

# Revelstoke's NORDIC SKI REPORT

Volume 9, Issue 3

Box 1618, Revelstoke, BC V0E 2S0

March, 2006

[www.revelstokenordic.org](http://www.revelstokenordic.org)

## *Directors moving on*

It's that time of year when terms expire and club directors decide whether or not to carry on with the club's board of directors. This year, an extraordinary trio moves on.

After three years, Ken Gibson is stepping down as president. Ken has been intimately involved in every aspect of this club as part of his wide ranging interests in all types of skiing, and his professional duties with the provincial government.

Sally Thomson has led the Jackrabbit Ski League for the past five years, creating a terrific program that engages forty-three children and a host of adult leaders. Without her dedication, this ski program for children would not exist.

Brian Abear's participation on the board goes back to 1979 when nordic skiing was a wing of the Revelstoke Ski Club. Brian began track-setting with a snowmobile on Mount Revelstoke and has been the lead person for every trail or grooming improvement ever since.

Don't panic; all three will remain active in the club. Brian will keep grooming, Sally will continue coaching, and Ken will work with the club in his new position with Ministry of Tourism, Sport, and the Arts.

More details inside.

## *Lantern Ski a volunteer effort*

Moonlight and good snow conditions helped the club pull off an evening of skiing for the 143 skiers that attended the Lantern Ski on February 11.

Thanks are due to the following volunteers:

Grooming – Brian Abear, Mickey Olson

Welcome Hut – Bev Clark

Lanterns – Alan McInnes, Evelyn McInnes, Graham Harper, Wendy Harper, Tom Harper, Delyth Harper, Joseph Harper, Ruth Harvie, Tom Harvie, Bill Shuttleworth, Brian Gawiuk, Dennis Gawiuk, Paula Hill, Rubyanne Meda, Bev Clark

Refreshments – Doreen McGillis, Ellen Tremblay, Bev Clark

Cabin Hosts – Mickey Olson, Isabelle Pallister, Ellen Tremblay, Tammy Wade, Bronte Viznaugh, Kellen Viznaugh, Catherine Allen, Steve Lemon, Lisa Wenstab, Karen Glen, Rubyanne Meda, Paula Hill

Promotion – Michael Morris

## *Upcoming events*

Pot Luck Supper – **5:00 P.M. SHARP**  
Sunday, March 26. A fabulous feast at the Community Centre.

Annual General Meeting – 7:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, April 18. Year end reports and new directors, at the Community Centre.

## *Head Jackrabbit passes the carrot*

They're cute, fast on skis, and have the determination and grit of Olympic Nordic athletes like Becky, Sarah and Chandra! We all know who these eager kids are— our club Ski League participants! This season 12 Bunny Rabbits (ages 4 and 5 years), 29 Jackrabbits (grades 1-7) and 12 Junior Development skiers (grade 4 and up) took part in a nine week program.

We played snow hockey and soccer, competed in crazy relays, sang action songs, performed ski challenges, did tag games, search for trail treasures, skied the club Lantern Ski on a perfect starlit night, raced in the Beat Yer' Mamma or Yer' Papa race, and participated in the ever popular Team Scream Relay. The final day blew the lid off with the Mini Olympics 2010 event!

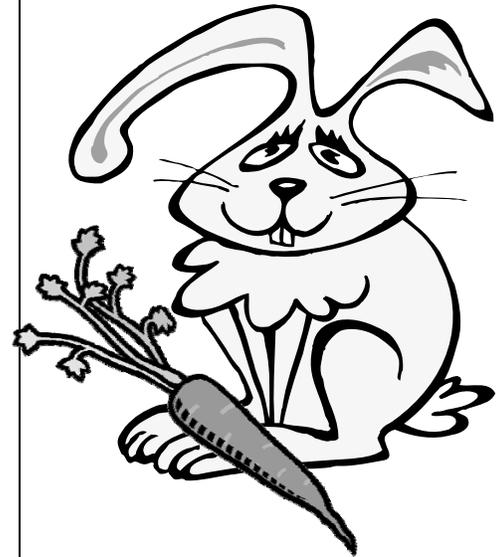
Our Junior Development team raced in the Reino Keski Salmi Loppet, BC Cup in Telemark, and the BC Midget Championships. The group are beginning to make their mark among the best clubs in BC. A highlight of the race season was the spectacular finish of our four person female relay team: Brittany Evans, Alei Mohr, Hanna Thomson and Emily Smith who medalled bronze out of 13 teams at the Midget Champs!

