

The **Lookout**

JUNE-JULY 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

*Black Mountain and Lake George from the Last Great
Shoreline Preserve. Photo courtesy of Norm Kuchar.*

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The Lookout

The newsletter for the Schenectady Chapter of the Adirondack Mountain Club

2016 ADK Chapter HS Scholarship Winners

The Schenectady Chapter of the ADK has awarded graduating seniors Jason Perreault, from Niskayuna High School, and Shaheen Hasan, from Schalmont High School with a \$500 scholarship. The Chapter has, since 2008, offered scholarships to local high school seniors who will focus on the sciences and the protection of the environment as freshmen in college. Eight of the area's high schools received invitations from Jacqueline McGinn, Project Coordinator, to submit essays to apply for the scholarship. We were very impressed by all applicants. However, we were especially affected by these two. Below are excerpts from the winning essays. We wish them both well in their futures caring for our environment.

Jason Perreault *Niskayuna HS*

I have had a lifelong interest in learning about the environment and how to protect it. My family nurtured my love for nature and my education and summer experiences have enhanced that appreciation. My family are members of the Schenectady ADK Club and my happiest memories are of hiking and camping with them. My father, who passed away in 2011, had studied entomology, and during college was a naturalist at Allegheny State Park. He passed along his love and respect for all living creatures, including the smallest insects.

Last summer I was also fortunate to receive the Schenectady ADK club scholarship to participate in the ADK High School Trail Project. My group worked on building a bog bridge in Lake Arnold, a remote and beautiful area of the Adirondacks. We cut down trees to build the bridge and it was challenging to construct the bridge without the use of power tools. We learned the importance of using natural local materials to avoid bringing in foreign wood that might introduce invasive species. That same summer the ADK club also provided me the opportunity to participate in the program called Discovering the

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Shaheen Hasan *Schalmont HS*

From a young age, environmental science and the issues of pollution have been a serious interest of mine. In elementary school I participated in the Young Scholars program run through BOCES and conducted a wide variety of biological experiments. One that still influences me to this day was the "Mud Bucket" lab, in which we classified different microorganisms found in samples of water and sediment from Lake George.



It was an intriguing experience that opened my eyes to the unseen worlds of nature, and it sparked a passion in me to protect them as our instructor continued to describe the effects of pollution and invasive species on the environment.

Since then, I have been active in my school community by participating in our Environmental Clubs. Schalmont's Middle and High School contain student-run paper recycling programs through their respective clubs in addition to their efforts to promote conservation. During my high school involvement I have had the honor of serv-

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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, May 28

Young Members Outing: Indian Head, Twin and Sugarloaf Mountains

Class B2A

Dustin Wright, dustingwright@gmail.com or 603-953-8782

Join our young member group for a difficult but awesome day along the Devil's Path over three of the Catskill's 3,500 feet High Peaks! Roundtrip distance is roughly eight miles over incredible rock scrambles with breathtaking views. Possible camping the night before for those who are interested.

Saturday, June 11

Moreau Lake State Park

Class B2B

Norm Kuchar, 399-6243 or nkuchar@nycap.rr.com

This hike will traverse the western end of Moreau Lake State Park, including part of the new McGregor parcel added to the park last year. We'll begin by ascending the Western Ridge trail from Spier Falls Rd and following it along the north edge of the Palmertown ridge, passing many nice viewpoints over the Hudson River. We'll then connect with the Eastern Ridge trail, going through a beautiful forest past interesting rock ledges. After reaching Lake Ann by trail, we'll bushwhack down to Lake Bonita

Outings

Continued from Page 2

in the newly added parcel and explore its shore. Distance is about 7 miles, with about 1,100 feet of climb.

Tuesday, June 14 **Springhill Ponds** **Class B2B**

Walt Hayes, 399-7482

These ponds are located in the Southeastern part of the Pharaoh Lake Wilderness. The round trip distance will be under eight miles including a little bushwhacking to visit the second largest of the ponds. Total ascent in and out will be about 1200 feet. The leader has never visited these ponds so it will be an explore. This trip is in one of the lesser used areas of the PLW and passes through a variety of forest types. We will plan to have lunch on a rocky bluff on the largest of the ponds.

