

Snow News IS Good News

Newsletter of the Nooksack Nordic Ski Club

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



Board Members

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Debra Jusak 201-8624

Vice President

Dave Gertstenberger
255-0749

Secretary

Allan Richardson 733-5477

Program Coordinator

Connie Cogburn 305-5435

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Jim Rhodes 734-8246

Greg Aanes 389-2719
Joe Nolting 656-6995

Other Volunteers

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Lynne Oliver 592-9005

Trip Coordinator

Kurt Duey 820-4174

Salmon Ridge Coordinators

Kurt Duey 820-4174
Gail Garman 371-3554
Jim Rhodes 734-8246

Membership

Jim Rhodes 734-8246

Publicity & Hospitality Chair

Sharon Robinson Holmes
647-8606

Newsletter Editor

Lynn Alderson 223-5859

Webmaster

Jackson Thomas 661-3095

Day Trip Coordinator

Don Hicks 733-4815

February 2013

Avalanche Safety Presented By Pat Pakenne



Club Meeting

When – Thursday, Feb 7

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

Who - Anyone is welcome!

Where – Whatcom Educational Bldg's
Community Room at 511 E Holly in
Bellingham. Building is on the right
(north) side of the street at the corner of
High St and Holly St. It is a one-story
building with parking.

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 \$15. This is an excellent aerobic machine, which will help get you ready for the snow.

Kurt Duey 820-4174
Kurt.duey@comcast.net



2013 OFFICERS ELECTED

The Board of Directors of NNSC elected the club officers for the coming year at its meeting on January 28. We were very fortunate that all three of the existing officers agreed to continue in their jobs for another year, and they were all unanimously re-elected. Deb Jusak will be the President for the coming year, Dave Gerstenberger will be the Vice President and Allan Richardson will be the Secretary.

The board also started working to fill all the various important jobs that keep the club running during the year. Lynne Oliver will continue as the Treasurer. Jim Rhodes is the membership chairman. Gail Garman will continue as Salmon Ridge coordinator. Gail and Dave Gerstenberger will work together on the grant applications for the year. Connie Cogburn will take over the responsibility of scheduling programs at the club meetings.

One of the responsibilities of the Salmon Ridge coordinator has been to work with the groomers to schedule the grooming work, resolve the many problems that come up and let everyone know what is happening. Since this is a big, time-consuming responsibility it was decided to make this a separate job. Joe Nolting has volunteered for this assignment and will be recruiting other people to work with him.

Several other jobs have not yet been finalized and we may be asking for more volunteers in the near future.

John Sarich

A GLORIOUS WHISTLER TRIP

Three days of blue skies, fresh snow, great skiing and even better company made our recent trip to Whistler Olympic Park a great success.

Fifteen of us from NNSC skied at the new Whistler Olympic Park on January 11th 12th and 13th. This turned out to be incredible scheduling as we hit three days of beautiful cloudless skies after there had been several days of heavy snow earlier in the week.

The Whistler Olympic Park is the venue constructed for the 2010 Olympics and is where the Olympic cross-country, biathlon and ski jumping events were held. In addition to the competition trails for the cross-country and biathlon events, it also contains over 40 kilometers of recreational trails and several large, flat areas groomed for lessons and basic practice. We drove up to the area Friday morning and had a full day of exploring trails before heading to our hotel in Squamish late in the afternoon.

On Saturday, we took advantage of our large group size when ten of us got a ride up to the adjacent Callaghan Country ski area. This ride took us up 8.5 kilometers, gaining 1500 feet in elevation, to the beautiful area around the Callaghan Country Lodge. Five of us got to ride on a snowmobile and trailer, four more rode on the outside of the groomer, and one lucky person (Cathy Cameron) got to ride shotgun on the warm inside of the groomer cab. This enabled us to ski on the almost deserted and spectacular Upper Callaghan trails for the day, eat

lunch at their lodge, then ski back down the hill at the end of the day.

This busy day was followed by a dinner at the Howe Sound Brewery in Squamish. Then Sunday gave us one more chance to ski all day before the drive home.

It was a great group of people and everyone helped to make it a fun trip. A special thanks to Joe Nolting who gave several of us some excellent skating lessons on both Friday and Sunday.

John and Dianna Sarich



Helmeted up and ready for our ride to the upper Callaghan area are Joe Nolting, Dianna Sarich, John Sarich, MaryLou Stern and Connie Cogburn. Meanwhile, Gail Garman is standing by laughing at us.

