

# SKI TRACKS

NEWSLETTER

[www.rochesternyskiclub.com](http://www.rochesternyskiclub.com)


SNOW NEWS IS GOOD!  
SNOWDANCING MAYBE CANCELLED  
BIGGER SKI AREAS TO BE  
CONSTRUCTED

from the President's desk . . . by Marilyn H. Nickerson



**T**he RSC BBQ, held Saturday, October 14 in Rush, NY, had weather perfect for the pig roast as well as food with a new caterer. Thank you, Bev and Bill McElheny and all the other people who helped make this another fun, delicious, skier gathering. Our first General Meeting was to be held at George's in Penfield, November 2 with Vito Vasiliauskas sharing insight on the *Compeer/OASIS Core Adaptive Sports*. The meeting was cancelled due to lack of participation.

SNOW NEWS... There are **505 active ski areas in America** – who knew?! (*The Storm Skiing Journal*, 9/22/23) Deer Valley, an Alterra resort, is to become the fourth largest ski area in US with a 3,700-acre, 16-lift expansion over the next three years. (*The Storm Skiing Journal*, 8/25/23) “*Too big*” according to professor David Dilley, Senior Meteorologist – Climatologist, in the *EIN Presswire*, **Winter weather may begin to revert back to pre-1982 weather patterns around the world. Winters will become colder – longer lasting and more severe.**” (Mar 21, 2023) *The Farmers' Almanac* Winter 23-24 forecast is dubbed “*the BRRRRR is back!*” So, do we still need snow dancing?

Closer to home, **Killington** just announced the approval to build a pedestrian base village in the vast basin between *Showshed* and *Ramshead*, a space currently occupied by parking lots sizable enough to house the population of Ecuador! (*The Storm Skiing Journal*, 9/7/23) More shopping for everyone? Lastly, 2023-24 pass pricing for the **EPIC Pass** has increased about 4% while the **IKON Pass** has increased by 12.9%. (*The Storm Skiing Journal*, 9/30/23) Consider where you want to ski.

**RSC skiers needed!** Most of our 2024 ski trips have open spots available (all are drive yourself except British Columbia)! For all the details and to find out the trip leaders, check out our Winter 2024 Ski Trip Calendar online at the new R S C website (<https://rochesternyskiclub.com>) for easy ski trip signups with credit card payments. And don't forget ‘Ski with Heart’ on February 16 at **Bristol Mountain** with three other ski clubs in the Central/Southern Tier New York.

Our next social event will be the **Holiday Party** at **Sweet Briar Lodge** (west side of town) on December 6, 2023. **Patty and Joe Kuby** have once again agreed to organize a wonderful party with

creative games/rewards. Join in the celebration of the season with your ski club friends and sign up on the RSC new website. It's easy ... pay fast with a credit card (or check and registration form) ... and beat the snowy roads that are sure to come.

Freebies, security and convenience are just some of the benefits favoring credit cards and digital payments over cash and checks. (*AARP The Magazine, Good Reasons to Change How you Pay*) The February 13, 2024 General Meeting and Dinner will be held at Jeremiah's in Penfield.

RSC is always looking for new members and volunteers. If you have a friend who would like to join you and RSC on our trips or events or to have fun on the slopes, please refer them to **Elise Kloesz**, our Membership Chair. If you're intrigued to help coordinate a trip or an event, let a board member know. If you don't think you have the skills to lead trips or manage a social event, assistance and hand-holding are readily available from those who have done it before. Since May, RSC has gained seventeen new members!

I'm looking forward to meeting you at the holiday party, on the slopes and at all our other social events throughout the year.

A Message from RSC Trip Chairperson.....Mark Grey



Your RSC Ski Trip Committee has put together a great slate of trips for 2024, including Killington, Sunday River, Stratton, Mt. Tremblant and Big White (British Columbia). All of these trips are presented in RSC publications and on the website, and were available for registration since August. Only Sunday River is full but you can get on a wait list. Although trip leaders have worked diligently to provide cost efficient yet pleasurable skiing adventures, due to changes in the ski resort industry, there are some changes to the usual pricing and logistical procedures.

First, the process of purchasing/acquiring lift tickets requires more skier participation. Two of these resorts now require advance online purchase of lift tickets by skiers. Where noted on the flyers, participants on two RSC trips, Killington and Sunday River, will need to purchase tickets on their own. The trip leaders have specified the procedures to follow, and have indicated the applicability of passes, such as IKON.

Second, all of our trips are deployed through RSC's new operating system (WildApricot) for registration and payment of a trip. However, the procedures of the past, paying by check rather than credit card, are still available. Again, instructions for registering and paying are included in the flyers for each trip. Please note that RSC membership is a requirement for participation in all RSC ski trips. With the exception of Sunday River there is still space available on all four trips, but immediate action is required in order to get registered.



