



Mid-Winter 2010 Newsletter

### Enjoy your Wasatch Cache National Forest

Now that we finally have enough snow, the trails are being groomed, and winter usage is increasing. Here are a few early season reminders to help you enjoy the forest.

— The trailhead and ski area are both part of the National Recreation Enhancement Area and require a parking pass. Passes are available at the trailhead and Bear River Lodge located at the forest boundary on Highway 150.

— If you are planning to be on the forest over weekends, please try and park as close to other vehicles as possible, this will allow others more room and help our folks who plow the area.

— While out on the trail, please be mindful of other trail users. Visitors who are traveling to Yurts and pulling sleds, please do not ski or snowshoe over the prepared ski tracks and pets should be kept under control along with picking up after them.

— Watch for grooming equipment and be alert for trail obstacles.

Have a great and safe visit.



### 25 Years of Nordic Grooming on the North Slope of the Uinta Mountains

The evolution of ski opportunities on the Uinta North Slope is something the original Lily Lake Nordic Ski Association couldn't have envisioned. Originally we struggled to groom 6km of track for diagonal stride skiing. Now grooming has increased to close to 20km, groomed for skating and diagonal stride skiing. In the early years, our warming hut was a tipi. Now we have a log structure with a wood burning stove. Winter camping was, well, winter camping. Currently, we have five yurts which furnished over 3,000 user days of forest use.

How has this come about? Over the years, first Lily Lake Nordic Ski Association and then BRORA were fortunate to have board members with vision. That vision would have accomplished very little without the help of our partners: United States Forest Service, City of Evanston Parks and Recreation, Wyoming State Parks, Utah State Parks, and our many volunteers who have given countless hours to build and maintain our trail system.

We've seen the first 25 years. Won't the next 25 years be interesting! These will soon be "The Good Old Days."

Mike Kessenich



## Join the Celebration

BRORA is celebrating 25 years of Nordic ski trail grooming. Come join us for a day of skiing, eating and camaraderie.

Progressive dinner, cost \$10. RSVP to P.O.Box 2600, Evanston, WY 82931 by Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>. Please indicate extent of participation. (all day, Just hors d'oeuvres, etc.) Please feel free to join in and leave at your convenience. The cost remains the same. Kids 12 and under free.

### Agenda

10:00am. Warming hut coffee, juice, hot chocolate, pastries, breakfast goodies, etc.

Ski

12:00-1:00 Warming hut- hors d'oeuvres

1:00-1:45 Ski

1:45-2:45 Bear Claw Yurt- first course

2:45-3:30 Ski

3:30-4:30 East Fork Yurt-second course

4:30-5:15 Ski

5:15- Warming hut- desert

5:55 Sunset



**Newly rebuilt warming hut**

## Snow shoe rentals now available at Purple Sage Nordic Center

For the last several years, BRORA has been purchasing 5 sets of ski, boots and poles for the Nordic Center at Purple Sage each year. Of course, the intention is to make sure that the rental equipment available there is current and is of good quality.

Heretofore, the Center has not had equipment for snow shoeing available for rent. The sport of snow shoeing has been growing steadily the last few years. There is a perception that snow shoeing requires less skill or experience than cross country skiing. (That perception is limited to those who have not seen me ski.) With the thought that the ready availability of snow shoes may get more people out on the trails, this year, BRORA purchased 12 sets of snow shoes and poles for Purple Sage. This equipment is now available beginning this season. Rental rates are \$10 for the day and \$5 for half day rentals and include snow shoes and poles.

Come on out and enjoy Evanston Outdoors.

### Coming soon!

The [evanstonoutdoors.com](http://evanstonoutdoors.com) website is getting a face lift. The current layout for the website was done in 1994 – eons ago, in webspeak. Adding the information and links that makes the website useful has been done in an organizationally challenged manner. Our objective with the new layout is to make finding the information that you need more intuitive.

The new website should be up and running by the end of the month. We would like to have input on what additional information and/or links you would like to see on the new site.

Tom