



The Fall Line

"Read it if you can."



December 2006

ASCNY Celebrates 75 Years

On Saturday, November 4th, 2006, the long awaited ASCNY 75th Anniversary celebration brought 115 party goers to the Yale Club in New York City for an evening of dinner, dancing, friends, and a silent auction. Tables were decorated with blue and yellow balloon bouquets and vintage ski boots -- some early lace boots and the first buckle and plastic boots. During cocktails members browsed the auction table bidding on everything from Mad River ski houses to hand-painted pottery and exclusive rounds of golf at private country clubs. The party kicked off with a welcome by President Hilary Hotchkiss reminiscing about the 50th birthday celebration twenty five years earlier and thanking her committee of Hooley Wilks, Alyson Walker, Robin Fisher and Pam Nesbett. Harry Fisher, ASCNY treasurer, followed

with a brief state of the Club's finances. Rob Young reported on membership while Rick Moulton entertained us with a few historical antidotes. After a few words, our newly elected President, Stuart Randall, began the traditional Happy Birthday song followed by the cutting of the birthday cake. PartyMix disc jockey, Chris Ford, wearing a snappy ski sweater, charged the party with some great music. The dance floor erupted throughout the evening, demonstrating that not only can we all ski, but we can dance too!!

It was a wonderful gathering of several generations with some coming from great distances to join the fun, see friends and support the club. Penny Parsons came from Maine, Rick Moulton traveled down from Vermont and the Shepleys and Grogans made a weekend of it coming from Boston. Whether old skiing friendships were rekindled or, new skiing acquaintances were made, it was a sure sign that the ASCNY is ready for the next 25 winters!

Hilary Hotchkiss

President's Letter

The leaves have disappeared from the trees, the weather is cooler, the days shorter, all the telltale signs that winter is fast approaching. As we brace ourselves for the onslaught of cold weather, the anticipation of the first snowfall mounts. It is an exciting time of year because the arrival of snow means the beginning of ski season.

Many of us have been busy working out our plans for the upcoming season. This includes making sure we have all the proper gear for both ourselves and children. It involves coordinating both vacation and weekend schedules with family and friends to plan for lodging and travel. And, perhaps we become a little more diligent about exercising to make sure we are in good physical shape.

The ASCNY has been very active making preparations for the upcoming season. The lodge reservation system,

which now takes credit cards, has been changed to make it much easier to book rooms. There have been some long overdue renovations at the lodge which include new common bathrooms. A ski trip to Cortina, Italy has been successfully put together with future trips already in the planning stages.

We had excellent response to the survey that was sent out over the summer. In addition to conveying a strong interest in the traditions and history of the club, members expressed a willingness to actively participate along with a desire to upgrade the lodge.

We celebrated our 75th anniversary with a fully attended annual dinner at the Yale Club on November 4th.

As newly elected president, I am looking forward to working with everyone to help carry on the traditions of the Amateur Ski Club.

Ski it if you can, think snow.

Stuart Randall, President



Stuart and Barbara Randall

Hans Hopf ...

**“It was fun putting together a table of old folks,
all of whom enjoyed being there.”**

Bobby Nichols ...

**“It was an impressive turn out, and the amount
of old ASCNY guard was incredible.”**

Pam Nesbett ...

**“I am so excited, I got
The Pitcher Inn in the auction!!”**

Nancy Grogan ...

**“This is so great ... we are going
out boogying all night!”**

Pam Shepley ...

**“It was fun to see everyone in
their city clothes for a change!”**

Norma Bartol ...

**“Where did you get those
ski boots; are they mine?”**

Rick Stowe ...

“This is just amazing and so great for the club.”

Olivia Dunn ...

**“What a wonderful evening. What an
attractive group and to think, they also ski.”**





1 Brad Nichols & Norma Bartol

3 Peter Lawrence, Nancy Grogan & Susan Lawrence

5 Rick Moulton, Kate Stiassni & Doug Taylor

7 Barbara Heming & Belinda Shepard

9 Christopher Radko Nutcracker Skier

11 Susan Lawrence & Cynn timer Cook

2 Ned Nunes & Alex Walker

4 Hillary Hotchkiss & Stuart Randall

6 Kip Carey, Russ Reynolds & Jinny Sammis

8 Win & Hillary Hotchkiss

10 Harry Fisher

ASCNY's

4593 Millbrook Road, Fayston, Vermont

Lodge Report

The 2006 off-season saw a great deal of focus placed on the ASC Lodge by the Board and reorganized Lodge Committees. Committee work progressed apace, with efforts focused on ASCNY survey results, finances, continued long range planning, and a view to improve the lodge experience for all.

