

# Mountain Guide Newsletter

2009 SONH Winter Games, Waterville Valley, 3/1 to 3/4, 2009



The beauty of winter is everywhere

## World Games Update

I'm sure some of you have been wondering when I was going to send out information on the 2009 World Games in Boise, Idaho... Well, there is not a lot to say. Back in April 2008, I sent a letter to the person in charge of all the volunteers introducing our group of seasoned ski patrollers/mountain guides who have worked with Special Olympics athletes for the last 27 - 28 years at state winter games and International/World Winter Games since 1989. After three or four more emails and at least five phone calls to SOI in Washington, DC I received a call in August 2008. SOI asked that I try to reach the person I originally sent the letter to in April, I did and she responded. At first I was thrilled because she stated she needed our group and was looking forward to meeting us. She asked me to contact the Alpine volunteer coordinator which I did. And then everything changed. He told me he had heard about the Mountain Guide program but he wasn't going to use it. No problem, we are flexible then he told me he need **NO MORE VOLUNTEERS** for Alpine (this is six months before the games) but maybe we could volunteer for Figure

Skating. I tried to explain we did Alpine but gave-up as I knew he wasn't listening. I called back the Head of Volunteers and she offered Olympic Village stating Alpine must have all the volunteers they needed. A letter will be going to Tim Shriver.



## Room Reservations

Rooms have been blocked for Ski Patrol/Mountain Guides, now I need to place names on the rooms..... **FIRST COME, FIRST RECEIVE....** Don't wait until the last minute, we only have a certain number of rooms and the volunteer groups have been growing along with the number of athletes. Fill out attached form, email back [gerrynsp@earthlink.net](mailto:gerrynsp@earthlink.net) or just write the info and email or call 924-6379.

## Schedule of Events

- Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>  
check-in at Snowy Owl ..3:00pm
- Sunday night 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm Wine & Cheese gathering in Snowy Owl Lobby
- Sunday night 7:00pm Staging for Opening Ceremonies
- Monday morning 7:30am registration at Ski Area..BBTS building. This is a full day of skiing.
- Monday night Dance
- Tuesday morning check-in is at 7:45am at the ski area in the BBTS building. This is a full day of skiing
- Wednesday free ski



Can you help me put my boots on?



This is what it is all about!!!!!!

## Monday Morning Registration

Registration will take place from 0730 to 0800am at the Ski Team building at Waterville Valley Ski Area (also known as the BBTS building).

It's been the same place since we started at Waterville..... Top floor. Skis can be left there overnight, along with your ski bags if you chose too.

For those who plan to ski on Wednesday, I'll find out if we can leave our equipment there on Tuesday night..... Last year, it was not a problem .....

**ALL MOUNTAIN GUIDES/SKI PATROLLERS REGISTER ON MONDAY MORNING AT THE SKI TEAM BUILDING IF YOU ARE WORKING AS AN ALPINE MOUNTAIN GUIDES. GOING**

**TO THE CONFERENCE CENTER ON SUNDAY ONLY CAUSES DUPLICATE REGISTRATION AND ADDITIONAL WORK. I'LL HAVE YOUR REGISTRATION INFO, ALONG WITH YOUR VOLUNTEER BADGES, YOUR LIFT TICKETS AND WHATEVER ELSE . You will pick up your badges and lift tickets on Monday AM in the Ski Team building. REMEMBER YOU MUST PRE REGISTER WITH ME, IN ORDER FOR THIS TO HAPPEN.....**



## General Information

In an effort to get a better count on lunch, I'm going to ask this year for you to let me know if you are eating lunch with us in the ski team building. In the past two years, we have had too much food leftover so with your help I can give better numbers this year. Thanks

Our numbers on athletes have pretty much remained the same, approximately 130, which is down from the early years of 280 +. A lot has to do with cost and time.

Cost to ski and purchase equipment, time necessary for the coaches to get them to a ski area to practice.

Whereas snowshoe and cross country have just continued to grow also due to cost which is quite less and travel time can be non-existing.

