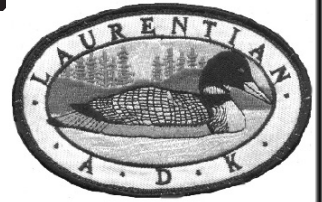




North Wind

The Laurentian Chapter of the Adirondack Mountain Club

St. Lawrence & Ottawa River Valley Region



October - December 2013

Spring Outing Retrospective

By John Barron, Chair

Spring Outing happened just after the summer issue of the North Wind went to press. All the dust has settled now, and it's a good time to look back and reflect on what seems to have been a big success.

We had 143 registered for the Outing – 103 adult participants, 38 leaders and non-participating companions, and 2 children/youth. 98 came to the barbecue in Lehman Park on Friday night, and the same number to the banquet at Thatcher Hall on Saturday. 77 Outing participants came to the Saturday evening concert, and we had 71 spectators who bought tickets in the community or at the door. After all expenses we were left with a surplus of \$736 for the Outing.

Friday and Saturday featured ideal weather – sunny and pleasantly warm without being hot. On Sunday we received some heavy rain showers. People seemed to enjoy themselves, even in the rain. Of 34 planned trips, three were cancelled long ahead of time and one on the day. Everything else went ahead, with good turnouts.

Jamie Savage performed at Happy Hour. Jeff Miller planned a planetarium show, which had to be cancelled because of construction on campus. Jeff substituted observing the moon through a telescope and binoculars at Lehman Park. Most agreed the barbecue and the banquet were very well done by PACES, the SUNY Potsdam caterers. Most reports of the residence accommodations were favorable. The concert by Dan Duggan, Peggy Lynn, and Dan Berggren at Snell Music Theatre was popular. We were especially pleased by the response from music fans in the region who came to the concert, some from great distances, even though they didn't take part in the rest of Spring Outing.

We collected a lot of evaluation forms on the last day, and most people seemed to have had a very good experience. A few people added comments, and one, Kathy Clerkin of the Niagara Frontier Chapter, went to the effort of sending detailed comments and glowing praise to extend to all who helped organize and lead.

There are a lot of people to acknowledge. They include Nancy Hess and Donna Ober of SUNY Potsdam; Jeff Miller; Jamie Savage; Mary MacKinnon, Peggy Mooers, Linda Moerschell, Pat Mueller, Charles and Lila Hunnewell, Jo Den Bleyker, and Elizabeth Taylor (all of whom took part in managing concert ticket sales); all our trip leaders; Geri Ames, whose line drawings featured on the brochure; Ellie Menz and Mary Jane Watson (finances); Betsy Tisdale (entertainment); David Katz (web site); Tom Ortmeyer (publicity); Bill Mueller (outings planning); and Marianne Hebert (registration and liaison with SUNY Potsdam). Their efforts led to a very successful Outing.

<http://www.adklaurentian.org/>



Chair

John Barron

I had occasion to attend an ADK board of directors meeting in July and listened to a presentation about liability forms and accident reports. Accidents on trips are very rare, but when they happen they have to be reported immediately, directly to ADK Headquarters. There is an accident report form on the chapter web site. We have a very good record in the chapter of completing and handing in the trip sign-up and liability waiver forms. We hope this will continue, as it is an important part of the ADK's risk management.

The newsletters of a couple of other chapters noted recently that as time goes by some of us find tough High Peaks hikes to be no longer attainable. However there is a wealth of possible hikes to "Low Peaks" or to "No Peaks". We are fortunate to have plenty of destinations of all kinds in our area and trips of all levels of difficulty usually get a good turnout. One of the articles also encourages members to organize events that have no physical component at all – cultural events of various kinds for example. It's a thought-provoking idea, and might be worth trying. Our own outings coordinator Bill Mueller recently advised us that events need not be limited to the weekends; weekdays offer another chance to extend the program.

We're going to run an Educational Affiliate Program (EAP) again this year at SUNY Potsdam. Students will be welcome on our regular outings, and we're also going to set up a few just for them. The main Club will put on a couple of weekend events in the High Peaks for students, and there may be technique clinics depending on demand. If you're interested in helping with this program, contact me.

