

# MADNORSKI NEWS

News for the members of the Madison Nordic Ski Club Vol. 20 No. 2

- A WORD FROM JIMMY -

## President Declares National Snow Day!

BY JIMMY VANDEN BROOK, PRESIDENT



*MNSC president Jimmy Vanden Brook is in Washington lobbying for this much needed holiday, and asked us to print this latest update on the subject fresh from the wire.*

WASHINGTON, D.C., NOVEMBER 28, 2000

Today President William Jefferson Clinton established a new national holiday to celebrate the winter season. It will be called National Snow Day. Observances will include blowing off work, or whatever else you were supposed to do, and going out doors to play in the snow. Unlike other national holidays which have a specific date associated with them, National Snow Day will be at the discretion of each citizen due to the variable nature of snow.

Over the last several months, Mad-NorSki President Jimmy Vanden Brook has shuttled to the nation's capital to garner support for the new holiday with President Clinton and Congressional leaders. Recent snowfalls in Buffalo, New York prompted school and business closings and the resulting TV coverage of people disregarding school and job responsibilities prompted action. "No more," the president stated, "will snow days be reserved for the fortunate few. There must be an end to regional and temporal divisions in this country. From this point forward, all Americans can call a snow day their own". Despite political gridlock that

has denied the nation a decision on its next president, bi-partisan support for National Snow Day was overwhelming.

Some pundits argued that President Clinton's declaration of the holiday was only an attempt to establish a legacy denied him by the Monica Lewinsky affair. White House spokespersons were quick to blow that off (no pun intended). The President himself stated "Hey, the cultural experience of makin' a snow

angel should not be denied any American... even my Republican friends. Besides... we need to have some fun around here. This election thing between Al and George is a real drag."

Republican support came from unusual places. Southern Senator Jesse Helms enthused that "...we all can show our northern cousins a thing or two about spendin' a day goofin' off". Senate Majority

Leader Trent Lott remarked that National Snow Day will be the perfect American holiday... "each U.S. citizen will be responsible for their own observance of this holiday but will have absolutely no accountability". National Rifle Association President Charleton Heston indicated that the NRA would observe National Snow Day with an enormous National Biathlon Festival. Heston hoped that biathlon participants would bring large caliber automatic weapons instead of the usual .22 caliber target rifles that he states "... are really just for sissies".

Already, events are planned in areas of the country not known for snow.

(SEE SNOW DAY, CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

**"THERE MUST BE AN END TO REGIONAL AND TEMPORAL DIVISIONS IN THIS COUNTRY."**

### OUR NEXT MEETING

December 11th, 7:00 pm  
Shorewood Community Ctr.

#### Agenda

- 7:00:** Socialize, signup for trips, POTLUCK!
- 7:40:** Announcements
- 8:00:** Raffle of Fabulous Prizes to current members including a Free pair of Madshus skis from the Bicycle Doctor!
- 8:20:** Skating and Classic Waxing Demos

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- WHAT'S UP WITH KIDSKI -

## Kidski on the Move

BY PETE ANDERSON

The **Silver Skis** program for older kids is off and running already! Better than 20 10-13 year olds came out on Nov. 19 to run with poles, do some bounding, hang out, think snow, and have pizza. There was just enough snow cover to let us pretend we were skiing, though glide was mostly experienced in the form of slipping and falling. Never before has Madison seen this much dryland training in so young a group of kids. I was pretty inspired. Thanks to Greg Jones, Dale Fanny, and Galen Kenoyer for leading. We're going to meet again at noon, Dec. 3, at the Elver park shelter. Bring poles with running shoes or skis, or everything if conditions are dubious. Call Greg Jones (273-3919) for more.

Our **Kidski** program for younger kids will wait a while for snow, though we'll meet even without, and we'll get them out for games and tours. It will again be Thursdays at 4 pm at Odana, from January 4 to February 15, culminating with pizza and awards at Rocky's on the 15th. And this year, I promise to have NEW ski videos!



