

TRACK



Newsletter of the Ski Touring Section

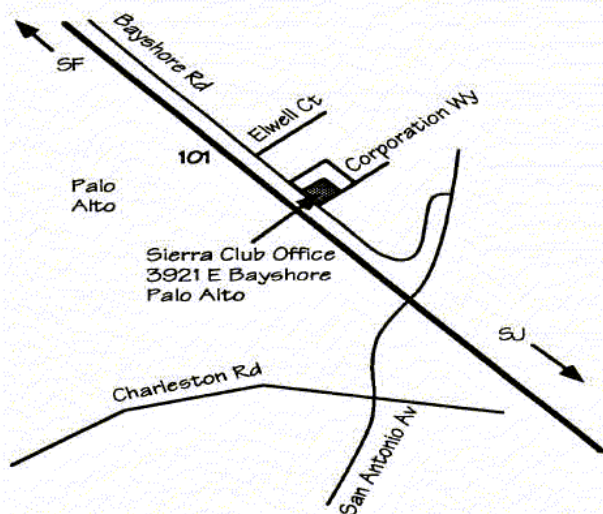
Loma Prieta Chapter

Sierra Club



www.sierraclub.org/chapters/lomaprieta/sts

Next Meeting
Monday, January 14th at 7:30 pm
Peninsula Conservation Center
3921 East Bayshore Road, Palo Alto



Come join us on Monday, January 14th at 7:30 pm for a presentation on snow camping. This will be a joint meeting with the Backpacking Section.

Deadline for February TRACK submissions is January 22nd

Written descriptions of STS trips and private trips are encouraged, and will be printed as space permits. E-mail submissions (plain text or attached Word documents) to xxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxx.xxx. Leaders are asked to submit trip descriptions and other key information as soon as possible after the planning meeting.

The STS Track Newsletter would like to obtain photos of STS skiers on relatively recent STS trips from STS members to use in future issues of Track. Please include any helpful information with the picture such as the location, a description of the picture, names of any skiers in the picture and a note that it is OK for Track to publish your photo.

Avalanche!!!

Be sure to read "Never Gonna Be The Same" (a first-hand account of an avalanche experience at Mammoth in December) on the web at

<http://www.telemarktips.com/FSneverSame.html>

2007-2008 STS Calendar

January

1/12-13 – Clair Tappaan Lodge Ski Trip
Leader: Chris Kramar; **Skill Level(s):** Beg/Adv Beg

1/14 – STS Monthly Meeting
Peninsula Conservation Center (7:30 pm)
(Snow camping presentation)

1/19-20 – Benson Hut
Leaders: Roy Lambertson & Chris Kramar
Skill Level(s): Adv. Intermediate

1/19-21 – Ludlow Hut
Leader: Steve Sergeant
Skill Level(s): Intermediate

1/25-27 – Gooseberry Cross Country Ski Trip
Leader: Joe Schmidt
Skill Level(s): Advanced Beginner

1/26-28 – Bradley Hut
Leader: Dick Simpson
Skill Level(s): Intermediate

February

2/1-3 – Ostrander Hut
Leader: Steve Sergeant; **Skill Level(s):** Advanced

2/2-4 – Lost Trail Lodge (ski in)
Leaders: John Cordes & Terri Michel;
Skill Level(s): Adv Beg/Intermediate

2/8-10 – Bradley Hut
Leaders: Andy Hudson/ David Passmore; **Skill Level(s):** Intermediate

2/9-10 – Sierra Buttes
Leader: Roy Lambertson; **Skill Level(s):** Adv. Intermediate

2/16-18 – Mt Lassen Volcanic National Park
Leaders: Eric Valentino & Terri Michel
Skill Level(s): Strong Intermediate-Adv Int

2/23-24 – Grover Hot Springs car camping ski trip
Leaders: Steve Sergeant; **Skill Level:** Adv. Beg.

2/23-24 – Peter Grubb Hut
Leader: Dick Simpson

Skill Level(s): Intermediate

March

2/29-3/2 – Glacier Point cabin trip
Leaders: Terri Michel & Steve Scharf
Skill Level(s): Intermediate

3/7-10 – Echo Summit to Loon Lake (snow camp)
Leader: John Langbein
Skill Level(s): Strong Intermediate to Advanced

3/7-9 – Snow-shoeing in the Pinecrest Area
Leader: Joe Schmidt; **Skill Level(s):** Beginner

3/8-10 – Pear Lake snow camp trip
Leader: David Passmore
Skill Level(s): Advanced-Intermediate

3/13-18 – Rock Creek Lodge - Mosquito Flats
Leaders: Janet Hoffmann & Terri Michel
Skill Level: Strong to Advanced Intermediate

3/14-16 – Bear Valley to Leavitt Meadows
Leaders: Roy Lambertson & Stephane Mouradian
Skill Level: Advanced

3/28-3/30 – Trans-Lassen tour (snow camp)
Leader: John Langbein
Skill Level(s): Intermediate

3/28-3/30 – Butte Lake at Mt. Lassen snow camping
Leader: Steve Sergeant
Skill Level(s): Intermediate

3/29-3/30 – Desolation Wilderness snow camping trip
Leader: John Cordes
Skill Level(s): Intermediate Beg

April

4/4-6 – Crabtree Snow-Shoe trip
Leader: Joe Schmidt; **Skill Level(s):** Beginner

4/15-18 – Colorado Hut trip
Leader: John Cordes
Skill Level: Strong Intermediate to Advanced

May

5/5 – STS Annual Potluck (location and time TBA)

Trip Basics

Trips are cooperative ventures organized and lead by volunteers. Trips range from leisurely single-day tours to strenuous multi-day expeditions. Each trip has a classification, which indicates the level of skiing ability and experience that the leader feels is the minimum required. The trip leader has the final say in whom may join a trip and may refuse anyone at any time that they feel has not demonstrated the required level of ability.

