



TRAILMARKER

Adirondack Mountain Club

Iroquois Chapter

Est 1972

March 2015

Chairman's Corner...



Little Haystack going toward Haystack

photo by Brian Sanders

As many of you are aware, January and February have been bitterly cold, breaking several temperature records from prior years. Nonetheless, the frigid temperatures did not deter many hardy Iroquois members from hitting the trail by foot, snowshoe or ski as evidenced by the Back Track report in the Trailmarker. Although some of the trips were impromptu trips organized by groups of friends, I feel our chapter was integral to the establishment of these friendship outings. Speaking for myself, the individuals with whom I currently hike I have met through various chapter trips. Our friendship evolved over a series of chapter engagements, and through these I have met their friends and spouses. The web continues to grow as more individuals join ADK. I encourage new members to join in and become involved with a chapter outing. Over time you will not hesitate to call someone for your impromptu trip. The common thread is our thrill to be out of doors and sharing a meaningful experience with like minded individuals. In my eyes, our chapter has served one of its missions.

For the March and April chapter meetings, we will be having two special events. Bill Cooke from Kentucky, will give a presentation about his thru hike on the 486 mile Colorado Trail. He will also have for sale copies of his book, *Shades of Gray, Splashes of Color - a Thru Hike of the Colorado Trail*. For April, we will have our yearly open house. This event is our chance to show the community who we are, and what we are about. Mark the chapter meeting dates on your calendar.

I would like to welcome Bill Lupino as our new trips coordinator. Bill brings exciting ideas and vitality for our trips program. Thank you Bill for stepping up to the program chair role. Along that line, the Programs position is still open for a chairperson. Please consider volunteering for this important position. If someone is riding the fence, I will be more than happy to work with you to coordinate future programs.

In closing, stay actively engaged, enjoy the balance of winter and I will see you either on the trail or at a 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, March 3, 2015

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

Join author Bill Cooke for a presentation on his thru-hike of the 486 mile Colorado Trail. The program includes information about the Trail and a 25 minute slideshow with musical accompaniment. You'll hear of the challenges and rewards from hiking high elevations with alpine meadows, aspen groves, rocky slopes, snowfields, dry stretches, freezing nights, hot afternoons, bright morning sun, afternoon rains...a little of everything! Bill will also have copies of his book narrating the hike: *Shades of Gray, Splashes of Color - A Thru-hike of The Colorado Trail.*

Tuesday, April 7, 2015

Chapter Open House at 7:00-9:00 PM,
New Hartford Presbyterian Church. Setup starts at 6.

Saturday, April 25

Iroquois Chapter trail work day. Location to be determined and contingent on snowpack being gone. Carl Anderson will contact membership when date and location are finalized.

Tuesday, May 12, 2015

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

Iroquois Chapter New Members

We would like to welcome the following new member:

Carolyn Eastman

BACKTRACKS...

Weizel Cabin

January 9 to 11, 2015

The Weizel cabin was full of ADK members from three different chapters who joined compatible interests in tackling the high peaks region. For Saturday, folks went in many different directions. Wendy and Brian Sanders, with Ralph Greco, Amy Pierce and Chris Sedlack hiked nearly twenty miles to climb both Skylight and Gray Peaks. They braved sub-zero temperatures and a severe wind chill at the summits. Accomplishing this task in less than 11 hours is a testimony to the strength of the group. Greg Smith and Dana Cooreman took advantage of the ice cold temperature and frozen waterways to climb Street an Nye. Gail Hoffman, who was just using crutches during the summer after hip surgery, along with Kim and Karen Hoffman climbed Hurricane Mt., Mary Houck and George Muller climbed Phelps Mt. Kathy Miles and Paul Sirtoli hiked to the Owls Head Lookout and High Bank on the north trail to Giant Mt.

All groups arrived safely to the cabin by six o'clock and commiserated while eating snack food. Gail, Greg and Dana did a wonderful job cooking a group favorite of spaghetti and meatballs. Special recognition must go to Gail who baked a most wonderful pumpkin desert which simply razzle-dazzled everyone's pallet. Guess what we expect next year? Despite the frigid wind and cold, the camaraderie among the partici-

pants provided a warm and pleasant atmosphere in the cabin, which essentially made for a great weekend. Special thanks to Greg who organized this regular Iroquois chapter event.

