



BooTpriNts

The Bimonthly Newsletter of the
Pioneer Valley Hiking Club

A Winter's Night in a Rustic Cabin in Merck Forest

by Lisa Frigo

I can't think of a better way to spend a New England winter's night than in a rustic cabin at Merck Forest in Rupert, Vermont. A big thank you to John Klebes for finding this spot years ago and sharing it with the club.

Rob and I had the pleasure of joining six wonderful hikers on this club adventure.

A 2+ mile hike in with everything on our backs, into the lovely Ned cabin. We also pulled two sleds of kitchen supplies and food for the two nights out.

Four walls, a door, huge windows, and nothing else greeted us as we entered Ned cabin. Well, of course, there was a wonderful, wood-burning
See Merck Forest continued on page 4

Greylock on a very cold, windy Saturday...

by Karen Markham

At first, Al & I were going to the Catskills to climb Blackhead Mt., though with weather predictions with the wind chill of -35 below, we decided to stay closer to home. Blackhead Mt. was replaced with Mt. Greylock. Originally, we planned to hike the Stony Ledge Trail, about 9 miles round trip, that was until we got a call from Ricky (Briggs) about 9 p.m.
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Volume 20, Issue 2
March, 2016

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Featured Club Member: Chip Pray

by Chip Pray



PVHC President Chip Pray leading a snowshoe hike in winter

I joined the PVHC in January, 2006, on the recommendation of another member, my cousin Jeannie Tsatsos Friend. My goal in joining the club was to “get out of the house for exercise and to meet positive and/or like-minded people.”

My first Club meeting experience was also in January, 2006. I remember feeling quite alone, like any stranger would at that first meeting, and somewhat confused at the large amount of info being disseminated. The first people I met because I happened to be sitting next to them were Meg and Marty Schoenemann. They very kindly answered my many questions and gave me the scheduling paperwork.

The first hike that I participated with the PVHC was led by Marcia Kelly, and it was called “The Streets of Amherst.” I remember showing up wearing a brand new pair of Merrell Phaser Peak boots, and it was bitterly cold (but we warmed up) as we traversed a portion of the many streets of Amherst. During the hike I was able to meet and talk with Marcia’s gregarious and quite diverse band of hikers. After one member discovered that I was of French ancestry, I recall

See Chip Pray continued on page 6

Notch Hostel: Part II

by Lori Tisdell



Climbing Mt. Liberty

After having such a good time at our November Notch Hostel/White Mt. trip, Karen Markham and I decided to book another weekend - this time in February. We thought we’d get 10 or 12 people, as it’s winter, and there haven’t been too many club members hiking the Whites in winter. We were quite honestly, flabbergasted, when we ended up with 22 of us! The number kept rising until there was no more room at the “inn!”

There were going to be a few different hikes scheduled: I was

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Greylock - The "Lost" Adventure

by Lori Tisdell

I had scheduled a hike for Bear Mt. in Connecticut in January, as it's one of my favorite winter hikes. As it's really quite beautiful up there in the winter and the ridgeline has wonderful views, I think I'm also trying to recapture a hike Shari Cox led there several winters ago that had ice-covered trees that were amazing to see.

This year the weather forecast wasn't the greatest - there was snow coming in later and the sustained winds were around 35 mph. The forecasted arrival of the snow changed overnight and would be starting much earlier. And those winds on about three-quarters of a mile of open ridge wouldn't be nice to inflict upon some of the

See "Lost" Adventure continued on page 11

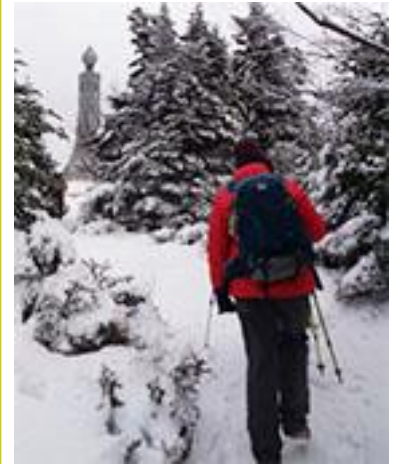
Book Review: *The Climb*, by Anatoli Boukreev and G. Weston DeWalt, 1997

by Dick Forrest

I'm not into mountaineering - mountain climbing is my bag - but I like to read about it. Why? My perspective is that mountaineering is too dangerous, I'm too old to do it, and it's too expensive. But I like a good, nonfiction adventure story, and *The Climb* is one interesting read.

