



Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee

March 2022

Year-Round Recreation Since 1971

Vol. 51 Issue 3

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Monthly Meeting And Events

**Catch a Quick Annual Meeting Online
Vote March 16-26 Via Email Ballot**

Thanks for helping keep our cross-country ski club running by spending a few minutes online. For the third year in a row, NSCM will conduct our annual meeting and elections online, via email. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, some members may be uncomfortable voting at an in-person meeting. Thus, we will make the election safer - and quicker - by holding it online over 11 days so that you can check in when it's convenient. The simple process takes only minutes. Look for announcements, recognition of volunteers and other news that would take place at an in-person annual meeting. **We really need your response.** Please make sure you have paid annual dues before voting on these few items:

- approving the minutes of the March 20, 2021, annual meeting**
- voting in four board members who are re-running for two-year terms***
- voting to adjourn**

Balloting runs March 16 through 26. Members will receive an email link on March 16 to the ballot and annual meeting.

Nominations: Our bylaws require that we take nominations for other people who want to run for the board, even though we have a full complement of volunteers willing to run. The only feasible way to do this is to have you email a nomination for the board by March 1 to President Carol Doebler. For the nomination to be valid, you must get permission from the person you are nominating 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 four people will be elected to

Next Month,
Look For:

***Local Hike
April 16***

***Monthly Meeting
April 22***

***Milwaukee River
GSP Paddling Trip
April 30***

Contact Us:

Email nordicskiclub.mke@gmail.com

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

Nordic Officers

President

the nine-member board; next year five 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 26, 2022, are Paula Brookmire, Dorothy Riesing, Ellen Riley and Mary Wozniak. If elected, they will join the five board members whose two-year terms continue through March 2023: Julie Amundson, Renee Couture, Carol Doebler, Stephen Fabina, and David Rosenberg. Once elected, the new board will choose its officers, as our bylaws direct. Current club officers are Carol Doebler, president; Renee Couture, vice president; Stephen Fabina, vice president; Dave Herrewig, treasurer; and Paula Brookmire, secretary.

Valley Spur Ski Trip

Friday - Sunday, March 4 - 6th

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. There will not be a Taste & Glide. A smaller version may occur for NSCM. They are working to get permission from the Forest Service. 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 Holiday Inn Express near Munising with swimming pool, whirlpool, sauna, free continental breakfast, and microwave and refrigerator in each room.

If you wish to go on this ski trip, please contact trip leader Stan Rosenstiel at 262-694-2206 or mrstanmr@yahoo.com to see if lodging rooms are still available.

April Monthly Meeting

Friday, April 22, 6:00 pm

Looking Back & Welcoming Spring

Share food with friends as we look back on club events and trips this year and preview what's coming. The Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee will hold its last monthly meeting of the season Friday, April 22. We'll gather again at the Elks Lodge 400 in Waukesha. You'll see a photo presentation of our ski trips, snowshoe outings, hikes and other events. And we'll preview future camp outs, bike rides, paddling excursions, hikes and our 50th anniversary celebration in August (see below). It's a great chance to catch up with friends and plan outings. We ask you to bring an appetizer to share, we'll have desserts, and there will be a cash bar for beverages. The meeting starts about 6 p.m. at the Elks Lodge #400, 2301 Springdale Rd., Waukesha. Enter the lower level door from the parking lot. Contact Paula Brookmire to let her know what appetizer you can bring (so we don't duplicate): pbrookmire@gmail.com. We're looking for more substantial appetizers, such as hummus, cold meats, fruits, veggies, etc.

50th Anniversary

Sunday, August 28

We Have a Date to Celebrate!

We'll celebrate in warm weather outdoors in a tented venue on a Sunday afternoon. So please save the date - August 28, 2022. That will be the 50th anniversary celebration of the Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee. The club was founded in December 1971, and our fiscal year runs October through September. So it makes sense to celebrate over two years. We started in 2021 with a 50th anniversary award at the Milwaukee County Historical Society awards dinner. We continue with our club dinner in August. The location is Matty's Bar & Grille on College Avenue in New

Carol Doebler

Vice Presidents

Renee Couture
and Steven Fabina

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

Facebook Chair:

Ellen Riley
ellenriley612@gmail.com

Facebook Link:

<https://www.facebook.com/Nordic-Ski-Club-of->

Berlin. There will be awards, recognitions, prizes and a look back over five decades. We hope to have about 100 people, including many past presidents and club members. Every club member gets \$10 off the dinner price, which we promise will be reasonable. A lot of people know and like Matty's, and the venue will be creating a special cocktail just for our club..

[Milwaukee-NSCM-111282934088979/](https://www.milwaukee-nscm.org/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

Camp Out & Paddle at Black River Forest

Friday - Tuesday, July 1 – 5

Plan now for a July 1-5 paddle on the Black River in northwestern Wisconsin. David Rosenberg, a board member for the NSCM, will lead a Glacier State Paddlers camp out and outing over the July 4 holiday. You'll paddle down sections 3-6 of the Black River and camp at the large Black River Forest East Fork Group Campground. You can camp in a tent or a camper (no electrical hookup). Water is available and there are cement block toilets (showers a mile down the road at family campground). There's a fish fry on Friday, July 1. Total cost is under \$20. Contact David at 414-352-2634 or rosenbergdm@att.net.

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.

