

Liftline

The Official Newsletter of the Garden State Ski Club

GSSC TOURS THE ITALIAN DOLOMITES AND VENICE!



Pensione La Soldanella was home for GSSC during our visit. The Tyrolean architecture and Italian wall frescoes (see left) were outstanding along with the mountain vistas from our bedroom windows and balconies.

Photo Credit to R. Greene

ITALY SKI SAFARI: March 10-19, 2000

By Carolyn Korus

Is it possible to have too much fun?? ... Ask anyone who went to Italy, a trip that was packed with activity, excitement and fun for those with a wide variety of interests and expectations: Skiing, site-seeing, shopping, wine-tasting, dancing, partying (this is GSSC, after all) and even daily time at the beach (we'll explain that later) were all miraculously squeezed into nine short days.

If this all sounds too good to be true, there was one unanimous complaint: We did not have enough time to do and see everything we wanted!

(Continued on Page 11)



Mountain Bike and Kayak/Canoe Weekend
July 21-23, 2000
GSSC's Vermont House, Pittsford

Saturday—Rent a mountain bike at Killington's Base Lodge and ride the K1 Gondola to the top. There's a variety of descent choices, ranging from wide service paths, offering comfort and control to adrenaline pumping steep and single track trails.

Sunday—Venture to nearby Chittenden reservoir for kayaking or canoeing (rentals and valet delivery service to the lake are available), swimming, bicycling or hiking, plus lunch barbecue during the day. Interested? Contact **Scott Lincks** at 201-634-1509 or **Rich Bauernfeind** at 201-664-3259.

IN THIS ISSUE:	Page
Official Bulletin Board	2
Social News	3
Summer Activities	4-8
Final Ski Race Results	9
Winter Ski Activities	10-15
New Members	16
Birthdays	16

OFFICIAL BULLETIN BOARD . . .

*Many thanks to retiring
Board Members:*

- Carol Alesso**, Social VP
- John Friscia**, Treasurer
- Carol Jordan**, Senior Delegate
- MaryAnn Kurus**, Secretary
- Margaret O'Brien**, Junior Delegate

2000-2001 CLUB OFFICERS

President	Barry Fields	914-357-7353
Ski V.P.	Mike Burney	914-352-2789
Lodge V.P.	Fred Hotz	201-445-6834
Social V.P.	Rich Bettini	201-313-5880
Secretary	Pat Braun	973-777-8673
Treasurer	Lily Merom	201-794-7517
Senior Del.	Kevin Feehan	201-662-7652
Junior Del.	Jim Fitzpatrick	973-962-0472

SKI:

Bus Trips	Bruce Fisher
Cross Country	Ron Vitale
Instruction	Ray Owens
Racing	Mark Eugster
Ski Tickets	Roz Armentano
Snow Reports	Joe Mellusi
NJ Ski Council Liaison	Dennis Young

VERMONT LODGE:

(Phone: 802-773-9717)

LODGE TRUSTEES:	Fred Hotz, Bob Janney, Maureen Lent, Scott Lincks, Joe Mellusi and Vince Paruta
RESERVATIONS:	Maureen Lent

ADMINISTRATION:

Welcoming	Ed Ellis	
Orientation	Kevin Feehan	
Membership	Susan Amdur	973-283-0845
Auditor	Stan Sharaga	
Parliamentarian	Fred Hotz	

COMMUNICATIONS:

Lifeline Editor	Pat Levins
Database Mgt.	Bob Gimpel
Webmaster	Ken Levins
Photography	Vacant

SOCIAL:

Barbecue	John Knierim
Tennis	Rob Sinclair, Ed Ellis
Golf	Wayne Kieser
Hike	Laurie Schwarcz, Ron Vitale
Bike	Ron Vitale, Mike Scugoza

The Garden State Ski Club meets every Tuesday at 8:30 p.m.:
Victor's Maywood Inn, 124 West Pleasant Ave.
Maywood, New Jersey 201-843-8022

Membership Meetings are held 2nd Tuesday of each month:
7:45 pm – **Regular** Member Applicants
7:15 p.m. – **Provisional** Member Applicants

MEMBERSHIP HOTLINE: 973-478-8722

WEB SITE www.gardenstateskiclub.com

**REMINDER !
DURING THE SUMMER
BARBECUES
SUBSTITUTE FOR
OFFICIAL MEETINGS
ON ALTERNATING
TUESDAYS.**

SUMMER MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

**Barbecues are scheduled for the
2nd Tuesday of June– August;
please contact the Membership
Chairperson for the new dates.**

June's meeting will be on the 6th !

**NO REGULAR MEETING ON
TUESDAY, JULY 4, 1999
DUE TO THE
NATIONAL HOLIDAY !**

... SOCIAL NEWS

SUNSHINE



ENGAGEMENTS:

- ◆ Art Gillan and Janine Leeman will be married 12-29-00.
- ◆ Jean Meyer and Bill Brex are planning a Spring '01 wedding.
- ◆ Ken Boersema is engaged.



WEDDINGS:

Zoltan Nagy in '99



Congratulations to Kay Brewington on becoming a grandmother of a baby girl !



