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River Hills Ski Club SKIZETTE



www.riverhillsskiclub.org

AUGUST 2009



Gabe and Marion Cordova were presented with a Lifetime Membership Award and stand with past Ken Voight Award recipients.



Tom and Chris Nolan rock the house!

SPRING FLING – MAY 2009

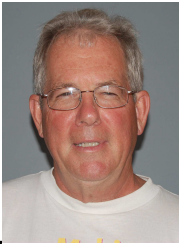


Thanks to our wonderful hosts, John and Kelly Swingler (with musician and friend, "Big Will" Fulton).



David Reunert stands ready to manage traffic and greet guests.

See more photos of the Spring Fling on the River Hills website!



Ridge-Line

Bill Sherriff,
President

Hello from your new President, Bill Sherriff and thank you all again for the opportunity to serve as your leader for the next year. The club has a new board, some old faces and many new ones. The newly appointed board members: Ann Zaera, Activities, Anne Olshan, Communications, Susan Byelick, Programs, Kyle Eberts, Asst. Treasure, Curtis Casey, Lodge Operations, Pat Siciliano, Membership and Bob Hener, Maintenance. Well at least some of them are new faces a few fall more in the category of permanent volunteers but we thank them all regardless for all the time and efforts they contribute. When you see them – give 'em a thanks, your suggestions and offer to help in any way you can.

Having so many new board members there's a lot to learn. We've held several meetings already throughout the summer, getting organized and normalized as a group. What started out contentious is smoothing out to a group more cooperative and harmonious – I think it will work. One thing the board does agree on is that we want to respond to the needs of the membership. Understanding these needs is paramount and right off the bat I encourage everyone to express themselves both at the meetings and one on one with the various board members. The board developed a member survey (via email) that was sent out in early August and should be completed by August 29th. Please give yourself time to thoughtfully answer the questions as much of the board planning and decision making will be based on your responses.

Another subject you'll be hearing constantly is increasing our membership. There's a general need to increase our numbers by 10 or 15 memberships to offset normal attrition. Think about inviting friends and co-workers who fit our 'profile' to club events, meetings or visits to the lodge. We are going to be extending a challenge this year for all members to get one new person involved in the club in an effort to find new members.

The men's bathroom upgrade is completed. Bob Boothroyd was general contractor and did much of the work, sub-contracting as needed. Look for pictures in this newsletter and on our website.

Let us know where you'd like general meetings to be held. Right now we have some planned for Norwalk Boat Club and others at various local restaurants. Likewise with programs, anyone have some new ideas to suggest? Always check your email and club calendar on website to be sure you're going to right location for club meetings and events.

Anne Olshan will be publishing the Skizette this year and is soliciting articles and photos from membership on topics of interest.

Anne Zaera will be running the Summer Picnic and needs lots of volunteers and suggestions – contact her to see how you can help. The picnic will take place on Tuesday evening, 9/1, at Bill Hughes's home in Darien.

Bob Hener has set the fall work weekend for 10/3 and 10/4 and needs volunteers for this perennial favorite event. He's already recruited Jim Collard and Zack Welburn to co-lead. It's great fun, with a little work thrown in, great way to connect with other members and good way to bring guests to the lodge as it's always a free weekend.

With the late summer and fall seasons just getting started, we can expect some moderate temperatures and good weather. Vermont should be at its best. A beautiful visual and one we can enjoy in person by simply booking our lodge for your summer/fall recreation needs. There's usually plenty of open time, consider using the lodge off season to extend your stay-cation experience and savings. Better yet, organize a lodge based event, golfing, biking Vermont, canoe or rafting trip. It's a lot easier now with email blasts to quickly get a small group together.

Start thinking about how you're going to purchase lift tickets this year. There's lots of options with Killington season passes, membership cards allowing good discounts on day tickets, CSC days etc. Check Killington web site, CSC web site/calendar and ask your fellow members what they're doing – another good reason for attending our general meetings early in the season.

Hope to see you all at the Summer Picnic/Meeting (9/1) and enjoy the rest of the summer.

