



The Cloudsplitter

Vol. 80 No. 2

April-June 2017



published by the
ALBANY CHAPTER
of the
ADIRONDACK
MOUNTAIN CLUB

The Cloudsplitter is published quarterly by the Albany Chapter of the Adirondack Mountain Club and is distributed to the membership. All issues (January, April, July, and October) feature activities schedules, trip reports, and other articles of interest to the outdoor enthusiast.

**All outings should now be entered on the website www.adk-albany.org.
Echoes should be entered on the website www.adk-albany.org with your login information.**

<p>The Albany Chapter may be reached at: Albany Chapter ADK Empire State Plaza P.O. Box 2116 Albany, NY 12220 home page: www.adk-albany.org</p>	<p>Please send your address and phone number changes to: Adirondack Mountain Club 814 Goggins Road Lake George, NY 12845-4117 phone: (518) 668-4447 fax: (518) 668-3746</p>	<p>For Club orders & membership call (800) 395-8080 or e-mail: adkinfo@adk.org home page: www.adk.org</p>	<p>For Cloudsplitter related issues, contact the Editors at: The Cloudsplitter Kathryn Behuniak: adkcloudeditor1@gmail.com or Ann Burns: adkcloudeditor2@gmail.com</p>
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Submission deadline for the next issue of *The Cloudsplitter* is May 15, 2017 and will be for the months of July, August, and September, 2017. Many thanks to Gail Carr for her cover sketch of "Willow Morning Moon."

April 5, May 3, June 7 (1st Wednesday)
Business Meeting of Chapter Officers and Committees 6:00 p.m. at Little's Lake in Menands
 Chapter members are encouraged to attend - please call **Jim Slavin** a 434-4393

Chapter Meetings are held at the West Albany Fire House (Station #1), 113 Sand Creek Road, Albany. Education Sessions start at 6:30 prior to the membership meeting. Programs begin following the Chapter business meeting. Refreshments are served after the meetings.

April 11 (2^d Tuesday) MONTHLY CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP MEETING 6:30 P.M.
Education Session: Backpack fitting workshop. Expert fitters from EMS will be presenting on proper backpack fit and will be demonstrating the latest features and technologies. They'll also help you assess and adjust the fit of your backpack and let you try on their new models. Bring a measuring tape and your pack to the meeting.
Program: Four National Parks in Alaska: Denali, Glacier Bay, Kenai Fjords and Katmai. During the last four summers, Jake Bortscheller's photography hobby has taken him to the state that calls itself "The Last Frontier." It has an abundance of wildlife unrivaled by any other state and an indescribable sense of vastness. Shots of great vistas, flora and fauna are assured.

May 9 (2nd Tuesday) CHAPTER ANNUAL BANQUET 6:00 P.M.
The Century House, 997 New Loudon Road, Latham, NY
6:00 P.M. – 9:30 P.M.
See more information on page 18 and registration form on page 19.
KEYNOTE SPEAKER: PETER BENOIT
 Peter is a past president of the Lower Adirondack Search and Rescue (LASAR), a 60-person volunteer team who use skills learned through extensive classroom education and field training to find lost people. He will describe his experiences surviving extreme arctic weather while participating in a training mission on the polar ice cap north of Greenland, and his twenty year observations of the melting ice in that region. Peter is a 33-year member of the Glens Falls/Saratoga Chapter of ADK, and has been associated with LASAR for nearly as long. He can be reached through the group's website <http://www.lasarny.org>.

June 13 (2nd Tuesday) MONTHLY CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP MEETING 6:30 P.M.

Education Session: Summer Gear Sale. Bring your extra camping and hiking gear to the sale. As with our winter gear sale in January, we ask that sellers donate 10% to the Chapter. Please tag your gear with a price and your name.

Program: Potpourri Night: This is the Chapter's version of "Oscar Nominated Shorts." Sign up NOW to get on the roster of members who will show us their best shots from the past year's adventures and rambles. We all love seeing your pictures of scenery, flora and fauna.... and you! Contact Thea at thoeth109@gmail.com.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Walking and Talking.

As I was thinking about the upcoming spring hiking season, I thought about some of the wonderful discussions I have had on hikes. When my son was in his teens, he and I spent many weekends hiking in the High Peaks. We were considering becoming "46ers", often climbing more than one High Peak in a day. On those long days together in the woods, often with friends, my fondest memories are of the discussions we had - the conversations with my son and our friends without the distractions of phones or work. The conversation seemed to be enhanced by the physical beauty of the Adirondacks and the physical effort of the hike.

We talked about "everything". With my friends involved in healthcare, we solved all the problems of the American healthcare system; with my son, we discussed life and his future. It was not all great of course. One day after bagging several peaks we were walking out on the Ausable Club access road. We had 3 miles to go and we were both tired. I was just talking and talking to help pass the time and he turned to me and said, "Dad if you don't have something profound to say, don't say anything at all." That ended that conversation. There has to be an exception to any rule.

So as we get ready to head out again, as we are repacking our backpacks, checking our maps and planning our next hikes with our friends, I am looking forward to the walking and the talking.

Jim Slavin

CARE ABOUT CONSERVATION?

Do you want to help our Chapter "Go Green" AND reduce our Chapter printing costs? OPT OUT!

The Chapter's website now offers easy access to an Interactive Outings Calendar, current events, forums and the ability to view or print the current *Cloudsplitter*. To "opt out", go to the Chapter's home page at <http://www.adk-albany.org>, click on "Electronic Cloudsplitter" and complete the online "OPT-OUT of the Mailed Paper Cloudsplitter" form. It takes a minute or two. Thank you!

ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE

PARTICIPANTS' RESPONSIBILITIES

FITNESS: Know your level of fitness and limitations. The trip leader will ask questions about your experience, fitness, equipment, medical condition, expectations, etc. Be Honest!

TRIP RATINGS: Understand that the level of effort is not the same as the level of difficulty. Trip ratings are for level of effort. Realize that "moderate" for a physically fit person may mean outrageously strenuous for a novice and/or unconditioned person.

HIKERS RATING	EFFORT LEVEL	ELEVATION GAIN (FEET)	MILES	TIME (HOURS)
A+	Very Strenuous	4,000+	10+	10+
A	Strenuous	3,000+	5 – 10	8 – 10
B+	Moderately Strenuous	2,000+	5 – 10	6 – 8
B	Moderate	1,000+	8 --10	5 – 7
C+	Fairly Easy	1,000+	5 – 8	4 – 6
C	Easy	Under 1,000	Under 5	Under 5

Not all trips fit cleanly into one of these categories. Whenever you are unclear about a rating for a trip, leaders will be happy to explain what their designated rating means.

PADDLERS	MILES	PORTAGES	WATER CLASS
A	12+	Long (½ mile+)	II – Whitewater
B	6 – 12	Short	I – Moving
C	Under 6	None	Flat

BIKERS	MILES	TERRAIN
A	30+	Moderate to steep
B	15-30	Moderate
C	Less than 15	Flat to Moderate

Please Note: Unless otherwise stated, please sign up with the leader for all Chapter activities. Do not simply show up at the designated meeting place. Arrive at the carpooling site before the stated departure time. Please pay the driver to offset the costs of driving. Do not bring a pet unless the trip leader agrees that it is okay, and bring a leash. Please stay with the group or ask to proceed and stop at the first intersection and wait for the entire group to re-assemble. You are expected to carry adequate equipment, water and food. If in doubt about what to bring, ask the trip leader!

