

New Mexico Cross Country Ski Club

August 2021

NEWS

Summer Happenings and Upcoming Events

Have you been enjoying your summer? I know I have despite the heat and the smoke. The empty ski runs and grassy cross-country trails in our state still provide a variety of activities for outdoor enthusiasts. It provides everything from gravity mountain biking to a simple drive in the car out to smell the cool, fresh air and to enjoy the wildflowers. For those of you that think Enchanted Forest located just outside of Red River, New Mexico is only for skiers, guess again! Their yurts are open all year and provide a wonderfully peaceful getaway during the summer months for camping, hiking, and mountain biking.

Although it is only August, if you are planning on purchasing ski equipment for the upcoming season, it is a good idea to start your search now. I ordered my skate skis in October last year and it was a good thing I did it early. All sold out by November! Want to shop locally? Come out and help our local Sandia Peak Ski Patrol at this year's upcoming Ski Swap. The NM Ski Swap is the REAL, the ORIGINAL, the LARGEST winter sports sale in the

New Mexico since 1967. It is scheduled to be held October 22-24, 2021 at the Expo NM. There will be thousands of new and used equipment for sale. More information will be provided in upcoming newsletters for this valuable and exciting event.



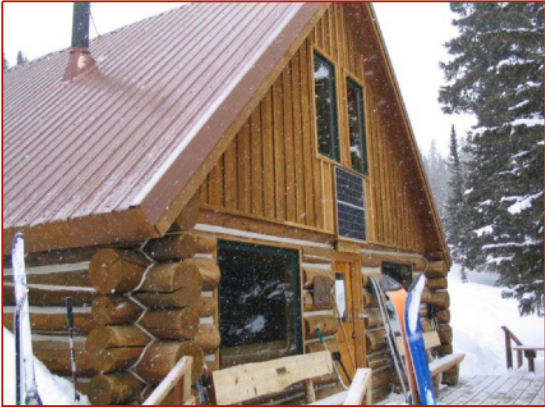
Check out the info for our upcoming fall club picnic later in this newsletter!

<https://www.meetup.com/New-Mexico-Cross-Country-Ski-Meetup-Group/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1663936723893594/>

HUT TRIP 2022 !!!

By Guy Miller



HOW DOES MARGY'S SOUND ??? Guy Miller and Doug Erb will co-lead a 3-nighter to Margy's Hut, located near Aspen at an elevation of 11,300 feet. This hut, along with its twin, McNamara, was built in 1982 and is the oldest hut in the system. The solar system and wood burning stove have been improved/replaced since my first visit there in the mid-nineties.

We will leave Albuquerque on Monday, January 24, 2022 and ski in to the hut the following day. We'll leave the hut on Friday, January 28. Because it's a long ski out and a very long drive home, we'll plan on completing the journey back home on Saturday, January 29.

Margy's is a small hut with room for 16, but we'll be limiting participation to 12 skiers. Cost is \$245. Proof of Covid vaccination and booster, if applicable, will be required. Avalanche gear is required.

Telemark skiing is available on a south facing slope directly below the hut, as well as on nearby Mt Yeckel. Touring options can be had on roads and meadows in the area.

As always, skiers must be pre-approved by trip leader. For details, **contact Guy Miller**. Contact information can be found on our website.

BUS TRIP 2022 !!

By Guy Miller

Greetings, Skiers! Some of you are no doubt aware that Bob Potter has had to step down from his bus co-chair position so as to accept an offer of employment. I have agreed to serve as interim bus trip co-chair, and will be working with our other co-chair, David D'Antonio, to get bus trips off the ground for the coming season.

Although we are aware that the immediate future is still somewhat uncertain Covid-wise, we nevertheless feel that there is a reasonable possibility that group travel will once again be safe six months from now. Accordingly, we feel that we should continue the planning process that David has already

started. We will keep our ears to the ground to monitor health and safety conditions, and will be prepared to alter plans if it becomes necessary to do so. NOTE: WE WILL REQUIRE PROOF OF VACCINATION, INCLUDING BOOSTERS, IF APPLICABLE, FOR ALL BUS TRIP PARTICIPANTS !

So, for the time being, let's plan to ski this winter !

We are in the very beginning stages of looking at a trip to Leadville for February 4 – 7. We have no figures on cost yet, but we want everybody to know ahead of time that lodging costs pretty much everywhere have increased substantially.

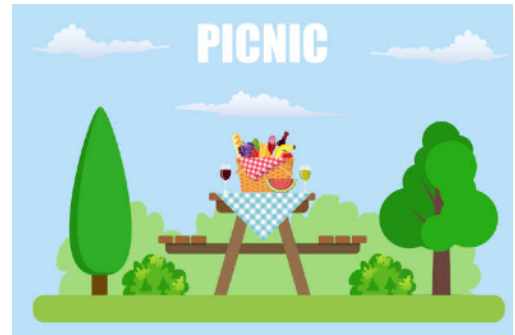


However, since we didn't spend anything on bus trips last season, we should all have piggy bank money still available, yes? Good. I thought so.

We will keep our membership posted on developments. We hope to see you at the upcoming picnic. Watch for monthly newsletters, and please plan to attend our general meetings once our season gets underway in October. Until then.....

