

TELEMARK

Cross-Country Ski Club

by Emile Brokx

The following is a history of the Telemark Cross Country Ski Club. It was compiled from information gathered from Executive Meeting Minutes and Newsletters with editing by Judy Lloyd and other club members. If you have any additions or corrections please contact me at ebrokx@shaw.ca and I will update this account. Enjoy reading this.



TELEMARK CROSS COUNTRY SKI CLUB HISTORY

Skiing in the area now known as Telemark has been going on since, at least, the early seventies. In 1974 a group of individuals, including Vern Hopkins, Dave Brewer, Bill Chaplin and Phil Wakefield got together to form a club called the Glenrosa Cross Country Ski Club.

At that time there were a number of active ski clubs in the area: the Trail Blazers in Peachland, the Nordic Club at McCullough and the Grizzly Hills Club in Winfield. For a number of years the four clubs issued a joint newsletter and organised joint ski trips to Wild Horse Canyon, Myra Canyon, Dee Lake area, Beaver Lake, Penask Mountain, Brent Mountain, Last Mountain and many others. Together these clubs also arranged for time trials and some competitive races.

For some years an Annual High School Championship was held at the Telemark area.



George Pringle High School

1978 – Telemark Club is Born

In 1978, with Phil Wakefield as president, the name of the club was changed to Telemark Cross Country Ski Club when the club was incorporated as a non-profit organization. The name Telemark was chosen because it is a historical name in skiing. In the Telemark Valley in Norway, artifacts have been recovered indicating that skiing started there around 2,000 years ago.

The club affiliated with the Canadian Ski Association and Telemark club members were able to enter in the “Carnation Ski Tour Awards” program which rewarded participation. Medals were awarded for completing 100 km (bronze), 200 km (silver) and 400 km (gold) in a season. The income for the club in 1978 was \$1,000. Membership fees were \$10 for a family and \$5 for an individual.

Three ski trails had been developed: the Orange (Glenrosa) trail, Blue (Telemark) trail and Green (Squirrel) trail. The club organised wax clinics, ski lessons and a number of social events, such as wine and cheese socials, held to attract members to the Annual General Meeting which was held at the Westbank Yacht Club.

1979 - Membership Grows

The membership grew rapidly: the club had 223 members in 1979. During these first years Eric Rayson became a very active member. He has served on the executive for many years.

A caboose, provided by Crown Zellerbach, was located in the present stadium area and served as a warming hut. (The caboose was later moved to Function Junction, the upper junction of Summer Road and Telemark.)

More trails were needed to accommodate the larger group of skiers. Under the direction of Don Froom, three people were hired in 1978, funded by the Youth Canada Works Program, to help the many volunteers to develop these trails. In later years, Gordon Oliphant hired people under the Unemployment Insurance Program.

1980 – 1981 “The Pig” is purchased

In 1980, Don Froom became president.

During that year, a twin tracked skidoo (the “pig”) was purchased to pull a homemade track setter. The machine was purchased by Bill Chaplin. The club then collected enough money from donations to pay Bill back. The Panorama trail was opened and about 11 km of touring trails were developed including the Jack Creek trail (going through the Lost Canyon and crossing Glenrosa Road close to the Jack Pine Lake turn off).

A junior racing group was formed under the leadership of Bill Chaplin and

Telemark hosted a very successful race in December 1980. Many of the Telemark skiers, young and old, participated in races and events throughout the province with some excellent results.

Jack Smith was in charge of safety. He also ran the search and rescue operation. In the early years, skiing was not for the faint at heart. A note in one early newsletter asked if somebody had found three toenails that were lost at the Cariboo Marathon.

The first Citizen Race at Telemark, a precursor to the Loppet, was held in January 1981.



A regular winter visitor

1982 – 1983 Jackrabbit Program Starts

In 1982, Bill Chaplin took over as president. Skiing started in early November, one of the earliest opening dates ever. The early snowfall was attributed to the eruption of a Mexican volcano.

A second snowmobile was acquired to assist with the grooming.

