



The Danbury Ski Club Times April, 2015

A Message from Our President, Pat Howard

Hi DSC Members...WOW, what a great winter! I just came back from the Stowe trip. It was fantastic. The snow is still great so I encourage you to go and ski. As spring begins, I want all of you to think about coming out for our banquet...join us to celebrate our 60th year and make plans with us for the off-season. I hope to see you there. Danbury Ski Club wants you! Thanks, phfactor

+ + + + +

It's time for elections again! DSC's **ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTIONS** are set for 7:30 pm, Thursday, May 7th at Hatters Park. The current slate of candidates for DSC officers for 2015-2016 is:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - President: Pat Howard, Vice President: Charles Rubano, Treasurer: Kathy Ligos, Immediate-Past-President: Greg O'Hara, Delegate-at-Large (2 year term): Dave Zuraw

OFFICERS- Recording Secretary: **OPEN**, Corresponding Secretary: Susan Edelstein

AMBASSADOR: Janice Cohen

CT SKI COUNCIL REPS (Choose 5): Joan Gall, Mary O'Hara, Greg O'Hara, Jim Seri, Dave Zuraw, Debbie Herrick

In-person voting will be at the Annual Meeting. Additional nominations will be accepted from the floor. Online voting begins Friday, May 1st, and ends Wednesday afternoon, May 6th. An email containing the link will be sent to all members who have a *valid email* associated with their membership. Only one vote is allowed *per membership* (family counts as 1 vote). Your DSC election ballot will contain the names of those nominated for club offices as well as members nominated for the following awards (select one person for each award):

Charles Randall Award for Most Outstanding Member

Lisa Bilodeau: Switzerland Week Trip Leader, Continued with Ski Swap during trying times.

Joy Seri: DSC Social (Facebook, Twitter), Annual Picnic, International Dinner, 60th Anniversary Banquet Organized News-Times coverage during trying times.

Dave Zuraw: Ambassador, CSC Bi-Laws Committee, Ski Swap and On-Snow Day, Organizing Winter Carnival.

Steve Frenekes Award for Most Active Member

Janice Cohen: Christmas party, Mt. Snow and Okemo/Killington Trip Leader.

Sam Griffith: Lodge Chairperson.

Charles Rubano: V.P., Trips Coordinator, Switzerland and Colorado Week Trip Leader, Ski Swap, Newsletter assistance, Mohawk.

Kathy Ligos: Treasurer, Winter Carnival, Hosting BOD meetings.

Bob Butcher Award for the Member who Promotes Unity and Morale

Dave Kiley: Racing Chair, Organizing On-Snow Day.

Pat Howard: President, Monday Racing, Ski Swap, News-Times article, Efforts to re-energize and encourage more participation in the Club, Mohawk.

Kumar Makayee: Ski Swap, Welcoming presence and coordinating family dinners at the Lodge.

DSC Rookie of the Year for the New Member who exhibits the most enthusiasm and involvement

Joe Connolly: On-Snow Day and Stowe Trip with his family.

Debbie Herrick: Monday Night Racing, Winter Carnival, Interest in serving.

Jessica Outlaw: Yoga Class, News-Times article, On-Snow Day

Phil Mannion: Stowe Trip, Enthusiastic story teller.

Jeff Kornhaas: Winter Carnival, Volleyball organizer.

Awards will be presented at 60th Anniversary Banquet on May 15th.

+ + + + +

DISCOUNT BULK TICKET VOUCHERS must be returned by **FRIDAY, MAY 1** - No exceptions. The preferred method would be to return them at an April meeting of the ski club (4/2 and 16). If this is not possible, vouchers can be returned via mail to: Colleen Mannion, 12 Valley Stream Drive, Danbury Ct 06811. Time your mailing so that they are in Colleen's mailbox by the first of May.

Do not mail to ski club PO Box. In order to ensure I have received the vouchers you should also e-mail Colleen Mannion at vouchers@danburyski.com with the name of the mountains and amount of vouchers listed. Once I have the vouchers I will respond that they have been received - this will serve as your receipt for the return. There will be no credit given for vouchers received after the deadline of 5/1/15. (Written by Colleen and we thank you for all your hard work with this program where our members get a good perk.)

