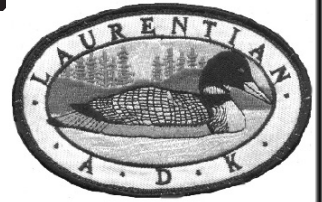




North Wind

The Laurentian Chapter of the Adirondack Mountain Club

St. Lawrence & Ottawa River Valley Region



January - March 2014

Photography Contest

Laurentian Chapter Photo Contest Winners Announced.

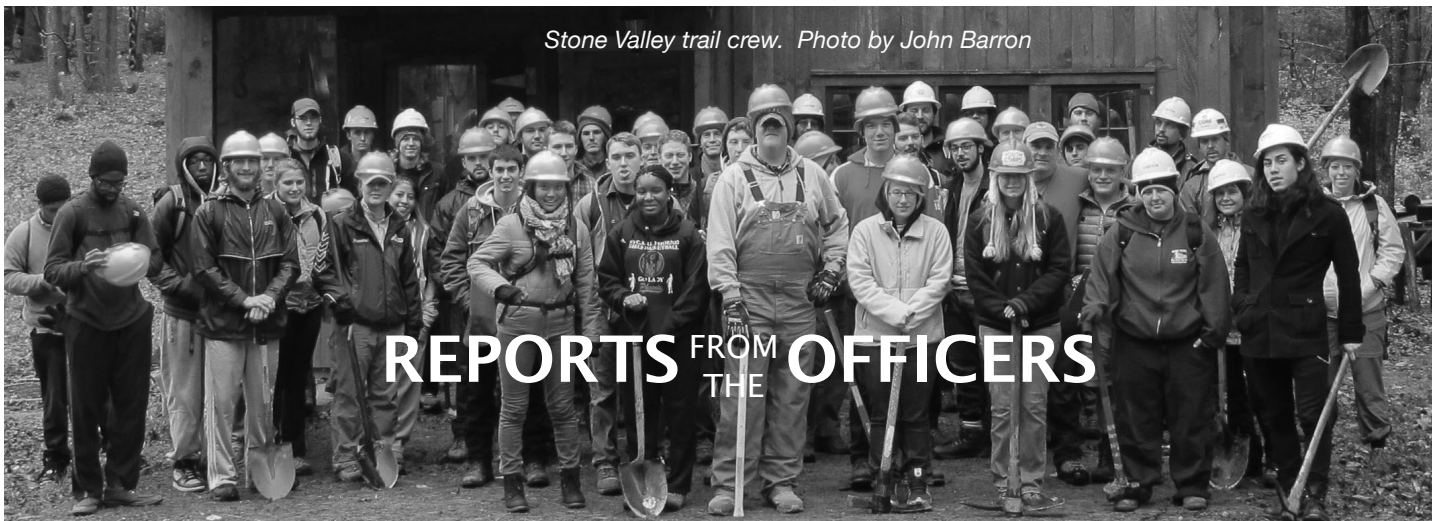
The winners of the 2013 Adirondack Mountain Club Laurentian Chapter's photo contest were awarded at the Laurentian Chapter Annual Meeting on November 10. Photographer Jeff Miller of Potsdam took two prize winning photographs—"Hiking Buddies" in the People Category, and "Wet Flower" in the Nature category. Brian Baston of Massena took the Landscape prize photograph, "Jenkins Mountain Sunset". Art Boni's photograph "Silhouette #1 Meech Lake Gatineau Park" was the Action category prize winner and was cited as the 2013 Grand Prize Winner. Art is from Ottawa. Photographs by Brian Baston, Kathie Colarusso (Potsdam), Jeff Miller, Art Boni, and Toni Towle, Gananoque, received honorable mention recognition. All of the recognized photos can be viewed at the Laurentian Chapter website <http://www.adklaurentian.org/>.

The photo winners were selected from over 200 submittals. The winners were selected by contest judges Dick Mooers, Potsdam, Blair Madore, Potsdam, and Jim Bullard, Hannawa Falls. Photos taken between Oct. 1, 2013 and Sept. 30, 2014 may be entered in the 2014 Photo Contest. Look for details in the next issue of *North Wind*.