Get well wishes to Sue Amdur, who's recovering from thyroid surgery and to Tom Murante, who broke his leg in the parking lot after he won his 1st place trophy.

Our sympathy goes out to the Janney family on the recent death of Bob's Father and to the Sternfels' family on the death of June's Mother.

RAINY DAYS

GARDEN STATE SKI CLUB
 WOULD LIKE TO THANK THESE SKI AREAS
 AND MERCHANTS FOR THEIR GENEROUS
 CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR ANNUAL MAY BANQUET
 AND AWARDS DINNER.

PLEASE PATRONIZE THESE SPONSORS !

- Belleayre Mountain, Belleayre, New York
- Cury's Sports Shop, Ramsey
- Gold's Gym, Paramus
- Haworth Tennis Club, Haworth
- Hunter Mountain, New York
- Killington Mountain, Vermont
- Kittatinny Canoes, Pennsylvania
- Mt Everest Ski, Board and Swim Shops, NJ
- Northern Outdoors, The Forks, Maine
- Ski Barn Bike Shop, Paramus
- Victor's Maywood Inn, Maywood
- Windham Mountain, New York

Music Featured By DJ Bob Picone

SUMMER ACTIVITIES . . .

- ◆ ROLLERBLADING AND BICYCLING
- ◆ TENNIS
- ◆ MOUNTAIN BIKING AND KAYAKING
- ◆ BARBECUES

- ◆ VERMONT LODGE
- ◆ CANOE TRIP TO PA
- ◆ GOLFING
- ◆ SUMMER SHORE HOUSE

ROLLERBLADING AND BICYCLING

Starting Wednesday May 17, 2000

Ridgewood Duck Pond—10 mile path

6:00 PM sharp—7:30 PM

See **Vince Paruta** (973-546-0707) for beginner lessons in advance.

Group usually dines alfresco in a nearby restaurant.



TENNIS PARTY

Haworth Country Club

Saturday, May 20

8 PM till midnight

\$20 three sets of tennis;
\$10 just socializing

See **Rob Sinclair** (201-445-6834) for reservations.



MOUNTAIN BIKING AND KAYAKING

July 21-23, 2000

GSSC's Vermont House

Contact **Scott Lincks**
(201-634-1509)

or

Rich Bauernfeind
(201-664-3259)



for lodging and equipment reservations.

Lodging (2 nights) and Sunday BBQ
—\$32 members; \$38 guests

Lift pass at Killington—@ \$14

Rental equipment cost—Extra

R.A.T.D.O.G.S T E N N I S

June 1 through August 31, 2000

Bergen County Tennis Center
at Van Saun Park,
Forest Avenue, Paramus

6 to 8 pm

Whole season: \$115
Four consecutive weeks: \$36
Per night: \$7

Complimentary beginner and intermediate lessons are offered in 4 week groupings.

Contact **Ed Ellis** (201-678-1113) for reservations and payment.

SIGN-UP RIGHT AWAY !

... SUMMER ACTIVITIES

ANNUAL CANOE / RAFTING / CAMPING TRIP DOWN THE DELAWARE

June 9-11, 2000

Camping, elegant dining and sleeping under the stars !

See Rob Sinclair (201-445-6834) for sign-up

(Day trippers are welcome.)



Golf Calendar 2000

Saturday, June 3

Sycamore Golf Outing, NY
Cost: \$90.00, Limit 40

Thursday to Sunday, June 22 to 25

Eastern Townships, Canada,
Cost: \$375.00, Limit 40

Friday to Sunday, July 21 to 23

Pocono Manor, PA,
Cost: \$209.00, Limit 60

Saturday to Sunday, August 5-6

Rutland, Vermont
(choice of 3 courses)

Sunday, August 26

Sycamore Golf Outing, NY
Cost: \$90.00, Limit 40

Lessons:

Wednesdays, May 31, June 7, 14, 21, 28, July 5

6:30 to 7:30 P.M.
Cost: \$55.00, Limit 16

Thursdays, June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, July 6

6:30 to 7:30 P.M.
Cost \$55.00, Limit 16

Thursdays, July 27, August 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

6:30 to 7:30 P.M.
Cost \$55.00, Limit 16

SEE JOHN FRISCIA FOR VERMONT GOLFING
(973-839-3567)

SEE WAYNE KIESER FOR ALL OTHER LOCATIONS
(201-346-0604)

SUMMER ACTIVITIES (PREVIEW)...

Biking on a Shoestring - April 28-30, 2000

By Carol Alesso

To all who thought this weekend would be a washout because of the cold, windy, and rainy predictions of the weatherman, a lesson is to be learned here. The forecasters are *often* wrong and late April's weather is frequently *unpredictable*. I, too, begrudgingly packed my bags laden with turtlenecks, gloves, and hooded jackets and loaded the van with electric heater, decks of cards, board games and videos expecting the worst. I knew **Margaret O'Brien** had put a lot of time and energy into this biking trip, so I couldn't tell her I didn't want to go. Besides she wouldn't let me. Margaret was so sure that we would have fun anyway, so I headed for Belmar despite my dread of a dreary damp weekend.

