

North Penn *Ski Club*



Seasons Change ...

***NEXT MEETING,
NEW LOCATION & TIME
7PM, Thursday
November 12***

*The Red Cedar Grille,
249 Bethlehem Pike
(Route 309), Colmar
www.theredcedar.com*

Guests & visitors welcome!

*Inclement weather? Call an
officer for any cancellation info.*

And so will we!

We have some exciting, interesting news to share with you regarding the future of North Penn Ski Club — I'll leave the explanation of the board's latest meetings and thought processes to our new Vice President, Dave Schoneker (see page 2). It's a bit lengthy, however, Dave is quite the businessman and salesman, and has put together an impressive, all-inclusive proposal. Nothing is set in stone just yet, but the chisels are ready if enough members want to try this! (In case you didn't read the entire email that was sent in late October, you have the chance to review it again in this letter.)

More good news ... Some new volunteers have stepped up, some current board members have decided to stay on ... Many discussions have taken place, a lot has transpired since October's general meeting, and changes are already in the works ... a new president, new meeting place, and a new "vibe". We're bringing back the fun aspects of the club and doing our best to eliminate some of the admin drudgery. Hopefully, all of you will also be as excited as Dave is about the proposal and new volunteers ... and North Penn can once again continue on as a viable club!

*Downhill Times
November 2015*



NEW PLACE, NEW TIME!

As we've mentioned quite a bit lately, NPSC will undergo some changes in order to evolve and continue on into the future. Not everyone is thrilled with "change", but once you've been to our new meeting place, we're sure you will be excited about this change! Starting with November's meeting, we will meet at **7PM** at the **Red Cedar Grille**, located on Route 309, just a short distance from the Elks Lodge. Join your skiing friends for dinner, or drinks, or beers and appetizers, or coffee and dessert – whatever floats your boat. Just **BE THERE** to check it out – see you Thursday, the 12th!

www.northpenskiclub.org



Ski Club Revival — Let's Bring Back the Fun!



Dear NPSC Members,



Many of us have all enjoyed skiing with the North Penn Ski Club for many years. There are many memories that we all have of great moments on NPSC ski trips or at other events. We have all had lots of FUN for many years!!! The long-term friendships (and even marriages) that have developed over the years have been great! However, as you all know, over the last few years things haven't been easy for the club to operate and function properly since only a few people were volunteering to help as officers, board members or activity leaders and the same people had to do all the work over and over. Many clubs around the country have had similar problems and have begun making big changes in the way they operate to be able to provide better value for their members with lower expenses both in funding and in people resources. It hasn't been as much FUN for everyone lately as it used to be.

The people who have volunteered their time to run the club have done a remarkable job at keeping things going, and we all need to be very thankful for their efforts over the last few years. However, as you know, for a number of reasons, the problems we have been having has led us up to the dissolution vote that was recently discussed.

The club's future was discussed at the September meeting. Unfortunately, I was traveling and couldn't make the meeting to provide comments about my thoughts for possibly getting the club back on track and bringing back the FUN! I asked Jenny Hutchinson before the October meeting if I could make a proposal to the club before any decision on the dissolution vote was made, and she gave me some time at the meeting to make my proposal. I appreciate Jenny and the club allowing me to make this proposal and to postpone the finalization of the dissolution vote until the November meeting.

I think, if we are willing to make some significant changes in the way the club operates and we become a more

virtual club, that we can save the club and continue to have a great time together with our long-time friends. Listed below and on the next page is my proposal that I shared with those at October's meeting. During and after the meeting, it was obvious from some of the discussions that occurred that there are some people who want to make this happen as much as I do.

In fact, after the meeting, several people stepped up to help make this happen!! Please take a look at the proposal below and on the next page that WE now would like to make to the club. Think about this proposal and come to November's meeting at the Red Cedar, prepared to have further discussions about the future of the club. Do you want us to keep things going and will you continue to participate and have FUN if we all decide to go forward in this manner?

I THINK WE CAN DO THIS, AND SO DO OTHERS!!

