

The

HoliLeaf^{of}

Editor, John D. Bibbs
17862 Lake Road - Cleveland, Ohio 44107

VOL. 5 NO. 5

SPRING 1969



WINTER CARNIVAL

The winter carnival was a smashing success. Everyone was eager to help and enthusiastic in whatever activity they chose to help with. The weather cooperated and Holimont had the best ski conditions of the season.

I would like to pass on a bit of news to you along with a list of benevolent donors from Ellicottville and Rochester to be printed hopefully in the HoliLeaf and sent to each donor. I promised them some form of advertising and feel the *Leaf* befitting, for our members should know where all our wonderful prizes came from. First let me thank you for the Holimont glasses, ash tray and beer mug. They certainly made lovely prizes and delighted the winners.

The "Big" weekend started out on Friday with a decorating "bee." All decorations were donated and young and old participated. Many

thanks to Don and Ev Cooper and the Fraser's who were guests of the Wright's and Fuller's for making all those beautiful tissue flowers. The entire ceiling was covered in red and white and blue flags, bells and flowers. The windows were adorned with red, white and blue banners. Saturday morning, 10:00 A.M. the children were delighted with a hot chocolate party at Carpenter's Corners. Donuts were served and my . . . everything did taste good. The Gallagher boys and Burgart girls hosted and hostessed the affair. At 11:00 A.M. there was a kiddie egg race that Betsy Walters so expertly managed. The winners were: Sara Cannon, 1st; Bob Jacques, 2nd; Jimmy Bell, 3rd; Craig Wright, 4th and John Burgart, 5th.

The Hot Wine and Cheese Party for the adults was truly a smashing success. I still remember the crowd at Carpenter's Corners. The wine was luscious and gracefully served by Don and Nancy Tomkins. Standing room only for many of us.

Our night skiing was fine, the small taste we had of it. My Don, Bob Fredericks and Scotty worked fast and furious to light up all six. Unfortunately the lighting was inadequate and just the lower slope was used. There are growing pains however and feel a better job can be done next year. Live and Learn! The evening was wrapped up by fireworks by Tom Gallagher and they were lovely against that starlit sky, followed by an impressive torch light parade.

THIS ISSUE AT A GLANCE

70 New Members '68 and '69
Membership \$1,000 on Oct. 1, 1969
Annual Meeting 4 p.m., May 17, 1969
Swanson Saga
New Development Board Named
43 Member Roster Supplement

There was still more partying after the children were tucked into bed and many gathered again at the main chalet. We all had to sleep rather fast Saturday night as Sunday morning came around in a hurry. It was beautiful with blue skies and warm sunshine. Pastor Haveson of Ellicottville officiated at a worship service at the top of the T bar at 9:00 A.M. It was sensational, impressive and inspiring. Beth McHugh was at the organ providing a lovely musical background for the service.

Slope #3 was a sight to behold as the scavenger hunt began at 10:00 A.M. The kiddies traveled down, bag in hand in wide snow plow positions hunting and picking up all sorts of things. The winners were: Don Cutler, 1st; Jimmy Bell, 2nd; Cheryl Merck, 3rd; Bob Schroeder, 4th and Scot Syracuse, 5th.

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Probably the most spectacular event of the day was the costume parade. There were 150-200 costumed skiers, the best turnout Holi-mont has ever had. The costumes were spectacular and judging was difficult. After coming to a decision the judges were transported from the top of #6 to the bottom of #6 and Don led the costume parade down #6. It was truly a spectacular scene. The judges then announced the winners and prizes were given out. The winners were: *The best of show* – Bob Vaugh family dressed as Colonial Family. *Beauty: 1st*-Ed Doyle family as Swiss Family, *2nd*-James Bell's family as Robin Hood Family, *3rd*-Bill Maloney's as St. Pat's Family, *4th*-Frank Burcher... Indians.

Humor: 1st-Jesse Bell family as Bunny Family, *2nd*-Tex Buel – Corn Man, *3rd*-Cindy Fuller – Clown, *4th*-Billy Althans – Lady.

Originality: 1st-Bob Wray – Vikings, *2nd*-Wright's, Burgart's, Fuller's and Walker's – Jail Family, *3rd*-Don Syracuse and Family – Church Family, *4th*-Craig Wright – Gladiator.

Everyone else was very good and the judges gave them honorable mention.

Barbecued chickens were prepared by the Ellicottville Firemen at noon and enjoyed by many. The exchange lift tickets with Holiday Valley were realized throughout the afternoon.

The Kooky Adult Race was held late in the afternoon and was a tremendous success. George Abel set up an easy slolam course for us old ones. Husbands started the race weaving a bit and carrying a brimming cup of wine. His wife or partner skied to a mid-point and was ready to exchange the bib and carry the wine to the finish line. Winners were determined by the amount of wine left in their cup, measured with a ruler. It was a relaxed and fun race.

