

## NOVEMBER

**Nov 19, Wed {WW} Hike, Bike or Ski.** The weather on this day will pretty much dictate what our activity will be. An e-mail with details will be sent to those on the Wednesday Wanderers e-mail list a couple of days before the event. If you are not already on the list and would like your name added, please send your e-mail address to Joan Calof at [jcalof@comcast.net](mailto:jcalof@comcast.net). FFI: Al Mayer, 952-545-4232.

**Nov 26, Wed {WW} Hike, Bike or Ski.** The weather on this day will pretty much dictate what our activity will be. An e-mail with details will be sent to those on the Wednesday Wanderers e-mail list a couple of days before the event. If you are not already on the list and would like your name added, please send your e-mail address to Joan Calof at [jcalof@comcast.net](mailto:jcalof@comcast.net). FFI: Al Mayer, 952-545-4232.

## DECEMBER

**Dec 3, Wed {WW} Hike or Ski Theodore Wirth Park.** We'll either hike or ski the trails at the park. Meet at the main chalet at 10:00 a.m. Lunch at Matilda's Restaurant following the outing. FFI: Ella Mogilevsky, 612-922-2623 or [ellamo1@msn.com](mailto:ellamo1@msn.com).

**Dec 9, Tue {A} General Club Meeting.** 7:00-9:00 p.m. Program details can be found in the November/December *Loype* or on the home page of the club website, [www.north-stars.org](http://www.north-stars.org).

Same meeting place as last year: University Lutheran Church of Hope, 601 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE in Minneapolis, just north of Dinkytown and the U of M campus.

**Dec 10, Wed {WW} Ski Elm Creek Regional Park.** Meet at 9:45 a.m., ski at 10:00. Bring a lunch or buy one in the lodge. A ski pass (daily or seasonal) is required from Three Rivers Park District and can be purchased at the lodge. Elm Creek Park is at 12400 Elm Creek Park Drive, northwest of Osseo in Maple Grove. Take Cty Rd 81 northwest to Elm Creek Blvd, turn right and follow the roundabout to the park entrance. FFI: Molly Henke, 651-695-0421 or [mmhenke@comcast.net](mailto:mmhenke@comcast.net).

**Dec 12-14, Fri-Sun {A} MSC Winter Carnival at Indianhead.** Please join us at the Midwest Sport/Ski Council (MSC) Winter Carnival at Indianhead Ski Resort in the U.P. of Michigan. This event has something for everyone: alpine skiing; Nordic skiing with shuttles provided to ABR; snowshoeing, hiking and tubing; sightseeing, dining and great music; and socializing with skiers from other MSC organizations. The weekend trip includes the following: round-trip bus transportation from Rochester or the Twin Cities, two nights lodging in a condo or comfortable lodge rooms, two-day alpine or Nordic ski passes, Saturday *après ski* party and buffet dinner, live music Friday and Saturday nights, shuttle to the ski areas, and more. All this is being offered to you for \$232 per person (two to a room/one to a bed). Quad (\$199) and single (\$299) options are also available. Extra expenses may possibly include a small amount for food expenses, trail food, and optional expenses listed on the MSC flyer (which is available for review on the Message Board under "Current Trip Status"). In order to secure as many condo units as possible and your preferred bus time, it is important that we reserve space as soon as possible (and this will be reserved as I receive your information). Buses will leave between 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. **The deadline for our trip sign-up is Saturday, November 15.** Please send a check for the entire amount of the trip (payable to the Midwest Sport/Ski Council, or MSC) and a NSSTC reservation/ waiver form to: Tonya White, 1394 Albert Street No., Saint Paul, MN 55108. FFI: Tonya White, 651-216-2826 or [twhite@umn.edu](mailto:twhite@umn.edu), if you have questions and if you plan to attend this event.

