Our Work in New Jersey

The Trail Conference’s New Jersey Trails and Greenways Action Plan took a leap forward last fall when the Conference hired its first staff member in the state, New Jersey Field Representative Larry Wheelock. This new initiative was jump-started by a $10,000 challenge grant from John and Marianne Gunzler, with a commitment for $1,500 for each of the following two years, and matched by a $30,000 grant from the Marie Baier Foundation.

The goals of our Action Plan are to invigorate the volunteer corps; to encourage more appropriate and adequate park stewardship of existing trail lands; and to help shape a protected landscape in the New Jersey Highlands. Through the efforts of our Trail Lands Consultant John Myers, we have already accelerated our protection efforts, as reported in the last Trail Walker. Although Anne Lutkenhouse, Conference Projects Director, worked for many years building solid relationships with government and non-governmental agencies in New Jersey, it became apparent that a more visible and physical presence was needed. A resident of New Jersey could be a more consistent resource to Conference volunteers and programs and also form more partnerships with other environmental organizations throughout the state.

Since being hired last fall, Larry has focused on three priorities from the multitude initially outlined for his work: coordinating the Conference’s responses to proposals for cell phone and/or utility tower construction along the Kittatinny Ridge, from the Delaware Water Gap through Stokes and Worthington State Forests to High Point State Park. Gradually he will expand his work to include all of northern New Jersey.

Coordinating the Trail Conference’s responses to proposals for cell phone and/or utility tower construction along the ridges of the New Jersey Highlands feels like a full-time job in itself. As the demand for technology services throughout society increases, tremendous pressures threaten hiking trails and public lands. Larry is working with trail supervisors in local communities to help inform and educate decision-makers about the effects of cell phone towers on the viewshed.

Larry points out, “We need more local volunteers to learn the regulatory process to state park trails, now they want access. For example, just prior to press time, motorcycle supporters convinced the New Jersey Fish and Game Council to have the Department of Environmental Protection study the feasibility of holding an off-road motocrossing Enduro race in a State Wildlife Management Area! First the off-road motocrossers want access to state park trails, now they want access to lands set aside for habitat protection!!

To date, Larry has concentrated on the northwestern section of the state—the Kittatinny Ridge, from the Delaware Water Gap through Stokes and Worthington State Forests to High Point State Park. Gradually he will expand his work to include all of northern New Jersey.

trailwalker May/June 2000

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

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Long term activism is needed to fight NJ off-road motorcycling threat

Thank you to members for your excellent response to our recent Action Alert about proposed legislation that would require 30 miles of off-road motocycling trails to be set aside in a northern New Jersey state park or forest (Senate bill S2351).

At press time, this proposed bill had not been scheduled for consideration by the Senate’s Environmental and Natural Resources Committee. That’s good news, at least for now. However, despite your letters and calls to legislators, this proposal could be scheduled at anytime for a committee hearing and vote. It could also be reintroduced in the Assembly.

Here is the reality about the off-road-motorized-access-to-trails issue:

- Off-road motorcycling supporters are being tenacious in their efforts to gain access. For example, just prior to press time, motorcycle supporters convinced the New Jersey Fish and Game Council to have the Department of Environmental Protection study the feasibility of holding an off-road motocrossing Enduro race in a State Wildlife Management Area! First the off-road motocrossers want access to state park trails, now they want access to lands set aside for habitat protection!!

- Motorized users are lobbying hard across the nation, on both federal and state governments, to gain off-road (trail) access on public lands with their vehicles.

- This threat is here to stay! We must mount a equally tenacious defense against the permitting of vehicles onto public trail lands. It’s going to take a concerted, long-term effort to keep motorized access off these trails. Each of us must become an activist and keep the pressure on legislators, elected officials, and others to say “No!” to turning over trails to off-road motorcycles and other motorized vehicles. This is our challenge with the quality of our outdoor experience as the grand prize in this contest.

- You’ll be hearing more from us. When the Trail Conference puts out the call to YOU for action, BE that activism!!
The Census and the Trail Conference

I sit down to write this note on April 1st — April Fool’s Day by some tradi-
tions, but also . . . Census Day. By now you all should have completed your
census forms. (If not, you will find you!) And by now you have heard the reasons why
the census must be taken every decade—something about political representation
and economic opportunity. But I suspect we really take these counts because we
have an insatiable thirst for knowledge.

Why am I talking about this? For two reasons. First, we have learned from our
strategic planning process that, as a mem-
bership organization, we will benefit from
expanding our demographic base. And
second, we are planning a survey of our
members this Fall. (More about that at
another time.)

We will be pursuing ways to increase awareness of the Trail Conference and its
mission among young people, young families, people with disabilities, and a
broad range of cultural groups. Our goal is to help them enjoy hiking trails and
convince them to help us protect them.

