



TRAILMARKER

Adirondack Mountain Club

Iroquois Chapter

Est 1972

January 2016



Summit of Black Mountain from left: Jim Lomonaco, Nate Mack, Kathy Miles, Nancy Buckley, Paul Sirtoli, Ed Kobos

Our annual Iroquois chapter Christmas dinner at the First Baptist Church was a pleasant holiday affair. There was a fine variety of food and beverages to whet everyone's appetite and taste buds. Ed Kobos gave a wonderful presentation about several of his winter hiking excursions, getting us all excited about the forthcoming snowshoeing and skiing season. Admittedly, as I write this with the temperature pushing 60 degrees it is difficult to think about the cold winter and its accompanying activities. Nonetheless, we can only hope. Meanwhile, kudos to Allison and Scott Gaffney for organizing our annual Christmas feast. They did a magnificent job. Absent members missed a wonderful evening of fellowship.

Addressed in the November Trailmarker issue, our chapter is sponsoring two candidates for the DEC summer camp program. The only stipulation was that each candidate had to submit an essay expressing why he or she wished to be sponsored. I am pleased to announce that Wesley Eastman and Samuel Stuhlman are the recipients of the Iroquois chapter award of \$350 each. Their essays are published in the current Trailmarker issue for your perusal. On behalf of our membership, congratulations to each boy.

During the past few months I have had the pleasure to meet and hike with several individuals who recently joined

our chapter or who are members of other chapters. Each individual had a hiking "list" which involved traveling to different parts of the Adirondacks. Jim Hopson is climbing all the 3000 plus ft. peaks in Hamilton County, while Spencer Morrissey is climbing all the officially named peaks in the Adirondack Park. Dave and Carol White are hiking all the DEC marked trails in the Catskill Park (I think they are done). The North Country Trail Association is promoting a Hike 100 Challenge. Anyone who hikes 100 miles on the NCT during the calendar year 2016 (either in aggregate or all at once) will be eligible for a special patch/certificate. Check with Mary or Bill Coffin for further details or visit www.northcountrytrail.org/hike100 challenge. The point of all of this is that if you have a list, and are looking for comradeship, list the trip in our Trailmarker. Filling hiking lists, especially exciting ones generally attracts participants. And should you have no list, check out the trips section anyway, you may be pleasantly surprised. Just mark the trip in either your electronic or paper calendar as a reminder.

I hope all have had a pleasant Christmas holiday, and I look forward to seeing you on the trail or at the January 5th meeting.

Paul Sirtoli

TRAILMARKER

Iroquois Chapter

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Programs **OPEN**

Iroquois Chapter Officers Needed!

The following positions are vacant and need to be filled. Please step up and do your part to make our chapter a vital part of ADK!

Programs This person shall get speakers or develop programs to be presented at Chapter meetings.

Up Coming Events

Tuesday, January 5, 2016

Chapter meeting at 7:30 PM,
New Hartford Presbyterian Church

Program speaker, David Pisaneschi will highlight hiking in Capital Reef National Park and mountain biking in the Maze District of Canyonlands National Park. The Maze District is one of the most remote areas in the lower 48. Also included will be hiking in the adjacent National Forest and BLM areas.

Tuesday, February 2, 2016

Chapter meeting at 7:30 PM,
New Hartford Presbyterian Church

Program speaker Greg Smith will be giving a presentation on a two week, 900-mile bicycle tour he took this summer along the Pacific Coast from Portland, Oregon to San Francisco.

Fri-Sun, January 29-31, 2016

ADK Winter Outing hosted by the Onondaga Chapter.

Registration deadline, 1/19/16.

\$90 for full weekend, and \$45 for sat. activities /banquet. Mad River Club in the Tug Hill.

Package includes floor space for sleeping bag, Friday night snacks; breakfast and lunch sat. and Sunday/Saturday banquet dinner.

ADK membership not required to participate.

