MAINE SKI HALL OF FAME
2014

Where most people saw snow, they envisioned mountains of opportunity.

Let's toast 8 amazing skiers & visionaries who made Maine the way skiing should be.

Class of 2014 Induction
Maine Ski Hall of Fame
Friday, October 24, 2014
Lost Valley Ski Resort
Auburn, Maine
### MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Maine Ski Hall of Fame is to recognize those skiers who through their efforts and achievements have brought distinction to Maine skiing. Some of these skiers made their mark in competition. Others were founders who built the sport into a way of life for so many Mainers. Still more were teachers who led countless skiers and competitors into our sport. Some had an intense impact on local skiers while others gained prominence on an international scale. Thanks to these skiers Maine has an industry that is a vital part of the economy, not only in the mountains, but throughout the state.

It is to recognize the importance of skiing to Maine and its citizens that the Maine Ski Hall of Fame has been formed. By enshrining those men and women who founded and built the sport in Maine, competitors who brought prominence to Maine skiing, their coaches and mentors, and others who have made significant contributions, we shall create a permanent record of their endeavors and achievements. By doing this we shall preserve this history for those to follow, that they may understand the great achievements of these individuals.

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**Congratulations Brud Folger!**

Thank you for all your contributions to skiing!

From your friends at Franklin Savings Bank and Farmington Ski Club

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COLORFUL CONGRATULATIONS

In memory and honor of Dave Carter, we are proud to recognize the impact he had on the ski industry and our community.
David Carter got his start in skiing growing up on the family farm in Bethel. When he was five his father bought skis for the children from Paris Manufacturing in the fifties one of the country’s leading ski manufacturers. Strapping them on they skied on the farm. A broken arm actually led to more time on the snow. It happened in the fifth grade and his father excused him from his chores and he spent the extra time on skis without poles, leading eventually to cross country skiing.

His first formal training came when he attended Gould Academy from 1963 through 1967. When he joined the ski team under Coach Paul Kailey, David was the team’s only cross country competitor and as other cross country skiers joined the team he became the cross country team captain. Not content to simply ski for his high school team, David attended ski camps during the holidays held at the Bethel Inn, Fryeburg Academy and Rumford. David expanded his competition to the eastern Amateur Ski Association to race against the best skiers in the Eastern United States which helped him develop to the point where he was able to ski for the Division I University of Maine ski team under coach Brud Folger.

During his college years from 1967 to 1971 he competed for his college team and finished 3rd in EISA Jr. Division Championships in 1969 and 1970. In 1971, he was awarded top cross country skier in the Maine State Series between U Maine, Bates, Bowdoin and Colby.

Following his competitive career David turned to cross country development. He was one of four Maine natives to start the Jackson Ski Touring Center in 1972, where he taught and ran the retail store. A year later he developed the EMS Ski Touring Center and following that success returned to Maine where he was recruited by Gould Academy coach Paul Kailey to cut and grade a network of cross country trails at the Sunday River Ski Touring Center.

In 1983 David and his wife Anne founded the Oxford Hills Nordic Ski Club and recruited local residents to help build cross country ski trails. As the club grew to hundreds of members, he and Anne taught XC lessons to over 100 grade school kids each year.

In 1985 Carter’s Cross Country Touring Center was opened on the farm he had purchased in 1976, where he operated a retail ski shop and taught lessons. The success of combining the farm stand and cross country operations allowed expansion to Bethel when he and Anne bought 250 acres adjacent to the family homestead. There he built a combination ski lodge, retail store, and bed and breakfast.

From his competitive years to the much too early end of his days, David Carter devoted his life to spreading his love of cross country skiing through teaching and promoting the sport. This contribution has earned David Carter a place in the Maine Ski Hall of Fame.

To the Family of David Carter,

Congratulations on this well deserved honor!

From your friends in the home building industry:

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Congratulations to
Dave Carter ’67
& Carl Burnett ’99
for a well deserved honor.

Thank you, Dave Carter, for your passion and commitment to the sport of Nordic skiing in the state of Maine.
Long before ski films began featuring extreme skiing, a skier from Maine was making historic descents. Considering his start in life Bill Briggs was an unlikely candidate for ski fame or any kind of athletic success. On December 21, 1931, Bill was born in Augusta without a hip socket on his right side. He had to undergo surgeries as a child to create one so he could walk and his doctors believed he would eventually be confined to a wheelchair as an adult.

