

BOOTPRINTS

Volume 5 Issue 3

May 2001

Winter Ascent on Mt. Adams

By John Klebes

Our adventure to Mt. Adams started out a little precariously as we drove up route 91 toward Vermont on Friday night. Springfield had just had a snowstorm of about four inches but the warm weather left the roads mostly wet so we thought we were in good shape. As we got into Vermont we caught up with the storm again and ended up driving under some very icy conditions. After passing four accidents and sliding all over the road we decided to play it safe and stopped at a hotel. Living up to the PVHC "Hiking and Dining" Tradition several of us opted for the all you can eat clam special for dinner before a quick dip in the hotel pool, and a night's sleep.

The morning brought sanded and salted roads and our real adventure began. With all the fresh snow snowshoes were mandatory. There were seven of us in our hiking group: Ann Marie Visconti, Shari Cox, Mike Carrier, and my daughter Stephanie and myself. My brother Greg and his son Matt also joined us. The forest was magical with the deep snow and all the trees painted with white. Shari found out that even with snowshoes if you step off the partially packed down trail you could sink pretty deep into the virgin snow. Greg got a bit of a scare when his foot broke through a snow bridge over a stream and he sunk down to his waist before catching himself. Fortunately he didn't get his foot wet.

As the trail got steeper it became quite a chore to keep up the pace as we breathed in the cold crisp mountain air. The views were



photo by John Klebes

fantastic so we used it as an excuse for frequent rests as we ascended the steeper portions of the Lowe's Path. We stopped at the Log Cabin, a wooded four-sided shelter with an open door, for a lunch break. The last mile to the Gray Knob cabin was very steep but the views as we broke out above the tree line were fantastic. In some places it felt like we were bushwhacking because we were actually hiking in the tops of the trees due to the large amount of snow. The trail blazes were just barely above the snow and you had to look at the ground to see them. This meant the bushes around us were really the tops of trees. Because we were higher up in the trees the branches cut across our trail and we had to duck or push through the branches. Just before the Gray Knob Cabin (4400 feet) we climbed up onto a large rock outcropping called the Quay castle. There we had views in all directions with the forest below us frosted in white and bare white snowfields above us. We didn't stay long because it was very exposed and the wind was cold and burned your face without protection. Besides we

were ready to enjoy the shelter of the Gray Knob cabin 200 yards away.

When we got to Gray Knob we found that there were already 11 people checked in so we would



Ann Marie approaching
Thunderstorm Junction

need to move to the Crag Camp to fit all seven of us. Most of us decided to take a snack break while Mike and Ann Marie headed over the half-mile traverse to the Crag Camp cabin to stake a claim for bunk space for the night.

The caretaker mentioned he was heading over to search for the Perch. The Perch is a lean-to that overlooks the Castle Ravine about half a mile away. Apparently the deep snow had completely buried both the lean-to and any indication of the trail leading to it. Several other hikers scrambled up behind the cabin and checked out the sledding conditions on the slopes above us. Looked a little dangerous to me but the deep snow slowed their plastic sleds down enough to maneuver around the treetops poking through the snow.

After our rest at Gray Knob we headed to Crag Camp. The Crag camp sits right on the lip of the King Ravine with fantastic views into the ravine and overlooked by Mt Adams and Mt. Madison. It was only 22 degrees in the cabin but there was plenty of room with three separate bunkrooms and a large sitting and



kitchen area in the main section.

After getting settled in the cabin we took on a new adventure as we hiked to the spring for water. Normally this is a simple chore. The spring is located half way between the Gray Knob cabin and Crag Camp and is accessed by removing a wooden cover that keeps snow out and dipping your water bottle into the flow of water from a small pipe tapped into the rocks. The problem is that we were now standing on almost eight feet of snow. (92 inches as measured by the Gray Knob caretaker) Getting water involved hanging head first into a deep hole in the snow while someone holds your feet to keep

you from falling all the way in. As the tallest guess who got to hang head first into the hole to get water? After siphoning what seemed like gallons of water, to fill the numerous water bottles that our small group kept handing me, I decided that melting snow might just be the easier method.

On the way back from our water expedition I stopped to check out the outhouse. It was an eerie experience as the outhouse was buried to within a few feet of the roof. A deep trench was cut into the snow leading down to the outhouse door. It was like walking down a staircase into a bomb shelter buried underground.