Hayward Ski Trip & Skiing the Birkie Ski Trails

By Joanne Ziarek

On January 21st a group of 27 adventurous skiers headed to Hayward for a new ski trip destination for the club, which was well organized by trip leader John McCarthy. We stopped to ski at Tower Ridge County Park near Eau Claire on Friday afternoon, where we found a nice chalet and well-marked trails that were hard packed but in good condition. Our destination in Hayward was the Flat Creek Inn where we had the porch room reserved for our group that evening. It turned out to be a great way to have an informal group dining experience that allowed everyone to get to know each other, while remaining separated from the other diners. That seemed to set the tone for the rest of the trip with a warm feeling of camaraderie within the group. We had four new people on the trip, including two members of the Lapham Peak Ski Club, but by the end of the trip all four had met everyone and were a part of the group.

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.

On Saturday morning we stopped to pick up our sub sandwiches for lunch on the way to the Birkie start area, where John had arranged for us to rent the Great Hall as a staging area. This large building is used to store their trail grooming equipment and other Birkie items like the international flags and the winner's podium, they had set up tables & chairs for us. Most of the group had never been to the Birkie start area so everyone was able to experience skiing from there without the crowds, and then on to the many groomed trails in the area as well as the Birkie skate and classic trails. The trails were in great shape, with fresh snow and were well-groomed, and offered many different options. Many people got to stop along the start trail to ring the Birch Leggings Bell to honor Tony Wise, the founder of the Birkie, and others. A few skiers even found the two remaining giant concrete elevator pillars from the old Telemark Lodge.

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 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.

Though the hotel had no place for Joy Chen to offer her usual yoga class after skiing, there were some other creative exercises demonstrated that day, like "podium pilates" and "frozen yoga," as well as stretching high to reach the heater fan to warm hands & gloves.

The group dinner that evening was at The Ranch Supper Club in Hayward with 21 of us having a separate dining room to enjoy more food and fun. For some, it was their first Wisconsin "supper club" dining experience, complete with relish tray, etc. At the end of the meal Carol Doebler suggested that each person stand up and talk about their first paid job, including age and pay. That was yet another way to get to know each other as we learned of many unusual first jobs. There apparently was a Packer Game on that night that no one wanted to discuss the

next day!

On Sunday morning we again stopped to pick up our sub sandwiches on our way to the “OO” Trailhead where we had reserved a separate room in the beautiful Johnson Center. The temperature was -9 when we arrived, but it was sunny, not windy, with a dusting of fresh snow, so it was another great day for skiing. Some people headed for the Birkie trail again while others chose the striding only trails through the woods. An added perk that day was having Backroads Coffee from Hayward inside selling hot drinks & tempting treats. This hearty group was not deterred by the cold weather, wind, or challenges of the Birkie trail system and nearly everyone went skiing every day to enjoy the sunshine, fun, fresh snow, and the joy of X-C skiing at its best.

On the way home Sunday afternoon, we made a short stop for dinner at the Oakwood Mall in Eau Claire and arrived back at the Watertown Plank Park and Ride lot before 8:30 pm. There were many people to thank on the ride home: John McCarthy for his organization and leadership of this new trip, Joanne Ziarek for her help as assistant trip leader, Howard, the bus driver, for getting us every place safely and on time, Paul Keber, program chair, for making bus and lodging arrangements for all ski trips, the NSCM board for authorizing the additional rental costs for the separate staging areas both days and extra funds for treats, and everyone on the trip for wearing their masks, being on time, and just being such a great group of friendly people. That’s what makes a great Nordic ski trip!

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



Piston Bully 100 Grooming Machine and International Flags



John McCarthy & Joanne Ziarek next to the cab of the Piston Bully



Rita Keber & John Pantazon dwarfed by the giant concrete elevator towers left from Telemark Lodge.



Paul Keber stretching to warm his hands



Julie Amundson & Chris Pantazon doing "podium pilates" on the Birkie winner's podium



Julie Amundson, Chris Pantazon, & Joanne Ziarek doing "frozen yoga" in the snow in a culvert under a ski trail at the Birkie start area

Minocqua Skiing

By Paula Brookmire

Sun, skis and snowshoes were a big part of the NSCM bus trip to Wausau and Minocqua. The February 11-13, 2022, trip started with a stop at Wausau's 9-Mile Forest for several hours. Then it was on to Minocqua for two days of "chilled sun" skiing at Minocqua Winter Park. The temperature dipped below zero, but the sun made you feel warm.



Three Nordic Ski Club members warming up



Taken on Minocqua's XC Express trail near the fire pit



At the Wausau lodge (from left): Jenny P., Wendi S., Carol D., and Sally H.

Skiing With Skins - Advice from Dan Clausen of Minocqua

On the NSCM's February bus trip to Minocqua Winter Park, we had a chance to talk with Dan Clausen. Dan is the longtime owner of the Minocqua Ski Shop at Winter Park. He also teaches cross-country skiing and is very knowledgeable about skis. A club member asked him about when to use “skins” on cross-country skis. Skins are strips put on the bottoms of cross-country skis for better grip and possibly better glide. Skins can be made of all mohair, all nylon or a combination of the two. Some skins can be used just for climbing hills and then removed. When to use skins? Dan says that they work best in temperatures of 32 degrees F and above as well as on homemade snow, because of its moisture content. That would include the homemade snow at Lapham Peak State Forest. Dan considers skin skis as an accessory ski, not a primary ski. If you have a variety of skis and a budget to add an extra “arrow to your quiver,” Dan said, then you may want to try skin skis. Our club member ended up buying skin skis from Dan, who gave NSCM members a 10% discount during the mid-February weekend we visited. Other club members bought some of Dan’s homemade thimbleberry jam, harvested from Upper Michigan, where the berries grow only in woods along railroad grades or old logging roads.



Dan Clausen talks with two NSCM club members

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.**