

Schenectady Chapter of the ADK

June/July 2004

New & Reinstated Members

Bachorik, Herb, Harlene & Fam.
Brown, Mark, Megan & Fam.
Chlopecki, Jason
Couture, Aaron, Samantha & Fam.
Dwyer, Gerald
Fahey, Rosalie

Getman, Sharon, Kevin & Fam.
Huggins, Lucinda
Jaeger, Michael
MacCormic, Sidney
McGee, James
Miles, Kathryn

Vermilyea, Eugene & Nancy
Waring, Lawrence
Wiley, Kathleen
Wohlgemuth, Richard, Sylvia & Fam.

"The Lookout" Photo Contest

You may have noticed that *The Lookout* underwent a major change in its appearance — new cover, heavier stock paper and a new construction format. In six month's time, our cover picture may become too familiar to our readers. We would like to change the picture every six months, when possible, so.....to involve our membership in the revamping of their "voice", we are proposing a **PHOTO CONTEST!**

- Send us a hard copy of a picture that reflects the title of our publication (*The Lookout*). Tell us who, what, where, when so to give credit.
- The picture should be of the Adirondack or the Catskill Preserve.
- The picture should not have been previously published.
- All pictures will be retained for future use in *The Lookout* or on our web page.
- The picture can be either color or black and white. We will be able to enlarge or decrease its size.
- **The DEADLINE DATE is August 1, 2004**, so to expedite publication.
- Send your picture to Maria Beurmann (address is on front inside cover)
- The Schenectady Chapter Board will judge which picture will be used in the Fall issues.

Happy Shooting! – We have a glorious season fast approaching in which to take pictures.

Schenectady Bike Trail Cleanup National Trails Day - June 5, 2004

Celebrate the 12th Anniversary of National Trails Day with the Schenectady Chapter ADK. Come out and enjoy the morning along the City of Schenectady's section of the Mohawk-Hudson Bike-Hike Trail. We plan to do general trail maintenance from garbage clean up to trimming brush. All are invited to join us along the trail.....take a walk, help pick up garbage, do as much work as you feel comfortable with! We provide refreshments, T-shirts for the first 24 people, door prizes and some tools. The project is being done with the Friends of the Mohawk-Hudson Bike-Hike Trail and with the cooperation of the City of Schenectady. Eastern Mountain Sports (EMS) is proud to partner up with us to sponsor this year's National Trails Day event. EMS staff, and customers alike, will be volunteering on June 5 to show their, and our, support for this most important event.

If you would like to sign up as a volunteer, you can do so by visiting EMS at their Niskayuna store located in the New Mohawk Commons on Balltown Road, or contact Stan Stoklosa at 383-3066 or testok@albany.net for more details and to register. So, come join EMS, Friends of the Bike Trail and the ADK for a great day of fun and environment stewardship.

This year's location: Seneca Street entrance at 9:00 a.m. Work gloves, sunscreen, bug spray and long pants are recommended as we pick up trash, trim vegetation and give the Schenectady Bike Trail some tender loving care. All before noon!

HIKE CLASSIFICATIONS

<u>Distance</u>	<u>Leader's Pace</u>	<u>Terrain</u>	<u>Examples</u>
A+ 13 Miles or More	1. Fast	A Very Difficult	A+1A Most Difficult Trip
A 8-12 Miles	2. Moderate	B Strenuous	B2C Moderate Trip
B 5-8 Miles	3. Slow	C Average	C3D Easy Trip
C Under 5 Miles		D Easy	

Outings Schedule for June & July 2004

*FOR FURTHER DETAILS and TO SIGN UP, CALL TRIP LEADER. Try to call at least two days in advance.
Leaders may cancel on the day before an outing if there is insufficient interest.*

VOLUNTEER TO BE A LEADER or CO-LEADER FOR AN OUTING -- CALL WALT HAYES, 399-7482

Sat 5 June
National Trails Day
Schenectady Bike Path Cleanup
Stan Stoklosa, 383-3066

Join Stan and Howard Halstead and celebrate the 12th Anniversary of NTD at the Chapter's Annual Bike Path Cleanup. Refreshments will be provided. See page 1 for more details.

Sat 5 June
Seymour Mt., Class A3A
Sid Borthwick, 347-2901

We will be taking the fairly easy Blueberry Trail (most common route) from the Corey's trailhead to the base of the Seward Range. However, we will encounter a very steep ascent going up Seymour Mountain on a very well defined herd path. The pace of the hike will be from moderate to slow. Total distance of the hike is approximately 15 miles. The beginning trailhead is 18.5 miles beyond Saranac Lake; therefore, plan on an early start! Please contact leader for details.

Wed 9 June
Washburn Ridge, Class B2C
Walt Hayes, 399-7482

Conservation Outing – Hoffman Notch Wilderness
Follow old roads to views from cliff tops. About 1000 feet of ascent with 6 miles. Some bushwhacking.

Sat 12 June
Adirondack Survivor, Class C3D
Harold McCumber, 274-3960

Think you are out for just a day hike? Just what do you do when your day hike goes wrong and turns into an unplanned night in the woods. Hey – it could happen to you! Join us to learn about safety and the essentials needed to survive the night. Learn how to put together your own "Survival in a bag". On this day hike learn what it takes to be an Adirondack Survivor. Bring a lunch and plan on a full day, our classroom will be in the Silver Lake Wilderness area.

