

NORTH WOODS NEWS

THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH WOODS CHAPTER
OF THE ADIRONDACK MOUNTAIN CLUB

From our Chapter Chairperson

Welcome to Summer! We've sent out our Third Quarter Outings Schedule to include many paddles and hikes but no bicycle rides. Please read the introduction to the Outings Schedule which explains the reason we had to give up this activity. There is also an announcement relating to leaders' choice as to number of boats/paddlers on an outing and their ability to limit to only participants who are fully Covid-vaccinated. We are attempting to accommodate all of our membership, particularly new members who were missing opportunities to join our paddles. Last Quarter the paddle trips were full within 4 hours of publication of our schedule.

As popular as our paddles and hikes are, we don't get anyone volunteering to fill any of the vacant Officer spots. We are to vote on a new slate of officers in November and need to fill the following vacancies: Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer and Membership. Two years ago we had a Nominating Committee who discussed possibilities and called people we thought might help out filling all four positions. We also asked for volunteers in the newsletter. We had no luck! Kathy O'Kane and I agreed to stay with it another two years, Susan Omohundro and Elisabeth Craven offered to fill the Secretary and Treasurer spots respectively. We couldn't imagine what would happen to the North Woods Chapter of ADK if we didn't step up. I know other Chairmen have done that in the past as well.

The time has come for others to volunteer. Many folks lead, participate and enjoy our Outings. Please think about what our Chapter means to you from an exercise and camaraderie standpoint as well as offers an opportunity to explore the beautiful Adirondacks. I don't want to think it could be over, do you? We'll entertain any ideas you might come up with-maybe you can share the Chairman spot with someone you recruit, maybe you would rotate with a member one year as Chairman and the next as Vice Chairman. Be as creative as you'd like, just volunteer for one of the openings! Many of our membership would be thanking you! Looking forward to hearing from all of you!

Gretchen

<p>CHAPTER OFFICERS and COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS Chairman: Gretchen Gedroiz Vice Chair: Kathy O'Kane</p>	<p>Secretary: Susan Omohundro Treasurer: Elisabeth Craven Trustee: John DiGiacomo Outings: Carol Edmonds</p>	<p>Conservation: John Omohundro Membership: Elisabeth Craven Newsletter: Jim Edmonds Programs: Marilyn Gillespie</p>
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The History Corner

by the History Guy

Does the the Tri-Lakes Conundrum also puzzle you? Neither Tupper Lake, nor Saranac Lake, nor Lake Placid look out upon their namesakes, although all three touch them on their peripheries. Instead, there's Raquette Pond, Lake Flower, and Mirror Lake in the midst of these communities. It's not as though earlier they were founded on their lakes and then expanded onto other shores. I also doubt that the lake names had more cachet than the local waters' names, although they refer to larger lakes. I welcome your suggestions for the solution to this conundrum.

Last quarter I reported on some interesting histories behind the place names of Adirondack features such as Catamount and Tupper Lake. My source was Eric Schlimmer, the author of two books on place names. Here are some more. (I promise next quarter to report on something else...)

Whiteface Mountain is possibly named for an old slide that appeared in 1806 and shines in the sunlight. Others argue the name is for its high elevation snowfields that endure into spring. Coincidentally, New Hampshire's Whiteface Mountain is embroiled in a similar controversy. In any case, our Whiteface Mountain was the first Adirondack High Peak to be named, the name published in Horatio Spafford's *A Gazetteer of the State of New York* (1813).

Chubb River comes from Joseph Chubb and his family, who owned 400 acres along Old Military Road in Lake Placid. By 1804 the Chubbs had cleared 30 acres and built a house and two barns, but as you can imagine, farming was poor, so they left in 1810. Surveyer Steven Thorne named the river after Chubb in 1804 while mapping North Elba.

Gothics is one of only two high peaks (the other is Sawteeth) that is officially only one word (you have to put "mount" or "mountain" with the others). It's named after the medieval cathedral style because of its bare steep walls and sharp ridge lines like buttresses. Gothics was first named in a 1850 poem by Dillon Osgood, a North Elba pastor. It was first climbed in 1870.

