



VHT Pathfinder

25 YEARS AND GROWING

Volume 23, Issue 3
Fall, 2018

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Another Great Challenge Hike

Every year our Trail Boss, Chauncy Young, dreams up a hike to challenge the long haul hikers. And every year the hikes get longer. Usually the hike is on the Seneca Trail, as it was this year.

Just to make it a little longer, the 14 hikers started at Boughton Park and traversed the trails in the park, a distance of about 4 miles. That was the warm up. Then it was head north on the Seneca Trail. The southern most section of the Seneca Trail is on private property where the landowners and their friends hunt deer in the fall. This hike was the last day to hike this section of the trail as it will be closed to hikers and bikers from October 1 until December 19.



The start of a long journey. *Photo by Larry Fisher.*

The group continued hiking north through the Apple Farm property and Ganondagan State Historic Site. The northern section of the Seneca Trail included a short section on the Auburn Trail and the Trolley Trail. They made a stop at Lehigh Crossing Park for some snacks and drinks that had been stashed by Chauncy, then continued across Route 96 and up the hill where a Bass Pro Shop is proposed, under the Thruway on Willowbrook Road, along the rear of Walmart and the plaza where Goodwill is located, past Valentown and High Point and finally ending at the Bed Bath and Beyond parking lot where their cars were located. Most of the GPS readings measured the hike to be 16+ miles. Congratulations to all who completed the entire length. Additional pictures can be found on pages 6 and 7.

VHT 2018 Officers:

Dave Wright– Chairman
 Jeff Hennick– Vice Chairman
 Lisa Roberts– Secretary
 Ruth Rugaber– Treasurer
 Carol MacInnes– Trailmaster
 Chauncy Young– Trail Boss
 Denni Harbaugh– Membership
 Ralph Weber – Education
 Suzy Mandrino— Volunteer
 Coordinator
 Lisa Roberts — Social Media
 Coordinator
 David Coleman— Camping
 Larry Fisher—Parks Liaison

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*The Victor Hiking Trails
 Pathfinder* is published
 quarterly for the members
 of Victor Hiking Trails, Inc.

We encourage
 submissions of letters,
 editorial items and
 advertising pertaining to
 trails, Victor and the
 environment.

Ask about our rates.
 To submit articles for the
VHT Pathfinder, please
 contact:

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(585) 234-8226

www.victorhikingtrails.org
 Also on Facebook
 and Meetup
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VHT MONTHLY HIKES FOR 2018

Oct. 13– FLT, Bristol Hills Section. Meet at Victor Town Hall at 8:00 A.M. to carpool to Ontario County Park.

Nov. 10– Abraham Lincoln Park. Meet at Victor Town Hall at 9:00 A.M. to carpool to the trailhead.

Dec. 8– Dryer Road Park. Meet at the park at 9:00 A.M.

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.

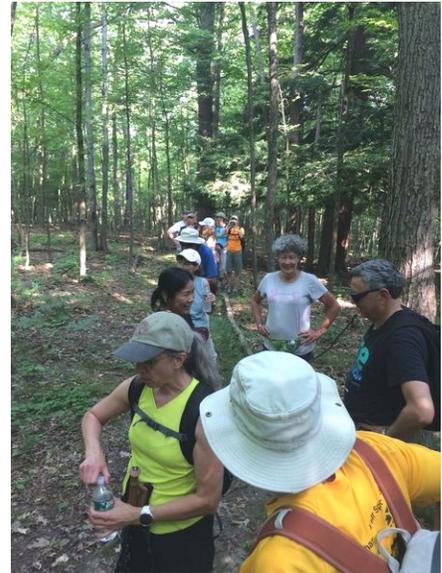
We only hike as fast as the slowest hikers, so don't worry about not keeping up. If we need to split into more than one group, that is not a problem. **Come enjoy the fun.**

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

Jul. 14– Bristol Hills Section, FLT, Seman Road to Naples.

13 people came for a hot and dry hike on the Finger Lakes Trail. Although the net elevation is downhill, the group found out there is quite a bit of uphill hiking. Several of the hikers stopped in Naples for lunch.



