



Lift Lines



Volume 1 Issue 2

Bucks Mount Ski Club

May 1997



Wayne C. MacMath
President

What a tremendous ski season! Feels as if we are just getting warmed up and in shape; and it's April, time for golf, tennis, roller blades, biking and hiking. It's sad to say the ski season has come to an end, unless you head for Killington, not the same as Colorado, eh Karl and Raul!

Once again the Bucks Mount Ski Club has experienced a fantastic, successful year on the slopes. The support given the club this year by its membership was unparalleled. Thanks to the membership, all the trips were sold out or very close. The club greatly appreciates your enthusiasm. Early deposits on trips make for less stress on the trip director and give us more confidence that our trips will depart as scheduled.

During each trip this season we had snow, thereby satisfying the "Snow Guarantee Clause". Even the slightest amount of snow can make a trip more exciting.

In our first message from the president, fitness and diet were stressed as important to each skier. However, don't wait until September to begin workouts. Make physical activities and training a part of your everyday life. Dust off the exercise bike and Nordic Track and get busy for that summer look.

Have a great spring.

Meetings

There are no regular scheduled meetings until September. However, please be aware that we have various social activities between now and September. Please see the various separate articles regarding these activities.

This past ski season was our most successful concerning attendance at meetings. It proves the point "If you feed them, they will come." Remember, there is NO MEETING WITHOUT EATING!

Trip Recap

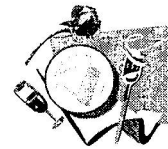
Okemo/Stratton

Our first trip, to Dostals was a success with over 40 people attending. This club has done a great job of being on time for trips. On this first trip, the trip leaders were the last to arrive at 4:40. We had a few trips actually leave before 5:00 this past year.

It appears as if next year we will actually get to ski Magic Mountain one day. They are due to open in December. If you are interested, sign up early for that will be our first trip in January.

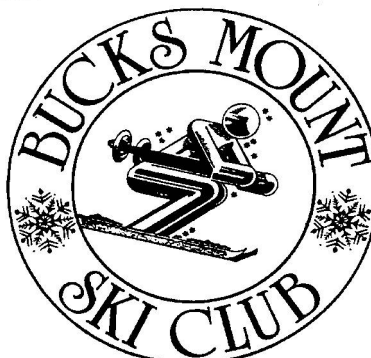
(continued on page 4)

Annual Spring Banquet



Our **Annual Spring Banquet** will be held on Saturday May 31st at the Cock n' Bull Restaurant in Peddler's Village,

Lahaska, PA. It will be a murder mystery, featuring "*Sex, The IRS and the Class Reunion*". We need to meet in the lobby before 7:30 p.m.. Once everyone has gathered, a host will escort everyone downstairs to the cozy "Peddler's Pub". As the play unfolds, we will be joined by several of the characters involving us in the mystery. There is no actual stage, as we are part of the performance. Menus vary for each performance. All consist of soup or salad (whatever is offered that evening), a choice of 3 entrées (chicken, beef, or fish), chef's selected accompaniments, dessert and coffee or tea. Toward the conclusion of the performance, we will be given the opportunity to test our detective skills and guess "WHO DONE IT". The cost per person is \$33.50. Call Ellen Chauncey at (215) 357-8548 for reservations. Mail your check made out to the "Bucks Mount Ski Club" to Ellen at 118 Sycamore Drive, Langhorne, PA 19053. **Payment is needed by Thursday May 10th.**



Our 28th Year

Upcoming Events

May 31..... Annual Spring Banquet

June 18..... Trenton Thunder Ball Game

July 19 Pool Party

August 2 Island Beach State Park

Meetings resume in September.



Meet Bud

While the ski club socializes, eats, drinks, and sleeps when traveling to and from our winter playgrounds, the ever alert bus driver is busy at work making sure we reach our destination safe and sound. One of the club's favorite drivers is Bud Cartwright, who has been on numerous trips with the club.

Bud has been working the past 3 years full time with Starr Tours. He has been a part-time driver since 1968. A graduate of Textile, he is a retired detective from the Philadelphia Police Department. He has been happily married for 33 years and has 3 daughters. Being away on the road has not been a problem, since his detective work was not a 9 to 5 job either.

