



*As I assemble this newsletter, the snow is melting and except for the extreme diehard skijorers and skiers, most are switching to running shoes and getting ready for “running season”. I like to call the April newsletter the “Volunteer Newsletter” as during this 7th and final newsletter of the season we heartily THANK all of the wonderful volunteers who keep this club going and without whom we wouldn’t have all of the fun events we have. The next newsletter will be in October or October/November if I don’t receive any articles. So, this summer if you come upon articles or do something fun with your dog be it competitive dryland racing, semi-competitive fun road race (like the dog-friendly Mosquito Meander), please send the article, your writeup, photographs, etc. to me. I’ve agreed to act as newsletter editor one more time for the 2015-2016 season, but would like to have some support from the membership. **I WISH YOU ALL A SAFE AND FUN SUMMER!***

2015 End of Year Race and Pizza Party and Volunteers of the Year

The annual end of the year race and pizza party occurred on Sunday, March 29th at the Musher’s Hall. The race itself was pretty exciting due to the somewhat icy conditions. However, everyone had fun and no one got hurt. After the race, there was a Le Mans mass-start where everyone left their skis on the ground (no poles) and at the “go” ran to their skis with their excited dogs barking away, ready to run again. After the struggle to put on the skis as fast as possible, the racers were off for a one-mile race. Race directors were Andy Warwick and Pat DeRuyter.

After the race, the three Volunteers of the Year were named and celebrated. For those who participated in the races this year or just got out and skijored on the North Star Golf Course and Creamers Field trails—these three were no surprise: Pat DeRuyter and Charles and Tone Deehr. Pat has been instrumental this and previous years in coordinating grooming of the North Star and Creamers trail systems as well as doing a lot of grooming herself. Pat has also helped do timing at several races and coordinated setting out direction signs at Creamer’s and North Star. From early in the season when trail markers needed to go out at Creamers to when we were finally able to hold fun races, Chuck and Tone Deehr were there helping. They repeatedly answered the call for volunteers, graciously taking on multiple roles on race day. At least two of this year’s fun races may not have been held without them. Coming to the aid of first time race directors Kathleen (North Star Fun Race) and Nina (Birch Hill race), they handled registration, put together the start orders, handled the race start and timed racers as they finished. Chuck and Tone also took photographs at ASPA events to share in the Club newsletter and on Facebook. So, many thanks to Pat DeRuyter and Chuck and Tone Deehr, the 2015 ASPA Volunteers of the Year.

Next page are some photographs sent to me by Bud Marschner who again gave up his weekend afternoon to photograph and have available high-quality photographs of the skijoring races. On the next page are some of his handiwork from this final race of the 2014-2015 season.

PHOTOGRAPHS FROM FINAL RACE ON 29 MARCH 2015 by Bud Marschner



THANK YOU to ALL of the ASPA Volunteers for the 2014-2015 season.

None of the ASPA fun races, trail tours, expert trail grooming, etc. could ever happen without our dedicated group of volunteers! Below is a list of who helped out where and when in 2014-2015. ASPA is a totally volunteer organization and would not exist without volunteer help. Be sure to show your appreciation at the next race, etc. and THANK whomever is helping out. Likewise, this summer if you find yourself running foot races, bicycle races, etc. also be sure to THANK those volunteers as well!

Groomers Extraordinaire

Pat DeRuyter
Jim Altherr
Tim Buckley
Brian Charlton
Clarice Dukeminier
Greg Jurek
Terri Perkins
Peggy Raybeck
Andy Warwick
Leroy Wiedeman

Board members and Coordinators

President – Jamie Marschner
Treasurer - Sara Elzey
Secretary – Kathleen Boyle
Trail Tour Coordinators –Mara Bacsujlaky,
Janna Miller, Sara Tabbert
Fun Race Coordinators –Brian Charlton, Sun-
nifa Deehr, Nina Ruckhaus, Hilary Schwafel,
Sara Tabbert, Pauline Tise, Jesse Warwick
Hotline Coordinator – Sara Tabbert
Newsletter Coordinator - Lisa Stuby
Website Coordinator – Don Kiely
Permits – Sara Tabbert
Birch Hill Race Coordinator – Jesse Warwick,
Nina Ruckhaus
White Mountains Event – Sara Tabbert
Beginners Clinics - Sara Elzey, Carol Kleckner
Training Clinics – Lisa Stuby