Round Pond near Little Tupper, where we often paddle, is clearly a misnomer: it should be called "Rectangular Pond." From 1866 to 1904 it was called Fountain Lake. Who messed up by changing the name to Round? In 1859 G. W. Benedict dammed it for logging, while also planning to build a huge canal from Raquette River at Long Lake to the Hudson River, to provide water for the canals and the city. Fortunately, this and other canal schemes were never realized. Creating a park and slowing down the clearcutting did wonders enough for the watershed.

Snow Mountain in Keene was actually named for a man named Snow, an early Keene Valley settler. What if someone named George Mountain had a peak named after him, or Frieda Lake had a water body named after her? Civilization's operating system might freeze up.

Mount Marcy was named for Governor William M. (1833-38), in office when it was first climbed in 1838. It was never called Tahawus or Cloudsplitter; this name was invented by Charles Hoffman, editor of the *New York Mirror*. Hoffman also wrote Adirondack adventure stories, in which he created several Indian names for romantic effect.

Couchsachraga, however, appears to be genuine Native American (Algonquin? Abenaki?), meaning something like ‘beaver hunting wilderness.’ In 1760 when T. Kitchin made a map of the Adirondacks, he gave the name to the whole region surrounding the mountain. The Marshalls, the first forty-sixers, named the peak when they climbed it in 1924. Grace Hudowalski of the 46ers Club was among those in the 1940s petitioning New York to make the name official. Since 1999 the peak has been measured at 207 feet lower than a “High Peak” (4,000 feet or more), but it’s still a required climb.

Is Santanoni a Native American corruption of St. Anthony? Early maps read Sandanona. Essex Co. historian Henry Perry Smith said natives called it Si-non-bo-wanne. What language is that? What does it mean? Unfortunately there is no well-documented explanation of the origin of this peak’s name. Schlimmer notes that the Adirondacks, like other American places, have quite a few bogus Indian names, so it’s best to be skeptical. Anytime someone says that a place got its name from the mispronunciation of English by some other culture, red flags should pop up.

Wanika Falls, south of Ray Brook on the trail to Duck Hole, is another probably fake Indian name. It first appears on maps in 1904. The trail was once a road from Averyville, in the Lake Placid area, to provision workers at the MacIntyre Iron Works, in the Tahawus area. Wanika is Hawaiian for “Juanita,” so I have this theory...



Blue Line to Blue Line, History Inside the Blue Line, Among the Cloud Splitters (Erik Schlimmer)

Eric Schlimmer’s books on Adirondack place names and history.

The Bard of Birch Street

The Bard of Birch Street is an Adirondack curmudgeon who rarely speaks, but when he does, his every utterance is in the form of a limerick.

Overheard on a Spring Outing

You know me: I'm a blackfly, I do what I do.
I get hungry, I want food: I'm coming for you.
You think your bug nets and bug sprays
Will keep me and my kith at bay?
Look, I'm a blackfly, I'll get you, the mosquitos will too!

The Bard of Birch Street

Conservation Report

by John Omohundro, Conservation Chairman

Take this little quiz on current conservation issues. The answers are at the end of the newsletter on page 16.

1. What has the NYS been doing that poisoned many Adirondackers' water wells?
2. Name one of three insects whose infestation threatens Adirondack trees and is approaching the Park (gypsy moth doesn't count; it's already here).
3. Who declared a hikers limit on its land this summer and established a reservation system?
4. What large lake's resident sued the APA over permitting an expansion of a marina because an analysis of carrying capacity wasn't done?
5. What Adirondack plan did the New York's highest court, the Court of Appeals, just decide was unconstitutional?
6. What mountain is the Town of St. Armand having so much trouble arranging trailhead parking for?
7. What was the constitutional change in the Adirondack Mountain Club that members recently voted for?
8. What Adirondack group has for a few years now lacked a permanent chair and the stipulated full roster of members?
9. Approximately, how many acres of Adirondack Park are there per DEC ranger?
10. Besides yourself, what animal population in the Northeastern forests is being threatened by ticks?

The Outings Schedule

The Third Quarter Outings Schedule was distributed to all North Woods Chapter members via email on June 22nd. If you would like a .pdf version of the Schedule (which will print better than the email version), or just another copy, North Woods Members can request one by email at adknorthwoodsnews@gmail.com.

