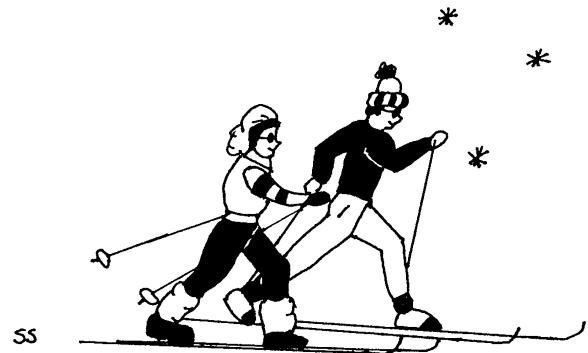


New Mexico Cross Country Ski Club

Newsletter

March 2003



Meeting Schedule for 2002-2003

Next meeting: Thursday March 20, 7:30pm

- **Election of Officers** and Committee Chairs! Throw out the current scoundrels and get new leadership for the Club! Nominations from the floor will be taken. See the present list of candidates on page 2.
- **Program:** Wayne Kirkby will present a program with slides on cross-country skiing in the Canadian Rockies! Don't miss this!
- **Drawing** for various prizes (ski-related items)! Just put your name in the hat at the meeting.
- **Refreshments** including cheesecake, our traditional treat for the last meeting of the year.

Monthly General Meetings

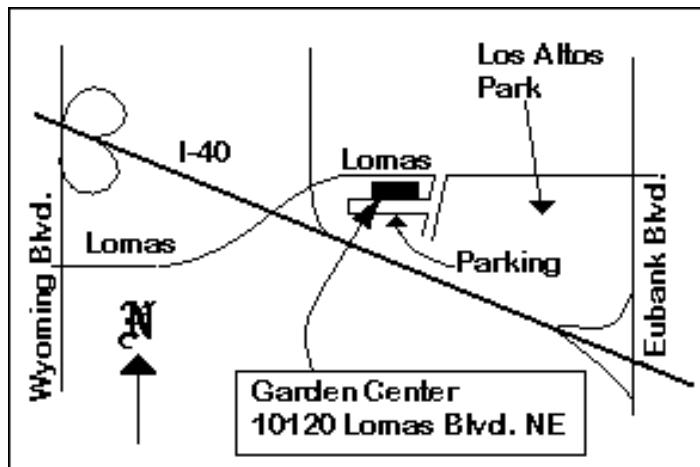
October 17	January 16
November 21	February 20
December 19	March 20

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!

If you are receiving mailed copies of the newsletter but 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**.

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.



Heads-up for 2004 trips !!

See pages 5-7, and the trip postings on page 9, for information on the 2004 hut trips and the 2004 Winter Park trip.

Unlike most Club trips, these have reservation and payment requirements which require that the leader establish a participant list, and in some cases collect money, during our Summer hiatus.

If you don't pay attention, you could miss your chance to go on these major trips!

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



Elections

- Elections of officers and committee chairs are held at the March general meeting each year. These volunteers take office immediately and serve through the following season. The officers and committee chairs together comprise our Board of Directors.
- The Board, through a combination of cajoling, wheedling, and outright begging, prepares a list of candidates. Board members hoping to relinquish their position work hardest at this. This year's list appears below. In the event additional victims are discovered at the last minute, nominations may be made from the floor.
- Officers, once elected, receive absolute obeisance and unwavering adulation from the membership. Committee chairs receive conditional obeisance and intermittent adulation.
- Committee chair positions listed below are those given in the bylaws. The bylaws group some related jobs into logical categories, while recognizing that some positions may require more than one person. Thus, the listing has several positions where the "candidate" is actually a team of people running as potential co-chairs.

