

Mt. Laurel Skiers Newsletter

January 2008

from the President . . .

Mountain Laurel is off and running!! The season has gotten off to a roaring start, and the Lodge is open and ready! So ready, in fact, that many of the weekends are filling up fast. Make sure that if you have your eye on a particular time that you book the bed(s) that you want with Lisa Durland. First come, first serve, as always.

Moe and Wayne have the schedule for the entire winter posted on the web site, and printed copies of that schedule will be available at the meetings. If you are interested in serving as the Innkeeper for a weekend, call Moe to arrange it.

A very special Thank you to Jean Delahanty and Rick Sullivan for the best fall hike season in memory. All of the hikers are eagerly anticipating the renewal of this activity next Spring. Let Jean and Rick know if you can sponsor a hike!

Thanks also to Betsy Gaudian and her Committee for the best attended Christmas party in many years. The Band (Mid-life Crisis - what else), and the sparkling crowd were truly outstanding! Also, Thanks to all who brought in food stuffs for Betsy to donate to the local food pantry.

The Club trip to Aspen (Thank you Mr. Ardolino) is full (though Eric may be persuaded to squeeze another one or two in). Here's wishing everyone who goes has a great time in Colorado!!

The Jay Peak trip is also

(technically) full. However, Jenny Ebner and Dave England seem to be coming up with additional condos all the time – so far, 85 people are signed up, and we have opened the trip to the Connecticut Ski Council. Thanks to both of you – a great job as usual!!

Speaking of the Connecticut Ski Council (CSC), don't forget the Monday Night Racing program! Pat Moore has gotten the Club to buy all of the MTL Racers pizza for dinner, and to provide the official Mt Laurel Racing cap for all who race three times. Racing skill counts, but the Club that wins turns out the numbers!! Check the web site for the days and times that we will be racing.

In addition, the CSC annual 'On Snow' Carnival will be held during the first weekend of March at 'our' own Okemo Mountain. Pat is looking to take back the CSC title, and once again – numbers count!! This is the weekend before the Jay Peak trip, so we are counting on all of you to join us at the Lodge for the On Snow fun before you head further north.

Finally, in this issue there is some wording change proposed for the Club by-laws for your review. They deal with the process by which we select Life-Time Members. Please take the time to review these changes, as we will be voting for their approval this Month.



Jonathan Houck

Happy
New
Year



Ski Trip 08 to SnowMass/Aspen

We are all set with 84 people to go to Colorado. Dates are February 2-9, 2008. Your final papers will arrive during the first week in January. If you have any last minute questions, please call Eric at 203-265-9293 during the day or 860-426-1580 in the evening. Currently about a 4 foot base and great skiing.

Eric C. Ardolino

European Cruise 2008

Date of Cruise September 13, 2008. We will leave the U.S. on September 11th spend 1 night in Barcelona and then board Royal Caribbean's Voyager of the Seas. Ports are Nice, Verona, Rome, Naples and Palermo. We currently have 9 rooms left and have blocked non-stop AA air from JFK. Cruise rates start from \$999.00 for an inside room. This will be a sell out and rates are only guaranteed until 1/31/2008. More information, call Eric at 203-265-9293 or 860-426-1580.

Eric C. Ardolino

Important Numbers •

Lodge Reservations • Lisa Durland

860-533-7722 No calls after 9pm

Lodge Manager • Moe Gaherty

860-301-3920

Phone at Lodge • 802-226-7010

Bylaws Change Recommended... Article X Committee (add) Section 4

The President shall appoint a Lifetime Membership Committee Chairperson, who is an active Lifetime member of Mountain Laurel Skiers. The Chairperson will select three (3) Lifetime Members to be on the Committee, and the committee shall include the Membership Chairperson/Vice President and the President (as an ex-officio member of all Committees). The Chairperson and his/her committee may submit no recommendation or up to three (3) Mountain Laurel member names (recommendations) eligible for Lifetime Membership to the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall vote and approve only one (1) of the three (3) member names (recommendations) that are eligible for the honor of Lifetime Membership.

Article III Section 3C (add)

Lifetime Membership member(s)/candidates(s), must meet the following criteria: be a member of the Mt Laurel Ski Club for a minimum of ten (10) years; serve as an Officer (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and/or Assistant Secretary/Treasurer), serve as chairperson(s) for committee(s), and whose contributions are considered significant. The Board of Directors may only bestow this honor based on the member names (recommendations) presented by the Lifetime Membership Committee. A member will be selected for the honor and be approved by the Board of Directors. (see Article X Section 4).

By-law changes must be published and approved by the membership in accordance with Article XII Amendments and Article IX Section 4 and 5 Meetings. The by-Law change is being published in the January Newsletter and will be voted on at the January 30, 2008 meeting.