Remember, you can always see the current, up-to-date, sometimes revised and amended Schedule at the website address which is shown on the Outings Schedule.

TRIP REPORTS written by the Leaders of last quarter's Chapter Outings

April 5, Hike: Bear Den

Leader: Tom Donovan

We finally made it to the summit, after two previous unsuccessful attempts—although we did get off trail about a tenth of a mile from the top. We were a large group, nine all told, and that was after two others who had signed up cancelled due to injury. Three new members joined us, Stefano, Shari, and Gary: we hope we(I) didn't scare them off from future outings. We were given a beautiful day, with blue skies and mid-40s temperatures. We had great views of Whiteface



ski trails and the Observation Center atop Whiteface. The trail is poorly marked toward the top. Thanks to Stefano, Bethany, and Jess, however, we were able to locate the top of the trail with their trail apps and to descend via the correct route, avoiding our little bushwhack going up. A great day, a great hike, and, as always, great company!

April 10, Hike: Stone Valley - Leaders: Marilyn and Peter Gillespie (for Carol Edmonds)

All of the unexpected things, those little "surprises", happened even before we started to hike. Surprise no. 1 was the scheduled trip leader having to drop out due to a foot injury on an earlier ADK Chapter hike.

Alternative leaders stepped up, and the trip started as planned, with most people caravanning to Colton. Surprise no. 2 was that the parking area was already full. Surprise no. 3 was that the bridge was out, and we couldn't cross the Raquette to reach our ending point.

Fortunately the leader knew of



another route, and we traversed Lenny Road (a seasonal road) to our intended finish. The rest of the trip proceeded as intended, if with some new routing in places. We were able to spend more trail time following the river, and there were a few less hills than might otherwise have been the case. We lunched by O'Malley Brook, which left us with about three-quarters of a mile to the cars. All in all, the weather was perfect, the water and the rapids were spectacular, and everyone enjoyed themselves.

April 14, Hike: Moose Mountain Pond - Leader: Elisabeth Craven



We had a beautiful spring day, with temperatures in the 60s and a blue sky with ample sun. The trail was in wonderful condition, with very little mud. We had lunch on the overlook a little beyond the lean-to, and enjoyed sunning ourselves and admiring the pond, which showed barely a ripple, the little peninsula across the way, and the gentle hills surrounding it. Our local moss expert kept us entertained with her enthusiasm as she spotted some of the different varieties that can be seen there now that the snow is gone.

April 19, Paddle: the Abanakee Icebreaker - Leaders: Patty and Ed Troischt

Lake Abanakee, a dammed stretch of the Indian River lying just east of the Village of Indian Lake, is usually among the first large bodies of Adirondack water to open up in the spring, and it is likely to be our first paddle of the season. We've often encountered ice. Ten of us, in 10 boats, paddled 6.8 miles on Abanakee on a cool windy day with a mix of sun and clouds overhead. We paddled from the town beach on the Chain Lakes Road to where the river comes in at a patch of rapids about a half mile beyond the Indian Lake dam. The ice had actually been out for weeks, very early this year. The water was high. We were joined by a pair of loons, a kingfisher, a sharp-shinned hawk, osprey, and a flying insect alleged to be a black fly. Lunch was back on the beach at the close of this great first paddle of the season.

April 20, Walk in the VIC - Leader: Kathy O'Kane

Springtime in the Adirondacks is always an "interesting" time. We were headed to the VIC for a walk on the Heron Marsh Trail. It was a cold, wet, overcast, windy day, as many April days can be at this time of year. The group of seven headed out on our walk, bundled up against the elements. As we progressed on our three-mile walk, the sun came out, the day turned warmer and we were out of the wind. We paused several times, once for a wardrobe adjustment because of the warmer conditions, and once by Shingle Mill Dam to observe a pair of merganser ducks in full mating plumage and a pair of mallards, and a few times to examine the interesting mosses and lichens noticed along the trail. As for the weather, the warmth didn't last long. As we headed back to the parking lot, the wind came up again, the skies were dropping sleet, or maybe freezing rain, and overall it turned into a very unpleasant day. No picnic lunch for us, and we all rushed for the dry warmth of our cars. By the time some of us got back to Saranac Lake, it was again bright and sunny. Springtime in the Adirondacks, that's why we live here—right?

