



Newsletter of the Adirondack Mountain Club–Niagara Frontier Chapter | www.adk-nfc.com

Next General Meeting



Tuesday, April 10 | 6:30 PM

Amherst Community Church Fellowship Hall | 77 Washington Highway Amherst, NY 14226

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

EDUCATION WORKSHOP: GET READY FOR BICYCLING SEASON WITH GO BIKE BUFFALO **6:30–7:15PM**



Though some hard core riders have beefy tires and ride all year round, for most of us April is the beginning of biking season. Get ready with an education workshop from GOBike Buffalo. We will learn what to do to get our bikes ready for the spring, and what to do if you don't have a bike yet. The staff from GOBike will let us know about the workshops, repair shop, and events they run. We will learn about cycling opportunities and group rides all over our community, in addition to finding out about some of the group rides our own chapter offers. Get ready to burn calories and cut down your carbon footprint.

Meets in the community room adjacent to the main meeting. Questions or suggestions on education workshops? Contact education chair Teresa Corrigan at TeresaCorrigan85@gmail.com

SPEAKER: TWAN LEENDERS, PRESIDENT OF THE ROGER TORY PETERSON INSTITUTE OF NATURAL HISTORY | 7:30 PM



The Niagara Frontier chapter of ADK will welcome Twan Leenders from the Institute of Natural History making his way from Jamestown, NY. Twan is originally from the Netherlands, specializing in animal ecology and conservation management. As a former researcher at Yale University Peabody Museum he participated in several international expeditions gathering data and understanding how to protect biologically important areas and the species that live there. Twan's research on endangered amphibian populations was recently published titled "Amphibians of Costa Rica - a field guide". As an avid photographer and illustrator, National Geographic Society has taken notice and his works have appeared in multiple publications. With all that experience, Twan will be talking about the hidden treasures of WNY and how the urban nature of Jamestown has inspired naturalists the world over.

Message from the Chair

This month we welcome our new Newsletter Editor, Jaclyn Rossini. Last fall, our previous editor, Mike Weimer, had to give up the position because of work commitments.

Deena Mueller-Funke, our Young Members coordinator, volunteered to serve as interim editor. She carried out her double duties with distinction, and we are grateful for her efforts.

Jaclyn is a new member, who saw the ad for the editor position. She decided to offer her talents to the chapter. Our club is strongest when members give of themselves to further our goals. There are many opportunities to serve. At this time, we are recruiting hiking and winter co-chairs. Our program

and conservation chairs are nearing the end of their terms. Our nominating committee is searching for candidates. We are always looking for trip leaders.

I have been a member of our chapter for a number of years. During that time, I have served in several different capacities. I have always found the experience rewarding. I invite everyone to look for their own opportunities to serve ADK and our chapter. You will have a chance to work with some of the finest people I know. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

-Paul Gannon

Featured Outing



9/21-9/23 | GREAT CAMP SAGAMORE | RAQUETTE LAKE

This trip to the Adirondacks fills up fast!

Step back in time at Great Camp Sagamore near Raquette Lake, NY in the Adirondacks on a joint trip with Bell Ski Club and ADK NFC as we visit the former Vanderbilt camp on September 21st-23rd, or Sept. 21st-24th, 2018. The price is \$398.pp for adults, for a two-night stay. The accommodations are simple, but comfortable, in a shared room, with a shared bath. Check-in is

Friday, Sept. 21 at 3pm, and includes free use of the canoes & kayaks on Sagamore Lake, swimming, easy hiking on camp trails, free tickets for the historic camp tour, Friday dinner, Saturday breakfast, a bag lunch, Saturday dinner, a campfire at the lean-to weather permitting, stargazing with camp telescopes, and perhaps a pack basket weaving class for an extra fee Saturday by very limited reservation only, or perhaps a nature walk with a camp naturalist, and Sunday breakfast. Check-out is 10am. Sunday. To stay the extra third night, the fee is \$135.pp for adults. This includes your accommodations, a bag lunch Sunday, Sunday dinner, breakfast Monday, and use of the camp facilities. Check-out is 10AM. Monday. Please call Marie in the registrar at the Camp's winter number at 518-796-5823 to make your reservation during business hours. A 33% deposit with your credit card is required when you register. Please let Marie know if you are interested in a 2 or 3-night stay, have any dietary concerns, who you are rooming with, if you have a mobility problem, or a problem with stairs, etc.

