

Schenectady Chapter of the ADK

April/May 2005

New & Reinstated Members

Bowen, Irene	Hawkes, Holly	Orr, Donald J.
Brand, Robert	Hayes, Patricia A.	Plante, Martin
Cousineseau, Thomas and Ellen	Kimmer, Marsha and	Riccio, Andrea
Cyr, Pierre	Tom DiGiandomerico	Robins, Paul R.
Davis, Weidner E.	Koronkiewicz, Michael	Rohr, Laurie & Donald
Dewes, Sally	Lomnes, Stephen and Barbara	Saatman, Janine M.
Gibbs, Thomas A.	Macha, Rich	Schneider, John
Golibersuch, David	McEvoy, Karen	Scholz, Chris and Lisa
Hannahs, Diane	Mitchell, Shayne	Smollin, William
Hartpence, Geoff and Courtney	Nevard, Shelly	Torriani, James
Haubrich, Jeanne	O'Donnell, Tom	Veino, Robert

Schenectady Chapter ADK Inning

"The Wilton Wildlife Preserve and Park"
Sarah Clarkin, Director

When: Wednesday, April 20

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Where: McChesney Room, Schenectady County Public Library, 99 Clinton St. (at Liberty) Schenectady

The Wilton Wildlife Preserve and Park, in northern Saratoga County, lies in an area of sandy soils, rolling terrain with pitch pines, and small wetlands and vernal pools. Geologically and ecologically unique, the WWPP is the home of the Karner blue butterfly, hognose snake, Blanding's turtle and other rare species. The Nature Conservancy, in partnership with the town of Wilton and NYS DEC, is working to protect the endangered species and habitat. With about 1,600 acres already acquired, the goal is to protect 3,000 acres. The WWPP also has more than 10 miles of trails for hiking, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing.

Please come and hear Sarah Clarkin, director, describe this unique area and the efforts to preserve and restore its habitat.

For more information on the program, please call Norm Kuchar at 399-6243.

ADK Spring Outing

When: June 17-19, 2005

Where: Long Island, "The Undiscovered Island"

Explore the rich diversity and scenic beauty of a unique area that may be new to many ADK members.

There will be hikes, beach walks on the Sound and Atlantic, kayaking and canoeing, lighthouse tours, bike rides, sailing and winery tours as well as visits to such areas as Shelter Island, Montauk, the Pine Barrens, Fire Island, Oyster Bay, the North Fork, Cold Spring Harbor, the Hamptons and much more.

Details and a registration form are available on the ADK web site at (www.adk.org) under Recreation, Seasonal Outings, [ADK Spring Outing](#).

For information, contact Sue Stricker at 69 Thadford Street, East Northport, NY 11731, (631) 368-5167; or e-mail Sue Koehler at adkspringouting2005@yahoo.com.

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	

Innings & Outings Schedule for April & May 2005

*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 9 April
Pinnacle, Class B2C or B2B
Walt Hayes, 399-7482

A six to nine mile trip as a sequel to Norm's February 26 through trip. We will do something different. Possible climb Panther Mountain with views or search for route to remote pond(s) in the area. Under 1500 foot ascent.

Tues 19 April
Balm of Gilead Mtn & Hooper Mine
Class C2C
Norm Kuchar, 399-6243

We will combine three short hikes from the same trailhead near Thirteenth Lake to make a varied day. We will visit the abandoned Hooper open-pit garnet mine, walk to William Blake Pond, and climb Balm of Gilead Mt, which has good views of Thirteenth Lake and the mountains in the Siamese Ponds Wilderness. Total distance is about 5 miles, with total ascent of 950 ft.

Wed 20 April
"Wilton Wildlife Preserve and Park"
Schenectady County Public Library
7:30 p.m.
Sarah Clarkin

Please come to hear Sarah Clarkin speak about a unique landscape a few miles to our north, the efforts of the Nature Conservancy and partners to protect it, and opportunities for hiking and x-c skiing in the area. (See page 1 for more information.)

Thur 28 April
Cat Mountain, Class B2C
Walt Hayes, 399-7482

Cat Mountain is located on the west side of Lake George directly across from Shelving Rock Mountain and Sleeping Beauty. A new trail open to public on Property recently purchased by Lake George Land Conservancy to save from development. 900 foot ascent with 5 miles round trip distance. Super cliff top views to the east.

