

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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DECEMBER 2025



Seen on White Salmon (in a previous year)

What to Expect from Search and Rescue

When – Monday, December 8 @ 7:00 PM

Who - Everyone is welcome!

Where – American Alpine Institute - 4041 Home Rd.

Visit Our Website for the Latest Information: <https://www.nooksacknordicskiclub.org>

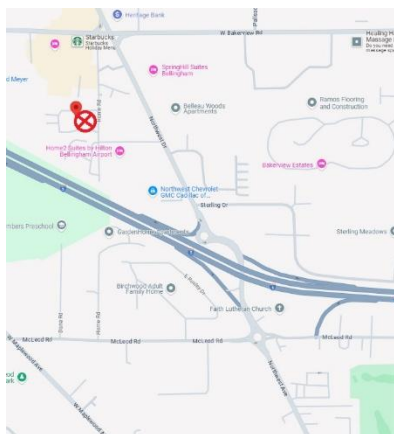
MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

**Monday December 8th
@ 7:00 PM**

You have been reported missing or, maybe, you've had a wilderness accident and made it through to 911. What happens next? How can you make it easier to be found, or to be helped? Jason Martin, Executive Director of the American Alpine Institute (AAI) will talk about what to expect - whether you are in Whatcom County, elsewhere in the country or elsewhere in the world. You can help both rescuers and rescuees by knowing how search and rescue operates.

Jason gave us two presentations last year - one on electronics for wilderness travel, or the other on frostbite and hypothermia. Both were enthusiastically received. We are delighted to have him back.

This is at the American Alpine Institute - 4041 Home Road, just north of I-5 off of Northwest.



We look forward to seeing you there!.

MARK SMITH

COMMUNICATION!

We continually hear from members that they wish to connect with other club members to carpool, to find more ski partners, to try out new ski venues, to consider new equipment, etc. And we continually wonder how best to facilitate this happening. Currently, we are working on three pathways:

1) General Membership Meetings

Our monthly meetings have been having great topics and attendance from a great collection of Nordic skiers. We don't have time for introductions all around, but we plan on a few minutes of social time. Introduce yourself to someone who you don't know! Then, after the meeting, if you have time, stick around for a few minutes to chat with your neighbors.

2) Shared Interest Directory

Want to find someone else who skis with kids? Who wants to carpool to Salmon Ridge on a weekday? Check out our club Shared Interest Directory. This 'opt-in' directory lists the contact information that you wish to share and your interests. Peruse the list and reach out to someone who you think would match what you want to do! Find out more and sign up on this page:

<https://www.nooksacknordicskiclub.org/membership/email-list-server/>

3) NNSC_Outings Facebook Group

Just heard the trip to Big Tree Meetup is on and the sun is shining? Want to find someone to carpool? Post a note on the NNSC_Outings Facebook Group page. This is a private group, meaning that only vetted club members can see what is posted there.

We're also hoping to add some information on destination ski trips – when to go, where to stay, where to get more information, etc.

To sign up, you need a Facebook account (which are free to get and do not require a credit card or phone number) and then email Pete and ask for a new link.)

Multiday Club Ski Trips

Pre-COVID, club members enjoyed 3-5 multi-day ski trips a year to 'destination' ski areas, ranging from Whistler Olympic Park to Yellowstone. We're trying to bring those back! Watch for information on a scheduled trip to Nickel Plate (Feb. 16-19) and maybe one to Stake Lake / Logan Lake / Kane Valley (maybe in January?) (See article from 2018 at the bottom.)

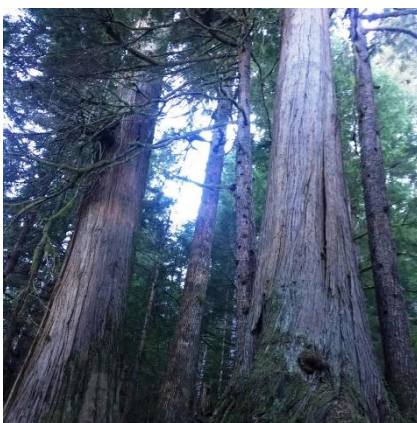
Backcountry Navigation Essentials

A hands-on course Survey of Interest

The American Alpine Institute (AAI) conducts two backcountry navigation courses – **Backcountry Navigation Essentials** and **Backcountry Navigation Comprehensive**. The first is a 3-hour evening course, the second all-day. **Essentials** introduces tools and techniques; **Comprehensive** allows time for practice and exercises. I have asked AAI's Jason Martin to tell us about the courses at our upcoming general meeting on December 8 – he will be our presenter that night. If there is enough interest, we can organize one or both courses for club members. If you are interested, let me know at: mgsmith4430@gmail.com. I will have information on pricing at the meeting.

