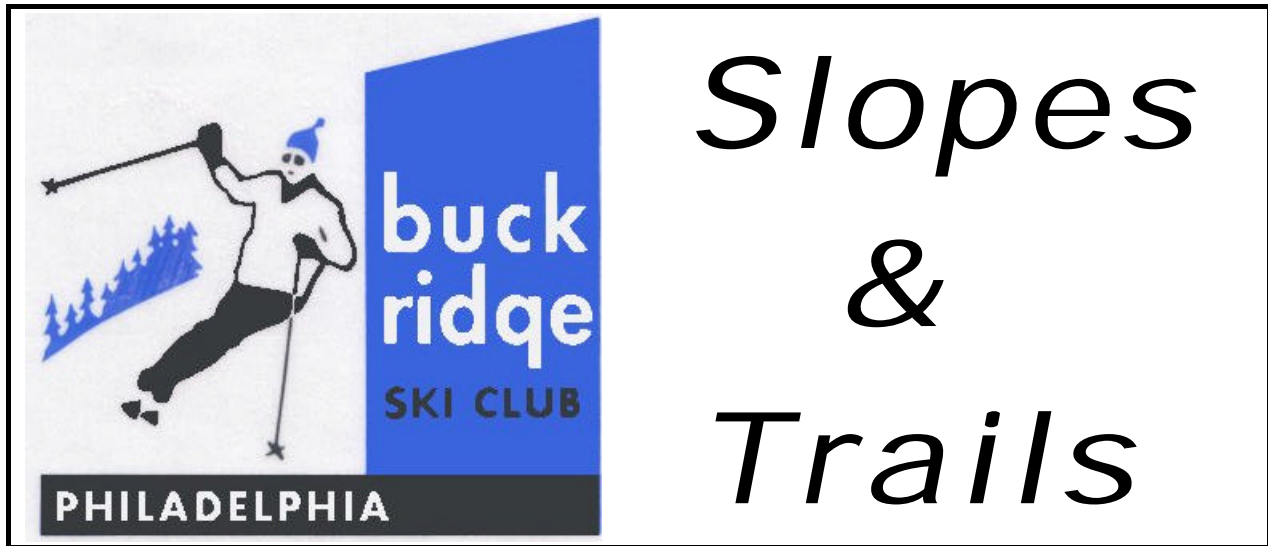


Buck Ridge Ski Club – May 2006
www.buckridgeskiclub.org



COUNTDOWN CLOCK



Yes, the Countdown Clock has run out. This issue of *Slopes & Trails* is the LAST paper copy that will be mailed to all members. In the future, only those that have requested a paper copy will receive one!

Starting with the June newsletter, only those who have indicated a desire to continue receiving *Slopes & Trails* through the U.S. Mail will continue to receive it that way; all others will access the newsletter via the club website at: www.buckridgeskiclub.org. You will receive an email notifying you of when a newsletter is posted, so **WE NEED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS!** You will also need Adobe Acrobat Reader on your personal computer in order to read the newsletter from the website. It's free from Adobe Software and can be downloaded by accessing their website at: www.adobe.com.

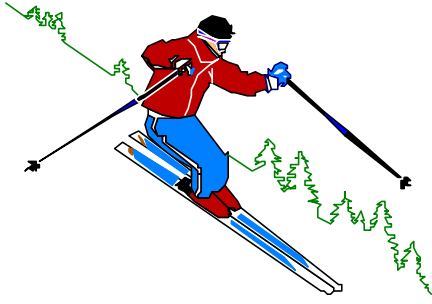
As of this mailing, we have still not heard from many people about their preference, so a response form is included in this issue for your convenience. Those people who have already contacted me or Bill Raney need not contact us again; we have your names. Those of you who have not, please get in touch ASAP and let your wishes be known. You can complete the response form and mail it to Merle Roemer or contact either of us. Our information is in the club directory, but I'll repeat it here anyway.

Art Schwabenbauer
50 Oakland Drive
Downingtown, PA 19335
Phone: 610-363-1575
email: aschwabenbauer@bigfoot.com

Bill Raney
1045 Croton Road
Wayne, PA 19087
610-293-9571
email: wraney1045@aol.com

Thank you for your cooperation.

Art Schwabenbauer, President



The deadline for articles for the Slopes and Trails is the 15th of the month. Send submissions to:

Michael Fernandez
1118 Kings Highway
Swedesboro, NJ 08085
Phone: 609-254-8461
Email: amf72@verizon.net

If you would like a copy of the monthly newsletter, please contact Bill Raney, (Circulation & Printing) at 610-293-9571, or check the web site.

