

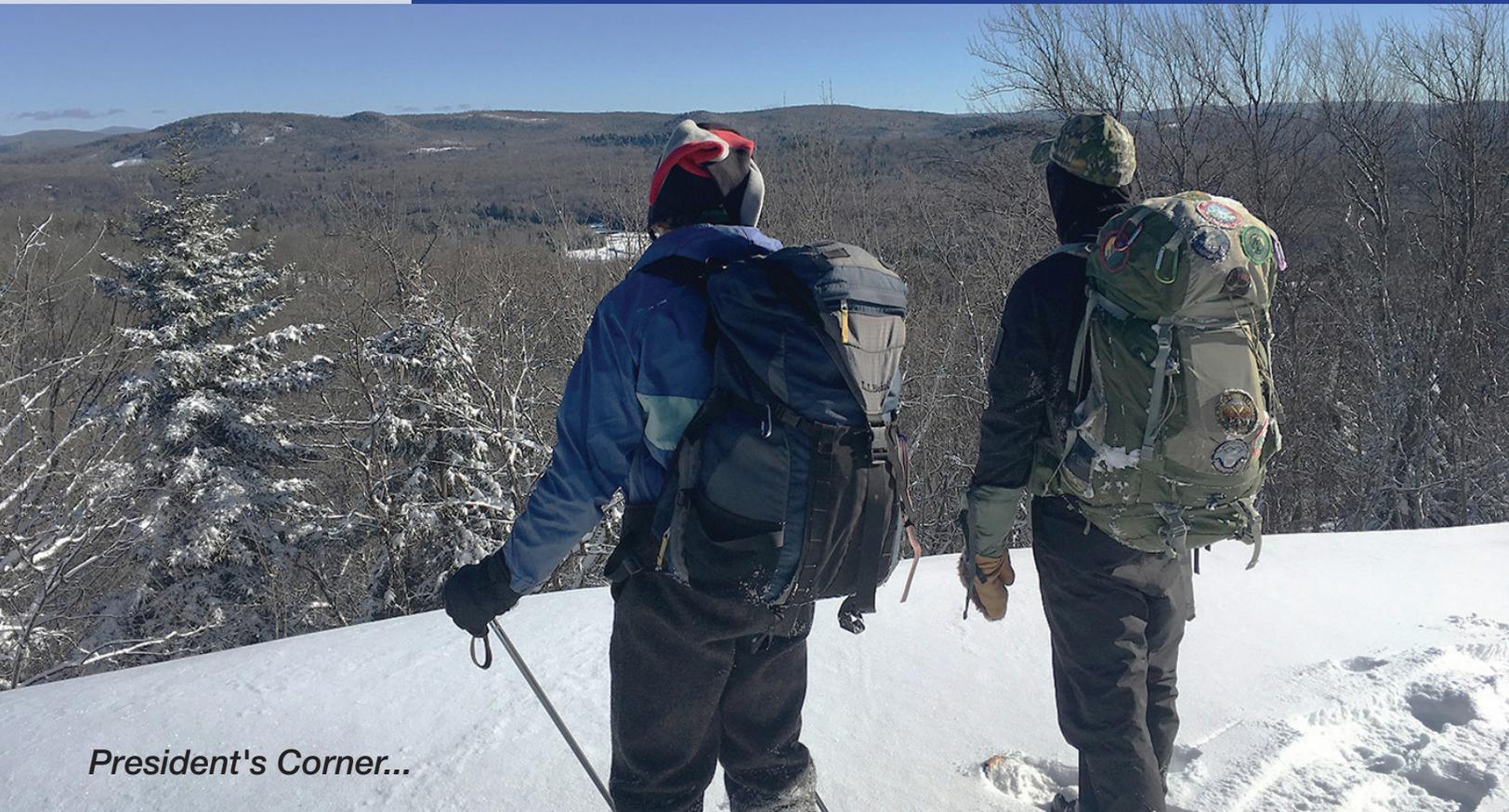
# TRAILMARKER

Adirondack Mountain Club

Iroquois Chapter

Est 1972

March 2018



## President's Corner...

Paul Sirtoli and Bob Hutchins on a 635 meter summit in the Ha-De-Ron-Dah Wilderness.

