



WINTERWORDS



Newsletter of the Ski Atlantic Seniors' Club (SASC)

Vol. 28 # 2

Spring Issue

May 2017

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is early in the morning on St Patrick's Day as I write this message for the spring edition of Winter Words. The thought of "spring" makes me wonder where has the winter gone and that we are close to the end of another successful season.

Linda and I attended the club's trip to Mont Tremblant and we would rank it as one of the best trips we have been on. The driving conditions were good, the skiing conditions great, while the weather was colder than what we were used to, it was not a problem when properly dressed. The food was great (it's all about the food) and the music and cards in the evenings certainly finished off the day. Congratulations to Gale Dempsey and Chris Andrews on a job well done in organizing this trip!

My goal this year was to attend all the Kell Antoft Days at the various hills. While I was close to realizing this goal I didn't quite make it, as the forecast of freezing rain in Edmundston changed the plans of Charlie Wright (VP) and myself from attending. There was a wonderful turnout for all the Kell Antoft Days and it was great to renew acquaintances at the various hills and make new ones. At Poley Mountain I was very lucky to win the wooden artwork of a skier made by Austin Yeomans, which went from one woodworker to another. Special thanks to Liz and Charlie Wright for hosting me at their home for Crabbe Mountain's Kell

Antoft Day and Lucy and Greg MacKenzie for hosting Linda and I at their home for Ben Eoin's Kell Antoft Day.

As I write this piece, I realize that it is my last submission to Winter Words as your President. I have enjoyed the experience and thank Paul Black for convincing me to broaden my horizons and accept the challenge. If any of you think that you might like to serve on the board or find out more about it, please contact Judy Hawkins (Past President) of the nominating committee at biking12345@gmail.com or by phone at 506-450-1588. There is a position on the board as "Member-at-Large" which allows you to find out what the board is all about and is a stepping stone to other positions on the board. I have enjoyed serving on the Board with three years as Hill Director for Ski Wentworth, my year as President and look forward to next year as Past President and would strongly recommend the experience of serving on the Board to anyone.

Robert Atkinson

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM will be June 15th at the Debert Hospitality Centre. Gather around 3 pm and enjoy a music program presented by the "Slip Sliders" beginning at 4:00. (I know they are planning to "jam" together from 3 - 4:00 but may find another spot in the facility to do so).



WINTERWORDS



The AGM will commence at 5:00 PM and the meal will be served at 6:00 PM. The meeting is open to attendance by all club members both skiing and non-skiing members and the meal cost is \$30.00. Email me at teaganskye.cw@gmail.com indicating your plan to **attend no later than May 29** as we have to advise the facility of our numbers. Please also return the form (to ensure a correct count) and your cheque to me at:

Charles Wright

18 Garden View Dr
Island View, NB., E3E 1A3

Charlie

SKI TRIPS

Mont Tremblant Experience-2017

Wow, what a great trip that was! We pulled into Tremblant Village around 4pm after a drive from Quebec City that day. The room was ready, so off to a good start.

First, the skiing (because that is why we were there!) Mont Tremblant was a bigger mountain than I remember from about 40 years ago. Lots of mountain to challenge everyone. Three mountain faces to choose from, north, south and Le Soleil (the sun). Trails were well groomed and a good width. And because we were mid week, not crowded. The Ski Hosts helped to get everyone off to a great start by showing us the trails that fitted our skiing level. Skiers of all levels from Greens to Blacks were able to enjoy.

Although we knew that Mont Tremblant could be a cold hill, that was not the case this year. Daytime temperatures were around -10c, but there was very little wind, so the result was great skiing. Actually, the locals say we had the best week of the season.

The hotel was excellent. The Holiday Inn Express was located right in the centre of the village. It was a short walk “down” the pathway to the Cabriole, a small gondola that takes you up to the base of the hill. From there you get the main gondola to the mountaintop. And at the end of the ski day, you could ski right back down a trail to end up across the street from the hotel.

Rooms were very well laid out, with plenty of space. Staff were friendly and ready to help if you needed it. Breakfast was provided in the common room. It was standard Holiday Inn Express food, but certainly adequate. Evening meals were brought in by a local caterer. I think folks were pretty happy with the food quality and service.

