



A Special April Supplement of Feetprints

Volume 23

April 1, 2018

**Join us Easter Sunday, April 1st, for our first annual
PVHC Easter Egg Hunt at Rising Corner Rd in Agawam!**



**PVHC leaders dancing in celebration on the trail after completion of
the hiding of the eggs**

Hiker Chic

by PVHC President Lori Tisdell

One of my first directives as new president of PVHC is to institute a Hiker Dress Code. And I have tasked Gina Geck with a new job – she will be the PVHC Fashion Police. We will all be subject to Gina’s scrutiny at any hike that she is at. If we don’t pass muster, we may not be able to participate! There will be verbal warnings, written warnings and a final warning before Gina will drum us out of the hiking corps.

See *Hiker Chic* continued on page 4

*“And I have
tasked Gina Geck
with a new job –
she will be the
PVHC Fashion
Police.”*

~ Lori Tisdell



PVHC Un-Holiday Party

by Alfred E. Newman, Guest Contributor to *Footprints*

"This year's PVHC Holiday Party was unlike any party ever held... The party began at the stroke of midnight."
~ Alfred E. Newman

This year's PVHC Holiday Party was unlike any party ever held. Was it due to climate change, political unrest, or maybe an influence of Netflix *Stranger Things* upside-down world? Perhaps it was the recent Massachusetts legalization of marijuana? Hikers will never know....

The party began at the stroke of midnight. "I'm so glad we're up this late!" guests exclaimed. They arrived to the thunderous sound of the band U2. Hours later, Bob Dylan and Shania Twain took to the stage. Hikers danced up a storm.

"Time for the Slide Show!" Cindy exclaimed. What a presentation – 430 slides of hikers slinking back to their cars, hiking poles dragging, after participating in compassionate-paced hikes. It was set to Cindy's favorite rap songs. "That slide show should be nominated for an Academy Award!" the hikers agreed.
See *Un-Holiday Party* continued on page 7

Sweatwater Unveils Another Innovative Product

by PaPa Smurf

"Sweatwater hiking filters has unveiled their new ingestible water filter."
~ PaPa Smurf

Sweatwater hiking filters has unveiled their new ingestible water filter. The easily swallowed filters enter the stomach where they effectively stop 99.999% of virus and bacterial contaminates. Activated charcoal protects against most food poisoning, and a mild dose of FLAGYL® ensures that no bacterial growths caused by giardia will grow in the digestive system while the filter is in use. After a few days the filter will naturally biodegrade in the intestines and be expelled from the body. This breakthrough product totally eliminates the need to pre-filter water during hiking, backpacking, or outdoor activities in which you need to drink from unknown water quality
See *Sweatwater* continued on page 8

The Owners of “the Cog” Propose New Digs for Mt. Washington

by Frank Lloyd Knotright

You might have heard or read (as of December, 2016) that the owners of the Cog Railway, near Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, would like to build a brand new 35-room hotel on the slopes of Mt. Washington. They would build this hotel on private land owned by the Cog Railway. At this point, they are not sure if it would be built right next to the railway or directly over the railway. The hotel would be situated about one mile below the summit of Mt. Washington and about two miles above the station at the base of the mountain. They would like to open the facility in 2019, which would coincide with the 150th anniversary of the beginning of the railway train service on the mountain.

Well, we just recently got a sneak peak at the architectural plans for this new hotel. And the architects also put together a mockup of the building. See for yourselves what is being proposed:



— Frank Lloyd Knotright

“The owners of the Cog Railway, near Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, would like to build a brand new 35-room hotel on the slopes of Mt. Washington.”

~ Frank Lloyd Knotright



"Peggy is using a monochrome of varying shades of purple (Gina's favorite color – see sucking up at its finest) for her entire ensemble."

~ Lori Tisdell

Hiker Chic continued from page 1

I have included examples of what hiker chic looks like for those of us that may be confused. I consulted with Gina to ensure I had it down correctly. I have used several examples.

In the first photo you see Peggy Tibbitt (I really think she was sucking up to Gina). Peggy is using a monochrome of varying shades of purple (Gina's favorite color – see sucking up at its finest) for her entire ensemble. As you can see Peggy has chosen several shades of complimentary purple for pants, shirt, bandanna and even her backpack! She has used the neutral black as a contrasting color for her gaiters and gloves and the brown neutral for her hat. This is really a nearly perfect hiker chic outfit and gets top points in Gina's book.



In the second photo is a grouping of men on a recent hike that really epitomized what hiker chic is all about. Who would have thought it? It's very nearly metrosexual! In the photo from left to right are Fred Riotte, Dick Forrest, Mike Gross, Ron Morrissette, John Fortune and Rick Briggs. They were all pretty outstanding. Fred is styling a charcoal top with beige pants with a contrasting blue accent. However, he loses points for the hiking poles which do not fit any of the color schemes and do not contrast well, sorry Fred. Dick did a very good job with matching blue and charcoal while adding green in with his mittens and gaiters. The red in the hiking poles add a nice touch of

See *Hiker Chic* continued on page 5

Hiker Chic continued from page 4

color. Mike did an excellent job and may, in fact, have scored the most points that day. He did an excellent job in his color scheme of grey and teal. The mostly grey outfit had accents of teal in his backpack and poles! The neutral black of the gaiters works very well and the yellow pop color is really quite outstanding! Ron was a fashion wizard with his black and red hiking gear right down to his red bandanna and black cap. Now John's green and grey outfit could almost have been boring, but he added the red bandanna to pick up the red in his jacket and poles – genius! And Rick's almost unrelieved black attire (his best Johnny Cash impression) could have seemed lackluster but the hat was a brilliant addition. The red and grey accents in the cap perfectly match the red and grey in his backpack and poles. These guys belong on the cover of GQ!

