

SkiVenture

Annual Letter 2009-2010

Dear SkiVenture Family and Friends,

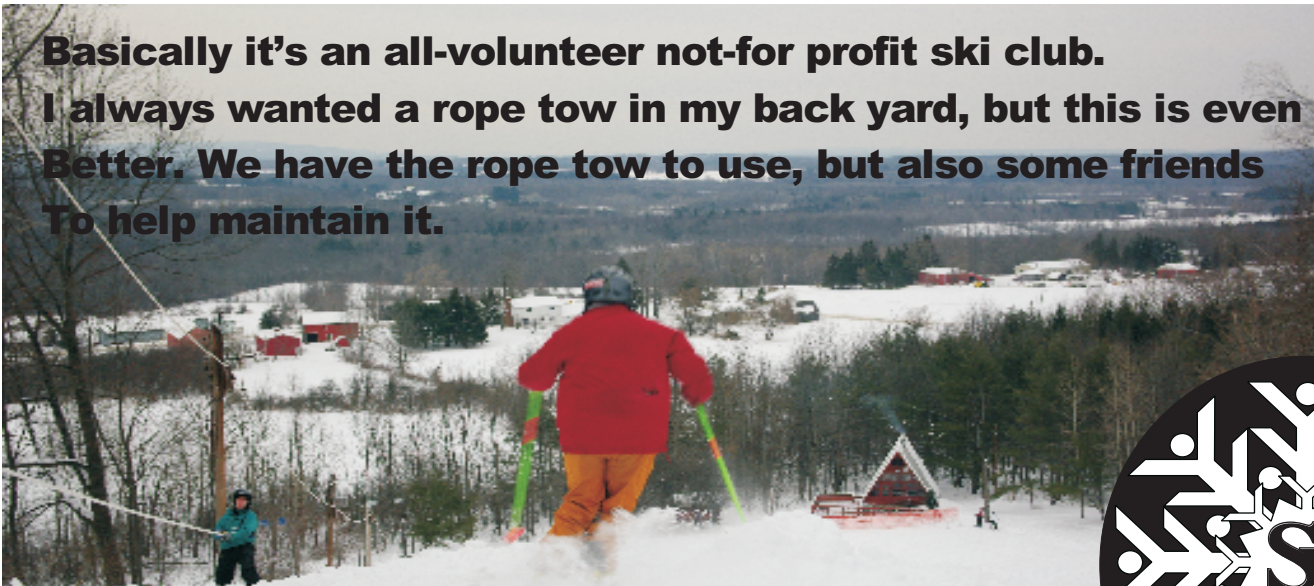
SkiVenture is back for another year of skiing and riding. This season will be the club's 73rd year of continuous operation making it one of the oldest ski clubs. **We are also the most affordable.** Despite the dip in the nation's economy and the roller coaster of fuel prices, SkiVenture remains a bargain at only \$60 for a family membership.

This is the club's annual newsletter. It gives you background on the club, schedule of events, application form, and an update on club news. Our motto is "Local Skiing on Natural Snow" and SkiVenture Club members are excited about the club and are working hard to make it accessible for local skiing on natural snow.

73
Years
Strong

"Local skiing on natural snow"

Basically it's an all-volunteer not-for profit ski club.
I always wanted a rope tow in my back yard, but this is even Better. We have the rope tow to use, but also some friends To help maintain it.



www.skiventure.org



NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT – FRANK WINTERS

Last season at SkiVenture we all enjoyed some very nice skiing. Remember the mogul course?

How about the slalom gates? We had good constant snow starting in the end of December.

Although we have fewer members than we would like, the members we have are surely getting their money's worth. Please spread the word, bring a guest and sign up more members. We don't need to be such a well-kept secret.

This summer Nick Kudlacik (16) lead an Eagle Scout project at SkiVenture. With this project Nick built a beautiful shed for our grooming equipment. It will be wonderful to no longer need to trailer the groomer every time we want to use it. The priority for most of our improvements is making SkiVenture more sustainable for the future. Nick's project certainly reflects that spirit. Nick collected donations from seventeen businesses for material and cash. Check out the shed. It is really an asset to the club.

I don't know about you, but I can't wait to get back out there on the snow. The skiing is only part of it.

Although summer was great fun, I miss seeing all you SkiVenturers. Start doing those wall sits.

