



**Lake Colby Association, Inc.
Post Office Box 934
Saranac Lake, NY 12983-7934**

Officers:

President: Nancy Keet
Secretary: Debbie Neill
Treasurer: Lee Keet

Board of Directors:

Chandler Ralph
Lee Keet
Brian Turner

April 11, 2008

Tom Michael, Mayor
Village of Saranac Lake
3 Main Street
Saranac Lake, NY 12983-1789

Dear Mr. Michael:

On behalf of the ad hoc Events Committee sponsored by the Lake Colby Association, I am pleased to submit their report to the board. We appreciate the chance to present a summary at your April 14th meeting.

The local citizens who volunteered for this effort did so because they believe as we do that there are many events that can bring tourists to the area, be fun for those of us who live here, yet respect the environment and well being of our community.

This is, as it says, not a complete report, but it is final from the committee's standpoint. We believe that there is enough here to demonstrate that a continuing effort should be undertaken to refine and develop a number of these events under the auspices of the Village, Town, and/or neighboring communities. Several of our members have indicated a willingness to serve should this effort be taken forward and the LCA remains, as always, willing to do whatever it can to support healthy activities on Lake Colby and elsewhere in the community.

Sincerely,

Nancy R. Keet
President

c.c. Jeff Branch
John McEneaney
Christy Fontana
Susan Waters
Martin Murphy, Village Manager

Committee

Gail Brill, gail@gailbrilldesign.com
Tim Fortune, fortune1@northnet.org
Molly Hahn, molly.shubert@gmail.com
Tom Huber, thuber@paulsmiths.edu
Lee Keet, Lee@LakeColby.org
Nancy Keet, nancy@lakecolby.org
Debbie Neill, Debbie@LakeColby.org
Sylvie Nelson, snelson@saranalake.com
Frannie Preston, frannie.preston@ctxmort.com
Joe Riccio, jriccio@amccares.org
Kris Seymour, kristanseymour@aol.com
Todd Smith, todd@apidesign.us
David Trudeau, dtrudeau@adelphia.net
Brian Turner, Brian@LakeColby.org
Gloria Volz, gloria@adkorganizedsolutions.com, Chair

Report: Eco-friendly events that will attract visitors to Saranac Lake

Introduction

The Village of Saranac Lake needs more events that will bring visitors to town, especially in the winter months. While some of these events could be added to the Winter Carnival, events that would be longer lasting and/or bring people at other times of the winter would have great appeal.

This report was produced by a volunteer committee of local citizens working with the Lake Colby Association. The team was organized in response to the need for more winter events in the area that are environmentally suitable. Lake Colby is a tremendous asset to our Village and can be utilized as one of our top venues for such events so long as the ecological footprint and location is considered. Lake Colby is a fragile body of water. Being spring-fed it refreshes itself only every three years, so any garbage or spills impact the wildlife and residents, many of whom drink the lake water, more than on fast-moving or large water bodies. For these reasons the DEC and now the State have imposed a 10 HP limit for motorized craft and the Lakeshore Waterfront Revitalization Plan approved by the Village in 2000 calls for careful use of its banks and surfaces. Therefore we feel that all events, listed or proposed in the future, should undergo a due process of review and obtain permits for proper use.

Tourism is a strong need for the area, and the committee that assembled this report did so to try and identify events that could be held locally, on Lake Colby or on our other water bodies that would be fun, would attract visitors, and would be friendly to the environment. It was the charter of the committee to try and identify those events most likely to meet these criteria so other groups could take on the task of further analyzing, selecting, and organizing events. The Lake Colby Association would actively support, assist in the permitting for, and solicit volunteers to help with any of the recommended events.

The committee initially identified 69 events in a brainstorming session, then reduced these to three categories: strongly possible and therefore worth further exploration (32 events, grouped into eight categories), possible but not of immediate interest unless the first category failed to yield enough events to pursue (28 events), and events deemed inappropriate for Saranac Lake or impractical (9 events).

The committee then broke into teams to further explore the eight event categories, which are:

- Winter events
 - Ice architecture
 - Ice Carving
 - Ice House Competition
 - Igloo Bldg
 - Snow Sculptures
 - Competition on ice
 - Broomball
 - Curling and variants
 - Ice Hockey
 - Ski Sprinting
 - Zamboni-like track around lake for events
 - Skating events
 - Figure Skating

- Speed Skating
 - Ice Skating
 - Winter sailing events
 - Kitesurfing
 - Para-skiing
 - Ice Sailing
 - Fishing contests
 - Rides
 - Tethered Balloon
 - Social events
 - Barbecue
 - Bonfire
 - Chili Fest
 - Fish Fry
 - Frozen Festival
 - Marshmallow Roast
 - Night-time activities
 - Old Fashioned picnics
 - Valentine Ski and Campfire
- And one summer event:
 - Sail boat races

Obviously there are many other worthy summer events, but that was not the team's primary objective.

The balance of the events are listed by category in Appendix C and could be expanded and researched further by the recipients of this report and by the Towns of Harrietstown and North Elba, the Saranac Lake Chamber of Commerce, and any event planning or tourism committees set up by any of the foregoing.

The events described below have not been exhaustively researched, but have been considered enough to warrant more detailed analysis. Wherever possible contacts and references are included.

Summary of Recommendations

One summer event was researched, sailboat regattas, and it was deemed worthy of further investigation. However, the committee's main focus was on winter events, as the area lacks events of interest other than the Winter Carnival that can involve local citizens and attract visitors.

Of the winter events, those researched that reached the top of the heap in terms of feasibility, eco-friendliness, and potential to bring tourists and revenues to the town were combined events focused on a single venue, e.g., various ice competitions and events and an associated BrrrBQ that would bring participants and families together. The ice competitions and events most likely to be fun and produce a tourist influx include skating and curling competitions (and variants, like broomball) where official league play is involved, perhaps a scaled-up ice fishing contest that would make the Colby Classic into something larger, with bigger prizes and more formal judging and awards ceremonies, a re-introduction of dog racing/pulling, or ice architecture competitions and festivals.

