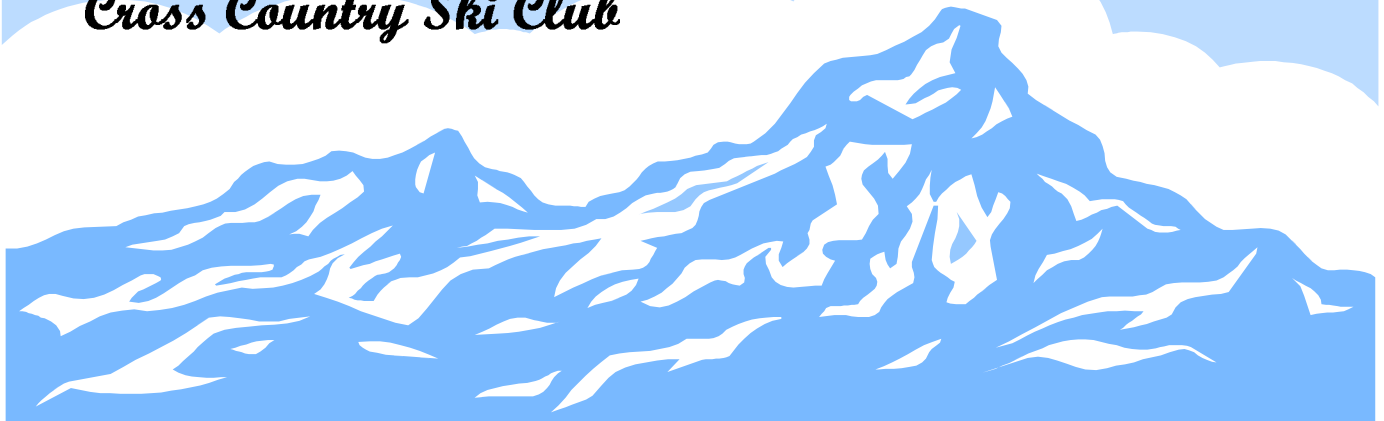


# *New Mexico Cross Country Ski Club*

*January  
2008*



[www.naturediscovery.org/nmccskiclub](http://www.naturediscovery.org/nmccskiclub)

## *From the President*

At last year's final Board Meeting, a ski leadership development committee was appointed to update and expand the Club's Ski Tour Leadership Guidelines, which were last reviewed in 2003. The appointed Committee members are Mike Martin, Wayne Kirkby, John Thomas, Karen Leach, Guy Miller, Sam Beard and Phyllis Pryor. This Committee has held two recent meetings, and is in the final stages of developing a document similar to the New Mexico Mountain Club's Trip Leader's Handbook. This document will:

1. Provide guidelines for leaders to utilize on Club ski tours.
2. Assist in training new ski tour leaders from among Club members who have either not led tours, or have led very few tours, in the past.
3. Provide guidelines to be utilized by non-leader participants on Club ski tours.

The program for the January 10 Club meeting will present a summary of this Committee's work. Mike Martin will provide a visual power point illustration of the key principles of the new guidelines. John Thomas will then make a presentation which will be of interest to those aspiring to become trip leaders in the near future.

The purpose of the new guidelines is to maximize the probability that both leaders and participants will work together in such a way as to fully enjoy and return safely from Club ski tours.

I am happy to report that Ray Berg has already done considerable research on available nordic centers and Class 1, 2, and 3 ski trails for the Frisco Bus Trip. Now that we also have plenty of snow locally, it looks like we have the makings of an excellent year of cross country skiing.

*Wayne*

***Next Meeting: January 10, 7 pm  
Garden Center -- 10120 Lomas NE***

***Program: Ski Tour Leadership Guidelines***

## **Cross Country Ski Trip to Chama, NM February 29 - March 2**

This will be a mostly a Class II trip in the South San Juans north of Chama, NM. By the end of February, there is usually a good accumulation of snow in the area. If new skiers or Class I skiers want to come along, we will arrange tours for them also.

