

April 2023

Year-Round Recreation Since 1971

Vol. 52 Issue 4

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Monthly Meeting And Events -

April 21 Nordic Meeting, We're off on an African Safari Friday, April 21, 6:00 pm

In Kenya, animals on the road have the right of way, said Don Hynek. "One of the lions we were watching plopped himself down in the shade of our Land Rover, and we couldn't leave until the lion did."

Follow the photo safari that Don and wife Joy Chen took last August and September. While many of us were celebrating the Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee's 50th anniversary on August 28, 2022, Don and Joy were taking photos of elephants, giraffes, zebras, flamingos and water buffalo. Their two-week trip to southwestern Kenya included stops at four national parks, including the Maasai Mara National Reserve.

Longtime members of NSCM, this Madison couple has presented past NSCM shows on kayaking in the Greek Islands and around Isle Royale National Park in Michigan. They're planning another Greek kayaking trip in 2024.

In addition to the show, we'll have updates on the progress of Lapham Lodge construction, Lapham Peak snow making, NSCM's fundraising project for ski venues both up north and at Lapham Peak State Forest, and on NSCM's spring and summer events.

The club will provide free pizza (if you sign up in advance). There will be a cash bar.

WHAT: Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee season-ending meeting

WHEN: Friday, April 21, 6 to 10 p.m.

Coming Up:

Milwaukee River GSP Paddling Trip May 6

Milwaukee River GSP Paddling Trip May 7

Nashotah Park Hike May 13

Milwaukee River GSP Paddling Trip May 14

Fire and Fun at Lapham Peak May 19

Milwaukee River GSP Paddling Trip WHERE: Elks Lodge 400, 2301 Springdale Rd., Waukesha

ENTER: from lower level back parking lot

FOOD: Pizza (including vegetarian choices). Cash bar.

SIGN UP: Food is free if you sign up by April 19 Register Here



Hartland Marsh IAT Hike

Sunday, April 16, 11:00 am

Let's hike the Hartland Marsh loop trail starting at the Cottonwood Wayside and then continue north to Hartland on the Ice Age Trail. On the way to Hartland we'll hike to the top of the Aldo Leopold Overlook for a great view. From there we will be on city sidewalks into Hartland where 414-906-0629 we might stop for a bite to eat and drink at Beer Snobs Ale & Eats. Returning to the start from there would make about a 3-mile hike. For those who want a longer hike we can continue north along the Ice Age Trail as it follows the Bark River before returning the way we came. On the way back we might also hike the Penbrook Park spur of the Ice Age Trail.

From Milwaukee, take I-94 west to the Hwy 16 exit and continue north and west to the Cty E Hartland exit 183. Drive straight west ½ mile on Hartbrook Ave. and turn left at the stop sign onto North Ave. Drive south for 1 ½ miles to the Cottonwood Wayside parking lot on your right as North Ave. becomes Cottonwood. Contact Paul at (H)262-547-4827, (C)262-309-1918, or pkeber@milwpc.com with any questions and to let him know if you will be attending.

Memorial Day Weekend Camping and Paddling Trip

May 26-30, 2023

Nordic Ski Club board member David Rosenberg will lead a Glacier State Paddlers camp out and paddling trip at Mirror Lake State Park in Wisconsin. The trip runs Friday, May 26, through Tuesday, May 30, over Memorial Day Weekend. Participants also will paddle the Lemonweir, Wisconsin, and Baraboo rivers.

There will be an optional fish fry at 6 p.m. Friday night. There is a \$10 reservation fee due 14 days prior to the trip. Bring your own kayak or canoe. Contact David at 414-975-2298 or rosenbergdm@att.net for sign-up and details.

2023 Election Results from the Club's Online Annual Meeting

May 21

Scavenger Hunt Bike Ride May 21

New Berlin Trail Bike Ride Mav 25

Mirror Lake GSP Paddlina & **Camping Trip** Mav 26 - 30

Contact Us:

Email nordicskiclub.mke @gmail.com

For membership information, call Pat Doornek

Nordic Officers

President Carol Doebler

Vice Presidents Renee Couture and Ellen Riley

Secretary Paula Brookmire

Treasurer Dave Herrewig

Board Members Julie Amundson Paula Brookmire Renee Couture Carol Doebler Steven Fabina **Dorothy Riesing** Ellen Riley David Rosenberg Mary Wozniak

Program Committee Members:

Thanks for helping keep our cross-country ski club running by voting in March. For four years the Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee has been conducting our annual meeting and elections online, via email. What started as a response to the dangers of the Covid-19 pandemic has become a much quicker way to hold our annual meeting and board elections. By holding the election online over 11 days, members can vote at their convenience, the simple process takes only minutes, and we get a better response. This also allows us to provide written announcements, recognitions of volunteers, a treasurer's report and other news that would take place at an in-person annual meeting.

