



On The Glide

December 2018

The mission of the Bemidji Area Cross Country Ski Club is to promote the sport of cross-country skiing in the Bemidji area through the development, maintenance, and stewardship of trail areas; sponsor and co-sponsor ski-related events and activities; and promote leadership, camaraderie, and goodwill among sports enthusiasts.

Membership is important

Being a member of the Bemidji Area Cross Country Ski Club helps us purchase and maintain equipment that is used in the grooming of trails. The club grooms all local trails with the exception of those in Lake Bemidji State Park. There are over 100 kilometers of trails maintained and groomed by the club year round.

Your membership also helps support area Nordic ski teams and creates a culture that embraces Nordic skiing in the Bemidji area.

The Club offers Sunday Ski School for children and adults- providing low cost lessons for all.

Join today! Membership is only \$15.00 for individuals and \$30.00 for families. A form can be found on the last page.

Purpose Statement:

The Bemidji Area Cross Country Ski Club is a not for profit organization and is not organized for the private gain of any person. Such purposes for which this organization is formed is educational within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) in the Internal Revenue Code and to maintain the trail system in the Bemidji area for public use, lessening the burden to Beltrami County and Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

4th ANNUAL SKI CLUB BEER PARTY FUN-RAISER!

Join the Bemidji Area Cross Country Ski Club for their 4th annual Beer Party Fundraiser at Bemidji Brewing. This year's date is Thursday, January 16th. \$20.00 gets you a beer and a keepsake glass. Join your fellow skiers and help us raise money for Sunday Ski School. Tickets may be purchased at the door.

LENNY BERGSTROM HONORED



On October 20, 2018, at Three Island Park (TIP) Lenny Bergstrom was honored for his outstanding decades of service in developing TIP during his tenure as Beltrami County Land Commissioner. In his honor the recently-reconstructed bridge across the Turtle River at TIP was dedicated as the Lennard Bergstrom Multi-use Bridge. The Bemidji Area Cross Country Ski Club was proud to nominate Lenny for this honor.

Many of Lenny's family, friends and former colleagues turned out for the bridge-dedication ceremony on a beautiful fall afternoon at the TIP shelter. Lenny graciously accepted the honor and treated the crowd to many intriguing and unknown stories about some of his long-time experiences in developing TIP, both serious and humorous.

Skiers, bikers, hunters and hikers will be forever grateful to Lenny's long-term efforts to develop and maintain Three Island Park!

Trail Report

By Mark Walters, Trail Administrator

Year number nine of being your local trail administrator and I'm amazed as always to the support we get from the community and local clubs to maintain these beautiful trails we are so lucky to have. The summer brought some major damage to trees and the trails of our two county based trail systems; the Movil Maze and Three Island Park but with lots of help and hiring a professional to take on some of the larger overhanging trees in the Movil Maze, we were able to get things cleared off and mowed for the winter season. Lots of helping hands made work easier on our three bigger trail systems this year; Movil Maze, Three Island Park, and Buena Vista. These three work days alone accounted for nearly two hundred volunteer hours of towards Grant-In-Aid. A special thanks to those who took on being leaders in these areas and the folks who turned out to help.

Our big project of the year is well on its way, the Movil Maze Lodge. This community and county supported project will see completion by spring of 2019, and hopefully be the site of our annual spring meeting for the ski Club. As work progresses throughout the winter, be aware of equipment and contractors going in and out of the Movil Maze parking lot and give them ample space in which to work. Your patience will be greatly appreciated and make their site a safer place to work.

As always, be sure to thank a groomer while out on the trail, their time and expertise make skiing a more enjoyable experience for all of us. Show your support to their efforts by buying a Minnesota Ski Pass and keep the grooming going!

Enjoy the winter and trails we have.

