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**this
issue:**

Welcome to Merlin

Cabin enhancements

Hot tubs aplenty

Meet and retreat

Leaves and rates
fall in autumn

Romantic weddings

Falcon Trails| Falcon Ridge
Profiles Rich Pettit

lone log cabin

If you notice a lone log cabin down by the ski chalet, feel free to take a closer look. Walter Keller, a former Parks employee and an experienced log cabin builder, is holding a hands-on “how to build a log cabin” workshop in October. The cabin ultimately will be completed by Falcon Trails for use as... well, you’ll have to wait to see what surprise we have in mind!

gift certificates

Last minute Christmas presents, a wedding or birthday gift –any reason will do for a gift certificate for Falcon Trails or Falcon Ridge Ski Area. We know it will be appreciated. Purchase gift certificates from the Welcome Centre for Falcon Trails or at the chalet from Falcon Ridge Ski Area. Can they be purchased at the ski chalet?

trailhead



welcome to merlin

No, not the magician, but a brand new cabin named for the bird the Merlin, a grey blue falcon. Merlin has a slightly different design from the other 8, with two bedrooms upstairs and a futon in the living room should an additional bed be required.



hot tubs aplenty

To dispel rumours to the contrary, all cabins have hot tubs, including Merlin, so whichever cabin you choose, you can enjoy a relaxing soak on the screen porch overlooking the lake.



meet & retreat

Just can't get away with friends or family? Try a company retreat at Falcon Trails. Energize yourself in the Welcome Centre's spacious meeting room where floor-to-ceiling windows provide

magnificent light and views. The large screened porch makes a unique breakout room in the fine weather or gather around the stone fireplace in the cozy living room. While you feed your mind, the fresh air and surroundings will feed your soul and we can feed you with meals and snacks. Call 349-8273 for details and ask about our "stretch your mind team building" sessions.

cabin enhancements

You may have noticed several of the cabins and the Welcome Centre have new colours on the interior walls. We didn't want to get too bold, but instead of white, the colours are warm and, we think, reflective of the ambiance of Falcon Trails and the great outdoors. And speaking of outdoors, there are private docks with ladders for all the cabins now, except the three with their own private beach.

leaves & rates fall in autumn

We love autumn at Falcon Trails. The geese and ducks flying overhead create a stir of excitement, the leaves changing colour bring a glow to the world around us, and the air has a crispness not felt at any other time. Best of all, we offer reduced rates. Check us out and enjoy the quiet of the fall season at Falcon Trails.



romantic weddings

Picture this. The guests are standing at the top of the ski hill looking down to the lake. Walking up towards them are the bride and groom. The sun is shining, the grass and leaves are gently swaying in the breeze, and a large white tent for the reception awaits everyone down below.



We have been delighted hosts at Falcon Trails to several weddings and have been caught up in the romance and fun. Ask us about romantic wedding opportunities at Falcon Trails.

falcon trails | falcon ridge profiles

You might know their faces and even their names, but you might not know the stories of the people at Falcon Trails and Falcon Ridge. We'd like to introduce them, starting with Rich Pettit, volunteer coach, volunteer firefighter, and partner in Falcon Trails/Falcon Ridge.

rich pettit

Rich left the rocky outcroppings around Sudbury, Ontario, to become Manitoba's provincial cross-country ski coach, back in 1984. Eight years later, Rich couldn't resist a new challenge, becoming the Manitoba Biathlon team coach for the next 6 years. In late 1996, Rich, with his wife Lois,



jumped at the chance to rejuvenate the Falcon ski area and be part of the Falcon Trails Resort, bringing his enthusiasm and knowledge of "all things skiing" to Falcon Ridge. During those years, Rich experienced the thrill of being part of the Olympics as a support coach for the Canadian Cross-Country Ski Team in 1988 and 1992 and as a specialty coach for the Canadian Biathlon Team in Japan in 1992. Rich currently volunteers coaching time to our local 2010 Olympic biathlon hopeful, Megan Imrie, and assists in training other local kids who are pursuing this challenging sport.



need waxing?

