



MARCH NEWSLETTER



Anyone wants to race me this Sunday? (Part 2)

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I had a lot of inquires on the outcome of the race, so I decided to set the record straight.

As you remember I offered to race anyone on 2/27/05. To see the details of the contest please follow the link to my [previous newsletter](#).

Julia and I and a cup of coffee stood there at customer service site for the whole 20 minutes waiting for the brave souls. And guess what? Nobody showed up! I had to declare the official victory and got back to the slopes, feeling pretty good about myself!

Later that day, I got several e-mails from the "brave" souls complaining that it was too short notice. Well, my friends, good try, but these are just excuses in my book :-). But just because, I am a nice guy, for those of you who really had a good reason, I am offering a second chance to win the free Diagnostic/Proof Of Concept (\$5k Value). I will be skiing with our good friends from [Ardais Corporation](#). Yes, you are right, the same guys who received the CIO award for the work we have done for them. We will be at the Cannon Mountain on March 22 (great deal: 2 for 1). It will be a great chance for you to meet the best skier in the world (what do you mean, who? Me of course!), to embarrass yourself as a skier and to talk to our friends about automation regression and what kind of tremendous asset it has been for them!

So, if you're up for a challenge drop me a vshamis@qasignature.com and I will give you the easy way to meet with me for the race!

Now, last but not least, the official winner of a big box of Russian Chocolates is Michael Furgal from Progress Software.

Here is an exact email from him about all the mistakes I made!

I too am a ski instructor on your mailing list (instructing at Waterville Valley). Here are my comments on your picture (I can't believe you are opening yourself up to all this public criticism). BTW it may not have been too bad since the link came through as: http://www.qasignature.com/newsletter/img_0430.jpg which doesn't work, but I was up to the challenge to see the picture at http://www.qasignature.com/newsletter/img_0430.jpg anyways.

Here's my take:

1. You are looking at your skis, not where you are going
2. Your right hand is down at your knees instead of up in front of you so as a result...
3. Your right shoulder is back behind your body (up the hill) because your right hand is down low or behind
4. You knees are too bent, making you bend at the waist which puts undo muscular effort on your quads

5. Not enough angulation which causes your skis to be too flat (not on enough edge)
6. Your downhill (left) foot is pushing away from your body which is causing your ski to slide away from you

The remedy to all this is much closer than you think. Come to Waterville Valley (much closer than Canada) and together we can ski down the black diamonds (and possible double blacks as well) once we have corrected this issues (unless Pierre has succeeded in fixing all this).

I would have loved to race you at Wachusett, however I am committed to being at Waterville every weekend.

Take Care.

...MikeF

Great job Michael!

By the way he is not only a great tech guy! I just found out he is one of the top ski instructors on this coast! He teaches at Waterville Valley. He had a good reason not to race: he was teaching that weekend! No problem, Mike, I will drive to Waterville to race you before the season is over (Hey, Mike, ready or not!). Ladies and gents, he is the best, the only one. Oh, I love challenge!

Please see below his bio! (By Michael)

- Ski Instructor at Waterville Valley since 1988
- PSIA Certified (Professional Ski Instructor of America)
- Voted in the top 50 instructors by SKI magazine
- Top requested instructor at Waterville Valley every year since 1999

I teach private lessons only, instructing all abilities from beginners to bumps, including all age groups. If anyone is interested in skiing with me they can contact the Waterville Valley Ski School desk by email at snowsports.wv@boothcreek.com or at 1-800-468-2553.

You can take a class with Michael before challenging me!

As always, do not be chicken, let's race!

Vlad

Vlad Shamis

Founder and CEO, qaSignature

About qaSignature

At qaSignature we help Boston Software development organizations improve productivity and save money by building automation testing.

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