

Schenectady Chapter of the ADK

June/July 2005

New & Reinstated Members

Cherry, Bryan and Sarah
Christian, Dean
Cramer, Myles I.
DeCenzo, Shawn and Brigette
Elting, Ellen
Feingold, Mona
Flagg, Donna

Franklin, W. Randolph
Gedroiz, Gretchen C.
Howard, Peter I.
Johnston, Tricia and Garth
Kaddo, Hasna and R. James Millard
Lapis, Susan
Mohr, Bradley

Polczynski, Jean
Pratt, David S.
Pritchett, Janice
Schaefer, Michael R.
Sherman, Amy
Straight, John A.
Zibro, Martha

Schenectady Bike Trail Cleanup National Trails Day

When: June 4

Time: 9 a.m.

Where: Seneca Street bike path entrance
in Schenectady

Come one, come all to the city of Schenectady to celebrate National Trails Day with the ADK's Schenectady chapter.

This year's theme is "Take the Path to a Healthier You." We will literally be cleaning up the path that can be used along your path to health! Come alone or bring the entire family and enjoy the morning along the city's section of the Mohawk-Hudson Bike-Hike Trail. We plan to do general trail maintenance, from garbage clean-up to trimming brush.

We provide refreshments, T-shirts for the first 24 people, door prizes and some tools. The project is being done in conjunction 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 with us to sponsor this year's National Trails Day event. Niskayuna EMS staff and customers alike will be volunteering together to show their support for the event.

If you would like to sign up as a volunteer, you can do so by visiting EMS at their Niskayuna store, located at Mohawk Commons on Balltown Road, or by calling Stan Stoklosa at 383-3066 or via an e-mail to testok@albany.net.

Work gloves, sunscreen, bug spray and long pants are recommended.

Philanthropic giving

In the near future, the chapter will be carrying out its annual philanthropic giving. If you have a project you would like to see funded, you need to send in a written application for the board to consider.

Applications shall include the group to whom a gift may be made, the group's function, including how that function meets ADK's mission, and a contact person in that group. Equal consideration is given to groups in the Schenectady area, and to the main club. Applications MUST be typed, and in the hands of Finance Committee Chair Bob Grimm at grimmbob@capital.net or 600 Millers Corners Road, Amsterdam, 12010, NO LATER THAN 18 June 2005.

The Finance Committee consists of Bob Grimm, immediate past chapter Chair Frank Sorbero Jr. and Treasurer Jeff Farbaniec.

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 June & July 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

Effective immediately, the recommended reimbursement for gasoline for drivers on ADK outings is going up. Recent higher gas prices and rising tolls call for the increase: the typical reimbursement of a few dollars per outing no longer covers the drivers' costs.

Under the new policy, 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). These amounts on average cover the cost of the gasoline for the trip. 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.

With these new rates, those who drive for outings should not have to pay for gas. On a single trip, the driver will collect a little more or less than the actual cost. As usual, tolls should be added as well. Be kind to your drivers - their efforts help to preserve the Adirondack environment ... and let you sleep on the way home.

Walt Hayes, Outings chair

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. Gas cost per passenger: \$7 (see note, above).

Wed 8 June
Peaked Mtn and Pond
Class B2C or B2B
Norm Kuchar, 399-6243

We will first hike about 3 miles up an easy trail along Thirteenth Lake and a cascading brook to Peaked Mtn Pond. The pond itself, with its view of the rocky cone of Peaked Mountain, is a worthy objective. For the more ambitious, a short (0.6 miles) but very steep climb of 675 feet from the pond to the top of the mountain will give views of Thirteenth Lake and the High Peaks. Round trip distance is 6 miles with ascent of 575 feet to the pond, or 7.2 miles with 1250 feet ascent if the mountain is added. Gas cost: \$6 per passenger (see note, above).

Sat 11 June
Verkeerder Kill Falls, Class A2D
John Winkler, 346-4969

This hike in the Shawangunk Mountains will start from Sam's Point and include a visit to The Badlands. Good timing for the Mountain Laurel blooms. About ten miles with little change in elevation.

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. Featuring rhubarb pie and ice cream at Gail Livingston's following the hike. Gas cost per passenger: \$4 (see note, page 2).

