



TRAIL WALKER

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

MAY/JUNE 2001

Schunemunk Mountain to Become New York's Newest State Park

Governor George E. Pataki announced in March that the state will acquire 2,500 acres on Schunemunk Mountain in Orange County, NY, to create a new state park.

"We are thrilled by the governor's decision," says Trail Conference President Gary Haugland, who attended the snowy announcement ceremony held on the side of the mountain March 2nd. The New York-New Jersey Trail Conference and ADK pitched the idea for this new state park during a meeting with Governor Pataki several years ago and have been advocating for the mountain's acquisition and preservation as a state park ever since.

"Schunemunk has long been a favorite destination for hikers in our region," Haugland notes. "Our maintainers have worked hard to preserve and upgrade the more than 25 miles of trails on the mountain, and our members and staff have passionately advocated for state protection. Now we know that this wonderful mountain will be preserved and accessible for future generations. We can all be proud of the governor's announcement."

The State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) will acquire the property from the Open Space Institute us-



Governor Pataki making the announcement

ing approximately \$2.5 million from the State Environmental Protection Fund. OSI, a nonprofit conservation organization dedicated to the preservation

of the open space resources of the Hudson Valley, began acquiring portions of the mountain in 1996. The property had been preserved by former owner Peter Stern. The land will be managed by the State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) and will be opened

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Appalachian Trail Pochuck Creek Crossing Enters its Last Phase

by **Larry Wheelock, New Jersey Field Representative**

Did you think we'd never finish? Well, the light is at the end of the boardwalk.

After nearly two decades of planning and construction, the great AT relocation across nearly 3,000 feet of Pochuck Creek floodplain in Vernon, New Jersey, is approaching completion. Though the remaining work appears daunting, a new \$3,000 grant to the Trail Conference for this project



Pochuck Creek Bridge

from the American Hiking Society's National Trails Endowment (see separate announcement) is a welcome boost. We hope that with a mighty push by our many volunteers and partners we will see it through by this autumn.

The Pochuck Creek crossing project began in the early 1980s when the state of New Jersey purchased this land in the Vernon Valley with Green Acres funds. Initial tests of the soil resulted

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TC Seeks Permanent Protection of Trail Corridors

By **John Myers, Trail Lands Coordinator**

The New York-New Jersey Trail Conference is beginning an exciting initiative to permanently protect all long-distance trail corridors in New York and New Jersey. Our first priority will be to acquire permanent corridors or easements on the sections where trails are on private land. We plan to focus on major long-distance trails—the Appalachian Trail, Long Path, Highlands Trail, and Shawangunk Ridge Trail—as well as on closing gaps in other trails, including the Hewitt-Butler, trails on Schunemunk, in the Hudson Highlands/Fahnestock State Park area, in the Catskills, and in the Fanny Highlands.

The Trail Conference is actively working with the states of New York and New Jersey and various not-for-profits to acquire large key parcels that will benefit our trail system. Trail protection, however, often requires assembling many small parcels to create a continuous corridor. A good example of this is our protection of the Ginseng Ridge on the Long Path north of the Catskills, where we assembled five parcels totaling 400 acres covering five miles of trail, (to be purchased by DEC). We plan to apply this successful approach to protect all the trails in our bistate system. Below is an overview of some of our specific goals.

APPALACHIAN TRAIL The narrowest and most threatened stretch of the AT is along the New York/New Jersey border east of High Point State Park. We have created a coalition that includes the National Park Service (NPS), Appalachian Trail Conference, Orange County Land Trust, Wallkill River National Wildlife Refuge, and other groups to push for creation of a new bistate park between High Point and Waywayanda State Park. We are also working with NPS and New Jersey to add buffer lands to widen the corridor.

HIGHLANDS TRAIL In New Jersey, Green Acres is currently working on

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You're Invited!

TRAIL CONFERENCE
OPEN HOUSE

May 20

See box on page 6 for details.

Please Join Us!

TRAIL WALKER

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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...

Schunemunk—A Personal Reflection

When I moved to the community of Cornwall-on-Hudson seven years ago I had clear and compelling reasons to do so. Since it doubled my commute time and put greater distance between me and the Trail Conference office (then in Manhattan), these reasons had to be good. The reasons had names—Storm King Mountain, Black Rock Forest, and Schunemunk Mountain. All three of these magnificent hiking areas were at least partly located in Cornwall, and over the years I had come to know them as my favorite destinations. I eventually decided that I needed to live in their midst, not just visit.

The first time I hiked on Schunemunk I knew it was unique, different from all the other places in this region. The eight-mile long ridge, which in the north becomes two parallel ridges with a wetland in between, presents an ever-changing picture. From the dramatic evidence of different geological eras to the panoramic views along the trails, from the sparse pitch pine cover of the ridge top to the dense hardwoods in the Barton Swamp, from the hawks circling in the summer updrafts to

glimpses of giant anthill mounds in the woods, from the boulder jumbles of the Megaliths to the exotic lavender shading of the exposed rock noticeably scoured by glacial action, Schunemunk provides an endless variety of experiences for the hiker.

There are currently about 25 miles of Trail Conference-maintained trails on the mountain, including the Long Path and the Highlands Trail, which intersect near its center. In the fall all the available trailhead parking is frequently taken, signifying that I am not alone in my love for this mountain. According to the latest census, Orange County is one of the fastest growing counties in this region, so the timing of the announcement of its protection as a state park could not be better. Now we can work cooperatively with park personnel to resolve issues like unauthorized vehicles and vandalism through long-term management plans.

As a side note, the Town of Cornwall has been doing its part to protect the views and enhance the experience of the trails on the mountain. Recent zoning changes have included more stringent ridgeline protection and preservation of contiguous

open space through clustered residential development.

The work is not quite finished, however, for more than half of the mountain is still in private hands. The Trail Conference is actively pursuing all possibilities for expanding protection, including protection of adjacent Woodcock Hill. Nonetheless, we are thrilled at the announcement made by the Governor just a few short weeks ago and the commitment he made to seek preservation of the entire ridgetop.

I, and the Trail Conference, express gratitude to those who made it their business to protect this mountain over the years. This list includes H. Peter Stern and the Storm King Art Center, Joe Martens and the dedicated staff of the Open Space Institute, Neil Woodworth our ADK partner and passionate advocate in Albany, and Governor George Pataki, who quickly grasped what a great addition this would be to the parks of New York State. To you and to the countless others who have moved this process forward—thanks a million.

—Gary Haugland

L E T T E R S

A Harriman Caution

While one of our TC supervisors was hiking in the vicinity of the Reeves Meadow Visitors Center he had his car parked in that lot and someone attempted to break into it. When he reported it to PIPC staff he was advised that a professional ring of car thieves has been preying on vehicles parked in the lots off Seven Lakes Drive. So be aware: Don't leave anything in view in your vehicle that could draw unwanted attention. Be alert, and report any suspicious actions to PIPC staff.

Rita Heckler
Oradell, NJ

What I Tell Bikers on Hiking Trails

I wonder if part of the problem when bikers ride on hiking trails is that we kind of shrug our shoulders. Maybe we send some email or we complain to our friends, but then we just accept it. We start to think that we can't do much about it.

I think that law is only a part of the solution. There are a lot of little laws that people break and don't feel guilty about.

I tell bikers about the law in case they don't know it's illegal. But first and more strongly, I tell them that people use hiking trails to get away from vehicles. I tell them that everybody has the right to walk on

foot trails and expect that everybody else on the foot trail will also be walking. I explain that this is a protected area and freedom from vehicles is a more than just protection of the environment, it is protection of the experience for everybody. I hope to encourage them to look for designated bike trails and respect the need to have foot-only trails. But, I am not going to let them think it is just a law, I want them to know how I feel about degrading the experience of the hiking trail.

Maybe as bicycle use grows, someday a biker will want to enjoy walking on a hiking trail free from vehicles too. And when that biker is walking, he too will have the right to expect that everybody else using the foot trail will also be walking.

Michael Rea
Bellvale, NY

Remember Multi-Use

I receive a copy of *Trail Walker* through New Jersey Rail Trails. I wish to let you know that I use trails for horseback riding. I understand that I am also considered a member of NY-NJ Trail Conference by virtue of the fact that I am a "trail walker" in the Jockey Hollow area of Morristown National Historical Park.

Please note that I do my trail walking as a park volunteer on horseback. I belong to many conservation organizations. I believe in setting land aside to prevent development. I also advocate use of some of these lands, where appropriate, for recreation. Some land can support horse, bike, and hiking (multi-use) trails. Some land is too fragile for any public access.

Please remember that horses were "there" when many of these trails were discovered or created.

Susan Data-Samtak
Pluckemin, NJ

Editor's note: The Trail Conference supports the development of multi-use trails as appropriate and encourages all users to contribute to the work of maintaining them. Some trails, of course, are not appropriate for all uses. Foot trails, for example, are intended for use only by human walkers, and neither horse nor bike riders should be traveling on those. On the other hand, this is a good opportunity to remind walkers that on multi-use trails, pedestrians should, for safety's sake, yield the right of way to horses; this is, in fact, the regulation on many multi-use park trails.

Trail Walker welcomes letters.



from the Executive Director

Embarking on a Trail of Opportunity

The deadline for this issue of *Trail Walker* comes as I complete my first three weeks on the job. In that short time, I have been amazed by how this organization accomplishes so much with so little. We succeed year in and year out through the unheralded efforts of so many—mostly volunteers.

Ours is a mature and successful organization poised for growth in our three missions: trail maintenance, trail protection, and trail education. By growth, I mean increased capacity to effectively advance hiking interests in the face of ever increasing threats.

Our volunteer trail maintainers have built a justifiably good reputation for the Trail Conference among land managers and hikers alike. Perhaps the greatest compliment is that our work is so consistently good that it is transparent. I want to maintain that reputation and better support the volunteers who are responsible for it. Further, I want to improve our monitoring of trail lands beyond the immediate treadpath, particularly in areas where development pressures are impinging on the hiking experience.

In the area of trail lands protection, I want to build on and extend our recent successes at Sterling Forest, Stony Kill Falls, and Schunemunk Mountain. I hope to expand on this legacy with a proactive protection program that focuses on creating connected networks of open spaces. (See “Protection of Long Distance Trail Corridors,” page 1, for more details.)

