

The EDGE



HUDSON VALLEY
SKI CLUB

NEWSLETTER OF THE

Windham Establishes New Business Model Will it Work?

by Alan Imhoff

“Windham Mountain Club offers an exclusive member experience in the Catskill Mountains. Enjoy upscale, year-round access to slopes and priority dining at all establishments, personalized wellness and outdoor recreation programs, and inspired arts and culture programming.”

The above is from the new, renamed Windham Mountain Club website. Windham Mountain has new owners, including the heir to the Holiday Inn fortune. And they have big plans to transform this Catskill ski area into the Aspen of the East. They have already invested over \$70 million in mountain upgrades, including a high-end Italian restaurant, and improved snowmaking.

The ‘exclusive membership’ comes with a \$175,000 price tag (early bird pricing, goes up to \$200,000 in May) along with annual dues of \$9,000 per year (and expected to go up as ‘more amenities come online’). The good news for us regular folks is that they will continue to sell lift tickets and season passes to non-members, and for the coming year at least, will continue as IKON Base Pass members, as the only northeast ski area that requires reservations. Season passes at Windham are the most expensive in the east

and double the price of nearby Hunter Mountain.

Windham tried the ‘private club’ approach in the 1970’s, at a much lower price point. That didn’t last too long. There are other ongoing examples in the Northeast, including the Heritage Club and the former Haystack Mountain. The Haystack Mountain collapsed into bankruptcy in 2018 and was reborn in 2021 when a group of former owners took over. Heritage will cost you \$100,000 to join plus \$18,500 dues per year, and they don’t offer any lodging or summer activities having divested themselves of the private golf course.

Windham will limit memberships to 450 members. Going forward they will continue to limit the number of nonmember lift tickets they sell, will require a two-day minimum lift ticket on weekends, the golf course will be members only, and they will discontinue the summer bike park. They will continue the adaptive skiing program and the racing program for the locals. Many of the locals are very worried about the economic impact these changes will have on the community.

The big question will be- are there enough wealthy New York/Boston families willing to spend between \$175,000 and \$200,000 to ski in the Catskills when they can afford to ski anywhere they want? The new owners are banking on the idea that they will do both. We will have to wait and see.



Telluride mountain tour- guide, Karen, Nonie, Donna, Rich, George, Alan, Cathy, Dan, Dave, Terese, Larry, Joanne, Betty

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Hello fellow HVSC members,

It's been an awesome ski season. I was on my boards more than ever before in a season and they finally broke! So, I'm on a mission of trying different skis. There are still some ski days left here in the East due to a late snow storm. Check area websites as there are some great prices available.

There is a world revolution in skiing and riding. The independent ski areas across the United States, Canada, Europe and Japan have organized with the Indy Pass. This pass offers two days across 180+ ski destinations. Here in the Northeast, skiers can sample some of the region's most unique, independent ski resorts. This keeps mountain sports available and accessible at the local level which helps our children forge a relationship with the mountains that will stay with them for the rest of their lives.

I have recently been introduced to the International Skiing History organization (ISHA). They preserve the very best of skiing in print and video as well as its history and heritage and the continuation of skiing's legacy for future generations. One may explore the issues at www.skiinghistory.org.

Please note that the HVSC is in the process of making changes to the constitution to enable those who do not live close to participate in the elections of our club. Follow this process by reading the newsletter and website and attending meetings.

Ok, time to plant some spinach.

Best

Bet



Bet, Rick and Keith enjoy Telluride

2024 HVSC Elections

by Rich Partridge

Our Election meeting is April 10 (moved from our typical first Wednesday meeting night). We need a quorum to be present to conduct elections - so please attend!

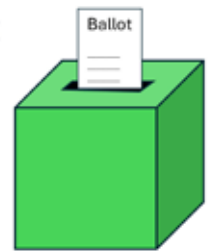
Our current officers have agreed to run for re-election.

President. - Betty Mostachetti
 Vice President - Frank Ruggiero
 Secretary - John Ollive
 Treasurer - Jim Gahn
 Sergeant-at-Arms - Pat Cummins

We have three candidates for two openings for Director for the 2024-2026 term:

Jay Brenner
 Dan Croak
 Craig Goldstein

Election Meeting
April 10
 Please attend
 (we need a quorum)



At our March 20 meeting, the proposed By-Laws changes to allow proxy voting passed unanimously. Those who have requested proxy ballots should receive email instructions on March 25.

