

# PAW PRINTS & SKI TRACKS

*Annual ASPA membership dues were due by January 31, 2013. If you want to reinstate your membership, please complete the attached form and send it in with your dues.*

## Sunday Trail Tours

Check Hotline (45-SKIJOR) or [alaskaskijoring.org](http://alaskaskijoring.org)

## February 9

### Chena Lakes Race

Sara Tabbert  
[stabbert@hotmail.com](mailto:stabbert@hotmail.com)

## February 11

### Wax Clinic at Raven Cross Country.

Pre-registration  
Fred Raymond  
456-5070

## February 16

### UAF Race

Brian Charlton  
[bskijor@yahoo.com](mailto:bskijor@yahoo.com)

## February 23

### Birch Hill Races

Check Hotline (45-skijor) or [alaskaskijoring.org](http://alaskaskijoring.org)

## North Star Fundraiser by Pat DeRuyter, Race Director and Master Groomer

A beautiful 14 degree day and excellent trails were waiting for the 27 skijorers who covered a total of 109 miles and raised \$290 in Saturday's North Star Golf Club Fundraising Race. The funds will go toward the snowplowing and grooming at North Star Golf Club Trails.

In the 8 mile race, Maria Bray and her virtual dog Greta competed the course in a time of 34:05. In the virtual 8 mile three dog race, Andy Warwick with Zip, Freddie and Yogi were imagined flying over the course with a blistering time of 34:04.

In the 7 mile class, Jamie Johnson (Kiska and Hodges) ran a time of 19:00. Jamie Johnson and Bodie were second at 19:35.

In the 6 mile class, Sara Elzey (Faero, Dylan, Lira) posted the fastest time of 20:00. Sara Elzey with Kate and Rupert were second at 23:00 and Janna Miller in a virtual race with Lily set a personal best at 24:05.

Eight teams participated in the 4 mile race. Sara Elzey with Katrina, Darin and Lucy posted a 12:20 for the three dog class. Greg Jurek (Jet & Che) flew around the course with a time of 12:06 to win the two dog class. In a close second Emilie Entrikin (Rika & Rib) finished at 12:21. Hilary Schwafel with Harley and Oliver made a wrong turn and ended up crossing the finish line twice to come in third for the two dog teams.

Rebecca Knight and Katie won the 4 mile one dog class with a time of 15:15. Bruce Miller and Roy were a close second at 15:32. Ted Wu and Ty were third at 19:16.

Four teams ran 3 miles. Kriya Dunlap (Zeus, Boomer) were first with 10:08 and Rebecca Gilbert (Sharlee and Pepper) were second at 14:07 in the 2 dog class. Greg Jurek (Tar) won his second race of the day with a time 10:25 in the one dog class. Gail Davidson and Cocoa were second at 15:34.

Six teams ran the 2 mile course including two rookie teams who finished first and second. Gentry Johnson (Wrangle) had an awesome time of 8:44 for her first race. Chandler Kemp (Miley) was second at 9:36 for his first ever skijor attempt. Rounding out the top three was David Brooks with Sheriff at 10:48.

A special thanks to volunteer timers Peggy Raybeck and Kathleen Boyle, Starter and trail groomer, Pat DeRuyter and dog handler Amanda Byrd.

### 8 miles 3 dogs virtual race

Andy Warwick (Zip, Freddie, Yogi)  
34:04

### 8 miles 1 virtual dog

Maria Bray (Greta) 34:05

### 7 miles 2 dogs

Jamie Johnson (Kiska, Hodges) 19:00

### 7 miles 1 dog

Jamie Johnson (Bodie) 19:35

### 6 miles 3 dogs

Sara Elzey (Faero, Dylan, Lira) 20:00

### 6 miles 1 dog virtual race

Janna Miller (Lily) 24:05

### 4 miles 3 dogs

Sara Elzey (Katrina, Darin, Lucy) 12:20

### 4 miles 2 dogs

Greg Jurek (Jet, Rib) 12:06

Emilie Entrikin (Rika, Rib) 12:21

Hilary Schwafel (Oliver, Harley)