<u>Position</u>	<u>Current Officeholder</u>	<u>2003-2004 Candidate</u>
President	David Ploor	Mike Martin
Vice President	Janie Gilmore-Daniels	Janie Gilmore-Daniels
Secretary	Patricia Kerr-Sanders	Patricia Kerr-Sanders
Treasurer	Don Mullen	Bob Swan
Day Trips	Mike Martin	David Ploor
Long Bus Trips	Susan Swan	Susan Swan
Overnight Car Trips/Hut Trips	Jon McCorkell	{ Jon McCorkell Guy Miller
Publications Committee	{ Lester & Sharon Byington Dianne Cress	Lester & Sharon Byington Dianne Cress
Instruction Committee	Guy Miller	Guy Miller
Membership Committee	{ Gene and Donna Lisotto Jean Hanson	Gene and Donna Lisotto Jean Hanson
Programs Committee	Wayne Kirkby	Wayne Kirkby
Refreshments Committee	{ Holly Noland Phyllis Pryor	Holly Noland Lucy Miller
Trails Committee	Sam Beard	Sam Beard
Web Site and Email Group	{ Lester Byington Debbie O'Callaghan	Lester Byington Debbie O'Callaghan



The Prez Sez ...

by David Ploor

Just because our last meeting will take place doesn't mean the ski season is over. There are four to six feet of snow on Cumbres Pass and good snow cover in a lot of other areas. So get out there and take advantage of it!

We had some great trips this year. Breckenridge, CO was a new area for us and it proved to be a hit. Way

to go Susan! Also Lester and Sharon's car trip to Winter Park, CO was very successful, having excellent snow and accommodations.

I would like to thank the Officers and Committee Chairs for all the hard work they put in this year. It made for a very enjoyable term. See you at the meeting or on the trail!



Equipment for Sale

- Fischer Europa Glass cross country skis, 215 cm long, 50 mm wide, Rottefella 3 pin bindings. \$5.00
- Pre Stealth alpine skis, 200 cm, Salomon 957 Composite bindings. \$20.00
- Salomon Force 9SE alpine skis, 185 cm, Salomon DR9 Equipe bindings. \$20.00
- Vintage Head Standard alpine skis, 200 cm, with Kneissel leather alpine ski boots, Men's size 10. \$40.00
- Salomon SX91 Equipe alpine rear entry ski boots, Men's size 10. \$10.00

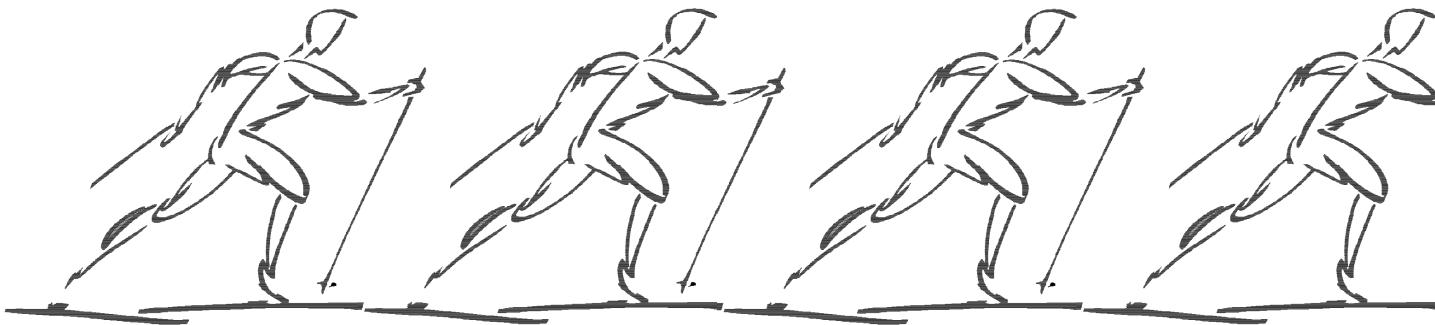
Mike Martin
872-9268 (H)
846-2273 (W)

Report on Durango Bus Trip

by Lester Byington

The bus left for Durango on Friday night, Feb 14, and picked up several Jemez dwellers at a dark and lonely roadside along the way. We arrived in good time at the Strater Hotel, a beautiful old hotel on the Historical Registry. The town itself was totally snow-free – an unusual and disappointing sight! However, there recently had been a full foot of new snow in the mountains. This was hugely fortunate, as otherwise the trip could have been truly dismal.