Sat 12 June
Trail Work Trip
Peter Slocum, 489-7369

This trail up Blueberry mountain to Porter is one that the Schenectady Chapter maintains. Wonderful views without much elevation gain. We'll clear blowdown and do sidecutting to clean up the trail for the summer and fall hiking season. We've got the tools, and we'll supply the food, too. You bring good gloves and willing muscle.

Wed 16 June
Hopkins Mountain, Class B2C
Roger Borgen, 371-1128

Trek to this Keene Valley open, rocky summit with great views west across the valley. About 2200 foot ascent with under seven miles round trip.

Sat 19 June
Minnewaska State Park, Class B
John Winkler, 346-4969

Starting at lake Minnewaska in the Shawangunks, we will hike to Rainbow Falls, Lake Awosting, Castle Point & back along the scenic ridge to Minnewaska. A round trip of about 7 miles - level - and best of all NO BUGS. Mountain Laurel will be in bloom. To signup please call by Wed 16th (work evenings)

Wed 23 June
Marion Pond, Class B2C
Walt Hayes, 399-7482

Conservation Outing – Hoffman Notch Wilderness
Climb Hayes Mountain on informal path to explore area for UMP. Five miles with 700 ft ascent. Possible swim in the pond.

Sat 26 June
Introduction to Geocaching,
Class C3D
Harold McCumber, 274-3960

OK, you pronounce Geocaching like this, Geo-cashing – like cashing a check. If you own a GPS unit; feel free to bring it with you. If you do not own one – that is fine, we will be using my own GPS unit. Geocaching is an entertaining adventure game. The basic idea is to use the internet to gain the coordinates needed to find a cache site, using a hand held GPS (Global Positioning Systems). There are cache sites in every state and in 190 countries. Many are in the Tri-city area as well as in the Adirondacks and the Catskills. We will be Geocaching in the Southern Adirondacks or we can stay close to home - depending upon group interest. At each cache site we will trade an item, sign the log book and replace the container as we found it.

Sat 26 June
Greylock Section of AT, MA
Class A2B
Neil & Jackie Parker, 371-9139

Massachusetts Appalachian Trail
This 12± mile section starts on Route 2 in Williamstown, climbs (sometimes steeply) 3000' to the top of Mt. Greylock (3491'), then descends over Saddle Ball Mt. to Cheshire. Participants should be in good physical condition.

Tues 29 June
Scarface, Class B2C
Norm Kuchar, 399-6243

Scarface, located west of Lake Placid in the Saranac Lakes Wild Forest, provides a moderate trail hike to ledges with good views of the Saranac Lakes region and the western High Peaks. Distance is about 7 miles, with an ascent of 1500 feet.

Tues 6 July
Hurricane Mountain, Class B2C
Roger Borgen, 371-1128

Fire Tower Challenge

This fire tower is still there. Views are 360 with or without the tower. About 2000 foot climb with about six miles round trip.

Fri 9 July – Sun 11 July, 2004
Mt. Katahdin
Mac Stafford, 381-6911
and Rene Lussier

We have reserved two camp sites in Baxter State Park, at Roaring Brook Camp Site. We will drive to Baxter on Friday, hike on Saturday, and drive home on Sunday. For further details call Mac. These trips have filled up quickly in the past so don't wait too long to sign up.

Sat 10 July
Indian Head and Twin Mountains,
Class A2B
Sid Borthwick, 347-2901

We will start from Prediger Road and end at the trailhead on Elka Road. Total distance of 8.5 miles with total elevation gain of 2200 feet. These peaks are included in the Catskill 3500 Club "35 Highest". Please contact Leader for details.

Sat 10 July
Texas Ridge, Class A2C
Walt Hayes, 399-7482

Conservation Outing – Hoffman Notch Wilderness
Hoffman Notch Wilderness bushwhack to seldom climbed 3176 foot summit. About 8 miles round trip with 1900 feet of ascent.

Wed 14 July
Moreau Lake State Park, Class C3C
Walt Hayes, 399-7482

Easy hike in new area of nearby park. About four miles with 1200 feet of ascent. Nice overlooks, newly cut trails.

Sat 17 July
Mt. Adams, Class B+2C
Jay Summerson, 673-2664

Fire Tower Challenge

It looks like this tower will stay. Needs work. Great views of High Peaks. Five miles 1800 foot ascent. Blowdown has been cleared.

Sat 17 July
Nippletop Slide Climb
Peter Slocum, 489-7369

We'll go up the usual route from the Ausable Club Lake Road via the Gill Brook Trail and into Elk Pass. Then, we'll leave the trail and cut over to the base of the rather gradual slide that goes straight to the top. About 11 miles round trip. Elevation gain around 2700 feet. Not a technical climb.

Sun 18 July
Marshall via Indian Pass,
Class A1B
Al Knight, 827-8599

Trailless High Peak Marshall by a different route. About 15 miles with 2800 foot ascent. Call by July 14.

Sat 24 July
Whiteface by Canoe
Peter Slocum, 489-7369

We'll take a unique approach to this mountain, by putting in our canoes at Lake Placid and paddling down to Whiteface Landing. There we'll switch to boots and climb up the South face of the peak, with wonderful open rock and great views. 3.5 miles, 3000 feet elevation gain. You don't need a canoe to sign up; we can find a few extras.

Sat 24 July
Long Path – Ryan Road Loop,
Class B3D
Betty Lou Bailey, 355-0604

This nearby hike is on recently opened area northwest of Thacher Park. Notable features include two overlooks and a visit to an old quarry. Six miles relatively flat.