Many of our devoted volunteers—thank you one and all—are found among
retirees. At the other end of the spectrum, we have lots of families with young chil-
dren. We need to explore ways to make it easier for them to take part in Trail Con-
ference activities.

We will continue to encourage young people to get involved in trail work. As
our letterhead shows, several of our mem-
ber clubs are Girl and Boy Scout troops and
schools with special programs—some from inner city neighborhoods—all of
them promoting outdoor recreation and
community service. We look to such clubs
to plant the seeds for tomorrow’s conser-
vationists and trail activists.

Another cohort of young people has been introduced to the Trail Conference through
their parents. Some of these have taken very active roles when young and
as they have matured, have grown to trea-
sure these roots. In this Trail Walker we begin a series of articles by those young
people. The inaugural piece is by Ellen
Daniels, the first recipient of our Next
Generation Award and daughter of Vice
President Jane Daniels and volunteer jack-
of-all-trades Walt Daniels.

Luckily, not all members of the
younger generation have been seduced by
extreme sports and off-road vehicles on
hiking trails to get their thrills. Some love
science, some love technology, and most
important, many love to be immersed in
nature. There is a place for them all in the
Trail Conference as we begin to pur-
se trail-related biodiversity studies and
digital mapping. In addition to age, the census quan-
tifies another very important aspect of the
Trail Conference’s domain: the cultural
shifts that are not yet well reflected in
our membership. Increasingly our neigh-
bors and co-workers mirror the ethnic di-
versity that has long been a hallmark of
American society. If the work we have
done is to survive long into the future,
we must be better able to educate all
members of the public so they can be-
come involved in protecting our hiking
resources now.

Trail users need information, but we are
not reaching new immigrant groups
with poor mastery of English whose chil-
dren may well be the protectors of our
future! We teach by words and by ex-
ample. Two years ago we instituted an
outreach program in Harriman State
Park. Last year, nature did not cooperate
and the trails were closed most of the
summer due to fire danger. But we are
set to go again this year. And soon we
will begin translating some of our bro-
chures into the diverse languages of our
fellow hikers.

So you see the census is important to
the Trail Conference. We must be respon-
sive to the needs of an ever-changing pub-
ic, and be on the lookout for those who
will help us preserve the backwoods and
ridgetops where the trails we all love to
bike are found. You can count on it.

— Gary Haugland
Although I jokingly refer to it as the “Salami Award,” my Next Generation Award proudly hangs above my dresser at my parents’ house. I call it the “salami” because it always makes me think back to a cool spring morning twelve years ago, when I scurried around Camp Thendara in Harriman State Park, carefully laying out cold cuts in geometric designs for the Trail Maintenance Workshop. Grocery bags over-flowing with a variety of bread, chips, and cookies still left me wondering if, in spite of my careful calculations, the hikers would leave hungry. As lunch time drew near, a few adults offered to help, and were sent off ferrying trays of cookies and bowls of chips to the buffet. But in preparing that lunch, I learned more than that hikers love oatmeal cookies and dislike salami.

The opportunity to prepare lunch for 73 hikers was a rare but welcome one for an eager thirteen-year-old. In the tense boundary between child and adult, I was more familiar with being reminded to set the table than asking adults to neatly lay out plasticware. A life-long member of the Trail Conference, in 1988 I was familiar with the volunteer role of “The Daughter” or “The Kid”: flagging new trails or stuffing envelopes. This time, however, I was The Person Organizing Lunch. Preparing the lunch brought me a sense of accomplishment, but more importantly, for one brief morning, I was an adult.

My stint as an adult, however, was short. A year later, I decided to quit hiking. Ready to leave childish hiking games, but not yet ready to appreciate the serenity of a night in the woods, I wanted to be fourteen. This pursuit involved neither remembering the mustard and skip the salami. In my reincarnation as an adult, I already knew about the behind the scenes work required to keep trails open and the learning experiences volunteering provides. When I see a beautiful bridge on the trail, I can look down and understand how happy the crew must have been to find that perfectly shaped center stone.

Growing up with the Trail Conference, I’ve had the opportunity to help out with everything from alphabetizing to designing brochure maps. But throughout, one message remained clear: No matter where you are in life, you have something to give and something to learn.

Call for Nominations for Recognition Awards, Board of Directors, and Delegates-at-Large

Each October at the New York - New Jersey Trail Conference’s annual meeting, elections are held for 5 members of the board of directors and 15 delegates-at-large, and awards are presented to members and friends as one more way of recognizing outstanding people in the hiking community.