Molas Pass (10899') is the highest trailhead near Durango, so most trips were led from there, or from Andrews Lake Road a mile earlier on the highway. The bus went there all three days. Mike Martin led Class III trips at Coalbank Summit (just slightly lower than Molas) on Sunday and Monday. At these elevations the snow conditions were very good, although getting sticky and sloppy by Monday.



Recipe – by Popular Demand!!

Louise Broadbent brought some amazing English toffee on the Durango bus trip, and was flooded with requests for the recipe. Your noble editor sampled many pieces in an attempt to directly discern the recipe, but was unsuccessful. Louise now provides it to us ready for copying onto a 3x5 card!

Easy English Toffee

1/2 cup butter
1 cup granulated sugar
 $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon salt
 $\frac{3}{4}$ cup blanched slivered almonds
1 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips
1 cup chopped pecans

Butter large saucepan and combine butter, sugar, salt and almonds. Cook on medium-high heat until mixture turns caramel color. Pour immediately onto a cookie sheet and spread to $\frac{1}{4}$ inch thickness. Sprinkle chocolate chips on top and spread as they melt. Sprinkle pecans on melted chocolate and press into the chocolate. When cool break into pieces. Makes about a dozen pieces.



More Trip Reports

Winter Park – Feb 27-Mar 3

by Lester Byington

21 skiers carpooled to Winter Park on Thursday Feb 27 for our Club's very first trip to the area. I had scouted the area in January 2002, and skied there for over a week this January, so we did have some notion of what we wanted to do.

In Winter Park, we stayed at the High Country Haus condos. This is a mid-range but quite adequate facility. The property has hot tubs, indoor pool, and a meeting room, and is within walking distance of laundry and convenience stores. Our units were 2-bdrm 2-bath with full kitchens and all the hot water you could run. Generally, we cooked breakfast in our condos, ate lunch on the trail, and had dinner out. Friday night we enjoyed a group dinner in the private dining room at the Wild Creek, one of the best restaurants in town.

Snow conditions were excellent the entire trip. Winter Park seems to have gotten a foot or two of snow every week all winter.

Skiing – Friday: Everyone skied at the Devil's Thumb Ranch groomed area, exploring some fraction of their ~100km of trails. A few people (including the Most Honored Leader) didn't arrive until mid-day.

Skiing – Saturday: Sharon Byington led a group of ten on a moderate back-country trip in the Fraser Experimental Forest. The route went up the St Louis Creek trail and down an access road to an interesting view of the Siphon Aqueduct route, then returned. Part of the route was unbroken trail; thanks to Wayne Kirkby for helping there! The route is about 8-9km roundtrip with ~500' gain.

Lester led a group of four on a longer trip in the same area starting at 8:00am. This route went up the St Louis Creek trail and further up an access road to the summer trailhead for Byers Peak. Most of this distance required breaking trail, so thoughts of bushwhacking the Byers Peak Trail were abandoned due to time and fatigue. This route is 15km roundtrip with ~1500' gain. On the return, Lester and Barbara Coon took a side trip down the same route used by Sharon, descended the rather intimidating Siphon Aqueduct route (250' in ¼ mile), and came back on

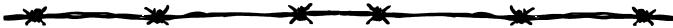
the flat St Louis Creek road. This excursion adds only 1-2km to the route, but has excitement!

A few people skied independently at Snow Mountain.

Skiing – Sunday: Sharon took a large group to Snow Mountain, another groomed area with ~100km of trails. They split into smaller groups to explore the trails, and also explored the culinary intricacies of the Skinny Ski Café, above the Nordic Center.

