



ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS

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Clubhouse Address: 3650 VT-100, Waterbury Center, VT 05677
Clubhouse Reservations: www.swcweb.org

A SCHENECTADY WINTERSPORTS CLUB PUBLICATION

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You Really Mean It's Free?

Yep, your 20-21 SWC membership is free when you buy your Ikon or Epic 20-21 adult ski pass thru the SWC website. We know that more than 30 people have taken advantage of the Ikon Pass price discount, which ended June 16. But don't worry, you can still buy your Ikon pass at regular pricing through the link at www.swcweb.org and get your 20-21 SWC membership free!

For those wanting an Epic Pass, the early purchase discount price continues into September. And if you go through the link at www.swcweb.org you get your 20-21 SWC membership free!

Whether you're traveling out west with SWC to Utah (Ikon) or Breckenridge (Epic) or you're sheltering close to home and hitting Ikon mountains like Sugarbush, Stratton, Killington, and Windham, or Epic mountains like Stowe, Okemo, Mt. Snow, and Hunter, www.swcweb.org is the best place to buy your pass.

Editorials
Work Weekend

by John Bidell

I know you have been looking forward to a work weekend up at the lodge. Your wait is over: September 17th up at the Clubhouse. We will be painting the exterior (weather permitting), basement lighting, and other housekeeping projects. Please contact me if you are available. johnbidell@yahoo.com

We have openings for our weekly rental still available. The fall is a great time to be in Vermont.

The Canyons trip is open and is a great deal, so please give it some thought.

Summer at the Clubhouse

by Luke D'Aquila

I spent a week in July at the SWC Clubhouse with my parents and my brother, Dom, taking advantage of the amazing deal to rent the Clubhouse for \$500 per week. Our vacation plan was to find the best mountain biking, swimming, and beer that Vermont has to offer. The Clubhouse is in an incredible location, square in the middle of the best mountain bike scene east of the Mississippi. We are also near the best breweries in the country (that is, if you like New England IPAs). Here is a rundown of what the region has to offer. Note that this region has limited riding options for first time mountain bikers, but any riders with a little experience will be able to find exceptional trail riding in the area.

The town of Waterbury, a few miles south of the Clubhouse on Rte 100, is the most obvious place to start this adventure. The Waterbury Area Trails Alliance (WATA) has done a fantastic job of developing the trail systems at Perry Hill and Little River into world class mountain biking destinations. Little River is home to one of the most fun machine-built flow trails in the world, suitable for intermediate and advanced riders. Perry Hill is a much larger and more varied trail system, with easier flow trails on the lower mountain and extremely technical, challenging trails on the upper mountain. The Winooski River runs just past the Perry Hill parking lot, so jump in to cool off after a long ride. Our favorite spot for post-ride beers in Waterbury is the Black Back Pub, with the best draft list around. If you want to bring a beer back to the Clubhouse stop by the market at the Rte 2 /100 traffic circle. Just around the corner from the Clubhouse on Gregg Hill Rd is elephant rock, a perfect swim spot on the Waterbury Reservoir.

Just north of the Clubhouse lies the town of Stowe. Right in town on Rte 108 is Cady Hill Forest, maintained by the Stowe Trails Partnership (STP). Cady Hill is the perfect playground for experienced beginners, intermediate and advanced riders, with lots of machine-built trails and some fun optional jumps. The accessibility and character of the trails at Cady make it the perfect place to get started riding in the area, especially for beginner and intermediate riders. There are plenty of other riding options in town for

more advanced riders, including Adam's Camp and the Trapp Family Lodge. After riding, head up Rte 108 to Bingham Falls. A short hike leads you to the west branch of the Little River, and a very cold swim in a picturesque waterfall. Be warned, this is a popular spot for tourists so it can be busy on a hot summer day. Grab some beers at the Alchemist on the way back to the Clubhouse – I prefer Focal Banger, but dad and Dom like Heady Topper and mom likes the Dark Lager.

