



BooTpriNts

The Bimonthly Newsletter of the
Pioneer Valley Hiking Club

President's Corner:

Current News, Upcoming Milestones, and a Highpoint

by President Lori Tisdell

The article this month is updating members about some current news, upcoming milestones, and a very cool high point.

Pioneer Valley Hiking Club was founded by Ray Tibbetts in 1991. In just two years our club will be celebrating 35 years of existence. That's quite a milestone towards which we are heading. I am going to challenge members and next year's board with a year of celebration as we did when PVHC hit 25 years in 2016.

PVHC has been proactive for a long time in continuing to make our club relevant and moving forward. We have lots of members who volunteer to keep us active and running smoothly. Which has certainly helped keep us in business all this time.

2020-2021 got a bit harry with the pandemic taking a toll on our membership. At one point we were down to about 200 memberships – a low we hadn't seen in quite a long time. Members of the club worked to bring our membership back up to pre-pandemic numbers by handing out business cards, posting flyers, talking up our club and opening the PVHC Facebook page to non-paying members among other strategies. And many people discovered hiking when it was one of the few things you could safely do during lockdown. So that may have helped, too.

We continued to fill the PVHC hike schedule with easy, moderate, and difficult hikes each week. We've kept weekday and weekend hikes (weekends got a bit challenging to fill), and other members besides Karen added a number of multi-day hiking and biking trips in the last year or two. We
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Volume 28, Issue 2

Mar, 2024

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“Our membership has now grown to over 300!”

~ President Lori Tisdell

President’s Corner continued from page 1

have something for everyone. All of which kept us going through the worst of 2020-2021, and helped us to come back even stronger in 2022 and 2023.

Our membership has now grown to over 300! We hit that high point last month. I don’t know how long it will stay above the 300 mark, but I’ve enjoyed seeing it there. We’ve had a good start to 2024 with 18 new memberships in January.

In other news, we had two new (well, one returning after a hiatus) executive board members elected in February and two returning board members. Lani and I will continue as president and secretary for another year. Then our three years are up, and we will both be leaving those positions. New board members are Chip Pray as vice president. Chip is returning to the board after serving as president for seven years in the twenty teens. He brings lots of experience with him along with great ideas. Judy Alfano is brand new to the board as treasurer. She hit the ground running and is doing a great job. We had a terrific first board meeting and will continue to work at keeping PVHC moving forward.

One of our tasks this year is finding more outside people and organizations to provide clinics for our members. We had a great start with Nancy Condon in January and her Paddle for Water slide show and talk. March will have Brian “Doc” Sutton, who biked across the U.S. to raise funds for a local rail trail. Kari Blood from the Kestrel Land Trust is coming in May to talk about land and trail conservation, trail building, community engagement, etc. We are continuing to pursue other avenues to provide interesting and appropriate clinics for PVHC members.

Thanks, and congratulations to the newly elected board. Many thanks to all those members who continue to help build PVHC, and to all our new members for joining the PVHC community.

--President Lori Tisdell

Smurfy advice for the trail...

Gear Checklists

by John "PaPa Smurf" Klebes

Hike (while being) prepared with the Ten Essentials - it's the mantra of all good hike leaders. But even the best of us struggle with deciding what things to take on a hike or backpacking adventure. Worry as to what essential item you might have forgotten can be stressful and potentially health, or at least comfort, threatening.

It's never practical to bring everything we can possibly imagine we need on a hike or backpack. The more stuff we take the less comfortable we are with the weight and bulk, and at some point, it's totally impractical. The less weight and bulk the easier we can do a hike. A light pack puts a spring in our steps. A heavy pack can slow you down, cause loss of energy and enjoyment, and cause pain and potential injuries. But the less we take, the less prepared for emergencies and the less comfortable we are on our adventure.

How do the pros do it? Checklists and Gear Lists! Everyone who has been on a few hiking adventures has at least a mental list in their heads of what not to forget to bring. By making this list more formal, and writing them down, you will eliminate a lot of stress in deciding what to bring on your next hike. Another great benefit of writing your gear list down is the opportunity to review it again at the end of your hike. Think about what you wish you had brought and be sure to improve the checklist by adding that missing item to improve your planning for next time.