The annual Recognition Awards are:

- William Hoeflin Award: recognizes Trail Conference volunteers who have demonstrated exemplary service to trail maintenance, management and/or trail land protection.
- Next Generation Award: given to those under age 41 who are making significant contributions of time and energy to trail building and/or protection.
- Major Welch Trail Partner Award: presented to those outside the Trail Conference—e.g., state, federal or local agency partner officials—who have given long and/or significant assistance to the local hiking community.
- Corporate Partner Award: presented to a company that has furthered the hiking trail experience and/or protection effort.

Raymond H. Torrey Award: the Conference’s most prestigious award, given for significant and lasting contributions that protect our hiking trails or the land upon which they rest.

Leo Rothschild Conservation Award: presented to a person or organization that has made a significant contribution to the protection of our trails and/or the natural lands that surround them.

The Nominating Committee will present a slate of candidates for the board of directors and delegates-at-large for the October 2001-02 year. Current Trail Conference directors are listed at the head of the Trail Walker (see page 2). Conference members are welcome to submit nominations (with supporting background information). If you would like to nominate someone for an award, the board of directors, or a delegate-at-large, send your suggestions to the Nominating Committee, New York-New Jersey Trail Conference, 232 Madison Avenue, Room 802, New York, NY 10016, or call 212-685-9699. The deadline is July 1, 2000.

### Hiking Club Delegates to meet June 22

All Trail Conference members are invited to attend the next meeting of the hiking club delegates on Thursday, June 22, at the Fort Lee Historic Park, in Fort Lee, NJ. The meeting starts at 7 p.m. Please join us for a social hour, beginning at 6 p.m., for a chance to share refreshments and chat with hiking club representatives.

Dr. Joan Ehrenfeld, Professor of Ecology at Rutgers University, will speak on “Exotic Species; Ecological Issues for Hikers.” Dr. Ehrenfeld has published extensively, and wrote the article, “Help Sought Locating Species Threat to Our Forests,” published in the Trail Walker in 1995.

Although each member club or organization of the Trail Conference designates a delegate to act as liaison to the Conference, individual members are always welcome at delegates’ meetings, which are held in New York City or at Fort Lee Historic Park on the New Jersey Palisades, and provide a wonderful opportunity to share hiking and conservation news, discuss issues, and help guide the Trail Conference’s future work and activities.

### Secretary Receptionist Wanted

Phones, word processing (70 wpm) Great writing skills, attention to detail 5 days, afternoons Please mail or FAX resume to: New York-New Jersey Trail Conference 232 Madison Avenue, NY, NY 10016 212-779-8102

For confidential information and legal language, contact Jan Hudon at 212-685-9654, or by email: info@nynjtc.org
Schunemunk Mountain-Jessup Trail re-located

From Taylor Road parking area, the Jessup Trail crosses road (south) to Shaw Road, also the route for the Sweet Clover and the Highland trails. It follows this paved road past a barn and garage paralleling the New York State Thruway before curving west and passing a caretaker’s cottage where the paving ends (4/4 mi.).

Proceeding now on a dirt road, the two other trails turn south and leave at a second road gate while the Jessup continues west over a culvert, skirting around the northern end of a plowed field, to enter a wooded area and climb to a wooded road paralleling the railroad tracks at 0.8 mi. It follows this road north until, just south of Baby Brook, it makes the left turn and crosses the tracks at 1.0 mile. Entering the woods, it makes an immediate turn and crosses the tracks at 1.0 mi. After curving west and passing a caretaker’s cottage where the paving ends (1/4 mi.),

The newly relocated Jessup Trail (bold line). See Trail Conference West Hudson Trail Map #8 top, center

Sterling Forest Revisited

We wish to extend our gratitude to the individuals in our sister organizations who made possible the latest acquisitions for Sterling Forest State Park. The parcels acquired from the Sterling Forest Corporation, from New York University, and from Mr. R. Sears Hunter were the result of a long negotiation by Carol Ash, Executive Director of PIPC; Rose Harvey, Senior Vice President of the Trust for Public Land; and Joe Martens, President of Open Space Institute. We are grateful to their dedication, leadership, and skill in making the deal. Thank you!

The Rest of the Forest

The heart of the forest remains to be protected. Sterling Forest Corporation plans a 1,120-unit residential development with an 18-hole golf course on a large parcel east of Sterling Lake, which is right in the center of the Park. Also, there are another 2,400 acres owned by Tuxedo Reserve. We will work closely with Sterling Forest Partnership and the Taxpayers and Conservation Association of Tuxedo to review both of these proposals.

Kudos to the Deal-Makers!

The three parcels, comprising nearly 2,400 acres, are a tremendous addition to Sterling Forest State Park, which is the third largest park in the New York State system, not the largest, as previously reported in the Trail Walker.

