



# VHT Pathfinder

**25 YEARS AND GROWING**

Volume 22, Issue 4  
Winter, 2017

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## New Observation Platforms Built

Hans Wolff loved to hike the trails in Victor, especially the Trolley Trail through Lehigh Crossing Park. There is always something to see along the trail, especially when the beaver are active.

When Hans recently passed away, his family asked VHT if we could build an observation platform in the park in memory of Hans. Chauncy Young discussed the proposed project with Brian Emelson, Victor Parks and Recreation Director, the DEC and the Town Building Dept. and received permission for two decks, each with a bench.

With all the approvals in hand, construction began in October and was completed in early December. One more ramp will need to be installed in the spring. Thanks to Chauncy and many volunteers, there is another successful addition to the trails in Victor.



*Photos by Chauncy Young*

**VHT 2018 Officers:**

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 Chauncy Young– Trail Boss  
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**VHT Pathfinder**

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 Ask about our rates.  
 To submit articles for the  
*VHT Pathfinder*, please  
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[www.victorhikingtrails.org](http://www.victorhikingtrails.org)  
 Also on Facebook  
 and Meetup  
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**VHT MONTHLY HIKES FOR 2018**

Jan. 13– Harriet Hollister Spencer State Recreation Area  
 Feb. 10– Victor Winter fest, Fishers Park  
 Feb. 28– Moon Light Hike, Auburn/Lehigh/Domine Trails  
 Mar. 10– Mendon Ponds Park  
 Apr. 14– Webster Park, corner of Holt and Lake Roads  
 May 12– Lehigh Crossing Park  
 Jun. 2– National Trails Day in Victor  
 Jun. 9– ADK Outdoor Expo, Hike in Mendon Ponds Park  
 Jul. 14– Bristol Mt. South, County Road 34  
 Aug. 11– Conklin Gully Creek Walk  
 Sep. 1– Ring of Fire at Bare Hill Recreation Area  
 Sep. 8– Hang Around Victor Day, Village Hike  
 Sep. 30– VHT Challenge Hike on the Seneca Trail  
 Oct. 13– Hi Tor FLT, Bristol Hills Section  
 Nov. 10– Abraham Lincoln Park  
 Dec. 8– Dryer Road Park

Note: Please check the message line at 585-234-8226 for details and last minutes updates. Also, if you join Meetup, Victor Hiking Trails, you will get notifications of hikes and other events, reminders if you are signed up for a hike and last minute changes.

All hikes meet at Victor Town Hall rear parking lot, 85 East Main Street, at 9:00 a.m. unless otherwise noted. Most hikes are relatively easy and take 2-3 hours. Always bring a snack and something to drink. Dress for the weather. We rarely cancel due to inclement weather.

We usually carpool to the trailhead. Expect to share the cost of gas with the driver. If you have any questions regarding any of the hikes, or if you have suggestions for places to hike, please leave a message at 585-234-8226.

Again this year we have scheduled several hikes in Victor or the surrounding communities. We are also leading shorter and easier hikes to encourage families and younger hikers to join us. Based on the success of past years we will again be adding an educational element to some of the hikes.

We only hike as fast as the slowest hikers, so don't worry about not keeping up. If we need to split into more than one group, that is not a problem. **Come enjoy the fun.**

**NOTE:** There are several hiking Meetup groups in our area that schedule hikes in Victor. If you like to hike, join those Meetup groups as well.

## Past Hikes

**October 14th— Dryer Road Park to Lehigh Crossing Park.** 15 adults and 2 small children made the trek on our newest trail on a beautiful fall day. Larry Fisher provided transportation back for all who did not want to hike the trail back.



**November 11th— Powder Mills Park.** 14 brave hikers came out for a cold morning romp up and over the hills in this beautiful park. They covered 5 miles in 2.25 hours, warmed up quickly and enjoyed the hike.



**December 9th— Lucien Morin Park.** Seven hardy hikers braved the elements and hiked some very steep hills at this Monroe County Park at the south end of Irondequoit Bay. In the photo they are standing at the entrance to the Old Rifle Range, a shooting club in Rochester.



*Photos by Lisa Roberts.*

## VHT Meetup Group is growing

Now you can find VHT on Meetup. No cost to join. There are over 700 members as of Dec.

This is another means of communicating our monthly hikes, weekly trail maintenance schedule, scout projects and special events.

To join, search for Victor Hiking Trails Meetup or go to this:

<http://www.meetup.com/Victor-Hiking-Trails-Meetup/>

## More Hikes and Events in Victor

TBD— Bridge or boardwalk building. We have received a grant for \$1600 from the American Hiking Society to build a small bridge on the Seneca Trail near the north end of Boughton Park. We can now plan on the design and construction of the bridge and the improvements of several culverts where the trail goes through the woods on the Duvall property. We might even have a Boy Scout interested in doing this as an Eagle project.

