



Mountain High Snowsport Club History

Mountain High Snowsport Club is an aggregate of a number of clubs from the Portland area. Its original club was the **Plaza Ski Club**, which was formed in 1975 by workers at the Standard Plaza in downtown Portland, Oregon. Among the founders were **Linda Markley** (later **McGavin**) and **Beth Royce Peters**. After a few meetings in the building's cafeteria, the organizing group started running night ski buses to Mt. Hood Skibowl and/or Mt. Hood Meadows.

The club grew rapidly, reaching over 300 people within a few years, and expanded its offerings to weekend bus trips to other ski areas, such as Mt. Bachelor and Crystal Mountain.

The club adopted a crazy moose as its mascot (**Bullcrinkle**), and the club newsletter was called the **Bull Sheet**.

Throughout the years, several other ski clubs were merged into Plaza, notably the **Union Pacific Railroad Ski Club** and **Fast Trax**.

Concurrently the **Edgeset Ski Club**, a little bit older than Plaza, formed in the early 1970s, was operating out of the **First National Bank Tower** (only a few blocks from Standard Plaza; later First Interstate Bank Tower and then Wells Fargo Center), and having its own activities and ski trips around the northwest. Among the founders were **Terry White**, **Marsha Cosgrove**, and **Larry Bennett**.

In the Fall of 2000, these two clubs merged into one, becoming "**Plaza/Edgeset**".

In November 2003, the club's name was changed to "**Mountain High Snowsport Club**". Each club previously had their own newsletters. After the merger, the **Lift Lines Newsletter** was started by **Emilio Trampuz** in November, 2000.

The club got its first **website** in June 2004, thanks to the efforts of **Les Furnanz** (the original webmaster) and later Emilio Trampuz (newsletter editor and current webmaster).

Early 1970s: EdgeSet ski club founded at the 1st National Bank (later 1st Interstate Bank), Portland, Oregon. Among the founders were Terry White, Marsha Cosgrove, and Larry Bennett.

1975: Plaza ski club founded at the Standard Plaza Bldg., 6th and Main, Portland, Oregon. Among the founders were: Linda Markley-McGavin and Beth Royce.

1993: Plaza ski club absorbed several members of the **Fast Trax** ski club, which had only 40 members and suddenly dissolved. They were all PACRAT racers, and after their club dissolved, anyone who still wanted to race joined the Plaza Ski Club.

Nov. 2000: “Plaza” and “Edgeset” merged into: “Plaza/Edgeset”

Nov. 2003: Club renamed “Mountain High Snowsport Club”

The club is known as "**The club that really skis**". Both clubs have usually had between 100 - 300 members. After a brief period of decline in the late 1990s, membership fell to considerably below 100 members each. When the two clubs merged, membership gradually started climbing back up, from about 100 members in the year 2000/2001, to a high of 322 members in the years 2011 and 2013. After that, there has been a gradual decline down to about 200 members or less by about 2020.

Today

We are a friendly group of skiers and snowboarders in the Portland, Oregon and Vancouver, Washington area. We are known as "**the club that REALLY skis**". We have day outings to Mt. Hood, and longer ski trips. We also have year-round social activities, including happy hours, hiking, bicycle riding, kayaking, and more.

EdgeSet Ski Club



Founded in the early 1970s.

Original location: The 1st National Bank (later 1st Interstate Bank), Portland, Oregon.

Mascot: none

Newsletter: ?

Plaza Ski Club



Founded in 1975.

Original location: The Standard Plaza Bldg., 6th and Main, Portland, Oregon.

Mascot: Bullcrinkle the skiing moose.

Newsletter: The Bull Sheet

EARLY BUS SKI TRIPS with Plaza

In the early days the night lift tickets at Mt. Hood Skibowl were a mere \$3. Buses were cheap (insurance hadn't raised the prices yet), and the club filled midweek night buses by offering a ride to the mountain, lift ticket, wine and beer and cheese and crackers on the bus, all for a grand total of \$6 per night! They also arranged for night lesson packages, and a number of people learned to ski from our buses.



EARLY BUS SKI TRIPS with EdgeSet by Nick Veroske

1984 is when I joined Edge Set Ski Club (as best as I can recall). Terry White was the pres. Marsha Cosgrove was the sexetary (as she liked to call herself). Her job was to issue room assignments during the bus trips to Bend. She would wait until the last minute to see who had “connected” during the trip!



Debbie Drury and Nick Veroske



Jeff Payne and Lois Baseel

BUS SKI TRIPS

Our Mountain High club, both Plaza and Edgeset, have been known for great ski trips. Most of our trips have been by bus. The bus is part of the fun. On the bus, we share food, tell jokes, play games, and sometimes we also sing.

