



80th Anniversary Year

TRAIL WALKER

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

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2000

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 20 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, Con-



The Trail Conference's own nationally-recognized New Jersey Highlands Millennium Trail celebrates the scenic beauties and historic treasures of this water-rich geologic region. On October 21 of this millennium year, we will celebrate the opening of another 20 miles of the Trail—moving ever closer to its end point on the Delaware River. Above, Surprise Lake in Abram Hewitt State Forest typifies the wildness of the Highlands as a watershed region.

ference 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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Annual Membership Meeting Set For October 14

Meet new friends, hike a bit, and hear what the Trail Conference has been doing in the last year and what it has in mind for the future at this year's Trail Conference Annual Membership Meeting on Saturday, October 14, in the heart of Harriman-Bear Mountain State Park, NY.

This meeting is open to all NY-NJ Trail Conference members, club delegates, their immediate families, and invited guests.

The day begins with light refreshments and coffee at 9:00 a.m. The short business meeting begins at 9:30 a.m. followed by hikes between 11:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. The day's events conclude with an after-hike reception at 3:30 p.m.

Early registration is recommended. Registration fee for the full day's events is \$6 for adults and \$4 for children under 14 years of age.

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New!! West Hudson Trails Maps



A view looking south from Schunemunk Mountain in the West Hudson Highlands. For routes to this and other viewpoints in Black Rock Forest and Storm King State Park, the Conference's new West Hudson Trails map set is an invaluable guide.

The new, third edition of our *West Hudson Trails* two-map set features Orange County's popular and dramatic Storm King and Schunemunk Mountains, and Black Rock Forest hiking areas.

The maps include major new land acquisitions by Open Space Institute and resulting new trails on Schunemunk Mountain; relocated trailheads and parking in Black Rock Forest resulting from construction of their new education building; and new and relocated trails on Storm King. These five-color maps, printed on water-

proof, tearproof Tyvek, include the Long Path, and for the first time the distinctively-marked Highlands Trail.

You can order the *West Hudson Trails* map set using the Conference Shop coupon on page 12.

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STAND UP & BE COUNTED!

MEMBER SURVEY
2000
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TRAIL WALKER

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Nora Porter *Managing Editor*
Paul Leikin *Advertising Manager*

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NEW YORK - NEW JERSEY TRAIL CONFERENCE

Mission Statement

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

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

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

from the president's notepad...

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 tentatively 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. Startling and assertive, 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 the right to bring the noise of these motors into the stillness of our last wildernesses is ultimately an alienating right. The pursuit of this happiness comes at an unconscionable expense—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 ads 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 welcome 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, and

continued on page 14

L · E · T · T · E · R · S

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 bikes 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 Mitnick
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 so nice to be able to follow the path and enjoy the scenery without constantly having to wonder if I was going the right way. I also enjoyed the variety of terrain the path follows in the NJ and NY section.

Thank you and keep up the good work.

*Jennifer Adair
Albany, NY*

My 13-year-old son, two of his school friends and I planned a 5-day, 4-night hike on the Appalachian Trail—27 miles—in the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area in New Jersey.

Our hike was disrupted early on day two when I slipped and severely sprained an ankle. Over two days, I managed to limp seven miles to Route 206, at which time my son and his friends convinced me we needed to find a nice place to camp and spend the next two days recovering.

It was then that Bryan Birch [one of the NJ Appalachian Trail seasonal ridgerunners] 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 very much appreciated Bryan's concerned and helpful attitude. The rangers at Stokes were also superb. Thanks to all who helped us.

*Luis 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. Myself 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 Czifra
[via e-mail]*



Torrey Memorial Hike

SUNDAY,
OCTOBER 29

A GOOD OUTING FOR CHILDREN!

Don't Forget! The annual Torrey Memorial Hike to the top of Long Mountain in northern Harriman-Bear Mountain State Park is set for Sunday morning, October 29.

This event honors one of our co-founders, Raymond H. Torrey, as well as the Long Path, which is used to gain Long Mountain's summit.

Meet at the Torrey Memorial/Long Mountain parking lot off Route 6 in Harriman park for a 10:30 a.m. departure for our hike to the memorial plaque.

We'll arrive in time for a brief 12:30 ceremony and communal social.

This hike is especially good for families with small children. The just-under-a-mile hike is relatively easy and level, yet includes one challenging ascent at the end—enough to keep the little ones excited. The panoramic view over Turkey Hill Lake, Harriman, and onto the Shawangunks will tempt everyone farther. At past events, children were especially captivated by tracing with their fingers the chiseled tribute into the granite marker atop Long Mountain. This is a great Green-bonding outing!

You can arrive at the Memorial from any number of routes, but do plan on being there on October 29.

Remember: daylight savings time ends early on the 29th—clocks go back one hour!

MILLENNIUM HIGHLANDS TRAIL EVENT

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iron-ore-rich region. Currently about 11.5 miles of the Trail have been completed and opened to the public.

The newly-open trail sections are scattered in Sussex, Warren, Morris, and Hunterdon counties. The northernmost new section begins in Allamuchy Mountain State Park, in rugged terrain that recalls the Trail's route closer to the New York-New Jersey stateline. It begins with a rock scramble, then follows a section of the Morris Canal Trail, on the former tow-path itself, ending near Saxton Falls in Stephens State Park.


Heading Trail-south, the next new segment begins in Stephens State Park near the Musconetcong River and Waterloo Valley Road. It crosses lands of the Hackettstown M.U.A. before reaching U.S. Route 46.

After a brief gap (currently), the Highlands Trail picks up on the Columbia Rail Trail in Morris County, continuing into Hunterdon County. A section through Ken Lockwood Gorge Wildlife Management Area connects to Voorhees State Park. Snaking through that park, the Trail enters Union Furnace Nature Preserve, passing remnants of the mill industry, and (currently) the available trail section ends near the Group Picnic Area in Spruce Run Recreation Area.

To get to Spruce Run, take Interstate Route 78 to Route 31 northbound. After a couple of miles, Van Syckels Road will intersect Route 31 on the left. Take Van Syckels Rd. about a mile and a half to Spruce Run Recreation Area's main entrance. Signs after the entry point will direct you to the Group Picnic Area.

Get an updated Highlands Trail brochure

Those unable to join us on October

21 can receive a copy of the newly-updated Highlands Trail brochure with descriptions of the four new Trail sections. Send a self-addressed, stamped (99 cents) envelope to the NY-NJ Trail Conference, 232 Madison Ave., Room 802, New York, NY 10016, attention New Highlands Trail brochure. 

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 surrounding shores. Since 1982, 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 32-mile shoreline, held on the first Saturday in May.

Welcome to our newest organizational members!

\$100,000 Gift Received for Sterling Forest

The NY-NJ Trail Conference is delighted to announce that Peter R. Kellogg, a principal of Spear, Leeds & 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 a meeting with Jan Hesbon, Trail Conference Executive Director, Carol Ash, Ex-

ecutive 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 hikers 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@nymjtc.org.

ANNUAL MEETING

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Slate of Candidates Announced

The Nominating Committee is pleased to present the following slate of candidates for the Board of Directors (class of 2003, to serve until October 2003), and for Delegates-at-Large: **Board of Directors:** Jane Daniels, Wanda Davenport, Brian Goodman, and Tom Humbach. **Delegates-at-Large:** Larry Braun, Eric Calder,

Jacqueline Corrieri, Ilse Dunham, Clifford Gerenz, Denis Halliwell, Jill Hamell, John Jurasek, Jane Levenson, Larry Luxenberg, Bob Marshall*, Trudy Schneider*, Mike Selender, Naomi Sutter, Cyrus Whitney.

* denotes a new nominee not currently serving in the position for which (s)he is nominated.

ANNUAL MEETING - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14 REGISTRATION FORM

Please Print

Name(s) _____

Address _____

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, 232 Madison Avenue, #802, New York, NY 10016



TRAIL NEWS



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.)

Trail Conference volunteers laid out and built the 1.25 mile long trail from Dinch Road to the tower in late 1996.

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 Englis, Joe Herrod, Jackie Hutton, Tom Lynch, Danny Marks, Maeve Maurer, Hank Muller, Martin Novak, Arnie Projanski, Doug Rokaw, Tom Scofield, Doug Senterman, Pete Senterman, Bruce Warden; and George Profous from the NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation.

AT Bridge at Dunnfield Creek repaired

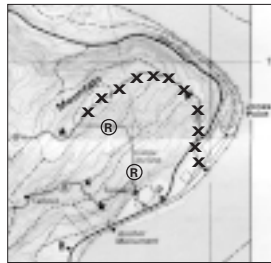
An able crew of eight volunteers, led by AT Overseer Jim Palmer, completed a much-needed repair of the pedestrian bridge across Dunnfield Creek in Worthington State Forest, where the AT enters the forest after crossing into New Jersey from the Delaware River.