Sat 30 April
Race Mt. via Race Brook Falls ,
Class B2B
Herb Terns, 372-8478
Trailhead@localnet.com

Come and meet your new favorite hike along the Appalachian Trail. We'll take a spur trail past an impressive group of five waterfalls which should be in full form by this point in the spring. After the falls we'll join the main AT to the scenic, open summit of Race Mt. 6 miles round trip with approx. 1500 feet of gain.

Sat 30 April
Northville-Placid Trail Steward Trip
Class B3D
Rich Vertigan, 381-9319

Wed 4 May
Blackhead from Big Hollow Road.
Mary MacDonald, 371-1293 or
Mstekhike@aol.com

Sat 7 May
Balsam Lake Mountain, Class B3C
Rich Vertigan, 381-9319

Sat 7 May
Trail Clearing - Porter & Blueberry
Mtns
Peter Slocum, 489-7369 or
pslocum@capital.net

Sat 7 May
Baldhead and Moose Mountains
Class B2B
Norm Kuchar, 399-6243

Sun 8 May
Hadley Mtn FT, Class C3C
Ruth Schottman, 399-5728

Sat 14 May
Rock Lake Trail Maintenance,
Class A3C
Ken & Nilde Marcinowski,
885-9400 or Nildekens@msn.com

TRAIL WORK

Join us for our semiannual cleanup patrol on the Northville-Placid Trail, Between McCane's and Lake Durant. Sidecutting, drainage clearing, light blowdown removal. 5.7 rolling miles as a through trip, and a nice lunch spot at Stephens Pond. Easy introduction to trail maintenance. Limited to 6 participants.

Take Black Dome Mt. Trail 1.4 miles to Blackhead Mt. Spur Trail. Excellent views to south and west. Ascent 1740'.

FIRE TOWER CHALLENGE

Climb Balsam Lake Mountain, a Catskill 3500-footer, from Mill Brook Road, about a 6-mile round trip (1100 feet) at a relaxed pace. Spring wildflowers will be profuse. Depending on group interest and conditions, nearby Graham Mountain, another 3500-footer, may also be possible. This would add another 3.5 miles (600 feet) or so to the distance (A3C).

TRAIL WORK

Join us for a hike along the Porter Mt and Blueberry trails that the Schenectady Chapter maintains. Extensive chain saw clearing last year removed the heavy blowdown. This will be the first visit this year. We anticipate light clearing and side-cutting. The chapter will provide the tools and the lunch. Dinner on the way home if we're not too tired.

This is a fairly strenuous bushwhack up to the summits of two peaks lying south of Crane Mtn. Both offer great views from open rock and ledges. We will first climb to Baldhead with its balanced rock, then follow the ridge northeast to Moose. The return will be to the south, down the narrow valley of Twin Brook. Distance is about 6 miles, with 2500 ft total ascent.

FIRE TOWER CHALLENGE

Annual Mother's Day wildflower pilgrimage up Hadley Mt. We climb the 1.8 miles with 1525 foot ascent slowly, eat lunch at the top and descend more quickly. Hadley is a small mountain with great views, but the climb is steep and rocky. Coming down may be harder than going up.

Join us for "spring cleaning" on this section of the Northville Placid Trail (Stoney Creek Barrier to Rock Lake). We will be concentrating on clearing drainage ditches and some side cutting with possible blow down clearing. We expect to lunch at Rock Lake. Rolling terrain with minimal ascent. Please call by Thursday evening prior to hike.

Sun 15 May
Hollyhock Hollow, Class C2D
Herb Terns, 372-8478 or
trailhed@localnet.com

A birder friend of mine tells me this is the best week to see migrating birds on their way back north. What better place to see them than at the Audubon Society's sanctuary just below Albany. In order to see the most birds we'll start fairly early and hike for a few hours. Under 5 miles and mostly flat.

Wed 18 May
Hoffman Notch Wilderness
bushwhack, Class B2C
Walt Hayes, 399-7482

Did you ever find a trail and wonder where it went? I found a trail that should take us to some interesting sights. Come and find out where it goes. Near Hedgehog and Jones Hills. About four or five miles. Probably minimal climbing.

Sat 21 May
Heart Pond, Rock Pond and Rock
Pond Mt., Class B2C
Herb Terns, 372-8478 or
trailhed@localnet.com

The two ponds on this Pharaoh Lake Wilderness trip are worthy destinations on their own. Rock Pond is often home to loons and is a real beauty. We'll traverse Rock Pond to an old mine site on trails and then make a short bushwhack up Rock Pond Mt. which is said to have open views. We'll return the way we came or take a slightly longer route via Clear Pond. 6 miles round trip with less than a mile bushwhack and 400 feet of gain.

