

UP SLOPE

Newsletter of the NORDIC Ski Touring Section of PATC



Visit Us On the WEB at <http://www.patcslotouring.us>

November 2021

UpComing Attractions In Winter UP SLOPE

- Ski Trips and Reports
- YOUR ski stories

Ski Fair Returns In Altered Form



The traditional PATC-STS Ski Fair will once again kick off the XC-ski season, albeit in a slightly altered form: It will take place later in the month on **Saturday, November 20, from 1 to 4 PM**. It will also be held at a different location—The Overlee Community Association on Lee Highway (see below for address). Unlike previous Ski Fairs, this one focuses on just two topics: Signing up for the 2021-22 ski season trips and reuniting with old friends and new from the XC ski community!

Inside this issue:
(blue links are live)

The roster of trips offered this year is briefer than in year's past, and will be organized in a different way based on the realities of the COVID pandemic. First, for many of the trips, you will have to make your own travel AND lodging reservations, and who you share them

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Now for Something COMPLETELY DIFFERENT: Come out for the SKI FAIR! New Date! New Location!

We WILL be having our traditional Ski Fair on Saturday, NOVEMBER 20 from 1 PM to 4 PM at the **Arlington Aquatics Club (Overlee Community Association, 6030 Lee Hwy, Arlington, VA 22205) on US Route 29**. The venue is one large space, with wide doors that open both sides for cross ventilation. Because of the change in venue, the agenda for the Ski Fair will be somewhat different than in the past:

- * YOU are the main attraction! Meet and greet fellow STS members that you haven't been able to see IN PERSON for a long while. **Masks are required.**
- * Signups for the season's ski trips will be at tables throughout the room (bring your calendar, pen and check book to sign up for these trips on the spot).
- * Refreshments consisting of food, wine and beer will be provided, and YOUR potluck contributions of salads and desserts are appreciated.
- * A ski gear swap area will be provided, so bring your old gear to sell or swap.
- * Slide shows of past ski trips will be shown continuously on a screen in one corner of the room.
- * There will be NO educational presentations due to a lack of separate rooms for presentations.



STS Officers

Chair

Rob Swennes
H: 703-532-6101
robertswennes@hotmail.com



2021 and the upcoming 2022 are not 2020. We all have our stories and memories about how horrific, troubling, disorienting (you pick the adjective) 2020 was and how much it disrupted our desires to ski late in the 2020 winter season and during the winter a year later.

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FROM THE SLOPES – Chair Notes

Put all that aside. The upcoming 2021-22 winter season is where we should focus and get our lives back. The Ski Touring Section leadership is setting up ski trips during the coming winter that have YOU in mind. Some likely will be local trips out to Canaan Valley, Garrett County Maryland, and the Laurel Highlands of Pennsylvania. Others will be excursion trips to more distant points in New York, New England, Colorado, and other high Western locations known for their enticing snowfalls. If you want to set up a Section trip for the coming winter and have not yet done so, call/text Ron and Jan Tucker as soon as possible. If new to trip leading, we can link you up to other STS trip leaders who can provide mentor guidance.

We will have a Ski Fair in November, but it will be later than usual (November 20th) and in a different location in Northern Virginia (Arlington vs. Vienna). PATC is still restricting use of its headquarters for large gatherings. We will be meeting at an Arlington aquatics club (Overlee Community Association) on US Route 29. Yesterday the route was called Lee Highway. Tomorrow it will be called Langston Boulevard. The address is shown online thus far is 6030 Lee Highway. ZIP code is 22205. So factor all this in when setting up your driving directions. Note that the Fair will begin at 1 PM, an hour later than in the past.

Ski Fair this year will be a mix of what we've done in the past at Ski Fair and the Après Ski social event we traditionally hold in April. Hey, we deserve having a good time! The Overlee club room is much larger than the PATC HQ, so there's plenty of room to spread out and talk.

There are two main goals of this year's Fair:

- (1) Get you to sign up for the upcoming ski trips of your choice, and
- (2) Find out how you have been doing since we last met!

