

MORE WMAC SNOSHU-NEWS

Day #2 of the President's Day Trifecta: HALLOCKVILLE

Like squirrels hurriedly storing acorns against a cold and stormy winter, WMACers were scurrying around to cram as much snow fun as possible into the three day President's weekend. A lucky thirteen eagerly took up the challenge and shoed both Camp Saratoga and Hallockville.

While both Camp Saratoga and Hallockville were approximately five mile USSA qualifiers, there the similarity ended. Camp Saratoga was a qualifier from the get-go, but Hallockville played dual roles as both a regularly scheduled event and a second year understudy for the Northfield qualifier. Except that this time around, the course was the Hallockville/Basin Brook version instead of last year's Northfield at Hallockville Moody Spring version. Got that?!

The good news was that this reshuffling of the Hallockville course meant we would not have to struggle slow motion uphill to reach the finish. The bad news was that only Tippi and Edward, perennial course markers, knew what was in store for us – and they were working the finish line. Turns out that while Camp Saratoga presented us with lots of white, fluffy snow containing absolutely zero traction, Hallockville was a bit more forgiving, with a packed road downhill and denser single track layers. To compensate somewhat for the more manageable surface, the single track headed relentlessly skyward.

Surprisingly, my legs resigned themselves to the task ahead and quickly settled into the groove. Of course, it didn't hurt that most of the initial section was downhill. Again, Hallockville favored those like me who have lots of endurance but minimal speed. I simply plowed on, and surprised myself by actually passing a few runners. Of course, if you were Ken Clark or Bob Dion and had both speed and endurance, you were up front breaking trail and did not have nearly as "easy" a ride. One person I "let" pass me was orange jacket guy who sounded like Darth Vader breathing down my neck. Who needs that kind of pressure? Turned out this concession was one of my better moves. Ken Deary (I think) had the exact same stride as me, so I happily piggybacked along behind him. I was able to do this despite the fact that being Jeffless and without proper counsel, I had put my snowshoes on the wrong feet. Dions are amazingly forgiving, but only up to a point and my foot-banging tendencies had crossed the line.

For the first time ever, I had to restrap and Ken pulled away. When I drew close to the highway and still did not see either the finish or Ken, I began to grow concerned. The beaten track was unmistakable and any wrong turn would lead directly into a waist-deep snow drift, so I knew I wasn't off course. Still, the highway was worrisome. Was there some other road out there leading to yet another version, Hallockville VI, perhaps? And if not, how much longer could five miles possibly be? To finish, we would have to head down toward the road which was annoyingly parallel to the trail and too close to allow any kind of sprint. Fortunately, the trail soon turned upward, gaining some distance before plunging toward the finish. That final uphill I was glad to take!

Both Articles by Laura Clark

Day #3 - President's Day Trifecta: MERRIMACK

WMAC Snowshoe Series Streaker Laurel Shortell (natch) and Rich Busa were the only WMAC'ers to survive the President's Day Trifecta. Not only does that get them ahead on series points, but they can also take credit for their first snowshoe ultra. If you define an ultra as an extreme test of mind over body, requiring sustained effort over the course of several days, then that's what they achieved. While their total snowshoe mileage did not surpass the marathon mark, if you add in the mileage they logged in their car driving to each event, then they truly are Ultra Survivors!



Hallockville Photos courtesy of Larry Dragon & Julie Ryan

4th 3.5 MILE HOXIE BROOK & 8.0 MILE COVERED BRIDGE SNOWSHOE RACES
Greylock Glen Adams, MA February 24, 2007

