

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

SUMMER 2005



July 14 – 17
White Mountain Hike

SUMMER MEETING
July 20 at the home of
Walter & Judi Kostrzewski

SUMMER PICNIC
Sunday, September 18
Cove Island Park, Stamford

lodge coordinators

JULY AND AUGUST
Jean and Jim Howell
(203) 255-8554,
jhowell156@aol.com
No calls after 9 PM please

NO CALLS AFTER 9 PM PLEASE

Spring Fling



Bob and Kathy Hener, Madge Kellick
and Bo and Donna Wiberg



Mercedes and Bob Blackson



Gabe Cordova and Gary Gash.

A million thanks to Jeff Thrasher for hosting this year's Spring Fling. He and Stephanie Evers did an outstanding job of making this evening another lovely event that River Hillers will never forget.



FROM THE SUMMIT

Walter Kostrzewski—President

WOW is it HOT! 91 degrees and much hotter than my golf game.

Hope you all are having a great summer. While you are beaching it, golfing, biking, hiking

and playing tennis your River Hills Board is planning for another snowy season.

Recently we have had a "long range planning", "budget", and multiple "Board" meetings, all since Killington shut down the Superstar quad.

We have transitioned in a "new" board with a lot of familiar faces. Charles continuing on as our VP/"heater-guy", Barbara as Secretary, Peter as the money man, and yours truly as President. The rest of our board looks quite the same as well . . .

Madge Kellick, Nancy Trovato, Kathy Hener, Curtis Casey, Barbara Buck and Bob Hener. New members of the Board include Chris Zimmerman (activities), Susan Levine (asst membership), Sharon Lehr (programs), Judi Kostrzewski (co-communications), Jocelyn Gash (asst. operations). Gabe Cordova is THANKFUL still our CSC Rep and Doug Paulding has taken over as Race Chairman. We look forward to keeping the club moving forward and enjoying the friendships.

Let's ALL give Bob Hener a HUGE THANK YOU next time you see him personally! He took over

for the club in a time of need and left the club in better shape than ever financially and structurally!
THANK YOU BOB!!!

SUMMER DATES TO REMEMBER:

I look forward to seeing everyone at the **Summer Meeting**, Wednesday, July 20th, my house, 7 Revere Rd. Darien, CT. Please RSVP 203-656-2931. We will have a BBQ after the meeting and feature a "DRIVE IN" movie/video of the past years club race thanks to Kurt Fischer.

Summer Picnic-Cove Island Stamford in September, see flyer enclosed in this issue!

And finally please don't forget the VERY important **Club Work Weekends!!** RHSC needs you! Your WINTER HOME needs you. We are planning some pretty nice club upgrades (no hot tub yet, sorry) and need YOUR help!!! Our home needs hands on care or work must be outsourced at higher labor costs. In order for RHSC to maintain the economic lifestyle we have all grown accustomed to hands on PARTICIPATION IS A MUST FOR ALL MEMBERS!!

See you at the Summer Meeting Wednesday, July 20th.

—Walter

Thanks and Comments from the VP

Dear Friends:

I would like to share some thoughts with you. First, I want to thank those members who voted for me. I will persist in our common effort to improve our club.

During the end-of-season long range planning committee meeting on 27 April, a number of improvement plans were discussed. Among these were the ongoing 2nd floor ladies bathroom renovation and the revamping of the far basement room, i.e., the area where the ski rack is located.

These large and potentially expensive, undertakings seem to suffer two common problems: money and people power. The assignment of "project managers" was presented as a way to shepherd a plan to fruition. Bob Hener, our now past president, stepped up to oversee the bath project. I will continue with the lodge heating project.

These project managers will work in concert with Curtis Casey, our Maintenance Chair, while at the same time, removing considerable weight from his ongoing agenda.

Project funding is always a serious consideration.

How do we best balance member expectations and desires against the allocation of funds? We can't have everything and still be affordable to members, especially those with children.

