



Skiing at Stowe

by John Bidell

I completed my 14-day quarantine and headed up to check on the house and ski the front four. The days I picked to ski were low single digits with wind. Needless to say, the top of the mountain was wind blown but lower sections had some nice drifted in stashes. Well worth the effort but honestly kind of a test for my riding level. Cross that off the list until next year.

The house is bright, warm and very clean. We continue to book weeks into the early summer, so make your plans to enjoy Vermont outdoors. We will be having the work weekend starting Wednesday, May 19, ending May 23. We will limit each day to 10 essential workers so a quarantine is not required. Many of us will be camping in the backyard in our RV. Meals will be prepared and plated with lots of room to spread out. If you choose to stay inside, we have lots of room and will have a sign-up sheet for showers to give everyone adequate space.

Many of the projects are outdoors and you can choose to work alone or with your group. Painting, soffit repair, wood shed repair and landscaping are some of the outdoor projects. Basement lighting and painting, along with floor painting, will also be on the list of indoor projects.

We expect half-day volunteers and then, if you want, go for a ride, hike, or drive. Very relaxed, and you will also generate free nights for future stays which can be used towards your weekly rental.

Contact me at johnbidell@yahoo.com for more information or to register for the work week.

"Just Do It" and Other Thoughts

by Bill Kornrumpf

What a winter wonderland we have been experiencing. Not what we planned but surprisingly good if you just accepted what we have gotten. As Warren Miller always said, "if you don't do it this year, you will just be a year older when you do." And, coming from your super-senior skier, "Just get out there and ski where and when you can." The Covid-19 restrictions may have limited our choices but there are some real advantages for skiers in those restrictions. Just don't think about the negative aspects.

Gina and I have skied 7 times with some short walks and hikes, all in really moderate temperatures (20's) for January and February. It helped that we were lucky and had our ski days follow snow days making for ideal ski conditions. Our first outings were at Royal Mt at Caroga Lake, not much vertical (550 ft.) but then for my first outing I didn't need lots of vertical, just lots of fresh groomed trails and that's what they had. They are only open on the weekends so they have time to groom any new snow and we hit it right after one of the 8

inches. Then our next outing we moved up to West Mt and 1,010 ft. of vertical again on a day after one of the snowstorms. Not many moguls available but nice cruising on what they had open. We are starting to like this concept of limited uphill lift capacity. Most importantly, it automatically limits the downhill traffic, resulting in space to make your turns and less interactions with overtaking shush-boomers.

The next step was to the 1,380 ft. vertical of Gore as our legs had adjusted to the almost-forgotten rigors of skiing. We have now skied 4 Wednesdays at Gore when it had snowed either Monday or Tuesday, or both. New snow and half-full uphill lift capacity is a magical combination that I had not experienced since they put in the high-speed quad at Stowe. Our first day was limited to the front of the mountain but both of us were non-stopping it and having a great time by the time to load up the car and head home. Gradually, Gore was able to open more of the mountain and I was able to test the High Adventure ski tune-up on Lies (The Rumor was still closed) and regain my mogul skiing on Chatiemac & Hawkeye. Now, after 4 trips to Gore, we are ready for our annual trip to Utah. I really should have said, we MAY be ready for the 3,200-vertical ft. of Snowbird and Alta. I am thinking that we will ease into it much as we have so far, ski it in 1,000 ft. segments till we can do the whole thing toward the end of the trip. After all, with a super senior ticket, I don't have to do the whole mountain every run to get our money's worth. While they had a slow start to the season, they now have had 310" of snow (117" base) and the last storm dropped 38" while our SWC team was out making tracks. So, as we pack for our trip, we are hoping the snow gods keep blessing the parched west with plentiful snowpack.

Gina and I have both had our second Covid-19 shot, so we are looking forward to being able to get into VT later this year. If all goes well, the last half of March and early April will see a lifting of some of the travel restrictions and we can get some turns in on Mansfield and Sugarbush. In the meantime, "Just do it, once the snow is gone, it is a long wait till it comes back."

Vermont is Opening Up!

Vermont is opening up for travelers who have received both vaccinations! Please review the latest guidelines before planning any travel.

<https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/travel-quarantine>

Even Coronavirus Couldn't Stop Legendary Local Ski Instructor's Run to 100

from the Times Union

Freddie Anderson recalls a lifetime of skiing, from exploring the hills of the Mohawk Golf Club in the 1920s and riding the snow train to North Creek in the 1930s, to decades of instruction and skiing well into her 90s. You may even be inspired to send her a birthday card!

