



# Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Club

# NEWS

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### Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Club Officers 2007

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V. President - Steve Schaefer  
Treasurer - Phil Hunter  
Secretary - Nancy Holliday  
Newsletter  
Chairman - Peter Smith

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Ginny Bousum, Greg Foster, Bob Friedrich, Anne Hanson, Tom Hildreth, Sue Manter, Mike Rowland, Lev Steeves, Joyce Tobias, Joe Tutlis, Joan Dolan-CVA, and Jim McCormack-SMC

## Maine Ski Hall of Fame Honorees



Nine amazing skier and visionaries were inducted into the 5th annual Maine Ski Hall of Fame, Class of 2007. They were honored at a banquet held at Lost Valley Ski Area in October. The new Hall of Famers are, (front, left to right) Bob Flynn, Galen Sayward, "Buffy" Bell (Dick Bell's daughter accepting), and Murray "Mike" Thurston. Back, Jim Miller, Tom Upham, Charlie Broomhall, Dave Irons and Win Robbins Sr. (Win Sr's son accepting).

Photo by Dan Cassidy

## To an outstanding New Year!

A message from SMSC president, Bruce Miles

Out with the old and in with the new - and we certainly have a lot of NEW around this year! New owners of Sugarloaf, a new logo for the mountain, Catherine Nodine - our new Ski Club Administrator; Murfey Hall - the outstanding new dorm at CVA, the new world class Jean Luce Competition Facility and Slim Melvin Timing Room, and to really get things going, lots of new early snow!

The winter certainly got off to a good start. The big dumps we received on December 3, and again on December 16, got everyone excited. The cold weather that followed kept the snow guns cranking out even more fine powder. By the time you receive this newsletter the holidays will be over and

hopefully the snow hasn't stopped coming.

The early season competition events have gone well. We've had our three annual early-season alpine and freestyle events, and a week of Eastern Cup FIS races including the Dax Brown seeded alpine race, the Greg Francoeur Mogul Meet, and the Bill Bousum Junior Alpine Race. All three are named after individuals who have had a big impact on our Ski Club community and are not only important for their competition, but also in keeping alive the memory of three special people and the roles they played in our Junior Competitor programs.

Dax Brown was a well liked

and very gifted young alpine racer; Greg Francoeur was an outstanding coach who touched the lives of many young freestyle competitors, and Bill Bousum was a tireless volunteer who continues to serve as a reminder that without volunteers, our coaches and competitors would not have events here at Sugarloaf to participate in.

January and February are shaping up to be very busy - just check out all of the events coming up in this newsletter.

Have a great season and I look forward to seeing you at some of our fun Ski Club social events.

See you on the hill,  
Bruce Miles

## Preliminary SMSC Social Events '07-'08

*Ideas for additional social events are welcomed. Please email your thoughts to the Club at [sugski@tdstelme.net](mailto:sugski@tdstelme.net)*

### January:

#### Saturday, Jan. 26th Annual Meeting

To be held at the Sugarloaf Golf Clubhouse beginning at 5:30 pm with dinner and a speaker. Pick up your free tickets early; the number is limited due to space constraints on the building.

### February:

#### Tuesday, Feb. 19th Vacation Week Ski Club "kids" Pot Luck Supper.

At the Comp Center. Child-friendly event from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm. Each child must bring an adult and a covered dish to share. Fireworks follow potluck supper.

### March:

#### Saturday, March 1st Wine Tasting and Educational Evening

To be held at the Sugarloaf Golf Clubhouse from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. A limited number of tickets are available. \$25 per person.

#### Saturday, March 29th The Annual Snow Ball

To be held again at the Sugarloaf Inn, with music by Elmore Twist. A limited number of tickets are available. Price to be determined.

#### Saturday, March 29th MARA Cookout

To take place at the bottom of Comp Hill. ▲

## Name Your Favorite Places on the Slopes and Trails

Most everybody knows where Kangaroo Hill and Chicken Pitch are located but how did you know? They don't appear on the official trail map.