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

Going to two trailless peaks in one day seems ambitious but these peaks are both under 2000 feet. They're on the northern edge of the Pharaoh Lakes 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

We'll break up the week with an after-work hike. We'll meet around 6:30 p.m. and hopefully watch the sunset on Hadley's western-facing summit around 9. We'll hike down by headlamp and should be home around 11 p.m. 3.6 miles round trip with 1500 feet of gain.

Wed 6 July
H.G. Reist Wildlife Sanctuary Walk
and Adirondack Research Library
Tour
Herb Terns, 372-8478 or
trailhed@localnet.com

This will be a short after-work hike to get to know this sanctuary in Niskayuna owned by the Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club. We'll meet around 6:30 p.m. and hike for an hour. After the hike we'll take a guided tour of the Association for the Protection of the Adirondacks' new Adirondack Research Library, which is right near the sanctuary. We'll also tour the former home of noted Adirondack conservationist Paul Schaefer.

Sat 9 July
Macomb, South Dix and East Dix
(Grace Peak) Class A2A
Herb Terns, 372-8478 or
trailhed@localnet.com

HIGH PEAK

For aspiring 46Rs who would like to "bag" the five peaks of the Dix Range, this hike should provide a complement to an Albany ADK trip in June going to Dix and Hough. We'll hike in along the trail from Elk Lake and then head up Macomb's impressive slide. All three peaks have good views and are connected by a fairly well-worn herd path. Round trip is 12.5 miles with roughly 3200 feet of accent, mostly on herd paths.

Sat 16 July
Mass A.T. - Jug End section,
Class B3C
Betty Lou Bailey 355-0604

APPALACHIAN TRAIL HIKE

This hike includes a scenic section of the Appalachian Trail. By using a side trail to join the AT at Guilder Pond, the ascent is minimized to 660 feet. The ridge top has wonderful gnarled pine trees as well as many overlooks. After lunch, we continue on to a newer section of the AT ending next to the Shay's Rebellion Monument. Total mileage is 7.3 miles, with 6.6 on the AT.

Sat 16 July
Catamount Mtn
Class C2B
Norm Kuchar, 399-6243

Catamount is an isolated peak lying north of Whiteface. It has large areas of open rock from forest fires and great views of Whiteface, Taylor Pond, and the northeast Adirondacks. The minimally maintained trail to the summit is short, but steep toward the top. It requires some scrambling, including a non-technical climb through a chimney. Round-trip distance is about 3.8 miles, with 1550 feet ascent. Depending on time and interest, we may add a short (1 mile RT), flat hike through a white cedar swamp and spruce-tamarack bog in the Nature Conservancy's Silver Lake Bog Preserve. Gas cost: \$12 per passenger (see note, page 2).

Sat 23 July
Sleeping Beauty, Class C2C
Ken & Nilde Marcinowski
885-9400 or Nildekens@msn.com

Join us on this 4.5-mile loop from Dacy Clearing, over Sleeping Beauty and around Bumps Pond. Only a 1038 foot elevation gain to some of the most rewarding views of the Lake George region and beyond. Call or e-mail by the Thursday evening prior to hike. Don't hesitate! Group size will be limited.

Wed 27 July
Nippletop and Niagara Mountains,
Class B2B
Walt Hayes, 399-7482

Two lesser peaks in the eastern High Peaks. Super views from both open summits. Part of the route follows old road/unmarked trail. The rest is a bushwhack with access under the Northway and a Schroon River crossing. About 7 miles with 2800 feet of ascent. Gas cost \$7 per passenger (see note, page 2).

Sat 30 July
Grizzle Ocean and Grizzle Ocean
Mountain, Class B2B
Herb Terns, 372-8478 or
trailhed@localnet.com

Grizzle Ocean Mountain is a trailless peak in the Pharaoh Lake Wilderness. When viewed from Treadway Mountain, it has several rocky outcrops along its nearly 1-mile-long summit, which should provide unique views. We'll take the trail in from Putnam Pond and then bushwhack up the east side to the ridge. Continuing over the summit ridge, we'll search out views along the way until we rejoin the Putnam Pond trail. We'll take a short trip to Grizzle Ocean on the return. Six miles round-trip with about 2.5 miles bushwhack through fairly open woods. Approximately 1200 feet of gain.

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, page 2).

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, under five miles. Gas cost: \$5 per passenger (see note, page 2).