To successfully protect our trail lands requires financial resources and a grassroots advocacy network. These are capacities that we must develop further to continue to play the unique and important role of creating networks of open space in the face of burgeoning sprawl.

In the education realm, Trail Conference volunteers continue their prodigious output of maps and books. Five books and three map sets are scheduled for release in this calendar year alone. We also sponsor workshops for hikers and maintainers of all levels and have inaugurated outreach hikes for those who may be new to walking in the woods (see “Tiorati Circle Outreach,” page 4). Longer term, I believe we can and should expand our education mandate to include empirical research on issues of concern and more introductory and educational hiking events.

Service to our members, member clubs, partner organizations, and the hiking public in general is an area where I

intend to focus in the future. As the recent census shows, the demographics of our region are becoming more ethnically diverse. We need to reinvigorate the urban hiker tradition and constituency by broadening our outreach to under-served communities. We also need to strengthen the synergy between the Trail Conference and our member clubs.

Following in the footsteps of those before me, I hope to bring fresh energy and creativity to achieving our missions. Fundamentally, though, I recognize that we must continue to rely on the same bedrock volunteer activism that has propelled the organization through the past 80 years. With your help, this will be a very positive century for hiking and environmental conservation in the New York–New Jersey region.

Late News Flash

I am pleased to announce the hiring of a new administrative director—Scott Voorhees of Emerson, NJ. Scott has 25 years of overall operations management experience, including building a nonprofit trade association for which he held the positions of treasurer, human resources officer, and director of operations. Scott brings a wealth of skills and experience to the job of running the office operations, coordinating volunteer efforts, and generally building the organization’s capacity to respond to mission-related opportunities and challenges.

Scott takes over from Judith Fulmer, whose loyalty to this organization has been unparalleled. Judith has seen the Trail Conference through two executive director changes, served as interim executive director, moved the office from Manhattan to Mahwah, and, while commuting from Brooklyn, oversaw the hiring of her replacement. Throughout it all she has been a rock of stability and a source of support and solace to all those around her. As she sets her sights on challenges closer to home, she will be sorely missed.

—Edward Goodell



New Administrative Director Scott Voorhees

Walkkill River National Wildlife Refuge Manager To Speak at June 21 Delegates’ Meeting

All Trail Conference members are invited to attend the next meeting of the hiking club delegates on Thursday, June 21, 2001, at the Fort Lee Historic Park, in Fort Lee, New Jersey.

The meeting starts at 7 p.m. Please join us for a social hour, beginning at 6 p.m., for a chance to share refreshments and chat with hiking club representatives.

We’re very happy to announce that Elizabeth (Libby) Herland, Refuge Manager for the Walkkill River National Wildlife Refuge, will be our guest speaker. In addition to describing the wildlife refuge and new land protection initiatives along the AT Corridor in northern New Jersey, Ms. Herland will comment on the view from Washington, DC, and what hikers might expect from the Bush administration.

Although each member club or organization of the Trail Conference designates a delegate to act as liaison to the Conference, individual Conference members are always welcome at delegates’ meetings. Meetings, held in New York City or at Fort Lee Historic Park on the New Jersey Palisades, provide wonderful opportunities to share hiking and conservation news,

and help guide the Trail Conference’s future work and activities.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Getting There: Fort Lee Historic Park is immediately south of the George Washington Bridge on the east side of Hudson Terrace, on the New Jersey Palisades. Frequent bus service from the GWB terminal in Manhattan is available, or take the lovely (and free) one-mile walk across the bridge. Ample (free) parking is available. From the Palisades Interstate Parkway, get off at the last exit before the bridge toll (right fork after the gas station—and be sure to exit). Follow Hudson Terrace south under the bridge and take the first left into the park. From New York City, take the upper level of the GWB and use the second exit, “Ft. Lee.” Make a sharp right and another right onto Hudson Terrace. Proceed under the bridge to the park entrance on the left. From the New Jersey Turnpike, take the Fort Lee exit, and continue straight on the service road, paralleling the bridge toll plaza, until the service road ends at Hudson Terrace. Turn right onto Hudson Terrace, and then make the first, almost immediate, left turn into the park.

Call for Nominations

Recognition Awards, Board of Directors, and Delegates-at-Large to Be Presented at Annual Meeting in October

Each year in October at the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference’s annual meeting, elections are held for 5 members of the board of directors and 15 delegates-at-large. Also at that time, awards are presented to members and friends to recognize outstanding people in the hiking community.

Conference members are welcome to submit nominations, with supporting background information, for awards, board of directors, and delegates-at-large. Send your suggestions to the Nominating Committee, in care of the NY-NJ Trail Conference, 156 Ramapo Valley Road, Mahwah, NJ 07430; telephone 201-512-9348; email info@nynjtc.org. The deadline is July 1, 2001.

Recognition Awards

The annual awards are as follows:

William Hoeflerlin Award: recognizes Trail Conference volunteers who have demonstrated exemplary service to trail maintenance, management, and/or trail land protection.

Next Generation Award: given to those under age 21 who are making significant contributions of time and energy to trail building and/or protection.

Major Welch Trail Partner Award: presented to those outside the Trail Conference—for example, state, federal, or local agency partner officials—who have given long and/or significant assistance to the local hiking community.

Corporate Partner Award: presented to a company that has furthered the hiking trail experience and/or protection effort.

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

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

Nominating Committee for Board and Delegates

The Nominating Committee will present a slate of candidates for the board of directors and delegates-at-large for the October 2001–02 year. Current Trail Conference directors are listed in the masthead of *Trail Walker* (see page 2).



TRAIL NEWS

□ **Storm King Mountain** continues to be off-limits for hiking. As of the end-of-March deadline for this issue, the Palisades Interstate Park Commission did not have an anticipated date for reopening the park, which has been closed for removal of old ordnance.

Woman to Pay for AT Corridor Damage in Dutchess

The integrity of the AT corridor was given a boost in February when a Dutchess County woman agreed to pay \$22,250 to repair damages she allegedly made to protected AT woodland. The damage—cutting about a half-acre of forest on federal trail property—was originally discovered during routine monitoring by Conference members Mike and Ruth Rosenthal. According to a report in the February 13 edition of the *Poughkeepsie Journal*, the East Fishkill resident was then sued by the U.S. Department of the Interior. The money is to pay for repairs to the damaged site, restoration of a second site as compensation, and the costs for the government's investigation.

Changes on the East Hudson Trail Committee

Since 1991, Jane Daniels has been a fixture with East Hudson Trails. Effective in January, she handed over the trail leadership to Ron Samuelson, an avid hiker and big fan of the Highlands. "It is tough to walk away after being so involved in trails, but I feel that I am leaving the East Hudson trail management in excellent hands," Jane says.

Under Jane's leadership, the committee added 60 miles of trails to their responsibilities, of which over 30 miles were new trails built by the crew. Jane helped secure more than \$10,000 in grants for trail projects in the park, and she built a strong relationship with the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation—Taconic Region, Open Space Institute, and Scenic Hudson. Jane thanks the trail supervisors, crew chiefs, and all volunteers, past and present, who have worked with her. Many volunteer jobs await those who love the East Highlands; revise trail brochures, work with youth groups, install signs, protect open space, and, of course, trail maintenance.

To volunteer or express your ideas, send an email to Ron at rsamuelson@vassar.edu or call him at 845-437-5903 (day).

National Trails Day

Opening of the Wildcat Mountain Trail in Sterling Forest

The official opening of Sterling Forest's Wildcat Mountain Trail is scheduled for National Trails Day, Saturday, June 2, at 10 a.m. It will take place at the trail's southern trail head located in the Commuter Parking Lot at the top of the ramp connecting New York Rt. 17 and 17A. Remarks by Carol Ash, Executive Director of the Palisades Interstate Park Commission, will highlight the festivities.

At 10:30 a.m. volunteers will be invited to participate in a litter pick-up along the trail's short entry road. Following this, an in-and-out hike on the southern portion of the trail, led by TC

Sterling Forest Trail Supervisors Suzan Gordon and Pete Tilgner, will conclude the day's events at 1 p.m. For further information, call the Park Information Center at (845) 351-5907.

The Wildcat Mountain Trail is the latest addition to the Sterling Forest trail network. The trail was cut by 19 volunteers who put in a total of 273 hours. Additional water bar and step work was done by the West Hudson Trail Crew.

Wildcat is blazed white and will be maintained by three of its original volunteers: Mary and John Mack and Mark Kassop. This continues Gordon and Tilgner's goal of securing maintainers who take ownership of the trail they have helped create. 

National Trails Day



PETE TILGNER

Sterling Forest is a "happening place." Trail Conference volunteers (from left to right) Mark Kassop, and John and Mary Mack are making the new Wildcat Mountain Trail happen.

Tiorati Outreach Begins with Leader Training on National Trails Day

Trails Day is a good day to think about getting new hikers into the woods. The TC's Tiorati Outreach program will be doing just that again this summer. To get ready, a natural science education workshop for leaders is scheduled for June 2. Learn from two pros how to answer natural science questions from kids. For details, see "Families into Woods," page 5.

POCHUCK CREEK continued from page 1

in distressing results: a deep layer of organic muck seemed incapable of support-



Volunteers building the western approach to the Pochuck Creek in October 2000

ing a bridge across the Pochuck Creek without prohibitive expense. Various strategies were proposed before a feasible and affordable plan was settled on. Then began an unprecedented team effort with volunteers, corporate, state, and federal partners to erect a magnificent suspension bridge. Construction of the bridge over the Pochuck Creek was completed in 1995.