Wed 28 July
Crane Mountain & Pond, Class B3C
Walt Hayes, 399-7482

Easy pace. Bushwhack up backside of Crane in open woods with many rock outcrops for views. Climb to summit and swim in the pond. 6 miles, 1900 foot ascent.

Mon 2 Aug
Ampersand Mountain, Class B2C
Walt Hayes, 399-7482

Former fire tower peak with bald top and some of best views in Adirondacks. Under 6 miles with 1775 feet of ascent. This trip in celebration of the 50th anniversary of first Adirondack mountain climb by Walt Hayes and Norm Kuchar who first visited these mountains from their Ohio homes.

Tues 10 Aug
Goodnow Mountain, Class C2C
Barabara Kolapakka, 583-9038

Fire Tower Challenge
Easy pace climbing this restored fire tower with panoramic views of the High Peaks. The fire observers cabin has been furnished to look as if it was still in use. 3.8 miles round trip with 1040 feet of ascent.

Sat 14 Aug
Eagle & Balsam Mountains,
Class A2B
Sid Borthwick, 347-2901

We will start from the McKenley parking area and bushwhack up to Eagle. We will then follow the trail over to Balsam. We will return on the Oliverea trail. Total distance of 8 miles with total ascent of around 2500 feet. These peaks are included in the Catskill 3500 Club "35 Highest". Please contact leader for details.

Sun 12 September
Graham & Doubletop, Class A-2C
Al Knight, 827-8599

Trailless Catskill peaks. Joint trip with Catskill 3500 Club. 8 miles 2360 feet of ascent. Strenuous bushwhack at a moderate pace.

I am looking for members interested in and qualified to lead trips on the AT in Massachusetts. We are hoping to offer 11 one-day trips over the next few years to complete the Massachusetts AT from north to south. Talk to Walt Hayes or Betty Lou Bailey if interested.

Walt Hayes, Outings Chair – 399-7482

2004 Schenectady ADK Whitewater Paddling Schedule

Lifejackets are required on all paddling trips. Dress appropriately for weather conditions. All trip leaders will screen prospective paddlers to be sure equipment and experience is appropriate for the trip. Misrepresentation or over estimation of skills is a common cause of whitewater accidents. Paddling skill should allow each boat to confidently eddy out regularly, thereby keeping the group together and for members to keep an eye out for each other. Boats should be appropriately outfitted for the level of water.

Date	Day	Trip location	Class	Leader	Phone
6-05 6-06	Sat Sun	Beginning whitewater kayak instruction from Wildwaters Outdoor Center	1	Wildwaters	1-800 867-2335
6-05 6-06	Sat Sun	Intermediate solo canoe and kayak instruction offered		Chuck Wilkison Sally Dewes	793-8041 346-1761
6-05	Sat	Esopus Creek	3	Kathy Magee	864-5675
6-05	Sat	Hudson River II: North River to North Creek in the morning and from the Glen to Snake Rock in the afternoon	2	Tom Gibbs	583-1550
6-06	Sun	Hoosic River from Vt. State line to Hoosick Falls	1+	Bob Wright	279-1428
6-12 6-13	Sat Sun	Intermediate whitewater Kayak instruction from Wildwaters Outdoor Center	2	Wildwaters	1-800 867-1761
6-12	Sat	Schroon River	3	Rick Gonzales	355-3403 356-6116 (w)
6-13	Sun	Deerfield River; Fife Brook section	2/3	Norm Labbe	877-0076
6-19	Sat	Hudson River Gorge	4	Larry Woods	271-0270
6-20	Sun	Hoosic River from Hoosick Falls to Valley Falls	1+	Bob Wright	279-1428
6-26 6-27	Sat Sun	Beginning whitewater tandem canoe instruction from Wildwaters Outdoor Center	1	Wildwaters	1-800 867-1761
6-26	Sat	Deerfield River (Fife Brook)	2/3	Larry Woods	271-0270
6-27	Sun	Deerfield River (Dryway) 900cfs	4	Horst deLorenzi	399-4615
7-03	Sat	Hudson River gorge	4	Horst deLorenzi	399-4615
7-05	Mon	Sacandaga Paddle and Picnic; <i>Paddle 10 to 3 -- Picnic 3 to 5</i>	2/3	Chuck Wilkison	793-8041
7-09	Fri	Deerfield River (Dryway) 900cfs	4	Horst deLorenzi	399-4615
7-11	Sun	Deerfield River (Fife Brook)	2/3	Larry Woods	271-0270
7-17	Sat	Hudson River Gorge	4	Horst deLorenzi	399-4615
7-18	Sun	Esopus Creek	2/3	Judy Halstead	583-2504
7-24	Sat	Sacandaga River	2	Sharon Lamb	743-1707

Date	Day	Trip location	Class	Leader	Phone
7-25	Sun	Battenkill Watermelon trip	1+	Chuck Wilkison	793-8041
8-01	Sun	Deerfield River (Dryway) 900cfs	4	Horst deLorenzi	399-4615

Trip Tales, Paddling Parables & Inning Notes

Jones Hill Snowshoe Bushwhack 03/20/04

Trip cancelled in memory of Grace Hudowalski, 46er #9, whose memorial service was that weekend. (Walt Hayes)

Piseco & Stacy Mountains 03/27/04

We were surprised to find good snow cover on the whole trip with a small bare spot on Piseco where we had lunch. Nice views thru trees of Piseco Lake and area. Trail was hard packed and bushwhack part was easy in beautiful open woods. Temperatures in the high 50's. Participants were Gail Gaskin, Norm Kuchar, Kathryn Miles and leader. (Walt Hayes)