Balloting ran March 15 through 25, 2023. A total of 69 votes were cast. Besides approving the minutes of the March 26, 2022, annual meeting, NSCM members elected five current board members who were running for two-year terms starting March 25, 2023: Julie Amundson, Renee Couture, Carol Doebler, Stephen Fabina, and David Rosenberg. They will join the four board members whose two-year terms continue through March 2024: Paula Brookmire, Dorothy Riesing, Ellen Riley and Mary Wozniak. The new board will choose its officers at its April 10, 2023, board meeting. Current club officers are Carol Doebler, president; Renee Couture, vice president; Ellen Riley, vice president; Dave Herrewig, treasurer; and Paula Brookmire, secretary. Note that the Nordic Ski Club has staggered elections. This year five people were elected to the nine-member board; next year four people will be elected. This keeps continuity and stability so we don't lose all board members at once.

Treasurer candidate needed: NSCM is looking for someone to take over as treasurer in the next year. Current treasurer Dave Dave Herrewig would train that person. If you're interested, please email tortoiseski@wi.rr.com.

NSCM Fundraising Over \$1,200

The Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee (NSCM) raised \$162 in donations from the 27 participants on its ABR Michigan Upper Peninsula ski trip. That brings our total for this every-two-year fundraising project to \$1,232. ABR was the last of our club's four bus trips up north over winter The fundraising continues through our final monthly meeting, April 21 (see top story in this newsletter).

NSCM is known for helping support cross-country ski venues up north, where we take busloads to ski. For example, we have supported Valley Spur Friends and its free youth ski rental in Hiawatha National Forest. We gave a grant to Swedetown Trails Club in the Keweenaw Peninsula to improve ski trails. We donated funds for a wood stove to Minocqua Winter Park in Wisconsin. Most cross-country ski venues are run by volunteer groups like us. Volunteers groom the ski trails, staff the lodges and run children's ski programs. Our club's grants also support Milwaukee-area projects such as making snow at Lapham Peak State Forest.

You can still donate via mail. Send a check made out to NSCM to treasurer Dave Herrewig, 9713 W. Debbie La., Milwaukee, WI 53224. We're hoping to reach at least \$1,500. Raising funds every two years is a decades-old tradition for NSCM. Let's continue to show support for other volunteers who maintain great outdoor places for us.

2023 Winter Ski Trips Review

By Paul Keber

How did the winter ski trips do? We were able to successfully hold our normal four weekend bus trips even though the total number of skiers on this year's ski trips was down 9% from the 2022 ski season. Those who did come on a ski trip once again enjoyed more open seats and more storage room on the bus. Based on the ski trip evaluations, Valley Spur was the highest

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Facebook Link:

https://www.facebook.com/ Nordic-Ski-Club-of-Milwaukee-NSCM-111282934088979/

Membership Chair:

Pat Doornek 414-906-0629

New memberships or renewal forms may be mailed to: Pat Doornek 3463 N. Newhall St. Milwaukee, WI 53211

Contact Us:

Volunteers

The Nordic Ski Club runs on volunteers.
Please contact Renee
Couture at acoutrr@att.net if you are interested in learning

rated ski trip with an A- rating due to an excellent rating in lodging and very good in group meals and skiing. ABR was rated second with a B+ rating because it had the highest skiing rating even though temps reached the mid-30's on Saturday and 40 on Sunday. So, the move of Valley Spur to January and ABR to March worked out great. Minocqua was rated third with a B rating. Keweenaw was the lowest rated ski trip with a B- rating due to the lowest lodging rating and lowest skiing rating mainly due to lack of grooming on many trails at MTU.

The Program Committee and Board have worked on a ski trips survey that will soon be emailed to you. Please fill out the survey when you receive it. The results of the survey will help us determine what ski trips we will be planning for next winter.

2023 Birkebeiner

By Paul Keber

This year's Birkebeiner XC Ski Marathon from Telemark to Hayward, WI was held on Saturday, February 25 while the Korteloppet and Prince Haakon were held on Friday, February 24. The Open Track races were held on Wednesday, February 22. It was a good Birkebeiner race with temps starting at 9 degrees for most racers and reaching 21 degrees in the afternoon or Saturday, although it was sunny, but windy. Temps were colder for the Korteloppet race on Friday with calm winds. Congratulations to all Nordics who finished either the 50 km Skate Birkebeiner or the 29 km Korteloppet races! Classic racers are indicated by ©. Times listed below are for club members. My apologies to any member who was accidentally omitted.

Birkebeiner Times

Michael Dix 5:30:25 John McCarthy 4:53:16 Debbie Kania © 6:40:47 Paul Keber 4:03:29

Korteloppet Times

Jim Kania © 3:16:17 Anne Riendl © 6:10:02 (Open Track)

Nordic Newsletter Team Member Needed

Sally and Chris are looking for a third person to join our team. Would you like to help the club with this important volunteer position? You'll need a computer, printer and internet access.