Late in 1982 the Jackrabbit program was introduced for ages 8-13. Over 30 youngsters signed up for this

program which was spearheaded by Phyllis Smith, who coached this group for many years. Within 3 years, numbers had grown to more than 90 skiers.

The Xmas Master's Ski Meet was held in 1982. December 1983 saw the first Kelowna Loppet with 67 entries. For the first few years the Kelowna Loppets were held at Postill Lake; it was not until 1988 that the Loppet was held at Telemark. Telemark hosted the BC Championships for the first time in February 1984.

During the early eighties several new trails were developed: Fern Creek, the Connector, and the K9 Trail were cut and several trails were realigned. Trail names were changed from Orange, Green and Blue to the names we are now familiar with. Vern Hopkins spent countless hours setting out most of the trails and supervising their construction.

Vern Hopkins was a forester. In the Lost Canyon you still can see the two trees that he called Romeo and Juliet, so named because these trees intertwine and seem to embrace each other.

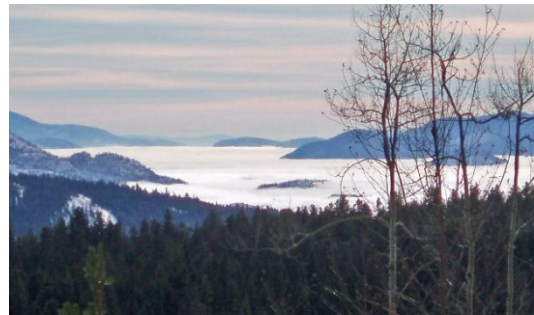
1984 First Permanent Building

Jack Smith took over as president in 1984. Membership fees were raised to \$20 for a family and \$12 single. That year the club had 268 members. Ron Gorman was in charge of building a new cabin to house the equipment. This work was completed by the beginning of the 1984 season.

Many volunteers helped and one day in October 1984, 40 volunteers showed up for a trail clearing event. Work parties had to be discontinued on November 2 due to a heavy snowfall. It was another unusually early start of a ski season.

Vern Hopkins was instrumental in getting a Wood Lot Licence for Telemark, which meant that the club was getting revenue out of the logging. Over the next 6 years or so logging revenue provided funding for a number of big projects. Jeff Smoody did a lot of this logging; he is still doing work for us now.

There was a fairly significant pine beetle attack during the mid and late eighties.



Above the Valley cloud

1985 Telemark Hires Groomer

Duncan Laidlaw took over as president in 1985.

A second hand snowcat was acquired from BC Hydro and with the addition of a double track setter this made a great improvement in the trails. A renovator was also purchased.

In 1985 the skating technique was becoming popular. This created

some complaint as classic skiers were not happy with the skaters obliterating their tracks.

Up to that time most of the trail grooming was done by volunteers, especially Bill Chaplin, Vern Armstrong, and John Grant. Bob (Brushcut) Kiewitz was hired in 1985 to operate the snowcat

Telemark hosted a BC Cup race for the first time.

1986 Sees First Lottery Grant

Vern Hopkins became president in 1986. Bill Stephens was in charge of competitions; Jack and Phyllis Smith continued coaching racers in various age groups within the club and also coached the Okanagan Zone team. The Telemark Trackers were formed for the 13-18 year old skiers. Dave Brewer looked after the trail signs. The ski season did not start until early December, a normal opening for Telemark.

Bob Kiewitz, assisted by Peter Klotz, did a lot of trail work through the summer.

This was the first year the club received a grant from BC Lottery.

1987 “Big Blue” arrives

Ron Gorman assumed the responsibilities of president in 1987. The season’s pass rate was increased to \$24 per person and \$54 for a family. A new day pass rate was set at \$3 for adults. Membership increased to over 500. Clive Gilbert took charge of the

Bingo program which became a long-term fund raiser for the club.

A second-hand Bombardier Snowcat (Big Blue) was acquired from Kaslo. This machine was considerably wider than the old one and a program to widen the trails was carried out during the next couple of years. Students were used under a Summer Work Project to help with trail clearing and widening, and any other jobs that needed to be done.