Killington reports most snow available in January compared to other eastern resorts. Ski with Elise & Gary for a thrilling ride. Room for about 4 more.



RSC trip to Stratton Contact Ann Baylor or check online. She had room for four more skiers at time of printing!



First ever snow cannon tests on the Flying Mile track at Mt. Tremblant. Getting excited to join Jim Blum's group in February? There's room for more.

2023-2024

RSC TRIPS & EVENTS

December 5

Holiday Party at Sweet Briar Lodge, Rochester, Joe & Patty Kuby

January 7-11

Killington /Pico Ski Trip, Vermont, Gary & Elise Kloesz

January 21-26

Sunday River Ski Trip, Maine, Bob & Annie Bacon

February 4-7

Stratton Mountain Ski Trip, Vermont, Ann Baylor

February 13

General Meeting#2 Jeremiahs Tavern, Penfield, Marilyn Nickerson

February 25-28

Mont-Tremblant Ski Trip, Quebec, Canada, Jim Blum

March 5

March Madness Lunch Bristol Mountain, Bev McElheny

March 7

Hunt Hollow Ski Day, Ed & Sara Bullard

March 12-19

Big White, BC, Canada Scott Anthony

March 20

Bloodies and Pancakes at Sierra Inn & Maple Tree Inn, Nancy Miersch

April 11

General Meeting#3 at Rochester Yacht Club, Hal & Ann Baylor

May 8

Spring Banquet & General Meeting#4 at Penfield Country Club Nancy Hessler & John Beneaway

## OCTOBER BBQ SUCCESSFUL FOR RSC SAYS A THANKFUL LEADER, BEV MCELHENY



In spite of cooler temps and some rain, but no wind – 89 of the 92 registered members and guests, gathered for a new October event - a BBQ in place of our usual Pig Roast. Once again, it was held at the William Udicious Pavilion in Rush, N.Y.

Appetizers and some beverages were provided by the club. **Andy and Carie Van Auken** treated the club to their homemade fresh pressed apple cider. See Andy's article for interesting details. Thanks much Van Aukens - for the apples, spices, and Andy's expertise!

*Forest Hill Catering* from North Greece delivered their BBQ pork ribs and chicken buffet that included a variety of tasty sides. The greens and beans and crab meat salad seemed to go over well. The food was most plentiful - many had 'seconds' and took home 'doggie bags'. While we

managed to set 89 chairs for dinner indoors, two of our warmly dressed members, **Frank Stein** and **Bernie Conrad** sat on the porch for dinner (thanks guys).

For dessert, the club provided ice cream cups and sandwiches, some store bought cookies, and even better -- fresh baked complimentary brownies and snickerdoodle cookies (thanks to 5 of our board member ladies).

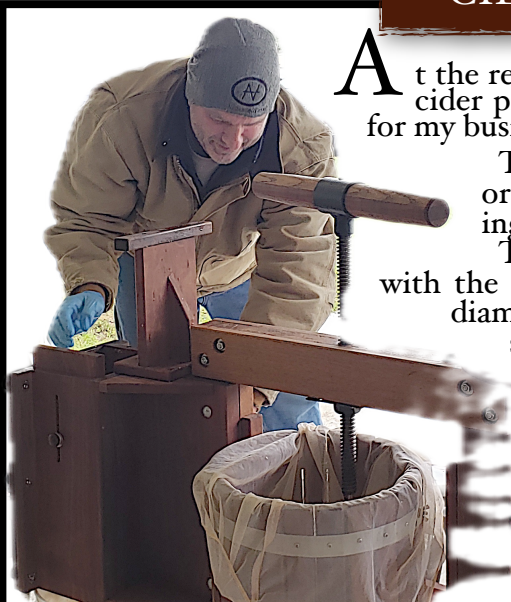
After dinner, a few announcements were made including an update on the ski club trips. There are still openings on most of the trips; don't miss out!

I know we usually don't provide names when thanking volunteers (for fear of missing someone who helped), and there are many to thank, but I would like to give a shout out to **Dave and Carol McDonald**. Dave volunteered a few days before the

BBQ and after taking him up on his offer, he and Carol arrived early with a large bag of ice and left with 2 bags of garbage – and in between helped with set up, served the buffet (along with others), and helped with clean up. Way to go! I'll also give a shout out to Annie Bacon who arrived early with cute name tags in hand, and helped with set up, serving the buffet, and clean up. She made my job easier helping me with the new website while members registered and guided me through the email announcements and reminders.

A huge thank you to everyone who helped with this event; many who have helped for years. Very much appreciated! All in all - a nice way to spend part of a Saturday – enjoying fun conversations with many ski club friends, including one from California. Glad so many of you attended!!

