



**August 2022**

**Year-Round Recreation Since 1971**

**Vol. 51 Issue 8**

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**July 31: Last Day to Register for 50th Anniversary Dinner August 28**

You'll meet people who 50 years ago got cross-country skiing off to a big start in southeastern Wisconsin. You'll learn the impact that the Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee (NSCM) had on skiing, young people, and outdoors-loving adults who met future spouses in the club. Sign up now for the 50th anniversary celebration of the Nordic Ski Club. Registration ends July 31.

Get set for snow-filled memories, awards, recognitions, mementos, surprises, dinner, cake and a snow-themed cocktail for our club. The outdoor event is Sunday afternoon, August 28, 2022. While anyone can attend, registered club members get \$10 off the price for dinner and anniversary cake. The celebration starts right at 2:00 pm with appetizers and a program. Come as dressy or as casual as you like. Our venue is a pleasant, open-air tent at Matty's Bar & Grille on College Avenue a mile east of Moorland Road in New Berlin. We expect at least 80 registrants, including past presidents and veteran club members.

Dinner includes a choice of three entrees: beef tips and gravy with mashed potatoes, chicken parmesan with penne pasta and red sauce, or baked tilapia with mashed potatoes. Side dishes and appetizers are all vegetarian. Coleslaw and rolls are available for all three entrees. For appetizers there are fresh vegetables with ranch dip, a seasonal fruit plate, and spinach and artichoke dip with tortilla chips. You can [register and pay online via this link](#) or on our

Next Month,  
 Look For:

***Peninsula State Park Camping Trip  
 September 2 - 5***

***Turtle Creek GSP Paddling Trip  
 September 11***

***Scuppernong Springs Hike  
 September 11***

***Wisconsin River GSP Paddling & Camping Trip  
 September 16 - 18***

website, [www.nordicskiclub.org](http://www.nordicskiclub.org). If you prefer to pay by check, make it out to NSCM, [print this registration form](#), fill it out and mail with check to Paula Brookmire, 10106 W Keefe Avenue, Wauwatosa, WI 53222.

If you register as a couple online, one person is the main registrant and the other is listed as "guest" -- just a quirk of our system. Remember, reservations must be received online July 31 or in the mail (or in person) by August 1. Questions? Email Paula at [pbrookmire@gmail.com](mailto:pbrookmire@gmail.com). (See story at end of newsletter on club past presidents.)



In February 2001, a group of Nordic skiers poses at Telemark resort ski trails. Kayleen Kauffman is on the far left. Steve Culver is on the far right; Sally Heuer is next to him.



The Viking image was an early logo for the Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee.

### Lulu Lake GSP Paddling Trip

Sunday, August 7, 10:00 am

Join the Glacier State Paddlers on Sunday, August 7 for an easy, social paddling trip. This trip will start and end at the Eagle Springs Pub on Eagle Spring Lake west of Mukwonago, so no car shuttling will be needed. The trip will begin at 10:00 am and will cross Eagle Spring Lake, traverse a marshy channel, and enter Lulu Lake. We will take a lunch break on a nice sandy beach, so please bring along a bag lunch and beverage and wear your swimming suit for a dip in the lake. After a nice break, we will return to our starting point where you can get refreshments at the pub. Eagle Spring Lake is on County E southeast of Eagle, WI. From I-43, take the Hwy 83 Mukwonago exit and follow it through town a little over 1 mile to County LO. Turn left on LO and go about 5 miles to County E. Turn left and go a short distance to Eagle Springs Pub.

## Cedarburg Wine and Harvest Festival September 18

### Contact Us:

Email [nordicskiclub.mke@gmail.com](mailto:nordicskiclub.mke@gmail.com)

For membership information, call Pat Doornek 414-906-0629

### Nordic Officers

**President**  
Carol Doebler

**Vice Presidents**  
Renee Couture and Ellen Riley

**Secretary**  
Paula Brookmire

**Treasurer**  
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Paula Brookmire  
Renee Couture  
Carol Doebler  
Steven Fabina  
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Ellen Riley  
David Rosenberg  
Mary Wozniak

### Program Committee Members:

Paul Keber, Chair (262) 547-4827  
Chris Pantazon  
Barb Tremel  
Cathy Ward  
Becky Yakes  
Joanne Ziarek

### Public Relations Chair:

Paula Brookmire (414) 527-0040

### Clinics Chair:

Carol Doebler

Call GSP trip leader Marge Brewer at 414-873-4565 to reserve a spot on the trip, or for more information. Identify yourself as a Nordic Ski Club member.

