Go Jump in a Lake!
(Here’s Where You Can)

By Larry Wheelock

Don’t let the heat of summer keep you off the trails. There are quite a few spots in our region where hikers can take a plunge, and legal ones at that. When you plan an outing to one of these swimming holes (or if you accidentally slip and fall into a cool, clear pool in some hidden spot—sometimes it happens), here are a few tips to keep in mind to stay healthy and minimize the environmental impact of your dip:

- Body lotions such as sun screens, bug repellents, and soap are likely to leave a fine film of oil on the water’s surface that will reduce the oxygen available to life forms below.
- Disturbance of silt on the streambed can disrupt feeding and breeding in nearby areas.
- Other creatures—two legged, four legged, scaled, and feathered—use the stream and may leave some nasty little beasties that you don’t want to swallow!

Most public swimming areas are open to the public from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend (many on weekends only prior to school closing in June). With very few exceptions swimming is generally not allowed when lifeguards are not on duty. The following is not a complete inventory of places where swimming is allowed, but it is a list of some favorite swimming holes from our volunteers who watch over the trails.

In New Jersey

The Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area maintains a policy of not regulating swimming in open bodies of water in the recreation area, with the exception of the VanCampens Brook, which is a protected trout stream. Authorities do recommend that you choose to swim at beaches where there are lifeguards on duty, such as the Delpew Recreation Area on the Delaware River (parking fee). For a cool dip after hiking the AT on the Kittatinny Ridge, try Crater Lake (see the Kittatinny map #16). This is a not-too-busy, beautiful spot that does not have a lifeguard, but is relatively safe and has a gently sloping soil and rock beach area.

N. J. State Parks and Forests have numerous beach areas close to trails that can be used during hours when lifeguards are on duty. Most such parks have a per vehicle access fee of $5 on weekdays and $7 on weekends. This fee may have gone up after the deadline for this publication, so be prepared for slightly higher rates. In Stokes State Forest, there is Stony Lake, with numerous trails nearby. In High Point State Park, there is Lake Marcia, with the Monument and Appalachian Trails nearby. Wawayanda State Park has, of course, Lake Wawayanda, with plenty of hiking surrounding it.

In New York

At Bear Mountain/Harriman State Park, the Bear Mountain pool charges $2 for adults and $1 for children, plus a $7 parking fee. At Lake Sebago, Lake Welch, and Lake Tiorati, there is only the parking fee of $7 per car. Along the Long Path hikers are welcome to cool off in a pool at Tallman State Park in Piermont; fees are $2 for adults, $1 for children. Hilt-Mar Lodge on the northwest side of Schunnemunk Mountain still invites LP hikers to use their pool at a discounted rate. This facility is also open for day use at a rate of $7 per vehicle.

In Minnewaska State Park, two popular places to swim are at Lake Minnewaska and Lake Awosting. The crystal clear swimming area of Awosting is at the end of numerous trails and is not too heavily used. Both beaches require only the usual $7 per car parking fee. A by-permit-only, no-lifeguard, long-distance swim area is available at Lake Minnewaska for swimmers who qualify (you must pass a swim test and pay a $15 membership fee to the Minnewaska Swimmers Association, an independent non-profit group). For information visit www.minnewaskawimmers.org or call 845-855-5012.

In the East of the Hudson area, two popular places frequented by hikers are the Canopus Lake beach in Clarence Fahnestock Memorial State Park and the quarry near Bashbish brook in Taconic State Park Recreation Area in Copake Falls. The Bashbish is a deep-water facility for experienced swimmers only, although there is a kiddie pool nearby. Both of these require only a per car entrance fee of $7.

Swimming in the Catskill Forest Preserve is back-country is generally permitted, though at your own risk. Colgate Lake in the northeast sector is a popular, lifeguard-free spot and a short walk to the Colgate Lake Trail, which connects to the Long Path just southeast of the Blackhead range. Elsewhere in the Catskills there are a few beaches with lifeguards on duty: one each at North and South Lakes, Mongaup Pond, Little Pond, Kenneth L. Wilson Campground, and Bear Spring Mountain. Day use of these facilities is $5 per car, and no swimming is permitted at these spots when lifeguards are off duty.

New Club, New Trail, and Good News for the Highlands Trail

With 15 members, give or take a member, the Musconetcong Mountain Conser- vancy based in Hunterdon County, New Jersey, is one of the smallest Trail Confer- ence member clubs. With a birth date of January 2001, it is also one of the young- est. And, welcomed into TC ranks in early 2002, it is one of the conference’s newest club members.

Yet the Musconetcong (pronounced muck-o-NEET-cong) Mountain Conser- vancy (MMC) has big ambitions—pres- erving open space and connecting greenways in the Highlands, particularly for and along the approximately 20-mile route of the Highland Trail (HT) through Hunterdon County. Already, MMC spokesman John Jimenez reports, the group has made progress toward preserv- ing three or four properties via acquisi- tion with the help of the state’s Green Acres program; the process, he says, is in its fi- nal stages,” and all the segments “are along the Highlands Trail greenway.”

Hikers can already thank the group for its construction, with additional recruited volunteers, of a new link in the Highlands Trail: a 1.5-mile section on Musconetcong Mountain. The trail was completed in March and a dedication ceremony was held on National Trails Day, June 7. Jimenez said the group hopes to be able to get to work on the next leg before the end of the year, if the acquisition happens as expected. “It’s about 150 acres and will

TC’s John Moran Gets NJ Parks Volunteer of Year Award

It didn’t take John Moran long to be- come an invaluable volunteer on our region’s trail networks. It was just four years ago that he first joined a Trail Confer- ence project, helping Walt Daniels (Dutchess/Putnam AT management committee) cordon off a mine along the Appa- lachian Trail in New York’s Dutchess County. Soon he was helping Daniel Chazin (publications committee), mapping and measuring trails in the new Sterling Forest State Park to provide data for TC publications. He volunteered as a main- tainer, took M a i n t e n a n c e 1 0 1 , “and after that Dick Warner (North Jersey trails chair) called and offered me the Halifax Trail in Ramapo Reservation.”

At Dick Warner’s request, John took on the role of supervisor of the trails in Ramapo Reservation, coordinating the

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The Lure of Long-Distance Trails

There is a special feeling hikers get when they intersect a long-distance trail and can say to themselves, “If I turn right, I could walk all the way to Georgia.” Most people never do, but just knowing that it is possible is part of the romance of long-distance trails.

