



LIFTLINES!

Hot Fun in the Summer Time (And Autumn too!)

Labor Day Weekend Trip

By Michelle Rowan and Tom Kaniewski



The majority of trippers arrived by early evening and were greeted in the yard around the campfire.

All were pleasantly surprised with members thanking Tom Kaniewski for this wonderful addition to our home away from home.

With beautiful weather Saturday everyone was itching to go bike riding. The majority of bikers rode the Burlington Rail Trail with lunch.

Gene Brennan rode 58 miles over 2 gaps and then took a plunge into

the Mad River. Robin Bossert, Toby Appel and our guest Melissa started the day in Barre taking a quarry tour prior to heading to Burlington.

Cocktail hour was enjoyed in the yard around the firepit. Our call to dinner was done New York style by opening the window in the dining room and ringing the bell.

Saturday brought us a day long visit of Hurricane Harvey lasting rains. Out door activities were suspended but folks did not spend the day in the lodge. Activities included church, an arts & crafts fair, shopping and movies in the surrounding towns. Late afternoon, all join by the fireplace for cocktails and chatter.



Sunday brought a beautiful day. Prior to departing Vermont some went hiking, some went biking, one person got new Surefoot boots (thanks to a posting on the Miramar FB members page) and some stopped in the local towns. A good time was had by all.

Winter Trip Schedule 2017-18

Depart	Return	# of days	Description
12/08	12/10	2	First Trip! Two Day Bus Trip
12/22	12/25	3	Christmas Holiday Bus Trip
12/25	12/29	4	Christmas Midweek Car Trip Kid-friendly NYC School Break
12/29	01/01	3	New Year's Holiday Bus Trip
01/05	01/07	2	TGI January, Two Day Bus Trip
01/12	01/15	3	Martin Luther King Holiday Bus Trip PJ Party
01/19	01/21	2	Two Day Bus Trip and Off to the Met Council Ski Races
01/26	01/28	2	Chinese Lunar New Year and Two Day Bus Trip
02/01	02/05	4	Take Friday & Monday Off Bus Trip with few lift lines and a Super Bowl Watching Party
02/09	02/11	2	Two Day Bus Trip and Club Fun Races at Sugarbush
02/16	02/19	3	Presidents' Weekend Holiday Bus Trip
02/19	02/23	4	Presidents' Midweek Car Trip Kid-friendly NYC School Break
02/23	02/25	2	Two Day Bus Trip
03/02	03/04	2	Two Day Bus Trip with plenty of space
03/03	03/10	7	Val-d'Isère, France Resort Destination Air Trip (waitlist)
03/09	03/11	2	Two Day Bus Trip with no crowds
03/16	03/18	2	Two Day Bus Trip
03/23	03/26	3	Spring Fling Bus Trip (Monday return)
03/30	04/01	2	Two Day Bus Trip* April Foolster
04/06	04/08	2	Two Day Bus Trip* with deep snowbase and fresh snow!*
*Conditions permitting			

June 23-25 2017 Work Weekend



Trip Leaders: Bill and Sandy Schreiber.
Workers: Karen Steffel, Donald Bear, Alena Kesl and guest, Toby Appel, Richard Carey, and Chip Martin

It was a great work weekend. We cleaned, gardened, restacked the wood pile, put blankets on beds, addressed the damage in the tune room, gave Alena a tour of the sub basement, had BBQ, made beer chicken, bought local pie from the farmers market, laughed and enjoyed each other's company.



Chip taking bindings off skis and prepping them to become fencing along the flower bed at front of the lodge.

Sandy, Bill and Richard biking around Lake Champlain



Lifelines is the semi-annual publication of Miramar Ski Club. Miramar Ski Club is a not-for-profit organization that owns a lodge in Waitsfield in the Mad River Valley of Vermont's Green Mountains. Miramar runs year-round programs and trips centered on outdoor sports and activities.

