

The **Lookout**

JUNE-JULY 2015



Adirondack Mountain Club — Schenectady Chapter

Dedicated to the preservation, protection and
enjoyment of the Forest Preserve

<http://www.adk-schenectady.org>

Adirondack Mountain Club — Schenectady Chapter Board

ELECTED OFFICERS

CHAIR:

Vacant

VICE-CHAIR:

Stan Stoklosa

8 Archer Drive, Clifton Park, NY 12065

383-3066

Vicechair@adk-schenectady.org

SECRETARY:

Sally Dewes

secretary@adk-schenectady.org

TREASURER:

Mike Brun

4001 Jockey St., Ballston Lake, NY 12019

399-1021

treasurer@adk-schenectady.org

DIRECTOR:

Norm Kuchar

60 Fredericks Road

Glenville, NY 12302

399-6243

director@adk-schenectady.org

PROJECT COORDINATORS:

Horst deLorenzi

34 St. Judes Lane, Scotia, NY 12302

399-4615

Jacque McGinn

79 Kenaware Avenue, Delmar, NY 12054

438-0557

projcoord@adk-schenectady.org

YOUNG MEMBERS GROUP

Jonathan Lane

yimg@adk-schenectady.org

APPOINTED MEMBERS

CONSERVATION:

Mal Provost

93 Kingsbury Road, Burnt Hills, NY 12027

399-1565

conservation@adk-schenectady.org

LOOKOUT EDITOR:

Nicole Weinstein

904 Myrtle Avenue

Albany, NY 12208

482-2594; lookout@adk-schenectady.org

weinstna@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP:

Dustin Wright

Membership@adk-schenectady.org

NORTHVILLE-PLACID TRAIL:

Mary MacDonald

27 Woodside Drive, Clifton Park, NY 12065

371-1293; nptrail@adk-schenectady.org

OUTINGS:

Larry Woods

1120 7th Avenue

Watervliet NY 12189

810-7552; cboater1@yahoo.com;

outings@adk-schenectady.org

PRINTING/MAILING:

Karen McKenney

518-399-6606

mailing@adk-schenectady.org

PUBLICITY:

Roy Keats

1913 Baker Avenue

Schenectady, NY 12309

518-370-0399; publicity@adk-schenectady.org

TRAILS:

Stan Stoklosa

8 Archer Drive, Clifton Park, NY 12065

383-3066; trrails@adk-schenectady.org

SILVER LAKE:

Vacant

WEB MASTER:

Rich Vertigan

1804 Van Cortland St., Rotterdam, NY 12303

381-9319

webmaster@adk-schenectady.org

WHITEWATER:

Ralph Pascale

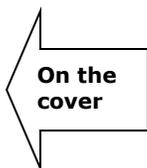
50 Johnston Avenue

Cohoes, NY 12047

235-1614

rpascale@spendwood.com

whitewater@adk-schenectady.org



OK Slip Falls by Norm Kuchar.

Inside this issue:

Outings	2-4
Trip Tales	5-7
Whitewater	8

JUNE-JULY 2015

The Lookout

The newsletter for the Schenectady Chapter of the Adirondack Mountain Club

Blinstrub, Sinopoli awarded HS scholarships

Jaret Blinstrub, from Shenendehowa High School, and Daniel Sinopoli, from Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake High School have been awarded the Schenectady Chapter Adirondack Mountain Club high school scholarships for 2015.

Since 2008, the Chapter has offered scholarships to local high school seniors who will focus on the sciences and the protection of the environment as freshmen in college. Six of the area's high schools received invitations from Jacqueline McGinn, Project Coordinator, to submit essays to apply for a \$500 scholarship.

We were very impressed by all applicants, however, we were especially affected by these two. Below are excerpts from the winning essays. We wish them both well in their futures caring for our environment.



Jaret Blinstrub

Jaret Blinstrub

"Nature is important to me because it allows me to feel at home. It's not the

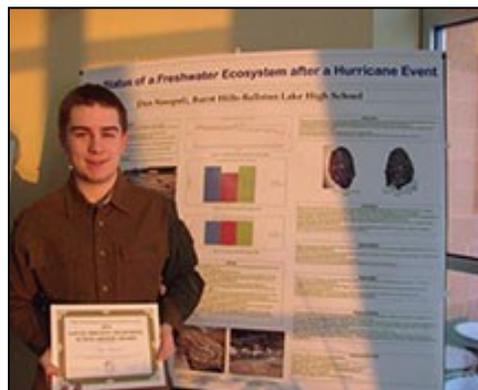


Photo courtesy of the BH-BL Website
Daniel Sinopoli

mailbox and welcome mat on my front porch that tell me I'm home; it's the hammock stretched between the pine trees in my backyard. I love to canoe

Continued on Page 10

Perrault granted Teen Trails Scholarship

Jason Perrault of Niskayuna has been selected to receive the Schenectady Chapter ADK Teen Trails scholarship for the Main Club's High School Trails project. Perrault is a well-prepared candidate based on his participation with the Albany Pine Bush Preserve, Friends of Niskayuna Trails, and 4-H camps, as well as participating in varsity football and wrestling at Niskayuna High School.