This crew braced the bridge stringers and replaced broken hand railings 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 Baccaglioni, Rich Lightcap, Ian Blundell and Dennis Reil for their great efforts, and special thanks to Ron Snider for his loan of essential tools and knowledgeable construction expertise.



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.



Ramapo-Dunderberg Trail relocated

The rerouted, 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 9W, opposite Old Ayers Rd to Jones Point. (This is also the trailhead for the Timp Torne Trail (TT), blue-blazed.) See the Conference's *Harriman-Bear Mountain Trails* map #4, grid F/3.

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 jogs 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.

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 (l. to r.) John Grob, Paul DeCoste and Bob Busha 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 110-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 to shoulder to begin Phase 2 of the approximately 4,000-foot-long Appalachian Trail relocation through a wetland flood plain in Vernon Valley, NJ.

The 30-inch high boardwalk, on the eastern approach to the Pochuck Bridge, saw dozens of volunteers participate, including those from St. Benedict's Preparatory School (Newark, NJ), the Trail Conference's NJ Appalachian Trail Management Committee, the Appalachian Trail Conference's Mid-Atlantic Trail Crew, and the New Jersey Builders Association. NJ State Park Service personnel oversaw the construction.

"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 chainsawers who evened out the length of each plank so the decking 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

TRAIL CREW SCHEDULES



NORTH JERSEY TRAIL CREW

What & Where: Tackle a variety of projects ranging from trail repair to bridge building in NJ's parks and forests. With all of these projects please call the leader in advance and come prepared with work gloves, lunch, water, and boots.

When: Sundays, Sept. 10 and Oct. 15.
Leaders: Sandy Parr, 732-469-5109; Dick Warner, 201-327-4945.

HIGHLANDS TRAIL - NEW JERSEY

What & Where: New trail construction concentrating in the Lake Hopatcong, NJ area. Call the leader no earlier than one week before the scheduled date for all the details.

When: Sundays, September 3, 17; October 8, 20; November 5.
Leader: Bob Moss, 973-743-5203.

EAST HUDSON TRAIL CREW

What & Where: Mostly waterbar and step building worktrips in Hudson Highlands State Park, on trails near Breakneck Ridge. Bring workgloves, lunch, and water. Beginners are welcome.

When: Saturdays, Sept. 9, Oct. 14 & 28.
Meet: 9 a.m. at the Breakneck Ridge Trailhead, just north of the Tunnel on Route 9D. Contact the Crew leader so that they know how many tools to bring.
Leader(s): 9/9 - Walt Daniels, 914-245-1250; or wdaniels@bestweb.net. 10/14 and 10/28 - Bernie Stringer, 914-528-5018; or string2@ibm.net, or Walt Daniels.

WEST HUDSON TRAIL CREW

Harriman-Bear Mountain #1

What & Where: New trail construction on the Ramapo-Dunderberg Trail relocation. On-the-job training with experienced leaders—beginners always welcome.

When: Saturdays Sept. 9 & 23; Thursday Sept. 14; Sundays Sept. 17 & 24.
Meet: Call leader for details. Bring water, lunch and work gloves; we supply tools.

Leader: Robert Marshall, 914-737-4792 (9/10, 14, 17); Chris Ezzo, 516-431-1148 (9/23); Claudia Ganz, 212-633-1324 (9/24).

Harriman-Bear Mountain #2

What & Where: Trail repair and erosion control on the Timp-Torne Trail. On-the-job training with experienced leaders—beginners always welcome.

When: Thursday, October 12
Leader: Bob Marshall, 914-737-4792.

Minnewaska State Park

What & Where: Trail repair and erosion control on Gertrude's Nose Trail. On-the-job training with experienced leaders—beginners always welcome.

When: Saturday and Sunday, October 7 and 8.

Leader: Bob Marshall, 914-737-4792.

Schunemunk Mountain Preserve

What & Where: Trail repair and erosion control on the Sweet Clover Trail. On-the-job training with experienced leaders—beginners always welcome.

When: Saturdays and Sundays, Oct. 21 and 22; 28 and 29.
Leader: Chris Ezzo, 516-431-1148 (10/21); Claudia Ganz, 212-633-1324 (10/22); Monica Resor, 732-937-9098 (10/28 and 29).

APPALACHIAN TRAIL - NEW JERSEY

What & Where: Pochuck Creek boardwalk construction of the relocation west of the Pochuck Bridge in Vernon Valley, NJ. The largest relocation effort ever in New Jersey. Initially this project will involve physically challenging work installing the anchoring piers but will become somewhat "lighter" as the boardwalk decking is laid down.

When: Saturdays and Sundays through Sept., Oct., and probably into Nov. Day, and afternoon/twilight, sessions available. We will be working in an open meadow so come prepared for a lot of sun. Wear footwear that you won't mind getting wet.

Leader: Larry Wheelock, Trail Conference's NJ Field Representative, 973-823-9999; E-mail: wheelock@warwick.net.

ATC MID-ATLANTIC CREW

The NY-NJ Trail Conference will host the ATC Mid-Atlantic Volunteer Trail Crew in our bi-state area for four weeks this autumn. Working with this professionally-led crew can offer a valuable opportunity to learn many useful trail-building skills, as well as just having fun with volunteers from around the country.

New Jersey - Appalachian Trail #1

What & Where: Build the Pochuck Bridge boardwalk.

When: Thursday-Monday, Sept. 7-11
Leader: Larry Wheelock at Trail Conference's New Jersey Field Office, 973-823-9999, E-mail: wheelock@warwick.net.

New Jersey - Appalachian Trail #2

What & Where: Trail repair and erosion control in Stokes State Forest.

When: Thursday-Monday, Sept. 21-25.
Leader: Chet Morris, Larry Wheelock at Trail Conference's New Jersey Field Office, 973-823-9999, E-mail: wheelock@warwick.net.

New Jersey - Appalachian Trail #3

What & Where: Trail repair and erosion control between Dunnfield Creek and

1920 • 80 Years of Volunteer Spirit • 2000

GET INVOLVED

VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT

■ **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) 327-4945.

■ **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 johngunz@netscape.net.

Backpacker Campsite.

When: Thursday-Monday, Oct. 12-16.
Leader: Jim Palmer, 908-852-6966; or Larry Wheelock at Trail Conference's New Jersey Field Office, 973-823-9999; E-mail: wheelock@warwick.net.

New York - Appalachian Trail

What & Where: Construction of a new bridge at Duell Hollow in Dutchess County. Come out and join our local volunteers.

When: Thursday-Monday, Sept. 14-18
Leader: Ron Rosen, 845-454-4936.

WEST JERSEY CREW

Mt. Tammany / Worthington State Forest

What & Where: "Return to Red Dot." Major trail rehabilitation project concentrating on rock erosion control structures near the Delaware Water Gap.

When: Saturdays, Sept. 16 and Oct. 21; Sundays, Sept. 10, Oct. 1 and Nov. 5.
Meet: 9:00 on all days at Dunnfield Creek Parking Lot. Rain cancels. Bring lunch, water, work gloves, and come prepared to get dirty. Tools and training provided.
Leaders: Monica Resor and David Day, 732-937-9098.

Stokes State Forest

What & Where: Replacing the 35-foot-long Big Flat Brook Bridge on the Howell Trail. This project offers an opportunity to work with a "high line" and winch system. Carpentry skills will

be welcome.

When: Saturday and Sunday, October 14 and 15 (planned).
Leader: Larry Wheelock at the Trail Conference's New Jersey Field Office, 973-823-9999; E-mail: wheelock@warwick.net.



A band of merry men and women celebrate the Mt. Tammany Trail's designation as a Community Millennium Trail prior to their National Trails Day 2000 worktrip on the Trail. Worthington State Forest Superintendent Helen Maurella (lower right) holds aloft the certificate from the White House proclaiming the trail's special recognition. On just 4 spring worktrips, over 300 volunteer hours have already been logged on the major rehabilitation project on the Trail. You can help! See the Trail Crew Schedules above.

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—Belleayre Privatization, ATV Trail Fund, Increase in Snowmobile Trail Fund, and Cell Towers on State Park Lands Bill—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 Belleayre 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 died in the Assembly Environmental Conservation Committee, chaired by Richard Brodsky. We have suggested to the bill sponsors that the Belleayre

ski area could be operated by the Olympic Regional Development Authority, an arm of the state that successfully runs the Gore and Whiteface Ski areas. This step would solve the "forever wild" constitutional problem.

