The Sitzmark

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE HIGH LIFE SKI AND SNOWBOARD CLUB

March 2025

Check for updates regarding in person meetings!

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Submission Deadline for the April Issue is March 27

Send items to: youngne1965@gmail.com

President's Message - Submitted by Paul Roy, President (917-577-3737, pauldenisroy@aol.com

As I write this article, Killington has 154 of 155 trails open. Bretton Woods – the site of the early March NJSSC trip, has all 98 trails open. There's snow forecast for the next three days at both resorts, right through March 1. Yahoo!

Our Club is approaching 350 members including about 50 brand new members. With all the membership renewals coming in, the Club's bank account is solid at about $40,000, with another $20,000 recently set aside in a certificate of deposit.

Thanks to the New Jersey Ski and Snowboard Council, Club members have many options for discounted lift ticket vouchers. Killington and Pico pricing, order form and instructions are on the Club's website (highlifeskiclub.org). See the NJSSC website for many other discounted lift ticket opportunities, including special discounted member appreciation days in early March at Killington and Pico.

Meetings and Other Events

The Lodge Trustees met February 25. I cannot compliment the Lodge Trustees enough for their dedication, attention to detail, coordination and organization. The 10 Trustees volunteer their time without hesitation to make sure the Lodge runs smoothly. Fortunately, the Lodge is having a great year with a good number of visitors seven days a week. There were 17 at the following membership meeting, including a member who rejoined after about 30 years. The Executive Board met February 11. The Board is doing a lot of good work too, including preparing for website replacement, providing local events, managing Club finances, ensuring a strong social media presence, distributing the monthly newsletter, preparing for elections April 22, and much more. There were 13 at the following membership meeting.

(*President's Message Cont. pg. 13*)

LODGE REPORT

What a winter in Vermont!! Many Vermont resorts have already surpassed their normal average annual snowfall....and March is only beginning. Killington has recorded 212" this winter, Sugarbush is reporting 231" and Jay Peak is reporting a whopping 354" thus far (stats gleaned from skicentral.com). Don't miss out on these stellar conditions!! The snow may be waning in New Jersey....but it's waiting for you in Vermont!!

In addition to the astounding snow conditions, the Lodge held some great events in February. More than 20 members enjoyed Mike Burbridge's Super Bowl LIX party and enjoyed the game on our new HD TV!! The food and the company were fantastic! Thank you for throwing a great party Mike!!

February 15th offered another opportunity to explore Vermont via Snowshoe with Andrie Young!! Our snowshoe events offer a great alternative winter activity with minimal additional cost! This year's robust snowfall has turned some of the local hiking trails into ideal snowshoe pathways!

Coming up in March is the Lodge St. Patrick's Dinner and Party on Saturday the 15th! Celebrate St. Patrick's with corned beef & cabbage, roasted potatoes, soda bread, vegetarian stew, plus many other surprises. After dinner, bring your Irish dancing shoes over to the barn for the Lodge St. Patrick's Party!! Signups with Chris Cooney begin on Tuesday, March 4th. See the flyer in this edition of the Sitzmark!!

The Lodge Committee continues to appreciate how well our members take care of the Lodge. Thank you for completing assigned chores, washing/drying/putting away dishes, cleaning the sinks and drain screens, emptying waste baskets, etc. and keeping the Lodge in top shape for all visitors.

PLEASE NOTE: An updated Lodge schedule is included in this copy of the Sitzmark. This schedule has also been posted on the High Life web page.

The Lodge Committee thanks everyone for their timely communication with their house-moms. As a reminder, please initiate all communication with the respective house-mom via phone call and/or email. Your house-moms will do their best to respond as quickly as possible....however...we know some of you (especially during storm-chasing season) love to call your house-mom as you are walking to your car with the engine running .... understand that your house-moms may be working, skiing, or unavailable for a few hours at a time. The sooner you reach out to your house-mom, the easier the signup process becomes.

Each month the Lodge publishes a signup guide in the Sitzmark. THIS GUIDE HAS BEEN UPDATED!! Please be sure to read the new edition of this guide....especially the instructions for using Zelle for Lodge payments. These instructions clarify the use of the "memo" field when making a payment, and emphasizing that Zelle payments are NOT to be made until instructed by a housemom. Failure to follow these instructions could result in a small financial penalty beginning on March 4th. If you have any questions, please ask me or any housemom.

The conditions in Vermont are fantastic! We can't wait to see you at The Lodge!!

-Chris Cooney
Lodge Chairperson

FEBRUARY EVENTS

Spending a wonderful time at Tremblant. Although it was very cold, brave High Lifers ventured out to ski, snowboard, snowshoe and enjoy themselves. It was fun time for all!!