Visit ADK.org under *Recreation/Outings*

Iroquois Chapter New Members

We would like to welcome the following new members:

Kimberly Gottfried
Tom Palinski

James D'Onofrio
Glenn Smith

BACKTRACKS...

Jay Mt., Saddleback Mt., October 31, 2015

Doug Tinkler and Paul Sirtoli participated in this ADK sponsored trip led by Albany Chapter members Steve and Leslie Siegard to the Jay mountain range. Nine hikers in total, the group followed the new state trail as it switch backed up the slopes of Jay Mountain. Given the cold, crisp air, the views from the long, rocky Jay ridge line were exquisite. Arriving at Jay peak by early afternoon, the group separated. Steve, Doug, Paul and Wayne bushwhacked to Saddleback Mt, while Leslie with the remaining group slowly hiked back to the parking area. After negotiating the steep pitch and cliffs off Jay Peak, the foursome bushwhacked through mainly open woods to the 3,615 ft. summit. Marked by a cairn, the trek to the Saddleback summit cone took 1.75 hours. There were fine views south to the high peaks and to the north, Lake Champlain. Rather than retrace our route, the group bushwhacked south through the open forest canopy to the road, about 1.5 miles away. Our only difficulty was circumnavigating around a heavily posted and logged private property in holding. This detour was time consuming, but we safely intersected the road prior to darkness, five hours after our departure from Jay Peak.

Submitted by Paul Sirtoli



Summit of Jay Mountain. Paul Sirtoli at center, Doug Tinkler 3rd from right. Leader Steve Siegard to Paul's right and his wife Leslie in front of him.

Stoppel Point November 8, 2015

Three Tramp and Trail members Carolyn Eastman, Tom Smith and Jerry Stewart joined Paul Sirtoli for a ten mile round trip hike on the escarpment trail in the Catskill Park. The approach to the escarpment ridge trail was quite rocky, and with the heavy leaf litter, one had to be careful while hiking. The views of the Hudson River valley from North

Point, Stoppel Point (3430 feet) and other locations were outstanding, despite the occasional snow squall blanketing the steep mountain sides. Fortunately while we gained elevation during the day, the squalls were replaced with blue sky and brilliant sun accentuating the the distant Adirondacks and the Taconics.

Just beyond the high point, and right on the trail, we inspected the wreckage of the small airplane which crashed into the mountain years ago. The drive to the trail head, 2.5 hours, was well worth the time (six hours) we spent hiking on a very scenic trail and its sundry rocky viewpoints.

Submitted by Paul Sirtoli



Back left to right: Jerry Stewart, Paul Sirtoli, Tom Smith. Kneeling, Carolyn Eastman.

Miller's Garnet Mine, Casey Mt., South Mt. Ledge November 9, 2015

Miller's open pit garnet mine & tunnel, Casey Mt. and ledge on South Mountain with Paul Sirtoli, Nancy Buckley, Kathy Miles

Last winter we were standing in the middle of Prior Pond on our way to Ruby Mt. when we looked back to the north and saw the rocky south face of Casey Mt. staring back at us. We knew then that we had to climb that mountain but would want to combine it with something else to make a day of it. Since then we learned of an abandoned garnet mine near Casey Mt. and an open ledge on South Mountain not too far from Casey. These three destinations became our itinerary for the day. We thought we would be bushwhacking but all three had route markers or aids making finding the route easier. First we went to check out the mine and found an old road leading right to the tunnel. We were surprised to see a jon boat lying along side the opening of the tunnel. We anticipated exploring the tunnel on foot and found the bottom