It is certain that all of the possible winter events need safe and visitor-friendly ice surfaces to host them. The Civic Center provides the opportunity for indoor events and the surfaces of both Lake Flower and Lake Colby can provide opportunities for winter-long local and visitor events on ice if the surfaces can be maintained. In the past, an area in front of the Saranac Lake beach on Lake Colby was cleared for local skating. We believe this process should be formalized and at a minimum multiple ice "fields" should be cleared, scraped, and conditioned for ice sports. Several of the events could include creation of longer-distance tracks of maintained ice for daytime and nighttime skating. A precursor to any of the on-ice events is therefore an investment in the equipment and manpower to maintain these surfaces. There are numerous options to do this at reasonable cost.

Our task was not to decide on specific events or to do the detailed planning for one or more. Rather, our goal was to research several events that appeared to have the potential for environmentally-friendly activities that would delight locals and attract visitors, so that a short-list of such events could be pursued by the appropriate departments of local government and local business organizations like the Chamber of Commerce.

Our committee members have served as volunteers in this temporary effort. Several have indicated a willingness to continue to pursue these and other activities in whatever context the next step requires, e.g., within a formal Events Committee under the auspices of the Town and/or Village.

Respectfully submitted 4/14/08

Events Committee, Lake Colby Association

- Gail Brill, gail@gailbrilldesign.com
- Tim Fortune, fortune1@northnet.org
- Molly Hahn, molly.shubert@gmail.com
- Tom Huber, thuber@paulsmiths.edu
- Lee Keet, Lee@LakeColby.org
- Nancy Keet, nancy@lakecolby.org
- Debbie Neill, Debbie@LakeColby.org
- Sylvie Nelson, snelson@saranaclake.com
- Frannie Preston, frannie.preston@ctxmort.com
- Joe Riccio, jriccio@amccares.org
- Kris Seymour, kristanseymour@aol.com
- Todd Smith, todd@apidesign.us
- David Trudeau, dtrudeau@adelphia.net
- Brian Turner, Brian@LakeColby.org
- Gloria Volz, gloria@adkorganizedsolutions.com, Chair

Winter Events

Snow Show (Ice architecture)

“One never can know enough about snow”- *George Leigh Mallory, 1923*

The most economically rewarding of suggested events could be the promotion of an internationally recognized and participated in ‘Snow Show’. A ‘Snow Show’ would incorporate architecture, design, construction and interactivity of ice, snow, and light. This type of event has seen tremendous success in countries such as Japan, Russia, Sweden, Italy, Finland, Norway, Greenland, and Canada. The US bears many winter carnival type events but none focusing solely on the idea that design can attract attention and promote innovation.

While we discuss this event to be promoted at the highest level it can be equally successful measured in participation and less in capital gain & exposure. This type of mentality would easily be supported with local participants competing in design and construction of structures ranging from ice sculptures to mini castles.

The largest of winter festivals in the world is currently held in Japan¹ and the largest winter carnival in the US is held in St. Paul, MN². Neither are exactly the ideas of a ‘snow show’ or have elements that mark the interest of design and construction of a variety of interactive snow structures. They do pose unique ideas that could be promoted as continuing events through the winter that could incorporate the snow show and the winter carnival of Saranac Lake (snow labyrinth (maze), tube slide (toboggan)).

The idea of the Snow Show is best summed up through its home site of the same name: <http://www.thesnowshow.com/en>

This program is structured as a curatorial art/architecture project by Lance Fung³. Its true essence of success was measured in both attendance of the events that occurred in Finland (twice) and Italy and as well the art presentations of the events in various presentations that followed. There were 60 artists and architects that collaborated on two dozen projects in each of the events. The documentation of these events that traveled to the galleries and art biennales, produced the major source of income from their sales and productions of documentaries, publications, photographs, and drawings. I have e-mailed each of the areas that participated as hosts for the show in search of economic impact results.

There is a multitude of various small events that can be incorporated at a more local level in conjunction with a ‘Snow Show’ of invited artists/architects. A great example of this type of

¹ <http://www.snowfes.com/english>

² <http://www.winter-carnival.com>

³ (<http://www.fungcollaboratives.org>)

work can be seen around the globe but most impressively at the links below. They depict the idea that small scale efforts can raise attention to the local and create attendance and participation.

A festival of snow and light in Japan⁴ held at a destination village of interactivity and events (no particular site but many links to private photos), Shikaribetsuko Lake. A flicker.com (member: kozyndan) testament: *'Every year they build an "igloo village" on the lake when it freezes over, but not just little tiny tent sized rooms made of ice blocks - everything from lodge rooms with 4 beds, to a wedding chapel, to a 2 story ice bar. They also build a structure out of snow and ice every year to house two large baths and they run a pipe from a near by natural hot spring out onto the lakes into the baths. The baths are located in the middle of the igloo village so lots of people visiting will just walk around and up to the edge of the baths to peek in, so not much privacy is afforded, but its still fun!'*

An interesting concept of how these types of events are published as destinations is capturing the resources of the transportation networks. For instance when you Google "largest winter festival" the fifth entry is an American airlines support page for the St. Paul Winter Carnival⁵. With our new provider Cape Air, and their partner airlines, JetBlue and Continental, there is tremendous potential for exposure of this event. This is one example of large-scale cross-promotions that events with exposure qualities and destination character can attract.

Like every sport there are circuits that provide place like Saranac Lake and more specifically Lake Colby with guaranteed exposure. Attracting the level of participation in our events of National Teams such as the Canadian National Snow Sculpture Team⁶ will inherently add to the success. This too goes for the attention of gathering well renowned artists and architects in the above "Snow Show" description.