Equally important, consider what items on your checklist you didn't use. Then consider if it's essential for emergencies (that just by luck didn't). See *Gear Checklists continued on page 4*

"It's never practical to bring everything we can possibly imagine we need on a hike or backpack."

~ PaPa Smurf

"How do the pros do it? Checklists and Gear Lists!"

~ PaPa Smurf



*“Most hikers like to separate their gear list into something more like three lists: **what we wear, what we carry as material items, and consumables.**”*
~ PaPa Smurf

Gear Checklists *continued from page 3*

occur on this trip), or are just niceties that add weight and complexity to your adventure and can be easily left out to make your pack lighter. Make a point of reviewing and improving your checklist after every hike.

To make your first checklist start with the Ten Essentials. (See the article in the September, 2020, *Bootprints*, or the copy in the back of the club’s directory.) Most hikers like to separate their gear list into something more like three lists: **what we wear, what we carry as material items, and consumables.**

What we wear is simply our hiking outfit and shoes. Most people will not even need to make this a list but *it’s* what we typically wear on the hike. It’s your hiking pants, shirt, boots, etc. What we carry can be thought of as our base weight plus *consumables*. The base weight is everything we bring that doesn’t get eaten or used up. It is the basic weight of all our gear minus any water, food or fuel we bring. Since water, food and fuel changes depending on how long we are going and diminishes as we consume it, it is more trip dependent and not a basic gear requirement. Our base weight is the essential items without water, food and fuel added in.

I like to break my checklist into several categories:

- ◆ Backpack
- ◆ Hiking poles
- ◆ Extra clothing items (rain gear, warm layers, hat, gloves, extra socks, etc.)
- ◆ Sleeping/Shelter (*For day hiking this may just be a simple space blanket or a sit pad for breaks. For backpacking it would include your tent/shelter, sleeping bag, pad, etc.*)
- ◆ Water/Kitchen (*For day hikes this is your empty water bottles and water treatment options. For backpacking it may also include a stove, pots, utensils, lighter/matches, etc.*)

See President’s Corner continued on page 5

Gear Checklists *continued from page 4*

- ♦ Hygiene *(personal items such as toilet paper, toiletries, trowel, sunscreen, bug repellent, etc.)*
- ♦ Essentials and extra luxury items *(first-aid kit, 10 essentials not included elsewhere, cellphone, charger, cables, compass, ID and money, keys, cards/games, etc.)*

When creating your checklist many find it useful to use a kitchen scale to measure the weight of each item. It makes it easier to decide between several options and to understand the weight trade-offs between alternative choices. You might choose a lightweight wind/water-resistant raincoat over a heavy, waterproof raincoat that weighs twice as much, if you don't expect rain.

What you put on your gear list can be influenced by weather, the seasons, difficulty and types of terrain, and length of time you are out. You may have to create multiple checklists or consider it a general category of needs that you can adjust as you pick your adventure. Perhaps a separate checklist for backpacking and one for day hiking. A winter list and a summer list. And consider variations for cold/warm weather and dry or rainy weather. As long as you have a basic checklist you can use it to consider modifications while knowing that each category of gear has been considered.

For example, the items hat, gloves, and a warm layer might represent a fleece hat, winter gloves, and an insulating sweater in winter. The same checklist could represent a baseball cap, wind gloves, and a long sleeve shirt in summer. Condition-dependent items might be added, such as snowshoes, traction devices like microspikes, and an emergency bivy shelter. You may want to add these optional items to your checklist so that you are reminded to consider them as you pack for your trip.

See *Gear Checklists continued on page 6*



PaPa Smurf

"What you put on your gear list can be influenced by weather, the seasons, difficulty and types of terrain, and length of time you are out."

