

OCTOBER SNOWSHOEING IN CARVER PARK RESERVE - Patty Fitzgerald



Enjoying the snow in the low 30s weather: Bill B, Nancy N, John S, Nancy S, Sally C, Marcia S, Barb K

The October 21st hike in Carver Park Reserve was cancelled due to the wet heavy snow and forecast for icy morning roads. However, all but one of the people that had sent an RSVP really wanted to go out and get some exercise. So, when the roads seemed OK in the morning, Patty F contacted all of the Ullrs and told them that if they still wanted to come to the park, Patty and John would be there. Marcia S suggested we bring our snowshoes. That turned out to be a great idea! There was plenty of

snow to walk thru the woods and enjoy the early winter weather. Eight Ullrs enjoyed snowshoeing or walking, traveling about 3 miles. We had another mile loop planned, however, Bill B reminded us that we may have some sore muscles since this was our first snowshoe adventure this season. It was strange to see the snow covering everything, but the woods were beautiful and it was wonderful to fill our lungs with fresh air. I'm pretty sure October 21st must be a record for the earliest snowshoe event for the club.

2021 MEMBERSHIP CARDS

Although ULLRs generally do not need a membership card, some businesses offer discounts to ULLR members. If you have renewed your membership for 2021 and would like to have a membership card, contact Membership VP Nancy Sand.

DID YOU RENEW YOUR ULLR MEMBERSHIP?

The ULLR membership year ended October 31, 2020. A Membership Form is available on the ULLR website: www.ullr.org Follow instructions found there. Renewals must be received **by Nov. 16** to be included in the new membership directory.

2020 IMPORTANT CONTACTS

See the membership directory for e-mail addresses and phone numbers.

OFFICERS OF THE CLUB

President

Sharon Marini

Executive VP

Ellise Lamb

Winter Programs VP

Linda Heintz

Summer Programs VP

Mary VandeHei

Membership VP

Nancy Sand: MembershipVP@ullr.org

Treasurer

Carol Bush

Secretary

Janice Swanberg

Past President/Advisor

Joan Roe

PROGRAM COORDINATORS

Alpine-Nordic

Barb Kolbe

Ski Racing

Brian Johnson

What's Cookin' Cashiers

Carole Nelson & Sharon Pappas:

What's Cookin' Supply Chairs

Nancy Kastner

What's Cookin' Beverage Chairs

Craig & Nancy Navis,

Bruce Warner

Biking

John Stiefel

Singles

Jan Butler

Directory Folding Parties

Nancy Sand

General Meetings

Ellise Lamb

MSC Representatives

Linda Heintz, Dolly Eastman:

MSC: www.midwestfun.org

ULLR Foundation President

Jan Cady

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ULLR Webmaster

JJ [Joe] Coursolle: Webster@ullr.org

NULLR Editor & Designer

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ULLRnet@ullr.org

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

by Sharon Marini



Hi Ullrs,

It is hard to believe that winter is almost here. Of course, we have already experienced winter in October. The Board has voted to cancel our January and February General Meetings for your safety. We are hoping to provide a means to get together again. Our hikes gave us that opportunity and participation was great! We do know that everyone is not able to participate. Thanks to all who have led hikes.

We are thinking ahead to summer and hope that we can continue to have our What's Cookin' picnics. We also hope that we can go ahead with our plans to go to Nisswa and stay at the Good Ol' Days. Patty will be in contact with the representative there, and we will keep you informed as soon as we have definitive information, probably in January or February 2021.

The Board is looking to fill spots for the 2021-2022 ULLR year. Without volunteers, there will be no club. Please let me or any of the current Board members know if you would like to fill one of the vacant spots. So many Ullrs have been on the board several times and for consecutive years. We need new blood.

The month of December is known not only for snow and cold, but our wonderful holiday of Christmas where we get together with family and friends. Let's hope that we can gather together safely this year. The first day of winter is December 21st or 22nd and it is the shortest day and longest night of the year.

On the lighter side:

Urine test for free: (author unknown)

Go to a tree trunk and take a pee. If it attracts a lot of ants, you have high glucose. If it dries too fast, you have high sodium. If it smells like meat, you have high cholesterol. Forgot to open (or pull down) your pants to pee, Alzheimer's. Had trouble aiming at the tree, you have Parkinson's. Couldn't smell the pee, definitely COVID.

Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas and a healthy, Happy New Year to you and your family.

I miss you all - please stay safe and keep well.