**Dec 15, Mon {AK} Christmas Lights Hike around Lake Harriet.** Join us for a Christmas lights tour of the houses around Lake Harriet. Meet at the Lake Harriet band shell at 6:30 p.m. You may want to bring a flashlight for the journey. We'll make our normal stop along the way for hot chocolate, ice cream or other goodies at Sebastian Joe's. FFI: Inez Wick, 612-825-3596, or Dana Siskind, 612-929-0205.

**Dec 17, Wed {WW} French Regional Park/Holiday Gathering.** Meet at 10:00 a.m. at the chalet to ski, snowshoe or hike. Bring a bag lunch and return to Mary Jean Pearson's for holiday music, snacks and drinks. We'll be gathering at Mary Jean's about 12:15 p.m. FFI: Mary Jean, 952-546-2178 or [mjandlloyd@aol.com](mailto:mjandlloyd@aol.com).

**Dec 19-21, Fri-Sun {A} 13th Annual National Forest Lodge Ski Weekend.** National Forest

Lodge is located 7 miles north of Isabella on Highway #1, about a 4½ drive from the Twin Cities. There are 30K of ski trails groomed exclusively for classic skiing. Moose, deer and wolf tracks are common sightings along the trails and lucky skiers have actually seen wolves crossing Gegoka Lake on which the lodge is set. Access to skiing is direct from the cabins and the scenery includes Little Isabella River, black spruce and cedar swamps, and lots of white and red pine stands. This is an ideal trip for beginners as well as more advanced skiers. Some years we've ice skated on the lake, others we've gone snowshoeing in the back woods. Food is excellent and the hot tub and sauna assure a good night's sleep! The cost of \$198.50 (which includes tax) covers 2 nights lodging in rustic cabins (with indoor toilets) or a log house and all meals from Friday dinner through lunch on Sunday. Deposit of \$50 due by November 21. Send waiver form and check (payable to Fran Howley) to 5753 Pillsbury Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55419. FFI: franhowley@aol.com.

**Dec. 21, Sun {A} Pre-Christmas Skiing in Search of the Best Snow.** To get yourself in the holiday mood, come spend a day in the wondrous winter woods skiing with your North Star friends. We will select a trail system with the best snow within reasonable driving distance and post details on the North Star Message Board by Friday night. FFI: Pete Hawkins, 763-786-3792 or pmh706@gmail.com, or Mel Peterson, 651-776-4330 or melpeterson52@att.net.

**Dec 21, Sun {A} Annual Ski and Holiday Potluck.** This long-running event always includes good food, which the North Stars are known for. For skiing, plan to meet at the visitor center at Hyland Park in Bloomington; please arrive in time to be ready to begin skiing at 1:00 p.m. If there is no snow we'll still potluck at our house in Edina beginning at 4:00. You can come for either or both activities. We will post the ski conditions on the NSSTC Message Board by 9:00 Sunday morning, or you can call instead if you wish. The address for you to MapQuest is 6513 Limerick Drive in Edina, not far from the intersection of Tracy Ave and the Crosstown. FFI: Kathy Kelly or John Driscoll, 952-941-6788.

**Dec 31, Wed {WW} Ski Bunker Hills Park.** Meet at 10:30 a.m. at the Bunker Hills golf parking lot to hike, snowshoe or ski. Directions: Take I-94 west to MN 252 north; from 252 take 610 east to Hwy 10 west (toward Anoka); continue on Hwy 10 to Foley Blvd, then turn left (north); follow Foley Blvd all the way into Bunker Hills Park and take the first left turn to the large parking lot near the Seasons Restaurant and golf headquarters (parking is free in this lot). A Minnesota ski pass is required. We'll eat at the Seasons if it is open. Watch for an e-mail update prior to this outing. FFI: Paul Plummer, 763-614-9101 or p-plummer@comcast.net.