At one time there was a sign on the utility pole on the break of Kangaroo Hill that said, "Kangaroo Hill". It is long gone.

What are your favorite non-signed places on Sugarloaf's slopes and trails? If it isn't on the trail map and there is no sign on the trail send us an email. Tell what you call it and how to locate it.

Email to: [sugski@tdstelme.net](mailto:sugski@tdstelme.net). In the Subject Line include, "non-signed." ▲

## Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Club Annual Meeting

January 26, 2008, 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

The Annual Meeting will be held again this year at the Club House of the Sugarloaf Golf Club. The doors will open at 5:30, with the annual meeting beginning at 6:00. The meeting will be followed by a lasagna supper and a guest speaker, who is yet to be announced.

Although there is no cost for the event, admission tickets are required, and seating is strictly limited to 70 people due to fire codes. You may pick up your tickets from Cathy Nodine at the Ski Club office on weekends before the event. Due to the fact that space is limited and we cannot seat more than 70 people, attendance will be limited to adult club members only, with no guests. If you wish to attend only the business meeting and forego the dinner, please see Cathy and pick up your ticket for the meeting only. Doors close promptly at 6:00 pm when the meeting starts.▲

## Coming to a computer near you

[sugarloafskiclub.org](http://sugarloafskiclub.org).

The Sugarloaf Ski Club is going on-line! We will launch our new Sugarloaf Ski Club website at our Annual Meeting on January 26th. We will be found on the web at [sugarloafskiclub.org](http://sugarloafskiclub.org). We're starting out simply and we want to grow based on your input, so be sure to check us out. Let us know what you like, tell us what else you would like to see. ▲

## Back by popular demand!

### Second Annual Educational Wine Tasting

Come join other Ski Club members for the Second Annual Educational Wine Tasting to be held on March 1<sup>st</sup> from 5:00 to 7:00 pm at the Sugarloaf Golf Club House. The event will be sponsored again this year by Ski Club member, Tony Jessen.

Tickets are \$25 per person and can be purchased at the Ski Club office starting in January. Space is limited due to fire codes, and this event was a sellout last year, so get your tickets early. What a nice way to learn about wines, and then maybe make an evening of it with reservations at a local restaurant. ▲



Keenan, Cook and King at the 2007 Charity Summit

## The Sugarloaf Charity Summit

Raising a mountain of money to find  
a cure, January 18-20, 2008

It seems we have all been touched by cancer in one way or another. Sugarloaf's premier charity event, the Sugarloaf Charity Summit, is a way for all of us to be involved in fighting cancer. Last year, a new record was set, with \$193,000 being raised to benefit the Martha B. Webber Breast Care Center and the Maine Cancer Foundation. One charity focuses on cancer prevention, diagnosis and treatment while the other focuses primarily on research. 100% of the money raised stays in Maine. This year, we've set our goal for \$200,000! We will someday find a cure for cancer. The dates for this year's Summit are January 18-20, 2008. There are truly ways for every Sugarloafer to participate and we invite you to join us.

### Friday night Welcome

**Reception:** January 18, at the Sugarloaf Inn with a cocktail reception, a special cancer survivor auction and entertainment from Maine humorist Gary Crocker. \$20 at the door.

**Challenge Race:** Saturday, January 19, Boardwalk, 10-2pm. Challenge your friends, your coaches, your parents; race against Amos or Crusher. \$5 donation at the gate.

**Raffle:** Win a 2 year season pass to Sugarloaf. \$10 or 3/\$25. Tickets at Guest Services.

**Auction:** Silent auction items are still needed. Drop off with Cheryl Fullerton at Admin. Come bid on the silent auction, Saturday, January 19, noon-4pm

**Charity Ball:** Live entertainment, live auction (with one of a kind items), delicious foods and much more. Tickets available at Guest Services, \$60 each. (This was a SOLD OUT event the past two years). Centerpieces are available for you to honor or remember a loved one.

