



THE AVALANCHE

The Upper Cape Ski & Sports Club
PO Box 2123
Teaticket, Ma 02536

Volume 10, Issue 5

December 2004

NEXT MEETING:

- Thursday
- December 2, 2004
- 7:30 p.m.
- Jillian's Restaurant
- Rte 151
North Falmouth, MA

Contact Us?

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Upper Cape Ski & Sports Club
P.O. Box 2123
Teaticket, MA 02536

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508-548-0071

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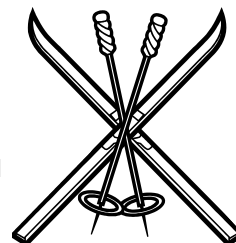
Tim Stark
Editor@uppercapeskiiclub.com

December 2004

President's Letter

Hello Members:

I'd like to start off by thanking Karen Foster for two years of faithful and devoted service to our club. She has left large shoes to fill and I will do my best. However, I never thought I would find myself in this position. I can still remember the first time I strapped on a pair of skis. And I'm not ashamed to admit that it wasn't all that long ago. The ski club has become an important part of my life and I am proud to be your president (*What's that? Peterson for President in 05? I second that nomination*).



We have such a great season ahead of us. This year's schedule is packed full of great trips. The Whistler trip is almost sold out and we're expecting another huge turnout for Sugarloaf. There are plenty of day trips to choose from. However, their success is in all of your hands now. Sign up early and bring a friend. We won't be able to maintain low trip rates if we don't start filling the buses.

One of my goals this year is increase our membership and in doing so, increase trip participation. Red Blanchard has volunteered to head up our membership committee. He has already done a great job but can't do it alone. We all need to do our part in spreading the word about the club. Hang a flyer in the workplace, gym or local store window. It really will make a difference.

Please join us on December 2 at Jillian's for our 2nd annual Yankee Swap. Bring a gift (preferably ski-related) valued between \$10 and \$20. It's a great opportunity to pay dues, sign up for trips and enjoy the company of good friends. Don't forget your checkbook!

See you on the slopes!

Tom Burt, President

Changed your e-mail address lately?

**If you haven't notified us, then you won't receive our
email updates. Send e-mail requests to
mfskier@uppercapeskiiclub.com**




TO SIGN UP FOR A TRIP

DAY TRIPS-Schedule and prices may be subject to change at any time. Always check with your Trip Leader for last minute changes, cancellations and to confirm bus departure. Non-member surcharge is \$15 in addition to the regular price. The bus leaves from the Grand Union (formerly A&P) on MacArthur's Boulevard, Bourne. Plenty of parking is available for the day, allowed by the Grand Union. Mail your check to the trip leader.

WEEKEND & WEEK-LONG TRIPS-Only fully paid members are allowed to participate. Make sure to sign up for membership before sending your ski trip reservations. All prices are per person (adult) and are subject to change (check with your trip leader). Single-room occupants are subject to an applicable surcharge. Contact your trip leader for surcharge information. Refunds are subject to our deposit policy.

Alternate Pick Up Sites-Some trips allow for secondary pickup sites. These trips are so designated in the schedule. It is the responsibility of the member desiring the alternate pick up to give advance notice to the trip leader at the time of booking the trip. The alternate locations are:

