



The Fall Line

"Read it if you can."



Fall 2017

Thoughts from our President

Thinking of Snow Flakes *(To the tune of **Margaritaville** by Jimmy Buffet)*

- ❖ I'm thinking about snow flakes, as I'm watchin' the sun bake; all of those tourists covered in oil.
- ❖ I'm smelling the salt air and dreaming of the single chair. All of my lobsters they're beginnin' to boil.
- ❖ I just saw some ASCNY members in flip flops, cruising the ski shops; looking for discounts on some old K2's.
- ❖ I just can't wait any longer, and I've consulted some snow experts to help get us some clues!
- ❖ I don't know the reason, but I can't stop thinking about next season – WHEN! WILL WE GET TO SKI- good old MRG?
- ❖ Some people claim global warming is to blame, but as the ASCNY President I KNOW; if you don't pay your dues now, we won't get any SNOW!
- ❖ So go the website and pay your invoice on time; or you will be given a fine - and you will be the one singing the blues.

Seriously, please go online now and pay your dues if you have not already. If you need assistance contact Doug Stowe (doug.stowe@gmail.com). If you prefer to mail in a check, send it to our bookkeeper, Susan Kluger - 165 W End Ave # 22, NY, NY 10023.

For all us skiers dreaming of snowflakes while attending summer clam bakes, you'll find in this newsletter some insight on the 2017-18 ski season from some real snow experts.

Please offer a toast to Boreas, the deity of winter, before planning a trip to Mad River Glen to assure your share of face shots. We also have some great fall events for ASCNY members, more legacy members to celebrate, and of course the club ski races!

It is going to be a great winter!

Trey Gregory

Calendar of Events

Sept 12, 19, 26 – MRG Fall Foliage Weekends, Chairlift Rides

Oct 15th – Online reservation requests opens up

Oct 22nd and Nov 20th – Film and gathering in Fairfield CT (more info coming)

Jan 14th – MLK Weekend X-Country Races

Feb 18th – Race Weekend and Awards Dinner

Meet Amateur

By Rob Young, ASCNY Archivist

Amateur was born no later than April 12, 1931, possibly in Woodstock, VT, at the beginning of the ASCNY Club. Amateur is quite obviously a skier, and a very clumsy one at that. Typical of a newborn. Through this image, my belief is that is exactly what his creator intended him to portray and preach to the rest of the skiing world.

For those of you who were able to attend the Awards Cocktail Party and Dinner held at the Lodge and Basebox this past February, we were all treated to an inspiring talk and presentation by **Phil Palmedo** about the general history of Mad River Glen, the Club and his father, **Roland Palmedo**, the honoree of the evening and recipient of the Legacy Award this year.

Shortly after the awards dinner weekend, Phil contacted me asking if I knew anything about the origins of the ASCNY emblem. I said I had remembered running across something in the archives and that I would get back to him. Shortly after this, Phil introduced me to Rick Hamlin, president and former chairman of the Vermont Ski and Snowboard Museum (VSSM), and currently the National Ski Patrol historian. I am a board member of the New England Ski Museum (NESM). So, between the three of us, I thought we should be able to figure this one out, right? So I assumed.

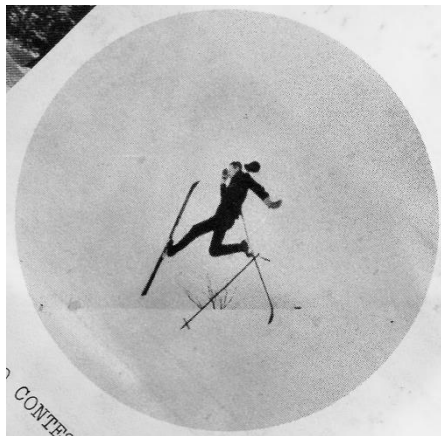
Rick owns or oversees most or all of the collection of **Livingston Longfellow's** archives. Livingston Longfellow was a contemporary of Roland's back in the 1930's. He was known to his friends as "Livy." Livingston was a member of the Club starting in 1937 and an architect with the New York architectural firm of Cass Gilbert. Within Mr. Hamlin's collection, he had a 1940 photograph of an unidentified skier falling backwards in a strikingly similar fashion as Amateur. Rick theorized that the amateur emblem had been designed after this photograph, which, I had heard rumors of myself.

