



UPSLOPE



Newletter of the **NORDIC Ski Touring Section** of **PATC**

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March 2011

UpComing Attractions In Winter **UPSLOPE**

- YOUR Ski Trip Reports
- More Trips and Tips

Skiing in New Hampshire

By Joe Bachman



I've been taking the trip to New Hampshire with Rob since 2005. This is a great combination of interesting scenery, good skiing/ snowshoeing venues, and good snow conditions. Rob has decided the best way to get up there is by rental van. I did that once, and it's a 12-13 hour marathon! My preference is to take the train to Boston (an early morning departure that arrives at about 1 PM), and a car, and drive the 3 1/2 hours to North Conway. I've sometimes picked up people who have

From the summit of Mt. Willard photo by Joe Bachman

flown to Manchester airport, which is along the way, but I didn't do that this year.

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APRES SKI PARTY NOW ON

Sunday, April 10 2011 4PM

Please RSVP Al Larsen alarsen120@aol.com

This is a **POT LUCK PARTY**. Everyone is to bring a dish or edible contribution that others will enjoy, either beatifically healthful or sinfully rich—Your choice

Driving directions: Capital Beltway to Exit 44, Georgetown Pike, Rt. 193. Turn onto Georgetown Pike inside the Beltway, toward Langley, not outside toward Great Falls. Almost immediately, turn north onto Balls Hill Rd (toward the River, not south toward McLean). Take the first left off Balls Hill Rd, which is Live Oak Road, a bridge going over the Beltway, and then paralleling the Beltway. Take first left, onto Green Oak Drive. Follow to end of cul de sac, and take the driveway to the left of the large eagle statue/sculpture. Catherine's house has the green roof, number 7035 Green Oak Drive. Her phone is 703-827-0370.



Après Ski at Catherine Payne's house on the Potomac, 2009 photo by Ralph Heimlich

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FROM THE \$LOPES – Chair Notes

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From the Slopes

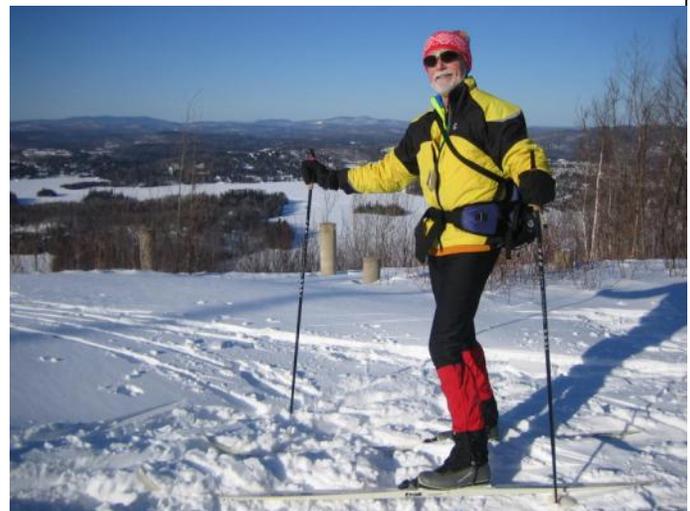
The 2011 winter is over, finito, history. And so is our skiing for the season. Fortunately most of us in the Ski Touring Section have other sports interests for the warmer seasons, so we can turn to them. But we won’t be abandoning thoughts of skiing totally for awhile yet, since we still have our annual après-ski social to look forward to, as well as our annual meeting!

As this issue of Upslope emphasized, both events take place on the afternoon of Sunday, April 10th. We handle the annual meeting first, of course. But it should be mercifully short unless members get into a philosophical discussion about which kind of Nordic skiing is best, telemarking or backcountry or classic track Be assured, that topic will not be on the meeting agenda. But feel free to engage in that kind of discussion once the business meeting is over and we turn to the food and drink.

It looks like we will be in good condition as regards officers for the Section for another year. The only known vacancy is to find a newsletter editor to take the reins from Ralph Heimlich, who has ably handled that position for several years. Do you have the skills to put together our quarterly newsletter? Do you know of another member who does? If so, let us know. We are all volunteers, and different people have different skills they can offer to meet the Section’s needs.

If your skills lie more in the area of leading ski trips, that’s great too. We always need new trip leaders. If you have been on STS trips for several years, you may have the experience it takes to lead. Think about it. And let the Trip Coordinator know early on if you’d like to lead a trip. If there’s a great skiing location you remember from the past that you’d like to visit again, maybe others would like to ski there as well. Your skiing dreams can become reality both for you and for others.