### **Fox River GSP Paddling Trip**

*Sunday, August 14, 9:30 am*

Join the Glacier State Paddlers for a fun day trip on the final stretch of the Fox River in Wisconsin before it enters Illinois. Meeting at 9:30 am, the trip will begin at County JB about 5 miles southeast of Burlington on Hwy 83. Take the Burlington State Route 83 bypass south of Burlington and exit on Highway 83 heading south. Go south about 3.3 miles, and turn left (east) on County JB (31<sup>st</sup> St.). Go a short distance to a small parking lot on the right at the Fox River. We will follow the quiet, meandering Fox River through farmland for 10 miles to Fox River Park near the town of Silver Lake. Please bring a bag lunch, beverage, and gloves to protect your hands.

Contact GSP trip leader Gary Johncox at 262-332-0432 (text only) or email at [thecreekchub@hotmail.com](mailto:thecreekchub@hotmail.com) to reserve a spot on the trip and to get additional trip details. Identify yourself as a Nordic Ski Club member.

### **Milwaukee River GSP Twilight Paddle**

*Wednesday, August 17, 6:00 pm*

Enjoy a summer evening with a twilight paddle on the Milwaukee River. Join other Nordics and Glacier State Paddlers members Wednesday evening on August 17 starting at 6:00 pm and ending at dusk, so please bring a flashlight. We'll paddle the Milwaukee River through downtown Milwaukee. Launch site is the Kiwanis Boat Landing at 2135 N Riverboat Rd - on river side of street with street parking.

Come 15 minutes before the 6:00 launch to help get canoes and kayaks into the water. Let GSP trip leader Debbie Luetzow know you are attending by calling or texting her at 414-333-0064. Identify yourself as a Nordic Ski Club member.

### **South Shore Bike Ride and Beer Garden**

*Thursday, August 18, 9:30 am*

Check out the south side of Milwaukee - slowly - by bicycle. The route is a varied mix of Milwaukee's Oak Leaf Trail, hugging the Lake Michigan shore, eventually, heading inland on quiet South Milwaukee streets to a turn around point in Oak Creek. Highlights include wooded Sheridan, Warnimount and Grant, three of Milwaukee County's most scenic, south shore parks. The route is an "out and back" affair on primarily flat terrain. Cap off the ride by sharing a tasty lunch with biking buddies at *Small Pie*, a casual, outdoor restaurant on Bayview's Oklahoma Avenue.

Distance length: approximately 32 miles, but can be shortened.

Ride Start: 9:30 am. Meet at the South Shore Milwaukee County Park Pavilion, top level. Bathrooms available. Please wear a helmet. Ride leader will provide route information/Q-sheets. Please let Jane Stoltz (ride leader) know if you plan to attend: [ljmstoltz@gmail.com](mailto:ljmstoltz@gmail.com).

#### **Website Chair:**

Katie Bivens  
[katiebivens@ymail.com](mailto:katiebivens@ymail.com)

#### **Historian:**

Paula Brookmire  
(414) 527-0040

#### **Newsletter:**

Send Articles to:  
[newsletter@nordicskiclub.org](mailto:newsletter@nordicskiclub.org)

#### **Facebook Chair:**

Ellen Riley  
[ellenriley612@gmail.com](mailto:ellenriley612@gmail.com)

#### **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](mailto:acoutrr@att.net) if you are interested in learning 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

## Lapham Peak Hike/Picnic

*Sunday, August 20, 9:30 am*

Join us for a hike followed by a picnic. We will meet at 9:30 am in the Homestead parking lot. The hike will consist of the trails in that area including the woods, the butterfly garden and prairie. Come see the park with blooming plants.

After a two-hour hike we will meet back near the parking lot at 11:30 am for a bring-your-own picnic food/drink on picnic tables in the area for some resting and socialization. There are opportunities for those interested to enjoy additional hiking or other activities after lunch, on your own, at the park.