Bill never accepted that diagnosis and proved to be a natural athlete, teaching himself to ski after his sister and older brother introduced him to the sport. At the age of seven or eight he skied every day he could using his father’s skis twice his height on a slope near their home. While attending Philips Exeter Academy he met Bob Bates, a teacher and devoted mountaineer who became his mentor. At Dartmouth he joined the Dartmouth Outing Club, known for producing world class skiers and regular excursions to Mount Washington and annual races in Tuckerman Ravine. Briggs didn’t take the time to graduate, leaving early to pursue his interests in climbing, skiing and music.

In 1955 he was certified by the Eastern Amateur Ski Association as a ski instructor, the beginning of a career that continues almost sixty years later. He immediately went to work for Paul Valar at Cannon. When PSIA was formed in 1961 he became one of the earliest members.

Since 1967 he has been an instructor and owner with the ski school at Snow King Mountain in Jackson, Wyoming, where he practices his Certainty Training Method. He has also been published widely on ski instructional practices.

Success as a ski instructor wasn’t enough of a challenge, especially at the relatively small Snow King, literally in the shadow of Jackson Hole. It is also in the shadow of the Tetons, those dramatic peaks that define that part of Wyoming. Briggs taught in New Hampshire, Vermont and Aspen in the fifties and made his way to the Canadian Rockies to climb and ski in the Bugaboos long before they were a destination for heli-skiers. In 1957 he made an extended climbing trip to Europe and completed the first ascent of a long mixed route in Norway. The next year he qualified as a guide and joined the Exum Guides in the Tetons. In 1959 he led three other climbing skiers in a one hundred mile traverse in the Bugaboos. With his reputation as mountain guide growing Bill looked at the Grand Teton and June 15, 1971 made his way with the help of three friends to the summit. There he stepped into his skis and began a long and risk-filled descent, the first to ski down the Grand Teton. That run was a crowning moment in a long career that established a Maine native as one of the earliest pioneers in ski mountaineering. This spirit and devotion to the sport of skiing has earned Bill Briggs a rightful place in the Maine Ski Hall of Fame.

Congratulations to the class of 2014 and Sugarloaf’s own Brud Folger

Congratulations to Brud Folger

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Brud Folger started skiing at an early age at Farmington’s Titcomb Mountain and by the time he reached high school he was already a competitive skier. One of his earliest successes came at the inaugural Sugarloaf Schuss in 1952, a GS where he finished 3rd in his division. In high school he skied four events excelling in alpine more than Nordic. In his senior year he captained the Farmington ski team that captured both the Maine and New England Championships where he won the downhill. He repeated that feat and added a second in slalom in his PG year at Holderness, for a team that won the New England Prep School title. In 1955 Brud was on the EISA Jr. National Team that competed at Whitefish, Montana.

From Holderness Brud went on to Middlebury College in Vermont where he skied with the team his freshman year but had the rest of his collegiate career cut short by an injury. He spent his college junior year in Austria, where he was hired to work on a lift being built at St. Anton, am/Arlberg. While working there he became fluent in German and skied all over Austria. Following graduation from Middlebury he joined the U.S. Army as an officer and was stationed in Germany. He traveled to Garmisch, where the Army maintained a recreation ski center for troops and became a member of the U.S. Army ski team. Unfortunately his competitive career was cut short once again, this time by the Berlin Wall build up and he was returned to border duty on the East German border.

Returning from military duty he was selected as head ski coach for the University of Maine in Orono. During his 28 years as head coach his teams competed in NCAA Division I. Through the EISA carnivals many of his Maine team members qualified in each of the four events for the NCAA championships. His teams also ran up four or five straight victories in the Maine State Ski Championships. Among his extra duties he served as host coach for the NCAA National Championships when they were held at Sugarloaf and as President of the Eastern Intercollegiate Ski Coaches Association for two years.

In 1976 he was selected to coach the United States FIS University women’s team at the World Games in Lake Placid, NY, where his skiers won two gold medals.

Following his retirement from the University of Maine Folger was instrumental in founding the 501(c)3 Sugarloaf Foundation which organized and supported all educational, cultural and athletic activities at Sugarloaf. He served as president of the nonprofit organization for two years.

