

River Hills Ski Club SKIZETTE



Lodge: Barts Hill Road • Killington, VT
Telephone & Fax 1.802.422.2828
Mail: PO Box 8056 • Stamford, CT
www.riverhillsskiclub.org

NOVEMBER 2004



NOVEMBER

All Meetings at the
Norwalk Boat Club

November 2
General Meeting

November 16
Monthly Coordinators
Training Session

November 20
CSC Snowball

DECEMBER

December 7
General Meeting

Holiday Party December 11

Visit the new RHSC website at our new address:

www.riverhillsskiclub.org

MEMBERS ONLY LOGIN:

RIVERHILLS

MEMBERS ONLY PASSWORD:

KILLINGTON

It's off to work we went . . .

The all-important pre-season 2004 work weekend was a smashing success. The response was most commendable with young and old, long-standing and new members alike answering the call. Our workforce also included four very productive future members seen digging in their heels on some very challenging tasks—Sue Byleck, Jason Boothroyd, Beth and Rod Cross.

Despite the inclement weather all the landscaping work was executed in high fashion with not a weed or stray branch to be found. We shaped up the yard and lot areas, repaired the back deck and

roof fascias, tightened up all the outside openings to repel bugs and rodents, cleaned up the bedrooms, bathrooms, living rooms and our precious kitchen.

And about kitchens, Elena and Oscar Ruiz-Diaz with Elena's mom, Olga Bauer, cooked up the most hearty and delicious dinner that one's pallet could imagine. The ovens are CLEAN as are all the cabinets, furniture, wood walls, and carpets. Bedrooms and bathrooms in need received spackle and painting touch-ups. The main heating ducts to the third floor were sealed/taped/insulated. The game room ceiling is restored as is the piano, which was then well used by John Ferreri and Lisa Nau.

So, in the true spirit of River Hills, our new friends and old friends alike have made our northern home safe, warm, and clean for all for this coming winter season.

Thank you all very much.

—Curtis Casey

I have attended many work weekends in my 26 or 27 years in the club, but I enjoyed this last one the most. In fact, this is the first one I have come to in 4 or 5 years. Why was it enjoyable? First, Curtis Casey had it totally organized. A list of jobs was prepared and all the materials were available. Second, he, very diplomatically, had everyone working from his 7am wake up call until cocktail hour. Then we had a super senior head cook who supervised a great dinner. Besides all of this we got a lot of work done. Congrats to all present . . . the River Hills spirit still lives.

—Bob Guth

PS. Two chords of oven cured firewood will be delivered to the back yard on November 4, 2004. We will need anyone coming after this date to help out by stacking as much as you and your guests are able into the shed.



FROM THE SUMMIT

Bob Hener—President

It's time to get very serious about the upcoming season. Pull out those skis (or boards)—it's time to tune them up as well your body . . . do not neglect to

exercise before the season starts!

Speaking of tuning up Maintenance Chair Curtis Casey and the Work Weekend crew did a truly great job on the lodge. Thanks to all that supported the effort. It was a great turnout. Many projects that had been talked about for some time were completed. Good job, Curtis! A great show of volunteerism on the part of our membership!

Nancy Trovato, membership chair, has been busy tallying the Club membership renewals. It appears there are a few membership slots available. We start the year with about the same membership count as we did last year. If you know of interested people that fit our club profile, get them on the road to membership by participating in club activities and submitting an application. We should be constantly marketing our club and ourselves to attract new people. Bringing in friends, relatives and acquaintances that love skiing helps support the lodge, and the camaraderie and culture of the sport we all love.

Again, I mention that the Club is continuing the optional policy of issuing three \$15 certificates in lieu of one \$45 voucher. This makes their use easy for weekday or weekend stays. No change is ever given for partial usage on a voucher. The vouchers are not transferrable and must be used within a year. Vouchers can also be used to pay for functions/activities occurring at the Lodge. To obtain three \$15 vouchers in lieu of one \$45 voucher contact Madge or Mike Kellick, the assistant treasurers.

CT Ski Council (CSC) Snow Ball is November 20th. Please mark your calendars and try to attend. Yes, it is a distance away in a town called Vernon, but we as a Club need to make a showing. The CSC is moving towards a policy that the member clubs must participate in CSC functions or a Club might lose the opportunity of purchasing the discount tickets and participating in CSC Awareness Days! Yes, we have heard this before from the CSC but we must take this request seriously. Kathy and I have attended many of the Snowballs. They are a fun evening. Please mark your calendar to attend.

