



Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee

February 2023

Year-Round Recreation Since 1971

Vol. 52 Issue 2

In this Issue:

Friday, February 17

Fish Fry at Libby Montana's in Mequon

Sunday, February 5

Zillmer Local Ski Trip

February 10 - 12

Minocqua Winter Park Ski Trip

March 3 - 5

ABR Ski Trip

Vote in March with Email Ballot

Newsletter Team Member Needed

Fundraising Update

Keweenaw Trip Report

Monthly Meeting And Events -

February Fish Fry Meeting in Mequon

Friday, February 17, 2023, 6:00 pm

For our annual fish fry meeting, the Nordic Ski Club heads to Mequon and the Libby Montana Bar & Grill. We enjoyed our last visit there, where most of us sat at one long table. You can order off the menu.

Their Friday fish fry offers perch, catfish, shrimp, or you can get broiled fish. Grilled salmon, baby back ribs, steak, chicken and pasta also are available--plus Libby's popular crispy macaroni and cheese. *Please register with David by February 15*, or we may not be able to fit you in.

What: NSCM Fish Fry Meeting

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

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

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

Coming Up:

***ABR Ski Trip
March 3 – 5***

***Local Hike
March 18***

***March Email Ballot
Voting***

Contact Us:

Email nordicskiclub.mke@gmail.com

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

Nordic Officers

President
Carol Doebler

Vice Presidents

Zillmer Local Ski Trip

Sunday, February 5, 1:00 pm

Join the Nordics at 1:00 pm on Sunday, February 5 for a local ski outing at the Zillmer ski trails located in the Kettle Moraine State Forest - Northern Unit near Dundee, WI. The Zillmer Trail Area is one of the more popular cross-country ski trails in southeastern Wisconsin with 18.2 kilometers of trails in a stacked loop system. There are four named loop trails and all are groomed for both classic and skate. The scenery is a pleasant variety of oak and aspen forest, pine plantations, marsh, and open fields. The terrain consists of long flats, numerous rollers, and a couple of large hills. One of the trails also features a scenic overlook with expansive views of the surrounding area. A heated trail shelter is open for use.

Directions: From the intersection of Highway 45 and Highway 67 north of Kewaskum, drive east on Highway 67 for 0.8 mile and turn south onto County Highway SS. Drive 1.8 miles on County SS to the Zillmer Trailhead parking lot entrance, on the north side of the road. A Wisconsin state park sticker is required for your vehicle.

If there is not enough snow to ski at Zillmer, an email blast will be sent to club members several days before the outing detailing a different ski trail. Contact Paul Keber at 262-309-1918 or pkeber@milwpc.com for more information or to let him know you will be attending.

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.

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.](#)

ABR Ski Trip, Ironwood, MI

March 3 - 5, 2023

ABR Trails (Active Backwoods Retreat) 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.

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

Facebook Chair:
Ellen Riley
ellenriley612@gmail.com

Facebook Link:
<https://www.facebook.com/Nordic-Ski-Club-of-Milwaukee-NSCM-111282934088979/>

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.

Elections Held in March With Email Ballot

If you are interested in running for the Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee (NSCM) board of directors, now is the time to act. You need to contact President Carol Doebler by March 1 (see below).

Online elections have worked well for the last three years during the Covid pandemic. So NSCM 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 these few items (plus any others submitted by March 1):

- 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, recognition of volunteers and other news in your email, just as there would be at an in-person annual meeting.

Nominations and Resolutions: Our bylaws allow us to take nominations for anyone 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.

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 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

Note: Dave Herrewig is looking for someone to take over as treasurer next year, and Dave would train that person this year. If you're interested, please email tortoiseski@wi.rr.com.

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!

Fundraising Update: A Good Start to Helping XC Ski Groups Who Groom Trails for Us

The Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee (NSCM) raised \$180 in donations from its Keweenaw Peninsula ski trip participants. This New Year's ski trip was the start of our every-two-year fundraising project. The project continues over five months, on our three other bus trips and at monthly meetings.

