

Bill van Ingen

Bill van Ingen has given more than a half-century of distinguished service to ski clubs, ski organizations, the National Ski Patrol, and the 10th Mountain Division and its national associations. His is the current president of the Pennsylvania Ski and Winter Sports Museum and Hall of Fame.



In 1950 he moved to Pennsylvania from Vermont, but spent a number of years in New York State while attending school and college during the winter months. In his free time he ski raced, taught club members to ski, patrolled and earned the certified amateur ski instructors pin. Summers he spent working with the family horses, aspiring to compete for a berth on the U.S. Olympic Team. In 1950 he made the U.S. Squad.

Bill joined the Philadelphia Ski Club where he became immersed in club activities and offices. Bill says that his most successful function was to persuade the club secretary to marry him. In 1952 he joined the Board of Directors of the US Eastern Amateur Ski Association, and in 1954 chaired their 34th Annual Convention held in Philadelphia. It was a large success, even made \$1,000 for the US Ski Team. In addition, the attending 10th Mountain veterans voted to push for a national alumni association.

The next 10 years were spent progressing in business and starting his four children skiing. They traveled the junior race circuit while Bill raced in veteran class races in the northeast. Bill served as a race official and advisor to the American Ski Racing Alliance. Eastern Pennsylvania Ski Council activities he supported actively. In 1970 he joined the NSPS as a patroller at Spring Mountain. Two years later he was elected Financial Advisor for Eastern Pennsylvania Region of NSPS.

Bill's non-skiing community service included Vestryman of his church, president of Netherlands Society of Philadelphia and vice president, Philadelphia Society for Promoting Agriculture. He held elected and appointed positions with township and county governments. He still operates actively Oak View farm which he started in 1953. He is a graduate of Red Ridge College of Canoeing run by members of the Buck Ridge Ski Club. He is the surviving co-founder of the Huntingdon Valley Pony Club.

Bill van Ingen's interest in history and antiquities brought him to the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania Ski and Winter Sports Museum and Hall of Fame in 1998. He was elected Board President in 2002.

His induction into the Hall of Fame is the second such honor in recent months. Last November Bill became a member of the Vermont Hall of Fame.