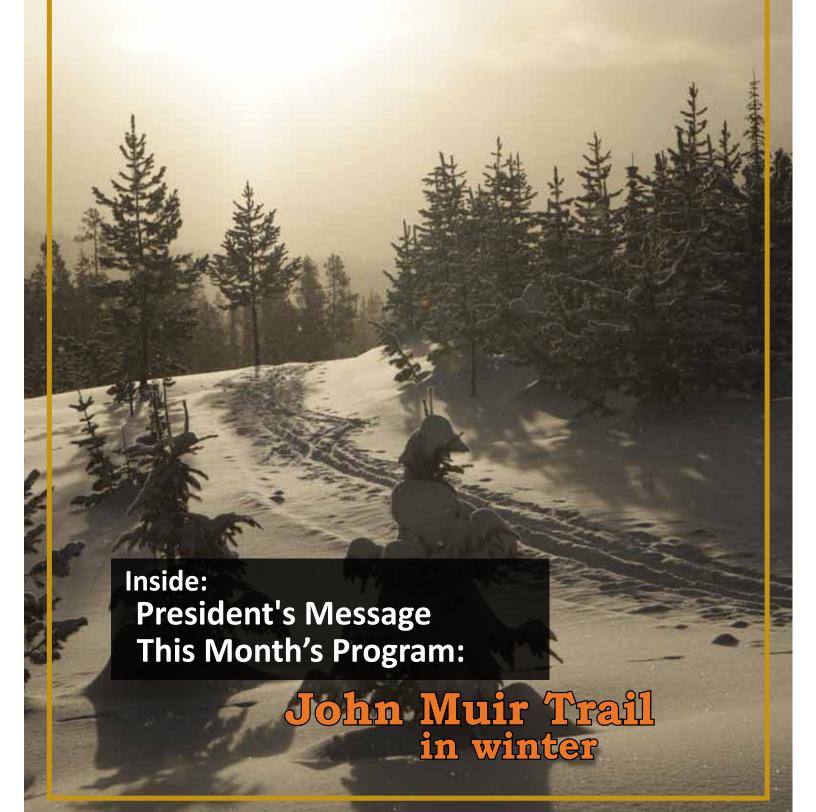
# SKI TRACKS

## **Bitterroot Cross-Country Ski Club**

March 2016 — Volume 14 — Number 3



#### **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.

Michael Hoyt

#### **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.

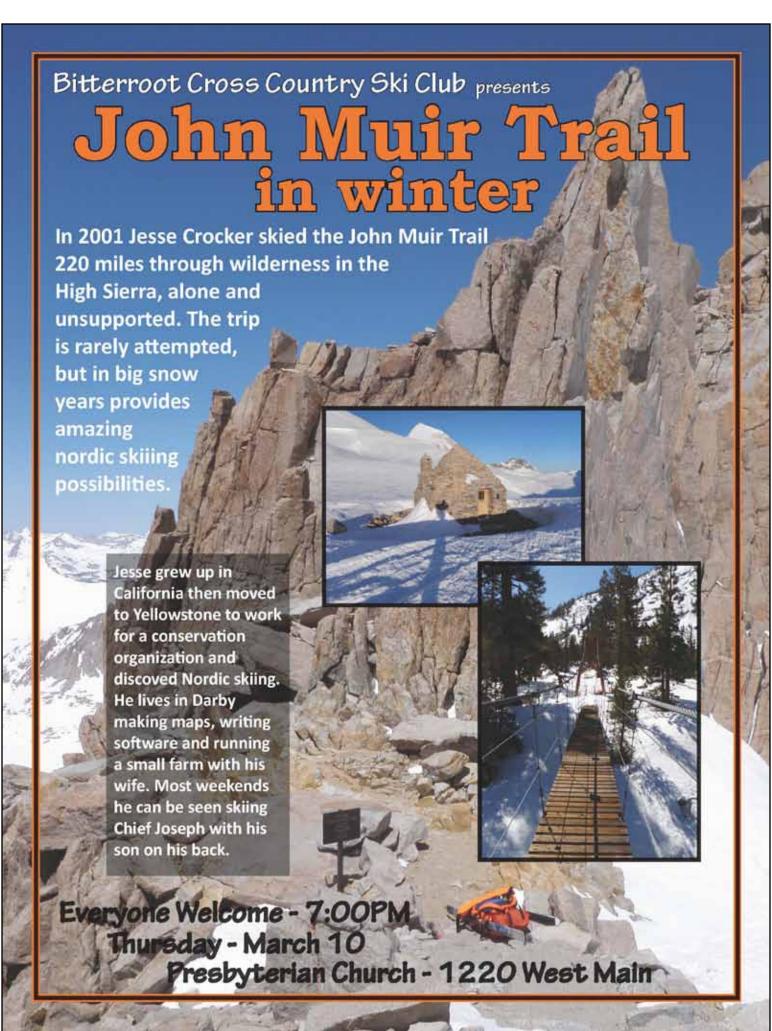
Mike announced that the Club's Board of Directors has met several times over the last month to brainstorm about a lack of ready volunteers which is occurring in spite of the all-time-high number of Club Members. He pointed out that certain tasks must be completed on an ongoing basis for the Club to continue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

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

Mail To:	Bitterroot Cross-Country Ski	Club, PO Box 431, Co	rvallis, MT 59828-0431
Name (fami	lies, please include childrens names): _		
Email (to re	ceive monthly newsletters):		
Type of Mer	mbership (see above):		
Amount End	closed: \$		