

PO Box 2123 Teaticket, Ma 02536

THE AVALANCHE

January 2009

NEXT MEETING:

- Thursday, January 8, 2008
- 7:30pm @ The Falmouth Inn Main Street, Falmouth
- Ski-related Trivia
- · Combined Trip Recap
- Upcoming trips
- Free food

Contact Us?

By Mail:

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

By Phone:

Ron Purdy 508-540-4268

By Web:

www.uppercapeskiclub.com

President:

Steve Carr

Vice President:

Scott Muma

Treasurer:

VACANT

Secretary:

Andrea Stokey

Membership:

Sharon Grace

Newsletter Committee:

Tom Burt, Sharon Grace, Bud Shaw

Changes (Again?)

In Tom Peterson's final President's Letter last month, he discussed the current change going on all around us and some specific change within the club. The last month has brought about even further changes to the club, very likely for the better. This newsletter should bring you up-to-date with everything going on and provide some advice on how best to tackle the issues.



The mission of the Upper Cape Ski & Sports Club is clear—to get as many of our members skiing as often as we can. Over the last couple of years, we have failed to do that. We have earned the reputation as "the club that cancels trips" and our membership statistics reflect that fact. We've tried our best to make sure as many trips run as possible, despite incurring heavy losses in the process. This year, with a struggling economy and dwindling membership, we made a difficult but sensible decision.

We hope to head the club in a new direction. One hundred percent of our trips are expected to run this year and we hope you will take advantage of that. The obvious Achilles' heel of our club has always been the cancellation of trips and, now that a possible solution has been found, we hope to see our membership increase to where it once was. Some patience will be required as hurdles will very likely be encountered; however, we'll strive to overcome any that come along. It will be a year of adjustment for us all, but will surely be a prosperous year.

The next few pages will detail this new endeavor. It is a work-in-progress, so bear with us. Should you have any questions or concerns, by all means let me know. Your input is necessary and appreciated.

Steve Carr President

TRIP COLLABORATION



Club President Steve Carr has clarified the mission of the Upper Cape Ski & Sports Club—to get as many of our members to the mountain as often as possible. To that end, the club (UCSC) has partnered with the Cape Cod Ski Club (CCSC) this year. We will be running combined trips whenever it is in the best interest of both clubs to do so. Currently, we anticipate most trips will be combined with CCSC. If there is any question, contact the Trip Leader to be sure.

THE BASICS:

Ten days prior to the trip, the trip leaders from each club will contact the other to determine who has more reservations from their respective club. The club with the greater number of signups will operate the trip. Departure location and time will then be at their discretion. Regardless of which club runs the trip, all members will continue to contact their assigned trip leader for information. This ten-day threshold emphasizes the need for everyone to sign up at least 10 days in advance.

RATES & SCHEDULE:

In order to maximize the number of trips that can be combined, the UCSC has updated its schedule to coincide with CCSC as much as possible. Be sure to make note of the updated schedule, appearing later in this newsletter. Also, we have matched the CCSC rates so there is parity for all riding the same bus. Rates are \$65 if you sign up at least ten days in advance and \$75 within the ten-day deadline. Payment is expected with your reservation; otherwise, you will not be placed on the list. Sorry, no exceptions. Those signing up within ten days of the trip cannot be guaranteed a seat and may be placed on a waiting list. We will use the postmark date of your application whenever a question arises.

BUS SEATING:

In order to ensure UCSC members are as comfortable as possible, the CCSC will block off a section of seats in the middle of the bus for our use. That way, our members will be able to sit with family and friends and will not be stranded by the bathroom! We anticipate this need to diminish as both clubs become more familiar with each other over time.

CLUB IDENTITY:

We would like to stress that the UCSC is not sacrificing its identity by combining day trips. This is merely a means to an end and is necessary for the long-term survival and solvency of both clubs. We still intend to hold our own meetings and arrange our own trips, separate from the CCSC. This includes our week-long Sugarloaf trip as well as trips out west. The UCSC has become known for being a fun, enthusiastic group and we do no intend to change that any time soon.

