

Maintaining and Protecting Vermont's Long Trail

Winter | 2021

Green Mountain Club Worcester Section

345 Rawson Street, Leicester MA 01524 www.greenmountainclub.org

President's Message

We had great fall at the GMC. A standout event was our camp cleanup in October, followed by a horseshoe tournament and a potluck luncheon. A good time was had by all. Margos Stone won the tournament with no less than five ringers and the event raised \$150 for our Worcester Section. Our thanks to Ram Moennsad, Gerry Vayo and Stuart Howe for building the horseshoe pit at the camp, and thanks Pat Howe for her enthusiasm in organizing the entire event.

Now we are starting our winter season, with several canoe trips and hikes, mountain bike riding, and maybe even some cross country skiing if we have enough snow. These events are listed in this newsletter, as well as on the Green Mountain Club Worcester website — *Ram Moennsad, President*



Stuart Howe watches as Neim Moennsad throws a horseshoe.



Pat Howe presents Margos Stone with his award.

Winter Activities

November — December

Wednesday, November 3. Canoe Paddle on the Quinnebaug River. Meet at 10:00 am for a 10:30 departure. Meet on Route 20 at the Sturbridge-Brimfield line, across from the Green Thumb Florist by the boat launch. We shall paddle down the Quinnebaug River and back. Approximately 8+ miles. Bring a lunch and a change of clothes in a dry bag. Please register for this paddle by emailing leader Jose Schroen at <u>schroenj@townisp.com</u>.

Saturday, November 6, at 9:30 am. Mountain Bike Ride on the Norwottuck Branch Rail Trail. The ride will start in Belchertown and will be about 10 miles in length over moderate terrain. We will meet at the parking lot of the Rock House Reservation on Route 9 in West Brookfield at 9:30 am. Please call Gary Brigham at 508-471-7867 or email him at <u>gbrighammt@aol.com</u> with any questions or to register for the ride. Please bring a lunch, water and snacks.

Saturday, November 13, Upper Charles River Padldle. Charles River day trip with gentle current through a largely wooded landscape near Medway, MA. Distance is 7.3 miles. Difficulty moderate. 4-5 hours including breaks. Contact leader David Miller at 508-853-8964 or email him at <u>sentierdeau@gmail.com</u>. Bring a lunch, rain gear and change of clothes in a dry bag.

Sunday, November 14, Mountain Bike Ride. From Greenbriar Recreational Area To Hodge Village Dam. This will be an easy ride of approximately 7.5 miles. Meet at 10:00 am at the Greenbrier Recreational Area, 591 Main Street, off Route 12 in Oxford. The trail follows the French River to Hodge Village Dam. The ride is mostly on dirt roads and bike paths. Contact Brian Pepin at 508-494-1013 or email him at <u>pepinbs@msn.com</u> with questions or to register for the ride.

Saturday, December 4, 2021. Assabet River from Northboro to Hudson. Location: Hudson, MA. This run, beginning near the Northborough-Marlboro line and ending behind the fire station in Hudson, is about 5.3 miles. Cars will have to be staged. We will meet at David's home in Holden at 8:45 am and at the put in about 9:30 am. We will expect to get back to the Holden area about 4:00 pm. Contact David Miller at 508-853-8984 or email him at <u>sentierdeau@gmail.com</u>. Participants are asked to bring their lunch, water bottle, rain gear and a change of clothes in a waterproof container in case of capsize. Everyone will be expected to wear a pfd (life vest). Participants are required to sign the Appalachian Mountain Club "waiver of liability" before participating in AMC activities. **Saturday, December 11.** Leominster State Forest. Hike or cross country ski (depending on conditions). The hike will be a 4 -mile loop around Crow Hill Pond via the Ball Hill and White Pine Trails, then up Crow Hill where we'll stop for snacks. We'll proceed north on the MidState Trail and complete the loop via the Crocker Pond Trail. This hike has some steep rocky sections, and microspikes are recommended if conditions are icy. The cross country skiing will be a 6 mile loop via Rocky Pond Road, Wolf Rock Road, Steam Mill Brook Road, and Parmenter Street then back to Rocky Pond Road. This loop is moderate terrain. Hike or ski will start at 9:30 am. The hike will meet at the Crocker Pond parking lot, the ski will meet at the Rocky Pond parking lot. Please contact Mike Peckar at fog@fognet.com or call him at 508-835-2959 to register for this adventure. Please wear a facemask and practice social distancing on the hike.

New Year's Day, January 1, 2022. President's Open House Pot Luck Luncheon at the camp Lodge starting at **noon.** Please bring a favorite dish to share. Coffee and hot cider will be provided. Please contact Margos Stone at <u>mstone12242@charter.net</u> or 508-826-6842 with any questions. Please wear a facemask when not eating. A local hike will follow the luncheon for those interested.

Camp News

The combination to the gate lock at the camp, located at 345 Rawson Street in Leicester will be changing effective November 1, 2021. The new combination will be **6560.** Please do not share the combination with others who are not members.



Brian and Jeremy Pepin rake leaves at the camp clean up.

WORCESTER SECTION OFFICERS

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