



TRAILWALKER

NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY TRAIL CONFERENCE...MAINTAINING OVER 1500 MILES OF FOOT TRAILS

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2001

The View No More

By Glenn Scherer

September 12th: I woke up feeling the need for a walk. I drove out to Longhouse Road, strapped on a water bottle, and started through the woods on the Appalachian Trail toward Bearfort Ridge.

I've walked the Trail in this part of northern New Jersey often, but it was as quiet as I've ever heard it, with only crickets and crows, the squeaking of my boots, and the silence overhead utterly without planes.

The witch hazel, the only tree to flower in autumn, hadn't blossomed yet, but its leaves were trimmed in yellow. I crossed a dry creek bed where there should have been water. We were 12 weeks into a drought, with some leaves already turned and fallen.

In a mile, I reached a valley that has changed from hickory forest to beaver pond in the past two years. This dry summer, the pond had changed yet again, becoming a sedgy meadow. The beavers had moved on. Without their pond—their moat—there was no safety here.

I climbed steeply and reached a spot where drab gray billion-year-old bedrock



CHARLES PORTER

gave way to puddingstone—a gorgeous purple conglomerate imbedded with white quartz. Now I was on Bearfort Ridge, probably named as a last stronghold of black bears in pioneer days.

This ridge isn't tall by Appalachian Trail standards, but is high enough. Just

before I stepped beyond the trees at the summit, I wanted to stop, turn back, not see. Then I pushed through the last bear oak and staghorn sumac. I knew right where to look at the far edge of the folded green hills. But there was only smoke and a goldfinch.

The Twin Towers were gone. On the far horizon, half an outstretched fist south of the Empire State Building, the blue sky was wounded by billowing smoke. Standing on that ridge that morning, I knew the rescue workers hadn't even begun to count the dead. I found a spot next to a pitch pine and sat.

I had hiked to this vista with my wife Marty only the week before and seen the Towers. How could we have imagined then that we would never see them again? Memories rose with the smoke. I recalled taking my brother's family to the Trade Center Observation Deck on a crisp December morning 15 years ago. We had looked off toward the Highlands and I had pointed to this ridge.

On another Twin Towers visit, I had watched the Dalai Lama's saffron-robed monks make a circular sand painting, a fragile peace mandala in the Trade Center lobby. Now the unspeakable violence that drove the Tibetans to sanctuary in America had come around the world to us.

In the past, spotting most human-made structures—housing developments or transmission towers—from the Appalachian Trail had detracted from my hiking experiences. But not the Twin Towers.

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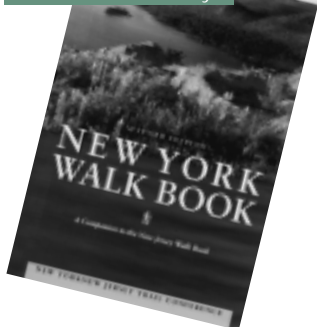
New York Walk Book: 2001

Update Your Library with the Seventh Edition of the "Hiker's Bible"

Didn't one just come out? you ask. In the past it was at least ten years between *Walk Book* editions. Why so soon for the seventh edition? (The sixth edition was published in 1998.) Well, first of all, the wonders of desktop publishing make it feasible to produce a new edition in a short period of time. In light of the extensive trail changes that have taken place within the past three years, we decided that our members should have the opportunity to obtain a current, up-to-date version of this classic book.

A special feature of this new edition is a collection of new, world-class illustrations by Jack Fagan, professor of geology (retired) and outstanding illustrator, who is already known to many of you as the

In Time for the Holidays



author and illustrator of *Scenes and Walks in the Northern Shawangunks*. Of course, we have also retained many of the sketches by Robert L. Dickinson, a member of the triumvirate that produced the first edition of the *Walk Book* in 1923. Fagan's sketches give the book a refreshing, updated appearance, while those by Dickinson preserve the historical ambience that is very much a part of the *Walk Book*.

All chapters have been updated, and three chapters have been substantially re-

continued on page 6

Heave, Ho! A New Bridge Goes Up in the Catskills; LP Is Rerouted



The new route and stream crossing are already recorded on the recently published 2001 edition of the Catskill trail map for the area (see Trail News description of the relocation).

But the bridge itself was erected by a crew of six during one intense

Saturday in September.

Catskills Trails Chair Pete Senterman and his crew are taking a break. Over the past year Senterman estimates they have put in more than 900 hours on a bridge-building, trail relocation project on the Long Path's route through the Platte Clove area—a project that culminated on September 22.

Senterman notes that he decided early on to build the bridge "historically," using the King Post design of the original Overlook Road bridge pictured in 19th-century books about the region. He adds, "Of course, I didn't realize how much work

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Georgette Weir *Editor*
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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.

from the president's notepad...

Too Many Hikers Are Outside Our Ranks

As I looked over *Trail Walker* columns by previous Trail Conference presidents to ready myself for this writing task, I was amazed at how one could relate a variety of topics to hiking. I was also reminded of the variety of people who hike and the changes that have occurred during the 33 years that I have been hiking.

Consider the demographics of hikers, for example. In 1968, there were far more men who hiked than women—I would guess about 80 percent of hikers then were male. In 2001, the day-hike groups that I pass on trails seem to be closer to 60 percent male and 40 percent women; some hiking clubs are predominantly women. I have also noticed more young people hiking lately. Typically, they are not members of hiking clubs, but go out on the trails solo or with friends.

And, slowly, the ethnicity of hikers is changing. One sees more Asians on the trails now, for example, than in the past, though still not so many African-Americans or Latinos. Our Outreach program in Harriman Park aims to introduce hiking to people of these and other back-

grounds by reaching out to urban families on their day visits to the park. I would like to think that we will see some of them on the trail as a result of their hike with Trail Conference volunteers and that they will eventually join as members.

But what percentage of hikers are members of hiking organizations and hence support our activities? Probably quite small. On Sunday, September 23, my hus-

Can you recruit one new TC member?

band, Walt, and I led a Hudson Valley Ramble along the Camp Smith Trail in the eastern Hudson Highlands. All of the 18 people on the hike were experienced hikers; only two were Trail Conference members. Most of the group came on the hike because the Camp Smith Trail was new to them and they felt more comfortable exploring it with a leader. I handed out membership brochures and hope that at least half of them will join our organization.

All of us have hiking friends who are

not members of—and may not even be familiar with the work of—the Trail Conference. You can help. This year for the holidays why not give these friends a gift membership? I did this one year as a thank-you to people who had helped with the *New York Walk Book*; the next year one of the recipients renewed as a life member.

With the growing interest in hiking, we need to have more members to support our activities and protect trails and trail lands. A form for gift memberships is on page 10. Your gift will recognize your friends' interests and support the Trail Conference in its work. If one in five of our members recruits one new member, we would increase our membership by 20 percent in one year. For other ideas on how you can help, visit our website at www.nynjtc.org/membership.

—Jane Daniels, President

Jane Daniels was elected president of the Trail Conference for a one-year term at the October 16 meeting of the board of directors.

L E T T E R S

Watershed Restrictions Are Counterproductive

The knee-jerk reaction of many agencies to the terrorist attacks of September 11 has been to prevent people from entering areas the agencies want to protect, e.g., the watershed areas where we have hiking trails. It should be obvious to all that reservoirs are basically unprotectable against a determined foe. For those who do not value their life, crashing a truck through a guardrail from an adjacent road is trivial. With monitored checkpoints and a strong perimeter, the airlines failed at protecting against hijackers. In the case of our open spaces, the good guys outnumber the bad guys at least 10 million to 1. It would be more cost effective to increase the hiking opportunities around the reservoirs so that there is a much greater chance of one of the good guys seeing suspicious behavior.

Walt Daniels
 Mobegan Lake, NY

Steve Klein Passes Away

On any NJ Appalachian Trail work day, Steve Klein could be counted on to saunter up in his characteristic loping gait, clad in red plaid flannel shirt, suspenders, and khaki pants (the same outfit in which

his family buried him when he passed away this September).

Steve was a tireless volunteer: AT Overseer on Kittatinny Ridge's north end, a mover-and-shaker who helped get Pyramid Mountain preserved as a Morris County Park, and an active volunteer fireman.

He was always ready with a folksy witicism, his camera, a paint can, or his chain saw (nobody cleared blowdowns with more enthusiasm). He was tenacious as a pit bull, regularly buttonholing park superintendents to get the AT materials he needed or privys moved.

In a time when AT maintenance is becoming increasingly standardized, Steve marched to a different drum. While doing a trail assessment on his section, we came across a confusing spot where the Trail swung right, separating itself from a wide woods road. Steve had been there before us, and knew exactly how to keep wayward hikers on the path. Beside the woods road was a sign scrawled in white paint on a scrap of lumber: "This ain't the AT."

We'll miss him.

Glenn Scherer
 Highland Lakes, NJ

Letters are welcome. Send them to the TC office or to tw@nynjtc.org.

CATSKILLS BRIDGE continued from page 1

was going to be involved."

The beams—eight at 18" and done at 8"—were all hand-hewn from hemlock logs donated by private land owners in the area. Improvements were made to the pre-existing abutments, remains of the original bridge, built in 1870. The new bridge was pre-assembled in Senterman's yard over five weekends. On the 22nd, the crew of six—including Senterman and his son Doug, Bruce Warden, Tom Schofield, Pete Perricci, and Charlie Seeger—gathered to put it all together on site. On Sunday, the bridge was open and in use on a beautiful fall weekend.

"It was quite a challenge," admits Senterman, who noted that the crew had to learn to use unfamiliar tools and techniques, such as adzes, square edging, and fitting mortise and tenons. "If this lasts 50 years, I'll be very happy—it will then be someone else's problem," he says, laughing.

