



The Easy Glider

Kick 'n Gliders Nordic Ski Club

Editor: Peter Oswald (editor@kickngliders.org)

Issue: September 2018

Meetings are held upstairs at Center Street Grille, 4 Center St, Enola PA, 717-732-6900.

The Center Street Grille is on the east side of Center Street just south of Wertzville Rd (PA-944).

Directions to Center Street Grill at end of newsletter.

Events

Events

Don't miss the Ox Roast on Saturday, Oct 6, at 3:30pm

Join us at Black Birch Hollow, the Perry County home of Dave LeRoy and Nancy Kauh1, for the traditional kick off of the Kick 'n Gliders' ski season. This old-fashioned potluck barbeque begins after 3:30 pm with conversation and snacks, whether around the roasting fire, the chiminea, or inside. Dinner will be served between 5:30 and 6:00, when the "ox" is finished. Should it rain, come anyway! There is plenty of room inside the house for a crowd.

Bring \$5.00, a dish to share, and your favorite beverage. (Salads, baked beans, veggies or desserts are good choices; chips, nuts or a chunk of cheese are fine if you're kitchen challenged.)

Meat ("ox" roasted over an open fire and sausages on the grill), ice and table service will be provided. Bring a lawn chair if you like.

Members who have not yet paid their 2018-2019 dues can renew at this event, as well as sign up for or pay the balance due on ski trips. Each member may bring along up to two guests; members are encouraged to bring guests who have an interest in cross-country skiing. It is a great place for people to learn about the Kick 'n Gliders club, the trips we offer, and ask about ski equipment and clothing. Remember, first-time members' dues are only \$5 per individual and \$7.50 per family! Guests are asked to pay the \$5 event fee (to cover the cost of the meat and paper products) and bring a dish to share.

Reservations are required – so we know how much meat to prepare. Let Nancy know who/how many you are making reservations for and what potluck dish you plan to bring (so we don't have too much duplication) **by October 4, 2018**. If you need directions to Black Birch Hollow, let Nancy know and she'll email them to you. Make your reservations by calling 717-582-2562 or emailing Nancy at kauh1bbh@pa.net.

7:00 pm, Tuesday, November 6, 2018
Meeting Location: Bass Pro Shop **Note this meeting location change**

Speaker: Tom (Dutch) Ressler

Program: DutchWare specializes in custom-made camping hammocks and accessories and is located in Lancaster. Dutch started this company out of his garage and now has 18 employees. This is an online business which includes international customers. He is the designer of their products.

Dutch will talk about hammock camping and the products his company offers. Many of his products have been developed based on his many experiences in backpacking.

Join us to kick off the Kick 'n Glider's first meeting of the 2018-2019 ski season.

If you want to join us before hand for dinner at Tomato Pie Cafe at 5:30 send an RSVP to Mike McMullen at 717-215-7066 or preferably shoot an email to mcmullenm@acm.org.

7:00 pm, Wednesday, November 21, 2018
Dinner Social at T. J. Rockwell's American Grill & Tavern
800 Mt Gretna Rd, Elizabethtown, PA

7:00 pm, Tuesday, December 4, 2018
Program Meeting: TBD

7:00 pm, Wednesday, December 19, 2018
Holiday Party hosted by Bill and Sandy Stine.

Welcome to the 2018-2019 Season!

Nancy Kauh

Last April, the club planned a schedule of 13 trips. We had leaders for all trips when Barb Sears and Fred Burgess stepped up to lead the Ottawa trip. The early registration period ended in July and we had a lottery for the three trips that were oversubscribed at that time: Lake Placid, North

Conway and Laurentians. After the lottery, Nancy Kauh expanded the North Conway trip with an additional condo and Nancy Borremans added a chalet in the Laurentians to accommodate those who signed up. Thanks to all of our trip leaders for the work they do to make the arrangements for our skiing pleasure!

We had three enjoyable summer activities and we're looking forward to beginning the ski season with the Ox Roast on October 6. Regular program meetings and socials begin in November. My appreciation to Mike McMullen for putting together the meeting and activity schedule.

Some of you helped test the revisions that webmaster, Bill Stine, made to our website. Kudos on a job well done. Check it out!

Trip Openings Remain

Although several of our trips are already full, there are still plenty of opportunities to join us on a trip this season. The trips below have space available (as of September 10):

- Pulaski 1
- Stowe
- North Conway B (has 1 or 2 spaces)
- Bethel
- Ottawa
- Cazenovia
- Pulaski 2
- Inlet (both the 3-night and 4-night options)
- Boonville

Check out the details of all of these trips in the Season Schedule and Guide or on the website.

Cazenovia trip change

There is a mistake in the Season Schedule regarding the Cazenovia trip. The headline lists three nights—Feb. 19-22—but the price shown is only for two nights.

The dates of the trip on pages 7 and 16 are correct, as are the deadlines for deposits and final payments. The price, however, is increased to \$225 per person, and the deposit is \$110—half of the total fee, rounded down to the nearest \$5. The per night cost of the trip therefore stays the same, as does the trip capacity.

This mistake was caught by Lisa Baer, when she emailed me a few days ago. I was not at the trip planning meeting when the dates were decided. I had asked only that this trip immediately precede or follow the Lake Placid trip, which I'm also leading. Those in charge of constructing the schedule followed my wishes.

The Caz trip has normally been only two nights, but there are three nights between the Lake Placid and Pulaski II trips, so that's what was scheduled. In pricing the trip, I simply used the same price as we've had in the past, since the Brae Loch Inn is giving us the same rate we've always had.

I apologize for any confusion.

Bill Hoffman, trip leader

Congratulations!

Best wishes to members Bonnie Gardner and Rick Close who were married on September 9.