Call Pete Anderson (222-1928) for more details.

One of the high points of the year for my family, and several others, has been our trip to Iola. On Jan. 27 and 28 we plan to head north, for about the fifth year in a row, for their youth races, which happen on Jan. 28. You can choose from two races for adults, a high school race, and the best part, age group races of 1-3 K for kids. Iola has great trails, a great warming house, and fun competition. We stay as a group, and go to dinner as a group. The kids really have a good time together on this trip. Contact Pete for more information on this.

One of the goals of Kidski has been to establish a skiing community for kids, where kids can meet other outdoor-minded, athletic kids who know what klister is. I think our efforts are paying off. Kids now hove other kids who think nordic skiing is normal, people with whom they can hang out and lie about their training, just as their parents do. I'd say the next great wave of nordic skiers is just a few years away. \*

## Demo (graphics) Daze

BY JIM COORS

Just a quick update on membership matters. Our current membership is 288 of which 122 are families, 114 are individuals, 10 are juniors, and the remaining 52 are courtesy memberships. Over half of the paying memberships, 127 to be exact, will expire at the end of this December, and only 119 memberships have been renewed through 2001. So if you are one of the laggards, get on with it. Remember, you have to be a member (through 2001) to take part in the December raffle.

Other odd facts — of the 86 new members to the club in 1999, only 36 have renewed to date. So far this year we have only 23 brand new members. We should not make too much of these uninspiring numbers since we are still in the middle of the two major sign up/renew months for the club. Even though long term trend lines look a little ominous, we all know what the holidays and a little snow will do for the XC spirits.

Some other odd facts — the zip code for the greatest number of club members is 53711 (65 members) followed by 53705 (61 members). Can you guess what comes next? Do you care? Well, just look away if you don't. It's 53704 (12 members). What about the most common email domain? Try "facstaff.wisc.edu" (23 members), followed by "chorus.net" (21 members), then "aol.com" (15 members).

That's enough membership excitement for now. Next month - the most bizarre first names, the most common age at birth, and much, much more! \*

(SNOW DAY, CON'T. FROM PAGE 1)

Jimmy Buffet is importing snow making machines from Hollywood for a Key West "Snow, Cheeseburger and Tequila Getaway". But MNSC President Vanden Brook has cautioned Americans not to plan their holiday in great detail. "Think about snow days when you were a kid," he said, "the best part was waking up thinking you were going to school and then hearing the announcement that you were free... no plans except how to play in the snow." To that end, Vanden Brook has contacted Martha Stewart and asked that she not develop a party plan or menu around National Snow Day. "It's too much like work," he said, "and it defeats the purpose of dumping your responsibilities and communing with nature". Stewart agreed, and reflected that a day on skis would be a "good thing". \*

### CHECK OUT THESE COOL WEB PAGES OF OTHER CLUBS CLOSE BY FOR OUTINGS, SPEAKERS, AND SKI FRIENDS AROUND THE MIDWEST:

#### North Star Ski & Outing Club

Twin Cities, Minnesota  
[www.north-stars.org](http://www.north-stars.org)  
My favorite. Awesome activities, long history, membership to envy.

#### Nordic Ski Club of Milwaukee

[www.nordicskiclub.org](http://www.nordicskiclub.org)  
These guys have outings going in all directions.

#### and our very own Madison Nordic Ski Club (MADNORSKI)

<http://danenet.wictp.org>  
Thanks to the efforts of Joe King, we're connected to nordic sites all over the world, but Joe's looking for some help. Can you help him keep updated on cool stuff, add your events to the calendar, or even send him html-ready stuff?

AND YOUR FAVORITE WEB PAGES ARE ...?



- WHERE ARE WE GOING? -

# There's Snow, Lets Go!

BY MARGARET RANKIN RILEY

There are still a few seats available for the day trip to Minocqua Winter Park Demo Days, Dec. 16th. Please contact trip leader Tim Wadlington ASAP to confirm a spot on the bus. His home phone number is 233-2500. CALL NOW!

