



**Schenectady Wintersports Club**

**Northern New York Paddlers**

**Mohawk Valley Hiking Club**

**Newsletters**

**September 2023**

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## The President's Column

Coming soon...stay tuned

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# News From the Clubhouse

## **House Reservation Tip**

When making a reservation, you are asked for your membership number..

We no longer have any paper cards.

You can look up your number on the website using the membership search tool

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## **Fall Work Weekend Nov 2 to 5**

While we call it a Work Weekend, we schedule it so that we can do some recreation in the afternoons after completing the tasks in the morning. So far, we have 20 members signed up and there is still room for a few more but the rooms are filling, and late comers will be sleeping in the attic rooms. As a reward for your work, we have the meals being prepared by Chef Earl Lahna and vouchers for Clubhouse usage. Make your reservation online by going to the [swcweb.org](http://swcweb.org) website and Clubhouse>Reservations>Book a Reservation>Work Weekend. I will be assigning the rooms to maximize the available beds.

If you need more information email me at [wkornrum@nycap.rr.com](mailto:wkornrum@nycap.rr.com) or call on 518-209-3244. Bring old work cloths in case we do some outside painting.

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.

There is a list of yearly maintenance jobs to be done as well as cleaning and reorganizing all the materials that have migrated about the house since last fall. We also have some plumbing to do in the bathrooms and painting in some of the bedrooms. The house is almost 160 years old so there are lots of opportunities to spruce it up and make it a more comfortable place to stay. If all goes well, we may be installing a new propane fireplace insert in the fireplace room.

Submitted by Bill Kornrumpf

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## **Total Eclipse Weekend at Stowe**

by Ellen Bidell

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!

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## **Ski Trips and Packages**

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**2023 SWC**

**Early Season Ski & Snowboard Clinic**

**Thursday to Sunday**

**December 7-10**



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**Operated in Partnership with the  
Stowe Ski School**

**Student to Instructor Ratio  
Approximately 9 to 1**

**Ski and Snowboard Instruction at All Levels  
First Timers Too!**

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An **extended weekend of skiing** fun with friends!

- **Thursday** Night: Welcome Party at Stowe Motel. Come have a drink and snacks, catch up with friends and meet new ones.
- **Friday** Morning ½ Day Free Skiing-Warm up & Afternoon ½ Day Instruction
- **Saturday** All Day Instruction
- **Sunday** Morning ½ Day Instruction and possible Optional Race & Afternoon Free skiing

**Accommodations** at the **Schenectady Wintersports Club Clubhouse**

(limited space) or the **Stowe Motel** on the Mountain Road. All lodging is only available through the Clinic. Do not contact directly.

**Special Offer:** Not a SWC member, you will get a free membership for the '23-'24 season!

**Pricing:**

**Lift Tickets** are the responsibility of each participant. Most are expected to hold Epic Passes that will allow lift access for the weekend. Those without Epic Passes can purchase the Epic 3 Day Pass online for \$228 (prices will go up as ski season gets closer).

**Lessons are Optional.** Early Season Clinic reduced price for all three days is \$330.

**Lodging** – Clinic Special Prices, **all rooms are per person, double occupancy for 3 nights.**

\$120 SWC Lodge: Room only per person for 3 nights, breakfast included.

\$195 Stowe Motel Value: small room, 2 Queen Beds

\$210 Stowe Motel Superior: medium room, 2 Queen Beds

\$230 Stowe Motel Superior Efficiency King: larger room, 1 King (very limited) & Kitchenette

\$225 Stowe Motel Deluxe Efficiency: 2 Queens, Fireplace & Kitchenette

\$245 Stowe Motel Deluxe Fireplace Efficiency: 2 Queens, Fireplace & Kitchenette

Two-Bedroom suites at Stowe Motel for groups and families.

Call/email Bill for quote.

If you have questions about the rates, lessons, tickets, rooms, and special room requests email Bill Kornrumpf at [wkornrum@nycap.rr.com](mailto:wkornrum@nycap.rr.com) or call him at 518-209-3244.

