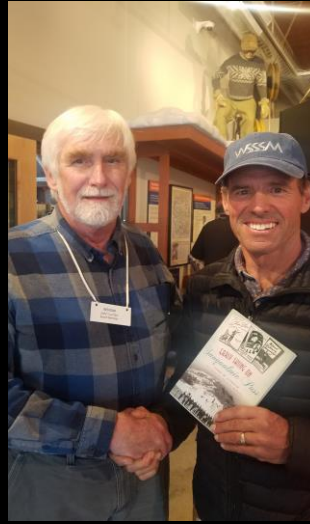
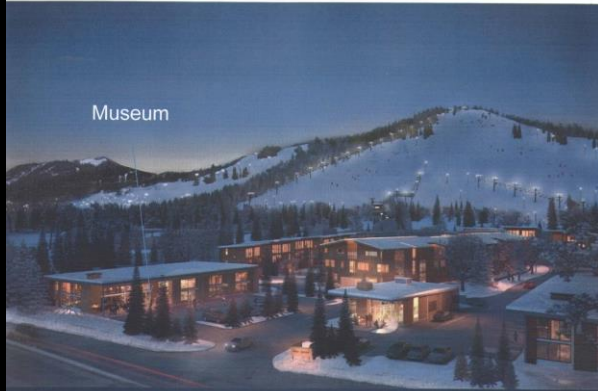


WASHINGTON STATE SKI & SNOWBOARD MUSEUM

Washington State Ski and Snowboard Museum



The Washington State Ski & Snowboard Museum on Snoqualmie Pass is a “high-tech” story-telling facility with interactive exhibits. It has displays on the state’s ski areas (9 Alpine Resorts, 6 Community Ski Areas, and 24 Nordic Ski Centers); Lost Ski Areas; Washington manufacturers; Alpine, Nordic & Back country skiing; ski gear & tows; special exhibits on Otto Lang and Bob Cram; and an operating rope tow. There is a large exhibit on Washington’s 43 Olympians in 17 Games (15 medalists), with film clips, medals, gear and more.

THEMES ABOUT EARLY SKIING IN WASHINGTON

1. Ski jumping was the most popular winter sport in skiing's early days, because of our large community of Norwegian immigrants. Alpine skiing became popular in the mid-1930s
2. Newspapers promoted skiing with extensive articles about local, national and international events, and sponsored events - *Seattle P.I.* sponsored Silver Skis Race on Mt. Rainier; *Seattle Times* gave free ski lessons at the Milwaukee Ski Bowl; *Seattle Star* sponsored Ski patrol races in 1940s.
3. Railroads promoted skiing by providing transportation to tournaments and advertising them (Northern Pacific, Great Northern, Milwaukee Road)
4. Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal Programs contributed greatly to skiing (Works Progress Administration, Civilian Conservation Corps, Forest Service). NW projects included ski run and warming shelter at the Seattle Municipal Ski Park (1934); building a lodge & ski runs at Leavenworth and shelters at Mt. Baker and Rainier (1936); a lodge at Stevens Pass (1938); and a road, runs and a lodge at Deer Park on the Olympic Peninsula (1939). In Oregon, ski jumps at Government Camp and the \$1 M Timberline Lodge on Mt. Hood (1937). In 1936, the WPA planned to build a \$50,000 new jumping hill, with a jump, lodge & viewing area at Snoqualmie Pass, similar to the "huge Olympic take-off at Lake Placid," but not enough money was available.

NEWSPAPERS & RAILROADS PROMOTED SKIING

Seattle Times, 2/22/39 (Wed), 7 skiing articles: Birger Ruud; Sig Ulland to compete at Summit; New Distance Mark set in Mich; Salt Lake tournament; Germans win tournament in Poland; Milwaukee Ski Bowl; snow conditions

JO-JO WHITE ARRIVES EARLY IN RAINIERS' TRAINING CAMP

... Has the Last Word

JO-JO WHITE, the youngest member of the Rainiers' training camp, arrived in Seattle today from his home in Portland. He is the youngest member of the Rainiers' training camp, and is expected to make a big contribution to the team's success.



BOSS DRILLS 33: REST OF TEAM IS DUE BY MARCH 1

BOSS DRILLS 33: REST OF TEAM IS DUE BY MARCH 1. The Rainiers' training camp is in full swing, with the team working hard to improve their skills. The rest of the team is expected to arrive in Seattle by March 1.

THE TIMER ...

... Has the Last Word. The Rainiers' training camp is in full swing, with the team working hard to improve their skills. The rest of the team is expected to arrive in Seattle by March 1.

ABBOTT GOING TO SPRINGFIELD

ABBOTT GOING TO SPRINGFIELD. The Rainiers' training camp is in full swing, with the team working hard to improve their skills. The rest of the team is expected to arrive in Seattle by March 1.

THE SPORTLIGHT

THE SPORTLIGHT. The Rainiers' training camp is in full swing, with the team working hard to improve their skills. The rest of the team is expected to arrive in Seattle by March 1.

