



Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Club

N · E · W · S

Published on the Mountain • Carrabassett Valley • Maine • Season Opener 2008

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Sugarloaf Mountain
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Club Administrator:
Doreen Chamberlain

An exciting season is on the way

A message from SMSC president, Bruce Miles

What an incredible Homecoming Weekend it was! As always it was great to see our Sugarloaf friends and share stories from the summer.

The Beach was certainly a great place to hang out and enjoy the sunshine on Saturday. Everyone was pretty dazzled by the new look of that area.

There certainly was a lot going on! Saturday started with the annual CVA equipment sale, a much awaited event for those of us looking for good deals.

The dedication of the King Cummings Campus at CVA also took place and was followed by their Homecoming soccer game.

The Ski Club had a booth set up with a historical display. It was fun catching up with folks as they stopped by. Our annual Pig Roast, after a year off due to building construction, was an unqualified success. As with all our major social events, the profit went to our youth scholarship fund. The evening was a sell out event

and we raised just over \$1260.00 for the fund.

On Sunday afternoon, we had an informal picnic at the Jean Luce facility. Many people brought their lunch and rode the lift or hiked up to enjoy the sun on the new deck.

There is a lot to read in this issue, so I will conclude by expressing how much I am looking forward to another year as Ski Club president. I hope to see all of you on the hill and at our social events throughout the year. ▲

Ski Club receives generous gift

Clem & Rolande Begin generously give

At the annual CVA Sugarloaf Golf Classic, long time Carrabassett Valley residents Clem and Rolande Begin stunned the crowd with the announcement of pledges totaling approximately 1.75 million dollars to four local organizations. The recipients were Maine Huts and Trails, CVA, Carrabassett Library and our own Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Club. Needless to say I was overwhelmed by the generosity of my longtime friends Clem and Rolande. The Begins have indicated that they are giving this gift to the Club to help with the eventual construction of a new base area Competition Center. In his announcement Clem noted that this is a project that the Ski Club has been working towards for some time. The Ski Club envisions this center to be a state-of-the-art facility for the use of SCVA, CVA,

Colby, UMF and the Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Club. We host world class events and train aspiring world class athletes here at Sugarloaf and we should have a world class facility to work out of.

All of the gifts will be spread out over a ten year period. They are also challenge gifts which must be matched. SMSC is the recipient of a \$60,000 pledge. The first gift will be given before the end of 2008. We will have 11 months to match the \$6,000 before the next check is disbursed. I know, based on the generosity I witnessed with our recently completed Jean Luce Competition and Training facility and Slim Melvin Timing Room, that

our Club members will rise to the occasion to help match this gift. We will keep you posted on our progress in upcoming newsletters and on our web site. We have not formulated a formal campaign yet, but if you want to make a donation before the end of this year, you may make a check out to SRSEF and mail it to SMSC, Village West 13, Carrabassett Valley, Me 04947. All gifts are tax deductible. If you have any questions or ideas for this campaign, please contact me at sugarloafskiclub@roadrunner.com ▲



Clem and Rolande Begin are presented with the sign for the road to the new CVA campus

SMSC Social Events

Ideas for additional social events are welcomed. Please email your thoughts to the Ski Club at sugarloafskiclub@roadrunner.com

November 29 • Volunteers Reception at the Competition Center
For Comp Center Volunteers. 4:30pm

Dec 27 • Ski Club Members Reception and Family Potluck
5:30 to 7:00 PM. Bring your favorite dish and enjoy the company of fellow club members, while watching the torchlight parade and fireworks.

Jan 24 • Ski Club Annual meeting
5:30 PM. At the Golf Clubhouse, lasagna dinner. Get your free tickets at the Ski Club office starting January 1. Due to building capacity restrictions there are a limited number of tickets, so get them early.

Feb 17 • Family Potluck.
5:30 PM to 7:00 PM come have supper and watch the fireworks. Children must be accompanied by an adult,

Mar 7 • Third Annual Educational Wine Tasting at the Golf Clubhouse.
5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Mar 14 • Snow Ball
At the Sugarloaf Inn (Time TBA)

Midweek Socials First Tuesday of each month
January-April. At various locations... keep checking back for more information.
January 6th~ Gepetto's 4:30pm-6:30pm
February 3rd~ 4:30-6:30 (Location TBD)
March 3rd~ 4:30-6:30 (Location TBD)
April 7th~ 4:30-6:30 (Location TBD)

The Double Diamond features Wine Dinner Events

Double Diamond Steak House & Wine Bar in the Sugarloaf Mountain Hotel offers fun wine dinners. Listen to the history, some stories and an array of knowledge from vineyard owners, or a superbly trained distributor representative. The wine selections are perfectly paired to enhance the flavor of each entree. This five course gourmet dining event is sure to give you an evening to remember.

This year will begin December 11th with selections from the Trinchero Vineyards. One of the finest vineyards the Napa Valley has to offer. Dates for the rest of the season are Jan. 15, Feb. 12, March 5 and April 2. Reservations are required so call early (207-237-4220). This fabulous evening comes to you at a very reasonable \$65.00 pp. ▲

The pig roast was a great success!

