

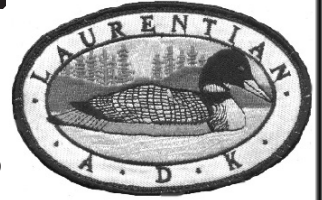


North Wind

The Laurentian Chapter of the Adirondack Mountain Club

St. Lawrence & Ottawa River Valley Region

April - June 2019



Recreation Management Plans

Recently the DEC finalized Recreation Management Plans (RMPs) for Tooley Pond and Grass River Conservation Easements as well as a Unit Management Plan (UMP) for the Grass River Wild Forest unit of the New York State Forest Preserve. These plans cover a total of approximately 90,000 acres in the St Lawrence County towns of Clare, Clifton, Colton, and Fine.

The Laurentian Chapter has been following the establishment of conservation easements in our chapter's area with interest for several years. We've done trail work in some of them and scouted some parts of them as outing destinations. These new plans should enable a wide range of excellent outdoor trips with much less time and effort than in the past. The time frame for implementation is not always clear, but the results should be worth the wait. We look forward to doing more exploring in these areas.

Tooley Pond Conservation Easement lies behind the Grass River Wild Forest on both sides of the Tooley Pond Road. There are plans to construct a number of campsites and parking lots enabling access to Sugar Mountain and Hay Meadow Mountain (higher but with limited views), a rock climbing cliff not far from Sinclair Falls (lower, but with great views), and other attractions. There will be a new trail to Sugar Mountain and a number of other ski and hiking trails. There will also be improved access to water features including Allen Pond.

Grass River Conservation Easement covers a large area bounded roughly by White Road, CR 27, Tooley Pond Road, SH 3, and SH 56. There are many gravel roads which have been off-limits to motor vehicles. We've explored some of these by bicycle in the past, and are impressed with the backcountry area. The RMP indicates that some of these roads will be opened to cars, and small parking lots, a boat launch, and campsites will be constructed. This will enable easy visits to some destinations including Pleasant Lake, the Stone Dam Parcel of Grass River Wild Forest, and Little Blue Mountain which is said to have the best views in St. Lawrence County. There will be good opportunities for hiking,

swimming and boating, camping, and mountain biking.

Grass River Wild Forest is large, intricate, disconnected, and spread out. Among the locations it includes or touches are Lampson Falls, Downerville State Forest and Harper Falls, and the Tooley Pond Road and its waterfalls. Plans include clear signs and improved parking at the Tooley Pond Road waterfalls trailheads; improved mountain bike connections between Harper Falls, the trails of Downerville State Forest, and Lampson Falls; a new, wilderness-appropriate bridge across the Grass providing access to the Stone Dam Parcel; new trails around Church Pond; an interpretive loop trail at Twin Falls; canoe carries; cleanup, signage, and more.

The plans can be viewed on the following sites:

Tooley Pond Conservation Easement RMP - <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/107674.html>

Grass River Conservation Easement RMP - <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/107672.html>

Grass River Wild Forest UMP - <https://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/22575.html>

John Barron



Blustery day on Blue Mountain. Photo: Jeff Miller

Chair

John Barron

Many ADK chapters are in the process of updating how they distribute their newsletters. Printed copies sent by mail are the traditional approach and are still preferred by many readers. Electronic copies delivered by E-Mail can save the costs of printing and postage as well as a great deal of volunteer effort in mailing. In addition an electronic version can be in color and tends to look good. Our plan is to begin producing the North Wind in electronic form and distributing it to members for whom we have E-Mail addresses. The print version will continue to be sent as before, and we'll offer members the option of voluntarily requesting to discontinue their print version. We hope people will respond favorably.

ADK Headquarters has inaugurated a series of monthly online meetings among all chapters, with the aim of increasing Club membership. They are held using a program called Slack, which leads to a different kind of experience than a live meeting. The first meeting produced close to a dozen ideas for topics that might improve membership. Now a one hour meeting will be devoted to one of them each month for the rest of the year. There is a proposal to follow each of these meetings with another one hour meeting related to functional areas in the chapters.

Our Spring pot luck party is set for April 14 at Potsdam Presbyterian Church. Our guest speaker will be Joan Collins, who many will remember as a member and leader in the Laurentian Chapter and, above all, a renowned birder. Joan's topic is "All About Birds", and we hope there'll be a good turnout to see Joan and enjoy the talk. Details are in the Outings schedule.

