



TRAIL WALKER

NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY TRAIL CONFERENCE...MAINTAINING OVER 1300 MILES OF FOOT TRAILS

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1999

Conference hires first NJ Field Representative

Expands our commitment to NJ volunteer programs and parks

The New York-New Jersey Trail Conference has expanded its staff with the hiring of our first-ever New Jersey Field Representative. Conference West Hudson trail crew leader Larry Wheelock was selected as the NJ Field Representative, and began work in mid-October at the four-day-a-week position.

This staffing expansion reflects the Trail Conference's commitment to improving our presence and effectiveness in New Jersey, and to providing better as-

sistance to our trail volunteers.

"The Trail Conference is delighted to welcome Larry as our first New Jersey staff," remarked Conference Projects Director Anne Lutkenhouse. "The job's inaugural year requires strong knowledge of trail work and volunteer labor issues, knowledge which Larry keenly possesses. We are confident that Larry will be an effective facilitator in furthering our mission in New Jersey."

Larry's key responsibilities will include coordinating a needs assessment for

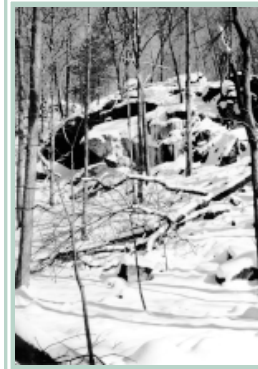
trails in each park, leading to developing an action plan for each park or trail system; improving trail stewardship and communications with park agencies; representing the Conference at agency and colleague organization meetings; developing a broader base of member involvement; and developing a management committee for the Fanny Highlands Trail Network.

Larry, a Trail Conference life member, joined the Conference in 1989, and began trail work shortly thereafter. He has been a West Hudson trail crew leader

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*Each moment of the year
has its own beauty...
a picture which was never
seen before
and which shall never be
seen again.*

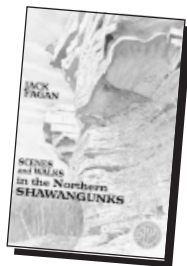
- Ralph Waldo Emerson



GLEN NISOM

**OUR WARMEST
WISHES FOR THE
HOLIDAY SEASON.**

For a seasonal hike to celebrate this time of year for expansive views, see page 3.



New TC editions include hardcover for the 'Gunks

The Trail Conference is pleased to announce the publication of revised editions of two of its books—*Harriman Trails: A Guide and History*, by William Myles, and *Scenes and Walks in the Northern Shawangunks*, by Jack Fagan. We are also proud to announce that, for the first time, the *Scenes and Walks* book, with its outstanding sketches of the scenic Shawangunks, will be available in a hardcover edition—a perfect Holiday gift!

Harriman Trails, which contains a detailed description of the numerous marked and unmarked trails in Harriman-Bear Mountain State Park, was last updated in 1994. Since then, there have been

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From the President's Notepad

Hiking into the new millennium

by Gary Haugland

When you read this I will have assumed the title of President of the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference. This is an incredible privilege, one that I could not have foreseen as I began my volunteer work some fifteen years ago when I represented the New York Section of the Green Mountain Club on the Orange-Rockland Appalachian Trail Management Committee and became a trail corridor monitor. Since, at that time, Elizabeth Levers chaired the committee, I was introduced to the many facets of trail work by a volunteer without peer. Tirelessly and relentlessly she pursued whatever had to be done to keep the AT

New TC President Gary Haugland



experience intact. She organized work trips and, slight as she was physically, lugged the tools and hardware and bags of cement with everyone else — and returned to plant saplings when the work was done. She wrote an endless stream of letters, of thanks and of protest, and got people to do her bidding without making them feel "used." You see, it was not about her. We were not doing anything for her. It was all for the trail and for the Trail Conference and for hikers everywhere. She was a great mentor to a lot of people, myself included.

I stand before you at a crucial juncture in the history of the Trail Conference. Neil Zimmerman has decided to step aside as president after 12 years — though not without a few final bangs of his gavel! His were years of incredible growth for the Trail Conference, expanding our responsibilities for hundreds of miles of trails, both north and south; building and strengthening our diverse partnerships; and introducing us to new land protection strategies. Such a transition in leadership will be difficult enough, but our long time executive director extraordinaire, JoAnn Dolan, is also leav-

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Farewell Party for JoAnn Dolan

Help celebrate her 19 years of service and contribute to a special fund for trail stewardship.

For details, see page 3

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Paul Leikin *Advertising Manager*

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NEW YORK - NEW JERSEY TRAIL CONFERENCE

Mission Statement

The New York-New Jersey Trail Conference, founded in 1920, is a federation of member clubs and individuals dedicated to providing recreational hiking opportunities in the region, and representing the interests and concerns of the hiking community. The Conference is a volunteer-directed public service organization committed to:

- Developing, building, and maintaining hiking trails.
- Protecting hiking trail lands through support and advocacy.
- Educating the public in the responsible use of trails and the natural environment.

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The New York-New Jersey Trail Conference is a volunteer, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. It is a federation of 88 hiking and outdoor groups, and 10,000 individuals.

LEETTERS

High Praise Indeed

I received my September/October issue of the *Trail Walker* a few days ago, and just had to write to let you know how great it looks! Every change – from the paper to the typeface to the layout – is a huge improvement. Congratulations on making a great publication even better, and best of luck to you as you lead the *Trail Walker* into the twenty-first century.

Alice Tufel
New York, NY

Alice Tufel is a former editor of the Trail Walker. - Thank you, Alice.

A Note of Appreciation

I love walking and the beauty and wonder of nature. But I belong to very few organizations. I am definitely not a "joiner."

A few years ago I discovered your books and really got into hiking. I also felt moved to join. I haven't been disappointed. You are a class operation. It's evident – in your correspondence, your solicitations, and even your handling of

orders – that you manage to capture and retain that old-time respect/manner that is so painfully lacking in today's world. It's noticed and appreciated. Please don't ever lose it.

Ronald Fontana
Flanders, NJ

Signs Offer Reassurance

I am struck by Victor Gabay's critical letter on Appalachian Trail signs. As an overseer for the trail, and a through-hiker, I have made and installed some very helpful signs that have aided lost hikers and drawn praises from Trail Conference members and hikers alike.

Mr. Gabay offers some insightful introspective points on geographical orientation and lay of the land romance. However, the reality of the AT is one where hikers who are totally unfamiliar with our area have hiked a long day and need to know where they are with certainty. The West Mountain shelter sign is a prime example of a faint side trail needing a sign to guide shelter seekers. I've read too many published reports of hikers missing

the faint side trail into the shelter and have even found a lost through-hiker in the dark who had gone a half-mile downhill after missing the junction.

Mr. Gabay should understand that the AT is well-signed throughout much of its length and the NY/NJ area stood out as a noticeable exception. From my through-hiking experience, I can say that nothing reassures and instills a feeling of trail organization more than a sign pointing you into a shelter in the pouring rain at dark. Also, signs at trail landmarks help a through-hiker determine what he has left in the day and how to approach it. In my experience, signs have an effect of psychological uplift, orientation, and achievement on a day long hike.

In my opinion, the trail signs on the AT will enable a better trail experience for hikers and represent the Trail Conference well.

Brian Doyle
Valley Cottage, NY

Brian is the AT Overseer for Harriman-Bear Mountain State parks.

Honoring Neil Zimmerman

All photos by Dan D'Errico

Karl Beard, New York Projects Director for the National Park Service's Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program, presented the most appropriate "leaving" gift of the evening - he aptly gave Neil "the boot," a well-Karl-worn hiking boot gilded for the special occasion. On a more serious note, Karl also presented Neil with the National Park Service's "Conservation Hero" award.

Carol Ash, Executive Director of the Palisades Interstate Park Commission, welcomed all to Bear Mountain, reminding us that the Trail Conference began here in 1920. Then Conference-VP Gary Haugland presented Neil with an original pen and ink sketch by Jack Fagan, author and artist of Scenes and Walks in the Northern Shawangunks, and a Congressional citation from Rep. Benjamin Gilman (R-20th). In his remarks, Neil recalled that the seeds of his Trail Conference service were sown in 1974 when he won a car in a raffle. To make use of it, he left Manhattan on weekends and "discovered" hiking in the wild lands of New York and New Jersey. The rest, he said, is history, but he did admonish all to "be careful if you win a car in a raffle!"

In late September, 240 Conference members and friends gathered at Bear Mountain to celebrate our trails heritage and to honor outgoing Conference President Neil Zimmerman's 12 years of leadership.

Neil Zimmerman's honors included a bit of good-natured roasting, led by Master of Ceremonies Christopher (Kim) Elliman, former president of the Open Space Institute. Neil Woodworth and Jo Benton, Counsel and Executive Director, respectively, of the Adirondack Mountain Club, presented Neil with club outerwear. Palisades Interstate Park Commission Deputy Director Kenneth Krieser conveyed congratulatory letters from both NY Governor George Pataki and NJ Governor Christine Whitman, saluting Neil's leadership of the Trail Conference. Here, Neil takes all the razzing in stride.