7:05/16:46

## North Star Fundraiser, Cont.

### 4 miles 1 dog

Rebecca Knight (Katie) 15:15  
 Bruce Miller (Roy) 15:32  
 Ted Wu (Ty) 19:16  
 Lisa Stuby (Killae) 34:53

### 3 miles 2 dogs

Kriya Dumlap (Zeus, Boomer) 10:08  
 Rebecca Gilbert (Sharlee, Pepper) 14:07

### 3 miles 1 dog

Greg Jurek (Tar) 10:25  
 Gail Davidson (Cocoa) 15:34

### 2 miles 2 dogs virtual race

Andy Warwick (Licorice , Boots) 13:53

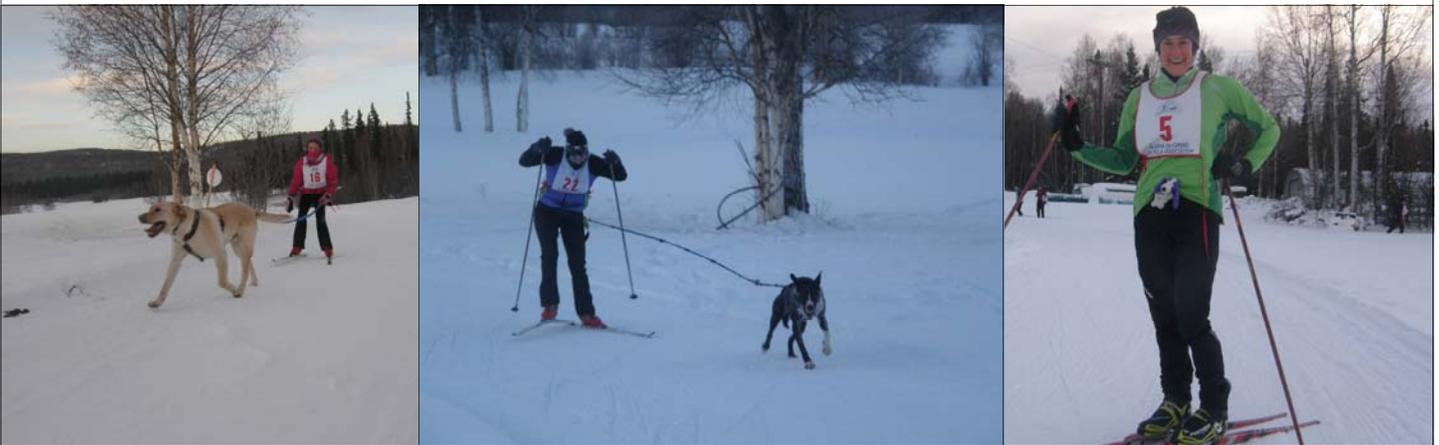
### 2 miles 1 dog

Gentry Johnson (Wrangle) 8:44  
 Chandler Kemp (Miley) 9:36  
 David Brooks (Sheriff) 10:48  
 David Brooks (Monty) 13:52  
 Kathleen Boyle (Tipi) no time available

### 1 mile 1 dog

Kriya Dunlap (Tommy) 4:16

Photographs by Pat DeRuyter. Additional photographs can be viewed on the ASPA facebook page.



### If you SEE Something SAY Something by Lisa Stuby

It was an early afternoon on a Saturday like many others where Killae and I went for a leisurely skijor at the North Star Golf Course. Skiing conditions were good and my thoughts were on what I was going to pick up at the grocery store afterwards. As I was gradually going downhill on the 2-mile trail loop and getting near the first outhouse near the fence, I noticed a family skiing up the other direction. I waved hi and they stopped and stared at me for a second then skied on. I thought that was strange and then up ahead near where the 2-mile loop has a sharp turn to return back to the clubhouse there was a large moose. I figured he was close to the fence and we could ski by him, but he had other plans. Upon seeing us from a distance, he snorted and started walking towards us. His ears were pricked forward and he went potty. Clearly he wasn't afraid of us and I had the feeling he wanted to let us know he was the boss! He had lost his antlers, but must have been a top contender during the fall rut. Killae and I turned around and headed back. Where we had stopped, I noticed the family had also turned around and scooted to the inbound portion. On our way back I ran into more skiers and I let them know that an aggressive moose was up ahead and please let others know. Turns out they didn't get far either before turning back. Killae and I then did the other loop that makes for 4-miles and we kept an eye on the moose. As we rounded the corner to climb the hill, he was watching us and we were watching him. Killae dug his nose into some fresh tracks and gave me the "look" to let me know a moose was nearby, but all I could do was say "DUH Killae". These were his tracks and even though the snow was deep, he crisscrossed North Star like I crisscross my rug at home. Thus, if he wanted to charge us, he would have been where we were in no time and I was ready to cut Killae loose in case. I breathed a sigh of relief when we came downhill and were heading back to the club house and noticed the moose had walked towards the outhouse on the first loop. I also saw another group of skiers heading down the 2-mile loop, oblivious to his presence. I yelled, but at this distance, they couldn't understand me. I then took my ski poles, put them on my head in a "V" and pointed with the poles in his direction and repeated. They skiers talked amongst themselves, gathered their dogs, and waved at me. I figured even if they thought, "this skijorer is nuts" they at least knew that I was trying to tell them something and they should be cautious of what might be up ahead.