With construction of the bridge, an important new link in the Long Path's route through the Catskills is complete. The relocation off a mile of paved road was made possible when the Catskill Center approved the trail crossing over its land. The LP was then rerouted over a fourth peak—Indian Head—and along the eastern portion of the Devil's Path. 🍂



from the Executive Director

Our Work: As Important as Ever

By Edward Goodell
(seen in photo with volunteer Bernd Kuchar)

9:35 am, Tuesday, September 11: “Do you know what happened at the World Trade Tower? I think a plane has hit it.” Those words, uttered by Bernd Kuchar, a Trail Conference volunteer from Austria, will be forever seared into my brain.

Bernd and I had arrived at work a quiet 45 minutes earlier. In the course of checking his overseas email, Bernd received an instant message from a friend in Austria alerting him to the terrible events unfolding in New York.

Over the next few hours, Trail Conference office volunteers and staff listened to the radio, our thoughts with Manhattan, from which our office had so recently been relocated. The next morning, still in shock, we gathered around the conference table trying to make sense of events and understand how to move the Trail Conference forward in a brand new world.

We were greatly inspired by the strength of others more directly affected by the tragedy. We were deeply concerned about the safety and welfare of our members and their loved ones. We talked about the fact that our work, the work of the Trail Conference, bringing people in direct contact with wild nature, is a good

thing under any circumstances and even more so now. There was discussion about how attitude and a positive outlook would be very important in coping with such a disaster. We were heartened by the idea that our work might help give some the solace they needed to carry on.

This conversation brightened my outlook and that day I hiked up the Nordkop Mountain ridge at the southern tip of Harriman State Park. All of northern New Jersey, lower Rockland County, and, of course, Manhattan spread out before me. It was a disorienting scene. My frame of reference gone, Manhattan did not look like Manhattan anymore. It had changed and so had we, in ways I could little imagine. Even so, I felt lucky to have a trail so near at hand and more committed to carrying out the tradition of good work at the Trail Conference.

Staying a Step Ahead

Throughout our history of protecting land, the Trail Conference has mobilized grassroots efforts to successfully protect some of our favorite places. From the landmark challenge at Storm King Mountain to the Sterling Forest Partnership, the Trail Conference has been there at the beginning of some of this region's most successful conservation efforts.

What gives the Trail Conference its ability to stay one step ahead in the constant battle to protect open space is our vast network of volunteers. Knowledgeable, responsible users of the backcountry, our volunteers act as an early warning system about trail land threats and opportunities. As open space becomes more scarce, volunteers will play an even more crucial role in how the Trail Conference meets the challenges that lie ahead.

Bernd Kuchar's volunteer service is a good case in point. He is devoting his few short months in the States to almost single-handedly building the Shawangunk Ridge Coalition website and the computerized mapping system. His work is critical to our efforts along the Kittatinny-Shawangunk-Catskill greenway. This project involves monitoring and prioritizing hundreds of different property parcels and environmental threats along the 25-mile unprotected gap north of the New Jersey border. Bernd's work is helping us manage this mammoth task and get the word out. By the time you read this, the website should be up and running at <http://www.shawangunkridge.org>.

Having a voice about which lands are protected and influencing how they are managed is the focus of the Trail Conference in the 21st Century. We must understand how the “green” pieces fit together and expand our network of connecting trail lands to maintain both ecosystem health and access to pristine nature.

Despite any calamities we suffer—natural or manmade—this interconnected network of trail lands will always be important for the physical and spiritual values they provide us. That is why, no matter what happens now or in the future, we will continue with the good work of the Trail Conference.



Annual Award Goes to Leadership Duo

Monica Resor and David Day of New Jersey first met while hiking on the Four Birds Trail in the Fanny Highlands in the mid 1990s. Not long after that they became a familiar leadership pair for Bob Marshall's West Hudson Trail Crew.

While each had been an active hiker-maintainer-builder before meeting, as a pair they are virtually unstoppable. Dave's engineering background and Monica's management skills make for a truly dynamic trail crew leadership team. They have even created a website for trail workers: www.trailstobuild.com, with links to crew schedules, hardware reports, and other sites of trail-maintainer interest.

This year, the Trail Conference honors and thanks this dynamic duo by bestowing on them the Hoeflerin Award, given annually to volunteers who demonstrate exemplary service to trail maintenance and management.

Monica has been an active AMC hike leader for many years, and began working with the Conference's West Hudson Trail Crew on the Howell Trail under the guidance of Rockmeister Bob Reardon. After taking a Wilderness Workskills course with the Student Conservation Association in the mid-90s, she began leading trail crews herself.

David has helped create a number of devices to aid in trail work. Among these is the rock-bar sling carrier that crew members thank him for every time they have to carry a rock-bar into the backwoods. David started working with the TC trail crew on the Shawangunk Ridge Trail and has never stopped pushing rocks around.

These days Dave and Monica continue leading work trips for the West Hudson Crew and have taken on the development of a West New Jersey Trail Crew. This new group proved its mettle over the past two years with a nearly complete restoration of the Red Dot Trail in Worthington State Forest in New Jersey.

Like the award's namesake, William Hoeflerin, one of the founders of the Conference Trail Patrol, Monica Resor and David Day are intrepid and inspiring volunteers. They continue to improve the outdoor experience for hikers in our region, and with this award, the Trail Conference says, “Thank you.”

—Larry Wheelock

TC New Jersey Field Representative

ADVOCACY & CONSERVATION

More Shawangunk Land Saved

The Open Space Institute in August announced additional land purchases by its affiliate, the Open Space Conservancy, in the Shawangunks. The largest among them is a 1,366-acre parcel on the western boundary of Minnewaska State Park and northeast of the Sam's Point Dwarf Pine Preserve. Formerly owned by a Ukrainian civic organization, the Shevchenko property contains four major streams (the Little Stony Kill, Mine Hole Hollow Brook, Jumping Brook, and the Disappearing Brook), numerous waterfalls, and several hundred acres of ecologically unique dwarf pitch pine barrens. Napanoch Point, two secluded valleys, a portion of Witch's Hole and Mine Hole Hollow, a stretch of the historic Old Smiley Road, and the site of a former monastery below Sam's Point known as Mt. Don Bosco are among the sites protected by the purchases. Accord-

ing to OSI, the lands will be open to the public for passive recreational use.

Stonetown Circular Protected

The Torrey Tract in New Jersey—300 acres of rugged mountain terrain between Norvin Green State Forest and the Wanaque Wildlife Management Area—is now protected open space. The Trail Conference contributed \$25,000 toward the purchase price of \$1.1 million, completing the funding necessary for the land save. The Stonetown Circular, a 9.6-mile path long maintained by the Trail Conference, traverses the tract. Its steep slopes, dense forest, wetlands, and trout streams have long been a destination for local hikers and anglers. Until its purchase in August, this valuable open space was slated for more than 175 homes. The Passaic River Coalition, NJ Green Acres Program, Victoria Foundation, and

Passaic County Board of Freeholders were other partners in the purchase.

NY's “Bare Bones” Budget Zeroes Out Environmental Protection Fund

New York State's Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) was among the many programs targeted by the legislature in its tactical passage of a “bare bones” budget in August. That budget, which aimed to force Governor George Pataki to the bargaining table, zeroed out the EPF, perceived to be one of the governor's favored programs.

With the depletion of the Clean Water/ Clean Air Bond Act, the EPF is the one and only major state funding source to protect air, water and wilderness in New York. Earlier this year all three parties—the Governor, the Senate and the Assembly—pro-

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TRAIL NEWS

Permitted Watershed Recreational Activities Suspended

All permitted recreational activities have been suspended at all New York City properties throughout the watersheds of the city's upstate reservoirs, effective as of 10:30 am on Tuesday, September 11, 2001, according to an announcement by Commissioner Joel A. Miele, Sr., of the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). These activities include fishing from the shore and rowboats at the reservoirs, as well as hiking or other permitted activities at all of the city's watershed properties.

People with DEP fishing and hiking permits are advised that fishing and hiking privileges are suspended until further notice.

Unusual incidents or activities in the watershed may be reported to 1-888-DEP-NYC1 (1-888-337-6921) or 1-888-H2O-SHED (1-888-420-7433).

Split Rock Reservoir Access Limited

Access to the loop trails at Split Rock Reservoir has been restricted owing to the prohibition of parking on Split Rock Road. Hikers are cautioned that parked cars are being ticketed. The closure was called temporary, but no details have been made available by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. For updates on the situation, hikers are urged to contact Ringwood State Park, the agency in charge of the Split Rock trails: 973-962-7031.

NJ Watershed Trails: Still Open?

As far as the Trail Conference has been made aware, hiking trails in most New Jersey watershed areas remain open. Hikers who encounter closed trails are asked to notify the Trail Conference.

Pochuck Shelter Water Supply Removed Temporarily

The water supply provided by the NJDEP Forest Fire Service on the AT at Pochuck Shelter in the Wallkill River National Wildlife Refuge has been temporarily removed. The water tank was diverted to Liberty State Park to provide water for rescue workers at the World Trade Center.

Sterling Forest Map Changes

Due to the Master Planning process for Sterling Forest State Park, there are on-going changes to the trail system in the park. The Trail Conference expects this to remain in a state of flux for at least

several years and to reprint the map with corrections periodically. Between map versions, watch the Conference website for updates: (<http://www.nynjtc.org/committees/publications/errata/sf.html>).

Be aware that the Conference is not always informed of changes immediately. If you find problems, report them at the above site.