Kinderhook Creek 03/27/04

When we showed up at the put in on the Kinderhook, it was in flood condition. We looked at the upper section, but felt it was also unsafe. We finally decided to paddle the Hoosic River from near the VT/NY state line to above Hoosick Falls. It was also very high, but being wide and a class one river, we felt comfortable putting in. The sun had come out and it was a pleasant paddle. On our way to the Hoosic, we were able to view the Little Hoosic which looked very runnable. We need to send out the scout team to investigate the next time we have similar water levels. Group participants were: Chuck Wilkison, Horst deLorenzi, Heidi Langley, Shelly Nevarfd, Larry Woods, Mal Provost, Judy Halstead, Betty Lou Bailey, Jack Daniels and trip leader. (Bob Wright)

Schenectady Museum Preserve New Member Walk & Coffee 3/27/04



Martha and Danny Zibro, Ann Boland, Jackie Parker, Jacque Crowe and Maria Beurmann joined Ruth Schottman, a noted naturalist, on a walk in the Schenectady Museum Preserve. The overcast day did not deter us from enjoying Ruth's invaluable expertise on the trees and shrubs indigenous to this area. Did you know that the bark of the black cherry resembles fish scales? Some members of the group later went to Maria's place to enjoy "yummies" that celebrated the upcoming season – Spring. (Maria Beurmann)

Lake Ann 04/03/04

A few patches of snow on our way to this small lake in Moreau Lake State Park on the border with the Mt. McGregor State Correctional Facility. Lunch at the lean-to and views of the Hudson from the yellow trail. Enjoying the first wildflowers of spring were Mike Bergin, Margaret Ettinger, Gayle Fountain, Phil Fountain, John Hotchin, Richard Hughes, Susan Roberts, Colin Smith, Trudy Van Ryn, Wayne Virkler and the leader. (Walt Hayes)

Battenkill, Class I 04/04/04

Water was high (6.75 feet at Battenville – new gauge, 2100 cfs), so paddled below Arlington to Eagleville. Weather was warmer than forecast and not too windy. Only about a minute of showers, so it turned out to be an enjoyable day. Two pair of mergansers and a pair of mallards accompanied us much of the way. Participating were Betty Lou Bailey, Larry Woods, Shelly Nevard, Karry Kaempf, Mike Koronkiewicz and trip leader. (Jack Daniels)

Hoffman Notch Trail – Loch Muller to Big Marsh 04/10/04

We could not get to the parking area due to ice on the road. The day was overcast and with a little breeze at lunch on the shore of Big Marsh, we were actually cold. The trail is well marked and blowdown has been cleared, but there has been very little sidcutting of the brush in years. The trail was hard to follow in spots and will be more difficult when the leaves are out. This was a good information gathering exploration for our input to the UMP. Participants: Bob Grimm, Ken Marcinowski, Nilde Marcinowski, Colin Smith, Wayne Virkler, Norm Kuchar and the leader. (Walt Hayes)

Upper Esopus Creek to Elmer's Corner 04/10/04

The trip originally scheduled for the Esopus was changed to the lower Kinderhook run due to low water conditions on the Esopus. Eight paddlers in four kayaks and three canoes enjoyed the river with temperatures in the 50's and sunny skies. Participants were: Bill Smollin, Tamara Caulfield, Jack Daniels, Shelly Nevard, Larry Woods, Rick Gonzales, Bob Brand the trip leader. (Bob Wright)

Schoharie I – N. Blenheim to Middleburgh 04/11/04

After a week of dire forecasts this Easter Sunday trip turned out reasonably pleasant with some sun and moderate temperatures. Water was adequate, justg under two feet and 1400 cfs at Burtonville. One boat suffered a brief spill. It was proven that a sea kayak properly managed can negotiate the strainers. A cool headwind picked up on the last leg. Paddling were: Ken and Laura Perrault, Mike and Cathie Jo Brun, Rich Macha and leader. (Jack Daniels)

Hudson River: Raparius to the Glen 04/17/04

The river level was 5.2 feet and the weather was mild. We had seven boats that included two OC-1's, one tandem and four kayaks. It was a very nice trip with the river level high enough to be a solid Class III, but low enough to be safe. The trip leader was kind enough to swim at the "Z Ledge", which provided good rescue practice for the rest of the group. We stopped for lunch at the island below Race Horse Rapids and spent some time playing in the surf wave there. Participants were: Larry Woods, Shelly Nevard, Bill Smollin, Horst deLorenzi, Norm Labbe, Rick Gonzales, Bob Wright and trip leader. (Mal Provost)

East Branch of the Sacandaga 04/20/04

Leader designate Chuck Wilkison became trip organizer when a shoulder problem kept him off the water. His services included scouting the river from Route 8, assembling the group, running the car shuttle, and sending us off. Then he and Donna went off for a day of hiking. This beautiful stretch of river above Griffin Falls includes moving flat water, a short you-need-to-be-in-the-right-place left-center-right drop, and a few technical rock gardens. Only two of us had run it before. Two boats went for a swim towards the end of the 0.6 mile long county-line rock garden. In a cemetery of dead trees it was necessary to go to shore to carry around a blockage. The day was cloudy, but significant rain held off until all the boats were loaded and we were headed home. For once canoes (two Blue Hole and two solo boats) outnumbered the kayaks. Paddlers included: Dave Avigdor, Tom & Hank Bielawski, Tom Gibbs, Bob Heffley, Larry Kaempf, and water co-leaders Betty Lou Bailey & Jack Daniels.

