

# Sugarloaf Ski Club

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**MARCH 2006**

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## Gold Medal Winners To Compete at Sugarloaf US Alpine Championships March 24-29

Gold medalists Julia Mancuso (GS ) and Ted Ligety ( Combined ) along with Olympians Kirsten Clark, Bode Miller and others, will be competing here for the US Alpine titles from March 24-29. This is sure to be an exciting event with some of the field coming off the Olympics and World Cup Tour. The Alpine Championships also give a chance for rising young racers to test themselves against our nation's best. Many surprise results have occurred over the years at this event.

The first event will be the Sugarloaf Schuss Downhill on Friday; unlike the first Schuss competitors in 1951, these racers will get to take a lift to the start! Five days of U S Alpine Championship events follow: downhill, super G, giant slalom, and slalom.

The Opening ceremonies and day's awards will be Saturday at 7:00 PM in front of the Base Lodge, followed by an autograph signing session in the Maple Room. There is also a Concert scheduled for the evening. Guest Services in the Base lodge will have updated information on the events as we get closer.

Our Ski Club has the honor of participating in this event by volunteering at many different levels. If you have not signed up yet, please do by contacting Lev Steeves at 235-2183 or [leveretti@canada.com](mailto:leveretti@canada.com) . Lev Steeves and Bruce Miles will be coordinating the volunteer effort. Over a hundred people will be needed for many jobs inside and outside. Being a volunteer will get you a front row seat at viewing this exciting event. Not only will your reward be intrinsic, but you will also get a lunch and earn a voucher for a lift ticket good either this season or next.

The Ski Club has a good supply of Moen Lillehammer cowbells that will be on sale during the event. Ringing the bells are a great way to show your support for the racers and the bells take autographs well. Stop by the Ski Club office if you would like to purchase one. These bells were much in evidence at Torino...very popular with Europeans!

See you at the races !! ---Bruce Miles

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### New Board of Directors Members

Peter Smith and Mike Rowland have been elected to the Ski Club Board of Directors for 3 year terms.

Peter has lived in the area since 1973. After graduating from college, and serving 2 years in the Army, he worked at Shawnee Peak as a coach and ski instructor for a year. Peter came to Sugarloaf in 1973, working at various times as a coach and ski instructor; he coached the first group of tutorial students before CVA was formed. From 1982 to 2002, Peter was owner of Farmington Travel and also participated in master's racing for part of that period. He began coaching again with SCVA in 2000.

Mike Rowland grew up and learned to ski in Maine. He remembers coming to the Loaf in the 70's. After living in the South, Mike returned to Maine about 20 years ago in connection with his job for International Paper. Mike has 2 children, one at CVA and one in the SCVA weekend program. He says he really looks forward to being involved with the Board and Ski Club activities.

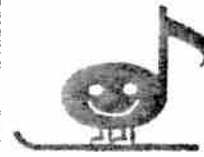
### New Policy Regarding Membership Payment with Season Passes

After a number of years of an arrangement with Sugarloaf Mountain Corporation for paying for membership on the same form as season pass purchases, the Ski Club has decided to discontinue this option. It has been a bookkeeping situation which has all too often resulted in the Ski Club not receiving information regarding those persons, who in good faith, had paid for membership but never received recognition for it.

We apologize for the inconvenience this may cause, but there are relatively few members using this means after our pleas in the last few years.

\*\*Note. Please bear with reduced consistency and/or quality control in this newsletter. The club computer suffered a hard drive death (and consequent loss of data) when the newsletter was 90% done...backups are never recent enough!

## **HAPPY TUNES!** **SKI SERVICE CENTER**



Winter Hours  
 Mon-Thurs 7:30-10 and 2-6 pm  
 Friday 7:30-10 and 2-10 pm  
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## Fun, Food, Finances and Friendship

### Sugarloaf Ski Club Annual Meeting

The annual Ski Club Meeting was held January 28, 2006 in the brand new Sugarloaf Golf Course Clubhouse. With attendance estimated at over 120 supporters, the event was a success on many levels.

The business meeting began at 5:00 p.m. with a call to order by President Bruce Miles. Secretary Nancy Holliday reported the many successes of the previous year: note card sales, increased membership, an entertaining Snow Ball, and donations to some very deserving organizations in the area were listed.