A woman's ski clinic is scheduled for JAN. 7TH at Elver park with Cindy Swift. More details will be available at the next club meeting.

JAN 11-15TH is the Northshore Lake Superior ski trip lead by Jan Wood. So far 5 skiers have signed up for this fabulous ski experience and there is room for more. Be prepared to get a deposit to Jan at the next club meeting to reserve a spot. Jan can be reached at 836-9512.

We are still in need of a trip leader for the Seeley Hill Classic weekend, JAN 20-21. Rooms are available at the Telemark Lodge.

For those of you looking for a fantastic way to meet many other skiers from surrounding ski clubs



(Minnesota, Chicago, Milwaukee) the weekend of JAN. 26-28 at the Telemark Lodge is the place to be. Our club currently has 6 lodge rooms set aside at \$80 (based on double occupancy, per night). A deposit equaling one nights lodging is needed to reserve a spot by Dec. 26th. There is also an all club dinner on Saturday night, the 27th of January for this nordic ski rendezvous trip. The cost of the dinner will be \$19 per person. We have about 10 people signed up so far and we need many more to try and represent our club. A trip leader has yet to be determined

but you may contact Margaret for any further details at 836-6695 or contact Phil Van Valkenberg at the Telemark Resort at 877 798 4718, ext 503.

Family trip to Iola. On JAN. 27-28 we plan to head north, for about the fifth year in a row, for their youth races, which happen on Jan. 28. You can choose from two races for adults, a high school race, and the best part, age group races of 1-3K for kids. Iola has great trails, a great warming house, and fun competition. We stay as a group, and go to dinner as a group. The kids really have a good time together on this trip. Contact Pete Anderson (222-1928) for more information on this.

Madeline Ura-neck will be leading a trip to the Canadian Ski Marathon, Feb. 10-11, 2001. Please contact her for more details. (see article on page 4.)

Please let Margaret know if you have any other trip ideas!\*



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# PLEASE LET US KNOW If You Have Moved... Or Are Planning To Move...

If you're moving or your label shows an incorrect address, let us know! We want you to get your newsletter on time!

Contact our Membership Chair

**Jim Coors**

(608) 231-3593

jgcoors@facstaff.wisc.edu

# Canadian Ski Marathon: Looking for Teammates

By MADELINE URANECK

So what do you have planned for the weekend of February 10-11, 2001?

## The longest ski event in the world:

Any person who'd sign up to do a 160 km (that's 100 miles), two day event would have to be either in good condition and confident of his ability (like Ian Duncan), or else adventurous and foolhardy (like me).

The fine print actually says that you can ski any distance you wish, from 12 K to 160 K. The event is marked off into 10 sections, each averaging about 16 K. If you're not a straight-through skier, you can cherry-pick your sections, and even get a bus to the next one you want to do. You go at your own pace. When you've had enough for the day, you bed down, and try again the next day.

## So I'm signing up because:

- I like to travel.
- I'm enchanted with Canada, and especially Québec.
- It's cheaper than going to Sweden, but the people there ski like Scandinavians.
- It combines the sane and the insane, family-friendly yet distance-zaney.
- It'll make the Birkie, two weeks later, seem like a piece of cake.

Madison has only one Coureur des Bois (runner of the forest) Gold, the award you get after you ski the Marathon three times — once to go the full distance (Coureur des Bois Bronze), a second time to do the distance carrying a pack (Coureur des Bois Silver), and the third time doing the distance, carrying the pack, and camping out at night, in straw bales beside camp fires, and starting out early in the darkness of day 2, following the flickering head lamp of the guy ahead of you (Coureur des Bois Gold). Madnorski marathon Ian Duncan did it three times and came home with the gold in 1985.

I heard his presentation a couple years ago, and saw the understated, intriguing video of the Ski



Marathon. It shows terrain both mountainous and rugged, and flat, open and rural. It shows little kids and young teens in braids. The crowds are nothing like the Birkie: last year it registered just 1,906 skiers.

