The Winona Ski Club is a 501c3 organization that's dedicated to maintaining and improving the Nordic lifestyle in the community. We thank our sponsors and members for making the trails and programs we offer nossible

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NOVEMBER 25, 2013 VOLUME 2013-14, NUMBER 3



If you wish to be a sponsor of this community organization contact <u>bskillicorn@qmail.com</u> for more information

Thank You!!

I must say that it's very humbling to live in our community and I can't say a big enough THANK YOU to all of the support at our annual banquet. It was a great night with lots of friends and fellowship coming together to pass along good thoughts to the upcoming season. I lost count to the number of toasts and prayers to bringing a great snow season to us this year. It's a great event when people are wishing for snow!!!....

Along with the great fellowship we rose over \$15K at the banquet and auction and combined with the light campaign we raised over \$40K this past year. These donations are going right back into the community with \$25K covering the entire cost of our light and snowmaking expansion this past year along with one more yearly payment of \$12K of a five year commitment to the Brother Jerome Nordic center. The Brother Jerome center is new to the community as of last year and one that we will be doing a better job of promoting this year. It's a warming hut for everyone that has bathrooms and a changing room for you to start and finish your ski. I'll be doing an overview of the center in an upcoming newsletter and we will be posting signs to it on the trails for more people to come and enjoy.

As I finish the thanks for the banquet I can't forget a big thank you to our speaker Jessie Diggins. Jessie left her hometown of Stillwater the following weekend and headed out to Norway to start her season. Put this in perspective, she is in Europe for the next 5 months and will be travelling from race to race until March. Our thoughts and wishes will be with her along with one really cool patch on her water belt. On her recent blog she posted a picture of her sewing on her new sponsor Fastenal to the belt. Wish her well this season and let's hope we see that belt climb the top steps at the Olympics this year!!!



You can keep up with her on here blog: http://blogs.fasterskier.com/jessiediggins



TIS THE SEASON - WE NEED HELP!!!

Alright I'm sure this past weekend was a bit of shock to everyone's system. The cold weather means it's time to start blowing snow and here is the update.

The team has held off blowing snow as final parts and pieces have come together to wrap up the light installation. The lights have arrived and all the parts are ready for the final installation. The plan is to install the lights this week with all of them in place by Thanksgiving. At that point we will be ready to start blowing snow.

The plan is to start blowing snow the week of December 2nd. The big change this year will be with the additional water and power hooks up on the Pine and Dike trails. This will allow us to blow snow on those trails and push the snow down onto the trails to extend the loop from the Donut to these additional trails. We will be looking for volunteers to help man the guns and push snow. This goes much easier with lots of help. Once the weather looks good it's about a 2-3 day full-time job to get 'er

done. If you can help please contact Bruce at brucejo@wildblue.net and he'll coordinate the crew.

Light and Snowmaking Donations and Project Budget (11/3/13)

Donations	\$24,685
Expenses as of 11/3	
Power Connections	\$6,000
Wire	\$5,500
Lights	\$5,000
Poles	\$3,900
Misc Hardware on Poles	\$3,000
Misc Water/Piping	\$1,500
Pole Installation	\$800
	\$25,700

In Kind

Club Volunteers

Conduit and Installation of conduit: HBC Excavation Work: Pat Murphy Electrical Work: Saint Mary's University Water Conduit: Bob Hemker

Ski Team Updates

MYSL - Filling Fast!!

As indicated in the trail update, tis the season. Registration is open for the MYSL program and we have over 40 kids registered. The program will start the first week of January and we'll be doing equipment hand-out in December. The program is geared towards kids ages 4-11 years of age with the purpose to introduce and teach kids how to ski. The program is capped at 75 athletes so we're filling up fast.

You can register at: http://www.mysl.org/registration-quide

SKIWERX -Off and Skiing!!

SkiWerx is a new program for the club. It's a program for kids age 9-12 and can't get enough skiing. It's targeted to for those kids that have been doing MYSL for two or more years and are looking for the next challenge. We have 8 kids in the program this year and we started on November 12th. We meet Tuesday and Thursday afternoons with the Thursday session being part of the big MYSL group. We teach them both skating and classic skiing on waxable skis. Through a grant we received from the BK5K (thank you BK5K) we have purchased enough skating and classic gear to outfit our entire crew. We will be doing some fun local racing to get the kids exposed to racing in a fun environment. The intent is these kids will be off and rolling (really fast) when they join the High School team.

Winona HS -Off and Skiing!!

As with the SkiWerx program, the Winona HS season got kicked off the week of November 11th. The team looks to be another deep team with over 60 kids joining this year including a great group of young 7th graders joining this year. The team has some big goals this season and we'll pass along an update in the coming weeks to what to expect and their race results. They had their first TT last week and their first race is Saturday December 7th. Here is the link to their site and you can also get their by going to winonanordic.com.

http://winonanordic.weebly.com/

BANQUET FEEDBACK



It was a great night at the banquet and auction and we wish to make it even better. In the interest of keeping it fresh and enjoyable for everyone we're looking to get some feedback from you. It's for sure that we'll have an event again next year and it will be our "once a year" fundraiser but we're kicking around ideas to keep it fresh.

Would appreciate your feedback on this survey to event and always welcome your comments.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MTQR9S3

Thanks again for coming and appreciate you taking time to take the survey.

If you wish to be added or removed from this newsletter contact bskillicorn@qmail.com