



Subsig Trip News

2024-2Q Spring

PURPOSE OF SUB SIG, INC.: To encourage and to help all, especially young people and those of limited means to a greater knowledge, love and care of the countryside, to develop their self-reliance and independence, and to promote their physical health and education by spending more time in the open air through participation in skiing, snowshoeing hiking, canoeing, camping, bicycling, mountaineering and allied activities. It shall do all such things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objectives.

MESSAGE FROM THE TRIPS DIRECTOR

Thank you to everyone who provided photos and information about their trips! The Spring season included a variety of activities with a diversity of members. At the core of each trip are volunteers who value the purpose of Sub Sig and figure out how to make everyone feel safe and welcomed at the Cabin.

Open discussions between members over the last six months generated some changes in trip operations and activities. One result is that Cabin Usage is on pace for a good year. Cabin Usage is a key performance indicator of how well Sub Sig is accomplishing its purpose. It is simply the total number of overnights at the Cabin per year.

Central to the discussions was a desire among everyone to preserve Sub Sig's legacy and purpose. That has not changed. You can find more information on the Trips Director midterm report on the shared google drive. Please contact the Trips Director if you have not received the link and access.

One question arose from the midterm report. Do the number of trips a year impact Cabin Usage? While cabin usage declined over a twenty-year period, the number of trips increased slightly even without excluding the pandemic years. Another question arose asking if the number of members impact Cabin Usage. Not as much as some may believe. Sub Sig has always been a small volunteer nonprofit club to fill an important and meaningful niche. While the number of trips, trip leaders, and members are important to sustain Sub Sig, the data suggests that these are not reasons that Cabin usage declined. The advisory council considered other reasons. The policies for trip operations and activities address them.

Members occasionally ask about trips during the week. While possible, requests are infrequent. Trip requests on weekends and holidays are the most popular. Volunteer capacity is another factor. Sub Sig is a small club. That has advantages, but also trade-offs. When interest and volunteer capacity converge, trips during the week will happen. For now, they are mostly when holidays fall on a weekday.

The fire pit at the Cabin is great! But please be careful. We don't want to start a forest fire or burn down the Cabin. Bring extra water and watch those embers.



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ACCOLADES AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Keith Watling

Keith became number 172 on the list of Grid finishers on April 20, 2024! The Grid is 576 hikes up each of the 4k peaks in each month of a calendar year.

Along the way to this remarkable accomplishment, he introduced hundreds of folks to winter hiking while leading AMC Boston Chapter Winter hiking programs, formed friendships with a large hiking community, and shared his vast experience with candor and humor.



As well as a Subsig member, Keith is an experienced 4-Season Leader with the AMC Boston Chapter who led over 100 AMC hikes. He has completed the New Hampshire Trailwrights 72, the 67 New England 4000 footers, the 52 With A View and the New England 100 Highest.



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Nancy Neyhard

The Great North American Solar Eclipse Trip was one of the most complicated trips for a leader to manage in recent history. Nancy worked tirelessly to accommodate a wide variety of plans, changes to plans, and last-minute adjustments. As with all her trips, she did this with patience, humor, and grace.

For many years, Nancy has volunteered to make the Cabin available for everyone on more weekends than we can count. In addition, she donated furniture, housewares, and even our new outhouse heater to the cabin. Oh, and she through hiked the 2,200-mile Appalachian Trail! She makes each trip to the Cabin a wonderful experience and memorable event. Nancy exemplifies how a small band of volunteers can create a legacy of providing access to the region, especially those with limited resources.



Dave Roy and Jeff (Zippy) Issac

Most members know Dave Roy but may not have yet met Jeff. They personify the self-reliance and independence that Sub Sig fosters. When something needs doing at the Cabin, they do it without most people realizing it. Through example, they volunteer their time, tools, and skills to help keep Cabin functional and costs low. In addition to their contributions to Sub Sig, they are both active volunteers and trained to perform trail maintenance.

UPCOMING TRIPS

Upcoming trips are announced in “Sub Sig Trip Announcements” emails and posted on the trip listings page of 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.

NOTICES AND ALERTS

As of Mar 20, 2024 - Sawyer River Road is temporarily closed.

If you’re planning to recreate in the Mt. Carrigan or Sawyer Pond area you should be aware Sawyer River Road in Bartlett, NH is closed to all vehicle access due to storm damage. A heavy rain event in December 2023 washed out a portion of the road making it impassable to vehicles. Foot travel will be allowed, although parking at the gate located on US Rt. 302 is limited. At this time there is no estimate when the road will be repaired.