THREE GENERATIONS OF RHODES FAMILY ON THE LOGAN LAKE TRIP THIS YEAR

I think most of the membership is familiar with Jim Rhodes, as he has been very involved in the club for many years in one capacity or another, Board member, membership chair, and brushing parties. Jeff Rhodes, his son is our past president.

But have you met Sabrina. She is two years old and our youngest skier. Like her dad and grandparents she is starting her skiing adventures at an early age and enjoying it very much by the smiles you can see as she skis the trails. It was great to have all three generations for the first time this year. Although both set of adults have been going on this trip for 6 years, having a two year old made it more enjoyable for the rest of us. We adults learn from our youngest member, new words, how to dance to Island music and all around how to let loose and have a great time. As a club it is thrilling to see the third generation enjoying the Nordic experience. It should start to give us a whole new philosophy on our approach to the sport and club activities.

Snow conditions were great at Kane and Skate Lakes. Logan would have been better if a herd of wild horses had not gone through some of the trails and left hoof prints in the tracks and in the middle of the trails making snowplowing a real challenge. All 11 skiers stated that they had a great time skiing, dancing the New Year in and watching some interesting and thought provoking movies. As always the meals were delicious and we all enjoyed having everything including lunches prepared for us. I always feel so spoiled when I go to Highland House by our host, Don and hostess, Jill. If you have not tired this skiing venue, I would highly recommend that you do so soon. Remember there are two opportunities, this trip and over President's weekend.

Sharon R. Holmes



Rhodes Family Taking A Break

LAST MINUTE DAY-TRIP/CARPOOLING EMAIL LIST SERVER

Don Hicks, Day-Trip Coordinator, has configured an NNSC Email List Server hosted by GoogleGroups.com.

The primary purpose of this Email List Server is to facilitate the organization of last minute day trips and carpooling to our home trails near Mt. Baker and other local destinations such as Cypress Mountain, Stevens Pass, Manning Park, etc..

With the highly variable weather and snow conditions in the Pacific Northwest, it is often a last minute decision to go skiing in a few days. So, if you are going out and wish to invite others to join you for company and companionship or just carpooling if you have room to share or a need for a ride, you will be able to just send an email to

NooksackNordics@GoogleGroups.com. Also the list may be used to ask questions and for other discussions between all members of the list on the general subject of XC skiing.

Membership in this Email service is voluntary and restricted to NNSC members. This list is independent of and does not affect official communications from the club leaders to the entire club

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membership. Only members of the list can send emails to the list so you will receive no SPAM. You may easily unsubscribe from the list at any time (see the links at the bottom of every email you receive). All email addresses are kept private. Also all replies to messages are only sent to the person who sent the original message and not to the entire group (unless you "Reply All").

If you are not already a member of the list, watch for an invitation to join the list in your email if you are a new or current member of NNSC. You may then accept membership in the list or decline (by simply ignoring the invitation). You may join this list at any time later by sending an email to the list moderator, Don Hicks, hicks46@netzero.net.



Top of the Mountain Trail
Lynne Oliver, Joan Dudley and
Elizabeth Martindale

NEW PORT MANN BRIDGE NOW OPEN WITH A TOLL

After years of construction the new Port Mann Bridge over the Fraser River has been opened as of Dec. 1, 2012, and Canada Highway 1 (the freeway) is routed over it instead of the old 4-lane bridge (one of the worst bottlenecks in BC). At 10 lanes the new bridge is the widest in the world. The old bridge will be torn down.

We discovered it suddenly on the Hollyburn trip on Dec. 16 and it is a TOLL BRIDGE! The toll for passenger cars is \$3 but they are having an introductory discount to \$1.50 through Feb. 2013. There are no toll booths! It assesses the toll electronically. We just sailed over it with no problem (but we own them \$1.50). They are reading your license plate with cameras and other sensors, and are set up for plates from all of Canada, USA, and Mexico.

The best info I have found is at www.treo.ca/the-bridge/ which has payment info, and alternate routes information. We can pay the toll on this website. You do not want to be in violation of any kind in Canada as they could deny you entry at the border. With the elimination of this bottleneck the Highway 1 route will be even more desirable for our trips to Hollyburn, Whistler, etc.