ASPA Schedule and Sponsors

Jamie Marschner
Pat DeRuyter
Chris Burrow
Sunnifa Deehr
Sara Elzey
Nina Ruckhaus
Hilary Schwafel
Sara Tabbert
Jesse Warwick

Chena Lakes Race

Sara Tabbert
Chris Burrow
Alice Stickney
Andy Warwick

Fall Membership Meeting

Jamie Marschner
Sunnifa Deehr

Creamer's Trail Signs/Snow Filling

Pat DeRuyter
Chuck and Tone Deehr
Sunnifa Deehr
Lisa Stuby

Trash Bags/Trash Cans

Peggy Raybeck

Beginners Clinic and Practice Clinics

Sara Elzey
Carol Kleckner
Kathleen Boyle
Nina Ruckhaus
Alice Stickney
Sara Tabbert
Pauline Tise

Fun Races

Kathleen Boyle
Chris Burrow
Chuck and Tone Deehr
Sunnifa Deehr
Pat DeRuyter
Brandon McGrath-Bernhard
Jana Miller
Alice Stickney
Sara Tabbert
Pauline Tise
Andy Warwick
Jesse Warwick

North Pole Championship Races

Sara Elzey
Pauline Tise

North Star Golf Course

Melinda Evans
Roger Evans

White Mountains Event

Sara Tabbert

Birch Hill Race

Jesse Warwick
Kathleen Boyle
Chris Burrow
Chuck and Tone Deehr
Sara Elzey
Bruce Miller
Nina Ruckhaus
Lisa Stuby
Andy Warwick

UAF Race

Brian Charlton

Fun Race and Pizza Party

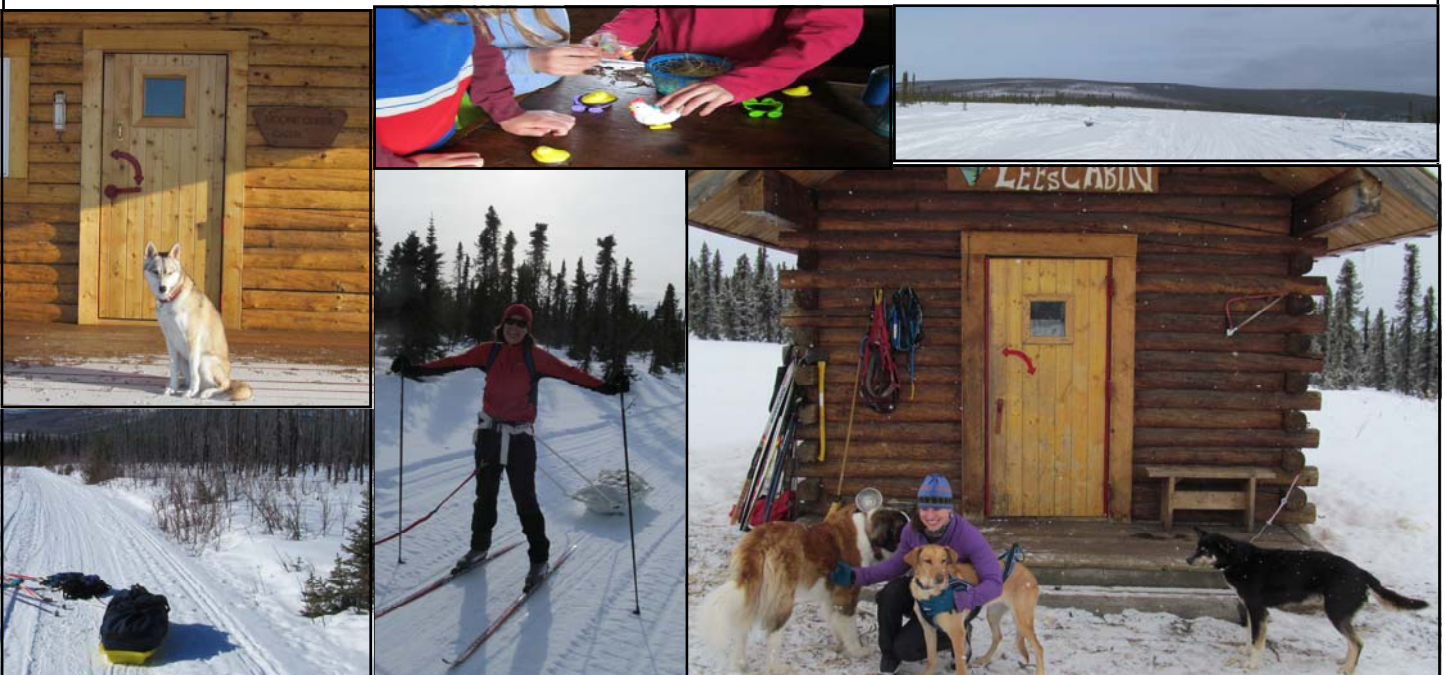
Jamie Marschner
Pat DeRuyter
Sara Tabbert
Andy Warwick