Jenkins Mountain sunset. Photo by Brian Baston

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



Stone Valley trail crew. Photo by John Barron

REPORTS FROM THE OFFICERS

Outgoing Chair's Report (John Barron)

Our chapter's Educational Affiliate Program (EAP) is gaining strength. Seven EAP members have qualified to lead ADK trips, and we may see them in our regular program as well as the EAP. Mark Simon organized a huge trail maintenance event in Stone Valley, attracting about fifty volunteer trail workers, many of them students. A new mountain bike trail is nearing completion east of the Lenny Road (with much thanks to Ben Yandeau), and is expected to be open in early 2014.

Gordon Batson has decided to step down after 16 years of representing the chapter on the Friends of Mount Arab (since the founding of that organization). Bravo, and thanks, Gordon; many of us have been up Mount Arab and can appreciate the result of your efforts. Felicia Neahr has graciously offered to assume this role, and we're planning to nominate her to the committee. We can thank our nominating committee of Ann Spencer, Carolyn Kaczka, and Neal Burdick for recommending a stellar slate of new executive committee members. We thank those whose terms are ending, and enthusiastically welcome those who are starting.

Incoming Chair's Report (Tom Wheeler)

As your new Chapter Chair I look forward to working with the members of the Executive Committee in the coming two years. The Laurentian Chapter of ADK is quite special to me. It contains the mentors that nurtured my involvement in ADK, that taught me the lore of our wonderful outdoors, and encouraged adventures that broadened my understanding of the world and of myself. These mentors introduced me to the transforming nature of the wilderness experience. I hope that the Chapter can continue to provide this opportunity to others.

It will be a challenge to do half as well as John Barron has done in leading the chapter these past four years. He has demonstrated a zealous commitment to his role as Chapter Chair. Most notable was our extremely successful hosting of Spring Outing. He willingly commuted from Ottawa for chapter duties and events. He actively promoted our Chapter to the public and within the main club. He worked collegially with our other volunteers to make the past four years very successful.

Executive Committee

Chair: Tom Wheeler
northflow@gmail.com
315-386-2482

Outings: Bill Mueller
b-hutch-m@twcnny.rr.com
315-262-2952

Education: Jeff Miller
jeff@stlawu.edu
315-265-2975

Conservation: John Omohundro
omohunjt@northnet.org
315-265-8365

Membership : Lila Hunnewell
lhunnew61@aol.com
315-854-8000

Secretary: Dana Chudzinski
chudski63@yahoo.com
315-528-3468

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

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

Conservation

John Omohundro

Since early summer I've been attending monthly meetings of the Stone Valley Cooperative Recreational Area partners, made up of property owners and interested caretakers and users of the area. Formed in 1989, SVCRA has mostly been an informal understanding, but the passage of time and proliferation of users require that we be more explicit now. Brookfield Renewable Energy and St. Lawrence County are the two main property owners. ADK and now the mountain biking group (SLMBA) are identified as building and managing trails. The towns are more actively involved, and American Whitewater, and Raquette River Blueway Corridor, while NYDEC is less active. We've almost finished drafting the first written understanding of what SVCRA is, how it came to be, what we want it to be, how we'll manage it, and who is involved. In January 2014 we'll publish our agreement for public comment, then sign it and post it on the ADK Laurentian website. The plan is to revise it about every 5 years, but we agree to confer anytime we encounter an issue. Issues to date have been motorized access (still not allowed), crowd and paddler management during whitewater releases, invasive species, trail-building standards, and signage consistency. Developments planned for the area in the near future include bike trails and whitewater welcome facilities.

In other news, the county's new multi-use trail system, using predominately roads, is designed to cross the county and also connect a number of hamlets to its travelers. The "multi" invites horse, bike, and foot traffic, but will serve mostly motorized recreational vehicles such as ATVs. Your chapter has been a member of the planning committee and until recently, the implementation committee. However, enthusiasm among the motorized users has led to a push to expand the trail by extending the hours of operation until midnight, opening ever more roads, and opening the trail through the winter and mud season. This led to ADK resigning from the committee. Your chapter has not taken a formal position on this, but some of us individuals will be writing to our legislators expressing concern about these recent trends. If you would like to see the letter we compose, contact me.

