



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

Chepontuc Footnotes

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

“The ADK Fire Tower Challenge from a Historical Perspective”

presented by Laurie Rankin

Wednesday, May 17th 7:00 PM

Crandall Library Community Room in Glens Falls



Everyone enjoys the views from the cab of a fire tower, but why are they there in the first place? Please join Laurie Rankin, Director of the NYS Chapter of the Forest Fire Lookout Association for an in depth look at why fire towers were placed on so many of the mountaintops in the Adirondacks. After you see and hear all of the details, you will be looking at things a bit differently on your next hike to one. Perhaps you will even want to get involved in restoring one.

Along with being the NYS Chapter Director of the FFLA, Laurie is the daughter of the last full time Fire Tower Observer on Balsam Lake Mountain in the Catskills, an ADK Fire Tower Challenge finisher, and an avid hiker who has completed the NE 115 in both summer and winter. Laurie is currently enjoying taking the grandchildren to revisit these special places and get the views from on high.

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 info 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, but may be extended...so check conditions before you head out!



MUD SEASON



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Membership Update

By Pat Desbiens

NEW MEMBERS - JANUARY 2017

Kevin, Jackie, Clara & Adam Avery, Glens Falls
Rebecca Bussert, Clifton Park
Adam Catlin, Cambridge
Richard Cieri, Ashburn, Virginia
Timothy Collins, Queensbury
Amanda Gomez, Ballston Spa
Thomas Klepetar, Gansvoort
Michelle Maskaly, Lake George
Kathleen Paton, Saratoga Springs
Thomas Thalmann, Clifton Park

REJOINED MEMBERS - JANUARY 2017

Chris Caruso, Hudson Falls
Madeline Gallo, Niskayuna
Andrea & Margaret Gerardi, Glenville
Raul, Eden, Esabelle, Pascal & Etienne Gervasio, Niskayuna
Kathryn Quoi, Albany
Michael Rocque, Saratoga Springs
David Salls & Karen Liebl, Saratoga Springs
Jim Scribner, Gansevoort

NEW MEMBERS - FEBRUARY 2017

Sarah Bacon, Gansevoort
Phillip Benoit, New York, New York
Mark Bremser, Glens Falls
David Cohen, Scarsdale, New York
Brian Coville, Saratoga Springs
Nicole Gaibrois, Queensbury
Donald Gimbel, Queensbury
Ann Harrington, Hadley
Elliott Hungerford, Saratoga Springs
Lee & Len Ligon, Johnsonville, New York
Kimberly Pastiglione, Clifton Park
Susan Pienta & Frank Morehouse, Valatie
Emily & Richard Portuese, Queensbury
Charles Scarborough, Ballston Spa
Lori Vanderveer, Clifton Park
Jared White, Glens Falls
Diane & Kurt Wisell, Lake George

REJOINED MEMBERS - FEBRUARY 2017

Robert & Laura Ryan, Clifton Park

We were sorry to hear of the passing of ADK-GFS member Beth Johansen White, and thank the Nuffers for their \$50 donation in her memory and for bringing this sad news to our attention.

CONTACT US

Executive Committee Officers:

Chapter Chair John Caffry
Phone: 798-0624 chapterchair@adk-gfs.org

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Second Vice Chair Maureen Coutant
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Secretary Kathi Noble
Phone: 668-3046 secretary@adk-gfs.org

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Directors: director@adk-gfs.org
Phone: 692-8579 Tamara Van Ryn
Bill Wasilowski
Dan Kane

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Phone: 668-3046 firetower@adk-gfs.org

Annual Dinner Coordinator Anne Paolano
Phone: 798-3055 annualdinner@adk-gfs.org

Alternate Directors: Peter Benoit



We would like to thank Dr. Michael A. Jackson and his son Matthew R. Jackson for their donation of \$50 and thank Rod and Val Barr of Elmira, NY, for their donation of \$100. Both donations will go towards the expenses that are associated with the management of the Fire Tower Challenge. Rod wrote in his completion letter, "It reminded me of playing king of the mountain, when I stood in a fire tower over-looking the beautiful landscape."

Congratulations to the following people who have completed the Fire Tower Challenge:

Margaret Litwin, Glenville	Nancy Haggerty, Johnsbury
Rod Barr, Elmira	Robert Haggerty, Johnsbury
Val Barr, Elmira	
James Viggiano, Rochester	

Congratulations to the following people who have completed the Winter Fire Tower Challenge:

Heather Helmes, Poland	Daniel Stec, Queensbury
Christopher Helmes, Poland	Sue Davenport, Pattersonville
Yanina Levchinsky-Grimmond, Clifton Park	Denise Mongillo, Mechanicville

Show New York's Adirondack and Catskill Parks Some Love

Saturday, May 6, 2017

Be a part of this exciting statewide event to improve and enhance New York's state parks and historic sites and bring visibility to the entire state park system!

[Register to volunteer](#) at one of these great locations!

Adirondacks

- Golden Beach Campground
- Scaroon Manor Campground
- Creek Pond Campground
- Cranberry Lake Campground
- Brewster Peninsula Nature Trail

Catskills

- Kaaterskill Falls Wild Forest
- North South Lake Campground
- Woodland Valley Campground



For more information call: (518) 402-9059



Fire Tower Guide Released in New Edition

Lake George, N.Y.—The Adirondack Mountain Club (ADK) has released a second edition of its popular fire tower guide, *Views From On High: Fire Tower Trails in the Adirondacks and Catskills*.

Written by John P. (Jack) Freeman and Jim Schneider, the book enables hikers, history buffs, and others fond of Adirondack and Catskill trails to visit and learn about thirty historic fire towers. Detailed trail descriptions are accompanied by numerous photographs, GPS coordinates, page maps, and an overview essay about these structures written by historic preservationist Wesley H. Haynes. In addition to the thirty towers found within the Adirondack and Catskill Parks, a new chapter, written by tower aficionado Jacob C. (Jake) Wilde and titled *Beyond the Blue Line*, describes twelve more towers found elsewhere in New York State.

Views from on High also provides a look at the role fire towers have come to serve in environmental education. With the passage of time, the observers who once staffed these towers came to be recognized for their unintended work as backcountry educators. Today's fire tower staffers, funded by "Friends" and other local community groups, assume that role directly.

The guide's new edition arrives on the heels of celebrations in several parts of the Adirondacks across the last few years as tower-restoration proponents found new outlets for their energies. The first edition of *Views* included a chapter titled *Adirondack Fire Towers That May Not Last*. All five towers described there have since been restored and opened for public use, as have two additional Adirondack towers on Loon Lake and Stillwater Mountains, a testament to the enduring appeal of these structures.

The Adirondack Mountain Club Fire Tower Challenge, sponsored by ADK's Glens Falls-Saratoga Chapter, has been revised to reflect the new tower list. A complement to *Views From On High* since the guide's publication in 2001, this program challenges hikers to ascend and document at least twenty-three fire tower summits, eighteen of twenty-five in the Adirondacks and all five in the Catskills. In addition to the satisfactions of the experience, Challenge completers receive a patch from the chapter. The Challenge has proved so popular that the chapter rolled out a Winter Challenge as well.

The Challenge, and the book itself, are part of ADK's ongoing efforts to introduce hikers to little known parts of both parks. The book is slated for release in May 2017.

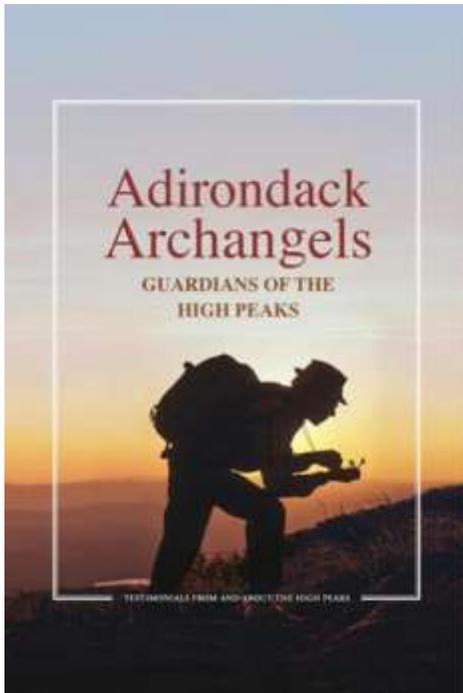
Views From On High: Fire Tower Trails in the Adirondacks and Catskills is 176 pages, 5 ½" x 8 ½", and includes numerous photos and page maps. It is available in softcover for \$14.95 (\$11.96 members) at book and outdoor supply stores, at ADK stores in Lake George and Lake Placid, through mail order by calling (800) 395-8080, and online at www.adk.org.

