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PRESIDENT'S UPDATE – JULY 2022

Mary Anne Koltowich

Hope you had a safe and patriotic July 4th holiday weekend. Let's remember and thank all our U.S. servicemen who kept our country free and continue to do so. My first month as President has been busy, enjoyable, and productive.

- We have put together an Ad Hoc Website Committee to research and recommend a new website platform for Crescent. These people are gung ho, enthusiastic, and hard-working. See more under Member Services below.
- As approved by the Crescent Board at the 2022 Spring Convention, Crescent has formed the Future of Conventions Committee to take a hard look at what our conventions ought to be. See more under Vice President below.
- We have identified candidates to take over Fall Convention after this coming October and for the 2023 Spring Convention, and possibly the Conventions Chair. These are not final yet, but these people are in training to support these functions.

It is exciting to see the participation from 5 different clubs on each new committee, who are getting really engaged in our future. Crescent is all about you, the clubs and all their members. In discussions with other clubs, you will be glad to hear that some are planning to be more involved with Crescent in the future.

We should all have a special shout-out and applaud the Coastal Ski & Outing Club for the outstanding Spring Convention party and for all the other work its members labored hard for in getting it all done. The theme party and decorations were over the top. First-time Spring Coordinator Cameron Andrews did a wonderful job in pulling together our Spring Convention. He made sure we all had a wonderful and productive time together at a full-scale convention after Covid. I also thank Cameron for his input back to me about some of the issues he encountered, and we are working on these to improve conventions in the future. These issues are being evaluated and used by the new special Future of Conventions Committee. THANK YOU CAMERON, COASTAL, AND ALL THE OTHER SPRING CONVENTION ACTIVITIES COORDINATORS!

We have identified candidates to take over Fall Conference after this coming October and for the 2023 Spring Convention, and possibly the Conventions Chair. These are not final yet; these people are in training to support these functions. It is wonderful to have some new people step up, along with others with experience who are willing to stay on to coordinate activities and events.

I hope to help Crescent find ways to help clubs grow and engage new members. I believe racing is key to helping this happen. Younger people want to compete in snowboarding, along with other new members who like the fun and skill of skiing downhill in our races. Growing our club race teams will help all our clubs grow.

VICE PRESIDENT (Michelle Shuford)

Hello all! As we pass through the Summer Solstice I hope all are finding ways to beat the heat and still enjoy the additional sunlight that this time of year brings. I have been busy working with Mary Anne Koltowich clarifying questions brought up at Spring Convention, assisting in the planning of our upcoming Fall Conference, and reaching out to folks to set up the Future of Conventions Committee. Currently Margaret Jordan (Columbia), Jodi Stephens (Huntsville), Jennifer Emch (Knoxville), & Frances Edwards (ETMM) have agreed to serve. We would love some other voices so please reach out to me if you would like to be on this committee (vice.president@crescentskicouncil.org). I will also be working with Jodi Stephens during the months leading up to Fall Conference in an effort to get her familiar with how Conventions currently run and will be operated moving forward in the hopes that she will agree to a leadership position.

Looking forward to seeing you in the Fall in Gatlinburg.

TREASURER (Ellen Cortright)

It is that time of year when many clubs are closing their membership year. In just a couple months the annual dues invoicing will be distributed (September 1) and your membership list should be included. Before you move into the new year please make sure to print a complete list of your members identified as adults (18 and over) or youth (under 18). Please remember that the list that needs to be submitted should only be the member's names and whether they are adult or youth - no addresses, phone numbers, etc. The counts on the list should match the numbers posted to the invoice. Also please note that if your club has a family membership each of those family members should be listed individually. Remember that if an individual wants to participate in Crescent led trips and events that individual should be listed on the club's membership list shared with Crescent. Ideally the list should be in excel format as that makes it easier to consolidate all the clubs' data.

CONVENTIONS (Vacant, report by Mary Anne Koltowich)

Spring Convention 2022 – Much thanks to the Coastal Ski & Outing Club for the fantastic work hosting our 2022 CSC Spring Convention at Myrtle Beach. People are still talking about the over-the-top decorating for and the wonderful fun at the Roaring 20s party. It was Coastal's grand finale for hosting this conference. That means that Coastal is retiring as our host for Spring Convention. As Michelle Shuford reported in her Vice President's remarks above, the Future of Conventions Committee will be looking for all you chapters out there to help next year. Mark those calendars now for 2023 – April 27-30!

Fall Conference 2022 - We will be at the Glenstone in Gatlinburg, TN Friday, October 28 – Sunday, October 30. The standard room rate is \$109 + taxes. The schedule, lodging, and registration information was sent out to you all last week. You make your own reservations online with the hotel as in previous years. I have already heard from a couple of clubs about bringing a small crowd! This is exciting, and we hope your clubs will support a big turnout too. Our vendors would surely appreciate it! Much thanks to Jodi Stephens (Huntsville) and Jennifer Emch (Knoxville) for taking on coordinator support roles. Jodi will be doing a lot of the food and beverage, and Jennifer will be taking care of registrations.

