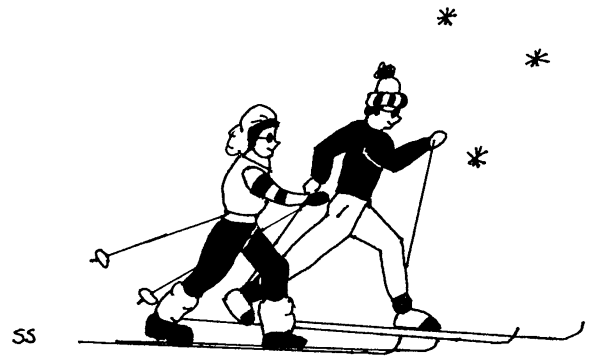


New Mexico Cross Country Ski Club Newsletter



November 2003



Meeting Schedule for 2003-2004

Next meeting: Thursday November 20, 7:30pm

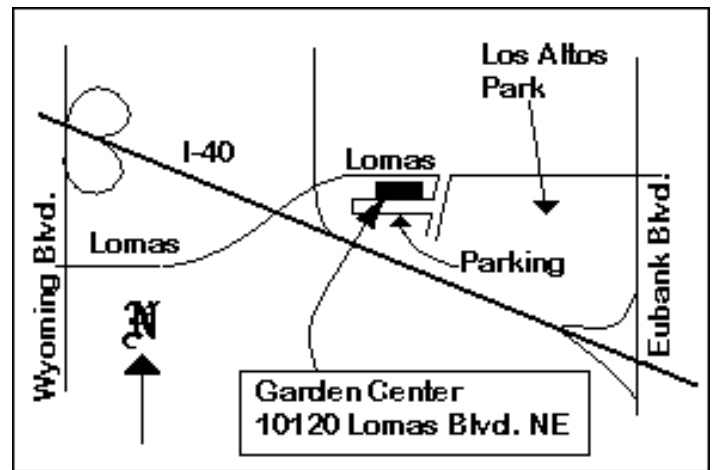
- **Program:** David Diaz from Mountains and Rivers will present the latest in ski equipment!

Monthly General Meetings

October 14	January 15
November 20	February 19
December 18	March 18

- Looking ahead: The December meeting is the one where members bring their own holiday dessert/snack favorites for the refreshment table.

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.



Have you renewed ???

Last year's memberships expire at the end of November. The October newsletter contained a membership renewal form. You may also get the form from the Web site, from the Membership chairs (see back page), at the next meeting, or copy the one on Page 4 of this newsletter.

If you have renewed, the top line of your mailing label will read "03-04" (for those who get a mailed copy).

If you fail to renew you will be shunned by your friends, denied future newsletter issues, and banned from Club trips. Heavy snow will stick to your skis!

New Membership List

An updated membership list has been generated and placed on the Web site. See details on Page 2.

You should go to the Web site and check your information. Let us know if your record needs updating.

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

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.



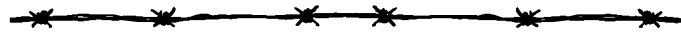
The Prez Sez ...

by Mike Martin

Greetings fellow skiers! Ski season has already started in Colorado and hopefully it will migrate soon to New Mexico. In the meantime your Executive Board has been working on some ideas to increase the club's membership and attract the next generation of cross country skiers. Advertising in the NM Mountain Club, UNM Continuing Education, Sandia National Laboratory and at Kirtland Air Force Base, forming a welcoming committee for new members, and starting trips for younger members only are some of our projects.

Speaking of welcoming committees, we will be looking for volunteers to call new members the first week in January and also to call those whose membership has expired (around the middle of December) to see if they would rejoin the club. If you are interested in either of these projects, please contact any Board member; our phone numbers/email addresses are at the end of this newsletter.

If you have any ideas to make our club better, please let us know! See you on the trail...



