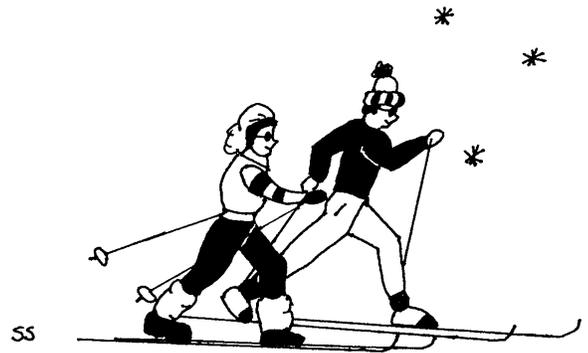


New Mexico Cross Country Ski Club Newsletter



February 2002



Meeting Schedule for 2001-2002

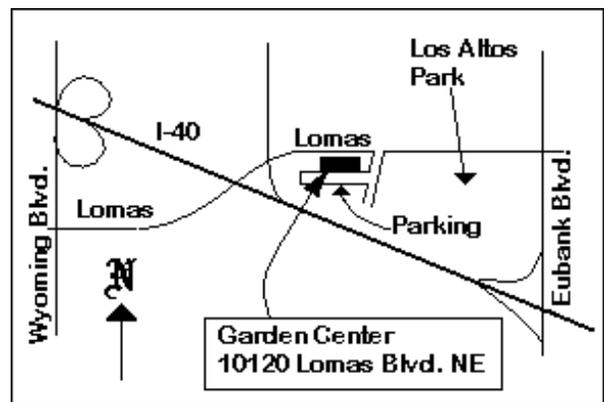
Next meeting: Thursday February 21, 7:30pm

- **Program:** Mike Martin will show slides from the Belvedere hut trip, the Telluride bus trip, and the beginner class. Don't miss this!!

Monthly General Meetings

October 18	January 17
November 15	February 21
December 20	March 21

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.



Special Club Business

Two new items are discussed in separate articles on the next page:

- Membership Roster on Web Site: Issues and advantages regarding posting next year's membership roster in the password-protected section of our Web site. This will be discussed at the February 21 meeting.
- Winter Park bus or van trip: Possible bus or van trip to Winter Park on an extended 4-day weekend. The bus trip version won't be considered without major expressions of interest very soon.

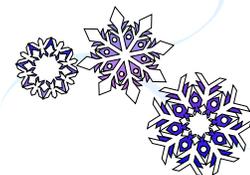
Seeking fame, power, and the respect of your peers?

The Club is seeking volunteers, or expressions of interest, for many officers and committee chairs for next year. Please contact Most Honored President Bob Swan to discuss. This is your chance to influence and improve the operation of your Club!

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, **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.



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

Membership Roster to be Placed on Web Site?

Each year we distribute the new membership roster (names, addresses, phones, email addresses) with the December newsletter. It will be included with the December mailing for those members who get mailed newsletters. It is not included in the copies which go to stores. For those who download their newsletter from our password-protected Web page (almost half the membership), the logical extension is that they would also download the roster. (The alternative is doing a special mailing for them.) The Mountain Club, as an example, maintains member information on their password-protected Web page. Note that this is an issue for next December. This year, everyone got a mailed copy, and the roster is not currently on the Web site.

However, some people have expressed concern over having their personal information on a Web site. They have referred to problems with spam and to stories of hackers getting credit card numbers and medical records from Web sites. We believe that these are not major concerns for our situation, for the following reasons:

spam: Email addresses for spamming are harvested using automated programs. Our use of password protection stops essentially all automated harvesting. Nobody does labor-intensive manual hacking to build email lists!

hacking: Hackers break into e-commerce sites to steal credit card numbers for financial gain. This of course doesn't apply to us. They break into other sites to get medical records, Social Security numbers, etc either to embarrass the site owners, to demonstrate security weaknesses, or to gain prestige within their community. Bluntly put, we are too small and too boring to attract this type of hacking. If someone really wants our list, he can join the Club for \$15 and we'll mail him one (and give him the Web password). There will be an open discussion of this topic at the next meeting, February 21.

southern Colorado areas. It has three prepared-track areas with about 270 km of groomed trail. There are two major alpine skiing developments, Winter Park Resort and Mary Jane. There are back-country areas which are both bus-accessible and snowmobile-free.

The downside is the distance. Winter Park is about 1½ hours north and west of Denver, across Berthoud Pass. This is a 9-10 hour bus ride, which would need to be split across two days because of rules on drivers' hours. It's probably not worth doing except as a four-day weekend.