— Dave Schoneker



CLUB MEETINGS & BOARD MEETINGS

- The attendance at NPSC monthly meetings has not been what it used to be, and usually the same people show up each month. This meeting model must change for the new virtual club to be successful. So, we will no longer meet at the Elks Lodge which costs the club money for rent each month. Also, the room is way too big for the type of meeting our club can support, and it is not really a FUN environment.
- We will move the meeting location to The Red Cedar Grille on Route 309 (STARTING in NOVEMBER!) and utilize meetings as a social function (eating, drinking, etc.), rather than a formal type of meeting as in the past. No rent! Ski trip information can be discussed at these meetings to help fill trips.
- There will no longer be "programs" at meetings unless a good idea comes up that someone wants to pursue.
- Board meetings will be held only when needed to limit the amount of time spent by Board members, and we will investigate if teleconferences or free webinars (such as GoTo Meeting from NSCF) could be used.



NEW NPSC OFFICERS & BOARD:

- JoAnne Landis has stepped up to be President
- Dave Schoneker volunteered to be Vice President
- Jenny Hutchinson decided to stay on as Treasurer
- Linda Dedman has volunteered to stay on as Secretary and Membership (although another helper would be nice for these roles)
- Judy Gordon is volunteering as a Board Member
- Frank Prindle has also decided to stay on as a Board Member

This means we now have a full set of Officers and a Board who wants to take the club forward; however we would still be interested in getting at least two more Board Members. Interested?!

Ski Club Revival, continued



NEWSLETTER & CLUB COMMUNICATION

- Newsletters will no longer be mailed out in paper form (except for those without computers/email). It will be emailed and posted on the NPSC website for member access. JoAnne Landis has volunteered to coordinate website postings and other periodic club news emails. Andrea Schoneker has volunteered to help JoAnne publish information on the web or with other club activities – Dave Schoneker will also help with the communications programs.
- The Board will review our website provider program and possibly pursue more cost effective options if they are available.

MEMBERSHIP

- Expand the use of Facebook, LinkedIn, Ski-related Social Networks, and other online tools to target obtaining new members, both skiers and snowboarders
- Develop an active program to sell the club to skiers in their 40's and 50's while also trying to find an appropriate approach to interest younger skiers in the club's activities – some activities may be designed specifically for a younger crowd.
- Utilize the tools that the National Ski Federation (NSCF) has developed which can help provide new ways to develop our membership recruitment efforts for the club. We will take full advantage of all tools available from NSCF.
- NPSC will begin actively promoting the club at various ski shows both related to the council and in public forums such as ski shops and mall shows.

SKI & SNOWBOARD TRIPS

Focus the club's priorities primarily on running ski and snowboard trips and a few key other activities like the picnic and other informal events which do not cost the club money. After all, the main activity that NPSC members tend to participate in are the ski trips. Here is the plan for the future:

- Run one Western ski trip or EPSC Carnival trip each year – price it safely to not lose money. (Focus primarily on EPSC Carnival trips – less work for the trip leaders – easy collaboration with other clubs or the EPSC Melting Pot to fill trip.)
- Run one Eastern ski trip when the EPSC Carnival is going east or if a great deal comes up with interest.
- Run one or two Elk Mountain day ski trips per year
- Actively recruit new trip leaders and get them involved in current trips as assistants to help train them to take on a future trip themselves. We will focus on getting some of the younger members involved as trip leaders and assistants.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

- Current general insurance policy costs over \$1600 per year. It is critical that the club have a General Liability Insurance Policy for the club to function and protect the officers and members.
- In the past, the primary reason we held an auction was to provide the funds needed to cover the insurance policy and some other club costs of operation. We MUST cut costs!
- The NSCF has developed a brand new insurance policy from a company called Cornerstone which is specifically designed for ski clubs and ski club activities. Since it has been developed to be a nationwide policy offering, the costs are significantly less than the general policy that we currently have.
- Change the NPSC insurance plan from our current plan to the new Cornerstone policy now being offered by the NSCF. This insurance policy should cost approximately half what our current policy costs!!!
- An auction or other major fundraiser will not be held for the next few years. To cover our key costs, NPSC Membership Dues could be raised from \$20 to \$30 per member. Family memberships would then be raised from \$25 to \$40 per family.

