

EPSC Spring Dinner Meeting
May 14, 2009
Best Western Inn at Towamencin
Hosted by: Buck Ridge Ski Club

The Winter General Meeting of the Eastern Pennsylvania Ski Council was held on May 14, 2009 at the Best Western Inn at Towamencin. Bucks Ridge Ski Club hosted the meeting. Dan Aaronson called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. – A thank you to fellow members and sponsors.

Sponsors and Mountains:

Jay Peak Ski Resort – Chic – new hotel being built – 57 rooms - It should be finished by March 1st, 2010 – Have booked three ski clubs for March. The new facility has elevators, three floors, bar, behind facility will be an ice rink. Old hotel will stay up for one year – then it will be demolished and another new hotel will be built.

Greek Peak – Laura Reilly – new hotel – Hope Hotel and indoor water park. opening in Oct 2009. 2011 expansion to the slope, following will be a golf course.

Bucks County River Country - Dan Reed – Delaware River, tubing, canoeing, kayaking 6 or 4 hours – leisurely family float

Blue Mountain – Bruce Ebert – Festivals

Italy Ski Tours – Mary Ellen Doyle – satisfied client and is representing the Tour Operator. It is based in Venice. They are totally different – personal representative for the entire week. Contact Mary Ellen for more information.

Ski Area Announcements:

Elk Mountain – Bob DeLuca introduced Dan Willy – terrain park manager. Planting trees again. Already started re-grading this year, improved lighting.

Stowe – Linda Hodecker – Opened the new lodge at the Spruce Lodge. Working on phase 2 of hotel this year. There are 5 day get away specials and 2 day info on the tables.

Howard Weiss – Main Line Ski Club – May 20th – Philadelphia meeting – new branch of the club. Glen also spoke about the Phila branch.

Becky Haywise, Pres of Susquehanna Ski Club – ski marathon for Lymphoma.

Dan Aronson asked that any door prizes NOT be resold on E-Bay. If you cannot use your door prize, please give it to a friend. Our generous sponsors will not continue their support if items are being sold.

EPSC Officer Reports

President, Bob Smith – reiterates – do not sell tickets on E-Bay. The mountains are watching and we were contacted regarding a posting.

Treasurer Report - Wally Sliwinski – Presented a Treasurer Apology to Fall Line – they were not delinquent – Everyone is paid. Lift tickets will come in slightly lower than last year. Overall the

council is running a deficient – 35% less than last year. Council cup cost us approx \$1,000 last year – this year \$100. Carnival loss was not as good. Winterfest did very well – netted \$10,600 Ken Foster made a motion to accept the report, Dave Schoneker seconded the motion.

Recording Secretary – Lynn Geesaman – Minutes from the Winter Dinner Meeting were presented. Maddi Dondore made motion to accept, Jeff Geesaman seconded the motion.

Corresponding Secretary - Kathy Domenick – will be e-mailing clubs shortly for updates.

Bob Smith – New Public Relations position will be filled by Janet Elliott. A second new position - Meeting Coordinator – obtain sponsors, solicit host clubs, set dates for dinner meetings – Larry Kirschner. John Lotz is missing due to a fire at the Doylestown store. – Not a total loss – due to the firefighters, much of the inventory was saved. The store should be rebuilt by next winter. ORI brochures on the tables. This information was sent out to the contact list to pass on to the members to offer their members. Outdoor Recreational Insurance – annual premiums for various options of coverage – not just winter sports, year round protection is available. SNOWEAST Magazine – notify the Editor so your club will continue to receive the magazine over the late Spring and Summer. Council is also looking at the EZee Ski Strap – through the provider – cost \$10. It enables easy removal of your ski poles over your gloves.

Committee Reports:

Advertising – Lydia Hill – Last report for Lydia – there will not be a printed copy for this coming season, thus ads will not be sold next year.

National Ski Federation – Lydia Hill – Nothing to report.

Publications – No one has stepped up to this position. An electronic publication will be developed via Bob Smith and Frank Dulin. New stickers will be prepared electronically and forwarded to the clubs. The on-line directory will be used. Make sure the directory is up to date on the council website:

User Name: XXXX password XXXX (Contact Representative for this information)

Keystone race is a conflict with the Carnival this year. More information at www.keystonenationals.com

National Ski Council Treasurer stated - \$25,000 or less MUST file 900N 990 must be filed for amounts greater than \$25,000. Tax exempt status may be revoked if the filing is not filed within three years of the 2008 tax filing. Contact Lydia if interested in more information on this topic by professionals. Ski industry interested in feedback from the clubs. Ken gave Lydia a BIG thank you for her years of hard work.

ASIA – Pete Ryan not present.

Winterfest – Nanci Burkey – 200 attendees for the 9th annual event. Nine ski clubs were involved with the basket contest. King of Prussia and Buck Ridge were awarded prizes for the high bids on their baskets. We have outgrown Williamsons Restaurant. The new location will be – Park Ridge – King of Prussia – North Gulph Road – November 6th, price - \$28 for Hor D' oeuvres – cash bar. Silent auction items and vendors in one room, center for registration, a separate room for live auction. Donations from Winterfest: \$525 for ASIA. If the organization sold tickets, they earned \$5.00 per ticket sold as an increase in donation. National Ski Patrol – Pete Benson, Hank, and Judy Armstrong accepted their donation.

Adaptive Sports - \$488 from the basket contest.

Wounded Warriors - \$200 (Adaptive program for Veterans)

Nanci is looking for volunteers from the clubs to assist with Winterfest – Club tables at a cost of \$10 or \$15 to obtain new members for their clubs. Please e-mail Nanci if you are willing to volunteer.

