



Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee

February 2021

Year-Round Recreation Since 1971

Vol. 50 Issue 2

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Monthly Meeting and Events

Zooming Games Night and Club Announcements

Friday, February 12, 2021, 7:00 pm

Laugh while you celebrate two mid-February holidays on Friday, February 12. Join the NSCM for a Zooming Games Night starting at 7 pm. Dorothy Riesing has fun and mirth up her sleeves with several Zoom appropriate games. The activities will celebrate Valentine's Day (February 14) and President's Day (February 15), as well as each participant. We'll start with a few club announcements and make sure everyone is online. If you want to participate, please register [via this link](#) or through our website – www.nordicskiclub.org -- by Wednesday, February 10. To prepare, please think of four (4) objects, four (4) truths about yourself that you don't mind sharing, and two (2) lies about yourself. A Zoom link for the event will be forwarded to registrants on Friday, February 12. Hey, let's look forward to Zooming with NSCM friends. If you have any questions, contact Dorothy at: tariesing@yahoo.com.

Next Month,
Look For:

***Club Zoom Meeting
March 26***

Contact Us:

Email nordicskiclub.mke@gmail.com

For membership information, call Pat Doornek 414-906-0629

Nordic Officers

President
Carol Doebler

Vice Presidents
Renee Couture
and Steven Fabina

Secretary
Paula Brookmire



Dorothy Riesing wears red for Valentine's day during a cross-country ski trip in 2019.

Snowshoe at Lynden Sculpture Garden

Friday, February 5, 2021, 10:30 am

The Lynden Sculpture Garden in River Hills has the grounds open for socially distant recreation year-round. We will meet at the parking area at 10:30 am to put on snowshoes and make our own trails to view the sculptures during the winter. The garden is currently free thanks to the Herzfeld Foundation. Plan to snowshoe for one or two hours.

While on the grounds, masks are required inside and outside (as able). Although the main building is closed to the public, use of the restrooms are allowed one-by-one if needed.

The sculpture garden is located on the south side of Brown Deer Road about 0.8 miles from I-43 (2145 W. Brown Deer Rd.). Watch for the small yellow sign hanging from a post that says Lynden, Harry L. Bradley and enter at the west gate closest to the barn.

Please let Mary Mueller know that you plan to attend at 414-477-5710 or mjmueller.uef@gmail.com. The event may be cancelled if bad weather is predicted.

The Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee (NSCM) continues to practice social distancing and the use of face masks, as recommended by the CDC and Wisconsin authorities. Know that your participation in any event is at your own risk. Before attending any NSCM outing or event, please check with the event leader. Use good judgment and continue to keep us all safe.

Ski or Snowshoe at Greenbush Trails

Friday, February 12, 2021, 10:30 am

The Greenbush Trails in the heart of the Northern Kettle Moraine State Forest are known for holding their snow throughout the winter season. There are 25 k of groomed skating and classic trails and 9 miles of snowshoe trails. Most of the trails are hilly and very scenic. This year, the warming shelter is not open, but vault toilets at the trail head parking area are available.

A State Park sticker and annual trail pass are required (not sold on site).

Meet at 10:30 am at the parking area located at N5854 Kettle Moraine Dr., Glenbulah. Bring a lunch to eat in your car. Hopefully, there will be someone to ski or snowshoe with at your level. Invite your friends to join you.

The Greenbush trails are located 2.5 miles north of Hwy 67. Take US 45 to Hwy 67 east to Kettle Moraine Dr. and then north following the signs. Or take US 43 north to Hwy 57. Take 57 north, then left on U, north on S, and left on Hwy 67 to Kettle Moraine Dr.

Please RSVP to Mary Mueller at (414) 477-5710 or mjmueller.uef@gmail.com. We may cancel if weather conditions warrant.

