

# VHT Pathfinder

The Official Newsletter of Victor Hiking Trails, Inc.

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## Quotes found here:

*Many thanks to the Bahai's, owners of the Apple Farm, for permission to build the bridge and mark trails on their property. They even fed us lunches, loaned us a generator, hauled materials and helped with the construction.*

*What a great view of the mountains, especially in the fall with all the color.*

*For a small annual fee, you could reach a target audience that appreciates the outdoors and supports Victor Hiking Trails.*

## Bridge over Great Brook at The Apple Farm

*By Dave Wright*

Carol MacInnes has been asking us for several years now "When are we going to build a bridge over Great Brook on the Apple Farm property?" We have had it on our list for several years. Joe Logan, a Victor resident and professional bridge designer for Fisher Associates, gave us a professionally designed drawing. We almost had a Boy Scout interested in tackling it for his Eagle project. We have had several people interested in helping with the construction. But it was always "next" on our list.

Well, it finally floated to the top of the

list and we got the time, people and materials available in August.

Many thanks to the Bahai's, owners of the Apple Farm, for permission to build the bridge and mark trails on their property. They even fed us lunches, loaned us a generator, hauled materials and helped with the construction.

Thanks also to the many volunteers who helped with the construction of the foundation, the supports, the decking and the ramps, especially to Chauncy Young who devoted hundreds of hours to this project.

*See page 4 for pictures.*

## Adirondack Fall Adventure

*By Dave Wright*

It was a clear, crisp, fall day when we started out on the Indian Pass Trail, headed for Street and Nye Mountains.

The six of us were looking forward to a great day of hiking in the High Peaks area of the Adirondacks.

We knew that the trail was unmarked, but David Coleman, our experienced 46er, assured us it would be easy to follow.

We started around 8 AM Saturday morning, a little late, but OK for this hike. We soon came to the beginning of the unmarked trail that would lead us to the col between Street and Nye.

It is a well used trail, so it was always obvious which way to follow. Except one place where there was a trail leading off to the left that had some sticks blocking the trail. Was this the

route to Street Mountain? David didn't think so. According to the map, we still had a ways to go to the col. So on we marched.

About two hours later we arrived at a clearing and a fork in the path. A couple were there and had already hiked over to Nye and Street and were just on their way back down.

Then we met Marcia's neighbor and fiancée who were hiking the same route. What a surprise for all.

We decided to tackle Street Mountain first. After about 45 minutes we saw the tree with a small sign nailed to it about 10' up. Time for a picture, especially for Tom Stevens and his son Greg. It was their first High Peak. Congratulations Tom and Greg.

Back to the col, then over to Nye Mountain.

*(Continued on page 5.)*

## HIKES FOR 2007

### VHT 2007 Officers:

Dave Wright- Chairman  
 Jeff Hennick- Vice Chairman  
 Nat Fisher- Secretary  
 Chauncy Young- Treasurer  
 Carol MacInnes- Trailmaster  
 Larry Fisher- Trail Boss  
 David Coleman- Membership  
 Ruth Nellis- Education  
 Open- Historian

### 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.

To submit articles for the *VHT Pathfinder*, please contact:

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- Oct. 13- Finger Lakes Trail, Bristol Branch.** Meet at the rear parking lot of Victor Town Hall. The entrance is on Moore Avenue, at the signal light on Rt. 96 and Route 444. The town hall may or may not be still standing, but there will be parking in the rear. If you live south of Victor, you can meet the group at Bob and Ruth's in Naples at 9:45 PM. The hike will be about 4 miles long. Bring a bag lunch.
- Nov. 10- New Town of Webster Trails.** This hike will cover the new trails in the recently acquired open space in Webster. There may be some wet areas, so appropriate hiking boots are suggested. Call the VHT message line, 234-8226, for alternate meeting location.
- Dec. 8- Helmer Nature Center, Durand Eastman Park and new Lakeshore Trail at Seabreeze.** We will hike the trails at Helmer Nature Center first, then drive to Durand to walk the new Lakeshore trail. Meet at the Center at 9:45 AM if you are not coming to Victor.

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. We usually car pool to the trailhead. If you have any questions regarding any of the hikes, or if you have suggestions for places to hike, please leave a message.

We are planning our hikes for 2008. If you have ideas for new trails to hike, please leave a message on our phone 585-234-8226.

We are planning our Adirondack hikes for 2008. If you are interested in joining us or need more information, give us a call.

**Past Hikes**

**Jun. 9- Mendon Ponds Park, ADK Outdoor Expo-** It was a beautiful, sunny day. Everyone enjoyed the vendors and organizations that participated. Four hikers trekked the hills in Mendon Ponds.

**Jul. 14- Briggs Gully and Clark’s Gully creek walks-** 13 people enjoyed creek walking on a pretty day. The creeks were refreshing.

