Finding ‘lost’ ski areas:
History hobby has strong roots in Maine

By Scott Andrews
Editor, Snow Trail

They seek telltale remnants of skiing’s past: the lanky steel frame of a long-abandoned T-bar terminal thrusting through the puckerbrush, an ancient automobile engine rusting on a hilltop or a lone sheave train wedged in the branches of a tree.

It’s the search for “lost” ski areas. It’s a interesting hobby and it’s happening all over the U.S.

Few of the many practitioners know that the national lost ski area phenomenon has strong Maine roots and draws inspiration from our state. Or that Glenn Parkinson, who recently retired as president of the board of directors of the Ski Museum of Maine, was both a pioneer and an inspiration.
As the Ski Museum of Maine begins a new fiscal year, we are laying the groundwork for updating our strategic plan, which I find very exciting. This presents a wonderful opportunity to look at how we can build the capacity of the Museum to support program expansion and increase community engagement and participation. I anticipate that build will be a key word this year.

Geographically, the Museum is making a concerted effort to build a presence in Aroostook County, where Maine skiing has its roots. Karla Wolters, who makes her summer home in Madawaska Lake, joined our board of directors and is already representing the Museum at three big events: the Maine Swedish Colony Midsommar Celebration in New Sweden, Maine Potato Blossom Festival in Fort Fairfield and the World Acadian Congress in Fort Kent.

Within this issue of Snow Trail there is a story about the Museum’s plans to expand its presence by establishing a location in Bethel. I will not talk too much about this here as Wende Gray provides an overview of the project on pages 8-9. I will share how thrilled I am by the prospect of working with folks in the Oxford County and across Maine to make this happen.

The Museum is stepping up participation in local events to show our support, reach out to the community and build relationships. We are planning a few fund-raisers to help with the financial piece associated with opening a new Museum site and hope you will take the opportunity to support the Museum at what will certainly be FUN fund-raising events.

The Bethel Historical Society has already very generously offered to loan the Museum appropriate artifacts, photographs and other ski-related materials for display and research purposes. Of course, the Museum is always interested in vintage photos, memorabilia and historic equipment with Maine connections and the stories they tell. Another incredibly valuable historical resource is oral histories. Right here in Maine there are amazing stories waiting to be told by people who were instrumental in shaping the history of ski equipment, competition and ski areas. Unfortunately, with each passing year, more and more of these stories and precious links to Maine’s ski heritage are lost forever.

The Museum recognizes that these stories are worth preserving for future generations and will continue to place a great emphasis on attempting to capture them.

In addition to individuals and objects that provide connections to Maine’s ski heritage, there are organizations that play an equally important role. Scott Andrews, the Museum’s historian and resident expert on oral histories, and I recently met with Peter Adams, executive director, and Deb Maxfield, marketing and development director, at Maine Adaptive Sports. MAS programs are based on the fundamental belief that access to and participating in recreational sports is integral to a well-rounded life for every person. The Museum will be working with MAS staff and program participants to produce a Fireside Chat that will illustrate MAS’ history. This Chat is slated to debut at several events this fall.

Be sure to look at the events listed on page 14 to learn about upcoming Museum happenings -- like the Maine Ski Hall of Fame banquet on October 24 and the Ski Season Launch Party on November 6 -- as well as others that Museum staff and board members will be attending.

Please know there are opportunities to support the Museum by volunteering your time in a number of different ways. The Museum has fund-raising, event planning and history committees that would welcome the involvement of committed individuals who share our passion for preserving Maine’s rich ski history. If you do not have time to volunteer, I personally invite you to join us in supporting our mission through membership, donations and attending upcoming Museum events.

Jill Ducharme
President, Ski Museum of Maine
Whenever a sport is born, people inevitably want to turn it into a competition. Skiing and snowboarding are no different. Much of the development of skiing and snowboarding in Maine can be traced through the various competitions held throughout the state.

These range from the famous ski marathons of the 1930s -- run over a 176-mile course between Bangor and Caribou -- to local and international level races. The Ski Museum of Maine has been able to make connections with several schools, clubs and heritage societies around the state to view and share their archives. Many schools have had ski programs for many decades, some predating World War II.

