



# Bootprints

The Bimonthly Newsletter of the  
Pioneer Valley Hiking Club

President's Corner:

## Year End Review 2024

by President Lori Tisdell

Greetings, friends, and fellow Pioneer Valley Hiking Club (PVHC) members. I'd like to start by thanking all who went to the annual holiday party to celebrate our 33rd year of outdoor adventure with PVHC! We had an excellent year – and it is because so many members volunteer their time and effort that make us such a great hiking club.

Some of the highlights in 2024.

Officer elections were held in February. Two officers retired after serving 3-years – Erin Squires (more on her later) as VP and Peggy Tibbitt as Treasurer. Two of us were reelected to the board, me and Lani Giguere (more on Lani later too). We had two new board members elected Chip Pray as VP and Judy Alfano as Treasurer.

As you may know from my incessant email reminders, *Bootprints* articles and downright begging, Chip, Lani and I are retiring from our board positions and needed replacements.

It was down to the wire, but we had four very capable members running for election. Erin Squires for president, she is particularly well-equipped for the position having previously served as VP and Treasurer. Ed Marrone as Vice President will bring a new voice with new ideas to the board and that is always welcomed. Brenda Doucette, as Secretary, will also bring another new voice and ideas to the board. Judy Alfano remained the last woman standing as Treasurer and will continue to serve as superbly as she did in her first year on the board. Since there were no opposing candidates, we expected all four to be elected – and they were. Even write in votes (yeah, there weren't any) didn't change the expected outcome.

*President's Corner continued on page 2*

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### Inside this issue:

Important Renewal and Member- 19

Upcoming Events And The Usuals 20

Important Notices 20

### Special points of interest:

- Lori Tisdell's President's Corner article on page 1
- PaPa Smurf's article on page 8
- Dick Forrest's 1st book review on page 13
- Dick Forrest's 2nd book review on page 15
- Future Events on page 17



*“Late last year, with the club’s approval, we started offering honorariums to outside speakers for clinics.”*

*~ President Lori Tisdell*

*“Under Chip Pray and Rob Schechtman’s direction as maintenance coordinators, the club continued to maintain Sections 1 & 2 of the New England Trail in Mass.”*

*~ President Lori Tisdell*

***President’s Corner*** continued from page 1

The board, along with the club’s approval decided to have officer elections at the holiday party this year. Thank you to poll workers Beth and Stephanie!

Late last year, with the club’s approval, we started offering honorariums to outside speakers for clinics. We had some very interesting and fun clinics this year, Nancy Condon spoke about her years-long, 5,000-mile, cross-country canoe trip, Brian “Doc” Sutton spoke about his 3000-mile, cross-country biking trip, Kari Blood from the Kestrel Land Trust spoke about their mission and accomplishments, Bob Schwobe via a DVD spoke on the history of Mt Tom, Richard Little via YouTube spoke about the geological history of Western Mass, and finally, Judith Macintosh from the Swift River Valley Historical Society spoke about their mission and history and The Hidden Peninsula at Quabbin. Thanks to Chip for arranging the clinics.

Two meeting highlights were a pizza night in June and a potluck dinner in October. Both were successful, fun and well-attended. I hope the next board arranges for more of them in 2025.

We had a good year in continuing to grow our club – a little. Last year at the end of 2023 we had 292 memberships. We now have 301 and have stayed steadily above 300 memberships all year.

Under Chip Pray and Rob Schechtman’s direction as maintenance coordinators, the club continued to maintain Sections 1 & 2 of the New England Trail in Mass. Many PVHC members volunteered in April and November along with smaller work crews during the course of the year. We blazed, made a reroute on Section 1, cleared blowdowns, picked up trash, repaired areas that needed it, cleared the bridge of overgrowth and other essential work. Thanks to Chip, Rob and all the volunteers. It wouldn’t have happened without all of you.