Trip participants are responsible for their own transportation to and from the trailhead. Leaders can, at their own discretion, make travel suggestions, but are not responsible for arranging carpools or other transportation.

CST 2087766-40. Registration as a seller of travel does not constitute approval by the State of California.

Trip Classifications

Beginner: Includes first time cross-country skiers. Leaders frequently provide some type of beginner instruction. 1-2 miles on gentle terrain.

Advanced Beginner: Skiers in good condition who have learned the basics of the diagonal stride on the flats and on easy hills. 2-5 miles over rolling terrain.

Intermediate: Uphill and downhill skiing on slopes that can be traversed if too steep. An intermediate has developed skill and confidence to snowplow, step turn, and control downhill speeds. Overnight hut trips with a moderate pack load. 3-10 miles average.

Advanced Intermediate: Same as Intermediate plus poor snow and weather skills, winter navigation, greater endurance, and snow camping. 10-15 miles.

Advanced: These tours are for the hardy skiers who can ski 10 to 30 miles in one day, are able to climb high mountains using skins, and descend with Telemark turns. The advanced skier must be in good shape, acclimatized to high altitudes, and have a working knowledge of map reading, compass, avalanche hazards, and winter survival.

Trip/Event Descriptions

Clair Tappaan Lodge Beginner's Ski Trip January 12-13, 2008

Beginner to Advanced Beginner

Learn the joys cross-country skiing on gentle terrain in the Soda Springs/Norden Area. We'll stay at the Sierra Club's Clair Tappaan Lodge in Norden. On Saturday we'll ski the groomed trails around Clair Tappaan. On Sunday, we will venture into beginner level backcountry in the area. Sign up by first contacting the leader to check for space, but please make your own lodging reservations by calling Clair Tappaan Lodge (530-426-3632), or use website given below. Lodge fee is \$55+ tax/night including meals. It is OK to drive Saturday morning if you can get the CTL by 9am. For more information about Clair Tappaan, visit the Sierra Club website <http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/lodges/ctl/>. For more information about the trip contact the leader.

Leader: Chris Kramar

Email: xxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxx

Benson Hut

January 19-20, 2008

Advanced Intermediate

A January trip to Benson Hut could mean trailbreaking through deep snow, struggling to avoid snowboarders on the outskirts of Sugar Bowl, and encountering blustery conditions along the wind-scoured Sierra crest. Digging out the front door of the hut could take 45 minutes, and the trip leader is likely to ask you to play Scrabble once you are inside. If this sounds good to you, then this is your trip. A visit to Benson Hut could mean all of the above, but it could also mean good skiing in fresh powder to the West of the hut, or an ascent of nearby Anderson Peak if avalanche hazard is low. Friday night we will be staying at Clair Tappaan Lodge; Saturday morning we'll head to the hut. The ski in from Donner Pass is about six miles and includes over 2000 feet of cumulative climbing. We'll do some skiing nearby before returning on Sunday. Metal-edged skis and climbing skins are required. \$77 advance payment includes Friday night in the dorms at Clair Tappaan, Saturday breakfast and one bag lunch from Clair Tappaan (and dinner on Friday if you get there early enough), and Saturday dinner and Saturday night at Benson Hut.

Trip/Event Descriptions (cont.)

To reserve a spot, please send me a check payable to "STS-Outings" for \$77. Please include: Your name, address, telephone numbers, email, a brief description of your experience and equipment, whether you can drive (how many passengers), departure point and time. Please let me know if you have any dietary restrictions or medical conditions. Call or email first regarding availability. You may forfeit your payment if you cancel and we can't find a replacement.

Leader: Roy Lambertson

xxx xxxxxxxxxxxx xx

xxxxxxxxxxx, xx xxxxx

xxx-xxx-xxxx extension xxx (day)

xxx-xxx-xxxx (eve)

xxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxx.xxx

Co-leader: Chris Kramar

xxx-xxx-xxxx

xxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxx.xxx

Ludlow Hut

January 19-21, 2008

Intermediate

Join us for Martin Luther King holiday weekend for two nights in the Ludlow Hut, right on the Pacific Crest Trail and the Tahoe Rim Trail. It's about halfway between Donner Pass and Echo Summit. Our likely route takes us up a famous 4WD road called The Rubicon Trail for about 7 miles with 1000 feet of elevation gain. If all persons coming are stronger skiers, we might go in General's Creek from Sugar Pine Point State Park instead.