It should also be mentioned that Brud has been a local Sugarloafer whose stories about local characters make him a popular speaker. More than fifty years devoted to developing ski competitors and promoting Sugarloaf has earned Brud Folger a place in the Maine Ski Hall of Fame.
It was in Ski Patrolling where Tom Gyger would make his mark and a significant contribution to Maine skiing. His patrol career started in 1967 at New Hampshire’s Pat’s Peak. In 1970 he moved on to Whaleback and in 1974 to Onset/Bobcat before finally arriving at Pleasant Mountain after moving to Maine in 1979. During his time patrolling in New Hampshire, Tom passed the first aid and ski and toboggan tests to qualify as a Senior Patroller in 1975. His focus on the medical aspects of patrolling led to his becoming a Senior First Aid Examiner for the New Hampshire region just a year later, a position he held until his move to Maine in 1979.

His work in First Aid continued after joining the Pleasant Mountain (now Shawnee Peak) Ski Patrol. This was a time of transition for Ski Patrol First Aid. In the seventies the Red Cross first aid training went from 26 hours to a new 60-hour course and that was soon replaced by the National Ski Patrol’s own Winter Emergency Care course which has evolved into Outdoor Emergency Care, suitable for any outdoor rescue organization. Gyger followed up with all of the upgrades maintaining his instructor status in the new training programs and continuing his work as a Senior First Aid examiner.

In 1981, Tom was appointed First Aid Advisor for the Maine Region and had an immediate impact on the success of the program. His teaching style of focused attention, positive assurance and known expectations was a template for all of the other programs to follow. This outstanding dedication to serving the NSP led to the honor of a National Appointment #5922 in 1981.

Not one to rest on his laurels, in 1982 Tom accepted appointment to the position of Chief Examiner for the Senior Program. He successfully guided that program along with managing the entire First Aid Program until 1987 and under his direction the number of candidates taking the senior exam tripled. In addition to his Maine activities Tom served as a member of the Eastern Division First Aid Staff for the Junior Seminar in 1980 and 1983, and in 1982 and 1988 on the National Junior Seminar’s Medical Staff. He also served as Patrol Director for Shawnee Peak’s Patrol, and as Section Chief of the Southern Section of Maine NSP.

By the late eighties his family business was demanding more of his time so he cut back to his duties of instructor trainer. He returned to service in 1995 as Instructor Development Supervisor to the Maine Region and in 1998 added Region Awards Advisor to his duties. Incidentally, that was the year he opened a cross country center, figuring it would fit in nicely with the family business of operating Orchards and Five Fields Farm. His continuous contribution to National Ski Patrol earned a Distinguished Service Award. This total devotion to Maine skiing and the excellence of the state’s ski patrols has earned Tom Gyger a place in the Maine Ski Hall of Fame.

**SHAWNEE PEAK CONGRATULATES TOM GYGER FOR HIS INDUCTION INTO THE MAINE SKI HALL OF FAME!**

We thank you for your guidance and service to our Ski Patrol.

**shawneepeak.com**
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Congratulations to Tom Gyger
On Being Inducted
Into the
Maine Ski
Hall of Fame

Congratulations Tom Gyger
and the Class of 2014!
Thank you Hall of Famers, for your
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Maine Ski Hall of Fame - Class of 2014

Congratulations Inductees!
Most world class athletes tell about their first experiences in their sport at very tender ages, often before kindergarten. But Nikki Pilavakis-Davoren didn’t get on a snowboard until the end of college. She was an athlete, but her sport was field hockey at which she excelled at Bonny Eagle High School and at Plymouth State College, which is ironic given how well known her college is for its ski teams. As she entered college her parents moved to Rangeley, where her sister became the first in the family to take up skiing. Nikki’s involvement was working at Saddleback as a lift attendant during school breaks, where she learned just enough about skiing to make it down from the top. In 1989, her final year in college she was working in the top shack when she saw her first snowboarder.

Watching that one rider carve turns hooked her on the sport and she spent the rest of the winter teaching herself how to ride. The new college graduate was a fast learner and the next winter, 1990, found her at Sugarloaf as a snowboard instructor. That led to her being invited to help CVA start their weekend snowboard competition program. Working with CVA and the Sugarloaf Ski School gave Nikki the opportunity to also work on her own technique and as she improved she entered into the few local competitions that existed.