Thursday, June 16

Young Member Social: Van Dyke Restaurant and Lounge 7 to 9 p.m.

Dustin Wright, dustingwright@gmail.com or 603-953-8782

If you are roughly 18-35 and looking to build some community with other like-minded young adults in the Schenectady area, join us for good food, delicious brews, and great conversation! We'll spend an evening in the Stockade's top meeting spot discussing the many opportunities available through the ADK for younger members and help us brainstorm about how to increase our young member programming. All are welcome, members and prospective members alike.

Friday, June 17

Rusk Mountain, Class B2B

John Susko 383-1284 or jpsusko@netzero.net

Rusk is one of the trailless peaks in the Catskills. For this hike we will make a loop over the east summit before continuing along the ridge to the actual summit and the canister. The distance is ~ 6 miles, over half off-trail, with ~1500 feet of ascent.

Friday, June 17

Paddle – Middle Saranac Lake to Second Pond
Class A2C

Roy Keats 370-0399 or royskipaddle@gmail.com

This trip starts at the car-top boat launch on Middle Saranac Lake. We will leave cars at the Boat Launch just be-

fore the Rt. 3 bridge over the Saranac River (Second Pond) for our take out. We will paddle the South Creek inlet to Middle Saranac, and if the winds are not too high, we will explore Hungry Bay and Weller Pond on the far side of Middle Saranac. From there we will head over to Lower Saranac Lake by paddling past the big islands on Middle Saranac and then into the Saranac River. With a little luck, we might be able to operate the lock separating the Middle and Lower Saranac Lakes by hand. We will take out at Second Pond on the Saranac River. The trip length, depending on what we decide to explore, will be on the order of 10 to 12 miles. If the weather is extremely windy, we will move the trip to a more sheltered location or a smaller lake.

Saturday, June 18

Beginner/Novice Mountain Biking
Class B2C

Larry Woods, 810-7552 or cboater1@yahoo.com

We will ride dirt roads and easy double or single track trails. Entry level mountain bikes are suitable, helmets are required. The location will be decided as the date approaches and will be based on current trail conditions and group ability. Choices may include Grafton Lakes State Park, The Northern section of Thatcher State Park, or perhaps a trail network in the Adirondacks.

Tuesday, June 21

Bennett, Middle and Murphy lakes hike
B2B

Mary MacDonald, 518-371-1293 or mmacdonald003@nycap.rr.com

Come see the lakes in this area north of Northville and Sacandaga Lake. 7.6 miles with small hills and undulating terrain. No significant hills. We will likely lunch at Murphy Lake lean-to. If we are lucky the loons will be on the lake. A swim is possible. About an hour's drive from our meeting place along the Northway. To reserve a place on this trip, please call Mary MacDonald at 518-371-1293 or mmacdonald003@nycap.rr.com

Saturday, June 25

Buck Mountain Lake George
Class C2B

Ken Marcinowski 885-9400 or Nildekens@msn.com

We will climb to summit of Buck Mtn. VIA the trail on

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Outings

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the North side from Shelving Rock Road which is shorter than the trail from Pilot Knob. Round trip is 4.6 miles with 1,100 feet of ascent. Be sure to bring plenty of water as well as lunch. Please call or email by Thursday evening prior to the trip. Meet up time will be 9:00 AM, rain will cancel.

Saturday, July 2

Young Member's Outing: Snowy Mountain

Class B2B

Dustin Wright, dustingwright@gmail.com or 603-953-8782

Join our young member group for one of the best fire tower hikes in the Adirondacks. Roundtrip distance is slightly under eight miles, with the trail to the summit including a pleasant and easy walk with very moderate elevation gain in the first two-and-a-half miles, and a somewhat steep scramble towards the end. At 3,899 feet, Snowy Mountain is the highest peak in the Adirondacks south of the High Peaks region and the eighth most prominent peak in New York with 2,225 feet of prominence.