An approximate estimated cost of \$40 covers Saturday and Sunday night's hut fees, two dinners and two breakfasts (all vegetarian). I'm collecting a \$24 deposit for hut rental, and the remaining expenses will be collected at the trailhead prior to departure. Bring lunches and personal gear and leave room to help carry group gear into the hut. Limit 10 including the leader. Registration closes on January 11, 2007. To register, contact the trip **leader:** Steve Sergeant, (xxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxx.xxx or xxx-xxx-xxxx).

Gooseberry Cross Country Ski Trip

January 25-27, 2008

Advanced Beginner

This trip is designed to challenge the skilled advanced beginner or intermediate cross-country skier. Well behaved dogs are welcome. We will start at the

Gooseberry Trailhead and climb about 2,000 feet to the "knob". As we go, we'll be rewarded with a beautiful and striking view of the Emigrant Wilderness. Maybe we'll get a look at Cleo's Baths, all snowed in. Once we get to the knob, we'll break to take in the beautiful views. At this point we have a choice to ski down groomed trail or to take the trail to Crabtree. There, you will have a view across the Emigrant Wilderness and into Yosemite where you can see (with binoculars) Half Dome and other familiar peaks. Upon returning to the cabin, we can soak tired bones in the hot tub as we watch snowflakes descend to earth. On Sunday, we'll take Frasier Flat route down the north side of the ridge through the woods down to the bottom. Returning, we will follow the South Fork of the Stanislaus up to Strawberry. No X-C equipment? It can be rented at Dodge Ridge. Ninety dollars covers two nights' accommodations; two breakfasts and two lunch fix'ins and one dinner.

Please send your check made out to "STS-Outings" to Joe Schmidt xxx xxxxxxxxxxxx xx, xxxxxxxx, xx xxxxx-xxxx. Along with your check be sure to include your name, address, phone number and email address. I would be happy to answer any questions. No refunds after two weeks prior to trip start. This event will be co-listed with other groups such as the Sierra Singles Section and Bay Chapter. Rain is welcome and doesn't cancel ... think snow! Event covers 4 + miles, with 2,000 feet of elevation, all gradual. Meeting location: Lucille's Cabin in the Sonora Pass Area (for location, go to google and enter "Lucille's Cabin". For the area, go to www.thegreatunfenced.com

Leader: Joe Schmidt, xxx-xxx-xxxx,

xxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxx.xxx

Bradley Hut

January 26-28, 2008 (Sat-Mon)

Intermediate

Ski 5 miles and climb 1500 ft to Bradley Hut in upper Pole Creek near Squaw Valley. The 3-day format helps avoid gridlock returning on Hwy 89 and I-80 and allows for a full day of skiing Sunday. \$50 covers hut fee, dinners Sat-Sun, and breakfasts Sun-Mon; you bring lunches and snacks. For more information and application contact:

Leader: Dick Simpson

xxx xxxxxxxxxxxx xx, xxxxxxxxxxxx, xxx xxxxx

xxx-xxx-xxxx

xxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxx.xxx

Trip/Event Descriptions (cont.)

Luxuriate at Lost Trail Lodge

February 2-4, 2008 (Sat - Mon)

Advanced Beginner-Intermediate

A rare opportunity to stay in this off-the-grid and uniquely appointed lodge that is close to civilization yet remote in NW Tahoe near Donner. This trip would be a good way to find out what it's like to ski with an overnight pack to your lodging without having to carry sleeping gear. We'll share a cabin at the Lost Trail Lodge, which is a 4 mile relatively flat ski into the lodge <www.losttrailodge.com>. We'll start from the trailhead on Saturday morning the 2nd to ski the 4 miles to our cabin so we can explore the local backcountry for the rest of the weekend. The area offers day skiing opportunities in places like Cold Stream and Emigrant Canyons, Shallenberger Ridge, etc (climbing skins would be handy for the day tours from the lodge). Skiing and dining followed by a possible live piano serenade or Jacuzzi soak in the evenings. Cost for 2 nights lodging (includes linens), 2 dinners and 2 breakfasts is \$180/person. Limit 6. Part or all of deposit nonrefundable if you cancel after December 1st and we can't get a qualified replacement. All participants must be comfortable skiing up to 4 miles with a small overnight pack, bring metal edged skis, sign a Lodge and a Sierra Club Liability Waiver and complete a Sierra Club Medical form and return all completed and signed to the leader prior to the trip. Send 2 long SASEs for trip sign-up application, waivers, medical form and check made to "STS-Outings" for \$180/person to: Terri Michel, xxx xxxxxxxxxxxx xx, xxxxxxxxxxxx, xx xxxxx.

Co-leaders: John Cordes xxx-xxx-xxxx, xxxx@xxxxxxxxxxx.xxx; Terri Michel xxx-xxx-xxxx, xxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxx.xxx

Sierra Buttes

February 9-10, 2008

Advanced Intermediate

You've never been there before; neither have I. That's reason enough to attempt the 2900' climb from the settlement of Bassetts to the summit of this Northern Sierra crag.

Saturday we'll do a day tour up the Buttes from the Northeast; Sunday we'll do another ski in the vicinity. Metal-edged skis and climbing skins are required. We'll be staying in an apartment and cabins in Sierra City (I've made some reservations already; we'll need to make more). Severe weather or avalanche hazard will change our plans.

