

DECEMBER 13, 1964



THIS IS AN OVERHEAD view of the facilities offered at Villa Vista Resort, located 20 miles west of Grand Forks on Highway 2. A toboggan hill is shown at lower left, and the ice skating rink is next to the chalet, center left. There is also a curling rink on the north side of the chalet. The ski hills and tows are in the background.

Arvilla Offers Winter Fun Spot

By DUANE FLAA

A full day of winter fun can be had 20 miles west of Grand Forks on Highway 2 — if ice skating, skiing, tobogganing or curling are your fare.

And if you don't enjoy any of these, you can sit at a table in the glass - surrounded dining room and watch.

The Villa Vista Resort in Arvilla State Park is the spot where all this is available. Resort manager Ralph Loyd is enthusiastic about this season.

"We've made several improvements in our skiing facilities and the toboggan hill has been doubled in capacity with new runs added," Loyd noted.

Four rope tows are operating on two separate hills and they are arranged so skiers can go from one hill to the other without any trouble. The longest ski run is 900 feet and the elevation of the highest run is about 100 feet.

"Ski patrols are on duty Saturdays and Sundays and free instruction is available on Saturday and Sunday afternoons," said the manager.

Place to Learn

A separate beginner's area with slow speed tow is set up for novice skiers. "We're trying to encourage those just starting the sport that it can be fun when the fundamentals are learned and developed."

A constant problem at any ski area without artificial snow-making devices is lack of snow. "We've been hauling snow to keep our ski runs in good shape, but it sometimes becomes a problem to cover the toboggan hill."

For those who prefer the less spectacular sport of ice skating, Villa Vista offers a rink on the east side of the chalet. Music for the skaters is piped from a hi-fi sound system in the chalet. A separate sound system services the dining and party rooms inside with softer music.

The one - sheet curling rink located on the east side of the chalet gives the sweepers a chance to limber up between ski trips. The rink is the scene of the North Dakota outdoor curling championship later in the winter.

Present plans call for the purchase of two snow cats to haul tobogganers up the hill. The cats would also be used for scenic tours through the Turtle River State Park.

Operating hours are 10 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays, 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. on Wednesdays and 1 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. on Fridays. Rental equipment for all sports is available.

"Flood lights provide more than adequate lighting for night skiing, skating, curling, and tobogganing," said the manager.

The dining room is located on the second floor of the chalet and a snack bar and warming area make up the first floor. The dining room is surrounded by frost - free windows giving diners a "ringside seat" for all the action.

Loyd said reservations for charter parties are now being taken. Smorgasbord is served on Sundays. Skiers who take spills can be comforted by two giant fireplaces, one on each floor.

The manager emphasized that the Turtle River Park Association has been active in promoting and building the Arvilla layout. The association is made up of Boy Scouts, Grand Forks Air Force Base personnel, 4-H clubs, the Diabetic Club and representatives from small towns in the Arvilla area.

The ski resort was opened five years ago, and improvements have been made every year. Villa Vista is a corporation of some 90 stockholders, and has a lease arrangement with the state.

Mrs. James Veitch of Emorado is president of the Turtle River association and Chuck Searl of Grand Forks is secretary.

MOVING?
Look No Further...
Call
774-5557

For a "Wife-Approved" Move by North American Van Lines

WHALENS, INC.
MOVING, STORAGE AND FUEL
102 N. 6 Grand Forks

Authorized Agents for...
North American VAN LINES, Inc.