Congratulations, Jason!

Schenectady Bike Path Cleanup Saturday, June 13, 2015 9 a.m. to noon

We will meet at the Seneca Street crossing to do some trash pickup and beat back some weeds and branches along the Schenectady bike path. A great family activity to introduce children to trail work! Contact Stan Stoklosa at 383-3066 or stanstok89@aol.com for more information.

Innings and Outings

How do I sign up for a hike?

For further details or to sign up for a hike, call the trip leader. Try to call at least two days in advance, as leaders may cancel on the day before an outing if there is insufficient interest. Leaders reserve the right to refuse participants for any reason, including lack of experience and/or lack of physical fitness. All equipment and supplies are the sole responsibility of the trip participants.

What do I need to bring?

The trip leader will let you know if any special equipment (crampons, snowshoes, etc.) will be needed. In general, you should always carry food, water, rain gear, map, compass, headlamp, first aid kit and extra clothing, including hat and gloves in case temperatures drop. Clothing for wet or cold weather should not be made of cotton — use a synthetic fleece or wool. If in doubt, ask the leader.

What if I don't have snowshoes/crampons?

The chapter has hi-tech snowshoes and one pair of universal fit crampons available for rental at \$5/trip. Contact Stan Stoklosa at 383-3066 to arrange for pick up from his convenient location in Clifton Park. Gear is also available to rent at local retailers..

Should I reimburse drivers for gas?

Yes! Each rider should pay their driver four to five cents per mile, depending on the current cost of gasoline. With gas at \$2 per gallon, four cents per mile should be used and at \$2.50 per gallon, five cents should be used (\$3/gallon – six cents, etc).

The kind of hikes I'd like to do aren't listed here — what can I do?

Trip leaders may be willing to plan trips based on member suggestions. If there's a specific trip you'd like to do, contact Larry Woods at 518- 810-7552 and let him know.

Wilderness First Aid Course

The Schenectady Chapter Board agreed to provide partial tuition refund for outings leaders who take Wilderness First Aid courses. The program is modeled after the 46ers current program so people who are both 46ers and Schenectady trip leaders can reimbursement. For further information, call Larry Woods at 518-810-7552.

HIKE CLASSIFICATIONS

<u>Distance</u>	<u>Leader's Pace</u>	<u>Terrain</u>	<u>Examples</u>
A+ 13 Miles or More	1. Fast	A Very Difficult	A+1A Most Difficult Trip
A 8-12 Miles	2. Moderate	B Strenuous	B2C Moderate Trip
B 5-8 Miles	3. Slow	C Average	C3D Easy Trip
C Under 5 Miles		D Easy	

Friday, June 5

Canoe/Kayak Trip – Middle Saranac Lake to Second Pond

Class A2C

Roy Keats 370-0399 or royskipaddle@gmail.com

This trip starts at the car-top boat launch on Middle Saranac Lake. We will leave cars at the Boat Launch just before the Rt. 3 bridge over the Saranac River (Second Pond) for our take out. We will paddle the South Creek inlet to Middle Saranac, and if the winds are not too high, we will explore Hungry Bay and

Weller Pond on the far side of Middle Saranac. From there we will head over to Lower Saranac Lake by paddling past the big islands on Middle Saranac and then into the Saranac River. With a little luck, we might be able to operate the lock separating the Middle and Lower Saranac Lakes by hand. We will take out at Second Pond on the Saranac River. The trip length, depending on what we decide to explore, will be on the order of 10 to 12 miles. If the weather is extremely windy, we will move the trip to a more sheltered location or a smaller lake.

Outings

Tuesday, June 9 (rain date June 10)

Hike and Swim Nine Corner Lake

Class C3C

Walt Hayes, 399-7482

This is an easy trip at slow pace to a popular beautiful swimming hole at Nine Corner Lake in the Town of Caroga, Fulton County. It will be about 3 to 4 miles with a little elevation gain. A relaxing day with lunch and swimming at the lake. Trip will be on the following day if weather is a problem.

Friday, June 12

Battenkill Paddle

Class B3D

Charlie Beach 459-9127 or cjnqu7@verizon.net

We plan to paddle 12-16 miles on a section between Arlington, Vt. And Salem, NY. This is a flowing stream with some quick water and class 1 rapids. Tree obstructions may be encountered which require maneuvering skills. This is also on the Albany Chapter schedule.

Saturday, June 13

Moreau Lake State Park

Class B2B

Norm Kuchar, 399-6243

or nkuchar@nycap.rr.com

From the western end of Moreau Lake State Park, on Spier Falls Rd., we'll ascend the Western Ridge Trail and follow it along the steep edge of the Palmertown ridge, passing many nice viewpoints over the Hudson River. The Ridge Run Trail will then be used to connect with the Eastern Ridge Trail. The Eastern Ridge Trail has no expansive viewpoints, but traverses a beautiful forest past interesting rock ledges before leading back to our starting point. Distance is about 6.5 miles, with about 1000 ft of climb.