We were sad to learn of the passing of Dick Kepes. Dick has long been a friend of the chapter and the ADK. Many in recent years will remember the parties at the Kepes residence following trail improvement events at Lampson Falls. A conservation easement on their property will be a long-lived memorial to Dick, appreciated by all who love wilderness. Our sympathy, thoughts, and prayers go out to Joan and to all of Dick's family.

Executive Committee

Chair: John Barron
JohnBarron@sympatico.ca
613-828-2296

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315-854-8000

Secretary: Dana Chudzinski
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315-528-3468

Treasurer: Mary Jane Watson
mjwatson@localnet.com
315-262-2617

Director: David Trithart
dtrithar@twcnny.rr.com
315-265-8117

Conservation 9-2013

Work on the Red Sandstone Trail this May resulted in improved stairways around the gulch on the shores of peaceful Sugar Island Flow, thanks to the efforts of Armond Spencer, Ron Johnson, and Jim Murray. [See photo on p.4]

A much bigger trail project is the bicycle trail at O'Malley Brook, on county land opposite the Colton transfer station and near the Stone Valley Trail. Chapter members Ben Yandeau and Phil Bridgeman have been convening ADK and county mountain bike club members weekly to clear a new trail of over two miles. This will also be good for walking and skiing. We hope to hold a grand opening in October. *[David T : photo included if you have room].*

The Stone Valley partners (property owners and land stewards, including ADK) have met throughout the summer to develop a written agreement about what the Stone Valley Cooperative Recreation Area should be, how it should be cared for, how users and caretakers are to behave, what efforts are needed to preserve it, and what issues remain to be settled. This agreement will be published this fall and revisited regularly. Mark Simon and I have represented ADK.

The Raquette River Advisory Council, RRAC, which advises Brookfield Renewable Energy about recreational and environmental issues on the lands and water of the Raquette from Piercefield to the St. Lawrence (and on which I sit as your rep), will be taking up invasive species as a problem this fall. We hope to fund an inventory of invasive plants along the river and identify some removal campaigns that have a chance of success.

Appointed Positions

Chapter Archivist: Carolyn Kaczka
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315-265-4806

Publicity: Tom Ortmeyer
tortmeyer@twcnny.rr.com
315-265-8219

Newsletter: David Trithart
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315-265-8117

Webmaster: David Katz
davidk@slc.com
315-386-4393

E-letter Editor: Dick Mooers
rmooers@twcnny.rr.com
315-265-2774

Trails Coordinators
Stone Valley: Mark Simon
Simonm@potsdam.edu
315-262-2571
Red Sandstone: John Omohundro
Omohunjt@northnet.org
315-265-8365

Hospitality: Joann Ferris
315-262-2553, and Mary MacKinnon
315-265-6027

Merchandising: open

Social Media Coordinator
Marianne Hebert
315-265-0756
hebertm@potsdam.edu

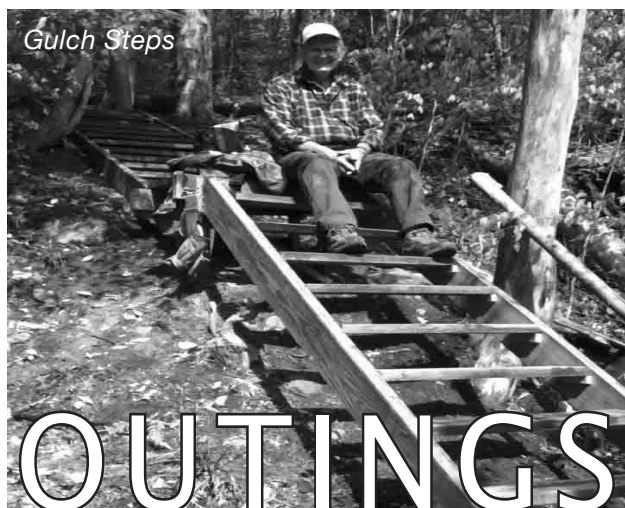
Education

Observations from one of the chapter's volunteer trail crew participants:

Hello, my name is Gaetan Foisy and I am 15. I have been volunteering for the ADK for the past two years, and I plan on many more. This year my group went to Hurricane Mt. and made a half-mile of new trail. The new trail was needed because part the old one was flooded by beavers. It took my group of seven, three and a half days to clear and bench the new trail to our leaders' satisfaction. We camped in a lean-to at the base of the mountain, next to a frigid stream. The food that we brought in and cooked was delicious and healthy. I am thankful that both our leaders were great chefs. I would recommend the volunteer trail crew to anyone who likes nature and isn't afraid to get their hands dirty.



