

Snow News IS Good News

Newsletter of the Nooksack Nordic Ski Club

P.O. Box 28793, Bellingham, WA 98228
Website: www.Nooksacknordicskiclub.org



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Jim Rhodes 734-8246

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Jim Rhodes 734-8246

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Grooming Coordinators

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Peter Tryon 992-7065

December 2013



Avalanche Awareness

Presented By Pat Kennedy

At The Restore Upstairs

Club Meeting

When – Thursday, December 5

New member orientation is at 6:30;
Meeting starts at 7:00.

Who - Anyone is welcome!

Where – Restore upstairs community room located on the back side of the building. 2309 Meridian Street in Bellingham, WA. The Restore is this month only, then back to the WECU location on Holly in January.

Visit Our Website for the Latest Information: www.nooksacknordicskiclub.org



PLEASE PAY YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES

FOR SALE

Kurt Duey has a reconditioned Nordic track that he would sell to any member for \$25. This is an excellent aerobic machine, which will help get you ready for the snow.

360-752-3328 ask for Sonny or Anthony
Kurt.duey@comcast.net



IS YOUR NNSC MEMBERSHIP CURRENT?

Dues are seasonal, with the 2013-14 season starting in September.

Benefits for \$30 single or \$45 per household include "Snow News is Good News" delivered, access to super trips and other activities, connecting with other skiers at meetings and trips, and joining approximately 90 other individuals or households in supporting local Nordic skiing.

You can find a [membership form](#) on the NNSC web site, the last page of this newsletter, or at club meetings. A complete application includes payment plus a fully filled out and signed membership form. Household memberships must be signed by all persons covered under the membership.

Why not fill out a form right now while you're thinking about it and mail it in? Or, come to the meeting on Thursday Dec 5 and pay then.

Jim Rhodes

BRUSH PARTY

Volunteers are the lifeblood of the Nooksack Nordic Ski Club and the Salmon Ridge Nordic Ski and Snowshoe Trails. Neither would exist if not for their efforts. Quite a bit of work was done this fall, with a special focus on the snowshoe trails. We'd like to thank the many NNSC members, Mt. Baker Club members, and others from the community who worked on the trails this past October and November. The hard worker list includes: **Bea Acland, Herm Bakke, Dick Etter, Keats**

Garman, Gail Garman, Melody Ghirardini, Kate Kimber, Aaron Knapp, Kathleen Laughlin, Bill Laughlin, Bob Lemon, Chris McPhee, Wendy Nichols, Joe Nolting, Lynne Oliver, Jim Rhodes, Titi Ringstrom, John Sarich, Dianna Sarich, Walter Schlim, Cheri Somody, Gerry Thompson, Meg Tryon, Pete Tryon, Jennie Tuckerman, and Steve Tuckerman.

**Thanks
Jim Rhodes**

SALMON RIDGE TRAILS REPORT

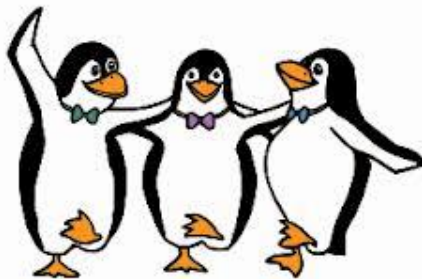
The trails are in great shape thanks to all the volunteers and work parties held this fall. Razor Hone, Cougar, and the White Salmon Roads were mowed. Drainage ditches and culverts were cleared. The ponding in the groomer turn-around area, at the east end of the bridge, was drained. There were many trees that were pressing in on the trail shoulders along Razor Hone Road and Anderson Crk Road, that were cut back and cleared. Brush was cut and cleared away around the trail heads. And we did lots of work clearing the snowshoe trails and adding trail markers to make them much easier to follow. The Huckleberry route now has a new easier access off RZ that isn't so steep. The big trail head sign board at the head of Razor Hone was repaired and reinstalled. And Pete is working on installing new trail junction signs. We still have one more work party to install signs and the sanican base, but already volunteers have contributed over 217 hours of work! I especially want to thank the Mt. Baker Club for joining our work parties and helping to pull this

all off. Here's a list of those who volunteered: **Bea Acland, Hermod Bakke, Dick Etter, Keats and Gail Garman, Melody Ghirardini, Kate Kimber, Aaron Knapp, Bill and Kathleen Laughlin, Bob Lemon, Chris McPhee, Wendy Nichols, Joe Nolting, Lynne Oliver, and to Jeff, Jim and Sue Rhodes, Titti Ringstrom, John and Dianna Sarich, Walter Schlim, Cheri Somody, Gerry Thompson, Pete and Meg Tryon, Steve and Jennie Tuckerman.** Also a special thank you to Jim Rhodes for his many years as fellow **Salmon Ridge Coordinator and crew leader.** It takes a lot of work and dedication to keep the trails in shape. Thank you all for your hard work and making Salmon Ridge possible