From my archives memory though, I was skeptical.

First, the first published directory that we have on record is from 1932 and has Amateur printed on the front cover. So, Amateur had been around at least eight years before the 1940 photograph.

Second, I looked through my archives and found the 1940 newsletter that published the winners of a 1940 photo contest. In second place was the same backwards falling skier that Rick had found in his collection of Longfellow's.

At this point, I got back to Phil and Rick and said "No, it can't be. Amateur was not inspired by the 1940 photo, just the opposite. That photo was staged to look like Amateur for the 1940 photo contest." And it worked. "It won the photographer a second place finish in the contest. Amateur was inspired much sooner than that."



*Photo of unidentified skier falling backwards, 1940
From the Longfellow collection*



First published directory on record, 1932

Meet Amateur (Cont.)

It's no coincidence that Livingston Longfellow happened to be a fourth place finisher in the very same photo contest for his rendering and design of the "Octagon", a warming hut at the top of Stowe Mountain, and that he was chairman of the photo contest itself. Mind you, back then, the Board of Governors were desperately trying to get members to contribute photographs to an up-until-then largely all-print newsletter. We can all relate to that. The December 25, 1940 issue of the ASCNY newsletter remains the first and ONLY color copy EVER published, a significant accomplishment for its day and something in which Roland probably took great pride. (Editor's note: there was a second newsletter published in color in 2012)

It's at about this point that I announce to Phil and Rick, "I think Roland conceived and commissioned Livingston Longfellow to design Amateur. Makes some sense, right?" Rick answers, "He designed the National Ski Patrol emblem." Well, now we were really on to something. The only flaw in my theory is that Amateur was around in 1932 but Livingston doesn't become a member of ASCNY until 1937. But that does not necessarily mean that he and Roland did not collaborate before he became a member. So, in my mind, the evidence is so overwhelming as to simply not be true.

As I said in the opening paragraph, Amateur's creator wanted to send a message, to create an image of what his newborn club was all about. His was the Amateur Ski Club of New York. Professionals and commercialists need not apply. Besides, there were very few professionals around at the beginning of this country's burgeoning alpine recreational sport except for a few over in Europe who were beginning to flee emerging Nazism. No, this Club was about putting together a group of congenial amateur skiers from the New York Metropolitan area.

The best part of all the research was that it made me think of all the hours put in back in the 1930's and 40's to make it all happen in the first place.

But even more, Amateur still survives in his palace at Mad River preaching the gospel.

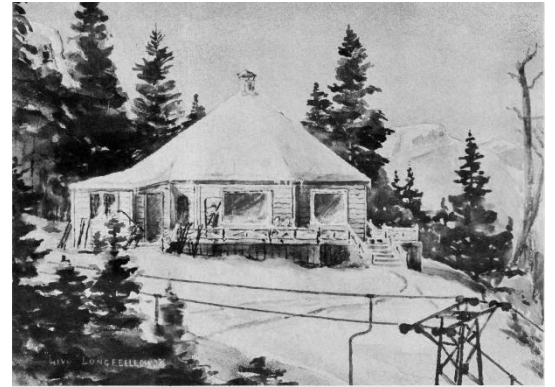
NOTE: Information obtained in late August suggests that a "Merrill Prentice" might have been the designer of "Asslander". Although, I much prefer "Amateur". What ASC'er would call Amateur an Asslander? Your archivist to investigate thoroughly.



New pillows at the lodge!



National Ski Patrol Emblem designed by Livingston Longfellow



"Octagon" by Livingston Longfellow



Color newsletter published in 1940

Skiing in the Golden Age

Dear Editor:

I thoroughly enjoy your publication and want to see it prosper. Having been a skier since the early 1930s as part of a skiing family, I have lived much of what you have been writing about. Our family skied with Betty Woolsey, coach Friedl Pfeifer and the rest of the U.S. Women's team in the late 1930s on a steep pasture in Cornwall Bridge in Connecticut. My uncle was a member of the New York Amateur Ski Club and skied often with Roland Palmedo and with Merrill Prentice, who designed the ASCNY emblem, the Asslander.

