



# The *Easy Glider*

Kick 'n Gliders Nordic Ski Club

Editor: Nancy Kahl ([editor@kickngliders.org](mailto:editor@kickngliders.org))

Issue: March 2022

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## Up-coming Events

### March 16, 2022 – Social at Marzoni's Brick Oven & Brewing Co.

7:00 pm – Meet at Marzoni's Brick Oven & Brewing Co., 4925 Ritter Rd., Mechanicsburg PA 17055 (717-766-6289).

### April 5, 2022 – Meeting at Centre Street Grille

7:00 pm – Business Meeting – This is our annual meeting for Elections, followed by 2023 Trip Planning. Immediate Past President, Andrea Hospodar, presented a proposed slate of officers to be considered for the elections. (See the proposed slate on page 2.) Come with ideas and information for planning next season's ski trips.

### April 20, 2022 – Social at Blue Bird Inn

7:00 pm – Meet at Blue Bird Inn, 2387 Cornwall Rd., Cornwall/Lebanon, PA 17042



# Program Meetings - Directions

**Program Meetings:** Program Meetings are typically held at 7:00 pm on the first Tuesday of the month at Center Street Grille at 4 Center St, Enola, PA. Meetings are held upstairs. 717-732-6900.

**NOTES:**

As of the beginning of September, 2021, the Center Street Grille has no COVID restrictions. We recommend that those attending the meeting follow CDC guidelines, wearing a mask regardless of vaccination status.

Attendees interested in eating at the Grille prior to the meeting should gather at 5:30 for dinner.

**Directions from PA-283 at Exit to I-283**

1. Follow I-83 S toward Harrisburg
2. Take exit 42 toward Lemoyne onto Lowther St
3. Turn right onto S 3rd St
4. Turn right onto Market St
5. Take the 1st left onto S Front St / S Enola Rd
6. Turn left onto PA-944 W
7. Turn left onto PA-944 W / Wertzville Rd
8. Turn left onto Center St
9. Destination will be on the left

**Directions from I-81 N at PA-581**

1. Follow I-81 N (1.2 mi)
2. Exit 61 for PA-944 / Wertzville Rd (0.2 mi)
3. R onto PA-944 E / Wertzville Rd (2.1 mi)
4. R onto Center St. Destination on left. (135 ft)

**Directions from I-83 and I-76, PA Turnpike**

1. Follow I-83 N (1.8 mi)
2. Exit 41B for Lemoyne (0.5 mi)
3. L onto Lowther St (0.2 mi)
4. L onto S 3rd St (0.5 mi)
5. R onto Market St (0.4 mi)
6. L onto S Front St (2.0 mi)
7. Continue onto US-11 N / US-15 / 501 N (1.0 mi)
8. L onto Enola St (259 ft)
9. Slight L onto South St (0.1 mi)
10. R onto PA-944 W (0.4 mi)
11. L onto PA-944 W / Wertzville Rd (0.6 mi)
12. L onto Center St. Destination will be on the left. (135 ft)

## Proposed Slate of Officers

At the February 1, 2022, Business Meeting, our immediate past-president, Andrea Hospodar, presented the slate of officers for consideration for voting at the April meeting.

Presidents	Fred and Tanya Richter
Vice-President/President-elect	Gary Musser
Treasurer	David LeRoy
Secretary	Marilyn Grove
Extended Trips Coordinators	David Walborn, Jamie Hackman
Day Trips Coordinator	Bill Stine
Membership	Nancy Kauh
Programs	Andrea Hospodar
Newsletter Editor	Nancy Kauh
Immediate Past President	Fred Burgess

# Trip Reports

## White Mountains Live Up To Their Name

North Conway, NH – Feb 5 – 12, 2022

In spite of the challenges of this past year, we had a nearly perfect week in North Conway, NH. Although we had icy precipitation the Friday before, Saturday was a brilliantly sunny day and the trees glistened as if coated in diamonds, while the



roads were nice and clear making for a nice driving day. Twenty-two Kick 'n Gliders participated this year. Due to the size of the group, Nancy Borremans co-led the trip and was in charge of two of the five condos. Thanks, Nancy, for your help! With varying levels of comfort about Covid exposure, we decided to forego our customary group dinner on arrival at Flatbread Pizza Co., so everyone was on their own for dinner. We settled into our 5 condos and prepared for a week of great skiing.