There was no lack of things to do at Tremblant. Plenty of little shops in the village. Although we did not take it in, a number tried the “tubing” and skating in the evening. A local spa was also on the “to do” list for a few seeking an “unwind” time. The common room was ours in the evenings, so a couple of card games were always in progress. A few of the musically inclined (I was one) set up a music circle and beat out a variety of tunes, which at times included a sing-a-long.

We did have a little drama when reports filtered in that Gale had a “head bang”. And then later in the week Allan had a crash. Both required medical attention, but



WINTERWORDS



reappeared to finish off the week. (I trust they have no after effects!!)

Friday saw us on the road headed east after a great week in the Laurentian Mountains. Great skiing, great hospitality, great bunch of fellow skiers. Hard to beat that week!! (And it is on our list to do again!)

Ken and Janet Nichols, Woodstock, NB

Attitash Experience

Attitash, New Hampshire - what a great destination. This was Mary's and my second SASC trip and we enjoyed it as much or even more than last year at Sugarloaf. Allan Jost and his team of volunteers made the most perfect arrangements for 33 members to enjoy on-mountain accommodation at the Grand Summit Hotel from Sunday, March 5 to Friday, March 10, 2017.

Tuesday Evening was left "open" as North Conway, with all its shops and restaurants, was just around the corner so those so inclined took full advantage of these liberties. Also, when members signed up for the trip, Friday skiing was an option. For those wanting to head back home on Friday they could opt out of the expense and hit the road. And for the adventuresome, quite a few took time to ski at Wild Cat mountain, about 20 minutes away as our ski passes were honoured at both resorts.

Weather was a mixed bag of great sun and corn snow on a couple of days punctuated with a shortened day due to freezing rain and another of variable conditions. Since

mother nature had not blessed the White Mountains with a good snow fall since mid February we all took our hats off to the snow makers and groomers to keep conditions and the number of trails open that we were all able to enjoy. The two peaks of Attitash offered lots of variety and the overall pitch of the mountains was very much to my liking

Being a smaller group, there was great camaraderie amongst the 33 while in the Grand Summit Hotel and on the slopes. At 91 years of age, it was a pleasure to have Jim Clothier as one of our enthusiastic and well bonded group. Our dinners were superb, the accommodation was perfect and the staff took very good care of us throughout.

Only on the last morning did we face serious excitement when all guests had to evacuate the hotel at 6.50 am due to a general alarm triggered by a chimney fire emanating from the wonderful lobby fireplace. Swift action by multiple fire brigades minimized the disruption and we were able to return to the hotel shortly after 10.20 am and then be on the slopes by 11 am. (During the interim we were hosted in the Bear Peak base lodge with a full breakfast service. Bravo, again, to the resorts' attention to all guests and staff.)

Allan had arranged for a special rate at the Country Inn at Bangor for accommodation going to and then returning from Attitash. So many of us took advantage of this arrangement that our five nights of socializing was extended to round out the



week and solidify our existing and new found friendships. A great week.

James Stokes-Rees, Saint John

SASC Ski Trips for 2018

Your trip committee has two trips planned for next year, both to resorts that have been proven to be very popular ones for the club:

- Sunday River, Maine: January 28 to February 2
- Stoneham, Quebec: February 25 to March 2

Both trips include 4 or 5 days skiing (plus free half-day ski on Sunday afternoon), hill tour Monday morning, breakfast, dinner, and lodging. At Sunday River we are staying at the Grand Summit Hotel, and at Stoneham, in the Stoneham Hotel with brunch and dinner (table service!) in Le Feu Follet restaurant right at the base of the hill.

Full details and application forms will be on the club web site in late September. For information in the meantime you can contact me at: allan.jost@gmail.com or (902) 835-8532.

SASC GOLF TOURNAMENT **September, 2017**

Highland Links/Keltic Lodge. The cost is :

\$90.00 for green fees, \$34.00 for power cart, \$56.00 for the meal, and \$175 for the room.

Two people will share a cart (\$17.00 per person), and presumably, two people will share a room (\$87.50).