■ Legislation establishing an All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) Trail Trust Fund did not pass the legislature. ADK and the Trail Conference raised concerns regarding the user conflicts and environmental impact of a proliferation of ATV trails in the Forest Preserve and the state forests through which the Finger Lakes Trail runs. This bill would have created a large pot of money for new ATV trail construction without requiring a master plan to determine the key questions of how many trails and where. The bill unwisely prioritized trail construction over funding for law enforcement. We will be working with the ATV and motorcycle lobby to determine where such vehicles can be used responsibly.

■ Snowmobile legislation similar to the ATV trail trust fund bill was held in the legislature this year as well. This bill would increase the existing snowmobile

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)

Deer Season

Archery: Oct. 15 - Nov. 19; 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 these parks.

Black Rock Forest closes to all hikers from November 20 to December 12, inclusive. For details, call 845-534-4517. For more information about New York

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

NEW JERSEY

Deer Season

Archery: Sept. 30 - Nov. 25
Firearms: Dec. 4 - Jan. 27, 2001
Muzzleloader: Nov. 27 - Jan. 5, 2001
Special High Point State Park Muzzleloader Season: Nov. 6, 7, 8, 9, 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 schedules, call 908-735-7040 or 609-292-6685.

NJ 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.

A bear hunting season will take place this year.

trail construction and maintenance fund to three times the current amount. This legislation would fund the purchase of tracked grooming vehicles for use on Forest Preserve trails and the reconstruction of these trails for these large vehicles. ADK and the Trail Conference believe the use of these vehicles in the Forest Preserve violates current DEC regulations and the 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:

Bernie Baron, Bill Beehler, Elie J. Bijou, George Blessing, Barry Brantner, Bob Dinse, Jack Driller, Michael Engel, Don Erbe, Victor Gabay, Louise Gallarelli, Claudia Ganz, James Gregoire, Emily and Richard Guzman, John F. Heckert, Wener Hengst, Mary Hilley, Alan Hoyt, Mark Huleatt, Joan D. James, Bernard Japy, Don Johnson, Mary Kelly, Robert J. Kelsey, Dave Kientzler, Marguerite LaCorte, George Li, David Lublang, Marshall McKnight, David Mack, J.R. Mann, Joseph Moreng, George Munger, Michael Natale, Jack Papirio, Joseph Phillips, William Roehrig, Bruce and Jane

Ross, Trudy Schneider, Fred and Marion Shaw, Brian Sniatkowski, William Stoltzfus, Jr., Shelby Umland, Jim and Marianne VanBlarcom, Paul Waclawski

And congratulations to the following individuals and club members who have been awarded their one-year **Trail Maintainer patch.** To earn this award, individuals must have at least one year of service maintaining a foot trail or serving on one of the Conference's trail crews. Almost 1,200 patches have been awarded to volunteers since this program began in 1992. Club trails chairpersons nominate maintainers who receive their trail assignment through their club; a Trail Conference supervisor or chairperson nominates individual trail caretakers.

INDIVIDUALS

Catskills trails: Kevin Lane, Donald and Carol Mantell, Josef Martin, George Prokopiak, John Runyon Jr.

Highlands Trail: Don Roeske

Long Path North: Gregory VanDyke

North Jersey trails: Paul Brangs, Belle Chen, James Cornelius, Duncan and Bonnie Douglas, Jerry DeVos, Arnold Dunham, Susan Grossman, Lynn Groves, Alfred Lockwood, Lynn and Tim Murphy, James and Susan Muhaw, Fred and Patricia Schaum, John R. Starks, Harb Then

West Jersey trails: Lisa Ference, Jeff Janso, Jeane and Donald McLellan

West Hudson trails:

Robin Abrett, Robert Berlin, Fred Bernstein, Sol Braun, Ken Dukes, Ilse Dunham, Charles Forman, Lalla R. Grimes, Leon Howorth, Charles Kientzler, Bob Koshinski, Mark Leffler, Al and Jane Leigh, Walter Millman, Joe Mlcoch, Hank Perrine, Larry Pohl, Bob Randhare, Dan Rosenstein, Steve Schuckman, Arnold Seymour-Jones, Isidore Shiffman, Faye Sobkowsky, George Solovay, Donna Beth Stewart, Phyllis Stewart, Naomi

Sutter, Mort Weitzner, Peter Wolff

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

CLUB NOMINEES

Richard Niegocki (*Adirondack Mountain Club/Long Island chapter*); **Frank Dogil, Pat Colella** (*Adirondack Mountain Club/Mid-Hudson chapter*); **Rick Anderson, Gerald Anthony, Frank Cain, Tom and Beatriz Fuzia, Mary Ann Massey, Bob Payne, Jim Robbins, Rick Rosenthal, Steve Schneider, Melanie Simmerman, Marion and Fred Shaw** (*Appalachian Mountain Club/New York-North Jersey chapter*); **Barbara Bergman, Greg Bush, Don Fisher, Bob Kess, John and Eleanor Krebs, Bill Rafferty, Howard Sayetta** (*Long Island Greenbelt Trail Conference*); **Rick Levey** (*Mosaic Jewish Outdoor Club of Greater New York*); **Sharon Bonk, Kevin Broderick, May-San and Paul Carment, Mary Alice and Claude Cesard, Ruth and Isaac Freedman, Julie Hobart, Denise McCabe, Judy McCann, John McCullough, Adrienne Marosinec, Luise Schwabe, Sybil Sidelman, Laura Sirotta, Barry Skura, Michael and Sara Sternick, Deborah Tangen, Jan Vicine, Judith Weiner** (*Thendara Mountain Club*). 🍂



HIKERS' BOOKSHELF

Catskill Trails, a Rangers Guide to the High Peaks—Book 1: The Northern Catskills
by Edward Henry. Black Dome Press, 2000. Paperback, \$14.95.

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 forest and fields that surround them.

Included are sections on geology as well as forest cover and how to interpret the surroundings 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 Dibbles 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 Plateau 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

by Roland Van Zandt. Introduction by John Cronin. Black Dome Press, 1992. \$25, paperbound.

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: "an 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 verged 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 busy-work 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, himself, 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

grouse could well be his legendary crew perennially at nine pins 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 grazes, and often graces, the water's presence: Juet, Dankers, 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 walk, 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, remains. 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 journey, 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 untrodden forests, it is a picture of life; an epitome of the human universe...for which he has sought in vain in all libraries.

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

by Jeffery Perls. Rutgers University Press, 1999. 448 pp., softcover.

Reviewed by Tom Rupolo

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—this 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.



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

Regular	<input type="checkbox"/> \$21	Joint/Family	<input type="checkbox"/> \$26
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* two adults at same address

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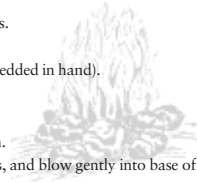
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A WALK ☺ ON THE LIGHT SIDE

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>.

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).
6. Light Match.
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.



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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 feel are 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 you 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 mull 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. I have 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. I first learned of NY/NJ Trail Conference: (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/at a trailhead f. from the web site g. other

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 mailed an insert from a publication e. I used the TC brochure
f. I received a mail solicitation g. I joined through another organization

4. I joined the Trail Conference in order to: (For each indicate how important —very important, somewhat important, not very important, not at all important)

- a. to obtain hiking information very somewhat not very not at all

- b. to support area trails very somewhat not very not at all
c. to volunteer very somewhat not very not at all
d. to support environmental advocacy very somewhat not very not at all
e. to meet like-minded people very somewhat not very not at all

5. How important are the following functions of the Trail Conference are: (For each indicate very important, somewhat important, not very important)

- a. building and maintaining trails very somewhat not very
b. publishing maps and guidebooks very somewhat not very
c. land protection very somewhat not very
d. political advocacy very somewhat not very
e. environmental education very somewhat not very

6. How effective is the TC in the listed activities? (For each indicate very effective, somewhat effective, not very effective)

- a. building and maintaining trails very somewhat not very
b. publishing maps and guidebooks very somewhat not very
c. land protection very somewhat not very
d. political advocacy very somewhat not very
e. environmental education very somewhat not very

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 frequently sometimes once not at all
b. guide books frequently sometimes once not at all
c. club hikes listed in *Trail Walker* frequently sometimes once not at all
d. trail work trips listed in *Trail Walker* frequently sometimes once not at all

8. I have gotten NY/NJ Trail Conference maps/books: (circle all that apply)

- a. mailed directly from TC office b. local bookstores c. outdoor equipment stores
d. on-line bookstores e. borrowed from friends f. borrowed from library

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 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 items c. just a quick look d. not at all

