

SNOW SCULPTURE CONTEST

We will hold a Snow Sculpture Contest at the Lodge Feb 21st—24th (school vacation)
The rules and judges will be posted up at the Lodge. Prizes to be awarded Thursday
at the Lodge. Pictures of the winners and their creations will appear in the March Skizette.

RHSC MEMORIAL RACE WEEKEND MARCH 12-13

The race will be held at PICO Mountain, March 12th. Race to begin at 10:00 AM on Lower Pike,
(trail right in front of the base lodge). Details to follow. See website.

NOTE: The 35 places in the lodge have already been reserved for Wednesday, Feb 9 & Thur Feb 10.

RHSC GOES TO COSTA RICA SEE ATTACHED FLYER FROM GABE!

CSC ON-SNOW WEEKEND

MARCH 4TH - 6TH AT BROMLEY MT - MARK YOUR CALENDAR

CSC SKI TRIP:

WINTER PARK, COLORADO MARCH 30 – APRIL 4 PRICE \$899

INCLUDES:

Roundtrip air
5 nights lodging at Winter Park Mountain Lodge
Ground transportation Denver to Winter Park
4-day lift ticket 4 breakfasts

Welcome Reception with Mico Brews, wine & cheese

Contact Gabe Cordova 203-878-4727

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

FEBRUARY 2005



FEBRUARY 1
GENERAL MEETING

FEBRUARY 15
GENERAL MEETING
*The Benefits of Sports Massage
during the Ski Season*

FEBRUARY 21ST THRU 24TH
PRESIDENT'S WEEK AT THE LODGE
Snow Sculpture Contest

MARCH 1
GENERAL MEETING

MARCH 4-6
CSC ON-SNOW WEEKEND
at Bromley Mt.

MARCH 12-13
MEMORIAL RACE WEEKEND

MARCH 15
GENERAL MEETING
Wine Tasting at BENNETT's, Stamford

Visit the new RHSC website at our new address:

www.riverhillsskiclub.org

MEMBERS ONLY LOGIN: [RIVERHILLS](#)
MEMBERS ONLY PASSWORD: [KILLINGTON](#)

Wonderful Vail in December

Bill Hughes and I left for Vail, Colorado on December 4 and returned on December 11. We stayed at the Marriott's Streamside at Vail in a one-bedroom condo with a living room and kitchen.

We skied five days in Vail and one day at Beaver Creek. Bill had to get to Beaver Liquor for his tee shirt and cap. The snow was very good (no ice). Each evening it would snow 2-3 inches and on our last day, we had 30 inches of snow to ski on. It was wonderful, except that all the locals were out and we had lift lines for the first time. Apparently, the locals take off from work to ski on powder days. Each day started with a great breakfast in the condo, we would take the shuttle to the ski area. Ski a full day, return to the condo, change into our bathing suits, get into the hot tub with a few beers, go to the sauna, shower and then out to dinner. What a wonderful life!!!

We met up with Bonnie and Ernie Atlas; former members who retired to Vail. Bonnie is a buyer at Gorsuch, a very nice upscale shop in the center of Vail village. My boots were hurting (an on going problem for the last two years) and Ernie recommended that I take them to Billy, the boot fitter at Gorsuch, to have them checked out. He fixed the problem in about two minutes. I am very grateful to Billy.

Wayne Tomassello, a former RHSC member and past president who now lives in Denver, came out to ski with us on Monday and stayed all week. Wayne discovered that the living room sofa was, in fact, a sofa bed and he was very comfortable for his stay in Vail.

Bonnie and Ernie invited us to their home for dinner. They have a very lovely and comfortable home situated up high on a hill. Ernie served martinis and Bonnie prepared a delicious dinner with which we drank a great Spanish wine and had good conversation. It was a very wonderful evening.

Three RHSC past presidents (Wayne, Bill and myself,) as well as a couple of former club members enjoyed a wonderful week together. Vail was offering a pre-season special at most of their restaurants so Bill and I dined at the Left Bank for \$30. We had a five-course dinner at one of the best Vail eateries. They served a salmon appetizers, lobster bisque, green salad, trout almandine, desert and coffee. All was well except that Bill thought that the salmon and the lobster were carrots. :)

Gabe Cordova



Vail - find Bill



Vail - Gabe Cordova, Victor Emanuel and Bill Hughes



FROM THE SUMMIT

Bob Hener—President

Its time to ski and Riverhillers are skiing all over the globe. There is plenty of snow up north. Make your reservations through the monthly coordinator now. Make your reservations for February with Lauren or Paul Schallis. Contact Stan Thurley to visit the Lodge in March and April. Thanks to all for being the monthly coordinators. It is a big job!

Are you practicing your racing technique? Race Weekend is fast approaching. Mark your calendars for March 12th at PICO. Stephanie and Sharon have a day of activities planned plus a Mexican Theme feast at the end of the day. Watch for the race flyer posted on our website. There will be the typical serious races plus fun races for all.

Thinking of late season skiing. Join the bus trip. Sign up with Gerry Harrington for skiing the first weekend in April way up north where the snow lasts well into spring.