## CIDER PRESS NOTES from ANDY VAN AUKEN



At the recent RSC barbecue, there were some questions about the cider and the cider press so I thought I'd throw you a few thoughts and a "shameless plug" for my business.

The apples we used were Ida Red and Crispin, purchased from a local orchard near Livonia, and Northern Spy, from my own orchard. My secret ingredient is a little cinnamon in the apple mash before pressing; *sh-sh-sh*.

The grinder mechanism is all custom designed and made by me, along with the entire press to work as one system. The grinding drum is a 6-inch diameter cylinder made from solid cherry wood with rows of stainless-steel screw heads protruding from it at slight angles. The apples get trapped against the walls and are eroded away as it rotates. The mash that falls out into the bucket below goes into a nylon screening bag in the pressing cage, compressed and voila we have cider.

The grinder and loose parts of the press are made from cherry and walnut wood that I took from rough cut lumber. But the main pressing frame is reclaimed beam wood from a barn that was family owned and tore down a decade ago. I've built four apple presses over the years and enjoy designing and building any challenging custom project.

If you have a need for anything custom built for home or business, check out my website [www.avdesignworks.com](http://www.avdesignworks.com) for more information, or just to see all the different things coming out of my wood shop!



**IT (Information Technology) News from Annie Bacon**

**I**t has been six months that we have been up and running with the new website. In my opinion (I know, only worth about 2 cents) it has gone extremely well, and more and more members are becoming more comfortable with using the website as well as paying online. There have been some glitches, but they have been small and able to be dealt with quickly.

For those members who have multiple invoices (events, ski trips, etc.), you are able to choose one or multiple or all invoices to be paid. When you log in to the website, "balance due" appears in the lower right corner of the site. Selecting this link brings you to a page that shows invoices to be paid. Leave the ones you want to pay *check marked*. In a big yellow box, you will see "balance due." Select "Pay Online" if you wish to pay with a credit card.

Thank you ALL for your patience in using the new website. We were still learning about the site, and *tweaking it* as we went.

**Some facts about our website:**

Total membership = 240

- 189 renewed members
- 133 renewed & paid online
- 48 paid with a check
- 7 paid with cash (at the Spring Banquet)
- 23 new members (since 6/1/2023)
- 19 will be archived due to non-renewal (3 to be renewed before 11/1/2023)
- 218 current members as of 11/1/2023

**Events, registered & paid online/check**

Spring Banquet - (79 total) 67 online (85%), 12 checks  
 Picnic -- (92 total) 58 online (63%), 33 checks  
 BBQ - (92 total) 65 online (71%), 27 checks



**TIME FOR ANOTHER HOLIDAY ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT**

**T**he annual **RSC Holiday Party** will be held on **Tuesday evening, December 5, 2023**, at the **Sweet Briar Lodge** on Ridgeway Avenue. For those members who were not able to join us in the last two years, please know that Sweet Briar management took extremely good care of us, and received nothing but compliments on the food and service. Due to difficulties getting the wait staff required for a sit-down format, we will be going to a buffet format instead of the usual sit-down dinner. A buffet will include chicken French, stuffed flounder, angel hair pasta with red sauce or French sauce, baked potato with fixings, mashed potatoes, vegetable medley, rolls, and salads. Those that typically order the prime rib or gluten free vegetable lasagna will also visit the buffet and then be served their entrée at the table.

**Please note that the party is on a Tuesday** again this year. The club's usual "attitude adjustment" hour begins at 6:00 pm, with dinner at 7:00 pm, followed by an easy contest to win door prizes. Check the flyer for additional details including the location address, cost, and reservation deadline.

If anyone would appreciate a ride to the party, please contact the event leaders. We will do our best to arrange that for you. No one wants you to miss this celebration due to concerns about winter weather or dark driving conditions.

Join us to catch up with fellow members as you begin the new holiday and ski seasons.

**Look forward to seeing everyone, Joe and Patty Kubv**



**RSC Membership News from Elise Kloesz**

**Please Welcome 6 New Members**

- Fairport:**  
*John Wright*, joined 9-30-23
- Canandaigua:**  
*Patricia Winn*, joined 9-29-23  
*Doyle Pruitt*, joined 10-24-23
- Williamson:**  
*Lynn Stern*, joined 10-2-23
- Churchville:**  
*Dave VerSteege*, joined 10-11-23
- Shortsville:**  
*Catherine Bentzoni*, joined 9-24-23
- San Jose, CA:**  
*Don Boss*, joined 10-15-23

*New memberships keep trickling in. Hopefully there will be a few more as the ski trips get closer to their closing date. Tell your friends—most trips are still open!!*

At *Big White*, it's all about velvety, groomed, powder runs, or challenging the Cliff powder bowl, or exploring legendary glades with 118 designated Alpine trails and over 25 km of Nordic trails. Join Scott Anthony and your RSC ski buddies in March with room for a lot more more skiers at time of printing.