So join us on April 10th to lift a glass in honor of the great fun we’ve had on the snow in 2011. We’ll have pictures to share from several of the excursion and more local trips, and you’ll hear some good, early chatter about what trip leaders are thinking about for 2012. It will be an exciting time to meet with old friends and skiing companions—or, if you are a Section member who in fact knows few people in the group, to get to know your FUTURE skiing friends.



In Snow,
 Rob Swennes
 Chair

Help Wanted—UP\$LOPE Editor

After 5 years, I’ve decided that someone else should have a shot at editing and publishing the many stories and events of the STS. Anyone with a reasonable facility with word processing and the web should be well qualified technically to assume the editor duties. The news comes from our membership, either directly submitted as trip reports, or from snippets posted on the Yahoo Group, sometimes needing some follow up to get pictures or more details. I currently use MS Office Publisher to put the layout together, which can be saved directly as a .pdf file for posting to the web. If you are interested, contact me or Rob Swennes at the contact info on this page.

HAPPY DAYS ARE HERE AGAIN!



By Al Larsen and Brian O’Konski

It’s been a down time in Western Pennsylvania in recent years, as the economy and snow levels competed for most miserable ratings in their respective indices. Coincidence or correlation? Empirical evidence suggests that it may be the latter, as good snow has returned to the Laurel Highlands region this January, February, and March and along with that, those well known big-spenders, the XC ski crowd. And so it was that the STS invaded Somerset for a long-weekend over MLK Jr. Birthday. Why, in our group alone, members sprang for multiple packets of beef jerky (two) and first aid supplies (a small-size strip of moleskin). More impressively, the STSers kept Lamonica’s Restaurant afloat on Saturday night, as the locals all stayed home to cheer on their Steelers in the NFL playoffs and we were almost the only business for the whole serving and kitchen crew. But, this is getting ahead of the story.

On Friday, as group members arrived from the city or returned from their get-away day early skiing, we congregated in the motel lobby and then walked through snow--on the ground and newly falling--to the Somerset town square for the annual Fire and Ice Festival. Many establishments in the central business district had large ice sculptures out front, most created with mini-chain saws, in rather intricate and ornate designs. Various treats were for sale, including roasted almonds. But, the highlight was the fireworks display. Unlike, say, the 4th of July fireworks on the Mall in DC, which can be seen miles away, and therefore absolutely must be viewed from quite a distance as well, these were launched from a platform set up in the town square by the aptly-named Little Big Shot company.

This, by the way, is the same square where the crowd gathered, within 30 feet or so, to watch them. To synchronized music, they were launched right in front of us, with complex choreography, elaborate shapes, and vivid colors. A great time was had by all--a rousing start to our ski weekend.

The next day, most of the group went to Laurel Mountain. Among us, different subgroups skied almost every one of the varied trails available. The snow was as good as Laurel Highlands veterans could remember. We had everything from well broken trail, to slightly broken silky-smooth almost-to-ourselves sections, and unbroken trails where we were the first on since the last foot of snow arrived, to non-trails, true cross-country “if we go this way, it should connect to the other trail” stuff (it did, we noted confidently, after-the fact). Several skiers made it all the way to Wolf Rocks.

On Sunday, most of the group headed to the groomed trails at Laurel Ridge, and again, conditions were magnificent. The Red Loop was fun and fast. Some of the group discovered new downhill skills they previously thought were beyond them. “I’m willing to try” became “hey, I can do this”. Al Larsen and Tim Williamson tried out the Yellow Trail hills, which were downhill screamers with very efficient uphill gliding for the return. The warming hut allowed for everyone to join up for a sociable lunch, sharing stories (if not cookies).

Meanwhile, Brian O’Konski and Stephen Brickel headed to the North Woods section near Hidden Valley, and were the first to park in the upper lot. The trail conditions were good, on both the groomed and tracked trails. One needs to ski into the warming hut here, which was popular with skiers and stocked with wood for heating.

On Monday, most of the group went to Laurel Mountain for a return visit. Fewer skiers were out on the Martin Luther King Holiday, and the group enjoyed a route on the eastern side of the road.

