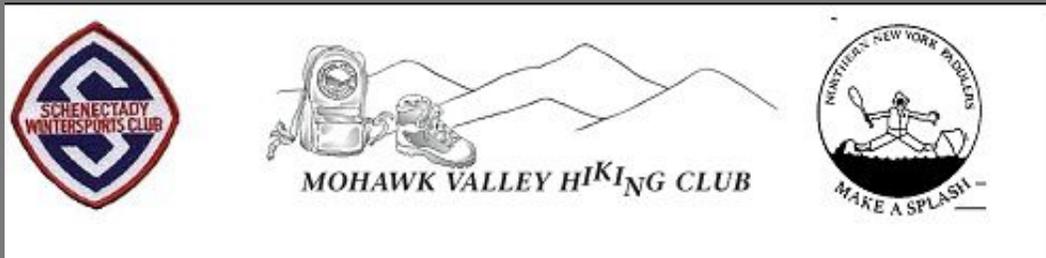


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What's New?

by John Bidell, President

Reservations at the house this winter have been strong, and that means members are up in Vermont enjoying the outdoors. This season has been great so far and, remember, April skiing can be some of the best. The house is in great shape, but please remember to pick up, clean up, and turn off after yourself. I sound like your mom, but she was right. Please consider reservations for the spring and summer, and exclusive weeks where you have the whole house to yourself are still available.

The board is contemplating a tiered-pricing policy with off-peak times being discounted, and maybe a dorm style room on the third floor for overflow. We plan on continuing the one-to-a-room policy, except for groups. This keeps everyone spread out but does impact the amount of revenue generated on the powder weekends.

The work weekend is starting May 13. Half day work, then lunch, then go play. We will be hiking and biking. All meals and lodging are included, and you generate vouchers for a future stay. We will have a professional chef preparing meals and I will be taking all comers on our new foosball table. Loser buys!

The board and some helpful members will be canvassing members concerning what activities and improvements to the house you want to see. New fireplace? Window treatments? Windows or grill? What do you think would be beneficial to your staying at the house?

Also, we are a paddling and hiking organization. All summer long we have instruction and racing opportunities. Fun is the keyword here. Hiking is for everyone, with the typical outing being less strenuous.

We also have elections planned this year with open board positions. Contact me for details.

Hope to see you at the work weekend. Make a reservation or send me an email.

SWC Treasurer's Report, FW2022 Third Quarter Results

by Don Streed, Treasurer

The easing of Covid restraints in Vermont has brought a major improvement in the fiscal results for the Waterbury Clubhouse and the Schenectady Wintersports Club. Through the first nine months of the 2022 fiscal year, SWC is operating in a positive cash position. Should good fortune continue, FY 2022 will be the first cash positive year since FY 2018. Thank you to all who have maintained your memberships and utilized the Clubhouse in Waterbury Center.

Membership dues received through the first nine months of FY22 are \$12,737, which is up \$4,390 from first 9 months of FY21, as our membership count now exceeds 700.

Fiscal-year-to-date paid receipts for clubhouse lodging are \$34,345, up \$25,273 from FY21. Clubhouse expenses paid year-to-date are \$24,115, down \$2,889 from last year-to-date, thanks to cost-cutting such as member volunteers performing house cleaning rather than paid contract services. And we would be remiss in not recognizing how the investment in building improvements in the three prior years have contributed to the additional Clubhouse bookings this year.

The positive cash performance of the first nine months positions SWC to comfortably meet its fiscal obligations through the spring and into the next fiscal year.

SWC Board Meeting Minutes 3/8/22

PRESENT: John and Ellen Bidell, Don Streed, Bill and Karen Simmons, John Rack, Bill Schaefer, Bill Kornrumpf, Sue Knapik and Rick Cobello

FINANCE REPORT: Don elaborated on the distributed copy of the Treasurer's report provided to each board member. Finances for the month have been strong overall, with consistent Clubhouse rentals and membership income.

