

THE NIAGARA EXPLORER

Newsletter of the Adirondack Mountain Club - Niagara Frontier Chapter

Upcoming Meeting: Tues, Jan. 14th

Education Workshop:

Snowshoe & Cross Country Ski Round Table | 6:30p

Winter in Buffalo is more fun when you make time to play in the snow ... cross country skis or snowshoes can help! This workshop is for those new to cross country skiing and snowshoeing, and for those with information to share. We will cover some of the basics of cross country skiing and snowshoeing, resources for learning how to ski, exercises to help the body get ready, routes across WNY, and information on outings led by your local ADK chapter.

Come ready to give and get knowledge! Our workshop is in the community room adjacent to the main meeting room. We hope to see you there!

-Teresa Corrigan, education chair, TeresaCorrigan85@gmail.com

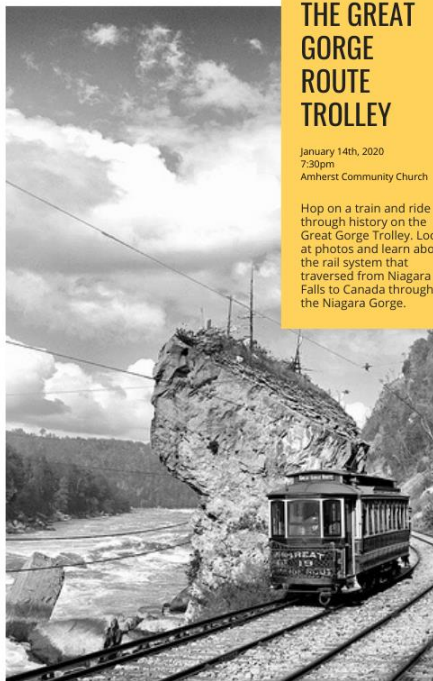
Location

Fellowship Hall

Amherst Community Church

Washington Hwy. Snyder, NY 14226

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



THE GREAT GORGE ROUTE TROLLEY

January 14th, 2020
7:30pm
Amherst Community Church

Hop on a train and ride through history on the Great Gorge Trolley. Look at photos and learn about the rail system that traversed from Niagara Falls to Canada through the Niagara Gorge.

Presentation: The Great Gorge Route Trolley | 7:00p

Our first meeting of 2020, January, 14th will be a historical journey back in time! How fitting as we jump into the New Year!

The Niagara Region Parks will be sharing the history of The Great Gorge Route. The rail system ran alongside the Niagara Gorge Rapids between 1895-1935. They will share historical photos and some fascinating stories from that era

Looking Ahead

Our February program will be featuring "Endangered Species" presented by the Buffalo Zoomobile featuring vital and endangered species.

The program defines what threatened, endangered, extirpated and extinct species are. They will show a cross section of animals on the endangered species list, the reasons they are in danger and discuss preventative measures that have arisen over the years to help save these wonder creatures.

They'll be discussing illegal pet trade, animal hunting/exploitation for merchants, and habitat destruction. Fortunately protective laws and conservation/preservation efforts of zoos and nature preserves are offering hope for the future of these precious animals.

Message from the Chair

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

We have some exciting additions and changes to our chapter leadership. Greg Germaine has accepted the role of First vice chair / Outings and I am already impressed with his energy and enthusiasm. Leslie Salathe volunteered to fill both the Hiking and Winter co-chair positions. I am sure that her extensive experience will be of great benefit to us all. Mike Lex, our new Biking co-chair, is looking forward to spring and the start of the new season.

We had an unusual issue come up on the day of our annual Christmas potluck on December 10. Several of our leaders received emails, supposedly from me, instructing them to purchase gift cards. These were intended for veterans in hospice care. Unfortunately, a scam. Someone got coal in their stocking this year.

So, here is a friendly reminder to all of our members. We never solicit any funds for any purpose by sending out an email. Any donation that our chapter makes comes out of our budget and is voted on by the executive committee and sent by our treasurer.

This year we made donations to ADK, the summit steward program, and the fund in honor of Neil Woodworth. On behalf of the Executive Committee, I want to wish all of you a very happy, healthy, and prosperous 2020.

— *Paul M. Gannon*

Outings

1/25 - SAT – SS/Hike Central part of Sprague Brook Park

(B) Lynn & Doug Kenney, 716-825-7329 or woodthrush3@hotmail.com. Day of event call 716-361-6172.

