



Newsletter of the Adirondack Mountain Club – Niagara Frontier Chapter
JANUARY 2018
www.adk-nfc.org



Next General Meeting – Tuesday, January 9, 2018 (Program starts at 6:30 p.m.)

**Location: Fellowship Hall - Amherst Community Church
77 Washington Highway, Snyder NY 14226**

NOTE: Please park in rear and enter through back door (walk up to 2nd floor)

Program Schedule:

6:30: Don't hibernate in winter! There are so many fun things to do. Join us for a winter fun forum! We will gather to review or learn for the first time great local places to snow shoe and cross country ski. We will also review equipment needs, and how to get started. If you are experienced, please come with recommendations. If you are a newbie, please join us so you can learn how to have fun on snowy trails. We promise to end on time for the pre meeting social hour! Experienced winter people: please email recommendations on places to Nordic Ski and snowshoe, and where to rent equipment.

TeresaCorrigan85@gmail.com. Thank you!

7:30: WESTERN NEW YORK LAND CONSERVATORY “RESTORE THE GORGE”

The Niagara Frontier Chapter welcomes Dave Spiering from the Western New York Land Conservatory. Dave moved to Buffalo in 2008 and became the ecologist for the Tiffit nature preserve for the Buffalo Museum of Science for 9 years.

During those years he worked on invasive species control, wildlife habitat enhancement, and science education. As the Conservation Project Manager for Restore the Gorge, he will be updating our chapter on the 3- year project of ecological



restoration in the Niagara Gorge. The conservatory work will include non-native invasive species control, planting of native species characteristic of the Gorge, and designing a high profile native landscape in conjunction with the removal of the Robert Moses Parkway. The project area covers over 200 acres of publicly accessible land that will be enhanced for people and the environment.

Photo courtesy of James Hoggard

Message From the Chair, Paul Gannon

It's the start of a new year, with all its promise and possibilities. It's a good time to look back, and reflect on what was, and a good time to look forward, and resolve to make necessary changes in our lives.

So it is with our chapter. We have had a great year. I am resolved to work hard to make this upcoming year even better.

I plan on continuing my push for all of us to embrace our role as Ambassadors for ADK. We are looking into ordering more T-shirts with our local chapter logo, so that we can promote ADK when out in public. More information about this will be announced in the next few months.

One of the new initiatives will be to develop, at least informal, collaboration with the other outdoor clubs in Western NY. The local chapter of the Sierra Club has already reached out to us. I plan on meeting with them in January. They would like to begin participating in our outings, and they would like us to assist them in conservation efforts. This would be a great thing for each organization.

On behalf of the Executive Committee, I want to wish all of you a very happy, healthy, and prosperous 2018!

Conservation Corner, Lynn Rehfeld-Kenney, Chair

The Conservation Committee meeting will be held at Larry Beahan's home on Tuesday, January 16th at 7:00pm. Call #839-3112 for directions.

Many thanks to the Schravens for hosting the November conservation meeting at their home. The evening was very informative and included a tour of the roof top solar panels, their electric car and a discussion about their decision to purchase these devices to lower their carbon footprint. We also discussed ways to provide more opportunities to actively engage the chapter membership in conservation issues. More discussion will follow on this topic. Please join us at a Conservation meeting if you have suggestions. We are also looking for a new local project for the Conservation Committee to work on. If you know of a local project please contact me to discuss your idea.

Neil Woodworth, ADK executive director, is actively working to prevent an unused section of railroad line that runs next to the Boreas River in the Adirondack Mountain's Vanderwhacker Mountain Wild Forest from becoming a junk yard for old oil tankers. It is too expensive to clean the tankers to recycle them so the company is selling the space to store the tankers and thus making it a de facto junk yard. As the tankers rust the residual oil and chemicals will pollute the river. There is no news yet on the land classification for Boreas Ponds.

Attacks on the environment never stop. To learn the latest environmental news, join us at the next Conservation Committee meeting!

