

Ptarmigan Ski Club NEWSLETTER

March 2026



A non-profit organization founded in 1947 and dedicated to the promotion of all facets of skiing & winter sports - plus activities for the education and enjoyment of its members.

A member of Eastern PA Ski Council. <http://www.easternpaskicouncil.org>

You can also find us on Facebook. [Click here for Facebook](#)

<http://www.ptarmiganskiclub.org/>

Calendar of Events - Post in a Visible Location

General Meetings at Christopher's Columbian Home (KoC)

Happy Hour: Contact Bill Ortner, Every Friday

Thursty Thursday: Contact Carolyn Greenland

BTC Book Club: Third Wed Contact Ronnie Rother, Mary Laronge

----- **Mar 2026** -----

3/02 - Ski: Blue Mt. Valley Lodge 9:15 am

3/06 - Happy Hour Grove St. Pub & Grill 5:00 pm

3/08 - Daylight Savings Time begins. Yay!!

3/10 - Elections/Year in Review & Video

3/13 - Happy Hour Copperhead Grill

3/17 - St. Patrick's Day

3/19 - Thursty Thursday – Fegley's Bethlehem Brew Works, 5:15 p
* *need reservation**

3/20 - Happy Hour Miller Ale House

3/21 - Music A Day at the Opera 11:45 am and Dinner 5:30 pm

3/27 - Happy Hour TBD

3/?? - End of Season Tailgate – Blue Mtn – Look for email notice

----- **Apr 2026** -----

4/03 - Happy Hour Grove St. Pub & Grill

4/18 - Spring Banquet – Madeline's

4/22 - Hike: Ironton Rail Trail 10:00 am

4/23 - Thursty Thursday Braveheart Highland Pub 5:30 pm

Future March Ski Days -- TBA

Mondays Thru Thursdays -- PSC Ski Days at Blue Mtn.

Weather/Snow Permitting with Lunch at Blue Mtn. Diner, Covered Bridge Inn, and Slopeside at Blue. STAY TUNED to E- Blasts for Details.

Group Ski Day at Blue Mt Mon Mar 2nd

Monday, March 2, 2026 -- 9:15 A.M.

Meet Valley Lodge at 9:15 A.M. at the 6-Pack Lift.

General Meeting Tuesday Mar 10th

At Christopher's Columbian Home (KoC) Allentown 7:00 pm

Elections and Year in Review

Candidates for Officer Positions

President: No Candidate Yet

Vice Pres: No Candidate Yet

Recording Sec: No Candidate Yet

Treasurer: Kathy Seufert

Membership Sec: Mary Laronge

Candidates for Board – Elect Three:

Bill Ortner

Cindy Simoson

Carol Greenland

As you can see as this date, we have many open positions.

Please consider serving.

Contact Bill Ortner wrotner@ptd.net if you are interested.

Ptarmigan's Between the Covers Book Club

It's a BYOB and BYOF (if you wish) gathering for our next book group discussion.

DATE: Wednesday, March 18, 2026

TIME: Discussion begins promptly at 4 PM

LOCATION: Mary and Ralph's

556 Parkside Court, Allentown

The Way Out

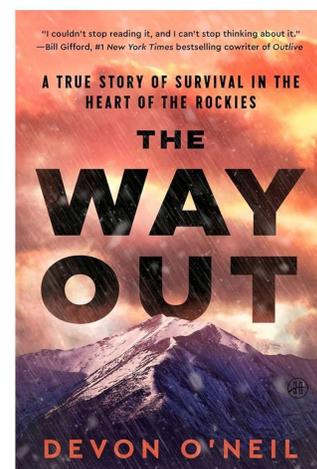
By Devon O'Neil

"You wanna ski a lap?"