## JANUARY

**Jan 7, Wed {WW} Ski Lessons at Theodore Wirth Park.** Meet at 10:00 a.m. in the ski chalet for cross country ski lessons (or "brush up your technique") with Norm Oakvik, former Olympic ski coach and one of the founders of NSSTC. We will ski on manufactured snow if conditions require it. Bring a bag lunch. FFI: Norm Oakvik, 763-535-1538, or Jean Moede, 651-227-4763 or moede001@umn.edu.

**Jan 9-11, Fri-Sun {A} Ski Deep Portage Conservation Reserve.** 21st year for this NS trip to the north woods near Hackensack, MN, north of Brainerd. Over 18K of groomed ski trails right outside our door, including a short loop in easy terrain suitable for beginners. Forested hills, good food and indoor climbing wall -- plus, we'll have Terrance Smith for music and dancing Saturday night! Small dorm rooms with showers and toilets. Carpooling is strongly encouraged. Cost is about \$120 for two nights lodging and five meals. Reservation requires \$60/person plus a dated and signed waiver form. Please make checks payable to David Siskind and send to David at 5812 Thomas Circle, Minneapolis, MN 55410. FFI: David or Dana Siskind, 612-929-0205.

**Jan 10, Sat {A} Ski Wirth Park (or best available snow locally).** Meet at the chalet in time for "skis on" at 10:00 a.m. Any changes will be provided via the e-loype or posted on the NSSTC Message Board by 9:00 Friday evening. FFI: John Driscoll or Kathy Kelly, 952-941-6788.

**Jan 13, Tue {A} General Club Meeting.** 7:00-9:00 p.m. Program details can be found in the January/February *Loype* or on the home page of the club website, [www.north-stars.org](http://www.north-stars.org).

Same meeting place as last year: University Lutheran Church of Hope, 601 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE

in Minneapolis, just north of Dinkytown and the U of M campus.

**Jan 13-15, Tue-Thu {WW} Weekday Getaway.** Save the date for this ski and snowshoe getaway! This will be a low-key, low cost "if there's snow, we go" trip. The tentative plan is to stay in Carlton at the AmericInn and ski or snowshoe Jay Cooke State Park and Spirit Mountain. Jay Cooke in the winter is very special. FFI: Audry Nordwall, 651-766-5857 or Audlee564@hotmail.com; Ella Mogilevsky, 612-922-2623 or ellamo1@msn.com; or Margie Schally, 651-642-9755 or mischal@msn.com.

**Jan 14, Wed {WW} Ski Lebanon Hills Regional Park.** Meet at 9:45 a.m. at the visitor center, ski at 10:00. Park entrance is the same as Schulz Lake Beach, 860 Cliff Rd in Eagan, near Cliff & Dodd Rds. We'll snowshoe or hike if the skiing is poor. Bring a bag lunch; hot and cold beverages available at visitor center. FFI: Bryce & Sally Richards, 651-452-2247 or bryce.a.richards.comcast.net.

**Jan 16-19, Fri-Mon {AK} Annual Maplelag Ski Trip.** Come ski with us on the MLK holiday weekend. North Star has been going to Maplelag for more than 35 years. This will be a carpooling trip with new member priority. We look forward to another great year at Maplelag with good hospitality, great camaraderie, gourmet food (including never empty cookie jars), and superb skiing on impeccably groomed trails. You ski right out your door! The resort features over 60K of trails, including 15K of skating trails. There is a large hot tub to accommodate over 30 people, and two saunas (one allowing you to "take the plunge" into the lake.) There will be a dance on Saturday evening and a talent show Sunday night. Cost is \$295 for adults, \$135 for kids 8-14, \$99 for kids 4-7, and free for kids under 3. The cost includes nine meals if you arrive for supper Friday night. Send waiver and check deposit of \$100 (payable to Barb Wahman) to 202 Nature Way, Little Canada, MN 55117. There will be no refund of the deposit once the check has been mailed to Maplelag around mid-December. FFI: Barb Wahman, 651-483-0327, or e-mail bwahman@netscape.com.

