAL/BEACH PARTY” on the Club’s web site.

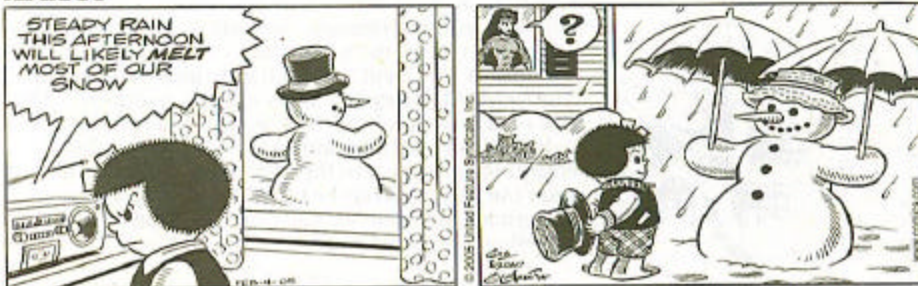
Thinking about making it a long weekend stay? Nearby motel options are available on the Club’s web site.

Club Hot Line: (215) 364-4790

BM_SKICLUB@YAHOO.COM

**http://
www.bucksmountskiclub.org**

NANCY



Officers for the 2004-2005 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

Death March Members

This year's Death March proved to be a great experience both for the pin winners and the DML. Many came and declared their intentions and many were chosen. In all there were 31 pins awarded this season. It was great to see some people challenge their skiing ability, **going places they normally would have passed**. Here are a few words that might bring smiles to your collective faces: The Opportunists, The Obedient Ones, No Whining, Waterfall, Glades at Jay, Hanging Valley Wall, Robertos, Powerline Glade.

Correction to pin numbers- The DML erroneously gave out the wrong numbers to pin winners on the Aspen trip! Please see the printed list for updated numbers. Congratulations to the following people who successfully completed their two days and earned the coveted Death March Pin (DMP).

OKEMO

- #72 Julie Maholic
- #73 Pat Schmieg
- #74 Frank Prindle
- #75 Chris Stricker
- #76 Ed Paulsworth
- #77 Todd Polk
- #78 Barb Zurlo
- #79 Cindy Padovani

STOWE

- #80 Colin McFarlane
- #81 Frank Dattilo
- #82 Dave Brotman
- #83 Kevin Brotman
- #84 Doreen Wald
- #85 Bill Craven

SUNDAY RIVER

- #86 Wendy Warren
- #87 Shelley Cutler
- #88 Jamie Frankel
- #89 Matt Creekmore
- #90 Margaret Greco

- #91 Jerry Throne
- #92 Evelyn Throne
- #93 Peggy Cheng
- #94 Eric Lai
- #95 Bud Cartwright

CANADA

- #96 Scott Vant

ASPEN

- #97 Spud McHugh
- #98 Patti McHugh
- #99 Brian Rubin
- #100 Jeff Cahill
- #101 Heather Corley
- #102 Dave Scheidel

Pin #100 Jeff Cahill wins *two* free lift tickets on his next trip. *Sorry* Apres Ski group.

For the faithful, (those who wear their pins to every function) rewards were meted out. Each time a pin is worn, points are recorded by the DML. When certain levels are attained free lift tickets are awarded. The following faithful people have received free lift tickets, simply for wearing their pins and supporting our trips. See the printed list on the web site to see how many points you have accumulated.

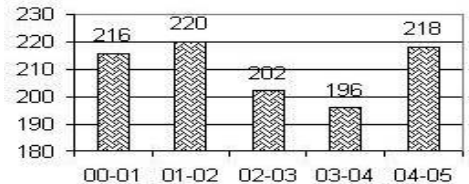
FRAMABLE DMP CERTIFICATE FREE LIFT TICKET EARNED

- Maureen MacMath
- Dick Hagen
- Joe Linus
- Chuck Mitchell
- Karl Flesch
- Gary Gagliardi
- John Bell
- Bob Matteo
- Bill Rees
- Bridget Ridler
- Jeffrey Murtha
- Will Longworth

Membership

The prize, a free one-day lift ticket for bring in the most new members this season was awarded to three people. They each brought in three new people (family counts as 2 people). **Joan Ridler** brought in Ray Nagy & Beth Clark & kids, and Jason Haft. **Debbie Kimes** brought in Carol Malinowski and Dave & Kevin Brotman. **Bill Rittler** brought in Sheila Sporkin-Edel, Tess Sola and Mike Warsheski. **Eric Hutchison** gets honorable mention—two new members—Pete Webster and Manny Hansrote. Congratulations and welcome to our new members. We enjoyed your company this year!

Membership



FILL OUT YOUR MEMBERSHIP FORM FOR 2005-2006 NOW, BEFORE YOU FORGET AND HAVE TO PAY EXTRA.

WE CHANGED THE FORM SLIGHTLY. Please check whether you prefer to receive your newsletter by e-mail only (to save postage for the club), or by postal mail (so you have a printed copy to hang on your refrigerator). Indicate this at the top of the form.

The form is included in this newsletter. You only get the renewal rate **by paying in the summer** before our first meeting in the fall.

