



80th Anniversary Year

TRAIL WALKER

NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY TRAIL CONFERENCE...MAINTAINING OVER 1300 MILES OF FOOT TRAILS MARCH/APRIL 2000

A DEAL IS STRUCK! More Land Protected in Sterling Forest

The second round of negotiations with Sterling Forest LLC has come to a close. New York State Governor George Pataki announced that 1,350 acres will be added to Sterling Forest State Park; 1,100 acres will be purchased and another 250 acres will have a conservation easement placed on them. On February 7 at a press conference in the Bear Mountain Inn, Governor Pataki said the latest purchase from the Corporation will cost \$8 million; the Governor has committed \$4 million from New York State toward this latest acquisition. Governor Whitman has committed \$1 million, and the balance is being sought from the Federal government and private sources. Additionally, it was announced that 650 acres were bought from New York University and 200 acres from Mr. B. Sears Hunter, a private landowner near Greenwood Lake.

In making the announcement about these new acquisitions to Sterling Forest State Park, now the largest park in New York at 19,000 acres, Governor Pataki stated, "this latest acquisition is for the children of the 21st century." The Governor spoke before representatives from the Public/Private Partnership and a class of elementary students from nearby Fort Montgomery School. Ralph Odell, Director of New York State Natural Resource Protection, noted "the second most exciting thing today is having these children here to witness this history that will so affect their generation." Bernadette Castro, Commissioner of State Parks, Recreation and Historical Preservation, compared Governor Pataki's legacy in land conservation to that of President Teddy




A view of Sterling Lake from the Sterling Ridge Trail.

Roosevelt.

Gary Haugland, President of the Trail Conference, stated "all these nearly 2,200 acres make a wonderful addition to this wildlands within our metropolitan area, but our work is not done until we have protected the remaining acreage. Executive Director Jan Hesbon, who is also President of Sterling Forest Partnership, also expressed his elation and noted, "We want to continue the negotiation until we save the entire heart of Sterling Forest."

In addition to thanking Governor

Pataki for his leadership, both Haugland and Hesbon are especially grateful to JoAnn and Paul Dolan, saying, "this acquisition today is a continuation of the Dolans' dream and a testament to the wisdom of their vision more than 15 years ago."

The New York-New Jersey Trail Conference has been at work on its first map of Sterling Forest, and with these latest parcels now confirmed, the map is projected to be completed for sale in spring of this year. 

Baier Foundation Gift Assures Continuance of Long Path and Highlands Trail Project

The Marie Baier Foundation has recently made a third gift—of \$40,000—to the Trail Conference. Each of these gifts has been designated for trail lands protection in the Appalachian Countryside, for our Long Path and Highlands Project. One of JoAnn Dolan's last duties as Executive Director was to formally thank the Foundation. JoAnn wrote,

"We are so grateful to begin this landmark year with funding to support our most critical projects. After years of negotiations on parcels for the Long Path North, we see 2000 as the time to complete a complex land protection of trail stretch involving 14 parcels. We will be better equipped to address trail issues in New Jersey and work effectively with our state agency partners in protecting a trail and greenway corridor with the Baier funds used to match other gifts. Additionally, we are working with land trusts to protect critical viewshed lands for the Appalachian Trail. The year 2000 is a symbolic turning point for where we are headed in the next century for future generations."

Thanks to the Baier Foundation's previous gifts, the expansion of the Long Path and the Highlands Trail has continued. John Myers, Trail Lands Consultant for the Trail Conference, stated, "it has been a slow year for acquisitions, but a signifi-

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Annual Trail Maintenance Workshop to be offered

April 29th, Harriman Park

The New York-New Jersey Trail Conference will conduct its annual trail maintenance and construction workshop (from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM) on Saturday, April 29th at the Silvermine Picnic Area in Harriman-Bear Mountain State Park.

Conference club and individual members, as well as non-members who are interested in acquiring or upgrading a working knowledge of trail construction/maintenance, are welcome to attend. There will be lectures indoors and field work on hiking trails in Harriman Park. Advance registration is required and class size is limited. Non-members of the Trail Conference must include a \$4 per person regis-

tration fee, which will be credited toward first year membership dues if you join the Conference at the workshop. Take home materials and a participant certificate will be provided.

The day is scheduled to begin with bagels and coffee/tea at 8:30 A.M., lectures begin at 9:00 A.M. to be followed by discussions and field work. At 3:30 P.M. all participants will return for group socializing and certificate distribution. The workshop will be held rain or shine.

You may register for one of the following three courses:

Maintenance "101." This session provides training in basic techniques, maintenance

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DIGITAL MAPPING IS HERE!



The TC's first digitally produced trail map—of Sterling Forest—is on the way. For our next digital mapping projects, we need

volunteers for both digital cartography, which requires a high-end PC, and for GPS measuring on week-days.

See page 3 for main article.

TRAIL WALKER

Volume XXVII, No. 2 March/April 2000

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The TRAIL WALKER (ISSN 0749-1352) is published bi-monthly by the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference as a benefit of membership. Of membership dues, \$4 is allocated to a one-year subscription. Subscriptions are available to libraries only at \$15.00 a year. Periodical postage paid at New York, NY. **Postmaster:** Send address changes to the address below. Opinions expressed by authors do not necessarily represent the policy or position of the Conference. Contributions of typed manuscripts, photos and drawings are welcome. Manuscripts may be edited for style and length. Send SASE for writers' guidelines. Submission deadlines for the TRAIL WALKER are February 1 (Mar./Apr. Issue), April 1 (May/June issue), June 1 (July/Aug. Issue), August 1 (Sept./Oct. Issue), October 1 (Nov./Dec. Issue), December 1 (Jan./Feb. Issue). Unsolicited contributions cannot be acknowledged unless accompanied by SASE. For information on advertising rates, please write or call.

Copyright 2000 by:
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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...

Reading the Trail

I just love maps. I have all the Trail Conference maps (including some older editions that I have to be careful not to pack when I go hiking!). And I confess I subscribe to *National Geographic* mostly for their maps. And I love those rolled-up topo maps, too—their very greenness invites exploration. The Trail Conference publishes lots of great map sets and guidebooks, each showing hiking trails as lines, squiggly lines that criss-cross blue stream lines and ascend tightly crowded elevation lines to reach starry viewpoints where the lines form concentric circles. When you look at a map then, if you have been there before, you can reminisce, and if not, you have enough information for your imagination to take over. Either way, it is a fine thing to really be able to read the lines on a map.

But trails are more than lines on a map, however well drawn. Trails are best experienced as living entities. Maintainers know “their trail” is alive. When they return to the same places time after time, they see that the trail has changed, that something new has sprung up, something old has fallen down. When they return in different seasons, they experience changes. They deliberately set out to see that patch of mountain laurel in bloom, to pick the juicy blueberries, to hear the songbirds in distant trees, or to follow the chipmunks scurrying to the stone wall. And in the autumn when fallen leaves obscure the footpath, vistas open up to reveal a world grander than the microcosm of their trail. They know how to read the trail.

The trails that Trail Conference volunteers maintain must meet standards of excellence and responsibility. The standards of excellence are easy. We have a

great little trail maintenance manual; we have experienced and knowledgeable trail supervisors and trail crews; we have special tools and equipment and run workshops that teach how to use them. We use paint and plastic discs and stone cairns to guide the way. We strive to keep those narrow swaths of trail clear and well blazed so that hundreds even thousands of hikers can easily follow them.

