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TRAILSWEEPINGS

The Newsletter of the Trailsweepers Snow and Sport Club Inc.

July 2026

Volume 76, Issue III

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we approach July, the heat and humidity are in high gear. So we need to stay cool and hydrated. It is a good time for water related activities and sports. Yesterday, my grandson, Luca, stayed cool on a boat ride on the Hudson River with his Papa. We even got to do some fishing (life does not get better than this). Today I plan on playing with Luca with a watering hose while watching him laugh and run around-basically we will just goof-off and have fun while we stay cool and wet.

As we near the birth of our Nation on July 4th, we can celebrate and be proud. I feel honored to be a participant in this experiment (even with its flaws) and honored to live in the Catskill region. I am amazed, on a daily basis, when I witness the view of the Ashokan Reservoir adjacent to the rolling architecture of the Catskill Mountains.

This is indeed an exceptional week for us. We have my son and grandson visiting to bear witness to the 50th wedding anniversary of Diane and me.

STAY COOL



FUTURE EVENTS CALENDAR

- Friday **July** 10 - Happy Hour at The Cornell, Kingston NY
- Sunday July 12 - Kayaking, Sojourner Truth Park
- Tuesday July 14 - Board and General Club Meetings
- Thursday July 16 - Cycle to Breakfast at Bread Alone. Start time/location depends on distancer chosen. See details in cycling section
- Monday July 20, Hike at Shaupaneak Ridge Park, Esopus NY
- Wednesday July 22 - Kayaking, Constitution Marsh, Cold Spring
- Friday July 24 - Happy Hour at Kingston Nord, Kingston NY
- Thursday **August** 6 - Bard Speigeltent event - "The Onlies".
- Saturday August 8 - Kayaking, Ramshorn Catskill
- Tuesday August 11 - Meeting and Picnic at Kingston Point Beach, Kayaking before
- Thursday August 20 - Race Day at Saratoga Meet-Up. Additional Information to follow.
- Sunday August 23 - Kayaking, Rondout Creek
- Saturday August 29 - Shakespeare in the Park/Woodstock. Picnic before at the Ziegenfelders'
- **September** 18 - 20 - Kayak/Camping, Lake George
- September X (TBD) - DISC Golf at Kingston Point
- Saturday **October** 3 - "Murder Mystery" event to be hosted by Monique C. Details to follow.
- Sunday October 4 - Annual Hikes and Picnic at North/South Lake

Since events sometimes change, efforts will be made to maintain the calendar on the Club website current. To access it go the website, open the Events page and you can then view events in either the default listing format or in an optional calendar view which is available by clicking on the "square" on the right side of the page.

CLUB MEETINGS

On **Tuesday July 14** there will be a Board meeting at 6:30 pm followed immediately by a regular Club meeting. **This is the only meeting for July.**

Meeting Venue: Sky View Mexican Restaurant

237 Forest Hill Drive

Kingston, NY 12401

Hudson Valley Ski Club Link

Our "sister" club sponsors many activities that may be of interest to Trailsweepers who are not already dual members so here is a link to the HVSC website for easy reference -

<http://www.hudsonvalleyskiclub.org>

New Member Spotlight

Joanne Hudela (Thanks to Rob Fletcher for leading the discussion)

Where have you lived for most of your life?

Most of my life has been lived in Kingston. In my early 20's, I lived on the western slope of the San Juan Mts in Telluride, Colorado for 5 years.

When did you first hear about TSSC and when did you join?

One of my sailboarding friends told me about the club. I originally joined the club in the late 80's. Then rejoined in 2025.

What are your favorite sports ? I love to ski, kayak, bike, hike, boating, fishing and sailboarding.

What can TSSC do to make membership of greater value to you ? I can't think of anything at the moment. The club is doing a great job offering social connections and networking, sharing sports passions with like-minded folks and helping to keep its members active, healthy, and nimble.