BEMIDJI MIDDLE SCHOOL NORDIC SKI TEAM –

The season officially opened on Monday, November 26th. We have 57 skiers officially registered and are very excited about our season. Returning to coach the Nordic skiers this year are Brad Kuzel and Jeff Ueland. We have a couple regular parent volunteers who also join us on a regular basis. We would appreciate more volunteers if you are interested!

Our first meet was held on December 11th at Detroit Lakes Mountain. Unfortunately our lack of snow forced us to cancel the Montebello Relays that were to follow Saturday but we are hopeful that we will have our dual with Brainerd on Saturday, January 5th.

In the meantime we have been getting into a routine with stretches and warm ups, strength training, ski specific drills, and overall conditioning.



Get yours today!

The Great Minnesota Ski Pass gives cross-country skiers age 16 and older access to trails in state parks, state forests or grant-in-aid trails. All the trails in the Bemidji area fall into these categories! Your ski pass fee helps us maintain Minnesota's cross-country ski trail system. In fact the Ski Club receives \$26,000 in volunteer earned grant-in-aid to maintain our local trails systems.

Passes can be purchased on-line or at local convenience stores that sell DNR licenses. The cost of a pass is:

Daily: \$6

One-season: \$20

Three-season: \$55

Thank you for getting your pass!

BHS COACHES CORNER

By Mark Walters

Season sixteen crept up fast for the BHS Nordic ski team and its staff. Nina Lubarski and I are well into our season as week five is upon us. We have been on snow since day one and our progress shows the importance of having the ski team being able to actually ski. We continue with regular strength workouts once a week and focus on technique daily.

We kicked off day one by classical skiing on the Lumberjack trail system behind the high school. All forty four student / athletes out on skis!! We have been both classical and freestyle skiing over the past two weeks on local trails and competed in our first meet, the Mt Itasca sprint relays on December 6th.

The team had a very good first showing at Mt Itasca and we hope to carry some of this energy along throughout the season. Our first home meet, The Montebello Relays, had to be cancelled for lack of snow. Our next home meet is be January 19th at Buena Vista.

Looking forward to another great season with the lumberjacks!

Coach Walters

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY SKI SCHOOL

BEMIDJI MIDDLE SCHOOL
JANUARY 6, 13, AND 20TH

BARNELOPPET

JANUARY 27TH

SKI-PERBOWL

FEBRUARY 3RD

MINNESOTA FINLANDIA

FEBRUARY 16TH

CANDELIGHT SKI

FEBRUARY 9TH

SNOWJOURN

JANUARY 12TH

BLACK LAKE LOPPET

TBD

KEG N CORK CLASSIC

TBD

ANNUAL MEETING

MAY 5TH

FALL TRAIL
CLEARING....



Thank you to
all that helped
clear trails



MOVIL MAZE – by Bill Scheela

A new shelter (officially called the Movil Maze Lodge) at the Movil Maze Recreational Area is becoming a reality and should be completed next spring, 2019. Spearheaded by the ski club, this shelter has been on the agenda for over four years when the Beltrami County Natural Resource Management department approached the ski club with a plan similar to the Three Island Park north shelter. The county was looking for financial support from potential users of a multi-use lodge to include both the ski club and the snowmobile club. The ski club strongly believed that the Movil Maze, being one of the true destination areas for not only Nordic skiing but snowmobiling, biking, hiking, and non-motorized hunting, was destined to have a more significant building to accommodate the rapidly increasing multi-use needs of the Movil Maze.

During this time frame, the ski club has worked side by side with user groups (skiers, snowmobilers and fat-tire bikers) and the county to come up with a very agreeable design to accommodate everyone at the table. The building will be larger than the Three Island building, have in-floor heating, electricity, outdoor changing area, a supply room, and an ample outdoor patio with picnic tables. It has been designed to be as maintenance free as possible; high pitched steel roof, steel siding with stone wainscoting, timber frame façade front patio, and great access to all of the trail systems (bikers, snowmobilers and skiers). This is phase one of three phases of a very ambitious project developed by the ski club and the county. Phase two is a newly designed parking lot, and phase three is lighting the first 1.2 KM loop as you enter the Movil Maze.



