



March 2017	A Year-Round Recreation Club Since 1971	Vol. 46 Issue 3
<p>In this Issue:</p> <p><i>Friday, March 17th</i> Annual Meeting & Pot O' Luck Carol Doebler</p> <p><i>March 3rd - 5th</i> Valley Spur Trip Stan Rosenstiel</p> <p><i>March 19th</i> 4 O'clock Concert Ann Derse</p> <p><i>March 11th</i> Canoeopia Presentation Don Hynek</p> <p><i>March 18th</i> Bike Swap Carol Doebler</p> <p>Ski Trip Recaps Ann Derse</p>	<p>Annual Meeting & Pot O' Luck <i>Friday, March 17th, 6:30 pm</i></p> <p>Catch up with friends and celebrate St. Patrick's Day at your NSCM Annual Meeting and Pot Luck. Bring on a bit-o-blarney while telling tales of the recent ski season. Remember to wear your finest Irish attire. The annual meeting will include the election of board members, followed by the announcement of this year's spring and summer events. Be creative with the GREEN in your dishes and desserts to pass. Please e-mail Carol at tortoiseski@wi.rr.com to tell her what pot-o-green dish or dessert you plan to bring.</p> <p>Time: Friday, March 17, 2017 6:30 pm Pot O' Luck dinner & socializing; 8:00 pm Annual meeting, board election, and information on upcoming events; 9:30 - 11 pm Socializing</p> <p>Location: Greenfield Park Pavilion 2028 S. 124th Street</p> <p>What is provided: Soda, coffee, dinnerware, and condiments. What to bring: A dish to share, photos, stories and laughter!</p> <p>Valley Spur Ski Trip <i>March 3-5th</i></p> <p>Join us for our popular ski trip to Valley Spur near Munising, MI. We will leave Friday morning at 8 am and stop to ski at Brown County Reforestation Camp near Green Bay with 30 km of trails or at Valley Spur depending on snow conditions. We plan to ski Saturday and Sunday at Valley Spur Ski Trail in the Hiawatha National Forest with 45 km of trails that are some of the most scenic to be found anywhere. Saturday is the annual optional "Taste and Glide" event that benefits Valley Spur and features lunch food, desserts, and beverages at several stops along a beginner trail as well as in the log cabin.</p> <p>Accommodations are at the Holiday Inn Express near Munising with sauna, whirlpool, swimming pool, and free continental breakfast.</p> <p>There is plenty of snow to ski on, and there are still openings on this trip.</p>	<p>Volunteers</p> <p>The Nordic Ski Club runs on volunteers. Please call Katie Bivens if you are interested in learning more. 262-327-4899</p> <hr/> <p>Club Membership</p> <p>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.</p> <hr/> <p>Web Tips</p> <p>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. 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.</p>
<p>Contact Us:</p> <p>Email nordicskiclub.mke@gmail.com</p> <p>For membership information, call Pat Doornek 414-906-0629</p> <p>Nordic Officers</p>		

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Katie Bivens
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Contact trip leader Stan Rosenstiel at 262-694-2206 or mrstanmr@yahoo.com for more information.

4 O'clock Concert – Accordion Pyrotechnic Music

Sunday, March 19, 4pm

Enjoy accordion pyrotechnics by Stas Venglevski, who has performed with Doc Severinsen and Garrison Keillor, at 4pm on Sunday, March 19, as part of the [4 O'clock Concert Series](#).

Concert is at First Congregational Church upstairs in the social hall, 1511 Church Street, Wauwatosa (at the corner with Menomonee River Parkway in the Tosa village). Park in church lot or on the street. No charge, but donations are gladly accepted.

Please call or text Ann at 262-642-3741 if you plan to attend so we can sit together. See you there!

Canoeopia Presentation by Don Hynek

Saturday, March 11th

Nordic Ski Club member Don Hynek will be giving a presentation at this year's Canoeopia 2017 in Madison, WI. He will be talking about the paddling trip he and Joy took last summer, circumnavigating Isle Royale by sea kayak.

It would be great for Don to see some friendly faces in the crowd from the Nordics.

Program Details & Description

Beginning Expeditioning: Circumnavigating Isle Royale by Sea Kayak
Sylvania Room (main floor) Sat., March 11; 3:30pm-4:15pm

Link - <http://www.canoeopia.com/canoeopia/speaker.asp?spid=1002030>

Four friends with solid paddling skills decide to up their game and attempt a full-blown expedition. They load two tandem sea kayaks and head off to paddle all the way around Isle Royale. 150 miles and 13 days later, they end up with a successful trip – they are still talking to each other!

Isle Royale is known for its incredible beauty. This presentation won't ignore that. However, Isle Royale is also a great objective for a first kayak expedition. Its remote location mandates that paddlers have decent wilderness skills and a clear-eyed assessment of their own strengths and weaknesses. Exposure to the open waters of Lake Superior changes the risk analysis, and requires adventurers to have a sound understanding of how wind and water interact; fetch and clapotis can become objective hazards. Living unsupported for two weeks focuses a lot of attention on good food planning and careful gear selection.

