



Schenectady Wintersports Club

Northern New York Paddlers

Mohawk Valley Hiking Club

Newsletters

January 2024

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SPECIAL MEETING AT Wolf Hollow Brewing

The SWC Board of Directors is pleased to invite all active members to a Special Meeting to be held Wednesday, February 21, 2024 at Wolf Hollow Brewing located in Schenectady.

The sole purpose for this meeting is a vote related to adopting SWC Constitution and Bylaws changes proposed by the Board. A Board of Directors' explanation letter, the current documents and the proposed SWC Constitution and Bylaws have been posted [here](#) on the website. Please review these prior to the meeting.

However, every active member over age 21 who registers for this event on the SWC website will receive a free beer token. There will also be a food truck by Two for the Road available, so please RSVP by **February 14**, and let us know of your interest. We will send out a menu in advance of the event to those who RSVP.

Food will be available from 5 - 8 PM, and you may come at your leisure. The Board will be present to check you in as a member voter and answer any questions. We plan to begin accepting ballots from 6 PM to 8 PM.

You will receive a snail mail, formal notice of the meeting through the mail as required by the current Constitution and Bylaws in early February; the notice will be mailed not more than 20 days from the meeting date, nor less than 7 days in advance of the meeting date. **Please keep your mail notice - it will make member check in at the meeting quicker**, and then you receive the beer token.



The President's Column

Advice from a Past President

By Terry Tamer

Well, Dorie wrote one last month, a Past President's Column. I'm a past President of SWC / NNYP (before Mohawk Valley Hiking Club merged with us). She said I should write one too. I was president of the club a LONG TIME ago. Let's see, since I was president Walt Kangas, Jon Skalwold, Pete Weykamp, Bill Schaefer (nephew of our first president), Dorie Valenti and John Bidell have been club presidents. (Forgive me if I missed someone in there).

All the while - two years - I was president I only accomplished two things, that I can think of. One was I helped keep the club together. The other (and most important) I replaced myself. Replacing myself was a big deal. It took me two years! And Walt did a great job! He was president for five years!

In working on a club like this we spend a good deal of time pondering our reason for existence. It is not the ONLY thing to do but it is definitely very important to do. When you look at the number and diversity of us members, it is important to do that. It takes a good leader who can see the big picture and the great value of there being a club.

For example, skiing has gotten expensive. It always has been, anyway. But it's barely affordable anymore. However, winters with their long nights and cold temperatures can be oppressive. We, as winter sports persons, have chosen to make lemonade out of lemons - so to speak. Being with others in clubs like SWC/NNYP/MVHC makes it doable. Spending hundreds of dollars for a one-day lift ticket may be beyond most of our capabilities. However, there are other ways of enjoying winter. The group helps!

So, what is the conclusion here? My perspective is that I've been in this club since 1987, shortly after I moved to the Capital District. I became involved in doing stuff for the club and ended up on the board. I've made many friends (and lost quite a few of them to old age). I've been lucky too. I've had a lot of fun. I've learned a great deal. You get out what you put into a club such as this.

