Eight men and women from diverse backgrounds and representing a variety of specializations will be inducted into the Maine Ski Hall of Fame this fall. The annual induction banquet, the biggest social event of the year for the Ski Museum of Maine, will be held on October 24 at the Grand Summit Hotel at Sunday River Mountain Resort in Newry.

These five men and three women were selected in January by a committee chaired by Maine Ski Hall of Fame member Bob Flynn, longtime ski team coach at Bates College. The Class of 2015 inductees comprise competitors, coaches, officials, resort managers, a Paralympian and the head of a major skiing academy.

Founded in 2003, the Maine Ski Hall of Fame honors skiers and snowboarders who have brought distinction and contributed significantly to Maine snowsports.
Founded in 1995, the Ski Museum of Maine is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization established with the mission to celebrate and preserve the history and heritage of Maine skiing. The Ski Museum exhibits artifacts, photographs, artwork and documents at its location in Kingfield, conducts educational programs to ski clubs, schools, libraries, historical and civic organizations, and hosts social events and activities throughout the year.

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Executive director: Bruce Miles, Carrabassett Valley

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**Upcoming Ski Museum Events**

- **Friday, October 9**  
  Kingfield Art Walk  
  (Ski Museum open until 8 p.m.)  
  Kingfield

- **Saturday-Sunday, October 10-11**  
  Sugarloaf Homecoming  
  Come visit our historical booth  
  Sugarloaf Base Lodge  
  Carrabassett Valley

- **Saturday-Sunday, October 10-11**  
  Sunday River Fall Festival  
  Come visit our display  
  South Ridge Lodge  
  Sunday River Mountain Resort  
  Newry

- **Saturday, October 24**  
  Hall of Fame Banquet  
  Grand Summit  
  Sunday River Mountain Resort

- **Thursday, October 29**  
  Maine Ski Season Launch Party  
  DiMillo’s On the Water  
  Portland

- **Wednesday, February 10, 2016**  
  Sonny Goodwin celebration  
  Camden Snow Bowl & The Waterfront Restaurant  
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- **Saturday, February 13, 2016**  
  Maine Ski Heritage Classic  
  Sugarloaf Mountain Resort  
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Ski Museum of Maine  
*Snow Trail*  
Scott Andrews, Editor  
Autumn 2015  
www.skimuseumofmaine.org  
info@skimuseumofmaine.org  
P.O. Box 359  
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Six Degrees of Separation is a theory that anyone on earth can be connected to any other person on earth through a chain of acquaintances that has no more than five intermediaries. I’d wager that there are no more than two degrees of separation when making connections within Maine’s skiing community. Here are a few of my recent Maine Ski Hall of Fame connections.

The jams and jellies vendor across from the Ski Museum booth at Bethel’s Mollyockett Day turned out to be the niece of Jean Luce, matriarch of the Ski Museum of Maine and Hall of Fame inductee, Class of 2004. My sister, while enjoying her anniversary dinner in Ogunquit, discovered that her waitress was the daughter-in-law of Stub Taylor, longtime Sugarloaf ski patroller and Hall of Fame Inductee, Class of 2004. My stepson’s examiner for his Registered Maine Guide’s License was none other than Tim LaVallee, well known ski coach and Hall of Famer Class of 2008. 2015 Hall of Fame Inductee, John Diller, is the nephew of my long time Bethel bridge club buddy, Ginny Cole.

I’ll challenge you to a game of Six Degrees of Separation -- Maine Ski Hall of Fame Edition. What’s your connection to the Class of 2015? Email your degrees of separation from a 2015 inductee to info@skimusumofmaine.org. We’ll pick a winner of the challenge at the Annual Maine Ski Hall of Fame Dinner. The winner will receive a copy of We Jumped, a chronicle of ski jumping in Western Maine from the 1950s through the 1970s, written by Ski Hall of Famer Bob “Rem” Remington, Class of 2005 and his brother Tom.

Wende Gray
President, Ski Museum of Maine

Ski jumping was part of the DNA of the Chisholm Ski Club during most of the 20th century. Pictured here is a competition at Scotty’s Mountain, which the club ran during the 1940s and 1950s. Scotty’s was supplanted in 1961 by the jumping facility at Black Mountain. (Courtesy Chisholm Ski Club)
The Ski Museum of Maine received some very good news in the early summer regarding our exhibit space here in Kingfield. For the last five years we have been provided exhibit and office space above the Sports Outlet shop thanks to Sugarloaf Mountain Corporation. I am happy to say that our lease has been renewed for another five years at the continued rate of one dollar per annum. Having such a great deal for our exhibit and office space allows us to focus our resources to bringing our Museum to other regions of the State.