Everyone enjoyed themselves this year at our first pig roast held in the renovated Touring Center. It is a beautiful building and can accommodate up to 150 people. Jeff, "the pig cooker" was impressed and plans to return to cook for us next year. If you missed this event, plan to attend the next one, but make sure you get your tickets early because it was a sellout and will be in the future.



Laura Schaefer serving up the veggie platter at homecoming reception.

Thanks to thank all of those club members who helped with the logistics of the pig roast and especially Anne Hanson my co-chair. Putting on an event in what really is a new facility can be daunting. Thanks to Bruce and Lev we had tables to serve from and thanks to Charlotte Zahn, even a table cloth to cover them. If anyone would like to help on any of the future events, please let me know, Anne and I are always delighted to have club members get involved...oh and by the way, we have a pretty good time doing what we do! - Nancy Holliday



Doug Collins, second from left, meets with other padres to bless the social occasion. Long time Ski Club member and Competition Center volunteer Dr. Doug Collins passed away October 14, 2008. His kindness and good humor will be missed by all.

Where is the Ski Club?

The Ski Club office is located on the second floor of the Competition Center, next to the Base Lodge. A big Ski Club logo in the window makes the office easy to find. Just go into the building, up the stairs, and take a left. Follow the signs and you will find us. Doreen is in the office every weekend and each vacation week, so just drop in and say hello. You may also reach her at 237-6955, or at sugarloafskiclubi@roadrunner.com. Don't forget to check out our website at www.sugarloafskiclub.org, and let us know what you would like to see there! ▲

A call for volunteers

As we embark on another ski season the annual search for volunteers to assist with the many competitions at Sugarloaf this season is underway. The competition calendar is now complete and the sign-up sheets prepared. If you did not get one by mail or at Homecoming drop in to see Laurel Lashar at the Comp Center or phone her at 237-6896, or email llashar@sugarloaf.com.

On November 29th there will be a volunteer "kickoff" party starting at 4:30 at the Competition Center. Come and socialize with other volunteers and the Comp Center folks. Sign-up sheets will be available as well as information on volunteering.

Volunteering at the various events can be satisfying and a lot of fun. It is great to see the Competitors try their best for medals, but always cheering on their fellow athletes. There are also some tangible benefits that go along with assisting at competitions and if you are new to volunteering Laurel Lashar or Lev Steeves will be pleased to explain everything to you.

When most people think of competition volunteering they envision gate keeping. There are many other needs at competitions such as crossing guards, starters, registration clerks, runners, timers and other miscellaneous helpers. Think it over, sign up and give it a try.

2008-2009 Competition Schedule

December

6th Opener GS
7th Dax Brown GS
13th Moguls
14th Francoeur Moguls
19th Mens FIS SL
20th Mens FIS SL
21st Mens FIS SL
22nd Mens FIS GS
28th USASA SS
29th Bousum

January

11th MARA GS
12th FIS SG Camp
13th FIS SG
14th FIS SG
17th USASA SL/GS
18th USASA BX
20th Super G 3/2/1
21st DH Training
22nd DH Training
23rd MARA/VARA DH x 2
26th FDH Training
27th FIS DH Training
28th FIS DH
29th FIS DH
30th FIS Super G
31st B Mogul

February

1st B Meet Slope X 2
7th USASA ½ Pipe
8th MARA GS
14th A Moguls
15th A Meet Dual M
16th A Meet ½ & Slope
27th COLL Regional
28th COLL Regional

March

2nd EAC DH Training
3rd EAC DH Training
4th EAC DH
5th EAC Super G
6th EAC Men GS
7th EAC Women GS
8th EAC M/W SL
10th SB REV Tour
11th SB REV Tour
12th SB REV Tour
28th Spring SER 3/4/5
29th Spring SER 3/4/5

April

4th Spring SER 1/2/3
5th Spring SER 1/2/3 ▲

Sugarloaf Holiday Hill Climb

When: December 27th, 2008

What: Come check it out and see for your self- Randonee Skiing is taking off with a storm and Sugarloaf will host the first race of the season. This will be a fun event for all and a great way to get active during the holidays! Come get a taste of what Randonee skiing is all about. FMI on randonee skiing check out: United States Ski Mountaineering Association www.ussma.org

Time: 4:30 after lifts close

Registration: Between 2 and 4 pm on Saturday.

Cost: \$25 includes race entry, ALL day lift ticket, souvenir and post-race meal at the Sugarloaf Inn plus Free Rando clinic with US Ski Mountaineering team member Saturday morning and slide show of Randonee skiing and Racing in the Alps

Divisions: AT division (randonee gear and tele gear combined), OTHER division- includes snow shoes and x-country skate or classic (yes some people might want to do this!)

Prizes: top finishers in each category PLUS a raffle with goodies for all

Mandatory equipment: Headlamp

Course: Elevation gain aprox. 1191 vertical feet. Route will start at base area and finish at Bullwinkles lodge with refreshments at finish.

Those who do not want to ski down will be escorted down in the snowcat.

More information- ninasilitch@gmail.com and further details on www.sugarloaf.com ▲



Yes, I would like to be a member of the Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Club!

Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Email: _____

☐ Individual \$25 ☐ Couple \$40 ☐ Family \$50 ☐ This is a renewal. I've been a member since: _____

Please make checks out to: Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Club and mail to: Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Club, • Village West #13
Carrabassett Valley, Maine 04947

Maine Huts and Trails has a great year

2008 has been a fantastic year for Maine Huts & Trails and the highlight has undoubtedly been the opening of Poplar Stream Falls Hut, located right here in beautiful Carabassett Valley. Since we opened in February, we've hosted more than 800 overnight visitors and well over 1500 day visitors at this first hut. The response has been overwhelmingly positive and the first question we seem to hear (other than "What's for dinner?") has been: "when will we open another hut?" We're thrilled to now have an answer to that question: this winter. We've broken ground on our second hut, located on the east shore of Flagstaff Lake and are planning on having it ready for you by early in 2009...just in time for great cross country skiing.

If you're one of the many outdoor enthusiasts who have been out on our trail and visited the hut, we'd like to take a moment and thank you for supporting our mission. I know, you're probably thinking to yourself, how did I support their mission when all I did was go for a hike, bike or ski? A key piece of our mission is to preserve year-round, public access to remote and special places and to encourage you to take part in healthy, outdoor recreation activities. If you haven't had the opportunity to get out and take a hike, what are you waiting for? Fall is a great time to enjoy our trails and there is still plenty of space available at the hut, but it is filling fast. While we are not ready to take reservations for Flagstaff Hut at this time, we are accepting reservation requests for this winter and all you need to do is simply call our office at 207-265-2400 and ask for Barbara..



Skiers arriving at Poplar Falls Hut last winter

In 2007, we launched a membership campaign and several hundred visionary leaders throughout the state have become a part of this historic effort. The support of our members allows us to provide free access to our trails year-round, including groomed trails in the winter. It also allows us to keep our overnight lodging fees affordable. If you're impressed with what you're hearing or seeing and you'd like to find a way to help, please take a minute to go to the membership page on our website (www.maine-huts.org/join). Please consider signing up now. And tell a few friends about what a great thing we're doing right here in Carabassett Valley. On behalf of the Staff and Board of Directors of Maine Huts & Trails, thanks for welcoming us to the area, thanks for your support and we hope to see you out on the trails and in the huts sometime soon. ▲

For more information about
Maine Trails & Huts
207.265.2400

CVOA Update!

Pete Weston - CVOA President

Congratulations on the financial grant from Clem and Rolande Begin. It is a well-deserved donation that will pay back to the Sugarloaf community many times over.

CVOA has been busy since the lifts closed down in May. Highlights include a trip down the Allagash, a very successful fishing trip at Real Masse in Quebec, a long weekend at Baxter State Park, a paddling trip down the Kennebec from Solon to Madison, a visit to Monhegan Island (during a hurricane!), a weekend in Bar Harbor, and the addition of a pistol range at the CVOA shooting range. In addition, we stocked the pond at the Outdoor Center, sponsored the new Boy Scout Troop in the valley, and picked up trash along the trails and roads in the area.

The CVOA shooting range is 1.7 miles north of the Sugarloaf access road on Route 27. We now have a state-of-the-art trap machine, a rifle range and a six-station pistol range. It is worth stopping by just to see the view of Bigelow Mountain. We are in the early planning phase of building a clubhouse at the range. We'll keep you posted on this project.

This winter our annual ski trip is to Aspen/Highlands in Colorado. The trip is scheduled for January 31st to February 7th. We have room for more people, if anyone is interested. The trip leader is Kathy Gagne, kiggyl@verizon.net. See you on the slopes! ▲

Ski Club members picnic on the Jean Luce Facility deck during Homecoming.



Club members, many of whom hiked, enjoying homecoming Sunday afternoon picnic at Jean Luce Facility. It was a beautiful, sunny day on the mountain.

Are We Still in the East?

By John Byrne

As I sit here writing this, it is snowing out my window and there is actually a little accumulation uphill on the trails (sorry about the tardiness Peter). This got me thinking (optimistically) about the deep stuff we all dream about. I get asked a lot about "fat skis," and whether someone who skis exclusively in Maine really needs them. The simple answer is YES! But, like so much with our sport, nothing is ever as simple as it seems. You have to ask yourself a lot of questions before you know how fat is fat enough. Do you stick to groomers? Are you doing laps on Skidder or Winter's Way? Is Sasquatch seen outside the trees more often than you are? These are all important questions to figure out what width you are going to like best.

If your idea of a great day is ripping the corduroy on Gauge, Comp, Spillway, Tote, or any of our other awesomely groomed trails, yes you can have fun on a ski wider than your traditional GS planks. A wider ski will give you a nice stable platform and great side cuts to make your turns with. Just remember to widen your stance. In addition, on powder days like we had last year (and the Farmer's Almanac is calling for more of the same) these skis will work with you, not against you. Take a look at the AC50 from Volkl. It is 85mm under the foot, but is the same basic construction as the narrower AC30. The biggest difference is the introduction of Marker's new Wide Ride binding. It is based off the same design as the Jester from last year, and gives you great lever-

age over your edges and makes this ski feel quicker edge to edge than you ever thought a ski this wide could be. Another great ski is the Head Monster 82. This ski has been in Head's lineup for several years, and is what I was on for most of last season. It is absolutely fantastic on groomers, but gives you plenty of flexibility for getting into the trees or bumps when the conditions tempt you that way. Also, back for more is the Salomon Fury at 84mm under the foot. This is an all wood core ski that was built for the big, steep groomers that Sugarloaf is known for, as well as taking you from boundary to boundary and from stash to stash. If your wife/girlfriend/daughter isn't used to having to follow you around the mountain, she should check out the K2 Lotta Luv, the Volkl Tierra, or the Salomon Origins to get back up front where she belongs. Skiing is believing.