State park sticker or daily fee required for cars to enter. Contact hike leader Alan at 262-744-4929 for more information.

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## Join Our Newsletter Designer Team!

Our three-person newsletter design team is looking for someone to replace Mark, who is retiring from his service at the end of this year.

You can work from home! Learn about social events in advance! Your volunteer efforts are needed just four times each year.

We'll train you on the use of the club's simple online software. All you need is a computer, printer and internet access. To learn more, contact Sally Heuer at 414-403-7911 or [smiles@metrodish.net](mailto:smiles@metrodish.net).

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## Peninsula State Park Camping Trip

*Friday, September 2 through Monday, September 5*

Make your plans now for our Labor Day camping trip to Peninsula State Park in Fish Creek, Wisconsin. Only three hours north of Milwaukee, this popular park offers miles of scenic shoreline to explore by boat, a lighthouse, golf course, and trails for hiking and bicycling. Vehicles must have an annual or daily vehicle admission sticker. Throughout all of Door County there are great biking, hiking, kayaking, cultural, dining and shopping opportunities.

Pack your tent and come for all three nights, or just one or two. The cost is only \$12 per member and \$13 per non-member. This is the best lodging deal in Door County! The Meadow tent-only group campsite has drinking water and vault toilets but no electricity. Shower facilities are a half-mile away. Bicycling route maps will be available, and there will be an organized ride with various lengths. Nightly campfires are planned - firewood will be provided. Mail your check (payable to NSCM) to Dorothy Riesing, W207 S8114 Hillendale Drive, Muskego, WI 53150. Include your email address for the trip-letter email shortly before the trip and the name and phone number of an emergency contact not on the trip. Contact Dorothy at 262-939-4166 or [tariesing@yahoo.com](mailto:tariesing@yahoo.com) for more information.

A special invitation to non-campers: Come and play for a day or join campers for the traditional Saturday 6:00 pm potluck dinner. Please let Dorothy know you are coming to the potluck - bring your own tableware and a dish to pass.

rate.

## Web Tips

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. Go to [www.nordicskiclub.org](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:pkeber@milwpc.com)

## 2023 Ski Trips Costs

The following ski trips have been scheduled for next winter. All trips depart at 8:00 am.

Keweenaw Peninsula: Friday, Dec. 30 – Monday, Jan. 2 led by Julie Amundson. Two per room member cost: \$410

Valley Spur: Friday, Jan. 20 – Sunday, Jan. 22 led by Stan Rosenstiel. Two per room member cost: \$288

Minocqua Winter Park: Friday, Feb. 10 – Sunday, Feb. 12 led by John McCarthy. Two per room member cost: \$344

ABR Trails: Friday, Mar. 3 – Sunday, Mar. 5 led by Alan Siegl. Two per room member cost: \$312

The NSCM Board decided that trip leaders will not provide snacks on ski trips next winter. So, you will save a few dollars on your trip cost and you can bring the snacks that you prefer.

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## Nordic Ski Club Presidents Part 2, from 1988 back to 1971:

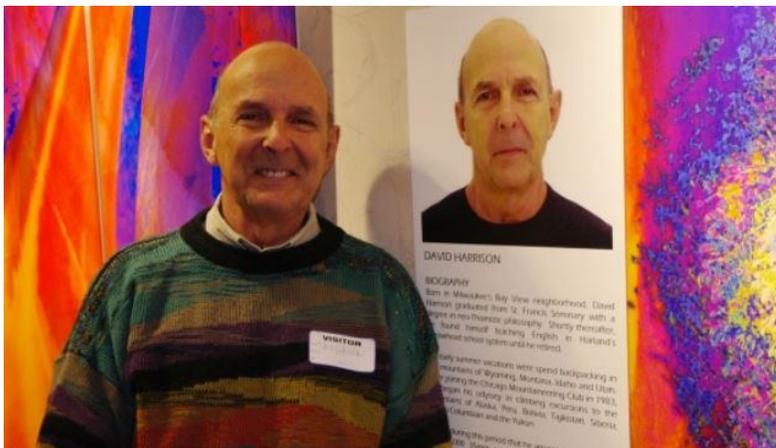
*Introduction: The first two decades of the Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee (NSCM) were an exciting time. The club was founded in December 1971. In the 1970s, cross-country skiing was a new adventure. The club created ski trails. We taught thousands of people to ski. And we held popular races, for both adults and children. We were as active in summer as in winter, running bike rides, hikes, campouts, rafting trips and more. Most groups celebrating their 50th anniversary--as NSMC is doing in 2021-2022-- are not lucky enough to have their first, second and fifth elected presidents still involved. But NSCM has three early presidents who are 50-year members of the club. NSCM had 14 presidents from 1971 through 1988. Here is a synopsis of each president. Presidents from 1989 through 2022 were featured in Part 1, which ran in the July 2022 issue of Nordic News. That can be found on the club's website: [www.nordicskiclub.org](http://www.nordicskiclub.org).*