 **Rte. 495N Pick Up** (Exit 5 at the Rotary)

 **Rte. 3 Pick Up** (Exit 10 off Rte 3 in Duxbury)

04/05 Trip Leaders

Karen Foster
81 Goeletta Dr.
E. Falmouth, MA 02536
508-564-4818

Brenda Purdy
P.O. Box 3419
Waquoit, MA 02536-3419
508-540-4268

Carey Murphy
120 Ostrom Rd.
Waquoit, MA 02536
508-495-6442

Diane Payson
88 Palmer Ave.
Falmouth, MA 02540
508-548-0071

Jack Reardon
42 N. Bourne's Pond Rd.
E. Falmouth, MA 02536
508-548-6486

Michael Finegold
88 Palmer Ave.
Falmouth, MA 02540
508-548-0071

Doug Baker
P.O. Box 3447
Pocasset, MA 02559
508-563-9273

Dave Dimestico
18 Raffi Ave.
E. Falmouth, MA 02536
508-540-7656

Tom Burt
46 Thom Ave.
Bourne, MA 02532
508-759-8364

~ Deposit/Refund policy ~

Deposits help ensure that a space is reserved for our members. These deposits apply to bus trips, weekend trips, week long trips and more. Late cancellations are not entitled to a refund, nor is the club responsible for finding a replacement for you. You must find your own replacement, although we will endeavor to help you whenever possible. Deposits are further subject to the conditions imposed upon us by our suppliers, agents or other providers. We make every effort to refund as much money as possible but cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Inquire of your trip leader for specific information regarding your particular trip. The club recommends that you consider trip insurance whenever possible.

Trip Schedule!!!

Day/Week	Date	Place	Rte 3 Pick up	X Country	Cost	Trip Leader	Bus Departs
Fri—Sun	12/10—12/12	Sunday River, ME			179.00	Karen Foster	Self Drive
Wed	12/29	Stratton, VT	495		65.00	Dave Dimestico	5:00
Wed	1/5	Okemo, VT	495		65.00	Tom Burt	5:00
Sun	1/9	Mt. Snow, VT	495		65.00	Tom Burt	5:00
Wed	1/12	Attitash, NH	3		65.00	Chuck Wilson	5:00
Wed	1/19	Mt. Sunapee, NH	3		65.00	Carey Murphy	5:00
Sun—Fri	1/23—1/28	Sugarloaf, ME			330.00	Doug Baker	Self Drive
Wed	2/2	Ragged Mtn., NH	3		55.00	Tom Burt	5:00
Wed	2/9	Stratton, VT	495		65.00	Dave Dimestico	5:00
Sun	2/13	Sunday River, ME	3		65.00	Brenda Purdy	4:30
Wed	2/16	Loon, NH	3		65.00	Chuck Wilson	5:00
Sun	2/27	Cannon, NH	3		65.00	Tom Peterson	5:00
Wed	3/2	Mt. Snow, VT	495		65.00	Chuck Wilson	5:00
Fri	3/4	Mad River Glen, VT	495		65.00	Sharon Grace	4:30
Sat—Sat	3/5—3/12	Whistler / Blackcomb, BC			1,329.00	Mike Finegold	Air
Wed	3/9	Bretton Woods, NH	3		65.00	Chuck Wilson	5:00
Wed	3/16	Sunday River, ME	3		65.00	Brenda Purdy	4:30
Sun	3/20	Ascutney, VT	495		55.00		5:00
Wed	3/30	Wildcat, NH	3		65.00	Camille Morgan	5:00
Thu—Sun	3/31—4/3	Jay Peak, VT			260.00		Self Drive

For up-to-the-minute information on trip updates, visit
www.uppercapeskiclub.com

NEXT GENERAL MEETING - Thursday, November 4, 2004



Snow is our passion

 Sunday river

December 10 - 12, 2005

Trip Leader: Karen Foster

\$179.00 per person!

In terms of sheer size, Sunday River is remarkable: 128 trails, 663 acres, and 8 interconnected mountains. Each peak offers a distinct experience, from the steeps and bumps of White Cap to the tree skiing of Oz to the cruising on North Peak and Jordan Bowl, and it's all serviced by a network of 18 modern lifts, four of which are high-speed quads!

Trip Includes:

- ž 2 nights lodging at the Grand Summit (ski-in / ski-out) Lodge
- ž 2 days lift pass

Fast Stats!!!

Runs: 128

Snowmaking: 92%

Lifts: 18

Vertical Descent: 2340 ft.

Terrain Parks: 4

Avg. Snowfall: 155"

January 23 - 28, 2005



sugarloaf/usa.

Price: \$330.00—The Same as last year!!!

Trip Leader: Doug Baker

Sugarloaf/USA is located in the heart of the Carrabassett Valley, and is surrounded by Maine's Western Mountains.

It's craggy and knotty so make like a buzzsaw and rip it! Take the Timberline Quad and you're at 4,237 feet elevation—The top of the world (by New England standards anyway!) Check out Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire AND Canada and enjoy the only lift-serviced above treeline skiing in the East!

