



# Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Club

# N · E · W · S

Published on the Mountain • Carrabassett Valley • Maine • Homecoming Issue '08

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**Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Club Officers 2008/09**  
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**Club Administrator:**  
Doreen Chamberlain

## What it's all about!



Spiffing up the MARA Spring Series are Natalie, Lexie, Charlotte and Andrea (front row), and Shelby, Kylie, Wynnee and Emma (back row)

## Welcome home Ski Clubbers

A message from SMSC president, Bruce Miles

Another exciting winter of on-snow fun is just around the corner. Hopefully Mother Nature has some moisture left after this very wet summer. But rest assured, with the increased snowmaking capacity at Sugarloaf, we will have plenty of snow. The mountain crews have been very busy this summer installing new water lines, pumps and electrical for the many new Boyne snow guns.

As I have stated many times, I am very proud to be your club president. Last year was a special year for the Ski Club. Many of you bought the newly published "Story of Sugarloaf." The author, former ski club president and current club member John Christie, did a fantastic job on the book, and it received an award last year. When I read the story, I was

particularly proud to see in print the contributions that our club has made to Sugarloaf Mountain and the area.

When we finished the Jean Luce Competition and Training Facility, one longtime Sugarloaf told me that we had just set a new standard for on-mountain buildings. He said the mountain was going to have to make everything else on the hill look better. And they are doing just that. You will notice a new look for lift buildings this year.

The mountain is running the Superquad on Saturday and Sunday of Homecoming, uphill only. So pack a lunch and stop by the Jean Luce building on your way down. The decks (yes we built another deck on the east side), will be a great place to enjoy a picnic.

The annual Pig Roast is back at the Outdoor Center. Because of ongoing construction to the facility, we were not able to have it last year. The new addition greatly improves the Outdoor Center and we are looking forward to a great evening there. Purchase your tickets at the Ski Club desk Saturday morning during Homecoming weekend. Don't miss this fun family event.

The really big news for your ski club this year is an extremely generous gift from long time Carrabassett Valley residents Clem and Rolande Begin. Their gift is part of a package of pledges to four Carrabassett area organizations including CVA, Maine Huts and Trails, the Carrabassett Valley Library and the Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Club. Our November newsletter will have all of the details of their gift to us and how you can be involved.

You, our 1,100 plus members, will have many social opportunities this season. As well as the normal schedule, we are planning to expand on the successful midweek social we did last year. Check out our website frequently at [www.sugarloafskiclub.com](http://www.sugarloafskiclub.com) for updated schedules for the SMSC and the Competition Center.

I am really looking forward to Homecoming and reconnecting with fellow Sugarloafers. So, in between meeting old friends and attending association meetings, stop by the Ski Club desk during the weekend to say hi.

See you at Homecoming!

## SMSC Social Events

*Ideas for additional social events are welcomed. Please email your thoughts to the Ski Club at [sugarloafskiclub@roadrunner.com](mailto:sugarloafskiclub@roadrunner.com)*

**October 10-13**

**Skier's Homecoming Weekend**

**9am-3pm on Saturday, 9-noon on Sunday**

Ski Club desk is open

**Saturday, October 11**

**Ski Club Members Reception**

**5:00pm - 6:00pm**

To be held before the Pig Roast at the new Touring Center building

**The Pig Roast is back!**

**6:00 pm**

Come join the Ski Club for our Annual Pig Roast and see the new Touring Center building. Tickets are \$15.00 for 12 years and up and \$7.00 for 11 years and under. Tickets may be purchased at the ski club desk in the base lodge on Saturday, October 11th from 9am-3pm. As always, plan on having a good time with good food and good friends.

**November 29 Volunteers Reception**

**4:30 pm**

Reception for Competition Center volunteers to be held at the Comp Center

**December 27 - Ski Club Members Reception at the Competition Center**

**5:30pm-7:00pm**

**Jan.24 - Ski Club Annual Meeting**

To be held at the Golf Clubhouse 5:30pm

**Feb.17 - Family Potluck**

to be held at the Competition Center. (Time TBA)

**Mar.7 - Wine Tasting**

to be held at the Golf Clubhouse. (Time TBA)

**Mar.28 - Snow Ball**

To be held at the Sugarloaf Inn. (Time TBA).