August was the annual club picnic, and we chose a new location – Mill River Recreation area. It was a perfect day with a hike to start and lots of fun, games, and socializing, as well as great food provided by PVHC and

*President’s Corner* continued on page 3

**President's Corner** *continued from page 2*

the attending members. Many thanks to first time organizer Amy Cohen, she did a great job, and her committee – Judy , Debbie, Cheryl , Nora , Celeste, and grillers Rob, Kathy, Chip and Mike!

In September, we sent out a Hiker Survey to PVHC members for feedback on how we are doing, asking where we might improve and for ideas as the club continues to move forward. We had excellent feedback – thanks to those who responded. We found what members wanted most were more moderate hikes on the weekends, Sunday afternoon hikes, and leader training.

In response, we have added more moderate hikes along with the usual more difficult ones to the weekends. We have added a few Sunday afternoons hikes per month as well. We also formed a Leadership Training Committee consisting of myself, Karen Markham, Cheryl Stevens, Debbie Bombard and Sandy Segó. We had our first Zoom meeting a few weeks ago and will continue to support and train those who want to lead hikes for PVHC.

And of course, the holiday party, which was organized by Karen Markham, Al Roman, and Lani Giguere. Thank you for stepping up once again. And thanks to elves Debbie, Cheryl, Marie, and Shari who helped with all the decorations and prep work. And also, thanks to the members who came to set up, greet and those who cleaned up. It is one of the most, if not the most, anticipated social events on the club calendar with an attendance of 113!

The PVHC calendar was pretty full with over 425 scheduled activities.

The schedule was filled to the brim with day hikes, bike rides, walks and multi-day trips. Nearly every day had an activity, and many days had more than one! There were only 24 days that did not have an activity scheduled! A huge thanks to all the PVHC hike leaders, they are the backbone and mainstay of our club. Forty-three members have led at least one hike in the last year. But the majority led many hikes and activities. In no particular order here are the names of all who led hikes in 2024.

*President's Corner continued on page 4*

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*“I’d like say a few words to recognize Al Goodhind who has organized the White Mt Sampler in June for many years.”*

*~ President Lori Tisdell*

***President’s Corner*** continued from page 3

Chip Pray, Brenda Doucette, Jim Brown, Karen Markham, Al Roman, Debbie Bombard, Cheryl Stevens, John Fortune, Joe Stella, Shari Cox, Gary Dolgoff, Peggy Tibbitt, Erin Squires, Dick Forrest, Ed Page, Joanne Fortin, Rick Ricci, Chris Pinney, Lynn Gebo, Ed Marrone, Tom Lake, Jeanne Kaiser, Sandy Segó, Lorraine Plasse, Al Shane, Betty Lampke, Susan Crim, Kay Flatten, Gina Geck, Stacey Munro, Al Goodhind, David Vivian, Mary Moriarty, Lani Giguere, Stephanie Bustos, Chuck Serafin, Michele Wolf, Nicole Fonsh, Virginia Ahearn, Constance Janik, Vance Von Jarowski, Phyllis Keenan, and Ruth Harper. I apologize if I have forgotten anyone. Thank you all for leading!

The multi-day trips filled the calendar as well. They started in April kicking off Jim Brown’s six 52 WAV weekend trips to NH. He must be pretty close to completing those 52 summits! Jim, along with Tom Lake and Lynn Gebo, led a bike trip in NY in October. Karen’s annual spring White Mt Hut trip was to Mizpah Springs Hut in May, along with Mt Blue State Park in Maine in August, Lily Bay, also in Maine and the annual Adirondack Johns Brook Lodge in September and finishing the year with Taft Lodge on the shoulder of Mt Mansfield in Vt in November. Karen is the multiday, backpacking, hut leading, camping guru of PVHC! Lani Giguere started leading multiday trips this year, at Baxter SP in July, and The Adirondacks in September. Cheryl Stevens and Debbie Bombard led the now annual by popular demand October Cape Cod trip.

I’d like say a few words to recognize Al Goodhind who has organized the White Mt Sampler in June for many years. We don’t know how many Al has organized but it’s definitely more than 25 and likely close to 30. A 2002 *Bootprints* article references his leading it “annually” and “year after year.” Al has retired from leading the White Mt Sampler after so many years. Please join me in recognizing Al’s invaluable contributions with our heartfelt thanks!