O'Malley Brook work crew



Oct. - Dec. 2013

Bill Mueller

October 2 (Wednesday) Jay Mt. Wilderness. Jay Mountain (3600') has one of the best open ridgeline hikes in the Adirondacks. It's ruggedness and remoteness has the feel of wilderness. A new 2.5 mile trail takes us to the ridgeline with open views. The group can decide whether to proceed to Jay Mt. (1.5 more miles). Level 3 or 4, moderate to strenuous. Contact Duncan Cutter 315-328-4675 or dcutter1@twcny.rr.com

October 5 (Saturday) Ampersand Mt. Considered a near-High Peak, Ampersand offers a great view over some outstanding lake country in the western Adirondacks. 5.5 miles RT, 1,800 feet of gain. Level 4. Contact John Wilson 315-322-5821 or tresawilson@gmail.com.

October 6 (Sunday) Noonmark Mt. An almost-High Peak with spectacular views of the Great Range, near St. Hubert's. 6 miles RT, 2,200 feet of gain. Steep, but slow pace. Level 4. Contact John Barron 613-828-2296 or johnbarron@sympatico.ca

October 12 (Saturday) Furnace Mt. To avoid the crowds on Columbus Day weekend, we'll climb a little mountain few know of, off the Red Tavern Road. About 6 miles RT and 900 feet elevation gain, level 3. Contact Armond Spencer 315-379-1383.

October 13 (Sunday) Afternoon Kids Pirate Hike on Red Sandstone Trail. A joint event with Nature Up North (natureupnorth.org), this 3 mile walk on mostly level ground includes a hot dog and marshmallow

Foot travel

Difficulty Level	Feet of ascent	miles
5. Very strenuous	over 1500	10+
4. Strenuous	1000-1500	8-10
3. Moderate	500-1000	5-8
2. Fairly easy	to 499	3-5
1. Easy	level mostly	1-3

Cycling

Leaders should specify mileage, elevation, and surface.

Check for additions, deletions and changes on our chapter website, www.adklaurentian.org

Please contact the leaders at least a day before the trip.

Car pooling makes sense, as does sharing the cost of gas.

cook out midway along the trail (all food provided). A little known band of Pirates from the Caribbean lost their gold along this trail. Learn the legend and look for their treasure. Along the way we'll learn about frogs, beavers, hydropower, the history of the region and much, much, more. LIMITED TO 24 participants. Contact Blair Madore madorebf@potSDam.edu or 315-265-0602 to reserve your spot.

October 19 (Saturday) Debar Mt. Named after Quebec native John Debar, renowned hunter and 19th century guide. Start from Meacham Lake state campground through beautiful forest, past kettle holes at gentle slopes except for the final half-mile, which is quite steep. 7.4 mile RT, with over 1600 feet of climb. Level 4. Great views to the west. Contact David Trithart 315-265-8117 or dtrithar@twcny.rr.com

October 24 (Thursday) Malone Snow Geese Return. Not just for birders. We'll travel to Malone to watch a spectacular evening display as the snow geese come back to the Salmon River for the night. It's an easy walk in the park, We'll plan to stop for dinner on the way home. Level 1. Contact Ann Spencer 315-379-1383.