Aug. 11– Conklin Gully

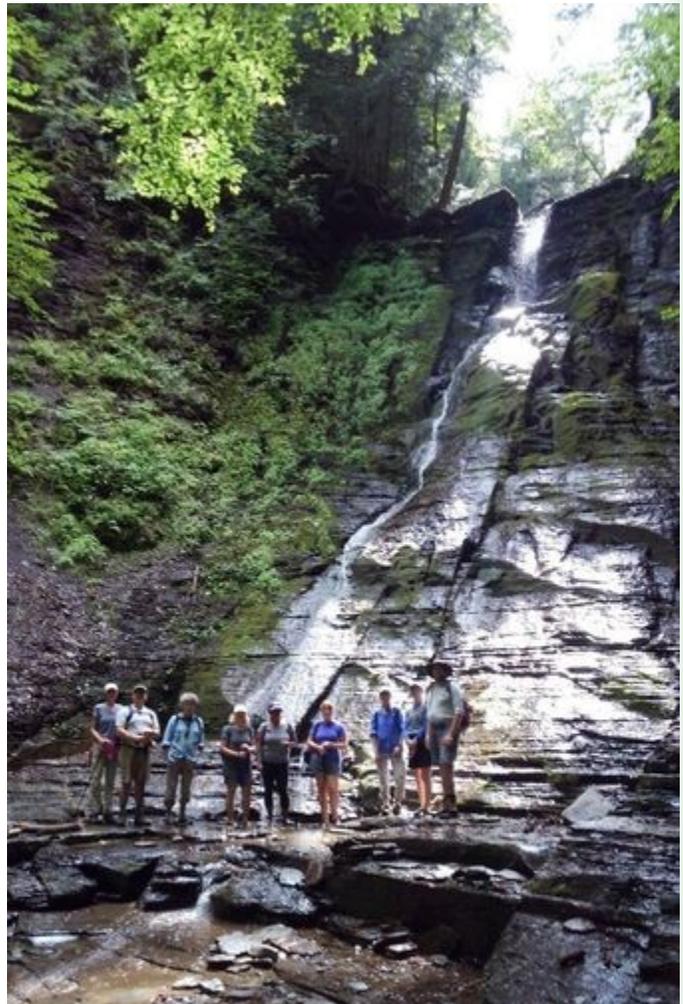
Creek Walk. 13 adventurous hikers climbed up the middle of the creek to the big falls. The Blue Trail was followed back down to the cars. Lunch was enjoyed in Naples.

Sep. 1– Ring of Fire at Bare Hill Recrea-



tion Area.

Another great evening to socialize, have dinner and watch a roaring bonfire.



VHT Meetup Group is growing

Now you can find VHT on Meetup. No cost to join. There are over 900 members as of Oct. 1.

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— Several scouts are looking to improve our trails by building bridges, boardwalks and ramps. They will need our help during the construction phase. Watch our website, Facebook page and Meetup group for dates and times.

Genesee Valley Hiking Group

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

Oct 7 / Sunday 8:00 am. Strenuous hilly 5-6 mile hike. **Boughton Park.** Meet behind the Victor Town Hall, 85 East Main Street, Victor. All cars will need a permit and/or passes so we will car pool from here to the park as there will be a limit on number of one day passes issued.

Oct 23 / Tuesday 6:00 p.m. Moderate 6-7 mile hike. **Full Moon Hike on the Auburn & Domine Trails** Meet behind Fishers Fire Station 1, 7853 Main Street Fishers, Fishers, NY 14453.

Oct 27 / Saturday 8:00 a.m. Moderate 6 mile hike. **Seneca Trail South.** Meet at The Apple Farm, 1640 State Rt 444.

Nov 11 / Sunday 1:30 p.m. Strenuous hilly 8 - 9 mile hike. **Big loop - Finn's Tap Room – Gannodagan Fort Hill – Dryer Rd Park – Lehigh Crossing Park and back on the Auburn Trail.** Meet in the gravel parking lot past Finn's Tap Room Restaurant, 14 Railroad St., Victor, NY.

Nov 23 / Friday 6:00 p.m. Moderate 6-7 mile hike. **Full Moon Hike on the Auburn & Domine Trails** Meet behind Fishers Fire Station 1, 7853 Main Street Fishers, Fishers, NY 14453.

Nov 24 / Saturday 8:00 a.m. Moderate 5 mile hike. **Fishers Park.** Meet at tennis courts parking lot, Wangum Rd (County Rd 42), near Main Street Fishers.

