



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

Message from the Chair

I just got back from a trip to the Adirondacks. Two of my friends are planning a very ambitious hike in the fall. They are going to complete the Wonderland Trail loop around Mount Rainier. They wanted to do a shakedown hike and invited me to go along. We spent three days backpacking part of the Northville-Placid Trail along the shore of Long Lake.

This trip reminded me, once again, how fortunate we are to have such a magnificent park within a one-day drive of Buffalo. Miles of woodlands, streams, and lakes, with trails and lean-tos, and all on public land, free for anyone to use.

This wonderful asset is under threat, from increased use coupled with decreased funding and maintenance. We were surprised and a little disappointed at the condition of parts of the route. There were sections with massive amounts of blow down, large patches of mud, and missing markers.

This illustrates the importance of your support of ADK and the work our club does to protect the Adirondacks. Without this effort, who knows what condition they would be in? So, if you ever wonder whether your membership is worth the cost, I can assure you that it is. So, when the time comes to renew, please do so right away.

–Paul M. Gannon

Next Meeting

Tues. Sept. 11, 2018 • 7PM
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)

The traditional ICE CREAM SOCIAL will begin at 7 PM, and the General Meeting and Slide Show will start at 7:30. The program for the evening includes: • Ice Cream Social - Reconnect with ADK chapter friends after the summer break over ice cream and beverages. A great Welcome Back before the ADK Chapter updates and Slide Show • Recent 46ers Honored - Celebrate recent ADK members who have climbed the 46 Highest Peaks! • Annual Members Slide Show

Plan to share the adventure & fun you've had over the past year with fellow ADK members at the Annual ADK Members Slide Show! Start thinking about TEN pictures you'd like to present! They can be from one outing or a few. It's always fun to see what others have experienced. They are great suggestions for future trips for all of us!

Send 10 pictures to Slide Organizer Doug Gaffney by Mon, Sept. 10.
dgaffney@roadrunner.com

Outings

July Outings

7/28 – SAT - PADDLES UP/ BUFFALO NIAGARA WATER KEEPER – BEAVER ISLAND STATE PARK – NIAGARA RIVER

Richard and Mary Schraven 716-946-7489
maryschraven1@gmail.com - This event is sponsored by Buffalo Niagara Water Keeper. Don't want to be alone in a crowd? Meet up with Schraven's before the group tour just outside the park entrance at 6:45am. Be ready to begin at 7:00 or 7:30 am for the Eco Tour or Early Bird Paddle: Join BNWK for a guided Eco Tour lead by Paddles Up Founder Paul Leuchner and DEC Niagara River Ecologist Tim DePriest starting at 7:00 and 7:30 or paddle at your own pace during our Early Bird Paddle starting at 7:00 am. On both courses you will see the Niagara River Restoration projects near Strawberry and Motor Island, a Bald Eagle nesting area, Heron Rookery and more. *Please note, both morning paddles will cross the river channel, requiring moderate paddling abilities. Life jackets are mandatory and must be worn at all times while on the water. Go to this site for more information and a full schedule for the day: <http://gichamber.org/live/recreation/paddles-up-niagara/> Please call trip leaders to RSVP.

7/28 – SAT - TOWN OF WILSON BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION – FESTIVAL AND PADDLE

(C) Mary and Richard Schraven- richardschraven1@gmail.com 716-564-2106 or maryschraven1@gmail.com 946-7489 - Celebrate Wilson's 200th birthday at Wilson Tuscarora State Park. Kayak and SUP demos by Paths Peaks and Paddles, Outdoor Expo by Cabelas. Food trucks, Sea Glass Hunt with prizes. Join us at dusk in a non-motorized watercraft as we relive and recreate an old summertime tradition with a parade of boats through Wilson Harbor by lantern lights (glowsticks). PFD's and whistles are mandatory and must be worn at all times when on the water. Meet us at the festival during the day or just for the dusk paddle. Call trip leader to let me know when you will be there and I'll establish a meet up place and time.