The Ski Touring Section is many things, and one of them is a social organization. We've shared many adventures and good times on skis and snowshoes in the past. There will be food. There will be wine and beer (unlike at PATC HQ). There will be **facemasks**. Yes, please bring your facemasks along. Wear them as long as you feel comfortable. We expect to have the ski trip sheets and the food and drink on opposite sides of the club room with plenty of space in between. It will be a memorable time, particularly if YOU are there!

Yours in Snow,

Rob Swennes
Chair, PATC-STS

Winter Forecasts for Skiers



2021-22 WINTER OUTLOOK

Frosty Flip-Flop Winter



precipitation compared to January, a significant drop-off. But that doesn't necessarily mean that storminess will be completely absent.

We're forecasting a "winter whopper" for parts of the Northeast and Ohio Valley toward the end of February. Another "atmospheric hemorrhage" from the Pacific could lash most of the far West, with everything from strong winds to heavy rains and snow.

March will see close to normal precipitation nationwide. But in a sense, March will be a microcosm of the entire winter. From start to finish, the month will be full of stretches of uneventful weather, but when it turns stormy, the precipitation will come in big doses. For the East and Midwest, for example, a late winter storm will blow in at mid-month followed by a nor'easter along the East Coast toward month's end.

Check it out at

<https://www.farmersalmanac.com/extended-forecast>

On the other hand, the unfortunate news is that NOAA is projecting above average temperatures for most of the Northeast throughout the winter of 2021-22. "Consistent with typical La Niña conditions during winter months, we anticipate below-normal temperatures along portions of the northern tier of the U.S. while much of the South experiences above-normal temperatures," said Jon Gottschalch, chief, Operational Prediction Branch, NOAA's Climate Prediction Center.

The Pacific Northwest, northern Rockies, Great Lakes and parts of the Ohio Valley and western Alaska have the greatest chances for wetter-than-average conditions.

Since long-range forecasts are rarely accurate or useful for finding great snow, here is a quick recap of strategies for finding the deepest powder:

- 1) Live in a location that's close to mountains with the deepest snow.
- 2) If you can't live close to deep powder, wait until 7-10 days before booking your trip.
- 3) Even if you wait until 7-10 days before booking your trip, consider only booking to a general area.
- 4) If you have to book a trip far in advance, pick locations that statistics show have the deepest powder.

