

New Mexico Cross Country Ski Club

October 2012



Photo by Dave Saylor

www.nmccskiclub.org

October's Program:

Alps Ski Adventure

Presenter:

Robert Suminsby

When:

Thursday, 10/11 at 7 p.m.

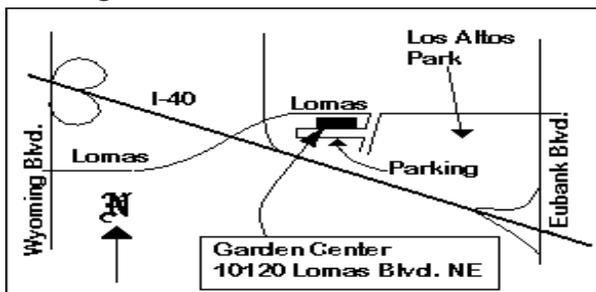
It's not too early to start thinking about hut trips for the coming season. At our October meeting, you'll have a chance to hear about the grand-daddy of all hut trips . . . the famed Haute Route traverse that connects the iconic mountain towns of Chamonix, France and Zermatt, Switzerland.

Rob Suminsby who just relocated back to Albuquerque after four years in Europe, will present a slideshow of this five-day ski touring journey through the heart of the Alps, crossing vast glaciers and high mountain passes.

First skied in 1911, this remarkable route winds through 75 miles of spectacular scenery, and is widely regarded as the most famous ski tour in the world.

You may want to check the date on your passport, because after seeing this presentation you'll be wanting to follow in Rob's tracks! ■

Meeting location:



New Bus Trips for 2013

By Angela Welford

It's time to sign up for BUS TRIPS! Randy and I are putting together details for three Bus Trips for 2013, and here's what is happening: NEW this year — a **NEW YEARS EVE trip!** That's right, we are planning a bus trip to SILVERTON, CO. to bring in the New Year, **Saturday, December 29 — Tuesday, January 1.** We will come home on New Year's Day so you can leave the driving to someone else and enjoy the ride.

The skiing opportunities around Silverton are some of the best! We will be staying at a Club favorite, the historic Grand Imperial Victorian Hotel. This charming hotel serves up a



Robert Suminsby



Angela Welford and Louise Broadbent, Frisco, 2/24/12.

Photo by Phyllis Moore

scrumptious hot breakfast buffet each morning and will provide a buffet dinner for us the evening we arrive for a nominal charge. There will be a New Year's Eve party in the Hotel bar, so you only need to go downstairs for a fun celebration. The party goes until 2 a.m. — you can catch up on your sleep in the bus on the way home!

Next up will be a longtime Club favorite, LEADVILLE, CO. over Martin Luther King

Day weekend **Friday-Monday, January 18-21, 2013.** Skiers have the option of a Nordic Area, downhill skiing at Cooper Ski Area, as well as lots of backcountry trails! We will stay at a **new** location at the Silver King Inn just ¼ mile from downtown Leadville.

For our third trip, we are going to a NEW location: GEORGETOWN, CO on **Thursday-Sunday, February 7-10, 2013.**

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Club members Guy Miller and Mike Martin scouted this area a year ago and recommended it as their favorite of several Colorado areas the Club has yet to visit. Let's check it out -- the skiing should be great!



So now that our bus trips are planned, it's time for Gordon Eatman joins skiers in Crested Butte 2/11/11.
Photo by Ray Berg

you to start the snow dances! With Colorado's great snow, all locations should have ample skiing opportunities for all levels of skiers. If you are a beginner, register for our beginner's class and ask the instructors to see if you are ready for a bus trip.

You can sign up for all three trips! If trips are oversubscribed, we will hold a lottery for the 54 seats/trip. Your chance of getting on the trips is very good. Put the trip dates on your calendar and plan to go, because members tend to drop as the date nears. We had empty seats on the bus last year even though we had a waiting list for each trip.

Please read the Registration Instructions and Bus Trip Guidelines on pages 3-4 in this newsletter. If you have questions contact me at: (awelford1017@gmail.com) or Randy Simons at (randy_simons@msn.com). We hope you will join us for this fun season with lots of new opportunities! ■

From the President

So here we are, in the midst of what some people perceive as the worst global warming in the history of



the world, and we are arranging ski trips! We have been seeing record heat waves, and we are thinking snow!

Not only that, we are expanding our skiing programs, so we can enjoy more snow outings this year than we have had for quite a while. This is in line with the purpose

of our Club: to promote the sports of cross country skiing and snowshoeing.