## Looking for volunteers to help with website

We're looking for volunteers who may or may not be web savvy. If you're interested in helping us with organizing and updating articles on our club's website we'd like to hear from you. As we move ahead with the website, we'd like to add features that members would like to see. We need your help to make this happen. We have started out by using a web design program that has pre-designed templates. However, this limits our options, so if you have web building skills that you have been secretly harboring and would like to share, we'd like to hear from you, even if you're not a web wizard. It's a lot of work to keep the site "fresh" with news and events related to the club and mountain throughout the course of the ski season. Please contact us at [www.sugarloafskiclub.com](http://www.sugarloafskiclub.com) and click on the info link or go to [sugarloafskiclub@roadrunner.com](mailto:sugarloafskiclub@roadrunner.com) if you're interested in helping out. ▲

## 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](mailto:sugarloafskiclubi@roadrunner.com). Don't forget to check out our website at [www.sugarloafskiclub.org](http://www.sugarloafskiclub.org), and let us know what you would like to see there! ▲



*Mother and daughter team Noelle and Laurel get ready to time a race in the new Jean Luce Competition and Training Facility.*

## Ski Club hires Chamberlin as new administrator



*Doreen and her family enjoy a day of spring skiing at Sugarloaf.*

Doreen Chamberlin and her family moved to Carrabassett Valley after her husband, Eric (CVA 86') was hired as the new director of academics for CVA. She is the mother of two daughters, Madeline (11) and Summer (8) and a 3 year-old retired racing greyhound, "Ginger."

Doreen grew up in Southern Maine and moved to Colorado with Eric before their girls were born. There they lived the mountain life, skiing, mountain biking, hiking and running whenever they could. After a brief stop in Boothbay Harbor, ME., she is thrilled to be able to share her love of the outdoors with her family, living in the mountains of the Sugarloaf area.

Doreen brings various experiences to the Ski Club Administrator position. She attended

the University of Southern Maine for her undergraduate work in Social Work and then later attended Colorado State University for some graduate work. Her love for helping people lead her to own and operate a financial counseling business which she continues part time from her new home at Carrabassett Valley.

Doreen is enthusiastic about being a part of the Sugarloaf community and the the Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Club. She welcomes the opportunity to be a part of a group which has such a rich and deeply-rooted place in the valley's history. What better way to get to know her new community then to become employed by the group dedicated to preserving and continuing the area's love for the outdoor winter sports. ▲

## Thank you volunteers!

*All of us at the Competition Center would like to take this opportunity to say THANK YOU for all of your hard work and help this past season.*

Through snow, sleet, rain, winds, freezing temperatures and glorious sunny days with bright blue skies you are there to make sure the athletes have a great event. We cannot thank you enough for your dedication to winter sports. Your help is greatly appreciated.

We look forward to seeing you again this season, which promises to be very exciting with many prestigious events.

Thank you,  
Jim McCormack and Laurel Lashar

### SUGARLOAF COMPETITION CENTER VOLUNTEERS 07/08

Sally Allard, Dick Allison, Marilyn Bain, Virginia Bousum, Jim Bowers, Bob Briggs, Barb Briggs, Craig Brigham, Charlie Brown, Gary Brown, Kathy Brown, Linda Cloutier, Al Cole, Alice Cole, Mark Cyr, Bob Daley, Hartford Dean, John DeBiase, Joyce Demshar, Jill Dias, Paula Doughty, John Doughty, Mary Jean Doyle, Jim Drumstas, Sonja Ducharme, Tom Dunham, Sandy Dunham, Larry Dunphy, Peter Durgin, Eric Fancy, Kendall Farrington, Noelle Farrington, Cindy Foster, Bob Friedrich, Jay Gebhardt, Elise Gebhardt, Dale Gilmore, Steve Goldstein, Leslie Guenther, Mark Hamlett, Tom Hanson, Anne Hanson, Jon Hellstedt, Nancy Holliday, Phil Hunter, Mary Hunter, Mike Jamison, Peter Judkins, Mike Kankainen, Diane Karn, Ron Kittredge, Laurel Lashar, Carrie Leblanc, Monnie Levine, Linda Lincoln, Charles Lincoln, Barry London, Sue manter, George Manter, Dick McWilliams, Sally Merrill Nathaniel Merrill, Travis Metz, Bruce Miles, Gail Olgilvie, Don Pain, Stacey Patrick, Ron Perreault, Terry Petly, Roger Pettingill, Karen Pier, Dave Pier, Mary Pinto, Noelle Pollock, Cindy Quirk, George Quirk, Barbara Ray, Rick Ray, Nancy ricker, Mike Rowland, Jane Roy, Barbara Santiago, Laura Schaefer, Steve Schaefer, Christine Schipper, Susan Siegler Bob Silvia, Delinda Smith, Peter W Smith, Bonnie Stagers, Laurie Steeves, Lev Steeves, Jim Stinchfield, Marcos Stivalata, David Stonebraker, Brent Surowiec, Mark Swisher, Julie Talmage, Muriel Tonge, Jano Wilkinson, Greg Winston, William Wonson, Tom Wozniac