New Business was discussed. Bruce Miles reported on a very ambitious and promising project promoting a new construction between Narrow Gauge and Competition Hill. The building would house race officials, timing equipment and serve both Narrow Gauge and Competition Hill racing areas with some up-to-date technology. There is talk that closed circuit video may be installed that will broadcast live coverage of races on the hill to receivers around the base. This is an exciting proposal that will require support from many areas of the community including the town of Carrabassett Valley, Sugarloaf Mountain, the Sugarloaf Ski Club and local businesses and individuals. Stay tuned for more details of this exciting initiative.

Treasurer Phil Hunter followed with the Treasurer's Report and Lev Steeves explained the need for lots of volunteers for upcoming competitions, especially the US National during March. Members of the Cardiac Club were introduced and the popular program was explained by Steve Schaefer.

President Miles also encouraged attendees to purchase their tickets for this year's Snow Ball to be held on March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2006. This popular event sells out quickly and if you are interested in being a part of the fun call Bonnie Stagers at 237-6955... and reserve your place at a table now.

A vote was taken and the motion passed to donate \$500 to our neighbor, Titcomb Mountain. The weather this year has been devastating to snow related businesses and the local ski hill simply ran out of snow-making funds. Donations for this cause were also given by Sugarloaf Mountain Corporation and Sunday River. In the Ski Club spirit of helping our young people get outside and ski, there was enthusiastic support for this helping hand.

The slate of Officers was re-elected: they are President, Bruce Miles, Vice-President Steve Schaefer, Secretary Nancy Holliday, Treasurer Phil Hunter. Many thanks to retiring Board Members Betty Ann Listowich and Karen Pier. Welcome to the new Board members Peter Smith and Mike Rowland.

President Miles kept to the order of business and at 6:00 p.m. the Ski Club Social Hour began. The noise level rose, the fire in the fireplace crackled, and the meeting and greeting of friends old and new commenced. Many thanks to Laurie Steeves, Nancy Holliday, Ann Hanson, Kathy Miles, Mary Frank, Sue Manter and Laura Schaefer for their help in setting up, serving and cleaning up throughout the social and the lasagna dinner that followed.

The Grand Finale was a presentation by Glenn Parkinson on behalf of the Maine Ski Museum. Using artifacts, slides and entertaining exchanges of memories from the audience Glenn gave a history of skiing. His passion for the subject and the audience's love for the topic made for an evening to remember...and remember.

The Annual Ski Club Meeting this year was what Sugarloaf is all about. Sugarloafers coming together to share fun, food, finances and friendship. Be watching for next year's meeting and don't miss it.

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## Ski Areas We Have Skied---and other Challenges

It has been a lot of fun reading the lists of "ski areas skied" from members who have mailed, emailed, and brought in lists of the places they have been. From some I have talked with, the greatest fun in the challenge was in reconstructing the "wheres" and the "whens" of many years. There was tourist/recreational travel, race-related travel, take-advantage-of-where-I-am at this stage of my life skiing, and so on!

North America, South America, and Europe were all represented. Of course, I expected Northern New England and the Northeast in general to be dominant. I was surprised at the extent of foreign travel that actually overshadowed Eastern exposure in quite a few cases.

The overall winner was NOT Don Fowler, but he was only edged out by a last minute entry! Don tallied 84 different areas, with 30 in the Northeast and 37 in Europe. It was clear from the list that Don did not dally in little areas with small verticals (no Massachusetts anthills for this guy). He hit the likes of Tuckerman's and Taos. In Europe, he ranged all over Austria, Switzerland, Italy and France.

Ralph Gouid, aged 82 he says, came in with 73 areas. With 41 of those in Europe, he outdid Fowler on that count! (Don F. isn't talking about his age, but he might match Ralph's list when he grows up). Don and Ralph were the only 2 who listed an area called "Blackstrap" which Ralph said was in Gray. I suspect they are referring to an area later called "Hurricane" which was on Blackstrap Road in Falmouth; I remember taking my little brother there sometime in the early '60's. (Ralph confirmed this by phone)

The New England Lost Ski Areas Project has a wonderful website { [www.nelsap.org](http://www.nelsap.org) } which is a lot of fun to browse. One finds information collected on abandoned, closed, forgotten ski areas all over the Northeast and into Canada; there are descriptions, locations, memories and even photographs. It helps to jog ones memory about areas long-since skied, and reminds some of us post-50 skiers who skied in the 1950's about rope tows, no grooming, and no snowmaking [and \$1 lift tickets].

