



Newsletter of the Adirondack Mountain Club – Niagara Frontier Chapter
JUNE 2019
www.adk-nfc.org



Next General Meeting – ***Sunday***, June 9, 2019

Annual ADK-NFC Meeting and Picnic

**Location: Commissioner's Cabin
Chestnut Ridge Park**

Invite Family and Friends!

Morning outings include a bike ride, paddle, nature walk, and hikes. A complete list of picnic day outings is included in the Outings section.



Picnic Schedule

1:30pm Set-up *Note we are still looking for help - Contact Maureen Rowley and Mary Schraven to volunteer.

3:00pm Family friendly live animal program on birds of prey

4:00pm Conservation display and Workshops

Bob VanHise will host a workshop on paddling. He will review gear and techniques and share some tales from his many group and solo expeditions. He will also have some information about opportunities to learn more about water sports.

Paul Gannon will host a workshop on emergency shelter for day hikers. What if your day hike unexpectedly lasted all night? Even with good planning things happen. People get lost, sick, injured, or trapped by bad weather. Would you be prepared to spend the night? He'll discuss what items you should carry to help you in these circumstances.

5:00pm Dinner *Club provides grilled hamburgers, hot dogs and sausage, plus vegetarian options. Please bring your favorite potluck side dish or dessert. Bring your own reusable plate, utensils, and cup and receive a free raffle ticket!

6:15pm Brief Annual Chapter Meeting and Election

Raffle items = Composter and rain barrel, native plants, GPS tracker, and nature-themed posters!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **2019 ADK- NFC Elections - to be held at the June Meeting/Picnic (Sunday June 9)**

The Nominating Committee has nominated **Victoria Rowley** as outings chair to serve from Fall 2019-Fall 2021. Victoria is a seasoned hiker and well on her way to becoming a 46er! She is a smart hiker who always carries the 10 essentials and uses good judgment in the wilderness. She currently serves as an outing leader for the club and has earned the praise of current outings chair Mary Schraven who said of Victoria that she is “passionate about hiking” and is an enthusiastic leader. For a living, Victoria works with people with developmental disabilities and mental health concerns and is a dedicated advocate for them. She certainly has the skillset to lead our club on safe and enjoyable outdoor outings. Vote for Victoria!

Paul Gannon is running for a second term as chapter chair.

Rob Laing is running for a third term as director.

Kate Hacker and **Cheryl Peluso** are both running for third terms as alternate directors.

The Executive Committee has proposed the following three changes to the by-laws: (Note that additions appear in **red**, deletions appear in ~~strikeout~~) Members will be asked to vote on these proposed changes at the picnic. Members may also voice their objection to these proposed changes between now and the final vote.

Article V OFFICERS and APPOINTIVE POSITIONS – 8. **M. Other Positions. The Chair may appoint such other Appointive Positions as may be necessary, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee.**

Article VII. QUORUM and MAJORITY – 2. Quorum for Executive Committee. A quorum shall be present in order for the committee to act. Five committee members shall constitute the quorum for the conduct of committee meetings. **Members of the Executive Committee must be present in real time (physically, via phone, or via other teleconferencing means) in order to count toward quorum and vote.**

Article VIII. ELECTION of OFFICERS - 1. Nominating Committee. The Chair, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, shall appoint a Nominating Committee of at least three members of the Chapter, ~~only one~~ **no more than two** of which shall be a members of the Executive Committee. The slate developed by the Nominating Committee shall be published in the issue of the Newsletter published in the month preceding the Annual Meeting. Further nominations may be submitted in writing by any Chapter Member to the Nominating Committee not later than May 15. Such nominating petitions must be signed by not fewer than seven voting members. Nominations may not be made from the floor at the June Meeting.

- **EXTRA EXTRA!! Newsletter Editor Needed! Please volunteer!**

Our Chapter Newsletter known as THE NIAGARA EXPLORER needs an Editor! This individual would compile documents submitted by various Board Members into an informative monthly publication. Basic computer skills required. You will have a template to work from. The Editor is welcome to attend Executive Committee meetings but they are not required. Contact Interim Newsletter Editor Deena Mueller-Funke (deena.mueller1@gmail.com) or Chair Paul Gannon (paulgannon54@gmail.com).

- **Northtowns Gain a Go-to Gear Store**

After the much anticipated wait, **Gear for Adventure** opened their second location in Amherst, NY this past Saturday! Offering the same knowledgeable service and brands as their brick and mortar location in Hamburg, Northtowners no longer need to make the pilgrimage South for all their gear needs! Rentals will also be available - tents, backpacks, bear canisters, kayaks, as well as snowshoes and cross country skis.