~ PaPa Smurf

**Gear Checklists** continued from page 5

Gear List		
Item	Description	Weight (grams)
Main Gear		
Backpack	ULA - Catalyst	1340
cash/liner w/compass, flashlight	emergency light & navigation	16
bear canister	bear vault (1155g)	0
Sleep/Shelter		
tent w/poles and stakes	Tarpent - Double Rainbow	1220
sleeping bag with doryack	Marmot - Hydrogen 30degree	674
Sleep bag liner	New Zealand Silk Sack	134
sleeping pad	big agnes 697g	692
camp pad	z-rest cut down 290g	60
Groundsheet	ryvek	208
Kitchen/Water		
Stove w/stove bag	solo micro regulator	82
backpack stove	alcohol stove, windscreen kit	60
cooking pot/lid	GSI 1.1 liter	210
Bowl	cottage cheese container	16
Mug	plastic 12-oz insulated mug	124
Spoon	lexan	6
Knife	swiss army with corkscrew	60
lighter and matches	bic lighter & matches	25
bear rope	parashoot cord	24
water filter	gravity	250
water bottles (3)	aquafina wide-mouth (3 x 48g)	144
water backup	4 liter wine bladder	56
Packed Clothing		
Down jacket/pillow		422
fleece sweater		340
rain jacket		292
rain pants	north face	176
light gloves	hyperlite all weather gloves	52
warm hat	fleece	50
long underwear lower	polypio	260
long sleeve shirt	patagonia	194
short sleeve shirt	patagonia	136
Underwear	polypio	80
Shorts	polypio	80
Bandana	cotton	26
socks (1)	smart wool	90
liner socks (1)	polypio	44
Hygiene		
pack towel		34
Soap		110
toothbrush, paste, floss		56
toilet paper		60
baby wipes, powder, hand cleaner	72,56, 40	168
sun screen		72
bug net		12
Essentials & Misc		
Headlamp		94
firstaid/emergency kit		350
guide notes/maps		
passport, permits, address/phone book		
paper/pencil/pen		
money, credit, license, debit card		
Cellphone		94
mp3		34
Gps		146
USB battery backup		
charges/cables/extra batteries (camera, gps, mp3, phone)		194
camp shoes	croc	364
cosmic wipeout	dice game	30
TOTAL BASE WEIGHT (without water, food, fuel)	20 lbs - 14 oz	9461

A Sample Gear List

See Gear Checklists continued on page 7



“Remember that it’s the balance between the burden of carrying an item versus the enjoyment it provides along the way that only you can decide for your adventure.”

~ PaPa Smurf

Gear Checklists *continued from page 6*

Consider also that every luxury item has both great value and a downside on a hike. Don’t be afraid to take something you love if it makes your hike more enjoyable but consider if the weight and difficulty of carrying it outweighs the benefit. Is a fancy heavy camera setup important to you and your enjoyment or a burden that a simple cellphone camera can replace? How about a camp chair? We all have certain items that we love and feel are worth having. Just make an informed decision. You can take ultralight hiking too far. Remember that it’s the balance between the burden of carrying an item versus the enjoyment it provides along the way that only you can decide for your adventure.

~PaPa Smurf

(If you have a suggestion for future topics or a hike-related question you would like covered in this column send a note to:

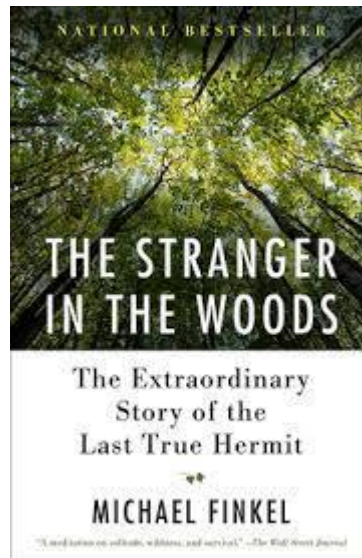
john.klebes@gmail.com)

Book Review by Erin Squires:

The Stranger in the Woods: The Extraordinary Story of the Last True Hermit

by Michael Finkel

The Stranger in the Woods by Michael Finkel tells the incredible story about Christopher Knight who walked into the Maine woods at age 20 and lived in the woods alone for 27 years. The author attempted to befriend Christopher and was able to visit with him a few times to understand why Christopher choose to live as a hermit. The author explored the idea of living a life of solitude and what would drive an individual to live a life away from human interaction.