Trip Includes:

- ž 5 nights mountain-side condo
- ž 5 1/2 days of lift tickets (get there early & Ski on Sunday!
- ž Daily Perfect-Turn Clinic ski lessons
- ž Use of the Sports & Fitness Club & 2 outdoor Jacuzzis!
- ž Monday night welcome party
- ž And much, much more!



Mount Snow Turns 50!

Mount Snow, Vermont (Ski Press)-Mount Snow first opened its doors to skiing on December 12, 1954. Now, almost fifty years later, Mount Snow has unveiled the details surrounding its 50th anniversary celebration.

“We have chosen one weekend each month to pair up with a particular decade,” explained Mike Murphy, Mount Snow Communications Manager. “An entire season of celebration at Mount Snow kicks off on December 11. It should be a wild ride.”

The selected weekends include various on-snow promotions, contests and activities with themed après-ski parties at the Snow Barn. This 50th winter season also marks the return of Fountain Mountain - the mythic man-made geyser that sprang from Snow Lake during the 1960s.

On December 11 - 12, Mount Snow will celebrate its actual birthday with a full weekend of 1950s fun. Fountain Mountain will flow once again, golden fireworks will decorate the sky, and the 50 Days of Give-aways promotion will kickoff. The Snow Barn will feature a 1950s cover band. On Sunday, December 12, \$50 buys 2 lift tickets.

January 15 - 16 marks the return of the 1980s to Mount Snow. Neon colors and pop music will be all the rage during a weekend highlighted by the Mega Mother Hucker and Grommet Rail Jam events.

The 1990s come to town over February 12 -13. The second annual Snowstyle competition will take place at Carinthia, followed by fireworks. Hip-hop artist extraordinaire TONE LOC will perform at the Snow Barn on Saturday evening.

All flower children are invited March 19 - 20 during the 1960s tribute weekend jam-packed with plenty of 60's music, fun events and fireworks. Mountain Idol, Strongman and woman contests and the Mountain Dew Vertical Challenge are scheduled during this Season Passholder Appreciation weekend.

No 50th Anniversary season celebration would be complete without honoring polyester and platform shoes. On April 9 - 10, the 1970s cover band Dynamite Disco Revue will take over the stage. Solid Gold Disco Blowout Weekend will also feature a fireworks display, costume contests and more.

Theme Weekend Schedule

1950s: December 11 - 12, 2004

1980s: January 15 - 16, 2005

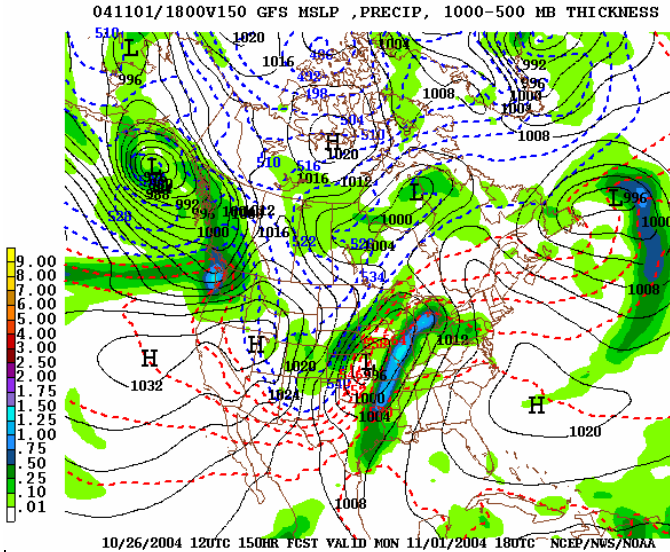
1990s: February 12 - 13, 2005

1960s: March 19 - 20, 2005

1970s: April 9 - 10, 2005



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El Niño, La Niña – Qué Pasa?

By Tom Burt

We've all heard of them before. You may have even thrown their names around before. "Sure has been a wet week... must be el niño" or "My knees are sore today... la niña must be blowing through again." The fact is, these conditions only come around every three to seven years. I, like most others, have heard of el niño and la niña before, but didn't know exactly what they were. I decided it was time I learned about them. So, here it is, my best attempt at meteorology.

