Hang Around Victor Day

This year the hours changed from a morning-early afternoon event to an afternoon-early evening event. It looks like this was an okay decision by the HAVD committee. Many vendors said the crowds this year were about the same as other years. We certainly had many visitors at our booth wanting to learn about all the new trails in Victor. And they love our new expanded brochure with all the trails shown on the map. They also like the QR code that takes them directly to the maps on the website.

The guided hike around the village and through Victor Municipal Park was only utilized by 3 hikers. It was a beautiful afternoon with some clouds and a nice breeze.

Helen’s Way

Our newest trail is now open to the public. There will be an official ribbon cutting on Sunday, October 10th at 1:30 PM. The address is 800 Rainbow Run. From County Road 9, turn onto Duck Hollow. Turn right onto Pond Side Circle and then right onto Rainbow Run. Park at the Village on the Park soccer fields parking lot and walk on the gravel road to the kiosk.

Paul Bishop, the landowner who generously allowed VHT to create this beautiful trail around his 93-acre property, will cut the ribbon, officially dedicating the trail to his mother, Helen.

A guided hike on the trail will follow, pointing out a future meditation area near a pond, a future trail connecting to the Village on the Park Trails, a future trail leading up to a high meadow owned by the Town of Victor, and a future reroute that will move the trail away from Paul’s house.

You are invited to join VHT members, friends and neighbors at this special trail dedication.
2021 Hikes

Sept 25, 9 AM– Bike Ride on Ontario Pathways, Canandaigua.
Sept 26, 2 PM– Historical Victor Hike with Victor Historian.
Oct 9, 9 AM– Boughton Park.
Oct 31, 2 PM– Halloween Special at the Avon Cemetery.
Nov 13, 9 AM– Ontario County Park.
Dec 11, 9 AM– Seneca Park along the Genesee River.

2022 Hikes

Jan 1, 10 AM– First hike of the year. Auburn Trail, Fishers Fire Station.
Jan 8, 9 AM– Helen’s Way, 800 Rainbow Run.
Feb 12, 9AM– Abe Lincoln Park, Penfield.
Mar 12, 9AM– Apple Farm. Meet at the store.

Note: Please check the message line at 585-234-8226 for details and last minute updates. Also, if you join https://www.meetup.com/Victor-Hiking-Trails-Meetup, you will get notifications of hikes and other events and 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 AM 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.

As noted in our schedule there are several educational hikes planned for 2021. These are usually on a Sunday afternoon, starting at 2:00 PM. They tend to fill up quickly, so get on Meetup so you don’t miss out.

We usually carpool from Victor Town Hall 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.

Additional hikes with the Victor PTSA and the Victor Farmington Library will be scheduled throughout the year.

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

June 27– Glacial History of Western NY at Chimney Bluffs State Park.

On a warm, sunny afternoon, 25 people interested in learning about these unusual landforms and the forces that created them, followed Dan Krisher, a geologist who rocks. Dan loves to look for special formations and fossils. Look for his next interesting hike in 2022.

July 10– Fillmore Glen State Park.

Another gorgeous, warm day, perfect for a hike up a cool creek. 11 made the trek to the top of the falls and thoroughly enjoyed the climb. With all of the recent rain, the creek was flowing at maximum capacity. Unfortunately, that meant that the pool at the bottom, with 60 degree water and runoff, was closed for the day due to high contamination levels. A few of the hikers went to a local restaurant for a delightful dinner on the lake.

more hikes on page 4.
Past Hikes continued

July 25– Mount Morris Dam Hike and Tour.
It was a perfect day for 16 hikers to view the Genesee River upstream from the dam as there had been several days of rain to fill the gorge. This is why the dam was built by the Army Corps of Engineers in the 1950s. It holds back the water that used to flood downtown Rochester.

August 14– Ganondagan State Historic Site.
One of the favorite parks for hiking in the region, these trails provide a variety of woods and meadows, flat and hills, flowers and trees. The 16 hikers had a perfect temperature morning with white fluffy clouds. They covered about six miles on the rolling hills, through meadows and woodlands, with great views from Fort Hill.

August 29– Cobblestone Museum.
With 14 cobblestone structures still standing in the town and village of Victor, it was natural that VHT arrange an educational trip to the Cobblestone Museum in Childs, NY. The docents split the group of 17 into 3 fairly equal groups and directed them to 7 different structures for an afternoon of round robin. For two hours the groups toured the historic buildings and learned about life in the “good old days”. After the tours several members dined at Tillman’s Historic Inn and Restaurant.
Past Hikes continued

September 11– Bike Ride on the Seneca-Cayuga Canal Path.
A perfect morning for a bike ride, 15 riders enjoyed the 16.5-mile scenic cruise along the waterfront and on the old tow path. The halfway point is the Village of Waterloo, at Lock #4 where there is a memorial cemetery honoring Civil War veterans killed during the war. Shortly after the Civil War ended, the Village of Waterloo started the Memorial Day remembrance to honor all those killed during all of the previous wars.

