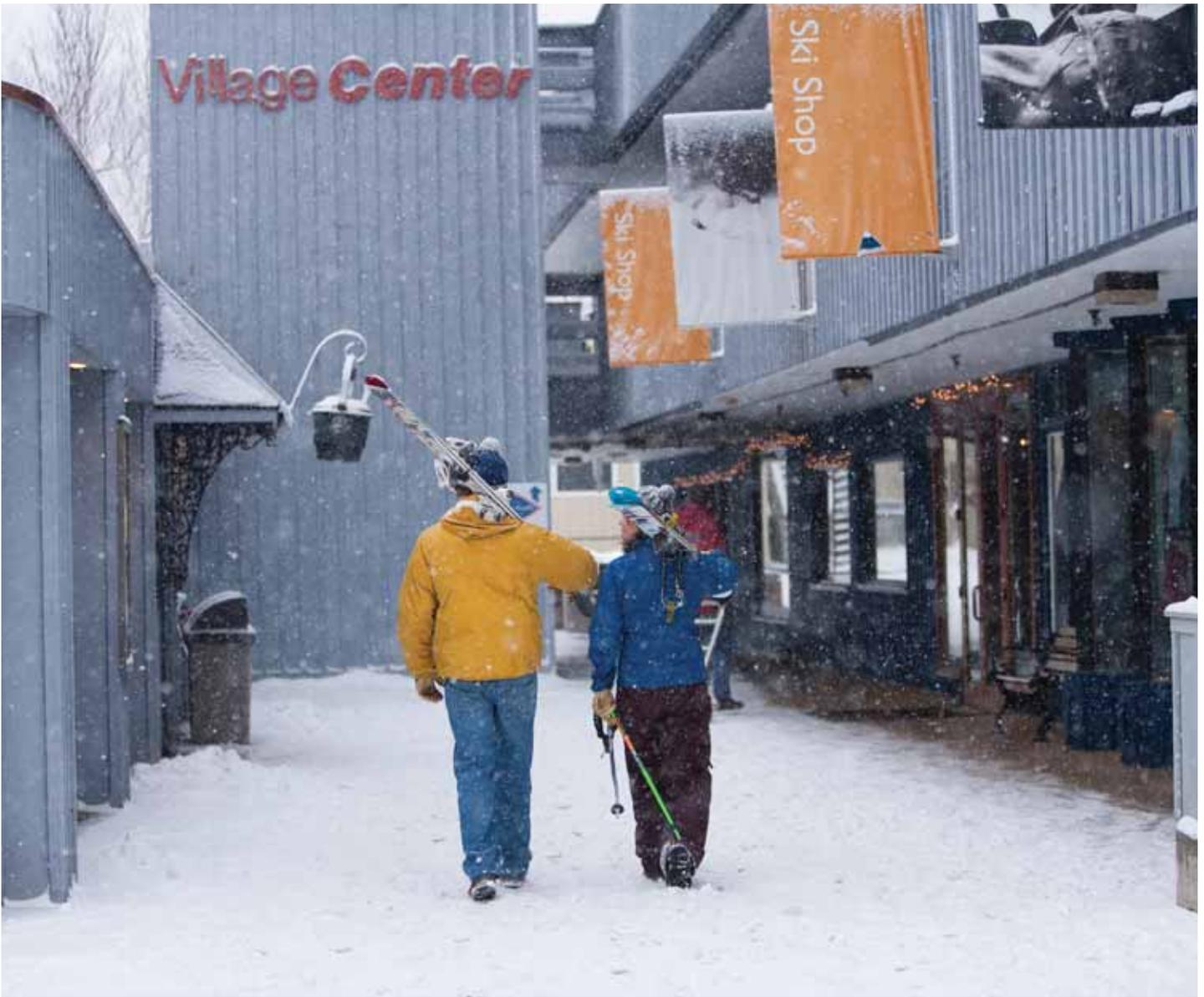


# Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Club



Winter 2010-2011



**Sugarloaf Ski Shop**



# Happy 60th to the Sugarloaf Ski Club

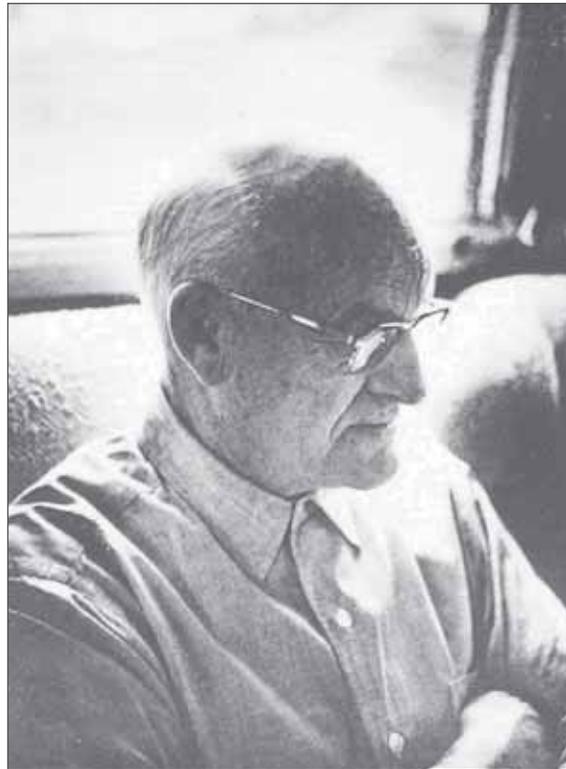
Located in the heart of the Sugarloaf Village, the Sugarloaf Ski Shop offers the latest in equipment and apparel, state-of-the-art tuning technology, and a friendly, knowledgeable staff that will serve all of your skiing needs. Stop in this winter and see us.

**Located in Village Center  
Open Daily | 237.6990**



The Sugarloaf Ski Shop was named a Gold Medal Ski Shop by SKI Magazine for the ninth time in 2010

Thank you, Amos,  
for showing us Winter's way . . .



*Nov. 27, 1901 — Jan. 5, 1982*



**60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**  
1950-2010

**Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Club**

Village West #13  
Carrabassett Valley, ME 04947  
207-237-6955  
info@sugarloafskiclub.com  
www.sugarloafskiclub.com



**60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**  
1950-2010



# SUGARLOAF®

Dear Sugarloaf Ski Club Members,

It's hard to believe that a full ten years has passed since I sat down to write a letter for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary edition of the Ski Club newsletter, but here in the Valley time has a way of flying by. But no matter how much time passes, the Sugarloaf Ski Club continues to be a vital part of our mountain community.

As one of the longest running ski clubs in Maine, the Sugarloaf Ski Club has played an integral role in the history of Sugarloaf, and the Maine ski industry. Over the past 60 years, thanks to the support of the Ski Club, Sugarloaf has become a premier eastern destination for top tier ski and snowboard events. In the past ten years alone Sugarloaf has hosted the National Junior Olympics, the US Snowboarding Revolution Tour, the Champions Cross SBX Tour, and the US Alpine Nationals (on two separate occasions).

In addition to its reputation as a favored venue, Sugarloaf has also developed a national reputation as a home for some of the country's greatest ski and snowboard talent. The recent successes of Olympians Seth Wescott, Bode Miller, and Emily Cook are due in no small part to the tremendous efforts of Sugarloaf Ski Club members and volunteers.

Sugarloaf was developed by people with a deep passion for skiing, and through the years this spirit has thrived. As we move forward into the next chapter in Sugarloaf's history, we do so with an unwavering commitment to the incredible Sugarloaf spirit, embodied so well by the members of the Ski Club.

On behalf of everyone here at Sugarloaf, I offer our congratulations on your 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and a heartfelt thank you for being an irreplaceable part of our community.

Sincerely,

John Diller  
General Manager  
Sugarloaf

# Table of Contents



In the Beginning...There was the Ski Club	5
The Uncle Amos that I Knew	8
Timeline of the Sugarloaf Ski Club and Sugarloaf Mountain	11
History from the Incorporation of SMC through 1970	15
It Finally Happened...	19
The Story Behind The Story of Sugarloaf	20
Ski Museum of Maine	22
The Early Years at Sugarloaf	23
Maine Ski Hall of Fame	24
The Luce Competition Building	26
A Long History of Volunteering	28
Volunteering at Competitions	29
Kingfield to Innsbruck: My Brother's Journey to the Olympics	30
Before "Oh-My-Gosh Corner"	32
Sugarloaf Ski Club Social Events	37
Meet Our Board of Directors	38
The Sugarloafer's Masquerade	42
Sugarloaf Regional Ski Educational Foundation	44
Carrabassett Valley Academy is Well Connected	45
Congratulations to Our Three Olympians of 2010	47
The CVA Experience	48
Sugarloaf/Carrabassett Valley Academy On-snow Programs	50
Development of Our Mountain Community	52
Retiring Sugarloafers	54
Locals Racing	56
The Dick Bell Chapel at the Base of Sugarloaf	58
Carrabassett Valley Outdoor Association	60
Maine Huts & Trails	62
The Original Irregular	63
Ironman of Skiing is a Sugarloaf Tradition	64
Sugarloaf Charity Summit	65
2009-2010 Membership Stats	66
Who Are All These Happy Couples?	66
Web Resources	67
Patrons	68

*Cover story: Skiing with Grandchildren – page 33*

*Look for Pages from an Old Sugarloafer throughout the magazine.*

**Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Club  
60th Anniversary Magazine  
October 2010**

**Editor: Cindy Foster, Ski Club member  
Publisher: Julia Foster, Liquid Something Studio, Newmarket, NH  
Printed at Franklin Printing, Farmington, Maine**

**A free publication distributed throughout the Sugarloaf community.**



1950 - 2010  
Celebrating 60 Years

## SUGARLOAF SKI CLUB

Village West #13  
Carrabassett Valley, ME 04947  
207-237-6955

[www.sugarloafskiclub.com](http://www.sugarloafskiclub.com)

October 8, 2010

Dear Sugarloaf Ski Club members and friends,

It is my pleasure to present to you our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary edition of the Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Club Magazine. In this issue you will discover many stories written by Sugarloafers of all ages. They collectively tell the story of the club's accomplishments and legacy.

You will read accounts of how we bore and raised our four "offspring", creating the family known worldwide as Sugarloafers. You will read John Christie's story of the club's hand in developing our beloved Sugarloaf Mountain. You will see evidence of how 12 ski club board members signed on the dotted line guaranteeing a \$1,000 loan to build the original access road, and how in 1955 Sugarloaf Mountain Corporation was born.

There are stories of how we started junior competition programs, and the creation of the Sugarloaf Regional Ski Educational Foundation (SRSEF) to help fund and run the programs. You will also learn about the many thousands of dollars raised to help young athletes achieve their competition dreams.

The history of Carrabassett Valley Academy will unfold as you read Ginny Bousum's article. The success of the school will be apparent when you read Valedictorian Amie Rowland's account of her time at CVA. You will also read about three recent Olympians who attended CVA, and how they also developed a sense of community and philanthropy. Alumnus Emily Nodine's delightful article about being a Sugarloafer will resonate with those of you who have tried to explain the Sugarloaf feeling to your friends.

The establishment of the Ski Museum of Maine by three dedicated Sugarloaf Ski Club members is another story that you will enjoy. The museum was developed to preserve the heritage of Maine's skiing industry, and is an example of the impact our club has had far beyond Sugarloaf's borders.

As we enter our seventh decade of skiing and riding at Sugarloaf, and the fourth generation of Sugarloafers descends upon the mountain, I hope this magazine will help those of you unfamiliar with our history to better understand the uniqueness of the Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Club. I also hope it will reinforce the pride that all of you who are members have in our organization.

Have a great season,

Bruce Miles  
President, Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Club  
Sugarloafer since 1961

## In the Beginning...There was the Ski Club

*People ask: "Did Sugarloaf Mountain REALLY grow from the Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Club?"*

During the middle decades of the twentieth century, which were the halcyon days of ski area development in this country, there were a handful of ways that ski areas got started: by returning members of the famed Tenth Mountain Division (The Ski Troops) from WWII who wanted to continue skiing and had to find jobs; by the occasional wild-eyed entrepreneur/dreamer who thought there might be a successful... or at least enjoyable... business model; by large land-owning entities such as the paper companies looking to do more than just harvest wood on their property; and by groups of townspeople forming ski or outing clubs to develop a local hill.

The birth of Sugarloaf resulted from the latter model... sort of!

Sugarloaf, and the Sugarloaf Ski Club, grew out of the confluence of two separate initiatives. First, Amos Winter and his Bigelow Boys had cut a trail on Bigelow Mountain, but access to the trail was obliterated by the creation of Flagstaff Lake; so they cut a trail on Sugarloaf. The other initiative was the attention being devoted by Governor Horace Hildreth's Maine Development Commission to various economic development initiatives, including four-season recreation development.

Out of the commission's deliberations was born, in 1948, the Maine Ski Council to address winter recreation in particular. Then the council appointed an Area Development Committee to, in its charge, "look over all those mountains in Maine which Maine skiers deemed as developable and determine which of these could be most feasibly turned into a ski area."

The initial list of mountains to be explored for development potential by the Area Development Committee included Saddleback, Bigelow, Mount Blue, Baldpate, Old Speck, hills in the Andover and Farmington areas... and Sugarloaf. Horace Chapman, representing the Penobscot Valley Ski Club on the committee, paid a visit to the Mountain to meet with Amos and assess first-hand what was going on there, as well as the potential for development, and reported his findings. His report was an enthusiastic recommendation that Sugarloaf should be the focus of committee considerations, and in 1949 the entire group paid a visit. Their report to the Maine Ski Council following that trip concluded that "Sugarloaf has the greatest development potential of all the sites in Maine... combining optimum northerly exposure, highest annual average snowfall, and the fewest access issues."

In short order, early in 1950, the principal players in the Maine Ski Council, along with Amos

and his Kingfield nucleus, formed the Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Club at a meeting at the Augusta House. Horace Chapman was elected the club's first president.

The first order of business was to secure the approval of the landowner, Great Northern Paper, to lay out and cut a trail, followed by getting permission from the Merrow family to cross their land between the Mountain and Route 27. Both were generously granted.

Despite the fact all of the early work was done by volunteers from all over Maine, and bulldozing was donated by the Dead River Company, another major landowner in the area, money needed to be raised to gravel the access road and to cover other start-up expenses. Annual memberships at \$10 brought in some funds, and contributions further enhanced the treasury.

During the 1950-51 season, hardy skiers from all over tested the narrow, winding trail, appropriately named Winter's Way, that had been cut from the edge of the snowfields to its lower terminus at 1800 feet elevation. The next season saw the club hosting its first race, the inaugural Sugarloaf Schuss, beginning a tradition of superior competitions organized and hosted by the club, culminating in national and international events, including a World Cup.

The 1953-54 ski season featured the club's first lift, a seven hundred foot rope tow on Lower Winter's Way, powered by a ten horsepower motor, and manned by legend-to-be Stub Taylor. Club members skied for free, adult non-members paid a buck a day, and junior non-members fifty cents.

It was clear to all involved that Sugarloaf Mountain was on its way to becoming something very special. Everyone knew that it would take more money than the club would be able to scrape together; so, in March of 1955, members



Amos Winter skis the Snowfields, circa 1952

gathered together at the Worcester House in Hallowell to create the Sugarloaf Mountain Corporation, installing as its first president Bunny Bass, who had presided over the club as its second president. Richard Luce from Farmington was elected vice-president; Dick Bell, also from Farmington, was elected clerk (and began his illustrious involvement as a one man marketing band for several years); Jim Flint, president of Peoples National Bank in Farmington was elected treasurer; Amos was formally named executive manager; and a thirteen-member board of directors was installed.

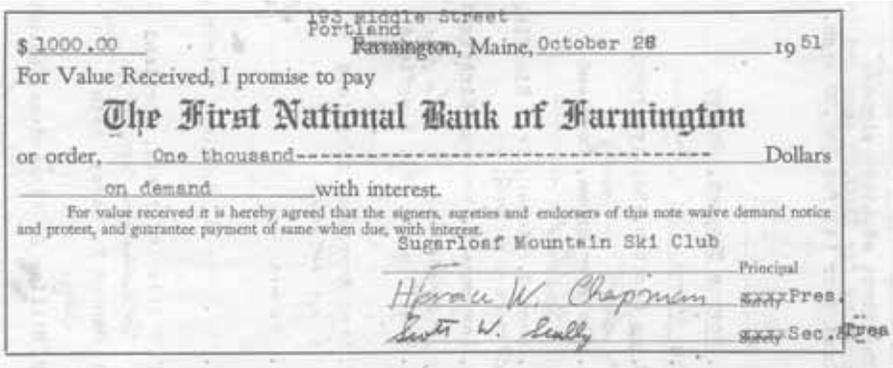
One hundred thousand dollars' worth of common stock was authorized and issued at \$10 par, and the Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Club received one thousand shares in compensation for all of the existing facilities, the blood and sweat of a band of dedicated brothers, and a growing mountain of good will.

Without the pioneering work of the Sugarloaf Ski Club, the Sugarloaf that has grown to be the fabulous resort we all enjoy today would never have seen the light of day.

— John Christie

The first eight(8) signers holding for \$100.00 each and the last four (4) for \$50.00 each.

1. Horace Chapman, Bangor
2. ~~Dr.~~ Scott W. Scully, Portland
3. Fletcher Brown, Portland
4. Amos G. Winter, Jr., Kingfield
5. Lawrence H. Nyberg, Kingfield
6. Emil Winter, Jr., Kingfield
7. Fred Morrison, Kingfield
8. Robert Bass
9. Dr. John E. Poirier, Waterville
10. William W. Poole, Portland
11. George F. Carpy, Bath
12. William S. Richardson, Westbrook



Signed Bank Note 1951

**Considering a home? It's time to BUY!**



Interest rates are low and home prices are more affordable than they have been in many years. Franklin Savings Bank has money to lend to qualified buyers. What are you waiting for? Apply in person or online at:



**Franklin Savings Bank**

**Why would anyone bank anywhere else?**

Saturday, April 19, 1958: Sugarloaf reports an official snow cover of 99-155 inches. The Access Road was clogged with snow. The roof of the ski patrol warming hut at the top of the T-bar was several feet below the snow level. Wonderful skiing on a warm day. We climbed up from the top of the T-bar to the summit and skied the Snowfields.

800-287-0752 [FranklineBranch.com](http://FranklineBranch.com)  
Farmington - Rumford - Jay - Skowhegan - Rangeley - Mexico - Wilton



*The First National Bank  
of Farmington*

JOHN H. GILKEY, PRESIDENT  
C. S. CROSBY, VICE PRESIDENT  
E. W. SAYWARD, CASHIER  
MISS O. M. CUNNINGHAM, ASST. CASHIER

*Farmington, Maine*

October 26, 1951

Mr. Horace Chapman  
The Bangor House  
Bangor, Maine

Dear Mr. Chapman:

Robert Bass was in the bank this morning with a letter from Scott W. Scully, Secretary-Treasurer of the Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Club. He stated that the first eight signers would guarantee \$100.00 each and the last four \$50.00 each.

We are enclosing this note for \$1000.00 for your signature as President and Mr. Scully as Secretary-Treasurer, and also will you sign on the back of the note underneath your name and forward the note to Amos G. Winter, Jr., Kingfield, Maine and ask him in return to have the four signatures from Kingfield placed on the note. Kindly ask Mr. Winter to send the note to Mr. Scully who will in turn have Mr. Brown sign, which will take care of the \$100.00 signers. Then Mr. Scully can have the others sign as listed on the back of the note.

To save you writing a letter, let this letter go along with the note and whoever the last signer is have them return the note to Mr. Scully, who in turn will return it to us and we will forward a check for \$1000.00 to him.

Very truly yours,

*E. W. Sayward*  
Cashier

EWS/tfw  
Enc.

## The Uncle Amos that I Knew

*I walked up the hill praying that skiing and being taught by Uncle Amos would be a positive experience for me. I'll never forget that magical night—it was so much fun!*

In February of 1945, the phone rang and my mother answered it. It was Uncle Amos and he wanted to speak to me. How well I remember the feeling of apprehension in my stomach. My relationship with him had been minimal during the first eight years of my life and I felt that he was aloof and didn't have time for kids. Why was he calling me? I knew that he owned and ran the general store in Kingfield across the street from where my family lived. I knew that he loved to ski and would often take a group of Kingfield kids to New Hampshire, where Tuckerman's Ravine especially lured him in the spring. He loved to play tennis and had one daughter, Christine Elizabeth, who was at Colby College. I knew that he was married to my warm and loving and wonderful Aunt Alice who helped my mother prepare meals during the summer at Deer Farm, our set of family sporting camps just outside of Kingfield; and that Uncle Amos had helped his older brother Earland, my father, build the camps. He had an older sister, Muriel, and two younger brothers, Wesley and William. I knew that Uncle had taught many of the town kids how to ski in back of his house on Winter Hill.

And now back to that phone call. "You're old enough to learn how to ski, girl. Come up on Wednesday night and I will teach you." Wednesday came and with it came an eighteen-inch Northeaster. I worried that Uncle might call to tell me that there was too much snow, and was half-hoping he would, but he didn't and I walked up the hill praying that skiing and being taught

by Uncle Amos would be a positive experience for me. I'll never forget that magical night—it was so much fun! But we had to wait a while for the fun. Uncle patiently and kindly helped me into a pair of Splitkein skis. He then told me the two of us had to pack the new powder by poling down the hill and then side-stepping back up. After the packing was finished he said, "Now follow me and do what I do," and he took off in a snowplow. And then



**My Uncle Amos and Auntie Alice in 1956.**

down I went, literally! I got up, brushed myself off, and found success after I had skied a few runs. He then showed me how to put weight on the ski that I wanted to turn, and ski a half-circle around my pole. That night I fell in love with my Uncle Amos. And my horizons expanded considerably.

Every Wednesday night, a group of kids would pile into Uncle's station wagon and he would drive us (very fast) to Farmington to go skiing on Titcomb Hill. When Aunt Alice was with us, we often stopped for a bite to eat in Farmington, where Uncle would always play "I Found My Thrill, on Blueberry

Hill", my aunt's favorite song, on the juke box. To be at a ski area with a rope tow and lots of lights was beyond my imagination! And little did I know that a pair of eyes was ogling the "girl in the red parka that skied with Amos Winter on Wednesday nights in Farmington"; those eyes would turn out to be those of my future husband Charley Murray, to whom I have now been married for fifty years.

Uncle Amos was getting tired of traveling miles and miles to ski. Wherever he went in the early to mid-forties, he was constantly campaigning toward realizing his dream of developing a major ski area in Maine. And the "movers and shakers" that formed the Maine Ski Council in 1948, and a little later formed the Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Club, were a direct result of all of his tireless networking.

As John Christie described in his excellent and all-inclusive book *The Story of Sugarloaf*, "The Bigelow Boys" came into being in the mid-forties.

This was a group, chosen by Uncle, which cut a ski trail on the backside of Bigelow Mountain. Other hardy souls that enjoyed skiing Bigelow were Glenn Heath, Wes Marco, and Phyllis Wilbur, a high school student in Kingfield and my best friend's sister, who was later killed skiing in Tuckerman's Ravine. Phyllis was the reason my parents would never let me ski there, as the accident devastated our town. Auntie told me years later that Uncle Amos, who was with Phyllis when she crashed into the rocks on the headwall, had a very hard time getting over it.

When the flooding of Flagstaff was certain and he knew the Bigelow trail and area were to be flooded to build a hydro-electric dam, Uncle Amos changed his skiing focus from Bigelow to Sugarloaf Mountain. I remember well the story of the deciding trip that was taken to the mountain. Amos invited my Dad, Earland, to guide the group of notables, which included New Hampshire's famous trail-designer Sel Hannah. Dad was a former Maine game warden who often hunted deer-killing bobcats for their hides in the winters to supplement his income, and he knew the area well. The ascent was easier for my dad as his snow-shoes were more user-friendly on the inclines than the cumbersome sealskin clad skis. When the expeditioners were satisfied they had seen enough, the descent was much easier for them than my dad, as the "sealskinless" skis were much faster than snowshoes! How I wish that all of us could have been on that trip. It would have been great to listen to the discussion and feel the building excitement as the group gradually realized that this was the mountain that should be developed in Maine. And wasn't Uncle Amos pleased that it

would be approximately sixteen miles from his home in Kingfield! My dad was also elated that he had been part of the process.

When Sugarloaf became a reality and the first trail was cut in 1950 (Winter's Way, named after Uncle), my family's lives changed considerably. Amos convinced my parents that they should winterize the log cabins at Deer Farm and make them available for skiers. We sold our home in Kingfield and lived permanently at Deer Farm, making it one of the first places in the valley where people could stay overnight.

It was at this time that I started weekend skiing at Sugarloaf with Uncle Amos, and how I cherish those memories! I would meet him at the mountain early and off we would go, our sealskins on our skis and a sandwich and water in our packs. The first time we climbed together, slow step after slow step, upbound skiers passing us constantly, I asked him why we were climbing so slowly. He exclaimed, "Look at the damned fools! They don't know how to pace themselves. We'll pass most of them." We never stopped except for a drink of

water, and we did pass a lot of panting neophytes who didn't have a clue how to pace themselves. And that is how I have climbed mountains ever since!

We had a lot more snow on the ground in those days, and we consistently skied the snowfields into late spring. Uncle taught me how to ski them the same way he taught me everything: "Follow me and do what I'm doing!"