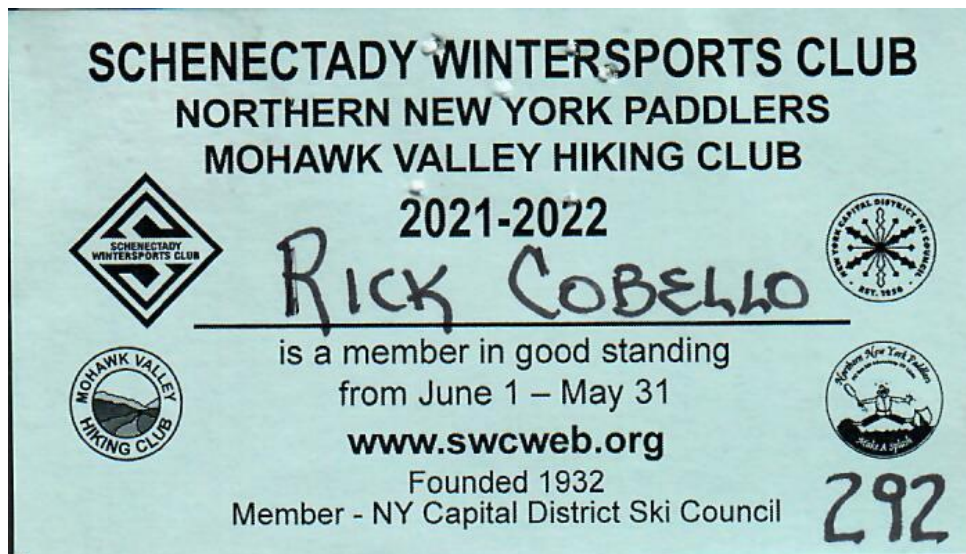


News From the Clubhouse

Reservations

Know your number!

If you have recently made a reservation at the SWC House, you probably noticed you needed your membership ID....**not the number on an old membership card**. Here is one of my old cards.



You do NOT need the number from the card. You need your membership ID number,. This is available on the website. Sign into the website, click on your name on the top menu and there you will find your membership ID.

Send any comments to: swcbookingstowe@gmail.com

Hosting a Weekend at the Clubhouse

There is a longstanding tradition of hosting at the SWC Clubhouse where one person or a couple is "in charge" for a weekend. John and I have been hosting for decades and love it. I put together this official [list of tips](#) for hosts, but there is more to it than that. The main part of the job is that you make people feel welcome and included at the clubhouse. You can create a weekend around meals (like [Chef Earl's weekend](#) in early March), create a mini-vacation (try [Presidents Week](#)), or get together for a special event ([Solar Eclipse weekend](#)).

There have been cross-country ski weekends and mountain biking weekends hosted in the past - dealer's choice on how you want to arrange it.

I understand that people want to go to the house to ski and think that hosting will take time away from that. There are several tricks to make your hosted weekend easier, including enlisting the help of others. There are people that only ski once (or not at all), and those that knock off at noon. When there were large groups, I have also prepared meals and frozen them to pop in the oven at the lodge.

The only requirement is that the weekend be open to everyone and published in the newsletter to encourage reservations. What happens if you don't get enough people attending? You still stay for free for the weekend for your efforts.

I will set up a zoom meeting for interested hosts sometime in January. Email me at ebidell@yahoo.com if you are interested in learning what it means to be a host.

Presidents Day Weekend

Feb 15-18

It has been a long tradition that John and Ellen Bidell host President's Day Weekend at the Clubhouse. Join us the weekend of February 16, 2024 for fun, games, great meals, activities for the family and of course, skiing. We plan to head to Bolton Valley for some downhill skiing and cross country at Trapp Lodge. Bolton Valley tickets are \$41 on Friday and \$73 on Saturday through Monday, so it's a great way for those without an Epic Pass to bring the family skiing.

Here is a tentative itinerary:

Thursday evening	Pizza and drinks at The Matterhorn
Friday morning	Bolton Valley
Friday afternoon	Cider Tasting at Cold Hollow
Friday evening	Italian night at the Clubhouse PJ party and games for the kids
Saturday afternoon	Trapp Lodge Brewery Tour
Saturday evening	Roast Pork dinner Wine Tasting/Hot Chocolate around the firepit Make your own Sundaes
Sunday afternoon	Ben and Jerry's Tour Gentle Giants Sleigh Ride

Last year, a couple of us also went to Top Notch for a spa visit!
This weekend always fills up, so sign up now for the event and book your room.
Once you have your room, email ebidell@yahoo.com to let me know what activities and meals you are interested in.

Go to swcweb.org to sign up.

