



ADIRONDACK MOUNTAIN CLUB NIAGARA FRONTIER CHAPTER

WWW.ADK-NFC.ORG

April 2016 Newsletter

General Meeting Tuesday, April 12th

Education Workshop 6:30 – 7:15

Happy Half Hour 7 - 7:30

General Meeting 7:30 - 9:00

Location: 77 Washington Highway, Snyder Amherst Community Church

NOTE: Please park in rear and enter through back door.

Program: Mike Masterson says, **What Good Are Bees Anyways?**

Bees sting, don't they? Why should you care about them? Mike Masterson, owner of Masterson's Garden Center in East Aurora, NY has been working with nature for 40 years. Beginning in 1975, Mike began his landscaping company and has since blossomed into garden products, water garden design and of course BEES! Mike and his kids feel passionate about educating people about the plight of the honeybee and its potential effects on our food supply. Masterson's now has a large, complete beekeeping department at the nursery offering seminars and apprenticeship programs at their apiary on site. We look forward to learning how our food chain will be effected by declining pollinator population, why they are dying and ways you can help. The benefits of honey and other products from the hive will be discussed. Mike has helped more than 200 new beekeepers get started in this beneficial hobby. Come out and see what the buzz is all about!



Summary of last month's program: LET'S GO BIKING!

Who didn't feel inspired to jump on their bikes after Nate from GoBike Buffalo came to talk with our group? The workshop on Colvin Avenue sounds like a busy place refurbishing bikes and teaching others to maintain what they already own. Access to the workshop for maintaining your own bike can happen with a yearly membership of \$35 (with membership drive on May 1). On that same note, don't forget to spread the word during spring cleaning fever that donated bikes are always welcome for the team to refurbish and pass on to others in our community. If you would like to join the group for community rides, these guys are the inspiration behind the Skyride occurring on May 21 - a ride approximately 100 feet in the air on the Skyway with no traffic! For more fun, let's not forget the slow roll through communities in Buffalo.

Education Workshop

6:30 pm to 7:15 pm Introduction to Backpacking Skills Workshop

This month longtime member Mare Steiniger will be co leading one of our two beginner backpacks in me. *This* month she is going to give us a workshop on getting ready to hit the trail, including what to pack. Here is her description: "Join me for a brief tour of the inside of my backpack, where I'll show you how I would pack for a 3-day summer backpacking trip in WNY. My presentation will include how I would pack my pack today, and how I packed in 1975. This will demonstrate not only how equipment has evolved, but also show some moderately priced equipment for those of us who are just starting out." After the workshop you can try out your new skills on one of the May beginner backpacks!



Conservation Corner Lynn Rehfeld-Kenney, Chair

The Conservation Committee meeting will be held at David Kowalski's home on Tuesday, April 19th at 7:00pm. Call #839-3114 for directions.

There is an environmental impact statement being developed called a Green Code on how to zone Buffalo for various land uses such as green space, industrial, and residential space. A new local group is being formed called the Buffalo Outer Harbor Concerned Citizens. This group is advocating for keeping a large portion of the outer harbor as green space and using the terminal buildings for restaurants and shops instead of condominiums. Check out the website to find out how you can help. <https://groups.google.com/d/forum/buffalouterharborconcernedcitizens>

The state will be purchasing the Boreas Ponds Tract in the Adirondacks next month. We will need help with getting the high peaks land designated as wilderness instead of wild forest in order to keep motorized vehicles and boats out of this pristine area. This is the last large wild open area that is available to add to the Adirondack Park. Your help will be needed when the public comment period opens. Conservation Alerts will keep you informed.

Attacks on the environment never stop. Join the Conservation Committee to see how you can help.