By having these schools and clubs open their archives and share photos and narratives with us, the Ski Museum of Maine’s curator, Scott Andrews, has been able to create a Fireside Chat chronicling ski and snowboard competition throughout the state of Maine. We have also been able to create a historical slide show in collaboration with Maine Memory Network (a division of the Maine Historical Society) that highlights the only World Cup alpine races held in Maine.

Our most recent acquisition of photos was shared with us by Dave Stonebraker of Hebron Academy, and Scott was able to scan many images from their archives. Scott was also able to obtain two narratives from Hebron Academy alumni who were deeply involved in skiing as schoolboys: Bernard Helm who was manager of their ski team from 1957-1959, and Harvey Lipman, who competed for Hebron about a decade later. (See page 11.)

Acquiring images like these and first hand accounts by people "who were there" are an important part of our mission to preserve Maine's skiing heritage.

Bruce Miles
Executive director, Ski Museum of Maine
New Officers Elected at the Ski Museum of Maine’s Annual Meeting

At the Ski Museum of Maine’s annual meeting in June, the board of directors elected a completely new slate of officers: Jill Ducharme, president; Wende Gray, vice president; Russ Murley, secretary; and Vito Courtney, treasurer.

“With any organization, the willingness of members to step up to leadership roles is crucial,” said Bruce Miles, executive director of the Ski Museum of Maine. “Our four new officers bring new energy and a wide array of skills that will help lead the Ski Museum as we enter our third decade of pursuing our mission of ‘Preserving Maine’s Skiing Heritage.’”

Jill Ducharme, president (Wayne)

Jill is the principal of Sustainable Writing & Consulting, a nonprofit and small business consulting firm that focuses on development, brand management and integrated marketing.

Jill worked at Cole Haan in marketing, product management and planning positions for 17 years before deciding to put her business experience and writing ability to use by helping nonprofit organizations and small businesses grow.

Jill has a tremendous love of history that led her to buy a ca. 1838 post-and-beam New Englander, which was originally a parsonage and is where she lives now. An outdoor enthusiast who embraces the cold weather of Maine’s winter months, Jill is a huge proponent of being active outside year-round and enjoys skiing, snowshoeing, golfing, kayaking and hiking with her rescue-hound dog, Bailey.

Jill has a Bachelor of Arts degree in International Studies from Norwich University.

Wende Gray, vice president (Bethel)

Wende is president of Gray Marketing, a marketing and public relations consultancy specializing in recreation and tourism-based businesses and associations.

Prior to starting her own business, Wende held positions as executive director of the Maine Nordic Ski Council, marketing director at Sunday River Ski Resort from, general manager of the Camden Snow Bowl from and the marketing manager at Sugarloaf/USA from.

Wende is a member of Sunday River’s Prime Time Ski Club and avid alpine skier. She also enjoys snowshoeing and cross-country skiing with her two goldens in the backwoods of Oxford County. This spring, she was the recipient of the Bethel Area Chamber of Commerce’s Rocky Freda Award for Outstanding Stewardship of the Environment and Sincere Commitment to our Forests and Rivers and is the first non-Maine guide to be honored.

Wende has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Wellesley College.

Russ Murley, secretary (Pownal)

Russ is a private meteorologist and operations manager for Precision Weather Service, where he has worked since 1992 and fills in for a local TV station in Portland. After graduating from college in 1986,
Russ worked in Burlington, Vermont, for three years, before returning to his home state of Maine. With a radio and television career spanning over 30 years, Russ can be heard daily on radio stations from Newfoundland to Alaska -- and right here in his backyard of northern New England.

In his spare time, Russ is an avid golfer, musician and skier. Russ’ ski trips have brought him to Chile, New Zealand and British Columbia, although most of the time you can find him skiing right here at home in Maine.

Russ’ childhood passion for weather led him to Lyndon State College, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in meteorology.

**New and departing directors**

In addition to the change in officers, there have been significant changes to the Ski Museum’s board of directors.