With talk about extending the Long Path towards the Adirondacks and the need to involve members in the work, I wondered about the attraction of long-distance trails. What is the lure that entices people to become involved in the Long Path, Highlands Trail, Hudson River Greenway Trail, or the Appalachian Trail, and makes them stay involved? I put the question to some of our members who work on these trails.

Jakob Franke was first involved with the Shawangunk Ridge Trail and later became chair of the Long Path South. He responded: “A long-distance trail represents the essence of a greenway by tying together various areas. It satisfies my desire for variety and travel, both in hiking stretches of the trail and in taking care of it, thus allowing me to enjoy completely different landscapes and localities.” That he can do this is in a regional setting is also part of the attraction.

Ed Walsh, supervisor for the Long Path in Harriman State Park, enjoyed some of his earliest hikes on the Long Path. He learned to backpack there, and his experiences on the LP eventually led him to the Trail Conference. “The LP introduced me to places in New York I never knew existed,” Ed told me. “Scumemunk, the Shawangunks, Vroman’s Nose, the Helderbergs, and many more that I’m still exploring.” The fact that Ed originally hiked the trail as a family project has made it even more special, as has the fact that many of his friendships have been forged on the trail.

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The Appalachian Trail is thought by some to be the premier long-distance trail. When Mike Rea, now AT overseer from New Jersey to Route 17 in New York, started working on the trail in 1989, he just wanted to do maintenance. He enjoyed the fact that one direction led to Georgia and the other led to Maine, and that as he worked he had the chance to meet hikers from around the country and the world whose goal was simply to complete the distance. In time a different kind of AT distance became Mike’s goal. “I envision the distance in years when people will still be walking the AT,” he explained. “A few years ago I helped the Trail Crew construct some stone steps. It took two weeks to complete about 50 feet of steps, but every time I sweep the leaves, I think of the years ahead when people will still be walking on those steps in their goal to hike from Georgia to Maine.”

Larry Wheelock, TC Trails Director, first became involved with the Appalachian Trail when he started working on the New Jersey Pochuck project, the AT’s single biggest volunteer effort. Over the course of two years, he saw the power of a long-distance trail to be a community builder. “The AT is a golden thread that ties communities together,” Larry commented. “At the same time it gives the local community a glimpse of being part of a larger picture.”

The Hudson River Valley Greenway (HRVG) Trail, described as being as diverse as the valley, is not usually thought of as a long-distance trail, but it has many of the attributes of one. In the early 1990s, I was part of the HRVG staff and worked with local communities to help them build the trail. I was attracted to the project because of the opportunity to build a regional trail. Even though I am no longer on the Greenway staff, I serve on the board and continue to be lured by the trail because it connects the natural, cultural, and historic resources within the valley.

My husband and I are also among those heading towards Georgia on the AT and have completed about two-thirds of its length on hiking vacations. Our hikes have provided us with an overview of the whole trail, which is invaluable to us as current (Walt) and former (me) members of the AT Board of Managers. Our AT outings also give us a chance to see how people live in other sections of the country when we travel to day-hike trail segments outside our region.

Much of the lure of the long-distance trail is in the opportunities it grants hikers to see and experience different areas, slices of life so to speak. There are many ways to be involved with any of our region’s long-distance trails. Volunteer positions from maintainer to trail builder to manager are possible. Let Josh Erdsneker (josh@nyntc.org) at the TC office know of your interest. Your involvement may take you to Georgia, Albany, the Delaware River, or the Adirondacks.

—Jane Daniels
Leaving a Permanent Legacy for Generations of Future Hikers

As hikers and outdoor enthusiasts, Trail Conference members have long been the eyes and ears of conservationists and on the leading edge of many of the region’s most important grassroots advocacy efforts. To bolster our efforts as activists, we began to seek targeted acquisition of land for trail corridors in the late 1980s.

With the hiring of our part-time land acquisition director, John Myers, in 1990, we began a very productive period of working with area land trusts and public agencies to acquire priority trail lands and corridors. In addition, we established an Outdoor Fund as the primary vehicle for financing land protection activities.

One might ask why the Trail Conference should get involved in land protection when there are so many very capable land trusts and government agencies with far greater resources engaged in this issue. The answer is that, because we are hikers and nature lovers, we not only seek out natural areas but we seek to connect them into a walkable network.

As a result, we fill a small but important role in land conservation. Unlike state forests, parks, or refuges, linear trail corridors involve a very large number of individual parcels for the amount of land involved. Since it is just as time-consuming to negotiate the sale of a small parcel as a large one, most land trust and public agencies choose to get more bang for the buck with the acquisition of large parcels.

In situations like this, the Trail Conference, with a vested interest in creating a trail corridor, will step forward using the Outdoor Fund to assemble the numerous small parcels to create a continuous corridor. Our success is predicated on two factors: 1) an on-the-ground knowledge of the land and landowners; and 2) a close working relationship with land-acquiring partners. The following are a few highlights of those efforts.

New Jersey

■ We recommended about a dozen parcels along the Appalachian Trail to the State of New Jersey (Green Acres), which has purchased most of these, and they continue to work on the remaining ones. We also worked with the Appalachian Trail Conference Land Trust (ATCLT) to obtain an easement on a parcel of land near the AT.

■ Along the Highlands Trail in Hunterdon County, we identified all the privately owned parcels on the trail corridor. Since then, the Town of Bethlehem and Hunterdon County have purchased three of these parcels with assistance from Green Acres.

■ Along the Warren County branch of the Highlands Trail, we worked with the Warren County planning department to map out a route for the trail corridor. They have since purchased several parcels to protect the trail there.

■ In Morris County, we worked with the county and with the Morris County Land Conservancy (MCLC) to identify several key parcels to protect the Farney Highlands Trail. MCLC successfully purchased these parcels and then transferred them to Green Acres.

■ In Sussex County, we worked with the Town of Byram and the New Jersey Conservation Foundation (NJCF) to protect a significant section of the Highlands Trail. NJCF found a conservation buyer, who purchased more than 2,000 acres and is now giving us a trail easement across the land.

New York

■ In New York, our primary government partners have been the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the Palisades Interstate Park Commission (PIPC). Two of the largest acquisitions that the Trail Conference and many other groups were involved in were Minnewaska State Park and Sterling Forest, both acquired by PIPC.