We've had some of the best winter weather and ground conditions for skiing and snowshoeing in the region in years, and there have been plenty of enjoyable outings.



*Robert Moses State Park: TL John Barron, Jeanna Matthews.
Photo: Nature Center volunteer*

Executive Committee

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

Outings: Joan Trivilino
joantrivilino@hotmail.com
315-265-5040

Education: Jeanna Matthews
jeanna.matthews@gmail.com
315-250-0566

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

Membership : Matianne Hebert
hebertm@potsdam.edu
315-705-4287

Secretary: Blair Madore
madorebf@potsdam.edu
315-265-0602

Treasurer: Marie Fernandez de Alaiza
marfagm@yahoo.com
786-291-3473

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

Announcing the 2019 Laurentian Chapter Photo Contest

The Laurentian Chapter is pleased to announce its 2019 Photo Contest. Please submit photos to contest organizer Tom Ortmeyer. Digital submissions are preferred. Submissions should be sent by email to tortmeyer@gmail.com. Photos must be taken between October 1, 2018 and September 30, 2019 for this year's contest. Photos submitted from chapter outings are also automatically entered. Photos should be on topics of interest to the Adirondack Mountain Club and Laurentian chapter. Preference will be given to photos taken in and near the Adirondack Mountains and the Saint Lawrence and Ottawa River Valleys plus photos taken at ADK events. Photos from Laurentian Chapter members are accepted, as are photos from non-members that are taken on chapter outings.

Since its beginning, the photo contest entries have become the archive of chapter activities and outings. The full set of entries is shown at the Fall Potluck, and are always a favorite of the evening.

Conservation

David Katz

Conservation North of the Border

For many New Yorkers, Ontario is that flat place with fields, woodlots, and the occasional wetland that we drive through en route to Ottawa or Montreal. From the highway, eastern Ontario – the area north and east of Kingston – seems to be farms, small towns, and suburbs. Wilderness and conservation may not spring to mind. People may know about Algonquin Provincial Park four hours to the northwest, but what is there closer to home, within maybe an hour drive of the bridges at Ogdensburg or Massena? And how do they do conservation in eastern Ontario?

On some back roads, you may not be sure whether you're in eastern Ontario or in a remote corner of the Adirondacks. While much wild land is in private hands, a number of government entities and not-for-profit organizations are involved in protecting wild lands, conserving natural resources, and promoting sustainable land use. Eastern Ontario hosts one national park, Thousand Islands National Park of Canada. Ontario Parks operates nine provincial parks in our area, totaling about 30,000 acres. While some of this land is developed for outdoor recreation, most is preserved in its natural state. Three regional land trusts have preserved another 6,000 acres via gifts, purchases, and conservation easements that protect the land from development while continuing to allow certain kinds of use by the landowner.

Eastern Ontario is also governed by several Conservation Authorities. These Authorities were created in the late 1940s in response to flooding and environmental degradation caused by poor land use practices earlier in the century. They are oriented around individual watersheds, and each Authority is funded and controlled partly by the province and partly by local residents. They work with local residents and organizations in a variety of ways to restore and preserve land and water resources. Over the last 70 years, Conservation Authorities have protected about 370,000 acres province-wide, 200,000 of which are open to the public. Twenty of these publicly-accessible Conservation Areas are in eastern Ontario. There is no analog on our side of the border, although the Blueway Corridors on some North Country rivers might be a first step.

Other organizations working to preserve open space in eastern Ontario include The Frontenac Arch Biosphere Network, the Algonquin-to-Adirondack Collaborative, and the Nature Conservancy of Canada. Sometimes adjustments occur. For example, the Landon Bay Centre, managed by the Barbara Heck Foundation and dedicated to protecting the environment with low-impact facilities and activities, is being incorporated into Thousand Islands National Park.

It turns out that there is no shortage of wild woods and water in eastern Ontario. And there is no shortage of organizations working to increase the preservation of eastern Ontario's open spaces and promote environmentally sound land use.

