

# 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**

Vacant

### **Treasurer**

Lynne Oliver 592-9005

### **Program Coordinator**

Dick Etter 801-502-9922

Gail Garman 371-3554

Wendy Nichols 306-0306

Bill Laughlin 961-2725

Dana Downs 325-3480

## Other Volunteers

### **Salmon Ridge Coordinators**

Gail Garman 371-3554

Jim Rhodes 734-8246

### **Membership**

Jim Rhodes 734-8246

### **Publicity**

Wendy Nichols 306-0306

### **Hospitality Chair**

SharonHolmes 647-8606

### **Newsletter Editor**

Lynn Alderson

509-885-6342

### **Webmaster**

Pete Tryon

[ski@tryonhayes.com](mailto:ski@tryonhayes.com)

### **Trip Coordinator**

Kurt Duey 820-4174

### **Day Trip Coordinator**

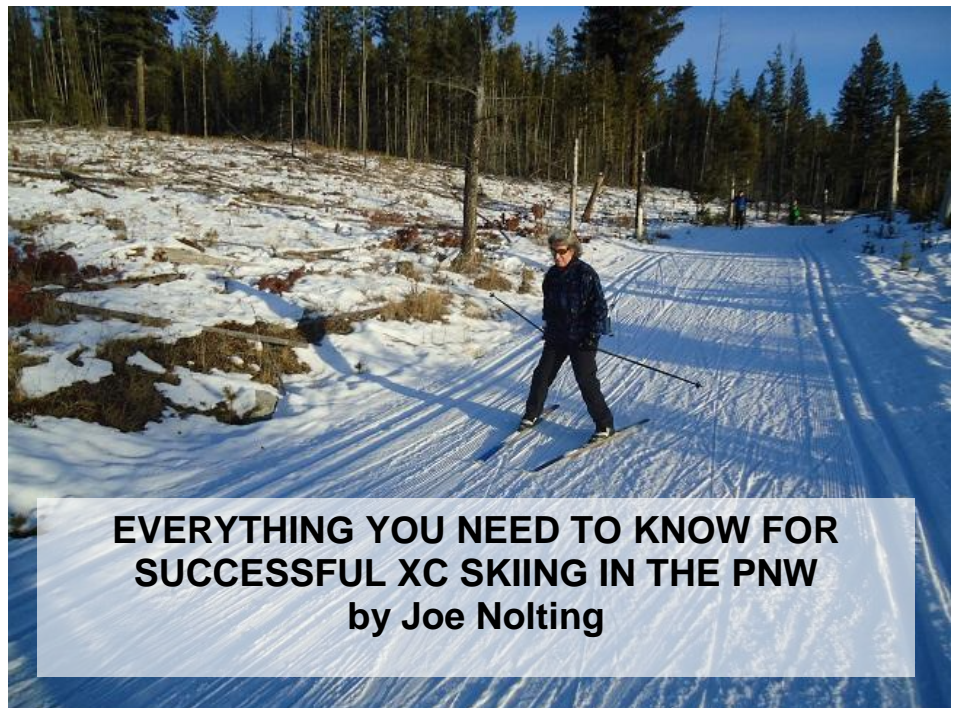
Don Hicks 733-4815

### **Grooming Coordinators**

Joe Nolting 656-6995

Peter Tryon 922-7065

November 2015



**EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW FOR  
SUCCESSFUL XC SKIING IN THE PNW  
by Joe Nolting**

## **Club Meeting**

**When** – Thursday, November 5th

Meeting starts at 7:00 PM.

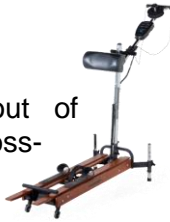
**Who** - Anyone is welcome!

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

**Visit Our Website for the Latest Information: [www.nooksacknordicskiclub.org](http://www.nooksacknordicskiclub.org)**

## FOR SALE

Feeling a little out of shape for the cross-country experience? I have an extra Nordic Track ski machine that I would be happy to sell to anyone who wants to get ready to ski.



For more details contact Kurt at 360-820-4174 or [kurt.duey@comcast.net](mailto:kurt.duey@comcast.net).

## THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

Despite some rain, we held 3 successful work parties on: September 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> and got a lot done. Downed trees have been cleared from the trails and road margins; the gates and snowshoe trails have been cleared of brush and more confidence markers put up so they are easy to follow.

This year we were very lucky to have some new non-NNSC members join our crews.

Thanks to REI posting our work parties, the [North Sound Single Professionals meetup group](#) posted the notice and came to join us! Also, Wendelin Dunlap, the **WWU LEAD** Co-Director, joined the crew. Wendelin looks for volunteer opportunities for WWU students. We are very much looking forward to these young, strong, enthusiastic WWU students joining our future work parties. What a win-win opportunity for us both!! And we had one person from Corrections join us. So it was great that NNSC is getting some help maintaining the trails.