Spring, 2018– Build and install ramps on bridge in 100 Acre Woods. See page 7.

### GVHC Hikes

January 20 / Saturday 8:00 a.m. Dryer Road Park. Meet at 7504 Dryer Road at 8 a.m. Strenuous 5-7 mile hike. Vinny R. 662-3901

January 27 / Saturday 9:00 a.m. Boughton Park. Meet at Victor Town Hall to carpool to the park. Easy-moderate 5 mile hike. Dave W. 752-8313

Feb 4 / Sunday 9:00 a.m. Strenuous/Hilly 5-6 mile hike. Seneca Trail – North End (Out and Back) Meet behind Bed Bath and Beyond on Turk Hill Rd. Victor, NY. Chauncy Y. 455-1932

Feb 18 / Sunday 2:30 p.m. Strenuous hilly 5-7 mile hike **Ganondagan and Fort Hill**. Meet in the main parking lot 7000 County Road 41 (Boughton Hill Road) Victor, NY 14564. You may want to arrive early and tour the museum of this Seneca Nation Art and Cultural Center – there is a \$6 admission fee if you are not a member of Friends of Ganondagan. Chauncy Y. 455-1932

February 24 / Saturday 9:00 a.m, South End of Seneca Trail. Meet at Finn's Tap Room, 14 Railroad Street, Victor Dave W. 752-8313

*Note: These are Genesee Valley Hiking Club hikes. You are encouraged to join their group and sign up for their Meetup group. Yearly dues start January 1 and are only \$8/household.*

# VHT Volunteers Dinner

October 25th was our annual VHT Volunteers Dinner at Finn's Tap Room. 32 members enjoyed the food and drinks as well as the camaraderie and fellowship. We are finishing our 25th year of trail building and celebrated by giving all of our volunteers a custom bandana. Long term members received a framed certificate of appreciation. Chauncy and Suzy made a special collage of pictures from all of our hikes and events. And we all enjoyed a piece of a special cake.



Photos by Suzy Mandrino

## High Winds in October cause extra work on the trails



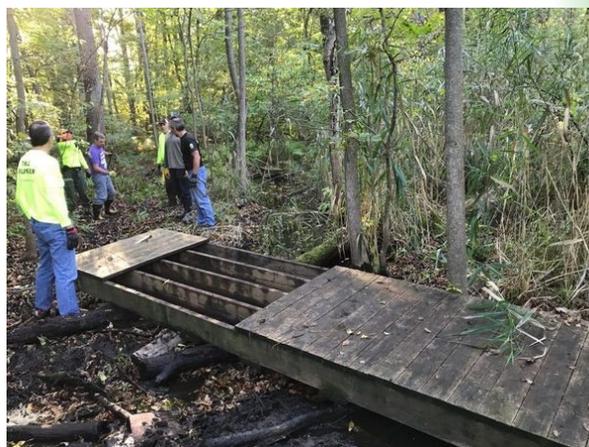
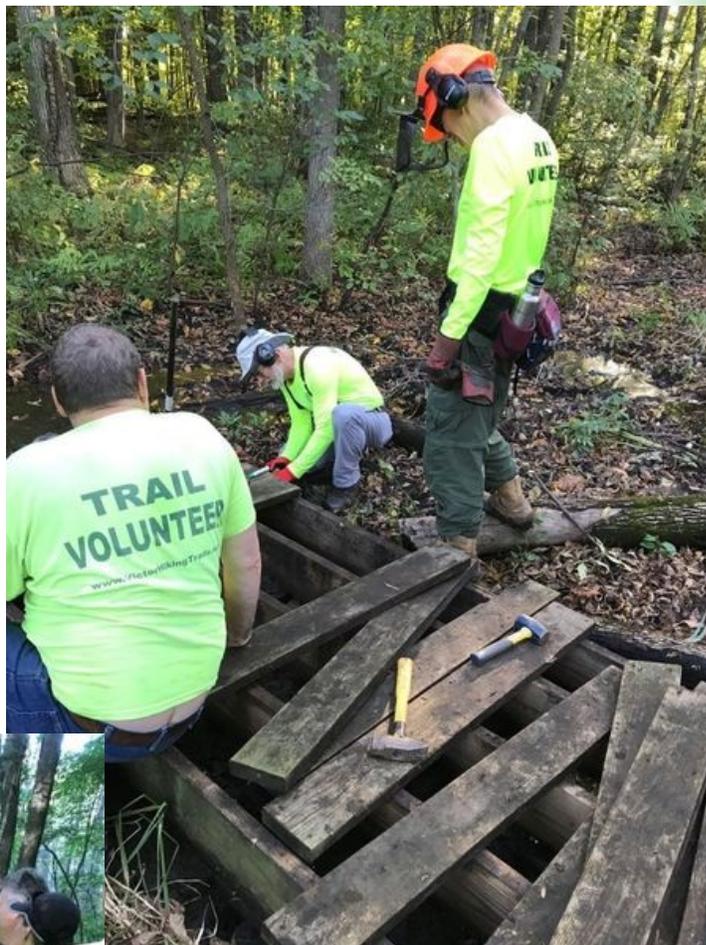
Thank you to the volunteers who spotted downed trees on the trails and notified us so we could properly remove the obstacles. A quick message to our website is the best way.