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Treasurer

Dave Herrewig

Board Members

Paula Brookmire
Renee Couture
Carol Doebler
Steven Fabina
Dorothy Riesing
Ellen Riley
David Rosenberg
Alan Siegl
Mary Wozniak

Program Committee Members:

Paul Keber, Chair
(262) 547-4827
Chris Pantazon
Barb Tremel
Cathy Ward
Becky Yakes
Joanne Ziarek

Public Relations Chair:

Paula Brookmire
(414) 527-0040

Clinics Chair:

Carol Doebler

Website Chair:

Katie Bivens
katiebivens@ymail.com

Historian:

Paula Brookmire
(414) 527-0040

Newsletter:

Send Articles to:
newsletter@nordicskiclub.org

Facebook Chair:

Ellen Riley
ellenriley612@gmail.com

Facebook Link:

<https://www.facebook.com/Nordic-Ski-Club-of-Milwaukee-NSCM-111282934088979/>

Membership Chair:

Pat Doornik
414-906-0629

New memberships or renewal forms may be

Check Out Photos on Facebook

If you haven't viewed the NSCM's new Facebook page, now's the time. You can see photos from our January 9, 2021, outdoor picnic (see report in this newsletter) plus various cross-country ski photos. There's information and photos on ski-support groups the club made grants to this year. And you'll see lots of photos from Lapham Peak State Park, including the rime ice in January and the great trail conditions thanks to the new piston bully groomer purchased in 2020. Our club and its members gave financial donations to those snowmaking and snow-grooming efforts. We encourage you to post photos of you and friends cross-country skiing this year. Please remember to post a caption with the photo that includes where and when (full date) it was taken, names of people in photo (we do not use last names unless you have permission from the people to use the last names). You might want to include weather and trail conditions and other details. Ellen Riley, the club's Facebook chair, will monitor posts. Go to: <https://www.facebook.com/Nordic-Ski-Club-of-Milwaukee-NSCM-111282934088979>.

Grants Awarded to Support Skiing

The NSCM has a 50-year tradition of creating cross-country ski trails, supporting ski venues, teaching skiing and helping children learn to ski. Every two years we raise funds and award grants that match our mission. In recent years our total grants have been \$2,000 to \$2,700. For 2021, due to the coronavirus pandemic, the club's board decided not to conduct our biennial fundraising project because we cannot hold large meetings and bus trips, where we usually raise funds. Still, we wanted to continue our grants tradition, especially when so many ski venues are suffering. We voted to take \$900 from our savings to support these ski venues and youth programs. We encourage individual club members to provide additional support, if they're able:

Lapham Peak Friends for the Snowmaking Project, \$400. Many NSCM members are involved with this project. As Joanne Ziarek, secretary of the Snowmaking Committee, wrote, "The Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee sent in the first donation received in support of snowmaking at Lapham Peak, back in 2005, and has continued to be a strong supporter over the years. NSCM ranks with our top donors, having provided more than \$8,000 in support as a club. Many members of NSCM have personally supported this effort, also."

The Valley Spur Friends group, \$200. They run a youth ski program and maintain cross-country ski trails in Hiawatha National Forest, about a 15-minute drive south of Munising, MI. "The Free Youth Ski Program has grown from 30 participants in 2011 to 100 participants in 2020," says Peggy Carberry of Valley Spur Friends. Donations have helped purchase skis and boots for free equipment rental to those 18 and under (only \$5 for those over 18). "This gives many individuals the chance to try the sport, at a very reasonable cost." About 30 volunteers teach children to ski, and kids ski free at Valley Spur.

Swedetown Trails Club, Calumet, MI, \$150. The club is raising matching funds for a state grant toward the purchase of two parcels of private land to add to the Swedetown Recreation Area. The Nordic Ski Club usually brings a busload of skiers annually to Swedetown but couldn't in 2021 due to the pandemic. In the last two ski seasons the group widened core trails (Valley Trail and Greenstone Loop), rerouted two existing cross-country trails to eliminate confusing intersections and updated trail maps.