COUGARS OPEN BALL PRACTICE

COUGARS OPEN BALL PRACTICE. The Rainiers' training camp is in full swing, with the team working hard to improve their skills. The rest of the team is expected to arrive in Seattle by March 1.

IF Your Mother (Or Dad) Does This, You Too May Join Times Ski School



MRS. SMITH WINS INGLEWOOD PLAY

MRS. SMITH WINS INGLEWOOD PLAY. Mrs. Smith has won the Inglewood play, a significant achievement for her.

WANGER REJECTS PIRATE'S OFFER

WANGER REJECTS PIRATE'S OFFER. Wanger has rejected the pirate's offer, a decision that has caused some speculation.

5-WEEK-OLD SON SURVIVES BOAR

5-WEEK-OLD SON SURVIVES BOAR. A 5-week-old son has survived a bear attack, a remarkable feat.

PRO HOCKEY

PRO HOCKEY. The Rainiers' training camp is in full swing, with the team working hard to improve their skills. The rest of the team is expected to arrive in Seattle by March 1.

SNOW CONDITION

SNOW CONDITION. The snow conditions are excellent, providing a great environment for skiing.

SIG ULLAND TO JUMP IN SEATTLE SKI CLUB MEET

SIG ULLAND TO JUMP IN SEATTLE SKI CLUB MEET. Sig Ulland is expected to compete in the Seattle Ski Club meet, a significant event for the club.

NEW AMERICAN SKI MARK SET

NEW AMERICAN SKI MARK SET. A new American ski mark has been set, a significant achievement for the sport.

GUSTAVSON IN SKIING VICTORY

GUSTAVSON IN SKIING VICTORY. Gustavson has won a skiing victory, a significant achievement for him.

BALLARD SKIES SET FOR SCHOOL

BALLARD SKIES SET FOR SCHOOL. Ballard is set for school, a significant event for him.

ARMSTRONG TO DEFEND TITLE AGAINST DAY

ARMSTRONG TO DEFEND TITLE AGAINST DAY. Armstrong is set to defend his title against Day, a significant event for the sport.

BACKSTOP HAS 'CONTROL' AID FOR PITCHERS

BACKSTOP HAS 'CONTROL' AID FOR PITCHERS. The backstop has a 'control' aid for pitchers, a significant improvement for the team.

SHOWERS SET FOR NOISE TOURNAMENT

SHOWERS SET FOR NOISE TOURNAMENT. Showers is set for a noise tournament, a significant event for the team.

WHILE Sooty Eat! Gillette's New High-Speed Brushless Shaving Cream Free!

WHILE Sooty Eat! Gillette's New High-Speed Brushless Shaving Cream Free! The Rainiers' training camp is in full swing, with the team working hard to improve their skills. The rest of the team is expected to arrive in Seattle by March 1.



LEAVENWORTH again invites you on the Great Northern Ski Train (on time, this time) to its **INTERNATIONAL SKI JUMPING TOURNAMENT** SUNDAY, FEB. 6

Remember... no climbing, no walking; whisked by bus right to the 250-foot hill itself.

Ski Tournament
WINTER CARNIVAL
Cle Elum - Sunday - February 15
Eighth Annual Tournament - Cle Elum Ski Club

Spectacular ride through parts of two coal mines to salt course by electric tram.

Special Northern Pacific Train to Cle Elum - Lv. Seattle 7:30 a.m. Ar. Cle Elum 10:45 a.m. Lv. Cle Elum 5:30 p.m. ROUND TRIP FARE \$1.50 From King Street Station

Special Train Through Northwest on Northern Pacific to Northern Pacific Railway

New MARTIN SKI DOME NOW OPEN! FOR **One-Day Trips** Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays

Skiers: Here's the course you've dreamed about—the Northwest's fine natural area for winter sports. Many smooth, intriguing cross-country skis runs, high hills to test the skill of the most expert; low hills to thrill the novice beginner.

Cozy, warm shelter in especially equipped cars—lunches served at popular prices.

6 HOURS OF SKIING
Lv. Seattle 8:45 a.m.; Ar. Martin 11:27 a.m.
Lv. Martin 5:23 p.m.; Ar. Seattle 8:15 a.m.
Dining Cars on Both Trips - Reasonable Prices

Only \$2 Round Trip From King Street Station

MARTIN SKI DOME NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY

MILLION THRILLS
U.S. NATIONAL JUMPING TOURNAMENT at **SNOQUALMIE SKI BOWL**

MAR. 2nd BOWL

It will be a great day in U.S. skiing as thrill American and Canadian jumpers will enter from the Big Hill is directly opposite the Lodge with its fine lounge, sun veranda and all-day food service. Special train service to take care of all comers.

LEAVE SEATTLE Union Station 9:30 A. M. Returning, Leave Bowd 6:30 P. M. or Immediately After Tournament.