Message From the Chair, Janet Kowalski

Our Niagara Frontier Chapter is further away from the Adirondacks than any other chapter, so it is not surprising that many Western New Yorkers are not familiar with ADK. The best advertisement for the Adirondack Mountain Club is its wonderful members. To create awareness for the club, we are encouraging members to wear ADK garb whenever they are hiking, running errands, or attending a sporting event. A fun ADK hat or t-shirt is a great conversation starter, a chance to share outdoor stories and the missions of ADK. Purchasing clothing and gear online from the ADK store (adk.org) is a great way to support ADK and also to proudly represent your membership. To encourage local ADK outreach, lightweight breathable ADK hats will be sold at the next monthly meeting for \$5, greatly reduced from the \$17.95 retail price thanks to support from the club and our chapter. So buy a hat and spread the good news! ADK CARES: Conservation, Advocacy, Recreation, Education, Stewardship

Young Members (20s & 30s)

Young Members (YM) form a vital component of ADK, rejuvenating the club with fresh ideas and energy. Across the state, YM ADK groups are forming, with their own outings and social scene. If you're interested in becoming an Outings Leader or heading up the YM efforts in the Niagara Frontier area, e-mail Outings Chair Mary Schraven maryschraven1@gmail.com or Chapter Chair Janet Kowalski janetk300@gmail.com to learn more!

Want to explore the Adirondacks? Check out these upcoming opportunities for YMs:

JBL Young Adult Member Takeover: Sept 9 - 11

ADK's young members (20s & 30s) are taking over Johns Brook Lodge for the weekend! Enjoy the comforts of a backcountry lodge, make friends from across NY state, explore the Johns Brook Valley, and hike a high peak! Cost: \$165 (Members receive 10% off), includes two nights lodging, six meals, and guided hike options. Scholarships are available from the NF chapter. See www.adk.org for more info or e-mail Stephanie@adk.org.

Supervised Trail Projects:

Volunteers work with trained ADK trail crew leaders to complete trail maintenance and reconstruction projects in Adirondack Park. ADK provides leadership, group camping gear, tools, transportation from base camp, and food. For details on projects ranging from 2-5 days, visit www.adk.org or see page 30 in the March-April Adirondack Magazine.

Employment in Adirondack Park:

Did you know ADK hires both seasonal and year-round staff? Check out ADK's job board for current openings at www.adk.org/page.php?pname=job-board.

Wilderness Weekends in WNY Challenge

Look for the WWWNY patch symbol on all outings that are part of the challenge.

Want to know more? Check out the page on our website WWWNY



The Newly Organized ADK-NFC Library: Check it Out!

Our enticing and eclectic collection of Adirondack literature is available for members to borrow for 1-2 month periods. There are hiking guides, ADK-related literature, field books, history chronicles, ... something for everyone. Wilderness Weekend WNY Outing guidebooks are \$5, or free to new members. The Self-checkout sheet is near the rolling bookshelves, to be used on an honor system. Enjoy!

ADK-NFC Bookstore Chairperson Needed

We are looking for an ADK member (or 2) who would like to oversee the chapter bookstore. This would involve finding out what ADK-related items members want to purchase, and placing orders with the state ADK suppliers. Pre-orders can be taken for popular items such as new hiking guides, wicking shirts, hats, and ADK calendars. Items will be sold at monthly meetings, a fun chance to interact with our friendly community. Anyone interested contact a member of the Executive Committee.

ADK Book Club

Our next meeting is Wednesday, April 27 at 6:30 PM in the Meeting Room at the Eggertsville-Snyder Library Branch at 4622 Main St in Snyder, near the corner of Burroughs and Main. We will discuss "Bellefleur" by Joyce Carol Oates, a gothic novel set in the Adirondacks about the wealthy and notorious Bellefleur clan. Newcomers are always welcome! For more information contact Janet at janetk300@gmail.com



Last book of the season: May 25: **Woodswoman II**, by Anne LaBastille

The public library has a few copies of most selections. Purchase options include abebooks (used and inexpensive), adirondack-books.com, or amazon. Our ADK-NFC chapter library also has some of these books. Books can also be shared among club members if necessary.

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A Message From the Outings Chair, Mary Schraven

As outings Chair, I want to thank JoAnn Ratajczak, the winter outings co-chair, for all of her great passion and commitment to offering weekly outing in and around Ellicottville. JoAnn's enthusiasm for winter sports and hiking is

infectious and she makes even difficult terrain feel like gentle rolling garden walks. Thank you for all you have done for ADK this winter!

