

BOOTPRINTS

Volume 9 Issue 6

November 2005



CONGRATULATIONS!

To Wendy Mitchell on summiting all 48 of the 4000 foot or higher peaks in New Hampshire. Seen here on top of her last peak, South Twin, on September 24, 2005



Gothic as seen from Saddleback during Ann Mundy's "John's Brook Lodge Adventures" in the Adirondacks of New York on Oct 1st, 2005

Hike Planning

Please bring your ideas for hikes to the December 6th Club Meeting. We will be trying something new by combining the club meeting and hike planning this time. It should stir up some new ideas for the New Year and will be a lot of fun.

HAPPY Holidays!



Ravi Kulkarni & Norm Plante hike along the roaring Niagara Rapids during the Columbus Day Weekend Niagara Falls Adventures



Rick Briggs on the Summit of Basin, – Adirondacks, NY



Ann Mundy and her Merry Hikers spend the night at John's Brook Lodge in the New York Adirondacks



Remington Lodge Clam Bake – September 11, 2005



Long Mt. Map & Compass Seminar– Sept 10, 2005

Upcoming Hikes



Stump Sprouts, West Hawley, MA - Nov 13, 2005

Stump Sprouts is in West Hawley, Ma. We will hike an easy 4 miles with a couple of scenic vistas on Sunday Nov 13th. After the hike some may want to go to the Warfield House for lunch on Rt 2. We will meet at Brooks in Holyoke at 9:00am.

- Sheila Croteau 732-7254.

Christmas in Vermont – Dec 6, 2005

by Al Goodhind

This trip was originally planned on December 6, 2003. An early season blizzard snowed us out. We will try again!

Christmas in Vermont begins with a docent-guided tour of the Bennington Museum in Bennington. The museum features an exceptional collection of American furniture, paintings, glass, pottery and more. Also on the property is the largest collection of Grandma Moses paintings. We will meet at the museum for our private tour which begins at 10:00 am sharp. Downtown Bennington is home to a number of specialty shops and Vermont-made products.

The other event is a docent-guided tour of Hildene in Manchester. It's the summer home of Abraham Lincoln's only surviving son, Robert Todd Lincoln. The interior of the home has been restored and includes original furnishings and personal family belongings including a 1908 Aeolian Organ. Our tour begins at 3:00 pm.

During the time between these events there is much to see between the two towns. Just a short drive off Rte 7A is East Arlington. The Candle Mill Village houses a lovely collection of antiques and is a fun place to poke around. Also in town is the

Village Peddler & Bearatorium. Here you will find homemade candies, pottery, Vermont specialty foods and of course teddy bears.

Along the way going north on Rte 7A is the Chocolate Barn in Shaftsbury. In addition to delicious chocolates the barn houses two floors of antiques and accessories. It's worth a stop.

Before you arrive in Manchester you see the elegant Equinox Resort and Spa. I would recommend that you stop and walk through the property. You can enjoy lunch in the fine ambience of the pub at reasonable prices.

Once in Manchester there are a number of designer outlets from Adrienne Vittadini to Yankee Candle and everyone in between. While on Rte. 7A notice the several quaint inns along the way. I have stayed in a couple of them and they are quite nice. Stop and see them for yourself. Usually the innkeeper will show an empty room.

I have met the owners of the North Shire and Weathervane motels and they are very nice. If you plan to stay overnight call early for reservations and mention

my name and the PVHC. They said they would try to waive the two-night minimum usually charged this time of year.

Let's pray for some snow for ambience. Hope you all enjoy Christmas in Vermont.

- Al Goodhind

Capitol Steps Walk/Dinner/Event – Dec 8, 2005

For the holiday this year I am offering something closer to home. Thursday evening Dec 8 at Mt Holyoke College Capitol steps will be playing. This is a national group that tours around the country. I first saw them along time ago in Cambridge. It is a political satire and this time is titled "Three More Years of the Bush Teague". Tickets are \$ 25 and I will buy them for whoever gets money to me by Nov 10. It begins at 7:30 so we can meet earlier for dinner and a walk. For further information contact Marcia Kelly either by phone or mmkelly_29@hotmail.com.