ROUND TRIP ADULT FARE... \$1.25
Children under 12, 65c Round Trip

WASHINGTON SKI CLUB TOURNAMENT CHARGE, 75c EXTRA Children under 12, 50c.

ON MARCH 2, ONLY, persons arriving at Bowd by private automobile may enter. For each person entering Bowd by automobile the admission fee will be 50c, and the Washington Ski Club Tournament Charge 75c extra. Children under 12, half rate. Limited parking space, no charge.

For Additional Information: Mr. Frank Miller, 414 S. Union, El. 1000, Union Station, 10 S. Jackson, El. 8900. Department and Sporting Goods Store

The MILWAUKEE ROAD

Opening soon for a new season of thrills... **SNOQUALMIE SKI BOWL** \$1.25 round trip on Snow Trains

NEVER FUN, NEW ENTERTAINMENT
This is the thrill and wonder you can expect from the SNOQUALMIE SKI BOWL. The thrill of the jump, the thrill of the landing, the thrill of the race, the thrill of the finish. It's all here in the SNOQUALMIE SKI BOWL.

TRAIN SCHEDULES - HOURS AND SEASONS
SNOQUALMIE SKI BOWL
SCHEDULES - HOURS AND SEASONS

The MILWAUKEE ROAD

NORWEGIANS BROUGHT JUMPING TO THE U.S.

Ski jumping originated in Norway. "Getting from one farm to another in Norway in winter often involves a climb on skis up one side of a hill, and ski jumping developed as a means of clearing obstacles when skiing down the other side." Harold Anson, *Jumping Through Time*.

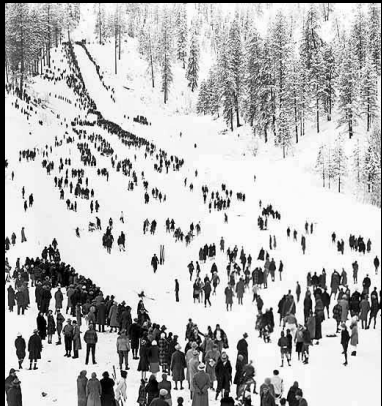
Between 1870 & 1930, millions of Scandinavians immigrated to the U.S., and most settled in northern tier. By 1930, 1.1 M people were born in Norway or had parents that were, and 47% lived in NY, Chicago, Minneapolis or Seattle. Norwegians organized ski competitions to strengthen their ethnic ties and generate a new sense of belonging to their new country. "Wherever two or three Norwegians gathered together, they constructed a jump and held competitions."

In February 1916, Norwegian business men held a ski jumping exhibition on the steepest street on Seattle's Queen Anne hill, introducing the sport to the NW.

Mid-summer tournaments were held at Paradise on Mt. Rainier between 1917 – 1924, "the second place in the world [after Finse, Norway] where the finest skiing may be obtained in the summer months." In 1917, 22-year old Norwegian immigrant, OLGA BOLSTAD, competed against the men, winning the tournament to become "Champion of the Pacific Coast on Skis."

Jumping tournaments started at the Cle Elum Ski Club in 1924, attracting the best jumpers in the NW, and thousands of spectators who traveled by Northern Pacific Railroad.





In 1929, new ski clubs formed, built jumps and hosted tournaments: the Seattle Ski Club at Snoqualmie Summit, with a jump at Beaver Lake; the Leavenworth Winter Sports Club; and Portland's Cascade Ski Club, with a jump on Mt. Hood.

Jumpers competed in a circuit of tournaments, competing at each site, viewed by 5-10,000 hardy spectators, who hiked into the jumping sites, and stood outdoors, often in snowstorms, all day to watch the competition.

The Beaver Lake jump was “one of the steepest landings in the world – a hill three or four degrees steeper than the famous Holmenkollen Hill in Norway.” Cle Elum’s jump was “one of the most hazardous in the world, 6% steeper than any in Norway.”

1930s: ALPINE SKIING EMERGES, BECOMES POPULAR

- **1931 - 1933, private lodges built on Snoqualmie Pass (Sahalie, Helen Bush, WAC)**
- **1932, Lake Placid Olympics (Nordic skiing events only)**
Mt. Rainier - road plowed to Narada Falls, Tacoma Winter Sports Carnivals begin
- **1934, Slalom racing begins at Paradise, Mt. Rainier, Jr. Chamber of Commerce carnivals**
Seattle Park Dept. opens Seattle Municipal Ski Park at Snoqualmie Summit.
First Silver Skis Race is held on Mt. Rainier – Camp Muir to Paradise Lodge
- **1935, National Downhill & Slalom Championships and Olympic Team Tryouts at Mt. Rainier**
Paradise Inn Opens in winter, rooms and cabins rented.
- **1936, Winter Olympic Games at Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany, first to have Alpine Skiing,**
5 Washington skiers on Olympic Team
- **1936, Sun Valley Ski Resort opens - high end destination ski resort with chairlifts invented by**
Union Pacific engineers & lesson from Austrians. Harriman Cup tournaments were the first
international ski races
- **1938, Ski Lifts, Inc. installs rope tows at Snoqualmie Summit, Mt. Rainier & Mt. Baker.**
Milwaukee Railroad opens Ski Bowl at Hyak, first modern ski area, accessible by train, modern
lodge, J- bar overhead cable lift, free ski lessons provided by the *Seattle Times*
- **1938 – 1942, world’s best ski jumpers compete in Washington, 1940 National 4-Way**
Championships & 1941 National Ski Jumping Championships at Milwaukee Bowl. 3 distance records
are set



