Snow News IS Good



Newsletter of the Nooksack Nordic Ski Club

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



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November 2009

NNSC Club Meeting November 5, 2009



"Physical Fitness Preparation for Nordic Skiing"





Club Meeting

When – Thursday, December 3. New member orientation is at 6:30; meeting starts at 7:00.

Who - Anyone is welcome!

Where – ReStore Sustainable Living Center classroom, 2309 Meridian, Bellingham, WA. Enter from the alley behind the building, then up the stairs to the second floor.

Multi-Day Trips Currently Scheduled



Highland House at Logan Lake http://www.highlandhouse.ca/
Coordinated by Kurt Dewey.
Dec 31 – Jan 2 Trip is FULL
Due to high demand, Kurt has scheduled a second trip Feb 12 – 14, 2010, which is Presidents' Day Weekend.

To reserve space, make check payable to NNSC for \$230.87 per person and mail to Kurt at 2601 N. Park Dr. Bellingham, WA 98225.

Accommodations are the luxurious Highland House B&B. Meals are included the two full days and last morning. There are 3 x-country ski courses to choose from. Ultra- groomed Stake Lake, semi- groomed Logan Lake and seldom groomed Kane Valley offer a variety of ski opportunities.

Contact Kurt at 360-820-4174

Manning Park

http://www.manningpark.com/resort.html

Coordinated by Elizabeth Martindale.

Jan 15 – 18, 2010, which is Martin Luther King Weekend.

4 days/3 nights to ski on groomed trails, snowshoe on trails, and/or use the hot tub, sauna, steam room, and swimming pool.

Each chalet plans the meals for their group and we share the cost of the food

The cost per person is \$162 payable to NNSC. Mail to Elizabeth at 103 Morey Avenue, Bellingham, WA 98225.

Contact Elizabeth at 360-734-8991

SnoPark Permits

SPECIAL NOTICE Permit Fee Increases



Seasonal and One-day Sno-Park permits are increased by \$10 per vehicle for the 2009-2010 winter season. The Seasonal permit is \$40 and the One-Day permit is \$20. If you have paid \$30 for a seasonal permit, please send an additional \$10 to cover the increase to the club: Nooksack Nordic Ski Club, PO Box 28793, Bellingham, WA 98228.

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission approved the increase at its October 2009 meeting. The fee increase was approved at the request of the State Parks Volunteer Recreation Advisory Committee. "The fee increase will sustain the historical service level and provide sufficient financial reserves for improvements." It is the second increase in 16 years.

There are more than 40 SnoParks in Washington. Print a map at: http://www.parks.wa.gov/winter/parks/nonmotorparks.asp

Permits may be purchased with your membership, at club meetings, or at any of the following locations. These businesses provide SnoPark passes as a customer service.

Backcountry Essentials (360) 543-5678 214 W. Holly - Bellingham

Crossroads Grocery & Video (360) 599-9657 7802 Silver Lake Road - Maple Falls

Fairhaven Bike & Ski (360) 733-4433 1108 – 11th St – Bellingham

REI - Bellingham (360) 647-8955 400 36TH St. - Bellingham

Sportsman Chalet

(360) 671-1044 114 W. Holly - Bellingham

You can order a 1 day permit online:

https://fortress.wa.gov/parks/ecom m/sno/dsnostp0.asp

The Friday Ski Club

New this year! We are forming a list of people willing to sign up to ski the trails at Salmon Ridge one or more Fridays this winter.

The purpose of the Friday Ski Club, aside, of course, from having fun, getting exercise and spending a day in the snowy mountains, is to report back to the club about grooming and snow conditions. This information will be listed on our website so skiers can know what to expect over the weekend.

Friday Ski Club outings can involve from 1 to lots of people. Unlike our overnight outings, there is no upper limit. Participants can ski together, or ski separately in order to cover all four major trails of Salmon Ridge. We don't want it to be too much of an assignment. We would merely like to know basic weather and snow conditions, and to what extent each trail was groomed and tracked. We are currently creating a simple form that can be completed on the website. The learning curve should be about five minutes on this one.

Interested in committing to ski one or more Fridays at Salmon Ridge, December - March? Contact Marj Leone at 360-671-6620.

Kudos Corner



The NNSC exists only because of many dedicated volunteers. The Salmon Ridge trails. specifically, require a huge amount of volunteer time. prepare for the 2009-10 season. Gail Garman and Mari Leone have spent hours writing grants and working with the US Forest Service. Kurt Duey keeps all of the equipment in fine shape, running well with sharp blades and chains, year after year.

Gail and Kurt also make trip after trip for trail recon, posting signs, closing and opening gates, etc.

Brushing parties, which not only clear trails, but also provide matching hours for NRTP grant funding, were led during September and October by Gail, Kurt, Ed Halasz, and Jim Rhodes. Brave soles that lended a hand for a day or more wielding brush cutter, pole pruners and muscle with gloved hands include:

Lynn Alderson
Jackie Cochinos
Richard Cochinos
Mary Dubrow
Deb Dempsey
Dick Etter
Sheila Hardy
Diana Sarich
John Sarich
Ron Sawyer
Cassie Spitzer
Thank you, each and every one of you.

The Grants That Groom Salmon Ridge



By Marj Leone, who liberally plagiarized from Gail Garman's article in the November 2006 issue of Snow News is Good News

Perhaps not everyone knows that our club is solely responsible for the existence of groomed Nordic ski trails on the Mt. Baker Highway. Trail grooming at Salmon Ridge is funded by two separate grants secured by the Nooksack Nordic Ski Club. The grooming of Razorhone Road and its offshoots, and Anderson Road is paid from a Winter Recreation Sports Grant issued Washington State Parks. The funding for this grant is very direct: It comes from the sale of Sno-Park permits. When Sno-Park permit sales decreased last year, our grant money decreased. Marj Leone writes this grant application, with help from Sheila Hardy.

Gail Garman applies for and coordinates the NRTP (National Recreation Trails Program) grant. This grant is paid for by federal gas tax money. It can be used not only for grooming but also for trail maintenance. We use the money to groom White Salmon and Hannegan Roads, and also Razorhone and Anderson once Sno-Park monies are spent. We also use this money periodically hire heavy equipment operators to mow trails and clean drainage ditches. We "earn" this money by providing matching amounts of volunteer Every time you attend a brushing party, you are paying for a few yards of that groomed track on which you love to ski!

Is Your NNSC Membership Current?



Dues are seasonal, with the 2009-2010 season starting in September.

Memberships are available at meetings or by mail. 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. Find a form on the NNSC web site, on the back of club brochure, or at club meetings. Memberships are \$30 for individuals or \$45 per households.

Why not fill out a form right now while you're thinking about it and mail it in? Or, come to the November meeting, start getting fit, and pay then.

Your Volunteer Time Needed



The club is run and maintained by volunteers. You and your closest friends are needed to fill several positions. If you are interested in volunteering (or know someone that should volunteer), please contact Ed Halasz at 647-3560.

- Program Chair
 Provides speakers and ideas for programs for the general club meetings.
- Newsletter Editor
 Writes a portion of the articles, formats, and mails the monthly newsletter that you're reading now.
- Trip Coordinators Needed for trips to locations such as 100 Mile House, Hollyburn, Nickel Plate, Silver Star, China Ridge, Mt. Washington, Glacier, Larch Hills, and Mt. Saint Helens.