When you drift off at night do visions of Ripsaw dance in your head? Do you bounce (no pun intended) between the park, pipe, and bumps with a rampant disregard for your knees and other key joints? From Line, the Blend and the Chronic have your name written all over them (not really, but I'll let you borrow a Sharpie). These skis come in at 100mm and 85mm waists respectively. Both of them are wood core, with sidewall technology and will totally rip anywhere you want them to. The Fischer Watea 84 is a nice smooth ride that will give you great float and responsiveness. And let's not forget about the Volkl Bridge. For everyone who thinks that their Mantras are too stiff for the bumps, the Bridge has no metal and a turned up tail. This ski is definitely a shop favorite. And for past, present, and future Donna Weinbrechts out there, take a look at the Line

Continued on page 11

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S/CVA Gears up for the 08-09 Season

Alpine

Well it's going to be hard to match last year for S/CVA Alpine, one of the best and longest ski seasons in recent memory to go with the largest and strongest group of young athletes to date. I know for myself, and the rest of the staff, we hope everyone comes back for another great season with S/CVA. Remember, our goal is to improve technical skills of each individuals skiing and learn about competitive athletics, but we never overlook or lose sight of the most important thing to have FUN and enjoy the process. I'm always reminding the staff that Sugarloaf is our best coach, use it all, use it safely, it's the gem of the East, an awesome mountain.

I would like to welcome Ron Bonnevie to the S/CVA staff; Ron will be heading up the J4 group as well as putting together a new and improved coach's education program. Ron is the director of the Ski Industries Education Program at U-Maine- Farmington as well as a USSA alpine official's educator and FIS technical delegate. Whitney Fahy will also be joining us this season coaching with the J3 group; Whitney is a CVA and Bates College grad and an accomplished FIS and DI alpinist. We have several other new faces in the coach's room for 08-09, more on them when coaching positions are finalized. A couple of S/CVA standouts have decided to hang up the coaching coat,

Peter Smith is going to get back into Masters racing and he will continue coaching CVA winter camps and I'm sure will help the Comp Center where and when he can. Peter has been a corner

stone in ski coaching at Sugarloaf and in Maine for as long as I've been around here. He also was Director of S/CVA for several seasons and gave me my first coaching job back in the day. Harry Ricker was Director of S/CVA for two seasons and he has also decided to focus more of his time as Head Coach of the U-Maine- Farmington Ski Team and top administrator of the USCSA- Reynolds Division race schedule. Many thanks to both of you; we appreciate your hard work and dedication to Sugarloaf's young athletes.

In closing I would like to say that it is a privilege to manage such a great staff and to coach young Sugarloafers. I am excited to get back on the hill, everyday is an adventure. ▲

- Matt Waddle, Director S/CVA Alpine

Snowboard

The S/CVA snowboard program is built on a strong foundation that instills technical skills and on-snow proficiencies. Equally important is the cultivation and exploration of each young riders' joy within snowboarding. Often times, young riders are challenged in verbally communicating their views of snowboarding, however; expose them to the playground we call Sugarloaf and those views quickly flourish. The fun meter is always pegged when riding with

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these young athletes. The creativity and vision they have on any given trail is constantly pushed and seemingly unlimited. Consequently, when the riders are having a blast and are positively encouraging each other, the learning curve sharpens and the progression envelope is driven. It all comes together with their passion, perseverance, and a lot of hard work.

One of the most rewarding parts of the day for the S/CVA snowboard coaches is when they are greeted, first thing in the morning, with dozens of smiling faces. Every rider is eager to share their vision of what the days training should be and what trail they should conquer first. It quickly becomes evident that what happens within the S/CVA Snowboarding Program is more than just providing structure or developing skills. Lifetime friendships are being formed, future business connections are being made, and families are introduced thus creating life-long bonds. Providing positive values, building friendships and camaraderie is the essence of Sugarloaf and the perfect place for young riders to develop and mature.

CVA riders give back

Last year we began a program that allowed the CVA snowboard team an opportunity to ride and assist with coaching the younger riders of S/CVA. The results were nothing short of astounding. After lunch we returned to hear the S/CVA athletes, asking if they could ride with this CVA rider or that CVA rider all the time. Some even asked the CVA athletes to autograph their helmet or board. It was pretty cool! I'm still not sure who got the most out of the program; the young S/CVA rider who learned a new trick or just talked about snowboarding, or the CVA athlete who trains hard every day and was reminded of the excitement of their first years snowboarding. Everyone was empowered to set an example. We can't wait to pick it up again this year.