Do you remember reading Jon Krakauer's book, *Into Thin Air*? Well, *The Climb* is another perspective of that famous 1996 Mt. Everest disaster from Anatoli Boukreev, a head Everest expedition guide, who was on Mt. Everest that day. Boukreev, a Russian from Kazakhstan, was the head guide for the West Seattle-based Mountain Madness expedition, headed by Scott Fischer. Jon Krakauer was on New Zealander Rob Hall's Adventure

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"Do you remember reading Jon Krakauer's book, Into Thin Air? Well, The Climb is another perspective of that famous 1996 Mt. Everest disaster..."

~ Dick Forrest



Merck Forest *continued from page 1*

stove, which Rob proceeded to fire up. Then the air became filled with a wonderful, fruit wood smell. According to Accuweather for Rupert, Vermont, Friday's low was 22 degrees and Saturday's low was 24. The first night we settled into our bunks where we laid down our sleeping pads and sleeping bags.



Thank you to my great husband who has taught me everything about camping and backpacking, especially in winter. I feel so lucky for this gift he has given me. Of course, I still have much to learn!

Thank you to Gina, Rick, Karen, Al, Dale, and Mike for joining us on this weekend. We prepared meals of salmon burgers, chicken, fried green and red peppers, onions and mushrooms, mixed rooted vegetables, potatoes, couscous, all cooked on the wood burning stove. Can't forget Dale's wonderful homemade pizzas with fresh basil, fresh mozzarella, and homemade sauce! We had salad, cheese and crackers, along with a toast to our successes of winter camping life. We had homemade brownies and cookies, and chocolate bars for dessert.



Yes, we did not have a lot of snow this year, but we were gifted with a snowfall on Friday evening of 2-3 inches. Thanks to the group for taking turns getting water at the stream for cooking, for tending the fire during the night, washing dishes, and cleaning up after meals.

We had some wonderful hikes around Merck Forest and up to Mt. Antoine. Rob and I enjoy sharing our experiences with people who have not done this before. Hope you enjoyed all the quietness and peacefulness of winter that Ned cabin had to offer!

-- Lisa Frigo

Mt. Greylock continued from page 1

Friday night, wondering why on earth we wanted to be outside in the freezing cold for 9 miles? He suggested the Gould Trail and it was a done deal, the Gould it would be. So 5 very brave clubbers (Marie Clark, Ron Morrissette, Rick Briggs, Al Roman and I) set out the next day, meeting early in Westfield at 6:30 a.m.

We arrived at the trailhead and started hiking by 8:15 a.m., in the hopes that we would be off trail before the wind chill factor went into the negative figures. After the keys were safely tucked away and a few pictures were taken, we headed out. It was cold, though the wind was minimal in the woods, as we slowly ascended the mountain. When we reached the road crossing to get on the AT, we felt the wind in the open area, took a few quick pictures, and headed right back into the woods where the wind was still minimal.



The plan was that once we reached the out-houses to cover every inch of

our skin including face masks and goggles - having nothing exposed! So, we all bundled up, and then ventured the short distance to the road at the top, then past the tower, and, finally, to the view. OMGosh! It was extremely windy and cold, though absolutely beautiful with the sun glistening on the snow, and the wind blowing what little snow was still there - WoW! Once again,

See *Mt. Greylock* continued on page 6

"It was extremely windy and cold, though absolutely beautiful with the sun glistening on the snow, and the wind blowing what little snow was still there - WoW!"

~ Karen Markham

Mt. Greylock *continued from page 5*

we took some more pictures, hung out only for a few minutes, then headed back towards the trail and the woods.



