

† † NORDIC NEWS † †

THE KAWARTHAS BEST CROSS COUNTRY SKIING

November 2000

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As I type this message it is snowing quite heavily outside my window. Let's hope it's a sign of things to come. In early October I heard a long range climatologist forecast a return to a more normal winter environment. While I listened with a jaundiced attitude at the time, I am now beginning to hope for a load of snow... at least on our trails.

We are focusing on the trail bed of the Deer Trail this fall. I was up on the trail this week with a number of other crews. We had a tractor with blade and back hoe and we were working to eliminate the rocks and humps. We think this will make the trail more pleasurable to ski. We hope you will like the end result.

We have two new members on our Executive. Dave O'Dell has joined us as Treasurer, replacing Jim Cashmore who resigned from this position. Dave was Treasurer a number of years ago so it is good to see him back with us. Our thanks go to Jim for a job well done, but it's not good-bye as Jim and his family remain club members, and I know we'll see him on the trail and at various club functions.

Susan Sauve, a club member, has joined the Executive to look after publicity, replacing Ann Cossar, who, like Jim, has resigned the position but remains a club member. Thank you Ann, for all your help and a job well done. To Susan, welcome to the Executive and thank you for volunteering. Our club has been built and continues to be maintained by volunteers so your joining us supports that effort. We look forward to working with you.

This newsletter contains an article relating to our 25th Anniversary that I have written focusing on some of my memories of days gone by. I hope to do one for each of the up coming newsletters reliving some of our past. I hope you enjoy these memories of the early days.

Things are coming together nicely for our upcoming season, now all we need is snow. Keep hoping!

Dave Kirk

President K.N.S.C.

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Kawartha Nordic Ski Club Executive 2000/2001

Brain Backa - Trail Committee
Ian Doyle - Telephone Committee
Conrad Hill - Membership
Irene Kirk - Secretary
Kurt Olsen - Cabin Keepers
Walter Shephard - Trail Committee
David Woodfine - Vice President, Newsletter

Barry Diceman - Past President, Cabin / Lots
Jim Elliot - Trail Committee
Dave Kirk - President
Dave O'Dell - Treasurer
Susan Sauve - Publicity
Peter Tiesma - Signs & Maps



Kawartha Nordic Ski Club Inc.,
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Logging

Everyone will be pleased to know the logging in the area of the Tanney Cabin has been completed so there will be no interference to skiing this winter. Some preparatory work has been done this fall to get ready for tree planting next summer but this has not affected our trails. Regrowth is occurring along the edges so this will soon create a more "normal looking" landscape. The buds on the small saplings are prime winter deer feed, so we should have more deer sightings. One concern is the access to our trails by non-KNSC motorized vehicles from the forest access road, so if anyone encounters a non-KNSC vehicle please note the license and notify the executive.

Some confusion still exists regarding the logging. The logging was NOT conducted by KNSC. The MNR controls all the logging activity on crown lands and thus approved and marked the trees for logging. Our trails on crown land are winter use trails only, we did NOT have any input into these decisions. We were contacted by the logging contractor and after discussions with them permitted the use of our trails as logging roads with the understanding that once logging ceased we would re-assume control of the trails for skiing. We felt this was a good opportunity to have a portion of our trail bed improved. These roadbeds will greatly improve our ability to groom and trackset. I hope this has clarified some concerns you may have had.

On September 23 I attended a S.O.D. meeting at Highland Nordic, Duntroon, Ontario. The morning portion of the meeting dealt with our insurance coverage through S.O.D. Although there have been few claims from cross-country skiers, the insurer is becoming more strict as to the policy. Thus the need for the waiver on the application form and the necessity to be able to account for day-use skiers. In future, all family members will have to be listed on the membership form. For day-use skiers, the tear-off portion of the envelope is their day membership and thus entitles them to insurance coverage. Failure to portion it could result in non coverage. There is special coverage required for any race or event conducted by the club. Many questions were discussed.

The afternoon was devoted to racing and trail development. The latter was of most interest to me and it was good to interact with others as to how they maintained and groomed trails. Of all those present, KNSC had the longest and probably the most difficult trail system. I came away with some useful tips that I hope will work for us. In all, a very worthwhile day.

Barry Diceman
Past President

Southern Ontario District Meeting



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Ski Swap Report

The 2000/2001 KNSC Ski Swap was held November 16th at Cyclepath of Charlotte Street in Peterborough. We had only four parties consign equipment for sale, which is significantly less than the previous two years, so sales were predominantly from club equipment.

Our sales totaled \$156.00. The reasons for the decline in activity could be numerous, from reduced enthusiasm given the lack of snow of the last few years, to the fact that there may be less equipment available given this was our third year holding the sale, or the new venue on Charlotte Street where parking availability is restricted.

The new location, at Cyclepath was very good from the perspective of display area for our equipment, and the fact it was warm and comfortable for both customers and staff. The folks at Cyclepath were very receptive and cooperative. We thank them for their hospitality. Our thanks go out to Lynn Kostuch, Dave Woodfine, Mim & Tom Bennett, Shirley & Conrad Hill and Marjorie Shepard for their help with the swap.

For those who missed the Ski Swap, there is still a considerable amount of equipment that will be for sale throughout the season from the cabin keepers at the Cossar cabin.

