



Lift Lines



Volume 10 Issue 2

Bucks Mount Ski & Snowboard Club

May 2006



Wayne C. MacMath

President

Each year the time to write this letter seems to arrive sooner. All summer long, we are planning. During the fall meetings, we are busy with sign-ups. By December we start enjoying the actual trips. Here I am again recapping the season. For me it is fantastic. I always have something to look forward to! The great people in our club make it a friendly place to be. No matter what the conditions are, we have fun being with each other.

We get 40 to 65 people at a meeting. This year we had 287 individual trip sign-ups for a total of 950 skier days. We sold \$1,337 worth of discount lift tickets for members own drive-up skiing. That is outstanding from a membership base of 204.

Thanks to all the members who have joined the Death March. I'll be forever appreciative of your friendship. Your ability to hang with the group regardless of conditions is awesome. The power of that little pin continues to amaze me!

This year our week-long trips proved to be some of the best ever. At Crested Butte the snow arrived just in time to open the steeps and give us wonderful powder. Skiers on Karl's trip to France were welcomed with lots of powder. Thanks to their guides, they actually went off piste and tracked it up. Lake Louise and Sunshine gave us scenery with the powder, great hotels, great food and a desire to return.

This newsletter includes the flyer and sign up form for the Christmas/Holiday trip. It was more difficult than in the

(Continued on page 5)



Our 37th Year

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 19,

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 or Cathy_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 week-end stay? Nearby motel options are available on the Club's web site.

Upcoming Events

June 23 ----- Trenton Thunder Ball Game

July 22 ----- Pool Party

August 19 ----Beach Party

Meetings resume in September

Last Call for Trenton Thunder Baseball Tix

Game time is 7:05 pm on Friday, June 23. 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 22 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. Kids half price. For reservations call Maureen MacMath at (215) 624-7751.

This is also the time we will start talking about the 2007 ski trips. Talk to your ski buddies and see which ones they are considering. Remember to bring pictures and albums from 2006 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.

2006 Trip Recap

CRESTED BUTTE

After smooth travel we arrived at Crested Butte on December 26th. We were treated to perfect conditions all week. We didn't even need double layers under our jackets because temperatures were in the 20°s and 30°s all week. The T bar-accessed-extreme terrain was open and many accepted the challenge at least once. All green and blue trails were groomed every night. Wayne led those who "declared their intentions" on the Death March, lots of trees and nice soft bumps. Two to five inches of new snow greeted us all but one day. The finale was about eleven inches of fresh powder on New Year's Day. We didn't even come in for the Eagles game!

The Chateaux was comfortable walking distance if we used the metal staircase and checked our skis overnight. Condos were "gold rated" - lots of DVD players, games and well supplied kitchens. We enjoyed breakfast "in" and many relaxed in the condo for home cooked dinners.

The town was casual and very affordable. No traffic signal, even in the town, other than "the four way stop." For après ski every day at the *Avalanche*, you could find a Bucks Mount table. *Six-dollar pitchers* seemed to make us regulars. We had an awesome New Year's Eve party in the clubhouse with catered food and a few little drinking games. See *Evi's rap song on page 5*.

OKEMO AND SUNAPEE

To ski with Bucks Mount you must be a man or woman for all seasons and weather. Saturday at Sunapee it was pouring rain. The decision, however, was not whether to ski or stay in, but rather what size trash bag one should wear: 33 gallon or 55 gallon. We had five people actually *request* the Death March despite the drenching rain. We agreed to regroup at 12:30 in the cafeteria to reevaluate our plans. In spite of the warm weather, soft snow, and otherwise good conditions, Bucks Mount voted to return early to the Inn. In the cozy confines of the *Hartness House*,

happy hour turned into Happy Half Day and we were wonderfully liquored up for dinner.

That night, a cold front whacked us with heavy snow, wind and very cold temperatures. But the death marches plodded on. The appetite for the pin is so insatiable that people are willing to put up with frostbite rather than ask to go in and risk forfeiting the coveted award. Ask Jennifer Logan. Her feet hurt so much when they started thawing out during the lunch break that it brought tears to her eyes.So on the second day the DML rested... (after 2:00)... for fear of more victims to the frost.