Aliens have landed on Mt. Greylock

Once we turned around you could feel the full force of the wind in your covered up face – WoW! I literally got windblown a few times, and had to stop to keep my balance, it was that strong. Once back in the woods we stripped down a bit, ate, and headed back down the mountain. The trail was packed down so snow shoes were not needed, nor were crampons, though the sledging conditions were perfect and a lot of fun!

This was Marie's first time summiting Greylock since she was very young, and her first time in winter! It was very exciting for her and her enthusiasm was very contagious. Have you ever done a hike for the 20th time, and taken someone who is doing it for the first time (or the first time in many years), and been caught up in the moment like it was your first time all over again? Well, Marie did that for me – her enthusiasm was very contagious, and I loved experiencing this moment with her and the others. -- Karen Markham

Chip Pray *continued from page 2*

participating, much to my delight and surprise, in a lengthy conversation concerning the French Revolution and all things French. At the end of the hike we went to the Monkey Bar in Amherst for a delicious dinner and more conversation.

I became a regular at Marcia's hikes and also fully participated in her subsequent "Streets of Northampton" series and more hikes beyond those.

I also became a regular at Carol Vanderheiden's hikes, which alternated weekly between Mt. Holyoke and Mt. Tom.

It was about that time in early 2007, that I noticed that I had become addicted to hiking and the good feelings and physiological changes that occur within one's own body during hiking exertion, as well as the feeling of a sense of empowerment.

See *Chip Pray* continued on page 7



Chip Pray *continued from page 6*

Finally, I decided to take the “next step” within my perceived view of the club, which included becoming a hike leader. I chose Quabbin Reservoir and pledged to learn all about the beautiful and historic Quabbin. I chose Monday mornings and a meeting place of Hawley’s Restaurant (now known as the CVS plaza) for my weekly hikes because I felt and still feel that there is no better way to start each week than by hiking! I vividly remember that the first few hikes that I “led” that I was all by myself. I also recall that I was “surprising and frightening” too many animals, including myself, within the Quabbin Reservoir basin as I stealthily trekked the area in solitude.

Fortunately, I educated myself in Quabbin history, right down to the many remaining cellar holes and baffle damns, as well as finally getting some club members to participate in the “Monday Morning Hikes at Quabbin” series.

In early 2007, I was named co-coordinator of the PVHC trail maintenance of Sections 1 & 2 of the M&M Trail, which about the same time became the New England Trail. Since then, each summer, I can be found every three weeks mowing the 4-acre pasture with the kiosk at our Section 1, at the Rising Corner Road, NET Trailhead.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my years involved in local trail maintenance and have regularly volunteered to help other adopters and maintainers on the New England Trail, as well as help maintain many other trails throughout Western MA.

During my years in the PVHC, I have led countless local and series hikes. One of my favorite things to do is to find and discover local hikes previously unknown to me within Massachusetts.

For the last four plus years, I have been serving as the Club President and Co-coordinator of the PVHC hiking schedule. Additionally, two and half years ago, I became Club E-mail Coordinator.

I have enjoyed each and every task I have performed with our Club, and I’m thoroughly looking forward to the July completion of a floating boardwalk to replace the “bog bridge” at Rising Corner, and to our yearlong celebration of the Pioneer Valley Hiking Club’s 25th anniversary!

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Chip Pray *continued from page 7*

I would like to thank all of our members, both past and present, that I have worked with, and especially our E-board members. Without each and every one of them it would be impossible to do an adequate job.

I am very thankful that my active volunteer role in the PVHC has greatly improved, as well as preserved my life. The Pioneer Valley Hiking Club has made all the difference!

-- Chip Pray

Notch Hostel *continued from page 2*

There were going to be a few different hikes scheduled: I was planning the Hancocks, Shari planned on either Cabot, Isolation or Carrigain, Heather Wyman was leading Waumbek, and Dick Forrest, Northeast Cannonball, one of the New England 100 Highest.