Over the years, we have had bus trips to almost every ski area in Oregon and Washington, and several in California, Idaho and Montana, as well as several ski areas in British Columbia.



Bus trip to Mt. Shasta and Mt. Ashland in 2003.

This was a Mystery trip where nobody, except the trip leader, knew where we were going to spend a weekend skiing.

BUS SKI TRIPS – continued

Bus trips were always the most fun way to travel. We told jokes, played games, and watched short videos that were either funny or informational. One of the most popular funny videos was about a Japanese Sauna built on top of a ski slope. Unsuspected customers, half-naked, were launched out of their comfy chairs onto the slope below.

We also took turns at the microphone, telling jokes.

Linda McGavin



Kay Kinyon





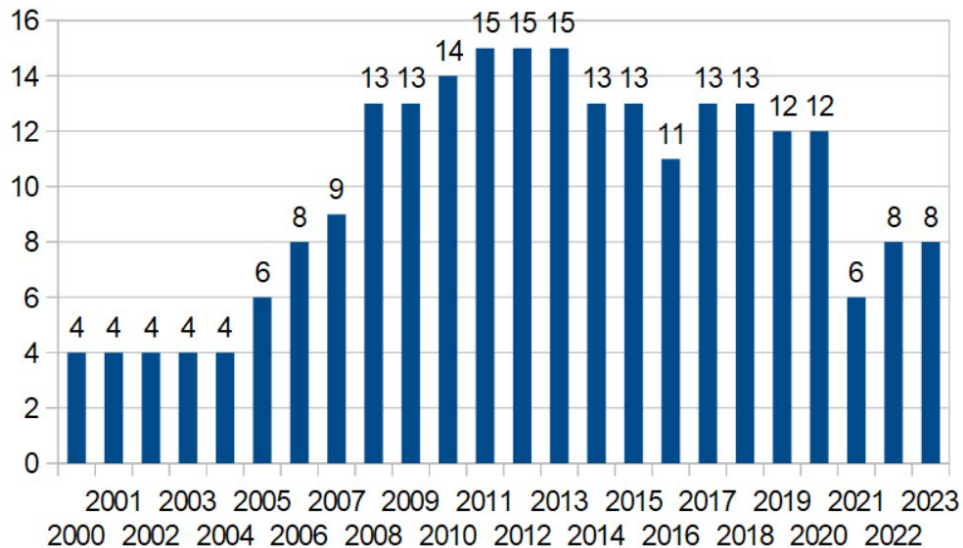
Terry Becerra & Mike Mecham in Dual GS race at Mt. Hood Meadows in 2012

PACRAT Racing

Pacific Northwest Area Clubs Recreational Alpine Teams

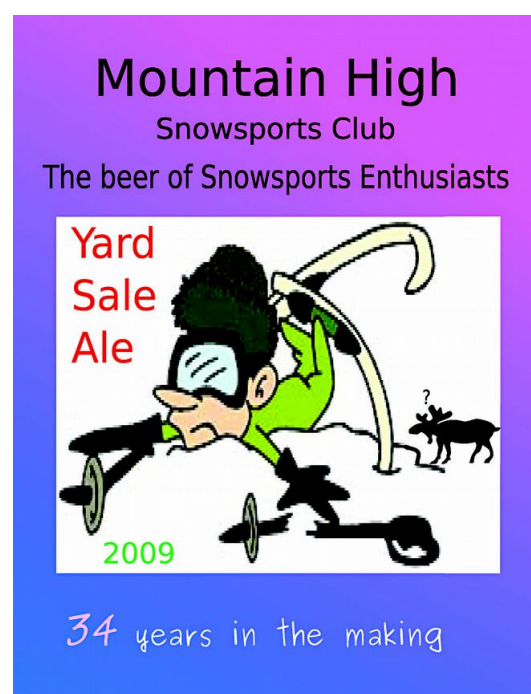
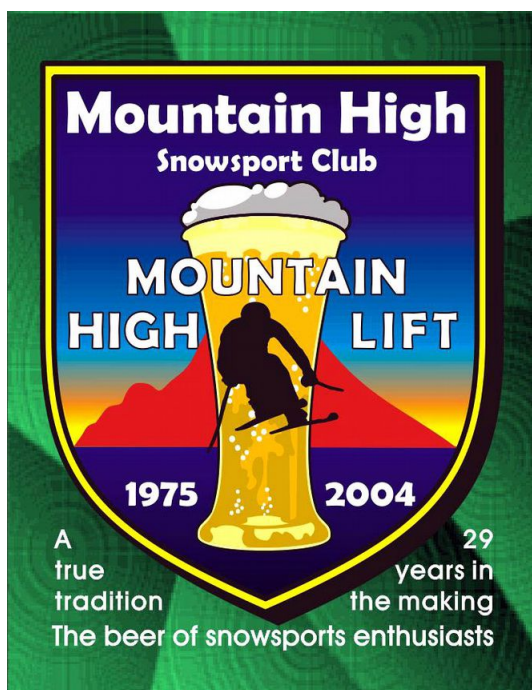
Our club has participated in inter-club PACRAT racing since its beginnings around 1980. We had between 4 and 15 teams. Each team consists of 10 racers.