2015 White Mountains Event by Lisa Stuby

Sara Tabbert again organized a most EXCELLENT and fun weekend. Despite the warm weather and icy trail conditions in Fairbanks, the trails in the White Mountains National Recreation Area were FABULOUS!! In order to secure a night at the very popular Lees Cabin, Sara reserved Moose Creek Cabin the night before on Friday April 3rd, so Lees could be secured the following day on Saturday, April 4th.

I skied out and joined Sara on Friday, April 3rd. Because of the 16-mile distance and my initial concern for trail conditions, I thought it best to board my aging elkie—who after seeing me pack my pulk, etc. was VERY upset to not be going. Sara came out with Dora, who as the only dog, got LOTS of attention. We were supposed to be joined by one or two others, but they were unable to join us. In the meantime I made a bunch of chocolaty brownies, in anticipation of 4 people spending the night. Worried my plan to shed a pound or two over Easter weekend would be in jeopardy, I was able to give some brownies to Robin Dale Ford and Pat Fitzgerald on my way to Moose Creek Cabin as they were spending the night at Lee’s Cabin, where I stopped to eat lunch. Robin and Pat are well-known local Fairbanks musicians. I thought I was dragging an overly-packed pulk, but they brought out full-sized instruments! I left enough brownies for them and a few more for their friend and fellow musician Will Putnam, who was coming out later in the evening. A few hours of skiing later, I joined up with Sara and Dora at Moose Creek Cabin. Sara shared a delicious salmon and rice dish and I my brownies. It was a fun night with good food and good conversation.

Then next day Sara and Dora headed down the trail and given their combined speed and well, I’m just plain slow, met me at Lee’s Cabin with a warm fire. Shortly after they hit the trail for Fairbanks, Hilary Schwafel showed up with her newly rescued dog, who was from an Egil Ellis litter. This dog was so sweet and spent her time in the cabin curled up wither new mom—such a lucky dog. Since there was lot of room Sarka Meyer joined with her two daughters and their young friend. Sarka also brought a very cuddly Saint Bernard dog who shared the cabin with us. Their five sled dogs stayed outside and were surprisingly quiet. They all skijored and their friend’s dad came out with a snow machine bringing food and gear, and LOTS of wood. Prior to them showing up, I hiked out for about two hours looking for wood. We all had a nice night with lots of good conversation. On Easter Sunday, Sarka surprised the girls with Easter toys and candy. Gee, I thought I saw a giant snowshoe hare hopping away! I was quite surprised more ASPA members didn’t take advantage of Lee’s availability and come out to spend the night or at least for a day trip on Saturday. Below are a few photographs of what turned into a very fun weekend. Many thanks again to Sara Tabbert for organizing.



AND ASPA EVENTS HAVE NOT CONCLUDED YET!!**ASPA SPRING FLING DRYLAND RACE**

When: Sunday, May 17th. Driver check-in from 8:00-8:30 am. Mandatory race meeting/bib draw for all drivers at 8:30 am. *The races will begin 10 minutes after the completion of the race meeting.*

Where: Birch Hill Recreation Area, Fairbanks, Alaska.

Distances: 1.75 miles and 2.5 miles. (Please note: Distances may change slightly in accordance to race day trail conditions.)

