

Schenectady Chapter of the ADK

August/September 2005

New & Reinstated Members

Barr, Brian and Stephanie Crandall
Cahalan, Joseph
Cook, Lynn
Croshaw, Philip
Falato, Janet and James
Ferguson, Alan
Gartley, Robert and Sue
Kolanach, Michael

Kudlack, Jason and Susan
Lindner, Mary and Steve Black
Magoon, Jason
Ogrodowski, Jennifer
Pattison, Brian and Theta
Patnode, Diane
Pelkey, Michael
Peterson, Charles

Poole, Daniel
Regula, Thomas
Rodriguez, Eva
Walley, Lance
Waterman, Wyatt
Welch, Calvin
Zak, Robert

Schenectady Chapter ADK Inning "Climbing the Walls" Alan Wechsler

When: Wednesday, September 14
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Where: McChesney Room, Schenectady County
Public Library, 99 Clinton Street (at Liberty),
Schenectady, NY

Rock climbing has become a popular sport in the Adirondacks and elsewhere. If you're an active rock climber, want to learn more about the sport, or just like to look at spectacular mountain scenery, come and hear Alan Wechsler's presentation and enjoy his photography.

Alan, a staff writer at the *Times Union*, is an adventure travel enthusiast and Adirondack Forty-Sixer. He will describe some of the climbing routes he has explored in the Adirondacks, White Mountains, Tetons, Wind Rivers, Yosemite and elsewhere.

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

2nd annual Photo Contest

For our second annual photo contest, we are requesting pictures for the front cover of *The Lookout*.

To participate, members of the Schenectady Chapter of the ADK may submit a hard copy of a black/white or color picture that reflects the theme: The Lookout. Include your name and a description of what the photo depicts. Mail to: Maria Beurmann, 5 Wing Road, Rexford, NY 12148 by Sept. 1, 2005.

Pictures will not be returned. The Schenectady Chapter board of directors will determine which picture will grace the front of *The Lookout*.

Special thanks to Kimberly Newsom for the use of her photo on the front cover of the current *Lookout*.

Mark your calendars!!

**Schenectady Chapter Annual Dinner Meeting
Tuesday, October 25, 2005**

This year's speaker is Chris Nicola, one of America's top cavers. Chris will tell us the fascinating story of his exploration of one of the world's largest cave complexes in Ukraine and his discoveries about how Jewish families survived the Holocaust by hiding for over a year in the huge labyrinth. Look for details in the next issue of *The Lookout*.

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 August & September 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

Driver reimbursement

Each rider should pay their driver four to five cents per mile, depending on the current cost of gasoline. With gas at \$2 per gallon, four cents per mile should be used and at \$2.50 per gallon, five cents should be used (\$3/gallon - six cents, etc). To help you calculate how much to pay your driver (or to be paid by your passengers) we have included some gas costs as examples in a few of the following trips.

Walt Hayes, Outings chair

Sat 6 Aug
Black Mountain (Siamese Ponds Wilderness), Class C3A
Walt Hayes, 399-7482

This is a short steep bushwhack to an open summit with the best views of the valley of the east branch of the Sacandaga. Ascent 1400 feet. Round-trip under three miles. Barbara McMartin rates bushwhack as "moderate to difficult." Pace will be slow, with about four hours of hiking and time to enjoy views. Be prepared for wading across the Sacandaga River. Possible stop at nearby Fox Lair to explore site of Hudnut estate and the Oregon Tannery after hike. Fox Lair also has a deep swimming hole. Gas cost: \$6 per passenger (see note above).

Sat 13 Aug
Thomas Mountain and Ben Wood Mountain, Class C3C
Walt Hayes, 399-7482

Two small mountains - slow pace. Thomas has 270 degree views of Lake George and the Adirondacks on lands of the Lake George Land Conservancy. Ben Wood in Pack Forest will be done in the afternoon. Total ascent about 1200 feet, less than five miles. Gas cost: \$5 per passenger (see note above).

Tue 16 Aug
Blue Ledges
Class C2C
Norm Kuchar, 399-6243

The Blue Ledges tower 300 feet above the Hudson River at a place where the river makes a horseshoe bend. We will hike the trail from the North Woods Club Road, west of Minerva. The trail is pleasant and relatively easy, with the only steep part on the last drop to the river. Round trip distance is 5 miles with total round trip ascent of about 850 feet. Gas cost: \$6 per passenger (see note above).

