

Mt. Laurel Skiers Newsletter

December 2009



from the President . . .

We kicked off the snow season with our annual Snowball called Nor'easter Dreamin. What a party!! If you were there you know what fun it was and I have to say it was the best that I can remember. We danced and partied until 4am!! I want to thank Sharon & Jonathan, Tom & Florence, Andy & Charlotte for making our hospitality suite the place to be before & after the dance. You guys rock!! Thank you to our non-stop DJ Neil Fisher, who gave us the best dance music to keep the party going (and he kept going until 5am)!! There are so many things that go into making a party successful and it's not just the good food.... but those that take the time to organize and run the events. I thank you all for your time and energy!! We had many new members attend this event and what a great time they had. MTL made its mark on the dance floor with a revival of the Thriller performance from Halloween, and as Cathy Reese the 09 CSC ambassador said... Game on for next year!! We recognized Jonathan Houck as our Outstanding Member of the Year, an award well deserved.

Don't miss our annual Holiday Dance with Bobby Darling & Dr. Devine on Dec 9th beginning at 7:30pm. It will be a great time, so please plan to join us to celebrate the holiday season.

We are all looking forward to our Lodge opening weekend, Dec 11th, with a Murder Mystery hosted by Moe Gaherty & the annual Wassail activities in Woodstock. We move on

later in the month to New Year's eve weekend.... we will ring in the New Year with a great weekend in VT. More details on that weekend to come soon!

Please make sure you check out the web site for updated info on all our activities.

I want to wish everyone a very Happy & Healthy Holiday Season!! Enjoying time with family & friends at this time of year is just the icing on the cake!! See you all at the lodge and on the slopes this season.

Kay Leatherman

Holiday Dance



December 9, 2009, 7:30 to 10:30 at our meeting place, the Whinstone Restaurant featuring our favorite band... Bobby Darling and Dr. Divine! Celebrate the holiday season with great music, friends, and fun. Cover charge is only \$10. A portion of this will go to The Black River Good Neighbor food bank in Ludlow VT. This food bank provides food and monetary help for residents in Proctorsville. Please bring non-perishables to be donated. We need help delivering the items to the food bank in Vermont on Wassail Weekend. Volunteers are needed at the dance too. Prospective members, this is an opportunity to fulfill a requirement of working on a committee. Bring your holiday spirit!

**Jean Leonard (872-6740) and
Ellen Gilbert (658-9419)**

Monday Night Racing Returns...

December 21st kicks off the start of the new season at Mt. Southington - MTL is again the defending champion but rest assured, the other clubs are gunning for us this year. We can't rest on our "laurels." Whether you're a long-time veteran of gate running or have never negotiated a course, we'd love to have you. A basic intermediate skill level will serve you (and us!) nicely. Racing is done within age groups and everyone who completes the course at least once is guaranteed to earn points. Your score is computed on the best of two runs. Your scores also count toward NASTAR (www.nastar.com).

On the first night of each season you'll need to fill out waivers so plan on getting there around 6:30. If you're a prospective member, racing three times in a season will satisfy your committee requirements! The club provides pizza afterward. WE NEED YOU!!! If you have any questions, see Pat Moore at a meeting or contact him at racing@mtlski.com.

Lodge Reservations: Lisa Durland will start taking reservations on November 4. See Lisa at a meeting or call her at 860-533-1981 (no calls after 9 pm please) and/or email mtlres@cox.net.



Cross Country Skiing Update •

Instruction for Beginners & Advanced Beginners on Saturday, January 30, 2010 at Woodstock Nordic Center. Meet at the MTL Lodge in Proctorsville at 9am to car pool. If you have not cross country skied before, see either Penny Trick or Pat Revoir for guidelines on appropriate Nordic clothing.



Nordic XC Certification & Refresher •

Sue Poirier is organizing a cross country Amateur Ski Instructors Association (ASIA) certification and refresher course at Mountain Meadows located in Killington, Vermont on January 23 & 24, 2010. Cost is \$110 payable by cash or check in advance plus trail pass, which is paid for the morning of the course.

