

# William R. Ballek



When Camelback Ski Area opened for business in 1963, **William R. Ballek** became a member of their Ski Patrol. Bill has actively served the National Ski Patrol (NSP) at all levels since that day. Bill has also served at various levels in several ski clubs. He was President of the Tannenbaum Ski Club in the Lehigh Valley, the Club's representative on the Northeast Ski Council, and co-chair of the Council's Ski Competition Committee.

After joining the Camelback Ski Patrol, Bill progressed rapidly through the ranks. He became a Red Cross First Aid instructor and became very active in ski and toboggan training and evaluation. Bill's leadership skills were quickly recognized, and he was elected as the Section Chief of the NSP Pocono Section in Eastern PA. His responsibilities included coordinating the training and patrol/management relationships for the Pocono area's eight ski patrols.

In 1983, Bill was elected the Regional Director of the Eastern Pennsylvania Region, which is the largest such organization within the National Ski Patrol. At that time, it encompassed over 1,100 Patrollers at twenty different ski areas. Bill quickly identified a number of opportunities to improve the services provided to the region's ski areas and their patrols. He strengthened the Region advisor cadre, initiated programs to provide ski safety education, organized a Patroller School, and placed the region on a sound financial footing. Early in his tenure, the NSP introduced Outdoor Emergency Care, an

entirely new first aid training curriculum. The implementation of this new program was a very significant effort which Bill successfully managed. His leadership style provided general direction and policy, allowed his staff the opportunity to innovate within those guidelines, and enabled the region to provide increased services to its membership and the ski areas they serve.

Bill was appointed an Assistant Director of the Eastern Division of NSP, which includes the area from Maine to Maryland and was also elected to the NSP National Board of Directors. He was an active member of that Board during a time of much change in the Ski Industry and within the NSP. As an example, Bill was a member of the committee that researched, presented, and obtained approval for the establishment of snowboarding as an accepted NSP discipline.

During his career, Bill's efforts were recognized with many awards, including his National Patroller appointment in 1979 (National #5323), Camelback Patroller of the Year in 1967, Eastern PA Outstanding Patroller in 1989, Eastern Division Outstanding Patroller in 1989, NSP Yellow Merit Star in 1990, and Camelback Awards for Outstanding Service in 1991 and 2002. Bill is a Korean War veteran, and recently retired as a Superintendent of a major Bethlehem Steel Company facility. Bill's wife, Joan, and his two daughters, Susan and Lisa, have all spent time as NSP members, and Susan is following in his footsteps as the Pocono Section Chief.

As the 2008 ski season approaches, Bill will be starting his 46th year of outstanding service to the skiing industry and to the NSP.



# Al “Buzz” Bensinger



An early advocate of Pennsylvania skiing, **Buzz Bensinger** was born in 1921, appropriately, during a snow storm! He was one of several local skiers who worked in the late 1940s to build a small portable rope tow on a single narrow ski trail on his brother's property. This was the beginning of an effort to develop the sport of skiing in eastern Pennsylvania by the group, which included World War II veterans. Their research led to the development of a ski area on the lower part of Big Pocono Mountain and a former cornfield, which originally included two rope tows and three trails. A hot dog stand and outhouses comprised the base area development. Other local skiers and ski club members helped to operate the fledgling resort on weekends. The lack of snowmaking (it had not yet been invented) and poor attendance

led to the demise of the area after only two years.

In 1958 the Bensinger brothers, Buzz and Chud, worked with several others to develop another Pennsylvania ski area. Surveys, negotiations, and financial arrangements led to the creation of the Camelback Ski Corporation. This effort was supported by the existing Pocono area resort and motel operators in return for promises to improve ski area facilities. Camelback Ski Area opened on December 13, 1963, and has expanded to thirteen lifts, thirty-two trails and slopes, and

the base area and infrastructure required to support a major ski area. He was a significant contributor to the book *“Camelback; The Downs and Ups of a Banana Belt Ski Area,”* donating his writing skills, as well as financial resources. Buzz served Camelback as Counsel, Secretary, Treasurer, and a Director for a total of forty-two years. He was involved in financing the resort's expansion and became a significant stockholder. As part of the expansion, off-season activities were developed, including Camelback's Alpine Slide. In June 2005 Camelback was sold to new owners, who have continued the development and expansion of the area into a year-round resort.