We will drive up Friday and spend two nights in a motel and ski on Saturday and Sunday. We will return late Sunday afternoon and may have supper in Espanola.

Email me if you are interested. John Thomas



***PICTURES, PICTURES, We all  
love pictures!!!***

Remember to take pictures of  
all your ski trips this year and send to  
your editor.

## SKI BOOTS FREE TO A GOOD HOME

Artex Cascade model, size 38 US size 7, NNN binding type. Call Regina at 883-3898.



Sam at Work Photo by Mike Meier

## Volunteer Ski Trail Maintenance in CY2007

Sam Beard, Trails Chair

The N. M. Cross Country Ski Club participates in the U. S. Forest Service Adopt-A-Trail Programs in the Sandia and Jemez Ranger Districts (RDs). Club volunteers also maintain some hiking/skiing trails on the Valles Caldera National Preserve (VCNP) in the Jemez Mountains through an agreement with Rob Dixon, Recreation Coordinator. On the Sandia RD, Friends of the Sandia Mountains members now maintain the major hiking/skiing trails year-round; therefore, Club volunteers maintain only one or two trails, high prune all the ski trails, and replace diamonds.

On Club trail maintenance outings, USFS requirements for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) are followed – hard hats, hearing protection, work gloves, boots, long pants, and long sleeve shirts. In the morning

safety briefing, the USFS Job Hazard Analysis (JHA) for chain saw use or general field work is read. Volunteers then sign a USFS safety form and the Club release form.

Volunteers use the following tools: long-handle loppers and bow saws to cut brush, small trees, and low branches; 8-foot pole saws to remove high branches; crosscut saws inside and outside wilderness areas, and chain saws outside of wilderness areas. Only USFS-certified chain sawyers Carl Smith and Sam Beard are authorized to operator chain saws on the National Forests. Club members install agency-provided blue plastic diamonds and trailhead signs on trees using a ladder, hammer, and aluminum nails (less dangerous than steel nails if hit by a chain saw). The Club owns two Stihl chain saws with 18-inch bars and all the other tools required to maintain trails. Some members carry pruning saws in their day packs to cut branches and small trees on hiking and skiing outings.

This year the high winds on June 9, the Club picnic day, caused an exceptionally large number of trees to fall across the ski trails. CY2007 trail maintenance information is summarized in the table for each of the ranger districts and the VCNP. The totals were: 10 outings, 16 trails, 60 volunteer-days, 384 volunteer hours, and approximately 300 logs removed from trails. In addition to the 19 Club members who worked on trails this year, eight volunteers who work with me on the Sandia RD, worked on ski trails with us in the Jemez Mountains.

Members who maintain the trails enjoy the hiking and work on the outings and appreciate the Club support of the trails program. Fall and sometimes spring outings are announced through the email group. Please contact me when you find trees across trails or if you have questions about trails.