Why are we interested in promoting skiing? First, it's great fun and exercise. Second, we are really social animals, and few of us like to drink beer alone; we sit and talk about skiing while we sip our brew. Third, the more people there are to go cross country skiing, the more equipment outlets will be available for us to get our equipment. Fourth, when it comes to getting attention from organizations like the US Forest Service and others who control resources, numbers count. You can go on and on, but you get the picture. So to promote our sport, we will again have activities in the areas of:

- Cross Country Skiing Instruction to build your skills (John Thomas)
- Multi-Day Ski Trips by Bus to some of the best ski locations in Colorado (Angela Welford and Randy Simons)
- Multi-Day Ski Trips to some spectacular Huts in the Colorado High Country (Guy Miller)
- Multi-Day Car Trips to some of the best ski locations in Northern New Mexico and Southern Colorado (Guy Miller)
- Day Trips to some of the best ski locations in Central and Northern New Mexico (Guy Miller)
- Trail Maintenance work parties to maintain our ski trails in top condition (Sam Beard)
- Wilderness and Outdoor Safety Scholarships to spread good practices and safety
- Programs to illustrate and promote our activities (Terri Elisberg)
- Website (Bill Savage) and Newsletter (Karen Leach) to communicate our activities

Which brings me to another anomaly in our operation: dinosaurs died out because of some pretty serious changes to their environment, and we could, too. Our situation is a little more complicated, since some of our changes are meteorological and some are social. So to help overcome this potential disaster, I have taken on the job of leading a youth movement to bring in new, young members. When a 30s-something person joined the Club, the average age of the club dropped by several years!

We are trying several things to attract and keep new, young members, such as new members under 40 get their first year free and a tie to a web-based operation of "Meetup." Just the thought of going the way of the dinosaurs should put a bit of a chill in you.

So put on your ski jacket and let's get to work. As you go around this fall expecting the colder weather to start soon, give a little thought to friends, relatives, and business associates you can invite along on an outing. If you enjoy it, there is a pretty good chance that they will, too.

Ray Berg

Hut Trips 2013

By Guy Miller



We will ski to **Peter Estin Hut, January 22-27**, and go to **Harry Gates Hut, February 24 - March 1**. The cost for both trips is \$140. Trip dates include all travel time, including an extra day to get back home.

Peter Estin Hut, located near Eagle, Colorado at 11,200 feet, is one of the 10th Mountain system's older huts. It is most noted for having an ample supply of tele opportunities, but there are also intermediate level Nordic touring options as well. We last visited this hut in 2006.

Harry Gates Hut is near Basalt, Colorado. At under 10,000 feet, it is at the lowest elevation of all of the 10th Mountain huts. Nevertheless, the skiing to the hut is no cake walk. However, the day skiing around the hut is primarily of the Nordic touring variety, with the exception of Burnt Mountain, which rises to over 11,000 feet, providing wonderful glade skiing opportunities. Hopefully we will be able to stay at the wonderful Diamond J Ranch, near the trailhead, the night before hitting the trail.

Contact me to sign up for the hut trips or for further details/discussion about the hut trips in general. ■

Red River Weekend

By John Thomas

A dozen ski Club members hiked trails around Red River, NM, on September 28-30 to investigate potential ski tours. We will return to Red River on **February 15-17, 2013**, for a fun ski weekend car trip.

Watch for details in upcoming newsletters or contact me at jt87111@comcast.net or 505 298-5234. ■



Beginner Ski Class

Watch for details about this year's training for beginner skiers. It will involve classroom and on the snow instruction. To sign up, contact John Thomas at 298-5234 or jf87111@comcast.net.

Sign Up for Bus Trips

By Angela Welford

Instructions

- ▶ Before registering, please read the complete **Bus Trip Registration Guidelines** that are posted on the website at www.nmskiclub.org as well as the summary below.
- ▶ Enclosed with this newsletter are the registration forms. Please keep the top portion of each form.
- ▶ **Registration form/deposit must be received by November 10, 2012.** Make checks payable to NMCCSC. Either:
Mail to: Angela Welford, PO Box 682, Sandia Park, NM 87047 (*Please do not send registrations to the Club's PO Box*)
Bring to: October or November Cross Country Ski Club meetings.



Diane Owens, Terri Elisberg, Ray Berg, Dave Saylor, Phyllis Pryor, Holly Noland and Lester Byington, Ouray, 1/15/12.

Photo by Thea Berg

- ▶ Please submit *separate* registration forms and *separate* deposit checks for each trip.
- ▶ If you want a specific roommate, you must both register on one form and submit checks together.
- ▶ If the registration for bus trip seats exceeds availability, we will hold a lottery drawing for seats on Sunday, November 11. Board members are given first priority for seats as an incentive to serve this organization. After all seats for a trip are filled, we will place the remaining registrations on a Reserve List and the original checks will be destroyed. It costs nothing to remain on this list. We will keep registrations for those on the Reserve List unless notified they are no longer interested in that trip.
- ▶ The roster of attendees for all trips will be posted on the website and listed in the December newsletter. Complete details of each trip will be emailed to participants (*if they have email*) two to three weeks prior to the trip; otherwise it will be snail-mailed.
- ▶ **If you do not receive notifications in a timely manner, it is your responsibility to contact us for the information** at (505) 281-1198 or awelford1017@gmail.com.

Bus Trip Guidelines

Who may go: Paid-up Club members (dues paid by the November meeting), at least 18 years old or at least 12 if accompanied by a paying parent/guardian/grandparent.

