

Whiteshell Ski Club

eX-Cetera



President's Message

On Thanksgiving weekend my husband and I joined four other volunteers who were heading off on the trails to groom them for skiing. It was a beautiful sunny morning and while they all looked bright and cheerful as they got the equipment ready, I wondered if they might have been happier with the newspaper and a second cup of coffee. It made me think about all the volunteer work being done right now by a fairly small group of people on our trails. All of us who enjoy the trails for skiing, walking or biking should remember that without the effort made by these volunteers, the trails would be rough and unkempt. I want to thank them all on behalf of the people who use them.

Our members should be receiving this issue of the eX-Cetera about a week before the Fall General Meeting (November 9 at the Pinawa Club). We have new editors this year – Dana Reed and Joel Taylor. We're looking forward to the first issue and we would also like to thank Michelle Long for the great job she did for the past two years.

That takes me back to volunteers again. We have been so fortunate over the years to have members who give their time generously for any jobs that need doing. Many of the jobs that volunteers do save our club large amounts of money, especially when it comes to equipment care and repair. Other volunteers introduce young people to skiing and that is essential to

any club in order to keep the club alive. If you've been around the Pinawa Club parking lot on a Sunday afternoon, you'll undoubtedly understand what I mean!

These ramblings take me to the tasks in hand for WCCSC this season. The first is the 30th Anniversary of the Manitoba Loppet at the Pinawa Club on January 29. To celebrate this special event, we are inviting as many past members to return to Pinawa and join us for what will be a Loppet Weekend. We will plan for a banquet on the Saturday evening and will undoubtedly be looking for billets for out-of-town guests and volunteers for all the tasks that are involved in planning and executing such a weekend.

Then in addition to this event, WCCSC is the host of the skiing portion of the 2006 Manitoba Winter Games. The first part of this event will actually take place on January 29 when we will also run the Eastman Ski Race, which is the qualifying race for



8th, using skating and classic skiing styles each day. We hope to have a good crowd of spectators as well as many volunteers.


That leads me back to the issue of volunteers again as with the Games we will have a need for more volunteers than we do for just one ski race and there will be many jobs that will not require any knowledge of skiing. So if you want to be where the action is in March, please consider submitting your name for this important event. Volunteers will be given t-shirts as a memento of their service. We should see how many of those we can get for Pinawa. We will have a table at the Pinawa Winter Town Market to sign up members and volunteers on December 3rd. I hope we see you there!

Elaine Greenfield

Annual General
Meeting
Pinawa Club
Nov. 9th, 7pm

VOLUME 33, NUMBER 1
NOVEMBER 2005

Manitoba Loppet



The 30th annual Manitoba Loppet will be held this year on January 29th. This will be my first year as the race director for this event, so I will need all the help I can get in order to maintain the high standards set by Peter Chernis over the last ten years.

As Elaine mentioned, we are hoping to make this a very special and exciting event and we are inviting as many past members to return to Pinawa and join us for what will be a Loppet Weekend.

As an added bonus to our usual Loppet, we will also be hosting the Eastman Qualification Races for the Manitoba Power Smart Winter Games on the same day. We would encourage all our Jackrabbits to train hard in order to qualify as members of either the Eastman Team or the Host team.

For further information check out: <http://www.manitobagames.ca/crosscountry.html>.

The Eastman qualifier is open to youth born in the years 1984 to 1995. To register for the regional cross-country ski qualifier, download a registration form and submit it to Sport Manitoba - Eastman Region: http://www.manitobagames.ca/Documents/Regional_Registration.pdf

I would encourage everyone to plan on participating in this very special 30th Loppet and to invite as many of your friends to come along as well.

We would like to get as many "Whiteshell Skiers" from the past and present out to enjoy this event.

Don Ewing

2005-06 Membership Drive

The Whiteshell Cross Country Ski Club wants you! We are looking for people who enjoy the outdoors and love snow to come out and have some fun with us this winter. We not only want to welcome back members from last year but are also looking to attract new faces. Do you know someone who loves the outdoors and likes the snow? Why not get them to come join us?

Over the years, we have been fortunate to recruit a strong roster of members from across our region. Last year, about 200 people from Pinawa, Lac du Bonnet, Seven Sisters, Whitemouth, Stead, Warren and Winnipeg joined the Club.