The forecast for the weekend was looking pretty sketchy the week before, but you know you can never trust the forecast, as it changes practically hourly, especially in the Whites. Friday's drive up was fine with the snow holding off until 9:00 p.m., but with the forecast changing that afternoon from 1-3 inches to 4-8 inches! Oh, man! We woke in the morning to a few inches of snow cover, with it still falling pretty hard. At this point, the majority of the group had a 42-mile drive to the Mt. Cabot trailhead. I'd decided for a variety of reasons to join Shari on Cabot with my group. Heather did the same and Rick's brother, Jeff, was joining us, too, to make 19 of us hiking Cabot.

Once we got on a snow-covered I-93 North, we realized the drive was not going to be fun. Shari called and asked what I thought about hiking Liberty, instead. I was totally down with that, so, after numerous calls and text messages, we all met up to recoup and head back. Heather's group continued north, deciding to go with their original plan to hike Waumbek. They ran into rain a short way up the road. Oh, well. Rick got a hold of Jeff to let him know the change of plans, and then we headed back south to Mt. Liberty.

Most of the group of 16 elected to wear snowshoes, as there was about 4 inches or so of fresh snow on the trail. Jeff had further to drive to meet us, so some people stayed to wait, while most of us headed out. It was still snowing a bit, but it was coming to an end. The trail was beautiful with all the new snow, and the temps were pretty mild for February, being around 30 degrees. It was a merry group for some time on this easy start of the trail - rolling ups and downs, nothing very

See *Notch Hostel* continued on page 9



Notch Hostel *continued from page 8*

very steep and a couple of bridges over the Pemigewasset River. About 2 miles in, we got to the water crossing where the steep section starts. I had remembered it from the previous two times I had hiked this trail, but this time it was bridged with ice. It was so cool to hear the water rushing by under the ice. It would be a bad place to go through, though.

The Liberty Springs Trail gets much steeper from here on in, interspersed with short, less steep sections. But it is unrelievedly up, until the Franconia Ridge is reached 2 miles further (higher) up the trail. With such a large group, it was impossible to keep everyone together. I swept (was last on the trail), while Shari and I kept in contact via cell (yes, we had cell service), to keep track of where everyone was to insure that we all were doing OK.

We realized how lucky we were to have the snow cover on the trail when we saw the hard thick ice under it; otherwise, it would have been a much more difficult hike. And it was a hard hike as it was! However, I did point out to Eva, since we were together for most of the hike, that it wasn't as continuously steep as I had remembered. In fact, I had vowed to never hike Liberty Springs Trail again, after each of the two previous times, but here I was again. It was gorgeous, truly, in its winter coat. The fresh pristine snow decorated the trees and trail, and with the cloud cover making it a seeming black and white day dotted with colorful hikers. We saw a few rays of sun come through lighting and shadowing the trail, and bringing a smile and a lift to our spirits.

All 16 hikers summited Mt. Liberty, with most of the group on or near the summit at the same time. It was a wild and rugged place with a few hard gusts of wind buf-



feting us on its ice-covered, rocky promontory. There were no views and being on the summit felt otherworldly - what was hidden beyond the foggy clouds? The long hard climb was worth it.

See Notch Hostel continued on page 10

Notch Hostel *continued from page 9*

We all made our way back down and once again were spread pretty far apart, front to back on the trail. But it was much easier going now, letting gravity help! It was still a long way down, though, and I continued to sweep. I realized about 2/3's of the way down that we were a long way behind the front of the group. I called Shari to let her know where we were, and also to talk with Karen about dinner! Shari, Angela and Tom would wait, while the rest would go back to the Hostel, clean up, get dinner started, and put the appetizers out. I didn't really get out of making dinner, though, as Karen and I pre-made the main entrées!

Our group arrived back just as Heather's group did, which was surprising. I'd thought they'd be back long before us. The snow hadn't reached that far north and their trail had hard ice floes on it, which is much more difficult to negotiate. Dick and Al had completed their hike - ice there, as well, and boulder, too. And Sue and Jim had a nice walk at Lincoln Woods.

This time our dinner menu was a hearty beef chili and turkey chili that Karen made; while I made a hearty Tuscan vegetable and chicken sausage soups, one with hot sausage and one with sweet. We accompanied these offerings with cornbread, garlic bread, and Angela's "tremendous" (according to Mark, a spot on description) Craisin, greens, pear, pistachios, and grape salad with homemade vinaigrette. Everyone brought appetizers and desserts to share - and boy were there plenty!

