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Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc.

MARCH 1978

WASHINGTON

MARYLAND

VIRGINIA

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

IT'S MARCH!

This month we have an important meeting coming up. And, it is still not too late for some local skiing. First, let me tell you about the meeting; then I'll tell you how P V S can improve your local skiing.

In March, we will vote on the first amendment ever proposed for our By-Laws. The purpose of the proposed amendment is to raise the P V S annual dues by \$2.50 beginning next year (see Important Notices for the full proposed amendment). However, the effect of the vote on this proposed amendment (a 2/3rd majority is needed for passage) is to decide if P V S is to remain in the Eastern Ski Association of USSA. I discussed this issue with you in my January message. Come to the March meeting prepared to vote!

March is also the last time to nominate candidates for President and for EXCOM. The Nominating Committee has already presented a slate of nominees (See the February '78 issue of TVS). At the March meeting, any group of five or more members can nominate additional candidates. Don't forget, we vote for new officers at our Annual Meeting in April.

Now, to skiing. We can help through the P V S answering system. Not only do Bob and Jan Marx (Tel. 451-9158) provide you with up to date information on events, but also they can help set up your weekend ski trips. For instance, imagine you want to go to Snowshoe this weekend. Call Bob or Jan and tell them. They will give you names of others interested in going, or/and take your name to give to others who may call. It's a great way to set up carpools, and ski with P V Sers! SEE YOU SKIING!

Ray McKinley

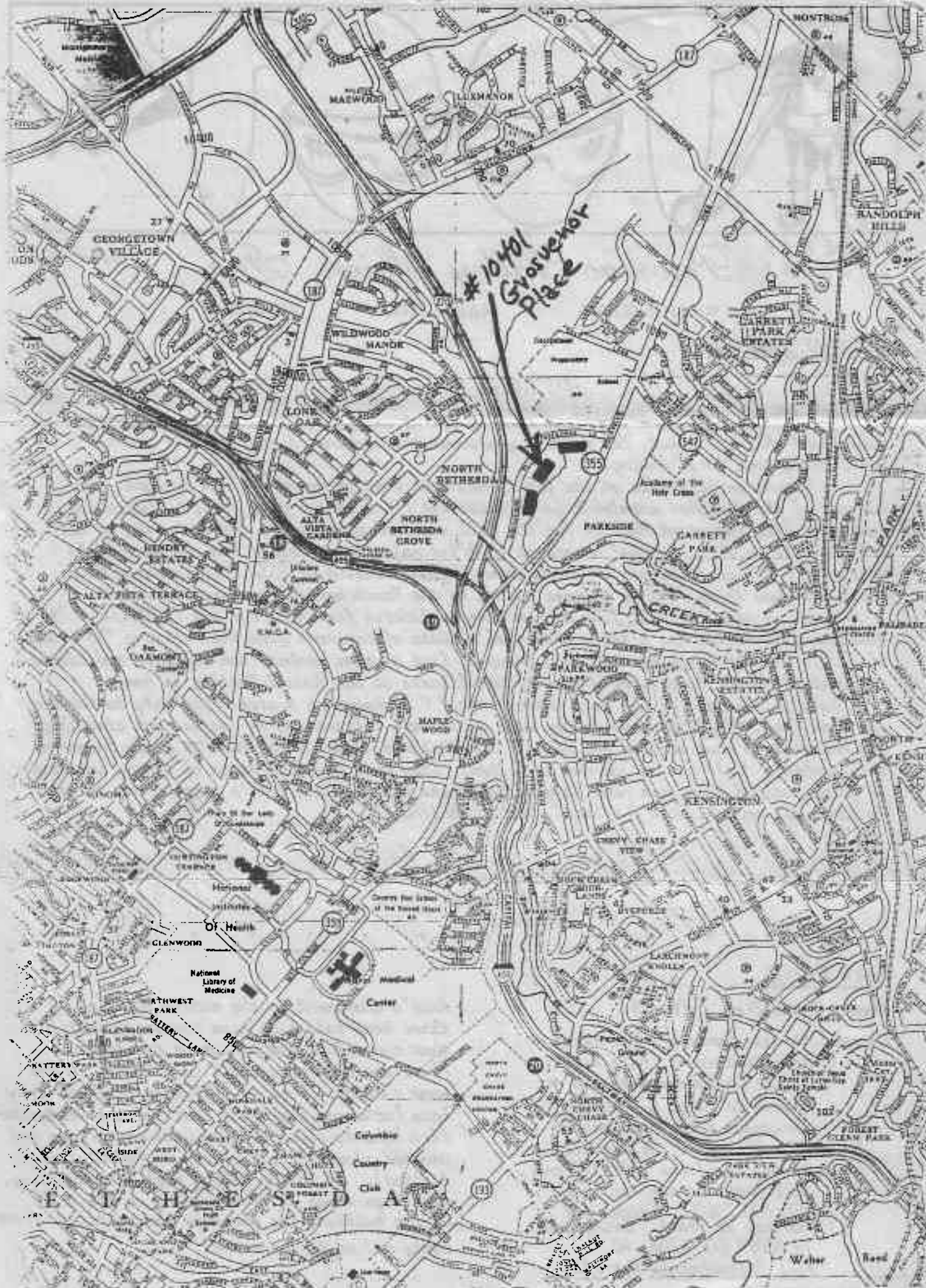
Ray McKinley
President.

