Next General Meeting – Tuesday September 10, 2019

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

**Annual Ice Cream Social/Summer Vacation Pics Slide Show**

7:00 p.m.  Ice cream and Beverages and reconnect or meet other ADK members

7:30 p.m.  General Meeting and updates followed by slide show of summer photos submitted by members

*If you have some photos you'd like to share of your summer activities, experiences, or places you visited, please email 10 or fewer picture to our slide organizer Doug Gaffney dgaffney@roadrunner.com by Sept. 8th*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **NEW BIRDING WEBSITE:** [BirdsontheNiagaraFrontier.org](http://BirdsontheNiagaraFrontier.org)

Announcing the launch of a new birding-focused web site: www.birdsontheniagarafrontier.org. By using a video format, this new resource introduces the visitor to birding activities in Western New York and Southern Ontario in a way that should be helpful to both beginners and experts. From Gerry Rising with Mike Noonan.
• EXTRA EXTRA!! Newsletter Editor Found!!!!!

Mary Katherine Noack has graciously agreed to serve as the new newsletter editor for the Niagara Explorer. Mary Katherine Noack comes to us with leadership experience on the board of our Niagara Frontier Chapter and a wealth of web design and marketing know-how. She will surely spruce up future editions of the Niagara Explorer. Please join me in thanking Mary for her willingness to serve our chapter. Mary is also an avid hiker who is working her way through the 46ers and the Finger Lakes Trail.

• WILDERNESS WEEKENDS AND OUTINGS REMINDER

For all the new and updated outings visit ADK-NFC.org, Click on the Event Calendar Tab. When you click on the specific outing, you will see all directions. Want to spend more time outside? outstanding wilderness areas but Weekends of Western NY Patch choice from our guidebook, chapter and you will receive this guidebook? See all the trip website. Earn your patch this the ADK-NFC.org website, Click on the WW of WNY tab and download the outings log and instructions. Receive your patch at the general membership meeting. Go to [http://www.adk-nfc.org/wwwny/wwwnyhome.php](http://www.adk-nfc.org/wwwny/wwwnyhome.php)

Message from the Chair, Paul Gannon

The weather has moderated, and the rains have diminished. We are finally able to enjoy some real summer weather. I hope everyone is taking advantage of the opportunity.

In between your outings, I encourage you to explore another dimension of outdoor activity. I am referring to the extensive library of books about the natural world and the experiences of people as they enjoy spending time in it.

Recently, I read three wonderful books about nature that I want to review for you. The first one is titled Celtic Tides. It tells about the author’s sea kayak voyage around the coast of Ireland. During his trip, he visited numerous bays, coves, and small fishing villages. The most harrowing part of his journey was when he rounded the southwestern corner of the island and faced the full force of the Atlantic. I have stood on the cliffs looking down on that section of the coast, and can't imagine navigating those seas in a small boat.
The second book is The American Wolf. I read this in preparation for my upcoming trip to Yellowstone National Park. It tells the story of the re-introduction of wolves to the Yellowstone ecosystem. It follows the adventures of several wolf packs and the people who monitor and protect them. It also shows the other side of the story by discussing the attitudes of locals who are adamantly opposed to these efforts, and who, in some cases, want nothing more than to exterminate all remaining wolves in the region.

Lastly, I finally got around to completing a long overdue task by reading Last Child in the Woods, the classic tome advocating for a return to the practices of the past, where children were left free to roam about and play in a natural setting. It has inspired me to increase our chapter’s involvement in efforts to do promote outdoor activities for the young.

Nature themed works have long been a staple of American literature. I have my own library of such books, including all of the works of Henry David Thoreau. I’m probably one of the few people alive today who have actually read his A Week on the Concord and Merrimack Rivers. I find inspiration in such writings, which encourage me to get out and see such places for myself. During your summertime of travels, I encourage you to take some time to also explore this other dimension.

See you on the trail!