Everyone enjoyed the evening chatting about the day's hikes, the food, past and future adventures, and just relaxing after the hard day. Shari brought out Guesstures, and a heated game with 12 participants ensued with each team vying to be the winning one. Sadly, our team was soundly trounced by Shari's. Some of us stayed up a while longer, with our feet up relaxing on the couch, before heading to our bunks.

In the morning we sent everyone off with a bountiful breakfast of fruit salad, vegetable and cheese scrambled eggs, oven-roasted potatoes, bacon, sausage, and toast. Karen and I try to make the food as irresistible as the hikes!

Thanks to all who participated, led hikes, helped people along the way, and helped to make the weekend so much fun. Also, congratulations to those who hiked their first winter White - it was a difficult one for your first, and you all knocked it out of the park! Karen and I so appreciate all the support, help, and wonderful response we've had for our trips. We have another one in August and have already started planning that one! -- Lori Tisdell



“Lost” Adventure *continued from page 3*

hikers who are new to winter hiking. We want to suck them into our obsession, not scare them away! After some hemming and hawing, I made a decision to go north away from the snow to Mt. Greylock, and where we'd be in the winds only on the summit.

Karen and Al were to meet us at the trailhead, so I left them messages about the change of plans. The rest of us set off for the trailhead. When we were about 20 minutes from the trail, Karen called - they'd just got the message while on their way south to Connecticut to meet us, "Oh, no!" They decided to turn around and catch up with us on the trail. And we all knew Karen and Al would make short work of catching up to us.

When we got to the trailhead, Ed discovered his Kahtoolas had detached from his pack and were in his car in Westfield. He decided to go for it without them - after all, Rick never wears traction and gets along fine. And then Ron found he'd left his phone in his car in Westfield - this became more important later on - that's called foreshadowing, folks.

We set off up the Gould Trail. It's about 3 miles and connects with the AT near the summit for the final bit. I've hiked this trail every winter for the last 6 years. It's has wonderfully modest grades that climb through the forest, taking you ever higher without having to work too hard. Makes it nice to be able to look around and enjoy your surroundings while actually breathing fairly normally. Everything was beautifully covered in snow that got a little deeper the higher we went.

Karen and Al caught up to us about two-thirds of the way up. They were moving fast....and Al didn't have a pack. Hmm, what's up with that? Apparently, Al inadvertently locked his pack in the car along with his keys! What the hell was going on that day? Lots of AAA cards, so we'd be calling later.

We heard and felt the winds as we approached the summit. Once we were out in the open, we were buffeted around a bit - I love those kinds of winds. I never feel more alive than when I'm standing on a summit in the wind! Sometimes I spread my arms wide and feel as though I could fly away. Some of us took in the views and then went to the Thunderbolt Shelter. I saw Ron heading over to one of the viewpoints and motioned him to follow us.

See *“Lost” Adventure continued on page 12*



"Lost" Adventure *continued from page 11*

In the shelter we all had something to eat and chatted. After a while Angela and I realized Ron still hadn't got to the shelter. Oh, oh. I called and texted him but to no avail...as his phone was in Westfield. I went back out to look for him and made a complete circuit of the summit area, including going through the trees, but never saw him. Back at the shelter, I had everyone pack up so we could head out and look for Ron. And within a minute Mark found Ron just around the bend in the trees – a big sigh of relief! We'd actually just missed finding each other a couple times while I was out looking for him. What "a comedy of errors" day. And now it was time to head on down.



The hike down went pretty fast and smoothly - thank goodness something did that day! About halfway down, Al, Karen, Ed, Mark and I stopped to call AAA for Al and Karen's car. Al had called at the summit to set it up, and they'd said to call back when he was 30 minutes from the car. Ed's service kept cutting in and out, so we tried my phone which didn't - whew! And then we boogied on down the rest of the trail. About two minutes after we all arrived at the parking lot, Al's Service Center pulled in with a tow truck - Al to rescue Al! Perfect!