From now on we will be paying close attention to improving the maintenance standards for our trails. We will be monitoring trail conditions and aesthetics, and we will keep our land partners better informed. The standards for responsible stewardship are a bit harder. Currently concerns are being expressed to us that our trails may be harmful to the ecosystems through which they pass, however low impact we may think they are.

There is even talk of closing some trails - maybe seasonally, maybe permanently - to allow the environment to recover. Threats to the life that surrounds the trail must be given serious consideration. We will be initiating an educational program to better inform our volunteers about biodiversity and habitat fragmentation.

And so I challenge us all to “read” our trails a little better this year, to pay close attention to wetlands and threatened species and the impact of large numbers of hikers - not to mention harm from bikes and motorized vehicles. It will not be easy, but we will be working to develop standards for this aspect of trail work as well. We have always prided ourselves on being good stewards of our trail lands. Now we must be certain that others see us that way as well.

—Gary Haugland

L · E · T · T · E · R

Honoring Frank Oliver

A bill has been introduced in the New Jersey Assembly to honor one of our region's foremost trailbuilders, the late Frank Oliver.

When what is now Ramapo Mountain State Forest near Oakland was acquired by the State, Frank spent many retirement years researching the route of the historic Cannonball Trail, so significant in the Revolutionary War. He, in fact, laid out and marked most of the trails in the forest. When the Cannonball Trail was cut in two by the construction of Interstate 287, Frank would not rest until he persuaded the State to reconnect the severed parts with the bridge that we now hope to have re-named in his memory.

Assembly Joint Resolution 33 would designate the Cannonball Pedestrian Bridge over I-287 the “Frank Oliver Pedestrian Bridge.” Introduced by Assemblywoman Loretta Weinberg of Teaneck, the bill is now in committee, and the committee chairman is waiting to hear how much support there is for it.

Please write to him, Hon. John C. Gibson, Chairman, Assembly Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee, 14 Route 50, Suite A, Seaville, NJ 08230, and strongly express your support for this resolution and timely favorable action by the committee.

Thank you for helping to honor a sterling individual.

Jack Driller, Ridgewood, NJ
Mary Sive, Montclair, NJ

\$9.35M infusion for N.J. open land preservation

In December 1999, the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation announced that it will provide nearly \$10 million in grants for open-space preservation in New Jersey over the next four years.

The New York-based foundation will give the bulk of the grants - \$8.4 million - to The Nature Conservancy and the Trust for Public Land to buy land or conservation easements in the Highlands, Pine Barrens, and Barnegat Bay regions, with the goal of preserving at least 10,000 acres in Bergen, Passaic, Morris, Sussex, Warren, Ocean, and Burlington counties.


Maureen Ogden, chair of the Garden State Preservation Trust, hailed this news as a vital infusion of funds to augment the \$1.5 billion Green Acres bonding plan

approved by voters last year - all of which focuses on achieving Governor Whitman's goal of preserving 1 million acres of forests, wetlands and farmlands over the next decade.

The two recipient groups seek parcels that form greenways, protect watersheds, and add to existing parklands and farms with conservation easements.

The Trust for Public Land, a San Francisco-based non-profit organization with regional offices in Morristown and New York has helped to purchase about 11,000 acres in New Jersey in the past two decades, including 3,400 acres that are now part of Bergen County's Ramapo Mountain Reservation. The Nature Conservancy, based in Arlington, Va., has a

regional office in Chester, and has helped to preserve more than 42,000 acres in New Jersey since 1955, including High Mountain in Wayne.

Before Duke's death in 1993 at age 80, the tobacco heiress maintained an estate in Hillsborough, Somerset County. Her will left about \$1.5 billion to create charities to advance her interests in the arts, environmental protection, and medical research. In 1997, The Duke Foundation contributed \$5 million to the public-private partnership that purchased Sterling Forest. In 1991 Duke donated 1,000 acres to The Nature Conservancy to preserve a rare boreal forest—usually found near the arctic—called Mashipacong Bogs in Sussex County. 

The Next Generation Challenge: "Green Bond" the Children in Your Life

Grown-ups, are you taking the children in your life—of whatever age—hiking? It's a priceless way to experience the world of open spaces, and share an intimate time together. Start the new millennium on the "right foot" by deciding to take the children you know hiking.

You can hike together by yourselves, or, in the New York/New Jersey metropolitan area, take advantage of the many opportunities for guided hike programs, combining hiking with learning, at parks

and nature centers. Below is a beginning list of ideas for you to implement the Green Bonding challenge in YOUR life.

Editor's note: *There are more events and programs than shown below. Call each park for more details, because the Trail Walker's deadlines are much earlier than the parks' schedules are available.*



* Free, guided "Hikes of the Month" at Sterling Forest State Park

Saturdays, March 18 and April 15

Head off to Mombasha High Point on March 18 with staff of Sterling Forest State Park. This hike is a moderate, 2 mile round trip which includes a 400 foot climb. Then, on April 15, come out for a journey on the Indian Hill Loop Trail. This hike is 3 miles long with a total elevation gain of 750 feet. It is rated difficult because of the uneven terrain and sometimes rocky trails.

As always, there will be stops along the way to enjoy the view and discuss the natural and historical features of the landscape.

The "Hike of the Month" is free but registration is required. All participants should meet at the Sterling Forest State Park Information Center on Route 17, just south of Route 17A, in Tuxedo, New York, at 11AM. To register, or for more information call 914-351-5907.

Sterling Forest State Park also has a Family Nature Series, which usually includes hands-on activities and an easy hike.



* History hikes and/or treks—from easy to difficult—are offered in the New Jersey Palisades section of the Palisades Interstate Park. For a full listing of all PIP-NJ events, call the Park at 201-768-0379 or visit its web site at www.undercliff.com.

Saturday, April 1

April Fool's Hike. Moderate hike, from 10 AM to 2 PM. Meet at Blackledge-Kearny House at Alpine Boar Basin. \$4. parking per car. Free admission.

Sunday, April 30

Pickletown. Moderate hike, from 11 AM to 2 PM. Meet at north parking lot, beyond Englewood Boat Basin. \$4. parking per car. Free admission.



* Minnewaska State Park Preserve

Saturday, March 18 Nature Hike: Spring Equinox Exploration. Moderate, starts at 1 PM.

Saturday, April 1 Nature Hike: Rainbow Falls. Moderate, 10 AM to 3 PM.

Saturday, April 8 Nature Hike: Gertrude's Nose. Strenuous. \$5 parking per car.

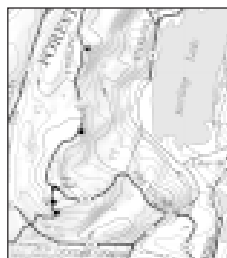
Saturday, April 22 Family Hike: Earth Day Meander. Easy, 10 AM to 12 noon. \$5 parking per car.

All Minnewaska programs are free, but require advance registration. Call 914-255-2011 for details and to register.

A calendar of events in Harriman-Bear Mountain, Sterling Forest State Park, Minnewaska State Park Preserve, and the Trailside Museum and Nature Center is available. Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Special Events, c/o Palisades Interstate Park Commission, Bear Mountain, NY 10911.

Trail Conference developing all-digital, computerized trail maps

Even more things are changing at the Trail Conference: first a new president, then a new executive director, and now, in the second quarter of 2000, the first all-digital Trail Conference-produced map—of Sterling Forest—will be available.



What will make the Sterling Forest map different from the other maps the Trail Conference publishes? Visible and invisible changes: shaded relief to give 3-dimensions to the map, more accuracy to the trails' location due to improved field checking equipment, and the way in which the map was put together.