RENEWAL RATES:
\$20 SINGLE
\$35 FAMILY

RATES IN EFFECT FROM SEPTEMBER 14 ON:
\$25 SINGLE
\$40 FAMILY

Fond Memories of Steamboat

- hearing about a Texan 21-year-old building her first snowman
- seeing certain 20-somethings and, other, wish they were still 20-somethings, stowing beer on the balcony
- the great timber bunk bed, *way to climb*, Maria
- wishing we had GPS locators on our cell phones so we could find the lost husband and son trying to get from the Rockies to the Phoenix
- hearing about the trip to the hot springs
- seeing lift tickets get exchanged for bottles of liquor
- Sundown, Dawn, Shadows and Closet, awesome
- trying to figure out which chair Wayne meant when he said, "Go to that *triple* we rode *before*." (why does he never know the name of anything, yet can lead us all over the mountain) . It was a *quad* by the way.

Holiday Party Recap

It seems so long ago but a special thanks to Patti and Spud for hosting the Holiday Party at the last minute. We always enjoy getting dress in something other than ski clothes to come to a party!

Trip Raffle Winners

Congratulations to the following people who won the trip raffles:

\$100

Okemo – Teresa Kolenda
 Stowe – Doreen Wald
 Sunday River – Shelley Cutler
 Canada – Norm LaMont
FREE TRIP
 Elk – Kathy Mulhern

14 Things That Made Aspen Special

- smooth flights in and out of Eagle
- location, location, location
- tiny or no dining room tables-guess they figure everyone eats out
- star searching for Patty
- deluxe lunch outside at Cloud Nine restaurant with bunny ears
- buckets of Coronas at Iguanas, Aspen Highlands
- après ski with the Croatian ski team – astro guy and girl
- learning the hard way not to do a double black trail first run of the morning, without checking the map to see how long it is going to be
- fresh tracks most mornings, powder, powder, powder
- hiking from High Alpine chair to access awesome terrain (Robertos or Green Cabin if you followed Peggy)
- calling your friends from the top of Highland Bowl after the hour hike (Raul)
- learning about strapping your skis onto your back, so you can put a ski pole in each hand to hike up
- at Snowmass riding the T-bar to the Cirque and awesome powder on Big Burn, Powerline Glades and Elk Camp
- getting cell phone calls in the woods from Houston, TX & Worcester, MA and trying not to make it sound too good

Snow Flakes...

Sad news for the club to hear of the passing of Jeb Lynch on January 26, 2005

Proud grandparents:

- Carol Evans (Sutton Taggart)
- Patti & John Lewin (Sarah (Sadie) Marie Lewin)

“Phil Sighting” - He arrived by car at the Linus condo in Aspen. Surprise! He happened to bring some elk steaks.

“Bunny Ears” on Kristie & Kelsey could be seen from the lift as we skied over the *Cloud Nine* restaurant.

Chris Zurlo flew into Aspen Airport to ski with his daughter, but they didn't think he would need his luggage.

Brian Rubin, recent college grad - now an architect at Vail, drove over to ski with his mom Ellen and Ron in Aspen.

Raul has the dubious honor of being both FIRST and LAST on the departing bus for Stowe...he left his ski boots home and had to get them!

On the return home from Stowe, bus passengers were wiggling in their seats, waiting for the bathroom's occupancy sign to clear when it was discovered that the door had jammed shut. Lucky no one was inside at the time. Gary Gagliardi (need a good lock picker?) was able to dismantle the lock and all were immediately relieved.

Our fearless Death March Leader was seen doing a pirouette and then a magnificent prostrate slide

(Continued on page 6)

Photo Contest



We are going to try something new this time with the contest. Karl is designing a web page with some of the best pictures of the year, along with a user-friendly ballot. Vote for your favorite and e-mail the ballot. You will be notified by e-mail when and how to vote. So in the mean time, if you have any good pictures hiding at home, mail them to him and he'll scan them into the computer or e-mail them to bm_skiclub@yahoo.com. Top prize will be a lift ticket for one of your trips.

(Continued from page 5)
Snow Flakes

wiping out a few startled skiers because of a wannabe (obtainer of the coveted pin) sliding into him on a trail. All ended well with the DML only slightly embarrassed and Kevin Brotman getting his pin on the bus on the way home.

Karen Hunter and others kept getting lost trying to find the ski locker room at the Village Montana Hotel in Tignes. Jerry Cape from the first Tignes trip is still lost.

On the Stowe trip, Barbara Gillis and Sheila Sporkin-Edel were feeling adventurous and decided to try a "cut through" to their destination. Unfortunately, they got lost. Fearful that they were in

for a long journey, they stopped and ATE SOME SNOW!

Frank our bartender was behind the bar serving us with a bandage on his nose and lip. He said "You should have seen the other guy!" Must have been some fight!

Jerry was early for breakfast at the *Auberge Estromont*, waiting for the doors to open to the banquet room. He feared that Dick and Neilan were already seated behind the doors, eating breakfast!

The weekend after returning from Aspen, Judy Lott was seen bowling, and she was NOT wearing her PJ's (her standard Aspen attire).

CLASSIC PEANUTS



Lift Lines



Bucks Mount Ski & Snowboard Club
P.O. Box 424
Levittown, PA 19058
Club Hot Line (215) 364-4790
BM_SKICLUB@YAHOO.COM

Inside This Issue

Summer Activities:

- Trenton Thunder Game 6/24
- Pool Party 7/23
- Beach Party 8/6