MARCH MEETING

When: March 21st, 8:00 P.M.

Where: At Aase Berling's apartment house rec room. Aase lives at the Grosvenor Apts. on Rockville Pike, # 10401 Grosvenor Place (see map on page 2). Take the elevator to the top floor (17th??) and exit right to the rec room. SEE YOU THERE! Slides and Movies, at least. Bring yours! IN NORTH BETHESDA, MD. FREE Refreshments for all!

Aase's apartment is the middle building of three very tall high rise apartment buildings that constitute the Grosvenor Apartments. There are also some small town houses in the same complex. Come to Rockville Pike and turn into Tuckerman Lane just south of the Georgetown Prep School. Turn left on Grosvenor Place and proceed slowly (the driveway to #10401 is not lighted). It is the MIDDLE high rise building. Aase says there is good parking on the left of the building (as you face the building). Come early and enjoy the crowd!



#10761 Gyrovenor Place

GEORGETOWN VILLAGE

WILDWOOD MANOR

NORTH BETHESDA

NORTH BETHESDA GROVE

PARKSIDE

GARRETT PARK ESTATES

CREEK

RENSSELAER

GLENWOOD

National Library of Medicine

ATHWEST PARK

SALLEN LANE

Columbia

Country Club

E T H S D A

Water Road

EXCOM Report

The second EXCOM meeting of 1978 was held on February 28th (a nice way to end the month!) and our hosts were Bob and Margaret Wyckoff. As is always true of these good hosts, there were abundant snacks and drink for the assemblage. Attending were President Ray McKinley, Vice President Marilyn Clark, EXCOM members Pat Cope, Gail Gell, Bill Hager, Julie King and Bob Marx; trip leader and Blue Ridge Ski Council rep Bob Wyckoff, and TOOT Editor Dick King. Gail Gell is also our Membership Chairlady. Business that was discussed was as follows:

1. P V S has accepted the responsibility of being the sponsor/host Club for the Blue Ridge Ski Council Tennis Tournament. Plans moved forward toward making the necessary arrangements of reservation for a location and selecting a coordinator to pull together the helpers who will make this event the success that it was last year.

2. The April meeting, which is our Annual Meeting for election of officers, will also be extra special. Our hosts are Kirk and Peggy Burns, and they have agreed to extend their home to us to include dancing after the election of officers. Thus, come prepared with your Dancing Shoes on!

3. EXCOM approved research and funding for obtaining personalized P V S Moriarty ski hats and P V S T-shirts. More on this soon; it appears we may be successful in this endeavor.

4. The May meeting will AGAIN be: The International Dinner - hosted by the Copes. Always popular and over-subscribed, This Event is one of the best run events of the Club thanks to Don and Pat. It involves a LOT of work so volunteer assistance for Pat will be MOST welcome.

5. Our summer Events are ALREADY falling into place. In June, Jack Hadler has again invited the Club to his cottage on Kent Island in the Bay. The Elrod's will again host their ever popular Steak and Swim in July. We also envisage another canoe trip; we have an invitation to share the summer place of Bob and Vivian Barry at Rehoboth; and we look forward to a well-run Wine and Cheese tasting sometime in the fall. As you can see, EXCOM is active and busy; now let's see the membership get active and join in on all our many activities. YOUR PARTICIPATION IS WHAT MAKES THE CLUB A REAL CLUB!