John C. Calhoun
Gilsum
New Hampshire

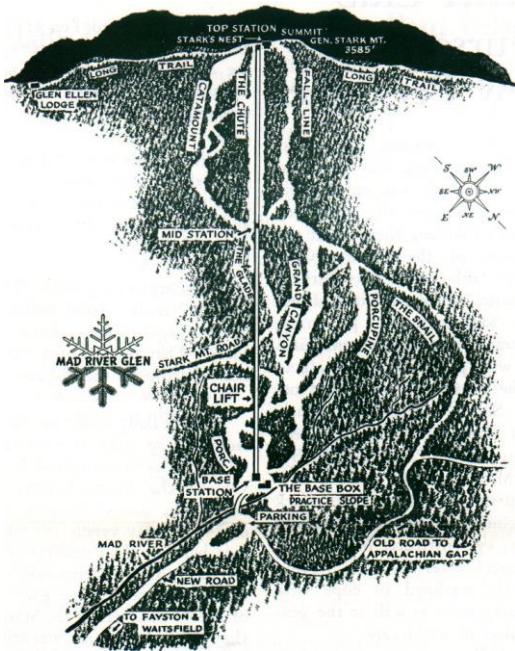
Late discovery of this letter published in Ski Heritage. 1998.

Evolution of MRG's Trail Map

Last May, when Mad River Glen was getting ready to reprint their trail maps for next season, they posted on Facebook a question to it's followers. Which of the two maps did their followers prefer: the topo map or the painted variety? They wanted our opinions. There were folks in both camps. We will find out the most popular answer this season when we pick up our mad cards!

Buried deep in the comments section was this little gem of trail map history. The dates represent the year the map was introduced.

1950



1959

Key to the Trails and Other Facilities

- ① Catamount
- ② Chute
- ③ Fall-Line
- ④ Beaver
- ⑤ Grand Canyon
- ⑥ Bunny
- ⑦ Porcupine
- ⑧ Chipmunk
- ⑨ Snail
- ⑩ Open Slope
- ⑪ Grasshopper
- ⑫ Cricket
- ⑬ The Long Trail
- ⑭ The Basebox
- ⑮ The Hutch
- ⑯ Club Lodge
- ⑰ Mid-Station
- ⑱ Stark's Nest
- ⑲ Chair Lift
- ⑳ T-Bar Lift

Ski MAD RIVER GLEN

There's no better skiing anywhere in the East!

Whether you are a cautious beginner or a wedding expert, there's a trail just right for you. Fourteen trails to choose from, varying in grade from the very gentle "Grasshopper" and the new "Snail" to the challenging "Fall-Line", steepen in New England. There's the big chair lift with mid-station... plus the T-Bar... assuring you of prompt service.

At Mad River Glen, skiing more is always as good as the best to be had in the East.

Choose from a variety of lift rates: — Single Tickets, Day, Week-End, Season Tickets — and a 5-Day Rate that you'll find very economical.

You'll have fun while you learn at our Ski School. Whether you hop or miss... our Ski Shop carries excellent lines of equipment at reasonable prices.

Inns to suit every preference and budget, relish a warm welcome coupled with friendly hospitality. Add all these things together and you'll know the reason why... it's the favorite of many well-traveled skiers and the headquarters of several leading ski clubs.

