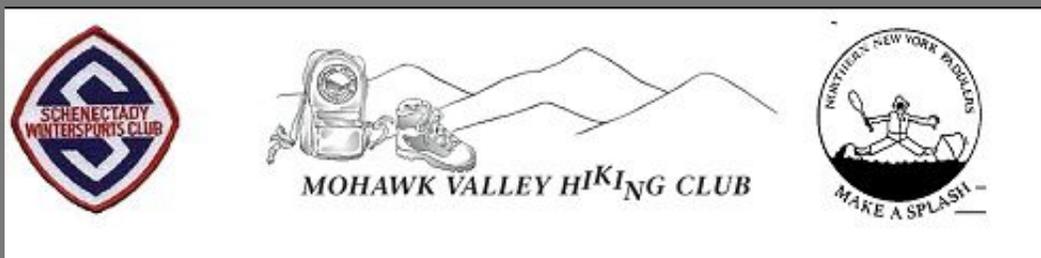


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Nordic Weekend at the SWC House in Stowe!

by Sue Strangia

Mike and I are hosting a Nordic sports weekend January 21-23rd for club members. Saturday and Sunday will both have a planned Nordic event (XC ski one day, snowshoe the other) if you want to join up with others, and if not, there will be information on locations to enjoy on your own.

All adults must be fully vaccinated, and any children who are not yet vaccinated must present a negative test prior to their arrival.

There are three rooms set up for families (Rm. 11, 25 and 26/27). Several other rooms have multiple twin beds to accommodate smaller families. Adults are \$37.50 pp/night, and children under 17 are free. Saturday will include a tasty comfort dinner (\$10 per adult and \$5 per child).

Don't wait to reserve your room!

Information on Nordic Ski Areas' rules and information is changing too quickly to keep up, so instead of sharing today's information that may be outdated tomorrow, please check in with the area to see the latest! Don't forget that just about any hiking trail is great for snowshoeing or hiking with traction devices, and get out in the fresh air. "There is no bad weather, only bad clothing!"

Ski Area	City	State	Notes
Wilton Preserve	Wilton	NY	45 min north of Albany
Lapland Lakes	Benson	NY	90 min northwest of Albany
Garnet Hill	North River	NY	1 hr 40 min north of Albany
Cascade XC Ski	Lake Placid	NY	2 hrs 20 min north of Albany
Mt. Van Hoevenburg	Lake Placid	NY	2 hrs 10 min north of Albany
Dewey Mountain	Saranac Lake	NY	2 1/2 hrs northwest of Albany
Osceola Tug Hill	Camden	NY	2 hrs 20 min northwest of Albany
Grafton Ponds	Grafton	VT	2 hrs northeast of Albany
Bolton Valley Nordic	Bolton Valley	VT	close to SWC House
Stowe XC	Stowe	VT	close to SWC House
Trapp Family Lodge	Stowe	VT	close to SWC House
Craftsbury Outdoor Center	Craftsbury Common	VT	1 hr northeast of SWC House
Woodstock Inn & Resort	Woodstock	VT	1 hour south of SWC House
Rickert Ski Center	Middlebury	VT	2 hour south of SWC House

NYCDSC Stickers Are Here

by Ellen Bidell

While group discounts are currently limited (only Killington right now), ski areas are requiring members to show the sticker to get the discount. Unfortunately, the stickers they sent are too big, and cover up the code to get into our reservation system. This only affects members who renewed/joined in the past month or so. If you don't see the website code on the back of your SWC card, email ebidell@yahoo.com.

Don't have your sticker yet? Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to John Boscarino, 126 Polsin Dr., Schenectady, NY 12303.

Photos from Bomber's Weekend at the Lodge

by Bill Kornrumpf

We had a great early-season Saturday dinner at the Lodge in December. Here are a few photos from the get-together.



Press Release: Grafton Lakes State Park to Hold Cabin Fever Event

by Tamara Beal, Environmental Educator, Grafton Lakes State Park

(Cropseyville, NY) – Grafton Lakes State Park and the Friends of Grafton Lakes State Park will host a Cabin Fever event on Saturday, January 22, 2022. Due to COVID-19, many of the indoor exhibits will be offering hikes and scavenger hunts outside throughout the day. The event will include a polar plunge, food vendors, and family-friendly recreational activities. The event is free of charge and runs from 11:30 AM-3:00 PM.

Cabin Fever will include activities such as its popular snow bowling hill, snowshoe races and a snowball toss, as well as guided snowshoe outings. Other outdoor offerings this year include free snowmobile rides, sensory walks, and an ice dive demonstration. Registration for the hikes will open in January.

The Polar Plunge kicks off the main events at 11:30AM (registration from 11-11:30am). As always, the Plunge includes a playful prize for the silliest costume offered by the Friends of Grafton Lakes State Park, so start planning your January beach attire! To pre-register for the Plunge, please call Ray Dozois for more information at [518-663-5648](tel:518-663-5648), or call the park office at [518-279-1155](tel:518-279-1155).

For visitors who need to warm up there will be many large fires outside by the Welcome Center and the beach. Live animals will also be present at the festival in the welcome center. Visitors will not be disappointed with the refreshments available both inside the welcome center and outside by the main parking lot.

Note that this year's Ice Fishing contest is being held on the weekend before, on Saturday, January 15th. Registration will take place the morning of the 15th. There is no pre-registration. Please call the park for more information: [518-279-1155](tel:518-279-1155).

