



September 1, 2020



ADK Bylaws Vote

The September Adirondac should arrive in your mailbox in the next few days. In it, you will be asked to review and vote on proposed amendments to the club's bylaws. These amendments include two key provisions:

1. Currently, the members, through the chapters, elect ADK's Board of Directors. Under the new bylaws, the Board of Directors will elect itself.
2. Currently, only the members can amend the bylaws. Under the new bylaws, only the Board of Directors can amend the bylaws.

Together, these two provisions give control of ADK to a Board that need not answer to the Club's members. There are other aspects of the proposed amendments, such as a vaguely-worded requirement about Board members' financial contributions and the lack of a diversity requirement, that are further cause for concern.

The Laurentian Chapter Executive Committee believes these amendments are not good for ADK, ADK's members, or ADK's staff and other stakeholders. We recommend voting against the proposed amendments.



Outings

With the improvement in New York State's Covid-19 situation and the easing of the state's safety rules, the Chapter is planning five outings this fall:

Saturday, September 19 - A hike into Church Pond from Route 56 will involve some bushwhacking into a piece of Forest Preserve with big trees and a quiet pond. This is the headwaters of the North Branch of the Grass(e). Expect wet feet. We'll spend the morning thrashing through the woods and some may want to climb nearby Catamount in the afternoon. Bring snacks and water. Contact Tom VandeWater if interested: 315-261-1723.

Saturday, October 3 - Harper Falls from the Grass River confluence in the Donnerville State Forest. This is a longer way to Harpers Falls-- we'll hike up the north branch of the Grass River from its confluence with the main branch. The trail varies from river level to scenic heights overlooking the river. 4 miles round trip, level 3. Contact Tom Ortmeyer, tortmeyer@gmail.com, 315-244-3707.

Sunday, October 4 - Peavine Swamp Christmas Tree Loop. We'll start at the Rte 3 end of the trail where there is plenty of parking. The trail has some sections with rolling hills

and some large magnificent trees. We are hoping to still have beautiful foliage to enjoy. We will keep a comfortable pace and have a break for lunch. It is about a 5.5 mile hike - level 3. We will be social distancing and wearing masks when needed. Limited to 8 participants. Contact Holly & Neil Woodworth at hswoodworth@gmail.com or 315 848-2953.

Saturday, October 10 - Lost Pond Trail at Cranberry Lake, 2 miles rd. Easy, some rolling hills, circling the pond. An osprey nest, maybe we will see them and hopefully fall foliage. Snack break and then head to Tooley Pond Mountain, 2 miles rt. Also easy to summit, nice views. I will have maps of the Tooley Pond waterfalls along Tooley Pond Road which people can choose to continue on their own. Level 3. Limited to 10 participants. Social distancing with masks. Contact Linda Quackenbush, lindaquackers@yahoo.com or 516-662-5020

Wednesday, November 11 - Armistice Day hike to Silver Mountain, in the northeast Adirondacks. We'll hike up a rocky trail to the jack pine-covered summit, 900 ft. Elevation gain and 1.8 miles RT, for good lake views. Then we'll drive briefly to the trailhead for Silver Lake Bog, a 2-mile RT trail, mostly level, to a scenic ledge over the lake, featuring a half-mile boardwalk through the bog. A joint outing with North Woods chapter, ADK members only. Sign up by November 9. Limit 8. John Omohundro, adknwoutings@gmail.com.

For more about outings, visit our [Outings Page](#), or visit our [Trails Page](#) for more local hikes.



Photo Contest

Photos taken between 10/1/2019 and 9/30/2020 on topics of interest to the Adirondack Mountain Club and Laurentian chapter are eligible. [Read more.](#) [See previous winners.](#)



Fall Potluck and Annual Meeting

Because of ongoing concerns about the coronavirus, we will not be holding our traditional fall potluck and annual meeting this November. Plans for holding fall elections for chapter officers are still being developed and will be announced in October.

Director's Report

[Holly Woodworth's report](#) discusses the proposed bylaws changes as well as ADK's new strategic plan and how the Club has responded to the coronavirus.

Charlie Hunnewell

Long-time Laurentian Chapter member Charlie Hunnewell passed away on July 13. [Read obituary.](#)