**Fundraising:** It's not too late! Levels start at \$200. Top level (\$1500) includes a pair of Rossignol Bandit B76 with bindings. The Maine Cancer Foundation and the Martha B. Webber Breast Cancer Center are dedicated to improving the health and welfare of Maine residents affected by cancer through research, community outreach, and prevention programs. For more information log on to [www.sugarloaf.com/charity](http://www.sugarloaf.com/charity) or call Martha Bradley at 207-797-7130 or Cheryl Fullerton at 207-237-6903. ▲

## Maine Heritage Ski Classic



*A benefit for the Ski Museum of Maine*

On Saturday, February 16, 2008, the Ski Museum of Maine will hold a fun day at Sugarloaf with a variety of events.

From 2:00 - 3:30 pm, there will be a Classic Ski Equipment and Clothing Exposition at the Sugarloaf Base Lodge. Everyone is invited to bring classic equipment & clothing to show off at the expo. The Ski Museum traveling exhibit will also be on display.

Starting at 3:30 pm there will be an on-snow parade to the Sugarloaf Inn, down the Birches Ski Trail.

From 4:00 - 6:00 pm there will be an Apres Ski Fondue Party. The party will include an exhibit of classic ski equipment through the ages. You'll be sure to spot the skis that you used years ago! There will also be a silent and live auction will benefit the Ski Museum of Maine.

At 6:00 pm the President of the Ski Museum of Maine will draw the raffle grand prize winner.

*The Ski Museum of Maine is located at 109 Church Street in Farmington. If you would like to receive a newsletter, please email your name and address to: [smmski@localnet.com](mailto:smmski@localnet.com) ▲*

## Bode Miller - SkiSpace CEO

*During the only United States stop of this year's Alpine World Cup Tour, Bode Miller announced the official launch of [SkiSpace.com](http://SkiSpace.com).*

The web-based social networking, online community seeks to be the definitive destination for ski and snow sports enthusiasts around the world. Miller, who co-owns [SkiSpace.com](http://SkiSpace.com), will serve as CEO of the company.

As CEO of [SkiSpace.com](http://SkiSpace.com), Miller applies his relentless risk-taking to the business side of skiing while providing his expertise and insight in shaping the unique content for [SkiSpace](http://SkiSpace.com) and its members. [SkiSpace.com](http://SkiSpace.com) offers users weather updates, vacation planning, equipment sales and ski reports.

Additionally, it provides members with the ability to share user-generated content such as mobile blogging, photo uploads, skiing action videos and ski lifestyle videos. [SkiSpace.com](http://SkiSpace.com) is the first website to bring all these features together for skiers in one exciting, all-inclusive social network.

Check out [SkiSpace](http://SkiSpace.com) at [www.skispace.com](http://www.skispace.com). ▲

# Mountain Happenings

*Downhill Worship can be almost as much fun as skiing!*

By Earle Morse

Glorious views greet the Sugarloafer at every turn on Tote Road, which is why this trail is often times the unfolding sanctuary for those who attend Downhill Worship at Sugarloaf. This weekly Sunday gathering meets at 11 am at the Downhill Worship sign adjacent to the base of the Double Runner Chair. After some introductions, the group chooses a trail appropriate for those in attendance and the group pushes off for a run together. Four devotional stops are held on the way down the trail.

Each week there is a theme for the service – one week it might be about fear. The group might begin by discussing which trails invoke the greatest fear; and then the discussion might move to what Jesus said about fear.

Some weeks the theme incor-

porates an aspect of skiing, such as how committing to the down hill ski can be likened to committing to faith. Many a skier/rider has left the service with not only a bolstered spiritual life, but also an improved ski/ride technique!

Many times the natural beauty of the mountain is utilized in reflecting upon God's care for people and his creation. The services are kid friendly and the kids usually enjoy racing the Pastor to the next stopping point.