Throughout the weekend, conditions were ideal: temperatures in the 20s, so snow never iced up or got sticky, but fingers and faces kept warm. So, welcome back, Laurel Highlands skiing, after some bad years in the two thousand “aughts”. The irony is that STS had started scheduling additional out-of-region trips because snow reliability had gotten so sketchy in the mid-Atlantic. This season, we had to cancel “old reliable” Tug Hill which “always” has lake effect snow, except when it didn’t. In lieu of Tug Hill, several participants on that trip enjoyed an impromptu short December trip to ski in down and out Western Pennsylvania. Thank you Steelers fans for your faithfulness, and for leaving room for us at the restaurant Saturday night.



PACCSA “Ski Cam” on February 17

Skiing New Hampshire



Mt. Willard trail photo by Joe Bachman

(Continued from page 1)

This year, there was actually more snow on the ground in Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Boston than up in North Conway. But there was snow on the ground, and it turned out that conditions were all right, after all. The first day, I went with a bunch of people north through Crawford Notch to Bretton Woods. The day started sunny and clear, including a fantastic view of the Presidential Range from the highway, but when we drove over the high point of the notch, we found out where all the snow went. The temperatures were in the mid teens, there was on and off snow all day, and a couple of feet on the ground. I like Bretton Woods because it has a lot of gentle terrain, and they do a fantastic job of grooming the trails. For après ski, one can go into the adjoining Mt. Washington Hotel for a drink. This is a classic grand old hotel, with some historic pedigree, as this is where they held the conference after World War II that set up the International Monetary Fund. By the time we left to go home, it was snowing up a storm, snow that pretty much stopped after we drove about halfway south through the Notch. They're not kidding when they say the Presidential Range makes its own weather.

The next day, Ashok Sharma and I decided to climb Mt Willard, a low mountain at the north end of Crawford Notch. This is a relatively gentle trail that uses old carriage roads that ends with a spectacular view of the Notch below. We were on snowshoes, but the trail was packed down enough that one could have done it easily with light crampons or other snow traction devices on the boots. Heck, we saw some hikers just wearing boots—I don't know how they did it, they must have better balance than I do.

The third day, I went to Jackson, the famous New England Village dedicated to cross country skiing. There had been enough new snow so that the trails were in reasonably decent shape. I spent the morning skiing 10 km up and back on the Ellis River trail, I hadn't been up there for a couple of years. This is a nice green-level trail with enough hills to make it interesting. When I returned, I walked through the village, and checked out the annual ice sculpture contest on display on the porch of the Wentworth House Hotel. Unlike the previous years, the temperatures were well below freezing, so the sculptures were in the best shape I've ever seen them. Across the street there were a couple of historical markers and one of the town's old road-rollers on display. Back in the Good Old Days, they didn't plow the roads, they rolled the snow down to make the roads passable for sleighs.



Jackson Ski Touring Center photo by Joe Bachman



Jackson Village, NH photo by Joe Bachman

Some of the other participants went up to the Great Glen

Trails in Pinkham Notch, and reported very good conditions and superbly well-maintained trails. Another group went to the Bear Notch Ski Touring center about 5 minutes from our rental house and said it was a nice low-key place, kind of like what White Grass was like in the early days. Another group drove about 2 hours to the far north of Dixville Notch and skied at the Balsams, another old Grand Hotel resort. I know that when I go back, even after 5 years of taking this trip, I'll find some new places to ski.

March Madness in New York



By Greg Westernik

As snow cover disappears and the base is almost gone in the mid-Atlantic hills, STSer thoughts turn to snowier, northern locales to extend. Soaking rains have washed away much of the snow base in Laurel Highlands and the lower half of Whitegrass in WV this early March 2011. So stalwart John Tichenor and I headed north to Upstate NY because Osceola Tug Hill STC was reporting 10+ inches of base after undergoing 2+ inches of soaking rain starting the evening of 3/5, and Tug Hill Winona Forest was still reporting 8-10 inches of base in the trails on 3/6. The weather forecast called for 4-6 inches of new snow by end of Sunday, so off we left Sunday morning 3/6 in soaking Virginia rain. It rained steady to buckets all the way thru Pennsylvania until we got to Binghamton, when the rain turned to snow the rest of the way to Pulaski, NY. Along the way in New York we saw the telltale signs that our mini-week XC ski trip plans might be bountiful: several abandoned cars on the interstate shoulder, several inches of new snow in the median on NY roads, the usual car flipovers and some cars parked in the median pointing in the wrong direction.

