

Spartanburg Ski and Outing Club



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FEBRUARY 2010

<http://www.spartanburgskiclub.org>

Opening Remarks for February



Well, my goodness ... January sure was a cold month for us – of course, with that cold weather came some great snow up in the North Carolina mountains and our club racers have been busy making their mark on the slopes! I've heard bits and pieces about the trip to Whitefish ... no doubt the gag awards next month will tell more stories ~ always seems to have something for someone! This month's program will be a presentation on recycling by Coca-Cola (good thing our current soft drinks are not Pepsi products), and there will also be sign ups available for the Bingo For Bucks in March and the Piedmont Club in April. Don't forget to pay for the Piedmont Club **BY** the deadline so you can receive the member appreciation discounted price!

Please see the other events and articles listed in your newsletter. We have the slate of officers for the 2010-2011 year to present to the club. Additional nominations can be made at the February meeting, and don't forget that if you are interested in stepping up and helping out your club by donating your time to one of the available non-officer board positions, please let me know and I can pass that on to our new President!
New blood & new ideas – always appreciated!

So, wonder what Punxsutawney Phil will have to say this month?
Any guesses? We should know by February 4th!

Alison L. Kenball

WHITEFISH * 2010

If you didn't go on this year's Crescent mega-trip to Whitefish/The Big Mountain, you missed a great week. We began our adventures Sunday with a tour provided by a mountain host and a welcome party that evening. Monday some of us took a lesson, which included tips on how to ski in low visibility, as fog is a frequent visitor there. Crescent included an après ski party that afternoon with lots of food and local brews. Tuesday some of the group participated in a crazy race with the outcomes often depending upon how quickly you could get your skis off! Wednesday many went to ski Fernie in Canada. Snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, dogsledding, getting boots adjusted and a sleigh ride with homey dude ranch dinner were other choices. Thursday the poker run took us all over the mountain, sometimes introducing us to places we might otherwise not have seen. That evening our trip included a nice dinner with DJ and dancing from the chicken dance to clogging to conga line to disco; Oh yes, a good time was had by all! Friday was really a play day to catch those "must do's" on the slopes, and the barbecue lunch provided with our trip almost stuffed us too much to ski the afternoon, but not quite. Spartanburg finished the trip with an elegant dinner at the Kandahar; I loved my elk.

Submitted by Marcy, trip director



February 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 GROUND HOG DAY	3	4 Club Membership Meeting page 7	5	6 KARNEVAL Page 12
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 CSC Beach Convention DEPOSITS	16 Mini-Social La Taverna Page 9	17	18 Board Meeting @ Art Mall's	19	20
21 Newsletter Deadline 1:00pm	22	23	24	25	26	27 Club Race & Sugar 11:00am Page 6
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For more Scheduling, see Facing Page 5

SCHEDULE of CURRENT and/or UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark Your Calendars !

March

4 ~ 7 weekend Silvercreek Races > see January Newsletter

6 Saturday Bingo for Bucks > see below

April

1 Thursday Club Member Appreciation Night > page 14

22 ~ 25 weekend Crescent Ski Council Spring Convention > page 10

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**** BINGO FOR BUCKS ****

SATURDAY, MARCH 6TH

6:30 pm ~



HOSTS: Mike & Barbara Rogers

404 Quail Ridge Circle

Bring your dollar bills and let Mike call your numbers!!

Guaranteed winner every game!!!

Please bring an hors d'oeuvre to share with the players, beverages will be provided. RSVP is requested, and a sign up sheet will be available at the

February & March club meetings.

Alison

Slate of Officers

The Nominating Committee (consisting of the current president and past four available presidents) of the Spartanburg Ski & Outing Club met on January 12th to discuss nominations for the 2010-2011 club officers. Nominees were asked and have accepted the following positions. Additional nominations may be made at the February club meeting. Voting will take place in March and the officer installation will be at the Piedmont Club in April.

I am very pleased to present the following slate of officers as proposed by the committee:

President: Mark McCall
Vice-President: Conni Harrell
Treasurer: Ted Mueller
Secretary: Joy Bobo

Alison



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Club Race 2010 at Sugar on Saturday Feb. 27

Dear Skiers and Racers, it is time for our annual club race and to cross our worn-out skis for the final race on the battle field of Big Red at Sugar. It is planned for Saturday Feb 27 at 11 AM. We will meet at the lodge upstairs at 9 AM for prepaid tickets and paperwork. Sugar offers us special rates for this event:

Adults	\$50
Kids 11& under	\$41
NASTAR race fee	\$ 5

Please sign up and prepay for tickets and fees by Sunday Feb 21, to Sam Linder or Mark McCall.

We wish you a fun day and look forward seeing you on the slope.