See you on the hill! Frank

SKIVENTURE LAND TRADE

We are sure that you have committed the last two SkiVenture news letters to memory so it will be no surprise that we have been working on a land trade with our neighbors Marty and Amanda Philips.

We traded 1.7 acres containing the lower road which in the past we had leased, for 0.2 acres along our west boundary. The newly acquired land is also the site of the new groomer shed. The 0.2 acre parcel that we are giving up is in the woods to the skier's left of the green slope. That portion allows the Philips to connect two otherwise disconnected fields. This deal has been finalized and the deeds have been filed, and just in time. Now the Philips property has a sale pending. We plan to greet the new owners and hopefully interest them in skiing and riding.



HILL MAINTENANCE

The 2008 - 2009 ski season saw practically flawless operation from the tow equipment. The heavy icing that came mid season presented a challenge but with some teamwork and a coaxing the lift became functional.

During the summer we spent some time working on the little lift safety gate support structure. The upgrade will allow easier access to the tensioning system without having to disconnect the safety gate.

It is expected that next season we will be purchasing a new rope for the Main lift and replacing the Little lift rope with the best section of the current Main lift.

As always, paying attention to odd clunks and strange operation while you are operating the lift is the best way to help minimize costly repairs.

GROOMER REPORT

After overcoming a small mechanical problem early in the year, the groomer performed without issue the remainder of the 2008 - 2009 season. There were several repairs on the drag required due to unfortunate collisions with several "nongroomable" objects. We also added a new ground drag to fleet to help "chop up" the icy crust after a freezing rain. This new drag will allow us to better manage the snow surface when mother nature tosses us a curve.

In the month of November we will be maintaining the Skandic Groomer with specific attention to the suspension.

We do not groom powder (the president said he would fire me if I did). This allows the powder lovers to spend some time enjoying the natural snow and settles the new snow such that the groomer can efficiently work the surface.

Typical of years past, grooming is conducted later in the week during evening to prepare the hill for the weekend and to avoid the accidental grooming of a club member into the terrain.

NEW GROOMER BUILDING -- Nick Kudlacik's Eagle Scout Project.

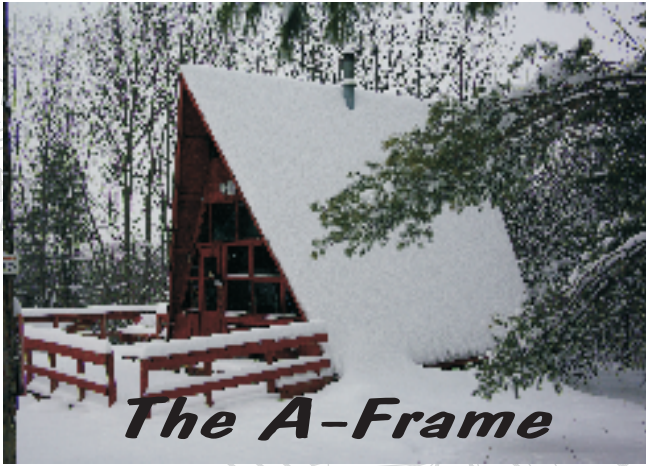
The groomer this year will reside at Ski Venture in the newly constructed Groomer shed.

This new shed is nestled into the woods along the lower road. It is designed with two sliding doors to allow the groomer to drive through. Additionally there is a fire wood shed and tool closet on the side.

Nick would like to thank the members of Ski Venture for supporting his Eagle Scout project, the businesses who generously donated supplies and all of the individuals that helped to build the structure. Without everyone this project would not have been a success.

Please try to support the local businesses that donated to this project. A plaque listing the businesses will be located on the side of the building.





2009/2010 Schedule of Events

Work Parties

Sunday, Oct. 25th 9:00am- 3:00pm
Saturday, Nov. 14th 9:00am- 3:00pm

Annual Meeting & Work Party Dinner

Saturday, Nov. 9th 4:00pm- 7:00pm

Hill Master Training #1

Saturday, Dec. 12th 9:00am

Hill Master Training #2

Saturday, Jan. 9th 9:00am

Date Night

Saturday, Feb. 13th 6:00pm

Events with floating dates stay tuned

Pancakes on the deck Sunday morning
Kids day (ski competitions for the kids)
Club Day – Pot Luck

CLUB FACTS

- Open to everyone who enjoys local skiing or riding on natural snow in a Friendly club environment.
- It is great for families with kids!
- Conveniently located in West Glenville at the north end of Johnson Rd.
- Founded in 1937, purchased property in 1949.
- Cozy A-frame cabin with wood stove and deck.
- Over 100 vertical feet on 4 trails-beginner to expert.
- Two rope tows (main and beginner lift)
- Member owned and operated during the winter months.