<https://www.timesunion.com/news/article/Even-coronavirus-couldn-t-stop-legendary-local-15926336.php>

Notes from Capital District Ski Council Meeting 2/3/2021, via Zoom

by Karen Simmons

The meeting opened with the treasurer reporting a total current balance of \$13,392.18. A detailed report was provided to all Council representatives. Treasurer Ray VanEpps will contact the three unpaid clubs to determine their intentions for future membership.

The OC Ski Club sponsored a ski day at Plattekill Ski Mountain in January, which was a "smashing success." With over 200 skiers, there were no negative issues relevant to COVID compliance or proper distancing. The OC Ski Club will host another day at Plattekill on Wednesday, March 10. More information is available on the OC Facebook page.

Mark Pavlus reported on the Ski Council race scheduled for Saturday, February 27, at West Mountain beginning at 9:30am. Racers will take 2 runs and then have the rest of the day for recreational skiing. Due to a supplement made for up to 35 participants by the Ski Council, racers will pay \$25 for the event. It is hoped that never-before racers will take this opportunity to try something new.

Nominations for Council officers will take place in March and April with elections held in April.

SWC Monthly Board Meeting 02/09/2021

by Karen Simmons

In attendance via Zoom were: John Bidell, Ellen Bidell, Karen Simmons, Bill Simmons, Sue Knapik, Bill Kornrumpf, John Rack, Bill Schaefer (briefly), Don Streed and Maureen Kline (joined from the Utah Ski Trip).

Treasurer Don Streed supplied each board member with his usual detailed report prior to the meeting.

Ellen Bidell reported that the Clubhouse is currently rented most weeks through 04/18/2021. These rentals represent some individuals and some family rentals. There are already several weeks during the summer months that have been booked.

Maureen Kline reported, with a comprehensive message to all board members, on the success of the current trip, which she and Don are enjoying.

Karen Simmons reported that the NYCDSC is sponsoring a race at West Mountain on Saturday, February 27, at 9:30. The information about the race has been posted on the SWC Facebook page. The OC Ski club reported a very successful ski day at Plattekill Mountain. They have rented Plattekill for Wednesday, March 10, for another day of skiing. All information is posted on the OC Facebook page.

Bill Kornrumpf added thoughts about a proposed work party at the Clubhouse for May 21-23. Everyone is encouraged to submit project ideas to John. They will be prioritized and scheduled to accomplish as much as possible while also allowing for some play time during the weekend.

Sue Knapik reported that The New York Paddlesports Racing Association (new name) has scheduled many

paddling races throughout the spring and summer. The Association's website has the schedule and registration information. The contests will be modified to accommodate social distancing guidelines.

There was general discussion regarding a general membership meeting via Zoom. The next SWC Board meeting is scheduled for March 9, 2021.

Change of Address Notices

Change of Address notices should be sent to:

John Boscarino* boscarino126@aol.com
126 Polsin Dr, Schenectady, NY 12303-2516

Submissions for the Newsletter

Content submissions for the SWC Newsletter should be emailed to swcchatter@gmail.com by the 15th of the month and should include a contact name and phone number. Content that needs to be run in subsequent Newsletters must be resubmitted each month.

Names and Numbers to Remember

2020/2021 Board of Directors

John Bidell, President, C 518-207-5961
Don Streed, Treasurer, C 518-339-2150
Ellen Bidell, VP Administration, ebidell@yahoo.com
Susan Knapik, VP Nordic, sbknapik@yahoo.com
Maureen Kline, VP Activities, C 518-257-0593
Bill Simmons, VP Alpine, C 518-526-0882 or simmons872@aol.com
Karen Simmons, Secretary, C 518-361-8836
Bill Kornrumpf, Clubhouse Director & Host Coordinator, C 518-209-3244 or wkornrum@nycap.rr.com
Bill Schaefer, at large, H 518-728-9395
Bridget Barrett, at large
Ed Greiner, NNYP President, C 518-421-2947
John Rack, Mohawk Valley Hiking Club, H 518-399-5081
Dorie Valenti, Past President

Others:

John Boscarino, Membership, C 518-355-7319
Bridget Barrett, Newsletter Editor, C 518-300-0163
David Bensley, Newsletter Editor, C 845-750-0780
Newsletter Contact: swcchatter@gmail.com
Clubhouse at Waterbury Center, H 802-244-8918

2020-2021 Membership Renewal

Visit www.swcweb.org to renew online. You must be a member to stay at the house this season.