Skiing was different this year thanks to Covid. None of the ski centers were open for meals or changing/warming up. Your car was your base. Only restrooms were open for brief usage. Meals/snacks were eaten on the trail. We started our week as usual at the perennial favorite – Bear Notch. I had made a reservation (a new covid requirement) there for the whole group and they were gracious enough to open up their warming

hut for just our group with a “Private Function” sign in the door. Is it any wonder this is our favorite venue? But we surely did miss the hot soups and homemade bread this year! Many of us



returned a second or third time and they again opened it up for our group. With a fresh snowfall of a foot or more of fresh powder the day before we arrived, and an already substantial base, it was a wonderful ski

day with sunshine and bluebird skies. It was the coldest day of the week, starting in the low teens, but we had a little later start and the sun and lack of wind made for a pleasantly comfortable ski.



Covid also did away with our two-for-one deals at Great Glen, as well as the two'fer dinner specials. Bummer! Nevertheless, we headed for Great Glen on Monday

and found similarly excellent conditions, blue skies and wonderful mountain vistas.

From Tuesday on, most of the group went separate ways in small groups, with some taking a rest day at some point, and many repeating their favorite venues. We hit all the other local venues: Jackson, Whittaker Woods/Mt. Washington Valley Ski & Snowshoe Foundation, and Bretton Woods. Most of the group went to Bretton Woods on Wednesday and had a near picture perfect day! Again excellent trails, blue skies, sun and temps



## *Skiing at Bear Notch*

*Blue sky above  
White snow below  
Sun on my face  
My spirit aglow*

*Smooth white trail  
Below my feet  
Ready to glide  
I feel complete*

*Thru forest, by the river  
Into the big field  
Smooth cruising awaiting  
It's a super good deal!*

*Push and slide  
That's how you glide  
Very soon, you'll find your stride*

*Move slow or fast  
It's up to you  
How long you last  
And what you do*

*Take a break  
Just breathe the air  
Very soon, you'll lose all care  
If you seek a bigger thrill  
Follow me on up the hill  
Pause a moment, enjoy the view  
See God's beauty laid out for you*

*Ready, set, off you push  
Down the trails - you will swoosh!  
Thru the glades and over the brook  
A better ride you never took*

*Now our skiing day is done  
All that snow and brilliant sun  
Come sit by the fire and tell tall tales  
Of skiing hills and river trails*

*A glass of rum and cozy fire  
Today you found your heart's desire.*

*- Brenda Monahan -*

starting at around 30 degrees. It did, however, warm up into the 40's by late afternoon, making the snow quite soft. From there on, with temps below freezing overnight, the snow conditions everywhere on Thursday and Friday were a bit granular which made for a faster ski, but with control a bit more challenging.

Again, as a result of Covid concerns, we did our meals in individual condos instead of as a large group. Some small groups went out or did take-out for a meal or two, and some of the group went out to Deacon Street on Thursday for a small group dinner. To make up

for the lack of social time, condo 8A invited anyone who wanted to join for a BYOB happy hour one night. And Bill Stine again entertained us with his video composed of pictures gathered during the week. This format seemed to be well received and we may likely do a variation of it again next year, probably with more planned happy hours to make up for the lack of group dinners.

Alas, Saturday came around and it was time for some of us to head home or, for the lucky ones, on to Lake Placid. It certainly was a glorious week and we look forward to doing it again next year! *By: Andrea Hospodar*



# Olympic Village is Slick Venue

Lake Placid, NY – Feb 12 – 17, 2022

My group of ten members assembled at the Miracle Hill Lodge near downtown Lake Placid on Saturday, Feb. 12. This was a new house for us and it worked out very well. It's very nicely furnished with a well-equipped kitchen plus a laundry room that has a second fridge where people could store their "private" food. The only downside, for some, was the fact that the TV only worked if you had a subscription to one of the streaming services. That meant having to pay to watch the Olympics and the Super Bowl. Even then, those who tried signing up were unable to do so. So, they had to use their phones in order not to miss a single play of the game.



About a month before the trip, I got an email saying my deposit (the house was booked via Vrbo) was being refunded and our lease cancelled due to the house being sold. I was told to contact the new owner if I wanted to rebook. Of course, I did, but I insisted that the original price be honored because we had a lease. By law, existing

leases survive any sale of a property. After some back-and-forth, that request was honored, but the cleaning fee was higher. Still, we were all happy with the house. There are not a lot of options, even in Lake Placid, for a place large enough for the number of people this trip always draws. This year Bill Stine was able to find another house nearby at the same price to handle the overflow.