Suggestions for all seasons:

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water: 2 - 3 Quarts | <input type="checkbox"/> Layered Clothing (NO cotton) | <input type="checkbox"/> Extra Socks | <input type="checkbox"/> Hat |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shell (wind & rain) | <input type="checkbox"/> Extra Sweater or Jacket | <input type="checkbox"/> Headlamp | <input type="checkbox"/> Gloves |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sturdy Boots | <input type="checkbox"/> Sun Glasses/Screen (SPF 15) | <input type="checkbox"/> First Aid Kit | <input type="checkbox"/> Food |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Map & Compass | <input type="checkbox"/> Waterproof Matches | <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Blanket | |

Winter Add-ons:

- | | | | |
|--|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ski Pole or Ice Axe | <input type="checkbox"/> Skis or Snowshoes | <input type="checkbox"/> Crampons | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Extra Food | <input type="checkbox"/> Warm liquids | <input type="checkbox"/> Extra layers |

THE CLOUDSPLITTER

April-June 2017

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Albany Chapter – Adirondack Mountain Club Combined Activities Schedule

<u>Month</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Destination or Event</u>	<u>Leader</u>	<u>Rating</u>	
Apr	5 (Wed)	Berlin Mountain Loop	Antonio	B	
	7 (Fri)	Hoosac Range Trail,	Ross/McCarron	B	
	8 (Sat)	Taconic Crest Trail (TCT) Trail Work	Pisaneschi,	B	
	11 (Tue)	MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETING- Backpack fitting	Four National Parks in Alaska		
	14 (Fri)	Baxter And Gilligan Mountains	Antonio	B	
	15 (Sat)	Mount Tremper	Kase,	B	
	19 (Wed)	Zim Smith Trail Spring Pedal	Breslin	C	
	19 (Wed)	Kibby Pond	Quattrocchi	C+	
	20 (Thu)	Albany County Rail Trail	Beach	B	
	22 (Sat)	Palmertown Mtn Range At Moreau State Park	Seward	B	
	22 (Sat)	Earth Day In The Pine Bush - Clean-Up	Plaat		
	23 (Sun)	Yokun Ridge	Sheehan	C+	
	25 (Tue)	Evening Paddle Mohawk River Lock 7	Bentien	B	
	25 (Tue)	New Member Orientation & Open House	Rosenberry		
	26 (Wed)	Harlem Valley Rail Trail	Traver	B	
	29 (Sat)	Hunter Mountain	Kase	B+	
	30 (Sun)	Schodack Island Paddle	Pisaneschi	B	
	May	1 (Mon)	Kayderosseras Creek	Beach	B
		3 (Wed)	Mount Greylock	Antonio	B+
		6 (Sat)	Big Indian & Eagle	Susko	A
6 (Sat)		"I Love My Park" Day In Thacher State Park	Schaller	B	
6 (Sat)		Corning Preserve River Cleanup	Pusatere/Luchsinger	B	
9 (Tue)		ANNUAL BANQUET- Adirondack Search and Rescue!			
10 (Wed)		Goose Pond Paddle	Traver	B	
10 (Wed)		Evening Paddle Ballston Lake	Saville/ Luchsinger	C	
11 (Thu)		Huyck Preserve	Waldman	B	
12 (Fri)		Ashuwillticook Rail Trail	Beach	B	
13 (Sat)		Sugarloaf Mountain	Kase	B+	
16 (Tue)		Evening Paddle - Hudson River - Bethlehem	McGuire/Jacobson	B	
17 (Wed)		Moxham Mountain	Sheehan	B	
17 (Wed)		Mohawk River/Vischer Ferry Spring Paddle	Breslin	C	
20 (Sat)		Ross, Big Bad Luck & Whortleberry Ponds	Seward	B	
20 (Sat)		Wildflower Hike	Siegard	B	
20 (Sat)		Spruce Mountain Fire Tower	Prewencki	C+	
21 (Sun)		Snowy Mountain	Priest	B+	
23 (Tue)		Evening Paddle - Round Lake	Saville/ Rosenblatt	C	
28 (Sun)		Susquehanna River Sojourn	Luchsinger	C	
Jun	31 (Wed)	Evening Paddle-Flight Lock Road	Cherkosly/Snopkowski	C	
	3 (Sat)	Cone-To-Cone Bike Ride	Saville	C	
	3 (Sat)	Black Mountain	Sheppard	B	
	3 (Sat)	National Trails Day-Thacher Park	Schaller	B	
	10 (Sat)	Springhill Ponds	Seward	B	
	10 (Sat)	Battenkill Paddle	Beach	B	
	12 (Mon)	Pedal Crescent Bridge To Lock 7 Power Plant	Breslin	C	
	13 (Tue)	MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETING - Used gear sale; Potpourri Night			
	14 (Wed)	Round Mountain	Sheehan	B	
	14 (Wed)	Evening Paddle - Corning Preserve	Murray/Cherkosly	B	
	17 (Sat)	Westkill Mountain	Susko	B	
	17 (Sat)	Alcove Reservoir Bike Ride	Siegard	B	
	18 (Sun)	Whiteface At An Easy Pace	Priest	A	
	20 (Tue)	Evening Paddle Mohawk River Kiwanis Park	Orr/Dewes	B	
	20-22 (Tu-Th)	Skylight Mt Women's Backpack	Traver	A+	
24 (Sat)	New Russia Traverse	Martin	A+		
27 (Tue)	Evening Paddle - Hudson River/Coeymans	Mapes/Pusatere	C		

ACTIVITIES DESCRIPTIONS

**CHECK OUR WEBSITE (www.adk-albany.org)
FREQUENTLY FOR UPDATES TO THE
OUTINGS SCHEDULE.**

General Information for Evening Paddling Trips

On most Tuesday (some Wednesday) evenings from May thru October the **ADK Albany Chapter** paddles various waterways in the Capital District area. There are typically 2 groups (Fast and Relaxed Groups). The Relaxed Group goes as slow as the slowest paddler and may be best for short wide boats or less skilled paddlers. The Fast Group is for most everyone else and goes about 3-4 mph. If there are a large number of paddlers we may form a moderate group. Expect to paddle for about two hours. Scheduled trips launch rain or shine. It is suggested that you obtain a good roadmap of the Capital District or use www.mapquest.com for directions to the launch site locations. It is customary, after the paddle, for the group Leader to pick a nearby restaurant and convene the *Paddlers Committee Meeting (PCM)* to socialize, plan future trips, and enjoy a meal with old and new friends. Everyone who paddles is automatically a Committee Member and is invited to participate. If new paddlers would like to join the weekly paddling email list, please email Erica Lovrin at albany.adk.paddlers@gmail.com.

The following are the Albany Chapter guidelines to participate in the Evening Paddles:

- 1) **Respect Other Users of the Waterways** -- Steer clear of fishermen. Don't forget their fishing lines go well out into the water. Stay close to shore when motorboats are out. **Red & Green Buoys** mark the deep water channels - stay between the buoys & shore. Paddle in a tight group when crossing large bodies of water.
- 2) **Launch on Time** -- Please be in your boats on the water and congregated near shore **before** the launch time. *People launching after start time are not officially with the group.* The leaders will conduct a short **On-the-Water Meeting** with the group to announce leaders and sweeps, discuss paddling rules, paddle route, and plans for the

PCM.

3) **Duty of the Paddler** -- It is the responsibility of the paddler to stay with the group and know who the leaders are - *If you don't know, ask someone.*

4) **Leaving the Group** - The leaders take a headcount at the On-the-Water Meeting. Therefore, please notify one of the leaders if you need to leave the group for any reason. *ADK is not responsible for paddlers who choose not to paddle with the group.*

5) **Required Gear** -- All paddlers must bring along a white light (a headlamp is good), a whistle (a pealess one is best) and must wear a PFD (Personal Floatation Device aka life jacket). Your PFD needs to be securely fastened (zippered and buckled). *There are no exceptions to these requirements.* It is also a good idea to bring raingear, water, bug-dope (mosquitoes are quite active in summer at dusk) and an extra set of clothes in the car.