MAD RIVER GLEN Ski Area

Waitfield, Vermont Tel. 20 Ring 2

The first trail map, 1948



1961

Key to the Trails and Other Facilities at Mad River Glen

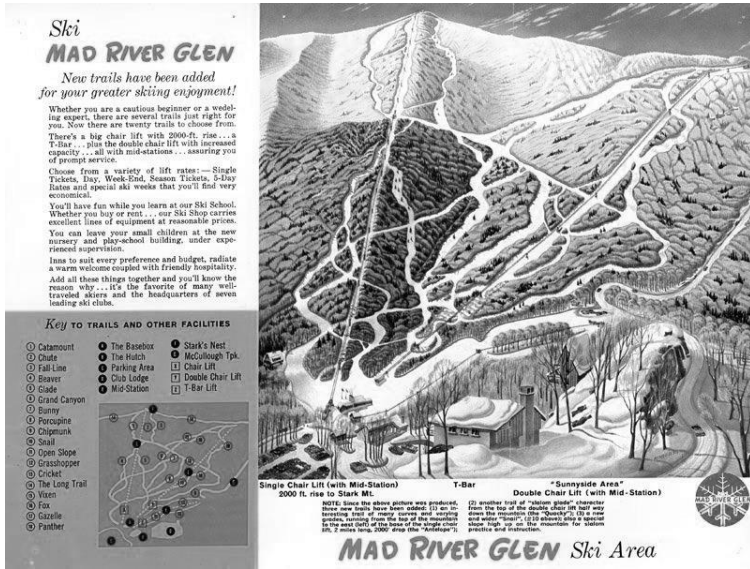
- ① Catamount
- ② Chute
- ③ Fall-Line
- ④ Beaver
- ⑤ Glade
- ⑥ Grand Canyon
- ⑦ Bunny
- ⑧ Porcupine
- ⑨ Chipmunk
- ⑩ Snail
- ⑪ Open Slope
- ⑫ Grasshopper and Cricket
- ⑬ The Long Trail
- ⑭ The Basebox
- ⑮ The Hutch
- ⑯ Parking Area
- ⑰ Club Lodge
- ⑱ Mid-Station
- ⑲ Stark's Nest
- ⑳ Chair Lift
- ㉑ T-Bar Lift

In The Snow Corner of New England

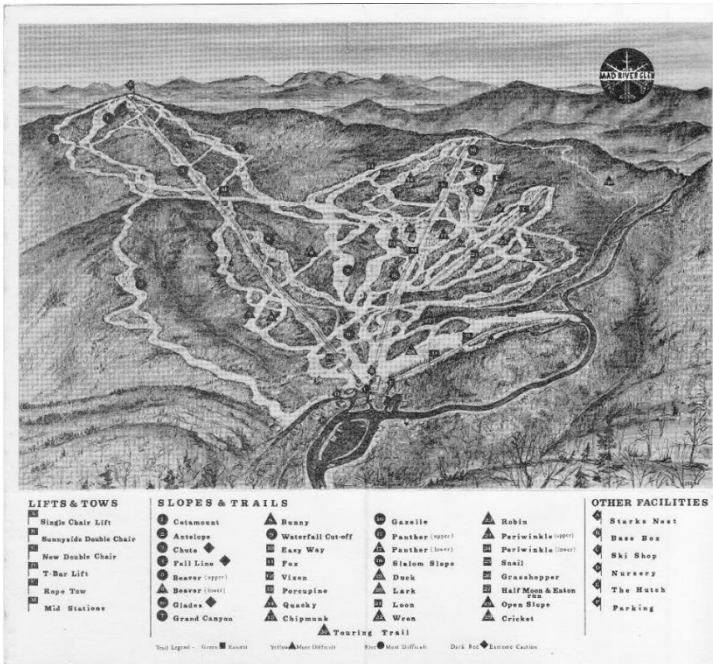
MAD RIVER GLEN Ski Area • Waitfield, Vermont

Evolution of MRG's Trail Map (cont.)