Sat 28 May
Pharaoh Mountain bushwhack,
Class B2B
Walt Hayes, 399-7482

The idea for this trip was based on a route inspired and proposed by Randy Morris. I have never done it. Cliff-top views on the climb and great views from the open top. About eight miles with 1500 feet of ascent.

Sat 4 June
Washburn Ridge bushwhack,
Class B2B
Walt Hayes, 399-7482

This outing takes us by way of the trail through the spectacular Hoffman Notch to a bushwhack climb of Washburn Ridge. The summit of the ridge is about 3054 feet. The round trip is about six miles with a 1900 foot ascent.

Wed 15 June
Ponds of Pigeon Mtn, Class A2B
Walt Hayes, 399-7482

This bushwhack will attempt to visit five named and several unnamed ponds and lakes remotely located near the Fulton/Hamilton County line in the Town of Bleeker including County Line Lake, Duck Lake, Winter Lake, Fisher Vly Lake, and Little Oxborn Lake. About ten miles with 1500 feet of ascent.

Sat 18 June
Ragged Mt and Potter Mt., Class B2B
Herb Terns, 372-8478 or
trailhed@localnet.com

Going to two trail-less peaks in one day seems ambitious but these peaks are under 2000 feet. Both are on the northern edge of the Pharaoh Lake Wilderness and are reported to have views in different directions. Roughly 7 miles round trip with half on trails, 1200 feet of gain (combined).

Tues 21 June
Hadley Mt. Summer Solstice Sunset
Hike, C2C
Herb Terns, 372-8478 or
trailhed@localnet.com

The weekends shouldn't have all the fun so we'll break up the week with an after-work hike. We'll meet around 6:30 p.m. and my hope is to watch the sunset on Hadley's western-facing summit around 9. We'll hike down by headlamp and hopefully be home around 11 p.m. 3.6 miles round trip with 1500 feet of gain.

Novice/Intermediate Whitewater Instruction

Intermediate whitewater instruction for either kayak or solo open canoe will be available the weekend of June 11 and 12. This clinic is designed for boaters who have had some previous instruction, but still need more work to perfect the basic strokes and maneuvers. Students should have paddled class I or II whitewater 5 or more times and be able to perform eddy turns, peel-outs, and ferries on class I water. They should be able to paddle in a straight line with confidence, identify river features including eddies, waves, and holes, and self rescue in class I and II whitewater. Kayakers are working on, or have a flat-water roll, and are comfortable with wet exits.

Learning goals would include skills that would bring students to solid class II or II+ paddling ability. We will start on flat water to refine paddling techniques as well as practicing low braces for solo open canoe and rolls for kayakers. On the river, we will work on performing crisp, reliable eddy turns, peel-outs, controlling the angle on ferries and gaining overall experience.

Instruction will start at 9 a.m. at a location to be determined later and be over each day by late afternoon. Enrollment is limited to 6 people in each type of paddling. Students must provide their own equipment including the boat. Cost for the two days of instruction is \$20.

For further information, contact either Chuck Wilkison for solo open canoe (793-8041) or Sally Dewes for kayak (346-1761).

2005 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. Do you want to learn how to whitewater paddle? Call Chuck Wilkison (793-8041) for canoe or Horst DeLorenzi (399-4615) for kayak. We can help you get started.

Date	Day	Trip location	Class	Leader	Phone
3-26	Sat	Kinderhook	2+	Bob Wright	279-1428
3-26	Sat	Catskill Creek or Class 3 leader's choice	3	Sally Dewes	346-1761
3-27	Sun	Hoosic: Williamstown, MA, to North Pownal, VT. (Easter)	1	Chet Harvey and Kathy Armstrong	346-4920
4-02	Sat	Leaders choice	2-3	Larry Woods	271-0270
4-03	Sun	West (or East) Canada	2 (2+)	Tom Bielawski	895-2733
4-05	Tue	Normanskill; after work, meet at 5 p.m.	2	Sally Dewes	346-1761
4-09	Sat	Catskill or leader's choice	3	Charlie Beach	459-9127
4-10	Sun	Sacandaga: Wells to Hope	2	David Avigdor	654-6609

