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THE NATIONAL Ski CLUB NEWSLETTER

Issues will be available on November 1, January 1, March 1, and May 1 each year.

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WHAT IS THIS THING?

What in the world is this thing? The Mountain High Ski Club of Portland is selling these decals to their members for 50c each at a brisk pace -- not only to help identify fellow club members on the slopes but the decals provide a useful purpose -- particularly for backcountry skiers. For more information, see our March issue of The National Ski Club Newsletter -- either in print or check it out online beginning March 1.

HAYSTACK SKI AREA IS NOW THE HERMITAGE CLUB

Wilmington, Vermont's Haystack ski area has reopened as a private ski club, The Hermitage is a four-season private club that includes skiing on Haystack Mountain. Club president and founder Jim Barnes paid \$6.5 million for the Haystack ski area, which had been closed for several years and nearby golf club in 2011, then invested more than \$8 million in snow-making equipment. The club's website says a family membership has an initial fee of \$55,000 plus annual dues of \$5,150 and the club now has more than 200 members.

YELLOWSTONE CLUB FOUNDER FINED \$13.8 MILLION

Law360, an internet site for business lawyers, reports that a Montana federal court has ordered Yellowstone Mountain Club's founder, Timothy L. Blixseth, whom he previously held in contempt, to pay at least \$13.8 million for defying a court order with the sale of a Mexico resort property included in the ski resort's bankruptcy.

U.S. District Judge Sam E. Haddon gave Yellowstone liquidating trustee Brian Glasser a judgment against Timothy L. Blixseth for the full value of the so-called Tamarindo property or for its \$13.8 million sale price, whichever was greater.

NEW MEXICO'S PAJARITO MAY BE TRANSFERRED FROM SKI CLUB TO COUNTY

More than 200 members of New Mexico's Los Alamos Ski Club voted February 4 to support efforts by the club's board to sustain skiing at Pajarito Mountain, even if they had to dissolving the 70-year-old ski club and transfer the mountain ski area to Los Alamos County. Only a couple of dozen people voted no. The little ski area located just five miles west of Los Alamos, suspended operations because of lack of snow. The club simply does not have the funds needed to improve infrastructure and increase snowmaking. According to the club, the fixed cost of operating the ski area is about \$1 million a year. The Los Alamos Ski Club was organized in 1943, by and for employees of the Manhattan Project and today, the area has six lifts and 40 trails on 300 acres and is open to the public.

INTRAWEST IPO

Intrawest Resorts Holdings, Inc., which owns and/or manages Winter Park, Stratton, Steamboat, Mont Tremblant, Blue Mountain, and Snowshoe, announced an initial public offering of 15,625,000 shares of its common stock at \$12 per share under the symbol "SNOW". They also priced 3,125,000 shares of its common stock and an entity controlled by certain private equity funds managed by an affiliate of Fortress Investment Group LLC priced an additional 12,500,000 shares of the Company's common stock. According to a company press release, the net proceeds received from the offering was expected to be approximately \$35.1 million which they intend to use for working capital and other general corporate purposes.

WOLF MOUNTAIN PURCHASED OUT OF BANKRUPTCY

Wolf Mountain ski area in Utah's Ogden Valley has been purchased by an investor group called Skyline Mountain Base from America First Credit Union, which acquired the resort through bankruptcy. Next ski season, it will reopen as Skyline Mountain Base.

ASPEN TO RETAIN THE X GAMES THROUGH 2019

ESPN and Aspen Skiing Company have reached an agreement that will keep the X Games in Aspen/Snowmass, Colo. through 2019. Now in its 13th year hosting the premiere winter action sports event, by the end of the extension Aspen will have been home to the event for nearly two decades. ESPN's X Games Aspen 2014 will celebrated its 13th year in Aspen in January with live coverage on ESPN and ABC. Snowboarder X and Snowmobile Long Jump will return to the X Games Aspen list of disciplines in 2014 after a brief hiatus.

BIG SKY GETS NEW ZIPLINE

Big Sky Resort is the has added a new Adventure Zipline -- a chairlift accessed tour made up of three zipline sections and the existing twin zipline, which spans up to 1,500 feet long and 150 feet above the forest floor. The entire zipline tour offers 5,000 feet of ziplining and expansive views of Lone Mountain and the Spanish Peaks of the Madison Mountain Range.

SOCHI'S NEW LIFTS

In preparation for the 2014 Olympic Games that start this week, Russia's Sochi areas have added six chondolas (all of them eight-passenger gondolas with four-passenger chairlifts) plus a 30-person gondola in Sochi's Alpika area; plus another 30-person gondola, two eight-person gondolas, two six-person chairlifts, a fixed-grip quad, and a J-bar lift in the Gaprom Mountain Resort area. And that's in addition to another 10 new lifts in the Rosa Khutor area -- Five gondolas (two 30-passenger and three eight-passenger cabins), a six-passenger chairlift, Three four-passenger chairlifts, and one J-bar lift. If you were going to be a ski lift salesman, Russia is where you like to be working last summer.

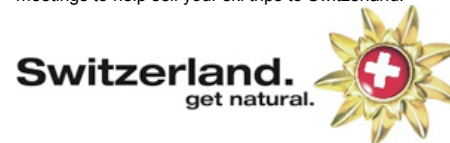
SNOWBOARDERS SUE ALTA

Wasatch Equality, a Utah nonprofit corporation, and four individual snowboarders have filed a lawsuit in the District Court for the District of Utah against Alta Ski Area and the United States Forest Service, seeking to permanently enjoin Alta from enforcing its anti-snowboarder policy and snowboarding ban. The plaintiffs also seek a declaration from the Court that Alta's snowboarding prohibition, as enforced by the Forest Service, violates the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution and is therefore unlawful. Alta is one of only three ski resorts in the United States that does not allow snowboarding, and Alta is the only one of these resorts that is operated on public land controlled by the Forest Service. The two other ski areas that still ban boarders in the U.S. are Deer Valley in Utah and Mad River Glen in Vermont. Our thoughts on the subject: Alta is not banning people but is banning a certain type of equipment being used on the mountain. Should someone then sue if they cannot drive their four-wheel truck on the mountain?



The National Ski Club Officers' Newsflash is emailed each month to America's ski club officers by The National Ski Club Newsletter on a year-round basis to augment our four printed issues which published in November, January, March, and May. If you wish additional club officers to receive the Newsflash, please email their names, club name, their office within the club, and email addresses to wilbanks@ski-club.net.

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