LAKE WENATCHEE TRIP FEBRUARY 1st-4th, 2013

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. Lodging is \$200 per person. The lodge may be seen at www.beavervalleylodge.com.

The Wenatchee River bisects Lake Wenatchee State Park, thus creating the South Park and North park. The South Park has 18.6 miles of groomed trails 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. Carpooling is encouraged and will be arranged prior to the trip.

Make checks payable to NNSC for \$200. Mail to 1514 Historic Lane, Wenatchee, WA 98801.

Coordinator is Lynn Alderson at 223-5859 or lalder3122@yahoo.com (note new email address)

STAKE, LOGAN LAKES & KANE VALLEY SKI TRIP FEBRUARY 15 – 18, 2013

(Presidents' Day Weekend)
Coordinated by Don Hicks
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 \$253 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 EVENTS or contact Don at 360-733-4815 or hicks46@netzero.net or Sharon at 360-647-8606 or smrconsulting@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, Don Hicks, 1546 Hillsdale Rd., Bellingham, WA, 98226.

ECHO RIDGE SKI TRIP FEBRUARY 22ND to 24th

What: Echo Ridge is gorgeous and has it all – more than **25 miles of groomed skate and classic cross-country ski trails** with terrain for every taste and skill level, plus additional 'backcountry' trails and snowshoe trails. It offers breathtaking vistas, low prices, dependable snow and no crowds. It is located 20 minutes outside of Chelan and Manson. Because the trails are located on the ridge tops they are generally above the fog layer that settles in the valleys. So, whether you are a skate or classic skier, or prefer to snowshoe, if you are looking for sunny skiing head for **ECHO RIDGE!** Check out: http://www.lakechelannordic.org/index.php?page_id=212 for more information about the trails.

When: Feb. 22nd - 24th to join Keats and Gail Garman.

Where: Chelan, WA. To get to the Nordic ski area, from Chelan, head west on Highway 150 (Manson Highway) toward Manson and follow the brown information signs with the cross-country skier on it. Travel about 2 miles to Boyd Road, turn right and follow Boyd Road up approximately 7 miles to Cooper Gulch Road. Continue past the Echo Valley Ski Area and take a right up the hill another 2 miles to the lower or the upper Echo Ridge parking lots.

Trail fees: The daily rate for skiers 18 and over is \$10 a day payable at the trail head. **17 and under ski free.** Note that Sno-Park, Northwest Forest Pass and Golden Age passes are not accepted.

Lodging: Arrange your own lodging. There are many different motels in Chelan to choose from. We will be staying at the Apple Inn, cost is \$43 per room, \$39/seniors, to \$55 w/kitchenettes per night. For more info or to book online, check out: <http://appleinnmotel.com/>. Or call: 1-800-276-3229.

Travel: It's 215 miles or about 4 hours from Bellingham. We will be arranging carpooling for those that want to join us. Our plan is to leave Bellingham early Friday to get to Chelan mid afternoon. We'll ski Saturday & part of Sunday, then leave by 1 pm Sunday to return home.

Meals: At area restaurants or as room mates arrange in kitchenettes.

Other points of interest: there are a number of wineries in the

area where you can sample their wines.

Contact information: Call Gail at 371-3554, or email her at: Evobunny@comcast.net or keatsandgail@comcast.net to let us know you will be joining the group.

NICKEL PLATE SKI TRIP MARCH 7 – 9, 2013

Cost: \$168 USD.

There are 50 km of groomed Track set Trails and 20 km of backcountry trails behind Apex Mountain. To see their web site, go to [Nickelplate Nordic](http://NickelplateNordic.com). This is, in my opinion, one of the better Nordic trail systems in B.C with a very active club that keeps the facilities in top condition. This site has the longest ski season with its high elevation. I also recommend that members may elect to Ski China Ridge above Princeton, with 40 kilometers of trails, on the way to Nickelplate, this is another possibility for members who prefer the quiet beauty of the B.C. mountains. It is tracked but not groomed as well as Nickelplate. It has several warming huts and a backcountry cabin as well. To see their web site click on [Chinaridge Trails](http://ChinaridgeTrails.com). It is 176 miles to the Apex Mountain Resort, where our lodging will be located. Carpooling is encouraged.

Coordinator: Greg Aanes
gregaanes@yahoo.com

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Monthly meetings are the first Thursday, 7-9 PM

February 7
March 7

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: _____

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