4-16	Sat	Guided rafting trip down the Hudson Gorge with Wildwater Outdoor Center guides. No experience necessary. Wet suit, lunch and dinner provided. Cost is \$65. This is an excellent way to get an impression of the river for class 3 paddlers contemplating running it. Deadline for signing up: April 4.	3-4	Laura and Ken Perrault	664-6781 ncreek9@ nycap.rr.com
4-16	Sat	Hoosic River: release on the Schaghticoke Gorge. Run the falls or start lower. Canoe carts recommended for the .3 mile portage to Big Eddy. Lots of Class 3 fun on the 1.5 mile section to the Powerhouse. Class 1 water starts at the Powerhouse and adds 4 miles of paddling to the Knickerbocker Rd. take out. 3 hour release starting at 1 p.m.	5 or 3	Steve Brabetz	843-5566
4-16	Sat	East, West, and Middle branches of the Sacandaga	3	Horst deLorenzi	399-4615
4-17	Sun	East Branch of the Sacandaga upstream of Griffin Falls	2	Chuck Wilkison	793-8041
4-23	Sat	West River Release: from Dam to East Jamaica	3	Bob Wright	279-1428
4-24	Sun	Schoharie II: Power House Rd to Fort Hunter	2	Betty Lou Bailey	355-0604
4-29 4-30 5-01	Fri to Sun	Paddler's weekend: Fish Creek – Moose River – Black River (upper)	3-4	Bob Wright	279-1428
4-30	Sat	Riparius to the Glen	3	Norm Labbe	877-0076
5-01	Sun	Schoharie I: N. Blenheim to Middleburgh	1	Betty Lou Bailey	355-0604
5-07	Sat	Hudson River: North Creek to Riparius	3	Chet Harvey and Kathy Armstrong	346-4920
5-08	Sun	Housatonic 2: (Mother's Day)	2	Betty Lou Bailey	355-0604
5-14	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
5-15	Sun	Hudson River: Riparius to the Glen	3	David Avigdor	654-6609
5-21	Sat	Hudson River from Newcomb to North River. Camping Friday night at Harris Lake	3-4	Bob Wright	279-1428

5-22	Sun	Hudson River from Riparius to the Glen. Lunch, swim and play at the island.	3	Judy Halstead	583-2504
5-28	Sat	Hudson Gorge or Deerfield: Dryway (1000 cfs)	4	Horst deLorenzi	399-4615
5-30	Mon	Schroon (Memorial day)	2(3)	Rick Gonzales	355-3403
6-04	Sat	Hudson River from Riparius to the Glen.	3	Norm Labbe	877-0076
6-05	Sun	Esopus Creek	2+	Kathy Magee	864-5675
6-11	Sat	Schroon	2(3)	Rick Gonzales	355-3403
6-12	Sun	Deerfield: Dryway (900 cfs)?			
6-11 6-12	Sat Sun	Intermediate kayak and canoe instructions		Sally Dewes/ Horst deLorenzi and Chuck Wilkison/Larry Woods	346-1761 (Sally) 793-8041 (Chuck)
6-17	Fri	Deerfield: Dryway (1000 cfs)		Horst deLorenzi	399-4615
6-18	Sat	Hudson Gorge	4	Mal Provost	399-1565
6-19	Sun	(Father's day) Deerfield: Dryway (900cfs)?			
6-24	Fri	Deerfield: Dryway (1000 cfs)		Horst deLorenzi	399-4615
6-24 to 6-26	Fri To Sat	Lehigh River trip. Drive to PA on Friday, camp or stay in motel, run the river Saturday and Sunday	2-3	David Avigdor	654-6609

Wilderness First Aid Course – The Schenectady Chapter Board agreed to provide partial (\$150) tuition refund for outings leaders who take Wilderness First Aid courses. The program is modeled after the 46ers current program so people who are both 46ers and Schenectady trip leaders can get a total of \$200 reimbursement. Call Chuck Wilkison (793-8041) or Walt Hayes (399-7482) for further info.

