

Schenectady Wintersports Club Northern New York Paddlers Mohawk Valley Hiking Club Newsletters

August 2023

In this issue

All the News that Fits and More

The President's Column

News from the Clubhouse

Making a Reservation

Summer Time at the Clubhouse

Work Weekend Nov 2 -5

Hosted Wkend: Total Eclipse at Stowe

Activities In and Around the Clubhouse

Bike Routes and Trails

Race to the Top of Vermont

Music and Theater

Ski Trips and Packages

Early Season Ski Clinic

Ski Trip to Telluride Jan 20 - 27, 2024

Insights from the SWC Admins

Updating Your Membership Profile

Finding Your Membership ID

Good to Know

Non-FIS Race Skis for Recreation

Review

Ashuwillticook Rail Trail Ride

A Little Bit of SWC History

Ski Pioneer Women of SWC

News from the NNYP

July Wrap Up

News from the MVHC

Back from the Rough

Brookhaven Gold Tournament

SAVE THE DATES

Aug 19: Bike Erie Canal Trail

Oct 1: Club Picnic

Nov 2-5: Work Weekend

Mar 4: North Creek Snow Train Festival

Apr 8: Total Eclipse at Stowe

Event Calendar

The President's Column

Coming soon...stay tuned

News From the Clubhouse

Making a Reservation

An Open Letter from the Reservations Team.. Important if you plan to use the Clubhouse

The SWC club reservations use BEDS24 software, and the process is staffed by volunteers.

What things have to be done to manage a booking? First, we have to make sure everyone in the reservation is a club member (more about that later). Second, there has to be a room available in the system, and Third, that the member pays for the reservation and the payment is linked to the booking (so the Treasurer is happy)!

First - Everyone in the reservation is a Member - Why is this important? You may not be aware but all club members are considered owners of the clubhouse, and we have a shared responsibility for the property. There is a movement in the Stowe community to regulate short-term rentals (SWC does not want to be deemed a short term rental). Staying at the clubhouse should be considered a "usage", not a rental because everyone is a member. *Therefore, verified, documented membership is important.*

This is why we have changed the Clubhouse Booking Form, and are asking you to enter your Membership ID and email, and the IDs and names for everyone on your reservation. We know this might take 15 minutes of your time, but please do the

math - there are currently about 500 active members, and during ski season the membership swells to 800. If on average 80 - 120 people stay during one busy month, then the potential man hours to manually verify and record the fact that you are a member is between 20 - 30 HOURS of volunteer time per month. The reservations team has created a means to automate the validation but it relies on you, the member, to take 15 minutes and enter the information on the form.

Second - There has to be a room available in the BEDS24 system - The BEDS24 system is managed and updated by SWC volunteers. We do not pay a professional to set up and maintain the bed inventory or pricing etc. The reservations team also monitors ongoing reservations to make sure no glitches have occurred when you booked your room. The reservations team invests at least 5 - 10 hours every month checking reservations and looking for ways to automate and improve the member experience.

Third - The member pays for the reservation and the payment is linked to the booking - For regular bookings, the BEDS24 system has been set up to require payment at the time you reserve the room. When you Confirm your booking, a PayPal window opens for you to complete payment. If you close the PayPal window before receiving the payment confirmation from PayPal, you have not paid. If this happens, your reservation will be canceled (either by the system or by us when we track you down). You are responsible for checking to make sure your payment goes through.

We realize some members have experienced difficulty in using PayPal, even though there is an option to pay just by credit card. To help with using PayPal, please refer to PAYPAL TIPS we have created on the website https://www.swcweb.org/sys/website/?pageId=18226 (log in to view this document).

We want to make the reservations process as effective and painless as possible, so we ask for your help as outlined in this letter.

Respectfully,

Reservations Team

swcbookingstowe@gmail.com

P.S. Please see the newsletter article "Finding Your Membership ID" for steps in finding your Membership IDs.

Summer Time at the Clubhouse

Bring your bike, paddles & hiking boots

The Clubhouse is hosting a number of groups this summer. They have taken advantage of the low rate of \$750 for the whole house for a week. You can make your reservation by emailing our new reservations coordinator Rick Cobello at swcbookingstowe@gmail.com.