A great resource of visual information regarding the construction an ice hotel can be found out: <http://www.studiorma.com/HOM-weekly-N-ICHOTEL-HOME.htm>

Schedule:

The idea of this type of winter event will need minimum of two weeks of successive freezing temperature days. The optimal (but not exact) temperature for cast-ice constructions is -10 degrees C. For various construction methods that require snow and sprayed water we could employ the help of NYS snow making capabilities and snow grooming machines and Village Fire (if not at least for consulting). None of the events are possible without the temperatures. It

⁴ <http://otarusnow.org/> <http://samuraidave.wordpress.com/category/yuki-matsuri/>

⁵ <http://americanairlines.wcities.com/en/record/,129952/162/record.html>

⁶ <http://www.snowsculpture.com/initial.htm>

is to our advantage having both the accommodation structure and statically cold temperatures to host such an event. The event could feasibly last for a month. One this magnitude takes 2 to 2.5 years of planning and logistics.

Snow Show References:

Ice Palaces by Fred Anderes & Ann Agranoff. Published by Abbeville Press. 1983.

Snow Show edited by Lance Fung. Published by Thames & Hudson. 2005.

Return of the Prodigal Son by Mark Lamster. Published by Metropolis Magazine. 2006

Competition on Ice

Possibly the most logical set of eco-friendly winter events that would please local residents and attract new visitors fall into the category of 'competition on ice'. These events range from skating of all forms (Ice Skating, Speed Skating, and Figure Skating) to competitive events like Curling, Ice Hockey, Broomball, etc.

These events are all premised on one need: smooth ice. In the past, the area in front of the public beach has been cleared and the surfaced smoothed for local ice skating. The process of making ice usable for skating and related events involves scraping the snow away, then shaving the rough top layer or ice off, and finally resurfacing the ice with hot water. There are commercial machines that resurface ice, most famously the Zamboni, but far less expensive means are also available. A full list of commercial ice resurfacers is found in Appendix A. Used Zamboni's and their competitors sell for \$5,000 and up but are really better suited to arenas than open ice.

Our recommendation would be to use a standard plow-equipped vehicle to first clear and then scrape the ice, followed by a water treatment using a product like Nice Rink⁷ to create a 66" wide smooth track (hot water required, a large hot-water supply could be attached to the pulling device). With such a system the entire area in front of the public beach could be cleared and resurfaced regularly for public skating and competitive events (see below). A long narrow track could be created all around the lake to provide for up to four miles of skate-able trails. These trails could be used for skate races and other competitive events. Here are some events that other communities have used to entertain their citizens and attract tourists:

Curling

Curling has always been a popular Canadian sport and is now increasingly a very popular American sport. It is now an Olympic event, and it regularly draws many spectators. There are competitive team events sponsored by the United States Curling Association (www.usacurl.org).

⁷ See <http://www.nicerink.com/store/product.php?productid=100&cat=10&page=1>). sells a 66" wide smoother (hot water required). Could be used after plowing a path to create a skatable surface if a large hot-water supply could be attached to the pulling device.

Teams of men, women, mixed couples, and even wheelchair-bound contestants compete in regularly scheduled events. These are mostly international events. For example twelve countries will be represented at the 2008 Ford World Women's Curling Championship (see <http://seasonofchampions.ca/2008worlds/teams.asp>). The World Men's Curling Championship will be held April 5-13, 2008 in Grand Forks, ND (see www.worldmenscurling2008.com). Most competitive events are sponsored (Ford, Boston Pizza, Safeway, and many local businesses sponsored the foregoing Women's Curling Championship. Tickets for championship events range from \$15 to \$500. Thousands of people attend, filling hotel rooms and restaurants.

Saranac Lake could be an ideal venue for such an event. We are close to Canada where the sport is still immensely popular, and we have ample ice, both indoor and outdoor, to hold competitive events. To get started we would need help from our neighbors who have experience in curling and curling events. These could include the Lake Placid Curling Club⁸ and the Tupper Lake Curling Club⁹, who competed in the first Adirondack Curling Outdoor Invitational Tournament, hosted by The Adirondack Curling Corporation and sponsored by The Adirondack Arc, at this year's Winter Carnival. There is also an Albany Curling Club¹⁰ and many other members of the Grand National Curling Club of America¹¹.

Variants

Ice Bowling¹²

The game? It's simple: Find a frozen pond, then roll a snowball over the frozen surface toward a target area within a reasonable distance from the shoreline.

Similar to bowling, there are 10 frames, but only one throw per frame by participants who alternate their five tosses.

Unlike bowling, there are no multiple throws in the last frame.

Unlike bowling, the object is to re-form the wedge-shaped arrangement usually reserved for pins.

That's it: 10 rolls to situate 10 snowballs that replicate the shape of 10 pins on a lane — sort of like bowling in reverse.

⁸ Club president: Peter Benson, Box 325, Lake Placid, NY 12946, Telephone 518 523 9953

⁹ Club president Dan McClelland, 136 Park St., Tupper Lake, NY 12986

¹⁰ Club president: Hollis Felice, 117 West McKown Road, Albany, NY, Telephone 518 456 6272

¹¹ President Bob Chandler, 27 Crystal Drive, Sudbury, MA 01776, Telephone 978-443-2944 (see <http://icing.org/orgclubs/northam/usa/grandnat/clubs/list.htm>). Mr. Chandler refers us to The GNCC Development officer, Geoff Broadhurst (g.broadhurst@PippaGeoff.com). He says "Geoff may be a resource for some of your needs/interests but he can certainly connect you with local Curling Clubs that may be able to be helpful to any plans you would like to consider."

¹² <http://www.vindy.com/news/2008/mar/16/new-sport-ice-bowling-begins/>

To settle tiebreakers (or, more appropriately, icebreakers) an opening in the ice must be found. Each bowler tosses his/her snowball toward the hole. The first to sink the snowball wins.

Unlike bowling, the outdoor version is weather-dependent and safety can't be compromised.

On the plus side, there's minimal equipment.

Snow Bocce¹³

The game is, at the same time, very much like and very much different from traditional "informal" lawn bocce. No special rules are adopted for play on snow. The pallina is often difficult to see. The bocce balls, as might be expected, skid on ice and make nice, round, deep holes in soft and ice-crusting snow. A passing bocce ball can often cover the pallina with a spray of snow. Unlike play on lawns or courts, balls can sit atop each other in snow bocce, raising interesting measuring issues. Putting backspin on the ball is often useful. It doesn't take long to get used to wearing gloves, and to playing with cold hands and feet.