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Production and editing: Paul Banks

For more information, write, call or visit: info@miramar.org, (212) 978-9191 www.miramar.org
www.meetup.com/MiramarSkiClub, www.facebook.com/MiramarSkiClub

President: Tom Fleming
Vice President: Alena Keel
Treasurer: Ted Pitt
Membership: Shawn Grand



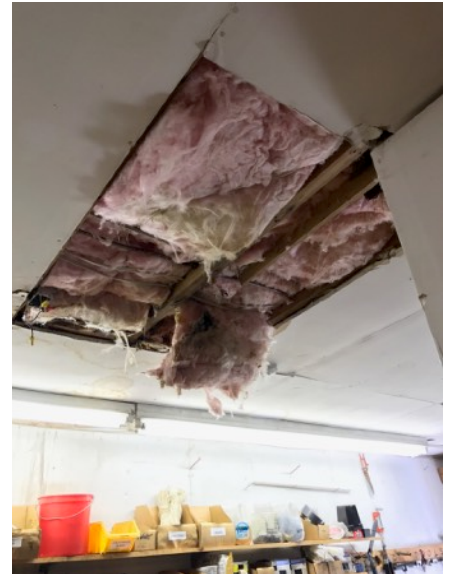
Mad river in it's glory.

The front of the Miramar ski lodge.



More damage in tune room showing electrical in jeopardy.

Tarp on back porch to help protect the room below.



Tune room showing the damage from the leaking roof above.



Back view of the house showing the well stacked wood.

Karen and Donald in front of flower bed.



July 4th Weekend at the Lodge

By Patricia McGivern with input from Tom Fleming and Shawn Grand

The first big summer weekend offered old fashioned community spirit in the July 4 parades and outdoor markets. We enjoyed walks, hikes, spa, zip line, tubing – I have lost track. If you were not here, you missed it!

With heavy rains predicted in the North Country, Pat Mc Gillicuddy, the driver and Winnie and I, seat mates, set off for the Lodge on Friday from the Wall St. area full of enthusiasm. It was a wild rainy ride for the second half of the journey with Pat making her first foray over the legendary switchbacks of the Appalachian Gap, Route 17 a road to be avoided in the winter.

Heavy rains continuing on Saturday, we headed for the spa at Topnotch in Stowe and spent the day relaxing in the pool, napping and reading as the pouring did not let up. We languished in both pools in the state of the art facility enjoying the soft rains and the cool flagstone of the outdoor pool. An excellent water workout.

Back at the Miramar Lodge, a tree floating down stream crashed into the walls of the Covered Bridge doing some damage and creating local excitement. Tom Fleming was on the spot and captured a video of the crash as it happened. The swollen river and the splintered walls continued to draw observers all weekend. At one point a tubing party lunched on the banks in full view of the gaping hole in the Bridge's wall.

The Big Hike up the Burroughs Trail of the Camel's Hump, the 3rd highest peak in Vermont, was summited by AmirToor, Anna Marie Langhans, Tom Zumwalt, Sasha Djukic, Susan Schultz, Tom and Tess Fleming, Patricia Costa Giomi, Caroline Greenlawn, Edward Poston and Shawn Grand. Those who finished commented on the windy summit and the muddy trail. On Sunday Karen Steeful led the hike to Taylor Lodge from the Lake Mansfield Trout Club. Joining her were Rita Nadler, Lauren Frank, Robin Greenberg, Pat Mc Gillicuddy and Donald Bear. At dinner the group shared a photo of a bear seen on the Trail!

Meanwhile at Stowe, Winnie Oostervink, Terry and Tara Fleming thrilled to the zip line, the 2nd longest zip line in the U. S at a speed of 60 miles an hour! Winnie commented on the exhilarating feeling of fear as she waited her turn "to fly."

Amy Sunshine, Amy Smitherman and her lads, Thaddeus and Thomas plus Jay and Kaelin hit the Mt. Schire Science Museum in Norwich, a great spot for kids and adults alike where one can make one's own robot.

