



Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee

January 2023

Year-Round Recreation Since 1971

Vol. 52 Issue 1

In this Issue:

Sunday, January 15

2023 Nordic Winter Picnic and XC Ski Lessons

Sunday, January 8

Nordic Trails Ski Trip

Saturday, January 14

Nashotah Ski? Snowshoe? Hike?

January 20 - 22

Valley Spur Ski Trip, Munising, MI

February 10 - 12

Minocqua Winter Park Ski Trip

Friday, February 17

Fish Fry and Nordic Ski Club Meeting in Mequon

March 3 - 5

ABR Ski Trip, Ironwood, MI

Vote in March with Email Ballot

Support XC Ski Groups who Groom Trails for Us

**Covid, Flu Numbers on the Rise; NSCM
Recommends Masks on Bus Trips, at Events and
Meetings**

It's Easy to Lead an Event

**Santa Hats and Hot Soup - December 4 Outdoor
Holiday Party Photos**

2023 Nordic Winter Picnic, Cross-Country Ski Lessons

Lapham Peak

Sunday, January 15, 2023, 9:45 am Lessons; Noon Picnic

The Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee's annual winter picnic, monthly meeting and cross-country ski lessons will be held January 15, 2023. We are offering XC lessons for adults this year while asking you for a donation of \$10 that will go directly toward the planned new Lapham Peak lodge. Due to historically large responses for XC ski lessons, you must register for lessons following the steps below.

Remember to dress in layers for skiing and have all of your equipment ready.

When: Sunday, January 15, 2023

Ski Lessons: 9:45 am, Evergreen Lodge parking lot trailhead by large banner of new Lapham Lodge sign

Picnic: Noon, Homestead Hollow parking lot, Trecker Lodge; reserve at rkeber@milwpc.com

Coming Up:

***Ski Outing
February 5, 2023***

***Minocqua Winter
Park Ski Trip
February 10 - 12***

***Fish Fry - Mequon
February 17***

***ABR Ski Trip
March 3 - 5***

Contact Us:

Email nordicskiclub.mke@gmail.com

How To Sign Up for Cross-Country Ski Lessons:

- Email tortoiseski@wi.rr.com, Carol, early to reserve your spot.
- Let her know what type of XC lesson you want: skating method or striding method (in the tracks).
- Also tell her if you are a beginner or consider yourself more an intermediate XC skier.
- Plan on being ready to ski at 9:45 am with your ski equipment and your \$10 donation: cash or check made out to Friends of Lapham Peak/ Lapham lodge. The Friends of Lapham Peak is an IRS recognized 501(c)(3) non-profit.
- Please note: Lessons are for those age 16 and older, also trainers will not be able to help advanced skiers due to typically large numbers of beginner and intermediate XC skiers.

Rental skis available at two locations: Call ahead to make arrangements to rent skis from either Nordic Specialists, 262-261-3800 (located at the park) or Bicycle Doctor Nordic Ski Shop, 262-965-414 (downtown Dousman).

After the morning ski lessons, we'll have a noon picnic for Nordic Ski Club members at Trecker Lodge, which is accessed from the Homestead Hollow parking lot. The club will supply sandwiches for the indoor picnic if you make reservations by Tuesday, January 10. Please call Rita Keber at 262-547-4827 or email at rkeber@milwpc.com if you plan to attend the lunch.

Event Location: Kettle Moraine State Forest-Lapham Peak Unit, W329N846 County C, Delafield, WI 53018. Arrive early as Lapham can close if there are too many cars on a weekend. If you come only for the picnic, tell them you're going to Trecker Lodge for the Nordic Ski Club event.

Directions: On highway I-94 between Madison and Milwaukee, take the Delafield exit and drive south on County Road C for 0.9 miles to the park entrance, on the east side of the road. Entrance fee: Purchase admission stickers online, by calling 888-305-0398, or at Lapham Peak. Resident annual vehicle, \$28; senior (65+), \$13; daily \$8. Statewide trail pass, \$25.

