



Chepontuc Footnotes

chepontuc — "Hard place to cross," Iroquois reference to Glens Falls

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GLENS FALLS-SARATOGA CHAPTER OF THE ADIRONDACK MOUNTAIN CLUB

Join us for a virtual visit to the United Kingdom - Along the Offa's Dyke National Walking Trail!

It is different hiking in the United Kingdom--often, the designated routes of the National Trails cross working farms instead of forests. Trails have stiles and gates, hikers can have encounters with sheep and cattle.

Join Bill Schwarz and Charlotte Smith on their guided, six-day tour of Offa's Dyke Path last May; Offa's Dyke Path is located along the Welsh/English border.

Offa was King of Mercia, a small kingdom before England was united. Around A.D. 800, he ordered a 77-mile rampart be built to divide his realm from the Welsh. Some sections of the Path, which follows the defensive bank, still form the Wales/England border today.

The Path has stunning landscapes (Wales ain't flat!), historic canals, lime works, and castles.

And don't forget the tearooms and pubs!



Program

**Offa's Dyke National Walking Trail
with Bill Schwartz and Charlotte Smith**

**When: 7pm Wed. Mar. 18
Where: Crandall Library, GF**

March, April, May....in like a lion, out like a lamb??

Do we still have snow??

If you haven't played in the snow, get out while you can and bring a friend!

Chapter snowshoe rentals

Snowshoes are at ADK Member Services in Lake George. Call 668-4447 for reservations and hours.

Chapter Members: \$10/weekday; \$15/weekend
Non-Members: \$13/weekday; \$18/weekend

Or do we have mud??

During spring mud season, trails are particularly vulnerable to erosion. It is therefore best to stay off higher elevation trails during early spring.

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation institutes a voluntary trail closure in the Eastern High Peaks during this time of year that asks hikers to refrain from traveling above 3,000 feet. This protects alpine vegetation and prevents trail erosion. More information on trail conditions in the Adirondacks can be found on the DEC Web site or by contacting the DEC Forest Rangers at 518-897-1200 or ADK Info Ctr at 518-523-3441.

Closure typically runs from May-mid June.

Rites of Spring!

By Laura Fiske, Chapter Chair

Since this is the first newsletter of 2015 and covers early spring, I will mention some of the annual rites of spring.

First is the anticipated mud season. Remember mud season is not a set date, so please check the DEC website for trail condition updates if you are planning an outing to the High Peaks. A lot of snow run-off is anticipated for this spring. As a reminder, if there is an outing scheduled for the High Peaks and the DEC announces a mud season alert, the outing will either be re-scheduled or moved to a different location.



Mud
Trail work
Volunteers

dress or scan the completed form and email it to me at chapterchair@adk-gfs.org. These three opportunities are a great way to give back the organization and make some new friends.

Since I am currently working on the fire tower challenge and I am a recent Saranac 6er, I have had the pleasure to meet many of our chapter members out on the trail. Hiking trips are a great way to talk with members and non-members (you spend a lot of time with people between the drive and the hiking) about the ADK and our chapter. I think I have perfected the elevator speech regarding the needs and accomplishments for our chapter! One thing I tell people is that

they should come to an Executive Committee meeting to learn more about how the chapter operates and hear the issues the chapter leaders discuss. Executive Committee meetings happen on the first Wednesday of each month and alternate between Glens Falls and Saratoga Springs. Meeting dates, times, and locations are listed in the chapter calendar in this newsletter.

As always, I close with letting you know that we have openings on the Executive Committee for vice chairs and directors. These are crucial positions necessary to ensure your chapter continues to function smoothly. The Director position is our liaison to the main club. Directors attend quarterly meetings at the Lake George location and represent the chapter at these meetings. Vice chairs are needed to provide succession for the chapter chair position and provide administrative support to the Chapter Chair. If you are interested in these positions please let me know. You can also check out the job descriptions for these positions on the chapter website (Chapter Information/By-Laws Document).

Second, Adirondack Sports & Fitness will be holding their expo in March at the City Center in Saratoga Springs. In addition to the many vendors and seminars, ADK will have a table setup to allow members to connect with prospective members and educate expo attendees about ADK's missions and initiatives. The Glens Falls-Saratoga Chapter is always asked to help due to our proximity to the City Center. Additionally, EMS usually holds spring club days at their stores, so be on the lookout for a request to help with staffing a table.

Third, the chapter annually schedules a trail maintenance day on the Tongue Mountain Range, a popular area in the Lake George region, on Sat. April 25.

If you have expressed interest or are a regular volunteer at the expo, EMS club days, or trail maintenance day on Tongue Mountain, expect a phone call or email. If you would like to help out for the first time please complete the volunteer request form available on the website (located under Chapter Information/Forms and Guidelines). Please mail the form to my home ad-

Chepontuc Footnotes

Published Bimonthly
Glens Falls Saratoga ADK Chapter
Adirondack Mountain Club
PO Box 2314, Glens Falls, NY, 12801

Executive Committee Officers:

Chapter Chair Laura Fiske
Phone: 884-0345 chapterchair@adk-gfs.org

First Vice Chair vacant

Second Vice Chair vacant

Secretary John Caffry
Phone: 798-0624 secretary@adk-gfs.org

Treasurer Steve Mackey
Phone: 793-6484 treasurer@adk-gfs.org

Directors:

vacant

Past Chapter Chair:

Maureen Coutant
Phone: 745-7834 pastchair@adk-gfs.org

Committee Chairs:

Conservation Jacki Bave
Phone: 587-3754 conservation@adk-gfs.org

Education Linda Ranado
education@adk-gfs.org

Hospitality Gretchen Steen
Phone: 638-6139 hospitality@adk-gfs.org

Membership Pat Desbiens
Phone: 899-9688 membership@adk-gfs.org

Newsletter/Editor vacant

Outings Wayne Richter
Phone: 893-7895 outings@adk-gfs.org

Programs Sarah King
Phone: 798-0615 programs@adk-gfs.org

Annual Dinner Coordinator
Anne Paolano
annualdinner@adk-gfs.org

Publicity vacant

Trails Tom Ellis
Phone: 638-6139 trails@adk-gfs.org

Web site George Sammons
Phone: 743-9692 webmaster@adk-gfs.org

Wilderness Jim Schneider
Phone: 581-9367 wilderness@adk-gfs.org

Young Members Group Heather Webb
Phone: 347-793-6580 ymsg@adk-gfs.org

Volunteer is needed to join Chapter Executive Committee as the Newsletter Editor

This position requires familiarity with Microsoft Word and the knowledge or ability to learn Microsoft Publisher.

Publisher uses many of the same concepts and techniques of Microsoft Word with additional features tailored for newsletters. If someone is willing to learn, we will train that person with the skills necessary to become our Newsletter Editor.

The chapter issues a newsletter six times per year that contains information on chapter programs, outings and other activities as well as updates from various committees and the main club. Each issue is between 12 and 16 pages depending on the content.

The Outings Instruction and back pages do not change. The Outings Calendar, Trip descriptions and Trip review pages are created by the chapter webmaster.

Unique content comes from Executive Committee members. This content is copied to Microsoft Word documents and sent to volunteers to proofread and make corrections.

The previous Newsletter is used as a layout template.

Content is copy/pasted from the Word documents into text boxes in the Microsoft Publisher document.

The Editor prints the Publisher document as a PDF and sends it to the printing company. It is estimated the entire process takes approximately 10-15 hours per newsletter for the Editor.



As a voting member of the Executive Committee this position also requires attendance at the monthly Executive Committee meetings. For more info, please contact Laura Fiske: chapterchair@adk-gfs.org.

Welcome to Your Newest Executive Committee Member

Heather Webb has joined the Executive Committee as the Younger Member Committee Chair. She can be reached at ymg@adk-gfs.org. She is a new member to the ADK and finished her 46 last fall. Feel free to contact her with any suggestions or ideas for younger member activities and events. Look for Facebook postings and items in the newsletter and the website in the near future.