ADK publishes twenty titles, including outdoor recreation guides and maps and arm-chair traveler books, and conducts extensive trails, education, conservation, and natural history programs. Profits from the sale of ADK publications help underwrite the cost of these programs.

For more information, contact ADK, 814 Goggins Road, Lake George, NY 12845; (518) 668-4447; or visit ADK's website at www.adk.org.



Adirondack Archangels: Guardians of the High Peaks



published by the Adirondack Mountain Club (ADK), is a tribute to the late Edwin H. "Ketch" Ketchledge, Ph.D., who in 1989 led the creation of the Summit Stewardship Program. It comprises thirty-nine essays and includes a foreword by celebrated writer Bill McKibben and over 250 photographs, many in color.

The essays were contributed by a range of writers, including Phil Brown, Tony Goodwin, Mary Thill, Carl Heilman II, Neil Woodworth, Pete Biesemeyer, John Sheehan, Terry Martino, William Jay O'Hern, Julia Goren, Tim Barnett, and Joseph Martens. Photographs were contributed by Nancie Battaglia, Carl Heilman II, and Brendan Wiltse, among others.

All proceeds from *Adirondack Archangels* go to support the Summit Stewardship Program. A portion will be used for annual expenses and a portion will be placed in the #507 Fund for the Summit Stewardship Program, an endowment fund through the Adirondack Foundation.

Production costs of this title were underwritten by an anonymous donor. Paper for the printing was donated by Domtar Corporation.

Adirondack Archangels was edited by Christine Bourjade and Alex Radmanovich.

Adirondack Archangels is 304 pages, 6" x 9", and includes over 250 color and black and white photos, some of which are archival images. It is available in softcover for \$24.95 at book and outdoor supply stores, at ADK stores in Lake George and Lake Placid, through mail order by calling (800) 395-8080, or online at www.adk.org.

Adirondack Archangels is about very human beings with their feet in the mud, their observations, memories, impressions, personal histories...told through dozens of short essays that in the aggregate give us an invaluable and very readable history. The editors have done an excellent job sorting and juxtaposing these personal stories.

—Fred LeBrun, *Times Union*

Help Wanted for Nominating Committee ~ by Maureen Coutant

At the October annual meeting, chapter officers are elected to serve the chapter for the upcoming fiscal year. In the spring, a nominating committee is formed to put together a slate of officers for the annual meeting.

As the nominating committee chairperson, I am seeking 4 people to serve on the committee with me. The duties of the committee will be to brainstorm the names of individuals to serve as officers and contact these individuals to determine their interest and answer any questions they may have about the position. The description of duties for all officers and elected positions is available in the chapter by-laws on the chapter website.

In addition to filling current vacancies I am seeking to build a list of individuals that may be interested in chapter leadership positions in the future. At times, vacancies occur during the year and positions need to be filled.

If you are interested in being a part of the nominating committee or becoming involved in the leadership of the chapter, please let me know. My contact information is listed under the second vice chair in the Executive Committee listing on the second page of the newsletter or on the website under the chapter info. tab.

LOBBY DAY 2017

Lobby Day for the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) was held on February 14, 2017 in Albany. The EPF has provided millions of dollars to protect natural resources, open space and farmland, and water quality, funded invasive species control, and has also contributed to economic development. ADK's goal is to increase funding for the EPF to support projects and programs, such as open space, invasive species control, and stewardship (i.e., Summit Steward Program). Participants met with legislators and their staff to discuss the importance of the EPF to help support these essential programs. Participants urged their legislators to maintain the \$300 million funding level, increase funding for land acquisition and open space, and increase funding for aquatic invasive species prevention and management strategies (i.e., boat washing and inspection stations).

SOLAR IN SPA CITY

The former Saratoga Springs city landfill is getting a facelift this summer. A non-penetrating ground mounted solar array will be installed on the landfill on Weibel Avenue. Onyx Renewable Partners will design, build, and operate the 2 megawatt solar array and plans to break ground in early April and be operational this summer. The project is being financed by Onyx and grant money from NYSERDA NY-Sun Program. About 40% of the city's utilities will receive power from the solar array for Phase 1 of the project. Phase 2 of the project will provide community residents the opportunity to buy into a shared/community solar arrangement.

ADK Lake George Property Workday @ Adirondack Mountain Club

Saturday, May 6th

9:00 am - approx. 2:00 pm

Join fellow ADKers and friends to spruce up ADK headquarters property off Exit 21 of the Northway.

Every spring, volunteers help ADK by doing a little spring-cleaning. The decks get treated, trim is painted, the lawn is raked, and other projects are done to maintain the property. It's fun to meet new people and take part in a community project. You don't have to bring anything other than work gloves - if you have them. Bring a friend along also to make it more fun! *Breakfast and lunch (including Jim's famous workday cookies) will be provided!*

"Many hands makes light work" - please check your calendar and see if you can spare the day or part of it!

Call Maureen Coutant for more information and to sign up at 745-7834 or email: mojim@roadrunner.com, (If you can come a different day to do a project, let me know).

Remembering Neal Andrews

Here are a couple of memories I have of Neal. Neal lived up the street from my house during the late 80's to early 90's before he moved to Mechanicville. Both my oldest and youngest sons and I knew him and experienced his enthusiasm for challenging hikes and his love for the Adirondacks.

One of my fondest memories of Neal happened during a period of time when I wanted to climb McNaughton and I needed someone who shared the same level of adventure that climbing McNaughton required. On a Saturday morning as Neal was driving by to his house, he stopped to say hi to me and ask about my oldest son since he had gone to college. I was struck by the coincidence that Neal stopped by and I wanted to climb McNaughton. So I then asked him if he would climb the mountain with me. (At the time, I would only attempt that mountain with my oldest son or Neal Andrews.) I wanted to bushwack it and Neal was up to the challenge. He said yes to the hike.

Neal eventually accompanied me on two other insane bushwacks on Lost Pond Peak and a bushwack on a mountain near Pillsbury Mountain. On a winter hike, my oldest son and I went on a hike with Neal up Street and Nye where the temperature at the start of the hike was -25 F degrees at the High Peaks Information Center.

My youngest son experienced the teacher side of Neal. My youngest son and I went on an ADK hike into the smaller mountains in the Dix Range. Neal was the leader of this hike. Neal taught my son and other mountaineer youngsters how to use a map and compass. My son expressed to me that Neal's instructions on using a map and compass gave him his skills he eventually used in mountains in the Adirondacks and the mountains out West.

Neal was a superb friend and the consummate mountaineer. I could go on and on about Neal. But I'll just stop here.

Leo Demers

Public Hearing Reveals Broad Support for the Big Cedar Swamp

By John Caffry ~ Chapter Chair

On April 5, 2017, Warren County held a public hearing on its proposal to extend a runway at the Warren County Airport further into the Big Cedar Swamp in Queensbury. If approved by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), New York State DEC, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, this project would destroy over 10 acres of wetlands, and many more acres of other types of wildlife habitat. The wetlands at risk of being bulldozed include part of one of the few marl fens in the world. Marl fen habitat is ranked as Globally Rare, and 8% to 10% of it is found in the Big Cedar Swamp.

In addition to the marl fen, the wetland complex also includes extensive areas of rare northern white cedar swamp and several hundred more acres of other types of Class I wetlands. The Glens Falls-Saratoga Chapter of ADK, Southern Adirondack Audubon Society, and other members of the Big Cedar Swamp Coalition have been advocating for the protection of this unique natural resource for more than three decades.