New directors include Gerry Thompson and Karla Wolters. Gerry is a familiar face at Sugarloaf, where he has been skiing since the mid-1950s. Retired after a long career in information technology, Gerry now spends his winters at Sugarloaf, where he frequently serves as a race official.

Karla retired after a long career teaching physical education and sports history at two colleges in Michigan. She spends her summers in Madawaska Lake, in the heart of Aroostook County, where she pursues skiing history in its Maine homeland.

The Ski Museum said goodbye to four longtime board members who are retiring: Dan Cassidy, John Christie, Tom Hanson and Peter Hussey. Glenn Parkinson stepped down as president, but he remains actively involved on the board.

**Vito Courtney, treasurer (Freeport)**

Vito is a CPA operating his own practice in Winthrop. He has over 30 years of public and private accounting experience, during which time he worked in corporate finance for Fortune 500 companies as well as small to mid-sized businesses.

Vito’s nonprofit experience includes serving as treasurer for Portland’s Mad Horse Theatre Company and the Freeport Historical Society. He is currently serving on the finance committee of his children’s school and was previously on the board of the Maine chapter of the Sierra Club.

In his spare time, he enjoys playing guitar with friends and golfing. Vito spent 12 years as a ski instructor in the northeast. His first foray on skis was at the age of three, but 15 years ago he crossed over to the other side and took up snowboarding.

Vito has a Bachelor of Science in accounting from University of Southern New Hampshire and a Master of Science degree in accounting from the State University of New York in Albany.

**Directors, officers & staff**

Jill Ducharme, president, Wayne
Wende Gray, vice president, Bethel
Russ Murley, secretary, Pownal
Vito Courtney, treasurer, Freeport

Scott Andrews, curator, Portland
Leigh Breidenbach, Turner
Cooper Friend, Ellsworth
Dave Irons, Westbrook
Glenn Parkinson, Freeport
Megan Roberts, Farmington
Phil Savignano, Auburn
Greg Sweetser, Cumberland
Gerry Thompson, Falmouth
Michele Varuolo-Cole
John Weston, Fryeburg
Karla Wolters, Madawaska Lake

Bruce Miles, executive director, Carrabassett Valley
Lost ski areas
(continued from page 1)

The Vernon Street rope tow was the first ski area in Bethel with a lift. It opened in January 1949; many of the people behind the project went on to found Sunday River. The photo above depicts the construction of the base building at Vernon Street. (Courtesy Bethel Historical Society)

The lost ski areas phenomenon began with a book: First Tracks: Stories from Maine’s Skiing Heritage, written by Parkinson and published in 1995. A major appendix to Parkinson’s tome is a listing and brief description of Maine’s “lost” ski areas -- mostly defunct rope tow hills with a smattering of long-gone larger operations. Most of this represented original research by Parkinson.

Among those who were intrigued by Parkinson’s research was a Vermont high school student named Jeremy Davis, who had become interested in defunct ski areas in New England. Davis was especially fascinated by Mt. Agamenticus in York, which operated about 10 years, from 1964 into the mid-1970s.

Davis recalls: “One of the first lost ski areas I had the chance to explore was Mt. Agamenticus in York, Maine, after my mom had told me she remembered hearing about a ski area that once operated there. I explored every nook and cranny of that area, and it gave me the first real chance to see what happens to an area after it closes. Also while in high school, I was given Glenn Parkinson’s book First Tracks: Stories From Maine’s Skiing Heritage. I read that book over and over again and was thrilled that somebody else was interested in lost ski areas, as there is a chapter on that in the book.

While in college, Davis founded the New England Lost Ski Areas Project, which is chiefly known for its very popular website: www.nelsap.org. That website provides information on more than 600 lost ski areas in New England.

Shortly after launching his website, Davis met Parkinson. “I had the chance to meet him while attending my first New England Ski Museum Annual Banquet, at Loon Mountain,” Davis remembers. “He couldn’t have been more gracious and interested in the project, and encouraged me to pursue it... I am very grateful for all of the help that Glenn has provided over the years.”