Departure: Times will vary depending on the trip distance so check the individual trip descriptions for departure times. The bus departs from the parking lot on the west side of the Target at I-25 on Paseo Del Norte. The Bus Trip Chairpersons will be in the parking lot one hour before departure to pass out boarding passes in the order of your arrival. The bus will board after all refreshments are loaded. You may reserve one seat for yourself and one for your roommate.

Bus Ride: The Club supplies sodas, water, wine and beer and light snacks on the bus. There is a restroom on the bus, the use of which is up to the discretion of the driver. We will make bathroom stops en route.

Luggage: Skis and snowshoes must be packed in a bag. You are allowed one medium or two small suitcases per person. *Cargo area is at a premium* so please pack minimally and be considerate of others. You may bring a six-pack type cooler (no larger than 8-1/2"Wx12"Lx9-1/2"H) that must fit under your seat.

Clothes: "*Casual, warm and layered*" are the key words. We often walk to dinner so bring warm clothing for evenings. Slip-on crampons (*Yak Traks*) are very useful for icy conditions. Bring extra layers for your daypack.

Meals: Meals are arranged as outlined in each trip description. All other meals are your responsibility. You may bring breakfast and lunch foods in your cooler. You must bring your own food and water when going out to ski. Be prepared to be out most of the day, depending on the ski tour you chose.

Skiing: We attempt to go to a variety of areas to accommodate skiers of all abilities. There may be Nordic (set-track) areas or downhill skiing available, but our main pursuit is back-country skiing.

Cost: The cost of the trip is derived from the estimated cost of the bus, hotel, drinks, snacks, club surcharge, and bus driver's tip divided by the number of people on the trip. Once you have paid your deposit you are registered for the trip. When notified you are on the trip the balance is due by the dates given on the trip registration form. **Payments are not refundable.** If you cancel, contact us for the next available name(s) on the Reserve List. If there are no names on the list, it is your responsibility to find a substitute (a same sex Club member) and settle the payment with that person. There are no refunds unless the Club has to cancel the trip (see Cancellation Policy below).

Reserve List: If a trip is oversubscribed, a lottery drawing will be held and those not drawn for a seat will be placed on a Reserve List. It costs nothing to be on this list and you still have an excellent chance of getting on the trip. You will be notified in the event a seat becomes available. There are **often last**

minute cancellations for a variety of reasons, so keep the trip weekends open on your calendar and your bags packed!

Club Cancellation Policy

In the event that a bus trip cannot be completed due to events beyond Club control, such as weather, road conditions, mechanical failure, etc. any money that is not already committed will be equally divided and distributed among trip participants. ■

Vote on Proposed Budget

At the Club meeting on **Thursday, October 11th** members will be asked to vote on the proposed Budget below:

2012-13 Proposed Budget

Income:	
Membership	\$ 3,975.00
Silverton Bus Trip	12,250.00
Leadville Bust Trip	11,000.00
Georgetown Bus Trip	12,000.00
Bus Trip Surcharge	750.00
Hut Trips	3,307.38
Interest	10.00
Total	\$43,292.38
Expenses:	
President	\$ 175.00
Vice President	75.00
Treasurer	50.00
Secretary	25.00
Contributions	25.00
Corporate Report	10.00
Programs	50.00
Membership	220.00
Newsletter	1,200.00
Refreshments	450.00
Trails	150.00
Instruction	200.00
Day Trips	25.00
Silverton Bus Trip	12,295.69
Leadville Bus Trip	11,090.01
Georgetown Bus Trip	11,775.26
Hut Trips	3,307.38
Scholarships	1,000.00
Meeting Facility	1,125.00
Insurance	1,192.00
Summer Party	500.00
Club P.O. Box	120.00
Website	70.00
Total	\$45,130.34
Surplus/Deficit	(\$1,838.96)

2012-13 Officers and Board

President	Ray Berg	366-8104	rsberg01@comcast.net
Vice President	Wayne Kirkby	898-1654	ski1071607@aol.com
Secretary	Marcia Congdon	265-4199	mecongdon@juno.com
Treasurer	Peggy Roberts	238-0726	peggyroberts@msn.com
Day Tours	Guy Miller	294-7940	xcskiboy@aol.com
Long Bus Trips	Angela Welford Randy Simons	281-1198 294-0192	jndaughter2@earthlink.net randy_simons@msn.com
Overnight Car/Hut Trips	Guy Miller	294-7940	xcskiboy@aol.com
Newsletter	Karen Leach	281-9836	karenleach7@msn.com
Instruction	John Thomas	298-5234	jt87111@comcast.net
Membership	Bet Gendron	299-6542	bettygendron@gmail.com
Programs	Terri Elisberg	281-9192	tpelisberg@gmail.com
Mailing	Ruth Bargman-Romero	842-9735	rebrome@sandia.gov
Refreshments	Lucy Miller	401-2440	lucycecelia@gmail.com
Trails	Sam Beard	828-0673	samgbeard@msn.com
Web Site	Bill Savage	353-1089	bsavage@aol.com
Email Group	Bob Potter	831-9779	hvac87108356@yahoo.com

New Mexico Cross Country Ski Club

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Kathi Ritchey on the Fowler-Hilliard hut trip, 3/6/12.

Photo by Barry Ritchey