full of water more than ankle deep. It led us to speculate that the boat was used to explore the tunnel. We then climbed up to the edge of a deep ravine above the tunnel and could see deep pits on the floor of the ravine. Paul ventured down the steep wall and found a sign declaring it Miller's Mine and warning that caving was prohibited to protect the bat population. We then moved on to climb Casey Mt. and found an old road/path that took us to the summit where we had views of Gore Mt., Peaked Mt. and Davis Mt. to the south. We carefully dropped down about one hundred feet on the south face and got even less obstructed views. Once down from Casey Mt. we drove about five miles east on Route 28 and parked at one of the Hudson River parking areas and started our very steep climb to the ledge on South Mt. There was no old road or path here but we were able to use the yellow paint blazes that marked the state land boundary to guide us most of the way to the ledge. The views from the ledge were to the west and somewhat back towards Casey Mt. We had a great view of the Barton Mine and Ruby Mt., which was the inspiration for this entire day.

submitted by Kathy Miles



Paul Sirtoli and Kathy Miles at the mouth of the Miller's Mine.

photo Nancy Buckley

Eastman Mountain

November 18

Kathy Miles, Trisa Bills and Paul Sirtoli accompanied Jim Hopson in his quest to climb the second highest mountain in Fulton County. Unnamed on the Caroga Lake topographic map, the 2640 ft. mountain lies northeast of Eastman Lake about .75 miles in the Shaker Mountain Wild Forest. Like most of our excursions, this was a bushwhack from the terminus of the Stewart-Indian Lake trail at Indian Lake. Hiking through mostly open hard woods, punctuated with the ubiquitous hobble bush, we generally bushwhacked north to Eastman Lake. There we discovered an old stove, sundry junk and a registered "antique" bottle from the Country Club Soda Co. in Springfield, Mass. A very faint road (or my imagination running wild) led us around the east shore of the lake as we set our sights on our destination, which we now called Eastman Mountain. Taking just over an hour to

reach the summit ridge line, we had thought that by climbing the steep south face would find a few cliffs for views, but to no avail. Nonetheless, we did have limited views of the surrounding mountainous landscape through the open leafless hardwood forest. Since we had spotted a car on Holmes Road, we bushwhacked from the high point southwest along the arm toward Frie Flow, looking to intersect the drainage from Winter Creek that feeds into the flow. Bushwhacking and serendipitous finds go hand in hand, and this trip was no different as we happened upon a most picturesque cascade waterfall on the creek. Just a short distance further down at the confluence between Winter Creek and Shaker Mt. Pond outlet, we found a dilapidated, rusty hulk of an antique auto, resplendent with wood spoke wheels. Continuing south for half a mile on a very faint path (old road), we found a cylindrical rusted furnace about 20 foot long and four foot in diameter lying on its side near a large stone platform, prompting us to speculate as to what industry was established here a century ago. Although we had lost the path near the furnace, we did find a more distinct trail/old road nearby, which we followed to Little Holmes Lake. From the lake the trail was now marked and eventually turned into a snow mobile trail leading us to the gate at the terminus of Holmes Road. When all was said and done, we had hiked ten plus miles in seven hours, gaining 1500 feet of elevation while engaging exquisite Adirondack country to boot.

submitted by Paul Sirtoli



Eastman Lake, left to right, Paul Sirtoli, Trisa Bills, Kathy Miles, Jim Hopson

photo Kathy Miles

Three Ponds Mt.

November 20, 2015

Paul Sirtoli accompanied Jim Hopson in his quest to climb all the mountains in Hamilton County that are over 3000 foot.

Leaving the West Stony creek near the NP trail, the pair followed an old road to the creek draining the three ponds, at which point they lost the road. Undeterred, we bushwhacked to The Notch through the open hardwood forest. The narrow ravine separates the Three Ponds Mt. from Wallace Mt. The summit ridge line of the mountain is relatively flat; the

summit cone rises above the surface about twenty feet near the western end. The entire summit ridge line is a mixture of hardwoods and conifers. At times the stands of spruce trees where dense enough to impede progress. Although there were no open vistas, the lack of foliage allowed us limited views of nearby hills. The best view was that of Wallace Mt. as we climbed out of the notch. We altered our return route by searching for and locating the road that snakes through the valley from Stony Creek. This we followed out until it was obscured by a huge swath of blow down. We eventually picked it up again after negotiating around the devastation. In many places it resembles a discernible path which parallels the creek that drains the valley. The location of the road on the Three Ponds Mt. metric quad. is fairly accurate. We hiked nine miles on an absolute gorgeous autumn day, gaining 2000 ft. of elevation. The whole event took us 8.5 leisurely hours.

