

VHT Pathfinder

The Official Newsletter of Victor Hiking Trails, Inc.

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New Trails Coming

We are working with some land owners to get permission for additional trails in Victor. We expect that the trails will be open next Spring or early Summer.

The first is a continuation of the Seneca Trail, extending it south of the Apple Farm toward the town line. This would give us a continuous trail from Fishers Firehouse 2 on High Street to the town line.

The second trail will be in Fish-

ers, running off the Auburn Trail over to the Lehigh Trail on property owned by Domine Block on Wangum Road.

This trail will require a bridge to cross the small creek that runs along the Auburn Trail.

When we get final approval for this trail we will blaze, clear and mark the trail. It will be accessible from the Lehigh Trail and will be great for cross country skiing.

Quotes found inside:

We sold out on the baked goods at Victor Fest... *Page 2*

This was a dam tour and a gorge hike. *Page 3.*

...we would attempt to climb Tabletop, one of the 46 High Peaks that does not have a marked trail and is not maintained. *Page 5.*

Have you every tasted Vanilla ice cream covered with raspberry dessert wine? It is delicious! *Page 6.*

Halloween on the Train

The Finger Lakes Scenic Railway will be running three Halloween excursions on Saturday, Oct. 24th from the Victor Station at Maple Avenue.

The first two rides are designed to entertain the children. Choose the 10 AM or noon ride for a 75 minute round trip. Be sure the kids wear their costume for a chance at winning prizes. And bring a carved or decorated pumpkin to be judged for prizes. Each child will get a goodie bag with surprises. The fare for these rides is \$15.00.

The adults get their chance to dress up in costumes and ride the train at 4 PM. There will be a live band and cash bar, so you must be 21 or older to ride.

The round trip to Clifton Springs and back will be 3 hours. Fare is \$30 per person, \$27 for anyone 62

and over.

Order your tickets on line at www.FingerLakesScenicRailway.com or call 315-374-1570.

These rides are sponsored by Friends of the Railroad, Inc., a 501 (c)(3) organization in Victor that is dedicated to educating the public on the history of trains in the Victor area and the important role they played in the development of the region.



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 David Coleman– Membership
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VHT Pathfinder

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The Victor Hiking Trails Pathfinder is published quarterly for the members of Victor Hiking Trails, Inc. We encourage submissions of letters, editorial items and advertising pertaining to trails, Victor and the environment. Ask about our rates. To submit articles for the *VHT Pathfinder*, please contact:

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HIKES FOR 2009

- Oct. 10– VanDerStrict Trail at Canadice Lake. Hike the new ridge trail. This will be peak fall foliage time. Bring your camera and enjoy the views.
- Nov. 14– Boughton Park. Hike all the trails. Meet at the Stirnie Road parking lot at 9:00 a.m.
- Dec. 12– Powder Mills Park. Meet at the fish hatchery at 9:00 a.m.

Note: Please check the message line at 585-234-8226 for details. All hikes meet at Victor Town Hall rear parking lot at 9:00 a.m. unless otherwise noted. Most hikes are relatively easy and take 2-4 hours. Always bring a bag lunch or snack and something to drink. Dress for the weather. We rarely cancel due to inclement weather.

We usually car pool to the trailhead. If gas gets expensive again, expect to share the cost with the driver.

If you have any questions regarding any of the hikes, or if you have suggestions for places to hike, please leave a message at 585-234-8226.

The VHT Board will be selecting the hikes for 2010 soon. If you have a favorite place to hike, please call 585-234-8226 and tell us about it.

Hang Around Victor Day and Victor Fest

Thank you to all who helped VHT with our booth and baking the desserts. We really appreciate all who were able to attend the booth, hand out brochures and answer questions about the trails.

We sold out on the baked goods at Victor Fest, so we have some additional funds to maintain and improve the existing trails as well as obtain new trails. It all helps to provide everyone with an opportunity to enjoy the beautiful resources that we have in our area.



Photos by Chauncy Young.

Past Hikes

Jul. 11– Grimes Glen in Naples, NY. This property was recently acquired by Ontario County thanks to the Finger Lakes Land Trust. The County, in partnership with the Friends of Grimes Glen, is improving the parking, the old bridge and the trail. If the weather had cooperated, it would have been great hike. Thanks Chauncy for leading the hike of one.

Aug. 8– Letchworth State Park. This was a dam tour and a gorge hike. Chauncy led three others on the east side of the river, going both north and south of the dam on the Finger Lakes Trail. Great views of the gorge and an interesting tour of the dam.

Aug. 16– A Finger Lakes Land Trust sponsored hike at Conklin’s Gully was led by a geology professor from Monroe Community College. He pointed out the different types of rocks in the creek bed, how they got there and the different patterns worn into the surface of the rocks. This was an extremely informative hike.