## To get there you have to fly to either Ottawa or Montréal.

The event runs between the two cities — in the Laurentian Mountains between small towns of Lachute (nearer Montréal) through the midpoint of Montebello to the end point of Buckingham (near Ottawa, ending near the magnificent Gatineau Provincial Park). A quarter of the skiers come from the US, primarily Vermont, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts, and there are the predictable Norwegians and northern Europeans who've found it as well. Last year skiers ages ranged in age from 4 to 84.

The event was created in 1967, by Canadian National Ski Team member Don McLeod, and has for the past 35 years appealed to his hardy, winter-loving countrymen and women.

## Any takers?

Team results count, so if three Madnorski's sign up, we can mount a team, and the cumulative number of sections accomplished would cinch up a Banana Belt longski. If interested, give me a call (608) 233-1930, or file it away for a coming year:



**Canadian Ski Marathon /  
Marathon Canadien de Ski**  
P.O. Box 1031, Station B, Hull,  
Québec, CANADA J8X 3X5

**Toll free:** 1 (877) 770-65;

**Telephone:** (819) 770-6556

**Fax:** (819) 770-7428

**Email:** [ski@cs-m-mcs.com](mailto:ski@cs-m-mcs.com)

**Web page:**

<http://www.csm-mcs.com>

# Wax-less in Mount Horeb

By JIMMY VANDEN BROOK

Do you know where your classic cross-country skis are right now? Are they bonded together with last year's klister and sitting in a lonely corner of the basement? Maybe you didn't ski on them as much last year because divining the right kick wax is not your forté. If you've ever missed the wax o' the day when the temps are around freezing I'll bet you wished you had a pair of wax-less skis. I think this is the year I add some scaly skis to my Mount Horeb basement.

While this issue centers around ski waxing and the December 11th Club meeting will feature waxing demonstrations, wax-less skis are really worth your consideration. I know several folks who ski the Birkie on wax-less skis and my brother Tommy wishes he had. Some recent Birkies have had abrasive snow conditions which removed carefully applied wax in about 10K. Grace White, a notable Madisonian, has won several age-class Korteloppets on her wax-less boards. Even World Cup ski technicians run into conditions for which their wax boxes have no goo, glop, or stickum that will work. Sometimes they resort to removing all the wax in the kick zone and roughing up the base to make it a "wax-less" ski. Whether you race or not, no-wax skis can make it just a little easier to get out the door.

Before you get to thinking that these skis require no maintenance, I have to say that some prep work is needed. Just as with any other ski with a p-tex base, you'll need to glide wax the tips and tails. Even the grip-zone could use some simple waxing just keep snow from building up under your feet. But compared to the usual drill, wax-less skis are a snap to care for. You can get the details at the upcoming club meeting. See you at the Shorewood Community Center. \*

# MadNorSki Website Update

Joseph King is our official MadNorSki website guru. He's been working hard constantly improving the site, here is his latest report:

## 1. ONLINE REGISTRATION

This seems to be working. The credit goes to Jim Coors who provided the design of the form and is handling the membership requests. All I did was implement the online form. The requests for membership are e-mail directly to Jim for him to process.

## 2. EMAIL LISTS

Included with the fee the club pays to DANenet for the hosting the web page, is one free email list. A couple of years ago the bike folks needed another list so they "borrowed" ours. I copied Jimmy on my request to end this and establish the list xc@danenet.org.

**GOALS:** I would suggest that we start with the single list despite the fact that there are a number of different goals. Until we know the number of interested subscribers and the amount of traffic, establishing a list for notices and condition reports, a list for discussion, and a list for club business would be of waste time and money in my opinion. Having said that, I won't object in

the least if the club wants to pay extra to DANenet have additional lists (it's extra work for me but it's not that big a deal). Of course, there's nothing that says that I have to moderate these lists.