HOXIE BROOK 3.5-MILE RESULTS

01. Greg Hammett	29	0:39:05	100.00
02. Stephen Willis	21	0:39:06	98.21
03. Corey Watts	18	0:39:09	96.43
04. Matt Deady	18	0:39:17	94.64
05. Jared Oubre	20	0:40:08	92.86
06. Dave Dunham	42	0:40:43	91.07
07. Bob Dion	51	0:41:36	89.29
08. Drew Thayer	19	0:41:53	87.50
09. Bryan Johnson	27	0:41:56	85.71
10. Edward Alibozek	44	0:42:08	83.93
11. Matt Kane	21	0:42:36	82.14
12. Conner Kamm	20	0:43:22	80.36
13. Chris Dunn	38	0:43:23	78.57
14. Tom Parent	30	0:44:40	76.79
15. Peter Keeney	40	0:45:03	75.00
16. Norm Sheppard	49	0:45:13	73.21
17. Grant Burgess	18	0:45:56	71.43
18. Dan Gura	19	0:45:57	69.64
19. Peter Malinowski	52	0:48:32	67.86
20. John Pelton	67	0:48:35	66.07
21. Vince Kirby	50	0:48:42	64.29
22. Alan Bates	58	0:48:52	62.50
23. Jason Copelas	19	0:48:53	60.71
24. Nick Jubok	50	0:50:30	58.93
25. Jay Curry	35	0:50:51	57.14
26. Andrew Drummond	30	0:51:14	55.36
27. Peter Lipka	55	0:51:57	53.57
28. Ed Buckley	48	0:52:09	51.79
29. Bill Morse	55	0:52:43	50.00
30. Martin Glendon	60	0:52:45	48.21
31. Darlene McCarthy	44	0:53:00	46.43
32. Eric Recene	36	0:53:06	44.64
33. Ed Alibozek Jr	67	0:53:40	42.86
34. Patrick McGrath	41	0:53:42	41.07
35. Jim Carlson	59	0:55:15	39.29
36. Ed Decker	52	0:56:05	37.50
37. Gareth Buckley	30	0:56:18	35.71
38. Bob Massaro	63	0:57:22	33.93
39. Laura Clark	59	0:57:48	32.14
40. Denise Dion	47	0:58:06	30.36
41. Brad Herder	49	0:58:19	28.57
42. Larry Dragon	46	0:58:46	26.79
43. Laurel Shortell	40	1:00:16	25.00
44. Walt Kolodzinski	64	1:02:18	23.21
45. Elly Teitsworth	18	1:02:22	21.43
46. Kate Yandell	19	1:02:23	19.64
47. Rich Busa	77	1:05:45	17.86
48. Katherine Gura	19	1:06:54	16.07
49. Joanne Lamanna	50	1:07:07	14.29
50. Pete Finley	45	1:07:22	12.50
51. Taidgh Buckley	25	1:11:00	10.71
52. Jamie Howard	41	1:12:22	8.93
53. Bill Glendon	61	1:13:36	7.14
54. Konrad Karolczuk	54	1:13:36	5.36
55. Kate Karlson	54	1:37:00	3.57
56. Amy Stevens	37	2:20:00	1.79

COVERED BRIDGE 8.0-MILE RESULTS

01. Corey Watts	18	1:21:04	100.00
02. Stephen Willis	21	1:21:04	96.67
03. Matt Deady	18	1:23:55	93.33
04. Dave Dunham	42	1:25:26	90.00
05. Bob Dion	51	1:29:15	86.67
06. Greg Hammett	29	1:32:14	83.33
07. Edward Alibozek	44	1:33:17	80.00
08. Tom Parent	30	1:34:41	76.67
09. Peter Keeney	40	1:34:55	73.33
10. Norm Sheppard	49	1:41:19	70.00
11. Peter Malinowski	52	1:43:36	66.67
12. Jay Curry	35	1:43:56	63.33
13. Alan Bates	58	1:44:19	60.00
14. Nick Jubok	50	1:47:37	56.67
15. Ed Buckley	48	1:49:17	53.33
16. John Pelton	67	1:51:24	50.00
17. Peter Lipka	55	1:51:44	46.67
18. Bill Morse	55	1:54:11	43.33
19. Eric Recene	36	1:57:12	40.00
20. Elly Teitsworth	18	1:57:22	36.67
21. Darlene McCarthy	44	1:57:24	33.33
22. Gareth Buckley	30	2:01:25	30.00
23. Laura Clark	59	2:08:46	26.67
24. Laurel Shortell	40	2:11:41	23.33
25. Ed Decker	52	2:12:21	20.00
26. Walt Kolodzinski	63	2:21:34	16.67
27. Rich Busa	77	2:24:26	13.33
28. Taidgh Buckley	25	2:36:43	10.00
29. Konrad Karolczuk	54	2:37:47	6.67
30. Jamie Howard	41	2:42:06	3.33