See Rich! He'll take you into Falcon Ridge's fume-free waxing room and impart the wisdom he used for the Olympics biathlon team to prepare its equipment for the races. If you can't find him inside, and you won't find him sitting anywhere for long, you might see him out the downhill and snowboarding slopes, or grooming the cross-country trails. (Watch in the next issue for another Falcon Trails/Falcon Ridge profile.)

belated farewell to mike & yuki

We didn't have a chance to say a 'printed' farewell to our friends and former partners, Mike and Yuki Vlasman, and their son, Kenzo. Despite their love of the Whiteshell community and the people they met at Falcon Trails, the lure of the west coast was too strong. Last fall Mike, Yuki and Kenzo headed west where they have settled into Vancouver and a new life. We miss them, as we know you will, and wish them the best in their new digs and careers.

welcome to bill & nadine

Two new faces will be smiling at you the next time you visit Falcon Trails. Nadine Ogilvie, our new office supervisor, will be at the Welcome Centre Mondays to Fridays. A local Falcon Lake resident for the last few years, Nadine has been a great volunteer at our school and with the ski club. Bill Klassen is our new, on-site manager, leaving the city for a dream come true. Bill, who has had his own computer business, has helped out for years with biathlon events. He's also been a willing volunteer in other activities, including splitting wood and staying up all night with Rich to make sure the snow maker was working.

before the snow flies

There is plenty to do around Falcon Trails and the Falcon Ridge Ski Area before the snow flies. Mountain bike races and clinics, off-season biathlon training camps – we welcome anyone wanting to enjoy the wilderness of the Precambrian Shield. Just bring your enthusiasm and a good pair of shoes!

wildlife abounds

Falcon Trails and Falcon Ridge Ski Area share their surroundings with a multitude of flora and fauna. There are signs of life year-round, from tiny voles to bear and moose. Anyone who stayed at the Trails this last summer may have seen the family of bald eagles nesting, appropriately, across from Eagle cabin. Bald eagles have made an encouraging comeback after habitat loss and DDT contributed to threatening their existence. With the banning of DDT and legislation in some provinces to protect the bird, we can again delight in watching this magnificent eagle. (For more about bald eagles, check out the Canadian Wildlife Service website at www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca.)



gearing up for winter at falcon ridge ski & recreation area

Just down the hill from Falcon Trails is the Falcon Ridge Ski area. The partners of Falcon Trails are the proud owners and operators of Falcon Ridge and are excited about another ski season looming on the horizon. If the snow and weather cooperate, we hope to open in mid-December. Check our website for hours of operation, including special times during the Christmas break: www.falcon-trails.mb.ca.

what's new at the ridge?

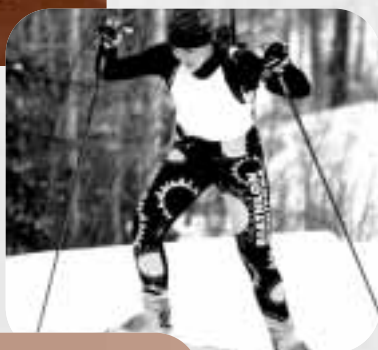
Tubing will tire you no more, thanks to the installation of a lift this season. Now you can tube to your heart's content.



new chalet roof

One look up was enough to know that the ski chalet roof needed replacing. Look up this year and you'll see a brand new cover to keep it, and you, warm and dry inside. And while you're inside, relax around the large stone fireplace with hot (and cold) drinks and food from our licensed café.

biathlon excitement



Falcon Ridge has the only 'complete' facility for biathlon training and events in Manitoba. It's one reason that our own Megan Imrie, whose family owns Falcon Beach Guest Ranch and Riding Stables, shows such promise in the national 2010 Program, a development squad for the 2010 Olympics. We're excited for Megan and about the growth in biathlon. Falcon Ridge has hosted several provincial cup biathlon events, a National Championship, and the World Junior Trials where the best Canadian juniors competed to be on the national Junior team. We have another great season of Manitoba Biathlon Cup events ahead. Come cheer on the biathletes and catch the excitement.



the best in winter sports

Ride the air on your board, race down the hill on your skis, zip down the tube chute, or follow the cross-country trails through the Shield. Whatever your chosen winter sport, we have the tabletop, inclines, trails, and tubes to make it happen! Certified instructors, rental equipment, and friendly staff all are ready for you. Just wait for the snow and head for the Ridge.