And lastly, according to the Yiddish proverb, "Man plans, and God laughs." Sound, safe expeditions maintain a flexible attitude, while using good information and decision-making tools. That includes knowing how

Add Photos To The Nordic 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? paul_matteoni@hotmail.com

Next Month,
Look For:

Board Game Night
April 8th
Bob & Katie Bivens

Exploring Cusines
April 18th
Cindy Wiktorek

Monthly Meeting
April 21st
The Board

Local Hike
April 22nd
Julie Amundson

Local Hike
April 23rd
Mike Craig

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

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

to acquire good information to make (in our case, extensive) in-progress trip adjustments.

Don has been outdoors (especially in the Midwestern US) all his life. After a couple of decades in the outdoor industry (climber and mountaineer, photographer, skier, sea kayaker and author), he settled in as an energy analyst and green building specialist.

Don now focuses his outdoor time on sea kayaking, and XC skiing during the few months when paddling is less convenient. His paddling journeys have taken him from British Columbia to North Carolina. A native of Wisconsin, he is especially fond of the Apostle Islands, the Wisconsin River, and Pamlico Sound. He is still eyeballing Lac Manicougan.

Bike Swap to Benefit Lapham Peak Snowmaking

Saturday, March 18, 9am - 12:30pm

 The Friends of Lapham Peak 12th Annual Bike Swap is from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, March 18, 2017, at Cushing Elementary School, 227 Genesee St., Delafield. New and used bikes sold. Bake sale. Proceeds benefit the Lapham Peak Snowmaking Project. The DNR does not have a budget for Snowmaking; it only happens by Your donations and with Fundraisers like the Bike Swap!

See BikeSwap-LaphamPeakFriends.org for more details or contact Carol Doebler, tortoiseski@wi.rr.com or Theresa, trmmcd@yahoo.com.

Keweenaw 2016 Trip Recap...Perfect, Perfect, Perfect!

Submitted by Ann Derse

Little did we know how lucky we would be for this skiing season, when enjoying perfect snow conditions and temperatures during New Year's weekend of 2016.

An overly full busload of 55 packed the New Year's trip on Friday, December 30th, with a half-dozen still remaining on the waiting list. We stopped at the Afterglow Resort trails in Phelps, Wisconsin to ski or snowshoe for several hours in the afternoon around the little lake and off into the woods. Then we continued north to the Keweenaw Peninsula in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

On Saturday, we skied and snowshoed on the marvelous trails at Swedetown in Calumet, Michigan and had pasties for lunch. The grooming was impeccable, and there were lots of trails to keep us busy. Many ended up at The Library for New Year's Eve dinner. Afterwards, we returned to our lodging and hula-ed with Joy and danced to music in the breakfast room until we were kicked out.

Houghton was our skiing location bright and early on Sunday, New Year's Day. Some folks started at the Michigan Tech trails and skied down (and down and down) to the Nara Trails; others just skied or snowshoed on the Nara Trails. Paul M creatively warmed a leftover pasty on top of a radiator in the Tech chalet. The nice Nara chalet had no microwave; so Cathy heated up lunch in the fireplace. We had our group dinner at

Pilgrim River Steakhouse, and everyone hurried back to his or her room to watch the rest of the Packer game.

The skate skiers returned to Swedetown to ski on Monday, and the striders went to the gorgeous Maasto Hiihto (MH) and Churning Rapids trails in Hancock. We were pleased to see the new trail signage that our club helped pay for. The snow-covered trails and creek down in the MH gorge were quite picturesque. And, the homemade food prepared by the volunteers in the MH chalet was, well, amazing...perhaps 8 hearty soups, plus breads, cookies, bars, and beverages for sale.

Trip leader, Julie, created a healthy, homemade trail mix from nuts, dried fruit, and M&Ms that we really liked. And all too soon, it was time to head home after a fantastic four days of skiing and snowshoeing. Lots of folks ordered ahead from Gallagher's Pizza for our quick dinner stop in Green Bay. We are grateful and say thank-you to Julie, our trip leader; Bob, our bus driver; and the Program Committee for advance planning.

NOTE: PLEASE post your ski trip photos on our club website so all can enjoy them! Thanks.

ABR 2017 Trip Recap...“Skiin’ in the Rain”

Submitted by Ann Derse

On Friday, January 20th, 44 intrepid Nordic skiers headed north on clear roads for a warm weekend of skiing. Everyone was pleased by the snow conditions at Nine Mile Forest in Wausau, although it was foggy with some drizzle. Striders did well on waxless skis, which were noisy due to the icy snow. The Nine Mile parking lot was a sheet of glare ice, so those who had brought ice cleats put them to good use. Friday evening's walkable dining in Ironwood, Michigan was concentrated at Don & GG's, due to closures of the Breakwater (burst pipe) and Angelo's Pizza (icy parking lot).