By bedtime more hikers trickled into the cabin so we had probably 17 people all together. We got to sleep early and were greeted by clearing skies in the morning. Stephanie decided to wait in the warmth of the cabin while the rest of us headed up the steep Spur Trail toward the summit of Mt. Adams.

As we ascended the terrain opened up into very exposed snowfields with no protection and the wind gusted around 40 – 45 mph. The sky was clear and we had great views below but as we entered the unprotected snowfields above treeline the wind-blown snow caused drifting and snowy spindrift filled the air. As we left the trees our snowshoe footprints were buried by drifting snow almost as soon as you lifted your foot. It became difficult at times to see due to the blowing snow. The higher we got the more rime ice we encountered and we had to be careful not to slip on the rocky ice fields. Just below the Adams 4 summit we finally picked up some of the tops of rock Cairns that normally mark the trail. Prior to this we had to guess where the trail went due to the drifting snow. We stopped to take in the views and assess the conditions. We knew the wind would get much worse as we crested the ridge to Thunderstorm Junction and the blowing spindrift would block our views so we decided to declared success anyway and headed down. While we didn't go all the way to the

summit of Adams it was a fantastic experience for all as we experienced the alpine winter conditions above treeline in the Whites.

We said goodbye to my brother and his son who were planning on staying another day and headed down the steep trail back to the car. This was my daughter's favorite part. Stephanie turned the difficult task of climbing down into a winter sliding thrill ride as she slide down the trail like a slalom run. Giggles of laughter filled the air as she slide down the trail. Us older folk followed a little more slowly and cautiously trying not to slip on the slippery snow pack. I think she had the better idea. Another great PVHC winter adventure.

- John Klebes -

PVHC Breaks Seven Year Fishing Record On Millers River

by Donna Jago

On Saturday, April 14, the second annual white water rafting trip of the PVHC took place through Zoar Outdoors in Charlemont Mass. Forty-five rafters had signed up, forty-one participated. None of us will ever forget it! Did the first issue of John Klebes "Feet Prints" put a HEX on us? The weather was kind for this Easter weekend with temperatures in the 50's, blue, cloudless skies and 15-20 MPH winds. The group met at three locations, Town and Country plaza - West Springfield, McDonalds in Greenfield and up at Zoar on the Mohawk trail. The possibility for a rougher ride than the previous year was high due to the record-breaking snowfalls of this previous winter and some recent rain. Newly melted snow retains its temperature for long periods, as we all discovered in a short span of time. Everyone eagerly awaited climbing into the rafts after donning the wetsuits and life protection equipment. Conversation was enthusiastic as we rolled down the roads past Turners Falls in our little yellow

school bus from Zoar to the departure point on the Millers River. Our group filled nine rafts with skilled and pleasant guides to assist us in our journey through the winding river and class 2-4 waters. Those of us who had participated in 2000 knew quite quickly after entering the river that this was going to be a more "exciting" ride than last year. Little did we know how exciting it would turn out!! One guide said that in 7 years of guiding groups down the river he had never lost as many people to the turbulent waters. For those folks that had never experience this "pleasure" there is a HUGE difference between class 3 and CLASS 4 waters! Ask Mike Sharpe who was MIA for a bit or Mike Gross who looked like he was doing a jack hammering imitation (until he reached a well heated bus). In fact, every one of the 41 of us would have a story to tell of being catapulted, thrown, frozen, flipped, soaked, scared, drenched, rescued or rescuer story to tell. As well informed as we were by the Zoar staff about what to do "if" we went into the water. "Getting only the facts" proved to pale in comparison with the reality of being thrown out of the raft by class 4 waters, tangled up with other raftmates and fighting against the current and what some might equate to "tidal waves". The only thing missing was "the salt" said one of my guests, a 6'2" 280lb male who was pounded to the bottom of our raft allowing the next few waves to drench he and I to the skin, while never leaving the boat. Grabbing on to the arm of my friends wife kept she and I in the raft, but I was powerless to do anything but watch and pray for the fourth member of our raft, a 70ish woman who actually looked like she was suspended in air for a few seconds before our raft came safely down on top the water. Six rafts pulled off to the river bank while the Zoar staff scrambled to upright the three boats that were crewless and to fish out the 50% of our folks that got to fully experience the "chilly" waters of the Miller's River. By the time we were back on the river and headed to the well heated buses most of us had



