



Track & Trail



Visit our web site at: <http://charleswoodskiclub.ca>

From your editor,

Track and Trail needs you !

I've really enjoyed serving the Charleswood Ski Club as your editor. However, as a member may only serve in an executive position for two years, my editorial days are coming to an end. If you are interested in this position, please give me a call. I am very willing to offer support if it is needed.

-Wendy Sutton

For a good time call Rob
because there's still room on the Sandilands Bus!

Jottings from your Social Co-ordinator

Mark your calendars for March 19, 8.00 p.m. It is the Club's Pool Night at Decanter's Downstairs, King and Bannatyne. Snippets from my report in the January 2005 newsletter: "opportunity to hone...skills...team trials...more laughs than scores...prizes and surprises". There will be a cash bar, two delicious, hot comfort food items in the guise of appetizers. Cost for the evening is \$ 7.00.



I need a couple of people wise in the ways of "real pool" to get us going and keep us on track. I need some bodies (1-2) to act as Greeters at the door. It was a fun evening last year as our ski season winds down. And I was on

crutches! How about it? Look forward to seeing you there, folks: >)

P.S. I liked Charlie's explanation re the whereabouts of "the cockles in the heart". It's enough to warm the...never mind. You get the picture.

Your Social Co-ordinator,

Nina Tackaberry

Trip Reports

Whiteshell Weekend, Jan.21 -23

A small but congenial group convened at the Falcon Trails Resort for what turned out to be a great weekend (once we got over the jangled nerves from getting there). For awhile Friday evening, when only four of us had arrived, we were thinking that the Saturday night potluck would be pretty slim pickings (with lots of potato salad!). As it turned out everyone arrived safe and sound (some Saturday morning) and we enjoyed a great feast Saturday evening (with lots of potato salad!).

Saturday we awoke to beautiful surroundings, fresh snow, bright sunshine, no wind, and a temperature around -20 – a perfect Manitoba winter's morning! In spite the previous day's snowfall, we had some freshly groomed trails, which made for

some excellent skiing conditions. The only down one side. There was slush on the lake portion of the High Lake trail, which some of us found out (in spite of advice not to go there) much to our and especially Dennis L's (who was in the lead) chagrin as he got a boot full. Sunday was another great day with milder temperature and more freshly groomed trails. All in all a great Charleswood weekend!

Winter's Driving Tip

While at Falcon Lake, Clayton T. gave us an excellent tip for driving on a four-lane highway in snowy conditions. If the driving lane is clear and the passing lane snow covered (as it was for us), and you see a semi approaching to pass you, put on your signal and pull into the passing lane, slow down and allow the semi to pass in the right hand (clear) lane. That way you won't be blinded by flying snow and you can pull back into the driving lane when it is safe to do so. (The family that was killed earlier this winter on the Trans Canada west of Winnipeg, when rear ended by a semi after slowing down from being passed and apparently blinded by another semi, could have used this tip.)

... Ron Simonite

Dear Charly

Dear Charly,

I love this club! I'd like to get more involved but I'm afraid volunteering for an executive position would take too much of my time. How do I find out what the job involves without getting in over my head?

Good Intentions

Dear Good Intentions,

Call the executive member who holds a position you're interested in. Get the scoop. Ask a buddy in the club to be your assistant. There are lots of experienced members who will help you. The time commitment is very reasonable. Go for it!

Love,
Charly

Giant's Ridge Report

Trip notes from a semi-transplanted B.C. skier.

Feb4th at 5 pm, 40 intrepid skiers left for Virginia MN. Bruce Jennings once again ably piloted us to the Amerclinn. This was the author's first Giant's Ridge trip having waited a long time to do so...why did I wait so long?

The weekend was virtually incident free this year, marred only slightly by a slip on the ice at the Inn by Bruce, our driver, upon our arrival. Bruce's head and the concrete are doing fine! One other minor incident involved yours truly who did a frontal

"splat" on the gold trail. Apparently, according to eyewitnesses, Bob. R. and Joyce J. it was worthy of a video replay. My thanks to Bob who ensured I was OK to keep skiing that day. i.e.: proper pupil dilation checked, and all limbs functioning before he helped me to my feet. Only my chest and my pride were hurt.

Saturday dawned foggy, but soon cleared to blue skies and with a strong south wind which pushed the temps. to +6 degrees... great in the morning for the downhill skiers but a bit slushy later. It was hard work for those doing the classic x-c though...no one had much luck with the proper wax. Sunday was much colder, about minus 8 and overcast all day. Most downhill runs were fast and had small patches of icy, hard pack making for some surprises for those who relaxed.