Do you want to say anything about your family ? I have a wonderful family who all ski. Some are avid fishermen. Others run incredibly grueling marathons and play college baseball. Everyone of them is active in the sports world.

What do you or did you do for work ?

I am currently retired. But half of my working career was spent in ski resort advertising and promotions. The other half was spent in the behind-the-scenes academic world.

Please share one aspect of your life that members would likely not know about you.

they subcontracted the University of Alaska in Fairbanks for a chef and dishwasher. My boyfriend and I were flown out of Barrow in a tiny biplane, onto a huge piece of thick floating ice in the Beaufort Sea where the laboratory camp was set up. I worked there for 5 months and saw the most beautiful Northern Lights, and a polar bear. I also experienced having to evacuate camp due to a huge "lead" slowly opening up and dividing camp in two, with the sea in-between both sides. They found a new piece of ice and set up camp there, and flew us out to it. It was very exciting and a wonderful experience I will never forget!

INFORMATIONAL PROGRAMS

Will be resuming in the Fall. If you would like to volunteer to organize and/or deliver a program or have a specific idea or request related to a topic please contact **Rob Fletcher**, Program Chair.



HAPPY HOURS FOR JULY

Friday July 10, 5:30 pm at The Cornell

100 Rondout Landing

Kingston, NY 12401

(Bar only Happy Hour specials, 3 - 6 pm. There are bars inside and on the deck, so look for Trailsweepers both places.)

Friday July 24, 5:30 pm at Kingston Nord Rooftop Bar (inside if closed for rain)

63 North Front St.

Kingston, NY 12401

(New Nordic Cuisine restaurant in a familiar space.)

zeeventure.woman@gmail.com or 845-594-2105.

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

Trailsweepers stay active year round. See below for information on hiking, cycling and kayaking opportunities. For club-sponsored hiking and kayaking outings, members and guests will be expected to complete a sign-in sheet including liability waiver.



Monday July 20, Shaupaneak Ridge Park, Esopus NY. Meet at the upper parking lot at the top of Poppletown Road in West Esopus at 9 am - turn onto Old Post Road by the Esopus Fire House on 9W then follow Old Post to Poppletown (official address is 143 Popplettown Rd. New Paltz, NY). We will hike the network of trails on this Scenic Hudson Property across varied terrain and vistas. Great opportunity to get outside with a moderate distance and elevation gain.

If you would like to propose (or better yet, lead) a hike, please speak with hiking chair, Steve Wingard. We are fortunate to have so many local opportunities for challenging hikes in the Catskills and Shawangunks as well as more relaxing walks on rail trails and other recreational areas.



"I want to ride my bicycle, I want to ride my bike"

Cycle to Breakfast - July 16th, The Ashokan Rail Trail

This will be on the rail trail with a shorter or longer distance option - you choose the distance you want to ride.

The longer ride will be about 25 miles round trip starting at the rail trail entrance parking area - heading west on Rt 28, on the left side just beyond the West Hurley Stewart's traffic light/intersection. Wheels down at 8 am so arrive in time to get organized.

The shorter option will be starting from the Ashokan Station trailhead parking lot visible from Rt 28, on the left, heading west with, a sign reading "Former site of Olive". This ride will be about 10 miles round trip. Plan to be there early enough (8:30) ready to ride by 8:45- 9. You will wait there until the first group arrives.

The combined group will then ride to the end of the rail trail in Boiceville and ride east on Rt 28 a short distance to Bread Alone.

For questions about the ride call Skip & Yvonne at: Home phone: 845-481-2898 or Cell phones : Skip - 845-706-9714, Yvonne - 845-417-7144

Rail Trail Rides

Rick F. coordinates and leads Monday evening group rides on sections of the Wallkill Valley, Ashokan or Hudson Valley rail trails in Ulster and Dutchess County. Rick has provided the following information to ensure everyone has a positive experience:

- All rides are out and back (you can shorten any ride)

- All riders must wear helmets
- All riders need minimum of spare tube (even if you can't change a flat) and water
- Rides typically end in a tailgate party
- Rain and foul weather usually cancel ride so get on email list to stay abreast for notice of cancelation, change of location, or start times, etc. - Rick Fick rjje@msn.com, 914-443-4060

Here is a link to the [full schedule](#) so far to be confirmed each week via email.

