

# Spartanburg Ski and Outing Club

**March 2010**

**March 4**

**Club Meeting**

**Gag Awards and "Alcohol" Training  
Refresher**

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**Bingo for Bucks**

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**Mini Social - Delaney's Irish Pub**

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**April 8**

**Membership Appreciation  
and**

**Officer Installation**

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<http://www.spartanburgskiclub.org>

## *Opening Remarks for March ...*



*Could it be that spring is just around the corner?  
It seems the days are getting a bit warmer and the  
sunsets a bit later - the sign of good things to come!*

There are a couple of things going on in March starting with our membership meeting where we will welcome Darryl from the City of Spartanburg and maybe if he stays around long enough - he might get a Gag Award (knowing us - he may be worthy)!

Bingo for Bucks is coming up on March 6<sup>th</sup> - always a good time - for old & young alike ~ and then we can celebrate the month of the Leprechaun at Delaney's later in the month! Thanks to Diane for hosting a record attendance at La Taverna in February! Bob Butscher wants us to become loyal patrons ~ more often! All seemed to be in favor ☺

We will be electing our officers this month and it is my hope that a large number of folks will come out to support this election ~ Remember, these individuals give their time for us, the club, and it is our responsibility as members to offer encouragement and volunteer for and participate in events to help keep this club strong - so come on, sign up for the Piedmont Club and pay the special member price of just \$25 - I must have that money by March 4<sup>th</sup>, after that the ticket price goes up ... See 'ya!

*Alisa L. Kynball*

## MARCH BRINGS GAG AWARDS AND TRAINING

March brings our Gag Awards and annual business meeting. We are also having a special training for “beer slinging time” --see more info. elsewhere -- during our March meeting. Come early – 7:00 PM in order to be trained and be there for the Gag Awards and annual business meeting.

Gag Award time is always fun for all. It is a chance to remember all of the fun, and perhaps not so much fun, times that were had during the past year, especially the skiing season. Who will come up with the most creative award?

We will be having our annual business meeting mainly to elect new officers for the next two years. Be there to have your voice heard.

Also, the meeting is the last time for members to pay at the \$25.00 rate for our April 8th installation of the newly elected officers at the Piedmont Club. After March 4, you can still come (deadline March 31 to pay and be counted), but the price will be \$35.00.

I’m thinking of those warm summer months, and some volunteers to share their homes for an evening of fun. June is spoken for, anyone for the months of July and August?



Jan Sarratt  
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# March 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 Club Membership Meeting pages 3 & 10	5	6 Bingo for Bucks page 9
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Daylight Savings Starts	15	16 Mini Social page 9	17	18 Board Meeting @ Joy's	19	20
21 Newsletter Deadline 1:00pm	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 	29	30	31			

*For more Scheduling, see Facing Page 5*

## **SCHEDULE of CURRENT and/or UPCOMING EVENTS**

*Mark Your Calendars !*

### **February**

27 Saturday

Club Race @ Sugar Mountain (see February Newsletter)

### **March**

4 ~ 7 weekend

Silvercreek Races

### **April**

8 Thursday

Member Appreciation and Officer Installation  
Piedmont Club > page

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**Piedmont Club Member  
Appreciation Night**  
Thursday, April 8, 2010  
6:00 – Cocktails, Dinner at 7:00

**\*\* Please make note of the date change \*\*\***

It is with great pleasure that I invite you all to attend the Annual Awards & Officer Installation Banquet at the Piedmont Club.



This year, the cost will be just \$25 per person and will include the open bar and dinner buffet. Please sign up early, as this "appreciation price" will expire Thursday, March 4<sup>th</sup>. After this time, if you wish to attend the banquet, the price will be \$35!

~ Put this on your calendars please ~

*Oliver*

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## **No: Cheaper Trips are Not the Answer to Club Growth in this Economy**

*By Richard Davidson, President of Ski Europe*

I don't fully subscribe to the theory that cheaper prices will cure a declining club membership. Few clubs were established based mainly upon cheap trips; they were based upon camaraderie. A survey at a Chicago council seminar a few years ago indicated that almost every club could trace its foundation to a bunch of people in a bar who said "let's go skiing together!"

### **Why clubs can't offer the cheapest trips in the future**

Since air travel was deregulated and the days of group requirements passed -- long before the Internet -- it's been possible to purchase trips from tour operators for less than through a club, partly because clubs and councils load their trips with free allowances, benefits, and overheads that tour operators don't add to individuals and those are included in the cost of group trips.