Sat 20 Aug
Stevens Mt and Little Stevens via
Crab Pond Class A2B
Herb Terns, 372-8478 or
trailhed@localnet.com

Stevens Mountain is the second highest trailless peak in the Pharaoh Lake Wilderness and an inviting bushwhack when viewed from No. 8 Mountain. We'll follow Mill Brook into Crab Pond and then head up to Stevens where hopefully we'll find some views. We'll follow a ridge to Little Stevens and possibly return to Crab Pond. Trip is approximately 8.5 miles with 6 miles bushwhack and 2200 feet elevation gain.

Sat 20 Aug
Appalachian Trail
Class B+3B
Betty Lou Bailey, 355-0604

MASSACHUSETTS APPALACHIAN TRAIL

Guilder Pond to the Connecticut/Massachusetts state line. This is a very rewarding section of the AT, with more gnarled pine trees and lookouts along the ridge. We go over Mts. Everett and Race, then down through lovely Sages Ravine. Two access trails to the west will be used to minimize the ascent. Total mileage is 8 miles, with 6 of it on the AT. Total ascent is 1685 feet, including an initial climb of 800 feet.

Sat 10 Sep
Big Crow, Nun-da-ga-o Ridge and
Weston Mountain
Class B2B
Norm Kuchar, 399-6243

This loop hike east of Keene first climbs to the summit of Big Crow, with views of 28 major peaks. It then follows the minimally maintained trail along the rocky ledges of Nun-da-ga-o Ridge, with many good views from clearings. Finally, the trail climbs Weston Mountain with views of Lost Pond and a circle of peaks. Round trip distance is 6.2 miles, with about 1500-ft ascent. Gas cost \$9 per passenger (see note, page 2).

Wed 14 Sept
"Climbing the Walls"
Schenectady County Public Library
7:30 p.m.
Alan Wechsler

Please come to Alan Wechsler's presentation on rock climbing in the Adirondacks, White Mountains, Tetons, Wind Rivers, Yosemite and elsewhere. (See page 1 for more information.)

Sat 17 Sept
Santanoni, Class A+2A
Herb Terns, 372-8478 or
trailhed@localnet.com

HIGH PEAK

We'll climb this highest peak in the Santanoni Range and leave Couchsachraga and perhaps Panther for another day. The trip will follow a trail to Bradley Pond and then herd paths from there to Times Square and Santanoni's scenic summit. If there's significant group interest we'll also make a short side trip up Panther. Approximately 15 miles RT with 3300 feet of gain.

Sun 18 Sept
Appalachian Trail
Class B3C
Betty Lou Bailey, 355-0604

MASSACHUSETTS APPALACHIAN TRAIL

This section from Goose Pond Road to Fernside Road was inadvertently skipped in 2004. Although the open summit on Cobble Hill has fine views, probably the most memorable views in the section will be those down Tyringham Valley. Total ascent of 1400 feet is pretty well spread out over the 7.5-mile trip.

Fri 23 Sept
ADK Fall Outing 2005
Marge Karowe, 377-8901 or
adkfallouting@aol.com

Thirty trips are scheduled for this weekend at the Roaring Brook Ranch Resort off exit 21 of the Northway. Activities include hiking, paddling, fishing and photography. Registration is \$25; those under 18 attend free. ADK membership is not required. A complete brochure is available online at <http://www.adk.org>. Click on "Recreation," then "Seasonal Outings," then "Fall Outing 2005." Group sizes are limited. Friday activities include: Prospect Mt. hike; paddle of northwest Bay Brook; walking tour of Lake George village and the Lake George Balloon Fest.

Sat 24 Sept
ADK Fall Outing
Marge Karowe, 377-8901 or
adkfallouting@aol.com

Hikes scheduled for Saturday include: Buck Mt.; Hadley Mt. Fire Tower Challenge; Fifth Peak Lean-to; Cat Mountain; Mt. Blue (canoe/bushwhack); Peak Mt. Pond; Black Mt. loop Fire Tower Challenge; Crane Mountain loop; Pharaoh Mt.; Pharaoh Lake short swing trail; Gore Mt. Fire Tower Challenge; Noonmark (photography trip); Rocky Peak Ridge; the trailless Dixes – Macomb, South Dix, East Dix and Hough; and the MacIntyre Range – Wright, Algonquin, Iroquois, Shepherd's Tooth and possibly Marshall. Saturday paddles include Hudson River and the Narrows of Lake George.

Sat 24 Sept
Rocky Peak Ridge
Class A+2A
Mary MacDonald, 399-5435
or email Mstekhike@aol.com

HIGH PEAK

We will begin at Route 9 and hike along the ridge, absorbing the fall colors and the grand views on the way. This ridge is open for long distances. Our goal is Rocky Peak summit at 6.7 miles. This peak is listed as #20 of the highest Adirondack Peaks at 4420 ft. Our return trip is along the same route, making the round trip distance 13.4 miles. Bring plenty of water and lunch. Elevation gain to Rocky Peak Ridge is 5300 ft. Early start. Gas cost: \$7 per passenger (see note, page 2).