# GO TEAM!!! THANKYOU FOR KEEPING OUR TRAILS CLEAR!!!

## Volunteer Ski Trail Maintenance during CY2007 by N. M. Cross Country Ski Club

Date CY2007	Ski Touring Area and Trails	Vol. Days	Vol. Hrs.	Logs Cut	Club Members and Other Volunteers (Vol.)
<b>Sandia Ranger District</b>					
June 13	Challenge Trail & Parts of 10K Trails	10	80	41	C. von Huene, C. Smith, J. Thomas, A. Arenholz, K. Leach, S. Beard. Vol.: D. Carnicom, L. Littlefield, T. Brown, B.Savage.
<b>Jemez Ranger District</b>					
Aug. 4	San Antonio Creek Trail to Hot Spring	8	40	50	D. Crowther, C. Smith, R. Meadows, C. Haller, B. Garner, L. & T. Broadbent, S. Beard (Tom: No trees down in Nov.)
Aug. 28	E. Loop of E. Fork Ridge Trail	2	4	*	Carl Smith, Sam Beard
Sept. 8	Peralta: Calzada, Corral Can., Las Conchas Trails	8	48	*	B. White, T. Dieterle, M. Meier, S. Beard. Vol.: B. Metz, K. Stenaae, R. Preston, M. Hyman.
Oct. 10	Los Griegos: Elk Ridge, Ladera, Big Pine, Squirrel Can., Trails	6	36	41	B. Moore, S. Beard. T. Dieterle, B. Potter. Vol.: Bill Metz, J. Biese
Oct. 27	Peralta-Paliza Trail, 2 Saddles Trail	4	24	*	B. Potter, R. Meadows, T. Dieterle, S. Beard.
<b>Valles Caldera National Preserve</b>					
Sept. 14	S. Mt.: Lower & Upper Rds. Coyote Call Area Trails	9	63	50	C. Smith, E. Smith, G. Dahms, B Moore, M. Meier, S. Beard. Vol.: B. Metz, M. Hyman, R. Preston.
Sept. 22	S. Mt.: Two Roads	2	14	--	R. Meadows, S. Beard. Flagged Trail Rt.
Sept. 28	S. Mt.: Lower & Upper Roads	9	63	*	T. Dieterle, C. Smith, B. Potter, D. Saylor, S. Beard. Vol.: B. Metz, M. Hyman, D. Benton, S. McCarthy.
Sept. 30	Coyote Call Area	2	12	--	S. Beard. FOSM: K. Stenaae. Diamonds.
<b>Totals</b>	<b>16 Trails</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>19 Club Members, 8 Other Volunteers</b>
* Unknown number of logs removed; usually at least a few dozen. Sept. 28: New trail cleared.					



## HOW TO USE eGROUPS

When the snow starts flying, we don't have time to wait for a newsletter to get the word out about trips. Real time communication happens via eGroups. Anyone who is a member and has joined eGroups can send out a message to all members of the NMCCSC eGroups.

Simply compose your message and send it to:

[NEW-MEXICO-CROSS-COUNTRY-SKI-CLUB@yahoo.com](mailto:NEW-MEXICO-CROSS-COUNTRY-SKI-CLUB@yahoo.com)

The NMCCSC Internet Police will monitor messages before they are sent to the entire membership, so don't even think about sending out messages advertising garage sales, off-color jokes, or blatant political statements. Most messages concerning bus trips, local ski trips, hut trips, searching for ski gear, etc are acceptable. Proposals to lead day trips should be discussed with and approved by Bill Heitz.

If you have questions or have not yet registered in our eGroup, please contact me.

John Thomas

## DETAILS OF THE BUS TRIPS ARE STARTING TO EMERGE

Reserve Pool for the trips at this time are: Frisco: 3, Crested Butte: 13, Silverton: 4. If you find that you cannot go on a trip you have signed up for (and paid for), let Ray or Thea know and they will help with information

about others who might be interested. If necessary, we will publish a request in the Club eGroup for wider dissemination.

**Don't show up sick for a bus trip.** If you are getting sick, let Ray or

Thea know and they will publish a request for another person in the Club eGroup. If you think you might be interested in going on the trip at the last minute, let Thea or Ray Berg know or keep your eye on the eGroup email. Many people have been able to get on trips by being available as a replacement on short time-lines.

Info about each trip will be distributed to everybody (by email if possible) in advance of the trip. This will include

detailed hotel information and ski route information. Please keep in mind that the ski route information is always subject to change due to weather conditions, road closures, avalanche dangers, and other factors beyond our control. We will always try to arrange backup plans for the event that our plans are disrupted.

## SKI TOUR LEVELS OF DIFFICULTY

**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.

## 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, whether while skiing or traveling, you should obtain your own insurance policy.







**OVERNIGHT TRIP LEADERS NEEDED**



When we talk about “overnight” trips, we refer to something in between a day trip and a bus trip. Typically, someone who has skied in a particular area and wants to return, or just someone who has looked at a map or guidebook and wondered, “why not?,” will want to get a group together and go ski for a few days, usually moteling it and eating in inexpensive restaurants. In past years we’ve had overnight trips to Chama, Rico, Salida, and Pagosa Springs, to name a few.