Lester led a group of four on the Deadhorse Creek Loop, a 10-km loop route in the Fraser Experimental Forest which climbs ~1100' up and above Deadhorse Creek and then screams down the Spruce Creek Trail back to the parking lot. The excellent snow conditions allowed (barely) for control on the descent, making skins unnecessary. As on Saturday, much of the uphill required breaking trail, but we were still down by 2:00pm.

Skiing – Monday: Lester, Sharon, and Barbara Coon were the only skiers on Monday. We did about 3 hours of varied trail work at Snow Mountain, including some exciting downhill runs which Sharon had discovered on Sunday.



McNamara Hut – Feb 23-25

by Guy Miller

Our recent trip to the McNamara Hut, located just outside of Aspen seemed to be largely characterized by the personal discomfort that I suffered at the hands of a bronchial infection that hit me like a freight train. I started out thinking that I had possibly a minor cold that I could probably kill by drinking a lot of water and thinking positive thoughts, but it wasn't to be; about two hours into the trip I realized I was in trouble, and I began to debate possibly heading back and waiting a few days in Glenwood Springs. I elected to go on, and it got worse from there. Toward the end I was skiing about 20 paces before stopping to rest. I was averaging less than half a mile an hour for about the last 3 miles. At a point only 4/10 of a mile from the hut, I finally gave in to repeated entreaties from Mike Martin, who had been babysitting me the entire way, to carry my pack for me. Part of my resistance was a testosterone kind of thing, and part of it was simply an aversion on the part of a trip leader

to be seen to fail. However, it was getting to a point where my stubbornness was endangering myself and others, so I relented.

Jeanine Bulot went into nurse mode and helped monitor my medical situation, and all of the others, in one way or another, helped me be as comfortable as possible; for this I am grateful. For infecting several of my hut mates, I feel dreadful. Given our somewhat difficult circumstances, having the right mix of people who can work and interact together effectively, made all the difference in the world.

But anyway, on to a more cheerful perspective, which is possible if I envision the trip as the others saw it. Although we had to hike about a half mile to get to skiable snow, once we hit it, we were skiing in lovely conditions. Despite several long uphill pitches, there was nothing technical about the route in. Climbing skins were employed by all, and we simply left them on for the entire trip in. The snow was fresh and the powder deep, but fortunately, at least one group had broken trail sometime before us. Although McNamara is one of the oldest in the 10th Mtn system, we found it to be entirely comfortable and inviting. The group before us had failed to turn off the solar lighting system, and our first night was spent entirely in darkness, save for our headlamps and one little candle that someone found. Although we had good lighting for our second night, I'd have to say that our experience suffered not the least for the lack of

light. Among the lessons that hut skiers learn as they go along is one that we were forcibly reminded of: bring a headlamp !!

With the pathetic exception of El Sicko, the group headed out for a long day of day skiing the next day, and I heard glowing stories of how much fun there was to be had, some of it skiing the hill located just a short distance from the hut. It had snowed gently, ever so gently, all night the night before, and there were a couple of inches of beautiful new snow on the ground for our group to enjoy. People in twos and threes skied for a while, then returned to the hut for lunch, perhaps a hot chocolate, and a little rest before heading out again. That evening we were joined by a small group of skiers from Boulder, who arrived rather late, but with whom we got along with ease.

Besides the afore-mentioned skiers, our roster included Bill Heitz and Bill Davey as well as Ron Guidotti and John Stephens, all hut veterans. Tom Broadbent was present for his first stab at a hut trip, and I just hope that catching my bug doesn't permanently turn him off to the hut scene.

The snow continued through our second night, again very gently and slow, just enough to freshen up the trail for the trip out. The downhill glide to get out was a terrific finale for this trip. This one would be worth repeating. In good health. And with a bigger headlamp.

Early Announcements – 2004 Trips

Winter Park 2004

by Lester Byington

Announcement

Sharon and I will lead a Winter Park trip again in 2004. We will leave on Wed Feb 25, spend one night on the road and three nights in Winter Park, and return on Sun Feb 29. This provides three full days of skiing (Thurs-Sat) and an optional part-day on Sunday. The general ski experience will be similar to what we did this year, with perhaps some new back-country routes. (See trip report elsewhere in this newsletter.) However, the lodging arrangement will be much different (and more elegant!).