The County's environmental assessment report (EA) for the project is grossly deficient. No hydrogeological study of the project's impacts on the nearby part of the marl fen which will not be bulldozed has been performed. The EA laughably claims that impacts on wildlife will be mitigated because "there are 782 acres of adjacent forested wetland areas that wildlife can migrate [to]". Also, it contains no actual proposals to compensate for the runway's impacts on wetlands, just vague concepts such as creating new wetlands elsewhere in the county.

Attendance at the hearing has been estimated at between 150 and 200. Of the over 30 people who spoke, about 25 were opposed to the project, and the great majority of the others present supported them. John Caffry spoke on behalf of the Chapter and the Big Cedar Swamp Coalition. Over the last three-plus decades, wetlands protection has become a grassroots issue in this area - none of the numerous other people who supported this goal at the hearing mentioned any affiliation with the Coalition.

Other speakers expressed concerns about the cost of the project, the lack of a proven need for it, noise impacts, and the effects of stormwater runoff on their nearby properties. One local resident likened the airport to a "yacht club" for pilots. In addition, several current and former local officials spoke out against the project. The only people speaking in favor of the project were a group of 5 local pilots and the Town Supervisor of Queensbury, who claimed, without any real supporting evidence, that the project would create economic development.

The County's EA can be found at http://www.warrencountyny.gov/airport/draft_ea.php [reports on the marl fen are in Appendix Q]. The next step in the process will be for the FAA to decide whether or not to require a full environmental impact statement (EIS) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). By the time this story is published, the public comment period on that question will have closed. However, Chapter members who live in Warren County can still make their voices heard by contacting their representative on the County Board of Supervisors and asking them to vote to end the County's support for the project. The full list of Supervisors is available at <http://www.warrencountyny.gov/gov/bos.php>.

Date	Day	Type	Destination	Leader(s)	Rating
May 2017					
1	Mon	Geocache	Monday Monthly Geocache	Sarah King, Mo Coutant	NR
2	Tue	Walk/Hike	Tuesday Outing	Maureen Coutant	NR
3	Wed	Meeting	Executive Committee monthly meeting	John Caffry	NR
6	Sat	Bike	Brant Lake Bike Trip	Neal Van Dorsten	B
6	Sat	Other	ADK Spring Work Day	Maureen Coutant	NR
6	Sat	Paddle/Camp/Hike	South Bay and Diameter Cliff	Jayne Boudier	A
9	Tue	Paddle	Tuesday Outing - Paddle	Maureen Coutant	B
10	Wed	Hike	Full Moon Neal Andrews Memorial Hike	Maureen Coutant	B
13	Sat	Hike	Vanderwhacker Mountain	Reg Prouty	B
13	Sat	Walk	Spring Bird Walk - Wilton Wildlife Preserve & Park	Rich Speidel	C
14	Sun	Hike	Ampersand and St. Regis	Wayne Richter	A
16	Tue	Hike	Tuesday Outing - FTC	Maureen Coutant	B
17	Wed	Program	ADK Fire Tower Challenge from a Historical Perspective	Sarah King	NR
19	Fri	Hike	Hackensack Mountain Loop	Rich Crammond	C+
20	Sat	Hike	The Jay Range Razzle (The JP & Joe show)	JP Martin, Joe Babcock	A
20	Sat	Hike	OK Slip Falls, caves and Blue Ledge Overlook	Nick Ringelberg	A
21	Sun	Hike	Buck Mountain	Lorraine MacKenzie	B
23	Tue	Paddle	Tuesday Outing - Paddle	Maureen Coutant	NR
27	Sat	Hike	Sleeping Beauty Mt.	Jack Whitney	B
27	Sat	Walk	Spring Bird Walk - Pack Forest, Warrensburg	Rich Speidel	C
30	Tue	Walk/Hike	Tuesday Outing	Maureen Coutant	NR
June 2017					
3	Sat	Hike	Mount Marcy Madness (The JP & Joe show)	JP Martin, Joe Babcock	A+
3	Sat	Hike	Stewarts Ledge Sunset Photo Hike	Jack Whitney	C
3	Sat	Hike	Hadley Mountain	Amanda Gómez, Steve Mackey	B
3	Sat	Walk/Hike	Spring Bird Hike & Climb - Pack Forest, Warrensburg	Rich Speidel	C+
4	Sun	Bushwack	Lost Gorge rockhop	Jayne Boudier	A
5	Mon	Geocache	Monday Monthly Geocache	Sarah King, Mo Coutant	NR
6	Tue	Paddle	Tuesday Outing - Paddle	Maureen Coutant	NR
7	Wed	Meeting	Executive Committee monthly meeting	John Caffry	NR
10	Sat	Hike	Tabletop & Phelps Fly Bath (The JP & Joe show)	JP Martin, Joe Babcock	A+
10	Sat	Hike	Mt. Adams Fire Tower	Rich Crammond	B+
13	Tue	Hike	Tuesday Outing - FTC	Maureen Coutant	B
17	Sat	Hike	Annual Swards Black Fly Blood Drive	Wayne Richter, Mike Fuller	A+
17	Sat	Hike	Crehore Garnet Mine and OK Slip Falls	Nick Ringelberg	A
20	Tue	Paddle	Tuesday Outing - Paddle	Maureen Coutant	NR
24	Sat	Hike	Highway to the Sky - Wolf Jaws via Bennies Brook Slide	Eric Kimmelman, Akane Suzuki	A+
24	Sat	Hike	Chestertown Challenge Pick Two	Reg Prouty	B-
24	Sat	Paddle/Camp	Rainbow Lake	Jayne Boudier	A
25	Sun	Hike	Indian Head and Fish Hawk Cliffs	Lorraine MacKenzie	B+
July 2017					
2	Sun	Hike	Hurricane Mt. Wildflower/Photo Hike	Jack Whitney	B
8	Sat	Hike	Hanging Spear Falls	Nick Ringelberg	A
11	Tue	Paddle	Tuesday Outing - Paddle	Maureen Coutant	NR
15	Sat	Hike	Lake Bonita and Lake Ann Loop-Moreau Lake State Park	Reg Prouty	C+
15	Sat	Hike	Montcalm Point Hike and Swim	Neal Van Dorsten	B
18	Tue	Hike	Tuesday Outing - FTC	Maureen Coutant	B
25	Tue	Paddle	Tuesday Outing - Paddle	Maureen Coutant	NR
29	Sat	Hike	Wright, Algonquin and Iroquois	Wayne Richter	A+
29	Sat	Hike	Severance Hill (Neal Andrews Memorial Hike)	Rich Crammond	C+
29	Sat	Paddle/Camp	Racquette Lake & St Williams	Jayne Boudier	A

Outings Detail

MONDAY MONTHLY GEOCACHE

Mon, May 1, 2017, time TBD, Rating: NR
Sarah King - 518-798-0615, scubakings@roadrunner.com
Colead: Mo Coutant - 518-745-7834 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!

TUESDAY OUTING - [Walk/Hike]

Tue, May 2, 2017, time TBD, Rating: NR
Maureen Coutant - 745-7834, mojim@roadrunner.com
- We'll do either a walk or hike most of the time within an hour of Glens Falls, but occasionally a bit further away. So call or email the weekend before to find out the plan for that week.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MONTHLY MEETING

Wed, May 3, 2017, 7:00 pm, Rating: NR
John Caffry - chapterchair@adk-gfs.org
- Board meeting at Crandall Library in the Holden Room (2nd floor of the library).

BRANT LAKE BIKE TRIP

Sat, May 6, 2017, 9:00 am, Rating: B
Neal Van Dorsten - 644-7034, nealvan@aol.com
- Brant Lake Bike Trip. We will start at the parking area at Exit 24 and bike along River to Brant Lake. Then we will circumvent the lake and bike back. Total distance 26 miles. Easy pace; will leave no one behind. Meet Exit 24.

