



**February – March 2024**

**Vol. 53 Issue 2-3**

**Year-Round Recreation Since 1971**

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**Fish Fry and Meeting**

*Friday, February 16, 2024, 5:30 pm*

Welcome a new year with the Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee’s annual fish fry dinner and meeting. It will be held on the south side of Milwaukee County at the **Open Flame** restaurant in Hales Corners, 5081 S. 108th Street (at the corner of Hwy 100 and Edgerton). We have their back “sun porch” room, which seats up to 30 people.

We can order off the menu. So if you really don’t want fish or are vegetarian, you can order something else. Since lack of snow caused the club to cancel two ski trips, this will be a good chance to get together with friends or make new ones.

**Fish Fry options include:**

- 12 oz. beer-battered Icelandic cod or 12 oz. beer-battered lake perch with potato pancakes, roasted corn and homemade coleslaw for \$14.99
- Baked Icelandic cod Oscar, topped with real crab meat, scallops, shrimp, asparagus, and Hollandaise sauce, served with choice of potato for \$18.99
- 10-12 oz. baked Icelandic cod served with lemon cream sauce, broccoli spears with a side of Hollandaise sauce, and choice of potato for \$16.99

All beverages, desserts, etc. are additional, and there is a required tip amount.

**Coming Up:**

***April 19, 2024***  
***End-of-the-year member meeting, Elks Lodge 400, Waukesha***

**Contact Us:**

Email [nordicskiclub.mke@gmail.com](mailto:nordicskiclub.mke@gmail.com)

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

**Nordic Officers**

**President**  
 Carol Doebler

**Vice Presidents**  
 Renee Couture

For other menu options, please see their website: [www.OpenFlameRestaurant.com](http://www.OpenFlameRestaurant.com)

We will gather at 5:30 p.m., but if you wish to come a bit early they have a nice bar area where you can visit before the room is ready.

I don't need any menu choices, but I do need to know the number of people coming so I can give them a final number by **Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>**. Since our room holds 30 people, please R.S.V.P. soon by texting **Renee at 262-391-2361 or leave a voice-mail message**. Be sure to leave your name and the number of people attending since I don't have all of you in my contacts.

### **Minocqua Ski Trip**

*Friday, February 9 - Sunday, February 11, 2024*

There is still plenty of room on the bus, but only a limited number of rooms at the motel, so if you want to go on the trip, you need to call or e-mail the trip leader as soon as possible.

We'll be skiing at Minocqua Winter Park, which was named the No. 1 Cross Country Ski Resort in the country by USA Today, and has 86 km of meticulously groomed ski trails and 15 miles of snowshoe trails. A café in the chalet serves a variety of food, and homemade soups. The ski shop, has all the latest ski gear, waxes, and clothes; and rents skis and snowshoes.

We plan to ski at Nine Mile Forest near Wausau on the way up, with 30 km of ski trails, 11 km of snowshoe trails, and a large chalet with ski rentals.

Accommodations are at the AmericInn in downtown Minocqua with a swimming pool, sauna, whirlpool, free continental breakfast, and a microwave and refrigerator in each room. Contact trip leader John McCarthy at 414-412-0331 or [johnnymac1952@gmail.com](mailto:johnnymac1952@gmail.com) for more information. Click here to access the trip reservation form: [Minocqua Winter Park Ski Trip](#).

### **ABR Ski Trip**

*Friday, March 1 - Sunday, March 3, 2024*

Take advantage of this last blast outstanding skiing opportunity at ABR in Ironwood, MI. Last season they had 253 inches of snow on 101 km of groomed trails. Bring or rent snowshoes to enjoy 16 km of the most diverse and scenic snowshoeing you'll find in the Midwest. We'll stop at Nine Mile Forest near Wausau on our way up to ABR. Nine Mile Forest has 30 km of both skating and striding ski trails and 11 km of snowshoe trails. The chalet offers ski rentals.

We'll stay at the Quality Inn hotel in Ironwood. Some restaurants are within walking distance of the hotel, and there are more dining options in nearby downtown Hurley. Saturday's group dinner will be at the Elk & Hound Restaurant on the Gogebic Country Club grounds in Ironwood. Expect an unforgettable evening!

Sign up before January 31 to receive the Early Bird discount. Contact Trip Leader Sally Heuer: [smiles@metrodish.net](mailto:smiles@metrodish.net) or 414- 403-7911 with any questions. Click here to access more details and the trip reservation form: [ABR Trails Ski Trip](#).

### **Bus Trips Now Are for NSCM Members Only**

To go on Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee bus ski trips up north, participants must be club members. That is a change made to NSCM policy by the board of directors at its December 11,

and Ellen Riley

**Secretary**  
Paula Brookmire

**Treasurer**  
Pamela Gestwicki

**Assistant Treasurer**  
Dave Herrewig

**Board Members**  
Julie Amundson  
Paula Brookmire  
Renee Couture  
Carol Doebler  
Steven Fabina  
Dorothy Riesing  
Ellen Riley  
David Rosenberg  
Mary Wozniak

**Program Committee Members:**  
Paul Keber, Chair  
(262) 547-4827  
Chris Pantazon  
Barb Tremel  
Becky Yakes  
Joanne Ziarek

**Public Relations Chair:**  
Paula Brookmire  
(414) 527-0040

**Clinics Chair:**  
Carol Doebler

**Website Chair:**  
Katie Bivens  
[katiebivens@ymail.com](mailto:katiebivens@ymail.com)

**Historian:**  
Paula Brookmire  
(414) 527-0040

**Newsletter:**  
Send Articles to:  
[newsletter@nordicskiclub.org](mailto:newsletter@nordicskiclub.org)

**Facebook Chair:**  
Ellen Riley  
[ellenriley612@gmail.com](mailto:ellenriley612@gmail.com)

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

2023, meeting. In the past, we allowed non-members to participate in trips at a higher price. Since our current membership fee is low -- \$25 for individuals -- it makes sense for trip participants simply to join the club instead of paying a higher trip price. And one set of pricing makes it easier for trip leaders. Also, please make sure you have paid your dues, and signed the club's liability waiver, before you go on a trip or you won't be allowed on the trip.