■ Along the Long Path north of the Catskills on Giseng Ridge, we optioned four parcels and purchased a fifth and then successfully transferred them all to DEC. We also purchased and re-sold two parcels on Huntersfield Ridge in a similar manner, and assisted DEC with another parcel inside the Catskills.

■ We have worked on land protection projects with other land trusts. The Open Space Institute purchased several major parcels in the Shangawunks, which are important to our trail network. These include the 4,700-acre Sam’s Point Preserve, the 1,400-acre Shangawunk State Forest, and the 1,500-acre Vernoo Kill/Lundy tract. We have also worked with them to acquire a key trail access parcel at Stony Kill Falls on the western edge of Minnewaska.

■ We have worked closely with the National Park Service (NPS) on parcels along the AT on the NY-NJ border. We identified several parcels as critical for protection of the AT. They have since purchased one of these and continue to work on several more.

■ Near the Appalachian Trail just north of Sterling Forest, we worked with the Appalachian Trail Conference Land Trust (ATCLT) and the Orange County Land Trust to acquire a key parcel at Arrow Park. We also worked with ATCLT to obtain several donations of land and conservation easements along the AT.

■ We worked with the Trust for Public Land (TPL) and the Town of Warwick over a several year period to purchase three key parcels adjacent to the AT, which helped create a new town park—Cascade Lake Park.

■ With TPL we have also worked on several acquisitions in the southern Shangawunks. Most recently TPL transferred a 535-acre tract at Lake Hathorn near I-84 in the Town of Greenville to DEC.

■ Along the 35½-mile Shangawunk Ridge, we contacted over 70 owners and identified more than 30 key parcels that had willing sellers. We signed up options with as many of these owners as we could, 10 parcels totaling more than 1,200 acres. We also identified another seven willing sellers with over 750 acres. We have also purchased 15 smaller parcels along the trail corridor totaling over 200 acres from Orange County, Sullivan County, and a private landowner. We are now assisting DEC to acquire these lands.

Future Imperatives

As I’ve discussed at length in this column previously, our window of opportunity for further trail land protection will close over the next decade. The race for open space between conservationists and developers will be over. There will be no more available land to conserve, or develop.

To obtain a permanent legacy for future generations of hikers, the Trail Conference must prioritize its trail protection objectives and mount a major effort to protect as much as possible, as soon as possible. Through necessity, the Trail Conference has learned how to stretch its Outdoor Funds to protect the greatest amount of land with the least amount of capital.

Our challenge now is to maintain a high level of efficiency and innovation but, more importantly, to greatly increase the size of the Outdoor Fund and thus our capacity to permanently protect trail lands while they are still available.

This is a window of opportunity that we can take advantage of together. In my September column, I’ll talk about how innovative use of the Outdoor Fund could be the key to our success.

—Ed Goodell
Delaware Water Gap Road Still Closed

Old Mine Road in Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, from the Dewey Recreation area south to the Worthington State Forest boundary, will be closed through the summer, the National Park Service has announced. Bad weather has slowed repair work on the road, which was to have reopened in June.

Illegal Bike Trail Closed

Acting in response to two letters from the Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER), the National Park Service (NPS) has ceased advertising a trail in the undeveloped area of Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area as open to mountain bicycles. PEER pointed out that the NPS has allowed and encouraged mountain bike use on the Blue Mountain Trail since at least 1998 without having designated the trail for bikes as required by NPS regulations.

Reopening of Columbia Trail Delayed

The Hunterdon County portion of the Columbia Trail, extending from the Morris County border into High Bridge, will remain closed until December of this year. The trail, undergoing significant reconstruction, was to have reopened in May, but severe weather has hampered progress. There is a zero tolerance policy in effect for all violators of the trail closure postings, and a court summons will be issued to anyone violating this notice.

Learn Technical Rock-Work on Twin Forts Trail in July

Join TC member Ed Walsh (formerly of the paid staffs of the ADK, AMC, GMC, and MAINE ATC) for innovative trail construction and reconstruction workshops on the newly constructed Twin Forts Trail. The primary project will be to build a large stone staircase with retaining wall below the Bear Mountain Bridge near the Bear Mountain Trailside Museum.

During these workshops participants will learn how to use advanced rigging techniques to move building materials, gain experience setting a rock staircase utilizing two techniques, and build a stone retaining wall. Workshop sizes are limited for safety reasons, so sign up now to reserve your spot. For more information or to sign up, contact Josh Erdosner at the Trail Conference office 201-512-9348 or at josh@nynjtc.org.

July 12 & 13: Advanced Highline Days
(Crew size limited to 6)

Standard high/sky line techniques will be reviewed and some advanced rigging techniques will be used and taught, including the use of a tripod as a spar, extending and equalizing anchors, and belaying rocks for controlled descents.

July 14 & 15: Advanced Highline Days
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Biologist Joins TC Staff to Lead New Science Program

The Trail Conference has hired Edwin Miller McGowan to fill the new position of Volunteer Science Director on the TC staff. The Volunteer Science Director will develop a program of science that addresses the recreational ecology issues in the greater New York metropolitan region.

Trail Conference executive director Ed Goodell cites McGowan's decade-long work as a field ecologist in our region, his experience in working for a variety of governmental agencies that regulate and enforce environmental laws on trail lands, and his enthusiasm for working with volunteers as ideal credentials for the new position.

McGowan earned his Ph.D. in biology at the State University of New York at Binghamton this spring. His doctoral research was on the reproductive ecology of the timber rattlesnake (Crotalus horridus) and was sponsored by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the Nature Conservancy. In the early 1990s, McGowan conducted a year and a half ecological study of the Allegheny wood rat, New York's most endangered mammal, at the Mohonk Preserve on the Shawangunk Ridge. He has worked extensively on local ecological surveys and studies for DEC, the Nature Conservancy, the Wildlife Conservation Society, and others. He has also served as expert witness for New York State, opposing two controversial development projects in our area: Sour Mountain Reality Inc., a proposed quarry expansion on the Fishkill Ridge in the Hudson Highlands, and Ramapo Energy in Torne Valley, Rockland County.