But, to continue! Yours truly can claim 80 ski areas, 60 of them in the Northeast. I also have the dubious distinction of being the only person to list 5 areas in Connecticut and Rhode Island [maybe the verticals should be added up to make one?] When one is from Maine but wanders about to live in Massachusetts, Connecticut, Colorado, and Washington State, the list gets long by default. I managed to get to 80 with only 1 European listing.

Freelance ski writer Dan Cassidy had a very respectable 66 areas, and spent a significant amount of time in California, Nevada, Colorado, New Mexico, and Idaho.

Don Whiston sent a great reminiscence about traveling in the Alps in 1952 while in Europe to play goalie for the 1952 Olympic hockey team at Oslo, winning the silver medal. He described starting to ski after hockey, and wrote about coming to the loaf in the 1970's and acquiring an A frame, built by Harvey Boynton and Leo Tague in Sugarloaf Village. Don said he had skied in the US West or in Europe every year since 1975, and had 43 areas to his credit.

Steve Pierce submitted a list of 70 areas, one of the few skiers who had skied in Oregon. Steve also listed St. Stephens Glacier in Colorado (am I the only other skier who even knows where that is?)

Pam Wansker's list of 65 areas included a unique distinction. She mentioned skiing in Illinois, at an area north of Chicago which was a man-made hill on a garbage mound. Now there is something to remember! At least there were some great areas out West to balance the scale.

Don and Anne Hayes sent a list of 38 areas, not so lengthy, but as he said, with some of the most obscure! The distinction of having skied 5 areas in Iowa and Wisconsin belongs to the Hayes, and they beat me by far on the number of areas skied in Washington! Steve Sitz claims the honor of being the only skier to list the Hilberg Ski Area at Elmendorf Air Force Base in Anchorage, Alaska.

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The family of Dave, Louise, and Kevin Kress sent in a great list, with 61, 52, and 24 areas respectively. Dave was the only skier (besides me) to list a heli skiing trip, his being at Bobbie Burns in British Columbia. He and Louise were also the only skiers to have experienced skiing in England, at an area called Hillingdon. Kevin, age 15, and an SCVA participant, had an impressive 24 areas to his credit already.

The Ricker family of Harry, Nancy, Andy, Kendall, and Sam were the only skiers to venture to Slovakia. Nancy probably prepared their list (it was a spreadsheet) and she referred to herself as "old" and Harry as "older": wait til they really get there! Sam, at age 14, takes the youth prize for coming in with 30 areas skied, including Maine, NH, Vermont, Idaho, California, Slovakia, Canada, and Austria.

And the winner is..... Laurel Lashart! She came up with a list of 84 areas, with lots of them being in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Maryland as well as in our frosty north. Laurel can claim the distinction of being the only person who was named for a ski area. She lived for 16 years on the 2d floor of the lodge named the Laurel House at Laurel Mountain in Pennsylvania, where her father was area manager. She also spent a year at the University of Colorado, where she was able to ski with members of the US Ski Team at their training area above Boulder

---Bonnie Stagers writer and editor



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## **CVA Students Witness Wescott Gold in Torino**

**On February 16<sup>th</sup>, CVA ALPS Coach, Kevin Boucher '95, along with members of the ALPS team traveled from La Grave, France (the ALPS program February campus) to Bardonecchia, Italy to watch Kevin's high school roommate, Seth Wescott, compete in his quest for Olympic gold in the Olympic debut of Snowboardcross. Below is Boucher's journal entry of the day's history making highlights.**

