

J'ville Journal

A publication of the Plumas Ski Club

VOLUME 10

OCTOBER 1995

P.O. Box 4003 Quincy, Ca. 95971

FREE

WHAT'S NEW?

I hate to be the bearer of bad news, but you will all find out eventually. I will make this the official public announcement. Rock Wood has resigned as our hill manager. He feels that it is time for him to make some career changes. He was an asset to our hill. We will miss Rock and all his energy on the hill.

We have hired a new hill manager. His name is Kevin J. Russ. Kevin grew up at Holimont Ski Club in upstate New York. Kevin's father was the general manager of the ski hill and gave Kevin quite an education on the workings of a ski hill.

It seems that Kevin cut his eye teeth on the groomer. He tells stories of how he would go out with the man doing the grooming and learn how it was done. By age 3 (a slight exaggeration) he was able to run the groomer on his own. Before Kevin was allowed to run a piece of equipment, he was required to learn how it worked. So, as you can deduce, Kevin not only knows how to operate equipment, he can also fix it. Since everything at our ski hill is 1996 model (Laugh now!) we didn't need anyone that qualified.

Growing up on a ski hill is not the only experience Kevin has. He was Assistant Mountain Manager in charge of grooming and snowmaking at Ski Cloudcroft in New Mexico. He also worked at Crystal Mountain

in Washington, Coronet Peak, New Zealand (Summer season) and Squaw Valley, Ca. Kevin's background includes a lot of training and supervisory positions.

Enough about Kevin's work background! I am sure you will like Kevin. He is a pleasure to talk to. His love of skiing pours out of his being like water out of a broken dam. I imagine him learning to walk on skis at about 10 months old. He did start skiing as a small child like many of our skiers, only he got to ski almost every day.

Other than skiing, Kevin's only other interest seems to be work. Does Kevin want to work at our hill? Well he has already climbed every tower on the poma lifts and assessed which ones need work. He has been to board meetings and helped on work days. He has also helped us obtain two used snowmobiles for the hill. Kevin has looked at our budget and has done some calculations on how many people can be hired. I dare to say he not only wants to work, but loves the challenge of this kind of a ski hill.

Kevin is only 23 years old, but he really does have the expertise needed to manage our hill. Kevin makes one feel confident that the ski hill will run smoothly. His overall view of how a ski hill runs seem to be quite complete. Welcome aboard Kevin!

FOURTH ANNUAL REDSTREAK SNOWBALL

Plans are well underway for the "Annual Redstreak Snowball." This year's semi-formal affair will be held November 4 at the historic Feather River Inn. The



Snowball fund raiser is going to be a Champagne, hors d'oeuvres, dessert, and dance extravaganza. Libations and hors d'oeuvres will be served from 7 to 9. The friendly Feather River Inn staff will be serving the culinary delights as we all enjoy

conversation and mingling. For background music, Kenny Davis will be bringing the piano to life as only he can do.

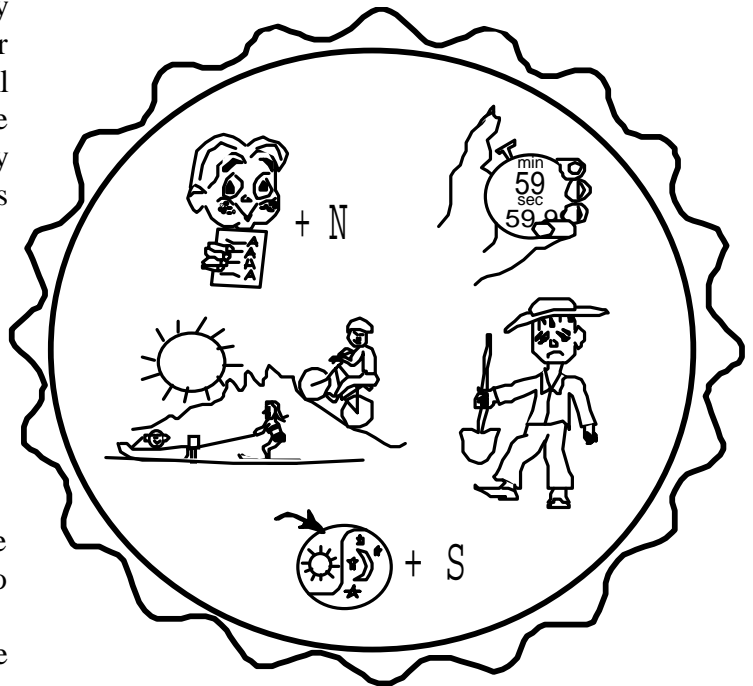
Plan to spend some of your time looking at our displays. The displays will feature our historic past and fill you in on what the ski club is up to now. We hope to make the public aware of where we intend to go by putting our goals out for all to view.