6) **Clothing** -- Other than in July & August all paddlers should not wear cotton clothing - if you must wear cotton, bring along a full change of clothing in a dry bag. Expect to have your feet in the water when launching. Some of the launch spots are slippery and have underwater debris. Waterproof footwear (most experienced paddlers use neoprene booties or mukluks) is highly recommended in the cooler months.

7) **Guests** - You may bring a guest. He/she is your responsibility and must adhere to all of the Evening Paddle Guidelines.

Apr 5 (Wed) BERLIN MOUNTAIN LOOP (B)

This Berlin Mountain ascent will be on the "Class of 33" trail. This hike is Trip Two in the AMC's Best Day Hikes in the Berkshires. On a recent scouting trip in January, our group found this to be a thoroughly enjoyable journey. All told, it is a 5-mile trek with 1700' elevation gain. The loop adds a nice change of pace to this very popular mountain. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Brunswick Walmart Park & Ride. Leader: John Antonio, 462-2765

Apr 7 (Fri) HOOSAC RANGE TRAIL, N. ADAMS, MA (B)

The Hoosac Range Trail starts at the top of Rt. 2 and is 4.5 miles east of North Adams. It extends along a ridge for 3 miles on Berkshire Natural Resources Council (BNRC) property to a fine view at Spruce Hill. From here views extend over to Mt. Greylock and down to North Adams. At one point we will be directly over the Hoosac Tunnel far

below. We will go out and back for a total of 6 miles and 700' of vertical ascent. There might be snow up on that ridge on this date, so think "footgear." It's National Beer Day this day, but the implications of that are unknown.

Leaders: Karen Ross, 794-7474, kcoyross@aol.com & Lori McCarron, 587-1957, mmccarr2@nycap.rr.co

Apr 8 (Sat) TACONIC CREST TRAIL (TCT) TRAIL WORK (B)

We'll cover the section of the TCT from Robinson Hollow to Madden Road. This will involve blowdown removal and drainage work. This trip will include an overall elevation gain of about 1000' and about 8 miles round trip. How much trail work we do will determine how far we go. Regardless, we'll plan to be back at the trailhead by 4:00 p.m. Bad weather postpones to the following day or weekend. Leader: Dave Pisaneschi, 459-5969, dapadk@gmail.com

Apr 11 (Tue) MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETING

Education Session at 6:30 p.m. - Backpack fitting workshop.

Program at 7:30 p.m. - Four National Parks in Alaska: Denali, Glacier Bay, Kenai Fjords and Katmai with Jake Bortscheller.

Apr 14 (Fri) BAXTER AND GILLIGAN MOUNTAINS (B)

We did this trip two years ago and had an absolute hoot! Time to do it again. Baxter Mountain offers an absolutely delightful 2.2 mile round-trip with 770' of elevation gain. We found that Gilligan provides an equally glorious walk - also 2.2 miles round trip with 670' of elevation gain. The total for the day will be 4.4 miles with a total of 1440' of ascent. This trip will have a slight change from the previous one - this time we will bring our lunch and eat in between the climbs. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Northway Exit 9 Park & Ride. Leader: John Antonio, 462-2765

Apr 15 (Sat) MOUNT TREMPER (B)

This is a round-trip hike to a Catskill fire tower. There are nice views from the tower. The hike will be six miles with 1966' of elevation gain. Leader: Tim Kase, 766-4264, timkase@hotmail.com

Apr 19 (Wed) ZIM SMITH TRAIL SPRING PEDAL (C)

I like to stay off the hiking trails during mud season so I concentrate on pedals and paddles. The Zim Smith Trail running from Halfmoon to Ballston Spa is my standard spring cycling kick-off. There are about 28 miles of pedaling, but I organize the trip into three spurs so you can do as much or as little as your spring stamina allows. We will meet at Shenantaha Creek Park off Eastline road in Malta at 10:00 a.m. This makes a nice central location for those spurs. We will start off going south to the southern end of the trail. This segment is about 11 miles round-trip. The very southern portion is packed gravel, but fine for most road bikes. All the rest of the trail is paved. The second segment will be either the section from Round Lake to Rte 9 by the Technology Park, or the route to Ballston Lake Veterans bikeway. Which route we take will be decided that day by participants depending on several factors. The final loop will be about 9 miles round-trip from Shenantaha Park to Ballston Spa. I rated this a C trip because you can keep this trip under 15 miles if you like. We will have a picnic lunch (BYO) at the park. The restrooms are usually not open at this time of year, but Stewart's is right on the bike path very close by. E-mail sign-ups are preferred. Leader: Paul Breslin, 810-8970, tripswithpaul@gmail.com

Apr 19 (Wed) KIBBY POND (C+)

Kibby pond is a short hike of 4 miles round-trip, up a long ridge with 600' elevation gain, and then down to the shore of this pretty little pond. The trailhead is on Rt. 8, west of Bakers Mills. Contact Jean after April 5. Leader: Jean Quattrocchi, jeanquattrocchi@gmail.com, 424-7980.

Apr 20 (Thu) ALBANY COUNTY RAIL TRAIL (B)

We will explore the new trail from Albany to Voorheesville. The route runs along the Normanskill Creek cataract ravine under the Thruway, through Delmar and by rural woodlots west to Voorheesville. The trail is paved from Albany to Slingerlands and hard dirt/gravel the rest of the way. It is suitable for mountain bikes and hybrids. Plan on 19 miles round-trip. I expect to start midway so we can do the paved portion first [11 miles] and do the rest as a chaser. Bring a snack and water. A Stewart's shop is near the end in Voorheesville, if anyone needs a stop. Leader: Charlie Beach, 459-9127, cjqu7@verizon.net

**Apr 22 (Sat) PALMERTOWN
MOUNTAIN RANGE AT
MOREAU STATE PARK (B)**

This loop hike will start at Spier Falls Road, the boat Launch entrance for the Hudson River. We will hike to the Overlook for a view of Moreau Lake then continue southwest, dropping down to the Western Ridge Trail for views of the Hudson River. It will be a 7 mile loop hike with about 1190' of elevation gain -- a nice way to spend Earth Day. Contact the Leader by email only, for details, and provide your most recent hiking experience. Leader: Phil Seward, 527-1851, flipsbliss17@yahoo.com

**Apr 22 (Sat) EARTH DAY IN THE PINE
BUSH**

Come celebrate Earth Day by volunteering on a conservation project in the Pine Bush. A variety of activities suitable for all ages will be taking place. I'll be focused on a specific parcel that is in need of clean-up. This includes part of the Kaikout Kill drainage where tires, scrap metal, cans and bottles have been dumped. The parcel has recently been purchased from the County of Albany by the Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy. Their link is: mohawkhudson.org.

The Discovery Center and Preserve staff will direct and supervise volunteers, so all volunteers should meet at the Pine Bush Preserve Discovery Center, 195 New Karner Road, prior to 9:00 a.m. All equipment will be provided. Please dress appropriately for the weather and outside working conditions, and bring drinking water. If participants have waders, they could prove useful. The Kaikout Kill drainage can be muddy. Lunch will be provided for all volunteers. Please register through the Pine Bush web site link:

www.albanypinebush.org/discovery-center.