I was joined by nineteen other more optimistic souls who were determined to have a good time no matter what. We started with an excellent dinner at Amici's, a new

restaurant noted for its huge family-sized portions and then retreated to our rather chilly rooms at the hotel. The White House is a charming old hotel run by a friendly young couple who make you truly feel as if you are their guests. But spring nights can be nippy and it has no heat, so sleeping bags and portable heaters are a must.

But what a glorious surprise it was to awaken to the brilliant rays and warmth of the sun, as it seemed as if it had been at least two weeks since we had seen it last. Most of us thought we were up to **Ron Vitale's** challenging ride to Farmingdale and Allaire State Park, not knowing what thirty miles felt like to the legs, knees and most of all the rump.

We also did a side excursion into Bradley Beach to check out our new shore house (looks good!) and to see the Victorian homes of

Ocean Grove. We were happy with ourselves for completing the trip although quite exhausted and more than a little sore when we returned to the hotel at dinnertime. Of course not so tired that some of us didn't venture out to do a little dancing to an oldies band in a local nightclub that evening.

On Sunday, despite a steady wind, it couldn't have been a more delightful day for a bike ride. A smaller group made the twenty-mile loop to Pt. Pleasant, enjoying the sights of the yachts in Brielle and the shops and homes of Spring Lake, Sea Girt, and Manasquan along the way. Having lunch on the boardwalk in the warm sun reassured us that summer is finally only weeks away.

Thanks **Margaret, Ron and Scott Lincks** for a great weekend and a sneak preview of what will be a summer home away from home to many lucky members of the club.



Chef John Knierim

Barbecue Watch

Alternating Tuesdays in the Summer

Veterans Park, Orangeburg, New York

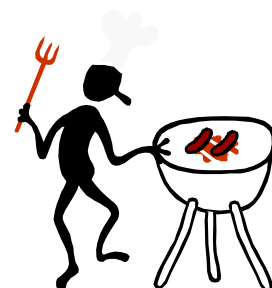
7-11 pm

Contact **John** at 973.633.5056 to sign up for a committee

JUNE 13 AND 27

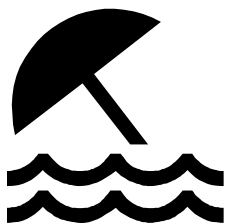
JULY 11 AND 25

AUGUST 8 AND 22



... SUMMER ACTIVITIES

GSSC's BRADLEY BEACH SUMMER HOUSE AT THE JERSEY SHORE



314 Fourth Avenue

LAST CALL FOR SHARES:

Full share—15 weeks	\$2,200
Half share—7 weeks	\$1,100
Quarter share—3 weeks	\$ 550



<u>Weekly Sales:</u>	Friday noon to Friday 9 AM	\$210	Available through Memorial Day
<u>Weekend Sales:</u>	Full weekend (2 nights)	\$120	Available starting June 1, 2000
	Individual night	\$ 60	
<u>Mid-Week Sales:</u>	Sunday through Thursday	\$160	Available starting June 1, 2000
	Individual night	\$ 40	
<u>Non-Member Surcharge:</u>	\$5 per night for weekend and mid-week renters \$25 for weekly renters		

Day guests are welcome when accompanied by a current renter during their stay !

Renters: Please note that you will need to provide your own linens and towels.

FOR RESERVATIONS AND INFORMATION:

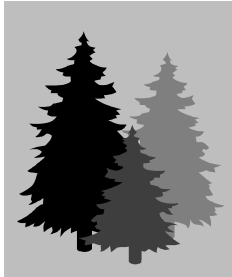
Pat Neary 201.265.4583

Carrie Niller 973.686.0232

Jean Meyer 201.489.5521 (DAYTIME)

SUMMER ACTIVITIES . . .

VERMONT LODGE FOR YOUR SUMMER GETAWAYS



WHERE CAN YOU STAY OVERNIGHT FOR UNDER \$15 ?

ONLY 4 HOURS FROM NORTHERN NJ TO ESCAPE TO CRISP, CLEAN AIR

YOU'LL RUN OUT OF TIME BEFORE YOU RUN OUT OF ACTIVITIES !



Only \$12 per person any night for members; \$14 for guests

Bring your own linen (single or double sheets) through Thanksgiving !

Minors between 8 and 20 must be accompanied by an adult.
Children under 8 are not permitted.

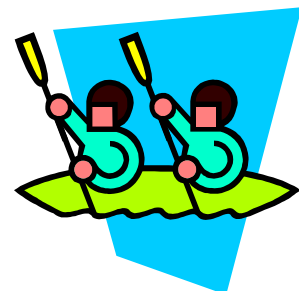
A refundable key deposit of \$5 cash is required.

Reservations are to be made on Tuesday nights at the meetings.

Contact **Maureen Lent** at **973.872.9555**
to reserve a bed, obtain a key and adjust the security alarms.



Many special weekends are planned, e.g., road biking, golfing, and mountain biking/ canoeing or just create your own !