## An old bridge gets returned

When Jim Castner and Troop 60 built a footbridge over a small drainage stream in 100 Acre Woods back in the summer of 2003, they didn't expect it to float away during a heavy rainstorm.

But for several years it sat about 100 yards downstream, waiting for VHT volunteers to haul it back.

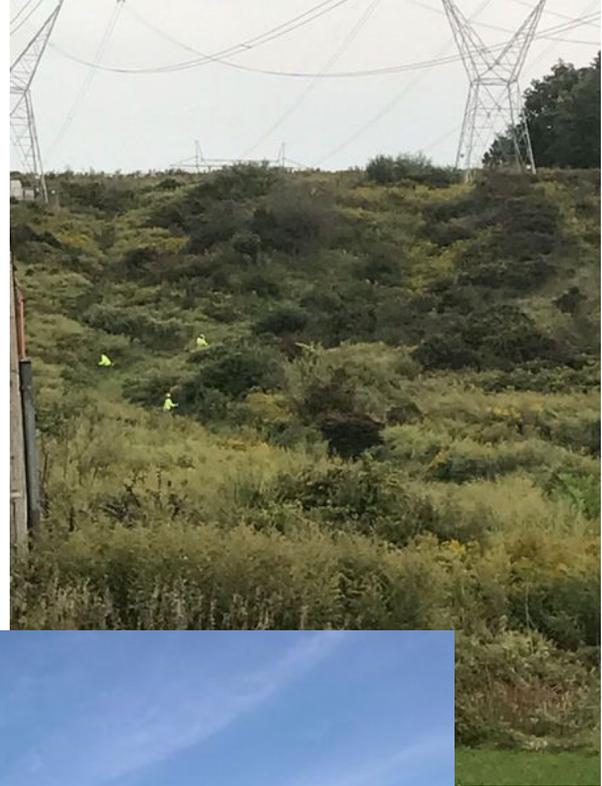
That day was September 27th when we could invite some muscle from the GROC members. We took some of the decking off to lighten the load and have a place to hook up some rope. Then it was heave ho, pull that rope and guide it through the woods and up onto raised supports. Put the decking back on, secure it to the supports and come back in the spring to install ramps on both sides.



*Photos by Lisa Roberts*

## Trail Maintenance means lots of different things

Most of the time we are mowing a trail or trimming bushes and tree limbs, but sometimes we get to play in the water unclogging drains, or picking up litter or just taking in the view on a cloud-wispy day. We will be starting again in late April. Come out and join the fun.



*Photos by Lisa Roberts.*

### **New Bandanas are here!**

All members should now have a special bandana to wear when they are out for a hike. If you did not receive yours, please call 585-234-8226 and leave a message. If you would like to purchase additional bandanas, they are \$2.00 each.

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Victor Hiking Trails  
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*Filling the gaps in Victor*

## 25 YEARS AND GROWING

All VHT newsletters are now available on our website.  
View it and download it in full color.

Annual membership is for 12 months, beginning when you first join. Please send your renewal check or donation promptly so we can continue to create new and improved multi-use trails.

Check out our website at  
[www.victorhikingtrails.org](http://www.victorhikingtrails.org)

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VHT Map Link

*Yes, I want to join / renew membership in VHT!*

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Phone** ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

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Please note that we need your e-mail address to notify you when the latest edition of our newsletter is available on our website.

I can help with: Trail Acquisition \_\_\_\_\_ Trail Maintenance \_\_\_\_\_ Trail hikes \_\_\_\_\_  
Newsletter \_\_\_\_\_ Fund Raising \_\_\_\_\_ Special Events \_\_\_\_\_ History / Education \_\_\_\_\_

Amount submitted \$10 \_\_\_\_\_ \$20 \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ \$250 \_\_\_\_\_ other \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Corporate membership at \$100 per year allows all employees to be members.

Victor Hiking Trails, Inc. is a 501 (c)3 non-profit organization.

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