Poor Snow Means We'll Hike in Elm Grove Park

Sunday, January 8, 2023, 1:00 pm

Enjoy a great afternoon of hiking—just not skiing. We had hoped to cross-country ski this Sunday on the Nordic Trails in Wisconsin's Southern Kettle Moraine State Forest. We just don't have the snow. So the Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee's January 8 outing will be a hike. Take advantage of predicted sunny, dry weather in the high 30s to hike with us in Elm Grove Park. Meet us at 12:50 p.m. at Elm Grove Library, 13600 Juneau Blvd., Elm Grove, Wis.

We'll take the main paved path, which is 1.3 miles and goes around a scenic pond, a hill and along railroad tracks. You can add distance by taking another 1-mile (round-trip) path north through the city along Legion Drive. Or, you can head south out of the park on Legion to follow a 2.6 mile (round trip back to the park) path that goes near Underwood Creek. Since it's a Sunday, we can't guarantee any restrooms open in the park, but nearby is the Elm Grove Chocolate Factory (13475 Watertown Plank Rd.), which opens at 10 a.m. We'll stop there after the hike for ice cream or a snack. If you plan to come with us, call Paula at 414-491-4636 (cell) and let her know. If you text, indicate who you are.

Nashotah Park Outing - Ski, Snowshoe or Hike?

Saturday, January 14, 10:00 am

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

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:

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

Website Chair:

Katie Bivens
katiebivens@ymail.com

Historian:

Paula Brookmire
(414) 527-0040

Newsletter:

Send Articles to:
newsletter@nordicskiclub.org

On Saturday January 14, meet at the Nashotah Park Picnic Area #1 at 10 am for some recreation, depending on the snow conditions: ski, snowshoe or hike? We'll have to decide a day or two ahead of time so watch for an email blast or contact the leader Renee at 262-391-2361 (text if you can but do identify yourself in the text). Also please let her know if you plan to come so we know who to watch for....and be prompt!

Think snow. For those interested, we could stop at the Picnic Basket afterward for some lunch, although it can get quite busy so we could decide to go elsewhere too.

Here is a link to the [park map](#).

Enter off of County Hwy C just north of Hwy 16, enter the park and then turn L to go to Picnic Area #1. *****There is a new system in Waukesha County Parks with a license reader at the entrance station. You will have to go online to register! Click the link below to get your pass and pay the fee. Do it now so you don't forget!**

Daily Park Entrance Permit

A [daily park entrance permit \(\\$6/vehicle\)](#) or an [annual park membership](#) is required for all vehicles entering the following fee-based parks: Fox Brook, Fox River, Menomonee, Minooka, Mukwonago, Muskego, Naga-Waukee, Nashotah, and Ryan Park. To purchase online, you will be asked to log in or sign up for an account. ***Important:** Have your license plate information ready. The Park System's [Automatic License Plate Reader Systems](#) requires user vehicle plate information upon purchase (all capital letters, no spaces, no hyphen).

Valley Spur Ski Trip

January 20- January 22, 2023

Join us for our popular ski trip to Valley Spur near Munising, MI. We will ski at Valley Spur Ski Trail in the Hiawatha National Forest with 45 km of picturesque ski trails, 3 km of snowshoe trails, and cozy log cabin. On the way up, we will ski at Brown County Reforestation Camp near Green Bay (30 km of ski trails, chalet, and 3 km of snowshoe trails) or at Valley Spur.

Accommodations are at the Comfort Inn & Suites Munising-Lakefront near Munising with lakeview rooms, free continental breakfast, and microwave and refrigerator in each room. No snowmobiles at this location and everyone gets to keep their room until we leave to go home on Sunday. Only silent sports guests will be staying at this inn, and possibly only our club members. Contact trip leader Stan Rosenstiel at 262-694-2206 or mrstanmr@yahoo.com for more information. [Click here to access the trip reservation form](#).

Minocqua Winter Park Ski Trip

February 10-12, 2023

Join us for some great skiing at Minocqua Winter Park, one of the premier cross-country ski areas in the Midwest, with 86 km of beautifully groomed and scenic ski trails as well as 15 miles of snowshoe trails. The chalet serves a variety of food, and homemade soups. The ski shop, which has expanded into a new addition to the chalet, has all the latest ski gear, waxes, and clothes, and rents skis and snowshoes. We plan to ski at Nine Mile Forest near Wausau on the way up, with 30 km of ski trails, 11 km of snowshoe trails, and a large chalet with ski rentals.