At the last board meeting, May 10, Walter, lead a discussion on getting wider member participation to "work" for the club. The ensuing discussion centered on the fact that member participation in actual work has declined over the years. We can always hire the talent, but this is getting expensive, even in Vermont.

The feeling at the board level is that the club needs to get all members, not just the usual suspects, to contribute. This could be done not only during the scheduled work weekends, as now, but in small groups—ad hoc work parties—during the off season. This option this would give members more flexibility to contribute.

The board would welcome any thoughts on wider participation. You could post to their e-mails. Diana's and mine is dianasusan@netzero.com.

With thoughts and ideas being the seeds of improvement, perhaps we need a club blog.

—Charles Mirabella

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

VICE-PRESIDENT
Charles Mirabella
(914) 636-7437
dianasusan@netzero.com

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

TREASURER
Peter Buck
(203) 406-0436
buckp@creativepension.com

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

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

PROGRAMS
Sharon Lehr
(203) 325-8764
sharon.m.lehr@marsh.com

ACTIVITIES
Chris Zimmerman
(203) 324-0003
sup203@yahoo.com

OPERATIONS
Kathy Hener
(203) 375-3942
cyberaunt1@aol.com
Jocelyn Gash
(914) 273-9768
gashlaw@aol.com

MEMBERSHIP
Nancy Trovato
(203) 698-0716
ntrovato@sbcglobal.net
Susan Levine
(203) 637-7753
susanjlevine@optonline.net

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

COMMUNICATIONS
Barbara Aronica-Buck
(203) 406-0436
bookdesigner@aol.com
Judi Kostrzewski
(203) 656-2931
ski4xtc@aol.com
Jamie Buck, webmaster
jamie@jamiebuck.com

Maintenance

Greetings from Maintenance Base Camp. Summer is here, which means only one more season till we ski again. Plans are in motion, projects are already getting organized for the Fall work weekends. Please mark your calendars for October 7–9, Columbus Day Weekend, for the first high impact weekend. A second weekend will follow for specialty projects and those not completed in the first blast, likely October 28–30. There is still a good-sized pile of fire wood to be carted into the shed, so while up at the house this summer please take the time for a couple arm loads. E-mail any observations of repair requirements to Bikeout@aol.com.

Thanks for the help. See you all soon, Curtis.

RHSC Membership "Significant Activity" Participation

The rationale for the "participation rule" is that, as a volunteer organization, RHSC operates well only when everyone shares the work. In order for the Club to run smoothly, and keep expenses down, we must have active, not passive members. Unfortunately over the last few years a good many of the old as well as new members have not been stepping up to the plate to offer assistance.

I would like to reaffirm what a Significant Activity is and is not. Attending Club social functions is NOT a significant activity; however, volunteering to coordinate one of these functions or do some of the "dirty work" IS considered significant—get the idea?!

We all have busy lives but if you have the time to enjoy a week or weekend at the lodge, I would suggest you can find the time to offer some assistance to the Club. When you receive the Renewal for the 2005–2006 season, please turn the form over and VOLUNTEER for some of the categories listed.

—Nancy Trovato, Membership Chairperson

Operations Observations

Though the winter is behind us, we still feel the call of the mountains. Our wonderful lodge sits quietly waiting for us to return and enjoy her charms. There is a lot to do in Vermont at this time of year. Go shop, kayak, hike, golf, eat out and relax. Use the house for a few days or for a weekend. It's a totally different experience to use the lodge in the summer. When you do go, the same rules apply, though. Clean up after yourself, take your garbage back with you and don't leave any food out or in the refrigerator. Traci comes every other week. We do not have garbage pick up in the summer. We do have someone coming to do yard work. Make your reservations with the monthly coordinators and then have a good time.

Looking forward to the fall season, we are getting ready to renew our contractors for next year. We will be having Coordinators training in October or November. Make sure you come to learn the ropes or to get a refresher course. Until then, have a good summer.