So in the end, though we had many adventures, everyone made it up and down safely. Additionally, it was a first winter summit of Greylock for several of the group - love that we have so many members taking on new challenges and succeeding so well! Awesome job everyone!

-- Lori Tisdell



Book Review continued from page 3

Consultants expedition.

You might remember, from reading Krakauer's book that Rob Hall and a number of his clients died on the mountain that day of May 10, 1996. Scott Fischer, Boukreev's expedition leader, also died on the mountain that day. Anatoli Boukreev, as a guide, was instrumental in saving a number of people from his expedition. He was also famous for climbing 8,000 meter peaks in the Himalayas without supplemental oxygen.

One of the reasons for writing this book, with the help of G. Weston DeWalt, I'm sure, was to refute what Jon Krakauer said about Anatoli. He criticized him for not staying up near the mountain top, after summiting, to attend to his clients, and taking off for Camp IV, further down the mountain. There were a number of mistakes that both expedition leaders made that day, but Scott Fisher's pre-arranged instructions for Anatoli to go rapidly down to Camp IV was not one of them. From my perspective, when you are in the death zone on an 8,000 meter peak, it's every man for himself. Everyone is aware of the risks going in.

Since the publication of *Into Thin Air* and *The Climb*, there have been two other worse mountaineering accidents on Mt. Everest. Mountaineering, at high elevations, is a dangerous vocation or avocation – it takes a special breed. *The Climb* is one more book in the genre that leaves me fascinated by the adventure.

In looking up Anatoli Boukreev's bio on *Wikipedia*, while writing this book review, this is what I found:

"In 1997, Boukreev was killed in an avalanche during a winter ascent of Annapurna in Nepal. Boukreev's companion, Linda Wylie, edited his memoirs and published them in 2002 under the title, *Above the Clouds: The Diaries of a High-Altitude Mountaineer*."

Coincidentally, at about the same time, in the early years of our club, when we met at Ray Tibbett's store, Backpacking Etc., on Memorial Drive in West Springfield, we had a talk at one of our club meetings by Gary Pfisterer, a high-altitude mountaineer and future guide, who lived in Monson, MA. Later, Gary's British-born, medical doctor wife, Ginette Harrison, who specialized in high-altitude medicine, and became the second British woman to summit Mt. Everest, who also came and spoke at one of our club meetings with Gary, like Anatoli Boukreev, also died in an avalanche on Dhaulagiri in Nepal in the autumn of 1999. Gary and Ginette met on a Mt. Everest expedition, summited the mountain hand-in-hand, and got married soon afterward.

-- Dick Forrest



Pioneer Valley Hiking Club's 25th Anniversary Yearlong Celebration

by Chip Pray

On Tuesday February 2, 2016, immediately following our Hike Planning meeting, we began our monthly celebrations of PVHC's 25th Anniversary. The church hall was beautifully decorated for our birthday party. There was a sparkling cider toast. We heard "Quotes of the Month" and "Silver Footprints in PVHC History" (info extracted from past issues of Bootprints).



Also, club members were treated to a delicious and enormous, hike-themed, PVHC 25th anniversary cake.



We enjoyed "old timer anecdotes" from at least seven attending original 1991 "charter" members.

Furthermore, we unveiled a brand new PVHC banner, while devouring the many tasty appetizers brought in by our members and friends.



We plan on providing more anniversary cheer throughout the year, so please join us at 7:00 p.m., the first Tuesday of every month, for great fun and fellowship at our meetings.

Heartfelt thanks to our seventeen 25th anniversary committee volunteers! You really do know how to "take it higher!"