Sunday, we skied at the VIC at Paul Smith's College. It was a cold day—low of -7, high of 15, with no wind. The light snowfall the previous afternoon could not completely erase the damage that earlier rain had done, thus, the trails were somewhat icy, mainly those closest to the center, where traffic is the heaviest. Farther out, conditions were much better. Several new





trails have been added since our last visit two years ago. Our group of about a dozen, at various times, skied Heron Marsh, Easy Street and Loggers Loop.

Monday's plan was to try out Dewey Mountain in Saranac Lake. Although the venue's website did not so indicate, a call from Bill Stine revealed that conditions were very icy. Most of those who had planned to go there were already underway when we got this news, so we instead went back to the VIC, where we knew what to expect. The

close-in trails at the VIC were also slick—not icy, but with a hard-packed base and no powder, but if you got out to the more distant trails conditions were much better, though not excellent. This was the coldest day of the trip, with a high of only 6F and some wind, creating a wind-chill around -10. It was an otherwise beautiful day.



Tuesday was warmer than Monday but much windier, so it felt colder. Several people opted not to ski; a few others went exploring possible future venues. The third morning in a row of a light overnight snowfall was not sufficient to freshen up

the hard-packed trails. Mark, Sue, Jesse and Karen explored Hays Brook Truck Trail, a location about 3 miles north of the VIC. It consists of several truck trails with moderate terrain that are seldom used. I stopped by Heaven Hill Trails, only 3 miles from the house, but with slick conditions and some trail damage done by walkers a few days earlier when the trails were soft, I was not encouraged to try it today. But in good conditions it's an attractive close-by option.



Wednesday, the warmest day and the only one that got above the teens, had six in my group going back to Hays Brook and three to Mt. Van Hoevenberg. The new lodge at Van would do a downhill area proud, but is over the top for a cross-country venue. The ticket and food prices reflect the opulence built into the place—now \$24 for people over 70 and still higher for younger people. When you buy a ticket, you get an RF card to keep in a jacket pocket. The sensors at the entrance gates are

supposed to be able to read the card and open the gates, but several of us had to take them out to gain entry.

The trails are mostly unchanged, but you have to ski down an open trail from the new lodge to the start of the trail network. This trail seems to have a cross-slope, so with the wind and no powder we had all we could do to keep from sliding off. You access this trail by going up a series of metal stairs from the entrance, or climbing one story inside the building. Clearly, the new lodge is a big improvement over the old one, but it does not enhance the skiing experience. On this icy and windy day, we stuck to the beginners' trails and were done by early afternoon—certainly not \$24 worth of skiing.

Thursday, departure day, brought rain and very warm temperatures, plus high winds. While nobody had to drive home or to the next trip in snowy conditions, the downside was the damage to the trails, just in time for President's weekend.

Participants in my group: Dave LeRoy and Nancy Kauhl, Mark Kern and Sue Berg, Jesse Jepsen and Karen Northeimer, David Walborn, Tom Hooper, Nan Reisinger, and myself. *By: Bill Hoffman*

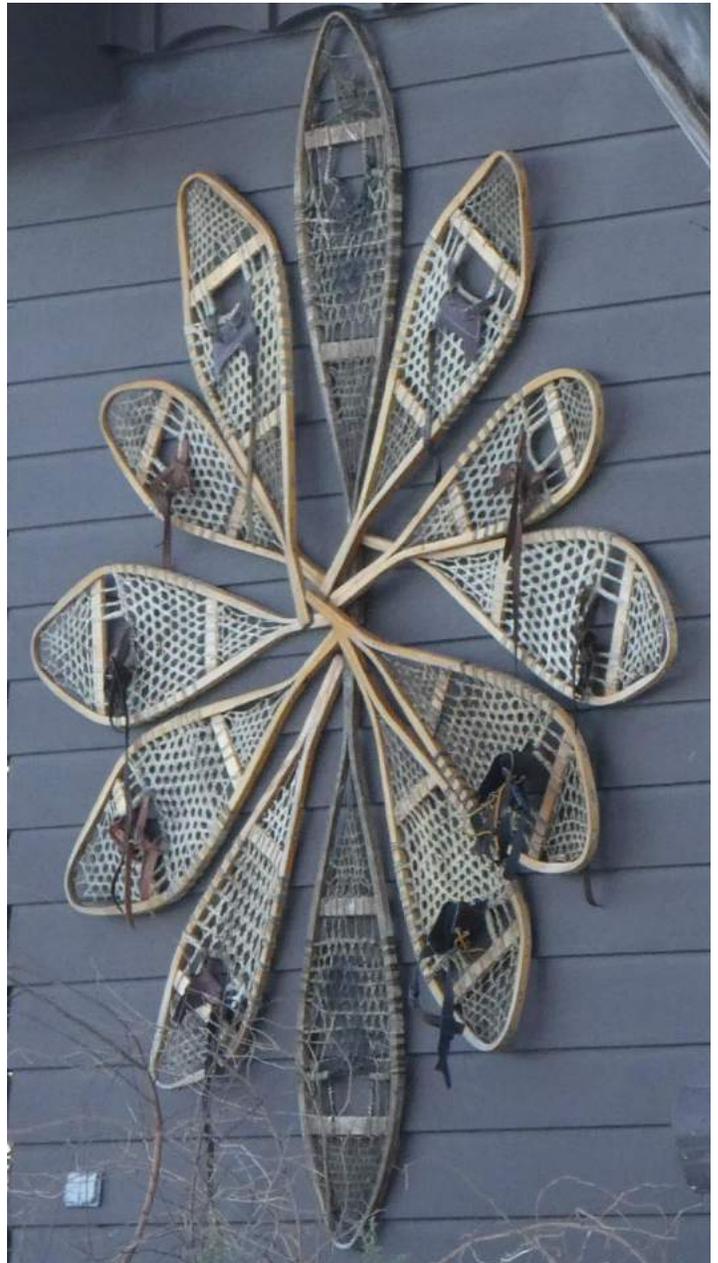
## Olympic Village is Slick Venue - EXTRA