7/29 – SUN - PADDLE - CRYSTAL BEACH, ONTARIO SHORELINE

(C) Kate Hacker, 716-491-7046, hackerks@gmail.com - We will launch at my house south of Ridgeway Ontario and paddle up to Crystal Beach and the Bay Beach area along the shoreline. This area can get choppy on a windy day or when there are a large number of boats out so canoes are not recommended unless it happens to be very calm, which it often is in July. We will start mid-morning at my house and paddle as far as the group wants. Swimming is okay at the launch area but it is rocky. Bring some water shoes, sunscreen, water and snacks. PFD's are mandatory and must be worn at all times while on the water.

7/30 - MON - BIKE - CLARENCE BIKE PATH

(C) Mike Lex - 716-430-8986 mblex@roadrunner.com - 6:00pm meet up and ride from Goodrich Road to Akron Falls. Call for meet up place. Approximately 18 miles round trip/1.5 hours. Bike helmets are mandatory.

August Outings

8/1 – WED – HIKE – BEAVER MEADOW

(C) – Carol Griffiths - 562-2547 Join me for a morning walk in the Beaver Meadow Nature Center. Call for meet up time. Bring a lunch.

8/2 - THURS -CAZENOVIA CREEK, EAST AURORA

(B) Carol Griffis – 652-2547 – Call trip leader for exact time of meet up. Late afternoon/early evening. Expect gentle moving water with some rocks, downed trees to paddle around. Life Jackets are mandatory and must be worn at all times while on the water.

8/4 -SAT - BIKE - FORT ERIE TO PORT COLBORNE FOR CANAL DAYS

(A) RichardSchraven1@gmail.com 564-2106 & MarySchraven1@gmail.com 946-7489. We will meet in the morning in Fort Erie, 10 Queen Street, and ride on

Outings

the Friendship Trail 20 miles to the Canal Days Festival in Port Colbourne, Ontario. Along the way, as we go through Ridgeway, Ontario. We can stop at the Farmers Market to pick up some delicious sausages. The Canal Days Festival features a wide variety of food offerings, live music and a tour of the U.S. Naval ship "Niagara" on loan from Erie, PA. The ship was pivotal in the defeat of the British on Lake Erie during the War of 1812. We will return to our cars in Fort Erie. Bring valid ID for the border crossing, helmet, water, money, tool kit and appropriate clothing including sun and weather protection. Call for exact meet up time. For more information go to: http://portcolborne.com/page/canal_days

8/7 - TUES - PADDLE - TONAWANDA CREEK

Meet at 5:45 for a 6:00pm launch on the roller dock at City of Tonawanda Eastern Park and Kayak Launch. 294 Fillmore Ave, Tonawanda, 14150. Lifejackets and whistles are mandatory and must be worn at all times while on the water. Please contact trip leader to RSVP. Jeff Kramer- 716-833-3734 or TR4ACKme@yahoo.com

8/6 - 8/9 - MON - THURS - CANOE/KAYAK TRIP

(B) Oswegatchie River from Inlet to High Falls (13.2 miles) Leader: Richard Collins, rmcund76@gmail.com - 716-799-5296. The Oswegatchie is a Class 1 river in this section. Paddle in is up stream, depending on water levels some walk overs may be necessary. Lots of meandering streams to explore and sections of old growth forests. Lean-to may be available, some type of shelter will be required. PFDs are required and must be worn at all times when on the water. Contact trip leader for a list of recommended gear and for more information. Please RSVP by 7/15/2018.

8/11 - SAT - BIKE - ROYALTON RAVINE COUNTY PARK

(C) 15 miles round trip. We will start across the street from Wide Waters Restaurant, 767 Market St, in Lockport and travel along the Erie canal, taking Gasport Road south to the Park. Bring lunch for the Park. This park is a real gem with a suspension bridge, waterfall, and old homestead foundation. Bring a bike in good working order, snacks/lunch, water. Bike helmet is

mandatory. Call Kevin Bolt 563-9695 or e-mail bfamily428@roadrunner.com to RSVP and get exact meet up time by 8/10.

8/12 - SUN - BIKE - ELLICOTT CREEK ISLAND TO BLACK ROCK/ UNITY ISLAND

(B) Mike Lex 716-430-8986 or email: mblex@roadrunner.com - 8:00am meet up, Ride about 26 miles round trip/ 2.5 hours. Bring water, snack. Helmets are mandatory. Please call me to RSVP and for exact meet up location.