Contact: JoAnn Zurek 716-957-0127 Please sign-up ASAP. Please notify JoAnn after you register or leave a message at 716-957-0127 if you have any questions.

April Outings

4/7 | SAT | HIKE SHORT HILLS PROVINCIAL PARK, THOROLD, ONTARIO | KEN MARTIN 997-7929 FOR TIME AND PARKING

Moderate for length. Trail length can be added as desired. Explore this large park and its many trails. A favorite of Southern Ontario hikers. Decew Falls and Grist Mill are close by along with wineries for after the hike.

4/14 | SAT | YOUNG MEMBERS EVENT (AGES 18-39-ISH) | HIKE | LITTLE ROCK CITY | DEENA MUELLER-FUNKE (815) 355-6768. TEXT TO RSVP

We'll meet up for about a 2.5 hour hike, some of which will be on the North Country Trail. If you've never been, Little Rock City has unique rock formations throughout the forested area and is located near Holiday Valley ski resort, about an hour away from Buffalo.

4/21 | SAT | EARTH DAY CLEAN-UP ELLICOTT CREEK PARK, TONAWANDA (C) | JANET KOWALSKI (SITE CAPTAIN) 10AM -12PM

Janet will tell you the exact meet up place in the park. We provide gloves, bags, hand sanitizer, and a first aid kit. You will need to bring your own water and dress appropriately. This is a joint outing with BNWK. To participate, all volunteers need to contact Janet (janetk300@gmail.com or 716-435-8547) and register with Buffalo Niagara WaterKeepers at this link: <http://www.bnwaterkeeper.org/cleanup>

4/28 | SAT | HIKE - BRUCE TRAIL, ONTARIO CANADA (A) FOR LENGTH AND TERRAIN | KEN MARTIN 997-7929, EMAIL KMARTIN977@GMAIL.COM FOR MEETING PLACE, TIME,& SPOTTING OF CARS

This is a thru-hike starting near Grimsby Ontario and hiking west. Hike and explore the Niagara Escarpment on the Bruce Trail, the oldest and longest trail (900 km) in Canada. Designated a United Nations World Biosphere Reserve. We will hike about 20 Km (12.5 miles) through Conservation Areas including Devil's Punch Bowl and Felkers's Falls.

4/28 | SAT | HIKE - IROQUOIS WILDLIFE REFUGE EAGLE WATCH | SCHRAVENS 716-946-7489 MARYSCHRAVEN1@GMAIL.COM

Join us for "Spring into Nature" at the Iroquois Wildlife Refuge Center. At this time, the eaglets will be big enough to see as they move around in the nest. Bring binoculars to see the eagles soar overhead at this special place. Activities are planned all day at the overlook and visitor center. We will carpool and eat our bagged lunches. Plan to hike a bit and see the visitor center. Dress for the weather and probably muddy conditions. Meet at my house in Amherst at 8:15am to leave by 8:30am or meet at 9:00am at the Cayuga Pool Overlook at the Iroquois Wildlife Refuge on Route 77. Please call trip leader to RSVP. This trip is good for families/ children. <http://www.friendsofiroquoisnwr.org/documents/IroquoisGeneralmap.pdf>

RECURRING EVENTS

EVERY WEDNESDAY MORNING | HIKE | Audubon's Beaver Meadow, Welsh Rd. North Java (C)

Bring lunch. Carol Griffis - call or text (716)-652-2547 or email carolpgriffis@gmail.com the evening before.