It was a great season with many lasting and pleasant memories. Thanks to the leaders of Ski League who take every Saturday morning weekly to make cross country skiing activities come alive for children in our club. This includes the Jackrabbit Leaders: Rob Evans, Kendra Von Bremen, Lucie Perusse, Cam Molder, Simone Palmer and the occasional help of Mary Lou Mohr, Wade Viznaugh, Dave Kaegi, and Ruth and Tom Harvie. The Bunny Rabbits were orchestrated by the capable team of Bex Reid Parkin and Kim Blommestein. The Wednesday After School program was lead by Norm Tennant and Ken Gibson. Program administration supported by none other than Tammy Viznaugh.

After five years of organizing the club Youth Programs, I pass the Olympic torch to Cam Molder. With no doubt, Cam will take the Ski League program to even greater heights with his sense of creativity and unique ideas for ski games and activities. Cam is also great role model for skiing excellence and I can't think of a better catalyst and model for achieving skiing skills and ensuring that fun is the central theme.

It's not a departure, as I plan to coach along side Rob Evans and Norm Tennant to move our Junior Development group into the racing stratosphere. Look out guys— dry land training, more skiing mileage, more travel to races and work, work, work! Thanks for all the compliments and comments of appreciation from parents. I have really enjoyed the past years. I credit the consistent and capable help of volunteer leaders to the growth and success of the program.

-- Sally Thomson



### *Thanks from the Ski League*

To Ken Gibson's father for the handcrafted waxing bench for the Junior Development Group.

To Elmer Rorstad of Free Spirit Sports for donating two pairs of Madshus skate skis for the Ski League program.

To Tim Horton's for contributing cups for the Ski League's final event.

-- Sally Thomson

## *Jack Rabbit Ski League – Race Results*

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**BC Cup**, (for all ages) January 21-22, at the Telemark Club near Kelowna

### **Classic Event:**

Rhys Evans	10th 35:25	Pee Wee boys 1.5 km
Megan Evans	8th 7:21	Pee Wee girls 1.5 km
Brittany Evans	8th 11:51	Mini Midget 2.7 km
Hanna Thomson	6th 11:47	Mini Midget 2.7 km
Emily Smith	24th 23:41	Midget 5 km
Alei Mohr	28th 25:29	Midget 5 km
Cam Kaegi	17th 20:10	Midget 5 km
Sally Thomson	5th 21:28	Masters women 5 km
Rob Mohr	6th 35:25	Masters men 10 km

### **Skate Event:**

Rhys Evans	6th 7:43	Pee Wee boys 1.5 km
Megan Evans	2nd 7:19	Pee Wee girls 1.5 km
Hanna Thomson	3rd 16:14	Mini Midget girls 3.5 km
Brittany Evans	4th 16:15	Mini Midget girls 3.5 km
Alei Mohr	18th 16:10	Midget girls 3.5 km
Emily Smith	28th 18:47	Midget girls 3.5 km
Cam Kaegi	12th 14:18	Midget boys 3.5 km
Cathy Evans	1st 42:30	Masters Women 31-40 7.5 km
Rob Mohr	5th 57:40	Masters Men 41-50
Rob Evans	13th 1:14:15	Masters Men 41-50

**BC Midget Championships**, (for children in grades 5-7), February 25-26 at the Nickel Plate Club near Penticton

### **Classic: 2 km**

Hanna Thomson	1st 9:43
Megan Evans	7th 10:18
Isaac Smith	12th 10:38
Rhys Evans	16th 10:51
Brittany Evans	5th 9:34
Alei Mohr	8th 9:23
Emily Smith	9th 9:32
Cam Kaegi	10th 9:01
Kaarina Duncan	17th 12:41

### **Relay: 4 X 1.5 km**

Alei Mohr, Hanna Thomson, Emily Smith, Brittany Evans: 3rd of 13 female teams  
Cam Kaegi, Kaarina Duncan, Isaac Smith, Megan Evans: 15<sup>th</sup> of 18 male teams.

### **Sprint .4 km**

Hanna Thomson	5th 1:48
Megan Evans	12th 2:05
Isaac Smith	16th 1:56
Rhys Evans	21st 2:18
Brittany Evans	4th 1:46
Alei Mohr	10th 1:44
Emily Smith	8th 1:36
Kaarina Duncan	15th 2:03
Cam Kaegi	9 <sup>th</sup> 1:35

**Aggregate Result:** Team Revelstoke 6th overall

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## ***Powder Pioneers – Ski Stories from the Canadian Rockies and Columbia Mountains***

By Chic Scott, Rocky Mountain Books, 240 pages, \$29.95

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Author Chic Scott is well known for his backcountry skiing guide books and his volume on the history of Canadian mountaineering. Now he has compiled the only book dedicated to the people and stories that outline the development of skiing in the Rocky and Columbia Mountains in all its aspects.

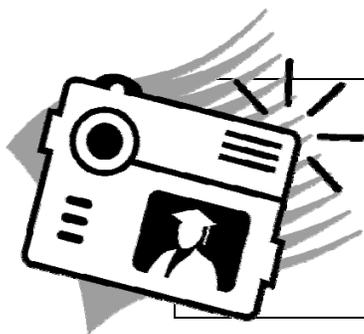
This book goes into detail about the skiing pioneers, who were Scandinavian immigrants who introduced the use of skis, initially for practical purposes, and later for sport. Of particular relevance is the chapter on the ski jumping events on Mount Revelstoke, with vignettes dedicated to local heroes Nels Nelsen, Bob Lymburne, and Isabel Coursier.

The book also includes the how and where the many facets of skiing— cross-country skiing, lift serviced skiing, racing, heli-skiing, ski guiding, avalanche science, mountain rescue, snowboarding, back country lodges— began and grew into what we experience today. These topics are illustrated throughout with many photographs, from the earliest photo of skiing, the Revelstoke Ski Club in 1891, to modern day.

The book's strength lies with the author's own area of expertise, long distance backcountry touring. As a member of the small team of skiers who completed the first lengthy icefield traverses from Jasper to Lake Louise and from Mica Creek to Rogers Pass, Scott is eminently qualified to retell these journeys and the ski culture that motivated these epics by people whose accomplishments never made into mainstream media.

My favourite is the story of Don Gardener, who in 1991 at the age 45, walked out the door of his Calgary home with his skis and a 10 kilogram pack and arrived at Squamish on the BC coast 28 days later. He travelled solo for 900 kilometres without a tent or stove, sleeping under trees and cooking on twig fires. Now that's a ski trip!

-- Michael Morris



### ***Team Scream Relay and Mini-Olympics Photos***

Ken Gibson has posted photos from these events at:  
[http://community.webshots.com/user/ken\\_gibson](http://community.webshots.com/user/ken_gibson)

### ***Your input sought on club direction***

For about the past eight years, the club concentrated on acquiring a new grooming machine. This machine is central to the great skiing that this club offers to its membership. Now that the club has the huge achievement of replacing the grooming machine behind us, we have the opportunity to consider other activities or facility improvements. The Board of Directors would like to hear from you in regards to what you would like to see happen in the coming years. If you are unable to attend the Annual General Meeting on April 18<sup>th</sup>, send your thoughts to the club's mailing address at Box 1618, Revelstoke, V0E 2S0, or if you prefer email, to [michael.morris@telus.net](mailto:michael.morris@telus.net) .



## *Ken gets the last word*

We are now at the end of another season. It did not start off well, but it is finishing quite nicely. The Lantern Ski under a clear, moonlit sky was one of the most beautiful ever. The Team Scream Relay and the Mini-Olympics were excellent under sunny blue skies.

There are a few things that I should share with you. Your executive will be changing after the next Annual General Meeting. If you think you may want to help out on the board please let one of the present board members know.

Brian Abear will be stepping down from the board. His goal to purchase a new groomer has been met. Brian has been part of the board for over 25 years. He will continue to coordinate the grooming crew. The board will be looking for a liaison director to communicate with this crew. The importance of supporting the grooming crew and recognizing the huge amount of work they do cannot be overstated.

Sally Thompson will also leave the board, handing off the Jackrabbit Ski League to Cam Molder. She will focus her prodigious energy and enthusiasm on the Junior Development Program.

Unfortunately, I have to leave the board as well. I have accepted a new position with the Ministry of Tourism, Sport, and the Arts that is responsible for the Forest Recreation sites and trails in the Revelstoke, Golden and Salmon Arm areas. Being on the board would be inappropriate with my new job. However, my new job should put me in a good position to help the club.

The club is now considering building a trailhead warming hut about the size of a double garage. Some of the club's directors feel that a warming hut where people could meet before and after a ski would be a good addition to the club—the next step in the club's evolution. We will discuss this at the Annual General Meeting.

I have enjoyed my past nine years on the board. It was great working with such a wonderful bunch of high energy people focused on making nordic skiing great and lots of fun. If you think you may

want to help out on the board please let one of the present board members know.

There are so many people to thank in the club's success. Cam Molder and Keith McNab are thanked for excellent job in making the Team Scream Relay so much fun. Bev Clark is thanked for keeping the books and being so inspirational in putting together the Lantern Skis and keeping the Snow Phone updated. Karen Bray seems to be always taking in memberships and her success at fund raising is one of the main reasons the club is in a good financial state. It has been rewarding to watch Sally Thomson and her group of coaches improve the skiing of the club's kids and make it such fun for them. Michael and Jackie Morris are thanked for the web site, newsletters and good liaison with the press. Nancy Martin is thanked for coordinating the hut—a job that is so important to the continued financial well being of the club. Nadine Smith is thanked for organizing the Potluck. Diana Graham is thanked for getting out her animated club email notes. And I cannot forget my good friends Rob Mohr (the club's secretary) and Norm Tennant. Their advice and enthusiasm for the club has been most helpful.

I can never miss an opportunity to thank our groomers. Brian Abear, Alan McInnes and Mickey Olson do so much for the club where it counts—on our trails. Alan is already lining up machines to fix up and make the trails wider and easier to groom next year. It is because of them that our small club can afford such excellent trails. I encourage you to thank them whenever you can. They spend an enormous amount of time and energy to make our trails great.

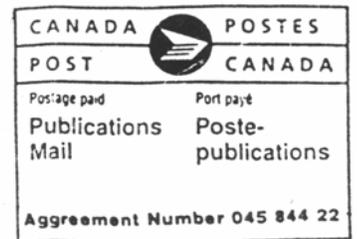
I may have missed a few people and I apologize for that. The club's strength is in its members. There are so many members that help out with events, trail clearing, coaching, and hut duties. It seems so many are doing their share to make our club successful. You all need to pat yourself on the back.

*-- Ken Gibson*



## **Revelstoke Nordic Ski Club**

Box 1618, Revelstoke BC V0E 2S0



*Revelstoke Nordic Ski Club*

***Snow phone***

For updates on trail conditions call:

**837-7303**

***Web site***

Trail map, local ski history, and more!

***www.revelstokenordic.org***