



SKI TRACKS

Newsletter of the Bitterroot Cross Country Ski Club

Box 431 • Corvallis, Montana 59828

JANUARY, 2006



DECEMBER, 2005 MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

December 8, 2005

By Kay Fulton

This was our annual Potluck Dinner & what a great dinner it was!!

President, Sonny LaSalle, called a brief meeting to order after the meal. There were about 60 people present.

Membership: Leo Joron reported that we have 328 paying members at this point. There were several new members in attendance.

New Business: Elections for Vice President and Secretary were held. Since there were no new VOLUNTEERS, the membership nominated Mel Mooers for V.P. and Kay Fulton for secretary for one more term each. (Thanks to Gordon and Dan Driscoll)! They were unanimously approved. Thanks so much ???????

Ski Swap: Jill Davies requested that the Club have a ski swap. It was agreed that we will have one during our January meeting so get your items ready to bring on January 12th. Look for an announcement in this newsletter.

Carpooling on Sundays: A member requested that members interested in carpooling on Sundays meet at 9:00 AM at the Northwestern Energy parking lot south of Hamilton.

Changes at the Bitterroot Brewery: Mary Ellen Reese reported some changes at the Brewery that didn't make it into the ad on the Trail Maps. Please make note of the following: 1. **They now have 10 kinds of beer!!** 2. **They serve fish tacos** made of halibut from Alaska. 3. **They are open Monday through Saturday.** 4. **The Tasting Room is open at 2:00 PM.**

Trails Report: Gordon reported that there is a current snow depth of 40" to 42". The groomers have been packing and preparing the trails since November. The conditions are great. There have been some modifications of the trails and signs posted to inform skiers. **One modification is that Middle Fork is now a downhill trail and Joseph Creek is two-way.** Hopefully this will make everyone happy!

Announcements and Items of Interest: Appreciation of Gordon Reese! Mel Mooers took a few minutes to talk about how much he (and we) appreciate ALL of the things Gordon does at Chief Joe: he makes signs & posts and puts them up; he maintains the equipment during the summer; takes care of the kiosk, improves the trails and area, puts up benches, etc., etc. **Thanks, Gordon, for all you do.**

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JANUARY PROGRAM - POTLUCK

Thursday, January 12 at 6:00 p.m

First Presbyterian Church

1220 West Main St. in Hamilton

Attendees are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items to be donated to Haven House. The program will be a slide show presentation by **Guy Barel** from **Adventure Cycling** in Missoula of a bicycle trip he led in 2000 from Missoula to Fairbanks, Alaska.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello Ski Club Members,

I want to thank all of you that have been praying for snow. It must be working!! Judy and I were skiing Friday the 23rd and there was about 10" of new snow and the groomers were having quite a time. We have a great base so skiing should be good the rest of the winter. The new trail junction maps look great (thanks Gordon) and skiing down Middle Fork and back up Joseph was an excellent loop. There is a cow and calf moose still in the area so be on the alert. They were seen at the top of Banshee.

I want to personally thank Leo Joron for his dedication to the Club for the past 11 years. He has been our membership chairman as well as the person responsible for getting the newsletter mailed to our members. He has some top quality help but he is the person responsible. He keeps a data base of all our members including those getting their newsletter through email. Leo has decided that it is time for someone else to take over his duties so we are recruiting for a replacement. This is one of our critical positions and we need to let Leo know how much we appreciate his years of work!

Our expenses for grooming have increased since we purchased the pickup. Gas for the pickup and snowmobiles runs from \$85.00 to \$100.00 per day. We are looking for ways to save money, and the cost of mailing the newsletter is one expenditure that can easily be reduced by more people getting their newsletter through email. This will save around \$6.00 to \$7.00 per member per year.

We had an excellent turnout for the December potluck. The food and program were great, and we had a suggestion for a ski swap to occur at the January meeting. Those at the meeting thought this was a good idea so bring your excess ski gear, including clothing, to the meeting Thursday Jan 12. We will meet at 7:00 PM at the church. Don't forget your donation of food items to Haven House. Our Extravaganza tickets are on sale and the proceeds go to the grooming program so lets purchase more tickets. Its a good cause and the gourmet meal for four is truly an unbelievable experience.

— Sonny LaSalle

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Sonny read a letter from Habitat for Humanity that asked for our involvement and donations. They meet the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 P.M. at the Faith Presbyterian Church and people are invited to join them.

Three Club members, Don Shaunessy, Jeanne Hargett and Sonny, are on the Marcus Daly Hospital Board and they are asking for ideas in helping with plans for expansion of the hospital. If you have some suggestions, please share them with any of these three.

It has been reported that many more Snowshoe Hare tracks (and even the hares themselves) are being seen at the ski area in recent years. This may indicate the presence of Canadian Lynx and therefore impacts what we do at Chief Joe.

Program: Pat Leonard presented a great slide show of his 1983, 100 day, 2,032 mile canoe trip in the Northwest Territories. The pictures were amazing but the story was even more amazing. I think most of us agreed that even if we were young enough for such an expedition, most of us couldn't have done it! Thanks, Pat, for sharing.



Membership Renewals / DUES

Annual Memberships EXPIRE November 1!

Renew your membership now!

INDIVIDUAL - \$15 • FAMILY - \$25

SUPPORTING INDIVIDUAL - \$30

SUPPORTING FAMILY - \$40

LIFE MEMBER - \$500

Membership Dues

Nov. 1, 2005 - Oct. 31, 2006

MAIL TO: Bitterroot Cross-Country Ski Club

P.O. Box 431, Corvallis, MT 59828

Name(s) _____

Address: _____

City _____ ST _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Type of Membership: _____

(Listed above)

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

Newsletter preference: (Check all that apply)

Send by USPS _____; Send by e-mail _____

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR NEEDED

There is an opportunity to assume the membership chair position which consists of: maintaining the basic membership and e-mails lists, updating the label work sheet(s), obtaining envelopes and stamps for the newsletter and notifying those who "stuff" newsletters.

2. The names of incoming members who want hard copies of the newsletter are added to the label work sheets. About two weeks before the date of the next meeting, this work sheet is taken to Peg Hampton, Ibid Printing, 140 Cherry Street, Suite # 399, Phone: 363-1866. She makes the labels for the newsletters and prepares a new label work sheet.

3. Upon receiving the newsletter for the upcoming meeting from the editor, Peg Hampton prints a master copy and forwards it to Allegra printing where the final copies are printed.

4. When applications come in during the time that the label work sheets are at Peg Hampton's, for the hard copies members, their name and address is written on an envelope to go out with the next mailing. Their mailing information is added to the new label work sheet at the time letters are stuffed, using the information from the hand written envelopes.

5. The names of incoming members who want e-mail newsletters are added to the e-mail membership list. These names are e-mailed to Toddy Perryman: patandtoddy3752@logonfrog.net who sends out e-mail newsletters.

6. On the Friday in the week before the date of the next meeting, the "stuffing" crew meets at 10:00 a.m. in the office of Allegra Printing, 1151 North 1st St. (just south of Kmart):

7 At this time return addresses, stamps and labels are placed on envelopes, the newsletters are folded and "stuffed." then mailed at the post office.

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