April 22, Earth Day Hike: Osgood Pond - Leaders: Susan and John Omohundro (a joint outing, the North Woods and Laurentian Chapters)

Earth Day roughly corresponds with Spring, but not this year. We trudged through six inches of snow, dodging snow bombs as gusts flung them out of trees. Crossing the canal to Osgood, we agreed to come back on a warmer day and remove a downed tree blocking the canal. Our destination, the lean-to at Osgood Pond, was wind-whipped like a High Peak summit, so we backtracked to the more sheltered Church Pond lean-to for our celebration of the day. While we agreed that Nature was beleaguered, we each brought something to share that was more upbeat. Three Mary Oliver poems came up, among others, and we also learned about Marjory Stoneman Douglas, champion of the Everglades. We brought bags to collect trash, but the snow blanketed everything. The lean-tos, pleased to report, were well kept.

April 27, Paddle: Ausable Delta 1 - Leader: Bethany Krawiec

This was intended as an extra paddle to accommodate the wait list for the upcoming Ausable Point paddle. When we arrived at the camp ground, we were barred entrance by DEC, as they had just taken down a large tree, and both the tree and the machinery would not be cleared away for at least an hour. Change of plans. The four of us drove to Willsboro and put in at the boat launch to the Boquet River, by the Boquet River Nature Preserve trailhead (Nature Conservancy). The river passed through mature woods, including large sycamore trees, with a beaver dam across a tributary. Lake Champlain was calm, so we paddled south along the shore, past the Noblewood Park grounds. We returned for a leisurely lunch on the sand bar at the inlet, the water still calm, not a boat in sight, and watched a confrontation between an egret and a Canada geese. We speculated on choruses of frogs and the drumming of woodpeckers as we paddled back upstream. Not exactly the paddle we'd planned, but a lovely day.

April 28, Hike: East and West Pine Ponds, Rock and Federation Ponds - Leaders: Kathy O'Kane, Susan and John Omohundro

The wonderful thing about a walk in the woods in the early spring is the rediscovery of the things you hear and see that are emerging after a long winter quiescence. On our Ponds walk we found several wild flowers emerging from the forest floor: Trailing Arbutus, Trillium, Spring Beauty, Coltsfoot, Trout Lilies, Leatherleaf, and Yellow Violets. The sounds from above were enchanting as we listened to the calls of Osprey, Yellow Rumped Warbler, Hermit Thrush, Chipping Sparrow, Kingfisher, and a Woodpecker. We observed the Osprey guarding its nest and the Chipping Sparrows trying to hide in the shrubs by the water as we humans ate our lunch. The Peepers gave us a chorus of sound as we passed by the marshes. And, our trusty well prepared leader John cleared the trail of a fallen tree with his Silky Big Boy folding saw (I believe this was its maiden voyage). We viewed five ponds all told: East and West Pine Ponds, Rock Pond, Federation Pond, and Anniversary Pond. We discovered some places to which we want to return, some by canoe, others on foot.

April 29, Paddle: Ausable Delta 2 Leader: Bethany Krawiec

It was a gray day and I thought about cancelling, but the intrepid participants insisted we go. Five of us met at the Ausable Point campground. Lake Champlain was calm, so we paddled south out on the lake to the southern channel of the delta. We headed up the channel to the southern railroad bridge, and then continued up the old abandoned channel to its end before returning to parallel the railroad tracks through



the new channel. We ate lunch at the meeting of the three channels by the northern railroad bridge. We returned to the campground via the northern channel. We had intended to go into the wetlands, but Lake Champlain was so calm and mystical that we ventured out on it instead, going north along the Ausable Point beaches and then out to round a buoy. We lingered there for a while, captured by the magic of the lake and moment. It turned out to be a beautiful and memorable paddle. We encountered a swimming muskrat, a basking turtle, and calling loons, and we listened to a chorus of toads.