Come find out more about the Chapter

Upcoming Executive Committee meetings are:

Mar. 4 @ 7pm @ Carl Rs, Glens Falls

Apr. 1 @ 7pm @ Wesley, Saratoga

May 6 @ 7pm @ Carl Rs, Glens Falls

Call or email the Chapter Chair for more info.

Glens Falls – Saratoga Chapter Donations for 2015

Each year the Glens Falls-Saratoga Chapter makes donations to organizations that our members benefit from. These organizations are working to protect open space, maintaining trails and preserves used by our members, caring for towers and summits which are part of the chapter's Fire Tower Challenge, or providing opportunities for children to experience camping so they will learn to value the Adirondacks. Our donations for 2015 include the following groups:

Adirondack High Peak Summit Stewardship Program
Feeder Canal Alliance
Friends of Poke-O-Moonshine
Friends of Spruce Mountain Fire Tower
Hadley Mountain Fire Tower
Lake George Land Conservancy
Queensbury Land Conservancy
Refugees to Camp
Saratoga PLAN
Vanderwhacker Fire Tower
Wilton Wildlife Preserve and Park



Education Corner

The Education Committee is pleased to announce our sponsorship of nine individuals as recipients of our 2015 camperships. On the DEC's 'purchase six-get-one-free-program' we were able to sponsor three youths for the Camp Colby program: Christina Hand and Katelyn Lange of Queensbury and Gavin Roberts of Waterford.

We also were able to sponsor four others to attend a week at Pack Forest: Stephanie and Erik Defibaugh of Mechanicville, Jonathan Klompas of Clifton Park, and Felicia Timson of Schenectady. Returning to ADK's Teen Trail program is Andrew Williams of Gansevoort and Walker Caffry Randall of Waitsfield, Vermont. Congratulations to all.

Chapter Website supports smart phones and tablets



Your mobile browser will detect the device's screen width in pixels and size the page to fit, which should eliminate zooming and left-right scrolling.

This makes it easy to check on our chapter news and to quickly review outings on our calendar.

All of the Newsletter content also exists on adk-qfs.org.

Fire Tower Challenge News By Kathi and Tim Noble

The snow should begin to melt soon and warmer temperatures are coming. If you've been cooped up inside all winter it's time to get outside. The Fire Tower Challenge is a great reason to get out with family and friends to enjoy the woods and accomplish a goal. An updated brochure can be printed off the chapter's website.

The following people have recently received their Fire Tower Challenge patches:



- Kevin Haggerty, Albany, NY
- Donna and Stewart Jerdo, Moriah, NY
- The Boltash Family, Broadalbin, NY
- Nicholas J.
- Nicholas W. (started at age 11, ended age 13)
- Isabelle (started at age 10, ended age 12)
- Matthew (started at age 6, ended at 8)
- Craig Lewis, Webster, NY
- Jennifer Bailey, Syracuse, NY

Congratulations to all! Don't forget that next winter you can start working on getting the Winter Rocker!
See website for current status of Towers!

Update: Spruce Mountain - Fire Tower Challenge

Trail access to the Spruce Mountain summit passes through private property owned by Lyme Timber Company in Hanover, NH. Without obtaining permission prior to your hike, the public does not have permission to trespass on Lyme Timber Company land. Because of this access issue, Spruce Mountain is currently not included in the Fire Tower Challenge. Climbs completed prior to January 12, 2015 will count towards the challenge. NYS DEC and Lyme Timber Company have a tentative agreement

to open the trail completely for public access (the trail will be closed during big game rifle season). When this agreement is finalized, NYS DEC and ADK (Glen Falls-Saratoga Chapter) will post a notice on their respective websites. At which time, Spruce Mountain will again be included in the Fire Tower Challenge. For more information contact: wilderness@adk-qfs.org

Update: Loon Lake Mountain included in the Fire Tower Challenge

Effective November 2, 2011 Loon Lake Mountain in the northern Adirondacks is included in the Fire Tower Challenge and counts toward the 18 Adirondack fire towers. If you have a brochure that does

not list this fire tower, please manually add it to the list along with the date of your climb in order to receive credit for this tower. For more information contact: firetower@adk-qfs.org

"AFRICART"

Come see old Africa through the photographs of Bob McDermott and Linda Zila

Save the Date!

Program

When: 7pm Wed. April 15
What: Presentation

Where: Saratoga
Library

Africa: the place from which humans migrated to all other places on Earth, the home to vast herds of animals and the predators that depend on them for life itself and the emerging vibrancy and vitality of people learning to live in the modernity of the twenty-first century. Africa offers so many juxtapositions -- the old village hut adjacent to the new shopping mall, the placid flow of a river on a calm morning jolted by the thunder of Victoria Falls, the nonchalance of Heuglin's Robin's song broken by the excitement of battle between lions and cape buffaloes, and supermarket shelf space shared by the peanut butter and kudu stew.

Africa is a fairy tale of contrasts that my wife Linda and I were so very fortunate to experience in June of 2013. We traveled through the southern African countries of Botswana, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and South Africa, spending day after day on safari with expert guides, sleeping in tented camps in the wilds of the bush, and hearing the nocturnal roars of lions close-by. All these experiences kindled a great animation in us and provided an unparalleled opportunity to photograph through the closing door of Africa's wilderness. Who knows how much longer the "not-so-dark" continent will remain pristine and rousing, even dangerous? From what we saw, it will not be any great expanse of time. The pressures of population and development are threatening to shut the portal forever. How grand, then, to have seen Eden before it is despoiled beyond recognition.



Bob and Linda are ADK members who have lived in Chestertown full-time since 2003 when they retired and moved north from the Big Apple. In New York City, Bob led hikes for the Long Island Chapter and visited the Adirondacks regularly. Just back from Central America, Bob and Linda's travels have taken them to all seven continents including the lands down under, Australia and New Zealand; Tahiti and Hawaii; Peru (the Amazon and Machu Picchu); the Galapagos and Easter Island; Antarctica, including South Georgia Island; Chile and Argentina (including Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego); India and Vietnam; Cambodia's Angkor Wat; Norway's Arctic Svalbard; Greenland and Iceland; the remote islands of the Atlantic Ridge: Tristan da Cunha, St. Helena (where Napoleon died), Ascension; and more, like Alaska and the rest of wonderful North America. This is a resume to which they will continue to add bucket-list destinations until their bucket runneth over!

Hope you enjoy both our photography and presentation.

SAVE THE DATE: "Big Cats of the Adirondacks" talk set for Wednesday, May 27



Wildlife biologist Paul G. Jensen will present a talk on "Big Cats of the Adirondacks" on Wednesday, May 27 at 7 p.m. The program is co-

sponsored by the servation office in Warrensburg. His responsibilities include furbearer management and research, as well as wildlife management planning for Adirondack Forest Preserve units (e.g., Wilderness Areas and Wild Forest) in NYSDEC Region 5. He earned a Ph.D. in 2013 from the Department of Natural Resource Sciences at McGill University in Montreal, Quebec. His doctoral research focused on the ecology and management of American martens (*Martes americana*) in the Adirondack Park.

Southern Adirondack Audubon Society and the Glens Falls-Saratoga Chapter of the Adirondack Mountain Club.

The program will be held in the Christine L. McDonald Community Room on the lower level of Crandall Library in downtown Glens Falls.

Dr. Jensen will talk about the biology, management, and the current and historical populations and distribution of the Canada lynx, bobcat, and mountain lion in New York and the Northeast; he will also discuss how these species may fare in the future.

Dr. Jensen is a Senior Wildlife Biologist for the Division of Fish, Wildlife, and Marine Resources at the NYS Department of Environmental Con-

Save the Date!