Sunday, June 14, 2015

Vroman's Nose Trail Class C3C

Jacque McGinn, 281-3673 or jve3@aol.com

Join me for a morning jaunt to this short hike in Middleburgh, NY. If you haven't been before, it's time to

try it. Though short, less than 2 miles round trip, it is a bit steep, but the view from the top is well worth it. There are stunning views of the Schoharie Creek Valley and steep cliffs on which to sit and snack and watch turkey vultures making lazy circles below you. We'll start early so people can choose to make a day of it exploring other nearby attractions, like Howes Caverns, or just wind your way through the lovely scenery of the local hills and farmlands. We will reschedule if it rains.

Tuesday June 16 (rain date June 17)

Hike and Swim, Clock mill Pond

Class C3C

Walt Hayes, 399-7482

This is an easy trip to a remote pond on the Powley Piseco Road in the Town of Arietta, Hamilton County. It will be 3 to 4 miles to a swimming spot that will probably have no other visitors that day. Problem weather will move date to the 17th.

Saturday, June 20

Dix Mountain from Rt. 73 - hike

Class A+2B

Roy Keats 370-0399 or royskipaddle@gmail.com

I have never done Dix from this direction. The hike sounds very interesting. We start at the Round Pond/ Noonmark trailhead on Rt. 73. We then go around Round Pond, and eventually follow the Boquet River for quite a ways before climbing steeply to the top. The streams should be beautiful on the way up. This is a round trip of 13.6 miles. Please contact me at the latest the Thursday before the hike.

Saturday, June 20

Hurricane Mt. Fire Tower; Class B2B

Meeting time: 8 a.m.

Jonathan Lane 744-4594 or

codehiker@infogorp.com

Whether you're working toward the Fire Tower Challenge or just looking for some awesome views, this hike is for you. The strenuous climb will take us to views of Lake Champlain, many of the High Peaks, and the Green Mountains in

Continued on Page 4

Outings

Vermont. Approximately 6.8 miles round-trip at a moderate pace. Leader will have a friendly canine companion. Contact leader to signup and to get meeting location. Rain may cancel.

Friday, July 3

**Mountain Bike Beginner/novice
Class B3C**

Larry Woods 810-7552 or cboater1@yahoo.com

This is intended to be an introduction for those new to mountain biking and an opportunity for those with a little experience. The route will be on dirt roads and/or easy double track trails, suitable for entry-level mountain bikes. The exact location and time to be determined based on conditions for the date. Mountain biking is a popular activity, and new areas continue to open in the region. It is a really fun and exciting way to enjoy the woods.

Wednesday, July 8

**Long Path in John Boyd Thacher State Park
Class B2B**

Norm Kuchar, 399-6243

or nkuchar@nycap.rr.com

The Long Path, conceived by Schenectadian Vincent Schaefer, runs from the George Washington Bridge to the Adirondacks. On this hike, we'll follow a section of the Long Path in John Boyd Thacher State Park, through woods and along the edge of the Helderberg Escarpment with its great views across the Hudson and Mohawk Valleys. Distance is about 7.7 miles, with about 500 ft of climb, but shorter options are possible if the weather doesn't cooperate.

Saturday, July 18

North Dome & Sherrill

Class B+2B

John Susko 383-1284 or jpsusko@netzero.net

North Dome and Sherrill are two of the trailless peaks in the Catskills and both are over 3500 feet.

There are good views near the summits of both peaks which we may try to find. The exact route will depend on conditions; but, the distance is 7 to 8 miles with

most or all of it off trail and 2500 to 3000 feet of ascent.

Friday, July 24

Canoe Trip – Raquette River - Axton Landing to Raquette Falls

Class A2C

Roy Keats 370-0399 or royskipaddle@gmail.com

This trip starts and ends at Axton Landing which is a few miles outside of the village of Tupper Lake. We will paddle up the Raquette for approximately 6 miles to the falls (note, round trip 12 miles). It is a flat water paddle with a lot of bays and blind channels depending on the water level. The river has a barely noticeable current at this time of year. We should be able to explore some of the side channels such as the outflow from Stony Creek Ponds. There are usually ducks.

Sunday, July 26

Battenkill “Watermelon Run”

Class B3D

Bob Wright or wright19@nycap.rr.com

This classic trip used to be co-lead by Betty Lou Bailey. It goes from County Rd. 64 (above Shushan) to the Schmidt cabin on Skellic Rd., where the watermelon awaits. Swimming en route is possible. Bring lunch and a smile. Co-sponsored with SWC/NNYP.



Trip Tales

Hour Pond Ski Trip

March 7, 2015

We started at the Old Farm Clearing road access. There was a lot of fresh powder, but the trail to Hour Pond was well packed. The packed trail was a little fast in spots making it necessary to ski out into the fresh powder occasionally for control. The waterfall on Hour Pond Brook was totally silent under a frozen blanket of ice and snow. Skiing into Hour Pond is mostly uphill, but has about five relatively steep downhills to negotiate. We had lunch at the lean-to, and then skied out onto the pond for nice views of Bullhead Mountain and Hour Pond Mountain. On our way out we took the Hour Pond Crossover trail which dropped us directly down to Thirteenth Lake. This trail had a steep uphill from the trail junction with the Hour Pond Trail to a height of land. From the height of land, it was almost continuously downhill to the lake (about 540 vertical feet in about a mile). This trail had only been slightly broken, so the downhills were very controllable with only one really steep section. The trail followed a brook down to the lake most of the way, and was great. We then skied across Thirteenth Lake to Elizabeth Point and from there to the car. The total distance was 8.9 miles. The participants were Stephen and Michael Justa, and Roy Keats and Mike Brun (the leaders).