RESERVATIONS: Ellen reported that reservations continue to be strong, with individual reservations and a week-long reservation in May. There is an odor problem in Room 12 which is still a mystery. The topic of non-member rentals was raised. No action was taken, with Board members considering all possible issues regarding non-member rentals.

SKI COUNCIL: Karen reported that at the 03/02/22 meeting the weak numbers of ski racers was discussed. In other areas the numbers are strong which requires a plan by the Council to increase participation. Clubs reported on planned trips and happy hours that are taking place in Albany and Utica. With 15 members attending, The Nubian Empire Ski Club, of Albany, was recognized at the National Brotherhood of Skiers in Snow Mass, CO. Fund raisers were discussed with the desire to have one in June with a focus on summer activities and another in late Fall to correspond with the anticipated Snow Show. The nominating committee will prepare a slate for all board openings, to be voted on in May.

HOUSE: The list is long for the upcoming work weekend in May. A foosball table has been added to the basement game room. Rick Cobello has upgraded the internet modem at the Clubhouse. Rick discussed options for wireless cameras, thermostats and remote door lock to allow control of the lodge when no one is there. The board decided to allocate up to \$1500 for such upgrades.

The meeting adjourned with the next meeting scheduled for 04/12/22.

Would You Like to Edit the Chatter?

After nearly 5 years as editors of the Chatter, Bridget and David will be stepping aside in the next couple of months to focus on their growing family. That means SWC needs someone (you!) to step up and take on the editor job. If you are interested and would like to know more — or if you'd like to volunteer a fellow member for the job — please email us at swcchatter@gmail.com.

New Ski Shop, Skiing and Covid

by Jon Skalwold

I got new skis this year: Volkl Kanjos, at 168 cm long and 84 cm underfoot. They are stiffer and narrower than what I am currently on and more in line with conventional wisdom that wide and soft skis are harder to ski and not as much fun... Hmmmm ... Not my experience. I have a lot of fun on my 94 cm-wide Al Dente noodle Line Sick Days. Except on the polished powder that seems to be more prevalent these days. So, I thought I would step up my game a little. While I would have liked purchase them locally, this is a ski that may be a little less popular and, thus, not carried locally. So, I ordered them online from a place in Stowe, VT (Ski Essentials). This meant that I needed to find somewhere to have the bindings set. I did a search online and found a new ski shop in Glenville, near the Hannaford on Rt 50 - Tune Skis (tuneskis.com). They will even come and pick up your skis and then drop them off when done. Wow, convenient! If you check out their website you will find that Bill and Dylan are experienced in this business. Dylan worked for Goldstocks and does the ski tuning. Bill is a boot fitter with 20+ years' experience fitting boots. It seems that they could do well at filling the gap for skiers that was left by the closing

of Goldstocks. My experience with them was great. Check them out.

I bought the skis without demoing them. A gamble, yes, but Ski Essentials does ski reviews from Stowe, so not the typical Rocky Mtn high review that is somewhat meaningless to those of us in the NE. Their description of the Kanjos was just what I was looking for. That is, something that is more of a “carving” ski as compared to my Sick Day skis, and yet still flexible enough for me to drive. The Sick Day skis are for skiing that fluffy white stuff we rarely see these days. The Kanjo will be for those polished power days that we have so much of. It took me a few days to get used to actually carving turns on that stuff. And, oh, what fun to actually be able to hold an edge on the head wall of Lies and not just slide down it... Eek! However, the other day I showed up at Gore thinking there was a slight chance that the storm the night before was an elevation storm and they got some snow... Well, it was better than just a little chance as I found that the upper part of the mountain had received about 4” of that fluffy white stuff and the Sick Days were the ski of the day. Fresh tracks on several trails to start the day was an unexpected pleasure, after which the day turned into spring skiing with the quickly warming temperatures. I topped that off with lunch on the deck in shirt sleeves. A great day, all in all. As for the new skis, they are everything I was looking for. In their element, they are a bunch of fun.