Leader: Roy Lambertson

xxx-xxx-xxxx extension xxx (day)

xxx-xxx-xxxx (eve)

xxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxx.xxx

Mt Lassen Volcanic National Park area

February 16-18, 2008 (Sat - Mon)

Strong Intermediate-Advanced Intermediate

Enjoy Mt. Lassen over President's Day weekend, when snow is more plentiful and traffic is typically light in the southern Cascades. We'll ski to places that might include Sulphur Works, Bumpass Hell or Brokeoff Peak depending on conditions. We will stay two to a room in the Mineral Lodge motel near the southwest Park entrance (www.minerallodge.com). Three nights lodging and happy hour munchies are \$136 per person. Bring your own lunches and plan to eat breakfast and dinner at the motel restaurant. Limit 8. Part or all of deposit is non-refundable if you cancel after February 6th and we can't get a qualified replacement. All participants must bring metal-edged skis and climbing skins, sign a Sierra Club Liability Waiver and complete a Sierra Club Medical form and return all completed and signed to the leader prior to the trip. Send 2 long SASE's for trip sign-up application, waiver, medical form and check made to "STS-Outings" for \$136/person to: Eric Valentino, xxx xxxxxxxxxxxx xx, xxxxxxxxxxxx, xx xxxxx.

Provisional Leader: Eric Valentino xxx-xxx-xxxx, xxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxx.xxx

Leader: Terri Michel xxx-xxx-xxxx, xxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxx.xxx

Grover Hot Springs snow camp

February 23-24, 2008

Advanced Beginner

Join us for a car camping ski trip. We will camp at Grover Hot Springs State Park. The park is just west of Markleeville, four miles from Highway 89. We will ski advanced-beginner terrain in the Hope Valley/Carson Pass area on both Saturday and Sunday. Dinner Saturday night will be in historic Markleeville, at the Wolf Creek Restaurant.

Remember to bring your bathing suit and towel for soaking in the hot springs at the park. Trip deposit is \$24 which covers camp site fees, firewood, and some of breakfast Saturday and Sunday; the remainder of the expenses will be collected on-site. We'll be camping in the snow, so be prepared! In past years, night time temperatures have dipped to the single-digits. You'll also need extra money for dinner Saturday night (entrees start at \$12.95), and \$4 for each visit to the hot springs. For additional

Trip/Event Descriptions (cont.)

information, contact the **leader:** Steve Sergeant, (xxx-xxx-xxxx or xxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxx.xxx).

Peter Grubb Hut

February 23-24, 2008 (Sat-Sun)

Intermediate

Ski 2 miles and climb 800 ft from I-80 at Donner Summit to Castle Pass, then go another mile and down into Round Valley and Peter Grubb Hut. The hut is 60+ years old, but has been equipped with solar electric lighting. Enjoy good snow on the north side of Castle Peak or tours to Sand Ridge Lakes. \$30 covers hut fee, Saturday dinner, and Sunday breakfast; you bring lunches and snacks. For more information and application contact:

Leader: Dick Simpson

xxx xxxxxxxxxxxx xx, xxxxxxxxxxxx, xx xxxxx

xxx-xxx-xxxx

xxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxx.xxx

Yosemite -- Glacier Pt. turnaround

March 1-2, 2008 (Sat-Sun)

Intermediate

We'll ski from Badger Pass to Glacier Point and back in one day--for those of you with stamina! Our lodging is a hearty cabin complete with billiards and outdoor hot tub in Yosemite West (convenient to Badger Pass). Saturday we'll ski the 22-mile round trip to Glacier Point for the spectacular views of Yosemite Valley. Sunday's options include the Ghost Forest Loop, multi-point trip or tele-skiing at the Badger Pass ski area. If lack of snow is an issue, there are plenty of hiking opportunities in Yosemite Valley. Cost for two nights lodging, one dinner and two breakfasts is \$135 (trip cost is based on 6 people; >6 = lower cost). Part or all of the deposit is nonrefundable if you cancel after January 1st and we cannot get a qualified replacement. Limit 8-10 participants. All participants must sign a Sierra Club Liability Waiver and complete a Sierra Club Medical form and return both completed and signed to the leader prior to the trip. Send 2 long SASEs for trip sign-up application, medical form, waiver and check made to "STS-Outings" for \$135 per person to: Terri Michel, xxx xxxxxxxxxxxx xx, xxxxxxxxxxxx, xx xxxxx.

Leaders: Terri Michel (xxx-xxx-xxxx or xxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxx.xxx) and Steve Scharf (xxx.xxx.xxxx or xxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxx.xxx)

Echo Summit to Loon Lake (3-day snow camping)

March 7 – 10, 2008

Strong Intermediate-Advanced Intermediate

Ski across the Desolation Wilderness from Echo Lake, across Mosquito Pass and into the seldom visited (at least in winter) upper Rubicon Valley. Cross the Crystal range and finish at Loon Lake. We'll probably "bag" a few easy summits along the way. Hopefully, I can find a co-leader so that this can be a "key exchange" which makes the car shuttle much easier. Contact John Langbein at xxx-xxx-xxxx (evenings before 9PM) or xxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxx.xxx. Note: participants should have some flexibility on dates; it might be advisable to shift the dates by one (or two) days to take advantage of the weather.