Winter Mountaineering School - January 25, 2018 - January 31, 2018 - Registration Now Open

ADK-NFC is happy to announce the recipient of the Winter School scholarship is Michael McCormick. Michael will be completing the winter day hiking in the White Mountains of New Hampshire, a new training course. We wish Michael well as he prepares for this course in March. We also look forward to having Michael co-lead a few day outings for us, so we can benefit from his training. Michael plans to begin training for the Niagara Frontier Search and Rescue team. We all wish you the best of luck with your training.

ADK-NFC Meeting Cancellation Policy - As a reminder, the Executive Committee approved a policy to coordinate the decision to cancel ADK Niagara Frontier Chapter Monthly General Meetings with closings of Amherst Central Schools. Since the Amherst Community Church property abuts Amherst High School, the winter weather conditions that warrant school closings will also dictate our General Meetings. When Amherst Schools or After School Activities are cancelled on the day of our scheduled ADK meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, our monthly General Meeting will also be cancelled. Cancellation news will be reinforced with emails and Facebook postings.



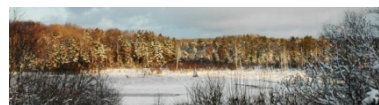
Outings

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

RECURRING EVENTS:

EVERY WEDNESDAY MORNING – SNOW SHOE/HIKE -

Audubon's Beaver Meadow, Welsh Rd. North Java. (C) Snowshoe rental \$5, assorted sizes available. Bring lunch. Carol Griffis call or text [716-652-2547](tel:716-652-2547), email this carolpgriffis@gmail.com.



EVERY WEDNESDAY EVENING - HIKE/SS/XC SKI – Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve, Cheektowaga – (C) Gus Phillips – Home: 646-5034 - Cell: 860-0421- Only call if you are concerned about the weather. Easy outing, come enjoy the moonlight, night sounds and get some exercise. Indoor restrooms open. Beginning Dec. 20 through March.

EVERY FRIDAY MORNING – SNOW SHOE/XC SKI - Knox Farm State Park - Rt 16/Seneca St., East Aurora. - (C) Carol Griffis - For time & directions, call/text [\(716-652-2547\)](tel:716-652-2547) or email [\(carolpgriffis@gmail.com\)](mailto:carolpgriffis@gmail.com) I will lead this all snowy Friday mornings. Good for beginners, gentle inclines, some woods, some open fields. There's a new coffee/pastry shop in the former sheep shed. We'll meet there.

JANUARY OUTINGS:

1/6 – SAT - **HIKE** - The Laura Secord Legacy Trail part 1 - Niagara Region, Ontario (A) Ken Martin 997-7929 for trip starting time and spotting of cars. This is the 1st of 3 hikes about 6.5 miles each, on the Legacy Trail. Laura Secord is a Canadian historical figure from the War of 1812. In 1813, Laura overheard plans for a surprise attack and struggled alone through miles of dense bush to warn the commander of the British outpost. Her actions turned the tide of the battle. Many schools and buildings in Ontario bear her name. We will retrace her footsteps 205 years later starting at the Laura Secord House in Queenstown and ending at the DeCew House near Thorold. Hike #2 is Jan. 13 and Hike #3 is Feb. 3rd. This is a HISTORICAL hike through woods, fields, and towns. More information can be found on the website below. http://www.friendsoflaurasecord.com/LSLT_TURN-BY-TURN_2016.html

1/7 - *YOUNG MEMBER EVENT* - SUN – **SNOW SHOE** - McCarty State Forest, Great Valley (B)- Contact Beth Hartz at bethh.alpha@gmail.com or text 716-713-8896 to RSVP and coordinate details. Meet at Dollar General near trail head, address, 5785 US-219, Great Valley, NY 14741 at 9 am for a 3-5 mile snow shoe hike. Please dress for the weather and bring water, and a snack. Optional lunch to follow in Ellicottville.