All of these trips are so special, creating lasting bonds of friendship between club members. They are so very important, and I thank all of you for leading them.

*President’s Corner* continued on page 5

**President's Corner** *continued from page 4*

I'd like to acknowledge those who work behind the scenes to keep PVHC running smoothly. They are the unsung heroes of our club. They continue to work and support the club but without all the glory those hike leaders get!

Fellow board members, Chip Pray, Lani Giguere and Judy Alfano. I'd like to thank them for their service to PVHC, for all of their hard work, input, help and dedication. Their voices, ideas and support are greatly appreciated.

PVHC Standing Committee Chairs

Hike Scheduler Jos Brannan

Backpacking Advisor Rick Briggs

Trail Maintenance Coordinators Chip Pray & Rob Schechtman

Web Page Editor Dick Forrest

Non-Member Email Coordinator Rob Schechtman

Quartermaster Mike Carrier

*Bootprints* Editor Dick Forrest

Greeter Table Volunteers Debbie Bombard, Cheryl Stevens

So many thanks for their contributions to PVHC!

Many thanks to all Pioneer Valley Hiking Club Members for your support, volunteerism, participation and generosity. Every single one of you makes an impact on our club and helps to make it better. Without all of you we would not have lasted these 33 years! Thank you.

We had several awards to present to PVHC members

**The Volunteer of the Year**

The recipient of the Volunteer of the Year award joined the club in 2020 and hit the ground running. Her hiking experience prior to joining PVHC made her a great asset to the club and its members. And *President's Corner* continued on page 6

*"I'd like to acknowledge those who work behind the scenes to keep PVHC running smoothly...Fellow board members, Chip Pray, Lani Giguere and Judy Alfano (and others listed)."*  
~ President Lori Tisdell



**President's Corner** continued from page 5

she was more than happy to share those experiences and advice.

Over the last four years she has led club hikes, and this year began leading multiday trips.

Additionally, she has volunteered on several Committees over the last four years. Among them are the Outreach Committee taking on a number of duties to help promote PVHC and grow the club.

She joined the holiday party committee as an elf the first year and then co-committee member for the last three years.

She was elected to the board as Secretary in 2022. She, along with me, Peggy and Erin, and then me, Chip and Judy continued to shepherd the club through the waning months of the Pandemic and back to our normal existence as a hiking club.

She has been a valuable asset and voice for PVHC.

**Please join me in honoring and congratulating 2024's Volunteer of the Year – Lani Giguere**

**Service Mug** Erin Squires for her years of service on the board

**Service Mug** Peggy Tibbitt for her years of service on the board

**New volunteer** – Amy Cohen for organizing the picnic

**Special Recognition** – Lori Tisdell

I would like to say a few words about this award – though I knew I was being recognized, I was not expecting the magnificent plaque and outpouring of support from the rest of the board – Chip, Lani and Judy and PVHC members. Thanks to Judy for her lovely words. I am deeply touched and honored.

**Ray Tibbetts PVHC Hall of Fame Award**

We had a new award this year. We are hoping it will continue, at least periodically.

*President's Corner continued on page 7*

***“Please join me in honoring and congratulating 2024's Volunteer of the Year – Lani Giguere”***

*~ President Lori Tisdell*

**“Special Recognition** – Lori Tisdell” (for her years of exceptional leadership and devotion to PVHC)

**President's Corner** *continued from page 6*

The recipient of this award has been a member of PVHC since 1991. He has served in a number of capacities over the last 33 years.

As a hike leader and co-leader, including one of the most fun and anticipated winter hikes in January for many years.

With his extensive experience hiking so much of the Northeast, he has been a leader, co-leader and support for many other hikes in the Northeast, supporting many hikers – especially those hiking 4,000 footers (including me).

He is the unofficial Archivist of PVHC. If you want to know something about PVHC history, just ask him. And he may have some long-forgotten newsletter he will share the next time you see him.