The North store, located at 3906 Maple Rd. near Niagara Falls Blvd, will be celebrating their grand opening on June 15, 2019 - hope you will join as representatives from companies such as Osprey Packs will be onsite to help fit packs and answer questions, raffles and giveaways will also be happening all day!

For all you trek-obsessed adventurers in the Northtowns, see you at Gear for Adventure North on Maple Road!



Message from the Chair, Paul Gannon

As I said last month, springtime continues to slowly work its way into Western New York. Summer will eventually get here, just like it always does.

I expect that we will have a full schedule of activities during the warm weather, beginning with our picnic on June 9. I encourage everyone to take full advantage of the opportunities.

I would also like to ask everyone who is not already a trip leader to consider leading an outing of your own. The members of the executive committee, co-chairs, and current leaders all stand ready to assist you.

Finally, I would like to suggest that everyone expand the range of activities by trying something new. If you've never been to our facilities at the Adirondack Loj, this would be a perfect time to go. ADK sponsors adventure travel trips, not just in the US, but also around the world. Check them out on the main club's website or in the Adirondac magazine.

In August, I will be accompanying the staff from Earth Spirit Educational Services on a trip to Yellowstone National Park to observe the wolves and other wildlife there. I believe they still have openings.

Hope to see you out there on the trails.

Conservation Corner

Allegany State Park Boundary report. Through the efforts of 25 volunteers on May 4-5, we cleared brush and marked 8 miles of the PA border - this included all of the priority areas. Much thanks to everyone who helped our chapter with this important work.

YOUR INPUT IS NEEDED!

ECHDC presented their “Preferred Plan” for the Outer Harbor on May 2 and they are looking to receive comments to their survey by MAY 31. Please complete the survey at <https://buffalowaterfront.com/accessandactivation/> You can make additional comments to support our vision of a natural, resilient, healthy coastal park that welcomes public access and also supports the ecology of a strategic location on the Great Lakes. For example:

PLEASE REMOVE the following because they are not consistent with the vision of the ecological, natural park and they require excessive public expenditures for a seasonal space.

Grain Elevator Interpretation on Outer Harbor
Boardwalk (rather than walk) from Marina to Playground

Redundant pathways throughout

Too many eating establishments scattered – create centers

Bridge Connecting Michigan Street Pier to Wilkeson

Taking apart Terminal B and building new building inside rather than reusing existing structure

Additional recreational activities near bike park instead of habitat

June 1st – Annual clean-up at Tillman Road Wildlife Management Area in the Town of Clarence. Contact Lynn Rehfeld-Kenney (716) 825-7329 to sign up.

June 9 Sunday – Our annual Picnic and Business Meeting at Chestnut Ridge Park! In addition to fun outings, informative talks, and our elections, we'll make a presentation to the Conservationist of the Year. Please help us promote sustainability & reduce-reuse by bringing your own reusable place settings (plates, flatware, cups, mugs, etc). See you at Chestnut Ridge Park – complete info on website and elsewhere in this newsletter.

Like many of you, our Conservation Committee meetings are going on summer vacation - see you in September!

Outings

• PICNIC OUTINGS

6/9 – SUN - HIKE- 11:00am - *Chestnut Ridge Park (B)* - Leslie Salathe and Patty Pikul (716) 560-1311 or (Lesliesalathe@live.com). The trail is 5.5 miles and we'll hike at a moderate pace for about 3 hours. Meet in the Corral parking lot at 11 a.m. We will hike the red and blue trails, with two small stream crossings. Please bring hiking poles, the ten essentials, snack and sufficient water. Hiking boots are a must. Email or call the leaders for further information.

6/9 – SUN - BIKE- 1:00- 3:00 - *Chestnut Ridge Park (B)* Paul Kochmanski 716) 895-7712 or (kochmanski@ecc.edu). Moderate ride on country roads with some hills. We'll meet at the Commissioner's Cabin then cross to the other side of the park and exit on Newton Road, to Abbott, the old Route 219 then back to Newton Road (about 17 miles). Helmets are mandatory.