+ + + + +

THE MAPLES, our lodge in Weston, VT will be closing the weekend of April 11-12. All are welcome. All who wish to help with the lodge closing will stay free. Those who wish not to do that (the skiing will be good) can pay regular rates. Contact lodge@danburyski.com. (Written by Sam Griffith. Thank you for a good season at our facility in Vermont.)

+ + + + +

We want to thank all 35 people who came on the **STOWE TRIP** at the Golden Eagle for making it memorable. We had an even mix of singles (male and female), families and couples. It was great to see the bus and drive-up members make new ski and snowboard friends. The trivia questions were a big hit along with the cupcakes and brownies on the way up with the bus.

The skiing and riding conditions were ideal mid-winter conditions. It snowed all day Saturday at the mountain. The Connolly's managed to master the front four double diamonds with grace. We don't think they would need any pointers from DK (Dave Kiley) since they ski so well.

We had plenty of après skiing/snowboarding, either at the mountain before the bus came back to the resort or going to The Rusty Nail for free pizza and happy hour. The resort had a wonderful Jacuzzi, pool and sauna that help after a hard day of ski and snowboarding. There were massages offered for a fee that also helped ease muscles after a hard day of skiing. We managed to grab complimentary apples, granola bars and enjoy homemade cookies throughout our stay. The pizza party was a huge success with those who drove up joining us in the St Moritz room to discuss the best stories after skiing Friday.

STOWE TRIP, continued

Everyone was so appreciative and easy going that we'd love to have each of you on our next affordable bus trip. For those of you who were unable to make the trip, you missed the best snow and good weather. Remember our slogan: Think snow at Stowe! It worked this year! If you're interested in going to Stowe this time next year, let us know ASAP so that we can run it by the membership/BOD. Your trip leaders, Greg and Mary O'Hara phone # 203-791-8565. (Written by Mary O'Hara. Thank you and Greg for such an enjoyable ski trip.)

+ + + + +

DANBURY SKI CLUB INVITES YOU TO ITS
60TH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET

Friday, May 15, 2015

7:00 PM - Midnight

AMBER ROOM COLONNADE

1 Stacey Rd., Danbury, CT

MEMBERS: \$30, NON-MEMBERS: \$60

Includes cocktail hour/cash bar, stationary and butler-style passed hors d'oeuvres, sit-down dinner with salad, choice of beef, chicken or seafood, dessert & coffee/tea

MUSIC provided by ExciteDJ <http://www.excitedj.com/>

Let's welcome new officers and recognize members who stepped up this season - Most Outstanding, Most Active and Member who best promotes unity and morale, Rookie of the Year and more...



CHEERS TO DSC'S 60 YEARS OF:



- Friendship and Camaraderie On & Off The Slopes
- Ski Trips To North & South America And Europe
- Ski Swap, On-Snow Day, Ski Instruction, Winter Carnival, Monday Night Racing
- A Club For All Seasons: Skiing, Snowboarding, Scuba Diving, Whitewater Rafting, Camping, Baseball Games, Picnic, International Dinner, Hiking, Cycling, Christmas Party, Halloween Party, Broadway Shows, Concerts, SkiTV presentations, Warren Miller shows
- Community Spirit: Special Olympics, Relay For Life, Adopt-A-Street, Still River Clean-Up, Danbury Women's Center, Toys for Tots, Green Chimney Donations and more!

RSVP by May 8th

Come to meetings to sign up or mail checks payable to **DANBURY SKI CLUB** to

Joy Seri/DSC, 93 Great Plain Rd., Danbury, CT 06811, danburyskisocial@yahoo.com, 203-798-2597

+ + + + +

Danbury Ski Club's **Annual Baseball Outing** will take place Sunday, August 16th at 1:10 p.m. at Citi Field in New York City as the New York Mets play the Pittsburgh Pirates. The cost of the tickets is \$29 per person. The seats are located behind home plate in the Promenade section. If the group is large enough, we may arrange for bus transportation. If interested, please contact Jim Seri by email at jimseri@yahoo.com or by phone at 203-798-2597. At last year's baseball outing over 40 people attended. Please let me know if you can make it! (Written by Jim Seri...thanks & we look forward to the game!)