New Jersey State Park Service Assistant Director **Richard Barker** brought best wishes from the Department of Environmental Protection senior management staff in Trenton, and a collection of departmental logo outdoor wear, including a special "token of affection," a state park teddy bear (shown making its grand entrance).

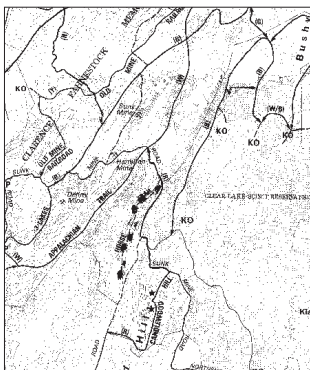
Seasonal views from Clear Lake Scout Reservation

When the leaves have dropped to the earth, a whole new world of vistas unfold for the hiker, revealing scenes previously hidden by the leafy gauze of greenery. To avail of the season, may we suggest the following hike in Putnam County's Clear Lake Scout Reservation. The seasonal ridgetop views of the lake and hills complement the rolling terrain and stone-fence-lined old woods roads, their contours depressed by the weight of countless heavily loaded wagons. The route is also great for cross-county skiing and snowshoeing.

Hiking in Clear Lake Scout Reservation is particularly nice in the leaf-off season when views are more open. Protruding into the southeastern section of Fahnestock State Park, the camp is owned by the Westchester-Putnam Council of the Boy Scouts of America. Under terms of a conservation easement, only the northern and western parts of the reservation are open to the public for hiking. Hikers must stay away from the area used by the scouts near Clear Lake. Pertinent intersections are clearly marked with signs saying: STOP - NO PUBLIC ACCESS. The area is not open to pets or bicycles. Bushwhacking is also prohibited. Most of the major intersections have maps of the area posted on large signs.

This 6.4-mile hiking circuit—following blue blazes, then white/blue blazes, then white blazes—begins in the southern portion of Fahnestock State Park, at the junction of Bell Hollow and Sunk Mine roads, where there is limited parking. (See Trail Conference map #3, grid E-5.) Please note: Sunk Mine Road is a rough, unmaintained road and is not plowed during the winter.

About 300 yards south of Bell Hollow woods road along Sunk Mine Road, the Blue Trail turns off to the right (north) from the Candlewood Hill Trail (red). It



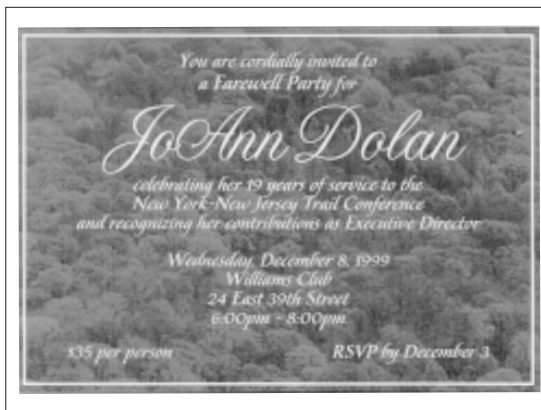
proceeds along a woods road for 0.2 mile and then turns sharply left off the road just before a gate. The trail climbs steadily until it reaches the ridgetop at 0.6 mile, where there is a wide, but seasonal, view.

At 1.0 mile there is an open view of Clear Lake below. Continue on the Blue Trail straight ahead. You pass one end of the Purple Trail at 1.5 miles. The junction with the Green Trail, which leaves the Clear Lake property almost immediately and proceeds left (north) into Fahnestock to connect with the Three Lakes Trail, is at 1.9 miles. From here, the Blue Trail follows a woods road heading south. You'll pass the White Trail branching off to the left at 2.1 miles, and the other end of the Purple Trail on the right at 2.4 miles. Shortly after crossing a stream, the part of the Blue Trail which is open to the public ends at the junction of the Blue-White Trail at 2.6 miles. Turn left onto the Blue-White Trail. At its end, at 2.9 miles, turn left onto the White Trail and continue until it ends at the Blue Trail, at 4.3 miles from the hike's beginning. Turn right onto the Blue Trail, and retrace your route along the ridge top southward to your car.

HELPFUL HIKING HINTS

- You always need water when hiking. Take at least a liter and drink it as you go!
- Snacks help to keep your energy level up.
- It's always a good idea to let someone know where you are going to hike, and when you expect to be back. Smart hikers do this no matter where they go.
- This trail is a footpath only - no bikes or horses.
- Sturdy, comfortable shoes which are broken in to your feet are best.
- Remember to bring clothes for all possible weather conditions forecast for that day. Being able to add, or subtract, clothing layers makes your journey much more comfortable.
- Now that autumn is here, daylight comes sooner - so start hiking in the morning, and take a flashlight just in case.

Trail information from the *New York Walk Book*. A map set is available from the Conference. See order from in the *Hikers' Marketplace* on page 8.



New York-New Jersey Trail Conference Farewell Party

Wednesday, December 8, 1999 at the Williams Club

A special JoAnn Dolan Stewardship Fund has been established for the management and care of our public trail lands. All contributions above the \$35 per ticket are tax deductible and will be placed in this fund.

Enclosed is my check total of \$ _____ Number of Guests _____ Tax-deductible contribution of \$ _____

Please print name(s) of attendee(s): _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Day _____ Evening _____

Checks should be made payable to: NY-NJ Trail Conference - RSVP by December 3, 1999 NY/NJ Trail Conference . 232 Madison Avenue . New York, NY 10016. 212/685-9699

Hall named as NJ superintendent for PIPC

James F. Hall, the former assistant commissioner for natural resources for the NJ Department of Environmental Protection, was recently appointed as the New Jersey superintendent for the Palisades Interstate Park Commission.

Hall worked closely with the Trail Conference on several trail projects in the State, most notably facilitating the Pochuck Creek footbridge project — part of a major Appalachian Trail relocation in Vernon Valley. He also helped to coordinate strategy and testimony for budget advocacy for increasing the stewardship and operations funding for the state parks through the TC's Pride In Our Parks initiative.

JoAnn Dolan, Conference executive director, remarked of Hall's appointment, "What a brilliant move by the Palisades Park Commission to appoint Jim Hall to this post. As the Commission expands its presence and activities in the NJ Highlands, Jim's experience with the legisla-

tive branch and the DEP will put him in a position to accomplish some critical land preservation transactions. The Trail Conference looks forward to building on our working relationship with him to augment public open space and to improve hiking trail systems within the Commission's jurisdiction."

As NJ superintendent, Hall will be responsible for stewardship of PIPC's lands and its park operations in the State. He plans to concentrate his efforts on land preservation and park administration. State legislation enacted last year expanded the PIPC's jurisdiction into the Highlands province counties of Passaic, Morris, Somerset, Hunterdon, and Warren. Thus, the Commission will be looking to expand its role in land acquisition and public land management in this area. Hall's experience as head of the Green Acres program for New Jersey will certainly be an asset in his new role.



from the executive director...

Extending my Trail Conference experience

The turn of the century – and certainly the millennium – brings about a desire to envision the future. What we know for certain is that in the next century, land will become precious, and that pressures on that land will intensify as populations grow. The Trail Conference's widespread trail network serves as an early warning system, alerting us to the destruction of wild places and to the opportunity to preserve these "zones of sanity" before it is too late. The Trail Conference is preparing for the challenges of this next century and, in the Conference tradition along with your support, it will uphold our trail legacy for future generations to enjoy.

Many of you have asked about my reasons for leaving the Trail Conference, knowing that this organization has been such an important part of my life. Actually, I am envisioning my personal future work as a natural extension of my past Trail Conference experience.

Before I married my husband, Paul, he was a Conference volunteer and introduced me to the organization. I began volunteering as well, and then served as Executive Director twice over the past 19 years – first in 1980-85 and then again in 1991 until now, with part-time consulting in between.

Raising three children while serving as Executive Director has been a juggling act that all parents perform. In my case, my oldest son, Jamie, now 14, went into our backpack carrier before he could hold his head up, and he has come to every town meeting about Sterling Forest since he was five months old. Peter, 11, accompanied me to hear Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt speak about saving Sterling Forest, and Thomas Sterling, 9, joined with the other two to climb Long Mountain to the Torrey Memorial and cut ribbons at trail openings. How fortunate I have been to weave a love of the land with my work and child-rearing.

Thinking about our children, and many others, has led Paul and me to begin putting much thought into planning the next stage of Sterling Forest – with a focus on using the Sterling Forest landscape for a dynamic blend of field science and the arts. Working with others, like the Sterling Forest Partnership, there are tremendous programs already beginning. Using the great natural resources

of the 15,000-acre park and the Appalachian and Highland Trails that run through the forest, a vision of Appalachian Trail founder Benton MacKaye's can become reality.

