

# Mt. Laurel Skiers Newsletter

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January 2010



## from the President . . .

It's hard to believe that a new year has begun!! It's been a great fall and Holiday Season and skiing is going on as we speak. An early snow & cold (brrr, freezing weather) really helped get the season started early. We will continue to pray to the snow gods for more snow (ok, in VT only) so we can enjoy the rest of the winter.

This past month we opened the lodge for the season with the Wassail, Murder Mystery weekend. The Murder Mystery was a huge success (the gingerbread man was yummy, I am told), with many elves, reindeer, snowmen, polar bears, nutcrackers, little drummer boy & of course Santa and Mrs. Claus. It's such fun to see everyone really get into the spirit of the evening with costumes that were great. This, I am sure, will become another tradition to open up the season in VT. The trip to Woodstock was lots of fun, shopping, eating & watching the Christmas parade of decorated horses down Main St. Look at the website calendar to see what is coming up next at the lodge so you can participate in the fun.

Our Holiday Dance hosted by Jean Leonard and Ellen Gilbert was attended by about 150 MTL members. Thank you all for your donations to the food pantry that

serves Proctorsville. We had a great evening dancing to the sounds of Bobby Darling & Dr. Devine. It was great!!

By the time you read this New Year's Eve will have come and gone with (I hope) another successful party!! I was the hostess with a lot of help from new and old members alike. Thank you all for your help to make it a success. Jean Leonard & Loretta Spencer were in charge of a fondue party on New Year's day. (I'm sure it will be delicious). Don't forget, we always welcome new events and speakers for our Wed night meetings. Get in touch with Jonathan Houck if you have any ideas.

I look forward to a fantastic 2010 with MTL. I know with all of your support & participation, we will continue to be the best ski club in CT.

Happy New Year to all of you!!

**Kay**

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### Lodge Reservations:

Lisa Durland is taking reservations. See Lisa at a meeting or call her at 860-533-1981 (no calls after 9pm please) and/or email [mtlres@cox.net](mailto:mtlres@cox.net).

### Monday Night Racing •

December 28th kicked 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](http://www.nastar.com)).

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](mailto:racing@mtlski.com).



## MTL Club Race • February 27, 2010

This year, after a long absence, we'll be back at **Okemo**, racing on the **Nastar course**. Competitive classes for all abilities, from the serious contender for the Club Championship to the just for fun novice. Pre-register by mail using the form in this newsletter, or download the form at the Club website. Club provides free lift ticket for all children and grandchildren of members and prospective members (age 17 and under). Discount lift tickets at sign in for adults. Awards ceremony after skiing in the Base Lodge. Sign in 8:00 - 9:15am. Race starts at 10:00am sharp.

Questions: Tom Knudsen, Race Chairman, [tfk2004@comcast.net](mailto:tfk2004@comcast.net). See flyer in this newsletter.



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## MTL Instruction Days #1

**Down Hill:** January 2, 2010  
**Lesson Time:** 9:00 - 11:00am  
**Place:** Jackson Gore at Okemo  
**Club Discount Tickets:** Cannot be purchased that day. Tickets may be purchased in advance from Susan Forsdick.  
**Free Instruction:** All levels downhill, cross country, & snowboarding

\* **Down Hill and Snowboarders Meet outside Jackson Gore base lodge.** Gore opens at 8:00am and ski instruction starts promptly at 9:00am so come early, take a few runs and meet me there before 9:00am. **Down Hill and Snowboarders Meet outside Jackson Gore base lodge at the picnic tables.**