We are so grateful to our volunteers! We apologize in advance for any omissions. ▲

# Deck update

By Rand Surgi

*On Saturday, 9/13/2008, a small group of Ski Club volunteers met at the mountain behind the Administration building. We would soon board two pickup trucks to journey up the very rocky road to the site of our construction project for the day, the club's wonderful Jean Luce Competition and Training Facility.*

But before we loaded the trucks, we were shown a vintage snow gun (circa 1970s) that had been found in the woods. It was in surprisingly good condition and will most likely be donated to the Ski Museum. A simple tripod-mounted head with air and water inlets for hose connections, joining into a very short and simple nozzle to combine the liquid and gas at sub-freezing temperatures to produce a high pressure jet of snow/ice crystals. It could not look more simple, a low-tech machine with no moving parts.

After studying the artifact, we drove up the hill; did I mention how bumpy the road was? The trails look much steeper without snow cover too! Upon arrival we were met by a hardy handful of other Ski Club members who had hiked up the hill to meet us. The materials (boards, cement pads, posts) had already been delivered and awaited us.

A pair of pneumatic nail guns made construction of the deck a very simple task. Bruce Miles had planned and ordered the

materials. The intended product was to have been a 12' by 41' additional deck connecting the original on the front of the building to the side facing the chairlift and timing scoreboard (which also received a new coat of black paint). But more on that original plan, later.

We got to work by leveling the gravel, digging out and setting the concrete pads. We then leveled the joists and stringers that were cut to prescribed lengths, at Bruce's instruction. He had a great plan that would have succeeded if not for two factors. It turned out that Bruce forgot his backpack back at the parking lot behind the Admin. building. Fortunately one volunteer had ridden a motorcycle to the site and he retrieved the backpack for Bruce. With this assembly gang, great progress was made until it was discovered that the materials were not exactly what was ordered! Some 2 x 8s had been substituted for 2 x 6s intended as decking. But more on that, later...

Bruce provided cold cuts, bread, and chips with liquid refreshments for lunch and all were consumed under the



*The volunteer crew working on the deck addition to the Jean Luce Competition and Training Facility.*

overhanging cloud/mist above us that prevented any views of the mountain. There was no threat of rain and the day was gray enough that no one needed sunscreen; in all, it was a good day to work outside. By the time two thirds of the deck was complete, it was time to change the plan.

Now was the time decisions would be made that would affect our outdoor deck forever. We struck ledge attempting to dig out a rock, square in the way of the planned location of the last concrete pad. The ledge was too high for the original deck that was already 12' x 30'. Rather than have the entire 12' x 41' deck addition be on the same plane with a step down from the original deck, we decided to extend the original deck at the same level and have the step down off that addition, onto the lower new 12' x 30' deck.

We built up the last pad which resolved the ledge issue. With some on-the-spot adjustments to the original plan, the new deck took its final form. Unfortunately, we ran out of 2 x 6s to complete the upper section. The day ended with all finished except a 3' X 12' surface section of deck. Rest assured, once the missing 2 x 6s are in place, the deck will be ready for an inaugural party!

We finished up by around 2:40PM and the two pickups borrowed from the Mountain journeyed back down the hill, as did the hikers. Did I mention how bumpy the 'road' was on the way up? Somehow, we found even more rocks on the way down. If you have never experienced the "summer" conditions of the trails, you ought to. Only then will you appreciate the ultimate product of the snow guns and the groomers! ▲



**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

# Sugarloaf's Winter Season 2008-2009

*A note from Sugarloaf General Manager, John Diller*

**Dear Sugarloaf Ski Club Members,**

As I reflect on our first year as a member of The Boyne Resorts family, I'm excited that our mission remains the same: to offer the best possible experience for people who love to ski and snowboard - a mission that is consistent with the values of the ski club members who first developed our mountain because of their love of skiing.

With over \$5 million of capital improvements for the 2008-2009 season we couldn't be happier with the support we've received from Boyne. A significant upgrade to the snowmaking system will mean more available terrain in the early part of the season as well as more consistent conditions all season long. "Sugarloaf has a great history and is the real deal when it comes to Eastern ski resorts. Our current investments and future planning are going to build on these traditions and enhance the resort experience for current and future Sugarloafers."