Saturday's snow conditions at Active Backwoods Retreats (ABR) in Ironwood were not icy, even though there was fog and drizzle again. For the second time, our club appreciated using the VIP Room, which was a room just for us with tables and chairs. People raved about the marvelous lunchtime pasties, especially the vegetarian ones. Some folks got soaked when it began to rain--a new experience for most. Afternoon shuttle times from ABR were moved up an hour because of the soggy weather. And, after everyone returned to the hotel, the sky opened up and it really poured! Folks enjoyed a quiet afternoon and read, swam, chatted, napped, walked to the grocery store, visited the ski and bike store, or watched television.

Half the group enjoyed a wonderful Saturday dinner and great service at the Branding Iron Steakhouse in Hurley, Wisconsin, known for its margaritas. Its salad bar even offered herring, pickled beets, macaroni salad, and good soups. The steakhouse was nearly empty when our group arrived due to the iffy conditions for winter sports; so they were glad to see us.

Our lodging at the AmericInn in Ironwood was especially nice. We were welcomed on Friday with hot soup in the lobby. We enjoyed the pool, hot

tub, and an extensive, included breakfast with eggs, sausage, bacon, yogurt parfaits, and a hot oatmeal bar like last year. The hotel's parking lot had melted in areas down to the asphalt, and sidewalks were exposed but icy; many of us had never seen the asphalt or sidewalks in past years. Parking lots at the local hotels and motels, including ours, were eerily empty because of the weather.

We were pleased on Sunday that while it was still foggy, it did not rain. The snow was again in great condition, since the ABR groomers had worked their magic overnight. Those folks who snowshoed for all or part of the weekend commented on how especially scenic the ABR trails were. Several participants bought new equipment, such as ski boots or waxless skis with "skins" on the bottoms.

After a smooth ride home with bus driver Jim, we arrived at the Tosa park-and-ride lot right on time. There had been smiles all weekend long about the great snow conditions despite the unusual weather and temps in the 30s. Years from now, we can reminisce about "that year when we went skiin' in the rain at ABR." Thank you, Greg, for leading a well-run trip and to the Program Committee for planning it.

NOTE: If you took photos on a ski trip this winter, PLEASE post them on our club website so we all can enjoy them! Thanks.

Minocqua Winter Park 2017 Trip Recap...White Stuff Everywhere

Submitted by Ann Derse

On Friday February 10th, 52 eager folks left the Milwaukee area in search of a weekend of skiing with plenty of snow. It was so nice to see white everywhere, given the dismal, brown color in southeastern Wisconsin. Temperatures were in the pleasant 20s and 30s.

Nine Mile Forest in Wausau was our stop on Friday. We enjoyed the great snow conditions and sunshine and noticed the parking lot was not as slippery as three weeks earlier. The snow off the trails was covered with a light glaze of ice; so it glistened in the sunlight and was strikingly beautiful. Our bus continued to Minocqua, and that evening, most people ended up at the nearby Minocqua Brewing Company, but a few dined with our bus driver, Jim, at a Mexican restaurant.

For the next two days, we skied and snowshoed at Minocqua Winter Park. The snow was a bit icy but there was lots of it. The C&D Express and Lake Marie trails had just re-opened after extensive logging; C&D Express looked quite different and was difficult to follow in the large open areas without trees. (Much further down the Lake Marie trail, there were two broken skis nailed like crosses on a tree...that was rather ominous-looking.) Folks enjoyed skiing to the quaint Tea House; several discovered you could ask for peppermint schnapps in your hot chocolate, and Ellen toted her paints and worked on a painting there. On Sunday it was sunny, but the stiff wind scattered lots of conifer needles and leaves onto the trails, making it really tough for waxable striding skiers and a tad unpredictable for others. Everyone enjoyed the café in the chalet, especially the beer and the tasty soups. Some folks purchased new equipment or clothing in the well-stocked ski shop.

Most of us attended the group dinner at the Whitetail Inn in St. Germain on Saturday evening, and the food was superb as usual. On the way home, Joanne handed out cute Valentine's Day-themed treat bags containing candy, a clementine, and a little prize.

We appreciate and thank our trip leader, John, for heading a great trip, our helpful bus driver, Jim, and the Program Committee for initial planning.

NOTE: Please post your ski trip photos on our club website so all can enjoy them! Thanks.

AND, there is still ROOM for YOU on our last trip of the season to VALLEY SPUR in Munising, Michigan. Not enough skiing or snowshoeing this season? Bummed about no Birkie or Kortie race this year? Don't put those skis or snowshoes away yet! Sign up and come with us to Valley Spur from March 3-5.

[Join/Renew Online](#)

**Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee Inc. (NSCM)
is a membership-based outing association
active year-round since 1971.**