

## NEW MEXICO CROSS COUNTRY SKI CLUB



### **October Club Meeting and Event Re-cap**

In case you may have missed it, the club had its season opener meeting via Zoom on October 14. What did you miss? Well...you missed seeing some pretty amazing XC skiers for one thing. What else did you miss? We had a wonderful presentation given by Ray Berg and Jason Cline about *Adaptive Skiing*. In case you are interested in more information, go to the following website:

[www.AdaptiveSportsProgram.org](http://www.AdaptiveSportsProgram.org)

The Adaptive Ski program is running a wreath-sale fundraiser to help raise money for their cause. The link to the fundraiser can be found at <https://www.adaptivesportsprogram.org/holiday-wreath-sales>

They do not have an order form, but if someone does not have a computer to pre-order a wreath they are welcome to call or email [\*Camille \(cromero@aspm.com\)\*](mailto:Camille(cromero@aspm.com))

### ***Ski Swap Thanks***

Thanks goes out to all NMCCSC members who helped run our club table at the New Mexico Ski Swap at the NM Expo that took place at the end of October. We had a lot of interest in the club and inquiries about what kinds of activities we offer. It was a great event for us to promote who we are in the ski community!

### **Board Member Meeting Summary**

NMCCSC Board Members met virtually on Zoom on October 28. We are encouraging membership renewals and welcoming any new members. We are still discussing the Leadville, CO trip, hut trip, and possible trip to Vermont. The club is looking for a new webmaster to manage our website. Chris Cochrum will be moving out of state and he has done an admirable job cleaning up our website. Huge thanks to Chris! If you are interested, a more complete description of the job is on the website. Chris has even offered to train anyone who would be interested.

### **Upcoming Program**

Great news!!! The next general club meeting will be a zoom/in-person hybrid meeting held on **November 11 from 7:00-8:30** at the Albuquerque Garden Center. We will be practicing social distancing and mask-wearing as per CDC guidelines for indoor groups. We ask that those in attendance be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Another modification to this meeting will be that we will not be serving refreshments at this time in the interest of encouraging members to wear their masks for the duration of the meeting and to reduce common touch-points around the goodie table. We will also provide a Zoom link for those members who wish to participate but prefer to do so from the comfort of their home. This is the first step toward getting back to normal. We'll monitor the status of the virus in our community and hopefully return to our regularly scheduled program (with snacks!) very soon.

Our program for November will be given by **Todd Burham from the Sandia Peak Ski Patrol**. He will be talking about Ski Patrol, what they do, their training requirements and how they intersect and interact with back-country skiers.



**Todd Burham** is retired US Air Force, joined the Sandia Peak ski patrol in 2009 as a volunteer patroller. In 2011 he became 1 of 2 Professional patrollers with 90 plus volunteer patrollers. While patrolling Todd coordinates efforts to ensure that ski area guests get the proper medical services and on several occasions has had to use life saving technics on the mountain to stabilize

patience's to get ready for transport to the next level of care. Also Todd has had to coordinate lift evacuations, plus has also worked with search and rescue crews from around the region to help find stranded hikers, skiers and off-road vehicles on and near the ski area. You don't want to miss this folks!

## 2021 ANNUAL SKI SWAP! NOV. 19 & 20 AT THE SF CONVENTION CENTER

Did you miss the Sandia New Mexico Expo this the exact skis you were any boots to match, or browse through an entire convention center full of ski gear. Either way, head to the 2021 Sante Fe Ski Team Ski Swap! The Ski Swap is going to be held at the **Sante Fe Convention Center** Friday November 19th and Saturday November 20th.



Ski Patrol Ski Swap at the year? Perhaps you found looking for but did not find maybe you just like to

<https://santafeskiteam.com/racesevents/ski-swap-2021/>

Friday November 19th	Saturday November 20th
12-4pm Equipment Check-in, \$2 Concession per used item	10am-5pm FREE admission 4pm-6pm Equipment Pick-up

20% of sales benefit the Sante Fe Ski Team  
*Any items left uncollected will be considered a donation*

Need a place to rent ski equipment this year? Sport Systems has season-long rental leases on alpine and snowboard packages. They don't specialize in Cross-Country ski equipment for rentals but if you are an avid downhiller, give them a try. Season leases began on October 9 and their equipment goes fast. Do you have your own gear but need a tune-up? Bring in your skis or snowboard for a little pre-season TLC. Sport Systems is also one of the only places in town where you can browse through a small selection of cross-country ski equipment for purchase. Come and check it out!



