



Buffalo Ski Club mural. Artist unknown. Lead skier, Buffalo Ski Club instructor Dorothy La Porte.

unheated, unplumbed farmhouse on Burlingham Road about two miles from the future site of the Holland Speedway. On their new, gentle, wide, long fields they skied downhill and trudged back up, working up a powerful thirst and an appetite. After the day's schussing the club's farmhouse turned into a Bavarian festival where grand dinners were produced on the cookstove and the beer was plentiful and the music authentic. By 1936 the club had perhaps the area's first rope tow and a new ski hill on a nearby steeper hill. (Note: If you want a spirited argument,

ask an assemblage of ski buffs who had the first rope tow in Western New York.) Members paid two dollars a year for club dues and skiers paid fifty cents a day or one bucket of coal as their tow fee. As the founding members spent more and more time in Holland skiing, the drives back to Buffalo became tiresome, so much so that they began to build a cluster of ski chalets around the farmhouse. You can still see these chalets and the farmhouse-turned-clubhouse in the neighborhood called Bavarian Farm. Each home is different, but each has that Bavarian charm, carved

shutters and ornate balcony railings and the requisite pair of crossed wooden skis over the doorway.

It would be twenty years before the Buffalo Ski Club moved to its present site on Lower East Hill Road in Colden on land owned by member Ange Schwartz. There it has flourished and doubled in size after merging with next-door neighbor Sitzmarker in 1991.

Murray Hill Ski Club (193?-1984).

Before there was a Glenwood Acres, before there was Kissing Bridge on Route 240, there was Murray Hill Ski Club, located



The Sitzmarker Ski Club badge.



The Roald Amundsen Ski Club badge.



The Old Buffalo Ski Club badge.