LeVine Preserve

March 21, 2015

We were delighted to find sunny skies at the trail-head, rather than the predicted snow and rain showers. The trails were in great shape for snowshoeing, well packed with the only postholes made by deer. At an easy pace, we covered nearly all the trails in the 180-acre preserve in about 2½ hours. We made an interesting stop at the site of the Taber homestead, where the large stone-lined cellar hole has been cleared of debris by a dedicated group of preserve volunteers. Enjoying the easy half-day hike were Charlie Beach, Deirdre Garland, Holly Hawkes, Walt Hayes, Mary MacDonald, Bernie Mansbach,

Rich Vertigan, Dustin Wright and the leader (Norm Kuchar).

The Catskill (class III)

April 4, 2015

Seven paddlers (Six kayaks + one canoe) ran the Catskill Creek as a season opener for the Sch-Adk club. The level was fairly high due to much spring run-off from our very snowy winter. As an added bonus the wind that day was strong, so strong that it managed to overturn an unsuspecting open boater. Oh well, all was well in the end and everyone had a great day on the water. Looking forward to lots of great club sponsored trips this year, and I urge everyone to just get out there and paddle. Leader: Bob Wright.

The Catskill (class III)

April 12, 2015

Any planned paddling trip on the Catskill Creek is subject to chance on whether the water level will be adequate. We try to schedule trips in April in hopes that any snow runoff will keep the river level high enough. Although the online river gauge indicated the level was too low to paddle, conditions on this day were great for a spring run. We had sunny skies and temperatures in the 50's and 60's. We had a group of 6 kayakers and 1 open boater enjoying the fun and surfing on this local gem. Three of the participants had never been on the Catskill before, so it was great to share the river with them. We had no swims on the day and everyone had many opportunities for surfing on the numerous waves. The participants on this day were Horst Delorenzi, Jon Allison, Amana Sliviak, Mike Prosalik, Tyler Merriam, Mike Tindall, and the trip leader, Norm Labbe.

West & East Branches, Sacandaga River

April 18, 2015

Ten paddlers (six kayaks and four canoes) enjoyed a warm April run on the West Branch of the Sacandaga at a good medium level of 5.4 feet. Afterwards, seven paddlers of the group made the short drive over to the

Continued on Page 6

Trip Tales

East Branch which was at an exciting spring level. It was a great day of paddling these two branches of this scenic southern Adirondack river. Leader: Rick Gonzales

Westkill Mountain Hike

Apr. 18, 2015

It was a beautiful spring day for Nancy Schuller, Shelly Nevard and Larry Woods. We left a car at the southern trailhead of the Devils Path and drove to the end of Spruceton Rd. From there we walked the easy mile to Diamond Notch Falls, which were running beautifully with the fresh snowmelt. As we climbed the steepening trail, we began to encounter ice and snow. It was time to put on the microspikes. These worked well for a while, but it became clear that we had made a poor decision to leave our snowshoes in the cars. After a well deserved lunch break, enjoying the view at Buck Ridge Ledges, it was a short hike to the summit cairn. Because of the deep, untracked snow beyond, we abandoned our plan for a through hike and returned the way we came.

Bog Meadow

Apr. 20, 2015

On this misty Monday morning 4 stalwart hikers ignored the forecast and traveled to the Saratoga Springs area for a short walk along the Bog Meadow Trail. We observed an abundance of Skunk Cabbage along our route. There were also some water birds and other birds enjoying the early spring day. Beaver have a large house in this preserve. Just as we returned to our cars about 2 hours after starting, the rain began to fall. Hikers were Janet Limeri, Larry Woods, Ray Henrikson and Mary MacDonald, leader.

West & East Branches, Sacandaga River

April 25, 2015

Weather was a little chilly for late April, but 9 paddlers (2 canoes & 7 kayaks) made the trip to Wells, NY to paddle both the West and East Branches of the Sacandaga River. The river was at a level of 4.5', but still had enough flow to send us downstream with lots of fun for all. Lunch time was by Jiminy Creek and

soon the West Branch was done. Onward to the East Branch where the technical nature of the run tested our boating skills. Afterwards a group of us went up to the Middle Branch to investigate Square Falls and other drops to see first hand the impressive work of Mother Nature. Fun times in the great outdoors. Leader: Bob Wright