Enjoy a 3 mile snowshoe or a 4 mile hike along wooded trails with some easy hills and views of Sprague Brook Creek. Enjoy the birds that call these woods home during the winter months. Bring water and snowshoes. Bear left after entering the park entrance. Park in the small parking lot just past the casino where the road is blocked by a gate during the winter. Optional: lunch at a local restaurant afterwards. Call for meeting time.

REOCCURRING EVENTS

EVERY WED - SS/HIKE - Beaver Meadow Audubon Center

Carol Griffis -716-652-2547; carolpgriffis@gmail.com.

Every Wednesday morning 9am you will find me at the Beaver Meadow Audubon Center. I will be most happy to get outside for a hike or snowshoe with you. The Center is on 1610 Welch Rd, Java Center, NY 14082. There are snowshoes available for a modest \$5. All ages and abilities are welcome. Bring your lunch if you can stay. Call me to verify time and plan a meet up location at the center.

EVERY WED - HIKE - Reinstein Woods

(C) Gus Phillips. gusphillips1941@yahoo.com or call 716-646-5034.

Hike in the woods, 6:30 in the evening to hear and see night-time wildlife. Enjoy a starry sky or the moonlight. Possibly hear an owl. Family Friendly. This is a weekly event. Please email/call to let me know you are coming and to confirm in the event of inclement weather. There may be weeks when I need to cancel.

EVERY SAT MORNING - SS/XC-Ski - Knox Farm State Park

(C) Carol Griffis - For time & directions, call/text 716-652-2547 or carolpgriffis@gmail.com. I will lead this all snowy Saturday mornings. Good for beginners, gentle inclines, some woods, some open fields. Some of the trails have been nicely improved. PS trails are not groomed.

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 and updated list of outings, please see the event calendar posted on our website, ADK-NFC.ORG

Plan Ahead

FULL! 1/10 – 1/12– FRI – SUN - ALLEGANY X-C SKI WEEKEND - NOTE THE NEW DATE

(A-C) Peg Wantuck (716) 432-4473 or pegofmyheart7@live.com, Mary Schraven (716) 946-7489 or maryschraven1@gmail.com

Plan to enjoy a weekend with fun ADK'ers (along with Buffalo Nordic friends) and some of the best X-C skiing in WNY! Reserved are 4 cabins (2 bedrooms each) at the Summit area of Alleghany State Park. They are heated with a stove and fridge. Join us on Friday to ski /snow shoe /hike with an evening wine and cheese party. Enjoy outings all day Saturday on easy to difficult slopes. We have reserved the warming hut for our pot luck dinner on Saturday night. Left over lunch on Sunday. Rentals available at the warming hut. Ski from your front door – great for new members, families, and/or beginners to advanced skiers. Call Peg or Mary to reserve a spot and mail payment (WRITE CHECK TO ADK!) of \$66.00 each for 2 nights (depending on occupancy) by December 27th. Call or email for address to mail your check. Plan ahead, this weekend usually fills up!!

1/14 - 1/17 (TUE-FRI) – MIDWEEK ADK TRIP - ADK Loj at Heart Lake

Kate Hacker (716) 491-7046 or hackerks@gmail.com. The Loj is a great place midweek because it's quieter, less crowded, and there are always other people there to meet and hike with. There are many activities to do right out the front door or just a short drive away, from cross country skiing to snowshoeing to hiking. The club rents equipment for winter hiking and snowshoeing and there are ski trails around the Loj property. Contact Kate Hacker for more info! Reservations will be made in December.

01/17-01/19 (MLK Weekend) – ADK WINTER OUTING

<https://www.adk.org/play/snow-sports-information/winter-outing/>

Come out and play in the East's heaviest snows for a weekend of XC skiing, snowshoeing, and camaraderie at the annual ADK Tug Hill Winter Outing, hosted by the ADK Iroquois Chapter! Explore the numerous groomed and backcountry trails that are within minutes of the clubhouse. Accommodations are at the Mad River Club, a rustic yet comfortable building with a large basement. See website link above for full details / sign-up info, etc.

02/06- 02/09 (THUR-SUN) - SS/XC-SKI - Algonquin Provincial Park

(A - C) RichardSchraven1@gmail.com (716) 564-2106, MarySchraven1@gmail.com (716) 946-7489

5 to 6 hour drive, arrive early enough to ski a few hours at the Fen Lake Ski Area before checking into Mad Musher Hostel. On subsequent days we will ski at the Leaf Lake ski area, snowshoe through the Algonquin Logging Museum and visit the impressive Algonquin Visitor's Center. Carpooling is possible. If snow conditions are poor this weekend in Algonquin, we will consider going to Harris Lodge in Tug Hill instead. OR we would consider going the weekend of Thur. 02/20 - Sun. 02/23. We will be in contact with reserved participants closer to the date.