Building a Volunteer Base

We've relied on our alpine friends for years to share their knowledge and large volunteer numbers to run our snowboard competitions. The competition center staff has always done a great job and the ski club personnel will continue to provide much needed support and guidance. With the growth of snowboarding events, changing courses, and with our strong numbers and committed parents, we recognize we have a chance to create the best possible environment for our athletes. All of our kids compete in these competitions, and it is time we stepped up and made a difference! If anyone can volunteer their time to enhance the S/CVA program, during competitions, we would all benefit from the assistance. I think there is even a free bagged-lunch involved, now who could pass that up? ▲

- Barry Tripp, CVA Snowboard Program Manager,
btrippp@gocva.com



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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 hunting, 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 systems were installed, skiing in November and December could be pretty limited.

In prior years (1968 through 1981) the opening dates were as follows: November 10, 1968; December 20, 1969; December 5, 1970; November 6, 1971; November 9, 1972; Not until January 5, 1974; November 22, 1975; November 13, 1976; November 25, 1977; November 24, 1978; December 8, 1979; November 15, 1980; November 14, 1981.

As a general historical note, during the 1980's Gepetto's was open in the morning for coffee, hot chocolate and bagels, and a morning gathering place for regulars, much as D'Ellie's, Java Joe's, or Bullwinkles are today.

1982-1983 Season

Tuesday, November 16, 1982.
Opening day — the Mountain opened on Boardwalk only.

Saturday, November 20, 1982. Pretty good skiing on a very limited surface on Boardwalk. It was a beautiful, spring-like day and warm enough to mush up the snow surface. There were a lot of regulars out for the first time. We stopped for coffee at Gepetto's and chatted with Norm Minsky, Pres Jordan, Doc and Joan Blanchard, Kay and Elmo Nickerson. A few hours of skiing in the morning

was enough. After supper while others played cards, Dick Keenan and I strafed the Red Stallion and Tague's. At Tague's we talked with Linwood Doble, among others, and observed from a distance, in the back dining room, the Stacy Boynton—Dave Hutchinson wedding reception.

Sunday, November 21, 1982. It warmed up overnight and there was a real melt down by morning. The snow cover started to melt to a shabby consistency. Much to my girls' delight, John, Jerry and Peter LaCasse showed up this morning and we skied Boardwalk innumerable times. Around 11:00 a stiff warm wind came up and eventually we were sort of blown off the Mountain.

1983 - 1984 Season

November 15 or 16, 1983.
Opening day.

Saturday, November 19, 1983. The only skiing was on Boardwalk. The weather was sunny and cold. The thin natural cover made it look like winter and the surface was good. There weren't many people there, and most of them were regulars.

Sunday, November 20, 1983. It started out clear, sunny and cold in the Valley, though warmer on the Mountain, a precursor of a warm front and rain. Kangaroo Pitch was open for the first time from the top of Double Runner Chair. There were fewer people than yesterday and the new snow on top of Kangaroo was superb. We ate our picnic lunch on the front porch of the Base

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Lodge, talking some with Nancy White and Jeff Dumais. Tiger Bragdon stopped by, and I left with the mission of getting my brother, who lives out west, to bring home some "orange flower water", something Tiger wants for an authentic Lopez Fizz, whatever that is. It was snowing in Truckee, California when I called.

1984 - 1985 Season

Saturday, November 10, 1984
The first day of skiing was a rainy but warm day, hardly an ideal ski day, but we all got up to the Mountain for the opening day of the season. The only trail open was a narrow swath of manmade snow on Boardwalk. After coffee at Gepetto's I took an even half dozen runs, which was enough for the day.

Sunday, November 11, 1984
It was cloudy today, with a few spits of sun to start with, and about 50 degrees. I went ski

ing with Dick Keenan and his kids and mine on a shrinking patch of manmade snow on Boardwalk. The kids all quit after a few runs but I continued until 1:00. I took some runs with Bud Cole and some of the other ski patrol members and got a chance to chat with various regular skiers along the way. After 1:00 it rained hard and warm.

Monday, November 12, 1984 (Veteran's Day). It rained hard all night. The river rose to well beyond its usual fall level. I went to the Mountain early to see what it looked like, not really expecting that they would be able to open. There was about 100 feet of bare ground at one point and nearly impassable places in others. Remarkably they pushed enough snow around to open. I was one of the first riders up the chairlift around 10:00, along with Brian Bowker, and we skied in the drizzle for a couple of hours. The only other

skiers were some kids, three ski patrol, and Paul Schipper. Temperatures were in the 50's all day.

1985 - 1986 Season

Friday, November 22, 1985
We drove to Sugarloaf for opening day, first through freezing rain and sleet and then sleet and snow. In the Valley it stopped after two or three inches. We went to Tufolio's for supper, chatting with Don and Mary Fletcher and Bruce Coggeshall. Elmo and Kay Nickerson and Bud Ragon were there celebrating the arrival of the money from the final lot owner of the Campbell Field subdivision, so the Campbell Field Association could buy all of the lots from the State of Maine. (All the camps in Campbell Field were built on leased lots). Ron Allen visited with us for a while, as did Lloyd Cutler. George Abbott, Bruce Coggeshall and I ended up going to

Trail's End, which was having a quiet night. No surprise given the road conditions. I talked with Ted and Rita Targett for a while. We checked out a busier Cathy's Place on the way back through Stratton.