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

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, keeping the group together and allowing members to keep an eye on 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
6-04	Sat	Hudson River from Riparius to the Glen.	3	Norm Labbe	877-0076
6-05	Sun	Esopus	2+	Kathy Magee	864-5675
6-11	Sat	Schroon	2(3)	Rick Gonzales	355-3403
6-11 6-12	Sat Sun	Intermediate kayak and canoe instructions in both solo or tandem		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)?			
6-20	Mon	Sacandaga Release section	2/3	Sally Dewes	346-1761
6-24	Fri	Deerfield: Dryway (1000 cfs)	4	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
7-02	Sat	Hudson Gorge or Dryway	4	Horst deLorenzi	399-4615
7-02	Sat	Deerfield Fife Brook Section: Zoar Gap (class 3 is optional)	2	Larry Woods	271-0270

7-03	Sun	Sacandaga Release section	2/3	Chuck Wilkison	793-8041
7-08	Fri	Deerfield Dryway (900cfs)	4	Bob Wright	279-1428
7-09	Sat	Deerfield Fife Brook Section: Zoar Gap (class 3 is an option)	2	Mal Provost	399-1565
7-16	Sat	Hudson Gorge	4	Horst deLorenzi	399-4615
7-17	Sun	Sacandaga Release section with pot luck picnic at 3 PM	2/3	Chuck Wilkison	793-8041
7-23	Sat	Hudson Gorge	4	Horst deLorenzi	399-4615
7-23/ 24	Sat and or Sun	Deerfield Fife Brook section; Spend the weekend camping and paddling or just paddle on either day. Zoar gap (class 3) an option	2	Heidi Langley	479-3312
7-29	Fri	Deerfield Dryway (900 cfs)	4	Bob Wright	279-1428
7-30	Sat	Deerfield Fife Brook River Festival Weekend Zoar Gap class 3 is optional	2	Norm Labbe ?	
7-30	Sat	Deerfield Dryway (1000 cfs) River Festival Weekend	4	Horst	271-0270
7-31	Sun	Sacandaga Release Section	2/3	Rick Gonzales	461-2718
8-3 to 8-7	Wed To Sun	Guided trip on the Dumoine River with "Canoe Wanapitei" in Canada Cost approximately \$500 in US funds	Mostly 2 some 3	Chuck Wilkison	793-8041

Kayaderosseras Creek Access. The traditional access point at Factory Village, ending the Class I/II trip from Rock City Falls, or putting in for the Class III run to downtown Ballston Spa, can no longer be used due to construction along the riverbank. Use an area about 1/2-mile upstream of the former access, where the Kayaderosseras is close to Rock City Road. Also note that as of June '04, there were more tree blockages than usual in the river from Rock City Falls to Factory Village. – *Betty Lou Bailey*

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

Massachusetts Appalachian Trail Lake Buel Road to south Egremount Road 11/20/04

It was fun that the Parkers (Neil and Jackie) had done this AT section northbound while we were now doing it southbound, so had better views of Ice Gulch (an impressive ravine containing immense boulders). We visited a really commodious shelter with the best view at the nearby tent platform. No leaves or trees meant plenty of ridgetop views. Lunch was at an open ledge with fine views. Then we descended with several large steep rock faces and considerable slippery leaves to cause maybe 8-10 falls total, none serious. After crossing Homes Road, it got easier, which was fortunate since we had intermittent showers the last two hours, with the Parkers telling us "this used to be road walking" as we went through fields and woods. Also on the trip were Colin Smith, who is doing all our AT hikes, Jeanne Haubrich (a guest who is new to our area) and trip leader Betty Lou Bailey.

Ski trip – Northville-Placid Trail 2/6/05

Only one person joined me on this ski trip. Conditions were more like mid-March than early February. A clear, cold morning following two warm days left an icy track. It warmed nicely during the day and we enjoyed lunch in the sun at Rock Lake. The snow softened considerably during the day so downhill on the return were more manageable. A fun trip, close to home. Bob Boramisa and trip leader Jim Amell.

Bennett Hill 2/12/05

Bennett Hill did have snow so we could use showshoes. The trip went well with no problems worse than a leaky thermos. After a gray morning with restricted views, it cleared during lunch so we backtracked a short distance to the primary viewpoint and then had fine views of the Helderberg escarpment and valley farms as we descended. Ann Boland and Dan VanLeeuwen were new to snowshoeing and were accompanied by the trip leader. (Betty Lou Bailey)

Buck Mountain 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 and Rick Constantino, Wally Herrod, Lois Leonard and trip leaders Ken and Nilde Marcinowski.