Facebook Chair:

Ellen Riley
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 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 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 and

Accommodations are at the AmericInn in downtown Minocqua with a swimming pool, sauna, whirlpool, free continental breakfast, and a microwave and refrigerator in each room. Contact trip leader John McCarthy at 414-412-0331 or johnnymac1952@gmail.com for more information. [Click here to access the trip reservation form.](#)

February Fish Fry & Nordic Ski Club Meeting in Mequon

Friday, February 17, 2023, 6:00 pm

You can choose more than fish at this Friday fish fry meeting. The Nordic Ski Club heads to Mequon and the Libby Montana Bar & Grill for this annual event. We enjoyed our last visit there, where most of us sat at one long table. Their fish fry offers fried perch, catfish or shrimp or you can get broiled fish. You also can order off the menu. Grilled salmon, baby back ribs, steak and chicken pasta are available--plus Libby's popular crispy macaroni and cheese. Our cross-country ski club also will have brief announcements about our events and ski trips.

What: NSCM Fish Fry Meeting

When: February 17, Friday, 6 pm socializing; 6:30 pm dinner

Where: Libby Montana Bar & Grill, 5616 W Donges Bay Road, Mequon, WI

Register by February 15, Wednesday, with David: rosenbergdm@att.net

ABR Trails Ski Trip

March 3-5, 2023

ABR Trails (Active Backwoods Recreation) is a family-run system with 101 km of scenic trails meticulously groomed and over 13 km of snowshoe trails, just outside of Ironwood, MI. We ski both Saturday and Sunday at ABR Trails, with two lodge areas, a waxing room, and a ski shop that sells and rents ski equipment and rents snowshoes. On Friday we ski at Nine Mile Forest ski trails near Wausau, with 30 km of ski trails, 11 km of snowshoe trails and chalet with ski rentals.

Our accommodations are at the Quality Inn in Ironwood, with swimming pool, whirlpool, free continental breakfast, and a microwave and refrigerator in each room. Contact trip leader Alan Siegl at 262-744-4929 or acesiegl@yahoo.com for more information. [Click here to access the trip reservation form.](#)

Please sign up before February 1st to receive the early bird price.

Vote in March With Email Ballot

Online elections have worked well for the last three years during the Covid pandemic. So the Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee has decided to make the easy, safe process permanent. We will conduct our annual meeting and elections via email. The simple process takes only minutes. We need your response to help us keep the club running. Please make sure you have paid annual dues before voting on just a few items:

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@gmail.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

- approving the minutes of the March 26, 2022, annual meeting**
- voting in five board members who are re-running for two-year terms***
- voting to adjourn**

Balloting runs March 15 through 25, 2023. Look for announcements, recognitions of volunteers and other news in your email, just as there would be at an in-person annual meeting.

Nominations and Resolutions: Our bylaws require that we take nominations for any club member who wants to run for the board, even though we have a full complement of volunteers willing to run. Some of those volunteers would be happy to give up their seat on the board if someone else comes forward to run. The only feasible way to do this is to have you email a nomination for the board by Wednesday, March 1, to President Carol Doebler. For the nomination to be valid, you must get permission from the person you are nominating (or you can nominate yourself) and you must get another club member to second your nomination. Email these by March 1 [so we have time to get them on the ballot] to tortoiseski@wi.rr.com. To this same email address, you can send any resolutions to propose -- with the name of a club member who is seconding them.

*Note that the Nordic Ski Club has staggered elections. This year, five people will be 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. Current board members who are up for re-election to two-year terms, starting March 25, 2023, are **Julie Amundson, Renee Couture, Carol Doebler, Stephen Fabina, and David Rosenberg**. If elected, they will join the four board members whose two-year terms continue through March 2024: Paula Brookmire, Ellen Riley, Dorothy Riesing and Mary Wozniak. Once elected, the new board will choose its officers, as our bylaws direct. Officers are elected annually. Current club officers are Carol Doebler, president; Renee Couture, assistant vice president; Ellen Riley, assistant vice president; Dave Herrewig, treasurer; and Paula Brookmire, secretary.