Snow-shoeing in the Pinecrest Area

March 7 – 9, 2008

Beginner

You've may have wanted to go to the back country and see nature's beautiful snow and streams but could not since you don't ski. Well, this is an opportunity to enjoy the outdoors and snow shoe! They say that if you can hike, you can snow-shoe. We will start at 6,000 feet elevation and snow shoe to a wonderful area called the Punch Bowl. It is surrounded by volcanic cliffs with aspen trees in the vast meadow. We may have to hike to get to the snow since by March the snow starts to melt. The gushing streams are really beautiful so bring your camera. Upon returning to the cabin, we can soak tired bones in the hot tub. On Sunday, we'll take Frasier Flat route down the north side of the ridge through the woods down to the bottom. Returning, we will follow the South Fork of the Stanislaus up to Strawberry. No shoe-shoeing equipment? It can be rented at any outdoor store like REI. If Dodge Ridge is still open, it can be rented there. See www.dodgeridge.com.

Ninety dollars (\$90.) covers two nights accommodations; two breakfasts and two lunch fix'ins and one dinner. Every Participant will get their own bed and rooms will be shared by same sex. The trip is limited to twelve participants. Well behaved dogs may come on the trip with the advance permission of the Leader. Please send your check made out to "STS-Outings" and send to Joe Schmidt xxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxx xx, xxxxxxxxxxxx, xx xxxxx. Along with the check provide your name, address, phone number and email*. (Very Important!) No refunds after two weeks prior to the trip start. Thanks! I would be happy to answer any questions. This event will be co-listed with other groups such as the Loma Prieta

Trip/Event Descriptions (cont.)

Sierra Singles Section and Bay Chapter. Rain is welcome and doesn't cancel ... think snow! Event covers 10 miles, with 1,000 feet of elevation. Limited to twelve participants. Meeting location: Joseph's Cabin in the Sonora Pass Area (for location, go to Google and enter "Joseph's Cabin". For the area, go to www.thegreatunfenced.com or www.dodgeridge.com. Heavy rain/snow does not cancel. Event covers 10 miles, with 1,000 feet of elevation.

Leader: Joe Schmidt, xxx-xxx-xxxx,
xxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxx.xxx

Pear Lake Snow Camp

March 8-10, 2008

Advanced-Intermediate

This three-day ski tour begins at the Pear Lake trailhead (7,300 feet) near Wolverton Ski Area in Sequoia National Park. The route follows the summer hiking trail over The Hump (9,440 feet); we will make a base camp on the forested benches above Pear Lake Hut. From our base camp (~9,500 feet), we will explore the Tablelands and possibly ascend Winter Alta. After two nights spent at base camp, we return to our starting point. Previous snow camping experience is preferred. Metal edge skis with climbing skins are highly recommended. To sign up please contact the trip **leader:** David Passmore (xxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxx.xxx or xxx-xxx-xxxx)

Rock Creek Lodge - Mosquito Flats

March 13-18, 2007 (Thur/Fri - Tue)

Strong to Advanced Intermediate

Try St. Patrick's Day in the beautiful Rock Creek area nestled on the eastern slope of the Sierra at the edge of the John Muir Wilderness. Six lucky people will take Thursday off work so they can have a leisurely drive to Tom's Place (near Mammoth) for Thursday night the 13th and ski 2 miles from the East Fork SnoPark into Rock Creek Lodge (RCL) on Friday the 14th. We'll spend Friday night in a couple of their modern cabins at this unique lodge located at 9,400' <www.rockcreeklodge.com>. After ski-acclimatizing around RCL we'll have a great dinner and check out their sauna. The next day, after breakfast, we'll tour our way to their ski hut in Mosquito Flats on Saturday the 15th where we'll spend two nights all to ourselves and ski around Little Lakes Valley for the weekend. Day trip possibilities from the Mosquito Flats area include Rock Creek Lake, Little Lakes Valley, Treasure Lakes, towards Bear Creek Spire, etc. On Monday the 17th we'll ski from Mosquito Flats back

to our modern cabins at RCL and enjoy their good food and hospitality once more. On Tuesday the 18th we'll ski back to the East Fork SnoPark trailhead and drive home. Cost of \$410 per person includes 1 night in motel, 4 nights at RCL and hut, 4 delicious dinners and 4 breakfasts, and tip for RCL staff (trip cost estimate is based on 6 people). Limit 6. All participants must be comfortable skiing up to 4 miles and 1,000' elevation gain with an overnight pack, bring metal edged skis, climbing skins, a winter sleeping bag and an avalanche transceiver. Participants must also sign a Sierra Club Liability Waiver and complete a Sierra Club Medical form and return both completed and signed to the leader prior to the trip. Send 2 long SASEs for trip sign-up application, medical form, waiver, and a check for \$410 per person made to "STS-Outings" to: Terri Michel, xxx xxxxxxxxxxx xx, xxxxxxxx, xx xxxxx. Part or all of deposit nonrefundable if you cancel after January 1st and we can't get a qualified replacement. **Co-Leaders:** Janet Hoffmann, xxx-xxx-xxxx, xxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxx.xxx; Terri Michel, xxx-xxx-xxxx, xxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxx.xxx

Trans-Lassen Tour (snow camping)

March 28-30, 2008

Intermediate

This tour starts (or ends) at the southwest entrance to the park (where the ski chalet use to be) and ends (starts) at the northwest corner of the park near Butte Lake. If we have a three day option, a lay-over day will be in the Lake Helen area just south of Lassen Peak. This tour is best done as a "key exchange" so I'm looking for a co-leader for the other half of the exchange. Contact John Langbein at xxx-xxx-xxxx (evenings before 9PM) or xxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.