No matter what the weather, the services, led by Rev. Earle Morse, are held on Sundays between Christmas and Easter, as long as there is a lift running. A lift ticket for the one run is provided courtesy of Sugarloaf and is received at the beginning of the service.

## *Frequently asked questions*

### **Has anyone ever been hurt at Downhill Worship?**

Only once – it was a hit and run.

### **What was the worst weather ever for DHW?**

The wind blew so hard one day that the entire group was pummeled by death cookies. Not exactly the kind of welcome one expects at church.

### **What was the best costume ever at DHW?**

Easter bunny kids appear in droves on Easter Sunday. Though... the former minister Rev. Skip Schwartz looked very dashing every Sunday, as he wore a Clergy robe and skied with his guitar! Current minister, Rev. Earle Morse, reminded some people of a

Maine Blueberry in a gale when he decided to try the robed look.

### **What were the best one-liners at DHW?**

One guy (John Livoti), when asked how long he had been skiing at his first ever DHW said, "what time is it?" First time Sugarloafers are often told when going up the Super Quad, "don't get off at the mid-station."

### **What was one of the most meaningful moments?**

Earle Morse received a note after one service where the writer indicated that it was the first time she had said the Lord's Prayer since her son had been killed 17 years earlier. She said that she was finally coming back home. ▲



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## The Dax Brown Memorial Race

On Sunday, December 9, 2007, the Dax Brown Memorial Race, the second of the Sugarloaf Opener Series, was held on Lower Narrow Gauge under bright and sunny skies with good snow cover. The day found the competitors in good spirits, with the course allowing for a good finish rate.

Dax's father, Professor Gary Brown, had played hockey professionally prior to his years at the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada. When Dax was twelve, he had to decide whether to similarly pursue a hockey career or to focus on ski racing. When Dax chose ski racing, Gary endorsed his decision and enrolled him at Carrabassett Valley Academy in the Class of 1987.

Dax had an impressive racing resume. Training with the CVA alpine team improved his skills, allowing him twice to be a direct qualifier for the Eastern Junior Olympics. His fourth and eighth place finishes at the JOs did not reveal the fact that his November birthday had been two months premature, making him a year younger than most competitors in his age group. While Dax placed well at his level, it was always his finish in the overall standings that made him most proud. In March of 1985, Dax Brown won the Canadian Juvenile National Slalom at Bromont Mountain in Quebec. This title made him the first skier from a maritime province to win a national ski title. In July of 1985, at age 14, Dax was killed in a highway accident in Canada.

Now Professor Gary Brown, who retired after 30 years at UNB, enjoys winters at Sugarloaf skiing, mentoring coaches and volunteering as a race official. The Sugarloaf Ski Club, under the direction of Dennis Olsen, held its first Dax Brown Memorial Race twenty-two years ago in 1986. Gary would like to thank Sugarloaf and the Sugarloaf Ski Club for continuing to honor the memory of his son, Dax Brown. ▲

## Greg Francoeur Memorial Mogul Meet

Greg Francoeur had a passion for skiing and Sugarloaf Mountain.

He was a nationally ranked freestyle mogul competitor and a winner of Sunday River's Bust 'n Burn championship. He also was Chief of Course twice for the U.S. National Mogul Championships. Greg's greatest joys were his beloved family and Sugarloaf/USA. For over 15 years he was a dedicated and passionate coach for the Sugarloaf/Carrabassett Valley Academy Weekend Freestyle Program. With his calm and caring manner, Greg helped motivate and encourage hundreds of athletes to push their limits and reach their potentials. Greg was a friend, mentor, and hero to countless people.