A Management Agreement was signed with the Ministry of Forest for the operation of the Telemark facility. This agreement had to be renewed every year.

The Kelowna Apple Loppet was held at Telemark and a Tips Up race was organised under the guidance of Clive Gilbert as competition director. Our racers were very successful as Telemark had six racers on the Okanagan Zone Team and two of our racers qualified for the Western Canadian Championships.



Clive Gilbert and Rod Heater as starters

The Telemark Trackers were formed for the 13-18 year old age group.

1988 Calgary Olympics

In 1988 Reuben Huva became president. Gordon Pope was hired as manager. His responsibility also included the grooming of trails. This year's budget was \$30,000.

Vandalism had become quite a problem over the years and so it was decided to try and attract a caretaker to live at Telemark.

A lottery grant to run power to the site was applied for and preparation of the right of way was started. A trailer pad was being prepared for the caretaker's residence.

Vern Hopkins directed Peter Klotz, the "trail boss", and his EI funded crew of three, to clear and improve trails.



Damage to the caboose due to vandalism

This was the year of the Calgary Olympics and Telemark members carrying the Olympic torch included Dave, Helen and Steve Brewer, Jack, Phyllis and Danielle Smith, Bill and

Bryce Stephens, Farley Klotz, and Darryl Armstrong.



In 1988 Georgia Manhard became the manager for Cross Country BC. She has worked tirelessly to promote cross country skiing and especially the competitive aspect in BC.

Also this year Roger Venables became the Recreation Director for the Ministry of Forests in Penticton. Over the 15 years he held this position Roger was a very strong supporter of cross country skiing and of Telemark.

The Special Olympics program was started with Bill Downey as coach.

1989 – 1990 Jack and Edna arrive

The year 1989, with Garry Reece as president, a position he held for two years, saw the completion of the power line to Telemark. Trail work continued with students and volunteers and work on the Black Bear trail was started. This is now the lit part of Rabbit. The trail was finished in 1990. The Panorama trail was realigned and now included the Grand Canyon, the big dip close to the end of Panorama. The number of season pass holders had grown to about 600.

Our racers continued to shine: one of our members, Darren Derochie, qualified for the national team and two racers, Bryce Stephens and Danielle Smith won medals at the Canadian Junior Nationals. Phyllis Smith, Ineke Elliot and Sandra Bossi sewed over 100 racing bibs for the club. The bibs were silk screened using ink obtained from the high school. After the first washing, the ink was so faded that the numbers on the bibs were nearly unreadable. The bibs were only used a few times.



Telemark ticket booth

The trailer pad with water line, power and a septic field was completed in 1990 and Jack and Edna Johnson arrived in the summer. A gravity fed water supply had been considered for some years, but it was finally decided to drill a well. Also, power was run to the timing hut.

Over the years Telemark reforested the areas logged under the Wood Lot License and in 1990 300 trees were planted.

In addition to Bingo sessions, managed over the years by Clive

Gilbert, Telemark also became involved in Casino nights as a fund raiser.

Edna set up a little kitchen where she sold snacks and served lunches.

The stadium area and the trailer pad were covered under an SUP (Special Use Permit) and the Wood Lot license covered about 500 ha. Logging of beetle infested trees had become an annual event.

At the AGM Vern Hopkins was presented with a gold plated life time pass in recognition for his tremendous contribution to the Club.



Jack and Edna's home

1991-1993 First Lit Track

Robin Fulton took over as president in 1991.

The big project in 1991 was the completion of the lit track. About 40 poles were donated by Brenda Mines and about 80 lights were received from the city of Kamloops. The lights were finally turned on late December. Jack and Edna Johnson took over as area managers from Gordon Pope. "Big Blue" was retired and a replacement Pisten Bully groomer was acquired on a lease/purchase for the upcoming season. It became known as Big Red.

Over the years, Eric Rayson developed the trail sign system, which is still in use.



Eric Rayson and Robert Hogue

In 1992, several long serving members retired from the executive including: Helen Brewer, Joyce Mulligan Scott Elliot and Vern Hopkins.

