



The
Easy Glider
Kick 'n Gliders Nordic Ski Club

Editor: Peter Oswald (editor@kickngliders.org)

Issue: January, 2011

Reminder of social and membership meetings:

7:00

Wednesday

Jan 19

Social - Herbie's El Mexicano

720 Main Street, Highspire,
717-939-062

7:00

Tuesday

Feb 1

**Program - 30 Days in Turkey
Tim & Cindy Hoehn**

*Harrisburg Mall Community
Room*

7:00

Wednesday

Feb 16

**Social - Lancaster Brewing
Company**

469 Eisenhower Boulevard,
Harrisburg
717-564-4448

The club's next social gathering will take place at **7 pm on Wednesday, January 19th** at **Herbie's El Mexicano**, 720 Main Street in Bressler (above the south end of Steelton). Herbie's offers a full

range of authentic Mexican cuisine as well as margarita's and Mexican beer. A reservation is required so; please RSVP prior to Friday, Jan 14th by calling Pam McMullen at 717-200-1111 or via email to pmcmullen@comcast.net. She can also provide directions if needed.

Join us at the February meeting -- 2/1/11 at 7:00 pm -- to listen to Cindy and Tim Hoehn talk about their trip to Turkey this past fall.

They received an invitation from Yashar, a former neighbor of Tim's in Arlington, VA, to join him at his family home in one of the best cities in the world -- Istanbul. Yashar was born and raised in Istanbul so he was fluent in the language and knew where all the interesting sites were. Turkey's history is fascinating, and as you will see from their pictures, many of the ruins are still standing. They walked on roads from the Bible and through ruins from the BC era. They took a hot air balloon ride over the Cappadocia area and swam in the

Mediterranean Sea.

Come see their presentation Tuesday, February 1st following a brief KNG'er business meeting at 7:00 pm in the Community Room of the Harrisburg Mall.

**Nominating Committee
Charged**

by Peg Hampton

As is our custom, Club President, Bill Hoffman, charged Immediate Past President, Peggy Hampton, with forming a Nominating Committee for the purpose of proposing a slate of officers for elections at the Club's regular meeting in April. Over the next few weeks, Peg will select additional members to work on the committee. If you are interested in any of the elected offices, please contact Peg (717-805-3593) or pham608238@aol.com for consideration.

The section of the Club's bylaws that covers elections is cited below: "The Club, at a

regular meeting in April, shall nominate and elect, by ballot of the members present, officers for the following year. A slate of nominees shall be presented by the Nominating Committee. Open nominations from the floor, properly nominated and seconded, shall also be received before the ballot is held.

The following officers, together with the appointed Executive Committee Board Members, shall constitute the Executive Committee:

President
Vice-President/President Elect
Secretary
Treasurer
Trip Coordinator
Program Coordinator
Membership Chairman
Immediate Past President
Day Trip Coordinator
Newsletter Editor

The terms of office of each of the officers shall be one (1) year commencing with their installation in April. Each officer shall continue to serve until his successor shall have been duly installed.”

Craftsbury trip report

Dave LeRoy

24 Kick ‘n Gliders descended on Craftsbury Outdoor Center on December 29, 2010, and didn’t leave ‘til the following year! They found good snow with temperatures in the 20’s. Things looked pretty much the same with some improvements

in the facilities. The big change was the 8 huge solar panel arrays located around the practice field. They are about 12 feet square and are programmed to follow the sun as it moves (and they do generate a little power even when the skies are cloudy). Craftsbury estimates that they will provide over one third of their electric power.

The weather held through Thursday and Friday with some sunshine to brighten the trails. Those who skied into town found that the General Store has been opened again and is its old charming self. And the group gathered as usual in the dorm hallway before dinner. Ken from Philadelphia showed pictures he took on a recent trip to Wales on Wednesday evening. Don Youngblood gave a presentation on his Peace Corps experiences on Thursday evening. The bonfire was started at 11:11 pm New Year’s Eve, champagne corks popped at midnight, and then the fire was enhanced by the application of evergreen trees.

As if on cue it also began to rain at midnight and continued into New Years Day. But those who braved the elements (temperatures were balmy like the skiers) said skiing conditions were surprisingly good. When we awoke on Sunday morning, the rain and warm temperatures had melted much of the snow revealing green grass in the parking lot in front of Cedar Lodge! A ski race scheduled for that day had been cancelled because of the poor conditions.

Since the Kick ‘n Gliders’ first New Years’ trip to Craftsbury in the 1993-1994 season, we have tried a different location three times, but we keep coming back to Craftsbury. There is something unique and special about the atmosphere in northern Vermont and the laid-back way they greet the New Year that feels right. We have already made reservations for 30 people to go next year so start planning to be part of it!