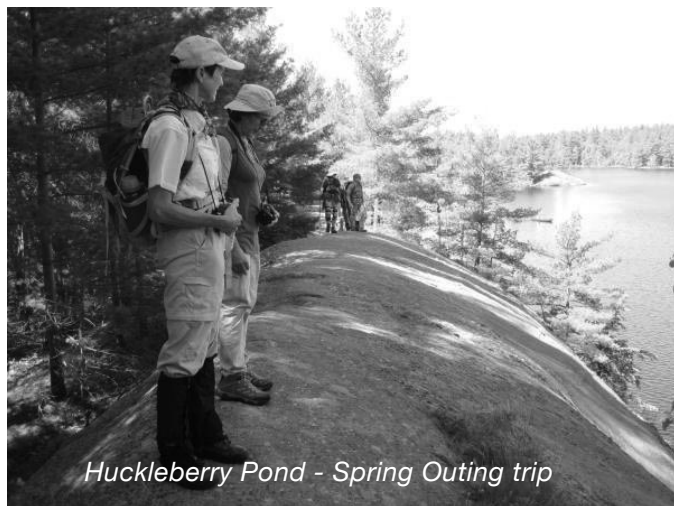
October 25 (Friday) thru October 27 (Sunday). Stone Valley Trail Work Weekend. There will be many SUNY Potsdam Students involved, therefore, we are primarily in need of crew leaders that know the Stone Valley trails, and/or have experience with trail maintenance and construction. Projects will include: trash clean-up, trail marking, bridge building, mountain bike trail construction, clipping brush, and trail maintenance.

Please contact Mark Simon by October 14th simonm@potsdam.edu or 315-262-2571, if you can lead a crew or would like to participate.

November 2 (Saturday) Bike ride on the St. Lawrence. We'll try for one last bike ride along the Saint Lawrence River, from a scenic overlook to Kring Point Park and back. The round trip total is 28 miles. There are shorter options, contact the trip leader for details: Tom Ortmeier tortmeyer@gmail.com or 315-265-8219.

November 6 (Wednesday) Walk and Dinner at Paul Smiths. A walk of 2-3 miles on the "green dot trails" at Paul Smiths, followed by dinner (optional) at St. Regis Cafe, on campus at Paul Smiths. The walk visits a couple of lean-tos and ponds, over rolling terrain on which it is safe to walk during hunting season. Moderate Difficulty. The restaurant requires reservations and costs \$12.00 per person, so sign up 3 days before the event. MEMBERS ONLY. Contact John and Susan Omohundro 265-8365 or omohunjt@northnet.org

November 10 (Sunday) Annual Meeting and Fall Pot Luck. First Presbyterian Church on the Park, 17 Park St., Canton. Bring a dish to share and your own tableware. Arrive at 5:00 PM for supper to start promptly at 5:30. Our guest speaker will be Dr. Bill Kirchgasser, Professor of Geology, Emeritus, SUNY Potsdam, who will present "Lines, Planes, and Curves of the Adirondacks: A Geologist's Perspective". Contact John Barron johnbarron@sympatico.ca or 613-828-2296.



December 7 (Saturday) Early Season Ski/Snowshoe/Hike at Higley Flow State Park. Please bring your kids, their grandparents and the dog on our annual 2-3 mile romp. We'll finish with a campfire at the Warm Brook lean-to - hotdogs, hot chocolate and marshmallows provided. Contact Blair Madore madorebf@potsdam.edu or 315-265-0602.

December 14 (Saturday) Indian Creek Snowshoe. Let's celebrate winter with an easy snowshoe or hike of about 2 miles at Indian Creek Nature Center, just outside of Rensselaer Falls. We'll finish with s'mores and cocoa (provided). A fun event for the kids (bring extra mittens). We have snowshoes to lend. Level 1. Contact Ann Spencer 315-379-1383.

December 14 (Saturday) Whiteface Toll Road Cross Country Ski. This was an annual event for the chapter for many years. Whiteface often has snow when the low country is bare. This is a very strenuous climb of 5 miles one-way. Ability to ski in crusty and wind-swept snow is essential. Conditions can be harsh, and participants must dress for cold and wind. Level 5. Contact David Trithart 315-265-8117 or dtrithar@twcnny.rr.com

December 21 (Saturday) Mt. Marcy on the Solstice. At 5,344 feet this is the highest of the High Peaks. This one is for experienced winter climbers. Dress in layers, balaclava, goggles, gloves/mittens, micro spikes/crampons, snowshoes, insulated water source and a determined spirit! With a long exposed summit windchill can be big factor. Heavy snow and or high winds will cancel. Level 5. Contact Brian Baston 315-600-1282 or brian.b.goode@gmail.com

BACKTRACKS



Compiled by Bill Mueller

June 9 (Sunday) Cycling from Cape Vincent to Alexandria Bay - John Barron (TL), Toni Towle, Peter Blood. We postponed by one day in favor of perfect weather - sunny, ideal temperature, and even our hoped-for tail wind. Highlights included a visit to Tibbetts Point Lighthouse with its historic exhibits and terrific view of white-capped Lake Ontario, and a wine and beer sample tasting at the Thousand Islands Winery. We had supper afterwards at Monaghans in Cape Vincent, which we recommend.