And then came the day of the first Sugarloaf Schuss, a downhill ski race, that was going to be held on the only trail, Winter's Way. I wanted to just watch, but Uncle really wanted me to race. Phinny and Mary Lou Sprague were staying at Deer Farm and Mary Lou said that she was racing and also wanted very much for me to race. My courage became less and less substantial skinning up the mountain as there were mattresses strategically placed on trees on every sharp turn. I knew that I had to go through the gates and that was about it. It would have helped considerably if someone had told me to breathe on the way down! I choose not to remember how many times I fell. But Uncle was pleased I raced and, eventually, I

# SUGARLOAF AREA GROCERS

SINCE 1989



**Sugarloaf Groceries**  
in Village West  
on Sugarloaf Mountain  
237-2200

**Ayottes Country Store**  
on Route 27  
in Carabassett Valley  
235-2443

**Mountainside Grocers**  
on Route 27 near the  
entrance to the Sugarloaf  
Mountain Access Road  
237-2248

**Annies Market**  
on Main Street  
in Kingfield  
265-2664

**John Beaupre "72" and Bob Thomas "82"**  
Proprietors

looked forward to the races and even won one.

When I was in college, 1955-1959, I paid for my season pass by either working in the ski school, teaching, or being on the ski patrol; I knew better than to ask Uncle for a freebie—stories abounded about his hesitation to give anything away for free, even to kin.

During the summer of 1950, I became thirteen and inherited the waitressing job at Deer Farm and my sister Muriel, who was named after Dad's sister Muriel, became the cabin girl; we held those jobs through college. Uncle Amos and Auntie spent summers at their camp, a short walk from Deer Farm. On weekend afternoons, after our duties were over at Deer Farm, off to Camp Crazy (a most appropriate name) we would go. Uncle would walk with us to Tufts Pond where he taught us how to swim and water-ski and to finally jump and then dive off the ten-foot tower set on a float he had built in the middle of the

pond. And he was the Pied Piper, also taking our friends in tow. He taught us all how to dance foxtrots and waltzes, and most fun of all, he taught us how to jitterbug, which was so very popular at the time. Auntie provided the music on her piano or she would be in charge of the record player. And he also taught us to play tennis on his beautiful clay tennis court, which I loved.

As Muriel and I grew older, we and our friends continued to have our horizons broadened by Uncle Amos. From seventh grade on he took us dancing on Saturday nights, covering about every dance hall in the area. Auntie would go with us and he reserved every slow dance for her. What patience she had! If we were in the Madison area, Uncle would always have to stop at the ice cream stand for his coffee milkshake; they always stayed open until midnight, I think just for him. During the winter, until Sugarloaf was a reality, we would frequently go to the movies in

Farmington, or go bowling, with Uncle, Auntie and a gang of kids.

Uncle Amos sat me down after we played tennis one day. "Girl," he said, "you are going to college. You should play the field and date a lot of men before you settle down. Then you will be sure whether or not you should come back to Kingfield." At the time, I was sure I wanted to go back and marry my long-time wonderful boyfriend. I never did.

Another piece of advice Uncle Amos gave me was, "Never spend more money than you can afford to spend." That statement really brings me to a good place to end this reflection. He was always a man of wise judgment and sound actions whose vision and strategy is evidenced by the excellent mountain on which we ski today. I am proud to say that my life and the lives of many others have been beneficiaries of the man who was my uncle, Amos Winter.

— Amanda Winter Murray

## IN THE BEGINNING... THERE WAS ONE!



**Carolyn, Peter and Ted Hawkes — 3 Generations of Sugarloafers.**

Sugarloaf Since? . . . My answer is always about Dad -- winner of the 1st Sugarloaf Schuss in 1952. Of course, Sugarloaf has always meant good memories, whether family vacations, World Cup adventures or college weekends. In the mid 80's, Pete Webber entrusted me to handle the sales of his "Liftside" real estate. Our family, including 3 young women, now the 3rd generation of Hawkes, have been Sugarloafers ever since.

**MaineProperties.com**  
**RE/MAX By The Bay**

970 Baxter Blvd. Portland, ME 04103

**Peter Hawkes "Loafbroker" since 1985**  
**(207) 553-7310 Direct • 632-2345 Cell**

# Timeline of the Sugarloaf Ski Club and Sugarloaf Mountain

*By no means all-inclusive, here are some dates and events of interest; compiled by Bruce Miles with help from Greg Foster; dates are as accurate as they can determine. Thank you to John Christie and The Story of Sugarloaf for making it easy to find the dates.*

- 1950 July 31 - Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Club formed  
Horace Chapman elected first president
- 1950 In fall, work begins with volunteers cutting Winter's Way and 2 mile access road
- 1951 Andrew Titcomb writes *Skiing Maine's unknown Snowfields* about his Sugarloaf experience  
First loan secured, \$1,000 from Farmington bank, but never used; donations covered costs
- 1952 Club runs first Sugarloaf Schuss race, Ted Hawkes and Edith Curtis win  
First "lodge" built
- 1953 First lift, a 700 foot rope tow, installed  
First lift tickets are \$1 per day adults, \$.50 kids under 12
- 1955 Robert "Bunny" Bass is the first president of the corporation  
Club issues first Stock and Sugarloaf Mountain Corporation is formed  
The money raised is used for the first t-bar, 3,750' long  
The Narrow Gauge trail is cut
- 1956 First ski school director Ollie Cheseaux hired
- 56-57 second t-bar, 2,600 feet long, is built above first t-bar  
The Narrow Gauge extended, The Sluice and The Tote Road trails cut
- 57-58 Judson's is built, followed by Chateau des Tague  
Harvey Boynton's ski shop is built on the mountain
- 1959 Base area relocated, 3<sup>rd</sup> t-bar installed, The Bunny Slope enlarged  
Three t-bars are renumbered  
Boynton's ski shop is relocated and expanded  
"The Beach" is established on the roof of Boynton's
- 60-61 Jr. Nat'l Alpine Championships moved from Stowe to Sugarloaf's better conditions  
Sugarloaf Ski Club proved it was ready to do a major event even at the last minute  
Sugarloaf Inn is built on mountain  
T-bars #4 and #5 built  
Ramdown, Widowmaker, Buckboard and Pole Line trails cut

*Saturday, April 4, 1959: We left at 5:00 a.m. this morning for Sugarloaf and picked up Dr. George Hallett at the Maine Turnpike. It was foggy and drizzly and only one trail was open from the top of the lower T-bar. It was better than no skiing at all, and most of the other ski areas are shut down for the year.*



The first Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Club meeting at the second Ski Club building.



**1965 - Gondola was installed - 8,430' long, rising 2,350' vertical**

*Sunday, February 21, 1960: I encountered glare ice on the road in New Portland and slid into the backside of a milk tank truck. I hit the steering wheel and then smashed the windshield but nobody else was hurt. State Trooper Joe Tufts gave us a ride to Kingfield and we hitchhiked to the Mountain. We found one of the largest crowds in Sugarloaf history with enormous lift lines. We had to evacuate the lower T-bar on the first run because 23 people (I counted them) piled up half way.*

- 1961 Power and telephone lines are extended from the mountain to the valley
- 1962 Boomauger, Bubblecuffer and Wedge trails cut  
Capricorn inn built
- 1964 Gondola line is cut (it was not yet known what kind of lift would be used)
- 1965 Gondola is installed: 8,430' long, rising 2,350' vertical  
Sugarloaf/USA is born
- 1966 Lumberjack Lodge is built
- 1967 NCAA Alpine and Nordic Championships held, hosted by UMaine & Colby  
Championships included jumping
- 1968 Valley Crossing is built during summer and opened for 68-69 season
- 1969 Mountain opens on November 10th with 34 inches of snow  
SSC forms SRSEF, a nonprofit to foster ski programs for young athletes.  
Playboy chooses Sugarloaf for a story and the "Dump Party" is made famous  
Record snowfall of 347 inches, mountain has a full six month season
- 69-70 Bucksaw double chair lift opens with several new trails
- 1971 Tall Timber Classic World Cup held  
Arlberg Kahndahar trophy presented outside Europe for first and last time-  
First condominiums are built
- 1972 Jerusalem Township is incorporated as town of Carrabassett Valley  
Route 27 is designated a scenic corridor  
Radio station WTOS is launched  
Ski Rack store, Blue Ox lodge and Village Center are built
- 1973 Double Runner chairlift opens
- 1974 Town of Carrabassett Valley Cross Country Center opens  
Spillway East chairlift is installed, along with Snowmaking
- 1975 Town annexes Sugarloaf Township, creating largest town by area in Maine  
Bigelow Preserve is created  
Appalachian Trail section is moved from Sugarloaf to Crocker Mountain
- 1978 Cardiac Club is formed
- 75-81 Real estate growth continues in leaps and bounds
- 1980 Sugarloaf hosts U.S. National Freestyle Championships, first of many times
- 1981 Paul Schipper starts his "Streak"—skiing every day the mountain is open



**Base Lodge number 2, circa 1961. Harvey Boynton's ski shop on the left. Note the 'big Indian' in the background hills**

- 1982 At the age of 80, Amos Winter passes away  
Sugarloaf Golf Course is approved by town voters
- 1983 Spillway West chairlift is built  
CVA (an offspring of the ski club) opens with 15 students
- 1984 World Junior Alpine Championships is hosted
- 84-85 Sugarloaf Golf Course and Village on the Green are developed  
West Mountain is developed along with a chairlift and trails  
Sugarloaf Hotel construction begins
- 1986 Chapter 11 hits Sugarloaf after rapid expansion
- 1987 500 year flood hits the area, knocked out bridges, complete sections of Rte 27  
Flood caused much golf course damage
- 1988 Whiffletree Quad and King Pine Quad are installed  
Haulback area is developed  
Skidway double chair lift is installed, removing t-bars #1, #4 and later #5
- 1989 CVA starts snowboard program
- 1990 U.S. Masters National Alpine Championships held
- 1993 Sugarloaf creates a department to run competitions,  
And takes financial responsibilities from SSC
- 94-95 Comp Center moves from Dick Bell Chapel to vacant gondola base terminal building  
Sugarloaf is purchased by S. K. I., which owns Killington  
Superquad is added west of the base area  
Ski Museum of Maine is formed by Don Hayes, Greg Foster and Don Fletcher
- 1996 S. K. I. is purchased by Les Otten, American Skiing Company forms  
Whiffletree chair lift is replaced with a Superquad  
Old Whiffletree lift is moved to Timberline, giving lift access to summit once again  
Stub Taylor retires from Ski Patrol
- 1997 ASC goes public and expands to western USA  
Sugarloaf hosts both alpine and freestyle championships
- 1998 U.S. Freestyle Championships are once again hosted
- 1999 Town buys Crockertown public lot from state  
Anti Gravity Center and Narrow Gauge Pathway are built  
Founder's Night is celebrated at the Red Stallion, its last party ever  
16 inches of snow falls during the night



*May 6, 1961: Free skiing at Sugarloaf for the weekend. Lots of snow, almost no bare spots and a huge crowd. I hiked to the summit with Jim Cunningham, Don Logan and Ron Kirkwood and skied the Snowfields and down into Upper Winter's Way.*



## **Narrow Gauge Realty**

***Whether you're buying  
or selling real estate,  
I'll work hard for you.***

*Call Nora West, Broker*  
265-4949, ext. 25 or cell 446-4316  
nora@narrowgauge Realty.com

*December 26, 1962: Very cold and windy, which kept lots of people off the Mountain, but the skiing was good. After skiing I hung around the lounge in the newly opened Capricorn for a while where John LaCasse and Steve Crabtree were working the bar and waiting on tables. Tom MacDonald, one of the ski instructors, invited me to stay for the night at his unfinished a-frame in return for some help with the flooring.*

- 2000 Sugarloaf Ski Club celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary  
Mountain sees over 355,000 skier visits  
Ironman award is established in honor of Paul Schipper
- 2005 The "Streak" ends at 3,903 days  
A section of Lower Narrow Gauge is named "Schipper's Streak"  
The new golf course clubhouse opens
- 2006 Sugarloafer/CVA Graduate Seth Wescott wins Olympic Gold  
Sugarloaf and Sunday River purchase wind power generated electricity
- 2007 In April, the Luce Competition Facility and Melvin Timing Room are dedicated  
In the summer, Boyne USA buys Sugarloaf and Sunday River  
In the fall, John Christie publishes long awaited "The Story of Sugarloaf"  
SSC hosts autograph session for 500 book buyers  
Gondi mid-station is removed
- 2008 U.S. Alpine Nationals are held once again  
First Maine Ski Heritage Classic is held
- 2009 First Children's CAN-AM; best Eastern U.S. and Canada 12 yr-old ski racers compete  
Snowboardcross course is opened by Seth Wescott  
Revolution Tour comes to Sugarloaf  
Seth Wescott makes a plea to the town and to Boyne for a new Gondola  
Lift "shacks" receive major makeover in the summer
- 2010 Sugar Shack is built on the Landing; Sugarloaf expands into maple syrup production  
Children's CAN-AM returns  
Sugarloaf Charity Summit breaks million dollar mark in funds raised over 10 year history  
Seth wins Olympic Gold again  
Five Sugarloafers compete in ESPN X-Games

**Our past, our present, and our future share a common thread: our children.**

1966 - Jim Leonard



2009 - Lily Jessen



# History from the Incorporation of SMC through 1970

*Reprinted from the first Sugarloaf Ski Club magazine 1984-85*

*This history is excerpted from Ski Club History to 1970 by Dick Bell, originally published in the first Sugarloaf Ski Club magazine, for the 1984-85 season. Dick's article in its entirety can be read in the club's 50th Anniversary Magazine, 1999-2000, beginning on page 5, or on the club's website [www.sugarloafskiclub.com](http://www.sugarloafskiclub.com).*

The summer of 1955 saw frequent meetings of the Board at the Worcester House, Sugarloaf, Wilton, Farmington and any other place where these participants interested in Sugarloaf could get together. The activity of the Board was exceeded only by the flurry of progress on the Mountain itself. After considerable discussion, an association with E.G. Constam Company of Denver was formed by virtue of the purchase of a 3,575-foot T-bar at the price of \$42,500. This lift, rising 887 vertical feet, was installed by Robbins Engineering of Westbrook and was ready for operation during the 1955-56 season. The Narrow Gauge, later to become a favorite racing trail with a national reputation, was cut as far as the top of the new lift. The first installment of the oft-improved lodge was constructed near the base of the new lift, and the Scribners from Stratton were leased the privilege of operating a food concession at the lodge.

Olivia Chereaux, a Swiss-born student at the University of Maine, was asked to run a ski school on the Mountain on weekends. An Oliver snow-packer tractor was purchased during February for grooming purposes.

The winter of 1955-56 was a highly successful and most

encouraging one. The corporation realized a profit from the operation of the lift, and the Directors voted to put this amount back into the area and add it to the surplus available for future development.

The Mountain was beginning to get used to year-round activity as Amos and his crew started once again a program of extensive improvements to prepare the area for the 1956-57 season. A new \$35,000 Constam T-bar lift was purchased and installed by Robbins Engineering. The lodge was nearly doubled in size, allowing room for an expanded commissary, manager's office, ski shop, first-aid and modern restrooms. The Narrow Gauge was extended from the top of the original lift to the edge of the snowfields while the lower half was groomed and widened. Brooks Dodge tramped the west side of the area and came up with the plan for the Tote Road, two and a half miles of one of the best trails in the East. A warming hut was built approximately halfway down this trail for those who preferred to run the trail in two installments. A Sno-Cat with rollers was purchased, and a garage was constructed to house the increasing amount of equipment dictated by the expanding area. The new lift, 2,609 feet in length and rising 1,008 vertical feet, was completed in the fall and was ready for operation.

Bill Briggs was named head of the ski school and operated the school seven days a week. The only sour spot in the season of 1956-57 was the snow drought, which hit all of the eastern ski areas and seemed to continue interminably through the winter. The operating income,



**NORPINE**  
**LANDSCAPE, INC.**  
landscape specialists for  
Maine's Mountain Climate  
*specializing in  
naturalizing & woodland plantings*

Western Maine's only fully certified  
landscape professionals  
Serving the mountains  
of western Maine  
for 27 years!

- Excavation Services •
- Septic Systems •

**Hydroseeding Professionals**

Rte. 142, Kingfield, ME 04947  
Tel: 265-2430 • Fax 265-2431  
Email: [norpine@roadrunner.com](mailto:norpine@roadrunner.com)  
Website: [www.norpinelandscape.com](http://www.norpinelandscape.com)



1955 sign promotes "Maine's NEWEST Ski Development" - l. to r. are Donald Cross, Mickey Durrell, Amos Winter, Hollie Sturgis, and Dick French.

despite the paucity of snow, was 63 percent greater than the preceding season. \$80,000 worth of new stock was offered and buying was enthusiastic.

Plans got underway early in the spring for the summer of 1957 expansion program. Early in the summer, Werner Rothbacher, certified Austrian instructor and proponent of the new Austrian technique, was contracted to head the ski school for the following season. The advertising firm of Ad-Ventures, Inc. of Portland was chosen to handle the Mountain's publicity.

The summer saw extensive grooming work done on the existing trails, safety devices installed on the lifts, and expansion of the ski patrol, its equipment, and further work on the access road. Thus opened the season of 1957-58. An ambitious Junior Program was embarked upon by Rothbacher and his staff. Competitive skiing was on the up-swing, and several races in the late winter and early spring pointed to Sugarloaf as a major competition area. The Sugarloaf Schuss drew the largest field in its history; and as the season progressed, it became apparent that the existing up-hill facilities were not sufficient to handle the throngs of skiers on the Mountain.

The summer of 1958 was another busy one; the capacity of the lower lift was increased to 800 passengers per hour, and the terminals of the upper lift were housed. An excess of \$10,000 was spent on straightening, surfacing and generally

improving the access road, a new parking lot was added, and improvements made on the old ones. Rothbacher and his Austrian staff returned for the 1958-59 season with Roger Page heading the Junior Program.

The season began early in December, and the newly cut novice area proved to be popular with the skiers who preferred to stay clear of the well-traveled thoroughfares.

The summer of 1959 was an important one in the "once-upon-a-time" progress of Sugarloaf Mountain. Close to \$10,000 was spent in completely relocating the base area, constructing a new 1,674-foot Constram T-bar lift, and a new two-story lodge. The old parking lots were parking lots no longer as they were replaced by a massive 15-acre beginners' area. New parking lots were bulldozed with a capacity of nearly 1,000 cars, and the road was improved.

As if the weather were in cooperation with the optimistic expansion of the ski area, 1959-60 was a banner winter with plenty of snow, which was becoming an old story on the Mountain.

The summer of 1960 was marked for further improvement as a 4,600-foot lift line was bulldozed to the left of the existing lift complex; and a new wing, larger than the original section was added to the lodge. A second Sno-Cat joined the other in the equipment garage. The upper trails were further groomed, and a new trail, the Double Bitter, was cut from the top to a junction point near the bottom of the Tote Road.

These jobs having been accomplished by the able summer maintenance crew, the area was ready for the 1960-61 season. This was the year that saw more plentiful snow and more enthusiastic participants. The stature of Sugarloaf as a competition area was enhanced by the Junior National Championships, ably sponsored by the Sugarloaf Ski Club after ice was the order of the day at Stowe.

The summer of 1961 was dry and hot, the kind of weather that would enable a ski area to build two lifts and three trails. And that is what happened at Sugarloaf. Two new Constam T-bar lifts, 4,574 feet and 3,160 feet, respectively, were placed in tandem rising 1,872 vertical feet from a point a short distance east of the lodge to the edge of the snowfields.

*March 27, 1963: It was rainy at the bottom but snow and hail at the top and pretty miserable skiing. Consequently around 3:00 p.m. I headed for Megantic with George Cary, John Noyes, Burt Babcock and Davis Rawson. I got the chance to practice my high school French in bailing out one of the crowd at the newly constructed police station and jail. (\$20 Canadian). We got back to the Valley in time to check in at the Capricorn and the Sugarloaf Inn.*



*Serving the Sugarloaf area and the beautiful western mountains of Maine for over 30 years!*

**CSM**  
**Real Estate**

*Contact one of our real estate professionals today!*

call 207-265-4000  
e-mail [info@csmrealestate.com](mailto:info@csmrealestate.com)  
online [www.csmrealestate.com](http://www.csmrealestate.com)

(If you are currently listed with another real estate agency, please do not consider this a solicitation.)

The Ram Down and the Widow Maker in conjunction with a skiable power line added nearly five miles of downhill running. The new complex afforded an alternate access to the snowfields and to the old trail system by the utilization of old Winter's Way.

The large bend in the swamp was removed from the access road and new gravel was added to a considerable length of the road.

Further grooming was done on the old trails, and the Mountain, nearly doubled in size, loomed as one of the major areas in the East.

It was obvious, due to the expanded area, that Amos would need able help for the coming season; therefore, Sugarloaf gained an assistant manager, John Christie, who was chosen from a number of promising candidates.

The winter of 1961-62 was marred only by a frozen granular condition in January, which was offset by the best and last spring skiing in the East.

By the end of 1962 the Mountain owned its own bulldozer, mowing tractor, and two Sno-Cats. Five T-bars, two lodges, Austrian ski school, 10-man ski patrol, and extensive first-aid equipment augment the picture. All lifts are equipped with automatic safety devices and powered by electric motors with the two original lifts maintaining their gas engines for auxiliary purposes.

George Cary was elected President of the Sugarloaf Mountain Corporation in 1962, and the growth of Sugarloaf continued at its rapid pace. A third section was added to the base lodge in 1963. A small tract of land at the summit of the Mountain was leased to the Somerset Telephone Company

and a strip of land from the summit to the base of the lifts for an access road was carved out of the side of the Mountain.

It was over this three mile road that

*Sunday, December 12, 1965: George Cary, Sr., George Cary, Jr. and I got up at 4:00. We went back up in a Tucker Sno-Cat to the Gondola Mid-station to refuel the salamander heaters curing the concrete. Again, we had problems with balky engines. We came down around 6:00 a.m. for a beautiful sunrise. Later George Cary and I hitched a ride to the Mid-Station by Snowcat and then hiked the lift line to the top. We skied down Quint's Road [later Binder] and then an unpacked crusty Tote Road. In the afternoon we hiked to the top of #2 T-bar and found some powder. No plans to open the Mountain soon. All efforts are focused on finishing the Gondola.*

700 tons of material for 400 yards of concrete, 400 tons of prestressed concrete slabs for walls and floors, seven tons of tinted double pane plate glass, 23 tons of three inch thick western cedar for the roof, and 60 tons of steel were hauled for the construction of the Summit Restaurant at the 4,190-foot level of Sugarloaf Mountain.

During the summer and fall of 1965 and into the winter, work went on at a feverish rate. Transit mix trucks and huge cranes operated under the direction of George Cary and in January 1966 the 8,430-foot gondola was completed and its 50 four-passenger cars were taking people to the summit of the Mountain. Skiers could now ride in comfort to the famous Sugarloaf snowfields.

Ever increasing numbers of skiers each year made it necessary for further expansion. John Christie left us and went to manage the Mt. Snow area in Vermont. King Cummings was elected President of the corporation and Harry Baxter was elected General Manager.

1969-70 was another great year of progress under the direction of President Cummings and Manager Baxter. A new 5,360-foot double chairlift was installed with a capacity of 1,000 passengers per hour.

The Sugarloaf Inn was purchased from Pfeifle Enterprises and a new double chair erected, reaching from the Inn to the base lodge.

Twenty beautiful condominiums were built during the summer of 1970 and are now owned and occupied by Sugarloaf skiers.

There seems to be no end to things that are planned for the future of Sugarloaf.

In the competition phase, Sugarloaf has hosted the first Sugarloaf Schuss, 1952; Junior Alpine Championships, 1957; NCAA Championship, 1967; the World Cup and Arlberg Kandahar races, 1971; and the World Junior Alpine Championships, 1984.

What more can one say, except that it has been a tremendous and enriching experience to have been a part of the development of Sugarloaf/USA.

— Dick Bell



Dr. Kathryn Dingley Gurney  
Dr. Maurice Knapp

207-778-2100 — 130 Main Street, Farmington —

## *Accommodations in the Sugarloaf Ski Area*

PLACE	Accommodations	American Plan	Room Rate	Telephone Number
<b>KINGFIELD, MAINE</b>				
Sugarloaf Mt. Ski Club	20 Ski Dorm.	\$1.00 Members Bring own sleeping bags	\$1.50 Non Members	Stratton 34-3 Kingfield 48-12
Deer Farm Camps	40	Yes	\$7.00	26-11
Sugarloaf Inn	30 Dormitory Style	2 Meals	6.00	43-11
Hotel Herbert	100	Optional	Reasonable	6-3 Open by Dec. 20
Norton Homestead	8-10	Yes	6.00	58-3
Hill Top - Guest House	7	Yes 2 Meals	6.00	30-22
Grey Haven	5-7	Yes	6.00	53-12
Kingfield Inn	10 Dormitory Style	Yes	6.00	8-5
Blanche Goodwin	8	No Private - Light Housekeeping	2.50	48-12
August Wuori	7	Yes	5.00	No Phone
Vese Mt. Lodge	6	With or without or Light Housekeeping	7.00 Am. Pl. 3.50 Person	15-22
Durrell's Tourist Home	10	Yes	5.00	42-21
Riverside Inn	9	Yes	5.00	85
<b>NEW PORTLAND, ME.</b>				
Glen's Rustic Cabins	6	Yes	5.00	378
<b>STRATTON, MAINE</b>				
Arnold Trail Hotel	40	Yes	6.00	
Bea's Tourist Home	10	Yes	6.00	67
Johnson Tourist Home	10	Yes	6.00	9-3
Carvilles - Blue Spruce Tourist Home	4	No	2.00	26-4
Green Farm - Ralph Reed	10	Yes	7.00	12-22
<b>EUSTIS, MAINE</b>				
Kern's Inn	20	Yes	7.00	5-13
Housekeeping Cabins			3.00 Per Person	
Staples Cabins	4-6	Housekeeping Cabins	3.50	82-12
<b>CARRABASSETT, MAINE</b>				
Record's Camps	25 Dorm. Style	Lunches	2.50 with linen 2.00 sleeping bag	34-15
6 CAMPS FOR SEASON LEASE - (3) \$150.00 - (3) 200.00 - Housekeeping				
<b>FARMINGTON, MAINE</b>				
Twitchell's Tourist Home	10-12	No	2.00	2638
Moonglow Motel	25	No	4.00	2711
Perkins Motel	15-18	Wayside Grill	3.50	4977

*Further Information on Accommodation - Call Kingfield 48-12*

Those were the days! Judson's is not listed here, therefore it is believed that this lodging chart was issued prior to 1957. If you know more about the rate chart, give the Ski Museum of Maine a call.