REI Winter Carnival

by Mike Martin

The NM Cross Country Ski Club has been invited to participate in REI's Winter Carnival. We will have a presentation on ski touring in NM on Friday, December 5th, 6:30-8:00pm. Guy Miller, Sam Beard and I will talk about equipment and where to ski in NM (and perhaps southern Colorado) and show some slides. Come support our club by rubbing elbows with potential new members and pester Guy with lots of questions!

The carnival is December 3rd-7th and features avalanche safety, waxing, fitness clinics, equipment demos, ice sculptures, a fashion show and more. Raffles will be held with the proceeds going Rachel's Courtyard, an outdoor space at the Presbyterian Hospital's pediatric unit. The events will be at REI on Mercantile Ave. Visit or call them at 247-1191 for more details.

New Membership List

by Lester Byington

An updated membership list has been generated and placed on the Membership List page in the members' area of the Web site. This is based on the 2002-03 list plus the 2003-04 applications through early November. The membership list is now generated semi-automatically from the membership database, so we'll try to do updates each month.

This is our first try at generating the list automatically, and it also contains a mix of new and old records. (We'll drop the 2002-03 records in December.) Please check your entry in the list, especially if you've moved or changed email addresses in the past year. Send any corrections to Jean Hanson, Our Lady of the Database.

The Membership List page has the list in directly-viewable (HTML) form, as well as downloadable Word and PDF documents. All three are generated from the database, so you only need to verify one of the forms.

New features:

- The database will now accommodate up to three phone numbers (e.g., home, work, cell) and up to three email addresses per membership. The membership application has been reformatted accordingly. Jean Hanson can add data for you. (This is the manual part of the process, and Jean's time is not automated, so please allow a while for changes to propagate!)
- Households having two members with different last names now appear twice in the list – alphabetically under each name.



Paid Ad in This Issue!

This issue has the first paid ad since I began doing the Newsletter. Steve Scheer, one of our members, is the Bridgestone/Firestone district manager for West Texas and New Mexico. He's offering 15% off snow tires to any Club member, good at any Firestone store in the state.



Trail Workers Eligible for Bus Trip Drawing *by Sam Beard*

Trail work volunteers will now be entered into the annual drawing for a free bus trip. Your name will be entered once for each day that you work, up to a maximum of three entries. The drawing previously was limited to those who led ski trips.



Further Word on the Long Bus Trips

by *Susan Swan*

294-1720; SSSwan515@aol.com

821 Rio Arriba SE, Albuquerque NM 87123

The Crested Butte trip is full, and has a short waiting list. *The Red River and Frisco trips still have space!* Decide which trip(s) you want, and sent me your deposit. (The previous newsletter had reservation slips for each trip. Basically, I just need your name, address, home and work phones, and a check.)

Frisco (January 16-19)

Everyone who signed up for Frisco is going on the trip. I have 8 openings left on this trip. So fill out your slip from the newsletter, follow the instructions and you too can spend the Martin Luther King weekend with us in the Frisco/Breckenridge area.

– All balances on the Frisco trip are due at the November 20 Club meeting. The balance is \$120., if you paid the regular \$100. deposit. This may be brought to the meeting or mailed to Susan Swan at the address above.

Red River (January 30-February 1)

Everyone who signed up and paid for the Red River trip is on the trip. I still have lots of openings on the bus, so if you were thinking about going and thought that it was full ... it's not! Also for those on the trip, call around to your friends and get them involved. Fill some seats on the bus! Then fill out the slip for Red River, from your October newsletter, and send it to me with the deposit.

– Red River balance (\$90. if you paid the \$50. deposit) is due by the December 18 meeting.

It's been many years since we've had a Club trip to Red River. This is a quaint little town, with several good restaurants (and the incomparable Brett's!) and lots of little shops. We have reserved the entire Sportsmans Lodge facility. The Enchanted Forest prepared cross-country area is here, along with a downhill area and several backcountry opportunities.

