



Sugarloaf Ski Club

JANUARY 2004

9th Annual Sugarloaf Ski Club Snowball

February 14, Valentine's Day, at the Sugarloaf Inn

After serious consideration, the Ski Club has determined that the Snowball tradition will continue this year. Low attendance last year precipitated discussion on canceling the event or trying another type of activity. However, after numerous voices of support appeared, the Board has decided to give it another go!! So please come out and support this unique, on-mountain event. Attendees always have a good time. Hopefully we will return to those "full-house" attendance levels we enjoyed a couple of years ago.

Not all of the details are final as yet, but the Ski Club plans to keep the price at about the same level as last year, that is, \$45 per person for the dinner and dancing afterwards. There will be a different band this year.



Sugarloaf Ski Club Annual Meeting on January 24, 2004

The Annual Meeting will be held at the Competition Center at 5:00 pm, on Saturday, the 24th. Members will be nominated and elected for seats on the Board of Directors. Bring questions, comments, and suggestions. Light refreshments will be provided.

NEWS BITS AND PIECES !!

The Ski Club will be hosting a **Family Spaghetti Dinner** at the Stratton Community Center for **Ski Club Members** on February 28 at 6:00-7:30; the charge will be \$5 adult (age 15+), free for children. Members are asked to buy their tickets at the Ski Club office the week before if possible, so that supplies may be estimated (but tickets may still be purchased that day)

Spaghetti, salad, bread, and soda will be provided. Beer or wine is BYO. Bring desserts to share with your family or swap with others!!!

Do You Have **Outgrown Warm Clothing** for Children in the back of your closet??

The SAD # 58 ski and skate program starts in early January. The Ski Club is again collecting warm hats, mittens, helmets, goggles, sweaters, fleeces, etc. for donation to children who come up without enough clothing to keep warm. It's hard for a child to have fun or learn while shivering. Sometimes a Bubblecuffer or SCVA child forgets an item and needs something as well. There is a large box outside the Ski Club door upstairs in the Competition Center for donations. So come and donate, or come and check when you need an item.

Watch for **Free Hot Chocolate Days for Ski Club Members** at the Gazebo at the bottom of Comp Hill !!

The Ski Club has purchased a large urn to heat water for hot chocolate. So, slide by on some cold Saturday and you may find a cup of hot chocolate and maybe even a cookie. Keep your Ski Club membership card in your jacket to identify yourself as a member (but we will try to keep a list there as well!) One great way to keep your card intact on wet days is to get a sheet of laminating material and cut a little "envelope" for your card. If you lost your card, come by the Ski Club and ask Bonnie for a replacement.

EMAIL LIST FOR SUGARLOAF SKI CLUB MEMBERS

The Sugarloaf Ski Club would like to be able to communicate with members more efficiently and more quickly when there is a news item that cannot wait until the next newsletter. However, we understand that many members prefer not to share email addresses.

A form is printed below for members to OPT IN, to choose to submit an address in order to occasionally receive an SSC notice or reminder of events. We pledge that we will not sell, share, or otherwise allow your email address to be misused.

You may choose to be part of this list by sending an email to the office: sugski@tdstelme.net
Or you may clip this form and bring it in, or mail to the office Sugarloaf Ski Club, Village West #13, Carrabassett Valley ME 04947.

Please enter my name and email address to the Sugarloaf Ski Club distribution list:

Member Name _____

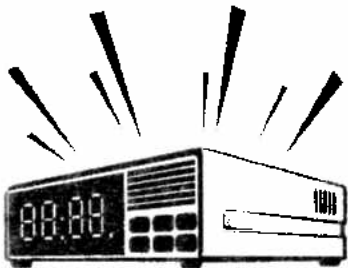
email address _____


Even if you are sure that your email address is on file with the Club, please send it again so that we know you do wish to receive bulletins.

—Thanks, Bonnie

NEW SOUND SYSTEM

The Sugarloaf Ski Club, at a cost of about \$3000, has purchased a very impressive public address and music sound system. After an extensive search process for a system that would withstand the abuse of sub-zero temperatures and frequent moves, the Club was able to negotiate an acceptable price for a very tough, portable system. Ownership will remain with the Club; it is anticipated that the system will be loaned frequently for use at freestyle and snowboard competitions.





