

December 2010



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Snowmaking at Killington - December 2010

### Letter from the President

Dear Riverhillers,

**Do you think the club is becoming too expensive?  
If yes, what are you personally doing to help?**

Falling membership means higher prices. The club has initiated a grass roots membership drive. Are you participating? If not, do you really have a right to complain about escalating costs?

How do you get involved? Print or email the flyer at <http://www.riverhillsskiclub.org/whats-new/membership-drive-documents/> and ask your

neighborhood associations to include it in their next email. Do the same with other organizations you are associated with where you feel that the general membership base would be a good fit with the club. You will be surprised by the results.

So far two board members have distributed the flyer to their neighborhood associations, and one to her exercise instructor's email blast. We also distributed the flyer at the ONS seminar. The response has been fantastic. We have 11 perspective new members - most of which are families.

We also created a fast track membership program, outlined in the Skizette, which includes a series of general meetings in January. If you want to play a role, take the simple step of distributing the flyer.

And just to be clear... we are not desperate for members. We have a gem. The decisions we make now about how to bring in new members will affect the club for the next 20 years. The club has not been marketed well. We now have an effective plan and all need to do our part to make it a success.

### **Complaints and concerns**

All club members have an equal right to enjoy their time at the lodge. If you feel that your rights or the rights of anyone else are being imposed upon, please bring this to the attention of the weekend coordinator, or if you would rather keep a low profile, reach out to Pat Siciliano or myself.

Anne, Sydney, Natalie and I will be heading to the lodge on Christmas Eve, and staying through the 29<sup>th</sup>. We hope to see many of you there.  
Happy holidays!

jo

## **UPCOMING MEETINGS & PROGRAMS**

As part of the club's membership drive, the board has added two additional meetings in January to "fast track" prospective members through the membership process. We currently have 11 new families who are applying for membership. Please make every effort to attend general meetings to meet our guests and welcome them to RHSC.

**January 4, General Meeting, 7:30 pm, Long Ridge Tavern:** Curtis Casey will give the annual Lodge Coordinator's Training. Members who were certified last year will continue to be certified until this meeting. If you are unable to attend January 4, please contact Curtis directly, and a second training session may be set up if necessary.

**January 5, "Meet & Greet" for Prospective Members and their Hosts, 7:30 pm, Home of John and Kelly Swingler:** Please contact John at [john.swingler@sappi.com](mailto:john.swingler@sappi.com) if you know someone with a genuine interest in joining our club and would like to attend. This event will count as one of three meetings prospective members need to attend to become members.

**January 18, General Meeting, 7:30 pm, Home of Anne & John Olshan, 110 Riverbank Drive, Stamford:** More details to come.

**February 1, General Meeting, 7:30 pm, Long Ridge Tavern:** Blind Auction - This fun event allows you to bid on "surprise" items brought in by your fellow club members. (Approximate values will be known by the auctioneer to ensure that you won't be disappointed.) It's a lot of fun and a great fundraiser for the club.

## ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

### Race Weekend -February 12/13

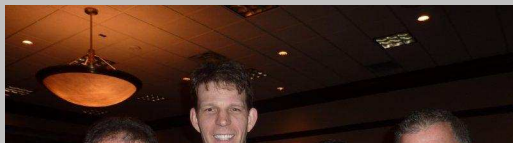
Our annual RHSC race is confirmed for Saturday, February 12 at Killington. A full weekend of fun events is being planned by the board so reserve your space at the lodge now!



### CSC Snow Ball

Great fun was had by all who attended the CSC Snow Ball in November! Members danced to the live band late into the night and kept the party going at Gabe and Marion Cordova's suite into the morning hours. Congratulations to our Ambassador Stephanie Evers for coming in as a runner up for the CSC Ambassador 2011! Gabe was also surprised to be called up to the stage to accept a CSC "Outstanding Member" award for his life-long dedication to RHSC. Way to go Gabe!

Finally, many thanks to Jerry Lewis from The Basin Ski Shop who generously donated a pair of Nordica skis and Northern Ski Works which donated a boot/glove dryer and two ski tunes.





