

# The **Lookout**

*December 2015/January 2016*



**Adirondack Mountain Club — Schenectady Chapter**

Dedicated to the preservation, protection and  
enjoyment of the Forest Preserve

<http://www.adk-schenectady.org>

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On the  
cover

Cover Photo by Stan Stoklosa of Luther Forrest.

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# The Lookout

The newsletter for the Schenectady Chapter of the Adirondack Mountain Club

## Members lauded for their ADK achievements

### Longtime members awarded the ADK Trailblazer Award

Longtime Schenectady Chapter members Jackie and Neil Parker were awarded the ADK Trailblazer Award at ADK Main Chapter’s President’s Dinner and fall outing.

The Parkers joined the ADK Schenectady Chapter in 1987. Separately and together over the years, they have held a variety of positions within the chapter including Chapter Chair, Trails Chair, Project Coordinator, *Lookout* editor and ADK Board Director.

As Project Coordinator, Jackie’s responsibilities included coordinating and monitoring the Chapter’s successful education program, which sent area youth to DEC’s Camp Colby. As long-standing members of the Trails Committee, their projects have included replacement of bridges over the MacIntyre and Slide

Mountain Brooks, major blowdown removal after the 1996 microburst, replacement of the lean-to at Duck Hole, and significant trail interventions after Tropical Storm Irene and Hurricane Lee. In 1999, they hiked the 2,160-mile Appalachian Trail end-to-end as a fundraiser for the ADK’s trail work.

### Maria Beurmann honored for 32 years of service

Maria Beurmann was honored at the Chapter’s Annual Dinner on October 28 with a Chapter Recognition award for her 32 years of service as Membership Chair. Her plaque read:

*“Whereas Maria Beurmann served the Schenectady Chapter of ADK for 32 years as Membership Committee Chair, exhibiting outstanding service through her long and tireless efforts to attract new members*

*by speaking and educating at community functions, schools and libraries*

*“Whereas Maria Beurmann has been the creator and guiding light for the Chapter’s High School Scholarship Program to encourage area students in the pursuit of careers in environmental fields as well as to stimulate a life-long love of the Adirondacks and wilderness protection*

*“Whereas Maria Beurmann has been a formidable force for nature in her continual promotion of the care and preservation of all wild lands by educating people, young and old, through her daily interactions with all those she meets*

*“Therefore, for her outstanding service, commitment and energy over many years, the Schenectady Chapter of ADK proudly recognizes Maria Beurmann as a Fellow of the Chapter.”*

## DEC Camps scholarships offered for Summer 2016

If you have a camper between the ages of 11 and 17, and who is interested in the environment, then the Schenectady Chapter ADK wants to provide you with a scholarship to send him or her there!

Each year, the state Department of Environmental Education (DEC) offers week-long educational sleep-away camps to youth ages 11 to 17 during the summer. Information for 2016 has already been announced, and DEC will be accepting registrations in January.

The Schenectady Chapter ADK will pay the entire \$350 cost of tuition for the camp. To apply, families

have to fill out an application, found on the Schenectady ADK’s Web site: <http://www.adk-schenectady.org>.

There will be seven weeks of camp offered at Rushford, Colby and DeBruce and eight weeks at Pack Forest. Camp Pack Forest will host two weeks of camp for ages 11 – 13; weeks 4 (July 17-22) and 8 (August 14-19) will offer programs similar to the other three camps. All the other weeks of camp at Pack Forest will be for ages 14 – 17. Camp Rushford, as in

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# Innings and Outings

## How do I sign up for a hike?

For further details or to sign up for a hike, call the trip leader. Try to call at least two days in advance, as leaders may cancel on the day before an outing if there is insufficient interest. Leaders reserve the right to refuse participants for any reason, including lack of experience and/or lack of physical fitness. All equipment and supplies are the sole responsibility of the trip participants.

## What do I need to bring?

The trip leader will let you know if any special equipment (crampons, snowshoes, etc.) will be needed. In general, you should always carry food, water, rain gear, map, compass, headlamp, first aid kit and extra clothing, including hat and gloves in case temperatures drop. Clothing for wet or cold weather should not be made of cotton — use a synthetic fleece or wool. If in doubt, ask the leader.