To cap off the trip Bud, our driver, did his best imitation of the 55 Man Bobsled Run trying to ascend the hill up to the *Hartness House*; many volunteered to walk.

TIGNES/VAL D'ISERE

After 3 days of continuous snow, we awoke to a morning of blue sky and bright sunshine. Our guides Baudouin and Luc had arranged for us to be picked up in front of the hotel by two vans. We drove for 40 minutes back down the mountains to La Roziere, a small ski resort used mainly by French families. The views were spectacular along the way, with glimpses of the large ski resort Les Arcs across the valley. We bought a lift ticket for the combined resorts and also a key card that once placed in our pockets, allowed an easy swipe of the reader and we were up on the lifts. Our destination was the Italian resort of La Thuile. We skied thru the trails admiring the close up views of Mont Blanc and the distant Matterhorn. We skied into Italy unaware of the border crossing. The only evidence that we were now in another country was that the signs were written in Italian.

Near the bottom we took a secret off piste run that dropped us off at the door of a small country inn for lunch. The owner of the hotel greeted us and the menu was arranged. We had an anti

pasta course of local cold cuts and sausages followed by 3 homemade pasta courses: pasta with a red pepper sauce and feta cheese, meat raviolis, and fettuccine with black truffles. Some dared to follow this with dessert! There were 9 of us and we had finished off 6 bottles of red wine. At the end of the lunch was the customary, on the house, bottles of both grappa and genepi. We polished off a half bottle of each! We then had to ski back into France and take the van ride back up to Tignes. It was a ski day to remember!

STOWE AND SUGARBUSH

Evi got us started Friday night on the bus with jello shots. That loosened everyone up. At the rest stop someone dropped her wallet in the toilet, giving new meaning to the expression *piss poor*. We learned that having too much fun in the back of the bus, can make one nauseated. Also, one of our members decided our bus was not fun enough. He boarded another bus that actually drove off before someone said, "You're not on this bus!"

The first day, at Sugarbush, we had three contenders for the Death March. They skied some very hard packed, mogully runs without a whimper. At Stowe on day two, the *front four* were open but they skied like *greased BBs*. Getting into the infamous Goat trail had to be the funniest thing Wayne ever witnessed. One by one the women disappeared as they slid down on their backs. "What a great day!"

ELK MOUNTAIN

It was a dismal forecast for that Friday early in February. No surprise, it was the Elk trip lead by our now fearless-DM pin winner- Rita. All other buses cancelled, not Bucks Mount. We like skiing in any conditions, although snow would be nice occasionally. But true to the unpredictability of this trip, at 9:30 am the rain stopped and wonderful spring conditions were enjoyed by all the rest of the day! Thanks, Rita.

(continued on page 3)

(continued from page 2)
2006 Trip Recap

SUNDAY RIVER AND ATTITASH

Three for three. Our third New England weekend and more cold, windy, icy conditions with no glades open. Death Marchers earned their pins this season! Anyone can ski on soft snow with sunny skies and 25°. No Opportunists this year. Wayne's biggest surprise was that Rita joined us on Obsession. When questioned about her intentions, she said, "I'm here aren't I?" We had some teenagers stick like glue to the DML and upgrade their junior-child pins (1/2 day) to full adult status. There were about fifteen people in the group and they willingly followed until the end of day three at Attitash. Thank you, it was great fun!

MT. ORFORD, MT. SUTTON AND JAY PEAK

It is wonderful leaving in the afternoon (especially for retired people). The border crossings were uneventful once we swore to the agriculture inspector that we did not have any fruit or meat with us. For our first day it did rain some at Mt. Sutton, mostly after lunch. We had four pin winners on this trip. One of them, Manny, even commented, "I'm sitting here getting wet, but I'm having a *really* great time." (That was music to the ears of the DML.)

