

February 12, 2011

Eleven Swan Rangers skied and snowshoed another loop up through Krause Basin and down the Strawberry Lake Road Saturday, under warming temperatures but in abundant snow.

Did the warming temps make the snow sticky? Let's just say one didn't need climbing skins on their skis for the steeper climbs!

Fresh snow gets very sticky upon its first warming, but will later get slippery as the flakes pull in their "points" and sinter into granules a bit like sugar.

The Swan Rangers meet every Saturday at the Echo Lake Cafe for **breakfast at 8:30, leaving at 9:30** for a partial day outing in the northern Swan Mountains and foothills.

They carpool from the Swan River School parking lot next to the Cafe.

There's enough snow that either cross-country skis or snowshoes are necessary.

Everyone is welcome!



Keith

Photos on following pages by Keith Hammer:



All smiles and bare trees at lower elevation . . .



. . . but lots of snow higher up!



Arches of snow-trimmed birch.



Riding the roller coaster down Strawberry Lake Road!