Bud enjoys "working" with the Bucks Mount Ski Club. "They are a great club, and I have a lot of fun with them, since they are as crazy as I am. The club has always been good and never abused anything." He attributes the success of the club's trips to the group leader, Maureen MacMath, who is very organized and knows how to make the trip a success.

Bud was one of the drivers last year who took the club to Sunday River during a snow storm. The snow started early on Friday, and there was plenty of snow in the parking lot when the bus left after 5:00 PM. It snowed continuously with the bus arriving at the motel at 6:00 AM. Breakfast was at 7:00 AM and the bus left for the mountain at 8:00 AM. There were no complaints from the happy skiers who had plenty of fresh powder, but the bus operators deserved a long rest that day.

Bud skied years ago, but he says very poorly. There is a "gentleman's agreement" with Starr Tours that the bus operator not ski, although the company has never said for them not to ski. After dropping the club off at the mountain for skiing, the first priority is to service the

bus. The bus is topped off with gas, giving it a range of 600 miles. Then it is back to the motel and into the Jacuzzi for some relaxation, followed by some sleep.

Running busses to the slopes starts after Christmas. During the winter are also trips to New York City to see the Broadway shows. Throughout the rest of the year there are trips to Boston, Washington DC, and Williamsburg. In the summer there is a 12 day Canadian loop covering New York, Boston, Montreal, Quebec and Toronto. In November 1997 there will be a special 9 day tour to Biloxi, Mississippi, which will include Atlanta and New Orleans. But it is the ski trips that Bud likes best, since there is always more time to have fun with the people and relax.

Happy trails to you Bud, and we hope to see you on one of our next ski trips.

Trenton Thunder VS Reading Phillies



The Bucks Mount Ski Club will be going to see the Trenton Thunder take on the Reading Phillies on Wednesday, June 18th. Seating will be in the Picnic Area and will include hamburgers, cheeseburgers, hot dogs, tossed salad, potato salad, baked beans, pickle spears, pretzels, potato chips, cookies, watermelon, and soft drinks for \$21 or with beer for \$26. For reservations, call Karl Flesch at (215) 493-0676.

Membership

The drive for membership renewal and new members is now on for the 1997-98 ski season. We had a record number of members last year, topping out at 188 plus children. Bucks Mount Ski Club looks for continued support by its membership. Our goal this year is to cross the MENDOZA line, or 200 for you non-baseball fans. Dues are:

- \$15.00 single renewal
- \$20.00 single new membership
- \$25.00 family renewal
- \$35.00 family new membership

Fill out the enclosed membership form and make your check payable to the Bucks Mount Ski Club. Mail to: Vern Shaw, Treasurer, 705 Autumn Drive, Langhorne, PA 19053.

The Killington-Pico Interconnect

Plans to connect Pico Mountain with Killington are well underway. The interconnect will add 200 acres and 18 miles of trails to Killington's 1,000 acres and 77 miles. It will add 10 more lifts (including two high speed quads) to Killington's 23 lifts.

The current interconnect plans call for a system of at least two, and more likely three, lifts in the area between Rams Head and the peak of Pico. Skiers and riders (continued on page 3)

Officers for the 1996-1997 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) 752-4328
	Judy Lott -----	(215) 321-3485
	Kathy Lott -----	(215) 547-8776
	Barbara Zurlo -----	(215) 860-8363
Treasurer -----	Vern Shaw -----	(215) 322-4037
Recording Secretary -----	Rita Murtha -----	(215) 752-9662
News Letter -----	Karl Flesch -----	(215) 493-0676
	Judy Lott -----	(215) 321-3485
Hospitality -----	Barbara Zurlo -----	(215) 860-8363
Publicity -----	Karl Flesch -----	(215) 493-0676
	Bill "Sully" Sullivan -----	(215) 757-6098

(The Killington-Pico Interconnect)

will need to ride two lifts to get to the top of Pico, and a third is planned to access some of the excellent terrain in this expansive area. The area in between (well over one mile across) will consist of skiing mostly for novices and advanced intermediates.

All Killington lift passes will be honored at Pico's lifts, as they are at Sugarbush, Mount Snow, Attitash/Bear Peak, Sunday River and Sugarloaf. Killington will also continue to offer a lower-priced Pico-only lift pass next season.



