



Lake Creek Lodge overnight trip

While the Willamette Valley was engulfed in a pea soup-like fog and Portland in a deep

freeze, 16 intrepid souls braved the balmy 50+ degree temperatures of Santiam Pass, suffering spring snow conditions to boot.

Nevertheless, the annual MLK weekend trip to Lake Creek Lodge near beautiful, downtown Camp Sherman, was a rollicking success. Ensnconced in 3 lovely, knotty pine-paneled, well-maintained cabins scattered about the meandering creek, with all the

modern conveniences, sans TV, Club members enjoyed gourmet potluck dining, great skiing, scintillating conversation and an easy camaraderie.

Each year, over half the participants are repeats, attesting to the trip's popularity. Having a captive audience, I had the opportunity to share photos of my September backpack trip to Wyoming's Wind River Range and further entertained the gathered minions with the tale of how the Dear Leader broke his finger while descending from the backcountry near 3-Fingered Jack (hmmmm, interesting name). It was a minor spill, but the finger was in the wrong place. Slathering the knuckle with Vaseline, I was able to work my ring over it and, having dislocated the finger as well, an added benefit was to pop it back into place. With a finger splint in

Steve Levey



Skiing through the burn area towards Three Finger Jack

my First Aid kit and taping the finger to the adjacent finger, I inelegantly skied what had turned to breakable crust back to the parking lot, return to the cabins, and, rejecting the macho approach, milk it for all the sympathy I could.

Steve Levey, *Trip Leader*

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Nominees for club officers

So far, the ONC board has identified one person who is willing to be a nominee for the board elections, to be held in April. Mary Hepokoski, current ONC board president, has agreed to run for another two-year term. The board is still looking for two other club members who would be willing to run for a board position. When all the nominees have been identified, their profiles will be posted on the ONC website. Ballots will be mailed out to members mid-March. Members may either mail in their ballots or attend the general meeting in April to vote in person for the new board members. If you are interested in serving on the board please contact Ann Truax 503 231-7220.

Ann Truax, *Elections' Committee*

John Craig Tour

The John Craig Ski Memorial Ski Event, which used to be a tradition for the Oregon Nordic Club, our parent organization, is this year a noncompetitive mini-John Craig ski tour up the McKenzie Pass to the Dee Wright Observatory located at the summit of the pass; 6.6 miles one way with an elevation gain of 2,000 feet. It will be on Saturday, March 23. Skiers can start at 10 a.m. at the East-side snow gate 9 miles west of Sisters on Hwy. 242 (McKenzie Pass road). Registration is not required, but a donation, at the start, is suggested to help defray the cost of grooming and the aid station. Park on the right hand side of the road. An aid station will be at Windy Point about 3.2 miles up the road. There will be a BYOB potluck afterwards at the Best Western motel in Sisters, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.



Scott Diamond

Idaho Backcountry Huts
See page 5 for details on how to sign-up

BOARD MEMBERS

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oncdartours@gmail.com

Recruiter(s)—vacant

Novice Ski Tours

Coordinator—vacant

Summer Coordinator

Bike/Hike—vacant

Membership:

Susan Kelly, chair

503 706-6463

membership@onc.org

EDITORIAL NOTES

The deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month (for the next month's publication).

Send submissions to oncnwletter@gmail.com

as a Microsoft Word document (no formatting ie. no bold text, all caps text, tabs or other settings) in Times Roman as a attachment (preferred); compatible text files as an attachment; and put text in an e-mail with no formatting.

Corrections: e-mail corrections and/or additions to the editor. This newsletter is published monthly by: Portland Chapter of the Oregon Nordic Club, Inc. P.O. Box 3906 Portland, OR 97208

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 2 SATURDAY

15th Annual Watershed Wide Event

Various sites in SE Portland, 9 a.m. – Noon

Join the Johnson Creek Watershed Council for the 15th Annual Watershed Wide Event. Help complete important restoration work at unique natural areas throughout the Johnson Creek watershed by clearing blackberry and ivy and planting native vegetation. JCWC will provide gloves, tools, morning snacks and all necessary guidance. Please wear sturdy shoes (rubber boots are best) and dress for the weather. Events will occur rain or shine. Please pre-register at the link below. <http://jcw.org/> (click on March 2 on the Event Calendar)

March 5 TUESDAY

Hiking the high Sierra

ONC monthly program.