## What if I don't have snowshoes/crampons?

The chapter has hi-tech snowshoes and one pair of universal fit crampons available for rental at \$5/trip. Contact Stan Stoklosa at 383-3066 to arrange for pick up from his convenient location in Clifton Park. Gear is also available to rent at local retailers..

## Should I reimburse drivers for gas?

Yes! 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).

## The kind of hikes I'd like to do aren't listed here — what can I do?

Trip leaders may be willing to plan trips based on member suggestions. If there's a specific trip you'd like to do, contact Larry Woods at 518- 810-7552 and let him know.

## Wilderness First Aid Course

The Schenectady Chapter Board agreed to provide partial 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 reimbursement. For further information, call Larry Woods at 518-810-7552.

### 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	

## Saturday, December 5

### Whiteface Mountain Memorial Highway Ski Class A2B

Roy Keats 370-0399 or [royskipaddle@gmail.com](mailto:royskipaddle@gmail.com)

This is a beautiful ski tour up a road with great scenery all the way up (and down). It is approximately an 11 mile round trip including a quarter mile stair climb from the end of the road to the Top. The last quarter mile requires snowshoes with grippers. There is a total

of approximately 2500 feet of vertical ascent. A fairly constant 8 or 9 percent grade makes for a continuous downhill run out. Everyone should come layered (no cotton) because the long uphill will warm you up, and the long downhill will cool you off. This is rated as an intermediate trip. Please call or email by Thursday evening before the ski to sign up. This is a joint trip with the Cold River Chapter. Note - skis with metal edges are recommended.

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# Outings

## Saturday, December 12

### Hennig Preserve

#### Class C2C

Norm Kuchar, 399-6243 or [nku-char@nycap.rr.com](mailto:nku-char@nycap.rr.com)

With over 600 acres, the Hennig Preserve, in the Saratoga County Town of Providence, is the largest of Saratoga PLAN's many nature preserves. It also has a wonderful network of trails along ridges and streams, passing some historic cellar holes and sawmill sites along the way. We'll plan to do a 4.5-mile loop hike through the preserve and adjacent Saratoga County Forest, although variations are possible depending on weather and snow conditions. Total vertical climb will be about 300 ft. Snowshoes and winter clothing will probably be necessary.

## Wednesday, December 16

### Gull Bay Preserve

#### Class C2D

Walt Hayes, 399-7482

This is a preserve of the Lake George Land Conservancy located in the Town of Putnam, Washington County. It is on the east side of Lake George north of the Narrows. This 434 acre preserve was purchased in 2003. The walk will be about 4 miles visiting three scenic overlooks. Ups and downs will be a few hundred feet of ascent. If we have time and interest we may visit the LGLC preserve to the north (Last Great Shoreline). It will be an easy day. We may need winter gear.

## Saturday, December 19

### Taconic Crest Trail, Route 20 to Lebanon Springs Road

#### Class B-2-B

This will be a snowshoe hike if conditions warrant; otherwise we will hike through scenic woods with ponds. Distance is about 5 miles. Contact Mary MacDonald at [mmacdonald003@nycap.rr.com](mailto:mmacdonald003@nycap.rr.com) or 518-371-1293 for further information and to sign up for this hike.

## Sunday, December 20

### Winter Sunset Solstice Hike on Buck Mountain

#### Class B2B

Herb Terns, 372-8478 or [trailhed@verizon.net](mailto:trailhed@verizon.net)

This trip is a little early for the solstice but close enough for us. We'll hike up Buck in the late afternoon to watch the sunset over the lake. Then we'll head down by headlamp back to Pilot Knob. Possible stop for dinner at Davidson Brothers in Glens Falls for those interested. Winter gear required. Round trip 6 miles with 2,000 feet of gain.

## Sunday, December 27

### Lake Andrew Ski

#### Class A2A

Herb Terns 372-8478 or [trailhed@verizon.net](mailto:trailhed@verizon.net)

This will be a ski mostly on dirt roads (hopefully covered with snow) through the MacIntyre West property near Santanoni Peak. We'll follow the roads into Lake Andrew and then if time and energy permits, we'll explore the roads that head off toward the bottom of the Santanoni slide. We should mostly climb on the way in and then get a nice downhill run on the way back. Approx. 10 miles.