**WHY DANENET?** Can you say SPAM? Basically, DANenet is off the spammer radar. Plus these lists can be managed in a way to effectively eliminate the flood of advertisements that most lists these days experience. (The xxx ads being the worst offenders, by the way.)

**NAME CONFUSION:** In order to expedite, I decided on xc@danenet.org. As you know the web page (which might be the best known xc site on the web) is called Madnordski, whereas the club uses the name MadNorSki. This is an unfortunate accident. Back in 1995 I wasn't even thinking about the club when I created the name Madnordski, I just wanted something that a search engine would find unambiguously (in 1994 it started out being called the Madison Area Nordic Skiing Page). Oh, well. The upshot of this is, either name MadNorSki or Madnordski, will result in errors. Choosing MadNorSki and allowing Madnordski as an alias, is less than ideal. The use of aliases at all makes archiving the list almost impossi-

ble. I asked for those aliases not because I think we should use them but because we should reserve them.

## 3. OTHER ONLINE STUFF

**A.** The event calendar now is very populated. We have the best xc calendar for the entire midwest! This is thanks to our connection at Silent Sports magazine and the programs I've written that create this calendar from one large and ugly text file.

**B.** A member contacted me about allowing club members to swap equipment online. We have a design for the page, which is simple. User's of this service would be required to be club members or agree to be put on the club member prospect list. I'll be able to describe how this works to the board at a future meeting.

**C.** Newsletter connection! I'm very pleased that the new club newsletter editor is ready to share some of the material electronically. This is be the best way to show folks how important our club is to the quality of skiing in the area. I'm really excited about this. \*

.....  
Joseph J. King can be reached at  
jking@mailbag.com. Website:  
www.danenet.org/madnord

# MadNorSki Meeting Schedule

Board Meeting	Club Meeting	Meeting Theme	Meeting Agenda	Club Meeting Location	Newsletter/ Ad Deadline
Tuesday Dec 19th	Monday January 8, 2001, 7:00 pm	Holiday Ski Parties gifts for skiers	Holiday and Racing Nutrition	Shorewood Community Center	<b>Dec. 14</b>
Wednesday January 31	Monday February 12, 2001, 7:00 pm	Birkie Stories and non-race activities	Video Night and pizza	Rocky's	<b>January 24</b>
Wednesday February 28	Monday March 12, 2001, 7:00 pm	Spring Skiing options	Potluck, awards	Shorewood Community Center	<b>February 21</b>

## Please Write!

The Madison Nordic Ski Club Newsletter is published five times annually. Submit articles via e-mail to: jpvanden@mhtc.net

Ads will not be accepted out of previous publications!

No Ad will run without prepayment! See the schedule for deadlines. If you don't meet the submission deadline, there is no guarantee that it will get into the newsletter. \*

# High Energy Excitement at Vendor Fair 2000

BY HARRY LUM

Madison Nordic Ski Club hosted Vendor Fair 2000 at its opening meeting November 13. With old members and new milling about renewing friendships and making new ones. The weather outside was appropriate, cold and flurries, turning the grass to white when the meeting was adjourned.

Inside thirteen vendors displayed their wares. When you first walked into RMT (thanks to them for being so generous with their facility!), you were greeted by Jim Coors, membership chair, signing up old and new members. Brett Larson was next ready to take your money. John Taylor greeted everyone with a hardy smile and Margaret Rankin Riley was ready to sign you up for the various trips planned throughout the year.

**BICYCLE DOCTOR** was there taking skis to be stone-ground and returned at the next meeting. **PLANET XC** had a wide assortment of Germana skis. Sepp Sports had some beautiful sweaters to keep you warm après ski. **LIFE IN MOTION** had an on-line demonstration of setting your goals and objectives and what nutritional input you would need to reach those goals. **WHEEL AND SPROCKET** was well represented with Cindy Swift behind the table. **DECORAH BICYCLES** had every-



Bicycle Doctor Shows their latest equipment, and makes a few sales to "boot"!