We hold an Administrative Meeting on Saturday morning. If there are any topics your club would like to address, please send those to me at fall.conference@crecentskicouncil.org

Mary Anne Koltowich, Fall Conference Coordinator

TRIPS (Lisa Beregi)

I hope you are day dreaming about snow and skiing to keep you cool in the recent heat!

The only real news this month is that both Steamboat and Jackson Hole registration sites are up and running!

Steamboat - registration opened June 15th and we already have 98 signed up! Jackson Hole - registration opened July 1st at: <https://go.tripstorm.app/#!/crescentjackson> and we had over 30 sign up the first day! Great start! NOTE: Steamboat is being run by Sports America Tours and Jackson Hole by Ski Group, so if you have questions please contact the correct TO.

RFPs have also gone out for the 2024 Ski Week. The trip committee decide at Spring Convention that this year only due to the pandemic and not having live trade shows to meet our P&P, the tour operators will be picking destinations for us. The RFPs also went out to the Tour Operators voted on at Spring Convention for proposals. The top two destinations being bid are an Alaskan Cruise and an Iceland Tour.

RACING (Rich Mead)

Summer is upon us. No snow to race and train on in the Southeast but if you're willing to travel, opportunities exist. Ruth Pollow, CSC racer and raceworker, (and my wife), took advantage of a trip in late May to also get in some training. Here's Ruth's account of skiing indoors--

While most of us are looking for ways to stay cool these hot summer days, downhill skiing is pretty much out of mind. On the other hand, it would be a lot easier to prepare for ski racing season if we could practice now and then during the summer months. The opportunity to do just that came when I visited my ski coach from Steamboat at her indoor ski slope in Arden, MN. Jessica Parcheta, runs The Alpine Factory, where a moving ramp with adjustable pitch is used to practice ski techniques in the off season. The ramp surface is a type of water infused outdoor turf. The ramp is adjusted from "bunny hill" slope to "advanced," and the skis have special tuning/waxing to accommodate the unusual surface. It took some practice to get attuned to the ground moving under my skis as opposed to me sliding over the surface. I quickly learned (after several falls) that real snow is much more forgiving than this artificial surface. All and all, it was a fun experience, and I was exhausted after an hour of training.

Thank you, Ruth, for providing this interesting way to ski in summer, no matter where you are at.

MEMBER SERVICES (Ken Lumsden)

Database. Vetting of Google Sheets continues with work by Lynn Wise (Crescent Secretary) and Ken Lumsden (Member Services Chair). Meanwhile, Excel spreadsheets, containing the Database's latest information, was sent to each club's Representatives and President for review and update. In addition to the updates, clubs were asked to provide the dates of their

membership year, their fiscal year and the month of their elections. As of July 1, about half of the clubs have submitted replies.

Website. Sue Chadwick continues to maintain the current website while work is underway to change platforms and develop a new website. The Ad Hoc Website Committee*, having narrowed its consideration to WordPress, Wild Apricot and ClubExpress, decided at its Zoom meeting on June 30 to implement a free 60-day trial of ClubExpress. Committee members Jim Bennett (Raleigh Ski & Outing Club) and John Gardner (Charlotte Ski & Snowboard Club) are leading the development of the Trial website. We plan to complete the Trial and demonstrate a functional Trial website (but won't yet be fully implemented until, if, approved) in time to give 30 days' notice to the BOD for a vote to be taken at the Fall '22 Conference. *Committee members are Jim Bennett, Tom Connelly (Kanawha Ski Club), Max Dangerfield (Columbia Ski & Adventure Club), John Gardner, Mary Anne Koltowich (Crescent President), Ken Lumsden (Member Services Chair) and Kevin Staton (Knoxville Ski & Outing Club).

Social Media (Pat Harvey). The December trip to Steamboat with all info has been posted on Facebook for Crescent and Crescent racing. The Jackson Hole trip will be posted as soon as I receive it from Lisa. Pictures from the Roaring 20s party at the Spring Convention were posted on the Facebook page. We'll be following the clubs and posting their trip info. Reminder, if any clubs need help selling their trips, let Sue Chadwick and I know, and we'll put it on the website and Facebook page for Crescent.

We've been watching the May snow reports from Colorado and the snow is still falling. We've added pictures and reports. Amazing! We'll be following the clubs as their summer events get going. Please tag @crescentski on your events and pictures.

Any ideas or suggestions for social media are always welcome.

Pat Harvey
Social Media, Crescent Ski Council
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