*photo by Doug Tinkler*

I am pleased to report that the executive committee has decided to have our chapter host winter outing at the Mad River Club in Tug Hill, near Sandy Creek. The date for the outing is January 18, 19, 20, 2019. To that end, the committee will have monthly planning meetings. I encourage your participation to help with logistics, registration, trips, purchasing food, cooking, cleaning, hospitality, etc. to insure a successful experience for all. To be kept in the communication loop, please contact me should you wish to be involved in some or all phases in this club wide project. I wish to thank Glenn Larish and Bob Conway for accompanying me to the Mad River Club in January to check out the facilities and speaking with representatives from the Black River Chapter.

I have noted an uptick with attendance in our monthly meetings. Indeed, the February meeting had nearly 40 participants. I suspect the reason is the phenomenal speakers that program chair Dave Jones has been selecting. On behalf of the chapter, Thank you Dave!

Our April meeting is the annual open house, for which we will need presenters.

It's quite simple-set up a display stand of your choosing, and speak with the visitors regarding your display. I would love to have

you as we formally present our ADK Iroquois face to the public. Please speak with me or Greg Smith for further information.

As a heads up, the Iroquois Chapter will be involved with National Trails day on the weekend of June 2 in Old Forge. It's a great weekend where camping is free should you decide to do so, and you are fed and entertained well for a day of labor. There will be plenty of volunteer opportunities for participants, so check out this and forthcoming issues of the Trailmarker and/or the ADK web page for timely information.

Similar to last year, this has been a crazy winter season weather wise. There has been a wide range of temperature from -20 to 60 degrees between rain/snow events, thus impacting our chapter trips. Accordingly, trips chair Bill Lupino has done an amazing job setting up, maintaining, and adjusting our chapter meetup site to reflect the weather craziness. For his efforts, I wish to express our gratitude. To be involved, google Iroquois Chapter meetup to view events and trips. You will not be disappointed. Enjoy the balance of winter, and I will see you at the March meeting or perhaps on the trail.

*Paul Sirtoli*

# TRAILMARKER

## Iroquois Chapter

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## Up Coming Events

**Tuesday, March 6, 2018**

**Chapter meeting** at 7:00 PM  
New Hartford Presbyterian Church

Our program speaker will be Ralph Grecco, and his presentation will be "Totality in the Tetons", which follows Ralph's recent rock climb in the Tetons to witness the solar eclipse of August 2017. Ralph has taught Earth Science and Physics at Whitesboro High School for 27 years. He has hiked, biked, skied, boated and climbed for over 40 years all around NYS, the Western USA, Alaska and British Columbia.

**Tuesday, April 3, 2018**

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

The Iroquois Chapter Open House is right around the corner! This is our opportunity to show the general public what ADK and our chapter are all about, and we need your help. We're looking for members who are passionate about any aspect of the outdoors - camping, canoeing, skiing, photography, etc - who would be willing to share their knowledge with others. You can put together a display, or set out some gear and answer questions, or make a slide show on a laptop - any way you can think of to show off your passion!

**Saturday, April 28, 2018**

**Iroquois Chapter Trailwork day**

Our chapter work day will involve moving the privy at Middle Branch Lake, and depending on the turnout, some other trail clearing in the Ha-De-Ron-Dah. If interested, contact *Carl Anderson* at: 315-749-3188 or vanhattenanderson@gmail.com

**Tuesday, May 1, 2018**

**Chapter meeting** at 7:00 PM  
New Hartford Presbyterian Church

Our program speaker will be Iroquois Chapter member Bob Conroy. Bob currently works as a special agent for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Criminal Investigation Division in upstate New York. Bob's program will be "Stories of a former National Park Service Law Enforcement Ranger", which will explore his experiences working in over 12 different National Parks across the continental United States including Yellowstone, Yosemite, Mojave, Olympic and Mount Rainier.

### Iroquois Chapter New Members

*We would like to welcome the following new members:*

William Demka • Nathan Lombardi

Joe Kmetz • Robert & Brenda Mathis • Colin Wiley

# TRIPS...

*March 3, 2018*

## **Overlook Mountain Fire Tower Hike/Snowshoe**

A single trail climbs steadily to the top of Overlook Mountain where a fire tower is located. The trail follows an old carriage road that once transported guests in the late 19th century to the Overlook Mountain House. It's ruins are visible from the trail. One-way distance of 2.4 miles. Ascent is a gradual but nonstop incline-1370 feet. Winter and cold temperatures should be expected so dress in layers, no cotton. Bring your own snacks and water. No matter the conditions bring snowshoes and micro spikes. Poor weather or driving conditions, or too small a group will postpone to another date.