*Saturday, April 30, 1966: Beautiful day at Sugarloaf, so much so that I squandered \$7.50 for a Gondola ticket (a T-bar ticket is \$4.50). I skied most of the day with Charlie Cary on great fast spring corn. A gondola fell off the cable at Mid-Station, stopping the lift for over an hour. Fortunately no one was seriously hurt. The accident was the result of human error, and the Gondola was running again by the end of the afternoon.*

## It Finally Happened...

... The first reunion of the Sugarloaf 50 Year Gang!

We can describe our first reunion of Sugarloafers who have skied the mountain for at least 50 years as an overwhelming success. And we owe a good part of that success to John Chapman of Bangor.

Let me tell you how it happened. As I was taking off my ski boots in the locker room after a beautiful day of spring skiing in mid-March 2010, I heard a voice say, "I see a person that has skied this mountain almost as long as I have." I knew the "person" he was talking about must be me, and I knew that the voice had to be that of John Chapman, who I had not seen all ski season. Seeing him is always fun as it brings back memories, for both of us, of early days at Sugarloaf. His remembrances go farther back than mine because he and his father, Horace, helped to cut out the first trail, Winter's Way, named after my Uncle Amos. At John's suggestion, he and his wife Betsy and I had lunch at The Bag the following day. John's purpose was to see if we could get enough people together for a reunion of skiers who have skied the mountain for at least fifty years.

How many of you out there have thought that it would be great fun to get together with skiers who share the history of the mountain as you do? We are sure that there are many. After my saying that we couldn't possibly have it this same season because there wasn't enough time to get it organized, John said, "Sure we can. How about the Saturday of Easter weekend?" Having only two weeks to organize it and to e-mail and telephone as many people as possible, we established, thanks to John, a few ground rules. He wanted to keep the event casual and simple with as little organizing as possible, that it should be a time of gathering and reminiscing, period! Knowing that time was a factor, we decided that success would be getting a few dozen people to join us, but it would at least

be a start. John kept the master e-mail list, the final copy of which he arranged to have printed into placemats for the occasion.

John's efforts were responsible for finding two-thirds of the more than eighty people who came for lunch at the Sugarloaf Inn that beautiful spring day, some coming right from the ski slopes. Muriel and Bob Tonge of Waterville extended a warm welcome to everyone upon their arrival. John and I were very surprised, in fact flabbergasted, that so many came on such short notice. And many people with whom we spoke told us how great it was to finally have a reunion and hoped there would be more. What a wonderful time we had reminiscing with old Sugarloafers that some of us hadn't seen in years.

There were a number of notables at the table with John and me that day. Maryanne Pfeifle, who, with her now deceased husband Don, built the Sugarloaf Inn in 1960, and years later celebrated their fiftieth anniversary there. The renowned team of Megan Roberts and John Christie, from the Ski

Museum of Maine, announced that no one had to pay for their lasagna lunch as the Ski Museum had picked up the tab; again, we thank them profusely. Betsy Bass represented her late father Bunny Bass, who served on the original Sugarloaf Board of Directors, as did John's late father Horace. Stub Taylor, the beloved Director of the Ski Patrol for many years, was our guest speaker; he talked about skiing with my Uncle Amos Winter and "The Bigelow Boys" on Bigelow Mountain before Amos realized his dream of developing Sugarloaf. My husband Charley Murray was an early Sugarloaf Ski Club president.

We now have a committee that is planning next year's reunion, which will be held on the first Saturday of April. Hopefully we will soon have a snappy logo that we can display on our cars and on our persons, advertising to the world that "Yes, we have skied this awesome Sugarloaf Mountain for 50 years or more and are very proud of it!"

— Amanda Winter Murray,  
with blessings from John Chapman

## WEAR YOUR PASSION



An enduring symbol of winter, the snowflakes silently fall from the sky, suddenly transforming a world of gray and brown into a miraculous world of white.

## CARRABASSETT VALLEY JEWELRY

Naturally inspired designs, handcrafted in sterling silver.

[www.cvjewelry.com](http://www.cvjewelry.com)

## The Story Behind *The Story of Sugarloaf*

*One of Down East's more popular books ever is a tribute to the author and the subject.*

On August 1, 2005, my phone rang and it was a voice out of the past: Neale Sweet, the publisher of Down East Books. I hadn't seen or talked with him since my days at Sugarloaf in the sixties, when he was a youngster growing up in Farmington. After high school he had gone on to Dartmouth, and then embarked on a very successful career in publishing in New York with such venerable outfits as Charles Scribner and Sons and successor companies.

He had been sought out in the early 1990's by Allen Fernald, the owner of Down East magazine in Camden, who had launched a book publishing division of his company and needed an experienced publisher... preferably one with Maine roots. The focus of the division was high quality, Maine-focused, coffee table books that would appeal to the readership of the magazine.

His call to me was an invitation to join him for lunch to discuss "an idea" that he and his editorial team had been tossing around. I was pleased to have the opportunity to reconnect with him, and was intrigued by the invitation... but with no idea what it was he wanted to discuss. Among the furthest things from my mind was anything related to skiing, as I'd been out of the business for nearly thirty years, and had begun a new career in workforce development for the Maine Department of Labor. Having earlier been in newspaper publishing, I suspected that he wanted to discuss something about that.

But no. As we sat on the deck at The Waterfront restaurant on August 4, he revealed that he thought the timing was right, and there might be a market for a book about the history of Sugarloaf. What he needed, he said, using publishing parlance, was "a voice", and he flattered me by suggesting I might fill that role. His vision was a first person reminiscence grounded in factual detail that anyone interested in Sugarloaf might be provoked to spend \$50 on

and enjoy. I immediately, and enthusiastically, responded in the affirmative to his request, and asked what the next step should be.

He loaded me up with nearly a dozen recently published Down East books as examples of format and editorial approach, several of which I had never seen. Others, like *Maine Lobster Boats*, were already dog-eared favorites of mine. He asked that I prepare an outline of how I would see the book he had in mind coming together, and draft a couple of thousand words demonstrating the tone and general editorial approach. He really wanted to see if I could actually put together coherent sentences with the potential to end up as a book that would meet Down East's high standards.

Over the ensuing weeks I spent a considerable amount of time thinking about my approach, prepared a time-line and breakdown of the possible content and sequence, and drafted a response to his copywriting sample request.

I rummaged through the Ski Museum's archives to see what kind of information and images resided there, and talked with folks at the Mountain Corporation and with Bruce Miles at the Sugarloaf Ski Club to request access to their libraries.

I sent along the results of my efforts to Neale, and he said, "Let's do it! I'll prepare a contract." We established a time line that would have the book on store shelves before the 2007-08 ski season, and firm deadlines for the delivery of my work were established. As an aside, I was recently flattered when it was reported to me that Neale had said, "I've published over a thousand books in my career, and worked with hundreds of authors, and I can count on one hand those who looked on contractual deadlines as anything more than 'suggestions'. John was the best one of all." I guess that derived from my life as an entrepreneur, realizing that I only got paid when I performed up to my customers' expectations.

I also sought the counsel of our good friend Don Fowler, asking him if he thought I might be capable of undertaking the project. His pithy response will stay with me forever: "Well, you've screwed up two ski areas; you might as well screw up a book." At that moment, I knew I was going to dedicate the book to Don! He was the one person who reviewed my first draft, and I needed his help filling in many of the gaps between my departure from Sugarloaf in 1968 and my return as a recreational skier in the early 1990s. A time period of great activity, both good and bad, with which he was not only intimately familiar, but had diligently kept a record.

I didn't count on his line-by-line editing of my convoluted construction and run-on sentences, but he devoted countless hours to nitpicking my copy. His most



**Homecoming weekend, 2007- John Cristie, right, with his assistant Joe Tutlis, left. Signed hundreds of copies, including a copy for Doug and Mary Collins.**

constructive marginal comments were "Remember, this is supposed to be the story of Sugarloaf, not the story of John Christie"; and his comment about a completely disjointed paragraph that somehow included something about both Saddleback and the Flagstaff Corporation: "Who helped you write this? Jack Daniels?"

Early in the process, Neale and I trekked up to the Mountain to meet with John Diller, to see how he felt about the project and to see if Sugarloaf would want to purchase copies for its own use, including sale at the Mountain. His enthusiasm and support helped convince us to proceed, and when Bruce Miles suggested that the club might have an interest in using the book as a fund-raiser, it was full steam ahead.

The latter prospect firmed up our deadline, as the club wanted to make sure it was available for Homecoming in the fall of 2007. This put us on a pretty tight production schedule. A contract was signed on November 1, 2005, for the delivery of a 25,000 word draft manuscript by September 30, 2006, to allow a full year for editing, design, production, and printing, and then delivery from Hong Kong.

My 35,000 word (no surprise) manuscript was delivered on schedule, other deadlines were met, and the first shipment of books, by air, arrived the day before Homecoming so that the club's fundraiser could be, and was, a success.

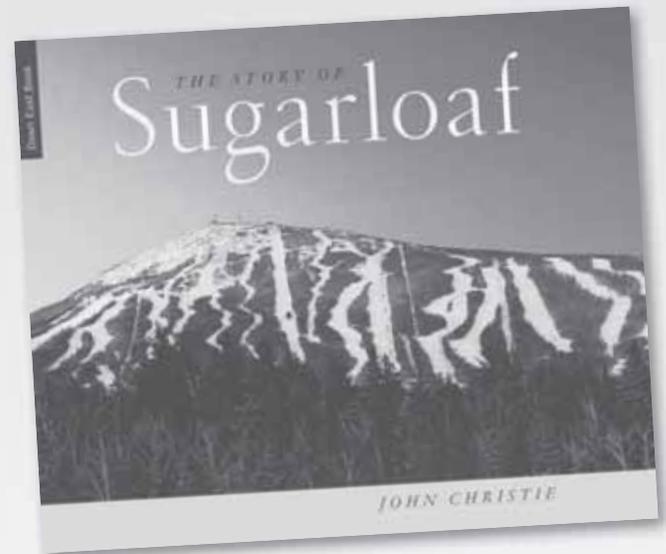
Down East made the book their featured book of the year, and it has remained a best-seller for them. The first printing of 3,000 copies, an optimistic quantity for a \$50 coffee table book, sold out by Christmas, a second printing arrived in February, and the book is now in its third printing. Both book store and Amazon sales have exceeded all expectations, as have Down East's direct sale.

The credit for the success, I hasten to admit, is less the quality of the writing and is more a tribute to Sugarloaf, and what it and its mystique mean to so many people. Add to that the fabulous production quality provided by the designers and the printers, as well as the sales efforts of the Mountain, Down East, and retailers like L.L. Bean. And, to say the least, add the fabulous jump start provided by the Sugarloaf Ski Club.

— John Christie

*[Editor's note: John Viehman, VP/Group Publisher at Down East Books writes: "The Story of Sugarloaf is certainly one of the more popular books in our 41-year history of book publishing at Down East. A testament to its popularity is the fact that we were caught completely off-guard by just how popular it would be with our first printing, and we ran out a month before the Holidays. We had to fast-track an emergency second printing, including overnight shipping at a cost of roughly \$9 each, just to fulfill the hundreds of back orders in time for Christmas. All our customers had their books in time that first year, but we learned a big lesson: never underestimate the appeal of Sugarloaf."]*

## Celebrate the History of Maine's Most Famous Ski Resort



### Winner of the 2008 Skade Award from the International Skiing History Association

Learn the interesting and dramatic story of the development of Sugarloaf, from its beginnings as a single hand-cleared path up the mountain to a fully developed ski resort of international renown. It all started when a small group of fanatical skiers got permission to cut a ski trail back in the early 1950s, when skiing was in its infancy and largely thought of as a fringe sport.

Like many ski areas across the nation, Sugarloaf has seen its share of ups and downs, but through the perseverance of dedicated individuals it continues to expand even today. This book profiles many colorful and interesting people of international prominence, including Emile Allais, Jean Claude Killy, Billy Kidd, and Les Otten.

Hardcover, 126 pages, 10" x 12" color and b&w photographs throughout.

Now through Dec. 31, 2010, SAVE 10% with code SM1009 when you order online or via our toll-free number below.

From the publishers of **Down East**  
www.downeast.com • 800-685-7962

# Ski Museum of Maine

*Relocated to Kingfield, the museum celebrates Maine's ski history and skiing heritage.*

The Ski Museum of Maine, another offspring of the Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Club, was founded in 1995 by Ski Club members Don Hayes of Ellsworth, Greg Foster of Cumberland, and Don Fletcher of Orono.

During the early years the board of the museum expanded to include Jean Luce, Stratton; Dick Keenan, Cape Elizabeth; Tony Jessen, Freeport; Fran Clukey, East Holden; Cindy Kailey Hiebert, Bethel; and Chris Bradford, Sanford.

Established with the mission "to preserve and publicize the business of skiing in Maine, while celebrating Maine's ski history and skiing heritage," the board of directors has undertaken a number of projects to identify and preserve our skiing heritage and to share this heritage with the younger generations. The formation of the Maine Ski Hall of Fame has been an exciting outcome of this effort. Of the 73 people who have been inducted since 2003, many are from Sugarloaf. Inductees into the 2010 Hall of Fame include Sugarloaf skiers Joan McWilliams Dolan and Kirsten Clark.

As with many nonprofit organizations, we have relied on our members and sponsors to help us achieve our



mission. In the fall of 2009, after 3 years of the museum paying rent in Farmington, Sugarloaf Mountain Corporation provided us with a home at 256 Main Street, Kingfield for the token sum of \$1 per year. We are located in the Sugarloaf Sports Outlet building across from Annie's Market in the heart of Kingfield. Entrance is free and we are open whenever the Sugarloaf Sports Outlet is open. Special tours or groups can be arranged by appointment.

You will find much more information about the museum and some

very interesting pictures and history by visiting our website [www.skimuseumofmaine.org](http://www.skimuseumofmaine.org). Contact us through the website, or by phone at (207) 265-2023.

While the museum is based in the Sugarloaf area, it is a museum for the whole state and you will find a rich collection from around our great state of Maine. Please consider becoming a member and/or contributing memorabilia.

From the Ski Museum of Maine: Happy 60<sup>th</sup> to the Sugarloaf Ski Club and all its members, and thank you for your vision!

— Bruce Miles



**Mark your calendar for Feb 19, 2011 when we will hold our 4<sup>th</sup> annual Ski Heritage Classic at Sugarloaf.**

*Sunday, January 1, 1967: After the lifts closed George Cary, Charlie Cary and a friend of George hiked from the top of #3 T-bar to the still not completed Summit Lodge. We sat in the circular fireplace and watched football games on a portable tv set. We skied down the Mountain around 8:00 p.m. on a very dark evening.*

# The Early Years at Sugarloaf

*Recollections, stories and comments  
written at the first 50-year 'Loafers event April 2010*

## Ski Museum Current Officers and Board of Directors

Glenn Parkinson, President	Freeport
Dan Cassidy, Vice President	Winslow
Tom Hanson, Treasurer	Orrington
Greg Sweetser, Secretary	Cumberland
Scott Andrews, Curator	Portland
Jim Quimby	Rangeley
Cooper Friend	Ellsworth
Carl Theriault	Fort Kent
Betsy Doyon	Bethel
Peter Hussey	Kennebunkport
Dave Irons	Westbrook
Peter Judkins	Farmington
Megan Roberts	Farmington
John Christie, Past President	Washington
Don Fowler, Clerk	Carrabassett Valley
Bruce Miles, Exec. Director	Carrabassett Valley
Don Hayes, Honorary Member	Ellsworth

**Heath Norris, Sugarloafer since 1960** - "I am perhaps the "youngest" of Sugarloafers who began skiing here in 1960 or earlier. I was in my mother Nancy's womb in that year, and have had the 'Sugarloaf Skiing Rhythm' ever since!"

**Nancy Norris, Sugarloafer since 1951** - "I remember the rope tow! Harvey's beach and the pat on the ass to get up there! "Bunny Slope" Peavey was a long way down for a flat-lander from Virginia!"

**Buffy Bell Folsom, Sugarloafer since 1954** - "I remember climbing in seal skins up to the timberline to the old lean-to."

**Jean Luce, Sugarloafer since 1957** - "I remember sleeping in the little log cabin at Bigelow Station and looking through the holes in the chinks of the logs to blue sky and new powder."

**Norm Minsky** - "My first year skiing I rented equipment from Harvey's. I had to call at least 4 or 5 days in advance - not to

reserve skis, but to make sure his one pair of size 14 ski boots were available! If not, I couldn't ski. When I was at the shop, Harvey took great delight in telling everyone about my size 14 boots."

**Don Fletcher, Sugarloafer since 1955** - "One summer while working for a local painter, I learned to chew tobacco. While skiing that winter, I continued to chew while skiing. #3 T-Bar was the only way to get to the top. While riding up the lift I would deposit a large brown spot in the lift line. Catching a very attractive young lady getting on the T-Bar - alone - I eased on beside her. About 1/3 of the way up she said, "Isn't that disgusting - someone is chewing tobacco"! By the time I got 2/3 of the way up I had to swallow the cud. This was the last time I chewed tobacco."

**Deanie Folger Blake, Sugarloafer since 1952** - "I remember *walking* in on the access road and *climbing* up Winter's Way."

**Norm Minsky** - "In the spring of 1961, a new committee of the State Legislature, "Industrial & Recreational Development Committee", was formed. Shelton Noyes of Rangeley was chairman. He arranged for the committee to visit every ski area over a 3 day period. I was a member of the committee and 'visited' Sugarloaf, and as I recall got a free lunch - my last free lunch until the 50-year group event (today)."

*Monday, November 11, 1968: I missed the opening of Sugarloaf yesterday afternoon but I was at Sugarloaf when the Gondola opened this morning. The Gondola was open from Mid-Station with about three feet of fresh snow. The skiing was terrific. I skied with Lucky Greenleaf, Dick Keenan, Rod and Alden Smith, Gail Chapman and John Fowler.*



First Trail - Winter's Way - circa 1950

# Maine Ski Hall of Fame

*"Where most people saw snow, they envisioned mountains of opportunity"*

The need for a Maine Ski Hall of Fame was evident for many years before it came to be. On the competitive side alone the state had enough skiers with national and international credentials to fill a number of spots. Maine skiers have participated in every winter Olympics since 1948. Over 30 have been members of the U.S. Ski Team and many have won national titles. Maine skiers have also coached at the highest levels and officiated at Olympic and World Cup events.

In the early days of the sport, Maine skiers were leaders in building ski areas, erecting lifts, inventing grooming equipment and laying the groundwork for an industry that today is worth more than \$300 million annually to the communities in the Western Maine Mountains. Needless to say, hosting major events takes a cadre of volunteers and our skiers have turned out in numbers to make sure Maine's mountains, and cross country centers, bring credit to the state when the world's finest skiers and riders come here.

In order to recognize our skiing heritage and make sure the stories of those who created it are not lost, in 2003 the Maine Ski Hall of Fame was founded as a division of the Ski Museum of Maine. The 72

skiers and one couple inducted to date represent every aspect of our sport: competitors, builders, coaches, instructors, volunteers and others who have contributed greatly to the sport in Maine.

*The mission of the Maine Ski Hall of Fame is to recognize those skiers who, through their efforts and achievements, have brought distinction to Maine skiing. Some of these skiers made their mark in competition. Others were founders who built the sport into a way of life for so many Mainers. Still more were teachers who led countless skiers and competitors into our sport. Some had an intense impact on local skiers while others gained prominence on an international scale. Thanks to these skiers Maine has an industry that is a vital part of the economy, not only in the mountains, but throughout the state.*

*It is to recognize the importance of skiing to Maine and its citizens that the Maine Ski Hall of Fame has been formed. By enshrining those men and women who founded and built the sport in Maine, competitors who brought prominence to Maine skiing, their coaches and mentors, and others who have made significant contributions, we shall create a permanent record of their endeavors and achievements. By doing this we shall preserve this history for those who follow, that they may understand the great achievements of these individuals.*

The first class to enter the Hall in 2003 was well represented by the variety of contributions Maine skiers have made. Wendall "Chummy"

Broomhall was a two time Olympic Cross Country skier. Fellow Rumford skier Aurele Legere was a World Class jumper who jumped for the US Army in Europe after World War II. Robert "Bunny" Bass played a key role in the beginning of Sugarloaf and his ski boots were worn by the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division. Amos Winter was and is recognized as the father of Sugarloaf. Auburn's John Bower was the only American to have ever won the famed Holmenkollen combined championship in Norway. Otto Wallingford used Lost Valley as his laboratory in developing the "Powdermaker" which revolutionized grooming around the World. Al Merrill is in the National Ski Hall of Fame for his coaching at Dartmouth and in the Olympics. Wes Marco, who might have been Maine's first ski instructor, helped cut Winter's Way. Doc DesRoches, also in the National Ski Hall of Fame, founded ski areas and Ski Industries of America, and co-founded the Ski Industries program at The University of Maine Farmington. And Russ Haggett, who in his 39 years as GM at Pleasant Mountain, installed the state's first T-bar and the first chair lift.

Bass, Winter and Marco all played key roles at Sugarloaf, and a look at classes since shows plenty more. Is there a Sugarloafer who doesn't



Joan McWilliams



Class of 2010 Sugarloafers



Olympian Kirsten Clark

know of Stub Taylor, Maine's Mister Ski Patrol? Or Roger Page, who originally came to Maine to teach at Sugarloaf, and Tom "Coach" Reynolds, who has been part of Sugarloaf for his entire career. It's fitting that Jean Luce was the first woman elected to the Hall. For decades she was the volunteer who epitomized Sugarloaf's spirit of turning out for big events as she kept track of the details for so many races. Other Sugarloafers in the Maine Ski Hall of Fame include Pat Murphy, Karl Anderson, Irving Kagan, Peter Webber, Fletcher Brown, John Christie, Dick Bell, King Cummings, and Julie Parisien.

The class of 2010 is no different. Inductee Kirsten Clark developed, at Sugarloaf, the skills that made her one of the world's top downhillers. Among her seven National Alpine Titles are four straight downhill crowns. Add 28 top ten finishes on the World Cup circuit, one downhill win, a silver medal in the World Championships and eight podiums in a 13 year career, which

included three Olympics, and you have the profile of Maine's most successful alpine ski racer.

As an early freestyle skier, inductee Joan McWilliams Dolan's dominance of freestyle skiing came before the discipline was added to the Olympic roster, or Maine might have had that first gold medal years earlier. Coming out of Sugarloaf's Masters Program, Joan won her first national title in 1976—and in 1979 won the combined title in the first ever FIS sanctioned freestyle event. More titles surely would have followed had it not been for a horrific crash in the 1983 National Championships. Her misfortune benefitted the student athletes at CVA where she became a teacher and coach. The freestyle program she developed and coached has turned out a number of world class athletes who have skied for the U.S. and Canadian ski teams. As members of this year's Hall of Fame class, Kirsten Clark and Joan McWilliams Dolan are prime examples

of the Sugarloaf traditions.

Sugarloaf has hosted a World Cup, National Championships and Junior World Championships, along with countless other competitions, making it only natural that many of Sugarloaf's skiers would find their way into the Maine Ski Hall of Fame. Now that the Ski Museum of Maine is located in Kingfield over the Sugarloaf Ski Shop, it's easier than ever for Sugarloafers to learn more about the skiers who have earned this honor. There you will find a plaque listing the members of each Hall of Fame class since the first induction in 2003. Program books from each year are also available so that visitors may read the biographies of each inductee and learn how so many Sugarloaf skiers have contributed greatly to making skiing in Maine a way of life.

— Dave Irons

[Learn more from the website, [www.skimuseumofmaine.org](http://www.skimuseumofmaine.org).]



# Double Diamond

Steakhouse & Wine Bar

Enjoy mouth-watering cuisine and award-winning wines from around the world in our candlelit dining room, or relax by the fireside in our full service pub. The Double Diamond is an elegant setting for any occasion.

---

Located in the Sugarloaf Mountain Hotel. Call 207-237-4220 for reservations.

**Join us for our Monthly Wine Dinner Events, December-April!**

**SUGARLOAF**



1.800.THE.LOAF

[sugarloaf.com](http://sugarloaf.com)

© 2009 Sugarloaf Mountain Corporation

## The Luce Competition Building

*Building the new Jean Luce Competition and Training Facility and the Slim Melvin Timing Room was a team effort.*

The original Jean Luce building was constructed in the fall of 1983 at the base of Competition Hill, in preparation for the 1984 World Junior Alpine Championships. Prior to that, in the fall of 1970, the Melvin House was built at the base of Kangaroo Hill on Narrow Gauge; it would be used for the upcoming 1971 World Cup races. Time and the elements took their toll on both of those buildings. I remember getting a call from Jay Marshall telling me that the Jean Luce building fell off its foundation; that was the beginning of the end for it. The Melvin house aged gracefully, but time and the harsh weather on the mountain took its toll. It was deemed unsafe and razed in the late '90s.

So, in 2006, the Sugarloaf Ski Club set out to construct a new building which would not only combine the two facilities, but would also service events on both Narrow Gauge and Competition Hill. We decided right away that, unlike previous building projects on the hill, this would be well planned, designed to stand the test of time, and a world class facility.