Middle Sister

Apr. 28, 2015

We had a perfect spring day for this hike, with temperatures in the 50's and mostly sunny skies. Middle Sister is one of three small, but rugged, mountains forming The Three Sisters, just south of the confluence of the Schroon and Hudson Rivers near Warrensburg. We parked at the gated end of Hickory Hill/Katts Corners Rd., and, following the continuation of the unposted old road along the bank of the Hudson, quickly reached state land. There we found an unmarked, but distinct old logging road that led south up the mountain and then turned east inside the state land boundary. When we reached the northeast ridge, we began bushwhacking steeply up the ridge. Walt Hayes' grandson Dean, age 6, did better than the rest of us as we huffed and puffed up the slope. With a bit of instruction, Dean also caught on to the use of a compass, and he guided us on our bushwhack up the mountain. Like grandpa, like grandson! The summit was viewless, but near by was a cliff edge with a great view of Pine Mountain as well as the mountains along the east side of Lake George. After lunch, we headed south to another cliff edge with expansive views of Bald, Hadley, Baldhead, Moose, and Crane Mountains. We descended by bushwhacking easily down the west ridge before crossing a small stream and picking up another old logging road that led back to the old road along the Hudson. Hikers were Dean Ayotte, Laura Hayes, Walt Hayes, Dave Loux, Nilde Marcinowski, Wayne Virkler and the leader (Norm Kuchar).

Continued on Page 7

Trip Tales

Hudson River (class III)

May 2, 2015

Encouraged by an unusually good weather forecast, 15 paddlers in 6 kayaks, 6 canoes and a duckie launched from the North Creek train station. Though the river was running low at 4.5 feet on the USGS gage, we had a great time playing with what it had to offer. Our group must have made quite a sight as all 15 of us sprawled out on the grass by the Riverside Bridge, eating lunch and soaking up the sun. The water level was better for the narrower section below Riparius. Much time was spent surfing the waves at Rock Island. Exhausted, we dragged our boats up the rugged bank at The Glen and declared the day a huge success. Leader: Larry Woods

Hudson River (class III)

May 3, 2015

The “Hot Dog & Rescue Run” was begun by Chuck Wilkison when he surprised us with dogs & fixins that he had brought in his boat, several years ago. Our group continued the tradition when we put in, an hour before the start of the 58th Annual Hudson River Derby. We arrived at Staircase Rapid in time to cook and eat about a dozen hotdogs (plus Shelly’s fresh baked Brownies YUMM), before the first racers got there. This year, we did not have to make any rescues. Some past races, we have really had our hands full! When the Sweep Raft came by, we packed up and enjoyed the rest of the paddle to Riparius and the race finish. Leader: Larry Woods

Stephens Pond Trail Work

May 8, 2015

The day was clear, hot and dry. We cleared out more than a dozen potential drainage problems, removed about 7 blowdowns, and did a little side cutting to ensure good skiing for next season. We had an enjoyable lunch at the pond. With the weather being so nice, we were able to check out the “old” lean-to location. This was located right next to the pond at a beautiful spot. We also hiked in on the “fisherman’s shortcut” to the pond from the main trail, and found that this unmarked path left much to be desired, and had no nice

pond access. The participants were Ray Sergott, Joe Zierer, and Roy Keats (the leader).

Albany Rural Cemetery

May 9, 2015

We had a sunny, summery day for this walk, which was a repeat of last November’s trip that attracted more people than could be accommodated. We had another full house, with 15 making the easy walk through local history. Following winding roads, we passed a wide variety of burial monuments, from simple flat gravestones to elaborate obelisks and Greek temples. We stopped at the resting places of a diverse group of 17th to 20th century citizens, from nameless indigents dwelling at the Albany Almshouse to Stephen Van Rensselaer III, the last Dutch patroon whose \$68 billion estate (today’s dollars) made him the 22nd richest person of all time, worldwide. Walkers included Julie Boyer, Marilyn Fancher, Ken and Jane Robbins, Leon and Karen Barnish, Gail Cotler, Ken Marcinowski, Sharon Kendall, Lynn Rossini, Paul Dean, Marcia Hanson, Paul and Jacque McGinn, and the leader (Norm Kuchar).

Schroon River

May 10, 2015

Eight paddlers (7 K-1 & 1 OC-1), enjoyed a warm springtime run down the Schroon River at a level of 3’ 6”. With sunny skies and a moderate level we paddled at a leisurely pace and were rewarded with lots of playtime and no swims. Water temps. are rising, however we do need some rain to keep this springtime fun on track. Leader: Bob Wright

Zim Smith Trail

May 16, 2017

Three of us enjoyed a wonderful spring morning freshened from an evening rain and filled with songs of birds. While we kept a leisurely pace, we completed the 7.5 mi. traverse in just a little over two hours. Thanks to Matt Wolcott for joining us and spotting a car. Leaders: Ken and Nilde Marcinowski.

