

VHT Pathfinder

The Official Newsletter of Victor Hiking Trails, Inc.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Hikes for 2010	2
Past Hikes	3
Perinton Bike Riders	4
New Trail to Fort Hill	4
NTD Romance	5
Jack-O-Lantern Trail	5
Bridging the Gap	6
Buy A Bench	7
More Bridge Projects	8
Auburn Trail Extension	8
Our Sponsors	9
Membership form	10

Quotes found inside:

Page 4- The cyclists were impressed that they had biked to what used to be Pennsylvania.

Page 4- New signs will lead users on the "Eagle Trail" ...

Page 5- Harvey Berson participated in this hike and met a young lady, named Linda.

Page 8- It seems that no matter where in Victor we create a trail, there is a need for a bridge...

Ride the Rails & Run the Trails

The 6th Annual Iron Butterfly Health Club Black Diamond Off-road Duathlon will be held on Saturday, October 16th at 9:00 a.m. at Fishers Park. This is a major fund raiser for Victor Hiking Trails, Inc.

VHT is a sponsor of this event and provides many volunteers to help make this a fun, popular and safe race.

The race begins at the corner of Main Street Fishers and Wangum Road. The runners head south on Wangum to the tennis courts in Fishers Park and charge up the hill on the old farm road.

At the top of the hill they run on many of the trails in the park and then cruise on down the same farm road, fly past the tennis courts and look for their bike in the corral. At this point they have completed the first leg of the race, a two-mile run.

In the transition area they put on their helmet and any other bike equipment they might have (special shoes, gloves), and start pedaling east on Main Street Fishers Road to the Auburn Trail, just past the Fishers firehouse. This is the beginning of the ten-mile bike ride on the trails and in Lehigh Crossing Park. The return ride takes them from the Auburn Trail to

the Lehigh Trail, north on Old Dutch Road and east again on Main Street Fishers Road.

Once in the transition area again, they change back into their running gear and head out for the final leg, another two-mile jaunt on the same trail they did at the beginning.

This popular race attracts athletes from a wide region. It is well known as a top quality race. Brian Emelson, Victor Parks and Recreation Director, and his great staff, volunteers and local business partners have fine-tuned this event over the years and it just gets better and better every year.

Early registration is closed, but if you want to enter as either an individual or a team, call the Victor Parks and Recreation office at (585) 742-0140 or check out the web-site at

www.blackdiamonddu.com

If you would like to help us on race day, call Carole Fisher, volunteer coordinator, at (585) 924-5803.



Waiting for the start of the race.



They're off and running!



Here come the bicyclists!

HIKES FOR 2010

VHT 2010 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
 Wizzy Geno— Volunteer
 Coordinator

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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www.victorhikingtrails.org

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Oct. 9– **Cleveland Hill**. Cancelled. Sorry folks, all the hike leaders are going to the Adirondacks. We'll put this on the schedule for next year.

Nov. 13– **Crescent Trail**, Turk Hill, Rt. 250 and Old Foley Rd. Loop hike on a pretty trail in Perinton.

Dec. 11– **Dryer Road Park**, Fort Hill, Ganondagan, ending at Mickey Finn's for lunch.

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.

This year we have scheduled more hikes in Victor or the surrounding communities. We are also leading shorter and easier hikes to encourage families and younger hikers to join us.

We always 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.

So pick a hike and come enjoy the fun.

2011 HIKE SCHEDULE WILL BE IN THE NEXT ISSUE. IF YOU HAVE AN IDEA FOR A PLACE TO HIKE, PLEASE SEND AN E-MAIL TO DAVE WRIGHT AT:

dwrigh10@rochester.rr.com

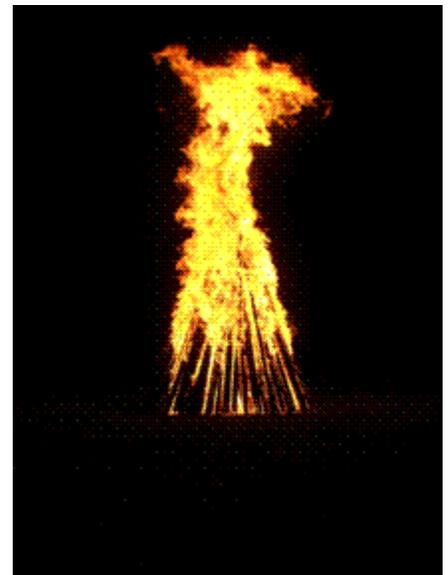
Past Hikes

Perfect weather was on hand for the July 17th bike hike. Eleven riders met on the Lehigh Trail, at Old Dutch Road, and headed west. In Mendon they enjoyed an ice cream. A few riders wanted stronger fortification and visited a new coffee shop, Sacred Grounds. After these refreshments, the ride became more individualized. Some people returned to Old Dutch, some went on to Rochester Junction and others continued further into Rush and the Genesee River. It seemed that by tailoring the ride to the varying ability levels and interests, everyone experienced their ideal ride.



Seven VHT members enjoyed a beautiful morning on August 14th walking up Grimes Glen in Naples. They went as far as the big falls, then headed back to the trailhead. After a quick lunch it was more creek walking at Conklin Gully. It was surprising how dry the creek was that day. An ice cream at Bob and Ruth's restaurant made it a perfect day.

Although the night was a little cool, five hikers bushwhacked up Bare Hill on Saturday, September 4th. They arrived at the trailhead around 6:30 p.m. and followed the trail toward Canandaigua Lake, enjoying great views. As the trail petered out the hike became a jaunt through the fields. At the top of the hill they enjoyed their dinner, snacks and drinks. Protected from the westerly wind by the woods, they waited patiently for the appointed hour when Peter Jemison, Manager of Ganondagan State Historic Site, lit the huge stack of wood, signaling the beginning of the Ring of Fire. Soon you could see the flares along the shore line and some fireworks over the lake.



Perinton Bike Riders Come to Victor

On Thursday August 26th, a biking group sponsored by Perinton Parks and Recreation had their 3rd Annual Auburn Trail bike ride. This year they had a record 25 cyclists participate on a 15.8 mile route laid out by Barry Buffan (Victor resident). The trek began at the Fishers fire house on the Auburn Trail and went to Brace Road. Then they went on the road surface back to Fishers via Brace Road to Cherry Street to

State Route 444 and Boughton Hill Road to Dryer/Cork/Modock/Willis and Wangum Roads. They made stops to discuss the Auburn Trail features for biking/hiking/XC skiing and walking. The cyclists were impressed that they had biked to what used to be Pennsylvania. They wrapped up after about 2 hours with a piece of cake to celebrate their accomplishment.



New Trail to Fort Hill and Dryer Road Park

Dylan Kinsella, a Boy Scout with a local troop, created a new trail from School Street to the top of Fort Hill along the northern property line. At the request of Peter Jemison, site manager at Ganondagan State Historic Site, this new trail by-passes the top of Fort Hill and is designed to be bicycle friendly.

The single-track trail was designed by Dylan with assistance and advice from Rick Williams, Fritz Seager, Brian Emelson and Chauncy Young to provide an alternate route for both bikes and hikers.

New signs will lead users on the "Eagle Trail" from School Street near County Road 41 across a field, into a wooded area and up the hill. Near the top of the hill there are several "chicane" gateways that allow hikers to pass but prevent bicycles from entering the main trail.

Follow the trail at the top of Fort Hill westerly through the woods and eventually meet up with the trail that leads over to Dryer Road Park.

This new trail will be great for cross country skiing and snowshoeing this winter.

National Trails Day Romance

Victor Hiking Trails has participated in National Trails Day for many years. Ten years ago, in 2000, the VHT hike was also on the Seneca Trail but that year, the hikers began at Ganondagan State Historic Site and walked to the Valentown Museum.

Harvey Berson participated in this hike and met a young lady, named Linda. They talked as they traveled the trail and found they had many common interests.

After the hike they continued to see each other. In 2003, three years after they met, Harvey and Linda were married.

They now live in Victor, off Brace Road. When they learned that this year's National Trails Day hike was so similar to that of 2000, they decided to participate in celebration of the tenth anniversary of their meeting.

Congratulations to Harvey and Linda! We are glad you joined us on your special day. We wish you many more happy years, and many more hikes!

