



Corbeau Ski Club, Inc. was founded in October, 1985 by entrepreneurs Robert Jackson, Daryl Carter, Harvey Pickrum and Beverly Clark. They decided on the name “Corbeau” which is French for “**Black Bird**”. They learned of an organization called the **National Brotherhood of Skiers** (“NBS”) which unified Black Ski Clubs from all over the U.S. They immediately decided they wanted Corbeau to become a part of this African American Ski Organization and Corbeau joined the ranks of the NBS in 1986.

The primary aim of the club was to introduce skiing to the black community with emphasis on recruiting and training youth to compete as members of the U.S. Ski Team. The club’s membership grew and expanded to include skiers from Columbus, Dayton and Louisville. Several of its members achieved medals in the NBS Summit racing competitions. Henry Drake became a two-time NASTAR National Championships qualifier and earned a three-time State of Ohio top-ten ranking.

Nearly every ski resort in the country has seen the enthusiasm and brilliance of the NBS. In 1989, there were NBS clubs in nineteen states and the District of Columbia. By 2006, the NBS had grown to over eighty member clubs. Corbeau was among the 4,800 in attendance at the Summit in **Steamboat Springs, Colorado** in 1989 – the largest attendance at any Summit gathering. The Mini Summit in 1996 in **Innsbruck, Austria** included approx. 20 Corbeau skiers. Over 30 members of Corbeau participated at the Summit at **Whistler-Blackcomb, Canada** in 2003. Corbeau traveled to **Banff Alberta, Canada** for the 2006 Mini Summit gathering.

Corbeau members contributed to the progress of the NBS over its now 45 years in business. Rose Pickrum served as Executive Vice President of the national organization from 1993 to 1996, and President from 1996 to 1998 and returned for a second term in 2006 to 2008. During those same years Henry Drake served two or three terms as Race Director and Harvey Pickrum served two terms as Midwest Region Treasurer. Robert Jackson served as the Midwest Region Director. Dean Cook dedicated 22 years (1995 to 2016) with the Midwest Region Board. Serving as Winterfest Chairperson, Director and Vice President during her tenure. Bea Lewis and Jim Walker served one or two terms as Secretary to the Midwest Region. Founder, Daryl Carter, did not serve on the national level but served as Treasurer and Youth Director on the Corbeau Board.

Corbeau remains active in the Cincinnati Community and dedicated to its goal “**to promote skiing within the African American Community**”. This year (2018) we celebrate **33 years** on the slopes. We hold our annual family day in February each year at Perfect North Slopes. During this event we focus on exposing youth to the sport.

We wish to express our appreciation for the outstanding work and dedication of our Board Members – Bev, Jim, Phil, Gerlon, Bea and Don.

Corbeau Board Of Directors (2018)

Bev Clark - President, VP, Secretary, Treasurer – 19 years

Bea Lewis - Vice President, Past President – 15 years

Jim Walker - Secretary – 25 years

Phil Smith - Treasurer – 16 years

Gerlon Smith - Membership – 13 years

Don Hudson – Representative to OVSC – 16 years

Past Presidents

Bea Lewis (2014 - 10 Years of Service)

Alice Frazier

Rome Leigh

Henry Drake

JB Jones

Marva Duvall

Bev Clark

Stephen Scott

Harvey Pickrum

Robert Jackson (1985)

THE NBS

Achieving the Goal

The NBS strived to train young skiers and achieve the goal of placing an African American on the U.S. Ski Team. The NBS came close to its objective when a young man named **Andre Horton** (from Anchorage, Alaska) joined the NBS at the age of 15 (1994). He was Alaska State Champion in 1998. He came in first place at the 2001 International Competition in Sella Nevea, Italy. He became the first African American Skier selected to the 2001-2002 U.S. Alpine Ski Team. This afforded him the opportunity to train with the best skiers in the country. He did not score high enough to race in the 2002 Olympic competition but finished in ninth place overall in the qualifying races. Andres' younger sister, **Suki Horton** was Alaska State Champion in 1998 and was selected to compete in the U.S. Alpine National Championships three years in a row. The NBS extended financial and moral support not only to Andre and Suki but also to Bonnie St. John, Ralph Green, Seba Johnson, Errol Kerr and dozens of other Olympic Hopefuls.