Open 7x24, day and night to all who are trained and qualified Hill Masters.

"We need new members"

Volunteers needed

VOLUNTEER'S MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

*THE CLUB IS RUN BY VOLUNTEERS AND TOGETHER WE MAINTAIN THE FACILITIES. **THANK YOU** TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE WORK PARTIES LAST YEAR. DEDICATED MEMBERS HAVE DONATED TIME AND EQUIPMENT TO IMPROVE THE CLUB – FROM CLEARING THE HILL, IMPROVING DRAINAGE AND MAINTAINING THE A-FRAME. WITHOUT THIS SUPPORT THERE WOULD NOT BE A CLUB. THERE IS NO WAY WE COULD AFFORD TO PAY FOR THE IMPORTANT WORK.*



A COUPLE OF NEW THINGS

We will have a bottle drive this year to help pay for a new rope so please leave your deposit bottles/cans and feel free to bring in the ones from home every little bit counts.

On Saturday Dec. 12th at the Hill Master training Frank and Rob will be giving a ski-tuning clinic and waxing skis for \$5.00 a pair all precedes will go to Ski Venture.

Pass information along to friends and colleagues
The newsletter and application form is available
for download on line at www.skiventure.org



Kids Commentary

"SkiVenture is a winter wonderland" Abby Tys (age 11)

"Lets have a snowball fight" Nate Tys (Age 7)

"SkiVenture has great hot chocolate" and "My favorite season is winter because I can go to SkiVenture with daddy" Megan Hunt (age 9)

"SkiVenture is the opposite of Disney World. There are no lines. It's cheap, and you make you own fun!" Luke Winters (age 13)

"Come join. You will have a lot of fun." Chris Kudlacik (age 14)

"Ski Venture's glades are fun to ski" Shannon Sheedy

"I like jumping of the jumps" Quinn Sheedy

"A great place to meet new friends" Riley Sheedy



DAYS AND DAYS OF SKIING AT SKI VENTURE HAVE MADE VERY STRONG SKIERS THEY FREQUENTLY SKI THE LIKES OF MAD RIVER GLEN, JAY PEAK AND TUCKERMANS RAVINE