**Registration and Payment Instructions:**

1. Go to the SWC home page [www.swcweb.org](http://www.swcweb.org)
2. On the Home page, there is a “**Early Season Ski Clinic @ Stowe**” announcement with a “**Information and Registration**” button, click on it.
3. A brief description of the Clinic is given

3. A brief description of the Clinic is given.
  4. To register push the blue “**Register**” button in the upper left corner.
  5. Fill the form with your specific requests for Lodging, Lessons, and other information. This information is used to assign the available rooms in the order of deposit payment. It also shows the pricing of each of the options.
  6. When finished with the form, push the **NEXT** button (lower right)
  7. You can now pay the \$60 deposit. Follow the instructions. The \$60 deposit is fully refundable until **Oct 28**.
  8. Congratulations, you now have completed your registration and deposit. You will receive an invoice summarizing your registration and remaining balance due by email.
  9. **Full Payment is Due by Saturday, October 28, 2023**
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## **SKI TRIP TO TELLURIDE**

**JAN 20 - 27, 2024**



Our trip to Telluride has met the minimum number of participants but we do have one room left...will not last long.

Ski resorts want money in the bank. Our planning is now out almost 2 years!

So...here is the question....

As we start to look at trips for 2025, what are your top 3 choices?

Your help is greatly appreciated!

Send a note to [Rick@Cobello.com](mailto:Rick@Cobello.com)

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**ANNUAL  
SWC WINTERSPORTS WEEKEND  
FEBRUARY 2-5, 2024**



JOIN THE FUN!!! In the warmth of summer the Adirondacks are great for hiking and paddling, and NOW is the time to plan to head there for winter sports. The gracious Rock & River Lodge in Keene, NY will host our annual stay. Take a look: <https://rockandriver.com/lodging/>

Our co-ed group of 25 has been renting the entire two well appointed lodges for a long weekend for over 30 years. It is located right at the southern end of the Jack Rabbit trail and ideal for x-c skiing out the door, at Mt Van Hoevenberg, Cascade or countless other area destinations including backcountry. Downhill skiing at Whiteface is a half hour drive. Snowshoeing /winter hiking or visiting nearby Lake Placid and Saranac Lake-so many choices! We bring and share breakfasts, and potluck dinners using the full kitchens and inviting dining room and spend evenings by the large fireplace, in the beautiful living room area (games, puzzles) or downstairs for ping pong and foosball. High speed internet throughout. All linens provided.

We have private rooms available with a queen-sized bed or some spaces for women in a shared lovely spacious and bright room with its own full bathrooms. Suite spaces may be possible as well. Some of our usual attendees are taking advantage of an international trip and will not be with us this time so space has opened up. The cost depends a bit on the number of attendees as we have a contracted price for the full stay. It is approximately \$ 80 per person per night including tip and tax for queen bed rooms (less for other shared spaces). A \$50 deposit per person holds the space. Many of us stay 3 nights until Monday, but the minimum is Friday to Sunday.

Participation requires a yearly membership in the Schenectady Wintersports Club (\$25 single, \$35 family). This would also entitle you to book lodging any time of year at the large clubhouse in Waterbury VT near Stowe for very low rates (under \$40 per person per night) or participate in other club events. So convenient and affordable to ski, hike, paddle, explore! <https://www.swcweb.org>

For any questions, more details and reservations contact

Margie Litwin 518-928-0600 (cell/text)  
mhlitwin@nycap.rr.com

Fran Herve 518-226-1937  
fherve@nycap.rr.com

We always enjoy a fabulous time!