Buzz was a co-founder, incorporator, and is Treasurer and a Director of the Pennsylvania Ski and Winter Sports Museum & Hall of Fame. He has continued to serve the museum in these capacities since its creation in 1995. His efforts and financial contributions to the organization have helped expand the displays, publications, and activities of the museum and the Hall of Fame. He presently heads a committee which is planning and financing the creation of a DVD, which will feature the history of winter sports in Pennsylvania.

Buzz Bensinger has been a family lawyer since 1950, along with his brother, in the practice started by his father in 1907. He now practices with his daughter and a colleague. He maintains the firm offices in Stroudsburg and resides in Stroud Township.

# Robert A. Kilgore



Robert A. Kilgore grew up skiing in New England, where he developed his passion for the sport. Bob, with his wife Anna and their four children, moved to Devon, Pennsylvania, and skied at Elk Mountain and Big Boulder during the 1960s. They built a home at Elk Mountain, which served as a base for their active participation in the Elk Mountain and Pennsylvania Ski Racing Program. Bob's officiating days began in the early '60s and he served as Race Chairman and Anna served as Race Secretary for a number of Elk Mountain races each year. Bob became the USSA Alpine Racing Chairman, which required extensive travel throughout Pennsylvania and the northeast. In 1976, Bob, working with others, was successful in getting the downhill course at Elk homologated. The course was finally inspected by USSA officials and the downhill race, which was a huge success, was held in February 1977.

In 1978 Anna and Bob were chosen by the New York State organization to serve as officials at the 1980 Lake Placid Winter Olympics, which required a three-year commitment to serve as officials. Races included the U.S. National Men's and Women's Downhill Championships, the World Cups, and then at the Olympics. In 1979, Bob was Race Chairman for a three-day FIS Slalom and Giant Slalom, which included competitors from the U.S. Ski Team, Eastern Team members, and other racers, which resulted in the receipt of a citation from the USSA Eastern Office for the Best Run Race in the East. In 1982

Bob served as T.D. at the Junior Two Eastern Championships at Sunday River Ski Area. Not one to ignore his own skiing, Bob competed in the Alpine Senior Nationals at Copper Mountain, CO, in 1979.

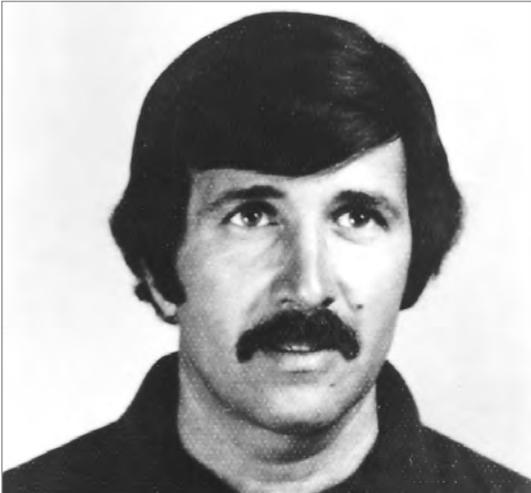
In the early '80s Bob was invited by the USSA Eastern Alpine Committee to understudy for an FIS license. He apprenticed at FIS races at many New England ski areas. Unable to complete the process due to personal and business commitments in the late '80s and early '90s, Bob had to curtail his travel and did most of his skiing and officiating locally. When he retired from officiating he held numerous Officials' Levels.

Robert A. Kilgore was born in Winthrop, Massachusetts, in 1929. He graduated from Winthrop High School, Franklin Technical Institute, and Wentworth Institute of

Technology, and he served in the United States Army in 1947. Bob served as Winthrop School Committee Chairman from 1959 to 1960; Kildonan School, Armenia, New York – Director; Wentworth Institute of Technology Corporation, Member; New England College, Trustee from 1947 to 1987, and from 1991 to 2006 (Chairman of the Board from 1977 to 1985); and Bryn Mawr Rehabilitation Hospital, Trustee from 1984 to 1994. Bob received an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters in May 2006 from New England College. Bob was a member of The Order of the Founders and Patriots of America, Colonial Society of Pennsylvania, St. Andrews Society, Color Guard of the Pennsylvania Society of The Sons of the Revolution, Society of War of 1812, Loyal Legion, The Piscataqua, Dustin Family Association, Carpenters Company of City and County of Philadelphia, The Athenaeum, Merion Golf Club, Mid Ocean Club, Kitansett Country Club, and Ekwanok Golf Club. Bob was the founder of Kilgore Company, a construction and development company in Wayne, PA. The company specialized in building office and industrial space. Robert Kilgore passed away in April 2008, at the age of 79.