Multnomah Arts Center, 7688

SW Capitol Hwy., Room 30 7:30

p.m.

Free!

March 6 WEDNESDAY

Clinic: Wilderness Survival

REI Tualatin, 6:30–8 p.m. Free! Info/sign-up: rei.com

March 7 THURSDAY

Clinic: Bike Maintenance Basics

REI Clackamas, 6:30–8:30 p.m. Free! Info/sign-up:

rei.com

March 13 THURSDAY

Clinic: Columbia Gorge Spring Hikes

REI Portland, 6:30–8:30 p.m. Free! Info/sign-up: rei.com

(store events)



March 14 THURSDAY

Clinic: Bike Maintenance Basics

REI Portland, 6:30–8:30 p.m. Free! Info/sign-up: rei.com (store events)

March 15 FRIDAY

Mazama Used Equipment Sale

MMC, 527 SE 43rd Ave., 6–9 p.m. Check in items Thur., Mar. 14, 4–8 p.m. Gear pick up Sat., Mar. 16 3–7 p.m.

March 21 THURSDAY

Clinic: Wilderness Survival

REI Clackamas, 6:30–8:30 p.m. Free! Info/sign-up: rei.com (store events)

April 6–7 SUNDAY

Trillium Festival family friendly

Tryon Creek State Park 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Free!

Native plant sale, guided nature hikes, live music, kids' activities, local vendors. The Trillium Festival supports the education and restoration programs of the Friends

Clinics & Training

May 22–26 WEDNESDAY–SUNDAY

2013 Oregon Spring Camp, Mt. Bachelor

The Oregon Spring Camp offers citizen skiers a very unique chance to take part in a world-class ski education experience in the late spring. Mt Bachelor typically holds sufficient snow on the Nordic Center trails to allow grooming into June. Our camp dates are set up to take advantage of the most reliable window concurrent with U.S. and Canadian National Ski Team camps. Intermediate skill level required. Registration opens this month. Info: xcoregon.org

Oregon Nordic Club Portland Chapter

Formed as a nonprofit volunteer organization in 1968 by Nordic ski enthusiasts interested in using public lands for recreational cross-country skiing, the Portland Chapter of the Oregon Nordic Club grew to over 550 members. The Portland Chapter is one of twelve chapters in the state. With activities year-round, the Portland Chapter is dedicated to promoting greater participation in and understanding of the value of outdoor recreation with an emphasis on Nordic and back-country skiing. In addition we hike, climb, backpack and bicycle year round in the northwest forests, mountains and in-town.

Member Benefits

- ▶ Free day tours; overnight trips, exclusively for members
- ▶ Clinics and lessons
- ▶ Rental discounts at selected merchants
- ▶ Member rates on Mazama activities (excludes classes) and use of Mazama Lodge: day-use, overnight and meals
- ▶ Meet new friends who ski, hike and bike
- ▶ Monthly newsletter with free classified ads
- ▶ Support construction and maintenance of winter trails in the Mt. Hood and Gifford Pinchot NF
- ▶ Membership in Northwest Ski Club Council and Far West Ski Association. Discounts: www.nwskiers.org www.fwsa.org
- ▶ Federation of

Memberships: \$27 singles, \$33 families

Info: membership@onc.org

Diamonds missing, branches across ski trails?

Have you skied on trails with blue diamonds missing, downed trees or brush across the trails and unexpected dead ends? Trail maintenance season is coming up and we'll be making improvements. Greg Wenneson is in charge of trail tending this year and will meeting with the Forest Service representatives from Mt. Hood and Gifford Pinchot National Forests to identify trail maintenance projects for this summer. Please let us know what trails need diamond trail markers or to be brushed. Contact: Greg Wenneson gregwenn@sonic.net ♦

Have your trip photos posted on the ONC photo site

Do you have some photos of our overnight trips or day tours. Send them to our photo site so all club members can enjoy them. The link to our photo site is on our website.

Send photos to terryowen@frontier.com as an attachment—5 x 7 inches, 768 x 1024 is a good size to send. ♦

PRESIDENT'S SKI TRACKS

We have had three serious injuries on overnight trips this season that I know of. Tere Enburg broke her elbow when she slipped walking and Ann Truax broke her wrist in an icy Sno Park. Both required surgery. (Fortunately Tere had trip insurance for the Yellowstone trip, but we will miss her.) Steve Levy broke his hand while skiing on his trip. A speedy recovery to them all!