Chef Lahna Special Ski Weekend

March 1-3

Spend a special weekend in Vermont, and *join Chef Earl for meals that are sure to impress!* Dinners will be available on Friday and Saturday. People should let us know their dinner plans when they sign up - although last minute changes can be accommodated.

Remember this is a busy time at Stowe and restaurants are usually fully booked. Dinner at the Clubhouse is a lot easier and the cost/quality benefit is high. And the kids will have fun.

Go to swcweb.org to sign up.

Total Eclipse Weekend at Stowe

April 6-8

This event is currently booked. Wait list options only. You may add your name to the waitlist by going to swcweb.org > events > solar eclipse@swc clubhouse > join waitlist.

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!

Go to swcweb.org to sign up.

Breakfast Included with Stay

Just wanted to keep members aware, your Clubhouse stay includes breakfast staples stocked by volunteers. It is not a fancy menu, but these are the items we try to maintain when you visit:

Pancake Mix
Oatmeal (the type you cook)
Eggs
Butter
Bread (one backup in the freezer)
Sausage
Maple Syrup
Frozen Hash browns
Frozen OJ
Peanut butter
Coffee

These foods should be readily found in the kitchen - either in the refrigerator, the large Pantry cupboard next to the microwave, or in cupboards underneath the island.

When you stay at the house, we ask for your help to make sure the inventory is stocked. If items are low, please send an email note to BOTH Bill Kornrumpf, wkornrum@nycap.rr.com, and John Bidell, johnbidell@yahoo.com, letting them know the item that is low, and what date you were checking the count. They will coordinate either a delivery from a local grocery, or have a member transport groceries when they are traveling to the house.

Thanks for your help.

Looking for Some Help

The Clubhouse is only as clean, safe, and enjoyable as your fellow club members make it.

The week before Christmas, Bill and Karen Simmons, Bill Romania, and myself, traveled up to your ski house to get things ready for you. We also had dinner with Mani (our housekeeper and member) and her husband Rob. We worked a bunch of projects but like Bill Korumpf says, "It's a 150 year old house, it needs work." Well, the club can't expect board members and a few others to be the only ones involved in minor repairs.

So, if you're skiing up at the house, and have a few hours to spare, the club can use some help. It may be only to do a walk around, turn off the heat in vacant rooms. (People leave the electric heat on during the day when skiing or when have left} check the basement, look into the freezer and let us know what we need to provide for breakfast.

To some of you who think of this club as an Airbnb, guess again. It is only as clean, safe, and enjoyable as your fellow club members make it.

I have a lot of fun being an old guy so enough with the lecture.

If you actually want to do a little more work while enjoying the house, shoot me an email and I can give you some direction. Please note, we have a plan for painting so don't get creative without checking with the house committee.

Also, Hosting and work details generate a free stay and future vouchers when authorized by the board.

Johnbidell@yahoo.com

Mini-Work Weekends

Submitted by Bill Kornrumpf

While we had 15 members at the Fall work weekend and more at the Spring weekend, there has been a fair amount of work accomplished by mini-work parties with groups as small as 1 to 6. A new set of treads has been installed in the main stairwell to the second floor and the missing spindles replaced firming up the railing. All the rooms that needed the walls finished after the chimney removal have gotten the walls finished and painted. There is a long list of small tasks like finding the leak in the third floor half bath and replacing burned out light bulbs that have been taken care of also.

Most of these mini works have been by members who have used the clubhouse and seen something that they could fix. I want to thank all the members who have seen something and did something about it.

If you think that you can help on these mini events, send me an email (wkornrum@nycap.rr.com) with when you might be available and what kind of job you would like to do. The Club pays for any materials you might need.

