



### **Bus Trips**

The snow continues to fall in Colorado and there is still time to sign up for both bus trips.

The first trip to Leadville, Colorado is scheduled from January 13 through January 16, 2017. Randy Johnson and Debbie Pierson have outlined some of the skiing available (see previous newsletter). Folks who have skied here before, speak with enthusiasm of all the skiing available at Leadville. If you haven't yet signed up for the Leadville trip, don't wait any longer! We will have some great trail options for all levels of skiers, beginners to advanced. Lots of fun times with friends as well!

The club has compiled documents relating to bus trips for handy reference. The documents can be found at <http://nmccskiclub.org/ski-outings/bus-trips/>.

If you have not paid in full for the Leadville bus trip, please send the \$132.00 balance no later than December 8, 2016 to Debbie Pierson, 8339 Hawk Eye Rd. NW, Albuquerque, NM 87120. Checks (for any bus trip) should be made payable to NMCCSC.

### **New Year's Trip - Silverton**

The old standby lodging at the Grand Imperial has changed. The Grand Imperial completed a capital improvement project, the motel has upgraded the rooms, the cost, and has apparently rented out all of their rooms. If you're interested in skiing the holiday weekend, you are encouraged to obtain lodging and plan to join in for day trips, with folks that have already made arrangements.

### **New Years – Aladdin's Lamp Hut**

This hut is near Molas Pass and is full, and details can be found in the October newsletter.

### **Hut Trips Update**

**January 28, 2017 - February 2, 2017:** This trip to the 10th Mountain Hut is full with four people on the waiting list. It's getting close, but contact Guy Miller to be put on the waiting list. Cost is \$148, exclusive of food, mileage and accommodations pre and post trip.

**February 27, 2017 – March 4, 2017:** This trip is to Polar Star Inn, and five vacancies remain on this trip!

Perched near the base of New York Mountain at just over 11,000 feet, Polar Star is one of our favorite hut destinations. This spacious "stretch" hut holds 19 skiers while still allowing for plenty of elbow room. The six mile ski in to the hut climbs a little under 2200 feet, all of which is gentle, except for the uphill part, of course. We will ski in from the Yeoman Park trailhead and take the Newcomer Spring spur. On the way out, we will opt for the easier descent along Fulford Road.

Day touring opportunities for everyone abound. There are numerous interesting Nordic cruising destinations as well as plenty of places for turning, including a nice slope just a short distance behind the hut. If you've read about the fantastic sauna at this hut, forget it; it's gone now. There is, however, running water at a spring just downhill from the kitchen, so snow melting is normally not necessary.

Avalanche danger is easily avoided, but it is, nevertheless, present. Full avy gear is required for this trip, and climbing skins are an absolute necessity.



The cost for the hut is \$159 per person, which includes dinners at the hut. We will motel it in Eagle, Colorado the night before we ski in. Reservations have not yet been firmed up. We will have a trip planning meeting prior to the trip during which all logistical details will be nailed down.

Interested qualified skiers should contact Guy Miller without delay to sign up. This trip will likely fill in the coming weeks.

CHECK OUT THE HUT: [http://www.huts.org/The\\_Huts/polar\\_star.php](http://www.huts.org/The_Huts/polar_star.php)

### **Trail Maintenance Trips**

Sam Beard has continued leading trail maintenance trips into the Jemez. The recent burns of the last half dozen years has resulted in some of the trails seeing significant deadfall, and carpet of aspen shoots. Volunteers this season include Sam, Carl, Eric, Mike, Tom, Bet, Byron, Jerry, Francis, Carol, Ken, Cleve, Betsy, Vicky, Dennis, Sim, and Pete.

### **Instruction**

Snowshoeing, Beginning Cross Country Skiing, telemark turning are planned for this year. The classroom session for snowshoeing has been replaced with the REI Basics Snowshoe classes, which is being hosted by REI three times this winter. The first REI Snowshoe class is the evening of December 5. Ruth will lead a beginner snowshoe on Saturday December 17, 2016 in the Sandias. The trail used for the day, will be dependent upon the snow conditions. Date, time, location of REI snowshoe classes is shown below, as well as the website location for registration.

#### Albuquerque REI:

Mon, December 5, 2016 6-7:30pm 20 spots available

Fri, January 6, 2017 6-7:30pm

Mon, February 6, 2017 6-7:30pm

#### Santa Fe REI:

Fri, December 16, 2016 6-7:30pm



<https://www.rei.com/events/snowshoeing-basics/albuquerque/159327>

The instruction date for telemark turns will announced after the holidays. An overnight trip to Chama, New Mexico on February 11 -12 will be an opportunity for beginning cross country skiers to practice on a variety of terrain.

## Trip Reports

Oh oh, no local snow, no trip reports. As of this writing the snow has started, but not enough snowfall yet in New Mexico. Skiing has apparently started on the Grand Mesa, near Grand Junction Colorado.

## Day Trips

When the snow is deep enough to start skiing, and new storms pass through, Day trips will typically take place on short notice, to take advantage of the new snowflakes. As such these trips are publicized via email as this is the quickest way to get the word out.

## Programs

The program last month was presented by Kerry Jones from NOAA. The forecast last year was for abundant snow, and the year started out with a big bang. Then, a change in the horizontal temperature gradient of the Pacific Ocean pushed the jet stream north and snowfall diminished. This year the forecast is: average, just under average for the most readily accessible areas to residents of Albuquerque, and northern New Mexico. The projected conditions being more favorable at more northerly latitudes.