Sugarloaf has a rich history of hosting competitive events, from the very beginning when the Sugarloaf Ski Club hosted the first Sugarloaf Schuss in 1951. Because of the strong partnership of Sugarloaf and the Ski Club, Sugarloaf gained the world's attention

when we successfully hosted the men's and women's World Cup Giant Slalom and Downhill in 1971. At the last minute, because we had snow and Europe did not, we also were asked to host the oldest Alpine ski race, The Arlberg Kandahar, which had never been held outside of Europe. Sugarloaf developed a reputation as a reliable venue for premier events, and has gone on to host several major alpine and snowboard events through the years. None of these events could have achieved their level of success without the support of the Sugarloaf community and the Ski Club.

In addition to its role in supporting world class events, the Sugarloaf Ski Club, along with the Sugarloaf Regional Ski Education Foundation, has developed scholarship programs that enable many local kids to participate in the on snow programs here at Sugarloaf. Ski Club members have been keepers of the flame, helping to preserve the rich history of our great mountain, and Sugarloaf is immensely grateful.

With the ongoing support from dedicated Ski Club members, as well as the commitment from Boyne, we eagerly await the 2008-2009 season and look forward to planning more exciting events in the future. ▲



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**DROP OFF EQUIPMENT  
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FRIDAY 3-8 PM  
SAT. 8-10 AM

### **HOMECOMING WEEKEND 11th ANNUAL SKI & KAYAK SALE**

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## Ski Club Life Members

*First in a series of short sketches about those the Sugarloaf Ski Club has deemed worthy of "Life Member" designation, a group of people who have given exceptional service to the Ski Club over their lifetime.*

### Jean & Norton Luce

On the occasion of their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary this summer, Norton and Jean Luce received an album of pictures and reminiscences from their daughter Hanna. Perusing this album, it is easy to see how closely their history is linked with the history of Sugarloaf Mountain. No wonder they have been named the most recent Life Members of the Sugarloaf Ski Club.

Norton was the first to ski in the early 50's. Jean, who had met him just before he left for Army service in 1956, was introduced to the sport and to

Sugarloaf by the senior Luce while Norton was away in the Philippines. When he came home in 1958, Jean was ready to head up the Mountain with him on the new Sugarloaf Rope Tow. Norton and Jean planned a June wedding, which was a challenge to execute because skiing at Sugarloaf that year went to Memorial Day Week-end- and skiing came first!

Both Luce were involved in the Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Club almost from the beginning. "Norton timed races" Jean remembers, "and I knew I'd be a week-end widow if I didn't join in". She took up

volunteering with a vengeance, loved everything about Sugarloaf, as Norton did, and they've been strongly connected to the Ski Club ever since.

In the early 60's, "the Ski Club Board was looking for new younger members" says Norton with a chuckle. He joined the Board and was President of the club in 1966-67. Jean herself was secretary for almost 15 years

As Sugarloaf grew, so did the Luce's involvement in ski racing. When the World Cup came to the Loaf in 1971, Norton was a lauded Chief of Race and Jean honed her organizational skills

as Race Secretary for the events. Jean taught skiing for Harry Baxter and helped to initiate the first junior program at Sugarloaf. She was one of the founders of Carrabassett Valley Academy, and she and Norton helped to start the Sugarloaf Regional Ski Education Foundation. The dedication of the Jean Luce Competition and Training Facility last season was in recognition of her many years of outstanding service to ski racing in general and Sugarloaf in particular!

The Luce eventually expanded their connections with ski racing beyond Sugarloaf,

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Norton as a representative to the Maine Ski Counsel and U.S. Eastern Amateur Ski Area Association and Jean as an increasingly well-known race administrator. Jean Luce worked at 19 World Cups, including as Race Administrator at Waterville Valley, administered two World Championships and was on the organizing committee for the Lake Placid Olympics. She kept going all the way to the World Championships in Vail in 1999.

Through all of this intensive work, Norton was running several businesses, and the Luces were raising a family. The Luces' children, Bob and Hanna, were ski racers here at the Loaf, and now Bob's four daughters are keeping up the family tradition.

Their idea of family was an all-



Jean Luce working (as always) at the Jr. Olympics

encompassing one. There was always a cozy place at the Luces house for a tired racer, a far-from-home CVA student, a temporarily homeless Moun-

tain employee or an international visitor.

"Skiing was our life!" Jean and Norton explain. The Luces

LIVED skiing, and, in doing so, gave back an incredible amount to many people connected to the sport - and especially to the Sugarloaf Ski Club! ▲

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## Cotton kills!