Dec 9 / Sunday 8:00 a.m. Strenuous/Hilly 7-8 mile hike. **Seneca Trail/Crescent Trails** Meet at Korea Rd Park, 555 Kreag Rd, Pittsford, NY 14534 and car pool to Valentown Hall on HighSt., Victor, NY. Then hike back to Kreag Rd Park.

Dec 22 / Saturday 9:00 a.m. Moderate 5 mile hike. **MaryFrances Bluebird Haven.** Meet at 235 County Rd 9 (Victor-Egypt Rd Victor, 14564. Drive to the blue house and park at the end of the driveway.

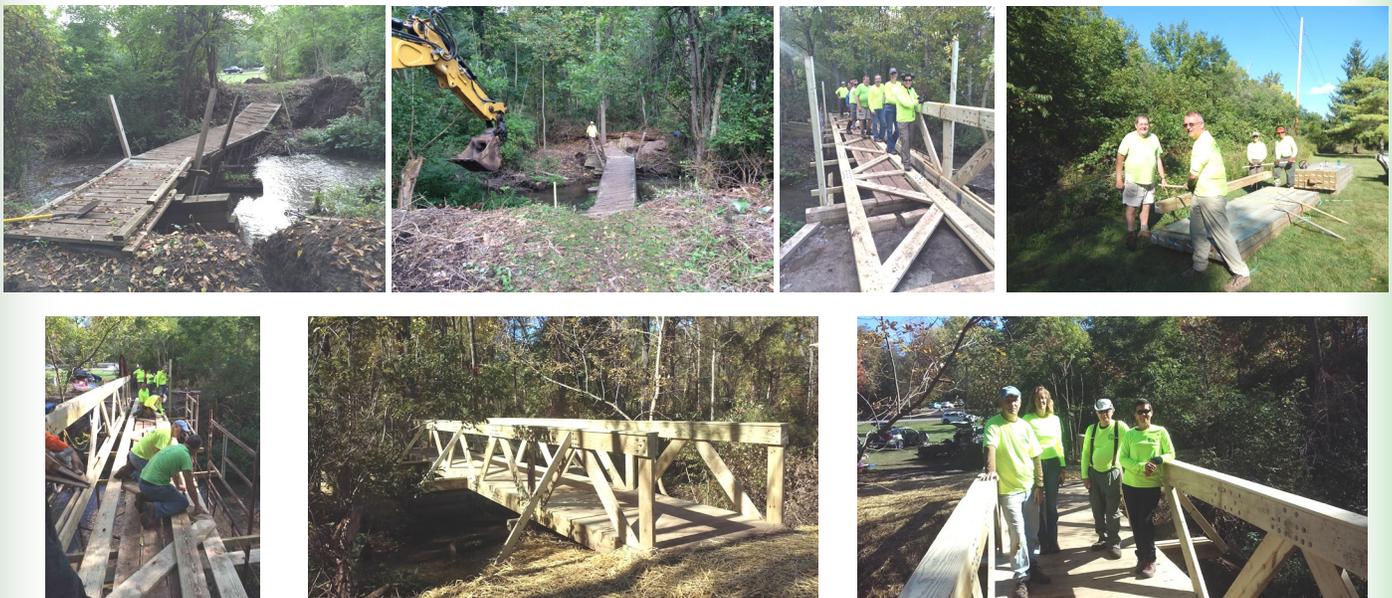
Travelers Insurance, and their Community Awareness program

By Chris Graziano, Travelers Insurance employee

Maryellen and I moved into the Victor community back in 1999 and quickly started to take advantage of our accessibility to parks and trails. With over 60 miles of trails our hiking and biking adventures were endless. And, our dog Ellie explored each park with childlike excitement and couldn't wait for our daily outing. It never really occurred to me that it took time and energy to maintain the trails. They were always there ready for our use. Then, every once in a while we would see some people in bright yellow shirts mowing and trimming the lands. Seeing the words Trail Volunteer on the back of their shirts put things into perspective. When they started advertising for volunteers with an opportunity to socialize at a local establishment following the work session, we jumped in. Now, throughout the season, we spend one or two evenings a week helping maintain the trails. This includes mowing, trimming, painting trail signs, removing downed trees, clearing new trails and building boardwalks and bridges.