Trail Closings in Sterling Forest

Trails in the environmentally sensitive Cedar Pond area have been closed. Specifically, the Cedar Swamp Trail (orange) running east from the Sterling Ridge Trail to Fire Tower Trail (red) and the Cedar Pond Trail (green) running north from the Lake to Lake Trail (white) to the Cedar Swamp Trail are closed. The part of the Lake to Lake Trail (white) running east from the north end of Blue Lake to Long Meadow Road is also closed (or will be closed) but can be replaced by other currently unmarked woods roads.



Long Path Relocated in Catskills

The route of the Long Path in the Platte Clove area of the Catskills has been moved off a mile of road and over Indian Head Mountain.

The LP now continues on the Devil's Path east from Jimmy Dolan Notch to its junction with the Old Overlook Road, a distance of 2.75 miles. Indian Head has several extensive viewpoints to the east, south and north. Once on the Old Overlook Road, the LP follows it north, soon leaving the Devil's Path and entering the Platte Clove Preserve, where markers change from blue DEC disks to green triangle Catskill Center markers.

In the Preserve, the trail has been rerouted away from the old road alignment and through an extensive hemlock woods, reaching a new bridge (see separate story) and Platte Clove Road 0.9 mile north of the Devil's Path. Here the LP turns east (right) for 200 yards to Steenberg Road and a large new state parking lot.

The LP continues north from the parking lot 9 miles to Palenville or 1 mile to the recently marked (yellow) Huckleberry Point trail, which heads east 1.4 miles to the open rock ledges of Huckleberry Point.

These new routes are marked on the 2001 Seventh Edition of map #41 of the NYNJTC Catskill map set.

A Closing in Fahnstock

The Old Mine Railbed Trail from the AT to the dam of Hidden Lake is now closed and has been rerouted.

They Rock!

They were too busy to remind everyone last year, but this year the West Hudson Trail Crew would like us to know that Fall 2000 marked their 10th anniversary. There's a lot of country west of the Hudson, and the crew has worked on projects in several areas.

Some highlights reported by crew chief Bob Marshall and assistant crew chief Trudy Schneider:

Harriman State Park: Last fall, the crew relocated the Ramapo-Dunderberg Trail on Dunderberg Mountain, improved the 1779 Trail in an area



Heavy lifting by the West Hudson Crew.

near Queensboro Lake, and improved the Timp-Torne Trail near Mine Road. During the spring season they improved the Fawn Trail, including a small relocation; constructed switchbacks on the Timp-Torne on Popolopen Torne, and rebuilt a badly eroded section of the Popolopen Gorge Trail.

Sterling Forest State Park: Over the course of two seasons the crew completed improvements to the new Wildcat Mountain Trail, including a rock staircase and several stream crossings.

Sam's Point Preserve: Trail improvements.

Schunemunk Preserve: WHTC continued work on the relocation of the up-

per part of the Sweet Clover Trail, with rock stairs, graded terraces, and sidehilling. One work trip was devoted to closing the old trail with branches, rock check-dams, and forest debris in order to promote the healing of this badly damaged area.

Crew members: Fall 2000 and Spring 2001

Jonathan Beard, Mary Nell Bockman, Race Brandt, Gail Brown, Jim Brown, Brian Buchbinder, George Cartamil, Don Corrigan, Kevin Cwalina,

David Day, Tom Dunn, Jackie Eckhouse, Chris Ezzo, Ben Frankel, Victor Gabay, Claudia Ganz, Mary Hilley, Bill Horowitz, Joan James, Walter Jones, Frank Keech, Petra Knappe, Mike Kralovich, Len Levenson, Richard Lynch, Paul Marcus, Gay Mayer, Douglas McBride, Marshall McKnight, Carol Nestor, Trudy Pojman, Bob Reardon, Monica Resor, Jane Sandiford, Trudy Schneider, George Sheedy, Bruce Shriver, Ike Siskind, Harry Smith, Ron Snider, Ros Thalmann, Rachel Theilheimer, Aram Viagan, Denise Vitale, Baird Voorhis, Paul Waclawski, Larry Wheelock, Hanson Wong, and Liz York.

Torrey Society Hikes Schunemunk Mountain



Twenty-nine members of the Torrey Society, the Trail Conference's highest donor group, enjoyed a beautiful September hike on Schunemunk Mountain in Orange County led by Gary Haugland. In March Gov. Pataki announced that the mountain will be added to New York's state park system.

Fire Watch in Harriman State Park

TC members encountered two major unauthorized encampments in Harriman/

Bear Mountain State Park this past summer. Recognizing the potential for fire hazard, they reported the locations to park staff, who dismantled the sites.



Chief Ranger Tim Sullivan encourages the assistance of Conference members in dismantling such unauthorized encampments if possible, or reporting them to the Palisades Interstate Park Commission (845-786-2701), the Trail Conference (201-512-9348), or www.nynjtc.org.

—Pete Heckler

GET INVOLVED

Volunteers Wanted

Work from Home or Our Office and Help the Shawangunk Ridge

The Trail Conference is leading the Shawangunk Ridge Coalition's efforts to protect the remaining 25-mile gap of unprotected ridge north of the New Jersey state line. Part of that effort is to develop a Coalition website dedicated to sustainable development of the magnificent environmental and recreational resources of the Shawangunk Ridge. The website will contain a wealth of information pertaining to recreation, smart growth, and environment of the ridge, information about the coalition, and a variety of maps.

We are looking for volunteers who can help us research and gather the information found on the website. If you would like to help us with this task, either from home or in the office, please let us know. Also, we would love to hear from those familiar with the activities, attractions, or services along the ridge and/or who have photographs from the area. Contact Bernd Kuchar at our office or directly at bernd@nynjtc.org.

THANK-YOU TO WALK BOOK VOLUNTEERS

Trail Conference maps and guidebooks require the help of numerous volunteers who check routes, distances, descriptions, and help proofread and otherwise fact-check information before it is published. The Publications Committee thanks the following volunteers for their contributions to the new edition of the New York Walk Book: John Blenninger, Dan Case, Tom Casey, Ken and Nancy Clair, Christian Lenz Cesar, Walt and Jane Daniels, Wanda Davenport, Daniel Eagan, Jack and Linda Lawson Fagan, Ben Frankel, Victor Gabay, Demitris P. Haldeos,

Pete Heckler, John Jurasek, Eric Kiviat, John and Karen Magerlein, Loren Mendelsohn, Eric Meyer, John J. Moran, Bob Moss, John Myers, Ruth Rosenthal, Geraldine Ryan, Arlene Sandner, Malcolm Spector, Mike Willsey, Neil Woodworth, and the late George Zobelein. Nora Porter was the book designer and layout artist. Much valuable information was also provided by officials of federal, state, county, and local parks and Trail Conference supervisors and maintainers, too numerous to mention individually.

TRAIL CREW SCHEDULES



For the latest schedules, check <http://www.nynjtc.org/volunteers/trvop.html#crew>

For all trips bring work gloves, water, lunch, insect repellent. In some cases, tools are provided. Contact leaders in advance for meeting times and places. Volunteers must become members of the Conference to participate in these projects. A one-time "guest" participation is allowed, so bring your friends.

□ EAST HUDSON

Nov. 10, 9 am
TBA

Leader: Bernie Stringer; Call for info, 914-528-5018; Stringer@bestweb.net

□ WEST HUDSON

Leaders:
Monica Resor: 732-937-9098
Adamant@trailstobuild.com

Robert Marshall: 914-737-4792
Rfmarshall@webtv.net

Brian Buchbinder: 718-218-7563
Brian@grandrenovation.com

Harriman State Park

Nov. 3 (Resor) Popolopen Gorge
Nov. 4 (Resor) Popolopen Gorge
Nov. 8 (Marshall) Popolopen Gorge
Nov. 11 (Buchbinder) To be decided
Nov. 18 (Marshall) To be decided

□ NORTH JERSEY

Leaders:
Sandy Parr, 732-469-5109
Dick Warner, 201-327-4945
Second Sunday of each month. Tackle a variety of projects ranging from trail repair to bridge building in northern New Jersey

□ NEW JERSEY HIGHLANDS

Leader: Bob Moss, 973-743-5203
Nov. 11, TBA call for info

□ WEST JERSEY

Leaders:
David Day and Monica Resor, 732-937-9098; westjerseycrew@trailstobuild.com

AT Relocation

Nov. 10 Pochuck Project
Meeting time is 9:00 am. Please contact the leaders for driving directions.

TC Leaders Go Into the Woods with New Hikers at Harriman



New hikers with TC leader Richard Barr (front right)

On a crisp Saturday morning in early July, volunteers from the Trail Conference headed out from the Tiorati picnic area in Harriman State Park and along the AT with groups of novice hikers in their wake. These were the first Outreach nature hikes of the season in a new program jointly offered at Harriman this past summer by the Trail Conference and the Palisades Interstate Park Commission.

The groups that day—two, each with 14 participants plus leader—included 18 children from urban areas in northern New Jersey and New York City. The ages ranged from eight to 75+ (the latter a couple accompanying their grandchild). The program aimed to introduce more people to the pleasures of nature walking.

According to Outreach chair Wanda Davenport, the activity was most definitely "touchy, feely."

"We hugged trees to experience different types of bark. We used our 'animal ears,' all the better to hear the birds. Countless decaying logs were rolled to see what we could see—earthworms, grubs, ants, and fungi. The children liked spit bugs and daddy-long-legs and marveled over the bones and fur of a long-dead deer. Leave No Trace principles were stressed—

do not litter, observe and touch but do not take anything from the woods, and limit group size." (Hence, the two groups of 14.)

Participants also learned some of the rudiments of hiking: what to bring, how to follow a maintained footpath, how trails are built and by whom. On some of the summer's hikes they saw signs of recent trail work by a volunteer maintainer: fresh white blazes, clipped brushes, and sawed sections of downed trees removed from the trail.