Greg's life of giving, learning, and accomplishing was driven by a frustration with the way things were and a desire to make the world a better place. He found comfort through giving to others, making friends everywhere, a dry sense of humor, and the solitude of nature. He was a devoted husband and adoring father who took his greatest pleasure in bringing up his children. To see Greg with his family was to truly see him at his best. Greg's passion for skiing, patient coaching style, positive outlook on life, and genuine interest in making the world a better place is honored each year with the Greg Francoeur Memorial Mogul Meet.

Greg's family and friends established the Greg Francoeur Memorial Fund to celebrate Greg's passion for excellence and to encourage others to strive for their personal best. Scholarship support is provided to students enrolled at Carrabassett Valley Academy who would not be able to take advantage of educational and training opportunities without financial assistance. While skiers of all styles are invited to apply, Greg's forte was freestyle and the Advisory Committee is particularly interested in supporting skiers who share the same interest. If you'd like to make a contribution to the fund, please send a check made payable to: The Greg Francoeur Memorial Fund, c/o The Maine Community Foundation, One Monument Way, Suite 200 PO Box 7380, Portland, ME 04112. ▲

## Race Results

### Sugarloaf Opener 12/8/07

Women	
Emily Sampson	Bates
Elizabeth Thompson	Bates
Dana Breakstone	Colby
Men	
Jody Centauro	Colby
Vincent Lebrun-Fortin	Colby
Ben Manter	Bates

### Dax Brown 12/9/07

Women	
Micaela Holland	Bates
Dana Breakstone	Colby
Laura Littman	Colby
Men	
Jody Centauro	Colby
Joshua Kernan	Colby
Matt Clunan	Colby

### Greg Francoeur Memorial Mogul Meet 12/14/07

Women	
Alta Curtis	Killington
Nessa Dziemian	Waterville Valley
Aspen Witt	Stratton
Men	
Sterling Crescimanno	Killington
Tim Chamberlain	Killington
Jeremy Gravel	Killington

### Greg Francoeur Memorial Mogul Meet 12/15/07

Women	
Alta Curtis	Killington
Ariel Gordon-Rowe	Waterville Valley
Rebecca Goldstein	Killington
Men	
Bennett Roukema	Waterville Valley
Jeremy Gravel	Killington
Sterling Crescimanno	Killington▲

## Advice to SCVA Parents

By Peter Smith

Parents frequently ask what they can be doing to help their children learn to be better athletes. Usually the question is aimed at assisting the coach by complementing, augmenting or reinforcing what is being taught on the hill. The coaches require the children to focus and concentrate intensely for short periods that are appropriate to the age group and the specific skills being taught. Compounding stresses is not productive. The most important thing that parents can do to assist the coaches is to properly manage the things that the coaches have no control over.

There are five things which are critical to effective, safe training that parents and their athletes have complete control over:

*The most important thing that parents can do to assist the coaches is to properly manage the things that the coaches have no control over.*

These are rest, nutrition, warm clothing, well tuned equipment and being on time.

**Rest:** Adequate rest is extremely important in avoiding injury. Active athletes should be getting a minimum of 8 or 9 hours sleep daily. Younger children need even more sleep.

**Nutrition:** Ski training requires enormous amounts of energy expended over a long period in a cold climate. Plenty of long lasting fuel is required to keep the fire burning hot

and to light the afterburners when necessary. Be students of nutrition. Read the labels.

**Warm Clothing:** Warm muscles work better and more safely than cold muscles. Again, we train in a very tough environment. Good clothing and dressing smartly are essential. Many layers are important. Start with a base layer of really good modern long underwear tops and bottoms. Pile on the fleeces and vests. There are some great high-tech fabrics that are light and very warm. I

know sweatshirts are the thing but cotton is cool, not warm. Send them out dressed for the worst. They can take off layers.

**Equipment:** Skis need to be well maintained. Edges always need to be sharp. Polish the edges and wax the skis every two days of use or even more often. If they are kept waxed and tuned the skis will run faster; turn better; last longer and need less attention from the ski shop.