Tuesday, July 5,

Bike the Byway

Mary MacDonald, 518-371-1293 or mmacdonald003@nycap.rr.com

This bike ride is about 35 miles using the Mohawk-Hudson Bike Path on the south side of the Mohawk River and local routes along the north side of the river. Refer to web site <http://www.mohawktowpath.org/> for details. Lunch along the way. To reserve a place on this trip, please call Mary MacDonald at 518-371-1293 or mmacdonald003@nycap.rr.com

Tuesday, July 12

Unnamed summit just beyond Hope (bushwhack)

Class B2B

Walt Hayes, 399-7482

We are calling this unnamed summit Rooney East. It is located about 0.6 mile east of Rooney Hill and 0.6 mile south of the NYS campground on the Sacandaga River. The rocky summit has great views to the south and west. We will try again for a wade of the Sacandaga River. Last time the river was running too deep for a safe crossing. We will climb by the land route if the river is too deep. Round trip distance will be under five miles with a

700 foot climb. This is an extremely nice bushwhack.

Tuesday, July 19

New Northville-Placid Trail to Mud Lake

Class B2B

Norm Kuchar, 399-6243 or nkuchar@nycap.rr.com

Last September, a new section of the Northville-Placid Trail was opened from Collins Gifford Valley Rd in Northville to Benson Rd. We'll use part of this beautifully constructed trail to reach Mud Lake. Despite its prosaic name, Mud Lake is quite interesting, with bog mats and unusual flora. We'll also get some views by two short bushwhacks to Mud Lake Ridge and Big Oak Hill. Total distance is about 5.8 miles, with about 1200 feet of climb.

Friday, July 22

Paddling – Cedar River Flow

Class A2C

Roy Keats 370-0399 or royskipaddle@gmail.com

This trip starts and ends at Wakely Dam at the north end of Cedar River Flow. The flow extends as a lake for approximately 3 miles to the south. Even though there is public access at this end of the road, the lake has a very wild character. There are many coves to explore as well as beaver meadows and meandering streams. At the far end the Cedar River provides an additional 1.5 mile paddle to a lean-to on the Northville Lake Placid Trail. Finding the inlet of the Cedar River is always a challenge. The south end of the lake is filled with weeds and false channels. The total round trip will be on the order of 10 miles. If the weather forecast is for extreme winds, the trip will be moved to a more sheltered location.

Tuesday, August 2

Treadway Mountain

B2B

Mary MacDonald 518-371-1293 or mmacdonald003@nycap.rr.com

Wonderful views of the Eastern Adirondacks are available from the summit of this mountain in the Pharoah Lake Wilderness area. We will begin and end at Putnam Pond. Miles 7.8 with elevation gain 830 ft. Lunch on the summit. To reserve a place on this trip, please call Mary MacDonald at 518-371-1293 or mmacdonald003@nycap.rr.com.

Trip Tales

Moose Mountain Bushwhack

March 15, 2016

The forecast improved and the actual weather was even better than we expected. This is the Moose Mountain in Wells across Route 30 from the NYS Campground. It has no trail. Barbara McMartin correctly pushed for a trail to be built here for the benefit of the campers. The UMP draft written in 2006 included a plan for a trail. There is still no trail to this mountain with two nice summit view spots because the Unit Management Plan has not been finalized and DEC is working on a Revised Draft UMP. Our route in followed the traditional route up the lower land in the center, staying right of the stream and swampy areas but not climbing the higher land to the east. After climbing to the summit ridge we first visited the left (western) lookout. The clouds were still low and trees have filled in so the view was quite limited. On to the eastern lookout for lunch and a much improved view. We could see the nearby mountains across the Sacandaga River including Finch, Southerland and Cathead with its tower. We decided to try a new route back to the car that included following the general route of the proposed UMP trail and then heading southwesterly to come out near our parked cars at the campground. All members of our group had been on this mountain before but no one had tried this route. It worked very well including an added bonus near the end. We found a very nice waterfall near the highway that none of us knew existed. This late winter trip was made without snowshoes. We carried micro spikes but never found an opportunity to put them on. We saw very small spots of snow and ice in low shaded areas but the ground was mostly snow-free with relatively dry leaf covered ground. Hikers were Peter Fedorick, Holly Hawkes, Gail Livingston, Kathy Miles, Rich Vertigan and the leader. (Walt Hayes)

Thatcher State Park Mountain Biking

April 17, 2016

We had a warm sunny day for our ride. Three of us met at the Carrick Road trailhead in the north section of the park. Starting on the yellow Perimeter trail we rode a short distance to Hanglider Cliff Road. After enjoying the view, we took a singletrack from the cliff which brought us to the water treatment plant. From there we finished a loop back on the Long Path and Perimeter trails, encountering some muddy spots. The ride along the Connector trails brought us past an old abandoned car at "Gasoline Alley". The side trip to High Point offered more views of the Hudson and Mohawk Valleys. We returned to Carrick Road on the High Point and Perimeter Trails.