MacKaye envisioned 13 centers along the trail that would be a source of community life – places for recreation, recuperation and study. The communities served by Sterling Forest include the towns adjacent to the Park, as well as the greater metropolitan region. Only an hour away from the most important biological link in a major greenway lie many of the major science and art institutions in the country, with master teachers in their chosen fields.

For the first six months of the new millennium I plan to work with many groups on developing a strategic plan for educational programs at Sterling using the facilities at Arrow Park, the northern gateway to the Forest. Through creative and enriching programs, we hope to connect many more people to the larger landscape, and to engage people both young and old in the wonders of learning in the field. This next project builds on the opportunities I have had at the Trail Conference, and I welcome any ideas and support to make this next dream a reality.

I could not leave without a heartfelt "Thank You" to so many. I have been privileged to work with a very supportive Board of Directors, including two outstanding presidents, Don Derr and Neil Zimmerman. It has been a pleasure teaming with our small talented staff, who are crucial to the organization. I especially thank Projects Director, Anne Lutkenhouse, who has served the Conference for 13 years; Administrative Director, Judith Fulmer; and Trail Lands Coordinator, John Myers. The hundreds of volunteers who *are* the Trail Conference have been a constant source of inspiration and direction, and I am grateful for their friendship and advice. Office volunteers – like Paul Leiken, devoting one day a week for over 15 years, and Fred Lieberman, now coming in twice a week – are like family. I will miss you all. To my colleagues from other organizations, and to state and federal agency partners, my sincerest thanks for the fun of conspiring to succeed. And thank you to all our funders who have placed their trust in the Trail Conference. 🍀

– JoAnn Dolan

Current Appalachian Trail through-hiker Jacques d'Amboise, a former principal dancer with the New York City Ballet, and the founder of the National Dance Institute (NDI), came off-Trail in late August to spend a morning teaching about 100 Trail friends and community residents the joy of movement in general, and his specially-choreographed Appalachian Trail dance in particular. Trail Conference members who braved the 7:30 a.m. start time at Arrow Park, adjacent to Sterling Forest State Park, showed up with their "dance" boots on.



Everyone got into the spirit of the "free dance," when you made up your own steps. Here, d'Amboise picks up a trio with his son George (left) - through-hiking with Jacques - and Jamie Dolan, executive director JoAnn Dolan's son.



Conference member Stella Green, and her granddaughter, both of whom are now veteran Appalachian Trail dancers.



Jacques d'Amboise brings the Appalachian Trail Dance to Sterling Forest

A DAY TO REVEL IN MOVEMENT AND DANCE FOR JOY AT THE FOREST'S PRESERVATION

All photos by Dan D'Errico

Part of the event highlighted the role of volunteer maintainers in keeping public footpaths available for all to enjoy. Here, Trail Conference trail maintainers get a thank you from Jacques and George for making the trails available. Bottom row, from left: Gail Neffinger, Bob



Marshall, Trudy Schneider, Diane Butfilowski with daughter Lara and son Alexander. Back row, from left: JoAnn Dolan, Walt and Jane Daniels, John and Mary Yrizarry, Jacques d'Amboise, Ellen Weinstein, George d'Amboise, John Gebhards, Anne Lutkenhouse.




The exuberance was infectious!

Catskill trails available
Want to be a trail maintainer in our NYS Forest Preserve? Some trails are now available for new maintainers. For information, contact Catskill Trails Chairman Peter Senterman in care of the Trail Conference office, or at psenterman@pirmie.com.



Eric Hollman, maintainer of the Phoenicia-East Branch Trail in the Catskills, shown here with his "co-maintainer," sent in this photo remarking that "I am considering offering a training on developing canine volunteerism to expand our trail maintenance capabilities. Let me know if you think there is interest!" Well, Eric, we'll get back to you on this...

Long Path maintenance sections available
Want to be a Long Path trail maintainer? Some sections are available in Rockland County, NY. For more information, contact Long Path supervisor George Zobelein in care of the Trail Conference office.



Office Volunteer Help Wanted

Have you got time to spare? Come spend it with us! We have all kinds of office tasks that need doing, from special projects to stamping envelopes. We'll find just the right job for your talents. Meet lots of people, have a cup of tea, and feel good!

CALL THE OFFICE AT 212-685-9699 AND ASK FOR JUDITH.

TRAIL CREW SCHEDULES



- ❖ **HIGHLANDS TRAIL-NEW JERSEY**
What & Where: Continue building new sections of the Highlands Trail in New Jersey.
When: Sunday, November 7.
Leader: Bob Moss, 973-743-5203.
- ❖ **NEW JERSEY TRAIL CREW**
What & Where: Tackle a variety of projects ranging from trail repair to bridge building in NJ's parks and forests. Bring lunch, work gloves and a beverage.
When: Sundays, November 14 and December 12.
Leaders: Sandy Parr, 732-469-5109; Dick Warner, 201-327-4945.
- ❖ **WEST HUDSON TRAIL CREW**
Black Rock Forest
What & Where: Trail rehabilitation and erosion control on the Highlands Trail.

- When: Sunday, November 7.
Leader: Bob Marshall, 914-737-4792.

Harriman State Park #1
What & Where: Trail rehabilitation and erosion control on the Arden-Surebridge Trail.
When: Thursday, November 18.
Leader: Bob Marshall, 914-737-4792.

Harriman State Park #2
What & Where: Trail rehabilitation and erosion control on the Timp-Torne Trail.
When: Sunday, November 28.
Leader: Bob Marshall, 914-737-4792.

Storm King State Park
Note: As of press time, it was not known when Storm King State Park would re-open after clean-up of ordnance. The following worktrips may be canceled if public access is still closed. Call the crew leader for the latest in status of these work outings.
What & Where: Trail rehabilitation and erosion control on a new trail.
When: Sundays, November 14 and 21.
Leader: Larry Wheelock, 973-823-0166.



TRAIL NEWS

Black Rock hunting season
Black Rock Forest trails, including that portion of the Highlands Trail in the Forest, will be closed for deer hunting season from November 22 through December 14, inclusive. The Forest will re-open on December 15. For more details on the Black Rock hunting season, contact the Forest at 914-534-4517.

High Point Park special deer hunt
New Jersey's High Point State Park will have an 8-day special deer hunt, November 15-24. In addition, the day use area (north of Route 23) will be closed to all

Frank Bouton Shelter Dedicated
On September 18, family and friends of the late Frank Bouton, an avid and active member of the hiking and trail maintenance community, gathered to dedicate the new hiker shelter on the Peekamoose-Table Trail on Table Mountain in the Catskills. The shelter is about 3.5 miles from the Denning Trailhead parking area.



Route 23A closed
Catskills Trails Committee chairman Pete Senterman reports that Route 23A between Palenville and Haines Falls is now closed to all traffic (see the Conference's Catskill trail map #41, grids O/P-3/4). This closure, which is due to permanent repair work of damage caused by the January 1996 flood, could last until Thanksgiving.

Popolopen Creek bridge out
The footbridge over Popolopen Creek at Hell Hole was washed out as a result of Tropical Storm Floyd, interrupting access to the Torne from south of the creek. As of press time we have no timetable from the Palisades Interstate Park for its replacement.

other use except hunting from November 15-18. This includes all trails in that area, the Appalachian Trail as well. The Park will post signs at either end of that stretch of the AT directing hikers to use Rt. 23 and Rt. 519 as a temporary bypass.

Metro-North's Cold Spring et al trains now depart earlier
Metro-North's Saturday, Sunday, and holiday trains servicing Cold Spring, Garrison, and Beacon, with flag stops at

Manitou and Breakneck Ridge, now leave Grand Central Terminal earlier. The early train leaves at 7:52 a.m. (instead of 8:00 a.m.), and the former 9:00 a.m. train now departs at 8:50 a.m. Contact Metro-North at 212-532-4900 or 1-800-METRO-INFO for more details. It's prudent to call ahead and check the transportation times for any public transit, as seasonal changes can cause schedules to be adjusted.

Minnewaska State Park Preserve programs

"Now are come the days of brown leaves. They fall from the trees; they flutter on the ground. When the brown leaves flutter they are saying little things. They talk with the wind. I hear them tell of their boring days, when they did come into the worlds as leaves. And they whisper of the hoods they wore then. I saw them - I used to count them, on the way to school." by Opal Whiteley, at 7 years old.
From *The Singing Creek Where The Willows Grouse, the Mystical Nature Diary of Opal Whiteley*

Fire Walk. Saturday, November 13, 9 a.m. Explore the site of this summer's fire and possibly another historic fire site. To sign up, call 914-255-2011.

Hike on the old Smiley Road. Saturday, November 20, 9 a.m. Start at the Wildmere. Please sign up to arrange carpools, 914-255-2011.

What Happens in Winter? November 27, 10 a.m. Come find out how our northeastern ecosystem is equipped to handle the rigors of winter. Explore newly revealed signs of nature and investigate how plants and animals deal with the oncoming months of cold on this easy 2-3 mile hike. Meet Anna Niedzielski at the Nature Center.