OFFICERS OF THE BUCK RIDGE SKI CLUB

President	Art Schwabenbauer	610-363-1575
	E-mail	aschwabenbauer1@verizon.net
Vice-President	Jack Schmader	610-527-3969
Secretary	Pat Beccia	610-664-9506
Treasurer	Terri Walklett	610-876-1728

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Activities Chair	Marge Tarte	610-874-3162
Biking Chair	Marvelene Richards	610-566-9563
Canoe Chair	Dan Jones	856-429-1585
Hiking Chair	George Wiedersum	610-358-5891
Lodge Chair	Mel Stiles	856-478-4621
Program Chair	Sue Pitelli	610-363-7093
Sailing Chair	Vince Diano	215-271-5893
Ski Chair	Dan Aronson	215-643-7252
Ski Co-Chair	Rudy Pittelli	610-363-7093

WOODBIDGE LODGE

Permanent Reservation Chair

Joan Strachota 610-872-6459

jstrachota@comcast.net

Lodge Telephone Number 802-464-6591

Only if you have been repeatedly unsuccessful contacting the reservation chair for a key may you call the following people:

Judie Sheffer 610-461-1848

Glenn Weisel 215-822-9459

Eliot Woodbridge 609-921-3229

MEMBERSHIP

BRSC is an outdoor club for people of all ages who enjoy companionship in outdoor activities

For a membership application and procedure for joining, contact:

Sally Lewis, Membership Chairman

1009 Main Street

Upland, PA 19015-3001

610-876-7334

Annual Dues: \$20 Individual / \$23 Family

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

If you are moving or changing your email address and want to keep *Slopes & Trails* in your mailbox or inbox, please notify:

Merle Roemer

4 Anser Lane

Lewes, DE 19958

E-mail: mroemer@reading.org

PLEASE NOTE!!! REGULAR MEETINGS ARE THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH AT MASONIC HALL SPRINGFIELD (DELAWARE COUNTY) PA

CLUB NEWS

BRSC ELECTS OFFICERS

The members present at the monthly meeting of Buck Ridge Ski Club on April 5th, 2006, elected new officers for the 2006/2007 year. Those elected are:

President - Jack Schmader

Treasurer - Terri Walklett

Vice President - Larry Hardin

Secretary - Pat Beccia

The new officers will be installed during the monthly meeting on May 3, 2006. Please give them your full support and cooperation during the coming year.

NOTED IN PASSING

Long time Buck Ridge member John Henchel passed away on March 24, 2006 at the age of 78. Services were held on April 1 at Christ Episcopal Church in Media. His daughter Valerie, residing in Virginia, is a member of the club. Friends may find her in the club directory.

April Program Highlights

Folks attending the April meeting were treated to a double feature. Paul Natali presented a slide presentation of his 17-day, 225 mile trip down the Grand Canyon by kayak last August. This was his third (and probably last) independent trip through the canyon. It took 14 years for to get the permit, and he reports that the Park Service has ceased to issue permits for independent trips.



We were also treated to a video program of life member Flying Fred Mack's 95th birthday present – skydiving! Against his doctor's advice, who thought for some strange reason he might get injured, he jumped anyway. Fred says he won't do it again until his 100th birthday!

UPCOMING PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

LAST MEETING OF THE SEASON - MAY 3, 2006

Please mark your calendars and reserve the evening of Wednesday, May 3, 2006, for your attendance at the last meeting of the current season of the Buck Ridge Ski Club. We will be installing new officers for the coming season, giving out some awards, and Susan Hearn will present a slide show of her recent trip to Iceland. Refreshments will be served. Please plan to attend.

SKIING

The slopes may be closed & the snow gone, but now may be the time to plan for next year at the PRW Ski & Travel Show. It will be at the Valley Forge Hilton on May 8 from 5.30 to 8.30 pm, with a reception and door prizes afterwards. Attendance is limited to pre-registrants; contact Dan Aronson by May 1 if you are interested (email d.l.aronson@att.net, or see his phone # in the committee chair listing on p.2)

CANOE AND KAYAK TRAINING

Pool rolling sessions have ended, but the Philadelphia Canoe Club has a full line-up of canoe and kayak instruction courses for flat and moving water starting in May. Course information and applications can be found at www.philacanoec.org or by contacting Dan Jones at 856-429-1585.