**Jim McCredy, 1971-'72:** Jim came from Minneapolis to Milwaukee to work as an engineer at Allen-Bradley. In 1971 he was looking for people to cross-country ski with. Knute Huebert, a Norwegian working for a firm in the U.S., knew how to ski and met McCredy. So they tried to form a club, somewhat modeled after the North Star Ski Touring Club in Minneapolis, which McCredy had been in. They put a notice up at Laacke & Joys outdoor store, and the first meeting was held at the old Pabst Pavilion.

"Jim was very personable and a good skier, both downhill and XC," says past president Gary Hansen. "They put together a hodge-podge board, and Jim was chosen president. Jim along with Knute Huebert and Klaus Milinski (later Walden) were the core group for the club in those first years."

In February 1977, McCredy, Hansen and Ralph Ehlinger (club president March 1977-'79) went on an early NSCM's bus trip-- to ski a race in Minneapolis. That may have started a tradition of NSCM offering several bus trips each year to cross-country ski (called "touring" back then) up north. Jim McCredy had moved back to Minneapolis before NSCM's 10th anniversary, says Hansen.

**David Harrison, 1972-'73:** David Harrison was the first elected NSCM president, in November 1972. In the first six months of the club, there were squabbles between those who wanted a club for racers and those who preferred recreational skiing. Attorney Ralph Ehlinger was asked to draw up bylaws that allowed for both activities, and he incorporated the club in October 1972. A good organizer and detail person, David helped the club get right to work. He was most involved in creating ski trails and coordinating adult ski races. An English teacher at Hartland's Arrowhead High School for 32 years, David would go out after school for years and mark up hiking trails in the southern Kettle Moraine State Forest that could be widened or extended for skiing. He worked with the Department of Natural Resources and was particularly involved with the Nordic Trails near LaGrange, Wis., which the DNR named after the Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee. David worked with the Central Cross-Country Ski Racing Committee to create high-quality ski races in Wisconsin, including the Esker Odyssey, a qualifying race for the American Birkebeiner. In September 2021, David accepted a plaque from the Milwaukee County Historical Society honoring NSCM for its 50 years of contributions to cross-country skiing in southeastern Wisconsin. David's hobbies included mountain-climbing, photography, art and music (he plays the clarinet in bands). In his late 70s, he has put away his cross-country skis but is still downhill skiing at altitudes of 12,000 to 13,000 feet, despite having asthma and heart issues.



*David Harrison at November 2017 Art Exhibit*

**Gary Hansen, 1973-'75, 1982-'83, 1994-'96:** Gary has the distinction of serving as president of the Nordic Ski Club in three separate decades. He is also a 50-year club member. How did he join?

“They asked for someone to do a newsletter, and my wife, Karen, volunteered me,” he says, with his usual sense of humor. “The neat thing at the time was that there was a core of 20 people, and we all learned together. The only thing that mattered was our love of the sport, not where you worked or how much money you had or where you lived. Bring some skis and you became a friend.”

Like many of the early club presidents, Gary was a good writer and served as longtime newsletter editor for the *Nordic News*, working on the newsletter at various times well into the 1990s. His enthusiasm for cross-country skiing came through in his ski clinics, where he taught hundreds, possibly thousands, of Wisconsinites to ski. He also was involved in the club's many ski races. Gary had to give up skiing after a motorcycle crash in 1985 injured his leg and foot. Still, he has continued as an unofficial club historian, helping with the 10th, 20th, 30th, 45th and 50th club anniversaries.