Support XC Ski Groups Who Groom Trails for Us

Let's help keep the cross-country ski venues up north open. Valley Spur in Hiawatha National Forest. Swedetown in the Keweenaw Peninsula. Minocqua Winter Park in Wisconsin. These and other places where the Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee skis are all run by volunteer groups like us. Volunteers groom the ski trails, staff the lodges and run children's ski programs.

We'll be passing the hat (actually, an envelope) on NSCM's bus trips up north. Donate what you can. Or fill the donation jar at our monthly meetings. To donate via the mail, send a check made out to NSCM to treasurer Dave Herrewig, 9713 W Debbie Lane, Milwaukee, WI 53224.

Our goal is to raise \$800 to \$1,000. Some of that also will go to our Milwaukee-area snowmaking project at Lapham Peak State Forest. 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.

Covid, Flu Numbers on the Rise; NSCM Recommends Masks on Bus Trips, at Events, Meetings

It's not just Covid. The flu is rampant. "Flu-related hospitalizations are at the highest rate for this time of year in a decade," the CDC said. (The Wall Street Journal, December 3, 2022.) Covid numbers among older adults also are up. At its December meeting, the Nordic Ski Club

of Milwaukee (NSCM) board urged people going on NSCM bus ski trips this winter to wear masks on the bus, in elevators, in restrooms and in crowds. NSCM's updated COVID policies in September 2022 noted how airborne and highly contagious the Covid Omicron subvariants are. The board agreed on the following policies for meetings, events and bus ski trips:

- NSCM strongly recommends but is not requiring that members get the new (as of fall 2022) Covid booster shots that work against the Omicron subvariants. People who benefit the most from these boosters are those over 60, those with serious health problems and those with weakened immune systems (Wall Street Journal).
- NSCM strongly recommends but is not requiring that members at meetings and on bus trips wear N95 or KN95 masks that fit snugly. Surgical masks do not provide much protection against the Omicron variants. See the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) website. Note: KN95 masks are easier to find and more comfortable to wear.
- NSCM is continuing with the same COVID policy for bus trips as last season: **All participants must be vaccinated against Covid-19, and masks are highly recommended but not required.** On most of the NSCM bus trips in 2022, participants wore masks, and there were few illness problems.
- **If you do get sick with Covid or any other contagious disease in the days before the ski trip you signed up for, you need to cancel** (see our detailed policy when you sign up for ski trips, which includes minimal cancellation fees).

Hey, It's Easy to Lead an Outing and You Might Win a \$50 Drawing

Want to go to the theater with fellow Nordics? Or maybe you'd like to lead a hike or snowshoe outing. Or hold a board-games night at your home? Or go bowling, biking, curling? It's really easy. Plus, you'll be put in the running for a \$50 drawing held every six months for those who volunteer for the Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee. The October winners were Sally Heuer, who volunteers on NSCM's newsletter, and Joanne Ziarek, who leads hikes and is an assistant ski-trip leader. To propose an event and lead it, contact Paul Keber, program committee chair, at pkeber@milwpc.com.

We'll help you write a newsletter article (deadline: the 10th of the *month before* your event) or email blast (which can be done a week or so before the event). You can even do last-minute snow events when there's good snow; contact Paul.

Santa Hats and Hot Soup at Nordic Holiday Party

We lucked out on December 4, 2022. The Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee's outdoor holiday party had a great day of sunlight and warmer than normal temperatures. That was followed by at least 10 days of gray, overcast skies. The mood was upbeat as more than 35 people mingled, sipped hot soup and enjoyed delicious desserts at Lapham Peak State Forest. We partied at the Mike Fort shelter, which is off the Homestead Hollow parking lot.

Everyone contributed a can of soup to three pots: chicken-based soup, vegetarian-based, or red-based. Carol Doeblner, NSCM president, did the cooking. She coordinated the event and provided decorations, ceramic mugs for soup, and all the cooking equipment.

Others helped with supplies and desserts.



Winner of the costume contest was Sally Heuer, in full Santa outfit.



There was sun but no snow December 4, 2022, for the Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee holiday party. Held outdoors at Lapham Peak State Forest, the party drew a good turnout.

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.**