Trail closings, bridge wash-outs, and relocation in West Hudson Highlands

HARRIMAN-BEAR MOUNTAIN STATE PARK

Ramapo-Dunderberg Trail partially closed

Due to the combined ravages of last year’s drought, forest fire, and Tropical Storm Floyd, the eastern end of the Ramapo-Dunderberg Trail, from Jones Point to the spiral railroad, has been closed to hiking by the Palisades Interstate Park Commission (PIPC). (See Trail Conference Harriman-Bear Mountain Trails map #4, grid E/2.) Seasonal environmental impact studies are required, and must be approved by the PIPC, before work can be started on a proposed re-route.

The new, temporary trailhead for the R-D on Route 3 is at the Timp Torne trailhead, west side of Route 3 opposite Old Ayers Road to Jones Point. The R-D will temporarily be co-aligned with the Timp Torne Trail until the two trails separate east of the Timp.

Popolopen Gorge, Kakiat trails’ bridges washed out

Tropical Storm Floyd also washed out the Popolopen Gorge bridge on the Timp-Torne Trail until the two trails separate east of the Timp.

POPOLOPEN GORGE, KAKIAT TRAILS’ BRIDGES WASHED OUT

Also washed out is the Kakiat Trail’s first bridge off the Pine Meadow Trail crossing Stony Brook (starting from Reeves Brook Visitors’ Center; see Harriman-Bear Mountain Trails map #3, grid B/3). Refer to Trail Conference Harriman-Bear Mountain maps to plan alternate routes around these closures.

STORM KING STATE PARK

At press time, Storm King State Park is still closed due to dangers from unexploded ammunition. However, the U.S. Army has agreed to clean up the artillery shells at the behest of Representative Sue Kelly (R-Katona). In March, the Army gave Rep. Kelly an action plan, which included clearing this ammunition from hiking trails in the Park. Work was to begin within a few weeks after the March meeting. We’ll keep you posted on when the trails are re-opening.

ERRATA

Oops! The Washburn Trail relocation, listed in the “Trail News” section of the March-April issue, is actually on the Trail Conference’s East Hudson Trail map #4, instead of map #3.

New Life Members

The Trail Conference welcomes eight new life members to our growing “family” of 774: George M. Aronson, Eileen Berch and Barbara Drake, and David Hackney from New Jersey; and from New York, Janice L. Barnbaum, Jim P. Haggett, Harriet Lawrence, and Nancy Tollefson.

An individual life membership is $400, and a joint life membership (two adults at the same address) is $600. Next time you renew, we hope you’ll consider becoming a “lider.” Your money goes directly into the Outdoor Fund for trail protection.

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TRAIL CREW SCHEDULES

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, May 14, June 11
Leaders: Sandy Part, 732-469-9109; Dick Warner, 201-327-4945

WEST HUDSON TRAIL CREW
Harriman-Bear Mountain Park #1
What & Where: Trail repair and erosion control on the Bear Brook Trail.
When: Saturdays, May 13, May 20
Leader: Claudia Gagne, 212-633-1324

Harriman-Bear Mountain Park #2
What & Where: Trail repair and erosion control on the Ramapo-Dunderberg Trail on Dunderberg Mountain.
When: Sundays, May 14, July 16
Leader: Bob Marshall, 914-737-4794

WEST JERSEY
Worthington Forest State Park in N J’s Kittatinny Mountains
What & Where: Major reconstruction (including rock work) on the Red Dot (Mr. Tumanny) Trail.
When: Saturdays, May 6 and June 3; Sundays, May 7 and 14
Leaders: Monica Resor and Dave Day, 732-937-9098; (pinepark@idt.net)

SHAWANGUNKS
BEGINNER’S SPEAKING SCHEDULE
What & Where: Participants practice speaking in English in a group setting.
When: Saturdays, May 6 and June 3; Sundays, May 7 and 21
Leader: Monica Resor and Dave Day, 732-937-9098; (pinepark@idt.net)

More “Green Bonding” the children in your life

In keeping with the theme of this (and the previous) issue about the next generation of hikers/environmentalists, here are some more ideas for sharing the world of nature with the children in your life.

Free, guided Hikes of the Month at STERLING FOREST STATE PARK

Saturday, May 6 and June 3
Would you like to visit a glacial landmark? If so, head off to Cedar Pond with the naturalists and get an introduction to the nature of the place during weekdays. Those interested should contact NJ coordinator John Cease at 914-647-7989 if you need more information. Volunteers could work either in groups subject to cancellation due to inclement weather. For more information, contact the park at 973-786-6445.

Kittatinny Valley State Park Loop Hike
May 6, 9 am – 1:30 pm, 7-8 miles, rough terrain, at a steady pace. Bring lunch and plenty of water.

