



Sugarloaf Ski Club

NOVEMBER 2005

PAGES FROM THE JOURNAL OF AN OLD SUGARLOAFER

Prior to 1968 Sugarloaf never opened much before Christmas, because Amos Winter didn't believe that anybody would ski until Christmas. All this changed in 1968, when Harry Baxter figured out that, except for hunters, there isn't much for skiers to do in November if they can't ski. Of course, especially before the days of snow making, and even after the early snow making system was installed, skiing in November and December could be pretty limited.

Last year I went through the years 1968 through 1976. The opening dates were as follows: 1968 - November 10, 1969; December 20, 1970; December 5, 1971; November 27, 1972; November 9, 1973; 1973: Not until January 5, 1974; November 22, 1975; November 13, 1976;

Friday, November 25, 1977. After a business meeting with Bill Simm, the new manager of Sugarloaf Mountain Corporation, we took some token runs on the man made snow plastered on Boardwalk. We shopped for equipment at Harvey Boynton's Ski Shop (now run by his widow, Laura) and at the Ski Rack. Soup for lunch at The Bag. After skiing we visited with Al and Sally Webster, and watched Karl Kreiger weighing in a 175 pound buck at Ayottes.

Saturday, November 26, 1977. It probably snowed three inches or so this morning before changing to rain and being generally messy. I had a meeting this morning on business with Bill Simm, Laura Boynton, Linwood Doble, and Mike Gammon, reaching an agreement on the meaning of Harvey Boynton Ski Shop's exclusive rights to a ski shop at the base area. Since he opened his ski shops on the Access Road, Mike Gammon has been using some creativity to encroach on the concept. After a few runs on the limited terrain available, we visited with Thurlow and Barbara Cooper and the Websters in the Valley, and split a pizza at Valley Pizza. At Valley Pizza we talked with Ron Moody, several of his State cop pals, Bruce Miles and Ronnie Allen. Later in the evening we visited with Linda Coleman and son Chad, at her camp on Stony Brook Road in Wyman.

Sunday, November 27, 1977. It froze up last night and temperatures were in the single numbers. The several inches of snow were plastered to the ground and crunchy. We took

took one run this morning with Don Fletcher, but was too cold and windy to spend any more time on the limited ski terrain available. On the way south we stopped to see Mary Fletcher and their two month old baby Cheney.

Friday, November 24, 1978. It snowed all day, laying down in all about four inches of wet snow. At the Mountain they were able to open up Double Runner from Peavey with man made snow. I took three runs with Don Fletcher. After this abbreviated ski day we visited Thurlow and Barbara Cooper in Spring Farm. Dick Murphy and Al Webster stopped by, and I also visited with the Carpenters just uphill from the Coopers.

Saturday, November 25, 1978. I passed up the limited skiing to go hunting with Dick Keenan today, in the area between the Carrabassett River and Huston Brook, across the River from his camp. There were plenty of tracks but Dick Keenan only got one shot at a deer. My feet got wet and cold and I hiked out along the narrow gauge at noon. This evening we went to Trail's End for supper, and after supper we stopped at the Arnold Trail Hotel for a game of pool.

Sunday, November 26, 1978. It was cold and windy today, below zero in the morning, four degrees above when we left at noon. I took one run from half way on recently made man made snow, the surface of which was the consistency of cobblestones.

Saturday, December 8, 1979. We went skiing for the first time today, on a patch of man made snow on Boardwalk. The Ski Rack had given away some 8,000 free passes, so the patch of snow was jammed with bodies. The lift line and the kamikaze antics of the skiers discouraged us after a few runs. We had the first Bloody Mary of the year at The Bag. On the way home we stopped to see Ellen Grant, who's working this season at the Ski Rack. Tonight we went to supper at an unusually quiet Trail's End. We talked with King and Jean Cummings, and Pat and Tom Tufts, who were there with various Canadian in-laws and out-laws. On the way home we first stopped in the Arnold Trail Hotel to play the pinball machines, and then at Machos, the Mexican restaurant which just opened in what was formerly the Valley Pizza. At Machos we talked with some New Zealanders who are working there, together with Mike "Trash" Sheridan.

Saturday, November 15, 1980. Man made snow on the Boardwalk was the extent of the skiing on opening day. I took a few runs with Phil Howe and Jim "Mad Dog" Lucey.

Sunday, November 16, 1980. It was a very chilly, windy day. Skiing was confined to a man made patch of Boardwalk. While the surface on the limited terrain was pretty good, the highlight of the morning was probably coffee at Gepetto's. Virtually no snow in the Valley, an inch of natural snow at the base of Sugarloaf, flurries all weekend but no accumulation.

