



## Subsig Trip News

2024 Winter

### MESSAGE FROM THE TRIPS DIRECTOR

The Winter season was busy. Thank you to the trip leaders who volunteer to make the cabin available, welcoming, and accommodating for a diversity of people and activities! Trip leader volunteers are the backbone of Sub Sig.

- If you have been to the Cabin a few times and are getting familiar with Sub Sig, please consider if becoming a trip leader makes sense for you. The Trips Director or any trip leader are happy to talk it over with you.
- If you haven't led a trip in a while, please consider volunteering a weekend to make the cabin available. Co-leading is becoming more popular and has been working very well.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

#### **Krishna Ganne and Sami Hesni**

Sami and Krishna are our newest trip leaders. They are volunteering their time to make the cabin available for everyone. They readily accommodate various plans and activities for participants. Beyond volunteering weekends for Cabin trips, they encourage and welcome new members, contribute valuable input to the Trip Advisory Council, and embrace the purpose of Sub Sig. Thank you both!

Special recognition and huge thank you to Catherine Cantrell, Nancy Neyhard, Kathleen Barrett, Jean Curley, Bob Asch, and others who volunteered their time with them to review guidelines, best practices, and procedures for a safe and welcoming and trip.

#### **Keith Watling**

The AMC Winter Hiking Program trips that Keith Watling has organized over the years represent the common interests of both Sub Sig and the AMC. Sub Sig and the AMC have developed a good relationship. The mission and purpose of each club Sig are closely aligned. Many Sub Sig members are also AMC members. Many serve in various volunteer roles for both clubs. Several Sub Sig members are experienced four-season AMC leaders. The AMC WHP trips can quickly reach Cabin capacity, but Keith does a splendid job of managing Cabin availability. His introduction of the Cabin for people who visit the Cabin for the first time is a template that other Sub Sig leaders have adopted.

### IMPORTANT NOTICES

The trips director is seeking member comments on the policy for trip operations and activities through May 31, 2024. Please contact the director at [djrozene@gmail.com](mailto:djrozene@gmail.com) for access to the document. Members are also invited to the trip advisory council and can find information below.



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#### UPCOMING TRIPS

Upcoming trips are announced in “Sub Sig Trip Announcements” emails and posted on the trip listings page of [www.subsig.org](http://www.subsig.org). If you want to head up to the Cabin on a weekend that does not have a trip leader designated, please contact the Trips Director.

The trips director needs your help. Some of the leaders run trips for the simple purpose of making the cabin open and available to everyone. What’s a good title for these trips? Here's a few that are not making the list:

- "Ad hoc" has been used, but given the actual definition of "ad hoc", it doesn't feel appropriate. (Suggest reserving that for trips that are announced with little advance notice.)
- "Cabin Available" is being tried, but some trip listings from previous years used it for a different purpose - a trip leader was needed, not that the Cabin was open and available.
- "Leader names" was a historical default, but it felt somewhat like a person reserving the cabin for personal agendas. Not as welcoming as other titles.

The Cabin will be open Saturday-Monday for those who hope to see the Solar Eclipse on April 8<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in a day hike on the way up Saturday, please contact the trip leader or Trips Director. One participant is looking for company on a moderate-strenuous hike somewhere enroute to the Cabin on Saturday.

Dave Roy and Krishna Ganne will lead the trail maintenance work weekend on May 17-19. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to sign up. Contributing to the maintenance of public usage trails has been a tradition at Sub Sig for more than 50 years. Please consider volunteering and joining this trip.

The calendar has something new and different listed – a forum for members to discuss a policy for trip operations and activities. It meets Sundays at 7pm for an hour. Dates are posted in the trip listings page. Please contact the Trips Director for more information.

#### NEWS FROM THE WINTER SEASON TRIPS

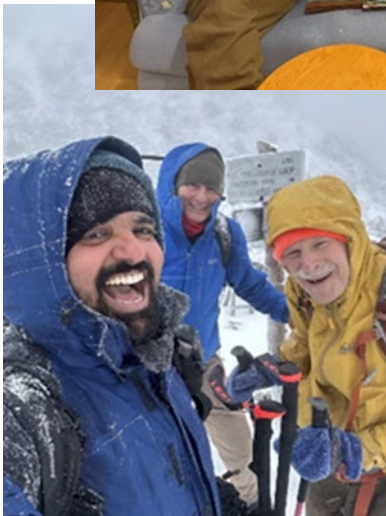
##### **Dec 29 – Jan 01, 2024 New Years at the Cabin**

