

SPOKE

Notes

Newsletter of the Cyclonauts Bicycling Club — Springfield, Massachusetts



Visit us on the web, www.cyclonauts.com for late additions and changes to the schedule. Also, for photos of rides, hikes, tours, etc. that your fellow club members have submitted to the website.

Cyclonauts Annual Meeting and Banquet

Our 2018 annual banquet and business meeting will be held Saturday, April 7 at Tony and Penny's, 18 Canterbury Rd., Ludlow, MA. Happy hour starts at 6 pm with a cash bar and appetizers. The buffet will include fruit cup, garden salad, three entrees as well as a vegetarian choice. Potato, vegetable, coffee, tea and desert are also included. Our annual business meeting with election of officers for the upcoming year will follow the dinner. The reservation form is enclosed along with the membership renewal. Reservations are due no later than Wednesday, March 28, 2018.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2018

If your mailing label has a "17" in the lower left corner your **2018** dues should be paid now. Use the enclosed renewal form. Save time and a stamp and enclose your banquet reservation at the same time. **A member more than two months in arrears will be dropped from the membership list.**

If your 2018 dues have been paid and our records are in error, please contact Les Prentice at 413-783-6775 or lprentice@verizon.net. If your label has an L, you are a life member who is no longer an active member. However, for your years of contributions to the Cyclonauts, you are always invited to our annual banquets and picnics.

Welcome New Members

Donna Smith-Lyon and Pat Tobey. We hope that you will enjoy cycling and hiking with the Cyclonauts and that we will see you often. We encourage you to present your ideas, as we are always looking for ways to improve our organization

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The deadline for the Spring Spoke Notes is Friday, March 19. All ride schedules & notices must be submitted to Suzanne McAuley corgislivehere@gmail.com

HIKE SCHEDULE

Breakfast at 8:00 AM at the restaurant listed. Hikes begin at 9:00 AM. Wear clothing in layers suitable for the weather. Bring water and food. Trails may be icy, wear appropriate footwear. Micospikes or similar are highly recommended when icy conditions are present. If the conditions are icy and you do not have the appropriate footwear, for your own safety, the hike leader has the option of not allowing you to hike with the group. If at least four inches of snow on the ground, the hike may be replaced by cross country skiing or snow shoeing. Rain cancels. If in doubt about conditions, contact the leader.

WEDNESDAY HIKES

February 7: "Hike Quabbin Park" 6-7 mile loop, breakfast at Roadhouse, Rt. 9 in Belchertown. After breakfast, meet at Quabbin Visitor's Center to carpool to hike starting location. (Limited parking) The 1st part of the hike involves a steady gradual climb of about 1.5 miles up to Quabbin tower. We will then take a trail down to the water and hike for a short while along the water's edge before looping back. Some parts are a bit rough, narrow and/or have a few downed trees, but other parts are on old roads. There will be several views of the water. Bring microspikes, snowshoes (just in case), lunch, water, poles (with snowbaskets, if you use them, and an insulated sit pad). Leader: Juliana Vanderwielen, NO DOGS. e-mail javan45@charter.net

Feb. 14: "Hike McDonald Way in Wilbraham" Hike or x-c ski, depending on conditions. Rolling terrain. Breakfast at Crazy Jakes Restaurant on Rt 20, 2537 Boston Rd. Wilbraham. Leave at 9:15 AM from restaurant for hike. Dog friendly. Leader: Kris Jackson (413) 782-0247 or nausetrose@hotmail.com

Feb.21: "Ski Notchview" Breakfast at BlueBonnet Diner Rt.5 Northampton. Carpool to Notchview, Windsor Jams, for x-c skiing (if conditions are good!) Bring lunch, stay the day. Trail fee \$13.00, free for members. Dogs NOT allowed. If not enough snow, will hike Fitzgerald Conservation area in Northampton, from North Farms Rd. parking lot. (Dogs are allowed here on leash) Leader: Betty Siwinski (413) 427-6095 or bettrad@msn.com

Feb. 28: Breakfast at Fifties Diner, Burnett Rd. Chicopee. Hike trails in Chicopee State Park, go to the Williams Family Park also on Burnett Rd, past the Chicopee State Park entrance for hike start. Dogs welcome. Leader: Ann Morin (413) 592-4123 or morinann@hotmail.com

March 7: "Hike the Rutland, MA Rail Trail" interesting ice formations, 4 MOOSE were seen on this trail, could x-c ski, snowshoe depending on snow conditions. Breakfast at Heavy Evie's 2 Maple Ave. Rutland Ma. Dog friendly. Leader: Diane Delrosario (508) 612-2557 or delrosario@aol.com