## Tuesday, December 29

### Fir Mountain, Class B2B

John Susko 383-1284 or [ipsusko@netzero.net](mailto:ipsusko@netzero.net)

This is one of the trailless peaks in the Catskills so it's for anyone are interested bagging a peak, helping to find the canister or just going for a walk in the woods. The distance is ~7 miles, half of which is off trail, with ~1500 feet of ascent. At this time of year snowshoes, crampons or other traction devices may be needed.

# Outings

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**Thursday, December 31**  
**Spruce Mountain New Year's Hike**  
**Class C2C**  
**Herb Terns 372-8478 or [trailhed@verizon.net](mailto:trailhed@verizon.net)**

This is our annual New Year's Eve hike on the newly opened Spruce Mountain Fire Tower near Corinth. We'll meet somewhere around Saratoga for an optional pre-hike dinner, then head over to the mountain to ring in the New Year on top. We should have night views from the tower. Winter gear and headlamps will be required. Round trip is 2.8 miles with roughly 1,000 feet of gain.

**Friday, January 15**  
**Spruce Mountain Fire Tower in Saratoga County.**  
**Class B-2-B**  
 Snowshoe. Distance about 5 miles. The fire tower has been restored. The view from the top of the tower offers panoramic views of the southern Adirondacks. Contact Mary MacDonald at [mmacdonald003@nycap.rr.com](mailto:mmacdonald003@nycap.rr.com) or 518-371-1293 for further information and to sign up for this hike.

**Saturday, January 16**  
**X-C Skiing, Charleston State Forest**  
**Class: Beginner/Intermediate**  
**Rich Vertigan, 381-9319**  
 Charleston State Forest is high in Montgomery County, less than an hour from Schenectady, and gets a lot of snow. We'll do this as an afternoon trip. No serious hills, but probably not for early beginners. In the past, we've had to break trail on a few occasions, but the most popular loop is usually broken. Total distance 3-5 miles, depending on conditions and group.

**Saturday, January 16**  
**Tabletop, Phelps and TR Mountain**  
**Class A2A**  
**Herb Terns 372-8478 or [trailhed@verizon.net](mailto:trailhed@verizon.net)**

TR Mountain is a hundred highest peak near Indian Falls. It's a fairly short bushwhack from the state trail and since we're there, we might as well climb Tabletop and Phelps to make it a full day. Full winter gear will be required. Round trip is roughly 15 miles with 4,000 feet of gain.

**Tuesday, January 19**  
**Partridge Run Snowshoe Hike**  
**Class B2B**  
**Norm Kuchar, 399-6243 or [nku-char@nycap.rr.com](mailto:nku-char@nycap.rr.com)**

DEC's Partridge Run Wildlife Management Area, in the Town of Berne, Albany County, consists of about 4500 acres of hardwood and hemlock stands, mature spruce and pine plantations, open fields, and several ponds and wetlands. It is laced with dirt roads and trails, including a 9-mile section of the Long Path. With elevations ranging from 1400 to 2000 ft, the area gets plenty of snow. We'll plan for a snowshoe hike of no more than 5 miles, with total vertical climb of 500 ft or less. Snowshoes and winter clothing will be necessary.

**Tuesday, January 19**  
**Five Rivers Environmental Education Center**  
**Class C3D**  
**Roy Keats 370-0399 or [rovskipaddle@gmail.com](mailto:rovskipaddle@gmail.com)**

This area has several loops going through woods, fields, and around several ponds. We would do a total of 4 to 5 miles exploring most of the trails. Most are novice to lower level intermediate. The leader would be happy to provide pointers to anyone who wants to improve their technique before starting the trip and during it if desired. Please call or email by Sunday evening before the ski to sign up.

**Saturday, January 23**  
**Hunter, Class B2B**  
**John Susko 383-1284 or [jpsusko@netzero.net](mailto:jpsusko@netzero.net)**  
 Hunter is the second highest peak in the Catskills and

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# Outings

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has a fire tower that provides excellent views. We'll take the Becker Hollow trail which is the most scenic route to Hunter. The distance is ~5 miles with ~2000 feet of ascent. At this time of year snowshoes and crampons or other traction devices may be needed.

**Saturday, January 23**

**Good Luck Mountain cliffs, Class C2C**

**Walt Hayes, 399-7482**

This is an easy winter climb to a nice overlook with high reward to effort ratio. It is one of the top winter reward to effort ratios in the Adirondacks. We will need snowshoes with crampons and microspikes. Under five miles roundtrip. Located in the Town of Arietta, Hamilton County.