McGowan calls himself a conservationist, avid hiker, and enthusiastic volunteer, noting that he offers his services "whenever possible, whether it be to secure grant money for a local Greenway sponsored trail project (e.g., Brooks Lake Trail in Fort Montgomery) or simply to move a rattlesnake from harms way as a member of the Nuisance Rattlesnake Responder System." He is a resident of Fort Montgomery, NY.

The Conference intends to develop a science program that will accomplish the following:

- create a volunteer-based monitoring and ecological management effort trail land managing agencies and area scientists;
- inform and support Conference activities with relevant scientific information and work with the scientific community to fill critical knowledge gaps; and
- educate the hicking community about relevant ecological and other scientific issues.

Examples of the kinds of activities envisioned include developing programs to recruit and train volunteers to monitor endangered species and their habitats, invasive exotics, and forest insect pest outbreaks, and preparing brief articles on ecological topics for the TrailWalker.

The science director is also expected to take a major role in generating funding to continue and expand the program, which has been funded in its start-up phase with lead grants from the Educational Foundation of America and the New York Community Trust.

Step Up for Bats

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) seeks volunteers to assist the Division of Fish and Wildlife's Endangered and Nongame Species Program (ENSP) in collecting important distribution and status information for bats throughout the state this summer.

In New Jersey, very little is known about the status and distribution of bats. The ENSP hopes the Summer Bat Count will document summer roosting locations throughout New Jersey and help to create an accurate range map for the state's nine species of bats. The Summer Bat Count will also help to educate the public about the importance of bats and encourage people to take steps toward their conservation.

In the spring, bats move out of their winter hibernation sites and disperse to other areas. Female bats of some species form large maternity colonies where they nurse and raise their young, while male bats roost singly or in small clusters. Summer roosts may be located in churches, barns, houses, abandoned buildings, bridges, bat boxes, or trees. The DEP is looking for volunteers who know of a summer bat roost to conduct a count of the bats as they exit at dusk to feed. The count will be conducted twice during the summer between late May and August.

To find out how you can help protect New Jersey's bats and participate in the Summer Bat Count, visit the Division of Fish and Wildlife's website at http://www.njfishandwildlife.com or contact the Endangered and Nongame Species Program at 908-735-9281 for further information.

Learn Area’s Trail Geology Using a New Virtual Field Trip Website

By Alexander Gates

A new website has been developed to provide hikers and other recreational groups with an opportunity to see a plethora of geological features when enjoying the outdoors. The website, http://harrimanrocks.rutgers.edu provides a geological hiking guide to Harriman-Bear Mountain-Sterling Forest State Park, NY. The main feature of the website is a geological map of the area on a base of the NY-NJ Trail Conference topographic hiking map. An animated geological overlay can be added to show the distribution and types of the bedrock units that occupy the part of the park that has been mapped to date. There are also a series of stories (hot zones) across the map. These stars open to detailed insets of the hiking map. The insets contain images of geological features. The images include such things as the various rock types, the many iron mines in the area, faults, folded rocks, bodies of once melted rock (plutons), glacial deposits, and fracture systems through which groundwater flows, and others. Viewers may stop with just the visual impact of the feature or they can learn the science behind it. By accepting the invitation to learn more, browsers can learn how rocks are studied as well as the state-of-the-art science of an ongoing research project on the geology of the park.

The deeper levels contain both a separate menu on the background information on geology and specific results of the current research program. Browsers may choose their level of comfort in terms of the scientific complexity by proceeding deeper into the site. Some of the concepts addressed in these levels include how the ages of rocks were determined, how the chemistry of ancient volcanic rocks can be used to determine the type of volcano it came out of, and how the magnetite (iron ore) was formed in the area.

The construction of the website is still in progress and several of the images do not yet contain the in-depth science. Many more locations will be added over the next year. There will also be programmed field trips to see certain types of features like mines, faults, or plutons. There is a form that can be filled out online requesting a permit for groups to make real-life visits to these features. There will also be a location where you may report interesting discoveries to the research team.

Other current features of the website include a geologic history of the western Hudson Highlands, cool mineral slide shows, and a glossary of geology terms. A video of the geology of the area was also produced as part of this project. Footage of the park is supplemented with clips of modern examples of features courtesy of ABC-TV and custom animations to form an entertaining presentation. We plan to make it available in streaming video from the website in the near future.

This website is designed to pique the interest of browsers enough to get them away from their computer and out on the trail. For hikers, it is intended to provide a resource to enhance the pleasure and learning experiences of your outings. It is a dynamic project, so if you have any ideas on how to make this resource even more useful, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Alexander Gates is chair of the Department of Environmental Sciences at Rutgers University and a member of the TC science advisory committee.

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Governor Pataki and Senator Lautenberg cut the ribbon at the opening of the Senator Frank Lautenberg Family Visitor Center in Sterling Forest State Park.
The Trail Conference is a volunteer pow-
erized organization. Without the dedica-
tion of its members, we would not be suc-
cessful in accomplishing our mission. Please
review the TC Volunteer Classifications
for new and interesting opportunities for
members to get involved. If you are inter-
ested in volunteering with the TC and can’t
find an opportunity that suits you, then
call the Volunteer Projects Director, Joshua
Erdanks at josh@mytc.org or 201-
512-9348, and he will find a way to
get you involved.

Marketing is defined as: “the process or technique of
selling, and distributing a product or ser-
vice.” We need your help marketing the
Trail Conference’s products and services.
Join one of the newest committees in our
83-year-old organization. This is a unique
opportunity to get involved on the ground
level! Our motivated Marketing Commiss-
ion is growing and we could use your
assistance. NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED!
There are a number of ways to get in-
volved, ranging from creating a Confer-
ence brand statement, working with the
press, marketing our guidebooks and
maps, and many more activities. Exciting
opportunities are being developed as:

- Retail Store Contact Coordinator
- Retail Sales Expansion Coordinator
- Trail Walker Advertising Manager
- Press Release Coordinator
- Publications Representative
- Advertising Coordinator
- Trail Conference Presentation Designer

Call 201-9348 for more infor-
mation about the August meeting; you
don’t want to miss it.

Tough Reputation to Uphold
Safeguard the mighty and rugged beauty
of the hiking trails in one of the nation’s
most highly touted outdoor recreation ar-
eas. The hiking trails in the Catskills have
been praised by hikers all over the world.
Help keep the praise coming. Without your
help, these magnificent trails will fall into
disrepair. Join our dedicated Catskills
Trail Committees and help keep the trails
open. Contact Josh at the TC office to make
a difference.