ADK SPRING WORK DAY - [Other]

Sat, May 6, 2017, 9:00 am, Rating: NR
Maureen Coutant - 745-7834, mojim@roadrunner.com
- Come join fellow ADKers to do a little spring cleaning at the ADK Headquarters building just off Exit 21 of the Northway. No special skills required! Wear gross clothes, eat free food, do as much or as little work as you want! Just show up! We need you! Clean bugs out of light fixtures, rake, change batteries, wash windows, stain or paint if you like, pull weeds, pick up trash along the roadside...see I didn't lie - anyone can do those things, so please join us! Thanks!

SOUTH BAY AND DIAMETER CLIFF - [Paddle/Camp/Hike]

Sat, May 6, 2017, 7:00 am, Rating: A
Jayne Boudier - 636-3352, boudier@verizon.net
- May 6-7. These two live on South Bay, near Whitehall, as do our hosts Tim and Mary. Saturday, put in at the Route 22 bridge, unload the boats, and continue paddling to the Diameter Cliff. On Sunday we'll hike to the Waterwall and Devil's Den. Approximately 8-10 miles of paddling, 4-6 miles of hiking, and 600 foot ascent.

TUESDAY OUTING - PADDLE

Tue, May 9, 2017, time TBD, Rating: B
Maureen Coutant - 745-7834, mojim@roadrunner.com
- This week we'll try to do a paddle if we can. It's traditional to start out the paddling season with our toughest paddle (not usually too bad) from Lake Luzerne to Second Lake. It does involve going over or through a beaver dam or two and getting out in a few spots where the water is too shallow to paddle. So skip this trip if you're a beginner or don't want to get out of your boat. Call or email for more details.

FULL MOON NEAL ANDREWS MEMORIAL HIKE

Wed, May 10, 2017, 5:00 pm, Rating: B
Maureen Coutant - 745-7834, mojim@roadrunner.com
- So I didn't hike very often with Neal Andrews, since I didn't think

I could keep up! But I do remember doing a full moon hike with him about 20 years ago up a mountain on the east side of Lake George. John Schneider and I were sweeps on that hike and he thinks it was Buck Mountain, so I'll trust him! Neal did a great job leading the hike and didn't push the group too fast at all! I remember thinking it was a cool thing to do a full moon hike and it seemed like a "Neal" thing to do, but since it was a rare Neal trip that didn't start before the sun came up and end after it went down... it was more in my wheelhouse! Neal was a great leader and active member of ADK, so I'm happy to do this hike in his memory and spread some of his ashes as requested. We'll go up Buck Mountain from the lake side since it's wide and easy to follow. 6.6 miles, 2000 foot ascent. Headlamp and extra batteries required! Call or email for more info.

VANDERWHACKER MOUNTAIN - [Hike]

Sat, May 13, 2017, 8:00 am, Rating: B
Reg Prouty - 518-747-9736, reginaldprouty@gmail.com
- This fire-towered mountain provides excellent panoramic views of the high peaks region. It is near route 28N and the Boreas River. The ascent is 1650 feet and round trip distance is 5.4 miles. Bring a lunch and plan on a full day outing.

SPRING BIRD WALK - WILTON WILDLIFE PRESERVE & PARK

Sat, May 13, 2017, time TBD, Rating: C
Rich Speidel - 623-2587
- May is a great time to hear and see native and migrating birds in our area. This will be an easy morning walk of about three 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. The rain date is Sunday, May 7. Meeting Place: Camp Saratoga, Scout Road.

AMPERSAND AND ST. REGIS - [Hike]

Sun, May 14, 2017, 6:00 am, Rating: A
Wayne Richter - 518-893-7895, wrichter@nycap.rr.com
- No, you can't hike from Ampersand to St. Regis, but the two of these together make a fine pair of peaks: Both have enjoyable trails leading to open summits with great views. With an early start, we should make the 2.7 mile ascent and be on top of Ampersand before it gets too crowded. We'll descend and then make a 40 minute drive to the St. Regis Mountain trailhead. This climb is 3.3 miles to the summit where we'll find the fire tower and spectacular views. Donnelly's Ice Cream is along the way; depending on time, temperature and inclination, we'll stop before or after St. Regis - or maybe twice! Total distance for the two peaks is 12 miles with about 3000 feet of elevation change.

TUESDAY OUTING - FTC - [Hike]

Tue, May 16, 2017, time TBD, Rating: B
Maureen Coutant - 745-7834, mojim@roadrunner.com
- This week we will be doing a Fire Tower Challenge hike...not sure which one, so call or email the weekend before for specifics.

ADK FIRE TOWER CHALLENGE FROM A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE" PRESENTED BY LAURIE RANKIN. - [Program]

Wed, May 17, 2017, 7:00 pm, Rating: NR
Sarah King - 744-9348, scubakings@roadrunner.com
- Everyone enjoys the views from the cab of a fire tower, but why are they there in the first place? Please join Laurie Rankin, Director the NYS Chapter of the Forest Fire Lookout Association for an in depth look at why fire towers were placed on so many of the mountaintops in the Adirondacks. This program will be held at Crandall Public Library at 7pm. No reservations required and free and open to the public.

Outings Detail

HACKENSACK MOUNTAIN LOOP - [Hike]

Fri, May 19, 2017, 11:00 am, Rating: C+
Rich Crammond - 518-584-2380
- We will make a loop hike around the backside, across the top, and back down the rocky trail to the starting point past the old Blister Hill Ski tow. A moderate trail with approximately 560 feet of elevation change and approximately 3 to 4 miles of hiking. Meet at the trailhead off Prospect Street, Warrensburg. Look for my black Ford pickup. See you there, hiker buds.

THE JAY RANGE RAZZLE (THE JP & JOE SHOW) - [Hike]

Sat, May 20, 2017, 5:30 am, Rating: A
JP Martin - 607-232-0827, jef@binghamton.edu
Colead: Joe Babcock - 518-791-9395
or jababcock19@gmail.com
- The Jay Range has great attributes, with its 1.5 mile open ridge and spectacular 360 degree views. The round trip to the 3600' summit is about 8 miles with about 2300 feet of elevation gain. We will break at the lookout and have lunch on the summit before returning back the way we came. What more could a hiker desire? Please email or call to sign up for this hike. We will be meeting at the Queensbury Panera (Northway exit 19) parking lot Saturday morning at 5:30 am. No phone calls after 8pm please.

OK SLIP FALLS, CAVES AND BLUE LEDGE OVERLOOK - [Hike]

Sat, May 20, 2017, 7:00 am, Rating: A
Nick Ringelberg - 518-522-6863, nickringelberg@yahoo.com
- This is a memorial hike for Neal Andrews, one of the few hikes I had done with him and with two of his "boys." We will hike on a DEC trail 3 miles to the fabulous OK Slip Falls, then an easy bushwhack 1 mile to the first cave at Carter's Landing on the Hudson River where we will check out the crazy rafters floating by. The Blue Ledge cave and lookout is another mile bushwhack. Both caves are easy entry, stoop over access, fairly dry, no ropes or climbing experience required. Headlamps or flashlights needed. 10 miles total, 1,500 feet of elevation gain. If there is time, on the trail on the way out we will check out the old Crehore Garnet Mine with a cavern and 90 foot tunnel. Hope for a warm day and the ice in the cavern will be a refreshing treat!

BUCK MOUNTAIN - [Hike]

Sun, May 21, 2017, 8:30 am, Rating: B
Lorraine MacKenzie - 518-791-9794, otczone@aol.com
- I've been wanting to hike this 6.6 mile round trip for a few years now. It was a yearly trek for me until I stopped listing it as an outing. So, I learned my lesson. Please join me on one of the most beautiful summits in the Lake George area. Rain cancels.

TUESDAY OUTING - PADDLE

Tue, May 23, 2017, time TBD, Rating: NR
Maureen Coutant - 745-7834, mojom@roadrunner.com
- We usually do the Glen Lake fen around this time before it gets too choked up with weeds, so that is a possibility for this week. But we may explore a new area...so send me an email or call the weekend before!