At dinner, we were entertained by a jazz sax and keyboard duo, one of the men looked like Eric Hutchison. Someone began teasing Eric about his "brother" and the next thing we knew, Eric had the microphone in his hand. We had no idea! *Eric can sing!* He had such a great voice, we have nominated him for the next senior American Idol. As usual we had wonderful service at the *Auberge Estrimont*. We thoroughly enjoyed our upgrade to the full gourmet dining experience, even though only two people chose the *veal kidney with oyster mushrooms*.

At Mt. Orford most of the woods were closed, so the "waterfall" was off limits this year. For the third day at Jay warmer weather and good cover produced the best glade skiing of the year, until the afternoon when it rained.

BANFF AND LAKE LOUISE

"Dramatic" attempts to describe the scenery we enjoyed during this trip to the Canadian Rockies. It was April 13th when we arrived at the front doors of the 400-room *Chateaux Lake Louise*. Snow flurries landed on our faces as the Alpine dressed valets helped us unload our vans. We had about 4 inches of new snow each of the first four nights of our trip. Our rooms were all upgraded to "lake view". We enjoyed luxury in the middle of a wilderness area, surrounded by lofty, stark, mountain peaks.

Skiing was excellent as we explored all the terrain of Lake Louise Ski Area. The Ptarmigan and Larch areas were favorites. Many took the opportunity to experience a dog sled ride. We traveled two per sled, mushing our teams ourselves, on the way back. Some also hiked the trail towards the Victoria Glacier, which feeds Lake Louise.

For our second four nights, our suitcases were moved for us to the 700-room *Banff Springs Hotel*. Our upgraded views were again magnificent. We looked past the golf course and down the Bow River Valley to the town of Banff. Other grand windows framed additional lofty and historic peaks. Many of us walked the path to the waterfall during our stay. We enjoyed exploring the great rooms of the "Castle in the Rockies".

Sunshine Village ski area provided us with spring conditions after the snowy weather ended. Goat's Eye was a favorite here. During the drive back and forth to the hotel we were always on the lookout for wildlife. Many took a second day off to explore the hotel, the town, and the scenic areas along the Trans-Canada highway. They were even rewarded with elk, deer and big horn sheep sightings. Those who hiked the Johnston Canyons to the thawing waterfalls, loved it! Those who frequented the St. James Gate and Wild Bill's taverns loved them, too.

Officers for the 2005-2006 Season

President -----	Wayne MacMath-----	(215) 624-7751
V.P. Trips-----	Maureen MacMath-----	(215) 624-7751
Social Committee -----	Ellen Chauncey-----	(215) 280-7502
	Noreen Linus -----	(215) 493-8665
	Judy Lott-----	(215) 321-3485
	Evelyn Throne-----	(215) 741-5902
	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

Trip Raffle Winners

Congratulations to the following people who won the trip raffles:

\$100

Okemo – Linda Goldenbaum

Stowe – Colin McFarlane

Sunday River – Dick Keefe

Canada – Kathi Keefe

FREE TRIP

Elk – Linda Goldenbaum

Club Hot Line: (215) 364-4790

BM_SKICLUB@YAHOO.COM

http://

www.bucksmountskiclub.org

Death March Members

This season we had a total of thirty-one initiates into the Death March club. Eight of them experienced great conditions in Crested Butte, Lake Louise and Sunshine Village, while the other twenty-three had to work their way through marginal conditions in New England. We also had three pin upgrades from child to full adult status.

Don't forget to *wear* your pin to earn valuable credits. The 2006 Death March members with the best memories have already received 5x7 Death March Certificates suitable for framing and checks equal to the value of one of their lift tickets this season. They are:

Chuck Mitchell
Karl Flesch
Gary Gagliardi
Jerry Cape
Bill Sullivan
Jeff Murtha
Will Longworth
Evi Paul

Wear pins to *all functions*, Pool and Beach Party, golfing with the DML, meetings and to work. You can even be creative. The DML appreciated the *placement* of Helen's pin worn at the spring banquet. She earned bonus points for humor.

Congratulations to this year's pin winners for a job well done!

Party Recap

Our traditional parties, dinners and banquets were great fun this year as anticipated! Thirty to forty people attended per event.