Middlebury, VT A Four-Night, One- Ski Trip

by Bill Stine

Mother Nature just wasn’t in a cooperative mood, it seems. There’d been lots of snow in Middlebury just a week or two prior to our trip. Then, beginning a couple of days before New Year’s, the weather turned warm, as in very warm with sunny skies and temps hovering in the mid-forties. Bye, bye snow! It was so bad that the commercial ski centers were actually closed for business! Fortunately, we’d chosen to stay in the



lovely Waybury Inn in East

Middlebury, VT. So, we spent our first evening consulting weather prognosticators and their maps and plotting strategy in the Inn's Pine Room Restaurant while enjoying dinners prepared by owner, Tracey, and her staff.

The Waybury Inn, by the way, was featured in the Bob Newhart Show. It was filmed for location shots used during the opening credits and other scenes.

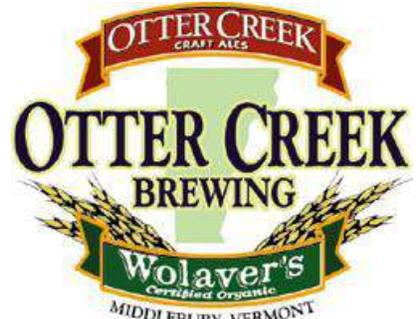
Not to be dissuaded by appearances, our first morning found us heading for the backcountry as soon as we finished our excellent, cooked-to-order breakfasts. First stop: the Texas Falls Day Use Area near the center of this section of the Green Mountain National Forest. Here, the trails were shaded from much of the sun's intensity and still displayed good snow cover. Our hopes were high as we entered the Hancock Branch Trail only to have them dashed when we discovered that a critical bridge was out just a quarter of a mile in. We did take time on our way out to admire Texas Falls, though;



very pretty! The Chatfield parking area was our next stop and we managed to ski in

about a half mile before being turned back by a track melted out to a bare dirt track through the forest. One last stop, this one at Widow's Clearing, clinched the deal. We didn't even bother to put our skis on.

Tracey directed us to downtown Middlebury and we spent the rest of that day, and part of the next, amusing ourselves by browsing the shops, finding interesting lunch stops and admiring the remains of the extensive, shared water-power infrastructure that used to power the town's industrial machines. Oh, I nearly forgot to mention that the Otter Creek



Brewery, located in Middlebury, also produces Wolavers beers. The brewery's visitor center offers windows into the brewing and bottling floor, gifts and, best of all, free tastings!

Our second evening found us in Two Brother's Tavern in downtown Middlebury and the following evening at Jackson's on the River. Both establishments did credible jobs serving up tasty eats in convivial surroundings for modest prices (and even separate checks).

Day two and, "What to do?" "Let's try a hike!" was the answer, and we did! We headed for the Rattlesnake Trail Area adjacent to Lake Dunmore. Our intention was to head for a prominent overlook but light snow discouraged prospects for an inspiring view. Starting up this steep trail, we found that the light snow cover made for treacherous conditions. Turning back, we followed an alternate trail for a few miles, passing through a lovely rocky glen and following a pretty stream tumbling down the mountain. All in all, a pleasant day and filled with hope for our final day, what with a light snow continuing to fall and predictions for it to continue through the night and into our last day.

Following breakfast we made a call to nearby Rikert Ski Touring Center, operated by Middlebury College at their Bread Loaf Campus. With



some reluctance, they said they would allow us to ski. So, we dressed for the event and headed for the center. Again, cautioning us that conditions were iffy, they sold us passes at a 50% discount and off we went. They were right, the conditions were a bit marginal but we could ski! In fact, most of us managed to get in more



Nature wouldn't *dare* mess with us twice ...

Trip Sign-Ups

by Sandy Stine

There is still room on the following trips:

Inlet, NY
Feb 25-Mar 1

Port Leyden, NY
Mar 11-14

Both of these trips offer fantastic skiing and snow

conditions and are usually very good in this part of the country this time of year. Send your check as soon as possible (made payable to the Kick 'n Gliders) to P.O. Box 1353, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055.

Also, if you have any interest in going on the second Lake Effect Trip in Pulaski, NY, on March 4-7, contact Peggy Hampton (717-805-3593) immediately. Peggy needed to turn back any rooms not reserved, but she will gladly check with the 1880 House to see if additional participants can be accommodated.

than seven miles before calling it a day!

And so, what do we think about Middlebury and the Waybury Inn as a ski trip destination? A resounding, "Yes, we'd come back!" was the answer ... after all, Mother



A couple of pictures from the editor's ski outing Jan 9, 2011, at Salmon La Sac north of Cle Elum, WA





KICK 'N GLIDERS
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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Trip Sign-Ups. --- space available!