Fulfillment Clerk
Looking for an interesting way to stay cool
during the hot summer months? Why not
come to the Trail Conference office once
a week and assist our membership and
sales department with the processing of
membership forms and sales orders work.
Sixty percent of our income comes from
membership and sales of our books and
products. Please help us process these
important orders and memberships. Data entry
has never been more exciting! Our friendly staff
will set you up on a computer and give you
all the training you’ll need.

Harriam Nature Walks Coordinator
Every summer the TC offers nature walks
in Harriman State Park. We are looking for
an organized individual to coordinate
walk leaders and arrangements with the
park ranger at Tiorati Circle. The leaders
will be offered a training session to learn
about the plants and animals they might
see during the hike. A coordinator who
knows enough about the plants and ani-
mals to lead the training is desirable, but
we can supply a naturalist if necessary.

Save the Ridge
The Trail Conference and the Shawangunk
Ridge Coalition are looking for a summer
intern to assist project coordinator Amy
Custis. Amy is a graduate student learn-
ing the intricacies behind grass-roots advo-
cacy and participate in the Trail Conference’s
conservation advocacy efforts. If you’d like
Help Save the Ridge; contact Josh to
get involved.

Appalachian Trail Monitor
Looking to get off the beaten path? The
Orange/Rockland AT Committee needs
your help. Monitors are needed to patrol
and watch the Appalachian Trail Corridor
to protect against misuse and illegal ac-
tivities. Responsibilities include: walking
the corridor boundaries two to four times
per year, verifying boundary markers along
the corridor boundary, reporting evidence
of trespass and misuse, such as dump-
ing, logging, ATVs, etc., assist corridor
manager in handling problems discovered,
and meeting trail neighbors and easement
holders annually. Space is limited; sign
up now.

GPS Data Collectors
Volunteers are needed to hike various trails
with one of the lightweight and easy-to-
operate GPS units provided by you or
your own. We have many assignments
available throughout the region. Help
the Trail Conference produce more accurate
corridor maps and more complete lineages—
Hiking! No experience required! Please
contact John Jurasek, map chair-GPS
data coordinator at 845-365-3618 or
Jurasek@optonline.net.

TUESDAY, JULY 22, 2003, 8 P.M.
At the Trail Conference in Tent Hall, Allendale
SPECIAL EVENTS
To Our Action Fund Trustee

Robert M. Seychell

To Friends of the Palisades Interstate Park
B. Harrison Franklin, Malcolm Specter, Peter
Tilger, H. Neil Zimmerman

To Shawangunk Ridge Coalition
Robert Byrsk, Walter E. Brittt, Howard Brown &
Nancy A. Houghten-Brown, Karen G. Kouger,
Jack Persely, August Prescel, Al Shlehand,
Peter Pettitbaum & A. Lumm Fundraising Council, Rudolf J. Walter, Hedy Lee & Barbara Weska.

MEMORIAL GIFTS
In memory of Sylvia Kaplowitz: Howard Kaplowitz & Robert Gaudreau

In memory of Robert Mosk
Peter Tilger & Susan Goudin

In memory of Richard Short
Dora Rosenbach

In memory of Nick Stavans
Herbert Shulman

In memory of Marilyn Wua
Toby Appel

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allow us to add about another two miles to the trail,” he said.

The Highlands Trail

Hudson County marks the southern-most reach of the Highlands Trail. The route “swoops around in a not very straight line,” notes Bob Moss, supervisor of the trail, in order to “pick up special interest points” and to connect with existing parks. The stretch newly opened by MMC, for example, extends through the Clinton Wildlife Management Area, which is reached by walking through Spruce Run Recreation Area. Moss describes it as “an important link” that adds variety to the Highland Trail experience.

Overall, the Highlands Trail extends 160 miles from the Hudson River in Orange County, New York, in the north, to the east bank of the Delaware River in the south. Much of the route is complete, including scattered portions on blazed road walks. There are gaps, however, all in New Jersey: from Route 15 to Route 181; from Bear Pond to Lake Lackawanna; from Lake Lackawanna to Allamuchy State Park, Route 206; from the Morris Canal to Stevens State Park; from US 46 to Long Valley. While the Highlands Trail crew chips away at these gaps, the MMC is hard at work pushing the southern terminus ever southward.

The group’s members have the benefit of significant experience working with local environmental groups, both private and public. Jimenez, for example, served as chair of the Bethlehem Township Environmental Committee and is now a township committee member. Moss has been working closely with MMC, familiarizing members with the goals of the HT and teaching trail-building techniques. He lauds the group for its dedication and effectiveness. “They know what we’re trying to do with the Highlands Trail,” he says.

The planned route in this southern area takes it across many small, private parcels. “You can call it a hodge-podge, or you can call it a cooperative effort,” Moss says of the trail’s route. “It’s not like in Passaic County, where 15-20 miles of the trail may be in the Newark Watershed, which means we only needed one agreement to build all those miles. The MMC members live in their area. They can more easily approach local homeowners [to pursue conservation easements or property acquisition]. However you think of it, he says, it’s going to take a lot of work to put the pieces together.

Which is why, MMC’s Jimenez says, it’s important to celebrate such achievements as completion of a trail section. “Getting out and actually work at building a trail was something that was fun,” he says. “And we could see the results of what we were doing.”

HUNTERDON HIGHLIGHTS

The HT enters Hunterdon County from Morris County to the north by running along the Columbia Rail Trail, then connects to Voorhees State Park. After leaving Voorhees State Park, the trail crosses Route 31 and enters Hunterdon County’s Union Furnace Nature Preserve, passing historic ruins. Crossing Van Scykel’s Road, the trail enters Spruce Run Recreation Area and hugs the shore of the reservoir for about 1 mile before it enters the Clinton Wildlife Management area in Union Township.

This 1.5-mile-long section of trail winds its way through fields, old farm roads, and up the steep hillside of the densely wooded Musconetcong Mountain ridge. At the top of the mountain, hikers can enjoy the view of the reservoir before proceeding through a magnificent beech forest. The trail temporarily terminates at the pristine headwaters of the Black Brook in Bethlehem Township.

The new section Jimenez expects will be added later this fall will pick up from this point, he says. And it will have a quite different character, including significant historical interest. “There are ruins of old iron mines and the foundations of what were slave quarters. This is something you don’t see too much of in New Jersey. We’ll be looking for volunteers to help with this new section once it’s available, especially volunteers who can help research the history.”