We believe that our cozy arrangement with the Sports Outlet shop is mutually beneficial. Most people who visit the Ski Museum first pass through the shop and get exposed to the latest in today’s ski gear and apparel. Conversely, many Sports Outlet customers see our sign in the shop and wander upstairs for an eyeful of skiing’s past.

Not only did our lease get renewed, but Sugarloaf and the building’s owner, Museum supporter and former board member Richard Keenan, agreed to make the building a little greener by replacing existing windows and lighting and adding insulation to the building. The new LED lights are not only saving energy, but also providing much brighter lighting in our exhibit area. This is a real plus for the visitor’s experience.

On the artifact side, we have had some really fine photos and movies come our way.

We received a very nice collection of photos from the late 1940s of skiing at King’s Mountain in Orrington. This collection came to us from Steve and Patty Forrest of Hampden. King’s Mountain was the first ski hill developed by the Penobscot Valley Ski Club. You will hear a lot more about these photos and the people in them in the future.

Museum supporter Walter Melvin acquired some home movies from Peter Haney of Bourne, Massachusetts. Walter had these 8mm films digitized for us. They are almost an hour in length. The movies were taken by Peter’s dad between 1958 and 1960. They show skiing at Pleasant Mountain (now Shawnee Peak), Sugarloaf, Titcomb, Sunday River and Bald Mountain in Dedham. Plus there’s some cross-country footage from Andover. The footage gives us some great views of the resorts at the time as well as skiers’ equipment and clothing of the era. There are good images of the base lodges at the ski hills and even shots of the signage around the areas.

Much of the footage includes ski racing of the time. The race footage includes the 1958 “Golden Skis” race at Bald Mountain which was
annually hosted by the Penobscot Valley Ski Club. Other race footage includes Maine High School championship racing at Andover and other racing at Titcomb in Farmington. These movies are of very good quality and make a great addition to our expanding film library. If you have old pictures and films that you would like to loan or donate to the Museum, please give us a call.

Another piece of good news early this summer was the new record for the Ski Museum’s Annual Giving Program. These are gifts over and above membership dues, and this year’s tally topped $12,000 and set a new record. See page 14 for details. And thanks!

Have a great fall. We hope to see you at the Maine Ski Hall of Fame Induction Banquet at Sunday River October 24.

Bruce Miles
Executive director of the Ski Museum of Maine

The Ski Museum of Maine is located above the Sugarloaf Sports Outlet’s shop in downtown Kingfield. Above: Executive director Bruce Miles (left) speaks with Leslie Guenther and husband Dave Stonebraker, who is on the museum’s board of directors. (Scott Andrews photo)
This year’s induction banquet will be the 13th annual, and the Ski Museum strongly urges all prior Hall of Fame members to attend. Honorees from prior years will be recognized and a large group photo is planned. For additional details of the October 28 event, please turn to page 13.

The program book for the induction banquet will contain a 500-word biography for each inductee. Here’s a brief summary:

**John Ritzo** came to Maine in 1986 to take over as headmaster of the three-year-old Carrabassett Valley Academy. His goal was to expand the school in every way, and when he retired 26 years later he had succeeded in spectacular fashion. The list of international and Olympic competitors is long and growing in alpine racing, freestyle and snowboarding — including gold medal winners Bode Miller and Seth Wescott. Academically CVA has grown as well, with nearly 100 percent of its graduates going on to some of the finest colleges. Today a new campus is in place where 115 students live, study and compete. John Ritzo led CVA to a spot among the very best ski academies.

**Tom Kendall** got his start in ski racing in junior programs in Auburn and competed for Edward Little and Dartmouth. But it wasn’t until his own children got involved in racing that he made his mark on the sport. Up until the early 1980s all alpine race timing was done by hand. Kendall didn’t like wasting all the time it took and he used his computer skills to develop a program that would input the numbers and spit out the results in minutes instead of hours. His expertise has led to timing top college races and directing the timing of Olympic skiing.