Minnewaska is located on Route 44/55, 5 miles west of the intersection with Route 299, near New Paltz, NY.
Park Preserve Phone: 914-255-0752.
Education Office Phone: 914-255-2011.



JOIN THE TRAIL CONFERENCE!

1,300 miles of hiking trails are waiting for you...

...thanks to the volunteers of the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference. Join and help support the organized volunteer work of building and maintaining foot trails. Get discounts on maps and guidebooks, a subscription the TRAIL WALKER, and learn to do trail work. Add your voice to the thousands of hikers in our region!

I want to join the NY-NJ Trail Conference in the category indicated:

Regular	Individual <input type="checkbox"/> \$21	Joint/Family <input type="checkbox"/> \$26
Sponsor	<input type="checkbox"/> \$45	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50
Benefactor	<input type="checkbox"/> \$95	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
Student	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20
Limited Income	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20
Life	<input type="checkbox"/> \$400	<input type="checkbox"/> \$600*

* two adults at same address

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

DAY PHONE _____ EVENING PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

Check one: new member renewal

Make check or money order payable to the NY-NJ Trail Conference, and mail to: 232 Madison Ave., Room 802, New York, NY 10016-2901.

Tax-deductible except for \$4.00

ADVENTURES FOR WOMEN
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The Capture of Forts Clinton and Montgomery and the 1777 Trail

On the morning of October 6, 1777, under the cover of dense fog, 2,500 British regulars, Hessian Jaegers, and New York Loyalists crossed over the Hudson River from Verplanck Point to Stony Point, marched 2 miles inland, and turned north towards Dunderberg for a 12-mile march to the twin forts of Montgomery and Clinton. Assisted by the local knowledge of the Loyalist Beverley Robinson, British General Sir Henry Clinton was executing a brilliant tactical move that would catch the Americans off guard, in an attempt to take the pressure off over-extended British General John Burgoyne at Saratoga. The initial landing at Verplanck Point led the Americans, commanded by General Israel Putnam, to believe that Fort Independence above Peekskill was the British immediate objective. This left the twin Highland Forts of Clinton and Montgomery in jeopardy. The forts, situated on the south and north banks of the Popolopen Creek, across the Hudson River from Anthony's Nose, were lightly defended by some 600 men. In the late afternoon, after a ten-mile slog, along what is now the 1777 Trail, between Dunderberg, Timp Torne and Bear Mountain in the Bear Mountain-Harriman State Park, the British troops simultaneously overwhelmed the two forts.

By next day, the British had burned the stranded American vessels guarding the Hudson Highlands Narrows and destroyed an iron chain, boom, and chev-

aux de frise that had served as a river barrier, opening the upper Hudson River to British vessels. Fortunately for the Americans, other than sending a raiding party up the river which burned the state capital of Kingston, Sir Henry Clinton did not exploit this opening and ten days later General Burgoyne surrendered to General Gates at Saratoga. After twenty days, on the orders of British Commander-in-Chief General Sir William Howe, the forts were evacuated and British troops returned to New York City, so the victory was for naught.

Construction of the 1777 Trail

The Revolutionary War trails involved in the above historic events were first scouted and blazed in 1974-75 as a joint project of the Rockland County Boy Scouts Council, the Palisades Interstate Park, the Rockland County Cooperative Extension, and the Trail Conference. The route was determined by Jack Mead, Director of the Trailside Museum on the site of Fort Clinton, from British military records and maps drawn by Major Robert Erskine, Surveyor-General of the Continental Army. The first hike was on March 27, 1975, and was led by Brad Bobb, Captain of the Shore Guard, Orange County Militia, and John Walker of the 42nd Black Watch British Infantry Regiment.

For a full description of the 1777 Trail, see the *New York Walk Book* or the *Harriman Trails Guide*.
-Tony Cundell

Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation

(required by 39 U.S.C. 3685)

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1. Paid (Requested Outside County Mail subscriptions Stated on Form 3541 (include Advertisers' Proof & Exchange Copies)	6,772	6,722
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17. Signature and Title of Publisher: *Jeanne & Ed Smith* Executive Director

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions including fines and imprisonment and/or civil sanctions including multiple damages and civil penalties. PS Form 3526, September 1995

“Tell me you don’t love it”

by Bob McElroy

*Two free spirits proceed afoot into the wild hills and straddle the precarious non-man’s land between folly and legitimate enterprise: an account of a Catskill 3500 Club aspirant’s successful blitz of the summits**

“You just climbed more than a quarter of your summer peaks today. What if you could finish the other 26 in four more hiking days? Think about it. No aspirant has ever come within months of doing that.”

It was the summer of ’95. I was talking to my friend and 3500 Club hopeful, Chris Adams. Chris, a classically-trained musician and leader of a blues band, house builder, furniture maker, sailor, lover of wild places, and the most upbeat guy I ever knew, considered the idea for less than a second before jumping at it like a hungry trout.

For fun that day we had strolled over nine 3500 footers: Slide, Cornell, The Wittenberg Friday, Balsam Cap, Rocky, Lone, Peekamoose, and Table. The hike, with another 3500 footer added each year, is an annual ritual. This unusual behavior has spawned critics who consider us unresponsive to mountain beauty – two irreverent boors intent only in “scoring” peaks. We concede “irreverent” but emphasize that our advanced ages, totaling 116 years, ranging to 72, enforce a slow enough pace to ensure adequate time to

* Club qualification requires climbing the 35 Catskill peaks higher than 3,500 feet, plus four winter repeats.

enjoy the scenery.

We returned to our beloved hills the next week with enthusiasm, uncertain if we were equal to our ambition. Balsam Lake Mountain, Graham, Double Top, Big Indian, Fir, Eagle, and Balsam Mountain were the day’s daunting objectives. Our misgivings proved baseless. Except for my cracking a rib coming down Graham’s east side, we enjoyed a strenuous but agreeable day in the woods.

Descending Eagle, we heard voices ahead. Chris took a deep breath and in his powerful operatic tenor belted out, “THE HILLS ARE ALIVE, WITH THE SOUND OF HIKE-ERS!” To our delight the other party replied in song, presenting the illusion we were performing in an operetta.

The third outing was a noble solo by Chris. Flushed with our previous successes, he saw Halcott, Sherrill, North Dome, Westkill, and Panther fall by the wayside during a day requiring two moves by car and one by bicycle. (He biked from Diamond Notch trailhead downhill to a car parked at Sherrill’s approach.)

A week later, with confidence approaching arrogance, we set our sights on Bearpen, Vly, Thomas Cole, Black

Dome, Black Head, Windham, and Kaaterskill High Peaks. High-spirited cries echoed for miles as we occasionally whooped with joy. (And for the sheer YAHOO! of it.) It was another day of car and bike moves. “Piece of cake,” we agreed at day’s end, shamelessly distorting reality.

Regardless of our earlier brashness, the final leg would be a stretch. The altitude gain alone was intimidating. To finish the game in style we would have to climb Rusk, Hunter, Southwest Hunter, Plateau, Sugarloaf, Twin, and Indian Head. And as feared, it WAS tough. We

plodded up the switchbacks east of Stoney Clove Notch with an unspoken perception: we might not pull this off. Thunder and lightning spurred us along the heights. Finally and mercifully, Jimmy Dolan Notch. Only Indian Head to go.

“Why are we doing this, Chris?” I asked, as we limped up the side of the last mountain. His smiling answer: “Bob, look me in the eye and tell me you don’t love it.”

Disclaimer: Chris and Bob caution against trying this project without a doctor’s permission if you’re over 85. 🍂

FOR & ABOUT

Our Members

❖Our heartfelt thanks to **Elke Dochterman** for her gorgeous graphic designs of several publications. Elke designed a more visually compelling format for our Highlands Trail brochure, a format which will allow us to incorporate into the package the new sections of the Trail as they open. Elke also designed the program, on very short notice, for outgoing Board president Neil Zimmerman’s retirement dinner. And she contributed some thought-provoking advertisements for the Trail Conference to use in various media. Thank you so much, Elke.

❖We also extend our deep appreciation to **Dan D’Errico** for all of his professional photography services. Dan cheerfully accepts our requests to document Conference events of all shapes and sizes. In August, he was up at the crack of dawn to join us with Jacques d’Amboise—only Dan was dancing around people instead of to the music! We kept him out late one Sunday night to record festivities of outgoing Board president Neil Zimmerman’s retirement dinner. Thank you, again, Dan.

❖Warmest greetings to **Ken Lloyd**, a longtime, dedicated Appalachian Trail maintainer in New Jersey with the Woodland Trail Walkers. Ken’s health has prevented him from continuing his beloved trail maintenance activities. Ken, we miss you on the trails but know you are “out there” in spirit with us.