Saturday, November 23, 1985
The snow stopped but the sun never came out. On the first day of the season the only skiing was on Boardwalk. The snow guns made it less than pleasant to ski and soon we stopped at Gepetto's for hot chocolate and coffee. We talked with some regulars, including Joan Blanchard and Jean Hodgkins, who was celebrating her 60th birthday.

Sunday, November 24, 1985
The weather was pleasanter and the guns were turned off on Boardwalk, making for a lot pleasanter skiing, though the ski surface was limited. At Gepetto's we chatted with Joan Blanchard, Jim and Peggy

Continued on page 11

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News from the Ski Museum of Maine

Megan Roberts, Curator

By now many of you may have received the Ski Museum's newsletter, and we hope you are enjoying the information of past and present. If you are a member of the Sugarloaf Ski Club, you should expect to get two more copies as we continue our membership drive, and we hope that you consider joining our organization so that we can continue our work of preserving Maine's skiing history and heritage. We are very grateful for all of the support that the Sugarloaf Ski Club and area businesses have given. Thank you!

In the last SMSC newsletter you read of the Maine Ski Hall of Fame 2008 Class inductees. Whether you knew or know the inductees, you can be sure that they have had an impact on your ski experience today.

In the 2006 class, Richard Gould of Farmington was inducted at age 90, and on Oct. 19 he passed away at age 92.

Even though he never strayed far from Farmington, his impact was felt far and wide. In 1937 at Bates College, Gould won the State Collegiate Cross-Country Ski Championship. Immediately after graduation, he started his 55-year high school teaching career in Farmington, the longest stretch of any teacher in Maine. This was the period of Winter Carnivals, which he was in charge of. They had ice hockey, snowshoe races, speed skating and other snowy events, and in 1942 they were able to add skiing to the mix.

After WW II ski areas flourished, and in 1947 Gould be



SKI TEAM
First row, left to right: Mr. Richard Gould, Coach; Tommy Stearns, Bruce Wing, Kikie Ross, Bud Folger, Norman Twitchell.
Second row: Frederick Ross, Scott Tolman, Gerald Ingalls, Ronald Smith, William Rounds, Dickie Gould, Mascot.

came involved with the Farmington Ski Club and their slope in West Farmington. Not many ski areas at that time had the four event skiing required for Maine Interscholastic Competition. Farmington was lacking the cross-country and jumping. Gould, together with Chummy Broomhall from Rumford and Drew Sterns from Farmington Ski Club, cut the cross-country trails and built a stellar jump, which lasted over 30 years throughout the jumping years in Maine. It was only the second jump in the country to claim tow service, which the boys probably appreciated.

From that time on, Farmington was a powerhouse ski team, and this is where you come in. Gould coached and helped many

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young ski enthusiasts become lifelong skiers. Whatever the needs of his skiers were, he enlisted others or provided from his own pocket. With Gould coaching a strong Boys team, a strong Girls team also thrived. These skiers continued to develop and shape the ski industry in Maine, and they passed on their love of skiing to the next generation. How different our lives might be if Richard Gould hadn't coached teams that included Peter and Icky Webber, Brud Folger, Ron and Dick Smith, Dave Horn, Tommy Sterns, Steve Parent, Norm Twitchell, Phil and Jim Folger, David Pierce, KiKie Ross, William Rounds, Gerry Ingalls, Robin Bigelow, Wayne Mowatt, Dave Hall, John Carnie, John Pratt, and many others.

You may not have known Richard Gould, but you likely know someone he coached who had an impact on your skiing and riding today. ▲

Is this the East?

Continued from page 5

Celebrity or the K2 Miss Demeanor. Finally, for all you woodchucks who are finding, maintaining, and protecting the good stuff we have some great ski for you. Mount any of these skis up with a wide platform binding and get going. Check out the Salomon Lord. This ski is rockered (reverse camber) and will give you that bottomless feeling days after it has snowed. At a paltry 84mm under the foot, it will give you an epic feeling every day. Let's not forget the Line Prophet 100, named Ski Magazine's Gear of the Year. At 100mm under the foot you will be amazed by how much fun it is in any condition, anywhere on the mountain. The K2 Kung Fugas and the Volkl Mantra are two others that are sure to get you down the mountain with a great big smile. ▲

Pages from an Old Sugarloafer

Continued from page 9

Bishop, Chris and Susan Livesay, the Irishes and Liz and Herb Hoeffler.

1986 - 1987 Season

Saturday, November 15, 1986. On the first day of the season Bucksaw Chair was open on man-made snow, thanks to a snowmaking system that was installed this fall. Double Runner Chair ran to provide skiing on Boardwalk. One run was enough for Boardwalk and we spent the rest of the morning on Bucksaw Chair, running into Don and Chaney Fletcher. By late morning, Dick, Jim and Beth Keenan showed up. Tonight after supper young Bruce Coggeshall served as designated driver for his father Bruce, Dick Keenan, George Abbott and I. We checked out Cathy's Place, Trail's End and Kern's Inn. Trail's End was full of out-of-town hunters, and Kern's Inn had more band than customers. We ended up at the basement bar in The Herbert in Kingfield, which proved to be the most colorful stop with the best stories.