6/9 – SUN - PADDLE - *Ellicott Creek (B)* - Richard Schraven (716) 564-2106) or (RichardSchraven1@gmail.com). Weather and water level permitting, we will put in behind the Amherst State Park on Mill St., in Williamsville. This section meanders through back yards and three golf courses. We will take out at St. Mary's Road near North Forest & Millersport Hwy. Cars will be spotted. An alternate trip in

case of too high or too low water will change the location to the following: Buffalo River Paddle from Harlem Rd. (C). We will meet at the Harlem Rd. put-in, paddle for a couple of hours and then go to Picnic at the Commissioner's Cabin in Chestnut Ridge Park. Dress for the weather, bring sun protection, water and extra clothing in a dry-bag. A proper fitting PFD and whistle is required and must be worn at all times when on the water. Contact the leader at the above e-mail or phone for further information and to notify of your participation. Bring a dry bag with a change of clothing, snacks and water.

6/9 – SUN - NATURE HIKE - *Chestnut Ridge Park* - 1:30PM – (C) Lynn and Doug Kenney - Meet at Commissioners Cabin. This will be a leisurely walk inside the park with frequent stops to look at wildflowers and trees. We will try to identify as many as possible and will explain the different format between the Peterson and Newcomb's Wildflower Field Guides. We invite you to bring your field guides to assist us. Birders are also welcome to help identify birds. The hike will last about 1.5 hours.

6/9 - SUN - HIKE/TRAIL RUN - YOUNG MEMBERS' EVENT - *Chestnut Ridge Park* - Deena Mueller-Funke (deena.mueller1@gmail.com). We'll meet at the parking lot just in from Newton Road. We'll do an approx. 6 mile loop route that can be modified depending on the pace or distance desires of the group. Contact the trip leader for details and a start time.

- **LATE MAY & JUNE OUTINGS**

5/26 - SUN Memorial Weekend Ride - BIKE – 10 am - 2hrs - 10-12mph (mblex@roadrunner.com) Downtown Buffalo to Forest Lawn, a loop around Hoyt Lake, Scajaquada Creek trail to Niagara, LaSalle Park and finish with a ride to Erie Basin Marina. The ride will be on bike lanes, streets & paths. Helmets must be worn. Call or email Mike Lex (716) 430-8986 for start location & further info.

5/27 - MON Memorial Day - PADDLE - *Pirate's (Motor) Island rookeries and Strawberry Island lagoon - Niagara River* - Bob Van Hise & Patti Zander 716-628-0355 or (adkpaddles.bvh@gmail.com) Meet at 9:30AM and put in at 10:00AM at the East River Marsh/Ferry Road launch site on Grand Island with your canoe or kayak. Wet suits may be needed if the air and/or water temperature are lower than 60 degrees. PFDs are required and must be worn at all times while on the water.

5/29 - WED PM- PADDLE - Maureen Rowley - 716-628-0369 (momohiker@yahoo.com) Meet at 5:45PM to launch at 6:00PM. Location to be announced. Contact trip leader for details.

6/1 – SAT – ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY CLEAN-UP/HIKE – *Tillman Road State Wildlife Management Area, Clarence* (C) - Lynn & Doug Kenney (716) 825-7329 (h) Make a difference! Join us for the Spring 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 the home phone 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. **Note: Rain date is Sunday June 2!

6/1 – SAT - HIKE - *Short Hills Provincial Park* - Ken Martin (716) 997-7929 or (kmartin977@gmail.com) (B) This 735-hectare natural park features fishing & trails for hiking, biking & horseback riding on Pelham Road, Thorold, Ontario Canada. We will hike some of the many beautiful wooded trail loops passing through the sedimentary deposits and glacial till that once filled this valley, until Twelve Mile Creek sliced through, forming the "Short Hills." Animals living here include white-tailed deer,



coyote, and meadow vole. Pawpaw and sweet chestnut trees are among the southern plants. Plan for 3 hours depending on trail conditions. Additional trails can be added as desired. Please bring snacks and water. Hiking is easy to moderate. After hike options located next to park include the War of 1812 Heritage Park Decew House, Morningstar Grist Mill and waterfall/gorge, Henry of Pelham Estate Winery. REMINDER: You must have appropriate documentation to travel to Canada. Please contact trip leader by Thursday 5/30, to RSVP and for meet up time and location.

6/2 - SUN - BIKE - 10am - *Lancaster Heritage Trail* - ~2 hrs - Pace = 10-12 mph - Mike Lex (716) 430-8986 or (mblex@roadrunner.com). We will follow the bike path to country roads through Westwood Park and back to our starting point. Helmets are required. Call for start location & further info.