Submitted by Paul Sirtoli



ABOVE: McGinn Mountain.

Photo by Kathy Miles

McGinn Mountain (Indian Lake area)

January 14, 2015

It was minus 15 degrees at day's start but had warmed to two below zero by the time Paul and I reached the trailhead at the end of Pelon Road in Indian Lake. We had bright sunshine and no wind and the forecasters promised the temperature would improve during the day. The trail starts as a snowmobile trail. In a short time there is a left hand turn marked as a ski trail, but also with a sign that says *Deadend*. In spite of that sign, this is the ski trail that we wanted. There had been some foot travel on the trail, enough to pack it making snowshoes not necessary. After about a mile an intersection is reached. Left goes to Paisley Falls on the Cedar River. Right goes to the Indian Lake Town Beach and straight ahead leads to Elm Island on the Cedar River. This is our route. There hasn't been as much foot travel here but still we don't need our snowshoes. About two miles from this intersection the snow covered face of McGinn Mt. comes into view on our right. We went beyond the face and found a spot where we began to climb the back side. Now we put on our snowshoes and the travel was easy.



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:

SITTING: Wendy Sanders, Kim Hoffman, Nancy Buckley, Amy Pearce, Brian Sanders and Dana Cooreman. STANDING: Gail Hoffman, Karen Hoffman, Kathy Miles, Georg Muller, Mary Houck, Chris Sedlack, Greg Smith, Paul Sirtoli, Ralph Greco and Bob Buckley.

Photo by Brian Sanders

There were about five inches of powder on top of a crusty base. It was almost 'walk on top' conditions. The forest cover was not too thick.

On the climb, we looked back northwest to views of Blue Mt. and Ledge Mt. At the summit we first came to an open area with views north to Little and Big Pisgah Mts. Goodnow Mt. and some snow capped peaks in the distance. We moved on to another bigger open ledge with views south to Indian Lake, Snowy Mt., Puffer Mt. and more. This is a very expansive view. It was a bit windy here so we found a protected spot for lunch before our descent. We decided to try to angle and hit the ski trail back farther. The woods on this route had more blow-down and at one point we had to back track as we reached a drop on the face that we couldn't negotiate. We reached the ski trail not too far from where we had left it. On the way in the ski trail didn't seem to have too much downhill but as so often happens there was much unexpected uphill on the way out. We were surprised that the GPS indicated we had climbed 1700 feet on our 8.3 mile trek. Winter is a great time to explore this little mountain.

Submitted by Kathy Miles

Jimmy Creek *January 17, 2015*

In the Wilcox Wild Forest, lying between Cod Pond and Pine Orchard, Jimmy Creek winds its way to the base of Smith Mountain. Here lies a large meadowland punctuated with portly tree stumps, and surrounded on three sides by small forested mountains whose sides are quite steep.

This highland meadow vly is the source of Jimmy Creek, which eventually drains into the East Branch of the Sacandaga River adjacent to Rt. 8, north of Wells and where our adventure begins. Registering 11 degrees below zero, Doug Tinkler, Dave Pisanechi, Ed Kobos and Paul Sirtoli did not waste time in preparing for this five plus mile bushwhack to this distant meadow. Although showing a trail to the Jimmy creek swamp, we soon realized that map and compass were needed. At times we did find cut logs or red ribbon flagging on a trail now obliterated by blow down and shrubbery. The creek and vly appeared to be well frozen, so we cautiously walked on it. If the leader felt it too unsafe, then we plowed through the thick brush nearby. Once past the swamp, we stuck with the hard woods, where bushwhacking was easier. We essentially were paralleling the creek, but remained somewhat close so that we would not miss the falls. As we gained elevation the gradient near the creek became somewhat steep, so we walked on the creek ice, or on a narrow strip of level land nearby. We arrived at the falls within a few hours of our departure. The Jimmy Creek water plows through a narrow gorge, and drops about 15 feet. At this time



