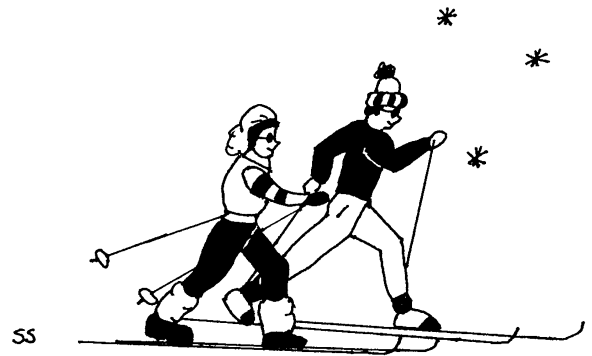
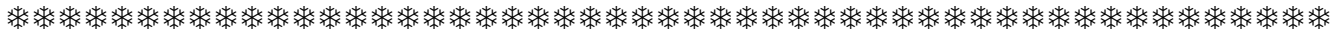


New Mexico Cross Country Ski Club Newsletter



December 2002



Meeting Schedule for 2002-2003

Next meeting: Thursday December 19, 7:30pm

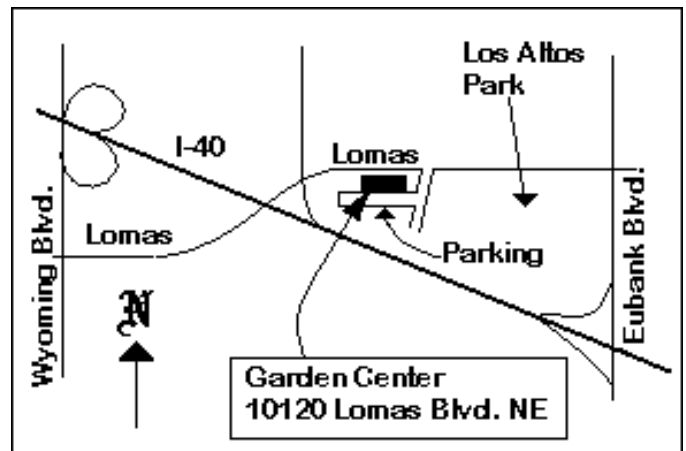
- **No formal program; bring goodies to share** following a brief business meeting. But, don't avoid the meeting just because you didn't get anything ready to bring – there's always *lots* to eat.

Enjoy good fellowship! Seek out and converse with some members who are not part of your "regular" crowd!

Monthly General Meetings

October 17	January 16
November 21	February 20
December 19	March 20

Meetings are held at 7:30pm on the third Thursday of each month, October through March, at the Albuquerque Garden Club Center, 10120 Lomas NE. Look for the sign on Lomas at the entrance to the Center. Please park on the east side of the building and enter through the east entrance.



**Get your newsletter from our Web site!
Save money for your Club!**

If you would be willing to skip the mailed copy and just download the newsletter from our Web site, just check the appropriate box on your renewal form. If you have already renewed but failed to check the box, **please contact Jean Hanson, Our Lady of the Mailing Labels.** You'll feel good, you'll get your newsletter several days earlier, and your Club will thank you!

If you've signed up for the Yahoo Groups email system (check with Debbie O'Callaghan for this), you'll get a reminder email each time a new newsletter is posted.

- **Membership list ...** will be posted soon to the members-only section of the Web site, and will be included with the mailed copies in January.
- **January newsletter ...** will be early, since your Editor will be off skiing the first half of January! Newsletter will be posted December 31, and mailed in early January.

**Visit the NMCCSC Web site at
www.naturediscovery.org/nmccskiclub
newsletters, updated trip info, and more!**



Bus Trip Update

by Susan Swan

294-1720; SSSwan515@aol.com
821 Rio Arriba SE, Albuquerque NM 87123

Hi everyone. The Holidays and parties are upon us and the SNOW is falling. A good year to be a skier. *The trips to Durango and Breckenridge are full*, but I really need people for the waiting lists. I have already had two single cancellations for Breckenridge and several for Durango, so if you want to go on these trips, there is a very good possibility you will get the chance.