Number of Mountain High PACRAT Teams



Beer Brewing

For a few years around 2002 – 2009, we brewed our own beer just in time to serve it at the annual Membership / Kickoff Party in early November. We attached customized labels to it.



Chocolate Parties

Thanks to our Social Activities Director, Debbi Kor, we have had an annual Chocolate Party for decades. It is held around Valentine's Day, and we usually play a game that revolves around the topic of LOVE.

People are encouraged to bring their own chocolate dessert and to participate in a contest. Three prizes are usually awarded for the best chocolate dessert in the following three categories:

- a) the Most Creative,
- b) the Most Chocolatey and/or Decadent;
- c) the Most Light and/or Healthy

In earlier years, we usually had 3 judges appointed to taste everything. In more recent years, everyone present is a judge.

This is a great opportunity to socialize with other club members. In the photo are Edie Martinelli, Linda McGavin, and Terry Swan.



Chocolate Parties - continued

Kurt Kruger and his wife Chris Moon often win one of the 3 prizes. At the Chocolate Party in 2011, hosted by Terry and Bradley Swan, Terry anticipated that Kurt and Chris might win again, so she found a prize that was specifically designed for them – well, at least for Kurt.

Kurt is a beer connoisseur, and he especially likes dark beers. So, the prize Terry found was a sign saying: **“Don't cry over spilled milk. It could have been beer.”** And, sure enough, Kurt and Chris won again, so Kurt got the sign.



Kurt Krueger, Chris Moon and Emilio Trampuz



Our highway cleanup crew in June 2014

Highway Cleanup

Our club has adopted a 2-mile stretch of highway 26 just west of Government Camp, from mile post 51 to milepost 53. We have been maintaining this stretch of highway clean twice a year (in the Spring and Fall) since May 22, 2010.

Debbi Kor organized this project and has been leading it ever since, for at least 14 years (as of 2024).

We usually spend about 2 hours removing objects discarded by people, from cigarette butts to tire chains. Some people have even found money. We usually fill up 1 to 2 dozen large yellow garbage bags.

8 people seems to be the ideal number. We then split up into groups of two. Each group gets to clean about half a mile of the roadway and surrounding areas. .

We end the day with lunch at either the Mt. Hood Brewery & Pub or the Taco Shoppe in Government Camp.

Human Slalom

Human slalom has been a tradition on many of our ski trips. People line up like gates in a slalom course, and everyone take a turn at running through those gates, and then positioning themselves as the next gate.

It's just for fun and nobody ever got hurt.

Here's Kay Kinyon (on skis) and Mike Hennes (on snowboard) participating in human slalom on a ski trip to Fernie organized by Linda McGavin in March 2010.



Historic Reenactment

The “Frosted Flakes” PACRAT team was a really fun group of skiers. Not only did they participate in our recreational PACRAT ski racing, but they also went on many of our ski trips, participated in many social activities, and did many other creative things. For example, they made some T-shirts that said: “Flakes – each one is unique.”

In 2013, around Easter, the women on the “Frosted Flakes” team recreated a famous scene from decades earlier, when some women posed with skis while wearing bikini tops. Our Frosted Flakes look remarkably similar to the original picture.



Patricia Savage, Nancy Pratt, Janet Siverts-Smith, Moniquea Degan, and Stevie Viaene at Timberline ski area in 2013.

Oregon Cancer Ski Out

Many of our club members have participated in this fundraiser over the years, since it began in 1988. The Oregon Cancer Ski Out has raised over \$1.5 million. The funds raised are used for local Cancer related organizations. Among our club members, Linda McGavin has volunteered to help organize this event the longest.

The Oregon Cancer Ski Out consists of teams of up to 5 people racing two days in a row, usually Sunday and Monday, at Mt. Hood Meadows. The goal is not speed but consistency. The winner is the team that manages to most closely match their results from the two races.