Big Cats of the Adirondacks

When: 7pm Wed May 27

Where: Crandall, GF
Library, GF

Before joining the DEC in 2003, Dr. Jensen worked in Alaska monitoring caribou and other large mammals on the Arctic Coastal Plain and conducted research with the New York Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit at Cornell University. He received his M.S. in Wildlife Ecology from the University of New Hampshire and his B.S. in Environmental Biology from SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry.

Please avoid wearing fragranced products to the program. Fragranced products trigger allergies, asthma, and migraines in others attending the event.

STAY AT ADK'S HEART LAKE CABINS

The Heart Lake Property now offers three cabins available for your next getaway!

Big family or hiking group? The Wiesel Trails Cabin sleeps 16 and offers plenty of skiing and hiking right from your door.

A cozy 4-person cabin, the Campground Cabin, is only a few minutes' walk from the trailhead, lake, or Loj.

And, Tyler Cabin, our newly renovated 6-person cabin, has a beautiful view of Heart Lake.

All cabins have fully equipped kitchens, but if you'd rather not cook, reserve your breakfast or dinner at the Adirondak Loj! Whether you are looking for winter adventure or a relaxing summer scene, book now while there's still availability. For reservations call (518) 523-3441 or Book Online.



Newly-renovated Tyler Cabin

Watershed Property to be Opened for Public Recreation – Officials from the City of Glens Falls and the Town of Queensbury have reached an agreement to open a portion of the City’s watershed property for public recreation. The property is located in the Town of Queensbury; the Town will develop trails on the land and the City will retain its water rights. Past issues with adequately protecting the water supply had been an obstacle to opening the lands..

A loop trail around Butler Pond will be open for walkers and bicyclists during the non-winter months. Part of this trail is on a Warren County snowmobile route, thus making it unavailable for other uses during the winter. Another short trail along Halfway Brook will be open year-round; it will connect Aviation Road to Peggy Ann Road. Parking areas are planned for Butler Pond Road and Aviation Road.

Public Right of Navigation Upheld – In January, the Appellate Division of NY’s Supreme Court upheld a 2013 lower court decision in favor of a journalist sued by property owners who claimed that waterways on their land should be closed to the public. The lawsuit originated

when private landowners in an area near the Whitney Wilderness Canoe Area challenged a

1998 ruling establishing recreational use as a valid reason for whether or not a waterway should be open to public use. These landowners, who had put up barriers and ‘No Trespassing’ signs along Shingle Shanty Brook, filed a lawsuit against a paddler who published an account of a paddling trip along the brook between Little Tupper Lake and Lake Lila. Supporters of paddlers’ rights welcomed January’s ruling and hope that it will open up more waterways for public use. The property owners said they will likely appeal this new ruling to a higher court - the Court of Appeals.

Governor’s Budget Proposes Increase for Environmental Protection Fund – Governor Cuomo has proposed increasing the Environmental Protection Fund’s (EPF) budget allocation from \$162 million to \$172 million. Environmental groups, including the Adirondack Mountain Club, had been pushing for an increase to \$200 million. The fund is used for projects such as open space protection, stewardship of state parks and other public lands, controlling invasive species, and restoring historic sites.

Membership update

By Pat Desbiens

NOVEMBER 2014

New Members

Todd Abrams, Round Lake
 Glenn Balschunat, Glens Falls
 Kristine Duffy, Queensbury
 Andrea Herrin, Ballston Spa
 Regina Hillier, Queensbury
 David Katzenstein & Ellen Shaby, Bolton Landing
 Timothy, Barbara, Grace & Joshua Wall, Saratoga Springs

Rejoined Members

Richard Beamish, Saranac Lake
 Rich Broderick, Cambridge
 Mike Bucek, Queensbury
 Jim & Meg Casey Little Rock, Arkansas
 Claire Driscoll, Saratoga Springs
 Kim, Paul & Peter Gryga, Queensbury
 J. David Little & Lyndsay Strange, Glens Falls
 Karen O’ Carroll, Diamond Point
 Nancy Roberts & John Schmidt, Saratoga Springs
 Peter & Cecile Valastro, Hudson Falls
 Victoria Wirth, Queensbury

DECEMBER 2014

New Members

Barbara Baker, Saratoga Springs
 Leslie Bender, Cambridge

Catherine Bunk, Saratoga Springs
 Shari Fox, Glenmont
 Andrew, Kimberly, Nicholas & Alec Frazier, Waterford
 Patrick, Eileen, Kyra & Nicole Gerdes, Saratoga Springs
 Sean Iacobelli, Saratoga Springs
 Scott Mulvena, Middlegrove
 Brian & Diane O’Connor, Ticonderoga
 Eric Riddervold, Saratoga Springs
 Kris Riddervold, Ballston Spa
 James, Julie & Tyler Riggs, Glens Falls
 Jessica Ross, Corinth
 Bonnie Stears, Albany
 Greta Van Slyke & Thomas McLenithan, Ballston Lake
 Jason Viele, Hudson Falls
 Kristen Zepf, Ballston Lake

Rejoined Members

Wesley & Madeline Bishop, Queensbury
 Debora Hummell, Gansevoort
 Edward & Jamie Robbins, Ballston Spa
 Mario Scarpace, Albany
 Brenda Tracey, Glens Falls

New Affiliates

Gareth, Trisha, Garrett & Colton Bobowski, Johnstown
 Ralph T. Keating, Albany

Date	Day	Type	Destination	Leader(s)	Rating
March					
1	Sun	Hike/Snowshoe	Kane Mt. Winter Fire Tower Challenge	Jack Whitney	C
3	Tue	Walk/Ski/Snowshoe	Tuesday Trek	Maureen Coutant	NR
7	Sat	Ski	Ski Bothereation Pond Loop	Bill Schwarz	B+
8	Sun	Hike/Snowshoe	Lyon Mt.	Jack Whitney	B
9	Mon	Geocache	Monthly Geocache	Sarah King	NR
14	Sat	Hike/Snowshoe	Dix Mountain	Bill Morse	A+
14	Sat	Hike/Snowshoe	OK Slip Falls	Nick Ringelberg	B
15	Sun	Hike/Snowshoe	Goodnow Mt.	Jack Whitney	B-
17	Tue	Walk/Ski/Snowshoe	Tuesday Trek	Maureen Coutant	NR
18	Wed	Program	Offa's Dyke National Walking Trail with Bill Schwartz and Charlotte Smith	Sarah King	NR
21	Sat	Hike/Snowshoe	B hike to be determined	Reg Prouty	B-
22	Sun	Ski	Through Ski - South Meadows - Tahawas	Steve Mackey	A+
24	Tue	Walk/Hike	Tuesday Trek	Maureen Coutant	NR
31	Tue	Walk/Hike	Tuesday Trek	Maureen Coutant	NR
April					
7	Tue	Walk/Hike	Tuesday Trek	Maureen Coutant	NR
11	Sat	Hike/Snowshoe	Tongue Mt. Range	Bill Morse	A+
11	Sat	Hike	Saratoga Battlefield	Rich Crammond	C+
13	Mon	Geocache	Geocache	Sarah King	NR
18	Sat	Hike	Rainbow Falls	Nick Ringelberg	B
21	Tue	Walk/Hike	Tuesday Trek	Maureen Coutant	NR
25	Sat	Paddle/Camp/Hike	North Saddle & South Bay Diameter	Jayne Boudier	A
25	Sat	Trail work	Tongue Mt.	Tom Ellis	B
28	Tue	Walk/Hike	Tuesday Trek	Maureen Coutant	NR
May					
2	Sat	Other	ADK Headquarters Work Day!	Maureen Coutant	NR
2	Sat	Walk	Spring Bird Walk - Wilton Wildlife Preserve & Park	Rich Speidel	C-
4	Mon	Geocache	Geocache	Sarah King, Mo Coutant	NR
9	Sat	Hike	Hurricane Mt.	Bill Morse	B+
9	Sat	Hike	Falls Along Gill Brook	Nick Ringelberg	B
9	Sat	Walk	Spring Bird Walk - Pack Forest, Warrensburg	Rich Speidel	C
12	Tue	Walk/Hike	Tuesday Trek	Maureen Coutant	NR
16	Sat	Hike	OK Slip Falls	Rich Crammond	B
19	Tue	Paddle	Tuesday Paddle	Maureen Coutant	NR
26	Tue	Walk/Hike	Tuesday Trek	Maureen Coutant	NR
27	Wed	Hike	Mountain Bird Hike - Blue Mountain	Rich Speidel	B

Outings Detail

KANE MT. WINTER FIRE TOWER CHALLENGE - [Hike/Snowshoe]

Sun, Mar 1, 2015, 9:30 am, Rating: C
Jack Whitney - 793-9210, jack1758@roadrunner.com
- A short hike with around 580 ft of elevation. This is a good hike for beginning hikers or snowshoers. Call or e-mail leader for details.