Lodging; Meals; Logistics

We will be staying at Snow Mountain Ranch, a part of the YMCA of the Rockies. Our lodging will be a beautiful near-new 8-bedroom 8½-bath cabin located right on one trail of their 100-km groomed track network. We will be assigning only one couple (or 2-4 singles) per bedroom, but the cabin is designed to accommodate 32 people (40 with all the floor futons), and the kitchen, dining, and living room areas are designed for that number! Those common areas are truly spacious and elegant, with great views through large window areas. The kitchen has a huge capacity.

Winter Park 2004 continued

Bedrooms have either two queen beds or one queen bed and two bunks (plus a floor futon in both cases).

Breakfast and dinner for all three days will be prepared by volunteer gourmet cooks selected from the trip participants, with serving and clean-up assistance from the SMR staff. Menus will be planned in consultation with all trip participants. We should be able to accommodate *almost* all preferences/needs. This is included in the trip cost. This arrangement is great for discussing the experiences of the day, planning the next day, and general socializing.

We will travel to Winter Park by car; I will help with carpooling. This is nearly an all-day trip (9-10 hours, depending upon route and weather). Because of the cost of the cabin, we have decided not to rent the cabin for Wednesday night. *This is a change from this year, when we were able to get our condos for a greatly reduced rate for the additional night.*

The nominal plan is to stay in a cheap room in Idaho Springs or Georgetown (both this side of Berthoud Pass) on Wednesday, then cross the pass into Winter Park Thursday morning, drive to SMR or Devil's Thumb, spend the day skiing on groomed track, and check into the cabin about 4:00pm. Of course, you may choose to drive up directly on Thursday.

We will spend Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights in the cabin, then drive home Sunday (with an optional Sunday-morning ski for the indefatigable).

Skiing

This trip will give priority to long ski-intensive days, with provisions for those who prefer shorter days. The gung-ho ski group, should there be demand for one, will be on the road as early as 8:00am each day, returning late afternoon. Other groups will do shorter days.

Winter Park is at 9000' in northern Colorado, west of the Continental Divide. It usually has better (often *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. There are two large groomed areas, Snow Mountain Ranch (SMR) and Devil's

Thumb, each with 100 km of trails, plus some smaller groomed facilities.

Thursday, our day of arrival, will have independent skiing at either SMR or Devil's Thumb. Friday and Saturday will be full ski days, with a choice of Class II and Class III back-country trips or skiing at one of the groomed areas. Sunday (a change from this year) will have no planned ski trip. Most people, as this year, will probably leave for home that last morning. However, Sunday morning is a great opportunity for some last-minute track work, or even a short back-country trip if a leader is available.

Cost; Payment Deadlines

The cost of the Club-organized part of the trip (food and lodging at SMR) will be approximately \$270. per person. Additionally, you should pay about \$70. per person directly to your driver for carpool expense (unless you're the driver!), and about \$50. per room at a motel Wednesday night. The latter two items are largely under your own control. Trail passes at either SMR or Devil's Thumb will be additional. The food and lodging amount is subject to change, depending especially upon whether we have more than two

singles in some rooms, or (unlikely) have vacant space.



The deposit and deadline requirements are more severe than usual for Club trips since the cabin comes as a single unit – we can't cancel just one room if someone backs out! The deposit to secure your space is \$200. per person; these are being taken now. *The first \$20. of that is non-refundable as of now. (I have already paid a \$300. non-refundable "booking fee".)* The full balance is due August 1, and at that time the entire amount is non-refundable. You will be informed of your balance due, and the calculations behind it, by mid-July.