Since 1975, the Trail Conference has used United States Geographical Survey (USGS) topographic maps as the base for its hiking maps. Many of the USGS maps are so old that we need to make numerous corrections to update them for our use. Additionally, the cartographic process involved is painstakingly tedious and time-consuming: each color requires a separate layer to be drawn, and the map information is added and subtracted layer by layer.

Within the last four years, computer programs for both drawing and digital technology have improved so much that

it is now possible to produce a high-quality map completely by computer. Instead of starting with data that first needs correcting, the Trail Conference can now start from available electronic data which is accurate and complete. For example, digital elevation maps (DEMs) show the land's elevation on a 10 meter grid measured from aerial photographs. This information is then used in two different computer programs. One creates the shaded relief which interprets the land's slopes onto a map. The other draws contour lines at a selected interval; in the case of our upcoming Sterling Forest map, at 50 feet intervals. The USGS also produces digital line graphs (DLG's) which have features such as roads and streams recorded as line segments with lengths, directions and feature codes. All these programs are integrated to produce the base map on which the trails can be overlaid.

Locating the trails is now done electronically, too. In November 1999, thanks to partial funding from a Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley grant, the Trail Conference was able to purchase a commercial-grade global positioning system (GPS). The readings the GPS collects while its operator is hiking a trail can be corrected to an accuracy of 2-5 meters.

Over the next few years, the Trail Conference will gradually switch its maps' production process to this more accurate and easily-updated digital technique.

Volunteers Needed. *Training will be provided. Call the office 212-685-9699 or e-mail nynjtc@aol.com. More details about GPS and digital cartography are available at <http://www.nynjtc.org/news/sfmap.html>.*

HEALTH HINTS FOR HIKERS

By Albert Rosen, M.D.

The Tricky Ticks

A recent issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine* reported a case of a young girl who experienced a flaccid paralysis. In one day she was unable to walk and her condition worsened requiring supplemental oxygen. A tentative diagnosis of Guillain-Barre syndrome, which can be life-threatening, was made.

As astute pediatrician who was aware that tick paralysis can be mistaken for Guillain-Barre syndrome, looked for a tick. Using a fine-tooth comb, he found a 15 mm engorged tick on the scalp which he removed with tweezers. The tick was identified as *Dermacentor Variabilis* (a common dog tick) which is associated with Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever. Recovery was as rapid as the onset. In one day the patient's paralysis disappeared.

There are about 60 different ticks that can cause this paralysis but in the United States only the dog tick and the wood tick are causes. The paralysis is caused by a neurotoxin secreted by the tick. It is a rare disease usually seen in children up to 12 years of age. Although all the literature deals with children, adults who weigh around 100-pounds can also be susceptible. The reason is that the larger the body mass, the less chance for getting the disease.

If you happen to develop a flaccid paralysis in 24 hours and are diagnosed as having Guillain-Barre syndrome, ask your doctor to examine your scalp with a fine-tooth comb and tweezers. It may save you thousands of dollars in medical bills.



TRAIL NEWS

Palisades Interstate Park Commission trains volunteer chainsawers

On December 4th, Palisades Interstate Park Commission Ranger Ron Peters conducted a one-day Chainsaw Safety Workshop at Silvermine Lodge in Harriman-Bear Mountain State Park for 22 Conference maintainers, who are now qualified to operate chainsaws in the park.

The training was needed on an emergency basis. Due to the extremely high volume of blow-downs as a result of the combination of the summer 1999 drought followed by Hurricane Floyd, park staff needed a greater degree of help in clearing the trails with chainsaws.

Paul Carment, Jack Driller, Ilse Dunham, Wayne Foote, Jay Gordon, Ray Lascot, Al Leigh, Paul Leikin, Martin Kavanagh, Eric Maier, Roy Messaros, Don Morgan, Robert Nebiolo, Hank Perrine, Peter Reilly, Iz Schiffman, Bruce Shriber, Ike Siskind, Volker Stern, Chris Tausch, Edward Wilson and George Wardley responded to the call for help.

Due to the high attendance at the first workshop, and continued member interest in this type of training in response to the clean-up need, another PIPC-sponsored chainsaw workshop will be offered on April 29 as a part of the Conference's annual Trail Maintenance Workshop. (See page 10 for details and registration form.)

We hope now to be able to field our own chainsaw task force to clear all but the most difficult blow-downs.

NJ Appalachian Trail Management Agreement renewed

The NY-NJ Trail Conference, the Appalachian Trail Conference, the NJ Department of Environmental Protection, the NJ Department of Transportation, the National Park Service/AT Park Office, and the U.S. Fish, and Wildlife Service/Wallkill National Wildlife Refuge have all signed the renewal of the statewide agreement for the administration and management of the AT. The agreement is valid for 10 years and describes specific working relationships amongst these "Trail Partners."

For the first time the agreement includes the Wallkill National Wildlife Refuge, established while the previous agreement was in force. To the best of our knowledge, the Wallkill Refuge is the only wildlife refuge the AT crosses in its 2,150 miles. Thus, the cooperation of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is integral to the preservation and enhancement of the AT experience, offering a rare opportunity for hikers to view wildlife, especially waterfowl.

Trail Supervisor training held

The New Year began with a volunteer training workshop held on January 8 for Trail Conference trail supervisors, both current and potential. Jack Driller, Tom Dunn, Jakob Franke, Jim Gregoire, John Grob, Pete Heckler, Bruce Meyer, Joe Moreng, Chet Morris, Bob Moss, Don Myers, Laura Newgard, Jeannine Pinto, Glenn Rogers, Gretchen VandeWalle, Dick Warner, and Larry Wheelock attended the workshop held at Weis Ecology Center (NJ), which started out as a formal training session but ended up a lively forum and exchange of ideas. The supervisors and trails committee chairmen shared their experiences working with maintainers, solving problems, and interacting with park partners. Participants received a *Trail Management Guide* notebook holding all pertinent information, how-to-tips, and Y2K compliance forms. As John Grob, Conference trail supervisor for Morristown National Historical Park said, "This notebook is the answer to my dreams. Now ALL the supervisor information I need is in one handy place."

Thanks to Conference Vice President and East Hudson Trails Chair Jane Daniels who facilitated the workshop, and to assistant trainers Walt Daniels, Bob Jonas, and John Magerlein. Jeannine Pinto and Gretchen VanderWalle handled refreshments.

Following the supervisor training, an introduction to using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit, led by Walt Daniels, was offered in the field.

Reminder: Long Path Section in Shawangunks Closed

The section of the Long Path from the western end of Mud Pond to its junction with the High Point Trail (see the *Trail Conference's Shawangunk Trails map #9, grid C-3, shown below*) has been closed by the landowner. Please do not trespass on this private land. Discussions are still underway about a possible relocation. When a reroute is established, notice will be published in the *Trail Walker*, and noted on our website at www.njnyc.org.



1999 Activities of the West Hudson Trail Crew

Our 1999 trail activities began in early March with scouting, inspection and some detail work on the Ramapo-Dunderberg and the 1777 trails in Harriman State Park, and the Indian Hill Trail in Sterling Forest State Park. But our *real* work began in earnest in early April.

Harriman-Bear Mountain State Park

The Timp-Torne Trail on the Torne has a fine new rock staircase above Mine Road, and work was started on the steep slope on the other side of the road. With six work trips the relocation of the Ramapo-Dunderberg Trail on the Timp advanced with the removal of blowdowns, brushcutting, and by the placing of rock steps, retaining walls, scree walls, sidehilling and drainage crossings. A rock staircase on the Timp-Torne in Timp Pass was also completed.