Five Mile Mountain 2/26/05

We had a couple inches 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 were Horst deLorenzi, Jerry Perregaux, Mal Provost, guest Dave Keep and the trip leader. (Norm Kuchar)

Pinnacle Road to Upper Benson Traverse 3/12/05

After dropping a car at the Northville-Placid trailhead at Upper Benson, we drove to the end of Pinnacle Road in Bleeker, where we started the snowshoe hike. Most of the 6.5 mile trip was a bushwhack through the valley between Pinnacle and Panther Mountain. We enjoyed great snow, mostly open woods, a couple of beautiful vlys, and spectacular pale turquoise ice falls on the side of Pinnacle, before hitting the N-P trail at the bridge over the north branch of Stony Creek. Participants were Walt Hayes, Wally Herrod, Ken and Nilde Marcinowski, Lin Neil, Jerry Perregaux and the trip leader. (Norm Kuchar)

Buck Mountain 3/13/05

Three of us enjoyed a brisk, partly cloudy day with comfortable temperatures, which were still cool enough to avoid being slushy or muddy. Thanks to John Interrante for making the day all the more enjoyable. (Ken and Nilde Marcinowski)

Treadway Mountain 3/19/05

On the ride up, there was some debate on whether it was safe to cross Putnam Pond after a recent stretch of warm weather. We spotted a group of ice fisherman on Eagle Lake, which alleviated our concerns and later found the ice on Putnam Pond was around two feet thick. Crossing the pond turned out to be a great idea, as the skies were clear and the views terrific across the open expanse of pond. The trail up Treadway didn't appear to have many visitors and we broke new trail in snowshoes all the way. The top was sunny and clear with plentiful views. We soaked in the views and the sun for nearly an hour (sunscreen should have been on the list of required equipment). We took a break on the pond on the return trip for one last view before heading home. Participants were Patti Carrol, Bill Coons, Walt Hayes, Norm Kuchar, John Susko and the leader. (Herb Terns)

Jones Hill 03/26/05

Perfect sunny weather. Views of Hoffman Mountain and the High Peaks were enjoyed at several stops along the Jones Hill ridge. Highlight of the outing was seeing an otter run 100 yards across a frozen beaver pond. Participants were Phil Fountain, Doug Rickert, Tom Ryan and the leader. (Walt Hayes)

Pinnacle Road 04/09/05

On this exploring outing, we followed ski tracks on an old woods road, looking for access to ponds in the area. The road led to the col just south of Pidgeon Mountain. The ski tracks continued to Oxborn Pond, where we stopped for lunch. The tracks continued west across the rotten ice of the pond. We also enjoyed exploring the remains of a dam and mill along the Pinnacle Creek. Gail Livingston invited us for dessert at her nearby home after the outing. Other participants were Phil Fountain, Gail Gaskin, Darina Kafka, Norm Kuchar, Kathy Miles, Susan Roberts and the leader. (Walt Hayes)

Catskill Creek III 4/9/05

On a mild, sunny day Bob Wright, Tamara Caulfield and the trip leader paddled from Cooksburg to East Durham. The water level, receding from an extreme flood during the previous weekend, was low but doable. The flood had made extensive changes in several areas. Some channels have been choked with tons of stream debris, forcing the creek to make a new route, often partially obstructed with brush and trees. The size of the rocks moved, the amount of channel cutting and tree stacking is a testimonial of power of the water. After many years of running this creek, I had never seen as much change. However it is still a fun run. (Charlie Beach)

Sacandaga River; Wells to Hope 4/10/05

On a gorgeous spring day five solo paddlers enjoyed the Sacandaga run from Wells to Hope. The water was high, at 4.8 feet. A highlight of the trip was Amanda Labbe executing her combat roll when it was needed. Participants were: Amanda Labbe, Norm Labbe, Jack Daniels, Tom Bielawski and the trip leader. (Dave Avigdor)

White water Rafting in Hudson River Gorge 04/16/05

A warm sunny day greeted 22 ADK member, family and friends (heavy on the family and friends). The Hudson River was at 4 1/2 feet (a foot lower than our trip last April). We filled 3 rafts (half of Wildwater Outdoor Center's business for the day) with groups including mother with two teenage sons, grown sons with their mother and an uncle with his nephew. We crashed, rocked and rolled down the Indian River to the Hudson to hot soup, sandwiches and snacks on the riverbank at lunch. All strangers were now smiling friends. The one surprise swimmer of the day was my teenage son, but he was back in the raft in less than five seconds. Several people took the optional swim in calm waters. A delicious dinner was included back at the start of our day at Glen Lodge. Look for us again next April (Laura Perrault)

