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Ski NH awards three for contributions to NH skiing and tourism

Whitefield, NH – Ski NH recently gave awards to Tom Day, Rob Nadeau and Senator Jeanie Forrester based on their contributions to skiing and the tourism industry in New Hampshire. The awards were given at Ski NH's annual meeting at the Mountain View Grand Hotel in Whitefield.

Long-time New Hampshire ski and tourism industry leader Tom Day was awarded the **2015 Ski NH Bill Whitney Award**. The award was established in the mid 1970s and recognizes an individual who has made outstanding contributions to the ski and snowboard industry in New Hampshire. Day was unanimously selected by Ski NH's Board of Directors to receive the award because of his many years of service in the industry, beginning as a lift attendant at Waterville Valley Resort in 1978 and eventually working his way to Director of Mountain Operations – a position he held from 1997 to 2010.

Day is currently the general manager of Granite State Hospitality, LLC, the company that recently constructed and now operates the southbound and northbound tourist information and service areas along Rt. 93 in Hooksett.

Nadeau of Hopkinton, NH, was awarded the **Al Merrill Award** for his outstanding contributions to cross country skiing in New Hampshire. Nadeau was recognized for his work with the New England Nordic Ski Association (NENSA) for which he is the District Chair, Head Coach for Central NH, Athlete Development Committee member, and 2004 coach of the year. As Hopkinton High School cross country coach for 16 years, Nadeau has coached his team to numerous state championships. He also founded the Blackwater Nordic Club, among many other achievements.

The **Legislator of the Year** award was given to Senator Jeanie Forrester. This award is presented to legislators for their dedication to serving the people of New Hampshire, for keeping people informed on the legislative process and potential impacts, and for playing a pivotal role in issues that are important to the ski industry and to tourism in general.

During the 2015 legislative session, Forrester strived as Chair of the Senate Finance Committee to help preserve the funding for the Division of Travel & Tourism Development's promotional budget. Her leadership and understanding of the importance of the state's tourism promotional efforts impacted the outcome of the NH state budget, which will have a positive impact on organizations like Ski NH to attract tourists to the state.

Ski NH is the statewide association representing 33 alpine and cross country resorts in New Hampshire. For more information on ski areas, vacation planning, and updated winter events at Ski NH resorts, call Ski NH at 603.745.9396 or visit the Ski NH website at www.SkiNH.com. For statewide travel info, visit www.visitNH.gov.