The Mount Mansfield Snow Stake Tells the Tale

Submitted by Bill Kornrumpf

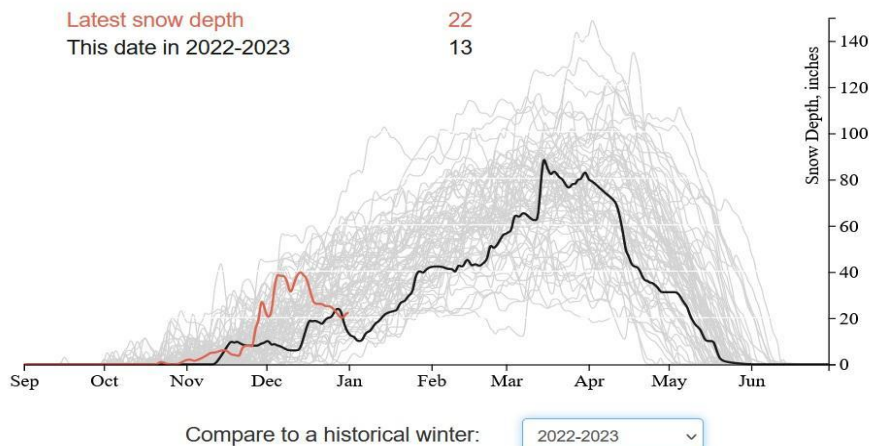
As I said in the December Chatter, the snow depth has been measured at a stake at 3,900 feet on Mount Mansfield nearly continuously since 1954. The reading can be used to give an idea of how the season is progressing.

I was going to start this with a paraphrase from A Tale of Two Cities by Charles Dickens. "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times...." But I don't have to paraphrase, I can just say we have seen the best of times and worse of times while skiing in early December at Stowe.

The Snow Stake data from last year and this year shows how different the same weekend snow conditions can be. The Early Season Ski Clinic has been held on the second weekend after Thanksgiving for over 10 years now and has seen great and sometimes not so great snow conditions. Chart shows the poor ski conditions in Dec '21 and good conditions in '23.

Mount Mansfield Snow Stake Depth

Last reported by NWS on: 1/1/2024

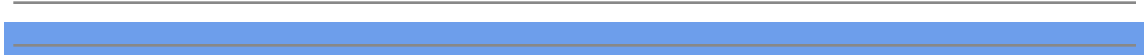


The Black line shows the snow depth during the '22-'23 ski season. The Red line is the snow depth so far this ski season. On the critical second weekend in December the snow was at 40" and it was the 5th snowiest on record. Last year the snow was at less than 10" and icy. Only a few years had been that bad. Now we find ourselves in a year where the snow has been 10" above average and now is 10" below average. We are blessed by the snow making machines that can make snow at prodigious rates. They can even up the odds in our favor. Now all of us need to do a snow dance every night before we go to bed. I have always followed the advice a good friend gave me the first year I was skiing. He said, "Always have enough clothing and skis in the car to ski in any condition". He also had more than one pair of skis so he could ski on any surface and enjoy himself. Now, I don't need lots of different cloths or skis as both have been improved over the years and my all-weather cloths just need

more inner layers for cold and I do have a second set of skis for deep fresh snow.

I hope to see you on the slopes this season.

{The stake is along the toll road just above where it passes the Octagon Restaurant at the top of the lift served skiing area. You can follow the snow depth from the website: <https://matthewparrilla.com/mansfield-stake/> }



Alpine Skiing

Review: Early Season Ski Clinic

Submitted by Bill Kornrumpf

It was the best of snow. The snow gods had looked down on us and had blessed us this year. There was plenty of snow on the mountain and great skiing to be had. The snow had piled up and there was no need for manmade resulting in great skiing all over the mountain.

The only shortcoming was that the Mountain company did not have enough workers to open all the lifts that early in the season. All the trails served by the Fourrunner Quad and new 6 person Sunrise lifts were open including the glades and fearsome front 4 double black diamond trails. But of the Gondola and Spruce lifts only the Meadows quad and adventure triple were running for the beginner skiers. The new Sunrise 6-person chair attracted the middle skiers and helped relieve congestion on the upper trails.