02/11 - 02/14 (TUE-FRI) – MIDWEEK ADK TRIP - ADK Loj at Heart Lake

Kate Hacker (716) 491-7046 or hackerks@gmail.com

The Loj is a great place midweek because it's quieter, less crowded, and there are always other people there to meet and hike with. There are many activities to do right out the front door or just a short drive away, from cross country



*Jack Rabbit Trail, Lake Placid. /
Photo by Mary K. Noack*

skiing to snowshoeing to hiking. The club rents equipment for winter hiking and snowshoeing and there are ski trails around the Loj property. Contact Kate Hacker for more info! Reservations will be made in January.



*Trail to St. Regis /
Photo by Mary K. Noack*

FULL! 3/6 - 3/8 - FRI - SUN – X-C SKI/ SS /HIKE - Weekend Heart Lake ADK Loj

(A-C) Mary Schraven (716) 946-7489 MarySchraven1@gmail.com
Buy 1 night at the Adirondack Loj and get 1 night FREE! Membership in NFC is mandatory to take advantage of this opportunity. 12 Bunks in the loft at the Loj at Heart Lake have been reserved. Your charge for the 1st night stay is only \$56.04. This includes breakfast. Opportunity for bag lunches and dinner at a reasonable cost (or meals in town). Outings will depend on the group and will be informally organized. Plan on hiking, snowshoeing and/or cross country skiing. Outings may leave from the Loj or may begin at various trail heads or area resorts. Naturalist Intern offering evening and daytime group programs. There are also lots of fun things to do in the area not snow related, if the weather doesn't provide us with snow. *This is the way to enjoy NY's long winters!*

3/17 - 3/20 (TUE-FRI) - -- MIDWEEK ADK TRIP - ADK Loj at Heart Lake

Kate Hacker (716) 491-7046 or hackerks@gmail.com

The Loj is a great place midweek because it's quieter, less crowded, and there are always other people there to meet and hike with. There are many activities to do right out the front door or just a short drive away, from cross country skiing to snowshoeing to hiking. The club rents equipment for winter hiking and

snowshoeing and there are ski trails around the Loj property. Contact Kate Hacker for more info! Reservations will be made in February.

Announcements

Update from your Hiking Chair

Are you interested in climbing the Adirondack high peaks? Have you become a 46er and want to share your expertise with Aspiring 46ers? If you are interested in leading a workshop, informal discussion, or a hike, please email me at lesliesalathe@live.com.

I would like to form a group of ADK hikers that want to participate in longer outings. Please contact me if you are interested.

Our chapter will continue to offer popular themed hikes throughout the year. I look forward to hearing from present and future leaders that would like to share their expertise in wildlife studies or field ecology while leading an outing.

-Leslie Salathe, hiking and winter sports chair.

Conservation Committee Meeting: Tuesday, Jan. 21th

Contact Bob Van Hise for additional info adkpaddles.bvh@gmail.com or (716) 628-0355

Our Executive Committee

Chair	Paul Gannon	paulmgannon54@gmail.com	(716) 395-5739
Outings Chair	Greg Germaine	gwg99t@gmail.com	(716) 696-0829
Conservation Chair	Bob Van Hise	adkpaddles.bvh@gmail.com	(716) 628-0355
Programs Chair	Maureen Rowley	mrowley62@yahoo.com	(716) 628-0369
Education Chair	Teresa Corrigan	teresacorrigan85@gmail.com	(716) 835-1905
Membership Chair	Kathy Clerkin	kmclerkin@gmail.com	
Director/Webmaster	Rob Laing	rlaing537@gmail.com	
Treasurer	Doug Gaffney	dgaffney@roadrunner.com	(716) 631-3979
Electronic Communication Chair & Newsletter Editor	Mary Kathryn Noack	marynoac@buffalo.edu	
Secretary	Larry Beahan	larry_beahan@roadrunner.com	(716) 839-3112
Hospitality	Carol Schuster	carolschuster@gmail.com	
Archivist/Historian	Lynn Rehfeld-Kenney	woodthrush3@hotmail.com	(716) 825-7329
Outings Co-chair: Waterways	Richard Schraven	richardschraven1@gmail.com	(716) 564-2106
Outings Co-chair: Biking	Mike Lex	mblex@roadrunner.com	(716) 430-8986
Outings Co-chair: Hiking & Winter	Leslie Salathe	lesliesalathe@live.com	