Lodge coordinators

NOVEMBER

Madge and Mike Kellick
(203) 329-1642 Kellickm@optonline.net

DECEMBER AND JANUARY

Paula Clupper
(203) 378-3740 nanatutor@aol.com

FEBRUARY

Lauren and Paul Schallis
(203) 431-1245 paul.schallis@snet.net

MARCH

Curtis and Debra Casey
(203) 849-9343
bikeout@aol.com

No calls after 9 PM please

We need to participate to assure future discount ticket opportunity.

Thanks again to Jim Maitland for overseeing the CSC bulk discount ticket effort. Historically, the tickets are available to us the very beginning of December. Jim will notify the membership as soon as they are available.

Want to be a Lodge Coordinator? Kathy Hener will be giving her Coordinator Training Workshops on Tuesday, November 16 at the general meeting.

Did you get your copy of the Skizette, or the Club calendar, or the latest Club announcements or news? Visit our updated website www.riverhillsskiclub.org. Most of the forms we use at the Lodge can also be downloaded from the website. Thank you Communications chair, Barbara Aronica-Buck.

We have a Bus Trip planned for the second weekend in January, leaving Friday night January 7th for a great weekend of skiing. Sign up now with Gerry Harrington.

Fall is a great time to stay at the Lodge. Remember to volunteer, it is what keeps the club running smoothly and please remember to obey the club rules.

—Bob Hener

RHSC PRESIDENT

Bob Hener
(203) 377-0394
TSSRJH@aol.com

VICE-PRESIDENT

Charles Mirabella
(914) 636-7437

SECRETARY

Barbara Bagnato
(203) 847-7657
babagnato@sbcglobal.net

TREASURER

Peter Buck
(203) 406-0436
pbuck64466@aol.com

ASSISTANT TREASURERS

Madge and Michael Kellick
(203) 329-1642
kellickm@optonline.net

MAINTENANCE

Curtis Casey
(203) 849-9343
bikeout@aol.com

PROGRAMS

Walter Kostrzewski
(203) 656-2931
ski4xtc@aol.com

ACTIVITIES

Stephanie Evers
(203) 253-3855
stephanie.evers@wellsfargo.com

OPERATIONS

Kathy Hener
(203) 375-3942
cyberaunt1@aol.com

MEMBERSHIP

Nancy Trovato
(203) 698-0716
ntrovato@sbcglobal.net

PAST PRESIDENT

Paul Levine
(203) 637-7753
cook4fun@optonline.net

COMMUNICATIONS

Barbara Aronica-Buck
(203) 406-0436
bookdesigner@aol.com

SKIZETTE AND WEBSITE

Debbie Smith; Stan Rosenzweig;
Eleana Trovato; Anne Zaera
David Zecchin

Jamie Buck, webmaster
jamie@jamiebuck.com



Historical Notes

by Barbara and Bob Guth

40 YEARS AGO – NOVEMBER 1964

New furniture was purchased and placed in the living room. There was a call for people to donate records that were "danceable" for use at the Lodge. I guess at that time people had the energy to dance after a day of skiing. A refresher course for the Ski Patrol members from the club was announced.

30 YEARS AGO – NOVEMBER 1974

A report was made on the two work weekends that were held in October. Some of the major projects were the construction of railing for the new stairs and the balcony on the front of the building. Herb Pennington, Jr. built a shed for the trash. The second work weekend added a costumed Halloween party.

Five bus trips were announced. If I remember correctly this was the time of our gas shortage and everybody trying to conserve because they could not find gas.

20 YEARS AGO – NOVEMBER 1984

The work weekend crew so enjoyed the chocolate cake that was

baked and served for dinner that its recipe was published in the Skizette by request. Marcia Sloat took over as Program Chairperson. Earl and Ellie Gilbert announced their move to New Mexico. They had spent twenty years in the club, met there and were married in 1983. They commented on the many good times and thanked the members for the "roast and toast" they received. (Note: Ellie has passed away and Earl continues to live in New Mexico.)

10 YEARS AGO – NOVEMBER 1994

Another set of successful work weekends with good attendance was reported. Again. Photos of some of the participants appeared on the front page. They were Jim Howell, Herb Pennington, Paul Clemente, Cynthia Hope, Shirley Dion, Phyllis Alizieri, Cecilia Pinochet, Lucy Hervey and Mary Ellen Kuhn. The issue included a letter written by Dick Rice discussing his 25 years as our dishwasher.