*Gary Hansen*

**T. James Kennedy, 1975-'76:** He was a trust officer for First Wisconsin Bank (now US Bank). When he joined NSCM, Jim was single. Club member Karen Herbst had her sights on him early on, says Hansen, whose wife was close to Karen. When they married, the Kennedys started a trend of a lot of active club members (and presidents) marrying other club members.

It was during Jim's term that NSCM introduced its races. In a 1977 president's report, Jim says: "The club took a big gamble and decided to sponsor a racing program. We put on two citizens races, one for young people under 16 (the Milwaukee Nordic) and a race for those over 16 (Kettle Moraine Nordic). Both were outstanding successes."

The club's bus trips also started in Jim Kennedy's term. The first trip was to Trees for Tomorrow in Eagle River. Jim worked very hard for the club and was very charismatic, says past president Ralph Ehlinger. Jim led a night-ski trip to Blackhawk Ridge when night skiing was popular in the club. Hansen says Jim was notable for breaking his leg on a flat stretch at Greenbush--while standing still. Or, as Ehlinger liked to say, "He was skiing on a precipitous flat."

**Alan Wagner, 1976-'77:** Al was a geotechnical engineer. He studied the soil substrate to see if it was stable enough to build the First Wisconsin Bank tower, the highest building in the state. Eventually, he started his own firm.

Al was a charter member of the Nordic Ski Club and was very involved in ski-trail clearing. Said Ralph Ehlinger: "He was good at running meetings, good at commanding respect, and he was a good athlete. I admired both Al Wagner and Jim Kennedy. They were thoughtful and came up with good ideas. They understood the corporate structure I had set up for the club."

During Al's term, the club increased its ski bus trips to three annually. He also helped create a ski trail on the Ray Zillmer hiking trail and helped lengthen the Greenbush ski trails in the northern Kettle Moraine State Forest. When the Zillmer trails were done, Al led a ski outing to them on January 2, 1977. Also during his term the club worked with the Milwaukee County Parks Commission to create XC ski trails in Dretzka, Whitnall and Brown Deer Parks.

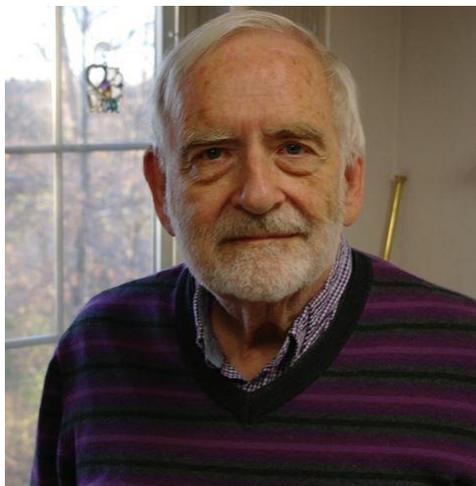
In October 1976, during Al's term, the club held a benefit dinner in Milwaukee for the U.S. Ski Team. Honored guests were Bill Koch (the first American to win an Olympics cross-country ski race, silver in 1976), Olympic skier Tim Caldwell, Jana Hlavaty (a Czech woman who competed for the U.S. in '76 winter Olympics) and John Bower, who headed the XC ski efforts for the team. At the old Telemark resort, trails were named after Koch and Bower.

**Ralph Ehlinger, 1977-'79:** Ralph may be the reason the Nordic Ski Club is still alive in 2022. An attorney who's still working in 2022 at age 81, Ralph created corporate bylaws in 1972 that encourage involvement in the club over several years and a committee system that has kept the club stable.

He hung back for a few years, and when his kids got to be 7 and 5, he made skiing a family activity, and he really got involved with the club.

"I worked on trail clearing and maintenance and ran ski clinics for youngsters and older beginners," he said. "I led day ski tours at Kettle Moraine State Forest trails and got helpers to set up hot chili and cocoa stops midway on the trails. We coordinated the club's Milwaukee Nordic children's races and clinics and helped design the track for those races at Dretzka Park. Plus we got the races sanctioned by the U.S. Ski Association, and got the Milwaukee County Park Commission and the Milwaukee Public Schools to co-sponsor the races."