❖Flat Rock Brook Nature Center in Englewood, NJ, has a series of autumn programs to enjoy this November. Every Wednesday morning there is a **Fall Stroll for Seniors**, about one hour long and a

mile in length. Every Tuesday evening (weather permitting) there is a two-to-three-mile-long **Sunset Hiking Series** for adults, targeted for beginners. All programs are free to Flat Rock Brook members, \$3 for non-members. For more information, call Flat Rock at 201-567-1265.

❖Teatown Lake Reservation in Ossining, NY, relies on **Volunteer Nature Guides** to open up children’s eyes to the natural world. If you enjoy the company of children and like the outdoors, consider becoming a Guide. For information about Teatown’s training sessions, contact Phyllis Bock at 914-762-2912, ext. 14.

❖The Mosaic Outdoor Mountain Club is sponsoring a 16-hour **SOLO Wilderness First Aid course** in New York City on Sundays, December 12 and 19. The course, not generally offered in NYC, costs \$99, plus \$20 for lunch and snacks. For details, visit their website at www.anschedesed.org/Pages/Outings/wfa.htm, or contact Michael Brochstein at Michael_Brochstein@MBASystems.com

❖The Appalachian Mountain Club has a wonderful web database detailing the current efforts of the nationwide conservation community to revive Congressional budget appropriations for the federal **Land and Water Conservation Fund**. The Trail Conference is one of many organizations which have banded together to support full funding of this important program. Visit the website at www.outdoors.org to learn how you can generate congressional support for the Fund, so that it can help preserve open space such as the NY-NJ Highlands.

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**Reminder:
Hunting Schedules**

New York and New Jersey have announced their hunting schedules for large game, and times when firearms are permitted. We strongly urge hikers to wear safety orange clothing during these times. Dates listed are inclusive.

NEW YORK: Southern Zone
(including Catskills)
Deer Season
Archery: Oct. 15- Nov. 21; Dec. 15- 19
Archery, Westchester Co. only:
Nov. 1- Dec. 31
Firearms: Nov. 22 - Dec. 14
Muzzleloader: Dec. 15- 21

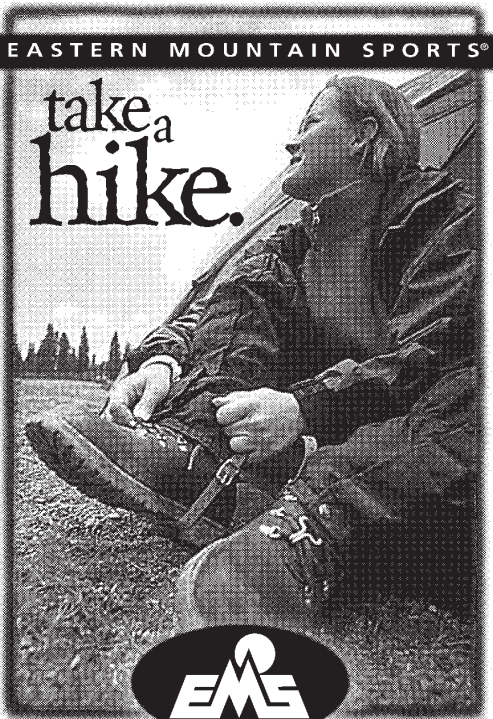
Hunting is not allowed in Bear Mountain-Harriman State Park. However, it is allowed in parts of Storm King, Minnewaska and Sterling Forest State Parks. Contact 914-786-2701 for more details about hunting in these parks.

Black Rock Forest closes to hikers from November 22-December 14, including that portion of the Highlands Trail in the Forest. For details, call 914-534-4517. For more information about New York hunting schedules, call the Office of Parks & Recreation, 518-474-0456, or the hunting, fishing and game licensing/sales office, 518-457-3521.

NEW JERSEY
Deer Season
Archery: Oct. 2 - Nov. 27
Firearms: Dec. 6 - Jan. 29, 2000
Muzzleloader: Nov. 29- Jan. 21, 2000
Special High Point State Park Season:
Nov. 15-24

Coyote Season
Jan. 29, 2000 - Feb. 14

Most of Ramapo Mountain State Forest is closed to hunting. Hunting is not allowed on Sundays in New Jersey. For more information about the New Jersey hunting schedules, call 908-735-7040 or 609-292-6685.



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Catskill Trails (1996) & see combo	\$13.95	\$10.45	+\$1.10	_____
Shawangunk Trails (1997) & see combo	\$8.95	\$6.75	+.95	_____
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Books

Scenes & Walks in the Northern Shawangunks (1999) & see combo	\$10.95	\$8.75	+.75	_____
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Catskill (5 map set & book)	\$27.80	\$21.60	+\$2.50	_____
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Kittatinny Double (DWG guide & 4 map set)	\$18.80	\$14.50	+\$2.50	_____
Shawangunk Combo (4 map set & book) (1999)	\$17.90	\$13.95	+\$2.50	_____

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HIKERS' BOOKSHOP

Winterwise — A Backpacker's Guide

by John M. Dunn. Adirondack Mountain Club, 1996. 205 pages.

Reviewed by Roger Williamson

So, you just got back from a summer hike. And, aside from the bugs, the DEET, the heat, and the crowds of people, you had a great time.

So how about a winter hike? No bugs, no heat, no DEET, and no people. But, winter hiking and backpacking is a bit more involved than three-season stuff. Make a mistake in the winter and it is much more likely to be dangerous or even fatal. So how do you get started winter hiking? A good first step would be to read *Winterwise—A Backpacker's Guide*. An excellent book for both beginners and experienced hikers alike, this book conveys the basic knowledge and skills necessary to be successful in cold weather hiking and backpacking. The book also contains pictures and charts to help the reader understand the subject. Chapters range from getting started, first aid, food, clothing, skis, and boots, to stoves, shelters and most other aspects of winter mountaineering. Also helpful is the fact that the book's chapters are further subdivided, so finding a particular subject is

easy. Another helpful feature is the gear lists which make planning easier. Finally, the index and appendices along with the author's obvious personal knowledge make this book a valuable resource for any hiker.

The book is somewhat dated in areas such as stoves and types of synthetic clothing, but that is to be expected since the outdoor industry changes fairly rapidly. The important thing is that the book conveys the sound basic principles needed to be competent in a cold environment. Completely lacking, however, is mention of Global Positioning Systems. I hope this oversight is rectified in the next edition.

Above all, the author advises the reader to go slowly and to think through difficult situations. By thinking and applying common sense, most such situations can be survived or even avoided. As the author points out, the French mountaineers have a saying, "The mountain will be there tomorrow."

This is a good basic primer, written with subtle humor, and is a great addition to any outdoor library.

Applications now available for the Elizabeth Levers Memorial Fund for youth projects

Earlier this year, Elizabeth and Gary Tallman, cousins of Elizabeth Levers, established the Elizabeth Levers Memorial Fund with a gift of \$10,000, as a tribute to Liz Levers' deep interest in nurturing the next generation of trail workers and environmentalists. (See July/August 1999 *Trail Walker* for announcement.) The Tallmans' hope is that this memorial fund helps Liz's work to continue.

Recently the Trail Conference received two large additions to that fund, with a gift of \$4,000 from Ken Lloyd, and \$1,000 from Thomas Joyce. Combined with other smaller gifts, the Levers Fund has grown to \$16,500. This funding can go a long way to support a variety of youth participation projects.


This fund provides the means to encourage the involvement of young people in trail work. By making the effort to involve youth, the Trail Conference can pave the way for active volunteer commitment in the future as well as offering a positive experience that will make them life-long supporters of our trail lands.

HOW TO APPLY FOR FUNDS

If you have identified a trail project that requires funds, think about how you might accomplish it with youth. Funds can support bus transportation, lumber, tools, safety equipment, training, or whatever else might be needed.

Each grant application has a brief, one-page form that a young person or youth group leader can fill out to describe the project. You can request application forms from the Trail Conference office at 212-685-9699. Requests for funds can be made as needed. Forward completed applications to Anne Lutkenhouse, Trail Conference Projects Director, at the Conference's office, 232 Madison Ave., Room 802, NY, NY 10016. A response to your request will be made within two weeks.

The Levers Fund offers exciting potential for outreach and support of trail work. If we all think creatively, we can use this funding to aggressively invest in our next generation of trail-care volunteers.



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CLUB DONATION
Hunderdon Hiking Club

Annual autumnal membership meeting

More than 100 people attended the Conference's Annual Meeting in mid-October. This year's event took place at the Alpine, NJ, boat basin pavilion, on the shores of the Hudson River on the NJ Palisades. At the brief business meeting, Conference members and member club delegates elected New Jerseyans Paul Bell, a banker, John Gunzler, a businessman, and William Mishler, a controller; and Malcolm Spector, an attorney from Manhattan, to the Board for three-year terms. During a special focus session on TC member clubs and organizations, 8 presidents highlighted their group's activities. To round out the day's events, after the meeting attendees hiked along the Long Path and Shore Trail in the glorious afternoon autumnal sunshine.