Broomball

Broomball might be an even easier event to organize and sponsor as the equipment is far less expensive and it is played outdoors more often than curling. It is a popular recreational ice sport originating in Canada and played around the world.

In a game of broomball there are two teams, each consisting of six players, a goaltender plus five others. The object of the game is to score more goals than your opponent. Goals are scored by hitting the ball into your opponent's net using your broom. Tactics and plays are similar to those used in sports such as ice hockey, roller hockey and floorball.

Players hit a small ball around the ice with a stick called a 'broom'. The broom may have a wooden or aluminum shaft and has a rubber-molded triangular head similar in shape to that of a regular broom. Players wear special rubber-soled shoes instead of skates, and the ice is prepared in such a way that it is smooth and dry to improve traction. Compared to other winter team sports the equipment required for broomball is relatively inexpensive



¹³ <http://blogs.law.harvard.edu/ethicalesq/2006/01/16/snow-bocce-update-haijin-snow-bocce-festa/>

There is standardized equipment for the game¹⁴ and leagues across the country, including the Adirondack Broomball League¹⁵ in Queensbury, New York, which hosts men's leagues, open broomball and tournaments throughout the year¹⁶. There are leagues in Syracuse, Buffalo, New York City, at many colleges and all over Canada, especially Montreal¹⁷ where it originated when streetcar employees played on frozen surfaces during lunch breaks. The International Federation of Broomball Associations (IFBA), formally established in 1998, is the world governing body for the sport of broomball. The IFBA is responsible for delivering the World Broomball Championships (also referred to by its former name, the Challenge Cup, held biennially (every two years) in various host cities. As the vast majority of broomball players and teams are based in North America, most of the championships to date have been held in North American cities.

This year's national championships are being held in Fargo, ND. Championship events attract sponsors. USA Broomball will sanction local events for a small fee (\$25-\$50). They claim that the benefits are:

- Certified USA Broomball referees used
- Established USA Broomball rules applied
- Purchase liability insurance through the national office
- Disciplinary decisions can be governed by national office
- Certification letter provided for posting
- Teams traveling to the host city provide hotel and restaurant income to the local economy

This would seem to be an ideal sport for us to adopt, promote and host tournaments for. According to Gary Randall, head of the Adirondack Broomball League, while it takes a lot of volunteer work and a good organizer, their event attracted eight teams plus family and friends, but no significant spectators. Like curling, even more so, this is an 'insiders' event. Nonetheless, eight teams and associated family would be well over 100 people, and given our limited facilities like curling this might work for us.

Ice skating

Ice skating on a maintained outdoor surface, is a natural candidate when considering activities designed to stimulate the local economy. Such an attraction would be utilized by our local community and draw

¹⁴ <http://www.broomball.com/>

¹⁵ <http://www.adirondackbroomball.com/>

¹⁶ Contact: Gary Randall 518-792-4221 gary@ImpressiveImprints.com.

¹⁷ Fédération Québécoise de ballon sur glace, 4545 av. Pierre-de-Coubertin, Montréal QC H1V 3R2, PH: 514-252-3078, FAX: 514-252-305, Milaine Poirier President

tourist from around the region. One can envision the rink and surrounding buildings and trees lit with holiday lights, with Adirondack chairs, hay bales, benches, and picnic tables scattered about.

Run as a business an outdoor rink has the potential to bring in several months of additional revenue to the Village, creating seasonal full or part-time jobs or could be created to be run only during winter carnival. The ice rinks can be run days and evenings.

Vendors might provide barbecues, marshmallow roasts, hot chocolate/tea/coffee, bonfires, skate rentals and various related services that would complement the skating arena business.

Revenue can be generated by the sale of tickets and a nominal vendor fee.

The city of Madison maintains a website, which lists information regarding their outdoor skating areas¹⁸.

Sun Valley Idaho's website¹⁹ shows a sample schedule and pricing.

There are companies that consult²⁰ or operate skating rinks.

Magic Ice USA²¹, Inc. is dedicated to providing the best [temporary ice skating rink](#) construction, service, and equipment. Our custom ice rink design and construction projects benefit from our past and present experience with every aspect of the seasonal ice rink business.

Hockey

Additionally, one can envision a dual rink solely dedicated to outdoor hockey. Families with children, and others, are inevitably going to divide their interest between recreational skating and hockey. By creating a dual arena where one can play hockey, the Village can accommodate these people with diverse interests. Once the arenas are built, they can be used for attracting outdoor curling competitions and hockey tournaments.

Regional Hockey Leagues

The Northern Hockey League²² was created to work toward the development and improvement of youth minor hockey, to provide a healthy form of recreation and competition for youth through participation in organized hockey at a level of competition best suited to the individual player's capabilities and interest, to develop and encourage sportsmanship and good fellowship among all participants, officials, spectators

¹⁸ <http://www.ci.madison.wi.us/parks/winterAct2.html#General%20Hours>

¹⁹ <http://www.sunvalley.com/SunValley/info/act.ice.aspx>

²⁰ www.icerinkconstruction.com

²¹ www.magiciceusa.com/seasonal_ice_rink_rental.html

and players alike- for the betterment of their social, physical and mental well being and to organize the Zone into a functionally competitive League consistent with other New York State Zones.

The email address for requesting information on interest, organizations, leagues etc. is jkorc@nnyhockey.org

Tupper Lake Hockey²³

The email address for requesting information on interest, organizations, leagues etc. is tfletch@roadrunner.com

Can Am Adult Challenge Tournament²⁴

From their website: "The Challenge Cup is different from any other Tournament you will find. CAN/AM's Tournaments are 'Package Tournaments'. We arrange your hotels, meals, games, divisions, tournament events, and let you worry about one thing: having fun while experiencing great hockey! We encourage you to look at what the Package offers at each of our locations. We now offer a 'Tournament Only' fee at select locations. We are committed to providing the best experience both on and off the ice, using only state of the art, first class facilities and hotels."