Just call or email me – it costs you nothing to be on the waiting lists.

We still have openings on the Pagosa trip. This really is a wonderful trip. It is great for new members of the club, as we all soak in the hot springs (open 24 hours/day) and you get to meet everyone. They have prepared tracks, back-woods skiing and Wolf Creek downhill area. The restaurants are very good and for \$165.00 it is a great deal. It includes a nice room at the Springs Inn, 24-hour use of hot springs (I think 22 of them), round trip bus ride, drinks and snacks and time with wonderful PEOPLE. A great stocking stuffer. I'll even make you a gift certificate! Think on it. Only \$165.00!

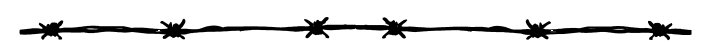
<u>summary</u>	
Breckenridge CO	Jan 17-20, 2003 \$250.00 (<i>waiting list only</i>)
Pagosa Springs CO	Jan 31-Feb 2, 2003 \$165.00 (\$100.00 deposit; balance due at the December meeting!)
Durango CO	Feb 14-17, 2003 \$210.00 (<i>waiting list only</i>)

Note for those going to Breckenridge: We are staying in timeshares. They have 2 bedrooms, two baths, full kitchen; TV's, VCR's and some have fireplaces in the living room. They also have indoor hot tubs. The condos are near one of the prepared track areas. There are restaurants, shuttle busses to and from town (less than a mile away), other XC and downhill areas nearby and many places for the bus to take us. It will be a long bus ride Friday night and coming back, but we will have goodies and drinks on board and all your old and new friends you haven't seen since last year.

REI Winter Carnival

by Mike Martin

The NM Cross Country Ski Club presented its Ski Touring Clinic at REI's Winter Carnival on Dec 6. Turnout was light (9 people) but we now have 3 new memberships and 6 new members. Guy Miller did a great job of promoting your club and Sam Beard gave an excellent presentation on where to ski in New Mexico highlighted by some beautiful slides. I gave a short presentation on the club's trip to Fritz's hut last year using Carl Smith's slides (thanks Carl!) and did an impromptu ski equipment clinic out on the showroom floor. Thanks to Guy for being the ringleader on this project and to Sam for providing much of the materials!



Beginning Cross-Country Ski Lessons

by Guy Miller

The New Mexico Cross Country Ski Club will offer a class for beginning skiers. Although the class is primarily geared toward the absolute beginner, it can also be beneficial for those with some experience.

The class will consist of a single two-hour classroom session and one all-day on-the-snow session. Participants must be at least 18 years of age unless approved in advance by instructor, and must be members of the club. The cost of the class is \$10.00.

Participants will learn the basics of skiing, and how to be confident and comfortable on the snow. Students must be reasonably fit and have a positive attitude!

The classroom session will be Saturday December 21. That's the Saturday after the December meeting, so just about your last chance to sign up will be at that meeting. If you want to take the class and you won't be at the meeting, call me before that date.

The on-the-snow session will tentatively be a Saturday in early-mid January. Further details will be announced at the meetings and published in the newsletter.

Often new skiers don't get started until the season is half over, so if you know of someone who might be interested, have them call me NOW !!!

For more information, call me at 294-7940, before 9:00pm please.



Climbing Skins – Special Purchase

by John Thomas 298-5234

I have arranged a purchase of climbing skins for those taking the Intermediate XC ski lessons and, through the good offices of Bob Greenwalt at Mountains and Rivers, this offer is being extended to all NMCCSC members.

These climbing skins are approximately 1/2-length glue-ons and should work in all but the steepest or most strenuous of situations. They are also called kicker stickers. I bought a pair last year and they worked fine with my no-wax skis on the Belvedere hut trip. (They work on both waxable and no-wax skis.)

The skins come in 5 widths. Mountains and Rivers recommends that you purchase skins about 5 mm narrower than the waist of your ski (the most narrow part, typically under your foot).