1967

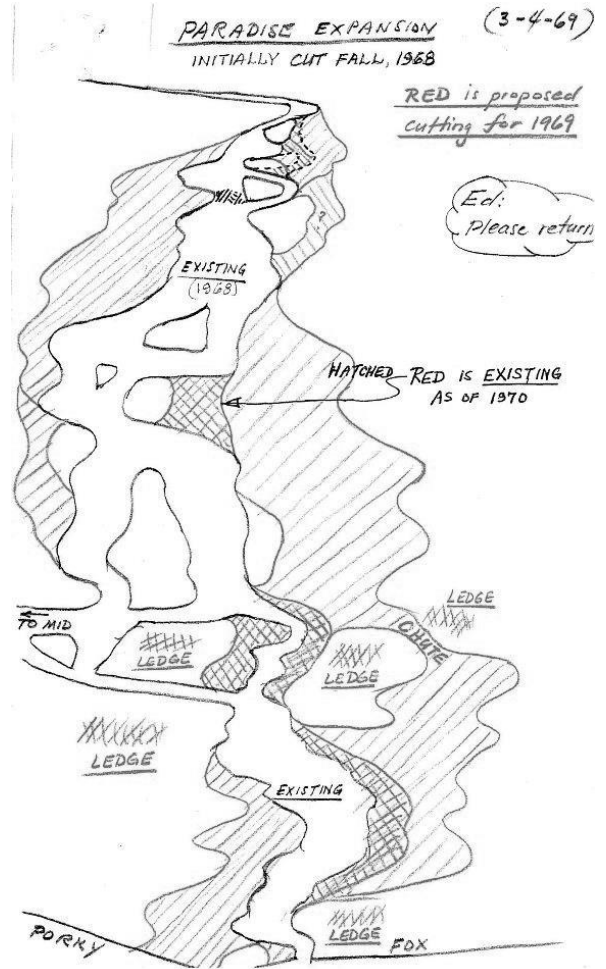


1968



The 1968 pocket trail map created by long-time MRG skier and Burlington area architect, Ben Stein. Ben's children and grandchildren still skis the slopes of MRG to this day.

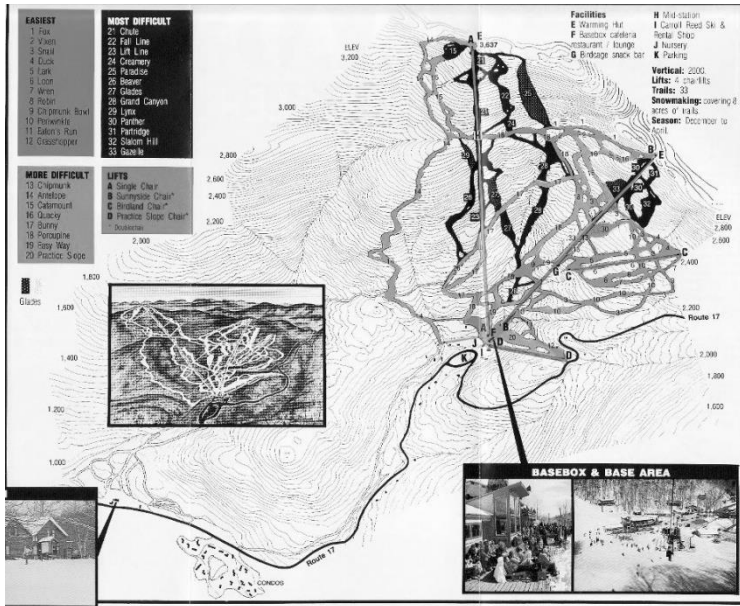
1969 (Paradise cutting plan)



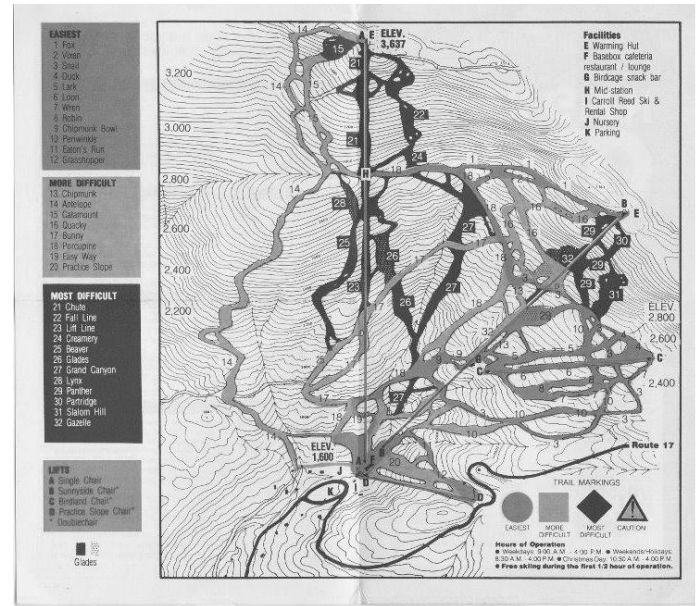
The trail cutting plan from 1969 for a little known trail on Stark Mountain called Paradise. This was drawn up by then Asst. GM and long-time ski patrollman Bill Heinzerling who was always known for his amazing drafting skills.

