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MUGELNOOS

DECEMBER, 20 1994

Number 714

DEMO BLISS 1994

Norpine and Jim Foxworthy did it again! The place to be December 3 and 4 was Bear Mountain Ski Resort in Big Bear hanging with the tele folks scrutinizing new gear, flexing your quads and tucking your gluts, seeing old friends, meeting new friends, and red-lining the fun meter until the lifts closed. Afterward we huddled around waiting for the generous supply of tele-treasures Norpine distributed to lucky winners at the end of the day drawing. SMS Leaders and Central Committee members who participated were: Paul Harris, Eddie Nunez, Pete Matulavich, Mark Goebel, Reiner Stenzel, Pat and Gerry Holleman, Marsha Male, Dana Pearce, and me.

The truly fortunate continued the camaraderie at Keller Hut, where hors d'oeuvres fed the hungry, while the skiing cooks with lots of appreciated volunteer help prepared dinner for 40 hungry skiers. After dinner and a magnificent variety of desserts, Howard Schultz discussed SMS outings and a new series of courses aimed at introducing new members to ski mountaineering, which involves winter camping, avalanche awareness, and skiing skills. Brad Rassler from Rock Creek Cross-Country Ski Resort discussed improvements under new ownership and extended a welcome to this magnificent ski area north of Bishop. Todd Yuen, who is a PSIA Certified Instructor in Nordic Downhill, Nordic Track, and Alpine Skiing, discussed the telemark/parallel ski training program at Mt. Waterman. And the premier tele dude, Craig Dostie, editor of the Couloir, entertained us with the finest version yet of his "Free Your Heels, Free Your Mind" slide show. What a tele intensive day!

The third annual Telemark Demo Days went smoothly considering well over 100 tele skiers participated each day. Free telemark "mini-lessons" were provided for beginner to advanced level skiers by Joe McCoy and Dennis Yates, Bear Mountain's excellent staff of Telemark instructors. But the focus of this event is on allowing tele skiers to try the latest and best ski equipment. No "how to" manuals are needed when you fasten a new pair of skis to your boots. You ride the lift gazing admiringly at the slick new cosmetics, you share information with others riding the chair with you about what they've heard about the ski or, even better yet, how they thought it skied, and, finally, you arrive at the end of the lift to start your very own evaluation of this state of the art equipment. If you have a good run, your appetite is whet, you hastily wipe the drool oozing from the corner of your mouth as you scramble to the lift for further validation. If you flounder on the run, you can wimp out and blame it on the skis: it doesn't ski the way you ski, right? Talk about a win-win situation! I'm sure Black Diamond, Tua, and Kazama would have enjoyed ease-dropping on the assessments shared among the tele skiers throughout the day at the largest free-heel event in southern California. Other demo gear included Scarpa (Terminators and T-2s) and Asolo boots and Black Diamond and Life-Link poles.

I will tell you the name of the ski that I can't live without, the one everyone there knew I liked best because of the Cheshire cat grin on my face, the one I wouldn't share, but promise to put in a good word for me by December 24th, something like: "Santa, Nancy, really deserves those Tua Montets MX skis."

I have come to think of these tele festivities as Opening Ski Day. Take your new 1995 calendar and turn to December now. Pencil in "Demo Days-Bear Mountain" on the first weekend in December. It's your tele connection. What are you waiting for? Do it!

-Nancy Gordon

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MUGELNOOS STAFF

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NEXT MEETING

JAN. 17 1995 7:30 PM GRIFFITH PARK RANGER STATION AUDITORIUM 4730 CRYSTAL SPRINGS DRIVE, LOS ANGELES, CA.

NEXT ISSUE: DEC. 20, 1994

ISSUE DEADLINE JAN 10, 1994 ALL PHOTOS, SLIDES, AND ARTICLES SENT TO: ANDY FRIED, MUGELNOOS EDITOR, c/o TEC GROUP (71237.1270) 10727 WHITE OAK AVE. SUITE # 205, GRANADA HILLS, CA 91344. 3 1/2" OR 5 1/4 " DISKS (IBM) IF YOU WISH TO HAVE PHOTOS RETURNED AFTER PUBLICATION INCLUDE A SELF ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE. WE ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR LOST PHOTOS.