Warren Miller still a hit with River Hillers

Stamford, CT, October 27, 2004. Various members of River Hills spent an evening at the newly renovated Palace Theater in Stamford to view the 55th annual Warren Miller ski film debut and, boy, was this a thrilling show.

Club members Gabe and Marion Cordova, Ronna Cohen, Stephanie Evers, Bill Hughes, Sharon Lehr, Stan Rosenzweig, Chris Zimmerman, and new member Frank Matsuda (from Pedigree). The program was over two hours long and we had a chance to socialize during intermission. In addition to drawings for big prizes, every attendee received vouchers, including one free day at Killington and one free day at Mt. Snow, putting us about a hundred bucks ahead of the admission price.

The consensus was that this is Warren Miller's most spectacular movie. The action was so over the top, most viewers gasped and then cheered at the extreme downhill no-turning, chute-dropping, crevasse-jumping, death-defying heli-skiing. You just had to be there.

Afterwards, we adjourned to a nearby watering hole to witness Gabe's loyal defense of St. Louis melt away in World Series Game Four as Boston put the Bambino's curse to bed once and for all. We checked on ski conditions to find that Park City has a base of 33 inches and Alta reports 56 inches. Killington report wasn't available yet, but we were really psyched and ready to go as soon as we figure out where Gabe parked his car.

By Stan Rosenzweig

OPERATIONS OBSERVATIONS

By Kathy Hener

Well, the new ski season is getting underway and we are working on getting things in order at the Lodge. Supplies have been ordered and contracts have been written for our behind the scenes helpers. We are all set with Pat White and Deanne as the cooks. There has been a change in the house cleaner and dishwasher contractor. We are happy to welcome Tracy Templeton as our new person for these tasks. She has already been helping Gail do the work on occasion. She had her first dishwashing job for the work weekend. I know you will all welcome her when you see her. We will publish her phone number in the coordinators manuals and in the roster.

Just a few reminders for lodge usage:

- Please use the opening and closing checklists when staying at the lodge. Make sure all the lights have been shut off, the windows are closed and locked, all appliances and heaters are off or in the unoccupied setting when you leave.
- Please do not leave food in the refrigerator and make sure that you take your garbage with you, if you are there off season.
- Curtis and his band of busy River Hillers did a great job of getting the house ready for the upcoming ski season. We need to keep it in tiptop shape as we use the lodge. Please clean up after yourself, don't leave food or dirty dishes around. Clean your room and keep the bathrooms tidy. Make sure your guests know what is expected when they stay at the lodge. Check the duty roster and do what is assigned to you.
- When making a reservation, don't just leave a message on the coordinator's answering machine. Talk to them in person to verify and confirm your reservation. You can also make a reservation online, but, again, PLEASE confirm receipt of your messages/emails.
- Even though Gail Flynn is not the housekeeper, she is willing to keep a back-up key for emergencies. If you are locked out of the house, you can get the key from her. You must go before 11:00 PM. Details and procedures for this will be listed in the handbook.

Coordinator's Training

We will be having our yearly Coordinator's Training refresher course on 11/16 at the General Meeting. If you are a new member and want to be trained as a coordinator, you must attend this meeting. If you are already trained, this is the refresher course. You can always pick up new information. The more the merrier.

Join is at the Connecticut Ski Council's

"Winter Trails United"

2004 Snowball

Semi-Formal Dance

Saturday, November 20, 2004 from 8pm – 1am

The Colony, 51 Hartford Turnpike, Vernon CT

Tickets are \$20 advance purchase / \$25 at the door

Contact Gabe Cordova if you are interested in attending.

For more information go to their website www.skiclub.com

First Annual RHSC Golf Outing



Nine golfers played Green Mountain National Golf Course and Killington Golf Course over the course of our first golf weekend at the Lodge. The golfers were Jeff Trasher, Doug Paulding, Bryan Hopkins (Doug's friend), Ed and Barbara Bagnato, Anne DuFrane, Elaine Kaczorowski, Carol Sweeny & Françoise (guests from Mt. Laurel Ski Club).

The weather was magnificent and the foliage was beautiful (see photos in color on the RHSC website!) We all enjoyed it immensely.

It turns out that Barbara and Ed are scratch golfers and Doug Paulding out-golfed Jeff Trasher.

We had a great meal at the Lodge Saturday night. A wonderful time was had by all . . . we hope more will join us next year!



