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# **VHT Pathfinder**

**28YEARS AND GROWING** 

Volume 25, Issue 3 Fall, 2020

#### **StoryWalk® at Victor Municipal Park**

Greta Selin-Love, community services librarian at Victor Farmington Library, was looking for a way to help the community cope with the stress of the COVID-19 pandemic and decided to bring a StoryWalk® to the area.

The Victor-Farmington Library, Farmington-Victor Kiwanis Club, the Town of Victor and VHT partnered to create this new feature at the Victor Municipal Park.

A StoryWalk® is a deconstructed children's book that is placed along a trail on individual posts. Children and adults can enjoy reading a story while spending time outdoors.



Holder installation.



Greta attaching the pages.

Blasi. The brightly colored laminated pages are attached to 20 stands around the park, all cut to size by volunteer Larry Fisher and installed by VHT volunteers. Funding for the materials was provided by the Farmington-Victor Kiwanis Club. The featured story will change monthly, so visit the park often with your kids and grandchildren.

The first featured book for Victor is



Author Kathleen Blasi telling about the story

#### VHT 2020 Officers:

Dave Wright– Chairman

Jeff Hennick– Vice Chairman

Lisa Roberts- Secretary

Ruth Rugaber- Treasurer

Paul Knerr & Scott Reinhart– Co-Trailmaster

Chauncy Young– Trail Boss Jeff Hennick– Webmaster

Denni Harbaugh– Membership

Jeff Miller – Education

Open— Volunteer Coordinator

Lisa Roberts — Social Media Coordinator

Larry Fisher—Parks Liaison

# **VHT** Pathfinder

Volume 25, Issue 3 Fall, 2020 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 and Meetup © 2020 Victor Hiking Trails, Inc.

#### VHT Monthly Hikes for 2020

Oct. 10, 9 a.m.– Whiting Road in Webster. Carpool from Town Hall. Nov. 14, 9 a.m.– Apple Farm Seneca Trail North, meet at Apple Farm Dec. 12, 9 a.m.– Valentown to Kreag Rd. Park, hike one direction, car pool back

#### 2021 Hikes

Jan. 9, 9 a.m.– Dryer Road Park Feb. 13, 9 a.m.– Powder Mills Park. Meet at Fish hatchery. Mar. 13, 9 a.m.– Webster Park Trails. Meet at Town Hall to carpool.

Note: Please check the message line at 585-234-8226 for details and last minute updates. Also, if you join <u>https://www.meetup.com/</u><u>Victor-Hiking-Trails-Meetup</u>, you will get notifications of hikes and other events and reminders and last minute changes if you are signed up for a hike.

All hikes meet at Victor Town Hall rear parking lot, 85 East Main Street, unless otherwise noted. Most hikes are relatively easy and take 2-3 hours. Always bring a 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 the VHT Message Line, 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 past years 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

**July 11– Auburn, Domine and Lehigh Trails. E**ight members hiked 5.5 miles on a warm, sunny morning. All of the trails were in great shape thanks to a dry summer.

**August 8– Keuka Outlet trail Bike Ride.** Eight members enjoyed a beautiful ride from Dresden to Penn Yan and back on what was once a canal towpath, then a railroad bed and now a wonderful bike path. A

great lunch was enjoyed at Seneca Farms restaurant and then an easy ride back to the start.

September 6– Education Hike at

**Conklin Gulley.** This was originally scheduled for August 2, but was postponed so our featured hike leader, Dan Krisher, could recover from knee surgery. We had 26 people attend this hike up Conklin Gully in Naples, looking for fossils. Dan explained that this area, formed by the last glacier 12,000 years ago, is not noted for fossils. But everyone enjoyed the discussion and learned a lot about geology and fossils. Dan promised to take us next year to an area rich in fossils. More photos on page 6.

September 12– Victor Village

**Hike.** Seven members walked from Town Hall to Victor Municipal Park in time for the unveiling of the StoryWalk® and a chance to meet the author. They then continued on the trails in the park as well as the Trolley Trail and the Auburn Trail before stopping at the Busy Bean Café for a morning snack.