**Jan 17, Sat {A} Ski The Minnesota Landscape Arboretum.** Meet at 10:00 a.m. in front of the Oswald Visitor Center. The arboretum has 14 km of classic only trails. After skiing, lunch and hot chocolate will be available in the restaurant at the visitor center. Non-member entrance fee to the arboretum is \$7. FFI: Dan Miller, 612-202-6839 or e-mail drmillier@hickorytech.net.

**Jan 20, Tue {AK} Hike Centennial Lakes.** Meet at 6:30 p.m. for a brisk walk around Centennial Lakes Park in Edina, located at 76th St and France Ave. We'll meet in the warming house, located downstairs near Chucky Cheese. We will also, of course, have treats/snacks following the hike. This is a great place to ice skate as well (skates can be rented). FFI: Inez Wick, 612-825-3596, or Dana Siskind, 612-929-0205.

**Jan 21, Wed {WW} Looking for Good Snow.** Prior to Wednesday, an e-mail will be sent to those on the WW mailing list (or check the NSSTC Message Board) about details of this outing: where to ski or snowshoe, meeting time and place, and prospective lunch plans. FFI: Terry Quam, 952-933-8052 or terryquam@msn.com.

**Jan 23-25, Fri-Sun {A} Ski Cable, WI.** Ski the expanded Telemark trails, North End trails, and the beautiful narrow trails at Rock Lake in this traditionally snowy part of Wisconsin. Stay at Valhalla Townhouses near Telemark Lodge. Share cooking and clean-up for breakfast and lunch on Saturday and Sunday, and dinner on Saturday. Limit 24 people. Total cost is \$85. Please send club waiver and full payment of \$85 (payable to the trip leader) by December 15 to Ann H. Morrissey, 372 Mississippi River Blvd. S., St. Paul, MN 55105. FFI: Bruce Jacobson or Ann Morrissey, 651-698-4210.

**Jan 28, Wed {WW} Ski or Snowshoe at Lake Elmo Regional Park.** Meet at 9:45 a.m. at the ski shelter next to the parking lot. "Skis on" at 10:00. You will need a Washington County annual park permit (or pay a daily fee of \$5). Lunch at Gorman's restaurant in Lake Elmo (located at Hwy 5 and Cty Rd 17) following the event. FFI: Barb Wahman or Al Porter, 651-483-0327 or bwahman@netscape.com.

**Jan 30 - Feb 1, Fri-Sun {AK} Kathio State Park/Camp Onomia.** A wonderful trip for families! Singles, grandparents and anyone who loves children and/or skiing are welcome. Skiing at all levels and a super sliding hill are available at Kathio State Park, three miles from the camp. (If there's interest, park rangers will also provide an educational program.) Swim, skate, play in the game room, and socialize at the camp. Families with children have their own rooms. Cost is approx. \$90/adult; kids are pro-rated according to age. Send deposit of \$30/person or \$60/family (check made payable to the trip leader) to John Christensen, 900 Goodrich Ave, St.

Paul, MN 55105. FFI: Cindy Porter, 612-419-6358, or John Christensen, 612-418-4329, or e-mail johngc@comcast.net.

**Jan 30 - Feb 1, Fri-Sun {A} Ski Suomi Hills at Camp Hiawatha.** This is the 21st edition of this perennial trip featuring the exceptional skiing at Suomi Hills and several other great trail systems in the Grand Rapids area. It's very reasonably priced at about \$80 for food and lodging for the weekend. The camp features a new dining hall, a hot sauna, and a retreat center to facilitate socializing. Due to the hilly terrain and remote trails, this trip is not recommended for novice skiers. Limit is 50; deposit of \$30/person due by Jan 19. Send trip waivers and deposits (checks made payable to Pete Hawkins) to Suomi Hills Ski Trip, 3008 County Road I, Mounds View, MN 55112. FFI: Pete & Kathy Hawkins, 763-786-3792, or e-mail pmh706@gmail.com.