... FINAL RACING RESULTS



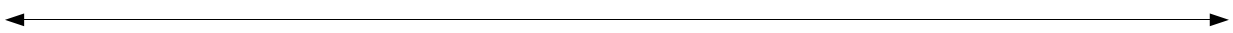
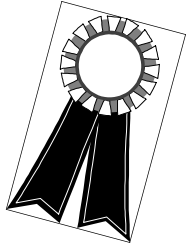
CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL WHO RACED THIS SEASON !

For the latest in racing photos, use this link to the Web:
<http://photos.yahoo.com/gsracer1>

CLASS A	MEN	WOMEN
First Place	James Stein	Kathy Visich
Second Place	Kas Kasprowicz	Laurie Schwarcz
Third Place	Chris Costescu	-

CLASS B	MEN	WOMEN
First Place	Mark Eugster	Anita Sementilli
Second Place	Stephen Lesser	Margaret O'Brien
Third Place	Tom Murante	Joy Daubenberger

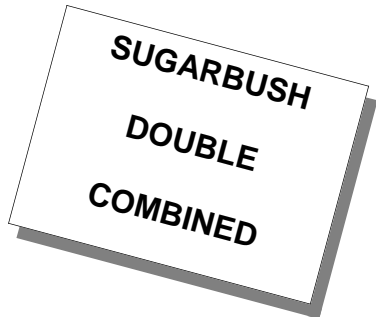
CLASS C	MEN	WOMEN
First Place	Art Gillan	Sharon Scarnecchia
Second Place	Steve Willcoxon	Janine Leeman
Third Place	Dennis Young	Kathy Murante



CLASS A	MEN	WOMEN
First Place	Kas Kasprowicz	Kathy Visich
Second Place	Vince Paruta	Laurie Schwarcz
Third Place	Joe Mellusi	Anita Sementilli

CLASS B	MEN	WOMEN
First Place	Tom Murante	Joan Most
Second Place	Mark Eugster	Sharon Scarnecchia
Third Place	Steve Willcoxon	Margaret O'Brien

CLASS C	MEN	WOMEN
First Place	John Friscia	Kathy Murante
Second Place	Dennis Young	Roz Armentano
Third Place	Steve Corris	Adrienne Geffen



... WINTER SKI MEMORIES

ASIA IS A GREAT SKI INSTRUCTION ORGANIZATION *By Bob Bossolt*



For several years I heard about ASIA (Amateur Ski Instructors of America) from **Pete Gisler** and others and I declined to participate, as I had no desire to teach skiing (still don't). But, after a dismal past season in 1999, I felt my skills eroding. Pete told me that the ASIA rallies evaluate skiers with Professional Ski Instructors Association (PSIA) instructors teaching ASIA members, so I felt I could use an improvement course early in the season, rather than later. I still believed that most of the ASIA agenda was propaganda and since our Instructors don't teach above level 6, I would waste my time.

I gave in and signed up, was confirmed by e-mail, and waited. That week, it was WARM and sunny in the 50's and I held off getting reservations. Belleayre's ski report was "3 trails open, 3-15" base"; I procrastinated more until **Mike Tillman** told me he would like to share a ride up with me. Maybe it might happen. We stayed at a quaint old B & B in Fleischmann, NY at a fixed rate of \$40.00 a night (only available at that price for ASIA members). Since each of us forgot our info letters, we learned about times, where and when, breakfast, etc. from other ASIA skiers at the Inn.

We had a good buffet breakfast, put on our boots and waited for the news as to where to go to meet our instructors. Pete had signed me in and **Ray Owens** was there with several other Garden Staters: **Fred Hotz, Lily Merom, Mark Eugster, and Ed and Kathy Hirning**. I was still into jet lag after returning from weeks in Egypt (low of 80°) and the colder weather woke me up somewhat, but I half-listened to the accolades of the organizers and missed hearing where and with whom my class would meet; but it was resolved early on, ASIA people knowing each other so well.

To a lot of them, it was old home week. The day began on a 20 degree note, some blown snow over ice on the 2 trails assigned to us, and as a result, crowded with classes. We were assigned about 6-8 skiers per instructor. Mine was Jack Kennedy, who was doing his 1st year teaching ASIA. We warmed up, then he put us through drills and exercises. He spent time — lots of time with each of us. Except for my excursion into the woods (no snow, just rocks, stumps, and brush), all of us had a good time.

At the end of the day, we had a cocktail hour and a buffet dinner with more food than we could eat. Then came the speeches of acknowledgment of past and present ASIA members, founders, committee members, etc. Finally, awards to present members. We should feel proud of two members: **Mike Tillman and Linda Castronovo**, who won the Pat Betton awards, one for last year (this rally had been cancelled due to no snow) and one for this year.

Next came a different kind of award, the Cuccaracha Award, for the skier who had the "bad hair, clumsy day" the past year. I was half listening as it sounded (like all the other platitude types, as words became paragraphs, about a "challenger" and a "contender" figuring that I, as well as the other newbies, didn't know what or who was being kidded, but that certain deeds of falling, including off of lifts, smashing into moguls in a cloud of snowflakes, sliding down trails, leveling mounds of snow with their bodies, and the "challenger" lost to the "contender"). Until I heard the name, **Ray Owens**, and then we went over and consoled him for losing out. After that came a series of door prizes and a blind auctioning of a woman's paintings, and that was it for the evening.

