

# Liftline

The Official Newsletter of the Garden State Ski Club

2003 R.A.T.D.O.G.S.  
Tennis (Rank Amateur  
Tennis Double-faulter's  
Of Garden State)



By Edward Ellis

The 2003 R.A.T.D.O.G.S. season is over, and I breathe a sigh of relief! This year we had only 1 rainout, although we got a little wet at the end of one or two weeks. We had fairly good attendance, with one to two courts open each week. Emily Eastwick did a bang up job setting up the matches the whole season. Pete Gisler and Donna Ahman did an excellent job instructing for those taking lessons. And so many people came, played hard, and had fun!!!

There were a lot of people who signed up for the whole season, or for every week but one or two. I am definitely going to do the same thing next year. Even so, we still had cancellations, and people who just didn't show up. This is one of the only bad points about this season, trying to rearrange the matches Emily set up at the last second!

Special thanks go out to Emily Eastwick for her work in setting up the matches this year. I would also like to thank Donna Ahman and Pete Gisler for doing the instruction, and to all the R.A.T.D.O.G.S. players who came out and played, and had fun all summer long!!! For those of you clueless out there who don't know what R.A.T.D.O.G.S. is about, R.A.T.D.O.G.S. tennis is a weekly tennis program held at the Bergen

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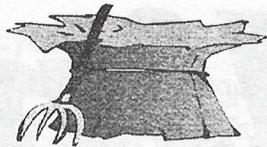
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County Tennis Center in Van Saun Park in Paramus. The program runs from 6 - 8 PM on Thursday nights, starting in June, and running through the end of August. There are usually 2 sets of free 4 week lessons taught by Donna Ahman and/or Pete Gisler for those who want it. We usually go to Charlie Browns for \$2 pints every Thursday. The price is \$8 per week for members and \$9 per week for non-members. This price includes the court time (2 hours), 1 can of brand new balls per court, and iced tea (assuming I get there in time to make it!!). The main objective is to HAVE FUN! Hope to see y'all next year!

The Malibu Dude  
Ranch  
By judyrizzo



Where can you ride horses, view foliage, hike, shoot at a gun range, swim, antique shop or otherwise relax? Well, the GSSC did just that at The Malibu Dude Ranch in Milford, PA. There's something for everyone to do there! We were a small but fun group, making it a great way for some of the newer members, like myself, to meet fellow Club members. TWe dealt with the rain on Saturday, but by Sunday it cleared up and proved to be a nice day. The Ranch serves homemade meals and no one leaves hungry.

The Ranch also hosted a cocktail party in the bar area on Saturday night, then dinner followed by a hayride through the dark woods of the Ranch and then a chance to warm up and toast marshmallows at the bonfire. Other evening activities are music and dancing in the bar and perhaps a drink...or two. It's a beautiful area with a lake and lots of trees just beginning to change beautiful shades of red, orange and yellow. The Ranch hands entertained us with stories of various animal sightings like fox and the mischievous bears that get into the kitchen garbage. It's a nice change of pace for us city slickers and only a short ride away. Sherry Mellor did a great job planning this trip and hosting a cocktail party in the Stone House. A fun time was had by all! For those of you who haven't tried this yet, I highly recommend that you give it a try next year.

## Olympics 2003

By joannekennedy



I was so crazed that day with the food preparations, that I really didn't pay attention to which teams won what awards, but I can tell you this: we had absolutely gorgeous weather - sunny, blue skies and temperatures in the high 70's. This year's Olympic Torch Bearer was Denise Mehlman, who was resplendent in her white toga with the elegant gold trim. I would like to thank everyone that helped me out, because I never could have run the event without them: Herm Schamber, Tom Hughes, Dan Yutkowitz, Sue Schultz, Mike Price, Ken Van Horn, Rick D'Allessandro, Lou Forte, John Kelly, Margaret O'Brien, Hank and Pat Mazzucca, Matt Novak, Paul Karner, Chris McGuinness, the other guy that helped Rich with the grill (I never got your name!), and anyone else that I unintentionally forgot to mention! And a special thank you goes to our judges, Janet Tischbein, Bob Gimpel and Steve Willcoxon, and our props mistress, Diane La Greca; thank you for making the games run so smoothly and making sure everyone had a great time.

By the way if you want a memento of the event (even if you didn't attend) we still have t-shirts available at a small cost.

## Ever been to a ski club meeting?

By lauragaines

Most of the time they are fun and humorous. There is an order to our meetings. We usually start out with the lodge report by Maureen. Recently, there was a fall foliage trip run by Sharon. And if you want a free stay at the lodge, there's a work weekend scheduled for November 7, 8, 9. You will have the opportunity to clean or fix the lodge, meet many of our fine members, get hours if you are a provisional member, or just do good for the lodge. During the ski season the lodge is used as a base for any or all skiers, and during the non-ski season it's available for any or all non-skiers. Vermont offers more than fall foliage and winter skiing. Go ahead and explore or ski. Some good news on this day's report is we found a local insurance company that will insure the lodge for half of last year's cost.