Once the bridge was finished, planning began for the next phase: construction of nearly 1,700 feet of suspended boardwalk. Eight hundred feet of boardwalk was begun and completed in 1999, followed by another nearly 900 feet in 2000. This was accomplished through the efforts of volunteers from the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference, Appalachian Trail Conference Mid-Atlantic Trail Crew, the Builder's Associa-

AT work done in 1999 east of Pochuck Creek

TC Pochuck Project Gets \$3,000 from American Hiking Society

The American Hiking Society's National Trails Endowment has awarded \$3,000 to the NY-NJ Trail Conference for building materials for the last phase of the ongoing Pochuck Creek and Flood Plain Relocation project in Vernon, NJ (see front page story). This project involves building a one-mile segment of the Appalachian Trail to replace the current route, which is a hazardous 2.1-mile roadwalk in a rapidly developing rural/suburban area. The last phase of this project involves finishing the boardwalk and building a second pedestrian bridge through a 25,000 acre federally designated wetland.

The American Hiking Society, a national recreation-based conservation organization, awarded grants to 15 trail clubs. The 15 recipients were chosen from a group of 79 applicants and each will receive between \$1,000 and \$5,230.

tion of North New Jersey, and with very competent guidance by the New Jersey DEPs' Wes Powers and his enthusiastic staff.

Help Needed This Season

As we look to the work remaining for 2001, it may seem to be an almost impossible task: approximately 2,000 additional feet of boardwalk, nearly 500 feet of at-grade trail, and one more small bridge. But when we consider that most of the "bugs" have been worked out, these projects begin to look quite do-able.

As the permits and funding fall into place for our 2001

"Community trails are a basic environmental protection measure because they allow people to have access to nature," says to Robert N. Leggett, who with his wife, Dee, has seeded the Endowment.

TC member club Long Island Greenbelt Trails Conference (LIGTC) was also named an AHS grant winner. The National Trails Endowment grant to LIGTC will fund the production and distribution of a map set for the 125-mile Paumanok Path, which stretches from Rocky Point to Montauk Point. The maps will not only encourage more use of the trail, but will create regional enthusiasm for its completion. Since the 1970s, many organizations across Long Island have been building the Paumanok Path; it will serve as the backbone for Suffolk County's trail system by connecting to other hiking trails and encouraging the development of new trails. LIGTC is dedicated to developing and maintaining hiking trails on Long Island, preserving and protecting Long Island's open space, and fostering an appreciation of Long Island's ecology, history, and scenic beauty through outdoor recreation and education programs. □

phase, we are looking forward to a start this spring, hopefully in early June. There will be a variety of work to be done by people with all levels of skill. If you want to get involved, contact the Trail Conference Field Office at 973-823-9999 or our main office in Mahwah at 201-512-9348.

Litter Day: May 6

Mark Sunday May 6th on your calendar and head out with like-minded hikers to do some spring cleaning. Clubs that have a hike scheduled that day are encouraged to gather up litter, especially at trail heads. If you're going out on your own, bring along a garbage bag. When you get back from your Litter Day trip, please report what you found and who participated. The statistics and highlights are usually reported in *Trail Walker*.



1920 • 81 Years of Volunteer Spirit • 2001

GET INVOLVED

Exciting, Essential Volunteer Positions Available

The Trail Conference has always been primarily powered by volunteers and that remains the case. There is a flood of new projects as a result of the move to Mahwah and change in staff and volunteers. Ed Goodell, the new executive director, is seeking one or more people to work closely with him and the administrative director on coordinating and enhancing our volunteer operation. In particular, he wants to develop a pool of non-trail volunteers for a variety of projects—from graphic design and webmastering to public relations and event management. If you are the type of leader who can motivate, train, and support volunteers in support of the Trail Conference mission, we want to hear from you! Call the office at 201-512-9348 or email info@nynjtc.org.

Help Us Get Families Into the Woods

To introduce urban families to the woods, the NY-NJ Trail Conference, in partnership with the Palisades Interstate Park Commission, began an outreach program in 1999 at the Tiorati picnic area in Harriman State Park. The area is a popular destination for families from around the metropolitan area, be it Queens or Jersey City, who come to picnic, fish, and

relax in an outdoor setting. It seems a perfect spot to offer an introduction to hiking.

And so, on Saturday mornings during July and August, a TC hike leader and assistant prospect the Tiorati picnic grounds for attendees for a 1.5-mile nature walk along the Appalachian Trail. The young children are always anxious to go; it is the adults who must be convinced. At the end of the walk the children have asked 99 tough questions and the adults cannot believe they did it, i.e. walked 1.5 miles.

To continue this program in 2001, the Trail Conference seeks volunteers. The Appalachian Trail Conference supports the program with grant money; we need you to volunteer to lead a walk. To prepare walk leaders for the natural science questions, a workshop will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on National Trails Day, June 2, at the Tiorati Circle picnic area.

Art Lebofsky, Ed. D., an educational consultant, and Laura Pakaln, a first-grade teacher, will walk the route with us, providing an opportunity for questions/notes. After lunch there will be a group meeting to discuss the program in detail. Car transportation for bus riders will be available from Sloatsburg.

If you have questions or wish to sign up for the workshop, e-mail Wanda Davenport at wandatrails@aol.com or call 201-670-8383 before 9 p.m. If in the long run we cannot grow the pool of people who care about the woods and nature, to include more of those from diverse backgrounds, then we all lose. 🍀

—Wanda Davenport

AMC's Outings for Urban Kids Seeks TC Volunteers

You may have seen some unusual sights on the trails recently, groups of street urchins from Harlem, Queens, The Bronx, and other city locales frolicking through the woods led by harried AMC volunteers. It's a trend: the AMC's Outing for Urban Kids (AOK) program is gathering momentum.

The AMC's NY/North Jersey Chapter operates AOK as a public service for the purpose of exposing urban youth to outdoor opportunities and challenges, which they would not normally experience. (It also serves to so expose AOK leaders!) The experiences we offer occur in as near an approximation to wilderness as we can find within a reasonable distance from N.Y.C. Last year, under the aegis of AOK, 250 children took to the trails on 16 separate outings that consisted mostly of hiking, but also included paddling and swimming.

Although almost all the children have a great time on almost all of our outings, AOK does not consider this sufficient; we also strive to provide meaningful experiences and challenges, to teach natural history, to imbue respect for nature, to teach the importance of assuming responsibility for one's actions—in other words, to help make better citizens of our wards.

Among AOK's plans is an initiative to involve children in trail maintenance activities, for which we are seeking technical guidance from Trail Conference volunteers. As the AOK program continues to expand, more volunteers are needed, not only as trail maintenance advisers, but also to lead and assist hikes, plan activities in order to enhance hikes and other outings, and to coordinate arrangements with youth agencies. If you want to get involved, please contact Marty Cohen at martcohen@aol.com or 201-670-8383 (before 9 p.m.).

TRAIL CREW SCHEDULES



EAST HUDSON CREW

Check www.trailstobuild.com for the spring work schedule.

WEST HUDSON TRAIL CREW

All are welcome. No previous trail work experience is necessary. There is work for every level of experience and interest. We offer on-the-job training with experienced leaders. Bring sturdy boots, work gloves, lunch and water. All tools are provided. If possible, please notify the leaders that you are coming, so they will know how many people to plan work for. We Rock!

Trip leaders are listed with each event:
Bob Marshall [Crew Chief] (914) 737-4792, e-mail: rfmarshall@webtv.net
Chris Ezzo (516) 431-1148
Claudia Ganz (212) 633-1324
Monica Resor (732) 937-9098

Harriman State Park

Saturday, May 5 (Claudia Ganz); **Sunday, May 6** (Chris Ezzo); **Thursday, May 10** (Bob Marshall)

Continuing trail rehabilitation, relocation, and erosion control on the Timp-Torne Trail.

Schunemunk Preserve

Thursday, May 17; Saturday, May 19; Sunday, May 20 (Bob Marshall)

Continuing trail rehabilitation, relocation, erosion control, and repair on the Sweet Clover Trail.

Harriman-Bear Mountain State Parks

Saturday, June 2; Sunday, June 3 (Monica Resor); **Thursday, June 7; Saturday, June 9, and Sunday, June 10** (Bob Marshall)

New project of trail rehabilitation, relo-

cation, erosion control, and repair on the Popolopen Gorge Trail

Sterling Forest State Park

Saturday, June 16; Sunday, June 17 (Chris Ezzo)

Continuing trail rehabilitation, relocation, erosion control, and repair on Southfields Furnace.

Harriman State Park

Saturday, June 23 (Chris Ezzo); **Sunday, June 24** (Bob Marshall)

Continuing trail rehabilitation, relocation, erosion control and repair at a location to be determined.

WEST JERSEY TRAIL CREW

All are welcome; no previous trail work experience is necessary. Bring sturdy boots, work gloves, lunch and water. Tools are provided. If possible, please notify the leaders that you are coming, so they will know how many people to plan work for.

Leaders: David Day and Monica Resor

Phone: (732) 937-9098

Email: westjerseycrew@trailstobuild.com

Mt. Tammany Trail

May 12 (Saturday), May 20 (Sunday), June 9 (Saturday).

Continuing trail reconstruction/rehabilitation work on the Mt. Tammany (Red Dot) Trail in Worthington State Forest. Meet 9:15 a.m. (note: different meeting time than last year!) in the Dunnfield Creek Parking Lot. Rain cancels. Public transportation is available; please contact the leaders for details.

Either the AT Relocation or the Mt. Tammany Trail

June 17 (Sunday) and June 30 (Saturday). If the Pochuck (Appalachian Trail relocation) project in Vernon begins in early June as targeted, we will go "on assignment" to assist with that work. If the Pochuck project is delayed, we will continue work on the Mt. Tammany Trail. Please contact the leaders for specifics.

Conference Helps Fund Volunteer Trail Program in Catskills

As in past years, the Trail Conference has generously provided funding for the ADK organized trail maintenance efforts in the Catskill Forest Preserve. The Trail Conference Board approved \$5,000 for the Volunteer Trails Program running June through October 2001.

This assistance helps equip and operate volunteer and professional crews working on intensive trail construction projects. The work involved is designed to control erosion, harden trails, and enhance the hiking experience.

Trail Conference members are welcome to participate in the ambitious schedule of one-, two-, four-, and five-day projects in the Catskills and Adirondacks. The program provides all food, tools, transportation, and experienced leadership.