The natural snow was a delight and made for excellent learning conditions. The experts went off into the double blacks and those of us with lesser leg conditioning stuck to the blue and single black trails. All those trails and only one lift going to the top made for relatively open trails with less crowding than we are becoming accustomed to.

As I have said in the past, the Clinic was a good event to get my body back in functional order fixing any bad habits that may have crept in during last season. And, learning something new like lifting your little toe while turning.

Put it on your calendar of next year. It is the second weekend after Thanksgiving, Dec. 12 to 15.

Ski Council Discounts and Stickers

Log in to the SWC website. On the Menu bar near the top of the Home page, click on the three bars next to the Directory, and select MEMBERS ONLY from the dropdown menu. Click the [Discount Sticker](#) button that will open the instructions for requesting your sticker(s).

This is done by mail, so please plan ahead and allow for time to receive your stickers. Also, if you are part of a family membership, check to make sure all family members are listed in the membership; we send stickers based on the number in the family.

Q/A Discounted Ski Tickets

One of the benefits of SWC membership is access to ski discounts offered through the Capital District Ski Council (CDSC). CDSC has updated their website with all currently available discounts at <https://nycdsc.org/ski-council-days>.

IMPORTANT: You need to check the CDSC website for specific details related to the mountain you want to visit and take advantage of the discount offer. There are various terms and conditions, in addition to having the discount sticker! Examples: Some mountains want you to pre-purchase your tickets at least 48 hours in advance, date and time restrictions etc. You may need to click on links specific to the mountain in addition to visiting the CDSC web page.

Question: How do you get the discount sticker to attach to the back of your membership card?

Answer: You log in to the SWC website. On the Menu bar near the top of the Home page, click on the three bars next to the Directory, and select MEMBERS ONLY from the dropdown menu. Click the [Discount Sticker](#) button that will open the instructions for requesting your sticker(s).

This is done by mail, so please plan ahead and allow for time to receive your stickers. Also, if you are part of a family membership, check to make sure all family members are listed in the membership; we send stickers based on the number in the family.

Question: How do I get my Membership Card?

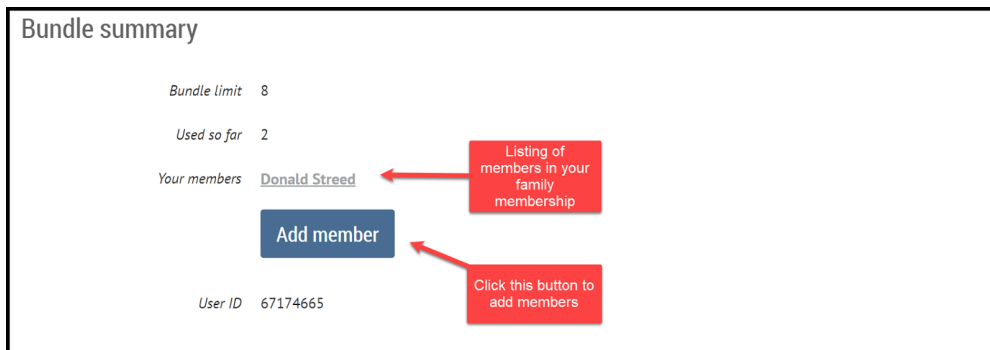
Answer: You log in to the SWC website, and go to your profile (the link is your name in the upper right hand corner on the Home page). In your profile, your membership details and a printable membership card are on your profile page. Print out the card on card stock.

Question: How do I check the listing of family members in my membership?

Answer: Ask the main Bundle coordinator for your family to log in to the SWC website. The coordinator is the person who usually receives the renewal invoice.

The coordinator clicks on their profile (the link is their name in the upper right hand corner on the Home page).

DO NOT click the Edit Profile button. Scroll down the page to the **Bundle summary section (example shown below)**, verify the family members, and if needed, add a member.