**Peter Davis** followed a long line of top-flight skiers coming out of Edward Little High School,
where he won the Maine State Junior Nordic Championships. While at New England College he trained and competed on his own as the school had no Nordic team, and qualified for the NCAA Ski Championships as an individual. His performances led to his being named to the US Nordic Ski Team.

John Diller has been well known as part of the management team at Sugarloaf, and general manager since 1998. Less well known to today’s Sugarloafers and other Maine skiers is his role in early freestyle skiing. As coach of the Sugarloaf Masters program, Diller was instrumental in the transition of this program to the freestyle skiing we watch in the modern Olympics. In the 1970s, while coaching such national champions as Joannie MacWilliams Dolan, he worked with the rules committee to formalize judging and bring the fledgling sport to maturity.

From freestyle to leading the entire resort at Sugarloaf, John Diller has been a leader in Maine skiing.

Megan Roberts has been devoted to skiing since her high school racing days at Mount Blue High School. After helping to win the state championship in high school, Megan attended Plymouth State College where she was co-captain of the ski team. In the 1980s she worked extensively with the Camden Snow Bowl as a race coach plus teaching a special “Women’s Way” program. Returning to her hometown, she became heavily involved with the Farmington Ski Club as a volunteer and eventually became the first female general manager of Titcomb Mountain, a club-owned facility, where she increased membership and revenues and installed a new beginner lift. Megan served several terms on the Ski Museum’s board of directors, and played a key part in opening our public exhibits, first in downtown Farmington and later at our present Kingfield location.

Luba Lowery was adopted from her native Russia at the age of four by a Maine family that was unaware that she had been born without hip sockets. At age five she began skiing with Maine Handicapped Skiing at Sunday River and joined their ski team at age 11. By ninth grade Luba was on the US Disabled Ski Team and won the Junior US National Disabled Championship. She switched from Greely High School to Gould Academy to spend more time on snow and wound up skiing in competition over the next decade, culminating with the 2010 Paralympics.

**Bruce Chalmers** was among the early skiers at Pleasant Mountain in Bridgton, developing the skills that led to his being not only captain but coach of his team at Bowdoin College. Returning to Bridgton after graduation Bruce got involved in skiing in two ways. In the family insurance business he worked with ski areas to develop ski safety programs, and at Pleasant Mountain his focus was on getting school students into the sport. His two-pronged approach called for recruiting a team of instructors and convincing local school officials to let the kids out early to attend learning sessions at the mountain. The program grew to 400 student skiers and played a key role in creating skiers. The program continues today with 250-400 kids on hand every Monday afternoon at Shawnee Peak.

**Jill Sickels** Matlock got her start at Farmington’s Titcomb Mountain, and became an outstanding high school and junior racer, the beginning of a lifetime devoted to skiing. Jill was a Division I alpine ski racer in college and went on to become PSIA certified instructor, a PSIA-RM Educational Staff Member/Examiner, and named one of SKI Magazine’s Top 100 Instructors. At Crested Butte in Colorado, she trained instructors and served as race coach. Her coaching includes the US Ski Team, Carrabassett Valley Academy and Green Mountain Valley School. At Crested Butte Jill joined the local adventurers in extreme skiing, won four national extreme skiing championships and was a top-five finisher five times in the World Extreme Skiing Championships. Powder Magazine named her one of the 50 Best Skiers in North America.

*A youthful Bruce Chalmers is pictured in a race held more than half a century ago. Chalmers’ long career in Maine skiing, both as an amateur racer and later as an insurance executive, earned him a spot in the Maine Ski Hall of Fame. (Courtesy Bruce Chalmers)*
Bethel brothers’ book recalls ski jumping...

The tiny bookshelf devoted to the history of Maine skiing received a wonderful addition this past summer with *We Jumped*, a personal memoir penned by two brothers who grew up in Bethel.

Bob and Tom Remington, both in their sixties, recall with warmth and humor their experiences ski jumping between the 1950s, when the sport was a mainstay of school and college competition, through the 1980s, when it virtually disappeared from Maine. Along the way, Bob and Tom devote chapters to equipment, apparel and the many jumping venues that they visited plus people that they met.

Bob and Tom were sons of Clarence “Rockin’ Chair” Remington, a man whose passion for ski jumping was obviously passed along. Many of their fondest recollections come from childhood experiences, traveling with their dad to ski meets where he competed or officiated. Both brothers competed for the ski teams of Gould Academy and the University of Maine. Bob is a member of the Maine Ski Hall of Fame, Class of 2005.