8/13 - MON - BIKE - CLARENCE BIKE PATH

(C) Mike Lex - 716-430-8986 mblex@roadrunner.com - 6:00pm meet up and ride from Goodrich Road to Akron Falls. Call for meet up place. Approximately 18 miles round trip/1.5 hours. Bike helmets are mandatory.

8/18 - BIKE - CRYSTAL BEACH TO WELLAND, ONTARIO, FRIENDSHIP TRAIL

(A -B- difficult length) Kate Hacker, 716-491-7046, hackerks@gmail.com -This will be a 30 to 35 mile ride on flat bike paths through farm areas and along the Welland canal. We will leave in the morning from my house which is located near the lake and ride up and back. Pace will be set to accommodate riders and we can go a shorter ride if the group desires. Plan to pack your lunch and we can make an ice cream stop along the way. Tire changing kit or equivalent and a helmet mandatory. Call for meeting place and time.

8/19 - SUN - HIKE - 10:00 SPRAGUE BROOK PARK

(B) LYNN & DOUG KENNEY (716)825-7329 We will hike the main trail at the park. Come see a beautiful forest trail in a 6 mile loop. The trip will take about 3-4 hours total so plan to bring water and lunch/ snacks. Recommend using hiking boots due tree roots. Meet 9:00AM sharp at the Park and Ride in Orchard Park, Route 219 Big Tree Road exit, to car pool. Or meet at Sprague Brook Park at 10:00AM at the warming hut parking lot by the cross country ski trails. The hike is moderately strenuous due to distance and some hills. Day of the hike call our cell phone 361-6172.

Outings

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(B) Mike Lex 716-430-8986 or email: mblex@roadrunner.com - 8:00am meet up, Ride about 26 miles round trip/ 2.5 hours. Bring water, snack. Helmets are mandatory. Please call me to RSVP and for exact meet up location.

8/17-8/19 ADK YOUNG MEMBERS (AGES ~21-39) WEEKEND AT JOHNS BROOK LODGE

Johns Brook Lodge has been reserved for young members ages 21-39 to come together and explore the High Peaks Region. Enjoy the comforts of the backcountry lodge and delicious food, make new friends, and get some hiking in! We'll go over our personal goals and interests and split into smaller groups for Saturday's high peak hike, with flexibility to make this weekend as adventurous as you'd like! This social and recreational program includes two nights lodging and six meals, prepared by the amazing JBL staff. **Cost:** \$165; includes meals, and lodging for 2 nights. Register here: <https://www.adk.org/teen-and-young-adult-programs/>

The ADK-NFC chapter has scholarships for the first six young members from our club who sign up. After completion of the program, you will be reimbursed \$80. If you have questions about the weekend, contact Deena Mueller-Funke (deena.mueller1@gmail.com)

8/21 -6:30 - TUESDAY - TRAIL RUN - REINSTEIN WOODS - (YOUNG MEMBERS [AGES 21-39ISH])

Deena Mueller-Funke – deena.mueller1@gmail.com - 815 355-6768 - The ~2 mile loop trail is flat, wide and free of roots, rocks and ruts making for a very easy trail run (regular running shoes are fine). We'll run at a moderate pace and go for as many loops as people are up for.

Outings Ratings: (A): strenuous, for the duration and level of fitness and skills needed (B): moderate difficulty (C): easy, good for beginners, shorter length For an updated listing of outings, please see the event calendar posted on the website: adk-nfc.org/calendar

8/25 -SAT- CANOE/KAYAK - HAMILTON HARBOUR - (YOUNG MEMBERS [AGES 21-39ISH])

Deena Mueller-Funke – deena.mueller1@gmail.com - 815 355-6768 - We will drive up to Hamilton, Ontario (passport required) and park on Princess Point and put in at the launch there. We will paddle around the harbor for a couple hours with some options to hike on some of the islands or sanctuary land around the harbor. If you do not have a boat, there is a rental on Princess Point and there may be an extra seat or two in other members' boats. Contact Deena for a start time, to RSVP, and to coordinate carpooling.