The five widths and their list prices are:

<u>width (mm)</u>	<u>width (inches)</u>	<u>list price</u>
48	1.89	\$47.50
55	2.17	\$48.50
60	2.36	\$49.50
64	2.52	\$52.50
70	2.76	\$54.50

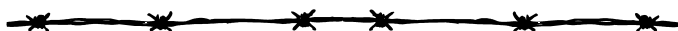
Note: 1 inch is 25.4 mm. For example, if your skis are exactly 2 1/2 inches wide at their narrowest place, then they are 63.5 mm wide. You could use skins that are 55 or 60 mm wide.

Bob is offering these skins to us for 10% off the list price. We still have to pay sales tax – a little less than 6%.

If you are interested in this offer, please get to me a check for \$25, **payable to:** Mountains and Rivers. **ON YOUR CHECK, write the width of the skin** in which you are interested.

You may mail it to me at 3025 Palo Alto Dr NE, Albuquerque NM 87111 or give it to me at the December NMCCSC meeting. The deadline for getting your deposit to me is the evening of December 19. I will place the order the next day. At this point, the \$25 deposit is **non-refundable**.

When the skins come in, you must pay Mountains and Rivers the balance on them.



Ski Swap

by Mike Martin

We will have an informal ski swap at each of our general club meetings. Bring your winter sports equipment that you would like to sell and place it on the counter at the east end of our meeting room for the membership to peruse. Your name and the price on the equipment will help your sale.

You can also advertise your equipment in the newsletter. Phone or email Lester Byington (see back page).



Information for Skiers

FOOD, WATER and EQUIPMENT: Each skier brings all of his/her own equipment; skis, boots, poles, wax, warm clothes, food, water, etc. At least one quart of water per person and extra food for delays or emergencies should be carried.

TRANSPORTATION: Skiers should try to car pool from the meeting point to the ski trailhead. Drivers should be reimbursed 7.5 cents per mile by each passenger in a car pool. Approximate car mileage will be listed in the trip description.

TOUR LEADERS: Tour leaders are volunteers who plan and lead ski tours for NMCCSC members. A tour leader has the prerogative of rejecting any person as a tour member because of equipment, ability, or any other reason. Call the leader if you have questions about the tour.

LIABILITY: The NMCCSC is a non-profit organization in which all activities are carried out by volunteers. The Club, Club officers, trip leaders and

drivers assume no liability in connection with any Club activity. If you are concerned about accidents, either while skiing or traveling, you should obtain your own insurance policy.

TOUR CLASSIFICATIONS: The tour classification is an indication of the degree of difficulty of the trail and the corresponding skiing ability required to safely and enjoyably ski. Note that the length of the skiing portion of the trip is given in the trip description. The types of trails that each class of skier may be expected to navigate are given below:

CLASS I: A tour with less than 1000 feet of elevation gain and less than 5 miles in length, and can be skied by novice skiers with minimal cross country experience. **Persons with no cross country skiing experience MUST take beginning lessons or must obtain the leader's permission PRIOR to joining a Class I tour.**



CLASS II: A tour with 1000 to 2000 feet of elevation gain and less than 10 miles in length. The trail will have gentle to moderate slopes which require the ability to stop and turn on the slopes. A Class II+ tour will have 2000 to 3000 feet of elevation gain.

CLASS III: A tour with greater than 3000 feet of elevation gain and greater than 10 miles in length. The trail may be steep or narrow and requires at least intermediate to advanced skiing ability.

Carpooling/Meeting Places

These abbreviations are used in some trip descriptions:

BOA Bank of America
Corner of San Mateo and Academy NE

WF Wells Fargo Bank
Franklin Plaza
Central & Juan Tabo NE
Use the parking area away from the money machine.