Winning $600 in Sugarloaf’s Bud Light Boarderfest in 1997 led to a trip to California and the ESPN Freeride event at Sierra at Tahoe. She placed in the top ten in all four events, with Boardercross her favorite. They had been sleeping in the back of a truck and cooking meals on the tailgate when she won enough money at that event to actually afford a room in a hotel and meal in a restaurant.

The rest of that winter was spent competing in any Boardercross event they could find and by the end of the season Pilavakis was the International Snowboard Federation North American Champion, the Canadian Kokanee Kross overall Champion and ranked third in the world in the ISF standings. This performance caught the eye of Swatch, the company that ran the biggest ISF SBX races, three each in the U.S. and Europe. They paid for her trip to Switzerland for the finals in Laax and became her main sponsor along with Palmer snowboards.

In 1999 Nikki won the title of Women’s World Champion for the International Snowboard Federation, making her the best female SBX competitor in the world. Although her competitive career has ended she continues to contribute to Maine skiing as an educational and motivational speaker for WinterKids. This dedication to her sport that led to a World Championship in SBX, a discipline that has gone on to become an Olympic event, makes Nikki Pilavakis-Davoren a true pioneer in Maine skiing and earns her rightful place in the Maine Ski Hall of Fame.
Congratulations to all of the 2014 Ski Hall of Fame Inductees for all of your commendable achievements.

Nikki Pilavakis-Davoren leading a snowboard cross race in Torino, Italy

OLYMPIA Sports

WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE

NIKKI PILAVAKIS-DAVOREN

FOR YOUR INDUCTION TO THE MAINE SKI HALL OF FAME

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF THE 2014 SKI HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES FOR ALL OF YOUR COMMENDABLE ACHIEVEMENTS.
Carl Burnett’s parents had him on skis before he was four years old but his time on traditional skis ended with a car crash at age five that left him paralyzed below the waist. With his parents help he was back on the hill as a sit skier soon after the accident as part of the family’s recovery program. At age 12 he attended a disabled ski race at Mount Sunapee in New Hampshire that piqued his competitive fires and decided he wanted to be involved in racing. That same year he started training and racing with Sunday River’s able-bodied ski team. Competing in local New England disabled ski races brought him to the attention of national coaches and he was named to the Alpine Junior Elite Team.

At age 14 he left home to attend Gould Academy where he trained alongside able-bodied skiers for four years and in 1998 won junior national titles in all four alpine disciplines. This led to his being named to the U.S. Disabled Ski Team and in 1999, while completing his senior year at Gould, raced in his first season of World Cup Competition. Carl continued racing for the U.S. Team for 10 of the next 11 years while also attending Dartmouth College, earning a bachelor’s degree in 2005 and relocating to Winter Park, Colorado.

His first of three Paralympic Winter Games came in 2002 at Salt Lake City, Utah. The Cape Elizabeth native placed 9th in Giant Slalom, and 11th in both the Super G and Slalom. Continuing his competitions for the U.S. Disabled Team he grabbed a pair of 7th place finishes in two World Cup Giant Slalom races in Kimberly, British Columbia in 2004 as he worked toward another winter Olympics. The 2006 winter games took place in Torino, Italy where Burnett recorded his best Olympic finish, a 5th place in the downhill. He added 22nd in Giant Slalom and 31st in Super G.

The next year, 2007 saw the Maine racer finish first overall in a Nor-Am championship and fifth in Super G at the World Cup finals. 2008 was one of his best seasons when he finished each World Cup race he entered inside the top 15. He just missed a medal finishing 4th in the Super Combined at a 2009 World Cup in Sestriere, Italy. Leading up to his final Paralympic appearance he returned to Sestriere to ski to a 9th place finish in a World Cup downhill.

His final competition was the 2010 Winter Games in Vancouver, BC where his 14th in Giant Slalom and 9th in Slalom were the top American finishes in those events. For more than a decade this Maine skier represented Maine and his country at the highest levels of disabled ski racing, earning Carl Burnett a well deserved place in the Maine Ski Hall of Fame.
Congratulations to all members of the 2014 Maine Ski Hall of Fame!

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Carl Burnett in a sit ski race.
Anna Parisien Levins got her start on skis at Lost Valley where she raced her siblings down the slopes rapidly developing the skills that would enable her to compete among the best female ski racers in the world. She and her older sister Julie (Maine Ski Hall of Fame Class of 2008) learned to ski so they wouldn’t be left with a baby sitter while the rest of the family skied. Her first races were at Lost Valley in the NASTAR Family Equitable Ski Challenge as part of a mother/daughter or father/daughter team. This was followed by racing in the Buddy Werner League at Lost Valley and under the Maine Alpine Racing Association at Sugarloaf.

