October 21 in New Jersey

Millennium event for Highlands Trail

All are invited

In this millennium year, New Jersey’s Millennium Legacy Trail—the Trail Conference’s very own Highlands Trail—will be toasted by trail builders and friends on Saturday, October 21 in Spruce Run Recreation Area, Clinton, NJ.

Celebrating both the Trail’s nationwide recognition and the culmination of another 10 miles of new trail open to the hiking public, the day’s activities begin at 10:30 a.m. in the Group Picnic Area of the state-owned Spruce Run Recreation Area—one of the many parks the Trail traverses.

Governor Christine Whitman has been invited as the speaker for the brief ceremony, to be followed at noon by a ribbon-cutting, and a series of hikes on sections of the Highlands Trail offered by volunteer trail builders and maintainers. Updated Highlands Trail brochures describing the new routes will be distributed at the event.

“We’ve been looking forward to hosting this Millennium celebration for the Highlands Trail for a year; ever since hearing it was selected as New Jersey’s Millennium Trail. More than just a happy event for trail supporters and friends, October 21 will be a day to open new sections, and familiarize residents in western New Jersey about the Highlands Trail in particular and the Trail Conference’s work in general,” said Anne Lutkenhouse, Conference Projects Director.

The Millennium Trails program is a collaboration between the White House Millennium Council, the Department of Transportation, and the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy in cooperation with other agencies and organizations. The mission of the program is to recognize, promote, and stimulate the trail movement in the United States and reconnect our communities by trails.

Millennium Legacy Trails is a select list featuring one trail from each state, chosen as the best ambassador of the state’s past and future. Each state governor nominated three trails to a “green ribbon” panel based in Washington, D.C., which then selected the one for nationwide recognition. “The Highlands Trail was selected because it is an extraordinary trail connecting the northern part of the state,” said Page Crosland, a spokeswoman for the non-profit, Washington, D.C.-based Rails-to-Trails Conservancy. “Also, it is located in an area seen as a major priority by open-space protection advocates in an increasingly urban part of our country.”

The Highlands Trail is a cooperative partnership in the finest sense—between public land agencies, municipal governments, private volunteer groups and private landowners. Conceived in 1992, as an estimated 150-mile, long distance hiking trail connecting the Hudson and Delaware Rivers, the Highlands Trail traverses the Highlands Physiographic (geologic) Province—putting on display the scenic and historic treasures of this water—and

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TRAIL WALKER
Volume XXVII, No. 5 Sept./Oct. 2000
Nora Parne Managing Editor
Paul Leiken Advertising Manager
The TRAIL WALKER (ISSN 0743-1152) is published bi-monthly by the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference as a benefit of membership. Of membership dues, 1% is allotted to a one-time subscription. Subscriptions are available for libraries only at $10.00 a year. Periodical postage paid at New York, NY. Postmasters: Send address changes to the address below. Opinions expressed by authors do not necessarily represent the policy or position of the Conference. Contributions of typed manuscripts, photos and drawings are welcome. Manuscripts may be edited for style and length. Send SASE for return guidelines. Submission deadlines for the TRAIL WALKER are February 1 (Mar./Apr. Issue), April 1 (May/June Issue), June 1 (July/Aug. Issue), August 1 (Sept./Oct. Issue), October 1 (Nov./ Dec. Issue), December 1 (Jan./Feb. Issue). Un-solicited contributions cannot be acknowledged unless accompanied by SASE. For information on advertising rates, please write or call.
Copyright 2000 by: New York-New Jersey Trail Conference, Inc. 232 Madison Avenue New York, NY 10016 212-687-9099 e-mail: info@nynjtc.org World Wide Web: http://www.nynjtc.org/ 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 volunteers-directed public service organization committed to:
• Developing, building, and maintaining hiking trails.
• Preserving 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 12,000 individuals.

The Hills are Alive with the Sound of Motors

There is no doubt that the world as we know it has been shaped by motors—and I don’t mean hedge trimmers. Barely 100 years old, the internal combustion engine has transformed our lives—and created an overpowering dependence. With seemingly abundant fuel and a wealth of creative genius, mankind has been transported to the most remote places on the planet. Which is exactly the problem. There seems to be no escaping the omnipresent motor. In the woods and on the mountain tops of our local wildernesses, nestled tenaciously between the web of multi-lane highways and sprawling subdivisions, the tranquility hikers seek is frequently compromised by the grating sounds of motorized vehicles. Now hikers come in two types—social and solitary. And social hikers can be a pretty noisy bunch, gabbing away as they follow the trail. This is especially true of those who like to hike in large friendly groups, but even solitary hikers have been known to whistle and talk to themselves now and then. But they do not compare to the penetrating and persistent buzzing generated by motors. Staring and asserting, the sounds of ATVs (all terrain vehicles) and off-road motorcycles and personal watercraft (i.e., Jet-Skis) and snowmobiles don’t just break the silence, they torture it. And, adding insult to injury, they use the most primitive of engine technologies, continuously spitting harmful wastes into the air, earth, and water.

In America we know we possess certain inalienable rights, among them the pursuit of happiness. And to be sure, there’s lots of happiness associated with both the riding of motorized recreational vehicles and the profits of the industry itself. But there is the right to bring the noise of these motors into the stillness of our last wildernesses ultimately an alienating right. The pursuit of this happiness comes at an unacceptable price—to the environment, to the wildlife communities, as well as to hikers (in the broadest sense of the word) seeking the peace found only in nature. Recently, commercials on TV and in glossy magazines seem to revel in the mighty motor conquering the most pristine backcountry and the highest mountain peaks. Usually they are selling Sport Utility Vehicles, but sometimes motorcycles or ATVs. This barrage of advertising sets up an unrealistic and unacceptable sense of entitlement to these public places and national treasures. Truth be told there are few places that are legally designated for motorized recreation. And the supply is dwindling. In a recent news item, a former landfill in the Bronx used by off-road motorcycles for many years is slated to become yet another golf course. While some may consider this a good thing, for hikers it is bad news. The displaced riders will no doubt be tempted to ride illegally in parklands. The perplexing thing is that they don’t seem to understand why they are not as well come in the wilderness as they are in the dealership.

The good news is that the inalienable right to make this kind of noise in the wilderness is weakening, Recent legislation in New York recognizes the nuisance associated with personal watercraft,

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LETTERS

Fighting Spirit Needed

The [Newark] Star Ledger (Sunday, May 28, 2000) had an article about the conflict between hikers and mountain-bikers on the trails in the New Jersey parks. Here is a really bad news excerpt: “Worse, at least in Ringwood State Park, hikers are starting to abandon the trails. ‘It seems to be the walker’s approach. Enough...happens, and we say, ‘Why bother?’ And we go some place else. We don’t seem to be fighters,’ says [Anne] Lutkenhouse of the NY-NJ Trail Conference.”

