



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

Chepontuc Footnotes

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

Conservation News

By Jacki Bave

North Country National Scenic Trail — DEC has issued a Draft Plan on the incorporation of the North Country National Scenic Trail (NCNST) into the Adirondack Park trail system. When completed, the NCNST will be 4,600 miles long, stretching from North Dakota to Vermont. DEC's Draft Adirondack Park Trail Plan proposes a route across the central region of the Adirondack Park, and will be integrated into the Unit Management Plans of each unit traversed by the trail. (Units include the Black River Wild Forest, West Canada Lake Wilderness, Moose River Plains Wild Forest, Jessup River Wild Forest, Siamese Ponds Wilderness, Hudson Gorge Primitive Area, Vanderwhacker Mountain Wild Forest, Hoffman Notch Wilderness and Hammond Pond Wild Forest). The route will follow 70 miles of existing trails and 50 miles of new trail construction within the park, and include temporary connections along roadways until the goal of a 140-mile trail completely off-road and non-motorized can be met.

Three routes were originally considered for the Adirondack portion of the trail. The northern route traversed the high peaks, and was rejected because of the already intense use of this area. The proposed southern route required more new trail construction, and had road and river crossings that were serious obstacles. ADK supports DEC's preferred route, and welcomes the plan to extend the NCNST through the Adirondacks.

It is estimated that the Adirondack portion of the trail will be completed in 10 years. To view details and maps of the route, visit www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/39658.html.

Big Cedar Swamp Coalition Active Again

— The Big Cedar Swamp, located in the Town of Queensbury, has several hundred acres of wetlands, and is a habitat of the red-shouldered hawk and other rare species of plants and animals. This wetland is listed as a priority project for protection in New York State's Open Space Conservation Plan. Preservation of these wetlands is also called for in the Open Space Plan for the Town of Queensbury. The Big Cedar Swamp Coalition, which includes the Glens Falls-Saratoga Chapter of ADK and the Southern Adirondack Audubon Society, was originally formed in the 1980's to preserve and protect this wetland ecosystem. The organization has successfully opposed large scale development that would compromise the health of the wetland. Now another plan for developing a portion of the swamp along Quaker Road has been put before the Queensbury Planning Board. Concerns about the project include the proposal to fill 5 acres of the wetland for construction of a store and parking area, runoff from the parking area (road salts) affecting water quality, and the possibility of the need to widen Quaker road to accommodate increased traffic, resulting in even more wetlands being filled. The Queensbury Town Board has wisely requested further study of the implications of this development on its valuable wetlands before the project obtains approval. The Coalition has voiced its concerns to the town, and will continue to advocate for the Big Cedar Swamp.

Earth Day/Lobby Day — The theme of this year's Earth Day Lobby, planned for April 15, will be global warming. ADK's Advocacy Office and members of local chapters will participate, visiting state legislators and promoting bills on wetlands issues and air quality. If you are interested in helping with this important process, contact Jacki Bave at 587-3754 or jackibave@gmail.com. I'll provide details as they become available.

Receive Chepontuc Footnotes online!

As we are dragged kicking and screaming into the computer age we find that more and more the website is the place to go for information on programs and activities for any organization. We at the Glens Falls-Saratoga Chapter of ADK are experiencing skyrocketing print-

ing and mailing costs for our beloved Chepontuc Footnotes. So here is the bottom line, folks: WE WANT YOU TO READ THE CHEPONTUC; so, if you prefer to read a paper copy, you will continue to receive one. BUT if you would rather receive the Chepontuc via

e-mail, you can simply "opt out" of the paper version. Simply visit our website (www.adk-gfs.org) and enter your name, zip code, and e-mail address into the "Opt Out" form. And should you change your mind, you can opt back to receiving paper copies.

Seeking a Programs Chair

BY JEAN HOLCOMB

Greetings fellow mountaineers! As I write this we are in the depths of winter and I am sitting at my computer wearing two fleeces and two pairs of pants to keep warm. When the cost of fuel rises it is amazing how low you can set your thermostat and still manage more or less comfortably. By the time we go to press, winter will be two-thirds over and we can all be looking for some well-packed trails and warmer weather to fit in one or two more winter peaks or just some skiing in the park. Our outings committee hopes to please everyone.

Now that I am Chapter Chair and Programs Chair I am beginning to feel somewhat like the little red hen. Although I have enjoyed scheduling

and selecting programs for the last six years I think it is time for some new blood and new ideas. This job is a lot of shmoozing with prospective entertainment, a little bit scheduling at two locations and a dab

CHAPTER CHAIR Report

of creative writing to help with publicity. It is a great opportunity for someone who wants to get more involved in the club but isn't necessarily a hiker. We are scheduled through the spring so there is no need to hit the ground running and I am happy to mentor anyone interested as much as necessary. If you're interested, contact Jean Holcomb at: jchhiker@verizon.net or phone: 583-0658 before March 11.

After March 11, contact Maureen Coutant at: mojom@adelphia.net or phone: 745-7834.

Education Corner

To say we had an unexpected last minute turnout of applicants seeking sponsorship for the Camp Colby, Pack Forest and Teen Trails summer youth programs is a pleasurable understatement. We wound up with twenty in all! ...thanks, in part, to counselors from the South Glens Falls and Hadley-Luzerne Middle Schools. The unfortunate part is that our funding doesn't allow us to sponsor all. We do, however, have some fine candidates who have been selected to participate in the Summer 2008 sessions. Ryan Ward of Sprakers will be learning all about trail maintenance as he camps out for a week in the Adirondacks as part of a five day high school project crew headed by experienced ADK leaders. Once orientation at base camp has been completed, he will get some real "hands on" experience in actual trail maintenance and reconstruction as well as experience low impact camping and learn about the natural history surrounding him.

Five others have been selected to be part of the DEC programs. Of these, Rozlynn Flewelling and Christopher Watson, both of Gansevoort, will be participating in a week-long, environmentally oriented, session at Pack Forest. Those who will be part of the Camp Colby experience include Jeannette LaPointe of South Glens Falls, Shepard Urbahn of Saratoga Springs and Johanna Williams of Gansevoort. Alternates to these programs are Kayla Silvia, Xavier Deluke, Carina Davison, and Alexander Howk.

We want to thank all who took the time and cared enough to apply...and to congratulate this year's recipients. To those attending, we look forward to hearing about your experiences at the end of the summer.

Chepontuc Footnotes

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Glens Falls-Saratoga Chapter
ADIRONDACK MOUNTAIN CLUB
P.O. Box 2314 Glens Falls, NY 12801 • www.adk-gfs.org

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Messenger presents Forest Preserve Project

Join us at 7:30 p.m., March 20, at the First Presbyterian Church of Glens Falls for a dynamic and fascinating presentation of Adirondack Mountain Club's Forest Preserve Planning Project by the ADK's own Stuart Mesinger. If you care about the future of our treasured wilderness to the north this is a "can't miss" program.

Stuart Mesinger, the author of ADK's 1997 non-motorized recreation plan has already assisted the Club with its evaluation of the recreation potential of the Champion Timberland holdings in the Adirondacks, an evaluation which led to their purchase by the state in 2006. Stu has more than 25 years of land use planning experience in and around both the Adirondack and Catskill Parks and this project he is heading is both a daunting and vital one.

Along with the Open Space Institute, ADK has embarked on a comprehensive plan for a blueprint for state land ownership in both Adirondack and Catskill parks. A key objective of this project

will be to take stock of the state's land acquisition and open space conserva-

tion efforts to date, evaluate what remains to be done, determine the resources and recreational value of specific parcels and evaluate different means of land protection and conservation, public and private. The study will

make recommendations on how much additional land should be purchased from willing sellers and how much should be protected by conservation easements. There will also be a study of how much of the Forest Preserve will be kept "forever wild" under the state

constitution.