By: John Byrne, Sugarloaf Ski Shop Manager

"Cotton kills" is something that we have all heard time and again. I am probably even guilty of saying it myself. And yes, while cotton is about the worst fabric you could wear in a high alpine environment where you are exposed to the elements for weeks or months at a time, the truth is that I am not aware of a single cotton related death in our beloved sport of skiing. I have come up with a new, equally alliterative, witticism: "cotton's clammy." That's right, while it is highly unlikely to kill you, it will absorb moisture (sweat) like a sponge, hold that moisture for days after being hung on the shower rod, and generally sap you of warmth while you are sitting for 1,454 vertical feet on the Spillway chair in

February. You've spent a lot of money on great equipment to get you down the hill, and lift tickets or season passes to the greatest mountain around, why let inferior clothing distract you from your maximum enjoyment on the slopes

We all know about long underwear, and probably even have a couple sets too. But are you aware that you can get lightweight sets that are perfect for keeping you cool and dry on spring days; as well as heavy, fleecy pieces that will keep you warm, even when you're stuck on the lift and the snow is blowing sideways? To be most effective, your base layer pieces should be close fitting and not roomy like a t-shirt. When your layers are

too loose fitting, they create giant pockets of air that are slow to warm up and quick to cool off. Additionally, if the fabric isn't touching your skin, it can't wick moisture from it.

The next step in good layering is probably where the most people drop the ball. They've bought themselves a super-techy base layer and a cool waterproof/breathable parka then put a sweatshirt or cotton sweater in between them. The reason this doesn't work is that all the hi-tech fabrics (and yes, even old fashioned wool) are designed to move moisture from your body to the outside garment. Clothing companies like to talk about creating a "micro-climate" using your own body heat to

force the moisture (and eventual water vapor) from your skin to the air outside your jacket. Putting on cotton in the middle of the system stops it all up and negates all the money you spent on the other two layers, in addition to increasing the likelihood of your getting cold.

When I was young, my layering system consisted of a cotton t-shirt, a cotton sweatshirt, my brown CB parka, and a knit cotton hat my Grandma made for me. I am sure that I am not alone in this. Why not be more comfortable? We don't need to wear big, bulky, heavy sweaters or parkas to stay warm anymore; we just need to wear the right ones. So the next time your buddy tells you that he's just going to pull on his Pat's Super Bowl sweatshirt and he'll be fine, be sure to tell him "cotton's clammy." ▲

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## Greetings from CVA

Douglas Williams, Alpine Program Manager CVA

We have started the school year at CVA and all of the athletes are hard at work getting ready for the upcoming winter. The men and women are in their respective fall sport programs (soccer /Mountain biking) with Yoshi Watanabe and Jeff Hawksley directing the dryland training.

We have had a very productive summer, running two camps. The first camp, which was for both SCVA and CVA, was in Mt. Hood from the end of June to the beginning of July. Martin Gray ran a camp in New Zealand for the CVA women. They departed in late July and returned in mid August. Both camps were very successful with good attendance and fantastic conditions. Summer on snow training,

particularly for our younger SCVA athletes, should be an important part of a young skiers development. Mt. Hood provides an excellent opportunity for our younger skiers to work on ski technique and tactics in an environment where they do not have to worry about upcoming competitions. Athletes spend four hours of on snow time either free skiing or working with a coach on basic skiing fundamentals. The athlete to coach ratio is usually around six or seven athletes to one coach. It is an intense yet extremely fun environment for the kids. Mt. Hood also provides the athlete the opportunity to work with the ski manufacturers to try next year's equipment so they will



Ellie Bengsston, an S/CVA athlete, trains this summer in Mt. Hood.

know sizes and which ski they would like to ski on for the upcoming season. As the athletes get older and move into CVA or the SCVA weekend program it becomes even more important that they have had a lot of time on

snow working on fundamentals. The race season for these athletes starts in mid December and continues through March, leaving little time for training. The camps CVA runs

*Continued on page 15*

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## News from the Ski Museum of Maine

From, John Christie, President and Megan Roberts, Curator

### Maine Ski Hall of Fame Class of 2008 • Nine Members to be Inducted

The Maine Ski Hall of Fame, a program of the Ski Museum of Maine has announced the Class of 2008. The Induction Ceremony takes place on Friday, October 24th, 2008 at Lost Valley Ski Area in Auburn Maine, and is open to the public. This event always brings snow enthusiasts from all over. It is a wonderful time to reconnect with your friends and others with an interest in honoring these inductees. Please reserve your spot by going to [www.skimuseumofmaine.org](http://www.skimuseumofmaine.org) to print a reservation form. Call the Ski Museum at 491-5481 with any questions

This sixth class to be inducted

into the Maine Ski Hall of Fame includes five Olympians, a visionary ski area operator, Maine's first European ski school director and influential ski coaches. The nine members of the Class of 2008 have reached the highest levels in their respective fields.

