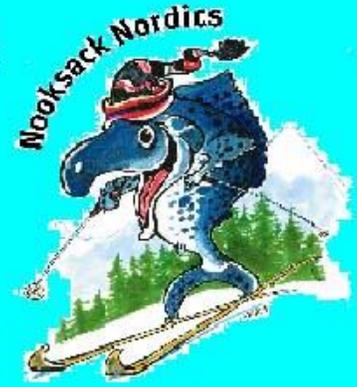


Snow News IS Good News

Newsletter of the Nooksack Nordic Ski Club

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



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Kurt Duey 820-4174

Day Trip Coordinator

Pete Tryon 922-7065

Grooming Coordinator

Pete Tryon 922-7065

NOVEMBER 2018



XC SKIS AND BOOTS: CAN YOU NAME THEM by YEAGER'S

Club Meeting

When – Monday, November 5th

New 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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UPCOMING GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING!

How many varieties of cross-country skis and boots can you name? How can you try them out? Come to the November 5, 2018 meeting (7:30 to 8:30 PM) to find out! Join club members and people from Yeager's to consider skate skis, back-country skis, Hok skis, entry-level waxless skis and many others. Learn about on-snow trials at our Nordic Ambassador's events at Salmon Ridge SnoPark, as well as rental availability at a local Bellingham commercial outlet. Hope to see you Monday evening!

SHOP AT FRED MEYER & RAISE MONEY FOR NNSC

- and click on Community Rewards
- Link your Rewards Card now
- Sign in, using your personal Rewards Card information.
- Find Nooksack Nordic Ski Club #87670

Click SAVE! **FRED MEYER COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM**

Where Shopping & Giving Unite

Support your favorite nonprofit just by shopping at Fred Meyer with your Rewards Card. Fred Meyer is donating \$2.5 million

each year to the local schools & community organizations of your choice. All you must do is link your Rewards Card and use it when you shop at Fred Meyer.

Your Fred Meyer Rewards Card can help earn money for the Nooksack Nordic Ski Club.

- Go to www.fredmeyer.com
- Click on the red REWARDS tab at top for find the drop-down menu

You're done Thank you for your support



Ski club members please list the Ski Club as your charitable donation organization of choice! The club gets a percentage of total sales each quarter. The following notice has come out: "An AmazonSmile bonus donation promotion is coming soon. We heard from AmazonSmile charity administrators that advanced notice of upcoming promotions helps you plan and prepare. With that in mind, we'd like to share a few early details about an upcoming AmazonSmile promotion. From Oct 29 - Nov 2, AmazonSmile will increase the donation rate on all eligible smile.amazon.com purchases. This will be our largest bonus donation promotion to date and is a great opportunity for Nooksack Nordic Ski Club to increase its AmazonSmile donations.

smile.amazon.com

KUDO'S KORNER

Volunteers are the life's blood of the Nooksack Nordic Ski Club and the Salmon Ridge trail system. Neither would exist without their efforts. So, thank you to our work party volunteers: Gail and Keats Garman, Lynne Oliver (who shows up for every work party and even led one!), Mike Hilty, Bill & Kathleen Laughlin, Kurt Duey, Ron Sawyer, Pete Tryon, Titti Ringstrom, Katherine Dickinson-Poteet, Angie Neil, Paul Reavley, John Davies, Gary McGee, Dirk Nielsen, Amy Nielsen, and special thanks to the Mount Baker Club members: Melinda Montange, Valerie Jackson, Claudia Garcia for joining us. Without them we never would have gotten as much work done. Volunteers are critical to the success of our club and the Salmon Ridge Trail system. Thank you so much for your help. And thank you grant writers: Jim Rhodes, Lynne Oliver, and John Keates!

It's not too late to volunteer! So, if you weren't able to join us previously, here's your chance to jump in. It's a fun way to get to know your fellow club members and improve the trails. Here are the next scheduled work parties:

Steve Tuckerman of the Mount Baker Club has scheduled a brush party to work on Lodge Road (aka Ridge Road)

When: Monday October 29th. If you are interested in joining them, here is the info: Meet behind Maple Fuels at 9:00 AM.

Contact: Steve Tuckerman at stuckerm@gmail.com

Trails in and around White Salmon Road could use some light pruning. Most of the work is needed on Pete's Shortcut and

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the stretch along the ridge from White Salmon Lodge. If you have loppers or pruning shears or other appropriate tools, bring them along. It probably would not be an all-day affair but bring a lunch and water. Wear sturdy shoes, gloves and clothes that can resist salmon berries, blackberries, etc.

If the weather is really bad, we'll reschedule for Wednesday, Oct 31 or Thursday, Nov 1.

Also, we will need help to put in the sanican base, and trail signs, and to close and lock the gates. Come join our work party to work off some of that Thanksgiving Day dinner.

When: Tues, November 27th, 2018 rain, snow or sunshine! Sanicans delivered Nov 28th.

Gail Garman

FROM THE TREASURER

As of September 30, 2018, the ski club has \$14,791.32 in the bank. Sounds like a lot doesn't it? Not so much! We must maintain a balance of \$10,000 just for cash flow.

Some examples of expenses: to have the road margins mowed, the bill can be around \$3,500. This must be done every other year.

Snow grooming each month in a good snow year can be around \$4,000.00. Our bank balance doesn't look so great now, does it? So how do the trails get groomed? For snow grooming and other expenses, we go after 2 grants: The 1st grant is Washington State Snow Park fund monies. Basically, this pays for port-a-potty, some snow grooming and the plowing of the parking lot. Each vendor (e.g. snow groomer) bills the state

direct; it does not go through our bank account. The 2nd grant is federal NRTP. There is a volunteer labor match component to this, thus, our work parties. This money does come through our treasury in the form of 'reimbursement of expenses'. Thus, the cash flow balance mentioned above. This money reimburses, mowing, work party expenses, the club's equipment maintenance, and, snow grooming once the groomer has exhausted our grant of the state snow park fund. Last season, the federal funds were lacking and no NRTP grant was given. It is a 2-year grant. Thus, no money for expenses last season, nor this season. John Keates has volunteered to write the grant seeking federal monies for the next 2-year window. Thank John when you see him!

Last season our Snow Park grant was for \$8,778.69. The grant was written by Lynne Oliver. This season the club was again granted \$8,778.69 of the state snow park funds.

Since it costs over \$1000 to \$1300 for each day the trails are groomed, the on-going Snow Park grant of \$8778.69 only allowed once a week grooming for part of the season. That grant typically ran out of funds in mid-January! So, for the last 2 seasons Jim Rhodes applied for and got NNSC an additional Snow Park grant for \$14,680.00. This allowed grooming up to twice a week, and, for the full season. So, there is a total of \$23,458.69 for this season for snow grooming that will not go through the ski club treasury.

Jim is unable to write the supplemental Snow Park grant for next season, so we need a volunteer to do the next season's additional grant

application. Without volunteers to write these grants and do trail maintenance, the roads and trails of the Salmon Ridge trail system would become brushy, ungroomed back-country trails. The winter recreation community depends upon us not to let that happen. So please contact a board member and learn how you can help."

Lynne Oliver

VOLUNTEERS AND BOARD MEMBERS NEEDED

It takes many people to perform individual parts of the ski club. We need help. Many hands make light work!

This is your club. It is a 501c3 with an education component.

We need:

program chair – 6 meetings a year.

2 board members

Back up web person

Membership person

Trip Leaders

Hospitality person

SALMON RIDGE UPDATE

Autumn leaves and a good crew made it a gorgeous time to be out in the woods working on the trails. Since it has been drier than normal, there isn't as much brushy growth as we usually encounter. We did some brush cutting on East Cougar trail so woody shrubs in the middle of the trail don't poke up and trip skiers. Also work parties cleared trees that were leaning over or had fallen onto the lower trails. We don't have grant funds to hire roadside mowing this year. Hopefully, with John Keate's help, next year we'll have NRTP funds to resume mowing again before the

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roadsides get too brushy. The snowshoe trails are reasonably clear, though could benefit from additional signage.

Pete's crew continue to work hard on the new Salamander connector. The trail to the overlook (the first quarter) is in reasonably good shape. It is now 'functional', although it needs more flagging. Though power tools have made it to the mid-point of the connector trail! (from the top) – it's still sort of rough going in places and not ready for 'prime time'. He plans to extend the trail, (starting at the bottom) up to the midpoint and still hopes to complete trail this winter! Anyone interested in helping to work on the new connector trail, contact Pete Tryon. I'm sure he'd love to have the help.

Anderson Creek road had a major washout at 0.9 mile from the trail head. Though it was fixed and the road was rebuilt twice before, a third major flood event the following year has caused major road damage and torn out the culverts at that location. So, the USFS has closed the road and vehicles are prohibited access. Since putting in a bridge and rebuilding it is prohibitively expensive, the next best option would be a ford at that point. Even that isn't cheap and would take applying for and getting grant funding of \$40 to \$50k. So, until another solution is found, it will be an ungroomed, back-country trail.

The good news is since we have plenty of grooming funds for this winter, given enough snow, we may be grooming the lower trails twice a week. The upper trails will be groomed as WA State Sno-Park grant allows, and if the groomer is able to access it. So, get your skis and

snowshoes ready! Winter is just around the corner.

Gail Garman



**Soverign Lake
Elizabeth, Sharon and Noriko**

SOMETHING OLD AND SOMETHING NEW

I am hopeful that the coming ski season will provide us with the snow we need to enjoy our sport. It is rumored that this winter will have more rain and higher temperatures. Even if this comes to pass, I will still be out there trying to glide about. Just as life is a varied adventure, so it is with skiing. So, what if the snow isn't perfect. (It seldom is). The possibility of having that perfect day keeps me eager to be out there doing my best to glide about without breaking anything.

Last season I wore out my old skis (again) and bought shorter skis. Though I only went on one trip with them I was amazed at how much better they handled and am looking forward to skiing on them this season. It is true that the newer skis are better engineered and well worth the investment.

While I write this from a tropical beach in Ecuador, I have already reserved space for the club at the Highland House in Logan Lake, Canada, next February, during the President's Day weekend. There is nothing

like that humid tropical heat to prepare me for the cold, dry world of skiing cross-country.

Our trips this season feature our usual destinations, with the addition of a ski trip to Mt. Spokane over Martin Luther King weekend. While I am happy to ski Stake Lake and Nickle Plate I am also ready to try some new venues. When December comes around, I will head for Idaho and try the yurt to yurt course outside McCall, Idaho; something old and something new.

Kurt Duey

LAKE WENATCHEE

A hearty group of skiers converged in the Lake Wenatchee area under somewhat cloudy skies. Lynn Alderson arranged beautiful lodgings for us looking right over the rapidly flowing Wenatchee River.

After only a mild inconvenience involving keys, locks and access, we all piled in and enjoyed the first of our delicious dinners and wonderful conversation together. The house had ample room, a spacious kitchen and lots of comfortable conversation areas.

As I am just beginning my third year with the club, I feel still quite the novice. So I brought my husband Jeff along for his first outing with the Club. After many years surfing in S. California he now loves the winter and the sound of crunching snowshoes over the trails. The gliding technique of Nordic skiing seems to escape him.

Jeff and I enjoyed a nature trail

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for snowshoes in the area where the River takes off from the Lake. The learn as you snowshoe signs were a bit more challenging than identifying raccoon paw prints and we enjoyed honing our tracking skills.

Under the gray and windy skies at the lakeside, one feels close to the wilderness that stretches up the five miles of this long lake. A sign urging us to donate to a fund enabling purchase of this area to protect it from logging made us concerned it was at risk.

Rugged campers were tent camping near the lakeside. About 15 tents were set up and kids were sledding on the hills. Apparently camping is year-round and the restrooms are heated and available. I thought it was a nifty idea, but my spouse has a more rational approach to winter camping.

We all explored the area in a relaxed manner. Nancy Hart and Dick Etter took more challenging trails up towards Fish Lake. Nancy also found some trails near the sweet little town of Plain where hot chocolate and history meet. I think at some point or other we all visited Plain for treats.

The next day Lynne Oliver, Lynn Alderson and I all skied the trails at the golf course immediately adjacent to the State Park. With our days of aggressive skiing behind us, we enjoyed the smooth trails through snow chalets and found we were well matched. We all agreed to remove skis to descend the one big hill.

Noriko Lao and Jeff Hausz shadowed us on snowshoes

through the same area. Jeff had high tech snowshoes and Noriko beautiful vintage steamed wood and rawhide shoes. We had a little bit of fun noting the disparity in their heights as they slugged along.

Driving was easy and the roads were in good condition. If we had chosen to visit Leavenworth down the road, we could have accessed other ski areas up Icicle creek. We left that for another time.

We said another good-bye to Dick Etter who has relocated to the Denver area. His company is always delightful and a better co-pilot for Kurt Duey couldn't be found.

Carla Stellwagen



Sharon at Silver Star

STAKE AND LOGAN LAKE TRIP 1

December 29, 2018 thru January 1, 2019

4 days of skiing, staying 3 nights at a cost of \$260 USD per person including meals, double occupancy.

This high-altitude ski destination offers three different settings to ski in. It is less than five hours from Bellingham on good, well-maintained roads. We will be staying at the fabulous Highland

House B&B in Logan Lake, BC. offering 5 luxury bedrooms with 2 beds and private full bathrooms. This place is nice! The cost includes meals (hearty breakfasts with many choices, sack trail lunches, substantial dinners, special dietary needs accommodated). The outdoor hot tub and setting are as outstanding as the rest of the B&B. To visit their web site go to: www.highlandhouse.ca

Enjoy great skiing at any or all of three xc-ski areas: ultra-groomed Stake Lake, semi-groomed Logan Lake, and seldom groomed Kane Valley. 5 min. from our B&B, Logan Lake at 1180 meters (base) has 36 kilometers of skate and classic track. Trail fee is \$10 cash. They have 2 km of night-lit groomed trails. On the web go to <http://highlandvalleyoutdoorassociation.com/>. 20 minutes from our B&B, Stake Lake at 1315 meters (base) has 60 kilometers of skate and classic track. Trail fee is \$15 cash or credit card. It features a large warming hut. On the web go to overlanderskiclub.com.

1 hr. from our B&B, Kane Valley at 1160 meters (base) has 50 kilometers of classic and un-groomed trails. Trail fee is \$10 cash. It can be skied on the way up and/or on the way back. On the web go to www.nicolanordic.ca/kane-valley-trails.

All three areas are unique and enjoyable. To hold a space on this trip, send a check for the full amount made out to NNSC to the **trip coordinator: Jim Rhodes**, 2605 Jensen Road, Bellingham 98226. Jim can be reached for questions at (360)340-8417 or james.c.rhodes@gmail.com. This trip has been very popular in past years and fills very

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quickly. You must be a member to participate in any overnight trip.

MOUNT SPOKANE

January 18 thru January 21

The Mt. Spokane Cross-Country Ski Park has almost 60 km (37 miles) of trails that range from easy to difficult. The main Selkirk Lodge has indoor plumbing, water, and tables. The Nova Hut has a wood stove and tables, and is a great destination or a resting point on the way to the far trails. Trails are groomed nightly, Wednesday through Sunday depending on sufficient snow base and other circumstances. The Cross-Country Ski Park and the Selkirk Lodge opens daily at 7:00 a.m. and closes at 10:00 pm.

Parking – A Sno Park Permit and a Special Groomed Trails Permit sticker are required for each vehicle, and are good for all passengers in the vehicle. Drivers are responsible for the Sno Park Permit. Riders will share the cost of the Special Groomed Trails Permit. The SGTP will stay with the driver after the trip is completed. The Snow Park Permit and SGTP contribute to a State fund that pays for snow plowing of roads and parking lots, the trail groomer and groomer operator, and other State Park winter maintenance expenses.

Housing – Oxford Suites at 15015 E Indiana Avenue, Spokane Valley, WA 99216. Rooms are a group rate of \$105 each plus guest room taxes currently at 12.9% plus a \$2 tourism tax per night. Reservations can be made at

509-847-1000 and mention Lynn Alderson Ski Group to obtain the group rate. Rooms have two queen beds. Your reservation must be made by 12-19-2018 after which rooms that are not reserved will be returned to general inventory. Please advise me if you plan to attend this trip and I will try to connect people with each other so we can share a room.

Amenities – Full Hot Breakfast Buffet; Evening Reception featuring appetizers and your choice of wine, beer or soft drinks; On-site Restaurant & Lounge Oxford Riverside Bistro available nightly from 4:00 pm until 9:30 pm; Parking; Indoor Pool, Spa, Sauna, Steam Room and more.

Meals – Oxford Suites provides breakfast on site. Lunch will be on your own, so bring food for it. At night, the group will decide where to eat. There are many restaurants in the area.

Coordinator – Lynn Alderson at 509-885-6342 or lalder3122@yahoo.com.



**Stake Lake Lunch
Tina, Dana and Pat**

STAKE AND LOGAN LAKE TRIP 2

February 15 thru February 18

Stake & Logan Lakes & Kane Valley – Coordinated by Kurt Duey

4 days of skiing, staying 3 nights at a cost of \$260 USD per person including meals, double occupancy.

This high-altitude ski destination offers three different settings to ski in. It is less than five hours from Bellingham on good, well-maintained roads. We will be staying at the fabulous Highland House B&B in Logan Lake, BC. offering 5 luxury bedrooms with 2 beds and private full bathrooms. This B&B was built to house the managers of the nearby pit mine and they spared no expenses building it. This place is really nice! The cost includes meals (hearty breakfasts with many choices, sack trail lunches, substantial dinners, special dietary needs accommodated). The outdoor hot tub and setting are as outstanding as the rest of the B&B. To visit their web site go to: www.highlandhouse.ca .

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1 hr. from our B&B, **Kane Valley** at 1160 meters (base) has 50 kilometers of classic and un-groomed trails. Trail fee is \$10 cash. It can be skied on the way up and/or on the way back. On the web go to www.nicolanordic.ca/kane-valley-trails. All three areas are unique and enjoyable.

To hold a space on this trip send a check for the full amount made out to NNSC to the trip coordinator: Kurt at 360-820-4174 or kurt.duey@comcast.net. Mailing address: 2601 North Park Drive, Bellingham, WA. 98225. They will not be cashed until after the trip and a full refund is possible until January 15th.

I encourage carpooling and will need to be contacted by anyone who sends me a check, as I am in South America until Nov. 20th.

These trips have been very popular in past years and fill very quickly. You must be a member to participate in any overnight trip.

NICKEL PLATE TRIP

March 1 thru 4

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.

We will be staying at the Sandbluff Ranch in Penticton, BC. We will drive to the Nickel Plate Nordic Center from the ranch. The ranch can be seen at www.airbnb.com.

Sandbluff Ranch is a 2 acres estate property on the west side of Penticton. It is surrounded by cherry and apple orchards and has a view from every direction including glorious sunsets from the sunset deck overlooking the valley from Skaha Lake to Lake Okanagan. This house features 3500 sq. ft of living space with 4 bedrooms, 6 beds, 3 full baths, huge kitchen, lounge, family room w/TV, Media room with TV & Ping Pong. Walmart, Superstore, a host of great restaurants, wineries are nearby.

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 \$183 USD per person for lodging. Make checks payable to NNSC for \$183. Mail to 1363 W Lakeside Dr Apt B, Moses Lake, WA 98837

Coordinator Lynn Alderson at 509-885-6342 or lalder3122@yahoo.com.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Monthly meetings at 7:30 pm, as follows:

December 3
January 7
February 4
March 4



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: _____

I would like to receive Snow News is Good News newsletter by: Email: _____ U.S. mail: _____

Select Club Tasks you could help with:

- Serve on NNSC Board _____
- Clear brush from trails _____
- Find speakers/programs _____
- Put up trail signs and sanican base _____
- Help with Ambassador Days _____
- Write an article for "Snow News" _____
- Audit NNSC financial records _____
- Write a grant, or, fundraising _____
- Lead a ski trip _____

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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