Another excursion found Miramartians kayaking and swimming on the Waterbury Reservoir. There was also time for a bike ride to Warren and back.

Besides the very physical activities, Toby, Sandy, Perry and Pat Mc Givern enjoyed a visit to the Stowe Ski Museum, a trip into the past which demonstrated the evolution of ski equipment, clothing and the technology of an earlier time. Those 1960 and 1970 skiers shared lots of stories.

Perhaps our leader, Tom Fleming had the most exciting adventure. Besides capturing the Covered Bridge on video, Tom witnessed two different set of fireworks displays. Daughter Tara met Bernie Sanders at the Warren Parade and had a selfie taken with him! Tara and Tom did a first –tubing on the Mad River. Though the river was really mad, high and rushing, Tom reported

first –tubing on the Mad River. Though the river was really mad, high and rushing, Tom reported that tubing is slow going—it takes an hour to go from the Covered Bridge to Tremblay Road!

Sounds like my speed –next year I will try tubing. Though I have canoed the River many times in the last 25 years, I had never explored the Mad River Path, a recreational village path. With an eye toward snowshoeing in the winter, I spent a frustrating two days following it only to find that it was not continuous.

What a great weekend in spite of some rain. We relaxed on deck at happy hour, enjoyed Caroline's wholesome meals including bagged lunches and slept well those cool comfortable nights. Many thanks to organizer Tom Fleming and family and the Miramartians who volunteered to lead excursions.



Cemetery Ride

By Robin Bossert

On a beautiful sunny July Saturday, 6 living Miramartians biked around the dead of Brooklyn and Queens. What can I say? It was lovely! Evergreens Cemetery, designed by Andrew Jackson Downing, who designed the Washington Mall and taught both Olmsted and Vaux, created a magnificent sanctuary of winding paths and exquisite trees.

Richard Weiss, Karen Steefel, Nancy Rosenthal, Donald Bear, Alison Noth, and Robin Bossert at Evergreens Cemetery.



Then we headed to Highland Park, which is....high above Brooklyn so you don't see any buildings and you can see the ocean off in the distance.

Then off to a favorite lunch spot, the oldest continuously running tavern in the 5 boroughs, Neirs Tavern, for delicious burgers and cheap beer. May West, who grew up down the block, and is buried near by, got her start in the Music Hall at the back of said tavern.



Off to Cypress Cemetery for more gawking.



Then through Forest Park to a refreshing stop at the Flushing Meadow Park.



Ray Abbott, Driver and Friend

Ray Abbott, our driver of choice for over four years, passed away from a heart attack in July. He got us through blizzards, ice storms, breakdowns, traffic jams and all the rest. He understood our schedule and would razz anyone not to the bus on time. It didn't matter if they were a diplomat, a judge, or the club president, they were all humorously reminded that they were holding up the entire club.

Ray could talk to anyone. It didn't matter who they were, everyone got a dose of ribbing from Ray. Yet when members became injured skiing or boarding, he would offer to drive them home.

Ray, we will all miss you, not just as a driver, but as a friend.



Sebago Club Outing September 16th

Photos by Ruth Yashpan



To Peak or Not to Peak? Columbus Day at Miramar

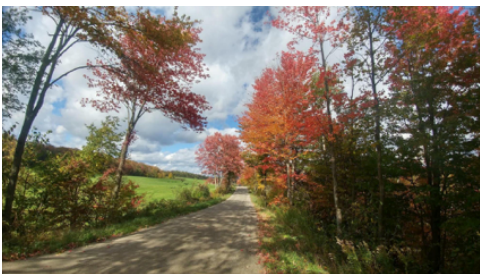
By Robin Bossert

Driving up on Thursday, October 5th, with trip leader Wendy Shepard, Harry Miller and Toby Appel, we were a little disappointed with the colors or lack thereof.