The book was a great read and very interesting. Can humans live a solitary life? Did Christopher really live in the woods for 27 years or did his family support him? Should his survival methods be punished by law? Well worth the read to explore these questions.

- - Erin Squires

"...tells the incredible story about Christopher Knight who walked into the Maine woods at age 20 and lived in the woods alone for 27 years."

~ Erin Squires



"They canoed about 5000 miles through 19 states on 9 major rivers over 13 months of paddling...."

~ Dick Forrest

"They have a message. And that message is the conservation of water as a precious, natural resource."

~ Dick Forrest

Book Review by Dick Forrest:

Paddle for Water: Canoeing across America with a Message And a Man I Never Intended to Marry

by Nancy DeWitte Condon

This book, as part of the adventure genre, is exactly the type of book I love to read. It's an "adventure memoir," as it says on the book's cover. It's written primarily from the journals of two canoeists, a man and a woman, who cross the entire country (the U.S.), from the west coast to the east coast, in one canoe. They canoed about 5000 miles through 19 states on 9 major rivers over 13 months of paddling, all the while encountering 58 dams along their journey. The author, one of the two canoeists, Nancy DeWitte Condon, wrote a beautiful book that's a joy to read.

Nancy DeWitte Condon gave a talk about her journey to Pioneer Valley Hiking Club at their monthly meeting on January 2nd, 2024. I bought Paddle for Water at that meeting and I'm glad I did - her book was much better than her talk. The book was self-published in 2022 and written during the Covid pandemic. She tells you in the "Acknowledgments" at end of the book that she has an editor and others to help her tell her stories. The vignettes or chapters, dated chronologically along the pair's journey from the west coast to the east coast, are thankfully short and the sentences are easy to read with a lot of spacing between the lines of type (which also known as leading (pronounced "leding")).

The subtitle gives you some clues about what motivated a man and a woman to undertake such a journey. They have a message. And that message is the conservation of water as a precious, natural resource. However, I suspect that adventure was their primary motivation and their message was a secondary one. They were frequently interviewed by the press along their journey so they communicated their message quite often to the communities along the rivers they canoed on.

See Paddle for Water continued on page 10

Paddle for Water continued from page 9

Another motivation, at least for the man on the trip, Tom Condon, whose parents lived in Longmeadow, Massachusetts, at the time, was that he was looking for love. Nancy did her best to rebuff him during the trip, and in the end, the guy got the girl. Tom asked Nancy to marry him twice during the trip, and after she didn't commit, his bruised ego of unrequited love caused him to quit the journey. So he, not they, ended the first part of their journey in Atchison, Kansas, on the Missouri River, and both went back home to their parents. Soon after Nancy missed Tom so much that she called him on the phone with the word, "Yes." She wanted him to ask her again where she then lived. So Tom sent Nancy a bouquet of roses, and hightailed it up to her family's home to propose. Eleven years later, starting where they left off, they completed the second part of their journey reaching the east coast and finishing on Georgia's Tybee Island, at the mouth of the Savannah River, celebrating their accomplishment with family and friends.

Following in the footsteps of Lewis and Clark's eastward return of the 1804-1806 expedition Tom and Nancy were on an adventurous and perilous journey. It's a wonder that neither of them got hurt or injured or sick or died during their canoe trip. On a couple of occasions they lost their canoe and had to retrieve it downriver. On some of the rivers they took they had to paddle upstream against the current. With most of the dams on the rivers they navigated they had to portage around them on way too many occasions; other times, there were locks at dams that helped them more easily continue their journey. Probably the most positive aspect of their trip was the kindness of strangers all along some of the major rivers of America. There was only one occasion where some of their possessions in their three hundred pound when fully-loaded canoe were stolen.

It's fascinating that Nancy married the man she never intended to marry anyway. And that Nancy lived in a single tent for months with a man she never intended to marry. That sexual tension alone made me want to read more.

If you have a chance, read this book and you will be enlightened by an incredible sense of adventure and an extraordinary athletic endurance toward an achievable goal. And, yes, it includes a romantic love story. You will also enjoy reading stories involving a mode of transportation across America that many of us don't ever think about.