This is absolutely the wrong approach. This is giving up a cherished locale, and will lead to giving up other cherished locales. Hikers should be encouraged to frequent especially the area where there is conflict and where mountain bikers are off limits. Clubs and organizations affiliated with the NY-NJ Trail Conference should be encouraged to have some of their organized activities especially in the areas where the rights of hikers are threatened. As they say, “Ya gotta be in it to win it!!”

Richard Matnick Highland Park, NJ

Appalachian Appreciation

I recently returned from a three-week hike along the New Jersey and New York portions of the Appalachian Trail. The journey was challenging yet wonderful. This was the first time I had hiked any part of the AT, and I was very impressed with how well-maintained and well-marked the Trail is. I offer my sincere appreciation for the hard work you all do in keeping this trail accessible to the public. I learned that most of the upkeep of the AT is done by volunteers, and I am amazed at the labor and care that obviously goes into this. It was then that Bryan Birch [one of the NJ Appalachian Trail seasonal ridgemonitors] approached. He immediately began trying to formulate a plan to help our dilemma. He radioed the Ranger Station at Stokes State Forest and arranged a campsite for us. He transported us there to register, and he and a park ranger drove us to the campsite.

We were very appreciated Birch’s concerned and helpful attitude. The rangers at Stokes were also superb. Thanks to all who helped us.

Laura E. Flores Newtown, PA

An Eden Discovered

While out on a day off from work, my significant other and myself walked the blue trail [Hewitt-Butler Trail] in Norvin Green State Forest. Mesmerizing coming from the Pine Barrens, I thought nothing could be more impressive or forthcoming in natural beauty, but this trail was incredible and magnificent. Not to mention, we had bumped into two geologists who were working with a GPS to help maintain this Eden of the northern quadrant. They were extremely nice in helping us in our adventure. Keep up the good work!

Sharon Staples and John Czaja [via e-mail]
New Clubs Join Trail Conference’s federation

At the June Delegates’ Meeting, the Sierra Club/Catskill-Ramapo Chapter, Boy Scout Troop 8 (Brooklyn), and Shorewalkers were voted into the Trail Conference’s federation.

The Sierra Club/Catskill-Ramapo Chapter applied for membership as a trail maintaining organization. Once approved, they were assigned trail maintenance of the Long Path in Highlands Lake State Park (Orange County, NY).

Boy Scout Troop 8 (Brooklyn) has a long commitment to volunteer activism and trail work. It is one of the primary maintainers of the 50-Mile (Red) Trail in the Ten Mile River Scout Camp, as well as the creator and maintainer of the Brooklyn Historic Quest Trail linking Gateway National Recreation Area with the Fulton Ferry Landing State Park on the East River.

Shorewalkers is a non-profit group dedicated to promoting and preserving New York City’s shoreline. Since 1984, they have led walks exploring varied and extensive shore areas in and around New York City. Its premier annual event, The Great Saunter, is an all day hike along Manhattan’s 13-mile shoreline, held on the first Saturday in May. The Conference is grateful to accept this gift on behalf of the public/private partnership,” said Jan Hesbon.

Carol Ash expressed her elation, saying, “I am thrilled to receive this wonderful gift from an individual who is committing his personal resources to land protection. Peter Kellogg’s gift further exemplifies the spirit of our public/private partnership.”

$100,000 Gift Received for Sterling Forest

The NY-NJ Trail Conference is delighted to announce that Peter R. Kellogg, a principal of Speirs & Kellogg, has made a exceedingly magnanimous $100,000 gift to the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference towards the purchase of the latest acquisition of Sterling Forest. This donation underscores Mr. Kellogg’s special interest in the Appalachian Trail through Sterling Forest.

Mr. Kellogg, a member of the Conference since 1998, presented his contribution through his long-time friend, Peter Kennard—who is also a Conference member. Mr. Kellogg’s gift was the result of x-at-large, Trail Conference Executive Director, Carol Ash, Executive Director of the Palisades Interstate Park Commission, and Mr. Kennard.

“We are extremely happy that Mr. Kellogg has chosen the Trail Conference as the conduit to make his gift for the protection of Sterling Forest. The Trail Conference is grateful to accept this gift on behalf of the public/private partnership,” said Jan Hesbon.

Carol Ash expressed her elation, saying, “I am thrilled to receive this wonderful gift from an individual who is committing his personal resources to land protection. Peter Kellogg’s gift further exemplifies the spirit of our public/private partnership.”

Where there’s a Will, there’s a Trail

When we build them, you hike them. We’ve been building and protecting trails for 80 years for at least four generations of bikers since 1920. That’s 1,300 miles in New York and New Jersey to date. Help us keep building for the next generation by naming the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference in your will. A bequest makes a wonderful gift, and it lasts beyond one lifetime.

For confidential information and legal language, contact Jan Hesbon at 212-685-9654, or by email: info@nynjtc.org.

ANNUAL MEETING – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14

REGISTRATION FORM

Please Print

Name(s) _____________________________________________
City, State, Zip _________________________________________
Telephone, day (______) ____________________________
Telephone, eve (______) _____________________________

Payment is enclosed for the following:

- Full day, _____ adults at $6.00 each. $ _________
- Full day, _____ children (under 14 years) at $4.00 each. $ _________
- Total $ _________

Return this form with payment by September 30, 2000 to: NY-NJ Trail Conference, Annual Meeting, 212 Madison Avenue, #602, New York, NY 10016

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New Red Hill Trail now open in Catskills
The Red Hill Trail, to the newly-restored Red Hill Fire Tower in the southern Catskills, is now open to the public—though an official ribbon-cutting ceremony was rained out in July. (See the Trail Conference's Catskills Trails map #43, grid 8/H. The trail route is shown as proposed though now it exists.)

Thanks to our volunteer trail builders on the Red Hill Trail: Doug Bowers, John Bradley, Jim Daley, Bill Denise, George Denise, George Elias, Helen Elias, Donald Engles, Joe Herrod, Judie Hutton, Tom Lynch, Danny Marks, Mavee Maurer, Hank Muller, Martin Novak, Arnie Prunanski, Doug Rokaw, Tom Scolfield, Doug Senterman, Pete Senterman, Bruce Warden; and George Profous from the NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation.

AT Bridge at Dunnfield Creek repaired
An able crew of eight volunteers, led by AT Overseer Jim Palmer, completed a much-needed repair of the pedestrian bridge across Dunnfield Creek in Worthington State Forest, where the AT enters the forest after crossing into New Jersey from the Delaware River.

