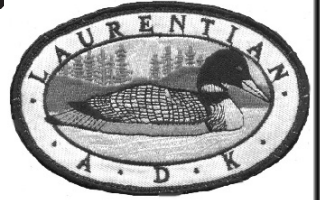




North Wind

The Laurentian Chapter of the Adirondack Mountain Club

St. Lawrence & Ottawa River Valley Region



Jan. - Mar. 2015



Inscrutable. Photo by Alison Charles

Alison Charles receives top photo recognition in the 2014 Laurentian Chapter Photo Contest

The winners of the Adirondack Mountain Club Laurentian Chapter's Sixth Annual Photo Contest were announced at the Chapter Annual Meeting on November 16, 2014.

Alison Charles, Waddington, was awarded the Grand Prize for her photo of a snowy owl at Cole's Creek, titled "Inscrutable."

The category prize winners were:

Action: "Descending Mt. Marcy in Late Winter Snow Storm", by Art Boni, Ottawa.

Landscape: "Serene View—Jay Range" by Eileen Wheeler, Canton.

Nature Winner: "Gatineau Park—Gnarly Trees," by Art Boni

People Winner: "Eileen Wheeler and Jay Peak", by Duncan Cutter, Nicholville.

The judges awarded honorable mention recognition to photographs taken by Art Boni, Alison Charles, Marianne Hebert (Potsdam), and John Barron (Ottawa). The contest was judged by Dick Mooers, Potsdam, Jim Bullard, Hannawa Falls, and Sandy Hildreth, Saranac Lake.

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



Serene View. From Jay Range. Photo by Eileen Wheeler



*From the water. New canoe launch on Sugar Island
Photo by John Omohundro*

Chair

Tom Wheeler

We had some cold days this November and some exceptional snows in the southern and western portions of St. Lawrence County. Yet the winter forecast promises a more normal winter rather than the unrelenting cold of last winter. Some complain about our long north country winters, but our location also provides us opportunity for varied winter recreation. Unlike more southerly areas where every winter snowstorm is followed shortly by slush, the Adirondacks usually maintains its snow cover so that we can snowshoe or ski in temperatures in which the snow does not stick to the skis (or snowshoes) and we can glide through the woods.

Winter also brings some interesting birds down from the far north: rough-legged hawks, red polls, and perhaps a pine grosbeak. Last year there was an influx of snowy owls... and this might be repeated this year in this area, as I observed one the day after Thanksgiving in Lisbon. Alison Charles's picture of a snowy owl from last winter won the grand prize in our photo contest and this and other contest winners can be seen on our website. They are beautiful birds... keep your eyes open and you might see one.

The winter can be a time of extremes. But it is also a time of outstanding natural beauty and exhilarating outdoor experiences. In the mountains the sky can seem such a majestic blue contrasting with the stark white of snow on the trees and slopes. The bugs don't bite, there is no mud, the rocks are covered in snow. One can glide down hill. A few minutes of physical exercise and you are warm. The years I spent doing the forty six high peaks in the winter were also the years when the winter seemed to pass most quickly. Instead of wishing for winter to end, I was wishing for winter to be longer. I encourage everyone to get out and enjoy. You might see a snowy owl!

Executive Committee

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Conservation

John Omohundro

New Canoe Launch. The Red Sandstone Trail boasts a newly-constructed landing at the north tip of Sugar Island. Lucas Hanss, Eagle Scout candidate, completed the landing over Columbus Day weekend as his community service project. The new landing does not enter the water so waves and ice cannot harm it. It prevents paddlers from eroding the bank by trying to climb its clay sides (see photo). Lucas brought together a talented team to create a lasting structure for us.

Open Space Plan letter. The state's Open Space Plan, begun in the 1990s, was up for renewal this year. The Plan is DEC's way of eliciting public input on how and what to conserve. On behalf of the executive committee I wrote a four-page letter to the Region 6 Advisory Board, which is responsible for the northern and western sides of the park. I supported their call for greater oversight of land transactions, more stewardship funding, adjustments in taxation of state and easement land, and greater attention to invasive species. I also shared the advisory board's interest in continuing to protect Massawepie Mire, the Bog River area, and the north-flowing rivers like the Raquette. I'll have posted my letter on the chapter's website by the time you read this.