Leader: Mark Plaat, 462-4062,

mplaat1@nycap.rr.com

Apr 23 (Sun) YOKUN RIDGE (C+)

Near Lenox, Massachusetts, this ridge offers a system of interconnecting trails with a choice of routes. Depending on the combination of trails we choose, there will be either very little elevation gain or a few hundred feet. Either way, it will be a C+ hike of about 5 to 6 miles, with lots of pretty trail and scenic overlooks. We may even stop in Lenox after the hike for either coffee or ice cream, depending on the weather that day. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Defreestville Park & Ride. Leader: John Sheehan, 674-8121, jgsheehan01@yahoo.com

**Apr 25 (Tue) EVENING PADDLE MOHAWK
RIVER LOCK 7 (B)**

Be on the water before 6:00 p.m. We will paddle upstream past interesting cliffs. From the Northway, drive west on Rt.7 for 4.5 miles, turn right on Mohawk Road and go to the end. Take a left on Rosendale Road for a short distance, then take a right on Lock 7 Road. As you approach the lock, bear left to the boat launch. No need to sign up - just show up! See General Info for Evening Paddling Trips. Leaders: Don Orr, 421-3389, orrd@nycap.rr.com & Pamela Bentien, 421-7247, auntmayor@aol.com

**Apr 25 (Tue) NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION
& OPEN HOUSE**

Don't miss this semi-annual event, held from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the William K. Sanford Town Library, 629 Albany-Shaker Road in Colonie. Designed for new members and anyone who is interested in finding out more about the Adirondack Mountain Club, the Open House showcases all that ADK offers. Attendees have the opportunity to meet experienced hike Leaders, paddlers, and outdoor enthusiasts, and to learn more about the Club's efforts to promote conservation, advocacy, recreation, education and stewardship of the State's wilderness areas. Food, refreshments and raffle prizes will be provided! Leader: Doug Rosenberry, 265-6018, membership@adk-albany.org

**Apr 26 (Wed) HARLEM VALLEY RAIL
TRAIL (B)**

I offer a bike ride every April, when mud season makes hiking difficult. I have not listed this beautiful ride since 2012. It's time to go back! The Harlem Valley Rail Trail passes through a diverse and scenic rural landscape. The trip will be 22 miles round-trip from the town of Millerton to Wassaic and back. Let's hope for one of those perfect sunny spring days. Email contact preferred. Leader: Virginia Boyle Traver, 322-0950, virginiabt28@gmail.com

Apr 29 (Sat) HUNTER MOUNTAIN (B+)

This is a loop hike to a Catskill fire tower. It's a very tall tower with excellent views. Summit elevation is 4046 feet. The hike will be a little over 8 miles with 1900' of elevation gain. Leader: Tim Kase, 766-4264, timkase@hotmail.com

Apr 30 (Sun) SCHODACK ISLAND PADDLE (B)

Meet at the creekside at Schodack Island State Park. Plan to be in the water and ready to go by 9:00 a.m. There is a 6-foot high tide at 8:29 a.m. and a low tide at 3:18 p.m. so we'll have plenty of time to explore in high water and still ride the tide both ways. This trip is best for touring kayaks, but strong canoeists are welcome.

Leader: Dave Pisaneschi, 459-5969, dapadk@gmail.com

May 1 (Mon) KAYDEROSSERAS CREEK (B)

This pleasant flowing stream from Ballston Spa to Saratoga Lake can be quite an attractive run in the spring. There are a few short rapids in the first half. We plan to paddle this length (9.5 miles) plus another 1 mile to take out on the lake, or we'll do less depending on the water level. An additional side trip to Lake Lonely can be considered if there is interest. Expect to encounter some tree blockage requiring portage or push-through. This is suitable for kayaks and canoes. Participants must be able to maneuver their boats around obstructions, which can be hazardous in flowing water situations. Dress appropriately for cold water. PFDs are required. When signing up, please advise me of previous stream paddling experience. Adverse weather conditions and/or high water will postpone the trip.

Leader: Charlie Beach, 459-9127, cjqnu7@verizon.net

May 3 (Wed) MOUNT GREYLOCK (B+)

The last time we tackled Greylock in January, and this route "beat us down." We were really slammed with difficult conditions and promised to return and prevail. The plan is to start at the "pastoral Haley farm" and take the Hopper Trail to the summit. The total distance is 8.5 miles with 2390' of elevation gain. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Brunswick Walmart Park & Ride.

Leader: John Antonio, 462-2765

May 6 (Sat) BIG INDIAN & EAGLE (A)

Big Indian is considered one of the trailless peaks in the Catskills and has a canister, even though the bushwack is short. We'll hike in from the Seager trailhead along one of the more scenic trails in the Catskills. Big Indian is #19 and Eagle is #29 on the list of Catskill 3500 peaks. The distance is approximately 12 miles (mostly on trail) with 2000 to 2500' of ascent. Leader: John Susko, 383-1284, jpsusko@netzero.net

May 6 (Sat) "I LOVE MY PARK" DAY IN THACHER STATE PARK (B)

I LOVE MY PARK DAY will again be held at Thacher State Park. Activities will include general park clean-up, roadside clean-up on Rt. 157, gardening, and other park maintenance projects. More details, including meeting time and location, will follow as they become available. All participants are asked to register on the N.Y. Parks & Trails website (PTNY.org). Also, information can be obtained from the Park Office at 872-1237. Leader: Jim Schaller, 861-7452, jims2999@yahoo.com

May 6 (Sat) CORNING PRESERVE RIVER CLEANUP (B)

This year our annual clean up event will join with The Riverkeeper's event. It is held all along the Hudson River. Among the sites is the Corning Preserve Boat Launch in Albany, just off I-787. If you would like to help that day, save the date and stay tuned for specific times and ways to register. Look for a link on our website that will be available in early April. Registration will be through the Riverkeeper event and Leader. Please review the Paddling guidelines for our events. You should have a whistle, and a PFD must be worn while on the water. Gloves, boots, snacks and water are helpful. There is also a bike path clean-up from that same location that day. Leaders: Marilyn Pusatere, 588-5953, canoeahn@aol.com & Ellen Luchsinger, 235-5526, kayakerl@yahoo.com.

May 9 (2nd Tue) CHAPTER ANNUAL BANQUET

The Century House, 997 New Loudon Road,
Latham, NY
6:00 P.M. to 9:30 P.M.
See more information on page 18 and 19.

May 10 (Wed) GOOSE POND PADDLE (B)

This is a new paddle outing for me. Let's discover it together! Lower Goose Pond in Lee, Massachusetts, is owned by the Trustees of Reservations. Summer homes and cottages dot its shoreline. Upper Goose Pond is owned by the National Park Service and managed by the Appalachian Mountain Club. This pond is very wild. If we paddle the length of both ponds, we will go 12 miles round-trip. We'll consider wind and water conditions when we get there. Email contact preferred. Leader: Virginia Boyle Traver, 322-0950, virginiaabt28@gmail.com

**May 10 (Wed) EVENING PADDLE
BALLSTON LAKE (C)**

We will put in at Villago's launch at 175 Lake Road. We have an arrangement for no launch fee with PCM at Villago. We will paddle to the end of the lake and back. Be on the water at 6:00 p.m. Required items for each paddler include a securely fastened PFD, whistle, and white light. Leaders: Alison Saville, 899-4031, saville1127@gmail.com & Ellen Luchsinger, 235-5526, kayakerl@yahoo.com

May 11 (Thu) HUYCK PRESERVE (B)

We will explore the three loop trails at the preserve. The trails go along old pine plantations, hardwood forests, stone walls, creeks and wetlands. The distance is 8 miles with 1000' of cumulative gain. Leader: Martha Waldman, 869-5109, martha829r@aol.com

**May 12 (Fri) ASHWILLTICOOK RAIL
TRAIL (B)**

This old favorite between Lanesborough and Adams has a new 1.2 mile extension on the north end. It is a scenic route, especially in the spring, along Cheshire Reservoir and a branch of the Hoosac River. This would make it a 24.4 mile round trip ride. Leader: Charlie Beach, 459-9127, cjnqu7@verizon.net