"Yesterday the snowboarders and I embarked on an adventure that was truly amazing and will forever be etched into our memories; the kind of day that will be relived and told to future generations. Our day began with me digging out our van at 6:30am because we received about a foot of snow over night, and it was still dumping! After corraling the kids, all crusty eyed and half awake, into the van we headed to Briançon to catch public transportation to Bardonecchia, where the snowboardcross event was being held in Italy. The drive typically to Briançon takes about 35 minutes and goes over a large pass called the col de l'Estrelet, needless to say due to the snow the driving was sketchy. We arrived in Briançon an hour later and found a place to park. We then boarded a large tour bus that shuttled us to the main hub where busses depart to all the different venues. They don't allow the public to drive to the venues. We sought out the proper bus to bring us to Bardonecchia, only to discover after a long one-way conversation in French that we had missed the last bus. Our options were to hop on a bus that would eventually get to where we needed to go over 2 hours later and 3 bus transfers later, or to drive to Oulx and take a bus from there. We opted to drive to save time, so after a quick stop at McDonald's, a fuel stop and some amateur van repair (a whole other story) we were off! The drive to Italy from Briançon included another extremely large pass and at this point all the kids were wide-awake and cinching their seat belts tight, it was still dumping! We arrived in Oulx without incident, found a place to park and hopped on a bus that would finally get us to the event! Finally we were there, you could feel the competitive vibe in the air, and also the rain that was falling. The security checkpoint provided our next mini adventure because Cameron "forgot" he had two pocketknives in his backpack and Kyle had "misplaced" his ticket. Crisis solved, it was 11am and we were finally behind the gates and all experiencing an Olympic event for the first time. Surprisingly, almost instantly we ran into John Razo, CVA's headmaster. He filled us in on what we missed on the first qualifying run and gave us a mini tour of the venue. After some photos we parted ways and claimed our spot in the standing room only section. The energy that surrounds such an event is hard to describe in words. People are very passionate in supporting their country and go out of their way to express their enthusiasm with chants and songs, ridiculous outfits, bells and horns, and of course flags and banners supporting their medal hopefuls. After the qualifiers were over Seth Wescott, our hometown boy and CVA alum, was sitting third and we all looked like a bunch of drowned rats. After a lunch consisting of hot dogs and a coke, the sky began to open up and the sun was bright and shining down like a gigantic spotlight. This spotlight was now on the snowboardcross finals where Olympic medals would be awarded in this event for the first time. There were 32 individuals that qualified for the finals and would now be sent down in heats of four in a run over the one minute and twenty second course that included gigantic banked turns and large jumps. Seth easily won his first two heats, and came in second on the third advancing him into the final for all the glory. Each time we watched Seth compete our heart rates would rise and our vocal cords would become progressively sorer from the cheering and shouting. Then finally, the last run of the day that would determine the champion, the crowd was now fully energized and going nuts as the competitors left the starting gate. We watched with eager anticipation on the jumbo screen as the athletes worked their way down the course. Seth was in second. They came into view up the mountain and Seth was now in first, our hearts were in our throats, over the final jump they went with our own Seth Wescott crossing the finish line just inches in front of next competitor, taking Olympic gold! The crowd erupted and American flags were waved to the chant of U-S-A. We aches around to watch the flower ceremony and tried to digest what we just witnessed. The journey home proved to be uneventful compared to our epic over. It was not until dinner that night as we sat and told the rest of the team and visiting parents about our adventurous day, that it truly set in the amazing experience we all had together and will be sharing with friends and family for years to come."

**CVA's Alpine Leadership Pursuits for Skiers and Riders (ALPS) combines the college-preparatory academics of CVA with teaching of outdoor skills critical to big mountain skiing and riding on the mountains of Maine and regions around the globe. Bi-annual destinations include France, New Zealand, Mexico, and Chile for one-month periods of travel, providing total cultural immersion. The ALPS program uses physical and educational expeditions to tap the potential of students.**

# Ski Museum of Maine

## "10,000 Carnival Fans Pack Town"

That headline from the *Bangor Daily News* shows the 1937 Fort Fairfield Winter Carnival was one of the biggest ski events in Maine's rich ski history. For three days the Bangor & Aroostook Railroad brought people to the Carnival on the Aroostook Flyer. To open the Carnival Governor Barrows outlined his hope for the future of Maine as a winter sports site.

The highlight of the Carnival was the Tri-Town Marathon. This three day, 102 mile race followed a loop from Fort Fairfield to Caribou to Presque Isle and back to Fort Fairfield. Three of the favorites were from the nearby town of New Sweden. The *Bangor Daily News* wrote, "From childhood up the New Sweden child claims the land of snow for their own, beating a merry tune with their runners along unbroken trails. Other skiers in the field of stamina chocked marathoners are capable of uncerking a courage tested bag of snow tricks that will push the New Swedeners to their full cruising capacity."

The racecourse was on the roads. Just the year before they started plowing the roads so the racers stayed on the edge where snow had drifted in. Racing on the road allowed spectators to follow the racers. The second day of the race was cold. Alden Anderson recalled, "We left at eight in the morning and it was 30 below. Boy that's cool to get out there and get going. Some of us wore white uniforms from the New Sweden Athletic Club. We wrapped newspapers around ourselves, under our uniforms, to cut the wind."

