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River Hills Ski Club SKIZETTE



www.riverhillsskiclub.org

SEPTEMBER 2006

Ken Vought Award Presentation By Madge Kellick

This year's Ken Vought recipient, as always, goes to an individual who has the Club at heart. This recipient never said no to helping when asked, and always stepped up to the plate to volunteer on many different functions. This person has given great friendship and comradeship to many in the Club over the years with a broad smile and great enthusiasm.

This person joined the Club in 1982, and started skiing 40 yrs ago when introduced to the sport by a friend. A co-worker, Bill Miller brought him to the Club. Over the years, he has served on the Board, and many other projects and work weekends.

As far as skiing goes, he is as graceful as Stein Erickson, so smooth on the hill, that it is a joy to watch him float down the slopes.

Another club member had this to say: while we were riding the chair I told him how much I admired his style of skiing... "You're so graceful, like a dancer... You lean so much from side to side... Absolutely beautiful" I told him. Well, he just loved the praise and when we got off the

chair and he went ahead of me he leaned so far into the "S" curve, he just kept leaning till he hit the snow. His skis went right from under him and he just slid down on his side, all the way to the next flat area of the slope..."



when I reached him I said "That's not what I meant" and we just had a good laugh.

On a personal note, he has been married for 45 years; he has 17 grandchildren, and 6 great grandchildren. He has been, and this is the big give-away....a Harley motorcycle enthusiast and champion. He still repairs motorcycles and continues to work out. He plays the sax

flute in a jazz band around Greenwich. He will be 77 this year!

We, the Ken Vought Committee are proud to recognize Bob Blackson for his contributions and enthusiasm for the Club as the 2006 Ken Vought Recipient.



**From the
Summit**
Walter Kostrzewski,
President

Another season is here! While you have been enjoying the summer your Board has been diligently preparing the Lodge for another GREAT season.

Let's hope this constant precipitation we have had ALL summer continues into the winter months.

Some fun activities and programs are coming up. Sunday 9/17 is our Summer Picnic at Cove Island Park in Stamford. Our first General Meeting is Tuesday 9/19. At the October General Meetings we have a wine tasting, a visit from our CSC President and a pre-season workout at the Egoscue clinic in Rye, NY. See www.egoscue.com for more info on how this technique can help us all ski better. The complete season activities and meeting schedule has been posted on the website www.riverhillsskiclub.org. Please refer to the website frequently for updates and changes.

After many years of publication the "Skizette" as you know it is going away. The ground work has been laid for the last few years to move our club to the information superhighway. You will continue to receive the Skizette, but electronically. We appreciate some of you do not have access. If you note on your membership renewal application that you would still like your copy sent to you via the United States Post Office, we would be happy to continue that service.

November is the CSC kickoff in Trumbull, the annual SNOW BALL. Lisa Nau has graciously offered to represent us as our Ambassador. Show your support by attending this fun night out. Email Gabe Cordova ASAP for your tickets gabeski@optonline.net.

December 8-10 is our pre-season BUS TRIP with details still to be determined. Consider this, Killington was Open in November last season and on Dec 9, last year, had just received 2 feet of FRESH SNOW. Email Chris Zimmerman at supe203@yahoo.com to sign up now.

Onto some business. The board has voted unanimously to extend officer terms to TWO YEARS. The trend of 2 years in office has gone on for over 10 years now BUT with a vote every year! There will be a vote to change the terms from ONE to TWO years at the second meeting in October. Any discussion will be entertained at the 9/19 and 10/3 general meetings. Contact me with your thoughts... ski4xtc@aol.com.

Bob Boothroyd has put together an OUTSTANDING review of the "condition" of OUR second home in VT! That is the good news. The bad news is as we all know it is an aging building in need of repairs to keep it up to our liking and to keep us all comfortable and happy. Repair costs on maintenance items are up significantly. For details you can read Bob's report on the website.