Sun 25 Sept
ADK Fall Outing
Marge Karowe, 377-8901 or
adkfallouting@aol.com

Hikes scheduled for Sunday include: Sleeping Beauty; Pilot Knob loop trail; Treadway Mt.; Moreau State Park; Hadley Mt. Fire Tower Challenge; Deer Leap; Spruce Mt. Firetower Challenge. There will also be a paddle on the Hudson River.

Thu 29 Sept
Mt. Equinox, VT
Class B2C
Barbara Kolapakka 583-9038

This will be a moderately paced hike of 5 miles on the forest trails of Mount Equinox in Manchester Village, VT. The Vermont woods should be showing color then and we'll have lunch at a lookout point but we won't actually get to the summit (that trail will be saved for another time). About 1200 feet of elevation with some short steeper sections but we'll take them slowly and just enjoy meandering in the autumn woods.

Sat 1 Oct
Peaked Hill-Pharaoh Lake Wilderness
Class A2B
Herb Terns, 372-8478 or
trailhed@localnet.com

We got an excellent view of Peaked and its open summit from Potter Mountain in June and I've wanted to climb it ever since. Despite being called a "hill," Peaked is actually higher than nine of the mountains in the Pharaoh Lakes Wilderness. We'll go in via trail from the

northwest past Honey and Lilypad Ponds. We'll then bushwhack up Peaked's slightly steeper NW slope, which should give us the best chance for early views. We'll descend a more gradual NE ridge and hopefully rejoin the trail near a small waterfall on Rock Pond Brook. Approximately 9 miles with around 1800 feet of gain.

Sun 16 Oct
Hunter Mountain B3C
Herb Terns, 372-8478 or
trailhed@localnet.com

FIRE TOWER CHALLENGE

A chance to climb a fire tower mountain with a former observer who also happens to be my mom. She and my grandfather were observers on Hunter from the early 1970's to the late 80's. We did this trip last year up the Devil's Path but this year will go up the more gradual Spruceton Road. The pace will be easy and the stories likely plentiful with views along the route as well as from the tower. 6.8 miles RT with 1900 feet of gain along the fire tower jeep road.

Sat 22 Oct
Venison and Dutton Mountains
bushwhack, Class C3C
Walt Hayes, 399-7482

Two small peaks near the confluence of the Boreas and Hudson Rivers. Open woods with great views of the Hudson River Gorge. About 4 miles with 1500 feet of ascent. Easy bushwhacking at a slow pace.

Sat 29 Oct
Huckleberry Mountain, Class C3C
Walt Hayes, 399-7482

This small mountain next to Crane Mountain has its own attractions including great views from the cliffs. In 2002 forest fires blackened many acres near the top. It will be interesting to see the vegetation recovery since that fire. We also can inspect the remains of the old paint mine at the foot of the mountain in the valley between Huckleberry and Crane. Most of the hike will be on unmarked paths and roads with a little bushwhacking. An easy hike.

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 paddle white water? 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
8-06	Sat	Sacandaga Release Section or leader's choice of another class 2/3	2/3	Judy Halstead	583-2504
8-06	Sat	Hudson Gorge or Dryway	4	Horst deLorenzi	399-1565

8-07	Sun	West Canada Creek	2	Tom Bielawski	895-2733
8-12	Fri	Deerfield Dryway section	4	Horst deLorenzi	399-1565
8-13	Sat	Deerfield Fife Brook section (Zoar Gap class 3 is optional)	2	Mal Provost	399-1565
8-14	Sun	Leader's choice	2	Larry Woods	271-0270
8-20	Sat	Hudson Gorge or Dryway	4	Horst deLorenzi	399-1565
8-26	Fri	Deerfield Dry Way (900 cfs) I will be camping out with NY/NJ AMC in the group site at the State Campground for the weekend. Check with me if you are interested in camping there also	4	Chuck Wilkison	793-8041
8-27	Sat	Deerfield Dryway (1000 cfs) with NY/NJ AMC	4	Chuck Wilkison	793-8041
8-28	Sun	Deerfield Fife Brook section (Zoar Gap class 3 is optional)	2	Chuck Wilkison	793-8041
9-03	Sat	Beaver River fest	4/5		
9-18	Sun	Deerfield Dryway (900 cfs)	4	Chuck Wilkison	793-8041
9-24	Sat	West River release	2/3+	Bob Wright	279-1428
10-02	Sun	Esopus Creek	2/3	Larry Woods	271-0270
10-08	Sat	Hudson River (Thurman Bridge to Thousand Areas Dude Ranch)	1	Chuck Wilkison	793-8041
10-15	Sat	Moose Fest Lower Moose	4	Chuck Wilkison	793-8041
10-16	Sun	Moose Fest			
10-22	Sat	Farmington River: Paddle the top and bottom class 2 sections only or also include the class 3+ middle section with trip leader	2 and/or 3 +	Chuck Wilkison	793-8041