Bill Sherriff

RHSC Board

RHSC PRESIDENT

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ANNE OLSHAN
203-322-0949 • aolshan@optonline.net

WEBMASTER

JAMIE BUCK
jamie@jamiebuck.com

2009-2010 Calendar

September 1st Summer Picnic

Bill Hughes's Home
87 Gardiner St. Darien
6:30pm – 8:30pm

September 15th General Meeting

Ice Cream Social
NBC 8:00pm

October 3-4 Work Weekend

RHSC Lodge, Vermont

October 6th General Meeting

SONO Brewhouse Restaurant
8:00pm

October 20th General Meeting

Pedigree Ski Shop/
Frank Matsuda New Product Trends
NBC 8:00pm

November 3rd General Meeting

NBC 8:00pm

November 17th General Meeting

NBC 8:00pm

November 21st CSC Snow Ball

Windsor Marriott, Windsor, Ct.
8:00pm-1:00am

December 1st General Meeting

Cookie Exchange
NBC 8:00pm

Lodge Coordinators

September & October

Ed Wheeler
ewheeler@optonline.net
(203) 569-5697

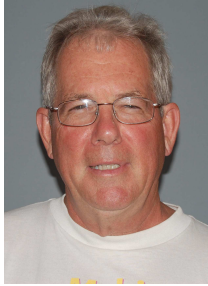
November

Joe Grabiec
jpdgrabiec@att.net
(203) 374-1158

Please no calls after 9pm!

Meet the New RHSC Board!

Bill Sherriff, President



I've been a member since 2003. Most people have gotten to know me through my work on the maintenance committee for the past several years. I try to use the lodge as much as possible during ski season, skiing pretty much exclusively at Killington as I usually get a black-out season pass. My goals as President are simple- running an affordable, friendly ski club/lodge where everyone feels they're with best friends- please work with me in this continuing process.

Stephanie Evers, Vice-President



I was introduced to RHSC nine or ten years ago and re-discovered my passion for skiing. As vice-president, I look forward to chairing the Long Range Planning Committee as well as assisting the entire Board of Directors in their duties. I feel very fortunate to be a part of RHSC and want to do whatever I can to keep it strong and vibrant. Please feel free to contact me with all your ideas for the club!

Nanda Zimmerman, Secretary



I'm looking forward to a great year on the board. Also, do you have a friend that is interested in joining RHSC? Our website: www.riverhillsskiclub.org is a great source of information, or pass them a RHSC business card with the next meeting date.

John Swingler, Treasurer



I've been a member of RHSC since 1997 shortly after I moved to the North East USA from a sunny and snow free South Africa. As the Treasurer of the club my main responsibilities are to have charge and custody of and be responsible for all funds and securities of the corporation and to provide a record of all financial transactions. I also assist with the preparation of the annual budget and an annual report at the end of each fiscal year. The handbook outlines the treasurer role in more detail but in essence I am the club's "money guy." During this coming year we will remain fiscally prudent and have a plan to generate excess funds by the end of the season. Excess funds in this plan come by way of club usage, so my appeal to you members is to use the lodge this coming season.

Anne Zaera, Activities



My good friend Susan Vogt introduced me to the Club some 20 years ago, and I was hooked right away.... I'd been skiing since I was 14, and I loved everything the Club had to offer, especially the people!

I am honored to have been asked to chair the Activities Committee, and I plan to provide a full lineup of fun events during the year. I'll need lots of help to do that, so if you'd like to volunteer to lead an event or to help with one, I'd love to hear from you! I recently retired from IBM and now find myself at that great point in life where I actually have the time to enjoy doing the things I love! I look forward to renewing my ties with old friends and making many new ones.

Susan Byelick, Programs



I've been a member of RHSC for five years. As director of the program committee I'm responsible for providing programs and locations for all general meetings. If you've got specific ideas on programs of interest, please get in touch with me. We'd like to keep the programs as interesting as possible to encourage people to attend our meetings. Likewise, great location ideas are always appreciated.

Kyle Eberts, Assistant Treasurer



I am a life-long skier and member of River Hills. As Assistant Treasurer, I reconcile the lodge deposits, vouchers, and penalties. Questions about any of these can be directed to me.

Curtis Casey, Operations



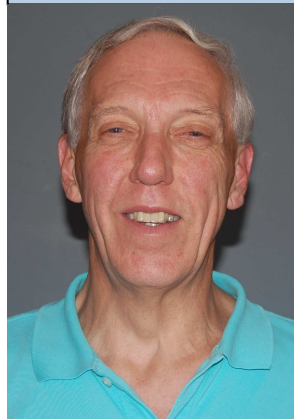
Greetings to all River Hillers. We have all enjoyed the best house operations team of Kathy and Bob Hener for many years. I have stepped into this important role with the expectation of sustaining this same attention to caring for our Vermont home, confident that with the help of club friends that have offered their support to keep the lodge operating on all cylinders. The first good news I get to announce is the completion of the Men's Bathroom renovation – it looks great and feels so good, and is a well balance compliment to the Women's room. Thanks to Bob Boothroyd's personal talents and those of his high quality subcontractors for a job well done.