Are you a dabbler or a single sport participant (SSP)? Do you like to try new things, and play around with all different kinds of outings, or are you committed to one type of activity and you go in-depth and become an expert? ADK-NFC can accommodate both preferred ways of enjoying the outdoors and being active. Look for beginner backpacking outings, trips that combine biking with a hike, or "pedal and paddles" or outings to local festivals, concerts and fun outdoor events. For the SSP's, look for trips that offer more rigorous hiking, biking or longer paddles into areas that are much loved by ADK'ers. Not sure where to go or what you need to do for an outing? Making friends with active members provides an opportunity for informal mentoring on best places to try out or how to tackle a first-time high peaks hike. And if you sustain an injury, perhaps you could try a different activity that wouldn't aggravate the injury. Don't give up being active! Get out and enjoy this beautiful countryside and spring weather.

Safety Reminder:

Internet sites that list group events could be used to target parked, unsecured cars for mass break-in vandalism and theft. Any parking situation where limited visibility and numerous grouped cars belonging to collectively absent drivers known to be 'gone for protracted periods' makes stealth attacks 'easy'. For this reason, take a few minutes to secure your car before beginning an outing. Valuable items should be locked in trunks, or out of sight. Leave portable electronic devices at home.

Winter Mountaineering School was a success! As a participant of the 2016 Winter Mountaineering School, I would like to thank the chapter for the scholarship. Many dedicated volunteers offered education from many years of experience. The enthusiasm was very high throughout the weekend. I highly recommend those considering participating in the WMS to take advantage of the chapter's scholarship in the future. Here are a few of my pictures. In appreciation, Marion Hanover.

And From Beth Hartz:

Many thanks to the ADK-NFC for the opportunity and experience of attending the ADK Winter Mountaineer School 2016! I cannot begin to describe what an incredible learning experience it was. I hadn't got into winter hiking in the past, I didn't know what sort of gear would be needed and didn't have any sort of knowledge on the subject. Winter seemed like an unforgiving and dangerous time to hike, and certainly not a time I felt comfortable to go into the wilderness. Going a whole season without hiking did get to me and when I heard about the chance to receive guidance and to get out and hike with people who knew how to face the elements, I felt compelled to jump on it. Throughout the weekend we attended workshops about trail nutrition, proper layering, compass navigation, basic first aid, avalanche awareness, how to self-arrest with an ice ax, the kinds of gear needed and how to use it in order to be safe and prepared. We got outside to hike and experience hands on how to use everything, we discussed and talked our way through different situations, and of course got the chance to hike a high peak. This program completely boosted my confidence in myself. It's so important to learn to be prepared and to have the best preventative measures in place before going out in order to give yourself and your group their best chance. Without being funded by the chapter I would have missed out on this experience that truly helped me grow as a hiker and as a leader. Thanks again for making this opportunity possible.



A Message from Mary Schraven, Chair of Nominating Committee

As the chair of the nominating committee for this year's elections, I would like to announce we have the following "incumbents" who have said they would be willing to serve another term: For Conservation Chair, Lyn Kenney has agreed to run for another term, and for Programs Chair, Dana Jandzinski has agreed to run for office. Dana was

appointed program chair last year when Janet Kowalski was elected as Chapter Chair. So Dana completed the 1 year term that was vacated by Janet. Other nominees who would like to run for these 2 positions should contact Mary Schraven by April 15th.
Mary Schraven

Trip Descriptions

For an updated listing of outings and activities, please see the event calendar posted on the website: adk-nfc.org/calendar

April

Most TUES and WEDS -HIKE - Amherst (C-easy)

Contact Tom Kielb 828-8514, Noon meet up time. Call for meet up place. We will pick one of the Wegman Passport Amherst Nature Trail outings. These books, which include 12 Amherst Nature trails and parks are available at Wegmans. Visit all 12 parks and become eligible for a free drawing. Build up your stamina by getting regular exercise and explore some lovely parks and trails in Amherst with fellow ADK'ers.