Then the meeting steps up a notch when Lionel gets up to give us the ski report. In the dead of winter, his reports could go on for  $\frac{1}{2}$  an hour, unless Dennis stops him. He covers the world. This year with first snow just upon us, it's worth a visit to a ski club meeting just for his level of enthusiasm alone. Lionel is also Ski VP and he calls up the people running the trips for the year: 11 races and 6 bus trips.

Kaz gets up to tell us all the racing news. Sometimes it's for the upcoming events and other times its to let the members know who did what and turned in what time on which race. Everyone, no matter your ability, should try a race. I know that racing helped me to advance my skiing skills over the years. You can look

online at [www.gardenstateskiclub.com](http://www.gardenstateskiclub.com) for the schedule of planned races. There are several races in Vermont. This way you can stay at the lodge (get your reservations in early for the race weekends) and race with the gang.

Did you know that we have instruction at each of the club's scheduled bus trips? Talk to Ray Owens for details. Here is an opportunity for beginners to start and for the more advanced to hone their skills. This is one of the quiet benefits of our club.

Lift tickets any one? It's Adrienne's turn to remind us to buy our discount tickets: Killington starts out discounted at \$41 but go up to \$43; Okemo starts at \$40, then \$45; Sugar Bush, Pico are \$33; Bromley \$31. Get your money in so you can ski cheaper and ski often.

We announce the trips being sponsored by our club this winter season: Jackson Hole, see Wayne; El Cheapo to Sugarloaf, see Melissa or Ron; Park City, see Margaret. The trip to Andorra in the Pyrenees, and all trips run by Carol, always sell out early, even before the snow shows.

Now Pete gets up to have his folks report on the social aspect of the club. Here is an idea of upcoming social events: Tennis party, see Rob Sinclair; Snowball, break out your formals and tuxedos; Bike trip, who needs summer to bike around? Our now famous "Mix at Six" where we invade a bar at six for more socializing, see Diane for details here. There's a road rally organized by Maureen.

On to the secretary's report. Nancy's first order of business is, do we have a quorum?

With 66 people at the meeting we have a quorum. This makes the meeting official. Now Sue gets up to talk about membership: this includes new members, membership brunches and the like. Then the Liftline lady gets up asking for articles. Mostly we need individuals to write simple articles on the activity they attended. If you are interested talk to me and we can get you published.

In a short hour, the meeting is almost over. We have Barbara come up with "Sunshine and Rainy days". She reports on the good and bad things happening to our members. I never understand where she gets her information, but she's always on top of the news.

During the meeting there is always one person running around getting the 50-50 money and tickets collected. This is a good volunteer activity. I have noticed that on occasion, the person collecting for the 50-50 wins. What's up with that?

Finally our President, Dennis gets back up and asks for a motion to end the meeting.

We all second that.



**Garden State  
SCREAM Club  
Halloween Party  
10-25-03**

**By joannekennedy**

The Knights of Columbus hall in Ramsey was the site for this year's Halloween festivities. Rainie Gardenier, aka "Pebbles all-grown-up", was the woman that made this a party to remember. Starting with the glowing luminaries to light our way up the

steps, to the creepy-crawly spiders hidden about the room, to the black and orange balloons festooning the ceiling, and the skier-turned-scarecrow in the corner; this place had atmosphere! And of course, once the partygoers began to arrive, things really got scary!

There were so many great costumes that the judges (Rich Collins, Tom Hughes, Pat Tropea and Joanne Kennedy) had a "devil" of a time choosing the winners. Thoughts and observations after viewing the costume parade:

Roy Horn: you thought he was recuperating at a Las Vegas hospital? No, he was at the GSSC party, along with Siegfried AND two white tigers. Come to think of it, Roy DID look a little drained. Hats off to Denise Santora, Bob Mosher, Elaine Ryan and Todd Brentnall for a fabulous group costume!

Famous couples:

Ron and Roberta Lichtman were resplendent as a coordinating appliance plug and electric outlet (hard to describe; you had to be there!)

Newlyweds Hank and Pat Mazzucca proved that you CAN wear your wedding gown and tux more than once.

Pat and Dennis Young were carded at the door, and their baby bottles were confiscated. Testing is ongoing to identify the mysterious liquid contained within.

Sue Amdur and Ian Coburn tuned in, turned on, and dropped out...groovy.

The prize for the best disguise and best true-to-character costumes went to Jack Disalvo and Stacy Carr, as a pair of Old Maid sisters. Just how did you two eat dinner with those masks on?

Do your backs hurt after walking around hunched over all night? Have any lawsuits been filed against you for those wicked cane-beatings you were meting out?

These two simply would NOT allow their identities to be divulged. In fact, a prize category had to be created for whoever could guess who the Old Maids were! (Congratulations to Ann Browne for uncovering our couple!)