**Sunday, January 24**

**Hadley Mtn. Snowshoe, Class C3B**

**Ken Marcinowski, 885-9400**

or [Nildekens@msn.com](mailto:Nildekens@msn.com)

## HS Scholarship Fundraiser Thank YOU

"Thank you all for making this year's HS Scholarship Raffle such a success! We raised \$240! The winner of the \$50 Glen Sanders Mansion was Steve Shadlock. Congratulations Steve and thank you all again!"

## DEC

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recent years, will offer two sessions of camp for the 14 – 17 age group during weeks 4 (July 17-22) and 5 (July 24-29). You can find out more about the camp weeks, dates and ages at the following NYSDEC web site: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/education/2013.html>.

For information on applying for a scholarship from the Schenectady ADK Chapter, contact Stan Stoklosa at [Stanstok89@aol.com](mailto:Stanstok89@aol.com).

A great winter snowshoe/hike for those who want to practice their skills climbing in the winter. Snowshoes with crampons and winter gear required. Warm drinks, lunch and crampons or stabilizers also suggested. This is a four mile round trip with 1,550 ft. of vertical rise, and is also a "Fire Tower Challenge." Bad weather will cancel; please call or email by Thursday Evening prior to the hike.

**Sunday, January 31**

**Giant Ledge & Panther Mt.**

**Class B2B**

**Larry Woods 810-7552 or [cboater1@yahoo.com](mailto:cboater1@yahoo.com)**

Giant Ledge provides one of the finest views in the Catskills. We will start at the DEC parking area off Rt. 47 near Big Indian. If conditions permit, I plan to bushwhack below the Ledge on our return from Panther Mt. Approximately 6.7 miles round trip with about 1545 feet of elevation gain. Snowshoes and winter gear will be required.

## ADK CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

### November Meeting Report

*By Mal Provost*

The impending opening of the Boreas Ponds to the public and the continuing debate over bridges in the Essex Chain of Lakes were before the Conservation Committee of the Adirondack Mountain Club at its quarterly meeting Nov. 7 at the Albany Pine Bush Discovery Center.

ADK Executive Director Neil Woodworth asked the committee to support a broader wilderness classification for the ponds tract, which is expected to be transferred to the state before the end of this year; the tract is former Finch Pruyn land now held by the Nature Conservancy and is considered a premiere area due to its views of the High Peaks. Hopefully, the ponds and road access to a put-in for canoes and kayaks will be open for

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# Trip Tales

## **ADK Group WW trip on the Middle Fork Salmon River, Idaho, July, 2015**

This past July, The Schenectady Chapter of The ADK joined forces with an excellent guide service (Canyons River Company) to paddle the world heritage site known as the Frank Church wilderness area. This includes the infamous "River of No Return" popularized in movies and such. Our group paddled for six days down the middle fork of the Salmon River with our guide service to help in logistics and expertise with us in our whitewater kayaks. There were six paddlers from our group including three who had paddled this river some nine years earlier. The end result was a resounding triumph for all involved. Everyone was so impressed with the quality of the guide service and the natural beauty of the area. It is easy to see why this locale was one of the first chosen to be declared a protected national resource. The paddlers involved were Clarke Darlington, Horst DeLorenzi, Norm Labbe, Edward Martuscello, Nelson Miller, and Robert Wright.

## **Class 2-3 WW, Leaders Choice Sept. 12, 2015**

My leader's trip this Sat. September 12 took place on the Sacandaga Release in Hadley, New York. All the area streams are currently too low for whitewater paddling except those which have a scheduled release. We had a total of six paddlers participate in this trip including 4 K-1s and 2 OC-1s. The weather was still warm and sunny considering we are entering the fall paddling season. No swims or mishaps to speak of and everyone was keen on practicing their skills to improve their paddling proficiency. One of the kayakers even managed to do several first time rolls. Hur-ray!! (Robert Wright.)

## **Fish Creek Paddle Sept. 18, 2015**

This paddle started at the Fish Creek Ponds Campsite

boat access to Fish Creek. We paddled up the creek into Floodwood Pond, had lunch, and returned to the access point after a short side trip into Copperas Pond. We saw several Great Blue Herons, a couple of loons, and many mallards. The weather was beautiful. Although the water was low, we had no problem paddling all the way into Floodwood. It was a great day. The participants were Carol and Dave Furman, Ron Larsen, and Sue and Roy Keats (the leader).