Road Cycling

The Mid-Hudson Bicycle Club sponsors Thursday evening rides at 6 pm originating at the O & W Building, 97 Hurley Avenue Kingston.

The rides are typically 25 - 35 miles in length following a variety of routes with groups divided according to route length and/or average speed. Everyone is welcome.

Club Member Jim T. is the coordinator for the Thursday evening rides so let him know if you would like to be added to the e-mail list (jtskirat@gmail.com)

Note: These rides are coordinated by fellow Club members but are **not** sponsored by TSSC.



Report and Photo from June 19 Cycle to Lunch

Due to weather we had to change this ride date and along with that lost some riders. So 7 of us met and enjoyed a nicely paced ride along the Ashokan Rail Trail....and then onto LJ's family owned restaurant at Winchells Corners on Rt28.

These rides require helmets which must be worn.....

Ride on... Skip and Yvonne



KAYAKING

TSSC Kayaking is paddling along in 2026 with the next outing to be held on the Hudson at **Sojourner Truth Park Kingston, NY on Sunday July 12** (date change from original schedule).

This year, following some of the paddles, there will be an optional hike to an adjacent area of interest. There may also be some moonlight paddles with assistance from Carol Field. These will require some additional equipment and preparations described in the complete schedule document below.

Keep in mind a few things to make your experience safe and fun. Bring food, water, personal flotation device, sunscreen, hat, comfortable clothes, and anything else you deem important like paddle, dry bag, camera, and a working kayak or canoe!

Arrive at the launch a half hour before we shove off. The times listed in the schedule, are the times we would like to start paddling. If it is raining heavily the day of the scheduled trip, then the event is cancelled.

For the complete schedule for the season, please see the [attached](#). There

QUESTIONS:

Yvonne or Skip home phone 845-481-2898

cell - Yvonne 845-417-7144 yab1946@gmail.com

cell - Skip 845-706-9714 skipsinthewoods@gmail.com

Commentary and Photos - Thanks Yvonne (Great Swamp, AS Bash) from Recent Paddles

Ah...The **Great Swamp**... it's always evolving...

I must say this was the most difficult paddle we've done in the swamp. It provided many multiple difficult obstacles. The water level was down about two feet, the beaver dams that weren't there last year, and the many more fallen trees made navigation quite interesting. Because Skip and I have paddled there many times we were able to figure out where the current was going when it looked like dead ends and then muscle all through obstacles along the way. There were 9 of us and we can't say enough about all their abilities to hang in there when things were tough and frustrating. It was a long 6 hour day in and out of our boats either in the water or portaging around obstacles. Much wild life including turtles, herons, egrets, ducks, no swans this year but in turn saw a mink several times. Once again quite the adventure which will be memories for the 9 of us! Food and libation after the paddle at the Carriage House...

We thank each of you for your patience during this paddle.

Almost Summer Bash

Well we paddled to see the falls since a few people hadn't ever done this paddle. The Rondout Creek provided us with the usual beautiful sites, deterioration of sunken barges/ cranes,, a sunken sail boat, the ever ongoing building/ repairing of barges at Feeney's boat yard. We were able to watch the train cross the trestle. Finally the falls/ what falls? There was not a drop of water flowing over. I think that was the first time I had seen it like that. ..



SKI SEASON is only 5 Months Away

SKI TRIP OPPORTUNITIES

Information for TSSC and affiliated organization-sponsored trips will be displayed here as available.

New Jersey Ski & Snowboard Council have announced the following:

Mont Tremblant, Canada – February 7 – February 12, 2027. **Note:**
Registration for this trip is already Closed.