MARK SMITH

Upcoming Outing / Work Party



Want to see 'Big Tree Meetup'? Want to see the trail before it gets covered with snow? Pete is hoping for a trip up the lower half of the [Connector Trail](#) in the next

couple of weeks – if the weather cooperates. It's a chance for a nice hike in the woods, a little clearing of branches off the trail and if you really want, the brush-cutter! And we can drive out Razor Hone... Watch for an e-mail invite; contact Pete if you haven't been getting work party invites.

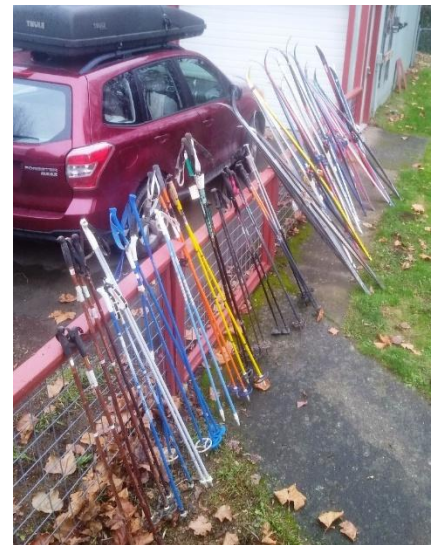
Potluck meeting last month

When the Nooksack Nordic Ski Club does a potluck, be prepared for some good eating! Not only did we hear some great stories about 'the good old days' of the club (ask anyone who was there how the Cougar Loop got its name), but we had some great food! Thanks, Mark, for making this happen!



Loaner Equipment

Part 1: Have visiting relatives? Want to try out a pair of Hok skis? A pair of skate skis (maybe)? Figure to go snowshoeing at Heather Meadows while waiting for grooming? The club has some loaner equipment – not a complete selection, but enough that it might have something of interest. Contact Pete (pete@tryonhayes.com) for further information.



Part 2: We just got a sizeable donation of old skis and boots – more than my garage can hold. They are all 3-pin bindings and the skis are 'older'. Light touring through light back-country. A fair collection of boot sizes. I'm keeping some for the loaner pool, but some are up for grabs. Contact Pete...

Lessons

Just a reminder, club members are offering personalized lessons, both on snow (when it happens) and in town (about equipment and other information). Get more information and sign up (to learn or to instruct) on this page: <https://www.nooksacknordicskiclub.org/events/lessons/>

LOGAN LAKE TRIP 2

The second trip this past season to Logan Lake was very different. Aside from me, the other seven members were ladies. The weather was also different. Our trip found that a week of warmer temperatures had caused the snow to melt during the days and then freeze at night. This caused a great deal of ice to form upon the snow. The skiing on Friday and Saturday was icy and demanding; hardly a condition to promote relaxed skiing! On a positive note, the warmer temperatures made for a springlike ambiance and we didn't have to bundle up quite so much. Due to the icy conditions, we decided to mostly ski at Stake Lake, where races were being held. Unfortunately, most of the overnight grooming was done on the race course and the other trails were frozen and rutted from skate skiers. We had to maintain good form, as anything less would cause us to fall down.

Saturday night brought a few inches of new snow. The temperatures stayed below freezing, so it didn't melt. Sunday also had more trails groomed and these two facts made for much better skiing. Two of our party went to ski the trails at Logan Lake and saw eight wild horses tromping around on the trails. Two others of our party saw a moose on the trails at Stake Lake.

Monday offered good skiing also but we were so tired after three days of skiing that we were ready to come home. Still, I considered the trip a success in spite of the difficult first two days, due to the flexibility of the members. They made the most of the situation and spent a lot of time conversing and hanging out with each other. We definitely made the most of the trip and I believe everyone had a good time.

This trip is so popular that we do it twice each ski season. Just after Christmas and during February's three-day weekend. This season is no different and I urge you to try it.

KURT DUEY

SNOW FORECAST

It's December. It's time to be seriously thinking of snow and skiing! It's time for predictions! Too bad nobody knows, but a selective search of the internet found this prediction: "I'm forecasting that the most consistent snowfall will occur at ... Whistler Blackcomb, Mount Baker, Stevens Pass, ... " I quit reading after that. Pete

FUTURE MEETINGS

January 12

February 9

March 9



What
we're
hoping
for...

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: _____ \$50 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 _____
Help with Ambassador Days _____	Put up trail signs and sanican base _____	
Audit NNSC financial records _____	Write an article for "Snow News" _____	
Lead a ski trip _____	Write a grant, or, fundraising _____	

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 #