Our members are a dedicated bunch and thanks to them, we have an extensive network of trails, a busy schedule of activities and an active program of fund raising. Volunteers are always needed!

It appears that we will have another bumper crop of Jackrabbits again this year.

Our 2005-06-membership drive received a kick-start at Student Registration Night on September 8th when 16 of them signed up.

Our membership fees remain unchanged at \$50.00 for a Family, \$30.00 for an Individual (over age 18) and \$15.00 for a Junior (18 years or younger).

What do you get for your money? How about:

- * over 40 km of groomed trails
- * 3 cozy warming huts
- * qualified instructors
- * liability insurance for leaders, instructors and volunteers
- * programs, competitions and activities sponsored by CCSAM and Sport Manitoba
- * the Jackrabbit ski program for family participation, fun, fitness and skill development
- * the School Ski Program
- * the Whiteshell Ski Team for fitness, instruction and competition
- * the Manitoba Loppet (The 30th annual Loppet will be held on January 29th, 2006.)
- * the X-C ski competitions of the 2006 Power Smart Manitoba Winter Games:
 - Eastman Qualifier on January 29th, 2006
 - Provincial Finals on March 7th and 8th, 2006
- * the Special Olympics Provincial Nordic Ski Championships (Pinawa, February 18th, 2006)

Applications can be given to any member of the Executive or mailed to:

Whiteshell Cross Country Ski Club Inc.
P.O. Box 438
Pinawa, Manitoba, R0E 1L0

Swap Shop

Sunday, November 6, 1:30
to 3:30, 36 Grey Crescent

Bring your old skis to sell,
trade or donate at our
club's annual waxing clinic

Ski Club Executive

President: Elaine Greenfield
753-2515

Secretary: Kevin Dearing
753-8239

Treasurer: Alf Wikjord
753-8844

Trails: Derrek Owen
753-8842

Jackrabbits: Bruce Goodwin
753-8393

Equipment: Ron Brehm
753-8437

Editor: Dana Reed
753-2993

Special Olympics - Provincial Nordic Skiing Championships

At the request of Special Olympics Manitoba [www.specialolympics.mb.ca], the Whiteshell Ski Club has agreed to host their Provincial Nordic Skiing Championships in Pinawa on Saturday, February 18, 2006.

Over the ensuing months, we will be developing the plans for this competition with the help of Ken Stevens, Special Olympics' Director of Competitions and Officials Development, and Elaine Gregg, Springfield Ski Coach. If you wish to volunteer your services for this event, please inform Elaine Greenfield (753-2515) or Alf Wikjord (753-8844).



Jackrabbit Tracks (Skis 'R Us)

We've outlasted another season of poor sledding and the fun has already begun. Our first meeting this year was October 16 and we used bikes, skate boards, inline skates and anything with wheels for some dry land training. Marshmallows and a fire followed of course! The following week we got more adventurous and bicycled out to Old Pinawa along the TransCanada Trail. We stopped there long enough to enjoy marshmallows, hotdogs and lots of games.



On October 30th we hiked out to the Red Cabin via the suspension bridge over

the Pinawa Channel. We held a few snow dances and expect to be on skis shortly.

On November 6 we will hold our third annual ski waxing clinic. Learn how to apply hot glide wax from our club experts, or get it done for you.

For newcomers to the club, Jackrabbits is the name of the children's ski program. It has been active in Eastman for more than 25 years and helped more than 1000

children learn how to ski. Jackrabbits learn the fundamentals of ski techniques and fitness in an atmosphere of fun and adventure. We play games on snow, like Fox and Rabbit and Shark Attack, and take on hills and slaloms with no fear. We mix instruction with tours, including long tours out to unusual places on our trails. In between we learn basic techniques such as the herringbone and snow plow, up to the advanced 2-skate

and marathon skate. And of course every outing ends with hot chocolate and a marshmallow roast over an open fire.

The Jackrabbit Program is designed for all ages, but most children are between 6 and 14 years old. It is well suited for families and parents are encouraged to join the fun. We welcome skiers from everywhere. Most come from Pinawa, Lac du Bonnet, Seven Sisters and River Hills, but we also get some from Winnipeg and as far away as Fontainebleau in France and Sidney in Australia! Our Club also offers ski lessons for Grey Hares - you can pick up the basics at our Jackrabbit sessions at any time or we can arrange for discrete adult lessons.