- This raise would allow the Insurance costs to be covered without the need for an auction or fundraiser – if members desire, an auction could be held in the future depending on the level of volunteers.
- Re-institute 50/50 raffles at all meetings, trips and key activities to provide an opportunity for a member to make some money and for the club to make some too. Most people have enjoyed the 50/50s in the past.

RE-EVALUATION

Let's see how this goes for a full year (through the 2017 ski season) and then determine if this proposal works!! If we do not feel this new structure is working, we can either change it or decide to dissolve the club in the future.

There really isn't any reason why we need to make the dissolution decision this year, given this proposal and the fact we now have a full set of Officers and a number of Board members.

I did not make all of these points in October since people stepped up to be Officers and Board members after the meeting. We already held a meeting of the new board group who are supportive of the points listed above. Do you want to see the club continue? If so, please come to the November meeting at the Red Cedar Grille on Route 309 to discuss this further or contact us and give us your thoughts.

I am hoping for a really good turnout at the November 12th meeting so we can discuss this further and make a decision to go forward. I am hoping that you will help us find the FUN AGAIN AND MAKE THIS FLY!!!

— **Dave Schoneker, NPSC Vice President**



EPSC / Council News



Discount Lift Tickets

The **Discount Lift Ticket program** is open to all members of EPSC clubs! Tickets are available for local Pocono mountains as well as a few New England resorts. Order tickets via Council's website by completing the user-friendly order form and e-mailing it to the address provided. "The Ticket Guy", Ken Foster verifies your club membership and gets the tickets to you ASAP. The online order forms will be available to **council members** AFTER December 1, 2015

www.easternPAskicouncil.org

Discount tickets are for use by current club members **ONLY**. Tickets are good only for the current season, so limit purchases to what you are sure you can use. Return fees apply for all unused tickets, and the number of returns accepted is limited.



Ski Club / Council Appreciation Days



GORE MOUNTAIN, New York

Gore Mountain will be offering "Ski Club Appreciation Day" rates of just \$42 for one or \$75 for two days of skiing on these dates: December 5th-6th, 2015; January 14th; February 14th; March 20th-21st, 2016

Each person must show their photo ID and ski club or council card. Council day tickets may only be purchased at the Snow Sports Desk of the Northwoods Lodge or Guest Services Office. Questions: Contact Cindy at (518) 251-2411 x1008 or cindy@goremountain.com.

WHITE FACE, New York

Tickets are just \$42 per person with a ski club card AND photo ID on the following dates: December 6th-7th 2015; January 9th, February 1st, March 6th-7th; March 31st-April 2, 2016

Each person must show their photo ID and ski club or council card to get this price. Purchase tickets at Guest Services Office.

Mount Snow Awareness Days 2015-2016

Mount Snow will extend the following discounted dates and rates to members of the Eastern Pennsylvania Ski Council through its Group Sales office:

Date	Awareness Day Rate	Group Rate	Window Rate
Friday, December 18	\$37	\$40	\$65
Saturday, December 19	\$42	\$48	\$65
Sunday, December 20	\$37	\$40	\$65
Friday, February 19	\$52	\$76	\$92
Saturday, February 20	\$56	\$67	\$92
Sunday, February 21	\$51	\$40	\$92
Friday, March 11	\$48	\$50	\$90
Saturday, March 12	\$56	\$67	\$90
Sunday, March 13	\$51	\$57	\$90



To purchase discounted tickets, members must go to the Group Sales office. The Group Sales Office is located in the Clocktower Building Monday through Friday from 8:30AM-1:00PM and at the Sundance Base Lodge on weekends and holidays from 7:30AM-1:00PM.



You must have a ski club membership card with NCSF sticker on the back, a photo ID, and purchase (\$5 fee) an Evolution Stowe Card to get Council discounts on these dates.

Adult tickets, age 13+: 1-day = \$45, 2-day = \$90, 3-day = \$135. Child 6-12 years: 1-day = \$33, 2-day = \$66, 3-day = \$99.