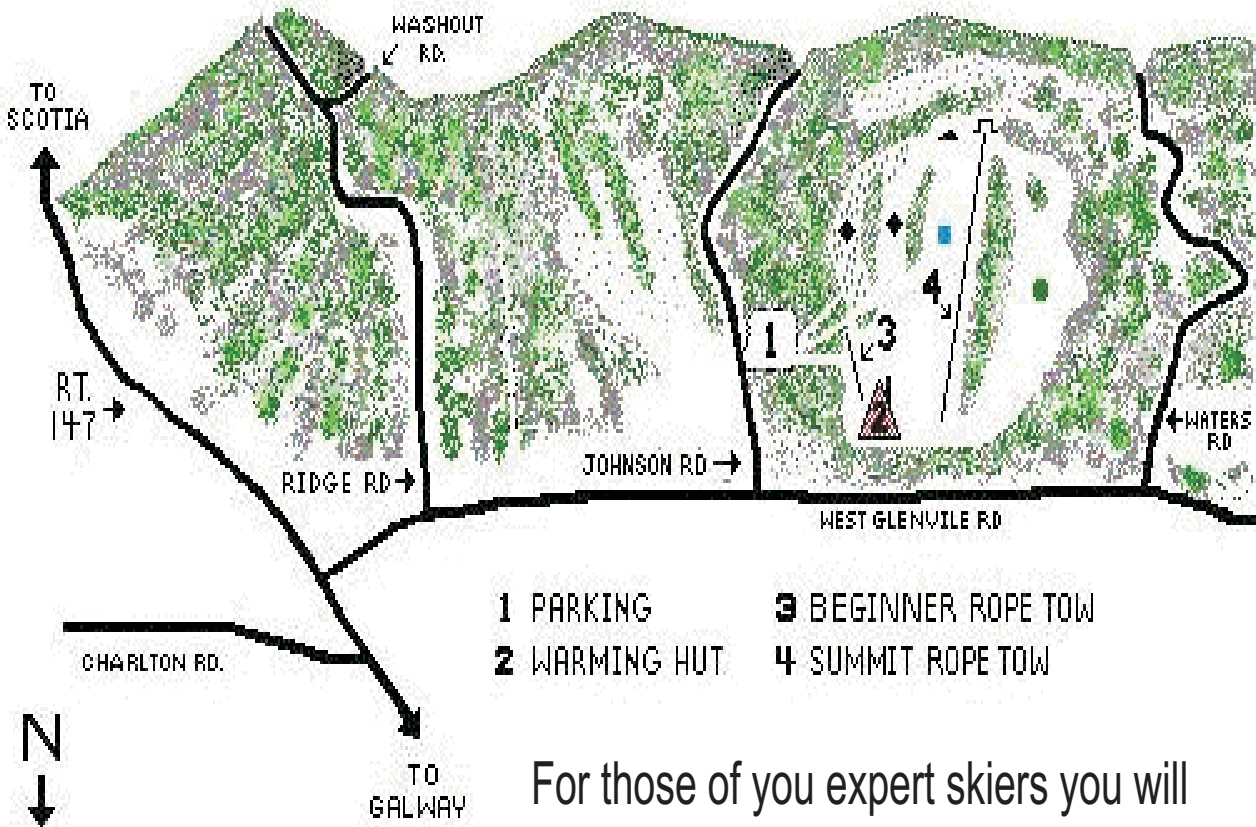


A great place to learn, a great place to just have fun in the snow

SKI VENTURE KIDS



JOIN SKI VENTURE



- 1 PARKING
- 2 WARMING HUT
- 3 BEGINNER ROPE TOW
- 4 SUMMIT ROPE TOW

For those of you expert skiers you will find a community of people who like to ski hard. We can be found building a mogul course or even a kicker or two and of course we have a glade trail.

Join us for an occasional trip to Mad River Glen or the end of season Tukerman's Ravine trip in April.



See you on the Hill!

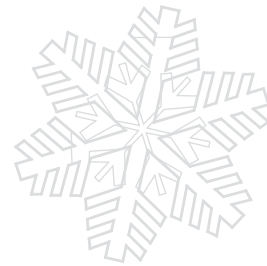
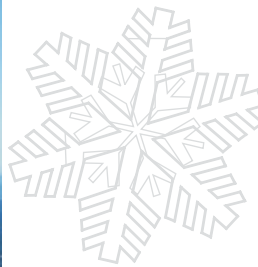


MAD RIVER GLEN

THE TUCKERMAN CONNECTION

A member asked, “Frank, what’s up with this Tuckerman Connection column? What does that have to do with SkiVenture?” I figured it would be a good time to explain. As many of you know, Tuckerman Ravine (tux) is a glacial cirque on the east side of Mt. Washington New Hampshire. Tuckerman is not only some of the steepest skiing you will find; it also is steeped with history. Since the thirties, the finest skiers in the east have been flocking to climb and ski the runs at tux. The connection between SkiVenture and Tux is three fold. First, the SkiVenture founders in the late thirties were Tuckerman fanatics. When the snow melted in Glenville they would make the trip to Tux and stay in a lean-to for 2 weeks. We are doing our best to keep that wonderful tradition alive. Second, there is nothing like skiing hard run after run on a speedy rope tow all season to get you ready for something like tux. SkiVenture is not just for kids, some of us big kids use SkiVenture as a training facility in readying ourselves for more other adventures. Third we think it’s pretty cool and I hope you may be inspired to expand your skiing in some way.