- Marcia Kelly



Winter in Vermont



Feb 11-12th

Join the Pioneer Valley Hiking Club on a trip to the Merck Forest in Rupert, VT. This year our destination is Ned's Place located at the edge of a field with outstanding views of Bear Mt. and Mt. Equinox. This fully enclosed cabin is equipped with a simple wood burning stove and firewood. Bunks and loft for a maximum of ten people. The hike is over fairly easy farmland trails and is 2.25 miles from the Visitor Center. The cost for the cabin (\$80) will be split evenly between those camping (about \$8-12 each). Merck Forest has an extensive network of hiking trails (bring your snow shoes and cross-country skis) and for those more ambitious Mt. Equinox is nearby for a Sunday hike. Check out the website www.merckforest.org for more information.

-John Klebes

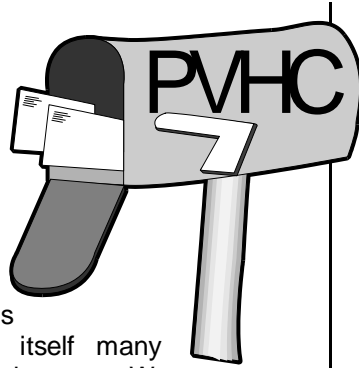
International Trip to Turkey - June 3 – 17, 2006

Deposit will be needed in November and will be refundable until I buy the plane ticket. Plan will be to fly to Istanbul, spend 3 days exploring there, and then head down the coast to southern Turkey and hike, snorkel and dive depending on your preference. We will also spend a few days in treehouses that the area is known for. Probably be an opportunity to take a ferry to either/and Rhodes or Simi which are both Greek Islands. Approximate costs are around \$1700.00. For further information contact Marcia Kelly either by phone or mmkelly_29@hotmail.com.

- Marcia Kelly



Open Letter To Our Members:



As I enter my 10th anniversary as a member of PVHC it is with great pride that I look back on how our club has grown, changed, and remade itself many times; becoming better with each year. We can proudly claim we are one of the most active outdoor clubs in the Northeast and a model that others look toward. Much more than just a club we are a family with lasting friendships that will cross generations.

February is our clubs annual election of new officers and there will be several openings in the board this year. This will represent a great opportunity for some to help insure the success and continued improvements of our club. Please don't expect someone else to shoulder this responsibility. It's time for you to step up and take an active role in your club!

In January we will ask for nominations for the 2006 club offices of President, VP, Secretary, and Treasurer. In addition many of the standing committees listed on the back of the clubs newsletters are open for co-leaders or new opportunities.

Look inside yourself and consider playing a more active role in 2006. Or at the very least consider encouraging someone else you know to accept a nomination from you. No one ever comes forward without a little push from his or her peers. It is important that you start thinking and talking about it now. Don't be afraid to come forward . ask questions . and be proactive in championing the club in 2006.

Sincerely,
John Klebes

Minutes - September 6, 2005 Club Meeting:

August hikes and trips took place as scheduled except for moonlight hike which was cancelled do to no one called trip leader. Norm led a tubing trip which had about 28 people participate, however, many of these individuals had not called Norm in advance. Once again members are reminded that it is expected that you call ahead if you wish to join a activity. It is both a courtesy to the leader and also helps the leader prepare both you and him/herself for the number of people attending. Your cooperation is requested. A proposal was made by Monica Gross to suspend this year's Holiday Party and to donate the funds that would have been spent for the party for the relief effort in the south in the aftermath of Katrina. Discussion took place, including John Klebes pointing out that the club by-laws list the Holiday party as an annual event and that the club has previous declined to contribute as a club charity. OUTCOME: Membership still want the Holiday party to be held. Gary Dolgoff will accept any individual donations people wish to make and where is the best place to send the money for the fairest disbursement to victims of Katrina. A motion was made to vote a budget for the Holiday party by

John Klebes. The Treasurer checked amount that was spent last year. A budget of \$1400.00 was proposed, motion was made and seconded. MOTION PASSED WITH 2 OPPOSED. Volunteers to Chair and a committee to head up the Holiday Party is needed in order to have a party.