Three work trips to the Cornell Mine Trail brought about a relocation of approximately 400 feet of trail including 100 feet of sidehilling with rock steps and scree walls. A staircase was completed on another section of the trail and stepping rocks were placed to bridge a stream and a wet area.

On the Arden-Surebridge Trail on Green Pond Mountain, hikers will find the accent easier on a fine new staircase near "the cave" where rock retaining walls were also placed. Sidehilling, brush cutting and blowdown removal was completed on a relocation of about 400 feet of trail. We finished our work there with rock steps, waterbars and drainage work. A stream crossing was improved with some large stepping stones.

Sterling Forest State Park

The connection between the Appalachian Trail and the Indian Hill Trail was begun and completed with sidehilling and the placing of rock steps, retaining walls and scree walls.

Minnewaska State Park Preserve

The crew completed a drainage crossing on the Mossy Glen Trail and placed rock steps and retaining walls in an effort to improve the approaches to the new Mossy Glen Bridge. The bridge and the trail are now complete and in use.

Schunemunk Mountain

The crew devoted much time and attention to the repair of the Sweet Clover Trail. Switchbacks were created, fallen trees removed and sidehilling, drainage

structures and retaining walls installed. About 15 feet of a major rock wall that had been swept away by a slide was rebuilt, and five waterbars installed above the new switchbacks. The work was completed in seven trips.

Highlands Trail

Work began on a small relocation near Mineral Springs Road, with brushcutting, sidehilling and removal of fallen trees. On another section of the Trail near Route 17, another relocation was completed, again with rock and drainage-work.

Black Rock Forest

Damage caused by a slide on the Duggan Trail was repaired with the reconstruction of about 100 feet of retaining wall, stepping stones, and drainage work with rock sluices.

Many thanks to the dedicated volunteers for their outstanding and professional work on our trails: Peter Beck, John Blenninger, Joe Bond, Race Brandt, Larry Braun, Gail Brown, Jim Brown, Brian Buchbinder, Mark Burns, George Cartamil, Thomas Cerullo, Carla Clark, Harriet Daddona, David Day, Thomas Dunn, Mary Grace Eapen, Chris Ezzo, Edward Farr, Ben Frankel, Victor Gabay, Claudia Ganz, Rick Gerow, Patrick Gilmartin, Denis Halliwell, Roel Hammerschlag, Marianne Hanna, Scott Hanna, Brett Hartl, Bill Heath, Rebecca Heath, Hubert Herring, Mary Hilley, Gulian Hook, Margaret Hunter, Joan James, Frank Keech, Cosmo Killeen, Shelia Lipshe, Richard Lynch, Trisha Maeder, Steven Mann, Paul Marcus, Claire Matesa, Gay Mayer, Douglas McBride, Nancy Moen, Colleen Mullins, Carol Nestor, Holger Nissen, Jason Nockols, Anthony Palmiotti, George Perkinson, Peter Perricc, Bob Reardon, Monica Resor, Rick Rosenthal, Rogue Sanchez, Cathy Schaffer, Brett Sherry, Bruce Shriver, Harry Smith, Leah Thalmann, Ros Thalmann, Pete Tilgner, Nancy Tollefsen, Lale Vavoglo, Baird Voorhis, Paul Waclawski, Priscilla Webster, Larry Wheelock, and last but FAR from least, Hanson Wong.

Come out and join the crew. The Crew is ALWAYS busy; it's the best way to spend a day.

Bob Marshall
Trail Crew Chief
Trudy Schneider
Trail Crew Assistant

Four restored Catskill Fire Towers to re-open

On National Trails Day 2000 (Saturday, June 3), the Balsam Lake Mountain Fire Tower will formally reopen to the public. The tower is one of five in the Catskill Fire Tower Restoration Project, and its reopening is yet another milestone in the project. It will re-join the Overlook Mountain Fire Tower, reopened on National Trails Day 1999.

The reopening of the Red Hill Fire Tower, in the Sundown Wild Forest near Claryville, will follow on Saturday, July 15. The Tremper Mountain Fire Tower is scheduled for reopening in the Fall, with Hunter Mountain Fire Tower tentatively scheduled to reopen on October 7. By the end of this year all five towers will be reopened.

What a far cry from three years ago, when the fire towers were abandoned hulks of steel threatened with demolition.

The New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation hopes that promised funding will allow the redesign of the Meads Mt. Road parking lot at the Overlook trail head and the construction of a small parking lot on Dinch Road at Red Hill.

Patches (\$5) and T-shirts (\$13) are still being sold as fundraisers for the fire tower restoration project. Once the five towers are restored, the next steps planned are to finish rehabilitating the four ground cabins for interpretive displays, creating a Summit Steward Program, and finalizing an "endowment" for ongoing maintenance. For more information about these projects, contact The Catskill Center for Conservation and Development, Rte 28, Arkville, NY 12406, 914-586-2611; or the NYS DEC, New Paltz, NY; 914-256-3082.

Thanks to Graymoor for Hiker Hospitality

Our sincere gratitude to the Friars of the Atonement at Graymoor Monastery in Garrison, NY, and to Father Fred Alvarez who coordinates their efforts as hosts, for their continuing service and hospitality to Appalachian Trail through-hikers. In July and August 1999, 446 hikers stayed at the campsite on the monastery's ballfield, and were provided dinner and breakfast in the Graymoor dining room. Last season, the Friars constructed a shower and a slop sink at the ballfield site for hikers' use, at a cost of almost \$5,000. This wonderful facility really "hits the spot" with through-hikers, for obvious reasons.

TRAIL NEWS continues on page 10

TRAIL CREW SCHEDULES



NEW JERSEY TRAIL CREW

What & Where: Tackle a variety of projects ranging from trail repair to bridge building in NJ's parks and forests. Bring lunch, work gloves, and a beverage.

When: Sundays, March 12 and April 9.
Leaders: Sandy Parr, 732-469-5109; Dick Warner, 201-327-4945.

WEST HUDSON TRAIL CREW

Harriman-Bear Mountain Park

What & Where: Continuing work on the Timp-Torne Trail on the Torne.

When: Saturdays, April 8 and 22; Sunday, May 7.

Leader: Bob Marshall, 914-737-4792.

Black Rock Forest

What & Where: Trail repair and erosion control on the Duggan Trail.

When: Thursday, April 13.

Leader: Bob Marshall, 914-737-4792.

HIGHLANDS TRAIL

What & Where: Lots of new trail construction, primarily between Mahlon Dickerson and Allamuchy, as lots of landowner permissions have fallen into place for us.

When: Saturday, April 22; Sundays, April 9 and May 7.

Leader: Bob Moss, 973-743-5203. Call for details.

GPS volunteers sought to fieldcheck North Jersey maps

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

New Life Members

The Trail Conference welcomes nine new life members, to our growing "family" of 766: Joe and Linda Moreng, and Gregory Guderian from New Jersey, and from New York, Jamie and Lance Leener, Mr. and Mrs. James Hugh Morgan, Robert J. Glynn and Lalla R. Grimes.

An individual life membership is \$400, and a joint life membership (two adults at the same address) is \$600. Next time you renew, we hope you'll consider becoming a "lifer." Your money goes directly into the Outdoor Fund, our trail lands protection fund.

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GET INVOLVED

Rock work trail repair scheduled at Delaware Water Gap

Both veterans and newcomers welcome!

Join Trail Conference volunteers throughout May and early June as a major trail reconstruction project gets underway on the Red Dot/Mount Tammany Trail in Worthington State Forest at the Delaware Water Gap.