BICYCLING

May 7 – 1:00 P.M. – TINICUM WARM-UP NATURE RIDE - This is a gravel or dirt trail; a hybrid or mountain bike is recommended. Bring binoculars if you have them. 10 miles +/- Meet at the parking lot on Rt. 420 just north of I-95 on the east side of the road. Leader – Keith Richards 610 566-9563

May 26-29 – SPRING FLING – Chestertown, MD – Daily ride options of 10 – 100 miles on paved roads. The early deadline is past but you can still register with the Baltimore Bicycle Club until May 15. Food, lodging, and entertainment are included. Leader – Mary Ann Thomas 610-648-0249

June 17 – 8:30 A.M. – KOUNTRY KITCHEN BREAKFAST RIDE – Paved roads – 20 miles +/- Meet in the parking lot behind Harrison House Diner on Rt. 322 in Mullica Hill. NJ. - Leader – Mel Stiles 856 478-4621

July 29 – 9:00 A.M. – SCHUYKILL TRAIL – Meet at Conshohocken at the parking lot under the bridge and across from the train station. We'll ride to Manayunk for lunch on mostly paved trail- 15 miles +/- Leader – Sue Pittelli 610 363-7093

August 12 – BRIDGETON ZOO RIDE - This is an annual ride sponsored by "South Jersey Wheelman". It starts in Centerton NJ at Schalick High School. There are 25, 50, or 100-mile options. Registration is \$14 before July 29th or \$17 the day of the ride. This includes a snack at the Bridgeton Zoo where you can walk around, and a coupon for a sandwich and drink at Anderson Deli at the end of the ride. I suggest the casual riders meet at Centerton at 9:00 A.M. and do the 25 mile ride as a group – touring the zoo and having lunch at the end. More ambitious riders have the other options. To pre-register check the Internet at www.sjwheelman.org Leader – Marvelene Richards 610 566-9563

September – to be announced - possible Vermont Biking at the Lodge. More details to come.

October 6-8 – CHINCOTEAGUE RIDE and OYSTER FESTIVAL – Camp or stay in a motel. Paved trails through the wildlife refuge, to the beach, and through the woods - famous all-you-can-eat oyster festival and entertainment, safari ride, museums, art galleries, antique shops, group campfire. Leader – Marvelene Richards 610 566-9563

November 4 - FALL FOLIAGE RIDE – Perkiomen Trail – more details later

NOTE: FOR ALL RIDES, PLEASE CALL THE LEADER TO REGISTER

HIKING

Mid-Week Short Hikes

These are a great way to get out and stay in shape - five or six miles over fairly easy terrain. The meeting place for all hikes is the Value City parking lot at Routes 320 and 420, one-half mile north of the club meeting place and convenient to Exit 5 of the Blue Route. We leave at 9:30 am sharp; bring water and lunch, wear comfortable shoes, preferably hiking boots, and dress for expected and unexpected weather. If you have any questions, please call George Wiedersum, 610-358-5891. Here's the Spring schedule:

April 26	Wissahickon Gorge	May 17	Smedley Park & Blue Route
May 3	French Creek State Park	May 24	Evansburg State Park
May 10	Jenkins Arboretum / Valley Forge	May 31	Ridley Creek State Park

Note: Jim Calkins will be trip leader for the May 10 hike – contact him at (610)558-6862

**JAY PEAK TRIP March 5 thru 11**

Submitted by Art Schwabenbauer

On Sunday morning, March 5th, 2006, nearly two dozen Buck Ridgers gathered at 30th Street train station in Philadelphia to begin the long ride to Jay Peak, Vermont. The mood was electric as everyone

exchanged greetings, schlepped their luggage onto the carts, and drank their coffee. Ed took pictures. Soon enough the luggage and all of us were loaded onto the train and the ride began, up through New York City, a stop in New Haven to change locomotives, and several other stops in New England before finally arriving at St. Albans, Vermont about 9:00 PM on Sunday evening. Along the way people visited with each other, read books, ate, drank, and slept. Those on the train included Bob and Sally Lewis, Sue Pittelli, Kay Schmader, Ray and Judy Funkhouser, Paul Worthington, Mel Stiles, Terri Walklett, Jane Stellwagen, Paula Kramp, Larry Taylor, Glenn Weisel, our trip leader, Henry Martin and his fiancée, Alison Bartle, John Theodore, Rex Miyashiro, Mary Ann Thomas, Sue Hearn, Mike Fernandez, Ed Sobolewski and yours truly. Ed took pictures.

After about an hour on the shuttle buses we arrived at Jay Peak and settled into our rooms for some much needed sleep before we began an active week of ski lessons, skiing, eating, drinking, partying, and general carrying on. Mary Jane Fagan and her friend, Mary Ann, had driven up earlier in the day and greeted us upon our arrival. Dave Singer, who was on a flight back from London, drove up the following day and joined us on Monday evening. George Morgan, a Buck Ridge member who now lives in Littleton, NH, also drove over and joined us for a day of skiing later in the week. On the first morning each of us was assigned to a specific instructor who worked with us for the entire week, meeting us each morning for our daily lesson which usually lasted until lunchtime. After lunch we were free to ski until the lifts closed, working on the lessons which the instructor had imparted during the morning lesson. I was in a group with Mel, Ed, Sue Hearn, John, Rex, Larry, Mike, and Dave. Our instructor was Dave Allman, and he is terrific. I think even the good skiers learned something from him, and I know I learned a lot. And of course, Ed took a lot of pictures.