Several participants on my overnight trip to Summit Meadows slipped in the Sno-Parks, which were sometimes icy. Fortunately no one was hurt.

On the Scottish Lakes trip in early February, Don, the proprietor, had us unload our parked cars on a non-busy road before moving them to a very icy parking lot. We really appreciated his thoughtfulness given Tere and Ann's injuries. (All the staff there was excellent in trying to provide us with a great trip.)

My point—be careful.

Recently a member told me she never carries water when she skis. Is it because she does not like to urinate in an outhouse or the backcountry? Does she know the increased risk of hypothermia and shock (if injured) a dehydrated skier faces? "What are a trip participant's responsibilities?" was one of the topics at our recent board meeting. Listening to the leader, carrying the "Tour Essentials" (see the list elsewhere in the Newsletter), not skiing alone, sharing gas expenses, and adapting to changed trip expectations in the event of questionable conditions or injury to another participant were all mentioned. This list is not necessarily complete. I would add being on time. Do you have something that you believe belongs on the list? ♦

Mary Hepokoski, *President*

Mazama 90th Winter Family Festival

ONC families are invited to join the Mazama Winter Family Festival Saturday, March 2nd Noon-8 p.m. at Mazama Lodge. Find additional information about the Festival on the Mazama Lodge website. www.mazamas.org under "facilities." ♦

Columbia Cascades Trail Skills College

The 5th Annual Columbia Cascades Trail Skills College will be on April 19-21 at Cascade Locks, OR. The Pacific Crest Trail Association sponsors this free event that teaches volunteers essential skills in trail construction and maintenance. Registration opens on Friday, February 22. Beginners and experts alike can benefit from the courses being offered. Info and register: www.pcta.org ♦

NORDIC ISSUES

Gifford Pinchot National Forest

Mt. St. Helens In December, the Cowlitz Valley Ranger District made a finding No Significant Impact (FONSI) in which the FS agrees to allow the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to allow Ascot USA, Inc. to prospect for minerals on Goat Mountain, in the upper Green River Watershed of Northwest Skamania County, WA. This just outside the Mt. St. Helens National Volcanic Monument boundary Northeast of Spirit Lake and Windy Ridge. The deciding official, Cowlitz Valley District Ranger Gar Abbas commented, "The current actions before the federal agencies are related only to prospecting [exploration] activities within the permit areas. This is not a mining development project. The Forest Service was satisfied with measures developed to ensure resource protection and site reclamation." Under the Ascot USA, Inc. proposal, exploratory drilling could begin the summer of 2013. For additional info regarding this decision, contact North Zone Planning Team Leader Erica Taecker at 360 497-1136 or etaecker@fs.fed.us. The Environmental Assessment will soon be available through the BLM website at www.blm.gov/or/programs/minerals.

Deschutes National Forest

Mt. Bachelor Mt. Bachelor & Deschutes NF are proposing a number of "infrastructure improvements" to the ski area. Some were mentioned in last month's article. Other proposed changes that could impact Nordic skiing include: A new, two-acre Nordic ski learning area. For more info about the proposal, including maps that more clearly indicate potential Nordic impacts, see: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa_nepa_project_exp.php?project=35863. To comment on the project, contact Amy Tinderholt, Project Leader at 541 383-4708. 63095 Deschutes Market Rd., Bend, OR, 97701. atinderholt@fs.fed.us

Sisters area According to the sistersoregonguide.com website, "Cycling is so attractive here that the State of Oregon is currently in the process of designating three routes in the Sisters Country as scenic bikeways. One goes over McKenzie Pass on Highway 242; one takes riders east across rolling countryside and farmland to Smith Rock; the third is a series of loops along the Metolius River in Camp Sherman." The "STA is awaiting the approval of the Sisters to Black Butte Ranch paved multi-use path" by the USFS, and hope to have an answer by spring 2013. While these proposed inter-city trails are mostly paved, with a little snow, perhaps they can become X-county trails in the winter. More info is available on this website: sisterstrails.com/index.html ♦

Miriam Hammer, *Nordic Issues*

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DAY TOUR POLICIES

Tours depart promptly, arrive at least 10 minutes before the scheduled departure time to allow for necessary arrangements. Arrive fully prepared for the day's activities!

Trips are not canceled unless the weather and road conditions are unsafe; contact the leader when conditions are dangerous. Tour leaders may change tour itinerary, due to weather conditions. Bring the Tour Essentials (see list on the sidebar, page 6), food, water, map, clothing, and equipment appropriate for the tour.