The project is due to wrap up in August so there is still time for "stake holder" input. Stu will be presenting a draft recommendation and planning map using the miracles of modern technology to highlight segments of the checkerboard composition of the Adirondack Park. This area is bigger than Yellowstone and Yosemite National Parks combined and it's we the people of New York who must preserve and manage it, not the US Government. Land preservation is one of the biggest challenges facing our country today and here in New York we have a chance to be a model of what a high density population can do to preserve our dwindling wild places and what management tools we can use to accomplish this task. Be sure to bring your questions and concerns to the presentation!

Mark your calendars for March 20. Directions to the First Presbyterian Church in Glens Falls are on the last page of Chapontuc Footnotes which is also available on our website ADK-GFS.org.

Program

'THE ADIRONDACK
FOREST PRESERVE PLANNING
PROJECT'

WHEN: 7:30 P.M., MARCH 20

WHAT: PRESENTATION BY
STUART MESINGER

WHERE:
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
GLENDS FALLS

Ron Lester goes to the Everest Base Camp

If you have been a member of Glens Falls/Saratoga Chapter of ADK for any time you are probably familiar with Ron Lester. Over the last ten years or so, Ron has evolved from a hiker to a hike leader to a leader of big hikes to a world traveler and mountain conqueror while still remaining the same old Ron, always pleasant, easy going, and willing to take any neophyte hiker up Allen in the worst possible conditions.

Last April Ron decided to go to Nepal. Unlike most of us, Ron doesn't do the "Big Trip" in a big way. He looks in his wallet, sighs and does his adventuring on the budget available. This time he used the Internet to hire himself a guide and a porter whom he met in country. After a brief overnight in Kathmandu, the tiny expedition set off for Lukla on one of those one plane airlines that Nepal is famous for, the kind where you put cotton in your ears and try to relax as you fly through, not over the highest mountains on earth while the single engine labors and those around

you look dazed or ill.

During the trip from Lukla to Everest, Ron enjoyed the beauty and courtesy of the gentle and friendly people of the high villages of Nepal. Having taken himself to Mount McKinley, Aconcagua and many other strange and lesser known high peaks without benefit of porter or roof over head, Ron considered nights in unheated tea rooms to be a luxury. He had plenty of time to take lots of pictures and is now looking to find a way to cut down his collection of over 600.

Ron and his guide, Kaji, arrived at the Everest Base Camp after a leisurely

stroll from Namche Bazaar and then ascended Balapatper, a small peak which at 18,200 feet affords one of the best views anywhere of Everest Peak. On the way back, Ron and company teamed up with a young Japanese and some other internationals to climb Island Peak, a 20,000 footer. At this point, Ron became his own expedition leader setting ropes with his Japanese partner for the group. They made their way to within 150 feet of the summit only to be stopped by vertical ice face with an "old clothesline" as the only climbing aid available. Little did Ron know at this point that his failing guide was actually suffering from a form of pneumonia. As they headed back from the top, Kaji became so ill that Ron ended up carrying him down the mountain and all the way to the clinic outside of Namche Bazaar where he took a week to recover.

We invite you to be present as Ron relives this stunning adventure at a slide show at Saratoga Library at 7 p.m., April 17. Don't miss this one!

Program

'RON LESTER GOES TO
EVEREST BASE CAMP'

WHEN: 7:00 P.M., APRIL 17

WHAT: SLIDE SHOW BY
RON LESTER

WHERE:
SARATOGA LIBRARY



Glens Falls-Saratoga Chapter Club finances for 2007

Last year, the Glens Falls-Saratoga Chapter had a total income of \$25,414 and spent a total of \$26,477. Total revenues included \$22,632 in dues money (the Main club provides the Chapter 30 percent of all Club dues paid by Chapter members), \$2,082 for the Chapter Banquet, \$275 in interest, and \$426 in other revenues.

On the expenditure side, the greatest expenditure was \$11,736 for *Chepontuc Footnotes*, our Chapter newsletter. Other large expenses included \$6,156 for direct and indirect donations to support the activities of the Main Club, \$880 for donations to other organizations, and \$220 for memberships in such organizations. The Chapter spent \$1,383 for the Chapter Picnic and other membership activities, \$3,028 on the Chapter Banquet, and \$1,450 to support youngsters going to DEC Camps and ADK Youth Trail Work Programs. Additional expenses of \$1,622 funded activities of Chapter Committees such as Programs, Outings, Publicity, Trails, Hospitality, Conservation, and the administration functions of the Chapter.

Although the Chapter ended 2007 with a deficit of \$1,064, the total assets of the Chapter at the end of year was \$8,569.

Chapter members may direct questions to John Schneider, Chapter Treasurer.

Join the Club!

When you join the ADK, you can choose to "affiliate" with the Glens Falls-Saratoga Chapter. The Glens Falls-Saratoga Chapter has a membership of more than 2,800, making it the second largest ADK chapter — and it's growing fast! Most members reside in either Saratoga, Warren or Washington Counties of New York State. As a chapter member, you will also receive the bi-monthly *Chepontuc Footnotes* newsletter.

The club offers something for everyone. Activities include hiking, canoeing, cross-country skiing, social events, interesting programs, etc. You do not have to be an athlete or drive long distances to enjoy many of our outings. Hikes range from short, easy walks to more challenging climbs in the High Peaks. Many activities are local — not all require a long drive.

To join, go to www.adk-gfs.org and click on "Join the Club."

Lake George Property Workday

WHEN: Saturday, May 17, 9:00 a.m. to approximately 2:00 p.m.

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 e-mail: mojim@adelphia.net (If you can come a different day to do a project, let me know.)

Bear-proof canisters for rent

8.8" dia. X 12" long, weight 2.7 lbs.

Designed to slip into camper's backpack; holds approximately 6 person-days of food.

These bear-proof canisters are now required in the Eastern High Peaks Zone. Additionally, they are always important to use on any backcountry overnight adventure to any backpacking or canoe camping destination. No more bear bag follies. They're also pine marten-proof!

Rental Rates:

1-3 days \$5.00

4-7 days \$10.00

Please call Jim Schneider, 581-9367 to reserve your rental canister or for more information. Rentals are available exclusively to ADK Glens Falls-Saratoga Chapter members.

Chapter rents snowshoes

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

Chapter Members:

Iversons: \$7.00 per weekend;

\$5.00 per weekday

Sherpas: \$15.00 per weekend;

\$10.00 per weekday

Non-Members:

Iversons: \$10.00 per weekend;

\$7.00 per weekday

Sherpas: \$20.00 per weekend;

\$12.00 per weekday



Outings and programs schedule

DIRECTIONS FOR OUTINGS, PROGRAMS and MEETINGS are on inside rear cover. OUTINGS DETAILS and CONTACT INFO: Check the "Outings" section. UPDATES on the WEB: www.adk-gfs.org. **Programs** held at 7 p.m. on a THURSDAY of each month (except July and August) and alternate between Glens Falls Presbyterian Church and Saratoga Library. **Executive Committee Meetings** held at 7 p.m., on the first WEDNESDAY of the month (except July and August) and alternate between Lake George ADK and Saratoga-Wesley Health. **Outings Committee Meetings** held the 3rd/4th WEDNESDAY, alternating months at 7:00 p.m. and alternate between Lake George ADK and Saratoga (Starbucks or Wesley Health). *YMG = Younger Members Group. *OMG = Older members Group.

