

The Snow Walkers' Gazette

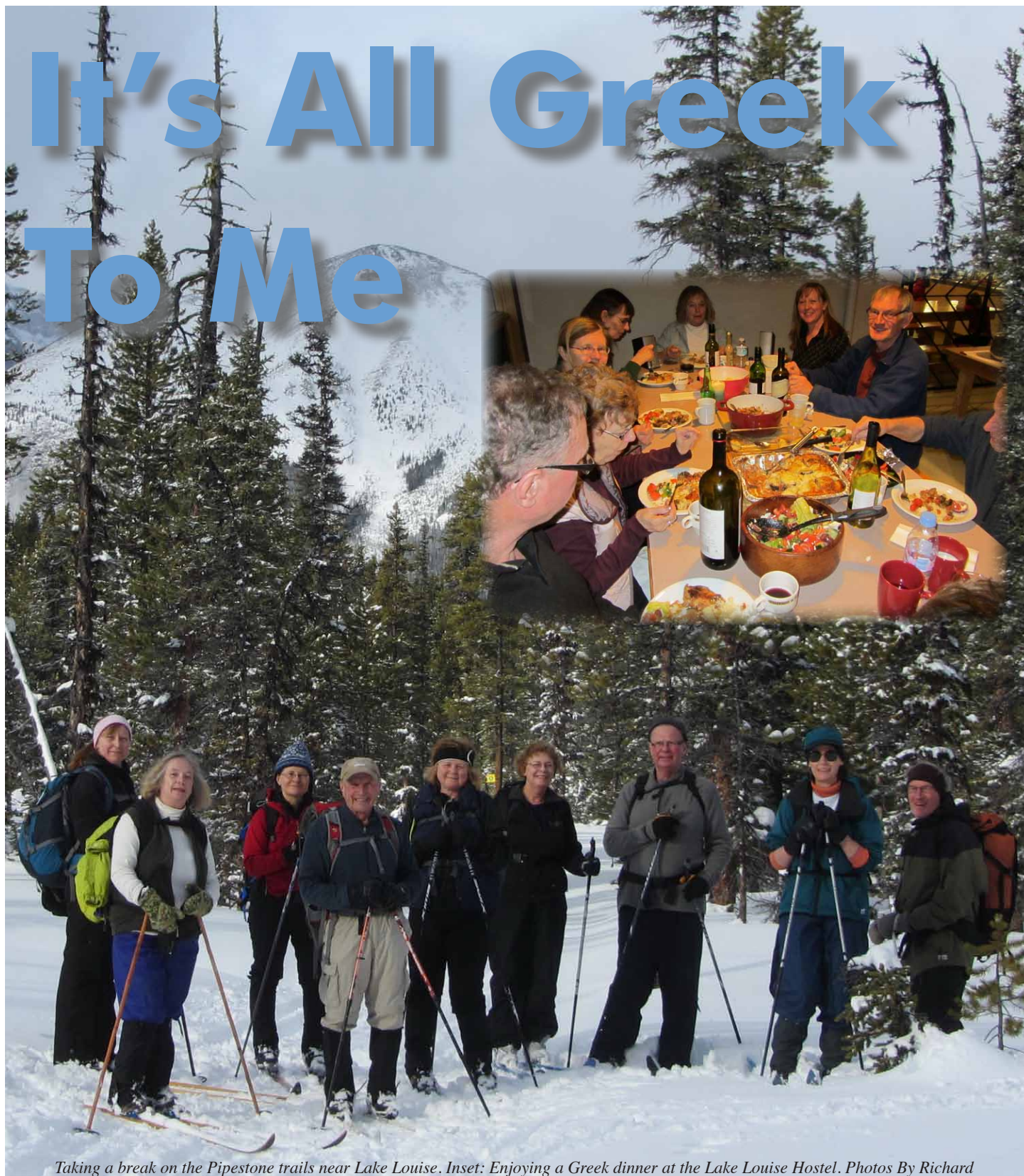
Volume 33 Issue 5

Periodic Newsletter of the Parkland X-C Ski Club

February 1, 2012



❄ Next Meeting: February 14, 7:30 PM at Kerry Wood Nature Centre



Taking a break on the Pipestone trails near Lake Louise. Inset: Enjoying a Greek dinner at the Lake Louise Hostel. Photos By Richard

Parkland Ski Club Executive 2011/2012

The activities and affairs of the Parkland XC Ski Club are managed by elected club volunteers, usually for a minimum term of two years. All club members are expected to take a turn at these leadership positions.

President: Vance Buchwald	403-346-3934	vbuchwald@shaw.ca
Vice President: Kelly Bogle	403-343-3882	rkbogle@telusplanet.net
Past President: Don Wales	403-343-2937	donmarie@telusplanet.net
Treasurer: Dick Pawloff	403-347-3658	dpawloff@telusplanet.net
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Mountain Tour Director: Richard Townell	403-340-0050	rtownell@gmail.com
Day Tour Director: Linda Dickin	403-342-1913	ltdickin@shaw.ca
Publicity Director/Archives: Sandy Vrandenburgh	403-352-0864	wayuphigh@shaw.ca
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Social Director: Debby Davies	403-782-0991	ddavies@wolfcreek.ab.ca
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Website Guy: Brian Davies	403-227-4409	bcdavies@telusplanet.net

Contact Us

Web

www.parklandxcskiclub.org

Newsletter

Steve Bennett 403-227-3913

Steve@BentechAPS.com

This includes Trip Reports!!!