Lake Placid, NY – Feb 12 – 17, 2022

As always, the legendary winter Olympic village of Lake Placid remains a very desirable destination for Kick 'n Gliders. This year we, again, had to run two simultaneous trips, renting two houses, to accommodate the demand by our members. Although the houses were only a quarter mile apart, we kept COVID-19 concerns in mind, choosing not to socialize, meeting only at ski venues.

There was plenty of snow in the area. However, grooming at the venues left chunky surfaces that mostly remained frozen due to cold weather during our visit. So skiing could be tricky in the mornings but getting better during most afternoons when the sun softened the snow a bit.

Mt Van Hoevenberg and the VIC at Paul Smiths were the most popular destinations for our members. The new ski center at Hoevenberg was fabulous but prices have risen to match the décor with a senior weekday pass costing \$24. The VIC, on the other hand, gave us a club rate of \$7.50. Since conditions were similar at both places, the VIC won most of our business!



Of course, Lake Placid has much to offer the “back country” crowd. Some of us took that to mean hiking or snowshoeing. The Peninsula Trails and those at Henrys Woods were in great shape and could be easily boot-walked. Others skied the Hayes Brook Trails and found them to be the best skiing they’d had during the trip. Those trails were hard packed but were covered with a small amount of fresh snow that made skiing quite pleasant.

As we’ve found in other places, restaurants continue to struggle with staffing issues so we prepared all of our own meals. Turns out we’re pretty good cooks and no one lost any weight!

*By: Bill Stine*

## **Cazenovia received some nice frosting on the ice**

Cazenovia, NY – Feb 17 – 21, 2022

The Cazenovia trip got off to an inauspicious start, with rain and temps in the high 40s throughout arrival day, Thursday. The rain was predicted to change to snow overnight with a light accumulation. That did happen, but the “light accumulation” in Caz turned out to be a good 2 inches, which was enough to freshen up the trails at nearby Stoney Pond State Forest, where we skied Friday afternoon. Since it was snowing all morning, we



opted to wait until after lunch in order to enjoy a higher snowfall, and for the efficient road crews to plow the back roads leading to Stoney. Once there, we skied on the west side of Jones Rd., where

the trails are easier. We wanted to test conditions before deciding to venture onto the intermediate trails on the east side. That didn’t happen. The snowfall and colder temps didn’t quite eliminate the standing and



running water from yesterday's rain and melt. We wound up skiing about an hour and a half, pretty much out and back. We split into two groups, with the faster group doing an extra half mile or so. While conditions were not great, we at least were able to ski locally, which is more than we expected.

Saturday we again put off skiing until afternoon, to allow lake effect to do its thing. We had considered driving 50 miles to Osceola, but we were leery driving in possible white-outs (the wind was very strong today). Instead, most of us went to Beaver Lake Nature Center. The report from Highland Forest was not promising. The 35-mile drive there was uneventful, and we all met at



the Dinosaur Barbecue in downtown Syracuse for dinner. Dave and Nancy, having gone out for lunch, pronounced the wind too strong to ski, so they spent the afternoon finishing the Easy Glider and having it printed locally at Staples. At Beaver Lake, there was about a 3" base but some snow had fallen during the morning, and the place was not crowded. We found only one place on the Lake Loop where the wind had



blown the snow off the trail, and minimal ice at the surface, although it was clear that it was icy underneath the new snow. All in all, not a bad skiing day.