Volunteers who made the program possible include Art Lebofsky, who helped develop the nature notes, and leaders David McCann, Linda and Bob Franzmann, Martin Cohen, Herb Young, Richard Barr, Jill Hamell, Christine Benton, Walt Daniels, Phyllis Stewart, Betty Heald, Ann Klepner, and Jean Marie Herron.

Was it a success? Here's what Richard Barr, assistant leader with Herb Young on the July 28 outing, had to say: "Initially, I was skeptical that there would be any interest among the picnickers. When we made the swing through the picnic area it seemed as if no one would take us up on our offer of a nature hike. To my amazement, almost 30 people showed up at the appointed meeting place. It was just terrific taking them out on our hike; the enthusiasm from the young kids and parents was both rewarding and surprising. Sign me up for next year!" The hikes are scheduled to resume the last Saturday in June 2002.

Support for the program this year was provided by a grant from the Appalachian Trail Conference.

HUNTING SEASONS UPDATES

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

NEW YORK
Southern Zone (including Catskills)
Deer Season
Archery: Oct. 15–Nov. 18; Dec. 12–16
Archery (Westchester Co. only): Nov. 1–Dec. 31
Firearms: Nov. 19–Dec. 11
Muzzleloader: Dec. 12–18

Hunting is not allowed in Bear Mountain-Harriman State Park, or, this year, in Storm King, which is closed to all recreational users. However, it is allowed in parts of Minnewaska and Sterling Forest State Parks. Call 845-786-2701 for more details about hunting in these parks.

Black Rock Forest closes to all hikers from Nov. 19 to Dec. 11, inclusive. For details, call 845-534-4517.

For more information about NY hunting schedules, call the Dept. of Environmental Conservation hunting, fishing, and game licensing/sales office, 518-457-3521.

NEW JERSEY
Deer Season
Archery: Sept. 29–Nov. 24; Jan. 1–31
Firearms: Dec. 3–Dec. 8 (additional days in some zones)
Muzzleloader: Nov. 19–21; Nov. 26 & 27 (some zones) Dec. 3–Jan. 31, 2002
Special High Point State Park Muzzleloader Season: Nov. 5–9, 12–15

There will be NO bear hunting season this year. (This is a correction from last issue.)

Most of Ramapo Mountain State Forest is closed to hunting. Hunting is not allowed on Sundays in New Jersey.

For more information about New Jersey hunting schedules, call 908-637-4125. This is the Pequest hatchery and is staffed seven days a week. Or visit www.njfishandwildlife.com for details.

Our Members

Caution

To hikers in the Mid-Hudson Valley: The *Poughkeepsie Journal* reported in September that a case of babesiosis, a tick-borne disease never before confirmed in Dutchess County, was diagnosed in a county resident that month. This was the first case in the county in which the patient was believed to have been infected locally. Babesiosis is a malaria-like disease; symptoms include malaise, loss of appetite, and fatigue, generally beginning within a week of being bitten. Fever, drenching sweats, muscle aches, and headache soon follow. Left untreated, people can develop severe hemolytic anemia, kidney failure, liver dysfunction, and hypotension. A seven-day treatment of antibiotics is used for treatment. In 20 percent of cases, the victim also has Lyme disease.

Found

Camera, on the trail to Windham High Peak. Would like to return it to the owner when they can identify it and tell us when it was lost. We can be reached at 845-338-7337: Jonathan and Adele Wagman.

Found

Woman's watch, on the trail up Thomas Cole. Call 845-462-0142 and describe it for return by mail: Georgette Weir

Omitted

Ilsa Dunham, from the list of 5-year maintainer rocker-patch award winners published in the last issue. Our apologies.

New Life Members

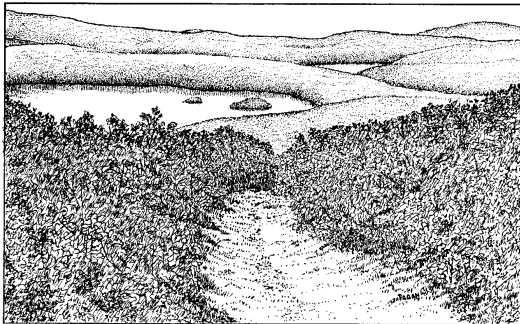
The Trail Conference welcomes the following new life members: **Andrew Baum, Han and Afina Broekman, Linda Hellmann, and Roy H. Williams.**

A Life Membership to the NY-NJ Trail Conference is just \$400 for an individual; \$600 for a joint membership (two adults at the same address). The next time you renew, consider becoming one of the Conference's more than 800 "lifers."

NEW YORK WALK BOOK: 2001

continued from page 1

View of Riga Lake from Brace Mountain, one of many new illustrations by Jack Fagan for the latest edition of the New York Walk Book.



written or expanded: Catskills, Palisades (which has been renamed Rockland County), and Greenwood Lake (which has been renamed Sterling Forest). The "Long Distance Trails" chapter has also undergone a major revision, with most descriptions of the major hiking trails now presented in the chapter of the book corresponding to the location where these trails are actually situated.

Even with the plethora of hiking guides now available, the Trail Conference expects that the demand for the *New York Walk Book* will remain strong. Simply put, the book fulfills an important need. Together with its companion volume, the *New Jersey Walk Book*, it continues to be the only comprehensive guide to the trails in the area. Beginning and experienced hikers alike will find much useful information in the book, considered by many

to be the "hiker's bible." For those of you who rely on public transportation, a new entry in the index will point you to those trails accessible by train or bus.

Thanks go to many volunteers (see page 5). Special thanks go to Daniel Chazin for undertaking the task of editing this new *Walk Book*. His tenaciousness and predilection for details have made this new edition of the *New York Walk Book* one that will reward both reading and browsing. Buy it for holiday gifts and for yourself! We have held the price to just \$19.95, with the price for TC members a low \$15.95. The book can be ordered by going to our website at www.nynjtc.org/store and then clicking on Hiker's Market Place or by calling the Trail Conference office at 201-512-9348.

Happy Trails. 🐾

—Jane Daniels
Publications Committee Chair

ADVOCACY & CONSERVATION

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posed increases to this vital fund.

If lawmakers fail to reverse their decision to zero out the EPF, New York will have no money to purchase wilderness and state parks, no money for maintaining and building hiking trails, and no money to fund wilderness rangers until a new budget is passed in 2002. The Trail Conference and ADK will continue to jointly lobby the governor and legislative leaders to settle their differences and approve a supplemental budget that appropriates this EPF funding.

On the plus side, in early September, the legislature did vote to extend the authority for spending reappropriations, meaning that unspent EPF monies from the 1999 and 2000 budgets could continue to be spent by DEC and the Office of Parks on environmental projects.

Testifying for Blue Skies and Mountain Views

On behalf of our Hikers For Clean Air Coalition, the Trail Conference, and ADK, counsel Neil Woodworth testified in Arlington VA, advocating to the Environmental Protection Agency for the adoption of strict rules to clean up smog and haze in our national parks and wilderness areas.

The EPA is considering rules on "best available retrofit technology" (BART) for power plants and industrial facilities that contribute to haze in our parks. Strong BART rules will result in significant reductions of haze-forming, acid-rain-producing sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide emissions.

Defending the Clean Air Act

The United States Environmental Protection Agency will soon be releasing the results of a review of clean air regulations that the coal industry and certain utilities have been lobbying against. These New Source Review (NSR) regulations now require old coal burning power plants to upgrade their smokestacks with clean air technology when the plants are rebuilt or increase their power generating capacity.

Testimony recently given by EPA Administrator Christie Todd Whitman to a Senate subcommittee strongly suggests that the Bush administration may propose amendments to the Clean Air Act that will further reduce SO₂ and NO_x and, for the first time, reduce airborne mercury emissions. However, the new legislation reportedly would repeal the New Source Review (NSR) regulations that now require old coal burning power plants to upgrade their smokestacks with clean air technology when the plants are rebuilt or increase their power generating capacity.

Elimination of this NSR rule would also eliminate the legal basis for ongoing legal actions against the owners of these facilities brought by the Justice Depart-

ment and several states, including New York and New Jersey.

Keep up with this issue via www.hikersforcleanair.org.

\$2 Million for NY State Trails

In August, Governor George Pataki announced grants for 43 trail-related projects across New York State as part of the federal National Trails Program. In the region covered by NY-NJTC, the following projects were on the list:

- In Hastings-on-Hudson, design and construction of a new trail on an existing railway bed to link Old Croton Aqueduct State Historic Park to the Hastings-on-Hudson river waterfront.
- On Long Island, construction of Kings Park Hike/Bike Trail from the downtown business district of the hamlet of Kings Park to the waterfront and extension of the Heckscher Walk/Bike Path.
- Improvements to Bronx Park Pathway to include repaving, drainage improvements, and landscaping to allow for safe use by bicyclists, pedestrians, joggers, rollerbladers, cross-country skiers, snowshoers, and day hikers on the Bronx River Greenway.
- Wallkill Valley Rail Trail: restoration of trail surface and construction of a wildlife observation deck.
- In the Village of Haverstraw, construction of Bowline Pond Greenway Trail along the west side of Bowline Pond.
- Bannerman Castle Trails: restoration of the historic trail system on Bannerman Island in the Hudson River, which will allow for public use.
- Development of trails on carriage roads at Wilderstein Preservation in Rhinebeck.
- Completion of the 10-mile non-motorized Wappinger & Poughkeepsie Greenway Trail by adding 1.5 miles of new trails that will connect village, town, county, and private properties.

TC Supports Local Open Space Ballot Issues

The Trail Conference joined with nine other local and regional organizations in September to support open space preservation issues on the November ballot in five towns in New Jersey. The group formed the Five Town Open Space Committee for the purpose of informing the residents of Oakland, Pequannock, Pompton Lakes, Ringwood and Wanaque about the value of open space preservation and the benefits of adopting such a trust fund.