The house is a perfect place to explore all of the trails (hiking & biking), sights, rivers, lakes and touristy places like the Ben & Jerry's factory just 4 miles from the clubhouse. Here a few photos submitted by Maureen Kline from a recent clubhouse gathering by our members.



Paddling the Green River Reservoir



Biking the Causeway



After dinner on the patio in the shade



Evening around the fire pit



SWC hikers at the Taylor Lodge on the Long Trail

Fall Work Weekend Nov 2 to 5

The fall work weekend date has been set. The work tasks haven't been set yet as things that need repair are just surfacing as more people use the house during the summer months.

We have always tried to schedule the work so that we can get some recreation in while completing the needed house repairs. I will hope to do some bike riding. Others hike or paddle in the reservoir. The long weekend is scheduled so all can both help with the projects and get in some recreation time.

The major task will be to remove the old chimney on the north end of the house. It is the original 1860's chimney and the mortar had failed allowing rainwater to enter the attic causing damage to the room 21 ceiling. We have had the hole in the roof repaired and now need to remove the chimney and the temporary walls hiding it in the north bedrooms. It will be a two-stage job: first take out all the chimney bricks. Second, fill in the holes where the chimney goes through the floors and rebuilding the bedroom walls.

We will also be doing some carpentry and getting ready for an upgrade in the kitchen area. And, if all goes well, we will be installing a new propane fireplace insert in the fireplace room. Outside, we will be painting if the weather is suitable.

Email me at wkornrum@nycap.rr.com or call on 518-209-3244 and I will take your reservation and book your room. Bring old work cloths in case we do some outside painting.

Submitted by Bill Kornrumpf

Total Eclipse Weekend at Stowe

by Ellen Bidell

You can't get rid of me that easily! On Monday, April 8, 2024, a total solar eclipse will cross North America, passing over Mexico, the United States, and Canada. The Burlington/Stowe area is in the path of totality, which means for about 5 minutes in the early afternoon, the area will be in total darkness. The partial

eclipse will last for several hours.

Skiing is still great in the area in early April, so put on your calendar to join us for the weekend as John and I host a Total Eclipse party at the SWC Clubhouse. May involve a bonfire, Blue Moon beer and some Bonnie Raitt, but will definitely be a good time!

In and Around the Clubhouse

Suggested Bike Routes and Trails

By Bill Kornrumpf

The Clubhouse is all cleaned up and there are times available for you to come up and enjoy all that the North country of Vermont has to offer. I happen to like bike riding on some of the back roads and the occasional challenge of a big hill like Smugglers Notch. Vermont is also well known for mountain biking on all kinds of trails that are smooth, well-groomed, kind hilly, and challenging single track.

The local paper, the Stowe Reporter, has a section devoted to articles about the riding in the Stowe area. You can find it at https://www.vtcng.com/special_publications/ride/. I just finished reading a supplement to their 6/29 issue that contained a list and description of trails available in the area. The "ride" website has a listing of prior articles and a map of trail locations to help you plan a riding-oriented stay at the Clubhouse.

If you are more interested in rail trails, the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail is now completed and offers 93 miles of well surfaced, almost flat riding across northern Vermont. Just to the East of Morrisville, the trail goes through one of the few remaining covered railroad bridges in Vermont. There are rest areas along the trail and good parking in Morrisville (9 miles north of Stowe on Rt 100). There is a bike shuttle bus if you want to just peddle out and get a ride back to your car in Morrisville in the afternoon. https://www.

lamoillevalleybiketours.com/lamoillevalleyrailtrailbikeshuttle is the shuttle website.

Other scenic rail trails are the Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail and the Island Line Rail Trail both in the Burlington area. The Island Line trail features a bike ferry crossing to South Hero Island and the Champlain Islands Bikeways. All the rail trails are suitable for narrow tire or fatter tire bikes and have parking lots close by.

Race to the Top of Vermont: August 27

Bike race up the Mt. Mansfield toll road. http://www.rtttovt.com/

It is open to hikers, bikers, and runners from across the U.S. and Canada to climb Mt. Mansfield, Vermont's highest peak. The course ascends the historic Mansfield Toll Road, is 4.3 miles in length, and has 2564 feet of up. For some it's all about trying to achieve a fast time on this challenging course. For others... they come to support the Catamount Trail Association, to test themselves, and to enjoy the spectacular views.