## **AT in October Mt. State Forest, MA Sept. 19, 2015**

Six of us jumped on I-90 and headed off to Lee, MA, and a section of the AT in Massachusetts' largest state forest. After spotting a car on US20, we began our hike south through a very nice forest setting, crossing several streams almost immediately. We had lunch at a nice spot alongside Finerty Pond, and continued south, being passed by several southbound end-to-enders, and one couple who had "flipped" from S-N to N-S somewhere in Pennsylvania, and were heading back there to finish. Beautiful sunny day with just a hint of fall colors beginning to appear. Hikers were Ken and Nilde Marcinowski, Linda Neil, Bob Garabedian, and the leaders, Rich Vertigan and Holly Hawkes.

## **Moxham Mt. Sept. 26, 2015.**

Our group met at 8:30 a.m. to drive to Moxham Mtn. trailhead. About 10:00 a.m. we began our hike. The day was wonderful with temperatures around 70° and lovely blue skies. We hiked to the summit of the mountain, arriving about noon. We squandered away over an hour eating our lunches, chatting, checking out the marvelous views of the area to be hiked on the North Country National Scenic Trail (NCNST). The day was designated as the annual Trail Day for the whole NCNST, so different groups visited many different along the trail on this day. . Moxham is not on the trail itself but will likely be a marked side trail due to its excellent views of the area. We also visited with other groups while enjoying the view. Additionally,

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# Trip Tales

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we checked out the markers at the summit and the 4 (5) tie downs associated with them. The hike back to the trail head took about 1 ½ hours. Hikers were: Ken & Nilde Marcinowski, Ginny Parsons, Linda Frees, Sharon Bonk, Bob Armeo, Judy Brandow, Jenny Maloney, Claudia Rosenholz, Deirdre Garland, Walt Hayes, and Mary MacDonald, leader.

## **Thatcher State Park Mountain Bike**

**Oct. 11, 2015**

The fall colors were ideal and the cliffs around Thatcher Park provided a wonderful place to enjoy them. We started at the trailhead off Carrick Rd. in the northern section of the park. The ride out to “Hanglider Cliff” was great fun, as always and provided an extra special view on this day. One in our group had never been to Thatcher, so we rode into the main park for a tour. The place was very busy on such a beautiful holiday weekend, so we quickly ducked back into the quiet woods. The High Point overlook provided our final view for the day and we spent quite a bit of time relaxing there. Very satisfied Riders were Laura Fiske, Charlie Beach, Shelly Nevard and Larry Woods.

## **Northville-Placid Trail Steward Trip**

**Oct. 14, 2015**

This was the Fall trail clearing of the NPT section from Lake Durant to Stephens Pond. The trail was in much better shape than our previous time through. However, we were still able to find a lot of drainages needing clearing and a few trees to remove from the trail. An occasional shower did not dampen our spirits. The view at Stephens Pond was great. The participants were George Astel, and Roy Keats (the leader).

## **Unnamed summit just beyond Hope and east of Rooney**

**Oct. 17, 2015**

We skipped the planned fording of the Sacandaga River due to higher water levels and 38 percent chance of snow. We took the longer land route of

about four miles. The views on top were gorgeous with bright fall colors contrasted with incoming snow showers. We took cover from the wind for lunch just off the summit. Although it is a bushwhack the woods are very open and a hunters' path was followed for the last mile back to the car. We met hunters at the trailhead and saw many hunters on the road to Whitehouse but did not see or hear any hunters in the woods. We made a quick inspection of the bridge in Whitehouse that carries the NP Trail over the West Branch of the Sacandaga River at the end of the day. It was a very good day in the woods with a very nice group. Hikers were Barb Luthi, Ron Phillip, Terry Ross and the leader. (Walt Hayes).