**CONСERVATION CORNER**

If any member has conservation-related information that you think would be of interest to our chapter, please email content or a link to Bob Van Hise adkpaddles.bvh@gmail.com for possible inclusion in an upcoming newsletter.

**Outings**

- **RECURRING OUTINGS**

  8/7, 8/14, 8/21, 8/28 - WED - HIKE - 6:15PM – *Chestnut Ridge Park (B)* – Cheryl Peluso - Cherylp17@verizon.net - 716-997-2349 Meet in the Eternal Flame parking lot on route 277 (aka corral parking lot). We will hike approx. 3.5 miles at a moderate pace on a mixture of marked and unmarked trails. Email, text or call if you plan on being there.

- **LATE JULY and AUG. OUTINGS**

  7/30 - TUES - PADDLE - *Wilson Harbor (C)* - Frank and Linda Gallagher, 2773 Maple Road, Wilson, NY (716) 751-9650 or (716) 751-4147 - Meet at their house at 5:30, to launch at 6:00- dusk. Call to confirm weather conditions are suitable by Monday evening. Enjoy spectacular sunset on Lake Ontario in the protected harbor, or venture out into the lake if it is calm. PFD’s are mandatory and must be worn correctly at all times when on the water. Optional refreshments afterwards.
7/31 - WED - HIKE – 6PM – Chestnut Ridge Park (B) – Cheryl Peluso
Meet in the Eternal Flame parking lot on route 277 (aka corral parking lot). We will hike approx. 3.5 miles at a moderate pace on a mixture of marked and unmarked trails. Email or call if you plan on being there. (716) 997-2349 or (Cherylpl17@verizon.net)

8/1 - THURS - BIKE – North Buffalo to Tonawanda (C) 13 or 20 miles Paul Kochmanski (716) 895-7712 or (kochmanski@ecc.edu) We’ll start (at a mutually agreeable time) at the NFTA Metro Park-n-Ride at the LaSalle Station (behind Aldi’s), ride out 6.5 miles to Mississippi Mudd’s in Tonawanda along the Rail-to-Trail. Return route either back the same way for 13 miles, or along the Riverwalk and Scajaquada Bikepaths to Delaware park for a total of 20 miles. Pace and length based on group consensus. Optional eats/drinks/ice cream afterwards in the Hertel Ave. or University Heights area. Call or email by 12:00 noon day of if coming.

8/3 - SAT - BIKE - Front Park to Port Colborne (Canal Days) (A- 40 mi, B 20 mi.) Paul Kochmanski (716) 895-7712 or (kochmanski@ecc.edu) Meet at Olmstead’s historic Front Park (Porter Ave. entrance, near Peace Bridge). For those wishing to shorten the ride 20 miles and not ride over the bridge, starting 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. Bring a passport or enhanced NY Driver’s License for the bridge crossing, a helmet (required), food (optional), and water. Plenty of photo-ops and eating ops! Call for meet up time. Rain-date Sun. 8/4.

8/4 – SUN – BIKE - Tonawanda to Albright Knox Art Gallery (B) (716) 564-2106 or (richardschraven1@gmail.com) or (716) 946-7489 or (maryschraven1@gmail.com) This ride will be mostly on bike paths. We will begin at the parking lot on State & Young Streets in the City of Tonawanda and ride about a mile to the Tonawanda Creek Bike Path. This connects with the Niagara Riverwalk, which we will ride through the Town of Tonawanda and into Buffalo to the Scajaquada Creek Bike Path that goes by the Art Museum and the jazz concert. The ride to the concert is about 11 miles long. After the concert we will ride about four miles through Delaware Park and quiet side streets of North Buffalo to the Buffalo/Tonawanda Rail-to-Trail. The ride back to our cars will be an additional five miles on this straight and level Bike Trail. The concert is from 2 -4:30 pm. We will start the ride at 12:30 pm. Bring your bike in good working order, and bike ride essentials: sun protection, helmet, mirror, whistle, or bell, illumination, repair kit, first-aid, water, cash, lock and cable, snacks and a cloth to sit on. Dress for the possible weather conditions. Call or e-mail to let us know you are coming and to give us your contact information so that we can let you know of any changes by the evening before.