Crabtree Snow-Shoe Trip

April 4-6, 2008

Beginner

The Pinecrest area is south of Lake Tahoe and north of Yosemite in the Central Sierra. This trip will take us up a gradual slope to Aspen Meadows and there we will head south on Crabtree trail toward Bell Meadow. At the end of the season, the streams are gurgling and the snow formations are so interesting.

We will stay at Lucille's Cabin in the Pinecrest Area. There are eight beds in four bedrooms and so the trip is limited to eight participants. Well behaved dogs are welcome to join us.

Trip/Event Descriptions (cont.)

Cost of \$90/person includes two nights lodging plus two breakfasts, lunches, and Saturday night dinner. Interested folks should send a check made out to "STS-Outings" and sent to Joe Schmidt, xxx xxxxxxxxxxxx xx, xxxxxxxxxxxx, xx xxxxx. No refunds after two weeks prior to the start of the trip. Be sure to include your name, address, phone and email. Very Important!

To view Lucille's Cabin, Google the name. To learn more about the area, go to www.thegreatunfenced.com or www.dodgeridge.com.

Pray for rain here, snow there. Event covers 5 - 10 miles, with gradual 2,000 feet of elevation gain but we will adjust plans based upon experience and desires of the group ... let's make this fun and easy! Meeting location: Lucille's Cabin in the Central Sierra.

Leader: Joe Schmidt (xxx-xxx-xxxx or xxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxx.xxx)

Colorado Hut Trip

April 15-19, 2008

Strong Intermediate to Advanced

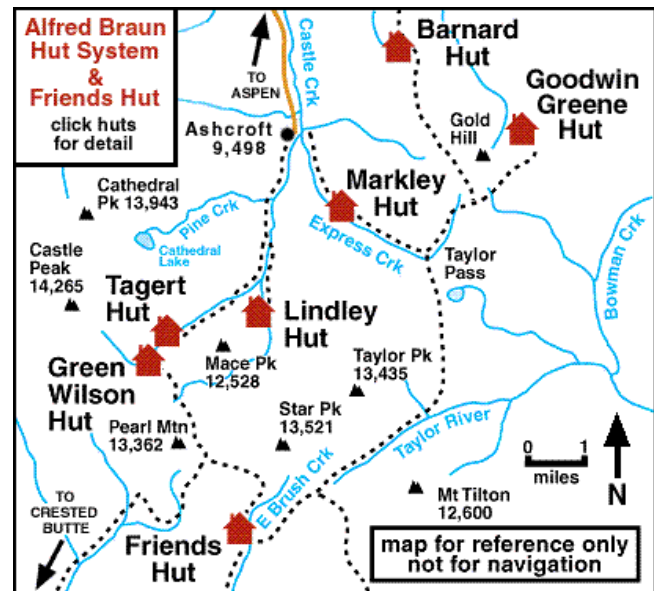
I am looking for 6 other strong intermediate or better skiers to join me for 5 days of XC skiing in the Colorado hut system in near Aspen, Colorado. I have hut reservations for 7 people for 4 nights beginning on April 15th, 2008 (Tuesday through Friday).

The plan is to fly into Aspen, CO on Tuesday, April 15th and catch a shuttle directly to the trailhead. The trip officially begins at the trailhead. It is 5 miles on skis to Tagert Hut for the first night. We ski 8 miles over Pearl Pass to Friends hut for Wednesday night. Day trip around Friends hut and stay there again on Thursday night. On Friday, we ski back to Tagert Hut. We can either fly home after skiing out on Saturday or find some place to stay and hang out for one more day of skiing. I led a trip to the 10th Mountain system nearby last year and I am looking forward to exploring more of the Colorado Rockies this spring. These huts are in avalanche territory. Use of a beacon is required. To learn more about the huts, visit www.huts.org. Remember, all STS trips start at the trailhead and the leader is not responsible for travel arrangements to and from the trailhead.