Hoosic 4/17/05

The trip leader (Chuck Wilkison) for the scheduled East Branch of the Sacandaga paddle determined upon inspection that the water was too low for safe passage of the County Line rapids. Because of an earlier paddling injury, Chuck decided not to paddle at all. The river was switched to the Hoosic from Blackington, MA to Pownal, VT, upon which 4 tandem boats enjoyed a sunny, pleasant trip at a Williamstown gauge of 5.8 ft, 322 cfs. Attending were Betty Lou Bailey, Charlie Beach, Chet Harvey & Kathy Armstrong, Al & Lois Foster, Sheila & Jack Daniels with aquadog Zoe. (Chuck Wilkison)

The Wilton Wildlife Preserve & Park 04/20/05

At a chapter program, Sarah Clarkin, executive director of the Wilton Wildlife Preserve & Park, described how The Nature Conservancy, New York State, Saratoga County, and the town of Wilton have protected over 1600 acres of a unique environment. The area, with sandy soils, pitch pine/oak savannas and wetlands, is the home of several endangered species, including the Karner blue butterfly. In addition, the WWPP has developed more than 10 miles of trails for hiking, snow-shoeing and cross-country skiing. Sarah thanked our chapter for philanthropic gifts that have helped in trail development and interpretive signage. There were 17 attendees. (Norm Kuchar)

West River 4/23/05

Six intrepid paddlers earned their foul weather merit badges by paddling down the always exciting West River. Three kayaks, one solo canoe, and one tandem canoe made the trip from the Ball Mountain dam to the Route 100 bridge in the town of East Jamaica. We stopped for a brief rest and lunch break at Jamaica State Park, where several outdoor dealers were showing the latest and greatest in white water

boats and apparel. Participants were Horst deLorenzi, Mal Provost, Nick Bujak, Shelley Nevard, Larry Woods, and the trip leader. (Robert Wright)

Schoharie Creek II (Powerhouse Rd to Ft. Hunter) 4/24/05

Despite the "flood watch" we had a very reasonable water level (2.3 ft at Burtonville) and mostly sunny weather. There were enough waves for some surfing and two tributary waterfalls were enjoyable to view. When we were long gone, the Catskill surge of runoff arrived and the Burtonville gauge read 3.6 feet very briefly around 11 p.m. Participants were Simeon Hughson, Tara Grant, Betty Lou Bailey, and Jack Daniels in tandem canoes plus Larry Woods, Ken Perrault and Tom Bielawski in solo canoes. (Betty Lou Bailey)

Cat Mountain 4/28/05

Rain threatened and sputtered but no serious rain fell during the outing. Clouds were high, so views of Lake George were excellent. We followed a series of old roads with no trail markers from Edgecomb Pond to meet the marked trail coming from the north. The marked trail also followed old roads that continued to the top. Participants were Ann Chapman, Lynn Filarecki, Al and Joan Peters, Don Van Wely and the leader. (Walt Hayes)

Paddler's weekend 4/29-5/01/05

The original trip to central New York (Fish Creek, Moose River, and Black River) was changed to closer rivers due to low paddler response. Instead, the paddler's weekend was as follows: On Friday, Horst deLorenzi and Robert Wright paddled the west and east branch of the Sacandaga River at a level of 4.7 feet. This was a very good level for closed boats and the weather was sunny and warm. On Saturday, word had gotten out about the good water levels on the Sacandaga so once again we paddled the west and east branch. This time we were joined by Norm Labbe, Rick Gonzales, Carolyn Cyr, Chuck Wilkinson, Larry Woods, Shelley Nevard, Horst deLorenzi, and Robert Wright. The weather was not so nice as on Friday, so foul-weather merit badges were awarded to all who participated. The water level had dropped somewhat to a level of 4.3 feet – still a reasonable level for paddle and play. On Sunday, Shelley Nevard, Larry Woods, Horst deLorenzi, and Robert Wright paddled the Hudson River from North Creek to Riparius at a level of 6.0 feet. This was fast and exciting, with Larry and Shelley showing the best routes to navigate the drops and obstacles. Kudos to all who participated in the weekend's paddling. Thanks to ADK members like Jim Pirman, Charlie Beech, Bob Heffley, Betty Lou Bailey, Will Holt, Chet Harvey and Kathy Armstrong, Mal Provost, Chuck Wilkinson, and others who have taken the time to show newer paddlers like myself all the great rivers the Northeast has to offer. (Bob Wright)