Slightly muddy riders were Mike Brun, Shelly Nevard and Larry Woods.

Eddy Mountain and Buttermilk Hill

April 23, 2016

Eleven hikers made this trip to two small mountains in the Hudson River Recreation Area, part of the Lake George Wild Forest. We began on River Road north of Lake Luzerne and hiked

passed the Bear Slides, a set of smooth rock slabs on Buttermilk Brook. We then used a network of old logging roads to ascend the east side of Eddy Mountain, reaching a great viewpoint just in time for lunch. The views were across the Hudson to Hadley Mountain and Roundtop to the west and to Baldhead and Moose Mountains to the north. After lunch, we bagged the viewless summit of Eddy Mountain before heading north to Buttermilk Hill. This proved to be the only difficult part of the trip, since Buttermilk Hill, though not high, is very steep with rocky ledges. We reached the viewpoint on Buttermilk to find the valley below filled with smoke from a forest fire at the base of the hill. We attempted to report the fire, but cell phone service was nonexistent. When we reached our cars, we found the parking lot filled with fire equipment from surrounding towns, so the hike ended on an exciting note. Hikers were Mike Brun, Walt Hayes, Roman Laba, Gail Livingston, Dave Loux, Mary MacDonald, Jim and Bonnie Schaller, Linda Nowak, Wayne Virkler and the leader (Norm Kuchar).

Schroon River Whitewater Paddle

April 23, 2016

With the Schroon running at a very moderate level of 3.4' on April 23, a group of nine paddlers made a quick Saturday trip of about two hours for an easy season warm-up. For several it was a season opener, while others had made a few trips already. The day was cloudy and cool to begin but brightened and warmed nicely as we progressed. We were a temporary disruption for a handful of fishermen at the pool ending the first drop, but we were mindful not to be too intrusive. We made a few ferries at that practice spot then moved downstream. We scouted "the drop" briefly but it was easy and uneventful. Paddlers: Robert Fulsang, Oscar LaRosa, Don Orr, Nelson Miller, Clarke Darlington and Ed Martuscello in kayaks; Pam Sorbero and Chantelle Marino in tandem ducky; Mal Provost, OC!, trip leader.

Last Great Shoreline

April 27, 2016

It started cool and cloudy but turned into a perfect sunny spring day. The preserve trails are less than ideal in design and layout - it is often difficult to anticipate what kind of turn the trail will take. We stopped at the overlook view toward Vermont where we could see the Green Mountain ridgeline. Then down toward the dock on the shore of Lake George. The dock had not been installed in the Lake yet and was in the shade so we headed for a rocky point for lunch. The view down the lake to Black Mountain is stunning. We then climbed back up the 300 feet to the yellow connector trail that took us toward the Gull Bay Preserve. There are some steep sections on this trail. The trail appears to leave the Last Great Shoreline Preserve to cross private land before coming to the border of the Gull Bay Preserve. We