SLEEPING BEAUTY MT. - [Hike]

Sat, May 27, 2017, 9:00 am, Rating: B
Jack Whitney - 793-9210, jackwhitney1758@gmail.com
- Great views to be had from the summit. We will take the trail down to Bumps Pond. Should be some lady slippers along the way. Slower pace to allow for wildflower photos along the way. Round trip around five miles.

SPRING BIRD WALK - PACK FOREST, WARRENSBURG

Sat, May 27, 2017, 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 325 years old. Group size is limited, so please call ahead to register. The rain date is Sunday, May 28. Meeting Place: Pack Forest - Route 9, 3/4 mile north of Route 28.

TUESDAY OUTING - [Walk/Hike]

Tue, May 30, 2017, time TBD, Rating: NR
Maureen Coutant - 745-7834, mojom@roadrunner.com
- We'll do either a walk or hike, most of the time within an hour of Glens Falls, but occasionally a bit further away. So call or email the weekend before to find out the plan for that week.

MOUNT MARCY MADNESS (THE JP & JOE SHOW) - [Hike]

Sat, Jun 3, 2017, 5:30 am, Rating: A+
JP Martin - 607-232-0827, jef@binghamton.edu
Colead: Joe Babcock - 518-791-9395
or jababcock19@gmail.com
- Topping out at 5,343', Mount Marcy is the highest mountain in New York State. Marcy is the pinnacle of all ADK hikes and absolutely stunning on a sunny day, with its 360° views on the summit. We will break at Indian Falls on the way in and out with lunch on the summit. Bring your camera and dance at the top of NY on Marcy! Please email or call to sign up for this hike. We will be meeting at the Queensbury Panera (Northway exit 19) parking lot Saturday morning at 5:30 am. No phone calls after 8pm please.

STEWARTS LEDGE SUNSET PHOTO HIKE

Sat, Jun 3, 2017, 6:30 pm, Rating: C
Jack Whitney - 793-9210, jackwhitney1758@gmail.com
- A short hike for great views of Lake George. The trail is on the east side of Lake George. Round trip around 1.5 miles. Rain cancels hike.

HADLEY MOUNTAIN - [Hike]

Sat, Jun 3, 2017, 8:30 am, Rating: B
Amanda Gómez - 526-8932, hurricanes706@yahoo.com
Colead: Steve Mackey - 793-6484 or smackey33@verizon.net
- Hadley Mountain is a single trail that is mostly bedrock for the 2.6 mile round-trip climb and nearly 1500 foot elevation gain. The trail starts to climb almost immediately, heading south toward Hadley's summit. After 0.8 miles the trail heads north. At 1.2 miles you reach a ridgeline that briefly levels out. At 1.8 miles you reach the summit. The fire tower that sits atop was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on September 23, 2001, offering you the highest peak view point in Saratoga County. As a part of the ADK Fire Tower Challenge, Hadley Mountain showcases expansive views of the Southern Adirondacks and the Great Sacandaga Lake. On a clear day you may be able to see Lake Champlain and the Green Mountains of Vermont. We can meet you at Panera at 8:30 or at the trail head at 9:15.

SPRING BIRD HIKE & CLIMB - PACK FOREST, WARRENSBURG - [Walk/Hike]

Sat, Jun 3, 2017, time TBD, Rating: C+
Rich Speidel - 623-2587
- This morning and afternoon birding trip includes the shoreline of Pack Forest Lake, and a gradual 400-foot climb to a scenic overlook for lunch atop Ben Wood Mountain. We will cover a round trip distance of about five miles at an easy pace, and record the bird species identified. Group size is limited, so please call ahead to sign up. The rain date is Sunday, June 4. Meeting Place: Pack Forest - Route 9, 3/4 mile north of Route 28.

Outings Detail

LOST GORGE ROCKHOP - [Bushwhack]

Sun, Jun 4, 2017, 8:00 am, Rating: A
Jayne Boudier - 636-3352, boudier@verizon.net
- The gorge is full of user friendly rocks, crystal pools, and waterfalls of all sizes. Approximately 4 miles, 1000 foot ascent, at a moderate pace. North Boquet River, Dix Mountain Wilderness.

MONDAY MONTHLY GEOCACHE

Mon, Jun 5, 2017, time TBD, Rating: NR
Sarah King - 518-798-0615, scubakings@roadrunner.com
Colead: Mo Coutant - 518-745-7834 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!

TUESDAY OUTING - PADDLE

Tue, Jun 6, 2017, time TBD, Rating: NR
Maureen Coutant - 745-7834, mojim@roadrunner.com
- This paddle will be something fairly short and close to Glens Falls, since I will be doing the geocache outing the day before! So call or email the weekend before to find out the plan. A section of the Hudson? Maybe visiting the eagle nest on Lake George? Hmm...

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MONTHLY MEETING

Wed, Jun 7, 2017, 7:00 pm, Rating: NR
John Caffry - chapterchair@adk-gfs.org
- Board meeting at Saratoga-Wesley Health Center

TABLETOP & PHELPS FLY BATH (THE JP & JOE SHOW) -

[Hike]
Sat, Jun 10, 2017, 5:30 am, Rating: A+
JP Martin - 607-232-0827, jef@binghamton.edu
Colead: Joe Babcock - 518-791-9395
or jababcock19@gmail.com
- Tabletop and Phelps (2 summits, 4427' and 4160', respectively) are close together in proximity, but worlds apart in approach and appearance. Tabletop, with its large summit plateau, greets you with an additional two false summits visible to the northeast, a good view of Phelps and a great view of Marcy. Phelps's peak is largely tree covered, but offers great views of Tabletop, Indian Falls and Mount Marcy as well as a good view of Algonquin and the Lake Placid valley, with Whiteface and Esther off in the distance. We will be deciding on the timing for lunch as a group. Bring your 'High Peak Spirit' along with your camera! Please email or call to sign up for this hike. We will be meeting at the Queensbury Panera (Northway exit 19) parking lot Saturday morning at 5:30 am. No phone calls after 8pm please.

MT. ADAMS FIRE TOWER - [Hike]

Sat, Jun 10, 2017, 9:00 am, Rating: B+
Rich Crammond - 518-584-2380
- We will meet at the Upper Works, Allen Mountain trailhead, Route 25. Look for the black Ford pickup. The hike is approximately 5.2 miles with about 1,700 feet of elevation change. Great views of the High Peaks on a clear day! Please bring rain gear and warm skin cover, hiker buds; headnets too. Route 25 from Route 84, Blue Ridge Road, Tahawus, Newcomb area. Let's get 'er done. P.S. The black flies will meet us there. Eeks!

TUESDAY OUTING - FTC - [Hike]

Tue, Jun 13, 2017, time TBD, Rating: B
Maureen Coutant - 745-7834, mojim@roadrunner.com
- This week we will do a Fire Tower Challenge hike. Not sure which one...member request! Let me know what you need and I'll

try to accommodate whichever one gets the most requests. Call or email the weekend before to get the details. (Rating is an estimate at this point.)

ANNUAL SEWARDS BLACK FLY BLOOD DRIVE - [Hike]

Sat, Jun 17, 2017, 5:00 am, Rating: A+
Wayne Richter - 518-893-7895, wrichter@nycap.rr.com
Colead: Mike Fuller - 802-254-3314
or farmallboy55@hotmail.com
- It's time for the annual visit to feed our little friends, making sure they will be there for us in future years. The Swards offer great views of the western Adirondacks. It's 16+ miles and 3,400 feet of elevation change. We'll meet at Panera Bread in Queensbury at 5:00 or the Coreys trailhead at 7:30. All sign ups and trip contacts to Wayne.