We checked into our room near dusk at the Super 8 in Pulaski for \$35/person/night (double occupancy) as we watched the new snow refresh the Tug Hill area for our Monday pleasure...6 new inches overnight in Winona alone with more at Osceola Tug Hill. Next morning most of the local schools opened late by two hours as we drove over to Winona Forest to find our first challenge...no plowed parking lots that greeted us with a sheet of ice covered by 6" of fluff and the entire perimeter surrounded by high stacks of plowed snow. No parking at the usual spots. Driving around we got lucky and parked next to the Town Hall building in Winona which was plowed. Here we started on our waxies first on Bary Road turning right on Larabee trail (formerly Raspberry) breaking thru the new 6" of semi-wet snow over a sheet of ice which replaced much of the top of the snow base on this trail. They just had a ski race on the prior Saturday in Winona with no sign of grooming and lots of moving water to be found in parts of the Forest. On Larabee we glided carefully past two or more big blowdowns in the trail, found this trail more rolling like Salmon Hills and had to ford several stream crossings. Not the kind of leisurely tour we recalled on "flat" Tug Hill trails used in past XC ski trips! The stream crossings varied from a few inches covered by some breakable ice and new snow (we broke thru in some cases and hopped over that stuff in others), to gliding precariously over snow and ice bridges above fast-moving streams several feet thick., to navigating a fork in the trail properly marked as ski trail in both directions! We were very relieved to avoid a hypothermia water immersion accident (or worse) and reach a safe landing where Larabee trail ended on a road intersection. We pressed on in temps in the low 20s to more familiar HISCOCK , TED's TURN and WINONA Way. We contacted a former STSer Jane Bardon that evening who has retired at the Sacket's Harbor area north of Pulaski that day, but both she and we were too busy to make a connection during our trip.

On day 2 we visited Osceola Tug Hill STC around 40 minutes from Pulaski. On the way thru Redfield we saw and passed the familiar NO SKIING signs at the entrance of former Salmon Hills STC (now a private residence). At Osceola Tug Hill STC all 40 kms were groomed with 10-15" of base in the trails and day-old new snowfall. Today the challenge was not the skiing or weather, but the 50% markdown MADNESS on all new metal-edge skis, NNNBC boots and NNNBC bindings. For example one \$150 pair of new metal-edge waxless skis with new \$80 NNNBC binds sold for \$106, installation inclusive! It was closeout time at this STC and we did our part to keep the business an ongoing concern. There were several untracked hills near the meadows just outside the STC warming hut to try out one's new backcountry skis. Proprietor Hugh Quinn still has plenty of backcountry, Whitegrass type skis left to sell for shorter and lighter folks than I. After skiing we drove past the bar in OSCEOLA where we recalled Peggy Alpert had her flat tire fixed two years ago by local snowmobilers, made the usual wrong turn out of Osceola, got back on track and made it back to Pulaski by dark. We did get a chance to review the lodging facility at Harris Lodging in Sandy Creek and found the main floor facilities very promising for future ski groups like us. Avoid the basement facilities there!

Day 3 Wednesday we went back to Winona ISO more typical trails. We found there were still several untracked trails to blaze like Bill's Belly and Jim's Jaunt alongside the familiar Winona Way. The wind howled most of the afternoon with wet weather approaching by the end of our third and last ski day, but the change did not significantly affect our skiing for the day. We did not see another person skiing all day. That evening we ate at a downtown Mexican/Italian restaurant near the 1880 House that we recommend for future visitors.

Day 4 was departure day, and we left the Tug Hill in a soaking rain (they got 2-3" on Thursday). It rained all eight hours during the ride home until we reached VA (saved me from doing a carwash). The next day FRIDAY Osceola Tug Hill was still reporting 2-10" of base in their trails with 1" of new snow on top. They will likely still be skiing there thru the end of March while I start gardening. STSers know Tug Hill will continue be a favorite place to extend one's ski season for a good value.

[Note: The local TV station in Syracuse, NY, reported that winter 2010-11 was one of the top 5 winters they had for snow since they started keeping records...in a La Nina year! I recollect that this TV channel claimed the Syracuse area 30 minutes south and outside of Tug Hill area had at least 170" this winter and counting when I left town around 3/9. Chances are if Syracuse had a good year, Tug Hill had a better one.]