After consistent success up through the early junior ranks, Anna’s break out year came in 1986, the year she entered Burke Mountain Academy, when she swept the Eastern slalom and giant slalom Junior Olympic titles for J-III racers ages 13-14. The following year saw her win silver in the J-II GS earning the right to compete in the sub world junior events at Trofeo Topolino, Italy. In 1988 Anna won gold in GS and SG in the J-II Championships and added Nor-Am races to her junior events. In 1990, her final year at Burke, the Auburn native won the JO J-I GS title and finished 2nd in the Slalom and Super G, to clinch the overall crown as well. She successfully defended that GS title in 1991 and was named to the US Alpine B team.

Over the next two years Anna added victories in Nor-Am and FIS Super G and GS races and ascended numerous podiums in the U.S. and Europe. She and her sister Julie tied for 4th in the Super G at the National Championships at Winter Park in 1992. In 1994 she was the overall champion in the Nor-Am Championship Series winning the GS and Super G to go with a 2nd place finish in Slalom. That performance along with podiums and top ten finishes earned her a place on the U.S. Olympic Team for the 1994 Winter Games in Lillehammer, Norway. Her best finish was 13th in GS. That year she also won a Europa Cup GS in Les Arcs, France.

During her years on the U.S. Ski Team Anna had spent summers studying at the University of Colorado, and after that Olympic year made the adult decision to retire from the team to become a full-time student. At the age of 21, she certainly could have raced for several more years and with her rate of improvement achieved even more impressive results. Until she graduated in 1997, her skiing was confined to free skiing the mountains of Colorado. She may have retired young to attend college, but she is still part of ski racing having coached Master racers for the past ten years, and for four of those years coaching junior USSA racers at Wild Mountain in Minnesota. This record of achievement in ski racing has earned Anna Parisien Levins a place in the Maine Ski Hall of Fame.
Nationwide Payment Solutions is proud to support the Ski Museum of Maine.

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Rob Parisien started skiing before he started school when he was barely tall enough to reach the seat of a chairlift. Like his older brother J.P. and his sisters who would come along later, he learned to ski at Lost Valley and it was at that Auburn area that he ran his first gates. He pursued alpine racing through the junior ranks at Lost Valley and Sugarloaf and in 1979 won his first race against a New England-wide field at Pat’s Peak in New Hampshire. In his own words, “After that I started taking racing more seriously.”

In 1982 Rob went to Burke Mountain Academy where he honed his skills and piled up an impressive record winning just about every race he entered in the early 80s. The competition was tougher in his high school years, but he continued to improve and in 1990 won the Canadian National Championship Giant Slalom.

That record led to his being named to the U.S. Alpine C Team where he had immediate success in FIS races and Nor-Am events. That year he won three FIS Giant Slaloms at Stowe, added wins in a pair of FIS GS races at Mont Orford, Quebec, and in the U.S. Nationals the Auburn skier placed 4th in GS at Crested Butte, Colorado. In a Europa Cup GS in Sierra Nevada Spain he skied to a 15th place finish, and returning to the US won gold and silver in a pair Nor-Am GS races at Mission Ridge, Washington. At the end of that season he finished 5th in the season long Nor-Am standings.

The following season was one of continued improvement as Rob piled up podiums from Argentina to Quebec and Europe. He also showed improvement in Super G with a pair of 4th place finishes at Snow Basin in Utah. In the U.S. Nationals he placed 6th in GS and 13th in Slalom. In the season Nor-Am standings his GS rank jumped to 3rd and he finished 7th in the overall points race. His coaches described Parisien as a multi-talented athlete and named him to the 1992 Winter Olympic Alpine Team. His 20th place in the Olympic GS was the best American finish.

Highlights of his ski racing career include 1st place in the Canadian National Championships in 1990, 4th in the U.S. National GS at Steamboat in 1989, 7th place in the Junior World Championship GS at Madonna Di Campiglio, Italy in 1988 and 9th place in the Junior World Championships Slalom at Alyeska, Alaska in 1989.