WED on April 6, 13,20, 27 EVENING HIKEs - Chestnut Ridge Park "Seufert Road Loop"

contact Cheryl Peluso at Cherylp17@verizon.net (for the 20th contact Kim Newland at newlands5@verizon.net)

This beautiful 3.5 mile loop, up and down several ravines, goes through the heart of the park, affording great views into the ravines as well as going along a lovely creek area. This is a favorite hike of many who know the trails! In the past it was done as a "very fast hike" but this time we will be at a moderately brisk pace. We will NOT be going to the eternal flame. Meet at 6:20pm at Eternal Flame parking lot on route 277 a mile past the entrance to Chestnut Ridge park. It has white fencing like a former horse corral. If you reach Seufert Road then you have driven past the meeting spot. We will start the hike at 6:30

4/2 –SAT-Paddle- Black Creek- Bergen Swamp (B) 10am – 3pm

Charlie Helman waterways@adk-gvc.org (585-266-0424) Churchville Park, Churchville, NY 14428,

This will be the season kick-off paddle with the ADK-GVC (Rochester) waterways group! We will paddle Black Creek from Churchville towards the Bergen Swamp and back again. Always a fun paddle. Canoes or kayaks are welcome on a stream with moving water. Cold weather clothing is a must. (Dry suit or wet suits preferred) Bring extra clothes in a dry bag and another set left in your car. Bring lunch, something to drink, and of course, your boat, paddle and PFD. Directions: Route 490 to the Churchville exit (Route 36) north into the town of Churchville. Continue straight thru the intersection with Route 33 and you will come to Park Road. Make a left and follow it in to the DEC boat launch site. Contact Charlie with any questions and your intent to participate.

4/3 –HIKE- Buckhorn State Park, Grand Island, (C)

John Yates jyacca@yahoo.com, Call 852-8852 to RSVP.

Buckhorn is one of our area's wonderful spots for spring. Enjoy an easy afternoon hike of 3-4 miles through woods, beside marshes, and along the beautiful Niagara River. We should see early signs of spring flora, with songs and flashing colors of early warblers, perhaps an eagle or osprey, and migrating waterfowl, maybe even some trumpeter swans still resting on their way to Yukon tundra. Directions: Driving north on I 190 on Grand Island, take exit 20 (last exit before bridge to Canada). Go left, north, for 0.1 mile; take Long Rd right, east, for 1.1 mile; go left, north, on Baseline for 0.7 mile; go left, west, on East-West Park Rd for 0.25 mile to a parking lot on the right. Call 572-8852 for the time to meet.

4/3 –HIKE- Holland Ravines (B)

Mare Steiniger and Leslie Salathe. lesliesalathe@live.com, (716) 560-1311. Or maresteiniger@aol.com. (716) 537-9070.

9 am meetup at Holland Willows, 177 Savage Road, Holland, NY 14080. This will be a strenuous hike of 9 miles, up and down 19 ravines. We will need to spot cars.

4/9 -SAT- HIKE- Queenston Heights Park, Queenston, Ontario (B)

8 km, 2.5 hours with Marion Hanover mhanover@sympatico.ca or (905) 351-1287. This is one of my favourite hikes to show people visiting the area. We will hike the main section of the Bruce Trail through forest with great views of Niagara River as far as Niagara on the Lake, descend down the escarpment and join onto the Upper Canada Heritage Trail. Here we will pass through farmland, the Niagara Parkway along the river, into the village of Queenston to experience the unique architecture and then ascend up the escarpment back to the Southern Terminus of the Bruce Trail (where our cars are). Call for meeting time and option to meet at St Mary's hospital, Lewiston, NY to cross the border together. Bring lunch, water, boots and proper documents for crossing into Canada.

4/16 – Sat. - Bike and Hike to Royalton Ravines (B)

Contact richardschraven1@gmail.com 564-2106 & maryschraven1@gmail.com 946-7489. We will meet at the parking lot of Niagara Produce on Transit at the north end of Millersport Hwy in the morning. As a group we will caravan to the ride start on Oak Lane off Dysinger Road, Lockport. We will ride our bikes about seven miles over country roads to the rear entrance of Royalton Ravines County Park, Gasport, NY. The hiking trail parallels the creek-bed that traverses the park from west to east. Landmarks include: a picturesque waterfall within a few feet of the trail, the remains of the Belva Lockwood Homestead and a suspension bridge that spans the creek. We will hike to the shelter at the front entrance of the park for our lunch break. At this time the trail can be expected to be muddy, so hiking poles and water-resistant hiking shoes are recommended. After returning to our bikes, the ride back to the cars is a shorter five miles and won't involve riding up and down the escarpment. Multi-speed bikes in good condition are recommended and bike-helmets, water and lock are required. Call ahead for meeting time and confirmation that the ride is on. A rainy weather report changes this to a hike only.

