

SKI CHATTER

A SCHENECTADY WINTERSPORTS CLUB PUBLICATION

ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS

SWC, PO 228

Schenectady, NY 12301 2/1/09

Club House Phone (802) 244-8918

Clubhouse reservations 522-5474

SWC INFO Hotline (518) 370-0304

Clubhouse reservations SWClodgeres@yahoo.com

Phone numbers in the Ski Chatter are in the 518 area code unless otherwise noted. WEB Site: www.swc-nnyp.org

Guide to Technical Fabrics Feb 5 Meeting

Matt Sims of Eastern Mountain Sports will present "A Guide to Technical Fabrics". Do you really understand what those techies are saying when they use words like denier, or breathable? What is 'applied waterproofing' actually? Are the labels some type of code that the buyer should be able to decipher? Is one type of insulation better than another? Or one type of performance fabric better than rest? And once you buy it - how should you take care of it? How long should it be expected to perform? Matt will provide us with the information to help us determine if that \$450 waterproof jacket is really better than the \$150 one.

Meeting is at the **Ancient Order of the Hibernian Hall, 1748 State Street in Schenectady**. We have a spacious meeting room and generous parking (You can park in the Bowling Alley parking lot to the east). And, the liquid refreshment cost is very reasonable.

There is a social session from 7:00 to 7:30 where you can catch up on what is happening in the Club while the formal meeting starts at 7:30.

Ancient Order of Hibernians 1748 State St. is just east of Rt 7 (the Cross town) in uptown Schenectady. To find the **Ancient Order of Hibernians** take State Street toward Albany. It is on the right side approximately 4 ½ blocks past the Rt 7 overpass. If coming from the Thruway take I-890 to Rt 7 East and exit at State Street (Rt 5). Turn right at the top of the ramp and go East 4 ½ blocks. From the Troy direction, take Rt. 7 all the way to State Street (Rt 5) and turn left at the top of the ramp and go 4 ½ blocks to 1748 State St. on the right.

Getting Out Locally Feb 19 Meeting

Alan Wechsler, a two-year SWC member, will give a slide show on getting out locally - hiking, biking, cross-country skiing and canoeing in upstate New York and New England. Wechsler, an avid amateur photographer, is also the outdoor reporter at the Times Union and writes a weekly column on the outdoors called "Get Out" that runs Thursday in the TU sports section. You can also find his outdoor blog at the TU website. The meeting is at the **Ancient Order of the Hibernian Hall**.

Members Show and Tell March 5

Show and Tell Night - "SWC Winter Travelogue Medley". Members are encouraged to bring pictures (memory sticks or CDs preferred) of their recent ski trips for a night of Show and Tell. Presentations don't have to be fancy. We're looking for a 4 or 5 or 6 folks with a few pictures and a willingness to share experiences. We'll project the pictures and you fill in a few of the details. Tell us about the stupid stuff your buddies did, or the incredible run you had down STH, or the powder you ate for three days at Stowe. Heck, pull some pics off the Internet and tell us that was you doing the 40' huck at Jackson Hole. The more presenters (and beer), the merrier. The meeting will be at the Ancient Order of Hibernians.

Feb 27-- Mar1 Camp Fowler Trip

Our annual Camp Fowler trip will be Feb 27-Mar1 in the heavy snow area south of Speculator 11/2 hours from Capital district. The Pine Cabin has a large fireplace lounge, fully equipped kitchen, modernized baths w/showers and bunkrooms w/good mattresses. Pot-luck dinner Fri night and eat out, for those who choose on Sat night. Ski trips for both the ambitious and the more leisurely--also excellent snow shoeing. Pine Cabin has been a favorite in past years, so mark your calendar and call Ruth Brondel at 381-6899 for full information, directions, and potluck details to be mailed. Reserve your spot now!

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Feb 5 Meeting "Technical Fabrics"
Feb 6-8 Climbers Lodge weekend
Feb 19 Meeting "Getting out Locally"
Feb 27 Mar 1 Camp Fowler weekend
Mar 5 Meeting "Members Show and Tell"
Mar 4-7 75th Anniversary of the first Snow Train celebration at Gore and North Creek
March 18-22 Stowe Really Cheap Ski Days
May 7 First Thursday night bike ride: Call Terry Tamer to volunteer for a host date.