July 5 (Friday) Tour the Timbucto archeology site, Lake Placid - John & Susan Omohundro (TLs), Dorothy Moore, Marianne Hebert, John Barron, and ten members of North Woods chapter. Rained out on the scheduled date, we managed to visit Dr. Kruczek-Aaron's archaeology site four days later, before the afternoon rains again drenched the field crew. We learned much from professor and students about this 150-year-old African-American farm community experiment.

July 6 (Saturday) Algonquin Peak - Brian Baston (TL) Tom Ortmeyer, Tim Brown. Brian and Tom set out from the High Peaks Information Center with new ADK-Laurentian chapter member Tim, under cloudy and cool conditions. The summit was socked in with rain, fog and mist, when we joined about two dozen others at 11:30 AM for our lunch break. Since both Tom and Tim needed Iroquois Peak, we decided to do that as well. On the way the sky opened up to a beautiful day with excellent views of the rest of the Peaks. As a side note, legendary mud holes between the two peaks are now covered with boardwalks!

July 13 (Saturday) Bicycle the Sabbatis Loop. Tom Ortmeyer (TL), John Barron, Mark Bayer, Carolyn Kaczka. We cycled from the south end of Tupper Lake to the southern entrance to the Sabbatis Circle Road, then back to Little Tupper Lake, where we lunched and enjoyed the views. We then completed Circle Road, and took a brief side trip to view the Bog River entering Tupper Lake. We finished the day with a welcome ice cream break courtesy of Carolyn.

July 27 (Saturday) Gothic & Armstrong via Beaver Meadow Falls. Brian Baston (TL), Marie Fernandez de Alaiza, Tim Brown. We went in on the

Lake Road at the Ausable Club about 7:45am. Up the Beaver Meadow Falls trail summiting Gothic around 12:45pm on a beautiful day! On the way back we decided it would be a shame not to do Armstrong as it was only .8 mi round trip. A great day in the Great Range!

August 3 (Saturday) Dead Creek Paddle. Ann & Armond Spencer (TLs), John & Susan Omohundro, Bob & Janet Wakefield, Alison Charles, Mary Jane Watson. We did not find Dead Creek dead! Indeed we found a strong current. After battling our way up for about an hour, we collectively decided that that wasn't fun and turned around. We had a nice (fast) trip back down to the Raquette and then up the river for a ways. We had lunch at a nice spot on the river and when we did get back to the cars decided we had had enough.

August 24 (Saturday) Wright Peak. Tom Ortmeyer (TL), Brian Baston, Marie Fernandez de Alaiza, Bill Mueller, John Wilson, John and Susan Omohundro, Edward Walker, and Andres, Karyn, and Simon von Cramon. We found a busy Saturday at the High Peaks Information Center, but hit the trail right on schedule. We had a good group, and enjoyed the challenges of the trail on the way up. We broke out onto the Alpine tundra just after noon, and arrived on the peak soon after. We took an extended lunch, and had outstanding views of both the Adirondacks and the Green Mountains, which led to an extended discussion of which peak was which. Following lunch, we stopped briefly to view the airplane wreckage, and then headed back down the mountain. The trip back seemed a bit long, but by the end several in our group were planning their next High Peak hike.

August 25 (Sunday) Rock Dunder. John Barron (TL), Duncan & Lois Cutter, Charles & Lila Hunnewell. The Rock Dunder hike is a favorite for good reason. It's not too strenuous or too long, but offers varied forest, challenging climbs and descents in places, and excellent sweeping views of the Rideau waterway where we could watch the activities of board-sailers, boaters, and water skiers. Five of us enjoyed the trail and also a short walk around the impressive Jones Falls Rideau Canal lock station located nearby. Other obligations in the evening regrettably prevented the leader from staying for supper with the others at nearby Hotel Kenney.