THE PLACE TO BE ANYTIME...DAY OR NIGHT

Lunch: featuring Pizza, Salads, Sandwiches
 Leisurely Dinner: featuring Pasta,
 Seafood, Steaks & Pizza

Join us in our Smoke-Free Greenhouse
 Overlooking the Slopes
 237-2192

Open Daily for Lunch & Dinner
 Use your Ski Club Discount



Farmington Travel
Europe Ski Specialists
 125 Broadway
 Farmington, ME 04938
 1-800-244-4777 * 1-207-778-9811
bruce@farmingtontravel.com

SKI
CHAMONIX
MARCH 19-27
 With
Bruce Miles
 And
Farmington Travel
Call for details

The article below, slightly condensed in the interest of space, appeared in the New York Times last February. Makes for some fun reading!!

Finding Uniformity in the Lexicon of Snow

It seemed like a perfect fit, a job melding the skills of a former Congressional investigator with those of a person whose responsibility it is to report mountain snow conditions. After all, what is more important to a skier or snowboarder than the truth?

Is the mountain covered in packed powder, or is it really hard pack? Is the surface frozen granular, or is that really ice?

"Obviously, they're two different worlds," said Tom Hubbs, a retired regional director for the General Accounting Office who became the snow reporter at Stowe, Vt., three years ago. "As an auditor and investigator for the federal government, I was used to the idea of quantifying things, and I knew I had better be accurate."

At Stowe, Hubbs is on the slopes each day by 6 a.m., seven days a week. He checks in first with the snow groomers, who have been plying the mountainside all night with machinery. Then he checks to see whether manmade snow has been produced, whether there is fresh snow and what the air temperature is at the top and the bottom. Finally, he looks at the weather forecast, which he receives from several sources.

"If it's raining, I tell them it's raining," the 55-year-old Hubbs said in a recent interview at Stowe. "I knew I had to be credible when I took this job. I thought geez, that's what I'd been doing for years dealing with people like Senator Jesse Helms and Newt Gingrich."

...Snow reporters generally are caught in a vise that calls for accuracy while encouraging people to ski. To promulgate universal reporting, SnoCountry Worldwide, a national data base service, has developed a list of common definitions that it asks resorts to use. Among the words to describe snow conditions are: packed powder, frozen granular, loose granular, and, yes, even ice.

Based in Lebanon, N.H., SnoCountry collects information daily from about 900 mountain resorts in North America, and another 200 in Europe.... The data are disseminated to television, radio stations, newspapers and news agencies....

...some skiers and boarders have trouble understanding the terms. Frozen granular, for example, is often misunderstood to be ice, when it is actually "a hard surface of old snow formed by granules freezing together after a rain or warm temperatures." Not ice, but definitely gnarly.

Skiers and boarders tend to foster their own vernacular. The phrase mashed potatoes, for example, is a favorite in the Northwest for referring to soft, slushy snow. Scratchy in the East means patches of hard pack or ice under a skiff of snow. Golf-ball sized chunks of frozen snow on a trail are often referred to as death cookies in the East; Westerners tend to call them chicken heads.

So why not use these words, which have specific meanings, in the ski reports? [A SnoCountry analyst] said it would not work. "Standards differ in different parts of the country," he said, explaining that crud in Utah might mean powder in Michigan. SnoCountry finds that having a common language leads uniformity to reports.

The problem is made worse by ski reports that are more the product of artful dodgers than all-out liars. Take Colorado snow resorts, for example. Rarely do they indicate any snow condition other than powder or packed powder. Yet anyone who has skied there a few times has seen hard, scratchy snow surfaces, too.

In late January, Crested Butte, Colo., reported packed powder/hard pack when every other Colorado resort claimed to have packed powder, the more kindly-of the two surfaces. "It hasn't snowed here in a week," Gina Kroft, spokeswoman for Crested Butte, said with unabashed honesty. "But the skiing's still great."

Resorts in the Northwest tend to have the most innovative reporting, largely because of their wetter Pacific Coast climate. A report from Lori Vandenbrink, spokeswoman for Stevens Pass, Wash., gave an example.

"We call it Cascade concrete," she said with a laugh about the heavy, wet snow the area often gets. "It's definitely challenging, but it makes us better skiers. We can go to Colorado and just rip because the snow there feels like sugar compared to our oatmeal."

(Barbara Lloyd, New York Times, February 27, 2003)

Alpine Exchange at the Touring Center

Are our alpine skiers familiar with the "alpine exchange" with the Touring Center? If a person has purchased a full day alpine ski pass and finds that it is too windy, too icy, etc., that skier may come to the Touring Center and exchange it for a pass and rentals to use on the cross country trails instead. Equipment must be returned by 4 pm.