The Internet continues to offer inexpensive trips. It's a low-cost distribution medium with immediacy. Airlines and lodgings can instantly adjust their prices and sell product to reflect marketing needs and it's quicker and less expense than selling through a tour operator, travel agent, or club. This is a challenge in the travel business. We continuously see airline promotional fares that are lower than our "lowest net contract fares." But it's not an apples-to-apples comparison: Online promotions are instant-purchase, limited in number of seats, offer no refunds, and penalize for changes, if permitted at all.

### **Decline in club membership**

Ski club demographics have changed. Members aged. Interests changed. Clubs didn't always provide what older members wanted and they drifted away. Older members weren't replaced by younger ones. Many clubs waited too long and by the time they woke up, they were chasing their grandkids, not their kids, and few of those grandkids found much social appeal in ski clubs.

### **Popularity of snow sports**

NSAA figures show skier-days have grown about 1% a year for 20 years, but composition and participation are changing. Skiers have declined in 10 years from 7.7 million to 5.5 million - but snow-boarding increased from 3.6 million to 5.1 million. Added together, it's still a decrease from 11.3 million to 10.6 million, with a strong slant toward the younger nonclub snowboarders.

### **Budget trips are not the answer**

We are often asked for budget trips but, since airfares are fixed, this means lower category lodging. While it gives an attractive entry price, once the trip is accepted, we rarely fill the three-star accommodations, as the current club members opt for better lodging. Purely budget trips seem to have a two-edged negative effect: They don't seem to attract new members and can be so off-putting to existing members that they leave. Therefore, don't expect to attract new members with budget trips, but instead, look at what value can be added to a trip (or to club membership) beyond what an Internet trip can offer.

### What are younger skiers joining?

The younger generations are different from the typical "boomer" club member. They are more independent, self-focused, and most of them aren't joiners. Surprisingly, our company attracts a large number of new groups every year based upon the original ski club motivation (bunch of people in a bar ...). The difference is that these groups are smaller, more closely knit, and ephemeral. We rarely see them coalesce into an ongoing "club" relationship.

Concurrent with the decline in ski club membership, the success of local "sport, activity, and social" clubs - - sometimes only for singles, and often for-profit enterprises, has blossomed. These organizations sometimes offer ski trips, and have often become many ski clubs' competition.

< Courtesy of "The NATIONAL SKI CLUB NEWSLETTER – Nov./Dec. 2009" >

The opposing view appeared in your February 2010 Newsletter – Charlie D.



### CSC/SUBARU RACE SERIES SPONSORS OF THE MONTH

The following businesses have donated merchandise and/or certificates to the Crescent Ski Council. Their merchandise and certificates will be used as prizes to the top three finishers in each flight of the CSC Race Series. Please support these establishments and product lines at every possible opportunity.

Think. Feel. Drive.™



**SUBARU**



**Wintergreen**

**TOKO**





## Mini Social For March 2010

Our March mini social will be held on Tuesday, March 16th, 6:30 at  
Delaney's Irish Pub on W Main Street

I will have a sign up sheet at our regular scheduled meeting or you can  
Call or e-mail me to sign up.

Thanks,

Diane

592-3910

dianebutscher@yahoo.com



%%%%%%%%%



**\*\* BINGO FOR BUCKS \*\***

SATURDAY, MARCH 6th  
6:00 pm ~

HOSTED BY MIKE & BARBARA ROGERS  
404 Quail Ridge Circle, Boiling Springs

Bring your dollar bills and let Mike call your numbers!! Guaranteed winner  
every game!!!

Please bring an hors d'oeuvre to share with the players,  
beverages will be provided. RSVP is requested please,  
contact me ~ thanks.

**ALISON**

Sign up sheet will be at the March membership meeting!



## TRAINING FOR OUR MUSIC ON MAIN FUNDRAISER “BEER SLINGING”

Good news for all of our  
our certificates that we have to  
man the armband booth) the  
Beginning this year, certificates  
and an annual refresher course is  
shortened to one hour instead of  
news) and they are going to  
wonderful is that!! Just come at 7



have in order to “sling beer” (and training is coming to us!!!! are good for one year, not two, needed. The time will be the former two hours (good bring the training to us!!! How long during our March meeting time.

This training will work for Music on Main, Spring Fling, and the International Festival events. Music on Main is our fundraiser, and the International Festival is our volunteer service.