Fifteen-year-old Cole Walters-Schaler couldn't resist. This was why they'd come to the backcountry, after all—three fathers and four teenage children together for a bonding alpine getaway outside Salida, Colorado, in January 2017. Within minutes, Cole and Brett Beasley, a longtime Forest Service ranger and expert outdoorsman in his mid-forties, had pushed off from their cabin, expecting to be gone for a half hour or so. But an unforgiving blizzard transformed their quick jaunt into a thirty-hour ordeal that would end in tragedy, as the community raced to find them.

The Way Out is the story of those ensuing hours and their aftermath—an almost unbelievable event that shook a tight-knit mountain community and raised difficult questions about life and death, guilt and redemption, and the pursuit of adventure. Why, when we know that the wilderness can kill, can't we stay away? When the unthinkable happens, how does a community forgive the survivors? And how do the survivors forgive themselves?

Drawing on firsthand interviews with those closest to the tragedy, including the key eyewitness, and written with the gripping intensity of classics such as Into Thin Air and Touching the Void, O'Neil recreates that fateful day. The Way Out is a thoughtful investigation of the allure of the mountains and the aftermath of trauma, and an unforgettable look at life at its very edge.



Ski Trips – Member Lead 2025 - 2026

These trips are lead and organized by Ptarmigan Members and will have non-members on them. Ptarmigan does not sponsor or sanction them. We only Advertise them as a service to our members.

Bormio & Milan, Italy

- Jan. 23 – Feb. 01, 2026
- Contact: Catherine Chrapaczat (610) 428-3547 or katyataz@yahoo.com

Sunday River, Maine

- Jan. 25 – Jan 30, 2026
- Contact Vicki Morris 610-597-8666
vlmorris@astound.net

St. Anton, Austria

- Jan. 23 – Feb. 01, 2026
- Contact: John Yerman at (484)241-5213
jfyiii.mail@gmail.com.

Ski Utah – Park City, The Canyons, Deer Valley

- Feb 28 – Mar 7, 2026 **Trip Out**
- \$2494
- Contact: Mark Baechle (610)657-5825
SkiPro99@gmail.com.

Editor's Notes:

All trips advertised must have a clearly stated cancellation policy, please read it carefully.

Friday Happy Hours

Every Friday at 5:00 pm



- 3/06 – Happy Hour Grove St. Pub & Grill
- 3/13 – Happy Hour Copperhead Grill
- 3/20 – Happy Hour Miller Ale House
- 3/27 – Happy Hour TBD
- 4/03 – Happy Hour Grove St. Pub & Grill

Note: The scheduled Happy Hour location may change occasionally. So, watch your email for changes as Friday approaches.



**Stay Tuned.....It's Coming.....
End-of-Season Tailgate Party
At BLUE MOUNTAIN
Valley Parking lot near rear
– bring something to share -
BYOB stay tuned for a future
Email Announcement...**



Membership DUES: 2025/2026 Season

**Renew your membership for the 2025/2026 Season.
Send your dues to: Mary Laronge, 556 Parkside
Court, Allentown, PA 18104. Please Pay by Check.
We will not accept cash.**

Early Renewal: \$16 Single or \$26 Family.

Late Renewal (after Oct 31st): \$20 Single or \$30 Family

New Members: \$20 Single or \$30 Family

New Memberships are valid for 2 years, until Apr 30, 2027

Family Memberships Include Minor Children Living at Home.

All Members will receive the Ptarmigan Newsletter FREE by Email.

UPDATE: Due to increasing publishing and postage costs, members wishing to receive Hardcopy must pay \$20 in addition to their annual dues by Oct 31st.

To receive your Membership Card by mail, enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope. The Card entitles you to various Ski related discounts and benefits.

Treasurer's Report

Checking:	\$4691.57
Savings:	\$6002.94
CD	\$5524.71
Total	\$16222.22

As of 3/01/2026





*****NEW POLICY*****

Since we are meeting for **dinners** regularly on Thursty Thursdays, I'm asking everyone planning to attend to send me an email or give me a call a few days ahead of time if you plan to attend. There aren't always enough seats to accommodate our group without advance notice and reservations. Thank you! Carolyn – we3ski@epix.net



Thursday, March 19, 5:15 pm, **Fegley's Bethlehem Brew Works***, 559 Main Street, Bethlehem. Park in lot behind building (up stairs) or at Walnut St. Parking Garage. Brewing unique ales and culinary delights since '98. Bethlehem's home of great food and craft beer! *Contact we3ski@epix.net for a reservation.