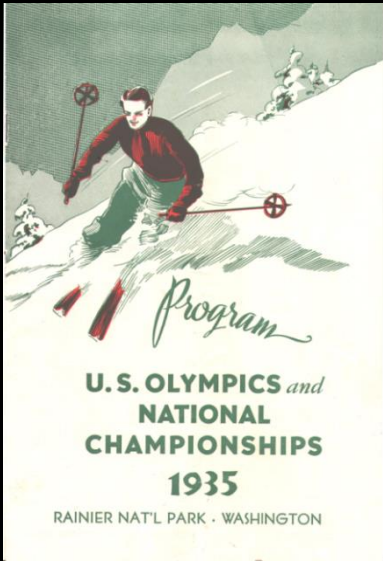
1934 - SEATTLE SKI PARK & SILVER SKIS RACE

The CCC cut a narrow ski run on Snoqualmie Pass and built a warming hut (upper & middle left). Seattle Park Board opened its Municipal Ski Park at Snoqualmie Summit, the country's first municipally operated ski area. There were no lifts so skiers had to use "skins," "herringbone," or sidestep up hills. The Park Department gave free ski lessons 6 days a week at Seattle's Civic Auditorium, with a final class on Sunday at the Ski Park (bottom left).



The first Silver Skis Race was held on Mt. Rainier, sponsored by the *Seattle P.I.*, which became an iconic NW race that attracted the best skiers in the country. Racers hiked for 3 hours from Paradise Lodge at 5,200 feet to Camp Muir at 10,000 feet, and raced down the glacier with few control gates, dropping 4,800 feet in 3.25 miles at breakneck speed.





In 1935, the National Downhill & Slalom Skiing Championships and Olympic Tryouts were held on Mt. Rainier, the country's first major national Alpine race, where 59 of the country's best skiers competed. 7,000 spectators hiked 2 ½ miles to watch. Dartmouth's Dick Durrance was the highest finishing American.

Five NW skiers chosen for the 1936 U.S. Olympic team: Seattle's Don Fraser, Darroch Crookes, and Grace Carter; and the "Tacoma Ski Queens," sisters Ethelynne "Skit" and Ellis Eyre Smith.

The 1936 Olympic Games in Garmish, Germany, were widely covered by the press, the first to have Alpine skiing – previously there were only Nordic skiing. A tram took skiers up the mountain and created interest in getting ski lifts at US ski areas.



Upper left: "Skit" Smith; Center: Ellis-Ayr Smith; Right: Grace Carter; Lower Right: Darroch Crookes; Left: Don Fraser, Washington's entries in the skiing events of the Olympic Games at Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany.

SKI LIFTS APPEAR – SUN VALLEY OPENS

1934 - first rope tow in the U.S. at Woodstock, Vt.

1935 - first overhead cable lift, a J-bar, at Hanover, N.H. by Dartmouth Outing Club.

The 1936 Garmisch Olympic Games had a tram, creating interest in getting ski lifts in US. British ski racing expert, Arnold Lunn, said an internationally competitive racer must get 10-15,000 feet of downhill skiing a day. “A skier who has to climb only averages 4-5,000 feet a day.”

In December 1936, Union Pacific’s \$1.5 M Sun Valley Ski Resort opened with chair lifts invented by UP engineers and a modern ski lodge with high end amenities, attracting Wall Street bankers and Hollywood stars, introducing modern skiing. Harriman Cup tournaments were our first international ski races, attracting the world’s best skiers.

The *Seattle Times* said “Sun Valley is 26 hours by train and 20 hours by car, but it might as well be in Seattle’s back yard.” Every Washington ski area wanted a chairlift. Skiers at Mt. Rainier get 4,000 vertical feet a day. At Sun Valley, a skier can get in 37,000 feet.

Pictures from Community Library, Ketchum



SUN VALLEY
at Surprisingly Low Cost
... deep, "powder" snow ... long, timber-free slopes ... a summer-warm sun.

New! The Challenger Inn
A complete "mountain village" with accommodations for 400. Shops, restaurants, warm-water swimming pool, unique night club and theater. Rooms for two as low as \$2.00 a day per person —meals for as little as \$1.75 a day.

Sun Valley Lodge
Luxurious accommodations for 250 guests. Rooms single, double or en suite. The cuisine, service and special activities of a great, international hotel. American Plan.