This crew braced the bridge stringers and replaced broken handrailings and worn decking—all temporary repair until a sturdier structure, which can better withstand the heavy amount of use and periodic flooding conditions, can be built.

Many thanks to Denise Vitale, Sara Hubert, Jack Bascaglini, Rich Lightcap, Ian Blandell and Dennis Red for their great efforts, and special thanks to Ron Snider for his loan of essential tools and knowledgeable construction expertise.

Ramapo-Dunderberg Trail relocated
The restored, red-on-white blazed Ramapo-Dunderberg (R-D) Trail’s eastern trailhead is now just south of the parking area on the west side of Route 526, opposite Old Ayers Rd to Jones Point. (This is also the trailhead for the Timp Toree Trail (TT), blue-blazed.) See the Conference’s Harriman-Bear Mountain Trails map 84, grid F4).

The RD now proceeds west jointly with the TT for .02 mi., across a wooded area and uphill on stone steps passing above a 100-foot-long masonry tunnel. When the TT turns south, the RD takes right and uphill on the graded former cable incline of the long-defunct Dunderberg Spiral Railway. The Trail follows the incline until it meets a stone wall. There it heads north on the old spiral railroad bed for .75 mi., before swinging west again to continue onto the 930-foot-high summit of Dunderberg Mountain.

The love of trails comes full circle.
The Silman Family continues its legacy of trail support, both financially and with volunteer trail maintenance, with 19-year-old Noah Zakim (above), son of Jack and Lydia (Silman) Zakim and grandson of Marcelle and the late Harry B. Silman. Eighteen years ago, when Harry died, his family established the Harry B. Silman Tool Fund for the Trail Conference to help provide tools necessary for trail maintenance and construction, since, as Marcelle noted, “Harry loved the trails.” Now Harry’s grandson Noah is experiencing his own love of the trails, devotedly maintaining a trail in New Jersey’s Ramapo Mountains for the Trail Conference. The Silmans and Zakims make annual contributions to the Silman Tool Fund in memory of Harry. Donations are welcome from families and friends.

Profous Catskills Trails
Speak with us at the AT Conference’s Mid-Atlantic Trail Crew, and the New Jersey Builders Association. NJ State Park Service personnel oversee the construction.

Pochuck Creek boardwalk joins the Pochuck Bridge
Photos by Steve Klein, Jr.

The project began by drilling the helical anchor rods (which hold the boardwalk in place) about 20 feet into the organic muck soils, with a hydraulic driver. At right: to r.t.r., John Grob, Paul DeCoste and Bob Buske guide the driver and anchor rod into place.

The meandering boardwalk, with pull-outs, curves through the lush vegetation of the flood plain.

The boardwalk frame begins to take shape.

“Last August, volunteers constructed over 800 feet (!!!) of low-level elevated boardwalk to connect the 136-foot-long Pochuck Creek Appalachian Trail footbridge to the higher lands on the east side of Pochuck Creek. Right now, volunteer crews are working to again build more of that boardwalk, this time on the west side of the bridge. You can help! See the work trip dates listed under Trail Crew Schedules on page 5.

Starting in August 1999, Conference volunteers and friends pitched in shoulder and uphill on stone steps passing above a 100-foot-long masonry tunnel. When the TT turns south, the RD takes right and uphill on the graded former cable incline of the long-defunct Dunderberg Spiral Railway. The Trail follows the incline until it meets a stone wall. There it heads north on the old spiral railroad bed for .75 mi., before swinging west again to continue onto the 930-foot-high summit of Dunderberg Mountain.

That worktrip was by far the finest organized I have ever seen. Paul DeCoste [then-Chairman of the Conference’s NJ AT Management Committee] did some job of organizing the volunteers. A ‘wave’ of St. Benedict’s students led the charge, carefully lining up one corner of each decking plank. The next ‘wave’ of volunteers tapped two nails in to hold the lumber in place, the next wave hammered each piece sturdily into place; the next ‘wave’ came by and installed six screws in additional joinery; and the final ‘wave’ were the chainawyers who evened out the length of each plank so the deck was of uniform width. If you stopped your particular task for a moment, you were either nailed or screwed into place as the ‘wave’ behind you kept moving.”

Participant Jill Arbuckle describing one work day which saw about 40 volunteers

You can help! The Conference’s NJ AT Management Crew] did some job of organizing the volunteers. A ‘wave’ of St. Benedict’s students led the charge, carefully lining up one corner of each decking plank. The next ‘wave’ of volunteers tapped two nails in to hold the lumber in place, the next wave hammered each piece sturdily into place; the next ‘wave’ came by and installed six screws in additional joinery; and the final ‘wave’ were the chainawyers who evened out the length of each plank so the deck was of uniform width. If you stopped your particular task for a moment, you were either nailed or screwed into place as the ‘wave’ behind you kept moving.”

—Participant Jill Arbuckle describing one work day which saw about 40 volunteers
GET INVOLVED

VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT

See the Trail Crew Schedules above.

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— Become a Trail Maintainer on the Shore Path on the NJ Palisades. A couple of sections of the Shore Path along the Hudson River are available for trail maintenance assignments. If interested, please contact North Jersey Trails Chairman Dick Warner, (201) 537-4945.

— Publications Production & Marketing

Interested in working behind the scenes to produce Trail Conference publications? Help is needed to work in small groups to manage projects, aspects of production and marketing. For example, decisions need to be made on which photographs to use.

Contact Jane Daniels c/o the Trail Conference office or jdaniels@bestweb.net.

— Be a Store Maintainer

Looking for an excuse to visit a hiking store or talk with book distributors? The Publications Marketing Subcommittee needs people to interact with stores or distributors about the Trail Conference's publications. These visits are not cold sales calls, but are ways to increase the Trail Conference’s visibility and service. Visiting the store includes making sure that they have enough service and giving them Trail Walkers to distribute. Training provided. Contact John Gunzler at john@gunzler.com.
Trail protection issues we’re watching in Albany

By Neil Woodworth and Meg Carr

At the conclusion of the 1999-2000 legislative session, the Trail Conference and Adirondack Mountain Club advocacy partnership successfully opposed a number of bills that could have had detrimental effects on hiking and the environment. Four proposed bills, all of which we opposed—Bellevue Privatization, ATV Trail Fund, Increase in Snowmobile Trail Fund, and Cell Towers on State Park Lands—were defeated in last legislative session.

