

WESTERN MASS. OUTDOOR ADVENTURES HIKING CLUB MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2



April 1, 1992

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

During our last meeting, with a quorum established, we elected the Officers of the Hiking Club.

The Officer positions that were elected are:

PRESIDENT: ED LIZOTTE

TREASURER: JEFF GREB

ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR: RAY TIBBETTS

SECRETARY: VACANT

All of the positions were nominated from the floor, with a unanimous yea from the membership present. In the interim,

Ed Lizotte will perform the duties of the Secretary.

Our next meeting will be April 27, 1992 at 7:00pm at Backpacking Etc. Hope to see all of you there.

NEW IDEAS

If you have any thoughts, or ideas about any hikes, activities, or trips that may be good for the club, bring them to the attention of our Activities Director: Ray Tibbetts. He will get with his committee and run it through the gambit, and bring it up to the Officers of the Club for review. Once reviewed it will be brought up in the next meeting for member approval. There is no sense in planning, and coming up with the logistics for a trip if no one wants to go on the trip.

CURRENT EVENTS:

In your own sphere of influence, keep an eye peeled for current events that have an ecological or conservational impact to Western Mass. We will discuss these topics during our meetings to see if there is anything that we can do to assist.

Our next meeting will be April 27, 1992 at 7:00pm at Backpacking Etc. Hope to see all of you there.

TRIP NEWS

Due to the icy trail conditions of the Beartown State Forest Area, the hike that was scheduled for this Saturday is cancelled. Talking with the Supervisor of the Forest, he recommended that we postpone our hike to later in April, or early May. Discretion is the Better Part of Valor, and this would be prudent to cancel.

BARTHOLOMEW'S COBBLE

This hike is still on. It is a very easy hike more informative, and interpretive than Beartown would have been. It is approximately 3 miles in length. But the photo oppourtunities are endless. There is a lot of flora and fauna in the area for us to observe. We will meet at Backpacking ETC. at about 10:00 am and caravan to the area.

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TRAIL MAINTENANCE CREWS

We will be getting information very shortly on trail maintenance projects in the State Forests. Mr. Ed Fuller is the States South Western Mass Forest Coordinator. He is getting in contact with the the regional supervisors to assist us in helping to do some trail maintenance. More to follow.

A campfire:
one, and when
minimum
says that you



When do you build
do you not. Well
impact camping
only build a
campfire in an extreme emergency. The
need for a campfire is nill when
backpacking. When backpacking you should
use only your camp stove to cook, and do
whatever else you need your stove for. A
fire does considerable damage to the soil, and

in some cases, may permanently damage the ground. So the next time that you are out and about in the woods, please don't burn wood, bring your stove, Mother Nature will appreciate it a whole lot.

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL:

11TH: MAP AND COMPASS CLASS

This is your chance to learn everything that you wanted to know about a Map and Compass but were afraid to ask. The class will be held at Pittsfield State Forest. The time to meet at Pittsfield State Forest is 10:00 am on the 11th. You need to bring your day pack with standard day pack items that we discussed at the last meeting, and lunch for the day. Ed Lizotte will be leading this hike and as well be the instructor. He will meet you at the main gate to the Forest at 10:00 am. A map to the Forest will be in the mail with the newsletter. We will go rain or shine. Call Ray Tibbetts, 781-0388 or Ed Lizotte, 589-9632 if you plan on going.

26TH: WARNER HILL HIKE

This hike will take us along a good portion of the Appalachian Trail. It is 6 miles (3miles one way), and should take about 3-4 hours. Jeff Greb is the Hike Guide. It is a moderately strenuous hike. We will meet at Backpacking Etc. and caravan. Jeff will meet us at the parking area. Bring your day pack with standard load, and a camera. A map of the hike will be provided at the parking area.

CLINICS AT BACKPACKING ETC.

SHAKE OUT CLINIC: 7:00PM on April 6th.

This is a chance to have your gear checked out by Ed Lizotte and Ray Tibbetts to make sure everything is ship shape. They will be able to tell you if something can be

repaired, or if it is time to put it out to pasture.

WHAT TO PACK CLINIC: April 20th, at 7:00PM.

Ray Tibbetts and Ed Lizotte will cover everything from Boots to Packs, and the different ways to pack your gear depending on the type of pack that you have. They will also discuss weight paring techniques to scrimp and save weight, exspecially on those long trips.

"WALK ON INTO THE VAST WILDERNESS, FOR YOU WILL SURELY FIND WHAT YOU SEARCH FOR, IF YOU ONLY TAKE TIME TO LISTEN TO THE TREES."

TTFN!