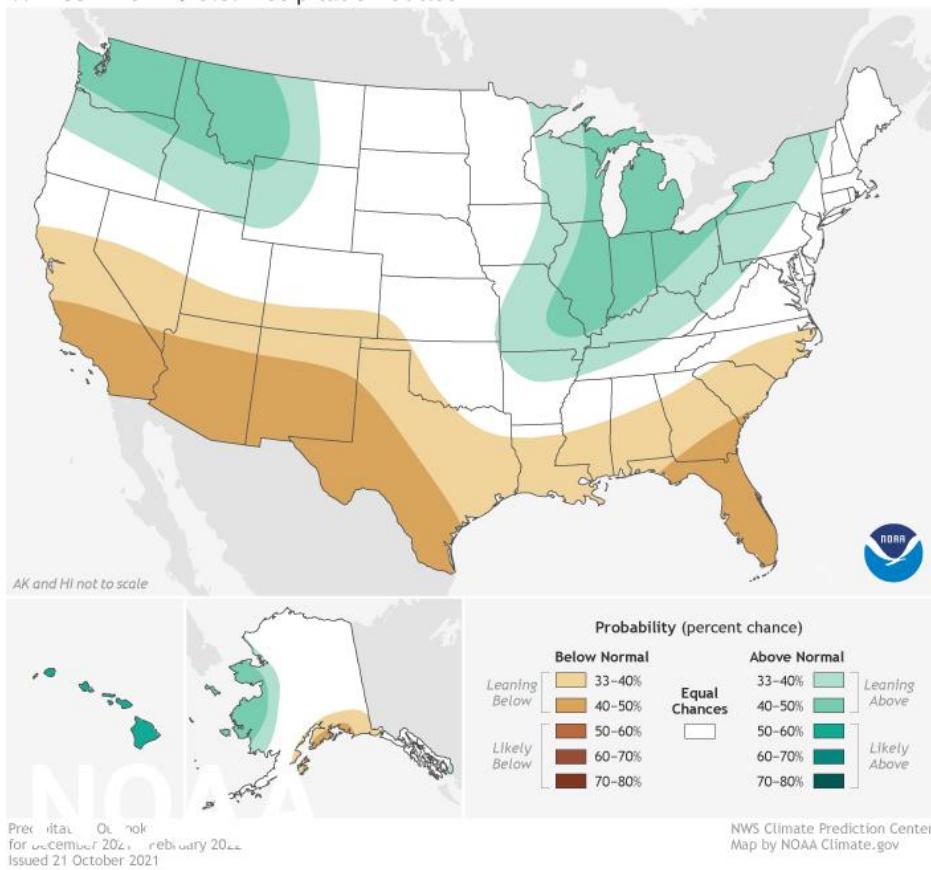
Snow Days Ahead

According to the Farmers' Almanac's time-tested weather formula, there will be snow, but probably not as much as a snow-sport enthusiasts might dream of. On average, we'll see near-normal amounts of the white stuff from coast to coast. However, there will be notable month-to-month variations.

Winter's chill will start gradually. In January, temperatures will start out mild for much of the country but will trend toward colder conditions during the middle to latter part of the month. But overall, the month will be stormy, especially along the Atlantic Seaboard where an active storm track will lead to a stretch of precipitation in various forms: rain, snow, sleet, and ice.

In sharp contrast, February will average out to be a much quieter month in terms of storminess across much of the nation. In the eastern-third of the country, for example, we calculate that on average there will be 57% fewer days of measurable snow days ahead.

Winter 2021: U.S. Precipitation Outlook



Winter Forecasts for Skiers (cont.)

(Continued from page 3)

5) If you can't execute any of the above strategies, change your expectations for your ski trip.

Download the [OpenSnow app](#) and stay tuned to our forecasts for the latest weather updates.

See <https://opensnow.com/news/post/noaa-s-2021-2022-winter-forecast>

WARNING: [Long-range forecasts are rarely accurate](#). These forecasts cover three months but we know that skiing quality improves and degrades with storm cycles that last a few days to a week. Paying attention to the 1-10 day forecast ([All-Access only](#)) is the way that you'll find powder and give you the best information for your weekend trip or destination ski vacation.



All we really know for sure is that you ALL have to

THINK SNOW!!



In Memorium



Rob

PATC-STS wishes to note the passing of Rich Galloway in September. Rich was an active member of the Ski Touring Section and the PATC for many years. His main enjoyment was the Section's excursion trips to ski venues both across the U.S. and in Europe. When he was not skiing he could often be found pursuing his study of craft beers in the brew pubs near where we were staying. He would order a sampling of each of the beers the brew pub crafted, line them up in the appropriate order from light to heavy (ending in Stout), and then taste them in that order, making written notes on the qualities of each beer. He was never so happy as when doing his beer ratings. Rich had strong interests in several other aspects of life (one being clematis flowers). He was a Renaissance man. We will miss him. His obituary is [here](#).

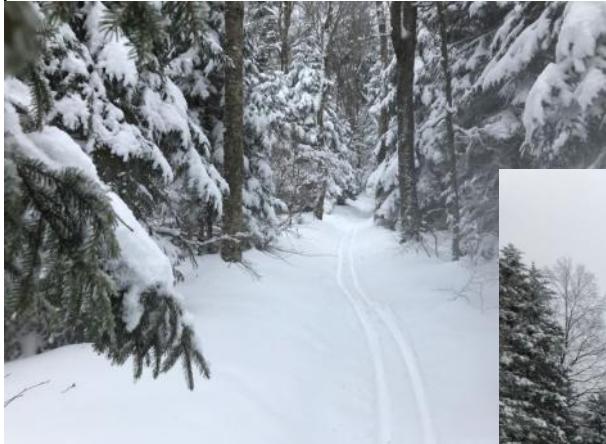


Skiing at Whitegrass in February 2021

By Dick Simmons

Here are a few shots of the wonderful conditions at Whitegrass last February. Mark Marszal and I skied from Whitegrass to Canaan and took the single ride chair to the top. The trail from the top of Canaan had one fresh track and beautiful snow-covered trees all around. Pipeline was great as well. That's a challenging route that can have everything from deep powder to groomed runs. We ran into Ralph Heimlich, Steve Jarvis, Jack Kangas, Doug and Marcie Schubert, Yvonne Thayer, and Diana Weil on the trails at Whitegrass.