### **Club Members: Have Your Own Insurance**

Insurance companies throughout the U.S. have been raising prices of premiums. The Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee (NSCM) got a notice recently that our premium for liability insurance was being raised by more than four times our annual rate. And it was being raised in the middle of our contract year. After time-consuming research, the board made a decision. The extra premium cost was due in December. At its December 11, 2023, board meeting, the NSCM board of directors voted to cancel our insurance.

This is a reminder and a notice that NSCM members should always have your own health coverage as well as liability insurance provided through your homeowners or renter's insurance. Having an additional umbrella insurance policy provides even more coverage. NSCM's liability insurance had provided very little protection and specifically did not provide liability coverage for snow-related activities. The board decided that the huge expense for limited coverage was not worth depleting our assets.

### **Board Elections Held in March With Email Ballot**

Are you interested in promoting the future of cross-country skiing? Then volunteer on the Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee (NSCM) board of directors. If you'd like to run for a board position, please contact President Carol Doebler by March 1, 2024 (see below). Holding elections online rather than in person started with the Covid 19 pandemic and has worked well.

They're easier and save time. So NSCM has made online elections permanent. The club will conduct our annual meeting and elections via email and a survey format. The simple process takes only minutes. We need your response to help us keep the club running. Please make sure you have paid annual dues before voting on these few items (plus any others submitted by March 1):

- approving the minutes of the March 25, 2023, annual meeting
- voting in four board members who are re-running for two-year terms\*
- voting to adjourn

Balloting runs March 13 through 23, 2024. Look for announcements, recognitions of volunteers and other news in your email, just as there would be at an in-person annual meeting.

Nominations and Resolutions: Our bylaws allow us to take nominations for anyone who wants to run for the board, even though we have a full complement of volunteers willing to run. Some of those volunteers would be happy to give up their seat on the board if someone else comes forward to run. The only feasible way to do this is to have you email a nomination for the board by Friday, March 1, to President Carol Doebler.

For the nomination to be valid, you must get permission from the person you are nominating (or you can nominate yourself) and you must get another club member to second your nomination. Email these by March 1 [so we have time to get them on the ballot] to [tortoiseski@wi.rr.com](mailto:tortoiseski@wi.rr.com). To this same email address, you can send any resolutions to propose -- with the name of a club member who is seconding them.

### **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

### **Contact Us:**

#### **Volunteers**

The Nordic Ski Club runs on volunteers. Please contact Renee Couture at [acoutrr@att.net](mailto: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](http://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**

\*Note that the Nordic Ski Club has staggered elections. This year four people will be elected to the nine-member board; next year five people will be elected. This keeps continuity and stability so we don't lose all board members at once. Current board members who are up for re-election to two-year terms, starting March 23, 2024, are Paula Brookmire, Ellen Riley, Dorothy Riesing and Mary Wozniak. If elected, they will join the five board members whose two-year terms continue through March 2025: Julie Amundson, Renee Couture, Carol Doebler, Stephen Fabina, and David Rosenberg.

Once elected the new board will choose its officers, as our bylaws direct. Officers are elected annually. Current club officers are Carol Doebler, president; Renee Couture, assistant vice president; Ellen Riley, assistant vice president; Paula Brookmire, secretary; Pam Gestwicki, treasurer, and Dave Herrewig, assistant treasurer.

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### **Combined Nordic Newsletters**

The Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee is combining its February and March newsletters into one newsletter, which was emailed to members around January 25. Doing so saves volunteer time. In past decades it was not unusual to combine two months in one newsletter. The club will do the same with an April-May 2024 newsletter.

The deadline for the April-May newsletter is March 15. Send event articles via email to [newsletter@nordicskiclub.org](mailto:newsletter@nordicskiclub.org) rather than directly to Sally Heuer, the newsletter designer.

Note that if you are planning an event, you need to notify the program committee before sending an article to the newsletter. For those who are organizing events and can't meet the deadline to get articles in the newsletter, we can get the event information to NSCM members via email blasts, which we do even with events that do appear in the newsletter. Just contact Paul Keber, program committee chair, at [pkeber@milwpc.com](mailto:pkeber@milwpc.com).

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### **A Note from the Club Historian**

For the first time in the history of the Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee, the club cancelled three of its cross-country ski trips in a row. Why? Lack of snow. Even in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, there was not enough snows to ski on for our New Year's bus trip to the Keweenaw Peninsula.

The pattern continued for the Valley Spur bus trip to Hiawatha National Forest south of Munising, Michigan. Then our plane trip to Vermont was cancelled since there was little snow and rain predicted.

Then in January we got pummeled with snow in southeastern Wisconsin. Meanwhile, we're thankful for the machine-made snow at Lapham Peak State Forest, which was available even during the warm days of December 2023. Thank you to NSCM members who support the snowmaking effort.

--Paula Brookmire

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*The Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee (NSCM) continues to follow recommendations by the Centers for Disease Control and Wisconsin authorities regarding Covid-19 safety. 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.*

### **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? [katiebivens@gmail.com](mailto:katiebivens@gmail.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](mailto:pkeber@milwpc.com)

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