Ed Kobos, Dave Pisanechi, Paul Sirtoli and Doug Tinkler at the headwaters of Jimmy Creek. *Photo by Ed Kobos*

of year it was a frozen waterfall. Following lunch we continued upstream through increasingly dense woods hoping to intersect the snowmobile trail that comes from the Pumpkin Hollow Road, and paralleling Rt. 8. We could not locate this trail, which puzzled us, since this is a north-south trail and we were traveling east, so logically we should have intersected it. What we did intersect was a small vly, once formed by beavers and whose dams were now breached. The surrounding forest encroached upon the vly, and we lost the creek. It took some navigational effort to break through the thick canopy of fir and spruce trees, but with a renewed heading we hit high ground and proceeded to the high meadow, 1.5 miles away.

The creek chiseled at the base of Smith Mt., and we remained on high ground hiking through open hardwoods, eventually reaching a small, very picturesque vly. Surprisingly, high above us was a rocky ledge/cliff near the summit of Smith Mt. I made a mental note that this peak warranted a return trip. About another half mile away and 160 feet in elevation was the main meadow vly, the true source of the creek. The woods were mostly open and in due time we arrived at our destination. Once a pond backed up by a massive beaver dam now breached, this vast meadow appeared to be the home for moose. We tramped by several very large beds with moose prints all over the place, feeding on nearby hemlock trees. It was now two o'clock in the afternoon. It took us 5 hours to snowshoe bushwhack here, so following a brief snack and photo takes, we departed, retracing our route in. We were hoping to find the snowmobile trail to exit on it to Rt. 8, but to no avail. Hiking steadily it took us three hours to exit, and by 5:30 PM reached Rt. 8 and the vehicles.

Submitted by Paul Sirtoli

Second Pond/Round Pond loop

January 22, 2015

The temperature rose from minus 4 degrees F in Utica to 7 degrees above zero near Gore Mt. when we stepped out of the car. The sky was azure blue, and the sun incredibly brilliant as Ed Kobos, Jim Lomonaco and Paul Sirtoli prepared for this roughly eight to nine mile loop around Height of Land Mt. in the Siamese Pond Wilderness area. Using snowshoes, we followed the cross country ski trail from the parking area on Chatiemac Road to its terminus at Second Pond. Although the 2.7 mile trail was well marked, parts of the trail was obstructed with fallen trees. Obviously it was not maintained. Following lunch by the pond, we began our bushwhack by following the drainage toward Mud Pond. Despite the frigid temperature, the Second Pond drainage creek was not frozen as water slowly churned its way into a nearby vly. At the point where the creek swung north and west, we turned east and south, climbing a steep hill to a small vly. The woods were fairly open. At the risk of being trite, the many vlais we encountered on this trip were quite picturesque. Indeed, our intent was to make this loop following drainages and their respective meadows. Due to the massive rain storms from the prior years the beaver dams were all breached, so the ponds and vlais were somewhat bereft of water. Eventually we reached Mud Pond, now just a drainage meadow with a water channel in it. The shoreline was surrounded by conifers. Following a photo break we continued south by following the pond's drainage to the point where it intersected the Round Pond drainage creek in a small vly. Just prior to this vly we encountered many trees that had their bark recently rubbed off at about six feet up the trunk. Tine marks were clearly etched into the wood by the itinerant moose. Clearly this region was home to a male moose on the prowl for a female. Since the creeks were choked by spruce trees we remained on high ground, dropping down to the creek meadows for ease of travel and also to intoxicate ourselves with the powdery scenic beauty that only winter can provide. At one particular meadow we encountered fox tracks, and the many feathers littering the snow pack from the bird it surprised and ate. We guessed it may have been a partridge lying in the snow. In any event, the fox took some very long leaps and bounds to capture its quarry. Arriving at Round Pond by 3:30 PM, it seemed larger than what my topo map indicated. It certainly did not seem round to me as we snacked for the last time. The temperature now dropping, we hustled our way to the shoreline of Chatiemac Lake, and despite encountering a trail, we elected to snowshoe across the lake back to the Second Pond trail, thus completing our loop in 6.5 hours. Interestingly, we hiked around Height of Land Mt., and from many of the meadows we always saw a different feature of this mountain and its 3000 plus foot summit.