Day Trips & Overnight Trips

Mike Martin – Day Trips

Jon McCorkell – Overnight Car Trips

Please contact either Mike (day trips) or Jon (overnight trips) if you are interested in leading a trip, even if it will be farther into the season. If you have never led a trip but would like to, these gentlemen can assist in selecting an area or providing how-to's on trip leadership. Remember, each time you lead a trip your name is added to the hat for the drawing for a free bus trip. Trips must be submitted by the first Thursday of the month for the next month's newsletter.

Keep reading the newsletter for upcoming trips and think snow! All trips are dependent on snow conditions, so please contact the trip leader to check for changes/cancellations.

Trips can be sent as follows:

Mike Martin 3920 Lafayette Dr NE Albuquerque, NM 87107 michael.martin@kirtland.af.mil 872-9268 (H) 846-2273 (W)	Jon McCorkell 9709 Euclid NE Albuquerque, NM 87112 peakbag@nmia.com 260-0706
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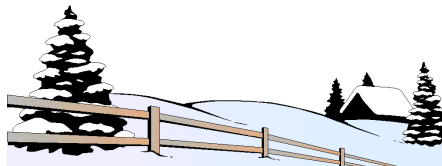


Tues, Thurs, Sat, Sun Santa Fe and Sandias

Class: N/A

Leader: Roe Maier, 869-2928, roemaier@earthlink.net

Practice sessions starting at the Santa Fe ski area as soon as snow is available, then migrating to the Sandia ski area.



Sun Dec 22 Sandias – Kiwanis Meadows

Class I 4 miles roundtrip

Leader: Jim & Joan Mansfield, 275-1144

A nice ski in the Sandias to get in shape for the bus trips. Ski from the crest across Kiwanis Meadows onto the service road and up to the tram. Return trip will be a slightly different route. Call leader for meeting place and time.



Sat Jan 4 Jemez Mountains
Class I & II 3-6 miles roundtrip
Leader: Sam Beard, 828-0673

Leader will determine where to ski based on snow conditions. Enjoy the beautiful Jemez and escape the crowds in the Sandias. Meet at the Bank of America, corner of Academy and San Mateo, at 8:00 AM. Bring MaxiGlide for your no-wax skis to prevent sticking if the snow is wet. Leader is looking for a co-leader to lead either the Class I or Class II portion of the trip.

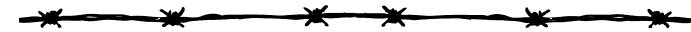


Hut Trips

Mon-Tues Jan 6-7 Francie's Hut
Mon-Tues Feb 24-25 MacNamara Hut
Sat-Sun March 15-16 Lake City yurts
Leader: Guy Miller, 294-7940
 (Please call before 9:00pm.)

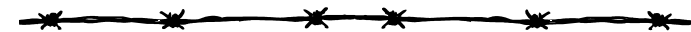
The dates given are the actual ski days; travel days will bracket those.

See article in October newsletter. These trips are full, but a waiting list is being established. Talk with the leader directly about these trips; the experience and ability requirements for the hut trips are somewhat more stringent than for other Club trips. Also, talk with Guy about next year's trips!



Sat Jan 11 Fenton Hill Road
Class II 10-12 miles roundtrip
Leader: Phyllis Pryor, 255-7972
 on_the_go@earthlink.net

Meeting: BOA 8:00am. See page 35 of Sam Beard's book for a description of this area of the Jemez Mountains. We will ski Fenton Hill Road as far as our time will allow. This day trip will be led at a Class II pace, as we would like to cover 5 to 6 miles of Route 144 before retracing our tracks back to the trailhead. Route 144 offers gently rolling hills as it meanders along Fenton Ridge. Bring 1½-2 liters of water, lunch and snacks, and enjoy a fun ski! Leader would like to carpool.



Wed Jan 15 Los Griegos – Jemez Mountains
Class I-II 6 miles roundtrip
Leader: Bob Long, 897-7906

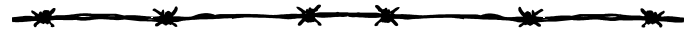
One of the nicest skis in this area, almost always the best snow due to the high elevation. Lots of tall pines with occasional great views out over the Jemez. We have seen elk up close on this trip before. Call leader for meeting place and time.