Correction: The Clubhouse reservation email address was incorrectly given in the last Chatter. The correct email address for Reservations is: SWCLodgeRes@Yahoo.com

President's Corner: by Bill Schaefer

Where does the time go ? It's only been 75 years. On the 75th Anniversary of the Ski Trains, Gore Mountain is in the process of planning a series of activities to commemorate the events. See the article in the next column. As we get closer, if you do not see what you need, call me or Gore Mountain. Watch our websites!

Speaking of Winter, our Stowe ticket program has been very successful as a Club member benefit. More successful than we were originally prepared to handle. The popularity of the tickets has meant a rush to keep up with the demand for extra tickets. Tickets have been exchanged in the dark of night, bank deposits in snowstorms and other great efforts. If you bought a ticket, be sure to thank Ray Asselin, Dawn Knutson, Walt Kangas and Bill Kornrumpf for keeping it going.

Enjoy this terrific winter - and don't forget that great winters make for great spring paddling.

Happy Trails, Bill Schaefer

Car Pools to Stowe

We have heard from a few members looking to either give a ride or get to Stowe. If you are interested, email me at wschaefer1@nycap.rr.com or call me and I will get you in touch with the other parties. (Bill Schaefer)

DON'T BELIEVE THE WEATHERMAN

MLK weekend was frigid but the skiing was fantastic. One TV station reported it was so cold that ski lifts were halted. A lot of hoopla! All lifts were running and snow conditions were awesome. Only night skiing at one mountain was canceled. All who came to the Clubhouse enjoyed the outdoors and the food and conversation inside. The moral of the story is, check with members who have been to the clubhouse, check with ski area websites, but don't listen to your local weatherman! Submitted by Jean Burton

New SWC Facebook Page

Rich Vanderwood has set up an SWC facebook group. You can find the group by searching for 'SWC - Schenectady Wintersports Club'. It is a spot where members can casually coordinate ski trips, car pooling, share photos and whatever else they feel like. If you need more information drop Rich an email at vanderrs@hotmail.com.

Gore Mountain & North Creek to Celebrate 75th Anniversary of the First Ski Train**Wednesday, March 4**

10:30am- This was the time of the arrival of the first train, so good to have the speeches, etc at that time.

*Speeches (including a possible visit from Gertrude Schaefer, who rode the first train)

*Coffee/Hot Chocolate/Refreshment

* Train Museum & Freight House Gift Shop Open
\$19.34 Prix Fix Menu Available at several North Creek Restaurants, Shopping/Souvenir Opportunities at North Creek Shops

7:00pm- Reception at Tannery Pond Community Center, showcasing historical ski photos of North Creek. Viewing of Historical Skiing Footage in the Theater (Movies of early North Creek skiing from the achieves of the Schenectady Wintersports Club) Following in Theater: Presentation from Schaefer Family and Lois Perrett ski patrol award

Thursday, March 5

Weather Permitting: Guided Ski to the Bowl with return shuttle service, depart summit Warming Hut at 3pm.

Shuttle to depart Bowl starting at 4pm, so people ski there for a few runs

\$19.34 Prix Fix Menu Available at several North Creek Restaurants, Shopping/Souvenir Opportunities at North Creek Shops

Friday, March 6

Town of Johnsbury Free Ski Bowl Day. Town of Johnsbury, bring on the fun and show off your village spirit with festive events at the Bowl!

\$19.34 Prix Fix Menu Available at several North Creek Restaurants, Shopping/Souvenir Opportunities at North Creek Shops

Saturday, March 7

75th Gala Celebration: Fireworks at 7:50pm and live music at the Bowl

\$19.34 Prix Fix Menu Available at several North Creek Restaurants, Shopping/Souvenir Opportunities at North Creek Shops

Need more information ?

Emily Stanton, Gore Mountain Marketing Manager,
(518) 251-2411, X1121 emily@goremountain.com

Clubhouse Corner: 2008 Clubhouse Update

Ed Miller is still taking **reservations** for the 2008/2009 Ski season. He **strongly requests** that you email the reservation information to him. There is a reservation email form in the Clubhouse page of the website. If you can't get to the website, you can email Ed at SWCLodgeRes@Yahoo.com. Be sure to include the names, gender, phone number and membership status of **everybody** you are reserving a room for. You also need to tell him who will be eating Sat dinner at the Clubhouse. Do not expect Ed to be clairvoyant. If your message is incomprehensible, your reservation cannot be completed and you may find yourself without a room.