The construction of the facility became a partnership between the club and the mountain, with financial support from the town of Carrabassett Valley. The cost of the facility would be about \$120,000. \$20K was raised at the 2006 annual Carrabassett Valley town meeting, \$20K was contributed by Sugarloaf Mountain Corporation, and \$20K was donated by the Sugarloaf Ski Club. That left \$60K that we still had to raise. During the spring and summer of 2006, we ran a fundraising campaign; more than one hundred Sugarloafers stepped up, donating money, time, and materials to make it happen.

Construction began in August of 2007. This building was not going to fall off its foundation, or sink into the springtime mud. Many trucks were driven up Binder before unloading enough gravel to build a good, solid, well drained base. Then forms were put in for a concrete slab. In previous buildings, we always dealt with wet floors; this was not going to be an issue in our new building. Linwood Doble and I installed 1000 feet of plastic tubing for radiant heat. After that, the concrete trucks were pulled up the trail to

pour a very substantial concrete slab. We had \$20k in the ground before a single wall was built. And build we did.

Long time Sugarloafer Rick Goduti, a Portland architect, designed for us a rugged, beautiful building with lots of exposed wood and large windows. The roof rafters were each 44 feet in length, and a crane provided by Seth Nickerson was towed to the site and used to lift the rafters into place. Like all projects at Sugarloaf, we were still pounding nails when the snow started to fly. With winter weather fast approaching, we sealed the roof with a tarp for the season. The following summer, a baked enamel standing seam roof was installed by another group of Sugarloafers, C. O. Beck and Sons Roofing, at no charge to the club.

On April 7, 2007, during the annual McKay/Waddle races, the building was dedicated; lots of speeches were made, and recognition bestowed, in front of an enthusiastic



**"New" Luce Building under construction, Fall 2007.**



**Volunteers make ongoing improvements to the facility.**

*Sunday, May 11, 1969: The last day of lift operation, a full six-month season. We skied a couple of runs in the rain on frozen slush and then went down to watch the canoe race between Packard's Bridge and the new Claybrook Bridge. The finale was a bateau crewed by Billy Jones, Jud Strunk and Gardner Defoe. We returned to the Mountain for the last hour or so, closing down the season as the last paying customers on the Mountain.*

group of Sugarloafers. Work did not stop then. The following season ski club member Cindy Foster installed great shelves and storage bins inside of the building; then she organized an army of volunteers to poly-seal the beautiful pine interior walls and ceilings. Since then we have doubled the size of the deck, and added a cook shack to store our supersize gas grill, donated by club member Tom Hildreth.

We continue to make improvements, adding “bells and whistles” such as our new electronic scoreboards on the side of the building, and sound system components at the top of Kangaroo Hill.

Did we succeed in our mission to build a world class facility? We sure did! We continually hear from visiting groups of competitors about how impressed they are, not only with the building but with what a dedicated group of volunteers accomplished. Sugarloaf Ski Club can be very proud. This was truly a team effort.

— Bruce Miles

*[Editor's note: Bruce Miles spearheaded this project, and deserves more credit than he takes for its success. Bruce made it all happen: he recruited funds, materials and labor; he pounded nails, cut lumber, and any other manual labor that needed doing; he oversaw the project from start to finish. And he continues to initiate improvements to the facility. Thank you, Bruce, for your grand contribution to Sugarloaf and our competition venue.]*



Our race-day BBQ's are a popular fundraiser.



Old and new Jean Luce Buildings before the old one was razed.

# VALLEY GAS & OIL COMPANY

*Your complete energy source for  
propane, kerosene, fuel oil and equipment*

1.800.675.7443 • 207.265.5443

Fax 207.265.2987 • [www.valleygasandoil.com](http://www.valleygasandoil.com)

*The Luce Family  
Sugarloafers since 1952!*

P.O. Box 115 • 103 Main Street • Kingfield, Maine 04947

## A Long History of Volunteering

*The Gleason Rand Award was established in 1974 and has been honoring competition volunteers ever since.*

On-snow competitions at Sugarloaf cannot be held without the many volunteers who help out at alpine, freestyle and snowboard events. During the 2009-2010 season, there were over 100 individuals who volunteered at the various events. Some only helped for two or three days, while others spent more than 40 days on the hill.

Each year at the closing Volunteer Party a special award is presented to an outstanding volunteer or volunteers. This is the Gleason Rand Award, established in 1974 by the Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Club. Dr. Gleason Rand was a tireless volunteer who spent most winter weekends donating his time registering athletes each morning and then going

on the hill to assist coaches in any way he could. Gleason Rand was killed in a motor vehicle accident in 1973, and the Annual Award was instituted in his memory.

The tradition of volunteering at Sugarloaf is alive and well, as can be seen from the number of volunteers who assisted during the past season. However, we always have room for more. Giving of your time is rewarding in many ways and the competition organizers will be pleased to have your help. To find out more, contact the Competition Center at 237-6896.

— Lev Steeves

### Gleason Rand Award Recipients

1974 Jean Luce		1998 Mary Hunter & Lev Steeves
1975 Peter Spaulding		1999 Bob Daley
1976 Robert Waddle		2000 Chris Schipper
1977 Larry & Jackie Mahaney		2001 Lev Steeves
1978 Paula & Irving Kagan		2002 Mary & Phil Hunter
1979 Peter Smith	1987 Bruce Miles	2003 Patti & Bob Silvia
1980 Tom Needham	1988 Kathi Accord	2004 Alice & Al Cole
1981 Frank & Jean Woodard	1989 Peter & Carol Bass	2005 Susan Manter
1982 Jim Merritt	1990 Deb Oberg	2006 Marco Stivelitta & Peter Smith
1983 Kathy Allen	1991 Carol Freemont-Smith	2007 Terry Petley
1984 Tina Hinkley	1992 Ron & Audrey Leonard	2008 Tom Hanson
1985 Mary Hunter, Jean Luce & Gil O'Connor	1993 Jay & Gail Rowe	2009 Jon Hellstedt
1986 Carolyn & Regis Lepage	1994 Barbara & Dick Hinman	2010 Peter & Delinda Smith
	1995 Audrey Leonard	

*Sunday, November 15, 1970: After three inches of wet snow fell today, Peter Allen and I decided we would be the first to ski the newly cut Birches Trail, between the Base Lodge and the Sugarloaf Inn. We borrowed some ski equipment at the Red Stallion and skied one run at dusk. We then returned to the Red Stallion, which once again provided to be the birth place of dumb ideas.*



**Sugarloaf Ski Club volunteer Gleason Rand, early 1970s. Notice the gondola in the background.**

**Proud to be a part of the  
Sugarloaf community!**

7 Depot Street | Kingfield  
265-2181

9 School Street | Stratton  
246-2181

**Camden National Bank**

800-860-8821 | [CamdenNational.com](http://CamdenNational.com)

Member FDIC

## Volunteering at Competitions

*It's not always a winter wonderland out there, but there are many benefits to volunteering your time and talents at Sugarloaf competitions.*

I've been a Sugarloafer since 1971, but strictly a week-ender and an occasional vacation-week skier, until a couple of things happened. First of all, my son moved his family to Maine and my grandchildren became interested in competitive mogul skiing. I had always watched my children as they competed athletically, so it was natural to try to watch my grandchildren in their mogul events. One day, my son mentioned that perhaps I could help out with the competition instead of just standing and watching. That was when I first learned I could become a "volunteer".

The second thing that happened was retirement. Having always wanted to live in ski country, my husband Charlie and I retired to Sugarloaf four years ago. There are only a few mogul competitions held at Sugarloaf during the ski season, but lots of alpine (and some snowboard) competitions. Since we now had season passes and were around to ski weekdays, we were able to help out even more on the weekends. So we have now become

regular volunteers, and keep learning more about this new-to-us sport of alpine racing.

And our education hasn't stopped there. We have even volunteered for snowboarding and freestyle competitions. So much to learn!

There have been many benefits to volunteering at competitions. We have met a great bunch of people who work these events. They feel, as do we, that it is important to support young people in healthy athletic endeavors. Also, we feel more connected to the mountain; we are more involved and enjoy some giving, rather than just always taking, from the mountain. Not only that, we are proud when Sugarloafers excel at their sport and we can feel just a teeny bit a part of that.

It takes a lot of volunteers to run a snow sport competition, with many positions to fill. Some of the jobs we have done include hand-timer, time-recorder, gate-keeper, announcer, results runner, judges assistant and outdoor results board

recorder – these are mostly my jobs. Charlie has done most of these, and has also been crossing guard, assistant starter, and flagger to name a few. With each job, we learn a little more about the different on-snow disciplines.

Don't get me wrong, it's not all been a rose garden, or a winter wonderland! We've spent many days in below-freezing weather, with howling winds, wondering "why are we here?" But in the end, we feel any negatives have been far outweighed by the benefits.

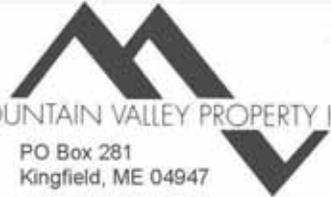
— Diane Copeland

*[Editor's Note: To find out more about volunteering at Sugarloaf competitions, contact the Competition Center at (207) 237-6896.]*

**Without faithful volunteers like finish referee Phil Hunter and his trusty assistant, the Sugarloaf Competition Center would not be able to host events.**



*Saturday, February 20, 1971: The World Cup racers were frustrated by another burst of snow. The women's giant slalom was slow and hard to see this morning. The men's giant slalom was postponed after Swiss team's equipment and maintenance trailer burned up in a spectacular fire around 8:30. On the other hand, skiing was great for recreational skiers. The lines weren't long because everybody was standing on the Narrow Gauge trying to see the races.*



**MOUNTAIN VALLEY PROPERTY INC.**  
PO Box 281  
Kingfield, ME 04947

*Congratulations on 60 Years!*

*The Company of Choice  
for the Sugarloaf  
Homeowner & Guest  
Since 1987*

- Association Management
- Property Management
- Snow Removal & Grounds
- Maintenance
- Home Security
- Renovations & Remodels
- Seasonal Rentals & Rental Referrals

**207-235-2560**  
1102 Valley Crossing, Carrabassett Valley, ME  
[www.mountainvalleyproperty.com](http://www.mountainvalleyproperty.com)

# Kingfield to Innsbruck: My Brother's Journey to the Olympics

*Sugarloaf*er Karl Anderson was the first alpine Olympian from the State of Maine.

Not many folks know that Karl Anderson, my "little" brother, was the first alpine Olympian from the State of Maine. He was never one to make much of a deal about himself, so I am delighted to write about Karl for this magazine. I am proud to tell his story, not just for his accomplishments, but for the many connections his career had to Sugarloaf, the Sugarloaf Ski Club, and the people who helped make Sugarloaf such a special place for all of us.

"I remember those rides from Auburn up to the Herbert Hotel in Kingfield so well," Karl says, "Mom, Dad, all us six kids, and the dog in the 'way back' of the station wagon." That was in 1958, Karl was five years old, and every trip was an adventure. By the early '60s, our family had bought an old house in downtown Kingfield, so we skied lots of miles on the mountain each weekend.

Much like it is now, Sugarloaf in those early years was a family affair. "I skied and ran around with my brother Robert, Billy Beck, Tim Skaling, and Norman Irish. Mom sat in the lodge with the other moms, always with some knitting in hand. She wiped noses, dried mittens, fed us, and sent us back out," Karl remembers. "We always felt like the other adults around the mountain were looking out for us. Amos and Alice Winter were always there for us, and Harvey Boynton was never far away. He called Robert 'Mustard Seed', and me 'Birdshot'. My older brother Eric was 'Buckshot'."

Karl describes his first race: "It was on Kangaroo Hill, likely the Sugarloaf Schuss. I was 10 years old. Dad was a gatekeeper and I remember stopping in front of him and asking which way to go. He just said 'You figure it out.' So... I followed the ruts."

Things got a bit more serious race-wise when Karl got his first real coaching at the age of 14. First with Tom Reynolds and then with Jeff Lathrop, who came to Sugarloaf to coach the junior program. "I remember Jeff saying: 'You have to listen to me until you can beat me!' We did a lot of listening," Karl chuckles.

In the following years Karl skied and jumped for Edward Little High School, as well as raced for Sugarloaf. As Karl's results got better he turned all his energies to Eastern racing. "By 1971," says Karl, "I was considered one of the top

racers in the east. In the last regional qualifier for the Eastern championships, I broke my hand hitting a gate in the GS. My mom (who was a doctor) wrapped it, instead of casting it, so I could compete later at the championships, and I won the Eastern GS." Broken hand and all, Karl was picked for the Eastern team to compete at Mammoth, CA, in the Junior National Championships.

Racing at the senior level now, in December of 1971, Karl missed by one slot racing on the Can-Am (now called the Nor-Am) circuit. Karl says, "At that point I seriously considered retiring, because I saw no future without a berth on the Can-Am squad."



**Karl Anderson - World Cup at Jackson Hole - 1975**

Earl "The Pearl" Morse (who had been Karl's ski coach at Johnson State College), along with ski club members, convinced Karl to compete on the Europa Cup circuit. With some foundation funding secured by Earl, a gift from our parents, and Karl's life savings, he headed to Europe.

Karl tells me, "Earl told me to head to Garmisch for the first race. I got to Garmisch with a pair of skis for SL/GS and one pair of downhill skis, no room, unable to speak German, and no idea how to enter the event. Asking around, I finally met some American racers who helped with a place to stay and got me entered. Being the new kid, I was seeded virtually at the back of the pack. There were three sets of ruts at each gate that were so deep I had to pick the one with the least dirt!"

Karl recalls that season as a significant learning and growing experience. There were no coaches, no equipment reps, no team support, and certainly no sponsors or money. In spite of that, Karl skied in the Italian and Swiss National Championships. Great spring race results against European national team members and some regular World Cup racers vaulted Karl's rankings.

When the points list came out in the fall of 1972, Karl was shocked, as were many in the U.S., to find himself the 5<sup>th</sup> ranked skier in the United States. With hardly anyone on this side of the pond knowing who he was, Karl was named to the US Ski Team, as a World Cup slalom and giant slalom specialist.

In late 1974, Karl started training in downhill and was encouraged by the team to focus on the discipline. "In 1975



**Future Olympian Karl Anderson in retro slalom form at the U. S. Nationals Championship in 1974.**

at Val D'Isere, I started 87<sup>th</sup> and finished 18<sup>th</sup>, which was the best American finish," Karl recalls. "From then on, I was top 15 in World Cup downhills the entire season, including 5<sup>th</sup> place at Jackson Hole, which was won by my friend Franz Klammer."

In 1976, Karl was the first American male to win an overall European Cup discipline, taking the Downhill title. He also was named to the U.S. Olympic Team, making him the first alpine Olympian from the State of Maine, and he represented the U.S. at the Innsbruck Olympics.

Karl went on to be a three-time runner up at the U.S. National Downhill Championships and won it in 1978. "In 1978, I had a very hard landing off a big jump, and severely damaged my back. I had to survive a training run elimination process during the 1978 World Championships to gain the last berth for the downhill." Karl tells me. "That's when my aspirin diet started, and by the time I was named to the 1980 Olympic Team, I was eating at least 10 extra-strength aspirin a day."

During the 1981 season, Karl realized the end was near. "I couldn't get into a regular tuck anymore because of my back, and getting hardcore angulation was nearly impossible," Karl says. "I was an old dog, and I knew where on the courses to push it and when not to, but it wasn't enough to be competitive at a world-class level." Karl retired that year.

Karl continued to be involved in Olympic sports, serving on the U.S. Olympic Committees Executive Board (USOC), the Athletes Advisory Council of the USOC and the U.S. Ski Association's BOD. Today he works for Savings Bank of Maine and resides with his patient wife Sherrie in Orrington. Their son Justin, a sport fishing captain, splits time between the North Carolina Outer Banks and Isla Mujeres in Mexico.

When I asked Karl what he most takes away from his years competing, the answer doesn't really surprise me. "The 'esprit de corps,'" he says. "The friendships. I can call

any of my old teammates or some European racers and we pick right up where we left off. We all shared the glory of winning, the pain of losses, the ice bags on our knees between training sessions, the 'walking wounded' in the hotel lobby, and of course the occasional party," he says with a grin. Quite a journey from the first race on Kangaroo Hill.

"And how about Sugarloaf?" I ask. "Same thing," he says. "When I'm at the mountain, it's like being home again, among family, really. Some of the moms and dads and many of the children I grew up with are still around, as are guys from my high school ski team, like Jeff Rosenberg, Ed Zanca, and Buzz Davis. Then there are so many race volunteers and folks from the Sugarloaf Ski Club who really made it all possible, like Jean Luce, Bruce Miles, and Laurel DesRoches Lashar. At the end of the day, I can't take the races with me, but I can keep my Sugarloaf memories and friendships forever."

None of it would be possible without the help of founding Sugarloafers, the Sugarloaf Ski Club and its dedicated members. It is their vision and long-term efforts to create coaching programs, develop CVA, and grow the Competition Center and the Sugarloaf Ski Club that has allowed other youngsters to follow in Karl's footsteps. According to Karl, "It does take a community to build a champion."

— Carolyn Anderson Lepage

## TUFULIO S

Sugarloaf / U.S.A.



**VALLEY CROSSING**  
**CARRABASSETT VALLEY**

**OPEN DAILY AT 4PM**  
**DINNER AT 5**

**207 235-2010**

**NIGHTLY DINNER SPECIALS**

**PASTA ~ STEAKS**  
**SEAFOOD**

**AMAZING PIZZAS**

**SUNDAY 2 FOR ONE**

**EXTENSIVE WINE SELECTION**  
**15 BEERS ON TAP**

**HAPPY 60 TH SUGARLOAF SKI CLUB**

## Before “Oh-My-Gosh Corner”

*In 1960, Laurence Foster’s 55-foot long mobile home became a landmark property on the road to Sugarloaf.*

The turn in the road from Kingfield to Sugarloaf, known today as “Oh-My-Gosh Corner”, was referenced in the 1960’s by the landmark known as “Foster’s Trailer”, orange shutters and all. Now the area is marked by a gravel turnout where many folks pull over to take pictures of Sugarloaf Mountain. While the view is still good, it was much better forty or fifty years ago, before the trees grew.

My father, Laurence Foster, secured the first lease of that property in the fall of 1960. Most of the land for camps along Route 27 was leased from the Dead River Company one year at a time. The leases were secured through Dead River’s land agent, Ken Packard, whose house, now owned by Ted Jones, was just south of Spring Farm across the Carrabassett. After the alders were cleared from the land, 2000 yards of fill and gravel was brought in from Mr. Fottter’s pits to fill the steep road embankment. Upon receipt of payment in \$100 bills, Mr. Fottter, with wide eyes, exclaimed “Currency!” A dowsner located water (in exchange for a case of beer) and a backhoe was used to dig a well. The well was then protected by four-foot cement sections topped with a green and white A-frame cover.

Dad didn’t trust the reliability of the lease arrangements, so he ordered a mobile home which he could remove if necessary. That same year, our 55-foot long (and 10 feet wide) mobile home was hauled from Bangor across the back roads to Kingfield and, preceded by a police escort, up Route 27, through the S-curves (which were far less “user friendly” than they are today). It was set in place in November, awaiting the power lines, which were scheduled to be continued from the Sugarloaf access road into Carrabassett Valley. Until then, there was no power in the Valley and all lights and appliances, even toilets, were powered by propane gas. This included Judson’s Motel and all of the initial A-frames at the original Carrabassett Village.

I recall a father/son trip that same year on Thanksgiving

morning, travelling from Winthrop, Maine, bringing a load of odds and ends of furniture to the trailer. We had to shovel in from Route 27, through eighteen inches of snow, before we could unload and return home in time for Thanksgiving dinner.

On many a snowy evening, our family provided coffee and snacks to the State highway crews who were putting in long hours and doing their best to plow the roads. In addition, on many Friday evenings, the trailer became the social point for many family friends, who would first light a fire in their own camps, and then stop by for a libation while their camps warmed sufficiently to move into for the weekend.

In 1978, my wife Cindy and I spent a honeymoon night there, and my parents used the trailer a few times that season. But in 1979, my father broke his hip and had to give up skiing. I was not skiing at the time, and by the time we moved back to Maine from Texas in 1984, the family trailer had been sold. The Town of Carrabassett Valley ultimately, and with pleasure, acquired the property and now maintains it as a turnout for picture-taking at the now famous “Oh-My-Gosh Corner”.

— Greg Foster



“Foster’s Trailer” - 1967



“Foster’s Trailer” (on the right) was the landmark now known as “Oh-My-Gosh Corner”.

*Saturday, May 20, 1972. The Gondola was supposed to open this morning but they could never get it operating after a lightning strike burned out the safety switches on Thursday evening. Eventually Bruce Smith gave me, Ted Walls and John Wiltse a ride up on the Gondola to Mid-Station. So we got the only run of the day from Mid-Station on what little snow remained on the Mountain.*

## We skied the Birches with our granddaughter, Ingrid.

Simply said it's a pretty routine act... to ski with a grandchild. And yet, when we remember that day, both Steve and I recall all that led up to just that moment. Just as it takes a village to raise a child so does it take a Mountain to make a skier.

It began with the introductory lesson with Sugarloaf Child Care. Marcia White's program set the stage for all that would follow. Ingrid loved her "Dora" skis, the helmet, and her first professional lesson down the Birches. That positive start put us on the right track for our turn at Ingrid's ski instruction.

Ingrid, 3 years and 10 months, is the daughter of our non-skiing daughter, Gretchen. In spite of Gretchen's bias she wanted Ingrid to experience skiing early and at Sugarloaf. We were only too willing to share our mountain with Ingrid. We hoped Ingrid would keep her positive attitude but we had a few small issues to handle.

First we needed equipment for a toddler. We have no children's skis or boots... But this is Sugarloaf. I walked through the Base Lodge wondering how to fill that need and I happened to run into Imogene McWilliams. After a short visit and the mention of our granddaughter's upcoming visit... and our quest for skis, Imogene remembered "Joanie might have an old pair..."

We still needed ski boots. That's when our Gondi Village neighbor, Gretchen Baker, thought she might have some in her closet. And yes, there was a pair of red ski boots which were only just a little too big.

Now, of course, this is our granddaughter and we didn't want any unforeseen accidents while she was on our watch... That was when Cindy Foster remembered a great little ski harness she had from when her children began skiing.

The day arrived. Ingrid, in the Bakers' boots, the McWilliams' skis, and the Fosters' harness, hand in hand with Grammy and Grampy headed out for a day of skiing the Birches. All our hopes were riding on the "too-big-boots" and the "too-long-skis", handed down from other generations. of skiers who now had put their mark on this auspicious occasion.

And so, it was shuffle, shuffle, shuffle from Gondi Village to the Birches

The hill...

—The skiing...

"Keep the harness slack... let Ingrid experience the ride."

And then the inevitable happens!

Crossed tips and The Fall!

Her face and her look said it all.

The eyes, the grin, and the words,

"Let's go faster, Grampy!"

There are times and there are moments. This was our moment...

Grampy Schaefer, Sugarloafer since 1968

Grammy Schaefer, Sugarloafer since 1984

Ingrid, Sugarloafer since 2009.



— Laura Schaefer

## Generations o

The Sugarloaf spir  
from generation to  
eration, and then so  
few of the many Sug  
encompass three ar

The Hunter Family,  
summer 2009:  
Phil and Mary  
Hunter and their 3  
daughters: Kar-  
en Korn, her hus-  
band Charlie, their  
children Giselle,  
Christina and Al-  
lison; Molly Fowler,  
her husband Rick,  
children Jack and  
Anna; Jan Placella,  
her husband Tom,  
children Ben and  
Heidi and dog Rig-  
ley; 15 skiers in all!  
(Rigley doesn't ski.)



4 generations, August 2005, Bunny Bass' 88th birthday party  
with his son Peter, Peter's son Sam, and Sam's son Luke



3 generation McWilliams: Joan McWilliams Dolan,  
Lance and Connor Dolan, and Dick McWilliams



4 generation Sugarloafers: the Friend family, 2010 Passholders BBQ — Peter C. Friend, Meredith and  
Cooper F. Friend, Megan Friend Hildebrand, Anders Hildebrand, Kyle Hildebrand, Cooper P. Friend



## f Sugarloafers

it has been passed  
generation to gen-  
ome. Here are just a  
arload families who  
nd four generations.



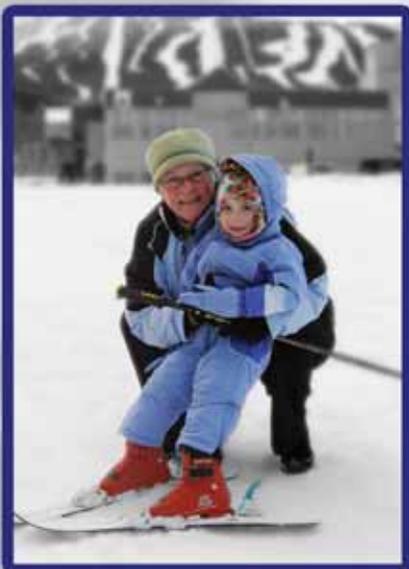
The Leonards in February 1999: (l. to r.) Ron Leonard, Ben Gadberry, Audrey Leonard, Jim Leonard, Greg and Susan Leonard Gadberry, Brian Gadberry, Jane Leonard, Ron Leonard Jr. In 2001, Ethan Boardman became the first fourth generation skier.