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

Hoffman Notch Wilderness 5/18/05 cancelled - no signups (Walt Hayes)

Rock Pond and Rock Pond Mountain 5/21/2005

May was the perfect time to make the trip into Rock Pond as it was filled with wildflowers. Both red and painted trillium were plentiful as was witchhobble, lady slippers and fringed polygalia. We detoured slightly on the way in to include a trip to the scenic Heart Pond. We went along the northern shore of

Rock Pond to examine an old mine. The huge old boiler, brought in by horse teams in the 1800s, still marks the spot, as does the stone foundation. On top of the ridge over the pond we investigated an aqua-colored pool created by the mining there. Below the same ridge was the opening to the mine which two of the more adventurous members of the party explored by headlamp. After a lunch beside Rock Pond, we made the 10-minute climb to the summit of Rock Pond Mountain. The leader promised views in his description but they were mostly lacking, although there were many black flies. We rejoined the trail around Rock Pond and tried to find views across the pond to make Rock Pond Mountain look substantial. We were unable to do so, although we realized that one member of our group may have been the only person to ever climb Rock Pond Mountain twice. We completed a circle of the pond before heading out. Participants included Walt Hayes, Norm Kuchar, Lin Neal, Gillian Scott and the leader. (Herb Terns)

Pharaoh Mountain bushwhack 5/28/05

We found the bushwhack route up the ramp between the western cliffs was wider and easier than expected. There were signs of limited but regular use of that route. It was a perfect day with great views from the top. The return to the cars was by way of the trail. Participants included Kathleen Gill, Norm Kuchar, Dan Pekrol, Colin Smith, Herb Terns and the leader. (Walt Hayes)

Dryway trip report 5/28/05

Bob Wright and Horst deLorenzi were the only people signing up for this Dryway trip. It was the first release of the season and there were very few boaters and rafts on the river. The release was 1000 cfs. Bob had an uneventful run and Horst needed a roll in Dragon's Tooth (as usual). The bottom reservoir was low so Labyrinth was open all the way and it could be said that Horst was completely off balance at every instant in time during his run down Labyrinth. At the same time, two teenage girls half our size made the whole thing look like child's play, which took care of any macho feelings the river hadn't stripped away from us already. (Horst deLorenzi)

Washburn Ridge bushwhack 6/4/05 cancelled - no signups (Walt Hayes)

Esopus Creek 6/5/05

The early April flooding worked its magic on this stream almost to the extent observed on the Catskill. The Esopus had been rated a class III but with the slow erosion of railroad rapid it became more like a class II. Now, thanks to the power of nature, it is close to a class III+. The area just above railroad rapid had, last year, been filled, graded, grassed and lined with large rocks to divert the stream to the old bed and eliminate a hazardous short cut channel. The flood removed much of the filled area, took out a couple hundred feet of the railroad track on the right bank, as well as the railroad bridge over the woodland valley stream. More important, a sizeable drop, which should be scouted, developed across the stream in this area. Below that, the approach to the bridge above railroad rapid has drastically changed and needs a look before it's run. The Esopus gave the five paddlers an exciting run from the portal to Boiceville. One bested his annual swimming mishaps. Larry demonstrated twice how to run the drop in different canoes and stay dry. The fragrances from the various wild flowers and locust trees provided an added bonus to the fine weather we experienced. Participants were Betty Lou Bailey, Bob Brand, Shelly Nevard, Larry Wood, and the wet leader (Charlie Beach).