The Ski Hall of Fame was created to recognize those skiers who contributed to Maine's rich traditions in the sport. The state has been represented by skiers in every Olympics since 1948 and has over 30 Maine skiers listed as members of the US Ski Team Alumni. The skiers who took Maine's skiing pastime and created a \$300 million annual

industry have been recognized nationally and internationally for their work. By recognizing these skiers and documenting their activities through an annual program book including their biographies, the Hall of Fame is creating a permanent record of Maine skiers and their accomplishments.

#### The Class of 2008

##### Bill Cummings

Olympic jumper Norm Cummings always credits his brother Bill as the one who inspired and taught him to be a world class ski jumper. He was a successful skier at Edward Little and New Hampton Academy, and as a jumper and alpine skier he led

the University of Maine to top results and a rating among the top collegiate teams in the Eastern US and Canada. Ted Curtis, who coached the Maine ski team for 30 years called Cummings one of the top five skiers during his tenure.

##### King Cummings

Some get a lot done while avoiding the spotlight and King Cummings was one of those. He was among the founders of Sugarloaf and was recognized by other board members as the key strategy guy. He played a significant role in the Dick Bell Chapel and was a founder of CVA, but his most critical role was in the

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King Cummings checking on snowmaking installation.

seventies and eighties when he lead the expansion of the area into resort status and when hard times came he stepped in with both financing and leadership to guide the company back to health.

#### Hans Jenni

Hans Jenni became a great ski champion in his native Davos, Switzerland, coming to the United States to teach at Cannon Mountain in 1956. In 1958 he moved to Maine to direct the ski school at Pleasant Mountain, one of the first European ski instructors in the state. He led the ski school until 1968 at a time when baby boomers were learning to ski. His polished reverse shoulder technique along with wedeln style had a great influence on a generation of skiers.

#### Tim LaVallee

Tim LaVallee skied four years

for his Winthrop High ski team, serving as captain his senior year and went on to ski for four years at Plymouth State College. On graduation he entered coaching and has coached successfully at every level from high school to college and the US Ski Team. From 1984 to 1987 LaVallee was a development coach, technical director and executive director of USSCA for the US Ski Team. He recently retired from Gould Academy where he served as Athletic Director and director of the Gould Academy/Sunday River competition program where he was also head alpine coach.

#### Pat Miller

Pat Miller came out of the Chisolm Ski Club to compete successfully in high school and Eastern XC racing and for four

*Continued on page 12*

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## Hall of Fame

*Continued from page 11*

years on the Fort Lewis College ski team where he earned All America honors in Nordic Combined. He was a member of the US Nordic Ski Team from 1968 to 1974 and an alternate for the 1972 Olympics. Following his retirement from a successful competitive career, Miller achieved his greatest accomplishments as a coach. His Utah teams won eight National titles for both men and women.

### Dan Simoneau

Dan Simoneau worked his way from junior XC racing to the US XC ski team from 1976 to 1988, on the FIS team in 1982, 85 and 87, and the Olympics, 1980, 84 and 88. He won the US Championships 30 K in 1987 and 88,

finished 7th overall in the initial World Cup season, finished second behind Bill Koch in the only 1-2 finish ever recorded by US cross country skiers and was on a winning relay team.

### Julie Parisien

After an outstanding junior racing career, Julie Parisien had a break through year in 1991 when she won FIS, Nor Am and Europa Cup races all across the US and in Europe. She capped the season with her first World Cup win, taking the gold in GS at the World Cup finals at Waterville Valley. She went on to win three times on the World Cup circuit, won a World Championship silver medal, and represented her country three times in the Olympics.

### Bob Kendall

Bob Kendall was the highest



*Julie Parisien signing autographs.*

achiever of a family of high achieving skiers. At Edward Little he led two state championship teams, after which he skied for four years at the University of Colorado. This led to three years on the

US ski team during which he participated in the 1972 Olympics in Nordic Combined. Following his competitive career he coached Colorado's Nordic Skiers when they won two national championships.