IMPORTANT NOTICES

IMPORTANT NOTICE # 1 At the March meeting, we vote on the USSA-Eastern issue: Do we increase our dues and remain a 100% Eastern Club - or do we NOT raise our dues and thus drop our status as a 100% Eastern Club? The membership will decide this issue by vote at the March meeting. We repeat here for the readership, the Proposed amendment:

PROPOSED:

THAT, effective with the 1978-1979 season, to amend the By-Laws of Potomac Valley Skiers, Inc; Section 11 (Finance), B (Annual Dues), to read as follows:

- B. Annual Dues: The Annual Dues shall be:
- | | |
|--|---------|
| Active Member | \$17.50 |
| Additional active member, same household | 12.50 |
| Absentee Member | 10.00 |
| Junior Member | 5.00 |
| Non-skiing spouse of an Active Member | 12.50 |

Consider this proposal carefully, and then come to the meeting to vote! Adoption of proposed amendments require a favorable vote of 2/3rds of the active members of the Club present and voting.

IMPORTANT NOTICE # 2 We are pleased to announce the following new members in the Club:

Dan Brandenburg (Dan is a renewal)
1260 21st Street Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20036
Tel. Home: 296-4947
Office: 638-2241

Bill and Gloria Cherkasky
5950 Woodacre Court
McLean, Virginia 22101
Tel. Home: 703/532-0437
Office: 202/224-5175

Warren Johnston
10706 Kenilworth Avenue
Garrett Park, Maryland 20766
Tel. Home: 933-3024

Michael and Judith Mealey
1457 Waggaman Circle
McLean, Virginia 22101
Tel. Home: 790-8227
Office: 624-7536

SKI THE RIVIERA Trip Report

by Rosemary Soler

As was noted in the February TOOT, the Wyckoff trip to Isola and Auron in the French Maritime Alps was a "howling" success. Howling in the sense that we howled with glee at the gorgeous powder snow in both areas and howled in anguish when we were snowed in at Isola on the day of our departure for Auron. This necessitated an extra day at Isola without feeling free to ski because of hourly reports that the roads were becoming passable. However, as the day wore on those who finally went ahead and skied (Norm's Nomads, Gail Gell, Larry Pease, etc.) were far better off and said they had sensational conditions. That night when we were cleared to move out we were divided into groups in two small jitnies that could negotiate the precipitous mountain switchbacks. By necessity there had to be an early and late shift because of lack of space, and those that drew the late shift (by card) lost a night's sleep. All was forgotten, however, when we skied our first day at Auron and found out about the great snow conditions, the length and variety of the pistes, and no lines!

The trip was loaded with all sorts of extra, unexpected bonuses like a side trip to the village of Saint Paul de Vence (arranged by Charlotte Reith) and the Maeght Foundation with its modern art collection of Miros, Calder, Chagalls, etc., in a fabulous setting by the architect Jose Luis Sert.

In the Isola area 60 international competitors took part in the "World Cup of Artistic Skiing." The most difficult and breath-taking form of this exotic style of skiing are the "aerials" or acrobatic jumping, which took place on the slopes near our hotel while we watched and took pictures. Ray McKinley should have gotten some good ones. Also in Isola the British Airways was sponsoring an interairline competition with racers from seven different European airlines (which will be reported on by Larry Pease) and the apres-ski festivities included a torchlight procession down the slopes in front of our hotel with a fantastic fireworks display as the finale. The Hotel St. Pierre invited us to a fondue party in its discotheque where some of us gyrated to the sizzling beat of the band with Sylvia Byerly doing an outstanding hustle in triple-time.

In the Auron area, aside from the gorgeous skiing, we were charmed by the little, old, French village atmosphere and the Tour Director of Auron, as part of his PR effort to promote the ski complex, gave us a historical tour through the ancient chapel of St. Erige that dates back to the 12th century, with all its original woodwork, masonry and murals still pretty much intact.

Then it was on to the Cote D'Azur and Monte Carlo, where after being ensconced in the pure luxury of our rooms at the Loews Hotel (a plush hostelry if there ever was one, perched on the edge of the Mediterranean) we were treated to a tour through the Palace of Princess Grace and Prince Rainier of the principality of Monaco. We spent the day wandering around the formal gardens overlooking the sea, the shops,

and the world famous yacht basin. At night many in the group took Roy Elrod's suggestion and went to the Folie Russe, a cabaret featuring a dazzling floorshow and gourmet food, and many of us dropped a few francs in Le Casino, except Rick Byerly who was lucky enough to beat the house.

The initial TOOT report mentioned that it was one of the BEST Wyckoff trips because the snow conditions were so super and yet you had all the added goodies of the Riviera country thrown in. I guess you might say we had the best of both worlds on this trip, and we didn't lose Alice Swalm enroute, Jac Hadler didn't have any orthopedic problems, the Steeces, the Masons and Bernie and Shiela got off to Paris without mishap and Tony and I didn't get hung up in any elevators! (Remember Courmayer '76?)