The day wound up with a short ceremony and presentation of the Karl Fahrner trophies. Don Cutler has the list of winners. Oh, last but not least was the belly race by the work-

ers. They came down #3 on their bellies on plastic, *ouch!* I can still feel them hitting those moguls.

Holimont thanks Gwen Bonamie for two ski paintings, Michel Vaughn for countless posters, and the following area stores, shops, and business people for their contributions. They are: Bob Fredericks, Snow Country Ski Shop, The Village Shop, Quality Market, Emkes Market, Ben Franklin's 5 & 10, Dick Fisher's Ski Shop, Bert's Tavern, City Garage, Holiday Shoppe, Sentry Hardware, Glenn's Service Station, Holiday Inn, Alexander's Magic Minor, Whitmer's Restaurant, Guy's Liquor Store, The Kendall Service Station, Coachman's Inn, and Dekdebrun's Ski Shop.

. . . Lou Syracuse

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"Hart"

SWANSON SAGA

The recent trip that Jean and I took to Vail, Aspen and Snowmass was like old-home week in the West, and some aspects of this trip might be of interest to Holimont members.

We arrived at Vail during the international team races and the women's giant slalom was in progress.

The announcer broadcast the name, the country and the time of each competitor in both English and French. While we were

watching at the finish line, it was announced that Miss Penny Northrup was on the course. Her time for the giant slalom was one minute, twelve seconds, some three or four seconds slower than the winner, Gertrude Gaebel of Austria. After Penny had made her run the announcer stated over the loud speaker that Penny Northrup was from Ellicottville, New York, and she learned to ski at Holiday Valley, where they have just increased the vertical drop to 600 feet.

She later brought Rick Chaffee, a member of the U. S. men's team over and introduced him to us. He is a very well-spoken, well-mannered young gentleman, and the same should be said for Penny. It was a wonderful feeling to know that someone from our area was making such a good contribution to the U. S. ski team effort, both competitively and as a person.

For the rest of the trip, we met Holimont members in one area after another. These included Walt and Betty Brownell, Kevin and Maureen Maloney, Butch and Sue Cannon, Art and Pat Beck of Olean, Harry and Katie Logan from Warren, Pa., Mike and Marion Gorski from Cleveland, Paul and Gloria Friedman from Tonawanda, and Jack and Lou Kirby from Rochester, who shared a condominium with the Brownells. In fact, there were so many Holimont members that we wondered if anyone was home to enjoy the good conditions on the slopes. Maybe that's why our slopes are never crowded . . . our members are never there.

In addition, we met skiing families that we have known for years from Grosstal, Holiday Valley, and Kissing Bridge. It sure seemed like home to find a familiar face everytime we turned around.

By the way, Penny Northrup finished 16th in the giant slalom that day. There were 24 of the best skiers in the world entered and, therefore, this was a pretty good performance.

She almost fell toward the last gate and this slowed her up quite a bit. On the previous day, she finished 6th in the slalom and really has been doing quite well for her first year on the team.

Penny spoke highly of Gertrude Gaebel of Austria, who was first at Vail. She said that Gertrude was a very personable young lady and a good sport, and if a member of the U. S. team couldn't win, she was happy to see Gertrude do so well.

It was interesting to note that these young people felt very strongly about the team effort. They were rather casual about their individual performances, but they all were studying the actual team performance very closely. They all wanted the U. S. to do well as a team.

I would recommend to all members that they wear Holimont and maybe Ellicottville emblems on their jackets when they travel; it's amazing how many people in major ski areas all over the country recognize Ellicottville and are always looking for a familiar face from the area that they call home.

Jack Swanson

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REMEMBER MAY 17th

OVER 70 IN '68 and '69

As of January 1968 we had 21 new members this ski year. Seven more joined in February early and then late February and March at the peak of our season 38 new members and now in April, three more. The count is still increasing but the obvious fact is that Holimont has grown up. Our membership will be close to 230 by May 17... **THE ANNUAL MEETING.**

This healthy growth has been caused by several factors and let no one lose sight that skiing conditions and our slope conditions have been a real factor. Without a fine ski area with a terrific potential, all those friends of Ed Fugo, Norm Byrne, Bob Burghart and countless others would not have joined Holimont. Our membership, congeniality, Scotty and staff plus a nice helping hand from Ellicottville weather all play a factor. Another factor, more building lots are being created so that our Ski Community of local residents continues to grow. We are richly endowed with additional ski slope potential and as the membership swells I believe a bigger and better Holimont will evolve.

The magic 250 member number will now almost certainly be attained at the start of the 69-70 season. There are those who wish to stop and make it *tough* to get in at that point in our development and so it may come to pass. However, I believe a quick glance at our fixed indebtedness which is about two hundred thousand dollars quickly reveals that one hundred new members at \$875.00 creates only about \$90,000 in money we use to retire our fixed indebtedness. I am not one who would or could suppose that all our debt be paid off soon, however Holimont must and will GROW.