Patti and Spud welcomed us for our Christmas party. They were voted the prize for beautiful decorations and the *largest tree inside house* ever. The food was great and the wine selection was excellent, by consensus of those imbibing.

Barbara Zurlo arranged the Chinese dinner at the Cultural Center in Chinatown, maybe for the last time. Mrs. Chen told us of her frustrations trying to arrange visas for her chefs. We feasted on ten courses, spinning the *lazy Susans* for more food and wine.

PIN UPGRADES

Matt Creekmore
Jamie Frankel
Jeff Murtha

CRESTED BUTTE

#103 Chris Paulsworth
#104 Scott Hendrickson
#105 Ellen Chauncey
#106 Ashley Radel
#107 Tim Paulsworth
#108 Jay Creekmore
#109 Mary Creekmore

OKEMO-SUNAPEE

#110 Rachel Lewin
#111 Karyn Lewin
#112 Linda Logan
#113 Chris Logan
#114 Jennifer Logan

STOWE-SUGARBUSH

#115 Dan McFarlane
#116 Bill Amisson
#117 Jennifer White

SUNDAY RIVER-ATTITASH

#118 Debra Walther
#119 Laura Keefe
#120 Laura Dietz
#121 Sarah Brotman
#122 Ray Nagy
#123 John Nagy
#124 Rita Murtha
#125 Jim Murtha

SUTTON-ORFORD-JAY

#126 Marcia Comly
#127 Thomas Lee
#128 Manny Hansrote
#129 Jennifer Waltz

LAKE LOUISE-SUNSHINE

#130 Frank Butch
#131 Billy Lane
#132 John Brook
#133 Deanna Campbell

Judy Lott selected the Yardley Country Club as the site for our annual Spring Banquet. The setting overlooking the golf course was lovely. As luck would have it the bar was right in the room, so we could enjoy wine before and during our dinner!

Thanks to Patti, Spud, Barb and Judy for organizing and hosting these events so graciously.

If anyone is interested in hosting the Christmas Holiday party in December 2006, let Maureen know. If anyone knows of a restaurant we might enjoy for a group dinner, let Barbara and Judy know.

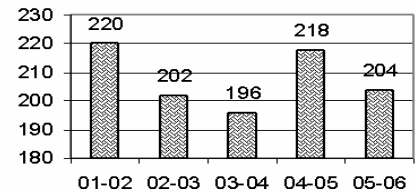
Membership

Our group this year totaled 204 adults, plus children. Thanks to everyone's love of skiing and riding we were able to run all of our trips successfully.

Our goal is still 225; help us achieve it by encouraging new people to join our ranks next year.

The winner of a free lift ticket for bringing in the most new members was Ellen Victor. Let us know when you want to use it!

Membership



FILL OUT YOUR MEMBERSHIP FORM FOR 2006-2007 NOW, BEFORE YOU FORGET AND HAVE TO PAY EXTRA.

Please check again 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 13th ON:
\$25 SINGLE
\$40 FAMILY

*(Continued from page 1)
President's Letter*

past getting good flight schedules and lodging reservations to our liking. We are excited about the Utah trip we have planned. Airlines are adopting stricter group policies. If you would like to go in December, please sign up ASAP. Call Maureen if you have questions about the possibilities for you or your family. The earlier you ask, the more likely we are to be able to accommodate variations in individual needs.

Plans for Tignes are being worked on, maybe a day trip to Les Arcs and La Plagne. Our New England trip lineup will be similar to this year. We already have great lodges that cater to our requests. We hope you will return with

us again next year. We are looking at Colorado for the spring.

The officers and committee heads are the backbone of any organization. Our club has an exceptional group of people who work tirelessly to make sure everyone's needs are met and that all events run smoothly. They all were up for re-election. By a landslide vote, tallied in my basement, they were elected. If you would like to be involved, let us know. We always appreciate assistance.

Thanks for all the fun you provide. Hope to see you at the summer events.

Wayne

The Butte 05-06

Crested Butte was a skier's dream,
Challenging blues and the blacks could be mean.
A few inches a day of new fallen snow
Made Wayne MacMath holler go, go, go!
A few followed Wayne for two days in
Just to upgrade or earn their "Death March" pin.