Appointed Positions

Chapter Archivist: Carolyn Kaczka
gckaczka@twcnny.rr.com
315-265-4806

Publicity/Education Affiliate Program:
John Barron
JohnBarron@sympatico.ca
613-828-2296

Newsletter: David Trithart
dtrithar@twcnny.rr.com
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

Betsy Tisdale

In summer of 2012 we sent Dakota Guyette from Potsdam Middle School, and Anna Kearney from Parishville-Hopkinton School to DEC Camp Colby. In 2013 Nathan Burns, a 6th grader from Colton-Pierrepont School and David Plumadore from McKenny Middle School in Canton were selected. All were recommended by their guidance counselors. Thanks are extended to the guidance counselors for their patience and understanding.

In 2012 we sent Keith Bollt and Gaetan Foisy into hard labor on high school trail crews. They enthusiastically returned in 2013, and were joined by Jake Beaudette as well.

We ran four Outdoors/Indoors events each in 2012 and 2013, running from January to April. We have so many talented people: professors, teachers, an accountant, a DEC employee, actors; male, female; young, old (20 to 79)! Topics included Volcanoes National Park in Hawaii; travelling by ship above the Arctic Circle; stars, galaxies, meteors; a dramatic reading of Jeanne Robert Foster's free-verse Adirondack Portraits: A Piece of Time; re-establishing raptors in NY State; a long-term study of the Spruce Grouse in the Adirondacks; and we "rode the ferry" to Newfoundland. The variety and quality of the presentations continues to astonish me.

I would like to thank Blair Madore for his help in finding workers for High School Volunteer Trails; also Joann Ferris for helping with hospitality, and my husband, David.

My hope for the future is that there might be a larger audience for the Outdoors/Indoors talks – especially high school and college students, who would really enjoy these fantastic travel, nature, and literature programs. My best wishes and thanks to Jeff Miller who is taking on the Education role.



L Sun on Tabletop Mtn. Photo by Blair Madore

OUTINGS

Jan. - Mar. 2014

Bill Mueller

January 1 (Wednesday) New Year's Day at Clarkson. Our annual New Year's Day pot luck will take place once again at the Adirondack Lodge at Clarkson University. There are no cooking facilities, so hors d'oeuvres and similar items that don't require cooking or heating are standard. There will be short, easy walking, snowshoeing, or skiing tours on the scenic trails of the campus. Outdoor activities start mid-afternoon, snacks about 4:00 PM. Contact John Barron, (613) 828-2296 or johnbarron@sympatico.ca.

January 4 (Saturday) Cross Country Skiing for Beginners. At Higley Flow State Park there are groomed, trackset trails.. Experienced skiers wanting an easy trip are welcome too. Option to go out for lunch afterward at The Hideaway Cafe in Colton. Level 1, short and easy. Contact John Barron, 613-828-2296 or johnbarron@sympatico.ca

January 18 (Saturday) Pinnacle Ski. We will ski several miles on the easement roads near Santa Clara. Level 3, Moderate difficulty. "Rain date" is Sunday, Jan. 19. Members only. Contact John & Sue Omohundro, 315-265-8365 or omohunjt@northnet.org

January 25 (Saturday) Snowshoe/Hike to Nicholville's Hidden Treasures. We'll make a two mile loop along woods trails above the east branch of the St.Regis River to the old dam and Eagle Rock. Then we will break for lunch at the Cutter's (bring lunch); then a one mile trek across a meadow and

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.

woods trail to Jakeway Falls. Both hikes begin at the Cutter home (28 Port Kent Road, Nicholville). Skiing is possible too but not down the steep trails to the river. Level 2, fairly easy. Contact Duncan Cutter, 315-328-4675 or dcutter1@twcnny.rr.com

January 26 (Sunday) "The Mountains Will Wait For You" (Outdoors - Indoors) John Omohundro will present this documentary about Grace Hudowalski, the first woman to summit the 46 High Peaks. All 46'ers are invited to share their memories of Grace and their own High Peaks experiences. 7 - 8 p.m. in the Potsdam Civic Center Community Room (handicapped-accessible). Refreshments will be served.