**“No” to Private Use of the Forest Preserve**

Legislation was introduced again to permit a private corporation to profit from the use of the Forest Preserve lands of the state-owned Bellevue Ski Center without amending the “forever wild” clause of the state Constitution. ADK, the Trail Conference, Sierra Club, and Environmental Advocates teamed up to demonstrate unified opposition to this unconstitutional measure that would have authorized a private corporation to lease a large portion of Forest Preserve land. The Senate passed the bill, but it did not pass in the Assembly Environmental Conservation Committee.

**Bellevue Ski Center Awarded**

The Trail Conference awarded its latest Five Year Trail Maintainer “Rocker” patch to individuals who have served on a Trail Crew for five consecutive years.

**New York’s 2000 Hunting Schedules**

Hunting: Seasons, and NJ updates

**Hunting schedules**

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

**NEW YORK: Southern Zone (including Catskills and Delaware) Deer Season**

Archery: Oct. 15 - Nov. 10; Dec. 13 - 15

Archery/Westchester Co. only: Nov. 1 - Dec. 31

Firearms: Nov. 20 - Dec. 12

Muzzleloader: Dec. 13 - 19

Hunting is not allowed in Bear Mountain–Harriman State Park. However, it is allowed in parts of Storm King, Minnewaska, and Sterling Forest state parks. Call 845-786-2701 for more details about hunting in those parks.

**Black Rock Forest closes to all hikers from November 20 to December 12, inclusive. For details, call 845-534-6517.**

**NEW JERSEY**

Deer Season

Archery: Sept. 30 - Nov. 25

Firearms: Dec. 4 - Jan. 27, 2001

Muzzleloader: Nov. 27 - Jan. 5, 2001

Special High Point Stargard Park Muzzleloader Season: Nov. 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, 16

**Most of Ramapo Mountain State Forest is closed to hunting. Hunting is not allowed on Sundays in New Jersey. For more information about the New Jersey hunting schedule, call 800-735-1040 or 009-292-0605.**

**Hunting Updates**

Legislation to repeal the ban on Sunday hunting in NJ did not pass, so there continues to be NO hunting on Sundays in New Jersey.

**Adirondack and Catskill State Land Master Plans. ADK is particularly concerned in light of well-documented instances where traditional Adirondack snowmobile trails are being widened and graded to the character of roads by groomers with widths far greater than those legally permitted under current DEC standards.**

**Trail Maintainer Patches Awarded**

Five-year service “Rockers” Awarded to 49

With pride and appreciation, the NY-NJ Trail Conference awarded its latest round of trail maintainer recognition patches to individuals who have successfully completed one, and five, years of trail care service.

Congratulations to our long-time trail maintainers who recently were awarded their Five Year Trail Maintainer “Rocker” patch. These volunteers were first recognized in 1995, when they received their Trail Maintainer patch after serving one year.


New Jersey trails: Lisa Ference, Jeff Jango, Jeanne and Donald McClenan, and Patricia Schaum.


West Hudson trail crew: Rick Gerow, Patrick Gilmartin, Carol Nestor, Ros Thalmann

**CLUB NOMINEES**

Michael Nieszkowski (Adirondack Mountain Club/Long Island chapter); Frank Dogi, Pat Schramm (Adirondack Mountain Club/ Mid-Hudson chapter); Rick Anderson, Gerald Anthony, Frank Calin, Tom and Beatrice Fusia, Mary Ann Massey, Bob Payne, Jim Robbins, Rick Rosenfeld, Steve Schneider, Melanie Simmerman, Marion and Fred Shaw (Appalachian Mountain Club/Long Island chapter); Barbara Bergman, Greg Bush, Don Fisher, Bob Kess, John and Eleanor Krebs, Bill Rafferty, Howard Sayetta (Long Island Greensbelt Trail Conference); Rick Levey (Mosaic: Jewish Outdoor Club of Greater New York); Sharon Bonk, Kevin Brodrick, May-San and Paul Carment, Mary Alice and Claude Cesard, Ruth and Isaac Freedman, Julie Hobart, Denise McCabe, Judy McCann, John McCullough, Adrienne Marosin, Luise Schwab, Sylt Sideman, Laura Skofo, Barry Skura, Michael and Sara Sterneck, Deborah Tangen, Jan Vincrc, Judith Weiner (Thendara Mountain Club);
Catamount Trails, a Rangers Guide to the High Peaks—Book 1: The Northswards Catskill

Reviewed by Pete Senterman

When first asked if I would review a new book covering the northern Catskills, an area with which I am very familiar, I was quite pleased to see that it was a trail guide. However, what I found was not a guide to the trails but descriptions of the fields and forests that surround them. Included are sections on geology as well as forest cover and how to interpret the topography through which one is walking. The author paints verbal pictures of the region not usually found in guide books. It is evident that Mr. Henry is quite knowledgeable of flora and fauna. He goes to great lengths to heighten awareness of the historical/prehistorical context of the scenes we currently enjoy.

This book is not a complete guide; there is no attempt to cover all the marked trails in the area or even descriptions of those covered. The two main long distance trails, the Devil's Path and Escarpment Trail, are described in disjointed segments, generally as out and back destinations without providing much information on alternates. An example is the treatment of Sugarloaf Mt. which has trails providing a pleasant 6.7 mile loop. The author presents the route via Pecoy Notch, over the summit to the viewpoint on the west side. He then passes off the route further west as ledgy and treacherous, making no mention of the northern leg of the Mink Hollow Trail which returns one to the point of beginning. He does briefly describe the forest as one descends an old road (a pre-1997 trail) north but without giving any indication of one's location in relation to where one started. There is no mention of the extensive view from Dibles Quarry or the pleasant beaver meadow with its close-up views of Twin and Sugarloaf on the east, or the mossy glen, hemlock grove, and impressive view of Platua and Spruce Top to the west.

I do like the inclusion of numerous off-the-beaten track destinations which are probably the best part of the book. The chapter on Bearpen is exceptional, making me want to put my boots on and get there as soon as possible. Unfortunately, most of the descriptions don't come up to this level of enthusiasm. And, because of the redundant detail and discontinuity of descriptions, it is a book to be taken in small doses.

I disagree with the inclusion of chapters on Kaaterskill Clove and Platte Clove. Both are very dangerous places, especially the latter. Although the author notes that the upper third of Kaaterskill Clove is privately owned, his vivid descriptions of Haines Falls and the upper Clove will only invite trespass and possible injury. Both Cloves are very delicate and already suffer from overuse and abuse. Including these descriptions will only add to this. The author is doing a great disservice to the future of these special places by including them.

This book will not help you plan a trip or keep you from getting lost, but it will lead you to a better understanding of the environment around you on your next summit quest. Mr. Henry has tried to get us to slow down, smell the flowers, and appreciate those “empty” miles between the trailhead and destination.