Submitted by Paul Sirtoli



Ed Kobos, Jim Lomonaco and Paul Sirtoli at Mud Pond.

L-D Pond

January 24, 2015

After discussing optional routes to reach L-D Pond, Carl Anderson, Paul Sirtoli and I left from the Popular Point campground parking lot at 8 am. We climbed the trail that leads to T-Lake that was broken the day before by someone on snowshoes. After going up and around Piseco Mountain and Stacy Mountain, we headed off trail west to the base of T-Lake Mountain cliffs. I've read that people fail to find any views along the main summit area where the tower once was. We saw that the southern false summit may have a view. That may warrant another trip.

Bushwhacking in this area in the winter was excellent. This area is a high plateau where we hiked is just a few feet short of 3,000 feet. T-Lake Mountain, Twin Lake Mountain and the un-named plateaus above L-D Pond are in the list of Adirondack 200 highest peaks. It's probably the furthest southwest location in the Adirondacks to have this high an elevation. It is bisected by deep fault valleys that run perpendicular to each other which makes route following from valley to valley very easy. It was very open woods, hardly any spruce thickets and no blow-down at all. You can catch quite a few open views this time of year.

We followed Mill Stream west along the base of T-Lake Mountain to its source and then over a small ridge to Twin Lakes at 11 am. It turned sunny and warm (20 degrees F) for lunch. We descended the outlet thru a draw on the west bank to avoid the steep ravine. After pushing thru some balsam along the stream, we arrived at Twin Lakes Outlet marsh. This was a long narrow marsh. We found fresh otter track around a few holes in the ice in the stream channel. A short 100 ft. walk over a ridge took us to the marsh upstream of L-D Pond. We descended the open area down to L-D Pond. I did some research and could not find the origin of the name L-D Pond.



Mike O'Donnell and Paul Sirtoli. Photo by Carl Anderson

We took an easterly bearing and did a steep climb to a large marsh high up in a cirque valley as the source of L-D Ponds. Views from here northwest were over West Canada Creek valley towards Metcalf Mountain. As we ascended the steep shoulder of this 3,000 ft (almost) ridge, we came upon skidder roads from logging. It was odd when studying the topographical maps that the 1959 Piseco 15' quad map that it did not have any delineated trails or roads in this area, but the 1990 7.5' x 15' metric quad showed these logging roads. I researched a bit more when I got home. According to the NYSDEC Division of Lands and Forest Adirondack Map 1983 edition, this area was a private in-holding surrounded by State land, but today is now part of the State Forest Preserve. Back in 1988, Dr. Vincent J. Vaccaro of Utica bought 2 parcels of land from Syracuse China, the 1,063 acre Pine Lake property and the 1,243 acre property around L-D Ponds. In a now infamous lawsuit, New York State attempted to take these parcels thru eminent domain from an unwilling seller, namely Doctor Vaccaro. A series of court proceedings followed and ultimately NYDEC dropped the case in 1991 with Dr. Vaccaro retaining the Pine Lake property. An article states that James Cullen negotiated the sale of the property around L-D Pond to New York State around that time. Apparently, they must have logged it before New York added it to the Forest Preserve.

As we descended along the cliff face of Twin Lake Mountain, we could pick out Panther Mountain and its steep Echo Cliffs. If it wasn't for the snow, I was going to look for gar-

net since this is one of the few areas outside of the North Creek area that has garnet according to a New York State Museum Geology Report from 1937. Perhaps it is the similar elevation as the garnet found at the Humphrey, Hooper or Gore Mountain garnet mines. We crossed a few vleys in the Panther Mountain Stream valley as Carl took a few nice pictures in the bright low angle sunlight. We picked a low point in the ridge near Warner Pond so we wouldn't have to climb over the Piseco Mountain ridge again. We followed another azimuth along a contour to intersect the T-Lake trail with no climbing and descended the trail back to the parking lot at 4 pm. We figured it was a little more than eight miles but the 1,800 feet of ascending and descending made for an enduring day.

submitted by Mike O'Donnell



Above: From Ruby Mountain. Right: On Brown Pond.