Day 2 was sunny and much like Saturday. Breakfast again was served, a lot of new techniques were taught and still more practicing — but not my long fall and slide over lift towers lengths and another one two minutes later - hey, somebody had to wipe all the snow off the ice. (You could say I was trying to compete for next year's Cuccaracha Award.)

Everyone I spoke with was impressed with the week-end and instruction and indicated they would be back next year as well as planning on attending other types of ski instruction offered by ASIA. I highly recommended to others that they should do this, especially to those who, like me, were in a rut or two, be you a novice on up to expert level.

The estimated costs were: \$210 entrance fee with two-day lift tickets, two-all-day lessons with PSIA instructors, room @ \$40.00 per night fixed price, two breakfasts and one dinner, and one free ticket to ski Belleayre at your leisure. Who knows, you can win a door prize or an award, too. See **Pete or Ray** for more info about the annual Spring and Fall ASIA Rallies.

... WINTER SKI MEMORIES

(Italy Continued from Page 1)

The time we did have, however, allowed us to get a sufficient feel for the atmosphere of Northern Italy. Every day was spent at a different ski area, each with its own qualities: Catinaccio was one of the more beautiful areas and San Pellegrino proved a bit more challenging, while Latemar provided the best mix of spectacular views and a choice of runs for all levels. My personal favorite was Catinaccio, an area tightly tucked between the Dolomites, displaying a beautiful panoramic view with individual mountains seemingly close enough to touch. Although not the most expansive or difficult of the areas, Catinaccio is the home of the Alberto Tomba run, that claimed its share of Garden State Ski Clubbers, as well as, the birthplace of Carol Alesso's traveling beach club.

BEACH CLUB ON A SKI TRIP? ABSOLUTELY!

The weather was warm, the sun was shining, the view was breath-taking, the wine was flowing and the lounge chairs were dispersed just outside the main lodge on an expanse of snow-covered land. Everyone quickly accepted the snow as their Italian-Alp sand-substitute and Carol's Beach Club was born! By the 3rd afternoon, beach plans became such an anticipated ritual, even our local ski guides began to join in: First, Nicola the novice group's guide, then Manuella the intermediate group's guide, and by Thursday even Gilberto (Gibo for short) the advanced group's guide was hoping for a little "beach time".

Unfortunately, Thursday's near blizzard conditions sent most of us back to the slopes for the afternoon – this author excluded. I had been spoiled by the phenomenal weather of the previous 5 days and opted to wait for the even better conditions the storm would provide for our final day of skiing: And what a day it was! The sun had returned and there was a new coat of snow on the slopes.

Our guides chose their own favorite area, Latemar, which delivered stunning mountain views, as well as challenging terrain. High winds forced two thirds of us to the "beach" a little early, where Gibo and his group finally got their beach-time, while Manuella's group involuntarily embarked on their own mountain adventure. This Alpine version of a "three hour tour", rumor has it, came very close to meeting the same infamous fate of Gilligan and his sea crew. As the high winds closed the lifts, they also stranded this intermediate group on the wrong side of the mountain. But by hiking, skiing and busing, they all managed to make it back to the main bus to town by the 4 p.m. deadline, in surprisingly good spirits, ready for their final night at Betty Blue's, a "Moenan" nightclub we adopted as our favorite complete with dancing, American music and a displaced Barry White-style singer with the stamina of the Energizer Bunny; he kept singing and singing . . .



Diane LaGreca and Pat Levins leave the Field of Witches' Lodge after crossing internal moats with running water and drawbridges and enjoying great pasta and fine wine. (Photo credit to Diane.)

Off the slopes, many of us took excursions to the cities of Trento, historic site of the Council & Castle of Trent; Balsano, home of the recently discovered Iceman; and Innsbruck, Austria. Although all were extraordinary in their own way, I don't think any could compare to the history, splendor and excitement of Venice, which made the perfect ending of a wonderful trip. I am sure that no two people could agree more than Art and Janine who were engaged to be married in a quaint restaurant on Saturday afternoon. Although Art's engagement note was in Italian, I hear that Janine quickly figured it out and has been wearing a smile from ear to ear, ever since. Not even our 4:30 AM departure time the next morning could erase it. Congrats!

So... is it possible to have too much fun? This group nearly exhausted ourselves trying, but in the end, too much was just enough for us.

*A special thanks to **Carol Alesso** and **Central Holidays** for their impeccable coordination and planning AND to our 3 guides, **Manuella, Nicola and Gilberto**, whose good-nature, humor and knowledge of the area all made the entire trip more than we could have hoped for.*

... WINTER SKI MEMORIES

The Millennium President's Day Bus Trip to Stowe Vermont

By Pete Bellin



Photo credit to P. Bellin

The bus left for Stowe Friday afternoon in the midst of a snowstorm. It was tough just getting to the bus for the 20 intrepid skiers that signed on. Our bus driver, Tom, familiar to many of us from other GSSC bus trips, capably guided us over the next 7 hours to our destination - the Mountaineer Lodge. The time passed quickly as we had great food and drinks and plenty of room to stretch out. We watched the videos "Liar Liar" and "Payback" on the way up. I don't know if it was the movie or what I was drinking, but "Liar Liar" was hilarious. This is the first positive thing I've ever said about a bus video. **Rita Agnello**, our trip leader, had taken individual orders for sandwiches and also provided delicious chicken noodle soup for the ride up. At the lodge lift tickets were waiting for each of us. **Rita** did a great job of listening to our requests and doing her best to make sure everyone had a great time.