Sunday, November 16, 1986. I made a number of runs on Bucksaw Chair, including some with Bud Cole and Bruce Coggeshall. Overall the skiing was good this weekend, making use of the new snowmaking system on Bucksaw. It was a good start to the season. ▲

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Ask Happy Tunes!

By Lionel Hering, owner of Happy Tunes Ski Service Center in Valley Crossing

My kids (16 and 19) both love ski racing and are quite competitive. I'd like to get their new skis prepped as well as possible but am getting conflicting opinions... Is it better to grind a structure into new bases right away or should the skis be "skied" first?

Structure: micro grooves cut into a ski's polyethylene base that (hopefully) enhance the skis' ability to break suction / repel water as well as turn OR track better. Usually a function of the type of snow encountered (i.e. wet vs. dry, new vs. old, soft vs. hard), the type of speed generated (i.e. 20 to 30 mph Slalom vs. 70+ Downhill), and turn radius (i.e. 11-meter Slalom turn vs. 40 -meter Downhill turn). Generally speaking, deep structures are more effective in wet snow

speed situations (since with more speed generally comes more friction, therefore more heat, therefore more need to channel melting snow away from the base to avoid suction). The tool of choice to impart a particular structure to a ski is a quality stone-grinder operated by a seasoned technician... if you can't get both, stick with the technician. The best information regarding structures is derived from the field of aero- and aqua-nautics, whether applied to the fuselage of a jet or the hull of an America's Cup contender.

The only reasoning I can apply to the theory of "skiing" a ski first is the advantage of "breaking-in" the fibers as well as exercising the shearing forces that exist between the various layers of a laminated ski (most

race skis). However, I have absolutely no reliable data to substantiate the claim that doing so will help "speed"-up the skis later.

Furthermore, because time (or lack of) is so often critical between receiving the new skis and one's first days on snow and/or first races, the prospect of "skiing" the skis first is rather impractical. To top it all, most race-stock skis ship "square and flat": un-beveled edges, flat bases... very, very difficult to ski. Although we are seeing more and more of these skis shipping with attractive structures already cut into the bases, they (the structures) are more practical to the ski-maker (the deeper the structure looks, the more material is cut from the base and the quicker it is

brought to an intended "flat" result) than to the racer who, depending on his geographical location and the type of snow he is likely to encounter most, may have to drastically "tone down" said structure to achieve best glide. Figuratively-speaking, the real intent of a race-room ski-maker is to deliver a "blank canvas" to an athlete who may then decide how to best apply his "colors, style, and signature" to it: keep, modify, or altogether change the given structure, set the edge angles to a geometry of his liking, and begin the process of waxing the skis to manage both speed and season-long wear.

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design, development, testing and servicing of WC racing skis and athletes... Think Tommy Moe, Bode Miller, Daron Rahlves, Shaun Palmer...) told me once that his stone grinding work is done prior to summer training camps, hoping not to have to re-grind unless absolutely necessary once the racing season is under-way (absolutely necessary may be the result of needed base repair, excessive wear, or simply realizing that the current structure isn't working). Of course, this is a tech with a wall of forty DH skis for one athlete and the "luxury" of being able to set-up different skis for different conditions well ahead of time... But the point remains that again, I would not know how to substantiate discernable advantages to "skiing" new skis prior to prepping them.

Therefore, at Happy Tunes, our

practice has always been to prep new skis right out of the wrapper when/if they do not look optimum as is. This process might be better addressed in a separate column, but basically involves "shaping" a ski, cutting a structure of choice into the base (as mentioned previously, we use different structures for Slalom than for GS, and SG, and of course Downhill), exposing the edges then setting them to the desired angles, polishing those edges to a super-smooth finish, and finally starting a process known as "hot-boxing" the skis, whereby different layers of wax are applied then baked into the bases to enhance speed as well as to better fight the wear caused by friction over the course of a long season.

Hope this helps answer your question... and best of luck this season! ▲

CVA campus dedications



Warren Cook and King Cummings daughters, Lee and Jennifer, accept a plaque naming CVA's new campus in honor of the late King Cummings who was a founder and driving force behind making CVA what it is today



Brammie Cook, John Ritzo and Warren Cook (left to right) with a sign for the bridged walkway in CVA's new building. "Cook's Connection" commemorates the entire Cook and Cummings family's connection and contribution to CVA and the Sugarloaf area.