Music and Theater in VT

By Bill Kornrumpf

The music doesn't stop in the Summer in Vermont. Here are a few of the places to find music in the Clubhouse area. It is best to check their website for details and tickets.

Music in the Meadow concerts in the Trapp Family Lodge Concert Meadow!

Details https://www.stoweperformingarts.com/music-in-the-meadow/

Aug 6 The Hot Club of Cowtown

Aug 20 The Legendary Count Basie Orchestra

Knoll Farm, Fayston, Vt 18 mi south on Rt 100, Picnic Concert Series (Picnicking starts at 5:30, music begins at 7:00) https://knollfarm.org/music/

8/19 Benefit Concert (music and theater in an epic show to benefit The Refuge at Knoll Farm) Picnicking begins at 5:30, music begins at 6:30 pm

The Valley Players, Waitsfield, 16 mi south on Rt 100

6/29 to 7/16 Willy Wonka (https://www.valleyplayers.com/)

Middlesex Bandstand Concert Series, 10 mi east on Rt 2 6:30 Food by Woodbelly Pizza, http://middlesexbandstand.com/ Check website for details.

8/9, Nick Cassarino singer- rock, folk, jazz, classical, gospel, soul, hip hop, funk and world music

Ski Trips and Packages



EARLY SEASON SKI CLINIC

DECEMBER 7 TO DECEMBER 10

Watch the https://www.swcweb.org/page-18180 for the registration form

When:

Thursday night December 7 check-in to Sunday, December 10 Who:

Operated in partnership with the Stowe Ski School

Student to Instructor Ratio Approximately 9 to 1

Ski Instruction at All Levels, Never-Evers Too!

Snow Board instruction only if more than 5 register

What:

Thursday Night Welcome Party at Stowe Motel

Friday ½ Day Free Skiing-Warm up & ½ Day Instruction

Saturday All Day Instruction

Sunday ½ Day Instruction and possible Optional Race

Lodging Arrive Thursday December 7 depart Sunday December 10

Lodging Accommodations: the Schenectady Wintersports Club Clubhouse (limited Space)

Or The Stowe Motel on the Mountain Road (choice of room types) How Much:

The price is still in negotiation and will depend on your choice of lodging and lesson options.

Payments will be via an online reservation system.

I will be sending out more information as soon as I have firm prices from SMR, SWC and Stowe Motel. There may be slight changes as the details are SWC and Stowe Motel. There may be slight changes as the details are finalized.

Known Details:

- 1. All Lodging and Ski School reservations will be requested using the Early Ski School form on the swcweb.org website. The form is being prepared and should be available soon.
- 2. Lodging is available at the Stowe Motel and there will be a surcharge for rooms with extra amenities such as kitchenette, king beds and fireplaces. Only 35 rooms are available to us this year. Prices are in negotiation.
- 3. Lodging for up to 37 people in 12 rooms will be available at the Schenectady Wintersports Club clubhouse in Waterbury Center. Only SWC members can book a room through the swcweb.org website or swcbookingstowe@gmail.com. Rooms will be assigned in the order that a deposit is received.
- 4. SWC Clubhouse pricing is the standard SWC member rate of \$37.50/night per person.
- 5. 3-day lift tickets will be available if you do not have an Epic Pass

When the details are finalized, a \$60 deposit will be due by Oct. 15. The deposit will be refundable up to Nov. 3 when the final payment is due.

Email me at wkornrum@nycap.rr.com or call at 518-209-3244 if you would like to receive more information as it becomes available.

In the meantime, Think Early Snow

Regards

Bill Kornrumpf



SKI TRIP TO TELLURIDE JAN 20 - 27, 2024

Still one spot left! Male or female

This ski trip offers everything you need for an incredible vacation, from world class skiing to great accommodations. We will stay at the Camel's Garden, in old town Telluride. This is directly across the street from the mountain gondola. Old town Telluride brings the essence of old and new in the quaint western town. It is almost 1000 ft less in elevation than the Mountain Village. https://camelsgarden.com/ With over 2,000 acres of skiable terrain, Telluride boasts some of the most diverse and challenging slopes in North America. Whether you're a seasoned pro or a beginner, there's a run for everyone here. You can explore the legendary Gold Hill Chutes or take in the stunning views from the top of Palmyra Peak, all while enjoying the pristine snow and sunshine. Don't miss out on this amazing opportunity to experience the beauty and excitement of Telluride. Any questions, email rick@cobello.com.