Finally, I want to **thank you Bill Laughlin** for doing the reconnaissance on the Salmon Ridge trails this year. Your report helped us zero in on the tasks the needed to be done. **Thank you to Jim Rhodes, Gail Garman and Pete Tryon** our crew leaders. And **thank you** to the **volunteers** who came and worked (some even in the rain). They include: Matt Coe, Pat & Dana Downs, Kurt Duey, Bob Lemon, Kimberly Kerr, Bill & Kathleen Laughlin, Kellee Timpson, John & Dianna Sarich, Wendelin Dunlap, Laurie Rechholtz, Jeff and Sue Rhodes, Mike & Mary Beth Jaynes. Together you contributed over 235 hours of labor! We are so fortunate to have these folks working on the trails and helping us meet our match requirements for our NRTP grant.

Want to join the fun and get out in the fresh air? Work parties are a great way to meet new folks and enjoy the autumn splendor. We will have a few more opportunities before winter sets in. So watch the NNSC Website to find out when the next one happens. We'd love to have you join us!

### Gail Garman



**Brush Clearing Volunteers Having Lunch**

## GRANT UPDATE

The NNSC has now maintained the public Salmon Ridge Trail System for 23 years! We should be proud of our stewardship because these trails would not exist without our efforts. They would grow shut! We are only able to do this by getting grant funding, and through volunteers providing sweat equity to count as match. This summer, Jim Rhodes did a fantastic job at the Winter Recreation Advisory Committee meeting in Wenatchee defending the Sno-Park grant applications that NNSC submitted for grant funding to maintain the grooming and to fix the Salmon Ridge trails. WRAC members were impressed with the power point slide presentation he put together on very short notice (1 day). He represented the NNSC very well. Thank you Jim! We got both our basic grooming grant of \$4,748 (thank you Dave Gerstenberger for writing this grant) and the supplemental grant of \$3,000. However, with the funding shortfall for WA Sno-Parks, we did not get the \$8,000 needed to fix Anderson Creek Road.

Undaunted, Gail Garman submitted a new RAC grant (Secure Rural Schools Program Grant), and we (Jim and I) will try again. We will present to them on January 29<sup>th</sup> and hope we get funded.

Besides the state grants, we also rely very heavily on the federal National Recreational Trails Program (NRTP) grant to hire contractors to help groom and maintain the trails (mowing, ditching, drainage fixes, tree limbing, etc...). Though we ranked very high amongst other NRTP applicants (13<sup>th</sup> out of

64), Congress held it up because they didn't want to fund the Highway Transportation Bill that all NRTP grants rely upon. So, though we don't normally send member's political action emails, in late July, we asked everybody to please contact their legislatures. Without NRTP, it looked grim for getting much maintenance done and very minimal grooming. In late September, we received the NRTP grant and are now fully funded.

Now, all we have to do is wait (and hope) for the snow.

### **Gail Garman**



**Anderson Creek Road**

### **SALMON RIDGE TRAIL UPDATE**

Early this fall, it looked like it was going to be kind of a tough year. There were a number of concerns. Last December, we lost 3 miles of Anderson Creek Road and the last 0.25 miles of Razorhone Road due to a rain-on-snow flooding event causing major damage. For Razorhone Road, this is the 2<sup>nd</sup> time this has happened. Since it would be too costly to restore it, and mother nature would likely repeat this damage, there are no plans to restore it.

The USFS, strapped for cash and having to dedicate most of

their efforts to fighting fires, would not repair the roads. Likewise, the WA State Winter Recreation Program declined to help. Also, we lacked NRTP funding to groom much this winter (see Grant Update). Then on top of all this, somebody had vandalized both of the gates at the head of Anderson Creek Road and Razorhone Road and flattened the gate posts to the ground!! It is impossible to protect the groomed trails from being damaged by 4-wheel drive vehicles, unless you can lock them out. So some of us were a little discouraged.

But when things seem hopeless, you just have to put one foot in front of the other and forge ahead with faith that somehow, things will work out. So volunteers jumped in and cleared the trails and got them ready for winter. Lots of work was put in on clearing the snowshoe trails and adding blue diamond's to make them easier to follow. The USFS did fix the gates and restored them to full function. Plus they finished installing the new gates to protect Cougar Loop from more damage as well.

We found a contractor, to rebuild and fix Anderson Creek road for only \$8,000 (while meeting USFS specs and approval by the USFS Roads Manager). We are trying again to get funding to fix this road next spring and resume grooming the full road next winter. In the mean time, we will only be able to groom the first mile of the Anderson Creek road, and the campground loop. So though the trails may be a little brushy on the edges, they are ready for snow. Let's hope Mother Nature does a favor and delivers.

**Gail Garman**

### **SECOND TRIP TO LOGAN LAKE A CHALLENGE**

The five members who went on the Logan Lake trip made the best of challenges. This is probably the worst trip for snow that I have seen at Logan Lake. Kane Valley and Logan Lake did not have enough snow to ski with, while always reliable Stake Lake had one-half the trails shut due to the thin icy conditions. Friday was the only day of the trip that there weren't races at Stake Lake, so we took the opportunity to ski Stake Lake on that day. That was our best day, with warm temperatures, no wind and a few centimeters of new snow. The next day we drove to Sun Peaks and skied down Holy Cow from the top of the mountain. Again, icy patches made this my most difficult time coming down this trail. Still we persevered and had a good time both days. Sunday we decided to try Stake Lake, after the races. We found it entertaining to watch the races, which ended at 1400. We then skied the race course. The time of day and snow conditions had us being cautious and we stopped skiing at 1600 because it was getting worse as the chopped up trail began to freeze and the late sunlight made it hard to see hazards. In spite of the poor ski conditions, we enjoyed each other's company as well as the accommodations of the Highland House. The 20% exchange rate didn't hurt either. It just goes to show that with a positive attitude a good time can be had even when conditions are not ideal.

