HMCA Activities Update

by Diana Todd

for sharing at the September 12, 2016 meeting of the HPC

A summary of what HMCA has been doing in the interval since the last HPC meeting in early July.

1. The Trail Committee has installed brochure boxes at the two Route 9 kiosks and loaded them with trail maps. They have weed whacked and cleared a blowdown on the Bishop Trail, and kept an eye on conditions on the rest of the trail system.
2. The Summer Meeting was held on Wednesday evening, Aug 3, at Memorial Hall in Wilmington, featuring Jeremy Davis, founder of NELSAP, speaking on “Lost Ski Areas of Southern Vermont.” The evening included an “open house” period prior to the formal program, where people could look at posters and artifacts, and chat with the speaker, HMCA Directors, friends and neighbors. Fifty-seven people attended. The program was very well received.
3. The summer Volunteer Day, held on Saturday morning, August 6, brought out nine volunteers. Five were HMCA Board members. The area around the Bishop cellar hole was cleared of blowdowns and young growth. The work made it much easier to see the true size of the farmhouse. Similar work on clearing the sites of barns and other outbuildings at the Bishop homestead is being considered.
4. A company from Pennsylvania that makes educational videos asked for permission to film on Hogback, but ultimately decided to shoot their footage elsewhere.
5. Five volunteer work sessions have been planned for the ESH project. The first took place on Sunday, Sept. 4. Twelve people participated; two were new faces and the rest had helped before.
6. HMCA will have a table at the Marlboro College “Community Engagement Fair” on Sept. 9. This event is intended to expose the students to volunteer opportunities in the area. The exhibits will feature the ESH project.
7. HMCA will have a display at the Marlboro (town) Fair, featuring “Then & Now” photos of the ski area, information about the ESH project, and information about Hogback Committees.
8. The Hogback Facebook page now has over 560 “likes.” The web page has been averaging about 30 visits per day during July and August.