

Rick the 1957 Tom Cat Driver loading up 36 guests for a 2.7 mile shuttle ride.



30 Guests can ride inside, the rest have to Rope Tow behind.





Familes with Children huddled inside the Tom Cat. 6 overflow guests rope towing behind.



Meany Lodge was built in 1928 and expanded in 1932. It sleeps 90 people! The Main Floor windows are partially covered with snow.



The original 1928 Sears Roebuck Blast Furnace is still heating the building. It has been rebuilt on the inside a few times but still has the same front doors. It burns about 5 cords of estate-cut firewood each year.





50 Classic Rope Grippers!!!

Each one restored to fully operational like-new condition and treated with respect and dignity worthy of their 50 to 70 year-old status.

No bigger or better collection exists in the world today!

Still brings a tear to my eye every time I see these 2 pics.



The Main Floor can hold and feed up to 90 people. Notice the group of ladies that had snow-shoed in for the day and are awaiting lunch.



A commercial-style kitchen is also on the Main Floor and is staffed by a volunteer that is a Gourmet Chef. Yummy!



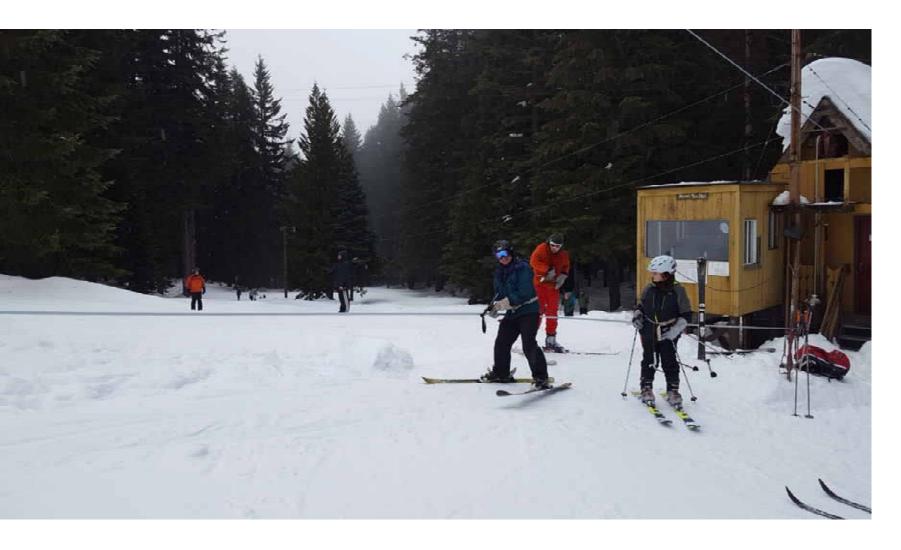
This is a panorama shot that a volunteer took. I believe there were about 60 guests eating, along with 10 volunteers. Everybody stops skiing during lunchtime.



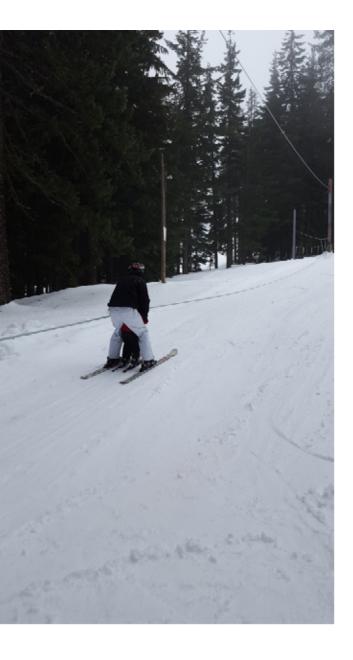
After everyone was seated, I presented a Resolution of Appreciation to Jerry and Patty proclaiming Meany as the Sister Lodge of the Horse Mountain Grippers.



Time to go Rope Gripping!!! That's me with the most beautiful Rope Gripper in the rack and a Great Big Grin on my face. I felt like I was a teenager again!



On your mark, get set, swoosh! When was the last time you grabbed a 1 inch rope traveling at 15.1 mph? I think I even shouted "Toot-Toot"!





The Intermediate Tow is on the right and the Mach Tow is on the left. You can go ½ way up the Mach Tow, so many do. Notice the parent on the left helping up his youngster. Bring back memories?

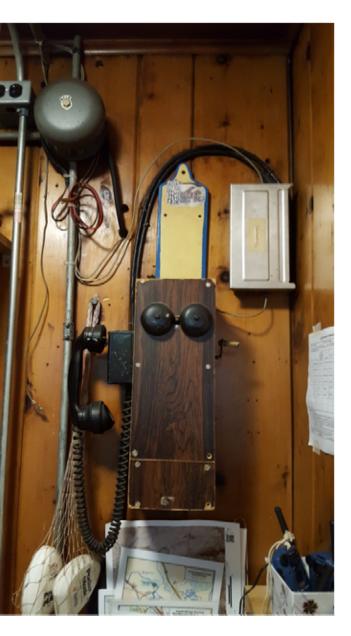




2 year's ago the insurance company made them replace their gas motors with electric ones. They still have the 1937 International Rear End and all of the original wheels in operation though. The original Head Wheel and gear were remounted onto a metal structure 2 year's ago too.



The top of the Mach Tow is at 38 degrees for about 50 feet. If you don't know what that is, take a look at the emergency ramp. Felt like I was going straight up!



If you don't think this place is well preserved, take a look at the phone on the wall. They were scattered all over the complex.

The volunteers at Meany Lodge, a grass-roots 501c3, have done an excellent job of making the Meany Lodge functional while preserving the historic authenticity of the buildings and mechanical structures.



While the Lodge Chair, Chuck Welter, was not working on Saturday, a volunteer that joined the group in 1974 was more than happy to give me the history of the Lodge.

A few years ago, he submitted a Grant application for \$40,000 to purchase a used 1997 Piston Bully. It is used primarily to groom nearby Dog Sledding trails but is also seen around the Lodge doing what it does best.

Dave claimed he put \$7,000 out of his own pocket to make needed repairs this year. That pretty much sums up the attitudes of everyone of the volunteers.

The Spirit of Volunteerism is Alive and Well at Meany Lodge!