NMCCSC Annual Picnic

Our Annual NMCCSC Picnic is back!!! Mark your calendars. Finally we are going to be able to again hold our ever-popular summer picnic. This year we are going to have it in early fall on **Sunday September 12 at the Locust group picnic site in the Manzano mountains.** This is the same site we have used for the past two picnics because it is beautiful, convenient and close in. As we get closer to the date, we will send out follow up emails to try to determine how many people plan to attend, how much food we need to purchase and who might be willing to help with the set-up, cooking, and clean up. For now all you have to do is mark your calendars for September 12 and remember that the club will provide the drinks, hamburgers, veggie-burgers, and hot dogs.



The time to start planning for our September 12th picnic is fast approaching but so is the ever-increasing wave of new Covid -19 infections. We are in the process of working on what Covid-19 protocols should be in place, to make this a safe event. Please be prepared to wear a mask and socially distance should the board vote for this measure.

by Max Shepherd and the Picnic Committee



Photo by Amy Mathis

TRAILS MAINTENANCE

National Trails Day was June 5th. The Friends of the Sandia Mountains (FOSM), the Sandia Ranger District, and other volunteers worked on the extension of Challenge Trail from Dry Camp (Tecolote trailhead) to Tree Spring Trailhead. The work included trail construction, digging, and lopping. Thanks so much to our many organizations and volunteers!

Sandia Nordic Trails Improvement Project (SNTIP)

For those of you who are also members of the Sandia Nordic Ski Club, you are probably already aware of the exciting news regarding the long-awaited permission to conduct trail improvement and modifications on the groomed sections of the nordic trails. Since the beginning of the club's existence, club volunteers have worked tirelessly to

shovel heavy snow to even out the camber of the course in areas that prove to be dangerous for skiers. As of May 2021, the final paperwork has been cleared and now that it is August, they have already had several field crew days to get the trails in-shape for the upcoming and future seasons!

Dear Members and Friends of
Sandia Nordic,



I am extremely excited to announce that the Sandia Nordic Trails Improvement Project (SNTIP) has received final sign-off from USFS allowing us to begin implementation of modifications to our trail system. Sections selected for reroutes had been previously identified over the course of several years and are based upon input from discussions with numerous trail users, the Sandia Nordic board, and on-site evaluations with Kerry Wood, Trails and Wilderness Manager for the Cibola National Forest and National Grasslands. Issues related to these modifications fell into several categories, including concern for skier safety, line of sight issues, difficulty for beginner and intermediate skiers, difficulty in grooming and erosion control.

As we move forward, Jeff Huser, in close consultation with Steve Roholt, will be heading up the implementation of the SNTIP. Much of the work will be done by our own Club members, as well as members of FOSM. Please keep your eye out for communications from Jeff announcing calls for volunteers to help on planned trail work dates.

This is a very exciting time for Sandia Nordic, and I cannot express enough gratitude to all those who have provided input to the Club regarding the planned modifications. Special thanks as well to Sam Beard and all of the members of FOSM, to the members of Sandia Nordic's board, to our Sandia District Ranger Crystal Powell, to Kerry Wood, and to all of the other members of USFS who helped usher this approval through the administrative process.

Hope to see you out there on the trails!

-Scott Dietrick (Sandia Nordic)

<https://www.sandianordic.org>

Board Members 2021-2022			
President	Bill Heitz	259-8745	President@nmccskiclub.org
Vice President	Peter Marks	414-3005	VicePresident@nmccskiclub.org
Secretary	Nancy Jenkins	269-0855	secretary@nmccskiclub.org
Treasurer	Max Shepherd	270-5258	Treasurer@nmccskiclub.org
Day Trips	Guy Miller	306-2628	DayTrips@nmccskiclub.org
Long Bus Trips	Guy Miller & David D'Antonio	306-2628 553-2795	BusTrips@nmccskiclub.org
Hut Trips	Guy Miller	306-2628	HutTrips@nmccskiclub.org
Overnight Trips	Scott Mitchell	977-8893	CarTrips@nmccskiclub.org
Newsletter	Amy Mathis	808-344-8543	Newsletter@nmccskiclub.org
Instruction	Dana Price	417-9787	instruction@nmccskiclub.org
Membership	Catherine Waters	218-6936	membership@nmccskiclub.org
Meetup & Social Media	Bet Gendron	228-8025	SocialMedia@nmccskiclub.org
Programs	Marlene Brown	452-7202	programs@nmccskiclub.org
Mailing/Egroup	Marilynn Szydlowski	332-8018	egroup@nmccskiclub.org
Refreshments	Phyllis Pryor & Terri Elisberg	980-3241 450-9961	refreshments@nmccskiclub.org
Trails	Sam Beard	828-0673	trails@nmccskiclub.org
Web Site	Chris Cochrum		website@nmccskiclub.org
Finding Us			
Web Page	http://nmccskiclub.org		
FaceBook	https://www.facebook.com/groups/1663936723893594		
Mail	New Mexico Cross Country Ski Club PO Box 50534 Albuquerque, NM 87181		

New Mexico Cross Country Ski Club
PO Box 50534
Albuquerque, NM 87181