**Jan 30 - Feb 10, Fri-Tue {A} Tour de New England.** Please visit the club's website, [www.north-stars.org](http://www.north-stars.org), for detailed information on this ski trip to Vermont and New Hampshire. To check on possible openings or to have your name added to the waiting list, contact one of the trip leaders: David Miller, 651-994-4749, or Carol Wahl, 612-920-0149.

## FEBRUARY

**Feb 4, Wed {WW} Looking for Good Snow.** Prior to Wednesday, an e-mail will be sent to those on the WW mailing list (or check the NSSTC Message Board) about details of this outing: where to ski or snowshoe, meeting time and place, and prospective lunch plans. FFI: Joan Davies, 952-944-2855 or joandavies99@yahoo.com.

**Feb 6-8, Fri-Sun {A} Ski Ullr and Montreal Trails near Montreal, Wisconsin.** Ski Ullr, Montreal, Copper Falls, Penoque Mountain, Wolverine or ABR. We will rent "The Inn", a beautiful home in the historic mining town of Montreal. Cost of \$95 includes two breakfasts, Saturday night pizza and two nights lodging. Bring food for lunches on the trail and an appetizer to share. Trails are for intermediate to advanced skiers; maximum of 14 adults. Send trip waiver and a check for \$95/person (payable to the trip leader) to Larry Koehler, 12017 Summerset Lane, Burnsville, MN 55337. FFI: Larry or Cindy Koehler, 952-882-1268.

**Feb 10, Tue {A} General Club Meeting.** 7:00-9:00 p.m. Program details can be found in the January/February *Loype* or on the home page of the club website, [www.north-stars.org](http://www.north-stars.org).

Same meeting place as last month: University Lutheran Church of Hope, 601 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE in Minneapolis, just north of Dinkytown and the U of M campus.

**Feb 11, Wed {WW} Ski Theodore Wirth Park, Then Gather for Soup!** Meet at 9:30 a.m. at Anne McKinsey's house, 45 Thomas Ave in Minneapolis (3 blocks north and 4 blocks west of Penn/394 exit in Bryn Mawr neighborhood). We will ski, snowshoe or hike (or any or all of the above) on the Loppet trails in and near Wirth Park. We can walk to the trails from Anne's house. Return afterward to Anne's for hot cider and hearty (vegetarian) soup. RSVP by Monday, Feb 9 so she knows how much soup to make. FFI: Anne, [amckinsey@boreal.org](mailto:amckinsey@boreal.org) or 612-377-2810.

**Feb 13-15, Fri-Sun {A} Ski Bayfield, WI.** Join us on our annual Bayfield trip. Two ski areas provide plenty of trails for beginner to intermediate skiers. If conditions allow, we may be able to either ski or hike to the ice caves. We will be staying in comfortable suites in a local motel. Breakfasts in with Saturday dinner out. Cost \$95/person plus carpooling expenses. Option to stay an extra night (extra cost). Please mail club waiver and \$75 deposit (payable to Chip Treen) to 1044 Park Ave, Mahtomedi, MN 55115. FFI: Chip Treen & Laura Baker, 651-429-2412.

**Feb 13-16, Fri-Mon {A} Ski Central Wisconsin at Timm's Hill.** Join us for our eleventh annual trek to Wisconsin's highest point. Timm's Hill is located 200 miles from the Twin Cities in the gently rolling hills and thick forests of north central WI. Ski directly from High Point Village's four charming cabins. All levels of skiing are available for both skating and diagonal stride, plus access to other outstanding regional x-c trails. Additional activities include snowshoeing (snowshoes included) and sledding. Cost of approx. \$180 includes three nights lodging, three breakfasts, Saturday night meal, and a pre-dinner cheese & appetizer party. Meals are served in a hand-built lodge with a huge stone fireplace. For your convenience, Kathy's coffee/soup and sandwich shop at High Point Village will be open Friday evening until 7:30 p.m. Lunches and Sunday dinner are on your own. Each cabin has a fully

equipped kitchen. Limit of 20 people. Send trip waiver and \$85/person deposit (payable to trip leader Julie Holmen) to 1341 No St Albans Street, St Paul, MN 55117. Balance due Jan 15. Trip will go regardless of snow conditions. FFI: Julie Holmen, 651-489-1173 or jholmen@ties2.net, or Roxanne Hanley, 651-779-7826 or Hanler1@aol.com.