For example, in addition to the credit card acceptance noted in the President's message, the Finance committee established a new dues structure in order to ensure that the club does not need to "pass the hat" for lodge operations or maintenance costs going forward. Second, the communications committee is working some substantial magic with www.ascny.org, to bring the lodge reservations function back in-house. And, partially in support of this reservations effort, two committee chairpersons now care for the lodge: please welcome Scott Johnson as the newly established Lodge Operations Chair. Scott, his Lodge Operations Committee, and Jim Byrne (our new Reservations Chairman) will look after the day-to-day business of the lodge and reservations respectively. Finally, the addition of Patrick Mooney and Tony Richards to the old Lodge Committee, focused on major maintenance, completes the most substantial influx of member time and talent devoted to our Vermont home in many years.

New Common Bathrooms

Enough of the management summary! Visible results under-way include a full renovation of our men's and ladies' bathrooms. Floors, walls, ceilings, shower stalls, lighting and fixtures have been replaced. Thanks to all who prioritized this project in your survey responses. The ASCNY Board also extends special thanks to Ashley Ware for the huge effort it took to specify so many details, for a project almost 300 miles away.

The end result will be a far more inviting (but private) area of the Lodge. The Board was thrilled that our membership so overwhelmingly supported this project. The new bathrooms will serve the needs of our entire membership well and, of course, be a far more presentable space for the Club's day and overnight guests. As always, if we have missed anything, please do not hesitate to approach any of the members of your Lodge committees. See www.ascny.org for e-mail links: facilities@ascny.org or operations@ascny.org.

2005-06 Bootroom Project Recap

Even prior to our Board survey, many members expressed concern that our bootroom was woefully inadequate during the Holiday crushes. Chaos was a common theme. As mentioned in our last column, the ASC bootroom has been reorganized to accommodate a 21st century membership. Ski and boot capacity is nearly doubled as a direct result of input communicated to the lodge committee. We are all pleased to have a more accommodating space, but a few points warrant repeating:

- Please keep the bootroom floor clear. Scattered bags and gear had become distressing to many members, so an ample quantity of shelves is now installed to accommodate day bags, helmets, clothing and other assorted gear.
- Please reserve the few remaining "peg" hangers for double-ended skis that do not fit as easily into our new stands. These old dowels were not left accidentally, but specifically for this purpose.
- There are two boot dryers. To conserve energy, both are equipped with timers. Please use only the smaller unit (left, I4 pair) when lodge use is light. The units are designed to dry boots with airflow and minimal heat (about + 10 degrees from ambient and dry in less than 2 hours). If the bootroom is warm and clear, they will provide years of efficient service.
- Our old tuning bench was removed so people may access the new shelves by the interior lodge door. However, two amazingly sturdy portable benches and vise sets were purchased for use by our finicky tune-your-own set. Here's the deal: if you like to work on your own skis, you may want to tune and enjoy a cold brew with a friend — hence two sets of benches/vises. If the boot room is clear there will be plenty of space to set up in the middle of the room, contemplate tomorrow's runs with a fellow member, and enjoy your work. Of course, please sweep or vacuum, filings and wax shavings, and neatly stow our tuning gear. Have fun.

Coming Soon

Noticeable in the dining area, we do have an aging, seeping roof upon the lodge. Please rest assured that your board and lodge committees have not ignored this issue in favor of the

aforementioned. To stop our leaks (an inexact science), a Valley roofer patched trouble spots this summer, and we are budgeting/planning for a new lodge roof in Spring 2007. More to come on how this might impact Spring or Summer Lodge use next year. Also, our commercial insurers have asked that our front deck railing be modified in order to comply with building code. Early season guests will see that this work was completed in "band-aid" fashion thus far. Our excellent carpenter, Tom Northrop (who also fitted out the bootroom) has planned a new permanent railing. This work will keep the space safe and make it more inviting to use.

Leave It Better Than When You Arrived

As we endeavor to make many improvements, both obvious

and subtle, we are hoping that the appearance and condition of our facility will be a pleasure to all ASC members. At the same time, a well-kept lodge may hopefully reduce the occasional tendency to overlook what we would not let slide in our own home. A sofa full of pistachio shells or a disastrous bootroom is not reflective of, nor would they continue to attract, a congenial group of amateur skiers.