After the 1992 season he retired from the U.S. Team to pursue his college career and the study of medicine. He tried a few pro races while in college, but decided he needed to focus completely on his medical education and in 2007 Rob gave back to the team with a year as U.S. Ski Team Physician. Representing Maine and his country at the very highest levels of ski racing has earned Dr. Rob Parisien a place in the Maine Ski Hall of Fame.
SUGARLOAF CONGRATULATES
THE MAINE SKI HALL OF FAME
CLASS OF 2014
In 2003 when we started the Maine Ski Hall of Fame the goals were simple. We wanted to recognize those Maine skiers who had brought distinction, or made significant contributions to our sport. We knew that a Maine skier had taken part in every Winter Olympics since 1948. Another group of skiers had made the US Ski Team, but had not been part of the Olympics. In addition to competitors Maine has had ski instructors and coaches at the highest level of those professions. Add to these the founders of our ski areas, manufacturers of skis and equipment, innovators in lift design and other contributions. Another key segment of our sport is the volunteers, without whom the major events at our ski resorts and cross country centers could not take place.

In addition to identifying and recognizing these skiers we wanted to tell their stories and establish a permanent record of their achievements. In this way we would be writing the history of Maine skiing through their stories. Including that first class in 2003 we have documented the stories of 96 individuals and one couple. With the induction of eight members of the Class of 2014, the 500 word biographies in these programs will total over 52,000 words. Anyone wishing to learn the history of skiing in Maine, has only to read these words available on the website, www.skimuseumofmaine.org. It may not be in exact chronological order, but it’s all there.

Presenting the induction honors each year in front of a full house at the annual banquet is evidence of the success of the Maine Ski Hall of Fame, but it could not have happened without the support of many. The ski industry has been most supportive, ski resorts and community areas, ski shops, suppliers to the areas and even manufacturers have sponsored the Hall of Fame through their ads in these pages. Without them this program could not tell the story of these skiers and this event would not be the important fundraiser it has become for the Ski Museum of Maine.

Equally important in this endeavor is the support of skiers who attend this celebration and join us in honoring these skiers of renown. Year after year, Lost Valley’s banquet room is filled to overflowing and the enthusiasm with which these skiers are greeted is overwhelming. Finally it’s important to recognize the hard working committee, especially the selection committee chaired by Bob Flynn, whose job it is to sort through the nominations and elect a new class each year. The committee is listed on page three and each would love to be contacted if you have a skier in mind who is deserving of this honor. Details for nomination can be found on the museum web site. Although we have recognized many, there are many more to go and we cannot find them all without your help.

Dave Irons, Chairman
Maine Ski Hall of Fame Committee
Congratulations Class of 2014

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Auburn’s John Bower jumping on his way to victory in the Holmenkollen Nordic Combined Championship in 1968.
About the Fireside Chats Program

The Ski Museum of Maine’s principal education and outreach program is a series of Fireside Chats—narrated digital slideshows that illustrate various aspects of the history of skiing in Maine. Fireside Chats are created and presented by Scott Andrews, the Museum’s research director and longtime snowsports journalist. Since 2008, they have been given in more than 70 different communities across Maine and over 4,000 people have seen at least one of the seven programs currently available.

Each Fireside Chat is a fascinating and entertaining experience based on 100-plus vintage photographs collected from the Museum’s own archives plus several dozen collaborating clubs, organizations and private individuals. Typically hosted by ski clubs, ski resorts, civic organizations and historical societies, the programs are each about 50 minutes in length and audience participation is highly encouraged.

1. Down-Mountain and Cross-Country: 140 Years of Skiing in Maine. This slideshow is an overview that covers all facets of skiing over the entire time period, from the arrival of Scandinavian immigrants in 1870 to the present. It represents the broadest possible approach.

2. An Avalanche of Interest: The First 75 Years of Skiing in Maine. This presentation is more narrowly focused on the earliest period, from 1870 through World War II, and includes more detailed coverage of the early 20th century.

3. Schuss-Boom and Schuss-Bust: Fast-Paced Growth and Face-Plants in Maine Skiing 1946-1980s. This program focuses on the boom times following World War II. For most viewers under 80 years old, this period covers their personal experiences. A real trip down Memory Lane!

4. Made in Maine: 100-Plus Years of Craftsmanship in Skiing. This Fireside Chat looks at skis, boots and other skiing products that were made in Maine from the late 1800s to the present. Maine was once an important manufacturer of skis, boots and other gear.

