

## Andover Snowmobile Club Italian Buffet and Raffle

January 31 at AE/MS  
from 5 to 6:30 PM

adults, \$5 for ages 6 to 12, and free for ages 5 and under.

After the dinner, a multi-item raffle (over 100 items) will take place, and proceeds will be donated to Easter Seals Camp Sno Mo in Gilmanton. Camp Sno Mo provides camping for handicapped and special needs children and young adults.

### Press release

The Andover Snowmobile Club is having its annual Italian Buffet on Saturday, January 31, at the Andover Elementary/Middle School. The dinner runs from 5 to 6:30 PM. The costs are \$10 for



Rita Norander's mother, Dorothy Hersey LaPlante, was a descendant of both the Tuckers and the Herseys. She was photographed standing in front of the Tucker Mountain schoolhouse by Rita's father around 1927.

## Tucker Mountain Road Once Connected Andover and Hill

Families of the two towns  
were drawn together

one another, and often a son or daughter from the Andover side of the mountain would marry a daughter or son from the Hill side.

### Rita Norander, for the Beacon

William Tucker, my fourth great grandfather, was born in Salisbury, Massachusetts in 1760, and settled in East Andover in 1794. The area of town where he lived was referred to as Tucker's Mountain, but today it is simply called Tucker Mountain.

William married his cousin Mary Tucker, and together they had seven children. In 1837, their son William donated land for a schoolhouse, and son Benjamin built the schoolhouse, receiving \$100 for his labor.

In 1891, since there were only three children of school age, the school was closed, and the schoolhouse reverted back to the Tucker family on whose land it was built. The schoolhouse remained in the Tucker family until 1972, when sisters Alta Hersey and Freda Hersey Elliott, whose mother was Grace Tucker Hersey, sold it to Madelyn and Frank Baker.

### Tucker Mountain Road

Tucker Mountain Road did not always end in East Andover, but rather continued over the mountain into Hill – past Poverty Pond to Currier Road, and on to Hill Center. The areas on both sides of Tucker Mountain were rather isolated, each being a considerable distance from its more populated town center.

Because of this, families who lived on these two sides of the mountain were drawn together, even though they lived in different towns. The families knew

That is what happened with my great-great grandmother, Edna Jane Hersey from Hill, who in 1854 married Samuel Tucker (Benjamin's son). Several years later, Edna Jane's youngest brother Frank G. Hersey married Ellen Rowe, who lived just below the schoolhouse.

I know of at least one other Hersey/Tucker marriage which took place in 1904, and I'm sure there were many other families who were similarly drawn together from these two sides of Tucker Mountain.

In the late 1950s and early 1960s, my boyfriend (who later became my husband) and I spent a lot of our free time "jeeping" on the back roads of Andover and the surrounding towns. Tucker Mountain Road was one of my favorites!

This was probably true because of the personal history connecting me to this road, but also it was such a pretty road, and in fairly good condition, except for a few washout areas. It was scenic, quiet, lined with stone walls, and there were a few cellar holes. It was easy for me to visualize my own ancestors traveling back and forth on this same road as they, too, went about their daily life 150 years ago.

I haven't traveled over Tucker Mountain in a long, long time, but I don't think it has changed that much in all these years. I have often thought it is too bad Tucker Mountain Road isn't still a through road!

## SRKG Winter Hikes Include East Andover with Frank Baker

Saturday hikes from  
February 7 to March 7

tact Henry Howell at 938-5706.

**Saturday, February 21,** East Andover: Frank Baker, skilled outdoorsman, will lead us on a snowshoe exploration to special spots. Up to five miles of back trails and wanders. Moderate. Contact Lee Carvalho at 735-5719.

**Saturday, February 28,** Bradford: A snowshoe hike among hills for views at Aiken Pasture. Depending on snow levels, either easy or moderate. Contact George Beaton at 938-2637.

### March Hikes

**Saturday, March 7,** Newbury and Goshen: Snowshoe to Lucia's Lookout on Sunapee-Pillsbury Ridge from Andrew Brook Trail and Lake Solitude in Newbury. Difficult. Contact Gerry Gold at 526-2857.

### Press release

The Sunapee-Ragged-Kearsarge Greenway Coalition (SRKG) winter hikes are free to the public. Please call the volunteer hike leader to learn starting location and time. Be prepared for winter conditions: extra layers, hot drink, prepared for ice and snow. For SRKG information, visit SRKG.com.

### February Hikes

**Saturday, February 7,** North Sutton: If Mother Nature cooperates, this will be a cross-country ski tour of the old King Ridge ski area in Sutton, off SRKG trail #13. Ever look for avalanche terrain on King Hill? Moderate. Contact Nathan Richer at 763-2127.

**Saturday, February 14,** South Sutton: Cross over the Lane River in South Sutton for an exploration of lowlands, forests, river edge, glacial erratics, and who-knows-what. Easy. Con-

SRKG Trail Guides are available at local book stores. The SRKG Coalition is an all-volunteer non-profit organization with members throughout the Sunapee-Ragged-Kearsarge region and beyond.

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**We need your donations of non-perishable, staple foods and other necessities. (Please check those expiration dates!)**

The food pantry is located downstairs at the Andover Town Hall and is open whenever the Town Hall is open.

**It's self-service, no questions asked.** Take what you need or drop off what you can.

**If you know someone in need,** tell them about the pantry. If they are not comfortable going to the pantry themselves, for whatever reason, let a Lion or Beacon volunteer know – **WE DELIVER!**

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