

# •• MT. MANSFIELD SKIING ••

*The Periodical Bulletin of the Mt. Mansfield Ski Club*

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No. 1

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Another season of skiing is at hand,—a season which will seem vastly different to those of us who have toiled patiently up the slopes of Mansfield for one or perhaps two runs, and at the finish of the day felt that we had earned every moment of our fun. The old days are gone forever, you may say; but not for the skiers of sterner stuff who still want to enjoy the beauties of the climb. The mountain remains the same, and there always will be an uphill as well as a downhill slope to every trail.

To you who may find your usual run a bit crowded on week-ends, I suggest trying cross country tours. There are miles of excellent trails in the Mt. Mansfield region suitable for this type of skiing. So although some readjustment may be necessary, I feel that in the end you will discover new and greater pleasures.

As a final word, I ask all of you who would like to help in any of the Club's activities, and have the time, to let either the Secretary or myself know of your willingness. It is difficult for only a few members to carry on all of the various events on our program. If you are particularly interested in any phase of the sport, an opportunity will be given you to try out your ideas.

—C. D. Lord

## NEW YEAR'S DANCES

This month the Club will sponsor jointly with the Stowe Post of the American Legion two New Year's dances. The first will be on December 28th, the Saturday evening before New Year's Day. The second will be on New Year's Eve. These dances will be held in the auditorium of the Memorial Building at Stowe.

It is claimed by those in the know that there will be some fun, so you all had better plan to be there—both nights.

## OUR 1941 PROGRAM

Jan.	5	: Third Class Test (Toll House 10 AM).
	19	: A, B & C Time Trials (Nose Dive 1 PM).
	26	: Excursion (Toll House 11 AM).
Feb.	2	: Vermont State Downhill, men and women (Nose Dive 12M).
	9	: Excursion (Toll House 11 AM).
	16	: Third Class Test (Toll House 10 AM).
	23	: A, B & C Time Trials (Nose Dive 1 PM).
Mar.	9	: Third Class Test (Toll House 10 AM).
	16	: A, B & C Time Trials (Nose Dive 1 PM).
	23	: Excursion (Toll House 11 AM).
April	4-6	: Stowe One-Man-Four-Event Meet.
	13	: Excursion (Toll House 11 AM).
April	26-27	: Mt. Mansfield Sugar Slalom (Nose Dive).

## THE MT. MANSFIELD CHAIR LIFT

The Mt. Mansfield Lift, Inc., will this season operate a chair type lift on the mountain, thus eliminating what to many is the uninteresting part of skiing. The lower terminus of the lift is only fifty feet higher than the Nose Dive parking area and very close-by, while the upper terminus is about one hundred yards from the Stone Hut and at the junction of many ski trails, five of which lead directly back to the foot of the Lift.

The Toll Road, which is by far the best novice route down the mountain, easily will be accessible from the Lift, and a very prompt bus service will be available from the Toll House to the Nose Dive parking area.

All charges for the use of the Lift will be on a ride basis, there being eight different ticket combinations as follows:

### A—Single Ride

#### 1. Adult

a—Round-trip, week days excepting Saturday and holidays, \$1.00; Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, \$1.25.

b—One-way, week days excepting Saturday and holidays, 60c; Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, 75c.

#### 2. Children (17 years and younger)

a—One-way, week days excepting Saturdays and holidays after noon, 25c; Saturday and holiday afternoons and all day Sundays, 75c.

### B—Books of Tickets (Non-transferable, except within a family.)

#### 1. Adult

a—Ten one-way rides, good any time, \$5.00.

b—Twenty one-way rides, good only week days excepting Saturdays and holidays, \$7.00.

#### 2. Children (17 years and younger)

a—Twenty one-way rides, good only week days excepting Saturdays and holidays after noon, \$4.00.

In recognition of the development work done by the Mt. Mansfield Ski Club, the Directors of the Lift have granted a ten percent discount to all members of the Club who are residents of Vermont. This discount applies only to books of adult tickets.

The Lift is 6330 feet long on the slope, and has a vertical rise of 2030 feet. There are 86 chairs spaced approximately 150 feet apart. At maximum speed the chairs travel 500 feet per minute, making the trip from bottom to top in 12 minutes. It is planned to start operating about 9:00 A. M. and stop running about 3:30 P. M., depending a great deal, of course, on the weather. The Lift will be run every day, weather permitting.

## PROFICIENCY TESTS

Proficiency tests are designed primarily for the recreational or non-competitive skier. Their purpose is to encourage him to improve his technique, and to raise the general standard of skiing.

