

# Skiing On Beech To Start With New Slopes, Other Lifts

BANNER ELK, N. C.—Already established as the Southeast's foremost ski resort, Beech Mountain begins its third ski season this year with three and a half miles of slopes and trails and a combined uphill lift capacity of more than 9,500 skiers per hour.

The season is expected to begin in mid-December and continue through March.

This season, the resort will offer nine slopes—an expert slope with an 800-foot vertical drop, three advanced slopes, three intermediate slopes, a beginners area and Ski School area. The slopes will be served by a "skis-on" enclosed gondola, three triple chair lifts and two double chair lifts. The Ski School and beginners areas are served by two J-bars and two rope tows.

At an elevation of 5,600 feet, Beech Mountain is the highest ski resort in Eastern America.

The resort has expanded its ski facilities this year to place greater emphasis on beginning skiers. A new beginners slope has been installed and the Ski School area, staffed by a corps of Austrian ski professionals, has been enlarged.

Willi and Kitty Falger, the Austrian-born ski instructors

who have helped make skiing a major sport in the Southeast, will return to head the Ski School this year. Willi is the former Austrian downhill racing champion and Kitty, his wife, is one of the country's foremost women instructors. The couple became U. S. citizens in 1968 and live year-around at Beech Mountain.

Since their arrival in North Carolina in 1967, the Falgers and their staff have given ski instructions to more than 25,000 beginning skiers.

Snowfall at Beech Mountain is supplemented by one of the most elaborate snow-making systems in existence. Sixty-two snow-making guns provide a fine powder for the more than 40 acres of slopes and trails. Average annual snowfall at Beech is 85 to 100 inches.

Last year, more than 49,000 skiers used the resort's slopes during the 14-week ski season. The number is expected to exceed 60,000 this season.

A number of new buildings have been completed in Beech Tree Village, center of the 10,000-acre resort's activities. Among these are the 17,000-square-foot Sid Operations Building and the new 20,000-square-foot View Haus Restaurant, a public dining facility which seats about 450 people.

Thirteen hundred sets of rental ski equipment, including skis, boots and poles, will be available this year.

Three additional buildings, two of which will be completed before ski season, are under construction. The completed structures will house administrative offices of Carolina Caribbean Corporation, developers of Beech Mountain, and some 10 shops.

Also under construction are three motels and inns which will give the resort its first public accommodations. About 100 rooms are expected to be available this season, although all three facilities will have 150 rooms each when completed.

The number of homes under the Beech Mountain Home Rental System is expected to exceed 120 by mid-December.

Other new developments at Beech: —Main access road from Banner Elk has been resurfaced and guard rails installed on curves.

—Upper parking lot, reserved for Beech Mountain property owners, is being paved.

—Children's nursery is being relocated and enlarged.

—Beech Tree Inn, private club for property owners, is being expanded to include the "Red Baron Room," a special place for people who fly.

—The 4,600-foot, paved airstrip has been completed and will offer complete deicing, tie-down and hangar service this season.



UNIVERSITY SINGERS, CHICAGO BOUND—Appalachian State's University Singers have been selected to appear in concert next March 6-10 at the Biennial Convention of the Music Educators National Conference in Chicago. Directed by Dr. Joseph Logan, the Singers were chosen by competitive audition from among choral groups from 150 institutions across the nation. The group of 80 ASU students has begun rehearsals on selections from Brahms, Berlioz, Mozart, Durufle and Pinkham for the convention concert. In addition, the University Singers will appear in Greer Auditorium Tuesday, Nov. 11, in a concert open to the public.

## Benefactors Guests Grandfather Home

The Recreation Building at Grandfather Home, Banner Elk, was the scene of a testimonial dinner honoring Mr. and Mrs. Robert G. Hayes of Concord and their son, Robert Cannon (Robin) Hayes and his wife, Barbara, at the serving line during the dinner given at Grandfather Home For Children by its Trustees honoring Mr. and Mrs. Robert G. Hayes.

John Wilkerson, Chairman, Board of Trustees, Grandfather Home, presided over the dinner and recognized Mrs. Polk Johnson, Trustee; Mrs. Sam Tate, Trustee; Mrs. William Hollingsworth, Trustee; Reverend Mr. Richard P. Keeton, Trustee; Mr. George Blackwelder, Trustee.

"All of you are special guests and all of you were invited for a special reason," stated Wilkerson and recognized Mrs. W. C. Tate (as wife of the first doctor in Banner Elk); her son, Dr. Lawson Tate; Dr. H. C. Evans Jr., President of Lees-McRae College; Reverend Mr. Thomas Rhea, President of ETMA Board; and Miss Anne Bryan, past Superintendent of the Home.

David Hawthorne and John Herndon, LMC students, offered the musical entertainment for the evening.