Whitewater

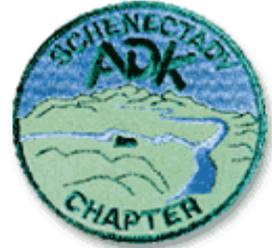
Date	Day	Event	Level	Name	Contact Info
June 6	Saturday	Cedar River	II/III	Ed Cunningham,	885-7444
June 7	Sunday	Schroon Lake/ Leader's Choice	III	Bob Wright	279-1428
June 12 and 13	Friday/Saturday	Zoar Trip/Leader's Class	III	Ralph Pascale	339-4810
June 13	Saturday	Sacandaga/Stewarts Dam	II/III	Bob Wright	279-1428
June 14	Sunday	Whitewater/Safety Rescue	II+	Rick Morse Anthony Lomanno	494-4094
June 20-21	Saturday/Sunday	Novice/Intermediate Kayak and Canoe Class	II/III	Sally Dewes Larry Woods	346-1761 810-7552
June 21	Sunday	Schroon	II/III	Clark Darlington	370-2144
June 27	Saturday	Bike and Paddle- Sacandaga	II/III	Sally Dewes	346-1761
June 28	Sunday	Leader's Choice	II/III	Ed Cunningham	885-7444
July 1	Wednesday	Cohoes Pool Kayak Class	I	Ralph Pascale	339-4810
July 4	Saturday	Hudson River Gorge	III+	Horst DeLorenzi	399-4615
July 8	Wednesday	Cohoes Pool Kayak Class	I	Ralph Pascale	339-4810
July 11	Saturday	Deerfield Festival			
July 11	Saturday	Fife Brook Deerfield	II/III	Tim Lawson	242-6244
July 15	Wednesday	Cohoes Pool Kayak Class	I	Ralph Pascale	339-4810
July 18	Saturday	Hudson River Gorge	III	Mal Provost	399-1565
July 19	Sunday	Sacandaga/Leader's Choice	II/III	Ed Cunningham,	885-7444
July 22	Wednesday	Cohoes Pool Kayak Class	I	Ralph Pascale	339-4810
July 25	Saturday	Cohoes Outdoor Festival and Picnic	I	Ralph Pascale	339-4810
August 1	Saturday	Fife Brook Deerfield	II/III	Ed Martuscello	843-5581
August 2	Sunday	Sacandaga-Stewarts Dam	II/III	Ed Cunningham	885-7444

Schenectady ADK
P.O. Box 733 Schenectady NY 12301-0733
<http://www.adk-schenectady.org>

CHAPTER BOARD MEETINGS: Are held regularly on the second Tuesday of the month. No meetings are held in July or August. Any concerns members have may be expressed to any board member listed on the inside front cover, or attend the meetings which are open to the membership. Call a board member for date, time & directions.

CHAPTER DISCLAIMER: People who attend outings are reminded that such activities entail a certain degree of danger; and persons participating do so at their own risk. This disclaimer is for both whitewater and regular outings of the chapter.

SCHENECTADY CHAPTER PATCH: This lovely patch (shown at right) can be purchased by mailing a check (payable to Schenectady Chapter ADK) to Rich Vertigan, 1804 Van Cortland St., Rotterdam, NY 12203. The cost is \$3 per patch, which includes the mailing cost.



TRIP LEADERS: If you do not want your trip listed in the local newspapers, call Publicity Chair Roy Keats at 518-370-0399, or roysueski@yahoo.com. This newsletter goes out over the Internet.

EQUIPMENT RENTAL: The chapter has hi-tech snowshoes and one pair of universal fit crampons available to rent at \$5/trip. Call Stan Stoklosa at 383-3066 to arrange for pick-up.

WEB SITE: <http://www.adk-schenectady.org> — *All of the latest information will be posted on the Web, i.e. any changes or corrections. Please review our website and related Internet resources Acceptable Use Policy.*

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: If you move, you must inform the ADK in order to continue receiving The Lookout. The Lookout is sent via bulk mail, which the Postal Service will not forward. Send changes of address to Chapter chair Rich Vertigan, 1804 Van Cortland St., Rotterdam, NY 12203 to insure uninterrupted delivery.

Membership Application

*To join, send this form with
payment to:*

Adirondack Mountain Club
814 Goggins Road,
Lake George, NY
12845-4117

or drop it off at Adirondack
Loj or Headquarters.

Check Membership Level:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Family Life | \$1950 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Individual Life | 1300 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Adult | 50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Family | 60 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Senior (65+) | 40 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Senior Family 65+) | 50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Student (full time 18+) | 40 |
| | School _____ | |

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP+4 _____

Home phone _____

I want to join the Schenectady Chapter

List spouse & children under 18 and birth dates

Spouse _____

Child _____ birthdate _____

Child _____ birthdate _____

Bill my _____ VISA _____ MasterCard _____ Discover _____

Exp. Date _____ Account # _____

signature (required for charge)

ADK is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization. Membership fees are tax deductible, as allowed by law. Please allow 6-8 weeks for receipt of first issue of Adirondack.

Conservation Report

INVASIVES PROGRAMS

Paddlers and hikers can add an environmental kick to their trips under a new program initiated by the ADK to identify water bodies and woodlands threatened by invasive species.

Known formally as the Backcountry Water Monitors and Backcountry Forest Monitors projects, the work will entail looking, sampling and submitting findings from ponds and lakes in the Champlain Basin – and more broadly in the woodlands of the Adirondacks – as part of a major effort by environmental organizations to combat the intrusion of destructive species such as Eurasian water milfoil, the spiny water flea and the hemlock woolly adelgid. Their growing presence is a function both of recreational traffic and warmer temperatures, and these plants and critters pose a huge threat.