Race Mt. Hike (Mass) 4/30/05

A forecast of rain didn't bode well for chances for views or our group's numbers for this Appalachian Trail hike. Still, six of us donned our rain gear and set off. Recent rains added volume to upper Race Brook Falls and we took a break to enjoy the impressive view after a tricky stream crossing. As predicted, it started raining slightly as we neared the summit, but not enough to spoil lunch. Some of us were lucky enough to watch a rose-crested grosbeak eating its lunch as well. Luckily for those who went, my wife packed enough home-baked cookies for the group's original size (12), so what we lacked in views we made up for in chocolate chips. We met a member of the Appalachian Trail Crew who hauled equipment in to repair the privy at the campsite just off the main AT. On the way down we crossed Race Brook to get a spectacular view of the lower falls. We made a stop in Hillsdale for hot beverages for the return trip. Participants were Michael Eaton, Darina Kafka, Josie Nickerson, Colin Smith, John Susko and the leader. (Herb Terns)

Blackhead Mountain 5/4/05

Although we had to avoid a few snowflakes and keep moving to stay warm, five happy hikers had a great day on Blackhead. No other hikers – it was our own mountain for about four hours. Many wildflowers looking cold. Participants were Norm Kuchar, Walt Hayes, Nilde Marcinowski, Fred Lieber and the trip leader. (Mary MacDonald)

Baldhead and Moose Mountains 5/7/05

We bushwhacked from Tucker Road north to the summit of Baldhead, then followed the ridge through a col to Moose. We returned down the valley of Twin Brooks. Both peaks and the intervening ridge have large areas of open rock and grass, which gave great views. Despite predictions of clouds and possible showers, we enjoyed sunny skies, and the cool breezes kept the black flies away. Participants were Walt Hayes, Gail Livingston, Ken and Nilde Marcinowski and the trip leader. (Norm Kuchar)

Classic Hudson: North Creek to Riparius 5/7/05

In spite of cold rainy predictions, May 7 was warm and sunny for the Classic Hudson run from North Creek to the Glen. Eleven boats (5-k, 3 C-1 and 3 C-2) and 14 paddlers played and surfed their way to Riparius through the rocky channels created by low water levels (4.2 ft on the North Creek gage). After lunch, two solo paddlers joined forces in one tandem and the group continued to the Glen. One dump and one water-filled canoe were the only mishaps. Although most of the group surfed in the drop by the Island, the star of the show was Larry Wood, who showed everyone how side surfing really works. The take-out from the big eddy on river left upstream of the Rte 28 bridge was steep, rocky and difficult, requiring everyone's help carrying the boats. (Chet Harvey and Kathie Armstrong)

Hadley Mountain 5/8/05

Fourteen people, about twice as many species of blooming plants, good fellowship and free ice cream cones for some of us made for a very nice Mother's Day hike on Hadley Mountain. Participants were: Karen McKenny, John and Diane Jazeboski, Peg Wallingford, Bunny Flick, Nilde and Ken Marcinowski, Maureen Jones, Arden Rauch, Mary MacDonald, Addison Brickford, Nancy Slack, Marcia Hanson, Paul Dean and the trip leaders. (Ruth and Tom Schottman)

Hollyhock Hollow 5/15/05

Rain was pouring down on our drive to the meeting place and we were not optimistic about the trip. The closer we got to Hollyhock Hollow, however, the slower the rain fell. It let up completely when we pulled in the parking lot. It turned out to be as much a wildflower walk as it was a bird-watch. We spotted wild forget-me-nots, wild columbine, violets, May apple, wild strawberry and more. On the birding side, we saw chickadees, tufted titmice, wood thrush, an oriole, a scarlet tanager and heard, although we never did see it, a red-eyed vireo. Participants were Pam Bristal, Gillian Scott, Diann Terns-Thorpe, Ed Thorpe and the leader. (Herb Terns)

Bill White honored

On May 11, 20 people representing the Schenectady ADK, Adirondack Research Library, General Electric and ADK convened at the residence of chapter patriarch Bill White. The purpose was to present him with ADK's coveted distinguished volunteer award.