Note to hikers: The Signal Ridge Trailhead for Mt. Carrigan is about a 2-mile trek from US302.



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NEWS FROM THE SPRING SEASON TRIPS

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

Denise and Girish, Dave Rozene, and Dave Roy arrived at the Cabin Friday night. On Saturday, Dave Roy led the group from the Cabin to the [Cohos Trail](#) via the Hart's Location Historical path. [Samuel Bemis](#) and [Abel Crawford](#) are buried in the [Notchland Inn Cemetery Memorial](#). [The Haunting Tale of Nancy Barton](#) and the [Nancy Barton Burial Site Memorial](#) are nearby. [Hart's Location, New Hampshire](#) is a unique town. The 40 or so votes are closely watched in political circles. From the Cohos trailhead, they hiked up Mt. Crawford for some wonderful views.



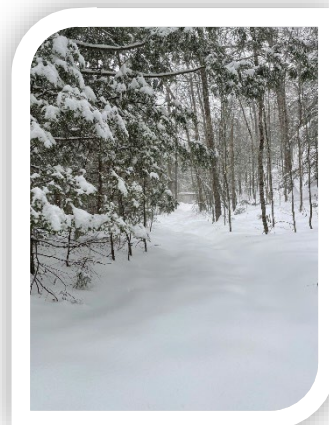
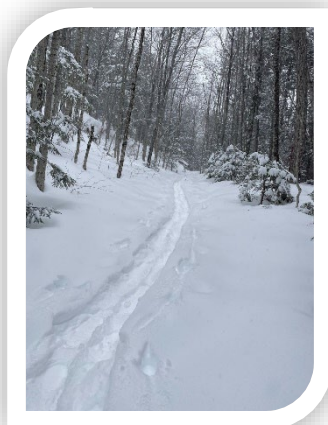
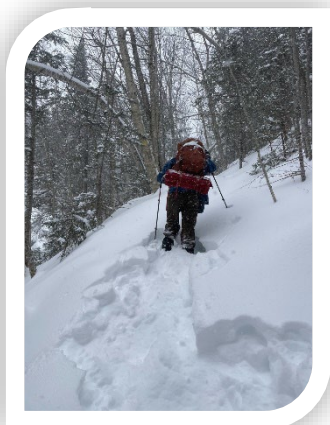


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Mar 22 - 24, 2024 Spring into Spring Cabin Trip (with a weekend blizzard).

Bob Asch, Dave Rozene, Vin Bordanaro, Joe Drebaum, Krishna Ganne, and Chris Curtiss arrived at the Cabin Friday night. Almost no snow anywhere except higher in the mountains facing north. That changed overnight. About two (2) feet of snow fell from the early morning hours on Saturday until sometime Saturday night! None of us want to see a snow shovel for another year. We started the day with homemade baked French toast and Kathy's family farm maple syrup. Vin and Joe went to ski/shoe at Pondicherry Rail Trail. Krishna went to Pinkham Notch for some back country skiing. Chris headed to Bear Notch for some X-country skiing. At some point, everyone had to head back to the Cabin because of deteriorating road conditions.

Dave and Bob snow shoed across the street up Nancy Pond Trail. Beautiful hike, but breaking trail for 4 hours kicked both their butts. The snow was falling so fast that it filled in the tracks with new snow.





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Mar 29 – 31, 2024 Cabin Trip

Jeff (Zippy) Isaac and Nicole, Krishna, Fatemeh, and Dave Rozene arrived at the Cabin Friday night. Fatemeh left early Saturday AM to lead an AMC hike. Zippy woke early to make coffee, pancakes, and bacon. Once the aroma of bacon hit the 2nd floor, the rest of us came down for breakfast. We walked from the Cabin up Mt. Crawford, took in the views, ate lunch, and enjoyed an aperitif. The summit was nippy with the wind but had good cell reception. We arranged to rendezvous with Fatemeh at Reck-liss where Jeff had the credentials to get us into a private event. After a little music and dancing, Jeff and Nicole took us on a tour of the Mt. Washington Hotel before returning to the Cabin for a late dinner. The next day, Fatemeh and Krishna submitted Mt. Monroe in 50+ mph winds.





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Apr 5 – 9, 2024 Great North American Solar Eclipse weekend

On the way to the cabin, Bob Asch, Eric Espinosa, and Dave Rozene stopped to snowshoe Mount Pemigewasset and Flume Gorge.



The next day they snowshoed the Catherine Cantrell Dome Rock Loop hike under the sun and blue skies.