Notes From Other Trips



Fiddler's Fireplace photo by Stephen Brickel

Stowe, Vermont

This year's trip to Stowe VT was a success. There were 14 of us, half who flew to Burlington while the others drove. We stayed at the Fiddler's Inn, a B&B which had fantastic common areas, breakfasts and a group dinner, but a mixture of accommodations.

We skied at the Trapp family Lodge, Stowe, Craftsbury and Bolton Centers and the Stowe community Center. While there was plenty of snow (between 18 to 28 inches), we also experienced tropical weather conditions on Thursday and Friday as the high temperatures reached 50.4 degrees. After that the highs were in the teens. Not only were the ski conditions satisfactory, but to my memory the ski conditions at Bolton had the best conditions that I have ever seen. More pics at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/PATC-STS/photos/album/806459021/pic/list?prop=eupdate>



STSers at Stowe photo by Stephen Brickel

Frank Fico's Secret "Private" Trip at Canaan Heights, WV by John Tichenor

Date Line: Jennifer Bine's STS Blackwater weekend January 28-30, 2011

"Come to my secret ski trail. I'll even take you but, it will remain my secret trail. You won't be able to go again on fresh powder without a guide" was the message. This comment combined with the previous e-mails about renting space in his vacation house had me dubious about what kind of "Real Estate Sales Pitch" this ski trip would be. But then the Canaan Loop Road is fairly flat and it does sit on the top of the ridge, the snow was very deep and the car is accessible being parked on the Loop Road. With well over 1 foot of new powder plus a solid base there are no rock problems. So, the question was how much of a problem can there be in the trees with a plowed road near by?

So Frank Fico starts off and I follow with my 179 / 70-60-65 skis heading N along with my riders Erma Cameron and Dave Jordahl skiing their matching "big" Karhu 9s (they are not a couple only their skies are) plus Frank's 4 children in the rear. Bert Finkelstein also came over from his WV place. How nice we STS'ers get the new powder up front. Frank has his very own "Chip Chase" clan of very good skiers. We get a little warm up and then down a fairly straight slope with no Frank at the bottom and no visible run out. Oh but, he was very careful to explain there would be no surprises. We are doing the easy trails. I'm next and with gaining extra speed I'm thinking now is the time to bend over, get low and tip over to the side only to find myself stopped upright in a telemark position due the rear knee plowing me to a stop. I'm thinking damn I don't even have my knee pads. Of course I did not need the pads but, only some new thinking about skiing in such deep snow through all those trees. We all had a great time crossing RT 32 twice and by staying high, we avoided all the grown over areas and that climb down the short cliff that required three points of attachments that I did in the 70's. You need some knowledge about where the private land, Forest Service land and the Canaan Valley Institute lands are. Frank's description of what we were going to do proved to be accurate. Thanks for a great day.

Foot Notes:

Bert Finkelstein and I discussed how we would ever do this trip by ourselves. The problem is these are not official Forest Service trails and the only markers are at the intersections. Frank said it took him 2 years to memorize the winter trails. I'm not even sure a GPS would be of much use because of all the trees and the fact that while skiing you would outpace the GPS reading. Maybe the CIA can supply us with some secret invisible paint so we outsiders can mark every tree. The trails, but not the woods, are maintained for skiers. Blackwater lodge has a new hiking map with little skiers showing beside the trails that are for skiers. All the old trails near the Loop Road except the Canaan to Blackwater trail are no longer on the new map. Frank said that the trails he has checked (that I believe were on the old maps) are all overgrown and the ones leading from the Loop Road to the Blackwater entrance road are all gullied out with active streams. Also the western part of the Loop Road is now no trespassing property. I don't have a Sunday's Loop Road report also led by Frank because I found out that my problems going up hill in powder were due to slick spots on the bottom of my waxless ski patterns.

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Ski Touring Section of the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club

May 1, 2010

May Day, May Day. That was just the date of the meeting, not a distress signal, as the STS faithful gathered at the house of section member Catherine Payne for our annual end of season meeting and party. As outgoing Chair Peggy Alpert asked that everyone introduce themselves, many in the group were simultaneously transported to the Beatles, circa "Magical Mystery Tour", and spontaneously started humming, "You say goodbye, and I say hello".