Submitted by Paul Sirtoli



Jim Hopson, summit of Spruce Lake Mt.

photo Paul Sirtoli

Spruce Lake Mountain

November 24, 2015

Despite walking out of the woods during darkness, Jim Hopson and Paul Sirtoli successfully climbed Spruce Lake Mountain in the West Canada Wilderness region. Leaving the Spruce Lake lean-to on the Northville-Lake Placid trail at mid morning, we followed a herd path around the south end of Spruce Lake, crossing the outlet (Indian River) by hopping rocks. Once across we essentially made a beeline heading to the east end of the Spruce Mt. ridge line. The mostly deciduous woods were choked with hobble bushes thereby slowing our pace. The ridge consisted mostly of conifers, with several areas of dense blow down impeding our

travel. About half a mile from the 3200 ft. summit the forest surprisingly changed to an open mix of hardwoods and conifers thus facilitating a quicker pace. The rounded summit was marked by a two foot high stone memorial topped by a plaque with the inscription “Dick Dye, 1910-1982.” A steel hardhat was propped against the aluminum plaque. Given the amount of daylight remaining, we angled off the north slope as we approached the denser part of the ridge line, dropping steeply into deciduous woods and the ubiquitous hobble bush. We managed to shave off some time, arriving at the lean-to at dusk. For this nearly twelve mile trek, we gained 1,450 ft. elevation in nearly nine hours of hiking.

Submitted by Paul Sirtoli

December 12, 2015

Fourth and Third Lakes

Our hike started from the Good Luck Lake parking area under bright blue skies. We used the short trail to the lake and when we arrived at the lake paused to admire the calm water conditions and mist rising from the lake. From there we proceeded around the lake’s north side to a campsite on its west side. Another stop to view the lake and the campsite before we exited the lake to a snowmobile trail and headed to Spectacle Lake. With no wind, Spectacle Lake had more of the same glasslike surface. Heading southwest we bushwhacked about one mile until we crossed paths with an old snowmobile trail and used it to rendezvous with the planned trail to our next destination, Third Lake. Before the lake we encountered a bridge flooded over by water backed up by a beaver dam and rerouted our direction downstream where we crossed using rocks and a beaver dam. For access to Third Lake we found a path to a campsite and stopped for a bite to eat and enjoy the surroundings. Our next destination Fourth Lake was further along the same trail but required



From left Paul Sirtoli, Carl Anderson, Carolyn Eastman, Doug Tinkler, Bobbie Scarpini, and Jerry Stewart at Fourth Lake.

photo Lorraine VanHatten

a short bushwhack. We determined a best route and found the lake in about 15 minutes. Happily achieving our planned destinations, we headed back and arrived at the parking lot by 3:00 pm. Thanks to Carl Anderson, Lorraine VanHatten, Carolyn Eastman, Jerry Stewart, Bobbie Scarpini and Paul Sirtoli for joining the hike and making the day enjoyable.