8/7 - WED - PADDLE - Wilson Harbor - Maureen Rowley - momohiker@yahoo.com or call 716-628-0369.
Meet at 5:45 for a 6:00 launch. Call or email for meet up location. Stay in the bay, or venture out into Lake Ontario if the waves and wind are low. Enjoy a beautiful sunset, cool lake breezes and music from the local establishments while on the water. PFDs and whistle are mandatory and must be worn while on the water at all times. Optional refreshments after outing.
8/10 - SAT - HIKE – Rim Trail to Little Rock City, Ellicottville (B) Cheryl Peluso  cherylp17@verizon.net 997-2349. This is a 6.5 mile loop that goes through some lovely forest areas as well as through Little Rock City. It is mostly along a ridge behind Ellicottville with comparatively little elevation gain/loss though the rocky footing in some sections bothers some people. We will also be able to see a dramatic area of tornado blowdown. Pack a lunch and water. Meet at the Park n Ride at the Orchard Park Route 20A exit of Route 219 at 9am. Contact Cheryl by Friday, if you plan on going. If no one contacts her then the hike will be cancelled.

8/11 -SUN - BIKE - Clarence Country Ride (C) Mike Lex email mblex@roadrunner.com - morning rides of 12-15 miles along the bike paths & country roads in the Northtowns. Meet at 10am. Ride about 1.5 hours. Helmets must be worn. Contact Mike Lex by email or call 430-8986 for starting location.

8/15 - THURS - BIKE – North Buffalo to Tonawanda (C) 13 or 20 miles Paul Kochmanski 895-7712  kochmanski@ecc.edu We’ll start (at a mutually agreeable time) at the NFTA Metro Park-n-Ride at the LaSalle Station (behind Aldi’s), ride out 6.5 miles to Mississippi Mudd’s in Tonawanda along the Rail-to-Trail. Return route either back the same way for 13 miles, or along the Riverwalk and Scajaquada Bike paths to Delaware park for a total of 20 miles. Pace and length based on group consensus. Optional eats/drinks/ice cream afterwards in the Hertel Ave. or University Heights area. Call or email by 12:00 noon on Thursday if coming.

8/18 - SUN - HIKE - Eighteen Mile Creek in Hamburg- Victoria Rowley 716-225-7271 or theatrefille@gmail.com - Meet at 10:30am. Google maps address is 2745 South Creek Road. Meet in the only parking lot. This is a shorter hike where we will go down by the creek, walk along the rocks, and then walk up along the gorge. Approximately 2.5 to 3 miles, about 3 hours. Bring a snack, water, and bug spray for those pesky gnats. Call to RSVP by Fri.

8/23 - FRI - 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 hang out at the sand bar to have snacks watch the sunset. RSVP for details and start time.

8/24 - SAT - HIKE - YOUNG MEMBERS’ EVENT - Lost Nation State Forest - Deena Mueller-Funke (deena.mueller1@gmail.com). We’ll hike for an hour or two on park trails and maybe camp if there is interest. If we need more hiking space, Cold Creek and Swift Hill State Forests are nearby. RSVP for details and start time.
8/24-8/26 - SAT - MON - HIKE/PADDLE - **LAST CALL** -ADK High Peaks (A-C) Mike Lex (mblex@roadrunner.com) and Aaron Slosman (aslosman@gmail.com) This trip will be hiking and paddling with goal determined in early summer. Sign up with a deposit of $12.60 by July 31 to help us plan the hikes and paddles. We will be staying at the ADK Wilderness Campground. This is car camping and not a backpacking trip. We have reserved a camp site allowing 3 tents and a canvas tent which has 6 bunks with single mattresses. We hope to spend one day hiking and one day paddling. Club pays 50% of the camping fee. Each paddler will pay an additional $35 for boat rental. Exact trip goals and food plan will depend on group decisions made in June. The trip is limited to 12 people. Tent site only allows 3 tents, so tent sharing is likely required. Bunks are reserved on a first come first served basis. A deposit of $12.60 (minimum cost per 10 participants for remaining camping fee) is required. Email trip leaders for address to mail in check.