Month	Day	Outing Type	Destination	Leader/Contact	Rating	
March	1	SAT	Hike	Holcomb	A+	
	1	SAT	Hike	Gottung	B-	
	2	SUN	Hike	Whitney	B	
	5	WED	Meeting	Holcomb	—	
	5	WED	Walk or Ski	Coutant	C/D	
	7	FRI	XC Ski	Coutant	B	
	8	SAT	Hike	Bouder	A	
	8-9	SAT-SUN	Overnight	Lester	B	
	9	SUN	Snowshoe	Aspholm	A-	
	12	WED	Walk or Ski	Coutant	C/D	
	15	SAT	Hike	Lane	B	
	16	SUN	Snowshoe	Mackey	A+	
	16	SUN	Hike	Bouder	A	
	19	WED	Walk or Ski	Coutant	C/D	
	20	Thurs	Program	Stu Mesinger/Planning Project Adirondack Forest Preserve	Holcomb	—
	22	SAT	Hike	Five Mile Mountain	Gottung	B
	23	SUN	Hike	Moreau State Park	Aspholm	B
	23	WED	Meeting	Outing Leaders Meeting — Saratoga	Whitney	—
	26	WED	Walk or Ski	Wednesday Morning Outing — Lake George Rec Trails	Coutant	C/D
29	SAT	Hike	Peaked Mountain (Near Thirteenth Lake)	VanDorsten	B	
30	SUN	Hike	Porter/Cascade	McCullough	A	
30	SUN	Hike	Cook Mountain	Whitney	B	
April	2	WED	Meeting	Holcomb	—	
	2	WED	Hike	Coutant	C	
	5	SAT	Hike	Desbiens	B-	
	6	SUN	Hike	Bouder/Whitney	A+	
	9	WED	Hike	Coutant	C	
	12	SAT	Hike	Crammond	B	
	13	SUN	Hike	Carpenter	B+	
	19	SAT	Hike	Genett	—	
	19	SAT	Hike	MacKenzie	C	
	20	SUN	Bike	Mackey	B	
	20	SUN	Bushwhack	Holcomb/Bouder	A	
	23	WED	Walk	Coutant	C	
	24	Thurs	Program	Ron Lester Goes to Everest Base Camp	Holcomb	—
	26	SAT	Trail Work	Tongue Mountain	Ellis	—
	26	SAT	Bushwhack	Hot Water and Grassy Pond Bushwhack	Crammond//Bouder	B
	26	SAT	Hike	*YMG* — Noonmark	Lane	B+
	26	SAT	Kids Hike	*Kids Hike* — Moreau State Park	Coutant	C/D
	27	SUN	Hike	Tongue Mountain	MacKenzie	B+
	27	SUN	Hike	Treadway Mountain	Schneider	A-
30	WED	Hike	Leader's Choice	Coutant	C	
May	3	SAT	Spring Bird Walk	Speidel	C	
	3	SAT	Hike	Lane	B+	
	3	SAT	Kids Hike	Coutant	C/D	
	3-5	FRI-SAT	Trail Work	Ellis	—	
	4	SUN	Hike	MacKenzie	B+	
	7	WED	Meeting	Holcomb	—	
	7	WED	Hike	Coutant	C	
	10	SAT	Bushwhack	Crammond/Bouder	A	
	10	SAT	Spring Bird Walk	Speidel	C	
	11	SUN	Hike	Schottman/Whitney	C	
	14	WED	Hike	Coutant	C	
	17	SAT	Hike	*Full Moon* — Saratoga Battlefield	Genett	—
	17	SAT	Work Day	ADK Lake George Property Work Day	Coutant	—
	17	SAT	Hike	Sleeping Beauty	Prouty	B
	17	SAT	Spring Bird Walk	Pack Forest, Warrensburg	Speidel	C
	18	SUN	Hike/Photography	*New Member* — Beaver Meadow Falls	Desbiens/Whitney	B-
	18	SUN	Rafting	Hudson River Gorge	Schroeder	B
	18	SUN	Hike	Mount Adams	MacKenzie	B+
	21	WED	Meeting	Outing Leaders, Lake George ADK	Whitney	—
21	WED	Hike	Hadley Mountain	Coutant	B	
24	SAT	Hike	Dix Mountain	Lane	A+	
25	SUN	Hike	Ampersand	Carpenter	B+	
25	SUN	Paddle	Kayaderoseras Creek	Bouder/Holcomb	B	
26	MON	Hike	**Photography** Hike in the Adirondacks	Whitney	B-	
28	WED	Hike	Leader's Choice	Coutant	C	
31	SAT	Paddle	Garnet Lake	Holcomb/Bouder	B	



Outings

PLEASE NOTE: Designated hikes (family, new member, etc.) are geared for a special purpose, but are not exclusive. If you would like to attend any outing, please call the trip leader. Also, please be sure to refer to the outing instructions at the back of the newsletter to be prepared for the outing.

ONGOING

WEDNESDAY MORNING OUTINGS

Wednesdays, Jan. 2 to March 26

Time: 9ish - ?

Rating: D to B depending on trip

Maureen 745-7834 or mojom@adelphia.net

Join me for brisk, short walks/hikes/or skis in and around Warren and Saratoga counties. Most of the trips will be finished by 11:30 a.m. The trips outside the Glens Falls area will go into the early afternoon. Call or e-mail for meeting times, length of trip and what to bring.

Tentative Schedule (subject to change):

March 5 — Qsby XC;

March 12 — Moreau State Park;

March 19 — Coles Woods;

March 26 — Lake George Rec Trails

April 2 — Feeder Canal

April 9 — Wilton Wildlife Preserve

April 16 — No trip (School break)

April 23 — Lake George Village walk

April 30 — Leader's choice

May 7 — Pilot Knob lookout, etc

May 14 — Coles Woods

May 21 — Hadley Mountain

May 28 — Leader's choice

COLVIN & BLAKE

Saturday, March 1

Time: 6:00 a.m.

Rating A+

Jean Holcomb 583-0658 or jchhiker@verizon.net

There is nothing particularly wonderful about these peaks except that they happen to be on my winter 46 list. There is a nice view from Colvin but Blake is just a back and forth slog which we must do as we are not authorized to snowshoe on the Ausable Lakes. As my pace is moderate at best bring headlamps. With the up and down on Blake I would say total ascent is close to 4,000. The distance is about 15-16 miles with 7 miles of it the round trip on the Ausable Club road, so even if we are in the dark coming home we should be on the road by dusk. MSR snowshoes are recommended or snowshoes and crampons. Bad weather cancels.

***YMG* — SPRUCE MOUNTAIN**

Saturday, March 1

Time: 9:00 a.m. (meeting place TBD)

Rating: B-

Jessica Gottung 725-3859

This is a short, not too steep climb to one of the fire towers. This tower is in need of repair and not recommended for climbing. Get a nice workout in the morning and be home with plenty of time to enjoy the afternoon! Leader may bring her dog.

INTRO TO THE WINTER HIGH PEAKS — CASCADE

Sunday, March 2

Time: 7:30 am

Rating: B

Jack Whitney 793-9210 or jack1758@adelphia.net

For anyone wanting to hike a High Peak in the winter, this is one of the easiest to ascend with relatively short mileage. Roundtrip distance is about 5 miles with an elevation gain of 1,940 feet. 360-degree views are to be had from the summit (weather cooperating).

WEDNESDAY MORNING OUTING — QBY XC SKI TRAIL

Wednesday, March 5

Time: 9-?

Rating: C/D

Maureen 745-7834 or mojom@adelphia.net

See beginning of "Outings" section.

CRANDALL PARK EVENING XC SKI

Friday, March 7

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Rating: B

Maureen Coutant 745-7834 or mojom@adelphia.net

We'll be skiing through Crandall Park — as long as we have enough snow for the lights to be on! We'll meet behind Inside Edge on Glen Street near the trail entrance and ski for about an hour or so. Afterward, we'll try to find somewhere for a bite to eat or some hot coffee or cocoa to warm up. Call for more info.