COMING EVENTS

- Mar 21 - March meeting. See page 1.
 - Mar 28 - EXCOM meeting; at Don and Pat Copes.
 - Apr 16 - Blue Ridge Ski Council Annual meeting; see BRSC rep, Bob Wyckoff for details.
 - Apr 18 - P V S April meeting. At Kirk and Peggy Burns home. The Annual Meeting.
 - Apr 25 - EXCOM meeting; at Dick and Julie King's home.
 - May 20 - May Event; The Ninth Annual International Dinner - at the Copes.
 - May 23 - EXCOM meeting; at the Hager's home.
 - June - At Hadler's cottage; details later
 - July - At Elrods - Steak and Swim.
- More later as we plan the events. The BRSC Tennis Tournament will be June 10th; alternate date is June 17th. More on this later.

FEBRUARY MEETING REPORT

The February meeting was hosted by our worthy President and his lovely wife, Roy and Malle McKinley. Some thirty or so members and two guests (that should be three - one forgot to sign up!) enjoyed the lovely home which we shared along with the snacks provided during the business meeting and the social hour. For entertainment, the Club had scheduled a ski film from United Airlines, a schedule which included a written promise to deliver to one of

IMPORTANT NOTICES (continued):

IMPORTANT NOTICE # 3 At the December P V S meeting, the following applicant members were voted in as full members of P V S:
Bob and Vivian Barry
Sheldon Drews
Charlotte Eddy
Norm and Mary Engleman
Shirley and Paddy Frucht
Helen Price
Otto Wildensteiner

At the February meeting, the following applicant member was voted in as a full member:
Alice Swalm

FEBRUARY MEETING REPORT (continued):

our members the film no later than the day of the meeting. As it turned out, we got notice by phone that the film was available in downtown Washington and could be picked up; but there was no delivery possible! Fortunately, home movies saved the day! (Or, the night, to be more accurate.) Dick and Julie King had brought their extensive "super 8" coverage of their trip to Lenzerheide, Switzerland in December and January in case it was needed. AND IT WAS! Movies of Dick and Julie, Bill and Elke Stecher, and Roy and Malda Elrod - P V Sers all - were more personally interesting than ole United Airlines anyway. Dick also showed a short home movie of last year's trip to Mt. Sutton, Canada for those who were specifically interested in that locale. It was a good meeting, and we THANK our hosts sincerely and emphatically.

A TRIP REPORT — CRESTED BUTTE AND ASPEN COLORADO, January 1978

from BILL AND DONNA HAGER, written by Bill.

This was our first trip to Colorado to sample the reputed glories of western skiing; and, THERE IS NO QUESTION, WE'RE GOIN' BACK! To you aficionados of the west, this reaction comes as no surprise. And to you who have not yet taken up Mr. Greeley's advice, the Hagers also urge you to: : Go West, young man (and woman), Go West! In a nutshell: Blue skies, Temperatures in the 20s and 30s, Superb snow conditions, and NO LIFT LINES!

We chose Crested Butte mainly because of its proximity to Aspen, and that gave us an extra day of skiing. After our time at Crested Butte, we hopped over the mountains to Aspen at 7:00 A.M. in a four passenger aircraft; and from 14,000 feet, the rising sun spread across a spectacular and breathtaking view of the snow covered peaks in all directions! The twenty minute flight was all too short!

Crested Butte is small as Colorado resorts go; the funky old mining town has only eight hundred permanent residents - and dogs outnumber the voters! The mountain is barely ten minutes from town via a constantly shuttling shuttle bus. A condominium development clusters at the base of the mountain, but that convenience is offset by its higher prices and the lack of any variety of nighttime activities. We were very happy to have picked an apartment in town, though to be honest, the pickings are small compared to Aspen. Entertainment is sparse, and one rediscovers the pleasures of conversation and of reading. The people are exceptionally friendly, and the informality and sense of just having a good time are far more pronounced than at Aspen, where everything seemed so organized; and one clearly senses that skiing is big business there. Even though Crested Butte is relatively small, it is still a thoroughgoing pleasure to ski there. We spent four days there, and I can recommend a ski week at CB for those people who wish to break out of the Aspen/Vail/Steamboat mold. Crested Butte is especially well set up for skiing with separate beginner, intermediate and expert areas having their own lifts (one, two and three respectively). Moreover, there is a separate terminus around the high point (11,250 feet) for one lift from each area; thus moving around is easy. The beauty of this system is that you don't have individuals of differing abilities skiing on the same terrain. The expert runs are varied and reasonably long; covered with powder after snow storms. The intermediate (and beginner) slopes are wide and well groomed; more challenging than most of Snowmass - about on a par with the upper Campground runs, I would imagine. There were fewer than eight hundred people skiing Crested Butte during our time there, so you can imagine how quickly we moved up and down the slopes. All in all, a very pleasant four days.