Trip Tales & Paddling Parables

Berrymill and Moose Mountain Ponds 1/15/05

We enjoyed blue skies and lots of sun on the relatively easy, 6.5 mile hike past Berrymill Pond to Moose Mt. Pond. The views across the pond to Moose Mountain, Owl Pate and Bald Pate were wonderful. The only thing missing was enough snow on the trail to use our snowshoes, which remained strapped on our packs. Participants were Betty Lou Bailey, Horst deLorenzi, Walt Hayes, Jackie and Neil Parker, Jerry Perregaux, Colin Smith and the leader. (Norm Kuchar)

Ski Speculator Tree Farm 1/22/05

The trip was scheduled three days early. The Wednesday prior the leader scouted it in perfect weather and good snow. Evidently the forecast for -7 F and more than a foot of snow scared people off, and there were no calls. Leader stayed home and continued remodeling the kitchen. (Bob Grimm)

No. 8 Mountain (Pharaoh Lake Wilderness) 1/29/05

The thermometer was just barely on the positive side of zero when we started on the trail toward Mill Brook. We left the trail just before the brook and after avoiding some cliffs on the northwestern side found the woods open and the grades easy. Despite literature suggesting taking the southern ridge up No. 8, we went up the northern ridge and found views of Pharaoh and Treadway Mountains as well as some of the high peaks. The summit offered views to the south of Brant Lake, Stevens Mountain and the peaks of Lake George. The sun had warmed things up considerably and we enjoyed the top for over an hour. After some discussion, we decided to go down the southern ridge. It turned out to be a great decision because we found the open rock ledges and views we'd read about. Several members of our group were well versed in tree identification and they entertained and educated us about the trees we came across on the way down. Participants were Walt Hayes, Jim Hussey, Norm Kuchar, Lynn Neal and the leader (Herb Terns)

Ski Flowed Lands and Lake Colden 2/5/05

Cancelled - no signups (Frank Sorbero)

No. 8 Hill 2/5/05

Very little new snow. Trail packed to Spectacle Pond. Six to eight inches in woods with no base. Saw otter slide marks across trail and beaver tail drag marks at Coffee Pond. Distant Vermont peaks were obscured by hazy sky. Very good views of nearby peaks: Crane, Gore, Eleventh, Hoffman and High Peaks were seen from open top. Excellent views of the southern cliffs of Pharaoh. A beautiful sunny day. Lost glasses were found on a return trip on Sunday. We enjoyed a quick stop to see the recently refurbished and redecorated camp of Jim Spring. Participants were Mark Havis, Darina Kafka, Norm Kuchar, Ken & Nilde Marcinowski, Cliff Prewencki, Jim Spring and the leader. (Walt Hayes)

Ski Glenville Hills 2/12/05

One person came to the ski in our woods. There was good snow complete with coyote, fisher and ruffed grouse tracks. And ruffed grouse. (Nancy Slack)

Bennett Hill 2/12/05

Enough snow to use snowshoes. Trip went well. No problems worse than a leaky thermos. After a grey a.m. with restricted views, it cleared during lunch, so we back-tracked a short distance to the primary viewpoint and then had fine views of the Helderberg escarpment and valley farms as we descended. Ann Boland & Dan Van Leeuwen were new to snowshoeing and accompanied by leader. (Betty Lou Bailey)

Cooper Kiln Pond and peak 2/12/05

A gray overcast day but the lack of sun kept the trees snow-covered and beautiful all day. The trip to the pond seemed quick and easy. We had snowmobile packed trail for part of the way and had to break out our trail the rest of the way to the lean-to at the pond. The blow-down on the ridge of the Wilmington Range slowed us to the point of not making our goal. The howling winds and blowing snow were a dramatic backdrop to our day in the wilds. Participants were Darina Kafka, Norm Kuchar, Ken & Nilde Marcinowski, Lin Neil and the leader. (Walt Hayes)

Hollyhock Hollow Sanctuary 02/13/05

A nice, short hike through the Audobon Society's sanctuary south of Albany. There was very little snow, so we left the snowshoes at home. The preserve boasts seven miles of trails; we stuck to the largest woody loop, which goes by an old quarry, and the shorter water trail for a hike of less than two hours. Due either to the time of year or our late morning start, we didn't spot many birds. Another trip in May (peak migratory time) is planned. Hopefully we'll have better luck then. Participants were: Hasna Kaddo, Jim, Jeanne Haubrich, Margaret Parks, George Astle, Steve Gapp and the trip leader (Gillian Scott - Herb Terns was home sick).