BLUEBERRY AND PORTER RIDGE

Saturday, March 8

Time: 6:30 a.m.

Rating: A

Jayne Boudier 793-3770

This is the longest, most interesting way to do Porter. Eight miles, 3,300 feet of ascent, moderate pace.

WINTER CAMPING — NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

Saturday, March 8

Time: 3:00 p.m.

Rating: B

Ron Lester 899-4187 or muleskinner46er@hotmail.com

We will camp atop Stewart's Ledge, a 20-minute hike from the Buck Mountain trailhead. It has an awesome view of Lake George. I have tent space for 5 people and a couple of extra stoves and sleeping bags, for the newbies lacking gear. Just bring your enthusiasm, warm parka and sense of humor.



AVALANCHE PASS SNOWSHOE

Sunday, March 9

Time: 6:30 a.m.

Rating: A-

Bob Aspholm 798-8599 or pine4422@yahoo.com

Again the winter classic; about 10 miles round trip and about 1,000' of climbing. Bring regular winter gear, snowshoes, some hot food or drink, and plenty of willpower.

WEDNESDAY MORNING OUTING — MOREAU STATE PARK

Wednesday, March 12

Time: 9-?

Rating: C/D

Maureen 745-7834 or mojim@adelphia.net

See beginning of "Outings" section.

***YMG/FIRE TOWER CHALLENGE* —**

OWLS HEAD MOUNTAIN

Saturday, March 15

Time: 7:00 a.m.

Rating: B

Jonathan Lane 744-4594 or saratoghiker@infogorp.com

This hike is geared toward hikers in their 20s and 30s, but is open to anyone who is young at heart. This is an isolated peak that offers a panoramic view of the surrounding area. Round trip distance is about 6.2 miles with 1,150' elevation change. Rain will cancel.

HORNET NOTCH ADVENTURE BUSHWHACK

Sunday, March 16

Time: 6:30 a.m.

Rating: A

Jayne Boudier 793-3770

We'll start at the Hoffman Notch Blue Ridge trailhead. This hike can possibly be done as a loop, and we may climb Hornet Cobbles. Eight miles, 1,300 ft. ascent, moderate pace, difficulty — I don't know.

HAYSTACK MOUNTAIN

Sunday March 16

Time 6:00 a.m.

Rating A+

Steve Mackey 793-6484 or smackey@localnet.com

The plan is to ski from South Meadows until the bridge that crosses Phelps Brook on the Van Hoesenberg Trail (just beyond the Phelps turnoff). However, if there are some snowshoers that don't want to ski, they could leave from the LOJ and meet us at Marcy Dam (at least three people). From the bridge we will all snowshoe and continue toward Marcy. Just before the Range Trail, I hope to bushwhack a short distance and cut the corner and save some wasted elevation gain. I'll bring a rope if I need to, for the climb down Little Haystack. Expect full winter conditions, need crampons, snowshoes, and maybe skis. Around 18 miles round trip.

WEDNESDAY MORNING OUTING — COLES WOODS

Wednesday, March 19

Time: 9-?

Rating: C/D

Maureen 745-7834 or mojim@adelphia.net

See beginning of "Outings" section.

***YMG* — FIVE MILE MOUNTAIN**

Saturday, March 22

Time: 8:30 a.m.

Rating: B

Jessica Gottung 725-3859

We will hike or snowshoe from Clay Meadow trailhead to this summit. A couple of steep spots along the way but we will take an easy pace with few stops. Leader may bring her dog.

MOREAU LAKE OVERLOOK

Easter Sunday, March 23

Time: Noon; meet at Moreau Lake park entrance

Rating: B

Bob Aspholm 798-8599 or pine4422@yahoo.com

We'll walk around the lake and up the trail to the upper (eastern) overlook. Great views over to Vermont and of Washington County. Make sure to bring at least a trail lunch, water and also be prepared for muddy conditions. About 5 miles trip and about 1,000' ascent.

WEDNESDAY MORNING OUTING — LAKE GEORGE RECREATION TRAILS

Wednesday, March 26

Time: 9-?

Rating: C/D

Maureen 745-7834 or mojim@adelphia.net

See beginning of "Outings" section.

PEAKED MOUNTAIN

Saturday March 29

Time: TBD

Rating: B

Neal Van Dorsten 518-644-9453 or Nealvan@aol.com

This is a really pretty and diverse hike, first traversing a path along Thirteenth Lake, then following a cascading stream past several swampy fields to a pond, then a short hike to the top of Peaked Mountain. It is really a rather beautiful hike and offers great views as well as a lot of different terrain. This is roughly 6 miles round trip, with no real climbing, until the last half mile to the top of the mountain. Leader may bring dog.



PORTER AND CASCADE

Sunday, March 30

Time: 7:00 a.m.

Rating: A

Pat McCullough 798-3186 or pmccul@gmail.com

I am officially ordering a beautiful day with lots of sunshine for this hike. Anyone is welcome, but I am really leading this hike for rookies or newcomers to the world of winter hiking in the High Peaks. If you would like to try a peak in winter conditions but have been unsure of yourself, this is the trip for you. See why many of us would rather hike during the winter than at any other time of the year. Less than 9 miles and about 2,200 feet of vertical.

COOK MOUNTAIN

Sunday, March 30

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Rating: B-

Jack Whitney 793-9210 or jack1758@adelphia.net

This is the northernmost climb in the Lake George Basin region. Round trip distance is 3.4 miles with 895 ft. of elevation gain. Views are to the south and east. This is a historic area and we will start the hike near the area where Abercrombie landed with 15,000 men to attack Fort Ticonderoga during the French and Indian War. Come out and enjoy the spring hiking.

WEDNESDAY MORNING OUTING — FEEDER CANAL

Wednesday, April 2

Time: 9-?

Rating: C/D

Maureen 745-7834 or mojim@adelphia.net

See beginning of "Outings" section.

NEW MEMBER HIKE/FIRE TOWER — HADLEY MOUNTAIN

Saturday, April 5

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Rating: B

Pat Desbiens 899-9688; cell 316-1244; pdesbien@nycap.rr.com

Hadley Mountain offers some of the most spectacular views in the Southern Adirondacks. There is a restored fire tower on the summit with a caretaker's cabin just below the summit. This is a short hike (3.6 miles round trip with 1,525 ft. of elevation gain) with a steady ascent and a level section in the middle. The pace will be relaxed and weather permitting lunch on the summit. Heavy rain or thunderstorms will cancel the hike. New members are encouraged to participate. Please call to sign up for the hike no later than 6 p.m., Friday, April 4.

AVALANCHE MOUNTAIN BUSHWHACK

Sunday, April 6

Time: 7:00 a.m.

Rating: A

Jayne Boudier 793-3770

Jack Whitney 793-9210 or jack1758@adelphia.net

This is number 63 of the ADK 100 Highest, and is supposed to have some views. Ten miles (3 trailless, thick and steep), 1,600 feet ascent, and moderate pace. From ADK Loj.

WEDNESDAY MORNING OUTING — WILTON WILDLIFE PRESERVE

Wednesday, April 9

Time: 9-?

Rating: C/D

Maureen 745-7834 or mojim@adelphia.net

See beginning of "Outings" section.

SARATOGA NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

Saturday, April 12

Time: 9:00 a.m.; meet at Visitors Parking Lot off Route 32, Stillwater

Rating: B

Rich Crammond 584-2380

Moderately strenuous 7-8 mile hike through forest, fields and tour road. Easy pace. (Think Spring = Mud)

FIRE TOWER — HURRICANE MOUNTAIN

Sunday, April 13

Time: 7:00 a.m.