+ + + + +

The DSC **COLORADO "SUMMIT COUNTRY SAFARI"** took place Feb 28 to Mar 7. Twenty nine people participated and by all accounts enjoyed the trip. We arrived a little late to the Inn at Keystone, and the staff was very accommodating. Most people skied Keystone and Breckenridge, some ventured over to Arapahoe Basin and 19 joined the day trip to Vail ... a real ski safari! While we were there, we received some fresh snow. No huge dumps, but enough so that midweek was especially nice. There were a few fresh tracks to be found in the trees and most days there was an abundance of cut up powder.

The food at the hotel was good (even if the hot breakfast items were the same every day). But the restaurant manager went above and beyond to organize a nice dinner on our last night. The other restaurants in the area were generally good too. Of course, lunch on the mountain was a bit pricey. But we all had \$75 vouchers to help offset that.

Transportation to Arapahoe and Breckenridge was a bit tricky as one had to catch two different busses. Again the front desk staff was helpful and everyone had it figured out by the time we left!

Overall, it was a good trip out West and an excellent value for the money. (Written by Charles Rubano & we thank you for an exciting trip and everything else that you do as VP for the good of our club)

+ + + + +

WHITEWATER RAFTING IS BACK!

We are working on a whitewater rafting trip on the Deerfield River in Massachusetts in late June or July (not Father's Day or Independence Day weekends). This is a class IV river and will involve camping at a local campground. The rafting will most likely be Saturday, but might be Sunday, depending on pricing and dam release schedule. We are also looking into NY and PA rivers for options...

Stay tuned for E-Blasts when we have more information and more details in the May issue of the Danbury Ski Club Times. In the meantime, let me know if you are interested. Dave Zuraw, dscwebmaster@yahoo.com. (Thx for the article and news, Dave!)

+ + + + +

Wow, what a great weekend we had at **WINTER CARNIVAL AT OKEMO** this year. All of our teams performed exceptionally. In fact, we did better as a club than we had since we won Winter Carnival 5 years in a row, about 15 years ago. We came in tied for **SECOND PLACE** overall, with our Women's, Super G, and Snowboarders coming in **FIRST**; our Junior B team coming in **SECOND**; our Volleyball and Sky Rally teams coming in **THIRD**; and our Fun and Club race teams coming in Fourth and Fifth respectively. If we get some participation in the Junior A and Cross Country races next year, we have a great chance to win.

Danbury is getting stronger thanks to some **great new members and participants**, but not just in these events. We had 35 people attend the dinner and party Saturday night (the most we've had in many years), and as is typical, we dominated the dance floor. This was in addition to our Friday evening 60th Anniversary party at the Sitting Bull lounge in Okemo's base lodge. It was a HUGE hit with all that attended. Thanks to Pat Howard, his team and the Board for putting that together.

WINTER CARNIVAL AT OKEMO, Continued

I want to thank our esteemed and accomplished Race Chairperson, Dave Kiley for all his help in coordinating and leading our race team as well as the hard working and supportive Greg and Mary O'Hara for helping with the scorekeeping on Saturday.

Our stars and participants were (sorry if I missed anyone, I don't have a complete list of some events):

Special congratulations go to Kaitlin Wolcott and Katie Forcheski for having the two fastest times in the Women's Race, Eric Smith, who won the Snowboard race, and last but not least, Hanna Neilsen, Mia Neilsen and Eco Neilsen who all came in the top 9 in the Junior B Race. I also want to thank Jeff Kornhaas for helping me pull together a 3rd place volleyball team at the last minute, and who served our way to victory in our first game.