Denise and Girsh hosted a memorable and fun New Years weekend. Thank you! On Saturday, Denise, Girish, Anisha, Jack and Brian, Jack went up Mt. Willard in a gentle snow. Bob, Krishna, and Dave sought Mt Eisenhower until hitting frigid windchill conditions. They made short work of a blow down that fell across the trail. On the drive back to the Cabin, they encountered 10 miles of black ice on US302. The most dangerous part of hiking is driving! Everyone safely returned to a bounty of hors d'oeuvres, the intoxicating aromas of African peanut chicken stew, and Channa Saag. We hiked up to the Sugarloaf mountains together (Denise and Brian a little faster than most). Sometime during the day, we stopped in the Highlands center to hang out and get Bob some warm mittens. Sunday night was a lively and creative game of factionary, until we started dozing. Everyone came back to life as midnight approached and welcomed the New Year.



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### Jan 12 – 14, 2024 AMC Winter Hiking Program.

Keith Watling and Bob Mountain introduced a group participating in AMC Winter Hiking Program to the Cabin. The group got an early start Saturday morning to hike a 4k. Others joined or did their own thing. Everyone returned back at the Cabin to enjoy Keiths' savory chili dinner and signature carrot cake. On Sunday, everyone does an easier hike or heads home. The AMC group jumped right in to clean up the Cabin and leave it in great shape for the next weekend. Everyone had a safe and enjoyable weekend.



### Jan 19-20 Cabin Trip.

Both Dave and Jeff (Zippy) signed up for group hikes on social media. Staying at the Cabin gave them the opportunity to converse and enjoy a local pub Friday night. Also gave them plenty of time in the morning to sleep in, have coffee, eat breakfast, and get to the trailheads. Simple, easy, and cheap (the Cabin, not them!). What you can learn about a person after a few hours on a Cabin trip. Jeff shoveled the snow off the paths to the Cabin and outhouses even before Dave could unlock the Cabin. Thank you Zippy! Jeff lived in the area for many years and is knowledgeable about the region. He's an experienced hiker. He is self-reliant and independent while helpful and attentive to others. He has skills that can be very helpful to a small nonprofit club with a Cabin in the woods.

### Jan 26 – 28, 2024 Mark Levine Memorial Birthday Weekend at the Cabin.

Krishna and Abhijith arrived to shovel the walkways and get the heat on for Nancy, Chris, Eva, and Tari. The next day, K&A hiked up Mt. Madison in near perfect conditions with fascinating views. The ladies enjoyed the Cabin before trekking the Saco Lake loop to the Red Bench, then having lunch at the AMC Highlands Center. Everyone returned to the Cabin for a delicious home-cooked dinner. After dinner, they shared tales of great feats, Cabin legends, and cherished memories. A humorous man with kind disposition, Mark Levine touched the lives of many in Sub Sig and the outdoor adventure community around the globe. His fairness and generosity helped Sub Sig navigate a myriad of challenges. On Sunday, K&A checked out the Red Bench and the ladies visited the Living Shore Aquarium before heading home.



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### February 1-4, 2024 Cabin trip

Krishna volunteered to make the Cabin available for everyone while he participated in ice climbing and crevice extraction training. The original plan was a simple, no frills ad hoc trip with some quiet time on Thursday.

Fatemeh arrived after hiking Mt. Jackson-Pierce. The next day, she headed off to the Sugarloafs. This was her first trip to the Cabin and it worked great as a basecamp and as a relaxed place to enjoy company.

After recuperating at home for couple months, Dave Roy decided it was time to get out and rode up with Dave Rozene. Still on the mend, Dave Roy did a bunch of chores around the Cabin. When we all got back, Dave Roy left nothing for us to do. Even the boiling pots shined like new.

Mention hiking a winter 4k and Bob Asch jumps in his car and drives up on Friday. Dave Rozene and Bob wore themselves out heading over to Mt. Eisenhower from Pierce, but what a day!

Denise and Girish decided it's a good weekend to ski out to Zealand hut and scope things out for a possible overnight at the hut. Sounds easy, but check with them first if you haven't been on skis for awhile.

Brandon and his daughter joined to work on Cabin repairs and maintenance. Behind the scenes, Brandon works hard to address a variety of Cabin repairs and maintenance items. He fields every issue with care and attention. Thank you, Brandon!