Evolution of MRG's Trail Map (cont.)

1984



1990



Labeling is not mixed up Paradise was on the map for a time and then folks (insurance and lawyer types) concerned about liability had it removed for a number of years. Then it came back just about when the Co-op took over.

2005



2011



2017???

We all have our favorite secret woods trails where we can always find those last few turns of untouched powder. Let's hope they never make it onto any of the published maps!

Weather Predictions

President **Trey Gregory** reached out to some snow experts about predictions for this coming winter. Here are their responses:

From Snow expert “The Eye in the Sky” Mark Bree:

I am flattered to be considered a “snow expert”. A few things come to mind right away.

- ❖ August is too early to make a reliable prediction of the winter. This is based on the fact that the summer weather patterns appear to have very little connection to the following winter – both hot and cold summers can be followed by warm or cold winters, with no rhyme or reason.
- ❖ However, based on the Fairbanks Museum weather records, dating back to 1894, wet Augusts are followed by snowy winters more than 60 percent of the time (which contradicts my first statement!)
- ❖ There are “hints” that the Pacific water temperatures might be in a type of pattern known as a modoki-type El Nino, in which the waters are warm in the central tropical Pacific, rather than the eastern Pacific. This often leads to colder and snowier conditions for much of the US, including the northeast.
- ❖ Weather patterns during times of low solar activity (which is currently the situation) tend to favor more stagnant looks, with fewer changes. This means if it is cold, it might stay that way for several weeks, while it is warm someplace else, and vice versa. This makes long-range forecasting much more difficult.

I’ll be much more confident by next February.... All the best – and think snow!
(I love snow, by the way)

Mark S. Breen, Senior Meteorologist and Planetarium Director
Fairbanks Museum & Planetarium
Saint Johnsbury, VT

Snow expert Mother Nature and Mad River Naturalist Sean Larson conference called me with the following report of natural winter indicators:

See how high the
hornet’s nest, ‘twill tell
how high the snow will
rest. Look for
Woodpeckers sharing a
tree. A narrow orange
band in the middle of
the Woollybear
caterpillar warns of
heavy snow; fat and
fuzzy caterpillars
presage bitter cold. If
you encounter
shortages of the beer
Sip of Sun Shine,
people are stocking up
for a big winter.

The Farmer’s Almanac:

- ❖ We are projecting a snowy winter!

Snow expert Edwyn Merrill (Tyler and Suzanne Merrill’s son) the youngest ASCNY member that I’ve met:

Edwyn has yet to strap them on and to discover the wonder and joys of the schuss-boom... However, given that he is 2 feet tall, just learning to walk and has already chipped his front tooth, his prediction for this winter is “face shots!”

Snow expert Eric Friedman seems to agree with Edwyn:

On Aug 7, 2017, at 10:21 AM

After a ski season that I would best describe as “sporadically awesome” we are looking forward to a banner season in 2018. In what will be the 69th anniversary season for Roland Palmedo’s mountain we expect a veritable plethora of snow and loads of that famous Mad River Glen conviviality! Enjoy the balance of the summer and then get ready to....
THINK SNOW!!!! (see Ember picture on page 11)
Eric Friedman, Marketing Director at MRG

Snow expert Mark Wallace | Owner/Manager | Parlor Skis:

- ❖ WICKED DEEP

The Carey Sisters

The three Carey sisters, **Hadley** (age 10), **Lindsay** (age 12) and **Madeline** (age 15) rocked the podiums last winter at the ASCNY races. We caught up with them this past summer hoping to learn a little bit more about them why they are so fast!

At what age did you start skiing? Racing?

Hadley: I started skiing at age 2; racing, 6.