We started off each morning with a buffet breakfast. The bus took us to the slopes. Those ready earlier or later could take the Village Shuttle for \$1. It ran every 20 minutes.

The mountain was superb. "The best conditions I have seen in Vt in years. A foot of snow falls the night we arrive and the next morning the slopes were incredible. We skied as a group and did all kinds of terrain. It took us some time to get used to all the powder, boy were we hurting. Our reward was the hot tub. Could have stayed in there all night." - **Steve Lesser**.

"Conditions were great, powder and packed powder and not very cold (18 to 30 degrees)" - **Gene B.**

"We enjoyed the deep snow conditions but they made us work twice as hard. We all found muscles we didn't know we had (pain). The Jacuzzi took the kinks out." - **Melissa**.

"Skiing was great, it snowed every day." - **Ed Ellis**.

Steve L. and I tried one run down the racecourse. It was my first success with a deeply rutted track. By success I mean I finished. The most challenging trail was a mogul diamond, "Chin Clip." I took it with **Gene and Steve**. They went down it handily while I was over my head

and often on my butt. Some choose to ski adjacent to Spruce Mountain with an extensive beginner area. The only complaint about the mountain was that one of the signs was partially obscured. "We went down a trail marked 'M ULS'. Too late and with many regrets we realized that it actually said MOGULS." - **John Budka**.

"The Mountaineer Lodge has upgraded somewhat from 5 years ago. The hot tub is now enclosed and much larger." - **Gene B.**

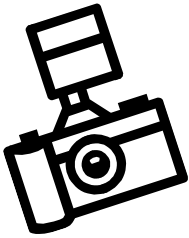
There is an indoor pool and sauna as well. A long stay in the Jacuzzi was the perfect way to relax and recover from a day on the slopes. Outside our window we watched snow-shoers and X-country skiers navigating the trails that passed behind the lodge.

Saturday night we had a party with hors d'oeuvres, music and dancing at 7 pm and a buffet dinner at 8 pm. This all took place at our lodge.

Sunday was another perfect day of skiing on the slopes. Every day we

(Continued on Page 13)

... WINTER SKI MEMORIES



FOR MANY ACTION PHOTOS OF OUR
 WINTER SKI ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING 360° VIEWS,
 VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT: www.gardenstateskisclub.com

(Stowe Continued from Page 9)

skied amid light snow mixed with occasional sunshine. Luckily for me it wasn't too cold. I left my ski bib at home and skied the weekend in jeans. That turned out to be just fine for these conditions and took me back to the old days (3 years ago) before I learned from GSSC members how to ski in style (or at least wear waterproof clothing).

The high-speed quad chair had a 10-minute wait but there was hardly any wait on the other lifts. Our group spent most of the time taking the gondola, the best way to the top. There was a waffle concession at the bottom of the gondola. You could purchase waffles right off the line and consume them on the ride up.

For dinner on Sunday we broke into two groups. One group ate at the Chelsea Grill across the street and the other at Whiskers in town. Both had excellent food.

Only four of us skied on Monday – **Gene, Eva, Steve and myself**. This reduced turnout must have been typical of other groups because there were very few people on the mountain. No lift lines! Around noon we bumped into the two **Pats** who took the gondola up to enjoy the view and used the opportunity to take some pictures.

We left the lodge at 3pm and stopped at Ben and Jerry's headquarters be-

fore leaving Vermont. I had a frozen yogurt chocolate brownie malt. Wow! And there were quite a few other exotic and delicious concoctions consumed by my companions.

On the way home we saw the video "Tea with Mussolini". It was requested by **Mellissa** who gave it a rating of 6 on a scale of 1 to 10. Highbrow entertainment. Under good conditions the drive home took less than six hours.

Everyone had a great time and we all hope that this trip will be an annual event. Don't take my word for it. Here is what others had to say.

"It's been a very long time since I've been with a group of people who were so kind and warm in nature. I felt welcomed and encouraged to join your club. The skiing was great and I was given some good ski tips. Thanks for everything." - **Debra**

"Special thanks to **Rita** for sleeping with **Ed and Steve** so that I could go on the trip. Even though showering with them was problematic?! Thanks also to **Eva** for letting me ride on the back of her skis from the top of Mt. Stowe. The was my first club trip and I can't wait to go on more!! I met great people and had a super time." - **Patricia E.**

"This was my first weekend trip with the club but not my last. I enjoyed everything. The Mountaineer was a great place to stay. I did not know

many people but made many friends. I'm looking forward to my Italy trip now. I did my first blue trails with bumps and all. It was a great experience. **Rita** did a great job managing this trip." - **Amparo Parraga**