Discount lodging is also available. www.stowe.com/groups

WINTER CARNIVAL January 16-23, 2016



**\$1,929 / PERSON, DOUBLE OCC. Limit 30 people.
ONLY ONE OPEN SPOT LEFT — FOR ONE MALE!**



LODGING: 7 Nights lodging at the Huntley Lodge, including current taxes, 2 queen beds, round trip portage at hotel, full daily breakfast buffet, free overnight ski storage. **LIFT TICKETS:** 5-out-of-7 Day ski pass; 6th day add \$48. Non-skiers deduct \$270. **TRANSPORTATION:** Round trip airport transfers from Bozeman / Big Sky via private bus. Round trip airport Philadelphia / Bozeman via Delta Airlines. Checked baggage fees are additional. Only 30 seats available in our package.

ACTIVITIES: Welcome Reception Sunday with hors d'oeuvres and drink ticket; Gala dinner buffet and dance (themed banquet "Woodstock") on Tuesday; Practice runs for race on Tuesday; EPSC Team Race on Wednesday, Race day lunch on Wednesday; Casual dinner on Thursday; daily on-mountain tours. Between the (3) evening events, there will be (3) drink coupons distributed to each person for the purchase of wine, beer or soda.

PAY SCHEDULE: \$1200 Deposit Due **NOW**. \$729 /person due December 4. (Add the \$48 6th day lift ticket to balance.) Make your deposit check out to NPSC and mail to: JENNY HUTCHISON, 3225 FENNEL RD, PENNSBURG, PA 18073 **Questions:** 215 541 1189 jennyhutch@comcast.net

This is virtually your "last chance" — Council's Melting Pot Carnival package is also sold out!

Time for an Upgrade?

Looking to upgrade your gear? Do you have an old pair of skis that just aren't cutting it anymore? How about an old snowboard that's seen better days? Maybe old boots with worn out liners or a cracked shell?

For the month of November, **Salter's Ski Shop** in Eagleville PA will take in your old equipment, in any condition, and turn it into instant credit towards new equipment! Don't miss out on this limited time offer as it expires Monday, November 30th!

Also during the month of November, if you consign equipment with Salters and it sells before December 1st, you get 100% of the sale price (verses the normal 80%) in store credit. If you're in the market, it's a great way to purchase quality equipment on a budget, or if you're a seller, to resell your current gear allowing you to upgrade to this year's new models. For full details on Salter's consignment program, please visit their website at www.saltersski.com



SUN VALLEY TICKETS

Anyone interested in TWO 5-out-of-7-day lift tickets for Sun Valley, Idaho? Jenny Hutchison has them and can't use them (good for this season only). So if you're up for a getaway to Sun Valley this winter, give Jenny a call, quick!

215 541 1189



Upper Bucks News

The Upper Bucks Ski Club is running a trip to **MOUNT SNOW, VERMONT**

FEBRUARY 19 - 21, 2016
(WEEKEND TRIP)

Accommodations: The Lodge at Mt. Snow located at the base of Mt. Snow (on shuttle route) via Hagey Coach & Tours – video bus with restroom and wifi.

Rates: Four (4) per room, \$380 /person
Three (3) per room, \$400/person
Two (2) per room, \$420 /person
One (1) per room, \$520

INCLUDED IN TRIP: Bus transportation, Lodging, two hot breakfasts, Saturday evening dinner, 2 day lift ticket

AMENITIES: Cocktail lounge, Exercise gym, Game room, Restaurant, Room service – limited hours, Buffet breakfast, Free Local Shuttle, Hot Tub, Wireless Internet, Fireplace

Departure: Bus leaves from PA Turnpike Commuter Lot, Route 663, Quakertown at 5pm. Return: Arrive back in Quakertown approximately 11pm Sunday night.

Reservation: \$100 per person at time of registration; \$200 p/p due December 1, 2015, Balance due February 1, 2016.

Trip leader: Karin Wheelin 215-630-8121
k_wheelin@yahoo.com



Ski-Related News

Utah Senior Passes

In 2001 or 2002, when **Park City** changed its senior pass from free to \$300, a flurry of letters to the editor registered collective outrage. Not to mention that even at \$300, it was a great deal for a season's pass. Now, under Vail's ownership, it doesn't matter if you're 19 or 89, the cost is \$599 for locals and \$789 for everyone else. To be fair, they throw in the rest of the Vail-owned resorts with the purchase, but not The Canyons, the area next door under Vail's management.