## **Stony Pond**

**Oct. 20, 2015**

Heavy rain caused this hike to be postponed from its scheduled date. Even on the rescheduled day, we had a few raindrops on the drive to the trailhead on NY 28N north of Minerva, but the hike itself was dry. The trail to Stony Pond was improved recently by the addition of several large snowmobile bridges over streams. Stony Pond was beautiful and peaceful, with brightening skies reflecting on the glassy surface and contrasting with the dark evergreens along the shores. After a rest at the beautifully situated leanto, we continued south, passing under some vertical cliffs, to Little and Big Sherman Ponds. After lunch on the shore of Big Sherman Pond, we headed south, mostly downhill along an old road that once served an iron mine. By this time we had breaks of sun that brightened the foliage on the past-peak trees. All too soon, we reached the trailhead near Irishtown, where we had spotted a car. Hikers included Gail Livingston (who maintains the trail between Stony Pond and Irishtown), Mary MacDonald, Jerry Perregaux and the leader (Norm Kuchar).

## **Northwest Bay Tract**

**Oct. 30, 2015**

Like the Stony Pond hike, the date of this trip was changed to avoid heavy rain. We had some rain show-

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# Trip Tales

ers on the ride to the trailhead, but, as we neared the obscure trailhead near the s-curve on NY 9N at the head of Northwest Bay, we spotted a rainbow that we took as a good sign. Indeed, by the time we started hiking, the skies had cleared and we had a beautiful fall day, with abundant sunshine and temperatures in the mid-40's. Our goal was the summit of Walnut Ridge, a 1590 ft hill northeast of Pole Hill Pond. We took the blue-marked trail north and then west, climbing steeply up Middle Mountain before descending a short distance and then making the final steep ascent to the summit. The view was well worth the effort. The entire southern end of Lake George lay before us, with the reflected sun making the surface appear as a sheet of silver. As a bonus, much of the fall foliage remained on the trees. After lunch, we decided to complete the hike by making a loop past Pole Hill Pond. Still following the blue-marked trail, we descended steeply to the beautiful pond and then followed an old logging road down the valley of the pond's outlet stream, which was roaring with recent rains. Enjoying the day were Jayne

Bouder, Andy Kulmatiski, Roman Laba, Dave Loux, Mary MacDonald, Kendra Pratt and the leader (Norm Kuchar).

## **Pine Orchard, Nov. 11, 2015**

Rain forecast caused some cancellations but 11 hikers braved the weather and were rewarded with a rain free fall hiking day. An overcast sky most of the day gave way to a little sunshine at the end of the day. The route to Pine Orchard is on an old road/snowmobile trail and the walking is very easy. We got to the Pine Orchard sign at noon for lunch. We measured one of the nearby pines. It was 16 feet 4 inches in circumference. We ventured a little further on the trail but saw no trees larger than the measured one. Enjoying the fine fall outing were :Claire Jourdeuil, Sharon Kendall, Norm Kuchar, Roman Laba, Dave Loux, Gail Reingold, Judy Spencer, Rich Vertigan, Delia and Paul Weinstein, and the leader. (Walt Hayes)

# Whitewater

## **Winter Pool Sessions in Cohoes and Duanesburg**

*Sponsored by The Cohoes Community Center, DACC and the Schenectady Chapter ADK Whitewater Committee*

### **Cohoes Community Center**

The Cohoes open pool session at the Cohoes Community Center will be every Tuesday starting January 5 to March 8, 2016, 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Email ahead and reserve a spot for the day that you plan to attend to ensure space is available. Space will be limited to 10 paddlers. If you reserve and then cannot make it, please call to cancel, so that others may take your spot. [rpascale@spendwood.com](mailto:rpascale@spendwood.com)

Boats enter the pool through the double doors on the left side of the main entrance. Bring in your boat and walk around the building to the main entrance to pay or check in. It is \$10 per session or \$75 for all 10 sessions. Please pay the Community Center directly. This is an open pool session, but ADK volunteer instructors are available to assist if requested in advance.

### **Duanesburg Area Community Center**

The Duanesburg sessions will be on Thursday evenings from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., but one has to get out of the pool at 9:15 to leave time to re-set lanes and finish in the locker room.

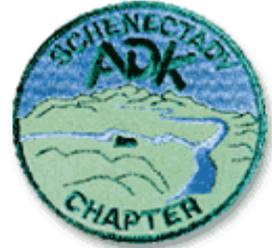
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**P.O. Box 733 Schenectady NY 12301-0733**  
**<http://www.adk-schenectady.org>**

**CHAPTER BOARD MEETINGS:** Are held regularly on the second Tuesday of the month. No meetings are held in July or August. Any concerns members have may be expressed to any board member listed on the inside front cover, or attend the meetings which are open to the membership. Call a board member for date, time & directions.