All participants must complete and sign a Sierra Club Liability Waiver & a 10th Mtn waiver form, a Sierra

Club Medical form and send them to the leader prior to the trip. Send 2 long SASEs for trip sign-up application, waivers, medical form and check made to "STS-Outings" for \$180/person to:

John Cordes
xxx xxxxxxxxxxxx xx
xxxxxxxxxxx, xx xxxxx
phone xxx-xxx-xxxx,
xxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxx.xxx



Announcements

The following events are being hosted by Snowlands Network (www.snowlands.org):

On **Saturday, January 12**, Marcus Libkind, author of the guidebook series Ski Tours in the Sierra Nevada, will lead skiers on a six-mile tour along the ridge separating Shealor Lakes and the Silver Fork of the American River – a little known gem! A short ski from the highway puts you on the ridge that is followed to Peak 7620. Outrageous views surrounding you include the nearby red cliffs of Thunder Mountain that contrast to the white snow and far-away Pyramid Peak in Desolation Wilderness to the north. Also impressive is the view down to frozen North Tragedy Creek and Shealor Lakes. This tour is of intermediate difficulty. For a detailed description of this tour visit www.backcountryskitours.com/pages/tours_1000/1050_tour.htm

On **Sunday, January 13**, Libkind will lead snowshoers on a six-mile tour that combines two of his favorite tours along the Highway 88 corridor. The Two Sentinels guard the ridge above Kirkwood and along the route you pass the Jet Roofs that provide avalanche control above the Carson Spur. On return you will cross the highway and ascend to Castle Point. The rewards on this part of the tour are the magnificent vistas to the north of Desolation Wilderness and to the east of the peaks to the north of Carson Pass. You will also be treated to views of convoluted rock pillars scattered along the north side of the ridge you traverse. This tour is of intermediate difficulty. For details on this tour visit www.backcountryskitours.com/pages/tours_1000/1002_tour.htm and www.backcountryskitours.com/pages/tours_1000/1020_tour.htm

For ski and snowshoe reservations email Marcus Libkind at xxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxx.xxx. Visit www.snowlands.org for information on other on-the-snow guided tours.

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Backcountry Film Festival

On **Friday, January 11** Winter Wildlands Allinace's 3rd Annual Backcountry Film Festival will be

showing in at **Pioneer Elemenatary School in Pioneer.**

Each year Winter Wildlands Alliance hosts an annual film festival that features grassroots backcountry films and shorts that embody their mission, and the mission of Snowlands Network, to promote and protect winter wildlands and a quality muscle-powered snowsports experience on public lands. The films chosen communicate issues that impact quiet winter recreation and the environment or tell an interesting story about fun in the snow without motors.

This year Snowlands Network is proud to be hosting the Backcountry Film Festival in Pioneer with an exciting lineup of films that are about global warming, the backcountry skiing lifestyle, sustainability, a cross-country ski touring band, and the history of telemarking in China.

Doors open at 6:15 PM. Show begins at 6:45 PM and ends at 10:00 PM. Tickets are \$7 at the door.

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STS Bylaw Amendments

Lowell Moulton proposed several changes to STS Bylaws and Standing Rules last year; action was postponed, discussion resumed this year, and several alternatives have been tossed around among officers and long-time members. Standing Rule changes were made at the November STS meeting. Dick Simpson has distilled the results of the Bylaws discussion and offers the following as amendments. These were published in the December TRACK (the required one month notice for bylaw amendments) so can be voted at the January STS meeting.

The changes are intended to simplify STS operations and bring the Bylaws into line with what has become recent practice. The Annual Meeting (election of new officers, committee reports, etc.) is moved from March to May, and the start of the "STS year" is shifted from June to July. Also, the Leadership Committee is renamed the Outings Committee, and several typos are corrected.

The text of the revised sections is below. The full set of current bylaws is posted on the STS web site. If you don't have web access, contact Dick at xxx-xxx-

Announcements (cont.)

ARTICLE IV - Officers

Section 2. A Nominating Committee of three members shall be appointed by the Chair by the first Monday of April. It shall be the duty of this committee to nominate candidates for the offices to be filled at the Annual Meeting in May. Before the election at the May meeting, additional nominations from the floor shall be permitted.

Section 3. The officers shall be elected by ballot to serve for one year or until their successors are elected, and their terms of office shall begin on July 1st. A majority vote shall be required to elect. If no candidate receives a majority on the first ballot, another ballot shall be cast, dropping

the name of the candidate receiving the fewest votes on the first ballot. This procedure shall be repeated until a majority is obtained.

ARTICLE V - Meetings

Section 2. The May meeting shall be known as the Annual Meeting, at which officers shall be elected and annual reports shall be received from officers and standing committees.

ARTICLE VI - Committees

Section 1. Standing committees shall be appointed by the Chair each year to serve until July 1st. A committee may consist of one or more members of the Section.

Section 2. An Outings Committee of experienced members shall be appointed each year to establish and maintain Leadership Training and Safety Programs, and to oversee the Section's outings program.

ARTICLE VII - Funds

Section 1. Dues to cover costs of production and distribution of the Section Newsletter, program or facilities charges for meetings, and other operating expenses may be charged as set forth in the Standing Rules.