CREHORE GARNET MINE AND OK SLIP FALLS - [Hike]

Sat, Jun 17, 2017, 7:00 am, Rating: A
Nick Ringelberg - 518-522-6863, nickringelberg@yahoo.com
- Near Gore Mt. and the Barton Garnet Mine, we will go back in history to 1900 to visit the abandoned Crehore Mine, the only underground Garnet Mine in the Adirondacks, including a 90 foot tunnel with rails and abandoned ore cars; nearby is the foundation of the refinery factory. Bring your brightest hiking lights for the Garnet Mine (ice doesn't melt until July), which is about 30 feet high and 200 feet long, and we should see some 8 inch Spotted Salamanders skulking underground in the vernal pools. From the mine, following an old trail, we will do a 1 1/2 mile mild bushwhack to hook up with the OK Slip Falls Trail. After the falls, one of the highest in the Adirondacks, we can drop down to the rapids of the Hudson River to watch the rafters floating by. About 9 miles total, 1,500 feet elevation gain, with some mild bushwhack on old trail. Hope for a warm day and the ice in the cavern will be a refreshing treat!

TUESDAY OUTING - PADDLE

Tue, Jun 20, 2017, time TBD, Rating: NR
Maureen Coutant - 745-7834, mojim@roadrunner.com
- This paddle falls almost on the longest day of the year. So we will travel a bit further to explore an area, since we have more daylight to play with! Maybe Lake Abanakee? Email with other suggestions. Call or email the weekend before to get the details.

HIGHWAY TO THE SKY - WOLF JAWS VIA BENNIES BROOK SLIDE - [Hike]

Sat, Jun 24, 2017, 5:00 am, Rating: A+
Eric Kimmelman - 518-866-8521, ejkimmelman@gmail.com
Colead: Akane Suzuki - 999-9999 or akaneadk@gmail.com
- Come join us on the (hopefully) last black fly hike of the season! We will be taking one of nature's beautiful highways to the sky, the Bennies Brook slide, to Lower Wolf Jaw. We will then head over to enjoy the view on Upper Wolf Jaw before returning to the Garden parking lot. The Bennies Brook slide is one of the introductory slides in the Adirondacks. A pair of hiking boots with good grip will get you to its top. About 12 miles and 3000 feet of elevation. Meet at exit 19 at 5:00 am.

CHESTERTOWN CHALLENGE PICK TWO - [Hike]

Sat, Jun 24, 2017, 9:00 am, Rating: B-
Reg Prouty - 518-747-9736, reginaldprouty@gmail.com
- We will pick Kipp and a couple other of the Chester Challenge hikes. After anyone completes 6 out of the 8 required around the Loon Lake - Chestertown area, you will be awarded a pin from the Town of Chester town hall. There are beautiful overlooks of Loon Lake on several of these little mountains. There will be some steep sections but they don't last long with only a few hundred feet of ascent.

Outings Detail

RAINBOW LAKE - [Paddle/Camp]

Sat, Jun 24, 2017, 7:00 am, Rating: A

Jayne Boudier - 232-9559, boudier@verizon.net
- June 24-5. This lake lives east of Paul Smiths. It is somewhat domesticated, with Buck Pond State Campground at one end, camps crowding the other, and views of two fire towers. But there's also plenty of wild area, interesting terrain, and free campsites. We should have time to explore the North Branch (of the Saranac River), Rainbow's namesake eskers, and The Flow without having to rush. The paddle is about 12 miles, at a moderate to leisurely pace. The leader has boats to lend.

INDIAN HEAD AND FISH HAWK CLIFFS - [Hike]

Sun, Jun 25, 2017, 7:30 am, Rating: B+

Lorraine MacKenzie - 518-791-9794, otczone@aol.com
- This is a 10.6 mile loop with over 2,700 feet of elevation gain. It has outstanding views of different high peaks and the Ausable Lakes. Standing on top of Indian Head reminds you how beautiful nature is. Rain cancels.

HURRICANE MT.WILDFLOWER/PHOTO HIKE

Sun, Jul 2, 2017, 8:30 am, Rating: B

Jack Whitney - 793-9210, jackwhitney1758@gmail.com
- Great views from this summit and some wild flowers along the trail. Round trip about 5.5 miles. Slower pace to allow for photographs. Call or email leader for details.

HANGING SPEAR FALLS - [Hike]

Sat, Jul 8, 2017, 6:00 am, Rating: A

Nick Ringelberg - 518-522-6863, nickringelberg@yahoo.com
- We will hike to the secluded 75 foot Hanging Spear Falls situated in a 500 foot gorge via the Mt. Marcy Trail to the Flowed Lands. Starting from the Upper Works parking lot, we'll go past the Henderson Monument on Calamity Pond to the breached dam at the Upper Works. Then we drop about 300 feet down the Opalescent River to reach the falls. Round trip about 10 miles and 2000 feet elevation gain. 6am meet at Panera.

TUESDAY OUTING - PADDLE

Tue, Jul 11, 2017, time TBD, Rating: NR

Maureen Coutant - 745-7834, mojim@roadrunner.com
- We will most likely paddle a section of the Hudson River within an hour of Glens Falls. Call or email the weekend before for details.

LAKE BONITA AND LAKE ANN LOOP-MOREAU LAKE STATE PARK - [Hike]

Sat, Jul 15, 2017, 9:00 am, Rating: C+

Reg Prouty - 518-747-9736, reginaldprouty@gmail.com
- This loop of about 5 miles will begin at the spring on Spier Falls Road and proceed to the outlet of Lake Bonita at the site of the drinking reservoir for the old Mt. McGregor Correctional Facility. We will lunch at the picnic table there and then proceed to the lean-to at Lake Ann. This will be an all day hike as the pace will be relaxed. There is some steep ascent at the beginning but it's mostly in nice, level woods.

MONTCALM POINT HIKE AND SWIM

Sat, Jul 15, 2017, 9:00 am, Rating: B

Neal Van Dorsten - 644-7034, nealvan@aol.com
- A great hike along the shores of Lake George to Montcalm Point. At the end we will take a swim and be transported back by boat. We will meet at public parking across from the Lakeside Lodge in Bolton Landing. Limited availability.

TUESDAY OUTING - FTC - [Hike]

Tue, Jul 18, 2017, time TBD, Rating: B

Maureen Coutant - 745-7834, mojim@roadrunner.com

- This week we will do another Fire Tower Challenge hike. Not sure which one I'll do, so stay tuned. I'll have a better idea when this is in the July-Sept newsletter...stay tuned.

TUESDAY OUTING - PADDLE

Tue, Jul 25, 2017, time TBD, Rating: NR

Maureen Coutant - 745-7834, mojim@roadrunner.com
- We will most likely paddle a section of the Hudson River within an hour of Glens Falls. Call or email the weekend before for details.

WRIGHT, ALGONQUIN AND IROQUOIS - [Hike]

Sat, Jul 29, 2017, 5:30 am, Rating: A+

Wayne Richter - 518-893-7895, wrichter@nycap.rr.com
- Wright, Algonquin and Iroquois are three of the most spectacular summits, all having lots of exposure and great views. Round trip is about 11.6 miles with about 4000 feet of elevation change.

SEVERANCE HILL (NEAL ANDREWS MEMORIAL HIKE)

Sat, Jul 29, 2017, 10:00 am, Rating: C+

Rich Crammond - 518-584-2380
- We will hike to the summit of Severance in honor of one of the Glens Falls / Saratoga Chapter's "great" hike leaders, on his birthday. The trail is a little steep towards the top, 1,693 feet at the summit, and approximately 2 miles round trip. Meet at Severance Mt. trailhead, Route 9, Schroon Lake, 1.5 miles north of the village. Please bring rain gear. We're goin', rain or shine! See you there, hiker buds. Neal will be missed by many ADK members including myself.

RACQUETTE LAKE & ST WILLIAMS - [Paddle/Camp]

Sat, Jul 29, 2017, 7:30 am, Rating: A

Jayne Boudier - 232-9559, boudier@verizon.net
- July 29-30. We could camp at Big Island or Tioga Point, poke around the Needles, or do South Inlet to the falls (and maybe hike to the old Sagamore powerhouse). I'm open to suggestions. The paddle is 8-10 miles, at a moderate to leisurely pace. I have canoes to lend. Starting at 1 pm on Sunday, St. Williams on Long Point is having their annual chicken barbecue and silent auction. Anyone who would like just to do the barbecue can take a free ferry to there from Raquette Lake Village, between 1-4 p.m. on Sunday.