About 3 inches of snow fell in Caz on Saturday afternoon and evening. Theoretically this was enough to improve conditions at Highland Forest for Sunday, but we had already decided to try the new center at Osceola, where at least 6 inches fell on a much deeper base than Highland had. So we made the 50-mile trip and were well rewarded with excellent conditions. Again, we split into two groups, with Dave, Nancy

and David in one and Barbara, Ron and me in the other. My group skied the south side of the road in the morning, since we did not get started until 11 (it's over an hour drive from Caz, even longer this time because some of the roads were snow-covered). We stuck mostly to the easiest trails until we had some experience with the center's grading. After lunch we stayed on the north side, where the lodge is, and did about half the green and blue trails, with one short downhill on a black. Some of these trails were part of Hugh Quinn's network.

Speaking only for myself, the trails here are amply wide and accurately graded. The blacks really are black. I did not see any trails that were marked as one-way. The grooming is very good. The lodge itself, being new, is orders of magnitude nicer and larger than Hugh's was (although the new owners there may have made some improvements). They also sell a variety of food and drink items, but most of us had brought our lunches which we ate inside the lodge (although it got warm enough this day to eat outside). The trail

maps do not give distances, and my judgment was that the distances are shorter than the map indicated. I estimated that we skied about 4-5 miles total.

As we were heading back for lunch, I warned a young family going the opposite way about a tree whose branches hung low over the track, about at head level. (I later told the management so it could be trimmed back.) The father said, “Are you Bill Hoffman?” Taken aback, I owned up to it, and asked how he knew. “I recognized your voice.” It was a guy who had worked at LAB (the League of American Bicyclists)

headquarters in Washington when I was either on the board or a member of the education committee. He left LAB in 2006, so we had had no contact in 15 years, although I recognized him when he identified himself. He’s now a stay-at-home dad in Philadelphia. With such a recognizable voice, if I were a singer I could’ve been a Tony Bennett and made millions.



Overall, this trip turned out better than I expected skiing-wise.

*By: Bill Hoffman*

## **Making the Best of the Situation along the Allegany River**

Allegany State Park, NY – Feb 21 – 25, 2022

This was the trip that wasn’t. Scheduled for three days (four nights) at a lovely inn in Salamanca, NY, the weather gods had other ideas. Arrival day, Monday, Feb. 21, saw temperatures in the high 50s. By 8AM Tuesday it was raining, with almost an inch predicted—enough to trigger a flood watch on area rivers due to snowmelt. Wednesday’s forecast was for a slight chance of snow, but with temps still above freezing. And then a significant snowfall was set to begin Thursday night and continue through Friday.



That provoked us, one by one, to decide to leave Thursday. The Stines were going on to Inlet, while the rest of us went home. Early Tuesday afternoon we learned that the trails (the Art Roscoe Ski Trails at Allegany State Park) were closed by the park authority due to bare spots and ice. When it became clear that we would not be able to ski here, there was no reason to stay. Dave and Nancy did housekeeping chores and mailed the Easy Glider, Sandy and Lin checked out a thrift store, and Bill, David and I hung out at the house. At noon we watched a live-streamed YouTube concert by my pianist friends Stephanie Trick and



Paolo Alderighi. They do these once a month for people who've signed up as patrons. I was happy to share these brilliant artists with my ski friends, although most of them had been to the concert they did at my house in



November, 2019. In the evening we watched pianist Adam Swanson's regular Sunday evening concert, archived on YouTube. The same people had also seen Adam performing in my living room (he's been there three times). End of report. *By: Bill Hoffman*



## Did you know...

...Great Glen Trails hosted the 21<sup>st</sup> *New Hampshire Sanctioned & Jackson Invitational Snow Sculpting Competition* the last weekend of January. Denny and Pam Dunn, Bonnie Telegraphis and Ken Britton were in the area and viewed some of the sculptures. The event was hosted by the Jackson Area Chamber of Commerce. Teams from all over the Northeastern part of the United States participated and the winners were invited to compete at the United States National Snow Sculpting Championship held in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, the first weekend of February. Each team has from noon on Friday to noon on Sunday to turn an 8-foot high by 4-foot diameter cylinder of compacted snow into a fleeting piece of art.





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