**Feb 17, Tue {AK} Hike Centennial Lakes.** Meet at 6:30 p.m. for a brisk walk around Centennial Lakes Park in Edina, located at 76th St and France Ave. We'll meet in the warming house, located downstairs near Chucky Cheese. We will also, of course, have treats/snacks following the hike. This is a great place to ice skate as well (skates can be rented). FFI: Inez Wick, 612-825-3596, or Dana Siskind, 612-929-0205.

**Feb 18, Wed {WW} Looking for Good Snow.** Prior to Wednesday, an e-mail will be sent to those on the WW mailing list (or check the NSSTC Message Board) about details of this outing: where to ski or snowshoe, meeting time and place, and prospective lunch plans. FFI: Clare Fossum, 612-721-9258 or clfos1@msn.com.

**Feb 13-23, Fri-Mon {A} Ski Switzerland.** Please visit the club's website, [www.north-stars.org](http://www.north-stars.org), for detailed information on this trip to the Bernese Oberland area of Switzerland (including two nights in "old town" Zurich). To check on possible openings or to have your name added to the waiting list, contact one of the trip leaders: Al Volkens, [alvolkers@aol.com](mailto:alvolkers@aol.com) or 651-687-9357, or Anne McKinsey, [anne.mckinsey@courts.state.mn.us](mailto:anne.mckinsey@courts.state.mn.us) or 612-377-2810.

**Feb 20-22, Fri-Sun {A} Ski Brainerd Lakes Area.** Enjoy all the amenities of beautiful Kavanaugh's Resort, including 40 kilometers of ski trails right out the door. The Brainerd area also offers over 50K of skiing at several other excellent nearby areas, including the Northland Arboretum (just minutes away) and the expert trails of French Rapids within easy driving distance. Kavanaugh's offers a quiet setting on Sylvan Lake, swimming pool, exercise facilities, and a lighted ice skating rink. The group will share three adjoining town homes with connecting doors linking all three units. The trip cost of approx. \$150 includes two nights lodging, all meals on Saturday, and breakfast and lunch on Sunday. Limit of 16 people. Please mail your registration/trip waiver form and a deposit of \$110 (payable to Kathy Kelly) to 6513 Limerick Drive, Edina, MN 55439. Deadline is December 1. FFI: John Driscoll or Kathy Kelly, 952-941-6788.

**Feb 25, Wed {WW} Looking for Good Snow.** Prior to Wednesday, an e-mail will be sent to those on the WW mailing list (or check the NSSTC Message Board) about details of this outing: where to ski or snowshoe, meeting time and place, and prospective lunch plans. FFI: Margie Schally, 651-642-9755.

**Feb 27 - Mar 7, Fri-Sat {A} Ski Stokely Creek, Ontario, Canada.** Overnight bus trip to the beautiful Algoma Highlands for 7 days of skiing, feasting and relaxing with friends. \$1,125 per person includes all costs (Peter Kalm cabin is \$84 additional.) Send \$640 now to reserve space, with the remaining \$485 due by December 1. See separate ad in *Loype* or visit the home page of the club website, [www.north-stars.org](http://www.north-stars.org), for more details. FFI: Bruce Jacobson or Ann Morrissey, 651-698-4210.