New Mural

For a long time VHT has wanted to have the west wall of the Thruway underpass on the Auburn Trail painted with a mural depicting the history of Victor and this region. The call was sent out to the general public to submit sketches and ideas for the mural. Cobblestone Arts Center, led by Executive Director and founder Lorene Benson, submitted an artist, several sketches and some of the students at Cobblestone. It was definitely a win-win solution. Josue Lopez, the accomplished muralist, showed us his ideas for the mural. Lorene was successful in getting a grant to pay the students to help Josue create the mural. The Town of Victor and VHT paid for the NYS Thruway Authority work permit that allows Josue and the students to work on the mural. They started the mural in August and worked several hours each week until the students had to go back to school. The mural is started, so you can walk or ride by it to see what they accomplished in a very short time. The crew will be back next summer to continue working on the mural until it is finished.
Victor Farmington Library

The library has started a series of hikes in and around Victor on the second and fourth Wednesday morning of each month. Starting in October they will be going on a hike every Wednesday, beginning at 10:00 AM. They are thinking about doing a bike ride on the third Wednesday of each month, starting at the library at 10:00 AM.

If you like to hike or bike and are available, see the VHT Meetup page or the library website (www.VictorFarmingtonLibrary.org) for the time and place to meet.

The library is also conducting a fund raiser during the month of October. It is a challenge to see how many of the trails in Victor and Farmington you can complete. Registration and details can be found on the library website.

Trail Updated

There is a trail that connects the Silverton Glenn neighborhood with the Auburn Trail at Finn’s Tap Room and Restaurant. It was created and has been maintained by the developer and the home owners association. Now that the development has been completed, VHT asked the home owners association for a revocable permit for the trail. It is a short trail that runs along a creek that used to provide water to a tower for the steam engines. It is an important connection from the Trolley Trail to Ganondagan. The top of the trail will continue to be maintained by the home owners association and VHT will maintain the rest of the trail.

This fall VHT plans to connect the development with Proximity Road and the Auburn Trail, making a loop around the neighborhood. They just need to wait until the leaves fall so that the best route for the trail can be determined.

Look for the fairy houses along the trail.

Photos by Dave Wright
VHT Celebrating 30 Years

VHT is planning some special events for 2022. Expect National Trails Day to be spectacular. Maybe there will be a long challenge hike in the fall. Probably lots of hikes in Victor. Maybe more bike rides. More hikes and bike rides during the week with the library. More “Hike with a Tyke” through partnering with the Victor PTSA.

VHT will be spreading the word about the great trails through farmers markets, Hang Around Victor Day, Outdoor Expo in Mendon Ponds Park, guest speakers at community organizations like Rotary, Lions Club, Kiwanis, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, school clubs, PTSA and the Victor Community Development Office to generate more members and donations.

There are at least two BSA Eagle projects that should be completed next year. If VHT can get the funding, there is a long boardwalk that needs to be replaced. There are several projects that can improve existing trails if more volunteers are ready to help.

VHT would like to hear from you. Are the trails being kept up in good condition? Are they well marked so someone unfamiliar with the trails won’t get lost? Is there a trouble spot that is always muddy? Do you see erosion on a trail? Is there a location where a new trail would enhance the trail system? Send your ideas and requests (and yes, any complaints) to the website. We need your input to keep the trails in tip-top condition.

Trekking Poles

Do you use trekking poles? If not, should you? Trekking poles are not a strictly necessary piece of gear, but many choose to take them on their hikes because they provide a lot of benefits. Poles take a lot of strain off your joints while you hike, especially over hilly terrain, and can help you maintain balance through various types of tricky terrain, like small creeks and rocky trails. Some find that they hike faster while using poles and enjoy that they keep their arms exercising as well, while others find trekking poles cumbersome and don’t like that they occupy their hands. If you do choose to hike with trekking poles, it’s important to make sure your poles are adjusted to the correct length and to ensure proper technique to get all the benefits they provide.

If you want to try before you buy, VHT and the Victor Farmington Library have some you can borrow for your next hike. For more information, check out CleverHiker.com.
Visit our sponsors and tell them you saw their advertisement in the VHT Pathfinder.
Visit our sponsors and tell them you saw their advertisement in the VHT Pathfinder.
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.

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 ____ Fund Raising ____ Special Events ____

History/Education ____

Amount submitted $10 ___ $20 ___ $100 ___ $250 ___ other $__________

Sustaining Monthly Donation of $________

Corporate membership at $100 per year allows all employees to be members.

Please make check payable to: VICTOR HIKING TRAILS, INC.

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