Since starting NELSAP in 1998, the website has grown by leaps and bounds, primarily driven by contributors who scour the woods looking for remains and others who share their memories of skiing those long-gone hills. I am one of those contributors, and in return, Davis shares his material with the Ski Museum of Maine.

Three years ago, Lost Ski Areas was a theme of a major exhibit at the New England Ski Museum. Davis has published two books on lost ski areas -- the White Mountains and Southern Vermont --

A forlorn sheave train is one of the items remaining from a T-bar that once operated at Poland Spring Resort in the 1960s and 1970s. The machinery at both terminals and the stanchions have been removed, but the concrete pedestals and a few other items remain. (Scott Andrews photo)
and is currently working on a third. He’s not alone. The concept has gone national. There’s a website devoted to lost ski areas in the Northwest, covering Washington, Oregon and Idaho.

Maine remains a fertile ground for research. I have tramped through the woods and spent hours in libraries, historical societies and newspaper archives pursuing information on lost ski areas in Maine. Several of those days have been in Aroostook County with Karla Wolters. One day we explored White Bunny, a substantial T-bar hill in Fort Fairfield. Our adventures were recorded in the Snow Trail, Early Winter, 2012.

Two years ago we spent a day with Chad Pelletier, of the Fort Kent Historical Society, exploring several sites in the St. John River Valley. Most were opened in the 1950s and 1960s and folded by the late 1970s.

The County Ski Tow, locally known as Pelletier Farm, was the biggest. Located between Fort Kent and Madawaska, it boasted two rope tows and a small ski jump. Mt. Carmel, on the outskirts of Madawaska, existed in two versions, located a few hundred feet apart. The Keegan Ski Slope, located in a district of Van Buren, was closed in 1978 after a teenage girl died there in a fatal accident.

Most recently I’ve worked with three historical societies around Portland -- in Westbrook, Gorham and South Portland -- digging up the histories of lost ski areas in those towns.

And on my recent trip to Sun Valley, Idaho, I visited one of the meccas of American lost ski area enthusiasts: the Ruud Mountain chairlift. It was built on the same design as the first two chairlifts in the world (long since removed), and it’s mostly intact. This single chair was originally part of the Sun Valley ski resort development of the late 1930s, but it was abandoned when the company’s emphasis shifted to Baldy.
Satellite Museum Planned for Bethel

By Wende Gray
Vice president, Ski Museum of Maine

The Ski Museum of Maine is expanding! Next spring the Museum plans to establish a satellite museum in Bethel. Like the Museum’s primary site in Kingfield, the Bethel location will exhibit artifacts, photographs, artwork and documents taken from Maine’s rich alpine and nordic ski heritage.

The Oxford County region of Western Maine will be in the spotlight at the Bethel location, where exhibits will explore topics such as the Portland-to-Fryeburg snow trains of the 1930s, Maine’s first ski lift in 1936 and Maine’s pioneering double chairlift at Pleasant Mountain in 1954. Other themes will include the successful development of Sunday River and Mt. Abram -- contrasted with the calamitous failure of Evergreen Valley.

On the nordic side, the exhibit will feature the Chisholm Ski Club (by far Maine’s oldest) and its world-renowned competition trails at Black Mountain plus Bethel-area cross-country centers and shops -- including those founded by the late Dave Carter, a Maine Ski Hall of Fame inductee.

Norway and Paris were major centers of ski manufacturing between the early 1900s and the mid-1960s, and the Museum will feature that history. Did you know that during World War II, Paris Manufacturing Company produced skis for the U.S. Army’s famed 10th Mountain Division?

Sites along Bethel’s Main Street are presently being considered, and a committee has been tasked with selecting the location. Members include Museum board members Wende Gray (chair), Jill Ducharme, Michele Varuolo-Cole, Leigh Breidenbach, Scott Andrews, Dave Irons and Phil Savignano plus executive director Bruce Miles. Sunday River Prime Time Ski Club member Terri Messer is also on the committee.

This team is actively working to acquire ski- and snowboard-related artifacts, documents and histories from the region, developing displays of the historic collections and organizing events to raise funds for this exciting new Ski Museum project. The Bethel Historical Society has generously agreed to loan its 2009 Sunday River/Mt. Abram 50th Anniversary Exhibit, which was curated by Scott Andrews. Dave Irons, author of Sunday River: Honoring the Past, Embracing the Future, is contributing many of his research materials.