"The trip was well-organized and a beautiful location. Mt. Mansfield was difficult for my novice skiing ability. The trip was well worth it and a great experience." - **Mary Connally.**

"Fondest memories are the exceptional experiences with GSSC members. They made the trip a pleasure meeting new friends and enjoying old ones. Can't forget the perfect ski conditions, the 'Cavallo lock out', the hot tub." - **Maryann Cavallo.**

"Plenty of good food and drink. I met some new people and got to know others better. This was a great trip." - **Steve L.**

"Please let's always go to Stowe on President's Weekend!" - **Pete B.**

Finally, I'll say that there were no injuries. One person with car keys locked them in her car. And of course **Tom C.** who found out his new ski boots didn't fit. And there was **Pete B.** who forgot his bathing suit but didn't let that stop him from spending several hours each day in the Jacuzzi and pool. All I can say is thank you **Rita**. It was the first GSSC event that she organized. **Rita**, you did a great job!

WINTER SKI MEMORIES . . .

QUEBEC'S DELIGHTS MELT OUR HEARTS

By Janet Manning



The world's largest winter carnival. Sensational skiing on corduroy snow. Superb gourmet restaurants. Three hundred years of history. A thoroughly French emphasis on everything. And a rate of exchange that makes the attractions of Quebec City as afford-

able as they are pleasurable. Who could ask for more!

Warm memories made the frigid temperatures melt for the twenty-eight people who traveled to La Belle Province for Winter Carnival from January 30 to February 4. An ideal combination of nearby top-notch ski areas and a treasure trove of cultural delights, Quebec City is as seductive as a fine burgundy.

Our home base was the five-star Chateau Frontenac, the famous turn-of-the-century hotel, whose turrets and towers are visible from miles away. With its stunning views of the frozen St. Lawrence and the Old City, European ambience, elegant boutiques and intimate piano bar, it is easy to see why it's been the choice of world leaders for decades. The hotel's hot tub and pool were favorite apres-ski spots and the lobby was the meeting place for 'where do we go for dinner' connections.

If skiing was the number one activity, then fine dining scored second. There are 250 restaurants to choose from within one square mile of the cobblestoned streets of the Old City. We were literally 'gourmet brats' with an endless array of terrific restaurants within walking distance of the hotel. From traditional French cuisine at Auberge Du Tresor and Aux Anciens Canadiens, fusion cuisine and brilliant presentations at The 94th Parallel, Italian specialties at Au Parmesan and Portofino, seafood at

Gambrinus, to les moules and le steak frites at Le Cochon Dingue, we found a new culinary experience every night. It was a chance to try new things (frogs legs – 'tastes like chicken,' escargot and caribou. The latter is not to be confused with the other "le caribou" which is the official drink of Carnaval.

We saw tourists and natives alike swigging from red canes topped with the image of the symbol of Carnaval, the snowman Bonhomme. What was in those sticks? "Ah, caribou," we were told. "You must try it." Somewhere between tradition and anti-freeze, caribou is the booze of choice to help ward off Quebec's sub-zero temperatures when you wander around the city viewing the ice and snow sculptures. Legend has it that in the early settlement days, trappers would concoct a mixture of whisky and caribou blood out in the wilds to keep them from freezing. Today's version is cheap red wine and whisky, with a kick that gives you a sudden urge to speak French.

Bonhomme, the symbol of Carnaval, was everywhere. An oversized smiling snowman that resembles a cross between Frosty and the Pillsbury Doughboy, this icon welcomes natives and tourists alike to the winter festivities. You buy a little snowman pin, which admits you to the attractions. We trudged up to the Upper Town to the Ice Palace, a spectacular structure lit up at night. Around it are masterful snow sculptures carved by teams from all over the world. On the Plains of Abraham, Carnaval village is set up, where you can wander in and out of igloos, dance with the jesters to Canadian folk music and stop for a cocktail at a walk-up bar carved from ice.

Long active days followed by leisurely dinners left most of us too tired to party at night. A few night owls,



however, vowed not to return home without experiencing a Quebec disco. Suffice it to say that two of us managed to pick up a fleet of Canadian Navy Seals and enhanced our dancing memories with French accents.

Exploring the walled city of Old Quebec was a favorite pastime. Outside the hotel is the funicular, the glass-walled outdoor elevator that takes you down to the bottom of the walled Old Town. The hardy souls in our bunch rejected the funicular for a slippery descent down the wooden 'breakneck steps.' Once there, we explored galleries featuring art from contemporary to Eskimo, boutiques and restaurants. As you stroll along the banks of the frozen St. Lawrence, you can actually hear the ice flows creaking and groaning.

Another favorite activity for our group was the toboggan slide right outside our hotel. We paid our 90 cents and dragged our thin wooden sleds up to the summit to enjoy the high-speed rush of this 285-foot descent. Several GSSCers went dogsledding; others took horse and carriage tours of the city. Bus tours were available from the hotel. The city tour gave us a view of the outskirts, including the Plains of Abraham, where the English won Quebec in 1759, Laval University, Parliament building and The Citadel. Venturing further outside the city, some of our group toured Ile d'Orleans, Montmorency Falls, with its glass-smooth wall

(Continued on page 15)

... WINTER SKI MEMORIES



Photo credit to Mark Eugster

(Continued from page 14)

of ice, and the Sainte Anne de Beupre Basilica, which welcomes over a million pilgrims and visitors a year. Very impressive is the wall of crutches and canes, left behind by the many in search of miraculous cures.