May 1, Hike: Goodman Mountain - Leader: Barbara Hollenbeck



The overnight snow was enough to bury the spring flowers that we had come to see during our ascent. Since it was a Saturday, it wasn't surprising to see lots of people on the mountain. The first part of the hike was like walking in a paved river as the melting snow found its way down the asphalt trail. Although the temperature was cool, the wind was much less than predicted, and we were grateful for that. The sunshine helped us enjoy a comfortable and leisurely lunch on the rocky peak. The view was clear enough that it was fun to identify Lake Madeline and the Litchfield Castle with Mount Marcy in the background. The few clouds over the peak of Blue Mountain dissipated enough for us to spot the fire tower there. Most of the snow was gone by the time we made our way down. This helped the trout lilies and trillium to perk up, so that we were able to enjoy our spring flower viewing after all.

May 3, Hike: Mount Van Hoevenberg Leader: Tom Donovan (for Carol Edmonds)

After dropping a couple of cars at the Mount Van Hoevenberg Recreation Area near the new Lodge, the four of us began our hike from Meadows Lane (Loj Road) under the constant threat of showers. We hiked up the old trail, enjoying the emerging wildflowers along the way. We had lunch on the summit overlooking Mount Jo, with nice views of Algonquin and Colden. After lunch we proceeded down the new trail to the Recreation Area. Once finished, the new trail should be fantastic. Switchbacks, erosion controls, and beautifully constructed rock stairs are already in place higher up on the trail.



The lower section of the trail is promised to be completed this year. At present a little bit of it is in disrepair following the construction of the Mountain Coaster and other work. There is a LOT of new construction going on at the Recreation Area. This is where the new trail to Cascade, Porter, and Pitchoff will eventually start. Nice day, good company, and no rain after all!

May 12, Hike: Cobble Lookout**Leader: Kathy O’Kane**

The Cobble Lookout trail is heavily used, and it was quite muddy when we walked it on our outing. It is a short hike, but one that offers a wonderful view when you reach the top. I had hoped for a view of spring green from the early leafing-out of the trees, but alas . . . , May 12 is not yet Spring in the Wilmington area. Most of the trees had not even begun to leaf out, so there was more variations of brown than variations of early spring green. Spring continued to be elusive on this blustery, cool, cloudy day, but the company was good, as was the conversation.

**May 14, Paddle: Stony Creek - Leaders: Marilyn and Peter Gillespie**

On a pleasant day ten boaters in ten boats launched from Stony Creek Ponds off Corey’s Road to paddle to Axton Landing. After shuttling cars, we took off. Paddling up Ampersand Brook, we encountered a beaver dam—no problem: Warren exited his boat and said he would pull all of us over. That was fine, but, after the second boat got over, he slipped and took a bath. We decided not to travel above the dam and returned to the Creek. Lunch was by the bridge on Corey’s Road. We encountered a few drops from Heaven while eating, but they ceased quickly and we proceeded downstream to the Racquette River and Axton Landing. Warren had pretty much dried out by then, at least his outer garments had. We did not take an obligatory picture at lunch, but we did exhaust the entire seven-person waiting list without exceeding the trip limit.

May 17, Paddle: Cedar River Flow - Leaders: Linda and Edward Roesner, with Patty and Ed Troischt

Our fleet of twelve solo canoes paddled the Cedar River Flow on a day with nearly perfect weather conditions. The parking area by the put-in at Wakely Dam is well known for its blackflies, and the critters did not disappoint, but we were ready for them and they posed no more than a minor annoyance. We launched just above the dam and paddled up the Flow to the labyrinth of twisting channels, beaver dams, tussocks, and mud flats at its top end. After a few minutes of trying first this false channel then that one, we did thread our way through the maze. Warren, John, and Ed ferried the rest of us through the narrow shallow spot at an ancient beaver dam. Warren chose not to swim this time, to Leslie’s relief and our collective applause.

Leaving the labyrinth, shortly after that spot, we proceeded through the broad main channel and up into the beautiful river beyond, with its lovely clean sandy floor and imposing banks decked in tall cedars. The river is remarkably free of debris and rocks, so we made good time up to the lean-to just off the Northville-Lake Placid Trail, where we stopped for lunch. Several of us then continued on upstream a little distance to the rapids, then returned to the lean-to to pick up those who had remained behind to kibitz. Our return downstream was rapid; we made short work of the labyrinth, now that we knew where to turn and what to avoid; and the 3-mile paddle back down the Flow was abetted by a slight refreshing headwind. We saw several loons, and John, who had made a quick side excursion to look at the entrance to Buell Brook on the way up-flow, had a direct encounter with a formidable nesting Canada goose, who responded to the meeting with aggressive indignation. A great day. in a beautiful part of the Adirondacks. Special thanks to the Troischts for their guidance through the tricky part. Call it 10 miles of paddling all told.