"Let's Dance"! This year we will be having the Jazz and Blues music of the "Scattered Blue". Tickets are now on sale at Epilog Express 283-2665, Graeagle Video etc. 836-0508, Dollard's Market 836-5251, The Village Green 832-4622 The Ten Two Restaurant and are also available from all Ski Club board members. The tickets sell for \$35 per person. If you would like more information or have any questions call Kathy Raymond at (916) 836-1339.

For a little added enjoyment consider spending the night at the Feather River Inn. For more information on rooms and reservations call 836-2623

Remember, November 4th, 7 until midnight at the Feather River Inn. Wear your dancing shoes! Together we make Plumas Eureka a success!

We need all able bodies and those not so able to come and help at the work day November 11. Bring rubber gloves if you would like to help clean inside. Shovels and rakes would be helpful for outside. You can earn ski credit by



Remember this bottle cap? It was in the April 1995 issue. No one got the answer right. I guess it was too hard. The answer is: *Join our summer work days. There is another work day November 11. See you there!* Let us know if you like the bottle caps by leaving a note in the suggestion box at the ski hill.

UP WITH THE NEW DOWN WITH THE OLD

(This makes a great wall hanging)

1995-96 SCHEDULE

November 4, 1995 The Snowball is the social event of the year. This is a semiformal affair. There will be exquisite hors- d'oeuvres, dancing and door prizes.

November 11, 1995 Hey, we're not done with work days yet! There is still brushing, thinning, and putting things in order for opening. We need all the help we can get.

December 26, 1995 is our normal opening date. Watch the local paper for changes in this plan due to weather conditions. We may get an early or late start because of old mother nature.

January 21, 1996 is a good day for the **Lost Sierra Longboard** race, the first of our three annual historic *longboard* events. Every year more people take the time to dress in historic costumes in remembrance of the fact that there has been recorded ski events in Plumas County since 1861. Anyone that would like to try the 12 to 14 foot skis needs to be 18 or over and a member of the Plumas Ski Club (there will also be a donation expected for participation in the "snowshoe" skiing). All spectators are strongly encouraged (free of charge). Music and a BBQ are on the agenda for the longboard series.

February 11, 1996 is the date for the annual **Eureka Peak Sweetheart** race in the citizens' series (there will be no longboarding at this event). Bring a date and try to match the time of your ski partner. The couple that come closest to matching their partner's time will be the sweetheart couple for the day. This race should be a lot of fun for everyone.

February 18, 1996 has been set for the second race in the *longboard* series. By this time the historic "dope" recipe will be the talk of the hill as longboarders race to the finish line. Dress in the style of 1800's and come watch the show.

March 3, 1996 we would like to thank our local merchants. For our merchants' special you may ski, and have a hot dog and soda. Ticket sales for participants will be prearranged. We would also like to have a longboard practice.

March 10, 1996 the "Gold Mountain" Pioneer Ski Celebration is planned for the culmination of the 1996 Historic *Longboard* Series. This event will include a ski history presentation, special food, and music.