1/7 - SUN - **ICE SKATE** - Canalside, Buffalo - (C) Donna Kain - Call/text or e-mail me the day before for exact meet up time and location: Cell 716-348-8132 & e-mail: donna.kain@yahoo.com Weather permitting, we can skate for about 2 hours in the afternoon. Admission is approximately \$6.00. Skates and ice-bikes are available for rent. Bags can be checked for a small fee. Also, there's restrooms & food available nearby. For more information, please check Canalside's website which is updated frequently: <https://www.canalsidebuffalo.com>

1/13 – SAT - **HIKE** - The Laura Secord Legacy Trail part 2 - Niagara Region, Ontario (A) Ken Martin 997-7929 for trip starting time and spotting of cars. This is the 2nd of 3 hikes about 6.5 miles each, on the Legacy Trail. Laura Secord is a Canadian historical figure from the War of 1812. In 1813, Laura overheard plans for a surprise attack and struggled alone through miles of dense bush to warn the commander of the British outpost. Her actions turned the tide of the battle. Many schools and buildings in Ontario bear her name. We will retrace her footsteps 205 years later starting at the Laura Secord House in Queenstown and ending at the DeCew House near Thorold. Hike #3 is Feb. 3rd. This is a HISTORICAL hike through woods, fields, and towns. More information can be found on the website below. http://www.friendsoflaurasecord.com/LSLT_TURN-BY-TURN_2016.html

1/ 13 – SAT – **HIKE/SS/XCSKI** - Allegany State Park Art Rosco Ski Area - (A-C) Schraven's 716 946-7489 or MarySchraven1@gmail.com - We will meet at the Williamsville Park & Ride on Union Road just south of Main Street at 9:00 and arrive at the Summit Area Warming Hut by 10:45. Ski Rental available/ Groomed and set tracks. There are a variety of trails for different ability levels. Plan on returning late afternoon. Dress for the weather and bring lunch, snacks, water, and extra clothing as appropriate for the weather. The warming hut and snack bar will be open. Depending on snow conditions and participants, we may XC ski, hike or snowshoe. Snow shoes can be provided. Contact leader and leave your cell phone number for last minute updates.

1/19 – 1/21 – FRI thru SUN – **XC SKI** - Weekend Allegany State Park - Joanne Magavern 883-7127. Plan to enjoy a weekend of good company and some of the best X-C skiing in WNY! Reserved Cabins are full. Contact the park at reserveamerica.com to find your own accommodations. Please contact trip leader if you plan to join us for the day or for the Saturday Pot-Luck dinner and Friday night wine and cheese party. Left over lunch on Sunday, followed by the “annual sled” as well. The warming hut at Summit Area is available for ski rentals, snacks, restrooms, and tables to enjoy your own food.

1/20 *YOUNG MEMBER EVENT* - SAT - **XC SKI** - Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve - Deena Mueller-Funke (815) 355-6768 deena.mueller1@gmail.com Call/text/email to RSVP, coordinate transportation, confirm conditions, and get a start time. We will cross country ski the trails which are very flat and great for beginners. Rental equipment is available for \$8. If you don't want to ski, you can snowshoe along side us.

1/27 - SAT - **HIKE/SNOW SHOE** - Franklin Gulf County Park, Eden (C) Janet and David Kowalski, janetk300@gmail.com, home: 839-3114 Cell: 445-8777. We will explore the wooded creeks, waterfalls and ravines in this delightful undeveloped "conservation park." Depending on the conditions, this will be a hike, with micro-spikes, or snowshoe. Please dress for the weather, and bring water and a snack/lunch. Hiking poles are recommended! Meet at the Trailhead on Larkin Road at 10 AM. Directions: Take the Thruway to the Eden-Angola Exit 57A and turn Left onto Eden Evans Center Rd. Proceed 3.2 miles, and turn Right on Main St in Eden. Drive 0.6 miles and make a diagonal Left turn onto Sandrock Rd. After 1.7 miles turn Left onto Larkin Rd. The trailhead is on 9998 Larkin Road about 0.8 miles on the Right.



