

Directors' Reports – January 9, 2008

Forestry

Planting

We are planning on planting the areas that blew down 5 years ago, the harvesting of the timber has been completed. The club gained approximately \$15000 from the harvesting activities. There is approximately 30 hectares in all, with approximately 25 hectares of plantable ground. The cost to plant the area will be approximately \$22,050. The breakdown of costs is;

25 hectares @ 1400 trees/hectare = 35000 trees of mixed species, pine and spruce

Cost to plant /tree approx. \$.35 x 35000 = \$12,250 (costs can fluctuate between 30 and 40 cents)

Cost to purchase trees, approx. \$.28/ tree X 35,000 = \$9800 (costs can fluctuate between 20 and 40 cents)

Discussions with the forest service in Vernon, to see if we can get the area planted under the Trees for Tomorrow program are very positive.

(25 x 1400 x \$.63 = \$22050)

Spruce Bark Beetle Harvesting

The area of spruce bark beetle to be harvested between winters creek road and Vindicator will not happen until next fall, Weyerhaeuser felt that there would be too much disruption if the harvesting was done this winter. Trap trees will be used to keep the beetle from spreading until that time. Trap trees are small groups of spruce trees, 5 to 10 trees, that are felled in scattered bunches that attract the beetles when they fly in the spring.

We have some scattered spruce bark beetle attacked trees within the ski area; hopefully we will be able to deal with these trees on an individual basis.

Identifying Beetle Attacked Trees

At this time of year the best indication of both spruce and pine bark beetle is woodpecker activity. Anybody noticing this activity on green spruce or pine trees please note their location and mark them on a beetle location map that will be located at the ticket office.

There is an attacked spruce bark beetle tree adjacent to the southern junction of Evening Star and Night Hawk and a attacked pine bark tree on the south side of Cannon Ball east of the junction with McNeils Claim

Report from Director of Registration

As of today we have 546 members in our club. I have closed the online registration and put a note on the webpage that membership can be purchased at the ticket office for the balance of the season.

Info@nickelplatenordic is interesting and ongoing; we get about three inquiries per week now so it is not too arduous a job.

Colleen Schneider

SOCIAL CONVENOR'S REPORT

JANUARY 9, 2008

Our Welcome to Nickel Plate Day barbeque lunch was a success. Despite a slow start, we ended up selling almost as many hamburgers and hotdogs as last year. We took in \$430 with expenses of \$234.66. We received donations from 5 business and I sent them thank you cards and enclosed free guest passes. The nonperishable food left over from that day is in the kitchen and the perishables were donated to the soup kitchen.

A big thank you to the volunteers who helped out.

A suggestion for next year would be a poster by the ticket window giving the agenda for the day as people weren't sure the times for lunch etc.

There is a pot luck lunch planned for next Wednesday, January 16th.

The new kitchen is beautiful but needs a few items to make it more user-friendly. For example, dish towels, coffee mugs, cutlery, plates small bowls etc. Shall we buy them? Shall we ask for donations?

Esther

SDP Coordinator's Report

*First Class was postponed due to lack of snow on Dec. 8 and the program has been bumped along, therefore, by a week. It will end on Feb. 16 - loppett day

*Coaches are doing a marvelous job!

*Sadly, Sandra Paisley, one of our bunny coaches, is unable to continue coaching the rest of the season due to a serious family health issue.

*We are looking for substitute coaches. If anyone from the executive is able to help out a Saturday or two, please advise me. Thank you!

*Terrain Park - is up and running. Looking for more snow to use it more fully! Children are having lots of fun!!

*Loppett Day - we would like to offer our children a mini loppett again this year. They had a lot of fun last year! and thanks to the coordinated efforts of the organizers of this event, I think it went well. The older children will participate in the 8 or 10 km route (if one is available this year).

*Backcountry adventure campout at the cabin - Our Track Attack program would like to offer the 10 - 12 year olds another backcountry program. Feb. 16 -Feb. 17. Yes, I know this is the same day as the loppett. The "camp" would begin after the loppett. Afternoon activities may include orienteering, snow cave building, snowshoeing, animal tracking, avalanche safety, etc....

Could we please use the cabin for the night of Feb. 16? probably around 12 children with one of their parents present.

Thanks for your support.

Charlotte

Managers Report

Jan 9, 2007.

Business at Nickel Plate is rolling along after a very slow start to December. We are still shy on snow for the outer trails. The inner trails are in good shape, panorama to the lookout and Bucks trek are in fair condition. Motherlode, Riemers, Winters Creek, Silverside and a portion of Evening Star have poor conditions en route and are not being actively groomed until we are blessed with a significant snowfall.

We had a busy Christmas season Dec 22 to Jan 6. We received several daily snow falls throughout this period and the skiing was very good. Skiers came from Australia, England, United States, British

Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and Ontario. On December 23 around 2 pm, a cow and a calf moose loped down Midnight Sun turned east and went in front of the cabin much to the amazement of the 25 skiers looking wide eyed out the window.

The new machine is fantastic and is working well. The wider tracks have made a difference in the packing of the trails and the tiller configuration gives the skaters and the classic skiers more room. The steel capped tracks are an advantage and are protecting the tracks from rock damage.

The staff positions have been filled, the new part time groomer is Jack Ambler, and the new office personal are Cindy and Randall Stewart. All personal have fit in nicely and will be a great addition to the Nickel Plate staff.

We have taken in approximately 35 of the two for one coupons offered through the community centre booklet, and 15 guest passes.

Ten dollar Tuesday was yesterday, with only a few skiers being aware of the promotion.

The school program is booked and the schools start arriving at Nickel Plate Jan 17.

I am pursuing a quote on bringing our aluminum on trail maps up to date. These maps have been around longer than past president Dick Riemer and have several deficiencies. A tiding up of some of the trail names on the flat west trails should be considered.

Things are going well, don't stop your snow dance yet. The skiing is good. See you on the hill.

Keith.