## MARCH

**Mar 4, Wed {WW} Looking for Good Snow.** Prior to Wednesday, an e-mail will be sent to those on the WW mailing list (or check the NSSTC Message Board) about details of this outing: where to ski or snowshoe, meeting time and place, and prospective lunch plans. FFI: Glenn Olson, 612-340-1105 or [gwolson@aol.com](mailto:gwolson@aol.com).

**Mar 10, Tue {A} General Club Meeting.** 7:00-9:00 p.m. Program details can be found in the March/April *Loype* or on the home page of the club website, [www.north-stars.org](http://www.north-stars.org). Same meeting place as last month: University Lutheran Church of Hope, 601 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE in Minneapolis, just north of Dinkytown and the U of M campus.

**Mar 11, Wed {WW} Looking for Good Snow.** Prior to Wednesday, an e-mail will be sent to those on the WW mailing list (or check the NSSTC Message Board) about details of this outing: where to ski or snowshoe, meeting time and place, and prospective lunch plans. FFI: Jean Moede, 651-227-4763 or [moede001@umn.edu](mailto:moede001@umn.edu).

**Mar 14-29, Sat-Sun {A} Ski Norway (One or Two Weeks).** This is Solveig Olson's annual ski trip to her homeland of Norway. Everyone who has ever done it says that there is nothing quite like it on the North Star calendar. Week One will feature accommodations at a traditional

Norwegian mountain lodge with 300+ km of skiing right from the door. Week Two, which is optional, will feature a guided hut-to-hut tour in one of Norway's national parks. This is backcountry skiing but Solveig assures us that the "huts" are actually full service lodges that provide hot breakfasts and dinners. Full trip details can be found on the home page of the club website, [www.north-stars.org](http://www.north-stars.org). FFI: Solveig Olson, 612-377-2483, or e-mail [peergyntwv@aol.com](mailto:peergyntwv@aol.com).

**Mar 19, Thu {AK} Hike Lake Nokomis.** Let's welcome spring with a hike around Lake Nokomis. Meet at the main beach on the west side of Lake Nokomis at 6:30 p.m. Free parking is available in the street. We'll stop at Tom's Popcorn Shop on 47th and Cedar on the way back to our cars. There are also a Grand Ole Creamery and Caribou Coffee store nearby. FFI: Inez Wick, 612-825-3596, or Dana Siskind, 612-929-0205.

**Mar 20-22, Fri-Sun {A} Ski Giants Ridge.** Our annual "end of winter" ski trip to Giants Ridge in Biwabik, MN. This is the best of spring skiing! Carpool or drive up yourself (225 miles). Over 55K of groomed trails -- some for beginners but many are for experienced skiers -- with both classic and skating trails. One great feature is that you can ride the chairlifts up and ski the x-c trails back down. We stay at the Sports Dorm and ski right from the door. Rooms have a private shower and bunk beds, usually two to a room. This is an excellent family weekend. 4 meals are provided (3 on Saturday and Sunday breakfast) and all trail fees are included. There are also options for downhill skiing for a small fee. Total cost is estimated to be \$162. Send \$40 deposit (check payable to Bob O'Hara) with a reservation/waiver form to: Bob O'Hara, 6001 Goodrich Ave, St Louis Park, MN 55416. This popular trip fills early (usually in November) so don't be left out! FFI: Bob at 952-927-0874 or [Bobscanoe@comcast.net](mailto:Bobscanoe@comcast.net).

#### APRIL

**Apr 14, Tue {AK} Turtle and Hare Hike.** Meet at 6:30 p.m. at the bronze rabbit statue at Minnehaha Pkwy and Portland Ave in south Minneapolis. We will walk along Minnehaha Creek, hopefully finding spring flowers along the way. And we'll be sure to stop, as always, at the Turtle Bakery for treats along the way. FFI: Inez Wick, 612-825-3596, or Dana Siskind, 612-929-0205.

#### MAY

**May 12, Tue {AK} Hike Lake Harriet.** Meet at the Lake Harriet band shell at 6:30 p.m. We'll hike around the lake and, of course, stop at Sebastian Joe's for treats on the way back. Free parking in the street nearby. FFI: Inez Wick, 612-825-3596, or Dana Siskind, 612-929-0205.