For more information and registration materials, contact: Tim Tierney, Trails Program Director, Adirondack Mountain Club, 518-668-4447, adkinfo@adk.org, or www.adk.org <http://www.adk.org>

Grant to Support Northeast Alpine Stewardship Awarded

The Trail Conference has made a grant of \$1,000 to the Guy Waterman Alpine Stewardship Fund, based in East Corinth, Vermont. The fund aims to strengthen the human stewardship of the alpine areas of the Northeast. In particular, it will support stewardship projects that blend low-impact trail maintenance and hiker education in safeguarding the open summits, exposed ridgelines, and areas of fragile alpine vegetation in the northeast.

NY-NJ Trail Conference To Host Open House May 20

See our spacious new headquarters on the Ramapo River; meet new Executive Director Edward Goodell; greet old and new friends. When: Sunday, May 20, 2001; time: 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Please RSVP to Claire at 201-512-9348 or by email: office@nynjtc.org. Bus and train stations are nearby and parking on site is ample. *Directions:* 156 Ramapo Valley Road in Mahwah, NJ (Route 202, just north of the Route 17 overpass).

Thanks for Gift of Memorabilia

The Trail Conference is pleased to thank Arthur G. Adams for his gift of photos and other memorabilia pertaining to the formative years of the Trail conference and its predecessors, The Wandervogels, The Wanderbirds, Walking News, and the late William "Bill" Hoeflerlin and Leon R. Greenman. The gift was made on behalf of the estate of Walking News, Inc, and Leon R. Greenman and his sister Mrs. Selma Feuerstein, and includes material going back at least to 1935. In a letter accompanying the gift, Mr. Adams noted: "With Leon's death [see obituary in this issue], an era comes to an end."

A Double Thank-You

Belatedly, we welcome Arnold Dunham as a new Life Member of the Trail Conference, thanks to a gift from his wife, Ilse. Additional belated thanks go to Ilse for her gift to the "Transition 2001 Move To Mahwah." Acknowledgement of these contributions was inadvertently omitted from the last issue of *Trail Walker*.

Author to Talk on Long-Distance Hiking

Karen Berger, author of *Hiking the Triple Crown: How to Hike America's Longest Trails*, will present a slide show at Ramsey Outdoor (240 Route 17N, Paramus, NJ) on Tuesday, May 15, at 7:00 p.m. The talk will highlight her travels along the Appalachian Trail, Pacific Crest Trail, and Continental Divide Trail. One of about 20 people who have hiked all three trails to completion, Berger is a former contributing editor for *Backpacking* magazine and is the hiking editor for *GORP.com*.

TC Joins Small Press Publishers at Book Fair

On March 24-25, Trail Conference volunteers staffed a booth to sell our publications at the Small Press Book Fair in New York City. This foray was to bring our publications and the organization to the attention of a wider audience and, we hoped, sell a few books and maps in the process.

The fair was a success on both counts: the net take from the fair was slightly more than breaking even, and our presence was noted by many attendees. TC volunteer Mary Jo Robertiello reported that "Being at the fair was good for public relations. It jogged some people's memories about how

FOR & ABOUT

Our Members



Browsing TC publications

they hiked and they bought books/maps for their children." Margaret Starmer enjoyed herself as the people who stopped by were all so easy to converse with. She thanked the Conference for the opportunity to volunteer. John Bresland remarked that "not everyone at the Book Fair was an ardent hiker, but everyone that we met was an ardent and interesting to talk to, including an 80-year-old poet and his wife who were just back from three weeks in Thailand."

The enthusiasm among people who volunteered contributed to the success: John and Beth Bresland, Dan Chazin, Fred Liberman, Robert McCluskie, Mary Jo Robertiello, Margaret Starmer, and Richard Zinn staffed the booth; Bob Koshinski mailed postcards to stores announcing the event; Barry Mark and Walt Daniels made a brochure. Jane Daniels pulled everything together, making sure that the booth looked great, that inventory was ample, and that volunteers could have home-made cookies as a snack. Thank you all.

If you are interested in helping in the future at a fair either selling books or marketing hiking and membership, contact Jane Daniels at 914-245-1250 or jdaniels@bestweb.net. She will forward your name, phone number, and/or e-mail to an appropriate person.

Happy 70th to Interstate Hiking Club
TC Trails Chair Ilse Dunham sends word that this year the Interstate Hiking Club, a long-time TC member, celebrates 70 years of hiking and trail maintenance. For over 40 years IHC has maintained more than 16 miles of hiking trails, one of which is the Sterling Ridge Trail; in addition, members past and present have become individual trail maintainers, often for 15 years or longer. Three years ago IHC was awarded the Hoeflerlin Award for excellence in trail maintenance by the Trail Conference. Congratulations for a long and distinguished history and best wishes for happy trails for many years to come.

Enjoy Hikes at Summer Conferences
The following two events are open to all.

The Appalachian Trail Conference's biennial conference will be held this year, July 13-20, at Shippensburg University in

Shippensburg, PA. In addition to a week-long schedule of hikes and other outings in the region, the conference agenda includes workshops to enhance the education of users of the AT, encourage greater outreach to the public regarding AT maintenance, and present new inventories of the historic and cultural sites along AT lands. Information and registration materials can be obtained online at <http://www.atconf.org/about/biennial.html> or by writing to Shippensburg 2001, P.O. Box 20123, Lehigh Valley, PA 18002-0123.

The Finger Lakes Trail Conference will host the annual meeting of the North Country Trail Association, August 9-12, 2001, in Cazenovia, NY, just southeast of Syracuse. Registrants will stay in college dorms and enjoy the varied landscape of host Madison County. Walks and bike rides along the Old Erie Canal State Park towpath will take in the level northern end of the county, while more than a dozen other hike offerings will afford visitors astounding views, frequent waterfalls, and distances from short to challenging.

Workshops, evening programs, self-guided tours and walks are included in the scheduled menu of events, brought to

our guests by the combined efforts of volunteers from the Central NY Chapter of the North Country Trail Association, the Onondaga Chapter of the Adirondack Mountain Club, and the Finger Lakes Trail Conference, whose 800-mile trail system is followed for almost 400 miles across upstate New York by the North Country Trail. (North Country National Scenic Trail, when completed, will meander 4,000 miles from North Dakota to the Adirondacks of New York.)

Full registration information and highlights are available on the August conference page of the NCTA's Website at www.northcountrytrail.org/conf01/ or in the NCTA's April issue of *The North Star* or by mail from NCTA, 229 E. Main, Lowell, Michigan 49331, 616-897-5987.

New Life Members

The Trail Conference welcomes the following new life members to our growing family of more than 800: **Barbara L. Albeck, Arnold Dunham, and Jay Westfall** of New Jersey; **Krys and Ronald Doerfler, Lou Feeney, Susan Kormacki and Charles M. Gordanier, and Hardwick Simmons**, from New York.

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."

AMERICAN TERRAIN OUTDOORS



American Terrain invites you and your family to Osceola Bench, Jefferson Valley, NY, Sat., May 19th, (30 min. from WF). Come and paddle kayaks from Necky, Oecen, and Walden. Check out gear & meet the reps. from Kelly, Sierra Designs, Mountain Hardware, & Yakima.

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TRAIL CORRIDORS
continued from page 1

acquisitions to protect the Highlands Trail in Warren and Hunterdon Counties. They have made a number of purchases in the Fanny Highlands in recent years that have significantly benefited our trails. In New York, Governor Pataki recently announced the creation of a new state park on Schunemunk Mountain, which will protect parts of the Highlands Trail, Jessup Trail, Long Path, and other trails. We continue to work with the Open Space Institute to acquire other parcels on Schunemunk.

LONG PATH The purchase last year of the 5,000-acre Lundy property by the Open Space Institute will preserve a long stretch of the Long Path along the Vernoooy Kill in the southern Catskills. In Orange County, we are working to create a protected link from Schunemunk Mountain to the state forest lands near Stewart Airport. Our strategy here is to ask the towns and developers to donate corridors through new subdivisions in this rapidly developing area. We are also working with Orange County Land Trust along the Wallkill River to get protection for the Long Path here.

SHAWANGUNK RIDGE TRAIL This trail is the most threatened of all our trails. Two major developments are proposed directly on top of the Shawangunk Ridge. In Mamakating, just north of Route 17, an eight-story resort/gambling casino complex with up to 300 homes and shops is proposed. Near Route 84 in Greenville, 1,500 condominiums are proposed for the top of the ridge around four small ridge lakes. New high-end homes and subdivisions continue to appear on the Orange County side of the ridge. We are working with other groups and local citizens to fight both of these proposals and are encouraging the developers to sell to the DEC. To work for protection of the ridge, the Conference is taking the lead in forming a new coalition, the Shawangunk Greenway Partnership, whose goal will be to advocate for the creation of a protected corridor along the entire 35 miles of the Shawangunk Ridge, from Minnewaska/Mohonk to High Point State Park in New Jersey.

We are working with the Trust for Public Land to close five gaps along the ridge: at Roosa Gap; at Route 17 near Wurtsboro; south of the Basha Kill; through Deerpark and Mount Hope; and in Greenville near High Point.

In the future we hope to look back and see protected corridors along all of our trails. Good planning and zoning by the towns would blend well designed developments as buffers to the trail corridor. Overall we would leave a great legacy for future generations—continuous public greenways along all our trails, so they can be enjoyable hiking experiences for generations to come. 🍃

Next Generation Profile

In 1992, the Trail Conference gave the Woodcrest Bruderhof School its Next Generation Award; at the time Donato Meier was among the young students there who enjoyed nature lessons on excursions led by school counselors. Almost 10 years later, Donato leads the younger groups. Here, as part of a series of follow-up articles on Award winners, Donato talks about introducing the next Next Generation to trails.

Rattlesnakes, Blueberries, and Tidy Trails for All

By Donato Meier

It is 18 degrees Fahrenheit with a numbing windchill to boot, and outside the Adirondack lean-to the relentless wind blasts snow horizontally against the walls, occasionally lashing the huddled forms within the cabin with a shower of icy flakes. Camp-charred supper churns in my stomach as I survey my young charges sleeping on the wood floor around me.