May 19, Walk: Mirror Lake - Leader: Kathy O’Kane

What’s to be done with a beautiful Spring Day but to take a walk—and so we did. Six of us walked, strolled, really, on the path that goes around Mirror Lake. The path, or sidewalk, has recently been greatly improved, with a smooth cement thoroughfare replacing pavers that had a habit of popping up unevenly everywhere. About 3.2 miles of walking: we



avoided the torn-up downtown and instead did a big C around the lake and back. Happily, though, the discs naming the 46 High Peaks have been put back or replaced by new ones. After our walk we enjoyed lunch at The Cottage. We sat outside under an umbrella and enjoyed good food with good service, good scenery with a gentle breeze, and good conversation with good friend, savoring this first meal outside of the house in more than a year. The day was so spectacular, we lingered over lunch and the outstanding ice tea that The Cottage was serving.

May 20, Hike: Blue Ledges - Leader: Jess Collins

The outing to Blue Ledges is a hike of about 5 miles round trip, with a descent of approximately 300 feet to a beautiful spot on the Hudson River. Many wild flowers and some rare species of mosses and liverworts thrive

there. We observed Trillium and Witch Hobble in bloom, along with baby toads no more than three-quarters of an inch long hopping across the trail. We had to be careful not to step on them. There were ten willing and able hikers starting off on the trail mid-morning after a drive of more than an hour and a half, most with the appropriate gear, bug spray, netting, and plenty of water. As the morning progressed, the heat began to climb: overcast skies had been predicted, but in reality the sun came out full force, raising the temperature to at least 85 degrees, if not higher, as we made our way along the muddy trail. We had lunch at the river's edge, from which we viewed the Blue Ledge cliffs 300 feet above. Some of us took the opportunity to put our toes in the cool river water. The only whitewater rafters we saw had launched just as we were arriving. The return trip became something of a challenge. After lunch half the group started back on the trail while the rest were still getting sorted out. The heat was becoming oppressive, some of us were beginning to get tired, and the black flies became more troublesome. One hiker whacked their head going under a tree down across the trail, causing abrasions and a lump, while another ran out of water and a third spoke of feeling faint. We were sweaty, sticky, bugged out, thirsty, and ready to call it a day. Needless to say, we were all thankful to make it safely back to our cars, with their a.c. and shelter from the flies. Quite a day!



May 22, Hike: Blue Mountain - Leader: Tom Donovan

The four of us had a fairly nice day for this hike to the fire tower on Blue Mountain: it was not too hot and not too buggy. It was a pretty straightforward hike, with a good view close to the summit and great views if you climbed the fire tower. No surprise, it was a busy day on the trail—we probably saw 50 people, give or take, and had nice conversations with a few of them. We explored the cabin near one of the cell towers; it looks like they are doing renovations. Nice day and Good company.

May 27, Hike: Hurricane Mountain - Leader: Denise Erwin

After consulting weather forecasts, the five of us agreed to postpone this somewhat strenuous seven-mile trip from a muggy day, and we were glad we did. We enjoyed a sunny, breezy day, with temperatures in the 50s—perfect conditions and no bugs. We had the summit to ourselves most of the time. The rocks were ideal for reclining and soaking up the sun, and for shielding us from high winds.

May 29, Lady's Slipper Hike - Leader: Barbara Hollenbeck

This outing was advanced a week because the flowers were ready early this year. Nine people joined together to stroll along the trail near Mountain Pond, where Lady's Slipper blossoms are known to be abundant. We appreciated the cool temperature and comfortable breeze that kept the typical springtime bugs away. It was interesting to note the differences in color and size among the numerous blossoms. One special cluster had 14 blossoms close together! We remarked on the full life cycle by noticing old seed pods and by looking closely

at how each blossom has openings to allow for bee pollination. There was plenty of conversation about the numerous other kinds of spring flowers spotted along the walk. We continued to visit over our picnic lunches inside the VIC, where there were various displays to explore.