Last year, Covid kept me home for the season. It was a big disappointment, but having to consider the comorbidities of some people around me it was hardly a consideration for me to stay to home. In watching last season as to how Gore handled the conditions and requirements with respect to Covid, and how they cared for the wellbeing of their patrons convinced me that it would be safe to go skiing this season. This was further enhanced by learning that being outdoors was relatively safe and by the availability of vaccinations and people willing to be vaccinated. I was glad to be able to get back into a sport I really enjoy, thanks in part to the people and places who took the wellbeing of others to heart. To those who did, thank you for doing your part.

This season is coming to an end. Time for a bit of spring skiing and easing into summer activities. Take care and enjoy.

Fog-filled valleys around Gore on that surprise “powder day”:



Canoe for Sale

Stowe Mansfield: 13 ft long, about 60 lbs., fiberglass with mahogany ribs. Includes oar locks and paddles for rowing or paddling. The trolling motor in the photos is NOT included. Used very little and recently refinished. It is in great condition. Asking \$700. Call Larry (Albany, NY area) at [518-573-3020](tel:518-573-3020).



New Book on Adirondacks Includes SWC History

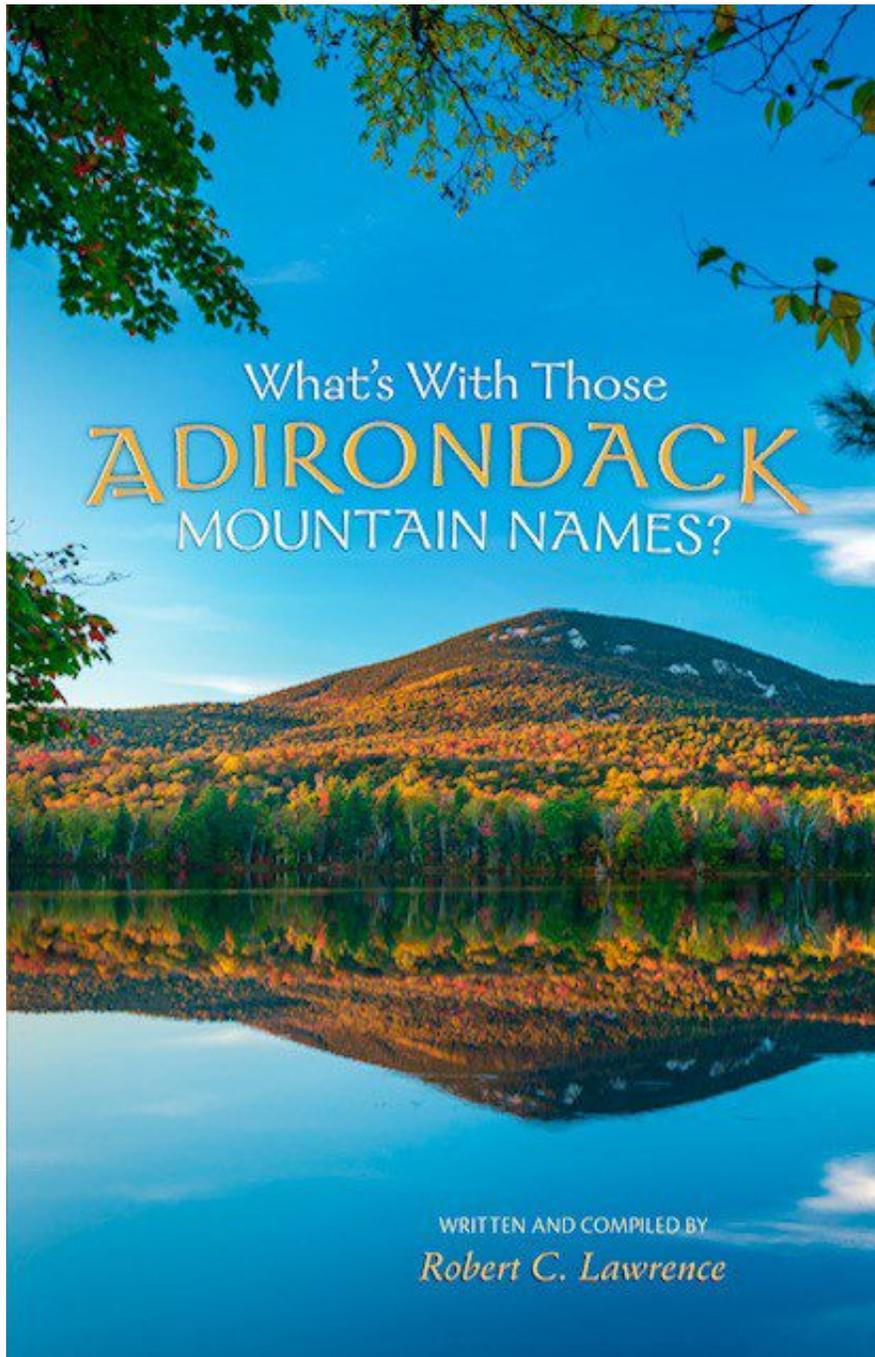
by Robert C. Lawrence

What do Mount Marcy and Mars have in common? What is a Dippikill? Was Lyon Mountain named for the French city, the king of the jungle, or a person? What mountain receives its name from an early Adirondack ornithologist? Which mountains represent famous graduates of Union College and Rensselaer School (now R.P.I.)? *What's With Those Adirondack Mountain Names?* answers these questions and provides insight into more than a hundred Adirondack Mountain place names or oronyms.

Schenectady Wintersports Club members may be particularly interested in the entries about Gore Mountain, the Schaefer brothers: Carl (Bill's father), Vincent, and Paul, and the snow train carrying members of the SWC. Finally, Norm Dibeluis's Winter Sports bibliography entry.