Rating: B+

Bill Carpenter 793-5506 or pcarp@verizon.net

Enjoy more than superb views! Getting ready for the High Peaks is worthwhile any time of the year. We will be going in from Route 9N, approximately 5.3 mile road trip.

FINAL SEASON — FULL MOONER HIKE — SARATOGA BATTLEFIELD

Saturday, April 19, 2008

Time: Contact leader for details

Aileen Genett 482-9101 (no later than 9:00 p.m. Friday, April 18) or solice212@yahoo.com

This is a multi-group outing, monthly event and a rare opportunity to enjoy this National Park during the off hours. Come one, come all to the full moon walk through the Saratoga Battlefield. We'll walk 4 miles along the Tour Road to the Nielsen Farmhouse and some trails. Dress appropriately in layers, walking shoes, gloves, layers, w/h20 and flashlight, etc.



PILOT KNOB GAZEBO AND WATERFALL

Saturday, April 19

Time: 12:30 p.m.

Rating: C

Lorraine MacKenzie: 656-3645 or lorrainem@safaritelecom.com

We will be hiking in a nature preserve made possible by the Lake George Land Conservancy. We will first follow the orange trail up to a gazebo overlooking Lake George. Then onto the blue trail to the waterfall. Slow pace, 600 ft. of ascent. Major rewards for minimal effort. Rain cancels. Call or e-mail leader for details and to sign up.

ROAD BIKE — NEWCOMB TO LONG LAKE

Sunday, April 20

Time: 7:30 a.m.

Rating: B

Steve Mackey 793-6484, or smackey@localnet.com

Last year we biked to Newcomb from North Hudson, and it was a little far and a little hilly, so this year I thought we'll drive to Newcomb and park at the Newcomb Interpretive Center and then ride to Long Lake and back. The best parts about last year, were that there was very little traffic and the great deal of wildlife we saw, so this year we can save the good parts and leave out some of the bad. Total distance is around 28 miles, and we have lots of (a few) stores and restaurants to get snacks or lunch at.

ROUND POND LOOP BUSHWHACK

Sunday, April 20

Time: 7:00 a.m.

Rating: A

Jean Holcomb 583-0658 or jchhiker@verizon.net

Jayne Boudier 793-3770

This old "Neal Andrews" hike is a good one in April, the elevation is low and the little peaks get plenty of sun. This is how it goes: Drop a car at the Dix trailhead on Route 73 and then backtrack to the North Fork of the Bouquet River parking area a few miles down the road. Start in along the river then turn right "whacking" over two or three 2,000-foot rock tops hopefully ending up at Round Pond where we can follow the marked trail out to the car. The basic hike is only about five or six miles with no more than 2,000 ft. elevation altogether. However, conditions for bushwhacking are variable, and April is a tricky month with potentially deep snow in the woods. Also, and most importantly, as this is a Jayne hike we WILL be in the woods all day, hence an "A" rating.

WEDNESDAY MORNING OUTING — LAKE GEORGE VILLAGE WALK

Wednesday, April 23

Time: 9-?

Rating: C/D

Maureen 745-7834 or mojim@adelphia.net

See beginning of "Outings" section.

TONGUE MOUNTAIN TRAILWORK

Saturday, April 26

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Rating: B

Tom Ellis 638-6139

We will spot a car at Clay Meadows starting at the northern end. We will clear the trail to Deer Leap, then continue south to the trail junction down to Clay Meadows. Total distance is about 6 miles. The leader will furnish necessary equipment.

HOT WATER AND GRASSY POND BUSHWHACK

Saturday, April 26

Time: 8:30-9:00 a.m. at Rich's camp (0.6 miles on Ridge Road off Route 28N in Minerva)

Rating: B

Rich Crammond 584-2380 or Jayne Boudier 793-3770

This hike will be approximately 6.5 miles round trip with approximately 900 ft. of elevation change. An inactive railroad track hike and caves are part of this bushwhack. This will be a loop trip.

YMG — 100 HIGHEST — NOONMARK MOUNTAIN

Saturday, April 26

Time: 8:00 a.m.

Rating: B+

Jonathan Lane 744-4594 or saratoghiker@infogorp.com

This hike is geared toward hikers in their 20s and 30s, but is open to anyone who is looking to have fun. This peak offers some great views, but be prepared with crampons and/or stabilizers in case we encounter ice. The group will decide which route we take, with round trip distance being either 4.2 miles or 6.6 miles. Rain will cancel.

KIDS HIKE — MOREAU STATE PARK, BUMPS POND WALK

Saturday, April 26

Time: TBD

Rating: C/D

Maureen Coutant 745-7834 or mojim@adelphia.net

If the trails are dry enough we'll walk from the beach around bumps pond. This easy walk will provide the kids with examples of beaver activity and a view of their lodge. If the trails are too wet ... we'll make other plans. Call or e-mail for more information.

TONGUE MOUNTAIN

Sunday April 27

Time 9:00 a.m.

Rating: B+

Lorraine MacKenzie: 656-3645 or lorrainem@safaritelecom.com

We will spot a car at the Clay Meadow trailhead and start at the next one 5 miles north. We'll hike over 5 Mile Mountain to the 5th Peak Lean-to then double back to the 5 Mile Trail. Over 1,200 ft of ascent and 8 miles distance. Hopefully the snakes will still be sleeping and we will only encounter beautiful views of Lake George. Rain cancels. Call or e-mail leader for details and to sign up



TREADWAY MOUNTAIN

Sunday, April 27

Time: 7:00 a.m.

Rating: A-

Jim Schneider 581-9367

This gem of a mountain has a wonderful open summit providing terrific views. We will begin at the Putnam Pond Campground heading south around the pond and then due west up to the top. Our return will involve bushwhacking in a northwesterly direction towards Crab Pond and joining the Tubmill Marsh Trail. The return to the campground will take us by Rock Pond, North Pond, and Heart Pond. Ascent: 900 feet. Distance: approximately 9-10 miles, about 1 mile off-trail.

WEDNESDAY MORNING OUTING — LEADER'S CHOICE

Wednesday, April 30

Time: 9-?

Rating: C/D

Maureen 745-7834 or mojom@adelphia.net

See beginning of "Outings" section.

SPRING BIRD WALK — PEBBLES ISLAND STATE PARK

Saturday, May 3

Time: 8:00 a.m., Waterford Harbor Visitor Center

Rating: C

Rich Speidel 623-2587

Peebles Island offers 138 acres of fields, woods, and solitude amid urban surroundings. Its location at the confluence of the Mohawk and Hudson Rivers provides habitat for a variety of birds. We will walk across the Mohawk on a historic railroad bridge, then circle the island at a leisurely pace. Along with a host of active songbirds, waterfowl are often seen from the cliffs, and a bald eagle or osprey is possible. Please bring binoculars, insect repellent, and good walking shoes. We will record the bird species identified.

The rain date is Sunday, May 4.

YMG/FIRE TOWER CHALLENGE — LYON MOUNTAIN

Saturday, May 3

Time: 7:00 a.m.

Rating: B+

Jonathan Lane 744-4594 or saratoghiker@infogorp.com

This hike is geared toward hikers in their 20s and 30s, but is open to anyone looking for a truly international view. The trail up Lyon is a rigorous High Peak-style trail and is steep for much of the climb. We'll go at an easy pace. Distance is about 5 miles with an elevation gain of 1,790 ft. Rain will cancel.

KIDS HIKE — PILOT KNOB

Saturday, May 3

Time: TBD

Rating: C/D

Maureen Coutant 745-7834 or mojom@adelphia.net

Join us on a wildflower hike. Last year around this time we saw many examples. Bring your notebook and crayons. Of course a lunch for on top in the gazebo. Call or e-mail for meeting time and more info.