We have one beginner course for Alpine. The beginner snowboarders will be on their own course, as they were last year.... There is one advanced (World Cup), Two Intermediate... Valley Run (Advanced Intermediate ) and Lower Meadow area (Intermediate), the snowboarders will be run on the Lower Meadow course for the Intermediate and World Cup for the advanced. The sit skiers will be run on Valley Run course. One major change on the Intermediate course is they are divided by ability now, not age.



A great high five from our athlete to another volunteer, a State Trooper. How proud we are of our athletes.....



## Open House....

*In the past, Open House was always on Sunday night. This year it may change due to some possible changes at Snowy.*

*If Open House takes place on Sunday night, it will start after Opening Ceremonies in Room 233 where it was last year.. remember.. Out the front door to the left, follow the path ..at end of path, go left to Room 233 (Fireside Room)*

*If Open House takes place on Monday night, it will start at 5:30pm until 8:00pm at the same place.*

*Once I have confirmation, I'll email everyone (if I know at least a week before the Games)and /or place a notice in the Lobby*

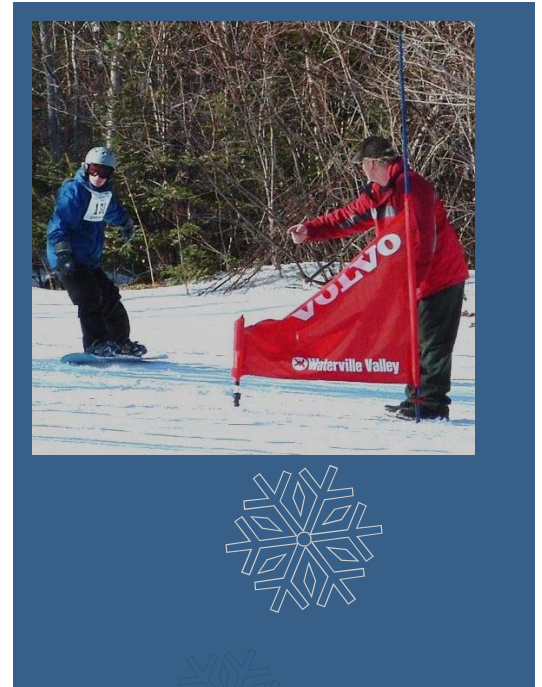
## Open House Snacks

Finger foods work best with the number of people coming. If we all work together, then we can have a great variety of choices and sufficient food for all.

All the paper products, plates, napkins, plastic ware will be there. Just a suggestion, bring your items in **disposal containers**, like the aluminum pans etc. This way, clean up is much easier. If you bring them in dishes or pans, don't forget them when you go home. Please let make it all finger food such as chicken wings, chicken finger, mini pigs in a blanket, nachos etc.... you got the idea..... and of course desserts!!

**ONE MORE THING**..... So that we will have a complete variety of snacks and sufficient amount, please contact Pat Jordan, email: [PJ\\_Jordan@MSN.com](mailto:PJ_Jordan@MSN.com) or Lenny Edmunds, email: [lenny@c-m-engineering.com](mailto:lenny@c-m-engineering.com) let them know what you are bringing.

BYOB.... Remember to Bring your own... We do not supply beer, wine, or any other kind of liquor.. If it is there, somebody brought it for themselves. Thanks



*Reminder.... Don't forget your North Face jacket, you know, the blue one for those who have them.*

This is year number 15<sup>th</sup> at Waterville Valley .... I'll be looking forward to hearing from each and every one of you. If, for some reason, you are unable to ski, let me know.... We do have jobs that need to be done and you don't have to be able to ski. If you have a friend, neighbor, co-worker or a family member that wants to get involved, let me know. We can always use help and new volunteers are always welcome. On Monday morning, I will need at least 5 people at the BBTS building to assist Me with carting up the coffee pots, cups, coffee and hot chocolate supplies upstairs..... I will need you there at 7:30am, this way you will get checked in first and get your lift tickets first....

If you have any question or concerns either call me at 924-6379 up until Saturday night( 28-February-09) at this phone number..... On Sunday, I can be reached at 491-5296 from 10:00am on.

Thanks for taking the time out of your busy schedules to volunteer for SONH. It is truly appreciated and I know that you will have a great time with outstanding athletes and wonderful volunteers..... See ya Sunday or Monday