

Sub Sig Outing Club
Quarterly Bulletin
2024-25 (2Q) Spring Edition

PURPOSE OF SUBSIG

The objective of Subsig is 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.

EDITOR NOTE:

If you have a Sub Sig story you would like to tell or trip news to share, please reach out to George Hovorka at george@georgehovorka.com. George is volunteering to make editorial contributions to this bulletin and is willing to help you write your story.

MESSAGE FROM THE CABIN DIRECTOR

Hi Sub Sig crew,

Hope everyone's been enjoying the fresh air and the cabin vibes lately! It's been great seeing some of the older furniture get swapped out—thanks to those who've helped with that. Just a quick reminder: before replacing or adding anything to the cabin, please check in with me first. It's not about pulling rank—it's just to keep things coordinated and avoid the place getting too cluttered.

Also, a note on the basement: please don't store anything down there unless it's been ok'ed. We're trying to keep that space manageable and safe.

About the mattresses—yes, some are getting a bit tired. We're not planning a full replacement, but we'll swap them out here and there as better ones become available. In the meantime, feel free to bring your own mattress cover, fitted sheet, or whatever helps you sleep better.

Thanks for keeping the cabin awesome and functional. Let's keep the communication flowing so we can all enjoy it to the fullest.

See you up there,

Brandon 617-959-1510

Cabin Director, Sub Sig Outing Club

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MESSAGE FROM THE TRIPS DIRECTOR

The blame for the late delivery of this bulletin rests with enjoying summertime activities too much to work on it and Nancy Neyhard 😊. Nancy Neyhard lent me a treasure trove of past bulletins and correspondence from the past 25 years. They make for great reading, and I got to work scanning them. When the scanning is done, the digitized versions will be uploaded to the Subsig Google Drive. The reading provided a look back in time and an interesting insight to Subsig.

- The hard work and generous donations of core groups of volunteers are an integral part of the Subsig legacy. Reading their words from years ago was wonderful. Some still resonate today. Some reflected a different era or the predominate interests of members at the time.
- This made me smile. 25 years ago, the club elders were telling the next generation that in their day Subsig was more active, the group was closer-knit, and times were better. It's almost verbatim what the current generation hears from their elder veterans, and what the next generation can expect to hear from the current generation. It's the way of the world. Roll with it. You'll understand better when you get up in years.
- This did not make me smile. Membership was about 3x the current roster 25 years ago. Looking back, the trajectory of membership, volunteer hours and Cabin Usage had started and continued as a slow fade across multiple generations with peaks and valleys in between.
- The Cabin rebuilding was fascinating to learn about. The "crisis management" was phenomenal!
- Something worth noting. Even though folks had to meet face to face (no Zoom back then,) open meetings were held to discuss topics of interest and concern. Open meetings appear to have been standard practice for some periods and abandoned or not mentioned in others.
- Believe it or not, Subsig went through a lot of changes! I had to pinch myself to believe it. One can only imagine those lively discussions. Some changes were big, some small. Some timely, some not. Some effective, some not. Some changes became traditions while others fell to progress and the diversity of member interests. One can learn from history, but it's not always worth repeating.
- The adoption, drafting, editing, and continuity of a bulletin remains a mystery. While director roles included everything from watersports to assistant trips director, nothing on communications/bulletin. It just chugged along until it didn't. Probably a direct result of diminishing volunteer capacity.
- The method of capturing past trip news hasn't changed much. Very big shout out to Chris Curtiss and others who dedicated time to plagiarize the logbook in the past. Try it a couple times to fully appreciate what it takes. Chris inspired me to use the "trip news" as both a bulletin and method of capturing Subsig history real time. 25 years from now you can use your name or other search elements (i.e. newest member, work weekend, etc.) to find what may be of interest to you. One day AI might write the dang thing. For now and as in years past, the content really depends on a trip leader giving the Bulletin editors something to work with. Anything in an email saves beaucoup hours of volunteer time: going to the Cabin, taking photos of the logbook, transcribing text, editing content into

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something coherent and figuring out who is a new member, their name, and email... for 40+ trips. Another reason the bulletin appears until it doesn't.

MEMBER EDITORIAL FROM GEORGE HOOVORKA

Coming in from the cold.

A favorite memory of mine, dating back to my earliest time with the club, was to sit down with the cabin log book after a long, wet day of hiking in the cold. Log book on my lap, warm cup of tea in-hand. Usually on the couch facing the big picture window with Mount Hopeless in the background and our beautiful gardens down below.

