ADIRONDACK MOUNTAIN CLUB
NIAGARA FRONTIER CHAPTER
WWW.ADK-NFC.ORG

August 2015 Newsletter

WANTED! Your pictures!

What are you doing this summer? Whatever adventure you choose, please bring your camera, take lots of shots and be ready to share at our September meeting. Whether it's the trip or a lifetime or a paddle, day hike or a bike ride right around the corner your ADK friends want to see your pictures! Sharing our vacation shots at the September meeting is even more fun than Facebook or Instagram. You get instant feedback, and the screen is a lot bigger than anyone’s PC!

So review those pictures and later this month get them to Doug Gaffney, who is the director of our September program. Please pick your ten best pictures (only 10 please!). You can email them to Doug at dgaffney@roadrunner.com. Or you can mail a disc with a minimal file size to Doug at:

830 George Urban Blvd.
Cheektowaga, NY, 14255

After a couple of months without meetings it’s so much fun to come back and share our summer stories. Also there will be ice cream!!! Keep taking pictures and save the date: September 8, 2015. See you there!

General Meeting
There will be no regular meeting in August. Regular meetings will resume in September.

CONSERVATION CORNER  Lynn Rehfeld-Kenney, Chair
Stella Niagara and the Niagara Greenway  Submitted By: Larry Beahan

The Star of the Niagara River Greenway is the “Stella Niagara Nature Preserve.” The Western New York Land Conservancy has purchased 29 Niagara River-front acres at Stella Niagara and thus added a precious jewel to theflagging Niagara River Greenway.
At last some of the 450-million-dollar Niagara Power Project Relicensing fund has gone toward creating the Niagara River Greenway that the Buffalo Niagara Region and Niagara River deserve.

The Sisters of Saint Francis cherished that spectacular green, quarter-mile swath of Niagara River shore for over a hundred years; now they have placed it in hands that will protect it forever. The Iroquois used its sloping shore as a canoe landing spot for centuries. In 1812 British Redcoats landed there to capture Fort Niagara. Soon it will be a regular launching spot for modern canoeists and kayakers.

In 2007 the Niagara Power Project’s 50-year relicensing agreement began paying 9 million dollars a year into Greenway funds. Four Greenway Standing Committees were empowered to use that money to build a Greenway, defined in law as a linear system of parks, trails, and conservation areas linking Lake Erie to Lake Ontario.

One of them, the Ecological Standing Committee which has 2 million a year to spend, desperate to see a real step taken toward a Greenway, anteed up $2,353,487 of the $3,270,000 needed to pay for this marvelous property. Many other agencies and generous individuals banded together to make up the rest.

Three Standing Committees, Buffalo and Erie County, Host Communities (Niagara County) and NYS Parks have between them 8 million a year in Greenway funds. They have used the money to restore dilapidated parks, build playgrounds, repair theaters, run jazz festivals, put up statues and redo streetscapes, often at great distances from the Niagara River. Most of these are commendable projects but they aren’t “Greenway” projects. These committees have used the Greenway as a sugar bowl full of money to pay for things that are difficult to persuade taxpayers to fund.

Two of these three Standing Committees contributed nothing toward the purchase of Stella. Host Communities gave $150,000; pretty small potatoes in comparison to the 6 million they spent on Veterans Park which is quite a jaunt from the River.

An American Niagara River Greenway from Lake to Lake, a linear system of parks, trails, and conservation areas, instead of a mismatched collection of neglected public and private land, industrial wastelands and highways, could bring revenue and prosperity to the Buffalo Niagara Region that would far out-reach and out-last the short-lived tax relief which the misapplication of Relicensing money now provides.

Contact your NY State Legislators. Ask them to cosponsor S4824 by Senator Panepinto and A 478 by Assembly member Ryan. These bills would require that Greenway money be spent to build a Niagara River Greenway that is in fact a linear system of parks, trails, and conservation areas crowned with the star: “Stella Niagara.” This bill failed this year but will be in the docket next fall.

There will be no meetings this month. The Conservation Committee meetings will start again in September. Attacks on the environment never stop. Help us by joining the Conservation Committee.