Trip Reviews

Nye and Street Sat, Feb 4, 2017, Wayne Richter and Mike Fuller

- We had snow and fine weather, a great day for snowshoeing. The snow was thick on the branches, making for beautiful high elevation hiking in a winter wonderland. The skies clouded up by the time we got to Street, but it was still beautiful. The most wondrous aspect of this hike, though, was the return of Jen Ferriss's wedding ring. Jen lost her ring hiking the Swards back in 2015. Unknown to Jen, Mike Fuller found the ring a week later. Hiking together in January, they discovered the connection. Mike brought the ring to the Nye and Street hike and ceremoniously presented it to Jen! ([See https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A_cMS8ub0pY&feature=youtu.be.](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A_cMS8ub0pY&feature=youtu.be)) Participants: Jayne Boudier, Jen Ferris, Mike Fuller, Eric Kimmelman, Helena Nevarez, Don Nicoll, Wayne Richter, Nick Ringelberg, Akane Suzuki, Dave White, Jim Zwynenburg.

Monthly Monday Geocache Mon, Feb 6, 2017, Sarah King and Mo Coutant

- We had a great day to do a bit of hiking at Moreau Lake State Park today. Temps were seasonable. We were here to find 13 caches that were placed as part of the Winter 33, 33 caches placed by the state parks in 3 area state parks. This year the parks are Moreau Lake, Grafton Lake and Schodack Island. We donned our grippers shortly after finding the first cache near the parking lot but we really didn't need them as our path followed the road counter clockwise around the lake. They were helpful when we turned onto the trails near the new playground and camping cabins that are being built. There were fishermen on the lake and we could hear the ice groaning, always a cool thing to experience in the winter. We found all the caches, which were placed to be found in the winter (hanging in hemlocks, attached to sticks in hollows of trees, etc). A nice outing and easy finds for our group of 6 (Larry Eaton caught up with us near the beach for cache #11 and did the rest of the series with us.) Participants: Mo Coutant, Larry Eaton, Sarah King, Julie Leonelli, Licia Mackey, Anne Paolano.

Tuesday Outing Tue, Feb 7, 2017, Maureen Coutant

- This week we hiked along a Lake George Land Conservancy property, the Terzian Woodlot, near Silver Bay on Lake George. The hardest part was finding the parking area...which access wasn't plowed, but we were able to pull in off the road and walk up the road to the parking lot. We didn't need snowshoes, but definitely needed microspikes. We'd been here before to go geocaching, but I'd never led a hike here. It's a nice easy hike along a stream in spots that leads to a great view of Lake George. You are on the west side looking over at Black Mountain and Hulets Landing. There's even a little bench to sit on as you enjoy the view! Great outing as usual! Participants: Mo Coutant, Carolyn Curren, Eric Krantz, Licia Mackey, and Rich Zuccaro.

Valentine Snowshoe to Heart Pond Sat, Feb 11, 2017, Reg Prouty

- Five of us had an enjoyable mid February winter day visiting these 3 ponds plus North Pond, which is actually part of Putnam Pond. We had to break trail most of the way but we took turns and Chrissie learned how to break trail. At Rock Pond we had lunch and visited the toppled boiler and cave. Returning via the trail just north of North Pond we found the herd path to Heart Pond and marked a waypoint there so it would be easier to find in the future. All in all it was a great day with some great people. Five hikers: Reg Prouty, Laura Fiske, Bob Before, Ray Boucher, and Chrissie Bombard.

Boreas Pond Ski Trip Sun, Feb 12, 2017, Steve Mackey

- I listened to the weather on the 6:00 news the night before and it sounded like it was going to snow all day starting fairly early. I hate canceling trips just because there is a little bad weather, but this one was justified. It was a big storm, there would have been no views, and the drive home would have been a pain in the butt. Hopefully I can reschedule this trip.

Tuesday Outing Tue, Feb 21, 2017, Maureen Coutant

- I had a request to do a Fire Tower hike during school break week so Babette and Jill, who work for the school system and are working on the Fire Tower Challenge, could join us. They hadn't done Hurricane and even though we did it in the fall, I was up for doing it again as a snowshoe. Actually it was packed down and hard enough that snowshoes weren't necessary since we weren't sinking in at all. But most people wore them so they wouldn't have to carry them! We went up from the Crows parking lot (actually just below it where they stopped plowing) and up the north side. This trail wasn't too steep and fairly easy going on snowshoes. Participants: Leo Demers, Mo Coutant, Jill Eaton, Dan Forbush, Babette Furman, Steve Mackey, Joy Munro, Kathi Noble.

Pine Pond Trail Sat, Feb 25, 2017, Steve Mackey

- Unfortunately I had to cancel this trip. We got that really warm February weather and the snow conditions rapidly deteriorated. Also, the crossing of Oseetah Lake would have been dangerous. We skied the Jack Rabbit Trail the week before and conditions were excellent; it just shows how quickly conditions can change.

Tuesday Outing Tue, Feb 28, 2017, Maureen Coutant

- This week we walked along the Kalabus-Perry Preserve trails east of Saratoga. We had a big group and luckily a few in the group had been there and served as our guides! There are a lot of intersecting trails to keep the mountain bikers busy and hikers coming back to explore. No bikers today as the main trail still had a layer of ice that made microspikes helpful. Always good to go to new areas and afterwards some of us went to the Saratoga Panera for a bite to eat. Thanks Joy for recommending the spot. Participants: Paul Alonzo, Jim Brown, Nancy Burke, Jim Carlson, Mo Coutant, Leo Demers, Paul Dietershagen, Peter Finley, Alan & Liz Gee, Susie Imgrut, Mark Janey, Heidi Kaufmann, Ralph Keating, Sharon Kendall, Mary Knutsen, Eric Krantz, Licia Mackey, Pat Marsh, Joy Munro, Bill Schwarz, Joanne Szot.

Moreau Lake Overlook Sat, Mar 4, 2017, Reg Prouty

- We did not have an official ADK hike due to only 3 people available so three of us went to Lake Bonita instead as it has been added to the trail system at Moreau Lake. This may be rescheduled in the future.

Monthly Monday Geocache Mon, Mar 6, 2017, Sarah King and Mo Coutant

- Our destination for this outing was Grafton Lakes State Park. Our goal was to find 10 winter friendly caches placed by NYS Parks Saratoga-Capital Region staff. These caches are part of the Winter 33, 33 caches placed in three area state parks. It was a cold but bright day. We opted to bring our microspikes but didn't end up using them. All caches were placed along the Long Pond Trail, a 2.5 mile trail around Long Pond, which is the largest of the 6 ponds located at Grafton and where the beach is located. The water level was quite high and we skirted many large ice patches along the trail. It was fun to hear the ice groaning as we walked

Trip Reviews

along. No ice fishermen were out as the ice was unsafe, according to signage, but we did see one fisherman in a small boat in open water. As we came to the far end of the lake, we looked for the beaver that other geocachers had photographed but he was nowhere to be found. We were happy to have Ralph Keating, a new cacher with a new GPS along. Although he had some technical issues with his GPS which we couldn't figure out, he was able to see some typical winter hides. After we completed the loop, we hopped in the car and headed to the Diamond Trail, a one mile long nature/ snowmobile trail that travels from Martin-Dunham Reservoir to Grafton State Park. We successfully found 3 more caches there. All in all, a great day with good company, great weather and homemade treats. Thanks to Ralph for the scones and Licia for the brownies. Participants: Sarah King, Mo Coutant, Licia Mackey, Ralph Keating.