[illegible]

**Ron Scott, Race Director**  
H 919/362-5689  
*Rscott013nc.rr.com*

## *2009/2010 CSC/Subaru Race & Terrain Park Competition Schedule*

Race Format - Two runs of Slalom on Saturdays and two runs of Giant Slalom on Sundays

|       |                 |                                                              |           |
|-------|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| March | 7, 2010         | Dick Trundy/Sugar Cup GS Sugar Mt.                           | 9:00      |
| March | 5, 6, & 7, 2010 | <b><u>Crescent Cup</u></b> , SilverCreek, WV                 | 9:30      |
| March | 5-7, 2010       | Governor's Cup Race at Timberline, WV<br>kathysaumure@cs.com |           |
| March | 25 - 28, 2010   | NASTAR Finals                                                | Rich Mead |

# BOARD of DIRECTORS

## 2009/2010

| <u>POSITION</u>              | <u>NAME</u>         | <u>HOME<br/>PHONE</u> | <u>E-MAIL</u>                     |
|------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| PRESIDENT                    | Alison Kimball      | 814 5372              | akimball@bellsouth.net            |
| PAST PRESIDENT               | Ted Mueller         | 592 3405              | tedcancom@wmconnect.com           |
| VICE PRESIDENT               | Sam Linder          | 587 1315              | samlinder@yahoo.com               |
| TREASURER                    | Art Mall            | 433 8627              | mloart@aol.com                    |
| SECRETARY                    | Joy Bobo            | 433 0802              | joybobo@sunaccess.net             |
| MEMBERSHIP                   | Ted Mueller         | 592 3405              | tedcancom@wmconnect.com           |
| PROGRAMS                     | Jan Sarratt         | 489 1606              | sarrattjpex@yahoo.com             |
| ACTIVITIES                   | Alison Kimball      | 814 5372              | akimball@bellsouth.net            |
| FUNDRAISING &<br>ADVERTISING | Conni Harrell       | 592 3405              | tedcancom@wmconnect.com           |
| PUBLICITY                    | Pat Lee             | 472 2253              | patricia159@windstream.net        |
| OVERNIGHT TRIPS              | Marcy Cassidy       | 585 1718              | mouseworks52@yahoo.com            |
| RACING                       | Sam Linder          | 587 1315              | samlinder@yahoo.com               |
| CRESCENT REP.                | Conni Harrell       | 592 3405              | tedcancom@wmconnect.com           |
| SOCIALS                      | Diane Butscher      | 592 3910              | dianebutscher@yahoo.com           |
| PUBLICATIONS                 | Charlie Darling     | 599 6794              | gnilrad2a@bellsouth.net           |
| <i>*Web Site*</i>            | <i>Taylor Bomar</i> | <i>576 3776</i>       | <i>spartanburgskiclub@att.net</i> |

## **SUBARU VIP DISCOUNT PROGRAM**

Subaru is a proud sponsor of the Crescent Ski Council (CSC) Racing program. Part of their sponsorship package this year included the VIP Discount Program for all CSC members. Qualifying members of a CSC club can purchase or lease a new Subaru at 2% below dealer cost minus any incentives which are currently being offered. To qualify you must have been a member of Spartanburg Ski and Outing Club [or other CSC club] for at least 6 months. If you are interested please notify Sam Linder of your intent to participate. Subaru will mail you the VIP information, which will include information about local dealers participating in the program. Once you have received the information you can go to a local dealer, pick out the Subaru you want, and the dealer will pull the invoice and let the purchaser know if there are any current incentives. Please take advantage of this benefit that Crescent Racing, through Ron Scott, has secured for all CSC clubs.

## **CLUB MEETINGS**

The Spartanburg Ski & Outing Club normally meets the first Thursday of each month at 7:00PM. We are located at the Chapman Cultural Center (West Wing) on East St. John Street in Spartanburg on the first floor. During the months of June, July and August, meetings are held, more informally, at different sites and times, therefore it is necessary to consult the club website or a current newsletter for time and location. April's meeting is held at the Piedmont Club.

This club does **not** provide alcoholic beverages at membership meetings, but members are allowed to bring their own (BYOB) choices of beer or wine. Over indulgence is not condoned under any circumstances. Cups, ice and some soft drinks beverages are provided. Thank you.

### **Become a Member**

A copy of our membership application is located at the following web address:  
**<http://www.spartanburgskiclub.org/membership/ssocappl.doc>**



**SPARTANBURG SKI and OUTING CLUB**  
**P.O. Box 2864**  
**Spartanburg, SC 29304**