13. For those who indicated thoroughly/some: these kinds of articles interest me: (for each indicate high, medium, low)

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------|--------|-----|
| a. news about land protection issues | high | medium | low |
| b. volunteer activities | high | medium | low |
| c. new hiking opportunities in area | high | medium | low |
| d. other hiking destinations | high | medium | low |
| e. trail condition/status updates | high | medium | low |
| f. news about members | high | medium | low |
| g. news about other organizations | high | medium | low |
| h. book reviews | high | medium | low |
| i. reviews of hiking equipment | high | medium | low |

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. written a politician/official c. volunteered my help
d. purchased a product reviewed

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 E. Involvement in Trail Conference

15. I just like to hike the trails and don't want to get involved with the organization itself. (circle one)

- a. Yes b. No (If yes skip to Section F)

16. I have attended the following TC-sponsored activities in the last 2 years: (circle all that apply)

- a. trail crew work trip b. delegates business meeting c. trail committee meeting
d. other than trails committee meeting e. trail maintenance workshop f. other workshop
g. annual meeting h. Torrey Memorial hike

17. I have volunteered in the past 2 years for: (circle all that apply)

- a. trail maintenance b. trail construction c. litter day cleanup d. office-based activities
e. special events

18. I would probably volunteer in the future for: (circle all that apply)

- a. trail maintenance b. trail construction c. litter day cleanup d. office-based activities
e. special events

19. I'd like to volunteer but: (circle one)

- a. I never really know how to go about it b. I have no transportation
c. my schedule is too irregular d. I like to spend spare time with my family

please turn over →

Section F. Web Site

20. In the last 6 months, I have visited the web site. (circle one)

- a. Never b. Only once 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 | very | somewhat | not very | not at all |
| b. informative | very | somewhat | not very | not at all |
| c. accurate | very | somewhat | not very | not at all |
| d. timely | very | somewhat | not very | not at all |
| e. easy to navigate | very | somewhat | not very | 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 G. Hiking

23. In the last year, I hiked on trails maintained by the Trail Conference: (circle one)

- a. no days b. 1 - 4 days c. 5 - 9 days d. 10 - 19 days e. 20 or more days

24. In the last year I hiked elsewhere: (circle one)

- a. no days b. 1 - 4 days c. 5 - 9 days d. 10 - 19 days e. 20 or more days

25. In addition to hiking, I like these other outdoors activities: (circle all that apply)

- | | | | |
|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| a. cycling | b. mountain biking | c. camping | d. rock climbing |
| e. orienteering | f. bird watching | g. photography | h. motorcycling |
| i. ATV riding | j. canoeing/kayaking | k. hunting | l. fishing |
| m. snowshoeing | n. cross-county skiing | o. snowmobiling | |

26. The reasons I hike are: (for each indicate: almost always, usually, sometimes, not at all)

- | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|---------|-----------|------------|
| a. health/exercise | almost always | usually | sometimes | not at all |
| b. enjoyment of nature | almost always | usually | sometimes | not at all |
| c. relaxation | almost always | usually | sometimes | not at all |
| d. exploring new places | almost always | usually | sometimes | not at all |
| e. opportunity for family outing | almost always | usually | sometimes | not at all |
| f. mental well-being | almost always | usually | sometimes | not at all |

27. When I hike, I am: (for each indicate: almost always, usually, sometimes, never)

- | | | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|---------|-----------|-------|
| a. alone | almost always | usually | sometimes | never |
| b. with family members | almost always | usually | sometimes | never |
| c. with friends/coworkers | almost always | usually | sometimes | never |
| d. in hiking groups | almost always | usually | sometimes | never |
| e. with groups of children | almost always | usually | sometimes | never |
| f. with new hikers | almost always | usually | sometimes | never |

28. My favorite places/trails to hike in this region are:

(Please rank order the top 5: 1 = favorite, 2 = next favorite, etc.)

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| _____ Ramapos (NJ) | _____ NJ Highlands (NJ) |
| _____ Kittatinnies (NJ) | _____ Wyanokies (NJ) |
| _____ South Taconics (NY) | _____ East Hudson Highlands (NY) |
| _____ Harriman/Bear Mountain (NY) | _____ Schunemunk/Storm King (NY) |
| _____ Sterling Forest (NY) | _____ Shawangunks (NY) |
| _____ Catskills (NY) | _____ Appalachian Trail |
| _____ Long Path | _____ Highlands Trail |

29. Overall I think the quality of the TC's trail maintenance is: (circle one)

- a. excellent b. very good c. good d. not very good e. poor

30. I think the Trail Conference should place the most effort to protect trails in the following areas.

(Please rank order the Top 5 in terms of effort: 1 = most effort, 2 = next highest effort, etc.)

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| _____ Ramapos (NJ) | _____ NJ Highlands (NJ) |
| _____ Kittatinnies (NJ) | _____ Wyanokies (NJ) |
| _____ South Taconics (NY) | _____ East Hudson Highlands (NY) |
| _____ Harriman/Bear Mountain (NY) | _____ Schunemunk/Storm King (NY) |
| _____ Sterling Forest (NY) | _____ Shawangunks (NY) |
| _____ Catskills (NY) | _____ Appalachian Trail |
| _____ Long Path | _____ Highlands Trail |

31. I believe the name "New York-New Jersey Trail Conference" adequately conveys what the organization does. (circle one)

- a. Yes b. No

If no, I would suggest the following name change: _____

SECTION H. Shopping

32. I buy outdoor gear such hiking equipment, footwear, clothing, camping gear, other outdoor equipment: (for each indicate frequently, sometimes, never)

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|------------|-----------|-------|
| a. for myself | frequently | sometimes | never |
| b. for family members | frequently | sometimes | never |
| c. as gifts | frequently | sometimes | never |

33. Annually I spend on this type of gear about: (circle one)

- a. under \$500 b. \$500 to \$1000 c. over \$1000

34. My total investment in outdoor equipment is: (circle one)

- a. under \$1000 b. between \$1000 and \$3000 c. over \$3000

35. I shop for outdoor equipment from: (for each indicate usually, sometimes, never)

- | | | | |
|------------------------|------------|-----------|-------|
| a. walk-in stores | frequently | sometimes | never |
| b. mail-order catalogs | frequently | sometimes | never |
| c. web sites | frequently | sometimes | never |

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

SECTION J. Additional Comments

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: (circle one)

- 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: (circle one)

- 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 If yes, I would be interested in brochures about hiking in this language(s): _____

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

Our Members

❖ 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 DeCoste**, 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 approach to the bridge. All are invited to the hike, which begins at 11 a.m. at the Wawayanda State Park administration building; we'll traverse the park, descend from Wawayanda Escarpment, and end at the Pochuck bridge.

❖ **Paragon Sports** store at Broadway and 18th Street in Manhattan is now offering a 10% discount to Trail Conference members. You'll need a valid Trail Conference membership card to receive the discount.

❖ Morgan Sommerville, the Regional Field Representative of the Appalachian Trail Conference for Georgia, North Carolina and Tennessee, wrote, "Hi, all! [In July,] I finished a hike [on the Appalachian Trail] from Lehigh Gap, PA, to Unionville, NY. I was quite impressed with New Jersey! Very scenic and varied, and lots of interesting trail layout." Thank you N.J. AT maintainers for your efforts—they are both noticed and appreciated!! Serendipitously, Morgan met *maintainer extraordinaire* Jill Arbuckle on the Trail during one of her very frequent weed-whacking maintenance outings. He noted that the Trail south to High Point State Park was well maintained—the area for which Jill is responsible. Thank you, Jill!

❖ To commemorate the 30th anniversary of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Commissioner John Cahill selected the NY-NJ Trail Conference for recognition of our environmental stewardship work. A Certificate of Appreciation was presented for "dedicated service to the people of New York State

and their environment" in helping DEC achieve its mission over the past 30 years.

❖ This year marks the 100th anniversary of the formation of the Palisades Interstate Park Commission (PIPC). In celebration of this milestone, PIPC will host a variety of events, including:

Opening ceremony with a ribbon-cutting on Saturday, September 16 at 11 a.m., of the **St. John's in the Wilderness Exhibit** which recognizes the pre-park hamlets via a heritage center and museum in the St. John's in the Wilderness 1878 community church annex. The Park's early families and lost township are featured.

On September 30, the 150th anniversary of **Washington's Headquarters** as a state-owned historic site will be celebrated in grand style on the grounds of the Hasbrouck House in Newburgh, NY. New exhibits will be installed in the renovated Museum Building.

A new carousel in **Harriman-Bear Mountain State Park** is tentatively set for a ribbon-cutting opening on Saturday, October 7, 2000.

For more details on these and other centennial events, call PIPC at (845) 786-2701.