December program is the annual holiday social, where we treat ourselves to delectables and desserts provided by members. Therefore, Kathy will take the month off for providing refreshments for club meeting. You can bring in your creative handiwork for display (& sale) too. Items could include books, cards, art, and jewelry, whatever your talents may be.

January program is search and rescue. Bob Rodgers will be speaking on behalf of the New Mexico Search and Rescue group (NMSR). The overall scope of his presentation will deal with how the search and rescue process works from the time the group is contacted until the victim is actually rescued. Specific topics would include; contacting NMSR, information they will need from people contacting them, what the person making the contact and the victim should expect, advisement NMSR may provide until NMSR can reach the scene. Insight to the search and rescue group as far as the people who work/volunteer on behalf of the group.

### *Calendar of Events 2016-2017*

Thursday	December 8 7:00 – 9:00 PM	General Meeting at Garden club Program: Holiday Social
Saturday	December 17	Field Instruction - Snowshoeing Sandia Mountain
Tuesday	January 10 6:00-7:45 PM	Class room Instruction – Beginning Cross Country Skiing Lomas & Tramway Library community room
Thursday	January 12 7:00 – 9:00 PM	General Meeting at Garden club
Friday-Monday	January 13 – January 16	Bus Trip Leadville, Colorado
Saturday <i>Saturday</i>	January 21 <i>(backup date of February 4)</i>	Field Instruction - Beginning Cross Country Skiing Sandia Mountain
Saturday-Thursday	January 28 – February 2	Hut Trip Tenth Mountain Hut
Thursday	February 9 7:00 – 9:00 PM	General Meeting at Garden club
Saturday-Sunday	February 11 – February 12	Overnight Car trip – Terrain for all ski level ability & skills Chama, New Mexico
Friday-Monday	February 17 – February 20	Bus Trip Pagosa Springs, Colorado
Monday-Saturday	February 27 – March 4	Hut Trip Polar Star Hut
Thursday	March 9 7:00 – 9:00 PM	General Meeting at Garden club

Board Members 2016-2017			
President	Mike Martin	273-1876	<a href="mailto:President@nmccskiclub.org">President@nmccskiclub.org</a>
Vice President	Bet Gendron	228-8025	<a href="mailto:VicePresident@nmccskiclub.org">VicePresident@nmccskiclub.org</a>
Secretary	Nancy Jenkins	269-0855	<a href="mailto:Secretary@nmccskiclub.org">Secretary@nmccskiclub.org</a>
Treasurer	Max Shepherd	270-5258	<a href="mailto:Treasurer@nmccskiclub.org">Treasurer@nmccskiclub.org</a>
Day Trips	Guy Miller	306-2628	<a href="mailto:DayTrips@nmccskiclub.org">DayTrips@nmccskiclub.org</a>
Long Bus Trips	Debbie Pierson Randy Johnson	450-8646 270-2832	<a href="mailto:BusTrips@nmccskiclub.org">BusTrips@nmccskiclub.org</a>
Hut Trips	Guy Miller	306-2628	<a href="mailto:HutTrips@nmccskiclub.org">HutTrips@nmccskiclub.org</a>
Car Trips	Rob Suminsby	366-7513	<a href="mailto:CarTrips@nmccskiclub.org">CarTrips@nmccskiclub.org</a>
Newsletter	Dean Athow	275-1097	<a href="mailto:Newsletter@nmccskiclub.org">Newsletter@nmccskiclub.org</a>
Instruction	Ruth Bargman-Romero	842-9735	<a href="mailto:Instruction@nmccskiclub.org">Instruction@nmccskiclub.org</a>
Membership	Stacey Kittner	712-5638	<a href="mailto:Membership@nmccskiclub.org">Membership@nmccskiclub.org</a>
Meetup & Social Media	Dave Gabel	401-5723	<a href="mailto:SocialMedia@nmccskiclub.org">SocialMedia@nmccskiclub.org</a>
Programs	Peter Marks	856-8237	<a href="mailto:Programs@nmccskiclub.org">Programs@nmccskiclub.org</a>
Mailing/Egroup	Marilynn Szydowski	332-8018	<a href="mailto:egroup@nmccskiclub.org">egroup@nmccskiclub.org</a>
Refreshments	Kathy Trujillo	299-9663	<a href="mailto:Refreshments@nmccskiclub.org">Refreshments@nmccskiclub.org</a>
Trails	Sam Beard	828-0673	<a href="mailto:Trails@nmccskiclub.org">Trails@nmccskiclub.org</a>
Web Site	Eric Russell	281-1289	<a href="mailto:webmaster@nmccskiclub.org">webmaster@nmccskiclub.org</a>

Ratings		
Class	Vertical Climb (ft)	Distance (miles)
One	Less than 1000	Less than 5
Two	Less than 2000	Less than 5
Three	Greater than 2000	Greater than 10
Four	Unpatrolled, mountainous terrain, with the purpose of downhill skiing. Slopes can be greater than 25 degrees. Knowledge of use of climbing skins, avalanche gear needed.	
Steepness of slopes, skill level, and stamina can also dictate the ski tour rating. Please see the webpage for more information. <a href="http://nmccskiclub.org/ski-outings/">http://nmccskiclub.org/ski-outings/</a>		
Finding Us		
Web Page	<a href="http://nmccskiclub.org">http://nmccskiclub.org</a>	
FaceBook	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/nmccskiclub">https://www.facebook.com/nmccskiclub</a>	
Mail	New Mexico Cross Country Ski Club PO Box 51563 Albuquerque, NM 87181	

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PO Box 51563  
Albuquerque, NM 87181