Saving the Spruce Mountain Fire Tower Inning 02/16/05

At a chapter program held at the Schenectady County Public Library, Jack Freeman related how the remaining fire towers in the Forest Preserve are becoming historical, educational and recreational resources. An effort is now under way to protect the Spruce Mountain tower, in northern Saratoga County. Land along a major section of the trail to the tower (the highest in the Forest Preserve) has been acquired by a land trust, and there are visions for restoring the tower. Jack also used the occasion to announce the formation of a "Friends of Spruce Mountain" group to help make the vision a reality. There were about 20 attendees. (Norm Kuchar)

Partridge Run 2/19/05

Cancelled - no signups (David Geisinger)

Five Mile Mountain 2/26/05

We had a couple inches of fresh snow over a packed base for this snowshoe hike on the Tongue Mountain Range trail, starting at the north trailhead on NY 9N. We went over Brown Mountain to the summit of Five Mile Mountain, returning the same way. Occasional bursts of light snow flurries weakened the sun at times, softening the views of snow-covered Lake George and the surrounding mountains. Participants included Horst DeLorenzi, Jerry Perregaux, Mal Provost, guest Dave Keep and the leader. (Norm Kuchar)

Buck Mountain from Shelving Rock Road 2/26/05

While we had a mostly cloudy day, a light snow made for a pretty winter day in the mid 20s, and perfect snow conditions (8" - 10" in the woods) were a treat. Participants were: Betty Lou Bailey, Jenn & Rick Constantino, Wally Herrod, Lois Leonard and the leaders. (Ken & Nilde Marcinowski)

Adirondack snowshoe 3/5/05

This leader choice trip turned into a climb of the little Pinnacle peak near Chase Lake in Fulton County. We started from the end of the Pinnacle Road at the parking area following ski tracks on the old road. We soon left the trail to bushwhack up Pinnacle. It was a bright beautiful day with nice snow on the conifers we went through just below the summit. The wooded summit revealed views of Chase Lake through the leafless branches. We had lunch in the sun and then headed north on the ridge for further exploration. After an hour we came to a place where the ridge dropped off significantly so we dropped west to the valley and out the valley reconnecting with the old road. A real treat just before reaching a vley in the valley was a cliff covered with frozen waterfalls of various colors. It called for a photo op. On the snowcovered vley we saw otter tracks going the length of the vley out in the open. None of us had seen such extensive otter tracks on a frozen body of water. Participating were Norm Kuchar, Bernie Mansbach, Ken & Nilde Marcinowski and the leader. (Walt Hayes)

ATV ban proposed - your comments wanted

The DEC recently proposed banning all-terrain vehicles from state land in the Adirondack and Catskill state parks. The new policy would also establish criteria for allowing ATV use of state roads and trails. A draft of the plan is available online at <http://www.dec.state.ny.us>.

This policy would prohibit the use of ATVs within the boundaries of wildlife management areas, tidal wetlands and environmental education centers. ATVs are already banned

from wilderness areas.

Public comments on the new policy will be accepted through May 27. There will be public hearings, but you can also send your written comments to:

Robert Davies
NYS DEC
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-4250
(518) 402-9405

Conservation Notes

Earth Day/Lobby Day. This annual Albany event will be held on Tuesday, April 19 this year. This is a fine opportunity to get an understanding of how our New York legislature works. All participants attend a general session which usually is addressed by the Assembly's and the State Senate's chairmen of the Environmental Committee for their house of the legislature. There are always briefings on the current "hottest" proposed laws that environmental advocates and others want to see enacted into law. Also, tips on talking to legislators or their staffs are viewed. On the early afternoon, most attendees get to visit a legislator or a staff person as part of a group. For more information, call Betty Lou Bailey, who expects to attend, at 355-0604.

Esperence area opportunity. There will be a meeting on Sunday, April 20 in Burtonville, from 6 to 8 p.m., at the Schoharie River Center. The Albany County Land Conservancy is starting to organize a neighborhood committee to manage their Schoharie Creek Preserve. The preserve land goes along Wilsey Creek and Schoharie Creek in the town of Charleston, just east of Charleston State Forest. It's an attractive parcel, worth working on. Call Betty Lou Bailey, 355-0604, for details.

Conservation Committee. I'm always looking for new people interested in either the Forest Preserve (Adirondacks & Catskills) and/or local natural areas for the chapter's Conservation Committee. Call Betty Lou Bailey at 355-0604 for more information.

Submitted by: Betty Lou Bailey

Highlights of the March Board of Directors' Meeting

Budget. The main club reported a modest surplus for 2004. Membership continues to decline, and dues payments from the main club to the chapters continue to run two to three months late. This winter the lodges did below expectation due to the poor winter weather, until mid-February when things picked up. The April/May lull will not offset this.