#### WINTER 2009 EXTENDED CLUB SKI TRIPS

**Jan 30 – Feb 10, Fri-Tue {A} Tour de New England.** A main club trip for 16-22 people to some of the premier cross country ski destinations in Vermont and New Hampshire: the Trapp Lodge and Stowe trail systems, the Highland Lodge (50K) and Craftsbury trail systems, Franconia Inn with its 50K of single-tracked trails, Bretton Woods, and the Jackson ski center (the largest cross country ski center in the East). The estimated cost of \$1850 includes round-trip airfare, van transportation, lodging, most meals and trail passes. Downhill skiing is also available in the area for an additional cost. For full details please visit the home page of the club website, [www.north-stars.org](http://www.north-stars.org). FFI: David Miller, 651-994-4749, or Carol Wahl, 612-920-0149.

**Feb 13-23, Fri-Mon {A} Ski Switzerland.** Travel to the picturesque village of Kandersteg in the Bernese Oberland area of Switzerland. Here you will find 75 km of cross country ski trails, 55 km of hiking trails, gentle downhill skiing, mountaintop restaurants, a 3.5-km sled run descending from a mountain lake to the village, and a skating rink. Estimated cost of \$2250 covers airfare, transfers, ski passes, 7 nights lodging, breakfasts, dinners in Kandersteg, plus

2 nights in "old town" Zurich. Check out the trip flyer on the club website, [www.north-stars.org/ExtendedTrips/Kandersteg2009.pdf](http://www.north-stars.org/ExtendedTrips/Kandersteg2009.pdf). Send trip waiver and reservation form with \$500 deposit, payable to Anne McKinsey, to 45 Thomas Ave So, Minneapolis, MN 55405. FFI: trip leaders Al Volkers, [alvolkers@aol.com](mailto:alvolkers@aol.com) or 651-687-9357, or Anne McKinsey, [anne.mckinsey@courts.state.mn.us](mailto:anne.mckinsey@courts.state.mn.us) or 612-377-2810.

**Feb 27 – Mar 7, Fri-Sat {A} Ski Stokely Creek, Ontario, Canada.** We will return once again to one of our very favorite ski destinations. Stokely Creek has 130+ kilometers of beautifully groomed trails, beginner to expert, in the gorgeous, rolling, wooded terrain of the Algoma Highlands in Ontario. This region of Canada, just north of Sault Ste. Marie, is known for its lake-effect snow (and usually lots of it!). We'll stay in comfortable lodging with sumptuous, healthy meals and appetizers – with skiing right from the door. Trip cost of \$1,125 per person includes: newer, more comfortable bus transportation; 7 days/nights lodging with all meals and late afternoon appetizers; and all ski passes, taxes and gratuities. Full details can be found on the home page of the club website, [www.north-stars.org](http://www.north-stars.org). FFI: Ann Morrissey and Bruce Jacobson, 651-698-4210 or [brucejandannm@msn.com](mailto:brucejandannm@msn.com).

**Mar 14-29, Sat-Sun {A} Ski Norway (One or Two Weeks).** This is Solveig Olson's annual ski trip to her homeland of Norway. Everyone who has ever done it says that there is nothing quite like it on the North Star calendar. Week One will feature accommodations at a traditional Norwegian mountain lodge with 300+ km of skiing right from the door. Week Two, which is optional, will feature a guided hut-to-hut tour in one of Norway's national parks. This is backcountry skiing but Solveig assures us that the "huts" are actually full service lodges that provide hot breakfasts and dinners. Full trip details can be found on the home page of the club website, [www.north-stars.org](http://www.north-stars.org). FFI: Solveig Olson, 612-377-2483, or e-mail [peergyntwv@aol.com](mailto:peergyntwv@aol.com).