

## Marilyn Hertz

Marilyn Hertz is nationally recognized for her achievements in ski instruction and has been honored locally for 30 years of dedicated services and contributions to the growth of the Pocono Mountain's ski industry. The Pocono Mountain Vacation Bureau bestowed this honor on her in 1990 for her innovative teaching techniques.



Marilyn directed ski schools in Pennsylvania for 26 years, teaching a record half million lessons that produced a countless number of new skiers. Marilyn was described in the *"New York Times"* as "the first woman hired to direct a ski school at a major ski area in the United States." Marilyn was the first instructor hired by Camelback Ski Area in 1963 and went on to direct ski schools at Timber Hill (now called Alpine Mountain), Big Boulder and Jack Frost. At Boulder she formed an amputee ski school to teach veterans of the Viet Nam war.

Not finding the necessary information or equipment to do this, she sought the help of an amputee skier from Oregon to train her instructors. With blueprints from Fitzsimmons Hospital in Denver and donations of ski tips and crutches, she had outriggers made for her amputee students.

She returned to camelback where she directed the ski school for 17 years, utilizing the Natur-Teknik method of instruction – a direct teaching method that did not use snowplow or stem turns. In 1984 she received an award from the National Ski Areas Association for giving new skiers the "best first skiing experience."

Marilyn's accomplishments are chronicled in publications such as the "Marquis Who's Who of American Women" and the "World's Who's Who of Women." She is also featured in the book, "Women Who Made History in Monroe County" (Pocono Mountains, PA). Other highlights of her biography are: became the first woman to pass the Senior Ski Patrol test in the Eastern Division of the National Ski Patrol...skied in a film that promoted Pennsylvania skiing at the New York World's Fair...appeared on 30 TV shows on behalf of Pennsylvania skiing...served as secretary and member of the Board of Directors on the Pennsylvania Ski Area Operators Associating the group in recreation planning for the state...was president of the American Ski Teachers Association of Natur Teknik.

She has also been a prolific writer about skiing. Parts of her ski school teaching manual were published in "Ski Magazine". She wrote articles for "Ski Area Management" magazine and wrote a syndicated column called "Ski Trips".

In recent years Marilyn has conducted ski trips to the Rockies. She and her husband Dan, who was also involved in the ski industry for many years, live in a slope side home at Camelback. A true skiing family, Dan and their three children are also certified ski

instructors. In addition, their children's spouses and Marilyn and Dan's two grandchildren are all skiers.

Her current volunteer activities include serving as secretary and member of the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania Ski and Winter Sports Museum.