

# Plumas Ski Club

16TH ANNUAL LONGBOARD REVIVAL SERIES

LONG LIVE LONGBOARDS - IN THE BEGINNING...

## Join Plumas Ski Club!

- Annual Membership dues are \$15
- Members get this Newsletter & E-Mail Updates
- Members are invited to attend open membership meeting held annually
- Members are invited to race in the Longboard Revival Series for only \$15
- Members receive membership card & Longboard Button

## Plumas Ski Club

Ron Logan, President

Doug Hart, Vice President

Lisa Kelly, Secretary

Robert Burney, Treasurer

Rob Russell, Past President

Dennis Bailey Fougner, Don Fregulia, Chris Murray, Shannon Morrow, Nick Polzak,

The Plumas Ski Club began operation of the Plumas-Eureka Ski Bowl at its present site during the season of 1957-58. However, the history of skiing in the Plumas County area of the northern Sierra dates back to 1860. Very few people realize that this distinguishes the mountains between Johnsville and LaPorte as the oldest recorded sport skiing in the western hemisphere. During the later portion of the 19th century, historic towns in Plumas and Sierra counties including LaPorte, Howland, Flat, Port Wine and Johnsville served as popular winter playgrounds for skiers. Only the Johnsville area continues to serve both



2008 World Champ Phil Gallagher and Challenger John Nemeth

locals and visitors as a site for the increasingly popular Nordic and telemark style skiing as well as alpine and downhill skiing. By 1863, Gold Mountain, now known as Eureka Peak, above the then thriving mining town of Johnsville

had a down-the-hill ski run of 2600 feet. An early day longboard" ski racer was reported to have reached a speed of 90 mph. According to oral history, the mining ore buckets going up Gold Mountain were used by skiers as

possibly the first ski-lift in the world. In 1937, two young Quincy men designed the first real ski lift in Plumas County. Unfortunately, they built the lift on the lower slopes of Mt Washington in an avalanche path. The lift was eventually relocated to the steep slopes behind the Plumas-Eureka Stamp Mill. At one time the present Plumas-Eureka State Park museum served as a ski lodge. In 1950 the Plumas Ski Club was organized as a non-profit organization by skiers from Blairsden, Portola and Quincy. The Ski Club was involved in promoting both downhill and cross country skiing and ran a rope tow near the museum until 1954. In 1955 the Ski Club moved the rope tow to the pre-

## PLUMAS SKI CLUB PRESENTS AT MAMMOTH - HISTORY OF SKIING REVEALED

The 2009 International Ski History Congress, to be held in conjunction with the International Skiing History Association's 2009 Skiing Heritage Week, includes ski historian speakers from around the world, a meeting of the ski museums, academic sessions on ski history, ski film and ski photography, on-snow events including a

demonstration of the "Eras of Skiing" featuring technique, fashion, and equipment from the early California miner racers to present day snow-sport enthusiasts, and après-ski and evening events. The International Ski History Congress will meet Sunday March 29-April 3rd in Mammoth, California! Invited to

make a special presentation and actual longboard skiing demonstration, will be none other than the Plumas Ski Club represented by past-president Rob Russell and renown Dope Master Scott Lawson including longboard racers from Plumas County. Skiing Heritage Week will include: An opening re-

# Plumas Ski Club Presents in Mammoth

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ception at the Mammoth Ski Museum on Sunday co-sponsored with the Mammoth Ski Museum and the International Skiing History Congress; Guided tours of the Mammoth Ski Museum; The ISHA/Beekley Annual Awards Banquet on Thursday at the Mammoth Ski Museum; and four days of skiing at Mammoth with ISHA board members and participants.



Photo courtesy of the Plumas County Visitors Bureau

For information on the Plumas Ski Club Presentation, contact Rob Russell at [russ@digitalpath.net](mailto:russ@digitalpath.net) or Scott Lawson at [pcmu-seu@psln.com](mailto:pcmu-seu@psln.com) or for information on the Ski Congress, go to: <http://skiinghistory.org/gathering.html>  
See you in Mammoth!

## Plumas Ski Club Focuses on Re-Opening Plumas Eureka Ski Bowl

*"The agreement by the State of California to keep Plumas Eureka State Park open is certainly a positive move toward reinvigorating the hill for downhill skiing."*

Well known for hosting the Annual World Championship Historic Longboard Revival Races, the Plumas Ski Club is working toward re-opening the Plumas Eureka Ski Bowl for residents to enjoy and to support the County's efforts at increasing tourism in Plumas County.

According to John Sheehan of Plumas Corp, "The Longboard Races (held the third Sundays of January, February and March), have been the biggest event affecting the proposed improvements at the Plumas Eureka Ski Bowl, and the agreement by the State of California to keep Plumas Eureka State Park open is certainly a positive move toward

The Plumas Ski Club is a community based organization and has operated the historic Plumas Eureka Ski Bowl since its opening in the 1950's. The Ski Club's purpose is to promote the historical background of skiing and foster winter recreational activities throughout the county with an emphasis on the learning of skiing amongst school age children. Events designed to generate interest and promote skiing include longboard racing, the annual Snow Ball, as well as other new educational and recreational activities to be announced this year. In 2007, though the existing Board of the Plumas Ski Club was resolute in its efforts

### Long Live Longboards

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sent site in Eureka Bowl which had historically been used for skiing in the 19th century. Over the years, members of the Ski Club have contributed money and labor to develop the Plumas-Eureka Ski Bowl. As years passed, a warming hut was built and the lifts were expanded to include the poma lifts. In 1959, Plumas-Eureka Ski Bowl became part of the state park.

reinvigorating the hill for downhill skiing." To the credit of residents and visitors, there were more petitions and letters sent in favor of the Plumas Eureka State park than any other park unit and that helped with the State's decision.



to re-open the ski hill, members felt that there was a need for an infusion of fresh perspective and energy. As of April, 2008, there are 6 new board members: