

Welcome to the first digital edition of North End News – our seasonal newsletter. We hope you enjoy this new format, which also provides the opportunity to expand and enhance our newsletter's content.

This newsletter will also be posted at www.norwiski.com/northend, where it can also be downloaded as a .pdf file. Feel free to share and circulate it among your ski buddies.

NORTH END SKI CLUB CELEBRATES 15TH SEASON

This season marks the 15th year of the North End Ski Club. The club first came into existence in 1997 with an initial goal of simply establishing a trailhead at the north end of the American Birkebeiner ski trail near Cable. Since that time our non-profit, volunteer organization has not only achieved that goal, but we have gone on to realize many more significant accomplishments, all of which have enriched the local community and provided a variety of outstanding recreational opportunities for local residents and area visitors.

The North End Ski Club trail system, trailhead, warming cabin and trail grooming represent a classic grassroots community-based initiative. Over the years the club has worked closely with the Bayfield County Forestry Department and has developed a strong working relationship and partnership. In addition, we have worked closely with other trail organizations, specifically Telemark Resort and the American Birkebeiner Ski Foundation, to integrate our trail development into the existing trail infrastructure in a complementary nature. As a non-profit club, all-

volunteer organization we have made a significant contribution to our community, creating a tremendous legacy of ski and snowshoe trails and supporting structures, facilities and services.

The club has methodically proceeded from year to year gradually improving our community trail system as time and financial resources permitted. In addition to our ongoing maintenance and trail enhancement efforts, highlights of our achievements over the past 15 years include:

- 1997: Created a .7km ski trail from Randysek Road to provide access to the American Birkebeiner Ski Trail and developed the North End Trailhead site including parking for 30 cars.
- 1998: Constructed log warming cabin and outhouse at North End Trailhead and developed one of the first mapped and marked snowshoe trail systems in the region with three snowshoe trails, 1.5 to 5 km in length starting from the North End Trailhead.
- 1999-2001: Developed the North End Ski Trail skate/classic, starting with a 4.5 km loop and adding an additional loop each year to eventually total 12km.
- 2001: North End Classic ski race begun
- 2003: Developed a 3.5km classic ski trail
- 2004: Purchased grooming equipment and began grooming the trails with club volunteers.
- 2006: Cookie Classic added to North End Classic
- 2009-2012: Expansion of North End Classic Trail with annual additions of 1km to 4km.

It's been a long, positive run and everyone who has been involved as a volunteer, sponsor, contributor and supporter should feel proud about the tremendous legacy the club has created for the area and cross country skiing in the region.

North End Trail head opens along the Birkebeiner Trail
Page 3
The County Journal • December 31, 1998 • 3

Cable group opens North End Trail head on Birkebeiner Ski Trail

By Brent Pappas
Journal Staff Reporter

CABLE — Cross-country skiers will have a nice place from which to access the north end of the famed Birkebeiner Trail this year — thanks to countless volunteer hours, numerous donated donations of building materials, and the savvy organizational skills of a small group of skiers sports enthusiasts.

The North End Trail head has been in development for the last year and a half. It started with a group of cross-country skiers who found the north end of the Birkebeiner Trail to be a great place to start a trail, but there was no good way to get on it. Telemark re-configured their Nordic Trails, and when they did they excluded any public access to that part of the trail. They wanted to build a trailhead in the middle of the Birkebeiner Trail (on Highway 19 in Seely), and at the south end (off of Fish Hatchery Road), but nothing on the north end.

Shortly after conceiving the idea for a trailhead, a steering committee was formed. Original members included Ron and Kathy Bergin, Irv and Jan Berlin, and Dave and Karen Thomassa. They work in the Cable Area Chamber of Commerce, who filed the idea with the Forestry Department in January of 1997. A proposal was submitted to the Bayfield County Forestry Committee. Once the Forestry Committee gave preliminary approval, organizers had to decide how to manage their affairs more legitimately, and the North End Ski Club was born.

Between February and March of 1997 several meetings were held that led to the clearing of the trail, and setting up a parking area, and even though there was marginal snowfall to celebrate, on New Year's Day 1998 a grand opening of the new site was held — located two miles south of County M on Randysek Road in Cable.

Goals for 1998 were to be better but with a head of steam behind organizers, and a never-fail determination for the New Year, they digged about. Determination wasn't the only factor in their favor either; there were obvious economic benefits to the community as well.

Bergin said, "Everyone down the line has considered it an asset to the community. With a nice place to get on the north end of the Birkebeiner Trail, more skiers will come through Cable."

Phase two of the ski club's plan would take more time, more donations of materials, and more organization. Next on the agenda was to put up a log building and an outhouse. With donations and effort, the trail head is now a reality. The trail head is ready, the cables and outhouse are operational — complete with more — and since more has come to thousands of members of the club and all who wish to enjoy the new facility.

"We've had tremendous support from Cable log builders and contractors, and in-kind donations, and we've got a lot of help," Bergin said. "We also are thankful to the forestry department for their support."

Club member Irv Berlin also feels good about the project. "We really needed to do some-



NORTH END CARPENTRY WORK — Members of the North End Ski Club volunteered their time on Saturday, Dec. 19 to finish work on the warming cabin at the North End Trail Head. From left are Terry Torsney, Gary Crandall, Irv Berlin, Dave Thomassa and Kelly Handolph. (Staff photo by Brent Pappas)

thing on this end of the (Birkebeiner) trail," he said. "It will also be good for the kids, the school teams won't have as far to travel now to trail."

Knowing it would not be the same without more goals, the ski club is moving on.

"We've got some snowshoe trails we're working on now," Bergin said. He says other plans for the club are still coming together.

The trail head itself is well marked with signs along Randysek Road on the way out of town from Cable to the north. Those familiar with the area know they are still going in the right direction. The trailhead itself is about a kilometer long and fits in to the Birkebeiner Trail just north of the 7-km marker. Snowshoe trails are connected to the trail head and will not be groomed, but will be marked, and maps are available.

"It's long overdue," Bergin said. "There are a lot of potential users for the trailhead and we feel it is a positive contribution to the community."

Anyone wishing to make a contribution, or to get more information on the trailhead or on the North End Ski Club can call 715-798-1599. All are welcome to the second grand opening on New Year's Day. There will be an open house, hot chocolate.

[Click to view this article.](#)

IT'S BEEN A BUSY FALL



It would be an understatement to say that it's been a busy fall leading up to this ski season, with a robust quantity and variety of projects on our agenda. Some of it was routine, some circumstantial and some self-inflicted. The list of accomplishments on the trails and around the trailhead rivals, if not surpasses, the first couple of years when we were just beginning to develop the North End Trailhead and trail system.

The enormous outpouring of volunteer assistance has been most gratifying and affirming of the level of dedication and commitment our members and supporters have for our club, its initiatives, and mission. To everyone who put in time helping work through the lengthy "To Do" list, **thank you very much** - we truly appreciate your help.

TRAIL REPAIRS

Logging operations finally concluded south of Timber Trail road. The trails were left in very good condition, but heavy rain soon after the retreat of the loggers resulted in a few erosion gullies. Otherwise, all that was required was to pick rocks, rake out high spots and seed and mulch the length of the trail. Meanwhile, another logging job commenced to the north of Timber Trail, just to the east of the core North End area and south of Telemark. A short portion of the North End Classic, just north of the Ludzack property was used as a haul road and widened considerably and another short segment at the intersection with the Tony Wise trail was heavily impacted. All of these areas have been repaired and should ski just fine. The latter logging operation was not completed and work will resume next year. Bayfield County Forestry contributed \$300 toward the trail repairs for which we are very grateful.



TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS AND BRUSHING

Other trail projects included the regrading of several corners on both the main North End Trail and the Classic Trail to ease grooming and improve skiing. In addition, quite a few large rocks were removed from the trails in several areas including near the trailhead, which should reduce the possibility of damaging skis or grooming equipment should we have another low-snow season. The edges of the A Cut-off were also brushed back to eliminate encroaching hazel brush and small saplings, particularly between the Birkie Trail and the Kortelopet.

NORTH END CLASSIC TRAIL

After many years of incremental growth, the North End Classic Trail has finally been completed. The trail now ties back close to the trailhead near the junction of the cabin loop and the main access trail to the Birkie. The final leg of the trail is about a kilometer in length, bringing the completed distance of the Classic to 11 km. The final leg includes several long descents and will be a great way to finish off.

SNOWSHOE TRAIL REROUTE

The last piece of the classic trail now runs on the former Ridge snowshoe trail and inasmuch as this section includes a long downhill, it was necessary to reroute the snowshoe trail to avoid dual use in a potentially hazardous place. The reroute drops off the Classic trail and parallels back toward the trailhead. Part of the reroute follows a fairly steep hillside that will require a good amount of snow for a level trail tread to develop, but the rest of it winds around and is relatively easy. It is hoped that the steeper areas will be bench cut (dug into the hillside) as part of a future reroute of the Ojibwe bike trail. We've also purchased and installed some colorful new snowshoe trail signs.

NEW MOWER AND MOWING

Our trail mowing took on a different complexion this year as the club made an investment in a pull-behind mower. Using an ATV borrowed from the Birkie, our stalwart mower, Mark Jalovick made numerous trips to the trails to mow the North End Classic and the edges along the main trail. Dan Malesevich also generously brought out his big mower and mowed down the main trail, getting it in tip top-shape.

GROOMING STORAGE BUILDING

The biggest project of the fall season was the construction of a new storage garage for our grooming equipment. Located up the hill where we've kept the equipment for the past couple of years or so, the new building is a 20' X 20' steel sided and roofed structure with two overhead doors.

Scott Wilson generously agreed to oversee the project and rounded up about eight additional workers, coordinated the purchase and delivery of materials, and supervised the crew as they assembled the building. Once the site was prepared and the materials delivered, they built the entire building in only eight days. Thanks to all of the guys who helped out on the project and a huge thanks to Scott for leading the charge.



RECORD CROWD WOWED BY NORTH END CLASSIC

The twelfth annual North End Classic brought out a record number of skiers on Sunday, February 12, 2012 for 12.5- and 25-kilometer races. With a 20 percent increase in registered skiers, and 40 youngsters in the free "Cookie Classic," nearly 300 people turned out for a sunny start with near-perfect trail conditions.

Greg Rhodes of St. Paul, Minnesota cruised in for a strong finish with a time of 38:14, followed by Roger Phillips of Esko, Minnesota, at 38:30 in the 12.5 km race. Third place was taken by Thomas Dvoratchek, Streamwood, Illinois, at 40:26. The crowd cheered as Elizabeth Simak, age 19, of Hayward, Wisconsin, sailed to first in the women's division and an impressive third place overall with a time of 38:31, just one second behind the second place male. Simak was followed by Bri Carlson of Hastings, Minnesota, with a time of 47:29, and Hannah Panci of Duluth at 49:54.

Former Subaru Factory Team member and Super Tour champion David Chamberlain, Boulder, Colorado, took first in the men's division of the 25 km race, inching out second place Adam Swank of Duluth, Minnesota, by one second with a time of 1:08:50. Swank was followed by Nicolai Anikin also of Duluth, with a time of 1:10:00. In the women's division Audrey Weber of Minneapolis came in at 1:20:35, followed by Melissa MacMillan, Minneapolis at 1:23:11 and Bonnie Weiskopf, Stillwater, Minnesota, at 1:23:20.



Photos by Kelly Randolph

Following the start of the races, 40 children lined up for one-half, one- and two-kilometer Cookie Classic races. All Cookie racers received a "medal" of cookies on a ribbon.

Skiing in her first North End Classic, Holly Hart of Stillwater, Minnesota, summed up the day perfectly. "This was my first North End Classic race and I plan to make it an annual event whenever it is a free weekend for me. All the 'perks' of the bigger ski events - beautiful trails, great race trail preparation, well organized - but small enough in size to make getting to the start line easy. The best part was being able to ski about one kilometer to the start along with my 11-year-old daughter who did the kids' Cookie Classic on her own while I was out doing my own race. It's a very family-friendly event."

The North End Ski Club is grateful to race sponsorship provided by Major Sponsors: American Birkebeiner Ski Foundation, Ideal Market/Rivers Eatery, Mt. Borah, New Moon Ski and Bike Shop. Event Sponsors: Cable Area Chamber of Commerce, United Church of Christ; Associate Sponsors: Cable Chiropractic Clinic, Chequamegon Fat Tire Festival, Coop's Pizza Parloure, Hayward Area Memorial Hospital & Water's Edge, King Realty, Outdoor Ventures; Supporting Sponsors: Bayfield Electric, Cresthill Resort, Delta Diner, Garmisch USA, Mogasheen Resort, Northern Native Landscapes, Norvado, and Rasmussen's Plumbing and Heating.

Dozens of volunteers helped organize and carry out the events. The American Birkebeiner Ski Foundation assisted with grooming.

TRAIL CONDITIONS

We make a special effort to update our trail condition reports every time the trails are groomed. If you're looking for the latest information on the North End Trails, visit www.norwiski.com.

GROOMERS

And of course there would be no trail conditions to report were it not for a great crew of volunteer groomers. Our nine-person crew has gained a lot of experience over the years, which you can see every time you ski. When we first decided to start grooming trails on our own a few years ago we never anticipated having such a deep pool of dedicated grooming talent. With a crew this size and this much experience, we have been able to increase the frequency of grooming on the main trail to three times a week. The classic trail is groomed once or twice a week depending on snowfall.

Da Groomers: Lon Anderson, Ron Bergin, Tom Cogbill, Joe Jenkins, Dan Malesevich, Metro Maznio, Dave Tomasula, Bill Ton and John Uffenbeck. Thanks guys!

NORTH END CLASSIC 2013

The 2013 North End Classic is coming up on February 10. We saw a nice bump in participation last year and hope we can continue that momentum. The Classic has become a staple event on the regional race calendar. Participants enjoy the low-key, yet well-organized and well-run event. We like to think of it as a small race with a lot of class.

One new addition to this year's event: We'd like everyone to provide their own clothing bag for their warm-ups and post-race clothing. We will provide a number tag and transport the bags from the start to the finish. A backpack or small duffel will work well.

An entry form is included with this newsletter. Or if you'd like to download one, you may do so by clicking [HERE](#).

Presented by the
North End Ski Club

North
End Classic

25K and 12.5K Classic Technique Races
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2013 • 10:00 AM
START AND FINISH AT NORTH END TRAIL HEAD, CABLE, WI
Fees: \$35 until Jan. 31 • \$40 until Feb. 9 • \$45 on Race Day
Youth Rate (under 18): \$20 in advance - \$25 on Race day

SPECIAL PREMIUM ITEM TO FIRST 200 REGISTERED 25K & 12.5K RACERS
POST-RACE MEAL FOR ALL RACERS

Register on-line at www.signmeup.com/82849
Download a pdf form at www.norwiski.com/pdf/northend-classic.pdf
Info: North End Ski Club, P.O. Box 192, Cable, WI 54821 • (715) 798-3599

A KORTELOPET QUALIFIER!

FINANCIAL UPDATE

The 2011-12 ski year was a financial success for the North End Ski Club. While most of the region suffered poor ski conditions, we had great skiing most of the winter. As a result we had record numbers for the classic race in February and record contributions at the trailhead tube. We ended the year with nearly \$25,000 in our combined accounts. This strong financial position allowed us to finance several much needed projects this fall including the construction of a new secure groomer building and the completion of the classic trail. We were also able to purchase a new pull-behind mower, which we used to get the trails in great shape for skiing (and running). All these projects have reduced our balance to about \$11,000 and we still have to pay for the race and keep the snowmobile/groomer going - so keep those membership dues coming!



Photos by Kelly Ramolphi

NORTH END SKI CLUB

P.O. Box 192
Cable, WI 54821

www.norwiski.com/northend

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Ron Bergin President
- Allison Slavick Vice President
- Kasse Tomasula Secretary
- John Uffenbeck Treasurer
- Lon Anderson Director
- Ron Caple Director
- Mark Jalovick Director



Presented by the North End Ski Club

Sunday, February 10, 2013

25km & 12.5km Classic Races • Cookie Classic Kids Races

Start Time: 10:00 AM • **Start and Finish:** North End Trail Head, Cable, WI

Registration: Sat., Feb. 9, 4:00-7:30 PM & Sun., Feb. 10, 7:30-9:00 AM at the Ideal Market/Rivers Eatery

Food, Age Class Awards & Random Drawing Pick-up following the race at the Ideal Market/Rivers Eatery

PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR OWN CLOTHING BAG FOR WARM-UPS & POST-RACE CLOTHING. BAGS WILL BE TRANSPORTED FROM THE START TO FINISH.

ENTRY FEES: \$35.00 UNTIL JANUARY 31 • \$40.00 UNTIL FEBRUARY 9 • \$45.00 ON RACE DAY
COOKIE CLASSIC IS FREE!!!

YOUTH RATES (UP TO AGE 18): \$20 per person in advance - \$25 per person on race day

SKIER'S RELEASE: I, _____, know that cross country skiing is an action sport carrying significant risk of serious personal injury, death or property damage. I also know that there are natural, mechanical, and environmental conditions and risks which independently or in combination with my activities may cause property damage, or severe or even fatal injuries. I agree that I alone am responsible for my safety while participating in this event. I specifically acknowledge that the following persons or entities including the ski area, the promoters, the sponsors, the organizers, the officials and any agent, representative, officer, director, employee, member or affiliate of any person or entity named above are not responsible for my safety. I specifically **RELEASE** and **DISCHARGE**, in advance, those parties from any and all liability whether known or unknown, even that liability which may arise out of negligence or carelessness on the part of persons or entities mentioned above. I agree to accept all responsibilities for the risks, conditions, and hazards which may occur whether they now be known or unknown. I certify that I am physically fit, have trained sufficiently for participation in this event and have not been advised otherwise by a qualified medical person.

I further agree to forever **HOLD HARMLESS** and **INDEMNIFY** all persons and entities identified above, generally and specially from any and all liability for death, personal injury or property damage, resulting in any way from my participation in this event. **Parent must sign if under age 18.**

Amount Paid _____ 25km Race 12.5km Race COOKIE CLASSIC .5k Race 1k Race 2k Race

Sign Here _____ Date _____
(parent must sign if under 18)

Name _____ Date of Birth ____/____/____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____ Sex: Male Female Age (on 2/10/13) _____

Checks should be payable to: North End Ski Club
 Mail to: North End Ski Club, P.O. Box 192, Cable, WI 54821

For further information: 715/798-3599

MASTER'S TRAINING PROGRAM

Last season the North End Ski Club sponsored a masters training program with coach Bill Pierce of F.A.S.T. Performance Training. A group of 12 skiers enrolled and met weekly throughout the season developing and fine tuning classic and skate technique as well as strength and balance conditioning.

We are pleased to bring this program back again this year. The eight-week program will cost \$200 per person, but the good news is that the North End Ski Club will underwrite a portion of the cost. If you are a Club member, the cost will only be \$100.

Testimonials from several of last year's participants:

Bill's focus is primarily on three areas: balance, strength, and technique. His ability to carefully hone in on the specific changes in one or all three of the focus areas is what makes him the excellent coach that he is. After a few sessions with Bill, assuming you practice what he teaches, you will notice a big difference in your skiing.

Chris McGrath, Hayward

Balance, agility, and strength. Improve these, Coach Pierce told me last December and your skiing will improve. Bill has a fantastic ability to work with a group of Master skiers of varying abilities and help each individual athlete focus on skills needed to improve.

Cindi McGrath, Hayward

After relying on just my conditioning, it was Coach Bill who taught me many little things that offered great rewards. The balance and technique drills that Bill taught made me a more efficient and faster skier, and allowed me to enjoy skiing even more...and helped me get into Wave 1 at the Birkie!

Jon Lindberg, Solon Springs

Training under Bill Pierce was a great experience! Bill introduced drills and activities that could be adapted to all of the participants, no matter what their experience or fitness level. Each person received one-on-one instruction from Bill, as well as an excellent small group practical experience. As a result of training with Bill, I gained a valuable repertoire of tools to be used when skiing, including confidence and an overall great attitude about fitness as a life long endeavor!

Beth Lindberg, Solon Springs

DATES FOR THIS YEAR'S PROGRAM ARE:

December 5, 10, and 18

January 15, 22, and 29

February 5 and 12

The program is limited to 12 people - first come, first served, but if the group fills there may be a possibility of having two sessions back to back grouped by ability.

If you are interested in learning more and registering for the program, visit fastperformancetraining.com or email Bill Pierce at fastperformancetraining@gmail.com.



JOIN US...

And be a part of a great little group of skiers with a big vision for skiing in the area and contribute to the fantastic legacy of recreational trails in the Cable area.

Membership rates:

Individual - \$15

Family - \$25

Business - \$40

Premium - \$75

We don't have a lengthy list of membership benefits but your support helps further our efforts to maintain the trails and the trailhead. We have an assortment of expenses, our insurance premium, for example, this year was \$1,400 - and your membership goes to help offset this and other similar expenses.

Thanks for being a part of the club and for your support. You may fill out and send in the form below, or download a form by clicking [HERE](#).



Photos by Kelly Randolph

North End Ski Club

MEMBERSHIP FORM

All members receive periodic mailings informing them of progress and other developments, invitations to Club ski and other social events, opportunity to vote for the board of directors, opportunity to serve on the board of directors, and opportunity to attend and participate in the Club annual meeting in April. Most of all, you will have the knowledge that you have been part of an historic development, one which will have significant long term benefits, not only for you as a skier, but for the entire Cable area.

- YES! I would like to **RENEW** my membership!
- YES! I would like to become a **NEW** member!

MEMBERSHIP LEVEL:

Individual Member - \$15.00

Family Member - \$25.00

Business Member - \$40.00

Premium Member - \$75.00

I'd like to make an additional donation of \$ _____

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Please clip and mail with your check to: **North End Ski Club**, P.O. Box 192, Cable, WI 54821

Thank You!

WISCONSIN WILDERNESS CAMPUS TO CLOSE

The Wisconsin Wilderness Campus (WWC) on Lake Owen has provided hundreds of hours of volunteer labor on the North End trails and for the North End Classic over the past 15 years. Every fall, once a week from mid-September through early November, a group of three or four or more students has come out to the North End to help work on the trails and perform other tasks around the trailhead. They also provided the youthful muscle to haul our grooming gear to and from storage at the beginning and end of each season.

We were sad to learn that the WWC will be closing at the end of this school year. WWC director Mark Jalovick, a North End board member, and WWC staff member Seth Fisher have been instrumental in helping us get a lot of things done that we would have otherwise struggled to accomplish had we not had the help of the WWC students.



We will not only miss the help we've received from this great group of people, but we will miss their friendship as well.

SPECIAL SUPPORT

The North End Ski Club is pleased to offer support to Hayward skier Jason Suino as he prepares to compete in the Special Olympics World Games in Pyeong Chang, Republic of Korea in January. Jason is one of three Special Olympics Wisconsin athletes selected to be on Team USA and the first from the Hayward area. The Club's donation of \$250 will help offset travel and other expenses.



MARY McHUGH

It is with great sorrow that the North End Ski Club observes the passing of Mary McHugh of Drummond. Mary was the long-time coordinator of the Drummond Nordic Ski Team and also cross country running coach. The North End Ski Club has been a regular supporter of the Drummond Team, which frequently skis out of the North End Trailhead.

Our deepest condolences go out to Mary's husband Steve Thomforde and children Neil and Jenna.

PAINTBALL BIATHLON TO DEBUT MARCH 3 AT THE NORTH END

A new North End Ski Club event will debut this March - Paintball Biathlon. It had been our intent to hold a test event last March to work out the bugs and learn what we needed to know to successfully stage an event of this nature. Unfortunately, Mother Nature blessed us with more snow than we could handle to stage the event and we had to put our plans on hold.

This summer we cooperated with the American Birkebeiner Ski Foundation as they held a run/bike variation of this same event. Much was learned that will be quite helpful as the Club moves forward with its event this season. The most significant thing we learned was that it takes a large number of volunteers to manage the many aspects of the event, specifically the shooting range.

Check out this popular paintball biathlon event at Mountain Top Inn in Vermont.



The North End Paintball event will offer skate and classic skiing as well as snowshoeing divisions coupled with target shooting with paintball guns. There will be separate youth and adult courses. Presently the start/finish area and shooting range is planned for the Birkie Trail powerline where we start the North End Classic.

The event will be held on Sunday, March 3 to avoid conflicts with other area races. In this first year the event will be limited to 100 participants. Additional information will be released as the season progresses.