Contributors include Neil Woodworth, Glenn Scherer, and Ed Goodell.

Visit nynjtc.org for conservation news updates.

The Healing Power of a Walk in the Woods



ARTURO DIAZ

In the aftermath of the attacks on the World Trade Center, the Trail Conference invited members to submit reflections on the tragedy and the solace they sought and found in nature.

Robert Boyle, an overseer/maintainer on the AT in New Jersey's Mid-North region wrote that he sought consolation in three days of hard work on the Pochuck Bridge Walkway in Glenwood, NJ. "I felt at least that I was in a small way providing for the quality of life that we here in America have and share with people from other countries," Bob wrote.

Similarly, Coralyn Gorlicki noted that she and her husband spent September 15 trailclearing a section of AT maintained by the University Outing Club. "I realized as I trail cleared that the outdoors was something that even terrorists and a declining economy cannot take from us."

Bob Ward, Metro Area Trails Chairman, reminds us that even in the City, green havens await those who seek solace in nature; he wrote to recommend walks along the trails in the Greenbelt Area of Staten Island. "They are accessible, for the most part, by mass transit."

Nancy Manfredonia was reminded of a poem she had written ten years ago during the Gulf War while walking along the Nissequogue River on the Long Island Greenbelt Trail. Her poem, and other reflections from Conference members follow:

A Valentine

*Sun so brilliant on the river
That I can barely open my eyes.
A special place in the world
Away from all noise
Except the swirling water.
The Nissequogue
Flowing by this sunny spot
Searching for the Sound.*

*Warm here, despite the winter day
Away from all news of horror and death
Away from all ugliness
Away from the insults of daily life*

*A special, treasured place
Like your arms around me, half asleep
Calm, and gentle, and safe.*

—Nancy Manfredonia
Long Island Greenbelt Trail

After Helping at Ground Zero

Just after the tragedy happened I dropped what I was doing and went to help at ground zero in NYC. What I saw and felt I can never put into words. When I got home on the 16th, I returned all the calls of concern from family and friends, but after that, I just wanted to be in the woods. This was the time that the horror

finally hit me, looking around at things that looked normal—not bent, twisted, burned, or worse. I can't think of a better way to say how I feel when I'm in the woods—it's sanctuary.

God bless America.

—Rich Lightcap

Finding Endurance

For three or four nights after the catastrophe, as I tried to close my eyes to sleep, images of the World Trade Center as I saw it from so many ridgetops on the trail system came to mind. I saw the towers in the distance, together with the appreciative and happy "there's the World Trade Center!" exclamation that greeted each view as we emerged onto the rock outcrops at the high points of the trails. More than anything else (as we so fortunately did not have personal losses to grieve), these memories came to mind. I am, in a way, dreading the next hike, and the gaping absence in those views. Nevertheless, the woods provide a solace not obtainable elsewhere. The woods speak of a permanence, an endurance, an ability to survive difficulties and disasters; they've been here for eons before us, have dealt with glaciers, storms, climate change and

insect hordes, they'll continue to be there in the future, albeit evolving to meet the continuously changing environment. That permanence and persistence is profoundly comforting.

—Joan Ehrenfeld
Highland Park, NJ
Chair, Science Advisory Committee

—Georgette Weir
Poughkeepsie, NY

TRAIL VIEWS OF THE SKYLINE

New York

Bear Mountain - Harriman
Black Mountain - Harriman
The Timp - Harriman
Ramapo Torne - Harriman
Bull Hill (Mt. Taurus)- East Hudson Highlands
High Tor
Hook Mountain
Mombasha High Point - AT
Denning Hill (south view) - AT
Sterling Forest Fire Tower
Turkey Mountain - Yorktown
Mt. Beacon Fire Tower

New Jersey

Palisades
Bearfort Ridge - Abram Hewitt
Watchung Range
Wyanokie High Point - Norvin Green
Pyramid Mountain
South Mtn Reservation - Millburn Lenape Trail
Eagle Rock Reservation - West Orange Lenape Trail
Mills Reservation-Montclair Lenape Trail
Garret Mtn - Paterson
High Mountain - Haledon
Ilgenstein Rock-Hoeflerlin Tr. - Ringwood

THE VIEW NO MORE

continued from page 1

There was always something miraculous about them, something bold, startling.

The new vista was full of pain. New York City had now joined Beirut, Tel Aviv, Baghdad, Dar es Salaam, Nairobi, and other Third World skylines scarred by smoke. The Twin Towers, which I once described as standing like dual tombstones, now, in their absence, marked a grave for the innocent.

As someone who often writes about these hills—about the history of Appalachian landscapes battered by 19th-century forest clearcutting or blasted by mining—I had always stressed nature's ability to heal itself. How, I wondered, would we do in healing ourselves?

The smoke above the ridge didn't speak of terror. Instead it was graceful, this language of smoke, the way it rose up, leveled out, and smoothly glided away, whitish atop, grayish beneath. The sun was fierce on the puddingstone. The flies were bad. I didn't sit long. As I prepared to go there was a solitary call: chick-a-dee-dee, chick-a-dee-dee-dee.

High overhead a lone military jet attracted my ear. I turned an eye up quickly to catch the third quarter crescent moon hung in blue infinity like some inscrutable haiku.

Upriver, September 12

Tree branches rustle with the industrious fervor of squirrels; twigs crack and acorns bounce off rocks below. A gang of blue jays hop-scoches its raucous way through the canopy. Two crows make brief, desultory conversation.

At the shore of the Hudson, water laps at pebbles as quietly as a cat at her water dish. To the west, two gulls circle against green hills. Southward, the silhouette of a cormorant protrudes from the water. Three ducks land.

Everywhere along this walk life is indifferent to extraordinary events. It is neither gentle nor kind. Neither angry nor reproachful. It is simply ordinary, inevitable. I find consolation in this continuity.

As I sit by the river, a deep, muffled roar approaches from the north—a barge. It moves south toward two bridges in distant view; toward the Highlands that rise on the horizon. I invest it with a cargo of hope for persistence of the ordinary in human affairs, and watch as it pushes toward Storm King; toward the Palisades, unseen; toward points 80 miles south, and a place where, right now, the ordinary cannot even be imagined.

On the way home I gathered in my mind the names of local mountains from which I could once see the towers: the basalt heights of the Palisades and Watchung Range, Wyanokie High Point, Pyramid Mountain, High Tor, Mount Taurus, Sterling Ridge, and a score of Appalachian Trail overlooks. The view has changed forever. I'll never look from these green hills toward that city in the same way again. None of us will.

The words written in trail guidebooks now linger in the culture like ghosts. Years from now, whenever a hiker reaches a vista in our region and scans that place in the text describing where the view of the Twin Towers should be, there will come a shock, a deep chasm between the innocent past and the dangerous now. There will be the moment of remembering. Instead of ridge-upon-ridge stretching out to touch twin silhouettes, there will arise a feeling of inexpressible loss hinted at in these lines from poet Kenneth Rexroth:

My sorrow is so wide
I cannot see across it;
And so deep that I shall
Never reach the bottom of it.

This new horizon, seen from rocky crags, seems like a good place to meditate on the way through to peace. 🌿

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In Memory of Bill Devonnille
 Janet C. Kohler

In Memory of Dorothy Kinaman
 Gloria Lewit

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 Gloria Lewit

In Honor of Neil Woodworth's work in the Catskills
 David Sutter and Naomi Sutter

In Honor of Jeanne M. Dirr and Pauline Sikora
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In Honor of Dr. Leah Joseph receiving doctorate
 Fred DeBergh

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Catskill 3500 Club

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In memory of Anne Silberberg

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Tech News

Technology and Current Events

By Walt Daniels

Hikers know how to enjoy low-tech, simple pleasures, which do much to restore our souls in times of stress. Of course, many of us are also into high-tech equipment: Gore-Tex, cell phones, GPSs, computers.

Low-tech vs. high-tech is an issue we might all keep in mind as anti-terrorist proposals regarding monitoring of electronic transmissions and restrictions on encryption are floated in the wake of Sept. 11. Such monitoring intrudes on our individual privacy and freedom, but will it achieve its anti-terrorist goals? Remember the Ewoks in *Star Wars*, who defeated the high-tech evil Empire with swings and catapults. A low-tech opponent can freely communicate in the open with a little preplanning. A simple, innocuous message such as "Take the flowers to Aunt Bessie at 2pm on next Thursday" could mean "Bomb the GW Bridge at 1pm on next Wednesday" to the recipient. Only a simple prearranged code book is needed. For more information on this topic check out Center for Democracy & Technology (www.cdt.org) and Terrorism and Civil Liberties and the Internet (www.pfir.org/statements/liberties).

There are many faces to terrorism, from the individual terrorism of wife beating or child abuse to the global terrorism of the World Trade Center bombing. In the middle ground is the threat of com-

puter viruses destroying our infrastructure. I have not seen any proof that any of the viruses recently released are the work of terrorists rather than that of a few warped persons, but they could easily be. As I write this, today's new virus contains the aptly named *wtc.exe*.

Each of us must do our part to combat these threats by using antivirus software on our computers, keeping the virus signature tables up-to-date, and never touching an attachment unless you know who it is from and why it was sent. In addition, it is important not to "cry wolf" by circulating email from others announcing supposed viruses as most such mass emails are hoaxes. Before you pass any warning on, it is your responsibility to check its truthfulness with one of the antivirus web sites listed below.

Norton Antivirus: www.sarc.com

McAfee Antivirus: www.mcafee.com/anti-virus/

Perhaps this is a good time for us hikers to remind ourselves that even with all our high-tech tools, it is still important to retain the old skills with a map, compass, first-aid kit, and acute observation skills of our surroundings (see letter to the editor).

