

# BOOTPRINTS

Volume 8 Issue 5

September 2004



## A Dinosaur is no match for Honeysuckle!

By Heather Wyman

**O**n August 14th, a crew of P.V.H.C-ers set out for the Dinosaur Footprint Reservation in Holyoke to help the Trustees of the Reservation keep the area free of Honeysuckle infestation. Wondering why so much work was necessary to remove a seemingly harmless, and pretty-flowering plant, I looked deeper into the mystery behind the invasive vine.

The most popular Honeysuckle plant, the Japanese honeysuckle, which is obviously native to Japan, was introduced to the U.S. in 1806 for horticultural ground-cover purposes. Unfortunately, it is capable of climbing and draping over native vegetation, shading it out. This aggressive vine can also seriously alter or destroy the ground areas it spreads to by its



Congressman John Olver joins PVHC for a hike up Mt. Monadnock – July 17th

smothering growth effect. Since the sweet-smelling flowers and bright berries are attractive to birds, it is also easily spread to new areas.

(Story continued on page 2)

## IRONMAN ADIRONDACK TRIP

JULY 23-26, 2004

-led by Ann Mundy & Al Roman

We car camped at the Adirondack Mt Club Wilderness Campground just south of Lake Placid. There were 33



campers & 4 others who stayed in the ADK LOJ bunkhouse. The campground is located on the premises of the HIGH PEAKS Information Center/store. People



Norm Plante takes us on a wild Tubing Ride down the Deerfield River – Aug 8

arrived at various times on Friday.



(Adirondacks – photo by Bill Burgart)

The early birds were anxious to set up camp and get in a hike. Some hiked Mt. Jo. Ann Marie and Sybille did Cascade and Ed LaRoche did Street or Nye or maybe both???

During the weekend there were 1 trips to several of the 46 High Peaks. Some did the entire McIntyre Range including Wright Peak, Algonquin, Boundary, and Iroquois. Others did just Algonquin. Some brave souls climbed Mt. Colden from the Lake Colden side, an adventure in itself.



(Adirondacks – photo by Bill Burgart)

Five people climbed Mt. Marcy. Sue and Dick Forrest led a trip to Indian

Falls on Saturday and Avalanche Lake on Sunday. Bill Burgart and Bob Morgan climbed Phelps.

On Sunday, several people hiked to Rocky Falls for lunch and a swim. Norm, Al and Ann continued on to Indian Pass. I think most people got to Marcy Dam and Avalanche Lake sometime during the trip. I hope that most of you were able to swim or sit for a spell at Heart Lake.

On Saturday night we had a grand feast. Everyone contributed to a pot luck dinner and Al Roman cooked stir-fry chicken and shrimp. Dick Forrest led the campfire songs. Al Roman treated us to a pancake breakfast before we broke camp on Monday morning. Thanks Al for all the cooking.

Some people went in to Lake Placid to see the Ironman race during the weekend. I want to thank everyone for your cooperation and positive spirit on this trip. Thanks to all who helped with planning, driving, setting up and breaking down camp, etc. I especially want to thank the hike leaders. No one got lost and there were no injuries!

**MOST IMPORTANTLY:** Sunday night people shared around the campfire. As people laughed and described their hikes I was again reminded that PVHC is more than just a hiking club. It is a close group of friends who love hiking but also care about each other and like to hang out together. It was especially nice to share my favorite place, the Adirondacks.

**CAMPsites FOR IRONMAN WEEKEND JULY 22-25, 2005 HAVE ALREADY BEEN BOOKED. LET ME KNOW IF YOU THINK YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED. NO DOLLAR COMMITMENT UNTIL LATE SPRING.**

Happy trails! Ann Mundy

***Dinosaurs & Honeysuckle!***  
*(Continued from page 1)*

Not only does this situation keep native plants at risk, it shades out ferns, grasses and wildflowers that serve as habitat for insects, small rodents, and snakes. Because it's seeds are spread so easily, it is also not easy to control. Not even the Dinosaurs left such an imprint!

**A Typical Harmful Invasive Plant**

1. Grows and matures rapidly;
2. Spreads quickly;
3. Can flower and/or set seed all season;
4. Has no known diseases or pests to control it;
5. Thrives in many habitats;
6. Is difficult to remove or control.

