



# SKI TRACKS

## Bitterroot Cross-Country Ski Club

March 2016 — Volume 14 — Number 3

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in winter**

## President's Message

Skiing on the Chief Joseph Trail System continues to be the best ever. Not even one derogatory comment has been left on the sign-in sheets this season, and that is a first.

The number of daily visits to the ski trails passed the 9,000 mark (*the previous high*) some time ago and then moved past 10,000 more three weeks ago. Because the PistenBully is able to keep the Chief Joseph Trails skiable and conditions at most other cross-country ski areas have been deteriorating rapidly, it is likely our user-days will approach (*and possibly pass*) 11,000 before grooming ceases for the season.

An application for an RTP Grant to cover next winter's grooming expenses has been completed and submitted.

The Club is seeking someone (*or a couple of people*) to oversee the use of our snowmobiles and grooming equipment. Along with overseeing the use of the equipment and snowmobile drivers during the ski season, some off-season equipment maintenance is required. Please contact Mel Holloway if you are able to help out.

In response to recent requests for volunteer help, Diane Lee has agreed to act as program coordinator for the next year and Jesse Crocker will take on the Club's Webmaster responsibilities. Thanks to both!

We are still looking for volunteers to take over and/or contribute to the newsletter, track skier user-days (*during the season*), and oversee summer trail maintenance (*find and schedule volunteers*).

Members of the Board are interested in increasing the number and variety of social activities in which Club Members participate. If you have suggestions and/or would like to help achieve that goal, please contact me [michael.hoyt@gmail.com](mailto:michael.hoyt@gmail.com).

Michael Hoyt

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## Bitterroot Cross-Country Ski Club Meeting Minutes

**Meeting Date:** Thursday, February 11, 2016

**Number attending:** about 30

**Membership:** Earl Phillips reported that, tonight, memberships reached an all-time high.

**Treasurer Report:** Reine Hilton reported the treasury remains in good shape with plenty of funds available to get us through the remainder of this ski season.

**Grooming:** Mel reported the trails have a great base and are experiencing lots of use.

**Club President:** Mike reported Facebook and website are heavily used for trail and weather report. The use-trend is beginning to diminish as weather in the valleys continues to warm.

This season, the ski trails will have the highest use ever, surpassing 10,000 user days for the first time.

Mike thanks Bettie Rhodes and Karen Philips for bringing refreshments for tonight's meeting.

Mike announced that the Club's Board of Directors has met several times over the last month to brainstorm about a lack of ready volunteers which is occurring in spite of the all-time-high number of Club Members. He pointed out that certain tasks must be completed on an ongoing basis for the Club to continue to exist and encouraged people to volunteer.

Mike indicated that a short meeting of Board Members was held before tonight's meeting to authorize application for an RTP Grant to cover grooming expenses for the winter of 2016-2017.

**Program:** Kylie Paul, of Defenders of Wildlife, gave a very interesting presentation about the citizen-scientist project that collects information about small carnivores in and around the Bitterroot Valley, including wolverine, fisher, marten, etc.

**The meeting closed** at 8:45 pm.

**These minutes were prepared by:** Michael Hoyt (*in the absence of Marrea Mathews*)



Bitterroot Cross Country Ski Club presents

# John Muir Trail in winter

In 2001 Jesse Crocker skied the John Muir Trail 220 miles through wilderness in the High Sierra, alone and unsupported. The trip is rarely attempted, but in big snow years provides amazing nordic skiing possibilities.

Jesse grew up in California then moved to Yellowstone to work for a conservation organization and discovered Nordic skiing. He lives in Darby making maps, writing software and running a small farm with his wife. Most weekends he can be seen skiing Chief Joseph with his son on his back.



**Everyone Welcome - 7:00PM**

**Thursday - March 10**

**Presbyterian Church - 1220 West Main**

# Bitterroot Cross-Country Ski Club Officers

<b>President</b> Michael Hoyt <a href="mailto:michael.hoyt@gmail.com">michael.hoyt@gmail.com</a> 406-360-3803	<b>Vice President</b> Kelly Zeiler <a href="mailto:krz-inc@live.com">krz-inc@live.com</a> 406-363-8631	<b>Treasurer</b> Reine Hilton <a href="mailto:hilton@mcn.net">hilton@mcn.net</a> 406-375-1952	<b>Secretary</b> Marrea Mathews <a href="mailto:live2ridetoo@gmail.com">live2ridetoo@gmail.com</a> 406-381-8377
<b>Trails &amp; Grooming</b> Mel Holloway <a href="mailto:tromper@bitterroot.com">tromper@bitterroot.com</a> 406-381-1334	<b>Map Production</b> Jim Greenfield <a href="mailto:jkgreenfield@q.com">jkgreenfield@q.com</a> 406-363-2110	<b>Webmaster</b> Jesse Crocker <a href="mailto:jesse@datamongers.net">jesse@datamongers.net</a>	<b>Membership Data</b> Earl Philips <a href="mailto:philips@montana.com">philips@montana.com</a> 406-961-0101
<b>Meetings</b> Diane Lee <a href="mailto:fit4fun@montana.com">fit4fun@montana.com</a> 406-546-3848	<b>Youth Coordinator</b> Richard Stone <a href="mailto:rcstone@msn.com">rcstone@msn.com</a> 406-642-9648	<b>Publicity</b> George Corn <a href="mailto:gcorn@bresnan.net">gcorn@bresnan.net</a> 406-363-1163	

## Membership Renewals / Dues

Annual Memberships Expire on November 1st of each Year

### Please Renew Your Membership Now

Family - \$25

Supporting Family - \$40

Individual - \$15

Supporting Individual - \$30

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**Mail To: Bitterroot Cross-Country Ski Club, PO Box 431, Corvallis, MT 59828-0431**

Name (families, please include childrens names): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zipcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Email (to receive monthly newsletters): \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Membership (see above): \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_