Walt Daniels chairs the TC Technology Committee.

HIKERS' BOOKSHELF



Snow Trails

By Rich and Sue Freeman
Foot Print Press, 2001

Review by Pete Senterman

Snow Trails is an excellent guide for those who are looking for cross-country skiing in central and western New York State. Coverage is from Onondaga, Cortland, and Broome Counties west to Lake Erie. Ninety percent of the book consists of maps and short descriptions of skiable trails scattered across the region. Skiing should be generally predictable and good considering the abundant lake effect snow we hear about in the news.

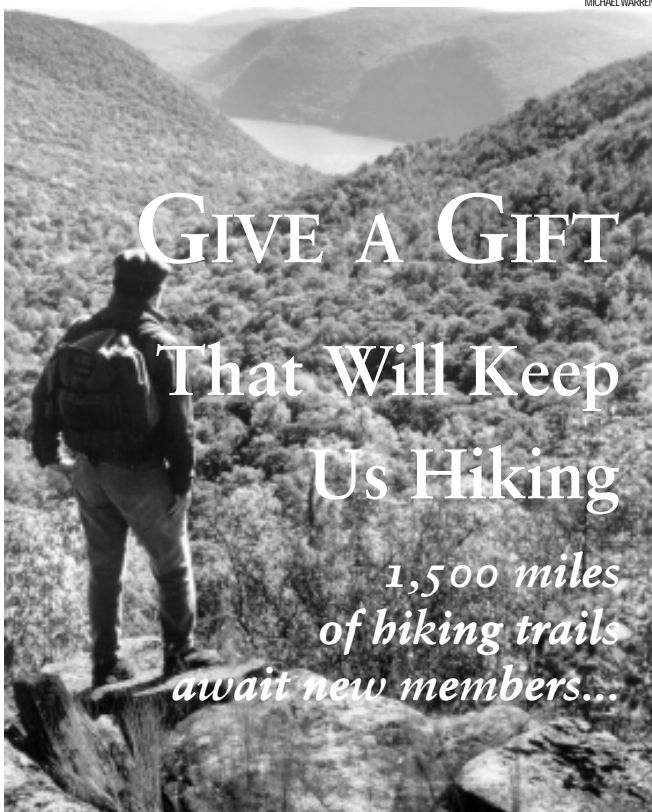
As with most guides, this one begins with an overview of weather, geography, gear and etiquette. These are not exten-

sive sections but quite adequate. The meat of the book consists of clear maps showing road connections and skiable trails in 78 areas with terrain ranging from beginner to difficult. Each map is accompanied with short trail descriptions and mileage charts.

Driving directions are included along with type of marking, uses (some are multi-use, which may include snowmobiles), rating, user fees (if any), pets, hours of operation, and a snow phone where available.

This guide would be a great asset to any cross-country skier in central and western New York or who plans to visit the region with his/her skies. Now, if they would write one for eastern New York...

Pete Senterman is Catskill Trails Chair.



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continued from page 12

GAHC. Old Westbury Gardens, NY. Leader: Gunter Georgi, 516-883-2336. Meet: 10:30 AM at parking lot. Easy hike amidst Christmas decorations. Entrance fee \$5.

WEC. Southern Wyanokie Trails. Leader: Don Weise. Meet: Call Weis Ecology Center in Ringwood, NJ, at 973-835-2160; advance registration and payment required (\$8 non-members, \$5 NJ Audubon members). 6-7 strenuous miles. Explore a beautiful, seldom hiked section of the Hewitt-Butler Trail. Very interesting rock formations and panoramic views.

MJO. Hook Mountain Circular. Leader: Lanny Wexler, 516-938-5721, or Laurie Livshin, 914-674-0325. Meet: Call leader for meeting time and place; accessible by public transportation. 8-mile moderately strenuous hike in hilly Hook Mt. State Park, Rockland County. Spectacular views of the Hudson and rugged hills of Harriman and Hudson Highlands. Walk back along level Shore Path by the shores of the Hudson. Optional Italian dinner afterwards. Non-member fee \$10.

HHC. Sparta Mountain. Leader: Ron and Anita Krauth, 908-534-2894. Meet: 9 AM at King's shopping center on Rt. 523, park near Little Italy. 4 miles with rolling hills at an unhurried pace. Explore the trails of Sparta Mountain wildlife management area. View mining sites and historic monument. Wear hiking boots. Snow or ice may require location change. Contact leaders before hike.

SUNDAY, DEC. 9

UChC. Watchung Reservation. Leader: Call 908-580-1778 for information. Meet: 10 AM at the Trailside Nature and Science Center parking lot on Coles Ave., where it intersects with New Providence Rd. A moderate ramble of 4-5 miles.

SC Singles. Hatfield Swamp Natural Area in West Essex Park. Family/Single Parent Hike. Co-leaders: David Ogens & Ronald Pate, 973-364-7573, press 2. Meet 10 AM at the parking lot on Kirkpatrick Lane in West Caldwell. 5 miles at a moderate pace; explore marshes/wetlands; children 9 years or older and dogs are welcome. Rain cancels. Participants must sign a liability waiver before the hike; \$3 non-member fee.

NYHC. Nassau Greenbelt, Bethpage to Massapequa. Leader: Mike Puder, 718-743-0920. Meet: Call leader week of the hike for meeting time; meet at Roy Rogers across from LIRR ticket windows, lower level of Penn Station. Moderate 8-mile hike at steady pace.

THURSDAY, DEC. 13

FVTW. Gyascutes Brook and Beyond. Leader: Dave and Naomi Sutter, 973-778-0992. Meet: 10 AM at Ladentown parking area. Strenuous, 7-10 miles hike; no beginners. This is a rarely visited part of Harriman S. P. Pass remains of Pittsboro and other fast-vanishing gems from the past. Return via Many Swamp to Conklin's Cabin.

SATURDAY, DEC. 15

ADK MH. Taconic Mountains. 9 miles. Leader: Russ Faller, 845-297-5126. Meet: 8 AM in Wappingers Falls. Call leader for details.

ADK-R. Perkins Tower Challenge, Bear Mtn. S. P. 5.5 miles. Call leader: 845-627-9601.

UChC. Tourné Park, Boonton. Leader: Susan Jacobs, 973-402-2555. Meet: 10 AM at second parking lot. This will be a moderate hike by a stream and lake and an old trolley line.

SUNDAY, DEC. 16

ADK-R. High Point Figure Eight. 9 miles. Call leader: 845-986-8645. UChC. Ramapo Lake. Leader: Micky Siegel, 201-797-7054. Meet: 10 AM on Skyline Dr.; first parking lot on left at bottom of hill. This is a very scenic moderate hike; well worth the commute. View beautiful Ramapo Lake. Call leader if in need of directions or in doubt due to inclement weather.

GAHC. Central Park & Rockefeller Center, NYC. Leader: Wolfgang Hahn, 212-831-8254. Meet: 10 AM at Rockefeller Center Christmas tree. Easy hike among Christmas decorations.

SC Singles. South Mountain Reservation. Leader: Ronald Pate, 973-364-7573, press 2. Meet 10 AM in Tulip Springs parking lot off Cherry Lane (between Northfield Ave. and South Orange Ave. in South Orange). 6-7 miles at a moderate pace. Rain cancels. Participants must sign a liability waiver before the hike; \$3 non-member fee.

THURSDAY, DEC. 20

FVTW. Patriots' Path—Long & Short. Leader: Charlie and Anita Kientler, 973-835-1060. Meet: 9:30 AM at Speedwell Lake parking (Rt. 202 near center of Morristown). Some of us will hike the 10.2 miles from Rt. 24 Mendham to Speedwell Lake. Others may leave the hike at the

5.5 mile point. A mostly level hike along the Whippany River and the old Rock-a-Bye Railroad on both familiar and new sections of the Patriots' Path.

SATURDAY, DEC. 22

UChC. Jockey Hollow, Morristown. Leader: Mary Dell Morrison, 908-684-1173. Meet: 10 AM at the Jockey Hollow Visitors Center. \$4 per-person admission is charged to those without park passes. Enjoy a scenic 4.5 mile ramble at a moderate pace in this historic National Park (where Washington's army camped during the brutal winter of 1779-80). Rain or snow cancels.

SUNDAY, DEC. 23

ADK-R. The Nordkop Bounce. 7 miles. Call leader: 201-871-3531.

UChC. Old Short Hills Park, Millburn. Leader: Dot Berreman, 908-464-9546. Meet: 10 AM at Old Short Hills Park in Millburn. A moderate 4-mile ramble.

MJO. Fort Tilden Winter Beach Walk. Leader: Marvin Pasternak, 718-261-7199, before 9:30 PM. Meet: Call leader for meeting time and place. 2-hour walk along Rockaway Beach to begin the winter; observe winter shorebirds; poor weather cancels. Non-member fee \$5.

THURSDAY, DEC. 27

FVTW. Elk Pen Circular, Harriman State Park. Leader: Arnie Seymour-Jones, 201-768-3864. Meet: 10 AM at Harriman Elk Pen parking lot. 7-10 miles on variety of trails and including features such as mines, the Lemon Squeezer, Times Square.

SATURDAY, DEC. 29

ADK-R. South Mountain Reservation. 9 miles. Call leader: 845-986-8645.

UChC. Watchung Reservation. Leader: Call 908-580-1778 for information. Meet: 10 AM at Trailside Nature and Science Center parking

lot on Coles Ave., where it intersects with New Providence Rd. A moderate ramble of 4-5 miles.