Tour leaders can forbid you from joining a tour, if you are not prepared. Read and heed the Oregon Nordic Club's Tour Ratings listed below.

Day tour participants are encouraged to car pool and share costs. The suggested contribution by each passenger is 15 cents per mile. For three or more passengers, the maximum total contribution by all passengers is limited to 45 cents per mile.

Dogs are only allowed on "Dog Tours." These trips are designated with:  See website for dog policy for ski tours.

Dogs must be on a leash in sno-parks. Please keep dogs off ski tracks and pack out dog waste.

TOUR RATINGS

These designations are a guide to the skill and commitment level required for each tour. A full trip rating always includes a terrain rating plus a

continued on sidebar page 5

DAY TOURS

Note: if weather or road conditions are dangerous, please confirm tour with the leader.

Check the website or meetup site for last minute day tours especially if we get snow as there will be ski tours scheduled.

March 2, Sat, Easy/Intermediate Ski Teacup Lake, Mt. Hood, OR

The Teacup Chapter of the Oregon Nordic Club grooms and maintains this wonderful ski area. There are many easy short loops to ski along with longer loops for the more skilled skier. There is a clear view of Mt. Hood when the skies are clear. Please bring a \$10 donation to contribute for the grooming, which is managed by volunteers from the Teacup Chapter of ONC. Meet at McMenamins Edgefield's West parking lot for carpools and a 8:30 a.m. departure. **For more info and to confirm attendance contact the leader: Mike Dianich 503 695-5385.**

March 3, Sun, Intermediate/Advanced Ski Cooper Spur/Old Wagon Road, Mt. Hood, OR

We'll ski on the Old Wagon Road towards Cloud Cap. How far up we go will depend on snow conditions, weather and the groups ski level. You will need climbing skins for the upper (steep) part of the Old Wagon Road. There are great views, the snow is usually better in this area and most likely we will see very few people. If we ski to Cloud Cap it's about 10 miles and 2,100 ft. elevation gain. If it's raining or the snow conditions are bad, we will go for a hike instead. Because it is a long drive, we will leave town at 7:30 a.m. **For more info and meeting place contact the leader: Kerstin Jurgens 503 234-7551.**

March 9, Saturday, Easy/Intermediate Ski Location TBD, Mt. Hood

We'll go where the snow conditions allow. Meet at Gateway Transit Center parking structure, NE 99th Ave. and NE Pacific St., at 8:15 a.m. to form carpools, leaving by 8:30 a.m. **For more info and to confirm attendance, you must contact the leader: Mary Hepokoski 503 245-1618 503 442-0620 (cell) hepomp8@comcast.net.**

March 13, Wed, Easy/Intermediate Ski Location TBD, Mt. Hood, OR

The Wednesday ski tour group will ski a to-be-determined route in the Mt. Hood area. Meet at

McMenamins Edgefield's West parking lot for carpools and a 9 a.m. departure. **For more info and to confirm attendance, you must contact the leader: Janet Liu 503 245-1357 janetliu1@juno.com**

March 16, Sat, Intermediate Ski Cooper Spur, Mt. Hood, OR

Join me for a ski up the Cooper Spur Road/Wagon Road to Cloud Cap Inn. We'll descend the pioneer Wagon Road, subject to fresh snow dump. Meet at McMenamins Edgefield's West parking lot for carpools and a 8:30 a.m. departure. **For more info and to confirm attendance contact the leader: Mike Dianich 503 695-5385.**

March 17, Sun, Easy/Intermediate Ski Location TBD, Mt. Hood

We'll go where the snow conditions allow. Meet at Gateway Transit Center parking structure, NE 99th Ave. and NE Pacific St., at 8:15 a.m. to form carpools, leaving by 8:30 a.m. **For more info and to confirm attendance, you must contact the leader: Mary Hepokoski 503 245-1618 503 442-0620 (cell) hepomp8@comcast.net.**

March 24, Sun, Easy Ski Location TBA

We'll go where the snow and the grooming are good. Plan to meet at 9 a.m. to carpool. **For more info and meeting place contact the leader: Miriam 360 883-1060.**

March 27, Wed, Intermediate Ski Location TBD, Mt. Hood, OR

The Wednesday ski tour group will ski a to-be-determined route in the Mt. Hood area. The tour is weather dependent so check with the leader. Meet at McMenamins Edgefield's West parking lot, 2126 SW Halsey, for carpools and a 9 a.m. departure. **For more info and to confirm attendance, you must contact the leader: Mitch Auerbach 503 281-4809 mauerbachfso@yahoo.com.** ♦

Lets ski or hike

Join the ONC leadership team...