Whiteface Mountain

2023/24 Ski Club/Council Appreciation Days

Memo from Whiteface:

We want to show our appreciation to all of the Ski Councils and Ski Clubs and what better way to do that than by offering a great deal on a day (or more) on the slopes!!

December 7 and 8, 2023 (Thursday/Friday)

January 5, 2024 (Friday)

February 5, 2024 (Monday)

March 8, 2024 (Friday)

April 4 and 5, 2024 (Thursday/Friday)

Simply come to Whiteface on any of the dates listed above, show your Ski Council or Club ID as well as a photo ID and get a lift ticket for only \$59.

BIG SKY Trip - Space Available!

The Albany Ski Club still has room for the BIG SKY trip in March 2024. There are 2 double occupancy rooms at the Huntley Lodge.

<https://www.sportsamerica.com/onlinedev/albanybigsky24>

The link above outlines all the details..

If you need any information, please let me know...

Rick Cobello

Rick@cobello.com



Nordic Skiing

Be Ready and Stay Tuned

By Jim and Aline Flaherty

Hi, I have (along with assistance from my wife) volunteered to fill the Nordic position on the SWC board. We probably will not be able to do as much as many of the long time board members (they do a TON of work behind the scenes!). We are hoping, however, to learn the ropes and help provide information and a few fun experiences for club members and friends to enjoy!

The season has been off to a terrible start! After a few days of skiing locally, with limited snow, warm temps took hold and left bare ground. We have not ventured out yet. Lapland Lake was open and Prospect Mountain has not (although from their web cameras, some have been skiing there without the grooming).

As with many, lacking snow around me dulls the desire! That being said, I recommend dusting off the equipment, preparing the ski base and being ready. I suspect, as in the past few years, we will have spurts of fine skiing mixed with poor conditions. That being said, keep that equipment (and body) tuned up and ready to GO!

We are preparing a list of local and regional Nordic areas and hope to place them on a SWC nordic page in the near future. In addition, I will be planning a few trips throughout the winter months (local and/or near the Lodge in Waterbury Center) for those interested in joining us on a x-c ski day adventure.

Let us know if you have suggestions on how to promote Nordic skiing and the SWC!

Jim and Aline Flaherty

Think snow! 3/5/23 photo near Waterbury Center!



Not To Miss

The Snow Trains



WANTED: SWC VOLUNTEERS!!

The 90th Anniversary of the Schenectady to North Creek Snow Train of March 4, 1934 is being celebrated this coming year.

A 90th Planning Committee has been meeting to organize a series of events to take place in the North Creek area.

We are looking for SWC volunteers to work on some recognition events here in Schenectady. After all, SWC was formed with promoting snow trains as one of the main goals 90 years ago....

WOLF HOLLOW BREWING COMPANY has offered to be a meeting place for the planned "90th Snow Train--Schenectady Committee."



We are going to make WHBC "The Place Snow Train and Ski Venture Skiers/Riders Meet."

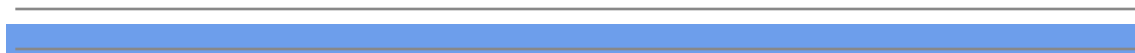


Insights from the SWC Admins

Notice.. P.O. Box for the Club has changed

We are in the process of changing over to a new PO Box that is closer to the location of our Membership Secretary who lives in Saratoga Wilton. The new address (below) is also published on the SWC website.

P.O. Box 2072
Wilton, NY 12831



[A Little Bit of SWC History](#)

Remnants of the 1930's

SWC First Aid Committee still on Gore Mountain

By Bill Schaefer

An important chapter of the SWC history is the establishment of the SWC First Aid Committee to patrol, rescue skiers and sweep trails at Gore Mtn and the Rotterdam Hills. This was the blueprint for what we not now know as the National Ski Patrol. Lois Perrot, a nurse and later wife of SWC founder Vincent Schaefer, was tasked with forming the committee for the safety of its members. She recruited strong skiers, taught first aid, and gathered the equipment. Injured skiers on the North Creek Train trips were attended to by Dr. Woodall, (Freddie Andersen's father)

The first two pictures are the Rescue Sled Huts high on the mountain.