The *Bangor Daily News* reported, "Ten thousand carnival enthusiasts stormed the village during the final day's program of the town's greatest winter carnival. Saturday broke fine and clear, an ideal day for play in the great snow empire. Disciples of King Winter came early and stayed late jamming Main Street and the competitive sites with a gay mass of multi-colored ski suits worn by both young and old."

While the skiers raced, other events included ski jumping, hockey, horse racing on the ice of the Aroostook River, shorter ski races for the kids, snowshoe races and an ice skating marathon. Over 1,500 people gathered on the River to watch John Davenport from Caribou defend his wood chopping title. There was even a "Ski Stalom" one of the first in Maine. The race featured gates, trees, big dips and finished on the streets of the village.

But the high spot was the Marathon, both for the spectators and for the racers. Alden Anderson remembered, "We had a lot of races then. We would go in town and look in the window of the store where they had the prizes. Sometimes it would be a coat or pair of boots but we usually raced for a bag of groceries." The 1937 Tri-Town Marathon offered a first place prize of \$50 or the choice of a radio or wristwatch. Second place was \$25 and third \$15. This was big money for that time.

The *Bangor Daily News* reported, "Four thousand people packed the main go of the village in the afternoon to see the wind up of the carnival's most spectacular event, the Tri-Town ski grind. Laverne Anderson's arrival was greeted by round after round of applause for his arduous feat. Pushing his New Sweden club teammate was Alden Anderson who arrived in town a minute and a half behind the pacesetter."

There were many marathons in Maine in the 1930s but to the disciples of King Winter the 1937 Tri-Town was the biggest and best.

written by Glenn Parkinson for the 'SKI Club '06

## 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Snowball "Spring Fling"

Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at the Sugarloaf Inn  
With the Elmore Twist Band

Tickets are \$50 per person, and must be  
prepaid by March 14

Menu: Chicken Cordon, Pistachio-baked  
haddock, or Flat Iron Steak with ancho chili  
rub—all including salad, vegetable, dessert,  
wine, coffee

Call the office for your reservations; a few  
seats are still available




### MARA SPRING BARBECUE

Saturday, April 1 at the base of Comp Hill  
Weather permitting

The Annual MARA Spring Series Finals for  
J3, J4, and J5 boys and girls will be held the  
first weekend in April. The cookout will fea-  
ture the usual hamburgers, hot dogs, chips,  
soda...the usual picnic! Tickets are \$5 each  
for all and will be sold at race registration and  
on the hill. (Tickets are NOT free for racers)  
Parent volunteers are needed. Call the ski  
club office.

### February Vacation Potluck a Success

The potluck at the Competition Center on  
Fireworks night during the vacation week  
was well attended—about 110 -120 people  
came with all manner of tasty dishes. The  
Ski Club provided the volunteer labor, the  
soda, "paperware," the set-up and clean-up,  
and the families provided the children! Many  
thanks to Mike Rowland and Janice Clark for  
help from start to finish



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Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Club 2006  
Officers and Current Board Members

Bruce Miles, President  
Steve Schaefer, Vice President  
Philip Hunter, Treasurer  
Nancy Holliday, Secretary  
Members of the Board of Directors,  
Term Expiring in January 2007  
Mary Jean Doyle Nancy Holliday  
Don Fletcher Sue Manter  
Lev Steeves  
Members of the Board,  
Term Expiring in January 2008  
Joyce Tobias Greg Foster  
Bruce Miles Virginia Bousum  
Joe Tuttle  
Members of the Board,  
Term Expiring in January 2009  
Anne Hanson Phil Hunter  
Steve Schaefer Mike Rowland  
Peter Smith  
Appointed, Ex Officio Member  
Jim McCormack, Competition Center



## 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'Elle's** - 10% off sandwiches before 10:30 am 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** - \$1.25 for 16 oz 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 8:30 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: \$12

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

\*\*\*Great new item: boxed set of 12 historic all occasion cards with vintage Sugarloaf photos **ONLY \$10**

## Norwegian Moen Cheering Bells

Get a gold bell engraved with the Ski Club logo, on a decorative sturdy ribbon, to cheer your kids on, and later the competitors at the Nationals in March!!!

\$20

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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

US Nationals are coming— Get your bells at the ski club office !!