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Whitewater Schedule

| Date | Day | Event | Level | Contact | Phone |
|------------|----------|---------------------------------------|--------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| May 30 | Monday | Riparius to the Glen | III | Clark Darlington | 370-2144 |
| June 4 | Saturday | Riparius to the Glen | III | Rick Gonzales | 461-2718 |
| June 5 | Sunday | West Branch Sacandaga | III | Nelson Miller | 813-0546 |
| June 11 | Sunday | The Fish | III+ | Horst DeLorenzi | 399-4615 |
| June 12 | Sunday | River Rescue and First Aid | II/III | Rick Morse | 494-4094 |
| June 18 | Saturday | Schroon/Leader's Choice | II/III | Bob Wright | 279-1428 |
| June 18-19 | Sat/Sun | Novice/Intermediate Kayak/Canoe Class | II/III | Sally Dewes Larry Woods | 346-1761 810-7552 |
| June 24-26 | Fri-Sun | Deerfield Festival | | | |
| June 26 | Sunday | Fife Brook Deerfield | II/III | Tim Lawson | 242-6244 |
| July 2 | Saturday | Battenkill | II | Alyson Slack | 202-285-2688 |
| July 4 | Monday | Hudson River Gorge/Clark's | III+ | Horst DeLorenzi | 399-4615 |
| July 9 | Saturday | Bike & Paddle Sacandaga | II/III | Mal Provost Sally Dewes | 399-1565 |
| July 10 | Sunday | Fife Brook Deerfield | II/III | Ed Martuscello | 843-5581 |
| July 16 | Saturday | Leader's Choice | II/III | Ed Cunningham | 885-7444 |
| July 17 | Sunday | AMC/ADK Trip | III | Marty Plante | 321-8277 |
| July 23 | Saturday | Hudson River Gorge | III+ | Rick Gonzales | 461-2718 |
| July 24 | Sunday | Fife River Deerfield | II/III | Clark Darlington | 370-2144 |
| July 30 | Saturday | Hudson River Gorge | III+ | Nelson Miller | 813-0546 |
| July 31 | Sunday | Fife Brook Deerfield | II/III | Tim Lawson | 242-6244 |

Conservation Report

BOREAS PONDS

With the long-sought Boreas Ponds Tract now state land, the next step is expected to be public hearings on whether these will be classified as wilderness – motor free among other restrictions– or open to snowmobiles and other vehicles.

The Adirondack Mountain Club and other environmental activists are pushing for the most restrictive definition of the 22,000 acre tract, as well as a plan to incorporate this into an even broader wilderness zone comprising 280,000 acres. This would include the Casey Brook and MacIntyre East and West tracts, Dix Mountain and the High Peaks Wilderness, and create a contiguous wilderness of the size of the Rocky Mountain National Park.

Neil Woodworth, executive director of the ADK, said public support of the wilderness classification is essential – commenting at the May 7 meeting of the ADK Conservation Committee – and said the club will seek statewide hearings instead of only regional and Albany comment. The scope of the hearings is essential, he said, due to the unique opportunity presented by the Boreas Ponds purchase.

The wilderness classification is vigorously opposed by many local political officials and this carries weight with state senators and Assembly members. They cite the potential for more business activity keyed to snowmobile and motorized use traffic on the water bodies and surrounding land.

Woodworth said beyond the unique nature of this scenic area, there is an argument that wilderness areas actually promote tourist traffic. He cited a study by Clarkson University, using the communities of Keene, Keene Valley and Lake Placid as sites where access to wilderness is a strong draw for tourism and related jobs.

Access to the Boreas Ponds would be via Gulf Brook Road as a wild forest zone – allowing motorized traffic – and include a carry trail for canoe/kayak directly to the ponds. At publication deadline for *The Lookout*, the road can be hiked but vehicle traffic is barred. It is unclear whether an interim access plan will be developed by DEC pending the hearings; at present no schedule of hearings has been established.

ESSEX CHAIN

Regarding the DEC and Adirondack Park Agency approval of the use of the Polaris Bridge over the Hudson River for snowmobile traffic, Woodworth said the ADK threat of a lawsuit now appears unlikely. (One remains in process by Adirondack Wild and Protect the Adirondacks.)

Woodworth said legal counsel advised that the decision appears justifiable under the state Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers Act. Critical, he said, is that the DEC/APA decision does not involve "grandfathering" earlier snowmobile use of the bridge. That logic could have opened many other primitive or wilderness areas to motorized use, which was the ADK's primary concern.

DEC has also OK'd use of steel cables or related materials for a new bridge over the Cedar River in the Essex Chain. ADK has pushed for this to allow simpler, more economical construction within primitive areas. DEC did not decide this as general policy, but will review uses on case by case basis, Woodworth said.

— *Mal Provost*

Trip Tales

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had a view of the rookery but saw no Blue Herons. We all got in the spotted car for the ride back to the start. It was another great day in the woods for Tom Bolton, Jane Boudier, Norm Kuchar, Jim and Bonnie Schaller, Harlene Smalkin, Judy Spencer and the leader (Walt Hayes)



Schenectady Bike Path Cleanup

Saturday June 11, 2016

**9 a.m. to noon
Seneca Street, Schenectady**

Join us as we pick up trash, trim weeds, and generally give the Schenectady bike path some love. We suggest wearing long sleeves and sturdy shoes. We'll provide the juice and cookies, and the litter bags and tools. Call Stan Stoklosa at 383-3066 to sign up or for more details.