# Al Marozzi



Alfred "Al" Marozzi was born in 1941 in Southern New Jersey and never saw a mountain until he went to college at East Stroudsburg University in Pennsylvania. He graduated with a Master's Degree in Health, Physical Education, and Recreation and was soon hired to teach in the Bangor School District in Bangor, Pennsylvania. He decided to take up a new sport...skiing.

Because he was a physical education teacher, Al figured that he certainly didn't need lessons, so he bought a new set of ski equipment and a new outfit, and headed up to the newly opened Camelback Ski Area. He took the chairlift up to the top of the mountain and went down the first trail he came to: THE ROCKET. Needless to say, he survived the event and became thoroughly hooked on skiing.

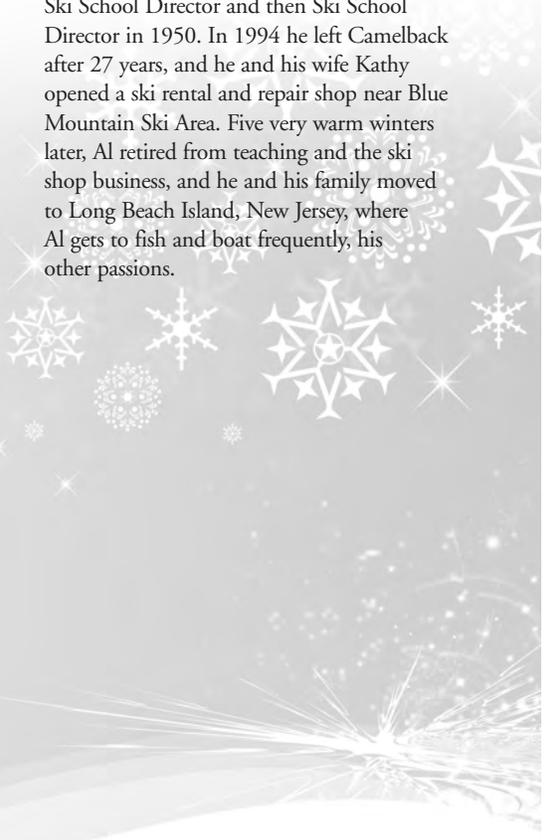
Al's passion led him to become a member of the National Ski Patrol at Buck Hill. He was soon introduced to Marilyn Hertz, Ski School Director at Camelback Ski Area, where he became a ski instructor in 1974. He was excited to discover that Marilyn wanted to change the traditional methods then being used to teach children to ski (essentially teaching them as little adults). With his physical education background and his love of skiing, he started to develop a new approach for children that used games, activities, guided discovery, exploration, and movement techniques. It was based on a positive approach that emphasized having fun while learning.

He tried out some of his ideas on his school students and he introduced skiing to his elementary classes by using an indoor ramp. The concept caught the attention of the Pocono Mountains Vacation Bureau, which asked him to provide a demonstration of his techniques for the local news shows as part of their "Ski the Poconos" promotion. He was also asked to present the same program to the PA State Health and Physical Education Convention at Seven Springs, PA.

Al wrote his master's thesis on a "Movement Education Approach On Teaching Children How To Ski," which formalized all of his ideas. The Professional Ski Instructors of America formed a committee to research methods on teaching children how to ski,

and Al was asked to serve on this committee and submitted his thesis material at one of their workshops. Many of his approaches were utilized and became an industry standard for teaching children how to ski.

Al was able to put his ideas into practice on a daily basis at Camelback Ski Area, where he became the Children's Supervisor in the late 1970s. His program was rated one of the top three in the country by *Ski Magazine*, and in 1979 Al was asked by the magazine editors to write a book on teaching children to ski. "*Skiing Basics*" was published in 1980, with an introduction by Mort Lund. Al became Camelback's Assistant Ski School Director and then Ski School Director in 1990. In 1994 he left Camelback after 27 years, and he and his wife Kathy opened a ski rental and repair shop near Blue Mountain Ski Area. Five very warm winters later, Al retired from teaching and the ski shop business, and he and his family moved to Long Beach Island, New Jersey, where Al gets to fish and boat frequently, his other passions.



# James P. McHale



Jim McHale has served as a ski instructor for over 38 years. Certified as a Master Teacher on the technical staff at Bear Creek Mountain Resort, he focuses on the training of new and experienced ski instructors. He also teaches individuals with special needs, including visually impaired and those dealing with recovery from injuries. Jim's ski teaching career has been diverse, including positions at Big Boulder, Jack Frost, Camelback, and Spring Mountain, as well as Bear Creek. He previously served as a Freestyle Skiing competition judge and chairman of Freestyle Skiing competitions for Pennsylvania and New York. He assisted in the training and certification of freestyle judges for several years. Jim guided the creation of commercial sponsorship of freestyle skiing, which resulted in the creation of the Air Canada Cup.