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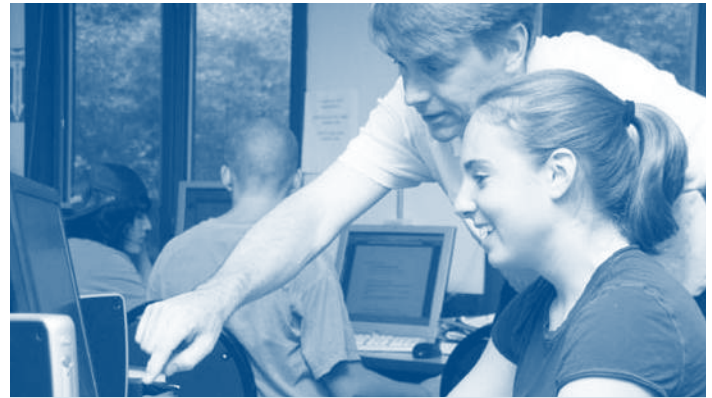
Chamberlin preserves and enhances CVA academics

After successfully leading the academics at CVA for four years, Marie Leary stepped aside this summer so she could assist her parents in Massachusetts. Little did Leary know that the search for her replacement would bring fellow alumni, Eric Chamberlin to the helm of CVA's academic programs.

Chamberlin is a University of New Hampshire graduate with a Master's Degree in Education from the University of Southern Maine and a 1986 CVA graduate. He has lived the CVA experience and has first hand knowledge of CVA's mission. Having been a student at CVA, he is passionate about and believes in the mission of the school. His mix of classroom experience, leadership of faculty and staff, combined with effective, successful technology integration makes him an excellent fit with the future direction of the academic programs of the Academy.

You've taken over for Marie Leary CVA '89. How has the transition gone? It was a great transition from Marie. Marie left this place in great shape. She really moved the school forward academically. For me the most important thing is ensuring the level of quality that she had established continues. Working with Marie and all the experienced staff here this summer was key to making a smooth transition. Three months into the school year, from what I've seen and the feedback I've received, we've successfully preserved the integrity of the program and now have the opportunity to enhance the school's standing.

What are some of the significant changes to the CVA experience you've noticed since returning? On one hand the experience is very foreign. I entered CVA two years after the school moved out of the Chapel basement and into the Capricorn. The curriculum was



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developing. The dining hall was our gym floor. Teachers were coaching. Today the academic and athletic offerings have expanded immensely. The structure is in place. CVA is a real school with a real track record of success. That being said the core experience of being away from home and learning how to follow a schedule, answer to a coach, live with a roommate is still here and that's what makes CVA unique.

What hasn't changed?
I find it fascinating to look at

the longevity of the staff. Some have been here since day one. At other schools and specifically other start ups you can go and ask for a show of hands of who has been there since the place started and you won't find anyone. And yet at CVA several of our key people have been here since the school's inception. Their experience and understanding of what works and what doesn't is fundamental to the Academy's past and future success.

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You worked in public schools before returning to CVA. What are some of the essential differences? From the teaching side, in a public school teachers spend 45 minutes with the students and then for the next 24 hours the teacher has little and probably no interaction with them personally, socially, academically or athletically. Here at Carrabassett Valley Academy the teachers interact with the students in various ways outside of class throughout the day and evenings. Furthermore, they know that the students have structured study hall at night. On the flip side of this, CVA teachers are aware when their students are traveling for a competition so they can fully prepare them for the time they are away from the classroom.

I've also observed a high level of respect from the students towards the faculty. About three days into the first week of school I was leading an academic program review for 50 sophomores and juniors. Imagine a group of 15 and 16 year olds gathered in a room, talk

ing and interacting. When I entered and addressed them they quickly gave me their attention. The group's ability to listen and focus on a topic that many may have already heard two, maybe three times before, really impressed me. I also observed this respect for faculty and student focus when I was here last spring for my interview.

How do you see these differences impacting the CVA students? I've observed students who have arrived at CVA late in their high school careers adjusting to the small class environment and close family-like community interaction. For those students to figure out that someone is there constantly for support is a big adjustment. In a public school environment the interaction between teachers and students after school is vastly limited. A student might be studying at home thinking, "If I just had five minutes with my teacher then I could get over this hump". At CVA the structure and support are in place. In my own situation I'm living

right here in the Capricorn. This affords me the opportunity to sit down and have informal conversations with students about their classes about what their goals and future plans are.

What are some advantages to starting the CVA experience early? The importance of starting the CVA experience early is critical. Looking at our seniors who started with us four or five years ago and seeing all the options that are on their plates...the world is their oyster. They have already amassed an incredible package affording them the opportunity to make whatever choices they want to make. We have seniors who have high school transcripts that afford them options to any college they want to go to. It's pretty amazing to compare their options with someone who goes through the traditional public high school plan. Even those public school students who take AP level courses in their junior and senior year have really focused on only one piece. Colleges have been writing about fresh

man arriving and needing help to get organized and keeping up with classes. CVA students have lived this experience already. They've learned how to make the right choices academically and athletically whether they are in the classroom, the gym or on the mountain.

How does this early start impact them later in life? Twenty-six years into CVA's history we now have alumni who spent four successful years at college and now they're doctors, lawyers, entrepreneurs and leaders in their communities. If you ask them they'll peel their success back to simple things they learned like "How am I going to craft my day so I can get an extra 30 minutes with my Chemistry teacher, get my laundry done and all the other pieces of my busy CVA day." The power of having four or five years here is exceptional. I've spoken with kids who are sophomores. They've been here for two or three years and you chart out a course of what's possible for them and it's mind boggling. ▲

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