SAT 8/25 - BIKE- CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY GRAN FONDO

(A) Mike Lex - 716-8986 or email: mblex@roadrunner.com -Choose your ride length: 20, 38, 40, or 60 miles in Chatauqua County. Register at <http://chautauquagranfondo.com/> for \$30 - Funds to benefit various charities. Contact me to car pool and for more information. Fun and interesting historical sights along most routes: Bemus Point, Midway State Park, Mayville, Dewittville.

8/26 - SUN - HIKE - NIAGARA RIVER GORGE

B - Janet and David Kowalski 839-3114 or janetk300@gmail.com
This scenic 3.5-mile loop is a WNY gem. We will check out the newly refurbished steps at Devil's Hole State Park, and also see the newly established native plants along the river trail. The hike will begin along the Niagara Gorge Rim Trail, then down a winding stone staircase, next backtrack alongside the raging rapids of the powerful Niagara River, then ascend back to our start on a second set of stone stairs. We will pause to explore the historic Devil's Hole Cave. The flat rocks on the Niagara River near Whirlpool Rapids will provide a spectacular lunch venue. Meet at 10 AM at the pavilion near the parking lot of Whirlpool Rapids State Park. Moderately strenuous due to the abrupt 300 foot elevation change. Dress for the weather, wear sturdy shoes, and bring water and a picnic lunch. Please RSVP with trip leader.

Outings

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8/27 - MON - BIKE - CLARENCE BIKE PATH
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(C) Mike Lex - 716-430-8986 mblex@roadrunner.com - 6:00pm meet up and ride from Goodrich Road to Akron Falls. Call for meet up place. Approximately 18 miles round trip/1.5 hours. Bike helmets are mandatory.

September Outings

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9/8 - SAT - ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY CLEAN-UP/HIKE - TILLMAN ROAD STATE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA, CLARENCE (RAINDATE - 09/9 - SUN)
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(A) LYNN & DOUG KENNEY (716)825-7329
Make a difference! Join us for the Fall Adopt-A-Highway clean-up. Volunteers are needed to pick up litter along the roadsides surrounding the Tillman Wetlands area in Clarence. Meet at 10:00AM in the Shisler Road parking lot located at the eastern end of Wehrle Drive. Garbage bags are supplied. Bring work gloves. Clean-up takes about 2 hours. You only need to call if you plan on

joining us for a hike through the wildlife area afterwards. If you will be joining the hike bring along a bag lunch. We will eat in-between the clean-up and the hike. Day of the hike call our cell phone 361-6172.

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9/15 - 9/16 - SAT - SUN -LITTLE ROCK CITY
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We will be car camping in Little Rock City area all week and invite folks to join us for camping or for day hiking on Saturday or Sunday. Contact us for more details. Lynn and Doug Kenney 716-825-7329

Save the Date

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10/26-10/28 - ADK FALL OUTING AND PRESIDENT'S BANQUET - WATKIN'S GLEN - SENECA LODGE
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Your Chapter, ADK-NFC is co-sponsoring this weekend event. We will be looking for outing leaders, volunteers to help with registration. Stay tuned for information!

Assistance Needed-Volunteer Opportunity

Now here is a unique volunteer opportunity! We need a new privy at the Klondike Lean-to. The DEC is asking for assistance with getting parts for a new box privy to the Klondike Lean-to. I suspect you would be carrying a 20-25 lb. section of privy connected to a good back pack 2 miles from South Meadow parking lot to lean-to. This would be a 2 to 3 hours investment of your time. In addition to greatly protecting the environment, many would be profoundly grateful for your efforts. If you can assist please call or email your availability to Lee Clukey at 716-631-9855 or leeclukey@gmail.com.

Carry the 46er Flag

Carry on our chapter tradition of carrying our ADK-NFC 46er Flag to the top of your 46th peak.
Call Lynn Kenney (825-7329) to pick up the 46er Flag so it can be a part of your celebratory photo when you complete your final peak to become an Adirondack 46er.