For a delightful, fascinating vacation ... for skiing under perfect conditions, tobogganing, moonlight sleigh rides, swimming in the glass-sheltered, open-air pools, dog sledding, skating ... come to Sun Valley.

Only Union Pacific Serves Sun Valley

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD
City Ticket Office, 1403 4th Ave., Phone Elliott 6933
Office Hours 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Daily except Sunday, or Union Station, Fourth and Jackson, Phone Elliott 6933

UNION PACIFIC
SERVES ALL THE WEST

INTERCOLLEGIATE SKI MEET
Dartmouth College
Univ. of Washington
SUN VALLEY
DEC. 29 to JAN. 1

SPEND THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS AT SUN VALLEY

Total Round Trip Cost to Sun Valley, Idaho
Including Tourist Pullman Fare and Upper Berth between Seattle and Sun Valley only...
\$34.65
Lower Berth slightly higher.

THE PROGRESSIVE



1938 - SKI LIFTS, INC. INSTALLS ROPE TOWS

In 1937, Ski Lifts, Inc. installed rope tows at Snoqualmie Pass, Mt. Rainier & Mt. Baker for winter 1938, changing NW skiing. Snoqualmie's 1,000 foot long rope tow took skiers up 450 feet. Single rides cost 10 cents - all day passes \$1.

The *Seattle Times* said The Northwest "made the first step toward catching up with Europe in the matter of ski equipment," making 1938 "a banner year."

In 1933, 2-4,000 people skied at Snoqualmie Pass. By 1938, the manufacture & sale of ski equipment was a \$3 million business. Every weekend, there were 20,000 skiers in the Cascades, Olympics, Rainier or Baker, according to the *Seattle Times*.



GOOD NEWS FOR

SKIERS...

THERE'S new snow on the hills . . . eleven ski tows to ride . . . a great ski season is almost here! You'll ride NEW lifts on the practice hill at Paradise, up Alta Vista and on the Seven Hills at Mount Baker . . . improved ski tows at Naches, at Snoqualmie and Edith Creek Basin.

MEET genial Don Adams, our new general manager, and his staff of assistants. And there's a new low all-day rate on all eleven tows! So wax up your skis . . . you'll soon be riding the ski-ways!

SKI LIFTS, INC.

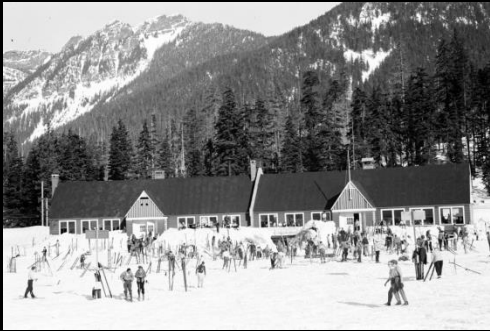
CARL R. HEUSSY, President

1158 Stuart Building

Seattle

1938: MILWAUKEE ROAD'S SKI BOWL OPENS

In 1938, inspired by Union Pacific's Sun Valley Resort, Milwaukee Railroad opened its \$80,000 Snoqualmie Ski Bowl at Hyak (later called Milwaukee Ski Bowl), the east portal of its tunnel under Snoqualmie Pass. The Ski Bowl was Washington's first modern ski area and it transformed local skiing.



The Ski Bowl was two hours from Seattle by train, and skiers could dance in a boxcar. The area had a modern ski lodge, 200 acres of skiable terrain, an overhead cable ski lift called a "Sun Valley lift without chairs," and lights for night skiing.

The *Seattle Times* offered free ski lessons to the city's high school students, and the area attracted legions of new skiers into the sport.

**JOIN IN THE
OFFICIAL OPENING
SNOQUALMIE
SKI BOWL**

SATURDAY and SUNDAY
JANUARY 8th and 9th
Leaving 7:35 A. M. and 9:20 A. M.

**EXPERT INSTRUCTION BY KEN SYVERSON
at moderate cost**

Leave Seattle after breakfast . . . return in time for late dinner. You'll enjoy a carefree, exciting day in perfect surroundings . . . your choice of numerous courses, ranging in length from 1,200 to 1,600 feet. Power Ski Lift at reasonable rates. Special arrangements for parties. Write or call for additional information.

Seattle Office:
White Bldg., Fourth Ave.
and Union St.
Phone KLium 3200

Union Station, Fourth Ave.
and Jackson St.
and 36th Ave. St.
R. E. Green, Genl. Agent

\$1.70 Round Trip
from Seattle to
SNOQUALMIE SKI BOWL
On Special Ski Trains
Every Saturday and Sunday at 7:35 A. M. and 9:20 A. M.

The MILWAUKEE ROAD



WWII - ARMY SKI TROOPS TRAINED AT MT. RAINIER

Between 1940 and 1942, soldiers from army units at Fort Lewis trained on Mt. Rainier, becoming the first Army Ski Troops, and participated in local ski races. In 1942, the army opened Camp Hale, Co. to expand the training of ski troops, forming the 10th Mountain Division. Many top skiers served in the 10th Mountain Division.