2003 Ski Museum of  
Maine Hall of Famer  
Robert Bunny Bass  
and his family:

*Back row* - Bob  
Bass, Peter Bass,  
Gail Lehnaker (Pe-  
ter's wife), Bunny  
Bass, Sam Bass,  
Molly Bass, Mary  
Bass Poulin, Denis  
Poulin

*Front row* - Gretch-  
en Zopf (Bob's  
wife), Priscilla Pierce  
Bass (John's wife)  
John Bass, Hannah  
Bass, and Betsy  
Bass



Laura Schaefer and her  
cover girl granddaughter Ingrid.



3 generations of Parkers,  
ready for the 2009 Easter parade!

The Parkers, left to right: John Parker; Stephen, Emily and Jane Parker;  
Ann Parker; Jim and Betsy Parker Landmann; friend Judy Rutter.

## Even more three and four generation families...



The Hellstedt family - three generations - from left: Megan, Erik, Jonathan, Drew, Laura, Charlie (Collier), Sharon, Kristin (Collier), Carrie Jon

Add your three- and four-generation photos to the Ski Club displays and albums by delivering them to the Sugarloaf Ski Club office by hand, by mail, or by email.



Ginny Bousum writes: "My granddaughters are fourth-generation Sugarloaf skiers. My dad took up skiing just before he turned 70 so he could see why we loved it so much. That would make me the second generation and my two kids, G. W. 'Gus' Bousum and his late sister 'Gina' would be third generation and in the picture, Gina's three girls (l - r Eliza, Serena, Bailey) and Gus's oldest daughter 'Bella' are fourth generation."

The Marshall family - three generations, c. 1994 - In the bumblebee costume is third generation Sugarloafer Craig Marshall. From left to right: Craig's mom Nancy, Craig, grandfather Dick, Grandmother Joan, father Jay.



The Tobias family - John and Joyce, on either side of their son Greg and his 22 month old daughter Isabela.

## Sugarloaf Ski Club Social Events

*A good time is had by all! Come and join us!*

Sugarloafers have always enjoyed a good time and Sugarloaf Ski Club members are no exception. Ten years ago our social events included a Reception at Skier's Homecoming, The Annual Meeting, Founder's Night, and the Snow Ball. All of these events have been well attended, and we have been able to add and improve several social venues.

In 2001, past president Greg Foster had his fun-loving Boy Scout friends host a pig roast on Homecoming Weekend. It was so popular that it has become an annual event, preceded by a reception for Ski Club members.

For several years now the Annual Meeting, in January, has offered to club members a free lasagna dinner, followed by a speaker. This is a way for the club to give back to its members and it has been well received.

Every few years we hold a Founder's Night, bringing out Sugarloaf Ski Club members as well as "old" Sugarloafers. There is typically a speaker and a reception and it is fun to see people we haven't seen in a while. One year, Jean Luce decided to have a Founder's Night at the old Chateau Des Tagues and it was so well attended that there was absolutely nowhere to sit or stand. Needless to say, Leo Tague was the speaker.

In 1999, for the kick-off of the Sugarloaf Ski Club's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Founder's Night was held in the old Red Stallion. The logistics for the event took 18 months of planning, requiring permission from the owners (who had moved out of state) and the Town of Carrabassett Valley, including Security and the Fire Department. Just like in the old days it snowed the night of the event, and the band didn't make it through the storm. Uncle Al and his band came to the rescue. The next morning, everyone woke up to the only major snowfall of the season, along with champagne powder. It was a memorable epic event, one that can not be repeated.

The Snow Ball was the invention of past president Charlotte Zhan, who felt we needed something to break up the late January doldrums. Originally everyone came in "creative black tie" or all dressed up—it was an excuse to pull out your furs and that very formal dress, as well as a way to see if the Tux still fit; or guests might be creative and come as a penguin or a nun! The Snow Ball, which includes a sit-down dinner followed by dancing to a local band, has endured over the years and is now held in March, where it is the last major event of the season. Guests still dress up and there is still

some "creative attire," but everyone is welcome and can wear whatever they like.

As if we didn't have enough events, a few years ago we added a wine tasting evening, at the suggestion of President Bruce Miles. Tony Jessen graciously sponsors the event.

Three years ago Cindy Foster came up with the idea of midweek socials, which have been added to the event calendar. They are held at a variety of local establishments, on the second Tuesday of each month, from January through April. With free food, and a cash bar, these après-skis have become particularly popular with those club members who ski during the week and are not around for our weekend events.

All of our events take time and volunteers to make them happen, and any profits seen after expenses go into the Sugarloaf Ski Club scholarship funds. So, going to an event has two outcomes: we have a very good time with friends, and we advance the future of our young Sugarloaf population. So, Go Party!

— Nancy Holliday

## JUST ONE SIP.

Open a bottle of Merriam Vineyards...

and discover why our vineyards are earning distinction as a world-class winery. We pride ourselves on paying meticulous attention to the endless details that go into making fine wine. No short cuts...no compromises...nothing mass produced.

**The result?**

Our Merlot & Cabernet Sauvignon have won double-gold awards and are attracting attention from critics, collectors and people who are passionate about wine.

Enjoy!



**MERRIAM**  
VINEYARDS

Tel: (978) 352-8155 • Fax: (978) 352-8857  
www.merriamvineyards.com • email: info@merriamvineyards.com

## Meet Our Board of Directors

Bruce Miles, President, on the board in numerous positions since the early '80s, Sugarloafer since 1961. Bruce is Executive Director of the Ski Museum of Maine, and is SRSEF treasurer, CVA board mem-



ber, and C.V. Planning Board Chairman. He and his wife Kathy have been residents of Carrabassett Valley since 1970, when it was still Jerusalem Township. His favorite trail is Narrow Gauge because he has spent lots of time on it. Look for Bruce and Kathy après-ski at Tufulio's.

Nancy Holliday, Secretary, on board since 1996, Sugarloafer since 1959. She has also been Historical Chair and Social Committee Chair. Nancy has been a school teacher, travel agent, RE Broker, ski bum and park ranger. She hails from Newport



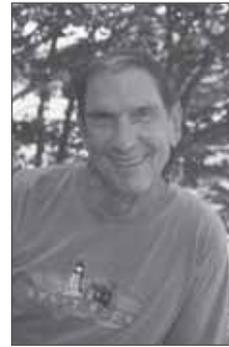
and Winterport, Maine. Nancy grew up at Sugarloaf with her sister Bear Thompson and her brother Paul (Hote) Holliday. Sluice is her favorite trail because her Dad liked it, and the fall line is great. Apres ski? Where there's cheap beer.

Steve Schaefer, Vice President, on the board since 2003, Sugarloafer since 1987. Steve is a somewhat retired professional photographer, and a Maine Guide. He and his wife Laura split time between Grand Lake Stream, Maine, and Sugarloaf. His favorite



trail is the Birches, because "without the Birches, there would no new Sugarloafers" like granddaughter Ingrid. Neighborhood gatherings are his favorite après-ski. Steve reminds us: "We are all fortunate to be skiing, we should never forget that."

Phil Hunter, Treasurer, on the board since 1981, Sugarloafer since 1965. He is a retired physician. Phil and his wife Mary have a cozy camp in Wyman Township, and live in Bangor. They enjoy skiing at Sugarloaf with their 7 grandchildren. A



regular Comp Center volunteer, Phil is often the Finish Referee on Narrow Gauge races, or statistician on freestyle events. His favorite trails are "Upper Double Bitter & Wedge – they are like early Sugarloaf trails – great narrow, turny, fall line skiing."

### Past Presidents

Brue Miles	2004-Present	Peter Spalding	1970-1971
Lev Steeves	2003-2004	Skip Skaling	1968-1969
Charlotte Zhan	2001-2003	Norton Luce	1966-1967
Susan Manter	1999-2001	John Christie	1965
Greg Foster	1995-1999	Clarlie Clark	1964
Marvin Collins	1993-1995	Don Pfeifle	1962-1963
John Lacasse	1990-1992	Burt Covert	1961
Jon Hellstedt	1983-1989	Leo Tague	1959-1960
Tina Hinckley	1982	Harvey Boynton	1958
Pat Andrews	1980-1981	Jay Winter	1957
Frank Woodard	1979	Bill Kierstead	1956
Charlie Murray	1977-1978	Scott Scully	1954-1955
Bob Waddle	1975-1976	Robert Bass	1952-1953
Bernie Carpenter	1973-1974	Horace Chapman	1950-1951
Jack Smart	1972		

Greg Foster, Community Committee, on the board since 1993, has been president and treasurer, Sugarloafer since 1956. His family owned the trailer on OhMyGosh Corner for many years. A retired lawyer, Greg resides with his wife Cindy



in Carrabassett Valley and South Bristol. Their two grown children are graduates of mountain programs. Greg leads the ski club's Cardiac Club, and his favorite trails are King's Landing for the variety and Widowmaker Meadow for its constant pitch and sun.

Tom Hildreth, on and off and on the board since 1980, Sugarloafer since 1964. He owns Carrabassett Coffee Co. and Java Joes', and lives in Kingfield. Tom's family at the Loaf includes Claudia Diller from time to time here,



and son Steven." Rip Saw is his favorite trail with its natural snow, and his favorite après-ski is cross-country skiing in the woods. Tom comments: "There's been a lot of water under the bridge and the Ski Club has seen it all."

Virginia (Ginny) Bousum, Scholarship Committee Chair, Membership Committee, on board since 2005, Sugarloafer since 1958. Ginny started the Kids Ski School / Day Care / Cub Club (now Bubblecuffers) in 1972. Ginny is president of SRSEF. She considers herself a newcomer to her hometown



of Kingfield; she has lived there "only since 1975." Her favorite trails are Narrow Gauge, Double Bitter, and Tote Road. Ginny's favorite après-ski is the ski club's monthly Midweek Social.



## JAMISON WOOD DESIGN

Michael Jamison  
Kingfield, ME

207-265-2397

*Custom Furniture  
and  
Cabinetmaker*

*Now Offering*  
**Furniture Repair & Restoration**  
Fast, Reliable, Expert work

***Free Pick-up & Delivery\****

*Express service available*

\* Within local area

Peter W. Smith, Communications Committee Chair, newsletter editor, Sugarloafer since 1965. In the 1970s Peter was Sugarloaf's head alpine coach. He was once a Surveyor, and is a past owner of Farmington Travel Service. Peter and his wife Delinda share their



Sugarloaf home with their son Pete. Look for Peter on the mountain coaching CVA Winter Camps, skiing Locals, and volunteering on races. His favorite trail is "Gondi Line with its steeps, good snow, and great views."

Lev Steeves, past president, on the board since 1997, Sugarloafer since 1969. With his wife Laurie, he calls Shediak, New Brunswick, home when they are not in Carrabassett Valley during ski season. As Chief of Volunteers for the



Competition Center, Lev's favorite trail is Narrow Gauge, where he spends innumerable days supporting the volunteers and watching the races. On Wednesdays, Lev is very involved with Locals Racing. After a day of skiing, look for Lev in The Bag.

Mike Rowland is on the Communications Committee, on the board since 2006, Sugarloafer since 1971. He calls Monmouth, ME, home during the week, and Wyman is home on weekends. His wife Cheryl and daughters Amie and Jenie



(both attend CVA) consider the mountain home from August to June. Mike says there is nothing better than a morning top to bottom run on Gauge before the line forms at the Quad. He enjoys skiing with friends, and catching up with his family on the chair.

Joe Tutlis, Membership Chair, on board since 2005; Sugarloafer since the late '70s. Joe has been a teacher, a principal, and now is a field supervisor at UMF mentoring teachers of tomorrow. Joe lives with his wife Doris in Carrabassett Valley.



They enjoy visits with their sons: Chris and his family, and Matt. Joe's favorite trail is Wedge: "For the most part it has not lost the narrow, twisting style that so many Sugarloaf trails once had." His favorite après-ski is Cardiac Club get-togethers.

Cathy Nodine, Ski Club Office Administrator (her third non-consecutive year), Sugarloafer since 1987. Her resume includes medical technologist, Perfect Turn Office Administrator and Ski Instructor, and apartment / property manage-



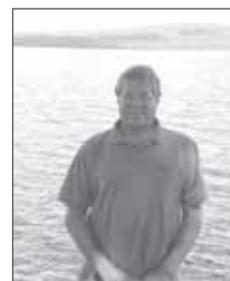
ment. Cathy and her husband Ralph live in Portland, where Cathy is a piano teacher several days a week. Her favorite trail is "Wedge, because it winds through the woods, is narrow, and seems like an adventure every time I ski it."

Joyce Tobias, board member since 2005, and also in the 1980s; Sugarloafer since 1975. She is a retired educator and shares her homes in Carrabassett Valley and Falmouth, MA, with her husband John. They



have two sons and four grandkids who all learned to ski at the Loaf. Joyce also works with Great Britain tour groups at the Loaf and around the country. She likes Narrow Gauge for the difference in the terrain.

Bob Friedrich, board member since 2007, Sugarloafer since 1979. He was a CPA until he became a landlord and ski bum, and calls Carrabassett Valley home. He shares Sugarloaf with his wife Carol Mahany, his children Jeff and Kristen, and his step-daughter



Katie VanRiper. Bob is a dedicated Comp Center volunteer, most often as course crew. His favorite trail is Bubblecuffer, "maybe the only trail left that skis like an old New England trail." Tufulio's is his favorite après-ski spot.

Jen McCormack, recently joined the board, Sugarloafer since 1987. Jim McCormack, represents the Competition Center, Sugarloafer since 1985.

Jim and Jen live in Car-rabassett Valley with their daughters Meghan (age 13) and Rylee (age 10). Jim works for Sugarloafer as the Director

of the Competition Center in the winter and on special projects in the summer; this past summer he had fun as Zip Line Manager. Jen, an RN, is a Clinical Nurse Counselor for the Healthy Community Coalition in Farmington, and is



an active volunteer in several area organizations. Both Meghan and Rylee participate in SCVA/CVA programs. Jim, as Chief of

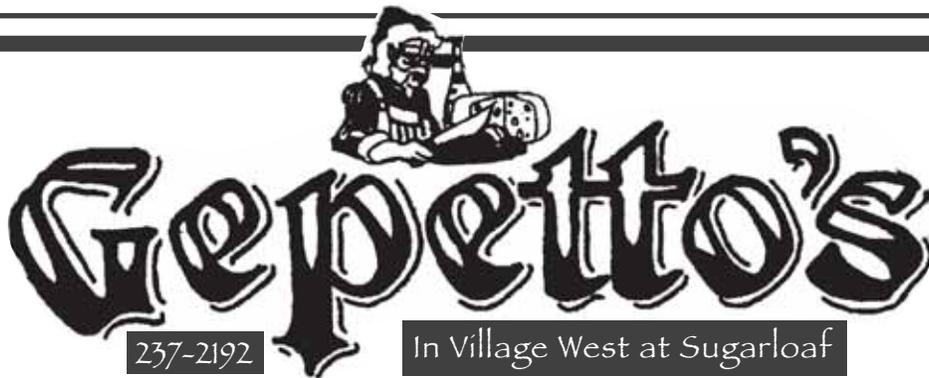
Race at most alpine races, particularly enjoys those races when his girls are competing. Collectively, they spend a lot of time on Narrow Gauge. The

Bag is their favorite for après-ski, and then family time at home recouping from their busy days. In the summer, Jim and Jen own and operate Mountain View Cottages on Rangeley Lake.

Ragan Beauregard, board member since 2009, Sugarloafer since 2000. Ragan teaches French at CVA. She lives in Wyman Township with her husband Jeff and their sons—17 yr-old twins and a 15 year old—who attend CVA and are alpine racers.



Ragan's favorite trail is "Buckboard. It brings back great memories of skiing with our kids when they were little; it was a favorite cruiser at the end of the day." Ragan enjoys watching her kids race, and après-ski finds her at home with the family.



**THE PLACE TO BE ANYTIME...DAY OR NIGHT**

**Congratulations to the Ski Club**

**Lunch:** featuring Pizza, Salads, Sandwiches

**Leisurely Dinner:** featuring Pasta, Seafood, Steaks, Pizza

Join us in our Smoke-Free Greenhouse  
Overlooking the Slopes

**237-2192**

**Open Daily for Lunch & Dinner**

# The Sugarloafer's Masquerade

*Being a Sugarloafer is a state of being that simply manifests itself as necessary.*

It's late Friday afternoon on a dreary December day and I'm shooting cursory glances at the clock when my boss saunters into my office. He is nursing a cup of Starbucks.

"Any fun plans for the weekend?" he asks while aimlessly strolling towards the window. It is getting depressingly dark for such an early hour.

"Um... yeah, actually, I'm headed to Maine to..." I start to mutter in between frantic clicks at my spreadsheet.

"Ooooooh yes yes yes... of course. You are going skiing. Sugarbush, right?" His eyes scan the ski paraphernalia strewn around my desk... photos, a calendar, a tiny stained glass skier... and land on the bright blue triangle sticker posted prominently on my file cabinet. "Sugar-LOAF!"

"Very good", I smirk, relieved that he saved me the trouble of correcting him.

"It's a long drive, right? Like, three hours?" he asks while turning his attention back out the window, to the darkness that's starting to swallow the Charles River.

"Four actually, if I manage to avoid traffic and go 80 the entire way and..." My voice trails off as I finish closing every stray window on my computer screen and suddenly become aware of the fact that he's looking at me like I'm a crazy person.

He doesn't get it.

The life of a Sugarloafer drifting around in the real world is quite lonely.

Sometimes I look back on my life and wonder how I turned out this way. I can't commit to boyfriends, I grappled with my dedication to grad school, I'm currently teetering on the edge of completely losing interest in my 9 to 5, and yet somehow, I've never once wavered in my love for Sugarloaf. How did I become so hopelessly devoted that I am willing to do whatever it takes to maintain my relationship with a beast who is, at her very best, incredibly moody and inconsistent?

What brings me solace every Thursday evening as I am questioning my sanity while simultaneously unpacking and repacking my ski bag is that I know I am not the only one living this asinine lifestyle. How do I know? Because at 11:30 p.m. on Friday evening, as I round Omigosh corner and see the mountain looming in the moonlight, I feel the camaraderie of the other Sugarloafers who are in the exact same boat. We drive from all ends of New England, late into the night, sustained by Irving station coffee and Chex Mix. We pass up invitations to birthday parties, neglect household chores, and give up lazy Sunday mornings with the crossword. The strange lifestyle patterns we've embraced as normal seem bizarre and sacrificial to an outsider, but it is precisely these sacrifices that bond us together as Sugarloafers. Whensurrounded by fellow Sugarloafers, there is never the need to explain oneself or try to justify our motivation to do what we do, there is only unspoken understanding.

For the sake of accuracy, I must admit that I am describing the lifestyle of a very specific breed of Sugarloafer: the Weekend Warrior. We Weekend Warriors trickle in by darkness on Friday evening, flood the lift lines all weekend, and then travel in convoy down 27 on Sunday afternoon. We suffer through five days of reality, counting down the moments until Friday returns. We are not quite "Local" and yet feel unjustifiably smug about our status as season pass holders.

I haven't always been a Weekend Warrior... throughout my life I have continually morphed from one form of Sugarloafer to another including the following:

- Six year old first timer who, upon seeing a steep, sustained pitch for the first time, proceeds to enthusiastically tuck the entire length of Flume
- Seven year old weekend visitor relentlessly begging her father to take her to ski White Nitro; after the Flume incident, he is reluctant
- Family Festival week devotee playing hooky to ski in Mountain Adventure with Wendy Haug and spending my evenings indulging in taco night at the Inn
- Junior Comp Program weekend warrior terrorizing the mountain
- CVA snowboarder intent on getting to the mountain before 10:15 so as not to miss the opportunity for a

*Saturday, January 5, 1974: The first lift service skiing at Sugarloaf of the season. Borrowed snow making equipment covered the lower chairlift line with a few inches of snow. The first few runs weren't bad but it deteriorated rapidly with the traffic. We finished out the day with cross-country skiing on Poplar Mountain.*

coveted D'Ellies breakfast sandwich

- College ski racer unfaithfully skiing at other, lesser mountains but always with a Sugarloaf sticker proudly stuck on her helmet
- Summer resident enjoying the solitude and becoming an expert in throwing bales of hay into a hydro-seeder while working for Norpine landscaping
- Dedicated seasonal local gallivanting the mountain by day and bartending by night, far too spoiled to even consider skiing on a weekend
- And finally now, making the weekend trek with the Massachusetts license plates with which I still do not fully identify

My life has changed in innumerable ways, but regardless of what I'm doing or where I'm living Sugarloaf finds a way to weasel it's way into being an important part of who I am. Being a Sugarloafer is a state of being that simply manifests itself as necessary.

I've come to realize over the years that it is not the place I'm addicted to, but rather the safe-haven of being in the presence of others who understand my obsession. It's spending my weekends doing something I love, surrounded by those who have the same enthusiasm for being there as I do. It's being with people who are so in love with the

lifestyle that they are blindly unaware of the sacrifices they have to make to continue living it. It's the unspoken understanding that people who have both a Sugarloaf AND Sunday River sticker on their car are NOT one of us. It's the infectious attitude that the absolute worst that can happen is that the skiing is horrendous and we are forced to spend the day soaking in the hot tub. Regardless of if someone is a year-round local, a weekend warrior, or a yearly vacationer we all speak the same language, and we are all relieved to be in the presence of people who "get it".

And so, we Weekend Warriors float through the winter living some sort of bizarre double life masquerading as normal people by week, and unleashing our true selves on the weekends. When the days get longer and even the formerly glacial base of Skidder requires tricky mud avoidance maneuvers, most Sugarloafers vacate the mountain. We attempt to salvage the friendships that we have tossed aside and finally make an attempt to fix the garbage disposal that has been broken since January. By the time it is getting muggy and hot, we are immersed in our alternate lives and are surprised to find ourselves blending in quite nicely with the outside world. As the air gets crisp and the foliage starts to emerge, we begin to believe we actually belong...

And then, the first snow falls....

— Emily Nodine

**FRESH DOUGH**  
WOOD FIRED **PIZZA** BRICK OVEN

**THE BAG BREW PUB**  
SINCE 1969  
FOOD & DRINK  
**KETTLE**  
ALPINE ATTITUDE ALES

**BREWS Blue Monday & BLUES**

**TROUT BROOK GOLD**  
Light Golding's Hops

**PICK POLE PALE ALE**  
Copper, Malt and Hoppy

**UNCLE'S WINTER ALE**  
Dark and Full Bodied

**ALPINE RED RASPBERRY**  
Light n Fruity

Our elevation at Sugarloaf raises us high above all other eastern micro breweries.

The clear, sparkling, mountain waters that we use to formulate Master Brewer P. Mulligan's exacting recipes give our patrons a brew experience both lofty & unique.

Would you expect anything less from **THE BAG & KETTLE** in our 41st year

**RED SNAPPER ALE**  
Bag's Tribute to Celtic-Style Red Ale

**JOE STOUT**  
Creamy, Rich Stout, brewed with Carlsbassett Coffee Espresso Beans

**The BAG's POTATO ALE**  
Amber Ale, Strong and Malty

**HALF PIPE PORTER**  
Dark, Robust and Malty

**Mountain Brewed Ales from The BAG & KETTLE Brewing Company**  
On the Mountain at Sugarloaf/USA Village Center 237-2451

*Sunday, April 18, 1976: A beautiful sunny summer day for the last day of the season. The snow continued to melt. The T-bar closed due to a washout in the lift line. The only lift running was Double Runner, where you had to load and unload with your skis off. No charge for the lift today.*

# Sugarloaf Regional Ski Educational Foundation

*SRSEF was formed in 1969, went on to establishing CVA, and continues to support local skiers and boarders.*

Sugarloaf Regional Ski Educational Foundation. In hindsight, the Sugarloaf Ski Club directors might have chosen a name that would be easier to remember and would readily fit on the "Pay to the Order of" line on a check! Fortunately, the banks allow abbreviations and "SRSEF" is easier for us all to remember—especially when making a contribution.

In 1968, the Sugarloaf Ski Club saw the need to establish a charitable foundation, allowing donors to support the fast-growing junior ski programs. The Internal Revenue Service granted the tax-free 501(c)(3) status in February of 1969 and fundraising projects began. Over the years there were appeals for donations, pig roast dinners, big car raffles, golf tournaments and more, all to balance the books and raise money for scholarships, which help defray costs related to training and competing.

Nearly fourteen years later, the SRSEF directors turned their energies to establishing Carrabassett Valley Academy, or CVA, at Sugarloaf. CVA coaches took over the duties of managing the weekend program, resulting in today's joint effort, known as SCVA, of Sugarloaf and Carrabassett Valley Academy. Once CVA was established, SRSEF returned to raising funds to support programs and award scholarships to qualifying young skiers and riders. Many of these funds have been established in memory of avid Sugarloafers whose families entrust the SRSEF board to manage the funds, review the applications, and determine the recipients.

Recently the SRSEF directors welcomed the Dick and Martha Ayotte Fund, and established a new endowment at the Maine Community Foundation. It was Dick Ayotte himself who initiated and organized the first SRSEF Golf Tournament, even before the Sugarloaf Golf Course was designed. He felt there should be funds available "if a local kid wants to go to the Olympics." On the last Friday of every September, John Beaupre, Bob Thomas and Steve Pierce hold a golf tournament that supports the Ayotte fund.

Dan McKay and Mike Waddle were ski racers at Sugarloaf in the '60s and '70s. Following the untimely loss of each of these fine young men, their families established and supported funds that have helped Sugarloaf competitors pay for competition fees and travel expenses. The McKay

*Sunday, December 11, 1977: Good snow conditions but 22° below zero and a stiff wind. The Gondola to Mid-Station was the best bet, just to stay out of the wind and cold. On the way out Mike Gammon gave us a grand tour of his impressive new Ski Rack, which opened this weekend on the Access Road.*

and Waddle families, both still strongly connected to Sugarloaf and skiing, knew first-hand how the costs of ski racing add up; many a high-level athlete has appreciated a boost from these two important SRSEF funds. In mid-1980s, the Brook Gallup Fund was established in memory of a young snowboarder who grew up in Kingfield. The Gallop fund supports local snowboard competitors; the letters of thanks from recipients are evidence of the importance of this fund.

