

# Snow Tracks

The GP Adaptive Snowsports Newsletter  
Volume 1, Issue 5 –End of Season 2008



## Mission of Greek Peak Adaptive Snowsports

*To provide snowsports experiences and skill development for people with disabilities utilizing the safest and most effective adaptive equipment and qualified/trained volunteer staff in a supportive and positive learning atmosphere*

### Spotlight on Newly Certified Coach Amy Rowe!

Congratulations to Amy Rowe, Norwich, NY, who received her PSIA Adaptive Level 1 certification this season (and apologies to Amy for omitting her name in the last newsletter). Amy is our youngest certified ski coach. Amy has been volunteering in the program for a while, so receiving her certification is a natural progression in her snowsports coaching career. Amy also volunteers at the Double H Ranch and is studying pre-medicine. We hope to see more of Amy on the slopes helping people of all abilities learn to ski and snowboard. She is a role model for all young people who want to give back to their communities!

### Thank you to the Hickey Family!

A sincere thank you to the Hickey Family, especially to Beth, for all the hard work and leadership in making the end-of-year picnic a success. The food was great, and the awards ceremony extra special with guests from the Burden and Mehal families to help present the awards.



### Congratulations 2008 Award Winners!



#### The Debbie Phillips Award to Hilary Johnson

Named for Debbie Phillips, who was a pioneer in adaptive skiing, this award is dedicated to the promotion of snowsports for people with disabilities. This year's Phillip's Award recipient is Hilary Johnson! This year, Hilary learned to ski independently, progressing more in one season than in several previous seasons. Congratulations and well done!

#### The Stephen J. Mehal Award to Brian Kaplun

Stephen Mehal's perseverance, enjoyment, confidence, and determination on the slopes are qualities for which we all strive. Despite obstacles, he was always courageous and viewed life with a sense of humor and a positive outlook. Stephen was an outstanding example to all of us. This year's Mehal Award recipient is Brian Kaplun! (please note that the photo provided is a stock photo as Brian was off mouski racing at Sunapee, NH the day of the Awards Picnic. Way to go Brian!)

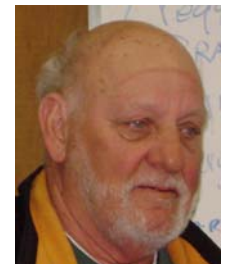


#### The Volunteer Award to Jim Cappellett and Robyn King

In appreciation to those volunteers who give so much in so many ways to create and enrich the enjoyable experience of this adaptive snowsports program, this year's Volunteer Award recipients are Jim Cappellett, Board President, and Robyn King, Winter Challenge Week guru! The efforts of both of these extraordinary volunteers have helped move Greek Peak Adaptive Snowsports to a new level of energy and activity. Thank you for all you have done to open up skiing and snowboarding to all people, so they can enjoy the mountain and leave saying, If I can do this, I can do anything!

#### The Bob Burden Award to Ray Wilcox

Newly created to honor one of the pioneers, founders and longtime coaches in the Adaptive Snowsports program at Greek Peak, the Bob Burden Award celebrates the joy of life found with sharing time and talent with others in teaching snowsports. The award recognizes the committed, dedicated enthusiasm of sharing knowledge of the sport with individuals needing adaptive techniques and/or equipment to make that vision possible. The Bob Burden Memorial Award recognizes volunteers at GPSD who, like Bob, have dedicated countless hours sharing with individuals with disabilities their knowledge and enthusiasm for on-snow sports. It is awarded for the first time this snowsports season to Ray Wilcox!



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### APRIL 5 -- End of Year Q & A Wrap-Up Meeting

An end of year general meeting will be held April 5 at noon in the GP Adaptive Building. The purpose of the meeting is to reflect on how the season went, and to plan ahead for next year. Pizza will be served. See you there!



### APRIL 5 - Help with Spring Cleaning

Please plan to pitch in and do some end of season cleaning in the Adaptive Building. All you need to bring is elbow grease, some rags, and a sense of fun! We will be spring cleaning the Adaptive Building on April 5 at 9am. Then, stay for the General Meeting at noon.

### Name Change Submitted

The Board of Directors has officially submitted the name change for our organization to the New York Department of State. From now on, our program will be called: **GREEK PEAK ADAPTIVE SNOWSPORTS (GPAS)**.

### Correction

Apologies to Suzanne Bruetsch, whose name was misspelled in the last issue of Snow Tracks. And, again, congratulations on earning the PSIA Level 1 Adaptive certification!

### Volunteer Concerns

Volunteers who have experienced or are experiencing problems within GPAS or who feel something in the adaptive program needs attention may wish to contact Karen Hart, [jojokiki@stny.rr.com](mailto:jojokiki@stny.rr.com), Gregg Macey, [penboy123@aol.com](mailto:penboy123@aol.com), or Dick Anechiarico, [rlaraa@att.net](mailto:rlaraa@att.net). Each or all of them will work with these volunteers in an unofficial, off-the-record manner to see if they can find explanations or solutions. If their efforts do not help, Karen, Gregg, and Dick will assist them in getting the information to the Board of Directors for review.

### Donation Boxes

There are now two donation boxes for the adaptive program in the Katalima Lodge; one is in the ski gear and clothing shop and the other near the west staircase. Thanks to Suzanne Bruetsch's father.

### Combination Door

We are planning to change the combination to the door to the equipment and locker rooms every year from now on. If you need to know the newest combination, ask one of the Board members. In an effort to increase security we will ask you to refrain from sharing this information with anyone else.

### Skiing Improvement Clinics

Joe Germick has promised to return next season to continue his skiing improvement clinics. Watch for details next fall!



### REMOVE ALL BELONGINGS FROM ADAPTIVE BUILDING!!!

Please remove all your personal items from the Adaptive Building before the snow melts! We plan to donate all remaining personal items in the building to a good cause!! Some of you left dishes and utensils after the picnic; please pick up those as well.

### Next Season!

Plan ahead for next year! Our dry land training will start in November, and our on-snow training in December. Our season will start right at the beginning of the year, 2009! And we will have new jackets to wear, thanks to the George and Margaret Mee Foundation!! Don't forget about the Greek Peak Swap, held the last weekend in October and the first weekend in November. Check the website during the off season for updates, plans, and more!



### Who is on the Board of Directors for GPAS Adaptive Snowsports?

|                                |  |                     |  |
|--------------------------------|--|---------------------|--|
| James Cappellet, President     | <a href="mailto:jcappellet@stny.rr.com">jcappellet@stny.rr.com</a>         | Lynn Anderson       | <a href="mailto:andersonL@cortland.edu">andersonL@cortland.edu</a> |
| Peggy Andersen, Vice President | <a href="mailto:peggy@graphics.cornell.edu">peggy@graphics.cornell.edu</a> | Richard Anechiarico | <a href="mailto:rlaraa@att.net">rlaraa@att.net</a>                 |
| Randy Lacey, Vice President    | <a href="mailto:DRL4@cornell.edu">DRL4@cornell.edu</a>                     | Pat Crowley         | <a href="mailto:pvcsailor@aol.com">pvcsailor@aol.com</a>           |
| Jeanne Mack, Treasurer         | <a href="mailto:mackjeanne@yahoo.com">mackjeanne@yahoo.com</a>             | Gregg Macey         | <a href="mailto:Penboy123@aol.com">Penboy123@aol.com</a>           |
| Ken Maxwell, Secretary         | <a href="mailto:Kmax1232@yahoo.com">Kmax1232@yahoo.com</a>                 | George Ehlers       | <a href="mailto:gehlers@stny.rr.com">gehlers@stny.rr.com</a>       |