Present were his family, one former ADK president, two ADK book authors, three former committee chairs, two current committee chairs and all sorts of other dignitaries. The event was most rewarding; it was held outdoors in superb spring weather and oral histories were exchanged at length. On a space-available basis the proclamation will be published in a future edition of the Lookout.

Bob Grimm, director

A Note of Appreciation... to Niskayuna's EMS

Special thanks to Holly, the manager of Niskayuna's EMS for providing the door prizes for Maria Beurmann's April 19 presentation at Shenendehowa's Public Library and her presentation at Union College on May 3. The participants of each event were extremely impressed with EMS' generosity and commitment to the community.

The Niskayuna EMS also donated a door prize for our recent inning with Sarah Clarkin, of the Wilton Wildlife Preserve. Lois Leonard won the prize, a folding outdoor chair.

Submitted by Maria Beurmann, Norm Kuchar

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.

A Little Bit of This, a Bit of That - Gail Barlow
April 1 - June 25. Delicate paintings and unusual counted cross-stitch artwork. Featuring landscapes, flowers and more in both watercolors and oils.

Winged Jewels: Life Cycles of Butterflies and Moths - Nan Wilson – July 1 - August 27
Series of butterfly life cycle paintings and prints.

Lectures

For all lectures please call ADK at 518-668-4447 to make a reservation. Lectures begin promptly at 7 p.m.

History of the Iroquois- and Algonquin-speaking Native Americans in the Adirondacks and Surrounding Areas – June 8 - Wes Dikeman

Mountain Women Can Be Heroes – July 13 – Peggy Lynne & Sandra Weber

Winged Jewels: Life Cycles of Butterflies and Moths – August 10 - Nan Wilson

Education programs

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. Cost: \$45/50; includes instruction & materials

Beginner White Water Kayaking with Wild Waters Outdoor Center – June 11-12; WWOC Warrensburg. Cost: \$120/125 includes instruction for two days & equipment use.

Adirondack Birding – June 18; Heart Lake Program Center. This workshop will help you develop the visual and auditory skills for finding and identifying many species of birds and recognizing their habitats. Cost: \$45/50; includes instruction & materials

Beginner White Water Canoeing with Wild Waters Outdoor Center – June 18-19; WWOC Warrensburg. Cost: \$120/125; includes instruction for two days & equipment use.

American Canoe Association Instructor Certification With American Canoe Association (ACA) and ADK staff – June 21-24; Heart Lake Program Center. Cost: \$270/300*; includes

instruction for three days & evenings, use of canoe equipment, ACA books & materials, and IC certifications.

Intermediate White Water Kayaking with Wild Waters Outdoor Center – June 25-26; Warrensburg. Cost: \$120/125; includes instruction for two days & equipment use.

Low's Lake Wilderness Canoe Camping – July 2-4; Heart Lake Program Center. Cost: \$110/120; includes instruction, use of canoe equipment, group camping gear & meals.

Women's Rock Climbing – July 9; Heart Lake Program Center. Cost: \$58/65; includes instruction & use of climbing equipment (except climbing shoes).

Teen Rock Climbing – July 10; Heart Lake Program Center. Cost: \$56/62; includes instruction & use of climbing equipment (except climbing shoes).

Loop of the Lakes Canoe Trek – July 13; St. Regis Canoe Area. Designed for those who have some prior paddling experience. Cost: \$45/50; includes instruction & use of canoe equipment

Backpacking for Beginners – July 15-17; Heart Lake Program Center. Cost: \$100/110; includes instruction, group camping gear, & meals

St. Regis Lakes Canoe Trek – July 20; St. Regis Canoe Area. Cost: \$45/50; includes instruction & use of canoe equipment

Introduction to Rock Climbing – July 23; Heart Lake Program Center. Cost: \$56/62; includes instruction & use of climbing equipment (except climbing shoes)

Schroon River Canoe Ramble – July 27; ADK Member Services Center/ Schroon Lake Area. Cost: \$45/50; includes instruction & use of canoe equipment

Mount Marshall Guided Hike – July 30; Heart Lake Program Center. Cost: \$34/38; includes instruction.

High Peaks Traverse – July 31 - August 3; Johns Brook Lodge, Keene Valley. Cost: \$240/265; includes instruction, lodging and meals from Sunday dinner through Wednesday lunch

Also of interest

Book signings – at The Open Door bookstore at 128 Jay St. in Schenectady.