The USEASA has developed for this winter a Fourth, Third and Second Class Test. A First Class Test will be ready for the 1942 season. These tests are progressively graded, and will provide the means for skiers to appraise their abilities.

Members of this Club are urged to avail themselves of the proficiency tests which we will hold during the winter. The tests will give you something real to work for, and you will find that they add immeasurably to your skiing fun.

### Fourth Class Test.

A test of elementary ability in walking on the level, climbing, and downhill running on gentle slopes. Candidates need not be individual members of the USEASA, but must belong to a member club of the Association. We will award Fourth Class Test buttons on the basis of performance on any of our con-

### Third Class Test.

A beginners test, open only to individual members of the USEASA. The entire test need not be passed at the same time, but must be completed in the same season.

**Qualifying Tests:** Three attempts allowed. Qualifying tests must be passed before the test proper may be taken.

- (1) Four continuous stem turns on soft snow.
- (2) A right and left stop Christy on hard snow.
- (3) Either a right and left stop Jump Turn, or a right and left stop Telemark, both on soft snow.

**Test proper:** Your choice of either (1) a timed run on the upper mile of the Toll Road, or (2) a no-fall slalom involving fifteen turns on the Toll House practice slope.

(At any of its scheduled test dates the club will provide only the slalom or only the downhill option as may be convenient.)

### Second Class Test.

An intermediate test, open only to individual members of the USEASA, who have completed the Third Class Test.

The Club has not scheduled in advance any Second Class Tests, since we want to concentrate on the Third Class Tests this first winter. However, a Second Class Test probably may be given toward the end of the season.

## SEPP RUSCHP SKI SCHOOL

The Sepp Ruschp Ski School, sponsored by our Club, commences its third season at the Toll House with an enlarged staff and added facilities. Otto Hollaus, Kerr Sparks, Lionel Hayes and Howard Moody are back again with Sepp this winter. The new instructors will be Everett Bailey, late of the University of Vermont ski team; Clem Curtis of Lebanon, N. H., a USEASA certified teacher; and Norman Richardson of Newport, Vt., who will be remembered for his excellent racing record.

The Ski School rates are:

- \$ 1.50 for 1-2 day (2 hours).
- \$ 2.00 for 1 day (4 hours).
- \$10.00 for 6 days (12 hours).

The six day rate does not apply necessarily to consecutive days, but the lessons may be taken at any regular lesson period.

The Toll House has been completely remodeled and enlarged. The warming room of last winter has been turned into sleeping quarters for sixteen guests. A new public warming room with a large open fireplace and refreshment facilities is located on the ground floor under the Toll House proper. A new sun porch with an outside fireplace has been added to the west side of the building.

The ski tow on the Toll House practice slope will continue in operation. Rates are \$1.00 per day, 50c per half day, and 25c for the last hour of the day.

All in all this makes a pretty fine layout, and Sepp's many friends will welcome the guest rooms.

## THE SKI PATROL

By Luther S. Booth

This year, with the Mt. Mansfield Lift in operation and with the prospect of the largest number of skiers ever to visit the area, the Ski Patrol will undoubtedly play a most important role. The value and importance of the Ski Patrol, in this region at least, can be fairly well judged by the part played during the season that is now at hand.

At the present writing, The Lift organization is not in a position to announce complete plans for patrolling the trails which are serviced by the Lift. But, for the time being and unless otherwise advised, qualified and certified members of The Mt. Mansfield Ski Patrol who are willing to serve as "active duty" patrolmen will be given special consideration by the management of the Lift.

### National Ski Patrol

Recently, there have been received from the Treasurer of the National Ski Patrol System two important releases, one of which concerns local patrol members and the other will be of interest to the general skiing public.

The National Ski Patrol System is now in a position to put to work some of the plans which it has been forming for some time and will begin the work of standardizing and directly aiding local ski patrols. The first step toward unification will be in the matter of badges and "Active Duty Arm Bands."

This year the National Ski Patrol will furnish, free of charge, Senior Badges, Junior Badges and Active Duty Arm Bands. The badge of the Senior Patrolman will be a blue triangle with an orange cross. The orange cross signifies that the wearer is trained in First Aid. The junior badge is similar, except that the orange cross is missing and means that as yet that particular member has not taken the First Aid course. Active Duty Arm Bands are worn by patrolmen who have been assigned to some particular duty, and to distinguish them from visiting patrolmen. The arm band carries an orange cross on a blue background and is worn on the opposite arm to that which carries the badge. New badges and arm bands have been ordered and will be sent to members as soon as they arrive.