March 17, 1996 is Saint Patrick's day. Dress in green and watch for leprechauns on this special event day. Let's race the leprechauns!

**1995-96 SEASON PASSES
NOW ON SALE AT
SIERRA MOUNTAIN SPORT
501 MAIN QUINCY, CA.
100 AT LAST YEARS PRICE**

*Editors Cookie and Will McClard would like to hear from you. If you would like to submit an article or just send comments or suggestions please send them to:
PO Box 1329 Quincy, Ca. 95971*

WANTED

Do you like to help people in need? Do you like being the first one on the hill and the last one off the hill? Do you enjoy carrying poles and marking things? Do you like teal jackets with a cross? Is skiing a part of your regular winter activities? Do you practice CPR on the neighbor's doll? Are you a Medical Doctor, Nurse or a current EMT?



If you answer two or more of these questions with a yes then you may be just who we are looking for. We would like you to join the Ski Patrol at Plumas Eureka Ski Bowl this year. Note: You must be a current EMT, Medical Doctor or Nurse to join this year. For more information on how to get involved call Cookie McClard at 281-6449 or Ron Logan at 283-0163 (please leave a message and we will call you back).

We are in the process of putting together an Outdoor Emergency Care class for those people who do not have the required medical training. Watch for

***DON'T SEE STARS
FOLLOW SAFETY RULES***

NEVER SKI ALONE

***STAY AWAY FROM
TREES***

***(TREES HAVE PITS NEXT TO
THEM THAT ARE HARD TO
GET OUT OF)***

SKI IN CONTROL

***USE SAFETY STRAPS
OR SKI BREAKS***

***BE SURE TO EAT A GOOD
MEAL BEFORE SKIING***

***SKI IN DESIGNATED AREAS
ONLY***

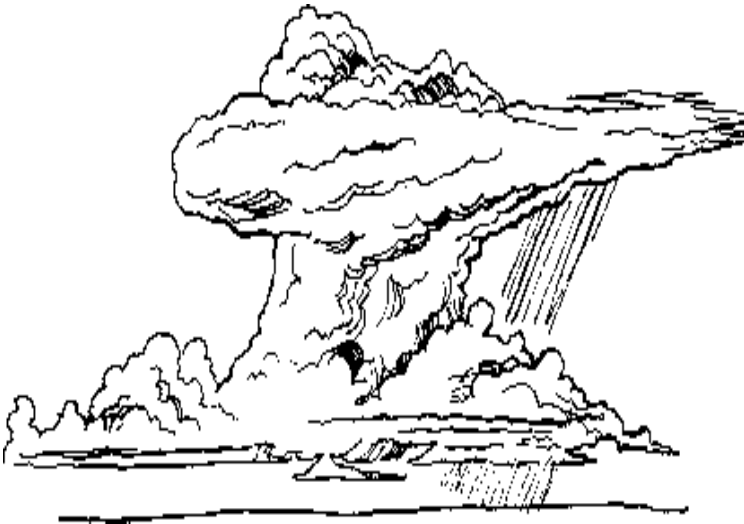
WATCH FOR OBSTACLES

1995-96 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. President 1995-96(Johnsville Jr. Race Team Rep):
2. Vice President 1995-96 :(Quincy area member at large):
3. Board Secretary 1995-96 (Quincy area member at large):
4. Treasurer 1995-96 (Quincy area member at large):
5. High School Race Team Representative (Eastern Plumas):
6. Ski Patrol Representative:
7. FRC Ski Program Representative:
8. Quincy Member at Large: (Business Manager)
9. Quincy Member at Large(PUSD School Ski Prog. Rep.):
10. Portola- Eastern Plumas Member at Large:
11. Portola- Eastern Plumas Member at Large:
12. Quincy Member at Large:

Jim Webster
Scott Davis
Barbara Sidener
Ron Logan
Jim Shirley
Cookie McClard
Pete Bartels
Rene St. Pierre
Carol Burney
Bill Shirley
Kathy Raymond
Greg Kinne

WEATHER OR NOT



Let me tell you what really gets under my skin. All those long range snow fall forecasts. Some forecasts are based on the National Weather Service, some use their own intuition, others watch to see how much wood their neighbor brings in, and still others consult the Guru of snow who has filed for bankruptcy and now lives on the outskirts of Johnsville.