Pick your favorite ski/hiking trail (and date) and take some ONC friends along to enjoy the outdoors.

Lead a ski tour in April or the first weekend in May! New to leading tours? Send us an email and we'll get you up to speed. Send tour descriptions (by March 15, 8 p.m.) to day tours at oncdays@comcast.net. ♦

Common meeting places: Gateway Transit Center NE 99th Ave. north of NE Pacific Ave. Parkrose/Sumner Transit Center—NE Sandy Blvd. & NE 96th Ave. McMenamins Edgefield—2126 SW Halsey Take I-84 to Exit 16 (Wood Village) turn right, go to Halsey (first stop light) turn left, go 1/2-mile; it's on the right.

OVERNIGHT TRIPS

SIGN-UP TIPS

- ✿ Our overnight trips are exclusively for members: join or renew your membership before signing up. Membership applications available on our website (mail to club P.O. Box).
- ✿ Contact the leader with any questions you have. Do my skills fit the skiing conditions? Any special requirements or gear? Travel time?
- ✿ Read the overnight trip policies (see side bar)!
- ✿ Sign up early so we'll have enough people cover trip costs.
- ✿ To sign up: fill out an overnight trip application and mail it with your trip fee to the trip leader.
- ✿ If the trip is full and you still want to go? Join the waiting list: send your overnight trip application and trip fee to the leader (your fee will be returned, if you do not go). Last minute opening do occur!
- ✿ Purchase trip insurance (you are responsible for finding someone to take your place if you cancel). A link to sign-up for travel insurance will be on the overnight trip application form on the web or contact the trip leader or Overnight Trip Coordinator; they'll send you the link.

March 1-3, Fri-Sun, Intermediate Backcountry Ski Tilly Jane A-Frame Cabin, Mt. Hood, OR Spaces available*

We'll backcountry ski to the ONC managed shelter on East side of Mt. Hood, a 3.5 mile ski with a 1,900-foot gain up the Tilly Jane Ski Trail to the cabin at 5,700 feet elevation. You carry your own gear, including

sleeping bags, pad and food for dinner, lunch and breakfasts. We have a wood stove for cooking meals or heating



ONC skiers at the Tilly Jane A-Frame

water. You can also bring their own stove and cooking pots. Experienced intermediate skiing skills with turning ability, good physical condition and navigate skills using map, compass or GPS. Climbing skins are required.

Cost: Free (a \$15 dollar check is required to hold your space. If you cancel, the check will be cashed and donated to the TJ cabin). You must be an ONC member before signing up for this trip.

For more info, please e-mail:

TillyJaneCabin@gmail.com. We'll forward your request to the appropriate trip leader.

Mar 1-3, Fri-Sun, All Abilities Ski and Snowshoe Crater Lake via Charter Bus

Check with leader for availability

The Crater Lake rim, at 7,000 feet, averages 44 feet of snow a year. Join the ONC for the big trip at Crater Lake. See website for full description.

Trip limit: 40 participants, including leader.

Cost: \$290 per person in Historic Prospect Inn; \$275 per person in adjacent motel-like building; you must be a current ONC club member before signing up for this trip.

For more info contact: Ted at 503 452-7432 or teds skier@gmail.com.

Mar 9-12, Sat-Tue / Mar 12-15, Tue-Fri, BC Ski Backcountry Huts near Payette Lake, ID

Spaces available*

The huts are near McCall, ID about a seven-hour drive from Portland. The first and last day is a travel day and/or a break day between two hut trips. The skiing terrain around the Fall Creek Hut (Mar. 10 and 11) is mostly beginner to intermediate backcountry with some steeper sections. The total vertical elevation gain is about 1,200 ft. with slopes ranging from 12 degrees to 30 degrees on mostly open terrain. Around the Twah Creek Hut (Mar. 13 and 14) the slopes range from beginner (10-15 degrees) to expert (35-45 degrees) with some extreme chutes (over 50 degrees) in a bowl. Huts have a wood fired sauna and a composting outhouse. Note: the leader snores.

