

VON TRAPP FAMILY

Johannes von Trapp (1939 to)

Sam von Trapp, son (1972 to)

Any backcountry ski plans?

I love to backcountry ski. One of most significant things I've done is to participate in the Crested Butte to Aspen backcountry race. It's 40 miles long, starts at midnight and goes through two 12,000-foot passes—very exciting and challenging. Last year, I was all excited to get backcountry going at Trapps and was very pleased when Jim Fredericks (head of the Catamount Trail Association) stepped in and organized the first Trapps to Bolton race. One of our plans here at Trapps is to begin offering guided backcountry trips.

Any other projects?

My dad has always been a fan of change, of new and exciting developments, and he's been gung-ho about plans to develop mountain biking trails here, for guests and members of the Stowe Mountain Bike Club. I've been working a bit on trails and there will be some in place for our guests next summer. It will take about five years to have everything we would like but we want to be able to link to trails in Cottonbrook and other areas. I wouldn't be surprised if down the line you would be able to mountain bike the entire length and breadth of Vermont.

So you're getting married?

Yes! We were engaged last summer and Elisa came here in September. We met in 1996 in Chile where Elisa grew up and it became pretty evident to both of us that we are happiest when we're together. She'll be a natural fit at the hotel, but I think I better let her decide what she wants to do! She has a degree in landscape architecture from UC Davis and has worked as a landscape contractor for last few years in California. With 2,400 acres here we have plenty of places she could spruce up.