Volume 19, Issue 3

Fall, 2014

VHT Pathfinder The Official Newsletter of Victor Hiking Trails, Inc.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

	•	Ar
2014 Hike Schedule	2	ре
New Secretary	2	1
New Secretary	-	Tł
Past Hikes	3	fro
		ar
Future Hikes	4	R
		tra
Mural Update	4	са
Future Projects	5	So
	6&7	yc
New Boardwalks	001	ťh
Pictures	8	а
Tiotaloo		ре
Our Sponsors	9	W
		ha
Membership form	10	ca
		ca

Inside this issue:

...they stopped at Bob and Ruth's for an ice cream. Page 3

...there is always something interesting to see. Page 4

The cost ... will be approximately \$13,000. Page 5

...we now have a boardwalk... Page 6

...building a boardwalk across a small creek on the Seneca Trail in Ganondagan. Page 7

Take the Challenge

Are you ready for the 4th Annual Challenge Hike? I hope so. It will happen on Sunday, September 28, 2014.

This year we will again be hiking the full length of the Seneca Trail, but from the south end to the north end. We will still meet at the Bed, Bath and Beyond parking lot in the East gate Plaza at the corner of Turkhill Road and Route 96 at 8:00 a.m., but this year we have a bus that will transport us to Boughton Park so we can hike the 14 miles back to our cars.

o this vear ou will see e trail from different erspective. e will still ave some ars strategially placed along the route incase someone has a mishap or needs to stop early. And a few VHT members will be on call. just like AAA.



Some of last year's hikers taking a break.

Everyone who makes the entire length of the hike will be able to see our newest section of the trail. And I believe everyone will be pleased with the improvement.

Dress for the weather (we go, rain or shine), wear sturdy hiking boots, bring liquids to keep you hydrated and a snack or two for nourishment. We should be back to our cars by noon.

HIKES FOR 2014

VHT 2014 Officers:

Dave Wright- Chairman

Jeff Hennick- Vice Chairman

Suzy Paquin-Secretary

Chauncy Young- Treasurer

Carol MacInnes– Trailmaster

Larry Fisher- Trail Boss

Peter Ingalsbe- Membership

Ralph Weber – Education

Wizzy Geno— Volunteer Coordinator

VHT Pathfinder

Volume 19. Issue 3 Fall 2014 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:

Dave Wright, Editor Victor Hiking Trails, Inc. 85 East Main Street Victor, NY 14564

(585) 234-8226

www.victorhikingtrails.org Also on Facebook

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- Sept 28– 4th Annual Challenge Hike, Boughton Park to Perinton. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Bed, Bath & Beyond at East gate Plaza, Turk Hill Rd.
- Oct 11- Note the change: Pittsford Railroad Loop Trail
- Nov 8– Monkey Run and MaryFrances Bluebird Haven. Meet at Mary-Frances parking lot at 9:00 a.m.
- Dec 13– Dryer Road Park and Fort Hill. Meet at Dryer Rd. parking lot.

Note: Please check the message line at 585-234-8226 for details. All hikes meet at Victor Town Hall rear parking lot, 85 East Main Street, 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 carpool to the trailhead. Expect to share the cost of gas 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.

Again this year we have scheduled several hikes in Victor or the surrounding communities. We are also leading shorter and easier hikes to encourage families and younger hikers to join us. Based on the success of last year we will again be adding an educational element to some of the hikes.

We only hike as fast as the slowest hikers, so don't worry about not keeping up. If we need to split into more than one group, that is not a problem.

Come enjoy the fun.

New Secretary

At the August 21st meeting of the VHT board, Suzy Paquin was nominated, seconded and unanimously voted to be the new VHT secretary. Thank you Suzy for stepping forward to help make our meeting run smoothly.

Past Hikes

July 12—Conklin Gully Creek Walk. It was a beautiful morning for a walk up the creek. Eleven hikers went as far up the creek as we dared, then back down part way. Someone suggested we hike up to the overlook for a view of Canandaigua Lake and eat out lunch. Then we hiked down the dry trail. After the hike some stopped at Bob and Ruth's for an ice cream.

August 9—Grimes Glen Creek

Walk. Another great morning to be playing in a creek. This time we had thirteen hikers wade up Grimes Glen, eat lunch and then go over to Tannery Creek for an additional hike. Again, they stopped at Bob and Ruth's for an ice cream. This could be habit forming.

September 6—Hang Around Vic-

tor Day. The morning started out cool and we got a sprinkle or two, but the afternoon cleared up and it was a great day. We passed out all of this years brochures and talked to many people interested it knowing about our trails.



The falls in Conklin Gully.

September 13—Bike Ride on the Genesee. For the first time that I can remember, we had to cancel the bike ride. It was raining and it looked like it was going to continue all day. But the decision maker was the temperature; it was only 48 degrees and it didn't look like it was going to warm up soon. Hypothermia was too big of a risk. I am sure we will put this ride on our calendar for next year.

September 20—Dryer Road Park. 12 adults, 6 children and a few dogs hiked from Dryer Road Park to Fort Hill and back on a warm morning. This special hike was held with the Victor Farmington Food Cupboard to celebrate healthy lifestyles. We hope to conduct more events with the VF Food Cupboard to collect food, get good exercise and encourage others to help those who need us.