Gail Garman

NOOKSACK NORDIC SKI CLUB & MOUNT BAKER CLUB SPONSORING PROGRAM

Nooksack Nordic Ski Club & Mount Baker Club are sponsoring a Community Educational Forum on Cross-Country Skiing & Snowshoeing



When: Saturday, November 23rd, from 4:30- 6:30 pm

Where: Bellingham Public Library, Lecture Room, 210 Central Ave.

Join us for an educational event for beginners and those who are just getting interested in these two winter sports. Or maybe you are new to the area and just want to know where locally to ski or snowshoe. We will have different types of X/C skis and snowshoes available to preview and discuss what equipment is best for different kinds of terrain and snow conditions. There will be a power point presentation on winter safety tips, trail etiquette, avalanche awareness and an orientation to Salmon Ridge Sno-Park Trail systems for cross-country skiers and snowshoe trails up at Mount Baker. There will also be a short orientation to both clubs. Sno-Park permits will also be available for sale. Everyone is invited to attend. Hope to see you there!!

Sharon Holmes



Kurt Duey and the late Shelia Harding at Stake Lake in 2011

MOUNT BAKER SNOQUALMIE NATIONAL FOREST SURVEY ON SUSTAINABLE ROADS

The Sustainable Roads Analysis will help the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest gather the information necessary to make future decisions about road projects such as upgrades, closures,

decommissioning, and road-to-trail conversions. **You have until Nov. 30th, 2013 to make your voice heard, then the survey closes.** Go to the website:

mbssustainableroads.com for more information about this analysis and leave a reply or you can click on a link to take the survey. From the survey site, you will find a link to the USFS map of the Mt. Baker Snoqualmie National forest which has highlighted in pink those roads that are undergoing analysis for potential downgrading or decommissioning. Nearly all those off the main highways are highlighted. This situation isn't just about a report. The reality of the road budget decline is hitting the USFS today. **The Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest has only enough money to maintain about a quarter of its 2,500 miles of roads.** Not only have road maintenance funds been reduced, but other funds they've relied upon in the past have been reduced or eliminated as well. For 2013, the forest's expected funding will maintain only 628 miles of roads.

Maintenance costs are expensive. A rough estimate shows that roads maintained for high-clearance vehicles costs an average of about \$715 per mile, while those maintained for passenger cars cost about \$1,750 per mile. Decommissioning does not just close the road with a gate or boulders – they remove it from service by making it unusable for any activity. So please take a look at this issue and let your voices be heard.

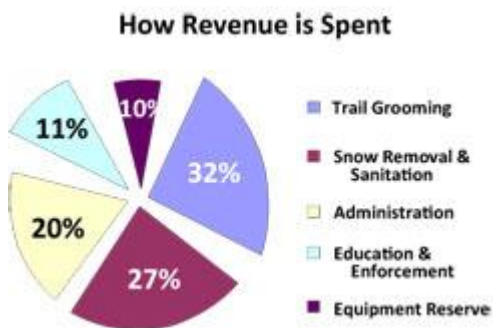
**Thank you
Gail Garman**

Visit Our Website for the Latest Information: www.nooksacknordicskiclub.org

BUY A SNO-PARK PERMIT

Don't forget to buy a Sno-Park permit! You'll need one to park at the Salmon Ridge Sno-Park, or across the highway at the Anderson Creek or Silver Fir campground from Nov 1st to April 30th. They are \$40 for a seasonal permit or \$20 for a one day permit, plus \$2 extra if you buy them through a retail store.

The fees you pay help make the WA State non-motorized Winter Recreation program totally self sustaining with no tax payer money needed. Proceeds are used to maintain and improve Sno-Park facilities. They pay for plowing out the Sno-Park, sanitation facilities, trail grooming and signs, mapping, education, enforcement and program administration (see chart). And now you can



purchase them on-line at:

<http://www.parks.wa.gov/winter/nonmotorparks/permits/> and print off a temporary permit for your vehicle, or you may buy them through NNSC, REI, Backcountry Essentials, or at Crossroads Grocery in Maple Falls.