While editing the Cabin Capers for this latest edition, those memories were brought back into view: Denise and Garish driving up in a cold rain to find the cabin so inviting and magical. Memorial Day in the 40's & Dave was really cold but happy to be back to the warmth of our cabin. Steve, when he washed-up in the cold water of the gorge and so happy to be back.

That physical warmth and our cultural warmth are so characteristic of Sub Sig and in contrast to what lies ahead. Let me explain: I've participated in trips organized through social media: Both local walks and the 4000 Footers. The common theme of these hikes is lack of cohesion. If you've hiked this way, I think you know what I mean.

The metaphor which comes to mind is trying to use a summer-weight tent in a severe storm in January. While great for a hot summer evening, it just falls apart in the middle of winter.

That's how I view social media hiking and the storm ahead due to the forces of Artificial Intelligence. Some say we'll feel its effects in 2027. If January 1st of 2027 is the beginning of a very long duration blizzard then we are currently in late September. We can see the leaves starting to fade and feel the stiff breezes in the cold autumn air starting to take hold.

At the start of the Industrial Revolution Westinghouse and General Electric were the Nvidia and Microsoft of today: Valuations off-the-charts. Then, later on when the social disruption of the revolution got underway, the clubs we are familiar with today such as the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Rotary, Lion's and many more were created to help people like you and me deal with having their lives turned upside down.

Thus, if social media hiking is the flimsy summer tent, then we, the Sub Sig Club, need to be that heavy duty winter version ready to help others endure the storms that lie ahead.

What can you do to help? Dave really, really needs your help so please reach out to him to learn how you can be of assistance. The important point is to get active in the club. This is the lull before the storm and we all need to be ready for what lies ahead.

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ACCOLADES AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

Rather than give a shout out to individual volunteers, consider all the volunteers who dedicated their time to make Cabin trips safe and welcoming. As you read the past trip news in this Spring edition, how much time do you think volunteers invested in Cabin Trips? *

Trip Activity (Spring 2025)	Volunteer hours
Cabin Work Crew	
Trail Maintenance Work Crew	
Trip Leaders	
Trip Listings and announcements	
Roundtable participants	
Bulletin Editors	
Furniture Swapping	

*Volunteer hours for Cabin Trips have not previously been tracked. They are now. The tracking method is not precise, but reasonable and consistent. The metrics are shared at the roundtable. Hopefully not every volunteer hour feels like a chore, task, or waste of time, but activities still need to be done and at times can be tough to do. When not done, the impact does not take long to notice.

CURRENT TRIP LISTINGS.

Thank you Krishna for stepping in to update the calendar while Denise and Girish are on holiday!

Please go to trip listings page of www.subsig.org for the latest postings. Contact the volunteer Trip Leader(s) for questions and to register. Contact the Trips Director for concerns and complaints - Dave Rozene, djrozene@gmail.com, 508-736-7001.

- (1) Everyone is welcome to register for any trip. Cabin occupancy is limited to 16. Tenting/hammocking is an option.
- (2) Participants are welcome to do their own thing or join other club members. Note: AMC led hikes require additional registration through AMC.

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- (3) Register with the trip leader no later than two (2) days prior to the Trip Start date unless otherwise posted. If no one registers by their deadline, the Trip Leader(s) may make other plans or refuse registration.
- (4) If you would like to go to the Cabin on a weekend that a trip is not posted, please contact the Trips Director. S/he will strive to accommodate requests. Please note that last minute requests are difficult to accommodate.

NEWS FROM PAST TRIPS – SPRING 2025

General remarks.

The news from past trips is often lifted from the Cabin Logbook. Sometimes information is not available, omitted, incomplete, or handwriting difficult to read. The editors extend their apologies for misspelt names, not giving a shout out to members who are at the Cabin for their first time, and other editorial mishaps.

If you or participants want to include news from past trips, please send in a write-up to the Trips Director. You are welcome to submit few jpeg photos. Just make sure the participants are ok with that.

This Spring had 11+ weekends in a row with precipitation. The trails had it all: water, mud, ice, unconsolidated snow, a narrow trail, and occasional glimpses of dry bare ground. Social media hiking groups had an unusually quiet period, even for an extended rainy/mud season. Lodgings and tent sites had lots of vacancies. The hiking community across the board was re-scheduling and/or cancelling activities. While the extended rain and mud season was a contributing factor to lower Cabin Usage, happy to report that Subsig Cabin Trips had a higher count of participants per member compared to other similar groups and organizations. Wildflowers loved the weather and put on a blooming display. Pollinators swarmed the wildflowers. Trailhead parking posed no issues

Mar 21 – 22, 2025

Denise, Girish, and Bob Asch made the Cabin available to everyone for the weekend. Unfortunately, it rained, and no one registered. Still, Denise and Girish drove up to the Cabin Thursday night and headed to Zealand Falls Hut on Saturday. Girish's logbook entry:

“Being here is always magical. We had an awesome dinner with music. The Cabin was in great shape... We have made so many wonderful memories here. Yes, we miss being here with the other regular Subsig folks. But we hope to do more trips this year, both as trip leaders and as participants. Denise and I are looking forward to the Work Weekend in May.”