EVERY WEDNESDAY EVENING | HIKE | Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve | Cheektowaga (C)

Gus Phillips – Home: (716) 646-5034 - Cell: (716) 860-0421- Only call if you are concerned about the weather. Easy outing, come enjoy the moonlight, night sounds and get some exercise.

EVERY FRIDAY MORNING | HIKE | Knox Farm State Park | Rt 16/Seneca St., East Aurora. (C)

Carol Griffis - For time & directions, call/text (716)-652-2547 or email carolpgriffis@gmail.com the evening before Good for beginners, gentle inclines, some woods, some open fields. There's a new coffee/pastry shop in the former sheep shed, meet there.

Plan Ahead: Upcoming Outings

MAY AND JUNE GENERAL OPPORTUNITIES

If you like being outdoors, do a trail project with ADK. Trail maintenance is a great way to learn about the Adirondacks, hike, volunteer and make new friends. Our chapter sponsors a full day of work on the Klondike Trail over Memorial Weekend. Throughout spring, volunteer opportunities abound. Go to <https://www.adk.org/protect/volunteer/volunteer-on-the-trails/>

5/4-5/6 - 47TH ANNUAL 46ER OUTDOOR SKILLS WORKSHOP - LOJ, LAKE PLACID

This is a must for anyone interested in hiking in the High Peaks Area, or leading outings. Cost is \$30 and includes accommodations and meals Sat. breakfast through Sun. Lunch, free T-shirt and seminars all weekend. If you like camping, this is something you will want to do more than once! Go to www.adk46er.org.

5/11 - 5/13 - FRI THRU SUN - BACKPACK - WEST CANADA LAKES LOOP, SPECULATOR, NY - (B) AARON SLOSMAN, EMAIL ASLOSMAN@GMAIL.COM

25 mile loop over rolling hills, limit of 9 people. We will be working map and compass for on and off trail navigation. Cool bushwack about a mile to French Louie's cave. The trip is from 11 am Friday in Speculator, NY where we drop a shot of whiskey on French Louie's grave to Sunday at 2 pm when we walk out. Plan on being back to Buffalo by 7 pm. Requires backpacking experience and ADK membership is mandatory.

Attention Hikers: Are you in need of that warm up hike for your summer vacation adventure? The Bruce Trail hikes are the perfect get up and go that you need to shake off the winter blues and train for the High Peak hikes. I can plan future hikes that are up to 30 Km for the young at heart and limb! Go take a Hike.... on the Bruce Trail with me. Contact me if you are interested in these more strenuous hikes. -Ken Martin 716-997-7929 or kmartin9777@gmail.com

5/25 - 5/28 | FRI - MON | TRAIL STEWARDSHIP - CLARK HALL JR. MEMORIAL DAY WORK-PLAY WEEKEND (A-B) CONTACT: LEE CLUKEY 716-631-9855 LEE.CLUKEY@GMAIL.COM

Another chance to visit the Adirondacks The Klondike Trail in the Adirondacks High Peaks Region again needs your help. The Niagara Chapter has been maintaining this trail for over 35 years. Join us on Sat., the 26th from 8 am to 5 pm as we make improvements to the trail; cleaning water bars, removing blow-down, and maintaining the Niagara Chapter Klondike lean-to. Sunday and Monday offer the opportunity for Adirondack hikes of all levels. Also available are all the attractions of Lake Placid. A potluck dinner is planned for one weekend evening in Saranac Lake at the home of some ADK pioneers. I have one campsite reserved in the Loj camp ground and have limited space available. Other accommodations may be made at Heart Lake LOJ, Campground, or Topo and Tmax Hostel. Call or email now to sign up for a place on the work crew for this unique opportunity to experience the High Peaks Region.