"BrrrBQ", Saranac Lake's Winter BBQ Festival

Description of event:

- March, a weekend day from 1-7pm
- An outdoor barbeque festival on Lake Colby Beach with various food stations serving barbecued beef, pork, lamb and chicken supplied by local farms.
- Chefs could be students from Paul Smith's College, or could make it a barbecue competition and open to any barbecue teams who would like to attend and dare to brave the cold!
- Bonfire with marshmallow roasting, baked Tucker potatoes.
- Events on Lake can take place during the event: skating, skiing, kite flying
- Local Farmers will be here to sell their products

The event is a celebration of winter and our local farms in the time of year when an economic shot in the arm is needed for both SL and the farmers.

If this event took off it would be the first of its kind. There are BBQ festivals throughout the country, but mostly in the warmer months or in the south during the winter months.

We did not contact, but suggest contacting the Shipman Youth Center in Lake Placid to get an understanding of their summer barbecue festival. Depending on the goal for this event - publicity, high

²² www.northernhockeyleague.org

²³ <http://www.tupperlakehockey.com/email.htm>

²⁴ http://canamhockey.com/index.php?view=adult_tournaments

turnout, national interest, fundraiser, etc. - it could either be a large-scale event like the July *I Love Barbeque* Festival in Lake Placid, or small and homegrown as the first paragraph suggests, or a combination of the two, inviting local farmers and chefs to team up.

Open questions: Admission price to include?? Proceeds go to ???

Contacts made (with a very enthusiastic group) are:

Farmers:

- Patrick and Claire Clelland: Studley Hill Farms 483-5554 (Beef & Pork)
- Todd & Michelle Asselin: Harmony Hills Farmstead 483-7961 (Chicken, Pork, Beef)
harmonyhillsfarmstead@northnet.org

Additional farmers available on request

Other local farms contact:

- Jennifer Perry (Jennifer acts as liaison between local farmers and the marketplace) 327-3041
mccollomsmarket@hotmail.com
- Laurie Davis: Adirondack Harvest: Phone: 518-962-4810 x404 Email: lsd22@cornell.edu

Paul Smith's Contact: Ruth Pino 327-6868

<http://www.foodreference.com/frvideos/html/bbq-grill-010.html> YouTube video Winter Barbecue 2007 held by the Canadian Barbecue Association (see below). The video is a slideshow of images from the February event set to music. I researched this further by searching the next forum and determined that this was essentially a party at one of the member's homes.

The following quote sums it up, "For this event we get as many of the teams as want to come out to my home (5 minutes outside Barrie) on Feb 24th. Bring your small smokers (I have a Green Egg and a Little Tex) and we simulate a BBQ competition in my yard. We would invite the press and key public officials, I'd get beer from a couple of the brewers competing in Barrie and we kick off the 2007 season in February. The catch for the press would be BBQ in the winter - free food and beer (CBA would arrange for food and beer) and we have a good old fashioned BBQ party. You could bring your families and everyone has a blast."

<http://www.bbqtalk.ca/forums/> Canadian Barbecue Association online forum. Includes answers to anything you ever wanted to know about barbecue, including competition rules, recipes, techniques, events, etc. There is minimal information, quoted above, regarding winter barbecue.

<http://bbq-festivals.blogspot.com/> Blog including "BBQ News and BBQ Information - BBQ News, BBQ Events, BBQ Sauces and All That It Means. BBQ- Not Just Food But a Way of Life."

<http://www.ilbbqf.com/>I Love Barbeque Festival, Lake Placid July 4-6, 2008 (third annual event) This is a summer event which benefits the Shipman Youth Center in Lake Placid. It draws Barbecue teams (42) from around the country. More than 8,000 people attended in 2007. Admission fee for “spectators” is \$5.00. Approximately \$20,000 was raised for the Shipman Youth Center.

Fishing Competitions

Fishing competitions are very popular events throughout the country. A fishing event could be a good way to attract people to Saranac Lake at times when tourists are not filling hotels and motels in the area such as ice fishing in winter months and open water fishing events in the spring and fall. The Fish and Game Club of Saranac Lake sponsors an event in March called the Colby Classic and a Father's Day fishing contest in June. These events are popular locally but perhaps could be expanded to bring out of town enthusiasts to the area. With the expertise of the Fish and Game Club, resources of the Chamber of Commerce, and local volunteers, I think fishing events could prove to be exciting and rewarding for Saranac Lake.

Fishing events in some areas of the country use big prize money to attract participants while others offer the prestige of a recognized trophy from one of a number of state-wide fishing associations that rank winners of fishing events. The Crappie Derby, New York State's largest ice fishing competition had to be relocated to Lake Pleasant in the western Adirondacks in the last number of years from the Binghamton area because the unnaturally warm winters prevented fisherman from going on the ice. Lake Pleasant stocks brown and rainbow trout but the contest also includes landlocked salmon, pickerel, and lake whitefish. A large event, such as the one above, would have to include the lakes around the Village such as Lake Flower, Kiwassa, and Lower Saranac Lake. Lake Winnepesaukee in New Hampshire hosts a popular competition in May called the Winni Fishing Derby that attracts fishermen from around the state. Here again, Lake Winnepesaukee is a large lake so an event such as that would have to include surrounding lakes for the variety and size of fish of fish.

Ice fishing competitions are numerous throughout the Northeast and central us. In Minnesota, the Brainerd Jaycees sponsor an ice fishing competition called Winter Excitement. The event is one day. They charge \$35 per ticket that entitles the participants to one or two holes in the ice. They also have a raffle where the winners can get tickets for \$5. The prizes are large and bring in many participants. There is Derby Fest on Sebago Lake in Maine sponsored by the Maine Ice Anglers Association²⁵. The Evanston Wyoming Lions Club sponsors an Ice fishing Derby.

²⁵ www.maineiceanglers.org

We might consider a Fly Casting Competition with demonstrations and accuracy contests along with an actual fishing contest. I am not familiar with the Saranac River as a venue but I am sure Dave Cilli would have some input.

The Saranac Lake area is blessed with the natural environment to sponsor fishing events. Any of these events should include input and possible participation of the Saranac Fish and Game club.