Conditions at DEC. I sent my Open Space letter to Pat Whalen, head forester of the local NYSDEC substation, and he sent back some evidence of the hard times the local office is coping with. He has seen full-time staffers drop from 10 to 4, while the substation's responsibilities have increased from 200,000 to 700,000 acres of state and easement lands. More manpower, he predicts, would facilitate Unit Management Plan updating, which among other effects would improve recreational and educational features of the lands in our region.

Raquette news. I serve as ADK representative to the Raquette River Advisory Council, which oversees recreational and environmental happenings on the river from Piercesfield to the St. Lawrence. Our meeting in October arranged for fresh interpretive signs on the Red Sandstone Trail, considered the complexity of developing whitewater access amenities in the Stone Valley Cooperative Recreational Area on FERC (federal) land, advocated for opening a picnic area at Stark Falls, which was closed once due to dumping, and agreed to devote more attention to invasive species along the river. I'm planning to recruit a scientist and students to conduct an inventory of those. If you have a Raquette River question or issue, please contact me.

St. Lawrence Flatlands UMP. The DEC held a public open house on Dec. 1 for the Unit Management Plan for the St. Lawrence Lowlands State Forest, over 20,000 acres in several parcels centered around Brasher Forest. Tom Ortmeyer and I gathered information so I could write a letter on behalf of the chapter urging improved recreation for non-motorized users while maintaining environmental protection. I'll post the letter on the chapter website by late December.

Support for EPA's Clean Air Initiative. I ask you to visit the following website and sign the petition from ADK to the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency recommending strengthening the plan. (if you can't get this to work, email me and I'll send you the link).

http://salsa4.salsalabs.com/o/51116/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action_KEY=12043 The basic request described on that website is as follows: The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has proposed a Clean Power Plan which is a critical step in ratcheting down the carbon emissions that are locking us into climate disruption. The plan, currently open for public comment, calls for regulations on power plants, which account for approximately one-third of US greenhouse gas emissions. The new regulations are expected to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 30% (of 2005 levels) by 2030. The Clean Power Plan also reduces harmful emissions, such as sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides, that are the major cause of acid rain in the Adirondack Park. In 2013, eighty-two percent of sulfur dioxide emissions occurred from stationary fuel-combustion sources such as power plants. The EPA's proposed Clean Power Plan is a good start, but the science demands – and our technological advancements allow for – a more aggressive plan that can benefit consumers, the economy, and the climate. Therefore, ADK is recommending the EPA strengthen its proposed plan by:

- Increasing Reduction Targets
- Decreasing Reduction Timeline
- Prioritizing Renewables and Energy Efficiency
- Reducing Reliance on Natural Gas

Education

Jeff Miller

This is the time of year when we look back at our accomplishments and eagerly look forward to the future.

We started 2014 with a great series of presentations for our Outdoors-Indoors program. We saw a documentary about Grace Hudowalski, the first woman to summit the 46 High Peaks; traveled with the Kaczka's to Australia; heard from Nature Up North about their integration of the outdoors and social media; and we listened to chapter member's poetry, organized by Lila Hunnewell. Our chapter sponsored a 6th grader from Edwards-Knox Elementary School to attend Camp Colby last summer. And we also sponsored Lucas Hanss for the High School Volunteer Trail Work program on Hurricane Mountain.

This coming year promises to be just as exciting. We again start off the year with the Outdoors-Indoors program. We will travel from the frozen glaciers of Antarctica to the highest peak in Tanzania, to the outer reaches of our solar system and then back home to explore the Adirondacks. The schedule of these events can be found elsewhere in this issue. And we'll again sponsor students to attend summer camp and teens for trail work. I hope that you will join me in supporting our chapter in the coming year's events.