### NMCCSC Club SWAG!!

T-shirts - \$20  
Baseball cap - \$15  
T-shirt and cap combo - \$30  
Want to see pictures? Check out  
<https://nmccskiclub.org/club-swag/>



**"Ski Touring in Northern New Mexico"**  
Book by Sam Beard



**Mailing list:** [NMCCSCgroup@mailman.swcp.com](mailto:NMCCSCgroup@mailman.swcp.com) **Website:** [www.nmccskiclub.org](http://www.nmccskiclub.org)  
**Meetup:** <http://www.meetup.com/New-Mexico-Cross-Country-Ski-Meetup-Group/>  
**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Sports-Club/New-Mexico-Cross-Country-Ski-Club-199720217573925/>



## BUS TRIP TO LEADVILLE, ANYONE???

We are still trying to pull together a bus trip to Leadville, but we need more willing participants before we can proceed. Here's what we have so far: the dates are **February 4,5,6,and 7**. Cost as of now is **\$310 per person** but please be aware that the longer we delay, the more chance there is that the cost of the bus could increase. We will stay at the Silver King Motel, at the north end of town, where we have stayed previously. Each room has a refrigerator and microwave oven. All participants would have to provide verification of full Covid vaccination, including booster, if applicable. If masking is still required for public transportation, we would need to comply accordingly.

There are three principle areas where we would ski. The first, for all classes of skiers, but particularly Class I, is the *town loop*, which can be accessed right from our motel. Starting off on the flats, the trail gradually climbs a few hundred feet into forested terrain and becomes more challenging the further one goes. Along the way, skiers encounter historic artifacts and narrative signage. Think of it as skiing through a museum with terrific views along the way. One can go as far as one wants, then turn around and return, or attempt the entire loop, which is doable in one day.

The second area is the *Leadville Fish Hatchery*. This area, south of town, features primarily Class II skiing, although Class I skiers would find plenty to do. Trails meander for miles, looping and intersecting one another with just enough ups and downs to be interesting, and with just enough challenge to make it a fun day. Skiers can get a good, solid workout, or just go for a

cruise. This is one of my favorite kick-and-glide areas.

The third area is *Tennessee Pass*, which truly features something for everyone. On the south side of the highway, one can ski toward 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Hut or do any of several loop trails, most of which are on level or gently rolling terrain. On the north side of the highway is Ski Cooper, a small lift-served Alpine resort.

Telemark skiing here is great for beginner to intermediate free-heelers. The more advanced skiers can also have a blast just enjoying a laid back day with a variety of terrain challenges. Adjacent to the Alpine area is a Nordic center with 27 kilometers of groomed trails. One can easily



Tennessee Pass Nordic Center Leadville, CO  
Photo by Scott Anderson

spend an entire day here, and then go back for more the next day !

The problem we are facing concerns changes in the bus company's cancellation policy. If we were to need to cancel the trip due to lack of participation, there would be a substantial cancellation fee we would have to pay. For this reason, we surveyed the membership to determine if there was enough interest for us to proceed. As of press time, we have received 50 responses, with 20 indicating a desire to go on the bus trip. We normally fill a bus with 52 passengers, so we still have a way to go. We need to make a final decision sooner rather than later.

-Guy Miller

If you wish to go on this trip, please contact Guy at [BusTrips@nmccskiclub.org](mailto:BusTrips@nmccskiclub.org)

## Margy's Hut Trip!!!

Margy's Hut is part of the 10th Mountain Division Hut Association. Built in 1982, this hut was one of the very first huts in the 10th Mountain system. Margy's is a two-level hut with four sleeping areas and the capacity to sleep up to 16 people. However on this trip the roster will be limited to

12 skiers. The hut is located at 11,300' about 10 miles Northeast of Aspen, Colorado. Guy Miller and Doug Erb are co-leading this fabulous hut trip from **Monday January 24-Friday January 28, 2022.**

Right now the trip is half full. The cost is **\$245**, proof of

COVID vaccination and booster, if applicable, will be required. Avalanche gear is also a must. We are hoping that COVID won't be a hang-up this year, but if so, Guy is working out a plan so that if cancellation is necessary there is a full refund.