Nonie Kelley and Lisa MacDonald will complete the second year of their two year term.

WELCOME
NEW MEMBERS

James Armour
 Polly Armour
 James Nicolosi



Charlie



Charlie's Angels!

A Tremendous Trip to Telluride

by Charlie Shanes, trip leader

In early March, we did a week of skiing at Telluride, Colorado. Twenty-five members of the ski club were on the trip. We had some fresh snow early in the trip and more new snow on the last ski day. It made for some very pleasant skiing!

It was a group effort to make things run smoothly. Recognizing the need to keep loading and unloading vehicles to get to our destination, people just pitched in and got it done. Though long, the travel days were

without incident.

The accommodations were affordable (euphemism for non-luxurious), and well located. It was a short walk to get to the closest lift. It was possible to ski back to that location, as well. My roommate and I could see the lift line out the window of our room. We probably saw more people in line on Friday, than

all the other days put together. Because of the fresh snow and a weekend youth competitive event, skiers were coming in by the busloads.

It was nice to see Dan Croak recovered enough from his recent hip replacement to be able to go on the trip. Thanks to Dan and Betty Mostachetti for offering ski lessons on some of the days.

Betty Mostachetti and her two sisters opted for a larger (3-person) room. Thanks to them for making their place available for our fun, lively and loud get togethers. We had other hotel dwellers asking if they could crash our next party! Without a common meeting room, we also took advantage of meeting at their two centrally located hot tubs.



Bet and Dan try to figure out a lesson plan for their unruly students!



Kenny and Cindy bring their warmth to the slopes!

Telluride is an old mining town. The town has a lot of charm and rich history. It also has a lot of nice restaurants. The group dinner was held on Thursday evening at an Italian Restorante that was up on the mountain. The food was excellent and so was the service. Everyone seemed very happy with their meal.

The only injury on the trip was a pinched nerve. He says that his recovery is gradual. Yoga and walking his dog are doing the most to improve his condition.

Overall, it was a beautiful mountain with bowls, black diamond slopes, and plenty of intermediate slopes. The reviews were positive, and it feels as if it should be a repeat trip!



It is so fun when our adult kids can join us for our trips! (Anita and her sons)

Enjoying the East! The Gore Trip

by Jay Brenner, trip leader

Hi Ski Fans,

The start of our Gore trip was challenging. With little to no snow coverage we were unsure whether or not this trip would be canceled. We remained optimistic about the prediction of a huge snowstorm that would eventually dump 12 inches of snow on the mountain. Twenty of your HVSC buddies made it safely to the Comfort Inn in Lake George, and into a winter wonderland.

Between our meet and greet parties, pizza night, and a night or two out on the town, the trip was a huge success. We even had live entertainment provided by Barry Haydasz on his mandolin and a sing along with Lori Vogl on the guitar.

Herb E offered ski lessons on the mountain and Jay, (seeking deeply personal information!) asked about members favorite colors, cookies and why they love skiing so much!

I truly believe that we all came away from this trip a little closer and enjoyed our trip. Thanks to Mother Nature for providing the snow!

It's amazing that we love bad weather!



Clockwise:

1. Bob, Shannon (pre-fracture), and Jean enjoy the gondola.

2. Barry and Lori serenade the apres ski crowd.

3. Our Rochester friends, Brad, Carol and Karen, on a picture perfect day.

4. Patrick amuses Bob!

5. Chris and Janet enjoy the gathering of friends .

6. John and Dave describe their favorite cookies?

7. Jay, Frank and Phil enjoy all aspects of their days at Gore!



Collette Tours & HVSC will be exploring Spain & Portugal October 12-26, 2024.



Highlights: Barcelona, La Sagrada Familia, Valencia, Paella Experience, Granada, The Alhambra, Seville, Choice on Tour: Seville Walking Tour or Guadalquivir River Boat Ride, Flamenco Show, Cordoba, Madrid, The Prado Museum, Toledo, Elvas, Lisbon, Belém, Obidos

See <https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1209840> for details.

Any questions, contact Nonie Kelly at NKelly902@gmail.com

discounted rate til mid April

Sign up here:

<https://gateway.gocollette.com/GroupReservation/1209840/PersonalInformation?isNew=1>

Friday Race Training

On Friday evenings, club members meet at an area restaurant for a couple hours of friendly conversation. We welcome new members and old.

