

Barney & Carol Scholl
40 Pine Tree Lane
Hermitage, Pa. 16148

Shenango Valley Ski Club
P.O. Box 945
Sharon, Pa 16146



Courmayeur, Italy January 19-27, 2008

Staying at the Hotel Courmayeur,
2 to a room, Includes breakfast & Dinner

\$1531

Ranked #4 of 29 hotels in Courmayeur in TripAdvisor's popularity index

http://www.tripadvisor.com/Hotels-g187865-Courmayeur_Valle_d_Aosta-Hotels.html

MOUNTAIN PROFILE

Resort Altitude 4,015'
Highest Lift: 8954'
Lowest lift: 3963'
Lifts: 21 (4 aerial trams, 1 cable-ways, 8 chair-lifts, 8 surface-lifts)
Total Runs: 100 km's, 14 of which equipped with artificial snow makers
Cross Country: 26 km's
Ski links: with Vallée Blanche-Chamonix (France)

Lift Tickets: Apx 37 euro/day
(There are many available options)

Beginner: 26%

Intermediate: 57%

Expert: 17%

Trip Coordinator:
Helmut Schumacher
3089 Hann Hill Rd., Hermitage Pa, 16148
724-346-4633
helmut5319@yahoo.com

MOUNTAIN LAYOUT—SKIING

The major ski area is on the opposite side of the valley from Mont Blanc, with half centered around the Plan Chécrouit and the other half dropping down to the Val Veny. The Plan Chécrouit is a transfer point for the cable cars from the town to the lifts servicing the major ski areas. This ski area is split by a ridge. One side offers a northeast exposure and the other a northwest exposure. After stepping off the cable car there is about a 100-yard walk to the three main lifts that take skiers to the upper slopes. Most skiers will want to head directly to the gondola and go to Col Chécrouit. From there another smaller cable car heads to the Cresta Youla. The skiing from Cresta Youla at almost 8,700 feet is excellent, but the wait for the cable car can take more than half an hour even on relatively good days.

The highest lift arrives at Cresta Arp at 8,954 feet. However, the skiing from that point is for experts only, and only with the assistance of guides. The highest skiable point for the run-of-the-mill skier is the Cresta Youla. From here you can ski a good, tough, intermediate trail that ends up at the base of the cable car. Skiers can then either drop down a long cruising run to the base of the Plan de la Gabba chair lift at about 6,800 feet, or drop down narrower steeper terrain and several cat tracks to Zerotta at about 5,000 feet. Either run will allow you to ski greater vertical than 90 percent of the resorts in North America.

Much of the skiing on the Val Veny side of the ridge is through trees. The drops off the ridge line are relatively steep. Unfortunately, skiers will have to return to town via this cable car or by a short bus ride from the base of the Val Veny lifts. It's a hassle.

Off-piste adventures include skiing around the back of the Cresta d'Arp and dropping down a wide open bowl then winding through the Val Veny; or skiers can traverse from Cresta d'Arp to Dolonne or Pré-St-Didier. Or those with a guide and return transportation can strike out down to La Balme and end up near La Thuile.

The second major skiing area at Courmayeur is Mont Blanc itself. Here a cable car carries skiers in three stages to almost 11,000 feet where they can ski back down toward Courmayeur, over the mountain to Chamonix or take some time skiing on the glacier accompanied by a guide.

Mountain rating

If you are an absolute beginner this is probably a mountain you should avoid. Although there are some beginner areas, the terrain is steep enough to take the fun out of skiing if you are over your head. For the intermediate this is heaven. There are plenty of semi-steeps to make the intermediate feel like an expert and enough moguls to keep his or her head from swelling. The expert can find some challenging slopes off-piste. The ski instructors can take experts down slopes that will keep them coming back for more. Even the marked trails are good enough for a good day of cruising.

A CHARMING MEDIEVAL RESORT THAT EXTENDS A WARM ITALIAN WELCOME

Despite its francophone name, Courmayeur is actually in Italy, just a few kilometres along the Aosta valley from the Italian end of the Mont Blanc tunnel.

The centre of Courmayeur, which was originally a medieval market town, is a cosy collection of narrow streets, some of which are notionally for pedestrians only. The main ski area is on the opposite side of the valley and is reached by a huge cable car that takes you high above the valley to the base of the lift system at Plan Checrouit.