SUNDAY, DEC. 30

UChC. South Mountain Reservation. Leader: Call 908-580-1778 for information. Meet: 10 AM in Locust Grove parking lot, corner of Glen Ave. and Lackawanna Pl., across from Millburn RR station. This will be a brisk ramble of 5-6 miles.

TUESDAY, JAN. 1

UChC. South Mountain Reservation. Leader: Call 908-580-1778 for information. Meet: 10 AM at the Tulip Springs parking lot, Brookside Ave., Millburn. Ramble at a moderate pace through the pine forest to Hemlock Falls and beyond.

NYHC. Long Beach to Lookout Point. Leader: Mike Puder, 718-743-0920. Meet: Call leader during week of hike for meeting time; meet at Roy Rogers across from LIRR ticket windows, lower level of Penn Station. 11 miles at a moderate steady pace. Hike along the beach to welcome in the New Year.

FAVORITE HIKES

Red, White, and Blue



Enjoy great views on the Ramapo-Dunderberg/AT in Harriman.

By Jonathan Beard

Several of my favorite hikes start from the Anthony Wayne Recreation Center, where the huge parking lot just off the Palisades Interstate Parkway never fills up, unlike the overused area around the visitor center on Seven Lakes Drive near Suffern. We recently did a long loop from AW, a strenuous hike but not too much hard climbing.

Begin by leaving the parking lot at the north end via the entrance ramp (heading west), crossing over the Palisades Parkway at the Anthony Wayne Trail. Its small white blazes can be found on the curbs and guardrails until two appear, signaling you to leave the pavement and climb north into the woods. Follow the AW for 0.7 mile until it intersects the blue-blazed 1779 Trail, then turn left onto it, heading south. The 1779 follows a low route, in a wet area rampant with ferns. The ridge to the east completely blocks the noise of the parkway, and this is one of the quietest areas of the park. After 1.45 miles, you will meet the joint Ramapo-Dunderberg (red blaze) and Appalachian (white) Trails. Turn right and follow them up onto Black Mountain. It is a good climb (summit elevation is 1200 feet) on a well maintained trail, and there is a viewpoint

on top overlooking Owl Swamp and the Hudson. Continue for 1.9 miles on the RD and AT—you will pass another viewpoint overlooking Silvermine Lake—and cross an old woods road now known as the Silvermine Ski Road. After a gentle climb, you will find a trail shelter where the yellow-blazed Menomine Trail intersects the AT/RD.

Now it is time to look for the Dean Trail, an unblazed woods road. Two keys: it goes southeast, and it generally descends from the shelter. One problem in following trails and roads which are on the Harriman maps, but not maintained by the Trail Conference, is that the storms of the last two years have blown many trees down across the trails. You will have to look for the Dean at times, and climb over a lot of trunks, but it is 0.85 mile of easy going. As you get closer to the Red Cross Trail, the way gets wetter. Turn left onto the RC at the junction and continue east through swampy ground, crossing Stillwater Brook on a bridge. The RC then begins to climb, and hugs the side of Big Bog Mountain. Soon you will hear traffic, and need to cross the Palisades Parkway on the RC. Look both ways and marvel at how fast you must have been going when you drove in that morning.

Once across the highway, look for our

old friend, the 1779, coming in from the north, and turn left onto it. You have walked 1.4 miles on the RC. For the next 0.45 mile, remain close to the highway on the 1779. Do not cross the parkway again when the 1779 does! When the 1779 Trail turns left on Beechy Bottom Road (a wide woods road), you should turn right and follow this road, marked with blue-and-white plastic discs as a bike trail. Follow the bike path to the east and then north as it skirts Horn Hill and twice crosses the yellow-blazed Suffern-Bear Mountain Trail. When you reach a T intersection with the markers going in both directions, bear right and continue heading north, soon crossing both the Ramapo-Dunderberg and Appalachian Trails. The road is a pleasant, flat walk—a delightful way to finish the hike. After about three miles of walking along the bike path, you'll be back at the starting point at the north end of the Anthony Wayne Recreation Area. The total distance covered is nearly 10 miles, which took us five hours on a cool but buggy summer day. 🍃

Share a favorite walk in the NY-NJ region with Conference members. For guidelines, write to: tw@nynjtc.org or call the Trail Walker editor at 845-462-0142.



Destination: Harriman State Park (NY)
Distance: approximately 10 miles
Elevation gain: 1,200 feet
Difficulty: Strenuous
Special features: Views of Hudson River and Silvermine Lake; less frequented area of the park
Resources: Map #4 from the Harriman/Bear Mountain Trails map set (NY-NJTC, Eighth edition © 2001)



HIKERS' ALMANAC

The activities listed are sponsored by member clubs of the NY-NJ Trail Conference. All hikers 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 is not adequately equipped. Easy, moderate, or strenuous hikes are relative terms; call leader if in doubt.

More than 80 clubs belong to the Trail Conference, and many of our affiliate groups sponsor hikes not listed in the Hikers' Almanac. For a descriptive list of Conference clubs, consult our Web site or send an SASE with your request to NY-NJ Trail Conference.

Club Codes

ADKMH	Adirondack Mt. Club, Mid-Hudson Chapter	NYHC	New York Hiking Club
ADK-R	Adirondack Mt. Club, Ramapo Chapter	PIPC	Palisades Interstate Park Commission
FVTW	Frost Valley Trail Walkers	SC Singles	Sierra Club Singles Section
GAHC	German American Hiking Club	UCHC	Union County Hiking Club
HHC	Hunterdon Hiking Club	WEC	Weis Ecology Center
MJO	Mosaic Jewish Outdoor Mountain Club	WTA	Westchester Trails Association
NJRT	New Jersey Rail Trails		

Clubs wishing to have hikes listed in Hikers' Almanac should send their schedules to tw@nynjtc.org or to the Trail Conference office. The deadline for the January/February issue is November 27.

NOVEMBER

SATURDAY, NOV. 3

UCHC. High Mt. Preserve Park, Wayne, NJ. Leader: Peter Wolff, 973-239-0766. Meet: 10 AM at Wm. Paterson Univ. parking lot #6, uppermost level. Use new trails to climb to 885 ft. peak with unpassed views of Passaic Valley and many other peaks. Return on steep and rocky trail about 1:30. Sturdy boots recommended. Rain cancels.

MJO. Ramapo Ramble. Leader: Richard Jobsky, 201-689-0207, no calls after 8:30 PM. Meet: 10 AM; call leader for meeting place and directions (no public transportation). Intermediate level 6-mile hike in the Ramapo Reservation of northern NJ. Non-member fee \$10.

NJRT. Walks along the D&R Towpath. Leader: Bob, 908-232-5877. Meet: 10 AM; call leader. Walk from Lock 11, South Bound Brook to Weston Causeway.

HHC. Kittatinny Mountain. Leader: Jerry Barrick, 908-730-9405, and Paul Ulrich, 908-782-2665. Meet: 8 AM at Clinton commuter parking lot. 12.7 miles at a moderate pace, with steep ups/downs. A long circuit hike from Delaware Water Gap Info Center to Upper Yards Creek reservoir, mostly on the AT and Mt. Tammany fire road. Enjoy a beautiful view of the Gap from Mt. Tammany (1549 ft.). Bring hiking boots.

SUNDAY, NOV. 4

ADK-R. Tallman Mountain and the Hudson. 4 miles. Call leader: 845-735-5304.

MJO. Trail Maintenance and Hike in Sterling Forest. Leader: Lanny Wexler, 516-938-5721, 7-10 PM or Hanna Benesh, 732-565-1125, 6-10 PM. Meet: Call leader by Nov. 3. Give something back to the trails by trimming, clearing brush, and painting markers along the Allis Trail. Followed by 4.5 mile hike to waterfall or view; pizza and beverages provided by the club; no non-member fee.

WTA. Trail Maintenance Plus Hike. Leader: Lore Jungster, 914-669-5777. Meet: 9:30 AM; call leader. We'll do some clipping on a section of the AT assigned to the club; bring tools if you have them. Afterwards a moderate hike in the area; \$3.50 fee. Rain cancels.

PIPC. History Walk. Leader: Call 201-461-1776 for information. Meet: 2 PM at Fort Lee Historic Park (on Hudson Terrace in Fort Lee). Easy 2-hour walk, "500 Years of History," with Ranger Ron. Parking \$4.

NYHC. Staten Island Greenbelt. Leader: Steve and Betty Soffer, 718-720-1593, call 7-9 PM. Meet: Take 10:30 AM ferry from Manhattan and meet leaders at the steps of the train station in rear of St. George terminal. Easy hike of about 6 miles with a few hills; fall foliage should be near peak. Hiking boots recommended.

HHC. Cattus Island. Leader: Phil Tunison, 609-466-3602. Meet: 8:30 AM at Flemington Outlet Center. A 6-mile easy hike through this Ocean County park on Barnegat Bay, including estuaries, freshwater streams, salt marshes, and pine and oak forests. Bring insect repellent. Possible stop after the hike.

THURSDAY, NOV. 8

FVTW. Long Mountain Circular. Leader: Arnold Seymour-Jones, 201-768-3864. Meet: 10 AM at Long Mt. parking. 7-10 mile hike including the Long Path, Deep Hollow Rd., and Baileytown Rd.

SATURDAY, NOV. 10

ADK-MH. Catskills, from Fox Hollow, over Panther Mountain, across Giant Ledge to County Rt. 47. 8+ miles. Leader: Vinny Cortina, 845-688-5362 (before 9pm). Registration required.

ADK-R. Undercliff Up Breakneck and Sugarloaf. 8 miles. Call leader: 201-836-3329.

UCHC. Garrett Mountain. Leader: Mary Sive, 973-746-3986. Meet: 10 AM at Garrett Mt. Park near Paterson, first parking area on left. This will be a moderate circular walk with splendid views. Optional visit to Lambert Castle after hike.