Resources:

<http://www.newfs.org/conservation/doc/wfn98.pdf>

<http://www.inhs.uiuc.edu/chf/outreach/VMG/jhnyscki.html>

(Heather, Hannah, and Jacob enjoy a day with the Dinosaurs)





## Fourth-of-July in the Whites

by John Klebes

During the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend Rick Briggs, Ann Marie Visconti and myself had the honor of congratulating Ed Laroche as he summited WhiteFace in the White Mountains of New Hampshire. This was the last of the 48 4000'foot peaks in New Hampshire for Ed. Congratulations on your achievement Ed!

While on our weekend expedition over the Tripyramids, Whiteface and Passaconaway, Ed also had a chance to be the first club member to try out the new Hennessy Hammock/tent. After some experimentation on how to set it up Ed gave it a thumbs up for comfort and was very impressed with the light weight and ability to not have to worry about finding flat ground. I suspect he also enjoyed the protection from the numerous mosquitoes we encountered as well. If you are interested in trying out this new hammock contact Rob Schetchman.



## Tully Loop Backpack

By John Klebes

On August 14-15<sup>th</sup> the Pioneer Valley Hiking Club hosted a Tully Loop backpacking trip for the Trustee's of the Reservations to officially open the Falls Brook Shelter as part of the Tully Loop trail system.

We had quite an adventure including some interesting route finding given the newness of this trail. Despite the weather we had an enjoyable adventure hiking around half the loop from the Newton Cemetery to Tully Mountain. Our adventure included beautiful views, forested hills, magical waterfalls, and cascading streams. I was amazed as swarms of dozens of dragonflies flew overhead on the summit rocks of Tully Mountain. Is it any wonder where the name for the "Dragon Fly Loft" came from for our shelter project?

At the end of a hard day of hiking we returned to the Falls Brook Shelter to be greeted by Marcia Kelly barring gifts of food. How she ever carried this entire feast down the trail to the shelter we will never know. She pulled out plates and bowls and feed us soup, curried

chicken, sweet rice, and much more. A friend of the TTOR shared fresh vegetables from his garden to build a fantastic salad and we all eat like kings. Thank you Marcia for such a welcome feast!!!

On Sunday we were just about to forgo the rest of our hike due to the heavy rain when Richard Harris showed up in the parking lot to lead his M-M hike north of the Falls Brook Shelter. Not wanting to let his group hike alone we joined him in hiking this beautiful section that includes some fantastic rock and pothole formations along the Falls Brook just north of the shelter.

A great adventure and we will be sure to return in better weather to complete the full 18-mile Tully Trail Loop. Thanks again Marcia for the great dinner!



Marcia's Backcountry Feast at Falls Brook Shelter



Tully Loop Backpacking Trip – August 14-15<sup>th</sup>, 2004



Hiking the Green River with a view of Square Top Mountain, Wyoming

## Wind River, Wyoming

by John Klebes

Each of the past few years a small group of diehard hikers in the club have invested our hard earned vacations in a major mountaineering expedition. Last year we climbed Mt. Whitney, the highest point in the lower 48 states, the year before Mt. Rainier in Washington State. This year we attempted the highest point in Wyoming; the remote and formidable Gannett Peak (13, 804 feet).

We planned an eight-day expedition which included 20 pounds of food per person, bear canisters, ropes, crampons, and winter gear totaling as much as 50 pounds each. Our route took our group of four (Mike Carrier, Rick Briggs, Ed Laroche, and John Klebes) deep into the Wind River Range of the Bridger Wilderness, part of the mighty Rocky Mountains.

After a long hard day of hiking heavy gear down nine miles of the continental divide trail we made our first camp before saying goodbye to developed trails and heading up into the mountainous terrain of the Wind River.