The Jack Creek logging road was developed by Gorman's and in return for the use of this road Gorman's helped with the construction of new trails for Telemark. Over the years Gorman Brothers have been a tremendous supporter of Telemark

In the summer, David Brewer, a founding member of Telemark, died from a lightning strike while he was working on the trails in Wells Gray Park.

Construction of the lodge was started in the spring of 1993. The initial work was coordinated by Bob Armstrong, then by David Lloyd, and labour was supplied by Jack Johnson, David Lloyd, Paul Meidal and many

other volunteers. Construction progressed sufficiently to make the lodge usable during the winter.



A Junior Racing program was started by Jack and Phyllis Smith and there were eight athletes enrolled. Phyllis Smith became the first coach of the BC Development Team and was the first woman to be paid an honorarium for her services. Telemark continued to organize races and this year hosted a BC Cup race. The Jackrabbit program had 40 participants and was coordinated by Eric and Min Rayson.

The CCBC office was moved from Vancouver to Vernon.

1994-1995 Lodge nears completion

In 1994, for the first time, the AGM was held at the new lodge. Wayne Hyslop was elected as president. Vern Hopkins rejoined the executive, despite the fact that he now lived in Oliver. Edna provided a meal prior to the AGM.

The Challenge program, which had been in existence for some years, continued for 13-18 year olds. Chad Smith participated in the World Junior Championships in Austria, supported by monies raised by Scott Elliott and other club members. Efforts to start a biathlon program were abandoned due to lack of

interest. However some cadets practised at Telemark. Wulf Gerhard took over as coach for the Special Olympics. The girl guides spring night trek started; this has become an annual tradition.

In 1995 it was decided to amend the boundaries of Telemark. The Glenrosa trail, which only had been groomed sporadically in the previous years was abandoned, as was the K9 trail, and the boundary was extended to the North. Negotiations were started with the Ministry of Forests to change the tenure from a Wood Lot License to a multiple year Management Agreement.

For the first time ever Telemark recorded more than 10,000 skier visits in 1995. The ski season ran from November 9 until March 12, another long season. The telephone finally came to Telemark.

In 1995 “Smaug”, the old skidoo died. As a newsletter article said “Smaug coughed up its carburetor.”



Jack and Edna at “the office”

Work on the lodge was completed in 1995, except for some

finishing work. Jack and Edna decided to burn the old green ticket booth, just in case anybody might get ideas to start using it again.

In the summer the Kelowna challenge Mountain Bike Race at Telemark attracted about 100 participants.

That fall about 35 volunteers worked on brushing the trails. One of the volunteers was Robert Hobson, who later became chairman of the Regional District of the Central Okanagan.

1996-1998 Rental skis at Telemark

David Lloyd was elected president in 1996, a position that he held for the next three years. That year the executive also included Eric Rayson and Jack Smith. This led to some very interesting executive meetings. Scott Elliot took over as Chief of Race for the Loppet and continued in this function for many years.

Don Nelson completed the upstairs work in the lodge and all that remained was to finish the basement. Damage to trails caused by ATV's and 4x4 vehicles had been substantial for many years and an agreement was reached with the Ministry of Forests to ban unauthorized vehicle access from June 1 until November 15. Gates to prevent access were erected. The old caboose was demolished and burnt.

The first Equestrian Endurance ride was held in the summer and this has become an annual event.



In 1996 Paul Meidal had his skis stone ground. In order to break the skis in, his target was to ski 1000 km in the season, a feat he completed well before the end of February.

Terry Mulligan, a founding member and long time volunteer passed away.

In 1997 Scott Elliot took over the function of trail development and spent many days, with Paul Meidal and others to lay out the Racing Trails and after that the Crystal Rim Trail. A renovator was bought for the groomer to break up the ice on trails. Telemark got its own website. David Kirk started the Thursday night time trials and these have been running for many years.

A partnership was struck with Fresh Air Experience for the purchase of rental skis. Each party provided 50% of the capital cost and shared in the rental revenue.

Bike races were held again in the summer. Somebody with a lot of imagination called them: Cycle Dirt Squirrt and Cyclepath Gutbuster Gruel.

