



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## Buckwheat Ski Classic sets new record

381 register for 26th annual race, now being  
organized by Log Cabin Ski Society

The 2012 Buckwheat Ski Classic results are now posted at:  
<http://buckwheatclassic.com/results/>

Some highlights:

- A record field of 381 registered for the 26th annual race, the first organized by the Log Cabin Ski Society which took over organization this year from founder Carlin "Buckwheat" Donahue. Buckwheat was on hand to present awards at the Skagway Recreation Center Saturday night.
- The top 3 in each category were dominated by Whitehorse skiers, the lone exception being 50K women's winner Theresa White of Smithers, BC. Men's 50K winner Dave Brook of Whitehorse won the Buckwheat a week after winning the Northwestel Yukon Loppet in Whitehorse.
- We had our first visually impaired skier, Walter Raineri of Belmont, California, who skied the 25K behind guide Ken Leghorn of Juneau and finished a respectable 22nd place in 2:08:03. They were introduced to huge applause at the awards dinner.
- The winner of the Des Duncan Award for outstanding volunteer service and sportsmanship was Mike Konsler of Skagway, and Miss Buckwheat 2012 was little Mina Yee of Skagway.
- Finally, there was a group of women from the Whistler-Vancouver area who allegedly "blindfolded" their friend Liz Kovics for her "Stagette" party on Friday and did not say where they were taking her. They flew her up to Whitehorse and brought her down for the Buckwheat Ski Classic. They skied the 10K and then came on down to Skagway, where they dressed for the awards ceremony in what can only be described on this side of the border as Quakerish attire. Kovics was introduced and jumped on the table to start the dancing, which carried on well into the evening to the sounds of Jester from Skagway and Chrome Forest from Juneau. She survived her Skagway experience, as far as we know, and will be married next month.

The LCSS will continue to maintain trails at Log Cabin as long as weather allows. Trail crews from LCSS with assistance from Whitehorse Cross Country Ski Club had great weather all last week to get the course in prime condition. One of the more memorable aid station snow sculptures in recent years was centered around the Chinese New Year theme, Year of the Dragon, which was crafted by members of the Team Alaska sculpture team and several volunteers. Light snow fell on the course off and on on race day, and there was a slight breeze in open areas, and conditions were still very good.

In all, about 95 volunteers from Skagway and a few in the Yukon helped in various aspects of the event.

Partners include Yukon Ski Patrol, Yukon Avalanched Association, Parks Canada, and BC Forestry, which is working with the club on developing a new GPS oriented map of the Log Cabin Ski trails.

The event is supported by several sponsors. The largest contributors are: Municipality of Skagway CVB & Recreation Center, Salli & Steve Reeder, Alaska Shirt Company, Duff's Backcountry Outfitters, Elliott Financial Management, Holland America Line, PR Services, Princess Cruises, Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines, The Mountain Shop, The Skagway News Co., Whitehorse Cross Country Ski Club, and Alaskan Brewing Company.

We will be adding photos from Andrew Cremata to the site all week.

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