Winter Kite Surfing / Para Skiing Type Events

Further research would have to be done on this type event, however here are some interesting and helpful links:

<http://belleville.kijiji.ca/c-community-leisure-time-New-Winter-Sport-Windsurfing-Kitesurfing-on-snow-and-ice-W0QQAdIdZ40652843>

<http://www.kitesurfingschool.org/Winterlude2006/Winterlude.htm>

Chris Moore with Kitty Hawk in North Carolina²⁶ holds a great deal of information on the sport and is more than happy to speak to us more about it. Chris Moore has been involved in Kiting professionally for the past 15 years! His background as a sport-kite competitor/athlete took him all over the world, he traveled to 18 different countries and nearly all the states. He earned the title of Overall USA national champion twice and also competed in pairs and team events to the world's highest level competing in national and international events. His involvement with traction kiting pre-dated today's modern Kiteboarding kites. He has been avidly involved in kite traction of nearly all sorts.

Here are sites for similar summer events:

<http://www.kiteclubnyc.com/locations.html>

<http://www.kitesurfwales.co.uk/index.php>

<http://www.kitesource.com/Default.shtml>

Ice-Sailing

A winter version of windsurfing, this exciting sport can take you flying over the lake on a sled in no time flat. The essential conditions for Ice Sailing are: Access to a lake (or sea bay); Expanse of safe ice - minimum thickness 6 inches (15cm); Wind; Minimal snow.

The following sites should generate more information on this activity.

<http://home.swipnet.se/ansar/link.html>

<http://pages.cthome.net/esigns/wciysc.html>

²⁶ chris@kittyhawk.com or phone 252-207-1639

<http://home.earthlink.net/~edatkeson/slir.html>
<http://www.neiya.org>

Snow Dog Races / Sled Dog / Skijoring Type Events

Our area has a history of these type of events. It is told that we were once in the Top 3 spots for Snow Dog events when the Alpo races were organized here. While visiting Alaska, some local residents of Lake Clear would mention where they lived and several people responded 'Oh yes, I remember the Alpo races'.

As Skijoring becomes a **growing** sport in winter activities, we feel this is definitely an avenue to pursue. Skijoring may be most successful held with another event such as Sled Dog races. Speaking with some folks who are avid Skijoring enthusiasts, we also believe that this event may be able to start and end on Lake Colby but should probably need to go thru the woods also. Trails may need to be about 6 miles long and tracks need to be about 8 ft wide. Further study on Skijoring should be easy to do since there is so much interest in this sport and we have the perfect venue...the Adirondack Mountains and Snow!!



Here is just a sampling of the links that may help:

<http://www.skijornow.com/skijornowhome.html>
<http://sleddogcentral.com/skijoring.htm>
<http://www.meliving.com/skijoring/index.shtml>

Initial research on Dog Sledding led us to local contacts as well as others who would afford us more information. For more dogsledding info/ideas and local history stuff, **Buster and Carol Samburgh in McColloms** were quite involved in the Adirondack Sled Dog Racing Association back when the Alpo races were here. You may contact them at 518-327-3528. They still head out for races with their sled dogs and their son John is still very active in sprint racing.

Here are the websites for the clubs that run races in the Northeast, and their event calendars are linked within the sites:

- Pennsylvania Sled Dog Club (most of their races are at Tug Hill)
www.pennsleddogclub.com

- Down East Sled Dog Club (they appear to coordinate well with PSDC) www.descd.org
- New England Sled Dog Club (organized Meacham Lake Races) www.nesdc.org
- Green Mountain Distance Mushers (hold a mid-distance race at Craftsbury Common) www.gmdm.net
- “Mushing”, the on-line Sled Dog Racing Magazine at www.mushing.com

All of the folks involved with these clubs are really nice people. According to our contact, these events are always friendly and well run. Our local Alpo races were always fun, successful and well run. The incredible volunteer base from our area that was devoted to this event deserves the credit for it's success. The Alpo races were mainly held at Paul Smiths but also ran from Charlie's Inn or Meacham Lake from time to time. Many of our international neighbors enjoyed coming down and racing in this event. And many of our community members young and old, marveled at the excitement and love the dogs showed for their sport. The races were usually held at the end of January or beginning of February with the hopes that snow was plentiful for sledding.

As a result of speaking with our local contacts, it is felt that these races could be up and running again. We strongly encourage further research to be done and action be taken to bring this type of event to Saranac Lake.

Tethered Balloon Rides (rejected after analysis)

Contacts made:

Giulia Iannitelli @ 908-283-0721
Warren County, New Jersey
www.WarrenCountyFarmersFair.org/balloonfest

Walter Grishkot @ 518-792-2600
Adirondack Balloon Festival in Glens Falls
www.AdirondackBalloonFest.org

Amy Griswold @ 315-482-9356
Champagne Balloon Adventures in Alexandria Bay, NY
www.balloonadventures.com

The overall feeling is that this type of event would not be cost effective or something that balloon pilots would jump at. We know we live in the mountains and this is a main reason that a hot-air balloon festival (flights) would not work here. No place to land.

Research on a Tethered Balloon event revealed these issues:

- ❑ Pilots are not anxious to tether their balloons as it creates intense wear and tear on the balloon materials.
- ❑ The winds need to be between 3 and 4mph or less to tether a balloon.
- ❑ Most pilots ask to be paid between \$1000 and \$1500 to come and tether. If the weather does not cooperate – they still get paid. (finding sponsors for each balloonist was suggested)
- ❑ The snow would need to be plowed as it is not good to get balloons wet.
- ❑ If it snowed (or rained) the balloons would not go up.
- ❑ In most festivals the communities provide – at a minimum - overnight accommodations for the balloonists as well as the propane.
- ❑ Balloonists only fly in the morning and evening because these times have the least winds.

Mr. Grishkot is going to mail the program from last year which lists the balloonists who participated. He says we may contact them directly but he does not think there would be many to accept this idea. He did compliment us for reaching out and said it would be a beautiful place to fly over....but he sees many safety issues.