We have simplified the Clubhouse billing format by including breakfast in the room rates (for all days). All can now use the Clubhouse supplies for breakfast (whether prepared by a Clubhouse Chair or by the individual members) - it is included in the room rate. We will have a breakfast meat, eggs, oatmeal, OJ, coffee and tea available so you can make your own breakfast during the weekdays when there is no Chair at the Clubhouse. Our Quartermaster will try to keep the breakfast supplies complete throughout the ski season. If you find that we are out of supplies, there is a store across the street for your needs. However, you can only be reimbursed for your expenses if you have notified the Clubhouse Chair, Quartermaster, or Clubhouse Director in advance of the purchase. However, you can provide supplies as a donation if you would like to do so.

Above all, enjoy the Clubhouse. Your Clubhouse committee works hard to keep the Clubhouse an enjoyable place - at the lowest possible cost to our members. As members, you are part of the operation of this fabulous asset. If you see a problem, please tell Bill Kornrumpf (518-209-3244) or Walt Kangas (370-5136) so we can fix it.

Clubhouse to Ski Lift Bus Service

The Green Mountain Transit Authority operates bus service to VT. ski areas. Take the bus and leave your car at the Clubhouse, or if you just want to be on a different schedule than your ride. Depending on route, the cost is free, \$1, or \$2. You can take the bus to the Village of Stowe, from Stowe to the Ski Area, or to Waterbury for transfers to the Mad River Valley areas including Sugarbush. You can flag the bus down at the lodge, or call on the day before to schedule the stop. For schedule information, go to www.gmtaride.org.

Ski Discount Deal of the Century Stowe and Jay Discount Tickets

Our Stowe discount tickets have been so popular that we cannot keep them in stock. Dawn will be out of town till Feb 15 so if you need them before then, you may be out of luck! You can call Gina Kornrumpf (370-4017) to see if she has any that can be sent to you before Feb 15. You were warned in the last two Chatters that this might happen if you did not get your order in early so don't say we didn't tell you.

Ski Stowe, **any day, anytime** for \$50. (\$45 for ages 65+ and 6-12)!!! **No blackout periods**, good any day of the season. You must be a club member to take advantage of this deal. We have sold our first 250 tickets and have reordered more. Don't wait to order them, as they may be gone.

We also have Adult Jay Peak tickets for \$40 good for any day. We do not have any Junior/Senior tickets to Jay this year.

For tickets send a self addressed stamped envelope to Dawn Knutson, 5 Colonial Dr., Schenectady, NY 12306 with a note identifying the location and number of the tickets being ordered and a **check made out to SWC** for the full amount. Give yourself plenty of time or call Dawn on 356-5242 to make sure she will be able to fill your order in time (she does have a life and may be on a ski vacation). Bill Kornrumpf will have a small supply of tickets at the Clubhouse - when he is there.

Stowe Ski Club Appreciation Days

The last Stowe really cheap ski days are March 18-22. Last year the Clubhouse was full (not quite packed but full). The skiing in March was superb with piles of new snow on a massive base. Adult (under 65) prices are ~\$32/day and senior/junior is only ~\$13/day. There is an advantage to outlasting your younger friends. Check the Stowe web site for more details.

March 18-22 at the Clubhouse will be hosted with meals served. Please make reservations for these days to ensure you have a room and meals. Beyond the usual weekend meals, breakfast and dinner will be provided for Wed thru Fri. **Weekend hosted rates will apply to these weekdays.** See you there.

CLIMBERS LODGE SKI WEEKEND FEB 6-8, Keene, NY

There was a last minute drop out so there are a few places left for the Climbers Lodge weekend. Call Jean or Warren Burton (**872-2333**) or email them at wburton2@nycap.rr.com about space available. Deposit checks (\$45) should be made out to Jean Burton and sent to PO Box 46, Gallupville, NY 12073.

Racers Corner: by Dorie Valenti**2008-2009 Race Schedule**

GORE Mtn, SWC Invitational on February 8;
 STRATTON Mtn, OC Invitational on February 22;
 BROMLEY, ASC Invitational on March 15 (but is trying to reschedule for February 15.)

We need gatekeepers. If you or someone you know would like to gate keep, please let Dorie Valenti (334-0652 cell, 473-3108 work) know. Gatekeepers get a free lift ticket for the day.