Minocqua Winter Park Trail Fund, \$100. A favorite NSCM ski destination for decades, Minocqua needs funds to improve trails and trail-grooming equipment. The park is doing a lot to keep trails and amenities such as restrooms open during the pandemic. They have put up tents so people can space apart and have changing areas.

Peak Nordic Ski Club, \$50. This youth group based at Lapham Peak State Park needs extra

mailed to:
Pat Doornek
3463 N. Newhall St.
Milwaukee, WI 53211

Contact Us:

Volunteers

The Nordic Ski Club runs on volunteers. Please contact Renee Couture at acoutrr@att.net if you are interested in learning more.

Club Membership

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.

Web Tips

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. That is the default for new members. 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.

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

funds for ski waxes. Its program includes lessons for elementary through high school kids.



Skiing the pristine trails at Minocqua Winter Park in February 2019 are Nordic Ski Club members (from left) Dave Rosenberg, Pat Doornek and John McCarthy.

Email Ballot and Annual Meeting in March

Members, for the second year in a row, we cannot hold an in-person annual meeting due to the coronavirus pandemic. So the Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee will be conducting our annual meeting and elections via email, as we did in 2020. It's a simple process that will take only a few minutes. We need your response to help us keep the club running. Please make sure you have paid annual dues (due last fall) before voting on just a few items:

- **approving the minutes of the April 25, 2020, annual meeting**
- **electing Julie Amundson to a two-year term as a new member of the board of directors**
- **voting in four board members who are re-running for two-year terms***
- **voting to adjourn**

Balloting goes March 10 through 20. There will also be announcements, recognition of volunteers and other news in your email, just as there would be at an in-person annual meeting.

Nominations: Our bylaws require that we take nominations for other people who want to run for the board, even though we have a full complement of volunteers willing to run. The only feasible way to do this is to have you email a nomination for the board by March 5 to President Carol Doebler. For the nomination to be valid, you must get permission from the person you are nominating and you must get another club member to second your nomination. Email these by March 5 [so we have time to get them on the ballot] to tortoiseski@wi.rr.com. To this same email, you can send any resolutions to propose -- with a club member seconding them.

***Note** that the Nordic Ski Club has staggered elections. This year five people will be elected to the nine-member board; next year four people will be elected. This keeps continuity and stability so we don't lose all board members at once. Current board members Renee Couture, Carol Doebler, Stephen Fabina, and David Rosenberg are up for election to two-year terms, starting March 20, 2021, on the Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee board of directors. They will join the four board members whose terms continue through March 2022: Paula Brookmire, Ellen Riley, Dorothy Riesing and Mary Wozniak.

privileges are available. Then the upload and edit buttons are visible for you to add to the fun. Need help? katiebivens@ymail.com

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

Local Ski, Snowshoe, or Hike Outings

Since it is often difficult to know what type of conditions will exist at a specific SE Wisconsin location during the winter, let's plan on doing more "If There's Snow We'll Go" events. That would be true for local ski and snowshoe outings, but no snow is needed for local hike outings. Not only is it good for your health to get outside and exercise in winter, but it is also much safer outdoors during the COVID-19 pandemic.

If you see that the conditions look good to ski, snowshoe, or hike at Lapham Peak, a county park, or the Northern or Southern Kettle Moraine trails, then contact Paul Keber at 262-547-4827 or pkeber@milwpc.com. Paul will set up an NSCM online event and send out an email blast to club members. All you'll have to do is show up and enjoy exercising with other Nordic members while keeping socially distant.

March 26 Zooming In on Hikes

Good weather has allowed for lots of good hikes from fall through much of winter. So stroll through forests and fields with the NSCM Friday, March 26, with a Zoom presentation on the fall 2020 club hikes and some spring 2021 hikes we're planning. The show starts at 7 pm. If you have photos of hikes you've been on and would like to include in this show, please email them (with date, location and other details) by March 1 to Paula at pbrookmire@gmail.com. Registration for this show starts in March.