Lindsay: I started skiing at age 2 and ski racing at age 8.

Madeline: I started skiing when I was 2 and racing when I was 10.

Do you do dryland training? Any other sports during the off season?

Hadley: In the summer, I do Eliteam and I play soccer and lacrosse during the year.

Lindsay: When I'm not training on snow, I still do dryland training. I do a camp called Eliteam which keeps you in shape for ski season. I also do lots of fitness with soccer and lacrosse.

Madeline: Yes, I do Eliteam in the summer and cross train with soccer and lacrosse during the year.

Do you think having sisters that race motivates you in any way to ski faster?

Hadley: My sisters are my motivation so that I can go faster than them.

Lindsay: Having sisters that ski race definitely motivates me to ski faster. It pushes me to keep up with my older sister and not let my younger sister catch up with me.

Madeline: Absolutely! I have to make sure that they never beat me :)

Describe your prerace routine? Have a favorite meal for before a big race?

Hadley: On race days, I get up really early and go to get a breakfast sandwich (and some 'energy' candy).

When we get to the race we check in and then go out to slip and visualize the course before our first run.

Lindsay: On a race morning I usually eat eggs. When I get to the mountain my team slips and visualizes the course.

Madeline: On race mornings, my dad always takes me to get a breakfast sandwich on the way to the race, so that would be my favorite meal before a race. In terms of the course, we slip as a team and visualize and talk about all of the challenges. I try to get in one more slip before I run it so I can fully memorize the course.



Hadley Carey, age 10



Lindsay Carey, age 12

The Carey Sisters

Future race goals?

Hadley: I would like to race in high school and college.

Lindsay: My future race goals are to make it to shootouts next year and to race in high school.

Madeline: I would say continuing to push myself to beat my previous times and always continuing to make myself a better racer.

Favorite racing mountain?

Hadley: One of my favorite race hills is Stowe, it is a challenging course with lots of drop-offs. The challenges make it really rewarding though.

Lindsay: My favorite mountain to race at is Jay Peak because the course is steep but has fun terrain in it.

Madeline: Stowe is my favorite mountain to race at, they have a really good and challenging hill. If you're looking for it, MRG has some really fun places to race down too, especially from the top of Antelope, down onto Porky, and onto the base. We will do that as a warm-up run some mornings.



Madeline Carey, age 15

Best part about racing?

Hadley: My favorite part of racing is going fast...

Lindsay: For me the best part about racing is the feeling you get going down the course and race days.

Madeline: I think the best part of racing is whatever you put into it you will get out of it. If I dedicate my time to learning a new technique I know I will be able to get a faster time from it.

Favorite trail at MRG when not racing?

Hadley: My favorite trail at MRG is Chute because it has fun obstacles. I also love all woods trails.

Lindsay: When I'm not racing my favorite trail is Ferret because it is like a roller coaster.

Madeline: My favorite trail is Paradise, but really any woods trail.

Palmedo Book

Phil Palmedo has been hard at work on his recent book *Roland Palmedo; A Life of Adventure and Enterprise*, due out soon. Information on how to purchase the book will be made available as soon as it is released. Our next newsletter will include some articles by Phil that cover the origins of the Amateur Ski Club as well as the National Ski Patrol and Mad River Glen. We look forward to publishing those for all to enjoy!

Fall Outings

Two upcoming films for outdoor enthusiasts will be shown at the **Fairfield Theater Warehouse** this fall. Join fellow ASCNY members in Connecticut for these fun outings.



MOUNTAINFILM ON TOUR part of OUTDOOR SPORTS CENTER ADVENTURE FILM SERIES

Sunday, October 22nd

Doors @ 6:00 PM

Show @ 6:30PM

Price:\$20

Mountainfilm on Tour takes you on a journey around the earth's extremes with the men and women who document our far-flung corners. From the highest mountain to the deepest cave, Mountainfilm takes you on a visceral exploration of cultures, environment, and adventure.

<https://fairfieldtheatre.org/shows/warehouse/mountainfilm-tour>

ROGUE ELEMENTS presented by REI

Tentative date: Nov 20th at 7pm

Check the website for detail updates.