—Georgette Weir

For additional information on the Musconetcong Mountain Conservancy visit http://www.nynjtc.org/clubpages/nmc.html

NEW LIFE MEMBER

The Trail Conference welcomes the following New Life Member: Rita Boyd.

A Life Membership in the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference is a wonderful gift to yourself or a loved one, and to the Trail Conference. An individual life membership is just $500; a joint life membership (two adults at the same address) is $750. The next time you renew, please consider becoming a Trail Conference “li-
Advocacy & Conservation continued from page 3

already expressly prohibited while staying silent on prohibiting their use on other important public lands. Proposals may surface to amend this legislation to ban ATVs in already protected areas in exchange for an agreement to allow ATV use in state forests, wildlife management, natural, and unique areas. This would be a very bad compromise for most hikers and nature lovers. Allowing ATVs access to state forests would threaten the hiking experience on the Finger Lakes Trail, the Long Path North, and the Stewart Airport buffer lands (in Orange County).

The TC-ADK Partnership does not support passage of this bill in its current form, and at present, it does not appear that the bill has sufficient support to pass either the Senate or Assembly.

Assembly bill 1136 is more comprehensive. This legislation would establish an ATV trail development and enforcement fund. Five dollars of the ATV registration fee would be deposited in the fund. A percentage of the funds would be used for the development of trails on private land. No state aid or monies could be used for ATV trail construction and maintenance on any public lands, including Forest Preserve, state parks, and state forests, under New York’s jurisdiction. The commissioner of the Office of Parks and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) would be authorized to blackball the funding for a proposed ATV trail on private land if the project represents a threat to its immediate setting or adjacent public or private lands. The commissioner must also consider if the proposed ATV trail is adjacent to recognized nature areas or wildlife habitat areas.

This legislation explicitly ensures that all state lands such as state forests, state parks, and Forest Preserve are protected from the use of state funding for ATV trail development. The bill also provides for much stricter penalties for ATV trespass, requires mandatory use of large, oversized front and back license plates, and grants authority for the arresting officer to impound the illegally used ATV. Impoundment has been a very successful law enforcement tool and deterrent to illegal ATV use in Suffolk County, Long Island. A percentage of the fund would be used to strengthen state and local law enforcement efforts against illegal ATV use. This bill is still being negotiated between the Senate and the Assembly, and the partnership is lobbying to strengthen its provisions for funding law enforcement by state and local authorities and to provide recompense from the fund for state and private lands damaged by illegal all-terrain vehicle use. The Trail Conference and ADK will work to get the strongest possible bill to protect all categories of state parks, Forest Preserve, and other DEC administered public lands.

New York’s State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is the lead agency in reviewing plans. DEC has the expertise and resources to make an effective investigation of the impacts of this proposal. Letters to encourage this status by DEC should be sent to Town Board of Mamakating, 2948 Rt. 209, Wurtsboro, NY 12790; Governor George Pataki, State Capitol, Albany, NY 12248; Marc Moran, DEC Region 3, 21 South Putt Corners Rd., New Paltz, NY 12561; and Congressman Maurice Hinchey, 291 Wall St., Kingston, NY 12401.

The Shawangunk Ridge Coalition is a project of the NY-NJ Trail Conference.

Astrowing Reserve

• New York State’s Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is the lead agency in reviewing the proposed Astrowing Reserve housing development in the Shawangunks. In April it notified developers that the project was determined to have “potential significant adverse environmental impacts.” This declaration sets in motion a series of hearings and studies that will be required of the developers as they seek approval of the project. A public scoping meeting to review the information expected to be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the project had not been set as of the deadline for this issue. The Astrowing Reserve would construct 350 homes and a golf course adjacent to Minnewaska State Park and Sam’s Point Preserve.

• In June, more than 60 percent of the
Member Club Challenge Grant Supports ORV/ATV Enforcement

The Morris Trails Conservancy (MTC)—a New York-New Jersey Trail Conference member club—challenges other TC member clubs to support enforcement of off-road and all-terrain vehicle (ORV and ATV) regulations by contributing an equal fund for New Jersey park rangers. MTC has voted to put $1,000 as a challenge grant to TC’s other 87 clubs. The Conservancy will contribute $1,000 if the other clubs will contribute the balance. A quick check shows that NY-NJTC member clubs list about 100,000 members; $3,000 amounts to about three cents for each club member.

In both New York and New Jersey, there are laws and regulations designed to control the use of these vehicles and to keep them out of many parks and preserves, where their use destroys footpaths and results in swaths of ruts, mud, and crushed vegetation. Of course, state budgets being what they are, park rangers in both states are hard-pressed for funds to carry out their basic tasks. There is too little time or money available to fully support the patrolling that is needed to enforce regulations regarding ORVs and ATVs.

Part of New Jersey’s response to the problem is the deployment of a Special Operations Team to carry out maximum enforcement of the laws and regulations governing the vehicles, especially to keep them off hiking trails, and to prevent off-roaders from tearing up the landscape. In 2000, a 16-member team was recruited among Rangers in the Northern Region of the New Jersey State Park system. Working in plain clothes, the team targets specific areas where off-road activity has been reported. At least once a month the team carries out raids or sweeps areas of suspected activity. The operations are planned and organized under very tight security. Most often when the team sets off on an operation, only the team leader knows the target area. When off-roaders are caught in violation, they face heavy fines and confiscation of their vehicles.

The members of the Special Operations Team have been providing much of their own clothing and equipment, and it has proved difficult at times to find the proper safety gear. This problem came up a few months ago in a conversation between Douglas Duncan, a member of the Morris Trails Conservancy, and the chief ranger at Ringwood State Park, Melissa Brown. First on the list of needs are helmets. Helmets cost about $250 each; 16 helmets would cost $4,000.

NY-NJTC has set up a special ORV Action Fund to receive contributions to this project from our member clubs. Contact Jim Davis at the TC office (jfdavis@nyjunjc.org; telephone 201-512-9548) for more information about the ORV Action Fund.

ATV Roundup at Delaware Water Gap

National Park Service (NPS) Rangers recently conducted a special operation aimed at curtailing illegal all-terrain vehicle (ATV) use in the Appalachian Trail corridor running through the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area.

