



# The Sunapee-Ragged-Kearsarge Greenway Coalition

Newsletter #73

February 2012

## Naturalist, Mary Holland, Scheduled for March Meeting

Please join us on March 25th for the SRKG annual meeting. The board is very pleased (and excited) about this year's speaker, Mary Holland. Again we are pleased to be able to use the activity room at Our Lady of Fatima Church on Main Street in New London.

Mary Holland, naturalist, wildlife photographer, columnist and author, resides in Hartland, Vermont. Mary's work in environmental education includes directing the state-wide Environmental Learning for the Future (ELF) program for the Vermont Institute of Natural Science (VINS) for eight years, working as a resource naturalist for the Massachusetts Audubon Society, designing and presenting her own hands-on Knee-high Nature Programs for libraries and elementary schools throughout Vermont and compiling Vermont's Rare Bird Alert for five years for the Vermont Center for Ecostudies.



*Mary Holland with her dog, Emma*  
Visit her website at  
[www.naturallycuriouswithmaryholland.wordpress.com](http://www.naturallycuriouswithmaryholland.wordpress.com)

Her children's book, *Milkweed Visitors*, introduces young and old alike to the insects that visit a milkweed patch. Mary's most recent book, *Naturally Curious: A Photographic Field Guide and Month-by-Month Journey Through the Woods, Fields and Marshes of New England* won the 2011 National Outdoor Book Association award, in the Nature Guidebook category. Mary offers adult and children's natural history programs throughout New England. Her natural history blog can be found at her website.

As in the past, we will begin the evening with a scrumptious buffet supper at 5 p.m. Following the eats will be a short business meeting and then Mary Holland's slides and talk.

Please contact Jean LaChance (927-4345) to tell her that you are coming and what you would like to contribute to the buffet table. (She might have a suggestion for you to even out the offerings, so if you are deter-

mined to bring a certain item, make sure to call on the early side.) If you are only interested in the program, that should start at about 6:30 p.m.

## 2012 Winter Hikes Still to Come

**Feb 18 (Sat) Nick Baer** (526-8233) We will be hiking from 4A to Wilmot Center (SRK trail 7) which takes us over Bog Mountain. We will spend some time on the hike looking for animal tracks and talk about adaptations animals have to survive our NH winters. The total hike distance is 4.6 miles and we will start at 4A where it intersects School House Road, and end at the library parking lot in Wilmot Center. Hikers should plan for winter hiking and bring warm layers, snowshoes, lunch/snacks and water. The hike is rated moderate due to the distance and winter conditions. We will meet at the North Wilmot Library at 9:00am, and we will shuttle hikers to the hike start at the intersection of 4A and School House Road. If interested please call Nick Baer at 603-526-8233. (M)

**Mar 3 (Sat) Gerry Gold** (526-2857) Up Andrew Brook Trail to frozen Lake Solitude, then south on Sunapee Ridge to Lucia's Lookout. 10 miles (D)

### "Moonlight Madness"

**Mar 7, 8 or 9 (Wed, Thu or Fri) Dave Cook** (526-4570) or [dwcook@tds.net](mailto:dwcook@tds.net). Consult the website for details: [www.srkg.com](http://www.srkg.com).



The SRKG Newsletter is issued four times a year. Comments and articles may be sent to SRK Greenway PO Box 1684, New London, NH 03257 Editor: Barbara Faughnan/ [barbfaughnan@comcast.net](mailto:barbfaughnan@comcast.net)

## This Winter's First Hike

On January 14, Nick Baer led the first winter hike of the season. Joining him were, Gerry Gold, Tom Lawton, Ed McLeod, Holly Borday, and Nick's dog, Morgan. The plan for the day was to hike to the top of Kearsarge via the Lincoln trail and hike down on the Wilmot side. It was a partially cloudy day with temperatures in the high teens with a strong NNW

wind. Nick describes the day, "Luckily the Lincoln trail kept us out of the wind for most of the hike, and it wasn't until we approached the summit that we were in the wind. We made the decision to alter our hike itinerary to avoid the icy descent on the Barlow trail heading to the Winslow State Park. So, we hiked up and down the Lincoln trail which made for an 8.4-mile up and down hike" as opposed to the advertised distance of 6.1 miles.

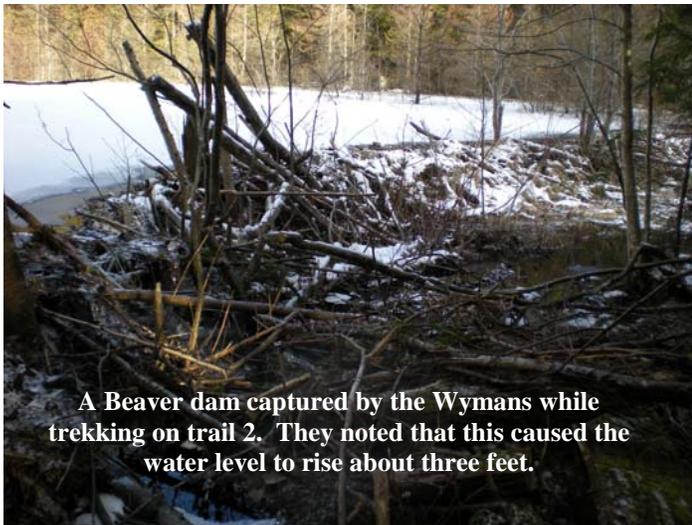
The group was agreeable to the change in plans if it meant less time slipping on ice. Microspikes were very helpful for the top third of the trail as there were parts of the trail that were quite icy. "It was a great group of folks with good conversation and a steady pace with only brief rests. We left the trail head at approximately 9:15 am and returned to our vehicles at 4:15 pm." A bonus of the hike included meeting a potential new board member from the town of Goshen, Tom Lawton. "It was a great opportunity to get to know Tom who expressed an interest in joining the board. Gerry spoke with him and invited him to our next board meeting. Tom is an avid hiker and outdoor enthusiast." Nick will be leading another hike on February 18.



*Nick Baer, Ed McLeod, Tom Lawton and Holly Borday at the start of something big.*



*Morgan, Gerry Gold, Holly, Tom and Ed at the summit of Mt. Kearsarge.*



A Beaver dam captured by the Wymans while trekking on trail 2. They noted that this caused the water level to rise about three feet.

**Trail Closed!** The "Beaver Pond Trail" section of Trail 8 from North Wilmot Road to Patterson Road in Wilmot. The property that the trail crosses is being logged this winter.

**Certificates** Have you completed the SRKG loop since the last annual meeting? Send your information to Barbara or Brian Faughnan, 100 Patterson Road, Wilmot, NH 03287 and we will have your certificate ready to be presented at the meeting.

## The Sunapee-Ragged-Kearsarge Greenway Coalition

2012 Membership:  renewal  new member

Name(s) please print

Address

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\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Individual (\$10)

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