photo by Maryann Hogan

regained our composure, laughing and sharing stories and looking forward to dry clothes, terra firma and the slide show which recaptured our adventure and brought howls of laughter. Fourteen of us attempted to continue our day by going for a hike to Tannery Falls in Florida, MA, a few miles up the road, but were surprised to find deep, snow packed trails. Come to find out, Florida, MA had the highest snowfall of any community in Western MA last winter and it didn't look like the snow would fully melt until June. This Second Annual White Water Rafting Trip was more than most of us ever expected. Many of us will look forward to our next trip, because this is what makes life "fun". Ask anyone of the 41 of us and you'll get 41 different stories!! Communing with Mother Nature, a bit of adventure, excitement, challenge and if a little bit of discomfort comes along with it, it makes for a great story to share with friends, family and co-workers. See you all next year!! If anyone ever finds a pair of eyeglasses on the Miller's, in the Connecticut River or somewhere in long Island Sound, they may be Big Don Leis'. Return to the PVHC. BTW, lunch was good, too! Parts of it were hot!!

White Water Rafting – Chilly but fun!

by Maryann Hogan

On April 14 a large group of club members and friends (approximately 40 persons) met for white water rafting at Zoar Outdoor. Some people had done this before, and some like myself had never done it, but I think we were all planning on a great time, and we weren't disappointed.

It was a wonderfully sunny day, a little cool and windy but otherwise perfect. After we got into the rafts, our guide mentioned that this year the water was much deeper and colder than last year, or as he put it "last year had much 'smaller water'".

Going down the river was great, we had periods of calm to enjoy the scenery and then periods of rapids and fast paddling, where we forgot our feet were frozen because we were too busy getting splashed and trying to stay in the raft. Unfortunately, not everyone did, and some rafts actually turned over and dumped everyone out into the cold water. But everyone did get back into the rafts and went on.

Shortly after that we stopped for lunch along the riverbank and were treated to some delicious HOT chili and other food with a little time in the sun, and then it was back into the rafts for the rest of the rapids. It ended much too soon (at least for some).

After we cleaned up, there was a slide show of all the individual rafts and their occupants going through the rapids, which was great fun now that we were all dry and warmed up.

About ten of us planned to continue on with a hike to Tannery Falls in Florida. Unfortunately, Florida has the largest area of snow in Massachusetts (over 100" of snow still in some places) and the road was closed off by snow piles. I guess we'll have to plan that for summer, maybe the snow will be gone by then!

Many thanks to Donna Jago for planning and organizing this event. It was very well planned and a great experience. Next year I hope I remember to bring a towel!

-Maryann Hogan-



photo by Maryann Hogan

Northwest Cabin

By Lisa Frigo

If any of you are ever thinking about experiencing the outdoors in the colder weather, but not quite sure you are ready for the tenting experience in the colder weather. Please take advantage of staying in a cabin. My two boys and myself joined five other PVHC members for an overnight at Northwest cabin. This trip was led by Shari Cox.

Northwest cabin is a secluded rustic cabin set in northwestern Connecticut. There is a lot of hiking nearby. We arrived on a Friday night about 7:30 pm just about getting dark. We had about a 100-yard walk to the cabin. Plenty of snow still up there. Approaching the cabin we had to cross a little brook. It was so picturesque, the cabin sitting up high with a candle in the window.

We had our dinner and then retired to our bunks on the early side. When we got up the next morning we were ready for a good snowshoe hike around the area. We sat for lunch near a pond the snow made it look like a postcard. That evening Shari brought her grill and made hamburgers. We had a winter potluck dinner outside. I can never forget the savory smell of those hamburgers. It made me think of summer barbecues yet to come. That night it was a game of gestures; boy did the kids have fun with that. Well so did the adults! Thank you to all PVHC members who were there. What a way to kick back and get away from it all. I forgot my camera, but the memory of that weekend I will always carry in my mind.

- Lisa, Mitch & William -

Northwest Cabins

April 6-8, 2001 - by Shari Cox

Like most things, this trip did not turn out as planned. Regardless, we all had a great time. The group consisted of Rob S., Lisa F and her two boys, William and Mitchell, Eva K., Suzie

Gauss, and Laurie M, aka Dream Catcher, my AT partner. . Ann Mundy and Carol Vanderheiden joined us for the day on Saturday bringing us donuts.

I booked this cabin back in December. It was the first week-end available. That tells you how popular this cabin is. The AMC owns the cabin and it is maintained by the Connecticut chapter. We had the cabin for Friday and Saturday night.