Rating: B

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

*March 10, 2018*

## **Gibbs Pond, Half Moon Pond, South Inlet Creek (Thendara)**

Winter is an excellent time to explore wetlands. This snowshoe excursion involves hiking the Big Otter Lake truck trail, then bushwhacking various frozen creeks and meadows to Gibbs Lake, Half Moon Pond and vly. We will complete the loop via the truck trail. Distance, 8-9 miles, half of which will be bushwhack. Poor weather may postpone to following day.

Rating: B

Call Paul Sirtoli at 315-737-8353 or  
alexsirtoli@outlook.com

*March 17, 2018*

## **Balsam Lake Mountain Hike/Snowshoe**

Let's snowshoe or hike to the summit of Balsam Lake Mountain and its fire tower. From the DEC Parking lot on Mill Brook Road we will take the northern approach to the mountain following the blue-marked Dry Brook Ridge Trail. At 2.2 miles we will reach a junction with the the red-marked Balsam Lake Trail which we will then follow to the summit. Distance round trip is 5.8 miles expect a round trip time of 3 to 4 hours at a moderate pace. Summit is at 3731 feet with elevation gain of 1,147 feet from the parking lot. Winter and cold temperatures should be expected so dress in layers, no cotton. Bring your own snacks and water. No matter the conditions bring snowshoes and micro spikes. For you peak baggers, the mountain is needed for the fire tower challenge and the Catskill 3500. Poor weather or driving conditions, or lack of interest will postpone to another date.

Rating: A-

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

*April 8, 2018*

## **NCT/FLT Highland Forest End to End Trail Inspection, NCT 100 & NCT 50**

We will hike ( or snowshoe ) 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, pick up branches and make note of 2018 maintenance needs. Moderate difficulty, slow pace. Trip length: 5.2 miles, moderate. Trip duration four hours. Elevation to be climbed 500 ft. You will need micro spikes and possibly snowshoes. Meeting time: 9 AM  
Please call leader for meeting locations.

Contact: Mary Coffin, maryccoffin@gmail.com  
Phone 315-687-3589

*April 15, 2018*

## **Onondaga NCT in Tioughnioga WMA, NCT 100 & NCT 50**

We will inspect this trail section and do light trail pick up along the way. This is the FLT/NCT Onondaga Trail from its junction with the NCT CNY Chapter NCNST from Holmes Rd. to East Branch of Limestone Creek and back. Trip length 4 miles RT, duration 3 hours. Elevation to be climbed 50 ft. If you can bring pruning shears & small hand saw that would be helpful. We can provide tools if needed. Park on Holmes Rd. Meeting time: 9AM, Please call leader for meeting locations.

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

*April 29, 2018*

## **Erebus and Sleeping Beauty Mountains**

Let's continue the quest to be Lake George 12sters by summiting Erebus and Sleeping Beauty Mountains. The main trailhead for Erebus Mountain is at Dacy Clearing, which is also the trailhead for Sleeping Beauty Mountain. Sleeping Beauty Mountain from the Dacy Clearing trailhead to the summit of Sleeping Beauty Mountain, the trail is roughly 2.5 miles in length. Then from Dary Clearing we will either hike up to Bumps Pond Spur or hike on to Fishbrook Pond and loop back over to Erebus. So distance may vary from 8 to 12 miles depending on our route. This could be done as a long day hike or if there is interest an overnight at one of the Fishbrook Pond lean-tos. Poor weather will postpone to another date.

Rating: B+ (moderate to Strenuous)

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

*May 5, 2018*

## **Catamount Mountain Cliff**

Join me for this RUGGED, mountainous bushwhack hike. My goal is the Catamount cliffs, southwest of the Cat-

amount summit. My approach (over or around Bloomer Mt.?) depends upon which wet areas we encounter from the Brown Mt. parking lot on route 9N, west of Lake George. This is not a hike for the casual hiker who is accustomed to trails. I estimate hiking distance to be around eight miles, with lots of elevation change.

Rating: A

Call Paul Sirtoli, 315-737-8353 or alexsirtoli@outlook.com for details.