February 1 (Saturday) Ski in Canton. We'll ski at the Partridge Run golf course, then to the Spencer's for a ski and hot cider at the new lean-to. Members only please. Level 3, fairly easy to moderate. Contact Ann & Armond Spencer 379-1383.

February 8 (Saturday) Colvin and Blake via the Ausable Club. A trip up the lake road and then up Colvin and Blake we will go, approximately 14 miles round trip. Should winter conditions prevail with powder snow, the trip leader hopes to ski up and down the Lake Road as well. Level 5, very strenuous. Contact Mike McLean, 315-262-2564 or mpmclean@twcnny.rr.com

February 9 (Sunday) Snowshoe Downerville State Forest. We will snowshoe in a fairly remote area along the north branch of the Grasse River. Lots of wildlife to see, and we will hike if there is not enough snow for the shoes. 3-5 miles round trip, difficulty level 3, moderate difficulty. Contact Jim Akins, 315-386-4348 or akinsacres@gmail.com

February 15 (Saturday) Snowshoeing Near Upper Saranac Lake. We will do two short, easy tours, of Panther Mountain (2 miles RT, 500 feet gain, good view) and of Fernow Forest (1.5 mile loop; historic forestry tract, level). Level 1-2, fairly easy. We may check out another trailhead or two for possible use on future trips. Contact John Barron, 613-828-2296 or johnbarron@sympatico.ca

February 22 (Saturday) Ski to Hedgehog Pond. A 10-mile round trip ski to Hedgehog Pond east of Cranberry Lake, with possible extension to Hedgehog Bay. Level 4, strenuous. Contact Tom Ortmeyer at (315) 265-8219 or tortmeyer@gmail.com.

February 23 (Sunday) An Odyssey Down Under: Australia & New Zealand (Outdoors - Indoors) Gene & Carolyn Kaczka will tell us about their adventures exploring the geography and culture of these southern hemisphere oases during a 27-night Road Scholar trip. 7 - 8 p.m. in the Potsdam Civic Center Community Room (handicapped-accessible). Refreshments will be served.

March 15 (Saturday) Coney Mountain Snowshoe Coney is a lovely mountain south of Tupper Lake with an open rocky summit and great views of the lake. Coney is a good beginner's mountain if you are new to snowshoeing. Possible hike if weather is warm. Level 2, fairly easy (2.2 mile RT, 523 ft elevation gain). Contact Marianne Hebert at 315-265-0756 or hebertm@potsteam.edu.

March 16 (Sunday) Nature Up North (Outdoors - Indoors) Nature Up North is a community-based organization whose mission is to foster a deeper



sense of connection to, and appreciation for, the North Country environment. We combine experiences in nature with interactive web-based technology to spark new interest in learning about the wild things and wild places in our backyard. Join Project Director Dr. Erika Barthelmess and Project Manager Jacob Malcomb to learn more about ways Nature Up North is working to engage North Country communities with the local environment, and find out ways you can get involved. 7 - 8 p.m. in the Potsdam Civic Center Community Room (handicapped-accessible). Refreshments will be served.

March 23 (Sunday) Spring Road Walk Hike along the Grasse River. We'll celebrate the early spring mud season with an afternoon walk on quiet back roads on the Middle Branch of the Grasse River. 5-7 miles total length. Level 2, Fairly easy. Contact Tom Ortmeyer, (315) 265-8219 or tortmeyer@gmail.com.

April 6 (Sunday) Members' Nature Poetry (Outdoors - Indoors) The majesty of the Adirondacks and other natural areas have inspired many of our members to write poems. We will read aloud and discuss a selection of them. Please email your outdoors-related poems soon to: Lila Hunnewell, Lhunnew61@aol.com, to be included (and also placed on our chapter's website). Use Arial, 12-pt. type. (She cannot open docx attachments; jpeg OK). Include your contact information. 7 - 8 p.m. in the Potsdam Civic Center Community Room (handicapped-accessible). Refreshments will be served.