One of the unique features of Jay Peak is the abundance of glade skiing at all levels, and Dave made sure we got to sample nearly the entire variety. I know there are some glades we didn't ski, but I personally don't feel cheated. The ones we did ski were plenty for me. We even got into a place that's not on the map and we weren't supposed to be in, but Mel insisted, so in we went. My first act was to crash into Ed on the way in; totally accidental, he didn't see me starting and I didn't see him. It was a spectacular crash, but for some reason Ed didn't get a picture. This particular area was called "Sex in the Woods" because, I was told, "if you go in there, you're screwed". How true. Ed got a lot pictures after he recovered from the crash. When we finally emerged at the bottom of "Sex", our instructor, Dave, said to me: "I didn't want you guys to go in there". Now he tells me.

By the end of the week I think a lot of us were really enjoying the glades and the rest of the mountain as well. The great skiing every day (well, with the possible exception of Friday) combined with the good food every morning and every evening and the parties that seemed to spring up extemporaneously every so often made for a great week that ended all too soon. None of us will soon forget the beautiful weather as we started the week, the lovely powder, especially in the glades, the great ski instruction, the "Western feel" of the mountain, the delicious food every day, the fun parties after skiing, and the great amount of fun we all had. We skied the bumps, Ed took pictures; we fell in the glades, Ed took pictures; we hugged some trees (I'm on a first-name basis with at least two of them), Ed took pictures. We drank wine, beer, and manhattans and ate some great meals, Ed took pictures of that, too. If Glenn organizes this trip again next year, I expect that most of us will return; this was a very enjoyable week of skiing. And did I mention? Ed dutifully recorded the whole week for us with his camera.

Thanks to Glenn for a wonderful week and to Ed for not only taking the pictures but for going the extra mile to ensure that each of us had a CD containing all of the images and movie clips as we returned home.

Well done, guys. To you and Ullr, the god of snow, we raise our glasses and salute you with: "Skoal, Skoal, Skoal, SKOAL!!!"

An Extra Thank You, Ed Sobolewski!

A very enjoyable ski trip to Jay Peak this year was made more so through the efforts of Ed Sobolewski, who not only documented the entire week in pictures but also made sure each of the participants was provided with a compact disc containing all of the several hundred images he recorded. Ed worked tirelessly during the week and on the train ride home to produce a photographic record of the trip for each of us. I'm sure we'll all enjoy reliving our Jay Peak experiences during the coming months, thanks to Ed's good work. I know that all of you who were at Jay Peak will join me in saying THANK YOU to Ed for all that he's done.



*Above: Art gets intimate with a spruce tree
Left: See you next year!*

WOODBRIDGE LODGE – RESERVATION FORM

Note: Ski season reservations may only be made after October 1.

WOODBRIDGE LODGE USAGE RATES (rev. 7/2004)

Season	Nov 1 – Apr 30	May 1 – Oct 31
Members	\$15.00	\$7.50
Guests	\$20.00	\$10.00

Rates are the same on weekends and weekdays. Children 6 and under are free.

Member's Name	Date: (nights)	COST
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

TOTAL: _____

GUESTS are welcome when accompanied by a member. Maximum three (3) guests per member. Inviting member is responsible for guests complying with the Lodge rules and regulations.

Guest's Name	Accompanying Member	Dates: (nights)	COST
1.			
2.			
3.			

TOTAL: _____

Name, phone number, or Email where you can be reached:

Make checks payable to BUCK RIDGE SKI CLUB LODGE. Mail reservation form and payment to:

Joan Strachota, 114 Maple Rd, Wallingford, PA 19086

Any questions, email jstrachota@comcast.net

Key Deposit - \$75. Issue a **SEPARATE CHECK** and send with reservation form & payment.

Enclosed is my check for \$75. I understand that this key is due back **within 2 weeks after my planned trip** or my deposit check will be cashed. My check will also be cashed if key is lost in the mail.

Signed: _____

RESERVATIONS will be CONFIRMED after payment In full is received.

PLEASE USE THIS FORM FOR ALL RESERVATION REQUESTS

Don't want to miss the next issue of Slopes & Trails? This is your last chance to let us know! If you have NOT contacted Art or Bill yet about your preferences, you can fill out and return this form to:

Merle Roemer
4 Anser Lane
Lewes, DE 19958

___ I wish to receive Slopes & Trails via US Mail.

___ I will download Slopes & Trails from the Buck Ridge web site.

My email address is : _____

If you have photocopied this page from your newsletter, please provide your name and address below. Otherwise, there is no need to since it is on the mailing label on the back of this page! How easy can we make it?

Name: _____

Address: _____

In this issue:

Flying Fred – p. 3

Upcoming Programs & Activities:

Boating, hiking, & biking – p. 4

Jay Peak Trip Report – p. 5

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