September Mt. Gretna Porch Party

A good group of Kick 'n Gliders got to reconnect on Sunday September 9th. Tom and Judy Hooper were our gracious hosts in their cozy house in Mt. Gretna on another of our rainy days. Due to the 100% rain forecast for the day the breakfast and bicycle trail ride had to be cancelled but Tom's spread of sausages and hamburgers and all the dishes that members brought more than made up for that. Our thanks to Tom and Judy.

Skiers,

We're in luck! Members Barb Sears and Fred Burgess stepped up to lead a trip to Ottawa, Canada!

The trip is scheduled, as it was in the preliminary schedule, for February 25 - March 1. The price is \$250 with a deposit requirement of \$125. We'll be staying in the Ottawa Jail Hostel; same place we stayed in 2015. You can find all the details on our website at:

<http://kickgliders.org/pages/extendedtrips.html#OTTAWA>

Ottawa is a great destination. Among the ski venues are the legendary 200+ kilometers of trails for all abilities in nearby Gatineau Park and the cool trails at the Nakkertok Nordic Club. Ottawa has much to offer. As the capital of Canada it is a city rich in history and culture. And, of course, there are the shops of Byward Market and skating on the frozen Rideau Canal. All those city activities are an easy walk to from our downtown digs.

Join us ... it'll be a blast!

In Search of the Missing Nor'easters

Ed Cook

<https://youtu.be/jtrM2UL7qug>

We had a peculiar winter last year in Central Pennsylvania. Beginning right after the New Year, and for a total of three times throughout the winter, brutal Nor'easters barreled up the Atlantic coast. We were predicted in each case to get as much as a foot of snow here, with more snow falling in eastern central Pa., with snow amounts tapering off as you headed west.

Unfortunately (so say we cross country skiers, anyhow) these storms hardly produced any snow at all in our region. Yet, just to our east abundant snow fell, snow which lasted throughout most of the season and well into March. I went in pursuit of this snow, and in the process I found a very interesting and unlikely place to do some great

skiing. This is the place to go if we get a repeat of last winter's weather.

The place is High Point State Park in extreme northwestern New Jersey. The address is 1480 Route 23, Sussex, NJ 07461 (decimalized GPS co-ords. 41.306250/74.670760). In the summer I'll bet the park center is bustling, since it's on a beautiful mountaintop lake with plenty of canoeing, and has a nice bathing beach and building with facilities and concessions nearby. The Appalachian trail passes right through this park.

You might or might not have guessed, because of the name, that the park is at the highest point in the state of New Jersey, having an altitude of over 1800 feet above sea level. That makes it a good candidate for holding snow in the winter, and that's exactly what I found in mid-March last year when I was there. Also, last winter it was located well into the belt that got all the snow from the Nor'easters that missed us! In winter the park building becomes a well-run cross country center. For many years a former member of the Norwegian national cross-country ski team has had the wintertime concession to operate the center. The building includes a ski rental shop, food concession, ski shop, and lunch room/lodge, complete with fireplace. There's usually some sort of skiing tape loop running on the tv in the room. It's a very comfortable and peaceful place; don't worry about there being a busy summertime crowd scene.

The center grooms over 15 k of trails, all of which that I saw was dual-groomed for classic and skate. You can ski within several hundred yards of the New York state line on the trail that heads north from the center; now that I think of it – this trail is pretty much back country at it's outer reaches. One of the biggest loops of another trail has a descent of well over 600 feet, if I recall correctly. You can get plenty of exercise without taking this trail though, if you want to skip the descent and ascent, which is what I did. There is a high trail that passes a timber, 2 or 3 story observation tower at one point, which if you climb up you'll be feasted to 360 degree panoramic views of three states. Immediately to the north is the tall stone

obelisk, which I would bet is as tall as the Bunker Hill Monument, that marks the highest point of land in New Jersey, and which is the unavoidable landmark of that whole area of the state. You should see it easily from miles away when you approach the park from any direction. I approached, by the way, from the Delaware Water Gap Route 209, crossing the river just south of Milford onto Route 206. I then headed north on local roads (Clove Rd.) lying to the west of the park, then turned east when I reached route 23. You'll end up going up an impressive highway climb until you get to the top. If you want detailed directions I can give you advice anytime. One thing I discovered though that I'll alert you to here is that the road that appears on maps that goes the length of the entire park from south to north is closed in the wintertime, so you have to approach on Route 23 at the northern end of the park. From Lancaster it took me slightly over three hours to get there the three times I went in March.

Let's hope for snow here next winter, but if last year repeats, then let's go skiing in New Jersey!



Looking north to monument from observation tower



XC ski center and beach trail in foreground

**Meetings are held upstairs at the Center Street Grille, 4 Center St, Enola PA,
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Directions from 581 and Rt 15 interchange

- Go north on Rt 11/15 about 1.7 miles to N. 21st St stop light
- Turn left on N 21st St and go 0.3 miles to Center St stop light
- Turn left on Center St then continue northward (changes to E. Penn Dr) 2.7 miles to Wertzville Rd stop light
- Turn right onto Wertzville Rd, go 0.1 mile to first right
- Turn right on Center St; Center Street Grille is on the left.

Directions from I-81 and Rt 11/15 interchange:

- Go south on Rt 11/15 about 0.5 mile to Valley Rd stop light
- Turn right on Valley Rd and go 1.8 miles to Salt Rd
- Turn left onto Salt Rd and continue southward (changes to E. Penn Dr) 0.9 miles to Wertzville Rd stoplight
- Turn left onto Wertzville Rd, go 0.1 mile to first right
- Turn right on Center St; Center Street Grille is on the left.



KICK 'N GLIDERS
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

In this Issue of Easy Glider:

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