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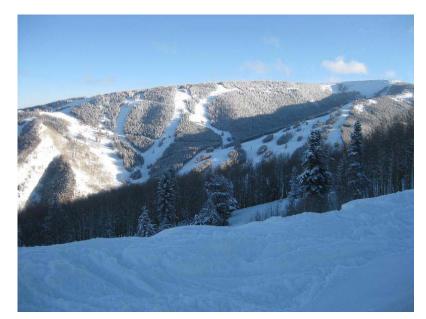
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HOLIDAY PARTY 2009

Once again, Gabe and Marion Cordova and Donna Peters outdid themselves with a memorable Holiday Party in mid-December at Donna's warm and gracious home. Over 35 RiverHillers and their guests celebrated the season together, enjoyed excellent food and spirits, and danced the night away to good old rock 'n roll provided by Donna's expert DJ'ing.

The food was catered by "High on the Hog" and included delicacies such as scallops wrapped in bacon, Swedish meatballs, baby back ribs, crab rangoons and a pasta station among many other goodies.

Sincere thanks for a wonderful party go to the organizers and their helpers: Betty & John Manocchi, Judy Paniccia, Bob Stryker, Deirdre Campbell, and Nancy and Lou Trovato!!





Judy Paniccia & Deirdre Campbell

Donna Peters & Arlene Arcuri

TERRAIN PARK

The sledding season has begun! Our thanks to Jim Collard for tirelessly working for hours on the new RHSC luge. Let's hope the curves don't send kids flying off this year!





Above left: Sara Gash, Lesley and Chris Nolan, Conor O'Brien, and Alex Kostrzewski Above right: Michael Swingler and Luke Kostrzewski

Please send entries for Terrain Park!

If you're an RHSC kid and have an accomplishment, artwork, poem, joke, photograph, or other news you'd like to share with the club, please send them to Anne Olshan at aolshan@optonline.net. Your item does not have to be ski-related. Please send your photo, name and age with all entries. Include your email and we'll add you to the Skizette mailing list too!

MEETINGS & PROGRAMS

General Meeting: Tuesday, February 2nd

Stay tuned for details on a location and program! Contact Susan Byelick (sbyelick@yahoo.com) with any questions or ideas on club meetings and programs.

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

Monday Night Racing at Mt Southington, CT December 21 - February 15

Races are held on Monday nights and start at 7:45 pm. Dennis Suto is the CSC Race Chairman. For more info, see the CSC website at http://www.skiclub.com/Default.aspx?uc=CSCRacing

CSC On-Snow Weekend - March 5 - 7

This year's Winter Carnival will be held at Mt. Snow, with many races and lots of outdoor fun. On Saturday night there will be a free dinner and dance with band for all CSC Winter Carnival participants. More details to follow as soon as they're available. To encourage participation from our members, RHSC is offering a reduced weekend rate for lodge reservations: Winter Carnival participants will be able to stay at the lodge March 5 and 6 for only \$25 per adult and \$16.50 per child versus the regular weekend rates of \$50 and \$33. Participants will also receive priority reservations. If you're interested, contact Anne Zaera at RHSC.Activities@comcast.net.

RHSC Club Race Weekend - March 13-14 (tentative date)



This is always a highlight of the season and brings out the best competitive spirit in all of us! Tom Nolan is chairing this year's event and promises a great weekend! If you're planning to compete and/or would like to help with the event, contact Tom at 203-629-5440 or email

<u>Tom Nolan@tomorrownow.com</u>. Details will be posted on our club's website as soon as they're available.

For information on RHSC activities, please contact Anne Zaera at (914) 276-9511 or RHSC.Activities@comcast.net.

OPERATIONS

Members, please remember to check the duty roster while at the lodge. Always posted next to room assignment plan, it is each of our responsibility to know our tasks - at minumum, and get them done. If you do not understand the scope of the task, please ask the coordinator or a board member. Ask for help if you need it. We are all here together to make our lodge safe, clean, and enjoyable. Thank you all for pitching in!

If you have any questions, please contact Curtis Casey at bikeout@aol.com.

LODGE AVAILABILITY & COORDINATORS

January

President's Day weekend (February 12, 13 & 14) is close to full, but there is still availability for the rest of President's week, as well as other weekends in February. For reservations, contact Paul Schallis - paul.schallis@snet.net or (203) 431-1245

February

President's Day weekend (February 12, 13 & 14) is close to full, but there is still availability for the rest of President's week, as well as other weekends in February. For reservations, contact Marli Pinochet • mpinochet @charter.net or (860) 354-3064

March

Judi Kostrzewski - ski4xtc@aol.com or (203) 656-2931

Please no calls after 9pm!