**Be On Time:** Be there and be on time! Meeting times are the being of training time. Plan to arrive at the meeting place 5 minutes or more before meeting time. Be "skis on and ready to go" by meeting time.

Peter Smith SCVA Alpine J4  
Pod Leader ▲

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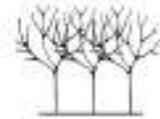


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# Founding Fathers - George Mendall

*Part of a series of thumbnail sketches of the members of the original 1956 Sugarloaf Mountain Corporation Board of Directors*

By Barbara Ericson

Sugarloaf Founding Father George Mendall was an accomplished all-around athlete. In high school in his native Augusta, at Coburn Classical, and at Bates College, he was a triple threat player, with letters in football, hockey and baseball. He even boxed to help put himself through college, earning about \$10 a match. George also officiated at football games, played semi-pro ball and coached football and hockey, most notably as a teacher at Cony High School.



*George Mendall speaking at the Ski Club's Founder's Night event in 1989.*

But of all his sporting interests, none ignited his passion quite like skiing. Although he was 39

when he first started skiing, the sport became the focus of his life for almost forty years.

Initially, he joined friend Harold Clark in North Conway, spent some time at Titcomb and eventually made his way to Sugarloaf the winter of 1954.

enormous energy and enthusiasm took hold. With buddy Bill Kierstead, he strapped on those barrel staves with "skins" for climbing and schussed down Sugarloaf for the first of untold Here George Mendall's numbers of runs. As a stockbroker, he assisted the first incorporators in setting up the Sugarloaf Mountain Corporation and is pictured giving the first \$10 share to then-governor Edmund Muskie. After renting the baggage house at Bigelow station one winter, the Mendalls built a chalet in Campbell's Field. "Sugarloaf became our life," says daughter Judy Mendall Redding.

Totally committed to the Mountain, George was known for his incredibly positive attitude. "You couldn't say the word 'rain', his daughter remembers. "And no matter what the conditions, even with several inches of blue ice, he insisted 'You can always find good snow on the edge of the



*"When the going got tough," Peter said, "he displayed courage and fortitude."*

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trail!!" The Mendall "family rules" included the admonition that no one could ski the same trail twice, because "there's probably even better snow somewhere else." This attitude was part of George's innate optimism, which, as son Peter remembers, translated into a firm belief that "things would work out for the good!"

Things didn't just "work out" for George Mendall; he worked hard, was a tireless competitor, gave of himself to others, especially kids, and, "when the going got tough," Peter said, "he displayed courage and fortitude." That's not to say he lacked fun in his life; the party started when George walked in the room.

Eventually the fun times were occasionally exported to Western ski areas and even

Europe. Though he initially shied away from the West ("We have everything we need at Sugarloaf," he would say), his usual joy in new adventures brought him to venues like Alta, where his favorite haunts were the Alta Peruvian Lodge and the challenging High Rustler trail.

It was at the top of the High Rustler on his 60<sup>th</sup> birthday that George turned to son Peter and said "Know what? Life has been so great! I've really done everything!" And for almost twenty more years, George Mendall continued doing everything. But nothing ever meant as much to him as being at Sugarloaf, where he skied right up to the day before has was felled by a stroke. "I feel he's still up there in the snowfields," Judy tells me. ▲



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# Pages from the Journal of An Old Sugarloafer

Washington's Birthday Weekend Snowstorm, February, 1972 • By Don Fowler

**Friday afternoon, February 18, 1972.** I got to Sugarloaf in time for some afternoon skiing under bright, sunny skies with temperatures which were not unbearably cold. I took some runs with Ted Jones, Dutch Demshar, Pres Jordan and finally Mike Gentile, all from the top of the Gondola. Gentile and I had supper at The Bag at the Valley Crossing and spent some time at The Red Stallion after supper. I ran into Dick Keenan at The Stallion, and we retreated to the quieter Bag to discuss his next career move. He just left his job as manager of the Aroostook Federation of Farmers, the fertilizer co-op in Caribou.