Classes:

1. Bikejor 2 dog (2.5 mile)
2. Scooter 2 dog (2.5 mile)
3. Bikejor 1 dog (1.75 mile)
4. Scooter 1 dog (1.75 mile)
5. Canicross 1 dog (1.75 mile) - MASS START, separate men's and women's divisions

Prizes: Trophies for 1st and 2nd place in each class!

Registration:

- Send the class, driver and dog(s) name(s) and ages, and DID/country (if applicable) to Chris Burrow at lewjohkennel@gmail.com.
- Registration closes Friday the 15th of May at 10 pm.
- You will need to sign your entry form and pay your fees on Sunday, May 17th during driver check-in.

Entry Fees:

- 1 dog: \$20 (ASPA members \$15)
- 2 dog: \$30 (ASPA members \$25)
- each additional race: \$10

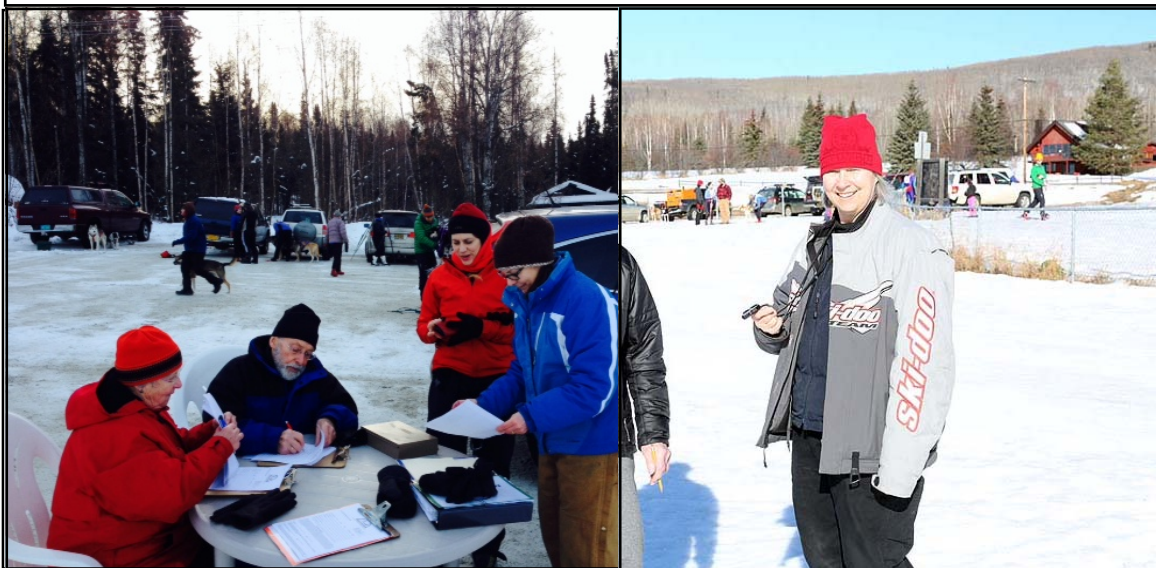
This is an IFSS Accredited Event. All classes are IFSS accredited with the exception of the 2-dog bikejor class. Drivers wishing to compete for World Cup points must have an IFSS DID (Driver Identification #) at the time of the race, which is purchased through USFSS. Please refer to the USFSS web site: www.usfss.org.

A Few Important Race Rules:

- Helmets are required for all bikejor and scooter drivers.
- The same dog(s) cannot run in two different races unless one race is canicross.
- Dogs must be at least 12 months of age for canicross and 18 months for bike and scooter.

For complete dryland rules please go to: <http://www.sleddogsport.net/regulations/race-rules/>