4/16-SAT- Paddle- Alabama Swamp

Contact chelman@rochester.rr.com (585-266-0424)

8:30am – 4:00pm Oak Orchard Road, Albion, NY 14411, Join us for a joint paddle with the Genesee Chapter of ADK for a fun paddle in the Alabama Swamp area of the Iroquois Wildlife area. This will be a shuttle where we drop of boats, drive to the take out and then paddle the swamp back to our cars. Bring lunch, water, extra clothes, boat, paddle, PFD. Again, an early season paddle, so cold weather gear is a must. Canoe or kayak. Typically a number of carries around downed trees and can be muddy. Be prepared. We will meet at the Brockport-Wegmans parking lot at 8:30 am and then caravan over to the put in point. Contact Charlie at waterways@adk-gvc.org for further info and your intent to participate.

4/23 -SAT- Kayak/Paddle Board Demo Day in Ellicottville (C)

Contact JoAnn Ratajczak at jkish45@yahoo.com or call 716-400-1030 to attend a kayak demo day in Ellicottville. Please indicate your kayak need: creek kayak, flat-water kayak, white water kayak, fishing kayak or paddle board.

We will park at the Tim Horton's at the corner of Routes 219 and 242.

The pond that the demo will take place is adjacent to the parking lot. This event is being sponsored by John Rounds, who has a new store in Ellicottville called Adventure Bound On The Fly: <http://adventureboundonthefly.com/>



The next outing is not an ADK sponsored events but of interest to our membership:

4/23-SAT-RiverKeeper waterways cleanup.

ADK members who want to do the cleanup should register online: bnriverkeeper.org At the site, click on Unity Island. There is a form to fill out. Registrants can also print out the liability waiver from Riverkeeper's site. If they have difficulty registering online they can call Jarrett Steffens at Riverkeeper: 852-7483, ext. 19 to register.

May

5/1 –SUN- HIKE- Emery Park, South Wales (C-easy)

Spring Wildflower Walk with Erin Redding, 716-480-3771, Meet at the Ski Hill Parking lot on the north side of Emery Road. We will be walking for up to 2 hours, stopping frequently to look at, identify and photograph wildflowers. The pace will be slow, but we may go off trail. Rain or shine. Please call for meet up time.

5/3 –TUES- PADDLE- various locations - Morning paddle (C+)

Arrive by 9:00 am (ready to launch); Call or text Denise Smith @ 238-3262 no later than 9:00 pm the Monday before for meet up location. This will most likely be on the Canal but the location could change based on weather and participants' interests. You will be required to WEAR your PFD. Dress for the weather and possible immersion. This will be a regularly weekly scheduled paddle during the months of May & June.

5/10, 5/17, 5/24, 5/31–TUES- PADDLE- various locations - Morning paddle (C+)

Arrive by 9:00 am (ready to launch); Call or text Denise Smith @ 238-3262 no later than 9:00 pm the Monday before for meet up location, based on weather and participants' interests. You will be required to WEAR your PFD. Dress for the weather and possible immersion. This will be a regularly weekly scheduled paddle during the months of May.

5/7 SAT-Nature HIKE- Knox Park, Carol Griffis, 652-254, carolgriffis@gmail.com

I will be leading the Spring Ephemerals Walk at Knox Park in conjunction with Buffalo Audubon. 9am- 11am. Discover the shy wildflowers of early spring. Dress for trails which may be wet and muddy. Birders & kids are welcome. Bring your favorite field guide and if it's a nice day, bring your lunch. Donations accepted. Meet at the parking lot.

5/14-5/15-SAT-SUN-BACKPACKING Trip on the Letchworth Trail (A)

Led by Mare Steiniger or Lestie Salathe. Please contact leader to RSVP and for more information:

maresteiniger@aol.com, or lesliesalathe@live.com, or (716) 560-1311,

One of Letchworth's best kept secrets is the 25 mile hiking trail on the east side of the park that is part of the Finger Lakes Trail system. On Saturday, 5/14/16, at 7:00 AM, we will carpool to The Parade Grounds, where we will leave the end car, then drive to our starting point on River Road just south of Rt 408. We will hike 9 miles to our overnight at the South Lean-to. Upon arriving at the lean-to, half of us will set up camp, while the other half of us will hike out about a half mile to get the gallon jugs of water that we will have cached on the way in. (It will be about a gallon and a half of water per person) The next morning we will hike 6.5 miles to our end car at The Parade Grounds. There will be an optional hike into the gorge to the Lower Falls after putting our packs in the cars, and an optional ice cream stop.