Any questions, comments or suggestions, contact:

Susan Kokosa @ 845-229-6786 or

race_training@hudsonvalleyskiclub.org

April 5 Vulajio's- 2593 Rt 52, Hopewell Junction

April 12 Cinco de Mayo- 404 Manchester Rd, Pok

April 19 LaPuerta Azul- 2510 Rt 44 Salt Point

April 26 Shadows On The Hudson-176 Rinaldi Blvd Pok

All event dates are subject to change.

Please use the HVSC Website Events Calendar and Facebook page for up-to-date event and meeting information.

Biking Season!

Time to enjoy a bike ride! There's a fun one that occurs every Monday night starting in April. It is organized by Rick Fick and includes many ski club members. It is not a formally sanctioned HVSC event.

- 4/29 Tony Williams Park, paved
- 5/6 Poughkeepsie, Page Lumber, paved
- 5/13 Hopewell Junction Museum, paved
- 5/20 New Paltz, BOCES, compacted gravel
- 5/27 Rosendale, Kiln Parking lot, compacted gravel
- 6/3 Kingston, Rockwell Ln, compacted gravel
- 6/10 Hurley, Russell Rd, compacted gravel
- 6/17 Ashokan, W. Hurley, compacted gravel

All rides start at 6pm (wheels down)

All rides are 13-15 miles long.

All rides are out and back (able to turn back at any time)

All rides are C pace (10-12 mph)

No one is left behind.

All rides are on Rail Trail, flat.

Rain cancels ride.

ALL RIDES END IN TAILGATING (byob and something to share).

If you wish to be on Rick Fick's email list, let him know at:

rjje@msn.com or text 914 443 4060

April Events:

April 10* Club Meeting @ 7:30pm, American Legion, 55 Overlook Rd, Pok (Quorum needed for elections!)

mid-April* Receive discounted rate if signing up for Spain/Portugal trip

April 29* Bike Ride @ 6pm, Tony Williams Park, Highland

*details within newsletter



Club Information

Club Officers:

President: Bet Mostachetti
 Current Past Pres: Keith Faucher
 Vice-President: Frank Ruggiero
 Secretary: John Ollive
 Treasurer: Jim Gahn
 Sergeant at Arms: Pat Cummins

Directors:

Nonie Kelley Alan Imhoff
 Lisa MacDonald Jay Brenner

Committee Chairs:

Budget and Finance: Pat Cummins
 Constitution: Nonie Kelley
 Instruction: Dan Croak
 Marketing/Publicity: Alan Imhoff
 Membership Services: Pete Gray
 Sub-Chairs: Susan Eschbach, Robin Smith
 Newsletter: Donna Augustine
 Website: Rich Partridge
 Ski Council/Discount Tix: Jim Gahn
 Ski Trips: Jim Gahn
 Events: Jay Brenner
 Audit: Frank Ruggiero

Contact information is available in the
Online Membership Directory
www.hudsonvalleyskiclub.org

Or queries may be sent to
secretary@hudsonvalleyskiclub.org

Newsletter Content Submission Deadline

The May newsletter deadline is April 15th. Please send all content, stories & photos to:
 Alan Imhoff at alanimhoff@gmail.com



Membership Renewal!

<https://hudsonvalleyskiclub.org/membership/>



- Use online fill-in pdf
- Print out completed pdf
- Pay by check
- Mail printed pdf & check to HVSC
- Use online fill-in form
- Pay via PayPal
- Click to send online form & online payment to HVSC

Membership Directories

The 2023-2024 Membership Directories are now available and may be picked up at any meeting.

I can also mail them out if you send me a Self Addressed Stamped Envelope. The envelope should be a minimum of 6.5" x 9.5".

Postage is \$1.59 for one directory (single memberships) and \$1.83 for two directories (couple memberships).

Pete Gray
 Membership

I AM PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THAT I AM NOW PART OF THE

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices team!

Therese "Terri" Searle
 Associate Real Estate Broker
 has joined the LaGrange Office

1100 Route 55, Suite 201
 LaGrangeville, NY 12540

Contact Terri at:
 m: 845.546.9260
 o: 845.473.1650
 tsearle@bhhshudsonvalley.com

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Connect on Facebook

Check the [HVSC Facebook page](#) to connect with members on current club events and happenings. Don't go it alone! Post on our Facebook page and invite your HVSC friends.