**To reserve your space**, please sign up for the weekend event with your deposit using this link

your deposit using this link

<https://www.swcweb.org/event-5384613>



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# Insights from the SWC Admins

## 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).

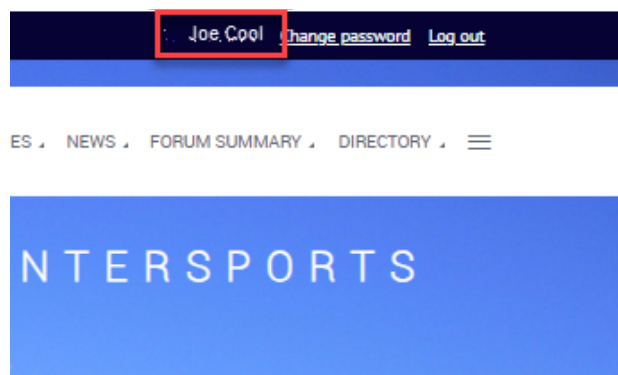
### FIND A MEMBER

A link to our member directory.

[Click here](#)

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.





# Review

## Updates on Summer Bike Rides

### The Updates

By Brenda Streed

So far this summer, SWC hosted three casual bike rides for members and friends, and all thus far have outsmarted the rainy weather!

We have explored Zim Smith Trail (Round Lake), Ashuwillticook Trail (Adams, MA) and on this last weekend the Erie Canal Trail section between Amsterdam and Fultonville, with 23 riders joining in!

One major challenge in the first mile was a medium-sized tree that completely blocked the trail. We all worked as a team to get all bikes across, one volunteer sat on the tree as everyone pulled their bikes over it!

We also stopped at the Schoharie Crossing Historic site and did a little exploring.

These Saturday rides are organized for about a 20 mile route with side stops for snacks and refreshment, for all levels of riders. This is a great way to make connections with other members, and friends outside the club.

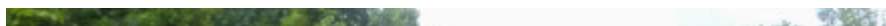
**Our final summer ride is planned for Saturday September 16, 2023, location is the Zim Smith Trail.**

### The Zim Smith Trail

The Zim Smith trail has got to be one of the most accessible and pleasant bike trails in the Capital area! We will ride out and back from Mechanicville over to the Shenantaha Park, just about 20 miles round trip. As always, all levels of riders are welcome!

Since it is within easy driving distance in the area, we plan to meet at **9 AM**, to allow us to have a nice relaxing lunch at The Ugly Rooster, located close to where we will park at the Zim Smith East Trailhead in Mechanicville. Of course, the Rooster is also open for breakfast at 7 AM if you want a bite before the ride! (I confirmed The Ugly Rooster will be open as usual from 7 AM to 2 PM on 9/16).

**Zim Smith East Trailhead is located, 1044 Elizabeth St Exd, Mechanicville, NY 12118.** Note the close proximity to **The Ugly Rooster, 312 N 3RD Avenue.**





Scene from the Erie Canalway Ride

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# A Little Bit of SWC History

## What's New is Old

By Bill Schaefer

Have you heard about the major Improvements that are planned for Gore mountain? The 2024-25 improvements planned for the Ski Bowl are not just for downhill skiing anymore. The Ski Bowl had already expanded to a cross-country center, mountain biking, hiking. In 2024-25, they will add a new lodge, a new and longer lift, and a sizable Zip Line Coaster. This brings the ski bowl back to its roots when the SWC chartered Snow Trains to North Creek for all manner of WinterSports!

For more improvement information:

<https://goremountain.com/the-mountain/improvements/>

Back in the late 1930's, this toboggan chute at the ski bowl would surely beat the thrill of any potential attraction. This ride was not for the faint of heart!

Let us know if you have a story to share about our club legends!



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## SAVE THE DATES

**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.

**December 7-10 2023** Early Season Ski and Snowboard Clinic

**February 2- 5 2024** SWC Wintersports Weekend at Rock and River Lodge

**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.



### The Northern New York Paddlers

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#### The President's Column

By Ed Greiner

## August Wrap Up

The weather this year has been challenging, to say the least. Several times I have cancelled Monday night paddling based on the weather forecast just to be proved wrong by clearing skies. Other times, participants have declined to come because of what they see from their windows at work and it will be clear and calm in Rotterdam.

A similar thing occurred on August 26 at Newcomb. For several days before the race, the forecast called for thunder storms and heavy rains throughout the day. As Saturday got closer the predicted rain got less, but still threatened for midday. As race directors we were committed regardless of the weather.