**Aug. 11- Garnsey Road, McCord Woods and Horizon Hill-** 17 hikers, 2 dogs and one baby hiked Horizon Hill. I few dropped out due to the heat and humidity, but most continued on to hike McCord Woods.



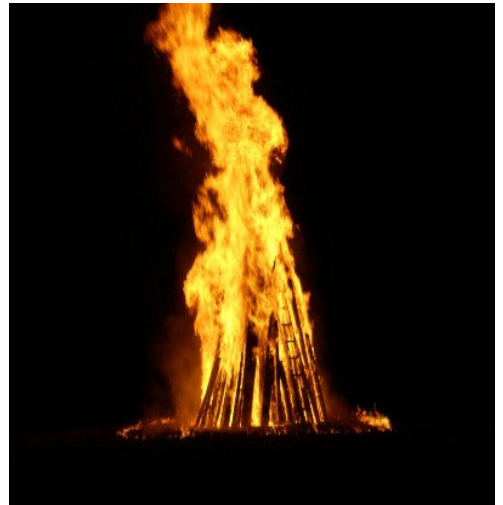
Some of the Crescent Trails hikers.



**Sep. 1- Ring of Fire at Bare Hill–** This was a gorgeous evening for a picnic and a bonfire. Ten of us got there early for good parking spots, hiked to the top and enjoyed our picnic supper.



As the sun began to set over the hills and the stars began to shine on the clear sky, we relaxed and waited for the ceremony to begin. At 9:00 PM the large pile of old wood was set ablaze so that it could be seen for miles around. Very impressive.



**Sep. 8- Hang Around Victor Day and Victor Fest.** Thank you to Chauncy Young, Jeff Hennick, Ruth Nellis and all of the other members who manned the VHT booth, baked the goodies and worked at the table selling the goodies. We collected a few more dollars for our trail work and reminded residents that the trails are there for their enjoyment.



Chauncy Young and Larry Fisher digging one of several trenches for the foundation.



Ruth Nellis jumped in to help.



Chauncy driving home the nails in the foundation wall.



The east bank required backhoe work.



That's Chauncy at the controls.



Starting to take shape.



Jeff Hennick holds the nail for Munir Bahai. He only missed once. Ouch!!!



Reading for the decking.



Starting to look like a bridge.



The final product.

From left to right, Dave Wright, Ruth Nellis, Chauncy Young, Larry Fisher, Nat Fisher and Jeff Hennick.

The bridge is at the south end of the Seneca Trail. Start on the trail at County Road 41 (Boughton Hill Road) across from School Street. You can park on the farm road by the barns. Hike south along the creek for about three-quarters of a mile. When you cross the bridge, you can follow the trail up the hill and then head due east across the apple orchard to the Apple Farm store where you can enjoy some cider and a donut. The Apple Farm is located on State Route 444 between County Road 41 and the Victor/East Bloomfield town line.

(Continued from page 1)

This was even easier than Street. And now Tom and Greg had two of the 46 High Peaks under their belt!

The journey back down the trail was long and tiring, but we all made it safely. Tom and David climbed Mt. Jo, a small peak that offered great views. The rest of our group had either climbed it before or were too tired. We cleaned up and waited, enjoying the day.

For our dinner Saturday evening we drove to Lake Placid and found a great steak and seafood restaurant with no waiting. A fine meal was enjoyed by all.

Sunday we decided to climb Pillsbury Mountain,

near Speculator. It still has one of the few fire towers left in the Adirondacks.

The map said the road in was seasonal and it was. A few ruts, but passable. The trailhead parking area had several cars and the log book indicated that this is a popular area to hike and mountain bike.

The 1.6 mile trail to the peak took us about two hours to climb. But it was well worth it.

What a great view of the mountains, especially in the fall with all the color. We enjoyed our lunch at the top, took lots of pictures and headed back to the cars.

This was one of our most delightful fall hikes in the Adirondacks, one that I will remember for a long time.



Greg Stevens, Marcia Bryan, Tom Stevens, David Coleman, Dave Wright and Jeff Hennick are ready to head up to Street and Nye Mountains.



Marcia, Greg, Tom, Dave and Jeff at the top of Street. David Coleman took the picture.



Tom and Greg at the top of Nye.



The firetower at the top of Pillsbury Mountain.



A little friend was looking for our lunch at the top of Pillsbury Mountain.



Jeff Hennick, David Coleman, Tom Stevens, Marcia Bryan, Dave Wright and Greg Stevens enjoying the sunshine at the top of Pillsbury Mountain.