May 12, 2018

### Little Woodhull Inspection, Black River Wild Forest, NCT 100 & NCT 50

We will hike in Black River Wild Forest (from North Lake Rd.) to Little Woodhull Lake partly on the North Country National Scenic Trail route. We will inspect the trail and do light trail clearing/pick up along the way. The entire area is relatively flat. Trip length seven miles RT, Moderate level Trip duration 6 hr. depending on work needed. Elevation to be climbed about 60 ft. If you can bring pruning shears & small hand saw if possible. We can provide tools. Optional dinner stop enroute home. Meeting time: 8:30 am, call leader for meeting locations.

Contact: Mary Coffin, maryccoffin@gmail.com or call 315-687-3589.

## 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

**For additional trip offerings, last minute additions and updates check out our Meet-up page at <https://www.meetup.com/Iroquois-Chapter-of-the-Adirondack-Mountain-Club/>**

## BACKTRACKS

### Table and Peekamoose Mountains, Catskill Park

January 3, 2018

Having recently returned from a ten day stint in Florida, my one hundred Adirondack highest mountain partner, Jim Lomonaco, was looking for an outdoor adventure to re-acclimate to the northeast cold. Thus, by 10:30 AM in near zero temperature, Jim and I commenced our climb of Table (3847 ft.) and Peekamoose (3843 ft.) Mountains in the Catskill Park. Following the well marked and extremely mountainous trail, it was necessary to don snow shoes midway up Table Mt. to avoid post-holing through the hard packed snow drifts. The cold wind chilled us considerably if we lingered too long for a water or snack break.

The lengthy, fairly flat summit of Table Mt. is heavily forested with conifers. The trail snakes through these to Peekamoose Mt., roughly a mile further. We arrived at the forested summit by early afternoon. Neither mountain offers any view, at least without going out of your way.

Re-tracing our steps, we discovered the broken out herd path leading to Lone Mt. (3721 ft.) about a mile away from the Table Mountain ridge. After some deliberation, we chose to follow it, setting a reasonable turn around time. Within 30 minutes, having lost the path into the deep valley between the two mountains, we chose to abort our side trip to Lone. Since the wind was increasing, the temperature

decreasing, and day light waning, we re-traced our steps to the Table summit.

Arriving at the parking lot by dusk, we had hiked ten miles in seven hours. Lone Mt., and hopefully Rocky Mt., will have to wait for another long drive and winter day.

*Submitted by Paul Sirtoli*

### Graham Mountain

January 7, 2018

For this impromptu trip to climb Graham Mt. (3868 ft.) in the Catskill Park, I was hoping for dry roads and the predicted moderating temperature. The highway was great. Sunday's temperature in New Hartford of -10 F was colder than Saturday's temperature and moderated ever so slowly.

Nevertheless Doug Tinkler, Carolyn Eastman, Diane Henry, Ed Kobos, Jim Lomonaco and this writer commenced our hike on the Balsam Lake fire tower trail (off Dry Brook Mt. road) at approximately 9:45 AM. Temperature was -5 F.

The heavily drifted in trail was broken out by a party of six before us. By 11 AM, we were standing at the unofficial trail junction for the summit of Graham, about 1.5 miles away. Listed as a bushwhack peak, there is actually an unmarked haphazardly maintained trail leading directly to the summit. This clearly evident herd path was detailed



Paul Sirtoli on the summit of Peekamoose Mt.

*photo Jim Lomonaco*

Summit of Graham Mt. Left to right, Carolyn, Diane, Paul, Ed, Jim

*Photo Doug Tinkler*

on the Catskill topographical map at hand, and is quite easy to follow.

Since we were breaking trail through rather deep snow drifts, our progress was slow. At one point along the way, we intersected what appeared to be a trail coming in from higher ground to our right. The main trail appeared to head into a deep valley, and the off shoot trail, which coincided with the map, headed toward Graham Mt. We headed up, and soon thereafter lost this trail. Rather than back track we plodded forward using map, compass and gps while navigating through an open forest. The massive Graham Mt. looked oh so far away.

