

Northern Worcester County's Ski Club Since 1971

The Avalanche



MONTACHUSETT SKI & SNOWBOARD CLUB

APRIL 2011 EDITION

40TH PUBLICATION YEAR

Bulletin Board

Tuesday April 5, 2011 6:30 PM

Officers and Board of Directors Meeting

Southside Bar and Grille Gardner, MA

This is where the business of the club is done. This meeting is always opened to club members only, no guests please. The 40th Anniversary Committee will present some ideas to the BOD and answer any questions as they move forward with some ideas on how to celebrate the club's 40th Birthday. We will also be discussing the formal appointment of the Trip Committee.

Thursday April 7, 2011 7 PM

April Membership Meeting

Wachusett Mountain Lodge Princeton

At this meeting we will be voting on and selecting the Officers and BOD Members who will be driving the business of this club for the next year.



*Hope on the Slope - Team Montachusett Ski Club
(L-R) Monica, Bill, Jack, Emmett, John and David*

FROM THE DESK OF THE EDITOR

As March leaves us we remember the month as a memorable ski month. Starting with the week trip to Lake Tahoe (can you say snow) and ending with the Okemo Tail-Gate Party the club has had some wonderful ski experiences. Those events sandwiched the Hope on the Slope American Cancer Society event held at Wachusett Mountain Resort.

Many people are starting to set aside skiing and begin thinking about their warm weather activities and I found myself being one of those people. I was talking about golf on the chairlift at Okemo. The snow was terrific, the weather was almost perfect and I was skiing with some good friends and thinking golf? There is still plenty of good skiing to be done so I must set aside those golf thoughts for another couple of weeks and so should you. Get out and ski you'll love yourself for it.

This year is a special year for the club. It is the club's 40th Anniversary Year. Yes, this club was started in 1971 by a group of enthusiastic skiers looking for a more affordable means to ski and most important, provide a social environment that people with the same interest can do it together. The fact it is still working 40 years later is testament to those pioneers and dedicated people who have followed. They all have worked to keep this culture in place. We have four lovely ladies of the ski club who have volunteered their time in planning and organizing a birthday party for the club sometime this fall. Stay tuned for news on this event in future issues of this newsletter as they solidify plans for the event. You should plan to attend the anniversary and learn about the club's history, laugh and enjoy the stories, celebrate and help kickoff the next decade in making your stories. You just may meet some of those early pioneers.

The BOD is discussing trying to continue Membership Meetings throughout the year and not stop the meetings during the off season months as we have traditionally done. The reason is it will help us to facilitate summer time activities, pass and discuss trip issues and just keep people sharing new ideas. It is awfully hard for the trip coordinators to work issues when they have only the Officers and BOD member's attention.

The Membership Meeting – **April 7, 2011** – election night please attend.

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY - HOPE ON THE SLOPES AT WACHUSETT MOUNTAIN

The Montachusett Ski & Snowboard Club had a team that participated in this event on Sunday March 20th. The team consisted of Monica Bourgault, Emmett Foley, John Crotty, David Anderson, Jack Lemoine and our club President Bill Cocci. The team would like to thank all of you who contributed to the fundraising event in the name of the team or team member. The club raised \$2,280 for the fight against cancer.

The team took the top position for the total amount of vertical feet skied in 6 hours (223,000 feet) and Jack took the top prize for an individual by making 44 trips up and down the mountain to record 44,000 vertical feet. Emmett should take home the biggest heart award as this young man skied tons of vertical in the fight against cancer. There were other non-skiers from the club present to provide the needed support for the team.

The club looks forward to next year's event. We will know earlier when the event will be and we should be able to form a larger team and raise more money for this worthy cause. Jack has set the challenge, so start training now; you would be surprised how hard it really is to do 44 round trip loops at Wachusett Mountain.

DAY TRIPS – Finale

My thoughts - Teresa Pierce

Sunday March 27th dawned bright with the promise of an excellent day for Spring skiing. The bus left for Okemo Mountain carrying close to 40 Montachusett Ski & Snowboard Club members who were happily anticipating an excellent **Grande Finale** trip to end the 2011 season. The bus was also loaded with everything needed for a tailgate party, thanks to the hard work of Bill Cocci and crew, so not only were we looking forward to a great day of skiing but we knew that at the end of it we were going to enjoy some really good food and spirits and a lot more fun and laughter together.

Under a sapphire blue sky with full sun (“plein soleil” as the French say in the Alps.... it just sounds so good) and the temperature staying cold enough to keep the snow in great shape, we skied... and skied... and skied... and skied some more. Everyone was smiling and commenting about the great luck we were having not only that day but throughout most of the season. (The snow gods have been good to us this year.....if only we could figure out what made them so happy so we could make sure to please them again next year!) We skied on sugar snow and it doesn't get much better than that in late March in New England.

The tailgate party began at 2:30 and as we left the lodge and walked down to the parking area to the bus we could smell the food cooking. We were starving! The BBQ was delicious and plentiful, again thanks to the hard work and dedication of Bill and others in the club. There was laughter and stories and good natured teasing and everyone trying to get their chair set up in the sunshine because the temperature that kept the snow on the slopes so perfect (and was now keeping the parking lot from becoming a giant mud puddle) was just a little bit too nippy to sit around in without a few direct rays from the sun. Being the hale and hearty group that we are though, we did not let being a bit chilly stop us from literally diving into the fixings to make our own ice cream sundaes with a delicious assortment of toppings (thanks to Sam Briguglio, our very own Good Humor guy who so kindly went to the store to get everything for that icy banquet). The sundaes were so good that some of us had to go back for seconds. There were even some among us who couldn't wait and had their first sundae before they ate the BBQ and then had the second one right after! We all had so much fun we hated to see not only this day but this year end and we all agreed that it was the perfect ending to a pretty perfect season.

Thanks for the memories everyone....looking forward to many more.....

One last thing.....Ralph Caputo has kindly offered to give a lesson on chairlift etiquette at the beginning of next season for anyone who would like to sign up for it. HE signed ME up.....ask him why.....it's a funny story.

FEBRUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The meeting was held at the Wachsuett Village Inn at 7 PM. There was much buzzing going on about the club's week trip to Lake Tahoe and the marriage at Lake Tahoe of Mr and Mrs Burgess. Normal business was conducted and accepted by the membership. A Birthday Committee was formed (Julie Palioca, Janet Burgess, Jan Carignan and Teresa Pierce) to propose and coordinated a 40th club birthday party for the fall timeframe. The BOD also proposed a Trip Committee which needs to be sorted out by the BOD at the next business meeting. Final plans were made for the Okemo Tailgate Party and sign-ups were taken. The announcement was made that the Officers and Board of Director elections will be held at the April 7, 2011 Membership Meeting.

CLUB Get-A-WAY TRIPS FOR NEXT SEASON 2011 – 2012



“A skier and his money are invited places”

Warren Miller

Montachusett Ski & Snowboard Club

Don Pierce
148 Phillips St.
Fitchburg, MA. 01420



www.montachusettskiclub.com

Thursday April 7, 2011 – 7 pm
Wachusett Mountain Lodge Princeton