## Lehigh Trail Trestle gets Decked

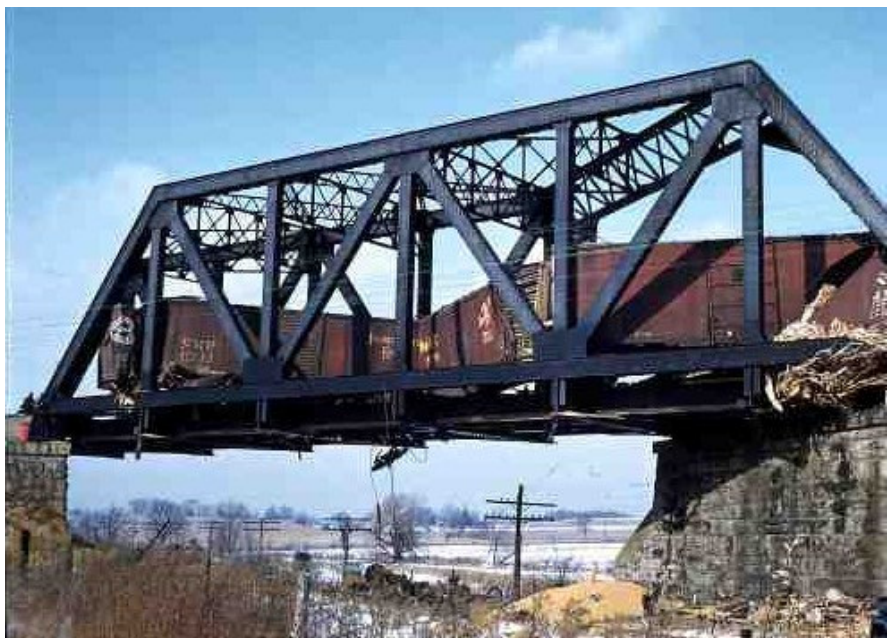
By the time you read this, the bridge crew will be close to done with the decking of the bridge over the Auburn Trail.

With a partnership between VHT and the Town of Victor Parks and Recreation Dept., a grant was secured to pay for some of the materials. VHT will match the grant, through a donation from the Dill Foundation. The remainder of the cost will be covered by the town.

Town employees from the Highway Dept. as well as the Parks and Recreation Dept. will work with VHT members to construct the decking. Plans were provided by Joe Logan, a Victor resident and professional engineer at Fisher Associates.

The major portion of the work is expected to be done on Saturday, Oct. 6th and Sunday, Oct. 7. Any remaining work will be done the following weekend.

If you are reading this before then and would like to help, please contact Brian Emelson at 742-0142.



Back in the early 1960's there was a train wreck on the trestle. A few years later the trains stopped running and the track was removed.

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 CARD COULD BE  
 HERE.***

*For a small annual fee, you could reach a target audience that appreciates the outdoors and supports Victor Hiking Trails.  
 Your investment will be used to offset the cost of this newsletter and put more money into trail improvements.  
 If you are interested, call 585-234-8226 and leave your name and phone number.*

**3rd Annual Iron Butterfly Health Club Black Diamond Off-Road Duathlon at Fishers Park**

Run 2 miles on trail, ride 10 miles on off-road trail, run another 2 miles on trail.  
 Saturday, October 20th. Race begins at 9:00 AM

Details for registering for this event can be found on the website [blackdiamonddu.com](http://blackdiamonddu.com) or you can stop into the Iron Butterfly Health Club, Tri Running & Walking store or the Trail Blazer Bike and Sport Store, all located on Route 96 in Victor. It's too late for the early-bird registration discount, but you can still enter, right up to 8:00 AM on race day at the course.



Beginning of the 2006 race.



A pack of bicyclists heading east on the Auburn Trail.

Not ready to run, bike and run? Get a team together and make it a relay.

Not really a racer but want to join the fun? Carole Fisher, race volunteer coordinator can use a few more people. Give her a call at 585-924-5803. The first two races have been a great success and this one looks like it will be even better.

Victor Hiking Trails, Inc.  
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*Filling the gaps in Victor*

Check out our website at  
[www.victorhikingtrails.org](http://www.victorhikingtrails.org)

Message line:  
585-234-8226

**Want to save a tree, get this newsletter sooner and in color?  
Send an e-mail to David Coleman at [dcoleman@victorhikingtrails.org](mailto:dcoleman@victorhikingtrails.org) and  
ask to be added to the Newsletter Electronic Mailing List.**

Time to renew your membership?

Please look at the mailing label.

The first line contains the month and year that your membership expires.

If you are past due, please send a check today.

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

I would like my newsletter (please check one) Mailed \_\_\_\_\_ E-mailed \_\_\_\_\_

I can help with: Trail Acquisition \_\_\_\_\_ Trail Maintenance \_\_\_\_\_ Trail hikes \_\_\_\_\_  
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Amount submitted \$10 \_\_\_\_\_ \$20 \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ \$250 \_\_\_\_\_ other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Victor Hiking Trails, Inc is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization.

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And mail to: 85 EAST MAIN STREET, VICTOR, NY 14564