I need to include a small disclaimer before I get too involved here. History has shown that el niño and la niña are unpredictable. The frequency with which they occur is irregular and can only be predicted once symptoms appear. Furthermore, the effects are equally irregular, varying with every episode studied. However, some patterns have been documented. Keep all this in mind when investigating this brief lesson.

I'll start by blaming the Pacific Ocean for all of this. In normal years, strong winds blow the warm surface waters of the Pacific Ocean from the South American coast towards Asia. The current draws cooler waters up from the deep, resulting in cold water (22° C) in the east Pacific and warm water (30° C) in the west Pacific. Occasionally, el niño rears its ugly head. It begins with a weakening of the easterly winds. When the winds weaken, the current weakens and the Pacific temperatures begin to equalize. The result is warmer ocean temperatures off the coast of South America, which, in turn, weakens the winds even further. Weaker winds mean warmer waters which mean weaker winds and so on. If the pattern continues, we have el niño on our hands!

Everyone still with me? I hope so, because now I'll tell you about la niña. Unusually strong winds in the east Pacific force the warm surface water westward. And if you were paying attention earlier, you'd remember that this means colder water rising from below. Like el niño, if these conditions persist, la niña will result. More importantly, la niña usually follows el niño, which lasts up to 18 months. Like I said earlier, however, inconsistency is a factor.

So, you're probably asking, "How does all this affect us?" Here in New England, the effects may or may not be as obvious as in other areas of the nation and the world (again, inconsistent). Let's start with el niño. This bastard of a condition we call el niño can mean trouble for us winter enthusiasts. The most notable effect is a shift of the storm track from the Northern states to the Southern states, especially the southeast. The result is a very wet winter in the southeast (and California) and a milder, drier-than-usual winter in the northern US and southern Canada. And remember all those cold fronts that blow down out of Canada? Kiss those goodbye.



Now, let's discuss la niña – my buddy, my pal. During la niña, “large portions of central North America experience increased storminess, increased precipitation, and an increased frequency of significant cold-air outbreaks, while the southern states experience less storminess and precipitation.”¹ The most highly effected areas include the Pacific Northwest into southwest Canada (right around Whistler/Blackcomb) and the Midwest. Unfortunately for us ski-folk, la niña just isn't as common as her brother, el niño. And now for the bad news. According to the National Weather Service, “Warm-episode conditions are expected to continue into early 2005.”² In October 2004, sea surface temperatures in the east Pacific began to rise. Unfortunately, the temperatures have continued to rise into November. Early indications point to a possible el niño episode. Before I get ahead of myself, let's remember all those disclaimers I mentioned. There is no guarantee that sea temperatures will continue rising. Even if they do, we may not suffer the effects here in New England. Also, remember el niño can last 18 months. It's possible that we won't see any results until next winter, not this one. Worst case scenario? We have a dry winter this year and we hope that my buddy, my pal (la niña) is not far behind.

¹ National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center. http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis_monitoring/ensocycle/nawinter.html

² National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center. http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis_monitoring/enso_advisory/index.html

Scripps Institution of Oceanography. http://meteora.ucsd.edu/%7Epierce/el_nino/whatis.html

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



2004 / 2005 Membership Roster

The Board of Directors would like to print a membership roster in the January Newsletter. This will help members contact each other between trips, and be a potentially convenient resource to help us identify who, and how many we are!

To be included in the printed roster, members must have their annual dues paid no later than the December meeting.

If you specifically DO NOT want to be included, please make your desire known to David Dimestico.



Ski Buddies

For some time now we've been trying to think of a way that our members can identify each other while on the slopes. We've talked about arm bands, things that tie around poles, even clothing with our insignia on it. Well, we think we have a solution. It's a sticker. Yes, a sticker. With more and more people sporting helmets (a very good thing) what better place to identify that you're a proud member of the Upper Cape Ski & Sports Club.



Vests

Once again we'll be offering vests with our name printed on them. Red Blanchard, formerly of Village Ski and Sports Shop, has gracefully re-offered his connections to the vest manufacturer so that we can be warm all winter long.