Sam Linder, Race Director

FEBRUARY BRINGS RECYCLING TO US

Our speaker this month is Brandy Gutierrez from the United Resource Recovery Group (NURARC) or locally referred to as the Coke Bottle Recycling Plant. She will share with us the process the plant uses on those Number 1 bottles we recycle. Did you know you might be wearing what used to be a bottle, or be sitting or walking on a former bottle?

Reminder March brings the Gag Award and annual business meeting. April is our officer installation at the Piedmont Club, and if you are paid by the March meeting, there is a price break for members and the cost will be \$25.00.

I'm also beginning to think of those warm summer months, and some volunteers to share their homes for an evening of fun.

Jan Sarratt
(864) 489-1606
sarrattjpex@yahoo.com



Yes: Cheaper Trips are the Answer to Club Growth in this Economy

By Keith Fanta, Vice President, The National Ski Council Federation

Most people have been adversely impacted by the economy, whether it's been loss of employment, losses in their retirement and non-retirement investments, losses in home values, or any combination of these. Many of us are hoping to outlast the economy, maintain our jobs and businesses until business comes back, or to add to our investments while markets are down.

Some individuals and organizations will utilize this economy to make changes that will allow them to come out from the bad economy in a better position than they went in. For many that will mean taking on risk. Ski and snowboard clubs may be able to take advantage of this economy without high risk.

Good economies hurt ski and snowboard clubs

This is a concept that I just started thinking about, but if I'm right, it means that better days might be ahead for some of our clubs. Many of our longer established clubs thrived years ago because they offered ski trips at prices that individual travelers could not match. Individuals paid more than club members for their lodging, airfare, and lift tickets because they could not get group rates. Ski clubs survived good economies because getting great prices was all but impossible without them.

Move forward to the past fifteen years, and the Internet has often been identified as one reason for the drop in club membership. The Web's potential to search and find inexpensive packages has often been viewed as a source of our drop in membership. What hasn't been identified, however, has been the strength of the economy in that same time. Strong economies have existed prior to the nineties, but there was no resource for finding great deals at those times, and the strong economies didn't last as long; clubs therefore weren't hurt as bad by the good economies.

So why is a bad economy good?

Skiing and snowboarding's popularity, witnessed by record numbers of skier days over the past ten years, has only been increasing. This season the number will drop significantly, attributable, of course, to the economy. For many, the cost of our sport will keep them away from the slopes this season, and likely for additional seasons. I believe that our clubs can again be attractive to the skiers and snowboarders that aren't currently in clubs. In these past 15 years, as our clubs have aged, and as our members' discretionary budgets have increased, many of our clubs have booked trips with great value, but probably not at budget prices. Our clubs might once again be attractive to nonmembers if we start offering the type of penny-pinching trips of 20 or more years ago. This might mean a portion of our trips stay at properties that aren't a short walk to the lifts; it might mean allowing members to choose to have someone sleep on a rollaway; maybe we choose a week-long trip that departs and returns midweek instead of weekend to weekend. Bottom line, there are some options out there that will allow us to lower our costs to attract new members, as well as being a help to our current members. Penny-pinching trips may not suit all of the current members of a club, switching every club trip to a penny-pincher may be risky. Still, few of our members have been untouched by the drop in the economy, and we may find current members will react favorably to some penny-pinching.

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CRESCENT BEACH CONVENTION

APRIL 22-25, 2010 N. MYRTLE

Is it cold, damp and dreary out? Want something better to look forward to?

Start planning now for the annual Crescent Beach Convention at the Kingston Plantation. This is one of my favorite events of the year and there's something included for all tastes and interests from just walking the beach, golf, tennis, biking, the trade show with the best opportunity of the year to learn about ski resorts both domestic and abroad, beach games with other clubs, like volleyball, bocce, cornholes, horseshoes, a slalom course, the disco party Friday night and costume party with band Saturday night, read a book on the beach or you can just go fly a kite. You can be as active or as leisurely as you wish. Deposits of 50% are due to me by February 15th Marcy Cassady,



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Ron Scott, Race Director

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2009/2010 CSC/Subaru Race & Terrain Park Competition Schedule

Race Format - Two runs of Slalom on Saturdays and two runs of Giant Slalom on Sundays

January	30 – 31, 2010	Appalachian Mt., NC Race	9:30
February	1, 2010	Cupp Run Challenge at Snowshoe, WV	
February	6 & 7, 2010	Beech Mt., NC Race	9:30
February	20 & 21, 2010	Sugar Mt., NC	9:00
March	7, 2010	Dick Trundy/Sugar Cup GS Sugar Mt.	9:00
March	5, 6, & 7, 2010	<u>Crescent Cup</u>, SilverCreek, WV	9:30
March	5-7, 2010	Governor's Cup Race at Timberline, WV <u>kathysaumure@cs.com</u>	
March	25 - 28, 2010	NASTAR Finals	Rich Mead

Saturday, February 6th, 2010

7:00 pm at the USC-Upstate Ballroom



The German-American Club of the Carolinas
is hosting the
“KARNEVAL or MARDI GRAS”

Spartanburg Ski & Outing Club members are invited to attend
this come as you are or in costume evening celebrating
“The Good Times”. The cost is \$25 per person and includes
dinner, beer /wine & entertainment. Please call and make a
reservation if you are interested. Contact Sammy Linder at 587-
1315 for more info, or you may call Beate Pirschmoser
at 599-5660 or 587-2037.

