

# SKI TRACKS

Bitterroot Cross-Country Ski Club  
November 2017      Newsletter

- Nov. Program – Hiking Mt Saint Helens  
*plus...*
- President's Message
- Membership Renewals
- Weather Predictions – Snow & More Snow



## Nov 9<sup>th</sup> Program Presentation: **Hiking the Mt Saint Helens' Loowit Trail**

Mark Wetherington shared his experience hiking the Selway Trail with us last spring, and will return for our November meeting.

The Loowit Trail, which encircles Mount Saint Helens, is a hike unlike any other in North America. From old-growth forest to the devastated volcanic blast zone, this trek provides hikers with unforgettable scenery and an up-close look at a landscape recovering from a recent volcanic eruption.

# President's Message

November 2017

Greetings Bitterroot XC Ski Club Members –

Fall is here again and winter is right around the corner. We are looking forward to another year of excellent winter recreation at Chief Joseph Pass. Over the summer, club members and volunteers have contributed in important ways to help improve the experience at Chief Joseph. We cut firewood for The Hut, and improved the common area at The Hut by laying a new rubberized floor covering. We put in many hours surveying and clearing the trails and cutting problematic trees in order to improve grooming efficiency and skier safety. We have also done important work in improving the structures of the emergency caches and the main ski rack at the hut. The volunteers are too numerous to mention by name, but rest assured that all of us thank you for your efforts. As I write this, it is snowing at the pass and I am sure some folks have already been out skiing. Our season officially begins in December, so keep an eye on membership emails, our Facebook page, our [website](#) and missoulanordic.org for trail condition updates.

Our winter meeting schedule begins with our first meeting November 9th at 7 pm at the Presbyterian Church in Hamilton. December we will have our holiday potluck in addition to a presentation. We are in need of a Meeting Presentation Coordinator so if you or anyone you know would be willing to fill this position, please reach out. It is not a huge time commitment – just involves contacting potential presenters and coordinating with them. We have several great presenters already lined up for the year, but can always use more.

In addition, our current Vice-President, Kelly Zeiler is stepping down this fall, and we need a volunteer to take over this role. Primary responsibilities are to attend board meetings (once a month), run member meetings in the event that I am unavailable, and generally to assist in the leadership functions of the club as needed. We thank Kelly for his generous service to the club and wish him well. Please reach out if you can step into this crucial role for the club.

I have been in touch with the new leadership of the Forest Service in Wisdom and look forward to working with them to facilitate effective management of the XC ski area.

As always I remind all skiers to sign in every time you use the trails, as complete records of user days are crucial in securing grants to help pay for grooming. I also encourage you to update your membership for the year, either online at <http://bitterrootxcskiclub.net/membership/> or by mail. Please reach out to me or to another officer with any questions or concerns about the club and the trails. We run on volunteers, so consider contributing your time, energy and ideas if you can.

Think snow, and I will see you on the trails.

Norman Singley

President

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## Off to a Great Start

The National Weather Service's predictions as of Friday, Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> sound pretty sweet for some early season skiing:

Friday Night: Snow accumulation of 3-7 inches possible

Saturday: Snow likely, with new accumulation of 1-3 inches possible

Saturday Night: A chance of snow before midnight with accumulation of <1 inch possible.

Sunday: 50% chance of snow, with new snow accumulation of <1" possible.

Sunday Night: 80% chance of precip; new snow accumulation of 2-4 inches possible.

Monday: Snow likely, with new accumulation of 1-3 inches possible

# Other Club News

## Memberships -

The Bitterroot Cross Country Ski Club's annual memberships expire on November 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. We hope you will renew your club membership at this time. An individual membership is \$15 and a family membership is \$25. Your membership dollars provide support for maintaining the skiing trails at Chief Joe, the monthly newsletter, and our website ([www.bitterrootxcskiclub.net](http://www.bitterrootxcskiclub.net)), which provides the latest information on the condition of the x-c ski trails along with a variety of cross country ski information.

You can renew your membership at a Bitterroot Cross Country Ski Club meeting. Our next meeting is November 9<sup>th</sup>.

Or

You can complete the membership form located in the newsletter and mail it to:

Bitterroot Cross-Country Ski Club

PO Box 431

Corvallis, MT 59828-0431

Or

You can use Paypal, Visa or Mastercard to renew your membership by selecting Membership under Club Information on our website [www.bitterrootxcskiclub.net](http://www.bitterrootxcskiclub.net)

Thanks and have a great ski season.

Earl Philips

Membership Chair

Annual Memberships Expire on November 1<sup>st</sup> of each year

Please renew your membership now

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

Names (families, please include children's names)	
Mailing Address	
Email Address (for monthly newsletter)	
Check Type of Membership	Amount Enclosed
<input type="checkbox"/> Family - \$25 <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting Family - \$40	
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual - \$15 <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting Individual - \$30	