This first Hut is still along the current Raymond Brook Trail and is seen by anyone going by. It is now 90 years old. Note how high it was built to accommodate the typical snowpack. This photo was taken during a recent "good" snow year.



First Aid to Skiers.

E.H. Hall.

I am not sure of the location of this hut. I have heard it was along the original Cloud Trail. This photo was likely taken between 1935 and 1938.



Ambulance Gave Mt Ski Patrol, North Creek, NY

This photo shows a toboggan that was converted to a Rescue Sled, a design still in use today.

Compliments of GORE MTN. SKI CLUB, North Creek, N. Y.

"RIDE UP — SLIDE DOWN"



This is an original trail map of Gore. The Sled Huts were near the trailheads. Skiers would have ridden trucks or a bus up to the trailheads on the Barton Mine and 13th Lake roads on the North side of Gore. The sled would have been returned to the sled huts on those same trucks.

Compliments of
GORE MTN. SKI CLUB
North Creek, N. Y.
"RIDE UP — SLIDE DOWN"
(Member United States Eastern Amateur Ski Association)

UPPER CLOUD: EXPERT. 1 3/4 miles. Start Gore Mtn. Summit. Ends Ives Dam. To reach start of this trail climb Ranger Trail. Average time to climb to Gore Mtn. Summit from Lodge via Ranger Trail is forty-five minutes if trail is broken. To climb to the summit via Cloud Trail follow signs from Lodge, turning right near Cabin and following direction signs at Four Corners. Distance 2 1/4 miles. NOTE: Drop in elevation Summit to Ives Dam 1400 ft.

LOWER CLOUD: EXPERT. 4 miles. A branch of Upper Cloud. Ends either Skilands, North-Creek-Sodom road, one mile from North Creek or "Over the Ridge."

CROSS: INTERMEDIATE AND EXPERT. 2 miles. Branch to left of Lower Cloud. Ends same as Lower Cloud.

NORTH RIVER TRAIL: INTERMEDIATE. 1 mile. Start one and one-half miles above North River village. Ends on Indian-Lake-North-River Highway 1/4 mile from North River.

BARTON CROSS COUNTRY: 19 miles. Start either Barton Mines Road or at Thirteenth Lake. 1/4 mile of trail after leaving Barton Mines road is expert. Balance of trail is intermediate and novice. On fast snow caution should be used on last 1/2 mile of trail down Eleventh Mountain. This trail follows the East Branch of the Sacandaga River after leaving Thirteenth Lake and ends two miles west of Bakers Mills on the Wells-Wewertown Highway.

BUSSES operate on schedule to Barton Mines from North Creek on week ends. Transportation to Gore Mtn. for individuals or parties can be had in the village during the week. Owners driving cars to Gore Mtn. turn on Gore Mtn. road from North-Creek-North-River Highway No. 28 at North River. (Glueing Cabin on map.)

The Gore Mtn. Ski trails are sponsored and maintained by the Gore Mtn. Ski Club. Neither the club nor the land owners are responsible for injuries which may be sustained in the use of the facilities.

You are invited to assist in maintaining and improving the trails by joining the Gore Mtn. Ski Club. Membership dues are: Contributing \$2.00 or more; Active \$1.00; Jr. Active 50c. Hotels, Tourist Homes, Service Stations and Stores in North Creek and North River have been authorized to accept dues and issue receipts for same.

HALF WAY BROOK: NOVICE. 5 1/4 miles. Start Gore Mtn. Garnet Lodge and walk up five minutes on trail to cabin. Ends North-Creek-North-River state highway two miles from North Creek.