- Photographer Hardie Truesdale signs "Adirondack High" on Saturday, June 18 from 1-2:30 p.m.
- Gary and Justin Van Riper sign the fifth Adirondack Kids book, "Islands in the Sky," on Saturday, June 25 from 1-2:30 p.m.

Conservation Notes

Region 4 Open Space Committee

At our last (4/12/05) meeting, we finally had a "Parks" (OPRHP) representative, who thus could deal with the matter of what to include in the next Open Space Plan for NY State for the proposed "state park in Schenectady County." Schenectady is the only county outside of New York City without a state park. Unfortunately, he only had heard about the city's Woodlawn property as a potential park. I gave him a copy of the trail map for the Schenectady Museum's property and explained the museum needs money for building expansion so would be happy to sell the property.

Meetings attended

1. March 20 Burtonville meeting with Albany County Land Conservancy regarding their property along Wilsey and Schoharie Creeks. Attended by Jack and Sehila Daniels and Kathy Magee, who all live nearby.
2. Earth Day/ Lobby Day, April 20. Attended by Betty Lou Bailey (Albany County) and Ted Schoenberg (Saragota County). Note that environmental advocates said that this year their ratings on legislators would be based on more than just how they voted. Added will be their efforts at moving major bills along and getting them to the floor for a vote.

Unit Management Plans for Adirondacks

The good news is that there has been some movement and accomplishment here. Much is due to Mike Curley of DEC's Warrensburg office.

1. Vanderwhacker Wild Forest – UMP approved by APA and DEC commissioners. Now at the printers.
2. Siamese Ponds Wilderness – A complete revised UMP. Approved by APA. At DEC Commissioner's desk. Approval expected.
3. Shaker Mountain Wild Forest – Draft UMP out for public comment. Fulton County area. Contains a proposed Northville-Placid trail reroute off roads, into the woods between Benson Road and Northville.
4. Jessup River Wild Forest – Draft UMP out for public comment. Contains Pillsbury and Snowy Mountains and Fall Stream as well as Jessup River. Public meeting will be 6/30 at 6 p.m. in Speculator. Call Betty Lou Bailey (355-0604) before June 15 if you can go.

Submitted by: Betty Lou Bailey

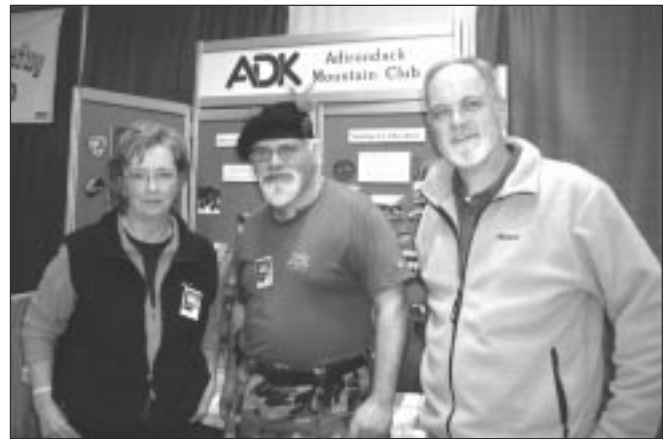


Photo courtesy of Gene Reilly
Schenectady chapter members, Lois Leonard, left, and Harold McCumber, center, put in a session for ADK at the Great Northeast Outdoor Show with Albany chapter chair Gene Reilly.

Thank you to the Volunteers at the Great Northeast Outdoor Show

Thanks to everybody who manned the ADK booth at the Great Northeast Outdoor Show. It helps a lot to have enough volunteers to fill the different time slots. We had 75 people signing up to receive more information about ADK. Maria Beurmann, membership chair, has sent out membership packages and a \$10 discount to people who join ADK as a result of the show. Thanks for your effort to promote ADK.

Horst deLorenzi, project coordinator

Schenectady ADK sponsors 2 youths for DEC camps

Two youths who applied for scholarships through the Schenectady ADK have been accepted for DEC Environmental Education youth camps. Lisa Limeri is going to the Returnee Week at Camp Colby and Deny Marfisi-Schottman is going to camp Pack Forest.

Photo contest

Submit your Adirondack photos for the *Lookout* photo contest. We'll be picking the best photo to use on our cover. Send entries to Maria Beurmann, 5 Wing Road, Rexford, NY 12148.