LONG LAKE TRAILWORK

Friday-Sunday, May 3-5

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Rating: B

Tom Ellis 639-6139

We will meet at Long Lake at 9 a.m., Friday and will stay at Kelly's Point. The first day we will cut to Shattuck Clearing. Saturday will be a project day and clearing from Plumbly's to Kelly's. Sunday we will cut out to Long Lake Village. The chapter will furnish meals for 2.5 days. Sign up early because of limited space in boats.

BUCK MOUNTAIN

Sunday, May 4

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Rating: B+

Lorraine MacKenzie: 656-3645 or lorrainem@safaritelecom.com

This mountain has beautiful views of Lake George and the Narrows from its open rock summit. It's well worth the 2,000 ft. of ascent and 6.6 miles distance. Rain cancels. Call or e-mail leader for details and to sign up

WEDNESDAY MORNING OUTING — PILOT KNOB LOOKOUT

Wednesday, May 7

Time: 9-?

Rating: C/D

Maureen 745-7834 or mojom@adelphia.net

See beginning of "Outings" section.

BLACK MOUNTAIN PONDS BUSHWHACK

Saturday, May 10

Time: 8:30-9:00 a.m. at Rich's camp (0.6 miles on Ridge Road off Route 28N in Minerva)

Rating: A

Rich Crammond 584-2380 or Jayne Boudier 793-3770

This hike will be approximately 10.5 miles round trip with approximately 900 ft. of elevation change. An inactive railroad track and trestle and two short side hikes are part of this outing.



SPRING BIRD WALK — WILTON WILDLIFE PRESERVE & PARK

Saturday, May 10

Time: 7:30 a.m., Camp Saratoga, Scout Road

Rating: C

Rich Speidel 623-2587

May is the best month to hear and see migratory songbirds in our area. Field and forest come alive with a rich variety of songs, and some species dazzle with tropical colors. This will be a leisurely walk along the trails and varied habitats of Camp Saratoga. Depending on bird activity, we hope to do more stopping and looking and less walking. Please bring binoculars and insect repellent. We will keep track of the bird species identified. The rain date is Sunday, May 11.

WILDFLOWER HIKE — HADLEY MOUNTAIN

Sunday, May 11

Time: 8:15 a.m.

Rating: B

Jack Whitney 793-9210 or jack1758@adelphia.net

This will be a co-chapter hike with the Schenectady ADK chapter. Come meet the legendary Naturalist Ruth Schottman author of "Trailside Notes." She also has written many articles {Trailside Notes} in *Adirondac* magazine. The pace will be slow allowing Ruth to explain and give participants time to take some notes and pictures.

WEDNESDAY MORNING OUTING — COLES WOODS

Wednesday, May 14

Time: 9-?

Rating: C/D

Maureen 745-7834 or mojim@adelphia.net

See beginning of "Outings" section.

***FINAL SEASON* — FULL MOONER HIKE — SARATOGA BATTLEFIELD**

Saturday, May 17

Time: Contact leader for details

Aileen Genett 482-9101 (no later than 9:00 p.m., Friday, May. 16) or solice212@yahoo.com

This is a multi-group outing, monthly event and a rare opportunity to enjoy this National Park during the off-hours. Come one, come all to the full moon walk through Saratoga Battlefield. We'll walk 4 miles along the Tour Road to the Nielsen Farmhouse and some trails. Dress appropriately in layers, walking shoes, gloves, layers, w/ h20 and flashlight, etc.

SLEEPING BEAUTY

Saturday, May 17

Rating: B-

Time: 8:00 a.m.

Reg Prouty 747-9736

This 7.6-mile loop starts at Dacy Clearing and is a nice, moderate hike to the summit of Sleeping Beauty Mountain overlooking Lake George. Its 2,347 feet summit affords excellent views and the wildflowers should be out at this time of year. There will be 1,038 feet of ascent at a moderate pace with a relaxing lunch on top.

SPRING BIRD WALK — PACK FOREST, WARRENSBURG

Saturday, May 17

Time: 8:00 a.m., Pack Forest (3/4 mile north of Routes 9 & 28)

Rating: C

Rich Speidel 623-2587

This will be a leisurely walk through the woods and along the waters of Pack Forest. There will be plenty of stops to observe the migratory and native birds crossing our path. We will visit the towering Grandmothers Tree, a 175-foot tall white pine some 315 years old. Please bring binoculars and insect repellent. We hope to exceed the 35 bird species identified last year. The rain date is Sunday, May 18.

***NEW MEMBER HIKE* — PHOTOGRAPHY HIKE WATERFALL HIKE TO BEAVER MEADOW FALLS**

Sunday, May 18

Time: 7:30 a.m.

Rating: B-

Pat Desbiens 899-9688; cell 316-1244; pdesbien@nycap.rr.com

Jack Whitney 793-9210 or jack1758@adelphia.net

All are welcome on this hike — you do not have to be a new member to join in. The pace will be slow with plenty of opportunities to take photographs. Round trip distance will be about 6-7 miles with minimal elevation gain. We have the option of walking up the Lake Road at St. Hubert's or taking the West River Trail up to one of the most beautiful and most photographed waterfalls in the Adirondacks. Children are welcome on this hike as long as they can do a walk of this distance. Dogs are not allowed in this area of the Adirondacks. Rain will cancel.

HUDSON RIVER GORGE WHITEWATER RAFTING TRIP

Sunday, May 18

Time: 8:30 a.m., Wild Waters Outdoor Center (1123 Route 28, The Glen, Warrensburg, NY)

Rating: B

John Schroeder 798-4734

The Hudson River Gorge offers 16 miles of spectacular whitewater and beautiful scenery. This full-day, class III-IV whitewater trip, should provide our group with plenty of adventure. Wild Waters has offered our group a very enticing rate of \$60 per person. This price includes all safety equipment, wetsuits, booties, lunch on the river, transportation, and a New York State licensed guide on each raft. An optional dinner can be added to the trip for an additional \$7.50, which I would recommend, as it offers a nice chance to mingle after the trip. The date of our trip should provide us with the best of both worlds; early enough in the season for good water levels, but not so early that the cold weather and cold water make it difficult to stay warm. Minimum age is 12 years old. Please call Wild Waters directly at 1-800-867-2335 to book your trip, and be sure to mention that you are with John Schroeder's ADK group rafting on Sunday, May 18.



Outings

***FIRE TOWER* — MOUNT ADAMS**

Sunday, May 18

Time 8:00 a.m.

Rating: B+

Lorraine MacKenzie 656-3645 or lorrainem@safaritelecom.com

This hike starts with an iron suspension bridge over the Hudson and on to a floating plank wood boardwalk over Lake Jimmy. The climb to the top is 1,800 feet in 1.6 miles — a lot of up for a short distance! The beautiful views of the High Peaks make it all worthwhile. Rain cancels. Call or e-mail leader for details and to sign up.

WEDNESDAY MORNING OUTING — HADLEY MTN.

Wednesday, May 21

Time: 9-?

Rating: C/D

Maureen 745-7834 or mojim@adelphia.net

See beginning of "Outings" section.

***YMG* — *HIGH PEAK* — DIX MOUNTAIN**

Saturday, May 24

Time: 6:30 a.m.

Rating: A+

Jonathan Lane 744-4594 or saratoghiker@infogorp.com

This hike is geared toward hikers in their 20s and 30s, but is open to anyone who is young at heart. This 6th highest Adirondack peak offers some spectacular views and shouldn't be missed. We will ascend over the Beckhorn and complete a loop via Hunters Pass. Pace will be moderate with plenty of time for photos. Round trip distance is about 14 miles. Please note: Just Dix — we will not be doing Hough on this hike. Rain will cancel.