During WWII, ski clubs taught military personnel how to ski on Snoqualmie Pass. Washington ski areas closed, except for Snoqualmie Pass that was kept going by skiers pooling their gas coupons to reach the area.

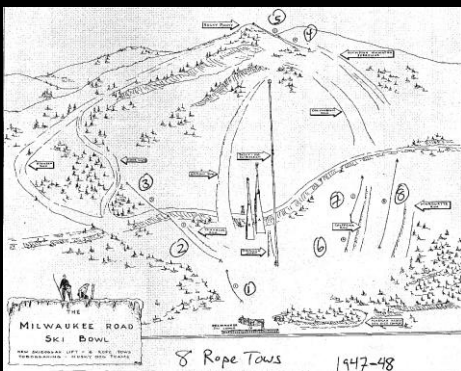


America's newest ski troops underwent their first maneuvers yesterday in Paradise Valley. They were composed of experienced skiers in the 41st Division, stationed at Camp Murray. Upper—Taking a trial spin, with Mount Rainier in the background. Lower—Skiers use sheets as a substitute for canvasflaps. They made themselves almost invisible. They are shown in firing position.—A. P. wirephoto.

ARMY SKIERS ARE EXPERTS Mountain Troops Outrace Collegians



These members of Uncle Sam's Mountain Troops, who raced, F. I. S. instructor from Mount Hood, Charles McLane, have been visiting on the slopes of Mount Rainier, above (former) Larchmont, captain; Don Goodman, downhill and the collegians their heels when they raced without competition—formerly of Sun Valley Ski Club; Dick Corbano, assistant big efficiency in last week-end's Pacific Coast Intercollegiate instructor at Mount Hood; Paul Townsend, former captain, championship ski tournament. Left to right: Olaf Rode—University of New Hampshire.

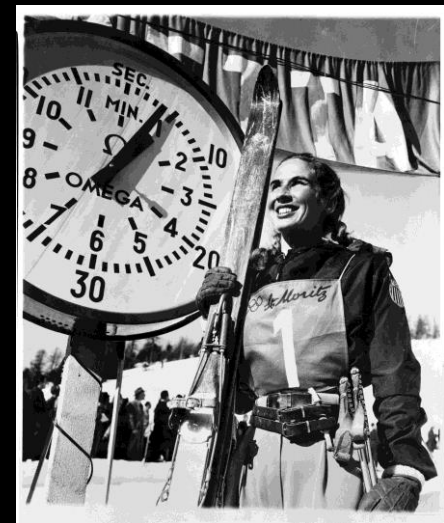


After WWII, Northwest ski areas expanded & improved.

Snoqualmie Summit expanded, tripled in size in 1946, with 8 rope tows. \$500,000 was spent at Mt. Baker to build a new lodge, two chairlifts and four rope tows. Stevens Pass : 1947 - 4 rope tows ;1948 - \$90,000 T-bar, tripling the skiable area. 1949 - new lodge built by the Forest Service.

The Ski Bowl reopened in 1947 with a renovated lodge: skiable area triple, four rope tows (expanding to 8) and a high capacity lift, a Skiboggan, a "sled-tow pulled by a cable" for 32 people, that could carry 400 skiers an hour.

The 1948 U.S. Olympic Alpine team included three NW skiers: Gretchen Fraser; Dave Fairies; and Don Amick. Gretchen won gold and silver medals, the 1st American to win a medal in Alpine skiing.



CHANGING OF THE GUARD

Ski jumping changed after WWII - original immigrants grew older and the young jumpers were not willing to invest the time to keep the sport going. Jumping was rescued by Norwegian exchange students, who competed for local schools - 56 studied at NW schools, 41 in Washington. National tournaments took place - 1947, tryouts for the 1948 U.S. Olympic jumping team; 1948 National Jumping Championships.

The photo shows Olav Ulland, Gus Raam, Alf Engen and Kjell Stordallen jump on Sun Valley's Ruud Mountain, December 1948. Raam and Stordallen were exchange students at the U.W. and on its ski team. Two of the original Norwegians who popularized ski jumping (Ulland and Engen) are at the end of their competitive careers, as the new generation took over.

★ Ski-sensation of the year ★

NATIONAL OLYMPIC
JUMPING-TRYOUTS

*at Milwaukee Road
Ski Bowl*

MARCH 22 and 23

A 2 day meet with the best jumpers in America competing for a place on the 1948 Olympic Team and The Norwegian and Canadian Teams Jumping Exhibition.