Amy Griswold said that her family used to go to the hot air balloon event in Quechee, VT. This event is held in the summer. Amy said they stopped going because it was not comfortable flying over the mountains. If we decide to review this as a summer event, this would be a good sight to check out:
<http://www.vtliving.com/events/quecheeballonfestival/>

Summer Events

Sail Boat Race Events

Organized class racing events take place all over the country. Lake Colby would be an ideal location for small boat sail races, e.g., Sunfish²⁷ or Lasers²⁸, as it has regular steady winds and enough surface area for small boats to race comfortably. There are many other appropriate venues nearby as well, including Lower Saranac Lake and Lake Clear.

Sunfish races are run throughout the summer and into early fall under the auspices of the International Sunfish Class Association (ISCA²⁹) and the US Sunfish Class Association (USSCA). Some people in the know claim the sunfish sail boat is the most popular sail boat ever produced, with over ¼ million manufactured. This year's races (see Appendix B) include the USSCA NY Upstate Regional at Rochester Canoe Club. Laser races in New York are run under ILCA-NA District 9 auspices, with 15 laser fleets operating in New York³⁰, the nearest being Lake George³¹ but other nearby fleets could provide guidance too³².

Laser racing is a highly competitive Olympic event, and there are a number of sizes and rigging options which may make a Sunfish regatta easier to organize and manage as a starting event. However, both classes are easily transportable so choice of venue is a function of organization, facilities and weather.

Sailboat racing tends to attract affluent enthusiasts who spend considerable amounts locally during events. Sailboat racing is a participant versus a spectator sport, with spectators usually limited to family and friends of the racers. Nonetheless, a race event with 20-50 boats participating would be expected to bring several hundred reasonably affluent people into the area. Sailors enjoy after-event activities where they socialize and discuss the day's races or next-day events, usually involving some formal festivities. Night sailing is also popular and extends the event duration.

²⁷ The International Sunfish Class is a popular one-design class of sailing dinghy which was developed in the 1950s. It can be sailed with one, two, or three persons, but is most often sailed singlehanded (one person). At 13 feet 9 inches (4.2 m) in length and 130 lb (59 kg) in weight, the Sunfish is easily carried in a luggage rack or a light trailer. The Sunfish is used as a day sailer or a racing boat, with over 1000 racing events every year worldwide.

²⁸ The Laser is an Olympic class sailboat sailed competitively across the globe. Competitive Laser sailing is governed by the International Laser Class Association (ILCA) based out of Falmouth England.

²⁹ <http://www.sunfishclass.org/>

³⁰ See http://www.ilcana.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=225&Itemid=71

³¹ Northern Lake George Yacht Club, July and August: Saturdays and Sundays at 10 a.m. Special event: Labor Day Open Regatta - 5 races, no throw outs. Mark Hunt, 14 Stutz Avenue, Latham NY 12110-3322. 518-785-1958.

³² Saratoga Lake Sea Horses (Laser Fleet #4). Wednesday night racing June thru mid August. Sunday afternoon racing May thru October. Alan Miller, 334 Brownell Rd. Ballston Spa, NY, 12020, 518-885-5510. amille@nycap.rr.com

Appendix A

Manufacturers of Ice Resurfacers

[Frank J. Zamboni](#) & Co. Inc. - Manufacturers of the original and most popular ice resurfacer, the Zamboni Ice Resurfacer, first sold in 1950. Headquartered in [Paramount, California](#), USA.

[Resurface](#) Corp. - Manufacturers of the Olympia and Olympia Millennium ice resurfacers. Resurface ice resurfacers are the second most common ice resurfacer used in North America. Founded in 1963, headquartered in [Ontario, Canada](#). Its ice resurfacers are based on a [Chevrolet Silverado](#) truck platform.

[IceBear](#) - The IceBear Electric is an electric powered, German ice resurfacer manufactured since 1982. In 2006, the machine was completely redesigned. Since 2005, IceBear belongs to the Resurface Corp., which builds the Olympia machine.

[Broddway](#) - Swedish manufacturer, produced a small, three wheeled machine called "Park Ice".

[Engo](#) - Italian manufacturer of ice resurfacers since 1979. The electrical machines are called "Elettra".

[WM Mulser](#) - Italian manufacturer since 1986.

[Dupon](#) - French manufacturer since 1960. First manufacturer of ice resurfacers in Europe.

[Derol](#) - actual Czech manufacturer since 1999.

[Design Form](#) - American manufacturer of a small ice resurfacing machine called "Show Ice - Resurfacer", e.g. used at Holiday on Ice.

[Destarol](#) - former Czech manufacturer from 1969 to 1999.

FICO - Finnish manufacturer.

[Holmsten](#) - tried to copy the Olympia machine in the late 1970s and early 1980s. Was not very successful.

[Icecat/UKKO](#) - Finnish manufacturer that produces ice resurfacers since 1999. United States

[The Ice Wizard/Ragged Point Industries](#) Small electric Ice Resurfacer manufactured in United States since 2002 [www.TheIceWizard.com](#)

[Ledox](#) - former Czech type of ice resurfacer, manufactured from 1966 to 1969 by Chemopetrol

[Novarol](#) - Slovakian, three wheeled ice resurfacer

Tennant - manufacturer of cleaning equipment, produced ice resurfacers (Type 760) from 1972 to 1974.

[Winterteknik](#) - Swedish manufacturer of the "IT 2000", went bankrupt.

[Züko](#) - Swiss manufacturer since the 1990s. Produces an electrical machine called "Queen".

[Fuji](#) - Japanese manufacturer.