Other contributors will include Maine Adaptive Sports and Recreation (formerly known as Maine Handicapped Skiing), Chisholm Ski Club and Gould Academy.

We can use more! Anyone who would like to contribute (or loan) items from personal collections is encouraged to contact Bruce Miles, the Museum’s executive director, at 265-2023 or via email at info@skimuseumofmaine.org.

Planning is underway for several fund-raising events, and the Museum is seeking interested parties to help sponsor the exhibits. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, please contact Bruce Miles at 265-2023 or via email at info@skimuseumofmaine.org.

The illustration above, reproduced from a brochure, depicts the layout of Sunday River Skiway in the mid-1970s, a decade before the explosive growth that made it Maine’s busiest ski area by the mid-1990s.

(Ski Museum of Maine collection)
events and community outreach programs. The Museum will have a booth on the Bethel Common for Molly Ockett Days on Saturday, July 19 and the Bethel HarvestFest on Saturday, September 20. Members of the Museum’s board of directors will be on hand to share Maine ski memories and provide information about the Museum.

This winter Sunday River Ski Resort will host a Ski Heritage Classic Benefit to mirror the Museum’s very successful Ski Heritage Classic that has been held at Sugarloaf for the last seven years. Sport Thoma Ski Shop will be lending its support by sponsoring a fashion show fundraiser, Mt. Abram has offered to hold an event to benefit the Museum, and the possibility of a nordic ski race is being discussed.

Scott Andrews, the Museum’s curator and research director, will continue to present Fireside Chats -- narrated digital slide shows that illustrate the history of skiing in Maine -- at venues such as the Sunday River’s GO-50 Week, the Road Scholar program, Bethel Chamber of Commerce, Oxford Hills Chamber, Bethel Historical Society and other regional civic and educational organizations. Seven different Fireside Chats are currently available, each of which lasts about 50 minutes. Please contact Andrews at 773-9609 or via email at schussme@yahoo.com if you are interested in hosting a Fireside Chat.

The Ski Museum of Maine looks forward to establishing a presence in Bethel that will forge new and closer relationships with ski and snowboard enthusiasts -- as well as Maine history buffs -- in the Oxford County region.
Seth Wescott helps raise more than $4,000 in Golf Classic

Seth Wescott, who won the first two Olympic gold medals ever awarded in snowboard cross, was a key figure in another winning cause last month when he played in the second annual Ski Museum of Maine Golf Classic, held June 9 at Nonesuch Golf Course in Scarborough.

As a member of the Hussey Seating Company team, Wescott’s participation in the tournament helped raise more than $4,000 for the Ski Museum’s mission of preserving and presenting our state’s rich heritage of skiing and snowboarding.

Golf Maine’s team, which won the 2013 tournament, yielded their title to the foursome organized by Bill Knowles, who was joined by Carl Labbe, Luke Labbe and Jim McFarland. The winning score was a blistering 54, which was 16 under par.

The runner up, Dirigo Management team of Colby Willette, Tom Spagnola, Bill McHugh and Peter Skapinsky shot a 58. Bill Brown, playing for Sunday River, hit closest to the pin. The women’s longest drive went to Nancy Ricker and the men’s longest drive was Steve Acardi.

The best putt of the day went to Aytott’s Team member John Beaupre who sank a 60-footer and walked off with the $2,500 purse. The putting contest was new this year and the prize proved to be easier money than the $15,000 offered in the hole in one contest -- which again went unclaimed.

The major sponsors of this year’s event were Sunday River Mountain Resort, Shawnee Peak Ski Area, Sport Thoma Ski Shops, Liftopia, PretiFlaherty, Carrabassett Coffee, Live ME and Sweetser’s Orchard. Thanks also to the staff at Nonesuch, the Ski Museum board members, the hole sponsors and Peter Webber from Golf Maine.