*We found one gas station still open in Lincoln, and discovered the problem was too much snow in the engine compartment, which was shorting out the electrical system. Defying the potential fire hazard, we applied lots of ether to the electrical system and headed north again.*

**Saturday, February 19, 1972.** It snowed all day today, although it really didn't pick up intensity until this afternoon, together with a stiff wind. I guess you'd call it a blizzard. The skiing was good, though the visibility became virtually non-existent by afternoon. I was supposed to go to the wedding of Fred and Cathy Putnam in Houlton this afternoon, and sensibly enough would have canceled the trip except for Dana and Ellen

Grant. I had four wheel drive and they didn't, so they persuaded me to head for Houlton with them as passengers. My only qualification was that I had to be back to Sugarloaf in time for powder skiing when the lifts opened. The three of us left at 2:15 in my 1969 four wheel drive Blazer and fought snow, drifts and wind all the way. Dana rode shotgun, and Ellen tried to make herself comfortable in

the seatless rear compartment, reinforced with a bottle of Boone's Farm Strawberry Hill. North of Bangor we were bucking snowdrifts on the Interstate. Eventually the engine started to buck as well, and then it started to die. We found one gas station still open in Lincoln, and discovered the problem was too much snow in the engine compartment, which was shorting out the electrical system. Defying the potential fire hazard, we applied lots of ether to the electrical system and headed north again. We decided to stay on Route 2, which proved to be providential because we learned later that the Interstate was closed.



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We literally broke trail through the snowdrifts in the Haynesville Woods, and reached Houlton around 8:30. We missed the wedding, but the reception was in full swing. We were the only people at the reception who came from south of Houlton. Guests from as close as Presque Isle canceled out because the road was closed. Put told me there was no question in anybody's mind we would get there. They were only making bets on the time of arrival.

Getting there was quite a coup, and we made the most of it. All good things come to an end, however, and we headed back for Sugarloaf about midnight.

**Sunday, February 20, 1972.** I left off the Grants at their A-frame in Carrabassett Village and got to the base of Sugar-

*I left off the Grants at their A-frame in Carrabassett Village and got to the base of Sugarloaf around 4:30 a.m.*

*I parked at the base of #2 T-bar. I crawled into my sleeping bag in the back of the Blazer and slept until about 7:00, when Dick Keenan pounded on the window.*

loaf around 4:30 a.m. I parked at the base of #2 T-bar. I crawled into my sleeping bag in the back of the Blazer and slept until about 7:00, when Dick Keenan pounded on the window. I joined Keenan, Neal Trask, Peter Allen and a few others catching rides on the groomers. The Mountain had about two feet of fresh powder. Trask, Keenan and I got a ride to the top of #2 T-bar and hiked up the Upper Narrow Gauge to make first tracks in the fresh powder. When the Gondola opened

we were first in line and got first tracks on the Sluice. The powder was quickly used up, but it was great skiing while it lasted. Because the skiing was so great, naturally the lifts broke down. #3 T-bar went down for the weekend, lacking some critical part. With the Gondola on wind-hold, that meant no lift access to most of the upper part of the Mountain. In the afternoon nine of us, including Nancy Kreiton and Sally Buck, climbed to the top of #3 T-bar and broke out some wind-blown powder on

Double Bitter. After supper we headed for The Red Stallion.

**Monday, February 21, 1972.** I got to the Mountain in time to be on the first Gondola. Unfortunately it was only running to Mid-Station, and by the time I got to the bottom the holiday crowd had arrived. Reportedly there were over 1,000 cars today in the parking lots. Since the crowd had finally arrived, naturally the Gondola stopped running because of the wind, and #3 T-bar was still broken down. The lift lines became intolerable. Neal Trask, Peter Allen and I hiked to the top of #3 T-bar. We had lunch in the empty ski patrol shack and then skied down the empty and trackless upper Tote Road. Overall a great weekend of skiing, despite the cranky lift system. ▲

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# Thoughts from a 'Loafer volunteer

By Charlie Brown

Volunteer is defined in Webster's Dictionary as "one who offers him/her self for service or undertaking". Sugarloaf is completely dependent upon this type of person to help host events at our mountain.