Big Red was put on a flat bed truck and was entered in the Kelowna

Regatta Parade. To everybody's surprise it won first prize in the non-corporate division.



The Special Olympics group held a winter camp at Telemark.

Julie Gordon volunteered to make a hand quilted wall hanging. With the assistance of some volunteers this project was completed in the following year. It is still hanging in the chalet.

In 1998 Dick Scott retired as treasurer and Gloria Haug took on this position. James Johnston assumed responsibility for the Jackrabbits.



Jeff Smoody our logger

A new tiller was bought for Big Red and the renovator was put into operation with great success. During the summer a new timing hut was constructed. Memory Lane was added in the summer and the Racing Trails were completed in the fall.

Some changes were also made to the Rabbit Run. In the past the club used a lot of imagination to name sections of trails such as; Blue Hill, Valleyview Loop (both on Telemark), Grand Canyon (on Panorama), Lost Canyon, Roller Coaster, Whoop T Do's, Carrol's Loop, (named after one of the loggers), Dead Man's pond, (all on Fern Creek), but never found any appropriate names for the racing trails.

Some time ago, Vern Hopkins decided to dig a pond close to the intersection of Fern Creek and Easy Street. This pond could accumulate drinking water for wild life. A hunter shot a deer near the pond. In his excitement and with the effort of getting the deer out, he suffered a heart attack and died. Hence the name Dead Man's pond.

1999 School program started



School skiing

In 1999 Paul Meidal took over as president. Big Red was replaced by a Bombardier BR400 grooming machine.



Jack and the Bombardier 400

Clive Gilbert was instrumental in getting the school program started and this was run very successfully for a number of years by Zorka Cihlar. Additional skis were bought to be used in the school program.

Negotiations were started with BC Lands and Assets to change the Special Use Permit to a lease agreement, as it would provide more long term security.

Partition walls were added in the basement of the chalet. It was decided to move the AGM from the spring to the fall in the hope of getting a bigger turnout.

The bunnies were started and this was combined with the Jackrabbits under the name Ski League. A playground was built for the bunnies. The club hosted the, up to that time, largest ever BC Cup race. It was a great success.

The word Loppet means race in Swedish. In 1978 nine countries organised the world Loppet series and this was later expanded to twelve. It was Paul Meidal's goal to participate in all original nine. He nearly succeeded, but poor weather conditions forced the cancellation of his ninth world loppet.

Vern Hopkins retired from the executive.

2000 Crystal Rim trail completed

Clive Gilbert, a tireless and dedicated volunteer, became president in 2000. Jill Stamp took over from Judy Lloyd as race secretary, a position she continues to hold. The fiscal year end was changed to May at the request of the BC Gaming Commission.

This year Telemark was awarded the BC Championships in which 260 racers participated. Telemark has gained reknown for the best food on the circuit. The famous goodies table has been organised over the years by Kari Meidal, Nettie Oberhoff, Edna Johnson, Susan Morrison and many helper volunteers.

A new room was constructed in the basement by Don Nelson for the rental skis. To promote Telemark a Bring a Friend Day was organised for the first time. The Crystal Rim Trail was logged. Gorman Brothers again provided assistance as they have done so many times over the years.

2001 First sprint race at Telemark

In 2001 the BC Midget Championships were held at Telemark. It included for the first time a sprint race. This turned out to be a popular spectator event.



BC Midget Sprint Race

The argument of double tracking versus single tracking trails came up again, an argument that may never be settled to everybody's satisfaction.

This was the first year that the Glen Mervyn trophy was awarded. Glen for many years looked after the maintenance of our groomers. Finally this year the lease agreement for the area where all our buildings are was settled with BC Lands and Assets Corporation and a twenty year lease was signed. Also a five year Management Agreement with the Ministry of Forests was agreed upon. Crystal Mountain Resorts unveiled their plans for the resort development at an open house. We found out that part of the development was superimposed on a number of our trails. A committee, chaired by Emile Brokx was struck to deal with this issue and to make sure that the interests of Telemark will be protected.

