



Honors

Mayor Tim Keller presented Sam Beard with the inaugural 'Albuquerque Volunteer of the Month' award on September 4. Since 1970, Sam has volunteered countless hours organizing and participating in work parties in the Ski Club Adopt-A-Trail Program and FOSM (Friends of the Sandia Mountains) in the Sandia Ranger District and in the Jemez Ranger District and Valles Caldera National Preserve. The next time you ski a trail in northern New Mexico, you can thank Sam, and several others for removing countless trees, making your ski day an enjoyable outing.



Programs

National Weather Service meteorologist Andy Church will present the 2019-20 Winter Outlook for New Mexico. He will discuss how the storm track is expected to behave during the upcoming ski season.

Membership Renewal for 2019/2020

We are expecting another good ski season, so please renew your membership. You can renew your membership using PayPal. It's easy; you just need a credit card. To do so, go to the following

URL: <https://www.nmccscmembership.org>. If you don't have a PayPal account, you can sign in as a "guest".

Individual Membership: \$20 (newsletter is emailed)

Under 40 years old (1st year only): \$1

Individual Membership w/paper newsletter: \$30

Bus Trips for 2020

Announcing our 2020 winter BUS TRIPS! Bob and David have made bus and lodging reservations for the 2 Bus Trips for 2019:

Crested Butte, Colorado, January 10 - 13 for \$330 per person.

Pagosa Springs, Colorado, February 21 -24 for \$330 per person.

Crested Butte is a favorite destination. A moderate ride on the bus, skiing, eating, shopping and a skating rink are within easy walking distance. Front country skiing includes groomed tracks, and middle country skiing primarily follows the drainages in the local area (Oh-Be-Joyful Creek, Slate Creek, Washington Gulch, East River, Brush Creek). Lift served skiing is available at Crested Butte resort, and is accessible via a separate shuttle bus system. Typically, one can purchase discounted tickets several weeks in advance. We will stay at the Old Town Inn.

In February we return to Pagosa Springs. We will stay at the Quality Inn. Skiing is primarily found near the Wolf Creek ski area.

A southern Colorado destination, Pagosa Springs has lots of good backcountry skiing options for all ability levels including Wolf Creek Ski Area and many miles of groomed Nordic tracks. A list of skiing opportunities will be distributed before the trip.) In town you can soak in the famous hot springs

So now that our bus trips are planned, it's time for you to start thinking snow! With Colorado's great snow, both locations should have ample skiing opportunities for all levels of skiers and be fun places to stay. Beginning skiers, be sure to register for the Club's beginner's class, as this will ultimately make a bus trip more enjoyable. If this is your first bus trip, a ski bag long enough to hold your cross country skis will be needed (shop early for a wider selection). The club provides snacks on the bus, skiers can bring their own more traditional lunch for the bus ride.

The Trip Registration forms are included as separate attachment with this newsletter. You can sign up for both trips. Keep in mind that if trips are oversubscribed, we will hold a lottery for seats on the bus (~50 per trip), but your chances of getting on the trips is very good. Put the trip dates on your calendar and make plans to go, because members tend to drop as the date nears.

Please be sure to read the Bus Trip Guidelines that are also linked to in the newsletter (on website). Direct any questions to the bus trip chairman Bob (hvac87108356@yahoo.com) or David (lbghose@aol.com). We hope you will join us for this fun bus trip season with lots of skiing opportunities!

Afore mentioned bus trip guidelines can be found at <http://nmccskiclub.org/ski-outings/bus-trips/>

Trip to Janet's Cabin

Our hut trip offering this year is a dandy! We're going to one of our favorites, Janet's Cabin, located near Breckenridge at 11,600 feet. This classic, Euro style cabin, which is the twin of nearby Francie's Cabin, features a wood-fired outdoor sauna, and indoor self-composting toilets. No going outside in the middle of the night! This is a "stretch" hut, with lots of room in the common areas for those who need their space! There are Nordic touring as well as turning opportunities from the hut.