Christmas Dance •

I wish to thank everyone who came to the Holiday Dance, which I would describe as successful. Thanks to those that volunteered, brought boxes, loaded boxes, carted boxes and the good news is the food weighted in at 414 pounds, more than last year!!! Further, thanks to everyone who donated to the raffle (both prizes and money) and directly to the pantry. I was able to drop \$575 off to them this morning cash!!! I am very proud to have donated this today and they were thrilled. Specifically thanks to the prospective members: Betsy Chase, Manny Russell, Pam Claywell, and some of our regulars: Paula Felt, Charlotte Chardonae, Stephanie Eason, Harry Fisher, Betsy Gaudian, Linda Dinda, and Barbara Wysocki.

Healthy Regards, Betsy Gaudian

Newsletter Deadline and Other Change!

The deadline for the February Newsletter is January 13.

Beginning in or about April, the Newsletter will be distributed on-line.

About 15 copies of the Newsletter will be available for members without on-line access.

Harry Fisher, 27 Bannan Lane, Berlin CT 06037
or email hfisher007@comcast.net • phone 860-357-2281



Ski Instruction • 2008

Going forward, I am excited to be coordinating the ski instruction for MTL and have made one major change - the Okemo meeting place. If you have any questions, please see me at a meeting, call, or email.

Instruction Days • Date Time Meet @ Okemo

Jan 12, 2008 9:00-11:30 Outside Jackson Gore Lodge

Feb 18, 2008 9:00 - 11:30 Outside Jackson Gore Lodge

Club Discount Tickets •

May not be purchased that day. Tickets may be purchased in advance from Susan Forsdick.

Sign Up Early:

Free Instruction: All levels snow boarding, cross country & downhill lessons available.

Ski Level: Please indicate your skill level (take a guess.) Never Ever, Beginner, Intermediate, Expert (you wish)

Contact:

AnneAlden@Century21.com
or phone 860-828-3378.



Jackson Gore opens at 8:00. Ski Instruction starts at 9:00 sharp so suit up early, take a few runs and meet me there at 9:00.

Anne Alden



Cheer •

With lots of wishes for happiness and good health, we congratulate Marge Freeland and Stan Wasel on their engagement and Lloyd and Lucy Frauenglass on their recent marriage. We send our condolences to Bob Morrell on the death of his mother and to Phil Palermo who also lost his mother.

If you have any news of our members please contact Milli at 860-871-0484 or milliarnold57142@aol.com. Thank you and Merry Christmas.

News from the Lodge •



As I promised you, this season is off to a great start, with plenty of (knock on wood) snow!! Your enthusiasm in the lodge has been fantastic, with voucher sales exceeding \$19,000! That being said, don't wait to make your lodge reservations, as vouchers are not transferable and non-refundable, and must be used this season.

Congratulations to Cathy DiMeola, who won a season's bed at the lodge! Total raffle ticket sales were \$435. Better luck next year!

Celebrate the New Year with old and new friends at the lodge. Appetizers from 6:00 - 7:00 cocktail hour, with dinner starting at 7:30. BYOB and bring your own champagne for mid-night. If you are not staying at the lodge but wish to join in the festivities, contact Russ Pacino. Cost is \$25.00.

Calling all Prospective Members! We are hosting a special weekend for you January 12-14, which will include a "Welcome" cocktail party on Friday night, and a dinner on Saturday night. Sign up for free down-hill and cross-country ski instructions. Come and meet other new members, as well as "seasoned" members. If you have signed up for the Valentine's Murder Mystery, you will be receiving your "invitation" soon. There are many other events, including a Game Weekend, Chili Cook-off, St. Paddy's weekend, Moonlight Snow-Shoeing, Club Race, On-Snow, Spa Weekend, Pig Roast, etc., etc. See the updated 2007-2008 Activity Schedule for more info.

And speaking of nachos.....the Lodge Committee has addressed emergency evacuation procedures to be followed in the event of a fire. Be aware that you will be unable to use the lodge phone to call 911 as it will be deactivated by the alarm system. The first course of action is to leave the building immediately! Do not go back to your room to retrieve personal belongings. The designated meeting area is in front of the electric company building, which is located to the right of the lodge driveway (as you are facing the lodge). Do not go to the parking area in the rear of the lodge! The innkeeper will be responsible for coordinating a head count of those who are present at the lodge at the time of the fire. There are fire ladders in all of the upstairs bedrooms except Okemo. They will be stored under the bed located closest to the emergency exit window, and a sign designating their location will be posted on the beds. Please acquaint yourself with the location of the fire ladders, and make sure that they are easily accessible and not hidden under your luggage. There should be clear access to the emergency exit window.

Thanks to the many current and prospective members who have volunteered their time into making the lodge a success! Happy New Year!!

Moe Gaherty, Lodge Manager, mgaherty@sbcglobal.net, (860) 632-0179

Get in the Swing •

A Swing/Swooch Weekend is planned for President's Day Weekend in Vermont. On Saturday, February 16th in Norwich, VT. The top Canadian Swing Dancers will offer dance (2) workshops followed by an evening of dancing. Joan Albert is coordinating a combination of Swing Dance and Ski Weekend. If interested, please contact Joan for more information at albert_joan@hotmail.com.