He is a frequent maintenance volunteer.

He is the recipient of many hiking certificates (and patches, we can't forget the patches) for the 52 With a View, the Adirondack 46, the New Hampshire 48, the New England 67, the Northeast 100 Highest, the Northeast 111, the Catskill 3500, The New England 50 Finest and more. He is a patch collector extraordinaire.

He writes regular book reports for *Bootprints* in addition to his duties as both *Bootprints* and Website editor.

He is PVHC personified and an inspiration.

**It was my honor to present the first Ray Tibbetts PVHC Hall of Fame Award to Dick Forrest.**

Congratulations to all of the awards recipients.

Onto 2025 and more adventures with Pioneer Valley Hiking Club!

-- President Lori Tisdell

***“It was my honor to present the first Ray Tibbetts PVHC Hall of Fame Award to Dick Forrest.”***

*~ President Lori Tisdell*



## When to Call for Help

by John "PaPa Smurf" Klebes

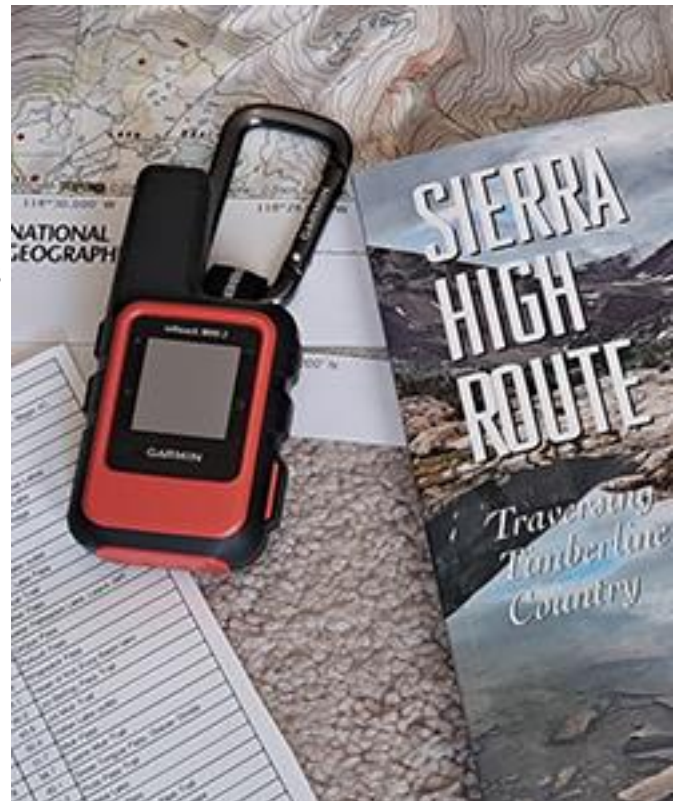
When I first starting hiking we didn't have cellphones, GPS, or satellite communicators. The ability to send for help consisted of the mantra: "never hiking alone". If an accident happened the only option was to send someone back down the trail for help. Over the years the hiking club has used walkie talkie's and GMRS radios which worked poorly and unreliably. Even as we took cellphones for granted I still remember the days when a cellphone signal in the White Mountains would have been unheard of. Today cellphone signals having much greater coverage, even in remote areas, and you might have a good chance of getting out a call for help. Even more exciting is the advent of satellite communicators that can send an SOS or text message when there is no cellphone signal.

*"On my recent solo hike to the High Sierra Mountains I purchased a Garmin inReach satellite messaging system."  
~ PaPa Smurf*

*"Between cellphones and the new capabilities of satellite messaging it's time to seriously talk about when, and if, you should push that SOS button to call for help."  
~ PaPa Smurf*

On my recent solo hike to the High Sierra Mountains I purchased a Garmin inReach satellite messaging system. It was a great comfort to know I could send text messages even in very remote areas. Now, as the technology has advanced, the new generation of Apple iPhones come with satellite emergency messaging included and Android phones will not be far behind. Between cellphones and the new capabilities of satellite messaging it's time to seriously talk about when, and if, you should push that SOS button to call for help.