May 13 (Sat) SUGARLOAF MOUNTAIN (B+)

This is a loop hike over a Catskill High Peak. Summit elevation is 3810'. The top has a very good view point. We'll visit the interesting Dibble's Quarry on the way out. The hike will be seven miles with 1760' of elevation gain. Leader: Tim Kase, 766-4264, timkase@hotmail.com

**May 16 (Tue) EVENING PADDLE - HUDSON
RIVER - BETHLEHEM (B)**

Be on the water before 6:00 pm. Low tide is at 4:11 and high tide is at 9:37 with a sunset at 8:11 p.m. This will give us plenty of time to explore the three creeks close to the launch - the Vlomans Kill, Moordener Kill and the Papscaanee Creek. Take the Thruway to Exit 22. After the tollbooth, take Rt. 144 north for about 1 mile, then take a right on Barnet Winne Road to the boat launch next to Henry Hudson Park. No need to sign up - just show up! See General Info for Evening Paddling Trips. Leaders: Tom McGuire, 391-0508, tommcg1@gmail.com & Lauren Jacobson, 860-2140, ljacobso@nycap.rr.com

May 17 (Wed) MOXHAM MOUNTAIN (B)

We may be able to fit this hike in between mud season and black fly season. This hike is about 6 miles with about 1000' of elevation gain. It has a steep climb in the beginning, then gradual elevation gain along a ridge with plenty of view points. Meet 8 a.m. at the Northway Exit 9 Park & Ride. Leader: John Sheehan, 674-8121, jgsheehan01@yahoo.com

**May 17 (Wed) MOHAWK RIVER/VISCHER
FERRY PRESERVE SPRING
PADDLE (C)**

If you want to successfully paddle the Vischer Ferry Preserve and Wager Pond, you have to get there early in Spring before the water chestnuts take over. This will be a leisurely paddle that will allow us to explore this area. I have not done this in several years. We may have some downed trees to negotiate, and there is a place where we need to portage over a roadway in the Preserve. A sense of adventure and willingness to accept what nature gives us is a must to enjoy this trip. Last time I got to witness giant carp as they jumped high out of the water trying to shake their eggs loose. We will determine the put-in place as we get closer to the time of the trip. A 10 a.m. start should work well. We will be on the Saratoga side of the river. This is a surprising habitat to see both nature (lots of birds) and history with the Erie Canal Infrastructure. There are limited places to get in and out of boats along this route. E-mail sign-ups are preferred. Leader: Paul Breslin, tripswithpaul@gmail.com, 810-8970.

**May 20 (Sat) ROSS, BIG BAD LUCK AND
WHORTLEBERRY PONDS (B)**

These are three beautiful ponds in the Hudson Gorge Wilderness off Rt. 28, six miles before you reach Indian Lake. The hike is 8.3 miles round-trip, with an elevation gain of 900'. This is a very quiet area into beautiful wilderness and a great place for lunch. Contact the Leader by email only for details, and provide your most recent hiking experience. Leader: Phil Seward, 527-1851, flipsbliss17@yahoo.com

May 20 (Sat) WILDFLOWER HIKE (B)

We'll find a hike in the Catskills or Berkshires to look for wildflowers and maybe some blooming mountain laurel. We'll hike around 7 miles with 1000' of elevation gain. Leader: Leslie Siegard, 577-3468, siegard3@netscape.com

May 20 (Sat) SPRUCE MOUNTAIN FIRE TOWER (C+)

For those who love short hikes with fire towers--and who doesn't?--this is the one for you. With a total elevation gain of about 1000' and a round-trip distance of 3 miles, Spruce Mountain is the perfect hike for a Saturday morning. Please email me no later than Thursday, May 18. This is a joint outing with the Taconic Hiking Club.

Leader: Cliff Prewencki, 768-2907, cprewencki@aol.com

May 21 (Sun) SNOWY MOUNTAIN (B+)

At 3900 feet, Snowy falls just short of the High Peak status. The hike begins with a gentle stroll near a brook. After a mile or so it gets steeper. There is a rugged plateau near the summit. The summit provides a good view of Indian Lake to the east. If we get a clear day, we could see the High Peaks to the north. The round trip distance is just short of 8 miles with a vertical rise of

2200'. Leader: Robert Priest, 489-7472, rpriest001@nycap.rr.com

May 23 (Tue) EVENING PADDLE - ROUND LAKE (C)

We will paddle around Round Lake, and may explore Ballston Creek inlet. We will paddle down and up the Anthony Kill, returning by paddling across the lake. Be on the water at 6:00 p.m. Required items for each paddler include a securely fastened PFD, whistle, and white light. Leaders: Alison Saville, 899-4031, saville1127@gmail.com & Marie Rosenblatt, digthedacks@gmail.com

May 28 (Sun) SUSQUEHANNA RIVER SOJOURN (C)

Paddle about 8 miles of flat water on the Susquehanna River near rural Cooperstown, NY. The river was the setting for the 1779 Clinton-Sullivan expedition, and that event is commemorated by the General Clinton Canoe Regatta each May. In the early 1800s the region was made known to others by author James Fenimore Cooper in his Leatherstocking Tales. Plan for a social after the paddle. Leader: Ellen Luchsinger, 235-5526, kayakerl@yahoo.com

May 31 (Wed) EVENING PADDLE-FLIGHT LOCK ROAD (C)

Be on the water before 6:00 p.m. From Waterford, drive west on Rt. 97, take a left on Flight Road and drive past Lock 6 to the boat launch at Canal Park at road's end. No need to sign up, just show up! See the Cloudsplitter General Info for Evening

Paddle Trips. Required items for each paddler include a securely fastened PFD, whistle, and white light. Leaders: Neil Cherkosly, 383-7800, UpstateNC@aol.com & Cathy Snopkowski, 3694361, cricket808285@gmail.com

Jun 3 (Sat) CONE-TO-CONE BIKE RIDE (C)

Join Alison and Joe to ride along the Warren County Bikeway. This is a beautiful paved bike path with some gradual hills, moderate ride, and 14 miles round trip. We will start in Queensbury and ride north to Lake George Village. We will eat our packed lunches while we enjoy a view of the lake and have an ice cream cone. The return ride will follow the same bike path, and we will have an opportunity to have another cone at Sprinkles! Leader: Alison Saville, 899-4031, saville1127@gmail.com

Jun 3 (Sat) BLACK MOUNTAIN (B)

This hike is 8.5 miles, with 1100' of elevation gain. It's not too far away from home, on the east side of Lake George. From what I remember, the views are expansive. Please send information about your recent hiking experience. Leader: Kathy Sheppard, rzantshep@gmail.com, 765-2657.

Jun 3 (Sat) NATIONAL TRAILS DAY- THACHER PARK (B)

National Trails Day will again be held in Thacher Park. Activities will include brushing back hiking trails, updating markings on trails, and miscellaneous trail maintenance. More details to come, such as meeting time and location, as they become available. For information and registration call the Park office at 872-1237.