Schroon River Trip 6/11/05

Three boaters enjoyed a warm day paddling the Schroon River, which had risen to 3.0 feet due to recent rains. Two kayakers and a solo canoeist had a good run and a smooth ride at the "Big Drop." Paddlers were Jack Daniels, Norm Labbe, and the trip leader. (Rick Gonzales)

Intermediate Canoe Instruction 6/11/05 and 6/12/05

Larry Woods and I were very happy that we made the decision to have our instruction take place on the Deerfield River in western Massachusetts. The dammed up section of the West Branch provided a nice park setting for our flat-water practice of various strokes. After lunch we put in below Zoar Gap on the Fife Brook section and this provided lots of safe opportunities for WW maneuvers such as ferries, peel outs, and catching eddies. On Sunday we started at the top of the Fife Brook section and spent an

hour practicing at the first drop in the river. The student's ability and skills improved rapidly during this time. They had no problems negotiating the rest of the rapids, while practicing their maneuvering skills all the way down to Zoar Gap. The Gap is a solid class 3 rapid that two of our students wanted to try. One stayed up all the way through and the other almost made it. It was a great weekend! Students were: Tim Brooks, Simeon Hughson, and Ken Perrault in solo open canoes and Tom and Ann Bielawski in a tandem open canoe. Instructors were Chuck Wilkison, Larry Woods and Shelly Nevard.

Ponds of Pigeon Mountain 6/15/05

We bushwhacked to ten or more ponds and lakes in the Town of Bleecker. We found little evidence of any significant recent fisherman activity and lots of witch hobble. We saw old campsites, a beaver swimming in the middle of Little Oxborn Lake and a newborn sickly fawn. The circuit took about ten hours. Afterwards we enjoyed dessert at the nearby home of Gail Livingston. Other participants were Norm Kuchar, Jerry Perregaux and the leader. (Walt Hayes)

Potter and Ragged Mountains 6/18/2005

We hiked in on the trail toward Tubhill Marsh and then bushwhacked in to Potter Mountain. We found what appears to be an old road, which looks to go around, not up the mountain. Some rock scree made for difficult footing but not for long and we were soon on a rock ledge looking out over Tubhill Marsh. We walked along the summit ridge finding many views. As we walked, the morning clouds burned off and we got good views of the entire Pharaoh Lake Wilderness. On the way down, two of us were lucky enough to spot a terrifically beautiful Indigo Bunting sitting on a tree limb. We rejoined the trail and then went off again toward Ragged Mountain. We entered a bit too close to Ragged steep cliff faces and had a bit of a rock scramble. It wasn't long before we got views to the west and north of Pyramid Lake, Bear and Hoffman Mountains and the High Peaks. From Ragged's summit we watched several vultures cruise the cliffs below us. On the way home we stopped for a mandatory ice cream at Schroon Lake. Participants were Eric Avery, David Fuller, Lin Neal, Holli Rossi and the leader. (Herb Terns)

Hadley Solstice Sunset Hike 6/21/2005

A beautiful summer day made this trip very popular. Clouds to the west muted the sunset somewhat, but we turned in the other direction to see a big, orange moon rising behind the tower. With a large group and my wife's chocolate chip cookies flowing freely, the summit had a festive atmosphere to greet the summer. It was a perfect antidote to a day at work. As hoped, most people were down by 10:30 p.m.. Participants were Eric Avery, Karen Baker, Laurie Chakonas, Aaron Evans, Lorraine Doyne Evans, Aileen Gennett, Tom Gibbs, Arthur Huelt, Jim Hussey, Charles King, Kathy Miles, Lin Neal, Mary Nicoterce, Doris Ohewili, Gillian Scott, Terra Stowell, Paul Weber, Nigel the dog and the leader (Herb Terns).

Hudson Gorge and Dryway 6/23/05

Bob Wright and Horst deLorenzi teamed up with Rick Morse and his "little brother" Dave for a trip on the Hudson Gorge. It turned out to be a beautiful trip. It started out a little rough when Horst and Bob discovered that they both had forgotten the traditional beverage for the end of the trip. Luckily, Rick stepped in and supplied the missing items. After that the trip was just perfect. It was a sunny day, but not too hot and the North Creek gauge was 4.6 feet (with the bubble) which made for just a delightful day on the river. Personally I think that this is probably the most enjoyable day I have ever had on the Gorge. Too bad more people couldn't experience it.

Dryway 6/24/05

Friday, Horst and Bob were the only participants on the scheduled Dryway trip. Horst forgot his drytop and since the water is still very cold, tried to stay as dry possible. Labyrinth was again fully open so we could enjoy the whole length of the river. Both Horst and Bob made the traditional combat rolls in Dragon's Tooth. In addition Bob also made a quick combat roll in the middle Split Hair. Another great day, but at least Horst could feel the effect of the Hudson Gorge trip the day before. Bob tried out his new Jackson Fun on the Gorge and the Dryway for the first time and it seems like his paddling has improved greatly after he got this boat. He is hard to drag down a river now, as he wants to surf every wave and squirt every eddy line. (Horst deLorenzi)

Lehigh 6/25/05 and 6/26/05

Three paddlers had a grand day in 94-degree heat Saturday on the Upper Lehigh. The river was quite technical at a lower than average 600 cfs release. We took lots of play time and found a mid-river rock for a lunch spot where we could watch all the rafters hit the other rock while they looked at us. Mandy made good work use of her recent lessons with the club!! Sunday's planned run was cancelled due to a planned 400 cfs release with a very narrow time window. Participants: Mandy Martin, Joe Ciolino, and Dave Avigdor (leader).