TUESDAY TREK - [Walk/Ski/Snowshoe]

Tue, Mar 3, 2015, time TBD, Rating: NR
Maureen Coutant - 745-7834, mojom@roadrunner.com
- The midweek trips are usually within an hour of Glens Falls and done in a couple of hours, or by mid afternoon if doing a longer trip. I try to mix up the outings from easy to hard. Call or email Sunday evening or Monday or check website to find out what we'll be doing. I try for Tuesdays, but weather or an appointment may force it to change.

SKI BOTHERATION POND LOOP

Sat, Mar 7, 2015, 8:00 am, Rating: B+
Bill Schwarz - 307-6091, bschwarz@nycap.rr.com
- This is a backcountry tour near 13th Lake; we may be breaking trail, so bring touring or backcountry skis. No beginners! It's about seven miles, with mild ups and downs, and a few stream crossings. Bring lunch, water, and a sense of adventure. Poor snow conditions will mean we go to nearby Garnet Hill ski center, which charges a fee.

LYON MT. - [Hike/Snowshoe]

Sun, Mar 8, 2015, 8:00 am, Rating: B
Jack Whitney - 793-9210, jack1758@roadrunner.com
- This fire tower is one of the northern most peaks on the Fire Tower challenge. The trail climbs for most of the route but once on the summit there are international views. This will be about a 7 mile RT (due to the fact that the road leading to the summer trailhead is closed in the winter adding about a mile each way). Elevation gain is 1790 ft.

MONTHLY GEOCACHE

Mon, Mar 9, 2015, time TBD, Rating: NR
Sarah King - 798-0615, scubakings@roadrunner.com
- During the school year, we go out every month for a walk or hike with the purpose of finding geocaches that have been hidden lately. You don't have to know anything about geocaching to come. It's just another excuse to get out in the woods. Call or email a few days before to find out the plan!

DIX MOUNTAIN - [Hike/Snowshoe]

Sat, Mar 14, 2015, 6:30 am, Rating: A+
Bill Morse - 518-585-9153, fishermanpike@yahoo.com
- Dix Mt. from Rt. 73. (Same trail to go to Noonmark.) 13.6 miles round trip with an elevation gain of 3,200 feet. Snowshoes and microspikes or crampons will be needed. Bring plenty to eat to help stay warm. Be forewarned, Leader takes very short breaks in cold weather. If you like longer breaks this is not for you. Leader may bring dog. Meet at exit 29 at 6:30AM.

OK SLIP FALLS - [Hike/Snowshoe]

Sat, Mar 14, 2015, 9:00 am, Rating: B
Nick Ringelberg - 518-522-6863, nickringelberg@yahoo.com
- OK Slip Falls is rated the highest direct drop falls in the Adirondacks at about 300 feet. In the early spring there will be lots of ice in the gorge but the water fall should be impressive. Via the newly built (year old) trail, about a 6 mile round trip with the

option of another 2 miles to drop down to the Hudson River to see the crazy white water rafters.

GOODNOW MT. - [Hike/Snowshoe]

Sun, Mar 15, 2015, 9:00 am, Rating: B-
Jack Whitney - 793-9210, jack1758@roadrunner.com
- This is a moderate climb for 3.8 mile RT to another fire tower summit. You have to climb up the tower for a bit (the cab is closed) in order to get views but once there, on a good day, there are fantastic views of the High Peaks. Elevation gain is 1040 ft. Beginners to snowshoeing are welcome.

TUESDAY TREK - [Walk/Ski/Snowshoe]

Tue, Mar 17, 2015, time TBD, Rating: NR
Maureen Coutant - 745-7834, mojom@roadrunner.com
- See March 3rd - *But wear something green!*

'OFFA'S DYKE NATIONAL WALKING TRAIL' WITH BILL SCHWARTZ AND CHARLOTTE SMITH - [Program]

Wed, Mar 18, 2015, 7:00 pm, Rating: NR
Sarah King - 518-798-0615, scubakings@roadrunner.com
- This event will be held at Crandall Library. See page 3 of this newsletter for more information.

B HIKE TO BE DETERMINED

Sat, Mar 21, 2015, 9:00 am, Rating: B-
Reg Prouty - 518-747-9736
- This will be a hike up the blue trail to the summit of French Mountain overlooking the southern Lake George basin with westward views toward Gore and Crane. The climb begins on the Lake George bike trail near the Log Jam Restaurant. The ascent after leaving the bike trail is steady but not very steep (about 700 feet of ascent total) and 5 miles round trip.

THROUGH SKI - SOUTH MEADOWS - TAHAWAS

Sun, Mar 22, 2015, 8:00 am, Rating: A+
Steve Mackey - 793-6484, smackey33@verizon.net
- This is a Classic Cross Country Ski trip through Avalanche Pass, Lake Colden, Flowed Lands etc. We have a few options based on conditions and how many people elect to go. Ideally, we would have a group ski from the south, and a group ski from the north and do a key exchange, and meet up somewhere for dinner. Option two is that we spot a car and ski from the north. Option three is that we ski from the Loj, go as far as we want and then ski back. If conditions are good, this route is about as good as it gets. There are some fast downhill, no matter what direction you go, so you should be an experienced skier.

TUESDAY TREK - [Walk/Hike]

Tue, Mar 24, 2015, time TBD, Rating: NR
Maureen Coutant - 745-7834, mojom@roadrunner.com
- See March 3rd

TUESDAY TREK - [Walk/Hike]

Tue, Mar 31, 2015, time TBD, Rating: NR
Maureen Coutant - 745-7834, mojom@roadrunner.com
- See March 3rd

TUESDAY TREK - [Walk/Hike]

Tue, Apr 7, 2015, 9:00 am, Rating: NR
Maureen Coutant - 745-7834, mojom@roadrunner.com
- See March 3rd

NOTE: This is school break week...so may get cancelled if plans take us away.

Outings Detail

TONGUE MT. RANGE - [Hike/Snowshoe]

Sat, Apr 11, 2015, 7:00 am, Rating: A+
Bill Morse - 518-585-9153, fishermanpike@yahoo.com
- Meeting at the Clay Meadow Trail-head on route 9N at 7AM. We will hike to Montcalm Point (Point of Tongue) along Northwest Bay of Lake George. We return over the Tongue Mt. range. This involves going up and down 5 small mountains in the range. (Includes 1st peak, French Point Mt. and 5th peak). Total distance is 13.25 miles with elevation gain around 4,000 feet. (It is 5 small mountains, remember.) Be prepared for a hike, snowshoes, and/or microspikes. Leader may bring dog.

SARATOGA BATTLEFIELD - [Hike]

Sat, Apr 11, 2015, 9:00 am, Rating: C+
Rich Crammond - 518-584-2380
- Having grown up just south of the Battlefield, I've sense changes to the landscape through the years. Hike along with this old ADKer and I'll share them with you: on trail, off trail, on road, off road. Around 5 or 6 miles of hiking with some muddy spots, too. Think adventure. Meeting place: Visitor parking lot off Route 32.