MEMBER NEWS

Celebrating the Life of Betty Pennington

A life member of RHSC, Betty Jane Throckmorton Pennington, 87, of Kernersville, NC passed away Thursday, December 17th, 2009. According to her son Herb Pennington, Jr., River Hills Ski Club was a BIG part of her life. Members were great friends and she always talked about the winters at the lodge with everyone. The club was a great joy for her. During Mrs. Pennington's retirement years, she and husband Herb stayed active cycling, dancing, golfing, traveling, and wintering in Vermont where they often skied over 100 days a year. She enjoyed skiing, and placed in numerous amateur Nastar races in her 60's and 70's. Her obituary is online at http://www.pierce-jeffersonfuneralservice.com/

The club donated \$100 to the Alzheimer's Association in memory of Betty Pennington's life and her long involvement with the club.

THE KEN VOUGHT AWARD

In the living room at the Lodge there is a picture hanging of a man with a mountain in the background. The picture is on a side wall, surrounded by a plaque, and framed lapel pin. The picture is of Kenneth B. Vought, a very special man who joined River Hills Ski Club in January, 1956. Between 1958 and 1964, Ken served as President; Program Chairman; Vice President and John Jay Program Co-Chairman. Ken was instrumental in building our original Lodge and was part of the Building Committee for the Lodge addition. The Edelweiss (e del wise) symbol on the lodge chimney was designed and originally made by Ken. He also made a shuffleboard table for the lodge, conceived of and organized the annual Chinese auction, and helped with picnics and tennis parties. Ken was a member of the National Ski Patrol for many years. He was an enthusiastic skier and a devoted and dedicated member of the River Hills Ski Club. His gentle manner and sense of fair play may best describe his personality. His death in 1974 was mourned by his many friends. In 1975, under the chairmanship of River Hills member, Carol Bancroft, a living memorial was created to be awarded to the River Hills member who best exemplifies the fine character and Club spirit of the late Ken Vought. To date 16 current River Hills members are Ken Vought Award recipients: John Arcuri, Jerry Clupper, Marion and Gabe Cordova, Lillian Fischer, Jenny Fullilove, Bob and Kathy Hener, Bill Hughes, Mike and Madge Kellick, Julian Langer, Betty Manocchi, Illona Maruszak, Paul Schallis, and Charlie Taff. Today, River Hills still remembers Ken for his wonderful, strong spirit and his splendid example of a life well-lived. The plaque at the Lodge gives a brief history of Ken's life and the names of the memorial award recipients.

Members who are past recipients of the award are the committee who select future recipients in the Spring. This committee would like the members to think about who they would recommend for this award and submit those recommendations to Paul Schallis, as the current committee chair person. The award recipient does not need to be a long time member of the club. They simply need to be an active, participating member of the club who cares about the club and all its members.

TRIPS

Powder Mountain & Snowbasin: January 2010

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. The trip cost is only \$1270 and includes airfare, ground transportation, lift tickets, daily breakfast, lodging and a beach Party on Antelope Island. <u>Click here</u> to sign up today via credit card. Please call Gabe Cordova if you have any questions at 203-710-2530 (Cell). For flyers on this trip, you can also go to the RHSC website (click here).

Big Sky Montana: March 2010

James Garvey has planned a week-long trip to Big Sky Montana, March 21-28, 2010. Big Sky has tremendous terrain, 3,500 acres on the Big Sky side of Lone Peak and another 1,700 acres on the Moonlight Basin side! Big Sky is buried in more than 400" of snow per season and we'll be there when you can have powder one day and beautiful spring sunshine the next!

Make your deposit check out to Alphorn Tours for \$200 and mail to James at: 117 Geymer Drive Mahopac, NY 10541. If you have any questions, contact James at (845) 222-4187 or imgarv@gmail.com. For flyers on this trip, you can also go to the RHSC website (click here).

Chili: August 2010



This trip is a great opportunity for families to bring their young ones for a taste of South American culture. The cost is substantilay reduced for those who take the duplex suite and fly direct to Chile out of Kennedy (JFK) - \$ 2314 vs \$2569. See flyer on the RHSC website for more details (click here). Please call Gabe Cordova if you have any questions at 203-710-2530 (Cell).

SKI TICKET DISCOUNTS

CSC Bulk Tickets

The CSC bulk ticket vouchers have arrived. All members who ordered tickets can pick them up at the December 1st general meeting. See Bob Hener.

Killington Club Card

- Offered exclusively to ski club and ski council members.
- · No blackout days.
- Redeem up to 4 days at a time.
- 4 days of skiing/riding for \$219 plus tax if purchased by January 15, 2010.
- Reload in increments of 2, 3 or 4 additional days at the originally purchased price.
- For more information on the Killington Club Card, <u>click here</u>

CSC Awareness Days

With your CSC Membership Card, you can ski for as low as \$15 per day at Vermont ski areas on designated days. Check the CSC calendar for availability (click here) and make your lodge reservations early!

Fifth Grade Passport

With the Vermont 5th Grade Passport, fifth graders can ski or ride three times each at participating Vermont Alpine (downhill) and Nordic (cross-country) ski areas for FREE! For more information on the Fifth Grade Passport, click here



If you have any news or article ideas for the Skizette, please contact me at aolshan@optonline.net

Happy trails! Anne Olshan River Hills Ski Club

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