See *When to Call for Help* continued on page 9





**When to Call for Help** *continued from page 8*

It goes without saying that if you or anyone in your group is in imminent danger of losing their life or a limb, it's time to push the emergency button. But what if it's not so clear? Activating a rescue is a serious event that may mobilize dozens of people and resources and create additional dangers to the health of the rescue workers that will respond. When should you call for help and when should you try to hike out on your own?

Many conditions can be hard to assess, such as the severity of a trauma, heart attacks, strokes, and the severity of dehydration, heat stroke, or hypothermia. If you believe this is a life-or-limb emergency, or that it could escalate into one, call for help. On the flip side, don't trigger an SOS if you aren't lost and you are capable of walking out on your own. For situations in between you will need to determine if you can self-evacuate or if the situation needs an assisted evacuation.

A self-evacuation is when you can get back to the trailhead on your own, or with assistance from others in your hiking group. While it may be miserable, painful, or awkward to hike out with a sprained ankle, illness, fatigue, or even a broken arm, it may be your best option.

Keep in mind that calling for rescue is time-consuming. It's unlikely that a helicopter is going to just drop down in 10 minutes. Typically a response takes hours to coordinate and additional hours to hike into your location. Transporting someone who cannot walk will be tedious, uncomfortable, and slow. When you need it, it's your only option but be prepared to wait many hours for a possible response. See *When to Call for Help* continued on page 10



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*"Fortuitously, the new satellite messaging systems allow for 2-way texting so that you can accurately explain your situation and provide accurate GPS location information."*

*~ PaPa Smurf*

### **When to Call for Help** *continued from page 9*

That's the real deciding factor. How willing are you to wait for hours, possibly in the cold/heat or bad weather? Sometimes it's better to keep moving slowly and self-evacuate to safety on your own.

Fortuitously, the new satellite messaging systems allow for 2-way texting so that you can accurately explain your situation and provide accurate GPS location

information. In the early days of Satellite

Personal Locator Beacons (PLBs) your only option was to send an SOS signal to rescue agencies, along with your location. While still a valuable option they do not have the ability to send messages home or cancel an SOS call.

With 2-way text messaging you have the option of sending an "all is well" message with your location to friends and family at any time. Most satellite messaging systems also allow you to send an updated present location at preset time intervals, such as every 10, 20, or 30 minutes, so that others can track your progress via a breadcrumb trail of waypoints sent to a website map.

With 2-way texting you still have the option to jump to a true one-button SOS emergency call. But even better, the responding authority can ask you questions about the nature and needs of your emergency. Or, instead of an official emergency call, you can text friends or family  
See *When to Call for Help* continued on page 11



**When to Call for Help** *continued from page 10*

to let them know that you are hurt, lost, delayed, etc. You can advise that you are hiking out slowly and will be very late, hiking out an alternate route and need transportation, and get advice without escalating to a formal rescue.

You can inform loved ones of a change in plans due to weather conditions, trail conditions, health issues, or just adapting to make your trip shorter, longer, or more exciting. No worrying what others will be thinking when you don't finish when you were expected or don't show up at the destination you originally planned. This makes it much more likely that you will not make bad decisions because you don't want others to worry if you change plans. It's a real safety bonus, when deciding if you should change plans, when you know that others can be informed of your decision and will not worry.

An SOS message goes to a rapid response center that can identify via your location and who the best resources are to respond to an emergency. If you only send the SOS message they will mount a rescue if you fail to provide any additional information. You will not necessarily have any ability to determine who responds. If you can, it's a good idea to jot down the email or phone number of the local authority in the area you are hiking, such as a ranger station or national or state park service. This way you can send a text if something happens that not an absolute emergency. They may be able to help with advice on hiking out on your own, or be able to monitor your progress in case things change without incurring an actual rescue.