April 4-6, 2025

Dave Rozene, Jeff (Zippy) Isaac and Nicole LeBlanc, Sharon Casper.

Early Spring conditions. More rain than sun.

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Dave and Sharon drove up together and opened the Cabin. It was in good shape. Zippy and Nicole rolled in later. Saturday weather was grey skies and wintry mix. Sharon installed a new sofa slipcover, then organized and cleaned the cabinets. Nicole and Jeff hiked the Frankenstein Cliffs-Arethusa Falls. Dave explored Pine Mountain and Chapel Rock. Dave stopped at the Big Day Pub in Gorham for a late lunch. The trio met up at local brewery and hanged out while the temperatures dropped, and a steady rain fell. Sunday AM still raining lightly. Dave headed up to Resolution as the skies cleared up.

April 23, 2025 (Day trip)

Dave Roy visited the Cabin for a few hours to rake and do some cleanup chores. **Thank you Dave Roy!**

May 2 – 4, 2025, Cabin Work Weekend

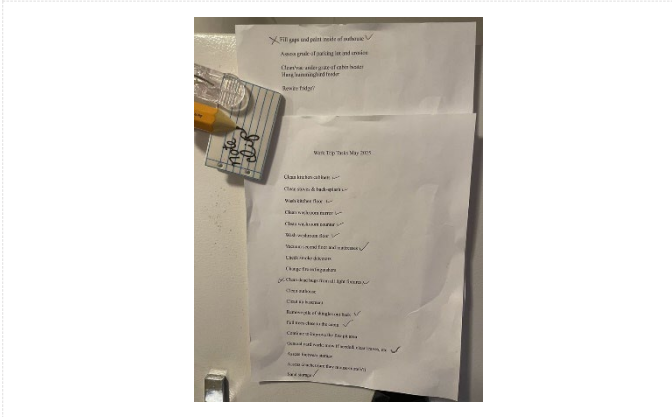
Volunteer Cabin Work Crew: Brandon Brown, Julie Moran and their children Sylvia and Louisa, Girish Rao and Denise Boucher, Sharon Casper, Dave Rozene, Dave Roy, Vinny Bordonaro.

More overcast days mixed with showers and cold weather.

Lots accomplished including cutting trees, painting the outhouse a vibrant green, Spring Cleaning inside and out. Copious food and delicious meals. A swim in the Saco in the rain with temperatures hovering around 55 in a drizzling rain...yes it was cold!



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May 10 – 12, 2025

Bob Ash, Kathleen Falls, Keith Watling

Keith hiked Tecumseh on Saturday and planned to joined Steve Duley to hike the Carters on Sunday. Bob and Kathleen started out on the South Moat Trail, but black flies caused them to turn back midway. On they went to North Conway to visit the outlet stores. Bob bought another set of trail shoes and water shoes while Kathleen had a cold brew at the Met Cafe.

May 15 – 17, 2025 Trail Maintenance Weekend

Volunteer Trail crew: Dave Roy, Dave Rozene, Nancy Neyhard, Tony Dimeo, Marvin Savain, Bob Asch, Sharon Casper.

Rain again.

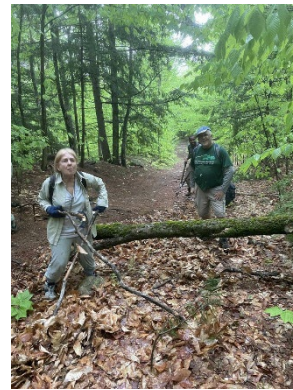
Dave Roy came up Thursday night and spent Friday some brushing the Stanton Trail on Friday. The rest of the crew showed up Friday PM. Dave Roy started cooking breakfast at 0630 on Saturday and had us at the

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Stanton trailhead at 0815. The crew brushed the trail up to the WMNF Wilderness sign. The crew was driving the other end of the trail to do more work when the skies opened, and rain came pouring down. Headed back to the Cabin. Sharon worked in the wildflower garden and collected about a dozen ticks. Tony held the fort against all comers Dave Rozene and Nancy went to Lowes to get a few materials for a tent platform. The purpose was to estimate the costs, time, and planning to build one. It would require a town permit. That project would have to wait until the club has enough interested members who are willing to undertake the work and donate the resources. On Sunday, Dave Roy, Nancy, and Bob did some work on the Langdon trail. Bob went to the Crippies and back to check out the trail.