6/12 – WED - PADDLE - 6PM - *Tonawanda Creek - Botanical Gardens* - (C) Richard and Mary Schraven (716) 946-7489 or (maryschraven1@gmail.com) We'll launch at 6:00pm. PFD's and a whistle are mandatory and must be worn while on the water. Please call to confirm and to rsvp with trip leader.

6/15 - SAT - HIKE - *Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo* (C) -10 AM - David and Janet Kowalski (716) 839-3114 or (janetk300@gmail.com). We'll trek 3-4 miles throughout this arboretum-like urban gem filled with hundreds of trees, the picturesque Mirror Lake, and an iconic outdoor museum of natural resources and fascinating Buffalo History. We'll visit the sublime Serenity Falls and Frank Lloyd Wright's 1928 design for the Blue Sky Arboretum in addition to a few of the characters who reside here. Forest Lawn covers over 269 acres and is on the National Register of Historic Places. Meet in the cemetery parking lot at the corner of Delaware and Delevan. Please wear sturdy shoes, dress for the weather, and bring water and a snack.



6/19 – WED - PADDLE - *Location To be Announced* - Roy Svensson (716) 692-4898 or (roy_svensson@hotmail.com). We'll launch at 6:00pm. PFD's and a whistle are mandatory and must be worn while on the water. Please call to confirm and to rsvp with trip leader.

6/22 - SAT - PADDLE – *Oak Orchard River* (B) - Richard and Mary Schraven (716) 564-2106 or (richardschraven1@gmail.com) or (716) 946-7489 (MarySchraven1@gmail.com). Come paddle your canoe or kayak on the meandering, moving water between Gravel Road (Rte. 63) in Medina, and Townline Road in Orleans County. The Oak Orchard River drains the Alabama Swamp and is supplemented with water from the Barge Canal, so water levels are seldom a problem. When you are on the river, there is a feeling of remoteness. You don't see any signs of civilization, only the water, the tree-lined banks and blue skies. Intermediate skills are recommended to avoid overhanging tree branches and submerged rocks. All in all, it is a very pleasant place to paddle. Bring water, lunch and a change of clothing in a dry-bag. PFD and a whistle are mandatory and must be worn while in the water. Insect repellent, a sun-hat and sun-screen may be helpful and dress for the weather. Cars will be spotted. Please call for start time and directions to the put-in. Google 3254 Gravel Rd., Medina, NY for driving directions to put-in on the Oak Orchard River.

6/23 - SUN - HIKE - *Devils Hole State Park* - (B) - Victoria Rowley (716) 225-7271 or (theatreffille@gmail.com). We will meet at 10am at the Devil's Hole State Park parking area. We will hike down into the Niagara gorge via the Devil's Hole stairs. We will then hike down and over to Whirlpool State Park with beautiful views of sitting on the rocks. We will then go back up to the Devil's Hole stairs. Bring plenty of water and snacks. Total mileage around 4 miles. 2.5 to 3 hour hike. Please contact trip leader for more details and to RSVP by Friday June 21.

6/26 - WED PADDLE - *Red Jacket River Front Park on Buffalo River* - Richard and Mary Schraven (716) 946-7489 or (maryschraven1@gmail.com) We'll launch at 6:00pm. PFD's and a whistle are mandatory and must be worn while on the water. Please call to confirm and to rsvp with trip leader.

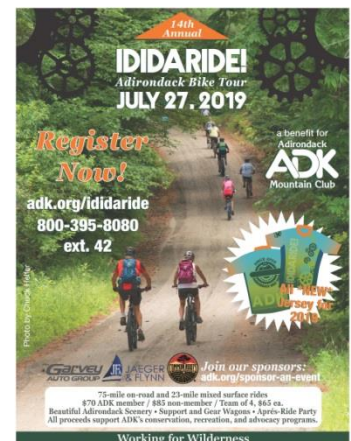
6/29 - SAT - PADDLE - YOUNG MEMBERS' EVENT - *18 Mile Creek outlet into Lake Erie* - Deena Mueller-Funke (deena.mueller1@gmail.com). We'll put in off the boat launch from Old Lake Shore Road and paddle a short distance into the lake. We'll stop at the sand bar to have snacks and soak up some sun. RSVP for details and start time.

6/30 - SUN - BIKE - 10 am - ~2.5 hrs - Pace = 10-12mph - *Clarence Meadowlakes Park to Akron Falls Park* - (B) - Mike Lex (716) 430-8986 or (mblex@roadrunner.com). It will be a nice ride along bike paths in Clarence, Newstead & Akron. Helmets are required. Call for start location & further info.