Michael "SPIKE" Mattie with his new hat!

On Board!

When you're 47 years old, you sometimes hear a small voice inside you that says: *Just because you've reached middle age, that doesn't mean you shouldn't take on new challenges.* This is the voice of Satan. I know this because, on a mountain in Idaho, I listened to this voice and as a result, my body feels as if it had been used as a trampoline by the Budweiser Clydesdales. This is because I went snowboarding.

For those of you who, for whatever reason - a will to live, perhaps - do not participate in downhill winter sports, I should explain that snowboarding is an activity that is very popular with people who do not feel that regular skiing is lethal enough. These are young, fearless people who can hurtle down a mountainside at 50 m.p.h., knock down mature trees with their faces and then spring to their feet and say "Cool." People like my son. He wanted to try snowboarding, and I decided to learn with him.

In skiing, you wear two skis so you can maintain your balance by moving your feet. With snowboarding, all you get is one board, which is shaped like a giant tongue depressor. Both of your feet are strapped to it, so if you start to fall, you crash to the ground like a tree while skiers swoop past and deliberately spray snow on you.

Skiers hate snowboarders. It's a generational thing. Skiers are (and here I'm generalizing) middle-aged Republicans wearing designer spacesuits; snowboarders are defiant young rebels wearing drab clothing that is baggy enough to cover the snowboarder plus a major appliance. Skiers like to glide down the slopes in graceful arcs; snowboarders attack the mountain, blasting through snowdrifts and leaping off cliffs. Skiers view snowboarders as a menace; snowboarders view skiers as Elmer Fudd.

My first snowboard lesson went fine until I had to stand up on my board, which turns out to be a violation of at least five important laws of physics. I'd struggle to my feet, and then the Physics Police would drop a huge chunk of gravity on me. WHAM - I'd hit the snow.

My son had no trouble at all. In minutes he was cruising happily down the mountain. You could actually see his clothing getting baggier. I, on the other hand, spent most of my time lying on my back, groaning, while spacesuited Republicans swooped past and sprayed snow on me. I now realize that the small hills you see on the ski slopes are formed around the bodies of 47-year olds who tried to learn snowboarding.

-Dave Barry in *Tropic*

Chinese New Year

On Saturday April 19th the Bucks Mount Ski Club celebrated the Chinese New Year (Year of the Ox) at a dinner banquet at the Chinese Cultural & Community Center in Philadelphia. We were served a 10 course feast of delicious food cooked by a cuisine team visiting from Nanjing.

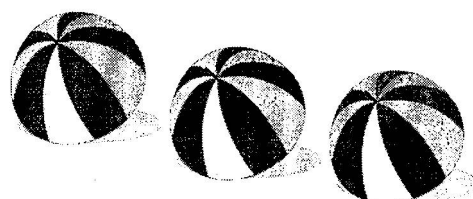
Pool Party



Mark your calendar for Saturday, July 19th. Our annual pool party will be held at Vern and Mary Shaw's, 705 Autumn Drive, Langhorne, PA. Tell your ski tales, show your ski pictures, and get advance information on the Club's 1998 ski trips! It all starts at 1:00 and lasts till? Beef burgers, hot dogs, iced tea and soda will be provided. There will be a salad and dessert table, for which attendees are asked to bring one of their favorite dishes. The cost is \$3.00 per person. For reservations call Vern or Mary at (215) 322-4037 or Maureen MacMath at (215) 624-7751.

Day at Island Beach

Join the Club for a day at Island Beach State Park at the Jersey Shore on Saturday, August 2nd (rain date Sunday, August 3rd). A caravan will leave from the Pizza Hut in Fairless Hills at 8:00 a.m.. Plan on bringing your own picnic food. Additional food and changing facilities are available at the beach. Contact Judy Lott at (215) 321-3485. See you at the beach!



Club Hot Line: (215) 364-4790

(Trip Recap)**Ski Windham**

Thanks go to Kathy Lott for directing our club's first trip to this ski area. Over 30 people had a great day exploring this new mountain. Thanks to everyone who got up "so early" to meet that bus, right Mary?