This intermediate level trip involves a 4.6 mile ski in, and an elevation gain of just under 2000 feet. Skiers have the option of taking a free chair lift which is a fun way to cut a couple of hundred vertical feet off of the trip in.



Trip dates are January 20, 2020 to January 25. This includes an extra day to get home, if necessary, after skiing out of the hut. The cost is \$200, which includes group dinners at the hut.

As of press time we have 4 vacancies remaining. Please contact Guy Miller whose contact information is on the website. Please let contact Guy if you want to go on this trip, or if you are interested in hut trips in general.

Yurt Trip

Skiers,

Two more yurtmania options this winter, one easier and one more adventuresome.

1. Easier. Friday-Sunday, Friday and Saturday nights, Jan 24 and 25. Spruce Hole yurt run by Cumbres Nordic Adventures. (Same yurt as Dana mentions below for the end of February.) Room for 4-6 people. Two single beds, two double beds, in bunks.

<https://www.yurtsogood.com/>

2. Saturday-Monday President's Day weekend. Saturday and Sunday night, Feb 15 & 16, 2 yurts, Trujillo Meadows and Flat Mountain yurts run by the SW Nordic Center. 4 miles in, 500' up to Trujillo Meadows, 1000' up to Flat Mountain. We will start at the same trailhead/parking lot and split into two groups as the yurts are 4 miles apart, and people have the option of staying at one of the yurts both nights, or taking the beautiful trail between them and swapping with someone from the other camp for the second night. These yurts are smaller than Spruce Hole and accommodate 4 people each: 8 people total for the trip.

<https://southwestnordiccenter.com/yurts/flat-mountain-yurt/>

<https://southwestnordiccenter.com/yurts/trujillo-meadows-yurt/>

Approximate lodging cost is \$65/person. Transport and shared food is additional. All yurts are near Cumbres pass, an area known for its reliable deep snow.

Please email or call Scott if you are interested in either of these two trips.

Dana and I are coordinating and would love to talk to you at the ski club meeting this week and/or the November meeting.

--- more details ---

Yurting is a backpacking-like trip. Compared to staying overnight in a hotel, a yurt trip is more of an adventure. Compared to a hut trip, the trails to the yurt are shorter, flatter, and less technical. A yurt is much more rustic than a hut.

The yurt is moderately insulated, and is heated by a wood stove. Spruce Hole has solar panels and batteries, and is lit by LED lights at night. The other yurts are lit by propane lanterns. There is a three-burner propane stove, cooking utensils, paper towels, and dish soap. There is an outhouse and toilet paper. The beds have mattresses and pillows but no blankets. Basically you will need to bring clothes, food, and a sleeping bag.

Ski Trail to Trujillo & Flat

Class 2+. The ski in is about 4 miles, gradually gaining 1000' of elevation to Flat Mountain, or 500' to Trujillo Meadows. Trails are wide, and the route is on open meadows and forested logging roads. The trail is near the continental divide. The trail is suitable for a pulk; Scott will bring his gear in that way instead of a backpack and has a second pulk if you'd like to try one. There will not be avalanche conditions on the trail in. On the layover day, there is a variety of terrain to ski near the yurt. Near to Flat Mountain is the ridge that runs from Cumbres to Wolf Creek Passes, the continental divide, with spectacular views of the creek below. Options for extended touring intermingled with turns is a highlight of the layover day at Flat Mountain. Trujillo Meadows area is less steep. For example, one can ski out down a moderate slope then along the reservoir (frozen over).

Reservations for Spruce Hole yurt January 24-26 (two nights, Friday the 24th and Saturday the 25th). This is a plush and easy to get to yurt, 1 mile in, flat, perfect for a first yurt trip. Easy class 2 getting there (class 1+gear), with class 2-3 options near the yurt. The yurt can accommodate 4 people, and the cost is \$80 plus food per person.

Reservations have been made for two yurts (Trujillo Meadows and Flat Mountain) on Presidents weekend, February 15-17, (two nights lodging, Saturday the 15th and Sunday the 16th).