AMPERSAND MOUNTAIN

Sunday, May 25

Time: 7:00 a.m.

Rating: A-

Bill Carpenter 793-5506 or pcarp@verizon.net

Getting ready for the High Peaks? This hike is for you. From the top, gaze into the bold face of the Seward Range, and then, to the distant High Peaks. On turning, one sees the Saranac Lake country. Round trip is approximately 5 hours, 5.4 miles round trip with 1,775 feet of elevation change.

KAYADEROSSERAS CREEK PADDLE

Sunday, May 25

Time: 7:00 a.m. (location to be decided)

Rating: B

Jean Holcomb 583-0658 or jchhiker@verizon.net

Jayne Boudier 793-3770

As I write this in January, who knows what the river will be like in May. I plan to run it before the trip. There are some different possibilities. We could put in at Kelly Park in Ballston Spa or the Spa Park access off North Line Road and go as far as Saratoga Lake or cut over to Lake Lonely and take out there, or put in at Saratoga Lake and do a there and back, so 2 or 3 hours of paddling depending. The good news is that this is a Saratoga County river so no big drive to get there. Kayaks or small canoes would be easiest as there could be walkover situations.

WEDNESDAY MORNING OUTING — LEADER'S CHOICE

Wednesday, May 28

Time: 9-?

Rating: C/D

Maureen 745-7834 or mojim@adelphia.net

See beginning of "Outings" section.

GARNET LAKE CANOE

Saturday, May 31

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Rating: B

Jayne Boudier 793-3770

Jean Holcomb 583-0658 or jchhiker@verizon.net

This small lake near Crane Mountain has a leisurely afternoon's worth of paddling around its undeveloped southern end, with nice places to explore and land. We are hoping pink orchids are blooming for Jean on the floating bog like islands. Jayne is going to stay and camp, and anyone else is welcome. We could paddle around in the morning mist, hike up to Lixard Pond, or do Mount Blue in the morning cool. We have a spare canoe.

VERMONT SECRET ORCHID PHOTO HIKE

Sunday, June 1

Time: 8:00 a.m.

Rating: C+

Jean Holcomb 583-0658 or jchhiker@verizon.net

Jack Whitney 793-9210 or jack1758@adelphia.net

Half the fun of this hike is taking Jack's back roads way to Vermont. Many twists and turns so our secret location should stay secret, perhaps even from us. This is a short hike on a dirt road (maybe 2 miles round trip), but the road is steep so you need to be in good health to do the hike. The pace will be slooow as Jack will be taking pictures and I will be bird watching and identifying wildflowers. We should be home by midafternoon if we don't get lost. Also, hike gets a lot faster if we encounter black flies or thunderstorms.

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Pitchoff Mountain, November 25, Jack Whitney/ Jayne Boudier, 8 participants

- It wasn't officially winter yet but it sure was on this day in the Adirondacks. There was snow but stabilizers seemed to work best for the day. The sky started out cloudy but turned to a bright blue as the day progressed allowing for great views to Cascade and Porter, as well as, in the direction of Avalanche Pass. A short side trip off the trail to the Balancing Rock proved well worth the time spent for photographic opportunities. All in all, another rewarding day in the Adirondacks. Participants: Ray Bouchard, Pat Desbiens, Charlotte Smith, John Wimmer, Sandy Yellen, John Hartzell, Jayne Boudier, Jack Whitney.

Mostly Uphill or Mostly Downhill, December 1, Steve Mackey, 4 participants

- We had a full-blown winter outing, even though winter was still a few weeks away. It was clear and cold with about 8 inches of snow. We all hiked up because there were only four of us, so we spotted a car on the Whiteface Road and all rode down to the starting trailhead in Bill's truck (some in the freezing back). We all climbed Morgan Mountain (one of the 100 highest) and it was fairly easy though a little hard to tell exactly where the summit was. Participants: Bill Carpenter, Steve Mackey, Neal Andrews (in spirit) and two lovely ladies from down south whose names I don't have because my wife sent the release form in.

Moreau State Park Trails, December 2, Bill Schwarz, 8 participants

- Brrr! This may have been one of our coldest outings without snow (although it was threatening, and we did have flurries) — 15 degrees at the start. We marched out to Mud Pond from the park's main entrance, and then worked uphill to an overlook above Moreau Lake itself. There was a quick food-and-drink stop and then we headed back to get warm, for a total of five miles. The hundreds of geese the leader had seen on the lake several days earlier had taken winter's hint and headed south. Leader will try the western ridge trails again next fall — this time before hunting season! Participants: Brenda Arley, Raymond Bouchard, Pat Desbiens, Margaret Litwin, Bill Schwarz, Charlotte Smith, Jack Whitney, Sandy Yellin.

Saratoga Battlefield, December 5, Jean Holcomb, 7 participants

- This was just a really nice hike on a beautiful day. The weather was not too cold, the snow was fluffy and smooth, and we had a lovely, happy group of "shoers" who were fun to be with. I highly recommend Saratoga Battlefield as a place to snowshoe or ski. Parking is free in the winter, the rangers are friendly and offer a clean bathroom, and the territory is limitless. I was hoping for some birds but none appeared until late in the hike when someone spotted a Great Blue Heron winging its way to the Hudson. There were also some lovely bluebirds hanging around the visitor center when we got back. Participants: Tim Ries, Pat McPhee, Jason and Amy Lasky, The Gees, Rich Crammond, Jean Holcomb.

Oxshoe Pond, December 8, Jayne Boudier and Reg Prouty, 5 participants

- It was a warm December morning as we made our way into the Pharaoh Lake Wilderness Area and we reached Oxshoe pond in a little over 1-and-a-half hours. We voted unanimously to go on to Crab and Horseshoe ponds, making the round trip about 9 miles. The hiking was easy and we did not need to use the snowshoes yet but did need our ice grippers in places. A quick snow squall came up while we were lunching at the Oxshoe Pond lean-to, but the sun came out brightly when we reached the head of the peninsula at Horseshoe Pond. All in all, it was a great day to be in the woods. Some of us stopped at DeCeaser's in Schroom Lake for dinner. Participants: Jayne Boudier, Reg Prouty, Charlotte Smith, Rich Crammond, and Liz Marchese, who had her first hike with us.

Camp Saratoga, December 22, Rich Crammond, 5 participants

- This was a great day to strap on the old snowshoes. Hiking through tall pines covered with snow and seeing the Great Blue Heron plus the Belted Kingfisher this late in the year was so cool. It just doesn't get better than that! Thanks to my fellow hikers for being good people to share this outing. Participants: Rich Speidel, Tedi Demartino, Dan Heim, Barb Northrup, Rich Crammond.

Erebus Mountain, December 30, Bob Aspholm and Jayne Boudier, 5 participants

- We had a beautiful, partly sunny day, on snowshoes. Followed the overgrown trail with 1967 markers to Bumps Pond overlook, and lots of lawn chair webbing "markers" for most of the rest of the way. Got the unique Erebus view over the Narrows, and saw Gore Mountain was making snow. Great trip, happy group! Participants: Bob Aspholm, Jayne Boudier, Allen Cherapin, Kathy Quoi, John Susko.

Buck Mountain from the lakeside, January 1, Bob Aspholm and Reg Prouty, 7 participants

- We started this hike with the snow blowing and several inches to fall during the day which was fun to hike in but made for minimal viewing at the summit. It wasn't very cold but the snow started to get a little wet as the day wore on. As we approached the steep grade just below the summit the snow was blowing almost horizontal and it looked a little intimidating but we made it up thanks to some trail breaking by Ken. A great outing for New Year's Day. Participants: Bob Aspholm, Reg Prouty, Ray Bouche, Jayne Boudier, Ken Lewis, Kathy Quoi, John Wimmer.