National Trails Day Open House - Saturday and Sunday, June 3 and 4
Find out about the hiking and biking trails in this area. The Paulinskill Valley, and Sussex Branch, rail trails form the core of this state park. Nature tours and rail-trail hikes will take place. All programs meet at the park office, 1 mile north of Route 206 on Limecrest Road, in Andover, NJ. Pre-registration is recommended, as space is limited. Programs subject to cancellation due to inclement weather. For more information, contact the park at 973-786-6445.

MINNEWASATA STATE PARK PRESERVE
Minnewaska has a full schedule of nature hikes. For details or to register, call 914-245-0734 or 914-235-2011.

Kittatinny Valley State Park Loop Hike
May 6, 9 am – 1:30 pm, 7-8 miles, rough terrain, at a steady pace. Bring lunch and plenty of water.

GPS volunteers sought to field check North Jersey maps
Volunteers are needed to help field check trails in northern New Jersey using the Trail Conference’s Global Positioning System (GPS) unit. The assignments take place during weekdays. Those interested should contact NJ coordinator John Cease at jurasek@worldnet.att.net.

Put Your Trail Knowledge to Work!
Information Volunteers Sought
The Trail Conference needs volunteers who have knowledge of the trails and could field phone requests for trail information. Volunteers could work either in the Trail Conference office or their own homes. Contact Anne Grob at 212-685-9689.

General Office Work Volunteers Needed
With or without experience, either on an “as needed” or “committed time” basis for the TC office. Please contact either Anne Grob or Judith Fulmer at 212-685-9689.

KITTATINNY VALLEY STATE PARK

Layout Design Volunteer Wanted
Design the placement of information for a series of interpretive kiosks (trailhead sign boards) for the Farny Highlands Trail System in northern Morris County, NJ.

- Experience with signage or display/exhibit design preferred
- Integrated look for 10 sign boards, approximately 4’x4’
- Spring/early summer time frame

Contact 212-685-9689 to volunteer; ask for Anne.
...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:

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* 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

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Reviewed by Mary Jo Robertiello

Jack Benny used to get a laugh by referring to the La Brea Tar Pits. He could have used the term, New Jersey Meadowlands, and gotten the same result—until, that is, Robert Sullivan came to the rescue with his witty and thought-provoking book The Meadowlands, which is full of information, both historical and ecological.

The Meadowlands comprises thirty-two square miles of swamp. Sullivan recounts how it has continued to exist in spite of its close proximity to a congested urban area. His personal adventures, interviews and anecdotes are supported by extensive research and he makes palatable a very sorry tale of pollution and the destruction of natural resources.

To cite but one of his examples: It is estimated that at one time cedars covered between a third and a half of the area, but because of overcutting, increased salinity of the water and frequent fires, only their stumps remain.

As well as tramping and canoeing in The Meadowlands, Sullivan interviewed various people involved in some way with the area. The different individuals range from environmentalists to local characters to those who are furtively proud of the territory's reputation as a dumping ground for New York City.

This is a wonderfully informative book which takes a detailed and absorbing look at the impact of industry on geography.
A Happy Birthday to the New York Hiking Club, which celebrates its 78th anniversary this year.

Congratulations to Bill Huber, of Chester, NJ, who recently completed requirements for membership in the New England 4000 Footer Club. No stranger to the high peaks region, Bill finished his climb on Mt. Mansfield last fall.

Member Jim Gambone, who relocated from the metro NY area, was to make a second attempt at climbing Aconcagua in Argentina this past January. Jim says he uses the annual one-day Suffern-Bear Mountain Trail hike to help get in shape for the 25,000 footer. Even though he’s been to more exotic spots, he reports that, “I sure do miss Harriman Park and can’t wait to hike there again.”

The Lyme Disease Aftermath

A recent study in the Journal of the American Medical Association assessed the long term outcome of patients with Lyme disease. In the study, 212 patients were selected at random for follow-up interviews out of a pool of 678 who had been diagnosed with Lyme disease. The Lyme disease, the frequencies of which increased with time after diagnosis, were similar to the frequencies of such reports among age-matched controls.

Eighty-five percent of the total pool had been treated with antibiotics. The patient interviews were done in a time frame of 15-135 months, with the median of 51 months.

You can request a copy of this listing by contacting the secretary of The John Burroughs Association at The American Museum of Natural History, 15 West 77 Street, New York, NY 10024-5192. Enclose a self-addressed, stamped (35 cents) envelope with your request.

The Potomac Appalachian Trail Club announces the opening of their new online store, where you can purchase maps, guidebooks, and publications related to the Appalachian Trail and other trails in their region. Your orders are processed using a digital certificate and SSL encryption—the safest means to order online. If you’ve had trouble locating “hard to find” maps like PATC Map 10 to Shenandoah National Park, look no further. They’re in stock. You can find the store at: http://patc.net/store. Buy from PATC, where all proceeds go directly towards maintaining our 240-miles of the AT, and 740 miles of other hiking trails in the region.