The cabin is two stories. The upstairs is the bunk area. It has 3 bunks and then there is some sleeping space on the floor. It has windows up there, to let in some cool air when the woodstove is cranking. It is very roomy and clean. The first floor has the woodstove, dining table (a picnic table, really), and counter space to cook on. The only problem we had was that we had a minor water problem. The snow was melting and seeping inside the cabin.

I planned to hike around the area because it had hikes that we could hike right from the cabin. Unfortunately, the trails aren't well blazed and we couldn't find the trail that we wanted. Everything looks different in the winter. However, we did hike, but not the 12 miles that I wanted to do. We were lucky if we did five miles. I think every one was happy that we didn't do any 12 miles, even me. After we got back,

we decided to take the cars and check out Bash Bish falls, which is very close by. With all of the water melting, the falls were spectacular. After the falls, we drove back and hiked back to the cabin.

Knowing that the cabin was very close by, I brought my portable gas grill. It was my first cook-out of the year. The first one always tastes great, especially in the woods. Lisa Frigo made a great pasta salad and dessert. As usual we did not go hungry.

The night consisted of playing Guesstures. It is a wild and funny game. It gets people to do things you wouldn't normally do. Just ask Eva, who did the hula, or was that a belly dance.

The next morning we woke to thunderstorms. We got up and cooked eggs for breakfast. Rob & Lisa and gang had to leave. The rest of us decided that we didn't want to hike in the rain. We did that on Friday. Also Dream Catcher reminded me that since I wasn't on the AT anymore, that I didn't have to hike in the rain if I didn't want to. So even though we didn't hike all of the miles planned to work off all of the food we ate, we still had a good time.



"I thought we were suppose to hike mountains not cabins?"

Savoy Cabins

(photo by Ann Marie Visconti)



Book Review

FACING THE EXTREME:

"One woman's story of true courage, death-defying survival, and her quest for the summit"

**by Ruth Anne Kocour
as told to Michael Hodgson**

Ruth Anne Kocour is a world-class mountaineer. She relates the story of her ten-person (comprised of nine men and one woman, Ruth Anne) team's attempt to climb Denali, also known as Mt. McKinley, the highest point in Alaska and North America at 20,320 feet above sea level. A six-foot blond, a medical illustrator by profession, and possessing a passion for mountaineering as a "white hot imperative," Kocour joins a climbing team attempting Denali by giving a birthday present to herself at the age of 45 years old.

The story took place in May of 1992. (This book was published in 1998.) After being shuttled to base camp in two airplanes flown by bush pilots, the hiking team starts out on an incredible twenty-three day journey. The team carried sixty-pound packs and toled sleds with all their supplies. They cached their supplies in a series of carries up the mountain all the while trying to acclimate to the high altitude and to avoid hidden crevasses. At 14,000 feet, nine days into the adventure, the team was pinned down by the worst storm on record to hit the mountain. The climbing team spent two weeks in their tents, fighting the frigid sub-zero temperatures, just trying to survive.

This book relates the psychology of mountaineering. Kocour describes her relationships with her climbing teammates, and relates her prejudices toward each one that doesn't pull his own weight or jeopardizes the safety of the group. The psychological torture of spending two weeks in a tent in a life threatening malevolent storm left



**March Cross-country SKI
Maple Corner Farms**
(photo by Ann Marie Visconti)

them in a mind numbing, bored and powerless state. When the weather finally broke, the team had to choose whether to summit or go back down the mountain. Although the team members were weak and frostbitten and had limited food and fuel, the two trip leaders decided to go for it with a break in the weather, and the rest of the team concurred. Incredibly, the entire team summited Denali, and got down safely.