For the downhillers in the group – the new owners of Timberline have made MAJOR improvements. It now has a new high speed six pack lift, expanded snowmaking and renovated Lodge. Really nice. This year they did not offer a single ride Nordic lift ticket. Hoping that will change.



Canaan XC trail photo by Dick Simmons



Dick and Mark on Powderline photo by Dick Simmons

Info on Groups.io Listserv

Given the continuing COVID-19 pandemic situation challenging the operation of social groups of all stripes, staying connected with the aid of internet-hosted tools and platforms is more important than ever. Fortunately, PATC-STS successfully migrated from the dying Yahoo groups platform in early 2020. Our new "listserv" is hosted by groups.io, which offers a less clunky user interface than Yahoo and has operated smoothly for us in almost a year (your MEMBERSHIP DUES help to pay for it ... it isn't free).

The STS group is reachable at the address <https://groups.io/g/PATC-STS>. The user interface has, apart from one exception discussed below, all basic operations front and center. "Log In" and "Sign Up" appear upon first entry, and "post", "subscribe" and "unsubscribe" are handy buttons on the "home" dropdown. Postings are available for perusal via the "messages" dropdown.

The one function that gave subscribers trouble during last season was the classical "reply to all" versus "reply to sender" choice, a matter of group mailing list etiquette that occasionally leads to subscriber annoyance. At the bottom of any posting, see the options gathered under the heading "Groups.io Links": "You receive all messages sent to this group. View/Reply Online (#797) | Reply To Group | Reply To Sender | Mute This Topic | New Topic | Your Subscription | Contact Group Owner | Unsubscribe"

Particularly note "reply to group" and "reply to sender". "Mute this topic" is also helpful. If you simply execute an email client reply, your response goes to the whole group and you may not intend and/or want that.

Doug Lesar

Ski Fair Returns (cont.)

(Continued from page 1)

with will be up to you as the participant. The days when the trip leader made all reservations and assigned rooms and car pooling are OVER. Second, you will be required to pay your travel and lodging expenses directly to the provider in most cases, rather than to the trip leader. Third, most require proof of vaccination be submitted for participation.

Ski Fair is also an opportunity to renew memberships and to sign up for new membership. See Doug Lesar when you come and bring your checkbook.

While these arrangements are not the same as in the past, we believe we can have a safe and happy ski season in 2021-22 by observing these changes and taking a few common-sense precautions. Come and hear more, discuss with the trip leaders and meet and greet your ski friends at the 2021-22 SKI FAIR!

PATC-STS Ski Trip Guidelines for 2021-22 Season

The Ski Touring Section's leadership met in September to discuss plans for this coming winter season. After some back and forth, the group endorsed the guidelines below. We are referring to this winter's ski trips as "winter lite" in that several of the responsibilities that would normally be arranged by the STS's trip leader will devolve to the individual trip participants so that the adult participants can make their own public health decisions. The main elements are:

Waivers:

- * This year the waiver form includes a provision specifically acknowledging the pandemic situation and the participant's responsibility to follow public health guidance.
- * Those intending to ski outside the region on an STS ski trip must also sign a separate PATC waiver of liability form.
- * These completed forms must be in the trip leader's hands before the applicant can be considered as a participant on the trip.

Lodging:

- * Trip participants may stay overnight in motel rooms, cabins or cottage/house rentals, arranged by the trip leader, to be shared by multiple individuals.
- * Participants are presumed to be intending to overnight one individual per motel room unless the trip leader is notified by particular participants that they intend to room together.
- * The trip leader will recommend a motel to the trip participants, but participants may overnight at a different motel if they so choose and identify their intention to the trip leader accordingly.
- * It was suggested at our meeting that the trip leader should direct the planned participants to call the motel themselves to reserve their own desired rooms, rather than having the trip leader assume that responsibility (again, winter lite). Alternatively the trip leader can reserve a group of rooms and ask the participants to make their reservations through the motel based on this group of rooms. If a participant does not make a reservation prior to the cut off date for reserving a spot in the group of rooms, the participant will be responsible for making his reservation at that motel or some other motel.
- * Trip participants are expected to adhere to current social distancing and facemask requirements when inside any building or other structure.