One of the most high-profile activities in the public eye currently is the boat-washing on major water bodies such as Lake George, driven by a push from locals there that sparked a positive response from Gov. Andrew Cuomo and the state Department of Environmental Conservation.

The citizen science projects now expanding are an outgrowth of this program and long-term state wide monitoring efforts of DEC's Partnerships for Invasive Species Management (PRISM). The new programs are intended to put more boots on the ground and paddles in the water for a broader reach to study and sample small, remote areas.

As published in the May-June edition of Adirondac, volunteers are being sought for training for both the aquatic and land-based invasives. Training for the aquatic invasives is set for July 16 and Aug. 30 at the Adirondac Loj, Heart Lake, Lake Placid. One session of training for the forest invasives has already been conducted, with more planned.

To sign up or for more information contact Cathy Pedler at 518-449-3870 or cathy@adk.org. Partners in the projects include Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program (APIPP), the Adirondack Watershed Institute of Paul Smith's College, Cornell University, DEC, OPRHP, the Lake Champlain Basin Program, and the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission.

- Mal Provost

Sat/Sun, June 20-21, 2015

Schenectady ADK Offers Novice/Intermediate Whitewater Instruction

Intermediate/Novice whitewater instruction for either kayak or solo / tandem open canoe will be available on June 20 & 21. This two-day clinic is designed for boaters who have had some previous instruction, but still need more work to perfect the basic strokes and maneuvers.

Students should have paddled class 1 or 2 whitewater 5 or more times and be able to perform eddy turns, peel-outs, and ferries on class I water. They should be able to paddle in a straight line with confidence, identify river features including eddies, waves, and holes, and self-rescue in class I and II whitewater. Kayakers should have or be working on a roll and must be comfortable with wet exits. Learning goals would include skills that would bring students to solid class 2 or 2+ paddling ability. We will start on flatwater to refine paddling techniques as well as practicing low braces for solo open canoe and rolls for kayakers. On the river, we will work on performing crisp, reliable eddy turns, peel-outs, controlling the angle on ferries and gaining overall experience. Instruction will start at 8AM at a location to be determined later and be over each day by late afternoon. Students must provide their own equipment including the boat. Cost for the two days of instruction is \$35. For further information, contact either Sally Dewes for kayak (346-1761) or Larry Woods for solo open canoe (810-7552).

*Board of Directors Report***Highlights of the March 28, 2015 Meeting at Lake George*****Friend of the Court Brief on Public Navigation***

Case: The board voted to allow ADK to submit a Friend of the Court brief in a case (*Friends of Thayer Lake et al vs. Phil Brown et al*) now before the state Court of Appeals. In 2009, Brown canoed a two-mile system of ponds and narrow streams (Mud Pond and Shingle Shanty Brook, between state lands on Little Tupper Lake and Lake Lila), crossing private land marked with no trespassing signs. He was subsequently cited for trespass, but argued successfully at the trial court and Supreme Court levels that the waterways were navigable-in-fact and therefore open to public travel. The case has now been appealed again to the state's highest-level court. It is important to get an outcome favorable to the defendant in order to protect the public's right to travel navigable bodies of water. Neil Woodworth is concerned that an unfavorable outcome could jeopardize previously-established rights such as those won in the 1990's in the Moose River case.

Young Adult Outreach: The recent ADK membership survey showed that over half of the club's members are 60 years of age or older, and that only 15% were under age 40. In addition, the median age of members, now 60, has risen from 50 ten years ago. In response to this long-term threat to the club's viability, the board discussed and approved a proposal to hire a full-time Young Adult Outreach Coordinator. This person will work with the club's chapters and committees to develop programs and activities to make ADK more attractive to young adults. The position will be established for a period of two years, during which funding will come from 2015 monies in the "Grow ADK" fund, a targeted major donation, and challenge gifts.

Finances: ADK ended 2014 in a strong financial condition. For the year, the actual surplus from operations was \$88K, as compared to the budgeted surplus of \$45K. The better-than-budget results were largely due to an increase in contract trail work from DEC

and an increase in donations.

Membership & Development Director Search: Deb Zack, Director of Membership & Development, announced that she will resign, so a search committee was formed to find a replacement. Of the 32 applications received, six were considered to be prime. Deb has agreed to stay until the new director is in place. (Note after meeting: On April 15, Neil Woodworth announced the hiring of Catherine Forbes as Director of Development. Catherine joined ADK on May 4.)

Publications: This summer, ADK will issue *Western Trails*, a revised and consolidated trails guide for the entire western portion of the Adirondacks, including all of the area covered by Nat Geog Map #745 and the western side of Nat Geog Map # 746. A revised *ADK High Peaks Trails Map*, covering all 46 of the High Peaks on one two-sided waterproof map, will also be released early in the summer.

Upcoming 2015 Events:

- National Trails Day: June 6-7, at Wanakena
- *ididaride!* bike tour: August 9, at North Creek
- Ragnar Relay: September 25-26, Saratoga Springs to Lake Placid

Fall Outing & Presidents' Dinner: October 2-4, at Hudson Valley Spa & Resort, Kerhonkson, and sponsored by the Mid-Hudson Chapter

Note that the Black Fly Affair will not be held this year. Rather, some parts of the BFA (chapter basket auction, etc) will be incorporated into the Presidents' Dinner on October 3.

