



MANCHESTER SKI CLUB

October, 2006

Manchester Ski Club, P.O. Box 1267, Manchester, CT 06045
Manchester Ski Club Lodge, 4 Pleasant St., Ludlow, VT 05149 (802) 228-2226
Reservations: manchesterskiclub@gmail.com or call Frank Stadmeyer (860) 646-7508
Please pay lodge overnight and dinner fees by check only

Mark Your Calendars!

- **Next membership meeting November 6th at 7:30 pm** (doors open at 7:00 pm), at the South Congregational Church, corner of Hartford Rd. and South Main St. in Manchester, CT. This meeting will be held in the large meeting room in the basement. Please look for direction signs at the church. This meeting will feature a special ski tuning program provided by two of our well-known ski lodge members, Byron Smith and Jon Orzolek. Byron and Jon have brought their kids through the race program at Okemo and have tuned skis an enormous number of times for racing and for recreation. They will demonstrate base preparation and edge tuning and provide recommendations for tools and repairs. Waxing will not be covered in this program.
- **Okemo opens on Nov 18th!!** _
- **The CSC Snowball will be held on November 11th** at the Trumbull Marriot, 180 Hawley Lane in Trumbull CT. Tickets are \$20.00 in advance and \$25.00 at the door. Rooms are available at the Trumbull Marriot for \$89 plus tax with the CSC discount. Reservations must be made by October 12th.
- **Okemo Awareness Day \$29.00!** -The Connecticut Ski Council and Okemo will sponsor and Awareness day on Sunday December 17th. There will be a special event on this day for teaching kids how to ski. The CSC and Okemo are looking for volunteers to help run the classes and participate in the teaching. This is a great way to give something back to the sport! If you are interested please check the CSC newsletter at www.skiclub.com for details.

October Membership Meeting a Big Success - and that's no stretch of the imagination!

The club had an excellent program for the first meeting of the year. Karen Churchill, a Certified Stott Pilates Instructor, gave a program on proper stretching techniques and the importance of stretching before and after skiing. Live demonstrations and audience participation were the order of the night as we all got loosened up for the coming season. Karen was joined by her friend who provided a lecture on the healing benefits of natural therapeutic grade oils and herbs. Thanks to Bill Jones and Bill Honeck of Pig Iron Ski and Sports in Glastonbury for arranging this program.

MSC Member's Discount!

Pig Iron is offering the club members a 10% discount this year including 10% off of already discounted and sale items. Ski tunes are also discounted.

Lodge Sign-in Sheet - Please remember to fill in all the information on the lodge sign-in sheet. The board needs this information to keep the various accounts straight, such a members vs. guests, number of nights stayed, dinners consumed etc. This just makes life easier for the reservation committee, Frank, Mark and our treasurer Gary Warzocha.

Board of Director Notes - MSC Membership Decline - There has been a general decline in membership in the last few years and the BOD would like to reverse that trend. As stated in the recent newsletters and last year, MSC has membership openings in both the general membership and the lodge. Those openings have only been partly filled. The BOD has discussed this issue including factors that impact membership, such as the increased costs of skiing, the not so great weather and other recreational activities that compete with skiing more than in the past. Our club is a part of the cost of skiing, and although we believe that MSC is a great bargain, the BOD wants to make sure that we keep our membership at a levels that will help minimize any cost increases needed to keep up with increased costs. To reverse this trend the Board would like all our members to think seriously about people they know who might be interested in joining our club. Please contact Arlene Gazza (860-633-2312 or argazza@cox.net) for further information. Also, the BOD is considering modifying the sponsorship Letter of Recommendation requirements to allow membership candidates other ways of initially joining the club if they do not know any members. As an additional step, the Board may participate in local ski shows to generate more interest in our club.

MSC Survey Results:

Lodge Use		Responses
Weather effects		
More lodge use		4
Less lodge use		10
Cost effects		
More lodge use		5
Less lodge use		7
Other activities outside of skiing drives		
More lodge use		8
Less lodge use		9
MSC is economical		
Yes		29
No		0

I use the lodge less due to: 1.) Family demands. 2.) Travel 3.) Job & ski conditions. 4.) Job & ski conditions. 5.) Time available with my grandchildren. 6.) Injuries 7.) RV'ing in the winter. 8.) Other activites. 9.) Injury. 10.) Time commitment, travel. 11.) Having to work.