Much of the book is devoted to descriptions of Gould Academy’s several jumps at Swan’s Corner on the Sunday River Road in Bethel, while other sections provide fascinating details on facilities in Andover, Rumford and Berlin, New Hampshire. Bob’s description of the Aurele Legere 55-meter jump at Black Mountain in Rumford is priceless: “It was not pretty. As a matter of fact, it was ugly. It probably had no help from an architect, for an architect would certainly have made it a thing of beauty at a cost that the Chisholm Ski Club could never afford.”

Bob and Tom are donating all proceeds from the sale of *We Jumped* to the Ski Museum of Maine. The 95-page paperback volume is available through the Ski Museum’s website, skimuseumofmaine.org or through amazon.com at a price of $15.

Thanks, guys!

Scott Andrews
Historian, Ski Museum of Maine

*Brothers Tom and Bob Remington, who grew up in Bethel, wrote a book about their experiences ski jumping between the 1950s and the 1980s. The brothers visited the Ski Museum of Maine’s tent at last summer’s MollyOckett Days in Bethel. (Scott Andrews photo)*
Trail names recall skiing history

“What’s in a name?” Juliet famously pondered. “That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet.”

William Shakespeare’s celebrated commentary on nomenclature may have little direct bearing on skiing, but nevertheless it’s interesting to think about some trail names and the stories behind them.

While skiing at Winter Park, Colorado, last spring I discovered that local history enthusiasts had erected a number of very attractive and informative signs all over the resort’s myriad peaks and trails. Each clearly explained details of someone or something of local importance. An example, pictured on this page, is Little Pierre, an advanced intermediate run on the main face of the resort.

As explained by the sign, “Little Pierre” was a nickname for a pint-sized ski instructor whose real name was Jack van Horn. A natural clown and acrobat, Little Pierre was an entertaining figure in the 1950s. The trail name honors his memory, and the commemorative sign recounts his story.

In Maine, the only similar situation I know of is Schipper’s Streak, a jug-handle side scoot near the bottom of Sugarloaf’s Narrow Gauge Trail. As the trail branches left, there’s a sign that describes Paul Schipper’s incredible iron-man feat: skiing 3,903 consecutive days (every day that Sugarloaf was officially open) over a 25-year period.

I believe that opportunities abound for similar interpretive signs at other resorts. At Shawnee Peak, Haggett’s Hurdle is a black-diamond drop
on the northwest flank of the summit. The name honors Russ Haggett, the mountain’s longtime owner, general manager and member of the Maine Ski Hall of Fame. But few people know this story, and a sign would be nice.

At Sunday River Outdoor Center, cross-country enthusiasts shudder when they think of David’s Drop, a precipitous black-rated, tree-lined chute that leads off the Two Sled Trail. Who knows that it’s named for David Coleman, a pioneer of the cross-country revival of the 1970s? Coleman was an early director of Nordic skiing at the Sunday River Inn, which had recently been purchased by Steve and Peggy Wight, and he designed much of the trail network. I’d like to see an interpretive sign at both top and bottom of this trail.

And I wouldn’t limit these interpretive signs to trails that are named for people. Maybe we should erect historic markers of all sorts alongside ski trails, just like state highway departments do along the roads.

And speaking of highway departments… In New Hampshire, the highway department has erected at least three interpretive signs that relate to skiing history. In Sugar Hill there’s a sign that recognizes a pioneering ski school. In Gilford there’s a sign at the base of the Torgler Tokle Ski Jump, which is part of the Gunstock Ski Area. In Milan a marker along Route 16 notes the historical significance of the huge Nansen Ski Jump, which is pictured on this page.

There’s a strong Maine connection in the latter two cases: Both these ski jumps were constructed in the late 1930s by the Winter Sports Division of the Hussey Manufacturing Company of North Berwick. Philip Hussey, who was president of the company at the time, was elected to the Maine Ski Hall of Fame in 2012.

Scott Andrews
Historian, Ski Museum of Maine
2015 Ski Season Launch Party
Where did you get your Launch?