Saturday, November 14, 1981. Sugarloaf opened with man made snow on Boardwalk. The first hour or so it was hard and chunky, but on a beautiful sunny day the surface corned nicely for the rest of the day. I skied all day despite the limited terrain, with, among others, Mad Dog Lucey, Phil Howe, Dana Wallace, the Twaddells, and George Hayes. I stopped in to see Tiger Bragdon at the new restaurant he's running, called Shucks, located in the old Jack Cassidy's space in the Village Center. As the name implies, it has a seafood theme. After skiing I had plenty of company to talk with, including Tiger, Ted and Kitty Jones, Bud Cole, Mike Gammon, Larry Warren, Paul Hoularis, and Dave Bradley.

Sunday, November 15, 1981. The weather changed dramatically, to a cloudy day with mild temperatures. The limited snow surface improved with a wet corn surface. Mike Gammon lent me some Rossignol SM skis for the morning. I quit around noon, and joined Mike Gammon for a cup of chili at The Bag.

2005-06 Season off to a Great Start

Forty inches of Snow in October!!! Incredible! I know some of you probably took advantage of this early season snowfall. Reports from people who climbed, like Don Fowler, were that the skiing was very good. Nov 18 is the projected opening date. It looks like it will be a great opening. Let's hope for another winter like the 68-69 season.

The rain did not dampen the enthusiasm at Homecoming this year. It was a great weekend of visiting with our Sugarloaf friends. It was also exciting to see the new gear in the ski shop and listen to SMC management talk about the upcoming season. The Pig Roast held at the Town's Outdoor Center was a success as usual.

Over the weekend, thanks to the efforts of Betty Ann Listowich and many volunteers, we sold many sets of historic photo greeting cards. These are beautiful cards that you can use for any occasion. Stop by the office and pick some up for the Holiday season. Also if you need a new ski club sticker for your car or helmet, we have plenty and they are free to members.

This year is season number 55 and we will be very busy with social events, from potluck dinners to fine dining and dancing. I hope you will all be able to participate. SMC will be hosting the Sugarloaf Charity Summit again in January. This was a great event last year that raised a lot of money to fight Cancer. I hope Ski Club members will again attend in large numbers.

A reminder: The USSCA Championships will be held in March with snowboarding and alpine racing, and the big event of the year will be hosting the 2006 U S Alpine Championships March 22-31. Sugarloaf was asked to host this huge event this year because the US Ski Team knows they can count on us to host a quality event for our U S Ski Team athletes. Lev Steeves and I will be coordinating volunteers and we will need a lot of them. Please call Laurel at the Comp Center 237-6896, or get in touch with Lev or me. All potential volunteers for all skiing and snowboarding events are invited to the Comp Center on Sat., Nov 26 at 4:30 for refreshments and munchies. This is a great kickoff event and I hope to see you there.

During the season, if you have any concerns or questions, or ideas to make the Sugarloaf Ski Club even better, do not hesitate to contact me or any of your board members.

See you on the slopes.

Bruce Miles

EARLY SEASON CALENDAR

- November 18: Sugarloaf Opens
- November 19-20: Tin Mountain Days
- November 26: Volunteer Party at Competition Center 4:30.
Ski Club Board meets, 3 pm
- December 3: SCVA programs
- December 3, 4: Opener SL and Dax Brown GS
- December 10-11: Greg Francoeur Moguls A meet
- December 17-20: Men's Eastern Cup FIS GS and SL events
- December 21: Men's and Women's FIS Super G
- December 27: Bill Bousum Memorial GS
- January 7: USASA Boarder X

Ski Museum of Maine

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Join the Portland Ski Club on its official outing and ski with
them on the Quisque trails. Expert instructors of the Portland Ski
Club will give free instructions to beginners.

Next SNOW TRAIN from Portland will be on Sunday
January 26, to Fryeburg. Watch for later advertise-
ments. The Ski Tow at Fryeburg lets you ski down hill
and be towed up again. Ski tow all day for 50 cents.

MAINE CENTRAL RAILROAD

In February, 1926 Birger Olsen wanted to build a winter sports park in Portland. He wrote in *Sun Up, Maine's Own Magazine*, "The geographic and climatic conditions in Maine are as excellent as any in the world for skiing and winter sports." There was little interest in skiing and his efforts went nowhere.

Snow trains first brought skiers to Fryeburg in the winter of 1935. Excitement over the snow trains, and the newly popular sport of skiing, carried over to the winter of 1936. Townspeople built Maine's first rope tow on Jockey Cap in Fryeburg. The tow was popular and in some ways a novelty. Avon Hilton, a student at Deering High School, remembered that first day. "They invited the Deering Ski Team to ski on Jockey Cap. None of us had ever ridden a tow so we were very excited. That day there were about 400 skiers and they say there were about 3,000 people watching us. Cars parked on the side of the road for miles."