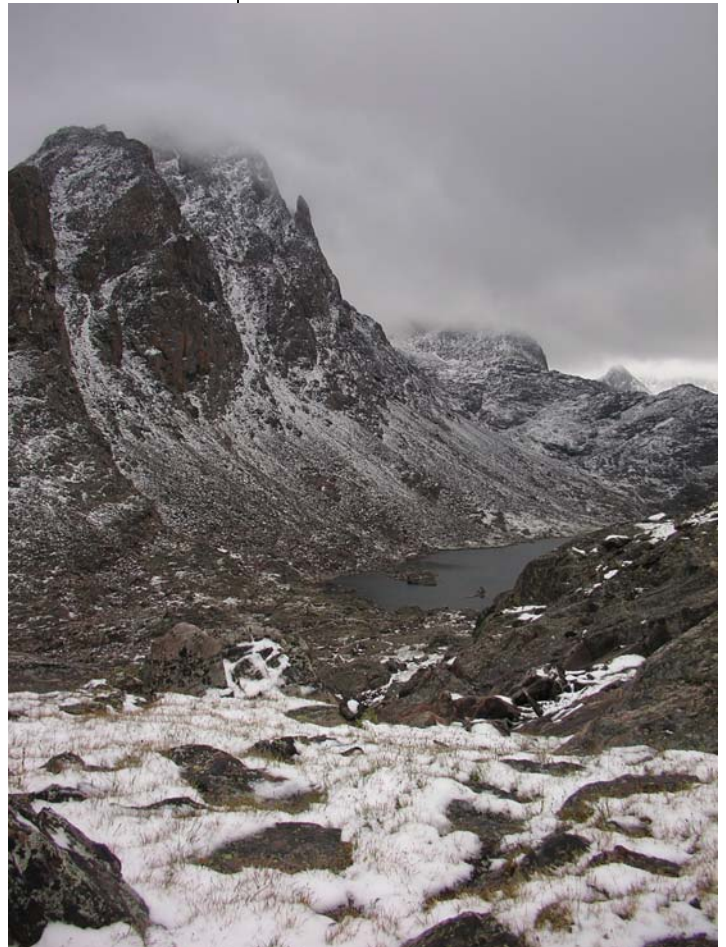
Our first obstacle was crossing the cold and swift moving glacial feed

Green River. (Burr was that a cold water stream crossing). We headed up the Tourist Creek river drainage on a combination of game trails, bushwhacks and bolder hops, some as large as cars, where every step leads to an even more difficult rock problem to cross. And all with huge heavy packs on our back, rain-sleet-snow-hail in our face, and ever-steeper inclines. We didn't see a trail again for seven days.

Slowly making our way closer to Gannett Peak we climbed past crystal clear lakes and tarns, cascading waterfalls, and unbelievable alpine meadows filled with wildflowers. We

made two more camps finally positioning ourselves for summit day from our high camp of 11,100 feet. Despite positioning ourselves with four potential summit day windows the weather got the best of us. Each day we had snow, sleet, hail, or freezing rain with high winds that made it unsafe to summit. We were blessed with fantastic 360 degree views and surrounded by alpine flowers, wildlife, and mountain summits and glaciers but the elusive summit of Gannett was not within our grasp this trip.

As a consolation Rick Briggs lead us up a steep and difficult ascent of the famous Square Top Mountain. A 11,595 foot massive flat topped summit with steep drop offs and 360 degree views. From the summit we had great views looking down the sheer cliff faces overlooking the wind river valley. But even here the weather followed us and dumped another two inches of snow in a quick whiteout while on the summit. The climb down was all the more tricky with this fresh coating of snow on the slippery high



Our High Camp – On the left bank of Lake 11, 085' Mt Solitude in Background

angle rock and scree slopes.

Still a fantastic and magical place  
that will certainly warrant a return visit.

- John Klebes



**View of Gannett Peak (*Highest Point in Wyoming 13,804 ft*)**



**John Klebes, Rick Briggs, Mike Carrier & Ed Laroche on SquareTop  
(elevation 11,595 feet, Bridger Wilderness, Wyoming)**

## Club Meeting Minutes

*Greetings to all club members from your club secretary,  
Here is brief summary of the July and August club meetings for  
those who may not have been able to attend.*

*Respectively submitted: Monica J. Gross, Secretary*

### Summary of July 6, 2004 Club Meeting Minutes

Thanks to Al Goodhind for leading the Mt. Washington trip. Kudos to all hike leaders on this trip as well as all our trips. Ed Laroche used and positively reviewed the Hennessey Hammock. We will be getting a winter fly to add-on and review. Rob S. will manage the Hammock review project. Web site has new information available and has new pictures. Take a look at the work Dick has been doing. Photo contest entries due by mid Sept., so get those "photo opts" in for review. Trips and overnight events were reviewed by leaders.

