



Kawartha Nordic Ski Club Inc.,
P.O. Box 1371, Peterborough, Ontario, K9J 7H6

For information on
trails or events call
749-5605



Last of the Memories: 25th Anniversary of the Kawartha Nordic Ski Club

As with every group long term dreams are discussed but usually in the context of “If we could only...” and then they drift off into memory. With the KNSC we had a number of such fantasies, “perhaps we could have hut to hut skiing incorporated into a trail of that magnitude, or perhaps we could have our own club house on our own property.” All seemed feasible if we could initiate and sustain the huge effort needed to accomplish such plans, particularly when the participants are all volunteers and largely still working and unable to devote a lot of time to KNSC and other activities within their lives.

While the concept of trail extensions was appealing, the huge effort involved in mustering other communities into similar supportive effort so as to establish trails in their locales to hookup to our trails in a continuous trail system, was so daunting we never initiated this proposal.

However the concept of our own property and clubhouse did receive our attention. Early in our existence an effort at raising funds to purchase a then existent listing in the area fell short and we had to abandon the proposal. We never gave up the hope that somehow we would succeed and in the late 1980s an opportunity arose when an avid club supporter, Fred Simmons, whose property we used as an entrance to our trails, decided he wanted to sell the property. Here was our chance.

A committee was formed to raise sufficient funds to effect the purchase of the Simmons Property. Chaired by Doug Kirk, and comprising Dave Bowes, Jon Grant, Bob Martilla, Bill Cormode, Bill Silvera and Peter Tiesma, the committee sprang into action. They contacted club members to explain the objective and to elicit support in the form of a contribution towards a 5 year loan at 0% interest. The committee's success was evident in the more than 135 club members who responded by providing whatever amount they could towards this effort.

In August 1989, the Kawartha Nordic Ski Club purchased the 40 acres of land fronting on Highway 28.

Our objective was to divide the property into 3 lots and to sell 2 of the lots and repay our club member contributors. Bill Cormode undertook the task of arranging for the property severance and in October 1990 we received title to 3 lots of land, 2 of which were immediately placed in realtor's hands. In November 1992 the first of the two lots was sold and thereafter the 2nd lot sold as well. The proceeds from the sale of the two lots enabled us to repay our club member contributors in less than the 5 year period. Many of the contributors expressed delight at their contribution being repaid as they had expected it to be just that, a contribution that they were pleased to make to our club.

In 1992 the finishing touch to our dream was realized when the Cossar Cabin was built under the guidance of Walter Shepard and Tom Bennett with the help of other volunteers. Initially the cabin was financed and owned by the Kawartha Nordic Ski Patrol as the club was legally unable to erect a building until the property mortgage was discharged. As the patrol had finances available



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Nordic News is edited by D.Woodfine and L. Kostuch



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UPCOMING EVENTS: Plan to attend!

Chili Fest & Spring Cook-out: March 18th 2001

- the best chili this side of El Paso
- world famous hot dogs
- \$3.00/person

AGM MAY 6th 2001

3:00-4:00 pm at the Cossar Cabin

- a chance to have your say
- bring your own food and drink
for a social after the meeting



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