Lake Tahoe – February 20 – February 27, 2027. Please [click here](#) for a flyer.
Online registration will be open shortly.

Loon Mountain – Riverwalk Resort – February 28, 2027 – March 5, 2027.
Please [click here](#) for a flyer and reservation form. **Accommodations are booking fast.**

Hakuba Valley, Japan - March 13, 2027 skiing in Hakuba and visit to Tokyo followed by 2 different skiing or sight-seeing extension opportunities. Now available for sign-up.

Additional information can be found in the Ski Trips section of the NJSSC website [The New Jersey Ski & Snowboard Council](#)

Hudson Valley Ski Club will sponsor trips to IKON resorts next season. The following are in the mix for next season with some details still to be worked out. TSSC members pay no extra fees although initial registration priority goes to HVSC members :

- Gore Mountain, January 4 - 8
- Stratton, VT - January 11 - 15
- Mount Bachelor, OR - January 23 - 30
- Mount Tremblant, QC - February 7 - 12 (same week as NJSSC but different hotel)
- Sugarbush, VT February
- Banff, BC - February 27 - March 6
- Killington, Vermont - March 8 - 12?

Additional information and links for each trip when available can be found in the Ski Trips section of the HVSC website <http://www.hudsonvalleyskiclub.org>

Board Meeting Minutes - June 9

A meeting of the Trailsweepers Snow and Sports Club Board of Directors was called to order on June 9, 2026 at SkyView by Dale Ziegenfelder. Present: Katie Viglielmo, Kathie Quick, Skip Alford.

Some last details of preparation for the Almost Summer Bash were confirmed.

The board discussed consolidating the summer and full FY budgets into a full budget to be voted on at the end of May for the following fiscal year. This would require that planning for the next season (FY) be done in April so that the financial committee (officers+ board) could prepare a proposed budget to be published in early May for a vote. Dale asked for any other problems that this change might cause or actions it might require.

There was discussion on raising the dues to \$35. This would give an extra \$889 with the current membership. John Hoefinger will make some updates to Quickbooks to generate a more accurate FY accounting.

The board voted to put another \$5000 into a CD expecting it to be 13 months and around 3.8%. John H. will call the credit union to get current rates. He will take one out if the rates are close to the above. It is noted that the current CD matures on July 31, 2026.

Submitted by Dale Ziegenfelder

On **June 15, 2026** Dale Ziegenfelder moved to establish an overdraft capability for Trailsweepers Snow and Sports Club at MHVFCU. The board approval by text was unanimous.

Submitted by Dale Ziegenfelder

Regular Meeting

Rob F. called the meeting to order at 7:05

There were 18 members in attendance so a voting quorum was met.

Dale gave the BOARD REPORT - The board discussed raising the dues to \$35 per person from the current amount of \$28. There will be further discussion on this. Treasurer John H reported last year's income was approximately \$3,937 but those expenses reflect costs for two Spring Banquets and a one-time income of \$1,074 from the Austria trip. Hence, some re-analysis is needed. Jeff H. asked whether the proposed new dues will cover anticipated expenses or whether we would potentially be looking at another increase in a short period of time. The consensus of members seemed to support higher dues. Dale Z indicated that the Board would report back.

FINANCIAL REPORT- John H. reported that we have \$10,204 in the CD, \$663 in checking and \$10,700 in savings for a total of \$21,000. John suggested to the Board that TSSC put more in a CD- say 5g of the savings. John/ Dale to discuss. Dale to report.

JOHN HELMER - Former longtime member and President in the late 60's was a guest.

Rob F. acknowledged him and there was a solid round of applause.

MEMBERSHIP- Jim W confirmed membership is at 127 and that the Committee will meet a bit less regularly.

PROGRAMS- Rob F. stated that, while there are no Programs scheduled for the summer, September will see a program of Yoga (bring mats if you have them). October's Program will be a presentation by Sam Diccico on the evolution of skiing equipment.