**Contact:** Anne Alden Email: [Aalden30@netzero.com](mailto:Aalden30@netzero.com)

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## Cheer •

From Kathy Augustyn... WITH HEARTFELT THANKS... Words cannot express the appreciation that I have for all the love, caring and support that Mountain Laurel Members have provided throughout Dan Giordano's illness and passing. Dan loved being a member of Mountain Laurel where he met many life long friends and had a terrific time whether it was skiing in his crazy purple plaid shorts and waking everyone up by shouting "Good Morning America," cooking his specialty of Italian pasta and sauce for Pig Roast weekend, jumping over bonfires at the Lodge, wearing more red wine than he was drinking, or hiking the mountains of Vermont in his nightshirt while carrying his gorilla. Dan loved life and always had a great time with his Mountain Laurel Family. Thank you for the wonderful memories. Thank you also for the memorial corkscrew box at the Lodge bar - what better words than Dan's favorite song line "Some Enchanted Evening"! The Club's generous donation in Dan's memory to The Harold Leever Regional Cancer Center and the Yale Cancer Center is greatly appreciated. The Giordano Family and I thank you very much.

Long time Mountain Laurel friend Tony Pickowitz, who along with Frank Piscitello was one of the original owners of our Proctorsville Lodge, has married. Congratulations to you Tony and your new wife. We wish you much happiness.

If you have any news of members, please let me know at 860-871-0484 or [milliarnold57142@aol.com](mailto:milliarnold57142@aol.com).

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## NEWSLETTER Deadline for February 2010 • 17 January

The deadline for the February 2010 Newsletter is January 17 - Third Wed. Please email news items to: [irene\\_murray@sbcglobal.net](mailto:irene_murray@sbcglobal.net) or fax 860-644-3951 if you do not see Irene at a meeting.

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## Celebrate the 65th Anniversary of the MTL Skiers with a luxurious Cruise in 2010 ·

We will cruise on Royal Caribbean's newest and biggest ship, "Oasis of the Seas." Depart Ft. Lauderdale on Saturday, Oct 16 thru Oct 23 and cruise the western Caribbean sea. For more information on Oasis of the Seas, visit [www.oasisoftheseas.com](http://www.oasisoftheseas.com). Prices range from \$899.00 for inside room to \$1199.00 for outside room with balcony, based on double occupancy. Federal tax, gratuities and airfare are extra. Reserve now for best choice of rooms. Deposit \$300.00 per person. **Contacts: Karen Grossman - 860-261-4041 and Eric Ardolino - 203-265-9293**

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### Holiday Dance Recap ·

Wow, what fun we had at our Holiday Dance! December 9th Mountain Laureler's rocked! Bobby Darling and Doctor Devine brought out so many of our friends and made it such a special night entertaining us. We had about 120 in attendance. Thanks to all who contributed food/cash donations which was delivered Wassail Weekend to the Black River Good Neighbor Food Bank in Ludlow. Along with nonperishables, we gave \$340 in money collected at the dance. Ellen and I would like to thank the following people for helping to make the night a success: Carol Newman, Kevin Quinn, Cindy Kelly, Bobbi Rategan, Nancy & Jack Mason, Peggy Koury, Linda Dinda, Phyllis Campbell, Maryann Thomas, Wayne Cormier. We also want to thank all those who donated raffle prizes. The night was special! We wish all of you a happy and health 2010.

**Jean Leonard & Ellen Gilbert**

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### News from the Lodge ·



Rudy, the Red-Nosed Reindeer, had a very shiny nose. Then Prisser, the evil reindeer, punched Rudy in her glowing nose.... and ate the Gingerbread Man! If you were at the Christmas Murder Mystery, you know what I am talking about. If not, your loss. Thanks to the 50+ people who participated in this event, with special thanks to Ron, Jack, Wayne and their helpers for providing dinner. And, special thanks to Kathy Amenta and Barbara Wysocki for selling lodge vouchers, as well as Lisa Durland for taking lodge reservations.







A MTL "gala" dinner party will be held on New Year's Eve. If you would like to help prepare dinner, please let Kay Leatherman know. Please note: if you are not staying at the lodge but plan to join in the New Year's festivities, you must let Kay know ASAP! Anyone who shows up without letting Kay know in advance will be charged an additional \$2.00 for dinner (that is, if we have room for them for dinner). On Saturday, January 2, Anne Alden is coordinating down-hill ski instruction and that evening, Jeanne Delehanty will host a moonlight snowshoe excursion! On January 9, Jan and Bob Wallace will host "Games Weekend" with dinner on Saturday night. We have many other events planned for the season: go to the MTL website, click on "lodge" and scroll down to "lodge calendar of events."