The Appalachian Trail Conference Board of Managers voted to establish a memorial fund in memory of Ed Garvey, an icon in the annals of the AT, who died in the autumn of 1999. The fund’s goal will be to purchase an appropriate tract of land to be conserved in Ed’s name. His books, Appalachian Hiker, has inspired thousands to put on their backpacks and step into an AT adventure. Long an advocate for AT protection through public-ownership of the footpath and surrounding buffer, Ed was also a three-time through-hiker.

For & About

Our Members

- A new catalog listing over 115 short courses on the natural and cultural history of Yellowstone National Park is available from the Yellowstone Association for Natural Science, History, and Education. Courses are offered from May 2000 through March 2001, and include topics such as wolves, kayaking, Yellowstone artists, and horsepacking.
- The John Burroughs Association adds several books each year to a cumulative list of nature books for young readers.
- Bill Huber, of Suffern-Bear Mountain Trail hike to help get in shape for the 23,000 footer. Even though he’s been to more exotic spots, he reports that, “I sure do miss Harriman Park and can’t wait to hike there again.”
- The John Burroughs Association adds several books each year to a cumulative list of nature books for young readers.

What’s New on the Trail Conference’s Web Site

Our web site, http://www.nyntc.org, is really an early warning system for late breaking trail community news, a sort of electronic Trail Walker. In fact, much news appears on the web first; for instance, Action Alerts—requests for members to get out pen and paper and write letters to advocate for open space or hiking trail protection—appear frequently. Click on the Recent Changes link on the left (gray) menu and read the news items to find out what is new and important to the trail community. It is a rare day that something isn’t changed or added, so visit often! Maybe even make it your browser’s home page.

Hmnl, anyone? We need volunteers to make our web site even more dynamic. Many sections can be assigned to a volunteer who could be fully responsible for its content. Webmaster Walt Daniels (wdaniels@bestweb.net) will provide full training to anyone who already has basic word processing skills and internet access.

Camping Cooperative

Hike, swim, fish, canoe and camp with us in State and National Parks within a 3-hour drive of NYC. Inexpensive. Singles, couples, families, beginners welcome.

For a free schedule of events, call (718) 670-3225 or e-mail levenc@panix.com

Pinewoods Folk Music Club

Concerts, singing parties, workshops, musical weekends, informative newsletter. Member discounts, friendly people. For more info, contact: Folk Music Society, 266 W. 37th St, 10 floor New York, NY 10018-6699; Membership 718-543-4971 Folk-Fone 212-563-4099

Post your views and news. One of the newer features of the site is a discussion forum. To access it, click on the Viewpoint menu item near the top of any page. This is a great place to post trip reports of neat places to hike, individual sales of camping/hiking equipment, trail conditions, searches for hiking partners, comments on Trail Conference policies, or trail and land preservation-related environmental concerns, to name just a few topics.

You buy, we benefit. The Trail Conference earns money if you use the affiliate links provided in the Commercial Zone (link near the bottom of the home page) where you can save up to 10% from participating merchants. Affiliates include Barnes and Noble (our first!) and a new one, GreaterGood, a consolidator of affiliate links for many not-for-profits. Their links include over 100 major e-commerce sites for apparel, books, toys, flowers, sports equipment, computers/electronics, groceries, health items, travel, pets, and services. If you can buy it on the web, you can probably buy it through one of these links, with the added benefit that the Trail Conference gets a 5-15% rebate on your purchases.
### Hikers’ Market Place

**Be Prepared!**  **Give a Gift!**  **Be Prepared!**  **Give a Gift!**  **Be Prepared!**  **Give a Gift!**

#### Hikers’ Market Place

**NY-NJ TC member?**
- **YES**
- **NO**
- **JOINING NOW**

#### Official Conference Maps

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#### Books

**Scenes & Walks in the Northern Shawangunks (1999) & see combo**

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Our Work in New Jersey continued from page 1

about siting cell phone towers and meet with town and village officials to help prevent towers from being located along or within the viewshed of the trails.

John Gunther, an active Board member and key donor to the Action Plan, envisioned, “The Trail Conference needs an office in New Jersey to maximize our effectiveness on behalf of the hiking trails and public land stewardship. This Action Plan is a beginning to just such a goal, and Larry Wheelock is setting a good foundation.” The Board, and myself, are very pleased with our selection of Larry as the Conference’s representative in New Jersey.

Trail Conference maintenance work is a beginning in New Jersey, and Larry’s contributions will be vital to our cultivation of a second New Jersey crew. Finally, Larry is actively pursuing management planning with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to open all existing trails in the region. As Larry explains, “We need another trail crew in New Jersey to complement the existing crew led by Sandy Pat. I’m working with Monica Resor and David (experienced West Hudson crew leaders “on loan”) to develop a trail crew, create interpretive kiosks at various Farny system trailheads."