DON'T FORGET THE DATE

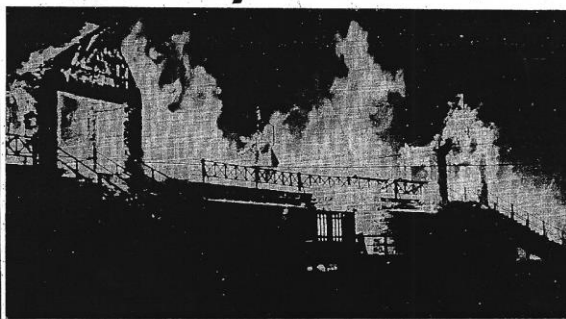
MARCH 22nd and 23rd

Sponsor SEATTLE SKI CLUB



Courtesy, National Nordic Museum.

FIRE RAZES SKI BOWL LODGE; LOSS \$180,000



FLAMES IN THE NIGHT: Ominous to destruction, the Milwaukee Road's Alpine-style ski lodge in the Milwaukee Road near Snoqualmie Pass burned down early today. The blaze was at its height when this photograph was taken. The fire started about 1:45 o'clock and soon was out of control.

Two-Story Structure Burns Fast

The lodge at the Milwaukee Road Ski Bowl near Snoqualmie Pass was destroyed by fire early this morning. The loss was estimated at \$180,000 by E. J. Swenson, general manager here for the Milwaukee road.

The fire started about 1:45 o'clock, apparently originating in the recreation room of the lodge, a 15,000-sq. foot structure. Firemen said two painters, who were working on the lodge, had been observing the lodge, and reported everything was all right until they saw the building about 3 o'clock last night. The painters were alerted the lodge's heating plant in operation.

Flames Spread Rapidly

Calls for firefighters, which were sent to the area and Seattle. In a short time the flames were beyond control and the wooden structure was a roaring inferno.

Fire Milwaukee Road officials, the combined Milwaukee and the fire department, were battling several minutes by the time flames had spread to the main building. It was determined that the lodge was a wooden structure which carry power for the lodge, they reported.

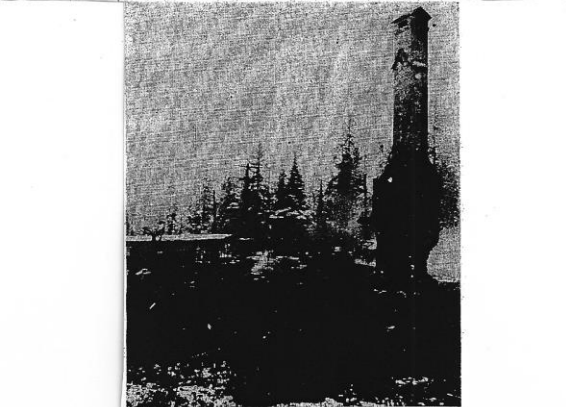
The Milwaukee Road officials reported for the opening of the season, estimated to be the season since the Seattle Times had been established in open air for the Ski Bowl on that date.

Some facilities thought to be destroyed with Milwaukee Road officials in Chicago early today to determine what facilities could be used for the ski season, which normally carries up to 1,000 people, Seattle skiers.

The fire was discovered by John W. Olson, section foreman at Skaneateles, who was on duty at the time of the fire. He reported the fire to the fire department.

All had retreated meaning the firemen were within 100 feet of the lodge's kitchen, where they were working on the lodge's heating plant. The fire was extinguished as a heavy rain fell.

It was raining hard at the time the fire started on the northeast slope of the Cascade Mountains, 50 feet above the lodge. The lodge, built in 1927, contained a kitchen, large recreation room, and lounge. Other buildings on the slope, Ski Patrol office, first aid station, and instructor's quarters and other facilities.



LONE SURVIVOR: The fireproof, in front of which thousands of young ski enthusiasts once viewed themselves at the Milwaukee Road Ski Bowl, virtually was all that remained of the big, two-story lodge this morning after an early-morning fire—Tree staff photo by Howard J. Valerius.

In December 1949, the Milwaukee Ski Bowl lodge burned down in a \$180,000 fire. The area was kept open in winter 1950, but it closed thereafter because of the demands from the Korean war. The railroad lost money every year from ski area's operations.

Seattle Times ski lessons had taught 20,000 students "the fundamentals of controlled skiing." The area remained unused until Christmas 1959, when the Hyak Ski Area was opened, west of the Ski Bowl on a larger and more suitable ski hill that could be reached by car, now known as Summit East.

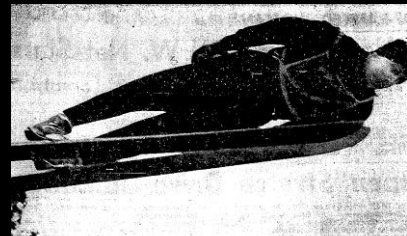
The loss of the Ski Bowl put alpine skiing in Washington back significantly, and an era of Northwest skiing ended. The Leavenworth Winter Sports Club continued to hold major national and international jumping tournaments until 1978.

LEAVENWORTH AFTER 1950

After 1950, Leavenworth became Washington's center of ski jumping, hosting tournaments until 1978. The hill was redesigned in 1950 to conform to new F.I.S. standards, allowing sponsorship of F.I.S. sanctioned events; and in 1956, making it "one of the best in North America."