Catamount Trail... reported by Neal's sister Lynn Fisher, Bridgewater VT

You're invited and encouraged to ski the Catamount Trail - all 300 miles from Massachusetts to Canada. It's officially complete this year and conditions are great. Also, for a \$35 membership you support the trail and get significant Alpine, Nordic, and gear discounts. Go here: www.catamounttrail.org/involved/membership/membershipbenefits/ to check out the discounts and to the home page www.catamounttrail.org to get general info, or ask me.








If any of you are endorphin and/or adventure addicts, I'm leading an advanced ski from Shrewsbury to Route 4 in Killington, January 12. It's a full day of ups and downs. There are lots of free events and guided tours for all abilities, and even free or low-cost telemark clinics, so check out the website or let me know if you want more info. **lfisher@vermontel.net**

MTL Club Race • February 23, 2007

New Venue this year: **Magic Mountain**. Competitive classes for all abilities, from the serious contender for the Club Championship to the just for fun novice. Preregister 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. Free pizza/soda awards party follows at end of day in the Base Lodge. Sign-in 8:00-9:15am. Race starts at 11am sharp. **Questions: Tom Knudsen, Race Chairman, tfk2004@comcast.net**



mt laurel skier's calendar

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6		8	9 NO Meeting	10	11 	12
13 	14	15	16 Board Meeting Regular Meeting	17	18 Prospective Member weekend @ the Lodge	19 
20 MLK Weekend @ Lodge, Family weekend 	21	22	23 Nutrition Program Regular Meeting	24	25 	26 MLK Weekend @ the Lodge, Family weekend
27 	28	29	30 Regular Meeting	31	<h2>January 2008</h2>	
Prospective Member weekend						

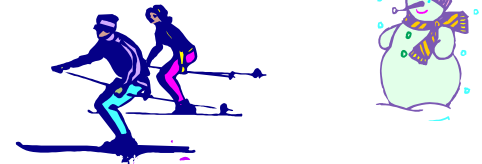
MtL Skier's newsletter is designed and produced by MG Marketing Associates of Madison 203.421.4840

January Meetings •
Zabbara's Restaurant
Stanley Golf Course
245 Hartford Road
New Britain CT
Wednesdays, 8:00pm
Save These Dates

12/29-1/1 New Year's Weekend @ the Lodge

January

- 02 NO MEETING
- 09 Board Meeting 6:30pm
Regular Meeting 8pm
- 11-13 Prospective Member's Weekend @ the Lodge
- 16 Nutrition program 8pm
Regular Meeting 8:30pm
- 18-21 MLK weekend @ the Lodge, Family weekend
- 23 Regular Meeting, 8pm
News Deadline
- 25-27 Moe's Nacho weekend & fire extinguisher demonstration @ the Lodge, Moonlight snowshoe/cross country
- 30 Regular Meeting, 8pm



Mt Laurel Skiers
P O Box 4
Farmington, CT 06034

2007 - 2008 Officers

- President • Jonathan Houck • president@mtlski.com
- V President • Kay Leatherman • vicepresident@mtlski.com
- Secretary • Mandy Lavalee • secretary@mtlski.com
- Treasurer • Eric Ardolino • treasurer@mtlski.com
- Asst Sec/Trea • Kathy Culhane
- Past President • Tom Knudsen

CSC Ambassador • Jeanne Clark

Board Members • Board@MtLski.com

- Hank Berger
- Aletta Chamberland
- Ellen Gilbert
- Chuck Hannah
- Fred Murray
- Phil Palermo
- Cheryl Woodin



PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

**REGISTRATION AND WAIVER FORM
MOUNTAIN LAUREL SKIERS -- ALPINE CLUB RACE
FEBRUARY 23, 2008 MAGIC MOUNTAIN, VT -- 11:00 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

NAME		RACE CLASS – SEE REVERSE SIDE TO DETERMINE	
STREET ADDRESS			
CITY	STATE	Email address	
ZIP CODE	WORK TELEPHONE	HOME TELEPHONE	
AGE (required for class B & Junior)	DATE OF BIRTH (req'd for B & Junior)	GENDER	
MEMBER/PROSPECTIVE	GUEST	JUNIOR (upper or lower course?)	

I, _____ in consideration of being allowed by Magic 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 Magic 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 23, 2008 MAGIC MOUNTAIN, VT -- 11:00 AM

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

IMPORTANT INFORMATION – PLEASE READ

- **ADULT MEMBER LIFT TICKETS: Purchase ticket at signup location at special price.**
- **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.
- **NON-MEMBERS:** Lift Tickets for Adults and Juniors will be available for purchase at the Group Rate the day of the race.
- **RACE REGISTRATION:** 8:00am to 9:15am. Place : **Base Lodge.**
- **RACE ORDER – BE ON TIME!!! This year's race will be on "Showoff".** The race will start at 11 am. 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 PARTY/DINNER: Around 4 pm in a special area of the base lodge. The club pays for pizza and soda and there is a public cash bar close by.