2002-2003 Flush Toilets

In 2002 a program coordinator was hired to help with the work load.

A new gate was installed at the end of the parking lot. An agreement was reached with Crystal Mountain on a new, modified, tenure map. The old Glenrosa trail was used as a snowshoe trail, but there was little interest in this. Pulks made their appearance at Telemark.

David Lloyd, Gerry Morrison and John Davina participated in the Masters World Championships in Quebec. Our racers Daniel Brown, William Dean, Anthony Cihlar and Fabian Faller had some excellent results during the season.



Kelowna Apple Loppet

The 2003 Haywood Noram Canada Cup combined with the World Junior Trials race was awarded to Telemark and was scheduled for December. This created a beehive of activity during the summer.

Jack Johnson was in charge of building flush toilets. A waxing station was set up and the electrical services were overhauled completely. In addition trail lights were installed along Forest Lane.

A biathlon program was also started and a range with six targets set up.

James Williams took charge of the Ski League program and in addition was very involved in organising the Noram race. 250 racers participated in the Noram which was staged by 120 volunteers.

Daniel Brown went to Norway with the Junior Development Team to train. Members of the Telemark Special Olympic Team won no less than 33 medals at the Provincial Races.



Special Olympics Racers

The school program continued to expand. Leona Senez and Kari Meidal provided much needed assistance to Zorka Cihlar in running this program.

2004 Full Time Manager

In 2004 Emile Brokx took over as president. The club had now expanded so much that Glen McHatten was hired as full time manager.

Becky Scott met with the Junior Racers. Cross Country Canada held its

annual meeting at the Lake Okanagan Resort and the Telemark lodge. This event was cohosted by Sovereign Lake and Telemark. We also hosted the BC Midget Championships. The biathlon range was expanded to a total of twelve targets. Fabian Faller became the Biathlon BC Cup series champion. The Special Olympics group continued to grow and under head coach Wulf Gerhardt.

It was decided that Telemark should run its own rental program. Fresh Air Experience's share was bought out and additional rental equipment was purchased.

2005 BC Biathlon Championships

In 2005 the biathlon range was expanded and Telemark hosted a Biathlon BC Cup race. Rob Swan became head coach of the Biathlon Program.



Biathlon BC Cup

John Gordon took over as manager.

A trophy was donated by the family of Martin Galley. This memorial trophy is to be awarded jointly to the

male and female winner of the Kelowna Apple Loppet. Martin passed away on the Rabbit trail early 2004.

Vern Hopkins, who contributed so much to Telemark, passed away in the summer.

Larry Krar took over the responsibility for trails in 2004 and started to develop a number of snowshoe trails. This sport grew rapidly in popularity.



Snowshoeing at Telemark

Larry also modified the office and kitchen area in the chalet.

Gordie Boyko was hired as a paid head coach. The salary was partially paid through a grant from CCBC. This provided more consistency to the Junior Racing and Development teams.

A members night was held to kick off the season. The Junior Racers met with the Swedish National Team at Nickel Plate. The club secured a Direct Access Grant and this helped to pay for a new snowmobile with grooming attachments and additional rental skis.

Jack Johnson strapped on his tool belt once more and built an extension to the rental room.

Lyle Harrison was hired to share the trail grooming responsibility with Jack. Sue Camp took on the coordination of the school program. A Policy and Procedures Manual was developed for the club. Two of the Special Olympics skiers participated in the world championships in Japan.

2006 Jack Johnson retires

In 2006 we obtained a \$17,500 grant through the 2010 Olympic Legacy Fund and the Ogoogo Rotary Club donated \$20,000 to Telemark. This money was used to build a new Quonset hut for the groomer and other equipment. We also upgraded the stadium to make it more usable for sprint races and this included upgrading of the lights. The Quonset hut was finished in December, but during a windstorm a tree fell on it and destroyed the front quarter of the building. The groomer hadn't even been moved into the building yet. Fortunately the insurance for the building was in place.



Ouch

Larry continued the development of snowshoe and back country trails. He became a collector of old lawn mowers which he used to mow the trails. These worked very well except for the rocks.

