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Seek ski facility in Lakewood area

By KATHERINE ANDREWS

LAKEWOOD (PG)—More than two years of effort in preparing a ski slide on the northern edge of this resort community may pay off this season.

Much depends on a government decision concerning land transfer, since the proposed sports area is under the jurisdiction of the U. S. Forest Service.

"We need this sort of thing up here, not only to stimulate business locally, and provide winter sports fun for many in this part of the state but also to boost this part of Oconto County," said Don Bartels, town chairman and president of the Lakewood Mardis-Gras Assn., sponsor of the ski slide project.

The project got under way about two years ago, backed by a group of local residents. Selection of a ski hill site a mile north of the village was made. But after some preparatory work was done on the 40-acre tract, it was learned that it was within the Nicolet National Forest.

Course of Action

K. P. Butterfield, Nicolet Forest supervisor, with headquarters at Rhinelander, then met with ski slide association members and the Lakewood District ranger, Clifford E. Crosby, to determine what course could be taken to effect a transfer of the land.

As a matter of general policy the Forest Service does not sell land outright for recreational purposes but will grant a permit. It can also, in certain cases, make a trade where parcels of land with equal recreational possibilities are involved.

A survey of the land under consideration by the ski area committee was conducted by the Forest Service at an estimated cost of $1,500. It was then recommended that the committee find another 40-acre tract with definite recreational value and make a trade with the Forest Service.

Area Is Swapped

Such a piece of land was found, a wooded area with a trout stream on it, and the purchase was made. After Henry Wurzer, Lakewood Fish Hatchery foreman testified that the Wisconsin Conservation Dept. stocked the stream, the land was accepted for trade by the government. But no official transfer was made.

Since then, the leaders of the Lakewood committee with Adam Korbas as chairman, have met with state recreational and resource development officials. Studies of the proposed ski hill and surrounding area seem to indicate that it should be developed as a multiple purpose winter sports recreational spot. This would include a toboggan slide, ice skating rink, and several ski runs for beginners, as well as the main ski run.

Pointing out that while receipts from the Mardis Gras, an annual festival held in mid-July, plus private funds, have provided a good start on the ski slide project, Bartels said more money is needed.

Rejected by County

"We asked the Oconto County Board for a grant but our request was turned down. They claimed that they couldn't give financial assistance to a privately backed project of this kind, but there's a special provision on the statute books for just such a purpose," Bartels maintained.

Meanwhile, final transfer of the land has been awaiting U. S. Government approval of plans for a chalet and other facilities and equipment. But it is still uncertain whether the transfer will take the form of an outright surrender of title to the land by the Forest Service, or a permit.

Want Clear Title

Leading members of the ski slide committee are holding out for clear title, as they feel that private money would be hard to raise unless the land is owned outright by the association.

Questioned about how soon a decision might be forthcoming on the ski slide land transaction, Crosby said, "A special meeting will be held in December by key men in the field of parks and recreational lands of the Dept. of the Interior, and the matter will probably be decided at that time."

Biggest little hill provided for ski fans

When the skiing boom began to hit northern Wisconsin, the Chanticleer Inn at Eagle River found itself fortunately situated within easy driving distance of a number of major ski hills and began staying open winters.

And then John and Betty Alward hit on another idea — developing "the biggest little ski hill in Skiland" right in their own backyard.

A tow rope was built to service a fine practice slope on the grounds, the hill was floodlighted for night skiing, an ice rink was added, rental shop provided. Now the Chanticleer is a ski area in its own right. And indoor evening sports add to the program.

For daytime ski sport, transportation is arranged to Sheltered Valley, Mus-Ski Mountain, Brule Mountain, Camp 10 and Squirrel Hill, ranging from 19 to 40 miles away, or even more distant spots like Pine Mountain, Indianhead, Whitecap or the Porcupines.

There are lodgings in the lodge or winterized cottages, and breakfast and dinner are included in the American plan rates.

Gateway lodge runs ski hill

King's Gateway Lodge at Land O' Lakes operates its own ski hill with a 100-foot vertical drop, three rope tows and five runs up to 700 feet long.

Lunches are served in an attractive warming hut, and instruction is available, along with rental equipment.

Spectacular View — Michigan's Porcupine Mountain ski area is one of the most thrilling in the entire Midwest. It's located on the shore of Lake Superior west of Ontonagon and receives one of the heaviest snowfalls in the Upper Peninsula. (Michigan Conservation Dept.)

Full setup for Hidden Valley fans

The nearest major ski development to Green Bay is Hidden Valley, operated by Jack Frolich of Manitowoc in the Maribel Caves area, 15 miles southeast of Green Bay on Highway 141.

A former Austrian skier who raced on the American team in international competition, Frolich started Hidden Valley in 1956 and has improved upon it each year since.

The area has three open slopes for beginners and intermediates and several expert trails. They are serviced by three rope tows. Some of the slopes are lighted for night skiing.

Frolich conducts a ski school in the Austrian system and operates the ski shop. The lodge has a large sun room facing the main slope, and rental and repair services are available.

Burn permits

More than 50,000 burning permits are issued annually in Wisconsin as part of the fire prevention effort.

Prairie chicken

The major flock of prairie chickens in Wisconsin lives on a prairie created by man — a drained marsh in central Wisconsin.

Popular hill at Potawatomi

A popular ski hill less than an hour's drive from Green Bay is the one developed by the Sturgeon Bay Winter Sports Club on state-owned land in Potawatomi Park.

The hill has 150 feet of vertical drop, with three slopes up to 1,200 feet long and two rope tows. Snacks are available at the shelter house.

Boat show to feature outdrives

NEW YORK — More than 400 exhibitors will show more than 450 boats, hundreds of marine inboard and outboard engines, and marine equipment and accessories of all kinds at the 52nd National Motor Boat Show in the Coliseum here Jan. 13 to 21. Joseph E. Choate is the show manager.

Making its debut under the theme, "The Wonderful World of Boats," the show will reflect the latest developments in American boating. A preliminary survey of the exhibits planned reveals several trends that probably will affect boating in 1962.

Show New Outdrives

First, and most evident, will be the impact of the new outdrives in the small boat field where the outboard motor has predominated. An overwhelming majority of builders of small boats have indicated that at least one model in each of their lines will have inboard power and an outboard drive unit.

There will be a noticeable increase in the number of complete packages sold by both engine manufacturers and boat builders. Factory matched boats and motors, long the usual procedure in the inboard field, will be more evident among the outboards.

A queen will reign over the nautical exposition. A young boating lady between the ages of 18 and 22 years will be selected for the honor by a panel of judges in the annual search conducted by the National Assn. of Engine and Boat Manufacturers.

Shortcut to Expert Skiing

A Weekend on CHANTICLEER'S BIGGEST Little Ski Hill on

Short-ee Skis

Cliff Taylor, the originator and manufacturer of the SHORT-EE SKIS, says, "A weekend on CHANTICLEER INN'S BIGGEST little Ski Hill, on my SHORT-EE Skis, is a short cut to expert skiing."

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