

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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MARCH 2020



Club Meeting

When – Tuesday, March 10th

New Membership Orientation at 6:30 PM
Meeting starts at 7:00 PM.

Who - Anyone is welcome!

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

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FOR SALE

Three sets of metal edged classic XC skis with bindings, boots and poles. \$150 for all or \$60 per set. Madshus skis 195 cm w/ Roteffella NNN bindings, Alpina men's boots sz 11; Madshus skis 185 cm w/ Atomic SNS Profil bindings, Salomon women's boots sz 8; and Rossignol skis 195 cm, w/ Rossignol NNN bindings, Alpina women's boots sz 7.5.

For more details contact **Sue at 360-738-0806, text 360-739-1275** or **rsw.1736@gmail.com**

SEASON ENDING, HEALTHY HAPPY TRAILS AHEAD !

While it appears that the brunt of winter weather is behind us, healthy habits hopefully will travel with us on our trails into spring, summer, and fall until we meet up with winter again. Coronavirus is big news currently, but there will always be influenza and an assortment of other illness causing viruses (novel and otherwise) out there to ruin our travels, given the chance. Fortunately, we can be practicing these defensive basic healthy habits all year around:

Hand Hygiene, including intact moisturized skin



Keep your hands away from your face



Avoid sick people (even cute grandkids!)



Sue Rhodes

KURT SKIES AROUND McCALL IDAHO

I have wanted to ski on the trails around McCall, Idaho for some time now. My son's wife had lived there as a teen and they had been there to ski. My son's reports of great and copious snow had intrigued me but the great distance, 600 miles in 10 hours, kept me from checking it out.

This year, a club trip to Mt. Spokane provided me with an opportunity to continue from there to McCall, another 5.5 hours and 275 Miles.

I spent two days skiing Mt. Spokane with the club, where the

first day was windy and wet, with temperatures above freezing and soft, melting snow. The second day was clear and calm, with freezing temperatures and icy trails covered with the debris blown onto the trails the day before. All in all, it was not the best but still skiable.

I was still looking for better conditions, when I drove south from Spokane on highway 95, which runs all the way through Lewiston to McCall. The scenery was impressive through the Palouse Prairie and on into the mountains of Idaho.

McCall is a town of around 3,000 located at 5,000 feet, on Payette Lake. I checked into the Scandia Inn, an older motel for \$114/night. It was adequate but not fancy. It is a short walk to downtown, where I had an excellent supper at the Lago Chapala Mexican Restaurant, which is both a local hangout and has excellent but reasonably priced food. Afterwards I shopped at Home Town Sports and found a replacement pole strap, as they carry a complete line of clothes and equipment for cross-country skiing

The next morning, I drove 15 minutes to Bear Basin, where I found blue skies, perfect temperatures and lots of dry, groomed snow. I was the first skier there and spent the next four hours skiing the 15 miles of trails. Though the trails are located in the hills just west of McCall and are at 5,500 feet, the hills are gentle and the trails are not difficult at all. As the day warmed up and others began to arrive, I discovered that these trails are dog friendly and indeed there were many skiers with dogs and even one non-skier with six dogs, whom she described as her friends. It almost seemed

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like a ski trail/dog park, with loose dogs barking at skiers and running loose and having doggy fun.

The next morning was snowing and before heading out to ski The Ponderosa State Park Winter Trails, I stopped into The Fog Lifter Cafe, for a breakfast of eggs benedict. Boy was it good. I would recommend it as a healthy delicious choice for breakfast.

The snow was falling, so the grooming was delayed until it stopped. This resulted in six inches of new snow upon the groomed surface. Almost no one was out and the light snow was no impediment to skiing. The woods were beautiful and quiet in the falling snow. This was what I was looking for, the perfect ski day.

The next day it was still snowing but rain was in the forecast, so I headed back to Bellingham. There were two other cross-country trail systems that I did not get to, Jug Mountain Ranch and Walk On The Wild Side, both located less than 15 minutes from McCall. They will have to wait for another day and I will most certainly be back to try them.

McCall, Idaho is well worth checking out. This little town, on a scenic lake, surrounded by the Payette National Forest, is one of the gems of cross-country skiing in the western interior. Its four groomed trail systems will keep you busy for several days and I heartily recommend it.

Kurt Duey

NICKEL PLATE TRIP

**MONDAY MARCH 2 TO
THURSDAY MARCH 5, 2020**

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.

Housing - We will be staying at the Days Inn in Penticton, BC. We will drive to the Nickel Plate Nordic Center from the hotel. You may make your own reservations with Days Inn at (844) 589-5941.

Meals – Breakfast is served at the hotel. For lunch bring your own food. Dinner will be at a restaurant.

Please advise me if you plan to attend this trip and I will try to connect people with each other if you would like to share a room or a ride.

Coordinator Lynn Alderson at 509-885-6342 or 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: \$20 Individual _____ \$35 Household _____ 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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