Scholarship Winners

Jason Perrault

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Ausable: An Aquatic Stewardship Program. At Niskayuna HS I had taken an Environmental Science class in which we conducted water sampling in a local creek. The aquatic stewardship program taught us more advanced techniques and we learned about the threats to the Ausable River and Mirror Lake. We discovered that Mirror Lake is suffering from increased salinity, probably due to increased road salt. This salinity could harm the trout in the lake. We were told this report

was going to be passed on to the local governments. I really appreciated these opportunities to hike, canoe and learn about the environment.

Many of my other activities have been focused on the environment. I was a junior docent at the Albany Pine Bush Preserve and volunteered with a local club, Friends of Niskayuna Trails. Since I was 8, I attended 4-H Camp Owahta near Cortland, NY. In my final year there I was a nature coun-

selor and enjoyed sharing my love of nature and the camp with the younger campers.

These leadership and educational opportunities have led me to consider a career as an Environmental Science teacher. The ADK club has provided my family and me with many opportunities for which I am very grateful. Now that the love of nature has been ingrained in me, I want to pass it along to future students and others.

Shaheen Hasan

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ing as the club president for the past two years and have worked to expand the club by developing new activities. Last year we implemented a bird house program in which we built and installed bluebird houses around the school campus. We have been monitoring them for bluebird activity ever since and have gained a few new feathered neighbors. This year, we are planning our annual campus-clean-up event and working on starting a butterfly garden to make use of the unused courtyard space in our school. In addition, we continue our recycling efforts and are working with the Schenectady County Recycling committee to find a better provider and possibly change our program to a single stream system, expanding our recycling capabilities to plastic and other materials as

well.

These experiences have helped shape my goals for the future and my college decisions for the upcoming year. I have decided on attending the SUNY Polytechnic Institute Colleges of Nanoscale Science and Engineering to pursue a major in nanoscale science. This innovative field encompasses a variety of disciplines including the chemical and biological properties of nanoscale materials and their effects on the human body and the environment. One of the areas I plan to study and research in is the development of new medical treatments and tools that reduce the amount of pollution produced from hospitals and healthcare facilities. One of the growing trends in nanomedicine is the use of nanoparticles of silver as an antiseptic agent,

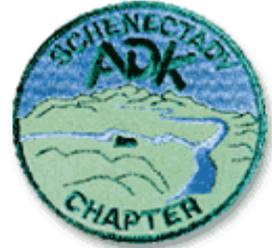
though little is known about its effects on the environment and if proper disposal protocols are necessary. Additionally nano zero-valent iron particles have recently been shown to rapidly reduce the presence of toxic materials in hazardous waste sites, though its effects on human and environmental health are still being researched. The field of nanotechnology and nanoscience are rapidly growing and it is becoming increasingly important to establish the relationships between these materials and its effects on the environment as well as the human body. I would like to be part of this movement to find new innovations in medical technology while staying conscious of the effects these materials and processes have on the environment and on human health.

Schenectady ADK
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<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 mailing a check (payable to Schenectady Chapter ADK) to Rich Vertigan, 1804 Van Cortland St., Rotterdam, NY 12203. 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. 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 Chapter chair Rich Vertigan, 1804 Van Cortland St., Rotterdam, NY 12203 to insure uninterrupted delivery.

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 2016

Get ready for an exciting 2016 White Water Season. We have a full schedule of outings and classes. The schedule is listed on the Schenectady ADK web site as well as the Main Club Master Calendar. Outings start in March and run through November. We also have classes and Trip Leader training. Get ready for a fun and exciting season and Please Please Please sign up for your trips early. Don't wait until the last minute or you may be closed out (and the trip leaders need to plan.)

Whitewater Instruction

Intermediate/Novice whitewater instruction for either kayak or solo open canoe will be available on June 18 and 19. This two-day clinic is designed for boaters who have had some previous instruction, but still need more work to perfect the basic strokes and maneuvers.