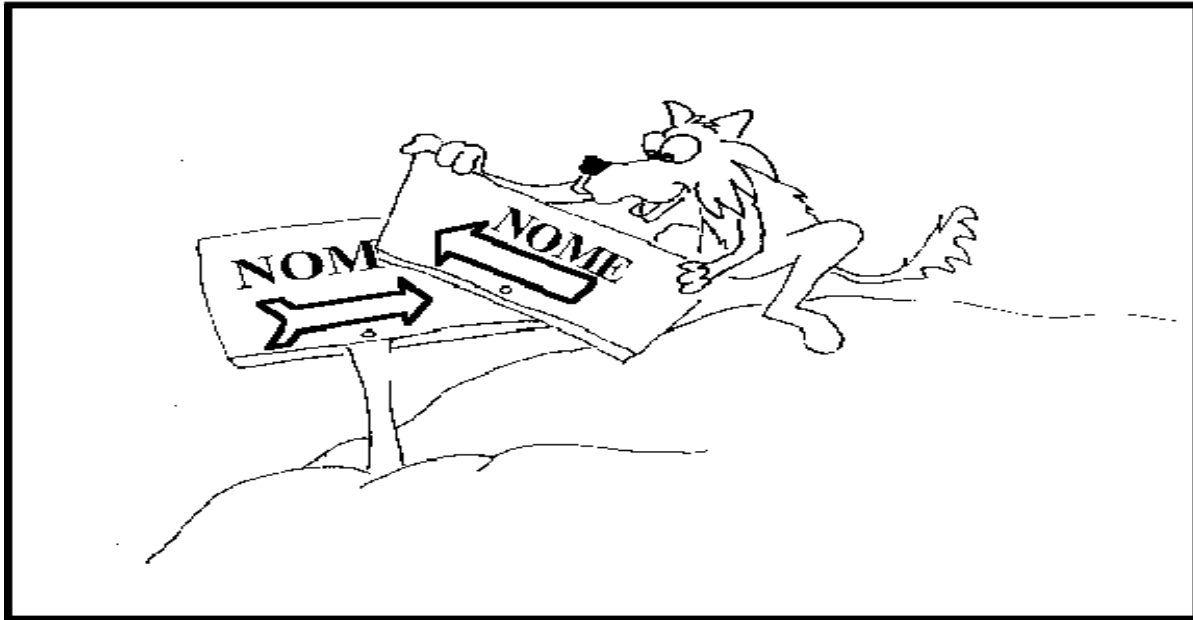
Questions? Contact Chris Burrow 907-322-4657 or email him at lewjohkennel@gmail.com.

**2015 ASPA Volunteers of the Year**

Left: Chuck and Tone Deehr registering participants before an ASPA fun race at North Star Golf Club.

Right: Pat DeRuyter helping with race timing at the End of Year Race and Pizza Party at the Musher's Hall.

by Theresa Daily (c) 1998



Sled dog practical jokes

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 October 1 through September 30.

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

2014-15 ASPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COORDINATORS

President: : Jamie Marschner, marschne@arsc.edu

Vice President: Vacant

Treasurer: Sara Elzey, skjorex2@hotmail.com

Secretary: Kathleen Boyle, kboyle@ptialaska.net

Trail Tour Coordinators: Sara Tabbert, stabbert2hotmail.com; Mara Bacsujlaky, mbacsujlaky@acsalaska.net, Janna Miller, janna@alaska.net

Hotline: Sara Tabbert, stabbert2hotmail.com

Newsletter Coordinator: Lisa Stuby, las@acsalaska.net

Membership Coordinator: Jamie Marschner, marschne@arsc.edu

Beginner's Clinic Coordinator: Sara Elzey, skjorex2@hotmail.com; Carol Kleckner, kleckner@ptialaska.net

Website & e-mail list Coordinator: Don Kiely, donkiely@computer.org

Trail Grooming: Pat DeRuyter, patderuyter@gmail.com.

Board Members at Large: Sunnifa Deehr, sdviolin@hotmail.com; Pauline Tise, puckspazz@gmail.com; Jesse Warwick, harding247@hotmail.com; Mara Bacsujlaky, mbacsujlaky@acsalaska.net; Hilary Schwafel, hschwafel@gmail.com; Sara Tabbert, stabbert@hotmail.com, Nina Ruckhaus, noruckhaus@alaska.edu; Chris Burrow, 619crb@gmail.com

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 25th 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

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Lead Dogs (>\$149):

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Aurora Animal Clinic
Cold Spot Feeds
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Santa's Vagabond Travel
Mt. McKinley Animal Hospital

Wheel Dogs (\$50 to \$99):

Denali Chiropractic

Couch Dogs (<\$50):

Marmot Press
Stony Hollow Woodworking

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO
THANK AND SUPPORT THE
BUSINESSES AND INDIVIDU-
ALS WHO SUPPORT ASPA**