In recent years, gifts given in memory of Paul Schipper, Dawn Babcock and Norton Luce have helped make it possible for many area youngsters to participate in Sugarloaf programs for skiers and boarders. The Norton Luce Fund has grown to such proportions that it assures the local school district's Ski/Skate Program will not be out of reach for any student.

Through the Amos G. Winter Fund, SRSEF applies for special grants from other charitable trusts, usually for one-time projects. In addition, the very generous ten-year Clem and Rolande Begin Building Grant adds a new dimension to SRSEF's portfolio.

In commemoration of the Sugarloaf Ski Club and Sugarloaf Mountain Corporation's sixty years, SRSEF has published a Sugarloaf calendar. Sales of the calendar will give SRSEF an opportunity to expand its scholarship numbers.

To all Sugarloafers who support SRSEF, thank you from the Board of Directors: Virginia Bousum (President), Jennifer McCormack (Vice President), Bruce Miles (Treasurer), Vici Robinson (Secretary), Marco Aliberti, Doreen Chamberlin, Cheryl Fullerton, Jean Luce, Steve Pierce, John Ritzo, Dawn Smith, Lev Steeves, Wendy Strapp, and Jane Wilkinson.

— Ginny Bousum, SRSEF President



Calendar sales support SRSEF

# Carrabassett Valley Academy is Well Connected

*“The relationship between the resort, the Ski Club and the school, and the history of how it all evolved, has created an exceptional set of circumstances,” says John Ritzo, Headmaster.*

Looking back at Carrabassett Valley Academy’s history, you can see from the beginning the connections between Sugarloaf Mountain, the Sugarloaf Ski Club and the Sugarloaf Regional Ski Educational Foundation (SRSEF). The Ski Club started the Sugarloaf Ski Area, and then created the Sugarloaf Mountain Corporation. Without the mountain itself, there would be no Ski Club. Without the Ski Club’s competition programs, there would be no SRSEF. It goes ‘round and ‘round. Please take a moment, if you would, to visualize the symbol of the Olympic Games, the interlocking rings. Do you see what I mean? Round. Interlocking. Connected.

Last February, the whole nation proudly watched as Carrabassett Valley Academy’s own Bode Miller and Seth Wescott racked up Olympic medals at the Vancouver Games. This is just what the founders of CVA envisioned almost 30 years ago—to give young ski competitors an opportunity to continue their rigorous training without sacrificing academic studies. To go all the way to the top, if that was the goal.

In 1980, the directors of the Ski Club / SRSEF hired me as director of “The Junior Program.” That year the board approved a 20-week-tutorial program which was very well attended. However, that same winter, the training programs saw several of its top skiers leave Maine to attend a “real” ski

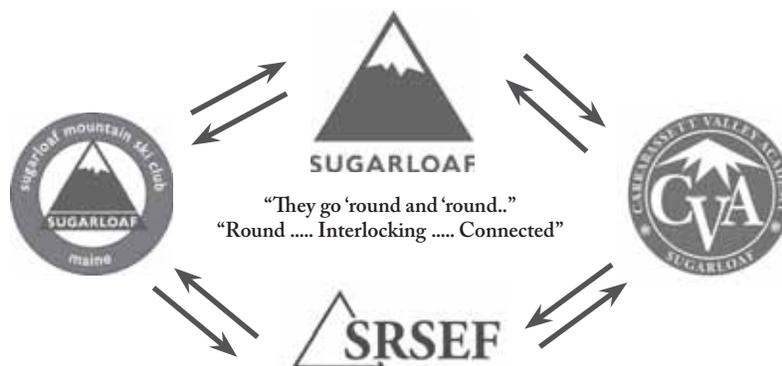
academy in Vermont where they would be listed as *Vermont*, not *Maine*, kids. I convinced Ski Club President Robert “Pat” Andrews to have the Board of Directors pursue the possibility of expanding the tutorial program into a full-time college-preparatory school. This was not a new idea at Sugarloaf, but I believed the timing was now right. Back in 1968, the Ski Club Directors had the foresight to form an educational foundation (SRSEF) at Sugarloaf. Typically a handful of young ski competitors would bring assignments from their home schools and train at Sugarloaf for an up-coming weekend event. This allowed the athletes to get in some extra days of training during the week while SRSEF tutors helped them keep up with their studies.

Once the board committed to getting the school organized and operating, there was no looking back. Committees were formed without thought to the magnitude of the task ahead. While building the foundation for a new academy, the SRSEF directed all of the Junior Programs—including dozens of young skiers, several full- and part-time coaches, and tutors—all working out of assorted offices and spaces. At the same time, Sugarloaf was growing while renovating and building at the base area. In my first two years I had five different office locations, each serving simultaneously as SRSEF programs office, Ski

Club business office, competition headquarters, coaches’ locker room, parent conference center and the new Carrabassett Valley Academy office.

After many meetings, the one board was divided into three boards: Ski Club, SRSEF, and now Carrabassett Valley Academy. There were some cross-over members and at first some confusion about “who did what.” An amazing amount of work continued to be done, most of it by Sugarloaf Ski Club volunteers who continually contributed their expertise, time and money. While the board and staff were taking all the necessary steps to get the school open, many of the same people were also involved with competitions at Sugarloaf, both alpine and freestyle, for local, regional, national and international USSA and FIS events, including the World Junior Alpine Championships.

As the time neared for the academy to open, H. King Cummings, head of Sugarloaf Mountain Corporation; Peter Webber, owner of the Sugarloaf Inn; Mike Gammon, owner of The Ski Rack; and Robert Pearl of Dexter Shoe Company believed so strongly in the project that they each guaranteed a headmaster’s salary for the first four months. Again, the interlocking rings come to mind. *Connected*. These men stepped up and allowed the vision to become a reality. Bruce Colon enthusiastically became the first headmaster, organizing, hiring



The logos might have changed, but the history remains the same.

and exercising patience for the first season which was once again a winter-term academy. When the Capricorn Lodge came on the market in 1983, board members and parents met the challenge and Carrabassett Valley Academy had a building of its own. It met the state's standards. It was roomy enough for classrooms, a dining room and dorm rooms.

The school year began with eleven pioneer students. The word "pioneer" conjures a picture of people exploring unknown areas "back in olden times." But the families who entrusted their children to a brand-new, unproven ski academy in the mountains of Maine were pioneers, too, as were those students who bravely moved to Carrabassett Valley that September. June of 1984 saw Carrabassett Valley Academy's first graduation as a full time school with two graduating seniors. In June of 2010, the twenty-seventh commencement was held at Sugarloaf's Richard Bell Chapel with a class of 35 graduates.

As we celebrate Sugarloaf's 60<sup>th</sup> year, or six decades, keep in mind that much of the Sugarloaf area did not even have electricity for its first decade. Power was supplied by generators. No snowmaking. No grooming. T-Bars only. Typewriters, not

computers. Mimeograph machines, not photocopiers. Land lines, not cell phones. This sounds to some like ancient history and we have to wonder how those guys got that school incorporated, up to State of Maine standards, and fully accredited by the NEASC, without today's taken-for-granted conveniences.

Since 1986, Headmaster John C. Ritzo has been steadfastly steering the school in the right direction, ensuring that Carrabassett Valley Academy gives its students the proper balance of academics, athletics, and life-long skills which serve these motivated, energetic athletes as they compete on the snow, in the classroom, and then in their chosen vocations. He has been assisted by dedicated professionals who believe in the mission of CVA. His energy and dedication is boundless. John Ritzo recently had this to say:

*"Over the years many people from other ski academies ask me about the unique relationship that CVA has with Sugarloaf and how could they make it work like that at their resort. I tell them that what makes Sugarloaf unique is the culture. The relationship between the resort, the Ski Club and the school, and the history of how it all evolved, has created an exceptional set of circumstances. Add to this the physical*

*benefits of the mountain itself that stand alone in the East and you have a proven formula for success. Over the years, CVA has enjoyed the benefit of great people who believe in the mission of the school and a great mountain on which to train and compete and as result it has established a 'world class' reputation."*

Geologists tell us that Maine's mountains are millions of years old. Sugarloaf's sixty years, from that perspective, are incredibly brief. There are folks who are still skiing at Sugarloaf today who have been "Sugarloafers since" before Sugarloaf had lifts. Looking closely at those sixty years, we see how much activity and growth has taken place. And this 2010/11 season is Carrabassett Valley Academy's twenty-eighth year as a full-time school. Add on the two years of winter-term school and you have thirty... that's half the lifetime of Sugarloaf as a ski area! Remember the rings. *The interlocking rings. The connection.* How connecting together, a mountain, club members, visionary leaders, and pioneers built the foundation and with success accomplished the task of opening a private, coeducational, fully-accredited college preparatory ski academy at Sugarloaf—a "World Class" Academy.

— Ginny Bousum

**2009-10  
Faculty, staff  
and student  
body of Carra-  
bassett Valley  
Academy**



# Congratulations to Our Three Olympians of 2010

*A note from SMSC President Bruce Miles.  
Reprinted from the SMSC News 2010 Spring Edition.*



**Emily Cook**

What do champions Emily Cook, Seth Wescott and Bode Miller have in common?

We all know they attended Carrabassett Valley Academy. We know they excelled in their sports, winning many trophies. They have all overcome injuries and displayed mental and physical toughness in achieving their goals. But what impresses me most about these three Sugarloafers is another thing they have in common.

They have all developed an attitude of giving back. They know they did not get where they are solely on their own and they know that the next generation needs help to achieve their dreams, too.

Freestyle Aerialist Champion Emily Cook founded "VISA Champions Creating Champions," a mentoring program in which Winter Olympians from a variety of sports work with youngsters who otherwise might not be exposed to their sport. Another of her projects is promoting "Right to Play," which strives to bring sport and play to the most disadvantaged children worldwide. In her word, "Giving kids a chance to be kids."

Snowboard Cross champion Seth Wescott gives back by helping to promote the Maine Winter Kids program, which strives to get kids in Maine outside in the winter and on the slopes skiing and snowboarding. He also makes his time available for many charity events such as the Sugarloaf Charity Summit. Among his passions is mentoring young competitors of the Sugarloaf/CVA



**Seth Wescott**



**Bode Miller**

community. His annual golf tournament run through the Franklin Chamber of Commerce has benefitted not only CVA, but also the Franklin Memorial Hospital in his home town of Farmington.

Alpine Ski Champion Bode Miller comes from a family that values helping others. In 2005 he and his family formed the Turtle Ridge Foundation. Its mission is to support innovative and progressive environmental initiatives, and youth athletic opportunities throughout the United States. With help from charity appearances from Bode, many organizations such as New Hampshire Boys and Girls Club of America and Let The Kids, an inner city youth sports program, receive grants from the foundation.

All three of these champions have used their fame to help other kids. I cannot help but believe that their experience here at Sugarloaf did not help develop their philanthropic side. Being exposed to the generous nature of Sugarloafers must have had an impact on their development. We can all be proud of their achievements.

## On Mountain Chiropractic



**Dr Len Saulter**

Appointments available  
Thursday- Sundays, Oct-June  
Holidays and School Vacations

**272-8408**

[www.saulterchiropractic.com](http://www.saulterchiropractic.com)

# The CVA Experience

*"... at CVA I found everything I could have wanted."*

As a nine-year-old, I joined the SCVA weekend program at the Sugarloaf Competition Center. Four years later, in the winter of my eighth grade year, I eagerly attended CVA's five month winter term, and if I remember correctly, I would have done anything to convince my parents to let me go. I was completely enthralled by the prospect of skiing nearly every day. The rigorous academic curriculum was a bonus; it promised to be more challenging than that of my public school. I'd always dreamed of taking my ski racing to the highest level possible and going to CVA was the opportunity to follow that dream, and to be surrounded by similarly minded athletes. At thirteen, it was everything that I hoped for, and I absolutely loved it. So the next year, I became a fulltime day student at CVA.

Fall and spring at CVA were fun, with homecoming soccer games and spring swimming in the Carrabassett River, but winter at CVA was always my favorite. The best part of CVA was being able to travel and compete while still keeping up with classes. In most cases, this was accomplished with 'packets': sections of work that a student can complete on his or her own. Recently, some teachers have digitized their packets, making it even more convenient for student-athletes on the road. While it was sometimes a challenge to get all of the work in on time, with racing, recovery, tuning, grocery shopping, and cooking on the road, it was much easier and teachers were much more understanding than if I had tried to accomplish this while attending a

conventional school.

When I wasn't traveling, I was immersed in the busy winter schedule at CVA. Mondays were reserved for sleep-in and classes only—a rest day from athletics to let everyone physically recuperate. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays involved both athletics and academics. Last year, sports were in the mornings, followed by lunch and four class periods. While I was at CVA, Friday entailed morning



**Amie Rowland found success as a student-athlete at CVA.**

classes and afternoons on the hill. On weekends in the winter, there were no classes. On most Saturdays and Sundays, there were competitions to attend, and when there weren't, we trained, either on snow or in the Anti-Gravity Center.

CVA provides excellent opportunities for training. On the mountain, as an alpine racer, I've had the privilege of skiing countless gates on the formidable Narrow Gauge, which is used each winter for a week or more of downhill racing. Off the mountain, in the AGC, the workout possibilities are endless.

I can't think of a better place to have spent my high school years than

at CVA and Sugarloaf. This experience has taught me that you can achieve your goals through commitment, dedication, and hard work.

After five years in Carrabassett Valley, Sugarloaf has become my home and honestly, I wouldn't have it any other way. Between the friends I've made and grown up with, to the places I've been and the number of days I've been able to ski, at CVA I found everything I could have wanted.

And being part of the overarching Sugarloaf community is one of the key elements that make CVA what it is.

The Sugarloaf community isn't like those at other mountains. At other places, the people in the chairlift lines aren't nearly as friendly, but here it's not uncommon to see the face of a friend, or a future friend, while waiting in line at Spillway. What makes Sugarloaf so unique are its people—particularly how committed they are to it and how much they always seem to

enjoy it here. Run after run, day after day, week after week, year after year, Sugarloafers exhibit a true passion for skiing, boarding, and our mountain community.

Though recently I spent most of each winter traveling to races, it was always especially exciting to race at Sugarloaf. Not only did I get to come home, meaning home cooked meals, sleeping in my own bed, and competing on my home hill, but also races were generally much more enjoyable than elsewhere, thanks to the Sugarloaf Ski Club.

In the last four seasons, I raced at over thirty different resorts in three countries. Nowhere else do races

compare to Sugarloaf's—primarily because of the support of the Sugarloaf Ski Club. At other mountains, parent volunteers with varying degrees of willingness and friendliness assist with the races. At Sugarloaf, it seems all volunteers are willing and friendly. They help simply because they want to and because they really enjoy doing it—and they are comprised of far more than parents of the racers who are competing that day. Many volunteers started when their children were racing and have continued on long after their children's racing days ended.

Sugarloaf volunteers are a tough bunch; I truly admire them when they brave the -20° F (plus wind chill) weather for hours each day during speed week. It's always comforting to talk at the start with the volunteers, who know many CVA racers by name. Between runs and after a race, the friendly smiles of volunteers in the Competition Center can brighten anyone's day, particularly when a race

hasn't gone as well as it could have.

And on some of the worst days of all, when I'd taken particularly hard falls, the club volunteers were there to kindly ask if I was okay before resuming the race, rather than quickly shooing me off the trail as is sometimes done at other places. That kindness, to a disappointed and sore athlete, can really make a bad day better.

In addition to supporting competitions and providing moral support, the Sugarloaf Ski Club assists numerous CVA students with financial scholarships. This aid enables many athletes, in all disciplines, to attend competitions when they might not have otherwise. Overall, the club's scholarship effort contributes to the success of the athletic careers of many CVA athletes.

I'm sure my fellow CVA alumni would agree that our years at CVA were enhanced in many ways by the Sugarloaf Ski Club.

— Amie Rowland



[Editor's note: Amie graduated as Valedictorian of the CVA Class of 2010. She will be attending Harvard University in the fall of 2011.]



# HAPPY TUNES!

SUGARLOAF'S Ski Service Center  
(207) 235-TUNE (-8863)  
happy@tdstelme.net








**EXPERT BOOT-FITTING  
WORLD CLASS SKI & SNOWBOARD TUNING**




















**Maine Kayak Expeditions  
WHITewater & SEAKAYAKING  
WILDERNESS EXPEDITIONS**  
(no previous experience required)

For these and other youth & family wilderness trips,  
Contact Lionel at Happy Tunes!

*"NOW I KNOW THE SECRET OF MAKING THE BEST PERSONS;  
IT IS TO GROW IN THE OPEN AIR AND TO EAT AND SLEEP WITH THE EARTH" (Walt Whitman)*



For these and other youth & family wilderness trips,  
Contact Lionel at Happy Tunes!

# Sugarloaf/Carrabassett Valley Academy On-snow Programs

*The Marshall family recollects their SCVA experience.*

SCVA is the Sugarloaf/Carrabassett Valley Academy program for kids aged 8 through 19. SCVA offers coaching, training, and competing in freestyle, alpine and snowboarding. Our boys, Jamie and Craig, both started with the SCVA alpine program when they were seven years old—1999 for Craig and 2002 for Jamie.

Craig's first year coach was Yoshi Watanabe, a CVA grad and now a CVA coach. From the beginning Craig formed bonds with coaches who he would know, and would know him, throughout his racing career. The same can be said for the boys he skied with that first year, like Connor Richards, Jason Pier and Sam Ricker. Jamie started out in the program with his own Dad as his coach. Chris McKee, Cody Bullen, Spencer Couch and Johann Colloredo were in his group and are his friends to this day. Over the years, they had other great coaches, including Matt Waddle, Jeff Friedrich and Peter Smith. These are people who knew the sport, had experienced success as competitors themselves, and were great role models for our kids.

We were happy that the program got us all up and out of the house in the morning every weekend and vacation week. The boys were outdoors in the fresh air, learning new skills, while forming relationships with friends, coaches and other caring adults like Ski Club volunteers. Learning to deal with the extreme cold and wind, and making sure they had the proper clothing and protection on some of those January days, was a life lesson (and organizational challenge) in and of itself. Another benefit was the opportunity to meet kids from other communities, not just the Carrabassett Valley/Kingfield area where they lived and went to school, but from other parts of New England. Also, SCVA introduced them to the concepts of racing, ski competition, and running gates, which they loved then, and still love to this day.

We lived in an A Frame in the Valley in those early years, and I would pack a picnic lunch into our LL Bean backpack, complete with sandwiches, drinks, snacks, and desserts. Laurel Lashar in the Comp Center always admired our picnic lunches because she thought they were so "interesting," kind of a hodge-podge of what was in the fridge any given day. The Comp Center is a micro-community within the Sugarloaf community and we always knew someone would take care of our kids if they needed adult attention when we weren't there. The Comp Center gang includes kids of all ages, both SCVA and CVA, plus coaches, parents, staff, volunteers... people who share our passion for the sport

and the lifetime friendships that skiing has forged for our family.

The awards ceremonies were always a lot of fun. We remember the days when Joe Daley would bellow out, "It's a great day for a JPL Race!" JPL is a series of low-key races named after Sugarloafer and Olympian Julie Parisien. The style of the awards ceremonies wasn't glitzy, but I liked the way these ceremonies were "homespun." They were exciting for young skiers, and I captured lots of photos that are now in scrapbooks for my kids when they grow up.

Craig and Jamie both stayed with SCVA until they became students at CVA, in ninth and eighth grades respectively. SCVA helped them become good skiers with a command of the basic skills, putting them in a strong position to be successful at CVA. They were comfortable with the mountain and with ski racing overall. And they were ready for the next level of commitment and discipline that CVA demanded.

After meeting one another right up on the mountain, Jay and I made a commitment as newlyweds in 1987 to live in the Sugarloaf area. We have stayed in Carrabassett ever since with the intention of sending our kids to CVA. I'll always be grateful that we became involved with SCVA. For our boys, it was a logical stepping stone along the way to CVA. Recently Craig graduated as salutatorian, and he has been accepted to Colby College where he will ski on their Division One Alpine Ski Team. He is taking a year off to lower his FIS points by training and competing in New Zealand and out west. What a grand opportunity!

We have three more years of CVA with Jamie. If all goes as planned, Jay will continue to coach in SCVA and will provide the younger racers with the same guidance and foundation that he provided for our own boys, so that they can go on to the highest level in ski competition they choose to achieve.

I am an extremely proud Mom who is grateful to all the coaches and other adults who have worked with Craig to help guide him to achieve his level of success. Jamie will have every opportunity to achieve a similar level of success in the coming years. I believe that SCVA started our boys on a path to success with the ingredients that are necessary to succeed at CVA, in life, and beyond:

- **Commitment** to a program: it's not easy getting up in the morning, getting yourself ready and dressed for SCVA every weekend and vacation day from December through March, and it takes serious commitment from

*Saturday, December 8, 1979: Skiing for the first time of the year on a patch of manmade snow from Peavey down. The Ski Rack had given away some 8,000 free passes so the patch of snow was jammed with bodies. This evening we went to Trails End with Dick and Jackie Keenan, chatting with King and Jean Cummings, and Pat and Tom Tufts.*

the athlete and the family. Keeping clothing and equipment organized, tuned and together in one place is a learning experience in and of itself.

- **Discipline:** it takes discipline to achieve success in the program. By participating in SCVA, the structure, routine and discipline have helped them in every other endeavor in their academic and athletic careers.
- **Focus:** you can't do a lot of other activities on weekends and vacations, so you must decide if SCVA is going to be your focus. It was always our focus and I feel that they gained more from it than missing out on other things.
- **Learning to work with a coach:** you have to respect the coach and listen to his or her feedback, then learn to incorporate their suggestions into your skiing. There were times when the boys disagreed with their coaches and we had to work through the challenges with long conversations and 'life skills' coaching at home.
- **The thrill of running gates and competing:** the gates were addictive for the Marshall boys! But there are definitely ups and downs once you're skiing against the clock, and the clock doesn't lie. No matter how fast you are, there's always going to be someone faster to chase, and the older you get, the tougher the competition. Invaluable lessons about winning, losing, and keeping your eye on your personal goals are learned from competing.
- **Fun:** it's definitely fun to be part of a group of friends on the mountain, free skiing, racing, and going to races at other mountains.

— Nancy Marshall, with help from Jay, Craig, and Jamie

For more information on SCVA, go to [www.sugarloaf.com/SkiSchool/SCVA\\_Program.html](http://www.sugarloaf.com/SkiSchool/SCVA_Program.html) or the Competition Center at 237-6896.

# WE NOW DESIGN WEBSITES!



*Your full service marketing, printing and creative headquarters.*

15 North Main Street  
North Anson, ME 04958  
207-635-2332 • Fax 207-635-2442

[info@marketingandprinting.com](mailto:info@marketingandprinting.com)  
[www.marketingandprinting.com](http://www.marketingandprinting.com)

**TOLL FREE 888.624.6774**



Do you know who is who? Look for Nancy, Jay, Craig, Famie, Yoshi, Hannah, Jason, Connor, and Tomi.

# Development of Our Mountain Community

*The history of Carrabassett Valley is about providing recreational amenities through collaboration.*

Ever since the incorporation of the town of Carrabassett Valley in 1972 the philosophy of the town has been to form partnerships to creatively invest in recreational amenities. These investments have provided year-round services and recreational opportunities for our residents and our many seasonal homeowners. The development of these amenities has provided additional incentive for increased private investment and growth which, in turn, has provided year-round employment while significantly increasing the town's tax base.

What are all these partnerships and amenities, you say? The smaller projects are too numerous to mention. The larger projects include: building the Sugarloaf Golf Course, building the new Golf Course Clubhouse, and continued capital improvements to the golf course. The list also includes: development of the Outdoor Center facilities, construction of the Anti-Gravity Center, construction of the Narrow Gauge Pathway, and the recent opening of our Library and Community Center. In addition, partnerships have also provided important community services such as the Sugarloaf Security and Communications Center, as well as our successful 'Sugarloaf Explorer' Transportation System. Most of these projects and services were developed through "creative collaborations" that are truly unique to Carrabassett Valley, Maine.

The town-owned Sugarloaf Golf Course, which opened in 1985, was built through a complex collaboration including: private investment of \$1,000,000 from On the Green Associates; private donations totaling \$250,000 from 50 people and businesses connected to the Sugarloaf area; \$250,000 from the town's Recreational Endowment Fund; and a \$750,000 loan from the town.

The Sugarloaf Mountain Corporation, often referred to as simply "Sugarloaf," leased the golf course, as it continues to do today, and paid two thirds of the annual debt service on the town's loan. When the debt was retired, the Town of Carrabassett Valley ended up owning this renowned golf course, one of the most valuable community-owned assets in the State of Maine. On the Green Associates went on to sell adjacent real estate lots, and new homes continue to sprout up in the surrounding area. The golf course continues to provide the Sugarloaf resort, taxpayers and residents with summer and fall recreational opportunities, as well as employment opportunities. In 2005 the new clubhouse was built at the golf course, and was funded through another partnership between the Town of Carrabassett Valley and Sugarloaf. Major capital improvements continue to be made to the golf course and are funded through a reserve account which is funded by both Sugarloaf and the town. Building the golf course has been a major "win-win" for everyone involved.

