



Volume 31, No. 1 September 2002

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## ***SEPTEMBER MEETING***

**7:00 - Social Gathering**  
**7:30 - Business Meeting & Presentations**

### **ICE CREAM SOCIAL**

**share highlights and pictures of your summer**

**DISCUSSION: Monroe County Parks**

**more ice cream and cookies**

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Enjoy socializing and refreshments. Hope to see you!

**Hot Line 234-5808**  
**[www.rochesternordic.org](http://www.rochesternordic.org)**

# **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

## What a difference a year makes...

The cool breezes of September are just a reminder that winter is not far away. Soon we will all be out on the trails enjoying another snowy season. Big question is "Where are we going to ski?" If you said "Mendon Ponds Park", you may be out of luck. On Monday August 19<sup>th</sup> the Monroe County government laid off a number of County Park employees. One of these employees is the man who made those wonderful skiing trails at Mendon Ponds Park. His last statement in his departure letter should make all of us think hard "Most of the meadow trails are all freshly cut and have never been better. Please try and get out on them before they begin to overgrow."

One could go on and on about the whole Monroe County fiscal mess. At this point all I am going to say is "Get your pens out and start writing!!!" If we remain silent things could really get out of hand.

Hate to start out on such a sour note. Last several months have been real eye openers. Hope everyone enjoyed a fun safe summer. Must get those elbows ready for the leaf-raking bonanza. Does a good job in getting those arms ready for the ski season.

The September meeting will be a fall Ice Cream social. We plan on discussing the county park situation along with several other hot topics. Please try to attend if you can.

Finally, thank you Roger for all of those years of service out at Mendon Ponds Park. You will be missed.

Mark Maas

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## **A tentative schedule of future programs**

October	Presentation of Weekend Trips
November	Ski Injury Prevention (exercise, stretches and presentation)
December	Waxing, Cleaning, and Ready To Go. Bring skis to meeting
January	Ski Extravaganza
February	History of Cross Country Skiing
March	To be decided, perhaps Stan Marshall, Rochester History
April	Ice Cream Social

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## **Club Email Addresses for Officers and Committees**

You can now send a message to [president@rochesternordic.org](mailto:president@rochesternordic.org), [weekendtrips@rochesternordic.org](mailto:weekendtrips@rochesternordic.org), [newsletter@rochesternordic.org](mailto:newsletter@rochesternordic.org), etc. and be sure that your mail will be directed to the correct person. See the back of the newsletter or the Contact Us page on the club web site for the complete list of addresses.

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The deadline for the next newsletter is September 19, 2002.

Thanks to all who contributed articles and items for this issue of the Nordic Ski News. Articles of interest will be considered for future issues. Please e-mail to [newsletter@rochesternordic.org](mailto:newsletter@rochesternordic.org). If the item needs to be scanned, please mail it to the webmaster (see list of Officers, Board and Committee Chairs on last page).

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## **Excerpts from Roger Weston's letter**

From: ROGER WESTON  
Sent: Monday, August 19, 2002 1:51 PM  
To: Friends  
Subject: Fw: Mendon Ponds Park

Below this is a note that may shed some light on the following: Today is one of the saddest days of my life. After nearly 20 years of volunteer work and then for the past 10 years working part time and then into a full time position at Mendon Ponds Park for the Monroe County Parks Department I was notified today that I was no longer needed. I personally want to thank each and every Mendon Ponds Park user, Horsemen, Runner, Skier, Hiker, Walker, Research Gatherer, Photographer and Artist for the time that we worked together and for allowing me to help to serve you in the utmost Professional manner. You, the tax payer always came first on my list, along with your family members. Together, we have seen the trails and meadows of Mendon Ponds Park go from neglected to some of the finest year-round recreational trails/areas in Upstate New York. I Truly enjoyed doing this work for you as much as I hope you enjoyed using this "beautiful resource." My sadness will forever be with me but, as long as I live I will forever remember the beautiful day that we all experienced yesterday with freshly mowed lawns at Mendon Ponds Park and thousands of people enjoying picnics along the Walnut Hill Carriage Competition route through the Park. Thank you for allowing me to serve you.

Tearfully  
Roger Weston

Most of the meadow trails are all freshly cut and have never been better. Please try and get out on them before they begin to overgrow.

## **And, an excerpt from Mike D'Hont's email**

From: Mike D'Hont  
Sent: Monday, August 19, 2002 12:22 PM  
Subject: Mendon Ponds Park - unavailable

Hi to all,

Did I get your attention? We in the ski community have been dealt a serious setback. Roger is a victim of the recently announced cut-backs in the Monroe County Budget. Effective today, the MC Parks Dept. has terminated his position and another from the Mendon Ponds Park staff. These cuts have also happened at other Monroe County Parks, but none of the other cuts will have the same spiraling effect of losing Roger. We need to spread the word to our team parents and collectively voice our opposition to this cut. I don't know what else to say except that we stand to lose the opportunity to ski on well maintained, groomed trails. Our kids will be affected as well as the community as a whole. I can see the slogan now " Visit Monroe County (just not in the winter)"

Please help - Here is a link to the MC legislative committee for Recreation & Education  
<http://www.co.monroe.ny.us/org497.asp?storyID=2068>

Here is a link to the MC legislative Directory so that you may contact your County Legislator  
<http://www.co.monroe.ny.us/org32.asp?storyID=579>

For all address changes and corrections, call Stan Perry, the maintainer of the mailing list.

## ROCHESTER NORDIC SKI CLUB OFFICERS, BOARD and COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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