March 14: "Hike Monument Mt." Great Barrington, Ma. Breakfast at Friendly's Exit 3 Westfield, Ma. Some steep parts, could be icy, if parking lot is not plowed will go elsewhere, this is a Trustees of Reservation property, so expect to pay a small fee, unless you are a member. Spikes are required, if icy, dogs may not be a good idea. Leader: Mary Ann Siron (413) 568-3304 or ottertales2@comcast.ne

March 21: "Hike Doane's Falls and Spirit Falls" Royalston, MA with an option to drive to Royalston Falls. This is a weather dependent hike so check schedule a few days before and we will post conditions. Meet at 9:30 AM at Tully Lake boat launch on Doane Hill Rd., NOT in the campground parking lot. Bring a lunch, this will be a full day hike. We will take time to enjoy the falls. The trail is either flat or a steep climb. We will also hike to the Ledges for a spectacular view. Best directions are to Google "Doane's Falls Reservation", Doane Hill Rd, Royalston, MA. 01368, then follow Doane Hill Rd. down to the boat ramp. Leaders: Ed Gingras cell (978) 870-2483, Claire cell (978) 870-4230 or ecingras2@verizon.net. No dogs.

March 28: "Hike Peaked Mt Plus!" Breakfast at Beth's Family Dining, Rt 32 Monson, Ma. This will be a long hike, including Shenipsit or Norcross hiking trails. Picnic after hike, bring something to grill and food to share. Don will bring the grill. Leader: Don Maynard (413) 525-3464 or djmaynard07@charter.net Dogs welcome.

SATURDAY & SUNDAY HIKES

February 3: "Laura's Tower and Ice Glen" – Meet at 8:00 to carpool from Friendly's – on (Route 202), 21 Southampton Rd, Westfield, MA 01085, breakfast at Roses Restaurant, 160 Housatonic St, Lee, MA 01238. Hike Laura's Tower and Ice Glen in Stockbridge, MA., The hike to the tower is a moderately steep hike with a great view, and Ice Glen requires careful footing on the trails. Approx. 3 hrs. Bring spikes, poles, snow shoes if snow is deep, snacks, water, and warm clothes. Dog Friendly. Leader: Mary Ann Siron (413) 568-3304, ottertales2@comcast.net.

February 10: "Northwest Park" Meet at Friendly's - on (Route 75), 2 Corporate Dr, Windsor Locks, CT 06096 for breakfast. Hike Northwest Park, 145 Lang Road, Windsor, CT. Dog Friendly. Leader: James DeSellier (413) 297-3880, jdesellier@lenard-eng.com.

February 17: "The Notch Hike" - Meet at Atkins Farms, 1151 West St, Amherst, MA for breakfast. Hike from the Notch Visitor's Center, 1500 West St. around the Notch. Dog friendly. Leader: Paul Griffin (413) 592-4123 (H); (413) 335-2675 (C), morinann@hotmail.com.

February 24: "Wells State Park" - Meet at Friendly's - on (Route 20), 1519 N Main St, Palmer, MA 01069 for breakfast. Then at 9:00 carpool to and hike Wells State Park - 159 Walker Pond Road, Sturbridge, MA 01566. Dog Friendly. Leader: Don Maynard (413) 525-3464, djmaynard07@charter.net.

March 3: "Arches Hike" – Meet at Friendly's – on (Route 202), 21 Southampton Rd, Westfield, MA 01085, for breakfast. Then at 9:00 carpool to the trail head in Chester, MA. Dog Friendly. Leader: Kerry Goguen (413) 525-4029, Dyna309@charter.net.

March 10: "M&M Trail" - Meet at Center Grill, 3 Turkey Hills Rd, East Granby, CT 06026 MA for breakfast. Leave from the parking lot at 9:00 am and drive to the Trail Head. This is a through hike, we will Hike the M&M trail from Suffield to East Granby, this is a through hike we will need to spot cars at the end. Dog Friendly. Leader: Kerry Goguen (413) 525-4029, Dyna309@charter.net.

March 17: "Conant Brook Reservoir" - Meet at Beth & Deb's Family Dining, on (Route 32), 107 Main St, Monson, MA 01057 for breakfast. Hike Conant Brook Reservoir. Dog Friendly. Leader: Don Maynard (413) 525-3464, djmaynard07@charter.net.

March 24: Leader: "Abandoned Rail Hike" – Meet at Panera Bread, 450 N Main St, East Longmeadow, MA 01028. 9:00 am Carpool to Scitico Plaza, Enfield CT and hike or snow shoe/XC Ski along an abandoned rail line. Dog Friendly. Tom Copp (860) 573-0328, downryder_TRC@hotmail.com.

March 30: "Seven Sisters" - Meet at the Tailgate Deli, 7 College St, South Hadley, MA 01075 for breakfast. This is a through hike, we will leave half the cars at Skinner State Park then drive to the Notch to begin the hike. Dog Friendly. Leader: James DeSellier (413) 297-3880, jdesellier@lenard-eng.com.