1/28 – SAT – **HIKE/SNOW SHOE/XC SKI** - Sprague Brook County Park - (C) Schraven's [716-946-7489](tel:716-946-7489) or MarySchraven1@gmail.com - Meet at 9:00 at the Williamsville Park & Ride on Union Road, just south of Main Street (SW Corner). We will arrive at the warming hut by 10:15. These are good beginner trails with gentle hills. Plan to return late afternoon. Sprague Brook has groomed and set tracks. Warming hut is open. Bring appropriate clothes, equipment (no rentals available) drinks and lunch. Snow shoes can be provided. Restrooms are open but in a different area of the park. Depending on conditions, we will ski and if not, hike or snowshoe in the park. If the sledding hill is open, the Casino is open as well. Contact trip leader and leave cell phone number for last minute updates.

2/3 – SAT - **HIKE** - The Laura Secord Legacy Trail part 1 - Niagara Region, Ontario (A) Ken Martin 997-7929 for trip starting time and spotting of cars. This is the 3rd of 3 hikes about 6.5 miles each, on the Legacy Trail. More information is provided in the January 6 or January 13 hike descriptions, or at http://www.friendsoflaurasecord.com/LSLT_TURN-BY-TURN_2016.html

2/18 – SUN – **XC SKI** - Byrncliff Resort - (A-C) Schravens [716-946-7489](tel:716-946-7489) or Maryschraven1@gmail.com. This beautiful resort has day and night skiing, with 12 miles of groomed and set track. Trail fee of \$15/adult, \$13/Seniors, \$55/ lessons. There is a dinner special available for \$29 which includes trail fee and dinner (available on Sundays starting at 2:00 to 7:00) For more information go to Byrncliff.com. Meet at Park & Ride at 11 am and arrive at Byrncliff by 12:00. Bring your own lunch or eat at the restaurant. Please contact trip leader if you plan to eat at the restaurant so they can plan on our group. Location of outing depends on conditions. Hiking or snow shoeing could also be at Hunters Creek if poor skiing conditions. Snow shoes can be provided. Contact trip leader and leave your cell phone for last minute changes.

PLAN AHEAD SECTION:

2/23 - 2/26 - FRI - MON - **SNOW SHOE /XC SKI** - Algonquin Provincial Park - Richard Schraven 716-564-2106 or email richardschraven1@gmail.com.

3/9 - 3/11 - FRI - SUN - **WINTER WEEKEND** - LOJ HEART LAKE - Lake Placid, NY - Trip is full. Contact Maryschraven1@gmail.com to be put on a wait list.

See the website or December newsletter for more information about both of these trips.

LOOK BACK SECTION: A look back at December!

Trip Reports - Check our website for trip reports!

12/10 – TRIP REPORT for ZOAR VALLEY HIKE

This was a perfect winter outing! We arrived in Gowanda to gentle snowfall and snow-covered roads. One of the 8 participants decided her car wasn't up to the drive and she turned around. We were happy to be packed into a 4 wheel-drive Subaru! A quiet hush surrounded us as we hiked out to view the gorge from Point Peter and then down the trail to the creek edge. We powered ourselves up Pyramid Hill just for the challenge, and to marvel at the rugged trees and sheer cliffs. While on top, we were honored with an Iroquois story of the importance of the White Pine. The White Pine is considered the Peace Tree, it's needles are in small bundles of 5, signifying the 5 tribes of the Iroquois. Its root system extends in the 4 directions, unifying all people and the Eagle is shown perched on top, to overlook and protect the peace between the 5 nations. We paused at Valentine Flats amid the rushing rapids, with thoughts of hot skinny dippers enjoying the sun and water during the summer. For most of us, it was our first visit during the winter. Wish you all could have been there.



12/2 – TRIP REPORT for CHESTNUT RIDGE HIKE

On a crisp, overcast morning, 6 of us met at the Eternal Flame parking lot for a day hike. Included among the party was a new Young Member on her first ADK outing. She brought along a friend who is now interested in joining. We started out following a rather muddy trail towards the Eternal Flame. After entering the forest, we angled to the right and began following the Ward Hill Trail. Crunching through freshly fallen autumn leaves, we passed through some beautiful woods, and then descended and climbed in and out of the creek bed three times. We passed several very nice waterfalls. Finally, we reached the intersection with Ward Hill Walkway, a former park road now converted into a paved walking path. The walkway forms a U, and our trail joined it at the bottom. We turned left and walked down a steep grade to that end. Then, turning right, we followed a park road until it intersected with the other end of the walkway. We turned right again and followed it until we re-joined our trail, which led us back to the parking lot. There were several times where we had to climb over large pieces of blow down. Otherwise, the trail is in good shape, and well marked. The total hiking time was a little over 2 hours. --- Submitted by Paul M. Gannon

Newsletter Editor Needed!