If there is enough interest, we could go to several other yurts (Alta, WY or Sunriver, ID). They can not be canceled and are quite a bit more expensive.

Trip Limit: 8 participants, including leader.

Cost: \$60 (two nights in either hut), \$120 (four nights in both huts) for members; you must be a current ONC member before signing up for this trip. Includes lodging in the huts. Not included: lodging the night before skiing into the huts and food.

Send your ONC overnight trip application and \$60 or \$120 check (indicate hut or huts that you sign up for) payable to ONC-Portland Chapter to the trip leader: Larry Risch 1511 SW Park Ave, Apt. 1305, Portland, OR 97201. Info: Larry 503 227-8486 hikernw@gmail.com

Mar 22-31, Fri-Sun, All Abilities Ski Canadian Rockies Spring Break Ski Trip Assiniboine Lodge Option

Trip full, waiting list available*

*Trip status as of February 12

mileage rating, to help you better select the right tour for your ability and inclination. Please consider your physical conditioning and your equipment when deciding to go on a tour. Match the tour level to your ability for your physical safety and comfort, and the safety and comfort of other participants on the tour. If you are in any doubt about the rating of a tour, please call the tour leader before the day of the tour.

Novice Ski Tour

These tours are for the inexperienced skiers. While this is not a lesson, the leader will help new skiers as much as possible. Tour length is 3-5 miles over nearly flat terrain.

Easy Tour

Ski: 4-6 miles over gentle terrain at a pace comfortable for all participants.

Bike: Mostly flat terrain, 8-10 m.p.h. pace, frequent regrouping.

Hike: < 8 miles; 200 ft. per mile elevation gain.

Backpack: < 5 miles/day; 200 ft. per mile elevation gain.

Intermediate Tour

Ski: 6-12 miles. Terrain flat to long hills that are no steeper than found on a road (maximum 10 degrees). Moderate pace. Trail turning skills required, if there are hills. Consult tour description for specifics.

Bike: Moderate terrain with rolling hill (some short steep hills); 10-14 m.p.h. pace, regrouping when appropriate.

Hike: 8-10 miles; 200 to 400 ft. per mile elev. gain.

Backpack: 5-7 miles per day; 200 to 400 ft. per mile elevation gain.

Advanced Tour

Ski: > 12 miles. Terrain flat to steep hills (> 10 degrees). Moderate to fast pace. Strong turning skills required on the tours with steeper slopes.

Bike: Difficult terrain with one or more major hills/series of longer, steeper hills; 15-18 m.p.h. pace, regrouping when necessary.

continued on sidebar page 6

Hike: > 10 miles; 400 ft. per mile elevation gain. Steady pace and/or difficult terrain (a workout).
Backpack: > 7 miles/day; 400-600 ft./mile elevation gain.

TOUR ESSENTIALS

Pack these essentials on any ONC activity, "just in case." Remember that cotton offers no insulation when wet. Choose wool or synthetics like polypro or Capilene® for warmth and comfort.

Skiing & Hiking Essentials

- First aid kit
- Matches (in waterproof case) and fire starter
- Rain gear and extra clothes, including a warm sweater
- Extra food and water
- Plastic whistle
- Map and compass (know how to use)
- Flashlight, extra batteries and bulb
- Space blanket or bivy bag
- Pocket knife
- Toilet paper and trowel (ziplock bag to carry out toilet paper)
- Sunglasses, lip balm and sun screen
- Foam sit pad

Biking Essentials

- Helmet (required on all bike rides)
- Spare tube
- Patch kit
- Tire pump
- Water bottle (filled)
- Tire irons

OVERNIGHT TRIP POLICIES

1. All overnight trips must be approved by the Overnight Trip Coordinator before they can be publicized. A potential leader must follow the procedures for leading a trip as determined by the Overnight Trip Coordinator. Overnight trips are announced in the newsletter or on the website.

1. All overnight trips must be approved by the Overnight Trip Coordinator before they can be

Continued on sidebar page 7

See website for full description.

Trip Limit: 10 participants, including leader.

Trip Cost: The total cost estimated at \$800.

For more info contact Ted 503 452-7432

tedskier@gmail.com or Julius 503 705-3443.