Wednesday Morning Ski — Saratoga Battlefield, January 2, Maureen Coutant, 4 participants

- We left Glens Falls in a light snow and by the time we got down to the Park we were rewarded with a nice layer of fresh snow. The trail was perfect and with the fresh snow on the trees we all wished we had our cameras. We saw many deer and were thrilled to see the bluebirds who frequent the visitors center. Participants: Maureen Coutant, Liz Gee, Licia Mackey, Gary Rodd.



Algonquin, Iroquois and Wright, January 5, Pat McCullough, 9 participants

- This group only needed someone to schedule the hike and record the names. From the very start, the group broke into the greyhounds and the tortoises. The only times that I saw the greyhounds was when they were on their way back from Iroquois and returning from Wright. Winds were fierce on Algonquin and Iroquois and even worse on Wright. Not everyone needed Wright, and the hikers who did not go did not miss a thing. Participants: Phil Alonzo, Dan Dolan, Cole Hickman, PhyllisManziare, Pat McCullough, Shamus McCullough, Bill Morse, Christine Mulvihill, Jim Schneider.

Leader's Choice XC Ski, January 6, Bill Schwarz, 4 participants

- Many of you missed out — it was the last day of fabulous local ski conditions, and you could have been there! The early storms left over a foot of powder snow! But four of us managed anyway, enjoying the trails of Wilton Preserve near Northway Exit 16. They aren't that challenging — all four of us were experienced skiers who chuckled at the "Hill" signs at each little descent — as we skied for several hours out to the Opdahl Farm, on Ballard Road, and back. Participants: Cathy Corrigan, James Dickson, Matt Dickson, Bill Schwarz.

Tongue Mountain Loop, January 12, Neal Andrews, 8 participants

- When this trip was listed back in Oct, who would have known a week of record high temps and rain would melt all that great snow? The trail up to the lean-to was a stream. The ridge itself was in its summer's best. The ridge trail was basically dry and the views terrific. We rotated the lead all day and had some die hard bushwackers checking out the open knobs as we walked. We decided after an early lunch on Five Mile Mountain, to leave the ridge and make our way to NW bay. Open forest and easily descended cliffs make for an interesting afternoon. Participants: Sharon Rouse, Nancy Roderick, Maria Rawson, Randy Caldwell, Jayne Boudier, John Wimmer, Bill Morse.

Cat Mountain, January 13, Jack Whitney, 19 participants

- The conditions were such that some of us used our snowshoes and other stabilizers to reach the summit on this warmer-than-usual mid-January thaw day. The snow was crunchy so that we didn't punch through and the only tricky spot proved to be the small brook crossing. Lunch was enjoyed on the summit along with the superb view of a quiet Lake George. Participants: Liz Koulos, Stephanie Daniels, Cathy Turner, Bill Carpenter, Shirley LaPlante, Paul Klippel, Laura Fiske, David Fiske, Pat Desbiens, Pat McPhee, Fred Cady, Gary Mehlum, Margaret Litwin, Melissa Ross, Sterling Salter, Ray Bouchard, Kim Ciraulo, Joe Spain, Jack Whitney.

Wednesday Morning Walk — Moreau State Park, January 16, Maureen Coutant, 5 participants

- There wasn't quite enough snow for us to ski through the woods at Moreau, so we hiked along the road to the beach and then back to the entrance and along the campground roads. The day was beautiful with the sun sparkling off the snow. Good to get out! Participants: Maureen Coutant, Ralph DeCristofao, Marsha Fagan, Liz Gee, George Sammons.

Blue Mountain, January 19, Jonathan Lane, 7 participants

- What a nice day for a hike! There was barely enough snow on the trail to warrant snowshoes, but we had a great time. The day started out sunny, but became increasingly overcast as we ascended. Nice, although hazy, views were had from the tower, but the icy wind kept us from lingering long. Overall a great day with a wonderful group of people. Participants: Ray Boucher, Colin Buckhurst, Jonathan Lane, Jason Lasky, Patricia Lockwood, Jessie O'Brien, Kathy Quoi.

Wednesday Morning Ski — Queensbury XC trails, January 23, Maureen Coutant, 6 participants

- The trails had been groomed and the fresh dusting of snow from the prior days made for a nice ski. The trails behind the Queensbury Elementary School are perfect for beginner skiers in that you can easily avoid the few hills. This is a great spot to go out and get some exercise and it seems most people don't know about it! Participants: Mo Coutant, Margaret Curtis, Martha Fagan, Beth Gurzler, George Sammons, Bill Schwarz.

Stillwater Locks, January 26, 10 participants, Rich Crammond

- This outing was topped off with a most pleasing sighting of a bald eagle. All the ducks, gulls and other birds were nice but the Big E was king of the sky. We had some good birders along. All wonderful people to hike with and enjoy the morning. It doesn't get any better than an ADK outing with hiking friends. Thanks to all. Participants: Fred Cady, Jeff Lynch, Nancy Rozelle, Ely Fuller, Rich Speidel, Charlene Donald, Reg Prouty, Alan Gee, Liz Gee, Rich Crammond.

Giant and Rocky Peak Ridge, January 26, Pat McCullough, 6 participants

- We had a classic winter day for this hike. Temperatures were in the twenties and no wind. We were even able to eat on the peaks. We set a very comfortable pace and still were back to Panera before dark. A great group of hikers; a lot of laughs and no complainers. Participants: Dave Kocian, Louis Mauris, Pat McCullough, Lisa McLane, Mark McLane, Ron Shaffer.



Outing instructions

For more detailed information on Chapter Outings, see the "Glens Falls-Saratoga Chapter Handbook."

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 MINIMUM number for Outings is: 3 people, including the leader (4 in winter) Panera Bread 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 .5 mile 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 the 'regulars' 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.**

*ADK Liability Waiver must be provided by 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.

RATINGS

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

*Descriptions are only typical and can vary.

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. — NOT 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!

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 will 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.

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 their personal favorite destinations. Contact Outings Chair for more information. (Contact info: Pg. 3 of newsletter)

Program 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 under "Programs" on the Chapter Web page: www.adk-gfs.org

SARATOGA SPRINGS PUBLIC LIBRARY

Henry St., Saratoga Springs, NY 12866, 584-7860

• From NORTHWAY (I-87)

Take Exit 14 onto Route 9P north (UNION AVE). Proceed 1.5 miles, past three traffic lights to a T-junction. RIGHT onto CIRCULAR ST. to the first traffic light. LEFT onto SPRING ST. 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 into downtown, up to the main street (BROADWAY). Turn onto SPRING ST. (right from South/left from North) at the corner of Congress Park. LEFT on the first street onto Putnam. (Parking as described above)

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GLENS FALLS

400 Glen St., Glens Falls, NY 12801, 793-2521

• From NORTHWAY (I-87)

Take Exit 18 and go east on CORINTH RD., MAIN ST., BROAD ST. (Name changes in town) Follow 2.7 miles through town, passing 5-6 lights, CVS, Stewarts on RIGHT... Road turns to SOUTH ST. You come to a "T" and a LIGHT at the monument and library ahead. Make a LEFT on GLEN ST. Pass light (at Stewarts) and make next LEFT onto NOTRE DAME (church is on corner) Park in rear.



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.



A MAP OF ...
Chepontuc Footnotes

Chapter Chair Report	2
Outings and Programs schedule	5
Outings	6-12
Trip reviews	13-14
Outing instructions	15



Chepontuc Footnotes

Glens Falls-Saratoga Chapter Adirondack Mountain Club
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