At its October 12th meeting, the Board of Directors modified the Inactive Membership Requirements as stated in the handbook's Standing Rules, Section IV Members, paragraph C, page 25. The modification allows long term members who have held an active adult membership of 40 years or more to become an inactive member without regard to geographical proximity to Stamford (i.e. the 75 mile requirement for inactive memberships). The Board recognizes that this change will allow some members who no longer use the Lodge to maintain their Club affiliation.

The rule now reads (the addition is in italics):

C. Inactive Membership Requirements. Applicants for inactive membership should have been an active member for one year and reside beyond a 75 mile radius of Stamford, *or have held an active adult membership for 40 years or more.*

An updated version of page 25 is below or can be downloaded from the Club's website for inserting into your handbooks. The 2004–2005 handbook will not be reprinted this year, but will be available on the website: www.riverhillsskiclub.org

3. Each membership application shall include, together with the annual dues, an initiation fee of \$300 for family memberships or \$200 for individual memberships.

4. Each membership renewal, if received after September 30 but before October 15, is subject to a \$15 fee. Any member not renewing by October 15 will be dropped from the roster.

B. Active Membership Requirements

1. The Board shall vote on acceptance of potential members who satisfactorily complete:

- A written application for membership including signatures of sponsoring members and that of a Board Member.
- Attendance at a minimum of three meetings within a 12 month period. This 12 month period will start with the first meeting attended.
- One weekend attendance at the Lodge.
- Ski on one occasion during the current ski season with a member of the Board of Directors and contribute to a Club service.
- A waiver of liability form.

2. Following membership acceptance, such membership shall be reviewed for final acceptance by the Board prior to acceptance of the second year's dues thereafter. Final acceptance shall not be granted until the member shall have served on a committee, which service is expected to occur during each of the first two membership years.

3. The maximum number of active memberships is 150.

4. Membership applications from potential members whose primary residence lies outside the counties of Fairfield, Connecticut and Westchester County, New York, shall not be considered by the Board unless the percentage of active memberships from outside those counties is less than 15%.

C. Inactive Membership Requirements. Applicants for inactive membership should have been an active member for one year and reside beyond a 75-mile radius of Stamford, or have held an active adult membership for 40 years or more.

D. Military Service. Any member serving on an extended active duty away from the Stamford area for an extended period shall not be required to pay annual dues for such period.



Hurry and join the January Bus Trip

Ski SUGARBUSH and STRATTON
with RHSC
January 7th — 9th, 2005

- FRIDAY:** Board the bus on Friday, January 7, at the Noroton Railroad Station. (Exit 10 off I-95) at 6:30 PM. Your car can be left there for the weekend. We'll party on the way up to the River Hills Lodge in Vermont with food, beverages & music provided.
- SATURDAY:** An early rising with breakfast provided and head-out to Sugarbush. Ski the whole day! Party on bus back to the River Hills lodge, where beverages, appetizers, a warm crackling fire and a delicious dinner await us.
- SUNDAY:** Sunday morning, after a hardy breakfast, we'll head south to Stratton. Movies, fun and games enjoyed by all on the bus to make the traveling more enjoyable. Ski Stratton till 3:30pm. Board the bus at 4:00pm and either party some more or just rest on the bus 'till we get to the parking lot at the Noroton Railroad Station.

Cost for Members: \$230 Cost for guests: \$250
(cost reduction of \$25 for Juniors (7-12) and Seniors (65+))

Price includes, round trip bus transportation to Vermont and both ski areas, lift tickets, Friday night food and beverages on the bus, Saturday breakfast and dinner, Sunday breakfast, snacks & beverages on the bus for the way home.

Trip Coordinator—Gerry Harrington
SIGN UP NOW—PAYMENT NEEDED BY DECEMBER 10TH.

Yes, I'd like to join RHSC on this bus trip January 7th to 9th to Sugarbush and Stratton

Name/s: _____ Telephone: () _____

Guest/s _____

I need volunteers—please help! Call Gerry Harrington ASAP!!

Fill-out and mail, together with your check (payable to River Hills Ski Club) to:
Gerry Harrington, P.O. Box 1603, New Canaan, Ct. 06840
Phone: (203) 966-4846 or (203) 984-7202

upcoming meeting

November 16— Lodge Coordinator's Training Session



A program given by Kathy Hener.

Learn how to be a Lodge Coordinator.

Also good refresher course for trained coordinators, general knowledge for all members.

If you hope to be a Lodge coordinator you must participate in this course..