The Red River bus trip is an unusual opportunity. You get a relatively short bus ride and a chance to get familiar with an area to which you can easily return on your own. It's a great trip for novice or beginning skiers, as the Enchanted Forest cross-country ski area offers both equipment rental and lessons. This is a low-cost trip on a non-holiday weekend.

Crested Butte (February 13-16)

The current roster for Crested Butte appears below, along with the current waiting list. Deposit checks from those on the waiting list have been destroyed.

If you are high on the waiting list and patient you will probably get to go on that trip. Things do happen and people need sell their spots. It costs nothing to be on the waiting list. You can just call me for that or email me.

– Crested Butte balance (\$120. if you paid the \$100. deposit) is due by January 3 (not at the January meeting!).

Crested Butte roster

Amy Hoepfner	Patricia Kerr-Sanders	Ruth Stamm	Eddie Seagars
Sanford Ballard	John Sanders	Carolyn Tisone	Susan Swan
Yolanda Ploor	Pam Reynolds	Larry Johnson	Bob Swan
David Ploor	Marion Ball	Bill Heitz	<u>waiting list</u>
Sharon Byington	Henry Botts	Walt Klinge	Phyllis Pryor
Lester Byington	Nancy Hemry-Botts	Donna Klinge	Larry Mitchell
Betty Spafford	Anne Hickman	John Norwood	Sherry Fitzmaurice
Mike Martin	Ross Trueax	Bill Davey	Susan Rogowski
Janie Daniels	Michon Johnson	Emily Smith	Bob Long
Mike Daniels	Susan Williams	Carol Mochel-Deal	Dianne Cress
Holly Noland	Tom Broadbent	Jim Deal	
Mike Noland	Louise Broadbent	Barbara Coon	
Guy Miller	Bill Stamm	Sidney Coon	



Articles

Beginner Cross-Country Ski Class

by *Guy Miller*

Each year the Club offers a class for beginners. It is geared toward absolute, never-ever skied wannabes, but is also appropriate for those with some experience but who feel that they need a little extra help. The class consists of two segments, a classroom session of approximately two hours, and an all-day on-the-snow session. Participants must be Club members. The cost is \$10 for the package.

The classroom session has tentatively been set for the afternoon of Saturday December 20 (subject to confirmation of reservation for a classroom location). This is the Saturday immediately after the December general meeting. This date is also contingent on there being sufficient participation at that time to justify holding a class.

At this time it is not realistic to set a definite date for the on-the-snow session, due to the possibility of another dry winter. However, we optimistically hope to have skiable snow by late January. The first tentative date to circle on your calendar is Saturday January 24.

For further information, contact Guy Miller at 294-7940. Please do not call after 9:00pm.



Hut Trip Update

by *Guy Miller*

As was indicated in the October newsletter, we have two hut trips scheduled for this coming season. Both trips require a day of travel to get to the trailhead and probably one day to get back, although delays in getting out of the backcountry could extend travel time another day.

The first item on this year's hut schedule is a New Year's trip to Betty Bear Hut. We will ski in on December 30 and spend our first night. Then, after a day of skiing in the area, we will celebrate New Year's Eve at the hut and then ski out on New Year's Day. Find out what Franz Friggenhutz means when he makes reference to what he calls "train wreck skiing." There remain three spots on this trip. Cancellations are always possible, so there could be additional spots as we near trip time.

The second trip is a two-part adventure. One group of six will ski into Fowler-Hilliard Hut and spend two nights, then ski over to Janet's Cabin. A second group, which will have left Albuquerque two days after the Fowler-Hilliard group, will ski directly in to Janet's. The two groups will then spend two nights at Janet's before skiing out together. The Fowler-Hilliard group is full, but there is no one on the waiting list. Due to a cancellation, there are now four spots left on the Janet's segment.

For further information, contact Guy Miller at 294-7940 (please do not call after 9:00pm) or email at Xcskiboy@aol.com. The October newsletter has a longer article about these trips.