### If you SEE Something SAY Something (Cont.)

When we were done and I was loading the skis in the car, more skiers and skijorers showed up and I let them know of the moose.

The point is, if you are out skiing and/or skijoring and you notice a moose, it is VERY important to let other users know that it is there, even if it appears non-aggressive and munching on willow branches. Don't think, "well, it is probably gone by now" because the moose might be even closer to the trail and out of sight. It is much better for skiers and skijorers to be watchful. I wished I had caught up with that family of skiers that I saw when I was heading down the 2-mile loop and let them know that they should have waved and yelled something.

Turns out, despite my distance, the group of skiers I warned about the moose by putting the ski poles on my head in a "V" DID understand me and, like myself, had to turn back and were grateful I let them know.

### ASPA Fun Race #3, Creamer's Field by Jesse Warwick

A field of 14 skijorers turned out Saturday afternoon to compete in the Alaska Skijor and Pulk Association fun race at Creamer's Field.

With temperatures below zero F, skijorers competed in five different divisions with the 6.7-mile race being the most competitive of the day.

Kriya Dunlap, pulled by Zeus and Boomer, won the two dog class at 22 minutes, 56 seconds, followed by Erin Trochim (Taiga, Onion) at 25:28 and Lisa Baraff (Baloo, Yukon) at 26:38.

Bruce Miller won the one-dog class, with Roy pulling, in 25:13. The other top finishers, missing out on Miller's short cuts, were Mike Kramer with Hybrid at 29:46, and Janna Miller with Lilly at 30:26.

Gail Davidson (Coca, Darna) at 15:13 and Nina Ruckhaus (Sasha) at 13:30 won the 3.6 mile races.

Jessica Larson won the two-dog, 1.5-mile class with Domingo and Jesus with a time of 5:56. Many thanks to Jesse Warwick for organizing, Jim Altherr for expertly grooming, and Kathleen Boyle for timing.

| Bib #                 | Skijorer           | Dogs           | Time    | Place    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------|---------|----------|
| <b>6.7 mile 2 dog</b> |                    |                |         |          |
| 2                     | Dunlap, Kriya      | Zeus, Boomer   | 22:56   | <b>1</b> |
| 4                     | Trochim, Erin      | Taiga, Onion   | 26:38   | <b>2</b> |
| 3                     | Baraff, Lisa       | Baloo, Yukon   | 26:38   | <b>3</b> |
| <b>6.7 mile 1 dog</b> |                    |                |         |          |
| 5                     | Miller, Bruce      | Roy            | 25:13   | <b>1</b> |
| 6                     | Kramer, Mike       | Hybrid         | 29:46   | <b>2</b> |
| 7                     | Miller, Janna      | Lilly          | 30:26   | <b>3</b> |
| 8                     | Ballou, Nellie     | Otter          | 37:29   | <b>4</b> |
| 1                     | Stuby, Lisa        | Killae         | 1:10:18 | <b>5</b> |
| <b>3.6 mile 2 dog</b> |                    |                |         |          |
| 9                     | Davidson, Gail     | Coca, Darna    | 15:13   | <b>1</b> |
| 10                    | Brooks, David      | Monty, Sheriff | 16:09   | <b>2</b> |
| <b>3.6 mile 1 dog</b> |                    |                |         |          |
| 13                    | Ruckhaus, Nina     | Sasha          | 13:30   | <b>1</b> |
| 12                    | Schoen, Erik       | Lefty          | 13:55   | <b>2</b> |
| <b>1.5 mile 2 dog</b> |                    |                |         |          |
| 14                    | Larson, Jessica    | Domingo        | 5:56    | <b>1</b> |
| 15                    | Maggard, Stephanie | Tundra, Gunner | 8:50    | <b>2</b> |

