



New England Regional Ski for Light
P.O. Box 861, Georgetown, MA 01833
781-667-9270
Web site: www.nersfl.org
Email Address: nersfl@nersfl.org

Summer 2011

Message from the President

Hello Everyone!

We had another great winter season thanks to so many of you who made it happen! A little outreach makes such a difference! Guides and participants spreading the word prior to the Craftsbury event certainly paid off as new cross-country and snow shoe guides were trained on both of our winter trips. Participants who had never snow shoed or skied before were eager to try these new activities while others who had not skied for many years joined us with renewed enthusiasm.

Though conditions were less than perfect at Craftsbury, skiing and snow shoeing was enjoyed by all because of what that venue has to offer. This year's auction was a great success - we raised over \$700 thanks to the efforts of a fabulous auctioneer, those attendees who pitched in to organize the items and the generosity of the bidders.

Although we (or most of us) only had one day of snow shoeing and skiing at Brettonwoods due to heavy rain on Sunday, there were the hardy few who couldn't resist the opportunity to ski and play in the snow while others of us took a nice tour of the Mount Washington Hotel before returning home.

What made our winter season so successful once again this year is having the opportunity to snow shoe and ski at two great places, the ongoing friendship and fun we have and the delicious food served at both Craftsbury and the Wayside Inn.

Time passes by so quickly as summer is here and we now can look ahead to sharing some of our favorite summer outdoor activities together. You will see that we have some fun events planned at extremely reasonable prices.

We were able to offer financial assistance to a guide and participant during this winter season making it possible for these individuals to attend our trips. Remember that donations are welcome on behalf of the Nario & Helen Brenes Scholarship Fund and the Jordan Family Memorial Fund. We hope you will consider making a contribution to one or both of these funds so we can continue to be able to offer financial support to attendees who otherwise would not be able to attend.

Wouldn't it be wonderful to see everyone from NERSFL once again? Plans are currently being made for this to happen at a greater Boston Restaurant in early November on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon! What a great opportunity to catch up with each other, and share memories of NERSFL! If you would be interested in assisting with organizing this event please contact Marie at 781-321-1071 or email cnppr@verizon.net. We will keep you updated when details are finalized.

My message would not be complete without thanking all of our Board members, guides and participants 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 trip or at our hike in October!

In conclusion please stay in touch by e-mailing or calling with questions or ideas, as well as updates to your contact information and names of individuals 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 physical activities together this summer and fall. I look forward to seeing you!

Marie Hennessy

UPCOMING SUMMER 2011 TRIPS

The Wayside Inn , Bethlehem, NH

August 5-7, 2011

This event features hiking and kayaking. Two choices of hikes will be offered on Saturday - one for those who would like a less challenging hike on a paved trail and the other a moderate hike with lots of roots, rocks and a longer climb up one of the many beautiful mountains in the White Mountains. Our kayaking location has not been determined as yet but there will be opportunities for all levels of enjoyment. It may be possible to have a second day of hiking or tandem bicycling in lieu of the kayak excursion for those who wish to do so. Many of our guides from last summer will be joining us for this summer's activities.

Price includes two nights lodging in double rooms with private baths, two breakfasts and two lunches. Dinner is on your own. Options include the gourmet restaurant at the Wayside or perhaps a restaurant in town. Please sign up early as space is limited! *Don't miss this opportunity to join us as NH is a beautiful place to be in the summer.*

Cost: \$ 120.00 Full payment due by July 22.

Breakheart Reservation

October 1, 2011

Join us at 9:30AM for a day hike at Breakheart Reservation in Saugus. This day hike will be easy-moderate. Bring snacks, lunch and plenty of water.

Cost: \$10 Full payment due by September 17.

Payments and Refund Policy. Please make payments by check to New England Regional Ski for Light and mail to NERSFL, P.O. Box 861, Georgetown, MA 01833.

For all events early application returns will assist in planning for adequate guide and transportation matching. If for any reason you need to cancel your reservation for the August weekend trip, \$25 of the trip cost is nonrefundable. The balance may be refundable in part minus charges incurred by NERSFL from the vendor. We will do our best to assist you to find someone to take your place, but it is ultimately your responsibility to find a replacement.

Financial Assistance

Financial assistance is available to participants and guides who cannot afford to pay the full cost of a trip. Up to three-quarters of the cost of a trip may be subsidized. In order to be considered one must submit a letter with the event application by July 13 for the August weekend trip and September 17 for the fall hike. The letter should contain total monthly or yearly income with 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 a trip application for you to complete and return with your payment. Guide, Participant, Health and Liability forms can be downloaded from our website: <http://nersfl.org> or mailed to you in hard copy at your request. All forms must be filled out, signed, and returned before you can participate in an event.

Physical Condition and Guide Pre-Requisites

Anyone in good 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 kayaking. Everyone's enjoyment will be enhanced by any measures taken to improve physical fitness and stamina before the event. All guides and visually impaired participants must be at least eighteen years of age.

More information about participating as a guide or as a visually-impaired participant can be found on our web site, <http://nersfl.org> or requested by sending an email to nersfl@nersfl.org or by calling 781-667-9270.

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. *Remember! Take into consideration the high price of gas when paying your drivers!!* 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. We can not guarantee a return to transportation centers prior to this time.

Guide Dogs

Although guide dogs are welcome on most trips, there are restrictions that may impact your participation in some activities. 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. Dogs are not allowed in the kayaks.

Summer 2011 Trip Application

Name _____

Address _____

Phone: (H) _____ (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:

_____ Wayside Inn, Bethlehem, NH August 5-7, 2011

Please register by July 22, 2011 with the total amount of \$120.00.

_____ Breakheart Reservation October 1, 2011

Please register by September 17 with total amount of \$10.00

Note: Please contact Marie at 781-321-1071 or email cnppr@verizon.net before making plane or train reservations to make sure the times fit in with the event schedule.

_____ Enclosed please find my donation of \$_____ to _____ the Helen & Nario Brenes Scholarship Fund and/or _____ the Jordan Family Memorial Fund. We are a tax exempt not for profit 501c3 organization. Any donations to NERSFL are tax deductible and greatly appreciated.

_____ I wish to receive future newsletters by email rather than by mail.

_____ I wish to receive future newsletters in Braille

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

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Free Matter
for the Blind