

## Remembering Meg Weber

It is with deep sorrow that we advise you that Margaret-Ann (Meg) Weber, a founding member of Nakkertok Ski Club, died last Friday November 9<sup>th</sup> 2012 at age 87. Meg and her husband Hans (who predeceased her in 2009) were both integral to the creation and development of Nakkertok, which started in 1971. Most of the South ski club trails and cabins are built on land originally owned by Meg and Hans. The Nakkertok North property is also owned by the Weber and Holloway families and graciously leased to the club.



Meg was born in Axminster in England and went to St. Thomas's Hospital in London to study Physiotherapy. She emigrated to Canada in 1952 and met Hans in 1954 during a ski trip in the Rockies where Meg was caught in an avalanche and Hans was the one to pull her out. The couple had three sons, Christoph, Richard and Adrian or "Adi" (who predeceased his father). Meg's passion for the outdoors and cross-country skiing was passed on to their children and grandchildren. The Weber name is part of Canada's ski racing history – past and present.

The Weber's moved to Cantley in 1961 and transported a "pile of logs" to Cantley from Stittsville to build the beautiful log home that members now pass at the entrance to Nakkertok South. Meg and Hans openly shared this land and log house with hundreds of skiers every year.

Meg was very active in the local art community as a sculptor, potter and painter. Meg originally made the cups, bowls and plates that we present to winners of Nakkertok races and are treasured by many competitors. One of her sculpture graces the Juvenile Girl's NCD championship trophy.

Also of interest is the fact that in 1964 Meg Weber spotted a "little red cottage" that was for sale near the Alonzo Wright Bridge. She bought the building for \$1,000 and eventually had it moved to the Cantley farm where you can now see it on top of the hill, overlooking the farmhouse. It was constructed around 1824 by Tiberius Wright, son of Philemon Wright, who founded "Wrightville" (now Gatineau), the first settlement in the National Capital region. It is one of the oldest buildings in the Outaouais. In an interview a few years ago about the cottage, Meg noted "Being born in England, things that are old are important. And you keep them that way".

We thank Meg and Hans, and their family, for their foresight to purchase and preserve the lands that we all now enjoy for our cross-country skiing and other outdoor activities. It is also our desire to "keep them that way". Meg and Hans's enthusiasm for the outdoors was contagious and for many a member the outdoors, cross-country skiing and Nakkertok are an important part of our community and a way-of-life that we cherish.

A celebration of Meg's life and art will be held at the Wakefield Community Centre, 38 Valley Drive, Wakefield QC, on Saturday, December 15 at 1:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to La Maison des Collines ([www.lamaisondescollines.org](http://www.lamaisondescollines.org))