

# Snow News IS Good News

Newsletter of the Nooksack Nordic Ski Club

P.O. Box 28793, Bellingham, WA 98228  
Website: [www.Nooksacknordicskiclub.org](http://www.Nooksacknordicskiclub.org)



## Board Members

### **President**

Pete Tryon

### **Vice President**

John Keates

### **Secretary**

Cleo Richard

### **Treasurer**

Lynne Oliver

### **At large**

Sarah Wymann

Will Witon

Mary Beth Jaynes

Mark Smith

Cindy Joseph

## **Other Volunteers**

### **Salmon Ridge Coordinator**

Gail Garman

### **Membership**

Vacant

(Pete Tryon)

### **Publicity**

Mary Beth Jaynes

### **Lessons Coordinator**

Cindy Joseph

### **Hospitality Chair**

Vacant

### **Program Coordinator**

Mark Smith

### **Newsletter Editor**

Lynn Alderson

### **Webmaster**

Pete Tryon

### **Equipment Manager**

Jim Rhodes

### **Trip Coordinator**

Kurt Duey

### **Day Trip Coordinator**

Pete Tryon

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**MARCH 2024**



## **Club Meeting – Meet with NNSC in Person!**

**When** – Tuesday March 12th

- Meeting starts at 7:00 PM.

**Who** - Everyone is welcome!

**Where** – ReStore Meeting Room (upstairs)  
at 2309 Meridian Ave. in Bellingham, WA  
(parking and stairs in back)

**Visit Our Website for the Latest Information: [www.nooksacknordicskiclub.org](http://www.nooksacknordicskiclub.org)**

## MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

**Tuesday, March 12 – 7:00 pm**  
ReStore Store Meeting Room  
2309 Meridian Ave.

Are you ready for the greatest NNSC general meeting ever? Well, even if not, we hope you will come.

**First**, show and tell – bring a thumb drive with pictures of a memorable ski adventure from this, or a past season, or even entice us with photos of a great place you'd like to ski.

**Second**, bring a dozen cookies to share and lubricate our conversation. Bags will be available to take some home.

**Third**, bring an XC ski item to swap or give away. Perhaps you can turn that sticky, half-empty, tube of red klister into a strap to hold your skis together or for a Toko baseball cap. The cap is too small for me, so someone should wear it.

**Finally**, learn about our off-season work projects which keep our local trails in good shape.

See you there!

Oh, and there will also be a brief **annual meeting** with a report on the club's financial health and election of board members (see next article).

**MARK SMITH**  
**PROGRAM CHAIR**

### THE BOARD

The previous article is the announcement for the last general membership meeting of the season. This is also the

time when we will hold our annual meeting and elect board members. We have 8 board members, terms last for two years and are staggered so 4 terms finish each year. We'd like to thank Cleo Richard, John Keates, Pete Tryon, and Mark Smith for their service for the last two years.

Board membership is open to all club members. It's a great way to support Nordic skiing in Whatcom County as well as allowing you to be the first to hear about upcoming events. Board meetings are held monthly, by Zoom during the winter, sometimes out in a sunny backyard during the summer. While there is no nominating committee this year, you are encouraged to nominate yourself.

Hope to see you at the meeting!

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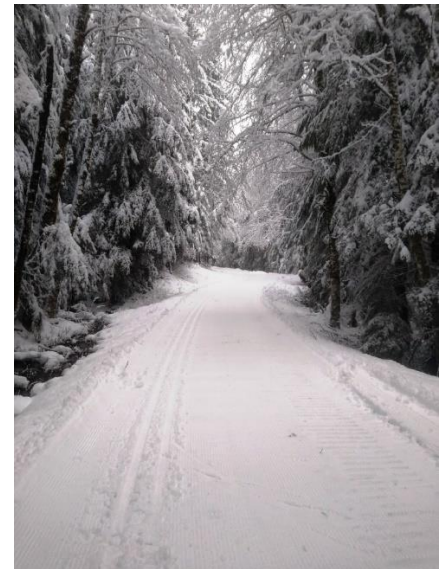
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**PETE TRYON**  
**PRESIDENT**

### STATUS OF SALMON RIDGE SNOPARK TRAILS

It looks like March may be the month to go skiing on our local trails! It's dangerous to be writing about conditions 7 days before publication, but here goes:

After a month of bare gravel and green moss in the trees, the last three days of February brought snow back to our trails at Salmon Ridge. Then a few



*Figure 1. Razor Hone, February 29, 2024*

passes with the Piston Bully and we have some pretty nice skiing! As I write this, predictions call for another foot of snow before this newsletter hits your inbox. May that be the case! If so, with a bit more grooming, the trails should give us several more weeks of skiing. Come check it out for yourself! Along with the main Razor Hone Trail, you might try Anderson or the Campground, both just across the highway. Historically, the snow on Anderson seems to last a little later in the season than Razor Hone. White Salmon, 4.5 miles further up the highway will have more snow, but little grooming.

