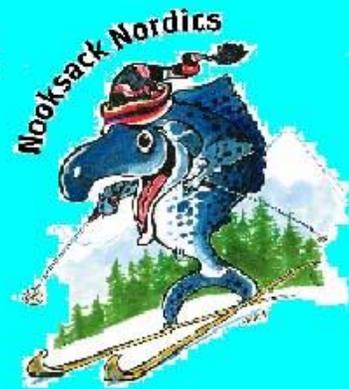


# Snow News IS Good News

Newsletter of the Nooksack Nordic Ski Club

P.O. Box 28793, Bellingham, WA 98228  
Website: [www.Nooksacknordicskiclub.org](http://www.Nooksacknordicskiclub.org)



## Board Members

### President

Pete Tryon 922-7065

### Vice President

Jim Rhodes 734-8246

### Secretary

Dana Downs 325-3480

### Treasurer

Lynne Oliver 592-9005

### Program Coordinator

Vacant

Wendy Nichols 306-0306

Bill Laughlin 961-2725

## Other Volunteers

### Salmon Ridge

#### Coordinators

Gail Garman 371-3554

Jim Rhodes 734-8246

### Membership

Jim Rhodes 734-8246

### Publicity

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### Hospitality Chair

SharonHolmes 647-8606

### Newsletter Editor

Lynn Alderson

509-885-6342

### Webmaster

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### Trip Coordinator

Kurt Duey 820-4174

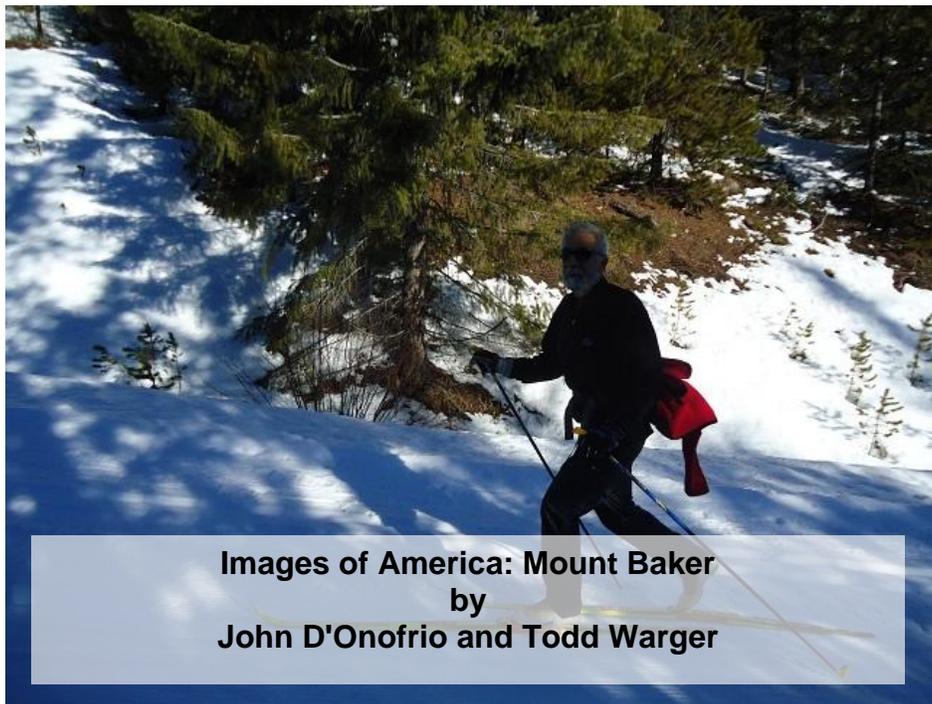
### Day Trip Coordinator

Don Hicks 733-4815

### Grooming Coordinators

Peter Tryon 922-7065

March 2016



Images of America: Mount Baker  
by  
John D'Onofrio and Todd Warger

## Club Meeting

**When** – Thursday, March 3rd

Membership Orientation at 7:00 PM  
Meeting starts at 7:30 PM

**Who** - Anyone is welcome!

**Where** – Garden Street Methodist  
Church at 1326 N. Garden St. in  
Bellingham, WA

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## DESSERT SOCIAL AND PLANNING MEETING

Bring something to share and join us to hear the results of our membership survey, discuss ski activities both past and future, and consider where we can still ski this spring.

## MARCH'S PRESENTATION

Our speaker for March 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting is John D'Onofrio and Todd Warger Mount Baker rises over northern Washington State like a mirage, dominating the landscape like few mountains in the United States. On a clear day it is visible from as far away as Tacoma and Victoria, BC. This immense volcano is a study in superlatives: It is the third highest peak in the state; holds the world record for snowfall in a season; and is the second most heavily glaciated peak in the contiguous United States. The mountain has played a dominant role in the history of our region, serving as a beacon to seafarers and a lure for both timber barons and rough-and-ready mountain men in search of gold, timber and adventure.

## BOARD MEETING SUMMARY



This is a summary of the January 25th board meeting. The NNSC survey has had 90 responses to date, with different groups having different priorities. Grooming options remain a continuing discussion.

Annual board elections will take place at the February general meeting. Pete, Jim and Dana have agreed to run again. Dick and Gail are not returning, leaving 2 vacancies. As of Dec 31, the club account balance is \$10,483.

Ask any board member if you'd like a copy of the full minutes.

**Jim Rhodes**

## AWARD FOR GAIL GARMAN

At the February general membership meeting, Gail Garman was presented with a lifetime NNSC Family Club Membership. This recognizes the hundreds of hours (months) of work and thousands of miles of travel that she has volunteered in the service of both our club and for statewide winter recreation. Whether attending statewide committee meetings, brushing trails, preparing for work parties, or working on grant applications at home, Gail has been a tireless advocate for Nordic skiing in the state of Washington.

As she retires from our board, we hope that she has more time to ski on the trails that she has put so much effort into developing. We also hope that there is enough snow for her to ski over the bridge at the top of the Cougar Loop for which she is responsible. But she says that she'll still show up for some of the work parties!

The family membership is especially appropriate because it also recognizes her husband Keats, who has also put in record numbers of volunteer hours.

Gail is an inspiration to volunteers. Thanks for the example!

**Pete Tyron**



**Gail Garman and Pete Tyron**

## THANKS!

I would like to thank the club's trip leaders, who have once again provided the membership with opportunities to cross-country ski at some of our favorite destinations. Without their efforts these trips would not happen. I would also like to encourage the members to think about becoming a trip leader and leading a trip themselves. You can have the cost of your room paid for in return for your leadership. Many of our trip leaders have sponsored the same trip over the years but there is always the need for others to join in and help get us out on the snow.

**Kurt Duey**

## FRED MEYER COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM



If you have a Fred Meyer's Reward card, you can link it to one non-profit, who will receive donations based on your purchases. Please make Nooksack Nordic Ski Club your non-profit of choice.

Your personal points, fuel points, and rebates are not impacted by this choice. You're just doing additional good for the non-profit of your choice.

The link below describes the program (in general terms) and provides appropriate links to log you on and create the linkage for the program. Note that you do have to create a Fred Meyer online account that has your reward card number in it for this to work.

The link:

<https://www.fredmeyer.com/topic/community-rewards-4>

Lynne Oliver is the tireless person behind us becoming a 501(c)3 over a year ago and also signed NNSC up for the Fred Meyer Community Rewards Program. Thanks, Lynne!

**Jim Rhodes**

## ANDERSON CREEK ROAD

On Dec 9, 2014 a rain on snow event caused the second highest stream flows ever

recorded. During that event, Anderson Creek Road was washed out at 0.9 miles, isolating 4 miles of groomed ski trail. The road bed is scoured up to 5 feet deep for 140 feet.

Gail Garman worked closely with Doug Huddle (Citizens for Forest Roads), Drake Harkness Trucking, and various Forest Service folks to develop a workable repair plan costing "only" \$8,000. This includes using rock from Shuksan quarry near the state highway department buildings to minimize trucking costs. USFS was initially against this due to inconsistent rock size but agreed to proceed due to long term work with both Drake and NNSC. The NNSC submitted a supplementary Sno-Park grant request, which I defended in Wenatchee last summer. With the poor season last winter and subsequent low sales of Sno-Park permits, the Sno-Park system actually dug into equipment reserves just to continue existing funding for this season. Thus, our request wasn't seriously considered and it was even suggested we should be looking elsewhere for funding.

Our USFS liaison encouraged Gail to write a RAC grant request, at which point Gail responded with something like "you want me to do WHAT? – write yet another grant the night before I leave for Turkey – you MUST be kidding....". But, Gail did stay up half the night writing yet another grant. Not just any grant request, but with extensive documentation and justification. RAC stands for Resource Advisory Committee. This funding has something to do with rural schools and is administered by USFS. Here is

a link if you'd like to try to figure out how rural schools is linked to USFS restoration projects and federal funding <http://www.fs.usda.gov/pts/>

On Jan 29, Gail and I ventured to Sedro Woolley and I presented our proposal to 12 USFS staff members. Gwen Howatt (Mt. Baker Ski Area) and Doug Huddle both spoke on our behalf.

We've subsequently been advised that our grant has been funded. Work will commence this spring once weather permits, returning all of Anderson Creek Road to the Sno-Park trail system for 2016-17. Gail Garman has worked closely and positively with various USFS staff members over a number of years. NNSC is viewed very positively and referred to as a partner because of this nurtured working relationship. In her letter notifying us of grant receipt, Erin Uloth, District Ranger writes "During deliberations, the RAC members brought up a couple of key factors that influenced their decision-making, including: synergy with other groups and/or partnerships (whether that's matching or just collaboration); and demonstrated past successes with similar work and/or past funding. I share these thoughts here for your reference should you be interested in applying again next year. "

**Jim Rhodes**



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## LOGAN LAKE – TRIP TWO

Seven signed up for our second ski trip of the season to Logan Lake. The weather at our Logan Lake ski trip was generally above freezing. This caused the tracks to ice up and get fast but the groomed inner area was workable and not too icy. I felt that caution was the order of the day, though generally the skiing was quick. We skied our first day at Kane Valley, where we skied a new trail named "Sundowner". We all went at our own pace, which made for maximum group fun.

No one skied the trails at Logan Lake, as the better grooming at Stake Lake kept icing problems under control. As usual, the Overlander Ski Club out of Kamloops, has done a first class job of running and maintaining this trail system. The warmer temperatures made for a very spring-like ski, and the groomed trails of Stake Lake kept us coming back to ski there three out of the four days of the trip.

One member's old ski boot came apart so we drove to a ski shop in nearby Kamloops where new boots were purchased. With the favorable exchange rate her new boots were a good deal.

The two ladies on the trip went snowshoeing and got lost but reoriented themselves by calling the parking attendants for directions! That is the kind of place Stake Lake is; big enough to get lost in but with a very effective support structure that ensures a safe yet fun time.

Our stay at the Highland House Bed & Breakfast was relaxing and tranquil. Much reading took place in the evenings. As usual the meals were well received.

Next year I think I will order the vegetarian plate instead of ribs. I'm no carnivore and don't care for meat as a main course. Still we are in cowboy country, where beef is King. Don is more than willing to substitute according to his guests taste.

Next year this trip will be on the nights of February 17,18 and 19<sup>th</sup>, which is the President's Day weekend. This will be another opportunity to be pampered, ski all you want and at the end of the day relax, without the need to cook or even wash your dishes.

**Kurt Duey**

## NICKEL PLATE

**Mar 11 thru Mar 14, 2016**

Nickel Plate Nordic Centre is located in the Okanagan Valley, just 45 minutes from Penticton. It has approximately 34 miles of groomed trails for both classic and skate skiing. Additionally, there is 9 miles of marked snowshoe trails. Nickel Plate has one of the longest ski seasons in the western hemisphere, with trails for all abilities. Elevation is 6,000 feet.

Nickel Plate has a warm and cozy 4,000 square foot day lodge with kitchen, eating and lounge areas, and separate heated washrooms and shower facilities. Source:

[nickelplatenordic.org](http://nickelplatenordic.org).

We will be staying in a house near Apex Ski Resort. It will be a 10 minute drive to the Nickel Plate Nordic Center. The house is called Mountain Time Chalet. It can be seen at [www.airnb.com](http://www.airnb.com). You will have to

enter Apex, BC as the area you wish to search, and then enter a date that the house is not booked for. Entering a middle of the week date is better than weekend dates.

Mountain Time Chalet is a family friendly, spacious 3 story cabin. It is located on White Tail Road, a quiet cul-de-sac close to the village (5 minute walk). It is a short walk down the street to the ski in/ski out trail. On the first floor enjoy the combined living dining area with cozy wood burning stove. The kitchen is fully equipped with a table that seats 8. The second floor includes a loft with games area, TV, DVD, VCR, stereo, foosball, and more. Also on the second floor are two bedrooms (each with a queen bed) and a loft sleeping nook with a double bed. The third floor is a bright 400 sq. ft. with one queen bed and two double beds, this floor also has a bath. Additional features include large boot room, deck, covered BBQ area, covered wood storage, fire pit, washer and dryer, and plenty of space. Source: [www.airnb.com](http://www.airnb.com).

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 \$130 USD per person for lodging, per the exchange rate as of December 23, 2015. Make checks payable to NNSC for \$130. Spaces are assigned based on payment date. Mail to 3310 Burch Mountain Road, Wenatchee, WA 98801.

**Coordinator Lynn Alderson at  
509-885-6342 or  
[lalder3122@yahoo.com](mailto:lalder3122@yahoo.com).**

# Nooksack Nordic Ski Club Membership Application and SnoPark Order Form

Use this form to purchase SnoPark permits, join the club or renew your membership. Sign and mail to the club with your check. Or, bring it to the next meeting.

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street/PO Box City State Zip

Phone 1: \_\_\_\_\_ (Home, Cell, Work) Phone 2: \_\_\_\_\_ (H, C, W)

Email 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Email 2: \_\_\_\_\_

## Dues and SnoPark Information

Check Membership Level: \$30 Individual \_\_\_\_ \$45 Household \_\_\_\_ \$15 Student \_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

SnoPark Permit – Vehicle License Required for Permit: \_\_\_\_\_ \$40 SnoPark Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Vehicle License

Optional Donation – we are a 501(c)3 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total membership + SnoPark + Optional \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## 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: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you wish to share your contact information with 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 \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to receive Snow News is Good News newsletter by:

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ U.S. mail: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Deposit Date
Sno Park #

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