Jim's training as a ski professional has included over twenty weeks of training in Canada with the Canadian Ski Alliance, attendance at over thirty Professional Ski Instructors of America clinics, and several American Ski Teachers Association of Natur Teknik clinics.

He also attended INTERSKI, a 1986 worldwide gathering of ski teaching professionals in Banff, Canada. Jim received his first certification as a ski teaching professional from ASTAN, which was followed by certification from PSIA. He was certified as a Master Ski Teacher in 2004, after completing ten courses over a three-year period and passing a comprehensive final examination. He holds accreditation certificates in Teaching Special Populations and Sports Science and is currently near completion of his accreditation in Teaching Children. All of these certifications required participation in many clinics in the Northeast and many weeks of commitment.

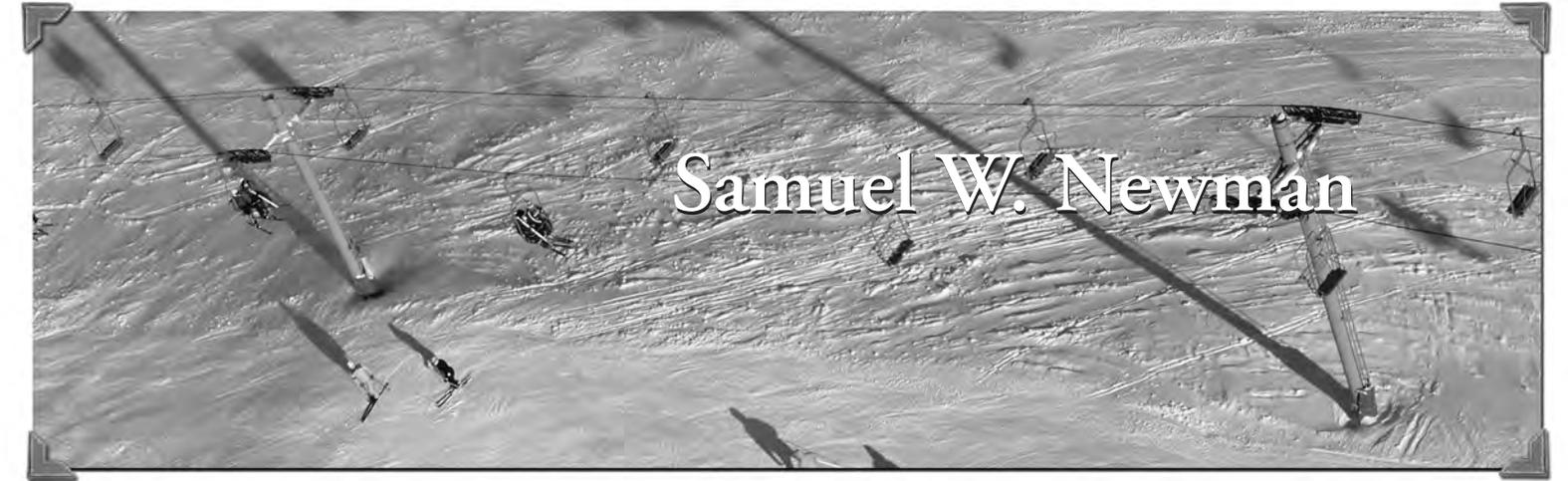
Jim has designed and delivered many different ski clinics, including Ski Maintenance Clinics, Introduction to Skiing for Mentally Challenged Young Adults, an Introductory Course in Skiing at the Bucks County Adult School, and many Instructor Training Courses at Spring Mountain and Bear Creek Ski Areas.

Jim has served the skiing community through a variety of roles as member and President of the Philadelphia Ski Club (PSC) and as Vice President of the Eastern PA Ski Council. He served as organizer and trip leader for several trips to New England, Western USA, and Canadian ski areas, including a heli skiing trip with Hans Moser, the founder of heli skiing and Canadian Mountain Holidays. Jim helped organize the Philadelphia Ski Club ski lodge program, which leased and operated a lodge at Sugarbush for several seasons. He received an award from the Canadian Government as "Skiing Ambassador," for his contributions to Canadian ski tourism.