Leader: Jim Schaller, 861-7452, jim2999@yahoo.com

Jun 10 (Sat) SPRINGHILL PONDS (B)

These ponds are in the Pharaoh Lake Wilderness area. The hike is a 6.8-mile round-trip with about 875' of elevation gain. We will start from the trailhead on West Hague Road, off Rt.8 in the Town of Hague. Contact the Leader by email only for details, and provide your most recent hiking experience. Leader: Phil Seward, 527-1851, flipsbliss17@yahoo.com

Jun 10 (Sat) BATTENKILL PADDLE (B)

We plan to paddle 12-16 miles on a section of the Battenkill 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. PFD's are required. Please advise the Leader of your fast/flowing water experience when signing up. Leader: Charlie Beach, 459-9127, cjnu7@verizon.net

Jun 12 (Mon) PEDAL CRESCENT BRIDGE TO LOCK 7 POWER PLANT (C)

Parts of this route have been around for several years. However, a large grant was used to create an off-road paved multi-use path from Clamsteam Road, under the Twin Bridges and along an overgrown section of the old Erie Canal. This path eventually connects with the towpath in the Vischer Ferry Preserve. A route through the Preserve has been expanded to become paved from end to end. We should be able to use this new trail along with the existing trail, making a nice 18 mile out-and-back route. There may be some travel required on the VERY low-trafficked Canal Road between the end to the Halfmoon trail and Clamsteam Road. We will meet at the Halfmoon end of our route at the large parking lot on the northeast side of the Crescent Bridge (Rt. 9) at 10 a.m. The path starts there and goes under the bridge. The Halfmoon segment and the route from Ferry Road to the end are crushed stone. Hybrid bikes will be better than road bikes. This will be a leisurely trip allowing time for exploring this new route and enjoying the sights along the way. We will have a picnic (BYO) along the river on the way back in the Vischer Ferry Preserve. E-mail sign-ups are preferred. Leader: Paul Breslin, tripswithpaul@gmail.com, 810-8970.

Jun 13 (Tue) MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETING

Education Session at 6:30 p.m. - Summer Gear Sale.
Program at 7:30 p.m. - Potpourri Night.

Jun 14 (Wed) ROUND MOUNTAIN (B)

We tried this in February and had to cancel due to weather, so let's try again in the spring. Round Mountain is one of those low peaks with High Peaks views. The hike will be 5 miles round-trip (no pun intended) with about 1500' of elevation gain from the Ausable Club. The summit, at 2800' offers great views of the Dix Range, the Great Range and the Giant Mountain wilderness area. Meet 8 a.m.at

the Northway Exit 9 Park & Ride. Leader: John Sheehan, 674-8121, jgsheehan01@yahoo.com

Jun 14 (Wed) EVENING PADDLE - CORNING PRESERVE (B)

Be on the water before 6:00 p.m. We will paddle from the Corning Preserve boat launch south to explore the Port of Albany. With some luck we may see peregrine falcons, which nest on the Dunn Memorial Bridge, and/or bald eagles. Driving south on I-87 into Albany, take the Colonie Street exit and take the first left into the parking lot. No need to sign up, just show up! See the Cloudsplitter General Info for Evening Paddle Trips. Required items for each paddler include a securely fastened PFD, whistle, and white light. Leaders: Celia Murray, 225-9902, celiaam@aol.com & Neil Cherkosly, 383-7800, UpstateNC@aol.com

Jun 17 (Sat) WESTKILL MOUNTAIN (B)

This is one of the more attractive hikes in the Catskills with good views near the top and trails which follow two streams. The trail over Westkill provides the opportunity to spot cars and make this a through hike for more variety. The distance is 6-8 miles with 2000' of ascent. Leader: John Susko, 383-1284, jpsusko@netzero.net.

Jun 17 (Sat) ALCOVE RESERVOIR BIKE RIDE (B)

This is one of my favorite get-in-shape bike rides. We'll ride 20 - 25 miles around the Alcové Reservoir for beautiful views of the reservoir and the Blackhead Mountains. Leader: Leslie Siegard, 577-3468, siegard3@netscape.com

Jun 18 (Sun) WHITEFACE AT AN EASY PACE (A)

We will take the longer, less traveled route to the summit of Whiteface. The trail begins near Connery Pond. The first 3 miles are gentle up, then down. We will come to Whiteface Landing, a scenic spot on the shore of the big Lake Placid. The next mile is a little steeper, and steadily uphill, to the Whiteface lean-to. The last 2 miles present a rugged High Peaks ascent. We may not see a soul on the trail, but we will have company at the summit, due to the road leading up from the other side of the mountain. The summit provides a panoramic view of the entire northern section of Adirondack Park. Great views of the other High Peaks appear to the south. The total round trip distance is 12 miles, with 3200' of ascent. Leader: Robert Priest, 489-7472, rpriest001@nycap.rr.com

Jun 20 (Tue) EVENING PADDLE MOHAWK RIVER KIWANIS PARK (B)

Be on the water before 6:00 p.m. We could go downstream and around Dalys Island and/or go upstream to Lock 9, passing the Mabee Farm. We could even go downstream and go through Lock E8 and back if there is enough interest. The Mabee House dates back to 1670 and is the oldest standing building in the Mohawk Valley. Take Exit 1A off I-890 to Rt.5S in Rotterdam and take a right into Kiwanis Park soon after leaving the highway ramp. No need to sign up - just show up! See General Info for Evening Paddling Trips. Leaders: Don Orr, 421-3389, orrd@nycap.rr.com & Sally Dewes, 346-1761, stanger01@gmail.com

Jun 20 - 22 SKYLIGHT MT WOMEN'S BACKPACK (A+)

Skylight Mountain is on my "do again" list, because the weather was ghastly hot the day I did it for my 46. Join me for a backpacking High Peaks adventure! On Day 1, we will drive up and hike 3.4 miles into Avalanche Camps on Marcy Brook, where we will pitch our tents. Day 2 will be for the mountain, a round-trip distance of 11.4 miles at a relaxed pace to the summit, and back to the campsite. Day 3, we will hike the 3.4 miles back out and drive home. Total ascent from the Adirondack Loj parking lot to the summit of Skylight is just over 4000'. Weather conditions are crucial to this outing. Contact Leader with backpacking and High Peaks experience. Leader: Virginia Boyle Traver, 322-0950, virginiaabt28@gmail.com

Jun 24 (Sat) NEW RUSSIA TRAVERSE (A+)

This unique, demanding and rewarding longer ridge approach to Rocky Peak Ridge and Giant is a rare treat in the Adirondacks. In some ways it is more similar to ridge walks in the states of New Hampshire or Maine along the Appalachian Trail. There are wonderful vistas. We will get an early start and take advantage of the long hours of daylight on this June day. With any luck we may run across some blooming Lady's Slippers or Moccasin Flowers along the trail. Extremely hot weather will change our plans as this route does not have abundant water sources. A car shuttle will be necessary so we will need at least two drivers. Please contact the Leader on or before Thursday June 22nd if interested. No calls after 9:00 p.m. please. Leader: Keith Martin, 859-9018, kdm46r@gmail.com

Jun 27 (Tue) EVENING PADDLE - HUDSON RIVER/COEYMANS (C)

Be on the water before 6:30 p.m. We will explore the mouth of Hannacroix Creek and the shores of Schodack Island State Park where bald eagles are often seen. Take the Thruway to Exit 22. After the tollbooth, take a right on Rt. 144 south for about 4 miles, then take a left on Westerlo Street to Coeymans Landing boat launch. No need to sign up - just show up! See General Info for Evening Paddling Trips. Leaders: Alan Mapes, 817-1512, alanmapes@gmail.com & Marilyn Pusatere, 588-5953, canoeahn@aol.com



IN APPRECIATION...

Many thanks to the volunteers who helped make this issue possible: Virginia Boyle Traver for notifying the leaders and monitoring outings, Mark Plaat for his excellent organizational skill and help with the outings files, Chris Imperial for help with the Echoes, and Gail Carr for her consistent generosity in donating her artwork for the cover illustrations. Their efforts are appreciated!

CONSERVATION NOTES

This is reprint of an article written by Phil Brown which appeared in ADIRONDACK ALMANACK.