The last photo is a look at what we should all strive for. Gina has been giving me hiker chic advice for some time and that day it really paid off! As you can see in the photo, not only did we have perfect ensembles on our own, we very nearly matched each other! This has
See *Hiker Chic* continued on page 6

"Ron was a fashion wizard with his black and red hiking gear right down to his red bandanna and black cap."

~ Lori Tisdell



"The purple pack goes perfectly with the clothes with some lovely raspberry accents in the back."

~ Lori Tisdell

"The next time you go on a hike, look in the mirror before you leave the house and ask yourself, "Would Gina approve?"

~ Lori Tisdell

Hiker Chic *continued from page 5*

the highest amount of points possible. We each had black bottoms and blue tops with some interesting additional colors options. Gina's light-colored bandanna (Japanese hand-painted, no less) and cap added a nice pop, and the yellow in the bandanna brings out the yellow in her poles. The purple pack goes perfectly with the clothes with some lovely raspberry accents in the back. I used my bandanna to bring together the reddish stripe on my skirt and my raspberry backpack also adds a charming pop of color.



I am not going to show any examples of what not to wear as I do not want to embarrass anyone...but you know who you are and you are in Gina's sights. The next time you go on a hike, look in the mirror before you leave the house and ask yourself, "Would Gina approve?"

-- Lori Tisdell

Un-Holiday Party *continued from page 2*

Door prizes were given out. This year, it was decided that the prizes would be the Pueblo's tables and chairs. That way, hikers wouldn't have to put them away after the party was over! Winners were thrilled to claim their prized pieces of furniture.

Then there were awards. EMS Gift Certificates for \$1,000 were given to hikers who led zero hikes. Special gifts – cars! – were given to hikers who had gone on no hikes.

On to the food. This year it was catered by the one and only – Burger King! "This is delicious!" Gary shouted, as he reached for his third Whopper. "Best holiday party food – ever!"

What PVHC holiday party would be complete without appetizers and hors d'oeuvres? The theme this year was: Potentially Edible Items Found on PVHC Hikes. "Yum, pickled pine cones! My favorite!" Chip bubbled. Best Side Dish Award was given to Lori T., for her tasty concoction of melted snow and dirt. The hikers clamored for more, but it was quickly gobbled up.

As the sun rose, the party came to a close. Hikers gathered at the Greeters' Table to say goodbye. Shania, Bob and Bono posed for group photographs. What a hit next year's slide show will be!

PVHC members stumbled into the Springfield College parking lot. Karen and Al shouted into the crowd: "Merry Holidays to all! And to all a Good Morning!"

-- Alfred E. Newman

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*“*possible side effects include: dizziness, headache, stomach upset, nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite, diarrhea, constipation, or a metallic taste in your mouth may occur.”*

~ PaPa Smurf

Sweatwater *continued from page 2*

sources. Ultralight backpackers will find that ingesting the filter before the start of your hike will totally eliminate the need to carry bulky or troublesome external water filter or treatment systems. The filters are good for up to 20 gallons, or three bowel movements, before needing to be replaced. Earlier trials have confirmed that you may notice some small chunks of charcoal in your feces but that usually goes away after a few days. On sale starting April 1st, 2018.

**possible side effects include: dizziness, headache, stomach upset, nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite, diarrhea, constipation, or a metallic taste in your mouth may occur. If any of these effects last or get worse, tell your doctor or pharmacist promptly.*

-- PaPa Smurf

UPCOMING EVENTS AND THE USUALS

- Every Mon. (MA) Monday Morning Hikes w/ Chip
- Every Tues. (MA) Tuesday Evening Hikes w/ Lori
- Every Thurs. (MA) Thursday Morning Hikes w/ Harry
- Every Thurs. (MA) Ashley Reservoir Evenings w/ Erin
- Apr 1 (MA) April Fool's Hike - Good Luck!
- Apr 7 (NYC) Bus Trip
- Apr 15 (CT) Your taxes are due!
- Apr 21 (NH) Awards Banquet
- Apr 22 (MA) Mt. Tom Spring Hiking Kickoff Cookoff
- Apr 28 (MA) Maintenance & EB's
- May 5 (VT) Mt. Ascutney
- May 12 (MA) AT Section 4
- May 19 (CT) NET-Reach the Beach



IMPORTANT NOTICES

Next Club Meetings:
Apr. 3, 2018, 7 p.m. at **FBC**
May 1, 2018, 7 p.m. at **FBC**

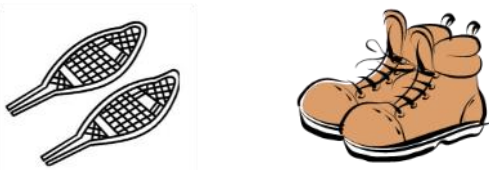
FBC - First Baptist Church, 337 Piper Road, West Springfield

This issue of *Footprints* is dedicated to my Mentor-in-Jest, John "PaPa Smurf" Klebes, former *Footprints* Editor ~ Dick Lost & In the Forest

Deadline for submissions to the next *Footprints* is April 20, 2018

**** 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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