All those people didn't remain just spectators for long. They wanted to ski. For the winter of 1936 the *Portland Press Herald* ran a full page of articles every Tuesday under the title *Along The Snow Trail*. On January 7, 1936 they wrote, "One local store reports the sale of one pair of snowshoes to about every 25 pair of skis. Not many years ago, before the European sport of skiing had become so popular in America, the reverse would have been true." Skiing was finally a true sport in Maine.

The people of Fryeburg had the snow train and the only rope tow in the state. Jockey Cap however is not much of a hill. Once the novelty of the tow was gone skiers began to appreciate the big hills and faster trails found at other places. In another article *Along The Snow Trail* wrote, "One of the sportiest ski trails in Maine has been cut by the Hockamock Ski Club. The trail winds down over the steep sides of Mt. Ossipee providing fast curves that will tax the skills of the most experienced skier."

Across the state skiers explored and developed new ski terrain. The Deering Ski Club skied and raced at Stroudwater in Portland during the week and on weekends went to Douglas Mountain in Sebago where they built trails. The Skovstiers Ski Club in Lewiston built trails on White Mountain. Skiers in Norway and South Paris skied on Streaked Mountain. The 1938 *American Ski Annual* lists 24 places to ski in Maine.

Walter Soule remembers a trail from the top of Pleasant Mountain. "It was cut by the boys of the CCC. At the top it was pretty steep and the turns were sharp. They had never skied and couldn't imagine how skiers could make it around those sharp turns. They used logs to make big banked turns to help the skiers around the sharp bends. They were pretty fun to ski on. Every now and then a skier carried too much speed around the corner and went sailing off the top of that banking."

Birger Olsen was right, Maine has great weather and terrain for skiing. People now recognize the fun of being outdoors in the winter. In almost every corner of the state people found places to ski. The two winters of 1935 and 1936 moved the sport from a little known activity (at least outside the Scandinavian communities) to one of the state's most popular forms of recreation. Those pioneers did the work to create the sport. We can now enjoy the snow, the scenery, the healthful benefits and the comradeship of skiing in Maine. [Thanks to Glenn Parkinson]



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Cardiac Club Update

The Ski Club's Cardiac Club is again set for a great year with all available positions having been filled by members from years past who are given sign-up priority. This forties plus group of die-hard Sugarloafers may be seen many Saturdays getting tips from its part-time coaches and socializing in the evenings. This fundraiser for the Ski Club is quite popular and gives many thanks to its long time coaches and members.

SCVA Tutorial Dates Set

Once again SCVA and CVA will be running one-week tutorial programs for skiing and boarding athletes. The tutorial weeks are a great way to gain extra training time during the winter, especially for competitive skiers and snowboarders. The sessions run as follows; Alpine: Dec. 6-9, Jan. 10-13, Jan 31-Feb 3, April 4-7; Freestyle: Jan. 17-20, Feb. 7-10, Mar. 7-10, Snowboard: Jan 17-20, Feb. 7-10, Mar 7-10.


The Arlberg-Kandahar - 1971
A History Lesson for the Austrians
By Tony Jessen

On a recent ski trip to St. Anton, Austria I tracked down the Ski Club Arlberg office at the Hotel Schmelzhof in Lecn. I chatted with Gitti and Robert Strolz about their ski club and happened to mention that the only other place the prestigious Arlberg Kandahar races have been held was Sugarloaf/USA (no snow in the Arlberg that year). When I got home I received an email from Robert informing me that he had checked with his friend Reinhard and this was impossible. This was somewhat expected since the Austrians like to think they invented Alpine Skiing; even though it was the British who turned it into a recreation.

Well, then I checked with Bruce Miles for the facts. I emailed to Robert four scanned articles that Bruce put together for me, with news stories and photos of the event. There were in fact 2 Men's DH's, 2 Women's DH's and GS races for each. Winner's included Bernard Russi, Annemarie Moser-Proell, Gustavo Thoeni, and a couple others (Anzi, Jacot). One article is titled "Sugarloaf Ski People Did Well". Dana Wallace, one of the recent Sugarloaf Ski Club lifetime membership recognition recipients, is mentioned as one of the hardworking volunteers and is quoted: "It's gone well because I've got good people."