Our snowball ambassador with Jim Collard, Chris Zimmerman, Sharon Lehr and Tom Nolan



Gabe Cordova with his award and Stephanie Evers



Anne & John Olshan



Gabe & Marion Cordova



Clockwise from Left: Sharon Lehr, Lisa Nau, Stephanie Evers, John Olshan, Judi Kostrzewski, Tom Nolan, Marion Cordova, Susan Anderson and Gabe Cordova



Stephanie Evers & Sharon Lehr



## MEMBER NEWS

### Membership Update

2010/2011 year starts with 73 memberships; 30 individual and 43 family.

Please welcome the following new members to our club:

- Kim Finnerty and her daughter, Kiera
- Tom and Sherry Hartigan and their 3 children, Alexis, Jack and Athena
- Aili and Mike Arisco and their 2 sons, Mike and Nick



The Hartigan Family

You should have received your CSC stickers for 2010/2011 and your vouchers. Please be sure to place your CSC sticker on your membership card and put your vouchers in a safe place or better yet please use them at your next trip to the lodge!

I'd like to recognize and thank once again both Larry and Debbie Headen for creating and printing this year's vouchers and Gabe Cordova for coordinating our CSC stickers. Next time you see them please thank them for their continued efforts and support on these membership activities.

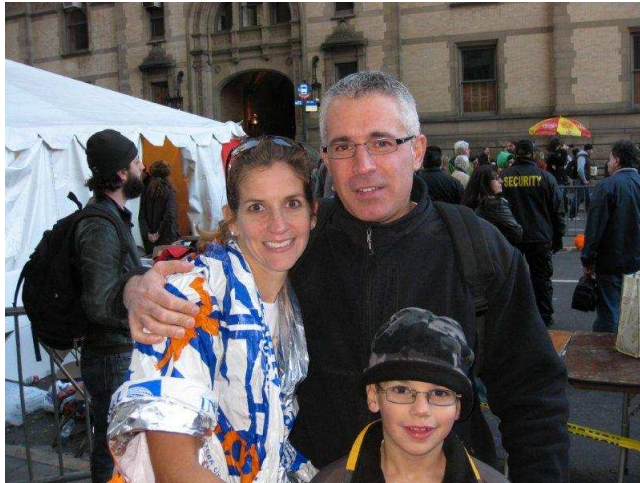
Please make sure you check our new Membership Drive Flyers that Anne Olshan designed and posted on our web-site at <http://www.riverhillsskiclub.org/whats-new/membership-drive-documents/>. Thank you Anne! Please use these flyers to help promote membership to our club. Anne and others board members have been aggressively promoting membership and inviting guests to our General Meetings. As a result of their efforts, we have a total of 11 new prospective members who are seriously interested in joining!

With all of these prospective members attending our general meetings, it is

important you also attend these meetings to socialize and talk up what a great club we have!

Apologies for going dark the last few weeks, but my daughter Katherine had been sick and I thought she had the flu, but it was appendicitis and after surgery on December 5 she is recuperating nicely. Thanks for your patience.

## Member News



### RHSC Member

Erica Lobosco finished the NYC Marathon in 4:52:46. She personally raised over \$3,000 for the National MS Society and in all her Run to Stop MS team raised over \$167,000! Her husband Michael's mom was diagnosed with MS about 20 years ago and passed away last June. Erica said running the marathon was very special to her in a lot of ways. Congratulations Erica!

Jim Collard (aka Jimmy Luge) visited the lodge recently with his mother, following the tradition of RHSC as a family club for all generations.



Jimmy Luge & Mother Luge at the Lodge -  
December 2010

Greetings River Hillers. Our ski season is now upon us. The work weekend crew got the house spruced up and all of our utilities and supporting services are signed up and ready to go. Our back freezer failed at some time this fall and was discarded; I am working on a replacement so please be mindful of your personal food stuffs with the reduced freezer space until the new appliance is delivered.

House business is now the focus for us all. Coordinators will be diligent about assigning individual chores, and it is then each of our responsibilities to support the house coordinators. Remember to check the duty roster, and don't be shy to pick up any loose ends.

I continue to receive valuable reports from members, so please continue to let me know of any issues observed when at the house. Thanks for all your support.

Cheers, Curtis.

## **What to do besides Skiing in Vermont. Six Suggestions for a Stormy Stay.**

By Tom Hartigan

Several years ago, I remember getting a call on December 23<sup>rd</sup> from my sister in law from Killington Mountain. Although our children all love to ski, she was advising us not to visit the mountain. She said, " It is 57 degrees and pouring." Once again, with a handful of energetic children, we were faced with the challenge of entertaining in Vermont off the slopes. Below, I have compiled a short list of six non-skiing activities for rain or shine.