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**Waterway’s Committee, Richard Schraven**

The Waterways (Paddling) Committee has met has several trips planned (see trip descriptions elsewhere in this newsletter). The preliminary paddling schedule is also here for your perusal. I hope to see good participation in these events. If you are interested in taking part in our activities this summer and did not get the e-mail, please contact me with your contact information. Submitted by Richardschraven1@gmail.com (716) 564-2106

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Bicycling Committee, Paul Kochmanski

There are several trips planned (see trip descriptions elsewhere in this newsletter) as well as many proposed below. If you want to add a trip (see suggestions) to this list or volunteer to lead a trip please submit your desired rides and/or dates to me. Biking Co-Chair, Paul Kochmanski 895-7712 kochmanski@ecc.edu

Sat. 8/1 Canal Days Marine Heritage Festival (Fort Erie to Port Colborne) http://portcolborne.ca/page/canal_days Paul Kochmanski
Sat. 8/8 Niagara-on-the-Lake Peach Fest http://www.niagarafallstourism.com/events/peach-festival/ leader needed
Sun. 8/9 Lewiston Art Fest (http://www.artcouncil.org/events/artfestival.php leader needed
Sat. 8/15 Scottish Festival & Highland Games (Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village) http://bnhv.org/scottish/ leader needed
Sat. 8/22 Ride TBA, Ron Dorr
8/29-30 open
9/5-7 open
Sat. 9/12 Lewiston Peach Fest http://lewistonkiwanis.org/ncpf.html Ron Dorr
Sun. 9/13 Niagara Falls Blues Fest http://www.niagarafallstourism.com/events/bluesfest/ leader needed
9/19-20 open
9/26-27 Genesee Valley Greenway, Tom Burkman, tentative
10/3-4 open
10/10-11 Oak Orchard River Road to Brown’s Berry Patch, Richard Schraven, tentative

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 our website www.adk-nfc.org

Trip Descriptions
August

8/1 Saturday, BIKE - Front Park to Port Colborne (Canal Days) (A- 40 mi, B 20 mi.)
Paul Kochmanski 895-7712 kochmanski@ecc.edu
Meet at Olmstead's historic Front Park. For those wishing to shorten the ride 20 miles and not ride over the bridge, starting in Ridgeway (near Crystal Beach) is an option. We will ride over the Peace Bridge and down the Friendship Trail (a lovely, smoothly paved, flat, green rail-to-trail route) 20 miles to Port Colborne where we will attend the Canal Days Marine Heritage Festival for a couple hours. See http://www.canaldays.ca/page/canal_days for more details. Stopping at the Ridgeway Farmer's Market for sausage samples and fresh fruits (and music) has been popular. Bring a passport or enhanced NY Driver's License for the bridge crossing, a helmet (required), food (optional), a spare tube, and water. Plenty of photo-ops and eating ops! Rain date Sun. 8/2. Call or email for starting time, specific meeting location(s) and any questions.

WED AUG 5, 12, 19, 26 EVENING HIKES - Chestnut Ridge Park "Seufert Road Loop"
Cheryl Peluso Cherylp17@verizon.net
This beautiful 4 mile loop, up and down several ravines, goes through the heart of this gem of a park. It affords 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
Thurs, August 6 – Evening HIKE – Chestnut Ridge Park
Contact Rebecca Wightman, days at 716-961-6854 (office) or most evenings at 905-834-4818 (Ontario residence). Or call Linc Blaisdell of the Buffalo Orienteering Club at 479-9431.
This is a Buffalo Orienteering Club (BOM) event being led by one of our ADK members. It is a continuation of their guided map hikes offered by the BOM on Thurs. evenings in July & August. Also see the website at: http://www.buffalo-orienteering.org/ under July 2 to August 27.
Meet at the Chestnut Ridge Park Casino at 6 pm. We will drive to the other side of the park. This will be a 1 to 1-1/2 hour walk through the woods with instruction on reading the orienteering map and use of your rotating dial compass. Purchase of the $7 Chestnut Ridge Park map hike map is required. It will be available from the hike leader at the beginning of the hike. The map shows the location of 25 points where markers are located. This evening will be a walk to one of these points. There will be some change in elevation, and some off-trail walking, but nothing too strenuous. Because this hike is instructional, the pace will be slow to moderate. Expect mud and bugs.