- **FUTURE OUTINGS**

7/4 - THUR - PADDLE - *Lower Niagara River from Lewiston to Youngstown* (B) - Bob VanHise - (716) 628-0355 or (adkpaddles.bvh@gmail.com). We will launch early so you can be home in time for your picnic! Be at the Lewiston launch ramps (end of Center St. by The Silo Restaurant) by 9:00 to drop off your boat. There is a fee to launch a kayak or canoe (\$4 the last time I checked). We will then drive to Youngstown to drop off most of the cars and come back to launch. After a leisurely downstream paddle, anyone who's interested can drive back to Lewiston for lunch at The Silo Restaurant. A PFD and whistle are required and must be worn at all times while on the water. Approx. 2 hour paddle.

SAT - 7/27/19 - BIKE - You are invited! Come join the fun at ididaride! on Saturday, July 27 at the Ski Bowl Pavilion in North Creek, NY. All chapters and ADK members and their families are invited to participate, volunteer, and cheer on riders, as well as purchase a mile marker sign on behalf of your business, yourself, or your chapter. The 14th annual event has grown to become ADK's largest fundraiser and provides needed funds to sustain the programs you enjoy and protect the lands you love. Please plan to join us! Details at <https://www.adk.org/play/cycling-information/ididaride/>. Contact Sunday Conine at ADK's Lake George office with any questions, 518-668-4447 or Sunday@adk.org.



ANOTHER HIGH PEAKS RESOURCE! Two-time 46'er, Kate Hacker has made herself available to lead High Peaks or other hikes in that area for aspiring 46'ers from our Chapter. She has some flexibility for the dates and would be willing to work with you to plan and lead your next adventure. Kate will be the campground host at the Adirondack Heart Lake Campground the week starting October 6th and High Peaks Information Center Host the week starting June 30th, but can only do afternoon hikes those days. She can help you plan hikes out of the campground or help you plan other local hikes those weeks. If you want to go at other times these can be arranged for most times of the summer season. Last minute hikes in good weather are fine. This is an alternative to the scheduled weekend trips already posted, which are group trips providing more information and support. Sometimes finding someone to go with last minute when the weather is good is the biggest obstacle to completing the 46! Text or email Kate at (716) 491-7046 (hackerks@gmail.com)

- **TRIP REPORTS**

4/27 - SAT - TIFFT NATURE PRESERVE WORKDAY
12 hearty chapter members met on a cold and windy day between rain drops to plant Tulip Poplar Trees



(*Liriodendron tulipifera*) along the South Shore of Lake Beth. Zachary Goodrich did an excellent job of orienting us to the extreme conditions that these saplings will face from wind and ravaging deer as well as beaver. Digging a shallow hole for the bare root saplings was made more difficult with all the brick and stone material laying just under the sod. The saplings were protected by a 4-foot plastic sleeve that lets in sunlight but keeps the deer and beaver from destroying the struggling trees. Zachary predicted 50% survival rate of the 30 saplings planted. Covered in mud, we all felt great about our small contribution. Still 900 trees left to plant this spring!

Our May Speaker

Our May speakers were Cat Mosley and Greg Liberman from Apex Clean Energy. They are in the process of establishing a large scale wind farm in Barre, NY, along the Lake Ontario shoreline. They shared the complexities of the projects details and the controversy and opposition they face in moving it forward.

The Executive Committee

Chair	Paul Gannon	paulmgannon54@gmail.com	(716) 395-5739
1st Vice Chair/Outings	Mary Schraven	maryschraven1@gmail.com	(716) 946-7489
2nd Vice Chair/Conservation	Bob Van Hise	adkpaddles.bvh@gmail.com	(716) 628-0355
3rd Vice Chair/Programs	Maureen Rowley	mrowley62@yahoo.com	(716) 628-0369
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Director/Webmaster	Rob Laing	rlaing537@gmail.com	
Treasurer	Doug Gaffney	dgaffney@roadrunner.com	(716) 631-3979
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Young Members Coordinator	Deena Mueller-Funke	deena.mueller1@gmail.com	(815) 355-6768
Archivist/Historian	Lynn Rehfeld-Kenney	woodthrush3@hotmail.com	(716) 825-7329
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Outings Co-Chair: Biking	Paul Kochmanski	kochmanski@ecc.edu	(716) 895-7712
Outings Co-Chair: Backpacking	Teresa and Peter Corrigan	teresacorrigan85@gmail.com ; hikepmc@roadrunner.com	(716) 835-1905