Appointed Positions

Chapter Archivist: Carolyn Kaczka
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Publicity/Education Affiliate Program:
John Barron
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E-letter Editor: Dick Mooers
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315-265-6027

Merchandising: open

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



Descending Mt. Marcy. Photo by Art Boni

OUTINGS

Jan. - Mar. 2015

Marianne Hebert

Thu. Jan 1: New Year's Day at Clarkson. Our annual New Year's Day potluck 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 by 2:00 and continue all afternoon until dark, snacks about 4:00 PM. Clarkson asks no pets indoors. Contact Tom Wheeler (315) 386-2482

Sat, Jan 3: Cross Country Skiing for Beginners. Also experienced skiers who'd like a short easy ski. At Higley Flow State Park. Short and gentle, on roads that become ski trails in winter. Level 1. Warm new Lodge for putting on ski boots. Optional late lunch at South of the Rock Inn. Contact John Barron at (613) 828-2296 or johnbarron@sympatico.ca

Sat, Jan 10: Stone Valley Snowshoe. We'll start at the north end of the valley and snowshoe up to Colton, and then back on the other side. Mid-morning start, bring a lunch. 7 miles round trip, with some steep spots. Moderate. Contact Tom Ortmeier at (315) 265-8219 or tortmeye@gmail.com

Sun, Jan 11: Part 1 of the Saranac 6er Series: Hike McKenzie and Haystack, 2 of the Saranac 6ers. For this trip we'll be doing McKenzie first, then bushwhacking to Haystack from the Jack Rabbit Trail, totaling about 12 miles. Level 5. Contact Felicia Neahr felicia.neahr@gmail.com

Mon, Jan 12: Part 2 of the Saranac 6er Series: Hike St. Regis and Baker, 2 of the Saranac 6ers. For this trip we will be doing St. Regis first, then breaking for lunch, then hiking Baker. St. Regis could be done as a stand alone hike. The hike to St. Regis is about 6.6 miles RT and Baker is about 1.8 miles RT. Level 3-4 for the entire day. Contact Felicia Neahr felicia.neahr@gmail.com

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.

Sat, Jan 17: Raquette River Snowshoe. We'll begin on the river access just above Moody Falls, which the chapter recently constructed, walking north along the west shore of the Raquette, past the trail below Moody Falls that the Eagle Scout improved. Continuing north to below Jamestown Falls, where a dirt road comes in from Rte 56. It's about 1.5 mi (3 mi RT) or a little more. Difficulty moderate, depending on depth of snow. Members only. Contact John and Susan Omohundro at (315) 265-8365 or omohunjt@northnet.org

Sat, Jan 24 Grassy Pond Ski/Snowshoe. A four mile ski or snowshoe on an old truck trail that crosses the Osgood River and then turns right through a beautiful mostly pine forest rising to a neatly kept lean-to above Grassy Pond. Lunch at the hut. Meet at home of Duncan and Lois Cutter, 28 Port Kent Road, Nicholville. Optional meeting location, at the Hayes Brook trailhead off Route 30 about three miles north of Paul Smiths. Level 2. Contact Duncan Cutter (315) 328-4675 or email dcutter1@twcny.rr.com

Sat, Jan 31. Ski to the old state game farm off the Loon Lake Road with an optional snowshoe to Debar Pond. The ski to the open meadows of the old elk farm is up a logging road, about one mile, with only about a 400 foot elevation gain. From there you can ski the level mile long perimeter of the meadow with its open views of Whiteface, Loon, Sable, Debar and Baldface mountains. Some people may wish to ski from there directly back to the Loon Lake Road parking area for a round trip of 3 miles. Others may elect to switch to snowshoes for a bushwhack across mostly level beaver ponds and past otter slides and colorful ice falls from Baldface's lower cliffs just before reaching Debar Pond. This snowshoe spur adds about two and a half miles to the outing. The first part of the return on the logging road is a delightful quarter mile downhill run. Easy level 2. Contact Duncan Cutter (315) 328-4675 or email dcutter1@twcny.rr.com

Sat, Feb 7: Snowshoe/hike in Stone Valley Meet on the Lenny Road at the Colton end, across from the entrance to the transfer station. This will be about 2-3 miles, moderate in difficulty with some hills to climb. Contact Jim Akins at (315) 386-4348 or akinsacres@gmail.com

Sat, Feb 7: Part 3 of the Saranac 6er Series: Hike Scarface and Ampersand, 2 of the Saranac 6ers. For this trip we will

be doing Scarface first, then breaking for lunch, then hiking Ampersand to end our series with beautiful 360 views. Scarface could be done as a stand-alone hike. The hike to Scarface is about 6.8 miles RT, and Ampersand is about 5.4 miles RT. Level 5 for the entire day. Contact Felicia Neahr felicia.neahr@gmail.com