Friday 8/7 – Monday 8/10, BIKE/CAMP - Great Allegheny Passage.
Aaron Slosman aslosman@gmail.com
I will be biking this rails to trails bike trail. The distance is 150 miles. The trail is crushed limestone and is at rail road grade so no big hills. The path can be done on any bike but you will be more comfortable with a hybrid/cross/gravel grinder/mountain bike/touring bike. You will need to be able to carry your camping gear and food on your bike. Dual wheeled trailers are not appropriate for this trip. We will be leaving a car in Cumberland and juggling cars/gear on Friday Aug 7th. Overnight hotel costs on Aug 7th will be likely required. You need to be able to ride at 10-15 miles per hour for 6 hours a day on flat ground with a gear loaded bike. Plan on riding 50 or so miles a day at a comfortable pace. You will need standard camping/backpacking gear and rack/bags for the bike or a single wheeled trailer. There may be some additional fees for camping depending on where we stay. Trip requires at least two cars for me to bring someone else. We may need to get creative depending on numbers. Trail info can be found here http://www.atatrail.org/.

Saturday, August 8th – Pedal & Paddle from Queenston to Niagara-on-The-Lake (N-O-T-L) (B)
Richard (716) 564-2106 rschraven@roadrunner.com & Mary Schraven (716) 946-7489 maryschraven1@gmail.com
We will drive to Queenston with our bikes and canoes or kayaks and lock the boats to the fence at the boat dock. Then we will drive to N-O-T-L and ride our bikes back to Queenston on the Niagara Recreational Trail and exchange our boats with our bikes. The paddle from Queenston will be an easy one with the current. We can have a picnic lunch at Queens Park overlooking Lake Ontario or stop at one of the nice lunch restaurants in town. Participants can linger at their leisure with window shopping or even take in a play at the Shaw Festival. With the canoes/kayak mounted again on our cars, we will drive home with a stop in Queenston to pick up our bikes. On this outing we must be equipped for safe bike riding and paddling. There is a possibility to take part in only the bike or paddle part of the trip. Call for details.

8/9 Sunday, BIKE - Lewiston Art Festival & Ft. Niagara
Mike Promowicz 297-3126
We will be meeting in the town of Lewiston, riding northeast up to the shore of Lake Ontario, west to Fort Niagara State Park, where we will sight-see, then head south, stopping at the new Nature Conservancy land along the Niagara River that was part of Stella Niagara Retreat Center. We will finish our ride back in Lewiston where folks are invited to stay for the Art Festival. More information about it at http://www.artcouncil.org/events/artfestival.php. Bring a bike in good working condition, a spare inner tube, water, lunch (food is available at the festival), and a lock. Helmets are required. Call for precise meeting location and time.

8/15 – 8/19 SAT to WED Canoe Pack & Hiking Trip - George Lake, Killarney Lake and O.S.A. Lake,
Killarney Provincial Park, Ontario (A) RichardSchraven1@gmail.com (716) 564-2106 MarySchraven1@gmail.com (716) 946-7489
We will drive six hours to the George Lake Access Point to obtain our interior permit. The first night is spent at a campground on this lake. While paddling through George Lake you'll get a sense of Killarney's incredible landscape. You'll pass by smooth knobs of pink granite which continue along the lake's South shore. Ahead, you'll see high white rock cliffs, for which the park is famous—the La Cloche Mountains. On the second day, we paddle by the steep granite cliffs on our right to reach the short 80 metre (m.) portage to Freeland Lake. We go on to the 455 m. portage around the Chikanishing River to Killarney Lake. We will camp here two nights. The third day we can check out this large lake and hike on the portage trails and on the La Cloche Silhouette Hiking Trail, which was named after Franklin
A Wilderness Weekends in Western New York Outing

8/15 – 8/19 SAT to WED Canoe Pack & Hiking Trip - George and Killarney Lake, Killarney Provincial Park, Ontario (A) RichardSchraven1@gmail.com (716) 564-2106 MarySchraven1@gmail.com (716) 946-7489 John Yates jyuca@yahoo.com 572-8852

GROUP 2
This second reservation was obtained to increase the number of people who can experience this beautiful park from nine to eighteen. Both groups will drive the six hours to the Park office at George Lake to obtain their interior camping permits. This group will stay in their campsite for three nights and have ample opportunity to explore this and adjoining lakes by canoe and hike portage trails during the days. On the fourth day, they paddle by the steep granite cliffs on the right to reach the short 80 metre (m.) portage to Freeland Lake. Going on, they portage 455 m. around the Chikanishing River to Killarney Lake. They camp here for the night and go back to George Lake the next morning, but on the way, they can take a side trip to O.S.A. Lake and enjoy one of the most scenic spots in the park. This route involves about 20 kilometres of paddling (depending on available campsite location) and 1000m. of portaging. While this trip can be done in kayaks, their weight and limited carrying capacity make canoes a better choice. (Light-weight Kevlar canoes can be rented from Killarney Outfitters with in-park delivery available.) Leaving from the George Lake Access point is convenient to the village of Killarney and Herbert's fish market for a terrific fish dinner and ice cream. We are limited to nine on an interior permit, so send your $20.00 deposit to reserve your spot to: Richard Schraven, 91 N. Parrish Drive, Amherst, NY 14228. Before the trips, we will have a meeting of the participants and leaders to go over the route, equipment requirements and itineraries.