Personnel. It is expected that a new development director is on the horizon (again), as soon as the week of 14 March (This week includes the Ides of March...)

Strategic plan. There was major discussion concerning a draft strategic plan, specifically language extending ADK's influence to "the Northeast and beyond." At this writing, both your directors and a vast majority of your chapter board are opposed to this extension and will make those thoughts known. Stay tuned.

Awards. That night we attended the 5th annual President's Dinner, a major function of which is the presentation of awards. The David Newhouse Conservation Award was given to the APA, the Art Newkirk Education Award to Peggy Lynn and Dan Beregen, the Eleanor Brown Communication Award to Barbara McMartin and the Trailblazer Award to Pete Fish. Betty Lou Bailey was awarded for her many hours of volunteer effort (more than 590 last year – thanks Betty!); distinguished volunteer awards also went to Tom Both and David Gillespie. Space is limited here; details will be in *Adirondac*.

*Submitted by:
Bob Grimm & Stan Stoklosa*

Volunteers needed on Kayaderosseras Creek

On Saturday, April 23, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., the Friends of the Kayaderosseras will partner with the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation to create a one-mile loop trail and canoe access on the newly acquired section of Saratoga Spa State Park. To sign up to help, call 346-4920. Rain date is April 30.

Main club events calendar

The following events are all sponsored by the Adirondack Mountain Club. Where a fee is indicated, costs are for members/non-members. For more information, contact the ADK at 668-4447 or e-mail adkinfo@adk.org

Exhibits

ADK Member Services Center, Goggins Road, Lake George. 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday – Saturday.

Gail Barlow – April 1 – June 25

Bolton Landing resident Gail Barlow will exhibit her delicate paintings and unusual counted cross-stitch artwork. Featuring landscapes, flowers and a variety of other subjects in both watercolors and oils.

Life Cycles of Butterflies and Moths – Nan

Wilson – July 1 – August 27

An exhibit of reproductions of watercolor paintings of the life cycles of butterflies and moths.

Lectures

Birds of the Adirondacks - April 13 – Gerry Lemmo

A living History of Orra Phelps – May 11 – Leslie Dane

Education Programs

Wilderness First Aid with WMA – April 9-10;
Heart Lake Program Center/ Weizel Cabin

This two-day workshop teaches students to assess patients, become certified in wilderness first aid, CPR, and anaphylaxis training. Class time is both inside and out, rain, shine, or snow. Cost: \$175 includes instruction and materials; \$235 includes instruction, materials, meals, and lodging for 2 nights

Wilderness Medical Associates Recertification Course – April 16-17; *Heart Lake Program Center/ Weizel Cabin*

This two-day course will recertify the WMA Wafa, WFR, and the wilderness component for WEMT graduates. Inside and out, rain, shine, or snow. Cost: \$200, instruction and materials; \$260, instruction, materials, meals, and lodging for 2 nights.

Map and Compass Bushwhack – May 7-8; *Heart Lake Program Center*

Learn the basics of map and compass skills. The first day will cover map reading, compass use, triangulation, and identification of terrain features. On day two, test skills with a guided bushwhack. Fee: \$86/95, includes instruction and materials.

Guide License Training with ADK, NYSOGA, DEC – May 11-13; *Heart Lake Program Center*

This three-day course is designed to help outdoor educators and leaders obtain a state guide license. All courses needed for the DEC guide license will be offered along with workshops to prepare you for the guide license exam (exam held separately). Cost:

\$240/266, includes instruction, certifications, speakers, and parking.

Spring Wildflowers with Ruth Schottman - May 14-15; *Heart Lake Program Center*

For beginner wildflower enthusiasts, or those who are looking for a review. Cost: \$76/85, includes instruction for two days and parking.

Yoga and Hiking with Hatha Yoga instructor Mimi Wacholder – May 21-22; *Heart Lake Program Center*

Learn yoga and hiking skills Wacholder and a licensed guide from ADK's staff. Yoga practice will focus on breathing exercises and postures. Afternoons will be spent combining centering and stretching techniques with moderate hikes. Cost: \$135/150, includes instruction, parking fee, and yoga mat rental.

Global Positioning System (GPS) Training – May 28; *Heart Lake Program Center*

You do not have to own a GPS to attend this course. Cost: \$48/53, includes instruction and materials.

Map & Compass Fundamentals – June 11; *ADK Member Services Center*

An introduction to the fundamentals of map reading, compass use, triangulation and identification of terrain features. Indoors and out with a possible trip to a nearby recreation area to practice skills. Cost: \$45/50, includes instruction and materials.

