



SNOWMAKING REPORT

Friends of Lapham Peak Snowmaking Committee invites you to join our committee. Please contact our chairperson Sandy Sugden at slsugden@wi.rr.com for meeting times and locations.



Volume 1, Issue 2

Winter 2013

Snowmaking committee

Sandy Sugden
Anne Riendl

Kris Maki
Tom Davenport

Rick Von Haden
Rick Bjodstrup

Sean Becker
John McCarthy

Matt Geib

Laurie Raasch
Mike Fordney

Paul Sandgren
Brett Johanan,

Special points of interest:

Ski Series Banquet: Wednesday, February 27th 6-8:30 at the Hausmann Nature Center

Bike Swap: Saturday, March 9 9:30-1:30 at Cushing School in Delafield; check website for more info: www.bikeswap-laphampeakfriends.org

Pump Project underway: More news in Spring Newsletter

Earth Day Trail Workday: Saturday, April 20 9-noon; lunch provided

2012-13 THE WINTER THAT WASN'T

Dear snowmakers, We are more than halfway through the winter of 2012-13 and have very little natural snow to report...again! Many of you have realized the benefits of manmade snow at Lapham Peak, but few of you know the cost of making it. Two years ago, the rangers stopped making snow in early December and it stayed around until March. This year, the rangers stopped making snow on January 31st after Mother Nature gave us a little and then successfully took it away with 50+ degree temps and rain. The snowmaking committee budgeted \$18,000 for the year for snowmaking ex-

penses plus we purchased two Polecat snowguns for \$36,800 in order to make snow more efficiently and at higher temperatures. Our expenses were higher than expected since we had to make snow for an extended period of time in order to keep our snowmaking loop skiable for you. Electrical expenses have been \$6670 so far with a small amount still due. The snowcat has been invaluable, but cost us \$11,875 for parts and needed repairs in order to move the "whales" of snow onto the trail. One Wednesday, the snowcat filled in four "rivers" flowing across the ski trail before our races. Adding other supplies for



Photo by Henning Henningsen late January, 2013

\$1546. postage for \$564 and donor platelets for \$77 have brought our expenses to \$20,732 so far. The good news is that we still have over \$18,000 in our treasury and will add the Loppet, Ski Race Series, and Bike Swap earnings to the snowmaking project.

2012 Blizzard Challenge Match

Many thanks to all the Blizzard donors and new or previous donors for helping to make our 2012 Blizzard Challenge Match a success. We started in August this year and ran until the end of the year, hoping to make enough money to purchase a new \$58,000 Vertical Turbine Pump. To date, we have collected \$27,802.80. We had

enough money to purchase two new highly efficient snowguns; however, our operating expenses ran higher than expected. Thus, our pump fund is now at about \$18,000. We have applied for DNR grants and hope this year's pump project will be successful. Many have helped us by participating in the Loppet or Ski Series. Right now we need

you to donate bakery or a bike to the Bike Swap, or help out on a Trail Day at Lapham Peak. Volunteer labor helps the rangers keep the trails in good shape for grooming. We value your input and hope that some of you will want to join our committee. Thanks for your continued support.