Sat, Feb 14: Marble Rock. Snowshoeing a figure-8 shaped trail system near Gananoque, Ontario. Trail is on the Frontenac Axis, the geological connection between the Canadian Shield and the Adirondacks. 7 miles, minimal height gain but many ups and downs. Level 3. Possible supper at the Stonewater Pub. Contact John Barron at (613) 828-2296 or johnbarron@sympatico.ca

Sat, Feb 21: Ski in Canton. We'll ski some trails near the village, then lunch at the Spencer's

(Bring your own sandwich, we'll provide mulled cider.) Fairly easy to moderate trails. Level 2. Members only please. Ann & Armond Spencer (315) 379-1383

Sat, Feb 28: Snowshoe St. Regis Mt. 6.6 miles round trip, 1200 foot vertical rise. Level of difficulty: 3 or moderate. A hike to a mostly open summit with a fire tower and 360 degree views. Steep climbing near the summit, but the trail is mostly over easy terrain in open woods. Contact Tom Ortmeier, (315) 265-8219 or tortmeye@gmail.com

Sun, Mar 1: Snowshoe in Five Ponds Wilderness on Leary Trail - Abandoned after the 1995 wind storm, this trail is again navigable. If conditions allow, if we make it as far as the truck trail, we can decide whether to press deeper toward the Five Ponds, or go for High Falls. About 10 miles RT to truck trail over mostly gentle terrain. This area is on the northern fringe of the "lake effect" zone, and elevation is 1,500'+, so it may have good snow when our towns don't. Level 5, very strenuous. Contact Mark Lowell, (315) 386-3945 or markl@stlawu.edu.

Sat, Mar 7: Snowshoe Haystack Mountain - Don't confuse this Saranac mountain with the high peak! We will be snowshoeing on this moderate to difficult mountain. At the top we will see a beautiful view for the effort the 3.3 mile hike up offers us. Though there is some flat snowshoeing at first a low elevation gain should be expected with a steep climb to the top. Snowshoes with claws/crampons are required due to how slippery it may be. This mountain will have great views on a clear day. 6.6 miles RT, 1302 feet of ascent. Elevation: 2864'. Level 4, moderate to strenuous. Contact Julia Zakaryan, (646)-894-6970 or zakaryj198@potsdam.edu or Kirk Peter Sweet, (716) 359-0514 or sweet-kp196@potsdam.edu.

Sun, Mar 8: Snowshoe Mt. Arab - We will be snowshoeing on this moderate to easy mountain. At the top we will see a beautiful view for the effort the 1 mile hike up offers us. Though some sections may be steep there are stairs along the way. Snowshoes with claws/crampons are required due to how slippery it may be. Level 3, moderate. 2 miles RT, elevation gain 700ft. Contact Adam Smith, (716) 861-9976 or smithad195@potsdam.edu and Julia Zakaryan, (646) 894-6970 or zakaryj198@potsdam.edu.

Sat, Mar 14: Ski to High Rock: Join us on this 7.6 mile round trip on mostly easy terrain to this lovely spot on the

Oswegatchie River near Wanakena. Expect an easy to moderate pace. Call Blair Madore (315) 265-0602 or email ma-dorebf@potsdam.edu. Level 3 - moderate.

Sat, Mar 21: Snowshoe or hike around Massawepie Lake Approximately 6 miles with a few short climbs and descents but no significant elevation gain. We will traverse dramatic eskers, visit the source of the Grass River, and have lunch on one of the peninsulas. Level 3, moderate. Contact Marianne Hebert at (315) 265-0756 or hebertm@potsdam.edu

Sun, Mar 22: Algonquin and Wright Peaks 360° views from both peaks. There will still be enough snow remaining at elevation to require snowshoes. We are looking for favorable snow conditions so we can walk DIRECTLY from Algonquin to Wright without a thick bushwhack or spruce traps, hopefully a highlight of the trip. Wright is acknowledged as the most windy of the 46! About 3,400' elevation gain and 10 miles: Level 5, Very strenuous. Contact Mark Lowell, markl@stlawu.edu, (315) 386-3945.