### Leslie Bancroft

Leslie Bancroft's promise showed early as she won ski meister honors by winning all three events, SL, GS and XC two years running at Oxford Hills. She finished 8th in the inaugural World Cup XC race in 1978 and went on to five years on the US Nordic team and an appearance in the 1980 Olympics. She retired in 1983 to attend the University of Vermont after which she returned to competition earning another Olympic berth in 1984. Bancroft won a pair of US championships, 10 K in 1987 and 30 K in 1986. ▲

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## Scholarships available

Alpine, freestyle, snowboard & cross country

The Sugarloaf Ski Club, the Sugarloaf Regional Ski Educational Foundation (SRSEF) and the Ayotte Fund will be accepting applications in November from young alpine skiers, freestyle skiers, cross country skiers, and snowboarders for financial assistance for programs this winter. These funding organizations hope to foster both recreational and competitive snow sport activity. While there will be some children who take part in competition, these funds also hope to encourage children to develop a healthy outdoor interest in a lifelong sport which is such a significant part of both work and play in this region. Programs include the Minicuffer and Bubblecuffer programs, the SAD#58 Punch Pass Lessons, and the Sugarloaf/ Carrabassett Valley Academy program.

Funds are annually 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.

The Sugarloaf Ski Club Community Fund also grants money from its own General Fund. These monies are also available for CVA scholarship grants. The SRSEF funds also include resources from the Brook Gallup Fund for snowboard athletes; and the Amos G. Winter Fund, the Dan McKay and Mike Waddle funds for entry fees and out-of-state travel for Maine competitors. Amos G. Winter was noted for his encouragement of local girls and boys who wanted to ski. The Brook Gallup Fund commemorates a young snowboarder who grew

*Continued on page 15*



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## Ask Happy Tunes!

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

*Once I've figured out which brand / model / size ski I wish to purchase, what should I look for when picking the actual pair off the ski shop wall? How do I know whether this pair is "ready-to-ski"?*

Fortunately, production quality for today's major brands is held to very high standards and defects rarely make it to ski shop walls. That said, at Happy Tunes, we like to give skis a quick look-over before installing bindings: watch for structural defects first, followed by an overview of the base / edge consistency for functionality. If questions arise, better address them before installing bindings.

### Structural:

In the process of getting fabricated, skis are layered and bonded via epoxy, pressure and heat. Take a peek at the tips and tails, the areas most easily subject to shipping damage and, due to their curvature, the hardest section of the ski to establish a good bond between layers. If you have the opportunity to choose between two pairs, you might pick the one with edges ending as closely and evenly as possible to either tips or tails. Run your eyes and fingers (lightly) over the length of the edge: should be smooth to the touch, with consistent width and thickness along its length. Check the sidewall for obvious cracks or the not-so-obvious edge separation. Check the base: occasionally, a base will shrink while bonding agents cure, leaving small, epoxy-filled gaps between base material and edge... not a huge concern on recreational skis, more of a problem on race skis that will depend on wax absorption

for ultimate speed. Structural defects can seldom be fixed and are usually subject to warranty replacements.

### Functional:

The finishing process includes tuning, whereby the bases are stone ground flat and steel edges beveled and polished prior to applying a layer of wax. Bases that look dry and fuzzy either did not get enough wax or have been stored and exposed to air for too long; they will be slow and harder to turn. Removing this oxidation requires stone grinding the base, in effect peeling off the affected, micro-thin top layer of ptex material, followed by one to several applications of hot wax. The stone-grinding process will also cut micro-channels into the base to better manage friction and the resulting suction between ski base and snow surface. General production skis (the overwhelming majority of skis usually found on ski shop walls) tend to be finished with mild and versatile structures that enhance ease of gliding, turning, and wax absorption... for example, when a K2 ski comes out of its Chinese factory, there is no telling what sort of snow it will ultimately glide on after being purchased by its end user; it must therefore be usable in any and all conditions.

Occasionally, skis will show up with exceedingly deep structures right out of the wrapper: probably didn't get "finished";

deep, coarse patterns aggressively cut into the base material are often used when pre-grinding to flatten the base quicker. Unless you are skiing over wet, spring snow, this is doomed to be a problem, particularly for our prevalent Sugarloaf conditions of cold, aggressive snow crystals. As big or bigger of an issue is the fact that in those instances, the structure cut into the base often extends into the steel edge, in effect creating mini-railroad tracks into the edge, making the ski very difficult to turn. Many skiers have experienced the effect of such phenomenon when skiing their regular skis after an unfinished "quick tune" from their local ski shop. This definitely requires attention: the structure needs to be dimmed and the base edge beveled and polished so as to alleviate it grabbing or hooking at every turn.