Planet XC gets many interested ski club members milling about their booth.

**"HEY, I KNOW SOME OF THE THINGS I SAW AT THE VENDOR FAIR WOULD MAKE GREAT GIFTS, AND I EVEN KNOW WHERE TO GET THEM."**

one buzzing with their cycle trainer. **TELEMARK LODGE** had special week-ends deals, snow guaranteed. **BIKE WISCONSIN** passed out registration forms for SAAGBRAW and GRABAAWR, (new routes). **FONTANA** had a full table of socks, gloves and even Patagonia gear. **WILLIAMSON BICYCLES** had all the apparel for outdoor cold weather activities. **BADGER STATE GAMES** had all the winter events listed. Did you sign up? And everyone get's **SILENT SPORTS**, if not I still have some subscription forms. **SKIFOR LIGHT** even had free cookies, baked by club member Gina Interrante and taste-tested by her husband Brian Watzke.

By the time I went through and talked with each vendor, I needed another beer. And what an assortment of micro-brews to pick from. Jimmy started the meeting almost on time.

We appreciate the time each ven-



Ward Budweg of Decorah Bicycles demonstrates a bike trainer to skier Dave Hill. Dave took it home with him. No excuses for being out of shape this year Dave, snow or no snow!

dor spent talking with each member. Showing whats new for 2001, answering questions on nutrition, wax, equipment, how to stay warm and promoting nordic skiing in Madison. We hope to expand Vendor Fair next year by giving them more time in front of the membership.

So you are a little more educated on cross-country skiing and Christmas is around the corner. Hey, I know some of the things I saw at the Vendor Fair would make great gifts, and I even know where to get them. So get your Christmas shopping done at places you already know someone.

Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow. \*

# Holiday Cross Country and Snowboard SALE!



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# WOMEN'S Ski Clinic

WITH CINDY SWIFT

**Who:** Women skiers of all skill levels, skating and classical technique.

**What:** A Women's only ski clinic. (Men would just get in the way.)

**When:** Sunday, Jan 7th

**Where:** Elver park in Madison

**Why:** Because we like you and want you to learn how to ski. (And you can learn a lot from Cindy!)



**MORE  
DETAILS  
AT OUR  
DEC 11TH  
MEETING!**

- READY, SET, GO! -

## Elver Race Series

BY NED ZUELSDORFF

The Tuesday races will again be held on the lighted trails at Elver Park beginning on Jan. 2, 2001. Seven races are planned, with the final race scheduled for Feb. 13. Skiers will have a choice of skiing 5K or 10K, and either freestyle or classic technique. We will try to schedule one night where skiers will be encouraged to ski classical, although both options will be available every night we can race. Races will normally use a mass start, with freestyle and classic skiers starting two minutes apart. We will, however, use interval starts on one or two nights where skiers start individually every ten seconds.

A third age grouping is being added this year. Results will be posted on the club's website for male and female classes in the following age groups; 14 and under, 15-18, and over 18.



If conditions don't allow the normal race to be held, we will either use a shortened course, postpone the race until later in the week if conditions are expected to change, or cancel the race. Skiers can check the MadNorSki hotline for race updates.

Registration will be from 6 - 6:45 pm in the new shelter, with the races beginning at 7:00. Race fees will be \$3 for junior skiers (up through high school) and \$5 for adults. **Non-members may race, but will be assessed an additional \$2.** Skiers can sign up for the entire series up through Jan. 9. Series fees are \$12 for junior-members, \$20 for adult-members and junior non-members, and \$35 for adult non-members. Racers are also required to have a city trails pass. Contact me at 608/231-1876 or nedz@itit.com for more information. \*

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# Clean Ups, Meeting Update, Warning

## BLUE MOUNDS TRAIL CLEANUP

A crew of 10 showed up on a lovely October 24th to clear some new trail at Blue Mounds State Park. Park Superintendent and club member Karl Heil directed the activity. Some trails were new, others widened and seeded, and others had rocks and boulders removed, and 2 culverts were dug in by hand to reduce erosion and smooth out the trail (speed bump removal). Volunteers included Don Fariss, Mike Ivey, Jimmy Vanden Brook, Gail VanHaren (fabulous muffins and other treats), Willi VanHaren, Nancy Wiegand and her daughter, Tom Woody, and Richard Zimmer.

