



New England Regional Ski For Light
P.O. Box 861, Georgetown, MA 01833
781-667-9270, www.nersfl.org

Summer 2009

Message from the President

Hello Everyone!

I am writing this message on an early warm June evening, reflecting back on our great winter season and looking forward to our summer planned activities. They have taken us some time to organize, hence the reason for the delay in sending the summer edition of the NERSFL Newsletter!

Our weekend at Craftsbury this past winter was what it always is - lots of fun, great snow conditions, good food and, yes, bringing new and old friends together. Isn't that usually what happens on an NERSFL trip? We had new participants and guides on both our winter trips. They all plan to return in the future!

In March we traveled to Crawford Notch NH. We stayed at the Appalachian Mountain Club Highland Center and skied and snow shooed at Bretton Woods Touring Center. First time participants and guides who joined us on this trip experienced great snow conditions. We enjoyed our stay at the Highland Center with its hearty food and simple lodging. Prior to this trip Dave Fisk, Joanne Jordan, Polly Jacobson, Jean Shiner, Victor LaChance and I were invited by Sandy Olney, director of the Bretton Woods Adaptive Program to provide cross country and snow shoe guide training. Several guides were trained and we all had a great time cross country skiing and snow shoeing together! Jim and Sue Moore, members of the Adaptive Program, opened up their home to us and were wonderful hosts

throughout our weekend stay! Many of these guides joined us on the March trip and are looking forward to our summer weekend.

Thanks to all Board members and participants who made our past winter season so successful!

In December T. J. Thornton, a reporter from the Boston Globe contacted NERSFL. This resulted in an extremely well-written article about New England Regional Ski for Light which appeared in the Christmas Day edition of the Boston Globe. Cindy Wentz, Dave Fisk and I are featured in the article. If you would like to read this article, it can be found on our website or contact us for a copy. This article is terrific for PR and outreach.

My message would not be complete without thanking all of our Board members who have worked so hard this past year. I want to let everyone know we are all so fortunate to have such a dedicated and committed NERSFL board. I would encourage you to consider joining one of our committees and “get involved”. Maybe you are unable to participate in our activities at this time, but there is always work to be done to increase our membership, promote NERSFL and assist with phone calls, mailings and the newsletter!

I look forward to hearing from you and hope to see many of you on our summer weekend and October day hike!

In conclusion, please stay in touch by e-mailing or calling with questions or ideas, as well as phone, e-mail and mailing address updates. Please send along any names of participants and/or guides interested in being added to our mailing list. Most importantly, please join me in keeping with our NERSFL tradition and let’s continue to have fun with all of our NERSFL friends while enjoying outdoor activities together this summer and fall. See you on the trail!

Marie Hennessy

expenses and other related information to demonstrate need. You will be notified by telephone within one week from receipt of your application.

Forms

Enclosed is an application for you to complete and return with your payment. If you did not attend one of our winter 2009 trips, Health and Liability forms will be sent to you after we receive your completed application and payment. All forms must be filled out, signed, and returned before you can participate in an event.

Physical Condition and Guide Pre-Requisites

Anyone in average physical condition can expect to complete these activities. If there are any questions about your ability to participate, we will be happy to discuss them with you. In questionable cases, the decision to participate will lie with the participant and his or her physician. Participants must take responsibility for their own health-related issues at events. If you are interested in attending an event as a guide, please be assured that training in guiding a visually impaired person is available at events. However, it is expected that guides have prior experience and skill with hiking and/or kayaking. Everyone's enjoyment will be enhanced by any measures taken to improve physical fitness and stamina before the event. All guides and participants must be at least eighteen years of age.

Transportation

Transportation to events is a shared responsibility. We will make every effort to have transportation available by carpooling. Guides are encouraged to let us know if you are willing to drive and just how many passengers you can take. All passengers are expected to contribute towards the cost of gasoline and tolls. If you are coming to an event from out of town, do not make travel plans back home on public transportation prior to 7:00 pm on the final day of an event. It is very difficult to guarantee a return to transportation centers prior to this time without disrupting other participants' plans.

Guide Dogs

Although guide dogs are welcome on most trips, you may not bring them in the kayaks. On the last day of an event, after checkout time you will be responsible for attending to your dog. Please consider this when deciding whether or not to bring your dog.

Trip Application

Name _____ Phone(H) _____

Address _____ (W) _____

_____ (C) _____

E-mail _____

I am a guide _____ visually-impaired participant _____

I need transportation to the event/s _____ (yes or no)

I can offer a ride to # _____ passengers ___to and ___from the event.

I wish to attend the following event/s. Enclosed is my payment for:

___ N.H. Hiking/Kayaking Weekend, August 7-9 for **\$150.00/\$165.00**

(Please register by July 8 with the total amount of \$150)

___ Middlesex Fells Day Hike, October 3 for **\$10** please register by
September 19

Detach and mail with payment to: NERSFL, P.O. Box 861, Georgetown,
MA 01833

Donations

We are a tax exempt not for profit 501c3 organization. Any donations to NERSFL are greatly appreciated and are tax exempt. Please complete the form below:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel. Nbrs: H: _____ C: _____ W: _____

Email Address: _____

Amount: _____ \$25 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ Other

Detach and mail with payment to:

NERSFL, P.O. Box 861, Georgetown, MA 01833

Thank you! Donations made to NERSFL help to make our trips more affordable, cover mailing and printing costs, produce our NERSFL Newsletter, and assist with funding scholarships!

NERSFL Board of Directors

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Dave Fisk – Vice President

Nancy Brown- Secretary

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Free Matter
for the Blind