Appointed Positions

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

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

Newsletter: David Trithart
dtrithar@twcny.rr.com
315-265-8117

Webmaster & E-letter Ed.: David Katz
davidk@slc.com
315-386-4393

Merchandise Coordinator: Jim Burdick
jburd001@gmail.com
716- 338-7237

Trails Coordinators
Stone Valley: Mark Simon
Simonm@potsdam.edu
315-262-2571
Red Sandstone: Blair Madore
madorebf@potsdam.edu
315-265-0602

Hospitality: Mary MacKinnon
315-265-6027

Outdoors/Indoors Program - Danielle
Jerry and Bob Platte (907) 231-1332
dgjerry434@gmail.com

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

OUTINGS

Apr. - June 2019

Joan Trivilino

Sun. April 14 - Spring Potluck. Community Room, First Presbyterian Church, Potsdam. Arrive 5:00 PM for supper to start at 5:30 PM. Bring a dish to share and your own tableware. Guest speaker will be Joan Collins, who is well remembered as a member and leader of the Laurentian Chapter and now lives in Long Lake. Joan is one of the best known birders of Northern New York. Her topic is "All About Birds". If questions, contact John Barron at 613 828 2296 or johnbarron@sympatico.ca.

Mon. April 22 - Mt Arab climb. Joint outing with North Woods. Members only. Celebrate Earth Day by sharing a bit of nature poetry, essay, or art. Moderate difficulty, two-plus miles roundtrip and 750 feet elevation gain; pace will be leisurely. John and Susan Omohundro, adknwoutings@gmail.com.

Sun. April 28 - Tooley Pond Road Waterfall Tour. Join us for our annual visit of these gorgeous waterfalls during spring runoff. We will do several short hikes of .6 miles RT, .2 miles RT, .6 miles RT, and 1.4 miles RT. This is a Level 1 hike and an excellent trip for photographers and families but not ideal for dogs. Contact Blair Madore (madorebf@potsdam.edu or cell 315 261 0751 for details or to sign up.

Sat. May 4 - Spring Tour and Clean Up On the Red Sandstone Trail. Join us for a tour of the approximately five mile trail starting from Hannawa. We'll see dams, rapids, gorges, a sandstone quarry, and beaver activity. Along the way we'll pick up brush deposited by winter storms and generally inspect the trail. This is a level two hike (moderate) of about five miles with some elevation changes along the way. Especially good hike for dog owners and families with children over 8 years old. Contact Blair Madore (madorebf@potsdam.edu or cell 315 261 0751 for details or to sign up.

Sun. May 5 - Clarkson Woods Wildflower Walk. Afternoon walk in the Clarkson woods looking for spring wildflowers. Level 1, easy. Contact Tom Ortmeier for details, 315 244 3707, tortmeyer@gmail.com.

Sat. May 11 - Kate Mountain. Bushwhacking ascent of this trailless peak near Onchiota. View toward

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.

Vermontville from a ledge at the summit. 5 miles RT, 1200 feet of gain, Level 4. Fairly strenuous. Pace slow. Joint outing with North Woods Chapter. Contact John Barron at 613 828 2296 or johnbarron@sympatico.ca

Sat. May 11 - Inlet Flow Paddle: We'll paddle from Wanakena toward Cranberry Lake to Hawks Nest beach near the entrance to the lake for lunch. Near the beach is a beautiful overlook with a view down the Dead Creek Flow arm of the lake. It will be a leisurely paddle of approximately 6 miles round trip. Must wear PFD while on the water. Contact Holly Woodworth 315 848 2953 or hswoodworth@gmail.com.

Sat. May 25 - Cycling in Eastern Ontario. Triangle-shaped tour of the historic villages of Lyndhurst, Athens, and Delta. 25 miles, slow to moderate pace. Level 3. Contact John Barron at 613 828 2296 or johnbarron@sympatico.ca.

Sat. June 1 - National Trails Day. ADK will be celebrating this national event with a trail maintenance day in Cranberry Lake. There is a choice of ten work parties with a wide range of effort level including ones suitable for young children. Some involve a boat ride across Cranberry Lake. Free camping will be provided at Cranberry Lake Campground on Friday and Saturday evening. Closing supper at the Pine Cone on Saturday including live entertainment and prizes. This is an all-Club event. For further information, choice of work crew and to register, go to <https://www.adk.org/protect/volunteer/national-trails-day/>. If you've questions you can contact John Barron at 613 828 2296 or johnbarron@sympatico.ca.