-Guy Miller

For more details or questions, contact **Guy Miller** at [HutTrips@nmccskiclub.org](mailto:HutTrips@nmccskiclub.org).

**PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!! TO DO SO GO TO**

<https://www.nmccsmembership.org>

2021-2022

## CALENDAR

### November

Nov 11	General Club Meeting - ABQ Garden Center and Zoom 7-8:30
Nov 18	Board Meeting via Zoom
Nov 19 & 20	Sante Fe Ski Swap

### December

Dec 9	General Club Meeting - Christmas Party
Dec 16	Board Meeting via Zoom

### January

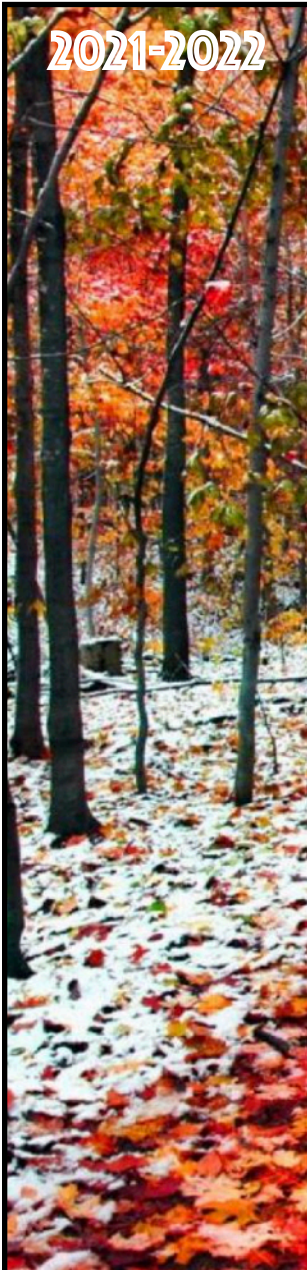
Jan 13	General Club Meeting - place and program TBA
Jan 15-17	Chama Chili Classic
Jan 24-29	Hut Trip - Margie's Hut
Jan 27	Board Meeting via Zoom

### February

Feb 4-7	Bus Trip - Leadville
Feb 10	General Club Meeting - place and program TBA
Feb 24	Board Meeting via Zoom

### March

Mar 10	General Club Meeting - place and program TBA
Mar 24	Board Meeting via Zoom



## **DIY: Make Your Own Pulk Sled**

(Adapted from [REI.com](https://www.rei.com/blog/snowsports/diy-make-your-own-pulk-sled) article by Ashley Brown)

Are you planning on going on a hut trip this year? Skiing while carrying a heavy pack can be a real drag, so why not lighten your load and try backcountry skiing with a pulk that you can make yourself out of simple materials you can easily get at any hardware store? Pulk sleds can cost several hundred dollars so for those of you on a budget or simply wish to try making your own, this article is for you! For a thorough description of REI's homemade pulk including how-to pictures, check out the adjacent website. In the meantime, I'll give you a nice overview of what you will need.



<https://www.rei.com/blog/snowsports/diy-make-your-own-pulk-sled>

Your sled should be at least 5"-7" deep and have a smooth curved front that will float over the snow. Remember that the higher you load your gear, the more likely your sled will flip over, so try to choose an appropriate sized sled for your needs.

The length of your PVC poles depends on what type of activity you are doing. If you are using snowshoes, your poles can be shorter to allow for easier cornering. Ski touring however, requires a longer pole length to allow for the movement and length of your skis. Approximately 5 feet length of poles is an average length for snowshoeing, but you will need to add about a foot of length for ski touring. Your hacksaw can be used to cut your PVC poles to the length you desire.

The paracord is used to secure the PVC poles to the sled and for making gear tie downs.