Our Chapter Newsletter known as THE NIAGARA EXPLORER needs an Editor! This individual would compile documents submitted by various Board Members and create an informative and appealing monthly publication. Basic computer skills are needed. You will have a template to work with, and can create graphics as room allows. This is an automatic board position with a great team! Contact Interim Newsletter Editor Deena Mueller-Funke (deena.mueller1@gmail.com), or Chair Paul Gannon (paulmgannon54@gmail.com).

WHERE TO CROSS COUNTRY SKI?



<p>Allegany State Park 12/15 warming hut opens 12/20 trail grooming begins http://alleganynordic.org/category/trail_conditions/ 18 miles of trails, plus 25 miles of backcountry trails; \$20 ski rentals, Sledding hill, Call 354-9163 Also check out: http://enchantedmountains.com/activity/cross-country-skiing</p>	<p>Groomed and set tracks, all levels, indoor restrooms, warming hut w/rentals</p>
<p>Grover Cleveland Golf Course in Buffalo</p>	<p>Groomed and set tracks, beginner level, 40 minute loop</p>
<p>Reinstein Nature Preserve- rental office 683-5959 3.5 miles of trails. Ski or snowshoe http://reinsteinwoods.org/explore/snowshoe-cross-country-ski-rentals/</p>	<p>Groomed, Rentals \$8, indoor bathrooms</p>
<p>Sprague Brook County Park- If the sledding hill is open, the warming hut with indoor bathrooms is open. Snow shoe/hike/sledding- call 858-8518</p>	<p>Groomed and set tracks, beginner to intermediate, indoor restrooms, warming hut</p>
<p>Elma Meadows- Call for conditions- 858-8513, sledding</p>	<p>Groomed and set tracks, beginner to intermediate, indoor restrooms, warming hut</p>
<p>Bond Lake Niagara County park- sledding hill conditions call:716-731-3256, 13 miles of XC SKI trails, 2 ice skating rinks.</p>	<p>Groomed and set tracks, beginner to intermediate, indoor restrooms, warming hut</p>
<p>Byrncliff Golf Resort- Byrncliff.com- 535-7300 – Rental \$15/ Trail Fee \$10. \$35 group lesson - Day and Night Skiing, Restaurant and Motel, Packages</p>	<p>Groomed and set tracks, beginner to advanced, indoor restrooms, warming hut</p>

Also, check out these Erie County Parks that offer winter sports and facilities
<http://www2.erie.gov/parks/index.php?q=winter-sports>

Liability Waiver Reminder

PLEASE NOTE, 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

CHAIR – Paul Gannon, paulmgannon54@gmail.com, 716-395-5739

1ST VICE CHAIR/OUTINGS - Mary Schraven, 91 N. Parrish Dr., Amherst, NY 14228, 716-946-7489, maryschraven1@gmail.com

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

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

EDUCATION CHAIR- 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

INTERIM NEWSLETTER EDITOR – Deena Mueller-Funke, deena.mueller1@gmail.com Also email Mary Schraven at maryschraven1@gmail.com

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS – Mary Kathryn Noack, 716-984-2342, marynoac@buffalo.edu

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

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR - Kathy Clerkin, kmclerkin@gmail.com

HOSPITALITY - Carol Schuster, carolfschuster@gmail.com

YOUNG MEMBERS COORDINATOR – Deena Mueller-Funke, deena.mueller1@gmail.com

ARCHIVIST/HISTORIAN - Lynn Rehfeld-Kenney, 716-825-7329, woodthrush3@hotmail.com

Outings Co-Chairs:

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

WATERWAYS - Richard Schraven, 91 N. Parrish Dr. Amherst, NY 14228, richardschraven1@gmail.com, (716) 564-2106

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

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