The Reverend Mr. Richard Keeton, Trustee of Grandfather Home, and pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Jefferson City, Tennessee, made the opening remarks of tribute to Mr. and Mrs. Hayes:

"We are here tonight to express our gratitude to these dear friends of the Home," stated Keeton. "These two people discovered long ago the secret of health and a full life as they devoted their talents and ability to serving the children of Grandfather Home. An institution is but the length and shadow of a great individual. An institution that continues its life over a period of time is due to a series of individuals who dedicate themselves to it. The Hayeses have cast such a shadow in their friendship, their labors and their commitment to Grandfather Home. It is well to look backward on occasion and pay tribute to those who have helped us become what we are today. In any appraisal we must not limit ourselves to the material things but the love and dedication, and the friendship to the children of the Home."

Keeton introduced Reverend Richard Holshouser from Rumble Memorial Presbyterian Church, Blowing Rock. Reverend Holshouser said he "realized 'great' things had come from the Hayeses (Robin) referring to their son, Robert Cannon Hayes) for one—and, to the church in Blowing Rock.

"The Hayeses have planned and carried through the arrangements for Grandfather Home Day each summer at the Blowing Rock Church. Their help to us has been invaluable. We treasure their friendship and loyalty."

Donald R. Baker, Director of Public Relations, Lees-McRae College, stated, "The Hayeses are the type of people that young people would like to emulate."

Dr. H. C. Evans, "One of the most pleasant memories of my life was to come to Grandfather Home—to me Grandfather Home was "Miss Anne". Time passed and Grandfather Home became Miss Anne and Marjorie and Robert Hayes. When I came into the community I realized what an impact they have had on the community. One of the things that impressed me the most about the Hayeses—the way they have contributed to LMC, to the other institutions, and to the community. This is the real essence of giving. I treasure the friendship of these two people."

John Clark, "If I were to try to express my feeling toward what the Hayeses have done for Banner Elk—the three institu-

tions—I would have drawn a pennant and put the Hayeses on it and given it to the Apollo astronauts and told them to plant it on the moon."

Dean Honeycutt: "If this building (Grandfather Home Recreation Building) were full of \$1,000 bills I could use them all and never find a friend like the Hayeses."

Ed Renegar: "In many respects I have no right to give a tribute to the Hayeses because all of you have known them so much longer. There are things that the Hayeses have done that no one knows except some people who have had access to certain records. Help has come when help was needed the most. That help has come from the Hayeses."

Miss Anne Bryan announced that the roses at the head table had been sent by the alumni of Grandfather Home. "Who loved and admired the Hayeses."

Miss Anne, as she is affectionately known by all, quoted Grace Crowell ("Lord, You Have Been Good To Me"), saying that it had been a privilege serving Grandfather Home with the support of Bob and Marjorie Hayes. "There is no one the children would rather see drive onto the campus than the Hayeses. They always helped and come to our aid when we needed them. The continue to offer help. This has been their spirit."

Lawson Tate, Medical Director, Charles A. Cannon Jr. Memorial Hospital: "I am grateful to be at this dinner—and grateful for Cannon Memorial Hospital—made possible chiefly through the efforts of the Hayeses."

The Hayeses were presented a plaque for service to the Home. This award has been established and will be awarded annually, along with a cash award, to a child of Grandfather Home for Children.

Mr. Hayes said the occasion was a thrill to him and recognized Dr. Thomas Rhea, new chairman of ETMA. Dr. Rhea said he appreciated the fact that he could always call on Bob Hayes for any help he needed with ETMA matters.

## Noted Musician To Direct Performance Of "Messiah"

### Performance Of "Messiah"

WINSTON-SALEM—Dr. Hugh Ross, internationally famous English conductor, will direct the thirty-eighth annual performance of Handel's "Messiah" at 8:30 p. m. Sunday, December 7, in the Reynolds Memorial Auditorium. The presentation is under the auspices of the Mozart Club.

A chorus of approximately 200, composed of members of all church choirs and organized choral groups of Winston-Salem and surrounding cities, as well as individual singers not affiliated with any organized group, are participating in this event. An orchestra composed of the outstanding instrumentalists of North Carolina, and four nationally renowned oratorio soloists will perform under the direction of Dr. Hugh Ross.

Hugh Ross, generally considered chief expert in this country on ensemble performances of chorus and orchestra; Head of the Choral Department of the renowned Berkshire Music Center, which, with the late Sergei Koussevitzky, he planned; guest conductor of the Boston, New York Philharmonic, Philadelphia, Minneapolis Orchestras and symphonies of the Columbia, National, Mutual and British Broadcasting Companies; permanent conductor of the New York Schola Cantorum, which group was featured at the auspicious opening of the Lincoln Arts Center, National

Chorus of America, Saint Cecilia Choral Societies of both New York and Boston; founder of the National Choral Union of Washington, D. C.

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