Check out the newest satellite messaging systems, such as Garmin inReach, Spot X, AC Bivy stick, Zoleo, and Motorola Defy, and others. It's cheap insurance for if things go wrong. And if you have or are upgrading to the latest iPhone be sure to educate yourself on how to enable the included satellite messaging feature. (Note that iPhone uses a more limited network and only has coverage in the USA, Canada, and Mexico). For us Android phone users, keep your eye out for this feature coming on the latest phones in a year or two.

See *When to Call for Help* continued on page 12

*“Check out the newest satellite messaging systems, such as Garmin inReach, Spot X, AC Bivy stick, Zoleo, and Motorola Defy, and others.”*

*~ PaPa Smurf*

**When to Call for Help** *continued from page 11*

May you enjoy a wonderful new adventure in the wild while having the peace of mind that you have a better chance of calling for help should the need arise.

-- 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](mailto:john.klebes@gmail.com))

Book Review by Dick Forrest:

**Left for Dead: Shipwreck, Treachery, and Survival at the Edge of the World**

by Eric Jay Dolin

I love the nonfiction adventure genre and this book fits that category. It's a true story which takes place during the War of 1812. It's a tale about the people on sailing ships from America, England, Australia, and Brazil. The story begins talking about the American ship, Nanina, a 132-ton merchant brig. Prior to the War of 1812, just before U.S. President James Madison declared a 60-day moratorium on all trade along the Atlantic Coast, the Nanina hurriedly left port to make money by sealing. Instead of whaling which was a profitable industry at the time, the Nanina went to the Falkland Islands, a remote British colony three hundred miles off the east coast of Argentina in the southern Atlantic Ocean, to kill seals for their fur pelts. (You might remember the Falklands War between Great Britain and Argentina in 1982. The British won the war. Both countries lay claim to owning these islands.) This book was published in 2024 and Eric Jay Dolin, the author, lives in Marblehead, Massachusetts.

Well, in the early 1800's wildlife was plentiful in the Falkland Islands – it may even be today. Fur seals, sea lions, elephant seals were plentiful, as well as penguins and various sea birds, and even wild hogs lived on some of the islands. The sealers could make the most money for their fur sealskins by selling them in China. So the seal killers would club the unsuspecting animals to death or often impale them with a lance. Then they would skin the seals for their pelts. Entire rookeries would be wiped out in one day. Like whaling, it was a brutal business.

While the Nanina crew were killing seals on the Falkland Islands, another sailing ship from Australia, named the Isabella, with a lot of  
See *Left for Dead* continued on page 14



*“It’s a tale about the people on sailing ships from America, England, Australia, and Brazil.”*  
~ Dick Forrest

*“So the seal killers would club the unsuspecting animals to death or often impale them with a lance. Then they would skin the seals for their pelts.”*  
~ Dick Forrest



*“The rest of book is devoted to how those left behind survived for a year and half on the windswept, desolate, harsh landscape of the Falkland Islands, and who were eventually rescued.”*

*~ Dick Forrest*

***Left for Dead*** continued from page 13

passengers, was on its way to London when it shipwrecked off Eagle Island, one of the Falklands. Fortuitously, the castaways from the Isabella met up with the men from the Nanina. Before meeting up with the Nanina crew the Isabella castaways sent a small boat with a small group of men who sailed over 1000 miles to the north to get help. They were successful and eventually a British rescue ship from Rio de Janeiro, named the Nancy, came to the Falkland Islands to rescue the shipwrecked Isabella castaways. Since the War of 1812 was still going on the English captain of the Nancy arrested the Americans from the Nanina and impounded their ship. Everyone got off the islands except for a small 5-person group of sealers from the Nanina who were “Left for Dead” after the Nancy and its prize, the Nanina, departed to return to Rio. The rest of book is devoted to how those left behind survived for a year and half on the windswept, desolate, harsh landscape of the Falkland Islands, and who were eventually rescued. Undoubtedly, much of the rest of the book was related from the memoirs of Charles Barnard, the son of the captain of the Nanina and one of the five stranded men.