We need more local volunteers to learn the regulatory process about sited cell phone towers and meet with town and village officials to help prevent them from being located along or within the viewshed of the trails.

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IN MEMORIAM

Guy Waterman, a world-renowned author of four books on wilderness ethics and the White Mountains (including Forest and Covey: A History of Hiking, Trail Blazing, and Adventure) which chronicled the growth of hiking in the Northeast, and the keynote speaker at the Trail Conference’s 1991 annual meeting, purposefully died on his beloved Mt. Lafayette in February. His life is a celebration of the unbreakable bond between man and the mountains, and a simple life. His tradition was to leave no mark of passage on a trail.

Years ago, Guy and his wife Laura, both climbing instructors, purchased land in eastern Vermont, where they worked hard to embody their creed of simple living. Their cabin had no electricity, telephone, or plumbing. They tended a large garden and maple-sugared. Waterman kept up music on a piano friends had carried in piece by piece from the road.

An inveterate hiker and climber, Waterman had climbed all 48 of New Hampshire’s 4,000-foot peaks—in the winter, off trail, and from all four sides. The 67-year old had been everything a hiker needs: a thinker, teacher, author, and a world-renowned pianist and a corporate executive. All his work centered around the unbreakable bond between man and the mountains, and a simple life. His tradition was to leave no mark of passage on a trail.

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and to secure the levels of land acquisition funding that facilitate the purchase of these magnificent parcels. Our lobbyist, Neil Woodworth (who is also counsel to both organizations), and Legislative Associate Meg Carr deserve a hearty round of applause for these successes.

Long Path North: Huntersfield Ridge

The Huntersfield Ridge project, to protect a permanent trail corridor, is one of 12 conservation, recreation and open space projects that will share nearly $1.9 million from state-side Land and Water Conservation Funds (LWCF). In selecting this Long Path acquisition project for funding, the Governor acknowledged the Path’s statewide significance as a recreational resource, and the commitment of the State to acquire the Long Path corridor between Route 23 and the Schoharie Reservoir. Although the 1998 State Open Space Conservation Plan lists the acquisition of parcels to extend and preserve the Long Path as one of 131 priority projects, there is intense competition statewide amongst all those projects for the limited funds available in any given year.

Congress, in September 1999, authorized $40 million in state-side funding from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)—for the first time since 1995. New York’s share is approximately $1.9 million. Getting Congress to authorize this funding is a direct result of a several years long nationwide lobbying effort. In April 1998, Governor Pataki created the Empire State Task Force for Land and Water Conservation Funding to educate the public about the value of this program and to support Congressional efforts to reestablish this funding. The Task Force is co-chaired by Bernadette Castro, Commissioner of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, and John P. Cahill, Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation. Its members include former TC Executive Director Joann Dolan, current Executive Director Jan Hesbon, and TC/ADK Counsel Neil Woodworth.

5,000 Catskill acres to permit Long Path relocation

The State also agreed to acquire nearly 5,000 acres of exceptional forest river valley in the towns of Rochester and Wawarsing to add to the Catskill Forest Preserve, land which permanently preserves the Long Path’s corridor near the Vernooy Kill.

Located in Ulster County, this parcel, the former Lundy Estate, contains the Vernooy Kill itself, the only major undeveloped stream in the region and the largest undammed tributary of the Rondout Creek. The mostly forested and mountainous terrain will provide miles of new hiking trails for visitors. It also provides habitat for protected species, including several dens of timber rattlesnakes.

With the acquisition of this land, the Long Path, currently running on Cherrytown Road, can be rerouted along the Vernooy Kill. Executive Director Jan Hesbon said, “We are delighted with the Lundy purchase. This will enable us to relocate the celebrated Long Path hiking trail off of a highway and put it in a beautiful forest where it belongs.”

The Open Space Institute (OSI) and the Trust For Public Land (TPL), two non-profit land conservation organizations that work together as a joint venture in New York State, announced the deal in March. By year’s end, New York will purchase the 4,930 acres for approximately $4 million using Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) and Clean Air/ Clean Water Bond Act resources. The property has been in hikers’ sights since the 1980s, when a development proposal, known as Parc Europe, surfaced with plans for a European-themed amusement park; that project ultimately went bankrupt.

A 470-acre parcel from the Estate, containing two houses, will be sold by OSI/TPL separately to a private buyer, subject to a stringent conservation easement restricting future development on the site. As Neil Woodworth noted, “The Lundy Estate purchase enables New York permanently to protect part of the link between the magnificent Shawangunk Mountains and the Catskill Forest Preserve also known as the Long Path—and to provide miles of outstanding recreational opportunities for outdoor enthusiasts and the general public.”