Schoharie II: Powerhouse Road to Fort Hunter 04/24/04

It was a great day except for a fierce wind against us. Thus, we took out at NY 161, only 1.7 miles into our intended 8 mile trip. No car there, so Tom Bielawski ran back to the put-in at Powerhouse Road and then picked up two walking drivers which gave us three cars to collect seven people and four canoes. Mike Brun paddled solo; Tom paddled with his wife, Anne Bielawski; his brother, Henry, paddled with Jack Daniels and I paddled with Charlie Beach, now back paddling after recent surgery. (Betty Lou Bailey)

Leader's Choice Class II Whitewater 04/25/04

Since the gage on the Sacandaga at Hope was showing less than 3.2' on Saturday evening, I decided to paddle the Hudson from North Creek to Raparius. It was running around 4.5', which I thought was a good level as the run was a step up for some in the group. We had five kayaks, four solo canoes and a C1 to round things out. One paddler tested the water temperature at the put in, and decided that it was pleasant enough to continue. Two of us took advantage of the steep grassy bank for a fun seal launch. It was cool with a slight breeze, but otherwise a nice day to be on the river. We took our time and played all the way down. One kayaker had a brief swim about half way through Spruce Mountain Rapid. Thanks to Dave and Shayne, he was rescued quickly. Just as we reached the takeout, it started to rain lightly; our timing had been perfect. Kayakers were Larry Grant, Larry Kaempf, Rich and Adam Macha and Shayne Mitchell. Canoeists were Dave Avigdor, Jack Daniels, Will Holt and Shelly Nevard. And, of course, you know who the solitary C1 paddler was. (Larry Woods)

Spring & Summer Hiking Seminar 04/26/04

Over 35 individuals found this evening seminar to be very informative and enjoyable. Special thanks goes to Eastern Mountain Sports (EMS) in Niskayuna's Mohawk Commons for providing the impressive door prize – A Water Slide Hydration Pack (over \$70 value) as the door prize. The lucky winner was Barbara Doudreau. Pam Allen of The Daily Gazette covered the seminar and wrote an excellent article that appeared in the paper Wednesday, April 28, along with a photograph of Mac that showed some of the gear used in the presentation. A paraphrased quote from the paper, "With the spring hiking season kicking into gear, Mac Stafford and Maria Beurmann, spoke to a crowd at the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library on the basic necessities for hiking and camping, including clothing, equipment and wilderness ethics." This was wonderful coverage of an educational event presented by members of our Chapter. Thanks Maria and Mac!

Hiking the Taconic Crest 04/27/04

Colin Campbell gave an interesting presentation on the Taconic Crest Trail at a Chapter program held at the Schenectady County Library. The trail, 35 miles long, runs roughly along the borders of New York with Massachusetts and Vermont, from US 20 near Pittsfield to NY 346 near North Petersburg. Colin is Trails Chairman for the Taconic Hiking Club, which has been central to the development and maintenance of the trail. He described the history of the trail and some of the current environmental threats to this beautiful area. Seventeen people, mostly Schenectady Chapter members, attended. (Norm Kuchar)

East Canada Creek 04/29/04

Since East Canada Creek was quite low (marginal) and Waterline information for West Canada indicated relatively high flow being released, we went from the Dolgeville meeting place to the fishing access a mile north of Middleville on West Canada Creek and paddled from there to Kast Bridge, about 8-9 miles, on a summer-like day. The standing waves were especially high and fun. On a Thursday, only four of us got to enjoy this trip: Jack Daniels and Heidi Langley paddled solo and I paddled with Charlie Beach. After the trip, the gage at Kast Bridge showed that the drop in flow from the Trenton Falls Hydro Plant, from 1950 to 14400 cfs the previous midnight, arrived at Kast Bridge right after our departure, dropping flow there (29 miles downstream) from 2200 cfs to 1600 cfs. (Betty Lou Bailey)

Hoffman Notch Trail - Loch Muller to Trout Brook 05/01/04

The parking lot was clear of snow. We found the trail to the east toward Trout Brook and Big Pond in much better condition than prior reports. It was cleared of blowdown and had very little need of sidecutting. It was well marked with a variety of trail markers and easy to follow. It climbs much higher on the Texas Ridge than any of the maps show. All maps reviewed do not show this trail accurately. We enjoyed lunch on the beautiful banks of the East Branch of Trout Brook. Participants were Christina Anderson, Bill Held, Katie Henrikson, Ray Henrikson, Doug Rickert, Tom Ryan, Sylvie Wickstrom and the leader. (Walt Hayes)

Hudson River: North Creek to the Glen 05/01/04

Usually everyone turns out for this annual Whitewater trip down the Hudson. This year was no exception as 19 people showed up with 17 different boats. The weather was warm with partly cloudy skies and windy. The river was at 4 feet clones rocks and we played "dodgem" down to Raparius where 7 "winded" paddlers took out. The "Z" ledge offered a rocky "hang-up" and some boarder line dumps. Surfing at the island was so nearly perfect that we did not emerge at the Glen until 4:30 p.m. Participants were: Carolyn Cyr, Tammy Caudfield, Rick Gonzalez, Larry Kaemph, Bill Smollin, Larry Wood, Shelley Nevard, Bob Wright, Norm Labbe, Sharon Lamb, Dave Avigdor, Charlie Beach, Horst deLorenzi, Alan Darling, Bob Heffley, Will Holt, Mal Provost and trip leaders. (Chet Harvey and Kathie Armstrong)