UPCOMING TRIPS:

Date	Location	Leaders / Program
Jan 7	Local Intro. Tour	P. Harris, W. Boge
Jan 14	XC Downhill Clinic	H. Schultz, M. Goebel
Jan 14-15	Mammoth Intro Tour	O. Maloy, N. Gordon
Jan 21	Mt. San Jacinto	P. Matulavich, R. Stenzel
Jan 27-29	SMS Training Camp	P. Harris, M. Goebel
Feb 4-5	Mammoth Ski Weekend	O. Maloy, N. Gordon
Feb 4-5	Mt. Baldy, San Antonio Hut	C. Dostie, P. Matulavich
Feb 11-12	Snowshelter Course	H. Schultz, R. Stenzel
Feb 17-19	Pear Lake Hut	R. Stenzel, E. Nunez
Feb 24-26	XC Downhill Practice	P. Harris, N. Gordon
Mar 4-5	Mt. San Jacinto Snow Camp	K. Deemer, H. Schultz
Mar 11-12	Mt. Baldy, San Antonio Hut	M. Goebel, P. Harris
Mar 25-26	Avalanch Course Sherwin Bowl	N. Gordon, H. Schultz

SCHEDULED MONTHLY MEETING SPEAKERS

Tues Jan 17 The "E" word of Back Country Skiing, Craig Dostie will speak and show slides on aspects of ski mountaineering and some of the Hot back country ski routs in the Western United States. Don't miss this opportunity to ask the editor of "Coulair" Magazine questions about equipment and locations. 7:30 PM Griffith Park Ranger Station.

Tues. Feb 21 No Skis But Plenty of Snow; Climbing Mt. McKinley, Alaska Photographer Ed Nunez will speak and show slides of his recent spring mountaineering expedition on Denali, North Americas highest Peak.

Tues. March 21 A ski Traverse of the Northern Selkirk Mountains. Mark Goebel shows slides of his spring 94 ski traverse of the Northern Selkirks in British Columbia. Now is the time to begin planning your spring trip.

Tues. April 21 Tentative: Celebrating SMS's 60th Anniversary Old Videos/ Movies/ and open slide night (Bring your 10 best ski/snow slides, prints or vidios to show).

Ski Mountaineers Central Committee
 Chair -Ken Deemer Vice Chair- Nancy Gordon
 Outings/Safetey Howard Schultz Sec.ATreas-Mark Goebel
 Programs- Dana Pearce Mugelnoos Editor- Andy Fried

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HISTORIC ROCK CREEK LODGE UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP

Bishop, CA. Eastern California's Rock Creek Lodge is back. Back in the back country ski business, that is.

The venerable 70 year old High Sierra ski-in lodge has been rescued, revived, and remodeled, thanks to the efforts of new owner Bobby Tanner, of Bishop, California.

Tanner, whose family has lived in the Eastern Sierra mountains for 35 years, recognized an opportunity to breathe life into the Eastside inn when he learned the Lodge was to be sold last winter.

Tanner's goal is to provide the kind of back country skiing experience that Rock Creek Lodge has come to mean for generations of cross country skiers.

Rock Creek Lodge, and Rock Creek Canyon itself indeed have a rich heritage of back-country skiing. Situated at an elevation of 9300 feet in the heart of the Sierra Nevada. The Lodge lies within glacier-carved Rock Creek Canyon, one of the largest drainages on the east side of the range. The groomed road which skirts the Lodge accesses the highest trailhead in the Sierra, 10,250 foot Mosquito Flat. 13,000 foot peaks abound. In the 1920's, the famed Sierra mountaineer Norman Clyde set up spring ski base camps in the Canyon for his daily forays into the high bowls and cirques. And more recently the Lodge boasted one of the finest back country skiing programs in the United States. Such notable ski mountaineers as Doug Robinson, Allan Bard, John Moynier, and Galen Rowell have all led excursions for the Lodge.

"Eventually we'll reintroduce guided trips to the Lodge," Tanner said. "For now, we are encouraging guests to come up to the Lodge and ski our tracks, or use us as a hub for their own ski tours. We're really the ultimate back-country base camp."