Leavenworth hosted five National Championship tournaments: 1955 (Open and Junior), 1959, 1967 (National & International), 1974, and 1978 (Open and Junior); U.S. Olympic Jumping team tryouts in 1955, 1959 & 1972. Three National Distance records were set between 1965 and 1970.

Ragnar Ulland, 1956 U.S. Olympic team, (left middle); Jim Brennan, 1960 National Champion & co-holder of US distance record (left bottom). Ron Steele, 1972 U.S. Olympic team, 1974 National Champion, (upper middle); Bjorn Wirkola, world champion, jumps a record 335 feet, 1967, Lower middle). Left, last Leavenworth tournament, 1978.



Times photo by Joel Swales
BJORN WIRKOLA, ALMOST PARALLEL TO SKIS, SHOWED PERFECT FORM ON RECORD JUMP
 Norwegian ace shattered Dutch American record with leap of 335 feet at Leavenworth

THAT'S Tire

By HY ZIM
 Jimmy Moran
 set goals in
 Hockey League
 his first game
 in the dress
 suit and pro
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Mike Devecko of Bend, Ore., turned in a jump of 310 feet (94.3 meters) Saturday on his way to winning the national ski-jumping championship on Bakke Hill in Leavenworth. Yesterday, however, Devecko fell on his first leap and finished in a tie for eighth in the Bavarian Classic competition. — A.P. wirephoto.

Wirkola Seemed to Soar Forever

Bassette wins ski-jumping title despite fog, mist, rain

WASHINGTON'S SKI INDUSTRY GROWS

Major improvements were made to Washington ski areas in the 1950s (Stevens Pass, Mt. Baker, Snoqualmie Pass, White Pass, Mt. Spokane). At Snoqualmie Summit, a poma lift was installed in 1952, and in 1955, the first double chairlift on the Pass, along with the Thunderbird lodge.

New ski areas opened: Hurricane Ridge in 1957; Hyak in 1959; Mission Ridge and Crystal Mountain in 1962; and Alpental in 1967.

Ski Lifts, Inc., owned by the Moffett family, acquired Ski Acres in 1980; Alpental in 1983; and Hyak in 1992, giving Ski Lifts, Inc. all four Snoqualmie Pass ski areas; they were sold to Booth Creek Holdings in 1997; CNL Investment Properties in 2007; and Boyne Mountains Resorts in 2018.

Webb Moffett helped spur the “mass ski school phenomena,” and Snoqualmie Pass is known as the place “where Seattle learned to ski.” In 1964, Sports Illustrated said “there’s nothing comparable to it anywhere...” The Summit at Snoqualmie says over the last 5 years, it averaged 50,000 ski lesson days and 500,000 skier days per season.

In 1997, Crystal Mountain was sold to Boyne Mountain Resorts, then to Alterra Mountain Co. in 2018. Mission Ridge was purchased in 2003, by Washington’s Larry Schrivanich. In 2018, Vail Resorts bought Stevens Pass for \$67 M. The Mt. Spokane Ski Area is operated by a non-profit, the Mt. Spokane Ski & Snowboard Park.

SKIING INDUSTRY IS THREATENED BY CLIMATE CHANGE

In 1938, skiing was a \$3 M industry in the NW, & 20,000 people went to the mountains every winter weekend. From 2011-2014, there were an average of 2.1 M yearly visits to Washington ski resorts. In 2013, \$951 M was spent on skiing in our state.

Skiing faces an uncertain future because of climate change. In the last decade, 272 U.S. ski areas closed due to unreliable snow conditions. By 2025, snow conditions that exist at 6,000 feet will rise to 7,000 feet. Snowmaking (now at 88% of ski areas) will have to become more extensive, and areas will have to stockpile snow for later use. A change of 2 degrees C means ski resorts will have 32 fewer days each season for snowmaking at 7,400 feet.

Some computer models predict that by 2050, the PNW will receive 40% – 70% less snow. Resorts will have to reconfigure operations to get skiers higher on the mountains, and get them down to the bottom, perhaps using plastic grass. Winter sports is a \$66 B industry nationally, and “a surprisingly large sector of the U.S. economy appears to be teetering on the brink.”

According to a scientific study published in *Nature Reviews and Environment* in Oct. 2021, in about 35 to 60 Years “Snow May Vanish for Years At a Time in Mountain West With Climate Warming: Study Warns of Impending Water Supply Problems Due to Nearly Snowless Mountains.” Western mountains have already lost 20% of its snowpack since the 1950s. In the future, the potential for “persistent to low-to-no snowpack to disrupt the [Western U.S.] water system is substantial, potentially even catastrophic,” from the Rockies to the Sierras to the Cascades.

A recent program on NPR said in the not too distant future, the Northeast will have a 50% reduction in the number of days when snow can be made because of climate change.