Herbert Schneider brought Othmar Sailor, the Mayor of St. Anton, to Sugarloaf to make the awards. Governor Ken Curtis and the Maine Maritime Band also showed for the awards. The GS was postponed a day so the Swiss could test borrowed skis after their service trailer burned. The French stayed in the Valley at Tague's, the Austrians at the Red Station. Annemarie Proell stood on the podium for at least one of her top finishes cigarette in hand. As a 12 year old, I remember boot packing the headwall with the junior program.

The Arlberg Kandahar is still a premier event with a Downhill and GS/Slalom in St. Anton. I doubt the Austrians will ever let it leave again. It is a great event to watch at a great venue. In 2004 I had the opportunity to see Bode Miller win the slalom there. I would recommend attending a World Cup in Europe to any skier. It is an incredibly exciting spectacle.



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Carrabassett Valley Academy

—from Rick Bisson, Communications CVA

Where do they come from?

You see them climbing off the CVA buses carrying their skis and snowboards in the Sugarloaf parking lot as they take to the mountain. How many student-athletes attend CVA? "Where do they come from? This year:

- 115 students are enrolled
- 71 are Maine Residents
- 34 are from Western Maine
- 13 are from Carrabassett Valley, Stratton, and Kingfield
- 6 are foreign (4 Canadian, 1 Japanese, and 1 South Korean)
- 35% receive need based financial aid

CVA Launches New Campus Campaign

CVA launched the biggest fundraising campaign in its history, announcing an overall target of \$7 million.

Three years into the quiet phase of the campaign, the Academy has already raised \$4 million in donations from alumni, parents, grandparents, friends, corporations and foundations. With the theme "Building on Tradition -- Forging our Future" the campaign's primary focus is new facilities and its secondary focus is increasing and strengthening scholarships and endowment.

"The campaign has already been incredibly successful and has allowed us to reach many of the school's goals," said John Ritzo, CVA's Headmaster. The \$4 million already raised has given the school over \$800,000 in endowment and scholarships, 22 acres of land for the new campus and a new soccer field and running track. The Academy has also completed a master plan for the new campus and has retained Harriman Associates to design a new residential hall. "The priority now is on raising the remaining \$3 million needed for the construction of the dorm," said Ritzo.

Leading the campaign are four Honorary Co-Chairs -- Paul and Carol Fremont-Smith and William and Joan Alford and co-chairs Peter Webber and John Witherspoon.

"The goal of this campaign is to reach out to every single one of our parents, alumni and friends and ask them how they can support CVA. The school has done extraordinary things for its students and this community. We need their support to continue that," said Kate Webber Punderson, CVA alumna (Class of '89) and Director of Development and Alumni Relations.



Stuff A Bus

Bring unwrapped toys and help us stuff a CVA bus with holiday toys for local needy children.

December 10th
8:00 am to 4:00 pm
in front of the base lodge

Sugarloaf Gets a Zaugg

Through Sugarloaf's continued partnership with Carrabassett Valley Academy, Sugarloaf's showcase super-pipe, called Pipe Dreams, will be bigger and better than ever thanks to the purchase of an 18-foot Zaugg Half-pipe Designer.

But what is a Zaugg?

Zaugg AG Eggiwil is located in Switzerland. Zaugg has been designing high performance machines for over 120 years; starting with agricultural equipment and now Nationally acclaimed for the success of their half pipe groomers and snow blowers.

Zaugg began creating half pipe groomers in the early nineties, and now produce the world's premier quality groomers. The Zaugg Pipe Monster is the industry standard half pipe designer. This machine has been featured in the US Open, the ESPN Winter X-Games, the World Cup, and many other events all over the world.

The Zaugg will be attached to the front of one of Sugarloaf's groomers. The Zaugg groomer has an elliptical shape rather than the radial shape of the old Pipe Dragon.

The Zaugg will be mounted on one of Sugarloaf's winch cat groomers to provide a more consistent surface, to further improve efficiency, and allow for more frequent pipe cuts. With a plan to cut the pipe a minimum of 3 to 4 times per week throughout the season Sugarloaf and CVA pipe riders will experience a smoother transition that will make it easier to throw bigger tricks.