Transportation and Meals:

- * Trip participants are expected to arrange their own transportation from home to the skiing area and also around the skiing venue. The trip leader may offer suggestions to aid the participant, but he cannot mandate that a trip participant use a particular mode of travel.
- * The presumption will be that the individual skier will use his own vehicle on the trip. The trip leader will ask to be informed of what transportation means the participant will use so that the leader has that information. The trip leader will also ask to be informed if a participant decides to travel with another participant.
- * Skiers who are signed up for the STS ski trip will make their own meal arrangements. Historically STS skiers have made lunches in the morning to eat while on the ski trails that day, so many skiers will purchase their food items at local grocery stores. Whether the skiers will have breakfast included with their motel stay depends on the terms of the lodging agreement. The STS trip leader will not make dining arrangements as a part of planned trip. Each skier will make his/her own meal arrangements. The trip leader will not make a group meal reservation for the ski group. If group members decide on their own to dine together in a restaurant, that's their decision to make and not the responsibility of the Ski Touring Section or the PATC.

Skiing Activity:

- * Skiing on the scheduled trips is the least concerning part of the activities from a public health standpoint. The sport is conducted outside, with a hefty amount of distance between individual skiers on the trail. Skiers on the trail are usually separated by a minimum of 10 feet and may be separated by many times that distance.
- * Skiers on the STS trips are expected to bring along each day a facemask covering both nose and mouth.
- * Skiers are expected to mask up before entering any building, such as a ski touring center or a remote cabin along the trail.

PATC-STS XC-Ski Schedule 2021-22

Date	Place	Leader
ASAP	Ski Trip Descriptions for newsletter.	Ralph Heimlich
Nov 20	Ski Fair, VA. Trip Leader Workshop	
Nov 13-14	Work Trip, Whitegrass, WV	Lynn Yates
Dec ? – Jan 2		
Dec 30 – Jan 2 New Years		
Jan 7/8-9		
Jan 7 – 27 snow dependent	New Hampshire	Robert Swennes
Jan 13/14-17 MLK Weekend		
Jan 21/22 - 23		
Jan 25 - 28	Blackwater Falls SP Cabins, WV	Ralph Heimlich
Jan 28 - 30	Laurel Highlands Area, PA	Greg Westernik
Feb 4/5 - 6		
Feb 5 – 21 snow dependent	Dillon, CO	Robert Swennes
Feb 7 – 10	Lapland Lake, NY	Ralph Heimlich
Feb 11/12 - 13		
Feb 18 - 20	Laurel Highlands	Greg Westernik
Feb 18 – 21 Pres Day Weekend	Blackwater Falls SP Lodge, WV	Bert Finkelstein
Feb 25/26 - 27		
Mar 4 - 7	Maine High Peaks, ME	Joe Bachman

Dates—Nov 13-14, 2021. TRIP IS FULL. White Grass Work Trip.

Lodging—Norton's House at Timberline.

Description—Limited access work trip on White Grass property prior to the ski season.

Leader—Lynn Yates.

Cost—NA

Dates—Dec 29-Jan 2, 2022 (Wed-Sunday, 4 nights) Ring In 2022 At Laurel Highlands PA area XC ski Mini-Week (cancels if no snow) .

Lodging—Best Western SureStory Plus in Somerset PA

Description—Join fellow Nordic skiers getting ski legs in shape for 2022 while gliding at usual and less-traveled favorites in the Highlands of SW PA (e.g., Laurel Mtn, Laurel Ridge, Roaring Run, North Woods, Laurel Hill) with more kms of trails and choices than time for event. We will enjoy \$0 to \$10 budget-busting trail use fees, and maybe first crack if STC reopens at Laurel Mtn. **Leader**— Greg Westernik at 571-575-0695, gwmwester@gmail.com.

Cost—\$260/applicant (single occupancy includes 2 beds in room, only lodging and free continental breakfasts).

