



SKI TRACKS

Newsletter of the Bitterroot Cross Country Ski Club
Box 431 • Corvallis, Montana 59828 May, 2003



SEASON WRAPUP

By **Sonny LaSalle**

Another ski year has come to an end except for the extremely fit & somewhat crazy who hike to snowfields in the Bitterroot Mountains for spring skiing. It has been an excellent year for those of us in the Club. The warming hut was enjoyed by record numbers and continues to look as good as new. It's time to give thanks to a number of people who helped to make the ski year so excellent. Our grooming crew did their usual outstanding job even with some tough challenges of heavy snowfalls. Our programs were well advertised and organized and we had record attendance. The website gets lots of hits and is up to date. The e-mail newsletter is enjoyed by many and looks great. Speaking of the newsletter—our long time editor, Art Seifert is retiring from the job he has done so well and we want to give him thanks and praise. Our newsletter is a joint effort by many, but Art is responsible for quality control and timeliness. The quality has been excellent as well as always being on time, thanks to Art, and we will miss him. Now comes the task of finding a replacement before next Fall. There are so many people who make our organization so great. Please take the time to thank each of them for their efforts. The pay is great, especially when people express their gratitude. See you at the May potluck. Sonny

PLANNED FATHER'S DAY OUTING

By **Darel Seibert**

Cheryl Kikkert is planning to lead a hike to Castle Rock on Father's Day, Sunday, June 15, 2003. This will be six miles round trip, with a moderately difficult scramble at the end to the top of an old volcanic plug. Meet at the West Fork Ranger Station at 9:00 a.m. For further information call Cheryl at 360-9587 after 8:00 p.m. Incidentally, Cheryl says she is interested in hiking partners for Fridays.

JUNE WORK WEEK SCHEDULE

By **Gordon Reese**

We have scheduled our work "week" at the Warming Hut to encompass the dates Wednesday, June 25 through Sunday, June 29. On Wednesday and Thursday, June 25 and 26 we will concentrate on projects directly involving the cabin. On Friday and Saturday, June 27 and 28 we will concentrate on firewood. On Sunday, June 29 we will finish up odds and ends and with any luck, relax a little.

We don't yet know what the snow conditions will be. We hope that workers will be able to drive to the cabin. We will try to make arrangements with the Forest Service to have the gate open during the day. Workers can stay at the cabin, or conditions permitting, can camp there, or bring in a camper. Hope to see you there.

MAY MEETING

Thursday, May 8, 2003

Annual Pot Luck 6:00 p.m.

Jeannie Lippert's house

354 Sweathouse Road, Victor, MT

(Refer to map for directions)

APRIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

By **Kay Fulton**

Vice President, Mel Mooers, called the meeting to order at 7:15 P.M. Approximately 30 people were in attendance. Current Membership: 474.

The Treasurer's Report by Jeane Lippert: Income, \$532; Expenses, \$409.90; Net Income, \$122.10; Checking, \$4,165.90; Savings, \$4,542.49.

Trails Report: Gordon Reese reported that grooming is over. There is still approximately six feet of snow. The cabin will close April 20th and reopen June 1st for rental. There will be a workweek scheduled June 25 - 29 to do repair, wood cutting, stacking, etc. Watch for details in the newsletter. Gordon also reported that over the years, the Club has made a gift to the Highway Road Crew for the great job they do. This year we gave steaks from the Hamilton Packing Company. **There was a round of applause for Gordon and the grooming team for all their good work.**

Upcoming Events: **Darel Seibert announced that there will be a hike to Castle Rock on Fathers Day. Watch for details.** Hikes will be scheduled similarly to last year where people can show up at a designated time on Saturdays and determine where to go based on their interest and skill. Check the website for details. Cheryl Kikkert announced that she would like to hike on Fridays and if anyone is interested, call her at 360-9587. **The Annual Potluck will be next meeting, May 8th. After some discussion, it was agreed to hold it at Jeannie Lippert's home in Victor. Look for directions in the newsletter.**