As I toss another “down-and-dead” on the fire, images of home and a warm bed flash across my mind’s eye; what possessed me to agree to bring these kids out camping on this January night? However, these thoughts are only fleeting and I remain firm in the knowledge of my purpose: I am out here for the next generation, to pass on my enthusiasm for the appreciation of Nature, no matter which elements she chooses to unleash upon the puny human trespassers she finds at her mercy. I can’t imagine a life lived without the intimacy of the outdoors.

Nine years ago, the roles were reversed. I was the young, impressionable youth. It was my camp counselors, Matt and Mark, who introduced my peers and me to their passion for the outdoor life.



Donato Meier stands above a group of young backpackers: Front row, from left to right: Naomi Meier, Vreneli Kleinsasser, Eric Thomson, and Adrian Wisler; flanking Donato are Glen Kleinsasser (L) and Milonika Keiderling.

At the time, that summer seemed like a long slog of blueberry shearing, waterbar construction, trail-blazing, and conglomerate cairn construction. On the other hand, our blistered hands had produced a tidy, well-maintained trail, and our recreational excursions, exploring the gorgeous lakes and summits of the Shawangunks, were a welcome respite. It was not until our efforts were highlighted by the unexpected presentation of the 1992 Next Generation Award that I realized what significance the work of trail preservation holds for so many people.

SCHUNEMUNK
continued from page 1



Neil Zimmerman, Neil Woodworth, Stella Green, Gary Haugland and John Myers with Governor Pataki after the announcement.

to the public after the state formally closes on the property. As of press time, a timetable for acquisition was still to be determined.

“Acquiring the Schunemunk Mountain Ridge is a true milestone in New York State’s long and proud history of environmental conservation,” Governor Pataki said in remarks at the announcement event. “By working together, we have cre-

ated an incredible new state park that expands recreational opportunities in the Hudson Highlands and continues our efforts to protect the best of our outdoor heritage.”

Neil Woodworth, Counselor to the New York-New Jersey Trails Conference and the Adirondack Mountain Club and long-time advocate for this state acquisition, also spoke at the event. “Schunemunk Mountain is the jewel of the Hudson Highlands,” Woodworth said. “The state’s purchase of this wild and unspoiled mountain forever preserves its breathtaking views, unique geology, and beautiful trails for generations of hikers.”

With an elevation of nearly 1,700 feet and extending more than eight miles, Schunemunk Mountain forms the western boundary of the Hudson Highlands. The mountain is covered by deciduous hardwoods, scrub and pitch pine, an understory of blueberry, and one of the most extensive stands of mountain laurel in the

A seed was planted within me during that summer. Over the years, it germinated and grew into a strong love for nature and a firm belief that it must be planted again in the next generation if our natural environment is to be preserved.

That’s why I’m out here, flirting with hypothermia in deepest January. My desire is to pass on a sense of personal responsibility for our planet, to awaken the slumbering naturalist, to rouse the dormant Rip Van Winkle and the hidden John Muir in the youth.

I stir from my reverie, and toss another “dead-and-down” on the embers. The storm is abating, and with any luck, we’ll live to see the dawn. As I keep telling the kids, the tougher the going, the greater the reward, and the more glorious the adventure (in retrospect, of course).

I can’t wait for summer. I’ll be back for Woodcrest Bruderhof School’s 10th consecutive year of Shawangunk Long Path trail maintenance, this time mentoring a group of students. We’ll sidestep rattlesnakes, flee the ever-present yellow-jacket swarms, battle obstinate blueberry bushes, and survive on gorp and peanut-butter-and-jelly sandwiches. We’ll stain Rail Trail bridges and do other work for our friends at the Mohonk Preserve. Above all, we’ll revel in the knowledge that hundreds of hikers passing through the wilderness of the Garden and Empire States will notice and respect the work that has been done by many dedicated Trail Conference crews to enhance the accessibility of the outdoors. Indeed, wanderers will wonder, “whose woods these are?” We think we know. 🍃

area. It is home to the timber rattlesnake, a protected species. From its open ridgeline, a hiker can see the Catskill High Peaks, the Shawangunks, the Hudson Highlands, and the Hudson River valley.

Schunemunk also serves as the natural backdrop for the Storm King Art Center, a leading sculpture park and museum with a collection of 230 sculptures featuring the work of many famous artists. The center has been an important partner in efforts to preserve the mountain’s natural environment.

The soon-to-be state park includes lands that lie on the northern section of the ridge. Acquisition of the southern portion of the eight-mile ridge, still in private ownership, will continue to be a major priority for the Trail Conference and ADK. “It is clear that the Governor and OPRHP Commissioner Bernadette Castro share that vision,” says Woodworth. “We are making headway on those parcels. Woodcock Hill to the southwest of the mountain is also well worth preserving, and the Trail Conference and ADK support the purchase of that mountain as well.” 🍃

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*Tax must be paid by NJ residents on books, maps, misc., but not on clothing. Thank you!

Email News and Tips from the TC Technology Chair

Email is a valuable and cost-effective tool for the Trail Conference, as the one-third of our members who have given us their email addresses know. Once a month, or less, these members learn of events or action alerts via an email from the Conference. Members' email addresses are used only for communicating in a timely fashion about subjects of interest to our members. We do not give out or sell email addresses to anyone.

The Trail Conference benefits from email by saving a lot of money on postage.

If you don't currently have an email address, there are several options for getting one. If you already have a computer, adding email capability is easy. The programs needed to get started most likely came with your computer. If you don't have a computer, most public libraries make Internet access available to their patrons (and sometimes to the general public). Once you have Internet access

there are a large number of "free" email providers. They are free in the sense that you don't pay any money, but you do have to put up with some advertising while you read or send mail. When you sign up for one of these accounts, read all the fine print and watch for little check boxes that allow you to opt out of receiving a lot of advertising email. Perhaps the best known of the free email accounts are at www.yahoo.com or www.hotmail.com (Microsoft). For a more hiking flavored email address try www.backpacker.com (Backpacker magazine—click on Community tab to sign up).

What would you like to hear about via email from the Conference? Tell us at info@nynjtc.org. We are considering the possibility of a formal, regular email publication—anyone want to volunteer to be the editor?

—Walt Daniels

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IN MEMORIAM

LEON R. GREENMAN

Conference members were surprised and saddened to learn in February that Leon R. Greenman passed away on August 17, 2000. Born 1917, in New York City, where he lived all of his life, he became an Eagle Scout and remained active with the Boy Scouts. He operated the Down-East camping and map store in lower Manhattan, where many hikers knew to take their boots, tents, and parkas for reliable repair. In 1975, he co-wrote with others the 440 page *Guide to the Catskills With Trail Guide And Maps*. He was a member of the Explorer's Club, the Catskill 3500 club, AMC, ADK, the New York Ramblers, and the Trail Conference. In the 1970s, Leon acquired the *Walking News* business that Bill Hoferlin started. He reprinted a number of books that were classics to hikers, including the William Thompson Howell diaries. He is survived by his sister Selma Feuerstein of Franklin Square, NY. Much hiking memorabilia that remained in his estate has been donated to the Trail Conference archives.

JERRY SILVERSTEIN

Jerry Silverstein, a longtime member of the New York Ramblers, passed away this spring. He served as the Ramblers president for most of the 1950s and continued his involvement with the club after that by selecting poems that always appeared with the club schedule. He is remembered by club members for the appropriateness of his selections and the wide range of sources from which he drew his choices.

JAMES BARRY

Members of the Outdoors Club, New York Hiking Club, and Urban Trail Club were saddened to learn of the death last year of James Barry, a beloved hike leader for many years. A memorial hike for James will be held Sunday, May 20 (See Hikers' Almanac for details).

STEVE STERN

Steve Stern died on March 4, 2001. Hikers cherish the memory of Steve's trips to Thomas Edison's home and laboratory in New Jersey, to Flat Rock Brook Nature Center, Bartlett Arboretum, and other destinations. He will always be with us, thanks to these memories and in our wishes for more. A memorial hike for Steve is scheduled for Sunday, July 15, and is sponsored by Outdoors Club and Urban Trail Club.

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Adolph W. Forst and the Trail Conference: A Mutual Remembrance

One snowy day this winter, the Trail Conference received a bequest from the estate of Adolph W. Forst, Old Tappan, NJ, in memory of his beloved wife Carmen.

A gentle, intelligent man, Adolph came to this country from Austria as a young boy shortly after the first World War and volunteered in the U.S. Army during the second World War. Later in life he took art classes and began a new career as an accomplished painter, carver, and photographer. Adolph and his wife Carmen cherished their many happy hours hiking in the Pawling, NY, area particularly on the Appalachian Trail. Choosing to be forever close to their beloved hiking trails, they were buried in Pawling, NY; Carmen in 1973 and Adolph, at 87 years of age, in November 2000.

Interestingly, it was 1989, long after his wife's passing, that Adolph learned of the Trail Conference's work. He became a Trail Conference member that year and ultimately included us in his generous bequest. These funds are now in the Outdoor Fund dedicated to expanding hiking opportunities in the region. (See article on Preservation of Long Distance Trails on page 1 for more about how the Outdoor Fund is being used to expand trail lands.)

It is awe inspiring that Adolph had the forethought to ensure that he and his wife's passion for hiking would have such an enduring impact. You, too, can help us continue building new trails for new generations of hikers by naming the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference in your will. Such a bequest is a wonderful way to support trail work far beyond your lifetime. For confidential information and legal language, contact the Trail Conference at 201-512-9348, or by email: info@nynjtc.org, and someone will contact you.

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. Mail to: NY-NJ Trail Conference, 156 Ramapo Valley Road, Mahwah, NJ 07430.

- Name
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MICHELLE WARDEN

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

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HIKERS' BOOKSHELF

Catskill Trails: A Ranger's Guide to the High Peaks
Book Two: The Central Catskills
 Edward G. Henry
 Black Dome Press Corporation, 2000.

Reviewed by Daniel Case

If all hikers hiked the same way, there would be a need for only one guidebook for any region. But they don't, and competing guidebooks often aim at different types of hikers. Ed Henry, a former Catskill forest ranger, writes in a way best suited to the casual yet committed hiker, as interested in what he or she is passing through as in the trip's ultimate goal. Eschewing a dry 0.1-mile-by-mile account of highlights and landmarks, Henry opts instead for the looser narrative style, his trail descriptions complemented by generous offerings of information on the forest, animals, geology, and history of the land at hand (or is that foot?).

