



# The Sunapee-Ragged-Kearsarge Greenway Coalition

Newsletter #84

December 2014

## Winter Hikes 2015

Winter hikes are not necessarily along the SRK Greenway system. Instead some leaders choose less traveled trails in new places. These outings, subject to weather, trail conditions, and the leader's choice may involve snowshoes, regular hiking boots or sometimes cross country skis. Please contact the leader in advance for details. Dress in layers, consider using poles, and remember to bring water and snacks.

Jan 24 (Sat) Tom Lawton (477-1995) Let's do lunch at the summit of Mt. Sunapee! We'll hike on snow shoes or microspikes along Greenway Trail #1 from Newbury Harbor to the top. This is a long hike with plenty of vertical gain. (D)

Jan 31(Sat) Lisa Correa (518-281-1494) Snowshoe walk through the Fells exploring trails old and new with a possible walk on the lake, conditions permitting. (M)



*An enthusiastic group preparing to hike into Ayers Pond in Bradford, February 2014*

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
The 2015 Annual Meeting will be held on MARCH 15th.

Feb 7 (Sat) Nathan Richer (763-2127) a basic snow analysis in avalanche terrain around the former King Ridge ski area OR we may simply ski it, depending on snow conditions. (M)

Feb 21 (Sat) Lee Carvalho (735-5719) The second annual bushwhack with Frank Baker. We will have an adventure on snowshoes exploring some remote part of East Andover. (M)

Feb 28 (Sat) George Beaton (938-2637) Depending on conditions a snow shoe hike at Aiken Pasture in Bradford; nice views. (M)

Mar 7 (Sat) Gerry Gold (526-2857) Snowshoe to Lucia's Lookout on Sunapee-Pillsbury Ridge from Andrew Brook Trail and Lake Solitude. (D)

Sometime next year (Sat or Sun) Your name here (your phone number) We are always looking for volunteers to lead hikes; there is no special training required. Summer hikes tend to be on a mix of Greenway trails and others. In the fall, we always provide a schedule that includes half the Greenway. Fall '15 will cover trails #1-#7: from Newbury Harbor to Wilmot. If you are interested in leading a hike in 2015, contact any board member to let us know. Thanks!

**Membership fees are due in January.** You can use this form to mail in your dues or bring them to the annual meeting in March.

## The Sunapee-Ragged-Kearsarge Greenway Coalition

2015 Membership:     renewal         new member

Name(s) Please print

Address

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Individual (\$10)
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Family (\$15)
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Lifetime (\$150)
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Guidebook Purchase (\$10)
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Contribution

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL

Please make check payable to:  
SRK Greenway Coalition  
PO Box 1684  
New London, NH 03257

## How It All Began

*This is the first of a series of articles exploring the origin and early history of the S-R-K*

In the late 80s when Mary Lyn Ray of South Danbury was hoping to protect a nearby property from development she turned to realtor Wade Weathers for information and advice. In his office there were two local USGS maps displayed in the same frame. Their juxtaposition meant it was easy to see how much land was held in easements and how closely aligned the protected properties were; there were only a few gaps. Mary Lyn was looking at land on the maps while Wade was visualizing the people and the history of an area he knew well. According to Mary Lyn, "We began studying the maps closely -- discussing who lived where, who knew whom, and who might be open to conservation. We were just talking. In the beginning our idea was that we would try to create a linked ring of protected properties. Someday there might be a trail running through that corridor, connecting with the Monadnock-Sunapee trail to the south. In all truth, the trails were a secondary interest. The trails were a nice idea that came later."

After Wade Weathers moved away, Mary Lyn continued to explore the idea with Sylvia Bates of the New Hampshire Society for the Protection of Forests (NHSPF). Together they worked toward involving the broader community by inviting many local organizations (NHSPF, ASLPT, LSPA, among others) to send a representative to the first meeting in New London. The eventual series of meetings became a conversation among enthusiasts who then volunteered to bring the project to the attention of area conservation commissions. Reflecting on those early days Mary Lyn points out the luck of timing: "Once upon a time land protection seemed to be done by well-established groups or those individuals with substantial private holdings, but that was changing. Fortuitously this was the time when land protection began to be undertaken by 'ordinary people.' Realization was dawning that our viewshed was vulnerable and townspeople began to realize they had an interest in planning. Individuals like Bill Hoffman in towns like Andover made such a difference in what remains. It was an accident of history that when early conversations about the SRK Greenway and land protection began there were some properties not yet broken up that were held by people with good hearts and will. They liked and responded to the idea that their contributions would be part of something larger."

All of us who enjoy walking on the SRKG trails through these properties are grateful to the planners and landowners whose vision and generosity make it possible.

The SRKGC Newsletter is issued four times a year. Comments and articles may be sent to SRKG PO Box 1684, New London, NH 03257. Editor: Lee Carvalho, [leecarvalho6@gmail.com](mailto:leecarvalho6@gmail.com)

### Greenway Town Directors

Andover	Lee Carvalho	735-5719
Danbury		
Goshen	Tom Lawton	477-1995
Newbury	Nathan Richer	763-2127
New London	Andy Hager	526-2846
	Nick Baer	526-8233
Springfield	Mike Chiarella	763-4661
	Susan Chiarella	763-4661
Sunapee	Ron Wyman	763-5822
Sutton	Jean LaChance	927-4345
	Dave Gardner	927-4033
Warner	Peg Bastien	456-2347
Wilmot	Brian Faughnan (C)	526-7838

## Thank You, Volunteers!

Morgan Hill Trail coming from (would you believe?) Morgan Hill in New London wiggles downhill to meet the Greenway on Great Brook Trail about a quarter mile below the cascade at Devil's Half Acre Pond. The trail crosses a normally small arm of the Great Brook.



*New bridge on Morgan Hill Trail*

This handsome new high bridge was designed by Mark Vernon and pre-cut to size by Bob Brown, both of the New London Conservation Commission. It was installed mid-October by Mark and a few work-release volunteers from the Merrimack County Corrections Department. Rain came the next day and the bridge proved its worth. The New London ConCom organized a week of help on town trails from the work-release program. SRKGC benefited with rock paving on Great Brook Trail at another crossing upstream from the new bridge.