



J'ville Journal

A publication of the Plumas Ski Club

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PLACE
STAMP
HERE

WE REMEMBER WHEN..... By Dink Rife

Dave and I moved to Portola in August, 1964. Dave was hired to be a teacher and coach at Portola High School, and I was pregnant with our first child. We had previously been teaching in Bishop, California where we were ski instructors for the school-ski program there at Mammoth Mountain.

Naturally, we were interested in the skiing at Johnsville. The ski hill was run by the Plumas Ski Club and much of the work was done by volunteers, or workers for ski credit only. Our first winter we began teaching skiing with the Portola school-ski program. We completed our last winter of ski instruction with the school program the winter of 1997.

The winter of 1965, the ski hill consisted of two rope tows. One rope tow was on the "bunny" slope and one was directly in front of the hut. The rope tow in front of the hut went just up to the first ridge where there is now a small building. We not only developed skiers in those days, we also developed kids with strong arms and hands. Riding a rope tow was no easy task. We had kids falling and caught in many different ways as they mastered the rope tow. It was very important to have someone watching the rope tow at all times because it had to be stopped

periodically to untangle scarves, mittens, and children from the rope.

The school-ski program was very active. Plumas Unified School District provided the transportation and the instruction free to all participants. The only cost for the skiers was a discounted tow ticket and their own equipment. Equipment could be purchased at the local ski-swap every November or December in both communities. Portola schools would bus 100-150 children to the hill every Saturday. Quincy schools would bus 150-200 children to the hill on Saturday. Parents would come to the hill to watch their children ski or to work at the snack bar. All workers were given ski credit for their hours of work. The ski credit could be used for tow tickets. Many parents were able to have their children ski because of the credit they earned. The reason the ski program was so active is there were no other school-sponsored activities during that time. The basketball and wrestling programs were not in existence then.

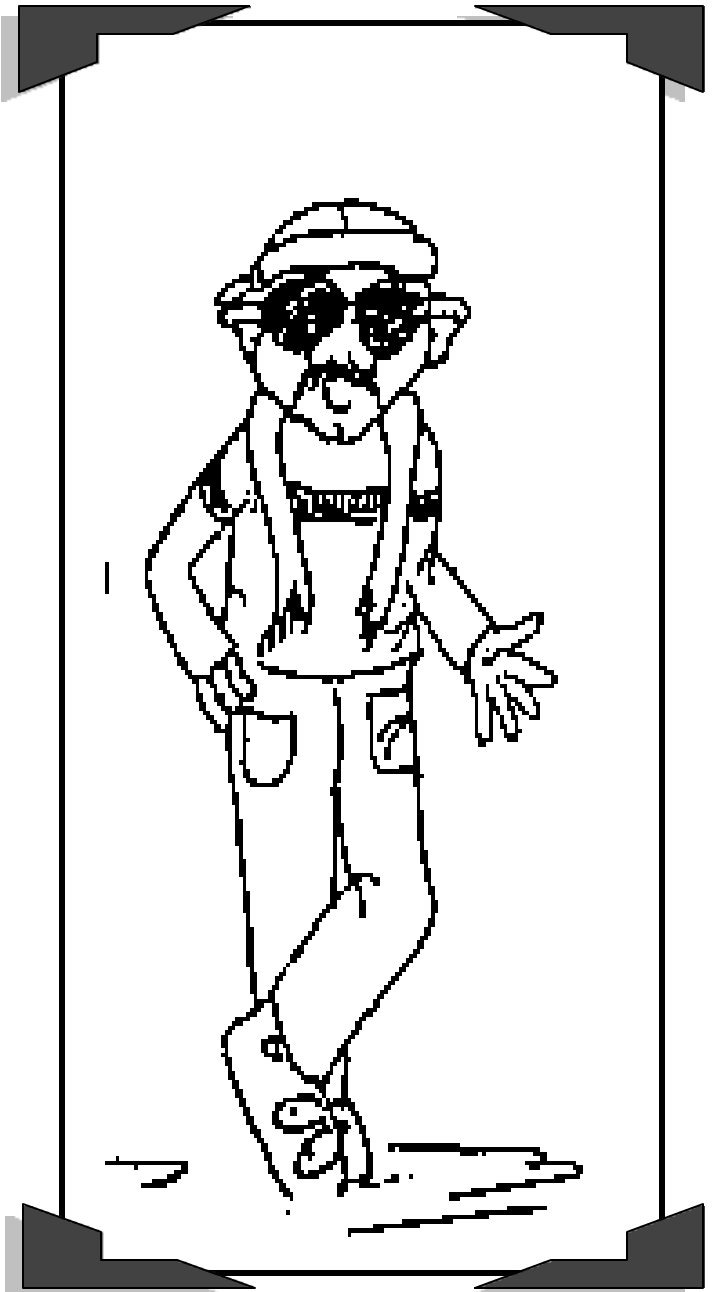
Saturdays were a joy and delight for most Plumas County families. Up in the morning, eat breakfast, pack up, and head for the bus. Departure time in Portola was 8:00 a.m. SHARP. Time to check inventory: skis, boots, poles, ski-credit card, money,