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. These grants are in addition to supporting Milwaukee-area projects such as making snow at Lapham Peak State Forest.

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. To donate via 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 Milwaukee-area projects. 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.

In 2022, in honor of NSCM's 50th anniversary, the club also decided to give grants of \$2,000 in October 2022 and \$3,000 in October 2023 to the new Lapham Peak Lodge.

New Year's Keweenaw Ski Trip Adventures

By Joanne Ziarek

On December 30, 2022, we boarded our bus heading north to the Keweenaw Peninsula for the season's first ski trip. There were 31 Nordics, including 5 that we picked up near Oshkosh, with trip leader Julie Amundson assisted by Paul Eiche, as well as our driver Karen. Everyone was early, so we got a head start to the WinMan ski area as our first stop that afternoon. Conditions

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

there were very icy with some people opting to snow shoe or hike, while most skied and managed to stay upright in the challenging conditions. The bus driver didn't have such good luck as the bus got stuck in the parking lot and had to be pulled out while we were out skiing. To avoid the same fate in the parking lot when we left, Karen (our bus driver) picked us up on the road and we arrived at our hotel in Houghton, MI, The Quality Inn and Suites, where we were on our own for dinner.

On Saturday we skied at Michigan Tech where conditions were better, except for the lower NARA trails that hadn't been groomed recently. Unlike previous trips there, this time we had pleasant temperatures and no wind making for a nice day to be outdoors. MTU would be hosting the senior national X-C championships starting on Jan 1, so there were high school and college students from all over the country warming up and checking out the trail system. We met many of them in the waxing building that had a small lounge and they were quite friendly. The bus once again got stuck, this time in the upper parking lot at MTU so we had to walk a distance down to the road and over to a plowed parking lot when we got picked up after skiing. Everyone adjusted to the circumstances and helped carry skis and bags if someone needed help. For New Year's Eve we were again on our own for dinner, finding small groups of Nordics in various restaurants, though it's doubtful that any of us actually were up to watch the ball drop in Times Square to ring in 2023!

An interesting anecdote happened Saturday at the NARA trails in the chalet where there is a nice, big fireplace with lots of wood, but no matches or kindling. Using their ingenuity and a flint that David Rosenberg had in his emergency pack, plus some toilet paper soaked in hand sanitizer, John Pantazon was able to start a nice fire for the skiers waiting there. (No bruised hands from rubbing sticks together!)

Saturday night it snowed, giving us 2 inches of fresh powder for skiing the next day. About 2/3 of the group opted for the striding only trails at Maasto Hiihto and the delicious food prepared by the Friends group there. The rest of the group skied at Swedetown where conditions were excellent and we again had mild temperatures and no wind. During the drive from Maasto Hiihto to Swedetown we became aware that the GPS system on the bus was not necessarily to be trusted so eagle-eyed Nordics helped Karen find the correct way to go for parts of the rest of the trip. (And the bus did not get stuck again!)

We had our group dinner at Joey's Seafood on Sunday night with about 2/3 of the group enjoying the great food, drinks, and camaraderie. On both Saturday and Sunday Joy Chen offered yoga in the afternoon at the hotel. On Monday the whole group skied at Swedetown enjoying the excellent conditions and nice weather as well as the home made soups & pasties for sale for lunch. We made a quick food stop in Green Bay and arrived in Milwaukee around 9:00 pm.

There were a lot of challenges on this trip and Julie and Paul handled all of them with humor, patience, and efficiency. It also seemed to this writer that everyone on the trip was very accommodating, relaxed, helpful, and friendly. Perhaps it's because we've been through Covid and people's perspective about what matters has changed. Being able to get together again seemed to be reason enough to be patient and kind to each other. Join us on the next bus ski trip.



Ski lessons on January 15, 2023, at Lapham Peak were possible because of the snowmaking.



Lapham Peak State Forest makes snow for cross-country skiing. Plus, there are both dirt and paved trails for hiking. The Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee hiked on Jan. 15, 2023, after its annual picnic.

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.**