WINTERWORDS

So, for double occupancy, the cost per person is \$250.50 + tax. If a person was in a room alone, the cost will be \$338.00 + tax.

Applications will available soon.

SASC WENTWORTH MESSAGE

We had a better year for 2016/2017 than 2015/2016 based on senior visits. Last season it was 4303 visits and this year it was 5107. That is an increase of .186%.

Although the weather was not better this year, we were able to provide suburb ski conditions right until the last day of skiing of the season.

I would like to thank all the SASC members that visited Ski Wentworth and the staff for providing a warm, wonderful environment for our members to stay while at Ski Wentworth.

I am already looking forward to the 2017/2018 season.

Harry Lamont, Director Ski Wentworth

SASC MARTOCK UPDATE

Well the ski season has come to an end and about 25 people gathered at Martock to say good bye to friends. Looking back over the last three months the season was quite successful for the SASC members at Martock. A big thanks needs to go to the Martock groomers, as the hill was always well groomed no matter what the weather had been the night before. The early risers could always enjoy first tracks down the trails. A few of our members took advantage of the free ski lessons but too



WINTERWORDS



often the lessons were cancelled due to closure of the hill or road conditions due to storms on Wednesday. But Joanna (her last year) is looking forward to the next season with some new ideas to get more people involved in this area of ski improvement. Those who took advantage of the clubs ski trip to Mt Tremblant are still singing praises about how good that trip was ... the accommodations, the food, the weather, the hill conditions. It will be hard to have a repeat of such an awesome experience as was had by this group of skiers.

So as we see the snow melt away and new hobbies take the place of skiing, don't forget about the about your winter friends as you make plans for the 17-18 season.

Submitted by Laura Naugler, Hill Director
Martock

SASC BEN EOIN

March was a very busy month at SKI BEN EOIN for seniors. March 1 - KELL ANTOFT day. There were 66 seniors for a delicious buffet served by Ron and staff. There was positive feedback from all our members and visiting SASC as well. We were pleased to welcome President Robert Atkinson who addressed our group and enjoyed the morning skiing. We enjoyed having Jimmy join us and as well introducing him to Ski Ben Eoin's 91 year old- true inspiration for all. A special presentation was made to Vern Walsh, one of our weekly ski instructors on his retirement. He says he is finally joining the 80# group. A big thank you to Vern and Les Elsworthy for all their time and patience

each week!!! The ski patrol truly appreciate our donation for their patrol duties.

On March 22/ we held our seniors closing, and what a noisy group. All 60 members sang *Ski People* (adopted from *Sea People*) for their lunch. Wonderful way to start off another great buffet by Ron and staff. Asta Antoft (Daughter of our founder) joined us for all the fun and prizes. Asta was so pleased to be part of it all.

It has been a challenging year for our hill, with the teachers work to rule; and a breakdown of our chair lift, but we were still able to have 2441 visits to our hill from our SASC members. Thanks to all!!! Our seniors take one or two days a week to have lunch in the Broken Buckle Lounge, lots of good food and fun and laughter, all the while supporting our hill.

Here is to a fabulous 2017-2018 ski season. There will be lots of celebrations for our 50th Anniversary; I will keep you posted.

Sharon Tilley, Director, Ski Ben Eoin

SASC CRABBE UPDATE

What a great season we've enjoyed. As of March 15th we've logged just over 1400 visits to the hill which, in my time, is a banner year. Crabbe continues to open each week from Wednesday to Sunday inclusive and although we've been rained out on many of our "seniors days" we've made up for the lost time. Also, I'm pleased to report many from our hill have been travelling on the



WINTERWORDS



Monday / Tuesday and they tell me they've really enjoyed Poley this year as well. Our Kell Antoft day on Feb 22nd was a great success with 74 seniors on the hill. It was wonderful to see 22 visitors "from away" who were part of our number.

I'm hoping you will be able to open a couple of videos I've posted on youtube. One is Gary Steeves and I at Kell Antoft - Poley- and the other includes Tom d'Entremont and Ray Kaine (ski instructor) at Crabbe on one of our stellar days. Tom and Jacques Paquin had a very nice article written about them published in the Daily Gleaner on Kell Antoft day.