Sat. June 8 - Southville State Forest Hike. We will explore the River Hill trail loop and enjoy the views of the St. Regis River. Hopefully we will find spring wildflowers still in bloom. 3 miles RT, one short hill ~100 ft

elevation gain. Level 1-2. Contact Marianne Hebert 315 265 0756 or hebertm@potsdam.edu.

June 9-14 and June 14-19 - ADK Cycle Outing. Two date options. Join us for 5 days of riding in 2019 Cycle Outing. Based from the Clarkson University campus, with multiple rides per day in the area. Contact Tom Ortmeyer to register: tortmeyer@gmail.com, or 315 244 3707

Red Sandstone Trail Volunteers Needed

Maintaining the Red Sandstone Trail is a responsibility of our chapter, and needs regular volunteers to keep the trail in good shape. I know many of our members walk the trails regularly and do their best to clear blowdown and pick up trash. For that I am very grateful. But we need a regular supply of volunteers to help with more strenuous undertakings like pruning back brush, replacing signs, building stairs and bridges, and sometimes even work with rocks. If this work interests you please contact the trail co-ordinator Blair Madore at 315 261 0751 or madorebf@potsdam.edu.



Clarkson Observation Platform: Tom Ortmeyer, Jean Giblin. Photo John Barron

Director

Tom Ortmeyer

This is the time of year when I start to think ahead to warmer weather—and I imagine I'm not alone in this. I was looking over the ADK web site recently, and discovered that ADK's 2019 National Trail's Day event centers around Cranberry Lake this year. I immediately signed up for one of the work crews, and made sure I picked one that included a boat ride across the lake.

That got me to thinking about the wide range of volunteer opportunities the club offers for us in the summer. These include Adopt-a-Lean-to, Adopt-a-Wildland, Volunteer Summit Steward, Adopt a Lean-to, Campground Steward, Trail Steward, Volunteer Trails program (including my personal favorite, 5 days paddling on Long Lake while moving out-houses). Information on these is available at <https://www.adk.org/explore-adk/programs/>.

But that's not all the club offers—Skills Workshops range from Backcountry Cooking to a 5 Day Wilderness First Responders course. And there is the Adventure Travel Program, Seasonal outings, and Guided Hikes, with many options for those who want to learn and explore with a compatible group of like minded individuals.

And then there are the Heart Lake and Johns Brook Lodge properties—and this summer will be a great time to visit Heart Lake, and see the upgrades that have taken place, and enjoy a burger at the Hungry Hiker.

So, next time the weather isn't quite as good as you'd like it to be, grab a cup of coffee, sit back, explore the ADK web site or magazine, and get a start on planning your summer activities.

Chapter Member Writes Adirondack Trails Book

Laurentian Chapter member and *Adirondack* editor Neal Burdick has teamed with renowned Adirondack photographer Carl Heilman on a new book, *The Trails of the Adirondacks*, to be published in April by Rizzoli International. Burdick wrote most of the text for the 288-page large-format hardcover book, which chronicles the history of trail development in the Adirondacks, with short contributions from four other ADKers. Several of the trails he discusses, including Azure Mt., the "Cranberry 50" and Lampson Falls, will be familiar to chapter members. The text is complemented by dozens of Heilman's spectacular images in all seasons, and by numerous historical photos from the ADK Archives.

A talk and reception at Traditional Arts in Upstate New York (TAUNY) on Main Street in Canton will be the first official unveiling of the book. The event is planned for Sunday, April 28, from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Burdick will speak briefly about the book and sign copies. Refreshments will be provided, and the book will be for sale, tentatively for \$45. All are welcome!



Jan. - Mar. 2019

Sat, Jan 12: Snowshoe Catamount Mountain (South Colton). It was a bluebird day, with temperatures starting near zero, warming up to +7 as the day wore on. 12 inches of new snow meant we all got to take turns breaking trail. It was a short but rigorous climb, made especially beautiful by the newly fallen snow clinging to trees. The summit sported a lovely overlook of Carry Falls Reservoir. We ended the trip with hot cocoa at the Lodge and a tour of the quilt show courtesy of the Colton Winterfest. Participants: Holly Woodworth, Neil Woodworth, Blair Madore, Margaret Madore, Jeff Miller, Tom Ortmeier, Marianne Hebert (TL)