Friday, Wendy, Luis Diaz and I decided to head north and picked a bike ride just south of the Canadian border along the Mighty Missisquoi River called East Sheldon Loop. The only problem was there is no East Sheldon! Once we finally found the starting point it was a spectacular rolling hills ride with the final 6 miles on rails-to-trails path along the river.

After the market, Jenny Tzeng, Wendy and I thought we would escape the rain by hightailing it over the Appalachian Gap to Bristol only to discover the rain clouds would dumped their contents all day before heading east over the mountains. No pictures of the rain-soaked, mud-spattered 25 mile loop to Starksboro. I took a shower in my clothes.

The folks who went on Karen Steefel's hike fared better under the canopy. From Lake Mansfield Trout Club to the Taylor Lodge lean-to with waterfalls, a lovely lake, nice views and a rock scramble.



Start of Peak

The railroad really went
through here?



The Mighty Missisquoi
River; I can smell the
Poutine!

The sky begins to cloud up.



Foul weather never dampens Miramar spirits. We celebrated the birthdays of long lost Barbara Pearlstein and her childhood friend Kristy Schilling.



Saturday morning everyone headed to the Farmer's Market.



Barbara and Kirsty turning 29!



Rug rats!



Steve Jackson and Betsy Longendorfer celebrate 45 years



Otherwise known as Thaddeus, Sydney, and Thomas

Giant Jenga



Sarah McGrath
and Shawn Grand
Mad Dashed to
raise money for
the Mad River
footpath

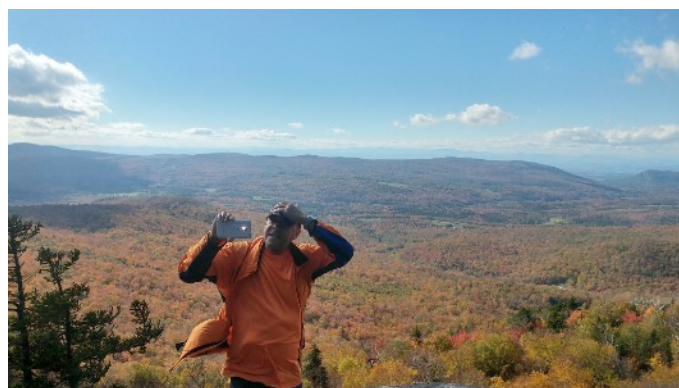
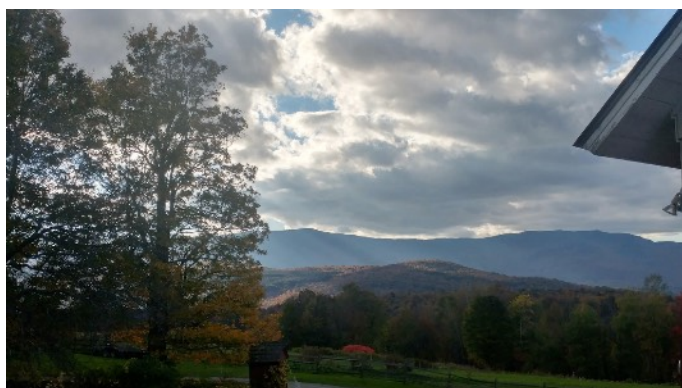
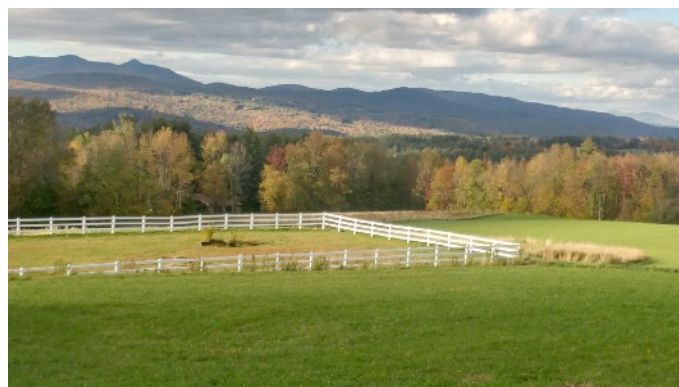