Terence D. Shearn



September 3, 2023



*Remember to send out a little Sunshine to Nancy Oberholtzer recently ill.*

Join the Annual Gathering of Central New York Ski Clubs  
**Ski with Heart**

Friday, February 16, 2024

Price \$54.

What's included: a full day lift ticket.  
Free to folks with a Bristol pass.



SIGN UP ONLINE at RSC website.

2023-2024  
RSC  
Board of Directors

**President**

Marilyn H. Nickerson

**Vice President**

John Lawson

**Secretary**

Mary Rinaldo

**Treasurer**

Gary Kloesz

**Membership**

Elise Kloesz

**Past President**

Jan Rogers

**Website**

Bev McElheny

**Social Events**

TBD

**Trip Coordinator**

Mark Grey

**Publications**

Barb McCauley

**Sunshine**

Jan Rogers



*RSC gathers to talk and eat a lot at October BBQ.*



*So much to eat, they ended up taking some home.*

Event flyers and information regarding all club activities available through the club website: [www.rochesternyskiclub.com](http://www.rochesternyskiclub.com)



# RSC HOLIDAY PARTY

## NEW GAME

Prizes will be awarded for funny or weird stories.



**TUESDAY, December 5, 2023**

## SWEET BRIAR LODGE

(former Lodge on the Green)  
2888 Ridgeway Ave.  
Rochester, NY 14626  
(585) 471-5575

6:00 PM - Cash Bar and Hors D'oeuvres  
7:00 PM - Dinner Buffet



Chaired by:

Patty Kuby (585-704-2235)  
pkuby@juno.com and  
Joe Kuby (585-705-2937)  
kuby319@gmail.com

If you would appreciate a ride to the party, please call Patty or Joe. We will do our best to arrange that for you beforehand.

Buffet includes: Stuffed Flounder with wine butter sauce, Chicken French, angel hair pasta with red sauce or French sauce, baked potato with fixings, mashed potatoes, vegetable medley, rolls and butter, served salads, coffee/tea, and dessert.

#	MENU CHOICE.	PRICE	NON-MEMBER
1.	Buffet Only	\$38.00	\$43.00
2.	GF Vegetable Lasagna + Buffet	\$38.00	\$43.00
3.	Prime Rib + Buffet	\$48.00	\$53.00

*Lasagna or Prime Rib are served individually according to your order.*



DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS: **Saturday, November 25**

**REGISTER ONLINE AT [rochesternyskiclub.com](http://rochesternyskiclub.com)**

If paying by check, make checks payable to Rochester Ski Club. Mail checks to: Patty & Joe Kuby For address contact Patty or Joe Kuby.

If you would like 'hands-on' help with registering for this event, call Bev McElheny at (585) 733-1976 or email [BevM09@frontiernet.net](mailto:BevM09@frontiernet.net) Bev can register you for the event and send you an invoice (either in USPS or email attachment) for payment by check.

## ROCHESTER SKI CLUB February Dinner Meeting

**TUESDAY, February 13, 2024**

**Jeremiah's Tavern in Penfield**

**2164 Fairport Nine Mile Point Rd., Fairport, NY 14450**

**5:30 PM** -- SOCIAL HOUR with veggie and cheese trays and Cash Bar

**6:30 PM** -- DINNER BUFFET

**7:30 PM** -- GENERAL MEETING with **Marilyn H. Nickerson**, president, followed by our **FEATURED SPEAKERS: Nancy Hessler, Barb Morgan, John Beneway, and Jere Fletcher** sharing highlights from their ski trip with the *Onondaga Ski Club* to Chile in March 2023

**\$26.00 -Members \$31.00 -Non-members**

Chicken French, sliced petite tenderloin with mushroom demi-glace, baked penne with marinara, mozzarella and ricotta, plus oven roasted potatoes and cheesy broccoli. Cookies for dessert with coffee & tea.

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS: **Monday, February 5**

**REGISTER ONLINE AT [rochesternyskiclub.com](http://rochesternyskiclub.com)**

If paying by check, make checks payable to Rochester Ski Club. Mail checks to: Marilyn Nickerson. For address contact Marilyn Nickerson [mnickers51@gmail.com](mailto:mnickers51@gmail.com)

If you would like 'hands-on' help with registering for this event, call Bev McElheny at (585) 733-1976 or email [BevM09@frontiernet.net](mailto:BevM09@frontiernet.net). Bev can register you for the event and send you an invoice (either in USPS or email attachment) for payment by check.

MAXIMUM OF 50 PEOPLE DUE TO FIRE CODE IN THE DINING ROOM.

IT'S MARDI GRAS