Nordic Corner: by Lat Schmidt**Sun, Feb 8th Stowe Telemark Clinic** with Mickey

Stone; Telemark Clinic for beginners and intermediate skiers at Stowe Mountain Resort. A good event to learn Telemark skiing. Options include rentals and lift tickets. paddle@umiak.com or call 802-253-2317 for details and to make a reservation.

February 6-8. Climbers Lodge, Keene NY ski

weekend. A few spots remain. Contact Warren & Jean Burton 872-2333 and wburton@nycap.rr.com

Sun, Feb 22nd Stowe Derby a race down the toll road

with all types of equipment including snowboards! A 16 km course, from the top of Mt. Mansfield, all the way down to the center of Stowe! The race begins on the Stowe Mountain Toll Road and follows the Stowe Recreational Path to Stowe Village. Mt. Mansfield Ski and Snowboard Club: 802-253-7704 X21

<http://www.teammmssc.org/StoweDerby.asp>

Sun, Mar 1st 2nd Annual Catamount Trail BC

(BACK COUNTRY) Challenge Race 16 Kilometer Backcountry ski from Trapp Family Lodge to Bolton Valley Touring Center on the Catamount Trail. Most of the course is non-groomed and conditions can vary tremendously due to changing weather. Participants will encounter a 2420 foot vertical climb from Nebraska Notch Road to the highest elevation on the Catamount Trail and then descend 1820 vertical on a narrow trail into Bolton Valley.

www.catamounttrail.org

Saturday & Sunday March 7-8 NATO Telemark

Festival. The 34th annual North American Telemark Organization (NATO) Festival is the world's oldest and largest gathering of Telemark skiers.

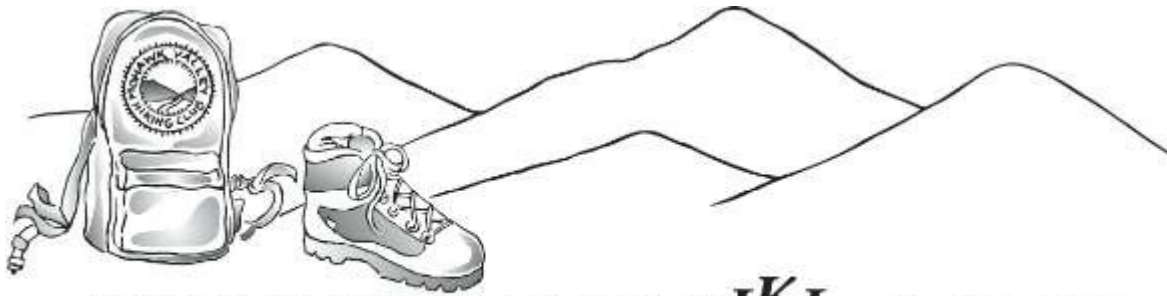
Telemarkers are treated to clinics ranging from beginner to radical terrain skills. Located at Mad River Glen, a 40 minute drive from the Clubhouse. Major Telemark equipment manufacturers are on hand to give skiers the opportunity to demo all the latest equipment. Do not miss the Telemark dance party Saturday night. 1-800-835-3404 or visit NATO's website at www.telemarknato.com

Events, Announcements & Reports**Stowe Appreciation Days and More**

January could not have been better to the ski areas in northern Vermont. After a warm end to Dec, January turned cold and turned on the snow. Stowe was blessed with a dump on Thurs before we arrived for the Stowe Appreciation days on Jan 12 - 14 and the cold weather allowed snow making to cover what Mother nature missed. While the Stowe Appreciation Days were only for Mon thru Wed, a couple of \$50 passes used during the weekend made for 5 great days of skiing at one of the best ski resorts in the Northeast. Sat night Mother Nature dropped another 5 to 7 inches of snow to add to the pleasure. It was enough to allow the top of Goat to be opened, but not enough of it to stay ski-able for very long. A group of us can claim another first, skiing the Goat from the top to bottom. But our skis would claim otherwise given the number of rocks encountered. All the same, it was quite an experience and the lower half was nicely bumped up with good snow. While the Goat was "nasty", the run down the 1930's original Bruce trail down the backside of Stowe was a great pleasure and another first for most of us. The snow from Sat night made it the run that some only dream about skiing. While we were not making "fresh tracks", the coverage was excellent and the scenery was spectacular. But as always, quick turns and control were the order of the day on this narrow and steep, old fashioned New England ski trail. As for the rest of the time, we tried very hard to wear the mountain out, but the mountain probably won. Even on day 5, Stowe still had a lot of great skiing to offer. From the top of National and Goat to Spruce Peak, the skiing was great. Overall, about 25 people stayed at the Clubhouse and enjoyed inexpensive skiing at Stowe. It was a great time and we are looking forward to March and the next Stowe Ski Club Appreciation days. Submitted by Jon Skalwold