Anne Olshan, Communications



I am responsible for the membership surveys, Skizette, website and general communications for the club. I've been a member of RHSC for four years with husband John and daughters Sydney and Natalie. If you have any photos, stories, or news you'd like to share with fellow members, I'd love to hear from you!

Bob Hener, Maintenance



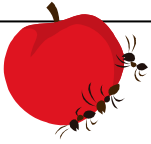
I've been a member of RHSC for many years, as well as past president and on the board for 10 years. In the maintenance position, I have assembled a maintenance team to continue the upkeep of our fine lodge. Our extensive knowledge of the Lodge and its operations will allow us to continue membership participation in Lodge upkeep.

Pat Siciliano, Membership

RHSC member since 1972 through 1980; 1997 through present.

Walter Kostrzewski, Past President





Activities



RHSC Summer Picnic/Meeting – Tuesday, September 1st, 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Come join your fellow RiverHillers for a late summer meeting/picnic. Enjoy good food and great company followed by a short Club meeting.

Menu: BBQ Chicken, hamburgers and hot dogs, various salads, soft drinks, fruit, cookies and ice cream
BYOB!

Cost: \$10 for adults (\$15 at the door) and \$5 for kids between 4 and 14 (little ones are free)!

Contact: Anne Zaera at 914-276-9511 or azaera@prodigy.net

Operations

Check out the new men's bathroom!



Maintenance



**Work Weekend
October 3 & 4**

Come join us the weekend of Oct 3/4 for the club's annual work weekend. All members are welcomed and encouraged to participate. All skill levels needed. It's not just for adult members. Guests and kids are encouraged to attend. Mark your calendar now to reserve the dates. Contact Bob Hener to attend (evening 375-3942).



Programs

September 15th Ice Cream Social

- Norwalk Boat Club
- Come to the general meeting at 7:30 pm for ice cream and socializing
- Make your own ice cream sundae with ice cream and all the fixings provided
- Meeting to start at 8:00 pm

October 6th SONO Brewhouse Restaurant

- Marshall St., South Norwalk, second floor loft area
- Arrive early and rendezvous at the bar
- Lots of beer choices, wine and soda
- Check out their website - sonobrewhouse.com
- Meeting to start at 8:00 pm

October 20th Pedigree Ski Shop/Frank Matsuda New Product Trends

- Norwalk Boat Club, 8:00 pm
- Frank Matsuda, a RHSC member and employer of Pedigree Sport Shop, will present new equipment and changes in our favorite downhill sports

General Meetings are held at the Norwalk Boat Club at 8:00 pm unless otherwise noted. If you have questions or would like to help with a Program, please contact Susan Byelick at 212.794.1342 or sbyelick@yahoo.com.

Membership

You should have already received your renewal letters. For your convenience, you may hand in your completed renewal forms and check to me directly at our Summer Picnic meeting on Sept. 1 or our General meeting on Sept. 15. Otherwise, please mail them to me at: 23 Salem Place, Stamford, CT 06907.

For address changes or any questions regarding membership, please contact Pat Siciliano at 203.322.3653 or pat.siciliano@starwoodhotels.com.

Trips



Snowbasin

The Connecticut Ski Council (CSC) trip for 2010 is set for Powder Mountain and Snowbasin January 30 – February 6, 2010. If you have never skied in powder, this will be your opportunity to learn and enjoy – the powder fields are also available via the Powder Mountain SNOW CAT. The average snowfall is over 500 inches of Utah Champaign powder (that is over 41 feet). Powder Mountain has over 7000 skiable acreage and Snowbasin has 3000 skiable acreage. Those of you that have been on the CSC ski trip know that this trip is a great value – you will have lots of fun and with much to do. The trip cost is \$1270 includes airfare, ground transportation, lift tickets, daily breakfast, lodging and a beach Party on Antelope Island. Sign up today via credit card at: <https://secure.skithewest.reslogic.com/rmt/?special=ctut>. See the flyer that has additional details. Call Gabe Cordova if you have any questions – 203-710-2530 (Cell).



Only 113 days until winter!!!!



River Hills Ski Club
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