It is not a complicated matter to arrange one of these outings; all it takes is for one person to make it happen. The first thing to do is determine what accommodations are available, which requires a few phone calls or e-mails. Then contact our overnight trip chairperson, Guy Miller, to coordinate dates and to arrange for trip advertising, as well as announcing it at the general meeting. After that, the phone should start ringing.

We’d like to have some overnight trips arranged, especially for those who were unable to get selected for bus trips. So, if you know of an area that you’d like to explore for a few days, give Guy a call to talk it over.

January 2008						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
	7	8	9	<b>Club Meeting 7:00 pm</b>	11	12
					<b>Frisco</b>	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
<b>Frisco</b>						Moonlight Ski VCNP
	<b>Holiday Free Ski at VCNP</b>	22	23	<b>Francie's Hut Trip</b>		
27	28	29	30	31		
<b>Francie's</b>			<b>Board Meeting 7:00 pm</b>		<b>Crested Butte</b>	

February 2008						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>C Butte</b>						
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
				<b>Club Meeting 7:00 pm</b>		<b>Silverton</b>
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	<b>Holiday Free Ski at VCNP</b>					Moonlight Ski VCNP
24	25	26	27	28	29	
			<b>Board Meeting 7:00 pm</b>		<b>Chama</b>	

March 2008						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	<b>Beginner Hut Trip</b>					
<b>Chama</b>						
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
				<b>Club Meeting 7:00 pm</b>		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
						
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	31					

EVERY TIME YOU LEAD A TRIP YOUR NAME GOES INTO THE DRAWING FOR A FREE BUS TRIP THE FOLLOWING YEAR. THE DRAWING IS HELD AT THE SUMMER PICNIC.

THE 2008 WINNER IS WAYNE KIRKBY.

## 2007/08 Officers and Board

<b>President</b>	<b>Wayne Kirkby</b>	<b>898-1654</b>	<b>ski1071607@aol.com</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Mike Martin</b>	<b>286-8762</b>	<b>Pahasapapapa@aol.com</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Karen Leach</b>	<b>281-9836</b>	<b>KarenLeach7@msn.com</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Jim Iden</b>	<b>265-5021</b>	<b>jiden@unm.edu</b>
<b>Day Trips</b>	<b>Bill Heitz</b>	<b>898-3573</b>	<b>bill.heitz@att.net</b>
<b>Long Bus Trips</b>	<b>Ray &amp; Thea Berg</b>	<b>294-4112</b>	<b>rsberg01@comcast.net</b>
<b>Overnight Car/Hut Trips</b>	<b>Guy Miller</b>	<b>294-7940</b>	<b>xcskiboy@aol.com</b>
<b>Newsletter</b>	<b>Diane Simmons</b>	<b>480-4919</b>	<b>diane@skykomishsoftware.com</b>
<b>Instruction</b>	<b>Guy Miller</b>	<b>294-7940</b>	<b>xcskiboy@aolcom</b>
<b>Membership</b>	<b>Gene Lisotto</b>	<b>884-7331</b>	<b>Gene_Lisotto@msn.com</b>
<b>Programs</b>	<b>Louise Broadbent</b>	<b>505-829-3840</b>	<b>louise@valornet.com</b>
<b>Mailing</b>	<b>Dawn Brummel</b>	<b>821-9187</b>	<b>dawnsbulldog@msn.com</b>
<b>Refreshments</b>	<b>Sara Friedrich Angela Welford</b>	<b>269-0870 281-1198</b>	<b>saradell@q.com jndaughter2@earthlink.net</b>
<b>Trails</b>	<b>Sam Beard</b>	<b>828-0673</b>	<b>samgbeard@msn.com</b>
<b>Web Site</b>	<b>Lester Byington</b>	<b>286-9100</b>	<b>lester@byington.org</b>
<b>Email Group</b>	<b>John Thomas</b>	<b>298-5234</b>	<b>jt87111@comcast.net</b>

### New Mexico Cross Country Ski Club

PO Box 8425

Albuquerque, NM 87198-8425

