

Genesee Valley Hiking Club Newsletter

Message from the President:

Larry O'Heron

I was deeply grateful to see such a wonderful turnout for the GVHC summer get-together at Steward Lodge, Mendon Ponds Park.

Please keep an eye out for the announcement for our fall get-together. This will also be the club annual meeting.

We have important business to conduct. At the meeting we will be voting on the leadership positions for the club for the next two years: Treasurer, Vice-President and President.

As I have mentioned before, I believe that strong organizations regularly change leadership in order to keep the vitality and creativity strong.

I have enjoyed the past two years as President, and am willing to step aside for a qualified leader. If you are interested, contact members of the executive committee and express your desire.

Executive Committee

President Larry O'Heron
 Vice President Tom Kolankiewicz
 Secretary Patty Mangarelli
 Treasurer Nina Tracy
 Membership Michelle Barno
 Hiking Derek Price
 Social Iris Raiman
 Ruth Teitel
 Trails Ryan Bean
 March of Time Cynthia Howk
 Media Relations Ruth Teitel
 Website Larry O'Heron
 Information Tech Alicia Collins

Long-time GVHC Members Back in Town

(The write-up below is courtesy of Cynthia Howk, as are the photos.)

Ron and Barb were "in town" visiting from North Carolina. The Naviks were active with GVHC for decades (their children grew up "on the trail" with GVHC members). Ron & Barb are both former presidents of GVHC.

For years, Ron coordinated the work parties that maintained the section of the Finger Lakes Trail for which our club had responsibilities for maintenance (Steuben Co). He was also our on-going liaison with the Finger Lakes Trail Conference (an organization that was founded by Wally Wood, a long-time member of GVHC).

The "coffee hour" get-together at Tim Horton's/Lake Ave. was organized by John Casella. In addition to the Naviks

(accompanied by their daughter), other long-time GVHC members in attendance were Larry Newman (former GVHC president), Jon Kreckman, John Casella, Fran & Paul Burns, Linda Mattice, Ann Bayley, Derek Price & me. Current GVHC president Larry O’Heron was also present.



(Lf to Rt) John Casella, Larry Newman, Paul Burns, Ann Bayley, Barb Navik, Fran Burns, Derek Price.



Ann Bayley & Barb Navik



Larry Newman, Paul Burns, Ann Bayley, Barb Navik



Larry O’Heron & Ron Navik: current & former GVHC presidents!



Fran Burns and Ann Bayley (in front)

From the Finger Lake Trail Conference E-mail of August 2, 2023

For more info, do a web search on the organization.

Have you heard of the Outside Chronicles? The Outside Chronicles is an outdoor adventure organizer and promoter based in Erie County, NY. In addition to providing guiding and education resources, they host a variety of exciting outdoor challenges that encourage people to get outside and have fun!

Each year, the Outside Chronicles puts together the Finger Lakes Hiking Challenge, which runs from May 15 – November 17 and features 32 trails throughout the Finger Lakes region--including the Finger Lakes Trail, of course! Participation is simple: **Register** on the Outside Chronicles website, complete hikes on the required trails, and snap a selfie to prove you did it! ***Participants who complete the challenge receive a finisher number, sticker, patch, and bragging rights!***

The Outside Chronicles is one of the FLTC's largest supporters, and they truly care about encouraging people to get outside and see the natural world. If you're looking for a new adventure, consider checking out the Finger Lakes Hiking Challenge, or one of the dozen other challenges that Outside Chronicles puts together each year. Happy Hiking!

GVHC Summer Get-Together

On August 27th, GVHC celebrated a beautiful summer of hiking with a social get-together under clear, blue skies on a warm day at Steward Lodge (Mendon Ponds Park), overlooking Hundred Acre Pond.

I want to extend my deepest appreciation to the people who put this great event together, Iris R and Ruth T.

They are the backbone of the club's social activities. Because of these two special people, GVHC is more than a few hours in the parks and on the trails.

I also want to extend my heartfelt thanks to Al S and Nina T who bailed me out on the grill. Due to a miscommunication on my part, the grill was not as ready for prime time as it should have been. But Al and Nina jumped right in and they saved the day for me -- and for every person who was looking forward to enjoying a burger.

Enjoy the photos below, courtesy of John T.







Fall Weekend Festival on the Finger Lakes Trail

Ryan B leads up the GVHC Trail Maintenance effort. We have responsibility for maintaining part of the Finger Lakes Trail. In line with Ryan's leadership on the FLT maintenance, I've included the following info on an upcoming Finger Lakes Trail event.

The dates are September 15, 16, and 17 in Watkins Glen.
Go to the Finger Lakes Trail Conference web site
(<https://fingerlakestrail.org/whats-happening/special-events/>)
to get a list of accommodations.

There will be 5 - 6 hikes in the area each day of differing lengths and difficulties.
There are wineries, breweries and shopping in addition to the breathtaking Glen itself.