submitted by Doug Tinkler

Black Mountain

December 16

Unlike the Utica region, it was a cold, damp day while Paul Sirtoli, Jim Lomonaco, Ed Kobos, Kathy Miles, Nate Mack, and Nancy Buckley climbed to the tower on Black Mt. near Lake George. Snow covered trees and a heavy cloudy mist obliterated the magnificent views from the summit. After a shivering itinerant hiker took our group photo, we made a hasty retreat off the summit to the Black Mt. Ponds to avoid the nasty wind that had just picked up. At the picturesque ponds we ate our lunch in the lean-to, trying to warm ourselves from a fire quickly dying from wet wood. The pathetic fire smoked us out from the lean-to, but Nancy's chocolate candies warmed us considerably. The highlight of the day was our visit to Millman Pond and the lean-to out house. Both structures were in excellent condition, well kept and clean; the walls of the outhouse were adorned with large, colorful photo's of various waterfalls, ponds, and high peak summits from within the park. Due

to active beaver activity, the narrow 50 foot long board walk extending to a large rock at the edge of the marshy shoreline was partially beneath water. Since the day was late, we chose to forgo our visit to Fishbrook Pond, and headed back to our vehicles, over three miles away. During our trek out, we detoured to visit Lapland Pond lean-to, where Kathy treated everyone to her wonderful carrot sweet bread. The sky was just beginning to clear giving us a nice view of the tower on Black Mt. as it protruded from the snow covered tree line. We arrived at the cars by 4:30 PM, thus ending a wonderful day of comradeship during our nine mile jaunt.

Submitted by Paul Sirtoli



Black Mt. Pond from Black Mt. summit

photo Nancy Buckley

TRIPS

January 9, 2016

Stoney Pond Ski/Snowshoe

This will be a five to six mile hike thru a wooded forest near Morrisville. The trails are good for cross country skis but you should be experienced as some of the trails have some steep and narrow spots.

Rating: B

Meeting Place: TBA

Meeting time: TBA

Contact: Carolyn Eastman 525-0366

January 9, 2016

Snowshoe Winona State Forest

Two leaders will accommodate two levels of snowshoeing in the Winona State Forest such as Winona Way, Bill's Belly and more. Conditions will dictate exact routes. A shorter, gentler route is offered as well as a longer one with a few hills. Approximate distance is 5 miles. Map: Delorme 83, Sandy Creek-Lacona. Dress for the weather and bring several mini lunches suitable for short food breaks. We will stop for hot soup after the trip.

Rating: B

Meeting Place: Gander Mountain Lot or call leader

Meeting Time: 9:00am

Contact: Mary and Bill Coffin 687-3589 or MARYCCOFFIN@GMAIL.COM

January 10, 2016

Hunter Mountain Hike/Snowshoe

Let's practice our winter mountaineering skills by climbing to the summit of Hunter Mountain in the Catskills. It is the second highest peak in the Catskills at 4040ft. and required for those of you doing the Fire Tower Challenge, Catskill 3500 or the NE 115. The route I will be hiking leads from the parking lot near Notch Lake on NY 214. The total distance is 7.6 miles round trip with some rugged terrain and steep inclines. This is a difficult climb depending on snow conditions. Expect it to take at least 5 hours. Winter and cold temperatures have returned so dress in layers, no cotton. Bring your own snacks and water. No matter the conditions bring snowshoes and micro spikes and/or crampons as weather can be unpredictable in the mountains.

Rating: A

Meeting Place: TBA

Meeting time: 7:00 am

Contact: William Luppino 360-0359 / Bootsmuddy@hotmail.com

January 23, 2015

Vly Mountain, Vly Mt. Meadow

Southwest of Blackbridge, Wells, and several miles north of Three Ponds Mt. lies this 2100 ft. peak overlooking the West Branch of the Sacandaga River. My plan is to follow a trail to a large vly between Finch and Vly Mts. then bushwhack southwest to the summit. We will exit by dropping to the large meadow northwest, then bushwhacking around the base of the mountain back to the vly or perhaps to Remington Creek to complete a small loop. Estimated distance, 8 miles. Poor weather will postpone this trip to Sunday, January 24 or to a weekday.

Rating: A

Meeting Place: TBA

Meeting time: TBA

Contact Paul Sirtoli at 737-8353 or psirtoli@hotmail.com.