Hudson Gorge 7/2/05

We were 8 boats with 9 paddlers on this perfect day. The paddlers were Pierre and Carolyn Cyr, Norm Labbe, Rick Gonzales, and Horst deLorenzi in kayaks, Mal Provost and Walt Addicks in solo open boats, and Shelly Nevard and Larry Woods in a tandem open boat. One paddler had a number of swims, one of which was a very long one on the Indian River. The paddler got somewhat beaten up on the legs, but did not seem to have other ill effects from it. It was a first run on the Gorge for a number of people and everybody seemed to enjoy it. (Horst deLorenzi)

Reist Sanctuary and Adirondack Research Library Tour 7/6/2005

We made it through nearly the entire Reist walk without seeing any birds until we spotted a pair of pileated woodpeckers. We observed the pair for a few minutes before heading back to the library to begin our tour with Patty Prindle. She brought us through the library's archives, special collections and artifacts as well as showing us a terrific collection of photography. The library is a treasure trove of Adirondack information that hopefully tour participants and other ADKers will examine more thoroughly on their own. The tour concluded with a tour of Adirondack conservationist Paul Scheaffer's former home. Participants were Betty Lou Bailey, Bruce Eelman, Jerry Perregaux, Linda Perregaux, Lori Ranick, Gillian Scott and the leader (Herb Terns).

Macomb, Carson Peak (S. Dix) and Grace Peak (E. Dix) 7/9/2005

When some members of the group started putting on their raingear at a Northway rest stop on the drive up, it was clear there was no illusions about our expectations for the day. It was going to rain and we were still going to go hiking. Eleven of us started off in a downpour that turned to a steady drizzle which turned to just overcast by the time we reached the base of the Macomb slide. The clouds parted enough to allow a view of Elk Lake on our way up the slide. If anyone was upset about the weather, it didn't show as we enjoyed lunch on Macomb's socked-in summit. Two members took out a veritable deli of lunch foods, which they were kind enough to share. Carson Peak showed some views to the south and east and we thought the weather might clear but it clouded over again on the way to Grace. On the way back over the ridge, the clouds were higher, allowing us views of Dix and some of the Great Range. Descending the Macomb slide was easier than most of the group expected and we made in back to the Elk Lake trailhead in less than 12 hours. We made a quick stop at Chestertown for coffee/dinner before heading home. Participants were Pete Buccinna, Jim Hussey, Janice Joyce, Norm Kuchar, Dan Pekrol, Jerry Perregaux, Brent Pierce, Gillian Scott, Greg Sillary, John Susko and the leader (Herb Terns)

Fyfe Brook 7/9/05

Seven boaters ran the Fyfe Brook section on a trip that started out cool and gray, but was pleasant with mixed bright sun, showers and brisk breezes. All went well, though the waterline prediction of a 900 cfs release did not hold true. The release looked like the minimum, probably 725 or 750. Regardless, it was a good workout for all, lots of play time and all with decent runs on the Foster 7 and Zoar Gap: no swims. Admitting favoritism, leader Mal Provost commends Mary Pat Provost, niece, for excellent development for a first-year kayaker still looking for her ideal boat. Seeing her grin as she cleared Zoar Gap was worth the trip. Repeat thanks to Horst and Sally for the course work, which helped greatly. You will be pleased when you see how she is coming along. And we got to see the enders, spins and general youthful energy of Larry Woods the younger, always a hoot. Others: Bob Brand, and Mike K. in kayak; Larry the elder in C1; Shelly Nevard in the Zoom and Mal in the Outrage. (Mal Provost).

Conservation Notes

Shaker Mountain Wild Forest UMP. This large, well-done unit management plan covers an area in the southern Adirondacks in Fulton County between highways 10 and 30. Comments were submitted to the DEC on May 10 on behalf of the chapter. Much of the UMP dealt with the expected reroute of the Northville-Placid Trail so that Northville to Benson (presently a 10-mile road walk) will be replaced with a woodsy walk in the Forest Preserve with only two miles on roads. Most appealing is the prospect of a route through virgin forest. Discussing other attractive features indicated we should be using this area for hikes since it is close to Schenectady.