Schoharie III: Esperance to Powerhouse Road 05/02/04

Not enough boats for a Class III trip – so, no trip. Erroneous stormy forecast likely to blame. (Betty Lou Bailey)

Hoffman Notch-Big Marsh From North 05/04/04

Eight of us had a great day exploring potential trail routes through the north end of Hoffman Notch which would not require the three unbridged Hoffman Notch Brook crossings on the current trail. We found the remains of an old road on the east side of the brook, which could make a good hiking and x-c ski trail and which would require only one bridge to make it an all-season route. A potential route entirely on the west side of the brook would require no bridges, but has a short section across a steep slope and would require a short easement across private land. The notch itself is rugged and beautiful with several waterfalls and views of the cliffs on Washburn Ridge. This area, currently in the Vanderwhacker wild Forest, should be incorporated into the Hoffman Notch Wilderness. Participants were Walt Hayes, Jean Kerr, Padma Krishna, Mary MacDonald, Emily Reed, Tom Schmitz, Martha Zibro and leader. (Norm Kuchar)

Rock Lake Trail Maintenance 05/08/04

Five of us enjoyed an overcast, but comfortably cool day which served to keep the black flies away. A spritz of rain hit just as we left the parking area at days end. Thanks to Mary MacDonald, Monica Riccardi and Colin Smith for helping to make it an enjoyable day. (Ken & Nilde Marcinowski)

Thomas Cole Mt. 05/08/04

Early may in the Catskills has never disappointed, and this day was no exception. Wildflowers were everywhere and views were plentiful. Thanks to all for their flexibility in allowing the achievement of multiple goals. A great day and a great group consisting of Pat Rush, Nancy Feiker, Jessica Hayashi. (Rich Vertigan & Holly Hawkes)

Hudson River II: North River to North Creek & Glen to Snake Rock 05/08/04

Starting at 10:00 a.m., Ken Perault, David Grey, Jeff Lasker, Mike Brun, George Sogosian and trip leader, Sharon Lamb, paddled from North River to North Creek. The Hudson, at four feet, made it a mellow morning punctuated by stops to surf small waves. After 12:30 p.m. lunch at the Glen, Judy Halstead, Jim Pirman, Bob Heffley and Dick McGrath also joined our party for the afternoon trip. We scouted the drop just below the glen which everybody enjoyed navigating with no swims. Then, it was a peaceful, silvery float to the take out at Snake Rock by 3:30 p.m.

Hadley Mountain Fire Tower 05/09/04

Thirteen optimists left home in rain on Mother's Day and returned in sunshine, having seen a feast of spring flowers. Participants were Lois Shapland, Howard Hart, Emily Hart, Tom Schottman, Lois Leonard, Peg Wallingford, Arden Rauch, Al Fairbanks, Walt Hayes, Elwin Bigelow, Mary Sanders Shartle, and Maureen Jones. (Ruth Schottman)

Trip leaders, now that we are publishing the names of participants – please print names clearly on your trip report. Participants, please be kind to your trip leader and spell your name when signing up for an activity. Thank you! (J. Parker)

ADK Spring Outing - June 18-20, 2004 Mid-Hudson Chapter, Host

Return to the beautiful Hudson Valley for another, hopefully sunny, weekend of hikes, paddles and historic sites. Hike the Catskills and the Appalachian Trail. Paddle rivers, marshes and creeks.

Headquarters: Poughkeepsie Best Western Inn for lodging, reception suite and Saturday evening dinner.

Registration fee: \$25.00

For more information or to register, contact:

Ralph Pollard, 17 Horizon Hill Drive, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603 -- 845/462-3389 or ralphpollard@att.net

ADK 56th Fall Outing - September 17-19, 2004 Genesee Valley & Niagara Frontier Chapters, Hosts

This year, Fall Outing visits a different region of New York. Enjoy the hills, waterfalls, gorges, waterways and wine country of the Finger Lakes and western New York. This outing, centered in Rochester, offers easy access to Letchworth State Park and many recreational and cultural attractions. Activities will include hiking, biking, canoeing, kayaking, nature hikes and winery tours. Special events for families and individual trip opportunities will also be available.

Registrations are being taken now. For a brochure, contact:

Kenneth Harbison, 73 Avalon Drive; Rochester, NY 14618

(585)442-9731 or kharbiso@rochester.rr.com

Or visit www.adk.org for information and click on the following:

(a) "Travel with ADK" (b) "Seasonal Outings" (c) "ADK Fall Outing"

Board of Directors' Meeting Highlights
March 13, 2004

Executive Director Jo Benton will retire in June.

Financial Status ADK finished 2003 with a net surplus compared to a deficit in 2002. This was accomplished by staff layoffs, careful budgeting, new policies instituted to lessen the cash flow problem during the early months of each year and cutting the number of issues of *Adirondack* to four from six; ADK's investment portfolio did well in the second half of 2003.

Membership was down to 32,235 from 33,445.

Development Funds totaled \$207,938, \$61,000 over budget due to various fund raising events, increase in membership and chapter giving, establishment of charitable gift annuities and increase in Corporate and Foundation giving and sponsorship of events.

Counsel's Report ADK has entered into an advocacy partnership with the Catskill Center for Conservation and Development and along with the NY-NJ Trail Conference is working for adoption of the revised Catskill Park State Land Master Plan which would create two new wilderness areas; is working to revise the draft master plan for snowmobile use in the Adirondacks and is opposing the Governor's legislation which would open up all state lands outside the Forest Preserve to ATV use; participating as party petitioner to NY-New England Attorney General's legal action to overturn rule changes that weaken Federal acid rain protection for the Northeast; and working with a wilderness management expert to develop an opinion on the environmental impact of projected Belleayre Mt. Ski Center.