**CHAPTER DISCLAIMER:** People who attend outings are reminded that such activities entail a certain degree of danger; and persons participating do so at their own risk. This disclaimer is for both whitewater and regular outings of the chapter.

**SCHENECTADY CHAPTER PATCH:** This lovely patch (shown at right) can be purchased by check (payable to Schenectady Chapter ADK) to Dustin Wright, Membership Chair. Contact him at: [Membership@adk-schenectady.org](mailto:Membership@adk-schenectady.org). The cost is \$3 per patch, which includes the mailing cost.



**TRIP LEADERS:** If you do not want your trip listed in the local newspapers, call Publicity Chair Roy Keats at 518-370-0399, or [roysueski@yahoo.com](mailto:roysueski@yahoo.com). This newsletter goes out over the Internet.

**EQUIPMENT RENTAL:** The chapter has hi-tech snowshoes and one pair of universal fit crampons available to rent at \$5/trip. Call Stan Stoklosa at 383-3066 to arrange for pick-up.

**WEB SITE:** <http://www.adk-schenectady.org> — *All of the latest information will be posted on the Web, i.e. any changes or corrections. Please review our website and related Internet resources Acceptable Use Policy.*

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS:** If you move, you must inform the ADK in order to continue receiving The Lookout. The Lookout is sent via bulk mail, which the Postal Service will not forward. Send changes of address to The Main Club (see address below) to insure uninterrupted delivery.

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## Membership Application

*To join, send this form with  
payment to:*

**Adirondack Mountain Club**  
**814 Goggins Road,**  
**Lake George, NY**  
**12845-4117**

or drop it off at Adirondack  
Loj or Headquarters.

**Check Membership Level:**

- |                          |                         |        |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Family Life             | \$1950 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Individual Life         | 1300   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Adult                   | 50     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Family                  | 60     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Senior (65+)            | 40     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Senior Family 65+)      | 50     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Student (full time 18+) | 40     |
|                          | School _____            |        |

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP+4 \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_

**I want to join the Schenectady Chapter**

List spouse & children under 18 and birth dates

Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Child \_\_\_\_\_ birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

Child \_\_\_\_\_ birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

Bill my \_\_\_\_\_ VISA \_\_\_\_\_ MasterCard \_\_\_\_\_ Discover \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Account # \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*signature (required for charge)*

*ADK is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization. Membership fees are tax deductible, as allowed by law. Please allow 6-8 weeks for receipt of first issue of Adirondack.*

# Whitewater

*Continued from Page 8*

The sessions will begin on November 12, 19, December 3, and 10<sup>th</sup> this fall. There will be a break until after the holidays. The pool will open again starting January 7, 2016, and the sessions will continue each Thursday through April 21.

The fall schedule is also listed on the DACC website: [www.dacc.info/](http://www.dacc.info/)

Please make sure your boats are clean – no leaves or debris in the pool! Call ahead and reserve your space on or before the day that you plan to attend to ensure space is available. Space will be limited to 15 paddlers. If you reserve and then cannot make it, please call to cancel, so that others may take your spot.

Boats enter the pool on the right side of the building when facing the front entrance. Bring in your boat and

walk around the building to the main entrance to pay or check in. Free admission for DACC members, \$15 per session for non-members or you may purchase a discount four-session pass card for \$50 (\$12.50 per session). These may be purchased at the main entrance; you pay DACC directly.

DACC may close early during winter storms, so it is best to call and confirm they are open before making the drive if weather is questionable. Contact the DACC at 518-895-9500 to reserve a spot or check for closings.

Beginning kayak instruction is available with reservation (to ensure instructors and equipment are available). For recreational/touring/sea kayaking, basic strokes, or rolling contact: John Ozard at [ozardj@netscape.net](mailto:ozardj@netscape.net).

## Conservation Committee Report

*Continued from Page 5*

public use in 2016.

The classification of the ponds will determine whether motorized travel there is allowed, which the ADK and the Adirondack Council among others oppose strongly. The local governments of the five towns that encompass the tract are seeking less restrictive classifications – which could allow snowmobile and float plane access -- in the belief this will enhance tourism and commercial traffic.