Respectfully submitted,
Monica Gross, Secretary

Minutes - October 4, 2005 Club Meeting:

With Mike & Monica on vacation John Klebes presented the Secretary and Treasury reports in their absence. The meeting continued with the customary review of the past months hikes and upcoming trips. Ann Marie expressed a need for more people to come forward to help with hike planning. Attendance has been thin at the past two hike planning meetings and we really need more people to participate. In the interest of getting more participation Ann Marie proposed a change for the December Hike Planning meeting. We will switch the clinic meetings to every other month starting in January and instead of clinic in December we will have a combined club meeting followed by a hike-planning meeting. This will let everyone see how the hike planning is done, free up some time during the busy holidays, and possibly increase participation. If it works well we will try to continue this structure into 2006. Ann Marie made another plea for someone to come forward to chair the clubs Holiday Party and when no one stepped forward agreed to chair it this year by default. She needs people to help with the committee! Gary Dolgoff is coordinating a donation to the Red Cross for hurricane disaster help. A discussion by John Klebes on the need for a computer projector for clinics and slideshows resulted in the offer of a loan when needed by Ravi Kulkarni and Steve Fratoni. Lisa Frigo, Gary Dolgoff, and Diane Chiba volunteered to bring refreshments to the December meeting. The meeting ended with a Rafting the Grand Canyon+ slideshow presented by Carol Vanderheiden and Bill Burgart

Respectfully submitted,
John F. Klebes, Vice President, PVHC

PVHC Snowshoe Rentals:

Now that the colder weather is fast approaching I wanted to remind members that we have snowshoes available for rent. Not sure if you will like snowshoeing?



This is a great way to try it out without investing in equipment and also to find out what size and brand works best for you before you buy your own. The clubs snowshoes and backpacking tents are available for rent at a nominal cost. The clubs screen house, trail maintenance tools, hand held radios, and in-step crampons are also available by club event leaders without fees. Contact Jack Leary (413) 562-0264, our Quartermaster, for help with rentals.

Holiday Party – December 10th, 2005

This year's holiday party will be held at the Pueblo on the campus of Springfield College on Saturday, December 10, from 5:30 p.m. until 11:30 p.m. The party is free for members, and \$5.00 for each invited guest.



Please sign up at the at the November meeting, by email: viscol@charter.net or by phone at (413) 547-2729. Everyone is requested to bring an appetizer, or side, or dessert so be ready to choose one when you sign up. The club will provide the main courses. Last year was a huge success thanks

to all of you who donated your time and cooking talents. We expect to have a great time this year with awards, slide show, dancing and entertainment. Dress casual.

-Ann Marie Visconti

Important Notice

Last Chance: We want you to remain members and will be sorry to see you go:

<u>Past Members</u>	<u>Expiration Date</u>
Harris Barnard	200509
Joyce Berg	200509
Maryann Hogan	200509
Donald Leis	200509
Kevin & Judy Mealey	200509
Bill Nickerson	200509
John Rothery	200509
Michael Sharpe	200509
Karen Siemering	200509
Ron Archambault	200510
Dennis Bergeron	200510
Beth Case	200510
Donna Fleury	200510
Suzanne Garber	200510
Kenneth & Joanne Lamothe	200510
Al & Martha Roman	200510
Dave Rotondo	200510
Elaine Tryjankowski	200510
Sue Ziff & Family	200510

The following memberships are up for renewal:

November Renewals:

John Paul Boisvert
 Marlene Cannon
 Cheryl Funk
 Douglas Gaudet
 Lynn Gebo
 Bill Grygiel
 Christa Guyon
 Richard Harris
 David Hershops
 Edward Laroche
 Joanne Miller
 Wendy Mitchell
 Fred Riotte
 Edward Welsh