❖ The "Hudson River Ramble," a weekend walking festival in the **Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area** on September 23-24, will feature 70 guided walks between the lower Hudson Valley to the state capital region around Albany. Walks and hikes will be offered on terrain ranging from paved rail trails, city sidewalks, carriage roads and nature paths in state parks and preserves to rugged ridge hikes high on mountains. Many walks are within the easy to moderate range and suitable for families, while several walks are also accessible to people with disabilities. There will be Heritage-, Children-, and Architectural-themed walks, among others. All walks are free except for those few where site and parking fees cannot be waived.

Join a "1777 Hike into History" on Saturday, September 23 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Col. (ret.) Jim Johnson, a historian, is leading this moderate hike, starting at the Bear Mountain Inn. Free admission, \$5.00 parking fee per car. Also on September 23, there is a moderate-plus hike to the Sterling Forest Fire Tower in Sterling Forest 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 1-800-453-6665.

❖ September and October are prime hawk watching months, and there are several notable hawk watch sites in the bi-state

ATC HONORS EXEMPLARY 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, willingness 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 Counties' AT Management Committee, and **Paul DeCoste**, 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 com-

mittee as it broke new ground to craft from vision to reality the cooperative management system as outlined in the National Park Service's 1981 *Comprehensive Plan*. Through his leadership, his committee set standards and offered recommendations which became a model to other management committees along the AT.

Paul has invested about 20 years with the AT project, also beginning as a trail builder and trail maintainer during the long years of building the permanent route of the Trail onto State-owned 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 110-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.

Heartfelt congratulations to our ATC Honor Roll volunteers!

region. On the New Jersey Palisades, at the State Line lookout off the Palisades Parkway, Fridays through Sundays from September through November, visitors are welcome to observe as volunteers compile census 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 web site at www.undercliff.com.

Out in the Farny Highlands of northern Morris County, NJ, the Wildcat Ridge Hawkwatch on the Four Birds Trail is a magnificent viewing location located in a Wildlife Management Area. You can combine hawk watching with a hike on part of the Farny Highlands Trail System. Sixteen raptor species are known in this area. For more information about Wildcat Ridge, visit their web site at www.netcom.com/~billyg/.

On Saturday, September 30, PIPC hosts a nature program at the Stateline Lookout, "Mad About Hawks" with live birds of prey between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. Free admission and free parking. The Stateline Lookout is located between northbound Exits 3 and 4 of the Palisades Parkway.

❖ The first NY statewide greenway and community trail conference is planned for October 27-28 in Syracuse, NY, sponsored by the New York Parks and Conservation Association. The conference is designed for trail and greenway advocates, agency professionals working with trails and greenways, elected officials, recreation professionals, conservation advocates and citizens and business people. Friday afternoon features several field trips for first-hand looks at greenway and trail projects in and around Syracuse. Saturday includes a full day of workshops and plenary sessions. To receive registration materials, call 518-434-1538.

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

The Trail Conference welcomes four new life members, to our growing 'family' of 784: **Donald Roeske**, and **Enrico and Evelyn Tissi** from New Jersey, and from New York, **Brian Poalillo**.

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 "lifer." Your money goes directly into the Outdoor Fund, our trail lands protection fund.



Be Prepared! Give a Gift!

Hikers' Market Place

NY-NJ TC member? YES NO JOINING NOW

Please order by circling price

	Retail	Member	P/H	Total
Official Conference Maps				
NEW!! Sterling Forest Trails (2000)	\$7.95	\$5.95	+80	_____
Harriman-Bear Mtn. Trails (1995, rev. 1999)	\$7.95	\$5.95	+95	_____
NEW!! East Hudson Trails (2000)	\$8.95	\$6.75	+95	_____
West Hudson Trails (1992)	\$6.95	\$5.25	+95	_____
Catskill Trails (1998) & see combo	\$13.95	\$10.45	+\$1.10	_____
NEW!! Kittatinny Maps (4 N&S) (2000)	\$12.95	\$9.75	+\$1.10	_____
NEW!! Shawangunk Trails (2000) & see combo	\$9.95	\$7.75	+95	_____
South Taconic Trails (1988, rev. 1998)	\$4.95	\$3.75	+.65	_____
North Jersey Trails (1998)	\$7.95	\$5.95	+95	_____
Hudson Palisades (1991)	\$4.95	\$3.75	+80	_____

Books

Scenes & Walks in the Northern				
Shawangunks (1999) & see combo	\$10.95	\$8.75	+\$1.75	_____
NEW - Hardcover! Scenes & Walks in the Northern Shawangunks (1999)				
New York Walk Book (1998)	\$19.95	\$15.95	+\$3.00	_____
New Jersey Walk Book (1998)	\$15.95	\$12.75	+\$3.00	_____
Iron Mine Trails (1996)	\$8.95	\$7.15	+\$1.75	_____
Health Hints for Hikers (1996)	\$5.95	\$4.75	+\$1.75	_____
Doodletown-Hiking Through History in a Vanishing Hamlet on the Hudson (1996)				
Harriman Trails Guide (1999) & see combo	\$16.95	\$13.55	+\$3.00	_____
Circuit Hikes in No. Jersey (1995, repr. 1998)	\$9.95	\$7.95	+\$1.75	_____
Long Path Guide to NY/NJ (1996)	\$9.95	\$7.95	+\$1.75	_____
Nature Walks in New Jersey (1998)	\$12.95	\$10.35	+\$2.50	_____
50 Hikes in New Jersey (1997)	\$14.95	\$11.95	+\$1.75	_____
Best Hikes w/ Children in the Catskills & Hudson River Valley (1992)				
Best Hikes w/ Children - New Jersey (1992)	\$12.95	\$10.35	+\$1.75	_____
A.T. Guide for NY & NJ (1998) w/ 6 maps	\$19.95	\$15.95	+\$2.50	_____
ADK Guide to Catskill Trails (1994, repr. 1998)	\$16.95	\$13.55	+\$2.50	_____
Catskill Trails: A Ranger's Guide to the High Peaks	\$14.95	\$11.95	+\$1.75	_____

Combo-Packs

Catskill (5 map set & book)	\$27.80	\$21.60	+\$2.50	_____
Harriman (2 map set & book)	\$22.40	\$17.55	+\$2.50	_____
NY & NJ Walk Books	\$32.35	\$25.85	+\$5.00	_____
Shawangunk Combo (4 map set & book) (2000)	\$17.90	\$13.95	+\$2.50	_____

The Personal Touch

NY-NJTC T-Shirt Circle: L XL	\$13.95	na	+\$2.50	_____
Harriman Map Bandanna	\$6.95	\$5.25	+\$1.25	_____
Conference Logo Patch	\$2.50	na	postpaid	_____
Long Path Logo Patch	\$2.75	na	postpaid	_____
Conference Logo Decal	\$.85	na	postpaid	_____

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*If postage is \$5 or more, can we ship UPS? Yes No (usually someone has to sign for UPS)

**Tax must be paid by NY residents on items & shipping. Thank you!

HEALTH HINTS FOR HIKERS

by Albert P. Rosen, M.D.

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 5-15 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. Mosquitos 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 rate in crows is very high and in hikers very low, keep hiking!

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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 10018-6609; Membership 718-543-4971 Folk-Fone 212-563-4099

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The Carskill 3500 Club

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Trail Blazers: Kenneth Lloyd, Jim and Lois Lober, H. Peter Stern
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William Ginsberg, in honor of Meyer Kukle
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Naomi and David Sutter, to wish "Mazel Tov" to Mr. Raf Collado

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Colette Flake-Bunz, in memory of her husband Louis Bunz
Kurt Ramig, in memory of Jerome D. Silverstein

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Ridge Precision Products, for Four Birds Trail signs
Tom Fenton, for typesetting services

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 sign 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 suburbia 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-by-three-mile reservoir. Wilderness campsites accessible only by foot or by boat are on the reservoir's southern shoreline. It's a three to six mile hike in depending on what campsite you select. Since steady rain was in the forecast for the weekend we opted to go in by boat instead of walking.

A very light but steady drizzle was falling when we arrived at the park. We set off 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.

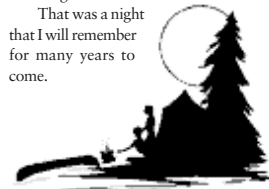
After setting up camp we went for a short hike along the valley's perimeter. It was nearly nightfall and absolutely quiet except for the sound of the light drizzle coming down through the trees. Not a bird or insect could be heard. The air was heavy with the smell of the wet leaves on the forest floor, 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 water's edge. The light rain sizzled as it hit the surface of the water, making it 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 hid the far shore. The almost full moon that had risen above 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 my tent; Joan went off to her little shelter in the woods. 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 finally 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 for camping, just like the many dozens of other perfect days I had experienced. But the magical, mysterious spell of the previous night was now broken.

That was a night that I will remember for many years to come.



Change of Address?