APA land classification hearings. In late May, the Adirondack Park Agency had a series of land classification hearings on 30-plus new parcels of Forest Preserve and 8 parcels to be unclassified. Some are controversial but most are not. I would hope that the "easy" ones could be detached from the group and approved. I attended the Albany hearing on May 25, which rushed through the whole bunch with maps in various colors. The audience didn't get these maps, but later got unhelpful black and white ones. Truly a high fog factor meeting for some proposals that really need study.

Region 4 Open Space plan. Our most recent meetings were May 17 and July 12. Hopefully we won't need another. Our co-chairs are to rewrite or add to material already under review per the group's instructions. I submitted a request for additions to the "small parcels" text to include parking at trailheads and easements where trails begin on private land, so those are being added to Region 4 recommendations. There is no current recommendation for a park in Schenectady County in our recommendations.

Albany County Land Conservancy is now Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy, as announced at their annual meeting on May 21, held in Schenectady, which I attended. Other meetings attended: (1) Schoharie Land Trust, May 26. They, like MHLC, need to develop financial resources for a paid staff person to increase the likelihood of getting grants. (Both groups have owned lands and easements, so work abounds.) (2) Presentation of ADK Volunteer Services Award to Bill White. Many others from Schenectady attended this well-deserved award's presentation on May 11.

Submitted by: Betty Lou Bailey

Highlights of the June Board of Directors' Meeting

On June 25, your Board of Directors met. Key items addressed include:

Finance: Through May, the ratio of obligations to assets is 2:1, which is not good. Year-to-date, ADK is \$70,000 down in revenue, the worst in five years. The Executive Committee and Executive Director have advised the staff to find appropriate avenues to enhance revenue and lower costs. It is projected that ADK will break even in '05, and that their payment of deferred dues to the chapters will be on time. It was also pointed out that the computer program changeover disaster was over.

Membership: New Development / Membership Director Joe Silberlicht gave an impressive Power point presentation.

Slate of officers for '06 –'07: The nominating Committee presented their slate: President, Curt Miller, (Albany); Vice Presidents Jim Bird (Rochester); Noel Davis, (North Creek), Tom Andrews, (Rome); and Jack Freeman, (Glens Falls); directors-at-large Jim Covey, Stephanie Lawton and Carol Mantell. Additional nominations may be made by submitting a petition with no fewer than 100 signatures of ADK members, no more than 50 of which may be from any one chapter, by July 30 to the Club Secretary.

Strategic plan: Passed a new Strategic plan, which will be on the ADK Web site by the time *Lookout* goes to press, and will be in *Adirondac*. A groundswell of club-wide opposition caused deletion of language opening the door to major geographical expansion of ADK. Your chapter board was a player in this action, passing a resolution opposing expansion of motorized use in the interior areas of the Forest Preserve.

New chairman: Due to a resignation, Meira Hertzberg of Finger Lakes Chapter accepted a position on the Executive Committee, and as Chair of the Membership Committee.

Other reports: The board heard reports from the Outings, Heart Lake Property and Johns Brook Lodge Committees. Major activity at the lodges included bridge and roof replacement at JBL, and foundation restoration at the Loj.

*Submitted by:
Bob Grimm & Stan Stoklosa*

National Trails Day on the Mohawk-Hudson Bike-Hike Trail

We want to thank the 22 volunteers who worked along the city of Schenectady section of the Mohawk-Hudson Bike-Hike Trail from Anthony Street to Nott Street on Saturday, June 4. In partnership with Eastern Mountain Sports Mohawk Commons store, we had several new volunteers to join us cleaning, trimming, and generally beautifying the trail.

We spent the relatively hot morning improving the condition of the trail. This year we focused on trimming back the trees and brush along the trail. We continued sprucing up the Maxon Road intersection by adding day lilies along the fence we installed last year. We were pleased that the amount of garbage was less than prior years and we didn't even find a single tire! Plus, we continued clearing dirt and grass off sections of the trail that we started last year.

Schenectady Chapter, ADK and Friends of the Mohawk-Hudson Bike-Hike Trail would like to thank everyone involved in making the event successful. We extend thanks to Eastern Mountain Sports Mohawk Commons store for their support and assistance. We had the cooperation of the departments of Neighborhood Revitalization (trash collection) and Parks (grass cutting) in the City of Schenectady. Special thanks to the volunteers who participated in the event.

This event was part of the 2nd annual Canalway Trail Celebration for National Trails Day along the Erie Canalway Trail to, celebrating that the trail is more than halfway complete.

Salim Adler, Canalway Trail Partnership Director, presented our group with a



HOWARD HALSTEAD, right, and Stan Stoklosa show off the pile of garbage collected from the bike path during this year's Trails Day.



