



VHT Pathfinder

The Official Newsletter of Victor Hiking Trails, Inc.

Volume 21, Issue 4
Winter, 2016

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Nat Fisher Memorial Bridge Completed

As reported in our last issue, the Nat Fisher Memorial Bridge was moving along toward completion. The final touches were done in October and we received the Certificate of Completion from the Town on October 19th. Thank you to all the volunteers who worked over 700 hours on the bridge, especially Chauncy Young who put in many hours and directed the construction of the bridge. Thank you also to Brian Emelsson, Parks and Recreation Director, for the use of a backhoe and operator Tim Hadden who did an excellent job of digging the trenches for the wing wall foundation and the final grading. And of course a huge thank you to all of the people who donated the money to purchase the materials. The total cost of materials and rental was over \$8200. For a complete understanding of the construction process, check out the photo album on the VHT Facebook page.



The bridge is done! See more photos by Suzy Paquin on page 6.

VHT 2017 Officers:

Dave Wright– Chairman
 Jeff Hennick– Vice Chairman
 Lisa Roberts– Secretary
 Barb Cole– Treasurer
 Carol MacInnes– Trailmaster
 Chauncy Young– Trail Boss
 Peter Ingalsbe– Membership
 Ralph Weber – Education
 Suzy Paquin— Volunteer
 Coordinator
 Lisa Roberts — Social Media
 Coordinator
 David Coleman— Camping
 Larry Fisher—Parks Liaison

HIKES FOR 2017

January 14th – Oatka Creek Park
 February 11th – Irondequoit Bay West Park
 March 11th – Apple Farm to Boughton Park and back
 April 8th – Rob’s Trail on 15A to Hemlock Lake
 May 13th – Vine Crest/Midlands & Beaumont, meet at old Foley Road parking lot off Route 250 at 9:00 a.m.
 June 3rd – National Trails Day: Ganondagan, Seneca Art & Culture Center
 June 10th – ADK Expo, Mendon Ponds
 July 8th— Wesley Nature Preserve
 August 12th—Chimney Bluffs State Park
 September 2nd—Ring of Fire at Bare Hill, evening hike
 September 9th—Hang Around Victor, Village hike
 October 14th—Dryer Road Park to Lehigh Crossing Park
 November 11th—Powder Mills Park
 December 9th—Lucien Moran Park (Old Rifle Range)

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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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 85 East Main Street
 Victor, NY 14564

(585) 234-8226

www.victorhikingtrails.org
 Also on Facebook
 and Meetup
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Note: Please check the message line at 585-234-8226 for details and last minutes updates. Also, if you join Meetup, Victor Hiking Trails, you will get notifications of hikes and other events, reminders if you are signed up for a hike and last minute changes. 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.

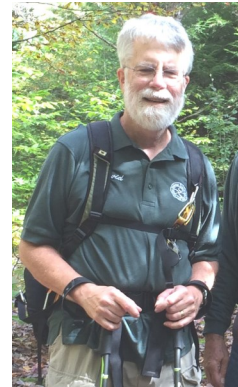
We only hike as fast as the slowest hikers, so don't worry about not keeping up. If we need to split into more than one group, that is not a problem. **Come enjoy the fun.**

NOTE: There are several hiking Meetup groups in our area that schedule hikes in Victor. If you like to hike, join those Meetup groups as well.

Past Hikes

October 8th— Finger Lakes Trail, Bristol Hills Branch, south end.

David Coleman led the hike on the last section to finally complete the entire length of the Bristol Hills Branch of the Finger Lakes Trail. We have been hiking a different section every fall over the last several years. This trail is beautiful in the fall with all the brilliant colors of the hardwoods. The north end is located in Ontario County Park at what is called Jumpoff. Follow the orange trail for about 60 miles and you will reach the main trail of the Finger Lakes Trail. Thank you to David for suggesting and leading the annual hikes.



November 12th—Valentown to Woodcliff and return. 20 people take the one-hour tour

of the Valentown Museum beginning at 9:15 a.m. Thank you to Kathryn White, president of the Victor Historical Society, for educating everyone about Victor and Fishers in the late 1800's and early 1900's. After the tour 15 hikers carpooled to the Woodcliff Hotel and hiked on the Crescent Trail in Perinton and the Seneca Trail in Victor back to the Valentown Museum, a distance of 4.5 miles. Chauncy Young and 3 others hiked back to Woodcliff to get their cars.



Kathryn White telling the group about Valentown Museum.

December 10th— Lehigh Crossing Park.

7 hikers enjoyed the brisk, cool morning air while hiking the trails of the park as well as the Lehigh and Auburn Trails.



January 14th—Oatka Creek Park. This Monroe County park is located in the town of Wheatland, near Caledonia and Scottsville. The land is mostly flat, so the 5 to 6 mile hike will be relatively easy. The trails are ideal for snowshoeing or cross-country skiing, so bring your gear if we have snow. After the hike, for those interested, we will visit the oldest fish hatchery in the Northern Hemisphere, located in Caledonia. Bring a bag lunch and something to drink.

February 11th—Irondequoit Bay West Park. Another Monroe County Park, this one is very hilly and will be challenging if the trails are icy. Bring crampons or micro-spikes if you have them. Snowshoes will work if we get lots of snow. Bring

a snack and something to drink. We will stop for coffee and hot chocolate if there is interest.

March 11th—Apple Farm to Boughton Park and back. This hike will be relatively easy, but long. Not many hills, but a few easy grades. We will have a few cars at the Stirnie Road parking area in Boughton Park for anyone who only wants to hike one way. If we hike around the ponds, the total distance will be 10-11 miles. One way only will be about 5 miles. Bring a bag lunch and a drink. Dress for the weather, Snowshoes and/or cross-country skis would be good if we have snow. Meet at the Apple Farm parking area on Route 444 at 9:00 a.m.