Carol Limbach and Dianne Dagelen were on the Nordic Ski Club Oct. 2 hike in and around the Forest Exploration Center in Wauwatosa.

Sunny Soup Day Outdoor Picnic

We ordered up sun, soup and great skiing for the January 9, 2021, NSCM picnic. We got it all. The outdoor picnic held at Lapham Peak State Park drew about 19 people over the lunch hour. Beforehand and afterward they cross-country skied, snowshoed, hiked or just hung out. The "soup dump" harked back to club traditions of having winter meals outdoors. We also had crackers, cookies, candy and hot chocolate or tea. With temperatures above freezing, aided by a face-warming sun, it was no problem sitting for an hour in the Mike Fort covered shelter. Masks and distancing kept people safe. It was great to meet in person again after having to cancel so many events and trips due to the coronavirus pandemic. Everyone remembered to bring a can of soup, and we had enough for three pots: a chicken-turkey-noodle soup, a tomato-based one and a vegetarian offering. Many got to enjoy the pristine trails on homemade snow, thanks to the new piston-bully groomer and the snowmaking that our club helped support. Thanks to picnic coordinators Renee Couture, Carol Doebler, Rita Keber and Paula Brookmire.



Carol D. serves soup to Mark and Chris at the Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee outdoor picnic Jan. 9, 2021.



Rita K. skis in the sun before having hot soup outdoors.

Board Member Profile: Ellen Riley

By Paula Brookmire

Ellen Riley is such an outdoor enthusiast that she came to her wedding in a canoe. The ceremony was held in a campground in Spring Green, WI. “We paddled in,” says Ellen. Her fiancé, Pat Doornek, went first, in a kayak. He paddled down the Wisconsin River and hopped out barefoot onto a carpet of burlap. Ellen – in her wedding dress and veil -- followed in a flower-draped canoe, with her brother-in-law Dave Daniels at the stern. About 200 people greeted them on the riverbank. Ellen’s sister, Kathleen Riley-Daniels, a non-denominational pastor, officiated on a sunny afternoon in 2012. Doornek and Riley chose a local band called Reilly to provide music as the sun made a glorious exit.

What else would you expect from two active members of the Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee? Pat has been a member of this year-round outdoors club since 2012, and Ellen since 2014. Ellen just joined the NSCM’s board of directors in December 2020. Pat has been the club’s membership chair for several years. Pat loves to cross-country ski. Ellen loves to snowshoe. She’s been snowshoeing since childhood. “I’m from Minnesota,” she explains. But how long has she been skiing? “About 12 hours,” she jokes. When she vacations on the club’s popular bus trips “up north,” she usually chooses snowshoeing over skiing, just as several other club members do.

Ellen is coordinator of the Nordic Ski Club’s Facebook Page, which she just got rebooted in December 2020. The club’s previous page went dormant after a few years, and we had to start a new page to allow active posts. You’ll now find lots of current photos. Click here to link to the page: <https://www.facebook.com/Nordic-Ski-Club-of-Milwaukee-NSCM-111282934088979>.

Kayaking, camping, bicycling, maintaining a classic car (’68 Ford Galaxy) and walking her dog Iko —these are Ellen’s favorite outdoor activities. Painting is her indoor hobby. She posts her artwork on Instagram, which you can explore by searching her email address –

ellenriley612@gmail.com – on Instagram. For nine years, Ellen has worked for Hillside Gardens as a direct support professional, providing for the needs of disabled members in a small group home. [For information, go to <https://www.facebook.com/HillsideGardensAFH>.]

Being involved with the Nordic Ski Club, especially with its Facebook page, says Ellen, is an opportunity to support a group that has promoted cross-country skiing for 50 years and to spread the word about the value of silent sports and nature.



Ellen Riley paddles to her 2012 wedding.



Ellen and husband Patrick Doornek with their dog Iko in 2017.

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