KAYAKING- Yvonne B. presented the event held in the Great Swamp with 9 people paddlers. This trip, in Paterson, NY, is the most challenging of the summer launches- 6 hours of tough terrain. The trip is very interesting but next year it will be reduced in duration to about a 2-hour paddle and will stop at Route 22. On Saturday the 13th, there will be a paddle at 9am at the Summer Bash.

HIKING- Jeff H. reported that there may be some hikes to Shingle Gully announced by S. Wingard and there will be the annual fall event at North/ South Lake.

MERCHANDISE – There was a discussion as to what products would be desirable to the members for purchase.

Long sleeve shirts is a need per John H. (Kayak John) Visors, patches, hats were offered. Quality products was a suggestion. Skip A. suggested that merchandise could or should be a fund source. There is generally a minimum quantity of 50 items in each category and no response on TSSC "inventorying products, hence a potential problem. Katie V. will at the summer Bash sign-in and will poll interest for members to check what they want to buy.

Email blast to go out.

HAPPY HOURS- 6/19 at Keegan Ales

PAINT AND SIP- Katie reported that she had 6 people. I guest. Dale reported how well the setup was.

SUMMER BASH- Dale Z. reported. Free food and beverages. Bring a dish to share. 9am-ready to paddle for kayakers.

Rob F. read a communication from Bike Ride Chair Jim Tommassiti. At 8:30 am there will be two ride routes- meet at the top of the hill. There is no ride leader for the shorter route. Let Jim know if you will be at the upper.

CYCLE TO LUNCH- June 18th Rail trail by Stewart's. 15 miles total. 11am to LG's restaurant for lunch. Yvonne B. for info.

CYCLE TO BREAKFAST- 7/16 further info to follow. Yvonne B. for info.

SPEIGELTENT- BLUEGRASS- on August 6th. 7 are signed in final order to go in on Monday 6/15, but if you wish to be squeezed into one friendly booth (6 occupants normally- but we are not normal), call Marty N. at 845 679 8613,

THE BUDGET- The Summer Budget of \$3,945 was voted on and passed. The Main Budget vote will be in October.

MEETINGS- There will be one meeting in July- 7/14. There will be one meeting in August- at Kingston Point- with the picnic.

TSSC but early sign-up priority is given to HVSC members. See the website.

The meeting adjourned at 8:22

Respectfully submitted, Marty Nystrom

Trailsweepers Club Roster 2025/2026

(area codes 845 unless otherwise noted)

Club Officers

President - Rob Fletcher 338-1537, President@trailsweepers.org

Executive VP - Jeff Huth 203-482-1954, ExecVP@trailsweepers.org

Administrative VP - Dale Ziegenfelder 657-6312, AdminVP@trailsweepers.org

Secretary - Martin (Marty) Nystrom, 679-8613 Secretary@trailsweepers.org

Treasurer - John Hoefinger Treasurer@trailsweepers.org

Club Board Members (term expir.), Board@trailsweepers.org

Skip Alford (4/'27) 481-2898

Mike Griffin (4/'26) 914-388-7558

Katie Viglielmo (4/'26) 594-4359

Kathie Quick (4/'27) 331-7358

Steve Wingard (4/'26) 532-7459

Committee Chairs

Membership - Jim Wise 914-474-1588, Membership@trailsweepers.org

Programs - Rob Fletcher 338-1537

NJSSC Liaison - Steve Ahladas 337-9317

Ski Racing - Jim Tomasetti 594-9044/Dale Ziegenfelder 657-6312

Discount Lift Tickets - Steve Ahladas 337-9317

Hiking - Steve Wingard 532-7459

Media

Facebook- Jean Pavone 518-527-4670,

Newsletter/Website - Jeff Huth 203-482-1954, webmaster@trailsweepers.org

Social Events

After the Holidays - Lisa Olivett 542-3945

Fall Kick-off - TBD

Happy Hours - Ellen Berlin

Spring Banquet - Diana Ziegenfelder 657-6312

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