-- Chip Pray

2016 PVHC Club Officers



Left to Right: Chip Pray, President; Lori Tisdell, Vice President; Paul Kozikowski, Treasurer; Gina Geck, Secretary



Our Recently Updated PVHC Logo

Important Membership Renewal Notices

The following memberships are up for renewal:

Mar. Renewals

Meg Allard
 Debbie Bombard & Cheryl Stevens
 Stephanie & Santiago Bustos
 Kay Byington
 Patty Carmody
 Mike & Gail Carrier
 Norma Casillas
 Maureen Davis
 Howard Eldridge
 Alan Goodhind
 John Gorey
 Bill Grygiel
 John Klebes
 Jason Lambert
 Pete & Susanne Ledoux
 Donna Mages
 Edmund Marrone
 Dianna & Mark McMenamin
 Richard Perreault
 Ellen Petersen
 Lorraine Plasse
 Linda Quesnel
 Susan Wills
 Kevin & Robin Withers
 Maryann Zak

Apr. Renewals

Jacki Barden
 Luci Bolduc
 Virginia Brown
 Dianne Carey
 Robin M. Fasoli
 Jane Glushik
 Bryan Goodwin & Joan DelPlato
 Mike Gross
 Alice & Dan Hackett
 Eunice Jones
 Denise Matthews
 Susan McGurk
 Lori McMahon
 Robert Morgan
 Louise Pilegi
 Bea Robinson
 Dani & Robert Scott
 Albert Shane
 Lynne Shapiro
 Jacqueline Sheehan
 Ed Watson
 Susan Young
 Kathy Zeiben

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
 PO Box 225
 West Springfield MA 01090-0225
 (Dues are \$25 member, \$40 family, and \$15 for students)

Pioneer Valley Hiking Club Officers

Chip Pray, President
 Lori Tisdell, Vice President
 Paul Kozikowski, Treasurer
 Gina Geck, Secretary
 Ray Tibbetts, Founder

Standing Committee Chairs

Hike Schedule: Jeanne Kaiser & Chip Pray
 Backpacking Coordinator: Rick Briggs
 Trail Maintenance: Chip Pray & Rob Schechtman
 Club Website Editor: Dick Forrest
 Non-Member E-mail Coordinator: Rob Schechtman
 Club E-mail Coordinator: Chip Pray
 Quartermaster: Mike Carrier
Bootprints Newsletter Editor: Dick Forrest

Bootprints is a publication of the Pioneer Valley Hiking Club. Please email your story/event contributions to Dick Forrest at: dforrest@charter.net.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

January

Joyce Berg
 Natali Adams
 Lisa Brault
 Hugh Friel
 Mary Van Leeuwen

February

Kim Couture
 Lori Martin
 Andrea Kalifa
 Joseph Mercer
 Mary Walters



UPCOMING EVENTS AND THE USUALS

- Every Mon. (MA) Mornings w/ Chip
- Every Tues. (MA) Mt. Tom & Mt. Holyoke w/ Lori
- Every Thurs. (MA) Afternoon walks w/ Ruth
- Every Thurs. (MA) Mornings w/ Harry & Ashley Reservoir evenings w/ Erin
- Mar 5 (MA) Mt. Nonotuck Bushwhack
- Mar 6 (MA) Bear Swamp/Pancake Breakfast
- Mar 12 (CT) Mohawk Trail & AT
- Mar 19 (CT) Bear Mt.
- Mar 26 (CT) NET in CT Series
- Apr 2 (MA) Northfield Mt.
- Apr 9 (CT) Whitaker Woods/ McCann Family Farm
- Apr 16 (MA) Wendell St. Forest
- Apr 23 (MA) Tully Trail Sec. 3
- Apr 30 (NH) Mt. Monadnock

IMPORTANT NOTICES

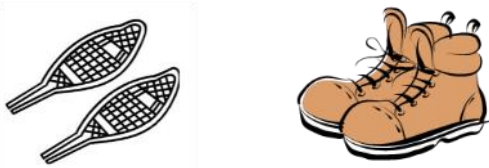
Next Club Meetings:
 Mar. 1, 2016, 7 pm at **FBC**
 Apr. 5, 2016, 7 pm at **FBC**

FBC - First Baptist Church, 337 Piper Road, West Springfield

Deadline for submissions to the next *Footprints* is April 20th, 2016

**** Check out our web page at:**
www.pioneervalleyhikingclub.org

Members may join the PVHC Email List by sending a message to:
pvhc.hikingclub@gmail.com



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