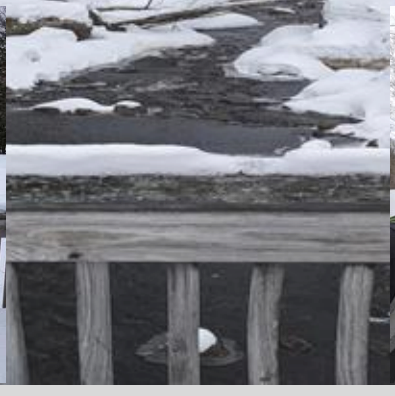






Snowshoe Event was very enjoyable even with a low turnout. It was a cold day and Heidi and I snowshoed for 2 hours on a groomed trail by Chittenden Reservoir at Lefferts Pond.







FEBRUARY EVENTS CONT.

February 9

Super Bowl Weekend at the Lodge included lots of skiing and fun. Not only did house mom, Mike, run a great food fest, members enjoyed the new 85" flat screen TV in the barn. Go Eagles!!! Other surprises included meeting the Mountain Man in the K-1 gondola and then being joined at the summit with the Unicorn Man. Snow was great!
But it was cold as seen by a quick hike to a frozen Thunder Falls.









February 13

A few High Lifers met at Boonton Lanes to try and beat out reigning champ, Fred. No luck but all had a great time. Hope to do another bowling event soon!











MARCH EVENTS



SKIER APPRECIATION DAYS

White Face Mountain: 3/7 $64 3/30 $62 4/4-6 $54
Present your club card with the NJ Ski & Snowboard Council Sticker and a photo ID to obtain NJSSC discounts. Go to group sales if there are any problems.
Please contact Robert Zega at rjzega@yahoo.com or njssc.org if you need more information.

March 15 — Hunter Mountain President's Cup Race. You can find more details for this race on the Race Schedule Page.

March 15 — St. Patrick's Dinner



March 22 — Family Weekend



MARCH EVENTS

Tips from Phil – Spa in the Woods

There is a gym on the Killington access road across from the Rivershed called the Spa in the Woods. Besides a gym, they have a pool with laps lanes, a separate area for family swimming, hot tub, sauna and a steam room.

The website says a walk in day pass will cost you $35 a day. But good news: they offer free memberships to folks with AARP advantage plans by United Healthcare. Signing up is simple, just bring your renew active number with you. And I was able to bring a guest for $7.

Don't know your renew active number, Call your member services number on the back of your card or sign on to your account on line.

Thanks, regards,

Phil Uhler
908-295-4457
AARP® Smart Driver Instructor
AARP® Legislation Advocate



LODGE GUIDELINES

Hello High Lifers!

With the increasing demand of Lodge use the Lodge Committee would like to streamline the communication process as it pertains to making Lodge reservations. This document is meant to be dynamic and will be continuously updated as we figure out what works and what doesn't. The Lodge Committee asks all members to take the below guidelines into consideration as you make your Lodge reservations. Remember....the key to an effective reservation is to have clear and comprehensive communication with your House-mom. As of November 1st , the Lodge will be collecting Winter rates for Lodge use. Please see the Lodge Rules and Regs for the current rates or ask your House-mom.

All reservations must be confirmed directly with a house mom before a payment is made Failure to do so will result in a mandatory $5 penalty to be paid into the Lodge Supply Bucket.

Guidelines for paying for Lodge stays through Zelle

For those who wish to utilize Zelle to pay for their Lodge usage, please be aware of the following guidelines:

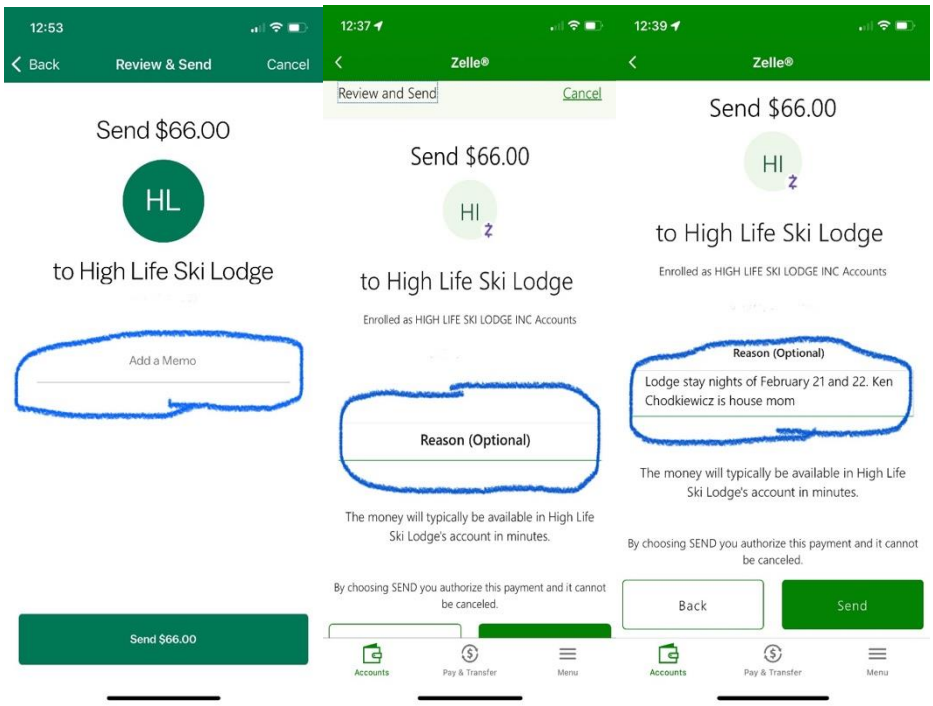
1. **Members (only) can pay for Lodge stays and events electronically using the Zelle app on their mobile device.**
2. **NO ZELLE PAYMENT is allowed until after you've communicated with the house-mom and have a confirmation for your stay. If a payment is made prior to confirmation from the house-mom, a $5 penalty will be assessed.**
3. **Zelle can ONLY be used for payments. No refunds will be made once a Zelle payment is confirmed. If a change to a reservation is made and is compliant with the Lodge rules, a credit will be issued.**
4. **If a member uses Zelle for payments, the member is responsible for ensuring they know how to correctly use the Zelle application. High Life Ski Lodge, Inc. is not responsible for any user error, application malfunction, or security of the relationship between Zelle and your bank account.**

To pay using Zelle, please follow these instructions:

- **Confirm the Zelle-recipient information with the House-mom. Input this information per House-mom instructions.**
- **In the comment section (may be listed as "Reason", "Add a Memo" or something similar based on your banking or Zelle app), please list dates of your intended overnights (ie. Jan 4,5,6) and the name of the corresponding house-mom. Including this information in the comment section eases tracking for your payments. Please note: This field is NOT required by Zelle to execute a transaction....you must consciously input the requested information. See Screenshots below. Failure to include this information will result in a $5 penalty to be paid to the Lodge supply bucket.**



LODGE GUIDELINES CONT.



Note: Your bank or Zelle app may look different. These are for example only.

-Once you've completed the payment, please inform the house-mom. Optionally (if your personal banking information is not visible) you could additionally forward a screenshot or confirmation email.

REMINDER: *Making a Zelle payment prior to receiving house-mom confirmation of your reservation or failing to fill in the Reason/Memo section of the Zelle transaction will result in a $5 penalty.*

Reservations are taken in person at Club meetings as per the dates on the Lodge schedule, which is posted on the Club Web Page (or you can ask a House-mom to email you the .pdf). After that meeting house moms will accept reservations by email or phone call only!! No initial contact with a House-mom via text-message.

Please call during reasonable hours of the day (hint: if you have to ask yourself if it's a reasonable time, chances are it isn't)....*and remember that many of our House-Moms still work and might not be able to respond for several hours*. Our House-Moms do their best to acknowledge your communication as quickly as possible, but at times an immediate response is not possible. If you'd like to go to the Lodge, please allow ample time for your House-Mom to get back to you. During your initial communication please include the following information

*****The High Life Lodge Committee loves our storm-chasers as well as those who love to spontaneously journey to Vermont. Please keep in mind that as you try to communicate with the house-mom, they may already be at the Lodge (especially if you are calling from Thursday-Monday). Please be sure to try calling the Lodge (802-773-9742) if you have difficulty communicating with the house-mom for your spontaneous plans.**



LODGE GUIDELINES CONT.

1. **Your full name**
2. **Number in your group and composition (ie a couple, kids (ages), family, member or guest, etc) and their full names.**
3. **Date and day of arrival, the number of nights, and the date/day of departure**
4. **Your intended Payment method (Zelle, mailing a check, payment upon arrival, gift-card, voucher, etc)**

-Below are some examples of the type of information that would best-help your communication with your House-mom. These are not intended to be all inclusive.... they're just samples.