Chronicles of the Hudson

Reviewed by John Perlman

My father taught me history in a single lesson at the age of six. Viewing the most ancient soldiers at a Veteran's Day parade, I'd asked when the Civil War had ended. “Not until those men have died,” he answered. Standing on the North Redoubt, overlooking West Point, I recalled historian Roland Van Zandt's statement of intent in his preface to the essential collection of primary texts comprising his Chronicles of the Hudson, first published in 1971, and reprinted in 1992 by Black Dome Press: “to attempt to recapture the primal experience of the Hudson.”

The living voices gathered here do indeed resurrect the momentousness of those persons who journeyed on and near the North River, the Lordly Hudson, traveler's tales essentially, but always in the dual context of the great events which have surged upon the river, and the presence of the river itself. As with all our rivers, great and small, however diminished or degraded, their ancient voices speak of continuity as well as the ambitious busywork of persons at the banks.

From the prospect of the North Redoubt, on the walls of that ancient battery, it is not difficult to imagine such moments as Arnold's flight, the great iron chains attempting to sever rebel forces north and south, the carnage at Blood Lake (now Hessian Lake). Even Hudson, him- self, seeking a passage up the “River that flows two ways,” might be seen, the Half Moon moored in Popolopen Creek, surrounded by dugout canoes, in a land of mountain and forest. The drumming of grous could well be his legendary crew preternaturally at nine o’clock on Dunderberg. Later, a steamboat, bringing a new sense of space and duration, racing toward Albany. Or Lincoln's body draped in black crepe in a train taking the level route toward the interior. Or the commerce of sloop and freight boat, cargo bound also for the interior along the Erie Canal. Even great seagoing ships in the new passage to the Great Lakes. The forests logged and again logged, the river color darkening, the dispersal of poison and forgetfulness, the land's activity looming large and the river shrunken in regard.

In Van Zandt's Chronicles, a litany of names, some great, some less recalled, also grozes, and often graces, the water's presence: Jeret, Danskers, Kalm, Lambert, Lafayette, Fanny Kemble, Isabella Bishop, Offenback, even Henry James. Their voices might well be heard as tributaries, to the river, its constancy and promise. The great value of this book for hikers is really perceptual—that what we know and value will allow us to see, ahead and behind, and to cherish, perhaps even to intervene so as to preserve, and bequeath.

Perhaps the most restorative effect of reading the Chronicles is to return to these trails we walled, these old mountains and streams, the stories that are theirs and ours, stories through which value and significance are communicated to our children, giving their imaginations ground, and their vision depth and sweep. Thus may we and our children (re)discover that the “primal experience”, however much we are pulled aside by buying and selling, remain. We are given stories ourselves, whenever we journey these highlands. The overwintering eagle that soars in the gorge below this old fortification is a tale to return with. Once, when I brought a group of troubled school children to this place, a child exclaimed: “I dreamed this, long before.”

But let just one of the voices in Van Zandt's Chronicles speak for all who journeyed, remembered or unrecorded, by or on these waters. The voice is one Harriet Martineau, in 1835, an English writer, traveler and lover of the Hudson, who engaged many with her support of the radical abolitionists:

“What human interest sanctifies a bird’s eye view? I suppose this is its peculiar charm, for its charm is found to deepen in proportion to the growth of the mind… [As the philosopher] casts his eye over its glittering towns, its scattered hamlets, its secluded homes, its mountain ranges, church spires and wooded forests, it is a picture of life; an epitome of the human universe… for which he has sought in vain all his books.

In vain, certainly. Those ancient drummer boys of my childhood passed by soon after. And we must turn to books to hear the voices return from their journeys on the Hudson. But hikers know what stays, what vanishes and returns. These wonderful old tales will indeed people and invigorate their walks.

Paths Along the Hudson

Reviewed by Tom Rapolo

This book provides a one-stop shopping guide for exploring the Hudson River Valley by foot and by bicycle. The varied history of the area, the natural environment, including flora, fauna and climate, and modern preservation efforts are all covered in great detail. The information is very thorough nearly one quarter of the book is devoted to this background. Anyone with an interest in the area's past or wildlife need go no further.

The author includes a short section on how trails are created. “Trails don't just happen,” he writes, they are “the result of arduous effort of planning, fund-raising, and implementation.” He acknowledges the many volunteer efforts in creating and preserving the trail network in this area—the information rarely included in most guidebooks on our area.

The guide describes routes on both sides of the Hudson that either parallel the river at a short distance, or in some areas travel along its edge (in most cases, the walking routes are closer to the river.) While the routes are described adequately for bicyclists, some walkers may find themselves wishing for more detail. A more crucial problem is that in many cases, portions of the routes are not shown on the maps. This can be a problem for walkers not acquainted with new areas.

Walkers interested in exploring the Hudson River will undoubtedly enjoy this book, although its size and weight will prevent some from carrying it with them. Still, it is a good guidebook for those armed with a map and a photocopy.
...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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Individual</th>
<th>Joint/Family</th>
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<tr>
<td>Life</td>
<td>$400</td>
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* two adults at same address

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Check one: ☐ new member ☐ renewal

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JOIN THE TRAIL CONFERENCE!
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of hiking trails
are waiting for you...

16 STEPS TO BUILDING A CAMPFIRE? (I don’t think so...)

1. Split dead limb into fragments and shave one fragment into slivers.
2. Bandage left thumb.
3. Chop other fragments into smaller fragments.
4. Bandage left foot.
5. Make structure of slivers (include those embedded in hand).
7. Light Match.
8. Repeat “a hiker is cheerful” and light match.
9. Apply match to slivers, add wood fragments, and blow gently into base of
   fire.
10. Apply burn ointment to nose.
11. When fire is burning, collect more wood.
12. Upon discovering that fire has gone out while out searching for more wood,
    soak wood from can labeled “kerosene.”
13. Treat face and arms for second-degree burns.
14. Relabel can to read “gasoline.”
15. When fire is burning well, add all remaining firewood.
16. When thunder storm has passed, repeat steps.

---

Member Sol Weber first shared this “Phunnie” with us, which he modified for
hikers. This ditty also can be found online at http://www.studiojn.com/
PhunniesList/1999/Aug/27.html.

A WALK ON THE LIGHT SIDE

Michael Warren

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---

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---

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---

MICHAEL WARREN
JOIN THE TRAIL CONFERENCE!
NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY TRAIL CONFERENCE
MEMBER SURVEY 2000

As you can see, this issue of the Trail Walker features a member survey. Like many organizations, the Trail Conference periodically conducts surveys of its members. However, since we last conducted such a survey in 1989, many significant changes have occurred. Certainly the times have changed—we have to work harder to protect hiking trails and we have new technologies to help us do so, such as a web site and e-mail. And our territory has been growing, with trail systems extending northward and southwestward.