Logging to control the spread of the pine beetle was started again in the summer, after a few years hiatus.

The club hosted a Ski for Light event and approximately 50 blind skiers and their guides participated in this event. Fabian Faller and Julia Ransom had excellent results in biathlon races. Murray Farbridge took over as Club Coach. Daniel Brown won a silver medal in a Noram race and made the BC Ski Team. We hosted a BC Cup with 300 participants. Many of our 25 Junior Racing and Development Team members had a terrific season. The "Klister Sisters" relay team was a force to be reckoned with.



2006 Telemark Racing Team

Jack Johnson retired as groomer after many years. Grooming duties were now shared by Lyle Harrison and John Gordon.

An Athlete Development Committee, made up mainly of parents of Junior Racers was struck to coordinate activities with the coach.

A new Management Agreement for a 10 year period was signed with the Ministry of Tourism and the Arts, which now looks after recreation sites.

2007-2008 Genus Sponsors Loppet

In 2007 Gerry Morrison took over as president. This year our membership increased to 925 and there were more than 15,000 skier visits.

Telemark hosted the BC Midget Championships, as well as the BC Games for Special Olympics. In both events our athletes did very well. The Ski League format was changed. The name was changed to the Skill Development Program and now has the following groups: bunny rabbits, jack rabbits and track attack. Coaching courses were also altered to match the requirements. Garth Vickers took over as head coach of the Special Olympics.

Gerry Morrison and John Davina participated in the World Masters Championships in Finland. They did very well. Like good red wine our Master skiers seem to improve with age.



Masters at a Loppet

A very successful Valentine's evening was held at Telemark.

During the summer the final touches were put on the sprint course, the kids playground upgraded and more work was done to improve the trails. Gloria Haug took over as manager while John Gordon, Lyle Harrison and Roger Knoblauch concentrated on the grooming. A meeting was held with Crystal Mountain Resorts to resolve the outstanding boundary dispute. The Genus Financial Group became sponsor for the southern interior loppet series.

Two of our great volunteers, Scott and Ineke Elliot died in a tragic accident in South Africa. Many of Scott's photographs are still in the lodge. Scott was an avid supporter of Telemark's races, taking on roles of chief of stadium, course and race. He served as director and later chairman of the board of CCBC.

In 2008, four of our skiers participated in the Nationals in Whistler. Julia Ransom won a bronze medal in the juvenile girls. The Telemark team came in third overall in the BC Midget Championships There were almost 3000 student visits under the school program. During the summer more trail widening and clearing was done while Larry continued to work on the snowshoe trails.

Gorilla gardeners beautified the area around the chalet. The inside of the chalet was repainted. A promotional video was prepared for Telemark. Adam Elliot took over as the Club Coach.

Telemark is popular in the summer as well for activities such as hiking.



Hiking Group on Crystal Rim

2009 Gold at the Nationals

The ski season started late due to lack of snow. A very cold start of the season also made skiers stay at home. However the membership grew to 965; spring skiing was the best ever and the trails officially closed on March 22, with still plenty of snow left.

Adam Elliot took over as head coach and our team had some terrific results. Julia Ransom won gold at the Nationals. We hosted the BC XC Championship, with 275 participants. It was a very successful event. Biathlon, Ski League, Biathlon and the School program all had terrific years.

2010 New Uniforms

This, the Olympic Year, was a challenging for snow conditions. The grooming team coordinated by Eric Rayson did a terrific job to keep the trails in shape. It was a bit discouraging, when spring arrived in early February.

Gloria Haug retired as manager and Ron Earle took over.

Telemark hosted a BC Cup with more than 330 skiers participating, a record for us. All our organised programs did extremely well. Ski League had 103 participants, Racing Team 26, Biathlon 26 and Special Olympics 30. The school program had 2400 skier visits!

The Junior Racers and Biathlon Teams got a new look with stylish uniforms.



Carson MacKenzie

Race results were again excellent and Julia Ransom was named to the Canadian Junior Biathlon Team.

Larry Krar added the Crystal Rim snowshoe trail. This is a gruelling trail, not for the faint of heart.