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

Name _____

OLD Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

OLD Phone (day) _____ (eve) _____

NEW Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

NEW Phone (day) _____ (eve) _____

email _____

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

www.nynjtc.org

TC Website News

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 web site, 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 dur-

ing 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 \$1 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.

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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 _____

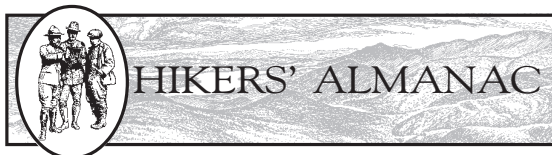
ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONES: Day _____ Eve _____

TODAY'S DATE _____

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



continued from back page

parking lot. Leaders: Jim & Theresa McKay, 973-538-0756. Moderately strenuous, about 9 miles from Blue Lake to Cedar Pond and the fire tower on Sterling Ridge. Steady rain cancels.

FRIDAY-MONDAY, OCTOBER 6-9

MSC. Columbus Day hiking weekend at our lodge in Waitsfield, VT. Call 212-978-9191 for information.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7

MJO. Bear Mountain Circular. Leader: Ken Segal, (718-796-3557), call by Fri., Oct. 5. A 7-mile moderately strenuous circular going up, over and around Bear Mountain. Expect fine views, quality company and a good aerobic workout. Accessible by public transportation. No go in rain. Non-member fee \$10, (free with guest card.) Call (212-686-8666) to request free guest card and leave name and address.

PPD. Staten Island Butterfly Migration. Meet: 9:45 a.m. at Hylan Blvd. auto entrance to Great Kills Park. Leaders: Dick Buegler, 718-761-7496 and Herman Zaage, 718-727-0772. Six easy miles in Gateway National Recreation Area to observe migrating Monarchs and Tree Swallows. Bring sturdy shoes, binoculars, cameras and field guides.

NYHC. Osborne Loop. Meet: Grand Central Terminal information booth. Leader: Mike Puder, 718-743-0920, call leader during the week of the hike for meeting time. About 8 miles at moderately steady pace, some climbing. Bring lunch and water.

IHC. North Lake Escarpment Trail (Catskills). Meet: 8:00 a.m. at Municipal parking lot, next to railroad tracks in Suffern, NY. Moderately strenuous all day hike with early supper in a local restaurant. For more information, call 973-835-1060.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

IHC. Man O' War. Meet: 9:00 a.m. at Reeves Meadow Visitor Center, Seven Lakes Drive, Staatsburg, NY. Moderately strenuous all day hike. For more information, call 718-769-3814.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9

RWV. Shaupeneck Ridge, Town of Esopus. Meet: 8 am at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market St., Saugerties. Moderate 4.5 mi., 2.5 hrs. Inclement weather date-following Mon. For more information: 845-336-5664.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12

ADK J. Thursday Ramble. To register, call Betty, (201-967-2937) or Phyllis, (201-358-9252) before 9 p.m. on Wednesday evening.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14

RWV. October Mt. State Forest in the Berkshires, near Lee, MA. Meet: 8:00 am at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market Street, Saugerties. Moderate 5 miles, 4.0 hours. Inclement weather date-following Saturday. For more information call: 845-246-4145.

NYHC. Nassau Greenbelt: Bethpage to Massapequa. Meet: at Roy Rogers across from the LIRR ticket windows at Penn Station on lower level. Leader: Mike Puder, 718-743-0920, call leader during the week of the hike for meeting time. About 8 miles, all level at a moderate steady pace. Bring lunch and water.

IHC. Popolopen Torne. Moderately strenuous all day hike. For more information, call 201-393-0986.

OC. Beaver Dam Sanctuary. Harlem Line from Grand Central at 8:48 a.m. to Bedford Hills or at 9:05 at Fordham station (where leader boards), arrive 9:48 (confirm train schedules as may change seasonally). Then board bus W19 at 10:06 to Babbitt & Harris Pkds. Fare: Buy one way ticket and ask for a transfer to Beeline bus, \$6.50, seniors \$4.25, bus 70 cents (bring change). Leader: Rolande Chapeau, 10-12 mi., easy to moderate terrain (participants must keep pace through woods passing by farms and meadows. Beautiful during fall foliage. Bring lunch and water. Hiking boots a must. No smoking on hike. Service fee \$3. non-members.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

IHC. Ken Lockwood Gorge (Calton, NJ). Meet: 9:00 a.m. at McDonald's in Morris Hills Shopping Center. Easy to moderate all day hike, about 8.5 miles of level terrain along scenic stream. Rain cancels. For more information, call 973-479-5285.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 16

RWV. Balsam Lake Mountain. Meet: 8 am at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market St., Saugerties. Strenuous 7 mi., 4.5 hrs. Inclement weather date-following Mon. For more information: 845-246-8616.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19

ADK J. Thursday Ramble. To register, call Betty, (201-967-2937) or Phyllis, (201-358-9252) before 9 p.m. on Wednesday evening.

Phyllis, (201-358-9252) before 9 p.m. on Wednesday evening.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21

NYHC. East of the Hudson. Meet: 8:30 a.m. at Grand Central Terminal near the information booth. Leader: Halina Jensen, 212-568-6323, between 8-10 p.m. Nine miles with ups and downs, spectacular views on ridge marching from Manitou to Peekskill. Bring lunch and lots of water.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 23

RWV. Sages Ravine and Mt. Race from East St., Mt. Washington (MA) State Forest. Meet: 8:00 am at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market St., Saugerties. Strenuous 7.6 miles, 5.0 hours. Inclement weather date-following Monday. For more information: 845-46-4590.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25

OC. Tuxedo Circular. Meet: 8:45 a.m. at Hoboken train station to get 9 a.m. train to Tuxedo. Leader: Oliver Wayne, 201-840-4145. About 8 miles with some ups and downs, returning to Hoboken by about 4 p.m. Bring lunch and at least 1 liter of water. Only a heavy continuous downpour at beginning of hike will cancel. Service fee \$3. non-member.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26

ADK J. Thursday Ramble. To register, call Betty, (201-967-2937) or Phyllis, (201-358-9252) before 9 p.m. on Wednesday evening.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28

PPD. Staten Island Greenbelt Circular. Meet: 9:30 a.m. at Clove Lakes parking lot, one block north of Victory Blvd. on Clove Rd. Leaders: Dick Buegler, 718-761-7496 and Herman Zaage, 718-727-0772. 10 moderate miles on annual walk of peak of fall colors. Sturdy shoes, lunch and a beverage a must. We go in all weather.

UTC. Leatherstocking Trail from Manaroneck to Larchmont. Meet: 9:15 a.m. at Grand Central Terminal information booth. Leader: Salvatore Varbero, 718-420-9568 between 8-10 p.m. Moderate steady pace, 9 miles with lunch at Larchmont Reservoir. Bring lunch and water.

OC. Garret Mountain. Leader: Catherine Servas, 973-546-5699 before 10 p.m. Moderate with ups and downs, 4 miles. One climb at beginning. Good views. Bring lunch and water. Rain/foul weather cancels. Service fee \$3 non-members.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

Remember the Torrey Memorial Hike!

NYHC. Upper Nyack/Hook Mountain to Haverstraw and back. Meet: 8:45 a.m. at GW Bridge bus terminal, upper level information area. Leader: Lynn Albin, (page) 917-291-3193; call 1-2 days ahead to confirm. About 10 mi. at brisk and steady pace with lunch break. Mostly flat except for a few short hills. Fall colors. Bring lunch and water. No smoking on hike.

IHC. Scene of a murder. Meet: 9:00 a.m. at Lake Sebago fishermen's parking lot. Moderately strenuous all day hike. Who killed Francis C.? For more information, call 973-778-0992.

OC. Old Croton Aqueduct: Greystone to Dobbs Ferry. Meet: leader at 12 noon at Greystone Railroad station. Leader: Hal Kaplan, 914-376-6156. Moderate steady pace, some ups and downs, 7 miles. A chance to hike the semi-overgrown Algonquin Trail and see some areas east of the OCA. More climbing than your usual aqueduct hike. Heavy rain cancels.

OC. Staten Island Greenbelt. Meet: by 11:30 a.m. at Richmond Road & Spring St. Leaders: Steve & Bettye Soffer, 718-720-1593 between 7-9 p.m. Yellow and blue trails, some hills, about 6 miles. Autumn foliage should be near peak. Bring lunch and water, hiking boots recommended.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 30

HAPPY HALLOWEEN!

RWV. Overlook Mt. from Mead Mt. (Halloween Costume Hike) Meet: 9:00 am at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market St., Saugerties. Moderate 5 miles, 3 hours. Dress in costume. Inclement weather date-following Monday. For more information call: 845-246-1823.