This survey will help us learn more about our current members’ interests and activities, so that we can provide the information and the products you find most important. We are especially interested in how our web site is being used. (There will be a few questions on the site after the mail survey has been completed.)

You will also note that the survey is in line with the Strategic Plan printed in the last Trail Walker and will help us act on the key concerns expressed by our members. We want to know how well we share our vision and support our mission.

Please complete the following Member Survey, tear off the page, and mail it back to the TC office by September 15th. That gives you about 2 weeks to read over your answers. When the responses have been tallied, we will report the findings in the Trail Walker. The more people respond, the more useful the results.

Special thanks to Andy Mockler who volunteered his time and talents to producing this survey.

SECTION A. Membership Information

1. Have you been a member of the NY-NJ Trail Conference? (circle one)
   a. less than 1 year   b. 1 - 4 years   c. 5 - 9 years   d. 10 - 19 years
   e. 20 or more years   f. I am not a member

2. How did you first learn about NY/NJ TC? (circle one)
   a. a friend told me about it   b. I bought a map/book
   c. I read about the TC in a news article   d. I saw an advertisement/brochure
   e. I saw an information kiosk in a park/trailhead   f. I heard about the TC from another source

3. I joined in the following way: (circle one)
   a. I called the TC office   b. I used the web site
   c. I mailed a coupon from the Trail Walker   d. I received a mail solicitation
   e. I joined through another organization

4. I joined the Trail Conference in order to: (circle all that apply)
   a. to obtain hiking information   b. to support trail projects
   c. to volunteer/donate time   d. to support environmental advocacy
   e. to support educational programs

5. How important are the following functions of the Trail Conference are: (For each indicate very important, somewhat important, not very important, not at all important)
   a. building and maintaining trails   b. publishing maps and guidebooks
   c. land protection   d. political advocacy
   e. environmental education

6. How effective is the TC in the listed activities? (For each indicate very effective, somewhat effective, not very effective, not at all effective)
   a. building and maintaining trails   b. publishing maps and guidebooks
   c. land protection   d. political advocacy
   e. environmental education

SECTION B. Benefits of Membership

7. I have used the following offered by the NY/NJ TC: (For each indicate frequently, sometimes, once, not at all)
   a. maps   b. guide books   c. discount trail passes
   d. on-line bookstores   e. environmental education

8. I have gotten NY/NJ Trail Conference maps/books: (circle all that apply)
   a. mailed directly from TC office   b. local bookstores
   c. discount trail passes   d. on-line bookstores

9. Generally I like to belong to these types of organizations: (circle all that apply)
   a. hiking clubs   b. other outdoor recreation clubs   c. land conservation
   d. environmental advocacy   e. wildlife protection   f. volunteer/friends organizations

SECTION C. Costs of Membership

10. For members only: My membership dues are: (circle one)
    a. a bargain   b. still reasonable   c. getting too high   d. I am a life member
    e. I am not a member

11. I have given beyond my dues for special appeals: (circle one)
    a. Yes  b. No  If no, why not? ____________________________

SECTION D. The Trail Walker

12. I like getting the Trail Walker newsletter from NY/NJ TC and usually read it: (circle one)
    a. thoroughly   b. some of the time

13. For those who indicated thoroughly/some: these kinds of articles interest me: (For each indicate very, medium, low)
    a. news about land protection issues
    b. volunteer activities
    c. new hiking opportunities in area
    d. other hiking destinations
    e. trail conditions reports
    f. news about members
    g. news about other organizations
    h. reports about other trail programs
    i. reviews of hiking equipment

14. I have taken some action from an article I have seen in the Trail Walker: (circle all that apply)
    a. raised issues with friends
    b. wrote to a politician/official
    c. volunteered my help
    d. purchased a product reviewed

Please turn over ➔

Trail Walker  September/October 2000  9
Section G. Web Site

20. In the last 6 months, I have visited the web site. (circle one)
   a. Never    b. 1 - 4 times    c. 2 - 4 times    d. 5 - 10 times    e. more than 10 times
   If never, skip to Section G

For those who have visited the Web Site:
21. I found it: (for each answer very, somewhat, not very, not at all)
   a. useful    b. informative    c. accurate    d. timely    e. easy to navigate
   a. very    b. somewhat    c. not very    d. not at all

22. I'd like to give you my e-mail address so I can: (circle all that apply)
   a. receive announcements and action alerts    b. find out about opportunities to volunteer
   c. generally interact with the organization electronically

Section H. Shopping

32. I buy outdoor gear such hiking equipment, footwear, clothing, camping gear, other outdoor equipment: (for each indicate: almost always, usually, sometimes, never)
   a. for myself    b. for family members    c. as gifts
   a. frequently    b. sometimes    c. never

33. Annually I spend on this type of gear about:
   a. $25K to $50K    b. $50K to $75K    c. $75K to $100K    d. $100K to $150K    e. over $150K

34. My total investment in outdoor equipment is:
   a. under $1000    b. between $1000 and $3000    c. over $3000

35. I shop for outdoor equipment from:
   a. walk-in stores    b. mail-order catalogs    c. web sites
   a. frequently    b. sometimes    c. never

36. I take vacations that are hiking oriented:
   a. often    b. sometimes    c. never

SECTION I. About Myself

37. I am: (circle one) a. male    b. female

38. My age group is: (circle one)
   a. under 20    b. 20-29    c. 30-39    d. 40-49    e. 50-59    f. over 60

39. My Household income is:
   a. under $25K    b. $25K to $50K    c. $50K to $75K    d. $75K to $100K    e. $100K to $150K    f. over $150K

40. My education level is:
   a. High School    b. Some college    c. Bachelor's Degree    d. Master's Degree    e. Doctorate

41. There are ____ number of persons in my household.

42. There are ____ number of children under 18 in my household.

43. There are ____ number of children/grandchildren in my extended family.

44. There are ____ members of my extended family who are physically challenged.

45. I feel the Trail Conference should be building barrier-free trails:
   a. agree strongly    b. agree    c. don't agree

46. Members of my extended family speak languages other than English: (circle one)
   a. yes    b. no

47. I have a computer in my home: (circle one) a. yes    b. no

48. I currently live in: (circle one) a. New Jersey    b. New York    c. other state
A reminder that EMS' Club Day is Thursday, October 26, when Trail Conference members will receive a 20% discount on purchases made in EMS stores. Be sure you have your membership card handy when buying. If you have lost your membership card, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the Trail Conference office to request a new one.