VHT is now a Meetup Group

Now you can find VHT on Meetup. No cost to join.

This is another means of communicating our monthly hikes, weekly trail maintenance sched-

ule, scout projects and special events.

To join, search for Victor Hiking Trails Meetup or go to this:

<http://www.meetup.com/Victor-Hiking-Trails-Meetup/>

Election of Officers for 2017

At the November meeting the following officers were elected:

Chairman—David Wright
 Vice Chairman—Jeff Hennick
 Secretary—Lisa Roberts
 Treasurer—Barb Cole

Chairman Wright made the following appointments:

Trail Master—Carol MacInnes
 Trail Boss—Chauncy Young
 Membership—Peter Ingalsbe
 Education—Ralph Weber
 Volunteer Coordinator—Suzy Paquin
 Social Media Coordinator—Lisa Roberts
 Camping—David Coleman
 Parks Liaison—Larry Fisher

Elevated Boardwalk

Boy Scout Daniel Waldman and Troop 167 of Pittsford designed and built an elevated boardwalk in Lehigh Crossing Park to connect with the Beaver Bridge that was built in 2003 by Boy Scout Chris Sonnefeld and Troop 50. The 4' wide by 160' long structure has galvanized pipes driven into the ground that is currently flooded due to beaver activity in the area. The actual construction took several weekends and was completed in November.



Leveling a section and securing to the upright posts.



Laying out the sections to align with the Beaver Bridge.

Additional Hikes in Victor

The Genesee Valley Hiking Group, through their Meetup group, has scheduled some hikes in Victor. If you are interested in hiking with them, join their Meetup group and sign up for a hike or two.

February 25th—Dryer Road Park, Fort Hill and Ganondagan. 5-6 miles, hilly, moderate pace. Meet at Dryer Road Park at 9:00 a.m.

March 25th—Apple Farm to Boughton Park and back. Similar to our March 11th hike. Meet at the Apple Farm parking area at 9:00 a.m.

April 22nd—Fishers Park and Domine Trails. 5-6 miles with some hills at a moderate pace. Meet at the tennis court parking area on Wangum Road at 9:00 a.m.

May 27th—MaryFrances Bluebird Haven and Monkey Run. 5-6 miles, mostly easy trails at a moderate pace. Look for spring flowers and bluebirds. Meet at the Butler Cabin parking area at 9:00 a.m.



Bruse Fisher, Lisa Roberts, Chauncy Young and Maryellen Meleca are happy that the bridge is done.



It takes teamwork to build a bridge.



Moving some heavy lumber.



This is what a foundation looks like.



These photos by Chauncy Young.



Victor Hiking Trails

Town	Members
Canandaigua	13
Farmington	22
Fairport	11
Fishers	7
Bloomfield	5
Honeoye Falls	6
Mendon	3
Pittsford	16
Victor	104
Webster	3
Rochester	21
Others	42

Members location

Every once in a while we like to look at the diversity of our membership. Like where do our members live?

The list and graph to the left show that of our current 253 members, almost half live in Victor. If we include Fishers and Farmington, it is a little over half.

The next large group is others, which include out of state members from NC, FL, OK and WA.

Canandaigua is at 12 o'clock, with the list of towns following around clockwise.

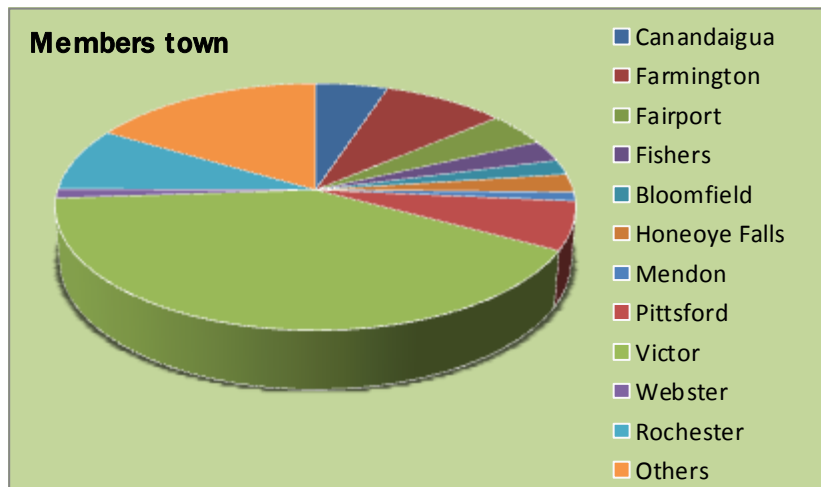


Photo by Chauncy Young.

Hikers for the November 12 hike from Woodcliff to Valentown.

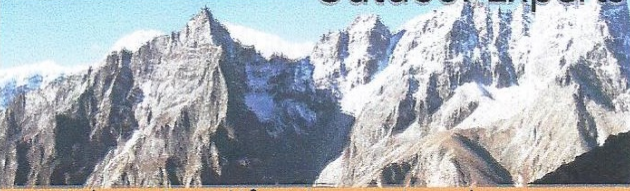
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Filling the gaps in Victor

Check out our website at
www.victorhikingtrails.org

Join us on Facebook!

And Meetup!



VHT Map Link

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.

Yes, I want to join / renew membership in VHT!

Name _____ **Date** _____

Address _____

City _____ **Zip** _____

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.

I can help with: Trail Acquisition _____ Trail Maintenance _____ Trail hikes _____
 Newsletter _____ Fund Raising _____ Special Events _____ History / Education _____

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
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