Just up the street
on East Warren
Road

Warren

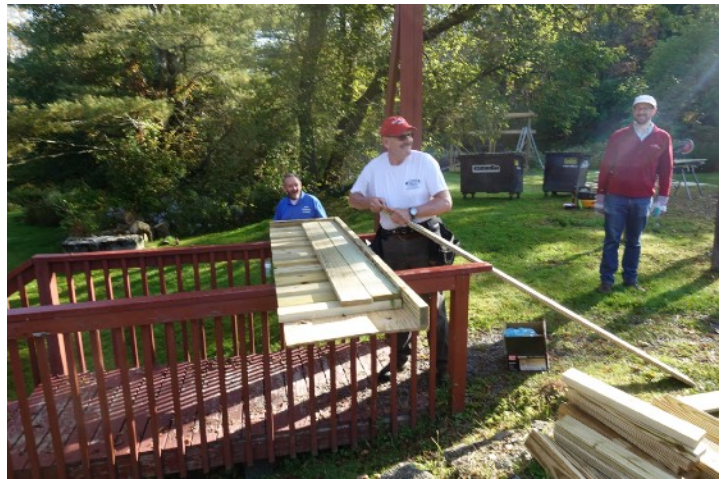


Karen Steefel led a second hike to Sunset Ledge for our final frolic through what turned out to be a magnificent fall peak in Vermont.



We Have a New Deck on the Back Porch

By Phil Caracci



We have had leaks in the tuning room for the past few years that attempts to patch didn't solve. Bill Bernstein realized not just the roof but the deck and the supporting board were rotten and in need of replacing. After a \$5k estimate from a local builder he thought we could do it with volunteers.

Bill and Chris Nestor removed all the old stuff themselves. This was very hard labor as it was heavy. They put down the black waterproof membrane, and the old deck was taken to the dump. Bill created a form that could be used to rebuild new deck sections. And various members took turns building the sections in the form.

While the parts that touch the house still need some work, it's mostly done now and was tested by the work crew to great success.

October 28-29 2017 Work Weekend

By Nancy Rosenthal with Richard Carey and Ruth Yashpan.



stairway. We cleaned out the yucky grease trap for the lodge (Joe and Richard were the two brave volunteers in hazmat suits), washed all the curtains, vacuumed all the rugs, mopped all the floors, cleaned all



readied for the first ski trip of the season. Door codes were changed. I know there is more as this crew is weary as we head home. A good weekend all around for your four work weekend volunteers!

Joe, Richard, Ruth and Nancy joined together to get the necessary tasks completed. Saturday was gorgeous. Sunday rainy so we planned accordingly. With Joe as our leader, we prepped and painted all of the front porch, the basement side stairwell entrance, and a back porch



refrigerators and freezers, and organized tool room. Thrown in there was closing up the attic and sub basement for Winter as well as bleeding the outside pipes--Thank you Richard! Rooms were all inspected and



Meet Shula and Harry, the Brilliant New York City Seniors Remaking Woody Allen's *Annie Hall*



Shula Chernick and Harry B. Miller play the sparring leads in 'My Annie Hall,' a remake of Woody Allen's 1977 movie featuring a cast of talented Manhattan seniors.

Abridged from <http://www.thedailybeast.com/meet-shula-and-harry-the-brilliant-new-york-city-seniors-remaking-woody-allens-annie-hall>

By TIM TEEMAN, 08.27.17 12:00 AM ET

Having spent two hours with them, one has to wonder how much rehearsing Harry B. Miller and Shula Chernick really needed to do to transform themselves into the sparring Alvy Singer and Annie Hall.