Occasionally we verified our position, and to our consternation, we essentially were bushwhacking on a ridge parallel to the correct herd path to our left and below us. Fortunately, the open woods gave us a bird's eye view of Graham Mt., as well as lending us a sense of adventure. Eventually about a half mile from the summit, we intersected the obvious herd path. One-thirty saw us snacking and enjoying the sunny expanse of Balsam Lake Mt., its tower, and the many peaks dotting the Catskill landscape from the Graham Mt. summit. Given the cold wind chill, our respite was brief. We retraced our steps, but this time we followed the correct herd path all the way, which necessitated breaking a significant amount of trail again.

Upon reaching the main trail, Jim and Ed opted to climb to the fire tower on the Balsam Lake summit less than a mile away. Doug, Paul Carolyn and Diane returned to their vehicle in the parking area thereby completing an 8 mile hike in 6.5 hours. Temperature at 4 PM was 12 F.

*Submitted by Paul Sirtoli*

## **Indian Brook, Beaver and Rock Ponds** *January 14, 2018*

For Friday, the region received three inches of rain; Saturday, there was a major blizzard dropping ten inches of snow, and Sunday there was a frigid arctic air mass dropping the temperature way below zero. But, the sun was shining and the sky all blue!

The rain, snow and frigid temperature was a perfect combination for a snowshoe bushwhack trek. So Sunday at 9 AM, when the temperature was -25 F degrees, Doug Tinkler, Bob Hutchins and this writer commenced snow shoeing down the Big Otter Lake truck trail in Thendara to explore the Indian Brook drainage. About a mile or so from the parking area, where Indian Brook intersects the truck trail, we began our bushwhack south toward the O'Kara Lakes.

Distrusting the ice integrity from the recent deluge, we avoided walking directly on creeks and ponds. We carefully snaked our way along shorelines, or simply walked in the open woods adjacent to the creek. Much of the shrubby meadows were flooded and quickly frozen, thus occasionally the frozen snowy surface would collapse into muddy slush.

Both Beaver and Rock Ponds owe their size to massive beaver dams, which backed up the excess water considerably. Rock Pond was most picturesque; its narrow body hemmed in by steep rock studded hills, punctuated by minor cliffs.

Rather than follow the Rock Pond drainage to O'Kara Lakes, we swung north and east along a very large vly. This route would eventually bring us back toward the truck trail. En route, our goal were two small hills, one at 635 meters and the other at 615 meters. Each bald summit lent panoramic grand views of McCauley Mt. and myriad mountains to the north. Continuing north from the smaller summit, we eventually intersected the truck trail, less than .5 mile away, thereby completing a loop. Our seven plus mile jaunt took us five hours. The temperature back at the parking area was a balmy 10 degrees when we returned..... a veritable heat wave.

*Submitted by Paul Sirtoli*

## **Harvey Mt. II** *January 18, 2018*

Located several hundred yards directly west of Harvey Mt. in the Siamese Pond Wilderness lies a one mile long ridge, and although unnamed on a topographic map, I will refer to it as Harvey Mt. II. Three of its sides are extremely

steep, and pock marked with multiple cliff bands. At 2420 ft. elevation, this ridge is easily accessible only from the south, and was the goal for Kathy Miles and I.

We approached the Harvey II ridge via the Botheration Pond XC ski trail parking area where Half-Way Brook crosses the road near the base of Pete Gay Mt. After passing “The Vly,” we commenced to bushwhack along an east-west ridge immediately north and adjacent to the ski trail. You may want to consult the USGS 13 th. Lake topographic map for this to make sense. Choked with conifers, we remained in the open deciduous forest north of the ridge face, working our way to the 2,480 ft. summit cone. It was from this point that we swung north onto the fairly level Harvey Mt. II ridge line corridor. About half way along the open wooded corridor, we encountered increasingly dense fir tree growth. Kathy and I picked our way through the conifers and the numerous dead fall. By the grace of God, we found several cliff faces with accessible and open ledges, affording splendid views of Gore Mt., Pete Gay and South Mts.

Unable to drop off the three sides to the deciduous forest below, we back tracked toward the 2,480 ft. summit, where we headed generally west and south through the open forest. Intersecting the XC ski trail near William Blade Pond, we proceeded to snowshoe back toward the parking area. Given the time of day, we took the opportunity to investigate the heron nests and massive beaver lodge on the expansive pond like “Vly.”

Our seven plus mile hike took us 6.5 hours with nearly 1,100 feet of elevation gain, and the satisfaction that we explored a small parcel of Adirondack heaven.