Wescott supported Ski Museum’s fundraising effort by playing his round of golf with the winner of the winter raffle. Tom Hussey, an officer with Hussey Seating Company, bought the winning ticket, which was drawn in February.
Two-time Olympic gold medalist (snowboard cross) Seth Wescott (left) was the guest of honor at the golf tournament, playing with the team of Tom Hussey, Jon Hussey and Steven L’Heureux. Wescott’s presence helped the tournament raise more than $4,000 for the Ski Museum of Maine. (Bruce Miles photo)

Harvey Lipman remembers...

Harvey Lipman, a Ski Museum member who grew up in central Maine, remembers schoolboy competitions at Silver Hills, a long-defunct rope tow hill that was located just south of the Augusta city limits in the town of Chelsea, on the east bank of the Kennebec River.

One race in particular is seared in his memory:

“The Ski Skills at Silvers Hills, like the Sugarloaf Schuss, was an Eastern Athletic Amateur Ski Association sanctioned event. The race was organized by the Abenaki Ski and Outing Club. In fifth grade, I went head-to-head against Stevie McCausland. He only beat me because I fell on the final gate before the finish line on my second run. Steve today is spokesperson for the Maine State Police, and every time I hear his voice on radio explaining some criminal investigation, I don’t root for the cops nor the robbers. I just want that race back.”

Editor’s note: The Snow Trail seeks more short articles about interesting and memorable skiing experiences in Maine, such as Harvey Lipman’s above. Please email your contributions to the editor at schussme@yahoo.com.
Eight to be Inducted into Maine Ski Hall of Fame

By Dave Irons
Chairman, Maine Ski Hall of Fame

Eight Mainers who have made significant contributions to skiing and snowboarding will be honored at the 12th annual Maine Ski Hall of Fame induction banquet at Lost Valley October 24. Included in the class of 2014 are a pied piper of cross-country skiing, a longtime college ski coach, a pioneering snowboarder, a big mountain skier who made many first descents, a pair of Olympic alpine ski racers and a Paralympic mono-skier.

The Hall of Fame was formed in 2003 to recognize those who have brought distinction to Maine skiing and snowboarding or made significant contributions to the sports. They may include competitors, coaches, instructors, ski patrollers, ski area builders, managers and volunteers. With the induction of the class of 2014, the number of honorees will reach 105.

(A reservation form can be found on the opposite page.)

Here’s a brief look at this year’s inductees:

Dave Carter was an outstanding cross-country competitor in high school and college, but his biggest contribution came in developing cross-country ski centers in Oxford and Bethel, where he led countless young athletes into the sport. By introducing so many to the sport, he enhanced the cross-country experience for skiers throughout Western Maine.

Brud Folger was a successful competitive skier in high school and college who made his mark in coaching. He coached the University of Maine (Orono) ski team for 28 years, competing in NCAA Division I against the top teams in the country. He had many skiers qualify in all four events and his teams won the Maine State Ski Championships four times in a row.

Nikki Pilavakis-Davoren won her titles in snowboard cross (SBX) before it was an Olympic event which is why her victories are unknown to many. She started on a newly formed European tour and won enough prize money to focus on SBX full time. In 1999 Nikki won the title of Women’s World Champion. In four short years she had become the best female SBX competitor in the world.

Bill Briggs made his mark on big mountains in the American West. In 1971 the Augusta native, who was born with a defective hip, hiked to the top of 13,770-foot Grand Teton and was the first person...
We invite you to the 12th annual Induction Awards Dinner to honor the 8 members of the Class of 2014, whose vision helped make Maine skiing the way it should be.

Dave Carter ~ Brud Folger ~ Nikki Pilavakis-Davoren
Bill Briggs ~ Carl Burnett ~ Tom Gyger
Rob and Anna Parisien

Please join us for this special event by completing the below reservation form.

The dinner is $38.00 per person, and has assigned seating.
If you are planning to attend to honor an inductee please circle their name above.
If you would like to be seated with other guests please indicate that below.