The enforcement (termed Operation ATV), included concentrated patrols by NPS Rangers in the Mount Misery area, which has been severely impacted by off-road travel by ATVs, dirt bikes, and even SUVs.

The trespass included illegal camping, fires, and parties.

Brazen riders had cut access lanes where no roads had previously existed. Boulders and trees used to block access were repeatedly removed by the trespassers and six government locks were cut off various gates. New trails were blazed along the Appalachian Trail, about two miles west of the Delaware River. The motorized riders even rode on the AT itself. During the operation, very few were able to escape the NPS Rangers. Twenty violation notices were issued for offenses including: travel off designated routes, public intoxication, contributing to the delinquency of minors, destruction of natural resources, and illegal camping and fires.

The NPS operation continues. Access points have been reblocked; riders continue to be cited for violations. Fines range from $100 to a maximum of $5,000 and the NPS Rangers have the authority to impound vehicles. When the Appalachian Trail is threatened, National Park Service Rangers get tough.

Open Space Activities Land Tax Exemption

The Trail Conference and ADK have been opposing the passage of legislation in New York State that would strip nonprofit and land trusts of real property tax exemptions for lands held by them for conservation and public recreational purposes. If this legislation passes, the state might lose the assistance of partners like the Open Space Institute and the Nature Conservancy, and the public might lose access to trails on lands held by for-profit land trusts and organizations such as the Trail Conference and ADK.

Adirondack Peaks Land Bought

Outside our region but not beyond the interests of many New York-New Jersey hikers is news from the Adirondacks that 10,000 acres in the High Peaks has been purchased by the Open Space Institute (OSI) from the National Lead Corporation. The state is expected to buy 6,000 acres of the Tahawus-Upper Works tract and add it to the High Peaks Wilderness Area. Of the remaining 4,000 acres, approximately 3,000 acres will be managed as a working forest and several hundred acres comprising the historic Village of Adirondack will be managed as an historic district.

This magnificent tract is a mixture of rugged mountains like Mount Adams and two other peaks over 2000 feet with potential views as well as nine undeveloped lakes and ponds including 2.2 miles of undeveloped shoreline on Henderson Lake and the Preston Ponds. The property also includes the Opalescent River and Calamity Brook, headwaters of the Hudson River.

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assignments of other volunteer maintainers. He became Dick's assistant, then stepped up to co-chair with him the North Jersey trails committee. “I get a lot of job offers,” he says with a quiet laugh.

John, who lives in Glen Rock, NJ, has been hiking since the mid-1980s. He retired from a career in advertising and graphic arts. He admits that his subsequent career as trails volunteer is quite different — “and I’m glad of it. I thoroughly enjoy hiking. It’s far better to be out hiking rather than sitting behind a desk. I find myself much healthier and with a much better outlook on life.”

John continues to work with Dan Chazin, collecting data for the next edition of the New Jersey Walk Book. “I did most of the measuring for Map 21,” he says of the map that covers Wawayanda and Long Pond Ironworks State Parks and Norvin Green and Abram S. Hewitt State Forests—about 300 miles of trails, he says in answer to a question. “It got me familiar with the area I’m supervising.”

In 2002, John helped oversee 153 maintainers who contributed over 2,000 hours of work; 644 of those hours were his own time, devoted to both state and county park lands. John’s dedication and effectiveness did not go unnoticed, and this year the Division of Parks and Forestry of the State of New Jersey named him 2002 Volunteer of the Year.

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“John is a tremendous asset to the Trail Conference,” says trails director Larry Wheelock. “This award is well deserved and long overdue. I wish all of the volunteers would have the same outlook on life.”

A Short Hike to Great Views
by Ed Hayes

My favorite hike is on the trails near my home. It helps maintain, the Alander Brook and South Taconic Trails. One reason that I volunteered for the maintenance work is to make sure that I visit these trails at least twice each year.

From the start of the Alander Brook Trail at Undermountain Road in Columbia County, New York (off of Route 22), to the summit of Alander Mountain in Massachusetts is only 2.3 miles. However, the trails afford a variety of woods road, steep uphill, and open ridge walking that I love.

This is a short hike to great views: Brace Mountain and the bucolic Harlem Valley.

GET TO KNOW THE TACONIC RIDGE ALONG THE NEW YORK, CONNECTICUT, MASSACHUSETTS BORDER

to the south, the Catskills and verdant Columbia County farmland to the west, and the ridge formed by Bear Mountain in Connecticut and Mount Race and Mount Everett in Massachusetts to the east. Turkey vultures soaring on the air currents over the ridge are a delight I never tire of watching; this sight is rarely denied a hiker on the southern end of Alander Mountain.

Much of the Alander Brook Trail is on an old farm road that also serves as a snowmobile trail. Follow the blue blazes past the red-blazed Robert Brook Trail, which diverges to the right shortly after the trailhead. After crossing Alander Brook, the trail makes a right turn and climbs steeply. It regains the farm road and continues to the junction with the South Taconic Trail. Make a left turn and follow the white-blazed South Taconic Trail through the woods, up a steep portion and onto the open ridge which leads to the summit of Alander Mountain. If you do not turn left at the junction of the Alander Brook and South Taconic Trails, you will be on the southern end of South Taconic Trail, which follows the farm road and will take you to Brace Mountain.

Most of the hikers I meet at the summit of Alander Mountain come up the Alander Mountain Trail from Mount Washington State Park headquarters in Massachusetts or from New York State Route 344 near BashBish Falls.

An easy loop of about 5 miles is to return to the summit of Alander Mountain via the Alander Loop, South Taconic, and Robert Brook Trails. The upper part of the Alander Loop Trail, which is in Massachusetts, was overgrown last fall. The New York-New Jersey Trail Conference maintains the trails in New York but not in Connecticut and Massachusetts.

A longer loop of about 11 miles can be hiked by continuing north from Alander Mountain on the South Taconic Trail (white blazes) for about 3.75 miles to New York State Route 344. A short walk west along Route 344 brings one to the former railroad station at Copake Falls, which is now a convenience store where food is available. From there, a 4-mile walk south on the paved Harlem Valley Rail Trail brings one back to Undermountain Road.

From the summit of Alander Mountain, the Alander Brook Trail can be on the southbound South Taconic Trail near Brace Mountain.