The Red Dot is a steep trail that connects the Dunnfield Creek parking area adjacent to Interstate Route 80 to the top of Mount Tammany (the peak on the New Jersey side of the Gap) and features stunning views down into the Water Gap.

Though less than two miles long, it is very well used. Because of its popularity, and due to Hurricane Floyd damage, parts of the trail are severely eroded, necessitating repair. Much of the work will be heavier-type construction, with rock used wherever possible. This is a great opportunity to learn heavier rock work skills.

ALL are welcome to participate, from enthusiastic newcomers to seasoned vet-

erans. Tools and training will be provided.

Monica Resor and David Day, both experienced crew leaders for the Conference's West Hudson Trail Crew, will lead this project. Larry Wheelock, the Conference's NJ Field Representative, will assist.

Come on out! We'll go rain or shine, and meet at 9 AM at the Dunnfield Creek parking lot on each scheduled work day.

We ask that you respond by pre-registering for any of the work trip dates listed on the coupon below, and return it to the Trail Conference office. We need pre-registration to better plan each day's work and the tools required.

If you sign up for a trip, we'll be counting on you!!

Monica and David
732-937-9098
pinerock@idt.net

YES!! Count me IN for the Mt. Tammany rehabilitation project.

I'll join you on: (please circle your choice(s) of trips)

Saturday, May 6 Sunday, May 7 Sunday, May 21 Saturday, June 3

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Day phone (____) _____ Eve phone (____) _____

If you would like to participate on both May 6 and 7, campsites will be available in Worthington State Forest. Check here if you want to camp on May 6.

Return to: NY-NJ Trail Conference, Attn. Mt. Tammany Project, 232 Madison Avenue, Room 802, New York, NY 10016.

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

For confidential information and legal language, contact Jan Hesbon at 212-685-9654, or by email: nynytc@aol.com



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

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

Regular	Individual	Joint/Family
Sponsor	<input type="checkbox"/> \$21	<input type="checkbox"/> \$26
Benefactor	<input type="checkbox"/> \$45	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50
Student	<input type="checkbox"/> \$95	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
Limited Income	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20
Life	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$400	<input type="checkbox"/> \$600*

* two adults at same address

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

DAY PHONE _____ EVENING PHONE _____

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Check one: new member renewal

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BAIER FOUNDATION GIFT

continued from front page

cant one for laying the ground for acquisitions to be completed in the next few years." This year, John has succeeded in re-opening a ten-mile section north of the Catskills with the last option being completed on Ginseng Ridge. New York State will buy six of the properties within a few years and five more within five years. On nearby Huntersfield Ridge, John is involved in negotiations with five other landowners for acquisition to re-open a closed section of the Long Path. The Trail Conference contributed \$1,000 toward purchasing another parcel for a parking area in the Catskills near Shandaken. Further south on Schunemunk Mountain, John is talking to property owners to protect the Highlands Trail there.



John Myers

"We are fortunate to have the expertise of John Myers at the Trail Conference," commented Trail Conference Board President Gary Haugland. "Along with Bob Augello, our attorney for land acquisition and conservation in New York State,

John has an excellent track record in protecting open spaces for the hiking community. As important is the funding from the Marie Baier Foundation that makes it all possible."

Along the Highlands Trail in New Jersey, John has nearly closed a 10-mile gap between Mahlon Dickerson and Allamuchy Mountain State Park. Permissions have been gained from a quarry owner and the Lake Lackawanna Association. With John's assistance, Bethlehem Township has included the Highlands Trail in its open space plan, and Hunterdon and Warren Counties are pursuing open space acquisitions for the near future.

Trail Conference Executive Director, Jan Hesbon, observed, "Land acquisition is a slow process. Much of these trail systems are built on and around individual landowners, and each negotiation is a time-consuming process. With my experience in land protection through The Nature Conservancy, I learned that each person's attachment to land is an emotional bond in addition to an economic one, and parting with sentiment is often more painful than parting with money. I am impressed with how many different negotiations and acquisitions John Myers is able to juggle."

In the next issue of the *Trail Walker*, we will continue describing how the grant from the Marie Baier Foundation is supporting our initiatives in New Jersey since the appointment of our NJ Field Representative Larry Wheelock.

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Our Members

❖ **EMS Club Day** will be on Thursday, April 27. Trail Conference members receive a 20% discount on purchases made in EMS stores on that day. Be sure you have your membership card handy. If you've lost it, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the Conference office to request a new one.



❖ Congratulations to Conference member **Ed (Eddie) Walsh**, who began work in January as the Adirondack Mountain Club's new Trails Coordinator. Ed has been a part of the northeastern trail community since he was very young: a son of the NY-NJ Trail Conference's Long Path Harriman Supervisor Ed Walsh, Eddie has been a life member of the NY-NJ Trail Conference since 1993, when he was 15. He had a trail maintenance assignment with his father at that early age. In 1989, he was awarded the Trail Conference's Next Generation Award. Ed's been a member of ADK's professional trail crew since he was 16, returning for five seasons—including one season as crew boss. He's also worked as a shelter caretaker for the Green Mountain Club, and more recently, led volunteer trail crews for the Maine Appalachian Trail Club. He is a graduate of Hampshire College. Ed will oversee the day to day operations of the professional and volunteer trails programs. Next year the ADK will have crews working in both the 'dacks and Catskill Forest Preserves. Ed can be reached at muddyeddie@hotmail.com.

❖ And while we're still on the subject of the Walshes, congratulations to dad **Ed Walsh**, who became the 102nd person to complete an End-to-End hike on the Finger Lakes Trail. At 560 miles, it is New York State's longest trail. Ed "attacked" it as a series of short backpacks to cover the eastern 110 miles, then did the remaining 450 miles at one stretch. He reports it is "a trail for hikers—there for those who enjoy walking and hiking for its own sake."

❖ Once again, our sincere THANKS to the map-set-stuffing gang of **Ken Dukes, John Giuffrida, Pete Heckler, George Perkinson, George Sheedy, Ike Siskind and Nick Viggiano**. In only 3 sessions, they assembled over 5,000 Harriman map sets at stuffing-party host **Paul Leikin's** home. You guys are the best!

❖ Get well wishes go to **Bob Messerschmidt**, who has been battling osteoarthritis in both knees. He's been on a rest regimen—no hiking, biking, or skiing for a while. We hope he's now been permitted to resume some of his activities.

❖ Farewell, and thank you, to **Warren Hale**, who recently "retired" as Conference trails supervisor for the Wawayanda and Stonetown (NJ) area. Though Warren lives far from his area of responsibility, he nonetheless spent much time there, and was extremely dedicated to "his" hiking trails.

❖ Congratulations to **Kenneth Lutters**, a New York State Office of Parks "partner" who was recently promoted to Capital Facilities Manager for the Taconic Region of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. Ken has long worked with the Trail Conference during his 25 years as a landscape architect, first with our early trail mapping efforts, then on the permanent relocation of the Appalachian Trail East of the Hudson River, trail planning in the Hubbard Perkins Conservation Area, the Camp Smith Trail, State land acquisition projects for regional parks for the past several years, and many other projects.

❖ The American Hiking Society's President David Lillard eloquently cited **H. Neil Zimmerman** in an article in their December 1999/January 2000 newsletter: "We never raise tough issues without offering hope. Our fondest hope, as always, is illustrated best by those who lead us. Neil Zimmerman, a dynamic vice chair

of the AHS board of directors, recently retired after 12 years as president of the NY-NJ Trail Conference, a charter AHS Alliance member.