FOUND: An aluminum hiking staff, at Wildcat Shelter on the AT in Orange Co., NY, around the morning of July 25. To claim, call Bob at 908-647-8510 and describe it further.

An honorary hike for, and with, Paul DeConcet, recently “retired” as Chairman of the Trail Conference’s New Jersey Appalachian Trail Management Committee, is slated for Saturday, September 30. Friends, colleagues and family will honor Paul’s 20 years of service to the AT in New Jersey, culminating with his 6 year stint as committee chairman. During that time, he oversaw the volunteer efforts to construct the Pochuck Creek AT bridge, and 800+ feet of boardwalk of the eastern corridor lands. He took on a supervisory role as overseer, working with the maintainers, and leading special worktrips. For the past six years, Paul served as Management Committee chairman, as well as serving a term as a Board of Manager of the ATC. Highlights of Paul’s contributions include coordinating the volunteers’ efforts to build the 10-foot-long Pochuck Bridge and the 800-plus feet of boardwalk on phases 1 and 2 of the Pochuck Creek relocation project, and the development of strong community ties between Vernon Valley, NJ, and the AT through outreach projects focused on the public school system, churches, and businesses.

Hearty congratulations to our ATC Honor Roll volunteers!

A special thank you to the ATC for their outstanding work on the Pochuck Creek relocation project, on the Pochuck Bridge and the 800-foot long Pochuck Creek relocation project, and the development of strong community ties between Vernon Valley, NJ, and the AT through outreach projects focused on the public school system, churches, and businesses.

Heartfelt congratulations to our ATC Honor Roll volunteers!

The Appalachian Trail Conference recently honored 75 exemplary volunteers from Maine to Georgia for its 75th Anniversary Honor Roll, recognizing volunteers as the backbone of the Appalachian Trail.

Volunteers selected represent pinnacles of achievement, dedication, and service to the AT community, giving a tremendous number of work hours both on and off the Trail, willing to serve as mentors to other volunteers, and possessing special leadership skills. It is with great pride that we announce that Ron Rosen, Chairman of the Trail Conference’s Dutchess/Putnam County AT Management Committee, and Paul DeConcet, former Chairman of the Conference’s New Jersey AT Management Committee, are our volunteers chosen for this special recognition.

Ron, the first—and only—chairman of the Management Committee, has invested over 20 years in the AT project, beginning as a trail builder, then quickly moving into the volunteer leadership role, taking the helm of the Management Committee nearly 20 years ago, a position he continues to hold. Highlights of Ron’s service include overseeing the relocation of the permanent 30-mile route of the AT in Dutchess County, and leading the first AT management committee.

The New Jersey Palisades, at the State Line lookout of the Palisades Parkway, Fridays through Sundays from September through November, visitors are welcome to observe as volunteers compile censuses data on the largest annual movement of land-based predators. Binoculars are recommended. To obtain details on this and other raptor programs in the NJ section of the Park, call 201-768-0379, or visit the website at wwwwandercliffs.com.

Our at the Bear Mountain Inn. Free admission, $1.00 parking fee per car. Also on September 23, there is a moderate-plus hike to the Sterling Forest Fire Tower in Sterling State Park. Meet at the Park’s Information Center on Route 17 for an 11 a.m. departure. Free parking and free admission.

For a brochure with a complete listing of walks for the “Hudson River Ramble,” call 1-800-453-6863.

September and October are prime hawk watching months, and there are several notable hawk watch sites in the state region. On the New Jersey Palisades, at the State Line lookout of the Palisades Parkway, Fridays through Sundays from September through November, visitors are welcome to observe as volunteers compile censuses data on the largest annual movement of land-based predators. Binoculars are recommended. To obtain details on this and other raptor programs in the NJ section of the Park, call 201-768-0379, or visit the website at wwwwandercliffs.com.

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For a brochure with a complete listing of walks for the “Hudson River Ramble,” call 1-800-453-6863.
First the tick, now the mosquito

Lyme disease and the tick are rapidly being replaced by the West Nile virus and the mosquito as the number one health threat to hikers.

This virus was first identified in the West Nile province of Uganda in 1957 and is related to both St. Louis and Japanese encephalitis. It has cropped up in our area in the past year or so.

Dead crows were the first indication that there was a new disease in our part of the world. Not only were crows dying but also horses and other birds. Research finally identified the West Nile virus as the cause of these deaths and that it could also cause an inflammation of the brain in humans. It is transmitted by the bite of a mosquito which has become infected by biting an infected bird.

The symptoms are fever, body aches, muscle pains, and headaches. Occasionally patients develop a rash and enlarged glands. The incubation period is 3-15 days. It is not spread from person to person. It is not spread by infected birds to people. It causes no permanent harm to pregnant mothers and fetuses. The mortality rate is extremely low, as is the morbidity rate. The last figures I read, there were 15 deaths due to involvement of the brain and spine and these usually occurred in elderly or immunocompromised patients. Most people infected with this disease had no symptoms or experienced a mild illness. Elderly people may become confused, have muscle weakness, and headaches. Immediate medical help is necessary. The disease is most prevalent from April to October.

Cautionary measures are like those for Lyme disease: DEET insect spray, long sleeves and pants. Mosquitoes are most active in the early morning and at dusk and darkness—an added bonus, since most hikes take place in a safe time frame. Since the mortality and morbidity rates in crops is very high and in hikers very low, keep hiking!

Scout troops help clean up woodlands and trails

During Cub Scout Pack 104's (of Packanack Lake, NJ) annual Pack Hike to the Rosvary and Blue mines in Morris

Green State Forest, the boys removed more than 60 pounds of trash from the Blue Mine Falls area.

It seemed someone had been living in the area for some time; there was a great deal of debris, personal belongings, and a broken tent strewn about. The boys quickly collected and removed as much of the trash as they could pack out—over 60 pounds. Thanks to Cub Scout Pack 104 and its leaders for their help!