HAVING FUN ON THE COURSE

Ellen Mach	65	2:40:00	1.00
Julie Ryan	41	Participated	1.00
Anne Dobrowolski	55	Participated	1.00



The Race for 1st, Hoxie Thunderbolt; Hammett and Willis. B Herder

Timing By: Poncho Mach, Jay Kolodzinski and Jan Rancatti

HOXIE THUNDERBOLT / COVERED BRIDGE

Wow, this race was hard! The first half mile a pack of three Williams College kids and Greg Hammet nearly sprinted down the packed snowmobile path. Greg led the way into the deep unpacked snow. I was about 30 seconds back and heard one of the guys behind me say "Dang!" when we switched to low gear in the single track. Greg continued to lead with the three youngster's right on his tail. The work of breaking trail was slowing the pace and I was able to rejoin the group 20 minutes into the race. By 28 minutes they had begun to pull away again with Greg still doing most (if not all) of the trail breaking. With about a mile to go to the Gazebo the pace really quickened. I could still see the lead pack but only on the longer open stretches. They looked to be at a full sprint. Greg took the win by a second over Stephen Willis, passing through 3.5 miles in just over 39 minutes. I came through the open field in sixth place and was very surprised that the entire lead group had continued on for the 4.5 mile loop. I thought by the way they were sprinting that a couple of them would be out at 3.5.

I heard before the race that about two-thirds of the course was groomed and the other third was not. I think that may have been reversed, or at least it seemed that way. The next mile was on fairly fast footing. After passing 3.5 in over 40 minutes I was afraid I might have up to an hour of running left. I kept thinking "eventually we have to descend" as we kept on climbing. On the single track section I caught sight of the leaders again. Greg was still out in front doing most of the hard work, his pursuers' in tight formation behind him. At 1:02 into the race things began to shake out. After going around the edge of West Mountain Road we started the long tough climb up Cheshire Harbor Trail. Willis and Corey Watts broke away, leaving their teammate Matt Deady, and Greg in their wake.

Greg began to struggle on the climb and even walked a little. I caught him on the Gould trail and he mentioned that he was bonking. I felt bad as he had done a lot of hard work in the front. We passed the "1 mile to Gould road" sign at 1:15 into the race. I had never been on that side of the road and was impressed with the view and the funky covered bridge which the race is named for. Watts and Willis dueled right to the line with Watts taking the victory by a step. Elly Teitsworth and Darlene McCarthy also had a race to the wire. Teitsworth made up over 9 minutes in the final 4.5 miles. She caught McCarthy with about 100m to go and sprinted in for a two second victory.

The 56 finishers in the short race and 33 in the longer race (everyone who ran the long race scored in the short race as well) huddled around the fire to thaw out. It was actually not bad with the tarps blocking most of the wind and the fire and hot food to warm up with. Another fine job by WMAC!

Dave Dunham

WMAC SNOWSHOE SERIES

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HALLOCKVILLE POND VERSION TWO

What a difference a day makes. On the plus side it was a bit warmer and a lot less windy. On the minus side, I was (and I'm guess most of the people who raced the day before) sore and tired. Ed promised us a much easier course. I quietly cursed him as I ran up the first hill on the course as I did my warm-up checking out the first mile. The course was mostly out and back, so for every up there had to be a down.

The \$5 entry fee was waived, which made the race **even more** of a bargain. Ed had rented the porta-john for the February 18th race and since it was paid for, figured he'd put on another race. I learned a lesson about porta-john's and snowshoes. They don't go together well. Next time I'll have to put them on **AFTER** using the facilities. The next guy in line got a chuckle as I tried to negotiate my way out of the tight confines.

Ethen Nedeau, who had run his first snowshoe race at Hallockville last weekend, signed up at 9:25. He thought the start time was 10:00 and had to hightail it back to his car and get ready. He trotted over to the line and noted that he hadn't had a chance to go through his "pre race rituals". Despite that, he looked strong as we made our way out on the nicely groomed trail. He pulled ahead by the mile, but seemed to ease up. I caught him soon after and he said "I was a little worried; I don't know where the course goes". I took the lead and Ken Clark closed in behind us as we did a short loop of single track. I nearly ran into Chelynn Tetrault who was on her way into the loop. She saw us and saw the flagging and asked for confirmation on which way to go.