NOVEMBER

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2

ADK J. Thursday Ramble. To register, call Betty, (201-967-2937) or Phyllis, (201-358-9252) before 9 p.m. on Wednesday evening.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

NYHC. Staten Island Greenbelt's Blue Trail. Call leader Mike Puder, 718-743-0920, during the week of the hike for details on meeting time and place. Walk through one of the wildest places in NYC, completely in the woods. Lunch atop Moses Mountain.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5

MJO. Trail maintenance in Sterling Forest State Park (& apres pizza). Leader: Rick Levey, (914-680-0029) Give something back to the trail system by trimming bushes, clearing brush, and painting markers along Allis Trail. Trail maintenance followed by hike to a waterfall or scenic viewpoint. All volunteers will enjoy apres pizza and beverages provided by the club. Non-members: no fee charged. Please call Sat., Nov. 4.

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CLUB CODES

ADK J Adirondack Mountain Club, North Jersey Chapter. Contact: Rob Lehmann, 201-529-1154.

ADK-KN Adirondack Mountain Club, Knickerbocker Chapter. Contact: Robin Geller, 718-392-2030. Guests must register. Limit 2 hikes before joining.

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

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

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

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

MJO Mosaic Jewish Outdoor Mountain Club of Greater New York. Contact: Lanny Wexler, 516-938-5721.

NYHC New York Hiking Club. Contact: Halina Jensen, 212-568-6323, or Bob Ward, 718-471-7036 (after 8 pm).

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

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

NYR New York Ramblers. Contact: Anna Marynowska, 718-384-2908. Hikes may be strenuous.

OC Outdoors Club. Contact: The Outdoors Club, PO Box 227, Lenox Hill Station, NYC 10021. Free schedule on request.

PPOW Protectors of Pine Oak Woods. Contact: Richard Buegler, 718-761-7496. Staten Is. hikes.

RWV Rip Van Winkle. Contact: Fred Backhaus, 845-246-5670.

SC-NJ Sierra Club, New Jersey Chapter. Contact: Tom Morris, 201-489-9321.

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

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

VN Vroman's Nose Preservation Corp. Contact: Cherie Clapper, 518-827-4386.

WTW Woodland Trail Walkers. Contact: Michelle Keller, 63 Stevens Rd., Clifton, NJ 07013; 973-773-7984. Guest card \$2. for 6-month hike listing.



SEPTEMBER

FRIDAY - MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 - 4

MSC. Labor Day hiking weekend at our lodge in Waitsfield, VT. Call 212-978-9191 for information.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

OC. Garrison Circular. Meet: 9:30 a.m. at Grand Central Terminal information booth. Leader: Salvatore Varban, 718-420-9669 between 8-10 p.m. Moderate pace, 7 miles. Carriage roads to the top for beautiful views of Hudson River and West Point.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

IHC. Scenic Western Morris County. Meet: 9:00 a.m. at McDonald's in Chester Shopping Center, Chester, NJ. Moderately strenuous 10-14 miles all day hike. Some on roads, some on trails one long hill by a sandy brook. For more information, call 973-285-5263.

NVR. Butler to Haskell. Meet: 8:05 at Port Authority Bus Terminal, main lobby near Zoro's, for 8:20 bus to Butler. Leader: Dennis Gin, 212-925-2733. Hewitt Butler and other trails, including Mine Trail to Weis Ecology Center; finish at Haskell.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

OC. Nassau Greenbelt Trail: Bethpage to Cold Spring Harbor. Meet: 9:45 a.m. at LIRR information windows on lower level of Penn Station. Leader: Ray Krant, 718-435-4994. Moderate steady pace, 10 miles. Many easy stretches and a variety of scenery. Open areas as well as wooded ones. Bring lunch and plenty of water.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

ADK-J. Thursday Ramble. To register, call Betty, (201-967-2937) or Phyllis, (201-358-9252) before 9 p.m. on Wednesday evening.

WTW. Mahlon Dickerson Reservation. Leaders: Bill & Win Baker, Gwen Healey, 973-492-4855 or Dee Holteman, 973-838-1913. About 6+ miles. Rain cancels.

UHC. Long Mountain Circular. Meet: 10 a.m. at Anthony Wayne parking area. Leader: Arnold Seymour-Jones, 201-768-3884. Circular with climbs, views and lakes. Moderately strenuous. Steady rain cancels.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

WTW. Dunnfield Creek Trail - Delaware Water Gap. Meet: 10 a.m. at Dunnfield Cr. parking area off Route 80. Leaders: Hermann & Marlene Memmer, 908-979-0493. About 8 mi. Bad weather may cancel; call leaders if in doubt.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

NYHC. Breakneck Ridge to Beacon. Meet: 7:30 a.m. at Grand Central terminal to take Hudson Line train to Breakneck Ridge. Leader: Gerard Johnson. About 12 miles with hill. Scramble up Breakneck then take white trail to North Beacon for lunch then continue onto Fishkill Ridge. Then onto Beacon for return train to NYC.

IHC. Schermann-Hoffman Wildlife Sanctuary. Meet: 9:00 a.m. at McDonald's in the Morris Hills Shopping Center, intersection of rts. 202 & 46. Moderate 7 miles, all day through rolling hills and somewhat rocky terrain. Rain cancels. For more information call 973-478-5285.

OC. Old Croton Aqueduct: Scarborough to Tarrytown. Meet: Grand Central Terminal information booth. Leader: Mike Puder, 718-743-0920; call leader week of hike for meeting time. Moderate steady pace, 5 miles on flat terrain. Bring lunch and water.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

RWV. Slide Mt. Meet: 8 am at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market St., Saugerties. Strenuous, 6.5 miles, 5 hours. Inclement weather date following Monday. For more information call: 914-246-7616.

RWV. Mt Greylock, MA via Money Brook/Hopper trails. Meet: 7:00 am at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market Street, Saugerties. Strenuous, 9.3 miles, 6.5 hours. Inclement weather date following Monday. For more information call: 914-246-8546.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

ADK-J. Thursday Ramble. To register, call Betty, (201-967-2937) or Phyllis, (201-358-9252) before 9 p.m. on Wednesday evening.

UHC. Four Birds Trail - Fanny Highlands. Meet: 9:30 a.m. in Newfoundland, NJ. Leaders: Jim & Theresa McKay, 973-539-0756. 8 miles from Timberbrook Lake to Newfoundland. Moderately strenuous hike, steady

rain cancels. We will shuttle to starting point.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

ADK-K. Sterling Forest, Indian Hill. Call leader, John Kolp, (212-724-5318 until 10 p.m.) for details and to register. New 3.5 mile loop hike in Sterling Forest State Park. A number of easily accessible view points. Some ups and downs but pace will be leisurely and suitable for family members of all ages and sizes. Late morning start for this half-day hike.

WTW. Around Anthony Wayne. Leaders: Larry & Iris Mishkind, 718-332-9888. Moderate 6 miles starting on Fawn Trail and using parts of the AT, 177W, 177S, and Anthony Wayne trails. Side trip to Cranberry Mine, one of the large horizontal mines in Harriman. Call leaders for more information. Rain cancels.

ADK-MH. Shaupeak Ridge. Meet: 9:00 a.m. at the Park & Ride at the intersection of Rt. 9W and 299 north of Highland, NY. Leader: Michele VanHoesen, 845-681-7442 between 6-9:30 p.m. 7 moderately paced miles, a little steep in one spot. Suitable for children 8 & up. Heavy rain cancels. Bring snack and water. Lunch for those not registering for the optional All You Can Eat Venison dinner. Call for details.

ADK-MH. Millbrook Mountain. Meet: 10 a.m. at Arnes parking lot in New Patch below Plaza Diner. Leaders: Stan & Jenny Roberts, 845-471-5712. Up the Coxing Kill Valley and the Millbrook Escarpment at leisurely, gradual uphill pace, 4 mi. Couple of short steep spots. Great Hudson River Valley views. Rain cancels. Mohonk Preserve day-use fee may be collected.

ADK-MH. Long Path: West Fulton to Middleburgh. Call leader Pete McGinnis, 914-454-4428 after 7, for details. 12 strenuous miles.

UHC. Scenic Skannataki. Meet: 10:00 a.m. at Sloatsburg, NY. Leader: Al Leigh, 973-471-7528. 7-8 miles in a circular using the ASB, Red Cross, Beech and LP. Limited climbing.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

SC-NJ. Sunfish Pond via Copper Mine Trail. Meet at 9:30 AM in front of the Visitors Center on Route 80 in New Jersey. Leader: Tom H. Morris, (201-489-9321). An interesting, but somewhat demanding 10-12 mile hike. Very scenic along the ride overlooking the Delaware River. Binoculars are recommended. Return via the Dunnfield Creek Trail. We will carpool to the trailhead. Bring food, plenty of water; hiking boots are highly recommended. Steady rain cancels.