**PETE TRYON**

### RIVER SNOWSHOE TRAIL

It was December 28, 2023, and the day for a snowshoe trip. It was my grandson's Christmas gift to me to come to Bellingham and go with me out



to Salmon Ridge and snowshoe on River Trail. The only trouble was, there was no snow on River Trail! My grandson brought his girlfriend along and we 'hiked' the trail instead. Our plan was to hike out the River Trail from the parking lot and cross over to Mom's to return. We only hit one glitch. When we got to the last part of the River Trail where you are to head back into the woods, the Nooksack River had grabbed that section for itself. So, we had to backtrack a little and push through brush to get to the continuation of the trail. That entrance to the woods used to be a gentle slope up from the riverbed to the trail. However, in the last couple of years the river had encroached and eaten away at the slope so that it had first become a 3 foot jump up to get to the trail and later smoothed out, but you could not count on the river being there or not. We finished the trek and oh, did I mention it was raining that day too? It was now approaching lunch time. So, we got back in the car and resumed the drive up the mountain to find some snow.

We ended up at the Heather Meadows ski area and went to have lunch hoping that the rain would slow. It did, and we finally got to do some snow shoeing on Wild Goose trail. Don't know that we actually stayed on the trail as snowshoers had made trails all over. But I got my time with my grandson, which was the whole point of the expedition!

Fast forward to January 27, Ambassador Day. In preparation for the day, the above section of River Trail needed to be fixed. So, attached is a picture of the new entrance to the route to bypass the river's encroachment. It is about 300 feet before the old entrance. It still needs a little log work as you can see from the picture but will be dryer all year.

## LYNNE OLIVER

### YOUNG RACERS

It's probably true that you don't usually come to our newsletter for the latest updates on World Cup Nordic Racing – or any racing for that matter. But let's branch out...

*"Citius, Altius, Fortius"* – pushing the limits makes individuals learn about themselves, and allows sports to improve as a whole. Broadly speaking, the Nordic nations have dominated Nordic ski racing for decades, and a tip of the hat to them for doing so! But US women have shown that they can ski with the best of them. Jessie Diggins is currently ranked number 1 in the world! (As well as winning a gold medal in the 2018

Olympics with Kikkan Randall.) But now, Gus Schumacher has won a world cup race for the men last month in Minneapolis! He was the first American man to win a world cup distance race since 1983. I first saw Gus' name in the results as a top skier in the Anchorage high school results in 2014. He stayed at or near the top for 4 years. I was reminded of this as I was collating the results of this year's state championship. The following picture (taken with a special camera) is the 1-2 finish after 7.5 km of hard racing. 0.06 seconds between them! Pretty cool! There are always young racers out going "stronger, higher, faster". Will we see them in the World Cup 6 years from now? And while we're at it, congratulations to all the skiers out on the trails enjoying the snow, whether they be the other 400+ high school racers, the 70+ year old racers at Whistler, or those out for a mellow ski at Salmon Ridge!



Figure 1. Murphy Kimball edging Vebjorn Flagstad, 7.5 km classic, Alaska State Championship 2024

## PETE TRYON

SEE YOU NEXT  
SEASON!!!

# Nooksack Nordic Ski Club Membership Application and SnoPark Order Form

Use this form to purchase SnoPark permits, join the club or renew your membership. Sign and mail to the club with your check. Or, bring it to the next meeting.

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street/PO Box \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone 1: \_\_\_\_\_ (Home, Cell, Work) Phone 2: \_\_\_\_\_ (H, C, W)

Email 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Email 2: \_\_\_\_\_

### Dues and SnoPark Information

Check Membership Level: \$20 Individual \_\_\_\_\_ \$35 Household \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

SnoPark Permit – Vehicle License Required for Permit: \_\_\_\_\_ \$50 SnoPark Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Vehicle License

Optional Donation – we are a 501(c)3 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total membership + SnoPark + Optional \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Please read this agreement carefully before signing and dating:

In signing and submitting this form, I recognize that cross-country skiing involves strenuous activities, is potentially hazardous, and involves inherent risk. I knowingly and voluntarily assume all responsibility and risk for my actions and my family's actions while cross-country skiing, during travel related to Nooksack Nordic Ski Club (NNSC) activities, and during use of facilities and equipment. This includes, but is not limited to falls, collisions, effects of weather, conditions of equipment and trails and other areas while skiing or participating in NNSC activities. I hereby for myself, my heirs, administrators, or anyone else who may bring claims on my or my family members' behalf, covenant not to sue, release and discharge the NNSC, its Board and Committee members, and all related organizations or individuals, from any and all claims of liability for death, personal injury, or property damage arising from my or my family members' participation in NNSC activities.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ (Print \_\_\_\_\_ please):

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Other family member(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Other signatures: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to receive Snow News is Good News newsletter by: Email: \_\_\_\_\_ U.S. mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### Select Club Tasks you could help with:

- Serve on NNSC Board \_\_\_\_\_ Clear brush from trails \_\_\_\_\_ Find speakers/programs \_\_\_\_\_ Put up trail signs and sanican base \_\_\_\_\_
- Help with Ambassador Days \_\_\_\_\_ Write an article for "Snow News" \_\_\_\_\_
- Audit NNSC financial records \_\_\_\_\_ Write a grant, or, fundraising \_\_\_\_\_
- Lead a ski trip \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks out to: Nooksack Nordic Ski Club and mail with this form to:  
Nooksack Nordic Ski Club, P.O. Box 28793, Bellingham, WA 98228

Deposit Date
Sno Park #