MATT LaBARGE, right, from the EMS Mohawk Commons store, presents Howard Halstead with funds for National Trails Day.

proclamation from George Pataki, Governor of the State of New York in celebration of New York State Canalway Trail Day.

*Submitted by:
Howard Halstead and Stan Stoklosa*

ADK trails projects

The main club has the following work projects scheduled in August and September:

August 14-19, Johns Brook Valley – Participants will install rock steps, stepping stones and rock waterbars. Meals will be taken at John Brook Lodge and participants will share one of the bunkrooms. There is a \$200 participation fee.

August 28-Sept 2, Long Lake Canoe Project – Camping on the shores of Long Lake, participants will conduct campsite and lean-to maintenance. Relocating pit privies and removing litter will be the main focus. Participants will canoe a substantial distance every day. Food, group camping gear, tools, and leadership will be provided. \$75 fee.

September 17, Property Trail Project at Adirondak Loj – Projects will include drainage work, sign work and possibly the construction of a small ski bridge. Tools and experienced leadership will be provided. No fee.

To register and receive more information about the above trips please call: (518) 523-3480.

Bill White honored

As mentioned in the last edition of *The Lookout*, on May 11, chapter member Bill White was awarded ADK's distinguished volunteer award. As promised, here's the proclamation:

Bill White is a man who thinks outside the box and encourages others to do the same. His contributions took place years ago, not in the expectation of recognition, but because these things urgently needed to be done at that time.

Many of the individuals who supported Bill's nomination claim they would never have gone out hiking, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, skate-skiing, canoeing, camping on the Lake George Islands, or exploring the Adirondacks or Lake George had it not been for Bill and his wife, Mary Etta, encouraging them to join in.

Together with Clark Galloway, Bill conceived of the idea of keeping a register and awarding a patch to those who hiked end-to-end on the Northville-Placid trail.

He set up late fall clean-up parties to collect and bag litter and leave the bags in highly visible locations. He then organized winter ski parties to go in with packboards and carry that litter to the trailhead.

He organized "toothbrush tours" – for example, in Avalanche Pass/out at Indian Pass with an overnight at the Loj. He assisted members of the ADK Conservation Committee in gathering information on the Northway route and on snowmobile trails.

Bill was a founding member of the Adirondack Research Library, was active with the Nature Conservancy and was Scoutmaster of a Boy Scout troop that reached out to inner city boys in downtown Schenectady.

In addition to writing articles for various publications, many articles were written about him. They appeared in magazines such as *Adirondack Life*, *Adirondac*, *American Way* and *The Conservationist*.

Among the many individuals who provided letters of support for Bill were two former presidents of ADK, two ADK committee chairs, one ADK guidebook author and three former board members.

Also of local interest

With sympathy. The chapter expresses its condolences to immediate past-chapter chair **Frank Sorbero, Jr.** for the recent loss of his father.

Book signing. Nature writer and environmentalist Bill McKibben will sign copies of his new book, "Wandering Home: A Long Walk Across America's Most Hopeful Region, Vermont's Champlain Valley and New York's Adirondacks, on Saturday, Sept. 17 from 12:30 to 2 p.m. at The Open Door Bookstore at 128 Jay Street in Schenectady. At 3 p.m., McKibben will give a talk at the Association for the Protection of the Adirondacks. For information on the book signing, call The Open Door at 346-2719. Attendance at the talk is by reservation only; call Ken Rimany at 377-1452, ext. 302.

New 46er. Schenectady chapter member and trip leader **Herb Terns** was inducted into the Adirondack 46ers in May. Herb completed his High Peaks in the fall of 2002, but took his time writing up the trip reports.

Vale cemetery walks. A series of tours is taking place in Schenectady's Vale Cemetery this summer. Founded in 1857, the cemetery was originally about 100 acres in size. In the 1970s, the city of Schenectady purchased approximately 40 acres, beginning at the Nott Terrace entrance and extending east, creating Vale Park. Tour dates include:

- Aug. 4 – Industry and Inventors. Visitors will tour all parts of Vale Cemetery, exploring the gravesites of the city's past leaders and the major contributors to its pre-eminence in trade and industry.
- Sept. 11 – Vale's Historic Memory. A tour of the cemetery's oldest graves, some dating back to 1695 (re-interred from other cemeteries).
- Oct. 9 – Natural History. Vale Park and Cemetery has a wealth of flora and fauna.

All tours begin at 2 p.m. Meet at the caretaker's house, located at the Vale Cemetery entrance at 907 State Street.

Have some news you'd like fellow chapter members to hear about? Submit it to *The Lookout* at P.O. Box 733, Schenectady, NY 12301.