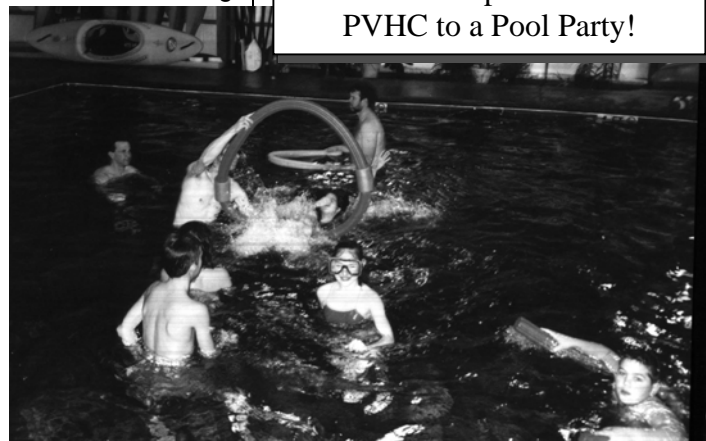
What particularly strikes me about this book is the wisdom of the expedition leaders. Lead guide, Robert Link, and assistant guide, Win Whittaker, showed brilliant decision-making on the mountain. Perhaps Ruth Anne Kocour's greatest accomplishment was in choosing the right people to lead her expedition. Eleven people died on the mountain that May, sometimes from bad luck, but most often by poor decision-making concerning the weather. As the blurb on the book's jacket states: "Ripped by 110 mph winds, with temperatures plunging to minus 47 degrees Fahrenheit and wind chills

in excess of minus 150, Ruth Anne was trapped in a world of high-velocity blindness, deafening noise, and suffocating snow." We can only imagine what kind of suffering Ruth Anne and her team went through to achieve their precious goal of summiting Denali.

Reviewed by Dick Forrest



**Wilderness Experiences treats
PVHC to a Pool Party!**



UPCOMING HIKES AND EVENTS

Northfield Picnic & Riverboat Cruise

At the hike planning meeting Frank Kamlowksi proposed a Riverboat Cruise and picnic. Frank has led this event in the past but this year the cruise line is not offering a twilight cruise. Frank has suggested we rent the whole boat for the club at \$400 for a picnic and cruise on the Connecticut River near Northfield Mtn. This would be a private charter just for the Pioneer Valley Hiking Club.

If you are interested please let Frank know. If enough members are interested he will charter the event. Depending on the number of people the cost is somewhere between \$10-20.00 per person, including a picnic. Date to be determined by interest list, probably late July. Please contact Frank and let him know if you are interested and what dates in late July would be of interest. Frank Kamlowshi can be reached at (413) 568-0859.

(Email: fikam@mediaone.net)

May 11, 2001

Walk and Picnic to Lilacland

Meet at Bread & Circus in Hadley and we will drive to Amythyst Brook Conservation area and park across the street. Walk up to Lilacland which is a privately owned home with extensive grounds which the owner opens to the public each year when the lilacs are in bloom. There are many varieties and the scent emanating is wonderful. The owner is also an artist so he has an easel set up and a barn that is a studio and art gallery. Bring a dish to share and your own plate, cutlery and drinks. We can sit on blankets. If anyone would like a longer walk afterwards we can walk to the center of Amherst for you know what!

Marcia Kelly

Tully Lake - July 7-8

Looking for a great summer getaway? Join us for either a 4-mile day hike around the fantastic Tully Lake Trail and Doane's Falls, or join us for an overnight stay at the lake side campground. After the hike, those staying overnight will be treated to a lakeside campground within hiking distance to the picturesque Doane's falls. Weather permitted we will enjoy swimming in around the base of the falls and canoeing from the campground.

Windjammer Barefoot Cruise

Calling all Sailors, Scuba divers, Snorkelers or just plain Sunworshippers!

Scott & Laura Cook are getting together a group of adventuresome travelers interested in sailing on a Windjammer

Barefoot Cruise next February vacation. Want to break up the Winter Blahs-well head with us to St. Marteen to meet our tall ship "The Polynesia" for an incredible multi-island voyage. We'll set sail from St. Marteen and journey to the best islands for Fun, Sun & Adventure. (Islands the big cruise ships cannot get into) Our Sail dates are February 17-23 in 2002 for an all inclusive trip to St. Bart's, Nevis, St. Kitts or wherever the weather is calm and pleasant. (Islands are chosen according to weathers conditions and are subject to change) Whether you enjoy Snorkeling, Scuba diving or just a quiet stroll on deserted beach Windjammin is for you. (Scuba diving is optional/available for 2-3 days of the week for an additional charge.) Standard cabins are available with double occupancy & Bachelor/ette quarters are available for singles traveling on their own with 6 persons of same gender per room. Prices start at \$820. per person-\$1120. per person depending on cabin choice. This includes all meals, drinks, port charges, stowaway night(sun pm) as well. Airfare is estimated at \$640. per person round trip out of Hartford on American Airlines. Have your own air arrangements? No problem, just let us know at time of booking and we'll meet you at the dock in St. Marteen. Space is very limited so don't delay- February vacation is a heavily traveled week and spaces will not last. For more info Call Laura Cook at the WEU office at 413 562-7431



Ocean & Seashore Hiking Series:

How do you top last years hike series to the highest point in each of the New England States and the 1999 waterfall hike series? How about the lowest point in our New England States? That would be sea level, right? This year's theme is Ocean and Seashore Hikes.