ULLR Webmaster: JJ [Joe] Coursolle

See directory for address

Webster@ullr.org

NULLR Editor: Margie Deutsch

8940 Northwood Pkwy, New Hope 55427

Nullr@ullr.org

ANNUAL ULLR TOYS FOR TOTS COLLECTION

By Nancy Sand

In the past, ULLRs have collected toys and given cash donations for Toys for Tots (TFT) at our ULLR holiday event. Even though we are not having the event this year, Ullrs are encouraged to donate to Toys for Tots. Due to COVID, many more families are struggling this year, and our ULLR donations could help make Christmas brighter for these children and their families.

To donate toys, take your new and unwrapped toys to any local metro Toys for Tots collection site. To see a list of donation sites, go to: minneapolis.mn@toysfortots.org At the top of the page, click on Ways to Donate, then click on Donate a Toy.

(FYI - TFT does not accept clothes, food, used or open toys, or liquid products such as cologne, perfume, body wash, lotion, toothpaste etc.)

To donate via credit card online, go to: minneapolis.mn@toysfortots.org At the top right of the page, click on Donate Local.

To donate by check, make check payable to Toys for Tots Foundation and mail check to:
Toys for Tots, Attention GySgt Kent, 5905 34TH Avenue S, Minneapolis, MN 55450
(I thought Nancy had made a typo. No, GySgt is a Gunnery Sergeant .)



An advance **THANK YOU** for opening your heart and making a Toys for Tots donation!

HELP WANTED FOR MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY FOLDING WORK SESSION

You are wanted at 1:00 pm on Monday, November 30, 2020, at Joan Roe's home (5800 Creek Valley Road, Edina 55439) to help prepare our updated ULLR Membership Directory for mailing.

Due to the COVID pandemic, some accommodations have to be implemented for this event. There will be a limit of 10 people. **All must RSVP their attendance no later than November 20 to Nancy Sand at 952-435-5225 or nsand878@gmail.com** Nancy will notify you if you are a part of the ten. Additional names will go onto a wait list.

No food or beverages will be served. Do NOT bring any food to share. If you want a beverage, you must bring your own. Please bring a mask and wear it.

All participants will be asked to help with all the tasks: attach mailing labels, fold, tape, and attach stamps. There will be socially-distanced seating and hand sanitizer. This work session is estimated to last 1.5 to 2 hours. Thanks for volunteering!



In Loving Memory

Richard Craig "Dick" Johnson
Dec.9, 1929 - Sept. 13, 2020

Dick ended his military career in the Marine Corps as a Major, He served in Korea, Japan and the USA. Dick was a 55-year lawyer, an active participant in local cultural, religious, and educational institutions, and a long-time member of ULLR. We extend our condolences to his daughter and son and their extended families.

Membership Directory Change
by Nancy Sand, Membership VP
New members:

Ursula Nomura and Susan Raatz

Members receive an e-mail with complete information about the changes to the directory.

Remember, to have YOUR information in the upcoming 2021 directory, you must renew NOW!



*At the end of each year
 The heavens must glow
 From all that we say
 And the love that we show.
 Imagine
 if all of us tried
 each day of the year
 to reach out to sadness,*

*and darkness and fear.
 We'd send forth a beacon
 of goodness and light.
 We'd open our hearts
 to that which is right.
 By the end of the year,
 we could light up the sky.*

*If only we'd love,
 if only we'd try.
 In bringing peace to the
 world
 we all play a part,
 the peace that is Christmas
 must start in each heart.*

-Claudia Rohling

Thanksgiving - Giving Thanks

Many of us won't be gathering for a meal with family and friends this Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, Christmas, and/or New Year's Eve. But we can still give thanks for all that we have had in our lives.

ULLR SKI: Think of all of the wonderful places you have skied or enjoyed in our beautiful world. Remember those places via your memories and/or with photos. Give thanks for these places and for the people you met there and/or travelled with.

ULLR BIKE: Many Ullrs have discovered new parts of



the Twin Cities and Minnesota on their bikes. We have met folks who come from many countries and ethnicities. Give thanks for your health allowing you to ride and experience local life.

ULLR SOCIAL: Parties and fun gatherings to musical and cultural events have all been enjoyed with Ullrs. Give thanks for the long-time ULLR friends you have shared these events with. And thank all of the ULLR volunteers who have made our club so special!

SINGLES CARD/GAME NIGHTS

All Singles' Card & Game Nights for 2020 are cancelled. Hopefully they can be resumed in 2021.