Items of Interest: Mary Ellen Reese proposed that the Club get ski pins for the Club. She has talked to Bud Mariska of Mariska Promotion and Printing Co. in Missoula who could produce the pins and we could sell them at meetings, through stores and other places that inform people about the Club. Mary Ellen was proposing a pin about 1&1/4" in brass with blue, white and gold colors, lettering in gold. Prices range as follows:

For 250 pins, the cost would be \$2.10 ea, Sell at \$4.25, Profit approx. \$537
500 pins \$1.50 ea, \$4.25 Profit \$750
1,000 pins \$1.25 ea, \$4.25 Profit \$1250

After some discussion it was agreed to get 500 and they should be ready for the June work party. They will also be

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April Meeting - continued from page 1

sold at the Fall Membership meeting and throughout the year. Good job, Mary Ellen!

Program: Jed Dennison, from the Trailhead Store in Missoula and director of guided trips shared his wonderful slides of the 2002 Olympics in Utah. Jed attended events; including the Biathlon Pursuit, the Mens' 4x10 km race, & Nordic Combined. The slides were great.

HEADS UP ON CABIN RENTALS

Be advised that May 5, 2003 is the opening day for rental reservations for the Gordon Reese Cabin for the 2003 summer season (June, July and August.) The Forest Service will be accepting reservation calls starting at 7:00 a.m. May 5 at **689-3371**.

Also note that the opening day for 2003 summer rental reservations for the May Creek Cabin will be May 12, 2003. Same starting time, same number.



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Trails	Gordon Reese	642-3007
Webmaster	Pat Patterson	363-4192
	CLP@bitterroot.com	
Website	http://www.bitterrootxclub.net	
Warming Hut Reservations (USFS Wisdom)		689-3371

TONY'S TIPS

By Tony Neaves

Summer Ski Storage

Well, the season is almost over and it's time to put away the ski gear for the summer. Here are a few tips on how best to do so. Ski equipment is a valuable investment and you can do a couple of things to protect and prolong the lifespan of it.

To keep your boots in good shape, clean them with mild soapy water and a brush, then rinse. After drying, use a wax based leather dressing for leather boots and buff it out with a soft cloth. For vinyl boots, use ArmorAll or some such, and put Scotchguard on the fabric parts.

As spring skiing involves warm temperatures and mud, the snow can get quite dirty as there are more needles, sap, and moss on the surface. All this junk will make your skis very grubby! You can clean your entire ski with warm soapy water, then rinse off with plain water. Treat the plastic parts on the bindings with ArmorAll. If you have waxable skis, scrape off the old kick wax and then wipe them down with a citrus cleaner.

If you can, put a layer of glide wax (storage wax) on the bases and leave it on for the summer. For waxless skis, at the very minimum, apply a thick layer of the liquid wipe-on type wax and leave that on.

As far as where and how to store your skis, it is best to put them in as cool, dry, and dark a place as possible. Additionally, do not bind the skis together tightly with a ski strap around the middle. This will eventually reduce the spring or camber of your skis. You should just put a strap or rubber band loosely around the tips and tails.

Have a great summer; see you in the fall!

Membership Renewals / DUES

Annual Memberships EXPIRE November 1!

Renew your membership now!

INDIVIDUAL - \$10 • FAMILY - \$20

SUPPORTING INDIVIDUAL - \$25

SUPPORTING FAMILY - \$35

LIFE MEMBER - \$100

Membership Dues

Nov. 1, 2002 - Oct. 31, 2003

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: _____

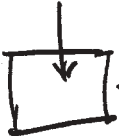
(Listed above)

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

Newsletter preference: (Check all that apply)

Send by USPS _____; Send by e-mail _____

JEANNIE LIPPERT
354 SWEATHOUSE



SWEATHOUSE



LOG HOUSE

LARGE
GRAY
HOUSE



5TH ST

EXXON
STATION



PLEASANT VIEW

U.S. HIGHWAY 93

VICTOR