Students should have paddled class 1 or 2 whitewater 5 or more times and be able to perform eddy turns, peel-outs, and ferries on class I water. They should be able to paddle in a straight line with confidence, identify river features including eddies, waves, and holes, and self-rescue in class I and II whitewater. Kayakers should have or be working on a roll and must be comfortable with wet exits. Learning goals would include skills that would bring students to solid class 2 or 2+ paddling ability. We will start on flatwater to refine paddling techniques as well as prac-

ting low braces for solo open canoe and rolls for kayakers. On the river, we will work on performing crisp, reliable eddy turns, peel-outs, controlling the angle on ferries and gaining overall experience. Instruction will start at 8 a.m. at a location to be determined later and be over each day by late afternoon. Students must provide their own equipment including the boat. Cost for the two days of instruction is \$35. For further information, contact either Sally Dewes for kayak (518-346-1761) or Larry Woods for solo open canoe (518-810-7552).

Whitewater Rescue and First Aid

Experts say all whitewater paddlers are between times when they come out of their boat and have to swim. We always need to practice safety awareness whenever we paddle and we hope our knowledge of how to paddle safely will prevent a swim or a pin. We never know though when we will need to rescue others or ourselves. Safety awareness and rescue skills deserve our attention and our time. Rick Morse (ACA certified in Swiftwater Rescue) will set up a schedule of activities that will allow all of us to refresh our safety knowledge and practice our rescue skills. Areas that will be covered and practiced include both self-rescue and group rescue. We will practice rescuing swimmers and boats by utilizing wading, swimming, towing, bulldozing, and throw rope skills. The day will also

include first aid instruction and practice. Fun Paddle: After we are done with the above we will have time to paddle the Sacandaga, surf up a storm and utilize our rescue skills. Call Rick Morse to register 494-4094. The class will have a maximum of 10 and there is a \$20 fee.

Want to become an ADK White Water Trip Leader

We will be at Zoar Outdoor for some of the best instruction available anywhere.

After a highly successful experience last year the Schenectady ADK will again offer this opportunity to dedicated white water trip leaders. Some of the topics covered will include: Trip Leader Issues and Planning, Positive interpersonal skills, Appropriate group management skills (including leadership and judgment), Group management: CLAP (communication, line of sight, avoid problem areas, position of maximum usefulness), Trip Planning & Float Plan, Ability to choose an appropriate venue / class site, Weather reading and weather protocols, River features and hazards and how to use and or avoid them, River running strategies, including scouting and group management on the river, Scouting a rapid, First Aid Preparedness in Water Environments, Legal Liability for Instructors and much much more. If you are interested contact Ralph. rpascale@spendwood.com

Study says wilderness aids Adirondack economy

POTSDAM, N.Y. – A new scientific study conducted by Clarkson University shows that the Adirondack Park's constitutionally protected Forest Preserve is an economic asset to the private lands and communities near it, and the wildest of those lands returns the greatest financial benefit. Clarkson's study showed that people seeking to purchase homes and businesses in northern New York paid

more for the same property inside the Adirondack Park than they would have outside of it. Buyers paid up to 25 percent more if that property was close to a wilderness area. New York's Adirondack Park Wilderness areas, where motorized recreation is not allowed, constitute the largest protected Wilderness in the Northeast. The study analyzed more than

77,000 real estate transactions over a decade in the 12 counties that comprise the Adirondack Park, using proven statistical models and Geographic Information System mapping technology to assist in the analysis. The study also cites other research efforts that found similar economic benefits derived from wilderness protection, both in the Adirondacks and elsewhere.

State's largest land acquisition complete

On May 10, Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo announced the completion of the state's largest Adirondack land acquisition in more than 100 years, with the purchase of the 20,758-acre Boreas Ponds Tract. This is the final acquisition in a series of land purchases the state has completed under a 2012 agreement with The Nature Conservancy to conserve 69,000 acres of land previously owned primarily by the former Finch, Pruyn & Company paper company. The Tract is located primarily in the town of North Hudson in Essex County, south of the High Peaks Wilderness Area.