Dates—Jan 7-27, 2022 (Window depending on snow conditions). No Cancellation. New Hampshire's White Mountains.

Lodging—White Trellis Motel, North Conway, NH (<https://www.whitetrellismotel.com/>) Skiers will make their own room reservations and travel arrangements. NOTE: Proof of vaccination required.

Description—Ski one of the most scenic venues on the East Coast--the White Mountains of N.H. at cross-country ski touring centers such as Jackson (<http://www.jacksonxc.org/>), Bretton Woods <http://mtwashington.com/xcountryski/>) and Bear Notch (http://www.xcskinh.com/bear_notch.cfm) in Bartlett, NH. Many backcountry ski and snowshoe trails are in the area, such as near the AMC lodge at Pinkham Notch and the various ski centers.

Leader—Rob Swennes, 703-405-8232, robertswennes@hotmail.com

Cost—\$400-450, depending on skier's reservations and arrangements.

Dates—Jan 25-28, 2022 (Tuesday to Friday, 3 nights). No Cancellation. Blackwater Falls, WV

Lodging—Blackwater Falls Deluxe Cabin. NOTE: Proof of vaccination required.

Description—Deluxe cabins sit on the north side of the park and are all four-bedroom units with two full bathrooms, gas fire-

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Snow Shoe At Catoctin Mountain Park

By Ralph Heimlich

There was enough snow last winter (February 2021) to make an outing to Catoctin Mountain Park (near Thurmont, MD) for some impromptu snow shoeing. Accompanied by STS members Bela Mariassy and Suzanne Farace, I led a short hike from the Visitor Center along the Hog Rock trail to Cunningham Falls, then up to the Blue Ridge Summit and back along Park Central Road. The snow was deep enough that it would have been a challenging bushwhack on skis, but was easy with snow shoes. Unfortunately, the nice, smooth downhill along Park Central Road would have been better with skis!



Selfie at Hog Rock photo by Ralph Heimlich



Bela at the Summit photo by Ralph Heimlich

STS Membership Dues Holiday IS OVER!

The COVID-19 pandemic curtailed the STS activity season for winter 2020-21 and membership dues were waived for all members current at that season start. In Fall 2020, all paid up memberships were advanced a full year beyond their expiration dates. Although pandemic recovery progress has been uneven in the US, the STS officer board has decided to restart activities for 2021-22, albeit with precautions. It is therefore appropriate to restart a normal membership renewal cycle.

In coming weeks, via email addresses of record, I will notify all members of their STS enrollment status with membership expiration dates specified. Some will have memberships paid in advance beyond 1/31/21 but status will be provided for information. Instructions and the appropriate form for membership renewal reside in the MEMBERSHIP page of the STS web site at <https://patcskitouring.us/>.

Doug Lesar
PATC-STS membership coordinator and recordskeeper

Ski Schedule (cont.)

(Continued from page 7)

place, full kitchen with dishwasher, laundry machines, flat -screen televisions, WiFi, and cable-TV. Two bedrooms with one queen-sized bed each, and two bedrooms with two twin beds each. Both bathrooms have showers. We will share responsibility for dinners. Ski at White Grass, Blackwater Falls State Park, and Canaan Valley State Park. Enjoy the indoor pool and hot tub at the lodge to soothe those muscles after a long day of skiing.

Leader—Ralph Heimlich, heimlichfamily@comcast.net

Cost—\$120 lodging only, double occupancy based on 8 people.

Dates—Jan 28-30, 2022 (Friday-Sunday, 2 nights) Cancels if no snow. Laurel Highlands PA area XC Ski.

Lodging—Best Western SureStory Plus in Somerset PA

Description—Join fellow Nordic skiers gliding at usual and less-traveled favorites in the Highlands of SW PA (e.g., Laurel Mtn, Laurel Ridge, Roaring Run, North Woods, Laurel Hill) with more kms of trails and choices than time for event. Still the one with \$0 to \$10 budget-busting trail use fees and walk option to meals from the lodging. Way cooler right before Olympics!

Leader—Greg Westernik at 571-575-0695 and gmwester@gmail.com.