Neil's tough demeanor belies a heart as big as Denali. For years, that heart has furthered many causes important to hikers. Reading *The New York Times* or *Wall Street Journal*, you might know Neil as the guy who battles mountain bikes on hiking trails. But you should also know Neil as the thoughtful, principled protector of the hiking experience. If American Hiking has emerged as a national voice for hikers, Neil is one who helped us find that voice. He is a friend with an unwavering commitment to our success.

Happily, his retirement as Trail Conference president ends only one era of his leadership. We'll still rely on his good counsel at AHS to help us find our way in the wilderness."

❖ **Leave No Trace (LNT)**, a national education program that promotes and teaches responsible outdoor recreation, has expanded its schedule of **Masters courses** to be offered nationwide in 2000. These 5-day courses focus on minimum-impact camping and travel techniques, wildland ethics and effective teaching methods. More than 20 Masters courses are scheduled this year, each focusing on a specific ecosystem or recreational activity, such as hiking. For more information about Masters courses, check out the LNT web site www.LNT.org, or contact Susan Benepe at the National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS), 288 Main Street, Lander, WY 82520; 307-332-1292.

❖ **The Volunteer Vacations 2000 schedule** is now available from the American Hiking Society. Go on an inspiring vacation for less than the cost of one night in a hotel! Spend a week or two rejuvenating your mind, body, and spirit while working on trails in America's most beautiful wild places. Over 70 trips to forests and parks in 22 states, from March through November are available. Choose from four-, seven-, or 14-day long trips, rated from easy to extremely strenuous. Some trips are designed specifically for women and young adults. For more information, visit www.americanhiking.org, or call 301-565-6704, ext. 206.

❖ The Adirondack Mountain Club has designed a **Kids on the Trail Challenge** to promote hiking with children in the Adirondack Park. The ADK's Laurentian Chapter created the Challenge as a way to encourage children—as future stewards of the Adirondacks—to get to know it. The initiative also offers a different approach to experiencing the Park, and serves to disperse hikers to other than the most popu-

lar High Peaks region.

Children and their adult companions choose hiking destinations from a total of 62 hikes in 8 regions. Colorful Challenge patches are given free to children who complete 2 hikes from each of the 8 regions, for a total of 16 hikes. Adults who complete the hikes with children may order the patch for a small fee. The Challenge continues through December 2003 and is open to anyone. Informational brochures are available on-line at ADK's web site www.adk.org, or from their Headquarters Information Center, 814 Goggins Road, Lake George, NY 12845.



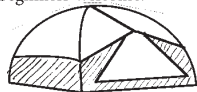
❖ **Tasmania/Australia, Nov-Dec 2000.** Low-budget, non-commercial trip for adventurous travelers. Flexible schedule including hiking in Cradle Mountains (Tasmania) and skin diving off Great Barrier Reef. Plan to use hostels and huts. Trail Conference life member organizing trip for Outdoor Club of South Jersey. For details, send legal size self-addressed, stamped envelope to Richard Greve, 115 Dawn Drive, Mt. Holly, NJ 08060.

❖ March and April are in the middle of the **spring raptor migration**, and the **Wildcat Ridge Hawkwatch site on the Four Birds Trail in the Farny Highlands** of Morris County, NJ is a perfect place to witness this wildlife spectacular, where 16 raptor species soar over your head. For a free brochure with map and more details, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the Trail Conference office, and request the Hawkwatch brochure.

❖ **Looking for Adirondack folklore and stories.** My name is Brian and I'm a member of Syracuse University's Outing Club, though I go to the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry. I am currently working on a compilation of Adirondack folklore and personal experience stories. I'm looking for stories that are interesting, scary, adventurous, humorous, etc. In return to anyone who emails me a story, I'll send a copy of the finished compilation. Thank you. Brian D. Sakofsky, lamont_merlyon@yahoo.com.

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East Hudson Trails (1997)	\$8.95	\$6.75	+.95	_____
West Hudson Trails (1992)	\$6.95	\$5.25	+.95	_____
Catskill Trails (1998) & see combo	\$13.95	\$10.45	+\$1.10	_____
Kittatinny Maps (4 N&S) (1997)	\$12.95	\$9.75	+\$1.10	_____
Shawangunk Trails (1997) & see combo	\$8.95	\$6.75	+.95	_____
South Taconic Trails (1988, rev. 1998)	\$4.95	\$3.75	+.65	_____
North Jersey Trails (1998)	\$7.95	\$5.95	+.95	_____
Hudson Palisades (1991)	\$4.95	\$3.75	+.80	_____

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Shawangunks (1999) & see combo	\$10.95	\$8.75	+\$1.75	_____
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New York Walk Book (1998)	\$17.95	\$14.50	+\$3.00	_____
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Harriman Trails Guide (1999) & see combo	\$12.95	\$10.35	+\$2.50	_____
Circuit Hikes in No. Jersey (1995, repr. 1998)	\$16.95	\$13.55	+\$3.00	_____
Long Path Guide to NY/NJ (1996)	\$9.95	\$7.95	+\$1.75	_____
Nature Walks in New Jersey (1998)	\$9.95	\$7.95	+\$1.75	_____
50 Hikes in New Jersey (1997)	\$14.95	\$11.95	+\$1.75	_____
50 Hikes in Hudson Valley (1994 repr. 1998)	\$5.95	\$7.15	+\$1.75	_____
Best Hikes w/ Children in the Catskills & Hudson River Valley (1992)	\$14.00	\$11.20	+\$1.75	_____
Best Hikes w/ Children - New Jersey (1992)	\$14.95	\$11.95	+\$1.75	_____
A.T. Guide for NY & NJ (1998) w/ 6 maps	\$12.95	\$10.35	+\$1.75	_____
ADK Guide to Catskill Trails (1994, repr. 1998)	\$19.95	\$15.95	+\$2.50	_____
	\$16.95	\$13.55	+\$2.50	_____

Combo-Packs

Catskill (5 map set & book)	\$27.80	\$21.60	+\$2.50	_____
Harriman (2 map set & book)	\$22.65	\$17.55	+\$2.50	_____
NY & NJ Walk Books	\$32.35	\$25.85	+\$5.00	_____
Shawangunk Combo (4 map set & book) (1999)	\$17.90	\$13.95	+\$2.50	_____

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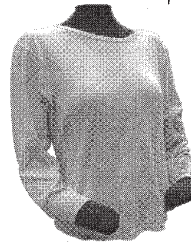
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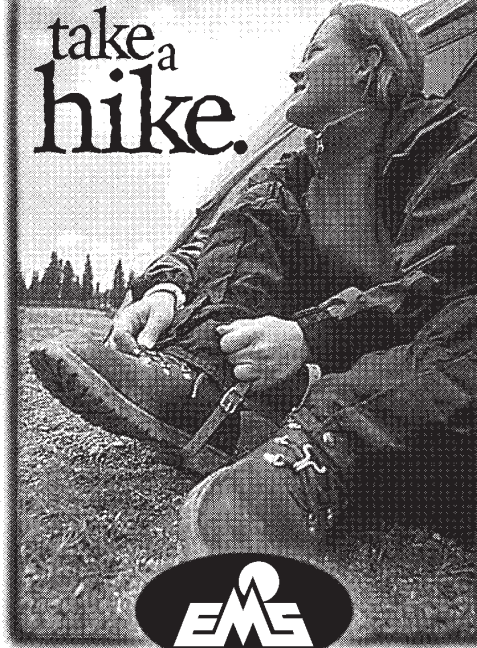
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HIKERS' BOOKSHOP

Exploring the Appalachian Trail: Hikes in the Mid-Atlantic States, by Glenn Scherer and Don Hoey. Stackpole Books, 1998. 372 pages, \$19.95.