### Chena Lakes Race, February 9, 2013 on the Mike Agbaba Trail System

**HOW TO REGISTER:** Cost will be \$10.00. All racers need to pre-register by Thursday, February 7th at 6 pm by calling Sara Tabbert at 479 0456 or emailing [stabbert@hotmail.com](mailto:stabbert@hotmail.com). I will confirm your registration with a call or email. There's no warm space at Chena Lakes – preregistering everyone cuts down on time standing around in the cold.

**WHEN: Saturday, February 9.** Check in at or before 11:30 (I will be there by 10:45), race meeting at 11:40, start at 12:00. Racers will start at 1 minute intervals.

**HOW COLD:** If it is -15 or colder at 9:30 am at 458-3745 extension 1113 on the day of the race it will be cancelled. Call the ASPA hotline 457 5456 shortly after 9:30 to verify the status of the race.

**WHO:** One, two, and three dog classes

**WHERE:** Mike Agbaba trails, Chena Lakes. Take the Richardson highway through North Pole and follow the signs - the park will be to the left of the highway. Go through the main entrance and turn left on Lake Park Road. The trailhead is a short distance down this road near the children's playground. **SEE TRAIL MAP UNDER "TRAILS" SECTION AT [www.alaskaskijoring.org](http://www.alaskaskijoring.org).**

**HOW FAR:** We are currently offering distances of 3.8 miles and 6.5, and 9.5 miles, with a 12 mile option if anyone is interested. Longer distance racers will go out first followed by shorter distance racers. Start order within each distance class will be random. The usual race rules will be used and we will have a quick reminder of these at the race meeting. Be additionally aware we are guests on Borough property so cleanup and following park rules are very important!

**HANDLERS:** We may not have a dedicated handler at this race so if you need help, please make your own arrangements for a handler.

**VOLUNTEERS:** We need a starter and two timers or the race will not happen! Handlers and photographers would also be fantastic. Please contact Sara at the address above if you are willing to volunteer.

**PRIZES:** We will have prizes to award to a few lucky participants and goodie bags will be given to all.

The Race Director, Sara Tabbert, will skijor the trails on Friday and send out a trail report prior to the race.

### ASPA UAF West Ridge Skijor Race, February 16, 2013

The annual ASPA skijor race on the UAF West Ridge trails will take place on February 16, 2012 at NOON. This is a very rare opportunity to skijor on some of the best maintained ski trails in Fairbanks. Previous years have seen over 25 skijorers show up to race so please come join in the fun.

The race distances are 4.5 miles, 9 miles and a 1 mile. Racers can compete at either distance in a one dog class or a mixed class of two or three dogs. We will also have a beginner class similar to 2011 which will be approximately 1 mile. One race per person, no racing multiple teams or multiple classes.

We will meet and start in the area behind the IARC building just north of the UAF Ski Hut. Please be sure to clean up after your animals so we can continue using this venue in the future. See the website for a map of the race course. And remember, **NO DOGS ON THE UAF TRAILS IN THE WINTER!!** Thank you. As always, beginners are welcome and encouraged.

**Registration:** Registration will be from 11-11:30AM. The cost of this race is \$10 for preregistration and \$15 for late registration. Half of the entry fees will be donated to the UAF trails club. If you would like to preregister e-mail Brian Charlton at [bcskijor@yahoo.com](mailto:bcskijor@yahoo.com) or call 479-3665.

The race will be cancelled if the temperature at 458-3745 extension 1113 is colder than -15 at 9:30 am. Updates on race status can be obtained from the ASPA website ([www.alaskaskijoring.org](http://www.alaskaskijoring.org)) or hotline (457-5456) shortly after 9:30 on race day.