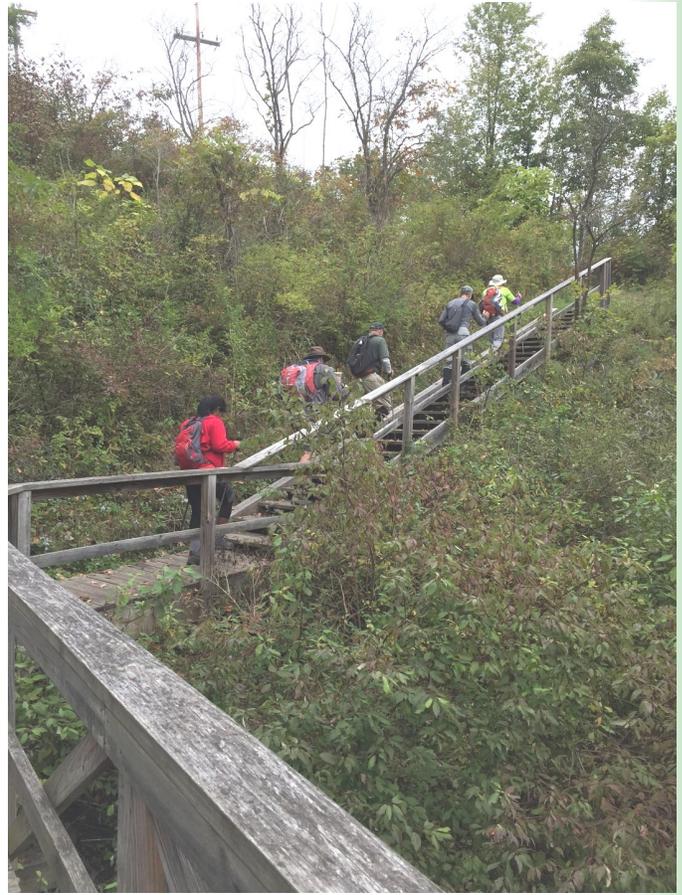
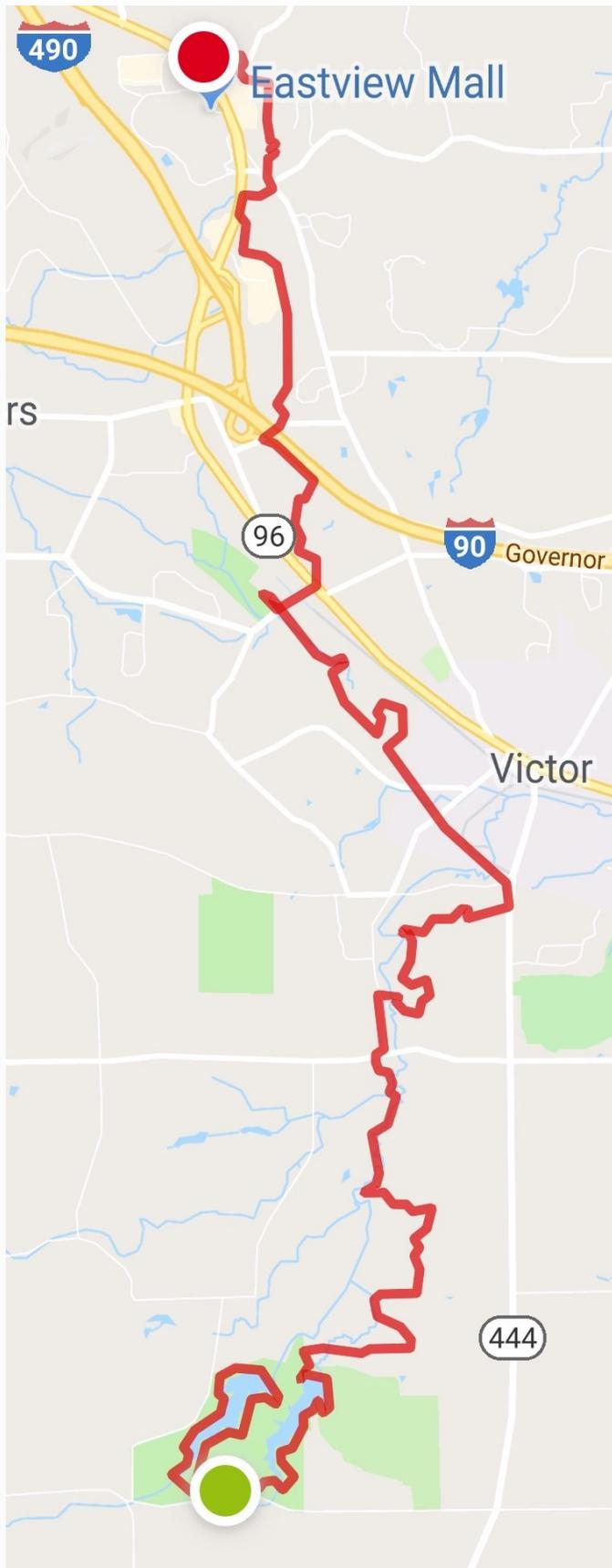
Building bridges is my personal favorite. Our trail boss has a lot of construction experience and seeing the design and build come together to enhance our trail network is extremely satisfying. One of the largest bridge projects is highlighted in the photos and was completed in 2016. This is the Nat Fisher Memorial bridge honoring a special member of the VHT organization. Maryellen and I spent a number of hours over several months helping to complete the project.