# **Safety Fence Installed**

When you are on the new section of the Auburn Trail near Maple Avenue, there is a place where the Seneca Trail turns south toward Dryer Road. If you made the turn on your bike too fast, there is a risk you could go over a steep embankment, resulting in injuries.

A few members installed a fence to prevent any mishaps for the trail users. Looks good.



Carole Fisher cleaning out a post hole.



Carole and Chauncy Young checking the alignment of the new fence.

## **Another Boardwalk**

During a regular trail maintenance session, volunteers used some old boards from several old projects and created a boardwalk on the Seneca Trail just northeast of Boughton Park. This will help during the spring when this section gets muddy. Nice work guys.

#### **New Trail Wayfinding Signs**

Lisa Roberts continues to improve our trails with rustic signs. In addition to the signs with the trail names, she has been placing wayfinding signs at strategic locations to help hikers and bikers understand where they are and which way to go. Thank you Lisa.





#### **Boughton Park Trail Improvements**

As many of you know, the Town of Victor is a part owner of Boughton Park, located in East Bloomfield. Our Seneca Trail ends at the Boughton Road parking lot and we have two VHT board members serving on the Boughton Park Board of Commissioners.

VHT has also created a Friends of Boughton Park Meetup page to encourage volunteers to come out to improve the trails. This has been very successful this summer, making several improvements to the West Pond Trail.

Volunteers, including a number from TrailsRoc,have removed trail berms that were collecting water on the trail, rerouted some sections to avoid wet areas, and just recently installed a bridge/ boardwalk over a muddy section. Thank you to all the volunteers.

#### **Another Bridge/Boardwalk**

This one was built in August and is on the 100 Acres Trail that was rerouted earlier this summer.

The gentleman in the photo below with his left arm in a sling is our Trailboss, Chauncy Young. He never missed a day of trail maintenance and still managed to do a great job of supervising the construction of all the bridges and boardwalks this summer.

Because of the pandemic, we maintained a six-foot distance and when not possible wear masks.





#### **Exit Signs**

You may notice when you come to the end of a trail or a road crossing a small, yellow *HIKE WITH US* sign. The intent is to remind trail users that VHT continues to maintain and improve the trails with all volunteers doing the work. We appreciate all the support of our members, and encourage trail users by joining VHT and donating to VHT.

The sign has our website address and a QR symbol that takes you directly to a *Welcome to Victor Hiking Trails* page. Check it out the next time you are on a trail.

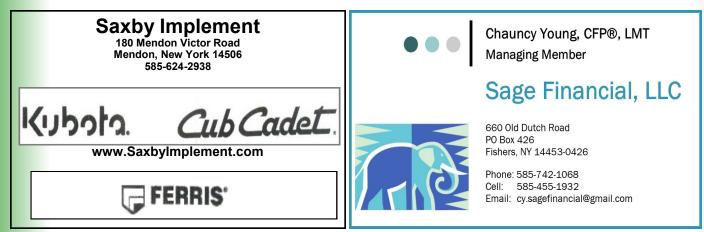




Dan Kirsher explaining some of the geology here.



Adventurous rope climbers.



#### New Boardwalk on the Seneca Trail

A small group of volunteers met at the Cherry Street location of the Seneca Trail to install a small boardwalk through the wooded section that will get wet in the spring. Thanks to all who helped for making this an easy job.



# **GLT Bridge Installed**

Another group installed a footbridge on the new Genesee Land Trust Trail on Valentown Road, across from Monkey Run. Great work guys.





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

Victor Hiking Trails 85 East Main Street Victor, NY 14564



# 28 YEARS AND GROWING

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 or donation promptly so we can continue to create new and improved multi-use trails.

of our

Filling the gaps in Victor

# Check out our website at www.VictorHikingTrails.org

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And Meetup!



at org
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