*Submitted by Paul Sirtoli*

## The Three Sisters, Warrensburg area

January 25, 2018

It was a beautiful sunny cool day. Paul Sirtoli and I had some concern because the bridge over the Hudson had been closed for more than a week due to an ice jam. We didn't have to cross the bridge, but our hike starts very close it. The bridge had opened the day before our hike so we thought we had clear sailing. At the trailhead the snow wasn't very deep and had a hard crust that we could walk on top of. Not knowing what we might find farther along, we decided to wear our spikes and carry our shoes. The spikes came in handy right from the start.

Our route started on the old road along the Hudson. The ice jam had caused the water to flood the road and now it was an ice field. As soon as we came to an old road that veered off the river road, we took it to escape the ice field. It turns out that the area is littered with old roads but none of them go the way we wanted to. We left this road and headed to the summit of Middle Sister. This sister was very pleasant. The woods were mostly open. The climb was steep at times but not bad, and the cliff below the summit gave us views to the east (Pine Mt. and Prospect Mt). Next we vis-



Gore Mt. in the distance from Harvey Mt. II

*Photo Kathy Miles*

ited Bald Sister. This sister was a little less pleasant. Near the summit we had to search for a way up through a very steep wall, but the views off the far side of the summit were sweeping, looking west (Crane, Moose, Baldhead Mts) and south (Wegley, Number 7 and Huckleberry Mts).

Now it was time to visit the least pleasant sister, Pine. Our approach to the summit was the only time all day that we had thick underbrush and trees to break through. Snowshoes sticking out from our packs didn't make it any easier. The climb was steep but thankfully short. Again the summit was very worthy. Having once been a ski center there has been some clearing of trees making for great views. From the top of the old tow line on this clear day we could see the snow covered High Peaks on the northern horizon. The descent from Pine was not as thick, but it a was very long steep descent. On our visit to the sisters we only covered six miles, but with all the ups and downs we did 2700 feet of ascent. All and all, visiting these sisters is highly recommended. For views they are all Cinderellas, no ugly step-sisters. *Bonus; On the drive home we saw a perfect oval-shaped rainbow cloud.*

*Submitted by Kathy Miles*

## OK Slip Falls, Bell Mountain Brook

January 31, 2018

Since I have never used the the recently constructed trail to OK Slip Fall, Kathy Miles and this writer took advantage of another very cold, but brilliantly sunny day to hike this well marked, popular trail in the Hudson Gorge Primitive area east of Indian Lake. The three mile trek took us just over an hour on a very hard packed snow surface, which required the use of micro spikes. As expected, the falls were well frozen, and the viewing perch quite icy.

From the vicinity of the falls, we followed a marked trail to the west rim of the falls. This trail also leads one to the Hudson River. While en-route, we discovered an old trail marked NF (Northern Frontier) which just happened to be on the high point of the west rim. Inquisitiveness got the best of us, so rather than chase to the Hudson River, we fol-



Kathy Miles and Paul Sirtoli on the summit of Bald Sister Mt.

*Photo Kathy Miles*



Paul Sirtoli above OK Slip Falls

*Photo Kathy Miles*

lowed this non-maintained trail. It was marked with either fading yellow blazes, or old DEC tabs.

Within 45 minutes of walking we bumped into several prominently placed posted signs crossing the trail. OK Slip Pond was just over the knoll. Rather than back track, we followed the perimeter of the property, crossing OK Slip Brook, and eventually intersecting Bell Mt. Brook. The brook is near the property entrance road that originates from route 28.

The depths of a frigid winter is an excellent time to explore water sheds. We chose to hike along the brook drainage south rather than walk the road back to where it intercepts the OK Slip trail. For the most part, the brook was well frozen. It's most interesting feature were the several small falls cascading through a rocky chute. As the brook snaked through several meadows, we crossed it several times to avoid occasional dense alder brush that pock marked the generally open meadows.

Bell Mt. Brook eventually intersects the Ross Pond trail, about 1.5 miles from the NF access road. This marked trail we followed, which led us to the OK falls trail, thereby completing a small hiking loop. Our trek of roughly eight miles, took us 5.5 hours, with just over 1000 ft. of elevation gain.