--Dick Forrest

"Tom asked Nancy to marry him twice during the trip, and after she didn't commit, his bruised ego of unrequited love caused him to quit the journey."

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"Talented author Jacqueline Sheehan is a member of Pioneer Valley Hiking Club (PVHC)."

~ Dick Forrest

Book Review by Dick Forrest:

The Tiger in the House

by Jacqueline Sheehan

Talented author Jacqueline Sheehan is a member of Pioneer Valley Hiking Club (PVHC). In the previous bimonthly *Bootprints* newsletter I reviewed her novel Lost & Found, which made the *New York Times Bestseller list* (see the January, 2024, *Bootprints*). That novel was published in 2007. This novel, The Tiger in the House (this review), was published ten years later in 2017. There are parallels and differences between the two novels.

The story centers around the main character, Delia, who is a social worker and works for a foster care agency, and Hayley, a four-year-old child, who becomes her last social work case, since Delia is leaving the agency to help her sister start a new bakery business. Hayley is found in the middle of the road covered in some blood (Hayley was present at a crime scene) by a couple who are driving by. The couple call the police. (Coincidentally, a male friend who I play tennis with related a similar incident about a very young child who was alone and who was found in the middle of the road at the top the street where I live by my tennis playing friend as he turned the corner onto my street. My friend and another person, a woman, driving in the opposite direction who came upon the child standing in the road also called the police.)

Delia is on a mission to find Hayley's parents because she knows that placing her in a foster home will not be good for her. So like Lost & Found this novel, also a book of fiction, is also a mystery which grabs your attention to the end. We, as readers, want to know more. What's going to happen to Hayley and will Delia be successful in finding Hayley's parents?

A difference between the books is that the characters are more fully developed in this novel. You can tell that Jacqueline's writing has grown in the ten years since the publication of Lost & Found. Consequently, The Tiger in the House is better written.

See *The Tiger in the House* continued on page 12

The Tiger in the House continued from page 11

There are 55 short chapters in the book, which helps the reader put the book down at convenient times. The story, like Lost & Found, takes place in Maine, in this case, the South Portland area. Many of the chapters center on a particular character who Jacqueline chooses to write about, further allowing the reader to get to know the character. Each of the characters interact with Delia on some level, whether it be her sister, Juniper (nicknamed J Bird); her foster care services boss, Ira; Erica, Hayley's interim caretaker; her old boyfriend, Jeremy; and her new boyfriend, Mike.

The title, The Tiger in the House, refers to Hayley's fear of tigers. Delia finds out that Hayley visited a fictional Lillian Tiger Library in West Hartford, Connecticut, and this is somehow connected with Hayley's fear.

Various thoughts about the book: There are parallels between the two novels: Jacqueline includes animals in her novels. She also likes to write about food. The endings, in both novels, come to a satisfying conclusion. In Lost & Found, the main character, a woman, Rocky, is successful; in The Tiger in the House, the main character, a woman, Delia, is also successful. Both Rocky and Delia, through their own investigative work, find answers to mysteries, both of which, delight the reader.

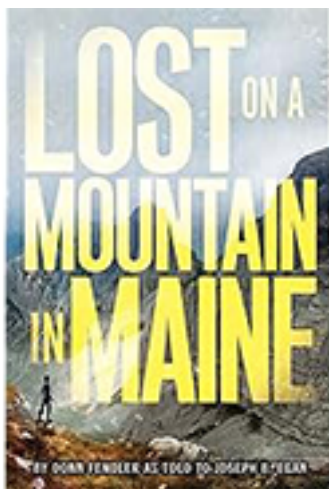
Jacqueline Sheehan is a tremendously talented writer and it's great that she's a member of PVHC. More of our members, as well as others outside of our club, should read her fine works of fiction.

--Dick Forrest

The following is a link to Jacqueline's website:
<https://www.jacquelinesheehan.com>

"Jacqueline Sheehan is a tremendously talented writer...."