NEW POLICIES:

This collaboration will, without a doubt, require some adjustment for all. There are a couple of things to be aware of. (1) Due to the number of people on the bus as well as their multiple stops across the Cape, the CCSC requires all skis and snowboards to be in a bag. Those of you that have extras are encouraged to bring them along, in case a fellow member does not have one. (2) The CCSC does not allow anyone under 21 years of age to attend Wednesday trips. The UCSC will continue to allow minors on all trips, provided a parent or guardian is present. (3) Currently, each club requires their own liability waiver, regardless of who is running the bus. While this seems redundant, it is an important process that must be done. We are working on a combined waiver that will satisfy both clubs and hope to have that in place soon. (4) The CCSC does not show movies on their buses, so be prepared to bring your own source of entertainment for the ride home.

Now that members are encouraged to submit payment well in advance of the trip, it seems our Refund/Deposit Policy needs a little tweaking. We will nail this down better in coming weeks, but the basics are intuitive. By sending a payment, you're obligating yourself to that trip. We'll save a seat for you in return. If you cancel far enough in advance, a full refund should be possible. However, if you cancel within ten days of the trip, and we're not able to fill your vacated seat, you should expect to forfeit at least \$35, the portion of the payment that comprises the bus fee. We will be refining this further and will publish the revised policy when it's complete.

FEEDBACK & UPDATES:

Did you attend the Sunday River trip on December 10? What did you think? Is there anything you would like to see changed before the next trip? Or, did you <u>not</u> attend the trip because it was combined with the CCSC? If so, we really need to hear from you so we can address your concerns.

We'll be meeting with the CCSC again to review the trip and make any necessary changes to the arrangement. If you have any input, we'd appreciate hearing it. Tom Burt has offered to handle your comments and questions. He can be reached at (508) 566-0095 or thomas.burt@verizon.net.





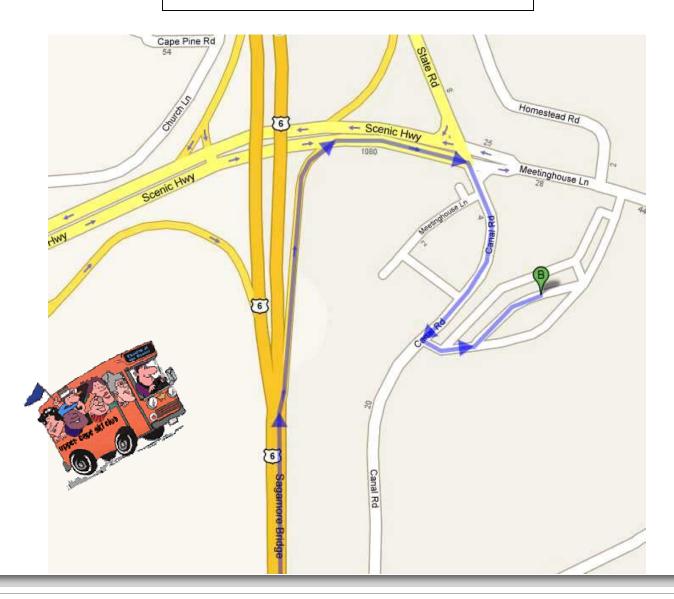
Update

As a result of the ongoing construction and changes to the old Grand Union plaza in Monument Beach, our bus will now depart from Component Properties on Barlows Landing Road in Pocasset, MA. Barlows Landing Road is just south of the previous pick-up location in Monument Beach. Also, when combining trips with the Cape Cod Ski Club, the pick-up location (and time) may vary, depending on which club is running the trip. Their buses pick up at the Commuter lot in Sagamore. Be sure to check the departure time and location with the Trip Leader.

Upper Cape Ski Club-operated trips depart from 33 Barlows Landing Road, Pocasset, MA.



Cape Cod Ski Club-operated trips depart from the Commuter Lot off Canal Road & Meetinghouse Lane in Sagamore.



~ 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.