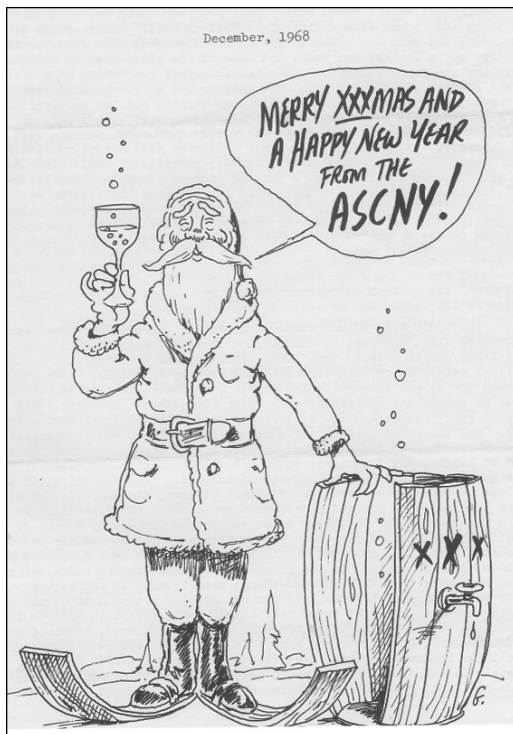
Please help out by understanding and following posted lodge protocols, because we are each other's guests and because this will immeasurably help members like Scott and Jim who have volunteered to help. After all, the ASC is our membership, not the just our building in Vermont. The best part of the lodge is who you find when you arrive. Ski it!

Brooks Ware

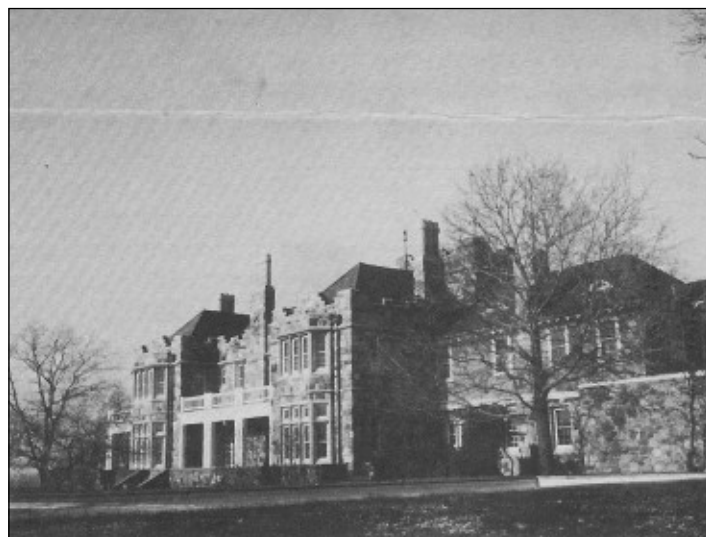
A Trip to the ASCNY ARCHIVES

The cover of the December 1968 ASCNY Newsletter shows not only the artistic talent of its members, but also their humor. There are many other examples, which I hope to get out in future editions, but this one seemed appropriate for the time of year and our 75th anniversary celebration in New York.

Within this 1968 newsletter edition, the editor proclaims to have had a personal conversation with Santa Claus, who told him that his elves and gnomes would go on strike if



those "high-falutin'" ASC'ers didn't stop ordering all those fancy fiberglass skis at \$100/pair! He also goes to say that the 37th Annual Dinner was a huge success with over 100 people attending at the 65th Street Longschamps in New York. With the club



in the midst of a debate over where to construct a new lodge, a letter from Armonk's E. Cabot to the ASCNY offers a better alternative: "In your November issue, I read with interest the conflicting opinions of ASC members on the lodge question. It seems to me that you people are barking up the wrong tree. What you want is a comfortable place right here in Westchester!"

You'll want a lodge that really is a lodge, with its own deer park, billiard room, humidor and squash court. It should be close enough to New York that the fleshpots are within easy range, and yet should be near first class skiing such as this area offers at Reg's Ledges, Birch Hill, Loch Ledge, and the big slope in back of the club. It happens I know of such a place! The upkeep would not be too staggering for a club such as ASC, and the asking price is relatively moderate. I reserve my right to rooms on the third floor, rear, but otherwise my home, Cabot Lodge, is yours!"

Rob Young

Bruce O. Hutchinson

Bruce O. Hutchinson of Westbrook, CT. died suddenly on September 24, 2006 in his home. Raised in Rye, N.Y., he attended The Hackley School and then graduated from Bucknell University where he was a member of Phi Kappa Si. A skilled accountant, Bruce worked for Reader's Digest in Pleasantville, N.Y. and he owned two successful employment agencies in Wilton, CT. before retiring. He was a member of ASCNY, Indian Harbor Yacht Club and most recently, Old Lyme Country Club.

Bruce loved challenge and adventure. As a young man, Jay Gerli introduced him to Mad River Glen (MRG), where he donned skis for the first time. He braved the unforgiving slopes as a nascent initiate on wooden skis with cable bindings — the venerable John Gerli, Sr. leading his new recruit through the terrain. Not one to follow the crowd, Bruce developed and honed a distinctive and beautiful Austrian style that, while not particularly effective on MRG ice, was a pleasure to watch as art in motion. He loved and skied Mad River for nearly 50 years.