Trip Reports

Oak Orchard River Paddle – 7/14

Seven kayak paddlers spotted their cars at the take-out and returned to the put-in near Gravel Road north of Medina in Orleans County. The river was flowing nicely due to the water contribution from the Barge Canal. We were joined by a nearly endless quantity of other groups of paddlers and floaters. (Some were accompanied by floating rafts with ample liquid refreshments). It was a great day for the trip with warm temperatures and a mildly overcast sky, which is good for photography. We found a good spot to pull out and have our lunches. At some point, a very light rain began and one of the paddlers saw a lightning flash so we picked up our pace to the takeout. On our way home we stopped at Millers Market on Rt. 104. For an Amish food shopping opportunity.

Submitted by Richard Schraven

Lockport to Gasport Bike Ride – 7/8

Our group of eleven set out on a perfect summer day with temps in the the low to mid-eighties. We had full sun with a mild breeze as we worked our way to Gasport. The gravel bike path was very busy due to a Buffalo - Albany 8 day event that was also in progress. We maintained about a 9 mile per hour average speed with a few water breaks under shady trees. Upon our return to Lockport, we viewed Locks 34 and 35 areas while a paddle-wheel boat made its way through the locks. We concluded our trip with a well-deserved break at Lake Effect ice cream shop. We hope you can join us on our next bike outing on Saturday, August 11th to Royalton Ravines County Park.

Submitted by Kevin Bolt

Memorial Day Work-Play Klondike Trail Weekend

Our group of five had been warned that an earlier wind event probably produced a lot of blow down on the Klondike trail in the High Peaks. An additional challenge was that thunder storms were predicted for mid-afternoon of our workday.

With the temps cool enough to do trail work and the black flies mostly absent we got on the trail 8ish Saturday morning. We clipped a few trees that were completely blocking the trail just enough so we could pass and hiked 4 miles to the Yard Mountain turn off. The plan was to assess how much work we had and prioritize our efforts on the return hike. We pushed some trees off the trail and others we lifted and moved just far enough to clear the trail. About 10 to 15 trees were large enough to require time consuming saw work. We kept up a quick pace knowing that partly cloudy skies could turn to predicted thunder storms. We skipped cleaning water bars and left some blow down that could be easily stepped over. The afternoon storms never developed and we were back to the trail head by 4. In the end we had cleared 35 to 40 trees from the trail. In comparison in previous years we might encounter on an average of 5 blow downs. What a workout!

We spent Saturday evening enjoying the hospitality of Marilyn and Peter Gillespie in Saranac Lake. The DEC recommends hikers avoid the higher wet and possibly snow covered trails this early in the spring to minimize erosion. On Sunday I found it very easy to comply with that suggestion since I was very sore from playing lumberjack the previous day. I took in Baxter and Blueberry Mountain in Keene Valley.

Submitted by Lee Clukey

Conservation Corner

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

The Conservation Committee was busy in May and June promoting a healthy environment. Members organized the May Education Workshop and recommended Heidi Gee to be the general meeting speaker. She spoke about the importance of planting native plant species in your own backyard to provide homes and nourishment for pollinators, insects and the birds that feed on them. This was followed up by an informative display at the June picnic regarding information on organic cleaning products that will not harm the environment. The committee topped this off by providing several free cleaning products and sponsoring a drawing for milkweed plants, a rain barrel and a composter to encourage all club members to protect our planet.

Thank you to Jay Wopperer, and Lynn and Doug Kenney for completing the Adopt-A-Highway clean-up on the roads surrounding the Tillman Wetlands area in Clarence. Three large bags of garbage, a tire and multiple large boxes were picked up this year. There will be another opportunity to help with the fall clean-up in September.

ADK legislative staff and state legislators were successful in convincing the state legislators not approve the recommendation by Governor Cuomo's budget staff to change how the tax base costs were determined for the Catskill and Adirondack Parks. Such a change would have resulted in local governments voting against any new land acquisitions in the future. The empty oil tanker railroad cars parked on the spur railroad track leading to the Tahawus Mine in the Adirondacks are being removed thus preventing the remaining oil left in the tankers from leaking into the nearby river as the railroad cars rusted.

There are no Conservation Committee meetings scheduled for the summer. Conservation meetings will resume in September.

Submitted by Lynn Rehfeld-Kenney

Executive Committee

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395-5739

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Outings Co-Chairs:

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

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