NYHC. Long Path: Palisades to Alpine. Meet: at the information booth, upper level, in the GW Bridge bus terminal. Leader: Mike Puder, 718-743-0920; call leader during the week of the hike for meeting time. About 8 miles at a moderate pace. Bring lunch and water.

IHC. Great Triangle Project: Liberty Water gap Trail. Meet: 9 a.m. at West Essex Park, Livingston, NJ. Moderate, all-day hike. For more information: 201-451-5411.

OC. Stateline to Nyack. Meet: 9:45 a.m. at GW Bridge bus terminal upper level information area. Leader: George Glatz, 212-533-9457 between 7-8 a.m. Moderate pace, 8 miles. Bring food and water.

ADK-MH. Catskills: Leader's Choice. Meet: 8:30 a.m. at Red Caboose at traffic circle off NYS Thruway in Kingston. Call leader, Chris Zaleski, 845-838-0022, for details. Strenuous hike (more than 8 miles, or more than 1500 foot ascent) somewhere in the Catskills.

SC-NJ. Sunfish Pond via Copper Mine Trail. Meet: 9:30 a.m. in front of the Visitors Center on Route 80 in NJ. Leader: Tom H. Morris, 201-489-9321. An interesting, but somewhat demanding 10-12 mi. hike to Sunfish Pond via Copper Mine Trail. Very scenic along the ride overlooking the Delaware River. Binoculars are recommended. Return via the Dunnfield Creek Trail. We will carpool to the trailhead. Bring food, plenty of water; hiking boots are highly recommended. Steady rain cancels.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

ADK-J. Thursday Ramble. To register, call Betty, (201-967-2937) or Phyllis, (201-358-9252) before 9 p.m. on Wednesday evening.

UHC. Long Path: Skannataki to Long Mountain Parkway. Meet: 9:30 a.m. at Long Mountain parking area. Leaders: Carolyn & Jim Canfield, 973-728-9774. We will shuttle to starting point. Moderately strenuous; steady rain cancels.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

RWV. Colgate Lake Ramble. Meet: 9:00 am at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market St., Saugerties. Easy 4.5 miles, 4 hours. Inclement weather date following Saturday. For more information: 914-246-2945.

UHC. Long Beach Circular. Meet: 9:00 a.m. near Information window, Long Island Railroad in Penn Station. Leader: Judy Levine, 718-482-9659, Thurs-Fri after 8 p.m. Beach walk to Point Lookout and back to Long

Beach, 10 miles. Moderate pace, short, frequent stops. Bring water.

WTW. Wawayanda. Leaders: Susan & Neil Chessin, 973-696-9792. Circular 7 mi. beginning at ranger station. Rain cancels. Call leaders for more details.

ADK-MH. Little Stony Point to Mt. Taurus. Leader: Ben Shor, 845-238-4291, call leader for details. Strenuous, about 8 miles beginning with a walk on the peninsula in the Hudson then past an abandoned mine to Mt. Taurus with great views on way. Loop back to our starting point and continue alongside a picturesque stream.

UHC. High Mountain Preserve (Wayne, NJ). Meet: 10:00 a.m. at William Paterson University parking lot #6. Leader: Peter Wolff, 973-239-0766. Newly laid out red, white and yellow trails to climb to 885-foot high peak with unsurpassed views of the Passaic Valley. Bring binoculars. Return via a steep and rocky trail at about 1:30 p.m. Sturdy boots recommended; rain cancels.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

SC-NJ. Walkill National Wildlife Refuge. Meet at 9:30 AM in the parking lot of the A&P Shopping Center on Rte. 23 in Sussex, NJ. Leader: Tom H. Morris, (201-489-9321). Our favorite New Jersey wildlife refuge. This is an easy outing in one of New Jersey's most scenic areas, with the emphasis on observing wildlife. Bring your camera and binoculars as well as lunch and plenty of water. Steady rain cancels.

WN. Annual Woman's Nose Hike. From noon to 5 p.m., a special day on the mountain. Woman's Nose Preservation Corporation members will be on hand to greet you and offer information about this landmark. The view over Schoharie County is truly rewarding. For more information, contact Wallace VanHouten, 518-827-5747.

IHC. Black Rock Forest. Meet: 9 a.m. at Anthony Wayne Recreation Area north parking area. Moderately strenuous all day hike about 8 miles. Probably will include Mt. Misery. For more information: 201-825-9506.

GAHC. Sandy Hook Gateway National Recreation Area. Meet: 9:30 a.m. at first parking lot on right side after toll station. Leaders: Henry & Gelsa Lodigis, 718-899-1052. Moderate hiking, and swimming.

SC-NJ. Walkill National Wildlife Refuge. Meet: 9:30 a.m. in the parking lot of A&P Shopping Center on Rte. 23 in Sussex, NJ. Leader: Tom H. Morris, 201-489-9321. Easy outing in one of NJ's most scenic areas, with the emphasis on observing wildlife. Meet at Bring your camera and binoculars as well as lunch and plenty of water. Steady rain cancels.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

RWV. Huckleberry Point. Meet: 8 am at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market St., Saugerties. Moderate 4.8 mi., 3 hrs. Inclement weather date following Monday. For more information call: 914-246-8670.

RWV. Bearpen Mt. & Vly from Johnson Hollow Road. Meet: 7:00 am at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market Street, Saugerties. Moderate bushwhack 6.5 miles, 5.5 hours. Inclement weather date following Monday. For more information call: 914-246-8616.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

OC. Long Path: Alpine to Pierrmont. Meet: 8:45 a.m. at GW Bridge bus terminal near Red & Tan Line ticket windows. Leader: Oliver Wayne, 201-840-4145. About 8+ miles, relatively flat terrain with only one climb.

Bring lunch and water. Heavy continuous rain at start of day will cancel. Service fee: \$3 for non-members.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

ADK-J. Thursday Ramble. To register, call Betty, (201-967-2937) or Phyllis, (201-358-9252) before 9 p.m. on Wednesday evening.

UHC. Johnsonstown Circular. Meet: 10:00 a.m. at Johnsonstown Rd. circle. Leader: Joe Brownlee, 973-635-1171. Circular, 8 miles with a lake and views from Parker Cabin Mountain and the Blue Disc Trail. Moderately strenuous; steady rain cancels.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

WTW. Pyramid Mountain. Meet: 9:30 a.m. at Meadtown Shopping Center. Leaders: Gwen Healey, 973-492-4855, and Dee Holteman, 973-838-1913. Orange Trail along the reservoir, Tripod and Bear rocks, then back on the Red Trail. Rain cancels.

OC. Bear Mountain. Meet: Grand Central Terminal information booth. Leader: Mike Puder, 718-743-0920; call leader week of hike for meeting time. Moderate steady pace, 5 miles, uphill. To the top of Bear Mountain via the AT. Bring lunch and water.

ADK-MH. Long Path: Middleburgh to Albany County line. Call leader Pete McGinnis, 914-454-4428 after 7, for details. 12 strenuous miles.

UHC. Ramapo Lake Ramble. Meet: 10 a.m. on Skyline Dr. at first parking lot on the left on the bottom of the hill. Leader: Micky Siegel, 201-797-7054. Truly very scenic, viewing the beautiful Ramapo Lake. Bring lunch.

OCTOBER

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

IHC. Ringwood to Ramapo and back. Meet: 9:00 a.m. at Skylands Manor parking lot A, Ringwood, NJ. Strenuous all day hike. For more information, call 973-982-4149.

UHC. Seven Hills Roundabout. Meet: 9:00 a.m. at Sloatsburg, NY. Leader: Lee Fanger, 973-376-3160. A mish-mash loop, about 9 miles, beginning and ending on the Seven Hills. Steady pace, steep ups and downs; rain cancels.

NVR. Pequanock River. Meet: 8:05 at Port Authority Bus Terminal for 8:20 bus to Newfoundland; cars useful. Leader: Chris Zeller, 212-260-4879. Hike wood roads and Highlands Trail past Oak Ridge Reservoir, and Pequanock R. in Jefferson. Finish in Newfoundland via Four Birds Trail.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 2

RWV. Blackhead Mountain. Meet: 8:00 am at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market St., Saugerties. Strenuous 4.4 mi., 4 hrs. Inclement weather date following Mon. For more information: 845-246-4145.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5

ADK-J. Thursday Ramble. To register, call Betty, (201-967-2937) or Phyllis, (201-358-9252) before 9 p.m. on Wednesday evening.

UHC. Sterling Forest Circular. Meet: 9:30 a.m. Ringwood Manor main

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