6/10 - 6/15 | FIRST ANNUAL ADK CYCLING OUTING POTSDAM

Stay at Clarkson University with multiple trips led each day. Go to <https://www.adk.org/play/cycling-information/adk-cycle-outing/>

6/9 - ANNUAL PICNIC AND MEETING COMMISSIONER'S CABIN, CHESTNUT RIDGE PARK

Please contact Mary Schraven to lead an outing in the morning. Also in the works is a Beginner Kayak Skills class that will focus on paddling strokes, wet exits and assisted rescues so you can get back into the kayak. Please contact Mary Schraven: maryschraven1@gmail.com - to let her know of your interest in the class.

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

Look Back–Outings

Laura Secord Trail Part 3 Trip Report (3/4/18)



Bluebird skies and mild temperatures provided delightful conditions for our merry group led by Ken Martin to complete the popular 20-mile historic Laura Secord Trail. We spotted cars and began our 6-mile hike at Rodham Hall Art Center in St. Catherines, walking along the glistening Twelve Mile Creek for most of the day. After about 4 miles we climbed the Niagara Escarpment through lush scenic woods and found some nice views of Lake Ontario. DeCew Falls was robust, due to the spring-like temps and plentiful snowmelt.

Near the end of our journey we viewed a pair of majestic Mute Swans in Lake Moodie, displaying their sinuous necks and signature orange beak and black head markings. Our final stop was at the remains of the historic DeCew House. There in 1813, Laura Secord delivered her fateful message to Lieutenant Fitzgibbon of an imminent American attack. She made the 32-km trip in one June day, and carved out her place in Canadian history. **-David and Janet Kowalski**



Top to bottom: Laura Secord Trail, LOJ, LOJ Outing Participants

Annual LOJ Winter Weekend Trip Report (3/9-3/11)

The Adirondacks never let me down so I go back every chance I get. A bad day of hiking is better than a good day of work. So it was I signed up for the ADK-NFC annual Loj outing, coordinated by the ever-so-capable Mary Schraven and her supportive involved husband Richard.

We carpoled through wicked weather and arrived at the Loj to claim our bunks, take a quick snowshoe stroll around Heart Lake and enjoy a wonderful dinner in the dining room. Everyone became fast friends even though I only knew a few and not well at that.

Saturday, we rose early. Some took off to cross country ski at Cascade. Others (like me) snowshoed. We had a great time, knocking Phelps off my 46er list (even if we didn't get Table Top. Every ambitious



hike I take seems to end one short of what I planned). On Sunday, we snowshoed again to Avalanche Pass, which was breathtaking, frozen in winter with perfect conditions, pristine wilderness, as close to heaven as you can get without departing this realm.

If you always wondered what this trip was about, whether you would fit in, or if it was worth it, don't. Sign up as soon as possible next year (Same B1/G1 night free, same weekend 3/8-3/10) and understand, you will be addicted and it promises to be a well-coordinated, well run trip because of the great job Mary and Richard do. **- Joe Genco (You can read the author's daily musings on Facebook under Joseph Genco)**

Look Back–Meeting

Terry Belke, Photojournalist and Producer “2 The Outdoors” at WGRZ-TV



The Niagara Frontier Chapter of ADK was treated to both photographic and video journeys through outdoor hidden gems in our area with Terry Belke as our guide. While the snow is still flying it was inspiring to find ideas for future hikes. In case you didn't have a pad and paper ready, here is the listing of places to visit: Scarborough Bluffs, Ontario; Cheltenham Badlands, Ontario; Haliburton Forest, Ontario; and Algonquin Provincial Park, Ontario. The abandoned military base provides a unique back drop for a bus tour of white deer sightings in Romulus, NY. The snow goose migration in Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge should be happening now, so don't miss out on a chance to view this mass migration in the area! – **Dana Jandzinski**

Wilderness First Aid Training Opportunity

Friday, September 28 – Sunday, September 30, 2018

Learn how to respond to emergencies beyond the trailhead, when help is delayed. Attend the wilderness first aid course sponsored by the ADK Winter Mountaineering School. This course will be taught over the weekend, in both the classroom and the outdoors, regardless of the weather. Come prepared!