5/21-5/22 -SAT-SUN-BACKPACKING in Allegany National Forest (B+)

Contact Teresa Corrigan TeresaCorrigan85@gmail.com or 716-835-1905. This will be an early in the backpacking season starting with a low mileage stroll on the Rimrock Morrison trail, and stop to enjoy glades of ferns and giant boulders on the way to our campsite. This trip will be suitable for families. We will get to camp early enough to play and explore. On the way home there is a great spot for take-out food and ice cream. If persistent, significant rain is in the forecast, we will modify our plan and hike in Allegany State Park instead. We will make one of the park lean tos our base for cooking and socializing, so we will have a relatively dry place to take a break from the rain. This way, the trip will go on this weekend rain or shine. You must provide your own equipment and meals. Please contact the leader well ahead of time to discuss! There are rental options and some of our members are even willing to share. Please join us!

5/30 Mon -Paddle-Strawberry Island, Niagara River (B)

Contact Patti Zander floyd431n@yahoo.com or call 704 9790

June

6/7, 6/14, 6/21, 6/28–TUES- PADDLE- various locations - Morning paddle (C+)

Arrive by 9:00 am (ready to launch); Call or text Denise Smith @ 238-3262 no later than 9:00 pm the Monday before for meet up location, based on weather and participants' interests. You will be required to WEAR your PFD. Dress for the weather and possible immersion. This will be a regularly weekly scheduled paddle during the months of June.

The following outings are not ADK sponsored events but are of interest to our membership:

6/3- 6/5 Allegany Nature Pilgrimage at Allegany State Park.

Go to [Allegany Nature Pilgrimage](#) for more information.

6/17- 6/19 Finger Lakes Trail Spring Weekend in Montour Falls, NY.

Please go to [Finger Lakes Trail Spring Weekend](#) for more information.

7/18-7/27 Joseph Allen, from Earth Spirit Educational Services invites us to join him in Yellowstone National Park for an in-depth study of wildlife. July 18th to 27th. Joseph presented his research on the re-introduction of wolves into the park at our October general meeting. His presentation was enthusiastically received and members have enjoyed his trips in the past. Please go to this link for complete information about the excursion: <http://www.acsu.buffalo.edu/~jcallen/Megafauna%20and%20Predation2016.html>



Trip Reports Check our website for [trip reports!](#)

Six people including Kate and Dick Hacker, Bob Van Hise, Patti Zander, Leslie Salathe, Dave Reling and Marion Hanover stayed at the ADK Loj outside of Lake Placid. We had planned to cross country ski and hike, but with little snow hiking was the main choice. Kate went to Whiteface Mountain to ski on man-made snow on Friday, Patti and Bob climbed Algonquin together, and Dave climbed Algonquin on his own. Leslie, Dick and Marion walked to the Rocky Falls area and found out how thin the ice was! On Saturday Marion climbed Algonquin and Wright with the Albany ADK chapter and Leslie, Kate and Dave climbed Tabletop. Dick did part of the Tabletop trip and relaxed the rest of the day with Patti and Bob at the Loj. We had 3 great days of meals together and made new friends at the long group dining tables and around the big fireplace. We had beautiful blue skies and nice crisp temperatures as you can see from the pictures.