Jim McHale directs The Strategic Source, Inc., a team of professionals in human performance. Jim's consulting career has also involved several ski areas with clients including Big Boulder, Jack Frost Mountain, Whitetail Ski Area, and Bear Creek Mountain Resort. He also served for several years as a part-time ski sales representative for Olin Ski Company.

Mr. McHale is a graduate of the Pennsylvania State University with a B.S. in Management and of the University of Maryland with an M.B.A. in Operations Research/Behavioral Science. He is a former Captain in the U.S. Army, with seven years of service as a Data Processing Officer. He has taught at American University, Temple University, and the University of Pennsylvania, and currently teaches courses at Villanova University, the Center for Lifelong Learning of Gwynedd Mercy College, and he teaches professional certification courses for the society of Human Resources Management. He also served as an adjunct faculty member at the Center for Creative Leadership in Greensboro, NC.

Jim has served on the Executive Board of the Boy Scouts of America and has been a member of the National Eagle Scout Association, the American Society for Training and Development, the Society For Human Resource Management, the Organizational Development Network, and the Professional Ski Instructors of America. He is the author of the "Professional Networking" chapter in the third edition of the training and development handbook, published by McGraw Hill as well as authoring many other articles and papers.



# Samuel W. Newman



Born in 1935 in East Stroudsburg, **Sam Newman** lived and attended school in Stroudsburg, graduating from Stroudsburg High School in 1953. He earned a B.S. in Economics from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania in 1957 and then graduated cum laude in 1960 from the Law School of the University of Pennsylvania. After clerking for a year with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit in Philadelphia, Sam returned to Stroudsburg in 1961 and began the private practice of law. He was a cofounder of the Stroudsburg law firm now known as Newman, Williams, Mishkin, Corveleyn, Wolfe and Fareri, which is the largest law firm in Monroe County. Sam Newman is now of counsel to the firm.

In 1973, Sam became general counsel to Camelback Ski Corporation, the owner and operator of Camelback Ski Area, located on

Camelback Mountain near Tannersville, PA. He became involved in the legal and business affairs of Camelback and he was elected Secretary of the corporation, a member of its Board of Directors, and a Vice President. In 1985, he led a group that purchased the majority interest in Camelback. In 1986, as a part of the management changes, Sam became the President and Chief Executive Officer of the corporation, a position that he held until June 2005, when Camelback again changed owners. He was the principal owner at that time and continues in the role of consultant.

During his tenure as President and CEO of Camelback, the ski area underwent significant changes and improvements, making it the largest and most popular ski and recreation area in the Pocono region. He was instrumental in the acquisition of the adjacent Camp Massad property, which made possible the expansion that occurred during the 1990s and through 2005. During his administration, the ski area doubled in size, and now consists of 33 trails, with 13 lifts, including two terrain parks, a halfpipe, and a major snow tubing park. He spearheaded the installation and construction of Camelback's signature high-speed detachable lifts, The Stevenson and The Sullivan, the only high-speed lifts in the Poconos. In addition, Sam oversaw the construction of many new facilities, including the Pennsylvania Room, Camelback's ski and snowboard equipment

rental shops, a modern state-of-the-art ticketing complex, and an expanded and enlarged food service facility. Camelback's snowmaking system was greatly enhanced, with the addition of an enlarged water pumping system and the addition of new technology snowmaking equipment.

In 1997, Sam initiated the development of Camelback's award-winning waterpark, Camelbeach. Constructed within the ski area, it is now one of the largest facilities of its kind in the United States. Camelback has a staff in excess of 800 full- and part-time employees and attracts over 700,000 annual visitors.



# David W. Scott



David W. Scott grew up in Bangor, PA, on the southern edge of the Pocono Mountains, where at the age of six he began to ski at Split Rock Lodge. After a number of ski trips in the early 1950s to New England and Canada, David began his ski racing career. During his school years at Procter Academy in New Hampshire, he placed and also won a number of events, including the downhill. David continued skiing at the University of Colorado, where he earned Class A and Elite Class A rankings in both the Rocky Mountain Ski Association and USEASA.

By 1965 David returned to Pennsylvania and began his coaching career with the Eastern and then Northeastern Pennsylvania Ski Councils. As his programs grew, he organized numerous race camps at Camelback, Elk Mountain, and Middlebury Snow Bowl. During the summers, he coached and was codirector of the All American Summer Ski Camp in Cooke City, MT. In 1966, David

was appointed Pennsylvania State Junior Coach and served as Pennsylvania's representative and then as Chairman of the USEASA Junior Alpine Committee.

