

# Annual Underground Ice Skating & Bi-Monthly VCA Meeting

Contributed by Donna Stanley  
Tuesday, 16 February 2010  
Last Updated Tuesday, 16 February 2010

Sunday, February 21, 2010

9:00 AM - Regular  
Bi-monthly VCA meeting at RAS, Rutland, followed by the Annual Underground Ice Skating Outing, Freedlyville Quarry. Bring hot dogs, etc. to cook over a rustic campfire, hot chocolate, and your camera. This is a beautiful marble quarry with ice skating on smooth, interesting ice over three football fields in size. Unique ice formations, quarrying implements, and a fantastic view. One mile moderate uphill hike/walk from the parking area. Snowshoes could be helpful, if the trail isn't packed. Trip leader Rick Pingree (

\n caverick@yahoo.com

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From  
Rick: Our 11th  
annual Freedlyville Quarry  
ice skating party. A wonderful way to chase away the winter blues for children and adults of all ages and you don't need ice skates to have a good time. The Quarry is about a 40 minute drive South from Rutland. The led trip will be following our VCA meeting which normally lasts around 10:30 - 11AM. Join us for the meeting then follow us down or carpool. We should be at East Dorset at the East Dorset General Store (just North of 7 and 7A junction) 11:30 - Noon to meet folks coming in from the South . The walk from where we park our cars is up a moderate hill about a mile on a snowmobile trail. Snowshoes are not necessary, but bring them if you like. The main ice skating area is 60 feet wide by 200 feet long while the overall quarry is 166 feet wide and 550 long that is protected from the snow. This makes the ice real clean and clear so you can see the thickness down into the ice many feet. Bring a flashlight / headlamp for a better viewing and if you want to explore the dark corners. Again a light is not necessary. You WILL want to bring, a warm jacket, hat, and gloves to put on when at the quarry. You will get cold standing around admiring the ice sculptures on the walls the quarry has to offer. Bring a bag lunch and a HOT drink as well. Traditionally we have had a small fire and cooked hotdogs and marshmallows at the vista overlooking the Manchester valley. Many of us folks will bring a sled or X-country skies for the ride back down to the cars depending on the snow.

See  
you on the 21th,

Rick

and Kathy

For  
up to date info or a different Rutland meeting location; the cell to  
call is 802-773-8767

Freedlyville  
Directions: if you are running late or want to go early.

From  
the East Dorset General store, go south on Route 7A one half mile,  
take the first right on Morse Hill Road, follow up hill 1.2 miles to  
where it sort of flattens out. Take the next right on Dorset Hill  
Road for 1.8 miles, on your left is a road, the sign says a trail not  
maintained in winter! Park there! Don't block the road; this is a  
snowmobile trail. Follow the road keeping to the right at the fork  
(the road to the left goes to Aeolus). There are gates (open or  
closed) at the beginning of each road. Keep right at any other forks  
in the road. The quarry is on your left just before the vista.