Top of Tabletop mountain; Marion Hanover and Leslie Salathe near Rocky Falls

The Adventures of the Algonquin 12 (Trip Report from Algonquin Feb 18-21)

Cast of characters:

Our Leaders: (King) Richard Schraven and (Queen) Mary Schraven

Their Followers: Jim & Carol Griffis (a.k.a. The Griffis Bakery), Jim (Mr. Coffee) Schraven, Maureen (Mountain Mamma) Rowley, Vicki (Wonder Woman) Wulf, Bob (What About Bob?) Preston, Paul (John Valjean) Kochmanski, Peg (Dixie Chick) Heath, Julie (Jewel of the South) Matthews, Larry (Lawrence of Algonquin) Mathews

The adventure began on Thursday AM February 18th, right on time with a blue sky, sunshine and clear sailing to the west gate of Algonquin. There was a little hitch with the Schraven van in their honesty while crossing the border. However they made their way without any handcuffs on, while the Mathew's party lied their way through "evidence in plain sight". Despite different departure times and places, the entire crew met by mid-afternoon for a Fern Lake ski outing. The sky was still bright blue and the conditions were outstanding and the crew got pumped up for a big day on Friday. After the afternoon ski everyone made it to the infamous and historic Mad Musher. The downstairs penthouse nicely fit all 12 of us (though some coins had to be tossed to decide who went where) between bunks, beds, 2 bathrooms, living and a kitchen/dining area that could fit us all.

The Thursday dinner was a pot luck with a Schraven chicken sausage cacciatore dish, Mo's soup, Vicki's scalloped poe's, Peg's salad, Julie's dessert and some of the finest beverages from around the world. Half of the group headed out into the clear, cold night for a moonlit walk along the river and played with their moon shadows and pondered how in the world our ancestors came up with the constellations in the starry sky.

This evening and every evening after concluded with more songs than most could anticipate. With the help of an iPhone, Peg sang Carol King solos ("You've Got a Friend"), "Mountain Mama Mo" did her rendition of John Denver's "Country Roads" and the Dixie Chick Women helped out Aretha Franklin in "A Natural Woman", while Paul led the choir in "Grandma's Feather Bed". The gentlemen at the table had a chance to learn County/Rapp via the Ballad of Jed Clampet. We (won't say who) got to do a little dancing as well. Wow what a night.

Everyone woke up to one of the most spectacular sunrises ever on Friday morning. Never were so many pictures taken of a sunrise. We had to do our best keeping Mo and Vicki from jumping into the river below, as they seem to have this uncontrollable energy to do the impossible. After sunrise we enjoyed the daily coffee made by Jim along with cakes and bread from The Griffis Bakery.

Paul mapped out a reasonable ski route at Leaf Lake for the day, which six hearty souls embarked upon. His plan was to go about 15 km. The foursome parted at 5.3 km out, heading to Thistle Cabin, while Paul and Larry went on a more scenic (and difficult!) route of 4.3 km, arriving at the cabin just as the others were leaving. They had left a nice fire going and Larry provided a yummy lunch (with wine!). While the foursome did a total of 10.6 km, and Paul & Larry did 14.1 km, Vicki and Mo took "the short cut", going about 25 km, and still ending up at the Musher only a bit after the others. The Griffis', along with Jim and Bob headed by snowshoe to the Logging Museum and other hikes. Everyone made it back to the Musher late in the PM and got ready for beverage hour. The big hit seemed to be the smoked trout, arctic char, cheeses and some sweet/hot jalapeno peppers. After the crew got started we trekked all the way upstairs to the Musher Restaurant. We were treated like royalty, and the big dinner hit was a beef tenderloin and the craft beers were not far behind.

On Saturday we had to resort to Plan B since the weather was a little iffy. So we enjoyed several well spent hours devouring the exhibits at the Algonquin Museum. Afterwards, some did short hikes and then progressed to beverage hour. While most went upstairs for another fine dinner at the Mush, Paul, Peg and Mo engaged in a "Sex and love symposium".

The evening again concluded with more songs and a discussion of the secret of life, which you could see on the smiling faces. We must say the finale was "Amazing".

Sunday February 20 was pack-up-and-drive-home day with the cars on their own heading back to Buffalo either quickly or slowly. I think everyone agreed it was a great time with great food at more than a reasonable price. Therefore: "Same Time Next Year!" written by Larry Mathews

Remember: Our chapter has hiking poles available to members to borrow for free. It is a benefit of membership. Contact Cheryl Peluso 997-2349 or cherylp17@verizon.net for more information.

Are You a 46er? We Want You on Our List!

Loretta Yerke, who is a long term member of our chapter and former ADK Newsletter editor, made up a list of all our chapter 46ers in 2008. Wilma Cipolla and Loretta thought we should update the list to include all of the new 46ers since then. If you don't have a number because you didn't register we can still add you to the list. The list is posted on our ADK-NFC.org website. To add your name send it to Cheryl Peluso, cherylp17@verizon.net, or call Kate Hacker at 688-8618.