Example 1

Hello my name is "John Smith". I would like to arrive at the lodge on Friday, Dec 1st and stay for 2 nights, leaving the morning of the 3rd. I will be alone. If I can get bed XYZ, that would be great but will take what is available. I can give you a check upon arrival or mail to you. Thank you

Example 2

Hello my name is "John Smith" My wife "Jane Smith" and I would like to arrive at the lodge on Friday, Dec 1st and stay for 2 nights, leaving the morning of the 3rd. Jane is also a member and we would like a couple's room if available. I can Zelle the payment and so as you can confirm. Thank you.

Example 3

Hello my name is "John Smith". I would like to make a reservation for myself, my son "Adrian Smith", my brother-in-law "Steve Harris" and his son "George Harris". Steve and George are not members. We would like to arrive at the lodge on Friday, December 1st, stay for 2 nights, and depart on the morning of the 3rd. If possible, I would like all of us in one room. I can mail you a check or give you a check upon arrival. Thank You.

Once you have your assigned bed, you are not allowed to change your sleeping location without approval from your House-mom. This includes taking a perceived empty bed in another room or in the attic.

There've been a few occasions when we have had members arrive late at night only to find someone in the bed/room they have been assigned. Mayhem and chaos ensue.

As House Moms we do our best to facilitate your reservation and make your Lodge experience as enjoyable as possible. We take into consideration each scheduled member coming-and-going, changes of plans (extending/shortening their stay), groups that would like to bunk in the same room, short notice requests and overlapping stays that cover two or even three different House Moms. Eighteen hundred bed nights is awesome...but can be a bit to juggle...so please, talk to the House Mom before moving from assigned bed/room. We promise to do our best to help.

We thank you for your cooperation and look forward to a wonderful winter,

The Lodge Committee.



RACING SCHEDULE

RACING 2025

Killington Ski Bums- GS course on Highline each Wednesday 10:00 Am -2:00 Pm

3/5/25 - Race 10

3/12/25–Finals

Pico Ski Bums every Thursday Afternoon 1:00 to close

3/6/25 - Race 8

3/13/25 - Race 9

3/15/25 - Vertical challenge special event race

The following events are tentatively scheduled:

3/07, 3/08, 3/09 Finals TBD

Race Leagues:

United States Ski and Snowboard Association www.usskiandsnowboard.org
Michelob Ultra Ski Bum Race Series - Killington- Pico www.killington.com
Nastar- www.skiracing.nastar.com events in PA. Shawnee, Bear Creek, NY. Hunter Mountain, Vt. Okemo and Sugarbush

Racing schedules are posted on individual association websites for places of events, dates and times.
I'll keep you posted as to upcoming race events and training days throughout the season. Remember race camps are a great way to train and improve your skills for the upcoming season. Contact me if you have any specific questions and I'll do my best to get back to you with the right info or contact. David Young: youngdavid020@gmail.com

If you are interested in racing for High Life, contact Linda Burns lbsilbert@aol.com

March 15 **Hunter Mountain President's Cup Race**

Highlife ski club needs your participation. This is a fun race on an intermediate slope on a Nastar style course, it is very skier friendly. The morning race allows you and your friends the option of a great day of skiing and an after awards party with door prizes, pizza and friends
.Contact Linda Burns, race captain, 973-632-0060 lbsilbert@aol.com

LOOKING AHEAD

April 5	Bear Mountain Mogul Challenge	
April 12	Pond Skimming	
April 13	Superstar Closing Party	
April 19	Daze and Defrosted Concert	

LOOKING AHEAD CONT.

June 15

CONCERT– ROSS FARMS IN BASKING RIDGE
GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!!!

Kick off the summer by joining your fellow High Lifers at an outdoor concert on Ross Farms in Basking Ridge on June 15th, 5-8 pm. Tickets, including fees, are shy of $40. See https://rossfarm.org/event/eilen-jewell-2/

Singer/songwriter, Eilen Jewell is known for her incredible blend of Americana, folk, and roots music. The Boise, Idaho songwriter leads a tight quartet that fuses influences of surf-noir, early blues, classic country, folk, and 1960s-era rock 'n' roll. Eilen's fans have marveled at her warmth and onstage humor alongside her beautiful songs and fiery performances.

Join us for this special early evening concert. Bring your lawn chairs or blankets to spread out and enjoy! Concert will be held rain or shine, no refunds. Picnics or snacks are welcome, too, but please carry out what you carry in. Tickets are on sale now—don't miss out!

I have no idea how quickly this artist's tickets will sell out. I'm buying mine today! Once you buy your tickets, send me an email at melwengerHL@gmail.com so we can coordinate the event as the date gets closer.