February 13, 2016

Town of Russia Cross-Country Ski

Winter afternoon of cross country skiing in the hills of the Town of Russia (30 minutes from Utica). Trip of 5-6 miles and 2+ hours depending on how much downhill skiing people choose to do. Participants should bring sturdy cross-country ski gear, and snowshoes in case ski conditions are poor. Intermediate-level cross-country skiing ability is recommended though not strictly mandatory. We'll park at my home and take off from and return to there, where I'll have a BYOL with snacks and chili get-together afterward in my house. RSVPs required.

Rating: B

Meeting Place: TBA

Meeting time: 1:30 pm

Contact: David Bagley 315-896-6844 or dbagley99@juno.com

February 20, 2016

Snowshoe Highland Forest, North Country Nat'l Scenic Trail

Start collecting your 100 NCT miles by snowshoeing on the North Country National Scenic Trail and Finger Lakes Trail in Highland Forest. Hiking distance is 5 miles and Map is Delorme 61, Fabius. There is a \$3 fee to walk the trails in this Onondaga County Park. We will follow the hike with hot chocolate inside the Skyline Lodge.

Rating: B

Meeting Place: Highland Forest Skyline Visitor Ctr. or call leader

Meeting Time: 9:00 am

Contact: Mary and Bill Coffin 687-3589 or MARYCCOFFIN@GMAIL.COM

February 20, 2015.

Buck Meadow Flow/ Pine Mountain

South of Thirteenth Lake lie two small ponds forming a vast water shed that drains into the East Branch of the Sacandaga River. My plan is to cross 13 th. lake using snowshoes. Should the ice be of questionable integrity, we will hike the trail to Farm Clearing, and proceed to the flow, checking out the falls on the Hour Pond creek that drains into 13 th. lake. Time and group enthusiasm permitting, we can climb nearby Pine Mt (2239 feet). Should we have two cars, a variation to this trip would be to spot

a car at the Siamese Pond trail head and make this a thru trip from Thirteenth Lake. In that case, we would skip the climb to Pine Mt. Mileage will vary depending upon route, but I estimate no more than 12 miles via bushwhacking and trail. Poor weather will postpone this trip to another date.

Rating: A+

Meeting Place: TBA

Meeting time: TBA

Contact Paul Sirtoli at 737-8353 or psirtoli@hotmail.com.

Winter Bushwhacks

I plan on leading a few bushwhacks to the following areas this winter:

- Mitchell Ponds in the Blue Ridge Wilderness Area.
- Gooseneck Lake in the West Canada Wilderness Area.
- Eastman Lake in the Shaker Mountain Wild Forest.
- Three Mile Beaver Meadow in the Pepperbox Wilderness Area.
- Stony Creek in the Shaker Mountain Wild Forest.
- Over Rocker Mountain in the Silver Lake Wilderness Area.

Most of these will be snowshoe trips. Average round trip distance will be: 8-10 miles. Backcountry skis may be an option on some. I have a variety of winter interests and snow conditions dictate which activity I will participate in so it's hard to put a date to something. Please e-mail if you are interested. Once I get a few hikers and a date set consensus, we will finalize plans. Certainly group consensus will prevail with trip enhancements. Poor weather /driving conditions or too small a group will postpone to another date.

Rating: A

Contact: Mike O'Donnell 315-527-8624 or modonnell@vicks.biz

ADK Winter Mountaineering School

The Adirondack Mountain Club has sponsored Winter School for over 55 years. The purpose is to promote enjoyable, safe, and successful winter mountaineering and camping. Come experience an Alpine winter adventure!

Whether you've just started on the trail to become a winter mountaineer or have some experience, Winter Mountaineering School may be just what you need to learn new techniques, refine existing skills, and experience new winter activities.