Thursday, April 23, 5:30 pm, **Braveheart Highland Pub***, 430 Main Street, Hellertown. *Contact we3ski@epix.net for a reservation.



**Happy St. Patrick's Day
March 17, 2026**



STEM meetings via ZOOM. Next Discussion, Mar 27, 2026, 4:30 – 6:00

Topic: TBD

Contact Bill Ortner wortner@ptd.net to be added to the Zoom Meeting.



Skiing Perks and Benefits — Go to EPSC Website, see MEMBERS ONLY, then DISCOUNTS/SPREADSHEET/DEALS FOR A SPREADSHEET OF Everyday Savings, Specials, Deals, Mountain Statistics, and Weblinks at over 18 local ski areas. MUST BE A PSC MEMBER TO OBTAIN PASSWORD TO ACCESS DISCOUNTS! EPSC PSC Club Contact – Carolyn Greenland, we3ski@epix.net to obtain password.

DISCOUNTED LIFT TICKETS ... CHECK THIS OUT!!!

CALENDAR OF EPSC TRIPS

2026 Spring Trip – Sedona & Grand Canyon by Train – Apr 26 – May 1**

2026 Summer Ski Trip - Valle Nevado, Chile - Aug 7 - 21, 2026**

2026 Fall Trip - Netherlands, Belgium, and France - Sept 19-29, 2026**

2027 Winter Carnival - Mt. Bachelor, Oregon - Jan-Feb, 2027**

2027 International Trip - Les Arc, French Alps - TBD 2027**

2027 Summer Ski Trip - New Zealand & Australia - July 29 - Aug 16, 2027**

openings – see www.easternpaskicouncil.org for fliers with details

Skiing Happenings and Discounts



Saturday, March 14 – **Cardboard Box Derby**, race begins at 12 noon on the Vista slope.

Pond Skim/Anticipated closing date: End of March (cold weather?? maybe into early April). Saturday, April 4 – **Easter Egg Hunt on Snow**, 11 – 4, Summit Lodge. Check the website: www.Skibluemtn.com for more details.



Ski Club Discount - Club Discount \$40 for all club members, Mon-Thurs non-holiday. Friday \$50 extended day. 70+ Ski See spreadsheet for details at easternpaskicouncil.org.

EVENTS: Sat. March 7 **Cardboard Box Derby**, Sun. March 8 **Pond Skim**, Sun. March 15 **Snowshoe and Skinning Race**.

See www.BCMountainresort.com for details.



Ski for All Discount, Mon/Tues/Weds/Thurs non-holiday \$32 lift and rental w/EPSC code. Seniors Thurs-Sun/Holiday \$15, MTW \$12 w/EPSC code at ticket window. 20% off any other time. See easternpaskicouncil.org for details. **Events:** March 6 – 7, **Mountainfest/Cardboard Classic/80's Tribute Party/Fireworks!** See montagemountainresorts.com for details.



Discounts – Senior Tuesdays (65+) - \$50
Tentative Closing Date: March 22.



Discounts - 30% off full price midweek, non-holiday w/PSC mbrshp card at Guest Services. Seniors 70+ Ski FREE. Credit card only. **EVENTS:** March 7-8 **Scout Weekend** – a traditional snowsports weekend for scouts. See <http://www.shawneemt.com> for details.



March 7-8 **Vertical Challenge**, free race. Closing date April 12, then hoping to continue on weekends into May!
<http://www.camelbackresort.com>

MANY other Ski Area Resort Discounts are available: See easternpaskicouncil.org "All in One Spreadsheet".



Hiking – Please notify the activity leader that you are attending so you may be contacted in case of inclement weather.