Ruby Mt. Snowshoe Hike

Thursday, January 29, 2015

Paul Sirtoli, Trisa Bills, Nate Mack and Kathy Miles.

Check list of the components of an ideal snowshoe hike:

1. A team of companionable hikers
Check - four good friends.
2. Good winter weather:
Check - Cold, crisp, calm, sunshine until late in the day.
3. At least part of the trek off-trail.
Check - it was all off trail.
4. Easy foot travel conditions:
Check-not too deep, light, granular snow making easy trail breaking and solidly frozen waterways making for safe easy crossings, mostly open woods.
5. Interesting or distinctive landmarks along the route.
Check - Prier Pond, Grassy Ponds, Gardner Pond, vleys and outlets connecting them.
6. A team leader with great navigational skills:
Check - took us on an easy diagonal route up the mountain and looped us down on a steeper route to visit yet another pond, Brown Pond.
7. Great views:
Check - views in one direction as we looked back on the climb (Peaked Mt. and Slide Mt.) and views in two oth-

er directions at the summit (Moxham Mt. Gore Mt. 13th Lake, Big 13th Mt. Balm of Gilead and Snowy).

8. Wildlife or signs of wildlife:

Check - Otter slides, deer tracks, two other hard to identify types of tracks, signs of beaver activity, moose rubbings, moose scat, moose bed in snow, abundant moose tracks.

9. Unexpected, pleasant surprises:

Check - vapor trail in the sky in the shape of a ring, an open ledge at the summit, looking down on an active mining operation, two moose sighted lumbering through the woods.

As good as it gets:

Check - in spades.

Submitted by Kathy Miles

Blind Man's Vly

February 2, 2015

Paul Sirtoli, Carl Anderson, Ed Kobos, Jim Lomonaco, Doug Tinkler and I left French Road at 8:30 in the morning. It was a brisk minus 8 F. We started on the Farm Road and trail to DeBraine Lake. After deciding to cross the DeBraine Lake instead of following the trail, it took a few minutes of wandering around to find the trail again on the other shore. We followed a well marked path to Trout Lake and had an early lunch in the sun and out of the wind. We took an azimuth towards Blind Man's Vly, with the intention of hitting a few other smaller vlies as waypoints (for us map and compass users, similar to the waypoints GPS users like to use). Crossing Trout Lake, we inadvertently detoured off intended the route (to check out a peninsula on the lake) and started up the wrong creek valley. While correcting our direction of travel over a ridge, we came upon an area trampled with moose tracks and droppings. It looks like the moose used this valley for its wintering yard and we must have just missed seeing it.

After arriving at Blind Man's Vly, we followed the outlet down towards Big Alderbed Lake. According to Barbara McMartin's *Great Forests of the Adirondacks*, a stand of old growth spruce exists and can be found along the north side of Alderbed Stream, around Blind Man's Vly, and on the slopes of Big and Little Alderbed Mountains. "*These 'forest giants' are truly a spectacular sight.*" We found a few along the outlet, not as many as I envisioned. However, when we crossed the open area of Big Alderbed Lake, we looked back and saw a grove of them on top of a knoll and up along Big and Little Alderbed Mountains.

I did a bit of research when I got home. Lot 35 of the Lawrence Patent is where the old growth spruce is located and was acquired by New York State in 1877 according the NYS Conservation Commission 9th Annual Report of 1919. What is odd that the old growth spruce exists in an area in the immediate vicinity of logging roads and the rock/crib dam

on Big Alderbed Lake. I know the area south towards Jerseyfield Lake have been extensively logged for years. Even prior to the creation of the Forest Preserve in 1895 that prohibited tree cutting on lands owned by New York, there were many cases of "trespassing" by loggers onto State lands. Early logging techniques also required water to transport the softwood logs downstream to a mill. Perhaps even with the rock and crib dam on Big Alderbed Lake, being the headwaters of the West Branch of East Canada Creek, maybe it did not have enough water to float the logs downstream. With all this, it's still tough to figure how these old growth spruce escaped the axe.