08 | 09 Trip Schedule

DATE	DAY	DESTINATION	COST*	TRIP LEADER	TIME ⁺
Dec 10	Wed	Sunday River, ME	\$65/\$75	Roger Stokey	5:10
Dec 31	Wed	Wachusett, MA	CALL	Donny Estes	DRIVE
Jan 7	Wed	Loon, NH	\$65/\$75	Roger Stokey	5:00
Jan 11	Sun	Loon, NH	\$65/\$75	Tom Burt	5:00
Jan 21	Wed	Mount Snow, VT	\$65/\$75	Scott Northrop	5:00
Jan 25-30	Sun–Fri	Sugarloaf, ME	\$345	Bud Shaw	DRIVE
Feb 1	Sun	Waterville, NH	\$65/\$75		5:00
Feb 4	Wed	Killington, VT	\$65/\$75	Donny Estes	4:30
Feb 8	Sun	Mount Snow, VT	\$65/\$75	Collette Shaw	5:00
Feb 11	Wed	Mad River Glen, VT	\$65/\$75	Roger Stokey	4:30
Feb 14-21	Sat–Sat	Park City, UT	\$1545	Bud Shaw	FLY
Feb 25	Wed	Stratton, VT	\$65/\$75	Bill Ventura	5:00
Mar 1	Sun	Sunday River, ME	\$65/\$75	Steve Carr	4:30
Mar 4	Wed	Stowe, VT	\$65/\$75	Ron Purdy	4:30
Mar 8	Sun	Okemo, VT	\$65/\$75	Tom Burt	5:00
Mar 11	Wed	Okemo, VT	\$65/\$75		5:00
Mar 18	Wed	Sunday River, ME	\$65/\$75		4:30
Mar 25	Wed	Wildcat, NH	\$65/\$75	Suzanne Shermer	5:00

^{*} Submit payment at least 10 days in advance, pay only \$65. Within 10 days, pay \$75. All payments subject to our deposit policy, found elsewhere in this newsletter. Non-members are subject to a \$15 surcharge.

Times are subject to change based upon which club operates the trip. Times listed are for UCSC-run trips.

Check with your Trip Leader for the correct departure time and location.



TREASURER

The club is now without a treasurer and cannot continue to function unless we get a volunteer. What's better than spending someone else's money? Will it help if we beg?

DUES

If you see "DUES" on the mailing label of this newsletter, you haven't paid up for this year. It's January man, get with it! We're going to start cracking the whip, so get those Dues in now!



Wa-Wa-a-Wa-chusett

This year, we added a New Year's Eve trip to our schedule. It's an informal trip but it sounded cool, so we wanted you guys to know about it. You'll find night skiing (4—midnight), followed by fireworks and all kinds of other activities. Tickets can be upgraded to include hor d'oeuvres, buffet, champagne, dessert, and more. For more information, go to www.wachusett.com or call Donny Estes.

08/09 Trip Leaders

Bud & Collette Shaw

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508-477-3717

Sharon Grace

15 Horseshoe Lane North Falmouth, MA 02556

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Donny Estes

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Woods Hole, MA 02543

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Tom Burt

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Ron Purdy

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Roger Stokey

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Tom Peterson

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Steve Carr

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Pocasset, MA 02559

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Scott Northrop

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Trip Application for 2008-2009 Season						
Name:						
Mailing Address:		<u>.</u>				
City & State:		.Zip:				
Phone (Home):						
Email address:		<u>.</u>				
Trip desired:						
Signed:						
Name:	Age:	Annual Dues - \$45				
MAILING Address:		200000 1, 2000 11114 00pt 00, 200				
City & State:	Zip:	□ Cross-Country □ I prefer to receive my				
Phone (Home): (V						
I HAVE READ AND AGREE TO THE LIABILITY POLICY AND I WAIVE ALL LIABILITY.						
Signed:		Date:				
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. Component Properties, Inc. will not be held liable for any damage or theft of property left at Component Properties, Barlows Landing Road, Pocasset, MA.						
Annual dues are \$45. Minimum age for membership is 21 years of age. Make all checks payable to Upper Cape Ski & Sport Club and mail to: UCS&SC-Membership , Box 2123 , Teaticket , MA 02536						

January 8 Meeting:

NOTE: This is NOT the first Thursday of the month. We would be far too hung over for that. The January meeting will fall on the second Thursday this year.

Irivia Nite! Prizes to the winners!
Sunday River Recap (how did it go for you?)
Upcoming trips
Free food

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