Presidents Holiday Week will see a "snow sculpture contest" at the lodge with prizes offered in various categories. See the website for rules and a schedule of judging times.

It appears there are membership slots still available. 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. Contact Nancy Trovato our membership chair for the application. We should constantly market the club and ourselves to attract new people. Bringing in friends, and acquaintances helps support the lodge, and the camaraderie and culture of the sport we all love.

Hey RiverHillers, are you doing your chores? As a member of RiverHills you are part owner of the Lodge. Take pride in our greatest asset, the Lodge. Please remember to look for your name and chore on the list posted on the Lodge Bulletin Board. We are getting reports that chores are not being completed. It is the cooperation and volunteerism that keeps our organization running smoothly and the same volunteerism contributes to an enjoyable stay at the Lodge. Do your chores! They are not difficult. Don't make the coordinator chase you down. Take pride in the Lodge and our club.

Counts are more important than you think! If you are a coordinator please make sure you give the cooks accurate counts INCLUDING breakdowns of adults vs kids that will be staying at the Lodge when you are coordinating. MEMBERS, if you are not going to be having dinner at the Lodge, please inform the coordinator. Coordinators, please pass on this information to the cooks. An example which is a recurring problem is as follows: 23 people at the lodge. 2 no shows. 2 people car trouble. 3 people not eating dinner. You end up with 16 people eating dinner out of 23. The cooks correctly received a count of 23. Members...you will be charged for dinner. Out of courtesy, please inform the coordinator if you are not eating at the Lodge. It is not possible to count every situation but people see left overs and their first reaction is portion control...not so.

Our website www.riverhillsskiclub.org expands every month with additional club news, Skizettes, club forms, CSC news and items of interest to members. Thank you webmaster Jamie Buck and all members for sending in items to post.

The CSC Monday night racing program has started. All ability levels are welcome to practice and race. Come join Gabe, Walter, Chris, Tom, Jeff and many others every Monday night at Mt. Southington.

We all join in wishing Charlie Marabella a quick recovery from his surgery.

Remember to volunteer, it is what keeps the club running smoothly! Enjoy the February Holidays. Tune up those skis and boards. Think Snow! See you at the Lodge!

Bob



Stephanie Evers with members and guests at the lodge

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Historical Notes

by Barbara and Bob Guth

40 YEARS AGO - FEBRUARY 1965

Racing was big 40 years ago. The River Hills racing team was asked to represent the Connecticut Ski Council against the NY State Ski Council. The Skizette noted that River Hills, as well as Walt Elliott, were mentioned in a recent Wall St Journal article, but the topic of the article wasn't given. An article entitled "Vermont Beginning" by member Karl Brautigam was attached to the Skizette. Connecticut soldiers going home after the French and Indian War in 1760 were impressed with the lands now known as Vermont. Many from Connecticut came back to settle in the area. We are still coming.

30 YEARS AGO - FEBRUARY 1975

Herb and Betty Pennington did a great job as lodge coordinators for the Christmas-New Year's holiday. Eleven inches of new snow fell on Christmas Day. Over the weekend a group of romantic and hardy souls went moonlight cross-country skiing. The New Year's Eve celebration began with a late candlelight dinner in our new lounge

area. Chef Peter Juete prepared his gourmet chicken fricassee that was promptly dubbed "fricken chicken". The evening ended with champagne and dancing upstairs.

20 YEARS AGO - FEBRUARY 1985

Coordinators were warned that cider is now more popular than wine at the lodge. It was recommended that 1.5 gallons be planned per 20 people (more if a lot of children are present). Julian Langer suggested that we try a 50/50 mixture of cider and soda water. Two-day tickets for the On-the-Snow weekend at Bromley cost \$30 this year. Talk about inflation at the slopes!

10 YEARS AGO - FEBRUARY 1995

A photo of six former Snow Queens graced the front page of the Skizette. There were Marion Cordova, Marcia Sloat, Debbie Mirabella-Headen, Margaret Bush, Anne Zaera, and Marge Macintyre. Bus trips began to lose their popularity with 2 of the 4 scheduled trips being cancelled.

lodge coordinators

FEBRUARY

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

MARCH

Nancy Troop and Stan Thurley
(203) 969-7125
nantroop@optonline.net
stan.thurley@ubs.com

NO CALLS AFTER 9 PM PLEASE

OPERATIONS OBSERVATIONS

By Kathy Hener

We've been having a lot of fun at the lodge this season. The weather has been a mixed bag of



very cold temperatures and very hard snow, but it has been enjoyable. The gatherings at the lodge have been different every weekend. They have been great. The blending of families, singles, new members, seasoned members and potential members has been very comfortable and interesting. This weekend we had a small group. We all gathered around the fireplace and watched the snow fall. We all hoped that we wouldn't be able to get out of Vermont in time for work/school

on Monday but we were disappointed. Everyone pitched in and did their assigned duty and then duties that were not assigned. One person even cleaned out the downstairs closet. (That's not on any duty list!) Many hands removed the snow that was too much for 2 people to shovel. The coordinator for the weekend made good use of all the lodgers. River Hillers working together to enjoy the season and the lodge. This is how it's supposed to work. Thanks to all who take care of our lodge and set an example for all future guests and members.



member news:

new club members

Welcome to Sarah Michaela Maitland, born December 22, 2004. 7 lbs, 14oz, 20 inches. She, Jim and Mary are all doing well, just missing a lot of sleep.

