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Enzo Serafini

Born: 1908 Died: 1975

Submitted by "Red" Caruthers, Hall of Fame Committee

This quiet, gracious man of letters gave 18 years of distinguished service to the editing and publishing of the house organ of the Eastern Ski Association. During those 18 years, The Eastern Ski Bulletin, or Skier Magazine as it was later known, stood out as one of the outstanding publications of any sports association in America.

Born in Hanover, New Hampshire, December 18, 1908, Enzo Serafini went through the Hanover school system. After attending the Clark and Tilton schools, he graduated from the University of New Hampshire in 1931 with a split business, economic and journalism degree.

Serry, as he was known throughout New England, quickly established himself as a versatile writer with the old *Boston-Herald-Traveler*. He was later to do a stint with the *Foster's Daily Democrat*.

During 1955, his first year as editor of the *Eastern Ski Bulletin*, he quickly learned that the Eastern Ski Association is a highly diversified group, each with its own interest in some particular phase of skiing. Completely satisfying everyone is well nigh impossible, but Serry came extremely close.

Serafini's forthright approach to people, coupled with sincere and warm charm, brought forth a bevy of feature writing talent who responded and produced regularly more as a favor to him than for monetary benefit. Some of these writers included Mike Strauss, Ski Editor of the New York Times; Hall of Famer, Frank Elkins of the Long Island Press; and on one occasion Sir Arnold Lunn, developer of the modern slalom and writer of the first alpine racing rules. Other feature writers included Tap Goodenough, Emily Williams, Jay Hanlon, and Red Carruthers.

Serry was also able to establish and maintain a warm rapport between the publication and the ski area operators of the east, and they constantly fed in information and releases on ski area development and events pertinent to the amateur skier. These feature stories, along with ski area news, were blended skillfully with association news, specialized ski columns and committee notes to make one of the best sports association periodicals.

Soon recognized by national ski leaders as a meticulous researcher and writer, Serry was named to the Standing Committee of the National Ski Hall of Fame. Many of the biographies of the ski greats which honor the hall were written by him. His work is timeless containing well-turned phrases.

Perhaps the true worth, character and standing of a man lies in how much his opinions and talents are sought by others not necessarily in the same field. Serry's deep interest in researching the truth made him an authority on the American Indian specializing in the New England Tribes and the French and Indian war.

The State of New Hampshire saw fit to name him Chairman of the State Historical Commission. He also served on the State Historical Preservation Board. It followed that he should be named to the New Hampshire Commission for the American Revolution Bicentennial.

Serry's knowledge of horses and horsemanship along with his smooth baritone voice made him a much sought-after announcer at New England horse shows. A few of these included The White Mountain Riding Club, the Granite State All-Morgan Horse Show and the All-Arabian Horse Show of Springfield, Massachusetts.

In 1955, along with his duties as ESA's editor, Serry also found time to write the script for a pageant honoring New Hampshire's Old Man of the Mountain. This event was attended by then President Eisenhower who was moved to write Serry a letter of commendation for its excellence.

Ever the researcher and writer, in 1972 he edited a book *Three Centuries of Free Masonry in New Hampshire*. For this, Serry was destined to receive the coveted Sullivan Medal for his work.

But a man must have roots somewhere. Together with his wife Essle, they operated The Homestead Inn in Sugar Hill, New Hampshire, where their daughter Barbara grew up and matured.

Perhaps the simple eloquence of Serafini can best be summed up by the line on the bottom of the Homestead Inn stationery: "Food for the Hungry and Rest for the Weary Since 1802."

Enzo Serafini was elected to the U.S. National Ski Hall of Fame in 1977.