June 4, Paddle: Raquette Lake - Leaders: Linda and Edward Roesner



Three hours before the launch Elisabeth Craven, who'd organized and was to lead this outing, had to withdraw because of an emergency. The six who had signed up decided to continue the outing as planned, and we became the de facto leaders. We put in by the Village of Raquette Lake and paddled up the west shore of the lake, which none of us had done before, examining the many interesting and often unusual structures along the shore. We had well-nigh perfect paddling conditions, with light to moderate breezes keeping the bugs mostly at bay, and with just enough cloud cover to keep the sun from becoming too intense and the temperature too hot. Passing beyond the developed shore, we proceeded into Lonesome Bay, briefly tried our luck in the little stream at its top before being thwarted by a masterful beaver dam, and had lunch at the second of the bay's two lean-tos, which offers a good little sandy beach that almost tempted one of the leaders to go for a swim. We lingered over lunch, settling the affairs of the world. We then continued around through Beaver Bay, and then crossed back to the west shore and returned to the take-out in the Village. A great paddle, 6.3 miles—we regretted that it had not been a little longer.

June 10, Paddle: Upper Osgood River - Leaders: Linda and Edward Roesner

What a difference a day makes: it had been unseasonably hot and unstable for days, and unpredictable enough to cause the postponement of one paddle (this one) and the cancellation of another that had itself already been postponed. But today we had nearly perfect weather, temperatures reaching into the low 70s, good but not oppressive sun, and a breeze (some preferred to think of it as a "wind") sufficient to stem much of the onslaught of the hosts of flying critters eager for a snack. Nine of us put in off the White Pine Camp Road and crossed Osgood Pond to the mouth of the river: the breeze was stiff at times, prompting a bit of a workout, but it was not daunting. The Upper Osgood was beautiful as always, casting its spell of wild and remoteness even though it is so close by. It was also low, not so low as to be a hindrance, but low enough for us to be glad we did the paddle now rather than a month from now, when the river might be impassable. The big beaver dam shortly

after passing by the Musk-Egg was not a challenge, although we did have to wade in the sand and mud flats on both sides of it, pulling our boats along with us. We had a leisurely lunch at the campsite a quarter mile before the rocky pool where the Upper Osgood effectively vanishes. Most of our group paddling down there to check it out before returning to lunch. Perhaps the highlight of the return paddle was the sight of what appears to have been a large but still immature bald eagle that flew overhead and then perched on a tall dead pine near where the river opens into the lake. It seemed to regard us with sovereign if maybe studied indifference: is it a relative of the eagles often seen on the Jones Pond Creek near the outlet into Osgood Pond? Are they breeding here now? Also noted: a pair of loons, a great blue heron, and the piles of empty clamshells along the riverbank bearing witness to many festive dinners there by the local residents. 8 miles in all.

June 19, Hike: Owlshead Mountain (near Long Lake) - Leader: Carol Edmonds



This is one of those tricky Adirondack mountains that lull you into complacency as you stroll along the first two miles. After the first mile and a half there is a relatively gentle climb, and the trail gets a bit rough. This was no preparation for the last mile, and especially for the last half-mile, which was a genuine scramble. However, we all made it to the top (and back down) without incident. The view was great, and even better from the fire tower. We saw a number of people on the trail, but there was only one other person on the summit when we were there. We lingered there, having lunch, taking photos, chatting, and taking turns on the fire tower. The weather was perfect, the bugs nonexistent, and the mud manageable. In other words, it was a perfect hike.

June 20, Solstice Party at Second Pond - Organizer: John Omohundro

Every father's son was zipping around the pond at excessive speed as we launched our three canoes, heavily laden with party makings. We survived the crossing to our nearby campsite and set up, then began testing the chips and dip. The other revelers arrived over the next hour or so. A cheery fire may have been redundant, since neither bug nor chill needed chasing on this fine day, but it provided the social center for some extended chatting. By consensus we started dinner early. The hamburgers and hot dogs were scarfed up as soon as they emerged from Chef Jim's large kettle. Somehow we found room afterward for the cookies and cake. There were no solstice songs, perhaps because our mouths were usually full, but all agreed at the end that this party was a nice transition to summer. The paddle back to port at 8 p.m. was over a much quieter pond than six hours earlier.