Any other comments on the lodge? 1.) I think the top bunks should be given out last, rather than filling up room 1 and leaving another almost empty, or why not assign 1st to bottom bunks. I'm getting a litte old to be climbing up and down ladders. 2.) For the price the accomodations are great. 3.) I LOVE IT! 4.) I'd still like a dishwasher and maybe a clothes dryer. I'd encourage a Sat. night video night or other activity to encourage children to stay together in playroom rather than watch separate laptops. Also we should use video for ski/snowboard analysis - improvement of skills. 5.) We don't usually have too many complaints. I do feel that the fees are a bit much. 6.) The facilities of the lodge are fine. It is not meant to be a resort type of place. But just an economical lodge to make skiing cheaper. The atmosphere is made by the members, and they are wonderful. 7.) The storage is appropriate. Some of the "regulars" do not pay for storage, but since it is not used it is their personal spot. I believe that "regular" guests should be flexible and understanding during crowded or busy lodge arrangements. 8.) No lodge is great. Improvements except for men's bathroom, which are the best you can do for now. 9.) We need to upgrade common area furniture. 10.) Living room needs upgrade, ie wallpaper & paint. Kitchen needs dishwasher & trash compactor. 11.) Dishwasher, bathroom, front door - front of building. 12.) Harder beds, repair hand rail to basement

Suggestions to increase lodge use: 1.) More on weekends would be bad (during ski season), Only retirees could go during week, how do you recruit retirees? 2.) None, I use it all the time. 3.) Review survey & incorporate the best of other state clubs in Vermont. 4.) Continue to emphasize summer/fall use of lodge, mid week, groups during winter. 5.) Occasional TV use for ski related events. 6.) Make better arrangements for small children to stay with parents, or a parent. Particular problem is father with daughter. 7.) Indoor pool, sauna, hot tub, private room, bar & valet parking. 8.) Family room to stay in even if the rate increases (ie, 4 family members

in 5 bedroom = \$50.00, pay per bed. 9.) Spread the word - friends, family welcome. 10.) Encourage groups

General suggestions for our club: 1.) Attitude should be welcoming to all if you are dealing with to club members. Concern - How can the pots and pans be better stored to promote cleanliness? Improve the outside appearance of club front. 2.) Have a few off-season events, on each weekend for each, like hiking, summer swimming, fall foliage weekend, antiques. 3.) Programs for club meetings are a must do. 4.) Link CSC website from ours. 5.) Bathrooms need more privacy. 6.) Ski swap in fall.

Stay tuned for more results in next months newsletter!

Al Brunner

Reminder!!

Please send any **email address changes/updates** to Arlene Gazza (860-633-2312/argazza@cox.net) **and** Debbie Celani (dcelani1@cox.net). If we don't have your **correct** email address, we can't get the newsletter out to you!

If you are receiving the email version of the newsletter and want to continue to receive a hard copy version you must contact Debbie Celani (dcelani1@cox.net)!

CSC News:

● **CSC Snowball – November 11, 2006!**

Nov 11, 2006 at the Marriott Hotel, Trumbull, CT; 8:00 - 12:00. [Click Here](#) to view the CSC Snowball 2006 flyer. [Click Here](#) to view information on the 2006 Snowball.

● **Snowfest at Westfarms Mall, October 20-22, 2006**

Please come to West Farms Mall from October 20th through October 22nd. Mountain Reps, Retail outlets, tour operators and the Connecticut Ski Council will be represented. We request volunteers to help out at the CSC table. [Click Here](#) for more info.

● **CSC Kids Day, Okemo, December 17, 2006**

Kids 6-18 years of age receive 2 hours of free ski/boarding lessons in the morning and join each other at the end of the ski day for a gathering of fun, food and give-aways donated by both the sponsoring ski areas and the Council itself. **Register by 12/8/06.** [Click Here](#) for info and registration form.