To register go to www.asiaski.com/Progapp.htm. For more information, contact Sue Poirier at spcolby@gmail.com. This is not a learn to ski event. You should be an experienced X-C skier to participate.... Folks who would like to become certified sign up for the **X-C Refresher clinic or X-C Certification clinic....**

Other Cross Country Skiing

Feel free to contact either Penny Trick at pennytrick@gmail.com or Pat Revoir at prevoir@cox.net if you are seeking someone to cross country ski with in Vermont. See the MTL website for groomed Nordic skiing areas and other links.

Sunday River Trip • March 7-12, 2010 • Payment Reminder

Reminder: Final Payment is due December 4, 2009. Mail Payment to Anne Alden, PO Box 861, Southington, CT 06489.

Cape Golf Weekend •



This year we had a huge turn out; mostly golfers and a few bikers thrown in for variety. I would like to thank all who helped to make this weekend such a great success; Paula Deutz for a terrific dinner on Sat with her helper Ron S., Lana Parks for the splendid Italian meal on Friday night, Barbara Wysocki for breakfast repast on Sunday morning. YUMMY. All my shoppers: Al Kasper, Lindsey Dandeneau, and the cooks. We are looking for an alternative location for next year and I would love your input and suggestions. It would be a shame to let this weekend go, so please anyone with ideas for next year, please call me or email me 860-741-3343 • fitzy31@cox.net.

Wendy

NEWSLETTER Deadline for January 2010 • 16 December



The deadline for the January 2010 Newsletter is December 16 - Third Wed. Please email news items to: irene_murray@sbcglobal.net or fax 860-644-3951 if you do not see Irene at a meeting.

Celebrate the 65th Anniversary of the MTL Skiers with a luxurious Cruise • October 16 - 23, 2010

Cruise the wester Caribbean with ports of call at Labadee, Costa Maya, Mexico and Cozumel, Mexico. Prices range from \$899 for inside room to \$1199 for outside room with balcony, based on double occupancy. Federal tax, gratuities and airfare are extra. Reserve now for best choice of rooms. Deposit \$30 per person.

Contacts: Karen Grossman - 860-261-4041 and Eric Ardolino - 203-265-9293



Hiking Schedule ·



Hikes begin at 11:30am for the rest of the year. Bring snacks, water, rain gear, and sturdy hiking shoes. **Directions to hikes are on the website.** Anyone interested in leading a hike this fall, please call either Jeanne (860-651-3257) or Rick (860-675-3403) before the newsletter deadline for that month.

Nov 29 • Plainfield • Rattlesnake Mountain • Rick Sullivan (860-675-3403, cell 860-324-4952)

Dec 6 • Vernon • Box Mt-Risley Pond Loop • Co-leaders Bobbie Rategan & Bob Dickinson • This hike is a total 4.6 mi doing the Box Mountain loop plus the loop around the pond. **Rain Cancels.** To confirm if questionable, call Bobbie @ 203-575-4072 or Bob @ 860-644-1986.

Dec 13 • NO HIKE • MURDER AT THE LODGE!

Dec 20 • Simsbury Solstice Hike • Jeanne Delehanty • (860-651-3257 (H) or 860-748-5858 (C))

Winter Solstice Celebration Hike · Sunday 20 December · 11:30am

On Sunday, Dec 20, we will celebrate the Solstice at a Native American burial ground in McLean Game Refuge in Simsbury. See a full description of the hike, and instructions on making a prayer stick on the website at the Hiking tab on the left side.



IMPORTANT HIKING INFORMATION:

- Bring plenty of water. Believe it or not, you can become dehydrated faster in the winter than in the summer.
- If it's snowy (THINK SNOW!) you may need grippers or snowshoes. Watch the forecast and consider the conditions.
- As always, dress in layers, remember a hat and mittens/gloves, and bring a plastic bag or similar to sit on and keep your tush dry.



News from the Lodge ·

The lodge is off to a great start! Voucher sales are booming! Kathy Amenta will be selling vouchers one half hour before and after Wednesday meetings until Dec 9. Thanks, Kathy! Parties start off the season on Saturday, Dec 12, with Wassailing in Woodstock. Parade starts at 2:00; plan to be back to the lodge by 5:00 for "Twas A Night of Pandemonium: A Christmas Murder" on Saturday evening. In order to keep the wassail theme going, we will serve wassail at Happy Hour; otherwise, BYOB. Cost for the murder mystery and dinner will be approximately \$15, which is payable that weekend.