HAPPY TUNES! SKI SERVICE CENTER



Winter Hours	
Mon-Thurs:	7:30 - 10 and 3 - 8:00 pm
Friday	7:30 - 10 and 3 - 10:00 pm
Saturday	7:30 - 10 and 3 - 8:00 pm
Sunday	7:30 - 10 and 1 - 6 pm

Basic Edge Maintenance Kit:

FK Multituner, variable side and edge guide
DMT 3-piece diamond stone set
Gummi stone

Regular: \$78
SSC members: \$60

VALLEY CROSSING, NEXT TO TUFULIO'S RESTAURANT
RT. 27, 7 MILES SOUTH OF ACCESS ROAD
CALL 235-TUNE (235-8863)
happytunes@tdstcme.net

CALENDAR

- January 11: MARA GS J 3,4,5
- January 15-16: FIS Men SG
- January 17-18: Mogul A meet
- January 18: MARA SL J 1,2
- January 23-24: Colby Carnival
- January 24: SKI CLUB ANNUAL MEETING 5:00 PM**
- January 25: MARA GS
- January 27-30: Sugarloaf Schuss and Lavagnino Downhill
- January 31-Feb 1: Mogul B Meet
- February 2-6: Kids and Teens Ski Free Week
- February 9-12: FIS SG and DH
- February 14: SKI CLUB 9TH ANNUAL SNOWBALL**
- February 28: SKI CLUB SPAGHETTI DINNER at Stratton Comm. Center
- March 1-6: USCSA Nationals
- March 8-14: J 1,2 Finals
- March 27: SKI CLUB POTLUCK at Stratton Community Center**



The SUGARLOAF SKI CLUB and the COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM

The Sugarloaf Ski Club, in cooperation with the Sugarloaf Regional Ski Educational Foundation and the Ayotte Fund, received 51 applications for financial aid this year from young, local alpine skiers, freestyle skiers, cross country skiers, and snowboarders. Most of the applicants were SAD #58 children. This local endeavor is an important part of the mission of the Sugarloaf Ski Club. The Ski Club and the cooperating funds hope to foster both recreational and competitive snow sport activity. While some children take part in competition, these funds also hope to encourage children to develop a healthy outdoor interest in a lifelong sport that is such a significant part of life and livelihood in the Sugarloaf region. Applicants were as young as 4 years old, and included both recreational and competitive participants. Over \$10,000 in funds was distributed among the candidates, with financial need being the guiding criterion.

The Sugarloaf Ski Club Community Committee administers \$6000 in funds appropriated by the Town of Carrabassett Valley to aid SAD #58 children who participate in the weekend programs, both recreational and competitive, at Sugarloaf Mountain. These programs include the Minicuffer and Bubblicuffer groups, SAD#58 Punch Pass Lessons, the Junior Professional Program, and the Sugarloaf/Carrabassett Valley Academy competitive program. This is a well-supported program which works to be sure that any local student or is interested has the opportunity to learn to ski or snowboard.

The Sugarloaf Ski Club appropriated additional club funds and provided grants to aid 3 other competitors, 2 from Carrabassett Valley Academy, all students from the Sugarloaf area. The Ski Club also gave about \$1000 worth of racing equipment to the SAD #58 Middle School Ski Team, including a drill, bit, gate bags and stubbies.

The Ayotte Fund, in memory of Dick and Martha Ayotte, also serves local skiers and snowboarders. This year over \$3000 was granted for a variety of pursuits. Numerous alpine, cross-country, and freestyle athletes, recreational and competitive, from SAD #58 were given help to pursue their sports.

The Sugarloaf Regional Ski Educational Foundation (SRSEF) distributed \$1000 to 3 more deserving young alpine and freestyle ski racers from Carrabassett Valley Academy. The SRSEF funds include resources from the Amos G. Winter Fund, the Dan McKay and Mike Waddle funds for entry fees and out-of-state travel for Maine competitors, and the Brook Gallup Fund for snowboard athletes.

The Digital Realm Business Center & Gallery

Digital Realm Photo Services

Art & Photography Prints
Photo Greeting Cards
Customized Photo Plates/Tiles
Photo Restoration/Manipulation
Graphic Design
Digital Camera Download to CD

Business Center Services

Cable Internet/Laptop Compatible
Color & B/W Copies
Lamination Services
Faxing/FedEx Shipping
CD/DVD Duplication
Services Anytime by Appt.

Come Visit Us at Valley Crossing - Above Happy Tunes - Next To Tufulio's

Hours: Mon-Fri 4-8 p.m. Sat/Sun 2-6 p.m.

Or Call Matt Keene at 207-235-2585

For Off-Hours Support/Service: Call Matt's Cell Phone Anytime 207-807-2978

DISCOUNT PROGRAM FOR SSC MEMBERS

Present your membership card at these area businesses to take advantage of benefits. Many discounts are for regular priced items only, and some may not be used for alcoholic beverages, or during holiday weeks.