### **The New England Maple Museum**



Worth a trip is the New England Maple Museum. To get there just take route 4 to route 7. It is open almost every day through the end of December. Here you can learn the history and art of making maple syrup (dating back to the Indians ). In addition, everyone can get to taste maple syrup candy and the syrup itself. Tour

Rates are a great deal at \$2.50 for adults and .75 for children.

<http://www.maplemuseum.com/>

### **Movie Theaters**

A great alternative on a rainy day is a movie. Unfortunately, a movie means a bit of a drive but may be combined with lunch to make for a great day. In Rutland, there is the Flagship Cinemas (802) 728-4012. They generally have showings of the latest movies which tend to brighten up even the gloomiest days.

## **Swim, Steam, and Massage**

Rainy day favorites always include a swim, steam, and massage. This can be had right on the access road at the Woods at Killington. A nominal fee provides access to the indoor pool with Jacuzzi, sauna, gym, and steam room. In addition, massages can be arranged with a prior appointment. My suggestion would be to NOT eat at the restaurant as it is not busy, changes hands frequently, and generally overpriced.



[www.woodsresortandspa.com/](http://www.woodsresortandspa.com/)

## **Day Trip to Woodstock**



Woodstock, VT is worth a day trip as it is a quaint little town with an enormous amount of activities to entertain all types and ages. Woodstock is filled with antique shops if you care to shop. Woodstock is known for its many art galleries and craft shops. If you are interested in a historical educational adventure, visit Woodstock's famous covered bridges. Covered bridges came about as a response to the heavy snowfalls which caused bridges to collapse. Woodstock has two famous covered bridges: the Taftsville Covered Bridge, and the Lincoln Covered Bridge.

<http://www.woodstockvt.com/attractions.php>

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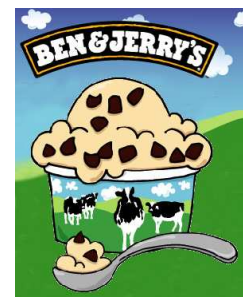
## **Shopping in Manchester**

I almost overlooked this viable option but was reminded by my wife. Manchester has dozens of outlets for shopping. The Manchester Designer Outlets has such quality names as Coach, Escada, J. Crew, Kate Spade, Polo and Tumi.

<http://www.manchesterdesigneroutlets.com/>

## **Ben & Jerry's Factory Tour**

No list of suggestions is complete without mentioning a tour of Ben & Jerry's in Waterbury, VT. Ben & Jerry's tours gives a complete factory overview of the ice cream making operation, an ice cream flavor graveyard and the unique manufacturing technique employed. Ben & Jerry's invented a way to add larger chunks of ingredients into ice cream than had been previously possible. This was created by establishing a proprietary extruder. The Ben & Jerry's visit is laced with their





own political philosophy. You won't leave hungry.

<http://www.benjerry.com/scoop-shops/factory-tours/factory/>

## **NEW RHSC APPAREL AND STICKERS!**

Show your RHSC spirit and help promote our club by purchasing our new stickers and logoed clothing! Stickers are available for \$3 each or 4 for \$10. Stickers will be for sale at each meeting and at the lodge or you can contact Anne Olshan at [aolshan@optonline.net](mailto:aolshan@optonline.net).



To order apparel, upload the order form and size chart at <http://www.riverhillsskiclub.org/member-resources/documents/rhsc-apparel-order-forms/> and contact Anne Olshan at to place your order. Please also contact Anne if you have an interest in volunteering to help manage our merchandise orders.

## **LODGE COORDINATORS**

### **January**

Paul Schallis

[Paul.schallis@snet.net](mailto:Paul.schallis@snet.net)

(203) 431-1245

### **February**

Madge Kellick

[mhkellick@optonline.net](mailto:mhkellick@optonline.net)

(203) 329-1642

Please contact Joe Grabiec at 203-374-1158 or [jpdgrabiec@att.net](mailto:jpdgrabiec@att.net) to volunteer as the monthly coordinator!

Please no calls after 9pm!



If you have any news or article ideas for the Skizette, please contact me at [aolshan@optonline.net](mailto:aolshan@optonline.net)

**Happy trails!**  
**Anne Olshan**

## River Hills Ski Club

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