## ELVER PARK BIG BLOW

A crew of 18 stalwart souls showed up on a tolerable November 9th for about 3 hours of weed wackage and leaf blowage at Elver Park. The city had done a great mowing job over the summer so

the open areas were in great shape and will hold snow nicely. The cleanup crew concentrated on the steep sections on the east side and all of the lighted portion on the west trail system. The trail looks as nice as I've ever seen it. About 5 hours was spent just blowing the blanket of oak leaves off the trail. This seemed quite successful last year with the limited snow we had. Volunteers included Don and his son Mike, Richard, and his sons Zach and Mike, Hans Herweijer, Galen Kenoyer, Jim Martyn, Matt Muir, Marie Roethlisberger, Bill Pollock (all the way from Quebec), Mark Torresani (thanks for the big brush cutter again), Madeline Ura-neck, Jimmy Vanden Brook, Gail Van Haren, Willi Van Haren (extra long day with the big leaf blower), Nancy Weigand and her daughter.

## NOVEMBER CLUB MEETING

Thanks to RMT Inc. for hosting our November Club meeting. It was a great facility. A big tip of the hat to

club member Mark Torresani for making arrangements with the company. Also, many thanks to your board members who put in plenty of time and effort to put on a quality event. Special thanks to Harry Lum for putting on the biggest vendor fair we've ever had and John Taylor for the outstanding refreshments and goodies.

## ALERT! SPECIAL HUNTING SEASON

Be aware that a special gun deer hunting season will be in effect December 7, 8, 9 and 10. This will be in T zones across the state. Many ski areas are in T zones. So, if you are out and about skiing that weekend, know where you are and don't look like a deer. Call ahead and save yourself some anxiety. \*



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# Why Canada?

By MADELINE URANECK

Why ski Canada, anyway?

The November presentation by guide and retired forester Bill Pollock opened the eyes of many Madnorski members to possibilities for skiing just over the border.

Canada's expansive provincial forests, breathtaking landscapes, ample snowfall, and well-developed hut and trail system are obvious reasons for skiing North of the Border.

Equally delightful and a bit surprising to any American who thinks Canadians are "just like us, only colder" is the encounter with a decidedly different culture. In Québec, of course, there's a language difference. There's enough English to "get by", but waves of French wash repeatedly over you, like ocean undulations. The food is better. In Montréal, Vietnamese, Chinese and Lebanese restaurants were jammed together on the nar-

rower streets, and vegetarian culture seemed well developed. Just like in Paris, restaurants were opened late into the night, and the new millennial "beat generation" lounged over coffee, talking about politics, music, and romance (at least that's what I thought I heard - my French being what it is).

Canadian TV looked different; cities felt different; the whole place seemed more multicultural. People had health insurance and despite what US critics say, they didn't appear to be waiting in long lines for it. Native peoples have a higher status than in the US. The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, CBC, dished out hour after hour of thought-provoking programming, making one realize how inward-looking and commercial-sounding our own National Public Radio is by comparison.

The tips of ones ski's lead one not only to new trails, but to new cul-

tures. It was a snowless winter that forced me northward the first time, but I'll be back. Thanks to Bill Pollock, I have new areas circled on my map: Quebec's highest mountains — the Chic Choc's; the Uapaske Mountains near Labrador; the idea of skiing with the Cree Indians near James Bay, and a fantasy to kick out trails around Mount Tremblant.