Reviewed by John Morgan

This book is worth adding to the library of any Appalachian Trail hiker interested in the mid-Atlantic states. I thought the introductory section was mostly boiler plate covering a lot of territory but not really saying too much. Many references about where to get more information, but no real information as such, except a lot of cautions. However, this doesn't distract from the descriptions of the hikes, which is the basic reason for purchasing the book. Each hike is exceptionally well-described, including maps, elevation profiles, and a wonderful narrative of what to see and enjoy as you travel along each route. Starting with a recommended direction in

which to hike each section, the descriptions cover such things as the time needed, elevation gained and lost, effort required, social and natural history, and early exit options. It truly is a hiker's friend!

One gets an excellent description of features encountered, including history, special features, viewsheds, and interesting comments on side trail options. The section trail maps and elevation profiles inform hikers of what to expect, so there should be no surprises.

If you are thinking about hiking the AT in Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New York, this is a good book to own. I have fairly recently hiked this area and know I would have liked to have had this book before I did so. I'm sure I missed some of the historically significant features described here. Next time I travel this wonderful section of the AT I will have this book in my pack.



GOT A MATCH?

As hikers, we're sometimes looking for a match to light our campfire or (in today's high tech society) the butane/propane stove.

We at the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference are also looking for matches to "stoke" our fires. We are looking for the corporate match—the corporate gift that matches your gift.

This year we have received matches from the following corporations: **American Express, Avon, Bankers Trust, Bell Atlantic, Best Foods, Chase Manhattan, Citicorp, Deutsche Bank, FNC, IBM, J.P. Morgan, MasterCard, McGraw-Hill, Mineral Technology, Mobil, Mutual of America, The New York Times, Pfizer, The Pioneer Group, Reader's Digest, TransAmerica, and Tyco**

and from the following members:
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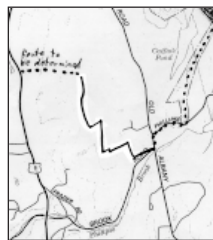
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New Trails and Relocations in the East Hudson Highlands

ARDEN POINT TRAIL (*Trail Conference East Hudson Trails map #1, grid B-6/7*) This extension of the Trail actually formalizes access on State property. From the gate on the south end of the Garrison, NY, MetroNorth station parking lot (NOT the gate next to the tracks), the blue-blazed trail follows a woods road. It turns towards the Hudson River, crosses the railroad tracks on a bridge and turns to connect with the existing Arden Point Trail. Parking is free on weekends and \$2.00 a day on weekdays.



CORNISH TRAIL (*Trail Conference East Hudson Trails map #2, Grid A/B-4*) The new Cornish Trail links Route 9D to the Brook Trail. There is parking at the Route 9D trailhead near Little Stony Point bridge. The blue-blazed Cornish Trail parallels Route 9D until it reaches the stone pillars, then it turns uphill to follow a cement road to the Brook Trail.



CEDAR RIDGE TRAIL (*Trail Conference East Hudson Trails map #3, grids C/D-5/6*) This new trail in Putnam County, NY crosses through the Cedar Ridge Farm, and overlooks a working farm and its fields and woods. In the future, we hope that the trail will be extended from both its current termini to connect to the Catfish Loop Trail in Fahnestock State Park (to the east) and to Route 9 (to the west).



WASHBURN TRAIL (*Trail Conference East Hudson Trails map #3, grids A/B-4/5*) The end of this trail on Route 9D has been relocated about 0.1 mile south. It now begins at a gate on Route 9D just south of, and across the street from, the Little Stony Point bridge. The white-blazed Washburn follows a woods road, formerly the access road to the quarry. Parking is at the trailhead on Route 9D. By public transportation, take MetroNorth to the Cold Spring, NY, station and walk north.

TRAIL MAINTENANCE WORKSHOPS

continued from front page

standards, and the types of problems you may encounter on the trail and how to solve them. This is the session for you if you are interested in becoming a maintainer or want to enhance an existing knowledge of the subject.

Construction/Restoration. Hiking trails are built with switch-backs, side hilling, steps and water bars; erosion repair and stream bridging may also be needed. Workshop participants will restore a section of trail constructing those features. If you have ever wanted to learn about heavy

trail repairs or to help on a trail crew, this is the session for you.

Chainsaw Use and Safety. (Non-Trail Conference members are *not* eligible.) Recommendations and demonstrations on the purchase, use and maintenance of a chainsaw and associated safety gear. This course will qualify maintainers to use a chainsaw in clearing Trail Conference-adopted trails located in Palisades Interstate Park Commission parks only. It is *not* equivalent to U.S. Forest Service certification.

Fill out the coupon and send it to the Conference office by April 8, 2000. An information packet will be sent to all registrants.

Sign up is first come, first served, and past workshops have been over-subscribed, so be sure to send in your registration early!

Remember to dress for outside work in clothes that you do not mind getting wet or dirty; bring lunch, water and any other drink or snack you fancy. If you have them, bring any tools appropriate for the workshop for which you register. Basic maintenance tools are hand clippers, loppers (long handle branch cutters), and small bow or pruning saws. For the construction/restoration session, the tools are grubs and pick mattocks, pry bars, and shovels.

REGISTRATION FORM

Trail Maintenance Workshop ■ Saturday, April 29, 2000

Please check the session you want to attend:

- Maintenance "101" Construction and Restoration
- Chainsaw Use and Safety

Check here if you are not a Trail Conference Member and enclose a check for a \$4 (non-member fee) payable to the NY-NJ Trail Conference.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Day Phone (____) _____ Eve. Phone (____) _____

Do you currently maintain a trail? Yes No

If yes, do you work As an individual or with a club?

Name of club, if applicable: _____

Name of trail you maintain: _____

Check here if you have questions and would like someone to call you.

Return by April 8th to: NY-NJ Trail Conference, Trail Maintenance Workshop, 232 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10016

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continued from back page

SATURDAY, APRIL 8
RVW. Overlook Mountain from Prediger Road. Meet: 8 AM at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market Street, Saugerties. Strenuous hike, 8.3 miles, 5.5 hours. Inclement weather date—following Saturday. For more information call: 914-246-4145.

SUNDAY, APRIL 9
NHHC. Hastings to Tarrytown. Leader: George Glaz, 212-533-9457 between 7-8:00 AM. Meet: 10:00 AM Grand Central Terminal information booth. Approximately 6 easy miles. Bring lunch and water.

RVW. North Dome/Sherrill Mountains. Meet: 8 AM at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market Street, Saugerties. Strenuous bushwhack, 7 miles, 6 hours. Inclement weather date—following Monday. For more information call: 914-246-7987.

IHC. Annual Trail Clearing on the Sterling Ridge Trail. Leader: Ilse Dunham, 973-838-8031. Meet: 9 AM at South end of the Sterling Ridge Trail, Hewitt, NJ. Moderately strenuous. The IHC has maintained this trail for 40 years. We need your help for another spring cleanup. Bring lunch, gloves and clippers, or use the tools provided by the club. Rain date: Saturday, April 15.

MJO. Trail Maintenance in Sterling Forest. Leaders: Rick Levey, 914-680-0023; Larry Weaver, 516-938-5721. All calls before 10PM, please. Trail maintenance on the Alis Trail, followed by hike in Sterling Forest State Park.

MONDAY, APRIL 10
RVW. Lake Awosting, Minnewaska State Park. Meet: 8 AM at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market Street, Saugerties. Moderate 8.5 miles, 6 hours. Inclement weather date—following Monday. For more information call: 914-246-4580.