The nominal plan would be to drive to Colorado Springs (6-7 hours) Friday night, stay in some economy hotel, continue to Winter Park (~3 hours) Saturday morning, ski from noon to 4:00 or 5:00pm, ski all day Sunday and Monday, leave Monday around 5:00pm for Colorado Springs, and arrive back in Albuquerque at 3:00 or 4:00pm Tuesday. This gives nearly three full ski days at a cost of a fourth hotel day (and a fourth bus day, and another vacation day). Two of the four hotel days are in a low-cost area, though.

This trip could obviously be run as a four-day car- or van-pool trip, doing our own driving. However, as a bus trip it is more marginal. We would have to find 40 people who can get the extra time off, can afford the increased expense, and are excited about Winter Park. This trip **will not happen** (as a bus trip) unless lots of people express strong interest before the end of this season. The Board will not approve paying hotel deposits this Summer and then waiting until next Winter to see whether we can fill the bus.

If you have any interest in a Winter Park trip, either as a bus trip or as a regular car/van trip, email or phone the designated Collector of Winter Park Information, Lester Byington (lester@byington.org, 286-9100). I will then coordinate with whichever trip chairman is appropriate.

Update on the Long Bus Trips by Susan Swan

Two down and one to go! We have been to Telluride and Taos. Both trips went very well. We had quite a few people who were new to the bus trips. The ones I talked to reported that they had had a really great

Possible Winter Park Ski Trips

by Lester Byington

Winter Park is an intriguing area for a Club trip. It generally gets large amounts of early snow and has lower temperatures (thus better snow quality) than the



time. Whether you are a single or a couple or a couple of friends, please try one of the bus trips. We do have very friendly regulars who go and will make you feel included in the group. And, it is really nice to leave all the planning to someone else. We were lucky to have 14" of new snow in Taos. It really was very nice.

Ouray is Feb 15-18 and should be as wonderful as the other trips. *The waiting list is still open!*

Be sure we have your correct address. I send out the new trip schedule at the end of the summer. This allows you time to prepare for the trips in 2003. Consider going on one of our bus trips next year. You will really enjoy it!

Ouray info:

- Regular hotel rooms with a bath.
- Outside hot tubs from local hot springs
- Phone number: 1-800-327-5080
- Web site: www.boxcanyonouray.com
- Coffee in the lobby, room cable TV and phone.
- NO microwaves or refrigerators.

Any other questions, please contact me:
SSSwan515@aol.com or 294-1720

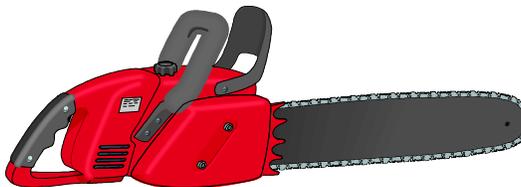
Beginning Cross-Country Ski Lessons
by Guy Miller

This year's class had 12 students finish the on-the-snow session on Saturday January 12, followed by a Class I ski tour in the Sandias. Some students followed up by participating in Michon Johnson's scheduled trip on Sunday January 13. Thanks to Mike Martin, John Thomas, and Michon Johnson for helping with the instruction.



Club Volunteer Trail Maintenance Program
by Sam Beard

As part of the Forest Service Adopt-a-Trail Program, Club volunteers maintain the cross-country ski trails in the Jemez and Sandia Ranger Districts. Trail Crew newsletters in May and August contain the outing schedules. Tools are provided by the Club. Call Sam Beard at 828-0673 for more information.



Day Trips & Overnight Trips

Mike Martin – Day Trips

Jon McCorkell – Overnight Car Trips

Please contact Mike or Jon 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 a free bus trip drawing. Trips must be submitted by the first Thursday of the month for that month's newsletter.

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

Everyone: 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.

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.



Wednesday ski trips: ongoing ...

Class ??

Leader: John Thomas, 298-5234

John Thomas is leading ski trips each Wednesday. If snow conditions are bad, we may snowshoe or hike. Additional information will come through the Yahoo Groups email, or call leader.

Sat Feb 9 Jemez – Los Griegos

Class II, slow

Leader: Sam Beard, 828-0673

Meet at BOA at 8:00am. Probably go up Ladera Canyon as far as Upper Road and come down Big Pine Canyon. We should be back in Albuquerque by 5:30pm.