Olisa

CSC/SUBARU RACE SERIES SPONSORS OF THE MONTH

The following businesses have donated merchandise and/or certificates to the Crescent Ski Council. Their merchandise and certificates will be used as prizes to the top three finishers in each flight of the CSC Race Series. Please support these establishments and product lines at every possible opportunity.

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**Piedmont Club Member
Appreciation Night
Thursday, April 1, 2010
(No Foolin')**



It is with great pleasure that I invite you all to attend the Annual Awards & Officer Installation Banquet at the Piedmont Club.

This year, the cost will be just \$25 per person and will include the open bar and dinner buffet. Please sign up early, as this "appreciation price" will expire after the March meeting, which is Thursday, March 4th. After this time, if you wish to attend the banquet, the price will be \$35!

~ Put this on your calendars please ~

Alison

BOARD of DIRECTORS

2009/2010

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>HOME PHONE</u>	<u>E-MAIL</u>
PRESIDENT	Alison Kimball	814 5372	akimball@bellsouth.net
PAST PRESIDENT	Ted Mueller	592 3405	tedcancom@wmconnect.com
VICE PRESIDENT	Sam Linder	587 1315	samlinder@yahoo.com
TREASURER	Art Mall	433 8627	mloart@aol.com
SECRETARY	Joy Bobo	433 0802	joybobo@sunaccess.net
MEMBERSHIP	Ted Mueller	592 3405	tedcancom@wmconnect.com
PROGRAMS	Jan Sarratt	489 1606	sarrattjpex@yahoo.com
ACTIVITIES	Alison Kimball	814 5372	akimball@bellsouth.net
FUNDRAISING & ADVERTISING	Conni Harrell	592 3405	tedcancom@wmconnect.com
PUBLICITY	Pat Lee	472 2253	patricia159@windstream.net
OVERNIGHT TRIPS	Marcy Cassidy	585 1718	mouseworks52@yahoo.com
RACING	Sam Linder	587 1315	samlinder@yahoo.com
CRESCENT REP.	Conni Harrell	592 3405	tedcancom@wmconnect.com
SOCIALS	Diane Butscher	592 3910	dianebutscher@yahoo.com
PUBLICATIONS	Charlie Darling	599 6794	gnilrad2a@bellsouth.net
<i>*Web Site*</i>	<i>Taylor Bomar</i>	<i>576 3776</i>	<i>spartanburgskiclub@att.net</i>

SUBARU VIP DISCOUNT PROGRAM

Subaru is a proud sponsor of the Crescent Ski Council (CSC) Racing program. Part of their sponsorship package this year included the VIP Discount Program for all CSC members. Qualifying members of a CSC club can purchase or lease a new Subaru at 2% below dealer cost minus any incentives which are currently being offered. To qualify you must have been a member of Spartanburg Ski and Outing Club [or other CSC club] for at least 6 months. If you are interested please notify Sam Linder of your intent to participate. Subaru will mail you the VIP information, which will include information about local dealers participating in the program. Once you have received the information you can go to a local dealer, pick out the Subaru you want, and the dealer will pull the invoice and let the purchaser know if there are any current incentives. Please take advantage of this benefit that Crescent Racing, through Ron Scott, has secured for all CSC clubs.

CLUB MEETINGS

The Spartanburg Ski & Outing Club normally meets the first Thursday of each month at 7:00PM. We are located at the Chapman Cultural Center (West Wing) on East St. John Street in Spartanburg on the first floor. During the months of June, July and August, meetings are held, more informally, at different sites and times, therefore it is necessary to consult the club website or a current newsletter for time and location. April's meeting is held at the Piedmont Club.

This club does **not** provide alcoholic beverages at membership meetings, but members are allowed to bring their own (BYOB) choices of beer or wine. Over indulgence is not condoned under any circumstances. Cups, ice and some soft drinks beverages are provided. Thank you.

Become a Member

A copy of our membership application is located at the following web address:
<http://www.spartanburgskiclub.org/membership/ssocappl.doc>



SPARTANBURG SKI and OUTING CLUB
P.O. Box 2864
Spartanburg, SC 29304