~ Dick Forrest



"...twelve-year-old Donn Fendler is on the summit of Mt. Katahdin, in Baxter State Park, and it's cold, windy, and foggy, and he leaves his hiking companion on the summit because he's getting cold."

~ Dick Forrest

Book Review by Dick Forrest:

Lost on a Mountain in Maine

by Donn Fendler as told to Joseph B. Egan

This is a gem of a little book and one of my favorite stories of all time. The story is about a twelve-year-old boy who gets lost on a mountain in Maine. The mountain is not any old mountain in Maine but the highest mountain in Maine, Mt. Katahdin (elev. 5,270'). It's July, 1939, twelve-year-old Donn Fendler is on the summit of Mt. Katahdin, in Baxter State Park, and it's cold, windy, and foggy, and he leaves his hiking companion on the summit because he's getting cold. So Donn decides to descend alone, and he gets lost. Instead of going back down the Hunt Trail where he came up the mountain from and where his father, brother, and others are waiting for him, he continues down to a trail sign that says, "Saddle Trail." He doesn't descend down the trail because he had been told that the trail was dangerous. So he walks around trying to find his way, calling out for his father, for help. He unwittingly returns to the Saddle Trail sign, but doesn't descend again. From there he heads off trail to the north desperately trying to find his father and his climbing party. This takes him further away from the safety of the Hunt Trail, or even the safety of the Saddle Trail.

This story has a happy ending. Donn survives in the wilderness for eight nights and is rescued on the ninth day. In the course of those nine days he is assaulted by mosquitoes, black flies, and other biting insects. He encounters bears on two occasions. He lost his pants on the third day and later loses his shoes. As a result, he gets thorns in his feet, as well as cuts and bruises on them. He holes up in hollowed out trees when it's raining. He had plenty of water to drink and ate berries when he could find them. One thing that saved his life is that he followed the Wassataquoik Stream, and the stream flowed into the East Branch of the Penobscot River. On the other side of the See *Lost on a Mountain in Maine* continued on page 14

Lost on a Mountain in Maine continued from page 13

river, when he came to it, was a camp/cabin inhabited by people. Donn waved and called out to a man who came out of the cabin who saw him, who then crossed over the river by boat, who then brought Donn back to his cabin to safety.

Donn weighed approximately 74 pounds on the first day of being lost and at the end of nine days he weighed 58 pounds, so he was skin and bones at the end of his ordeal. A large manhunt was undertaken, unsuccessfully, to find him. Donn saved himself by traveling, it's estimated, between 10 to 14 miles a day over difficult wilderness terrain, despite at the end being barely able to walk at all.

What strikes me most about this twelve year old is his faith in God. As a result of his faith, Donn never gives up. Due to his religious upbringing, Donn was taught to say his prayers. He had to believe that God would help him and take care of him and allow him to get back to his family. What Donn writes in the forward of the book is the most telling:

What I have learned from that adventure in the Katahdins has been a guide throughout my life. It has strengthened my faith in God and in prayer, while teaching me to be responsible for my actions and to never, ever give up when reaching for a goal in life – even when things look their darkest.

--Dick Forrest

“What strikes me most about this twelve year old is his faith in God.”
~ Dick Forrest



Future Events in 2024

March 29-30 - (VT) Stratton Pond Shelter Fondue led by Karen Markham & Al Roman

April 6 - (NYC) Bus Trip organized by Jeanne Kaiser & Gary Dolgoff

April 13 - Trail maintenance organized by Chip Pray & Rob Schechtman

April 26-28 - (NH) 52 WAV weekend - organized by Jim Brown & Dave King

May 24-26 - (NH) Mispah White Mountain Hut Trip organized by Karen Markham

June 1 - Quabbin maintenance organized by Jim Brown

June 21-23 - (NH) White Mountain Sampler organized by Al Goodhind

August 11 - Annual PVHC Picnic organized by Amy Cohen

August 12-16 - (VT) Mad River Valley organized by Erin Squires & Lori Tisdell

September 15-22 - (ME) Lily Bay State Park Campground in Greenville, Maine, organized by Karen Markham

September 26-29 - (NY) Johns Brook Lodge (ADK) organized by Karen Markham
- (there is a **waitlist** for this event)

October 21-25 - (MA) Cape Cod Trip organized by Cheryl Stevens & Debbie Bombard

December 14 - Annual PVHC Holiday Party organized by Karen Markham, Al Roman, & Lani Giguere

PVHC 2022-2023 Executive Board



Left to Right: Lori Tisdell, President; Erin Squires, Vice President;
Peggy Tibbitt, Treasurer; Lani Giguere, Secretary
Great Job, Ladies!

