



SKI TRACKS

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



OCTOBER 2009

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As hot as it was today, Sept. 23, we all know that the season is changing and that for plenty of years we have been on our skis within two months of this date and some years even earlier.

Thanks to all the crew that showed up to cut and stack wood on work day. Also, thanks to those folks who put in those extra days after that to complete the job. The Club runs on volunteers and nothing underscores that like the wood crews.

I also want to thank Dan Driscoll who graciously volunteered to take over the job of putting the news letter together for the next few months. Dan had already served his time (several years worth!) but stepped up to fill in while the current editor is out for a while.

Don't forget that our October meeting consists of the drawing for nights at the Gordon Reese Cabin. **You must have your dues paid up to participate in the drawing — so pay up right away!!**

The meeting will start at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, October 8th at the First Presbyterian Church in Hamilton.

As most of you know, we have been meeting at the First Presbyterian Church for years. It is a wonderful meeting place with plenty of space, chairs and a kitchen. We very much appreciate the generosity of the Church in allowing the Club to meet there over the years. I know I am not the only Club member who has reflected on the fact that the fellowship we share there is enhanced by our setting. Many thanks to the Church for allowing us to be there.

See you on the trails.

/s/ George Corn

GOOD NEWS -----Pat Leonard is doing well after the most serious of his surgeries. The surgical staff was impressed by Pat's overall health and good attitude, which comes as no surprise to any of us. He and Toddy send thanks for good thoughts and prayers. We wish them both the best and the order of the day is for us to keep it up. We miss you both and look forward to seeing both of you back in the Bitterroot.

BITTERROOT CROSS COUNTRY

OCTOBER MEETING

OCTOBER 8 7:00 p.m.

**First Presbyterian Church
1220 West Main, Hamilton**

"SIGN UP NIGHT FOR THE HUT"

**Come prepared to pay your dues,
to volunteer items for the November Auction and
to sign up for various tasks!**

Trail Report

The workday/potluck was a huge success; however, not as well attended as usual. A number of folks have learned that it's scheduled the first Saturday after Labor Day. To avoid the back-breaking work involved, they have scheduled open heart surgery, the death of a grandmother, or a trip to South Dakota. They did not totally escape, however, as I held two additional workdays the following week. The result of all this is wood in the basement and many cords split, stacked and covered for future years.

There was an equally dedicated crew that cleaned up the Hut in preparation of the hosting season (the drawing will be held at the next meeting) and again put together one of the finest pot lucks on the planet.

A great big **THANKS** to each and every one who worked so hard to accomplish so much. You're a very dedicated group!

/s/ Mel Mooers

LOST & FOUND

I still have the Leatherman that I found while working on the trails — and it's no wonder — since I submitted the wrong phone number to the Newsletter. A Freudian slip, no doubt, and I didn't include my name either. So, for those of you who got a fax machine, I am sorry.

Try 961-3163

/s/ Mel Mooers

Lecture of Interest

October 20 - Soaking Up the History of Montana's Hot Springs Resorts

The BRWF is hosting a presentation by Missoula author Jeff Birky on Tuesday, October 20 at 7:00 p.m. in the Bitterroot Library meeting room (downstairs) at 306 State Street, Hamilton. The public is welcome and attendance is **FREE**; coffee and cookies will be served. Jeff has written hot springs guidebooks for four states, including Montana and Idaho.

Montana's dozens of hot springs bubble with fascinating stories of Native American legends, hidden soaking pools, miracle hot water cures and vanished spa resorts. During this **slide presentation**, Missoula author and lecturer, Jeff Birky, examines the social history of Montana's hot water havens, using archival photos, historical research, and personal interviews. Birky brings to life the stories of Montana's geothermal past, including rustic log cabin bath houses on the edge of the Bob Marshall Wilderness, the glittering hot springs resorts that flourished a century ago near Helena, Livingston, and Butte, and the isolated hot water wells on the eastern Montana prairie frequented by dusty cowboys. **Birky will spotlight the history of the half dozen hot springs sprinkled throughout the Bitterroot Valley, including Sleeping Child, Medicine Hot Springs, Lost Trail Hot Springs, Granite Hot Springs and Lolo Hot Springs.**

The Bitter Root Water Forum invites you to come share your own memories of soaking in the Bitterroot Valley hot springs resorts in days gone by.

/s/ G. Corn

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, 2009 - Oct. 31, 2010

MAIL TO: Bitterroot Cross-Country Ski Club

PO 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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