Like all races, volunteers are needed: 2 Trail Marshals - At major intersections to make sure competitors go the right direction, 1 Start Timer, 1-2 Handlers, and 2 Finish Timers. Please let Brian Charlton know if you can help.

See you all on February 16th!!

## The Alaska Skijoring and Pulk Association's 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Birch Hill Skijor Race

This very popular event is scheduled for Saturday, February 23, 2013 at the Birch Hill Nordic Ski Trails.

**Remember, Dogs *Love* These Trails!**

**But are NOT allowed there outside of this ONE event!!**

Currently proposed classes are the same as in 2012:

**Classes: Shorter Interval Start Races**

1-dog 4 km

2-dog 6 km

3-dog 6 km

**Longer Mass Start Races**

One-dog 7.5-9 km

Two-dog 9-13(?) km

**Relay Event:** Three one-dog teams per relay team, 2 km each.  
May require more than just skiing!

This race is still in the planning process. If you are interested in the longer distance of 13 km, please let Jim know at [herriges@gci.net](mailto:herriges@gci.net) or send an e-mail to the skijor list ([skijoring@yahoo.com](mailto:skijoring@yahoo.com)). Please stay tuned to the ASPA website at [alaskaskijoring.org](http://alaskaskijoring.org) or check the ASPA hotline for updates or just stay tuned to your e-mail if you are part of the skijor list. **MANY THANKS to Jim for coordinating this race again!!!**

### Facebook is Great, but Don't Forget the Newsletter!!!

I have a Facebook account and do enjoy seeing all of the photographs from the ASPA Fun Races, Trail Tours, etc. However, with everyone sharing their photographs and stories online, as the newsletter editor I am finding that whereas once participants used to send me photographs and stories of their adventures that I could put in the monthly ASPA newsletter, now I am not getting much of anything! It would be a shame if the art of writing an article were to go the way of the quickly fading art of writing a letter. The telling of a story is so much more informative and imaginative than a snippet or a text!

Also, so the newsletter holds its own place of specialness, I ask participants in ASPA events to please send me a couple of photographs that you won't post to Facebook and are meant for the ASPA newsletter only. Please send article submissions and photographs to Lisa Stuby; [las@acsalaska.net](mailto:las@acsalaska.net). I usually try to have the month's newsletter out to the ASPA membership by the first week of each month. Thanks



## Dog of the Month

### Tansy by Mara Bacsujlaky

This is about Tansy and Frosty, the dog who helped choose her. My former skijoring dog, Frosty, had always been a steady puller and happy to be out on the trails. But three years ago, his enthusiasm seemed to be waning, so I decided to get a partner for him. I conferred with the dog whisperer, Carol Kleckner, who suggested Tansy, a shelter inmate for four months. When Frosty met Tansy, it was clear that they liked each other. Even though Tansy was totally untrained in skijoring, I decided to adopt her. My plan was that Frosty would train her the following fall.

Except that a month later Frosty was dead. One Saturday morning, I noticed he was bleeding from his nostrils. By that afternoon, after the vet confirmed leukemia, he was put down. Being a strong sled dog with an amiable character, he had strived to please, so the only indication that he was terminally ill was his reduced effort in skijoring – a sign that I seriously misinterpreted.

But that misinterpretation and his clear preference for Tansy meant that I had a skijor companion to replace him after he died unexpectedly at a relatively young age. Even without Frosty to help, Tansy quickly learned how to skijor. She loves trail exploration best so she and I roam on trails in places I would never have gone with another dog.

I still miss Frosty, but he (with a little help from Carol) left me with a remarkable skijoring companion. Although wonky and a bit new-agey, I felt like he knew he was going to die, and that I needed another dog like him to help me after he died. Tansy is exactly that, and Frosty is still running with us whenever we are on the trails.



Mara Bacsujlaky's dog Tansy having a good stretch after being named ASPA's Dog of the Month!