(Continued on page 2)

lunch, mittens, hats, jackets, goggles....all necessary items for the day. The skis and poles had to be bundled properly to go in the truck. A truck would transport all the skis and poles to the hill while the buses transported the children. Children from kindergarten to 12th grade were all enrolled in the ski program. It was always such fun to watch the kids hike up the hill with their gear. The big kids would help the little ones and all would arrive at the hut. Then it was time to store their lunches, and head for their ski classes.

As ski instructors part of our necessary gear was: Kleenex for runny noses, screw drivers for adjusting bindings, wax to treat the skis that were sticky, strong arms to haul the little ones up the rope tow, and a big heart to share in the joys and woes of the learning skiers. Our instruction would last for two hours in the morning and then the kids were on their own...sorta. There were always some that needed additional help in the afternoon. Most of the time the 5 and 6 year-old children could be found playing in the snow in the afternoon rather than skiing. Many parents would come to the hill to pick up the little ones, so they didn't have such a long day. Those little ones that stayed the entire days would generally be sleeping on various laps on the bus ride home.

One of the biggest concerns for those of us in charge was the possibility of leaving a child on the ski hill. We checked and re-checked our attendance sheets as they climbed on the bus for the ride home. Many times we had to run back up the hill to find a child, either sleeping somewhere, or still going up the tow and skiing down. Generally the kids would look out for each other and make sure all were notified at departure time. In fact, the children were sometimes more responsible than their parents. Upon arrival in Portola, many parents would forget to pick up their children, so we would have to call or drive them home ourselves. Then, Dave and I would go home and say WHEW!, another successful day on the ski slopes.



Remember the historic picture above? Do you remember his name? He seems to have amnesia, so we need to help him remember his name. If you can place this photo, please send any information you have about him to cookies@thegrid.net He says he likes to ski, and doesn't know how long he has been wearing the same ski clothes. (I hope he only wears them to ski and washes them in between ski trips.) I can't wait to find out about this guy!

PLUMAS SKI CLUB REFRIGERATOR CALENDAR

January 21, 2001 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 16 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). Great festivities are on the agenda for the longboard series.

January 27, 2001 *The Snowball* is the social event of the year. The festivities are from 7:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m., at the Tulsa Scott Pavilion, Plumas-Sierra County Fairgrounds. We have almost secured the band, Dr. Loco and his Rockin' Jalapeno Band. From the bay area, this band has been around for a long time and is highly acclaimed and a California favorite! The musicians are professors from Stanford, UC Berkeley and San Francisco. *Tickets will be \$35.00* and the event will be professionally catered by our local supervisor Robert Meacher and the Genessee Store.

Unfortunately, we can no longer afford to hold it at the Feather River Inn due to the costs and fees the inn charges, now. We would have to charge \$50.00 per person, and we would be lucky to break even.

February 18, 2001 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 18, 2001 the "**World Championship longboard race**" and Pioneer Ski Celebration are planned for the culmination of the 2001 historic *Longboard Series*. This event will include a ski history presentation, special food, and music.