April 22, 2026 Wednesday -- Ironton Rail Trail -- 10:00 A.M.

Walk on a paved trail for 4 Miles. Option to do more.

Meet at Saylor Park, 245 N. Second St. Coplay, in the Parking Lot. Afterwards, can Meet at Samuel Owens nearby for Lunch. Or, you can bring your own lunch / snacks.

Group Leader -- Cindy Simoson Call / TEXT Cindy, if you are going -- (484) 515 – 0181



Music Contact: Cindy Simoson, if any questions (484) 515-0181

Saturday, March 21, 2026 -- Opera / 11:45 A.M. -- Dinner / 5:30 P.M.

A DAY AT THE OPERA! And Dinner at Ringer's Roost

TRISTAN und ISOLDE by Richard Wagner

Contact: Dick Manning at rmann1050@gmail.com or TEXT 610 737 - 1860

SKI DAYS for SEASON -- BLUE MTN. , SUNDAY RIVER, ELK MTN. -- RECAP

Many Ptarmigans have come out thru this Tough Ski Season and braved Skiing, in frigid weather, snow, fog, rain, winds and even sunshine. It has been a fun filled, great camaraderie, and Memorable Ski Season !

Thank You to Everyone who has participated in the Skiing, Snowboarding , and Apres/ Ski --- Cindy

Jan 6 Blue Mt.



Jan 28 Sundry River



Feb 10th Blue Mt.



Feb 17 Elk Mt.





PTARMIGAN SPRING BANQUET

Saturday, April 18

6:00 pm to 10:00 pm

Madeleine's

1250 Turnstone Drive

Fogelsville, PA 18051

Menu*

Assorted Appetizers

Salad

Chicken Piccata

Sesame Salmon

Chef's Choice of Starch and Vegetables

Pie A La Mode

*Vegan or Vegetarian available on request

\$58.00 per person

Dancing to the tunes of Scotty G

RSVP: Linda Cope
2685 Houghton Lean
Macungie, PA 18062
lesterly@ptd.net
610-504-0305

RSPV by April 8, 2026
No reservations or checks
will be accepted after April 8

Sunshine



Please forward any information you may have of a member who has recently experienced the loss of a spouse, partner, parent, close family member or friend, etc. or someone in need of a bit of cheer. Contact Mary Ann Bedics by cell (610-704-0582) or email (maryannbedics@rcn.com).

Year In Review



Please forward any pictures you've taken at Ptarmigan Ski Club events to Eric at Eric.Schoeppner@icloud.com. Eric will collect pictures throughout this membership year to create a "Year in Review" for presentation during our March election meeting.

PTARMIGAN SKI CLUB CONTACTS

Officers	President	John Heurich	484-241-5176	jheurich_biz@yahoo.com
	Vice President	Joe McAndrew	610-657-8853	jems2@ptd.net
	Treasurer	Kathy Seufert	610-393-7324	kathrynseufert@gmail.com
	Membership Secretary	Mary Laronge	610-737-2349	larongem@gmail.com
	Recording Secretary	Mary Ann Bedics	610-704-0582	maryannbedics@rcn.com
Board Members	Past President	Carolyn Greenland	302-864-4120	we3ski@epix.net
	Elected by Members	Bill Ortner	610-799-2549	wortner@ptd.net
	Elected by Members	Cindy Simoson	484-515-0181	jsimoson@aol.com
	Elected by Members	Diane Peters	610-395-2187	diane.peters46@gmail.com
	Appointed by Pres			
	Appointed by Pres			
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	Facebook	Linda Plunkett	610-248-5902	ljp7658@yahoo.com
	Eastern PA Ski Council	Carolyn Greenland	302-864-4120	we3ski@epix.net
	Special Olympics	Steve Lisicky	484-809-1795	antigua58@icloud.com

Visit us online at <http://www.ptarmiganskiclub.org> and **FACEBOOK**

To Join or Renew Your Membership Please See the Membership Application.

[Click here to download Membership Application](#)