



## David Theobald

### Double H Ranch

at a business expo in Saratoga Springs, NY and has been an instructor ever since. When asked, Dave explains that to him the Double H means self-awareness and understanding about living simple and being thankful. He has learned that no matter what illness or sickness a child is battling, they just want to be kids and have fun. He feels that the Double H gives children and their families special time together and for some, experiences they never thought possible. Dave's fondest memory is his first day

working with a young boy by the name of Jonathan. After a short introduction, they were on the slopes learning from one another. With a lead instructor, Dave learned to tether and anticipate the responsiveness of the equipment. By the end of the day, Jonathan was controlling and edging with minimal assistance. Dave continues to be motivated by the family-like atmosphere and emotional bonds and friendships formed at the Double H with students, families, and other volunteers.

Dave states that "The Double H has given my wife and I a new perspective on life and the simple principles of happiness—a feeling of accomplishment and empathy towards others." Dave feels that anyone interested in supporting the Double H Adaptive Winter Sports Program should just do it—it is a big commitment, but he feels that you will never regret making a huge difference in a child's life.

In one word, Dave describes the Double H as, "magical."

David Theobald, registered nurse, has been affiliated with the Double H Ranch for the past two years as an adaptive ski instructor. He was recruited by another winter volunteer



## Gwen Allard

### Double H Ranch

H's overgrown one-time ski hill and asked Gwen the simple question of whether it was worth refurbishing. Gwen's response set in motion the groundwork needed to create the one-of-a-kind Adaptive Winter Sports Program it is today. Gwen is currently retired from association management but assists the Double H as a consultant and development of education for winter volunteers.

provide Gwen the opportunity to bring pleasure; pride of accomplishment; and feelings of worth, hope, and normalcy into the lives of the critically ill children and their families that are served by the Double H's programs. With fondness, Gwen reflects on the many tears of joy and broad outlandish grins she has been witness to over the years.

that she can't retire, and that she needs to continue to demonstrate the benefits of the Adaptive Winter Sports Program in hopes of expanding it to other Association of Hole in the Wall Camps. Gwen's advice to others interested in supporting the Double H winter program is, "If you want to witness the true values of life, come volunteer and get involved!"

Gwen describes the Double H as, "having significant impact."

Gwen Allard has been a part of the Double H Ranch Adaptive Winter Sports Program since its inception. In 1998, co-founder Charles R. Wood stood at the base of the Double

When asked the impact that the Double H Ranch has had on her, Gwen explains

The Double H continues to



## Walt Robb

### Double H Ranch

Walter and Anne Robb. Walt and Anne are dedicated major donors and long-time supporters of the Double H Ranch. Walt, who is a consultant, has been affiliated with the Double H Ranch for the past fifteen years and is currently on the board of directors and serves as its treasurer. As a board member, Walt saw a need for the Adaptive Winter Sports Program to have a major supporter and benefactor and decided to take on that role. He acknowledges the impact the Double H has on changing

the lives of children dealing with life-threatening illnesses. When asked what his fondest memory of the Adaptive Winter Sports Program is, he expresses, "Watching 'our kids' complete a ski run for the first time." Walt is motivated to continue his support of the Double H Ranch mainly because he knows and trusts how professionally and economically the organization carries out its mission to serve children dealing with life threatening illnesses FREE of charge. Walt expresses

that being involved with the children and their families and the staff and volunteers at the Double H has given him a much bigger family to nurture and cherish. For anyone interested in becoming more involved with the Double H and learning firsthand how they can make a difference in the life of a child, Walt suggests visiting the Double H for a tour and seeing the magic for themselves.

Walt defines the Double H Ranch as, "a house of miracles."

On opening day of the Double H Ranch Adaptive Winter Sports Program 2009 season, the Double H Ranch announced the naming of its main ski slope, Robb Run, in recognition of