### Summary of August 3, 2004 Club Meeting Minutes

Thanks to Ann Mundy and Al Roman for all their effort in putting together a great trip to the Adirondacks, looking forward to the fall trip. U.S. Congressman Oliver joined our trip to Mt. Monadnock, a chance meeting made for an interesting day. Remaining hikes went well. However, trail maintenance did have a mishap with a White-faced hornets. Next maintenance in the fall. Picnic sign ups are continuing. Final number needed by Sept. meeting. Let Monica Gross know if you plan to come. A change of format for meetings was proposed and passed. New format: Business meetings will be held at length the months new schedules and Bootprints are distributed. There will be no clinic but there will be a social gathering after the meeting with refreshments supplied by member volunteers. Alternate months would have shorter business meeting and a Quality clinic. It is hoped that the new format will encourage greater participation in clinics. Change started with this meeting. Lost Mansions of Newport was the subject of the clinic. Both informative and interesting.

*Respectively submitted: Monica J. Gross, Secretary*

## Important Notice

The following memberships are up for renewal:

### September Renewals:

Shari Cox  
Dick & Sue Forrest  
Steve Fratoni  
JoAnne Gebski  
Ajay Harpavat  
Barry & AnnMarie Higgins  
Maryann Hogan  
Bryarly Lehmann  
Donald Leis  
Daniel & Harriet Madar  
Laurie Mahoney  
Jim McNerney  
Sheila Messer  
Bill Nickerson  
John Rothery  
Marty & Meg Schoenemann  
Linda Sheehan  
Karen Siemering

### November Renewals:

Noreen Acconcio  
Suzanne Allen  
Ron Archambault  
Dennis Bergeron  
Dona Burdick  
Beth Case  
Anne Eason  
Donna Fleury  
Patricia Germano  
Barbara Graf  
Sandra Labaj  
Kenneth & Joanne Lamothe  
William & Geraldine Noyes  
Chris Pierce  
Al & Martha Roman  
Dave Rotondo  
Nel Sachsenmaier  
Chris & Nancy Sullivan  
Michael Taniwha  
Sue Ziff & Family

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)

## Up Coming Hikes & Activities

### **Adirondack Trip September 28-30**

24 people with hike to Johns Brook Lodge.

Some will go on to hike Mt. Marcy.

Leaders: Ed LaRoche & Ann Mundy

### **PVHC SUMMER FUN PICNIC**

Monica Gross 536-6611

**Date: Sept. 12, 2004**

**Time: 12:00pm—6:00pm**

**Look Park - Mini Shelter**

Northampton, MA (Florence)

Free to members, \$5.00 for guests. Sign up with Monica by August 20th, 2004.

\$4.00 parking fee per vehicle suggest you car pool if you wish to save.

Softball fields and Volleyball courts available.

Also, walking, playground and wading pool.

Gear swap .

Bumper Boats -\$5.00, Pedal boats—\$6.00

Golf—\$5.00, Train rides \$1.50 Adult fees

**Time for the annual  
summer picnic. Good  
times, Good people, Good  
food, Good fun!  
Bring a dish to share,  
dessert or salad.**

# Pioneer Valley Hiking Club Officers & Committees

John Klebes, President (413) 519-1859  
Ann Marie Visconti, Vice President (413) 547-2729  
Monica Gross, Secretary (413) 536-6611  
Kimberly Stevens, Treasurer (413) 569-1970  
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: [klebes@aol.com](mailto:klebes@aol.com) (Email) or by USmail to John Klebes, P.O. Box 51385, Indian Orchard, MA 01151.**

## IMPORTANT NOTICES

- ❑ Next Club Meetings:  
October 5, 2004, 7pm at **FBC**  
November 2, 2004, 7pm at **FBC**
- ❑ Next Hike Planning Meeting:  
October 12, 2004, 7pm at **WEU**
- ❑ Deadline for Submissions for next BootPrints is: October 19, 2004

**FBC** – First Baptist Church, West Springfield  
**WEU** – Wilderness Experiences Unlimited

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

Join the PVHC Email List by sending a message to: [pvhc2000@hotmail.com](mailto:pvhc2000@hotmail.com)

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c/o Wilderness Experiences Unlimited, Inc.  
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