SUGARLOAF MOUNTAIN AREA

The Seasons and Double Diamond Restaurants 10% off dinner seven days a week
The Bag and Kettle -10% off dinner Sun-Thur (excludes specials, excludes holiday weeks)
D'Elle's - 10% off sandwiches before 10:30am and after 1:30 pm, every day
Gepettos - 20 % off lunch (Mon-Thurs)
Gold/Smith Gallery -10% off jewelry over \$100
Hug's Italian Cuisine - 10% off dinner, food only (Sun-Thurs, excludes holiday weeks); must show card before ordering
Java Joe's - \$1.00 for a medium coffee
Mountain Images -10% off all services and merchandise
Ride On! Snowboard Shop and Sugarloaf Ski Shop 20% off MSRP, not including Labor, Bogner, or Burton
Sugarloaf Shop - 20% off MSRP
Perfect Turn - package of 5 clinics, any discipline, for \$99
Sugarloaf Outdoor Center - 20% off services (lessons, rentals); show card

STRATTON AREA

White Wolf Restaurant - 20% off entrees anytime, each patron must show membership card before ordering

CARRABASSETT VALLEY & KINGFIELD AREA

Julia's - Complimentary Boutique wine tasting with purchase of prix fixe dinner (one time only)
Longfellow's - complimentary wine or soft drink with dinner
Scent-sations - 10% off store-wide
Sports Plus - 10% off regular priced items
Sugarloaf Sports Outlet - 20% off MSRP

AROUND THE STATE

Hilltop Ski & Bike, Manchester, ME - 20% off all skis, snowboards, and other winter-related purchases (except sale items and labor)

Kentucky Fried Chicken & Taco Bell, Farmington Only - 20% off items or meals with the exception of Combo meals or Special price meals. Must show SSC Card.

McDonald's in Farmington, Skowhegan, Jay, Winslow, Waterville (x2), Newport, Augusta— With the purchase of a Value Meal, your choice of a free item from the \$1 menu. Please present your card to your order taker at the counter.

SKI CLUB LOGO ITEMS

We have lots of nice Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Club logo items for sale. Support the Club, show you are a member—all at the same time!

Such items as:

Roomy grey sweatshirts: \$25
 Heavy white tee shirts, with an outline of Maine: \$12
 Also gray tee shirts: \$10
 Great blue denim shirts: \$35
 Long Sleeved Golf shirts: \$25
 Baseball hats: \$15
 Child-size baseball hats: \$12
 Pushovers: \$8 on sale
 Full aprons (with pockets) for ski tuning or barbecuing: \$20
 First Trail posters: \$5

The office is open every weekend when the mountain is open —from about 8/8:30 to about 2, and varying weekday hours (call).

BULLETIN !!!

**LOOK FOR A NEW LOGO ITEM
COMING IN JANUARY**

**WE WILL BE GETTING SOME OF
THOSE GREAT SILVERFOOT HATS
FROM SQUAMISH, BC, CANADA IN
A BLACK
WINDBLOC FLEECE
EMBROIDERED WITH THE
SUGARLOAF SKI CLUB LOGO**



THE SKIER'S CHOICE!

HILLTOP

SKI & BIKE

www.hilltopskibike.com
 Rt. 202 Manchester • 623-6219
 One Mile Off I-95 Exit 30-W on
 the Augusta/Manchester Line

SALOMON

ROSSIGNOL

BURTON

SNK

VALENTI

SPYDER

TECHNICAL

MOULDER

SCOTT

ATOMIC

BRUNO MAGLI

GOODE

COOPER

SPECIAL PRICING FOR SKI TEAMS AND CLUBS

WE'VE GOT IT ALL!

The Biggest Little Ski Shop

In Maine!

SUPERFEET


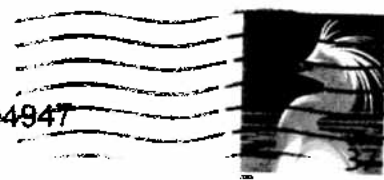
WAX & TUNING SUPPLIES

ALL SKI CLUB MEMBERS ALWAYS 20% OFF

CONTACTS

Ski Club Office at the Competition Center
 Bonnie Stagers, Administrator
 207-237-6955
 207-237-3026 (FAX)-winter only
 sugski@tdstelme.net (EMAIL)

Lev Steeves, President	235-2183
Bruce Miles, Vice-Pres	235-2495
Don Fletcher, Secretary	235-2341
Philip Hunter, Treasurer	246-6181
Mary Jean Doyle, Membership	246-3283

Annual Meeting changed to 11/21 at same time & place

Watch for news on the Annual Ski Club Snowball !!