The morning dawned overcast, but without rain. We went to the Newcomb town park to set up and still no rain. I went to my station in the safety boat with my rain suit, just in case. After a while, the sun came out and it started to get hot. The race participants came along on their first lap and all was well. There was plenty of entertainment from a group of recreational kayakers carrying their boats past the rapids under the bridge and eventually getting going again. About that time, it clouded up and a light shower passed through. That didn't last long and soon the sun peeked through again.

The first racers on their second lap approached the last buoy turn to find the rec kayakers zig-zagging across their path just as they were approaching the buoy. They made it through without any collisions or, presumably, cursing. The contrast between the straight, sure course of the racers and the meandering of the rec kayakers was stark. About that time, a second wave of rain came through and I just had time to don my rain jacket as it hit. This was a true down-pour with gusting wind and waves of rain. After a short time, the sun peeked out again and the last of the racers came through. There is a saying up north; "If you don't like the weather in the Adirondacks, wait five minutes". This was certainly the case at Newcomb.

Of the twenty paddlers that participated, seven were NNYP members. Five were from the Syracuse-Rochester area and the rest from other areas of the state. The turnout was disappointing to us as organizers. It is as much work to prepare for twenty participants as sixty. The Newcomb Class of 2024 served a good post-race meal and were prepared for forty or more participants. This was to be a fund raiser for their class. The fickle weather this year has kept attendance down at many races, but has proved to be more scare than reality.

Looking forward, the Adirondack Canoe Classic will take place September 8<sup>th</sup> through the 10<sup>th</sup>. It starts in Old Forge on Friday and ends in Saranac Lake on Sunday. Two weeks later, the Long Lake Long Boat Regatta will take place on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. NNYP will be racing a war canoe in that event. I hope we get

September 20 . NNNH will be facing a war canoe in that event. I hope we get some competition.

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## Mohawk Valley Hiking Club

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### News from the MVHC

#### **The View From the Top**

By John Bidell

My kind of hiking tends to be a round trip hike less than 5 miles of fairly easy difficulty with a picture worthy view from the midpoint. With that in mind, Cat and Thomas mountain at exit 24 of the Northway in Chestertown fits the bill. After exiting the Northway, you head up the hill east towards Bolton Landing and after 6 miles take a right on Valley woods road. Parking is available just after the turn. The hike is basically on logging roads and the area is owned by the Lake George Land Conservancy,

After .7 miles on the logging road, at the intersection with the yellow trail turn right, for another .7 on a logging road and you will be at a spot with a 180 degree view of Lake George. Not bad for being in the woods for less than an hour. After Thomas mountain, head back to the parking lot or continue on to Cat mountain which is another 2.0 miles on the yellow trail. The logging road ends on the portion of the hike and footing is more of a trail in nature.

The other option for Cat mountain is at the parking lot follow the blue trail to the top. This is easier but you miss the panoramic view.

Still got some left in the tank? Park at Edgecomb Pond Rd parking lot which is your first right after exiting the parking lot heading south. At the parking lot, follow the red trail for .7 miles past the pond. Take a sharp turn at the gate, turn left at the blue trail (south) for .8 miles. At the "T" intersection, turn left and follow the trail for .4 miles for a 270 degree view of Lake George.

Wow now I'm thirsty! Now head to Bolton Landing for a cold lager at one of the many restaurants in town. One of Ellen's favorites is the Huddle which offers the hangover. This meal is a monster guaranteed to fill you up with an assortment of brunch type items.

See you on the trail

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### **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](mailto:SWCChatter@gmail.com).

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## Upcoming Events

See [swcweb.org](http://swcweb.org) **EVENTS** for more details

2023

9/16 SWC Bike Group - Erie Canal Trail

12/7 thru 12/10 Early Season Ski Clinic at Stowe

2024

1/20-27 Telluride Ski Trip

2/5-7 SWC Wintersports Weekend at Rock and River Lodge

3/4 90th anniversary the Snow Trains in North Creek

4/8 Solar Eclipse at the Clubhouse

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