Ethen seemed a lot more comfortable now that we were heading back and he assumed the lead. I tried to stay close but he really pushed the pace over the next ½ mile. I started sneaking peeks to see where Ken was. We made our way through the pack and got a lot of encouragement from everyone. Ethen broke away and took his first snowshoe victory 22 seconds ahead of me and another 24 ahead of Ken. Chelynn was the top woman, taking fifth place overall. She won by a little over seven minutes.

In all 16 of the 27 finishers had raced the day before at Covered bridges. A tough crowd indeed.

Dave Dunham



Corey Watts grabbing a victory over Stephen Willis – Covered Bridge 8 Miler

MOUNT WASHINGTON COMES TO GREYLOCK

Me to SnowPerson Bob who was shoveling snow onto the Covered Bridge road crossing: *"I just hate people who shovel their snow onto the road!"*

Typical Vermonter reply: *"It'll melt come spring."*

It was that kind of a day at Mt. Greylock when WMACers gathered for the Hoxie Thunderbolt/Covered Bridge Snowshoe Races. Buy into Hoxie and get Covered Bridge for free. Earn double the points, get double the fun and NOT spend double the gas money. A race for tough, unflappable SnowPersons wearing Dions as well as for those more romantically inclined. Sort of like a return to Neverland with Hoxies, who perhaps are Greylock mountain sprites distributing liberal portions of snow squall fairy dust upon those who are up for the challenge. At least that's what I choose to believe until someone explains to me what the heck a Hoxie is.

According to statistics, Mt. Washington boasts the windiest, nastiest weather of any mountain top in the United States. There is an entire weather station chock full of weather guessers up there who enjoy being miserable for the sake of research papers. But I'll bet none of them have ventured to Mt. Greylock, especially when there were Hoxies prancing about. For while the predicted high for the day was a balmy twenty degrees, gale force winds plummeted the wind chill to well below zero. So much so that as my cousin Kate Karlson and I drove up to the Glen, my petite Neon flattened itself out and hugged the road in sheer terror. If this wasn't enough of an indication of what kind of day it would be, Edward was administrating his registration rites from inside his car. Never a good sign. Glancing beyond to the Glen itself, we noticed several adventurous souls practicing paragliding techniques while wrapping the pavilion in tarp to block out the wind. The rest of us remained huddled in our cars, cheering them on.

Once it appeared the tarps would hold, we huddled in the pavilion around the fire barrel, retelling Rich Busa cautionary tales about the dangers of standing too close, especially when the wind was blowing. All too soon, it was time to head out and into the stuff of future storytelling legends. I started out slowly and gradually worked my way up the line. While this does follow classic road racing strategy, I also had a secret agenda. In the course of seemingly casual conversation, I ascertained just who was doing the Hoxie and who intended to visit the bridge. So when Bob Massaro overtook me at the end of the Hoxie, I let the pixies wing him onward as I knew I still had "miles to go before I sleep."

Which was a good thing as I was beginning to lose it and enter into my own Neverland. As I rounded the pavilion, I spotted Jim Carlson. "How nice," I thought, "Jim is waiting for me so I won't get lost on the next section." I figured I needed to see him ahead of me in the second half since that is the part where I usually get lost. But despite the fact that Jim remained firmly fixed by the fire, the Hoxie dust was still working its magic and I didn't miss a beat. Guess Paul Hartwig had studied all my past stories where I describe in excruciating detail exactly why Denise Dion always comes in ahead of me.

I especially enjoyed the final mile, not just because it was the final mile but because it brought back fond memories of the Greylock Marathon. And it was good I had some sense of

where I was because I noticed some park signposts proclaiming, "One mile to Glen trailhead." I spotted several of these beauties, displayed proudly at random intervals along the trail. Was this stretch, like most final miles, truly endless? Was there more than one Greylock Glen? Must have been the Hoxies playing tricks. I was so intent on this puzzle that I almost plowed straight into Miss Ellen. And then I knew that we were both on our way home.