-John Klebes-

The Great Island Trail of Cape Cod on May 18-20th:

Due to the distance involved in hiking Cape Cod we are planning a two-night stay at Scusset Beach camping area. This trip is limited to 16 people so sign up early. We will drive up after work on Friday night, May 18th. Scusset is a great location within walking distance of the Cape Cod Canal bike trail and the ocean with a rock jetty and sandy beaches. We will drive out onto the cape on Saturday morning for a 6-8 mile hike on the tip of cape cod on the Great Island

Trail. We then will return to Scusset beach for dinner and campfire. Cook in or try one of the many local seafood restaurants. Saturday evening and Sunday morning provide an opportunity to bike the eight mile (16-mile roundtrip) paved canal bike path (roller blading is also popular) to the Mass Maritime Museum. I'm sure we will also have time to hike the less than a mile to Sagamore Hill, the site of a World War II Coastal Fortification with commanding views of the Canal's entrance and Cape Cod Bay. The bike path, Sagamore Hill, beachcombing, fishing, and ship watching are all walking distance within Scusset Beach Campground and outlet store shopping is nearby. This will make a great early start to the summer before the crowds come.

The Cliff Walk in Rhode Island for Fathers Day, June 17th:

The Cliff Walk path is lined on one side by the sixty and seventy room mansions of New England's Maritime past while the other side presents views of the sea crashing against the rocky shoreline, the surfers riding the waves, and boats in the distance. The path skirts precipitous cliffs and is one of Rhode Islands most popular attractions.

Bluff Point State Park in Mid-August:

As many know this is one of my favorite Connecticut hikes. Bluff Point provides four differing environments all in one moderate six-mile hike. First we hike along the salt marshes of a coastal path that is teaming with wildlife. We then encounter a rocky ridge overlooking Long Island Sound. Dropping to the shoreline we follow a sand spit that reaches out into the bay. Along the mile long sand spit we traverse sculpted sand dunes and beach grasses. We then will hike up the rocky ridge to Bluff Point. From here we wind along a new series of boulder-strewn coastline before returning through dense forest. Where else can one hike from salt marsh, to sand dunes, to rock beaches, to dense woods? And to top it off we will try and time this hike to peak berry picking. Two years ago we had our fill of wild blackberry, raspberry, blueberry, and a few strawberries. Near the site of the old Governor Winthrop residence we also may encounter overgrown orchards of apples and concord grapes.

Acadia National Park in Maine:

Acadia is one of the few National Parks on the east coast and the only one in New England. How can you let yourself miss this one? We will stay at least two nights at one of the group camping areas at either Blackwoods or Seawall campground. From our base camp we will try in fit in as many features of this great park as we can. Hikes will probably include Cadillac Mountain, a multi-summit loop trail taking in some of the less know peaks, and an optional car tour of the 27-mile Park Loop Road to view the dazzling scenery and wayside attractions.





E-Hiking

by Jay Sylvain

Now that the club is as large and diverse as it appears to be, I thought I would have you check out a web site for biking. If you go to www.pedaling.com you will find an informative site that is easy to navigate. You will be able to search for bike routes in Mass as well as New England. Any of the trips will supply you with a summary of the trip, a map and mile by mile directions. The information also includes the location of bike shops relevant to your particular trip. There is other information available but the trip finder is by far the best part of the site.

But, it is a hiking club so check out <http://www.outdoorplaces.com/>. There you will find information on car camping as well as backpacking. There are pages with checklists, links and other useful information.

When searching the web try using www.google.com. This search engine gives the best results with the least amount of effort. The advance search functions make it even more productive.