Super G: Dave Kiley, Hana Neilsen , Steve Stanton, Ed Blasco, Mia Neilsen, Pat Howard, Linda Grady, Ralph Wescott, Cloudy Snaith, Echo Neilsen, Dave Zuraw and Deborah Herrick.

Team Race: Ryan Nealy, Dave Kiley, Caitlin Wolcott, Steve Stanton, Katie Forcheski & Ralph Wescott.

Women's Race: *Kaitlin Wolcott, Katie Forcheski*, Linda Grady & Mary O'Hara.

Club Race: Carl Forcheski, Cloudy Snaith, Dave Zuraw, Laura Blertch, Jeff Kornhaas , Ed Blasco, & Roger Snow.

Snowboard Race: *Eric Smith*, Scott Smith, Steve Stanton.

Junior B: *Hanna Neilsen, Mia Neilsen and Eco Neilsen.*

Volleyball: *Jeff Kornhaas*, Laura Blertch, Kathy Ligos, Roger Snow, Dave Zuraw and Leona Bridgeforth.

Fun Race: Caitlin Wolcott, Ralph Wescott, Linda Grady, Krista Willett, Mary O'Hara & Greg O'Hara.

Ski Rally: Roger Snow, Mary O'Hara, Greg O'Hara, &

(Written by Dave Zuraw. Thanks for such good coverage an organization of an awesome 3-day weekend.)

+ + + + +

MEMBERSHIP: Please join/renew online at www.danburyski.com (9/1 to 8/31). Those who wish to mail in their check must renew online, select the "check" option, and mail their payment to Ed Blasco, DSC Membership Chair, PO Box 764, Danbury, CT 06810-7884. Rates are as follows: Single, \$45; Family, \$70; College, \$35, Senior, \$45 (age 65+), Senior Family \$55. Kindly provide and maintain valid contact information. New memberships received after the Annual Meeting on May 7, 2015 are valid to 8/31/16.

+ + + + +

60 Years on Skis, Danbury Ski Club Still Conquering New Peaks, Valleys" By John Burgeson

"DANBURY -- Back in the days when skis were made of wood, ski boots were made of leather and bindings had cables, a group of local winter sports enthusiasts got together to form a ski club.

Sixty years later, the Danbury Ski Club is still thriving. It has more than 900 active members and its excursions go far beyond visits to the Mad Hatter Ski Slope, a long-gone local ski area with a 1,000-foot rope tow.

"It started as a group of people who would get together at the Mad Hatter Slope," said Joy Seri, the social media coordinator of the club. "At first it was very informal -- no officers or anything like that. But they would carpool together to areas in Vermont and started calling themselves the Danbury Ski Club."

The club helped out at the Mad Hatter Slope in those early days by manning the ski patrol and the rope tow, said Joan Gall, who was club president in the 1980s.

"60 Years on Skis, Danbury Ski Club..." continued

"We went on some fantastic trips," Gall said. "Chamonix, Banff, Jackson Hole, Kitzbuhel. All great trips."

In January, club members traveled to Switzerland for a week on the slopes at Grindelwald. In early March, they spent another week at Breckenridge, Arapahoe Basin and Keystone ski areas in Colorado.

Over the years, there have been countless jaunts to ski areas in Vermont, Massachusetts, New York and Connecticut. The club has a lodge in Weston, Vt., that is close to the Bromley and Okemo ski resorts. Arrangements are usually made to see a Warren Miller ski film in the fall -- to get skiers in the mood, and there are ski swaps and other equipment events.

"On the trip to Chamonix, we skied the glacier with the help of a mountain guide and you had to be an advanced-intermediate skier," Gall said. "It was absolutely breathtaking. Huge hummocks of blue ice as big as a Volkswagen."

The club makes it possible for members to go on ski holidays to the Alps and the Rockies for a lot less than they could on their own. The trip to Grindelwald, for example, was only \$1,900 per person, including airfare, lodging and most meals.

The Danbury Ski Club is part of the Connecticut Ski Council, which offers discounts on lift tickets throughout New England and New York.