Upcoming Hikes

October 11– Pittsford Railroad Loop Hike. We had to cancel the Outlet Trail hike from Penn Yan to Dresden due to the heavy flooding this summer. The trail is officially closed until further notice. Instead, we will hike the Pittsford Railroad Loop Trail, beginning at the Pittsford Wegmans on Route 31. Meet at Victor Town Hall at 9:00 a.m. to carpool to the start or meet at Wegmans by the rear of the Snow Ski and Boards store at 9:35 a.m.

November 8—Monkey Run and MaryFrances Bluebird Haven. Always a popular family hike, these two town parks are visited by many residents all year round. From the nature trails in Monkey Run to the wildlife at MaryFrances, there is always something interesting to see. Meet in the parking lot by the blue house at 9:00 a.m.

December 13—Dryer Road Park and Fort Hill. This hike will cover several of the multi-use singletrack trails that cover the south end of the park. Expect this to be a good workout as we hike up and down the trails. If we get some early snow, bring your cross country skis or snowshoes. If the ground is frozen, you might want to wear a pair of crampons or micro-spikes. Regardless, we will work our way over to Fort Hill and return to the parking lot. Expect to spend about 3 hours on the trails. Meet in the Dryer Road parking lot, near the kiosk, at 9:00 a.m.

Mural Update

Work on the mural on the Auburn Trail at the Thruway underpass has stopped for the season. We did not get as much work done as we hoped for due to inclement weather. Even though the wall is somewhat protected, the humidity creates a wall of water on cold concrete. It was too risky to paint on one day just to see it washed off the next day. So we will start again next summer when the weather is dry again. Check our website calendar for painting days.





A view of the old Erie tow path.

Future Projects

We have had a couple of bridges on our radar for several years, but lacked the funds to start them. We now have a commitment from NYS to fund some of the materials for a bridge over Great Brook on Ganondagan State Historic Site property and donations for a bridge in Fishers Park.

The Great Brook Bridge will be the largest project we have attempted to date. The design will be similar to the Apple Farm bridge and the Domine Trails bridge, but longer. In addition, it will have tall supports on each side of the creek with long ramps. The cost of the materials will be approximately \$13,000. We have a grant from the state for \$6000 and a grant from L.L.Bean for \$2000. This is enough for us to start the foundation this fall, before the weather gets too cold. Check our website for construction dates if you are able to help. We will continue to apply for grants and donations to complete the bridge in 2015.

Our second bridge will be across a tributary of Irondequoit Creek by the playing field at the corner of Main Street Fishers and Wangum Road. The old bridge has not survived all of the spring flooding and needs to be replaced. This bridge had been a pet project for Nat Fisher. We have received over \$3000 in donations in Nat's memory, earmarked for this bridge. We plan to construct a new bridge, above the flood level of the creek, in 2015. We will continue to apply for a grant and seek additional donations and help from the town. Donations can be sent to Victor Hiking Trails, 85 East Main Street, Victor, NY 14564, in Nat's memory.



Proposed bridge at Ganondagan over Great Brook.

New Boardwalk in Lehigh Crossing Park

Thanks to Ben Kransler and his fellow scouts in Troop 60, we now have a boardwalk through a wet area in Lehigh Crossing Park. The boardwalk connects with a bridge that crosses a small creek that runs parallel to the Auburn Trail. Ben was able to get the materials for the boardwalk from HEP Supplies in Canandaigua at a significant discount. Great work Ben.





New Membership Level

We now have a level for Corporate membership. For a mere \$100 per year a business can join and all the employees automatically become members. When applying, a list of employees, with their home address and email address, should be attached to the membership form.

Another Boardwalk in Ganondagan State Historic Site

Another scout in Troop 60 took on the project of building a boardwalk across a small creek on the Seneca Trail in Ganondagan. Connor Reese and his crew spent a weekend hauling in the materials and constructing the bridge/boardwalk. Very nice.



Before the bridge.



Laying down the foundation.



Nailing down the deck boards.

The team and the finished project.



Panorama view of Canandaigua Lake taken from the overlook on County Road 12, South Bristol.





Auburn Trail at mile marker 88.



Auburn Trail north of Main Street Fishers.



Using the new boardwalk in Ganondagan.



Visit our sponsors and tell them you saw their advertisement in the VHT Pathfinder.

Victor Hiking Trails 85 East Main Street Victor, NY 14564



All VHT newsletters are now available on our website. View it and download it in full color.

Annual membership is for 12 months, beginning when you first join. Please send your renewal check promptly so we don't have to come after you. We will use your dues and donations for new and improved trails.

<i>Filling the gaps in Victor</i> Check out our website at www.victorhikingtrails.org		Date			u when the latest edition of our	e Trail hikes History / Education	other \$ ees to be members.	D.		
Join us on Facebook!	rship in VHT!		Zip		address to notify you	Trail Maintenance Special Events	\$100 \$250 sar allows all employ.	non-profit organizatio	ING TRAILS, INC.	
VHT Map Link	Yes, I want to join / renew membership in VHT!	Name Address	City	Phone ()E-Mail	Please note that we need your e-mail address to notify you when the latest edition of our newsletter is available on our website.	l can help with: Trail Acquisition Newsletter Fund Raising	Amount submitted \$10 \$20 \$100 \$250 other \$ Corporate membership at \$100 per year allows all employees to be members.	Victor Hiking Trails, Inc. is a 501 (c)3 non-profit organization.	Make check payable to: VICTOR HIKING TRAILS, INC. And mail to: 85 EAST MAIN STREET VICTOR, NY 14564	