The location will be in North Tonawanda. The course begins Friday evening at 6 PM, and ends Sunday afternoon by 3 PM. The instructor is an emergency physician, experienced outdoorsman, and the medical director of the Winter Mountaineering School.

Students will receive certification from the Emergency Care and Safety Institute.

The course fee is \$200. This includes course materials, and light breakfast and lunch of soup/chili and sandwiches on Saturday and Sunday. It also includes camping in your own tent or sharing a common bunkroom in a heated cabin with modern bathroom facilities. The overnight stay is optional, for students who do not wish to travel every day. Our chapter is planning to offer partial scholarships for the cost of the course. More details will be announced in the near future.

Register by emailing wmsfa@gmail.com

Announcement

Looking for nominees for 2 Executive Committee positions to begin September 2018: Conservation Chair and Programs Chair. Get involved in your local ADK Chapter. Your service will be supported by the entire Executive Committee. Please contact MarySchraven1@gmail.com if you are interested in serving in these positions.

Conservation Corner

The following are some highlights from the ADK state wide Conservation Committee meeting that I attended as the Niagara Frontier Chapter representative. It is expected that Governor Cuomo will sign the land classification for the Boreas Ponds Tract in the Adirondacks in the near future. Read the recent Adirondac magazine article for specific details. There will be two small parking areas that will require a permit to park there. One handicapped lot is .1 miles from the dam and the other for paddlers is .9 miles from the canoe/kayak put in. An assistant forest ranger will be stationed there to enforce the parking. The current lot that is farther away will remain available for parking. The addition of Boreas Ponds and several other parcels to land already designated as Wilderness will result in a 280,000 acre wilderness, the largest east of the Mississippi River. It will eventually be named and have its own unit management plan (UMP) on how to manage the land.

The Adirondack Preservation Society sued to prevent the proposed removal of the RR tracks that run in between Tupper Lake and Lake Placid so it could be turned into a rails to trails path. The RR line stopped running 3 years ago because it was not profitable. Several unsuccessful attempts have been made since the 1980's to try and make the

entire 130 miles stretch starting in Utica profitable. A judge upheld the Preservation Society lawsuit because the definition of a travel corridor, the land designation needed for the RR to run through the Adirondack Park, did not include an option where it could be changed to a trail. The Adirondack Park Agency (APA) proposes to change the definition of this segment of RR corridor so a rails to trails path could be approved. If this happens, then ADK proposes it only be used for non-motorized access. This would prevent a conflict between snowmobilers and Nordic skiers in the winter as well as hikers/ bicyclists and ATV/ electric bicyclists in the summer. The ADK Conservation Committee adopted a resolution to allow the ADK legal counsel to advocate for the change in definition and for non-motorized trail use.

The ADK legislative staff met with Gov. Cuomo's budget staff and

state legislators regarding an executive budget proposal to change how tax base costs have been determined for the Catskill and Adirondack Parks since 1886. They were informed that the local governments are very opposed to this change and it would result in local governments voting against any new land acquisitions. Hopefully the lobbying effort was successful. Already the New York State assembly and senate budget proposals do not include a change in how land value is determined.

The empty oil tanker RR cars remain parked on the spur RR track leading to the Tahawus Mine. Ice damaged part of the RR tracks this winter so even if the Berkshire Hathaway Company can be pressured to remove the RR cars, the RR cars cannot be moved until the tracks are repaired.

-Lynn Rehfeld-Kenney

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

**Tuesday, April 17th | 7:00pm
Julia Boyer Reinstein Library
1030 Losson Road, Cheektowaga**

**Call the library at (716) 892-8089 for directions.
The meeting will start promptly at 7pm
and end at 8:45pm when the library closes.**

Executive Committee Members

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Outings Co-Chairs:

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

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