Regarding the Essex Chain of Lakes, Woodworth noted that the unit management plan was to come before the Adirondack Park Agency during the week of Nov. 9, and decisions on two bridges – one planned and one existing – remain points of contention. These are the bridge over the Cedar River, which is proposed to be reconstructed, and the Polaris bridge over the Hudson River built by Finch Pruyn for

logging in 1992. The Cedar River bridge poses the issue of whether non-natural materials such as steel cable can be used. These are restricted under existing regulations for primitive or wilderness areas, even though they would allow simpler, more economical construction. Woodworth's position was that the rules of the State Land Master Plan should be amended to allow such, before construction is undertaken.

Woodworth was adamant that the DEC should ban snowmobile traffic over the Polaris Bridge, stating the bridge violates the state Wild Scenic and Recreational Rivers Act and should be removed. He said the DEC – favoring use of the bridge for a snowmobile trail – is promoting a violation of the law by an erroneous interpretation of "grandfathering" a prior use. Whether the Polaris bridge can be used for snowmobiles will determine the route for a snowmobile trail connecting Indian Lake, Newcomb and Minerva.

# ADK Board of Directors Report

## **Highlights of the September 26, 2015 meeting at Lake George**

**Oil Tank Car Storage in the High Peaks:** During World War II, a railroad was built as from North Creek to Tahawus on an emergency basis to access iron and titanium deposits. The railroad easement, taken from Forest Preserve land, was supposed to expire 15 years after the war ended, but the federal lease was extended several times and then sold to the Iowa Pacific Railroad. In 2012, the Iowa Pacific received permission from the federal government to haul tailings from the now closed mine at Tahawus for use as construction material. The tailings venture has proved to be unprofitable, and the railroad is now proposing to earn revenue by storing up to 500 obsolete DOT 111 oil tank cars (empty, but not cleaned) on the sidings in the vicinity of Tahawus, prior to their being retrofitted or broken up for salvage. ADK strongly opposes the creation of an oil tank car graveyard in the southern High Peaks and is seeking legal options to prevent this and return the railroad right-of-way to the Forest Preserve. (Note: In October, Iowa Pacific indicated that it has dropped its tank car storage proposal.)

**Boreas Ponds Tract:** It is expected that the 22,000-acre Boreas Ponds Tract, which borders the High Peaks and Dix Mountain Wilderness Areas, will be purchased by New York State and added to the Forest Preserve by the end of this year. This former Finch Pruyn land, currently owned by The Nature Conservancy, has great views of the High Peaks from the ponds and will open new opportunities for hiking, paddling and other outdoor recreation.

**NCNST Plan Approved:** DEC has released the final plan and generic environmental impact statement for the North Country National Scenic Trail (NCNST) across the Adirondacks. The 158-mile-long Adirondack section, from Forestport (north of Utica) to Crown Point, is part of the 4,600 mile NCNST, which extends from North Dakota to Lake Champlain.

It will become the only major east-west trail across the Adirondacks.

**Heavy High Peaks Area Use:** This past summer has seen heavy use of the facilities and trails in the eastern High Peaks. On Labor Day weekend alone, over 2,500 hikers registered at the Heart Lake trailheads. The Summit Stewards on Marcy, Algonquin and Cascade interacted with over 30,000 hikers this year, while the four ADK Summer Naturalist Interns (who guide nature walks, give talks at Adirondak Loj and Johns Brook Lodge, and staff the Nature Museum) interacted with over 13,000 guests at ADK's High Peaks facilities.

**Membership:** At the end of August, ADK's membership stood at 16,777 households, the highest in four years and up more than 300 since the beginning of the year.

**Volunteer Recognition:** Bob Grimm requested that members consider nominating volunteers who have made outstanding contributions to ADK (at the Main Club, not chapter level) for the club's awards, which include the David L. Newhouse ADK Conservation Award, the Eleanor F. Brown ADK Communication Award, the Arthur E. Newkirk ADK Education Award, ADK Trailblazer Awards and ADK Distinguished Volunteer Awards.

**Publications:** The first printing (5,000 copies) of the newly revised *Trails of the Adirondack High Peaks* map sold out quickly, and a second printing has been made. In addition, a new National Geographic Trails Illustrated map of the Northville-Placid Trail, paired with ADK's Northville-Placid guidebook, has been released.

— Norm Kuchar

*the Lookout*

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Adirondack Mountain Club  
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