The Sugarloaf Outdoor Center, as it is known today, was built in 1977 through collaboration between the Town of Carrabassett Valley and Western Mountains Corporation (WMC), a non-profit Community Development Corporation formed in 1976. The original town-owned facility and trails were built through town financing and a \$100,000 loan. They were then leased to WMC, which was responsible for paying the debt service on the town note and for operating the facility and trails. The Outdoor Center was later leased to SMC, in 1988, and their lease continues. The town financed and completed a major facility expansion and upgrade in 2008. This beautiful facility, trails and skating rink continue to be very popular with many taxpayers as well as guests to our area.

The Anti-Gravity Complex, or "AGC" as it is commonly called, is owned jointly by the town and Carrabassett Valley Academy (CVA). Opened in February of 2001, the AGC filled CVA's need for a first class facility to train their athletes and attract future students. The town wanted to be involved with an indoor facility that offered traditional and unique recreational opportunities for their citizens and taxpayers. Both the town and CVA have scheduled hours for their activities and each entity pays a share of the operating costs. This collaboration has been a very successful venture for both parties.

The Narrow Gauge Pathway was constructed in 2003 with additional land easements provided by Sugarloaf. The pathway remains a very popular recreational opportunity for cross-country skiing, biking and walking.

The recently completed Library and Community Center project involved several collaborations. Both Sugarloaf and CVA provided land easements for the project. In addition, Western Maine Center for Children, a non-profit corporation, leases a portion of the facility and provides day care services for area residents.

Both the Sugarloaf Security System and the Sugarloaf Explorer Transportation System were also formed through partnerships. The Town's police chief oversees the Security System, which is funded through residential and commercial alarm fees, annual town appropriations, and a portion of condominium fees. The Sugarloaf Explorer System is a successful collaboration between Sugarloaf, the town, the State of Maine and Western Maine Transportation Corporation. This bus service continues to be heavily used, allowing home/condo owners and Sugarloaf guests to move about the community and resort area without their vehicles.

The Town of Carrabassett Valley has also continued to partner with the Sugarloaf Ski Club. The town provides annual funding towards the club's scholarships for many of our area youth that participate in ski and board programs. Recently, the Jean Luce Competition Building construction

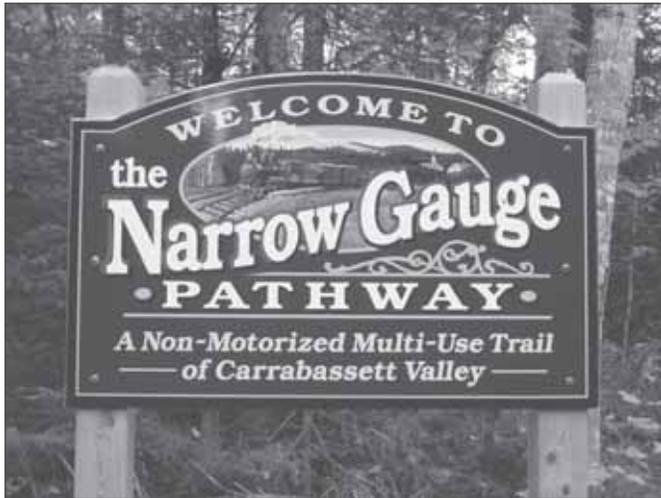
was undertaken by the ski club in cooperation with Sugarloaf, and the town made a substantial contribution to this much needed project.

Looking back, it's fair to say that the unique "Carrabassett Model" of partnerships and collaboration has been very successful in the development of our mountain resort community.

— *Dave Cota, Carrabassett Valley Town Manager*



Sugarloaf Golf Course

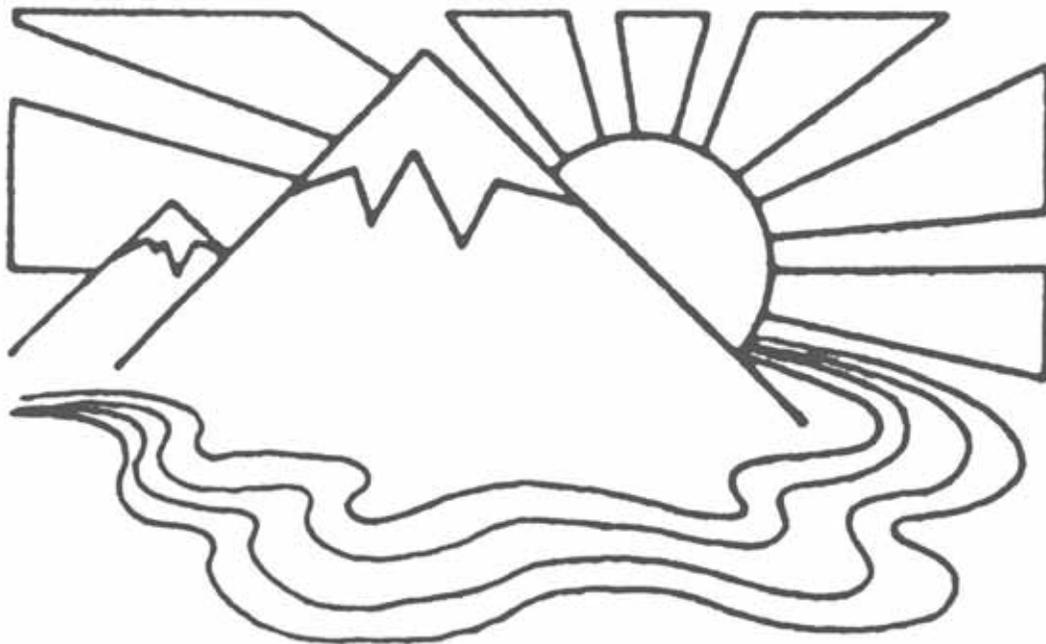


Narrow Gauge Pathway



Golf Course Clubhouse

**Congratulations to the Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Club on your 60th year anniversary from the Town of Carrabassett Valley**



***"From here on out, your life will never be the same"***

# Retiring Sugarloafers

*...but what is there to DO when I retire in Carrabassett Valley?*

"You're going to retire... where?"

And then, the "look"—which indicated I was well into senility.

*"But doesn't it get really cold up there?... Aren't the highway exits sometimes eight miles apart?"* And then, the kicker question: *"What will you do?"*

I wasn't sure... but it was no longer going to involve a schedule. I'd been a weekend Sugarloafer since 1994, I liked the area, and my son lived in Maine. I figured I could always read a lot.

Several years ago, the stars aligned. I retired, and although the plan was to accomplish this major life change in a leisurely manner, seven days later I moved to Carrabassett Valley. I arrived to a field of blooming lupine that I had not even imagined when buying my home. Gorgeous! Right choice.

But what would I do? It's eight years later, and I'm still waiting for those free hours to read!

Carrabassett Valley has become a home base for many families and retirees. No one seems to be sitting around. Overall, there is a wonderful mix of ages, backgrounds and interests among the people who choose to live here. Many people volunteer their time and talents; it makes this a community unlike any other. Here are some ways to keep busy in the Valley when you are not on the slopes or trails:

## **Sugarloaf Ski Club:**

Even if you're not a skier, there are many events that need volunteers. Newsletter folding was my introduction, and that led to race days and handing out bibs. Downhill skiers can work on the race course (free lunch!) and there is always cheering for the kids. The club's social events are great fun, and the lasagna at the annual meeting is to die for. By joining the 1100 Sugarloaf Ski Club members, you help with the club's good works.

## **Carrabassett Valley Outdoor Association:**

This group was started about 10 years ago by concerned outdoor enthusiasts who recognized that many popular hiking trails over private lands were being posted due to the amount of litter being left behind by bikers, hikers and snowmobilers. Group members started clearing local trails and Route 27 of that litter. The postings came down, and the Carrabassett Valley Outdoor Association was born. Today there are over 500 members from New England and Canada joining in year-round activities. Join them for hiking and mountain climbing; skiing and snowshoeing; fishing, canoeing and kayaking; trap, pistol and rifle range shooting; and social events. CVOA also serves the community in many ways.

## **Sugarloaf Ski Patrollers and Ambassadors**

If you're a capable skier and want to help others while earning a season pass, volunteer for one of these opportunities. If you're chosen to participate, there is training and a required number of days to work, but the payoff is free skiing, first tracks, companionship, and the ability to make a difference.

## **Red Hats**

The Red Hats is an international organization of women over 50 who just "want to have fun." The Carrabassett chapter is aptly named The Valley Girls, and in addition to having monthly events has traveled throughout North America. All gatherings involve eating, laughter, and much fun. This group has also broken ranks to support local causes and provide holiday gifts for local families.



**A mere six weeks after the Grand Opening, Jean Keith congratulates Michelle DeFrosia, with her sons Will and Sam, on becoming the 500th patron of the Carrabassett Valley Library and Community Center. The building is a testament to what a dedicated group of volunteers can accomplish.**



## Golf

Carrabassett Valley owns one of the best golf courses in the United States. (Sugarloafers golf? Who knew?) The pros are fantastic, the grounds' crew awesome, and the members love sharing the course with visitors. You can keep score if you want, or just go out and play and be amazed at the scenery and wildlife. The back nine includes the "string of pearls"—holes that follow the river and are exquisite. (They are also the cause for excessive mutterings as it becomes evident that you have to hit over the river... again.) If you are lucky enough to learn to play on this course, none other intimidates you.

## Volunteers in Schools

If you're looking to interact with kids off the mountain, you can always volunteer in the local elementary schools. Both Kingfield and Stratton schools welcome parents and others who come in to read with children, or assist the teachers in other ways.

## Sugarloaf Area Christian Ministry

SACM is based in the Dick Bell Chapel at Sugarloaf. (Ski patrol and the First Aid Clinic are in the basement, making an interesting combination for the building. Picture a skier regaining consciousness to organ music.) In addition to Sunday non-denominational services, the ministry sponsors a women's book discussion; Kid's Klub, a weekly children's after-school program; food drives with Carrabassett Valley Academy; and many other local and international causes. You can drop by the chapel to meet the ministers or come to Sunday services to get involved.

## Book Clubs

There are a number of informal book groups in the area. Most meet monthly and discuss the chosen book and other topics. "What happens in book group stays in book group." Members take turns hosting the meetings. What is really nice about the book groups is that we all read books that we might never have picked up on our own, and we learn so much from hearing other points of view.

## Library & Community Center

OK... I admit—this is my favorite. When I moved here the library was in a small, rented space shared by Carrabassett Valley Pre-School. I accepted the offer to join the Library Board, suddenly was the chairperson, and then... we were in a major capital campaign for a new building. But what a Building Committee we had!

Carrabassett Valley now has a glorious new building,

at the base of the Access Road, which houses the library, the Begin Community Room and a child care center rented by Western Mountain Center for Children. The Begin Room and attached kitchen can be rented for social or business functions.

The Library & Community Center is an example of what volunteers can accomplish. The original library was started by volunteers 20 years ago; the recent Building Committee raised over \$500,000 towards the new building and was instrumental in its creation. It was a proud Opening Day on February 6, 2010. Our collection continues to grow. We have space in a wonderful building with spectacular mountain views. Come visit, browse the stacks, use the computers, and perhaps stay to help out.

On a personal note concerning my own retirement, I'm loving it! There has been little time to read, but I do have hope for the future.

— Jean Keith



*The Award-Winning Weekly Newspaper & Seasonal Publications*  
Serving the Western Mountains of Maine Where the Kids  
Grow Straight & Tall and the Women are All Good-Looking!

**Sugarloafers' Favorite Local Paper**

**60 Years of Skiing at Sugarloaf!**  
**42 Years of Coverage in the Irregular!**

 ❄️ **IT'S BEEN A GREAT RIDE!** ❄️

---

*The Irregular, Locally Owned & Operated*  
KEEP IN TOUCH FROM WHEREVER... SUBSCRIBE TO OUR ONLINE EDITION!  
**[www.theirregular.com](http://www.theirregular.com)**  
EVERYTHING BUT THE CURRENT EDITION OF THE IRREGULAR IS FREE-ACCESS

---

**239 Main Street, Kingfield, Maine 04947**  
**TEL: 207.265.2773 • Fax: 207.265.2775**

*Friday, December 19, 1980: Dick and Jackie Keenan started the weekend with a Christmas party at their house in Kingfield. Tiger Bragdon provided the hors d'erves and served as bartender for 50-60 people, including Ron and Sally Smith, the Win Robinsons, various Winters, the Cullenbergs, the Chip Careys, the Abbotts, Dobles, Leo Tague, Pres and Gail Jordan. The party went on until nearly 3:00 a.m. Saturday, December 20, 1980 was cold and windy, 5° below zero at the base at noon.*

## Locals Racing

*The Wednesday tradition of Locals Racing is one of the most coveted parts of being a Sugarloafer.*

It is a right of passage to becoming a “local” and it really is not all about competition. Nevertheless, the Wednesday tradition of Locals Racing is one of the most coveted parts of being a Sugarloafer. It all started in the early 1970’s when a few of the good old boys got together over a couple of beers and decided to ski race against each other. Now this was not simply against the clock, but had more to do with creating a venue for camaraderie, costumes, and silliness. I fell into all of these categories and therefore was a welcome candidate for whichever team needed a mediocre (at best) female racer.

The first time I was approached to participate in these clandestine events was in 1978. I had just moved back home to Maine after a four year stint at Vancouver, B.C. and Whistler Mountain. Now I never have been a racer, just a racer-chaser, but Tom Anderle and Lloyd Cutler saw potential in my spirit (or something) and asked me to join the Crossroads Ski Team, sponsored by Gepetto’s. This prestigious group of party animals/ski bums/and racers didn’t know what they were in for. I was one of a handful of gals who not only could ski fairly well, but could also drink lots of tequila and beer for breakfast on race day.

As you can only imagine, this skill had its advantages and disadvantages, but it sure was fun for a few seasons. That particular season I was dating a member of the famous (if only in their own minds) Bourbon Bombers, of The Bag, and was able to go to all of the parties held by either team. Like I said earlier, it had very little to do with competition... that was only part of it.

Of all the disciplines, the downhill was always the biggest and most anticipated race of the whole series. In the 70’s and 80’s the downhill race was held on Buckboard or Tote Road and yup, you guessed it, there were always the traditional Crossroads breakfasts at Gepetto’s. The weekly race created quite an adrenaline rush for me, although I cannot speak for anyone else. It continues to be lots of fun to race, and then get together with the other skiers and snowboarders for the “After Party” to see how well or how badly I may have done.

Lots of funny memories come to mind to this day—like Mike Bridges hauling a hibachi grill (AND the charcoal) to the start for a lunch of hotdogs. Quite often, he was the starter, and would also get one of the best times of the day! And in 1984, after winning the prestigious Miss Sugarloaf, I needed a pair of downhill skis for the Locals downhill race. I was skiing for the Ski Rack and was unable to get down the Access Road to pick up a pair. So I called Mike Gammon, who mounted a set of telemark bindings on some 220cm Kneissl downhill skis. I promptly hopped into the starting gate with all the confidence in the world that I would be able to handle these long boards. Well, I never turned once and shot through the finish line, continuing all the way to the bottom of Double Runner from Lower Narrow Gauge! It was the last time I borrowed a pair of downhill skis to race.

And then there were the costumes.... One year in an effort to get the fastest time possible on the lower trail, a few people wore union suits with duct tape covering all the opening flaps. Thus began the annual costume parade for the downhill races of the Locals Series. My own personal motto became this: “If you can’t be fast, at least you can be stylish!” Over the next 25 or more years, I have stuck closely to this theory. I have raced on telemark skis since 1982, and have dressed in skirts, ballerina tutu’s, brassieres (on the outside of the clothing), a Wonder woman costume, a cowgirl outfit, even a Dr. Seuss character imitation, just to mention a few. But my best day so far was when the race was on St. Patrick’s Day in 2004: I beat the other women telemark racers, then got into my car, drove to Saddleback Mountain, and participated in their fun end-of-the-season race that required a goofy costume while racing in a silly race—and I won a trophy to boot.

Not everyone who races in the Locals Series takes it as lightly as I do, and there is a competitive edge present

### *Congratulations* on your 60th year!



Sugarloafers since... Meredith Strang Burgess, 1956  
and Doug Stewart, 1973.



[www.burgessadv.com](http://www.burgessadv.com)

Burgess Advertising recognizes that traditions are important... from the “Panty Tree” to the Sugarloaf Ski Club... it’s just that some are more odd than others!



For some locals it is all about the competition, for others it is all about comraderie. For many, it is a great balance of both!



for many who participate. There are now 8 to 10 teams, sponsored by area establishments as well as the Sugarloaf Ski Club, and over 120 racers in the group. Each December there is a draft night at which the teams are chosen, and it is often surprising where you might end up on a team. Locals Racing is open to everyone and includes a party after each race day and a chance at a bib draw for donated prizes.

The reasons I race each season are that it helps my skiing quite a bit, it gets me out on the hill every week, and I can always connect with friends on Wednesdays no matter what! I have raced on many teams over the years, but I always remember my "roots" and the Crossroads Ski Team of Gepetto's. Every year I say, "I am done with this racing foolishness," but every year I get the desire to go for it again and sign up. So unless something unforeseen happens to me, I'll see you at the Sugarloaf Inn on Draft Night, 2010!

— Jano Wilkinson

*Saturday, March 20, 1982. Great skiing on a beautiful spring day. Lunch on the front deck with Heine and Sharon Merrill, Norton Luce, and Dick Crommett. Supper at the Valley Touring Center, hired for a 50th birthday celebration for Bernie Carpenter, Rolley Weiman, Dick Murphy and Kay Webster. Dan Carpenter provided the music.*

Serving  
good  
Maine  
coffee  
to great  
Maine  
skiers.

Our 18 years of good coffee pale in comparison to SMSC's 60 years of commitment to Sugarloaf. Congratulations!

**JAVA JOE'S**  
Sugarloaf & Farmington

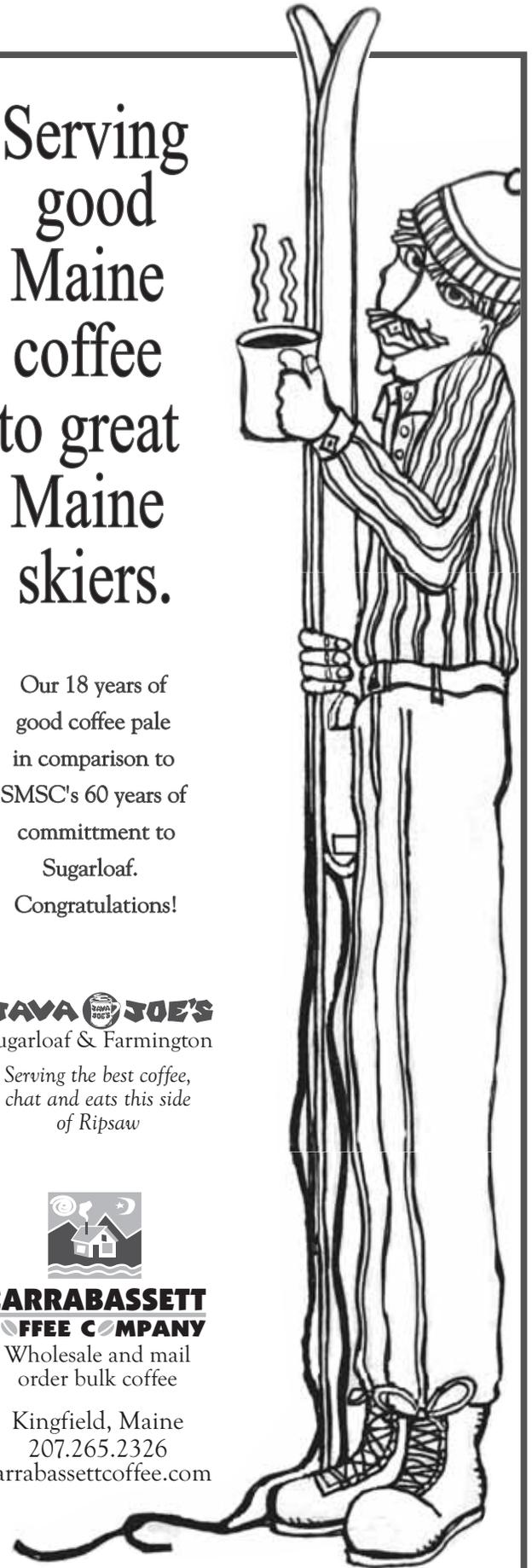
*Serving the best coffee,  
chat and eats this side  
of Ripsaw*



**CARRABASSETT**  
**COFFEE COMPANY**

Wholesale and mail  
order bulk coffee

Kingfield, Maine  
207.265.2326  
carrabassettcoffee.com



# The Dick Bell Chapel at the Base of Sugarloaf

*The chapel has a long history, having housed the AGC, SMSC, SRSEF, CVA, World Cup officials, Ski Patrol & Clinic, and SACM*

Believe it or not, the first Sugarloaf Chapel was not on the mountain at all but in the dining room of Judson's Sugarloaf Motel down in the Valley. Ma Judson invited Pastor Charlie Reid, pastor of the Methodist Church in Kingfield (Mission at the Eastward Partnership), to hold the first worship service for Sugarloafers on March 18, 1962. While it was cute and cozy, the services quickly outgrew Judson's and moved up to the base lodge. Pastor Reid, Ma, Dick Bell and others (especially from the Ski Club) quickly realized the need for a permanent chapel on the hill. Many hands banded together to raise funds and build the chapel at a cost of around \$20,000. With their efforts, the building was completed in 1967.

Assorted cast-off pews, moveable chairs, and paneling were some of the rough and ready décor of the chapel in those days; and oh yes, there were cluster flies even back then. Having moveable pews turned out to be a real bonus when the chapel became the town's first Anti-Gravity Center. And for a short period of time the chapel became home to the Hartford Ballet summer program and the CVA trampolines.

Originally called the Sugarloaf

Interfaith Chapel, the name was changed after the passing of Sugarloaf Dick Bell. As recorded in the Annual Meeting Minutes on February 23, 1974, "We owe a deep debt of gratitude for the devotion and work done on behalf of the chapel by our deceased treasurer, Richard G. Bell, without whose efforts the chapel would not have been built." Evidently, Dick was a master at inspiring others to give generously and to enjoy doing so!

The Ski Club utilized the chapel space almost from the very beginning. Jean Luce recalls that in 1970 the club made the decision to use the chapel cellar for the race office of the 1971 World Cups, and then partitioned off a room, from beside the stairway to the east wall, for Team Captains' meetings. It was a bit tight, but it was warm and snug. In the early 1970's the Sugarloaf Ski Education Foundation's tutorial program, at the time using Jean Luce's dining room table for studies, decided to move into Gladstone Restaurant. (The Foundation was originally formed by the club's competition committee). Aspiring alpine athletes soon had the kind of training situation most competitors could only dream about. But by late 1970's, the program outgrew that space and moved

into the chapel basement, further partitioning the Team Captains' room into 4 classrooms. At this time the club's race headquarters was the Pack Sack area of the Base Lodge basement.

By the time Carrabassett Valley Academy was formed, taking over the tutorial program, as well as purchasing and moving into the Capricorn (1984), the Sugarloaf Mountain Corporation was renovating the Base Lodge. Now the Ski Club needed a new home, having just a small room in the Base Lodge and Pack Sack area on race days. The club moved into the newly available chapel basement, further partitioning a small room near the entrance door for the "quiet" office, and using the 4 classrooms for race offices and bib distribution. Sometime in the mid 1990's, the club migrated to the Gondola Building, enabling Sugarloaf's Ski Patrol to occupy the ever-popular basement.

Meanwhile, upstairs... winters can be long and harsh on buildings here at Sugarloaf, and the chapel is no exception. Major renovations were undertaken in the late 1980's: new carpet, pews and a sound system were added. Even the walls and altar area were refinished, giving the sanctuary an old New England meeting house



An early chapel design.



Richard Bell Chapel, 1982

flair. In the 1990's an addition built by Clem Begin added some much needed space on the main floor for meetings and restroom facilities.

Sugarloaf Community Church (now Sugarloaf Area Christian Ministry), under the direction of Rev. Skip Schwarz, began worshipping in the sanctuary in 1982. Roman Catholic services also began around that time.

The Richard Bell Chapel, and the land it rests on, is now held in trust by a Board of Directors, several of them family and friends of the chapel's namesake. The board's primary purpose is "to establish and maintain a chapel to provide a place of public worship at Sugarloaf Mountain."

Today, the chapel continues to be a blessing to our Sugarloaf Community. Downstairs, many battered and bruised bodies have found help and healing from the Sugarloaf Ski Patrol and the Sugarloaf Clinic. Upstairs, many hurt and tired souls have found solace and peace from the worship services

conducted by Our Ladies of the Lake Roman Catholic Parish and Sugarloaf Area Christian Ministry.

The Sugarloaf Ministry, the grandchild of Pastor Reid's initial vision, is now in its 38<sup>th</sup> year with a vision to bring good news to the Valleys and the Mountains. The Ski Club and the ministry share a number of well-loved volunteers, including Al & Alice Cole, Sonja Ducharme, and Marilyn Bain, just to name a few. It is the Sugarloaf Ministry which brings us Downhill Worship on the slopes, two joy-filled Community Christmas Eve Candlelight Services, and the ever-popular Easter Sunrise Service.

The Chapel is also utilized for other community events including weddings, funerals, CVA graduations and much, much more. The Richard Bell Interfaith Chapel reflects the best of Sugarloafers' community spirit. Come on in!