Girl Scout Troop Leonia Cadettes #15 (comprised of Scouts from Leonia, Hackensack, and Tenafly, NJ) has participated in two clean-ups in the last year on the shore trails in the NJ section of Palisades Interstate Park, under the leadership of Troop Leader Carol Luten. On an outing north of both the Englewood and Alpine boat basins, the Scouts collected over 90 bags of garbage and many tires which had washed up on the beach. In addition to the Scouts’ clean-up, Ms. Luten led a group of National Junior Honor Society students from Leonia Middle School on another outing, collecting 14 bags of debris on a day where the temperature reached 95 degrees! Our thanks to Carol and to the Scouts and Honor Society students for their efforts!
Rainy Pleasures

Many people who love camping look at a rainy day as a ruined weekend. They either cancel their trip or bail out at the first sight of clouds, according to Conference member Paul Doty. Here is Paul’s descriptive account of the beauty and tranquility there for experiencing even on rainy days.

by Paul Doty

Can you have a wonderful outdoor experience in a small state park in the middle of New Jersey’s suburban-on-a-rainy, dreary weekend? The answer is a resounding yes, as I recently found out when I went on a camping trip with a friend to Round Valley State Park. Round Valley State Park is actually a large valley surrounded by mountains in Hunterdon County, New Jersey, dammed at one end to form a one-and-a-half- to three-mile reservoir. Wilderness-campers accessible only by foot or by boat are on the reservoir’s southern shoreline. It’s a three to six mile hike depending on what campsite you select. Since steady rain was in the forecast for the weekend we opted to go by boat instead of walking.

A very light but steady drizzle was falling when we arrived at the park. We set up for our campsite about a mile across the reservoir. The boat cut a long swath through water that was as smooth as a mirror except for the tiny raindrops piercing its surface. After setting up camp we went for a short hike along the valley’s perimeter. It was nearly nighttime and absolutely quiet except for the sound of the light drizzle coming down through the trees. Not a bird or insect could be heard. The air was heavy with the smell of the wet leaves on the forest floor, mixed with the fresh scent of the falling rain and the occasional smell of wood smoke from nearby campfires. After about a mile of walking we stood at the mouth of a steep valley, and watched the flickering orange glow of the dying campfire dance on the side of the reservoir. The boat cut a long swath through the clouds imparted an eerie bluish brightness to the fog: it gave the impression that the entire world ended right where the water met the shore.

I finally retired to my sleeping bag and watched the flickering orange glow of the dying campfire dance on the side of the tent. Joan went off to her little shelter under the trees. The gentle, soothing sound of the raindrops hitting the roof of the tent lulled me off into a deep, relaxing sleep. It was late the next morning when I finally crawled out of my sleeping bag. All of the tension from the previous week had left my body. I felt refreshed and completely relaxed. The rain had stopped and the temperature had climbed into the 70s. The birds were back, chirping away up in the trees, and many people were out on the lake fishing. A perfect day sound as though it was charged with 10,000 volts of electricity. The clouds drifted in low over the mountains distorting the familiar contours into an eerie and unfamiliar landscape. In the middle of the lake the clouds sank down, thickened and rested on the surface of the water in a dense fog that completely had the far shore. The almost full moon that had risen above the clouds imparted an eerie blush brightness to the fog: it gave the impression that the entire world ended right where the water met the shore.

That was a night that will remember for many years to come.
While not a new feature, the search function at the bottom of every page is becoming an increasingly popular way of finding things on the website, with over 900 searches in May, for example. Each week the webmaster gets a report on what people were searching for—not any private information about who asked for what, just their search string. These reports give an interesting list of questions which will help guide us in providing materials that better meet people’s expectations.

The Trail Conference’s website is indexed on Sundays, so changes made during a week will not be “searchable” until the next week, still a whole lot more timely than the big global search engines such as AltaVista or Google.

A recently added feature is the Destination Finder in the left menu of the home page. While not yet very useful for local trails, it will help you on vacation expeditions around the globe. One particular “finder” is GetOutdoors which offers a $5 contribution to the Trail Conference if you register with them. (See the web page for details.) Watch for improvements in finding local trails which will allow you to contribute information directly to the web.

— Gary Haugland

from the president’s notepad...continued from page 2

waterfront communities can enact local laws to keep them as far from their beaches as possible. Legislation to allow ATV trails in New York State public lands has gone back to the drawing board. Legislation forcing many miles of dirt roads in New Jersey State parks to be open to motorcycles has not gotten out of committee. In national parks the severe disruptions to wintering wildlife communities caused by snowmobiles is resulting in greater restrictions.

Where does the blame for this situation originate? With consumers of motorized recreational vehicles? With zealous dealerships? With distant manufacturers? With creative advertising firms? With lax government regulators? With understaffed park managers? With an indifferent public? Yes to all these and more. But we must stop blaming and start acting.

The most desirable outcome would be to convert potential buyers of motorized recreation vehicles into hikers. That being a bit of a stretch, we must see to it that these things happen: 1) we must insist on strict and consistent enforcement of the laws in natural areas totally unsuited for motorized vehicles; 2) we must support the use of brownfields (for example, landfills and abandoned industrial sites) for motorized recreation as they become available; and 3) we must counter the proliferation of irresponsible advertising by educating and informing the public.

These actions will require long term commitments with our public and private partnerships. We can rely on each other’s strengths to find common solutions that ensure quality—and quiet—outdoor recreational opportunities in our region. And the hills will be alive with the sound of nature.

— Gary Haugland

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Spotted a Trail Problem?

If you’ve noticed a problem on a marked hiking trail in our area, we’d like to know. If it is one of the trails we maintain, the relevant NY-NJ Trail Conference Trail Committee will be notified and the situation investigated. On other trails, we’ll forward your report to the applicable agency or organization. With your input we can stay well informed. Thanks for your help!

Park or area__________________________

State__________________________Trail name and section__________________________

Describe problem and give date observed__________________________

We’d like your name and address so that we can contact you if we need additional information.

NAME__________________________

ADDRESS__________________________

CITY/STATE/ZIP__________________________

PHONES: Day__________________________Even__________________________

TODAY’S DATE__________________________

Are you a NY-NJTC Member? [ ] Yes [ ] No Thanks again!
SEPTEMBER 4

FRI: Fall Rhythm. Meet: 9:30 a.m. at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 57 Market St., Sussex, N.J.  For info, call 973-382-7330.

SAT: Mod, 5.5 miles: On Millbrook Mountain via the AT. Bring lunch and water. (For more information call: 914-246-8670.)

SUN: Bear Mountain. Meet: 10 a.m. on Skyline Dr. at first parking lot on the left. Leaders: Micky Siegel, 973-982-4149. Truly very scenic, viewing the beautiful Ramapo Lake.

OCTOBER 1

FRI: Rockport Mountain. Meet: 8:45 a.m. at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 57 Market St., Sussex, N.J.  4 miles, 4 hours. For info, call 973-382-7330.

SAT: Bear Mountain. Meet: 10 a.m. at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 57 Market St., Sussex, N.J.  4 miles, 4 hours. For info, call 973-382-7330.

WED: Wednesday, September 27

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Volume XXVIII, No. 5
ISSN 0194-1852
September/October 2006

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

FRI: Rockport Mountain. Meet: 8:45 a.m. at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 57 Market St., Sussex, N.J.  4 miles, 4 hours. For info, call 973-382-7330.

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