8/29 - THURS - BIKE – *North Buffalo to Tonawanda* (C) 13 or 20 miles
Paul Kochmanski 895-7712 kochmanski@ecc.edu We’ll start (at a mutually agreeable time) at the NFTA Metro Park-n-Ride at the LaSalle Station (behind Aldi’s), ride out 6.5 miles to Mississippi Mudd’s in Tonawanda along the Rail-to-Trail. Return route either back the same way for 13 miles, or along the Riverwalk and Scajaquada Bike paths to Delaware park for a total of 20 miles. Pace and length based on group consensus. Optional eats/drinks/ice cream afterwards in the Hertel Ave. or University Heights area. Call or email by 12:00 noon on Thursday if coming.

8/31 - SAT - HIKE – *Whirlpool State Park* (B) – Victoria Rowley - victoriajenniferdisney@gmail.com - 716-225-7271. Contact leader for time. Meet in the Whirlpool State Park parking lot. We will hike approx. 2.5 miles at a moderate pace down the whirlpool steps and over the big rocks where we will sit and eat a snack before returning up the Whirlpool Stairs. Total time about 2 to 2.5 hours depending on group. Email, text, or call if you plan on being there.

- **TRIP REPORTS**

**6/23 - SUN - HIKE – Devil’s Hole** -Victoria (Rowley) and Micah (Lovejoy) led a beautiful hike at Devil’s Hole and Whirlpool State park with good turnout. We began hiking down the devil's hole steps and enjoyed the beauty of the water and green trees. The humidity was low, and the temperature was comfortable. It was so nice to finally hear some birds along the way and feel the sunshine. We made our way to the large flat rocks at Whirlpool where we sat by the water enjoying snacks, conversation, and exploration. It was lovely to sit on the rocks, feel the breeze, and hear the rushing blue/green waters. We then finished and hiked our way back to the whirlpool steps and then along the gorge back to our parking lot. A perfect Sunday June morning had by all!

**7/13 – SAT -BIKE - Grand Island** – Tom Burkman hosted another wonderful NFC event even though he is recovering from knee surgery. The Schraven’s lead the bike outing after a delicious breakfast and visit. We all enjoyed the beautiful wilderness setting of his backyard, sitting under the wisteria, tiger lilies around the perimeter of the wetlands and song birds in the air. The day was warm but not oppressive and the wind cooled us along. The 25 miles around the Island, a combination of roads and the newly paved West River Road Trail went by quickly and enjoyably. Beaver Island State Park was lovely but we made the mistake of traveling through the woods from the old homestead to Ferry Road kayak launch instead of sticking to the paved roads. The group was good spirited about it and only a few mosquitos were satiated. Having the river be our constant companion on the outing made it all worthwhile. – submitted by Mary Schraven
PLAN AHEAD

9/6-9/8 – FRI-SUN - STATE-WIDE FALL OUTING – Mid Hudson Region, Harriman State Park – Visit and explore this amazing part of NYS, 30 miles from the Big Apple. Stay in tent sites in the park or at local hotels. Choose from 37 hikes, 6 paddles, 5 walking tours, historical sites, orienteering and kayak skills trainings. Only pay for the meals you want. Go to https://midhudsonadk.org/adk-fall-outing/ for all the details and to register. Don’t wait, outings and camping are booking up fast. Many people from NFC will be going so there will be carpooling.