Important Notice

The following memberships are up for renewal:

May Renewals:

Joyce Berg
Diana Cizek
Dottie Gates
Ravi Kulkarni
Joe Russo
Joe&Carol-Anne Zawrotny

June Renewals:

Amy Dunn
Julie Fisher
Marion Germino
Lisa V. Hayes
Edward Kleciak
Marilyn Martino
Denise Matthews
Betty Pumbo
Edward Regan
Paul Weinberg
David & Catherine Zawrotny

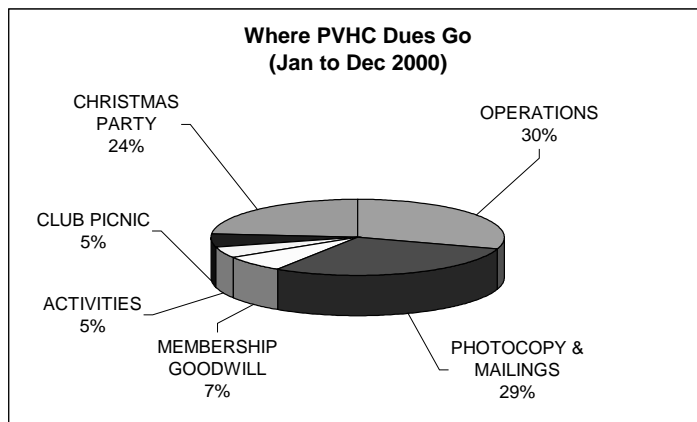
Please renew early, and renew by mail. Mail your renewal with your name and any address or phone number changes to:

Shari Cox, PVHC Treasurer
223 Gifford Street
Springfield, MA 01118

Where your PVHC Dues went in 2000

For the year 2000 the Pioneer Valley Hiking Club had an average membership of 144 members with each of you supporting the club through annual dues.

The attached pie chart represents a summary of how your dues contributed to the many activities that the club supported in the year 2000. The club provides our members with a subsidized summer picnic, holiday party, and liability insurance to hike leaders each year. In addition we have an active trail maintenance program that promotes conservation and land stewardship. Your dues also make it possible for you to receive new activity schedules by mail, if you cannot attend a meeting, and provide for publishing our club newsletter "Footprints". Volunteers run all the executive board positions and the clubs activities.



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|----------------------------------|--|
| Operations: | Office Equipment & Supplies, Liability Insurance, Guest Speaker Gratuity T-Shirts, and Special Occasion Refreshments |
| Photocopy & Mailings: | Meeting Agendas, Schedules, Newsletters, Club Brochures, Membership Kits, Labels, Postage |
| Activities: | Support For Activities: Trail Maintenance, Purchasing Trail Maps & Guide Books, Camping Show Booth, WGBY Auction Sponsorship, etc. |
| Christmas Party: | Includes Food, Hall Rental, Door Prizes, & Entertainment |
| Club Picnic: | Includes Food & Misc Expenses |
| Membership Goodwill: | Special Awards, Donations, And Charity |

Membership Directory Update

Please make note of the following amendments to the membership directory:

- **Mike Rattelle (Turtle)** - Congratulations on the new house! Please note Mike's new address: 86 Harkness Avenue, Springfield, MA 01118
- **Jane Glushik** - Change email address to: jglushik@hotmail.com

Pioneer Valley Hiking Club Officers & Committees

Rob Schechtman, President (860) 668-1321
 John Klebes, Vice President (413) 786-3620
 AnnMarie Visconti, Secretary (413) 547-2729
 Shari Cox, Treasurer (413) 796-1326
 Scott Cook, *Wilderness Experiences Unlimited*
 Ray Tibbetts, Founder

Standing Committee Chairs

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Trail Maintenance: | Joe Zawrotny |
| Hike Planning Coordinator: | Dick & Sue Forest |
| Backpacking Coordinator: | Mike Rattelle |
| PVHC Web Page Editor: | Ron Gaudreau |
| Intranet Site/Email List: | Terry Cripps |
| Bootprints Editor: | John Klebes |
| Quartermaster: | Wayne Rodrigues |

Bootprints is a publication of the Pioneer Valley Hiking Club. Send your story contributions to the editor at: klebes@aol.com (Email) or by USmail to John Klebes, 157 Thalia Drive, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

IMPORTANT NOTICES

- ❑ Next Club Meetings:
June 5, 2001, 7pm at WEU
July 3, 2001, 7pm at WEU
- ❑ Next Hike Planning Meeting:
June 12, 2001, 7pm at WEU
- ❑ Deadline for Submissions for next BootPrints is: June 26, 2001
- ❑ Due to technical problems some computer email addresses may have been lost. If you have not received email from the club in a while please send your email address to Klebes@aol.com

*** Check out our web page at:

<http://www.geocities.com/pioneer-valley/>
 Join the PVHC Email List by sending a message to John Klebes at: klebes@aol.com

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Southwick, MA 01077