We take great pride in giving back to our local community so that everyone who is able can enjoy the trails. One of the added benefits has been the tremendous friends that we have made who share a passion for the outdoors and our local community. VHT is grateful for the support of Travelers. For every 24 hours of volunteer time that I put in, VHT will receive a check for \$500 up to a maximum of \$1,000 per year. This is an organization that is funded by membership dues of only \$10 per year, so they generally have a small budget to work with. VHT maintains 30 miles of the 60 miles in our community with the town maintaining the additional 30 miles. The additional funds from Travelers go a long way to making sure that we have well maintained and up to date equipment so that the trails are ready and fully available to our community.



Challenge Hike





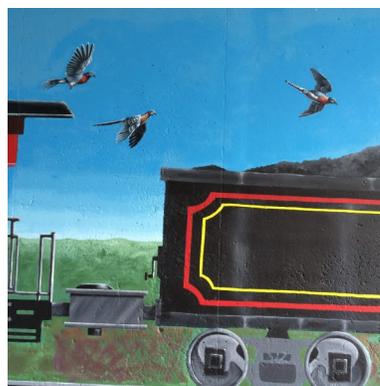
The 16+ mile Challenge Hike.

Mural Dedication

On Sunday, October 28th, VHT will formally dedicate the mural on the Auburn Trail under the Thruway. Emily Waldman, with her family, friends and her painting helpers will cut the ribbon for this beautiful addition to art on the trails.

An extremely talented artist, Emily came up with the concept and shared a rendering with the VHT board of directors several years ago and was commissioned to paint the mural. With the help of her family, friends and community volunteers, and Emily's perseverance, the mural is now finished.

Please park at the rear of the Fishers Fire Station and join us at the mural at 1:00 P.M.



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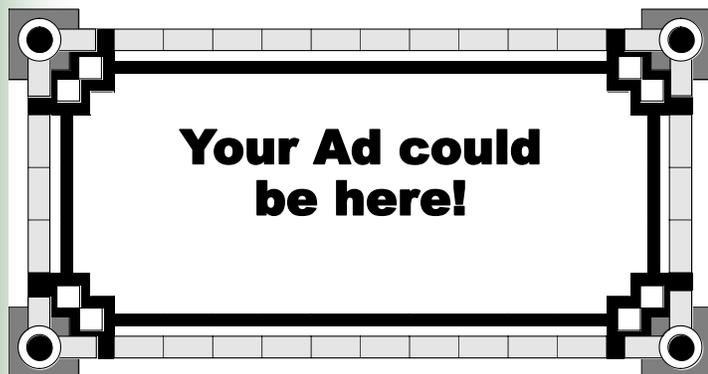


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Filling the gaps in Victor

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

Join us on Facebook!
And Meetup!



VHT Map Link

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

Name _____ **Date** _____

Address _____

City _____ **Zip** _____

Phone () _____

E-Mail _____

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.

Make check payable to: VICTOR HIKING TRAILS, INC.
And mail to: 85 EAST MAIN STREET
VICTOR, NY 14564