Thanks to Peter Buck for completing another year's budget, approved by the Board. The 2006-2007 Budget will be available on the website soon and printed in the Skizette next month.

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2006-2007 Calendar

September 17th
Summer Picnic
Cove Island Park, Stamford, CT

September 19th
General Meeting
NBC 8PM

September 29th
Fall Work Weekend I
Sept 29th – Oct 1st

October 3rd
General Meeting
NBC 8PM

October 17th
General Meeting
NBC 8PM

October 27th
Fall Work Weekend II
Oct 27th – Oct 29th

November 7th
General Meeting
NBC 8PM

November 11th
CSC Snow Ball
Marriot Hotel, Trumbull, CT

November 21th
General Meeting
NBC 8PM

December 5th
General Meeting & Holiday Party
NBC 8PM

Lodge Coordinators

September & October
Paul Fiscella
(203) 322-3219
pfiscella@optonline.net

November
Stan Thurley
(203) 557-4115
stan.thurley@ubs.com

Please no calls after 9pm

RHSC Board

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Treasurer

Budget Summary

6/1/2005 Through 5/31/2006

Category Description	Actual	Budget	Difference
INCOME			
Lodge - room revenue	31,059	31,050	9
Penalties & fines	679	1,000	-321
Lodge - food revenue	13,193	12,300	893
Membership dues	14,580	13,750	830
Member initiation fees	300	1,500	-1,200
Activities Revenue	28,153	33,000	-4,847
Interest Income	532	200	332
TOTAL INCOME	88,496	92,800	-4,304
EXPENSES			
Lodge room expense	28,544	32,765	4,221
Lodge food expenses	14,058	13,560	-498
Administration	6,049	6,625	576
Activities expenses	28,796	32,850	4,054
Capital Expense	5,035	20,945	15,910
TOTAL EXPENSES	82,482	106,745	24,263
OVERALL TOTAL	6,014	-13,945	19,959
Open Cash & CD	44,405		
Close Cash & CD	50,419		

From the Summit

The good news here is the club is in good financial health. Money is available to start on some Capital Improvements, which have already been approved by the membership. And our magical floor \$\$\$ will not be eroded.

The lodge continues to be a popular place in the off season with many groups visiting this year. Consider the RHSC for your next family reunion or business outing. The lodge may be exclusively booked in the off season!

In closing, our membership at the present time is open and excepting applications. You may download applications from the website or email Susan Levine at susanlevine@optonline.net to invite your friends into our River Hills Family.

LET IT SNOW!

Walter Kostrzewski
RHSC President

Operations

SEPTEMBER 2006

River Hills members will now have storage bins available at the Lodge for use during the ski season to store nonperishable items. This season there will be 19 bins available and if it proves to be popular and if demand warrants, we can build additional bins to accommodate more members. There will be no charge for the bins, and it will be one bin per membership. Due to the limited availability we will have a lottery to determine who will get use of the bins this season. Details regarding the lottery will be announced at the Sept 19th general meeting.

Jocelyn Gash

Membership

The membership renewals were mailed August 15th and are due back September 30th. Renewals received after September 30th will incur a \$15 late fee.

Please contact Susan Levine at 203.637.7753, susanjlevine@optonline.net for any questions regarding membership.

Maintenance

WORK WEEKEND UPDATE

Membership response to our two fall work weekends has been excellent. With that being said, we still need YOU! This is a great way to fulfill your commitment to the club. The dates are September 30 – October 1 and October 28 –29. About twice as many members are signing up for the second one as the first, so if you are flexible, please sign up for the first weekend.