Sat Jan 25 East Fork – Jemez Mountains
Class I-II 6-8 miles roundtrip
Leader: Don Mullen, 294-1202

A nice variety of ski terrain with fantastic views of Redondo Peak. This is a perennial club favorite and the snow is usually excellent. Pack a lunch and some

water, dress in layers. Call leader for meeting place and time.



Sun Jan 26 Sandias – Kiwanis Meadows
Class I 4 miles roundtrip
Leader: Jim & Joan Mansfield, 275-1144

Another nice trip in the Sandias with great views at the top. Ski from the crest across Kiwanis Meadows onto the service road and up to the tram. Return trip will be a slightly different route. Call leader for meeting place and time.



Winter Park – 4-5 day trip

Thurs-Mon Feb 27-Mar 3, 2003 Winter Park, CO
Class II and III ski miles: mild to massive
Leader: Lester Byington, 286-9100,
 lester@byington.org

This trip will give priority to long ski-intensive days, with provisions for those who prefer shorter days. The main ski group will be on the road by 8:00am each day, returning late afternoon. Other groups (actually the majority!) will do shorter days.

We will be traveling by carpool, and staying in condos. Some will leave Thursday morning and drive directly to Winter Park. Others will leave Thursday evening, staying the night in Buena Vista. We will drive back starting Monday around noon.

Cost will be about \$300.-\$325., including all lodging and a contribution for the drivers.

Winter Park is at 9000' in northern Colorado, west of the Continental Divide. It usually has better (sometimes much better) snow conditions than southern Colorado. The Fraser Experimental Forest (no snowmobiles!) and two Wilderness areas are just outside town. Somewhat to the north are the Arapaho National Forest, Rocky Mountain National Park, and the Indian Peaks Wilderness. In addition, there are two large prepared-track areas, Devil's Thumb and Snow Mountain, each with 100 km of trails.

Race information: The Snow Mountain Stampede, a major regional ski race, will be held March 1, the Saturday we're there! There will be 10 km, 21 km, and 42 km events. We will try to accommodate those who wish to enter one of these events.

New Mexico Cross Country Ski Club
 PO Box 8425
 Albuquerque, NM 87198-8425

Return Service Requested

December 2002

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Bus Trips; Beginner Lessons 2
Climbing Skins; Information for Skiers 3
Day Trips/Overnight Trips 4-5



**NEW MEXICO CROSS COUNTRY SKI CLUB
 2002-2003 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Officer Position	Name	Phone	Email Address <small>new ↘</small>
President	David Ploor	822-8650	DPloor620@aol.com
Vice-President	Janie Gilmore	259-0502	janiegil@aol.com
Secretary	Patricia Kerr-Sanders	256-0361	pkerrsande@aol.com
Treasurer	Don Mullen	294-1202	mullendl@aol.com
Committee Chairs			
Membership	Gene & Donna Lisotto Jean Hanson	884-7331 298-5234	Gene_Lisotto@msn.com jh87111@worldnet.att.net
Publications	Lester & Sharon Byington Dianne Cress	286-9100 298-0085	lester@byington.org dcress@sld.state.nm.us
Programs	Wayne Kirkby	898-1654	ski1071607@aol.com
Refreshments	Holly Noland Phyllis Pryor	292-3025 255-7972	dave5th@aol.com on_the_go@earthlink.net <small>←</small>
Day Trips	Mike Martin	872-9268	michael.martin@kirtland.af.mil
Overnight Trips	Jon McCorkell	260-0706	peakbag@nmia.com
Long Bus Trips	Susan Swan	294-1720	SSSwan515@aol.com
Instruction	Guy Miller	294-7940	Xcskiboy@aol.com
Trails	Sam Beard	828-0673	Edwina42@aol.com
Web site; email group	Lester Byington Debbie O'Callaghan	286-9100 266-0713	lester@byington.org docalla@hotmail.com