The entranceway to FINISH, though, is tricky. It begins with an uphill which, had it been in any other place, would have been a no-brainer walking break. But it was too close to the finish. I could hear folks cheering. Could they see me walking? Probably not, but who wants to take a chance? So I soldiered on, surmounting the hill and crossing Bob's shoveled snow bridge, which had not waited till Spring to turn mushy. Then I ran smack dab into Greylock's Mt. Washington imitation. On the final uphill, Hoxies squalled with a vengeance, almost bringing me to my knees. Fortunately, Newf, the Northumberland puppy was on hand to rescue the Lost.

And they want to pluck condos down on Greylock? Just wait till the Hoxies come!

UNSEEN HEROES:

A special thanks goes to Paul Hartwig's son Stephen who spent two o'dark:30 hours plowing Greylock's snowmobile sections into submission.

Lifesaver points go to Farmer Ed Sr. who stuck his tarp in the back of his truck "just in case."

Saint Bernard points to Tippi, who told Edward exactly where to place the markers and saved him from getting lost after fresh snow had covered their tracks.

HALLOCKVILLE POND SUNDAY, 25 FEBRUARY: OR, THE NEXT DAY

I've given up trying to figure out what version of Hallockville Pond we ran on Sunday. For me, after Covered Bridge it was tough. I had the choice of either trekking out to Hallockville or going to Empire State Games. There's no way I wanted to compete with a bunch of folks who were feeling fresh and rested. Today was more of a "We're in this together type day." I did a good business dispensing Aleve beforehand. During the race, I never spotted the cemetery which was probably a good thing since I looked like a prime candidate. Afterwards, we gathered around the fireplace and listened to the veterans tell tall tales of the way snowshoeing used to be when 27 finishers would have been considered a record crowd.

Good Night and Good Luck – laura

HALLOCKVILLE POND II 3.2 - MILE SNOWSHOE RACE

Dubuque State Forest

West Hawley, MA

February 25, 2007

01. Ethen Nedea	34	0:24:26	100.00
02. Dave Dunham	42	0:24:48	96.30
03. Kenny Clark	44	0:25:12	92.59
04. Peter Keeney	40	0:27:57	88.89
05. Chelynn Tetreault	31	0:30:13	85.19
06. Bruce Shenker	54	0:31:03	81.48
07. Bill Morse	55	0:31:07	77.78
08. Paul Hartwig	50	0:32:18	74.07
09. Wally Lempart	61	0:33:04	70.37
10. Peter Lipka	55	0:34:22	66.67
11. Bruce Marvonek	53	0:34:50	62.96
12. Ed Alibozek Jr	67	0:35:04	59.26
13. Brad Herder	49	0:35:53	55.56
14. Martin Glendon	60	0:36:10	51.85
15. Jim Carlson	58	0:36:38	48.15
16. Karl Molitoris	51	0:37:00	44.44
17. Darlene McCarthy	44	0:37:17	40.74
18. Jackie Lucero	30	0:38:52	37.04
19. Larry Dragon	46	0:40:08	33.33
20. Laura Clark	59	0:40:42	29.63
21. Laurel Shortell	40	0:41:26	25.93
22. Richard Busa	77	0:43:20	22.22
23. Kenny Fairman	63	0:43:44	18.52
24. Walt Kolodzinski	64	0:48:13	14.81
25. Bill Glendon	61	0:52:44	11.11
26. Konrad Karolczuk	54	0:52:45	7.41
27. Vanessa Hoffmann	16	0:57:35	3.70



Photos by Beth Herder - Men's Champ Ethen Nedea, SCA Lodge, Ladies Champ Chelynn Tetreault and MVP Paul Hartwig.

Best Five Race Scores (so far...)