IRLAND! Walk the mystical Burren and West Cork mountains. Art festivals, private performances, fine food, 7th year - July 17-30

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TC/ADK Partnership achieves Long Path acquisition funds continued from page 1

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continued from back page
SATURDAY, JUNE 3
UCR. National Trails Day at Watchung Reservation. Come out to enjoy the trails in Watchung Reservation from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. All ages are welcome. 21. Tiller Trail, a new, 1-mile interpretive route through the Watchung Reservation. Meet: Tiller Trail, LRT parking lot, near the park's entrance on South Road (off Route 22). For more information, call 908-664-4321.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7
F.T. Farmerson Reservation Day. Dover, NJ, 973-835-2160. Meet: 9 a.m. near the railroad tracks, southern portion of the park. After checking out the railroad tracks, take the next road to the right (Second House Road). Continue straight onto Second House Road for 1 mile, turn left onto Second House Road, and follow it for 1 mile; then turn right onto County Road 98, and continue on County Road 98 for 1 mile. Meet: 12 noon. Bring lunch and water.

SATURDAY, JUNE 10
Wheel Wildflowers, Wildlife, Waterfalls Interpretive Hike. Leader: Caryn L. Goodwin. Meet: 9:30 a.m. at Doubletop Mt. from Seager trailhead. For adults and teens; moderately paced 3 miles in Norvin Glen.ider; bring binoculars and field guide. Bring water, snack, and lunch.

THURSDAY, JUNE 15
WEC/WWW. Autumn at Indian Ladder. Leader: The Office of the Indian Ladder Foundation, 973-696-3000. Meet: 7 a.m. at Indian Ladder. For adults and families; moderately paced 6 miles in Indian Ladder. Bring water, energy snack, and a picnic lunch.

SATURDAY, JUNE 17
WEC/WWW. Doubletop Mt. from Bear Mountain State Park. Leader: John D. O’Hara. Meet: 9 a.m. at Bear Mountain State Park, Bear Mountain Inn parking lot. Moderate; bring water, energy snack, and lunch; 7 miles, 3 hours. For adults and teens; moderately paced 7 miles in Bear Mountain State Park.

SATURDAY, JUNE 24

CLUB CODES
ADK-J  Adirondack Mountain Club, North Jersey Chapter
ADK-I  Adirondack Mountain Club, Mid-Hudson Chapter
ADK-M  Adirondack Mountain Club, Great Clearlake
ANHC  American Hiking Club: Contact: Evelyn Haye, 973-487-9135
HRC  Hurricane Ridge Hiking Club: Contact: Les Baker, 908-320-6401
IHC  Interstate Hiking Club: Contact: Brian Mean, 908-470-0265; contact@interstatehiking.org; Schedule; 911 on request.
LITC  LITC. Long Island Trails Committee: Contact: Jay Swoboda, 631-654-0021.
NYHC  New York Hiking Club: Contact: Winona Janowsky, 212-809-0093; 809-0093, 212-743-1098 after 9 p.m.
NYSC  New York State Conservation: Contact: Herb Chertock, 973-835-2160.

SATURDAY, JUNE 3
Catskill HIKERS’ ALMANAC
SATURDAY, JUNE 10
Leader: Rick Whalen. Meet: 9 a.m. at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, EFT Market Street, Sayreville. Moderate/hard; 5.5 miles. Bring lunch and water. More information available at www.njhc.org

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SATURDAY, JUNE 24

MANY of our affiliated group sponsors hikes related to the Hikers’ Almanac. For a description of list of conferences, visit our website at www.njhc.org or contact: 908-664-4321. We list two events per week.

Catskill HIKERS’ ALMANAC
SATURDAY, JUNE 3
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HIKERS' ALMANAC

MAY

THURSDAY, MAY 2
FVT. Ramapo Mountain State Forest. Leader: Don Shannon, 201-797-0468. Meet: 7:30 p.m. at 2nd parking lot. A visit to the lake, castle, and the General Trail, view from Minnow Rock.

THURSDAY, MAY 9
FVT. Frontier Trail Coordinator. Leader: Bill McKibbon, 845-482-7011. Meet: 10:00 am at ski parking lot parking area. Talk about the history of the area and the ski trails.

SATURDAY, MAY 11

SATURDAY, MAY 13

SATURDAY, MAY 20
FVT. High Point Hikes. Leader: Mike Spin, 201-967-2361. Meet: 10:00 am at the parking lot on the hill above the Bill Miller parking lot.

TRAIL WALKER

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY TRAIL CONFERENCE

Volume XXVII, Number 3
ISSN 0749-1332
May/June 2000

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