Trails in the South Taconics are described in the New York Walk Book, which contains a map that is also published separately by the NY-NJ Trail Conference.

The South Taconics is a beautiful area that is easily accessible from New York and other urban areas. The hiking trails in the New York portion are well maintained by volunteers working under the direction of the Trail Conference. It is a pleasure to contribute to this effort.

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FOR ALL SEASONS

GET TO KNOW THE TACONIC RIDGE ALONG THE NEW YORK, CONNECTICUT, MASSACHUSETTS BORDER
SATURDAY, JULY 26


Saturday, July 26


SUNDAY, JULY 27


SUNDAY, JULY 27

WTA. Appalachian Trail. Leader: Jessica O’Rourke, 917-476-0068. Meet: 9 AM to 10 AM; hike to Cathedral Ledge. Easy 6-8 miles. Meet Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market St., Suffern, 8 AM. Inclement weather date, following Monday.

THURSDAY, JULY 31


MARCH

SATURDAY, MARCH 15


SATURDAY, JUNE 1

CDNY Dancephone: 212-459-4080

MARCH

SATURDAY, MARCH 15


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

More than 65 clubs belong to the Trail Conference, and many of our affiliate group sponsors hikes not listed in the Hikers’ Almanac. For a descriptive list of Conference clubs, consult our Web site or send a SASE to the NY-NJ Trail Conference.

Club Codes

Only those clubs with hikes offered in this issue are listed below. Please call numbers listed to confirm.

Adirondack Mountain Club - Ramapo Chapter
FVTW
Forest Valley Trailwalkers
GACH
German-American Hiking Club
IC
Interrat Hiking Club
MRT
Mirror Ski Club

Join the volunteers who bring you the great outdoors!

1500 miles of trails and counting; our volunteers help us expand our horizons.

Included with membership, Trail Walker, 10% discount on purchases at most outdoor stores, and 20% discount on all Trail Conference maps and books.

Support the work of the NY/NJ Trail Conference with your membership.

Membership Level

Individual $25
Joint/Family $33
Sponsor $50
Benefactor $100
Senior/Student $18
Life $750

Name
Address
City State Zip
Day Phone Evening Phone
E-MAIL
Check or money order enclosed Visa Mastercard
Annex Card #
Exp Date:

Make check or money order payable to the NY-NJ Trail Conference, and mail to: 156 Ramapo Valley Road, Mahwah, NJ 07430.

Tax-deductible.

JULY

SATURDAY, JULY 5

UCIC. Watching Reservation, Mountainaire. Leader: Ellie King, 609-233-0141. Meet: 10 am at Trailside Nature and Science Center parking lot, Coles Ave. at New Providence Rd. Steady but moderate pace; 4 hours depending on weather. Rollar coaster.


SUNDAY, JULY 6


PPGW. Loretta Conservation Area Walk. Leader: Dominick Durso, Cumberland 8:30 am, 718-987-2307. Meet: 10 am; call for location. 2 mile walk along the hillside below the lodge to enjoy the great ocean views and summer flowers.

WTA. Old Croton Aqueduct. Leader: Marcia Oser, 914-479-3274. Meet: 10 am; call leader for location. Easy 4 miles on the hilly terrain; we'll walk from Staten Island to the Croton Dam (for the optional lunch). Fee $10.

PMNHA. Lake Valhalla Overlook. Leader: Call 973-334-3130 for information. Meet: 10 am at Pyramid Mountain National Historic Area Visitors Center, 4724 Bouman Ave., Montville Township. Moderate hike on Turkey Mountain.

UCIC. Garrett Mountain, Patterson. Leader: Peter Whiff, 973-238-6069. Meet: 10 am at Lambert Castle, Clifton. Following a steep climb, we will walk at a moderate pace along the periphery of the park, enjoying views including famous Patterson Falls. Optional visit to create an Indian/Patterson District Historical interpreters. Rain cancels. Leading leadership at the vistas.

MONDAY, JULY 7

RWN. Lake Aveonizing circular. For information call 908-255-0014. Spectacular 18-mile round-robin walk around at Lake Aveonizing: 10 miles, 7 hours. Meet: Sawyers Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market St., Saugerties, 8 am. Inclement weather date, following Monday Night. Parking fee for about 15 per car of NY/NJ Forest Preserve users is the cost.

FVTW. Gaylder, South Mountain Reservation. For information call 973-280-2012. Easy walk, 5 miles, following the Red Trail up a gentle hill, over the crag, and back.

MONDAY, JULY 14


TUESDAY, JULY 15

WTA. Bedford Bridge Paths. Leader: Stewart Manville, 914-582-1237. Meet: 10 am; call leader for location. Easy 4 miles on variety of mostly shady paths, such as Pocoamic Farm; Fee $2.

THURSDAY, JULY 17

FVTW. Korun Circular, Harriman State Park. Leader: Jim & Thoran McKinley, 908-518-0710. Meet: 10 am at Red Apple Restaurant on Rt. 17, South Nyack. Park in rear. $5 miles; moderately strenuous hikes.

SUNDAY, JULY 19

WTA. Croton Aqueduct North. Leader: Ellie Caine, 914-569-1708. Meet: 10 am; call leader for location. Moderate 5.6 miles with some gentle hills. Steady walk from Sleepy Hollow to Rockefeller State Park and the 13 Bridges Trail. Transportation may be arranged from North White Plains.


TUESDAY, JULY 22


IC. Bearkatyn or Bust. Leader: Jim Hoy, 201-405-9950. Meet: 9 am at Seekers Park Area. Snow Lake Dr., Harriman State Park, NY. Moderately strenuous hike on the Minnewaska trail and some unmarked trails; see George’s and Giv’s gravestones and Hippo Rock. Rain cancels.


UCIC. South Mountain Reservation. Leader: Louise White, 973-740-4319 (9 am - 5 pm only). Meet: 10 am at Turbeville Road, parking area in West Orange (Wallace Rd., near corner of Northfield Ave.). We will enjoy a short hike of 4 – 5 miles on this orange trail with some rough spots in this newly wooded area and also tour Turbeville Rock.

TUESDAY, JULY 20


TUESDAY, JULY 21

WTA. Bedford Bridge Paths. Leader: Stewart Manville, 914-582-1237. Meet: 10 am; call leader for location. Easy 4 miles on variety of mostly shady paths, such as Pocoamic Farm; Fee $2.

continued on page 11