

## 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday Tour – 26<sup>th</sup> January 2012

Rendezvous: Chalet Far Hills, Parc regional de Val-David – Val-Morin

Ref. Free map at the Chalet and also available at:

[www.val-morin.ca/editor\\_files/file/carte\\_parc\\_regional.jpg](http://www.val-morin.ca/editor_files/file/carte_parc_regional.jpg)

With 16 participants, we skied westward some 7 km across the park trail network to our comfortable “lunching facility” the Chalet Anne-Piché then returning eastward some 7 km on a different set of trails to the Chalet Far Hills.

An impressive number of trails were skied, namely:

Maple Leaf (No.1), Kelly (No. 3), Sud-Ouest (No.5), Mont King (No. 7),

Pemberton (No. 9), Dufresne (No. 11), 2 Vals (No. 33), Anne-Piché (No.39)



Initial massing of the Viking troops at the Far Hills for a starting body count:

...only for insurance purposes!

We welcome, (7<sup>th</sup> from the right), first time Thursday Tour participant

Karen Kennedy

who has crossed over from the dark side i.e. down hill skiing!



With Big City conditions being appallingly icy, we were pleasantly surprised with the Far Hills trail conditions which could be described as having a firm base with a granular-powder toping. The black Très difficile" trails were wisely closed off, however it was still possible to achieve seemingly "rocket re-entry" velocities on some downhill sections of the open "Facile" and "Difficile" trails!

With these abrasive conditions, those with waxed skis soon discovered that they were really on wax-less skis !



The Parc regional de Val-David - Val-Morin is certainly to be commended for the comprehensive Signage provided at all trail junctions....try as we may to get lost!

Thanks to the sports apparel company MERRELL, this park now has four new woodstove heated warm-up huts for use of skiers.

On this section of trail, we are adjacent to a very popular rock climbing locale, alleged to be the birthplace of the sport in Eastern Canada.





The Chalet Anne-Piché endures a double invasion at lunch time, firstly by Vikings, followed by sledging school kids...what an age contrast!!

During lunch, our numbers swell from 15 to 16 as Dave McDonald, bearing an enormous CSM training packsack, "caught up" with us !