Rockland County legislator Harriet Cornell, seen here flanked by outgoing and incoming TC presidents, received a Trail Conference Trail Partner Award for her "outstanding contributions to the development and protection of the Long Path in Rockland County and her role in protecting Sterling Forest." Susan Gerhardt, volunteer trail supervisor for Minnewaska State Park Preserve trails; office volunteer Fred Liberman; George Cartamil, AMC's West Hudson trails supervisor; and trail crew members Bob Reardon and Harry Smith received William Hoeflerin awards of appreciation. Leo Rothschild Conservation Awards were given to John Gebhards, Executive Director of Sterling Forest Partnership, for his contributions to the preservation of Sterling Forest and the Appalachian Trail corridor, and to Robert Augello, an attorney who serves as TC legal adviser and volunteer for trail lands protection projects. Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corporation received a Corporate Partner Award for its role with the Mossy Glen Bridge in Minnewaska State Park Preserve.

HIKING INTO THE NEW MILLENNIUM

continued from the front page

ing. Her impassioned advocacy has dramatically increased the Trail Conference's visibility and her steadfast pursuit of coalition with a broad range of constituencies was instrumental in the protection of Sterling Forest as a state park. Together, they are leaving behind a strong and vital organization that has gained the respect of stewards of open space as well as lovers of hiking.

In spite of these changes, I will make sure that we keep doing what we do best — taking care of the old trails, building new ones, and insuring that they will be available when my grandchild takes his grandchild hiking. We will continue our tradition of producing the best hiking maps and user-friendly guidebooks for this region. I am dedicated to supporting our member clubs, and especially the individual volunteers who do such a great job of maintaining our network of trails. And I am dedicated to strengthening our existing partnerships with parks, land trusts, and environmental organizations, and forging new ones to further our mutual goals.

There are many challenges ahead: more parklands mean greater vigilance; more trails mean more volunteers. And while some of our trails are threatened by misuse and overuse, others like the Long Path and the Highlands Trail are moving into counties where we have never hiked before.

We must also change with the times. I am dedicated to introducing the joys of hiking trails and the work of protecting them to the increasingly diverse populations living in New Jersey and New York. I am dedicated to developing rewarding trails for persons whose mobility is compromised. And I am dedicated to a more constructive dialogue with other trail users groups.

I want to thank those of you that have offered encouragement and support as I move into the presidency of the Trail Conference. As we weather the hoopla surrounding the millennium, each day will

FIRST NJ TRAIL REPRESENTATIVE

continued from the front page



Larry Wheelock

for 5 years and has served as an assistant leader on Sierra Club worktrips in the West. He also graduated from the Student Conservation Association's Wilderness Work Skills training, a week-long course in high-caliber trail building and repair skills. For the past two summers, he has been the seasonal trail crew leader for the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, working closely with both National, and State, park service officials.

The Trail Conference will not have an office in New Jersey, at least for this year; Larry will work out of his home in Vernon, NJ. To reach him, write to Larry Wheelock, NJ Field Representative, PO Box 169, McAfee, NJ 07428, or call 973-823-9999.

continue to be a trails day for us. To be sure, there are challenges and threats, but there are also great opportunities. In the coming months I will be asking many of you for help. Remember only that it is not for me, but for the Trail Conference, as together we continue to serve the needs of the hiking community.

Here's hoping that the only Y2K bug you have to contend with is the one that makes you itching to take a hike in the New Century.

Change of Address?

If you are moving or have recently changed your address, please provide the information requested below to the Trail Conference office, in order to ensure that you continue to receive your TRAIL WALKER and other important mail.

Name _____
 OLD Address _____
 City/State/Zip _____
 OLD Phone (day) _____ (eve) _____
 NEW Address _____
 City/State/Zip _____
 NEW Phone (day) _____ (eve) _____

Mail completed form to: NY-NJ Trail Conference, 232 Madison Ave., Room 802, New York, NY 10016



continued from back cover

DECEMBER
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12

NYHC Staten Island Town and Woods. Leaders: Steve & Bettye Sofas, 718-720-1593, 7:10 pm. Meet: 11:45 am, Spring Street trailhead on Staten Island. Moderately hilly 4-5 miles. Yellow Trail to High Rock Nature Center. Bring water and lunch; hiking boots recommended.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16

FVTW. AT in Stokes. Leader: Bob Messerschmidt, 908-832-6976. Meet: 10 am, lot near 4-H camp entrance. The AT and some woods roads with nice views.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18

UHC. Jockey Hollow - Morristown. Leader: Herb Chertock, 908-464-8289. Meet: 10 am, Jockey Hollow Visitor Center. Enjoy a scenic 4-5 mile ramble at a moderate pace in this historic National Park. Rain cancels. Call leader prior to 9 am on day of the ramble if in doubt due to inclement weather.

UTC. Alpine to Nyack. Leader: Judy Levine, 718-482-9659. Meet: George Washington bus terminal to take 9:15 am bus to Alpine Boy Scout Camp. Walk along Palisades and Hudson River. Several ups and downs plus one steep climb and one steep descent. Weather permitting. Bring lunch and water.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19

IHC. Appalachian Trail #18 - Rt 301 Canopus Lake, NY to Dennytown Road. Leader: Ise Dunham, 973-838-8031. Meet: 9 am, Anthony Wayne Recreation Area (north parking area), Harriman Park, NY. Hike from Canopus Lake, NY south along the AT to Dennytown Road and return via the Old Mine Railroad. Rain cancels.

ADK-MH. Indian Head Loop, Catskills. Leader: Christopher Zaleski, 914-838-0022. Meet: 8 am, Red Caboose just off the traffic circle at the Kingston exit of the NYS Thruway. Strenuous, 6 miles with 1,500 ft. ascent, but could be more difficult if ice and snow conditions present. Bring crampons, headlamp and snowshoes.

WTW. Jersey Central's Wharton & North Line. Leaders: Bruce Rhinesmith & Louise Fomarrto. An 8.9 mile on the abandoned right-of-way of this railroad, including walk past scenic Lake Denmark. Includes a shuttle.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21

FVTW. Butler-Montville Trail. Leader: Joe McLaughlin, 973-263-2789. Meet: Pyramid Mtn. visitor center. Turkey Hill and assorted trails on "other" side of Rt. 511.

THURSDAY - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23 - 26

MSC. Christmas ski weekend at our lodge in Waitsfield, VT. Call 212-978-9191 for information.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26

IHC. Kakiat End-to-End. Leader: Jim Hayes, 201-825-9506. Meet: 8:30 am, Tuxedo Railroad Station, Tuxedo, NY. The days may be short, but there's still enough time for this 7.4 mile end-to-end hike along the Kakiat trail. We'll pass Grandma and Grandpa rocks as well as Cascade of Slid along the way. Shuttle required.

LIGTC. Cold Spring Harbor Climb. Leader: Nick, 516-586-3396, W-F, 5-9 pm. Meet: 10 am. Easy, hilly 7-9 miles on the hills of Cold Spring Harbor south to Stillwell Woods, then return. Bring lunch and liquid. Rain may cancel.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28

FVTW. Jockey Hollow. Leader: Mary Dell Morrison, 908-684-1173. Brisk walk around the perimeter of the Morris County park. Bring trail lunch.

THURSDAY - MONDAY, DECEMBER 30 - JANUARY 3

MSC. New Year's ski weekend includes x-country at our lodge in Waitsfield, VT. Call 212-978-9191 for information.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30

UHC. Patriots Path, Long & Short. Leaders: Charles & Anita Kienzler, 973-835-1060. Meet: 9:30 am, Speedwell Lake parking area, on Rt. 202. Some will hike the 10.2 miles from Rt. 24 in Mendham to Speedwell Lake in Morristown; others may leave at the 5.5 mile point. Mostly level along the Whippany River and the old Rock-a-bye Railroad. Shuttle required. Moderately strenuous hike. Rain cancels.

JANUARY

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1

NYHC. Long Beach to Lookout Point. Leader: Mike Puder, 718-763-1636, 7-10 pm. About 5 miles. Bring lunch and water.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2

LIGTC. Moraine Pond Hike. Leader: Nick, 516-586-3396, W-F, 5-9 pm. Meet: 10 am. Easy, varied 7-9 miles. See McKinley, Hidden and Honeysuckle Ponds up and over Ronkonkoma Moraine and back. Bring lunch and liquid. Goes rain or shine.

C L U B C O D E S

ADK-MH Adirondack Mountain Club, Mid-Hudson chapter. Contact: 914-471-5712.

FVTW Frost Valley Trail Walkers. Contact: Cherryll Short, 201-299-0212. Mon. 3 mi., Tues. 6-7 mi., Wed. 5 mi., Thurs. 7-10 mi., Fri. ramble up to two mi.

GAHC German-American Hiking Club. Contact: Evelyn Hoyer, 718-457-8319.

HHC Hunterdon Hiking Club. Contact: Lud Bohler, 908-788-3941.

IHC Interstate Hiking Club. Contact: Brian Mazur, 973-478-5285; interstatehiking@mindspring.com. Schedule \$1. on request.