Insights from the SWC Admins

Updating your Membership Profile

By Brenda Streed

A reminder about Membership cards, address changes etc....

We are now asking members to update their records online using the SWC website. Members also have the ability to print their own membership card, or take a picture of it online. (We are no longer mailing out paper ID cards).

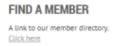
There are two How-To articles posted on the website to explain how to login and update your profile (where your address is stored), and how to view and print your membership card. (You have to be logged into the secure site to view the articles).

- 1. Login to the swcweb.org
- 2. Links to How-To articles: https://www.swcweb.org/sys/website/? pageId=18205

How to Find Membership IDs

By Brenda Streed

1. Use the Home page on the SWC website - Find a Member directory located near the bottom of the page. Use the Click Here link to look up by name. (Only members logged into the SWC website can view other members).



1. Access your Profile on the website to find your Membership ID - The link is your name located near the upper right hand corner of the Home page.

Note: If you are the Primary member in a family membership, you will see all family members in your Profile. If you are not the Primary member, you will only see your info



Good to Know

What is a non-FIS race ski and why do they make amazing recreational skis?

By Bill Romania

Alpine skis are having a moment, a very good moment, right now. The variety of skis available, the quality of materials and construction, and range of performance capable from most are all at levels previously unheard of. Most of us are old enough to remember when most skis lost their camber after a season or two. Some of us have had skis literally fall apart while we were skiing. None of that is common anymore.

We also likely remember when if you were a good skier, you bought race skis. SL for the steep and narrow terrain; GS skis with their wider performance envelope for cruising, softer snow or higher speeds. We bought them because they were the best skis available with the most advanced technology. Lesser skis couldn't carve as well or hold an edge on ice and they weren't stable at speed. They weren't for all conditions. Yes, you did not want to be on a 200cm slalom ski on a powder day. I've seen a video of the incomparable Jean Claude Killy struggling in Colorado powder on a SL race ski. He made it look far better than most of us mere mortals could ever do. That is why we had GS skis with their wider performance envelope. I'm sure I'm not alone in having a quiver of SL and GS skis in my younger days.

A lot has happened in the ski industry since those days. The FIS, the governing body of ski racing, has set strict specifications for race skis. Modern GS skis have a turning radius of 31 meters (that's longer than an American football field); SL skis are at 12 meters. Super G and Downhill skis are highly football field); SL skis are at 12 meters. Super G and Downhill skis are highly specialized tools with 60+ and 80+ meter sidecuts. The skis have also been made stiffer and far more demanding to handle the ice rink conditions most World Cup races are held on. Modern World Cup skiers are also extremely fit and strong. Watch a Mikaela Shifrin or Lyndsey Von workout video sometime if you doubt me. The men are no different, just heavier and even more powerful. The result is skis that are highly specialized race machines that are perfect for exceptionally strong, talented and disciplined racers making precise turns on icy race courses set for the ski turning radius. Those same skis are however extremely difficult to ski

recreationally for all the same reasons they are such great racing tools.

The very good news is that technology unlike tax cuts, does trickle down. Ski racing, like bicycle and motor racing (excepting NASCAR) is where manufacturers spend the most on R&D. The stability control, ABS, OHC engine and adaptive suspension in your car came from F1 or endurance sports car racing. In skiing, the World Cup is where the ski companies try out the newest materials, construction methods and other technology to win a race for hundredths of a second. That technology is tested in the demanding world of racing by the best skiers in the world. The result is a constant improvement in skis that trickles down to us. The now ubiquitous carbon fibre, titanium, vibration dampening technology, super fast bases and other tech all started on World Cup racecourses.

The logical question is of course, why would I want to ski something with 'race' in the name if that technology is available in my favorite 90 waist ski?