Judge Orders Trial In Forest Preserve Snowmobile Trail Case As of this writing (February 2nd) the State Supreme Court has ruled that Protect the Adirondacks' lawsuit against the state over the legality of "community-connector" snowmobile trails in the Forest Preserve should go to trial. In a decision signed January 25, Justice Gerald Connolly denied motions to decide the case without a trial, saying there are factual disputes that must be sorted out through a trial. Protect the Adirondacks contends that the community-connector trails – which are nine feet wide (or 12 feet on curves) and often graded – violate Article 14, the clause in the state constitution mandating that the Forest Preserve "shall be forever kept as wild forest lands." Protect says tens of thousands of trees will be cut for the trails and this number exceeds the threshold set in earlier court decisions, most notably *Association for the Protection of the Adirondacks v. MacDonald*, which the Court of Appeals, the state's highest tribunal, issued in 1930. The state contends Protect's numbers are inflated, partly because the two sides disagree over the definition of a tree. Protect is suing the state Department of Environmental Conservation, which is creating the snowmobile trails, and the Adirondack Park Agency, which authorized them. Both Protect and the state attorney general's office, which is representing the agencies, filed motions for summary judgment, arguing that no trial was needed to decide the dispute. Connolly's decision denying summary judgment cited, among other cases, *Friends of Thayer Lake, LLC v. Brown*. In that case, the plaintiffs sued Phil Brown for trespass after he paddled through their property. Lower courts granted summary judgment and ruled in Brown's favor, but last year the Court of Appeals ordered a trial in the matter. It is still pending. In a new release by Peter Bauer, Protect's executive director, he said about Connolly's ruling: "This decision shows the seriousness and merits of our arguments. The court refused the state's demand to dismiss our case."

We would like to thank the staff of ADIRONDACK ALMANACK for their excellent work and for keeping everyone well informed.

If you have questions or want to know more about these issues, please contact David Pisaneschi at: dapadk@gmail.com or 459-5969. For updates on conservation issues of concern to ADK members, please visit the chapter website at: <http://www.adk-albany.org/conservationNotes.php>



Albany ADK Members Annual Photo Contest



The Albany Chapter of ADK presents the **Albany ADK Members Annual Photo Contest**. Some of the most beautiful images of our natural world are captured through the camera lenses of Albany ADK members. For the contest, we invite you to submit your photos in any of the following four categories:

1. Scenic Nature
2. People Outdoors
3. Wildlife
4. Wildflowers/Fungi

Only current Albany Chapter Members are eligible to enter the contest. You may submit up to three photos in each category. Prizes will be presented at the Annual Banquet on May 9, 2017. You do not need to be present to receive your award. The deadline for submission of photos is April 14, 2017. Photos being submitted must be taken in the Northeast. We want ADK members to be able to visit and enjoy the general areas where the photos were taken. Some of the most dramatic and inspirational moments from nature can be captured in the Adirondacks, the Catskills, nature preserves, and other wilderness areas of the Northeastern states.

Photo Contest Prizes: The winners in each of the four categories (total of 12 prizes) will be chosen by an impartial judge. Each winner will receive one of the following prizes:

1st Place \$50 2nd Place \$25 gift certificate 3rd Place \$15 gift certificate

Please refer to the Albany Chapter website www.adk-albany.org for further details about the contest.

ECHOES FROM THE TRAIL

Dec 6 (Tues)

CHAPTER MEETING

Program Speaker: Scott VanLaer

Forest Ranger Scott VanLaer made a special trip to the “low country” to speak to the Chapter about his hobby of locating plane wrecks in the Adirondacks. There have been over 200 documented crashes since the early 1900s. Mr. VanLaer explained that his love for the Adirondacks began as a child when he tagged along with his father, who was also a Ranger. Mr. VanLaer has been a Ranger for over 20 years, most of them dedicated to the High Peaks. Early in his career, he was given a list of wrecks that had never been located. He thought he’d go down the list and find them all in a few weeks. He was wrong. It’s been years and he’s still searching. Through an interesting narration, coupled with photographs and newspaper articles, Ranger VanLaer detailed some of the most interesting wrecks, from civilian and military crashes, as well as those he had a hand in locating. Ranger VanLaer has searched in some of the most remote areas of the Park and even got to meet the family of a survivor of one crash. He is working on a book about his discoveries, but his job keeps getting in the way of finishing it!

Dec 10 (Sat)

INDIAN HEAD, COLVIN & BLAKE

Leader: Don Berens

Don Berens, John Clarkson, Doug Dederick, Henry Freuh, Sue Servatius, and Scott Tetreault gathered at St. Huberts under partly cloudy pre-dawn skies, with about 5 inches of snow on the ground and 15 degree temperatures. In the parking lot, we chanced to meet some other Albany Chapter members preparing for their own private hike. We began bare-booting before 7:00 a.m. At 8:00 a.m., while still on the Lake Road, we put on snowshoes. Views of High Peaks emerged from the clouds. Above the Lake Road, a pair of white-tail deer eyed us as we climbed a switchback around them. We passed some cliffs decorated with curtains of icicles. At Indian Head, we saw the Great Range and the Ausable Lakes, frozen and windswept clear of snow. Our mix of new and veteran snowshoers found the way up some of the icy ledges and foot-deep snow of Colvin’s northeast ridge to be fun, but challenging. We reached Colvin at 12:30 p.m. The leader decided that our overall speed would likely get us to Blake and back to Colvin in daylight, but that our descent over the challenging steeps would likely be with gathering darkness and fatigue. So we skipped Blake and began our descent at 12:50 p.m. Along the Lake Road, our waning sunlight was augmented by a waxing gibbous moon. We returned to the cars at 4:45 p.m., having used all nine hours of daylight and nearly another hour of twilight at the start and end of the day. Astronomical autumn sure looked wintry.

Dec 26 (Mon)

LOCAL, POST-HOLIDAY HIKE

Leader: Kathy Sheppard

We ended up having a group of five well prepared hikers for a post-holiday hike at Thacher State Park. Microspikes were definitely needed on this hike! We followed the Fred Schroeder trail to the overlook, then took the Long Path to Hang Glider Cliff, where the wind and weather kicked up a little. Luckily, we arrived at our cars before the freezing rain started. Our group included Patricia Driscoll, Howie Stoller, Ian Davis, Leanna Davis, and the leader, Kathy Sheppard.

Jan 11 (Wed)

SHAKER MOUNTAIN AND HOLY MOUNT

Leader: Virginia Boyle Traver

A forecast of heavy rain changed, just in time for us, to rain before our outing, no rain during the day, and rain again in the evening. Those in-between hours could not have been more beautiful. A clear blue sky made tree shadows across a thin but pristine snow cover. Using microspikes, we hiked through hardwood forests, while we learned about how the Shakers used the summits of these two rolling peaks for spiritual celebration. Although we couldn't admire the stone work completely due to the snow, we settled on one sturdy foundation wall for lunch. Enjoying a great outing in unexpectedly fabulous weather were Gary Blose, Sheryl Collins, Trisha Driscoll, Barry Gibbs, Jim Gorman, Sue Jordan, Pat McPhee, Catherine Regan, Claudia Rosenholz, Martha Waldman, and the leader.