Last April once again we made 2 trips to tux. The Winters boys on the “kid trip” enjoyed some beautiful weather. The sun was strong, but so was the wind. The snow pack was stable and deep – 70 feet in places. Our aspirations of summiting quickly changed when we looked at the forecast. We decided that it would not be prudent to bring Colin (at 70 pounds) above the lip into those 100 mph winds. I did not bring enough kite cord to keep him on the hill. We did however make two great runs in the bowl and skied the rare and elusive monkey-bar traverse. The boys covered a total of about 3500 feet of vertical. The following weekend brought both the adult trip and the return of winter. The first morning, the snow blew so hard that we had to put on our goggles to go to the outhouse. We spent that day skiing protected untracked hiking trails in the woods. Day two was better, but high avalanche conditions persisted. We worked with a snow ranger on a strategy to ski a section of the bowl and then out the Sherburn Ski Trail. More SkiVenturers joined the group on day 3. We summited and skied a run called the Lobster Claw. The highlight of the climb was a nice safe view of an avalanche in the center of the ravine. We have some helmet cam video of the adventure, which we will share at the club dinner.



Hill Masters & Dues

HILL MASTERS

Hill Masters are individuals who have received training to operate the two rope tow lifts and agree to enforce the club procedures. Only an approved Hill Master may start the tows and a Hill Master must be present during hill operation. There are no paid lift operators or staff at Ski Venture so Hill masters are essential to club operation. Two people must be present at all times during lift operation. Hill Master lock combinations are changed every year and given out during Hill Master training. Hill Masters responsibilities are designed to comply with state regulations. Hill Masters must have prior first aid training.

HILL MASTER TRAINING

Reminder – Hill Masters need to have training refreshed annually, which takes 2 hours. Combination locks will be changed. Training dates are 12/12/09 and 1/09/10 both at 9:00am. Once you are a Hill Master, Ski Venture is available to you 24 hours a day.

HILL MASTER TRAINING AGENDA

Review Procedures

Pay annual membership

Sign certification form

“Bring your calendar” and sign up to be a weekend Hill Master: Saturday or Sunday:

11:00am to 3:00pm

Membership Dues

The club is actively seeking new members. Annual dues continue to be very low (no increase for years)

\$60.00–Family membership.

\$100.00 – Sustaining family membership

Sustaining member benefits: Includes a SkiVenture T-shirt and ski deals:

Maple Ridge: \$10 lift tickets on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings all season.

Organization Structure

Nominations for 2010 officers and committees are encouraged (Call Frank at 384-2041).



Directions

From Rte 5 east of Scotia, head north on Johnson Rd. and go up and over the hill. Ski Venture is on the left near the bottom of the hill before you get to West Glenville Rd

From everywhere else: From Route 147 take West Glenville Rd. Take the second left onto Johnson Road. Ski Venture is 0.4 miles up on the right.



A Special thanks to these businesses.



www.willardmountaon.com



www.mapleskiridge.com

Ski Venture Membership Application

2009-2010 Annual Rates are:

___ \$60.00—Family membership

___ \$100.00 – Sustaining family membership* (includes a Ski Venture T-shirt and Maple Ridge and Willard Mountain weeknight deal)

T-Shirt size please circle one S - M - L - XL

***Why "Sustaining Membership"? The club could use more funds to run smoothly and to improve the club for the future. If you choose to pay \$100 for your annual family membership, you will be eligible for a Maple Ridge Ski Area \$10 4-hour lift ticket on Tuesday thru Thursday nights and a similar deal at Willard Mountain, plus we certainly appreciate it. If you choose to pay the \$60 membership, we appreciate that too. Your choice.**

Family Name: _____

Applicant's First Name: _____

Spouse's Name: _____

Address: _____

City / Town / ZIP: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Family Member's/Dependants:

Name and Age:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Signed*: _____

* By signing this application, applicant acknowledges that SKI VENTURE, Inc. is not in any manner liable for direct or consequential injury or damages suffered by applicant, applicant's family, or guest as a result of using the corporation's facilities.

Make your check out to Ski Venture, Inc. and send an application to:

Ski Venture, Inc.

C/O Rachel Winters, 113 Hetcheltown Rd., Glenville, NY 12302, (518) 384-2041

Ski Venture Liability and Guests

Ski Venture continues to offer affordable family skiing by not carrying liability insurance for its members or its guests. Everyone at Ski Venture must ski at their own risk. You may invite guests, however, be careful about inviting minors without their parents. We cannot guarantee complete safety when skiing, accidents are always a possibility. The parents of injured minors are going to be much more understanding if they were present and knew that an accident couldn't be avoided. To assure continued operation of Ski Venture, your complete cooperation and understanding is required concerning all operating procedures.

-----For Office use-----

Date Rcd _____ Check # _____ Amount _____