

Friday, April 22, Ski Morin-Heights

by Judy Rogers

Friday, April 22 was a gloriously warm and sunny day. At Ski Morin-Heights the snow was plentiful and the conditions excellent. And there were only two people on the hill: Richard L'Heureux and me. The centre had closed a week or so earlier, but that didn't stop us from enjoying some great "downhill" skiing on our cross-country skis.

We arrived at the hill around 12:30 p.m. and started our first climb (no skins necessary; walking straight up was easy – whether using klister or waxless skis). At the top we explored the Portageur for a short distance – enough to appreciate the decent coverage in the woods. Then we went back to the ski centre and made our first descent down the Rivière Simon run (a green, easy, run). The surface of the snow was just starting to soften in the warm sun, after having been well frozen the night before, and to me felt comparable to floating atop deep powder on fat powder skis (like Jarmila and I had done on our recent trip to Utah). Okay, we did have somewhat less control on our x-c skis, but we enjoyed first tracks as we practised our parallel and telemark turns.

All in all, we think we did about five runs (it's easy to lose count when you're having so much fun). We even tried one or two more difficult runs (Judy did the Watchorn and we both went through the snowpark – taking care to avoid jumps and other features).

Was this the last ski outing? Well, never say never; we'll just have to see what the next week or so brings.