Since the dawn of time, everything that has lived and breathed on this planet has been subject to the whims of Mother Nature. The nature of an adventurer is inherently rogue; typically wild in character, subject to the fancy of their imagination. We are unequivocally drawn to nature's rawest fury and deepest mysteries. These are the irreverent souls who pursue the edge.

In the winter of 2017, the magnitude of winter's force was on full display. Telephone-pole-snapping storms pounded the Wyoming landscape. Regions to the west, recently left arid and forgotten, were gifted with unprecedented accumulation. Blizzards in Europe buried towns in an instant before disappearing just as fast, leaving the lucky few who were there to wonder if it even happened. A Bolivian expedition found grace above 18,000 feet before the elements went rogue and the humans reluctantly heeded warnings from above.

Join the TGR team as they embark on an adventure filled with fury and glory, and witness the unimaginable.

<https://www.tetongravity.com/films/rogue-elements>

Newly Hitched

Ani Kavookjian married **Matt Widham** on July 8th at Hildene in Manchester, Vermont. Over the years Ani and Matt have enjoyed many weekends skiing together at Mad River Glen and were thrilled to be surrounded by family and friends, including ASCNY members the **Youngs, Mooneys** and of course **Kavookjians**, in Vermont as they tied the knot. Welcome Matt!



Gear Share

By Hooey Wilks

After announcing last spring that the boot room would be cleaned out of all items left behind after June 1st, there were still lots of nice items left crowding the racks and shelves. As a result of the lost and found email with photos, lots of people came forward to claim some accidentally left behind gear. The rest of the goods fell into three categories:

1. Vintage - will be saved for future décor at parties
2. Old or broken and they went into the garbage
3. A new category, "ASCNY Gear Share"

We've all been there. After an 8 hour drive in blinding snow, we arrive and realize that we forgot to grab Jr's poles, your spouse's mittens and somehow left your goggles on the kitchen table. There you stand in the boot room on a powder day with 200 pairs of spare poles, 50 mittens and 25 goggles laying around after that last skier has left for the mountain. You don't know which items might be available as a loaner that day or if the owner would mind if you borrowed them.

All communal items will be tagged, stickered or placed in the community box to help us when we are in that situation. Feel free to borrow when needed. Items will include a small variety of the following: mittens, neck warmers, goggles, helmets, and poles. After using these items, please place them back in the community box.

Additionally, we will include a pair of snowshoes, two pairs of x-country skis (BYOBoots) and lots of sleds for sharing too. There will still be a lost and found for new items recently left behind with the hopes that they will someday be reunited with their owner.



Summer Cocktail Party

By Trey Gregory

We had a fun summer gathering of members on July 2nd for cocktails at the lodge. In attendance were **Penny Parson and Bill, Kip, Liza, Andrew, Sarah and Gibb Carey. Bonnie and Ray Meager** also joined **Margie, Hanna, Hayes and Trey Gregory** for the summer party. We had a special guest appearance by the new Mad River Glen General Manager Matt Lillard, his wife Danielle and children, Bridger and Cordellia. **Tyler, Susan** and the youngest ASCNY member **Edwin Merrill** joined us all for dinner at the basebox. We are planning to have another 4th of July party next summer and hopefully enter a ASCNY float in the Warren Parade!



Eric Friedman's winter prediction



©EmberPhoto



Amateur Ski Club of New York Newsletter

319 Ponus Ridge Road
New Canaan, CT 06840

Book your 2017-2018 Ski Weekends!

The Lodge reservations requests
window will open October 15th.
Confirmations be will available
online mid November.

Thank You to
all the ASCNY members
who paid their
dues bill on time!

Coming soon

*Roland Palmedo; A Life of
Adventure and Enterprise*

*Do you have a little racer
you'd like to highlight in the
next newsletter?*

*We love writing about not
just the history of the club,
but the future as well.*

The Fall Line is a publication of the Amateur Ski Club of New York

For submissions, ideas or to share photos contact Hooey Wilks at hooey@optonline.net or Ashley Ware at ashleyware@me.com