Bruce spent his summer months sailing Long Island Sound. He lovingly named his first boat, a lead keeled Sail Master 22, "Fall Line". Bruce dedicated long hours to perfecting his



skill as a celestial navigator. His trusted expertise was admired by the sailing community, and Bruce enjoyed invitations to navigate vessels for many open ocean journeys. He participated in the Newport-Bermuda Races and he navigated The Palawan for part of Thomas Watson, Jr's well documented Hudson Bay adventure through icebergs and freezing temperatures.

After raising their family in Pound Ridge, N.Y., Bruce and his wife Dee moved to Westbrook, CT., where he discovered his newest passion: golf. He spent tireless hours improving and challenging his skills at the Old Lyme Country Club, where he was an active and involved member. He had the immense pleasure of landing his first

hole-in-one just two days before his untimely death.

Having survived an 8-year bout with leukemia, Bruce lived well and fully for the past 17 years. His love of life, family and friends was infectious and he taught all who knew him how to cherish and enjoy what mattered.

Bruce is survived by his wife of 48 years, Dee (Dorothy O.), his daughters Nancy DeLorenzo of Middle Grove, N.Y., Sandy Gray of Annandale, N.J. and 6 loving grandchildren.

Auction Raises over \$7,000 for Lodge!

The Auction at the 75th Anniversary Dinner held Saturday, November 4th at The Yale Club brought in over \$7,000 for the ASCNY Lodge at Mad River. Overnight accommodations were among the most popular items which included "The Mad House", owned by Peter and Brittain Palmedo; a charming slope-side A-frame, owned by Ned Nunes and Stefanie Kies; a get-away weekend at The Three Stallion Inn donated by Sam and Jinny Sammis; a night at The Pitcher Inn in Sugarbush owned by Winthrop Smith; and a weekend stay at The University Club in Manhattan, donated by Scott Johnson. For the golfers in the group, one could tee it up at The Fishers Island Club or The Country Club of Fairfield. For the adventurous, there was waterskiing from the Belle

Haven Club in Greenwich and cocktail cruising on Lake George. There were dinners to be had, a season pass at MRG, case of fine French wine, Ski Film Library, racing ski poles, MRG fleeces, a Christopher Radko nutcracker skier, and MRG trail signs to name a few. An enchanting hand-made Christmas tree with vintage ski ornaments made and donated by Hooey Wilks adorned the auction table and a Vermont artist painted beautiful pottery with the ski club logo. The auction table was constantly bustling with activity and bidding was active until the final close after dinner. Thank you all who donated to the auction and thank you all who bid on the items to make it such a great success!

Hilary Hotchkiss

ASCNY 2007 Ski Trip

Cortina, Italy, March 2nd - 10th

If you haven't signed up yet for this astonishing trip, it's not too late! Contact Belinda Shepard for information at 203-227-6999 or bjshepard@mindspring.com.

We have a terrific group of people signed up already for skiing and fun in Italy's most famous ski resort. Our direct flight to Venice allows many members to arrive several days in advance to take in the sights and tastes of Venice (one of the few times of year when it is relatively tourist free!)

Cortina, nestled in the spectacular Dolomite Mountains, has something for everyone: whether you are a hard-core downhill skier, an enthusiastic cross-country skier or an avid fan of all things Italian (food, fur, wine and shopping). Come join us on this superb trip. We promise to come back with great pictures and incredible stories!

Our Custom Ski Package:

Price:

\$3,125 per person double occupancy

Features Include:

Round-trip on Delta Airlines New York - Venice non-stop (other gateways and extended tickets available)

Bus transfers between Venice airport and the hotel

7 nights accommodation at Hotel Ancora (4-star), situated right in the heart of the village. (www.hotelancoracortina.com)

Buffet breakfast and dinner daily

Sauna and steam room

Internet service

Two local ski guides for 5 days

All taxes and service charges



The Hotel Ancora, Cortina D'Ampezzo, Italy

Calendar of Events

December 30, 2006:

Slalom Race

MRG Practice Slope: 10:00 am race start

Cocktail Party @ ASC Lodge, 6:00 pm

January 13, 2007:

X-Country Race

Ole's Cross Country Center, Warren Airport

10:00 am race start

Cocktail Party @ ASC Lodge, 6:00 pm

February 17, 2007:

Giant Slalom Family Race

MRG Practice Slope: 10:00 am race start

Cocktail Party @ ASC Lodge, 6:00 pm

Blue & Gold Awards Banquet and Dinner, 7:00 pm

March 2 - March 10, 2007:

ASCNY 2007 Ski Trip to Cortina D'Ampezzo, Italy

Contacts:

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March 3, 2007:

Mad River Glen Interclub / Family Race

MRG Practice Slope: 10:00 am race start

"Interclub" Potluck @ ASC Lodge 6:00 pm

June / July 2007:

8th Annual ASCNY Golf Outing

Location: TBD

Contact: Jim Byrne @ 914-273-6249

Golf@ascny.org



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