Director

Tom Ortmeier

2014 was an active year for ADK's Field Programs, led by Wes Lampman, North Country Operations Director and Julia Goren, Summit Steward Coordinator. The 16 member pro trail crew built 366 rock steps, 122 water bars, 464 feet of foot bridging, 6 miles of sidecutting, and removed 512 blow downs from trails. Their work was done across the Adirondacks and Catskills, plus a project in the Labrador Hollow Unique Area. The pro crew is funded from a variety of sources, including DEC and the Adirondack 46'ers. The Volunteer Trails Program included projects at Cascade Mountain, Johns Brook Valley, Great Camp Sagamore, Elk Lake and Long Lake, plus 5 projects for High School aged teenagers. I participated in the Sagamore work week, where we were ably led by staff members Jake and Jake. I thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

The ADK Summit Steward program celebrated its 25th year this year. The program included 312 days of peak coverage with 28,488 hiker contacts made by the stewards. Summit stewards provide education, trail work and research toward protecting New York's fragile alpine ecosystem. The program includes both paid and volunteer stewards, with 6 new volunteer stewards for a total of 15 volunteer stewards who provided 60 days of summit coverage this year. Volunteer steward training is held at the beginning of the season.

These club activities provide a real and lasting benefit to the Adirondack Park and its back country visitors.



Trail Maintenance Day 2014 at Higley Flow State Park

BACKTRACKS



Compiled by Marianne Hebert

September 6 (Saturday) Hike Low's Ridge. Tom Wheeler (TL), Marianne Hebert, Eric Birkland, Eric Birkland II. Predictions of rain limited our group to four. The trip into the Upper Dam went well as did the ascent. The heavy rain began just as we attained the summit and we enjoyed the most limited views from this ridge that I have experienced. Descending, we visited Hitchens Pond before our return to the car as the rain gradually diminished. A very wet but enjoyable hike.

September 30 (Tuesday) Mont Saint-Hilaire. John Barron (TL), Marianne Hebert, Bill Mueller. The weather was ideal - sunny and cool, with a slight mist. We hiked on well-groomed paths through a stunning climax forest of towering sugar maple, beech and red oak, up the inside of this igneous intrusion, that gave us the impression we were in a wood-covered volcanic crater. We scaled three summits along its edges - Pain de Sucre, Dieppe, and Rocky. On the return we hiked along the shore of Lac Hertel, a central lake surrounded by the summits. The mist precluded seeing the St. Lawrence river from the peaks, but we had excellent views of the Richelieu River that originates in Lake Champlain and flows north to Sorel near Montreal.

October 11 (Saturday) Essex Chain Lakes Paddle. Dick Mooers (TL), Claire Pospisil, Ellie Menz, Frank Fisher, Gretchen Gedroiz. Laurentian Chapter's first exploration of the small lakes of this new Primitive Area was made on a cool, cloudy, bright fall day with mirror smooth water, very little other boat traffic and still lovely color in the trees. We paddled with the loons on six of the eight numbered lakes, plus Deer Pond, driving 190 miles round trip from Potsdam, carrying 1.5 miles in four easy-to-wheel carries, and paddling about 8.5 miles. The carries were mostly over good dirt roads that see little or no vehicular traffic. Short sections of rough trail connect the roads to the lakeshore landings that are more suitable for canoes than kayaks. This recent state acquisition is very good for day trips but would be excellent for short camping trips with ultra light canoes. Once on Third Lake there is a lot to explore without carrying, including a passage through a culvert between Fourth and Fifth Lakes. Deer Pond, which is often mentioned as an inconvenient short paddle to the longer carry, and which can be simply bypassed by road carry, is well worth inspection if only for the unique water level rock pillars and caves on the south shore. We saw several common mergansers in two groups, a number of common loons including nearly half a dozen second brood juveniles that we worried might not develop enough to fly south, as well as belted kingfisher and great blue heron.

October 12 (Sunday) Hoffman Notch. John Barron (TL), Marianne Hebert, Brian Baston. Sunny weather and bright fall leaves. Although this route is a maintained DEC trail, it receives so little use that following it needed concentration and encouraged us to pay attention to the terrain. Good views upward at several high ridges. The narrow exit between extremely steep slopes on both sides showed how the Notch got its name. An adventure. Supper at the Adirondack Hotel in Long Lake on the way home.