5. Maine’s Nordic Skiing Heritage: 1870-Present. Cross-country skiing and jumping were Maine’s first ski formats 140 years ago, and Nordic continues to be important. This Fireside Chat looks at the entire timespan of Maine skiing from the Nordic point of view.

6. Getting Organized: How Ski Clubs, Colleges, Carnival Committees and Other Organizations Built the Sport and Culture of Skiing in Maine. Back when skiing was morphing from winter transportation into a popular form of recreation and competition, myriad clubs, colleges and carnival committees promoted winter sports. This Fireside Chat traces these developments from the beginnings.

7. The History of Ski and Snowboard Competition in Maine: From Winter Carnivals to World Cups. Maine’s long heritage of snow sports competition began with a flurry of winter carnivals in the 1920s. Maine has hosted seven competitions at the World Cup/World Championship level. This newest Fireside Chat traces these developments from the beginnings to the present.

To book a Fireside Chat, contact the Museum’s Executive Director Bruce Miles at 207-265-2023 and by email at info@skimuseumofmaine.org or Scott Andrews at 207-773-9609 and by email at schuss@yahoo.com.
Nora Stowell accepting for her Grandfather, Rand Stowell from John Christie

Riding the Earl Brown rope tow at Hebron Academy

A Bass Boots ad poster from the days when Bass was a major boot maker in skiing.
Can you identify this young Saddleback skier from the early sixties?

Congratulations Ski Hall of Fame Inductees!

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Craig Gray and family

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A key piece of the history on display at the Ski Museum of Maine is this display of Made In Maine ski products as arrayed on this wall in the museum.
At a recent strategic planning session the Ski Museum simplified its mission statement, which now reads “to celebrate and preserve the history and heritage of Maine skiing.” The Museum’s immediate past president, Glenn Parkinson, shared his perception of the difference between history and heritage, which struck a chord with everyone in the room. He said, “History is the stuff—the old wooden skis and photographs, while heritage is the feelings, memory, and culture—the taste of hot chocolate and the smell of damp wool.”

We all agreed with his observation that skiing is more than riding a lift up the mountain and going back down on skis or a snowboard. Skiing is colored by the experiences we have shared with likeminded souls and what keeps the memories so close to our hearts. The common memories and feelings we share when we reminisce about the five-foot snowfall that first weekend of December 2003 is our heritage. It is when we all nod in unison while remembering what phenomenal skiing was to be had and how many of us called in to work on Monday saying that we would be late or wouldn’t be able to make it at all in because of the treacherous driving conditions. Heritage is the feeling of camaraderie among skiers who enjoyed après-ski together after dodging other responsibilities to enjoy fresh powder all day and confessing the simultaneous feelings of guilt and delight at having done so. According to Merriam-Webster, heritage can be defined as “something transmitted by or acquired from a predecessor: legacy, inheritance; tradition.”

Maine’s Ski Hall of Fame is a celebration of those who contributed not only to Maine’s ski history, but also to our rich heritage. These individuals accomplished feats as extraordinary as first descents on terrain previously thought unskiable, skied in the face of physical challenges thought to have been insurmountable, or established and carried on traditions that otherwise would have been lost. The Maine Ski Hall of Fame acknowledges and honors these individuals who have transformed the impossible into the possible, pushed human boundaries, and shaped the legacy shared by all Maine skiers.

The Ski Museum of Maine has become a keeper of these stories; a place where the legends of Maine skiing are kept alive for all time and where history and heritage merge into one all-embracing concept that speaks to many. This concept extends beyond the trails where the actual events took place and, over time, has become a collective feeling that has left a lasting impression upon members of the Maine skiing community.

The Museum is working to ensure that the collections of ski stuff as well as memories in the far reaches of the State are preserved. The Museum is making a concerted effort to extend its reach to Aroostook County, the Western Foothills of Maine, and up the Coast to establish a presence and connect with the people who have precious ski-related tales and artifacts in their possession that tell the story of Maine’s skiing history and heritage. We invite you to join us in this pursuit.

Jill Ducharme, President
Ski Museum of Maine
Congratulations
Maine Ski Hall of Fame
CLASS OF 2014

Sunday River
Find Your Happy Place.
Congratulations & Thank You

to those who have helped create Maine’s rich skiing history.

MAINE SKI HALL OF FAME

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Maine Winter Sports Center
Empowering Maine to build an active, outdoor future through world-class resources and challenge-based programs.