Aspen is a ski mecca, and many P.V. Sers have made that pilgrimage. So, I'll just pass on a few impressions of a first timer. The decision to stay in town rather than at Snowmass was clearly the right one; it is far less convenient to go from Snowmass to other ski areas, and particularly inconvenient to go into town at night. Aspen accommodations also can be less expensive. If you stay in Aspen, I heartily recommend you find a place within reasonable walking distance of Rubey Park which is the center of town - and more importantly, the point at which you make all bus connections. We were very happy with our choice of an apartment at Deep Powder Lodge; from both a location and a cost viewpoint. Prices in Aspen - food, accommodations, lifts (latter are \$13.00 per day, \$12.50 if you buy a six day ticket) - are steadily on the rise. A result of this rise is that most shops and restaurants have "Help Wanted" signs posted; mostly because potential employees cannot afford to live within commuting distance of town (a dormitory bunk in a closet-like room with 2 or 3 other persons costs \$12.00 per night!), and the Aspen Corporation abolished season passes two years ago! But, most importantly, there was SNOW - with nary a bit of ice (except in our drinks!). Quite a revelation to an eastern skier! It is incredible how much better we skied; faster runs, surer turns - I even got my skis together and showed a little form

and grace! It was a real ego trip in that respect, and we certainly appreciated it. Ajax was a challenge, with intermediate runs equal to expert trails on most other mountains; and expert runs that proved to us that we were not yet masters of THIS mountain! The long intermediate runs - Copper Trail and Ruthie's Run - were the most fun, and we only wish there were more like them.

Snowmass is not nearly as tough, but the area is so huge that it is impossible to ski all of it even on a very long day. The Big Burn has a new chair (#9) off to the left, which opens up a couple of new expert runs and provides a much quicker route up the mountain than the old lift. Most fun of all, however, was Campground, their expert rated run which runs off of Sam's Knob, which actually should be classified as advanced rather than expert. The 2400 foot vertical makes for long runs, and the expert signs keep the crowds away with the result that the snow conditions are the best on the mountain. FANTASTIC ego skiing with a challenge!

We tried the Highlands, but were disappointed at the short lifts and especially because the runs were so brief for any given ability. To get a long run, we had to ski a lot of beginner trails on the lower half of the mountain, and then take two or three lifts to get back up. We did not try Buttermilk - and we had no regrets. Local skiers rated Tiehack (its expert area) as relatively short and about on a par with the Big Burn at Snowmass for difficulty. BUT, Ajax and Snowmass together offer unforgettable skiing, and they made our journey to Aspen ONE THAT WE WILL NEVER FORGET.

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SKI TRIPS

March 2-17 - Ski trip to Spain; Trip Leader Bob Grasley.

March 5-11 - Ski Trip to Mt. Sutton, Canada; Trip Leader Gerry Deighton.

March 25-Apr 1 - A BRSC sanctioned trip, to Banff, Canada. Trip Leader is Jane Scott, Tel. 379-1762.

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TOOT TIDBITS - TOOT suddenly has an abundance of trip reports - and we're happy for it! But, we can't publish them all at once! We'll plan to get them into a later TOOT so that any and all budding (or experienced) authors will be read; and the members will benefit from the willing work done by the contributors. TOOT understands that both Gail Gell and Marilyn Clark have been very busy all winter training and developing their skills with the National Ski Patrol. TOOT commends and congratulates these busy ladies for their very real accomplishments which are only a part of their very busy schedules. Some old friends have written to us. Russ and Lilo Kinaman (plus Jeffrey and Kristen) are well and busy up in Vermont. They write: "Russ is patrolling at Smugglers' Notch again, and the past week has renewed our faith that there would be a ski season! Jeff is now 7, had a good ski season last year, and has climbed Mansfield twice and Camel's Hump this summer. Kristen is 3½, a nice combination of a tomboy and a little lady. She goes to nursery school. Hope to add cross country to my activities when she is in school regularly. Let us know if you come up this way." Signed: Russ and Lilo. Written on a Christmas card to the Thomases.