Sugarloaf has a luminary reputation for hosting world-class events: U.S. Alpine and National Freestyle Championships, Big Air, Half Pipe and Boarder Cross events, as well as a World Cup event in 1971. None of these could have occurred without the hard work and dedication of a legion of volunteers.

Many people do not volunteer because they are intimidated by their lack of knowledge as to what helping out might entail. Their inexperience makes

*Please consider pairing up with your spouse or a friend to volunteer at an event that your child may be taking part in, or any event at all. If each of us helped out just once it would make a huge impact.*

them reluctant to jump into an unfamiliar situation.

Volunteering for an event doesn't necessarily mean being on the hill at 7:00 am to set up B netting, or side slipping the course. It can be as simple as taking coats to the bottom of the course so that the com-

petitors don't freeze after their runs. It might involve delivering a timing sheet to the Competition Center, acting as a crossing guard at a trail intersection, or recording times on the score board. Each act that goes into hosting a competition, no matter how minor it may seem to be, plays a key

role in the success of the event.

Please consider pairing up with your spouse or a friend to volunteer at an event that your child may be taking part in, or any event at all. If each of us helped out just once it would make a huge impact. People who volunteer regularly would welcome you with open arms, share their experiences, and help you to learn your job. You would be helping the mountain, the Ski Club and your athlete. You would feel a sense of fulfillment and you would have fun. Give it a try. Call the Competition Center at 237-6896 and speak to Laurel. She'll give you details and help you sign up. Happy Winter!▲

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# Picking the right skis for you

By Scott Hoisington.

The evolution of the construction of skis has come a long ways since the shaped ski was introduced. What is great about the new equipment is that there is a ski out there for everyone. The key is in finding one which will fit your style of skiing and the terrain you are most interested in. Here are a few tips to help you select your next pair.



*The key is in finding one which will fit your style of skiing and the terrain you are most interested in.*

**Carving skis** are generally narrower in the waist and have more stiffness in the tip, which will allow the ski to hold its shape better on firmer skiing conditions. These skis are generally 63-70mm wide in the waist. What makes these skis less fun in softer conditions is the lack of dampness in the tip, as the ski will be more abrupt when hitting piles

of snow or bumps. The dampness of the ski is determined by the flexibility of the tip.

**All-Mountain skis** will ski well on firm snow conditions as well as soft snow conditions. These skis are usually wider in the waist and have some firmness in the tip to hold the ski's shape. They will hold as well on the ice as the carving skis,

but will be damper and perform better in soft snow conditions.

**Powder, twin tips, and off-piste skis** are the widest in the waist and the most damp or flexible in the tip and tail, and are therefore the most fun in soft snow conditions. These skis are not as strong on firm snow as they have a more difficult

time holding their shape. Every ski has the shape written on it, as well as the turn radius for which the ski has been designed. Short turning skis generally have a radius of 10-12 meters, while longer turning skis will have a radius in the high teens or low twenties. Basically, this is how much side cut the ski has.

If you have never tried out some of the newer all-mountain or powder skis, I highly recommend that you do it. Demos are available in the Ski Shop for \$50.00 per day. You may switch out to different skis up to three times in the same day, and the money you spend on the Demo can be applied to the purchase of any new ski. ▲

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Dave Irons, inductee of the Maine Ski Hall of Fame, Class of 2007 stands in front of easel and the plaque that he made. It lists all past members, and will include all present and future members who are inducted to the Maine Ski Hall of Fame.

Photo by Dan Cassidy

**INSIDE: News about stuff that only Sugarloafers care about!**