BACKTRACKS



Compiled by Bill Mueller

July 21 (Sunday) 1000 Islands Paddle near Ivy Lea, Ontario. Toni Towle & Peter Blood (TLs), John Barron. Our route led us from Ivy Lea to a full circumnavigation of Hill Island, one of the largest in the area. We saw many smaller islands along the way, and passed through the narrow channel that marks the U.S./Canadian border. We paused for lunch and a swim on Constance Island. There were boat wakes and river currents to add interest. Supper on the sun deck of a local pub was an enjoyable end to the day.

September 7 (Saturday). Paddle Middle Saranac Lake to Lake Flower. The annual "14 Miler" for sea kayakers and canoeists came off nicely. Ellie Menz, Jason Pfotenhauer, Jim Plumley, Dick Mooers found Middle Saranac Lake in fine fettle, with good rollers forming by 10:30 AM in a light breeze. The rest of the trip was, as they say, all down hill. Winding river, fern gardens on old snags, the DIY State lock, the huge grey boulders, the looming cliffs of Bluff Island, the beginning autumn colors, even the various power boats and sneak routes through the weeds, done so many times previously, were preciously familiar. Come with us next September, readers, and don't miss a great paddle!

September 8 (Sunday) Street and Nye Mts. John Barron (TL), Tim Brown, Tom Ortmeier, Ann Charlebois, Ed Smith, Tom Lawrence, Brian Baston. The air had a feel of early fall - cool, sunny, and dry, perfect for hiking. The paths were in very good condition and the views were better than we expected.

October 2 (Wednesday) Jay Mt. Wilderness. Duncan Cutter (TL), Eileen Wheeler, Barney Gage, Vasili Cateforis, Dick Mooers. Low overcast lifted as we reached the scenic overlook below Jay Mt.'s summit. We were then treated to full-fledged fall colors sweeping up from the valleys and on across the myriad high peaks to the north and west, and across Lake Champlain and Vermont to the east. Vasili Cateforis and Dick Mooers made earlier ascents that day.

October 5 (Saturday) Ampersand Mt. John Wilson (TL), Tresa Wilson, Brian Baston, Marie Fernandez de Alaiza. The weather forecast for the weekend wasn't great. As it turned out, the temperature was perfect for the hike and we ran into no actual rain. In a mist or

cloud all the way up, as well as during lunch at the top. The sky began to clear on the way down, and we saw some sunshine as we crossed the last brook. We walked to Middle Saranac beach before we left. While on the top we all got to see the commemorative plaque and where the fire tower stood (thanks to Brian).

October 12 (Saturday) Lilypad, Long & Little Rock Ponds. Ann & Armond Spencer (TLs), John & Susan Omohundro, John Barron, Jean Giblin, James Engle, Carole Shepard, Jeff Miller, Bill Mueller. It was a beautiful Fall day so we extended our hike to Little Rock Pond. John Barron was inspired to go for a swim in Long Pond. His response to the "How was it?" was "brisk".

October 25 (Friday) thru October 27 (Sunday). Stone Valley Trail Work Weekend. Mark Simon with a handful of crew leaders and over 50 students from area colleges, turned out this weekend to make repairs, clear brush, fix embankment erosion, clear trash and other general maintenance on the Stone Valley trail. Nearby, Ben Yandeau and Bob Dowman with crews from SUNY-Canton and the St. Lawrence Mt. Bike Association continued work on the new and amazing mountain bike trail in the county forest east of Lenny Road.

November 6 (Wednesday) Red Dot Trails and St. Regis Cafe. John & Susan Omohundro (TLs), Gene & Carolyn Kaczka, Bill & Pat Mueller, Cliff & Gloria Daly, Mary Jo Whalen. Prior to a sumptuous noonday meal at the cafe in Paul Smith's College, we took a morning walk through woods trails nearby. We passed two nice lean-tos, and three placid ponds, one with thin ice forming. Two white birds Gene identified as Australian pelicans, but we didn't believe him. One large shaggy-bark tree Bill identified as red maple; we believed him (especially when we checked our tree books later).