Cost—\$140/applicant (single occupancy with 2 beds in room, only lodging and free continental breakfasts)

Dates—Feb 5-21, 2022 (Window depending on snow conditions). No Cancellation. Summit County, CO.

Lodging—Best Western Ptarmigan Inn, Dillon, CO (https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotels-in-dillon/best-western-ptarmigan-lodge/propertyCode.06098.html) Skiers will make their own room reservations and travel arrangements. NOTE: Proof of vaccination required.

Description—As those who have done Alpine or Nordic skiing out West know, elevation is everything. Summit County, Colorado has become a mecca for both types of skiing since the county's base elevation is around 9,000 feet. The county is blessed with both high peaks for downhill skiing and broad areas of rolling countryside and backcountry for cross-country enthusiasts. There are also at least three Nordic ski touring centers nearby. Both types of skiing and also snowshoeing available. The county is less than a two-hour drive from Denver on I-70. Lodging is in rooms with two double or queen beds and includes a daily continental breakfast. Large hot tub and sauna available. Small refrigerator in each room.

Leader—Rob Swennes, 703-405-8232, robertswennes@hotmail.com

Cost—\$600, not including air or ground transportation, depending on skier's reservations.

Dates—Feb 7-10, 2022 (Monday-Thursday, 3 nights). No Cancellation. Lapland Lake, NY Ski Resort .

Lodging—Rental Tupa (house) NOTE: Proof of vaccination required.

Description—Staying on a XC-ski resort with 44 km of groomed ski trails and an hour to Garnet Hill trails, Gore Mountain and Oak Mountain (downhill resorts). House has full kitchen and we will share dinner responsibilities. Best for couples based on the accommodations. <https://www.laplandlake.com/>

Leader—Ralph Heimlich at heimlichfamily@comcast.net.

Cost—\$230 per person, double occupancy, lodging and meals, for 10 people.

Dates—Feb 18-20, 2022 (Friday-Sunday, 2 nights) Cancels if no snow. Laurel Highlands PA area XC Ski.

Lodging—Best Western SureStory Plus in Somerset PA

Description—Ring in the end of 2022 Winter Olympics with fellow Nordic skiers gliding at usual and less-traveled favorites in the Highlands of SW PA (e.g., Laurel Mtn, Laurel Ridge, Roaring Run, North Woods, Laurel Hill) with more kms of trails and choices than time for event. Still the one with \$0 to \$10 budget-busting trail use fees and walk option to meals from the lodging.

Leader—Greg Westernik at 571-575-0695 and gmwester@gmail.com.

Cost—\$140/applicant (single occupancy with 2 beds in room, only lodging and free continental breakfasts)

Dates—Feb 18-21 (Friday-Monday, President's Weekend). Cancels if no snow. Blackwater Falls Ski/Snowshoe.

Lodging—Blackwater Falls Lodge

Description—Want to try something different this winter? Go places that are off-limits to you on cross-country skis? How about snowshoeing in Canaan Valley / Blackwater Falls? We'll warm up with some easy trails and then tackle some that you might not want to ski on but are fun on snowshoes. If you can walk the trails without snow, you can snowshoe the trails with snow.

Leader—Bert Finkelstein, bertanamo@gmail.com or (703) 282-0170

Cost—Dependent on pricing and willingness to share rooms.

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Ski Schedule (cont.)

Dates—Feb 18-21 (Friday-Monday, President's Weekend). Ski-Dance Weekend, Laurel Highlands

NOTE: The Ski Dance Weekend is NOT a PATC-STS trip but is listed for STS member's information.

Lodging—Camp Sequanota. Note: Proof of vaccination required.

Description—Cross-country, snow shoe, or Alpine ski in the Laurel Highlands of Pennsylvania during the day and contra dance at night! Janine Smith will have you moving to the music of Dave Wiesler and Mat Clark.

Leader—For more information call Bob Mathis at 240-858-9341, talibob@starpower.net.

Cost—Prices range from \$95 to \$300 depending on your accommodations.

Dates—Mar 4-7, 2022 (Friday-Monday). Maine High Peaks Region Ski and Snowshoe.

Lodging—Participants are responsible for their own lodging reservations in Maine's Carrabassett Valley motels/hotels. Note: Proof of vaccination required.