Partial funding was successfully acquired through a Federal Recreational Trails Grant that required \$50,000 in seed money: \$30,000 came from Beltrami County, \$5,000 from the Bemidji Area Cross Country Ski Club, \$5,000 from the North Country Snowmobile Club, and \$2,000 from the allowed in-kind work by the ski club's trail administrator in coordinating and developing the grant application. This left \$8,000.00 to be raised via donations by the ski club.

In early October, the ski club went to work to raise the required donations by starting a fundraising campaign through contacting many ski club members who have supported capital projects in the past. By early December, the ski club had exceeded the \$8000 goal so the project, after matching grant dollars were awarded, was fully funded at \$200,000! We want to give a special thanks to all those donors, especially the Bemidji Noon Rotary Club. Construction is ongoing and on schedule to be completed by late spring-early summer. It is located next to the parking lot and entry to the ski trail so stop by and take a look. Future annual meetings (first Sunday in May) will be held there as will various skiing events.

BEMIDJI AREA CROSS COUNTRY SKI CLUB MEMBERSHIP FORM:

Join the Bemidji Area Cross Country Ski Club in its efforts to provide trail maintenance and grooming, youth development opportunities, and support for all cross-country skiing in the Bemidji Area by becoming a member! Annual membership is from July 1 through June 30.

Name _____ Phone _____
Add'l Family Names _____
Address _____
Email _____
Family **\$30** _____
Individual **\$15** _____
Additional Donation _____
Total Enclosed _____

**Make membership and/or donation checks payable to: Bemidji Area Cross Country Ski Club and send to:
Ski Club Membership, P.O. Box 3165, Bemidji, MN 56601**

Or fill out the membership form at:

<http://www.bemidjicrosscountryski.org>

For more information or to find out how you can be involved, please contact one of our board members or go to our website [bemidjicrosscountryski.org](http://www.bemidjicrosscountryski.org):

Bill Scheela (president)– hanoibill@yahoo.com, 333-3674

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THANK YOU TO THE GEORGE W. NEILSON FOUNDATION

In May, the ski club applied for a grant from the George W. Neilson Foundation to purchase ATV's and a trailer for Sunday Ski School. The ski club received \$16,137 to purchase two ATVs and an enclosed trailer to transport skis, poles, boots and accessories for ski school and ski outings on the ski trails.

The club purchased two Honda ATV's from our local Bemidji Sports Centre and had them outfitted to meet the needs of the club, and purchased an enclosed trailer from our local Home Depot and had it wrapped in a ski club decal from the Ross Lewis Sign Co. Upgraded equipment makes the work of our volunteers more reliable, safe, and efficient.





Sunday Ski School
January 6, 13, 20 - 2019
Cross-country ski lessons for everyone
All ages welcome!



Who teaches the lessons?

Lessons are taught by a group of volunteers from the Bemidji Area Cross Country Ski Club who have experience in teaching skiing. Lessons are designed to teach the “basic level skills” of both classical and skate skiing techniques.

When and where are the lessons?

Bemidji Middle School Cafeteria

Sundays, **January 6, 13, 20**, from **1:30 PM—3:30 PM** each day. Sunday, **January 27th**— Son’s of Norway Barneløpet (Childrens Race)

Cost to participate in Ski School?

\$15 per skier (covers all lessons), plus an individual or family BACCSC membership (\$15/\$30).

Fees are capped at \$75.00 per household/family.

No equipment? No problem. BACCSC provides equipment (skis, boots, poles) at **no charge** on a first come basis.

Please bring your own gear if you have it, our equipment is limited.



Register at the first session or print out a form from our [website](http://bemidjicrosscountryski.org) and bring it with you

bemidjicrosscountryski.org

Questions? call 218-368-5050

or email: BemidjiSkiClub@gmail.com