The 2015 Winter Mountaineering School will again be based at the Adirondack Loj and take place **January 29 - February 4**. We are offering 4 different program options this year: Weekend Day Hiking (Jan 29 - Feb 1), Weekend Backpacking (Jan 29 - Feb 1), Week Long Combination Program (Jan 29 - Feb 4), and a 4 Night Winter Backpacking Program (Jan 30 - Feb 4 - enrollment restrictions apply). Space is limited so apply early. Registration closes January 15, 2015.

Please see our Winter School website at www.winterschool.org for more information.

ADK Conservation Committee Report

Conservation Chair, Dave Pisaneschi

ATV Issues

ADK has been active in opposing efforts to increase weight limits for ATVs on public roads and concept of a negotiation putting protections in place to ban ATVs and UTVs on Forest Preserve land, but it would come with an increase in the weight and size of ATVs and UTVs. ADK also advocated for more enforcement tools such as impoundment ability for ATVs and UTVs that are found to be violating rules. Also, address loophole in the Vehicle Traffic Law that allows for local governments to call some lands as riding areas when they are adjacent to Forest Preserve which creates a public safety concern. (New York is 8th in the country for ATV-related deaths). ADK is looking to shorten the distance that ATVs can travel to get to designated riding areas.

Thayer Lake (navigation case)

Phil Brown, the editor of *ADIRONDACK EXPLORER* canoed through a private area connecting public areas. Brown was sued, and New York State came in on Brown's side, saying that the route Brown followed was a navigable waterway. ADK did not get involved at that point. Brown won in Supreme Court (trial court). The Adirondack League Club decision stood for the fact that the waterway did not have to have only a commercial purpose, but could have a recreational purpose as well. Appellate Division upheld lower court decision with a 3-2 vote, giving the landowner a right to appeal to the Court of Appeals. The landowner and dissenting judges advocated for a reversal of the Adirondack League Club decision. ADK will submit an Amicus brief on the side of Phil Brown calling for the court to uphold lower court decisions and stand by the precedent established in the Adirondack League Club case. ADK has formed an alliance with a New York law firm representing Environmental Advocates. A lot of these navigation issues were resolved with State land acquisitions in the Pataki era. If you have questions or want to know more about conservation issues, please contact David Pisaneschi at: dapack@gmail.com or 459-5969.

ADK Master Calendar Online

ADK are in the process of developing a new, comprehensive (and mobile/tablet friendly) online master calendar. They anticipate having a variety of information on the calendar including education programs, special events, trail projects, outings, and volunteer opportunities, both organization wide and for the chapters. The calendar will be a great way to promote your outings to all ADK members (and maybe some prospective members they can convert!) as well as highlight any volunteer openings you may have. Currently someone has to go to 28 different web sites or pages to find out any type of activities/opportunities we offer. They have had many requests over the years for a centralized calendar of everything ADK. And finally it's here! They are targeting an end of January launch date.

If you have any questions, concerns, feedback, or would like to help with testing, please do not hesitate to contact:

Laurie Schweighardt, Membership Director,
518-668-4447, ext. 30 or laurie@adk.org.

The Adirondack Park Agency Is Accepting Public Comments On Amendments To The Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan - Essex Chain

Proposed amendments focus on the use of bicycles in the Essex Chain and Pine Lake Primitive Areas and the use of non-natural materials for bridge construction over the Cedar River. The APA is accepting comments in writing until January 29, 2016. To comment: Email: SLMP_Comments@apa.ny.gov
To view the plan, visit the APA website at: <http://apa.ny.gov/>

Bicycle Use

ADK supports riding opportunities for bicycles on properly designated administrative roads where those roads have been designated in accordance with the guidelines for administrative roads in Primitive Areas where DEC has demonstrated that these administrative roads are necessary to reach and maintain major structures and improvements.

Use of Non Natural Materials for Bridge Construction on the Cedar River

While the use of steel cables is permissible as fasteners and anchor components, the use of other steel components such as steel trusses or I-beams would require an amendment of the APSLMP. ADK is currently unable to endorse this amendment of the ALSLMP because DEC has not provided a design or description for this bridge, including the material necessary for construction.