## NEW SKI DEVELOPMENTS

The ski trail situation in the Mt. Mansfield region remains about the same as at the end of last season, except for a new novice trail and two short connecting links to existing trails. All trails have been brushed out, and some of the touring trails have been marked with new signs and paint spots.

There now are about one hundred miles of ski trails available in the region. With the exception of those in Stowe Hollow, all of them are connected in one vast network.

### New Novice Trail.

The new novice trail, now being cut, will parallel the Toll Road from the middle first aid cache to the Toll House practice slope. This should prove a very interesting trail for beginners, who can ski down to it on the upper part of the road. It is being financed in part with money generously donated by the Stowe-Mansfield Association.

### New Forest Slalom Area.

A forest slalom area has been cleared on the north side of the Nose Dive between stations 11 and 20. This area covers about twenty-five acres in which the smaller trees and underbrush have been removed, leaving widely-spaced, large spruce and birch through which a skier can choose his own track. The protection afforded by the trees insures excellent powder snow skiing.

### Midway Trail Extended.

The novice Midway Trail, which last winter climbed from the Nose Dive parking area to the mid-station of the Lift and on up to station 20 of the Nose Dive, has been extended across the Nose Dive into the forest slalom area. This extension forms the lower boundary of the forest slalom, so that descending skiers easily can pick it up and continue down either by the Nose Dive or the Midway Trail. At the upper boundary of the forest slalom area, the Midway Trail again is continued, re-crossing the Nose Dive at station 13 and climbing to the top. This upper part of the Midway, because of the steepness of the mountain, is intermediate rather than novice in character.

### Nose Dive By-Pass.

A new trail called the Nose Dive By-Pass has been cut around the Corkscrew, or upper seven turns, of the Nose Dive. This will provide an alternate route from the top in the event that the seven turns are closed at any time on account of snow conditions.

### A Long Touring Trail.

Last spring a long touring trail was completed between Lake Mansfield and the Little River Flood Control Dam. This trail is about ten miles in length, and makes it possible to ski from Smugglers Notch to the Burlington-Montpelier highway (U. S. Route 2) at a point about a mile and a half west of Waterbury village.

### The New Warming Shelter.

A new warming shelter, called the Ski Lodge, is ready for use at the Nose Dive parking area. This was built entirely by CCC labor, and is a fitting tribute to what inexperienced boys can do under the proper guidance and training. The building has a large central room with steam heat, besides ample public toilet facilities.

## RANCH CAMP

The following letter has just been received from Trim Conkling, who with Mrs. Conkling again are dispensing hospitality and good food at popular Ranch Camp. The Camp, incidentally, is a tradition at Mt. Mansfield, and has been sponsored by our Club ever since the Club was founded.

"I want to let you know the Ranch is now open and that Bert and I will be pleased to see any of you ski club fellows or gals come skiing up the old Ranch Road.

Camp is about the same except for minor changes in the cook house and a small cabin we erected to house the immediate family (there are now three and she is thriving on Ranch Valley air). We have eliminated guest bunks in the "Igloo" so that rates will either be \$3.00 a day or \$18.00 a week in the dormitory style "Telemark," or \$3.50 a day or \$20.00 a week in either "Stem" or "Tempo." 10% will still be taken off the daily rate for ski club members.

"There is about 15 inches of snow here in the valley that is well settled and crusted. A good fall of powder would improve conditions a lot. Trails are all cleared, and we say "Let 'em come."

## RECORDS OF THE CLUB

### Amendments to By-Laws.

At the General Meeting held in Stowe on November 6, 1940, the following amendments to the By-Laws were passed:

- (1) The annual dues for ordinary members will be \$2.00.
- (2) The age limit for junior members will be under 18 years, instead of under 16 years as formerly.
- (3) The Club's fiscal year will end on September 30 instead of October 31.
- (4) The total number of officers and directors in future will be limited to twenty.

### Membership.

This year all members will receive a Club badge without charge. It has been redesigned, and we plan to issue a dated badge every season. Extra badges can be obtained for fifty cents.

## NOTES & COMMENTS

The picture of Milton Hutchinson, Nose Dive record holder, appearing in the current AMERICAN SKI ANNUAL was taken by Arthur Paterson of Barre, not A. W. Colman as incorrectly credited and spelled.

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We note with a growing sense of awe at the magnificence of it all that,—

- (1) Mt. Mansfield has "the longest and highest aerial chair lift in the world."
- (2) Sun Valley has "by far the longest chair lift in the world."
- (3) Cannon Mountain has "the only lift of its kind in North America."
- (4) Pico Peak has "the first Alpine ski lift in the United States."

But O Boy, in Montpelier we have a ski tow that's a jim-dandy.