Resolutions Passed: Support new statewide Septic System Certification & Inspection Bill; use of \$11,634 from Paul Jamieson Fund to provide 1/3 of monies to purchase Bolcek-Frieden property; Procedures for Chapter mergers; Support proposal that half acre footprint of Mount Adams fire tower be retained and maintained by Open Space Institute; Formation of Chapter relations Committee to serve as liaison between individual chapters and between Chapters and the Main club.

Submitted by: Kathie Armstrong

Great Hudson River Paddle 2004
July 6 - 15, 2004

The fourth annual Great Hudson River Paddle (GHRP 2004) will be held Tuesday, July 6 to Thursday, July 15, 2004. GHRP 2004 is being held to celebrate the Hudson River Greenway Water Trail, the improvement of public access to the Hudson River and the diversity and heritage of the riverside communities of the Hudson River Valley.

GHRP 2004 has something for everyone. For skilled, committed paddlers, it is a chance to paddle nearly 150 miles from Albany to New York City. For new or inexperienced paddlers, it is a chance to get out on the Hudson River under the safe tutelage of knowledgeable local outfitters. For those who want to join in the celebration of the Hudson River and its communities from the shore, it offers a series of festivals showcasing local cultural demonstrations, kayaking skills, information booths and natural resource programs.

GHRP 2004 is sponsored by the Hudson River Valley Greenway and the Hudson River Watertrail Association, Inc. and is sanctioned by the American Canoe Association.

Contact Hudson River Valley Greenway 473-3835 or www.hudsongreenway.state.ny.us for information.

We offer our condolences to Art Newkirk whose wife, Katherine, passed away May 7, 2004. Both were very active members with the Adirondack Mountain Club since 1944. Art was a member of the Bouquet River Chapter which he helped to reorganize when it became the Schenectady Chapter. He served as a governor for the Chapter several years and was Chair of its Conservation Committee. Art served as President for ADK and was involved in many other positions and programs through the Main Club. Both he and Katherine are fondly known as the "Godparents" of the Natural History Program and starting of the endowment for the Natural History Museum at Adirondack Loj. In memory of Katherine, the Chapter will be making a donation to Blue Hill Memorial Hospital in Blue Hill, Maine.



Siamese Pond Wilderness UMP The comments on this draft unit management plan concentrated in adding proper "foot trail" markers and trailhead signs that prohibit motor vehicles, so that motor vehicle trespass can be successfully prosecuted. Also, more trail maintenance was urged. The UMP said that cables across the East Branch of the Sacandaga River had all been removed in 2003, but we saw several on our Chapter's April 18, 2004 whitewater trip, so that was mentioned as an error. The Albany Chapter's input (they monitor this wilderness area) was not posted on the ADK web site before comments were due, so I was pleased to get their comments from Larry King so I could say nothing contrary to their positions and support their views.

Saratoga National Park Update Surprisingly, I got an immediate reply to my comments on their draft management plan from the retiring superintendent. He said they recently started using a new film in the visitor center which explains the park and the important battles there in a more modern format. Also, the large land holding which Niagara Mohawk owned for a planned nuclear power plant on the east side of the Hudson, across from the battlefield, has already been protected from development by sale of the development rights jointly to the American Farmland Trust and the Open Space Institute.

Proposed Williams College Wind Farm Some Williams College graduate students are working on a wind farm proposal on the ridge just west of the state line on land owned by Williams College. It would be centered in Berlin Pass. The Town of Berlin Zoning Board has required that an Environmental Impact Statement be prepared. The projected installation is for seven wind turbines, similar it seems to the ones we saw in Madison County last October. There is a potential need to reroute a segment of the Taconic Crest Trail, at least during any construction. The absence of a nearby power line will increase costs. There is a good chance that Williams College may drop this idea since the cost is fairly big. Stay tuned.

Woodlawn Housing Development Proposal This proposal, using 135 acres of City of Schenectady "park land" plus a strip of adjacent County land in Niskayuna, has resurfaced. Our new mayor seems unattracted by it. The developer now wants a "preferred developer" status or he won't spend money on further engineering studies and preliminary work. Thus, the project is likely to simply fade away. The land currently is a mix of forest, bare sand (due to lots of ATV use) and considerable wetlands, including a large drainage pond. It borders the railroad tracks between Albany and Schenectady, so there are bursts of considerable noise when trains pass at high speed.

Tax Breaks for Land and Easement Donations The Chapter Board voted to support proposed legislation for tax credits when land owners donate their undeveloped land or development rights to a government agency or a non-profit organization, such as a land trust. A4208A/S1836A would reduce state taxes. A7904/S3520 would reduce taxes by school districts and property taxes by counties and towns to former owners (if sold) or the granter of easements if development rights are donated. Most land trusts have marginal budgets, so this would be a great benefit to them. Local government can get park land this way and NYS can add to its natural lands.

Submitted by: Betty Lou Bailey

For Sale

Thule roof racks for any 1996 to 1999 Golf or Jetta. Fully lockable with keys. \$ cheap or best offer. Call Bob Grimm, 842-7436 after 7:00 p.m.

16' Kevlar Canoe made by Apple (approx. 1989). Wooden rails replaced with plastic tubing. Flat bottom "touring" canoe with no keel. Asking \$250.00 or best offer. Call Howard Halstead, 393-9558 before 9:00 p.m. or email halstead@ieee.org.