Sugarloaf Ski Club Prize Drawing Homecoming 2005

1. One year subscription to Irregular---Harold Gunter and Charlotte Zahn
2. One pound Carrabassett Coffee Rooster Roast---Garrett Martin
3. One pound Carrabassett Coffee Sunrise Blend---Jeanette and Michael Parker
4. Carrabassett Valley Academy Sweatshirt---Ralph and Catherine Nodine
5. Sugarloaf Golf Club Greens Fees for 1 ---John Koons
6. Sugarloaf Golf Club Greens Fees for 1 ---Keith McKay
7. Happy Tunes Tuning Voucher value \$ 35. ---Norton and Jean Luce
8. Sugarloaf Lift ticket voucher ---Bob and Susie Peixotto
9. Sugarloaf Lift ticket voucher ---Marcia White
10. Sugarloaf Lift ticket voucher ---Bill and Paula Raleigh
11. Sugarloaf Lift ticket voucher ---Abbott and Kay Reeve
12. Sugarloaf Lift ticket voucher ---Dick Foote
13. Sugarloaf Lift ticket voucher ---Stan and Janice Tingley
14. Sugarloaf Ski Shop Tune up card for 6 tuneups value \$210.00 ---Ginny Bousum
15. Sugarloaf Turbo tubing certificate for 1 person ---Frank and Jean Woodard
16. Sugarloaf Turbo tubing certificate for 1 person ---Steve Sitz
17. Sugarloaf Turbo tubing certificate for 1 person ---Todd and Alison Prawer
18. Sugarloaf Turbo tubing certificate for 1 person ---Stan York and Tom Pillsbury
19. Geppeto's \$25 Certificate ---Carl and Sally Beck
20. Boston Concessions \$50.00 Certificate at Double Diamond ---Mary and Scott Walker
21. Valley Gas and Oil \$100.00 Certificate for Oil or Gas ---Stephen Gilson
22. Tufulios \$35.00 Gift Certificate -----Raymond and Vicki Ayer
23. D'Hillies Lunch for 2 -- Alexandra Albrecht
24. The Bag \$35.00 Gift Card ---Bruce and Jen Cassidy

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Competition Center News

Don't forget the party for old and new volunteers at the Competition Center on Saturday, the 26th of November, at 4:30. The usual refreshments will be provided. Come and kick off the season, say hello to old friends, and find out about big events on our Sugarloaf agenda— such as US Nationals with such greats as Bode Miller and Kirsten Clark.



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 Bag and Kettle - 10% off dinner Sun-Thur (excludes specials, excludes holiday weeks)

D'Ellie'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

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

OFFICE HOURS

The office is open every weekend from about 8 or 8:30 to 1:30 or 2
Unpredictable weekday hours!
Leave a message if something is needed!

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, bsck
has outline of Maine: \$12

Also gray tee shirts: \$10

Great blue denim shirts: \$35

Golf (long sleeve) shirts: \$25 on sale

Baseball hats: \$15

Child-size baseball hats: \$12

Pushovers: \$8 on sale

First Trail posters: \$5

**Our windbloc, Silverfoot fleece
hats with club logo \$25

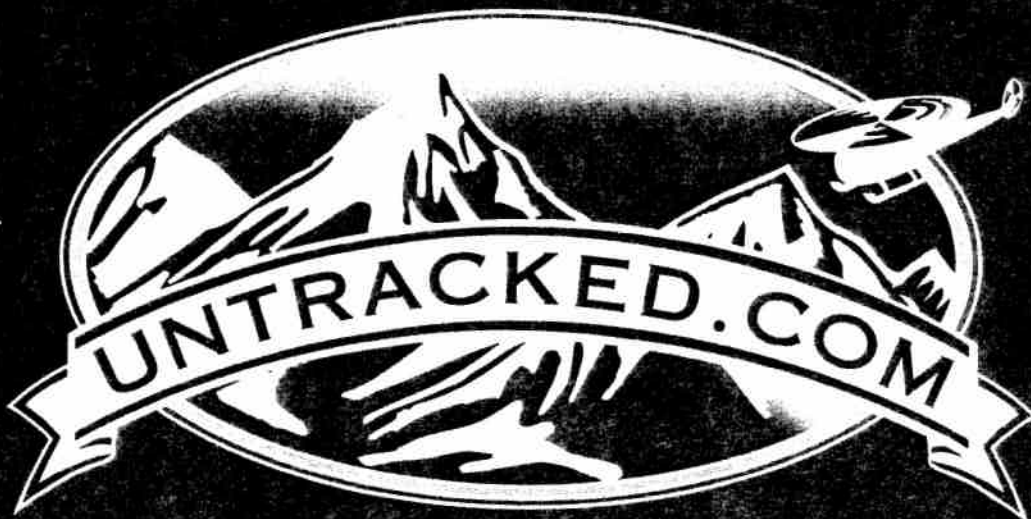
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CONTACTS

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

Bruce Miles, President	235-2495
Steve Schaefer, Vice-Pres	237-2120
Nancy Holliday, Secretary	235-3446
Philip Hunter, Treasurer	246-6181
Mary Jean Doyle, Membership	246-3283

Sugarloaf Ski Club
 Village West #13
 Carrabassett Valley ME 04947

SNOW COMING SOON !!