LIGTC Long Island Greenbelt. Contact: L.I. Greenbelt Trail Conference, 516-360-0753.

The activities listed are sponsored by member clubs of the NY-NJ Trail Conference. All hikes are welcome subject to club regulations and rules of the trail. You are responsible for your own safety. Wear hiking boots or strong, low-heeled shoes. Bring food, water, rain gear, first aid kit, and flashlight in a backpack. Leaders have the right and responsibility to refuse anyone whom they believe cannot complete the hike or are not adequately equipped. Easy, moderate, or strenuous hikes are relative terms; call leader if in doubt.

Many of our affiliate groups sponsor hikes which are not listed in the Hikers' Almanac. For a descriptive list of Conference clubs, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your request to NY-NJ Trail Conference, 232 Madison Ave., Rm. 802, NY, NY 10016.

MSC Miramar Ski Club. Contact: Jay Schwarz, 212-673-7132.

NYHC New York Hiking Club. Contact: Halina Jensen, 212-568-6323.

UHC Union County Hiking Club. Contact: Herb Chertock, 908-464-8289.

UTC Urban Trail Club. Contact: Cap Field, 718-274-0407.

WWW/WEC Weis Wyanokie Wanderers/NJ Audubon Society's Weis Ecology Center. Contact: Wendy Rhoades, 973-835-2160, for hikes and program schedule.

WTW Woodland Trail Walkers. Contact: Michelle Keller, 63 Stevens Rd., Clifton, NJ 07013; 973-773-7984. Guest card \$2.00 for 6-month hike listing.

NEW TC BOOKS

continued from the front page

major changes in the routes of a number of trails, including the Appalachian, Arden-Surebridge, Timp-Torne, and White Bar Trails. An entirely new trail, known as the Menomine Trail, has also been created. All these changes have been incorporated into the new edition of the book, together with many updates and corrections of historical information. In addition, the quality of the Michael Warren photographs in the new edition has been significantly improved by using new computer processes.

Jack Fagan's *Scenes and Walks* book — which features not only descriptions of the trails in the magnificent Shawangunk Mountains, but also over 150 pen-and-ink sketches which capture the special

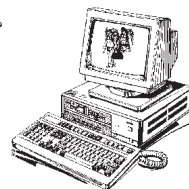
beauty of this area — has been updated to reflect recent trail changes. Chapter 4, covering the Bonticou area of the Mohonk Preserve, has been rewritten to take into account the trail and access changes which have resulted from the closing of the old Mohonk Preserve Visitor Center on Mountain Rest Road. Chapter 9, covering the Sam's Point/Verkeerder Kill Falls vicinity, has also been updated, and several new sketches by Jack Fagan have been added.

For prices, see the *Hikers' Marketplace* order form on page 8.

Looking for a new trail to hike or up-to-date information about your favorite trail?

Try www.nynjtc.org

Our new and improved website, designed by John L. Kolp and Walt Daniels, offers in-depth, timely information about NY-NJ Trail Conference activities, projects, trail issues and trails themselves.



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HIKERS' ALMANAC

NOVEMBER

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4

UHC. Harriman Long Path Circular. Leaders: Jim & Theresa McKay, 973-538-0756. Meet: 10 am, Long Mountain parking area off Route 6 in northern Harriman-Bear Mountain Park. About 8 miles on the Long Path to Lakes Massawappa, Te Ata, and Lower and Upper Twin. A moderately strenuous hike. Steady rain cancels.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6

UHC. South Mountain Reservation. Leader: Miri Solomon, 973-783-6410. Meet: 10 am, Tully Springs. Across the stream and over the fields to the yellow and red trails. Call leader if in doubt due to inclement weather.

HHC. Walk Creek Road in Frenchtown. Leader: Barbara Heinrichs, 908-996-2366. Meet: 9 am, Frenchtown Park. Lovely and quiet road follows creek, with nice rock formations. Easy 6-8 miles.

WTW. Garrett Mountain. Leader: Catherine Servas, 973-546-5699. About 5 miles starting with a long climb, followed by ups and downs. Bring lunch and water. Rain cancels.

LIGTC. Stillwell and South. Leader: Steve, 516-261-7895. Meet: 9 am, Stillwell Woods parking lot, Syosset. Moderate, varied 7 miles on the Nassau-Suffolk Trail. Bring lunch and liquid; rain cancels.

LIGTC. Jayne's Hill Family Walk. Leader: Mitch Barber, 516-889-7316, 7-10 pm. Meet: 12:30 pm. Easy, varied 3 miles to Long Island's "summit." Recommended for youngsters 4-8 years old. Bring fun foods and water. Call to register.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7

GAHC. Anthony's Nose/Appalachian Trail, Peekskill, NY. Circular Hike. Leader: Henry Loddiges, 718-899-1052. Meet: 10 am, Peekskill Restaurant parking lot at circle junction of Briarcliff Parkway, Rt. 9 & US Route 6.

IHC. Annual Trail Clearing on Schunemunk Mountain. Leader: Charlie Kientler, 973-835-1081. Meet: 9 am, Red Apple Rest, Rt. 17, Southfields, NY. The IHC maintains sections of the Long Path and several other trails that are due for some clipping. Bring lunch, work gloves and clippers, or use the tools provided by the club. Please give us a hand. Rain date: Saturday, November 13.

UHC. Trail Maintenance Day. Leader: Helmut Schneider, 201-472-9677. Meet: 9 am, Packanack Wayne Mall. You've been enjoying the trails, so come out and find out how those trails stay in such good shape. Be part of the action and join the Trails Chairperson in a day of good camaraderie maintaining the section of the Appalachian Trail that UHC is responsible for. Bring your favorite lopping tool, hedge cutter, work gloves, lunch, and liquid. Heavy rain will cancel.

UHC. South Mountain Ramble. Leader: Is Hirschhorn, 973-731-5171. Meet: 10 am, Locust Grove, Millburn. We'll ramble about 5 miles. Steady rain cancels.

UTC. Old Croton Aqueduct. Leader: Mike Puder, 718-763-1635, 7-10 pm. From Scarborough to Tarrytown, 5 miles. Bring lunch and water.

ADK-MH. Windham High Peak Wild Forest. Leader: Christopher Zaleski, 914-838-0122. Meet: 8 am, Red Caboose just off traffic circle at Kingston NYS Thruway exit. Strenuous 11 miles along the Catskill escarpment's north shoulder. Ascent of 1,500 ft. Remember crampons, headlamp and similar equipment.

NYHC. Lost brook Preserve. Leader: George Glatz, 212-533-9457, 7-8 am. Meet: 9:45 am, GW Bridge bus terminal upper information area. About 6 miles, some ups and downs, with panoramic views of the Hudson River. Bring lunch and water.


WTW. Ailamuchy Mountain. Leaders: Hermann & Marlene Memmer, 908-979-0493. Meet: 10 am, Panther Valley Mall. About 8 miles. Bad weather may cancel - call leader if in doubt.

LIGTC. Flanders Walk. Leader: Nick, 516-596-3396, 6-10 pm. Meet: 10 am. Moderate, flat 8-10 miles on beautiful pine barrens trails along Flanders Bay. Bring lunch and liquid. Goes rain or shine.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11

UHC. Cat's Elbow, Fire Escape Redux. Leaders: Dave & Naomi Sutter, 973-778-0992. Meet: 10 am, Anthony Wayne parking area. Cat's Elbow and a variety of trails selected by the leader. A strenuous hike. Steady rain cancels.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13

UHC. Watchung Reservation, Mountainside. Leader: Herb  printed on recycled paper

Chertock, 908-464-8289. Meet: 10 am, Trailside Nature and Science Center, on Coles Ave. as it intersects with New Providence Rd. Enjoy a pleasant ramble on marked and unmarked trails. Rain cancels. Call leader prior to 9 am on day of the ramble if in doubt.

HHC. Batona Trail. Leader: Bob Hagon, 908-788-8360. Meet: 7:30 am, Flemington Outlet Center. We hike from the Batsto Fire Tower to Evert's Bridge. Moderate/difficult 9 miles. Bring lunch, 2 qts. of water; must wear hiking boots. Rain or snow cancels.

UTC. Major Welch Trail. Leader: Mike Puder, 718-763-1635, 7-10 pm. 3 miles, with possible extension to Doodletown.

ADK-MH. Appalachian Trail. Leader: Bill Beahler, 914-544-7832, 6-10 pm only. Meet: 9:30 am, AT parking area on Rt. 55 in Dutchess Co. Easy 4.5 miles over re-routed AT. Rain cancels.

LIGTC. Pine Barrens Circular. Leader: Nancy D., 516-744-9815, before 10 pm. Meet: 9:30 am. Walk the Pine Barrens Preserve and parts of Brookhaven State Park. Bring liquid and snack for a stop at the pond. Only heavy rain cancels.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14

IHC. Indian Hill Loop. Leader: Howard Gillis, 973-697-2280. Meet: 9 am, Elk Pen Parking Area, Arden, NY. We ascend Arden Mountain via a steep climb known as Agony Grind. The AT link trail brings us to the Indian Hill Loop.