Hike the Jack-O-Lantern Trail

Here is an opportunity to show your pumpkin carving skills, support the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Victor Fire Department and Victor Hiking Trails, hike on the Trolley Trail between Maple Avenue and School Street, experience the joy of seeing hundreds of lit jack-o-lanterns and enjoy some refreshments.

Carve one or several pumpkins and drop them off at the Victor Firemen's Memorial Field across from Saint Patrick's Church on



Maple Avenue on Saturday, October 23rd between noon and 3:00 p.m.

You will receive a free admission ticket for the event that begins at 7:00 p.m. and ends at 8:30 p.m. Be sure to bring the whole family. Adults are \$3.00 and kids under 15 are \$1.00.



The half-mile trail is paved, ideal for strollers and wheelchairs. Sorry, no pets are allowed for this event.

Bridging the Gap

Another Eagle project is nearing completion in Victor. Brian Malehorn, a 17 year-old senior student at Victor High School selected the goal of building a footbridge over a creek in Victor Municipal Park.

Brian began the project last November by researching what permissions would be needed to construct the bridge. Working with Brian Emelson, Victor Parks and Recreation Director, he contacted New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the Village.

He consulted with Alan Benedict, Victor Code Enforcement Officer, and Chauncy Young, VHT Treasurer, on the design and construction details.

The bridge will be completed soon under Brian's direction and with help from his Scout troop. The 30-foot wooden bridge connects the northwest corner of the park with the recently re-surfaced Trolley Trail.

Take a hike on the trail to see all of the recent improvements completed in the park during 2010.



Brian and his dad Rick taking elevation measurements at the site for the bridge.

Photos by Chauncy Young.



The bridge shown here is nearly complete. Stone approach ramps on both ends have been put in place.

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For More Information

Contact—Chauncy Young
treasurer@victorhikingtrails.org
585-455-1932

More Bridge Projects

It seems that no matter where in Victor we create a trail, there is a need for a bridge over a stream. Sometimes we end up with several bridges over the same stream.

Blame it on the glacier for leaving all these wonder hills and the valleys with streams running through them. We are truly blessed with scenic landscape in our area.

Our next bridge building project will be this Fall on one of our newest trails, the southern end of the Seneca Trail. Right before it ends in Boughton Park the trail crosses a small stream flowing out of the East Pond.

We have permission from the Boughton Park Commissioners to access the trail from the park service road. This will make it a whole lot easier to bring the materials to the site.

Tentative plans call for having the bridge design reviewed by Joe Logan, our resident civil engineer, and purchase of the materials with as much preconstruction done off-site. On site preparation will require digging holes and setting the posts in concrete. The side railings will be a truss style to carry the load safely. Ramps will be built on the ends to facilitate cross country skiing.

If you like to work with wood, dig holes, mix cement, carry materials, play in creeks, turn a wrench, drill holes or drive deck screws, we might

have a job for you. All interested parties should contact Chauncy Young at youngchauncy@gmail.com for a schedule of the work phases.

Domine Trail Bridge

This loop trail is entirely on Domine Builders Supply property between the Lehigh Trail and the Auburn Trail. Currently, it is accessed from the Lehigh Trail just east of Wangum Road.

We are in the design stage and need to get approval from RG&E to build a foot bridge from the Domine Trail to the Auburn Trail. The bridge will be located several hundred yards south of Main Street Fishers. We should be able to construct this bridge during 2011.

Ganondagan Great Brook Bridge

There is a trail that connects Ganondagan State Historic Site main park with Fort Hill. Where the trail crosses Great Brook there is a temporary bridge made of a few 2x12s that has served its purpose for several years. Thanks to the generosity of L.L.Bean, we now have funds to pay for most of the materials. We will partner with Ganondagan and the Friends of Ganondagan to build this bridge in 2011.

If you would like to be informed of when the work will be scheduled for either of these projects, please contact Chauncy Young.

Auburn Trail Extension Project

On September 27th, the Victor Town Board approved a resolution stating that the Auburn Trail Extension project would not have a negative impact on the environmental.

This means that the engineers can now ask for bids on the various parts of the work to be done on the trail, as described in the final plans.

Expect various sections of the trail to be temporarily closed when construction begins, possibly as early as next spring or summer.

When this section of the Auburn Trail is completed, in 2 to 3 years, we will have a continuous trail from the northwest corner to the southeast corner of Victor. Quite an accomplishment!



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