*Submitted by Paul Sirtoli*

## **Jones Hill** *February 12, 2018*

Unlike all of my recent winter excursions, Kathy Miles and I were blessed with moderate temperatures in the mid-twenties for this adventure to Jones Hill. At 1820 feet, Jones Hill is in the Hoffman Notch Wilderness, several miles away from Minerva. Unofficially marked by the DEC, the red flagged trail is in various stages of construction, and branches off the main, marked trail to Big Pond.

Rather than follow the flags, Kathy and I charted a convoluted bushwhack trek to the summit via a series of open creek meadows and ponds. Big Pond and North Pond were just two of the named bodies of water utilized. We approached the Jones Hill ridge and its summit from the north via the Rogers Creek valley. This broad valley, host to several creeks, lies between the Hoffman Mt. ridge (or Big Pond ridge) and the Jones Hill ridge to the south. The

Adirondack adventurer may want to consult the Schroon Lake topographic map to make sense of all of this.

For the bulk of the bushwhack, we walked through open woods and creek meadows. The Jones Hill summit knob is essentially an open forest, with its nearby shoulder barren and rock faced. There are splendid views of Hoffman Mt., the high peaks, Gore Mt., and sundry smaller hills and water bodies.

Despite the very bright, sunny day the extremely cold, stiff wind hurried us off the snow covered rock shoulder. We chose to follow the red flagged "trail" along the Jones Hill ridge spine for our exit to the Big Pond trail. This narrow spine offered many picturesque viewing opportunities from numerous open ledges, both north and south. Pharaoh Mt., Schroon Lake, Hoffman Mt. and the prominent ridge (Big Pond/Hoffman ridge) leading to its pointed summit were the most outstanding panoramic features.

When the DEC officially completes the trail, Jones Hill is an Adirondack "must see" destination. The well planned, three plus mile trail, with its phenomenal views is worth the 2.5 hours drive from the Utica region.

*Submitted by Paul Sirtoli*

## **Blackhead Range Traverse** *February 17, 2018*

Six of us enjoyed a great day as we traversed the Blackhead Range in the most northern part of the Catskills. After spotting cars at the Barnum and Black Dome Valley Road trail heads., we started up the trail to the col between Blackhead and Black Dome. We then climbed Blackhead. After returning to the junction, one of our group discovered that he lost his jacket and water bottle, so two of our group back tracked in search of those items, while the remainder of the group slowly proceeded up to Black Dome, where we waited. After regrouping, we proceeded to Thomas Cole and climbed over a bump on the ridge called Camel's Hump, which provided the best views of the day. Conditions were snowless with very icy trails, especially as we gained elevation....shorter warmer snowless winters, with icy trails is the new norm. We arrived at our spotted vehicle on Barnum Road at 5:15, just before dark.

Special recognition goes to Margaret O'Keefe for driving from Rochester in the middle of the night and being the first to arrive at the rendezvous point at the Windham High Peak Trailhead on Route 23.

*submitted by David Pisaneschi*

## Cross Country Ski to Camp Sanatanoni February 17, 2018

Iroquois Chapter Member Elizabeth (Amy) DeVries joined me in skiing the five miles in to Camp Sanatanoni. The night prior I sent an email to Amy suggesting we bring snowshoes and microspikes in case we find conditions poor or lacking in snow. But any concerns we had about there being enough snow to ski were quickly dismissed once we arrived at the Gate and parked in Newcomb. There was plenty of snow, but the recent thaw coupled with the mornings below freezing temperatures left an icy crust on the snow. It made for good gliding but not much kick with no wax skis. However despite being less than ideal it was skiable. So after signing the register we started down the trail at about 11 am. A short distance from the gate we reached the farm complex part of the camp. From there we continued along the road over the rolling terrain that steadily gained elevation. We reached the Main Lodge at about 12:30 pm. This weekend is only one of three weekends when they open the camp and have their winter weekend hosted by Adirondack Architectural Heritage, the Department of Environmental Conservation and the Town of Newcomb.

When we arrived at the main lodge numerous skiers were already there and we joined them in touring and exploring the great lodge from a bygone era. The Artist's Studio, a stone building near the Main Lodge on the shores of Newcomb Lake, was open as a warming hut and we spent a half hour inside warming, drinking hot chocolate, eating and viewing displays about the Great Camp while listening to Adirondack Architectural Heritage staff talk about the history and architecture. Before long we were back on the trail. We were back to the parking lot by 2 pm.