David moved to Great Gorge in McAfee, NJ, in 1969 to become their Director of Racing and Head Coach and served as the New Jersey State Coach, a NASTAR Pacesetter, USEASA Coaches Clinic Lecturer and Assistant Coach for USEASA's Junior National Team. He was appointed to and then became Chairman of the United States Ski Association's (USSA) National Junior Alpine Committee and was

honored by the Pennsylvania Ski Federation for his contributions to Pennsylvania skiing.

In 1971 David accepted the position of Director of Racing for the AMF Head Ski Division, which took him to Boulder, CO, where he still lives today. As Director of Racing, he was responsible for managing Head's entire amateur and professional ski racing programs on a worldwide basis. In 1972 he was appointed chairman of the USSA's Coaches Association. David left Head and purchased Chivers Sports, a ski and tennis retail shop in Boulder and then founded the Sports Distribution Company to import and manage U.S. distribution for various brands.

In 1990 David was retained by International Ski Rental Systems of Vaduz, Liechtenstein, to evaluate and then implement an automated ski rental and storage system for the United States market. In 1999 David retired from

daily management and became a consultant to the company providing strategic planning for market development, a position which he still retains.

In 2000 David was named Vice President of Commercial Operations for Tamarack Resort, a planned all-season resort built in Idaho and the first new destination ski resort to be built in the United States in more than 20 years. When Tamarack opened in 2004, David returned to Colorado in order to be closer to his family and grandchildren.

Since retiring from working fulltime in the winter sports industry, David has served on the board of the International Skiing History Association (ISHA), has been the Interim Executive Director of the Colorado Ski Museum, and currently is the Chairman of the museum's Board of Directors.



# Ray Tuthill



Ray Tuthill was the Founder and President of the Blue Mountain Ski Area, located in Palmerton, PA, north of Allentown. It all began when Ray, an avid skier who began skiing in 1974 at a ski area in New York State and continued skiing with his family in the Poconos and out west, dreamed of having a ski area close to home. At that time he was the owner of the Riebe Construction Company and he wanted to create work for his employees during the winter months.

In 1962 Ray and Diane Tuthill bought 50 acres of land on the very top of Blue Mountain, just east of Little Gap. Ten years later they were able to purchase 223 additional acres, which made it possible to construct ski trails from the top to the bottom of the mountain. Studies were made, designs were created, and construction started on December 22, 1977. Little Gap Ski Area opened with a small ski lodge, one chairlift, a T-bar lift, and four trails. Artificial

snowmaking was an essential part of the operation and this was accomplished using portable air compressors.

Ray planned and implemented many improvements to the ski area. In 1985, the lodge at the summit was tripled in size, the Main Street chairlift was installed and Lazy Mile trail was built. In 1988 the "Challenge" expert trail was added, which ran straight down the mountain from top to bottom, and included a 4000-foot long double chairlift. This trail was the first double diamond in the area. To help the ski area project its new size,

terrain, and facilities, the name was changed to Blue Mountain in 1988. Additional land was purchased in 1992 which provided room for new trails and expanded facilities at the foot of the mountain. The Challenge Lift was extended to the valley, giving Blue Mountain the highest vertical drop in Pennsylvania – 1082 feet.

Under Ray's direction, the improvements at Blue Mountain continued. In 1994 a high-speed detachable quad lift was installed, running, from the valley to the top of the mountain. A year later a 6000-foot long trail, Paradise, was built for all levels of skiers. A temporary lodge was built in the valley to ease the overcrowding in the summit Lodge and in 1996 snow tubing was introduced.

On President's Day in 1997 snowboarders were finally invited to join the skiers on the mountain and a snowboard Half-Pipe and

Terrain Park were added for the 1998-99 season. In 2003, the long awaited Razors Edge trail was opened for skiing and snowboarding. This double diamond trail is currently one of the most popular trails in the Pocono region. This same year there the Valley Lodge was expanded, which included doubling the size of the rental shop and the cafeteria. Some of the features currently found at Blue Mountain include 130 skiable acres with thirty trails, ten lifts, a half-pipe, computerized snowmaking, two full-service rental shops and four learning centers.

Ray promoted the Blue Mountain Ski Patrol and provided assistance whenever needed, a Blue Mountain tradition that continues. He was the recipient of the Eastern Pennsylvania Region Ski Patrol 'Irv Naylor' Partners-in-Industry Award for 2001-2002 and received a Distinguished Service Award from the National Ski Patrol.

Ray Tuthill passed away in May of 2007.