

Henniker man continues to climb to new heights



Submitted by Bob Hofstetter

For the past 20 years, skiers at Mt. Sunapee have been watching Bob Garrison hike up the mountain while they rode the lift. When the resort was still owned by the state and he could do it for free, Bob, now 65, used to hike up, ski down, and do it all over again. The new ownership, however, required him to purchase a season pass even though he doesn't use the lift. He says, "That's OK. They spend lots of money for grooming the slopes, and I take advantage of that. I climb it only on nice days, and never on weekends. It takes me about an hour to hike up." He used to go two to three times a week before he had a back operation last November. This year he's only climbed up and skied down about five times. He also says, "I'm getting older."

Bob, a Henniker resident, is retired from his electronics business. He says he has climbed mountains all over the world including the Alps

and the Himalayas. A man of many talents and interests, Bob owns Interval Airport in Henniker and is a pilot with over 2000 hours of flight time. He owns two aircraft, a fully acrobatic Siai-Marchetti SF-260 and a Maule. He has flown to Alaska and in and around the Himalayas. One of his pet projects is trail maintenance and mapping on St. John in the Virgin Islands. According to Bob, his endeavors in St. John will be written up in Backpacker Magazine in a future issue. For this "hobby" he has his own web site, www.trailbandit.org.

Bob has been married and divorced twice. He says he's on good terms with both ex-wives, but was always a little "hard headed/stubborn. That was not a good formula for a successful marriage."

With the ski season rapidly coming to an end, Bob's days of climbing up and skiing down Mt. Sunapee are almost over for this year. He's sure he'll be back out there again next year.