Give it a try — whether a race, an adventure, or a family vacation, Canada's there, waiting for us. Like Bill said, there are 11 provinces, two territories, and one territory-about-to-become-a province. They won't go away soon. They're close, but not as close as you think. \*

.....  
Tuckamor Trips are at [www.tuckamor.com](http://www.tuckamor.com) or Bill Pollock, 7123 Lac Noir Road, Ste-Agathe-des-Monts, Quebec J8C 2Z8, (819) 326-3602.  
E-mail: [bill@tuckamor.com](mailto:bill@tuckamor.com) for more info.

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# Wish list

The Madison Nordic Ski Club is in need (want) of a few things. If anyone has these items they would like to donate to the club, it would be greatly appreciated!

- any used cross-country ski equipment for KidSki or Juniors, even stuff that you may think is worthless, can be used for parts.
- trail maintenace tools, like rakes, shovels, loppers, leaf blowers.
- anyone that has any pull, we could use some snow!

# CLASSIFIEDS

Ads run free for MNCS Club members!

## FOR SALE OR TRADE

Kid's ski equipment, perfect for the very first timers — 4 to 6 year olds. We're going through kids stuff super fast.

### For Sale:

- (all kids sizes)
- 1 pr. Karhu skis 120cm with boots size 30
- 1 pr. 3 pin boots size 31
- 1 pr. Epoke skis

### Wanted:

- 1 pr. kids skis 130-140cm with or without bindings (Salomon preferred)

Contact Mike Conway  
608-825-0156

## TELEMARK TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT

**For rent:** 4 Bedroom Valhalla Townhouse next to Telemark Available for select weeks or weekends, includes full kitchen, wood stove, waxing benches, washer & dryer Holds up to 12 folks - \$25/person/night 2 night minimum View the finish to the Korteloppet from the deck

Contact Ned Zuelsdorff  
608-231-1876 for details

### Got Something you want to sell?

Looking for something? If you are a member of the Madison Nordic Ski Club, we will run your ad for free! Submit Classified ads to Jimmy at [jpvanden@mhtc.net](mailto:jpvanden@mhtc.net).

# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

THE MADISON NORDIC SKI CLUB IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE SOME NEW MEMBERS! IF YOU SEE THESE NAMES AT THE NEXT MEETING ON DECEMBER 11TH, GIVE THEM A WARM WELCOME:

- Judy Archibald & family
- Sean, Jodie, & Aniko Cox
- Ann Curtiss
- Trudi Delain
- Tamara Dudiak
- John Ericsson
- David J. Ghilardi
- Sharon Hau & family
- Shar Hoffer
- Jordy Loeb
- Michael McQuestion & family
- Linda Mogan
- Nancy Podger
- Lee & Galina Powers
- Chris Ransom
- William Rattunde
- Sharon Schendel
- Tom Schirz
- Mike Teff
- Timothy Valley
- Matthew & Tricia Valley/Deffner
- Mark Webber
- Jim Wendt

# Funstuff

If this was you, what would YOU be saying? Send in your entries by December 18th to: Funstuff, MNCS, PO Box 55281, Madison, WI 53711 or e-mail them to Jimmy at [jpvanden@mhtc.net](mailto:jpvanden@mhtc.net). One entry per person

We'll publish the best answers in the January newsletter! The top 3 answers will win an MNCS scraper. (which can be picked up at our January meeting.) Good Luck!



# MEMBERSHIP FORM

## Sign up now for the 2000-2001 cross-country ski season!

(you can also sign up on-line at <http://danenet.wicp.org/madnord/club.html>)

Is this a  renewal or a  new membership?

### What type of membership?

- Individual \$15
- Family \$20
- Junior \$10 (18 or under)
- Kidski \$25 plus club membership

Additional donation \$ \_\_\_ to support local ski groups, trails, and promote XC activities

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

*Membership information is for club members only and is not supplied to commercial vendors.  
If you do not want your email to appear in the membership list, please check here \_\_\_*

### BRING TO NEXT MEETING OR SEND TO:

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## Madison Nordic Ski Club

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