October 19 (Sunday) - Cycling the Amish Loop. Tom Ortmeier (TL), Marilyn Levitan, John Barron, Jeanna Matthews, Ann Ortmeier (Logistics Support). We delayed a day due to weather (rain), and had a dry but cold day to bicycle this loop from Rensselaer Falls through Depeyster and Heuvelton. The forecasted pe-

riods of sunlight never happened, but we had a scenic and pleasant ride apart from a few brief sections where we had a head wind. We enjoyed Stewart's famous chili in Heuvelton for our lunch break, and then headed back to Rensselaer Falls, some by car and others biking.

November 1 (Saturday) Trip Leadership Clinic. John Barron & Marianne Hebert (TLs), Lila and Charles Hunnewell, Michael Minthorn, Mark Lowell. We started with an indoor briefing about trip planning and administrative requirements and then went to Higley Flow to run a model hike. Participants took turns being on-trail leader while we staged a series of difficulties that sometimes confront leaders. All handled them with grace and good humor. Grey, humid, cold, windy weather with snow flurries made it easy to simulate a participant in early stages of hypothermia.

November 2 (Sunday) Wild Goose Chase. Ann Spencer (TL) Mary McKinnon, Lila & Charlie Hunnewell, Alison Charles, Marianne Hebert, Dick & Peggy Mooers, Jo DenBlyker, Joan Howlett, Ann Beaulieu, Marsha Akins, Laura Taylor, Armond Spencer. The 15 of us waited for the snow geese to make their grand entrance and landing on Branch Brook. We took a short walk to warm up, waiting for the display. Finally, we were not disappointed. When they came in for the night it was a sight we won't forget.

November 5 (Wednesday) Jenkins Mt. John and Susan Omohundro (TLs), Gretchen Gedroiz, Lynne Hunter, Linda Roesner, Elisabeth Craven, Barbara Hollenbeck, Maggie Mortensen. Gray clouds were scudding over as we arrived at the Black Pond parking lot, but blue skies emerged over the next couple of hours. We bushwhacked on the esker for awhile, identified the herd path that led north to Jenkins Mountain trail. Then we traipsed among the "ruin'd choirs" of beech and maple to the summit. Gazing down on Spitfire and St. Regis Lakes and across at St. Regis Mountain, we snacked in the harsh wind and descended as we had ascended. We returned along the shores to the trailhead, again under lowering skies and a rumor of raindrops.

November 12 (Wednesday) Wednesday Walk in the Woods. Dick Mooers (TL), Marianne Hebert and Janet Van Wehring. This was the final walk in the seasonal series in cool, breezy but dry fall conditions. We had fun identifying quite a few tree species, watching Chickadees, bushwhacking to a small wetland, following the old Zig-Zacker single track ski trail through the cedars, and chatting with people we met, including two from the Ogdensburg United Helpers Day Habilitation Program who had come to walk with us but were a little late arriving. One of the goals of the WWW was to see the seasonal change in the woods over several months. The contrast between the October and November walks was the greatest of all. The near total leaf drop opens the woods and invites one to explore.

November 15 (Saturday) EAP Trip Leadership Clinic. John Gilewicz, John Barron, and Marianne Hebert (presenters). Gene Gaffney, Sean Dwyer, Nick Griffe, Julia Zakaryan, Adam Smith, Elizabeth Taurisano, Hannah Racette, Cindy Humphrey, Geoffrey Lyman (leaders by rotation). John G. presented the concepts indoors at SUNY Potsdam, after which we ran a model hike at Higley Flow S.P. Gene led off by reserving, signing out, and driving a University van to the trailhead (real, not simulated). Then everyone took turns being on-trail leader. It was great fun and the most common negative comment in the post-exercise evaluation was the cold (but sunny) weather.



EAP Leadership Training. Photo by John Gilewicz

Welcome New Members

Lila Hunnewell

Ola Aldous and family, Potsdam
 Sahil Chopra, Ottawa, Ontario
 Nicholas Hartmann, Ottawa, Ontario
 Janet Learned, Potsdam
 Jerry Lewkowitz, New York City
 Nathan Marshall, Massena
 Jeanna Matthews, Massena
 Sucha Park, Whitestone
 Lee Roney, Watertown

Ann Spencer suggests: Check *North Country This Week* for family snowshoe trips at Indian Creek Nature Center.



Eileen Wheeler on Jay Peak. Photo by Duncan Cutter.

Outdoors / Indoors

All events are in the Potsdam Civic Center Community Room (handicapped-accessible). Refreshments will be served.