**Schenectady Chapter
Philanthropic Spending for April 2004**

The following projects were chosen from applications made by membership and also from a list of "Funding Opportunities" distributed by ADK Main Club to all chapters.

JBL Bill Matthews Roof Project	\$ 500.00
Adirondack Loj Tent	400.00
ADK Publications <u>85 Acres</u> book by Nancy Slack (Nancy is a member of our chapter)	500.00
Environmental Clearinghouse of Schenectady	200.00
Wilton Wildlife Park & Preserve/ The Nature Conservancy	100.00
Boy Scouts of America, Twin Rivers Council	100.00
Total:	\$1,800.00

*Submitted by:
Jeff Farbaniec, Treasurer*

**"Thank You" From
Adirondack Research Library**

The Adirondack Research Library (ARL) received a donation from the Chapter to purchase ADK books (philanthropic spending - listed in the March/April 04 issue of The Lookout.) Not only did we receive two formal letters of thanks; one from Richard Tucker, Chairman, and one from Edith Pilcher, Collection Development, with a personal note stating, *"Thanks very much for this donation. I was about to put it on the "Want List", but also a personal post card to Betty Lou Bailey from Edith. In it she writes, "I've just ordered books from ADK which help us keep up with their newest publications. Tony Goodwin is certainly prolific, as well as being such a nice guy—like his father! Thank you very much for your interest and material assistance for our collection at the Adirondack Research Library." Edie Pilcher*

Betty Lou made the proposal to the Philanthropic Committee to support the Adirondack Research Library with funds to purchase ADK books, a donation that not only helps the ARL, but the Main Club also.

Volunteers Needed to Fill Positions

Sue MacDonald, Printing/Mailing, and Jackie Parker, Editor of the Lookout, will be retiring from their positions by November 2004. Both will assist new volunteers with assembling the December04/January05 issue of *The Lookout* and preparing it for mailing. Please call Sue, 371-1193, or Jackie, 371-9139, for information or to volunteer.

Also, Walt Hayes would like to have a co-chair for the Outings Committee. If you would like to assist Walt, call him at 399-7482.

Mac Stafford has become involved in a new business that will be taking up his time and needs to relinquish being chair of the Education Committee. If anyone has an interest in this area, please call Frank Sorbero, Chair, to volunteer – 843-2786.

Thank you Mac for your time as a volunteer and good luck on your new business!

We Welcome Lois Leonard who has filled the Secretary position. Thanks Jeff Farbaniec for wearing two hats, that of Secretary until the position could be filled and as Treasurer.

Volunteer Trail Projects & Workshops

(offered by ADK Main Club Volunteer Trails Program)

Call 518/523-3480 or e-mail adkinfo-admin@northnet.org for Information or to Register

June 5, National Trails Day

This National Trails day event will again be based out of Wanakena and the Cranberry Lake region of the Adirondacks. There are multiple projects available to choose from. Sidecutting, pit-privy relocation and rock waterbar construction are just some of the options. There will also be a recreational hike and canoe trip available. After the days events, a barbecue will be held in Wanakena. Tools and experienced leadership will be provided. Participants will receive a NTD T-shirt upon completion of the event.

July 11-16, High School Project

This trail project is reserved for the high-school aged teenager who has a desire to spend a week in the woods camping and to participate in some quality trail work. Taking place on the popular fire tower trail up Blue Mountain, participants will construct rock waterbars and rock steps. Arrive Sunday evening at base camp by 6:00 p.m. for dinner and orientation. Food, group camping gear, tools and experienced leadership will be provided. Participants will be out of the woods mid-afternoon on Friday. There is a \$250 participation fee. ADK Chapters and local communities/businesses have sponsored teenagers.

July 23-27, Johns Brook Valley

Based out of Johns Brook Lodge, participants will hike a short distance up the Ore Bed trail and install much needed rock steps, stepping stones and rock water bars. All meals will be prepared and served at the lodge and participants will share one of the bunkrooms. After dinner, relaxation after a hard day of trail work will be enjoyed in the main common area of the lodge or possibly by sitting in an Adirondack chair on the front porch. Arrive Friday evening at base camp by 6:00 p.m. for dinner and orientation. Food, a bunk bed, tools and experienced leadership will be provided. Participants will be out of the woods mid-afternoon on Tuesday. There is a \$150 participation fee.

August 21, Edward L. Stanley Memorial Project

Ed Stanley was an active member of ADK Trails Committee and the ADK Keene Valley Chapter. He pioneered climbing routes in the Adirondacks beginning in the 1930's and continued to shape the way people used trails by maintaining various hiking trails out of the valley. In the spirit of Ed's passion for a good day of trail work, maintenance will be conducted on the Rooster Comb Trail cleaning and repairing existing drainage structures and removing any blowdown. Tools and experienced leadership will be provided.

August 22 - 27, Johns Brook Valley

This is a continuation of the July 23 - 27 rock steps, stepping stones and rock water bars project. See the above write up. There is a participation fee of \$150. (Neil and I will be volunteer leaders for this project - J. Parker)

Projects coming up in the fall:

Sept. 4, Landon G. Rockwell Memorial Project – A day of trail maintenance on the heavily used trail that leads to Cascade Mountain.

Sept. 5 - 10 Long Lake Canoe Project – Campsite and lean-to maintenance. (\$75.00 fee)

October 23, Fall Trail's Day – Clean drainage ditches in the High Peaks region of the Adirondacks.