This year, the USFS just got a Sno-Park grant to step up enforcement, so don't get caught without one; the fine is steep! And with the addition of a new Sno-Park this year, there

are now 47 Sno-Parks in Washington where you can use them.

Jim Rhodes

SILVER STAR SKI RESORT & SOVEREIGN LAKE NORDIC CENTER SKI TRIP DECEMBER 6 – 10, 2013

Start skiing early! This is one of the first areas to get snow. Over 100 KM 's of groomed trails and 6 Hours from Bellingham in British Columbia. Stay in a B & B on the way up the mountain or in Vernon. Make your own arrangements. Four members have already made arrangements at Alpine Flowers B & B. Join us for as long as you want. Checkout the following websites for accommodations:

www.silverstacottage.com, & www.schellmotorexpress.com.

Also you can go to B&B's British Columbia, Canada and find others. Please let me know if you are interested in going and I will try to coordinate arrangements.

Coordinator Sharon Holmes
360-647-8606

Smrconsulting98229@msn.com

MANNING PARK SKI TRIP JANUARY 17-20, 2014

New in 2014 The resort has changed ownership and the winter section of their website is not up to date. Troy, who is in charge of the winter ski area emailed me that there will be no change in trail prices (\$20 before 12:30, \$15 after; For 65+ it is \$12 before 12:30, \$9 after). He also wrote, "I am pleased to

tell you that we have purchased two new snowcats, which will give us a total of four. More than we have ever had before. The exciting thing about having these new snowcats is that we will be able to meet our commitment to having the best grooming possible.

Ski four days (stay three nights). Groomed trails, snowshoe trails, hot tub, sauna, steam room, swimming pool.

This is always a great trip. Chalet members plan the meals for their group and we share the cost of the food. We will have three dinners and three breakfasts. Bring your own food for lunch. Alcohol is not included in the food costs.

Carpooling is preferable. We can work together setting up carpools.

Stay in 1 chalet. The chalet has 2 double beds, 8 bunks, 3 baths, full central kitchen and dining/social area. Bedding and linens supplied with BASIC dishes and cutlery, a small microwave, a coffee pot and some cooking utensils. Washing dishes is our responsibility.

Cost is \$157 USD per person. Based on 10 adults and exchange rate at time of trip. Please make checks payable to NNSC, and they can be mailed to 103 Morey Avenue, Bellingham WA, 68225 or given to Elizabeth at the November or December meetings.

Cross Country Ski Trip to [Manning Park British Columbia](http://www.manningpark.com). The number at Lodge is 1-800-330-3321.

Coordinator Elizabeth Martindale

emartindale@comcast.net

STAKE & LOGAN LAKES & KANE VALLEY

Two Trips!! Stay 3 nights and 4 days of skiing.

Dec. 27 – 30, 2013

Coordinated by Sharon Holmes
2 vacancies

Feb. 14 - 17, 2014

(Presidents' Day Weekend)
Coordinated by Kurt Duey

This high altitude ski destination has three different settings to ski in: ultra-groomed Stake Lake, semi-groomed Logan Lake, and seldom groomed Kane Valley offering a variety of ski opportunities. We will be staying again at the luxurious Highland House B&B in Logan Lake, BC. The cost of \$256 per person includes meals with special dietary needs accommodated. There is a maximum of 10 or 11 people.

For more details go to our web site, <http://www.nooksacknordicskiclub.org/>, and select Calendar of Activities or contact Kurt, 360-820-4174 or kurt.duey@comcast.net or Sharon, 360-647-8606, or smrconsulting98229@msn.com.

These trips have been very popular in past years and fill very quickly. To hold a space send a check for the full amount made out to NNSC to the trip coordinator, Kurt Duey, 2631 Sunset Dr., Bellingham, WA, 98225 or Sharon Holmes, 552 Rainbow Dr., Sedro Woolley, WA 98284.



LAKE WENATCHEE TRIP JANUARY 31 THRU FEBRUARY 3, 2014

This area offers seven different skiing locations within 16 miles of where we are staying. Accommodations are in Plain WA at Beaver Valley Lodge. Stay is for 3 nights and 4 days of skiing. The lodge may be seen at the [Beaver Valley Lodge](#) website.

The Wenatchee River bisects Lake Wenatchee State Park, thus creating the South Park and North park. The South Park has 18.6 miles and the North Park has 3.1 miles of groomed trails. Skate skiing is available in the North Park. South Park also offers tubing and a snow play area. There are 4.9 miles of snow shoeing trails. Another location is Nason Ridge that offers tracks and a skate lane. Additionally the trail leads to back country skiing for the more adventuresome. Total trail length is 17.9 miles of which 12 miles are groomed. Nearby is Chiwawa with the See and Ski trail groomed for track and skate skiing for 4 miles. Flying loop and Squirrel Run are 2.9 and 2.5 miles, respectively. A Sno Park Permit is required and also a Special Groomed Trails Permit sticker. Drivers are responsible for the Sno Park Permit. Riders will share the cost of the Special Permit.