**Kurt Duey**



## STAKE LK / LOGAN LKS AND KANE VALLEY

**Jan 1, 2016 thru Jan 4, 2016**

4 days of skiing staying 3 nights at a cost of \$256 USD per person, including meals.

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 (<http://www.highlandhouse.ca>).

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**  
contact Sharon at 360-647-8606 or  
[smrconsulting98229@msn.com](mailto:smrconsulting98229@msn.com).

These trips have been very popular in past years and fill very quickly. You must be a member to participate in any trip. To hold a space send a check for the full amount made out to NNSC to the trip coordinator, **Sharon Holmes, 552 Rainbow Dr., Sedro Woolley, WA 98284.**

## MANNING PARK Jan 15 thru Jan 18

Ski four days (stay three nights): groomed trails, snowshoe trails, hot tub, sauna, steam room and a swimming pool.

This is always a great trip. Chalet members plan the meals for their group and we share the cost of the food. We will have three dinners and three breakfasts. Bring your own food for lunch. Alcohol is not included in the food costs. This trip provides a great opportunity for group camaraderie as there are 5 people in each bedroom and 10 of us sharing meals that we prepare.

We stay in 1 chalet which has 2 bedrooms, 3 full bathrooms, and a central living room, kitchen, dining/social area. Bedding and linens are supplied with BASIC dishes and cutlery, a small microwave, coffee pot, and some cooking utensils.

Cost per person and deposit to hold your place and pay for your trip is \$150.00 as of 9/15/2015 payable to NNSC. This may change as the exchange rate fluctuates. It is very low right now. Spaces are assigned based on payment date. Elizabeth will be at the November and December meetings to accept deposits or

they can be mailed to her (**made out to NNSC**) at **103 Morey Ave., Bellingham, WA 98225**  
Contact **Elizabeth** at  
[emartindale@comcast.net](mailto:emartindale@comcast.net) or  
360-393-4732

Carpooling is preferable. We will work together setting up carpools.

Link to Manning Park Resort for more information: : <https://manningpark.com/>

Lodge 1-800-330-3321

Website:  
[www.manningpark.com](http://www.manningpark.com)

## LAKE WENATCHEE

**Jan 29 thru Jan 31**

This area offers six different skiing locations within 16 miles of where we are staying. Accommodations are in Plain WA at Beaver Valley Lodge. Stay is for 3 nights and 4 days of skiing. The lodge may be seen at the Beaver Valley Lodge website.

The Wenatchee River bisects Lake Wenatchee State Park, thus creating the South Park and North park. The South Park has 18.6 miles and the North Park has 3.1 miles of groomed trails. Skate skiing is available in the North Park. South Park also offers tubing and a snow play area. There are 4.9 miles of snow shoeing trails. Nearby is Chiwawa with the See and Ski trail groomed for track and skate skiing for 4 miles. Flying loop and Squirrel Run are 2.9 and 2.5 miles, respectively. Nason Ridge may not be available to ski this season. It was sold about one year ago and the new purchaser is considering giving

snowmobilers access to the road instead of cross country skiers.

A Sno Park Permit is required and also a Special Groomed Trails Permit sticker. Drivers are responsible for the Sno Park Permit. Riders will share the cost of the Special Permit. The Special Permit will stay with the driver after the trip is completed.

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 \$200 USD per person for lodging. Make checks payable to NNSC for \$200. Mail to 3310 Burch Mountain Road, Wenatchee, WA 98801.

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

## **STAKE LK / LOGAN LKS AND KANE VALLEY**

**Feb 12 thru Feb 15**

4 days of skiing staying 3 nights at a cost of \$256 USD per person including meals.

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 (<http://www.highlandhouse.ca>). 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 contact Kurt at 360-820-4174 or [kurt.duey@comcast.net](mailto:kurt.duey@comcast.net).**

These trips have been very popular in past years and fill very quickly. You must be a member to participate in any trip. To hold a space send a check for the full amount made out to NNSC to the **trip coordinator, Kurt Duey, 2601 Park Dr., Bellingham, WA, 98225.**

## **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

Monthly meetings are the first Thursday, 7:00 PM

December 3  
January 7  
February 4  
March 3



**Visit Our Website for the Latest Information: [www.nooksacknordicskiclub.org](http://www.nooksacknordicskiclub.org)**

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_

\$15 Student \_\_\_\_\_ \$40 Sno-Park permit\*: \_\_\_\_\_ 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

**Visit Our Website for the Latest Information: [www.nooksacknordicskiclub.org](http://www.nooksacknordicskiclub.org)**