Membership has surged in recent years. Gall said the club had fewer than 125 family memberships in the early 1980s. Now it has about 300, meaning the club has about 900 skiers, including children. About six major trips are planned every ski season.

"It's not just skiing," Seri said. "We're a club for all seasons. In June, we have our international dinner, and we get to sample dishes that reflect our ethnicity. We donate food to charity. There are trips to see the Mets and Yankees, Broadway plays, trips to the Caribbean, hiking trips, a picnic. We're really busy year-round."

The club was founded by architect and World War II veteran J. Arthur Setaro, and, true to tradition, the club stages its annual Setaro banquet every year. The event will be held this year on May 15 at the Amber Room.

It was Setaro who designed the club's shield -- a pair of skis headed downhill with a top hat, symbolizing Danbury's hat-making past.

Club dues back in 1955 were \$2.50 per person. Now it's \$45 for a single membership, \$70 for a family, \$35 for college students and \$45 for seniors.

Attendance at the club's monthly meetings, however, has dropped over the years.

"Back in the 1980s, we'd have over 100 show up because at the time the meeting was the best way to learn about our trips and so forth," she said. "But now we have our website and the newsletter that's emailed to everyone."

The Mat Hatter Ski Slope has changed over the years. The area is now known as Tarrywile Park, and at 722 acres, is the largest municipally owned park in the state. It closed as a ski area in the early 1960s.

The parkland, including the old ski area, was purchased in several stages by the city between 1985 and 2000.

In its heyday, it offered night skiing and it even had a warming hut with a fireplace where the slope-weary skier could buy a hamburger and a cup of hot cocoa.

Today, you'll find little evidence a ski area was ever on the property."

John Burgeson, Staff Writer. Published in the Danbury News-Times, Thurs. March 26, 2015

Danbury Ski Club is **on SOCIAL MEDIA!** Follow us on twitter: #danburyskiclub or visit our Danbury Ski Club Facebook.com group page to get quick updates on our events and activities.(Written byJoySeri.Thx)

APRIL 2015						
Sun	M	T	W	Th	F	Sat
			1	2 7:30pm Meeting	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 7:30 pm BOD mtg	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1 Voting begins	

A CLUB FOR ALL SEASONS



DANBURY SKI CLUB

P.O. Box 764 Danbury, CT 06813-0764

203-792-DSKI (3754)

Newsletter Edited by Joan Gall

DSC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Pat Howard

Vice President: Charles Rubano

Treasurer: Kathy Ligos

Immediate Past President: Greg O'Hara

Delegate At Large: Joan Gall

DSC OFFICERS

Recording Secretary: Michael Mannion, Michael-mannion@att.net

Corresponding Secretary: Joan Gall, dscdelegate@danburyski.com

AMBASSADOR

Dave Zuraw, dscwebmaster@yahoo.com

CT SKI COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

Lisa Bilodeau, Joan Gall, Mary O'Hara, Greg O'Hara, Jim Seri

*WE INVITE EVERYONE TO COME TO THE MEETINGS AND GET THE LATEST UPDATES ON EVENTS
AND ACTIVITIES HELD AT:*

Hatters Park. Banquet Room

7 East Hayestown Road

Danbury, CT

From I-84 East: Exit 5. Straight to traffic light. Straight onto North St. Right at 4th traffic light (Hayestown Rd). Left at next traffic light (Tamarack Ave. becomes East Hayestown Rd). Hatters Park is on right after a quarter of a mile.

From I-84 West: Exit 6. Right at traffic light (North St), then right at next traffic light (Hayestown Rd). Left at next traffic light (Tamarack Ave. becomes East Hayestown Rd).. Hatters Park is on right after a quarter of a mile.

+ + + + +

MEETINGS: Danbury Ski Club will hold a **business meeting on the first Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm.**

Boards of Director Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month and are open to all...you can listen, comment. Except for certain special programs, meetings are held at Hatters Park. Additional meetings may be scheduled at the discretion of the BOD. Please check DSC's website, www.DANBURYSKI.com for the latest information. You can also check us out on Facebook.