Tuesday Outing Tue, Mar 7, 2017, Maureen Coutant

- This week we explored some of the trails in the Corinth Reservoir Recreation Area. It's just a short walk up a hill to the reservoir. From there we followed the green trail to the Red Beaver Pond trail. Along this trail there were rock outcroppings that would be good homes for porcupines and broken off hemlock branches, but we didn't see any. We did see an old and newer beaver lodge in the pond. We all enjoyed the walk in the woods to get there and back. With the leaves on the trail, we lost the trail a couple of times...but not for long! Nice area and we'll be back to do the other trails to the overlook. Thanks again to Joy for suggesting this spot! Participants: Nancy Burke, Jim & Mo Coutant, Chris Figarsky, Leland & Mary Loose, Licia Mackey, Pat Marsh, Anne Paolano, Joanne Szot.

MacNaughton Mt. Sat, Mar 11, 2017, Nick Ringelberg and Jayne Boudier

- Cancelled due to extreme cold and gale winds forecast (-44 wind chill, 35 mph wind, high of -11).

Prospect Mountain from Lake George Recreation Sat, Mar 11, 2017, Reg Prouty

- Although it was a cold windy raw day atop the summit, the climb from the south was not bad as long as one knows to turn right before the collapsed first bridge. We reached the parking lot to meet the brutal wind. Thank God for my hooded gaiter. We had a quick lunch near the gear wheel and returned to our vehicles by mid afternoon. Four hardy hikers: Reg Prouty, Chris Lincoln, Nao Nozawa, and Tammy VanRyn.

Tuesday Outing Tue, Mar 14, 2017, Maureen Coutant

- This week the blizzard kept us from going out on Tuesday. But it encouraged us to get to Cole's Woods in Glens Falls a couple of nights later for a chance for some great skiing under the lights. Skiing under the lights in Cole's Woods is such a rare treat during these winters of spotty snow, so it was great to get out and enjoy the trails. If you love this spot, look into supporting the Friends of Cole's Woods. Participants: Jim & Mo Coutant, Julie Leonelli, Licia & Steve Mackey, Anne Paolano.

Allen: The Big Nasty in Winter Sat, Mar 18, 2017, Wayne Richter and Mike Fuller

- Every once in a while, Mother Nature takes your expectations for the day and puts them to shame. We had a spectacular day for the last winter weekend of the year. The giant March storm of the previous week gave us beautiful deep snow that covered up the nasty ice of the previous few weeks. We got a quick start in the double-digit below zero valley temperature and soon found ourselves in a rapidly warming day with deep blue skies and no wind. The new bridge over the Opalescent was a pleasure. At the gravel pit, we realized that we were in a giant snowflake that

someone had tramped down in the snow. We had a bit of trouble finding our way through the hill beyond the gravel pit, but Mike soon had us back on the right path. Following lunch at the (frozen) falls at the base of Allen Brook, we began the real ascent, still under a cloudless sky. Trail breaking was not too bad as different groups traded the lead. The strong March sunshine and still air made it a pleasure to stand in the sun and take in the increasingly dramatic views as we rose. We all enjoyed the views from the summit, improved by the elevation from the snow. Those who have been up Allen in the winter know that it has one of the premier butt slides in the high peaks, and today did not disappoint. It was quite the experience, especially for a couple of first timers. Naturally enough, we finished after dark, tired but more than well rewarded. Participants: Joe Babcock, Glenn Balschunat, Chris Collins, Nicole Durocher Beaulne, Rich Elton, Mike Fuller, Eric Kimmelman, Gloria Matveev, Helena Nevarez, Patrick Reilly, Wayne Richter, Akane Suzuki, Patrick Trosian, Mona Wachtel.

Tuesday Outing Tue, Mar 21, 2017, Maureen Coutant

- This week we headed to Moreau State Park and hiked along the trails on the west side of the lake for an hour and a half. A week ago we had almost 2 ft of snow, but it has been melted and packed down enough to make it easy going in snowshoes and in some places could have used microspikes. We explored the area where porcupines hang out, but didn't see any. Eventually we headed to the warming hut for a hot dog roast and apple slices warmed in the fire. Perfect way to end a quick outing to the park! Pretty soon the warming hut will be closed for the busy summer season, so it was great to get one more use out of this wonderful building. Thanks Licia for joining us with brownies! Participants: Richard Bennett, Mo Coutant, Paul Dietershagen, Dan Forbush, Liz Gee, Susie Imgruth, Ralph Keating, Joy Munro, Anne Paolano, Laurie Williams.

Tuesday Outing Tue, Mar 28, 2017, Maureen Coutant

- This week we hiked Cat Mtn from Edgecomb Pond on Thursday rather than Tuesday to take advantage of the best day of the week. We certainly had that with a beautiful blue sky and temps in the low 40s. We took the newish red trail up, which winds up and down on the mountain east of the older yellow trail. When we got to the turn-off some of us switched from microspikes to snowshoes since the red trail wasn't packed down. There wasn't a ton of snow and it was pretty hard packed, so those that stayed in microspikes said it was fine. This trail is a nice hike through the woods with plenty of ups and downs. You come out on the east side of the mountain with views of the lake. It was sunny and warm when we got to the top; we all enjoyed the views, something to eat, each other's company and taking photos. Then we made our way down on the yellow trail. I opened this trip up to allow dogs...so you'll see a couple in the photo gallery if you check out the pictures online. Great trip as always! Participants: Doug Beers, Jim & Mo Coutant, Carolyn Curren, Ania Gaguine, Sarah King, Mary Knutson, Julie Leonelli, Licia Mackey, Pat Marsh, Reg Prouty, Donna & Pete Wood, Barb & Jim Zuccaro, Jim Zwynenburg.

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 Chair 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.

Glens Falls Crandall Library Corner of Glen and South Streets Holden Room (2nd floor of library).

From Exit 18, Broad into South to Glen Street.

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

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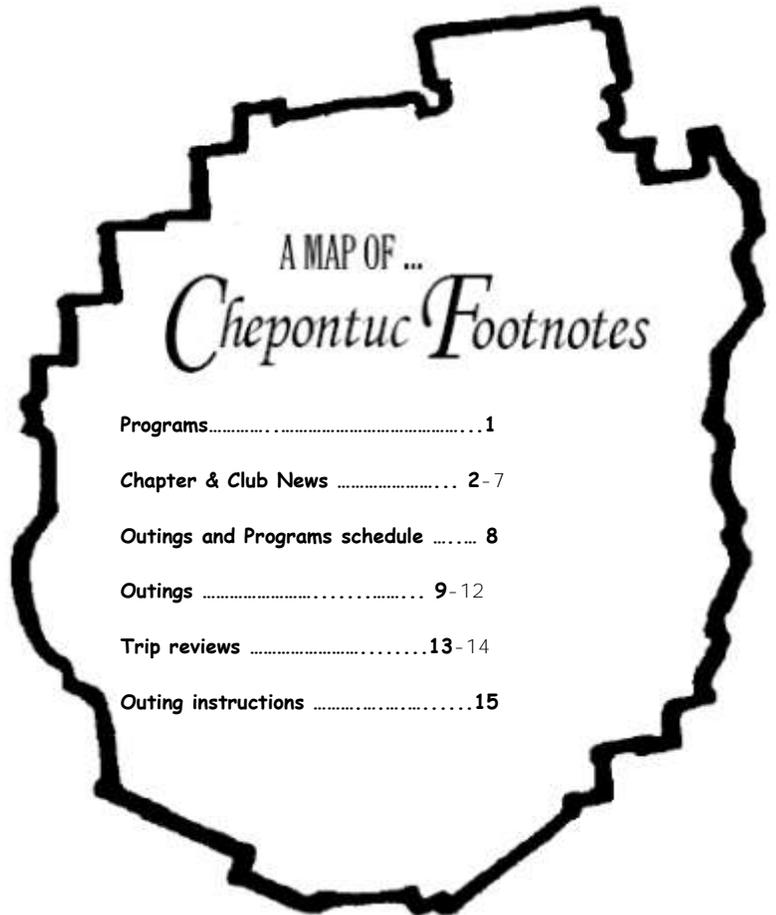
POSTMASTER: CONTAINS DATED MATERIAL.
PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY. THANK YOU.



Are you moving?

If you are moving 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 call to the Club is all you need!



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