I regret I am not able to attend, but I would like to make a donation of $____________
in honor of the following Inductee ____________________________________________

Dinner Reservation
Please indicate meal options for each Guest, $38.00 per person.
Meal Choices: 1) Prime Rib Dinner  2) Baked Stuffed Chicken Dinner  3) Vegetarian Meal
Guest Name        Meal Choice
1)__________________________________________________________
2)__________________________________________________________
3)__________________________________________________________
4)__________________________________________________________
I am coordinating seating with the following guests
__________________________________________________________

Contact Information & Payment Information
Please provide us with contact information for the person making this reservation.
Name:
Mailing Address:____________________________________Email:______________________________
Phone: ________________________________
$38.00 for _____ Dinners = $___________
Ski Museum Donation to help further the mission of preserving Maine’s Skiing Heritage $______________
Hall of Fame Honoree Donation $______________
Total Due $______________
_____ Please Charge my Credit Card   _____Check Enclosed (payable to Ski Museum of Maine)
CC Number: ___________________________ Exp Date:________________________
Signature: _____________________________ CSC #: __________________

Return Completed form to Ski Maine Association, PO Box 7566 Portland, ME 04112 – (207) 879-9483 fax –(207) 773-7669
Reservation Deadline is Friday, October 10, 2014
Carl Burnett was paralyzed below the waist in a car crash at the age of five and took up disabled skiing at age 12. Three years later he swept all four junior national titles. Named to the U.S. Disabled Team in 1998 he went on to compete for nine years in Nor-Am, World Cup and Olympics as a mono-skier. He competed in the Paralympics in Salt Lake City in 2002 and Torino (Italy) in 2006.

Tom Gyger is one of those ski patrolmen who has done far more than show up and patrol on weekends. Instead of simply meeting the standards of a Senior Patroller, he got involved as a first aid instructor and served on the first aid staff at the Eastern and National levels. For his work and devotion he was awarded the National Ski Patrol Gold Merit Star.

Rob and Anna Parisien are joining their sister Julie in the Maine Ski Hall of Fame. Although Julie is better known, Rob and Anna had outstanding ski racing careers leading to the Olympics in 1992 for Rob and in 1994 for Anna. After attending Burke Mountain Academy, where both had impressive junior results, it was on to USSA competition. Anna dominated J-II and J-I competition earning a place on the U.S. Ski Team in 1991. She retired from ski racing after the 1994 season at age 21. Rob earned his spot on the U.S. Ski Team in 1987 and was the top American finisher in GS in the 1991 World Championships and in the Albertville Olympics in 1992. Like his sister he retired early to attend college graduating from the University of Colorado in 1995 and Dartmouth Medical School in 1999.
Memberships are an important part of our ability to have a ski museum. Please support generously. Please either go to our website at www.skimuseumofmaine.org and download an application or use the application below and send to: Ski Museum of Maine, P.O. Box 359, Kingfield, ME 04947

Name: _____________________________
Address: _____________________________
City: ________________________________
State: ___ Zip: _________________________
Phone: _______________________________
Email: _______________________________

Please check membership level:
☐ Bronze $25     ☐ Platinum $250
☐ Silver $50     ☐ Lifetime $1,000
☐ Gold $100     ☐ Additional Donation: $ ___________

Name(s): ___________________________

Can you help? ☐ at events
☐ be a Saturday host at the museum
☐ with museum projects/exhibits
☐ with data entry and/or cataloging
☐ clean museum pieces
☐ other

We recognize that not everyone is enthusiastic about skiing and snowboarding and all the excitement around the history involving fun in the snow, so please let us know if you would like to be removed from our mailing list by either calling or emailing. Thanks.

Mission Statement
“To preserve and publicize the business of skiing in Maine, while celebrating Maine’s ski history and heritage.”

“Skiing is a dance, and the mountain always leads.”

Author Unknown

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When Sunday River Skiway opened for the 1959-1960 season, the principal lift was a T-bar that served Locke Mountain. The lower terminal, pictured above, was located approximately where the Locke Mountain Triple Chairlift is today. The earliest edition of the Barker Mountain Lodge is visible in the background. The Ski Museum of Maine plans to increase its footprint in the Bethel area for the 2014-2015 season. (Courtesy Sunday River Mountain Resort)