Appendix B

2008 Sunfish Regattas at a Glance:

- June 7-8 - USSCA New England Regional I at [Barrington YC](#)
- June 7-8 - USSCA Gulf Coast Regional at [Cypremort YC](#)
- June 28-29 - USSCA Midwest Regional I at Wolf Lake YC
- **July 13-15 - *Junior North Americans* at [Erie YC](#) - [Registration Form](#)**
- **July 16-18 - *North Americans* at [Erie YC](#) - [Registration Form](#)**
- July 26-27 - USSCA New England Regional II at [Wequaquet Lake YC](#)
- July 26-27 - USSCA Southwest Regional North at [Windycrest Sailing Club](#)
- Aug. 6-10 - [U.S. Singlehanded Champs for George D. O'Day Trophy](#) at [Sayville YC](#)
- Aug. 9-10 - [USSCA NY Upstate Regional](#) at [Rochester Canoe Club](#)
- Aug. 16-17 - [USSCA NY Downstate Regional](#) at [Mattituck YC](#)
- Aug. 16-17 - USSCA Southeast Regional at [James Island YC](#)
- **Aug. 23-29 - *38th Sunfish Worlds* at [Buffalo Canoe Club](#)**
- **Sept. 5-7 - *International Juniors* at [Lake Bluff YC](#)**
- Sept. 13-14 - USSCA Midwest Regional II at [Devils Lake YC](#)
- Sept. 24-27 - [U.S. Championship of Champions for Jack Brown Trophy](#) at [Sayville YC](#)
- Sept. 26-28 - US Masters at [Fairhope YC](#)
- Oct. 10-11 - USSCA Southwest Regional South at [Austin YC](#)

#	Brainstorming - Events	Rank	Lake Colby	Notes	Season
3	Barbecue	A			S W
7	Bonfire	A			S W
16	Chili Fest	A			S W
25	Fish Fry	A			S W
27	Frozen Festival	A			
42	Lawn Chair something	A			
44	Marshmellow Roast	A			S W
46	Night-time anything	A	Snowshoe races, cross country ski events, skating, etc		W
48	Old Fashioned picnics	A			S W
66	Valentine Ski and Campfire	A			W
33	Ice Carving	A			W
35	Ice House Competition	A	A concept of this type festival has been put out in an email. Todd Smith has further information to share at the March 18 meeting.		W
39	Igloo Bldg	A	http://eveningriver.com/new0708/iglooindex.htm		W
57	Snow Sculptures	A	see www.vermontsnow.com		W
59	Snowmen Contest	A			W
9	Broomball	A		http://www.lakeannwinterfest.com/broomball.html	W
19	Curling	A	contact clubs or maybe celebrity curling!		W
23	Figure Skating	A			W
34	Ice Hockey	A			W
37	Ice Skating	A			W
53	Ski Sprinting	A			W
61	Speed Skating	A			W
69	Zamboni-like track around lake	A	Skating long distances		W
24	Fishing contests	A			S W
64	Tethered Balloon Rides	A	Libby Balloon, Groverland NY 14462 (office@libertyballoon.com) and www.hudsonhotairaffair.com)		S W
41	Kitesurfing	A			S W
49	Para-skiing	A			S W
20	Dog pull contests (see skijoring)	A			W
52	Skijoring	A	http://www.skijornow.com/skijornowhome.html		W
56	Snow Dog Races (see skijproing)	A	http://query.nytimes.com/gst/fullpage.html?res=940DE4DF143DF937A15752C0A96E948260		W
40	Kayak lessons	C			S
36	Ice Sailing	A	Could have home-builts only	http://www.windsports.net/yahts.php	W
51	Sailboat races	A	Sunfish; Lasers		S
43	Lumberjacks	B	Already Tupper?		S W
68	Wood splitting	B	Already Tupper?		S W
14	Canoe races	B			S
21	Electric boat regatta	B			S
4	Baseball	B			W
5	Biking	B	Races onb ice, etc		W
8	Bowling on Ice	B			W
26	Frisbee Golf	B	Set up a frisbee golf course (my favorite)	http://www.discslife.com/t010202.shtml	W
29	Golf on ice	B	Gull Lake Frozen Fore - is a fun event that takes place around Gull Lake. Golf is played with a tennis ball and clubs are provided. This could be done on snowshoes or skis.	www.pasturegolf.com/winter.htm ; http://www.thisisthelife.com/en/snow-golf-in-st-moritz.htm	W
30	Horseshoes	B	tournament		S W
32	Ice Badminton	B			W
38	Ice Tennis	B			W
63	Swim races	B			S
1	Astronomy	C			S W
2	Balloon Fest	C		Libby Balloon, Groverland NY 14462 (office@libertyballoon.com) and www.hudsonhotairaffair.com)	S W
6	Bird Watching	C	Minnesota: Meet at Colvill Park where many Bald Eagles spend the winter, or stop during migration. Experienced Volunteers will answer questions about eagle behavior, ecology and recovery. Spotting scopes and binoculars guarantee spectacular close up views. Come see the mighty Eagles soar.	http://www.exploreminnesota.com/experiences/festivals/event.aspx?EntityID=16986	S W
10	Build a Beaver Dam	C			S
11	Build a Lodge	B		Architecture competition piece?	? ?
12	Canadian Icing	C			W
13	Candlelight skiing	B	S/B Dewey or Pisgah	http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/news/candlelight.htm	W
15	Classic canoe & guideboat regatta				S
17	Concerts on Colby	C			S
18	Cross countrty ski races	B	S/B Dewey or Pisgah		W
22	Farmers Market	B			S
28	Potato (was Garlic) Festival	B		S/B Tucker Farms	? ?

#	<u>Brainstorming - Events</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Lake Colby</u>	<u>Notes</u>	<u>Season</u>
31	Hot Tub Races	B			
45	Movies	C			S W
47	Obstacle Courses	B	S/B Dewey or Pisgah		S W
50	Photography Classes	C			S W
54	Sleds	B	S/B Dewey or Pisgah		W
55	Snow shoe races	B	S/B Dewey or Pisgah		W
58	Snowball Toss	B	S/B Dewey or Pisgah		W
60	Soapbox derby	B	S/B at Pisgah; mountain biking too		W
62	Square Dancing on Ice	C			W
65	Taboggan Slide	B	S/B Dewey or Pisgah		S
67	Winter Camping Course	B	Spend the night in an igloo at Aventure Québec nord, only 15 minutes from Québec City. An unforgettable experience organized by one of our guides. Sample game and traditional foods. Cabins in the forest with wood stove. All equipment provided. We also offer dogsledding rides and fishing. Snowmobile, snowshoe and quad rentals. All-inclusive packages available.		W