WWW/WEC. Watershed Wilderness. Leader: Don Weise. Info through club code contact number. Meet: 9:30 am, Weis Center. A new hike for adults and teens only. Strenuous 7 miles through back trails of Clinton Reservoir to Hank's Pond, including mountain top lakes, wetlands, unusual rock formations and great wilderness area views. Bring lunch and plenty of water. \$4 for members, \$5 for non-members.

WTW. AT-NY/NJ State Line to Mt. Peter. Leader: Tom Henry, 201-664-6504. About 7 miles. Begin with short climb to the ridge, then along ridge overlooking Greenwood Lake. Excellent views. Rain cancels.

LIGTC. Pond and Creek Walk. Leader: Ken S., 516-654-2438. Meet: 9:30 am. Moderate, varies, 10-12 miles on Sears-Bellows and Hubberts parks, on and around the Pine Barrens Trail. Bring lunch and liquid. Light bushwhacking possible.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18

UHC. Anthony's Nose. Leaders: Dave & Naomi Sutter, 973-778-0992. Meet: 10 am, Bear Mountain Inn. We follow a moderate route for ascent of Anthony's Nose and then take an extensive bushwhack to seldom-seen Manitou Copper Mine started in 1767 by Baron Hesse-Decker. No copper, bad iron, and lots of sulfur. A strenuous hike. Steady rain cancels.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20

UHC. South Mountain Reservation. Leader: Don Messerlin, 973-228-2258. Meet: 10 am, Bramhall Terrace. Go west on South Orange Ave. into South Mountain Reservation. Bear left on Crest Dr. Park across from monument. Enjoy a brisk fall ramble. Rain cancels.

ADK-MH. Long Path. Leader: Pete McSinnis, 914-454-4428. Meet: 8:45 am, trailhead. Strenuous more than 8 miles or more than 1,500 ft. ascent-hike in the Shawangunks.

WTW. Palisades Shore Walk. Leader: Ruth Lupicki, 201-843-2243. Upper and lower trail along the Hudson River.

LIGTC. Scenic Pond Tour. Leader: Andy, 516-981-9253. Meet: 9 am, LIGTC office in Blydenburgh Park. Moderate to quick, varied 10 miles. See Hidden Pond, Bow Drive Marsh, Miller Pond and Stump Pond on this scenic hike in the heart of the L.L. Trail. Bring lunch and liquids. Rain cancels.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21

GAHC. Trail Maintenance, Oakland, NJ of our section of the Bill Hoerferlin Trail. Leader: Efi Woschitz, 212-722-7338. Meet: 9:30 am, parking lot opposite entrance to Camp Tamara on Skyline Drive.

IHC. Johnsonstown Circular. Leader: Barbara Albeck, 973-328-8557 or baralbeck@aol.com. Meet: 9 am, Johnsonstown Circle, Staatsburg, NY. Hike to our leader's favorite Harriman locations.

HHC. Mount Mims. Leader: George W. Bishop, 908-788-7262. Meet: 8:30 am, Flemington Outlet Center. Moderate climb, easy return of 6 miles. We will walk across the river by Rt. 80 bridge. Bring hiking boots, lunch and water. Steady rain or snow cancels. Snow cover will NOT cancel.

ADK-MH. Dunderberg Mountain. Leader: Russ Faller, 914-297-5126, before 9 pm. Meet: 7:30 am, Wappinger's Falls. About 10 strenuous miles, visiting Bald Mountain, the Timp and the Cat's Elbow. Terrific views. Bring lunch and water, wear good boots with ankle support.

ADK-MH. Mohonk Preserve. Leader: Steve Hirsch, 914-338-6179, after 7 pm. Meet: 9 am. Sites of bygone Shawangunk industry. Good ridge views and local history. Moderate pace, 6-8 miles on unmarked trails. A Preserve weekend day fee may be required.

WEDNESDAY - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24 - 28

MSC. Thanksgiving Ski Weekend at our lodge in Watsfield, VT. Call 212-978-9191 for information.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27

UHC. Hacklebarney State Park. Leader: Herb Chertock, 908-464-8289. Meet: 10 am, parking lot near park HQ building. Enjoy a morning out in this beautiful state park. There will be some hills, and some rocky trails. The scenery is worth it. Rain cancels. Call leader if in doubt prior to 9 am on day of the ramble.

HHC. Wichechoke Hike. Leader: Irene Boyley, 609-730-9388. Meet: 10 am, Flemington Outlet Center. Easy/moderate 7 miles of leisurely walk on back country roads with lunch at a covered bridge on the banks of the Wichechoke stream. Some hills, wear sturdy walking shoes, bring lunch and water.

WTW. Wawayanda. Leaders: Susan & Neil Chessin, 973-696-9792. A 7-mile circular beginning at the ranger station. Rain or snow cancels.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28

IHC. The Major Welch Trail. Leader: Ilsa Durham, 973-838-8031. Meet: 9 am, Reeves Meadow Visitors Center, Seven Lakes Drive, Staatsburg, NY. It is not too late to walk off the extra portion of turkey and pie. Grab the chance while you can; great views will reward you. Rain cancels.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

FVTW. Wildcat Ridge Circular. Leaders: Jim & Theresa McKay, 973-538-0756. Meet: 10 am, Hibernia parking lot on Green Pond Rd., 2.75 miles north of Rt. 80. A 7 mile from Hibernia to Wildcat Ridge and back on the Four Birds Trail and woods roads in the Fanny Highlands.

DECEMBER

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2

FVTW. Worthington Roundabout. Leader: Bob Messerschmidt, 908-832-6976. Meet: 10 am, Delaware Water Gap AT parking lot. Hike on both marked and unmarked trails in Worthington State Forest.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4

LIGTC. Nassau-Suffolk Peak Experience. Leader: Jack, 516-249-8084. Meet: 9 am, trailhead in Cold Spring Harbor. Moderate, fast 8 miles, very hilly to Stillwell Woods and back - moraine woods and winter water views. Bring snack and liquid.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5

IHC. Appalachian Trail #13-Arden to Lake Tiorati. Leaders: Elsie and Joel McKenzie, 973-694-3056 or emckenzie@sprynet.com. Meet: 9 am, Lake Tiorati Parking Area, Harriman State Park, NY. We continue our series of Appalachian Trail hikes with a 7.3 mile three-part winter traverse of Harriman State Park. This section includes Island Pond, The Lemon Squeezer and Fingerboard Mountain.

WWW/WEC. Holiday Hike. Leader: Don Weise. Info through the club code contact number. Meet: 10 am, Weis Center. Strenuous 4-mile trek through Novum Green State Forest to top of Wyonoke High Point and to Roomey iron mine. For adults and teens. Dress for the weather and bring plenty of water and a light lunch. Hike will go rain, snow or shine.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9

FVTW. Millennial Pow-Wow. Leaders: Al & Jane Leigh, 973-471-7528. Meet: 10 am, 2nd Ramapo Mtn. parking lot, top of Skyline Dr. About 8 miles on the Hoerferlin, Cannonball, Green and Yellow trails with lunch at Cannonball Lake.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11

IHC. Friday Mountain, Catskills. Leader: Mike Selender, 201-451-5411 or mike_selender@mindspring.com. Meet: Advanced registration required by Thursday night. Very strenuous. A demanding 7-mile, 2500-foot ascent of one of the more demanding trail-less Catskills peaks famous for its ring of ledges. Crampons required. Snowshoes may be required.

WTW. Fanny Highlands. Leaders: Bruce Rhinesmith & Louise Fornarotto. A 7-10 mile on the northern end of the Four Birds Trail including both Copperas and Green Pond mountains.

LIGTC. Family Walk. Leader: Rob Maistrich, 212-640-4011 (leave msg.) or Don Obers, 516-223-7548, before 10 pm. Meet: 12:30 pm. Easy, varied 4 miles especially for children 5-12. See exquisite views of L.L. Sound and estuary from atop a bluff, and walk woods and sand on rolling terrain. Bring food and liquid.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12

IHC. Pyramid Mountain. Leader: Phyllis Swan, 973-839-6600. Meet: 10 am, Kinnelon Ball Field, Kinnelon, NJ. We'll have lunch on an 800 foot overlook. The hike is about 5 miles and we should be out by 2:00 pm. Rain cancels.

UTC. Staten Island Greenbelt. Leader: Mike Puder, 718-763-1635, 7-10 pm. Moderate pace on White Trail, 8 miles.

ADK-MH. Stonykill Farm. Leaders: Jenny & Stan Roberts, 914-471-5712. Meet: 1:30 pm, Stonykill Headquarters on Rt. 90 near Fishkill. Easy hike of 3-4 miles through old farmlands on some newly developed and some old-trails. Bring snack and water. Rain or snow cancels.

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