A short drive away is smaller, more intimate **Sundance**. Vertical and skiable acreage are smaller, but on weekdays it is less inhabited. On powder days, it is vacant, providing one untracked run after another, some on steep, continuously pitched terrain. Sundance's food is equivalent to that of a well-reviewed restaurant. And maybe because he's an older dude, Robert Redford cuts a great deal for seniors (65+). This year, a day pass is \$21, up from \$15 last season. The season pass for a senior is \$125.

World's Largest Ski Lesson

A number of ski associations in the U.S. are plotting to pull off the "world's largest ski and snowboard lesson" Jan. 8, 2016, with the goal of having it officially recorded in the Guinness Book of World Records. The goal is also to use this stunt as a kickoff event for Learn to Ski and Snowboard Month and the Bring a Friend learn-to campaigns.



Skiing Super Heroes

Spiderman and Cap'n America, Skiing's Super Heroes, about to save the day at the top of Snowbird tram (March 2014).

Ok fellow skiers and boarders, have you ever done so in costume? If you could choose one Super Hero to dress up as, what would it be?

Waterville Valley Silver Streaks

Silver Streaks, a program for the 50-plus set at Waterville Valley, N.H., is nearly 30 years old, and is one of the first senior ski programs in the country to cater to those age 50 and over, a demographic astutely valued by Waterville's founder ex-Olympian Tom Corcoran. For the \$95 joining fee, senior skiers during the 2014/15 season got:

Reserved area in Parking Lot # 1, complimentary coffee and pastries in the lodge from 8:30-10AM in a special meeting area, complimentary snow-sports clinics, après-ski party every Wednesday at rotating venues, banquets and other special events throughout the season, reduced price NASTAR every Wednesday, and a Nordic program every Wednesday for two hours of Nordic skiing with professional guides, followed by lunch at the Nordic Center. The program runs Monday-Thursday, non-holiday, early December to mid-March.

Makes ya wish mountains around here would try this, huh?



Sugarbush Senior Rates

It is a good thing for ski areas and resorts to be kind to seniors. Not only do discounts, special activities and amenities bring more frequent senior visits, it also encourages them (us) to bring our families who are the next generation. So, it is with great pleasure and satisfaction that we notice a ski area stepping out nicely in early-season efforts to be senior-friendly. Sugarbush Resort, Warren, VT., has announced a mid-week, all-mountain, non-holiday pass for 65+ for \$199. In doing so, Sugarbush has LOWERED its senior age for discounted season tickets from 70 to 65. Now that's senior-friendly.

For more information relating to skiers aged 50 years old or more, visit www.SeniorsSkiing.com

Interesting site!

Have Adventure, Will Share

Do you have a photo, adventure, or story we can share with members? Just let our editor, JoAnne Landis, know so it can be included in a future newsletter!



Springtime in Southern Vermont

Midweek Drive-Up Trip to Okemo, Killington, Pico

Sunday, March 6th to Friday, March 11th, 2016

- Only \$599 per person, double occupancy
- Slope-side resort accommodations:
 - 3 nights at Jackson Gore Village (6-9 March)
 - 2 nights at Killington Grand Hotel (9-11 March)
- Welcome reception at both hotels
- 5-1/2* day lift ticket valid at Okemo, Killington, Pico
 - * Half-day is valid Sunday afternoon if you arrive early enough.
 - (Ticket is also valid any day at Mt. Sunapee, NH)



This is a great price, people!! Compare to rack rates / window rates at \$895/person, and compare to ski-and-stay packages at \$785/person. No deposit to sign up — Pay in full by mid January. Members of all EPSC ski clubs welcome! **Contact Frank Prindle by email: prindle@iee.org**



KILLINGTON GRAND RESORT HOTEL

Killington's only full-service mountainside hotel features hotel rooms, studios, suites, and pent-houses. A wide range of amenities are available including free wireless internet, Ovations Restaurant and Lounge, convenience store / gift shop, ski and snowboard equipment check, valet parking, and game room. The health club includes weight and cardiovascular equipment, sauna, steam room, and a 75-foot outdoor heated pool with two hot tubs featuring views of Killington.