Apr 5-7, Fri-Sun, Intermediate Backcountry Ski Tilly Jane A-Frame Cabin, Mt. Hood, OR Spaces available*

See Mar. 1-3 Tilly Jane trip for full description. ♦

***Trip status as of February 12**

Oregon Nordic Club Overnight Trip Application

TOUR NAME: _____

DATE: _____

FEE / DEPOSIT: _____

One application per person

Mail your check payable to ONC-Portland Chapter and this application to the tour leader at their address listed in the tour description in the newsletter. Contact them for their address if it is not available.

NAME: _____

ONC MEMBER: yes no* other ONC Chapter

*You must be a current ONC member before signing up for ONC overnight trips

PHONE: (home) _____

(work) _____

(cell) _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

STATE: _____

ZIP: _____

E-MAIL**:

** If you do not have an e-mail address, please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your check and this form.

Assumption of Risk and Liability Waiver

Outdoor adventures by their very nature are inherently dangerous and involve some degree of risk. I am aware that participating in the Oregon Nordic Club's outings may expose me to certain risks and dangers including, but not limited to the hazards of mountainous, aquatic, or wilderness terrain, accident, illness, the forces of nature, and travel to and from the trailhead or point of departure. I am aware that it is not possible to foresee all of the potential hazards of outdoor activities. Each participant in a ONC activity is responsible for his or her decisions.

To the best of my knowledge, I feel physically and mentally able to assume full participation in the outings of activities in which I will participate. I understand that the Oregon Nordic Club is a volunteer organization. In consideration of voluntarily participating in these outings, trips, or activities, I have and do hereby assume all the risks inherent in these activities and hold harmless the Oregon Nordic Club and its agents, tour leaders, officers, and instructors, from and against any and all claims, liability, and demands of any nature, for the acts or omissions of the Oregon Nordic Club or its agents, tour leaders, officers, or instructors.

Please read ONC's overnight trip policies located on the side bar starting on page 6 before signing for for a trip; note the cancellation policy. Refunds are not made unless a replacement is found for your spot on the trip. Purchase trip insurance incase of hardship: www.travelguard.com/agentlink.asp?ta_arc=125858&pcod (this link is on our website)

I have read and understand the above statements concerning the Oregon Nordic Club's programs.

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

(Parent or Guardian must sign if the trip participant is under 18 years of age)

Overnight Trip Policies continued from sidebar on page 7

Trip Cancellation Policy

Notify the trip leader ASAP if you must cancel, even if it is a shared-cost trip and no deposit has been paid. Trip fees are nonrefundable unless a replacement is found.

The following applies:

1. If the participant desires a refund, they are responsible for finding their own replacement. Check with the trip leader to get a copy of the waiting list; this list can be used to locate a replacement. The participant should cooperate with the trip leader to draw on the waiting list for a replacement member

Once a replacement has been secured, a written or e-mail request for refund must be sent to the Overnight Trip Coordinator. Once it has been confirmed that a replacement participant has paid for the tour, a refund will be issued within 30 days, less \$10.

2. If a replacement is not secured, the participant is accountable for the full cost, and no refund will be issued.

3. If the participant has paid a deposit only, and withdraws from the trip without finding a replacement, the full amount of the deposit is forfeited and no refund will be issued.

Travel Insurance

ONC has made arrangement with TravelGuard for a special travel insurance program for trips, which covers death of a family member, major illness, or injury. It is recommended that members sign up with them at the following site, make their own arrangements for travel insurance, or take personal responsibility for lost funds.

www.travelguard.com/agentlink.asp?ta_arc=125858&pcod (this link on our website) ♦

Welcome New Members! New members for February will be posted in next month's newsletter.

ONC provides these names and phone numbers for the personal use of its members. Reproduction as a phone list is prohibited.

February membership report: is not available and will be included in the April newsletter.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Draft Minutes of February 11, 2013, 7:00 PM ONC Board Meeting

Board Members Present: Kim Davis, Mary Hepokoski, Steve Planchon and Ann Truax.

Approval of Minutes: January minutes approved as drafted.

Treasurer's Report: - About \$28,000 in net income through January 31. Overnight trip expenses expected to reduce this amount in future months. Detailed written report provided.

Reports/Discussion/Actions:

Presidents Report: Mary provided a written report, with much of the information addressed under individual business items below.

Day Tours: Unpredictable snow conditions have affected the day tour program.

Overnight Tours: Overnight tours appear to be going smoothly, except for some recent injuries related to slippery ice conditions.

Membership: Membership appears to be increasing, but not by a significant number.

Nordic Issues: No report provided.