Weather permitting; we plan to paint/stain at least one of the four sides of the lodge exterior. Weather not permitting, we plan to paint inside. We also need handyman work done, grounds maintenance, all types of cleaning and cooks. So if you can paint, use a screwdriver, hammer or a rake, would like to clean or would like to cook, we need you. We need someone to be a weekend coordinator. If you have any step or extension ladders you can bring to the club, please let us know. We would like you to commit to working a full day on Saturday and a half day on Sunday (about 12 hours). Please contact Bob, Jan or Bill:

Bob Boothroyd 203-952-3414 rbboothroyd@aol.com
Jan Hansen 203-662-9553 famouslylily@aol.com
Bill Sherriff 203-866-6693 wes25noryahoo.com

Programs

October 3rd CSC President will address RHSC!
October 17th Get Ready for Ski Season, location TBD
November 7th Coordinator Training w/ Kathy Hener
December 5th Holiday Party, details TBD

If you have questions or would like to help with a Program, please contact Sharon Lehr at 203.325.8764 or sharon.m.lehr@marsh.com

Activities

CSC Snow Ball – Saturday November 11th
Marriot Hotel, Trumbull, CT, details to be announced.

Your participation is greatly appreciated, so if you would like to plan or contribute to an activity, please contact Chris Zimmerman at 203.324.0003 or supe203@yahoo.com.

CT Ski Council

CSC Tickets orders must be received by Bob Hener no later than the October 3rd general meeting. Details will be and order form will be available on the River Hills website: www.riverhillsskiclub.org.

For questions regarding the CSC, please contact our representative, Gabe Cordova at (203) 878-4727 or gabeski@optonline.net





Carol Jane Bancroft
December 13, 1930 – June 9, 2006

In Remembrance

Carol Bancroft, a member of River Hills Ski Club for fifty years, died on Friday June 9, 2006, at the age of 75, at her home in Sandy Hook, CT, after a two-year battle with ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease).

Carol graduated from the Rhode Island School of Design and began her career in New York as a "paste-up" artist for Woman's Day magazine, then to Ladies Home Journal as a layout artist and to McGraw-Hill as Art Director for three business (trade) magazines "Today's Secretary, Junior Secretary and Business Education World". She moved on to become Art Director of the Children's Book Division at McGraw-Hill for eleven years.

In 1972, Carol set up her own business, representing artists who specialize in illustrating children's books. She represented more than 40 artists, and in 1996 she was voted Entrepreneurial Woman of the Year by the Entrepreneurial Woman's Network in Westport, CT.

Carol was an enthusiastic skier, enjoyed weekends at the club's lodge with her friends during her downhill skiing years and doing cross-country in recent years.

Carol always set up the candles on the dinner tables at the lodge so that guests could introduce themselves while holding a lit candle—a custom that still continues at the lodge.

Carol was chairman of the committee which established the Ken Vought Award, and she arranged the first presentation of this award to Orie Mesedahl in 1975.

For many years Carol organized a Sunday Bike Hike in the Fall which always finished at her house where the cyclists gathered around the fire, imbibing in hot mulled cider and tasty nibbles.

Carol is survived by her brother, David, of San Francisco, CA, and two nieces and one nephew. A memorial service was held Sunday, August 20, 2006.

Jenny Fullilove

A Memorial Service

Carol Jane Bancroft

December 13, 1930 to June 9, 2006

Tarrywile Park and Mansion

Danbury, Connecticut

70 Southern Boulevards
Danbury, CT

Carol's family and friends gathered together to celebrate her life at a memorial service which was held on Sunday August 20, 2006 at Tarrywile Park and Mansion in Danbury, Connecticut. It was a beautiful service and was well attended by RHSC. There were twenty-five past and present Riverhillers that attended the memorial service.



1st row: Bill Fullilove, Rene Copeland, Clair DeLuca, Mette Rea, Chuck Week, and Bill Miller. **2nd row:** Sonia Devine, Matt Losnick, Frank Rea, Mike Copeland, Julian Langer. **3rd Row:** Gisela Ruthman, Jenny Fullilove, Marion Losnick, Marion Cordova, Gabe Cordova, Lynn Dean Gray, Marion Gregg. **4th row:** Tillie Dianis (maiden name), Pat Street, Tim Street, Ann Dufrane, Gerry Harrington, Bob Collins. **5th row:** Herb Rudolph, Elaine Kaczorowski.