Dennis Huskins has joined the club. We look forward to seeing you at the meetings and the lodge.

in the hospital

Best wishes for a successful surgery and speedy recovery to our VP Charles Mirabella.

our condolences

Ben Fegan, a member of RHSC in the 60's and 70's, died on January 7, 2005 in Williamsburg, VA at the age of 79.

Ben was a structural engineer and worked for IBM in Colorado. He met River Hills member Alan Silberman waiting in a ski lift line. Ben was being transferred east by IBM and after Alan's description became an enthusiastic member upon his arrival.

Ben designed and supervised the construction of the new addition to the Lodge in 1973, when Joe O'Malley was President.

His wife, Barbara Hart Fegan, one sister, three brothers, two nieces survive Ben.

A memorial service was held on January 28, 2005, at St Francis Chapel, Stamford, CT. Many RHSC members and alumni attended.



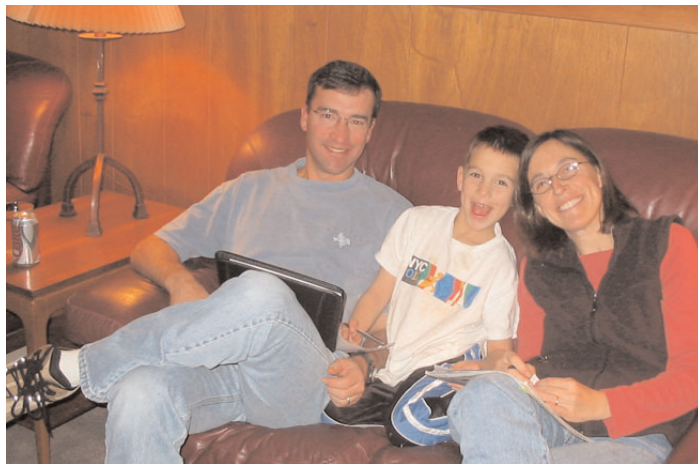
Mike Coplan, David Zecchin and guest



Tom Grimm



Ed Bagnato and John Manocchi



O'Brien family

Opposite page:

l. Barbara Bagnato chatting with John Manocchi
r. Anne Harrigan, Jocelyn and Rene Coplan

programs:

MARCH 15 The General Meeting will be held at BENNETT'S Steakhouse in Stamford and will be followed by a wine-tasting. Those members who wish to stay after the regular agenda and attend this special event will be asked to pay \$25 per person.

APRIL 19th Program will be on Biking.

SPRING FLING: Saturday, May 14 at Jeff Thrasher's home in Greenwich. Looking for volunteers to help.

SAVE THE DATE: RHSC Summer Picnic will be Saturday, September 10 at Cove Island, Stamford.



Betty Manocchi and "long-time" member Gene Daddona



Lou Trovato

River Hills Vacations in Costa Rica

Sunday July 31 - Saturday August 6, 2005

Trip includes:

- Roundtrip air via Delta, New York - San Jose, Costa Rica
- Transfer San Jose Airport to Arenal Tabacon Lodge
- 2 nights lodging at Tabacon Hot Springs Resort & Spa with daily breakfast and unlimited entrance to Tabacon Hot Springs
- 1 Group Dinner at Tabacon Hot Springs Resort
- 4 Nights lodging at Parador Hotel In Deluxe Room with daily breakfast buffet
- Tour into the Manuel Antonio Park
- All hotel taxes and air taxes of \$70 pp (subject to change)
- Two tour guides to accompany the group throughout the stay.
- Transfer Quepos to San Jose Airport

Cost is \$1499 per person

Payment:	Deposit \$299
2nd Payment:	\$700 due 2/15/05
Final Payment	\$500 due 4/15/05

Activities can include: swimming in hotel pool and in the Pacific Ocean, horseback riding, hiking, windsurfing. Canopy tours above the forest, viewing wild life in it's own habitat, seeing beautiful plants & flowers, going deep sea fishing, touring the primary forest via the hanging bridges are available. The Tabacon Hot Springs Resort & Spa is located near the base of the Arenal Volcano and provides unparalleled experience with its natural thermal pools, it's tropical surrounding and its famous Iskandia Spa. There are many things to do and see in Costa Rica. It is a tropical paradise. Our guides will make it intellectually enjoyable.

Four night extension is available for a cost of \$569; includes 2 nights Rafiki Safari lodge with all meals, 2 nights 5-star Rancho Rio Perlas hot spring resort with breakfast. Includes transfers from Quepos/hotel Parador to Rafiki lodge to Rancho Rio Perlas (with stop at Savegre National Reserve with lunch and tour en route) to San José airport.

For more information contact Gabe Cordova (203) 878-4727