Sep. 5– Bare Hill Ring of Fire. Eleven hikers enjoyed a mild evening, with a full moon, on top of Bare Hill. The bonfire was spectacular as usual.



The big falls at Grimes Glen.

a



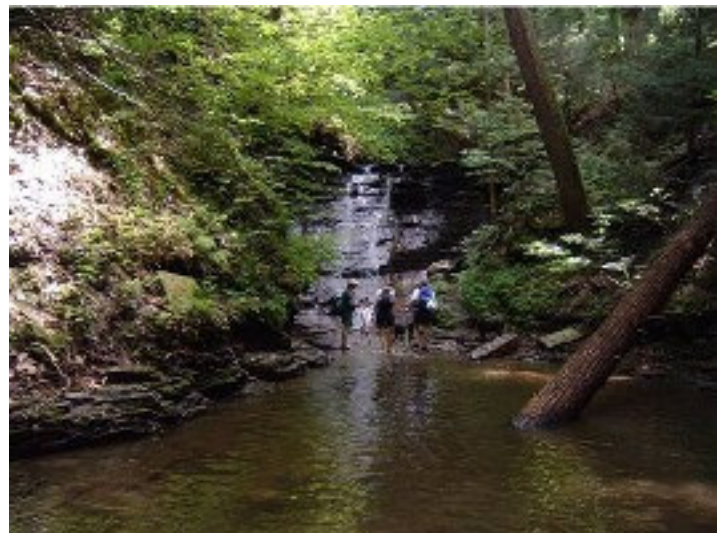
Overlooking the Genesee River Gorge at Letchworth State Park.



Enjoying the evening at the Ring of Fire.



Chauncy enjoying his dinner before the bonfire.



One of many falls in Conklin’s Gully.



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Another weekend in the Adirondacks

By Dave Wright

There is something about a Fall weekend in the Adirondacks that brings people out in droves. The weekend of Sept 26 & 27 was no different.

10 VHT members met at Marcia Bryant's home in Schroon Lake in the Adirondack Park on Friday evening for a great homemade meal.

Rob & Denise arrived a little late, but they made it. Jane brought Jackie and Sue. I rode with Tom and Greg. Chauncy drove himself so he could take care of business in Albany.

We had decided last spring that we would attempt to climb Tabletop, one of the 46 High Peaks that does not have a marked trail and is not maintained.

Dave Coleman, one of our resident 46'ers, had climbed it about 5 years ago and was planning to lead us. Unfortunately, he came down with a cold and decided he better not go.

The group decided we had enough maps and trail guide information to find the trail to the summit. We knew we had to follow the Blue trail to just before Indian Falls, then go straight instead of turning right. Just go due East to the top.

So at about 7:45 AM we left Adirondack Loj and headed out on the Blue trail. We stopped at Marcy Dam for a few group pictures and rechecked our maps and GPS. Everything looked good and we were making decent



On the way to Marcy Dam.



At the summit.

time. It was about 10:00 AM.

We got a little split up into two groups. I was leading the first group and Chauncy was the

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sweep. I got a call from Chauncy on my walkie-talkie that they had turned up the trail to Phelps, gone a ways and determined that we were not ahead of them any more. I never saw the turn for Phelps or I would have waited for them to catch up. So we waited at the creek crossing until they got back with us.

We finally came to a sign that said ski trail only. The Blue trail turned to the right. The ski trail went straight. Due East. This must be the unmarked trail. We thought. We climbed straight up the trail, which like many trails in the Adirondacks, is a creek.

It was steep, wet, rocky and overgrown. Just what we expected.

After going for about 45 minutes we came to an intersection of the Blue trail again. We had just taken a short cut. We were still not to Indian Falls. And there high up on a tree was a sign, Trail to Tabletop. The Blue trail turned to the right. Our trail went straight. Due East. Just another mile to go.

Now the trail got a little steeper, a little narrower and a little muddier. After another hour of hiking we reached the summit. It was a little after noon. Not a bad morning hike.

As we were told, there are not many views from Tabletop. We could see Marcy and Haystack from the backside of the mountain. And the sun was shining. So we had lunch, rested, took some pictures and headed back down.

The hike down was relatively easy, despite the water, boulders and wet leaves. We were back to Adirondack Loj by 3:30 PM.

We headed back to Schroon Lake for a wonderful meal at Witherby's, followed by dessert at Marcia's. Have you every tasted Vanilla ice cream covered with raspberry dessert wine? It is delicious!



The view from Marcy Dam.



Looking at Mt. Marcy from Tabletop.

We awoke Sunday morning to a warm drizzle on our tents. Not a good day for hiking, so we went to breakfast, said our goodbyes to Marcia and headed back to Victor.

Start thinking about joining us next May for our Spring hike in the Adirondacks. We will be looking for suggestions for our Saturday hike.

Chauncy Young, CFP®
 Managing Member



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