Every high peak in Ulster County, save privately owned Graham, is covered in this volume. Also dealt with are popular hikes on lower peaks like Tremper, Overlook, and Dry Brook Ridge, and a drive around Ashokan Reservoir.

Welcome additions in this volume are full-length chapters for the trailless peaks, which in the first volume rated a mere appendix. In fact, to my knowledge, Henry's is the first guidebook to tackle the infamous bushwhack across the four peaks between Table and Cornell mountains, without a doubt the most difficult route in the book.

The notoriously thick patches of balsam fir and red spruce along this ridge have led to some truly memorable trip reports in the past. Henry conveys their flavor without too many of the usual clichés; his impressionistic style renders it as "Glimpses of beauty and thoughts of glory lose context among the hostile vegetation." I also got a chuckle out of "Elements of the spruce-fir forest play a large role in the off-trail wilderness experience"—a wonderfully dry understatement.

Henry adds to this a visit to Cornell's 3,655-foot summit, which he christens "Dink Mountain," and finds its view redeems the whole experience of Lone, Rocky, Balsam Cap, and Friday.

Inevitably, a few small errors crop up. He describes Slide as the first 4,000-foot peak in the Appalachians north of Virginia's Old Stony Man. Not only can I not find any reference to such a mountain on the Topozone Web site, even if there is, West Virginia has 4,000-foot peaks to the north of any mountains in its neighboring state.

Most significantly, his route up Table Mountain mentions the now-demolished

Denning Lean-To. Since it was replaced with a new lean-to higher up the mountain well before the book was published, there's no reason this should still be in there.

Like its predecessor, this volume is sized to fit handily within a pack pocket. The layout designers smartly put the page numbers in easy-to-spot black semicircles along the sides, along with the chapter titles, so one can flip through it quickly for the desired chapter, a good idea other guidebooks should replicate.

This trail-ready design is an odd contrast with the style of the guidebook itself, which will frustrate the hiker who keeps a close eye on the pedometer. However, if you prepare for hikes by reading about them, or want the accumulated knowledge of a veteran forest ranger while traipsing through the woods, Henry will satisfy you. 

Books Recently Received in the TC Library Include:

- Winter Trails: New York**
Joanna and Ron Farra, Globe Pequot Press, 2001
- Catskill Trails: A Ranger's Guide to the High Peaks**
Book Two: The Central Catskills
Edward G. Henry, Black Dome Press, 2000
- Not Without Peril. 150 Years of Misadventure on the Presidential Range of New Hampshire**
Nicholas Howe, AMC Books, 2001 (Paperback)
- The Catskill Forest: A History**
Michael Kudish, Purple Mountain Press, 2000
- Basic Essentials: Snowshoeing**
Phil Savignano, Globe Pequot Press, 2001
- Wanderlust: A History of Walking**
Rebecca Solnit, Viking, Penguin, 2000
- A Fine Kind of Madness. Mountain Adventures Tall and True**
Laura and Guy Waterman, The Mountaineers Books, 2000



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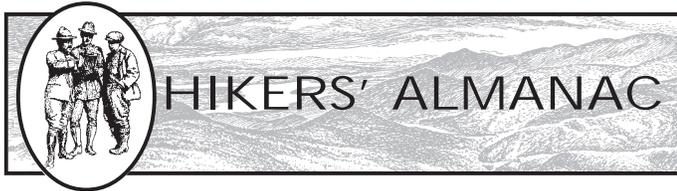
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HIKERS' ALMANAC

continued from back page

TUESDAY, JUNE 5

FVTW. High Mountain Preserve, Wayne. Leader: Peter Wolff, 973-239-0766. Meet: 10 AM at Paterson Univ. parking lot #6, uppermost level. 6-7 miles using new trails to climb to a 885 ft. peak with unsurpassed views of the Passaic Valley and NYC skyline. Return on steep and rocky trail; sturdy boots recommended.

THURSDAY, JUNE 7

FVTW. Wyanokie Circular, Ringwood. Leader: Mary Dell Morrison, 908-684-1173. Meet: 10 AM at Weis Ecology Center. 7-10 mile circular hike including Chickahokie Falls and Otter Hole.

ADK-NJ. Thursdays in the Woods: A weekly walk. Leader: Call before Wed. 9 PM to register and for meeting time & place - 201-967-2937 or 201-358-5292.

SATURDAY, JUNE 9

UHC. **HIKE MISSING HERE.** Leader: Mary Doyle, 908-580-1778. Meet: 10 AM at Jockey Hollow Visitors Center. A \$4 per-person admission is charged to those without park passes. Enjoy a brisk ramble in this beautiful Morristown Historic National Park (where Washington's army camped during the brutal winter of 1779). Steady rain cancels.

RW. Eagle Mountain (3600'). Leader: For more information call 845-246-4145. Meet: Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market St., Saugerties, 8 AM. Strenuous hike of 8.4 miles. Inclement weather date is following Saturday.

OUT. Upper Nyack to Congers. Leader: Ray Krant, 718-435-4994.9 miles, moderate steady pace. Easy hike starting from new trail underneath Hook Mountain and continuing along Hudson River; and around most of Rockland Lake through the Town of Congers. Meet 10AM at PABT near commuters statue. Fare: \$10.60 (seniors \$5.80).

SUNDAY, JUNE 10

ADK-R. Camp Smith Shuttle. 7 miles. Call leader: 914-337-6612.

UHC. South Mountain Reservation Ramble. Leader: Dot Berreman, 908-464-9546. Meet: 10 AM at Oakdale parking lot off Cherry Lane near Northfield Ave. Enjoy a moderate ramble in this lovely reservation.

WEC. Bearfoot Tower to Terrace Pond. Leader: Don Weise. Meet: Call Weis Ecology Center in Ringwood, NJ, at 973-835-2160; advance registration and payment required (\$5 non-members). 8 very strenuous miles combining two favorite hikes: glacial lake, rock scrambles, rhododendron forest and views. Some of the Highlands' best scenery. Steep terrain and fast pace.

MJOMC. Trail Maintenance in Sterling Forest. Leader: Rick Levey, 845-358-6311. Meet: Call leader by Sat., 6/9. We will give something back to the trail system by trimming bushes, clearing brush and painting markers along the Allis Trail. Trail work followed by hike to a waterfall or scenic viewpoint. All volunteers will enjoy apres pizza and beverages to be provided by the club.

MONDAY, JUNE 11

RW. Harriman State Park. Leader: For more information call 845-246-1823. Meet: Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market St., Saugerties, 8 AM. Moderate hike of 5 mi. Inclement weather date is following Mon.

TUESDAY, JUNE 12

FVTW. Mahlon Dickerson Circular. Leaders: Jim & Theresa McKay, 973-538-0756. Meet: 10 AM at Saffin Rock-Rill parking lot (#3/Water Treatment Plant). 7-8 miles mostly in southern section of the park.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13

FVTW. Flat Rock Nature Preserve, Bergen Co. Leader: Len Rothstein, 201-363-4851. Meet: 10 AM at preserve. 5 miles in a beautiful wood area with winding trails.

THURSDAY, JUNE 14

FVTW. Horse Pond Mt. Circular. Leaders: Jim & Theresa McKay, 973-538-0756. Meet: 10 AM at Jennings Hollow (Long Pond). 8 miles to Harrison and Horse Pond mountains.

SATURDAY, JUNE 16

ADK-R. Hook Mountain/Hudson Traverse. 5 miles. Call leader: 845-3540738.

UHC. Pyramid Mountain Ramble. Leader: Clotilde Lanig, 732-549-4977. Meet: 10 AM at Pyramid Mountain Visitor Center parking lot. We will see one of the world's wonders, Tripod Rock. Call leader if in doubt due to inclement weather.

MJO. Stonykill Falls and Ellenville Ice Caves. Leader: Howard Israel, 718-639-0123; call 9-11 PM on 6/11 - 6/14 ONLY. Meet: Call leader. Lovely waterfall; moderate amount of bushwacking and rock scrambling. Great views from High Point and Ice Cave Mt., where vast crevices await us. 10 miles of challenging terrain; be prepared for a long day. Optional dinner to follow. Hiking boots a must; bring sunscreen, extra socks and a flashlight. Inclement weather may cancel. \$10 non-members.

SUNDAY, JUNE 17

UHC. Watchung Reservation Ramble. Leader: Call 973-746-4319 for information. Meet: 10 AM at Trailside Nature & Science Ctr. parking lot on Coles Ave. where it intersects with New Providence Rd. A moderate ramble of 4-5 miles. Steady rain cancels.

MJO. Ramapo Reservation. Leader: Richard Jobsky, 201-689-0207; call before 8 PM. Meet: 10 AM in northern NJ; call leader by Fri., 6/15. This intermediate pace & terrain hike is about 6 miles. Includes meditation minute. Not accessible by public transportation. Rain cancels; threat of shower does not. \$10 non-members or free with guest card.

MONDAY, JUNE 18

RW. Alander Mt. from Mt. Washington Park HQ. Leader: For more

information call 845-246-4590. Meet: Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market St., Saugerties, 8 AM. Moderate hike of 6.5 miles. Inclement weather date is following Monday.

TUESDAY, JUNE 19

FVTW. Palisades Circular. Leader: Arnie Seymour-Jones, 201-768-3864. Meet: 10 AM at State Line Lookout. 7-10 miles in a wilderness in view of NYC. 500 ft. cliffs down to the river.

THURSDAY, JUNE 21

FVTW. Schunemunk Mountain. Leaders: Charles & Anita Kientzler, 973-835-1060. Meet: 10 AM at Taylor Rd. parking lot. 7-10 miles with great views of the Gunks and Hudson Highlands; we may explore the Megaliths. Strenuous because of the climbing.

SATURDAY, JUNE 23

UHC. South Mountain Reservation Ramble. Leader: Don Meserian, 973-228-2258. Meet: 10 AM at Tulip Springs parking lot, Brookside Ave., Millburn.