We will meet every Sunday from 1:30 to 3:30 PM at the Transformer Station on PR 211, for as long as there is snow on the ground. Look for the big Jackrabbit and a huge number of children enjoying themselves on the snow. Check out Channel 12 for any changes. For more information on Jackrabbits or the Ski Club, call Bruce Goodwin at 753-8393. Check out our club web site (<http://www.mts.net/~goodwin/WCCSkiClub/>) for photos.

Bruce Goodwin

2006 Power Smart Manitoba Winter Games

Swap Shop

Windsor Park
Nordic Centre in
Winnipeg

November 19
9:00 to 4:00

The Manitoba Games are the province's largest ongoing multi-sport competition. They are held every two years and alternate between summer and winter events. In March 2006, the Power Smart Manitoba Winter Games will be held in Beausejour and the neighboring communities of Oakbank, Tyndall, Garson, Springhill Park and Pinawa. They begin with regional qualifying events in Alpine Ski, Badminton, Cross Country Ski, Curling, Figure Skating, Five Pin Bowling, Gymnastics, Hockey, Special Olympics Bowling and Volleyball. Regional teams from Central, Eastman, Interlake, Norman, Parkland, Westman and Winnipeg go on to participate in the finals.

The Whiteshell Ski Club will host the Eastman cross-country ski qualifier in Pinawa on January 29th and the provincial finals on March 7th and 8th.

Would You Like To Volunteer? All accredited volunteers will receive photo ID badges and 2006 Games T-shirts. Become an accredited volunteer for the cross-country ski competitions by downloading the Volunteer Application Form at http://www.manitobagames.ca/Documents/Volunteer_form.pdf, and sending it to the 2006 Games X-C Ski Sport Committee, Whiteshell Cross Country Ski Club, Box 438, Pinawa, Manitoba, R0E 1L0.

Alf Wikjord



Thank you!

The WCCSC Executive would like to say thank you to the following volunteers who have given up some of their evenings by working a bingo in Winnipeg in 2005: Dennis Cann, Ralph Moyer, George Montgomery, Joel Taylor, Doreen Bigelow, Ray and Carol Wazny, Alf and Marg Wikjord, Ron Brehm, Gary and Kathy Hanna, Lorne and Paulette Schram, Peter and Judy Chernis, Keith Olson, Larry Gauthier, Ken Sigurdson, Bob and Barb Jones and Nat Fenton. A very special thanks goes to Heinz and Marj Ehlers, our bingo co-ordinators who recruited the volunteers and attended all the bingos as well.

Trails and Equipment Report

The ski club has been quite busy the last few months acquiring more equipment to help our fall trail clearing operations. Thanks go to Peter Chernis who was able to get some donations, including an equipment shed where we can house our winter track setting equipment. We were able to store the shed at the maintenance area at the Pinawa Golf Course. If we receive permission from the Pinawa Club Executive to locate it there permanently, it will save considerable time when we are track setting. We also received a flat-bed trailer which has come in handy during trail clearing this fall.

Our ski club was fortunate to obtain the funds to purchase a new brush mower and chain saw. The new D&R brush and field mower is a real monster. It will mow virtually anything it can push down! It gives anyone using it quite a work out as well. We also have acquired a new Stihl chain saw that should also give us many years of service.

Ron Brehm

The following people contributed to our massive trail clearing campaign this fall: Romeo Bernardin, Ron Brehm, Dennis Cann, Andrew Chambers, Paul Chambers, Heinz Ehlers, Larry Gauthier, Oliver Greenfield, Tom Hilliard, Keith Olson, Derrek Owen, Florence Vilks, Peter Vilks, Frank Walton and Alf Wikjord. Others were willing to help but their schedules did not permit it. Thank you for all your hard work.

Derrek Owen



Third Annual Waxing Clinic

At 1:30 on November 6, join up with our Jackrabbits at 36 Grey Crescent and learn how to put hot glide wax on your skis. We provide the wax and equipment, plus some of our club experts. You bring your skis and enthusiasm, and (we suggest) a \$3 donation which will go into our Jackrabbit kitty. We will also have a few designer corks available at an unheard of bargain price.