JACKSON GORE VILLAGE (OKEMO)

Located at the base of Jackson Gore, this property includes the Jackson Gore Inn, Adams House, and Bixby House. These rooms offer the widest variety of on-site amenities with the charm and convenience of a country inn and the convenience of hotel services. Guests can enjoy The Adventure Zone, Spring House pool and fitness center, The Ice House, indoor/outdoor pools, a firepit, child care, retail and so much more! Plus, enjoy on-site dining at the Coleman Brook Tavern.

Birthdays!

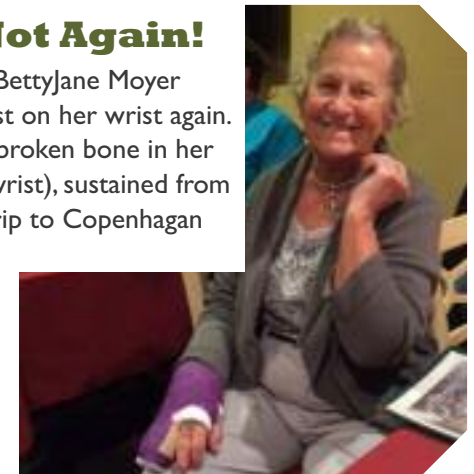
Judy Gordon	Nov. 3
Jean Buchanan	Nov. 4
Jim Searl	Nov. 11
Frank Prindle	Nov. 13
Joan Moore	Nov. 14
Laura Miller	Nov. 14
Joe Licwinko	Nov. 17
Bruce Shaffer	Nov. 23
Pete Ryan	Nov. 23
Lynn Rothman	Nov. 24
Ryan Landis	Nov. 29
Lori Levering	Dec. 5
Ken Foster	Dec. 13
Jason Landis	Dec. 15

Pie Contest Winners: At October's meeting, we enjoyed several delicious entries in our first-ever pie baking contest. The first prize winner was Linda Dedman with a scrumptious apple pie. Second place went to Rae Ann Triol with a gorgeous cherry cheese pie. Other drool-worthy pies were submitted by Jane Chambers and Melissa Triol. Thanks to all for a great contest!

Oh No, Not Again!

Turns out that Bettyjane Moyer is sporting a cast on her wrist again. This time it's a broken bone in her hand (not the wrist), sustained from a fall during a trip to Copenhagen earlier this fall.

Get well soon BJ!






**North Penn
Ski Club**
 819 Chestnut Street
 Lansdale, PA 19446

Visit our web site! www.northpenskiclub.org

Ski Related News

Vermont Ski History and Stats

Steeped in ski and snowboard history, Vermont has something not all other winter destinations have: a deep sense of snowsports culture and community dating back to the early 1900s. Home to the first rope tow erected in 1934 at Gilbert's Hill in Woodstock, the birthplace of the National Ski Patrol and the first Nordic Center started by the famous Trapp family, Vermont is a destination like no other.

Vermont welcomes between 4 and 4.5 million skiers and riders to resorts each season, making it the No. 1 state in the East for skiing and riding and third in the country. With 20 alpine destinations and 30 cross country ski destinations, there is a lot to explore. In fact, there are over 6,000 skiable acres open for downhill skiing, and nearly 1,300 miles of Nordic track to glide upon. An average of over 200 inches of snow falls over the state of Vermont each season, but 80% of the alpine terrain is supplemented by snowmaking. There are even seven Nordic resorts that have snowmaking to ensure great cross country ski conditions as well.

Vermont produces more US Winter Olympians per capita than any other state by a long shot. Nineteen athletes with Vermont ties made their way to Sochi in February 2014 to compete for their country. That said, it's not only the number of Olympians from Vermont that is impressive, it's the quality. Six Vermont athletes took home medals from the 2014 Olympic games in Sochi. That is six out of 28 total medals for the USA, meaning 21% of the winning athletes have Vermont roots. Not bad for a little New England state of only 625,000 inhabitants.



Northern Websites & Phones

www.belleayre.com	1-800-942-9604
www.goremountain.com	1-800-342-1234
www.greekpeak.net	1-800-365-7669
www.windhammountain.com	1-800-SKI-WINDHAM
www.killington.com	1-800-422-3261
www.mountsnow.com	1-802-464-2151
www.okemo.com	1-802-228-5222
www.loonmtn.com	1-603-745-8100