Overflow Lodging

I have made tentative arrangements for rooms in the Indian Peaks Lodge at SMR in case we have more firm sign-ups than can be accommodated in the cabin. Indian Peaks is the nicest of their hotel-room-style lodging, and is less than a half-mile from the cabin. The cabin will be the center for meals, trip planning, and trip departures for everyone, including the Indian Peaks folks. However, the Indian Peaks folks will be billed somewhat less than the cabin denizens.



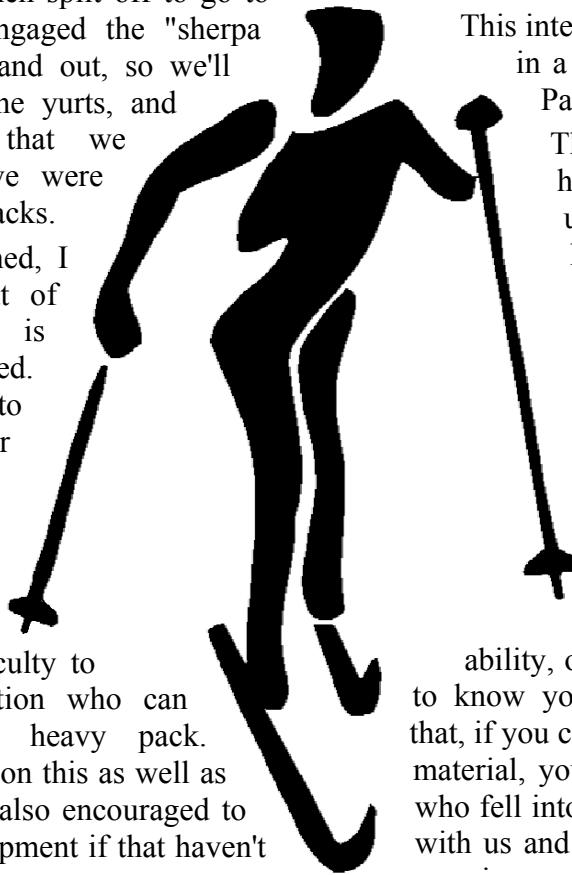
Hut Trips 2004

by Guy Miller

We have one more hut trip planned for this year, but it will be history by the time this edition hits the presses. On Friday 3/14/03, we're heading for Lake City and the fabled Hinsdale-Haute route. Our group will ski in part way together, then split off to go to two separate yurts. We've engaged the "sherpa service" to carry our stuff in and out, so we'll essentially be day-touring to the yurts, and we'll have some luxuries that we ordinarily wouldn't have if we were carrying all of our stuff on our backs.

As far as next year is concerned, I have a wish list of trips, but of course all depends on what is available after the lottery is called. I hope to do a beginner hut trip to Section House, which is near Breckenridge. Although the distance in is a tad long, I consider it a beginner trip because the skiing will be done on a road, and the way in and out will present little difficulty to those in reasonably fit condition who can snowplow while carrying a heavy pack. Climbing skins will be required on this as well as any other hut trips. Skiers are also encouraged to acquire proper backcountry equipment if that haven't already done so.

I want to try to do our first official real-life hut to hut trip next year. I envision taking a group of hut veterans in to Fowler-Hilliard hut, which is near Leadville. After spending two nights there, we would ski over Ptarmigan Pass to Janet's Cabin where we would be joined by a separate contingent who would have left Albuquerque two nights after the first group. The second group will ski into Janet's from Vail Pass.



We can have a total of 20 at Janet's. Those who made the trip to Francie's will want to keep their eyes on this trip, as Janet's is the twin of Francie's Hut. If you went to Francie's, you know what this means.

I'd also like to try to snag some spaces at Eisemann Hut, the newest in the 10th Mtn system, but, unfortunately, also one of the most popular.

This intermediate level hut trip can be done in a loop starting at a point near Vail Pass.

Those who are interested in doing hut trips should contact me. Please understand that I have to insist on having the final say on who goes or does not go on one of these trips. This is an absolute requirement due to the dangerous circumstances that can arise due to unexpected events that can happen at any time on a backcountry trip.