Mail

Parkland Cross Country Ski Club
Box 21014 BPO Bower Place
Red Deer, AB, T4N 5E7 Canada

Contact the Tour Leader to join a trip

Cost of a Trip

Cost per Weekend

Hostel or Hut Cost noted in Tour Schedule. This is typically \$54 for people that require a beacon, probe and a shovel.

\$8/weekend for safety equipment :

\$5 for an approved avalanche

beacon + \$2 for an approved snow

shovel + \$2 for avalanche probe.

Car Pooling

The passengers share car-pooling costs.

The driver's share consists of the use of his car and the driving.

Longer trips

Longer trips and those on the icefields cost more. Contact the Tour Leader for information.

Tour Leaders 2011/2012

Vance Buchwald	403-346-3934	vbuchwald@shaw.ca
Margo Coppel / George Coppel	403-281-3573	margo@coppel.ca
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Don Wales / Marie Willett	403-343-2937	donmarie@telusplanet.net
Frank Weber	403-346-2916	frankyogi@live.ca
Karen Weisgerber	403-887-4028	kweisgerber@wolfcreek.ab.ca

HELP NEEDED! Volunteers required to lead day tours in the local area and the mountains.

Please check your calendars and call Linda at 403-342-1913 so I can add your tour to the schedule.

2011/2012 Mountain Tour, Day Tour & Events Schedule

Contact the Tour Leader to sign up for a trip

Date	Day Trip / Tour	Accommodation	Tour Leader / Assistant	Max# of Tourers	Difficulty Level	Hut / Hostel Cost
Feb 17-19	Tonquin Valley	Athabasca Hostel & Tonquin Lodge	Margo Coppus George Coppus	12	Strong Intermediate	\$19
Feb 18-25	Blanket Glacier	Blanket Hut	Vance Buchwald Brian Davies	16		\$1040
Feb 24,25	Saskatchewan Toe	Rampart	Jeff Kirtzinger Debby Davies	16	Strong Beginner	\$38
Mar 2,3	Family Fun Tour	Ribbon Creek	John Duke Jenni Duke	20	Beginner	\$38
Mar 2,3	Helen Lake/Cirque Peak	Mosquito Creek	Karen Weisgerber Steve Davies	15	Strong Beginner	\$38
Mar 9,10	Paradise Valley	Lake Louise	Marilyn Strilchuk Richard Townell	20	Beginner	\$60.80
Mar 16,17	Boulder Pass	Lake Louise	Greg Olson Jane Davies	16	Intermediate	\$60.80
Mar 23-25	Assiniboine	Assiniboine (Nacet Huts)	Margo Coppus George Coppus	12	Intermediate	\$50.00 Heli \$150.00
Mar 30,31	Lake O'Hara Road	Castle	Pat Gleason			\$38
Apr 13,14	TL & Executive Weekend	TBA				\$

Mountain Tours are extended back country tours of the Rockies, open to all club members, with two or more nights in a hostel or snow cave. Tours are designed for all ability levels and are led by Tour Leaders with extensive training and experience in leading groups on safe winter trips in the Rockies. Note: The Mountain Tour dates shown on the above table are the nights booked in the Hostel.

Day Tours are open to both club members and potential members so everyone is welcome to enjoy the day tour, share information about the club, get to know one another, talk about equipment, learn how to wax your skis, develop skiing skills and have fun. Some ski areas may require a fee to ski the trails, each individual skier is responsible for their fee.

"IT'S ALL GREEK TO ME"

Tour leaders, Richard and Marilyn took nine of us on a beginners' tour of the trails near Lake Louise, January 28-29. The skiers were: Frank, Trudy, Sally, Lorna, Dianne, Karen, and three new members, Sheila, Marilyn and Robert. The camaraderie and support for each other was evident in our group throughout the weekend.

We stayed at the Lake Louise Hostel which was a great experience – modern and clean. The restaurant attached to the Hostel provided tasty and economical food and refreshments, not that we ate there, but happy hour was irresistible for some.

On Saturday, at 9:30 am we left the Hostel to ski just over 13 km on the Pipestone and Hector Trails. Though the trails had not been set, they were in good condition with lots of fresh snow and a skier-set track. The heavy snow on the trees and the views of the lakes made for a truly memorable experience. We finished skiing at about 2 pm and returned to the hostel.



Saturday night we celebrated, to the muted sound of Greek tavern music, with a pretty authentic Greek feast which included appetizers, soup and Greek salad, main courses such as moussaka, souvlaki and ratatouille and desserts of baklava and apple pie. Greek wine complimented the meal and Ouzo crowned it. After the meal, each person presented their adopted ancient Greek character amidst lots of laughs and discussion. We anointed Sheila our Greek princess in recognition of her amazing performance as a first-time skier.

On Sunday we left just after 9:30 AM and skied a 7.5 km loop which included parts of the Moraine Lake, the Fairview and the Tramline Trails. During the ski, we stopped for lunch and viewed the Ice Sculptures at Chateau Lake Louise. We were back at the parking lot by 2PM and departed for home.

The ski conditions for the entire weekend were excellent! Blue-purple was generally the wax of choice.

From a newcomer's point of view, it was a fantastic time! OPA!

JJ Collett Natural Area Trails

JJ Collett Natural Area have put aside a few of their trails for x-country skiing so get out and enjoy them to show your appreciation.

www.jjcollett.org/images/jjcollett_trailmap.pdf

www.jjcollett.org



Warm weather and great snow lead to fantastic skiing, big smiles and a few crashes on the Hilda Yo-Yo Tour

