

Four Seasons Lodge Dedication

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[View Photos from the event here](#)

It was a cold stormy day outside but inside the Four Seasons Lodge hearts were warm as members of the community, politicians, and club members gathered to celebrate the official opening of the 3,600 square foot



recreational facility. John Ezzy, project coordinator for the lodge construction, officiated the ceremony attended by state government officials and Congressman Michael Michaud of Maine's 2nd District. With the seats full and people standing throughout the main room of the facility Ezzy stated, "Volunteerism sprang to life in this town like never before and it was not only this project but our sister project the Four Corners Park as well as the Mustangs Football Team." The crowd applauded as Ezzy continued, "These are great examples of what the dedicated people of Madawaska can do when we set our minds and muscles to it."

After an invocation by Pastor Brown of the Madawaska Gospel Church, State Representative Ken Theriault of Madawaska presented a declaration of support and sentiment from the Maine State Legislature. The document, introduced by Theriault and co-sponsored by Senator John Martin, was

presented to Ross Dubois, Club President and will be displayed in the lodge.

Senator Martin then graciously read a letter from Governor Baldacci who could not attend because of the snowstorm. In the letter the Governor stated, "With determination and Yankee Ingenuity, this community came together to build a treasure for this generation and future generations of Madawaskans to enjoy." After finishing, Martin then offered his own sentiments about the nature of volunteerism and how important it is for Valley towns and their viability.

Ezzy went on to detail the sources of revenue for the building that included: the Town of Madawaska, the Madawaska Water District, the Maine Department of Conservation, an interest free loan from Acadia Federal Credit Union and an astonishing number of donations. He then handed the microphone over to Madawaska town manager, Christine Therrien who recognized the support of the Madawaska Board of Selectmen and town department heads, including Yves Lizotte of public works who was instrumental in coordinating ground work for the project. Therrien also presented a congratulatory plaque from the town to Dubois to recognize the efforts of the club. As with the first plaque, the crowd and club members applauded proudly in support.

Next, Department of Economic and Community Development Commissioner, John Richardson spoke of the remarkable amount volunteerism in the Valley and recognized the volunteer names listed on a permanent plaque located on the main floor of the

lodge commenting in jest, “I don’t think there are enough Franco American names on the list!” The jovial crowd once again broke out into laughter as the Commissioner entertained them with stories about his positive experiences here in the County.

After congratulatory comments from Congressman Michaud, Acadia Federal Credit Union CEO, Dave Desjardin spoke of his organization’s involvement with the Four Seasons Club and challenged club members to keep their volunteers stating, “The hardest part now begins, keep your volunteers and keep the momentum going!”

A fifty/fifty drawing organized by Yvon Levesque to support the purchase of skis for the lodge was drawn by 6-year-old Isabelle Jandreau, and won by Karen Dubois. Over \$1,500 was raised to place skis in the lodge for those wishing to try out the trails. Levesque stated that there would be no charge for using the equipment and that the Maine Winter Sports Center was supporting and coordinating the purchase of the skis for delivery next fall. Levesque thanked the many ticket sellers along with Joe Deschaine for selling over 300 books.

In Ezzy’s concluding remarks he stated, “The saying ‘the more you give, the more you get’ has certainly been true in this case. I want to thank everyone who’s been involved with this project for making it a pure pleasure. I am proud to have been a part of Madawaska’s finest volunteer project and you should be, too. Thank you.” The ceremony concluded with tours of the lodge and refreshments provided by Café De La Place, Bob’s Service Center, Paradis Shop N’ Save and Coca Cola Bottling Company. More

information about the project and the upcoming Acadia FCU Marathon can be found at the club’s website: www.fourseasonstrail.org.