The two are the stars of *My Annie Hall*, a remake of Woody Allen's 1977 movie, featuring a cast of seniors who attend programs at Lenox Hill Neighborhood House on New York's Upper East Side. The movie is the brainchild of Ellie Sachs and Matt Starr, co-directors and boyfriend and girlfriend, and best pals of Miller and Chernick. Sachs and Starr are 25 and 28 respectively, and clearly devoted to Chernick and Miller, who have become close friends and also surrogate grandparents to Sachs and Starr.

At first the seniors thought Sachs and Starr were there obligatorily, doing something to gain credits for a college course. "When they realized we were there on our own volition, that we wanted to be there and that art meant something to us, they took it a lot more seriously," said Starr.

Miller is humble. The others have to tell me he won two Emmys for his design work. He has been performing since he was 5 as a tap dancer. He taught scenic design at Smith College, and also received a Masters in Theater from there. At Hunter, whenever an audition calls for an old man, he goes for it. He's done 11 shows there so far, including *Julius Caesar* and *The Cherry Orchard*.

My Annie Hall will be 40 minutes long, with the original's Californian scenes cut from it, but most everything else left intact. Filming it was challenging, but enjoyable. Miller said that making *My Annie Hall* had been a first for him in making a film, and in recognizing that "young people are interested in older people and not just each other and their age group because you get that impression from a lot of them."

A way to Remember Al Taylor

By Phil Caracci

When you come up to the lodge this winter you will see something new on the Miramar property. We now have a gazebo and here is the story.

Most of you will recall that Al Taylor, a member since 1998, was tragically killed in 2015 while biking near his home in Brewster. Al was a friend of mine since 1979 and I was motivated to organize a memorial service so all of his Miramar friends as well as his family, coworkers, college buddies, etc could gather and celebrate his life.

At this memorial gathering we invited all in attendance to contribute to the expenses of that gathering with any extra used to “do something” to remember Al. I’ll take the heat on the delay because at first I just wasn’t sure what to do. We only had a few thousand dollars which was not really enough to contract out the work to a builder. Plus I didn’t know what I was asking to be built!

The original thought was to build a bicycle shelter of some sort. Al’s passion for biking was well known and there really is no place to put a dozen bikes in the lodge on the popular fall weekends. But over time I reconsidered this and realized a place to store bikes might get very little use but a place to go sit outside that was quiet might get use in any season. Thus the idea evolved into a gazebo that could be a place to lock your bike at night and also offer many more potential uses in any season.

Last year there was a false start involving a local Design School whereby the students provide free labor and we just pickup the material costs. This sounded promising but later it was clear that “we” would need to have the design of what we wanted, get the permits and prepare the site. In addition only 2 or 3 projects are accepted per school year with very specific dates based on their schedule. Eventually this approach was abandoned too.

The project got new life when Bill Bernstein and I talked it over after a Membership Meeting and he agreed to partner with me. Bill has his own place in Waitsfield thus he’d be around a lot and was better positioned to get the town permit for the project as well as order the material needed for his design.

Jim McCormack, Chris Nester and Richard Carey were all part of an initial committee dedicated to seeing this through and they were immediately onboard. We were joined by Aamir Toor, David Wallenstein, John Ward, Guy Hassall, Shawn Grand and our new Lodge Construction Manager, Gene Brennan.

Back in May we began the search for weekends that the majority of the guys could dedicate to the project and we marked one weekend in early August and a second weekend in late September. It’s not easy to coordinate so many schedules!

Weekend #1 was about the foundation and the frame. Boy was it fun to dig holes that are 4 feet deep in the pouring rain! But the option to wait for the rain to stop was never considered so we did what we came to do. Impressive effort!

Weekend #2 brought the gazebo to life adding the floor boards and the metal roof as well as the railings. This weekend was actually co-mingled with two other projects: the new “ski fence” and the completion of the new back deck. Bill marveled how this group of people who never worked together easily collaborated to get everything done.

There are some finishing touches which hopefully will be addressed before winter but regardless, it is ready for you when you get there. Go sit outside, enjoy Vermont and remember Al.

Welcome to Winter



More of Welcome to Winter