Larry Woods, Merry Huber, Jon Skalwold, Rick Deastyne, Larry Grygas & Walt Kangas On the 1930's Bruce Trail at Stowe



MOHAWK VALLEY HIKING CLUB

2/1/09

Conservation Report

by *Henri T. Plant*

Biofilms Revisited

We are all are mortal. So all of us will die. At present our final exit will be due to our heart, cancer or stroke in that order. Do you know what is the fourth leading cause of death? Hospital derived infections! The latest statistics show that it is getting worse rather than getting better. Wait a minute! Don't we go to the hospital to get rid of life threatening infections? Yes, and that may be part of the problem.

A few months ago I did a little bit here about the colonies of bacteria called biofilms and their great affinity to all surfaces. Your skin is covered with them both inside and out. For that matter they are on just about everything. They can be benign, beneficial or downright deadly! So if you are unfortunate enough to acquire one of the deadly kind of biofilms where do they send you? To the hospital, of course.

Therefore, it is no surprise that the hospitals are the recipients of lots of nasty biofilms which can and do cover all surfaces, including instruments, people and their clothes. Once you are in the hospital, they pump you full of antibiotics to try to kill the one attacking you and if you are lucky, you may survive. Unfortunately, most antibiotics are not bacteria selective. They tend to kill all bacteria that are there whether they are benign, beneficial or, if you are lucky, bad ones. Of course, this leaves a fresh new surface for the biofilms to establish new colonies. Since you are in the hospital with its concentration of bad biofilms, the chance of a death-dealing biofilm is more likely to see its chance to lay you low.

It is becoming clear just how important it is to keep everything really super clean. I thought we already knew that. New steps are now being taken to reduce this severe problem.

Please call leader in advance; weather and other factors may cause changes. Please, no pets on any hike as a courtesy to others. This is a volunteer organization and with any activity there is a presumption of risk. Each participant is responsible for his or her own safety. Bring ample food and water, dress appropriately.

Hike leaders: Please send your reports to:
Cecilia A. MacDonald, 260 Sever Road, Delanson, NY 12053.

OUTINGS

Saturday, February 7 Anne Twilley will again lead a most interesting outing at **Wilton Nature Preserve and Saratoga Camp**. This will be an x-c ski by moonlight and candles in paper bags for light. Hot chocolate will be served on the trail. Call Anne at 355-8232 for information as to time and meeting place.

Thursday, Feb. 12 Annual Covered Dish Supper
Put on your hats and heavy coats, come out to the Annual Covered Dish Supper, the social event of the year, and meet, greet and eat, with the hoi-poli of the area. We will convene at the **Dutch Reformed Church** in Scotia with serving beginning at 6pm. If anything needs heating, be there earlier.

Bring your own place settings, including cups and silverware. Call **John Rack at 399-5081** to coordinate the menu. He'll sign you up to bring your favorite main course dish, salad, breads or dessert so we can enjoy a sumptuous meal. Decaf, tea and cocoa will be provided by the club. After dinner we'll have a slide presentation on Alaska by **Bill Massoth**. His programs are always great, so join us for a warm evening of friendship.

Saturday, February 15 -- There will be a joint **snowshoe walk** with the **Friends of Thatcher Park**. Explore the Nature Center and Thatcher Park trails. Bring your own snowshoes or rent them there. If there is not enough snow, we'll hike. Snowshoes must be reserved in advance. Call Cecilia MacDonald, by Thursday evening, at 872-0823 to sign up. Meet at the Nature Center parking lot at 9:45am.

Tuesdays in February **David Graves** will once again lead x-c ski trips after work at the **Pine Bush**. You may join for any or all. Just call Dave at 861-8760 to sign up and for meeting place.