Courmayeur is especially popular with the residents of Milan and Turin, many of whom have second homes here, which they use principally at weekends, when the resort has a particularly lively atmosphere. Every Saturday afternoon, for example, there is the celebrated Passegiata, when families of Milanese and Torinese weekenders parade up and down the Via Roma clad either in fabulously ostentatious fur coats, pristine Barbour jackets or this winter's shades of Patagonia (or Patagucci as it is known here) ski jackets. Interspersed between the chic boutiques in this main street are scores of cosy bars and lots of alluring little food shops. In the main square several of the village worthies park their little three-wheeler Ape trucks in a semi-circle and brewing up vino brule in huge cauldrons and then dispense it with great charm to all-comers. Everywhere in Courmayeur the locals are all extraordinarily friendly towards visitors, in marked contrast to the residents of so many French ski resorts.

In the end it is probably the friendly atmosphere and the huge variety of good but moderately priced bars and restaurants that are this resort's principal attractions, rather than its somewhat limited local ski area, which is fine for long weekends but which really good skiers might find a little small for a whole week's holiday, although visitors based at the Entreves end of the resort will find it is only a short drive to the ski area of La Thuile which links with that of La Rosiere in France and is covered by the main Courmayeur lift pass. For those advanced off-piste skiers interested in hiring a guide Courmayeur makes a good very base with plenty of challenges in its surrounding mountains.

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Dining Room Hours:

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ATTORNEYS AT LAW

THE LAST RUN

SVSC MEETING

7-18-07

Meeting called to order 8:10 p.m.

Treasurers Report-Elwood Walker presented July's finance report. The motion to accept was by Tom Mistretta and second by Betty Savach.

Minutes from June 20 - Correction was made- \$1,000.00 was for the deposit to hold the Coumayeur trip. Motion to accept as corrected by Elwood Walker and second by Ron Savach.

A moment of silence was for Joe Bauzo.

Old Business

Strawberry Day's - \$2239.50 – Deposit- Keith's report pending.

June 24th Golf Outing - Mike won the prize for closest to the pin.

Buhl Day: Ice cream and Lemon shakes will be sold. Brewster's will supply the ice cream, coolers and helpers. They deliver and remove everything!
Rent- \$225.00.

Newsletter: The committee- Michaelene, Mike, Debbie and Betty suggested the newsletter be sent e-mail only, unless otherwise requested.

A special form will be sent in the mail to facilitate the transition by October.

MEMBERSHIP DUES- \$20.00 BEFORE October meeting. **\$25.00 after October Meeting.**

Michaelene will be the new secretary.

New Business- Activities

The second annual Chili cook-off

The Christmas Party

August 12- WOW- Bike ride

Rails to Trails in September

Niagara on the Lake-Winery Ride & B&B (Nancy Wozniak)

Erie Winery Ride

Ski Trips-2-10-2-18 Bulgaria \$1455.00-(air, lodging, breakfast)

1-19-1-27 –**Coumayer-** \$1550 – not locked in (Flyer coming from Helmut)

2-9-2-12 **Holiday Valley-** needs \$50.00 deposit. (Due to Michaelene)

President's Day- Holimont

Barney and Carol Scholl became Grandparents – Congratulations!

Brainstorming for new places for meetings.

Meeting was adjourned by Ron Savach and second by Betty Savach

The Shenango Valley Ski Club would appreciate your support through your advertisement in our newsletter. Our club meets the third Wednesday of every month at the Suburban Restaurant. Our newsletter is published monthly:

A full page ad: \$150.00/year
A half page ad: \$ 75.00/year
A quarter page ad: \$ 50.00/year
Business card: \$ 25.00/year

Those who wish to advertise, please contact:

Mary Mistretta
Shenango Valley Ski Club
P.O. Box 945
Sharon, PA 16146

Ads should be camera ready and in by the 25th of the month

Please make checks payable to SVSC and mail to the above address.

www.svskiclub.org



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Membership Application

Renewal \$28.00 New Member \$25.00

Applicants must be 21 years of age or older.
All new members must be sponsored by two current members of the Shenango Valley Ski Club. Make check payable to the Shenango Valley Ski Club.

Sponsor: _____

Sponsor: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Additional Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____ Fax: _____

I am over 21 and agree to abide by the Code of Regulations and By-Laws of the Shenango Valley Ski Club.
The Shenango Valley Ski Club is not responsible for accidents, injury or lost or stolen skis.

Signature: _____