May 23 – 25 Memorial weekend

Dave Roy, Catherine Cantrell, Krishan Ganne, Dave Rozene

Rainy weekend. Saturday morning Dave Roy and Catherine hiked the Ethan Pond tr then went to the N. Conway REI after lunch to take advantage of the sale and stumbled on a big Craft sale for an enjoyable rainy-

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day option. Dave Rozene hiked to the Zeeland hut in a drenching rain, but the Zeeland falls were gushing. The weather improved Sunday hiking up Mt. Resolution. The sun came out and the rain gear was put away.



June 6-8, 2025

Brian Witkov, Keith Watling

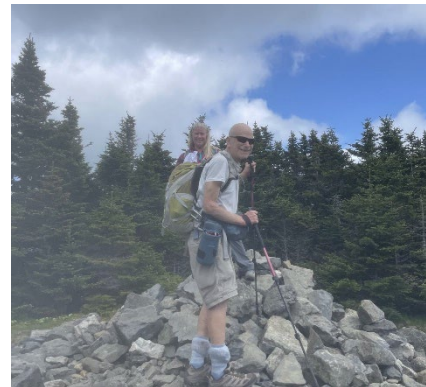
Weather was not great. Brian dawdled to Ethan Pond. Keith headed out to lead or join an AMC group. “The Cabin is spotless and fit for a big, beautiful king!!!” A note about the musician Leonard Cohen and some poetic entries. Position available to anyone who can read Brians’ handwriting 😊.

June 13-15, 2025

Nancy Neyhard, Sharon Casper, Tony Dimeo, Dave Rozene, Bob Asch, Kathy Dingman.

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Nice weather, yay! On Saturday, Sharon worked on the garden. Tony and Nancy put together a bench for sitting next to the wildflower garden or fire pit (stored in the basement). Dave, Kathy, and Bob hiked Mt. Hale via Hale brook at a slow, but experience pace. Sunday Kathy whipped around the Jackson-Webster Loop.



June 20-22, 2025

Steve and Marilyn Hayes, Brian and Nicole Witkov, Sage Huges, Dave Rozene

Welcome to our newest member, Sage!

After many weekends with precipitation, the weather as in the low 70's, dry and sunny!

First trip of 2025 for Steve and Marilyn "So good to be back. Cabin is in fantastic shape thanks to all the Trip Leaders and Work Weekend volunteers!"

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On Saturday, Sage hiked Vose Spur in pursuit of the NE100 Highest. Steve and Marilyn did a nice 11-mile jaunt on Sawyer River Road to Sawyer River Pond. Steve and Sage took a dip in the refreshingly cool (freezing cold?) water down in the gorge to clean up. Brian and Nicole hiked Mt. Pierce and Eisenhower. Dave hiked North and South Percy. Beautiful drive past Lancaster NH into the North Woods. Rugged ascent. Long and easy descent. Spectacular 360 view. Summits buzzing with bumble bees, butterflies, hummingbirds, and a few nasty black flies.

On Sunday, Steve worked on the refrigerator circuit. Please see the updates below.

UPDATES

Refrigerator circuit.

Steve ran a new electrical wire from the circuit box to the refrigerator outlet. The self-defrost mode draws 4.5 amps and can still pop the breaker. When the self-defrost mode is off, the fridge draws 2 amps and does not pop the breaker. The fridge is running ok with the self-defrost mode off. It continued to run fine on the July 4th trip. The microwave was left where it is. When it is on the counter next to the fridge, people using it get in the way of those preparing group meals. It also took up coveted counter space.

Pests.

Only 4 mice caught in the traps this Spring. Keeping brush, debris, and old logs 25 feet from the Cabin seems to help. Also, please clean the vegetable oil bottles when returning them to the cabinet. Oil on the outside of the containers can attract them.

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Fire Pit.

It is really starting to take shape and getting used. Even have a bench for it now. With all the wet weather, fire danger is less of a concern than last year. Nonetheless, please pay attention to the NFS fire warnings and do not let flying embers start a brush fire.

Debris pile at the Cabin entrance:

The pile is diminishing, thank you! If you can take a little and dispose of it properly after a trip, great. If not, no worries.

LOST & FOUND.

Krishna's charger has been located. If anyone comes across an extra set of hiking poles and wonder where they came from, Nancy lost hers. Everything else must have been found or given up on because the Lost containers are empty.