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Sunday night was gourmet dinner complete with hors d'oeuvres, craft lasagna and grilled vegetables. Desert was a Birthday cake for Bob Asch and Chris Curtiss. (Note Nancy's new and improved furniture arrangement for happy hour). Vinny Bordonaro is our in-house astronomer and shared his wealth of knowledge about solar eclipses.



Fatemeh hiked a 4k to get ready for her big trip to Mt. Rainier. Krishna, Abhijith (ah-BEE-jith) Murali and Renee Charp skied the backcountry in perfect spring conditions. Eric joined them Monday on snowshoes.





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Monday morning, everyone sought the “Path of Totality” to view the eclipse. Dave Roy and Nancy volunteered to cleanup so everyone could get out the door to their chosen viewing spot. They kept the Cabin open until Tuesday for anyone who wanted to wait for the traffic to die down. Thank you both!





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Apr 19 – 21 Earth Day Weekend

Fatemeh, Chris Dalimus, and Dave Rozene headed up to the Cabin. Fatemeh led an AMC hike up Mt. Madison on Saturday and joined an AMC hike up Jackson & Eisenhower on Sunday. This was Chris' first trip to the cabin! Welcome Chris and thank you for being a great hiking buddy up to Grey Knob on Mt. Adams. Declan the hut caretaker stoked the woods stove so we could dry out and warm up. He offered us eggs and water to replenish our bottles!

Dave and Chris hung out at the Appalachia Parking lot to congratulate Keith on his grid finish. Fatemeh, Chris, and Dave returned to the Cabin for dinner - Beef Bourgeois, brownies, and Fatemeh's homemade raspberry jam.



Apr 26- 27, 2024 Cabin Trip

Bob Asch, Kathy Falls, Nancy Neyhard, Ewa Basinska, Sharon Casper, Dave Roy, and Sami enjoyed a sunshine and low winds, but still had to contend with snow and ice on the trails. Bob and Kathy hiked up Oak Ridge on the Mt. Langdon trail and the Cave Mountain trail to the lower cave. Sami hiked Jewell Trail to Mt. Washington and got spectacular views of the Presidential Range. Dave, Nancy and Ewa hiked some of Mt. Willard until hitting ice. They returned to the AZ trail and hiked until hitting a sketchy stream crossing. From there, they went over to the highlands Center for lunch and a trek to the Red Bench. Thank you, Bob, for making the cabin available as often as you do!



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May 3-5 Cabin Work Weekend

This was a fun weekend with a great crew! Nonstop work included Spring cleaning inside and outside the cabin, light carpentry repairs, some rearranging to create a reading corner, and a project to open space in the foyer and vestibule and increase storage. You will feel the effect the moment you enter the cabin.

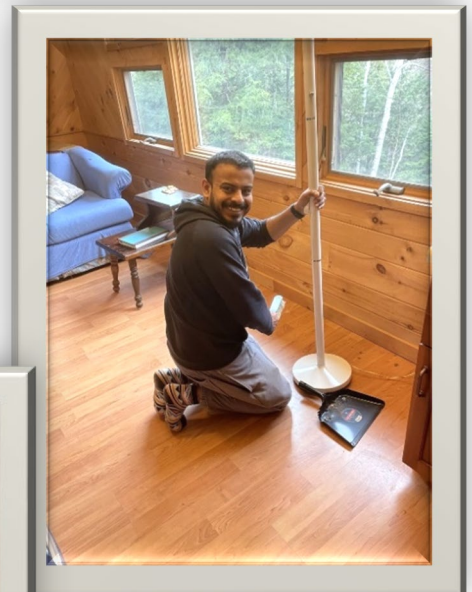
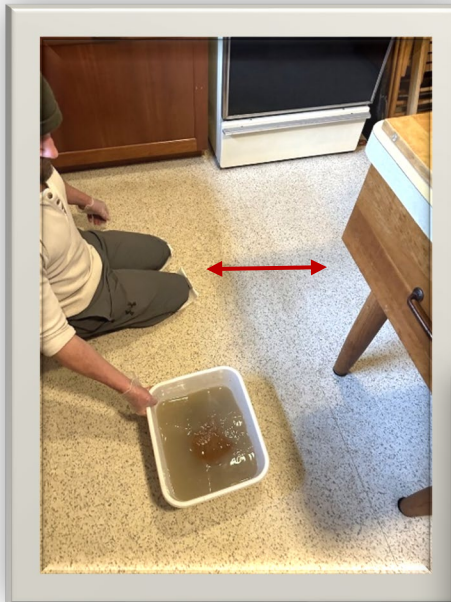
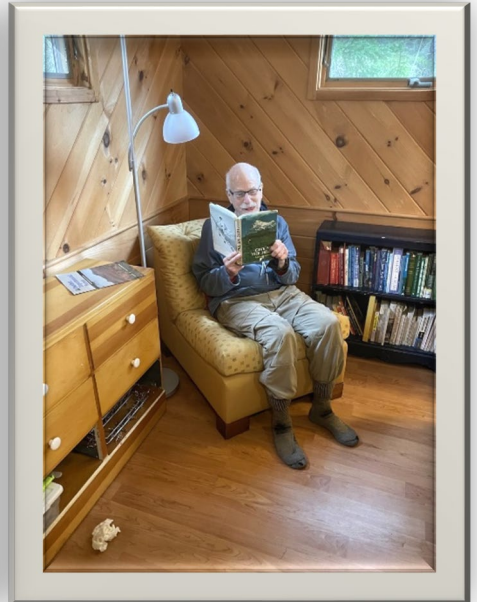
1st row left to right: Jeff, Abhijith Krishna, Renee.