PS - I have been listening to her music and I love it. Check her out. Eilen Jewell.

Submitted by Melody Wenger

HLSC TRIPS

SNOW ALERT CHILI, SOUTH AMERICA TRIP STARTING AUGUST 22, 2025

Some of our members are booking Chile for August 2025. Air is on AA , departing 6:40pm on August 22, EWR connecting in Miami and arriving Santiago Airport SCL at 6:45am on Saturday August 23. The return flight is Friday August 29, 2025 on United to Bogata to EWR. (45k points) There are 12 people going and more to join them next year. Booking early is the way to go. Fred has all the must need details and important information. For further information, please contact:
Fred Ensminger at 973.216.3341 or email: fred@educated1.com

Here are detailed links to all 3 ski areas:
Valle Nevado tickets are IKON
Brush up on your Spanish This is a trip into another world!
https://www.powderhounds.com/SouthAmerica/Chile/Farellones.aspx

Submitted by Nina Tudorowsky HLSC Ski Trip Chair

Here are the February-May meeting dates (including the April elections). Check the Club website, Facebook, and your email for the latest schedule.

High Life Ski Club Meetings Schedule

- Tuesday March 11 at Exchange Restaurant
  - 6:30 pm Executive Board Meeting (appoint Nominating Committee)
  - 7:30 pm Membership Meeting

- Tuesday March 25 at Exchange Restaurant
  - 6:30 pm Lodge Trustees
  - 7:30 pm Membership Meeting

- Tuesday April 1 on Zoom
  - 7:00 pm Membership Meeting

- Tuesday April 8 at Exchange Restaurant
  - 6:30 pm Executive Board Meeting
  - 7:30 pm Membership Meeting (nominations and slate of candidates)

- Tuesday April 22 at Exchange Restaurant
  - 6:30 pm Lodge Trustees
  - 7:30 pm Membership Meeting (election, provide food)

- Tuesday May 13 at Exchange Restaurant
  - 6:30 pm Executive Board Meeting
  - 7:30 pm Membership Meeting

- Tuesday May 27 at Exchange Restaurant
  - 6:30 pm Lodge Trustees
  - 7:30 pm Membership Meeting

HLSC Lodge 2024-25 Winter Season

WEEKEND Saturday	Dates	Event	START SIGN UPS Tuesday	Trustee	NOTES
23-Nov	11/20-11/26		12-Nov	Jim Ferrone	
30-Nov	11/27-12/3	**Thanksgiving**	19-Nov	Ken Chodkiewicz	
7-Dec	12/4-12/10		26-Nov	Dave Young	
14-Dec	12/11-12/17		3-Dec	Dave Young	
21-Dec	12/18-12/24		10-Dec	Mike Burbridge	
28-Dec	12/25-01/01	**New Year's**	10-Dec	Dave Young	New Year's Eve Party
4-Jan	01/02-01/07		24-Dec	Chris Moser	
11-Jan	01/08-01/14		31-Dec	Donna Long	
18-Jan	01/15-01/21	**MLK Weekend**	7-Jan	Chris Cooney	Snowshow/Family Week
25-Jan	01/22-01/28		14-Jan	Chris Moser	Family Weekend
1-Feb	01/29-02/04		21-Jan	Kerry Klotz	
8-Feb	02/05-02/11	**Superbowl**	28-Jan	Mike Burbridge	
15-Feb	02/12-02/18	**President's Weekend**	4-Feb	Dave Young	Snowshow/Family Week
22-Feb	02/19-02/25		11-Feb	Ken Chodkiewicz	Family Weekend
1-Mar	02/26-03/04		18-Feb	Kerry Klotz	
8-Mar	03/05-03/11		25-Feb	Dave Young	
15-Mar	03/12-03/18	**St. Patrick's Dinner**	4-Mar	Chris Cooney	
22-Mar	03/19-03/25		11-Mar	Nancy Mathieson	Family Weekend
29-Mar	03/26-04/01		18-Mar	Donna Long	
5-Apr	04/02-04/08		25-Mar	Jack McDevitt	
12-Apr	04/09-04/15		1-Apr	Mike Burbridge	
19-Apr	04/16-04/22		8-Apr	Kerry Klotz	
26-Apr	04/23-04/29		15-Apr	Jim Ferrone	
3-May	04/30-05/06		22-Apr	Chris Cooney	
10-May	05/07-05/13		29-Apr	Dave Young	
17-May	05/14-05/20		6-May	Donna Long	
24-May	05/21-05/27		13-May	Jim Ferrone	
31-May	05/28-06/03		20-May	Chris Moser	

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