In between skiing, sightseeing, eating and shopping, we squeezed in a visit to the Musee du Quebec to view the exhibition "James Tissot: Victorian Life, Modern Love." His paintings depicted lush fashion and the rituals of seduction. Kind of like Garden State Ski Club members at our summer barbecues.

If generals, Wolfe and Montcalm, charged the Plains of Abraham for control of the city, we charged up a storm

on our credit cards, taking advantage of the weakened Canadian dollar. We bought souvenirs, sweaters, and ski-wear, CDs of French music, boots, and hats. Hats were especially popular with the females, who proudly sported their new "toques" with all the panache of the Quebecois. In preparation for the trip home, a few bought bottles of caribou to ward off the Jersey chill.

Now, with all these diversions going on, what about the skiing, you're probably asking. The descriptions ranged from 'fantastique' to merveil-leux' and all praises in fractured French in between. Two nearby mountains offered splendid conditions: Mont Sainte-Anne, one of Eastern Canada's largest ski resorts with 56 slopes, and Stone-ham, cozy and scenic, with finely groomed trails. What was remarkable

about the conditions is that the weather the week before our trip was a record-breaking 60 below! The week of our trip saw temperatures in the high 20s, with mostly sunny days.

The bus picked us up outside the hotel at 8:00 each morning and brought us back each afternoon at 4:00 p.m. Both mountains offered trails suitable for all levels of skiers, including lessons for those who chose to follow instructions ranging from French to hand-signals.

Every aspect of our trip was terrific — from departure to return — with credit going to Carol Alesso for her taste and attention to detail. Warm memories and new friendships made up for the cold weather. A Winter Carnival 2001 trip is planned and this repeat performance is sure to be another winner.

CHECK OUT OUR NEW BULLETIN BOARD ON THE WEBSITE AT:

www.gardenstateskisclub.com

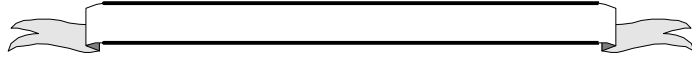
WHERE MEMBERS CAN POST ADS OR SOLICIT HELP

OR SEEK OUT OPINIONS FROM OTHER CLUB MEMBERS



NEW MEMBERS & BIRTHDAYS...

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS !

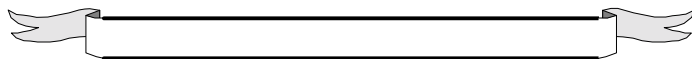


REGULAR MEMBERS

DINAH BRADLEY
 LIONEL CHALIER
 JEANNE DROZDIK
 LISA GORDON
 JOHN AND RENEE GREENWOOD
 BETHANY MCCLANAHAN
 ROBERT KASAK
 BONNIE MCKEE
 HELMUT MAIWALD
 LARRY OPTHOF
 RAYMOND ONUFER
 PEGGY PATTERSON
 RICHARD PODESTA
 FELICIA POLCARI
 JUDY RIZZO
 JAMES SILETTI
 JAMES STEIN
 KAREN TARAVELLA
 DEB TEGAN

PROVISIONAL MEMBERS

JOE BARBA
 CAROL BARNES
 ELAINE BUTENSCHOEN
 DAVID CARNEY
 MARIANNE FICCA
 CHIP HILLENBRAND
 EVELYN MASSAR
 HENRY MAZZUCCA
 JAYNE MEYERS
 JAMES MONROE
 AMPARO PARRAGA
 DIANE C PFEIFFER
 MARY ANN RIZZO
 KEVIN SARACINELLO
 HERM SCHAMBER
 PIERRE VITTORI



This information is published exclusively for Club business and personal use by members only.

It is not to be given to other individuals or used for commercial solicitations.



Birthdays of Club members can be found in your GSSC Club Directory.

New members celebrate on

Pierre Vittori	May 13
Jayne Meyers	June 2
Marianne Ficca	June 15
Evelyn Massar	July 5
Herm Schamber	July 26
Joe Barba	August 9

Joe Barba	201-866-3346
Carol Barnes	201-991-5419
Elaine Butenschoen	201-825-8809
David Carney	201-261-9526
Marianne Ficca	973-427-6684
Chip Hillenbrand	973-383-3856
Evelyn Massar	201-768-6890
Henry Mazzucca	908-889-6539
Jayne Meyers	201-444-6058
James Monroe	973-470-8116
Amparo Parraga	201-836-7394
Diane C Pfeiffer	Unlisted
Mary Ann Rizzo	973-904-0493
Kevin Saracinello	201-385-1410
Herm Schamber	201-342-4089
Pierre Vittori	914-265-3786

This is a list of those names that were not listed in the original 2000 Membership Directory. This section can be cut out and taped, stapled, or glued into your directory.