Beginner White Water Kayaking with Wild Waters Outdoor Center – June 11-12; *WWOC Warrensburg*

Stroke technique, river reading, and safety issues will be covered over a two-day period. Cost: \$120/125 includes instruction for two days & equipment use

Adirondack Birding – June 18; *Heart Lake Program Center.*

Designed for those who are new to birding or birders looking to refresh their knowledge. Cost: \$45/50, includes instruction & materials.

Beginner White Water Canoeing with Wild Waters Outdoor Center. – June 18-19; *Warrensburg*

Stroke technique, river reading, and safety issues will be covered over a two-day period. Cost: \$120/125, includes instruction for two days & equipment use.

American Canoe Association Instructor Certification with American Canoe Association and ADK staff – June 21-24; *Heart Lake Program Center*

This three-day course is designed to help outdoor educators, leaders, and others develop the skills needed to lead flat-water and river-water canoe travel. Cost: \$270/300, includes instruction, canoe equipment, books & materials, and IC certifications.

Intermediate White Water Kayaking with Wild Waters Outdoor Center – June 25-26; *Warrensburg*

This course is for folks who already possess some kayaking experience and are interested in more advanced techniques. Cost: \$120/125, includes instruction for two days & equipment use.

Adirondack Mountain tribute

Union College will host a tribute to the Adirondack Mountains from April 5 to May 3. During the month-long series, experts in Adirondack history and nature, and lovers of mountain climbing will describe that attraction in our back yard.

The speakers will include: **Richard Lefebvre**, past chair of the Adirondack Park Association; **Neil Woodworth**, executive director of the Adirondack Mountain Club; **John E. Winkler**, an accomplished author and mountain climber; **Peter Tobiessen**, professor of biology at Union College; and **Maria Beurmann**, poet, storyteller and membership chair for the Schenectady chapter of ADK.

National Trails Day

Saturday, June 4 is National Trails Day. The Schenectady Chapter will again be working on cleaning up the city of Schenectady's portion of the Mohawk-Hudson Bike-Hike Trail. Details will follow in the June/July Lookout. Call Stan Stoklosa for more information at 383-3066.

Save the date!

Tuesday, Oct. 25 is the date selected for this year's **Schenectady Chapter Annual Dinner Meeting.** We will once again be meeting at Schenectady County Community College's Casola Dining Room. See future issues for more details.

Again... Thank you, EMS

Special thanks again to Niskayuna's Eastern Mountain Sports for including the Schenectady chapter in a fund-raising event at Union College. Chapter members Jackie Parker and Maria Beurmann assisted in selling raffle tickets for EMS equipment. Since the monies garnered were split between the Union College Outing Club and the Schenectady Chapter of the ADK, each club received \$70 for its participation in the event.

St. Regis Canoe Outing July 18-28, 2005 Paul Smith's, New York

Paul Smith's College will be our base for daily paddles on Adirondack waterways, followed by the "traditional" activities. Cost includes lodging and three meals daily – dinner on your first day through a box lunch on your last day. Cost does not include canoes, kayaks, or transportation of boats.

Option 1: July 18-23, cost \$350

Option 2: July 23-28, cost \$350

Option 3: July 18-28, cost \$660.

Please send your name, address, home phone number, date choices in order of preference, and a \$75 per person non-refundable deposit, payable to ADK.

For more information, contact: Marilyn Gillespie, 277 Lake St., Saranac Lake, NY 12983, 891-2626, or e-mail petergil-marilyn@northnet.org

Canoe camping

The ADK will lead several three-day canoe camping trips this summer:

- Low's Lake Wilderness Canoe Camping, July 2-4
- Family Canoe Camping, August 12-14
- Whitney Wilderness Canoe Camping, August 19-21
- Lake Lila Wilderness Canoe Camping, August 26-28
- Autumn Wilderness Canoe Camping, September 9-11

Each of the trips costs \$110 (\$120 for non-members), which includes instruction, use of canoe equipment, group camping gear and meals. There will also be a variety of one-day canoe trips offered. For more information, call the ADK at 523-3441 or check out the Web site at <http://www.adk.org>.

Electronic newsletter available

Would you prefer to receive your copy of The Lookout via e-mail? If so, send your name, e-mail address and snail mail address to Gillian Scott, Lookout editor, at mtgrrl03@localnet.com