Pre-Planning for a Beginner Ski Trip

by *Dianne Cress*

If you consider yourself a beginner skier, Dianne Cress would like you to call or email her with your name and phone number. When we do have snow, she will try to put together a beginner trip. This trip will include brush-up instruction as needed along the way. (You should also consider the regular beginner cross-country class by Guy Miller – see article elsewhere in this issue.)

To get your name on this list, please call 294-2928 or email dianne.cress@state.nm.us.



Redondo Campground Area Ski Trails Closed Through February

by *Sam Beard*

The Jemez Ranger District has closed Redondo Campground and the surrounding area through February 2004. Contractors are cutting trees to thin the forest to remove hazardous trees, improve general forest health, reduce fuel loads for wildfires, and help the remaining trees fight off beetle attacks. Sam Beard and Estevan Romero were present for the beginning of the project and helped remove small cut trees from a test area. These trees were then chipped by the contractor. The finished test area looked natural and did not show obvious sign of the thinning.



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

David Ploor – Day Trips

Jon McCorkell – Overnight Car Trips

Please contact either David (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:

David Ploor
2888 Tramway Place NE
Albuquerque, NM 87122
dp1505@att.net
822-8650

Jon McCorkell
9709 Euclid NE
Albuquerque, NM 87112
peakbag@nmia.com
294-2928





Practice Sessions

Tues-Thurs-Sat-Sun Sandia and Santa Fe ski areas
(as soon as there's snow! End by Christmas.)

Class: any

Leader: Roe Maier, 869-2928

Practice sessions at the Santa Fe and Sandia downhill ski areas. At the skiing site you first must arrange to join a group who are doing a trail or an exercise you would like. Nobody skis alone. Those who would like to volunteer to instruct should contact me so that their group can be formed. Two years ago I tried to develop a method for teaching the Telemark turn with Dave Wagner. I will be volunteering to teach that method.

Please call or email and make definite commitment.



Hut Trips 2003-04

Mon Dec 29 and following

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.



Monarch Pass

Jan 4-9+ Monarch Pass area
Class I-II varied
Leader: Roe Maier, 869-2928,
roemaier@comcast.net

There is a lodge at Monarch Pass called Monarch Lodge. Syl and I have stayed there. On the 2001 Salida trip we skied the trail directly across the Road. I would like to organize a car trip there. I have picked Jan 4-12. Other times interfere with the bus trips. I like to leave Sunday staying Sunday thru Thursday night, and driving home Friday. However I could be there on the weekends before or after the weekdays. There is a nice restaurant in the lodge; pool and hot tub and lots of rooms. There are many trails nearby and a railroad grade across the street. I can get a rate if we get a block of rooms and anyone can join later just by making a reservation. I will need to hear from those interested. There will be a chance for class I people to ski.

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Winter Park

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

See the article in the October 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.

Winter Park is at 9000' in northern Colorado, west of the Continental Divide. It usually has better (last 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
2003-2004 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Officers	Name	Phone	Email Address
President	Mike Martin	836-6520	Pahasapapapa@aol.com
Vice-President	Janie Gilmore-Daniels	259-0502	janiegil@aol.com
Secretary	Patricia Kerr-Sanders	256-0361	pkerrsan@aol.com
Treasurer	Bob Swan	294-1720	bobswanabq@aol.com
Committee Chairs			
Membership	Gene & Donna Lisotto Jean Hanson	884-7331 298-5234	Gene_Lisotto@msn.com jh87111@comcast.net
Publications	Lester & Sharon Byington Dianne Cress	286-9100 294-2928	lester@byington.org dianne.cress@state.nm.us
Programs	Wayne Kirkby	898-1654	ski1071607@aol.com
Refreshments	Holly Noland Lucy Miller	292-3025 293-5673	dave5th@aol.com millerabq@yahoo.com
Day Trips	David Ploor	822-8650	dpl505@att.net
Overnight & Hut Trips	Jon McCorkell Guy Miller	294-2928 294-7940	peakbag@nmia.com Xcskiboy@aol.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
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November 2003

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