New members will always be needed and even though they may be restricted in numbers our own children will help swell the ranks. Provisions for their participation as members, Junior or Senior, will shortly be created so

that the Holi Kids grown up may become members of Holimont.

IN MEMORIAM

The *Ellicottville Post* last week joined the ghost newspaper group after 85 years life.

With this issue the *Holileaf* in its present form, for the same financial reasons, is destined to expire.

The directors feel more frequent *throw-aways* will fill our need - and more adequately.

Sincerely,

John D. Bibbs, *Editor*

ROPE TOW SHORT

The cost of the rope tow exceeded our expectations by several hundred dollars. The Board voted to advance the extra money so that it was completed and used this year. More contributions to the Rope Tow Fund could help the impact of this extra expense on our budget. Please, rope tow enthusiasts mail contributions to Bob Vaughn now.

THE ANNUAL MEETING MAY 17

NEW DEVELOPMENT BOARD NAMED

A development board of Jack Swanson, Frank Burcher, Kevin Maloney, Dick Walters and Don Cannon has been formed for long range planning of the land owned by Holimont. New home or chalet sites will be created but their overall job will really be within the next

several years to get the most out of our whole area. Building sites, service and parking areas, and new and more ski runs, perhaps another lift, all the developments of the Holimont which cannot and will not stagnate.

On February 22, February 23, March 1, and March 2 when it was necessary to close the gate, 250-330 non-members taxed our facilities to the maximum extent we wish to bear. Another fifty new members next year with their children and a few guests means we're loaded. I, for one, believe we can afford to chase our own tail just like a dog around the yard as long as we grow and develop with reasonable planning and an active membership. To be sure there will be lots of days with no lift lines but it will be fun to see our own membership outgrow our existing facilities which will then be seven to eight years old and in real need of further development or replacement.

A triple chair, perhaps another T bar who knows? This year we got the rope tow and enlarged the warming hut. The future with the new blood and ideas of a 50% new membership will demand and get all sorts of improvements which seemed rather unnecessary when members not facilities were our problem. Money and economy will always plague us but a solid membership be it 300 or 500 will make the Holimont Area of tomorrow a real place to go to play in the snow.

All of us who have homes in the area are confident that the several thousand acre lake

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being developed at East Otto (five miles away) means fine future boating. Golf course and pool at Holiday Valley plus perhaps, as Holihutters are questioning, our own swimming pool or all year swimming facilities with eventually showers and sauna, all make our future exciting. *Believe it or not* the automatic membership rights that will belong to our children someday will in their maturity, ten to fifteen years from now, change the whole valley in which Holimont exists. Holimont is and will be a more wonderful place to live.

ANNUAL MEETING MAY 17th

The annual meeting will be held in Elliptoville on May 17th at 4 p.m., at the Warming Hut. This will be a good opportunity for new and old members to get together.

As planned according to last year's meeting, everybody will have in advance the financial status of our club thus eliminating a long presentation. The assessment must be voted because one of the Snow-Cats has reached the stage where repair is not adequate. A smaller new unit or rebuilt Snow-Cat in good condition must be purchased. The new truck last year and snow-vehicle this year is just keeping pace with deterioration, all have been repaired, fixed, and patched up many times and there is a time when it just isn't worth the repair.

MEMBERSHIP FEE ON OCTOBER 1st . . . \$1000.00

The Directors of Holimont on April 18, 1969 voted to make the membership fee of Holimont one thousand dollars, after October 1, 1969. Applications must be accompanied by a \$300.00 deposit to be considered. A deferred payment plan over four years will then cost \$300.00, \$300.00, \$300.00 and \$250.00 with a \$300.00 deposit with the application.

All delinquent members were notified by registered mail over sixty days ago that their memberships were being terminated if their accounts were not brought up to date in sixty days. Our paying active membership is as stated in another article, 223.

It is felt by the Directors that our membership will now rapidly challenge our facilities on the popular ski days. Holimont is a bargain and we all know it! By stating our return to \$1000.00 in advance we hope you will NOW tell your friends, neighbors and associates so they can take advantage of the old membership fee at the price of \$875.00. We thus will start the Ski Season with a solid group and budget ourselves accordingly in an intelligent manner.

THE ANNUAL MEETING - MAY 17th

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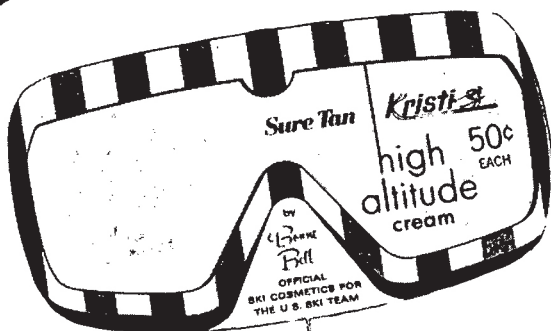
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