Irene & Dave Kirk

Signs and Maps

Soon the trail signs and maps will go up - a sure indication that snow is on the way (as I write this it is snowing!). There are always trail changes. This year's are few and short. You should have no problem finding your way.

The Kenner, ½ kilometre north of the Adam Scott (north junction) now joins a logging road. Where any trail makes a sharp turn in a clearing (a collection area during the logging operation) a post with arrows will show you the way. Yellow and red exit signs at each junction direct skiers back to the parking lot. Every map is displayed in such a way that you will be facing north when reading it.

As you know, there was little snow last year. You may not have seen some major re-routing in the southern trail section. The Haultain parking lot has been closed. Because of private property considerations, the Kawartha trail now goes south, all the way to the Adam Scott, our most southerly junction. It was also necessary to make a new Deer / Kawartha junction.

Enjoy many days and kilometres of skiing this winter.

Peter Tiesma



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Memories

25th Anniversary of the Kawartha Nordic Ski Club

This year we celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the founding of the Kawartha Nordic Ski Club. However, in a way, it's actually our 27th anniversary.

The precursor of our club was The Kawartha Ski Tour, a 2 day cross country skiing even encompassing both touring and racing. The very first Kawartha Ski Tour was in 1975. It ran from the Apsley fairgrounds to Haultain on Day 1 and from Haultain to Buckhorn on Day 2.

The spirit behind this endeavour was Doug Tanney, who had skied in the Canadian Ski Marathon in Quebec, in prior years, in company with his wife, Verna, and others. On his return, Doug began to "talk up" the concept of a similar skiing event in the Kawarthas. His efforts resulted in a founders meeting at which interested individuals and associations, current club members Marjorie and Walter Shephard, Verna Tanney, Dave Kirk, John Pierce and Mary Simkins among them, met to discuss the potential. Seed money was donated by a local realtor in association with the Kawartha Tourist Association, to get us going.

With a lot of planning, dreaming and pushing by Doug, the concept grew through '73 and '74 and in the fall of 1974 a desperate push was on to compete marking of trails, clearing of trails, obtaining property owner's permissions, as well as organizing the tour itself. Doug was the Tour Director for that first tour as well as subsequent tours. Throughout the years we had a variety of Tour Directors, who all had the most demanding job. The organization of the tour was huge with the need for over 100 people in various tasks to handle the 600+ skiers who participated. In transportation alone, the Tour Minutes of the day discuss bussing 281 people on the Saturday and 422 people on the Sunday. All of this demand for organization for only 2 days of the winter. It wasn't long before the need for a sponsoring club became evident.

The invitation reads "Kawartha Nordic Ski Club In. - Founding Meeting, Tuesday, April 13, 1976 to be held at the Blue Flame Room of the Consumers Gas Building in Peterborough." and the discussion was enthusiastic and supportive. Our first Club Executive comprised:

Doug Tanney - President	Harold Wilson
John Pierce - Vice-President	Dave Kirk
Fred Stanbury - Treasurer	Wayne Mitchell
Gisele Opsal	Mary Simkins
Walter Shephard	Irene Kirk - Secretary
Marjorie Shephard	

With the help of lawyer and club member, Bill Lech, our charter and resolutions were enacted October 28th, 1976 and we were incorporated as a club. From this early beginning we've progressed from those initial rough trails, with packing and tracking done on skis, and lean-tos and campfires for rest areas, to our current status with machine groomed trails, 4 cabins, a parking lot and our own property.

So, despite this being our formal 25th anniversary, there are a number of us who smugly add two more years to the celebration.



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Ski Patrol Report

This year the ski patrol has 18 members, including several new to our patrol. We welcome our rookies and those who have transferred to us from other patrols. We are just finishing up our training and are looking forward to another great year of accident free skiing.

On Saturday, January 13th, Nordic members from all over the Kawartha Zone will be visiting our trails to renew on trail certification.

On Saturday, January 20, you will see all the members of the Kawartha Nordic Ski Patrol participating in a search and rescue operation. This activity is set up to allow patrollers to practice the formalized plan in case of an actual emergency. During the search and rescue, patrollers will be working in groups to comb the area for a mock accident victim. Radios and whistles will be used to communicate during the search. The Patrol Hut in the Cossar cabin will be used as a base for radio operations during the search.

If you are interested in assisting during the search, please mention it to the nearest patroller and s/he will let you know how you can help. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

The Executive of the Kawartha Nordic Ski Patrol this year includes Keith Buchanan - Patrol Leader, Lynn Sansom - Treasurer, Lynn Kostuch - Past Patrol Leader and David Woodfine - Ski Club Liaison.

For more information about the Canadian Ski Patrol System, visit the website at www.csps.ca or speak to any patrol member. The Canadian Ski

Patrol Kawartha Zone has it's own website which can be found at www.zvaios.com/skipatrol.

Lynn Kostuch
KNSP

KNSC on the web: Coming to your computer soon

We are happy to report that KNSC has procured space for a web page on the www.X-C.com site. The page is in development but should be up and running by the new year. It will contain current conditions, maps, pictures and copies of our newsletter. In the meantime surf over to www.x-c.com and see what other ski clubs are up to.

Reminder...

Don't forget to give a friend or relative your complimentary KNSC day use pass which is included with your membership registration.

This is a great way for people to get out and experience our trails



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