- Norm Kuchar

Blinstrub, Sinopoli awarded HS scholarships

Continued from Page 1

and kayak. Being out on the water is raw nature and it has a relaxing effect on me. It allows me to breathe out all of the structure of day today life. The minutes flow into each other and I feel free to live on my own terms.

My personal interests have led me to choose a field of study where I may continue to develop my skills and become a leader in environmental based programs. I have chosen SUNY Environmental Sciences and Forestry, as it is a highly respected educational program for my intended field of study- Environmental Engineering. My goal is to procure a job in a field where I can provide a service that will benefit the environment and use fewer natural resources while doing so. I am interested in a job focusing on the use of Hydro-power, Bio-fuels, Solar, Wind and/ or Wave/Ocean power, all of which are every abundant resources in NY State, as well as the St Lawrence valley. I am committed to helping others in my community and protecting the environment, as evidenced by my anticipated field of study choice and of schools- SUNY Environmental Sciences and Forestry.”

Daniel Sinopoli

“Next year at SUNY Environmental Sciences and Forestry I will be majoring in Aquatic and Fisheries Science. My motivation behind selecting this major has stemmed from my independent science research that I have been conducting over the past three years on brook trout in the eastern Adirondacks. After witnessing the devastation in the Adi-

rondacks at the hands of Hurricane Irene the summer prior, I already had a good idea of what I wanted to research. As a freshman I was able to apply for a science research program at my high school. One of the requirements for a research project is to have a professor from a research institution as a mentor. I was able to get a Cornell professor (Clifford Kraft) and a Cornell research associate (Daniel Josephson) act as my mentors. I used brook trout to determine stream health as they are environmental indicators. Over the past three years I have presented my research at high school competitions as well as professional level conferences. I have even won a few awards for my research. Even though my high school career is coming to an end in a few months, I want to try to continue collecting data for my project and hopefully use it as a capstone project while in college.

I hope to get at least a Masters’ Degree if not a PhD and hope to work as a field biologist or researcher in some sort of environmental agency where my research may impact environmental policy or regulations; such as the U.S. Geological Survey or the Department of Environmental Conservation.

I thank you for your consideration for this scholarship.”

Briefs of Interest

ADK Fall Outing October 2-4, 2015

This fall, Explore the Magnificent Hudson River Valley Region with People Who Call It Home. Members of the Mid-Hudson Chapter of the Adirondack Mountain Club invite all ADKers, their families and friends, to join a weekend of guided hikes, paddles, bike rides, and visits to historic and cultural sites in the colorful Hudson Valley region, October 2-4, 2015. Activities are planned for varied skill levels and interests. More info: www.adk.org.

***ididaride!* Adirondack Bike Tour**

Celebrate the 10th Anniversary - August 9th, 2015—of *the ididaride!*

Registration opened April 1st - \$75 ADK member / \$85 non-member. All proceeds will support ADK's conservation, recreation, and advocacy programs.

Canoe / Kayak August 8

The Quickstart Your Canoe / Kayak course is brief introduction to paddling a tandem canoe or solo kayak and provide students with sufficient skill and knowledge so they can enjoy the sport of canoeing or kayaking on flat water. A minimal paddle skill set is presented and practiced, allowing students to safely and comfortably maneuver on still water. Students are presented with basic information on dressing to paddle safely, potential hazards and simple rescues. The focus of this course will be on learning and practicing basic strokes and maneuvers.

Cost: \$40 (Members receive 10% discount); includes instruction and use of equipment.

Registration: 523-3441

ACA Flatwater Canoe/Kayak

Safety and Rescue August 9

The Flatwater Canoe / Kayak Safety and Rescue workshop introduces essential flatwater safety prac-

tices and rescue techniques for canoe and kayak that can be performed with a minimum of equipment, in the first few minutes of an emergency. The focus of this course will be on learning and practicing safety and rescue techniques extensively.

Cost: \$40 (Members receive 10% discount); includes instruction and use of equipment.

Registration: 523-3441

Discovering the Ausable:

An Aquatic Stewardship Program July 8-12

Discovering the Ausable: An Aquatic Stewardship Program is a free five-day, four-night adventure in camping and aquatic stewardship for teens age 14-17. Participants will explore the Ausable River watershed, while learning about aquatic ecology and participating in water quality experiments. Have fun with peers while developing your paddling skills and learning the intricacies of physical, chemical and biological sampling techniques. Participants will camp in a lean-to at Heart Lake's Wilderness Campground while taking day trips to places along the Ausable River. This program is a partnership of ADK and the [Ausable River Association](http://www.ausableriver.org) (AsRA).

Cost: Free

Application: Apply by April 15th by sending an [application](#) to ADK's Education Programs Coordinator Seth Jones at programs@adk.org or by mail at PO Box 867, Lake Placid, NY 12946. Registration: 523-3441



the Lookout

Schenectady Chapter
Adirondack Mountain Club
PO Box 733
Schenectady, NY 12301

U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
NON-PROFIT ORG.
ALBANY, N Y
PERMIT NO. 821