Sun Feb 10 Mt Taylor

Class I-III

Leaders: John Thomas, 298-5234
Roe Maier, 869-2928

Meet at WF at 7:30am. Carpool to Grants; meet others in Grants at the turnoff for Lobo Canyon Road, NM 547. John Thomas will lead the Class III's to the peak. Roe Maier will lead the others along the same route but at a slower pace. Climbing skins are recommended for all skiers. If you do not have climbing skins, you must have the skills to maintain control on steep and possibly icy slopes.

It is certain we will need 4-wheel-drive vehicles for the last 5 miles of dirt road as we approach the trailhead. We can arrange shuttles for this last stretch if necessary.

Roe will be driving to Grants directly from Bosque Farms on Rt 6. Rt 6 enters I40 at Exit 126.

Mon-Wed Feb 25-27 Pagosa Springs, Colorado

Class II

Leader: Michon Johnson, 286-8587
Nvmichon@aol.com

Spend 3 wonderful days of skiing in the Wolf Creek area. We will stay at Davidson's Country Inn. It is a very comfortable B&B, just outside of Pagosa. Breakfast is included and the kitchen will be available for other meals. There is space for 20 people and the price depends on the number of people going.

Approximate cost will be between \$75 and \$100 per person for the entire 3 days. We will rent the whole house. Call or e-mail the leader for reservations. Deposit of \$50 required.

Sun-Tues Mar 2-5 Fritz's Hut
(or, March 2-6 if the group wishes)

Leaders: Guy Miller 294-7940 and Mike Martin
872-9268; friggenhutz@aol.com
(Please call before 9:00pm.)

limit: 8

We will spend all day March 2 getting to Aspen, Colorado, and ski in to the Benedict huts the next day. We have reserved 8 spots at Fritz's. An independent group could also reserve the adjacent Fabi's hut, which holds 6 people.

The route covers just under 6 miles and climbs 2700 feet, culminating at an elevation of 10,970. Route finding and terrain challenges present more difficulties than on the Belvedere trip, although avalanche danger is rated as minimal. This should not be considered a beginner's hut trip.

Leader approval required.

A more detailed description of this trip is in the January newsletter.

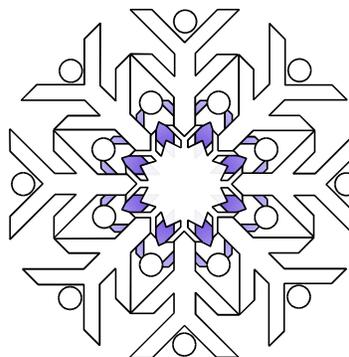
Fri-Sun Apr 5-7 Chama/Cumbres Pass

Class ??

Leader: John Thomas, 298-5234

Is anybody interested in springtime skiing in the mountains north of Chama ?? I propose a several day trip to the Cumbres Pass area in the April 5-7 timeframe. If there is enough interest, I could probably get us reasonable rates at the Cumbres Suites B& B in Chama. This is an attractive, non-

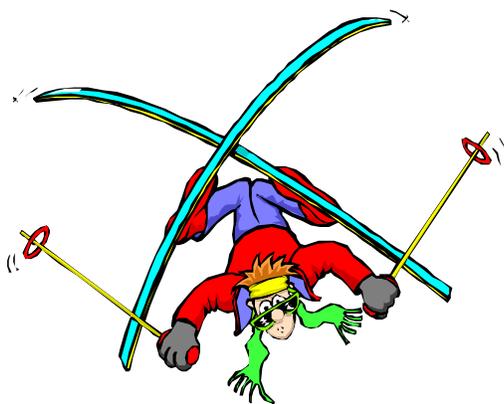
smoking B&B. Springtime skiing offers longer, warmer days but with the possibility of fresh snow. If interested, contact John Thomas.



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

Return Service Requested

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**NEW MEXICO CROSS COUNTRY SKI CLUB
 2001-2002 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Officer Position	Name	Phone	Email Address
President	Bob Swan	294-1720	BobSwanABQ@aol.com
Vice-President	Katie Crawford	254-2255	katiecrawf@aol.com
Secretary	Yolanda Ploor	822-8650	yploor5@aol.com
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Committee Chairs			
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Day Trips	Mike Martin	872-9268	michael.martin@kirtland.af.mil
Overnight Car Trips	Jon McCorkell	260-0706	peakbag@nmia.com
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Yahoo Groups email	Debbie O'Callaghan	266-0713	docalla@hotmail.com