— Rev. Pamela Morse



Richard Bell Chapel with addition, 2002

Roman Catholic Mass  
December through March  
Saturdays at 4:30 p.m.  
Call 864-3795 FMI

Sugarloaf Area Christian Ministry  
Year-round, Sundays at 9 a.m.  
Call 237-2304 FMI

[www.sugarloafministry.com](http://www.sugarloafministry.com)



**Rinnai.**

**THE NEW RINNAI LS SERIES TANKLESS WATER HEATERS**

ENDLESS HOT WATER NEVER LOOKED SO GOOD

WHOLE-HOUSE AND COMMERCIAL TANKLESS WATER HEATING SOLUTIONS

**Model R75Lsi**  
**\$1199 plus tax**  
includes standard vent system and plumbing kit  
*Installation available at additional cost. Sale limited to existing stock.*

**\*30% Tax Credit**

\*Federal Tax Credit up to \$1,000  
Household who purchase and install a qualifying Rinnai tankless water heater between Jan. 1, 2009 and Dec. 31, 2010 will now be eligible for a tax credit equal to 30% of the full purchase and installation price up to a maximum of \$1,000.

**Jordan Lumber Co.**  
*Serving Maine since 1968*

**265.2231 800.750.2231**

354 Main St.,  
Kingfield, ME 04947  
Fax: 265-4444

**www.jordanlumberco.com**

Free Estimates \* On-Site Sales \* Free Delivery Service

Building Supplies  
Power Equipment Sales & Service  
Wildland Fire Fighting Equipment

# Carrabassett Valley Outdoor Association

*Having fun and protecting our outdoor heritage.*

Sugarloafers tend to be diehard skiers. The only problem: the skiing is rather poor from May through November. So during those months, many of us enjoy fishing, hiking, biking, canoeing, hunting, kayaking and other outdoor activities. During the ski season, you will find us snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, ice fishing, and, for most Sugarloafers, alpine skiing. In all seasons, when finished with our outdoor activities, we enjoy socializing with our friends and eating lots of great food. This all has been the way since the first ski tracks were made so many years ago in the snowfields.

## IN THE BEGINNING...

Much of the land in the Valley is privately owned, with the largest



landowner by far being the Penobscot Indians. In 1999, the Penobscots posted their land, preventing outdoor recreational activities in most of Carrabassett Valley. The town worked with the Indians to address their concerns, and eventually the postings came down. But, the Penobscots got our attention.

In December of the same year a group of concerned outdoor enthusiasts in the Valley area convened to discuss how to prevent future problems with local landowners, because most of the activities we enjoy require the use of private land. Neal Trask, Tom Spring, Nancy Perry, George Abbot, Daryl Sleight, Anne Tuell, Don Fowler, Sherie Packard, Paul Houlares, and Dick Crommet met at the home of John McCatherin. These people, many of them Sugarloaf Ski Club members, started the Carrabassett Valley Outdoor Association to protect our outdoor heritage. Paul was elected president, Tom the VP, Sherie became treasurer, and Anne was the secretary. Since then, Tom Spring, Neal Trask, Cynthia Pernice and I have each served as president.

One of the Penobscots' major complaints was trash being left by those using their lands. CVOA organized a cleanup of the hiking trails, swimming holes, and scenic spots in the Valley, and this cleanup has become an ongoing activity of our organization. About the same time, Randy Clukey organized the annual litter patrol to pick up trash along Route 27, and CVOA members have been participants in this May event since its inception.

## WE GREW...

More outdoor enthusiasts joined the Association; people wanted to belong to a group that was dedicated to enjoying and protecting the outdoors. Tom Spring organized and lead "The Mother of All Hikes" up and over the mountains surrounding the Valley. Don Fowler took people on tours of the local waterfalls. Of course, our famous evening events soon came to life. The Winter Socials and Spring Flings quickly became a tradition for the group; the social hours, potluck dinners and dancing proved to be very popular.

## GET Y'R DEER YET?

As every hunter knows, successful hunting requires a rifle that is properly sighted in. Previously, the sighting in was often done in a private gravel pit, usually without the landowner's permission. Not exactly the safest arrangement and some landowners were understandably unhappy about it. Neal Trask took on this issue and after countless hours of work by many, we now have a beautiful (and safe) rifle range, a state of the art trap range, and a covered pistol range. All are located on land leased from the Sanitary District off Route 27, north of the Sugarloaf Access Road. The views are spectacular, making it the most scenic shooting range in Maine.

## SKIING ANYONE?

In 2003, 17 members traveled to Fernie, British Columbia, for a week of skiing. The conditions were the worst the area had seen for a long time, but just the same everyone had a great time. Since then, the club has sponsored seven ski trips out west and several trips to Quebec. The largest trip

*Saturday, December 18, 1982: The first day for a new ski school program called Bubble Cuffers, organized by Marcia Godfrey, in part while sitting at our kitchen table. The landscape was absolutely bare except for rain-soaked, frozen man-made snow on Narrow Gauge and Boardwalk.*

so far had 42 Sugarloafers skiing Sun Valley in 2008. The only person to get hurt on that trip was John Christie, who fell on the steps going up to the Round House Restaurant! It was one ugly bruise, but it didn't slow down John. The last day, just before he headed down Arnold's Way (a trail named for Arnold Schwarzenegger,) John was heard to say "Boy, to be 70 again!"

#### ENJOYING VACATIONLAND...

In the summer of 2002, Tom Spring organized a weekend trip to Baxter State Park. A large group camped in the park, and many climbed Katahdin. This trip has become an annual event, including hiking, canoeing, sight seeing, swimming, socializing and, of course, eating, all in a three day weekend! While we've had our share of foul weather at Baxter, the gang has always had a great time.

Other annual activities include Maine coast camping trips, an October weekend in Bar Harbor, fishing at Real Masse in Quebec, biking the southern coast of Maine, and up-country camping trips to the White Mountains, Peaks Kenny, Gulf Hagas, and Rockwood. We have had two trips down the Allagash River, and numerous one-day canoe/kayak trips on local rivers.

Our events are designed to be

enjoyable for all levels and abilities, and always include great feasts. The coordinators make the arrangements and get the information to the members. Once we are at a destination, the members are free to do whatever they want. We like to keep things simple and inexpensive. Nancy Perry maintains a web page (cvoutdoors.com) to keep members informed of upcoming events, and to post photos of previous activities. Rule one is that all activities be done in time for Happy Hour!

#### SERVING THE COMMUNITY

While our members have had some great fun over the years, we have also worked to improve the outdoor experience in the Valley. We built picnic tables and placed them along the Narrow Gauge Pathway and at Crommett's overlook, which was named in memory of Dick Crommett, one of the CVOA founders. The shooting range has held field days for local youth and is available to local law enforcement and the U.S. Border Patrol for training.

Other community projects benefit the Outdoor Center trout pond, Indian Island Food Pantry, Stratton Community Center, local Boy Scout Troop #525, an Appalachian Trail section, the Northern Canoe Trail,

Narrow Gauge Pathway, and local clubs for ATVers and mountain bikers.

Money to fund these projects comes from membership dues, annual raffles, sale of logo clothing, calendars using member photos, and a cookbook with members' favorite recipes.

#### BACK TO THE FUTURE

At this time, CVOA has over 600 members from all over New England and beyond. As the 'older' crowd steps back, having done more than their share of the work, 'new' people have stepped up to take on the management of the association. Currently, Cynthia Pernice is the president of CVOA with V.P. Chris Rushton, Secretary Sandy Jamison, and I serve as the Treasurer. An active board of directors assists the officers with managing the affairs of the organization.

Our plan is to continue to offer a variety of outdoor activities for our members, maintain and expand the range to include archery, and possibly build a club house. We will continue to serve the community as needs arise, and protect our outdoor heritage. Annual CVOA membership still costs only \$10 per person, or \$15 for a family. Find more information at cvoutdoors.com.

— Peter Weston

**Ski Depot / RaceSkis.com**

**Sugarloafers since 1976**

**Rt. 4 Jay Me. www.ski-depot.com 1-866-754-3376**  
**Complete Ski & Snowboard Sales, Service, Rentals & Demos**

## Maine Huts & Trails

*3 huts and 37 miles of trails are located between Carrabassett Valley and The Forks, for overnight or day use.*

The Sugarloaf area is well-known for its rich skiing history, and as a destination for a variety of outdoor activities. Adding to area recreation, Maine Huts & Trails was founded in 2001. It began with the vision of long-time area resident and businessman (and past-president of Sugarloaf) Larry Warren. Larry envisioned a system of huts and trails bringing tourists to the region year-round, while providing economic development opportunities that highlight the natural beauty of the western mountains of Maine.

While planning the system, the staff and board of directors of Maine Huts & Trails explored systems of huts and trails from around the world. Hut systems can be found in New Zealand, all over Europe and closer to home in Colorado and New Hampshire. Maine Huts & Trails will one day provide visitors with a system of 12 full-service, off-the-grid, backcountry huts along a trail system stretching upwards of 180 miles from the Bethel area to the Moosehead Lake region. As well, they expect to be a well-respected leader in providing high-quality, outdoor experiences.

Currently, visitors can access two huts and more than 25 miles of non-motorized trails. A third hut located on the

Dead River and more than 12 miles of trails are expected to open by mid-October of 2010. The three huts and 37 miles of trails are located between Carrabassett Valley and The Forks, in the shadow of the Bigelow Range, along the east shore of Flagstaff Lake and the banks of the Dead River.

Each hut includes a main lodge and separate sleeping buildings. The main lodges each have a beautiful dining area serving homemade meals, a comfortable lounge, restrooms with showers, and a screened porch. Combined, the cabins at each hut hold up to 42 overnight visitors in a variety of rooms which have comfortable beds and bunks, soft mattresses, pillows, and fleece blankets; guests bring a light sleeping bag, sheets or a sleep sack. The huts offer seasonal employment opportunities, and in addition to individuals, have welcomed many school field trips, corporate outings and family gatherings.

If you are looking for a recreational day trip while visiting Sugarloaf, you can access the huts and trails from several local trailheads. Hikers, walkers, and mountain bikers enjoy day excursions in season. In the winter, trails are groomed and have quickly become popular with cross country skiers and snowshoers of all abilities. Day skiers are



**MAINE HUTS & TRAILS**  
*Backcountry Hospitality.*

★ Carrabassett Valley

**48 Kilometers of Groomed Trails**  
**3 Full-Service Huts Providing Warm Beds, Hot Showers & Delicious Meals**  
**Ski in for Lunch or Enjoy a Multi-Day Hut to Hut Tour**

*Located in the beautiful and wild western mountains region of Maine.*

**For Reservations Call TOLL FREE 877.634.8824 • [www.mainehuts.org](http://www.mainehuts.org) • [lodging@mainehuts.org](mailto:lodging@mainehuts.org)**

invited to stop in for lunch and enjoy a variety of hearty lunch entrees and beverages, including beer and wine. More adventurous skiers can now plan multi-day hut to hut excursions. In addition to dinner and breakfast our staff will gladly prepare a trail lunch for your hut to hut journey.

Member support allows the organization to provide free access to the trails year-round, including groomed trails in the winter, and to keep their overnight lodging fees affordable. Find out more about Maine Huts & Trails by visiting [www.mainehuts.org](http://www.mainehuts.org).

— David Herring, Executive Director



Maine Hut Trail sign



Family cross country ski expedition



Hut entrance at dusk

## The Original Irregular

*“Serving the Western Mountains of Maine Where the Kids Grow Straight and Tall and the Women are All Good Looking.”*

*The Original Irregular* is the local weekly newspaper that covers the Northern Franklin County region in the Western Mountains of Maine. It serves the residential and recreational communities, including Kingfield; the Sugarloaf, Stratton-Eustis and Rangeley Lakes regions; and Strong, Phillips and New Portland. Not to mention all the unorganized territories in between.

Where did the name “The Irregular” come from? ...Back in 1968 “or thereabouts,” when the mountains were still tall, but the paper small, the *Irregular* came out “irregularly,” or when the publisher and editor had collected enough ads (or meals and beverages in trade) to cover production costs. At its inception, the newspaper focused rather heavily on Sugarloaf, but it wasn’t long before it expanded to cover entire region mentioned above.

In 1975, the paper published the following explanation of its origins:

*“The Irregular was started in 1967 on a couple of tables at the Red Stallion because the inn’s new proprietor had decided the Valley needed a newspaper. Its editor was Liz Hall. It grew to where it needed full-time management, so Ed [Rogers], took on Dave Rolfe to run it. Liz left the Valley and Parker Hall took over as editor, Dave handling publishing duties, and Ed taking the role of silent partner. Dave and Parker started an ad agency in 1973, and the editorial duties passed to Tobey Levine. By 1975 Parker was back as editor. However, Parker and Dave found themselves preoccupied elsewhere and Ed bought back the share of the paper that had passed from his control. The Sugarloaf Irregular [then became] a part of the Red Stallion ‘stable’ (if you’ll excuse the pun) of companies.”*

The paper finally became weekly year-round in 1986. *The Original Irregular* has always had a “funky” edge to it and we strive to maintain a bit of that sense of humor.

Today, the paper consistently brings home numerous awards from the Maine Press Association’s Better Newspaper Contest. And even more importantly, it evokes a fierce loyalty (OK, criticism too...) in its readers. We are very proud of these accomplishments.

— Heidi Murphy, Publisher/Owner

*Saturday, January 29, 1983: Skiing was good on the only three upper trails that were open. Tonight we ate supper with Heine and Sharon Merrill and then went up to a Calcutta Night, a fund raiser for the Ski Educational Foundation.*

# Ironman of Skiing is a Sugarloaf Tradition

*Paul Schipper, the original Ironman, skied 3,903 consecutive days. The annual Ironman Award recognizes a Sugarloafer who carries on Paul's passion for the sport.*

The Ironman of Skiing Award is an annual tradition held at Sugarloaf Mountain each year. The award is named for long-time skier Paul Schipper, who skied Sugarloaf Mountain for 3,903 consecutive days. Instituted and awarded to Paul in 1999, when he had skied a mere 3,000 consecutive days, the Ironman Award is presented to skiers who have helped carry on that tradition; it is presented each spring during the season pass holder's barbecue.

Paul Schipper passed away on February 16, 2009. A plaque honoring Paul is located on a trail called Schipper's Streak, near the lower part of Narrow Gauge. The plaque inscription reads "Paul Schipper, the Ironman of Skiing, skied every day Sugarloaf was open from 1980 through January 3, 2005 for a total of 3,903 consecutive days. It is the longest known continuous streak of its kind in skiing."

The annual award is presented by Richard 'Crusher' Wilkinson, Vice President of Mountain Operations at Sugarloaf. "We give the award in the spirit of Paul Schipper, the original Ironman of skiing," Wilkinson said. "There's nothing formal about it. It's just a casual award where we try to recognize somebody who has skied at least 100 days."

This season will be the 13<sup>th</sup> year of special recognition. Wilkinson said the award is given to skiers who have been successful in life. "It's for somebody who carries on Paul's passion for the sport. It's a nice way to recognize a person who's out there no matter what the weather or

conditions are. It inspires more people to ski more often."

"It's been really about Paul Schipper who was the dedicated skier at the time," Wilkinson said. "Paul was a close friend of mine and I take pride in carrying on the tradition. He held the streak for over 3,000 consecutive days of skiing in over 25 years."

A small committee makes recommendations to 'Crusher' Wilkinson for the selection of the recipient each season.

J.J. Clements was the first woman recipient of the award, according to Bill Haeefe, who notes "I started skiing in 1957 and received the Ironman Award in 2007." Haeefe said that at times when temperatures hit -30 degrees it was challenging. "Skiers usually stand at the SuperQuad chairlift about 20-25 minutes before it opens. We ski in all kinds of conditions, rain, snow, sleet and fog. We just get out there every day, a bunch of guys and gals, and stand there and tell jokes before the lift starts. It's great camaraderie to be with these guys every morning," Haeefe said.

Wilkinson said the recipient who gets the award doesn't have to do all their skiing or riding at the 'Loaf. "If they go out west or to Europe, that's fine. It goes to the skier or rider who is really dedicated to the sport."

As the saying goes, once an Ironman always an Ironman.

*Ski and ride safely. Use your head and don't forget to wear a helmet.*

— Dan Cassidy



Paul Schipper Memorial

## Ironman Awards

1999	Paul Schipper
2000	Tom Spring
2001	Don Fowler
2002	Rick Chenard
2003	J.J. Clements
2004	Henry Bacon
2005	Peter Shaw
2006	Dick McWilliams
2007	Bill Haeefe
2008	Cooper Friend
2009	Bob Garrett
2010	Paul Fritzon, Martha Drury (husband, wife team)



2010 Ironman Martha Drury & Paul Fritzon

*Saturday, March 31, 1984: Skiing and lunch on the front deck of the Base Lodge with Norton Luce and Dick Crommett. Tonight we attended the Bubble Cuffer banquet held at Gladstones, the restaurant located above The Bag*

# Sugarloaf Charity Summit

*A Sugarloaf tradition continues.*

Once again the Sugarloaf community is teaming up with the Maine Cancer Foundation and the Martha B. Webber Breast Care Center to raise money to battle cancer. We have all been affected by cancer, either personally or through the experience of a loved one or friend. The Sugarloaf Charity Summit is an opportunity for us to fight back, while having fun. Sugarloafers are a very generous group and prove it year after year. Over the last 10 years Sugarloafers have raised more than a million dollars at this event.

January 29, 2011, will begin with a challenge race on the Boardwalk, followed by a silent auction. The evening culminates with the Charity Ball and live auction; last year many tables were occupied by Sugarloaf Ski Club members. It was a memorable and moving evening, and a great time was had by all.

There are many ways for you to participate in this very worthwhile and important event. Volunteers are needed to help with fundraising, or you might donate auction items, or help run various aspects of the event. Corporate and individual sponsorship packages are available, or as a fundraiser you can earn valuable gifts. For more information on how you can be a part of this great event, go to [www.sugarloaf.com/charity](http://www.sugarloaf.com/charity) or contact Bruce Miles at [brucemiles@tds.net](mailto:brucemiles@tds.net).



**Ski Club members support the Charity Summit, and have fun at the same time. From left to right: Kathy Miles, Tony and Hilary Jessen, Peter and Lisa Judkins, Nancy and Jay Marshall**

*Saturday, January 26, 1985: Good cold weather skiing with Neal Trask, Don Fletcher and Bob Hintze. We ate lunch in the top level of the newly expanded Base Lodge, but were run-out by the appearance of visiting dignitaries who were there to cut ribbons or something for a grand opening.*

SUGARLOAF



## charity summit



january 29, 2011

11th Annual Summit

Raising a mountain of  
money to find a cure

## Who Are All These Happy Couples?



## 2009-2010 Membership Stats

435 memberships of which:  
157 are family memberships  
124 are single people.  
154 are couples memberships.

348 from Maine  
41 from Mass  
11 from NH  
5 from CT  
4 from NJ  
2 each from VT, RI, NY, FL  
1 from CA, MI, PA, WA  
4 from Canada  
2 service people with APO addresses



*Sunday, March 23, 1986: Skied this morning with Norton Luce, Ted Thayer and Tom Pelletier, with lunch on the bench outside the ski shop. On the way home I stopped at the Ski Rack to purchase some Yamaha 207's, which Mike Gammon had let me demo this weekend. At 3:30 this afternoon, George Marcus filed a Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Petition for Sugarloaf with Bankruptcy Judge Johnson, at Johnson's home in Cape Elizabeth. Employee meetings were held after skiing to announce the filing, and the bankruptcy filing made the 6:00 p.m. news.*

## Web Resources

*For more information regarding the contents of this magazine*

### **Ski Museum of Maine**

<http://www.skimuseumofmaine.org>

### **Ski Hall of Fame**

<http://www.skimuseumofmaine.org/hall-of-fame>

### **Sugarloaf Ski Club**

<http://www.sugarloafskiclub.org>

### **CVOA**

<http://www.carrabassetvalleyoutdoorassociation.com>

### **CVA**

<http://www.gocva.com>

### **Town of Carrabasset Valley**

<http://www.carrabassetvalley.org>

### **Sugarloaf Area Christial Ministry**

<http://www.sugarloafministry.com>

### **The Story of Sugarloaf**

[search.downtown.com](http://search.downtown.com) or [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

### **Maine Huts and Trails**

<http://www.mainehuts.org>

### **SCVA**

[http://www.sugarloaf.com/SkiSchool/SCVA\\_Program.html](http://www.sugarloaf.com/SkiSchool/SCVA_Program.html)



**This way to the Sugarloaf Ski Club office!**

### **Charity Summit**

<http://www.sugarloaf.com/Events/charity.html>

### **Sugarloaf Golf Club**

<http://www.sugarloaf.com/GolfCourse>

### **CV Public Library and Community Center**

<http://www.carrabassetvalley.org>

### **CV History**

[http://www.carrabassetvalley.org/content/4007/Carrabasset\\_History](http://www.carrabassetvalley.org/content/4007/Carrabasset_History)

*Sunday, December 30, 1990: Just below freezing in the Valley but 50° on the Mountain, resulting in a fast melt-down of natural snow. At the end of the day no significant snow anywhere except on the man-made trails, though it was pretty good corn skiing. I skied with Dick Crommett, Ted Thayer and Norm Gray. On the way home I stopped by WSKI to visit with Jeff Dumais and Rory Strunk.*

Affordable Life, Home, Auto & Business Insurance  
Domestic and International Health Insurance & Bonds



**SHIRETOWN**  
INSURANCE AGENCY

*“For all your business  
or personal needs.”*

1-888-266-1572

shireins@gwi.net



**Snowfields Patrons:**

Jen, Jesse, Bradley Abbott  
 Bob and Linda Allen  
 Karl & Sherrie Anderson  
 Robert & Ethan Anderson  
 Betsy Bass  
 Ginny Bousum and Gary Brown  
 Charlie, Kathy, & Makayla Brown  
 John, Marty, Josh, and Jake Christie  
 Bruce & Phyllis Coggeshall  
 Mary D. Collins  
 Brecken Diller Family  
 Colon Durrell & Mary Frank  
 Don and Mary Fletcher  
 Greg and Cindy Foster  
 Harold Gunter & Charlotte Zahn  
 Jerry & Suzanne Hall  
 Tom & Anne Hanson  
 Tom Hildreth / Claudia Diller  
 Phil and Mary Hunter  
 Judsons - The Bar That Built Sugarloaf  
 The Kendig Family  
 Charlie & Karen (Hunter) Korn & Family  
 John and Susan LaCasse  
 Ron & Audrey Leonard  
 Regis & Carolyn Lepage  
 Malcolm & Luli MacNaught  
 Rob, Sarah & Lydia Manter  
 Peter and Vicki Marion  
 Gale A McCarty MD, Ctr for Rheumatology  
 John & Mary Melvin  
 Sarah and Walter Melvin  
 Bruce & Kathy Miles  
 Charley and Amanda Winter Murray  
 John & Bethany Ober  
 Donald and Althea Paine  
 John and Ann Parker  
 From Deb '75 and Steve Pierce '71  
 Thank you to the visionaries of the Ski Club  
 Greg Roux, Cheryl & Family  
 Eric and Cushing Samp  
 The Smith Family, Peter, Delinda & Pete  
 Wee Farm Ski Team/Phineas Sprague Family  
 Jim & Tracy Thibodeau & Family  
 John & Joyce Tobias & Family  
 Joe & Doris Tutlis  
 Frank & Jean Woodward

**Patrons**

*Thank you, members and friends, for your financial support of this 60th Anniversary Sugarloaf Ski Club Magazine*



**Tote Road Patrons:**

Joe and Susan Anghinetti  
 The Ehrlenbach Family  
 Bob Friedrich and Carol Mahany  
 Connie, Brian, Sam, Kevin & Jake Goldberg  
 Roger and Charlotte Hewson  
 John D. Koons, D.M.D.  
 Genie Gannett and Dave Quist  
 The Sweetsers - Debby, Greg, Sam, Eben  
 Don Whiston



**Birches Patrons:**

Marc & Beth Ayotte  
 Bill & Martha Bradley  
 Eric and Doreen Chamberlin and Family  
 Chapman Family  
 Paula & John Dougherty & boys  
 Don and Nancy Fowler  
 Duane, Linda, and Aaron Fox  
 Douglas Hall  
 Laurel DesRoches Lashar  
 Pete & Mike Murphy  
 Neil & Maggie Newton  
 Ralph & Cathy Nodine  
 Fred Randell  
 Rick and Barbara Ray  
 Mike, Cheryl, Amie, & Jenie Rowland  
 Laura and Steve Schaefer  
 Fred O. Smith II  
 Bear and Gerry Thompson  
 Jeffrey Timm  
 Nora West



# Mountainside Real Estate



## SUGARLOAF



As the only agency located in the heart of Sugarloaf, Mountainside Real Estates's brokers, Pat Tufts, Jeff Kennedy and Deb Pierce, have a wealth of experience and expertise. They can find the property that is just right for you and your lifestyle. We invite you to visit our office conveniently located in the Village.

web: [sugarloafmountainside.com](http://sugarloafmountainside.com)  
toll free: 877.237.2101

email: [mtside@sugarloaf.com](mailto:mtside@sugarloaf.com)  
phone: 207.237.2100



## Sugarloafers Welcome Home

### **Property Rental Program**

*Properties in the care of our rental program are backed by the support of Sugarloaf's year-round sales and marketing efforts.*

### **On-Mountain Real Estate Services**

*A full-service real estate brokerage with experienced professionals.*

### **On-Mountain Arrival Services and On-site Owner Services**

*We greet both Guests and Owners right here on the mountain.*

### **Short-term and Long-term Rental Opportunities**

*Speak with any of our Reservations Staff to learn about a rental situation that suits your needs.*

*Our property services divisions work exclusively with on-mountain properties, so you get the peace of mind of knowing the region's most experienced team is always here for you.*

### **Grounds Maintenance**

*With all of our equipment located on-mountain, we respond quickly to your call.*

### **Association Management**

*Professional book keeping and administrative services.*

### **Building Repairs & Renovations**

*Highly trained and professional staff.*

### **Full-Service Housekeeping**

*Experienced and reliable cleaning team, and competitive rates.*