

Updated: February 19, 2009
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
e-mail: skagwayinfo@gmail.com

Registration opens for 23rd annual Buckwheat Ski Classic
Race date: Saturday, March 28, 2009
Two ferries heading to Skagway on Friday, March 27

The 23rd annual Buckwheat Ski Classic is on schedule for Saturday, March 28, 2009.

There are two ferries coming to Skagway on Friday, March 27. The Chenega leaves Juneau at 8 a.m. and arrives in Skagway at 11:45 a.m. Then the Taku heads north at 4:15 p.m., arriving in Skagway at 10:45 p.m. Both vessels stop in Haines.

After the race, the Leconte sails south to Juneau only at 1 p.m. on Sunday, and the Malaspina sails to Haines and Juneau at 4:15 p.m. on Monday.

To book space on these ferries, go directly to the state's Alaska Marine Highway site at www.ferryalaska.com.

Once again there will be 50K, 25K and 10K cross country ski races, as well as a 5K kids race. All races take place at Log Cabin on the South Klondike Highway, and there are pre-and post-race events in Skagway, Alaska, including a fabulous awards banquet and dance at the historic Eagles Hall.

The Buckwheat in 2005 was named one of the top 49 things to do in Alaska by the editors of Alaska magazine. The race is a fund-raiser for the Skagway Ski Club and traditionally hosts more than 200 participants from Alaska, the Yukon and elsewhere.

For a complete schedule, download the race brochure and entry form at www.skagwaynews.com/BSCskirace2009.

Race brochures and entry forms are also available at the Mountain Shop in Skagway; Lutak Lumber in Haines; Foggy Mountain in Juneau; and Coast Mountain Sports in Whitehorse. There are separate forms for U.S. adults, Canadian adults, U.S. kids, and Canadian kids.

Registration forms may be dropped off at the Skagway and Whitehorse locations or mailed directly to Buckwheat Ski Classic, Box 636, Skagway, AK 99840. Early registration deadline is March 15. Registrations received after that date cost an additional \$10.

Skiers are also reminded of the new document requirements for crossing the U.S. border that went into effect last year:

- U.S. and Canadian citizens ages 19 and older will need to present a government-issued photo ID, such as a driver's license, along with proof of citizenship, such as a birth certificate or naturalization certificate.
- Children ages 18 and under will only be required to present proof of citizenship, such as a birth certificate.

If you have questions, contact the Skagway Port of Entry at 907-983-2325.

The trail at Log Cabin, B.C. is currently set on the 5K and 10K courses, as well as the kids 2K, thanks to Skagway trail crew volunteers. Trail conditions are posted at the Mountain Shop (907-983-2544), and the Skagway Visitor Center (907-983-2854)

Additional volunteers are always welcome. If you can help with race packet prep., dinner serving, race timing, serving breakfast, T-shirt sales, and aid station prep., please call Buckwheat at 907-983-3988 or Su Rappleve at 983-2127.

Major sponsors include: FOE & Aux. No. 25, Steve & Salli Reeder, Municipality of Skagway Tourism Dept., Holland America, Alaska Shirt Co., Norcan Sales and Rentals, and The Skagway News. Co.

For more information, call Buckwheat at 907-983-2854 (days), 983-3988 (evenings), or e-mail: skagwayinfo@gmail.com . This is a new e-mail contact than what was previously released.