If you use the Creamer's Field trails, the North Star Golf Club trails and/or the Isberg Trails, PLEASE donate to the ASPA trail grooming fund. Gas doesn't look like it is going to be getting any cheaper in the future. For a frequent trail user, a \$50-\$100 donation would be appreciated. An occasional trail user should consider a \$20-\$50 donation. Mail your trail donations to ASPA, P. O. Box 82843, Fairbanks, AK 99708 or give them to an ASPA volunteer at any ASPA sponsored event. Thank You

### IFSS Races in Interior Alaska in February and March 2012

Mark your calendars! The International Federation of Sleddog Sports is holding the World Championships in Fairbanks, North Pole and Salcha from February 26 to March 17. This is your chance to see competitors, both human & dog, from all over the world converge and compete on some of the most challenging and wonderful trails there are.

The skijoring and pulk events are March 1&2 (2-dog class in North Pole); March 4 (1-dog in Salcha); March 5 (1-dog pulk in Salcha); March 6 (1-dog skijor/pulk combined in Salcha); March 7 (relay in Salcha). For a complete calendar of all mushing events go to [www.northpolechampionships.com/event/calendar](http://www.northpolechampionships.com/event/calendar) . Race times have not yet been announced.

Local skijorers competing are:

2-dog Class: Kriya Dunlap, Jamie Johnson, Christina Turman, Emilie Entrikin, Greg Jurek and Andy Warwick

1-dog Class: Kriya Dunlap, Jamie Johnson, Sara Elzey, and Greg Jurek

1-dog Skijor/Pulk Combined Class: Sunnifa Deehr

We wish our long-time ASPA members and invaluable volunteers much luck!! Can't wait to hear the stories afterwards and publish them in the NEWSLETTER!

### Membership Form for the Alaska Skijoring & Pulk Association

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
*Last* *First*

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
*Street or P. O. Box*

\_\_\_\_\_

*City* *State* *Zip Code*

Phone (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Type:**

- Individual            \$20.00/year \_\_\_\_\_            Individual Lifetime \$175 \_\_\_\_\_
- Family                \$30.00/year \_\_\_\_\_ (No lifetime available)
- Affiliate Club:      \$10.00/year \_\_\_\_\_ (If already a member of your local skijor club.)
- Trail Donation      \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$5/day or \$50/season suggested)

Club Name \_\_\_\_\_

Club Address \_\_\_\_\_

Club Website \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail membership form to:** ASPA, P. O. Box 82843, Fairbanks, Alaska 99708.

\*Membership year is from September 1 through August 31.

Payments can also be made on the ASPA Website using Pay Pal at <http://www.alaskaskijoringl.org>

**2012-13 ASPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COORDINATORS**

**President:** : Jamie Marschner, 458-0462, marschne@arsc.edu  
**Vice President:** Janna Miller, Janna@alaska.net  
**Treasurer:** Sara Elzey, 378-5024, skjorex2@hotmail.com  
**Secretary:** Kathleen Boyle, kboyle@ptialaska.net  
**Trail Tour Coordinators:** Don Atwood, dkatwood@alaska.edu, Janna Miller, janna@alaska.net, 479-5585; Sara Tabbert, stabbert@hotmail.com  
**Hotline:** Sara Tabbert, stabbert2hotmail.com  
**Newsletter Coordinator:** Lisa Stuby, 458-7657, las@acsalaska.net  
**Membership Coordinator:** Jamie Marschner, 458-0462, marschne@arsc.edu  
**Beginner's Clinic Coordinator:** Sara Elzey, 378-5024, skjorex2@hotmail.com; Carol Kleckner, 479-0430  
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**Board Members at Large:** Sunnifa Deehr, sdviolin@hotmail.com; Lisa Allen, fierystitches@gmail.com; Jesse Warwick, harding247@hotmail.com; Mara Bacsujlaky, mbacsujlaky@acsalaska.net; Mason Little, mason.little@gmail.com

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**Paw Prints and Ski Tracks** is a monthly newsletter published during the winter season by the Alaska Skijoring and Pulk Association. The coordinating editor of Paw Prints and Ski Tracks is Lisa Stuby. Your comments, articles and pictures are greatly appreciated. Please e-mail the information before the 25<sup>th</sup> of every month to las@acsalaska.net.



**Alaska Skijoring and Pulk Association**

P. O. Box 82843 ♦ Fairbanks, Alaska 99708-2843  
 Hotline: 907-457-5456 ♦ Website: www.alaskaskijoring.org