

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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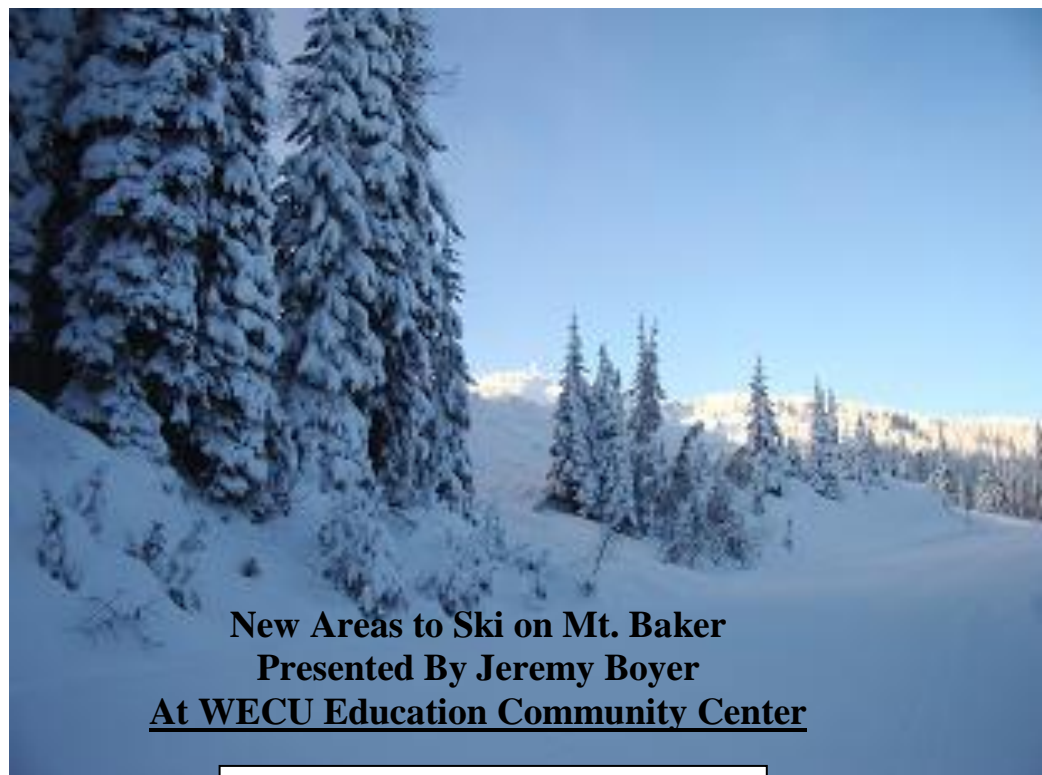
Don Hicks 733-4815

Grooming Coordinators

Joe Nolting 656-6995

Peter Tryon 992-7065

February 2014



**New Areas to Ski on Mt. Baker
Presented By Jeremy Boyer
At WECU Education Community Center**

Club Meeting

When – Thursday, February 6th

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

BOARD MEMBERS NEEDED

We need members who are interested in supporting and promoting the club to serve on the board. Two-year term. If interested, please contact a board member.

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

DECEMBER'S LOGAN LAKE TRIP REPORT

WE had three new members join us on this trip. Welcome Polly, Martha and Dawn. We were concerned when the road conditions were mostly clear and there was no snow on the ground when we arrived at the Visitors Center in Merritt. We decided go on to Stake Lake for skiing the first day. The parking lot and trails were icy and there was not a lot of snow. Jim & Sue Rhodes were seen in the parking lot and they did not have much positive to say about their skiing experience the last 2 hours. Nevertheless since we had been driving all morning, the 6 of us decided to give it a go. Once we got away from the parking lot and around the lake, conditions started to improve. We even had some sunshine and a nice ski for about 2 hours. On the return trip it got colder and icier. We were glad to get back to the car and check into the B & B. Given the conditions



Alan Richardson and Dick Etter in Background at Silver Star

of the snow and no new snow, 6 of us decided to travel the 1 ½ hour trip north and ski at Sun Peaks on Saturday. Both Rhodes families opted to stay at Stake Lake. The conditions were great at Sun Peaks and we decided to go up on the chair and ski down Holy Cow. This Nordic trail is a gentle downhill ski and lots of fun. Everyone had a great day and enjoyed the experience. We finally arrived at the McGillivray Lake Warming Hut, had lunch and some of us skied back into the village and some of us skied and walk a mile into the village- a long story.

We lucked out and had a couple of inches of new snow the last full day and all 11 of us went back to Stake Lake. What a difference a little snow can be. Conditions were much improved and we all had a great ski day. It was a fun group, whether we were skiing together, having a delicious dinner with some lively conversation, watching Sabrina, the three year old, burn off some energy with Papa Jim or watching a movie there was never a dull moment. I will say that this is the worst snow conditions I have seen in 7 years of going on this trip.

Sharon Holmes, Trip Leader



**The Rhodes Family
at Logan Lake**

MANNING PARK SKI TRIP

Whether to ski up the hill or take the bus and ski down – that is the question. This year was different from past years. Instead of snow-laden trees, they had sections that were white only from frost. There was plenty of snow, but it was not fresh. But the sky was a beautiful blue with bright sunshine and that is a welcome change from the gray that plaques us on the Westside. The chalet was not full. There were 8 of us hardy souls. Lynn, Elizabeth, Joan, Dick, Kurt, myself and a new member April. We also had a new member Pam, who came all the way to Manning to ski one day. She's the hardest, driving solo and with the hunger a skier knows when having a winter of little snowfall. The rest of us carpoled and shared meals. These trips not only give us each other but lowers the cost substantially with the wonderfully prepared healthy, hardy meals. I can't say enough about the wonderful trips the Nooksack Nordic Ski Club offers. They are good all around. So I decided to ski up the hill. It was great exercise and that warming hut was a welcome sight and the bus

driver who gave me a ride down was an angel in disguise.

Cindy Hassell

STAKE & LOGAN LAKES & KANE VALLEY

Stay 3 nights and 4 days of skiing.

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

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

NICKELPLATE & CHINA RIDGE SKI TRIP

February 21st – 24th, 2014

Heartily recommended by Kurt and Dick, NickelPlate is an amazing locale to enjoy the challenge and fellowship of cross country skiing. Especially since we've had so little snow locally.

NickelPlate Nordic Centre is located in the scenic Okanagan Valley, just 45 minutes from downtown Penticton. It boasts 65 km of groomed trails for both classic and skate skiing as well as well marked backcountry and snowshoe trails. The majority of runs are for beginner and intermediate skiers. For hardier souls, black trails are also available. At 6000 feet elevation NickelPlate has one of the longest ski seasons in the western hemisphere. It also has a warm and cozy 4000 square foot day lodge with kitchen, eating and lounge areas, and separate heated washrooms and shower facilities, and a full line of rental equipment.

NicklePlate Trail fee: \$20.

China Ridge offers an escape from the maddening crowds. At 4300 feet, the area features 40 km of trails (20 km groomed; 20 km untracked for the backcountry ski enthusiast). Portions of the trails follow old roads or skid trails through open timber, across natural grassy slopes, and through a variety of forested terrain. The skier will usually experience clear sunny days, dry snow conditions, and outstanding vistas to the valley below. While the terrain is undulating, most of the trails would be considered beginner to intermediate. **China Ridge Trail fee: \$15.**

Lodging is at the Sandman Hotel. Phone number is [250-493-7151](tel:250-493-7151) or [\(800\) SANDMAN](tel:800-356-6655) and quote Group #235665. \$141 USD per person, double occupancy, 3 nights. Based on 8 adults and the exchange rate at the time of the trip. Hotel reservation and payment is on your own. We have a guaranteed group rate that expires on February 7th. With one of the most gorgeous landscapes in BC, Penticton has an endless array of activities for pleasure seekers. Conveniently located across from the South Okanagan Events Centre, the Sandman Hotel is walking distance from a variety of restaurants and the ever popular Penticton Channel. If you're looking to unwind and relax, comfortable guest rooms, a pool and whirlpool offer the perfect reprieve, with on-site dining and high-speed Internet access. Our rooms are planned as doubles, 2 people per room. Many rooms have microwaves and fridges. We also have an extra kitchen room for those of you that would like to fix your own breakfast etc.

The Plan

02/21, 8 AM: carpool from the Sunset Drive parking lot. We'll stop in Hope for a tasty snack and then take the southern route to Penticton. A few hours later, ski for a couple of hours at gorgeous China Ridge. We'll arrive in Penticton about dinnertime.

02/22, Ski NicklePlate, have lots of fun. Sleep well.

02/23, Ski NicklePlate, have even more fun. Sleep even better.

02/24, 9:30 AM: Drive home happy, well exercised and

exhausted via the northern route. (30 minutes shorter than the southern route). A weekend well spent!

Other

Share gas costs and ski area parking fees. Free parking at the hotel.

Meals and snacks are on your own. We'll gather to discuss where we want to eat together. If you'd like fix your own meals, you're welcome to do so in the kitchen room. In addition to the kitchen room, there's also a lounge so it'll be easy to gather and make plans.

To be included on the trip, contact Dawn Groves, dawn@dawngroves.com. To secure the group rate for the hotel, please reserve a room by Feb 7th. This is going to be a delightful adventure so don't miss it.

This will be a delightful trip. Our first ski stop at China Ridge has stunning views and great runs. Our primary destination, NickelPlate (above Apex Ski Resort), is noted for its grandeur, scope, and the variety of beautifully groomed XC, skating and snowshoe trails. The Sandman Hotel boasts all the amenities and is walking distance from Starbucks, Tim Horton's, etc. The hotel has a lounge as well as a spacious lobby. Our block of rooms are adjacent so we can bang on doors if skiers sleep in. <grin> We'll also have a kitchen room available (if you want to fix your own snacks) so it'll be easy to gather as a group. This is a wonderful opportunity to ski world-class runs in comfort and style. Carpooling is preferred so if you are willing to drive, let her know.



Sharon Holmes and Elizabeth Martindale at Silver Star

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Monthly meetings are the first Thursday, 7-9 PM

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