Contact Jan Butler about Singles' activities or to volunteer to plan and/or host an event: 952-544-8163 or cartooncat@comcast.net

SINGLES' FINE DINING on TUESDAYS

Please RSVP to Ellise Lamb by the Sunday before the event. ellise.lamb@mchsi.com or 952-442-9332

November 24 - Lunch - 11:15 AM at Lela Restaurant in the Sheraton Hotel, 5601 W. 78th St., Bloomington 55439
<https://www.lelarestaurant.com/>

December 22 - Lunch - 11:15 AM at P.F. Chang's, 2700 Southdale Center, Edina 55435
<https://www.pfchangs.com/>



Bunker Hills Regional Park Hike – led by Barb Kolbe & Jan Swanberg

On Friday, Oct. 16 with the forecast of a few snow flurries ending by 11 am, 13 Ullrs showed up to hike the Bunker Hills Regional Park (near Majestic Oaks Golf Course) where we experienced all the elements of a late Fall day - cool temps, a strong wind with first sleet pellets then “snow”, and finally warm sunshine.

We started the hike in chilly, cloudy weather observing the rust / brown colors of remaining tree leaves. Our first adventure was the bouncing or moving boardwalk where Karen C.

kept jumping to make the movement worse. Shortly after that section of weather, the wind and sleet arrived. When it turned to a heavy, wet snowfall we quickly headed to the Veterans Memorial Shelter for our earlier than planned lunch break. After 15 minutes or so the snow stopped and we continued on. Enough snow accumulated to allow Nancy S to make and toss a snowball at someone (think Bruce W). Then the sun came out so we finished in warmth,

walking past the construction project of a remodel of the Beach area (building a new wave pool). We also walked through the Campgrounds/Stable area and noted a few RV campers remaining.

Barb K was excited to find a pine tree limb with cones. She is planning to create an outdoor decoration. After our prelude to winter, it turned out to be an enjoyable day for a hike in the great outdoors.



Some of the bundled-up hikers: Marcia S, Karen C, Barb K, Patty F, Karen H, Sharon M, Ken M

Recalling October 2020

We thank all of the planners for their work.

8 Last Minute City Ride

John Stiefel

16 Bunker Hills Hike

Jan Swanberg & Barb Kolbe

21 Carver Park Snowshoe Hike

Patty Fitzgerald & John Stiefel

27 Woodlake Hike - Carol Bush

7 Cottage Grove Ravine Hike

Cancelled - COVID-19

Nancy Sand



14 Lebanon Hills Hike

Cancelled - wet trails

Linda Heintz



Why 2 photos from this hike? The tree! It reflects how some of us feel today, all twisted and turned. Add Nancy S, Bruce W, John S, Linda H, Jerry S and Jan S to the list of hikers.

2020-2021 Hikes, Cross Country Skiing, Snowshoeing

Please see the flyers at ullr.org for driving directions. If the weather is uncertain, call the trip leader.
On all hikes, Ullrs are to maintain social distancing of 6 feet apart; wear your mask when you can't.
Reminder: COVID-19 can be spread while outside when in close contact!

Mother Nature is calling you!

We all have enjoyed being able to get outside this summer and fall—away from our isolation from COVID-19. JJ (Joe) Coursolle, our great ULLR webmaster, has a web page that will help you. Go to the Membership Information Page. There you will find many useful links. Read the: MSC Sportster Newsletter (and Jan Swanberg's article); skiing information; skiing conditions (both local and national); weather reports; and links to Twin Cities bike and ski retailers. The Star newspaper reported these stores are having a huge increase in sales. Maybe you might want to shop for those snowshoes now.

ULLR Club Activities through November 2020

Even with COVID-19 cancellations, Ullrs were busy.

Area skiing - 8 Snowshoeing - 3

MSC Winter Carnival - 1

Hiking - 10 Biking - 19

Meetings - 3

Gary Gray's talks - 2

1 time each for: Old Log; Bike Planning Party; Folding Party; 3-day Lanesboro Trip

Big Sky Ski Trip was aborted mid-flight. They flew back home the same day.

The Nisswa Trip was cancelled.

Weather cancellations - 5

COVID-19 cancellations - 26



WISCONSIN WINTER FUN FOR ULLRS

ULLR Winter enthusiasts are invited to drive to Wausau February 2-4, 2021, for downhill skiing, x-country, and/or snowshoeing fun.