WTA. Two Bridges. Leader: Marcia Cohen, 914-478-7074. Meet: 9:30 AM; call leader. 6 easy miles; view the world between the Bronx Whitestone and the Throgs Neck bridges - fun walk between Ferry Pt. Park and SUNY Maritime College; \$3 fee.

NYHC. Yellow Trail in Staten Island. Leader: Mike Puder, 718-743-0920. Meet: Call leader during week of the hike for meeting time. Meet at Staten Island Ferry terminal, Manhattan side. After the ferry, we'll take a bus to Doctors' Hospital. Moderate 8-mile hike on relatively flat terrain, moderate steady pace.

SUNDAY, NOV. 11

ADK-R. SBM Over Pingyp and Cats Elbow. 8-9 miles. Call leader: 201-569-0244.

UCHC. Patriots' Path, Morristown. Leaders: Lynn Gale, 973-763-7230 and Betty White. Meet: 10 AM at the visitor's center, Fosterfields Historical Park on Kahdena Rd. in Morris Township. We will shuttle, and peek at nature as we go on this casual ramble. Steady rain cancels.

GAHC. Harriman Park, NY. Leader: Brian Kassenback, 718-748-0624. Meet: 9:30 AM at Staatsburg RR Station parking lot. Difficult, average, and easy hikes.

WEC. Harriman Lakes & Ridges. Leader: Don Weise. Meet: Call Weis Ecology Center in Ringwood, NJ, at 973-835-2160; advance registration and payment required (\$8 non-members, \$5 NJ Audubon members). 6-8 strenuous miles. Beautiful loop on Ramapo-Dunderberg Trail with views from Tom Jones, Parker Cabin Mt., and possible side trips to Lake Skentonito, Black Rock.

MJO. Caumsett State Park. Leader: Lanny Wexler, 516-938-5721, 7-10 PM. Meet: Call leader for meeting time and place. Leisurely afternoon 4-5 mile walk at 1500 acre Marshall Field estate in beautiful Lloyd's Neck, LI. Woods and along the beach; visit exhibit where injured raptors are being rehabilitated. Optional dinner after the walk. Non-member fee \$5.

SC Singles. Hatfield Swamp Natural Area in West Essex Park. Leader: Ronald Pate, 973-364-7573, press 2. Meet: 10 AM at the parking lot on Kirkpatrick Lane in West Caldwell. 5 miles at a moderate pace: explore marshes and forested wetlands in the Passaic River flood plain. Rain cancels. Participants must sign a liability waiver before the hike; \$3 non-member fee.

WTA. Hook Mountain. Leader: Herb Hochberg, 914-472-3525. Meet: 9 AM; call leader. 7 moderate miles along the Hudson, enjoying great views of the river from the west side; \$3 fee.

PIPC. Living History: "A Salute to Veterans." Leader: Call 845-561-1765 for information. Meet: 1 PM at New Windsor Cantonment (on Rt. 300 in Vails Gate, NY).

NYHC. Historical Walk in the Old and New Lower East Side. Leader: George Glatz, 212-533-9457, call 7-8:30 AM. Meet: 11 AM on NE corner of 14th St. and First Avenue, Manhattan. Easy hike of about 3.5 miles, zigzag through the streets and various points of interest.

HHC. Raccoon Ridge Birdwatching Hike. Leader: Wendy Draina, 609-466-0684, and Pat Hennessy, 908-806-7147. Meet: 9 AM at Clinton commuter parking lot. 3 miles at an unhurried pace, but with steep ups/downs. Carpool to Raccoon Ridge near Blairstown (about one hour). Hike

up Raccoon Ridge and enjoy the views. Bring binoculars since eagles should be in the area about this time. Wear hiking boots. Possible lunch stop after hike.

THURSDAY, NOV. 15

FVTW. Bockberg Escalator Reprise. Leader: Dave and Naomi Sutter, 973-778-0992. Meet: 10 AM at Bear Mountain Inn. 7-10 miles. Again, sip from Stalter's Spring and ascend the forgotten Escalator.

SATURDAY, NOV. 17

ADK-R. Lake Sebago to Breakneck Pond. 7 miles. Call leader: 845-359-2465.

UCHC. Watchung Reservation. Leader: Mae Deas, 908-233-6641. Meet: 10 AM at the Trailside Nature and Science Center parking lot on Coles Ave., as it intersects with New Providence Rd. Enjoy a brisk walk and what's left of the fall foliage and the clear views offered by the loss of leaves. Steady rain cancels.

NYHC. Tappan to Nyack. Leader: Ray Krant, 718-435-4994. Meet: 11 AM at Port Authority Bus Terminal near the Commuter Statue. Easy 6-mile hike on flat terrain on an abandoned railroad (tracks removed so there are no obstacles).

NYHC. Old Croton Aqueduct to Tibbets Brook. Leader: Sal Varbero, 718-420-9569, 8-10 PM. Meet: Call leader. Easy 6-mile level hike along the aqueduct from Van Cortlandt Park to Tibbets Brook Park in Yonkers.

HHC. Highlands Trail Section #2. Leader: Bob Hagon, 908-788-8360. Meet: 9 AM at Clinton commuter parking lot. 7 miles at a moderate pace. Scenic walk along an old railroad bed with some hills but mostly flat. Rain cancels.

SUNDAY, NOV. 18

UCHC. Pyramid Mountain. Leader: Micky Siegel, 201-797-7054. Meet: 10 AM at Pyramid Mountain Visitor Center parking lot. This moderate hike is a very rewarding experience; rest stop at one of the world's wonders, Tripod Rock. Call leader if in doubt due to inclement weather.

MJO. Schunemunk. Leaders: Ken King, 631-789-1819 or Hanna Benesh, 732-565-1125. Meet: Call leader for meeting time and place. 7-mile hike on the Jessup Trail to Long Path and over High and Little Knob. Car shuttle required. Steep and rocky but with great views and slow pace. No public transportation.

WTA. Claudius Smith Den, Harriman Park. Leader: Sam Acarbo, 914-939-2769. Meet: 9 AM; call leader. 7 moderately strenuous miles; scramble up Almost Perpendicular to Smith's Den; use a little-known trail to Parker Cabin Mt. for views, easy walking after that. Rain or shine; \$4 fee.

NYHC. Brighton Beach to Marine Park. Leader: Mike Puder, 718-743-0920. Meet: Call leader during week of the hike for meeting time. Meet at Brighton Beach station on the D subway line. Easy 6-mile level hike at a moderate pace. Walk the boardwalk to the Salt Marsh Nature Center in Marine Park. Stop along the way for lunch at a Thai restaurant.

FRIDAY, NOV. 23

MJO. Post Thanksgiving Hike. Leader: Marvin Pasternak, 718-

261-7199, before 9:30 PM. Meet: Call leader for meeting time and place. 7-8 mile moderate hike to walk off our Thanksgiving dinner. Hiking boots and at least two quarts of water required. Non-member fee \$10.

SATURDAY, NOV. 24

UCHC. Jockey Hollow. Leader: Bob Hagon, 908-788-8360. Meet: 10 AM at the Jockey Hollow Visitors Center. This will be a brisk ramble of 5-6 miles. For info, call the night before the ramble between 7 and 9 PM only.

HHC. Johnsonburgh Swamp, NJ. Leader: Geoff Nicklen, 609-397-2603. Meet: 8:30 AM at Clinton commuter parking lot. 5-6 miles at moderate pace with rolling hills. This hike into a little-known area near Jenny Jump State Park will appeal to those who enjoy the undefined: possible brambles and swampy conditions; trail may or may not be good. Picturesque lake in the middle of interesting rock formations. Wear sturdy boots; bring rain gear, gloves, matches, and flashlight.

SUNDAY, NOV. 25

UCHC. South Mountain Reservation. Leader: Dot Berreman, 908-464-9546. Meet: 10 AM at the Elmdale commuter parking lot, west side of Brookside Dr., north of Glen Ave., Millburn. Moderate ramble.

WTA. Castle Rock. Leader: George O'Leary, 914-946-3940. Meet: 9 AM; call leader. 7 moderate miles; view the Hudson from Sugarloaf, continuing on the Osborn Loop and AT. Bad weather cancels; \$4 fee.

THURSDAY, NOV. 29

FVTW. Ramapo Reservation. Leader: Al and Jane Leigh, 201-471-7528. Meet: 10 AM at Ramapo Reservation, Darlington. 8-9 miles on a variety of trails in an attractive area. Enjoy a day of hiking in the Ramapo Reservation.

DECEMBER

SATURDAY, DEC. 1

UCHC. South Mountain Reservation. Leader: Clotilde Lanig, 732-549-4977. Meet: 10 AM at the Bramhall Terrace parking lot (on Crest Drive, 0.35 mile from the entrance on South Orange Ave.). This will be a moderate 4-mile ramble using unusual trails.

NYHC. Upper Montclair to Verona. Leader: Ray Krant, 718-435-4994. Meet: 10 AM at Port Authority Bus Terminal, upstairs near the Commuter Statue. Moderate 8-mile hike with some ups and downs. Hike through wooded areas of Mills Reservation in Essex County and then along abandoned railroad right-of-way (tracks removed for easy walking).

SUNDAY, DEC. 2

ADK-MH. BashBish Falls, Taconic State Park. 3 miles. Leader: Ben Shor, 845-236-4291. Meeting time: 10:30 AM. Call leader for details and to register.

ADK-R. Dater's Mountain. Harriman State Park. 7 miles. Call leader: 201-569-0244.

UCHC. Rifle Camp Park. Leader: Mary Sive, 973-746-3986. Meet: 10 AM at the first parking lot from the park entrance. Nice views about midway in this circular hike at a moderate pace.

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TRAIL WALKER

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