



SKI TRACKS

Newsletter of the Bitterroot Cross Country Ski Club

Box 431 • Corvallis, Montana 59828

November, 2003



A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT SONNY LASALLE TO THE SKI CLUB:

Hello to all you cross country skiers. The November meeting is our annual potluck and membership drive. We also ask our members to donate something for the drawing for door prizes. I usually donate some homemade wine but the door is wide open for all types of donations. Services are also a nice prize to win so energize your creativity and bring something good to eat to share and a possible door prize. By the way, if you know any special snow dances I suggest you recruit some help and get the music started.

OCTOBER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

By Kay Fulton

President, Sonny LaSalle, called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Approximately 100 people were in attendance.

The Treasurer's Report by Jeanne Lippert: Income, \$1,485.43; Expenses, \$3,007.43; Net Income, -\$1522; Checking, \$343.83; Savings, \$6,557.92.

Membership: Leo Joron explained that membership dues for this year are due November 1st. He and Jeanne began collecting dues for the current year (11/1/2003 – 10/31/2004). The upcoming November meeting, 11/13, is the annual recruitment meeting. Bring new friends.

Gordon Reese Warming Hut News: Sonny introduced Patty Dawson of the Forest Service who talked about the work that was done during the fires this summer to protect the Hut. Initially, the Forest Service had their fire headquarters at Chief Joseph while they worked on the Black Wall and Bull Frog Fires. Eventually these fires merged into the "Black Frog" fire and it was necessary to move the headquarters and "wrap" the cabin in order to protect it. It was not touched by fires.

There was also some vandalism of the cabin this summer over the Fourth of July weekend. People set off the fire extinguishers, knocked out a window and did some other damage. Pat and Ed Hastings had the cabin on the 7th and found the damage. They did a great deal of clean up and the Forest Service completed the clean up. They were able to identify the party who had done the damage and hopefully it will not happen again.

Sign Up for Hosting the Cabin this winter: Patty brought the sign up sheet and club members were able to sign up for one night per family during this meeting based on a number drawn at the door. Further sign ups for the cabin will be available over the phone beginning **October 22nd**. **Phone number is (406) 689-3371. Sign up for May Creek**

NOVEMBER MEETING

Thursday, November 13, 2003

First Presbyterian Church, Main St., Hamilton

The November meeting will include the Annual Potluck, Recruitment, and Door Prizes. Bring donations for the prizes, food and money for dues!

TONY'S TIPS

by Tony Neaves

SKI SWAPPIN'

Tis the season for leaf raking, weatherizing, brisk hikes, and ski swaps! I have to say that going to these crazy things have been a part of my fall schedule for many, many years. There are many reasons why. First, they can be a good place to sell your old or inappropriate equipment. As with the majority of swaps I've known, a certain percentage of the sales goes to very worthy causes like volunteer ski patrols. So you can sell your stuff and feel good about helping very good organizations.

Secondly, swaps can be a great place to find deals on gear. This may be especially true for first timers who want to try the sport out for a season before diving right into brand new gear. You could get really lucky and find just the right type of equipment, in the right size, and for the right price. Believe me, it can happen! One HUGE word of advice

(continued on back)

Cabin will start October 20 and Twin Lake and Hogan Cabins, October 21st. Attention:

Sonny announced that in the event a host cannot be there for the night they have scheduled please inform the Forest Service and contact Toddy Perryman. She will put out an e-mail to the membership to see if someone else can take the night. Her number is 961-4959 and her e-mail is brxcski@logonfrog.net.

Annie Creighton announced the following events:

- **November 8**—10:00 to 2:00 Lost Trail Ski Patrol Ski Swap at the Fairgrounds (bring **equipment in on Friday**)
- **March 26** — Extravaganza (tickets will be available at the November meeting)
- **December 13** —Ski Races
- **February 6** — Moon Walk with the Forest Service at Chief Joe

Program: The evening was capped off by a wonderful slide presentation by Mel Mooers of his exciting 10 day rafting trip in northwest British Columbia where he scared off grizzly bears, climbed peaks and survived rapids. We're glad he returned to entertain us with his great slides, information and funny stories!