If the skis were properly "finished", a quick and final visual should be given to the beveled and polished length of the edge. Although most manufacturers rely on highly sophisticated machinery with excellent accuracy when it comes to edge geometry, they are not always able to tackle the entire length of the edge due to the curvature of both tips and tails. Yet the dynamics of shape skis require that the edge be sharp, beveled, and polished from contact point to contact point (those points where tips and tail start curving), and this is the area where

we probably see the most room for improvement with "out-of-the-wrapper" skis. The expert eye, with the help of a tru-bar, can easily tell whether the area in question will cause problems. If the base edge is level with the base, a quick pass with a gummi stone is likely to be enough; if it is "edge-high", a file and bevel tool will be needed; "base-high" over one or two inches past the contact point shouldn't hamper the ski's performance; "base-high" for more than a couple of inches would require re-grinding the base flat and re-establishing the geometry of the edge.

### Note that very "high end" race skis, aka "race-stock" skis, often are shipped unfinished:

base structure usually too deep, base edge as flat and even with the base as possible, side edge kept at 90 degrees... and purposefully so, as would be a blank canvas delivered to an artist. Depending on the snow conditions expected to be raced upon, the skill level of the athlete, and the discipline tackled (DH, SuperG, Giant Slalom, or Slalom), a good technician can then decide what sort of structure to impart onto the base, as well as what sort of edge geometry will generate the best compromise of glide and edge-hold. Further attention is usually given to "shaping" the tips and tails, "pulling" the sidewalls to better expose the side-edge, and even "hot boxing" the



*We caught Peter Webber putting his daughter Katie and her son Calvin, through their paces on a hike up Sugarloaf Mountain. Not too early to get the little guy inspired!*

skis for ultimate glide and better resistance to friction damage.

Good stuff (!!), but time consuming and it can get expensive (anywhere from \$50 to \$150 at Happy Tunes).

Fortunately, at Happy Tunes, we find that nine out of ten regular production skis are usually good enough to ski right out of the wrapper, and

that is a testament to the investments in machinery and quality control that manufacturers have committed to. Smaller niche brands, although often using very good materials, are more likely to require fine tuning right away. Yet EVERY ski tends to ski BETTER after it is tuned for the first time, usually after ten to twelve skiing days! Indeed, a good tune makes for a good day! ▲

## CVA

*Continued from page 9*

in Hood and New Zealand are important elements in preparing our athletes to reach their goals.

We are excited to add another element to the SCVA program for off season training. Ron Bonnevie, our new JIV Coach, will be running an on snow camp in Colorado in early November for JIII/IV athletes. This will provide our III/IV athletes another chance to get on snow and get ready for the season. The plan for that camp is to focus on skiing fundamentals through free skiing and some gate drills. Skiing in Colorado in November is very exciting as it is often the training home for the US Team and various National Teams.

As I start my third year here at CVA I am excited about the CVA Alpine Program and the unlimited potential that the SCVA Program has. SCVA is one of the biggest Alpine Programs in the East. That combined with the fact that we have the best training/skiing mountain in the East should make us one of the strongest programs in the East. If we are one of the strongest clubs in the East, that should translate into being one of the strongest academies in the East. We should be producing skiers like Kristen Clark, Bode Miller, Ben Morse, Mikayla Brown, Amy Rowland every year. I don't think we are there yet, but I truly think we can get there. I think some of the opportunities described above along with some other changes, combined with good cooperation between the CVA and SCVA staff will help us attain the goal of being the best program in the East. I look forward to the season and see you on the snow. ▲

## Scholarships

*Continued from page 13*

up in Kingfield. The Ayotte Fund, in memory of Dick and Martha Ayotte, has also served many local SAD #58 skiers and snowboarders for a number of years.

The scholarship grants are partial, and are intended to help those who cannot participate without financial assistance. Applicants must complete an application form and include a letter of recommendation from a teacher, coach or other unrelated adult. A common single application form is used for all programs and funds. Application forms will be available at the Sugarloaf Ski Club office (237-6955) at the Competition Center on the Mountain, at local schools, at Ayotte's and on the Club's website, sugarloafskiclub.com They will be due November 8 and should be mailed to Sugarloaf Ski Club, Village West # 13, Carrabassett Valley, ME 04947. ▲



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NEWS

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Ski Club board /members, Joe Tutlis and Mike Rowland admire their handiwork on the Jean Luce Competition and Training Facility new deck addition.

INSIDE: News about stuff that only Sugarloafers care about!