Whiteface

There were 47 people on the bus and 2 drive ups. We were fortunate with the weather. It was not real cold and they made snow all weekend. The Holiday Inn was a great place to stay, right in the center of Lake Placid. A few people actually went out on the lake in toboggans and dog sleds. I heard a story that one of our younger members (one of the kids) actually was trying to help Whiteface by turning on the snowmaking equipment. Could it have been Dan the Man?

Sunday River/Attitash

Another rousing success. Two busses again made the trip with 80 people on board. What can you say about the meals: Prime Rib or Chicken, what else?

The *Town and Country* does a great job with the buffet breakfast, getting us on our way to skiing quickly. As many times as we have been there, the conditions were fantastic. All the glades were open and lines were minimal. Look for this trip again next year.

Elk

The most successful day trip ever to this area. Thanks to Rita Murtha's guidance and hard work, 46 people had a terrific day of skiing with good Danish in the a.m. and refreshments in the p.m.. Another trip we plan to repeat.

Sugarbush

Now with new ownership, expect this mountain to grow as Sunday River did. The conditions were excellent all weekend, with plenty of new snow. The new high speed quad between the two mountains is a fast, scenic ride. The

lodge was so-so, but the dinners were excellent at *John Egans Big World Pub & Grill*. Look for a possible return to Sugarbush.

Aspen

The record, 68 people enjoyed the ultimate ski town of Aspen, Colorado. Staying right in the middle of the action. During the week we enjoyed over 30 inches of fresh powder. Does it get any better than this?

Aspen hosts many great restaurants and the Bucks Mount Eating Club was on a roll. Everything from Chinese to Mexican to fresh caught game.

Injuries this year were kept to a minimum, except for a few minor bumps and bruises.

However, we did have a few other maladies that occurred. We sincerely hope that Judy Lott is feeling better now as the altitude got the best of her. However Judy and Lisa Waltz had some great shopping and also managed a snowmobile ride to the Maroon Bells.

Sully, feeling terrible the day of the trip, finally weathered the storm, recuperated and was able to ski a few days.

Joe Linus suffered the one injury, a broken wrist. This unfortunate accident happened on a double black diamond called "Laundry Chute". Apparently this chute is very narrow and steep. Joe lost his balance, bounced off of a rock wall and broke his wrist. Not to worry, the doctor molded the cast to his ski pole and Joe was skiing again the next day.

The only downside to the Aspen trip was that groups 2 and 3 were grounded due to poor weather conditions and had to find other means of transportation.

Special sympathy is offered to the Grimmitt family and friends who camped for the night in the Denver Airport. We understand they took over a seating island, "circled the wagons" (luggage and ski equipment), and shared

wine in paper cups with other homeless passengers. If the photographs turn out, you have to show us. By the way, don't ever try to take an airport luggage cart from Jacquie.

The Bucks Mount Ski Club wishes to apologize to all who were inconvenienced by the weather. We are currently working to address the problems to the best of our ability.

Top 10 Reasons Why WE HAD A GREAT TIME IN ASPEN WITH THE BUCKS MOUNT SKI CLUB

10. Ruthie's Run and the Big Burn.
9. The food at the "Welcome" Party lasted approximately 6 minutes—A NEW CLUB RECORD.
8. The hot cider, coffee and cookies served FREE by the Aspen Ambassadors.
7. Aspen has great medical care—we really needed it this time.
6. The seven-digit real estate prices were intriguing to all of us.
5. Where else could you have dinner for two for just \$300? Hey, that included the tip.
4. We had to ski the "STINKING POWDER" day after day.
3. Traveling with the "first group" is the only way to go.
2. ORIENTERRING is now in everyone's vocabulary. Getting to the Spider Sabich picnic palace was great training.

AND THE #1 REASON WHY WE HAD SUCH A GREAT TIME IN ASPEN

1. Hollywood has contacted the Bucks Mount Ski Club for a detailed account of how we got to Aspen. They are looking to film a sequel to *TRAINS, PLANES, AND AUTOMOBILES*.

Lyn & Joe Huttemann

Lift Lines



Bucks Mount Ski Club
P.O. Box 424
Levittown, PA 19058
Club Hot Line (215) 364-4790

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