- Be the first to learn about upcoming events!
- Work from home!
- Your efforts are needed just four times per year!
- Free training on the club's simple online software!

To learn more, call or text Sally at 414-403-7911 or email smiles@metrodish.net. We'd love to hear from you!

Nordics End the Season with ABR Bus Trip

By Sally Heuer

The final Nordic bus trip of the season was to ABR Trails in Ironwood, Michigan March 3 - 5.

Conditions were very good at Nine Mile Forest near Wausau, where we stopped to ski on

more.

Club Membership

Membership Renewals due Oct. 1. Renew online. Then pay through PayPal or mail check to Pat Doornek. Dues -Individual \$25 Household \$35 Must be a current member to book ski trips at member

Web Tips

rate.

Adjust your profile settings so that fellow Nordic Members can see your name, address and phone numbers. Select "Members Only" to protect the information from the general public. That is the default for new members.

www.nordicskiclub.org and login to your profile. The login is in the upper right-hand corner. From there, the Member Tab will appear on the menu. Full instructions are located on that page in a PDF file.

Add Photos To The Nordic Website

As a member of the Nordics, you may upload photos to your personal photo album or to the public albums. Simply log-in so all member privileges are available. Then the upload and edit buttons are visible for you to add to the fun. Need help? katiebivens@ymail.com

If you are interested in leading a Nordic Event, or have a great idea for a member event, please contact a member of the Program Committee or Paul Keber, pkeber@milwpc.com

Friday. Once in Ironwood, we stayed at the Quality Inn.

Daytime temps in the 30s didn't seem to melt any of the substantial snow pack. Besides the excellent grooming conditions we have come to expect at ABR, many of us enjoyed the 16 kilometers of snowshoe trails, especially in the afternoons when higher temps led to softer snow.

It had been challenging to get enough people to sign up for this trip to avoid a cancellation; the final number was 27. (In February 2020, the ABR trip had close to 40 participants.)

We are grateful to our trip leader Alan Siegl, whose calm demeanor and fine organizational skills kept things running smoothly.

More than 20 years ago, I led the first NSCM trip to ABR. Back then, Eric Anderson's parents Dave and Helen were actively involved in running the business. Dave stood at the entrance to the parking lot in all weather conditions, collecting trail fees. Helen made cookies and bars to sell in the lodge. There were 40 kilometers of trails; now there are 101 kilometers of trails, including the new Puumala trails.

Eric and his wife Angela plan to retire on April 1, 2025, and will move into the Hilltop House above the lodge. Eric will continue grooming the trails, his great joy. They have set up the Anderson Bluff & River Trails Foundation (ABR), to sustain ABR's legacy for future generations. They are generously donating their land to the Foundation, which will operate ABR Ski Area as a non-profit. Long term plans including connecting ABR Trails to other trails in the Ironwood area ("Project Connect").

For more information, visit https://andersonbluffsrivertrailsfoundation.org/

Elk and Hound Restaurant WOWS Nordic Group

By Sally Heuer

ABR trip participants enjoyed an unforgettable dinner Saturday night, March 4, at the Elk and Hound Restaurant in Ironwood.

New owners Jed and his wife Jami had been asked to offer the Nordic Ski Club a group dinner with four entrée choices: beef, fish, vegetarian, and chicken.

Jed came up with a Nordic-themed dinner: Swedish meatballs with lingonberry jam, Whitefish baked in parchment with a mustard dill cream sauce, Roots risotto, and Flygarde Jacob, a Swedish chicken recipe (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flying Jacob).

Twenty-two of us were hosted at a long table in the main dining room of the historic clubhouse, built in 1922, on the Gogebic Country Club grounds. The three-hour dinner started with an amuse bouche of smoked salmon and caviar on rye toast, followed by a generous soup and salad bar. Long before the entrees arrived, people were saying this was the best Nordic group dinner they had ever attended.

Dessert was rommegrot, a Norwegian pudding made with milk, cinnamon, and lots of butter.

The next day, Jed sent a gracious note thanking our club for choosing their restaurant.

"This is not just a business for my wife and l; this is our little adventure and we cherish each and every moment we get to share with so many diverse and interesting people. Your group was so very pleasant to share an evening with, and we humbly anticipate many more to come."



Amuse Bouche

The Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee (NSCM) continues to practice social distancing and the use of face masks, as recommended by the CDC and Wisconsin authorities. Know that your participation in any event is at your own risk. Before attending any NSCM outing or event, please check with the event leader. Use good judgment and continue to keep us all safe.

Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee Inc. (NSCM) is a membership-based outing association active year-round since 1971.