Ralph proudly keeps many of the race pins from nine or ten years of those races in the 1970s and '80s. During his presidency, NSCM's financial stability strengthened. Thanks to media coverage, membership grew to its highest point, about 1,000, by its 10th anniversary. In December 1977, NSCM was the first group to bring a busload of skiers to the old Telemark resort near Hayward, WI. Always a poet, Ralph's view of skiing has a lyrical quality: "I came to love the beauty of winter in these hills and woods, the feel of gentle snow beneath the skis and the quiet security of being part of where I was."



*Ralph Ehlinger*

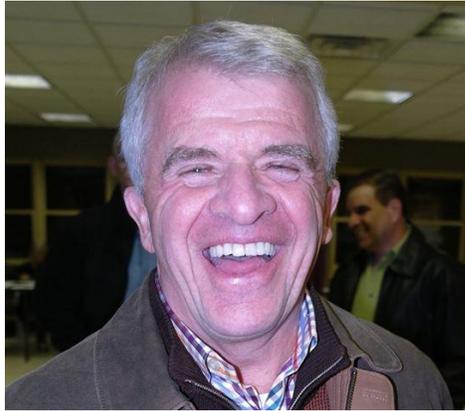
**Bill McNamara, 1979-'81:** Bill retired in 2022 from 41 years at Derse, Inc., a marketing company that creates trade-show and corporate exhibits. He was vice chairman and an owner.

Like Jim Kennedy, Bill met his future wife, Judy Volkenant, in the Nordic Ski Club. (She later would become a club president.) Bill is a high-energy person and a strong athlete who's already signed up for the 2023 Birkebeiner, which will be his 21st Birke. He works out five days a week, sometimes with a USA Triathlon coach.

Bill loves racing. "I took on NSCM's kids program," he said. "We taught kids from Milwaukee Public Schools at Hawthorn Glen Park. Then we had races at Dretzka Park. I helped with grooming and track setting. I was also on the race committee for adult races. I would be out at 2:30 am with Paul Schmidt and Klaus Walden grooming Greenbush trails for the Kettle Moraine Nordic race the next day."

Bill has a strong New York accent and a hearty laugh. "The president should be the apostle of

enthusiasm, and Bill certainly was," said Ralph Ehlinger. Added Bill: "That was the mission of NSCM: to spread the love of skiing and get people involved with the sport."



*Bill McNamara*

**Kathy Wacker, 1981-'82 and 1983-'84:** Kathy worked in banking and finance her whole career. For nearly 26 years she was at TCF Bank, where she was a vice president and a credit officer. She joined the Nordic Ski Club in 1977, and started on the newsletter committee, editing Nordic News for years.

Kathy led everything from day hikes to weekend bike trips to a bus trip to Minocqua Winter Park. She would go on to serve as club president twice, to chair several committees, serve on the board in two decades, and start the club's first service auction to raise funds for groups such as blind skiers. Gary Hansen called her an innovator.

Her organizational skills as an accountant served the club well. "That is my strength, keeping things on schedule," she said. More than 45 years later, in 2022, she is still volunteering for the club, digitizing decades of Nordic Ski Club newsletters and directories for club archives.

She met her husband, Bob Randall (NSCM president 1992-1994), in the club, and they married in July 1993. They are among four sets of club presidents to marry other presidents or vice presidents (the McNamaras, presidents Bob Bivens and Katie Evans, and president Paula Brookmire and vice president Gary Braun). She was club president during the club's Norsestalgia 10th anniversary celebration in January 1982, when she flew a small plane over the river members were supposed to ski on -- only to find it was not frozen. Things went downhill from there, but it was still fun. Kathy skis when the snow is good, and she bicycles, kayaks and plays tennis.



*Kathy Wacker*

**Connie Nagel, 1984-'85:** Connie didn't know how to ski when she joined the club in 1979, but club members taught her. A good organizer, Connie came to be a key leader in the Nordic Ski Club. She worked in the human resources department at Milwaukee's old M&I Bank for 33 years. Connie joined the club's program committee, then headed by Georgene Voutila. Georgene asked Connie and club member Bill Heinzelman to co-chair the club Expo sub-committee, whose goal was to promote the club and bring in new members. The expos were open to the public and held at the Bavarian Inn or at Milwaukee colleges. For the next three years Bill and Connie took on the job with enthusiasm.