GEOCACHE

Mon, Apr 13, 2015, 9:00 am, Rating: NR
Sarah King - 798-0615, scubakings@roadrunne.com
- During the school year, we go out every month for a walk or hike with the purpose of finding geocaches that have been hidden lately. You don't have to know anything about geocaching to come. It's just another excuse to get out in the woods. Call or email a few days before to find out the plan!

RAINBOW FALLS - [Hike]

Sat, Apr 18, 2015, 9:00 am, Rating: B
Nick Ringelberg - 518-522-6863, nickringelberg@yahoo.com
- This nearly 150 foot high waterfall in the Ausable Lake area is a sight that should not be missed. Located in a deep ravine with boulders strewn about, the falls consist of a nearly straight plunge down a rocky wall. About 3 miles on the Lake Road then another half mile up to the falls off the Gothics Trail. Depending on the weather and trail condition, possibly include a mile side trip to Lost Lookout with views of the falls and also Lower Ausable Lake.

TUESDAY TREK - [Walk/Hike]

Tue, Apr 21, 2015, time TBD, Rating: NR
Maureen Coutant - 745-7834, mojim@roadrunner.com
- See March 3rd

NORTH SADDLE & SOUTH BAY DIAMETER - [Paddle/Camp/Hike]

Sat, Apr 25, 2015, 7:00 am, Rating: A
Jayne Boudier - 793-3770, boudier@verizon.net
- April 25-26. These two live on South Bay, near Whitehall. So do our hosts, Tim and Mary. Saturday we'll put in at the Rt 22 bridge, set up at their place, and paddle back to and past the Diameter Cliff as far as we can. This end of South Bay is seriously beautiful and wild, with eagles, beaver, osprey, and spawning Alligator Gar. On Sunday we'll try North Saddle from Devil's Den, to get a view of where we were Saturday. 8-10 miles of paddling, 4-6 miles of hiking, and 1500 ft ascent. Rain date May 2-3. See <http://www.governor.ny.gov/press/04232013-finch-land-acquisition>, under 'S' for Saddles Mountain Preserve.

TONGUE MT. - [Trail work]

Sat, Apr 25, 2015, 9:00 am, Rating: B
Tom Ellis - 638-6139, hola@hughes.net
- TONGUE MOUNTAIN - [Trail work] Sat, Apr 25, 2015, 9:00 am, Rating: B Tom Ellis - 638-6139, hola@hughes.net - The clearing/maintenance work will start at the northern end to Deer Leap. Then we will head south to Clay Meadows. Call leader for more details.

TUESDAY TREK - [Walk/Hike]

Tue, Apr 28, 2015, time TBD, Rating: NR
Maureen Coutant - 745-7834, mojim@roadrunner.com
- See March 3rd

ADK HEADQUARTERS WORK DAY! - [Other]

Sat, May 2, 2015, 9:00 am, Rating: NR
Maureen Coutant - 745-7834, mojim@roadrunner.com
- Come join fellow ADKers in doing some spring cleanup at the ADK Headquarters building. Coffee and breakfast treats in the morning, pizza for lunch, and maybe a little hike up the road at the Lake George Rec area around 2 when we're done! Bring some work gloves and any skills you have! If you don't have any...we'll still find something for you to do! Many hands make light work, so please join us! My back can't take it for long!

SPRING BIRD WALK - WILTON WILDLIFE PRESERVE & PARK

Sat, May 2, 2015, time TBD, Rating: C-
Rich Speidel - 623-2587
- Spring is a great time to hear and see native and migrating birds in our area. This will be a leisurely morning walk of about two miles along the trails and varied habitats of Camp Saratoga. We will stop often and record the bird species identified. Group size is limited, so please call ahead to sign up. Please bring binoculars, snacks, water, and insect spray. The rain date is Sunday, May 3. Meeting Place: Camp Saratoga, Scout Road

GEOCACHE

Mon, May 4, 2015, 9:00 am, Rating: NR
Sarah King - 798-0615, scubakings@roadrunne.com
Colead: Mo Coutant - 745-7834 or *Mojim@roadrunner.com
- During the school year, we go out every month for a walk or hike with the purpose of finding geocaches that have been hidden lately. You don't have to know anything about geocaching to come. It's just another excuse to get out in the woods. Call or email a few days before to find out the plan!

HURRICANE MT. - [Hike]

Sat, May 9, 2015, 8:00 am, Rating: B+
Bill Morse - 518-585-9153, fishermanpike@yahoo.com
- We will be hiking up the old fire observer tower trail. Trail-head is off of Rt. 9N in Elizabethtown. Hike is 5.4 miles with an elevation gain of 1,700 feet. It should be just a hike, but be prepared for microspikes. We will meet at 8AM at exit 29. Hurricane has beautiful views so hope for a clear calm day. Leader may bring dog.

FALLS ALONG GILL BROOK - [Hike]

Sat, May 9, 2015, 9:00 am, Rating: B
Nick Ringelberg - 518-522-6863, nickringelberg@yahoo.com
- There are a series of falls in the Ausable Club area including Pyramid Falls, Wedge Brook Falls, Beaver Meadow Falls, and Artists Falls. With about 3 miles walk in on the Lake Road, the falls are all side trips that will add as much as 2 more miles to

the hike and depending on the group , we will visit as many as possible. Another 1.5 miles beyond Artists Falls, cascades Fairy Ladder Falls, a 90 foot staircase shaped falls that will most likely be left for another day. Gill Brook in itself is a fairy tale of a beautiful stream.

SPRING BIRD WALK - PACK FOREST, WARRENSBURG

Sat, May 9, 2015, time TBD, Rating: C
 Rich Speidel - 623-2587
 - A leisurely morning walk of about three miles through the woods and along the waters of Pack Forest. There will be plenty of stops to observe the migrating and native birds crossing our path. We will check for birds around Pack Forest Lake and may visit the Grandmother's Tree, a towering 175 foot white pine some 315 years old. Please call ahead to register. Please bring binoculars, snacks, water, and insect spray. The rain date is Sunday, May 10. Meeting Place: Pack Forest - Route 9, 3/4 mile north of Route 28.

TUESDAY TREK - [Walk/Hike]

Tue, May 12, 2015, time TBD, Rating: NR
 Maureen Coutant - 745-7834, mojim@roadrunner.com
 - The midweek trips are usually within an hour of Glens Falls and done in a couple of hours, or by mid afternoon if doing a longer trip. I try to mix up the outings from easy to hard. Call or email Sunday evening or Monday or check website to find out what we'll be doing. I try for Tuesdays, but weather or an appointment may force it to change.

OK SLIP FALLS - [Hike]

Sat, May 16, 2015, 8:30 am, Rating: B
 Rich Crammond - 518-584-2380
 - Come along on this spring outing to a neat place in the 'Dacks. We may have some muddy areas but it's not too bad a trail. It will be a six mile hike. Black flies may be out (Eeks!). We will carpool from Tops on Main Street in North Creek to the trailhead. See you there hiker buds.

TUESDAY PADDLE

Tue, May 19, 2015, time TBD, Rating: NR
 Maureen Coutant - 745-7834, mojim@roadrunner.com
 - This will be the first paddle of the season. Usually we paddle from Lake Luzerne up to Second Lake on one of our first outings, so maybe we'll give that a go. Or we might check out the Glen Lake fen. So call or email the weekend before to see what I've decided to do!