But all these snow forecasters have one thing in common: They are wrong almost all of the time.

“Why do people try to predict the weather for the up coming winter?” you might ask. The answer is simple. It has been bred into us by our forefathers. When the cave man walked out of his cave in the fall and realized it was cold again he would draw pictures on the wall telling the other cave men how deep the snow would get this year and how long it was going to last. That tradition was passed on through the generations but now people actually believe that the future weather can be predicted.

Today we have noncommittal weather people telling us about the upcoming winter. No matter how evasive they are, they are still wrong most of the time. The more the weather people are wrong the further into the future we want them to see, figuring, I suppose, that if they predict far enough ahead that something is bound to come true. When something does come true we say, “ah haw!” and our faith in the weather forecast is restored.

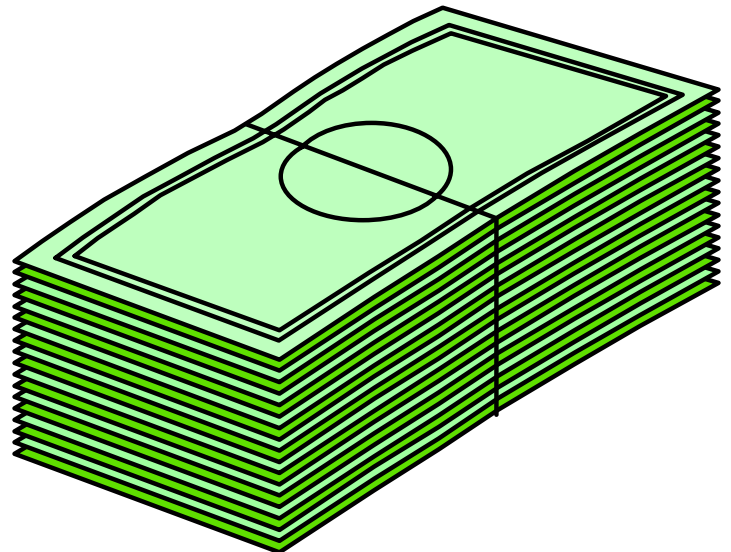
Well now that our faith is restored it is time for the weather forecast by Cookie. The upcoming winter will

give us snow at Johnsville. We will be skiing sometime between December and March, maybe. We will have fresh powder on the days that it snows. The powder days that we will usually ski will alternate between Fridays, Saturdays and a few Sundays (in other words the skiing will be poor on the days we are not open). There will be mostly sunny skies on the days we are open. Some days will be windy. Sometimes it will snow while we are skiing (I’m not sure which year). With a forecast like this I should earn big bucks

SEASON PASSES ON SALE NOW

This season of skiing promises to be as good as the past couple of years. I heard rumor that Rob Russell and Phil Gallagher are doing a snow dance. The last time they did a snow dance we had so much snow we didn’t know what to do with all of it. This leads me to let you know that *only 100 season passes* will be sold at last year’s prices .