December Renewals:

Phyllis Dassatti
 Jane Garb
 Sandy Jurczyk
 Frank Kamlowski
 Malcolm Meltzer
 David Pierrepont
 Lynne Shapiro
 Jeanne Tsatsos
 David Vibber

Please renew early, and renew by mail. *(Make checks payable to PVHC)* Mail your renewal with your name and any address or phone number changes to:

Pioneer Valley Hiking Club
 c/o Wilderness Experiences
 P.O. Box 265
 Southwick, MA 01077

(Dues are \$25 member, \$40 family, and \$15 for students)

Holiday Donation

Please bring a non-perishable food item to the December Meeting for PVHC to donate.

HAPPY Holidays!
 Frank Kamlowski

DIRECTIONS TO PVHC'S HOLIDAY PARTY

Saturday, December 10, from 5:30 p.m. until 11:30 p.m

The Pueblo - Springfield College, East Campus (701 Wilbraham Rd., Springfield, Ma)

From the East or West

Mass Pike Rt. 90, to Exit 6. Take 291 West for one mile to Exit 5 (East Springfield/Indian Orchard) Turn right onto route 20A, then immediately move into the left lane. Turn left at the first light onto Roosevelt Avenue. Proceed three miles to Alden Street and take a left. Proceed down Alden St. to first light and take a right at the light onto Wilbraham Rd. East Campus is the first driveway on the right. Follow driveway to parking lot.

From the North

Take Interstate 91 South to Interstate 291. Proceed four miles to Exit 5B, East Springfield/ Indian Orchard. Turn right at the end of the exit ramp onto Route 20A, then immediately move into the left lane. Turn left at the first light onto Roosevelt Avenue. Proceed three miles to Alden Street and take a left. Proceed down Alden St. to first light and take a right at the light onto Wilbraham Rd. East Campus is the first driveway on the right. Follow driveway to parking lot.

From the South

From CT take Interstate 91 North to Mass Exit 2, Route 83. Proceed on Route 83 to the second traffic light and turn right onto Sumner Avenue. After two miles, turn left onto Roosevelt Avenue. Continue through two traffic lights, then bear left at the stop sign. Half a mile after the stop sign, cross a bridge and turn right onto Alden Street. Proceed down Alden St. to first light and take a right at the light onto Wilbraham Rd. East Campus is the first driveway on the right. Follow driveway to parking lot.

Pioneer Valley Hiking Club Officers & Committees

Ann Marie Visconti, President
John Klebes, Vice President
Monica Gross, Secretary
Mike Gross, Treasurer
Scott Cook, Wilderness Experiences Unlimited
Ray Tibbetts, Founder

Standing Committee Chairs

Hike Planning Coordinator: *Sue Forest & AnnMarie Visconti*
Backpacking Coordinator: *Ed Laroche & Mike Rattelle*
Trail Maintenance: *Ed Laroche & Rob Schechtman*
Web Page Editor: *Dick Forrest*
Email Correspondent: *Rob Schechtman*
Email List: *John Klebes*
Quartermaster: *Jack Leary*
Bootprints Editor: *John Klebes*

Bootprints is a publication of the Pioneer Valley Hiking Club. Send your story contributions to the editor at: j.klebes@ieeee.org (Email) or by USmail to John Klebes, P.O. Box 51385, Indian Orchard, MA 01151.

IMPORTANT NOTICES

- ❑ Next Club Meetings:
Dec 6, 2005, 7pm at **FBC**
Jan 3, 2006, 7pm at **FBC**
- ❑ Deadline for Submissions for next BootPrints is: Dec 15, 2005

SPECIAL NOTE: Have you signed up for the Holiday Party and sent in your form for the membership directory?

FBC . First Baptist Church, West Springfield

***** Check out our web page at:**
<http://www.geocities.com/pvhcweb>

Join the PVHC Email List by sending a message to: pvhc2000@hotmail.com

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P.O. Box 265
Southwick, MA 01077