DIRECTOR’S UPDATE

Our Chapter Director, Rob Laing, attended the June Directors Meeting held in Lake George, and reported about the following items which were reviewed and discussed:

- The Heart Lake Property construction is finally coming to a close. From plan to completion has been about 4 years. New or updated facilities include: new well, new septic, new water filtration system, new washhouse, updated existing washhouse, remodeled HPIC, landscaping, new campground loop, new campsites, new camping cabin, new snack bar.
- The Hungry Hiker snack bar adjacent to the HPIC opened in May and so far has seen steady business. Hours have been expanded in June to include breakfast. The season will run until weather forces closing probably in October. The Hungry Hiker is open 7 days a week. The liquor license should be approved in July.
- The Executive Director search continues. The job description has been modified to remove the requirement for a law degree and is more focused on not-for-profit management experience. Neil Woodworth is hoping to retire at the end of the year.
- Broadband will be coming to the Heart Lake property this summer. Fiber cable is being run on existing raised power poles down the Loj road and should be functional by the end of July. An acceptable use policy is being developed to help guide how internet access will be used by guests and visitors.
- Club membership numbers continue to rise slowly but steadily with 17,432 member households as of May, 2019
- One of the major fundraising events, the IdidaRide, has lower registration than past years and any potential participants are urged to register soon.
- The Executive Committee and Board of Directors voted on and approved the expenditure for a 5 year strategic plan utilizing an outside consultant. An RFP was submitted to 6 organizations, 4 responded and 1 was selected. The strategic plan ideally will help guide the club’s direction in the coming years.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>Paul Gannon</td>
<td><a href="mailto:paulmgannon54@gmail.com">paulmgannon54@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>(716) 395-5739</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Vice Chair/Outings</td>
<td>Mary Schraven</td>
<td><a href="mailto:maryschraven1@gmail.com">maryschraven1@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>(716) 946-7489</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Vice Chair/Conservation</td>
<td>Bob Van Hise</td>
<td><a href="mailto:adkpaddles.bvh@gmail.com">adkpaddles.bvh@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>(716) 628-0355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Position</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Email</td>
<td>Phone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Vice Chair/Programs</td>
<td>Maureen Rowley</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mrowley62@yahoo.com">mrowley62@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>(716) 628-0369</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Chair</td>
<td>Teresa Corrigan</td>
<td><a href="mailto:teresacorrigan85@gmail.com">teresacorrigan85@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>(716) 835-1905</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Chair</td>
<td>Kathy Clerkin</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kmclerkin@gmail.com">kmclerkin@gmail.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director/Webmaster</td>
<td>Rob Laing</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rlaing537@gmail.com">rlaing537@gmail.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Doug Gaffney</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dgaffney@roadrunner.com">dgaffney@roadrunner.com</a></td>
<td>(716) 631-3979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newsletter Editor</td>
<td>Mary Kathryn Noack</td>
<td><a href="mailto:marynoac@buffalo.edu">marynoac@buffalo.edu</a></td>
<td>(716) 984-2342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Larry Beahan</td>
<td><a href="mailto:larry_beahan@roadrunner.com">larry_beahan@roadrunner.com</a></td>
<td>(716) 839-3112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospitality</td>
<td>Carol Schuster</td>
<td><a href="mailto:carolfschuster@gmail.com">carolfschuster@gmail.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young Members Coordinator</td>
<td>Deena Mueller-Funke</td>
<td><a href="mailto:deena.mueller1@gmail.com">deena.mueller1@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>(815) 355-6768</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archivist/Historian</td>
<td>Lynn Rehfeld-Kenney</td>
<td><a href="mailto:woodthrush3@hotmail.com">woodthrush3@hotmail.com</a></td>
<td>(716) 825-7329</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outings Co-Chair: Waterways</td>
<td>Richard Schraven</td>
<td><a href="mailto:richardschraven1@gmail.com">richardschraven1@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>(716) 564-2106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outings Co-Chair: Biking</td>
<td>Paul Kochmanski</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kochmanski@ecc.edu">kochmanski@ecc.edu</a></td>
<td>(716) 895-7712</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outings Co-Chair: Backpacking</td>
<td>Teresa and Peter Corrigan</td>
<td><a href="mailto:teresacorrigan85@gmail.com">teresacorrigan85@gmail.com</a>; <a href="mailto:hikepmc@roadrunner.com">hikepmc@roadrunner.com</a></td>
<td>(716) 835-1905</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>