June 23rd 2001 is set aside for the summer concert. It is still a little early, so this date is subject to change. Watch for updates on what is happening with the concert. We are looking forward to some changes.

Things to watch for: The Saturday ski program is being researched. We hope to run it for 4 to 6 weeks beginning January 13th Check with the Central Plumas Recreation District to see what's up.

There was talk of organizing some 1 day survival courses. There are no details at this time.

Editor Cookie Diggs would like to hear from you. If you would like to submit an article or just send comments or suggestions concerning the J'ville Journal, please send them to: cookies@thegrid.net or PO Box 1329 Quincy, Ca. 95971

QUINCY HIGH SCHOOL SKI TEAM SCHEDULE

DECEMBER 2000

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 Practice Boreal leave QHS 6:45 am	11 Dryland 6:45am	12	13 Dryland 6:45am	14	15 Dryland 6:45am	16
17 Practice Boreal leave QHS 6:45 am	18 Dryland 6:45am	19	20 Dryland 6:45am	21	22 School Holiday	23
24	25 School Holiday	26 School Holiday	27 School Holiday	28 School Holiday	29 School Holiday	30
31						

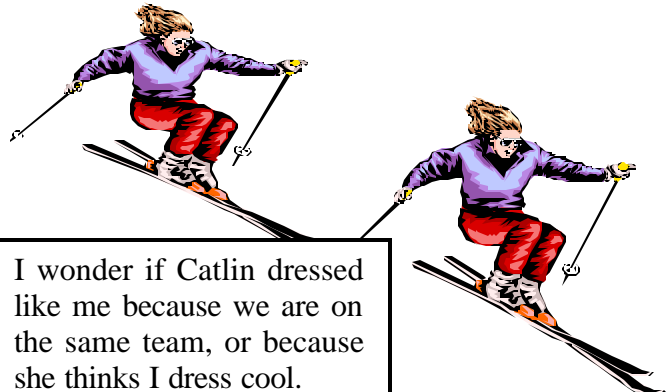
FEBRUARY 2001

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Dryland 6:5:45am	3
4	5 Dryland 6:45am	6	7 Dryland 6:45am	8	9 Dryland 6:45am	10
11 Ski Tune 4:00 Woodshop Practice Northstar Lv 6:45am	12 Race G.S. @Alpine Lv 5:45am	13	14 Dryland 6:45am	15 Ski Tune 4:00 Woodshop	16 Race Slalom@ Sugarbowl Lv 5:45am	17
18 Ski Tune 4:00 Woodshop	19 Race G.S. @Northstar Lv 5:45am	20	21 Dryland 6:45am For State	22	23 Dryland 6:45am For State	24
25	26 Dryland 6:45am For State	27	28 Dryland 6:45am For State			

JANUARY 2001

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 School Holiday	2 Practice Boreal Leave QHS 6:45am	3	4	5 Practice Northstar Leave QHS 6:45am	6
7 Ski Tune 4:00 Woodshop	8 Race Slalom Boreal Lv 5:45	9	10 Dryland 6:45am	11	12 Dryland 6:45am Boreal Night Lv 2:30	13
14 Ski Tune 4:00 Woodshop	15 Race G.S. Northstar Lv 5:45am	16	17 Dryland 6:45am	18	19 Dryland 6:45am	20
21 Tahoe race @Boreal or Free Ski Northstar	22 Dryland 6:45am	23	24 Dryland 6:45am	25	26 Dryland 6:45am Boreal Night Lv 2:30	27
28 Ski Tune 4:00 Woodshop	29	30	31 Dryland 6:45am			

**THE HIGH SCHOOL
STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS
WILL BE HELD ON
MARCH 5TH AND 6TH
AT NORTHSTAR.**



I wonder if Catlin dressed like me because we are on the same team, or because she thinks I dress cool.

**JOHNSVILLE JUNIOR SKI TEAM
TENTATIVE SCHEDULE – RACE SEASON 2001
(Revised 10/2/00)**

Please Note: Race locations are subject to change based on current snow conditions. Always check with coaches prior to the scheduled race.