Sun. Jan. 13.- Robert Moses State Park. Sunny, pleasantly cold winter weather. Recent snowfall had established a good skiing surface but not enough depth to need snowshoes; so we made a couple of circuits of the trails, one skiing and one hiking. We covered most of the trail network, including a new-this-year back-country segment. A highlight was the new Eugene L. Nicandri Nature Center, which is very impressive and is very well supported by the Power Authority. John Barron (TL)

Sat. Jan 26 - Ski at Paul Smith's VIC. It was a cold but sunny day at "the VIC" where the annual "Chilly Ski Fest" was being held. We were joined by five members of the Shatagee Woods Chapter who had coincidentally scheduled a similar outing for the same day. We followed the Loggers Loop trail for ~4.5 miles on a lovely groomed trail with new fallen snow. The two groups split about halfway, but we all ended up back at the VIC lodge where chili and cornbread warmed our bellies. Participants: John Barron, Jean Giblin, Marianne Hebert (TL), Marianne Goodfellow (Shatagee TL), Marty Sosville (Shatagee), and three other members of the Shatagee Chapter.

Sat. Feb 2. - Ski trip to High Rock was cancelled because there was only one sign up.

Sat. Feb. 16 - Black Pond Snowshoe. The parking lot was unplowed, but the trail was fully broken out, forming a canyon 18 inches wide and 12 inches deep. After snow showers, the sky turned blue. The breeze was constantly on us from across the lake, keeping our hands cold. Deer tracks were everywhere. We particularly enjoyed the sun-dappled walk along the stream

Compiled by Joan Trivilino

between the two ponds. Lunch got us out of the wind in the lean- to on Black Pond's east side. A raven guffawed at us, but we rated the walk a success. John Omohundro (TL)

Sun. Feb 24 - Skiing and snowshoeing at Summerstown Trails was cancelled on account of weather. The forecast predicted it several days ahead and there were no indications of interest.

Sat. Mar. 2 - Riverside Trail Snowshoe. We had a great welcome to March, with good conditions for our snowshoe along the St. Regis River's Riverside Trail. We oohed and aahed on the river's ice formations and deer, woodpecker, squirrel and mouse tracks. At a spot where the ice and rock created a whirlpool, one of us could not resist tossing twigs into the maelstrom, which kept us both entertained for an unreasonable amount of time. Tom Ortmeier (TL)



Catamount climb. Photo by Marianne Hebert



St. Regis River snowshoe: Jeff Miller, TL Tom Ortmeier.



At the Clarkson Lodge, L-R: Danielle Jerry, Bob Platte, Jean Giblin, Marianne Hebert, Eileen Wheeler. Photo John Barron



Catamount climb - On the trail. L-R: Jeff Miller, Tom Ort-meyer. Photo Marianne Hebert TL

Education

Jeanna Matthews

Danielle Jerry and Bob Platte have done a wonderful job of organizing the Outdoor-Indoors speaker series. They are stepping down after this season and we thank them whole-heartedly for their hard work! We need people who are willing to organize one or more Outdoor-Indoors talks in the upcoming year. Are you willing to help? You could identify and invite a speaker, identify a date for the talk, welcome and introduce the speaker and provide refreshments. We could provide help reserve a venue (often the Village of Potsdam Community Room), advertise the talk and reimburse you for supplies. If you are willing to co-ordinate one such event in the January - April 2020 timeframe, please contact Jeanna Matthews (jnm@clarkson.edu).

We are using some of our Education funds to donate camping or hiking equipment to local libraries. The idea is to identify equipment that ADK club members and other community members can check out rather than purchase individually. We are currently thinking of donating some bear canisters. If think your local library would be interested in such a donation or have other ideas for equipment to donate, we would appreciate your input. Please contact Jeanna Matthews (jnm@clarkson.edu)."

Membership

Marianne Hebert

New Members - Welcome.

- Cody Horwitz
- Anthony Zeledon



Paul Smiths VIC - John Barron on the Bridge. Photos by Marianne Hebert



North Wind

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

STANDARD
NONPROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
CANTON, NY
PERMIT NO. 14

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/#!/ADKLaurentian>



Catamount summit: Holly Woodworth, Neil Woodworth, Jeff Miller, Tom Ortmeyer. Photo by Marianne Hebert