Fundraising – Nanci Burkey – EZee Straps for sale as fundraiser. Golf outing will be planned for next year. Please check with your clubs to see what interest there may be.

Council Carnival - Dave Schoneker – The itinerary for the Heavenly trip is on the table. Melting Pot information is available for clubs who are not running their own program. 430 spots are blocked and there are still clubs talking about joining the trip. If you run a trip to any Vail Resort next year, you can run your second trip with only 16 people. If your club is running a trip to Heavenly, that already qualifies as your first trip. There are also some additional comps available for the second trip as well.

Bob Smith - Killington Carnival – competition between Dave and PJ. Racers – 76 people in the bitter cold – wind chill was -20. 10 club teams. There were various awards for Best Crash, Fastest Male and Female. Top three teams Lancaster B – third place, Flying Dutchmen A team – second place, Lancaster A team was first place. Mardi Gras was the theme at Killington. Toga theme will be the theme for next year at Heavenly.

Dave Schoneker – 2011 Carnival will be at Waterville Valley – option for clubs wanting to spend a day at Loon. Western feel to the mountain. They are currently in the process of putting together a FAM trip. There are 6 mountains being considered for the 2012 Carnival. The list will be narrowed to two mountains by August. Both mountains should be at Heavenly next year to present their mountain to the attendees. 2013 – possibilities of running a major international carnival in Quebec. Councils from up and down the East coast are considering this event. The potential dates: Feb 1,2,3 – first weekend of the major winter carnival in Quebec. Hoping to come to MTS next year with a plan for this to come to fruition. This will be an “event”, rather than just a carnival.

Historian/Membership - Irene Block – Please respond to the dinner invitations more rapidly. Larry added to that thought – please have your clubs to respond early. There are deadlines by the restaurant for number of attendees. Nanci suggested charging \$5 or \$10 more if responding after the due date. Larry will consider that suggestion. 23 clubs present with 72 people.

Lift Ticket Program – Ken Foster – Sugarbush requires a membership card be shown when using a discount ticket. Lydia will design a logo and NJ ski council logo for our stickers for next year. Be SURE to communicate to your members to take their membership cards along to the mountain when using the discount tickets. In excess of \$61,000 was deposited, tickets returned for credit \$4,529, refunds of \$5870.50 – Over \$10,000 in returns. When Killington was on our list of options, we sold about \$30,000 more in sales. Please return tickets early if you have a situation where you know you will not be able to use them for the remainder of the season, particularly the New England tickets. Please be more frugal with ordering the tickets. Ken will be working with Frank Dulin for a form and rules for purchase on the website. The program is there to use, but don't abuse the privilege.

Monday Night Race Gate Program – Frank Cressman – Late start – third week in Jan. They did get 5 sessions in before the council race. Participation has been diminishing. Exploring other venues, such as Bear Creek and Nastar for next year. Will be looking for feedback from the various clubs for what they would like to see.

Nordic – Pete Benson – Explained Nordic skiing and success of a trip run by new Nordic Club.

Public Relations – Janet Elliott – She got back into skiing after seeing a Snowdrifts Magazine. Her mission will be to get other people who had skied to get back into skiing again. She will want to take advantage of other media out there. Go back to your clubs and tell them about Janet and her new position. Her e-mail address is out on the website, contact her with information your club may be doing. She would like to get your name out there.

Parliamentarian - Betsey Galli - No report.

Safety - Pete Benson and Judy Armstrong – Natasha Richardson story – be sure to ski with a buddy. Natasha signed off stating she didn't care for medical attention. When you are with a friend, they know if you are not acting normal for you. Head injuries can go downhill fast. Pete – Kennedy, Sonny Bono, Richardson – all head injuries. A lot of ski resorts will rent a helmet for \$5. So far, it is not required to wear a helmet – that may be changing.

Senior Alpine – Pam DeCampli – Feb 22nd at Blue Mt – 18 teams over 100 racers. A B and Masters all won by Main Line. The A cup competition – Main Line – 1st , Dutchmen – 2nd – Mack – 3rd. Last Sunday in February will be the next competition.

President's Picnic - Maddi Dondore — no date yet. Buckmans has agreed to host again this year at their Limerick location. E-mails will be sent with the particulars. Auction tickets will be distributed at the Picnic. – Be sure someone from the club attends.

Webmaster – Frank Dulin – Not too early to post next season's ski trips on the database. Update club information on the website. If you have an article to submit to the E-Snowdrifts, forward to Frank.

Meeting Coordinator – Larry Kirschner – Meetings will continue to be held at the Best Western in Towamencin. It appears to be a location with easy access. The idea is to still have the clubs run the meetings, but Larry will oversee the event.

Old Business – none

New Business – President's Awards presented to Lynn Geesaman and Kathy Domenick. Club of the Year – Upper Bucks Ski Club; Fritz Koenig Award – Lydia Hill

Election – Larry Kirschner representing the nominating committee submitted:

Bob Smith, Pres., Ken Foster, VP, Wally Sliwinski, Treasurer, Scarlett Glueck. Lynn Geesaman agreed to remain on as Recording Secretary

Bob asks the nominating committee to stay on and continue looking for a President and Recording Secretary Position for next year.

Pete Bensen – Museum Hall of Fame – if you know of anyone worthy of nomination to the Ski Museum contact Pete. It is located at both Camelback and Liberty Mountains.

Bob Smith gave additional information on the importance of wearing a helmet. Pete Benson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:05, Wally Sliwinski seconded the motion.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lynn Geesaman
Recording Secretary