Thursday, October 29th
DiMillo’s On the Water, Portland ME

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This image was taken in February, 1924 on Portland’s Western Promenade by an unnamed photographer for the Portland Press Herald.
From the collections of the Maine Historical Society, used with permission.
The Maine Ski Hall of Fame Committee and Ski Museum Board of Directors would like to invite you to the 13th annual Maine Ski Hall of Fame Induction Dinner. The 8 members of the Class of 2015 have been influential in shaping the sport of skiing in Maine.

Saturday, October 24, 2015
Grand Summit Hotel ~ Sunday River Resort
Newry, Maine
3:30 pm to 4:30 pm - Fireside Chat
4:30 pm to 6:30 pm - Inductee Reception
6:30 pm - 8:30 pm - Dinner and Awards

John Ritzo    Tom Kendall    Peter Davis    John Diller
Megan Roberts    Luba Lowery    Bruce Chalmers    Jill Sickels Matlock

The dinner is $50 per person.
To make a reservation please visit www.skimaine.com/halloffame or call (207) 773-7669 ext 105
Lodging Available starting at $99 plus tax & resort fees. Please call (800) 207-2365
The books are now closed on the Ski Museum of Maine’s 2015 Annual Giving Program, and the final result is a new record. The Ski Museum’s generous donors contributed a total of $12,010 over and above their membership dues. That’s an increase of eight percent over the 2014 results. The following listing of contributors is complete through June 30, the end of the Ski Museum’s fiscal year. Thanks everyone! We wouldn’t be here without you.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bethel Inn Resort</th>
<th>Fort Kent Historical Society</th>
<th>Maine Winter Sports Center</th>
<th>Stanley Museum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bethel</td>
<td>Fort Kent</td>
<td>Caribou</td>
<td>Kingfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bethel Village Motel/Ruthie's</td>
<td>Good Food Store</td>
<td>Matterhorn Ski Bar</td>
<td>Sugarloaf Mountain Resort</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bethel</td>
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<td>Newry</td>
<td>Carrabassett Valley</td>
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<td>BEWI Productions</td>
<td>Gray Marketing</td>
<td>The Motorsports Company</td>
<td>Sugarloaf Mountain Ski Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Waltham, Mass.</td>
<td>Bethel</td>
<td>Ellsworth</td>
<td>Carrabassett Valley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Camden Riverhouse Hotel</td>
<td>Great American Ski Renting</td>
<td>New England Ski Museum</td>
<td>Sunday River Mountain Resort</td>
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<tr>
<td>Camden</td>
<td>Bethel</td>
<td>Franconia, N.H.</td>
<td>Newry</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Java Joe's</td>
<td>Pat's Pizza</td>
<td>Sweetser's Orchards</td>
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<td>Kingfield</td>
<td>Farmington</td>
<td>Bethel</td>
<td>Cumberland</td>
</tr>
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<td>Chalmers Insurance</td>
<td>Java Joe's</td>
<td>River View Resort</td>
<td>Town of Carrabassett Valley</td>
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<td>Carrabassett Valley</td>
<td>Bethel</td>
<td>Carrabassett Valley</td>
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<td>Kittery Trading Post</td>
<td>Shipyard Brewhaus</td>
<td>W.A. Mitchell Fine Furniture</td>
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<td>Rumford</td>
<td>Kittery</td>
<td>Carrabassett Valley</td>
<td>Farmington</td>
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<td>Dirigo Management</td>
<td>Kyes Insurance</td>
<td>Skowhegan Savings</td>
<td>Waterfront Restaurant</td>
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<td>Portland</td>
<td>Farmington</td>
<td>Skowhegan</td>
<td>Camden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Down East Ski Club</td>
<td>Lonesome Pine Trails</td>
<td>Smokin’ Good BBQ</td>
<td>WSKI TV 17 Sugarloaf Maine</td>
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<td>Bridgton</td>
<td>Fort Kent</td>
<td>Bethel</td>
<td>Carrabassett Valley</td>
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<td>Farmington Ski Club</td>
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$ ___________

### Mission Statement

“To celebrate and preserve the history and heritage of Maine skiing.”
The earliest form of cross-country ski competition in Maine was the “ski dash,” a fixture of winter carnivals during the 1920s and 1930s. These contests were run like track events, using mass starts and short distances, such as 100 yards and 440 yards. At the winter carnivals held in Caribou in the 1930s, the ski dash was held on the racetrack normally used by horses at the fairground. This photo, owned by the Caribou Historical Society and digitally scanned by the Ski Museum of Maine, clearly shows the grandstand at the fairground.)