NAME	AGE	POINTS	AVG
01. Ken Clark	44	481.45	96.29
02. Dave Dunham	42	468.98	93.80
03. Bob Dion	51	454.88	90.98
04. Edward Alibozek	44	429.81	85.96
05. John Pelton	67	315.39	63.08
06. Paul Hartwig	50	309.73	61.95
07. Pete Lipka	55	307.06	61.41
08. Jay Curry	35	299.44	59.89
09. Bill Morse	55	292.33	58.47
10. Ed Alibozek Jr	67	259.66	51.93
11. Jim Carlson	59	228.47	45.69
12. Laura Clark	59	167.80	33.56
13. Bob Massaro	63	166.43	33.29
14. Laurel Shortell	40	145.74	29.15
15. Richard Busa	77	144.17	28.83
16. Denise Dion	48	129.53	25.91
17. Walter Kolodzinski	64	109.60	21.92
18. Jamie Howard	41	50.55	10.11
19. Konrad Karolczuk	54	37.77	7.55

Best Four Race Scores (so far...)

NAME	AGE	POINTS	AVG
01. Ken Clark	44	389.14	97.29
02. Dave Dunham	42	378.98	94.75
03. Bob Dion	51	368.21	92.05
04. Edward Alibozek	44	349.81	87.45
05. Vincent Kirby	50	291.96	72.99
06. Paul Hartwig	50	273.83	68.46
07. John Pelton	67	265.39	66.35
08. Pete Lipka	55	253.49	63.37
09. Jay Curry	35	249.44	62.36
10. Bill Morse	55	244.90	61.23
11. Tom Mack	42	224.33	56.08
12. Ed Alibozek Jr	67	216.80	54.20
13. Jim Carlson	59	189.18	47.30
14. Darlene McCarthy	44	165.33	41.33
15. Bob Massaro	63	144.02	36.01
16. Laura Clark	59	138.17	34.54
17. Denise Dion	48	122.86	30.72
18. Richard Busa	77	121.95	30.49
19. Laurel Shortell	40	120.74	30.19
20. Walter Kolodzinski	64	94.79	23.70
21. Jamie Howard	41	47.22	11.81
22. Konrad Karolczuk	54	31.10	7.78

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bruce.shenker@s1.com

518 929 8604

Thanks, Bruce

Best Three Race Scores (so far...)

NAME	AGE	POINTS	AVG
01. Ken Clark	44	296.55	98.85
02. Dave Dunham	42	287.91	95.97
03. Greg Hammett	29	280.77	93.59
04. Bob Dion	51	278.92	92.97
05. Edward Alibozek	44	265.88	88.63
06. Peter Keeney	40	237.22	79.07
07. Vincent Kirby	50	227.67	75.89
08. Chelynn Tetrault	31	226.75	75.58
09. Norm Sheppard	45	219.07	73.02
10. Dave Hannon	35	218.47	72.82
11. Paul Fiondella	60	216.06	72.02
12. John Pelton	67	208.49	69.50
13. Paul Hartwig	50	208.31	69.44
14. Peter Malinowski	52	205.22	68.41
15. Alan Bates	58	200.09	66.70
16. Pete Lipka	55	195.38	65.13
17. Bill Morse	55	194.90	64.97
18. Jay Curry	35	192.30	64.10
19. Tom Mack	42	182.66	60.89
20. Jessica Hageman	31	175.17	58.39
21. Ed Alibozek Jr	67	173.70	57.90
22. Dave Boles	60	170.83	56.94
23. Jim Carlson	59	148.15	49.38
24. Eric Recene	36	137.34	45.78
25. Martin Glendon	60	132.82	44.27
26. Darlene McCarthy	44	132.00	44.00
27. Brad Herder	49	130.28	43.43
28. Bob Massaro	63	116.99	39.00
29. Laura Clark	59	107.91	35.97
30. Chris Johnson	49	105.20	35.07
31. Denise Dion	48	97.00	32.33
32. Ed Decker	52	96.69	32.23
33. Richard Busa	77	96.31	32.10
34. Laurel Shortell	40	94.81	31.60
35. Walter Kolodzinski	64	78.12	26.04
36. Larry Dragon	46	61.84	20.61
37. Jamie Howard	41	38.29	12.76
38. Peter Finley	45	37.62	12.54
39. Steve Mitchell	65	25.95	8.65
40. Bill Glendon	61	25.15	8.38
41. Konrad Karolczuk	54	23.69	7.90
42. Susan Mitchell	53	9.17	3.06