When we were climbing out of the valley at the upper end of Big Alderbed Lake on our return to Blind Mans Vly, we came across the remains of an old hunters tree stand form probably the 1970s. This probably explained the older route clearing (prunning and cutting) of the even older trail that was delineated on a few maps. Instead of taking a direct, unbroken route back to Trout Lake, we retraced our well broken snowshoe trail over the ridge. The temperature dropped and the wind picked up considerably on our re-crossing of Trout Lake. We followed the trail back to the cars by 4:30 pm for a ten mile day.

Submitted by Mike O'Donnell



Blind Man's Vly with Jim Lomonaco, Paul Sirtoli, Mike O'Donnell, Carl Anderson, Ed Kobos and Doug Tinkler.

Photo by Ed Kobos

Mount Adams

February 7, 2015

Despite the snowy roads, Bob Hutchins and Paul Sirtoli drove to upper works to climb to the fire tower on this 3,520 foot peak. Unlike most of my sub zero trips in January, this day was balmy mid-twenties. Luckily the trail leaving the lot was packed, so we made decent time until we intersected

the trail junction for Adams Mt. The tedious work began as we broke trail through six to eight inches of snow on a relatively packed surface. If by chance we wandered off the trail we sunk into a nearly two foot snowpack. The going was slow, especially as we gained elevation on this incredibly steep trail. Our snowshoes would continually slide back since there was no purchase on the powder. The icy rocky sections were most challenging; we hung on nearby trees for dear life as we muscled our way up the steep incline. Eventually several groups caught up with us, and graciously allowed us to continue to break trail. One woman, obviously real fit, became somewhat impatient and passed Bob and I several hundred yards before the summit. Everyone reconnoitered at the fire tower where we shared hiking tales. Bob climbed the tower and reported that there were no views, as the region was socked in with clouds and light snow. Descending the mountain was a real treat. I used my butt to slide down the steeper sections. The hike up took Bob and me three hours, while the descent was about two hours. By 3:30 we were on our way home after a great day of fellowship.

Submitted by Paul Sirtoli

RIGHT: Paul crossing the Hudson River
Photo by Bob Hutchins



Gid Lake/Baldface

Mt. February 21

Parking at the bridge on the South Branch of the West Canada River, Fayle Road, Bob Hutchins, Doug Tinkler and Paul Sirtoli snowshoed upon three to four feet of unconsolidated powdery snow toward Gid Lake. Having missed the unmarked path to the lake we resorted to map and compass to locate the lake. Climbing slowly and steadily north and uphill for about two miles we finally arrived at the lake in 2.5 hours. Following exploration of the tiny lake and a lunch break, the trio continued their bushwhack through open hardwoods toward Baldface Mt. By the time of our departure, cold, strong winds kicked up and it was snowing heavily. Our route crossed many picturesque vleys and water channels; some we avoided due to the dense copse of conifers surrounding the water bodies. Surprisingly we lost nearly 200 feet of elevation during this traverse of going up and down hills as we headed toward the Baldface massive. After about 1.5 hours trudging through the snow we arrived to within approximately .5 miles of the summit. Two very steep hill ascents lie before us. Snowshoeing on relatively level ground was fine, but climbing delayed us considerably. Estimating that we would need at least another 1.5 hours to summit and explore, and with the increasingly worsening weather conditions, we chose to call it a day by reluctantly turning back. The time of day and lack of visibility also figured into the calculus. Surprisingly, our entry trail was quickly filling with accumulating snow. Despite our dis-

appointment, our snow shoe trek brought us into a beautiful forested region that otherwise would be tough to explore during other seasons. Kudos to Doug for his excellent map work in navigating through the region.

Submitted by Paul Sirtoli



Gid Lake, Paul Sirtoli and Bob Hutchins
Photo by Doug Tinkler

TRIPS

March 14, 2015

Hardscrabble Lake/Middle Branch of the Black River

Join me for this snow shoe bushwhack exploration on the Middle Branch of the Black River and several nearby ponds. This vast watershed lies east of North Lake and north of Honnedaga Lake. Depending upon how far the road beyond South Lake is plowed, hiking distance can vary between 8 to 10 miles (give or take). There is no set destination in mind. Based on current conditions, the snow depth may be fairly deep. There will be minor hill climbs. Poor weather/driving conditions will postpone to a future date.