After 20 Years, Laurentian Chapter Loon Shirts Are Back!!!

PLEASE NOTE - A SECOND OPPORTUNITY

A beautiful 5 - color loon logo silkscreen shirt can be yours, if you place your order by October 15th. Shirts will be ready in early November.

Shirts are a 50/50 blend cotton/polyester by "Gildan." Tee shirts are white, sweatshirts are birch grey. Sizes available: Small-2XL

Short Sleeve Tee Shirt: \$15.00

Long Sleeve Tee Shirt: \$18.00

Crew Sweatshirt: \$24.00

Hooded Sweatshirt with pockets: \$32.00

Questions? Contact Carolyn Kaczka @ 315-265-4806 or
gckaczka@twcny.rr.com

Make check payable to ADK Laurentian Chapter and mail to
Carolyn Kaczka, P.O. Box 302, Hannawa Falls, NY 13647

Nominations for chapter officers:

For Education Jeff Miller:

Jeff and his family have been participating in ADK hikes since 2006, and have been members since 2010. All had a truly wonderful time during the Spring 2013 Outing hosted by the Laurentian Chapter. He enjoys photography, hiking, cycling, and this past winter had the chance to try cross country skiing for the first time.

For Chair Tom Wheeler

He previously served the Laurentian Chapter as both Outings Chair and Director. He served in various offices in the Adirondack Mountain Club including President (2003-2005). He has also been active with the Adirondack Forty Sixers and served as their president.

For Director Tom Ortmeyer

Tom joined ADK in the late 80s. He has served the chapter in many ways: Vice-Chair, Conservation (2001 – 2004), Chair (2006 – 2009), Publicity (2010 – present), outings leader in all seasons since 1997. Tom was recognized by the chapter in 2011 receiving its Distinguished Volunteer Award.

For Secretary Dana Chudzinski

Dana, a 'north country' native from Norwood joined ADK in the fall of 2010. He immediately became active in outings leading hikes and snowshoeing trips, often up high peaks. He is presently working on two hiking challenges – the 46 peaks and the fire tower challenge.

Director

David Trithart

With the next Board of Directors meeting in Lake George scheduled for too late in September to make the deadline for this issue of North Wind, I'll make some general comments about my experience representing our chapter at the Club level.

ADK is quite a dynamic organization. Beyond being a collection of people who like to get out into nature, it is very effective as an advocacy and educational force. The environment is under pressure from many sides, and ADK has been hard at work identifying threats, building coalitions to confront problems, and recruiting friends for a healthier planet.

One good way to keep track of ADK's work is to subscribe to the online newsletter *ADK Today*. Go to adk.org and click the link for *ADK Today* under the "News" category. Or take a step farther, and get involved as a volunteer; there are many opportunities at ADK.

I have enjoyed my soon-to-be ending tenure as Laurentian Chapter director, but I look forward to continuing active involvement with ADK.



Timbucto site: John Omohundro, Dr. Hadley Kruczek-Aaron, North Woods member and 2 students



North Wind

The Newsletter of the Laurentian Chapter
of Adirondack Mountain Club
7 Barclay St. Potsdam, NY 13676

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Just Connect

VISIT the chapter website, ably
maintained by David Katz, for color
photos, trail maps, updated officer
reports, and outings:

www.adklaurentian.org

LIKE US on Facebook, edited by
Marianne Hebert:

**[http://www.facebook.com/
groups/140013066028774/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/140013066028774/)**

FOLLOW US on Twitter:

**[http://twitter.com/#!/
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SUBSCRIBE to our chapter E-letter,
published by Dick Mooers, who
e-mails late-breaking news and
outings:

Request to **rmooers@twcny.rr.com**

2013 Photo Contest Last Call for Entries

The 2013 Laurentian Chapter Photo
Contest is rapidly coming to a close. The
contest is generating a lot of interest,
with over 100 photos submitted to date.
Photos must be taken by October 1st to
be eligible for this year's contest. The
need to be submitted electronically to
the contest no later than October 5.
Submissions and inquiries should be
sent to **tortmeyer@gmail.com**.

For those great photos taken on October
2-- never fear, the 2014 Laurentian
Chapter photo contest will be coming
soon!