



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 2013

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello Everyone!

I want to begin by welcoming our new NERSFL members who attended our winter events and look forward to meeting those of you who plan to become involved with NERSFL in the future.

It seems like it was not so long ago when there was snow on the ground and we were all together at Craftsbury, VT and at Bear Notch, NH enjoying the great skiing and snow shoe conditions. The fun, friendship, great lodging and food were the finishing touches of our two winter events.

Thank you to our hard working committed board members for your work prior to and during the trips, to our guide trainers who trained new guides and to all participants and guides for making our winter season such a great success!

As a result of everyone's generous financial contributions and donations of items during this year's auction at Craftsbury, the money raised far exceeded our expectations. Thank you to all who took part in our auction and helped to make it so successful! The funds from our auction support NERSFL and help to defray costs of trips and provide financial assistance to individuals in need who otherwise would be unable to attend NERSFL events.

Again this winter we were able to offer this help to both guides and participants. 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 offer financial support to individuals who otherwise would not be able to attend.

If you have never attended an NERSFL event, enjoy winter and summer out door activities and like to have fun with a great group of people NERSFL is for you! Sign up early, come and join blind/visually impaired participants and sighted guides for weekend and day events you won't want to miss! To learn more about our trips Visit our website at: www.nersfl.org for questions or additional information contact us by phone at: 781-667-9270.

I would like you to join with me to thank our wonderful Board of Directors: Kari Dunlop, Dave Fisk, Margaret Gaffney, Polly Jacobson, Donna Paterson, Shelly Wine, and Barry Wood for their time, hard work and ongoing support and commitment To NERSFL! A special thanks to our outgoing board member Nancy Brown for her dedication and hard work most recently as secretary: Nancy has relocated to the state of Washington. Also thanks to Kim Gale who is stepping down from the Board but plans to serve on NERSFL committees. Thank you to past board member Cindy Wentz for continuing to assist with the NERSFL Newsletter.

I would like to once again encourage those not serving on NERSFL committees to consider joining a committee as everyone has skills, talents and experiences to contribute. Promoting NERSFL, outreaching to recruit participants and guides, making phone calls, and doing fund raising may be of interest to you as a committee member.

Even if you are unable to participate in our activities at this time and/or have limited time to commit to NERSFL but would like to get involved in some capacity, there is always work to be done.

If you are interested call me at 781-667-9270.

Keep in touch, continue to "SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT NERSFL" and let us know of any updates to your contact information including your email address, mailing address or phone numbers.

In closing, 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 physical activities together this summer and fall. I look forward to hearing from you and hope to see many of you on our summer trip or at our hike in October!

Marie Hennessy

UPCOMING SUMMER 2013 TRIPS

THE ROYALTY INN, Gorham, NH

August 9-11, 2013

On Saturday two choices of hiking will be offered in the White Mountains of NH; a moderate level hike with rocks, roots and some climbing and a less challenging hike on a paved trail. On Sunday we will partake in various fun outdoor activities which are currently being arranged. Be sure to bring your bathing suit as the Royalty Inn offers a hot tub and outdoor pool.

Price includes two nights lodging in double rooms with private baths, two breakfasts, two lunches and Saturday night dinner. 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: \$180.00. Full payment due by July 19, 2013.

BREAKHEART RESERVATION, Saugus, MA

October 5, 2013

Join us at 9:30AM for a day hike at Breakheart Reservation in Saugus. There will be two hikes, one easy and one moderate, followed by a picnic. Bring snacks, lunch and plenty of water.

COST: \$10. Full payment due by September 20, 2013.

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 June 30, 2013 for the August weekend trip and September 15, 2013 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. The NERSFL event form can be downloaded from our website: <http://nersfl.org> or mailed to you in hard copy at your request. The form must be filled out once per calendar year, 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 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.

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

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 2013 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:

_____ THE ROYALTY INN, Gorham, NH

August 9-11, 2013

\$180 due July 19, 2013

_____ BREAKHEART RESERVATION, Saugus, MA

October 5, 2013

\$10 due by Sept. 20, 2013

In addition to this trip application, please complete the NERSFL Event Form if you have not already done so for the current calendar year and mail it to the address located on the form. All forms can be found on our web site at

nersfl.org/appforms.html

___ Enclosed please find my donation of \$_____ to the Helen & Nario Brenes Memorial Fund for financial assistance to VIPs or \$ _____in memory of Joanne Jordan's father for financial assistance to guides. We are a tax exempt not for profit 501c3 organization. Any donations to NERSFL are greatly appreciated.

___ I wish to receive future NERSFL newsletters via email rather than in hard copy to save NERSFL time and money and get the newsletter to me sooner.

___ I am interested in writing a trip report and/or in taking photographs for NERSFL.

Detach and mail with payment to:

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

NERSFL Board of Directors

Marie Hennessy – President
Dave Fisk – Vice President
Kari Anne Dunlop - Secretary
Donna Paterson – Treasurer
Margaret Gaffney - Director
Polly Jacobson - Director
Shelly Wine - Director
Barry Wood - Director

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Free Matter
for the Blind