Important! I need to hear from everyone who is staying at the lodge (whom I haven't already contacted), and those who are staying elsewhere who plan to come to the lodge. Let me know whether you would like to play a role in the murder mystery (basically dressing up and mingling with others over Happy Hour) or if you plan to attend but not to participate. We need a head count for dinner from those who are not staying at the lodge RSVP-ASAP!

Make your rezzies for a gala "surf and turf" dinner on Dec 31, **New Year's Eve**. Cost will run between \$15 and \$20, BYOB, with a champagne toast to welcome in 2010. To help plan and cook dinner, please contact Kay Leatherman or myself. Saturday, Anne Alden will host free down-hill ski lessons and there will be a full-moon, snow shoe that evening.

Other events in January: Jan and Bob Wallace will host the always popular "Game Weekend" and dinner on January 9. Jan 30 will feature free cross-country ski lessons and a full-moon snow-shoe that evening. Contact Penny Trick-Moore or Pat Revoir with x-c questions. Check out other events planned for the season: go to the MTL website, click on "lodge" and scroll down to "lodge calendar of events". Interested in hosting a special event or dinner, please contact me.

A quick word on housekeeping! Each and every individual is responsible for keeping the house picked up and tidy. Wash, dry and put away your dishes. Remove garbage accumulation. Wipe counters, clean out the refrigerator as needed. We welcome families to the lodge, a special reminder goes out to them to keep the house tidy and make sure that their children respect the lodge and adult lodge members. In year's past, we have had some damage done to lodge property during school vacation weeks, and the premises have been left in less than "pristine" condition. This is your home away from home...help us to make it comfortable for all lodge guests.



Moe Gaherty, Lodge Manager, mgaherty@sbcglobal.net

mt laurel skier's calendar

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
December 2009		1	2	3	4	5
			Bd & Reg Meeting			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Sunday Hike Vernon			 Holiday Dance		Wassail Weekend @ The Lodge	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
NO HIKE Wassail Weekend			Regular Meeting News Deadline			
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
 Winter Solstice Simsbury	Monday Night Racing		NO MEETING			
27	28	29	30	31		
			 NO MEETING	GALA PARTY @ THE LODGE		

MtL Skier's newsletter is designed and produced by MG Marketing Associates of Madison 203.421.4840

December Meetings •
Whinstone Tavern
Stanley Golf Course
245 Hartford Road
New Britain CT
SAVE THE DATES

December

- 02 Bd Mtng 6pm, Reg Wed Night meetings begin @ 7:30pm
- 04-05 Lodge Opens/ASIA Instruction
- 06 Sunday Hike, Vernon
- 09 Holiday Dance w/Bobby Darling & Dr. Devine
- 11-13 Wassail Weekend in VT
- 13 No Hike
- 16 Regular Meeting, News Deadline
- 20 Sunday Hike - Winter Solstice, Simsbury
- 21 Monday Night Racing begins
- 23 NO MEETING
- 30 NO MEETING
- 31 Gala Dinner Party, New Year's Eve, Lodge VT

January 2010

- 02 Downhill Instruction Day
- 06 Bd Mtng 6pm, Reg Wed Night Meeting, 7:30pm
- 09 "Game Weekend" and dinner
- 30 X-Country Instruction Day full-moon snoe-show

Mt Laurel Skiers
P O Box 4
Farmington, CT 06034

2009-2010 Officers

- President • Kay Leatherman • president@mtlski.com
- V President • Chuck Hannah • vicepresident@mtlski.com
- Secretary • Bob Wallace • secretary@mtlski.com
- Treasurer • Rick Sullivan • treasurer@mtlski.com
- Asst Sec/Trea • Betsy Chase
- Past President • Jonathan Houck

CSC Ambassador • Betsy Chase

Board Members • Board@MtlSki.com

Kathy Amenta
Scott Farrar
Irene Murray
Pat Revoir
Angie Testa
Mandy Weber
Scott Weber