January 25, 2015 – Exploring Antarctica (Outdoors – Indoors) Glenn Clark, a science teacher at Parishville-Hopkinton Central School, spent two months on an expedition to study the Totten Glacier system in eastern Antarctica. 7 - 8 p.m.

February 22, 2015 – Climbing Kilimanjaro (Outdoors – Indoors) Peggy MacKellar will tell us about her exciting adventures climbing Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, at over 19,000 ft. the highest free-standing mountain in the world. Note that there is an earlier start time for this presentation! 6 - 7 p.m.

March 22, 2015 – Pluto and The North Country Skies (Outdoors – Indoors) The New Horizons spacecraft will make its closest approach to Pluto on July 14th. Why did scientists kick Pluto out of the planet club? What new discoveries will be made about this distant, icy world? And where in the sky will you have to look so that you can gaze in the direction of Pluto? Astronomer Jeffrey Miller has the answers. 7 - 8 p.m.

April 26, 2015 – Adventures with “MudRat” MacKenzie (Outdoors – Indoors) Kevin (MudRat) will be presenting a series of photos and videos from his backcountry adventures on some of the High Peaks’ most scenic and seldom-explored venues. Highlights include a ‘full on’ winter assault on Gothics North Face, bluebird conditions on Giant Mountain’s East Face and various explorations in Panther Gorge. Examples of his trips may be found at www.mackenziefamily.com/46/46r.html. 7 - 8 p.m.

Call for Nominations

There have been seventeen Distinguished Volunteer Awards given by the Chapter to recognize volunteers who have given exceptional service to the chapter. No award has been given since 2011. This is not for lack of individuals deserving of the award. Here is a summary of the selection guidelines and process for making a nomination:

A. Guidelines

- The selected recipient over a number of years has made a significant contribution to the chapter’s endeavors.
- The selected recipient may have made a noteworthy contribution in one specific area or in a variety of areas.
- Contributions at the club level may also be considered in determining this award.

B. Process

- Nominations may come from any chapter member or from the Executive Committee.
- The recipient(s) shall be selected by unanimous vote at a properly constituted Executive Committee meeting.
- To be formally considered by the Executive Committee, the nomination should be submitted in written form with strong documentation. Nomination papers should include the significant contributions made by the nominee to ADK’s Laurentian Chapter and to the Adirondack Mountain Club (ADK). Dates of elected positions held, appointed roles and duties assumed as well as volunteer tasks undertaken are important areas to identify and incorporate in the nomination papers.
- To the extent possible, the nomination process should be kept secret from the nominee(s).

Awards are given at either the Spring or Fall potlucks.

Please take the time to consider participating in the nomination process. If you have questions about how to put a nomination together, and for a complete copy of the guidelines and rules, please contact me or Carolyn Kaczka, our chapter archivist.



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:

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Announcing the 7th Annual Laurentian Chapter Photo Contest

We are pleased to announce the Fifth Annual ADK Laurentian Chapter Photo Contest. The contest is open to members of the Adirondack Mountain Club, who may submit photos taken anywhere during the contest period; and to non-member participants on Laurentian Chapter outings, who may submit photos taken during those outings during the contest period. Photographs taken in the period October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015 are eligible. All trip photos used in Laurentian Chapter publicity during the contest will be entered automatically. Entrants must allow the photos to be used in chapter publicity.

In recent years, the photo contest has come to serve as the chapter photo archive. For this reason, photographers are encouraged to send entries from all chapter trips, in addition to the special few photographs that are taken over the course of a year.

The criteria are: technical quality; artistic expression; and extent to which the photo conveys the Chapter's goals of conservation, education, and responsible outdoor recreation.

Photo contest winners will be announced at the Laurentian Chapter Annual Meeting in November, 2015. A Grand Prize photo will be selected. Best photos and honorable mention will also be selected in the categories:

Action
Landscape
Nature
People

In 2015, an award will also be made for the best "selfie" photo.

For ease of handling, digital photos are preferred, but hardcopy versions are acceptable. If your photos are originally digital, please submit the highest resolution you have (photo file size of at least 500kbytes are best). Submitters are encouraged to include descriptive titles with their submissions.

Submit photo entries to Tom Ortmeyer at tortmeyer@twcny.rr.com. If you have questions or want to transfer photos in other ways, contact Tom at that address or at (315) 265-8219.