A bit of lodge business - the food which is provided at the lodge is for breakfast consumption only. We noticed that last year, breakfast items such as fruit, bread and peanut butter were being taken to the mountains for lunches. This year, as means of keeping costs down, we have decided not to provide fresh fruit with breakfast. Sorry folks, but you are on your own for bananas and oranges and if you want a PB&J sandwich for lunch, please provide your own fixin's.

**Moe Gaherty, Lodge Manager, [mgaherty@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mgaherty@sbcglobal.net)**

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# mt laurel skier's calendar

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday	
31 X-Country Instruction & Full Moon Snowshoe		<b>January 2010</b>				1 Happy New Year	2 Downhill Ski Lesson & Full Moon Snowshoe
3	4  Monday Night Racing	5	6 Board & Regular Mtng	7	8 Game Weekend @ The Lodge	9	
10 Game Weekend @ The Lodge	11  Monday Night Racing	12	13 Regular Meeting	14	15	16	
17	18  Monday Night Racing	19	20 Regular Meeting News Deadline	21	22	23	
24	25  Monday Night Racing	26	27 Regular Meeting	28	29 X-Country Instruction Day & Full Moon Snowshoe	30	

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

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

## January

- 02 Downhill Ski Lesson & Full Moon Snowshoe
- 04 Monday Night Racing
- 06 Bd Mtng 6pm, Reg Wed Night Meeting, 7:30pm
- 8-10 Game Weekend @ Lodge
- 11 Monday Night Racing
- 13 Regular Meeting
- 18 Monday Night Racing
- 20 Regular Meeting, News Deadline
- 25 Monday Night Racing
- 27 Regular Meeting
- 30 X-Country Instruction Day Full Moon Snowshoe

## February

- 03 Board & Regular Meeting
- 06 Downhill Ski Lesson
- 10 Regular Meeting
- 17 Regular Meeting
- 24 Regular Meeting
- 27 Club Race & Okemo/Full Moon Snowshoe



Mt Laurel Skiers  
P O Box 4  
Farmington, CT 06034

## 2009-2010 Officers

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

CSC Ambassador • Betsy Chase

## Board Members • [Board@MtlSki.com](mailto:Board@MtlSki.com)

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



**PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY**

**REGISTRATION AND WAIVER FORM  
MOUNTAIN LAUREL SKIERS -- ALPINE CLUB RACE  
FEBRUARY 27, 2010 OKEMO MTN. VT - 10:00 AM**

**All racers – Members and Guests, must complete and sign this form**  
**Parents must sign for Juniors under the age of 18**  
**Please read very carefully before completing and signing**  
**Return to Club Race Chairperson :**  
**Tom Knudsen 465 Hogan Rd. Hamden, CT 06518**

<b>NAME</b>		<b>RACE CLASS – SEE REVERSE SIDE TO DETERMINE</b>	
<b>STREET ADDRESS</b>			
<b>CITY</b>	<b>STATE</b>	<b>Email address</b>	
<b>ZIP CODE</b>	<b>WORK TELEPHONE</b>	<b>HOME TELEPHONE</b>	
<b>AGE (required for class B &amp; Junior)</b>	<b>DATE OF BIRTH (req'd for B &amp; Junior)</b>	<b>GENDER</b>	
<b>MEMBER/PROSPECTIVE</b>	<b>GUEST</b>	<b>JUNIOR (“A” or “B”)</b>	