"We got ski companies to show their wares at our events, staged ski fashion shows, put on ski clinics, and held events to sell used skis and equipment." Connie went on to chair the program committee for about 10 years, organizing an amazing number of events.

"I was on the board of directors for two years, and then club president. A lot of the things the club is still doing now came from me," Connie said. "I drew up a list of what to expect on our ski trips, called *Things to Know When Going on Your First Ski Trip*." She also started last-minute ski outings when there was a good snowfall; they were called "If It Snows, We'll Go." She created the board liaison system so every committee chair didn't need to attend board meetings. Connie and Pat Pomahac formed a group of women ski-club members (almost 30 at one point) who would meet occasionally for lunch.



*Connie Nagel*

**Judy McNamara (1985-'87):** A guidance counselor at Hartland's Arrowhead High School, Judy started their swimming and diving program and was their first female coach. She was NSCM president during a tumultuous time, but she had a great sense of humor, says Ralph Ehlinger. The winter of 1986-'87 was a poor snow year. The annual Telemark ski trip was cancelled in January 1987 because Telemark Lodge was closed, and the ski trails went ungroomed.

Judy's President's Letter in March 1987 gave a humorous account of what people were doing since "the snow left:" Sweating, bicycling, washing their cars. The club almost cancelled its last ski trip of the season, to the Porcupine Mountains, but the DNR promised snow and a call to the Porkies the Friday the bus was to leave said there was snow (of course, they didn't say where). The bus arrived to 70-degree temperatures, and trails were closed. But the trip leader found some deep-woods trails with a little snow, and some people skied in shorts.

Before she was president, Judy was on nearly every committee. She ran bus trips, helped on the race committee (especially at food stations and with the kids' races), was on the very active program committee, helped organize canoe trips, and helped edit her husband's newsletter items. "She never backed down from a challenge," said Gary Hansen, "even on one of my challenging trips to Minnesota's Boundary Waters. She was willing to help out with any task." Said Bill

McNamara: "She did a lot of behind-the-scenes work that people didn't see." Judy and Bill were married 39 years when Judy died in 2018 of breast cancer.

**Georgia Link, 1987-'88:** Georgia and her husband, Tom Link, who died in August 2021, were very close and did most things together. They skied in 20 American Birkebeiner races. Georgia and Tom often led Nordic Ski Club events together, such as a rafting trip and then a camping trip to the Bearskin Trail on Lake Nokomis. Tom was in the Lions Club, which often was involved in helping out children. Tom frequently led Tuesday night skiing outings at Dretzka Park as well as ski clinics, often with Georgia's help. They both had a good sense of humor. Tom Link was shown bare-belly skiing in a November 1988 NSCM newsletter, along with another guy he "converted" to bare-belly skiing. Both Georgia and Tom were members of the Program Committee. Georgia now lives in Roshalt, WI.

**Wayne Hall, 1988-'89:** Wayne was very active in the club for years. "He was a nice guy," said Gary Hansen. Wayne orchestrated the children's Milwaukee Nordic Race in 1988 in conjunction with the Metropolitan Ski Council's winter carnival. Wayne also coordinated volleyball games for the club for several years; that included finding convenient spots to play, bringing the club's volleyball net and equipment and setting up and taking down as well as lugging everything. He was thanked in the November 1987 NSCM newsletter for his dedication.

His wife, Marlene Hall, was elected to the NSCM board in spring 1988 when he was elected president. Like a lot of couples in the club, they worked together. Marlene was also on the clinics committee in 1989.

Patsy Coccia, NSCM president right after Wayne, recalls one Minocqua trip when the temperature fell to 35 below zero. Very few people skied. But Wayne and Marlene did.

"They were out on the trails for a long, long time. We were afraid they were dead," she said. "We sent someone out on a snowmobile to get them. He found them, and they were fine. They even declined a ride back and eventually strolled into the lodge." In recent years, Marlene has been ill and Wayne has cared for her.

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*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.*

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