My rule is either I have to already know you and have knowledge of your skiing ability, or someone already on the trip has to know you and recommend you. Failing that, if you can convince me that you're hut trip material, you're on. We've had a few people who fell into that last category who have gone with us and will be encouraged to come with us again.

If you're someone with whom I am unfamiliar, take steps to become known. Sign up for the bus trips, for example. I met a few people on the bus trips this year who I now know are people who can be included on hut trips. Some were people whose ability I doubted, and in some cases I verbalized this doubt, only to be proved wrong. And sometimes I don't mind being wrong. Talk to me !!





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 to be included in that 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



Sat Mar 15 Santa Fe
Class III Raven's Ridge Earn Your Turns
Leader: Fun-fest
 Amy Hoeptner, 797-3871,
 ahoepntr@yahoo.com

This trip will leave from the Santa Fe Ski Area parking lot and head up the Winsor Trail. At the fence (saddle) we will head east, up the ridge to Deception Peak, gaining about 2000 vertical feet in 2.6 miles (one way). This trip features spectacular views and a great aerobic workout. The descent will be by consensus, and can either be back down the ridge, or down the ski area slopes. Other possible activities might include an avy beacon hunt and digging snow pits to assess snowpack conditions.

To enjoy this trip to the fullest you should be in good aerobic shape and be at least an intermediate downhill skier. Telemark boards are recommended, and climbing skins are required.



Sun Mar 16 Jemez – Lower Griegos
Class I 4-6 miles roundtrip
Leader: Fred Ream, 323-1409

A pretty area to ski with the best snow in the Jemez. Nice views of Redondo Peak if we gain a bit of elevation. I'm looking for a Class II co-leader for a combined trip – call me if you're interested. Meet at Bank of America, San Mateo and Academy at 8:30.

Sat Mar 29 Jemez – San Pedro Parks
Class III 10-15 miles roundtrip
Leader: Alan Burns, 281-3922

Ski into the gorgeous San Pedro Parks Wilderness area. Quiet tree skiing with large open meadows where elk bugle in the fall. This is a perennial club favorite, but the ski out can be quite fast if conditions are icy. Trip is dependant on snow; call leader for meeting place and time.

Hut Trips 2004

dates TBD locations TBD
Leader: Guy Miller, 294-7940
 (Please call before 9:00pm.)

See the article earlier in this newsletter. 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.

If you are even somewhat interested in a hut trip in 2004, maintain contact with Guy Miller during the Spring and Summer! Arrangements for these trips will be finalized during that time, and sign-ups will be taken. Some trips may fill before the regular newsletters and meetings begin in October.



Winter Park 2004

Wed-Sun Feb 25-29, 2004 Winter Park, CO
Class II and III ski miles: mild to massive
Leaders: Lester & Sharon Byington,
 286-9100, lester@byington.org

See the article earlier in this newsletter.

This trip will give priority to long ski-intensive days, with provisions for those (the majority!) who prefer shorter days.

We will be traveling by carpool (driving Wed Feb 25), and staying in an 8-bedroom deluxe cabin next to the groomed track at Snow Mountain Ranch. Cost for food and lodging at SMR will be about \$270. per person. Driving expense and lodging on the way there will be additional.

Read the article and maintain contact with the leader if you are interested in this trip. Deposits are being taken now, and final payment is due Aug 1, so this trip will be finalized before the next Club meeting.

Winter Park is at 9000' in northern Colorado, west of the Continental Divide. It usually has better (this year *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. There are two large groomed areas, Snow Mountain Ranch and Devil's Thumb, each with 100 km of trails, plus some smaller groomed facilities.

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

Officers	Name	Phone	Email Address
President	David Ploor	822-8650	DPloor620@aol.com
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Treasurer	Don Mullen	294-1202	mullendl@aol.com
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Day Trips	Mike Martin	872-9268	michael.martin@kirtland.af.mil
Overnight & Hut 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

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

March 2003

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