MJO. Appalachian Trail - PA. Leader: Lanny Wexler, 516-938-5721; call 7-10 PM. Meet: Call leader by Thur., 6/21. Moderately strenuous 9-mile hike on the AT in some of the most scenic sections in PA. Visit the legendary Devil's Pulpit, Lehigh Furnace Gap and Bake Oven Knob. Hiking boots and 2 quarts of water a must. No public transportation available. Excessive heat/humidity or steady rain cancels. \$10 non-members fee.

SUNDAY, JUNE 24

UHC. Watchung Reservation Ramble. Leader: Call 973-746-4319 for information. Meet: 10 AM at Trailside Nature and Science Center parking lot on Coles Ave. where it intersects with New Providence Rd. A moderate ramble of 4-5 miles. Steady rain cancels.

NHHC & OUT. Long Path, Palisades to Alpine. Leader: Mike Puder, 718-743-0920. Meet: inside George Washington Bridge Bus Terminal; call leader during the week of the hike for meeting time. We will walk across the George Washington Bridge and then along the Long Path to Alpine and return by bus.

MONDAY, JUNE 25

RW. Cornell (3847') & Wittenberg (3843') Mts. Leader: For more information call 845-246-7987. Meet: Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market St., Saugerties, 7 AM. Strenuous hike of 7 miles. Inclement weather date is following Monday.

TUESDAY, JUNE 26

FVTW. Ramapo Mt. State Forest. Leader: Ben Sterman, 201-797-0468. Meet: 10 AM at 2nd parking lot. 6-7 mile tour of the lake, castle and the Cannonball Trail. View from Matapan Rock.

THURSDAY, JUNE 28

FVTW. Anthony Wayne Circular. Leader: Arnie Seymour-Jones, 201-768-3864. Meet: 10 AM at Anthony Wayne parking lot. 7-10 miles. Depending on conditions, we can hike West, Long or Black mountains, or perhaps all of them.

SATURDAY, JUNE 30

UHC. Watchung Reservation Ramble. Leader: Call 973-746-4319 for information. Meet: 10 AM at Trailside Nature and Science Center parking lot on Coles Ave. where it intersects with New Providence Rd. A moderate ramble of 4-5 miles. Steady rain cancels.

MONDAY, JULY 2

RW. Mt. Graylock, MA (3491'). Leader: For more information call 845-246-4590. Meet: Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market St., Saugerties, 8 AM. Strenuous hike of 9.3 miles. Inclement weather date is following Monday.



Upcoming Outings for Families

SATURDAY, MAY 12

Harriman State Park. An easy pace over moderate terrain. Destination: a lake or mountaintop or both. Distance: 4 miles. Sponsored by ADK North Jersey, New York, and Knickerbocker chapters. Contact leader Emily Tourin Crowell for info: 973-478-1548 (before 8:30 p.m.)

SUNDAY, JUNE 3

Harriman exploration. Depending on the weather and the bugs, a walk near Little Long Pond/Hogencamp Mountain. The pace will be easy over 4 miles of moderate terrain. Sponsored by ADK North Jersey, New York, and Knickerbocker chapters. Contact leader Emily Tourin Crowell for info: 973-478-1548 (before 8:30 p.m.)

MAY 26, 27, 28

Minnewaska State Park. Nature Center Opening Weekend. Join the park's educators each afternoon for nature walks (1 p.m. each day), ecology games and songs (2 p.m. each day), and other activities for children and families. Contact the park's education office at 845-255-2011 for information and to register.



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CLUB CODES

ADK-J Adirondack Mountain Club, North Jersey Chapter. Contact: Betty Heald, 201-967-2937

ADK-R Adirondack Mountain Club Ramapo. Contact: Pete Tilgner, 201-871-3531 or sgandpt@aol.com

FVTW Frost Valley Trail Walkers. Contact: Cherryll Short, 973-299-0212. Mon. 3 mi., Tues. 6-7 mi., Wed. 5 mi., Thurs. 7-10 mi., Fri. ramble up to two mi.

MJO Mosaic Jewish Outdoor Mountain Club. Contact: 516-938-5721.

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

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

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

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, 156 Ramapo Valley Road, Mahwah, NJ 07430.

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

RW Rip Van Winkle. Contact: Robert Stinemire 845-246-4590.

TLR Teatown Lake Reservation. Contact: 914-762-2912, ext. 16

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

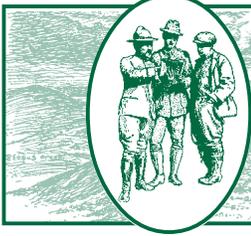
UTC Urban Trail Club. Contact: Cap Field, 718-274-0407.

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

WTA Westchester Trails Association. Contact: Guest schedule, \$2 + SASE. Contact: Ann Cohen, 914-668-8222. Most hikers carpool to trailhead.

Pinewoods Folk Music Club

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HIKERS' ALMANAC

MAY

SATURDAY, MAY 5

RWW. North Dome and Sherrill (3500'). Meet: Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market St., Saugerties, 8 AM. Strenuous bushwhack of 7 miles. Inclement weather date is following Saturday. For more information call: 845-246-4145.

UChC. Skyline Ramble - Oakland, NJ. Leader: Ed Fanslau, 201-652-1496. Meet: 10 AM at Skyland Dr. in Oakland, NJ, where the yellow Hoefflerlin trail crosses the road, across from Camp Taramarack sign. A scenic spring ramble of 4-5 miles using the Hoefflerlin trail and historic Cannonball trail. Some rocky sections. We'll stop at beautiful Ramapo Lake for a snack. Rain cancels.

MJO. Mystery Moonlight Hike in the NJ Pine Barrens. Leader: Lanny Wexler, 516-938-5721. Meet: Call leader by Fri., 5/4. A nighttime hike into White's Bog by the light of the full moon. We'll follow white sand roads passing through pine forest and cranberry bogs. 5-6 miles; expect to get home really late. No public transportation available so carpooling will be the way to go. Early dinner at Olga's Diner. BRING A FLASHLIGHT. Rain cancels. \$10 non-member fee or free with guest card.

UTC. High Tor. Leader: Judy Levine, 718-482-9659, evenings; no messages please. Meet: Port Authority Bus Terminal at 8:15, upper level (Bear Mt. Bus) to purchase one-way ticket to Mt. Ivy. Return on different bus. Bus leaves at 8:45. Seven miles, many hills, 200-gott climb up rocks; 500-foot decline down rocks. Rain cancels.

SUNDAY, MAY 6

ADK - R. Let's Tickle Anthony's Nose. 8.5 miles. Call leader: 973-838-8031.

UChC. South Mountain Reservation Ramble. Leader: Joan Lepsteller, 908-273-4188. Meet: 10 AM Locust Grove parking lot, corner of Glen Ave. and Lackawanna Pl., across from Millburn RR station. A brisk ramble of 4-5 miles. Steady rain cancels.

WEC. Return to the Megaliths. Leader: Don Weise. Meet: Call Weis Ecology Center in Ringwood, NJ, at 973-835-2160; advance registration and payment required (\$5 non-members). 8 very strenuous miles on New York's nearby giant, Schuhenmunk Mountain. Visit the massive boulder crevices of the Megaliths. Views of the Hudson, Gunks and Catskills.

NyHC. Minnevaska State Park. Leader: Bob Ward, 718-471-7036. Meet: Call leader after 8 PM to either offer or sign-up for rides. Option of joining us for a short 3 mile walk or a longer 6 mile walk along carriage roads of this lovely park.

WTA. Northern Trailway. Leader: Barry Kaplan, 914-946-2869. Meet: 9:30 AM at North White Plains station parking lot. The easiest 8 miles in the world, almost no uphill. From Mahopac to just above Croton Reservoir. \$3.

THURSDAY, MAY 10

FVTW. Storm King Mt. (Alternate: Black Rock Forest). Leader: Arnie Seymour-Jones, 201-768-3864. Meet: 10 AM at second parking lot at right, 3.5 miles past West Point back gate at Routes 218 & 293. 7-10 miles; a lot of climbing (over 1,200 feet).

ADK - NJ. Thursdays in the Woods: A weekly walk. Leader: Call before Wed. 9 PM to register and for meeting time & place - 201-967-2937 or 201-358-5292.

SATURDAY, MAY 12

ADK - R. Tuxedo - Mount Ivy - White Bar. 6 miles. Call leader: 845-634-7635.

UChC. Turkey Mountain, Montville. Leader: Peter Wolff, 973-239-0788. Meet: 10 AM at Pyramid Mountain Visitor Center. This will be an interesting and not very strenuous loop including a waterfall and some great views. Last time we saw several wild turkeys.

NyHC & OC. Pawling Nature Preserve. Leader: Mike Puder, 718-743-0920. Meet: Grand Central Terminal; call anytime during the week for meeting time. See great views, quiet ponds, and bubbling brooks in relatively unspoiled Dutchess County.

WTA. Undercliff Trail, Cold Spring. Leader: Ellie Carren, 914-591-7038. Meet: 9:15 AM at North White Plains station parking lot. 6 miles, moderate to strenuous. Head toward Mt. Taurus, but turn off onto yellow trail. Climbing at start but level on the way back. Spectacular Hudson River views. \$4.

UTC. Jamaica Bay to Fort Tilden. Leader: Judy Levine, 718-482-9659, after 9 pm; no messages. Meet: 10 am at Broad Channel train station, upper level. "A" train going to Rockaway. Walk through nature preserve, then through quaint streets of Broad Channel over to Rockaway Beach, on to beach walk.

SUNDAY, MAY 13

UChC. Tourne Park, Boonton. Leader: Susan Jacobs, 973-402-2555. Meet: 10 AM at Tourne Park (second parking lot).

WTA. Camp Smith Trail/Anthony's Nose. Leader: Herb Hochberg, 914-472-3525. Meet: 9 AM at North White Plains station parking lot. 6 moderate miles. Great views up, down and across the Hudson from Anthony's Nose. Car shuttle. \$3.

MONDAY, MAY 14

RWW. Devil's Path (Indian Head to Plateau/RT. 214). Call for details: 845-246-8616 or 246-8774. Very strenuous hike of 13.5 mi. Note: bail out points will be included. Inclement weather date is following Monday.