Welcome New Chapter Members!

Welcome to our new members who joined in January and February including, Joseph and Katherine Bennett, John and Kimberlee Danieu, Kim Downing and Joseph Schretzman, Ken Zidell, Gina Martin and Jerry Witt!



If you would like to join the Niagara Frontier Chapter you can sign up at a monthly meeting or online at ADK.org. If you sign up online don't forget to check that you want to join our chapter so the local chapter gets a portion of your dues.

Kathleen Clerkin, Membership Chair

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

February Executive Committee Meeting: The ADK-NFC Executive Committee will hold their April 5th meeting at 6:45 PM at the Julia Reinstein library. For further details contact any member of the Executive Committee. Any member is welcome to attend. Chairpersons who cannot attend should send a report to the Secretary, larry_beahan@roadrunner.com

ADK-NFC WEBSITE

Check out our website adk-nfc.org for a [calendar](#) of future events and outings, conservation news, newsletters and upcoming programs.

LIABILITY WAIVER

The OFFICIAL ADK LIABILITY WAIVER FORM needs to be filled out and SIGNED in ink by EVERY participant at EVERY outing, WITHOUT EXCEPTION, BEFORE the outing begins! This also applies to all outing leaders and to all participants (members and non-members) on any ADK activity. Forms are available through the ADK-NFC.ORG website on the [OUTINGS](#) page. Completed forms can be submitted to Mary Schraven or any Outing Co-Chair at the next meeting following the outing. If leading a joint ADK outing with another group, ADK waiver forms must be signed by all participants, even non-members, in addition to the other organization's waiver(s).

Executive Committee Members

CHAIRPERSON - Janet Kowalski, 166 Burbank Dr., Snyder, NY 14226, 716-839-3114, janetk300@gmail.com

1ST VICE CHAIR/OUTINGS - Mary Schraven, 91 N. Parrish Dr., Amherst, NY 14228, (716) 564-2106, maryschraven1@gmail.com

2ND VICE CO-CHAIR CONSERVATION - Lynn Rhefeld- Kenney, 21 Hillside Ave., Buffalo, NY 14210, 716-825 7329, woodthrush3@hotmail.com

3RD VICE CO-CHAIR PROGRAMS - Dana Jandzinski hikenbike30@yahoo.com

4TH VICE CO-CHAIR EDUCATION - Teresa Corrigan, 207 Woodward Ave., Buffalo, NY 14214-2313, 716-835-1905 teresacorrigan85@gmail.com

DIRECTOR/ WEBMASTER - Rob Laing, webmaster@adk-nfc.org

TREASURER - Doug Gaffney, 830 George Urban Blvd., Cheektowaga, NY 14225, 716-631-3979, dgaffney@roadrunner.com

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS - Cheryl Peluso, 3618 Howard Rd, Hamburg, NY 14075, 716-648-9027, cherylp17@verizon.net

SECRETARY - Larry Beahan, 5 Darwin Dr., Amherst, NY 14226-4599, 716-839-3112, larry_beahan@roadrunner.com

NEWSLETTER EDITOR - Kate Hacker, 28 Partridge Run, Amherst, NY 14228-1011, 716-688-8618, hackerks@gmail.com Also email Mary Schraven at maryschraven1@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR - Kathy Clerkin, kmclerkin@gmail.com

HOSPITALITY - Sandy Paine, 823-0122 or 462-2925 (cell)

Outings Co-Chairs

DAY HIKES (Apr - Nov) New co-chair needed!

WATERWAYS - Richard Schraven, 91 N. Parrish Dr. Amherst, NY 14228, richardschraven1@gmail.com, 564-2106

BIKING - Paul Kochmanski, (716) 895-7712, kochmanski@ecc.edu

WINTER SPORTS (Nov - Mar) - JoAnn Kish Ratajczak, 400-1030, jkish45@yahoo.com

BACKPACKING – Teresa and Peter Corrigan , 207 Woodward Ave., Buffalo, NY 14214-2313, 716-835-1905
teresacorrigan85@gmail.com, hikepmc@roadrunner.com