<https://www.telegraphjournal.com/daily-gleaner/story/100093658/crabbe-mountain-skiers-aches-and-pains?source=story-search>

Tom at 82 and Jacques at 84 are our two seniors. All the rest of us are just kids enjoying the hill.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4nBxyLMWhm0&feature=em-upload_owner
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=reNsxmSI9GQ&feature=em-upload_owner

I'm hoping all the links work!!

Don't forget, everyone is welcome to attend the Club Annual General Meeting in Debert NS on June 15th. Also, stay tuned for info on our golf tournament details of which will be published on our web-site shortly.

Enjoy the remainder of the season and "slip slide away"

Charlie Wright – Crabbe Hill Director

SASC POLEY UPDATE

Poley Mountain had a very good skiing year. We started with snow early in December and had a good skiing through January. We suffered from the same weather temperament as the other Maritime hills, with sporadic rain that would wash away built up our beautiful slopes, followed by extreme cold that would make for icy conditions. However, overall, with the great snow making capacity at Poley, and the many, many, snowstorms, overall, we had great ski conditions. During the course of the ski season, over 4000 SASC members took advantage of the great conditions. Many of them skied every day, or at least several times a week, mostly during the week, and there were those others who were sporadic skiers but who also enjoyed the advantages of being SASC members.

Kell Antoft Day at Poley was supposed to be held on Valentine's Day, February 14, however, Mother Nature decided that people should stay home with their loved ones and made sure of that by raining for at least two consecutive days. However, we were able to reschedule for the following Tuesday. Mother Nature was kind to us. She made sure we had a two major snowstorms and then a sufficient thaw to firm up the snow prior to the event so the snow could be soft, yet groomed. The sun was a bright light in the sky, shining down on the festivities; the skies were blue; the temperature a tad over freezing and very



WINTERWORDS



light winds. We could not have asked for anything better than that!

We had 110 members sign in that day, most of them were in bright and early to take advantage of the beautiful day. Our members came from Ben Eoin, Wentworth, Martock, Crabbe and Poley. Robert Atkinson, SASC President, Charles Wright, SASC Vice President and Judy Hawkins our Past President were also present.

Lunch was served at 12:30pm. We had a bit of a problem with the sound system initially, but were able to get through that. People were asked to put their names into the draw for prizes. There were tons of prizes, and more than half of the participants were able to go home with a gift. We were very fortunate to receive gifts from a variety of sponsors: Poley Mountain gave us swag, Outdoor Elements in Sussex provided several gift certificates, River and Trail Company in Quispamsis gave us more winter wear. SASC provided funds for more gifts. Key Industries in Saint John was very generous with their prizes. Austin Yeomans, one of our members, provided an Intarsia Skier stained pine woodworking hanging as our main prize. It was won by SASC President Robert Atkinson! Marilyn Yeomans provided her hand knitted mittens - they were snatched up very fast! And, most importantly, Beavertails from Martock provided those great velcro ski holders!

We were pleased to be able to present our former Poley Director, Murray Goodman, with a plaque and a SASC hat and to thank

him for his many dedicated years to the club and for serving as our hill director. We all agreed he had done a great job!

We presented a cheque to the Poley Ski Patrol via Bill Anderson, the Poley Mountain Manager who also said a few words.

Overall, a very successful ski year, a great Kell Antoft Day and a very big thank you to everyone who made it possible!

Looking forward to next year!

Nargis Kheraj, Director - Poley Mountain.

SASC MONT FARLAGNE UPDATE

We had a great year, great snow! Kell Antoft Day was held at Mont Farlagne Thursday, February 16th.



Gary Thorne SASC, director Mont Farlagne, presenting cheque to Daniel, CSPS patroller.



WINTERWORDS



André, Annette, Nargis, Louise, Monique, Gary

Gary Thorne, Farlagne

BROOKVALE

No information available at this time.

RECENTLY DECEASED MEMBERS

Harold Salter Wainwright, died April 18, 2017 in Bridgewater, NS.

Attention All Members

You may consider submitting an article(s) to “Winter Words” that you think is of interest to the general readership.