June 24, Hike: Catamount**Leader: Tom Donovan**

The nine of us had almost as perfect outdoor conditions as it gets: 75 degrees, a little breeze to keep the bugs away, and sunny blue skies. We even saw a couple of hawks. This was Lise's and Stefano's last hike to complete their Lake Placid 9! To witness the occasion, they brought along Lise's brother Tom and his wife Jen. A good hike with good company.

**June 26, Hike: Bridge Brook Pond - Leader: Barbara Hollenbeck**

The rain provided a steady rhythm of pitter-patter on the trees to accompany the intermittent bird song. We were decked out in our rain gear, but the warm and humid weather made us pretty damp anyway. It was the first time visiting this pond from this path for most of the participating hikers. We were lucky to eat lunch at the shore of Bridge Brook Pond in dry and clearing weather. One very loud bullfrog interrupted our conversation several times. We were happy to be able to shed our rain jackets for the return hike.

June 28, Paddle: Round Lake - Leaders: Linda and Edward Roesner

It was an iffy day for a paddle on Round Lake (or is it Round Pond?). The wind was stiff, and the decidedly warm air was unstable, the forecast calling for scattered showers and thunderstorms throughout the greater vicinity. The night before the paddle we had ten participants; when we launched onto the lake from the Sabattis Road in the morning, we were six paddlers. We did find a stiff wind—the selfsame wind that blows down Lake Lila and Little tupper. But, undaunted we muscled our way up along the eastern shore, along the way admiring the pluck of the paddleboarder cruising along with her dog on their way back down the lake after a weekend of camping there with her family. We had lunch and three of us a swim at the beach near the north end, then, noticing that the wind was beginning markedly to build, we headed out and back down the eastern shore, with its numerous coves and small beaches where we might shelter if need be. We headed into the wind, toughing out the swells and occasional whitecaps, and arrived safely at the take-out, in no small manner exhilarated by the adventure. Big water, but we'd all seen worse there. No bug activity to report, apart from the lone deerfly that was given a three-course meal by one of the leaders. The rain and storms did not materialize..



Our Favorite Photo received this Quarter
taken on Owl's Head Mountain on June 19th by Jess

The Answers to the Conservation Guy's Quiz:

1. What has the NYS been doing that poisoned many Adirondackers' water wells?

Spreading copious road salt on state roads in the park

2. Name one of three insects whose infestation threatens Adirondack trees and is approaching the Park (gypsy moth doesn't count; it's already here).

hemlock woolly adelgid or green ash borer

3. Who declared a hikers limit on its land this summer and established a reservation system?

Adirondack Mountain Reserve (AMR; partial credit for Ausable Club; no credit for DEC; it's not state land)

4. What large lake's resident sued the APA over permitting an expansion of a marina because an analysis of carrying capacity wasn't done?

Lower Saranac Lake (Thomas Jorling sued about the Ampersand Bay marina)

5. What Adirondack plan did the New York's highest court, the Court of Appeals, just decide was unconstitutional?

Building snowmobile corridors 8-12 feet wide on Forest Preserve

6. What mountain is the Town of St. Armand having so much trouble arranging trailhead parking for?

Mount Baker, on Moody Pond on the edge of Saranac Lake Village

7. What was the constitutional change in the Adirondack Mountain Club that members recently voted for?

The composition and powers of the Board of Directors

8. What Adirondack group has for a few years now lacked a permanent chair and the stipulated full roster of members?

The Adirondack Park Agency

9. Approximately, how many acres of Adirondack Park are there per DEC Ranger?

40,000 acres (Federal Park Rangers oversee 22,000 acres each)

10. Besides yourself, what animal population in the Northeastern forests is being threatened by ticks?

Moose; they actually die of blood loss, not disease.

Now Rate Yourself:

8-10 Grizzled veteran of the conservation wars

6-7 Been around this Mountain before

4-5 Tenderfoot

0-3 Tourist