TUESDAY TREK - [Walk/Hike]

Tue, May 26, 2015, time TBD, Rating: NR
 Maureen Coutant - 745-7834, mojim@roadrunner.com
 - See May 12th

MOUNTAIN BIRD HIKE - BLUE MOUNTAIN

Wed, May 27, 2015, time TBD, Rating: B
 Rich Speidel - 623-2587
 - A gradual climb of Blue Mountain, with frequent stops to identify the various bird species from the 2,210 foot starting elevation to the 3,759 foot summit. Bicknell's thrush and boreal chickadee are possible at the higher elevations. We will have lunch on the summit and enjoy the mountain and lake views from the fire tower. This morning and afternoon hike has a round trip distance of four miles with a 1,550 foot ascent. Please call ahead to register and for trip details/arrangements. The rain date is Thursday, May 28.

Pharaoh Lake Wilderness Area News:

Have you hiked in the Pharaoh Wilderness Area? If you haven't what you will find are beautiful lakes and ponds, quiet solitude, great backpacking, easy walking, and delightful swimming. And when you come back, let us know what you found. We are particularly interested in flowers, animals, trail and lean-to conditions, and just about anything notable either good or bad. Your Glens Falls-Saratoga ADK Chapter has adopted the entire Pharaoh Lake Wilderness Area.

Use this simple form as a guide to report back to us:

Unusual animals: _____
 Unusual plants: _____
 Trail conditions (blow-down, beaver activity, signs missing or incorrect, etc.): _____
 Lean-to conditions: _____
 Other: _____

Please mail your report to:
 Pharaoh Lake Wilderness Area
 Glens Falls-Saratoga Chapter ADK
 P.O. Box 2314
 Glens Falls, NY 12801



View from the lookout at the end of the trail to OK Slip Falls. Come see it on the May 16th trip!

Trip Reviews

Wilton Wildlife Park Hike/Snowshoe Sat, Dec 13, 2014, Rich Crammond

- Man, was this a hike to remember. It went from a C hike to a B, complete with blowdown that 'blocked' the trail in one area; a rugged hike for sure. We hiked with folks from the New Jersey Chapter of ADK. They gave the hike a 10+ from 1 to 10 so that's a plus for this ADKer. Great snowshoe outing. Participants: Charles Dolin, Leah Dolin, Ann Dolin, John Good, Rich Crammond.

Tues Trek Tue, Dec 16, 2014, Mo Coutant

- So we started up the Tuesday Treks this week due to rain/snow/sleet the prior week. We started off small with a 2 mile loop around the Van Dusen Preserve in Queensbury. This loop on the side of the small mountain doesn't have many views, but this time of year you can see through the trees to the West Mtn range and the Qsby/Glens Falls area. The wet snow from the prior week was still clinging to the trees and made for a beautiful hike in the woods. The trail was packed down, so all we needed was grippers. Participants: Mo Coutant, Paul Dietershagan, Sarah King, Licia Mackey, Gary Rodd, George & Irene Sammons, Joanne Szot.

Tues Trek Tue, Dec 23, 2014, Mo Coutant

- Ohhhh the weather outside was almost frightful, but the fire in the warming hut delightful...so around the lake we went, let it rain, let it rain, let it rain! It was actually only a drizzle and it only got worse later in the day, so we were all glad we got out for a little exercise and enjoyed each other's cookies afterwards in the warming hut at Moreau Lake. A nice break from the holiday stress! Participants: Mo Coutant, Paul Dietershagan, Licia Mackey, Laurie Williams, Donna, Mitch, and Stephanie Zimmer

Tues Trek Tue, Dec 30, 2014, Mo Coutant

- We'll it wasn't a winter wonderland, so no sledding, skating, or snowshoeing at Gurney Lane Park in Queensbury. We didn't even use our grippers to walk along the trails and there was even someone there using the trails to mountain bike! We walked around all the loops and even accidentally wound up on the new mountain bike trails at the end. Eventually we made it back to our cars after more than 1-1/2 hours out enjoying the beautiful day and trails! Participants: Stuart Brown, Annemarie Carberry, Mo Coutant, Nancy Kimball, Sarah King, Eric Krantz, Licia Mackey, Gary Rodd, Bill Schwarz, Joanne Szot



Annual Buck Mountain New Year's Day Hike Thu, Jan 1, 2015, Reg Prouty and Bob Aspholm

- Before the hike we met 2 rangers who were there to cut a new trail which was recommended and proposed years ago by Jack Freeman to alleviate the extreme erosion that has occurred over the last few decades on the main trail to Prospect from Lake George Village. They told us to go ahead and follow their newly cut trail on the return trip. The state is expected, they said, to make the 'Jack Freeman' trail an officially marked trail up Prospect Mountain. We found two picnic tables out of the wind and had our lunch and our usual musical 'Auld Lang Syne' celebration before returning to the recreation area parking lot. 8 participants: Congratulations to young Lauren Trackey for leading the pack with her youthful enthusiasm most of the day, Mike and Diana Trackey, Mark Seymour, Mike Dashnaw, Jayne Boudier, Bob Aspholm, and Reg Prouty.

Giant via Roaring Brook Sat, Jan 3, 2015, Bill Morse

- Starting out on the Roaring Brook trail it was a little cold, but no wind. But we warmed up quickly with the steady ascent that Giant offers. Icy in spots, but easily navigable with microspikes. (Although a couple of us realized our spikes are pretty worn out.) Gaining elevation, there was more snow and, with the cold clear day, great views. Short stay on top because there was some wind there. Good trip down although one or two of us learned not to butt slide on bumpy steep sections of ice. Ice has little give, much more fun in the snow. Out and home before the storm. Participants Colleen Downing, Patrick Reilly, Joann Walczak, and Bill Morse.

Monthly Monday Geocache Mon, Jan 5, 2015, Sarah King

- Well, the frigid temperatures and wind didn't keep four hearty souls from geocaching today! After meeting at Panera, we drove to the The Lynn LaMontagne Schumann Preserve at Pilot Knob, formerly known as the Pilot Knob Ridge Preserve. We immediately donned our micro spikes as the parking lot was like an ice skating rink! After bundling up, we signed in (and found the geocache in the kiosk) and headed up the trail. Micro spikes were essential wear this day as the trail was all ice. We all agreed we couldn't have done it without them. We made it up to the gazebo in 45 minutes, admired the view fairly quickly (the wind was whipping) and headed up the blue trail toward the waterfall and the 3 new caches there. Our first cache, Pilot Knob view, was at a lesser known overlook. We found the cache hanging in a tree and moved on to the next one. The next one was right on the blue trail. One wouldn't notice it unless you were looking up. The last cache was on the waterfall loop. We followed the trail northeast where it rounds a bend and makes a short steep rock scramble up to an elevated area. We searched until we found the right hemlock that the cache was hanging on. We finished geocaching and continued on to the top of the falls and continued around the loop and back down to the gazebo, where Licia brought out some delicious muffins. We all agreed seconds would be eaten in the car. As always, great day out with some very dedicated friends/geocachers! Participants: Sarah King, Mo Coutant, Licia Mackey, Todd Earl.