Rating: B +

Paul Sirtoli 737-8353 or psirtoli@hotmail.com

March 14, 2015

Ski, snowshoe or hike Pitch Pine Bog

Easy to intermediate -- just a couple small rises and less than four miles, maybe three hours. If snow is gone, it could be wet.

Rating: C +

Contact Norm Landis at Romelandis@peoplepc.com or leave message at 336-3798 at least a couple days ahead for meeting time and place.

March 22, 2015

St. Regis Mountain

If your working on your fire tower challenge or the winter Saranac 6 this for you. A relatively short, steep climb to the summit yields magnificent views in nearly all directions. The High Peaks can be seen to the south. Directly below is a stunning expanse of lakes and ponds within the St. Regis Canoe Area. The summit also has an abandoned fire tower. The total distance is 6.6 miles round trip. The summit is at 2874 ft with a total elevation change of 1266 ft. Expect at least 3 hours on the trail. This will be a moderate to strenuous trip depending on the weather conditions. Proper fitness, equipment and clothing are a must. Winter and cold temperatures are here so dress in layers, no cotton. Snowshoes are required.

Rating: A

Contact Bill Luppino at wluppino@msn.com or leave message at 360-0359.

March 22, 2015

NCT/FLT Onondaga Shackham to W Keeney Rd.

We will hike or snowshoe depending on snow conditions on the Onondaga Trail from Shackham Road to West Keeney Road and checkout the view over the village of Fabius. Option for slower 2 level hike. Distance 4 miles.

Rating: B

Meeting Place: Dewitt P&R of Hobby Lobby/Wegmans at 9 AM

Contact: Mary and Bill Coffin at maryccoffin@gmail.com or 315-687-3589

March 28, 2015

NCT/FLT Highland Forest End to End Trail Inspection

We will hike or snowshoe depending on snow conditions on the FLT and North Country National Scenic Trail (section of Onondaga Trail) across our county forest from Cowles Settlement Road to DeRuyter Dam Road. We will inspect the trail and make note of 2015 maintenance needs. Two level hike with shorter out and back option, 3 mi roundtrip.

Rating: B

Meeting Place: Dewitt P&R @ Hobby Lobby/Wegmans at 9 am

Contact: Mary and Bill Coffin at maryccoffin@gmail.com or 315-687-3589

April 4, 2015

Family Walk

Bring the little ones (good walkers, maybe age 5 and up or in strollers) for an easy walk along the Old Erie Canal on packed stonedust trail Route 69, Stanwix. Probably a couple miles tops, depending on participants.

Rating: C

Contact Norm Landis at Romelandis@peoplepc.com or leave message at 336-3798 at least a couple days ahead for meeting time.

Sunday, April 19, 2015

Coal and Quarry Mts. near Thendara

Moderate hike/snowshoe of four plus miles, at least half of it off-trail. This is a joint hike with the Iroquois Chapter of

the ADK. We are going off the map for this one. The two 'mountains' have no names on the map but apparently local residents have named them. They are in the Ha-De-Ron-Dah Wilderness and have open summits offering views to the North.

Due to the difficulty of keeping track of many participants on a bushwhack and the limited parking, this outing is limited to 12 hikers. Please contact one of the leaders to sign-up.

Departure: 8:30 from Hannaford's, Herkmer and
9:30 from Nice N Easy, Alder Creek

Contact:

Kathy Miles 518-568-5372 kdmiles@frontier.com
Paul Sirtoli 315-737-8353 psirtoli@hotmail.com

April 26, 2015

Little Woodhull Loop, Black River Wild Forest

We will hike in Black River Forest to Little Woodhull Lake partly on the North Country National Scenic Trail route where hikers will have the option of backtracking to the cars (5 miles roundtrip) or continuing on the NCNST route crossing a stream on rocks and hiking a loop (partially unmaintained) back to North Lake and North Lake Rd. (8.8 mi roundtrip). The entire area is relatively flat. Optional dinner en route home.