The Mad River Valley sits about 15 miles south of the Clubhouse on Rte 100. A massive network of trails maintained by the Mad River Riders covers the ridgeline surrounded by Rte 100, the Sugarbush Access Road, German Flats Rd, and Rte 17. With over a thousand feet of elevation and shuttle access via Tucker Hill Rd, this is truly a unique trail system. Experienced beginner and intermediate riders will enjoy the long flowing descent of Evolution II>Evolution>Revolution, while advanced riders will prefer Techie>Catamount or Plum Line. After a ride, grab sandwiches at the Warren store and swim in Warren Falls. Although Warren Falls is by far the best swim hole around, with multiple cascades and cliff jumping, it gets very busy on warm summer days. Grab beers at Lawson's Finest Liquids in Waitsfield on the way back to Waterbury Center.

The town of Richmond is one exit north of Waterbury on Rte 89. The trails, maintained by Richmond Mountain Trails, lie in the hills just above town and are easily accessed from Cochran's Ski Area. The trails on Cochran's property are generally flowy and suitable for intermediate and advanced riders. Other trails that are accessible from the Cochran's property are raw, natural, and extremely steep and will challenge even the most expert riders. After riding grab a sandwich at the Richmond Market & Beverage and head to the Bolton Potholes for a swim. Another gorgeous waterfall with perfect natural swimming pools and cliff jumping, this spot can also be very crowded on a warm summer day.

We hit all these spots on our trip, and it was an amazing riding vacation. The Trailforks app is an invaluable resource for finding your way around these trail networks (I would have gotten lost out in the woods countless times this week without it). Finally, if you enjoy riding the trails in this area consider supporting the Vermont Mountain Bike Association (VMBA) and the local chapters that I have mentioned throughout the article.

Change of Address Notices

Change of Address notices should be sent to:
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 126 Polsin Dr, Schenectady, NY 12303-2516

Submissions for the Chatter

Content submissions for the SWC Newsletter should be emailed to swcchatter@gmail.com by the 15th of the month and should include a contact name and phone number. Content that needs to be run in subsequent Newsletters must be resubmitted each month.

Names and Numbers to Remember

Board of Directors:

John Bidell, President	C 518-207-5961
Bob Miller, Programs Chair	H 518-861-6034
Susan Knapik, VP Nordic	sbknapik@yahoo.com
George Astle, VP Activities	C 508-735-2116
Karen Simmons, VP Alpine	
Ed Greiner, NNYP President	C 518-421-2947
Keith Freeman, Secretary	H 518-861-1019
Ellen Bidell, Treasurer	
Bill Kornrumpf, Clubhouse Director & Host Coordinator wkornrum@nycap.rr.com	C 518-209-3244
Bill Schaefer, at large	H 518-728-9395
Margaret Parks, at large	
John Rack, Mohawk Valley Hiking Club	H 518-399-5081
Dorie Valenti, Past President	

Others:

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Will Seyse, Programs Chair	C 518-369-4254
Bridget Barrett, Newsletter Editor	C 518-300-0163
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Clubhouse at Waterbury Center	H 802-244-8918

**Schenectady Wintersports Club
Northern New York Paddlers
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Schenectady, New York 12301**

TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

Membership Renewal Application 2020-2021

Membership is from June 1, 2020 to May 31, 2021

Please check your Newsletter delivery preference:

Email version of the Newsletter _____ (this saves trees & club resources)

Receive Newsletter by postal mail: _____ (slower, higher club cost)

Name _____

Age Group (circle one) 18-29 30-39 40-55 56-69 70+

Address _____

_____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

New Member or Renewal

\$25 individual or \$35 Family

For Family Membership, please indicate:

Name of Spouse _____

Age Group (circle One) 18-29 30-39 40-55 56-69 70+

Names and Ages of Junior Members _____

To qualify for family membership, children must be under 18 or 18 and still in High School.

Interested in volunteering? Circle any that you are interested in: Clubhouse, SWC Board, Snow Show, NY Capital District Ski Council, Activities, Warren Miller Movie, hiking, biking, and other Club help such as outreach. **Make check payable to SWC** and mail with the completed application to **John Boscarino, 126 Polsin Dr., Schenectady, NY 12303-2516**

**Buy your Epic or
Ikon Pass now
through the SWC
and get your
membership free!**