East Dix, Macomb, and South Dix/Grace Pk Sat, Jan 10, 2015, Steve Mackey and Rick Lennox

- This ended up being a really cold day, which made it hard to stay together. We ended up splitting up a couple of times, once by choice, once by accident. All ended well, and the last head lamps came bobbing out around 8:30. We had to break trail going down Lillian Brook, but it was mostly route finding, not really moving a lot of snow. When we were in the wind, it was very cold, and any exposed skin was in danger of frost bite. At

Trip Reviews

one point there was some confusion about which Dix had been renamed Grace, so we had to go by the old names to avoid confusion. A hardy group of eleven. Participants: Rick Lennox, Leighann Helson, Erica Halbrook, Wayne Richter, Mike Fuller, Cory Dandaraw, John Sasso, Becky Swem, Todd Abrams, Hugh Davis, Steve Mackey

Tuesday Trek Tue, Jan 13, 2015, Mo Coutant

- This week we had gotten a little bit of snow, so I decided if it was skiable anywhere south of Glens Falls it would be at the Wilton Wildlife Preserve (WWP). It had just enough snow and some previous tracks to follow. A Saratoga County employee told us there wasn't enough snow to groom the trails, but it worked for us! The WWP was new to some and great to get back to for the others. Hopefully, we'll get a little more snow and can get back again! Glad to see the single digit temps didn't keep everyone away! Participants: Doug & Judy Beers, Mo Coutant, Liz Gee, Joy Munro, Kathi Noble

Tues Trek Tue, Jan 20, 2015, Mo Coutant

- This week we walked along the Skidmore North Woods trail system. The hardest part was finding each other! Who would have guessed there was construction at the end of the road that leads to the trailhead. So, the GF car pools parked in one lot and most of the others parked in another one...with a few more finding their own spots. Eventually, all but Paul found each other. We explored the Pit of Doom (old well), the Tee Pee and Long House, and almost the lost ski area...from afar. Microspikes were the perfect footwear for the day! They're expensive but we've gotten the most use out of them the past few years. Afterwards a dozen of us took over the sectional couch and chairs at Uncommon Grounds. Participants: Joanne Armstrong, Doug & Judy Beers, Mo Coutant, Rich Drew, Liz Gee, Mark Janey, Nancy Kimball, Eric Krantz, Licia & Steve Mackey, Kathy McMahon, Kathi Noble, Jim Ralston, Joanne Szot, and Paul Dietershagen who didn't find us!

Hudson Crossing / Happy New Year Outing Sat, Jan 24, 2015, Rich Crammond

- This was not a real good day for spotting eagles but we did see one metal one with its wings spread out on top of a high pole. Does that count? Anyway, it was nice to hike with hiking buds who I've shared many outings with and who have taught me some things about ADK outings along the way. Highlights of this outing were seeing many goldeneye and mallard ducks, bittersweet vines like never seen before, acting like actor Jimmy Stewart on the Dix bridge, and hiking with new ADK participants like Kathie Horn. It doesn't get any better. Participants: Jean Holcomb, Kathie Horn, Jayne Boudier, Rich Crammond.

PYRAMID & GOTHICS Sat, Jan 24, 2015, Steve Mackey

- During Christmas break we were visiting friends in Burlington and while shopping in an outdoor gear store, one of the employees recognized me from the PCT. Molly (trail name Frizzle) had also thru hiked this year, and we agreed to try to get together and hike something in the Adirondacks this winter. So Molly, her sister Callie, and Callie's husband Sean came over from Vermont and met us at the trail head. For the first time ever (since I've been leading this trip), everybody actually cross country skied. The conditions were a little icy, but as we gained elevation they got better and better. The trail from Lower Ausable Lake was well packed and though we carried snowshoes we never used them. Micro spikes were useful and were the footwear of choice. The views were spectacular and the summit wasn't too cold nor too windy. On the way down Heather and I tried out our new 'Slope Sliders' and had a rapid out of control

descent. Luckily all turned out well, but I think in hindsight that Pyramid might be a little too steep for our new toys. Since we had such good skiers, we whizzed out and were at the cars around 4:30. Participants: Molly Krumholz, Callie Krumholz Linehan, Sean Linehan, Mark Janey, Steve & Heather Mackey

Tues Trek Tue, Jan 27, 2015, Mo Coutant

- This week we did our annual mixed event near Cronins. Some walked the trails and others xc skied on the golf course. It was a beautiful bright blue day with the sunshine making the new fluffy snow sparkle. At the end we met up and did a little jaunt towards the river and on the way back Irene and Gary made snow angels. We also passed a sign that said 'Men in Trees' and another sign earlier that read 'Hudson River 16?? - 2009' I can't remember the beginning date. But both signs made us wonder and gave us plenty to talk about! (Not that we needed more material!) Afterwards we all went to the Willows in Wsbg for a bite to eat. Participants: Mo Coutant, Paul Dietershagen, Eric Krantz, Heather & Licia Mackey, Kathi Noble, Gary Rodd, George & Irene Sammons.

The Santanonis Sat, Jan 31, 2015, Wayne Richter and Mike Fuller

- We had a gorgeous, though windy and cold, day with lots of spectacular views in the clear air. With a few inches of new snow, a group of four the day before and a couple of people ahead of us, the trail was well broken out. Upon arriving at the ridge top, Mike broke out his delicious coffee brownies. While we snacked, some of us caught sight of a pine marten. With a few people leaving packs behind, we headed over to Panther, with great views. Upon our return, Mike found some aluminum foil on the ground outside his pack. Opening the pack, he discovered that a marten had wiggled its way inside and made a good start on his sandwich. We then made the long descent towards Couchsachraga. The horrid mud swamp of summer was now an open, sunny expanse, out of the wind, and a perfectly pleasant place for lunch. Being one with the pine marten, Mike ate the entire remains of his sandwich. Having thus bonded with the pine marten on a day with a nearly full moon visible well before dark, we're pretty sure that Mike is now a were-marten. Watch for him to sprout fur and pointy ears, and start chasing down squirrels and raiding hiker's packs on the next full moon hike. Up to Couchsachraga, then back down to the swamp where we had excellent views of an inquisitive pine marten. We stopped again at Times Square where Wayne handed out chocolate chip and dried cherry cookies (Mike and Wayne are full service hike leaders) and we watched yet another pine marten. Then it was on to our final peak. As we approached Santanoni, the wind rose and became bitter. We were surprised to see four people who had passed us earlier coming up the Santanoni Express trail. They had spent a fruitless hour trying to find the path after it had drifted over and decided to come back up and return by the Bradley Pond trail. We made a brief summit stop at Santanoni before deciding that, with a half hour of good daylight remaining, we should also take the long but certain way back. The open ridge back to Panther in the setting sun was glorious. As we headed down, the moon was so bright that we often could turn off our headlamps and walk by moonlight alone. What a great finish! 8 participants: Katherine Bannigan, David Charles, Chris Collins, Mike Fuller, Davis Hawkowl, Helen Hokula, Mark Janey, Wayne Richter.

Dix Mt. from Rt. 73 Sat, Jan 31, 2015, Bill Morse

- Rescheduled to March 14.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

* March 9th EPF Lobby Day! We'll help you explain to our representatives in Albany why the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) are important to you and to ADK. If you are interested in participating, contact Cathy@adk.org

* March 21st Join ADK at Climate Reality 2015 in Queensbury, NY (Plattsburgh State University of NY at Queensbury) with keynote Speaker: Jerry Jenkins, *Climate Change in the Adirondacks: The Path to Sustainability*: SUNY Plattsburgh Branch Campus at Queensbury, please contact (518) 792-5425 to register.

* March 28th the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Citizen Scientist Monitoring Training returns to our Lake George Office. To sign up or stay informed about this project: cathy@adk.org, 518-449-3870 (ADK Albany Office). See below for more information.

Adopt-A-Hemlock Stand! Citizen Scientist Monitoring Project for the Adirondack Park.

Sign-Up to help Protect Hemlocks in the Adirondack Park! This Citizen Scientist Monitoring Project for Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA) in the Adirondack Park **asks you to adopt your favorite section of trail, stream bank, or lakeshore** and survey it twice a year for HWA.

Background: HWA is an aggressive, devastating invasive insect (see image above) that kills a host tree in a few years. Our eastern hemlocks, which have little or no resistance to these infestations, have been hit hard by HWA in many areas south of the Adirondacks. In the Adirondack Park there are significant hemlock communities (see hemlock distribution map).

The only hope for our Adirondack hemlocks is early detection and response. In July 2014, Adirondack Mountain Club (ADK) hosted a Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA) citizen science monitoring training at our Lake George Office with the Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program (APIPP), NYS Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP), Cornell University, and the Cornell Cooperative Extension. This event initiated a long-term citizen science monitoring program for HWA in the Adirondacks.

HWA has not been reported in the Adirondack Park, yet. We are asking you to simply adopt an area of the Adirondack Park that you live near or that you enjoy visiting regularly, and then twice a year check your area for signs of HWA infestation.