The industry nickname for non-FIS races skis is 'cheaters.' They earned that nickname because they are so good, so powerful and yet so easy to ski that they make it seem like you are cheating. So if race skis are demanding, specialized tools, why are the non-FIS versions of them so good?

When you first see a pair, and all the ski companies that contribute to some countries World Cup equipment pool make them and they are all great, the first thing you will notice is that they ignore the FIS turn radius requirements. The second thing you will notice is that they tend to fall into two camps: The ones loosely based on SL race skis and the ones based upon GS race skis. The SL based ones tend to have 12-15 meter turn radius; the GS ones 17-22 meters. The other thing you will notice is that the waists are skinny: 68 mm is the norm. The next thing you will notice is that the entire ski contacts the snow. No reverse camber or easy floating tips or tails here. Every millimeter of the ski is available for every turn.

The effect of all this becomes clear when you step on a pair. They are immediately responsive to your every movement. They carve hardback and our 'polished powder' like an ice skate yet they absorb vibration beautifully. Even more impressive, they will throw back at you every ounce of power you put into them. Thus they will actually accelerate thru a turn and throw you out if it using the energy stored up when they flexed into the carved turn. They do all of this without

the far higher speed and energy requirements of a race ski. It is entirely possible to ski moguls and some powder; the GS-based ones eat up Spring conditions, plowing thru slush and soft moguls like a sharp knife thru Spring conditions, plowing thru slush and soft moguls like a sharp knife thru butter.

A few words of caution before you go out and demo a pair, which I highly recommend. First, they are notoriously hard to find because they are not popular. I scoured every shop in Park City before I found a shop that carried them and they only had two skis I wanted to demo. When Pinnacle Ski was testing skis at Stowe, I asked one of the testers how many of the skis had a waist of 68. He laughed and said none. Second, they require good carving technique. Some are more forgiving than others; some are near identical to the FIS race ski except for the shorter turn radius and will throw the skier into the woods if you get lazy or in the back seat. They don't skid turns well; skidding just isn't in their DNA. I highly recommend reading reviews and coming up with a list of skis you want to test. The site Real Skiers, run by industry veteran Jackson Hogen, is my favorite and even his non-FIS race ski reviews are hard to find. Lastly, they will point out every flaw or underperformance in your technique and your boots. Soft or loose fitting boots will make it impossible to get the full performance out of these gems.

With all the above caveats, why would a rational person ski on a non-FIS race ski. The best analogy I can come up with is cars. When a friend graduated college, his grandmother gave him enough money to buy a used Porsche. This was back in 1976 when such things were affordable to mere mortals like us. He was also kind enough to let his friends drive it. The first few times I drove it, I struggled to manage something so responsive, fast and unforgiving. Once I got the hang of it, I was totally spoiled. The American muscle cars and Japanese compacts I had driven didn't compare to the speed, braking, cornering, control, stability and sheer exhilaration of that Porsche. That is what a non-FIS race ski is compared to most skis on the market. That is why industry legends like the Mahre brothers, Deb Armstrong and others ski on them. It's why I'll always have a one in my quiver, especially since I can't afford a Porsche. Lastly to paraphrase Jackson Hogen, there is no such thing as a 'bad' or poor performing non-FIS race ski. They are all brilliant in the same way. Some are just a little more intense than the others. Go find yours. You can thank me later.

Reviews

SWC Bike Ride - Ashuwillticook Rail Trail

By Brenda Streed



The intrepid group of bikers ready to head out on the beautiful and relaxing Ashuwillticook trail from the Adams, MA visitor center parking lot on July 15. (Notice Mount Greylock in the background).

Altogether there were 14 of us gathered to enjoy the wonderful day. We biked round trip from Adams to the Berkshire Mall trail end, about 21 miles total. Although the temps were in the high 80s to low 90s, the trail was mostly shaded and all had a great time. Afterward, we hung out at AJs Trailside Pub.

Our next planned bike ride is Saturday August 19 along the Erie Canal Trail from Amsterdam to Fultonvile, about 20 miles round trip. There will be an option to take a short side trip over to view the aqueduct built in 1841 to carry the Erie Canal over the Schoharie Creek. We plan to stop at least once at Karen's Produce & Ice Cream, and maybe have a bite to eat there or at Lorenzo's Southside Italian restaurant in Amsterdam.