PETE GAY: INTERMEDIATE. 4 1/2 miles. Start Lodge, take either walk up or ski up trail to cabin, ten-minute climb. Turn left at Ives Dam. Ends same as Half Way Brook Trail.

IVES DAM: NOVICE. 2 miles. Start Ives Dam, ends Roaring Brook Trail turn-off.

ROARING BROOK: INTERMEDIATE AND EXPERT. 2 miles. Start end of Ives Dam Trail. Ends North-Creek-Sodom Road one mile from North Creek or "Over the Ridge."

RIDGE: EXPERT. 2 1/2 miles. Start end of Ives Dam Trail. Ends "Over the Ridge," North Creek.

RACING TRAIL: EXPERT. 1/4 mile. Branch of Ridge Trail. Ends bottom of lower ski tow.

RABBIT POND: INTERMEDIATE AND EXPERT. 2 1/4 miles. Start 1/2 mile from beginning of Ridge Trail. Ends North Creek village and "Over the Ridge."

(NOTE: Altitude at Cabin, 2870 ft.; at finish of trails described, 1000 feet.)

CHATIEMAC: INTERMEDIATE AND EXPERT. 2 miles. Start 1/4 mile below summit of Gore Mtn. Ends at Garnet mill, Barton Mines. To reach start of this trail, climb either Ranger Trail from Gore Mtn. Garnet Lodge or ski up the trail. Lower one mile of this trail is intermediate. Upper half very steep. (Note: Skiers on Gore Mtn. Summit must walk down Ranger trail 1/2 mile to reach beginning of this trail. Do not attempt to ski the Ranger trail.)



The Northern New York Paddlers

The President's Column

By Ed Greiner

Stay tuned.....

Paddling in the Dark

By Kim Greiner

It was a dark and stormy night. Suddenly, a shot rang out...The paddlers ran to their vessels, jumped in, and the race was on!

Fortunately, the weather, nor circumstances, on the night we raced on the Susquehanna River from Milford to Goodyear Lake, was stormy. It was dark, but the moon, stars, and headlamps helped to light the way. We also didn't have to run to, or with, our canoe and jump in!

Paddling at night is not something I ever thought I'd do, but it was really fun on such a beautiful summer night. The paper bag lanterns on the far side of the lake, after about nine miles of paddling, were a welcome sight. As always, the camaraderie at the finish line was the best part!

Would I ever participate in the 120-mile Ausable Marathon that also begins at night? Heck, no, but I understand the excitement of the challenge.



Mohawk Valley Hiking Club

President's Column

By John Bidell

Fisher Trail

The Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy has purchased the rights to a number of properties in the Albany area along with ownership of a 35 acre parcel in Slingerlands on Fisher Boulevard. This property is adjacent to the DEC Five Rivers center which when accessed from the Fisher parking area provides for a great hike. The parking area fits about a dozen cars so it gets crowded as the day goes on. Portions of the trail are elevated above a creek and meanders through a meadow with abundant wildlife. After traversing a ravine you enter the Five Rivers property which consists of mature growth hardwoods. Continuing on, you can select trails into the fields or continue back through the forest deeper into the DEC property. Snow shoeing, skiing, or hiking are all options on this fairly level trail system.

Boy, now I'm thirsty. Head back to Delmar and visit Swiftys for a tall juice bomb east coast IPA. The menu is pretty good with burgers or a reuben my favorites.

Still chasing it.



SWC Board Minutes of Meetings

The SWC minutes of the Board Meetings can found under the [Members Only](#) page on our website, swcweb.org.

Save the Dates

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

February 15 - 18 Hosted Weekend at the Clubhouse: Your hosts, John and Ellen Bidell.

March 1 - 3 Hosted Weekend at the Clubhouse: Chef Earl Lahna Special Ski Weekend

March 4 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 Hosted Weekend at the Clubhouse to experience the total solar eclipse.