Each holds 4 and several yurters expressed interest last year of doing a yurt-to-yurt, so some could stay put the second night and some could swap places.

There is a 4 mile trail between the two yurts. Each yurt is about 4 miles to the trailhead. Trails form a roughly equilateral triangle. 600' to 1000' feet elevation gain, physical class 2, getting there. With class 1-3 options near the yurt.

Happy skiing,

Scott Mitchell

samitch@comcast.net 505-977-8893

Yellowstone is Calling

For several years there has been discussions about another ski trip to Yellowstone but for reasons beyond our control nothing ever came of those discussions until now. But finally, the idea of skiing in Yellowstone has become a real plan. Our plan is to fly into Bozeman on the 28th or 29th of January, people's schedules vary a few days one way or the other, take advantage of the Frosty Fun package to stay at Mammoth Hot Springs for two nights, then shuttle to Old Faithful Western Cabins for three more nights, then back to Mammoth for one night to catch the shuttle to Bozeman airport. In addition to the opportunity to view wolves, bison, elk, bears etc. in the wild, Yellowstone offers miles of class 1, 2 and 3 skiing either on our own or through a guided tour. We have planned this trip somewhat like our Silverton New Year's trips in that everyone who is interested in going is making his or her own lodging reservations with the only constant being a desire to have a group of friends to ski with. There is still time to make reservations if you are interested. To make reservation you can contact Yellowstone directly at 1-307-344-7311 Extension 3 for winter reservations or contact max.shepherd@comcast.net and he will send you the information he has collected and prices. For ski trails by Mammoth and Old Faithful see: <https://www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit/skiing-and-snowshoeing.htm>; and for information about Yellowstone in winter see: <https://www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit/visiting-yellowstone-in-winter.htm>

Chama Chile Ski Classic

Chama Chile Ski Classic Ski enthusiasts throughout the southwest will head for the 46th Annual Chama Chile Ski Classic 2020, on Saturday & Sunday January 18 & 19. In addition to the Classic, Freestyle, and Rookie X-C ski races, the 18K Freestyle race is once again part of the Southwest Nordic Series. New this year will be a 6K and a 12K snowshoe race. Both are qualifiers for the US Snow Shoe Association (USSSA) National Championship Junior snowshoe race (6K) and Adult/Master race (12K). This year's USSA National Championships will be held in Leadville, Co, February 29-March 1, 2020.

Other events during the weekend include Beginner & Advanced XC Ski Clinics; Ski Waxing Clinic; Ski & Snowshoe Tours; Costume Contest; 2 Awards Ceremonies; Live Music; Silent Auction. Plus a lot of fun in Chama, when you are not skiing! More information and registration are found at: <http://skichama.com>

Instruction

Are you ready to learn about Cross Country skiing basics? It does not matter if you are brand new to the sport, haven't been on skis in years, or just have a friend you would like to introduce cross country skiing to. Come join us for Beginning Cross Country Skiing. The indoor session will be conducted the evening of Wednesday December 11 6:00-7:30 PM at the Lomas and Tramway Library (908 Eastridge NE 87123). The outdoor session on Sandia Mountain is scheduled after the New Year's holiday, with an eye on the snow conditions.

Outdoor lessons are free, but one must be a ski club member to attend. Outdoor lessons focus on learning balance and control, kick and glide technique, side step and kick turns. Participants also practice herringbone steps up hill, and the snowplow.

More Information found at: <http://nmccskiclub.org/instruction/beginner-instruction>

Questions: contact our Instruction chairman - Instruction@NMCCSkiClub.org

T-shirts and Baseball Caps

This year the club is offering t-shirts and hats that casually show the enjoyment of cross country skiing with the ski club. Plus, they are stylish, comfortable, practical, and will bring a warm memory of serenity in the woods with good friends. The Ski Club T-shirts and Baseball caps will be available for purchase at the Club Meeting, CASH ONLY.