THURSDAY, APRIL 13
UHC. Bearfoot Ridge Circular. Leaders: Carolyn & Jim Canfield, 973-728-9774. Meet: 10 AM, at A&P parking lot on Warwick Tpke. Bearfoot Ridge, around Sunrise Lake with views from the Appalachian Trail, and return on Quail Trail. A moderately strenuous hike.

SATURDAY, APRIL 15
NHHC. Red Trail on Staten Island. Leader: Mike Puder, 718-743-0820 anytime. Call leader during week of the hike to meeting time and place. See old remains of mansion on Heyerdahl Hill and one of the most unspoiled places in NYC.

SUNDAY, APRIL 16
NHHC. St. John's in the Wilderness. Leader: Bob Ward, 718-471-7036 after 8:00 PM. Call leader for details. Ecumenical Service at St. John's in Hammen Park.

C L U B C O D E S

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

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

FVT Frost Valley Trail Walkers. Contact: Cheryl Short, 973-289-0212. Mon. 3 mi., Tues. 6-7 mi., Wed. 5 mi., Thurs. 7-10 mi., Fri. ramble up to two mi.

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

HHC Hunterdon Hiking Club. Contact: Lud Bohler, 908-788-3941.

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

LIGTC Long Island Greenbelt. Contact: L.I. Greenbelt Trail Conference, 516-360-0753.

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

MP Mohok Preserve. Contact: Mohok Preserve, 914-255-0919.

MJO Mosaic Jewish Outdoor Mountain Club. Contact: Larry Weiler, 516-938-5721, evenings. Open to ALL who wish to hike with us.

NHHC New York Hiking Club. Contact: Halina Jensen, 212-568-6333.

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

RVW Rip Van Winkle. Contact: Fred Backhaus, 914-246-5670.

UHC Union County Hiking Club. Contact: Herb Chertock, 908-464-8293.

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

WTW Woodland Trail Walkers. Contact: Michelle Keller, 63 Stevens Rd., Clifton, NJ 07013; 973-773-7894. Guest card \$2. for 6-month hike listing.

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

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

778-0902;tsutu@aol.com. Meet: 9:30 AM at Jones Point parking lot on Rt. 9W, Jones Point, NY. Strenuous, steep with extensive bushwhacking. Sp from Stater's spring and ascend the "Escalator." No beginners. Rain cancels. Call leader if in doubt.

UHC. Eagle Rock Reservation. Leader: Is Hirschhorn, 973-731-5171. Meet: 10 AM at parking lot near Highawn Pavilion. 5 mile ramble. Rain cancels. Call leader if in doubt.

NYR. Westchester Old and New. Leader: Cricket Giese, 212-924-2171. Meet: 7:35 AM at Grand Central Station information booth. Walk from Golden's Bridge to Chappaqua, passing Granite Springs, Turkey Mountain Park, Kitchawan, and Pruyn and Pinedrift Audubon Sanctuaries en route.

MONDAY, APRIL 24
RVW. Bearpen Mt. via County Rt. 2. Meet: 8 AM at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market Street, Saugerties. Moderate 8 miles, 5.5 hours. Inclement weather date—following Monday. For more information call: 914-246-8670.

TUESDAY, APRIL 25
FVT. Doodletown Circular. Leader: Arnold Seymour-Jones, 201-768-3864. Meet: 10 AM, Bear Mountain Inn parking lot. Visit the site of the former town, with tour of old cemeteries and lovely wooded areas.

THURSDAY, APRIL 27
FVT. Pequannock Watershed. Leaders: Jim & Theresa McKay, 973-536-0756. Meet: 10 AM at Pequannock lot P-4. 8-9 miles around Clinton Reservoir, including Clinton Furnace.

ADK-J. Family school vacation hike. Leader: Betty Heald, 201-967-2937. Call leader before 9 PM on Wed. eve. to register. 5-6 miles.

SATURDAY, APRIL 29
LIGTC. Preview, End to End Long Island Trail. Leader: Jack Haley, 516-249-8084. There's plenty of time to get into shape for a 32-mile end-to-end traverse of the LI Trail.

NHHC. Nassau-Suffolk Trail, Smithtown to Sunken Meadow. Leader: Mike Puder, 718-743-0820 anytime. Meet: Penn Station at Roy Rogers across from URR ticket windows. Call leader during week of hike for meeting time. Moderate to strenuous 12 miles over relatively flat terrain at moderate pace. Bring lunch and water.

UHC. Skyline Ramble. Leader: Ed Fanslau, 201-652-1406. Meet: 10 AM at top of Skyline Drive, Oakland NJ where yellow Hoeflein Trail crosses road. Scenic ramble of 4.5 miles on Hoeflein Trail and historic Cannonball Trail. Some rocky sections. Snack. Rain cancels.

SUNDAY, APRIL 30
MJO. Schunemunk Mountain. Leader: Michael Brochstein. Bring hiking boots, lunch, water. 7.9 miles. Telephone reservations required by April 24. Rain cancels. Cost \$5, members, \$10, non-members.

NYR. Kendall Park to Hamilton Station. Leader: Ludwig Hendel, 718-456-5691. Meet: 7:45 AM at Port Authority Bus Terminal main lobby near Zaro's bakery. Hike Delaware & Haritan Canal towpath from Griggstown south along the Millstone River, past Kingstone and Lake Carnegie to Hamilton Station.

IHC. Storm King. Leader: Ilse Dunham, 973-838-8031. Check with leader to see if trail is open. Meet: 9 AM at Anthony Wayne Recreational Area north parking area, Harriman Park, NY. Strenuous hike from the bottom, the old Storm King Highway, up to the summit, 1,300 feet above the Hudson River. Grand views. Rain cancels.

SUNDAY, APRIL 31
IHC. Bockberg Reprise. Leaders: Dave and Naomi Sutter, 973-778-0902;tsutu@aol.com. Meet: 9:30 AM at Jones Point parking lot on Rt. 9W, Jones Point, NY. Strenuous, steep with extensive bushwhacking. Sp from Stater's spring and ascend the "Escalator." No beginners. Rain cancels. Call leader if in doubt.

MONDAY, MAY 1
RVW. Westkill Mt. Meet: 8 AM at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market Street, Saugerties. Strenuous bushwhack, 8 miles, 5.5 hours. Inclement weather date—following Monday. For more information call: 914-246-2241.

TUESDAY, MAY 2
FVT. Ramapo Mountain State Forest. Leader: Ben Sterman, 201-797-0468. Meet: 10 AM at 2nd parking lot. A tour of the lake, castle and the Cannonball Trail, and view from Matapan Rock.

THURSDAY, MAY 4
FVT. Pioneer Trail Circular. Leader: Bob Messerschmidt, 908-832-6976. Meet: 10 AM at Millbrook, Orchard Trail, Hamilton Ridge Road and Pioneer Trail. A pleasant hike with glimpses of the Delaware River and a walk on what is probably the original Old Mine Road.

ADK-J. Spring Ramble. Leader: Betty Heald, 201-967-2937. Call leader before 9 PM on Wednesday evening to register. 5-6 miles.

SUNDAY, MAY 7
UHC. Lewis Morris Park Ramble. Leaders: Lynn Gale, 973-763-7230, and Louise White, 973-746-4319. Meet: 10 AM at Sunrise Lake, upper parking lot. Moderate hike and a chance to see spring flowers.

GAHC. Trail Cleaning. Leader: Eli Woschitz, 212-722-7338. Meet: 9:30 AM, parking lot opposite entrance to Camp Tamarack on Skyline Drive. Driving on "our" section of the Hoeflein Trail.

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