Volunteer A.S.I.A. and P.S.I.A. certified instructors and other enthusiastic volunteer instructors are needed. You will receive a free lift ticket. To volunteer, contact ASAP: Sue Poirier, 2357 Kingdom Rd, Ludlow, VT 05149 (802-228-3308) spcolby@gmail.com [Read More...](#)

● **CSC Banff Trip, February 10-17, 2007**

Join the CSC in beautiful Banff, Alberta in the Canadian Rockies! For more information contact [Click Here](#) to view the CSC Banff Flyer. or [Click Here](#) to view the Travel Insurance Plans

● **CSC Council Awareness Days – Starting December 1, 2006**

[Click Here](#) for the PRELIMINARY 2006-2007 Council Awareness Days (Specially discounted dates at individual resorts with reduced lift ticket pricing for CSC Members).

● **Seasonal Discounts**

[Click Here](#) for a full list of the 2005-2006 seasonal skiing & riding discounts offered by our local resorts. Discounts for the 2006-2007 season will be available shortly.

● **ASIA (Amateur Ski Instructors Association) – Events at OKEMO**

Dec 2-3 - Level 1 Alpine Pre-course and Advanced Skiing Improvement/Refresher

MANCHESTER SKI CLUB DINNER CALENDAR 2006-2007		
Date	Member	Menu
January 6, 2007		
January 13, 2007	Bob & Sheila Klapatch	
January 20, 2007		
January 27, 2007		
February 3, 2007	Katherine & Kristen	
February 10, 2007	Inter-Club Race - NO DINNER	
February 17, 2007		
February 24, 2007		
March 3, 2007		
March 10, 2007	Club Race (Sweeneys ?)	
March 17, 2007		
March 24, 2007		
March 31, 2007		
April 7, 2007		
April 14, 2007		

Reservations):

- Members make reservations for dinner when they reserve rooms for the weekend. [Reservations](#) will indicate number of adults and number of children (under 13).
- Changes in reservations must be made by 8:00 p.m. on the Wednesday prior to the meal.
- Costs: Adults, \$8.00, and Children (under 13) \$6.00.
- Payment is to be made by check along with payment for lodging.
Indicated the split for lodging & dinner on your check.
- The cooking member does not pay for his/her meal.

Additional meals may be purchased on Saturday on an "as available" basis only, as determined by the cook and the reservations coordinator.

Cooking:

- The cooking member(s) will plan the menu, shop, and cook the meal.
- **ALL** dining members will clean up after dinner. (Cooks are exempt)
- Food costs should be calculated at \$3.00 per child & \$5.00 per adult.
- Menus should be submitted one month in advance to avoid repetition.
- Menu planning should emphasize "**home cooked**" selections.
- The cooking member will call the reservations coordinator for the number of adults & children dining. A minimum of 15 reservations will be required; if fewer reservations are made, the dinner will be cancelled.
- Dinner menu will include appetizer, salad, **homemade entree**, dessert, & beverages.
- The availability of staple items & paper goods should be checked with the Dinner Coordinator.
- Appetizers are to be served from 4:00 pm until 5:45pm.
- Dinner is to be served at 6:00 p.m.

Work Units:

- Cooking a Saturday Night dinner fulfills yours YEARLY work assignment responsibility.
- Cost of groceries will be reimbursed upon submission of all receipts to Dinner Coordinator, with SIGN IN SHEET of GUESTS eating dinner. USE BACK OF REIMBURSEMENT FORM, for SIGN IN.
- MAIL all above WITHIN 2 WEEEEKS of the night you cooked dinner.
- Reimbursements will be made prior to the end of the fiscal year (May 31).
- Any costs not submitted prior to that time will be forfeited.

Questions should be directed to the Dinner Coordinator, email: sgt40@charter.net or 1-413-596-9497.

Thank you for JOINING in the FUN and MSC FAMILY nights!

SANDRA THORNE
2 MIRICK LANE
WILBRAHAM MA 01095