

MARCH 2010

Wow! February was so loaded with activity there just wasn't time to get a newsletter done. So here's some catch up for you.

Up until last Thursday (2/25/10), we were experiencing a snow drought. We hadn't had any plowable snow since early January. Boy did that change! Between then and now (even now it is snowing) we've had more than 2 feet of wet, heavy snow. So heavy we needed a front end loader to clear the parking lot – the snow blower just wasn't up to the job! We were also without power for 36 hours during that time frame. Fortunately, there was no one staying at Star Barn at the time. However, another recent power outage found a guest finding his way around the place by the light of propane lamps and a flashlight. This guest was not a typical B&B guest. And I need to share a little bit about him with you. He was a doctor. He was not here to enjoy the local skiing or snowmobiling. He was here because a patient of his had gone home to die. He was here to be available to the family of the patient as that night wore on. I shall always think of him as Dr. Saint. He left his family on his day off to “be there.” The next morning at breakfast, after little sleep the night before, he offered a prayer of thanksgiving before dining. He is a gentle man who loves his family, his work, his God. I was very impressed.

The snow drought could have proved awful for a group of women who traveled from Ohio for a 4 day retreat at Star Barn, which was to include snow shoeing. We had been packing the trail after each snow prior to early January, and even made an additional trail for them to enjoy. Then we had a lot of rain. But the trail held and these ladies, some who were snow shoeing for the first time, had a great time. The weather was good, they enjoyed their time here, and left promising to return! A brief ‘you tube’ video clip of this weekend is at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-k5NfVFieFA>

In mid February, Ginni officiated at a wedding at Reeds Mill Church. Weddings are always special, and Ginni loves that she can be such an important part – as a notary in the state of Maine she legally performs weddings. The wood stove was warm, the sun was shining. It was perfect!

Next up, Ginni is hosting the first yoga retreat of 2010. Friday through Sunday, March 5-7, seven yoginis will be here learning some new types of yoga as well as enjoying a workshop on reflexology. Several have signed up for massages from a local massage therapist who brings her table and works her magic during ‘free time’. Ahh... Because the response to this retreat was so good, another yoga retreat is scheduled for March 26-28. There are 2 spots left. Click on the retreat page on our website to find information.

David has recently finished 'renovating' an old sled that was in the original barn. It will eventually be moved into the gift shop, stood on end, and, with a few shelves added, become a display case for some of our merchandise. Yeah David!

Sunday, March 28th is Maple Sunday in Maine. Sap will surely be running by then. How about a trip to Madrid, Maine to see first hand how the sap gets from the tree to your table?

Star Barn will be closed the week of April 11 – Ginni and David are taking a trip to NJ to see the twin granddaughters, Evelyn and Addison. We hear they are running all over the place these days! Mid April can be pretty muddy around here, so it's a good time to head south.

The first day of Spring is March 20th. It will be May before we start seen daffodils blooming, but the spring skiing should be great!

Take care!

Ginni and David Robie