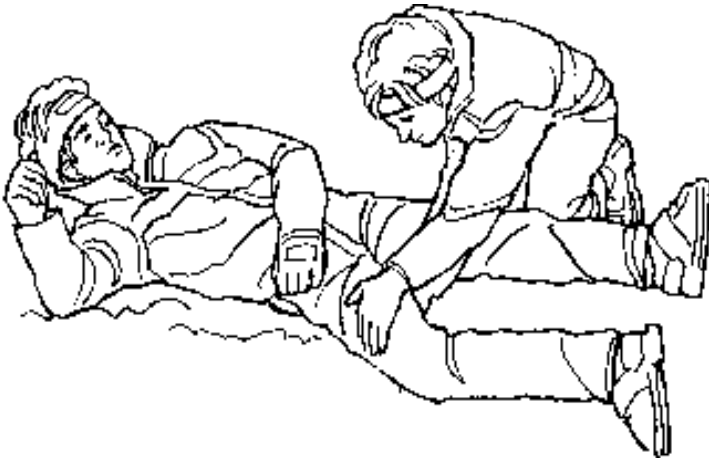
Season passes are *available at Sierra Mt. Sport, 501 Main St. Quincy, Ca.,* for the early price of \$145 for adults and \$115 for children 12 and under. Season pass holders are Plumas Ski Club members at no additional charge. Plumas Eureka *opens at 9:30 a.m. on all days of operation.* Our days of operation will be Friday, Saturday, Sunday and School Holidays.



The hill will open as soon as the conditions permit, and will remain open through March or April if the snow and attendance cooperate. We will be closed on Fridays in April unless otherwise advertised. Please support your non-profit ski hill by skiing this season at

HISTORIC MOMENT

The Mountain Messenger reported a ski injury to Plumas County Dr. E. X. Willard in the winter of 1865. Dr. E. X. Willard, while snowshoeing to the home of a patient, fell and injured his leg and ankle. The doctor's brother (also a doctor) attended to the injuries. The following report from the Mountain Messenger is believed to be the first written record of



a ski injury.

“We are indebted to Dr. H. L. Willard for the following concise description of his brother's injuries: The tibia, or main bone in the leg, between the ankle and the knee, received a transverse fracture nearly mid-way; also, he dislocated the ankle joint of the right foot, and entirely broke up the union of the tibia and bones of the foot, which allowed a suffusion of the sonovia among the lacerated integuments and parts contiguous to the injury. I consider the ankle injuries most liable to be an abiding obstacle in the way of his recovery.” The tibia became known as the snowshoer's (longboarder's) bone because it was so frequently broken.

The modern Ski Patrol is not nearly as colorful as the stories of repaired injuries from the past. Lost Sierra Gold, Ghosts & Skis by William B. Berry states that, “Jump and the Willard brothers traveled many miles through the snow to make their calls. They often set the bones of injured racers. The more seriously injured racers were then removed on sleds by volunteer corps to Downieville. There, Bryant would take over their cases at the county hospital”

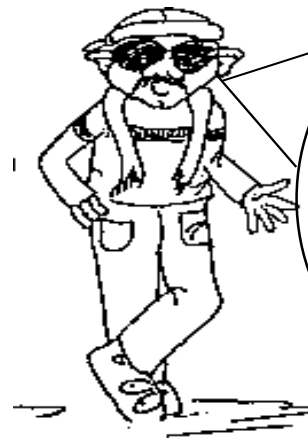
It is hard to imagine taking an injured skier by sled from Laporte to Downieville. The modern Ski Patrol

IN JOHNNSVILLE

While you are in Johnsville be sure to take the time to visit the museum. You will find a lot of information on what it was like during the gold rush era. Included in the display is a pair of “Snowshoe Thompson's” skis. Every local skier should see what was used (skis called snowshoes) for transportation in the area before the automobile. It will then be understandable why Plumas County hosted the first ski races.

The crew at the park headquarters will be glad to answer your questions. I found them to be quite knowledgeable on the local history. Of course there is more to the museum than skiing, but our ski bowl, as a part of Johnsville's history, favors the skiing history.

The museum is the highlight of Johnsville to me, however a walk from Jamison Creek bridge through town is also refreshing. It will also help you to remember to drive slowly through town!



Like I am back again. I was going to change my outfit, but I couldn't find anything in my closet that still fits. Guess I better get in shape for the season.

OOPS!

In the April 1995 issue of the J'ville Journal the wrong name of the World Champion Longboarder was stated. The true 1995 World Champion Longboarder is **Gregory L. Beck**. I apologize for the mistake.