But let's not forget, the creative costuming was not limited to couples:

Ed Ellis was the modern-day executioner, complete with belt-mounted cell phone for those last minute amnesty calls from the governor.

Zorro (Peter Bellin) was asked to check his sword at the door, as he couldn't seem to restrain himself from unsheathing it at the most inopportune moments...

George Stone proved that ELVIS LIVES!! (even if his singing voice has lost a little something over the years).

Speaking of prizes, Rainie managed to bribe and cajole local businesses into donating the following prizes:

- New York Sport Club 3 Month Membership (\$230.00)
- Victor's Maywood Inn 1 Gift Certificate (\$50.00)
- The Fountain 1 Gift Certificate (Sports Pedicure)
- The Ski Barn 2 Gift Certificates (\$25.00 each)
- Savini's 1 Gift Certificate (\$25.00)
- Spruce Street Grill 1 Gift Certificate (\$25.00)
- Cury's Ski Shop 4 Gift Certificates (\$20.00 each)

- Chili's 2 Gift Certificates (\$20.00 each)
- TGI Fridays 5 Gift Certificates (Smoothie, Dessert or Appetizer)

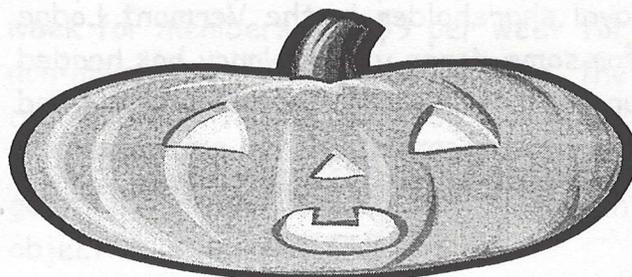
The New York Sport Club membership went to the winner of the Halloween trivia quiz. Congratulations go to Lin Goetz for knowing more about Halloween than Jamie Lee Curtis.

The winner of the 50/50 raffle was Andrew Obsuth.

Our DJ, Guy Caramucci of Memory Makers, kept the tunes cranking to make sure that this Monster Mash kept going all night!

Café Roma provided so much great food, that anybody who went home hungry just didn't try hard enough. For dessert, Rainie and Pat shared their baking talent with us, by providing a veritable smorgasbord of goodies; carrot cake, brownies, pumpkin bread, lemon cake, Halloween cookies, and more. And all those appetizers? Let's just say, those fabulous little bourbon hot dogs are Rainie's secret home recipe! This reporter left a little bit early, and so didn't find out if anyone took up Rainie's offer of a limo ride home. Wow, now that's what I call a full service party!

Words are insufficient to thank Rainie for everything she did to make this party a success. A big thank you to Rainie and her committee for a frightfully good time!



### Meet the Board By nancyasdal

In her sophomore year at Ridgewood High School, Nancy donned a pair of skis and promptly fell head over heels ... in love with the sport of skiing, that is! As an active member of her high school ski club, Nancy enjoyed annual bus trips to the beautiful ski destinations of New England. Then, a LONG skiing hiatus ensued beginning with college years in the flatlands of Ohio and continuing post college while living in Boston, and Nancy yearned to get to know fellow skiers as enthused as she was to pack up for a weekend and head to the slopes. Back in New Jersey, Nancy learned of the Garden State Ski Club from an acquaintance, and, one Tuesday night in January 1987, she walked into a GSSC meeting, signed up for a bus trip to Lake Placid, and hasn't stopped skiing since!

Nancy availed herself of the club's instruction program early on and found the ASIA and PSIA instructors of enormous benefit as she steadily advanced from novice to higher ability levels. In 2003 Nancy successfully completed the ASIA Level I Instructor Certification Program and taught her first beginner class at Ski Windham. Nancy is enjoying the teaching experience and strongly recommends the ASIA program to any skier interested in improving his or her technique. Also a loyal shareholder in the Vermont Lodge for some dozen years, Nancy has headed up several Lodge clean-up weekends and has been a consistent and outspoken advocate of the club's most valuable asset.



Content in her initial GSSC years to watch as others took on the challenge of the giant slalom (in other words, she was "chicken you-know-what"), Nancy was eventually bitten by the racing bug and

succumbed quickly to the fever. Egged on by racing veteran Joy Daubenberger in 1999, Nancy won Women's C Class her first year out of the gate. Though subsequent first place wins have eluded her, the beginner's luck was potently addictive even if racing has proved frustrating. With several trophies now on top of the entertainment center to show for all the effort, Nancy looks ahead to the new ski season and vows that there will be yet another first place trophy to add to the collection - one of these years!

This is Nancy's first term on the GSSC Board, and she is finding the experience challenging and rewarding. Nancy is pleased to have an opportunity to serve the club and feels enormously honored to be among the leadership of one of the largest and most established ski clubs in the state. Nancy is committed to GSSC's continued success and strong future, and she pledges to do her utmost to serve the best interests her fellow ski club members during her term as Secretary.