November 7 (Thursday) Snow geese in Malone. Ann Spencer (TL), Armond Spencer, John Barron, Jean Giblin, MaryBeth & Bill Warburton, Alison Charles, Mary & Marshall Garner, Bruce Felin. Our timing was a bit off, so there were quite a few geese already on the river, but we did see a fair number coming in. Some goose stories, and dinner added to our enjoyment.

A first for ADK-Laurentian!

November 17 (Sunday) EAP Trip Leadership Course. John Gilewicz, Marianne Hebert, and John Barron (co-leaders/instructors); Justin Maggs, Ashley Tranello, Kirk Sweet, Jonathan Ryan, Valerie Paige, Ryan Arno, and Kelly Glascott (student trainees). John Gilewicz started the event at SUNY Potsdam's Fireside Lounge with a briefing about ADK history and interests, and then covered hike leadership in lecture form. We then went by bus to Higley Flow State Park to run a model hike, with the students playing the part of leader in rotation. We covered all aspects from deciding to lead a hike, to requirements after the hike is over, and we simulated many problems on the trail for the leaders to handle. By the end of the day these seven enthusiastic participants had met the ADK requirements and were keen to try leading, either in the EAP or in our regular program.

Director

David Trithart

At the December Board of Directors meeting the 2014 budget for the Club was adopted without dissent. Strong financial results and modest growth in membership were warmly received. A resolution that ADK divest itself of all holdings in fossil fuel corporations was rejected, on practical grounds. There was general sympathy with the sense of concern for climate issues, and a resolution was adopted that ADK work toward concrete ways to reduce its carbon footprint, and look for ways to promote a greener energy future.

Closer to home, in 2014 ADK will be having students in the Clarkson University School of Business prepare a business model for a potential new facility on the Heart Lake property. The APA will be voting on their preferred classification scheme for the Finch-Pruyn lands. ADK has been closely involved with the negotiations on this issue.

Incoming President John Gilewicz addressed the Board with a brief summary of the priorities he sees for the Club. Chief among them is the importance of the chapters in reaching and recruiting new members to be the next generation of ADKers.

A member survey will be sent out in 2014. All are encouraged to complete this to assist the membership and development work of the Club.

Welcome New Members

Lila Hunnewell

Lynda Bage, Winthrop.
Austin Black, Clinton.
Tim Brown, Newton Falls.
Elizabeth Chapman, Potsdam.
James and Rene Clark, Hammond.
Nicole Cline, Potsdam.
Mary-Elizabeth Darrow, Canton.
Stephen and Barbara Fisher, Ottawa, ON
Lindsey Hayes, Ogdensburg.
Wes Kline, Gainesville, FL.
David Lalonde, Ogdensburg.
Tian Ma, Potsdam.
Steve Manders, Canton.
Christopher Meagher, Potsdam.
Larry Mitchell, Potsdam.
Ron and Miriam Morrow, Massena.
Felicia Neahr, Canton.
Robert and Debra Smith, Ogdensburg.
Amanda Travis, Angus, ON.
Michael White, Russell.
Rick Williams, Norwood.
Geoff Wilson, Nepean, ON.
Erik Wright, Outremont, QU.

Outdoors / Indoors 2014

7 - 8 p.m. in the Potsdam Civic Center Community Room (handicapped-accessible). Refreshments will be served.

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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:

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

FOLLOW US on Twitter:

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ADKLaurentian](http://twitter.com/#!/ADKLaurentian)**

SUBSCRIBE to our chapter E-letter,
published by Dick Mooers, who
e-mails late-breaking news and
outings:

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

ADK Winterfest

Jan. 11th 2014

Adirondak Loj at Heart Lake



Free:

- Family Activities
- Guided Snowshoe Hikes
- Beginner Skiing Courses
- Winter Skills Clinics
- Gear Demos
- Ice Skating

www.adk.org **518-523-3441**