Want to be sure your sled can travel well on steep slopes or fresh powder *and* stay in the track? You may wish to add the optional snow fins. This will require a tad more work as you will need to purchase some angled aluminum and use a hacksaw to cut the 45-degree angle for the fin. Fins are not necessary on flatter terrain or more hard-packed conditions and cause unwanted drag. The use of wing-nuts is helpful so that the fins can be added or removed as necessary while you are on your adventure.

Making a comfortable hip-belt is just as important as the sled itself. It should sit just above your hip bones. You will need to use a tape measure to measure your waist just above your hip bones. Your belt material can be 2-inch wide webbing and the closed-cell foam is used to make the belt more comfortable to wear.

Once you have the hard work out of the way, it is time to give it a try! You can attach the poles from the sled to the belt parallel to each other, or you can cross them for additional stability. If you cross them, you will need to secure the center point with a bit of cord.

Keep your gear load as low as possible in the sled. Secure your load with bungee cords, straps, or a cargo net. Roll it over to make sure everything is secure before you give it a go!

Would you prefer a YouTube video for a DIY pulk sled? Check out this version of a DIY sled by *Makers Movement*. This sled is a bit different from the REI article, but it may be a good idea to look at several sources so that you can decide which style is best for you.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DHp\\_12npKsY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DHp_12npKsY)





Board Members 2020-2021			
President	Bill Heitz	259-8745	<a href="mailto:President@nmccskiclub.org">President@nmccskiclub.org</a>
Vice President	Peter Marks	856-8237	<a href="mailto:VicePresident@nmccskiclub.org">VicePresident@nmccskiclub.org</a>
Secretary	Nancy Jenkins	269-0855	<a href="mailto:secretary@nmccskiclub.org">secretary@nmccskiclub.org</a>
Treasurer	Max Shepherd	270-5258	<a href="mailto:Treasurer@nmccskiclub.org">Treasurer@nmccskiclub.org</a>
Day Trips	Guy Miller	306-2628	<a href="mailto:DayTrips@nmccskiclub.org">DayTrips@nmccskiclub.org</a>
Long Bus Trips	Bob Potter & David D'Antonio	232-2486 553-2795	<a href="mailto:BusTrips@nmccskiclub.org">BusTrips@nmccskiclub.org</a>
Hut Trips	Guy Miller	306-2628	<a href="mailto:HutTrips@nmccskiclub.org">HutTrips@nmccskiclub.org</a>
Car Trips	Scott Mitchell	977-8893	<a href="mailto:CarTrips@nmccskiclub.org">CarTrips@nmccskiclub.org</a>
Newsletter	Amy Mathis	808-344-8543	<a href="mailto:Newsletter@nmccskiclub.org">Newsletter@nmccskiclub.org</a>
Instruction	Jim Whitfield		<a href="mailto:instruction@nmccskiclub.org">instruction@nmccskiclub.org</a>
Membership	Catherine Waters	218-6936	<a href="mailto:membership@nmccskiclub.org">membership@nmccskiclub.org</a>
Meetup & Social Media	Bet Gendron	228-8025	<a href="mailto:SocialMedia@nmccskiclub.org">SocialMedia@nmccskiclub.org</a>
Programs	Bob Guarnieri	331-8381	<a href="mailto:programs@nmccskiclub.org">programs@nmccskiclub.org</a>
Mailing/Egroup	Marilynn Szydlowski	332-8018	<a href="mailto:egroup@nmccskiclub.org">egroup@nmccskiclub.org</a>
Refreshments	Phyllis Pryor & Terri Elisberg		<a href="mailto:refreshments@nmccskiclub.org">refreshments@nmccskiclub.org</a>
Trails	Sam Beard	828-0673	<a href="mailto:trails@nmccskiclub.org">trails@nmccskiclub.org</a>
Web Site	Chris Cochrum		<a href="mailto:website@nmccskiclub.org">website@nmccskiclub.org</a>
Finding Us			
Web Page	<a href="http://nmccskiclub.org">http://nmccskiclub.org</a>		
FaceBook	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/1663936723893594">https://www.facebook.com/groups/1663936723893594</a>		
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