Today, Governor Cuomo also sent a letter to the Adirondack Park Agency requesting the agency begin the classification process for the Boreas Ponds Tract. Since 2010, through the Governor's efforts to promote recreation in the Adirondacks, tourism-related employment is up nearly eight percent, tourism spending is up 10 percent and visitation is up 15 percent in the Adirondack Park.

"The Adirondack Forest Preserve is a national treasure, and adding nearly 21,000 acres to the Preserve by completing the acquisition of the former Finch lands will benefit the region for generations to come," said Governor Cuomo. "By acquiring this remarkable tract, we are helping to conserve the region's natural beauty while also creating new economic opportunities for communities in the park. This will provide even more unparalleled settings for outdoor tourism and recreation, and I encourage New Yorkers to visit the region and see what they've been missing." The state purchase the tract with \$14.5 million from the Environmental Protection Fund, providing the resources necessary to protect this treasured resource and its remote character, while expanding outdoor recreation opportunities including hunting, hiking, paddling and wildlife observation. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation is in the process of developing interim plans to provide trails, parking lots and waterway access sites for public use in the summer. With this announcement, the public may access and

recreate on the lands and waters by non-motorized means only.

Acting DEC Commissioner Basil Seggos said: "DEC is proud to finalize this amazing addition of one of the most iconic landscapes in New York to the Adirondack Forest Preserve. Through Governor Cuomo's continued leadership, we look forward to working with all partners to carefully protect this vital habitat and ensure that all visitors can enjoy the breathtaking views and outstanding recreational opportunities."

The Nature Conservancy purchased 161,000 acres in 2007 from Finch Paper Holdings LLC, the company that purchased all of Finch, Pruyn & Company's assets. In 2010, the state purchased conservation easements on 89,000 acres of these former Finch lands. In 2012, Governor Cuomo announced the planned acquisition of the remaining 65,000 acres of former Finch lands in fee, along with 4,000 acres of other Nature Conservancy lands. Under the agreement with The Nature Conservancy, the property was sold to the State in a phased five-year contract.

In addition, DEC and The Nature Conservancy provided 15 grants in 2014 to local businesses and communities to implement tourism and recreation projects related to former Finch lands. These grants – adding up to \$500,000 provided by The Nature Conservancy – are supporting equestrian staging areas, modernized lodging, campground improvements, marketing initiatives and professional outdoor guiding businesses.

The Nature Conservancy will now also provide an additional \$750,000 in grants to be administered by DEC to assist the local municipalities to strengthen the critical links between local economies and conserved lands. These grants will greatly enhance local tourism infrastructure within these municipalities and assist in further expanding economic development initiatives in the Adirondack Park.

A large portion of the Boreas Ponds Tract is a lowland area between the North River Mountain Range to the west and the Boreas Mountain Range to the east. The summits of the Boreas Mountain Range are on the tract. Spectacular views of these mountain ranges and mountains in the High Peaks Wilderness – such as Marcy, Haystack, Gothics, and Saddleback – can be seen from a number of locations. This new purchase, when combined with the Casey Brook Tract acquired by the state in 2013, connects three major Forest Preserve areas.

Boreas Ponds, the namesake of the tract, form a 320-acre body of water, now one of the largest in the park completely surrounded by Forest Preserve. Other waters on the tract include LaBier Flow, Boreas River, LeClaire Brook, Casey Brook, Slide Brook and White Lily Brook, which provide habitat for cold water fish, including brook trout. A portion of this parcel serves as the divide between the Lake Champlain and Hudson River watershed.

While more than 80 percent of the former Finch lands are in Newcomb, North Hudson, Long Lake, Indian Lake and Minerva, the entire property lies within 27 towns across the Adirondacks. The state will pay full local property and school taxes on the land. These land acquisitions are one component of a larger conservation plan under which some 95,000 acres of former Finch lands are now protected by working forest conservation easements, and a collection of tracts in Newcomb, Long Lake and Indian Lake were set aside for community purposes.

Together, Forest Preserve and conservation easement lands throughout the Adirondacks provide an abundant variety of recreational access opportunities, including hunting, fishing, hiking, camping, paddling, mountain biking and cross-country skiing. These large forest areas, interspersed with towns and villages, distinguish the Adirondack Park from other parks around the world and are integral to the local economy and way of life.

the Lookout

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Adirondack Mountain Club
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