Trail Tending: It was noted that a decision needs to be made whether or not to maintain the Wygant Trail.

Tilly Jane: No report provided. But, Tilly Jane revenues indicate that the rental program is working well.

Trillium Yurt: Discussion regarding Portland Chapter operation of a new Trillium shelter was deferred until the March meeting when a Forest Service representative will be at the meeting.

Publicity/Meet-up Site: No report provided.

Website: No report provided.

Nominating Committee: Three vacant seats anticipated. The Nominating Committee is working to identify members who may be interested in serving on the Board. Candidates will be identified on the Chapter website prior to the April election.

Other:

Some on the Board expressed an interest in providing more training to current and future day tour leaders, including avalanche, orienteering and first aid training.

The Board discussed the need to better define what is expected of day and overnight trip participants so as to ensure safe and enjoyable experiences for all members.

Next Meeting: Monday, March 11, 7:00 p.m. @ Mazamas, 527 SE 43rd, PDX.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:30 p.m.

Submitted By: Steve Planchon, *Secretary*

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE: ► Madshus Megasonic skate skis, 190 cm, for skiers up to 136 lbs. (bought at ski swap by mistake; I am heavier). Brand new, still in plastic wrapper. \$120. Clayton claytonha@yahoo.com.

FOR SALE: ► Women's Karhu Convert II 75 mm cross-country ski boots, sz 8 1/2, Super comfortable, lots of great features. Great for touring and backcountry. Like new condition in original box. \$80 (retail for \$160 new). Amy 503 891-3689 ablumenberg@comcast.net

FOR SALE: ► Nearly-new women's BC NNN boots for sale. Used just 2 hours. Beautiful Rossignol black boots with copper accents. Sz 41. Easy lacing system with a zippered front to keep out snow. Bought from Sierra Trading Post for \$63 plus shipping. \$50 OBO. Christine 503 729-5383 sisu1956@gmail.com

Deadline: 15th of the month (for next month's publication). **Free ads are for members only**, placed on a first come basis and may be edited depending on space availability. Send to: oncnewsletter@gmail.com as a MS Word document attachment --preferred--(with no formatting i.e. no bold text or tabs), in Times Roman, compatible text file, or send text in an email. **Ads will be published for 3 months.** Please notify editor to run ads longer or be remove earlier.

publicized. A potential leader must follow the procedures for leading a trip as determined by the overnight trip coordinator. Overnight trips are announced in the newsletter or on the website.

2. Overnight trips are limited to members; non-members are invited to join using the application in the monthly newsletter or on the website.

3. All spaces are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Participants can reserve a place on a trip by mailing or delivering the Overnight Trip Application, payment and self-addressed stamped envelope to the trip leader. Space is not reserved until receipt of required deposit or payment. The date of receipt is the earlier of the postmark date or the date of physical delivery to the trip leader.

4. Participants must provide an email address or a self-addressed, stamped envelope with payment so the leader can easily provide trip information.

5. Other ONC Chapter members are considered members and can go on Portland Chapter trips.

WAITING LIST: If a trip is full, participants can be placed on the waiting list by sending the trip leader an application and trip fee. The application and fee will be held by the leader until a space becomes available; at that time, the participant will be asked if s/he wishes to join the trip. Those not offered a place on the trip receive a full refund.

Continued in column on page 6

Monthly meeting and program

Hiking the high Sierra



Working off their bucket list, Steve Levy and his hiking partner of 35 years, Ron Marson, returned to the Sierras to fill in their last remaining gap of the high country from Yosemite to south of Mt. Whitney on this 10-day on-and off-trail backpacking trip. Unusual for September, daily thunderstorms resulted in extraordinary light and color, providing unlimited photographic opportunities, as well as adventure.

Multnomah Arts Center
7688 SW Capitol Hwy.
Room 30

Tuesday, March 5

6:30 p.m. potluck/social hour

7:30 p.m. meeting/program

Guests are welcome to join club members for the potluck. Bring a food dish to share, along with your own plate, utensils and beverage (sorry alcohol is not allowed).

Upcoming Programs

April 2 – TBD
May 7 – Friends of the Columbia Gorge



Oregon Nordic Club
P O R T L A N D
C H A P T E R



Oregon Nordic Club, Inc., Portland Chapter

P.O. Box 3906

Portland, OR 97208-3906



Map to monthly meeting at:
 Multnomah Arts Center (MAC)
 7688 SW Capitol Hwy.