After some awkward moments reacquainting certain members with the basic points of Roberts' Rules of Order, the members approved the minutes from last year's meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Next, Rob Swennes presented the Treasurer's Report. Among other points reflected in the report, Rob noted that, compared with recent years, more trips had successfully gone out this year (with the good snow), so there were both more actual expenses and more revenue than the figures in the budget. Some leaders choose to run certain expenses through the club account, and others do not. That is, a lodging deposit, for example, might be paid initially with a club check and then repaid to the club by the trip leader, or the leader might front the money and then repay himself with the participant funds. The former approach would show up in the treasurer's report in both the actual expense and actual income lines.

Rob noted a line entry for computer equipment. That was for the Section's purchase of a projector that works with photos loaded to a computer. The projector will be used at a variety of events, such as the Fall Ski Fair, the annual meetings, and other gatherings where we want to show photos from trips, etc.

With the assembled group having learned from the handling of the previous agenda item, this time, there was a motion, a second to the motion, and a hearty round of "ayes", resulting in a declaration from Chair Alpert that the Treasurer's Report was approved.

Membership Report

Doug Lesar reported that during the past year, the Section gained more new members than it lost previous members, for a net gain. After performing a sophisticated statistical regression analysis, Doug presented his findings: "membership follows snow". It was a good snow year, so membership was up. He declared that we thus "arrested" the drop off of recent years. Presumably the Mountaineering Section would be proud of our self-arrest.

Doug noted that about 60% of members now elect to receive the Upslope newsletter electronically. Once again a plug—for environmental responsibility and cost savings for the Section—anyone who can do so is encouraged to receive the e-mail version rather than the hard copy US Post version. Finally, in keeping with his recent excellent track record of colorful metaphors, Grim Reaper Doug noted that, with the switch to a new e-mail list serv during the past year, and the need for people to take an affirmative action to "opt in", the "chaff had been culled" from the STS e-mail list. You chaff-ers know who you are.

Trip Coordinator

Peggy announced that Trip Coordinator Kathy Brumberger, along with husband Elliot, had departed the DC area for a few months and were [cue the envy music] serving as hosts in Yosemite National Park. As a result there was no Trip Coordinator's report, but Peggy thanked Kathy for her terrific work during the year.

Peggy called for trip leaders for the coming year. As always, this is the key to the success of the STS—having folks who are willing to conceive of a trip, or execute a trip someone else suggests. Peggy reminded the members that the trip leader's lodging is paid for as part of the fees collected from the trip participants. If a person is willing to lead a trip, but does not want to come up with an idea for a trip, the Trip Coordinator can match that leader up with a destination, and provide assistance in understanding what needs to be done to pull off a trip.

New Business

During the past ski season, when member use of the list serv (section e-mail system) was heaviest, some members raised questions about receiving e-mails in different ways, such as digest version, periodic lump dumps, etc. Larry Doff took the initiative to investigate, and then execute a move to Yahoo Groups for the STS system. As noted during the Membership Report, those interested in being part of the new yahoo Groups system must take affirmative action to join. One does not have to be an STS member to join the Yahoo Group. Doug Lesar and Steve Brickel are the monitors for the list serv group. To sign up, use the web site link that forwards a request to Doug and Steve. The address for that is on the STS website.

We have now phased out the previous list serv system, one that served us well and for which the Section is very thankful. The section expressed its public gratitude for those who have made that system available to us for all these years at no cost to the club, especially Stuart Barkley and Doug Lesar.

The PATC wants the proposed schedule for STS Excursion Trips (i.e. those outside VA, MD, DC, PA or WV), sent to its Executive Committee in advance of publishing anything about the schedule. STS can do this by e-mail, not requiring an in-person presentation. They would like an explanation of leaders, where the skiing will occur, what lodging will be used, etc. For any Excursion Trip, they want all participants to

(Continued on page 8)

Minutes (cont.)

(Continued from page 7)

sign a PATC release form (in addition to the STS release form). A continuing requirement (from previous years) is that participants in Excursion Trips must be members of PATC (again, not just STS).

An issue arose during last season regarding room arrangements on trips. This can especially be an issue when the lodging is at a house or a condo, and specifically, the sharing of beds by a non-couple. Generally, STS gives trip leaders the discretionary authority to assign two same sex people to a single bed if the bed is queen-sized or larger. Some people are not comfortable with such an arrangement. So, it was agreed that the trip leader could assign a premium price to be paid by such a person in order to have the whole bed, and not be obligated to share. However, when there are multiple beds in a single room, the leader will not be able to allocate a whole room to just one person.