August Killarney Provincial Park Paddle Trip Update
Twelve of the eighteen available spots for this trip have been reserved. Please read the attached trip descriptions and if you have an interest in joining us, contact one of the trip leaders listed. We can forward a sample checklist and interior canoe/camp guide.

SUN 8/16 HIKE & NATURE WALK - Beaver Meadow Audubon Center (C)
A Wilderness Weekends in WNY Outing
Cheryl Peluso 997-2349 cherylpl17@verizon.net
Every Sunday afternoon Buffalo Audubon Society offers an hour long guided walk through the preserve led by one of their naturalists from 2-3pm. These are enjoyable and interesting. Plan on arriving between 1 and 2pm to allow time to tour the nature center with Cheryl. We can then join the Family Walk at 2pm. Our ADK group will then do an optional 2-4 mile HIKE on some of the hiking trails before heading home. Call or email Cheryl to reserve your spot. Beaver Meadow Buffalo Audubon Center is located at 1610 Welch Road, North Java, NY 14113

8/22, Saturday, Lockport Locks Paddle (C)
Carolyn Kerr - stenolou@gmail.com or 716-553-4335
We launch from the Wide Waters Marina and do an easy, less than one mile paddle down to the locks. We'll "lock through" this engineering marvel in our kayaks or canoes, and then paddle a bit more up the canal into Pendleton. When we've had enough, we'll just turn around and "lock through" again. This is an easy, novelty paddle to give you the experience of going through the locks in a kayak or canoe. It is not difficult, but you must follow some instructions. There also can be some motor boat traffic along the canal, but they go relatively slow so you'll get just a little bit of their backsplash. PFD use is absolutely mandatory. Also, it is recommended that you bring a pair of rubber gloves as you have to hold onto gross, wet ropes while ascending and descending in the locks. Please contact me for meeting place and time.

8/22 Saturday, HIKE - Conservation Trail to Becker's Pond (B)
A Wilderness Weekends in Western New York Outing
Cheryl Peluso  Cherylp17@verizon.net  997-2349
Joint hike with Foothills Trail Club. Approximately 5 mile hike in Holland, New York. Meet at 10:30am at Holland Willows parking lot on Savage Road off route 16 in Holland, NY. We will hike to Becker Pond, have lunch there and hike back to our cars. Bring water and a packed lunch. Hiking poles are recommended. Email or call to reserve a spot.

8/23 Sunday, BIKE – Front Park to Crystal Beach, 24 miles (B)
Paul Kochmanski  895-7712  kochmanski@ecc.edu
Meet at Olmstead’s historic Front Park. For those wishing to shorten the ride 3 miles, and not ride over the bridge, starting in Fort Erie is an option. We will ride over the Peace Bridge and down the Friendship Trail (a lovely, smoothly paved, flat, rail-to-trail route). After a stop at the farmer’s market in Ridgeway, we will continue on to Crystal Beach where we can relax on the sand of the public beach (bring sunscreen - there's no shade!), have lunch (no glass or alcohol allowed), and take a dip in the lake. For those wanting to buy a hot lunch, the nearby "Beach Front Grill" has the usual variety of things, but also many varieties of POUTIN! After about 1.5 hours, we will return along the same route. Bring a passport or enhanced NY Driver's License for the bridge crossing, lunch, swim suit and towel, a spare inner tube for your bike, a bike lock and a helmet (required). Rain cancels. Call for meeting time, specific meeting location(s) and any questions.

8/30 Sunday, BIKE - Tonawanda to Elmwood Avenue Festival of the Arts
Paul Kochmanski  895-7712  kochmanski@ecc.edu
We will meet in Tonawanda, ride down the Riverwalk to the Scajaquada Bike Path to Elmwood. We’ll lock our bikes, enjoy the sights and sounds and food of the festival for an hour or two, and then return the same route. Bring a bike in good working condition, a spare inner tube, water, lunch (optional), a lock and a helmet (required). Call for precise meeting location and meeting time.