There was no reason for any boo-hooing,
If you didn't want to ski, you could go mountain shoeing.
A few of us did and oh what a treat,
Though some of you couldn't stay up on your feet.

At the Buffalo Grille, we did some fine dining.
The vittles were good, so no one was whining.

Accommodations were lovely, though admittedly small,
But that didn't bother 202 at all.

We cooked and showered, laughed and drank,
Played "John" and "Willie" till we all thought they stank.

On the eve of the New Year, Mo threw quite a party.
We ate, we drank and we all felt quite hardy.
The MacMath girls served up the shots and then...
Most of us were wasted by the hour of ten.

There were some of you...and you know who you are,
Spent way too much time at the Avalanche Bar.

Crested Butte was a skier's dream!
Thank you Wayne.
Thank you Maureen.

Picture Perfect

Can you name the trip or the person?

FAMOUS ONE-LINERS

"I didn't know they allowed hunting on the mountain." (said after the retort of avalanche charges at the ski area)

"I haven't drunk that much since I was twenty."

"Let's go feed the Goat."

SPECIAL SCENES

...Big nine-year old eyes, watching the over twenty-ones toast the New Year with Jello-shots in the kitchen

...One of our snowboarders and his father being cruelly sent to the end of the line by the crowd, when they tumbled off the North-face T-bar

...A twenty-something male skier new to the Western Death March buying a helmet after his first day trying to follow the sisters, who were raised on the death march, through the trees

...A "mature" woman jumping on her recently torn ACL injury, when she out-drank the opposition and helped her team win the flip cup race

...Watching everyone open their packed lunches on the mountain, pulling out gourmet tortilla wraps left over from "the party"

...Standing on snowshoes in the middle of the woods, video taping Colorado jays eating nuts from her hand

ANSWERS

Scott, Rene, Maureen, Kristie
Wayne, Matt, Tim & Ed,
Bill, Bob,

Speedy Recovery

Here's wishing a speedy recovery to those members who were on the disabled list this year.

John Bell Eric Bothur
Frank Campbell Rene Hendrickson
Noreen Linus Judy Lott
Bill Sullivan

~Evi Paul

Photo Contest



Vote for your favorite photo in Bucks Mount's 3^d Annual Photo Contest. We had quite a selection and

twelve photos have been selected as the best for entry in the contest:

- Down from the headwall
- Joe is down!
- Now that is what I call powder!
- Laura, Robbie & Matt
- The gang at Stowe
- Wet gloves around the fire
- Evidence
- Billy looking for directions
- Ed looking at avalanches
- Mush!
- Deb's 3 Patriot's Superbowl rings
- Judy skiing the Virgin Islands
- Advance terrain
- Oh what a lift!

The winner will receive a lift ticket for one of their favorite trips.

To vote, go to the Club's web site under Social and click on 2006 Photo Contest Entry. You can vote for up to five of your favorites. Please, only 1 entry per person...no stuffing the ballot box! Deadline for votes is Wednesday, July 19. The winner will be announced at our Pool Party on July 22nd.

Ten Years Ago in *Lift Lines*

An interview with Bud Cartwright, our bus driver, revealed that he was a retired police detective for the Philadelphia Police Department.

Check out the picture of Michael "Spike" Mattie with his new hat!

Kathy Lott (Woltman) led a busload of skier's to Ski Windham for the day.

While skiing Whiteface and staying in Lake Placid, some members went tobogganing and dogsledding on Mirror Lake.

Two buses of eager skiers went to Sunday River/Attitash.

Western trip was to Aspen. Due to bad weather there were delays returning home. The Grimmitt family and friends camped for the night at the Denver Airport. They took over a seating island, "circled the wagons" (luggage and ski equipment) and shared wine in paper cups with other homeless passengers.

Annual Spring Banquet was organized by Ellen Chauncey at the Cock n' Bull Restaurant. We saw the dinner show "Sex, The IRS and the Class Reunion".

A caravan was organized to go to the beach at Island Beach State Park.



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 6/23
- Pool Party 7/22
- Beach Party 8/19