- Short sleeve, 100% cotton, Navy, design in front, Unisex sizing, \$20 each
 - Short sleeve, 50/50 blend, New Navy, design on back, Women's relaxed fit, \$20 each
 - Baseball cap, with club name, \$15 each
- BEST DEAL: T-SHIRT & BASEBALL CAP (purchase together) \$30**



<i>Calendar of Events 2019-2020</i>		
Thursday	October 10 7:00 – 9:00PM	General Meeting at Garden Club
Friday-Sunday	October 25 – October 27	Albuquerque area Ski Swap
Thursday	November 14 7:00 – 9:00PM	General Meeting at Garden Club
Wednesday	December 11 6:00 – 7:30PM	Classroom session- Beginning Cross Country Skiing: Library at Tramway & Lomas
Thursday	December 12 7:00 – 9:00PM	General Meeting at Garden Club
Thursday	January 9 7:00 – 9:00PM	General Meeting at Garden Club
Weekend (1 day)	January TBD	Field Instruction - Beginning Cross Country Skiing Sandia Mountains
Friday-Monday	January 10- January 13	Bus Trip: Crested Butte, Colorado
Monday - Saturday	January 20 – January 25	Hut Trip: Janet's Cabin
Friday - Sunday	January 24 - January 26	Yurt Trip: Spruce Hole
Weekend	January or February	Beginner friendly overnight trip (compliments beginning ski lessons)
Thursday	February 13 7:00 – 9:00 PM	General Meeting at Garden Club
Saturday - Monday	February 15 – February 17	Yurt Trip, Trujillo Meadows and Flat Mountain
Friday-Monday	February 22 – February 25	Bus Trip: Pagosa Springs, Colorado
Thursday	March 12 7:00 – 9:00 PM	General Meeting at Garden Club

Board Members 2019-2020			
President	Bill Heitz	259-8745	President@nmccskiclub.org
Vice President	Peter Marks	856-8237	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	Bob Potter David D'Antonio	232-2486 553-2795	BusTrips@nmccskiclub.org
Hut Trips	Guy Miller	306-2628	HutTrips@nmccskiclub.org
Car Trips	Scott Mitchell	977-8893	CarTrips@nmccskiclub.org
Newsletter	Dean Athow	275-1097	Newsletter@nmccskiclub.org
Instruction	Ruth Bargman-Romero	980-2703	Instruction@nmccskiclub.org
Membership	Catherine Waters	218-6936	Membership@nmccskiclub.org
Meetup & Social Media	Bet Gendron	228-8025	SocialMedia@nmccskiclub.org
Programs	Bob Guarnieri	331-8381	Programs@nmccskiclub.org
Mailing/Egroup	Marilynn Szydowski	332-8018	egroup@nmccskiclub.org
Refreshments	Teri Sheldahl	980-3241	Refreshments@nmccskiclub.org
Trails	Sam Beard	828-0673	Trails@nmccskiclub.org
Web Site	Eric Russell	281-1289	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 51563 Albuquerque, NM 87181		

Ratings		
Class	Vertical Climb (ft)	Distance (miles)
One	Less than 1000	Less than 5
Two	Less than 2000	Less than 5
Three	Greater than 2000	Greater than 10
Four	Unpatrolled, mountainous terrain, with the purpose of downhill skiing. Slopes can be greater than 25 degrees. Knowledge of use of climbing skins, avalanche gear needed.	
Steepness of slopes, skill level, and stamina can also dictate the ski tour rating. Please see the webpage for more information. http://nmccskiclub.org/ski-outings/		

Avalanche Outlook	
US	https://avalanche.org/
Canada	https://www.avalanche.ca/map
Taos	http://taosavalanchecenter.org
Crested Butte	http://cbavalanchecenter.org/
Some of the sites from https://avalanche.org	
Colorado	http://avalanche.state.co.us/
Utah	https://utahavalanchecenter.org
Tetons	http://jhavalanche.org
Yellowstone	https://www.mtavalanche.com
Sawtooths	https://www.sawtoothavalanche.com
Central Sierra	https://www.sierraavalanchecenter.org
Eastern Sierra	http://www.esavalanche.org

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