The book alphabetically lists the hundred highest Adirondack, Saranac Six, Tupper Lake Triad, and personal choice mountain place names. In addition, it provides pertinent information such as elevation, location, and name origin for hikers, forty-sixers, tourists, day-trippers, Adirondackers, and Adirondacker wannabees.

What's With Those Adirondack Mountain Names? is available for \$19.99 at the following retail locations: Market Block Books (Troy), The Book House of Stuyvesant Plaza (Albany), Open Door Bookstore (Schenectady), Northshire Bookstore and Mountainman Outdoor Supply Company (Saratoga), The Bookstore Plus (Lake Placid), The Wild Center and Raquette River Brewing (Tupper Lake), other book venues in the Adirondack Park, and on Amazon.com.



Submissions for the Chatter

Content submissions for the SWC Newsletter, the “Chatter,” should be emailed to swcchatter@gmail.com by the 15th of the month and should include a contact name and phone number. Content that needs to be run in subsequent Newsletters must be resubmitted each month.

Change of Address Notices

Change of Address notices should be sent to:

John Boscarino* boscarino126@aol.com
126 Polsin Dr, Schenectady, NY 12303-2516

***Do not send to the newsletter editor or the Club PO Box; they will get lost**

REMEMBER TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Membership is from June 1, 2021 to May 31, 2022

Sign up at <https://www.swcweb.org/membership>, or print and mail this form to the address below.

Name _____

Age Group (circle one) 18-29 30-39 40-55 56-69 70+

Address _____

_____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

New Member() Renewal() \$25 individual() \$35 Family()

For Family Membership, please indicate:

Name of Spouse _____

Age Group (circle One) 18-29 30-39 40-55 56-69 70+

Names and Ages of Junior Members _____

To qualify for family membership, children must be under 18 or 18 and still in High School.

Interested in volunteering? Circle any that you are interested in: Clubhouse, SWC Board, Snow Show, NY Capital District Ski Council, Activities, Warren Miller Movie, hiking, biking and other Club help such as outreach.

Make check payable to SWC and mail with the completed application to John Boscarino, 126 Polsin Dr, Schenectady, NY 12303-2516

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