Trip Tales

Sunday, December 28 saw 4 intrepid hikers brave the lovely fairly warm weather to hike in the Wolf Creek Falls Preserve. That is, they hiked, after hauling a certain front wheel drive silver SAAB out of the ditch. The three guys were brave, industrious and successful. The driver was fascinated while changing into Bean boots so as not to delay them any longer. Once all were ready, we slogged through 6 or 8 inch snow which sometimes turned into streams. It was all easily navigable, especially for the ones not breaking trail. It was a beautiful day and everyone enjoyed the first side of the preserve. When it was time to try the next side, the SAAB decided it wanted to go home, so it bravely drove out--- into another snow bank!



Needless to say, the guys once again pulled the dear car out. They deserve a medal for their work. As the car drove off, the three guys were walking towards the entrance for the second side, smiling as my SAAB and I drove, somewhat red faced, towards home. Rumor has it they had a good time, saw the waterfall and sighed happily at not having to pull any more cars out of snow banks. All in all, a very good day.

Reported by CAM

Chatter/Blade/MVHC on Website

The Chatter/ Blade/MVHC is timed to arrive at your doorstep for the first of the month. As it is sent to the printer, we post it on our website. This means the Chatter/Blade/MVHC newsletter can be viewed about the 20th of the month, or about 10 days earlier. (The best part is the pictures look great in color). In addition to the color photos and early delivery, there is more room in the web version for extra photos and information that may not make it into the print version of the Chatter/Blade/MVHC.

Ski Council Days Updated

Here are the updates to the Council days (added Mt. Snow days). Check the NYCDSC web page (www.nycdsc.org) or SWC web page (www.swc-nnyp.org) regularly for updates and, as always, each newsletter will contain update. Remember, all deals require you to show a membership card for each person.

Friday	6-Feb	Whiteface	\$35	
Friday	6-Feb	Stratton	\$40	
Friday	13-Feb	Okemo	\$40	(group sales)
Sunday	22-Feb	Stratton	\$42	
Friday	27-Feb	Mt. Snow	\$35	
Friday	6-Mar	Stratton	\$40	
Sunday	8-Mar	Mt. Snow	\$39	
Friday	13-Mar	Okemo	\$35	(group sales)
Monday	16-Mar	Stratton	\$40	
Mon/Tues	23&24-Mar	Whiteface	\$35	
Friday	27-Mar	Mt. Snow	\$35	
Sun/Mon	5&6-Apr	Whiteface	\$35	

Catamount ski club days Mon through Thur \$20 excluding holidays (12/20-1/4, 1/17-19, 2/14-22), Fri (non Holiday) \$30, Weekends & Holidays \$36

Names and Numbers to Remember

Board of Directors:

Bill Schaefer, Pres	H 370-0229
Pete Weykamp, VP Administration	H 785-6433
Anna Dugan, VP Nordic	H 489-5092
Kathy Perrego, VP Activities	H 869-1155
Dorie Valenti, VP-Alpine	H 334-0652
Anna Dugan NNYP President	H 489-5092
Lat Schmidt, Secretary,	H 372-2915
Ray Asselin, Treasurer	H 355-1882
Walt Kangas, Clubhouse Director	H 370-5136
Tony Dorangrichia, At Large	H 435-9981
Rich Vanderwood, At Large	H 368-1149
John Rack, Mohawk Valley Hiking Club	H-399-5081
Jon Skalwold, Past Pres.	H 382-8458

Others:

Jean Burton, Membership	H 872-2333
Ed Miller, Clubhouse Reservations	H 522-5474
Bill Kornrumpf, Chatter Editor &	H 370-4017

Clubhouse Facilities wkornrumpf@ieee.org

Allan Foster Blade Editor adfos@aol.com H 438-5540

Cecilia McDonald MVHC Editor H 872-0823

Dorie Valenti Webmaster doriev@verizon.net

Terry Tamer Thursday Night Bicycle Ride Coordinator
H-435-1704

Clubhouse at Waterbury Center 802-244-8918

Change Of Address Notices

Change of Address notices should be sent to: Jean Burton, wburton2@nycap.rr.com or PO 46, Gallupville, NY 12073. Do not send to the editors, or the Club PO Box, they will get lost.



THE BLADE

box 228, Schenectady, New York 12301

PUBLISHED MONTHLY FOR MEMBERS OF

NORTHERN NEW YORK PADDLERS

Feb 1, 2009

Towpath Set

Rather than sit around the yuletide log all the time, Geoff Moore has been hard at work for an early start at the Towpath Regatta. He has set the date as **Thursday, June 18** with registration at 5:30 pm, and race at 6:30 pm.