Description—Skiing venues in the area include Nordic centers with groomed trails at the Sugarloaf ski area (<http://www.sugarloaf.com/activities-and-nightlife/outdoor-center>) and in Rangeley (<http://rangeleylaketrailscenter.com>). Maine Huts and Trails (<https://mainehuts.org>) has an 80-mile network of groomed backcountry trails with huts where one can stay and where day-trippers can buy a hot lunch. There are other ungroomed backcountry trails for skiing and snowshoeing.

Leader—Joseph Bachman 410-446-8501 joseph.bachman@verizon.net

Cost—\$400-450, not including airfare and car rental costs.

Thanks from the Whitegrass Work Trip Participants



White Grass Work Trip 2019

Starting in 2009 when he saw that participants in the work trips to get White Grass ready slept in tents, our vehicles, or on the floor of the White Grass lodge, Jim Norton volunteered his house at the Timberline resort.

PATC-STS would like to give a shout out to Jim Norton, CEO of Advanced Simulation Technology inc. (ASTi) of Herndon, Virginia. For the past 12 years, Jim Norton has generously provided his company's Timberline house for participants of STS's annual White Grass trails maintenance work weekend. Participants assist Chip Chase and his crew one weekend in November with renewing, clearing and sometimes rerouting of drainage ditches, clearing trails of fallen trees and other obstructions, cutting firewood, repairing and replacing bridges over seeps and drainages, and other assorted tasks. Mr. Norton's generosity has contributed to keeping this tradition going each year.

Thanks,

Lynn Yates

Are YOU in the Picture?

PATC-Ski Touring Section
c/o Doug Lesar
2507 Campbell Place



To:

PATC Ski Touring Section Membership Form

The PATC/STS provides quality services and benefits to its cross-country skiing members while promoting and supporting the PATC and cross country skiing in general. Whether a novice, recreational, citizen racer or telemark skier, STS has something for every XC skier. Imagine yourself floating on the snow, climbing across hill and dale in the quiet of winter, stopping for lunch in brilliant sunshine on a vista with a view of snow-covered ridges and valleys stretching to the horizon, and then making a descent back to home. Our membership enjoys ski touring in the hills with the comradeship and safety of a group. When you become a member, you receive all issues of the club's newsletter UPSLOPE and other useful information. UPSLOPE is published 3-5 times a year by PATC/Ski Touring Section, a non-profit, educational and recreational group of cross-country skiing enthusiasts based in the Maryland, DC, Virginia, PA and West Virginia areas. UPSLOPE provides information about STS trips and events (e.g., Learn-To-XC-Ski weekends, Telemark instructional clinics, and mini-week ski trips). One year membership runs from October 1st through September 30th of the next year. If you join in April or later, your one year membership will run through September of the next year. To insure uninterrupted membership for more than one year, you may provide advance dues for up to three years. To join, select your desired membership category and term from the table below, complete this Form legibly, and send it with a check appropriate to your membership choice (payable to PATC Ski Touring Section) to:

PATC-Ski Touring Section, c/o Doug Lesar, 2507 Campbell Place, Kensington, MD 20895

Membership Classes

<u>Membership Categories</u>	<u>1 Year Only</u>	<u>2 Years</u>	<u>3 Years</u>
Individual	\$ 9	\$17	\$25
Family	\$13	\$24	\$35

PLEASE PRINT or TYPE THE INFORMATION BELOW !!!

Name(s): _____ Request is for: - NEW Membership: _____

Address: _____ Today's Date: _____ - New Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ - Renewal: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

- Add me to Annual member directory but do not list my: Home Ph.: ____ ; Work Ph: ____ ; Email: ____ ; Postal Address: ____
- If checked, add me to New Yahoo Group so I can get infrequent, adhoc announcements of local XC Ski activities: ____
- If checked, send my UPSLOPE only electronically (no paper copy) to save the club copying and postage: ____

STS is an all-volunteer organization. We cannot function without the assistance of our members. If you are interested in volunteering to help STS in any of the following areas, please check the box and you will be contacted:

STS Officer

Publicity

XC Ski Instructor

Web Content Assistant

Ski Trip Leader

Special Events Coordinator