RHSC MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE WORK WEEKEND ANNOUNCEMENT

Your Maintenance Committee Director, Bob Boothroyd and Assistant Directors Jan Hansen and Bill Sherriff need your help! In the tradition of River Hills "hands on" approach to maintaining our lodge, we have planned two fall work weekends. The dates are September 30 – October 1 and October 28 –29.

Why do we need you to participate? Because our lodge needs a lot of maintenance. We pay thousands of dollars every year to outside vendors to perform maintenance services, but in order to keep our dues structure affordable, we rely on our members to step forward and contribute their time and effort to perform maintenance tasks that, while not particularly complex or physically demanding, nevertheless, save us thousands of dollars every year because we do not have to pay outside vendors to perform them.

Why not just pay the outside vendors to perform all of our maintenance tasks? Besides the money issue, there is a sense of camaraderie and "ownership" that is developed during a work weekend that cannot be duplicated during the ski season. One of the things that makes River Hills Ski Club so special is that it has a rich history of member participation. Members built much of the lodge. Members have maintained most of the lodge. Members will always support the lodge. Only you can determine whether this support will be merely financial or a more meaningful combination of some financial support and some "hands on" support.

Wait a minute, by participating in a work weekend I will develop a sense of camaraderie and "ownership" that I would otherwise not develop?

Are you kidding me? No. Consider this: when you are skiing at the lodge, you roll in Friday night and maybe visit with the group for an hour before bed. Saturday morning is breakfast, briefly social and then off to the slopes. Saturday evening is social, usually in a group or conversing with members you already know. Sunday morning is breakfast, briefly social, again, often with folks you already know, then off to the slopes, then back home to CT or NY. Your work assignment might be to set the tables or take out the trash. During a work weekend, you will spend hours with individuals, often one-on-one and by the end of the weekend, you will know everyone's name, probably their children's names and maybe even more information about them than you will ever want to know..... You will understand that the lodge is a great big second home for all of us and realize that it is aging and that it needs our TLC. You will leave with a sense of pride and a level of friendship and camaraderie that money just can't buy.

What specifically are we looking for? Weather permitting, we plan to paint/stain at least one of the four sides of the lodge exterior. Weather not permitting, we plan to paint inside. We also need handyman work

done, grounds maintenance, all types of cleaning and cooks. So if you can paint, use a screwdriver, hammer or a rake, would like to clean or would like to cook, we need you. We would like you to commit to working a full day on Saturday and a half day on Sunday (about 12 hours). If you have other skills or preferences or cannot participate in a work weekend but wish to support the maintenance of our lodge, please contact Bob, Jan or Bill.

The "close" line. OK, we're asking you to drive to VT, filling your gas tank at \$3+++ per gallon and miss recreation or home maintenance opportunities, maybe even family time. If you've read this far, you know the reasons we need you. Please know that we truly understand how precious your time is and how difficult it can be to "take a weekend off." Because we understand this, we feel that the least we can do for you is promise you an opportunity to make a very meaningful contribution to our club (the weekend will be well organized and you will be able to choose from several specific tasks), some great food (our last work weekend dinner was NY strip steaks, cooked on the outdoor grill to order, we also plan on breakfasts and lunch which will include healthy and hearty fare) and an opportunity to make some great new friends. If you haven't yet done a work weekend or haven't done one in a while, you owe it to yourself to renew old friendships and make some new ones. We promise you that after your first work weekend, you will have a completely new perspective on your lodge and your club.

Please contact:

- **Bob Boothroyd** Maintenance Director at 203-952-3414 or rhboothroyd@aol.com
- **Jan Hansen** (Outside Vendors and Suppliers) at 203-662-9553 or famouslylily@aol.com
- **Bill Sherriff** (Member Participation) 203-866-6693 or WES25NOR@YAHOO.COM





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