8/28 - 8/30 Fri to Sun, Canoe/Camping Trip, Lowes Lake
Kate Hacker, hackerks@gmail.com, 688-8618
Lows Lake is a beautiful wild lake near Tupper Lake. We will drive up early Friday morning and canoe in several miles until we find an open site. This will be a fast long paddle to get in so you will need to be an experienced paddler or ride with someone else who is. I can take up to 7 people. We will travel around the lake and take a hike and/or swim during the day on Saturday and then travel out on Sunday and take another hike on the way out. You will need to bring your own tents, food and other gear. Since the lake can be rough you should have at least a 12’ boat. There will be one portage from the Bog River around a dam, and occasionally there are bogs that develop requiring a short carry. If you bring a kayak you have to be able to move it about .2 miles. I can give you information on what to bring. This is generally a leisurely fun outing where you may bring food and refreshments to share. A couple of people who have tandem boats have mentioned an interest in going. This will allow one or two people without adequate boats to come.

September

9/12 Saturday, BIKE - Lewiston Peach Fest & Fort Niagara State Park (B) 20 miles
Ron Dorr 693-6832
Much of the route will be on bike paths and park roads. From Lewiston we’ll paddle north on a bike path, then over to the rim of the lower Niagara River gorge. At Youngstown we will loop east then up to Lake Ontario and ride along the lake to Fort Niagara State Park where we will break for lunch and enjoy the view of the lake. Much of the return route to Lewiston will be on the bike path along the river. After the ride, anyone interested in the Peach Fest can browse the grounds and treat themselves to peach shortcake while enjoying the sights and sounds of the fall festival. Bring a bike in good working condition, a spare inner tube, water, lunch (food is not available at Ft. Niagara), and a lock. Helmets are required. Call for precise meeting location and meeting time.

Trip Reports
Check our website for more
Bike Ride, Thursday 7/2/15 on West Shore Bike Path (Wherle Drive, Williamsville to Village of Akron) by JoAnn Ratajczak

It was a beautiful summer evening on Thursday. Paul joined me for the bike ride. And we rode at a pretty good pace, though that isn’t a requirement. We started at 6:30 and the bike path is pretty and secluded, away from traffic. We saw a couple of deer and several bunnies along the trail. In the Village of Akron we locked up our bikes and went for ice cream, then rode back. The path was 8.6 miles one way, so it was about 17 mile round trip and took about two hours. We arrived back at the parking lot about 8:15.

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.

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ADK BOOK CLUB Report Summer 2015

The next ADK Book Club meeting is Wednesday, September 28 at 6:30 PM. We will be discussing An American Tragedy by Theodore Dreiser. This is a book of fiction, based on a true murder that took place in the Adirondacks. It is considered an American Classic, addressing social issues of the era that far exceed the thriller plot. It is long, so pace yourself and enjoy! The group will meet in the Meeting Room at the Eggertsville-Snyder Library Branch at 4622 Main St in Snyder, near the corner of Burroughs and Main.

ADK READERS Schedule for 2015-2016

- **September 30:** An American Tragedy, by Theodore Dreiser
- **October 28:** Adirondack French Louie, by Harvey Dunham
- **January 27:** The Adirondack Reader, edited by Paul Jamieson with Neal Burdick
- **February 24:** The Healing Woods, by Martha Reben
- **March 30:** The Lure of the Labrador Wild, by Dillon Wallace
- **April 27:** Bellefleur, by Joyce Carol Oates
- **May 25:** Woodswoman II, by Anne LaBastille

The library has many copies of An American Tragedy, and between 1-5 copies of the remaining selections. To purchase books, options include abebooks (some used and inexpensive), adirondack-books.com, amazon, or other options. The ADK chapter library also has some of these books.

New Members

Welcome to the following new members:

In May there was a total 9 new members including:

3 families: Mary MacQueen, Alexander& Karen Mandych, Katie Roach & Kyle Morrissey
6 individuals: Michael Borrelli, Nancy Brzezinski, Mike Coughlin, Deb Gibson, David Schulenberg, Sandra Wroblewski

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EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

The Executive Board will meet on September 1st at 6:45 pm at the Julia Reinstein library. 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 [www.adk-nfc.org](http://www.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 Andy Urban 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).

**MEMBERSHIP**
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.

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**Executive Committee Members**

**CHAIRPERSON**
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Also email cherylp17@verizon.net

**HOSPITALITY**
Sandy Paine  
823-0122 or 462-2925 (cell)
DAY HIKES
(Apr - Nov)
New co-chair needed!

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