



SKI TRACKS

Newsletter of the Bitterroot Cross Country Ski Club

Box 431 • Corvallis, Montana 59828

November, 2004



NEWSLETTER NOTES

Sonny is in Colorado and was unable to transmit a message to my computer, so he left a telephone message: "Our meeting is Thursday, November 11 at 7 P.M. at the First Presbyterian Church, 1220 W. Main St. As before, everyone should bring something to raffle to provide door prizes. Bring a friend and remember, you must be present to win". Sonny will be back on the 9th.

To clear up a mixup in the telephone number for Warming Hut reservations, the right number to call is 689-3371.

GOURMET EXTRAVAGANZA RAFFLE

It's time again to think about entering this potentially very rewarding raffle! If you are the lucky winner, here's what you get: One incredible dinner and overnight stay, for 4 people, at the deluxe Gordon Reese Cabin. This dinner and stay is scheduled for Friday, March 4th, 2005. Tickets will be for sale at the Nov. thru Feb. club meetings, and anytime by contacting Annie. Same price as always - \$1 ea. or 6 for \$5. Just so you know, the proceeds from this raffle go towards the ever present grooming fund and so there really is no good reason not to enter!

Annie's contact numbers are 375-0852(h) or 363-4428(w).

OCTOBER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

President Sonny LaSalle called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M. There were approximately 70 people in attendance.

Treasurer's Report by Jean Lippert:

Income, \$1794.58; Expenses, \$2,961.82; Net Income, \$284.41; Savings, \$8140.09; Checking, \$1722.39

Business Items:

New Snowmobile: The Salmon Forest Service wrote for a State Trails grant of \$3250 to help pay for a new machine. They also contributed another \$500. The Club will pay the balance of the approximately \$7700. Sonny LaSalle called for a motion to purchase the snowmobile cooperatively with the Forest Service. Lou Lippert made the motion. It was seconded and passed.

Election of Officers in December: The President's and Treasurer's positions will be come up for election in December. Anyone interested please contact Sonny.

Donations to the Haven House Monthly: a member proposed that members of the Club bring one or two items to be donated to the Haven House each meeting. The Haven House is the local food bank that serves about 1450 families. Dona-

NOVEMBER PROGRAM

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

First Presbyterian Church

1220 West Main Street in Hamilton

7:00 p.m.

There will be a raffle and door prizes. The program will feature retired educator Norma Gilmore, who will present a slide show of what the Gallapagos Islands are really like today.

tions can be food as well as household items such as dishsoap, paper products, etc. Also if you have game you don't want you can have it processed at the Hamilton Packing for donating. You can either pay for it yourself or the Haven House will pay for it. It cannot be packaged at home. A motion was made, seconded and passed to participate.

Insurance for snowmobiles and trailer: Ed Hastings reported that it has been decided to drop the current insurance the Club has had for the equipment they tow. Originally the equipment was worth approximately \$25,000 but now the value has greatly dropped. It costs \$612 annually for the insurance and the insurance covers about 90% of the value. They are investigating other options for the new machine as well as a truck if we end up having to get one.

Outings Chairperson: Mel Mooers, Vice President, addressed the need for a new Outings Chairperson. Darel Seibert has moved. Mel explained that if the Club wants outings such as skiing other trails like Hogans, May Creek, etc. we would need someone to coordinate and others to volunteer to lead the outings. He suggested that it works best with two coordinators. There were no immediate volunteers and Mel ask the membership to think about what they wish to do about outings and having a chairperson.

New Program ChairPEOPLE: Bob and Barb Schumaker have agreed to be the new program team.

Assisting the Back Country Horsemen with trail cleanup: This Organization has suggested that the Ski Club partner with them on the trailwork they do in the Spring. There are always a lot of blowdowns to be cleared. Judy LaSalle passed around a list for people to sign if they are interested in being involved.

Trail/Hut Report:

Workday, September 18th. Sonny thanked the 28 people who came to help. They stacked about 3 cords of wood in the Hut, thoroughly cleaned the Hut, and made many brush piles which the Forest Service will burn eventually.

(Continued)

Work on the trail signs: Several went up the ski area on October 14th to take signs off of hundreds of trees, which are the hazard trees to be cut down, and move them to other places. There is still more to do.

Complaints to the Forest Service about their relationship with the Ski Club. Apparently some people have complained that there is favoritism toward the Ski Club such as the use of a truck. Sonny said that we might eventually have to get a truck of our own.

Reserving the Hut: Arlee from the Forest Service was at the meeting with the sign up sheet for the Hut. Dates were blocked out for members of the Club as well as Club events. The general public will be able to call in for reservations starting October 18th at 689-3371. Members drew numbers and signed up in order of their numbers.

Future Events:

November 11th Meeting: Membership Drive and Raffle for Door Prizes

December 4th & 5th Ski Demos

December 9th Meeting: Potluck and Elections

January 22nd Lessons

March 4th Extravaganza

Program: Bob and Barb Schumaker presented a very interesting and informative slide program on their trip this last July up the Chilkoot Trail in British Columbia and Alaska. (And we complain about carrying 40 pound backpacks??!!)

TONY'S TIPS by Annie!

Tony ran out of tip's this month so I'm going to give it a try!

As I have been looking forward to beginning the ski season this year, it has become increasingly apparent that we've had a great fall. This season has so many great aspects, and we as skiers can really benefit from it's beauty, and recreational opportunities. One of my all time favorite things to do in the fall is to hike with a pair of old alpine poles. This activity is not only FUN, but it is one of the best ways to prepare for the upcoming ski season. Without getting too concerned about "training" you can get a really good workout by utilizing your arms. Having your poles along for a hike can help you power up hills, and take some pressure off your hips on the down-hills. Another good aspect is that if there are any wiley moose or bears in the vicinity, they will surely hear you click clicking up the trail! As it gets muddy or icy out on some of these hikes, having the poles along can be a lifesaver. Just keeping yourself upright means that you are giving your arms a "wake up call"! Of course as with any activity, you can start out at a slower pace on easier trails, and then increase cadence of your poling and strides as you get stronger. You will be amazed at how much easier it is to tackle the steeper trails using poles.

So, go give it a try, enjoy what's left of our fall colors, and be ready for that first whoosh through the woods on your skis!

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, 2004 - Oct. 31, 2005

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 _____

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