TONY'S TIPS (continued)

though - it may not be the best idea to just snatch up whatever there is just because it's a "great" deal! Go into a swap with a little research under your belt and/or bring along a friend who knows equipment so they can help find the right stuff for the kind of skiing you want to do.

Thirdly, as I've observed year after year, is that swaps are right up there with airports for the people watching potential! You'll see all kinds and some who only "come out of the woodwork" for these raucous events. Ski swaps can get you jazzed about the upcoming winter and give you the incentive to get ready, get set, let's go skiing! (or at least hiking with ski poles until there's enough snow).

IMPORTANT NOTES

FOUND: a pair of Foster Grant sunglasses on trail October 8. Call Nell Whiting at 961-8808.

A new ski area map has been prepared with new sponsors. Please support our sponsors.

Dan Driscoll has timidly taken over as Editor. If you have anything to contribute to the newsletter, call Dan at 375-9967 or e-mail driscold@in-tch.com.

BITTERROOT XC SKI CLUB

| | | |
|--|---|----------|
| President | Sonny LaSalle | 375-0871 |
| | lasalmom@montana.com | |
| Vice-President | Mel Mooers | 961-3163 |
| | m.mooersmt@juno.com | |
| Treasurer | Jeane Lippert | 642-3390 |
| | jeaneenaej@juno.com | |
| Secretary | Kay Fulton | 642-3794 |
| | kayinmt@cybernet1.com | |
| Hiking | Ed Curran | 961-5446 |
| | edann@cybernet1.com | |
| Income | Mary Ellen Reese | 642-3007 |
| Instruction | Bob Brophy | 363-2381 |
| Membership | Leo Joron | 961-8359 |
| | lpj@bitterroot.net | |
| Newsletter | | |
| Editorial | Dan Driscoll | 375-9967 |
| Production | Peg Hampton (Msg.) | 363-1866 |
| | (Home) | 363-1887 |
| Mailing | Leo Joron | 961-8359 |
| E-mail | Toddy Perryman | 961-4959 |
| | brxcski@logonfrog.net | |
| Outings | Darel Seibert | 375-1999 |
| | drdarel@yahoo.com | |
| Programs | Diane Boyd | 961-4058 |
| | director@tellerwildlife.org | |
| Publicity | Diane Williford | 363-6290 |
| Races | Tony Neaves & | |
| | Annie Creighton | 375-0852 |
| | montannie2@yahoo.com | |
| Trails | Gordon Reese | 642-3007 |
| Webmaster | Pat Patterson | 363-4192 |
| | CLP@bitterroot.com | |
| Website | http://www.bitterrootxcskiclub.net | |
| Warming Hut Reservations (USFS Wisdom) | | 689-3371 |

Here are a few rough guidelines for getting the most out of your ski swappin'. For selling gear, make sure each item is as clean and neat looking as possible, and set the price LOW so it actually sells. For buying gear try to know ahead of time what you are looking for, utilize a friend's help, or if you can find one, ask a sales person. With skis, make sure they are: A) the right length B) the right type - i.e. waxless, waxable, touring, etc. C) not dead - by this I mean that they still have some camber or "spring" left in them. D) have the right kind of bindings for the boots you have or are going to get. E) not too damaged on the bases, unless you want to buy a pair of "rock" skis!

When buying boots, just make sure they fit with a ski sock on and that they are compatible with the bindings you have or are going to get. With poles, make sure the length and type is appropriate for the kind of skiing you will be doing. So, there you have it, Ski swappin' in a nutshell. Usually, there are two in our area. Lost Trail volunteer ski patrol offers one at the Ravalli Co. Fairgrounds, set for Nov. 8th., and Snowbowl ski patrol holds theirs at the Adams Center @ U.M. (called the S.O.S. Fair), on Nov. 9th.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP EXPIRED OCT. 31 '03

This will be the final newsletter for those whose annual membership expired on October 31, 2003. Please use the following application to renew by mail. or renew at the membership meeting, November 12.

Membership Renewals / DUES

Annual Memberships EXPIRED Oct 31, '03

Renew your membership now!

INDIVIDUAL - \$10 • FAMILY - \$20

SUPPORTING INDIVIDUAL - \$25

SUPPORTING FAMILY - \$35

LIFE MEMBER - \$100

Membership Dues

Nov. 1, 2003 - Oct. 31, 2004

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 _____