What’s amazing about this book is the thorough research it takes to tell this complicated story. Yes, there was a shipwreck, yes, there was treachery, and yes, it took ingenuity and knowledge of the sea to survive in overwhelming circumstances. What’s amazing is that virtually no one died. Eric Jay Dolin, the author, had to research the history of the War of 1812, know a little about Australia, a little about London, a little about South America, and a heck of lot about the Falkland Islands. He had to read memoirs, diaries, accounts, books, log books, legal proceedings and newspaper articles to tell the story. And in the end he chose something very interesting to write about. Eric Jay Dolin should be very proud of his accomplishment in writing this book. His book was a joy to read.

--Dick Forrest

Book Review by Dick Forrest:

## **The Wager: A Tale of Shipwreck, Mutiny and Murder**

by David Grann

The subtitle of this book tells it all. This nonfiction story about an English ship, *The Wager*, and its crew, took place in the early 1740's. England and Spain are seafaring nations in The Age of Sail who are at war, called the War of Jenkins' Ear. The English would like to capture Spanish ships laden with treasures from the New World and other parts of the globe. So a smaller sailing ship, *The Wager*, is part of a larger flotilla of sailing ships that want to do just that – plunder treasures from their enemy. The flotilla of English ships sail for South America and intend to sail around Cape Horn, the southern tip of South America. In those days, it was difficult to find your position on the seas. Latitude could be found by looking up at the stars far more easily than knowing longitude. So ships were often blind to their true positions on the seas. So, the *Wager*, thinking that they were further west off the coast of Chile, shipwrecks on the coast of Patagonia in southwestern Chile, having miraculously made it around the Horn in the perilous, stormy, southern ocean seas.

The captain of the *Wager*, David Cheap, tries to maintain order among the castaways on *Wager Island*, named after the castaway's ship. In fact, he murders one of the castaways, who he believes is insubordinate, trying to exercise his rule as the commanding officer. That proves fruitless. So boats from the wreck of the *Wager* are built and some of the men sail off the island back around the Horn, but going through the Strait of Magellan instead, and back up the east coast of South America to find civilization in Brazil. Captain Cheap remains behind on the island with a small group of other crewmen. The captain is anxious to meet up with the commodore, Admiral George See *The Wager continued on page 16*



*“This nonfiction story about an English ship, *The Wager*, and its crew, took place in the early 1740's. England and Spain are seafaring nations in The Age of Sail who are at war, called the War of Jenkins' Ear.”*

*~ Dick Forrest*



***The Wager*** continued from page 15

Anson, who commands the largest ship in the flotilla called The Centurion. That also proves fruitless. Instead of heading south to the Horn, they sail north in a small boat to find civilization. Not being able to easily navigate their boat, they turn back to Wager Island. Eventually South American native people rescue them from the island where they are taken north to a Spanish fort at Chiloé, and imprisoned by their enemy, and then transferred to Valparaiso, much further north up the Chilean coast. Three of the men, including Captain Cheap, having been granted a reprieve from their Spanish captors, made it back to England four years from having left.

You can tell by this extremely well-written book that David Grann pieces together a mystery, in attempting to find the truth, from various journals, logbooks, accounts, narratives, legal transcripts, newspapers, and any piece of information he could find about the Wager and its crew and about the ships and people in the original flotilla of ships. Interestingly, and covered extensively in this book, is the story of Admiral George Anson's success aboard the Centurion in capturing and plundering a Spanish galleon full of treasure. When he and his shipmates return to England they become true heroes and fabulously wealthy from their plunder. Admiral Anson went on to become the "Father of the British Navy." Also, upon the return to England of some of the Wager's crew, nothing came of a court-martial proceeding to investigate the act of mutiny, which was a very serious offense in those days. And, of the nearly 2000 men that left England in the original flotilla, more than 1300 men of those men died from various causes, like starvation, scurvy, and other afflictions. So much suffering took place at that time and in this story. Incidentally, the author of The Wager, David Grann, is also the bestselling author of the book, Killers of the Flower Moon.