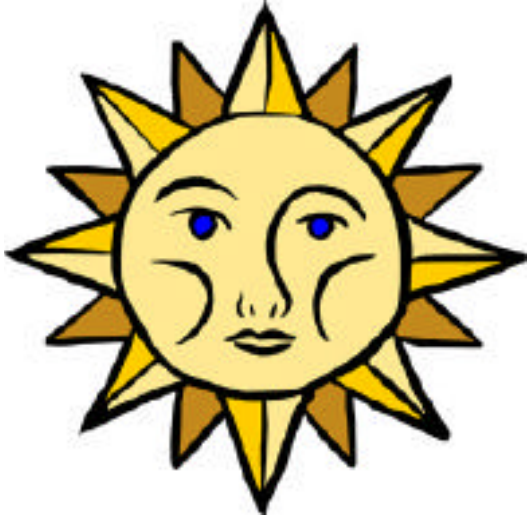
—Kathy Hener

River Hills Ski Club 2005 Annual Summer Picnic

Date: Sunday, September 18, 2005

Time: 1:00pm to 5:00pm

Place: Cove Island Park, Stamford, CT



Activities: Bocce Ball, Hiking, Roller-Blading, Volleyball, Baseball

Menu:

Hamburgers & Hot Dogs

Corn-on-the-Cob

Potato Salad and more

Egg Plant Parm

Deserts, sweets, fruit

Soda and soft drinks

Beer and wine

Potato and corn chips with dips

Adults: \$20.00 per person

Children 7 years and older: \$15.00 per child

Children under 7—free

Yes, I (we) plan to attend this year's RHSC picnic on September 18, 2005 at Cove Island Park in Stamford, CT. *(No rain date)*

Enclosed is a check payable to RHSC \$_____ to cover the cost for following people:

Please mail names of attendee(s) along with your check to Lou Trovato, 10 Hillcrest Lane Old Greenwich, CT 06870 Home Telephone: (203) 698-0716 please leave a message.

Yes, I would also like to coordinate the following activity for the picnic and may be

Name _____ phone _____

E-mail _____ cell _____

_____ Organize the Games: baseball, volleyball game

_____ Bring Music

_____ Coordinate picnic set-up OR clean-up

River Hills Ski Club

SAVE THE DATES:

7/20/05

Summer Meeting

7pm at Walter and Judi Kostrzewski's house, 7 Revere Road, Darien, CT 06820

9/6/05

General Meeting 8 pm at Norwalk Boat Club

9/18/05

Summer Picnic at Cove Island Park, Stamford

9/20/05

General Meeting 8 pm at Norwalk Boat Club

10/3/05

General Meeting 8 pm at Norwalk Boat Club

10/7–10/10/05

WORK WEEKEND at the Lodge

10/17

General Meeting 8 pm at Norwalk Boat Club

11/1/05

General Meeting 8 pm at Norwalk Boat Club

11/15/05

General Meeting 8 pm at Norwalk Boat Club

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As of September 2005,
we will begin sending the **SKIZETTE VIA EMAIL ONLY!**

So, please let us know
IF YOU WANT THE SKIZETTE MAILED TO YOU.
Send your name to team@riverhillsskiclub.org or call Nancy Trovato
at (203) 698-0716
only if you wish to continue having the Skizette mailed.

Otherwise, see you online!!!



RIVER HILLS SKI CLUB
SKIZETTE
P.O.Box 8056
Stamford, CT 06905

*Save the Date for the Annual
Connecticut Ski Council Snowball!*



**November 12, 2005
at the Connecticut Hotel
& Conference Center**

3850 East Main Street, Waterbury, CT
For room reservations call: 1-800-446-1449.
The CSC room rate is \$75.

Two bands for non-stop music and dancing.

For your information, each ski club in the council must participate in the snowball to keep the bulk ticket purchase privileges. With this in mind, Gabe volunteered RHSC to be on the Ticket/Door Security committee. Gabe will chair this committee for us and hopes those of you attending to the Snowball will volunteer to help out. Remember that this is essential for maintaining our ability to purchase bulk tickets.

So plan to go to the snowball and help out our club.

It is always a fun evening.