Notes and Quotes:

How many like Bruce, after seeing the video "Bend It Like Beckham" were not sure who Beckham was and what did bend it mean??...seen Sat. night ... Ron J. teaching Maxwell Q. and Evan R. to play Hearts ... whose interesting looking set of cards were they???.and why was Linwood D. sleeping on the mezzanine couch Sat. night... was he wanting some sleep or some late night activity?? ...James R. insisting on his "promised" 2 full hours at the Chinese Buffet was heard to say "I have 37 minutes to go and I intend to use them!!"...On



Sunday afternoon, Helene W. offered profuse apologies to Don. W. and Doug Y. for having led them part way down a solid sheet of ice...a black run called Kitzbuel. She was heard to say over the sound of loud expletives, "It was OK yesterday and, I don't believe I have never heard Don. W. swear before!!" Later on the bus ride home, just to rub the salt, Ted H. was heard to say to Don, "now you have really experienced Prairie

Skiing!" ...and how many of the x-c skiers had unceremonious dumps at the top of the chair...Ron J. did not seem able to help them!... Nadine V. was seen flying past her "mini dynamos" group yelling "just keep your skies in the track and let go"...back on the bus, who will soon forget the grilling some trip members received when June T's bottle of Tia Maria went missing, eh Brigitta M.?0 After said bottle mysteriously reappeared, the threatened "strip search" was cancelled. Bob M. had a different but truly enjoyable day relaxing in the day lodge on Sunday...seems Bob's special x-c mitts were left at the Inn Sunday morning.

As I wrap up this report, I believe I speak for all participants when I say "Thanks June for another great trip." I, perhaps more than anyone, know how much attention to detail June takes in running this popular weekend.

The answers to the skill testing questions were.. Bruce has driven with us for 7 years and there were 35 downhill passes and 45 cross country passes purchased this weekend.

Thanks a bunch, June

Don Wilson

Accommodation at Whistler

I wondered if any of our skiing colleagues might be interested in this information about accommodation at Whistler ? The website link is www.whistler-cabin.com <<http://www.whistler-cabin.com>> and the going rate is \$375 for up to 6 people per night with a minimum 3 night stay. That makes it about \$62 per night per person by my calculations.

-Sue Kennedy

Skiers Holiday!!

(Thanks to Nina Tackaberry for this submission)

Even if you aren't a skier, you'll be able to appreciate the humor of the slopes as written by a New Orleans paper:

A friend just got back from a holiday skiing trip to Utah with the kind of story that warms the cockles of anybody's heart.

Conditions were perfect...12 below, no feeling in the toes, basic numbness all over...the "Tell me when we're having fun" kind of day.

One of the women in the group complained to her husband that she was in dire need of a rest room. He told her not to worry, that he was sure there was relief waiting at the top of the lift in the form of a powder room for female skiers in distress.

He was wrong, of course, and the pain did not go away. If you've ever had nature hit its panic button in you, then you know that a temperature of 12 below doesn't help matters. With time running out, the woman weighed her options. Her husband, picking up on the intensity of the pain, suggested that since she was wearing an all-white ski outfit, she should go off in the woods and no one would even notice. He assured her, "The white will provide more than adequate camouflage." So she headed for the tree line, began lowering her ski pants and proceeded to do her thing. If you've ever parked on the side of a slope, then you know there is a right way and wrong way to set your skis so you don't move. Yup, you got it!!!She had them positioned the wrong way. Steep slopes are not forgiving...even during the most embarrassing moments. Without warning, the woman found herself skiing backward,out-of-control, racing through the trees...somehow missing all of them and onto another slope. Her derriere and the reverse side were still bare, her pants down around her knees, and she was picking up speed all the while. She continued backwards, totally out-of-control, creating an unusual vista for the other skiers. The woman skied back under the lift and finally collided violently with a pylon. The bad news was that she broke her arm and was unable to pull up her ski pants. At long last her husband arrived, putting an end to her nudie show, then summoned the ski patrol. They transported her to a hospital.

While in the emergency room, a man with an obviously broken leg was put in the bed next to hers. "So, how'd you break your leg?" she asked, making small talk.

"It was the stupidest thing you ever saw," he said. "I was riding up this ski lift and suddenly, I couldn't believe my eyes! There was this crazy woman skiing backward, out-of-control, down the mountain, with her bare bottom hanging out of her pants. I leaned over to get a better look and fell out of the lift."

"So, how'd you break your arm?"