The "base camp" is now more comfortable than ever. After purchasing the Lodge this spring, Tanner and his crew installed a water distribution system at the formerly "waterless" inn, and connected plumbing to seven of the

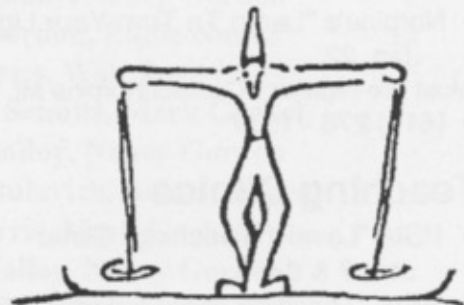
fourteen cabins. They also renovated the historic main lodge, which dates back to the 1920's.

"We've made the winter accommodations more comfortable for our guests," Tanner said. "But we've retained most of the rustic charm. During their stay, our guests live in a kind of turn-of-the-century log cabin ski community."

This winter the Lodge will groom about 25 kilometers of track for striding and skating-, 30 kilometers of marked trails lead to more remote destinations within the Canyon. On-site PSIA-certified instructors teach both track and downhill cross country techniques to Rock Creek guests.

Rock Creek Lodge is open for winter business, and is currently accepting reservations.

For more information contact Rock Creek Lodge at 800-4-ROCK-CR.



MUGELNOOS RENEWAL NOTICE!

Don't forget to renew your mugelnoos subscription for 1995! Send a check for \$7.00 payable to "Mugelnoos" to the Mugemailer: Pat Holleman, 1638 6th St., Manhattan Beach, CA 90266.

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- PSIA "Ski Improvement" Clinic
Feb. 5

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Ski Mountaineers Section

Angeles Chapter, Sierra Club, Founded 1934

1994-1995 Schedule

Are you a strong cross-country or downhill skier with an interest in back country skiing? Come ski with the SKI MOUNTAINEERS in the local mountains and the Sierra Nevada. Most trips require at least intermediate downhill ability and metal-edge skis with touring bindings--either 3-pin or alpine, climbing skins, and some involve backpacking and snow camping. Contact leaders or Sierra Club Angeles Chapter schedule for additional information. If you have not skied with us before, we ask that you first come to an Introductory Tour.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Leaders</u>
Dec 3-4	Demo Days, Keller Hut	Nancy Gordon, Paul Harris, Craig Dostie
Dec 10-11	Mammoth Leader Training	Owen Malloy, Nancy Gordon
Dec 29-Jan 1	Ostrander Hut, Yosemite	Nancy Gordon, Eddie Nunez
Jan 7	Local Intro Tour	Paul Harris, Walt Boge
Jan 14	Mt. Pinos, X-C Clinic	Howard Schultz, Mark Goebel
Jan 14-15	Mammoth Intro Tour	Owen Malloy, Nancy Gordon
Jan 21	Mt. San Jacinto Intro Tour	Pete Matulavich, Reiner Stenzel
Jan 27-29	SMS Training Camp, Keller Hut	Paul Harris, Mark Goebel
Feb 4-5	Mammoth Ski Weekend	Owen Malloy, Nancy Gordon
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Feb 11-12	Snowshelter Course	Howard Schultz, Reiner Stenzel
Feb 17-19	Pear Lake, Sequoia NP	Reiner Stenzel, Eddie Nunez
Feb 24-26	XC Downhill Practice	Nancy Gordon, Paul Harris, Nonie DeSurra
Mar 4-5	Mt. San Jacinto Snow Camp	Ken Deemer, Howard Schultz
Mar 11-12	Mt. Baldy, San Antonio Hut	Mark Goebel, Paul Harris
Mar 25-26	Avalanche Course, Sherwin Bowl	Nancy Gordon, Howard Schultz
Apr 1-2	Jump Turn Clinic, Mammoth	Craig Dostie, Howard Schultz
Apr 8-9	Onion Valley Car Camp	Tom Marsh, Howard Schultz
Apr 22-23	Day Tours, Mammoth Lakes	Paul Harris, Nancy Gordon
Apr 29-30	Pear Lake Snow Camp	Mark Goebel, Gerry Holleman
May 6-7	Rock Creek, Treasure Lake	Ken Deemer, Reiner Stenzel
May 13-14	Ski Mountaineers Peak	Gerry Holleman, Paul Harris
May 27-29	Mt. Ritter/Banner Ski Camp	Reiner Stenzel, Ken Deemer

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THE MUGELNOOS

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