I, \_\_\_\_\_ in consideration of being allowed by **Okemo Mountain** and **MOUNTAIN LAUREL SKIERS, INC.**, to participate in the Mt. Laurel Skiers Club Race, and any preparatory training therefore, do hereby release and agree to hold harmless and indemnify **Okemo Mountain** and **MOUNTAIN LAUREL SKIERS, INC.**, and the directors, officers, shareholders, agents, servants, and employees of such organizations from any and all claims, actions, or damages without any limitation whatsoever, whether consisting of personal injury, property damage, or death, that does or may result in any way from my participation in this competitive sporting event, whether such injuries of any kind or nature or such death is caused by their negligence or not, assuming myself any and all responsibility and liability for same. I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless all of those above named from any damages or costs or expense whatsoever which they or any of them may sustain as a result of any claim brought by anyone against any of them as a result of my preparation for and/or my participation in this competitive sporting event. I specifically agree that before any given competition takes place, I will, as I so desire, inspect all areas involved in the competition, fully realizing, accepting, and understanding that competitive skiing, competition in general and of this type in particular is inherently risky and dangerous, as are preparations, practice, or training for such events.

I, as a competitor, completely understand that this release constitutes a covenant and a promise on my part to fully discharge all of the above named parties from any and all liability of any kind for any injuries, loss, damage, or death which may result from my participation in this competitive sporting event.

This release is binding, and I so understand, not only upon myself but upon my heirs, administrators, executors, and assigns, and I herewith again reaffirm my free and willing intent to exercise it, acknowledging a complete understanding of its terms and conditions and the totality of its effect, and the totalness of the waiver of any rights that I would otherwise have had, had this agreement not been executed.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNED -- COMPETITOR

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNED – WITNESS

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

**REGISTRATION AND WAIVER FORM**  
**MOUNTAIN LAUREL SKIERS -- ALPINE CLUB RACE**  
**FEBRUARY 27, 2010 OKEMO MOUNTAIN, VT -- 10:00 AM**

ALPINE RACE ABILITY CLASS	Please determine your appropriate race class. If unsure, contact the Race Chairperson: <b>Tom Knudsen (tfk2004@comcast.net)</b>
<b>ELITE</b>	You know who you are. <i>"No guts, no glory!"</i>
<b>A</b>	Advanced skier who runs gates often. <i>"Be good or eat wood!"</i>
<b>B</b>	Intermediate skier who runs gates, or an advanced skier who does not race. <i>"You can do it!"</i>
<b>UPPER "C" (C+)</b>	Advanced novice who can ski the course from the top with wide turns. Skiing the lower part would not be a challenge. Does not belong with beginners. <i>"Go for it!"</i>
<b>LOWER "C" (C-)</b>	Beginner skier; no racing experience. A novice skier who finds intermediate slopes a challenge. <i>"Try it. You'll like it."</i>
<b>JUNIOR "A"</b>	Under the age of 18. Advanced novice who can ski the course from the top with wide turns. Skiing the lower part would not be a challenge.
<b>JUNIOR "B"</b>	Under the age of 18. Beginner skier; little or no racing experience.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION – PLEASE READ**

- **ADULT MEMBER LIFT TICKETS: To be announced.**
  - **JUNIOR MEMBER LIFT TICKETS: No Charge!!** Lift ticket will be purchased by the Club. (Age 17 & under), For children and grandchildren of members and prospective members.
- Dinner party at MTL Lodge Saturday night – Club subsidizes first \$100 of the cost.**
- **RACE REGISTRATION:** 8:00am to 9:15am. Place : **Base Lodge area. Exact spot to be announced.**
  - **RACE ORDER – BE ON TIME!!! This year’s race will be on the Nastar course.** The race will start at 10:00am. The Race starts in Bib Order, beginning with “B” Junior Girls & Boys, Lower C Women and Lower C Men. Then, “A” Junior Girls and Boys, Upper C Women and Men, “B” Women and Men, “A” Women and Men, and “Elite” Women and Men.
  - **ATTN. PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS:** Serving on any committee will count towards membership requirements. We need volunteers to help on the morning of the race!
  - **COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED:** Contact Race Chairpersons.

**AWARDS CEREMONY: After skiing in the base lodge. Time to be announced.**