Jacques Brel

Gina Kornrumpf (Rehearsal Secretary) and Allan Foster (Director) have finished their tour of artistic duty with Schenectady Light Opera's recent show: "Jacques Brel Is Alive And Well And Living in Paris". Thanks to the SWC/NNYP's that came to see it, and to Bill Kornrumpf who single-handedly shored up the Eiffel Tower so it didn't come crashing down in the midst of a performance!!

Here's the Right Priority

Message from Steve Blazejewski over at Berkshire Outfitters brings some sanity to this world. Seems that he recently went to a local holiday gathering of Berkshire paddlers at Joe and Debbie Shaw's house in Worthington MA. National champ Gloria Wesley, Gary Aprea, Paul Facticeau and Shawn Jennings were just a few of the high powered paddlers there. They all buzzed about the past season with stories of the "70", the "Classique", the "Ausable", and so on. But one story stood out.

Prior to Christmas, the town of Worthington and other Hill towns got hit bad by a giant ice storm. Trees crashed and power was out for as long as 8 days. Joe's wife, Debbie, said they heard trees snapping all night long. The next morning she noticed a giant 200 year old maple had snapped and landed on top of her husband's new car!

She said as she watched Joe dash outside to assess the damage, he ran right past his new car. He crawled under the ice covered branches of the tree and over the other side of an ancient stone wall where he kept his carbon fiber Pro boat and C-1. He said luckily the damage to the boats was minimal.

His car was later towed away to the body shop!!

Keep The News Coming

Remember that New Year's resolution we all made: get more stuff into the Blade – to heck whether it's true or meets normal publication standards. Water sport write-ups, photos, jokes, stories, etc. or activities that might interest the group (like hiking, theater, etc) are fine. Send to Allan Foster: adfos@aol.com, 379 McCormack Rd, Albany, NY 12208, by the 10th of month. Put NNYP, SWC or Blade in the email subject title line so I don't Spam you, and pictures should preferably be less than 100Kb.

For Sale

Nothing. Everybody bought everything for Xmas.

Club Canoe Availability

Remember that we (SWC/NNYP) have canoes, paddles, PFD's, and one kayak for use by members:

18' 6" Wenonah CC 18' 6" Lincoln CC 18' 6" Sawyer CC
18' 5" Alumicraft 12" Acadia Kayak

These boats may be borrowed by Club members for a \$5/day, \$25/week donation. They are located at Uncle Donnie Patneau's house at 741 River Road, Lower Rotterdam Junction (about 0.3 mile from the Kiwanis boat launch. 518-887-5483).

There are also four canoes for members who are up at the Clubhouse, but no fair using them on Nosedive!

Since the availability of life vests (PFDs), is limited, you should bring one along if you have one.

Help Wanted

The club canoes at the clubhouse are need of some TLC wood refinishing. Call Anna (489-5092) to help or just do it yourself at your convenience. Thanks.

Membership Application 2008-09

June 1, 2008 to May 31, 2009

Schenectady Wintersports Club, Northern New York Paddlers &
Mohawk Valley Hiking Club
PO Box 228, Schenectady, NY, 12301

Schenectady Wintersports Club
Northern New York Paddlers
PO Box 228
Schenectady New York 12301

Name _____

Age Group (circle One) 18-29 30-39 40-55 56-69 70+

Address _____

Phone _____ ZIP _____

E-Mail _____

New Member () Renewal () \$20 individual () \$30 Family ()

For Family Membership, please indicate

Name of Spouse _____

Age Group (circle One) 18-29 30-39 40-55 56-69 70+

Names and Ages of Junior Members _____

To qualify for family membership, children must be under 18 or 18 and still in High School.

How did you hear about the Club? _____

This is a gift Membership from: _____

Please indicate your Activity interests. Check as many as applicable;

Alpine Skiing () X-C Skiing () Paddling () Biking ()

Hiking () Ski Trips Western US, Canada, Europe ()

Ski Racing () Wilderness/canoe camping () Canoe Racing ()

Other _____

Would you like to receive your Chatter/Blade by e-mail? YES NO

Interested in Club administration? If so what areas? _____

Interested in working with the NY Capital District Ski Council? ()

Comments _____

Make check payable to SWC and mail with the completed application to **SWC, PO Box 228, Schenectady NY, 12301**

First Class Mail
U.S. Postage
Paid
Albany, NY
Permit #370