2nd row left to right: Dave, Julie, Brandon, Sylvia, Louisa, and Bob.





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May 17 – 19, 2024 Trail Maintenance Work Weekend



Dave Roy and Krishna Ganne put together a fantastic trail maintenance work weekend for the volunteers. Dave Roy, Jean, and Nancy, went to work on the Mt. Langdon trail. Tari, Marvin, Kathy Dingman and Dave Rozene worked on the Mt. Parker Trail until running into the Mt. Parker Trail maintainers (Summit Beer Society). Krishna skied his last run for the season before heading over to the Cabin on Friday and prepared wonderful meals for all.

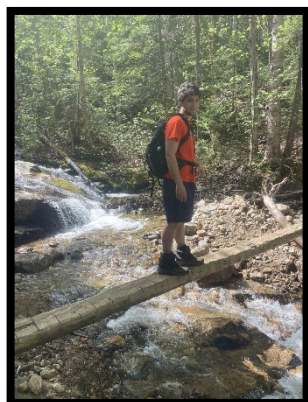




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May 24 – 27, 2024 Memorial Weekend

Dave Roy made the Cabin available to everyone over the Memorial weekend and provided amazing weather. Bob, Kathy, Dave Roy and Gaye hiked the Mt. Stanton trail on Saturday, Brian Witkov, Jake, and Dave Rozene hiked up Wildcat A via 19-mile brook. Crawford Notch hut was just getting ready open full-service for the season. Perfect weather, plenty of parking at the trailhead, not crowded at all. Dave Roy, Brian, and Gaye stayed on through Monday and got some more hiking in.





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SUB SIG TRIP ADVISORY COUNCIL

Thank you to all who volunteered to contribute via zoom meetings, cabin trips, emails, and phone calls! Your wisdom, advice, and guidance are making a difference and reinvigorating Cabin usage. The volunteers covered a lot of ground over six months. The policy for trip operations and activities is complete for this term. The policy is not just what a trips director expects of trip leaders, it's about what trip leaders and members expect from a trips director. A few topics that came up identified gaps members may wish to consider in the future.

- Accolades, honors, and awards to recognize volunteers on a regular basis.
- Continuing the narrative of the Sub Sig legacy that Chris Curtis invested so much time to capture.
- Putting together some form of a bulletin on regular basis in a sustainable manner.

2024-2025 CANDIDATES FOR BOARD POSITIONS

If anyone wishes to announce their interest as a candidate for a Sub Sig Board position in the next Trip news, please feel free to send in your announcement to the Trips Director. Members still have the option to announce their candidacy during the annual meeting in October. Below are some boundaries and suggestions if you want to send in an announcement.

- Send in your announcement to the Trips Director before Sept 1, 2024.
- Please limit the content of the announcement to 1200 characters and spaces, plain text, minimal formatting, no photos.
- Indicate which position(s) for which you are willing to volunteer and wish to be nominated. Could be one, more than one, or all. Even welcomed to propose one for unmet needs that benefit Sub Sig and the members.
- Suggestions to consider that might work to your favor if you don't have a lot of friends in high places but understand and believe in the purpose of Sub Sig.
 - Some volunteer activities with Sub Sig.
 - Some history of leading or participating on Cabin trips.
- Make sure your membership status will be current at the time of the annual meeting.