Lodging for Tuesday and Wednesday nights will be at the Stoney Creek Inn. **A block of rooms is reserved for the ULLR Ski, Bike, and Social Club. Participants must make their own room reservations by contacting the Stoney Creek Inn at 715-355-6858 and requesting either a king or double queen room.** Cost per room per night is \$89.00 plus tax. Participants can reserve a single room or share the room cost with a roommate of their choice. A free hot breakfast is available daily at the Hotel. The Hotel will release unreserved rooms on January 2, 2021. After that date, room availability and the group rate will not be guaranteed.

We will have snacks and a pizza party Tuesday evening at the Hotel. No money for this event will be collected in advance. Trip leader Nancy Sand will arrange for the food and will notify you that

evening of the cost per person. You may bring your own beverage to this event or purchase your beverage from the Cubby Hole Bar at the Hotel.

There will be a group dinner Wednesday evening. Participants will pay for their own meal and beverages. (Time and place to be determined.)

Questions? Contact Nancy Sand at 952-435-5225 or nsand878@gmail.com

Please notify Nancy when you have made your reservation and provide the name(s) of the individuals who will be in your room.



Ullrs Joella W, Sharon M, Sally C, and Mary Ellen G snowshoed in Nine Mile Forest near Wausau in 2017.

2020-2021 Hikes, Cross Country Skiing, Snowshoeing

Please see the flyers at ullr.org for driving directions. If the weather is uncertain, call the trip leader.
On all hikes, Ullrs are to maintain social distancing of 6 feet apart; wear your mask when you can't.

November 11 Wednesday, 10:45 NEW

Battle Creek Regional Park Hike

Optional lunch: Keys Café & Bakery in Woodbury

RSVP: Nancy Sand, 952-435-5225

December 12 - Saturday, 1:30 pm

French Park Hike/ XC / SS

Meet at Park Headquarters Bldg.

Wine & Cheese after hike. Bring your own chair.

RSVP: James Habeck, 763-559-5593

January 19 - Tuesday, 10:00 - 10:30

Richardson Nature Center Hike/ XC / SS

Great trails for both snowshoe and cross-country skiing. The distance can be flexible.

RSVP by Monday, January 18, 2021, to Sharon Marini, (H) 952-893-8408, (C) 612-408-7707

February 20 - Saturday TBA

Elm Creek Regional Park XC / SS

RSVP: Jim Habeck, 763-559-5593

MSC Breckenridge Colorado Ski Trip

Hosted by the MN Ski Hawks
February 20-26, 2021

Stay 6 nights at [The Village Condos](#), ski-in/ski-out. Airfare, motor coach, baggage handling included. Lift tickets not included, but group rates are offered. **This trip is full, But there is a wait list.** See the flyer at ullr.org

2020/2021 Hiking Season

By Linda Heintz

Just when you thought 2020 couldn't get any worse, we got 6" of snow in mid October. But being hardy Ullrs, Patty Fitzgerald turned the Carver Park hike into the Carver Park Snowshoe event. 2020 - you just can't keep good people down.

Most of the season has been just fine. I led the first hike on a trail nobody else had been on before, Thomas Lake Park/Highline Trail. This hike is one of my favorites. Not only is it very scenic and very hilly, it is also only a couple of miles from my home in Eagan.

Marcia Switenki led a hike to Wolsfeld way out in Long Lake. It was a lovey day and a great hike. Ullrs enjoyed their own lunches, eating nearby in a park.

I wasn't able to attend the Lebanon Hills/Schultz Lake hike. But the report was a nice group and a good hike. This one was led by Nancy Navis.

A couple of the hikes had to be canceled due to bad weather but hopefully they will be rescheduled.

The hike on October 27 was at Woodlake Park. This is also a favorite of mine. I love that it is in the middle of town but once inside the park you forget that completely. It was led by Carol Bush.

Because of the unexpected warm weather, I got to add in another hike at Westwood Hills Nature Center on Nov. 6. Thanks to all the leaders who planned hikes.

Downhill Skiing Schedule

There is no host for area skiing.

Meet at 9:30 at the main lodge.

12/9	Wednesday	Afton Alps
12/17	Thursday	Welch
12/30	Wednesday	Afton Alps
1/7	Thursday	Welch
1/13	Wednesday	Afton Alps
1/21	Thursday	Welch
1/25	Monday	Buck Hill
2/2-4	Tue.-Thur.	Wausau Trip, ski Granite Peak
2/10	Wednesday	Afton Alps
2/17	Wednesday	Buck Hill
2/20-26	Sat.-Fri.	MSC Breckenridge
2/25	Wednesday	Welch
3/9	Tuesday	Afton Alps
3/12	Friday	Welch