Distance: 8.8 mile loop option or 5 mile shorter option

Rating: B +

Meeting Place: Exit 34 Canastota exit at 8:30 am

Contact Mary and Bill Coffin at

maryccoffin@gmail.com or 315-687-3589

Date TBD

Ha-de-ron-dah Wilderness

Hike into either Middle Branch Lake or Middle Settlement Lake in Ha-de-ron-dah Wilderness to check on Iroquois Chapter's adopted lean-tos. Could be day hikes or overnight. Contact: Norm at Romelandis@peoplepc.com or leave message at 336-3798.

Also, if you're going there some other time, check with Norm for info to note for our annual report.

Mark your calendar:

ADK's John's Brook Lodge work weekend.

Advance registration required.

For info contact Norm at

Romelandis@peoplepc.com

or leave message at 336-3798.

Mark your calendar:

June 6 - ADK National Trails Day

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

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 phone camera 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.

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT
of the IROQUOIS CHAPTER of ADK
Year Ending 12/31/14

Revenue:

Dues (From ADK Headquarters)	\$ 3985.50
Calendar Sales	128.00
Winter Outing	685.22
Donation	10.00
Interest	23.26
Total Revenue	\$ 4831.98

Expense:

Calendars	\$ 66.51
Chapter Basket	92.43
Beat the Rush	100.00
Mileage	11.20
Adopt-a-Highway	66.35
Checks	39.45
Trailmarker	98.00
Refreshments	463.78
Rent 530.00	
Programs	100.00
Total Expense	\$ 1567.72

Assets 01/01/14:

Checking	\$ 833.54
Checking (new)	100.00
Savings	3264.53
Petty Cash	22.06
Total	\$ 4220.13

Assets 12/31/14:

Checking	\$ 339.25
Savings	5084.21
CD 2000.00	
Petty Cash	50.93
Total	\$ 7484.39

Submitted by David White, Chapter Treasurer

ADK Volunteer Opportunity

Since 1986, thousands of volunteers have worked with trained ADK trail crew leaders to complete trail maintenance and reconstruction projects in the Adirondacks and Catskills. As volunteers work together and form new friendships, they complete quality projects that will protect the natural resource for many years. A fun and rewarding experience is guaranteed. Trail work is demanding, so volunteers should expect to be challenged physically and mentally.

ADK provides leadership, group camping gear, tools, transportation from base camp, and food for multi-day projects. ADK's volunteer base camp, located at the Adirondack Loj Campground, serves as the staging area for most of the four- and five-day trail projects. Project information, including an equipment list, will be sent upon registration.

Since 1986 the ADK has been hosting volunteers to participate in trail projects. In that time over 10,000 volunteers took part in maintaining the trails in the Adirondack Park. Our volunteer program is not just about the trails though. I can say for certain is that all 10,000+ volunteers who participated in the ADK volunteer program left with a sense of stewardship for the Adirondacks. They know firsthand how much hard work, and how rewarding it is to keep our park in tip-top shape.

The Adirondack Mountain Club will always remain dedicated, not only to continue with our volunteer program, but also to look for ways to expand and improve upon it. It is with that attitude that we decided to double the amount of volunteer opportunities next summer. The additional projects will focus on the trails in the Eastern High Peaks. The trails in the High Peaks are in definite need of our hardworking volunteers, and in turn will give them a great opportunity to experience the High Peaks Wilderness.

It is going to be a tall order to fill all of these projects, for this expansion to be possible in the future we need good participation. I am asking for your help in spreading the word about our Supervised Volunteer Trails Program. Your help would mean 10,000 more great experiences, a more pleasant hiking experience, and the protection of wilderness areas and Wild Forests along trail corridors. We have several scholarship opportunities available for our High School Volunteer Program. These scholarships would cover the cost of our participation fee. Our newest addition is the ADK Woods Woman Scholarship. This scholarship is available to high school aged women who want to participate in a volunteer trail project.

For information, and to register for any of our Supervised Volunteer Trail Projects visit
www.adk.org.