STS TRIP FEES

All members should be aware that changes have been made to the way trip fees will be handled due to new California law. The following is an excerpt from the revised standing rules pertaining to finances for section outings:

2. To comply with Club policies and interpretations of the California Sellers of Travel (CST) Law, the Section adopts the following:

a. Participant fees for outings with charges in excess of \$50 will be deposited promptly by the Treasurer into a bank account separate from the account used for general section business.

b. The Treasurer can pay travel vendors from this separate account before the outing is run; but any excess participant fees over direct outing expenses can only be transferred from the separate account to the general account after the outing has been completed.

c. The Treasurer can reimburse outing leaders for expenses associated with an outing from either account upon presentation of valid receipts. Leader requests for reimbursement of advance deposits (e.g., for lodging or services) shall be limited to the smaller of (1) half of the deposit or (2) \$500. For trips with charges in excess of \$200 per person, the leader may be reimbursed up to half of the deposit if the request is approved by a two-thirds vote of the Outings Committee.

d. The Section will not sponsor outings in which air or sea transportation is provided as part of the outing.

e. The following will be included in all Section marketing and advertising materials for outings (e.g., newsletters, web pages, and e-mails): "CST 2087766-40. Registration as a seller of travel does not constitute approval by the State of California."

3. A participant who cancels prior to the outing is entitled to a refund only if a qualified replacement is found; the refund amount may be adjusted to reflect expenses incurred prior to the cancellation.

Announcements (cont.)

4. *Surplus funds in excess of \$5 per person will be distributed equally among participants in an outing by the Treasurer except that the group may designate a beneficiary (such as the Section, another Club entity, or an outside organization) to which individuals may contribute their refund shares.*

Paperless Newsletters???

Both the Treasurer and the TRACK Editor wish to encourage the folks who get the paper version of TRACK to switch over to electronic delivery (email). We've found that printing, folding, and stamping these paper TRACKs to be time consuming. We recognize, however, that not all members have Internet access with e-mail. For those folks without access, please give John Langbein a phone call at xxx-xxx-xxxx during the evenings before 9PM (or, write him, see the return address). Otherwise, folks who are still getting the paper TRACK but are also on the STS list serve will have their subscriptions converted to email delivery only.

Section Information

Purpose: The Ski Touring Section leads cross-country ski trips to the Sierra Nevada and elsewhere.

Meetings: The Section holds open meetings monthly from November thru May. Date, time, and location of the next meeting are announced in TRACK. Newcomers of any experience level are welcome. A special program is featured at most meetings.

Membership: To be a member of the section requires membership in the Sierra Club and additional dues of \$5/yr paid to the section Treasurer. This entitles members to all the rights outlined in the bylaws and standing rules.

E-mail list: To join the STS e-mail list, send an e-mail to the list server at: <listserv@lists.sierraclub.org>.

Include the following one line in the body of the message (not Subject line): <SUBSCRIBE LOMAP-SkiTour yourfirstname yourlastname>. Be sure to send the email from the address at which you wish to receive postings and the newsletter, TRACK. You must be a member to be on the STS e-mail list.

Newsletter: TRACK is published monthly from October through May. To subscribe, send a check for \$15 (\$10 for paper newsletter and \$5 for annual section dues) payable to Ski Touring Section with your name, address, telephone number, and proof of Sierra Club membership to Treasurer John Langbein (xxx xxxxxxxxxxxx xx, xxxxxxxxxxxx, xx xxxxx). Proof of membership is one of the following: a mailing label from your Chapter newsletter (Loma Prietan) or Sierra magazine,

(continued next page)

Section Information (cont.)

a photocopy of your Sierra Club membership card, or your canceled check for membership dues.

To join the Sierra Club, enclose a separate check for \$35 payable to Sierra Club with your STS payment.

To submit meeting announcements, trip announcements, and trip reports for publication in TRACK, email them to TRACK editor Kevin Flynn at xxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxx.xxx, (plaint text or attached Microsoft Word documents preferred) or submit them as text files. Photos in jpeg format may accompany trip report submissions and will be included if space permits. Advertisements will be carried for members free of charge on a space-permitting basis. Ads will

run for one month unless resubmitted and will be limited to 6 lines or one inch. Notices from commercial enterprises will be carried at the editor's discretion on the same basis.

Trips: Trips are scheduled by VC/Scheduler Janet Hoffmann. Current leaders should submit trip plans to Janet. Members wishing to become leaders should contact the Outings Committee Chair (also Janet). Potential trip participants should contact the trip leader listed for each trip. The trips are classified according to the minimum ability required of participants. The categories are listed inside under Ski Trips. The Sierra Club does not assume any liability for carpools to the "trailhead".

Chair	John Cordes	XXXXXXXX@XXXXXXXXXXX.XXX	XXX-XXX-XXXX
VC/Scheduler	Janet Hoffmann	XXXXXXXX@XXXXXXXXXXX.XXX	XXX-XXX-XXXX
Secretary/Editor	Kevin Flynn	XXXXXXXX@XXXXXXXXXXX.XXX	XXX-XXX-XXXX
Treasurer	John Langbein	XXXXXXXX@XXXXXXXXXXX.XXX	XXX-XXX-XXXX
Conservation	Dick Simpson	XXXXXXXX@XXXXXXXXXXX.XXX	XXX-XXX-XXXX
Outings Committee Chair	Janet Hoffmann	XXXXXXXX@XXXXXXXXXXX.XXX	XXX-XXX-XXXX
Webmaster	Brenda Giese	XXXXXXXX@XXXXXXXXXXX.XXX	XXX-XXX-XXXX

SKI TOURING SECTION

Loma Prieta Chapter
 c/o John Langbein
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 XXXXXXXXXXXX, XX XXXXX

First Class Mail