Chapter Outings

Rating	Effort Level	Elevation gain	Miles (round trip)	Time in Hours
A +	Very Strenuous	4000 ft +	10 +	10 +
A	Strenuous	3000 ft +	5 - 10	8 - 10
B +	Mod. Strenuous	2000 ft +	5 - 10	6 - 8
B	Moderate	1000 ft +	8 - 10	5 - 7
C +	Fairly Easy	1000 ft +	5 - 8	4 - 6
C	Easy	under 1000 ft	under 5	under 5

Scholarship Winners

The following youth are both sponsorship winners to the DEC Summer Conservation Camp, in a contest sponsored by the Iroquois Chapter. Congratulations to both.

My name is Wesley and I am 11 years old, I would like to attend you summer camp because I love to hike and be outdoors and I would like to be a 46er someday, I have four high peaks done already. I would also like to learn how to read a hiking map and learn how to use a compass. I have seen on my hikes some trail maintenance and would like to learn more about doing that type of work. This opportunity would allow me to experience what it means to be part of the DEC and learn what they stand for, how to grow as a skilled outdoor survivalist.

Wesley Eastman



There's no place I'd rather be than the Adirondacks. Living there in the future as an environmental scientist is a lifelong dream. There are so many things I like to do in the Adirondacks. These activities include downhill and Nordic skiing, kayaking, fly fishing, camping and especially hiking. With twenty-five high peaks completed and a lot more to come, more adventures await me. Being an aspiring 46er makes me eager to learn more about nature and the beautiful Adirondack environment. Attending a DEC camp will help me gain a deeper understanding of nature and learn more about the environmental field of study. And there's no better place to learn about these things but in the Adirondacks. The woods can become my classroom as I expand my knowledge of the outdoors.

Samuel J. Stuhlman, age 15



ADK Legacy Society

Since 1922, Adirondack Mountain Club has been dedicated to conservation, working with volunteers to keep the New York State Forest Preserve a perpetual sanctuary of woods, streams, lakes, and peaks that enrich the lives of all who visit. ADK provides ongoing protection and stewardship for the state's public lands and waters and great assistance has come from thoughtful, caring, and generous donors.

The most lasting support comes to ADK from estate gifts, bequests, trusts, life insurance, and other forms of charitable plans that benefit donors, their families, and ultimately, all who walk the trails, paddle the waters, enjoy the regenerative powers of the recreational facilities, and value the exceptional educational programs of ADK.

Past gifts have helped ADK create today's excellence of service and education for our members and the public. You can help us to bridge the future for tomorrow's excellence. Simply provide for the Adirondack Mountain Club in your estate plan with a bequest or other gift arrangement, but let us know of your gift intent. Such gifts are a lasting reflection of your values and are an uppermost declaration of appreciation for ADK, our membership, and the public we serve. Clearly, each donor's special gift commitment enhances our ability to provide vital services and enhanced

opportunities for all to enjoy the magnificence of the Adirondacks. Also, your gift is a reflection of your personal values. Purposeful in meaning, it is an individual testimony of support for our mission. Through your gift to the Adirondack Mountain Club, you will touch the lives of many for generations to come and help ADK secure the future.

Please consider including ADK in your estate planning. There are many ways to make a planned gift such as making a bequest or charitable gift annuity. There are many ways...to leave your legacy. Contact Development Director Catherine Forbes at 518-668-4447 ext. 23 or Catherine@adk.org for information on how you can help protect the New York State Forest Preserve for generations to come.

Newsletter Submissions....

Feel free to submit your stories and photos for inclusion in the Trailmarker. Please use a digital camera for taking photos as the resolution on a camera phone is too low to reproduce well.

Email: vanhattenanderson@gmail.com

Photos: use jpeg or tiff format

Stories: send as a .rtf or .doc file or include in an email message.