A Little Bit of SWC History

Ski Pioneer Women of the SWC

By Bill Schaefer

There are a lot of people that made a big impact not only in the SWC but in the ski industry. Today we will recognize some of pioneer women of the SWC. Any of these people could be the topic of an entire book. Today we mention 3 - there are lots more. It is important to consider when these folks were active - 50 to 90 years ago!

Freddie Andersen

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g3VRDM4rKXs

Freddie likely introduced more skiers to skiing than any other person. She was on skis for over 90 years. She founded her Schenectady Ski School in the early 1950's and operated it into her 90's.

Lois Perret

https://orda.org/2023/03/01/womens-history-month-2023/

Lois, a nurse, was one the first SWC members in 1932. As SWC organized the snow trains and other ski trips to the Rotterdam Hills, she formed the First Aid Committee, the forerunner of Ski Patrol. She established the routines which continue to be the industry standards; First Aid on the hill, the use of toboggans for rescue and trail safety.

Doyt Hoyt-Neble

https://skihall.com/hall-of-famers/dorothy-h-nebel/

Doyt was a world class ski racer in the 1930's and 1940's and later was the director ski schools at Gore and Belleayre mountains. There are trails at both Gore and Belleayre named after her.

Internet searches will provide a rich volume of stories about these pioneers. Let us know if you have a story to share about our club legends!



The Northern New York Paddlers

The President's Column

July Wrap Up

By Ed Greiner

July has been a busy month for the Northern New York Paddlers. We continued to host Monday night paddling at Kiwanis Park in Rotterdam and Wednesday night time trials at Aqueduct Park in Niskayuna. Both programs have been well attended this year with several new participants on Mondays.

On July 12th, a new time trial course record was set in a C4 by Andrew Millspaugh, Patrick Madden, Greg Stevens and Pam Fitzgerald. They paddled the 3.6 mile course in 26 minutes and 43 seconds. The previous record was 27:09 set by Matt Skeels in 2009 in a K1.

The Electric City Regatta was held on July 8th at Lock 9 in Glenville. It was pretty well attended with an even 50 participants in 31 boats. As usual for the Electric City Regatta, the weather was hot and humid. Jim Phillips and Roger Gocking had the fastest time of the day with 1:35:44 in a K2. There were several close races, so it was exciting for the timers at the finish line.

The next day, Sunday July 9th, the Barge Chaser was held at Kiwanis Park in Rotterdam. There were 22 paddlers participating in 16 boats. That day's fastest time was 1:31:15 set by Neal Sand and Patrick Madden. Glen Vandewinckel of Webster, NY paddled the long races both days in a C1. He is 85 years old and an inspiration to the paddlesports racing community. My only disappointment was the

meager turnout for the 3 mile races on both days. There were only two participants each day. I had hoped more of our recreational paddlers would try these short races.

On Sunday July 23rd, NNYP raced the only War Canoe in the BluMouLaBuFuRa (the Blue Mountain Lake Association Buoy Funding Race). The eight paddlers in the boat were Alec Davis, Lindsey Stevens, Linda Cooley, Bob Cooley, Kim Greiner, Ed Greiner, Greg Stevens and Roger Henry. Although we were almost 10 minutes faster than in 2021, we were not the fastest canoe. We were beaten by two C4 unlimited canoes and a K2. Once again Roger Gocking and Jim Phillips had the fastest time of the day in the 14 mile race with 2

When I announced the retirement of Geoff Moore as the Towpath director last month, I expected a long, exhausting search for his replacement. With no begging or cajoling on my part, Beverly Blinn-Knapp has offered to take over the running of that race. Please join me in thanking her for stepping up. We will give her all the help and guidance we can.

hours 9 minutes even. Our time was 2:14:30.

Monday night paddling will shift to an earlier time starting July 31st. It's more Monday night paddling will shift to an earlier time starting July 31st. It's more than a month after the Summer solstice and the sun is setting earlier. We don't want to pack up in the dark after paddling, so we'll plan to be on the water by 6:00. I hope to see many of you there.