Jan 14 (Sat)

SLEEPING BEAUTY AND EREBUS MOUNTAIN

Leader: Don Berens

We did not know what to expect. This winter's already low snowpack endured rain and a couple of 40+ degree days before a cold front swept in prior to this hike. The leader, Kevin Cox, Doug Dederick, and Nicole Gaibrois arrived at the icy Hogtown trailhead parking lot as the nearly full moon set and sun rose. It was 7 degrees and mostly sunny. It would rise to about 20 degrees and get cloudier, but never totally overcast. We wore microspikes all day. The seasonal road to Dacy Clearing and the old carriage road to the bottom of the Sleeping Beauty cliffs were both icy. The trail then switchbacked over ice, firm snow, and bare ground to the look-outs at the south end of the Sleeping Beauty summit ridge. We saw Crane and Gore Mountains beyond Lake George to the west, and to the north we saw the High Peaks from Emmons to Marcy to Gothics. We traversed the ridge northward with more views of the lake. We descended to Bumps Pond, the central node of the rough figure-eight of our route. From there we continued on the firm shallow snow to the high point of a trail northwest of Erebus Mountain. The crusty snow was up to a foot deep, but we continued on microspikes because of the frequent spruce thickets and steep spots where snowshoes would be an impediment. We found a steep gully through another cliff band guarding the summit which we reached before noon. Upon returning to the trail, we continued north and east to visit the lean-tos at Fishbrook Pond, then south past Bumps Pond again, and back to the parking lot. Thirteen miles, two mountains, two ponds, many views, and only one other hiker all day.

Jan 15 (Sun)

HADLEY MOUNTAIN

Leader: Nola Royce

The weather gods were working in our favor on this day, providing temps in the 20s and clear skies. Nine of us went to the summit of this lovely fire tower peak, some for the first time in winter. We spent almost a full hour on top, enjoying the views and lunch. It wasn't until we headed down that we saw any other hikers. It's such a treat to have the summit of a popular mountain to yourself and good weather in January. There was a little snow over the icy trail and that made for perfect footing with microspikes. There was no need to even think about snowshoes.

Feb 5 (Sun)

BLUE MOUNTAIN

Leader: Nola Royce

Six fellow hikers joined me on Blue Mountain and were treated to a winter wonderland. We used our snowshoes to ascend and microspikes to descend. There was a lot of rime ice on the tower and the trees were loaded with fluffy powder. The sun tried to come out and the temperatures were moderate, so we had time to enjoy photo ops at the summit along with lunch. Several people in the group were working on the Winter Fire Tower Challenge, so they are now one step closer to achieving their patch. Blue is always a great hike and relatively easy in winter. The conditions were ideal on this day. Thanks to Chandra, Christiane, Sue & Chris Hess, and Laura & Gary for joining me. We were all home in time for the Super Bowl, although I opted for an early night after watching a bit of the Puppy Bowl.

Available Teen Trails Scholarship from ADK Headquarters

- Jane C. Neale Scholarship Fund Provides one or more scholarships a year for high school students to participate in High School (Teen) Volunteer Trail Projects.
- Sean Kelleher Memorial Fund Provides one or more scholarships for a high school student to participate in one or more High School (Teen) Volunteer Trail Projects.
- Maegan E. Spindler Education Scholarship Fund Provides at least one scholarship annually for a high school or college student to participate in an ADK Education Program.
- ADK Woods Woman Scholarship Provides one or more scholarships a year for a young woman to participate in the High School (Teen) Volunteer Trail Projects.

ALBANY CHAPTER - OFFICERS and COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

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Socials	Vacant		
Trails	Gene Reilly	281-7796	techvalleytrekker@yahoo.com
Ways and Means	Sue Jordan	765-5564	suej9999@yahoo.com
Web Master	Ted Letcher	301-651-8244	webmaster@adk-albany.org
Wilderness	Dave Pisaneschi	459-5969	dapadk@gmail.com
Young Adults	Stephanie Graudons	332-4624	sgraudons@hotmail.com
	Josh Baker	728-6419	DI3aker@yahoo.com

MEET THE CANDIDATES FOR THE ALBANY CHAPTER ADK 2017-2018 OFFICERS



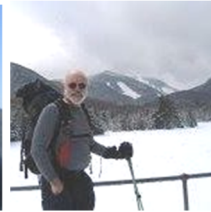
Chairman
Jim Slavin



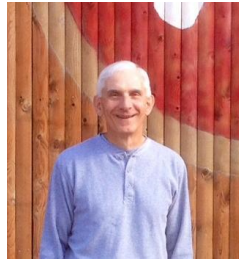
Vice-Chairman
Cliff Prewnecki



Treasurer
Jim Coward



Recording Secretary
Gerry Magnes



Member
at Large
Carl Klinowski



Member
at Large
Don Berens

To vote, see the Ballot form on page 19

**ADIRONDACK MOUNTAIN CLUB
ALBANY CHAPTER ANNUAL BANQUET
6:00 PM TO 9:30 PM, TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2017
CENTURY HOUSE
997 NEW LOUDON ROAD
LATHAM, NEW YORK 12110**

=====

**COME FOR A GREAT MEAL AND THE OPPORTUNITY TO MINGLE WITH FELLOW ADK SUPPORTERS!
WINNERS IN OUR PHOTO CONTEST WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT THE BANQUET. FOR INFORMATION, GO TO
THE CHAPTER WEBSITE .
ENTER THE RAFFLE FOR A CHANCE TO WIN THE STUNNING CARL HEILMAN PHOTOGRAPH OF THE HIGH
PEAKS!**



KEYNOTE SPEAKER--PETER BENOIT, LASAR

Members of LASAR, Lower Adirondack Search and Rescue, are dedicated to searching for lost people by using skills learned through extensive classroom education and field training. Peter, will give a fascinating presentation about his experience participating in a National Guard training mission over three days on the polar ice cap north of Greenland and about survival in extreme arctic weather conditions. He will also share his twenty-year observations of the melting ice cap in that region.

Peter is a 33-year member of the Glens Falls/Saratoga Chapter of ADK, and has been associated with The Lower Adirondack Search and Rescue Team for nearly as long. He can be reached through the group's website <http://www.lasarny.org/>.

BUFFET DINNER MENU
VEGETABLE CRUDITÉ AND DIP
SEASONAL GREENS WITH TOMATOES, CUCUMBERS, CARROTS AND BASIL VINAIGRETTE
MODERN CHICKEN CORDON BLEU, SEAFOOD SCAMPI, AND BEEF TIPS MAÎTRE D' BUTTER
SERVED WITH WILD RICE AND CHEF'S SEASONAL VEGETABLES
ROLLS AND BUTTER
SEASONAL COBBLER
COFFEE AND TEA

ADK ALBANY CHAPTER 2017 BANQUET REGISTRATION
RESERVATION DEADLINE IS MAY 4, 2017
COST IS \$40 FOR MEMBERS/\$50 FOR NON MEMBERS

ADIRONDACK MOUNTAIN CLUB
ALBANY CHAPTER ANNUAL BANQUET REGISTRATION FORM
6:00 PM TO 9:30 PM, TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2017

NAME(S) _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ EMAIL _____

COMMENTS :

NUMBER OF REGISTRATION ____ @ \$40 ____ @\$50

TOTAL \$ _____

RAFFLE TICKETS @ \$5 EACH/3 FOR \$10/7 FOR \$20

TOTAL \$ _____

GRAND TOTAL \$ _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO "ALBANY CHAPTER ADK," AND MAIL WITH THIS RESERVATION FORM TO:
ADK BANQUET, PO Box 2116, EMPIRE STATE PLAZA STATION, ALBANY, NY 12220

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT www.adk-albany.org

-----CUT HERE-----

Albany Chapter ADK Officers Slate for 2017-2018

To vote, check the box next to the candidate or write in the name of an alternate choice. Hand in your ballot at the
 June 13th chapter meeting or mail to:
 Albany Chapter ADK, PO Box 2116 ESP Station, Albany, NY 12220

Office	Candidate		Write In
Chairman	James Slavin	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Vice-Chairman	Cliff Prewnecki	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Treasurer	Jim Coward	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Recording Secretary	Gerry Magnes	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Members at Large to the Executive Committee (Select two)	Carl Klinowski	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Don Berens	<input type="checkbox"/>	

**Albany Chapter
Adirondack Mountain Club
P.O. Box 2116 Esp. Sta.
Albany, NY 12220**

Non-Profit Organization
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