TUESDAY, MAY 15

FVTW. Doodletown Circular. Leader: Arnie Seymour-Jones, 201-768-3864. Meet: 10 AM at Bear Mt. Inn. 6-7 miles. Visit the site of the former town, with a tour of old cemeteries and lovely wooded areas.

FRIDAY, MAY 18

NyHC & OC. East River Walk to Roosevelt Island. Leader: Dina Tritsch, 212-781-8153. Meet: 10 AM on southeast corner of 125 St. & St. Nicholas Ave. We will walk along the East River from 120 St. through Carl Schurz Park to the Roosevelt Island Tramway. Then, we ride the tramway over the river to walk around the island. Rain cancels.

SATURDAY, MAY 19

UChC. South Mountain Reservation Ramble. Leader: Naomi Shapiro, 973-762-1832 and Eck Dwyer, 908-790-0939; call before 9 PM. Meet: 10 AM in Locust Grove parking lot, corner of Glen Ave. and Lackawanna Pl., across from Millburn RR station. A brisk 5-mile ramble with steep "up" at the beginning. Bring plenty of water, hiking boots and a snack for energy. Steady rain cancels.

NyHC. Appalachian Trail - West Mountain to Pawling. Leader: Mike Puder, 718-743-0920. Meet: Grand Central Terminal; call leader anytime during the week for meeting time. About 9 miles with a steep hill and mountainous terrain.

NyHC. Ethnic Diversity and Elegance. Leaders: Marty & Judy Mahler, 718-338-7929. Meet: street level Bedford Ave. Station on the L train; call leaders between 6 & 9 PM for meeting time. We will walk from Brooklyn to Manhattan on the Williamsburg Bridge and then south in Manhattan. Return via the Brooklyn Bridge. Those who wish can eat an early supper together on Montague St.

TEA. Overlook Trail. Leader: Joanne Landau Schwalb. Meet: 9:30 AM at Nature Center, Teatown Lake Reservation, Ossining, NY; call 914-762-2912 for more information. 3.5 miles through Hidden Valley to Overlook Trail; scenic views, meadows and ravines. Limited to 20.

SUNDAY, MAY 20

UChC. Watchung Reservation Ramble. Leader: Joan Lepsteller, 908-273-4188. Meet: 10 AM at Trailside Nature and Science Center parking lot on Coles Ave. where it intersects with New Providence Rd. A brisk ramble of 4-5 miles. Steady rain cancels.

NyR. Long Valley to Gladstone. Leader: Call Michael Polymenakos for info, 718-726-6186. Meet: 7:25 AM at Penn Station; NJ Transit ticket windows.

MJO. Greenwood Lake. Leader: Herb Gecht, 718-743-5825; call 7:00-9:45 PM on 5/14 - 5/17 ONLY. Meet: Call leader. 8-mile moderately strenuous hike along the Appalachian Trail to Prospect Rock. Scenic views of Greenwood Lake. Accessible by public transportation. Rain cancels. \$10 non-member fee or free with guest card.

UTC. James Barry Memorial Walk. Leader: Rolande Chapeau, George Glatz (NyHC, 212-533-9457, 8-10 am) Sal Verbero (OC, 718-420-9569, 8-10 pm). Meet 10:30 am in front of the PATH train booth at the World Trade Center. 3-6 miles, flat, easy pace to some of James Barry's favorite places. Heavy rain cancels. Rain date May 27.

MONDAY, MAY 21

RWW. Balsam Lake Mt. and (optional) Graham Mt. (3500'). Meet: Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market St., Saugerties, 8 AM. Moderate + hike of 6 miles including bushwhack of Graham Mt. Inclement weather date is following Monday. For more information call: 845-846-4145 or 246-7616.

TUESDAY, MAY 22

FVTW. Sandy Hook Ramble. Leader: Mickey Siegel, 201-797-7054. Meet: 10 AM at Lot D directly before Spornacci Visitors' Center. 6 miles. Walk up the beach at low tide and back along the bay.

THURSDAY, MAY 24

FVTW. Long Path. Leaders: Carolyn & Jim Canfield, 973-728-9774. Meet: 9:30 AM at Long Mt. Parkway parking area on Rt. 32, Woodbury. A hike of 11+ miles on the Long Path.

FRIDAY, MAY 25

NyHC. A Pinewoods Folk Music Club Weekend (Fri - Mon). Leader: Kelvin Domos, 973-267-2241. Meet: call NYC coordinator Marty Mahler at 718-338-7929 for details. At Camp Friedman, Falls Village, CT. You can hike the AT, the Mohawk Trail or walk around the lake. Rowboats and swimming available. Public transportation is available to this location.

SATURDAY, MAY 26

MSC. Memorial Day Hiking Weekend. At our lodge in Waitsfield, VT. Call for information: 212-978-9309.

ADK - R. Black Rock Forest - Scenic Circuit. 9-10 miles. Call leader: 845-359-24.

UChC. Hartshorne Woods Park, Middletown. Leader: Mae Deas, 908-233-6641. Meet: 10 AM at Buttermik Valley Trailhead and parking lot on Navesink Ave., off route 326. Join the leader in exploring this new (to us) area close to the shore. Maybe afterward, a drive over the Sandy Hook for a view of the ocean and/or a walk on the beach.

NyHC & OUT. Silver Lake and Clove Lake Parks in Staten Island. Leader: Sal Verbero, 718-420-9569. Meet: 10:15 AM at Staten Island Ferry Terminal, Manhattan. Enjoy the beautiful Staten Island parks with Silver and Clove Lakes and walk past the mansions of Howard Avenue.

SUNDAY, MAY 27

UChC. HIKE MISSING HERE. Leader: Call 973-746-4319 for information. Meet: 10 AM at Bramhall Terrace parking lot (on Crest Dr., .35 mile from the entrance on South Orange Ave. A moderate 4-mile ramble using unusual trails.

WEC. Breakneck Ridge Challenge. Leader: Don Weise. Meet: Call Weis Ecology Center in Ringwood, NJ, at 973-835-2160; advance registration and payment required (\$7 non-members). 8 very strenuous miles - a serious, non-technical rock climb for experienced, fit hikers only. Incredible views of the Hudson and Storm King Mt. Wet conditions will modify.

WTA. Breakneck Ridge. Leader: Peter Hibbard, 914-949-9050. Meet: 9 AM at North White Plains station parking lot. 5-6 miles at very moderate pace. Starts with very steep climb and continues with more moderate ups and downs. Short trail out. Hiking boots required. Rain cancels. \$3.50.

MONDAY, MAY 28

NyHC. Kingston, NJ, to Hamilton, NJ. Leader: Ray Krant, 718-435-4994. Meet: 9:30 AM at Port Authority Bus Terminal. Take a scenic walk along the Delaware and Raritan Canal; see a portion of the canal where hikers rarely go.

TUESDAY, MAY 29

FVTW. Sunfish Pond. Leader: Joe Brownlee, 973-635-1171. Meet: 10 AM at Douglas parking lot, Delaware Water Gap (last exit on Rt. 80 before toll, right on Old Mine Rd., 4 miles to lot on left). 6-7 miles including a nice climb to lunch overlooking Sunfish Pond. Steady rain cancels.

THURSDAY, MAY 31

FVTW. Dater Mountain. Leader: Peter Wolff, 973-239-0766. Meet: 10 AM at Johnsonstown Rd. circle, Harriman. 7-10 miles, with a climb up Dater Mt., with great views after some serious rock climbing. Lunch on Black Ash Mt.

JUNE

FRIDAY, JUNE 1

NyHC & OUT. Exchange Place to Hoboken and Beyond. Leader: Dina Tritsch, 212-781-8153. Meet: 10 AM at World Trade Center PATH Station (top of escalator). We will take the PATH train to Exchange Place and walk along the Hudson River through Newport and Hoboken to the PATH Station. We can continue on to Weehauken and take the ferry back from Port Imperial. Rain cancels.

SATURDAY, JUNE 2

NyHC. Osborne Loop. Leader: Mike Puder, 718-743-0920. Meet: Grand Central Station; call leader during the week of the hike for meeting time. About 8 miles at a moderate steady pace; some climbing.

MJO. Bonticou Crag. Leader: Howard Israel, 718-639-0123; call 9-11 PM on 5/28 - 5/31 ONLY. Meet: Call leader. One of the most spectacular views of the Gunks. Great variety of terrain; short distance but the intensity of some of the climbs will make up for it. Not for beginners; hiking boots are a must. Inclement weather may cancel. \$10 non-members; plus \$7 land use fee.

UTC & OUT. Bronx River Parkway and Cranberry Lake Circular. Leader: Sal Verbero, 718-420-9569, 8-10 pm. Meet: 9:15 at Grand Central Terminal. 6 miles. Hike along the Bronx River Parkway to Kensico Dam, then do a circular of Cranberry Lake.

SUNDAY, JUNE 3

UChC. Patriot's Path Ramble - Morristown. Leaders: Lynn Gale, 973-763-7230 and Betty White. Meet: 10 AM at visitor's center for Fosterfields Historical Park on Kahdena Road in Morris Township. We will shuttle, and peek at nature as we go. Steady rain cancels.

NyHC. Mount Loretto & Lemon Creek. Leaders: Steve & Betty Soffer, 718-720-1593. Take the 10:30 AM Staten Island Ferry from Manhattan and meet the leaders PROMPTLY at the rear of the St. George ferry terminal near the Staten Island Transit Ramp. MetroCards required. We will walk in the new state park at Mount Loretto and then go on to a City park near Lemon Creek.

MJO. Princeton and Delaware & Raritan Canal. Leader: Nestor Danyluk, 718-364-6445. Meet: Call leader by Fri., 6/1, 8 miles; accessible by public transportation. Walk through the historic campus of Princeton en route to the Canal. Follow canal past lakes to Kingston, NJ. Early dinner after the walk if conditions permit. Rain cancels. \$10 non-member fee or free with guest card.

MONDAY, JUNE 4

RWW. Table (3843') and Peekamoose (3847') Leader: For more information call 845-246-8546. Meet: Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market St., Saugerties, 8 AM. Strenuous hike of 8.6 miles. Inclement weather date is following Monday.

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