Mohawk Valley Hiking Club

The President's Column

Back from the Rough

By John Bidell

Ellen and I are enjoying our new found golf opportunities. Funny, with more play you would expect a more consistent and better round. Well, sometimes yes, and sometimes no. Golf season is like my snowboard season, by the last day I have finally figured out what I want to do and of course, have moved on to the next season.

We are up in Chestertown every weekend and I wanted to share some nice reasonable hikes that we think are great. Stewart mountain is a nice easy climb and is located off of White Schoolhouse road in Chestertown. Great view of Gore from the top as you look down on Loon Lake. When you get back to the car, you are ready for the next short hike. Kipp mountain is another great little hike and is about 1.5 miles north, taking the first right back on White Schoolhouse.

Now you have two mountains of the Chester challenge down. If you plan these hikes on a Friday afternoon, at 5, you can head to the food trucks at Brant Lake. Try the double cheeseburger on french toast. If the ride down the Northway doesn't suit you, check out the camping on one of Schroon Lakes three state campgrounds.

Schroon Lake has some great spots for breakfast, and after homemade corned beef hash at Pitkins, head to the day use area over at Paradox State Campground for some kayaking.

Wow, all this activity has made you thirsty, so a stop at Paradox Brewery is in

order. As I write this article a pop up oyster bar is taking place. Check the website, but the pizza is always good.

One of my favorite beers in addition to Beaver Bite is, Get Off My Lawn.

Ok, time for an early night back at the campsite or if you are a day tripper, back down 87.

The last hike I like is the Hoffmans Wilderness Area accessed off of route 9, south of exit 29.

Nice walk not to steep, and easy to get back to Schroon Lake to stop at Flannigans for a beverage.

GOLF TOURNAMENT

BROOKHAVEN GOLF COURSE, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

The Schenectady Wintersports Club and the Albany Ski Club are co sponsoring a fun golf tournament at Brookhaven Golf Course Sept 10 in Greenfield Center.

The event features a shotgun style start, with unique challenges and prizes. A catered lunch is planned for afterward. Cost for 18 holes with Cart and Lunch is \$63. See swcweb.org home page to register for this event.

SAVE THE DATES

August 19 2023 Our next planned bike ride is Saturday August 19 along the Erie Canal Trail from Amsterdam to Fultonvile, about 20 miles round trip. There will be an option to take a short side trip over to view the aqueduct built in 1841 to carry the Erie Canal over the Schoharie Creek. We plan to stop at least once at Karen's Produce & Ice Cream, and maybe have a bite to eat there or at Lorenzo's Southside Italian restaurant in Amsterdam.

September 10 2023 BrookHaven Gold Tournament

October 1 2023 Club Picnic and Membership Meeting! We are planning a club picnic for Sunday, October 1 at Thacher Park, Horseshoes II Pavilion. An event invitation will be sent to all members with more details later in August.

November 2 - 5 2023 Work Weekend at the Clubhouse

March 4 2024 is the 90th Anniversary of the first Snow Train to North Creek, an SWC excursion that jump started modern skiing as we know it. Activities in North Creek are being planned around this date. More details to follow as they develop.

April 8 2024 Hosted Weekend at the Clubhouse to experience the total solar eclipse.

Event Calendar

See swcweb.org EVENTS for more details

5/1 NNYP Monday Night Paddling begins and every Monday thereafter until September

5/1 SWC Monday Night Bike Rides begin and every Monday thereafter until September

5/3 NNYP Wednesday Night Time Trials begin and every Wednesday thereafter until September

8/19 SWC Bike Group - Ashokan Trail

9/10 Brookhaven Gold Tournament

9/16 SWC Bike Group - Erie Canal Trail

11/2 thru 11/5 Work Weekend at the Clubhouse

12/7 thru 12/9 Early Season Ski Clinic at Stowe

1/20 thru 10/27 2024 Telluride Ski Trip

3/24 2024 90th anniversary snow trains festival North Creek

4/8 2024 Total Eclipse at Stowe hosted weekend

Articles for the Newsletter

Do you have a story to tell? Have a favorite sport you want to write about? What about your favorite things to do in the Capital Region and Waterbury Center? The Newsletter comes out at the beginning of each month - articles are due mid-month. Send them to SWCChatter@gmail.com.