*submitted by Bill Lupino*

## 46er Contact List

Gretchen Barfoot      gkbarfoot@earthlink.net



Ed, Dan, Margaret, Doug, David and Kevin on the summit of Blackhead  
*Photo Ed Kobos*



Bill Lupino and Amy DeVries during Santanoni ski.  
*photo by Bill Lupino*

### 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.

# NATIONAL TRAILS DAY

Saturday, June 2, 2018

Nicks Lake State Campground- Old Forge, New York

**Where:** Black River Wild Forest (BRWF), Fulton Chain Wild Forest (FCWF), Pigeon Lake Wilderness Area (PLWA.) Moose River Plains Wild Forest (MRPWF)

**When:** 8 am to 4 pm, Volunteers will meet at designated trailheads. Directions provided upon registration.

## Trail Projects:

1. **Gull Lake Lean-to (BRWF):** During the trail work day at the Gull Lake lean-to, the focus will be to clean up around the Gull Lake Lean-to and to relocate an existing privy. 2.3 miles round trip.
2. **Nelson Lake Trail (BRWF):** The crew will sidecut the trail corridor where it has become overgrown. In addition the crew will remove any blowdown as they make their way through the trail. Up to 5.5 miles round trip.
3. **Bald Mountain (FCWF):** During the trail work day on Bald Mountain, the crew will be installing drainage structures near the trailhead. Anticipate hiking to the top of the mountain for lunch or at the conclusion of the workday. 2 miles round trip.
4. **Moss Lake Trail (FCWF):** Several earthen waterbars will be installed throughout the trail. 2.5 miles round trip.
5. **Twitchell Trail (FCWF):** The crew will concentrate their efforts on re-routing a short section of trail. Time permitting, the crew will then sidecut and remove blowdown along the trail, and install earthen waterbars. 2 to 7 miles round trip depending on time available.
6. **Cascade Lake Trail (PLWA):** Several earthen waterbars will be installed throughout the trail. 3.6 miles round trip.
7. **Rock Dam Trail (MRPWF):** The crew will sidecut trail and remove blowdown. In addition, 40 feet of dimensional bog bridging will be constructed. 4 miles round trip.
8. **Third Lake Creek Trail (MRPWF):** During the trail work day, a volunteer trail crew will concentrate their efforts on sidecutting and removing blowdown. Up to 6 miles round trip.
9. **White Pond Trail (MRPWF):** During the trail work day, a volunteer trail crew will concentrate their efforts on sidecutting and removing blowdown. 3.4 miles round trip.

## Friday night social/information gathering:

**Where:** Nicks Lake State Campground

**When:** 6 pm to 8 pm, June 1, 2018

**What:** A chance to meet up with fellow volunteers and trail project leaders to get last minute information about the work day. Light snacks and beverages will be provided.

## Après- Trails Day Event:

**Where:** Nicks Lake State Campground

**When:** 5 pm to 8 pm, 6/2

**What:** Celebration including dinner, music, t-shirts, and raffles.

Free camping is available both Friday and Saturday nights at the Nicks Lake State Campground for all participants. Your campsite will be reserved upon request during the registration process.

Partners (to date): NYS-DEC Region 5 and 6, Adirondack Forty Sixers

**TO SIGN UP for NTD projects please call 518-523-3441  
or visit ADK's Web site, [www.adk.org](http://www.adk.org)**

Hi all!

I am in the process of putting together the **National Trails Day** event being held on Saturday June 2nd at Nicks Lake State Campground in Old Forge.

I need your help! To the left is a listing of the details of the event. In short, I need people to lead projects and to help with the logistics for Friday and Saturday evening.

## *Here's the list of things I need help with:*

**4 people** to help set up pavilion where Saturday dinner and Friday evening social will be held.

**2 people** to help answer questions that volunteers may have during the Friday evening social, and potentially serve beverages.

**5 people** to lead a volunteer project on Saturday.

**2 people** to hand out t-shirts and raffle tickets on Saturday evening.

**2 people** to serve drinks on Saturday evening.

**4 people** to help load up tools and equipment on Sunday morning.

If you, or anyone you know are available to pitch in for one or more of these, it would be much appreciated.

Thank you all so much for your help.

Here's to another great summer!

Andrew Hamlin

Trails Coordinator

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