



Enjoying winter in all its glory

Otto Schniebs, in his 1936 book *Skiing For All*, “A skier should never forget that skis are after all only an instrument, a means, through which we can enjoy winter in all its glory and ruggedness, can breathe clean fresh air, can meet human beings in their true character and can forget all the petty troubles which beset our so-called civilization.”

The Ski Museum of Maine is now the Maine Ski and Snowboard Museum. Our mission is to Celebrate, Preserve and Share the History and Heritage of Skiing and Snowboarding in Maine.

For most of us, it has always been about enjoying the wintertime mountain experience. Seth Wescott, Mainer and two-time Olympic Gold medalist, says, “We are simply choosing to use a different tool for descending an alpine environment.” By adding snowboarding to our name and our mission we are simply acknowledging that Seth is right, the only difference between skiing and snowboarding is the choice of tool. Whether we choose to ski or to snowboard we all hope to, “Enjoy winter in all its glory.”

In the 1940s and 1950s it was common for magazine ads to use a big, swooping S, reminiscent of a ski turn. In our new logo we use that same image. It is both a nod to our sport’s past and a statement that when you look back there is no real difference between a ski turn and a snowboard turn.

In these times we all need to enjoy more shared experiences. Skiing and snowboarding allow us a sense of freedom where we can “breathe clean fresh air, can meet human beings in their true character and can forget all the petty troubles which beset our so-called civilization.”

Cooper Friend and Peter Weston have stepped down as President and Vice President respectively of the Maine Ski and Snowboard Museum. Over the last few years they have made significant improvements to the Museum. I am honored to have been named as the President. I look forward to working hard to continue their work on behalf of Maine’s skiing and Snowboarding History and Heritage.