Important Membership Renewal Notices

The following memberships are up for renewal:

Mar Renewals

Kathleen Bishop
Debbie Bombard & Cheryl Stevens
Jeff Briggs
Kay Byington
Mike & Gail Carrier
Theresa Corey
Dan Harrington
David King
John Klebes
Edmund Marrone
Shane Motherway
Lorraine Plasse
Thomas Popisil
Linda Quesnel
Greg Socha & Tracy Wilson
Maryellen Sullivan
Charles Vanasse
Susan Wills
Kevin & Robin Withers
Victoria Worth

Apr Renewals

Jacki Barden
Marianne Baush
Karon Belunas
Meghan Bergin
Bernice & Elbert Bowler
Norma Casillas
Bev Dyer
Jane Glushik
Peter Haas
Barbara Havlicek
Christine (Labich) Jonas
Holly Keith
James Krupp
Susan McGuirk
Lori McMahon
Robert Morgan
Annie Nelson
Asa & Per Nilsson
Laura Oppedisano
Tom Pedersen
Joanne Quirk
Noreen Rodgers & Bill Deskin
Albert Shane
Jacqueline Sheehan
Laura Vizenor
David Weinberg
Susan Young
Kathy Zeiben

Please renew early, and renew by mail. (Make checks payable to Pioneer Valley Hiking Club (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 01089
(Dues are: \$20 individual member, \$35 family, and \$10 for students)

Pioneer Valley Hiking Club Officers

Lori Tisdell, President
Chip Pray, Vice President
Judy Alfano, Treasurer
Lani Giguere, Secretary
Ray Tibbetts, Founder

Standing Committee Chairs

Hike Schedule: Jos Brannan & Lori Tisdell
Backpacking Advisor: Rick Briggs
Trail Maintenance: Chip Pray & Rob Schechtman
Club Website Editor: Dick Forrest
Non-Member E-mail Coordinator: Rob Schechtman
Club E-mail Coordinator: Lori Tisdell
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

Jan

Kristen Blythe
Christine Bresnahan
Jan Civan & family
Crystal Cooper
Deborah Devine
Thomas Downey
Al Gordon
Marty Jo Henry
Amber Holbrook
Lou MacDonald
Laura Manship
Robert Marcus
Jack & Barbara McGowan
Kurt Morris
Ellen Petersen
Kris Rice
Carole Richard
Carole Swann

Feb

Keith/Penny Brierley-Bowers
Carol Constant
Mary Fister
Eric Harder
Hank Kozlowski
Helen Maccul
Susan Raschi
Jule Sherman
Kenton Shirk & David Reuther
Christine Sgueglia
Nina Talayco
Claire-Anne Williams
Sharla Zwirek



UPCOMING EVENTS AND THE USUALS

Mondays	Morning hike
Tuesdays	Morning hike, evening hike
Wednesdays	Morning hike
Thursdays	Morning hike
Fridays	Morning hike
Saturdays	Morning hike
Sundays	Morning hike
Mar 5	Club Meeting
Apr 2	Club Meeting
PVHC Schedule of Events	https://teamup.com/ kszb8qkbizhndt3qjt7

IMPORTANT NOTICES

Next Club Meetings

Mar 5, 7 p.m. at **ROC (2024)**

Apr 2, 7 p.m. at **ROC**

ROC - Red Oak Church, 337 Piper Road, West Springfield

Deadline for submissions to the next *Footprints* (April Fool's edition) is March 20, 2024

Deadline for submissions to the next *Bootprints* is April 20, 2024

**** Check out our club website at:**

www.pioneervalleyhikingclub.org

Members may join the PVHC Email List by sending a message to:

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