CLASSIFIEDS

Ads are free to all Club Members

Christmas Mountain Condo for rent in Glen, NH
2 Bedroom, 2 Bath, w/loft (sleeps 8)
Beautiful views of Mt. Washington.
Wildcat, Attitash, Cranmore are all close by.
\$150 per night plus cleaning fee.
Call Scott or Wendy @ 508-457-9499

Sunday River 1-bedroom Condo for rent
Ski in, ski out—Sleeps 4
Hot tub & heated outdoor pool
Available holidays & weekends.
Call Michael Finegold @ 508-548-0071

Looking for children's boots & skis. Call Diane Payson @
508-548-0071

Dolomite ski boots (men's) for sale. Best
reasonable offer. Doug Baker 508-563-9273

If you would like to place an ad,
email it to editor@uppercapeskiclub.com.



Trip Application for 2004-2005 Season

Name: _____ Roommate: _____

MAILING Address: _____

City & State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone (Home): _____ (Work): _____

Email address: _____

Trip desired _____ Date: _____

Downhill ☐ Cross Country ☐ Snowboard ☐

YOU MUST FILL IN ALL BLANKS. I HAVE READ AND AGREE TO THE LIABILITY POLICY AND WAIVE ALL LIABILITY.

Signed _____ Date _____

LIABILITY POLICY: Participants acknowledge that there are inherent risks in skiing, whitewater rafting, and other sports, and agree to hold harmless the Upper Cape Ski & Sport Club, it's officers, directors, and agents, from any claims whatsoever resulting from participation in any club related activity. The Upper Cape Ski & Sport Club acts solely as agent carrying out services and assumes no responsibility for injury, loss, or damage to persons or property, not for faults or defaults of companies or those carrying out services; nor accident, injuries, delays, cancellations, changes due to weather, baggage, lodging, insufficient participation, or reasons beyond the control of the Upper Cape Ski & Sport Club.

Make all checks payable to: **Upper Cape Ski & Sport Club**

Mail directly to the trip leader. **Do not send cash !!!!**

Amount enclosed \$ _____

All deposits are subject to our deposit policy which is published in our newsletter and on our website.

Membership Application for 2004-2005 Season

Name: _____ Age: _____

MAILING Address: _____

City & State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone (Home): _____ (Work): _____

Email address: _____

Signed _____ Date _____

Annual Dues - \$40

October 1, 2004 thru Sept. 30, 2005

Downhill ☐ Snowboard ☐

Cross-Country ☐

I prefer to receive my newsletters via email: YES ☐ NO ☐

I HAVE READ AND AGREE TO THE LIABILITY POLICY AND WAIVE ALL LIABILITY.

LIABILITY POLICY: Participants acknowledge that there are inherent risks in skiing, snowboarding, whitewater rafting, and other sports, and agree to hold harmless the Upper Cape Ski & Sport Club, it's officers, directors, and agents, from any claims whatsoever resulting from participation in any club related activity. The Upper Cape Ski & Sport Club acts solely as agent carrying out services and assumes no responsibility for injury, loss, or damage to persons or property, not for faults or defaults of companies or those carrying out services; nor accident, injuries, delays, cancellations, changes due to weather, baggage, lodging, insufficient participation, or reasons beyond the control of the Upper Cape Ski & Sport Club. I also agree to abide by the bylaws and policies set forth by the Upper Cape Ski & Sport Club.

Annual dues are \$40. Minimum age for membership is 21 years of age.

Make all checks payable to **Upper Cape Ski & Sport Club**

Mail to: **UCS&SC-Membership, Box 2123, Teaticket, MA 02536**

Next General Meeting

Arrive early and have a great dinner at:

JILLIAN'S
Corner of Rte 151 & 28A
North Falmouth, MA

Thursday
December 2, 2004



Itinerary:

2 December:

- ⌘ Annual Yankee Swap!
- ⌘ Trip Updates

SUMMIT MORTGAGE

Maurice B. Soque (Suki)
508.563.7617 or 508.776.2520 (cell)
508.563.7618 FAX
msoque@summitmortgage.com
76 Caravel Drive, East Falmouth, MA 02536

The Upper Cape Ski & Sports Club
PO Box 2123
Teaticket, Ma 02536

FIRST CLASS MAIL



There's no news like snow news!