Everyone greatly appreciated the contributions of Krishna, Dave Roy, Brandon, and his daughter. We all enjoyed each other's company. Krishna's managed to feed everyone some amazing meals!







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#### **Feb 9 – 11, 2024 AMC Winter Hiking Program.**

Keith Watling and Majid Ali introduced a group participating in AMC Winter Hiking Program to the Cabin. Welcome to Sub Sig Majid and welcome back Marvin!

The group got an early start Saturday morning to hike a 4k. Others joined or did their own thing. Everyone returned at the Cabin to enjoy Keiths' savory chili dinner and signature carrot cake. On Sunday, everyone does an easier hike or heads home. The AMC group jumped right in to clean up the Cabin and leave it in great shape for the next weekend. Everyone had a safe and enjoyable weekend.

#### **Feb 16 – 19, 2024 Presidents Weekend Ad Hoc Trip**

Wendy, and Bob arrived first to open the cabin followed by Dave.

On Saturday, Wendy greeted Eric and Ellen. After settling in, they went skiing and snowshoeing at Bear Mountain. Sami hiked Mt. Pemigewasset. Jeff (Zippy), Kristy, Nicole, and Lauren hiked Mt. Moosilauke. Dave and Bob hiked Mt. Garfield. We all finished up about the same time and rendezvoused at the Reck-liss brewery for an après hike and dinner. Busy as it was, Sami managed to get a great table. Heading back, we all realized just how hard it can be to find the Cabin at night but were able to arrive and get the cars parked without much trouble. Fatemeh had hiked on the other side of the WMNF and joined everyone at the Cabin. She's been doing a lot of hiking with the AMC and the Cabin is becoming her basecamp of choice.

On Sunday, Zippy cooked up his signature pancakes and made everyone a full breakfast. Everyone headed out on their various adventures. Some headed home, some stayed through Monday. Big thank you to Bob Asch for making the Cabin available for all the whole weekend and to Wendy for making it easy for everyone to pursue the many various adventures!

This was the first trip to the Cabin for Ellen, Kristy, Nicole, and Laruen. Welcome to Sub Sig!

#### **Feb 23 – 25, 2024 Kathleen and Samia Winter Cabin Trip**

Kathleen and Sami co-led a winter Cabin trip for nine other members including 2 new members. Welcome Minwah and Aaron! Fatemeh joined an AMC hike. Abijeth and Krishna went backcountry skiing. The rest went up the Nancy Pond trail to the cascades and beyond.

#### **Mar 8 – 10, 2024 AMC Winter Hiking Program.**

Keith Watling and Peter Monnes introduced a group participating in AMC Winter Hiking Program to the Cabin. The group got an early start Saturday morning to hike a 4k (Mt. Pierce-Eisenhower) Others joined or did their own thing. Everyone returned at the Cabin to enjoy Keiths' savory chili dinner and signature carrot cake. On Sunday, everyone does an easier hike or heads home. The AMC group jumped right in to clean up the Cabin and leave it in great shape for the next weekend. Everyone had a safe and enjoyable weekend.





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### Mar 15 – 17, 2024 St. Patrick's Day Weekend

Denise and Girish volunteered to make the Cabin available to everyone. Since the bulletin needs to get to press, it can't include all the wonderful adventures that are sure to occur. This is the second trip they volunteered to lead this year. Denise and Girish both volunteer and contribute to Sub Sig in a variety of ways: leading trips, participating on trips, the Sub Sig webpage, and the trip advisory council. Thank you!

### SUB SIG TRIP ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Trip Advisory Council has a key role in shaping the current policy for trip operations and activities. All Sub Sig members are invited to participate. Please contact the Trips Director.

We meet Sundays at 7pm for an hour. Dates are posted in the trip listings page on the website [www.subsig.org](http://www.subsig.org). The notes and progress of the council are on the Sub Sig Google drive. To encourage open conversations among those who participate, these are not widely shared. Members must ask to participate and read the expectations in the Welcome folder.

Agendas have or will include guidelines, best practices, and expectations for:

- Trip Leader role and responsibilities.
- Trips Director role and responsibilities.
- Recommendation for designation as a trip leader.
- Create, modify, and cancel trip requests guidelines.
- Approve and announce trips.
- Administrative actions.
- Volunteer liability protection.



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### LOST AND FOUND

The following items were at the cabin. Also, a pair of glasses. If it's yours, send a note to the Trips Director and s/he will tag it. The Facebook Group "Lost and Found in the White Mountains NH" is popular for those who find or lose something on the trails.