Grafton Lakes State Park is located off of Route 2, twelve miles east of Troy, New York. Please use the park's main entrance on Grafton Lakes State Park Way for this event. There is no entrance fee for this event. For more information, please call the park at [518-279-1155](tel:518-279-1155).

The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation oversees more than 250 parks, historic sites, recreational trails, golf courses, boat launches and more, which are visited by 78 million people annually. A recent study found that New York State Parks generates \$5 billion in park and visitor spending, which supports nearly 54,000 jobs. For more information on

any of these recreation areas, call [518-474-0456](tel:518-474-0456), visit parks.ny.gov, connect with us on Facebook, or follow us on Instagram.

Minutes from SWC Board Meeting, 12/14/21 via Zoom

by Karen Simmons, SWC Secretary

In attendance were: John Bidell, Ellen Bidell, Don Streed, Sue Knapik, Bill Simmons, Karen Simmons, John Rack

FINANCIALS - Don provided copies of the treasurer's report to all board members prior to the meeting. Don has provided a conservative forecast going forward, and anticipates the months of December-March to see improved rental receipts. Ellen sent a letter to members who had not yet renewed their memberships, which has generated additional income. It is anticipated that renewals will also increase as soon as snow falls.

RESERVATIONS - Ellen reported that there are a smattering of individual reservations for the next 5-6 weeks. She reiterated that January, February, and March are usually months when there is more activity at the Clubhouse. Following the busiest of months the Board will consider, again, renting the house for a weekly amount to closed groups. It is suggested that the amount of \$750.00 per week will be the likely rate. The week of February 21-25 will be hosted by the Bidell and Simmons families. Vaccinations will be required to stay during that week.

CAPITAL DISTRICT SKI COUNCIL - no report

HOUSE - The WiFi has been upgraded at the Clubhouse thanks to Rick Cobello. An employee from Cold Hollow Cider Mill has been approached to provide some intermittent cleaning of the House.

HIKING - John reported that 20 people enjoyed the Thanksgiving morning hike at Christman Preserve with breakfasts provided by Bill Shaefer. A New Year's Day hike at Helderberg Workshop property in Voorheesville was suggested as a local activity. Sue is leading a snowshoe walk at The George Landis Arboretum in Esperance in January. She is considering a cross-country weekend at the Clubhouse.

The next Board meeting will take place on 01/11/2022.

Treasurer's Report for the First Six Months of FY22

by Don Streed, Treasurer

By every measure the first six months of FY22 has been a solid financial performance.

- YTD Membership Dues \$9,721 have just eclipsed the total for all of last year FY21.
- YTD Lodging Receipts \$14,058 are 161% greater than last year's YTD \$5,382 and are 112% of last year's total \$12,460.
- The group weekly rental program through the off-season was a success.
- We have benefited from an unusual \$5,000 lodging contract, which has been a great help.
- YTD total operations cash impact is breakeven, and we continue to maintain an adequate operating cash balance.
- The house is in great physical condition, ready for skiers.
- We are fortunate the Vanguard reserve fund continues to grow and we have not had to dip into that fund in either of the last two trying years.

We still have some distance to travel.

- After consecutive years of financial deficits, our current fiscal year goal is to achieve at least a minimum of financial breakeven.
- YTD Membership dues are just 50.7% of FY20 total (2 fiscal years prior), the last "normal" year, and remain \$4,000 short of the current year total goal.
- Lodging Receipts need an additional \$10,000, equivalent of 267 paid nights, to achieve the year total goal. (267 nights is less than 1 night per member, with the ski season just beginning.)
- The largest clubhouse utility bills, an estimated \$6,500+, and \$3,000 of insurance bills due in the spring, are coming in second half of the fiscal year.

SWC in unique position, unique opportunity.

- The Covid pandemic has negatively impacted group events and

socializing.

- With loss of big mountain discount days, membership is down significantly across the clubs of the Capital District Ski Council.
- Participation in skiing and outdoor activities is up significantly due to Covid.
- SWC is the only club with a lodge, which has been enhanced by major improvements in recent years.
- SWC is poised via its members-only clubhouse to maintain and grow the number of club members and to maintain a solid non-profit fiscal position.

Submissions for the Chatter

Content submissions for the SWC Newsletter should be emailed to swcchatter@gmail.com by the 15th of the month and should include a contact name and phone number. Content that needs to be run in subsequent Newsletters must be resubmitted each month.

Change of Address Notices

Change of Address notices should be sent to:

John Boscarino* boscarino126@aol.com
126 Polsin Dr, Schenectady, NY 12303-2516

***Do not send to the editor or the Club PO Box; they will get lost**

REMEMBER TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Membership is from June 1, 2021 to May 31, 2022

Name _____

Age Group (circle one) 18-29 30-39 40-55 56-69 70+

Address _____

_____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

New Member() Renewal() \$25 individual() \$35 Family()

For Family Membership, please indicate:

Name of Spouse _____

Age Group (circle One) 18-29 30-39 40-55 56-69 70+

Names and Ages of Junior Members _____

To qualify for family membership, children must be under 18 or 18 and still in High School.

Interested in volunteering? Circle any that you are interested in: Clubhouse, SWC Board, Snow Show, NY Capital District Ski Council, Activities, Warren Miller Movie, hiking, biking and other Club help such as outreach.

Make check payable to SWC and mail with the completed application to John Boscarino, 126 Polsin Dr, Schenectady, NY 12303-2516

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