Election of Officers

Outgoing Chair Peggy Alpert conducted the election of officers for the coming year. She presented a slate of those willing to serve, and she called for further nominations. There were no additional nominations. The presented slate was as follows:

Chair—Rob Swennes

Vice Chair—Jennifer Bine

Treasurer—Brian O’Konski

Secretary—Al Larsen

The full slate, as presented, was elected.

Peggy next announced the non-elected leadership positions, that are filled by appointment. These were as follows:

Trip Coordinator—Rich Galloway

Membership Coordinator—Doug Lesar

Mailing Coordinator—Randy Kerr

Upslope Editor—Ralph Heimlich

Webmaster—Steve Brickel

The following roles/positions are unfilled due to lack of volunteers for these tasks:

Publicity Coordinator

PATC Liaison (to fill in if Chair cannot attend a PATC meeting)

If a member is interested in serving in one of the latter two roles during the coming year, please contact Chair Rob Swennes. John Tichenor volunteered to work with Steve Brickel to establish a more visible presence on the internet for the STS.

The assembled multitude then thanked Peggy for her years of service to the STS in multiple roles. Peggy responded that she’s not going anywhere—just taking a break from official responsibilities, but will continue to help out.

As Peggy prepared to execute her final official act, of calling the meeting to a close, those nearest the door, realizing that Peggy had relinquished the gavel, bolted for the food.

Respectfully submitted,



Pictures from STS



These snapshots are only a small fraction of the many events and activities at STS in the 2010-11 Ski Touring Season. If YOU'RE not in the picture, maybe YOU SHOULD BE next season.

PATC-Ski Touring Section

c/o Doug Lesar

2507 Campbell Place

Kensington, MD 20895

October 2010



To:

PATC Ski Touring Section Membership Form

The PATC/STS provides quality services and benefits to its cross-country skiing members while promoting and supporting the PATC and cross country skiing in general. Whether a novice, recreational, citizen racer or telemark skier, STS has something for every XC skier. Imagine yourself floating on the snow, climbing across hill and dale in the quiet of winter, stopping for lunch in brilliant sunshine on a vista with a view of snow-covered ridges and valleys stretching to the horizon, and then making a descent back to home. Our membership enjoys ski touring in the hills with the comradeship and safety of a group. When you become a member, you receive all issues of the club's newsletter UPSLOPE and other useful information. UPSLOPE is published six times a year by PATC/Ski Touring Section, a non-profit, educational and recreational group of cross-country skiing enthusiasts based in the Maryland, DC, Virginia, PA and West Virginia areas. UPSLOPE provides information about STS trips and events (e.g., Learn-To-XC-Ski weekends, Telemark instructional clinics, and mini-week ski trips). One year membership runs from October 1st through September 30th of the next year. If you join in April or later, your one year membership will run through September of the next year. To insure uninterrupted membership for more than one year, you may provide advance dues for up to three years. To join, select your desired membership category and term from the table below, complete this Form legibly, and send it with a check appropriate to your membership choice (payable to PATC Ski Touring Section) to:

PATC-Ski Touring Section, c/o Doug Lesar, 2507 Campbell Place, Kensington, MD 20895

Membership Classes

<u>Membership Categories</u>	<u>1 Year Only</u>	<u>2 Years</u>	<u>3 Years</u>
Individual	\$ 9	\$17	\$25
Family	\$13	\$24	\$35

PLEASE PRINT or TYPE THE INFORMATION BELOW !!!

Name(s): _____ Request is for: - NEW Membership: _____

Address: _____ Today's Date: _____ - New Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ - Renewal: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

- Add me to Annual member directory but do not list my: Home Ph.: ___ ; Work Ph: ___ ; Email: ___;Postal Address: ___
- If checked, add me to New Yahoo Group so I can get infrequent, adhoc announcements of local XC Ski activities: ___
- If checked, send my UPSLOPE only electronically (no paper copy) to save the club copying and postage: ___

STS is an all-volunteer organization. We cannot function without the assistance of our members. If you are interested in volunteering to help STS in any of the following areas, please check the box and you will be contacted:

- | | | |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> STS Officer | <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity | <input type="checkbox"/> XC Ski Instructor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Web Content Assistant | <input type="checkbox"/> Ski Trip Leader | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Events Coordinator |