<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
12/11/2000	Coaches Meeting (Draft Teams)	Quincy Community Library
12/9/2000	Coaches Clinic	Sugar Bowl
1/6/2001	Optional Fun Race	Johnsville *
1/20/2001	Race 1	Donner Ski Ranch
1/27/2001	Race 2	Johnsville *
2/10/2001	Race 3	Homewood (meet @ 2 nd lodge, called "South Lodge". Drive past 1 st lodge, turn right on Ski Bowl Way.)
2/24/2001	Race 4	Johnsville *
2/25/01	Big "Gee" Optional Race	Soda Springs
3/3/2001	Race 5	Sugar Bowl (meet @ Tram entrance @ "old" lodge)
3/10/2001	Race 6	Johnsville *
3/22/2001	Awards Night	Quincy Elementary School
3/24/2001	Buddy Werner Practice	Johnsville or Soda Springs TBA
3/31 and 4/1/2000	Buddy Werner Invitational	Alpine Meadows

* **Back up location for Johnsville @ Soda Springs or Boreal (check with your coach before race).**

JOHNSVILLE JUNIORS ALREADY

ON THE SNOW...By Elliott Smart

The Plumas-Johnsville Junior Ski Team held its first event of the season on December 2nd. The Junior Ski Team annually holds a team draft at Soda Springs Ski Center in Norden. On hand this year were 42 skiers, many of whom are returnees from last year. Skiers tried out on a modified slalom race course and were evaluated by 12 coaches using a rating scale of 1-10. Fine initial performances were turned in by returning skiers Heather Hochrein, Kathleen Murray, Alan Gruner, Alicia Miller and Karl Steidel. Also impressive were newcomers Geoffrey and Parker Newstead. Team selection takes place on December 11th. Following that there will be a fun race on January 6th before racing begins on January 20th.

Did you see the November issue of Ski Magazine? Check it out. There is an article about our favorite place to ski, right here in Plumas County.

MAKING LONGBOARDS...By Cookie

There is another longboard making class at the college this year. The class is being taught by Pete Bartels. Pete is a very talented craftsman and an excellent teacher. His love for working with wood is apparent in his work. We are fortunate to have him working with us again. Thanks Pete for teaching the class again this year.

This years class is rather unique. There are 3 foreign exchange students taking the class. One of the exchange students is a girl from Russia. Another student is a Dutch boy. Rumor has it that the two were talking about taking the skis they make home with them. Perhaps they will be able to fit the 14 foot boards in the over head cabinet. What do you think?

There are a total of 16 students in the class. That means 16 new pairs of skis at the longboard races. Will there be room for all those skis on the hill? The competition will be getting stiffer every year now that there are so many skis for people to practice and learn on.

The next thing I envision is a dope (wax) making class. However, in the spirit of the historic racing, perhaps each person should be left to his own ingenuity to make a faster dope concoction. I for one plan to hire an herbalist to make something extra slippery for me. I think Jim is trying to get a fisherman to bring him some special fish oil.

What Next?

SKI PATROL IS READY FOR ANOTHER SEASON....By Cookie

Ten returning patrollers attended the national ski patrol refresher in Quincy this year. The refresher was held at the Quincy fire hall on Saturday December second. The morning started with no coffee. Several people threatened to leave, but decided to suffer through the morning anyway; and the refresher began with much badgering about the coffee.

By mid morning there were bandages flying and we felt like we were really on our way. When it came time to practice splitting, Chris wanted to break Robert's leg so we could have some real life practice. Dan reminded all of us that we couldn't afford to have a patroller out of commission, so Robert was off the hook. Everyone ran when the back boards came out. The slowest runners were promptly strapped to the back board and turned upside down. We could tell that Jim and Sierra were well strapped in because they didn't budge in the upside down position. They did complain about being upside down though.

There were three awards presented at the end of the day. The first place award was given to Lousia Swann for the most comments about no coffee. The second place award was given to Ron Logan for sucking in the most oxygen. And the third place award was given to Dale Sidener for being foolish enough to be the patrol director (thanks big time and for real Dale).

P.S. There is a lot of fiction in this story, but not about the coffee.