*"Interestingly, and covered extensively in this book, is the story of Admiral George Anson's success aboard the Centurion in capturing and plundering a Spanish galleon full of treasure."*

*~ Dick Forrest*

--Dick Forrest





## **Future Events**

### **2025**

**April 19** - (NY) NYC Day Trip organized by Jeanne Kaiser, Gary Dolgoff & Lori Tisdell

**June** (TBD) - (NH) White Mountain Sampler organized by Lori Tisdell & Jeanne Kaiser

**October 20-24** (MA) - Cape Cod Trip organized by Cheryl Stevens & Debbie Bombard

## PVHC 2024-2025 Executive Board



Left to Right: Judy Alfano, Treasurer; Lani Giguere, Secretary;  
Chip Pray, Vice President; Lori Tisdell, President

## Important Membership Renewal Notices

The following memberships are up for renewal:

### Jan Renewals

Rebekah Anderson & Rich Baker  
 Kristen Blythe  
 Christine Bresnahan  
 Paula Christian  
 Jan Civian & family  
 Crystal Cooper  
 Deborah Devine  
 Gary Dolgoff  
 John & Sara Donaruma  
 Thomas Downey  
 Paul & Christine Duval  
 Judy Fogg  
 Al Gordon  
 Mary Jo Henry  
 Amber Holbrook  
 Linda & Steve Jones  
 Phyllis Keenan  
 Jessica LaCroix  
 Lou MacDonald  
 Susie Macrae  
 Laura Manship  
 Robert Marcus  
 Liz Massa  
 Jack & Barbara McGowan  
 Kurt Morris  
 Elizabeth Weiss Ozorak  
 Ellen Petersen  
 Chip Pray & Brenda Doucette  
 Kris Rice  
 Carole Richard  
 Melanie Sarna  
 Carole Swann  
 Pat Wadworth  
 Anne Wood  
 Isaac Yglesias

### Feb Renewals

Keith/Penny Brierley-Bowers  
 Carol Constant  
 Susan Crim  
 Maria & Jack Davis  
 Mary Fister  
 Kay Flatten & Hilary Matheson  
 Katherine Hall & Jonathan Jay  
 Charlotte Hansen & Gary Fisher  
 Eric Harder  
 Andrea Kalifa  
 Geri Kleinman  
 Charlotte Lee  
 Helen MacMellon  
 Helen Macuil  
 Nancy Mangari  
 Lori Martin  
 Christine Overstreet  
 Christine Pinney  
 Joanne Powers  
 Nancy Rapisarda  
 Susan Raschi  
 Jane & Rick Ricci  
 Suzanne Roberts  
 Nancy Seguin  
 Christine Sgueglia  
 Jule Sherman  
 Kenton Shirk & David Reuther  
 Nina Talayco  
 Carol Vanderheiden  
 David Vivian  
 Claire-Anne Williams  
 Eileen & Robin Wood  
 Sharla Zwirek

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: \$25 individual member, \$40 family, and \$15 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](mailto:dforrest@charter.net)

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

### November

Kate Crogan  
 Christine Giguere  
 Joel Gordon  
 Mary & Max Talley

### December

Melanie Denver  
 Sheila Gilroy  
 Alan McLean



### UPCOMING EVENTS AND THE USUALS

- Mondays Morning hike
- Tuesdays Morning & Evening hike
- Wednesdays Morning hike
- Thursdays Morning hikes (2)
- Fridays
- Saturdays Morning hike
- Sundays Morning hike
- January 7 Club Meeting
- February 4 Club Meeting
  
- PVHC <https://teamup.com/ksz8qkbizhndt3qjt7>
- Schedule of Events

## IMPORTANT NOTICES

Next Club Meetings

January 7, 2025, 7 p.m. at **ROC**  
 February 4, 7 p.m. at **ROC**

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

Deadline for submissions to the next *Footprints* is February 20, 2025

**\*\* Check out our club website at:**  
[www.pioneervalleyhikingclub.org](http://www.pioneervalleyhikingclub.org)

Members may join the PVHC Email List by sending a message to:  
[pvhc.hikingclub@gmail.com](mailto:pvhc.hikingclub@gmail.com)



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 P.O. Box 225  
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