Special permit stays with the driver after the trip is completed.

Meals will be planned and members will share the cost of the food. There will be three dinners and three breakfasts. Bring your own food for lunch.

Alcohol is not included in the food costs.

Cost is \$200 USD per person for lodging. Make checks payable to NNSC for \$200. Mail to 3310 Burch Mountain Road, Wenatchee, WA 98801.

Coordinator Lynn Alderson at 360-223-5859 or lalder3122@yahoo.com.

LAST WINTER'S TRAIL FUNDING AND EXPENSE REPORT

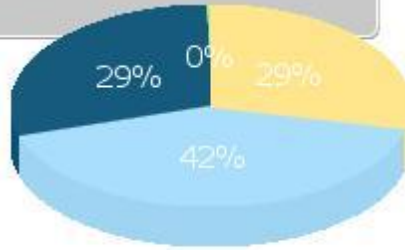
So what does it take to fund the Salmon Ridge Trail system for 1 year? Would you believe \$33,792? That's what it took last year (see graph on next page).

Thanks to all the work of volunteers, the WA State Snow Park Program, and the NRTP grant all together, we make it happen. We should be very proud of maintaining these public trails because without the efforts of the Nooksack Nordic Ski Club, there would be no groomed trails.

Happily we can report that we are once again well funded for this upcoming winter. The Snow Park Program funding was boosted to \$12,926 (\$7,748 for grooming) and we have another \$16,000 over the next 2 years from National Recreational Trails Program.

SALMON RIDGE FUNDING 2012 -13

- WA State Sno-Park Program=9700.00
- Nat'l Recreational Trails Program=14023.91
- Volunteer Labor=9922.65
- USFS=145.76



Total Expenditures = \$33,792.32

Trail Maintenance (mowing, brush cutting, tree limb cutting) = **\$16,252**

Plowing = \$2178

Grooming = \$12,362

Sanicans = \$3000

These grants aren't free money though, it takes the commitment of volunteers to work on the trails as "match" to make this all possible. So far this year, volunteers have provided the equivalent of \$4,457 in labor.

Way to go!

Gail Garman

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Monthly meetings are the first
Thursday, 7-9 PM

January 2
February 6
March 6

Nooksack Nordic Ski Club Membership Application and Sno~Park Order Form

Use this form to purchase Sno~Park permits, or to join the club or to renew your membership.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____
Street/PO Box City State Zip

PHONE 1: _____ (Home, Cell, Work) PHONE 2: _____ (H, C, W)

EMAIL 1: _____ EMAIL 2: _____

(Please check the appropriate items)

NNSC MEMBERSHIP DUES: \$30 per individual _____ \$45 per household _____

Student \$15 _____ Sno~Park permit*: \$40 _____ Total amount: _____

*Vehicle License _____

Please read this agreement carefully before signing and dating:

In signing and submitting this form, I recognize that cross-country skiing involves strenuous activities, is potentially hazardous, and involves inherent risk. I knowingly and voluntarily assume all responsibility and risk for my actions and my family's actions while cross-country skiing, during travel related to Nooksack Nordic Ski Club (NNSC) activities, and during use of facilities and equipment. This includes, but is not limited to falls, collisions, effects of weather, conditions of equipment and trails and other areas while skiing or participating in NNSC activities. I hereby for myself, my heirs, administrators, or anyone else who may bring claims on my or my family members' behalf, covenant not to sue, release and discharge the NNSC, its Board and Committee members, and all related organizations or individuals, from any and all claims of liability for death, personal injury, or property damage arising from my or my family members' participation in NNSC activities.

Name (Print please): _____

Signature: _____

Other family member(s): _____

Other signatures: _____

Date: _____

Please distribute my contact information to the membership. We omit street address from the distribution list, showing only city, phone and email address(es), (Please note, if you decline to be listed, then you won't get the list, either)

Yes _____ No _____

Please check preferred alternative for receipt of Snow News is Good News newsletter:

Email: _____ U.S. mail: _____ or NNSC website: _____

Please make checks out to: Nooksack Nordic Ski Club and mail with this form to:
Nooksack Nordic Ski Club, P.O. Box 28793, Bellingham, WA 98228