Your participation is essential to help protect our hemlocks by detecting early signs and symptoms of HWA. When you sign-up for this project we'll follow-up with you by email and ask you to choose an area to survey, a favorite section of trail, stream bank, or lakeshore. Your job will be to survey your area at least twice a year for HWA. The survey is a simple process of recording the location of the beginning and end of your survey, counting the number of trees you look at by observing the underside of their low-hanging branches, and letting us know if you find anything. When you sign-up we'll keep you informed about up-coming workshops so that you can get some hands-on field experience searching for HWA. We'll also encourage you (but it is not required) to become familiar with IMAP Invasives, which has spring training sessions, and on-line training.

Outings Instructions: For more information see "Chapter Handbook" on our website's Chapter Links

Sign Up

Contact the Outing Leader at least two days (preferably a week), before the activity so he/she can explain the capabilities required and to determine the number attending. Failure to call may result in not knowing about cancellations, rescheduled departures, etc. Guests are always welcome, but must also register! **PLEASE** be considerate when signing up for a trip. Advise the leader if you cannot make a trip so as not to impact others' plans. **Trips WILL BE CANCELLED if minimums are not met**, thereby affecting all parties. For safety, the MINI MUM number for Outings is: 3 people, including the leader (4 in winter). Panera Bread is the meeting spot unless otherwise noted in the trip description. Be there and ready to depart at the posted time (directions below).

Meeting Place Information - Panera Bread

Northway Plaza, 820 Route 9, Queensbury, NY 761-6957/3

• **From NORTHWAY (I-87)** Take Exit 19 and go east on AVIATION / QUAKER Road. Follow 0.5 miles to ROUTE 9/GLEN STREET.

Turn North (LEFT) onto ROUTE 9, then right at the light into the NORTHWAY PLAZA. Then take a left at the four-way stop, and park in front of Panera Bread.

Travel Information/Car Pools

We encourage carpooling to trailheads for both environmental and practical reasons (limited trailhead parking) and may alter meeting locations due to destination or participants. If you are able, it's helpful to offer to drive your vehicle. If you are a passenger, consider current fuel prices, travel miles and number of passengers when contributing your fair share to the driver.

Participation Guidelines

Leaders are responsible to evaluate interested parties' fitness for that outing, review specific guidelines, and lead the trip. They are not paid guides, but volunteers. Participants are asked to cooperate and respect their authority and decisions. *Is this the right Outing for you? For those not experienced in strenuous trips, it is best to begin with something easier and work your way up. The Leader will assist in evaluating skill level and suggest alternative outings if more appropriate. **For the safety and comfort of all, the Leader has the discretion to deny participation if he/she feels someone is not a good match for that trip.** Based on the expectations and skills of the entire group, Leaders may have more flexibility for some trips, so definitely talk with them. **DO NOT TRY STRENUOUS OUTINGS UNLESS YOU HAVE DONE THAT ACTIVITY REGULARLY (and recently and are in good shape as necessary for that outing.)** *An ADK Liability Waiver must be provided by the Leader and signed by all participants before the trip begins. This is a requirement by ADK HQ. Parents must sign for minors. *No Pets allowed on outings except where designated in the description.

Dogs

Participants in Chapter outings will be allowed to bring their dogs on outings in the following circumstances: (1) the outing has been designated by the outing leader as a "dog outing" and which has been publicized as such; or (2) the outing leader may bring his/her dog, that has not been designated as a "dog outing," if the notice of the outing discloses that the leader will be doing so. All dogs on Chapter outings will be kept on a leash at all times.

Hiking Needs/Preparation/Equipment

Bring trail food and plenty of water on ALL hikes! *Clothing made of Polyester blends, polarguard or wool are recommended as they retain warmth even when wet. — please do not wear 100% cotton clothing! It is also wise to bring raingear. Other pack essentials: compass and map, headlamp/flashlight, first aid kit, hat, gloves, and extra socks. Adirondack weather can and does change suddenly. Don't trust the forecast or the sky based on the start of the day. Be prepared!

Ratings

Special Winter Needs

In addition to the preparation/equipment mentioned above, winter requires some EXTRA planning. Look for special notes in the Outing description and discuss with the Leader. Depending on conditions, participants can expect to bring Snow Shoes and Crampons. Bring lots of Water. Dehydration comes easier in the winter and we feel its effects later ... usually AFTER the fact. Be wise with Emergency Clothing. Bring an extra wool/polypro hat, mittens and socks. Vented Shell pants, jackets and mittens are commonly used with warm layers beneath.

Rating	Effort Level	Elevation Gain (feet)	Miles	Time (hours)
A+	Very Strenuous	4,000+	10+	10+
A	Strenuous	3,000+	8-12	8-10
B+	Moderately Strenuous	2,000+	5-10	6-8
B	Moderate	1,000+	5-8	5-6
C+	Fairly Easy	1,000+	5-8	4-6
C	Easy	Under 1,000	Under 5	Under 5

*Descriptions are only typical and can vary.

Become an Outings Leader

Ask any Chapter Leader for details. Offer to Co-lead to get the experience! We're always looking for new leaders to help share the fun while filling in the calendar. New faces offer more varied outings while sharing personal favorite destinations. Contact the Outings Chairs on page 2 for more information.

Programs and Meeting Directions

Chapter Programs and Meetings are held monthly, alternating facilities between Glens Falls and Saratoga Springs. Brief directions are below. More detailed information and maps can be found on the Chapter Web page: www.adk-gfs.org

Wesley Health Care Center 131 Lawrence Street, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866, 587-3600.

From the South: Route 9 North.

LEFT onto CHURCH STREET. RIGHT onto LAWRENCE. • **From the North:** EXIT 15 off of the Northway. RIGHT onto ROUTE 50 South. Continue onto VAN DAM STREET, RIGHT onto LAWRENCE STREET.

Carl R's Café Restaurant and Bar, Main Street and Interstate 87, Glens Falls, Main Street and Interstate 87, Glens Falls, NY 12804, 793-7676.

• EXIT 18 of the Northway. Turn EAST onto MAIN STREET. Carl R's is on the RIGHT.

Lake George ADK Headquarters: EXIT 21 of the Northway. Turn WEST onto ROUTE 9N South. ADK is on the LEFT.

Saratoga Springs Public Library: Henry Street., Saratoga Springs, NY 12866, 584-7860.

• **From Northway (I-87),** Take Exit 14 onto Route 9P North (Union Avenue). Proceed 1.5 miles, past three traffic lights to T-junction, RIGHT onto CIRCULAR STREET to the first,

traffic light. LEFT onto SPRING STREET for two blocks., RIGHT onto Putnam Street for 1.5 blocks. (There is public parking here also!) The library parking lot is on the right. There is a two-hour parking limit.

• From Route 9 and Route 50

Route 9 and Route 50 converge to become the main street (Broadway) in downtown Saratoga Springs. Follow in to downtown, up to the main street. Turn onto SPRING STREET (right from South/left from North) at the corner of Congress Park. LEFT on the first street onto Putnam. Parking as described above.



Chepontuc Footnotes

Glens Falls - Saratoga Chapter Adirondack Mountain Club
P.O. Box 2314,
Glens Falls, New York 12801

www.adk-gfs.org

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #76
SARATOGA SPRINGS, NY
12866

POSTMASTER: CONTAINS DATED MATERIAL.
PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY. THANK YOU.

Are you moving?

If you are moving, please forward your change of address, including new phone number, to

*Adirondack Mountain Club,
814 Goggins Road,
Lake George, New York 12845.*

You may call Headquarters at 668-4447. The Chapter receives all its mailing labels and membership lists from the Club.

Therefore, any change of address need NOT be sent to the Chapter - one form or one call to the Club is all you need!

Reminder:

Please include your e-mail address when renewing your membership!

