



## *North Wind*

*The Laurentian Chapter of the Adirondack Mountain Club*

*July—September 2022*

*Celebrating our 50th Anniversary in 2022!*



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### **Azure Mountain Fire Tower Lighting Event—September 3rd**

Azure Mountain Friends will again participate in the NYS Forest Fire Lookout Association's Fire Tower Lighting Event on September 3, 9:00-9:30pm.



The original premise for the Lighting of the Fire Tower Event came from Doug Hamilton of the Red Hill Fire Tower Committee. The idea was to light the fire tower with a high powered light, put lots of press releases in the local paper about the time when this would occur and invite people to go to locations around the community where they could look up, see the light on the horizon and remember that there was a fire tower there watching over and protecting the community and surrounding forest.

This will be the 4<sup>th</sup> year that Azure Mountain tower will be lit. This is also a great opportunity to see the night sky with minimal light pollution. Laurentian Chapter members interested in participating in or viewing the Azure Tower Lighting should contact Tom Ortmeyer ([tortmeyer@gmail.com](mailto:tortmeyer@gmail.com)) for details.



For more information on Azure Mountain Fire Tower, scroll down to page 5...

For additional information on the statewide program: <https://nysffla.org/>

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## **Laurentian Chapter of the Adirondack Mountain Club 50th Anniversary Celebration**

**Save the date!**

**Sunday, July 24th at 3:00PM**

**Sandstoner Park, 43 Pine Street, Potsdam**

**Games, Paddling, Activities**

**Picnic catered by Big Spoon, Free to Chapter members.**

## Report from Chapter Chair Marianne Hebert



### 50th Anniversary Celebration USA:



Sunday, July 24th is the US celebration at Sandstoner Park in Potsdam. The beach will be open (lifeguard on duty), and there will be family-friendly activities, paddleboards, kayaks, music and a chance to catch up with old friends! We hope you join us for an outing and the picnic catered by Big Spoon. Reservations are required for the picnic so we can get an accurate headcount (deadline to make reservations is Tuesday, July 19th).

Schedule of events: <https://adklaurentian.org/50th>

### 50th Anniversary Celebration Canada:



For Canadian members who might not want to venture across the border, there will be a smaller get together on Saturday July 16th at Murphy's Point Provincial Park. Check the outings schedule for details.

**Chapter history project:** We are compiling a history of our chapter as part of the 50th Anniversary Celebration, and we are seeking input from all Chapter members. Here is a survey to get you thinking about all the great things you remember about the Laurentian Chapter:

<https://forms.gle/oUebx3zK7KJ4Fzgt8>

**Chapter Affiliates fees:** Affiliate memberships are now free for all chapters. You can sign up for any chapter for up to three years. That is a good way to get on mailing lists of other chapters and hear about other outings and events:

<https://adk.org/product/affiliate-memberships/>

**Fall Potluck:** Mark your calendar! We are tentatively planning our Fall potluck for Sunday Nov. 6th at the Presbyterian Church in Canton. The guest speaker will be Jennifer Denny from the Adirondack Center for Loon Conservation. We will be following Club COVID guidelines <https://adk.org/covid-19-guidelines/> and we are hoping that the pandemic will allow for an in-person gathering. Watch for event updates in the Fall!

### Get out!

Get some exercise!

Appreciate the natural  
beauty of our region!

Earn a patch!



[www.adklaurentian.org/?page=loony\\_loop\\_challenge.html](http://www.adklaurentian.org/?page=loony_loop_challenge.html)

## ADK Laurentian Chapter Executive Committee

### Marianne Hebert

Chair, Social Media Coordinator, EAP Outings Coordinator  
[chair@adklaurentian.org](mailto:chair@adklaurentian.org)

### Joan Trivilino

Vice-Chair, Outings  
[outings@adklaurentian.org](mailto:outings@adklaurentian.org)

### Blair Madore

Vice-Chair, Education, Red Sandstone Trail Coordinator  
[education@adklaurentian.org](mailto:education@adklaurentian.org)

### Tom van de Water

Vice-Chair, Conservation  
[conservation@adklaurentian.org](mailto:conservation@adklaurentian.org)

### Mary MacKinnon

Vice-Chair, Membership  
[membership@adklaurentian.org](mailto:membership@adklaurentian.org)

### David Katz

Secretary, Webmaster  
[secretary@adklaurentian.org](mailto:secretary@adklaurentian.org)

### Tom Ortmeyer

Advisory Council Trustee  
[trustee@adklaurentian.org](mailto:trustee@adklaurentian.org)



## 2022 Laurentian Chapter Photo Contest

We are pleased to announce our 2022 Photo Contest. Please submit photos to contest organizer Tom Ortmeyer. Digital submissions are preferred. Submissions should be sent by email to [tortmeyer@gmail.com](mailto:tortmeyer@gmail.com). Photos must be taken between October 1, 2021 and September 30, 2022 for this year's contest, and received by October 10, 2022. 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 taken on chapter outings.

Message from  
Membership Vice-Chair  
Mary MacKinnon



**Welcome New Members!**

The first part of this year welcomed many new members and families to the chapter.

Randy Burke (Potsdam)  
Robin Einbinder (Potsdam)  
Dan and Linda Fay (Canton)  
Clifton and Shannon Harcum (Potsdam)  
Heather Mackinnon and David Mather (Ottawa, ON)  
Rust Eddy and Sheryl Scales (Canton)  
John and Denise Shumway (Colton)  
Donald and Wendy Straight (Brasher Falls)  
Jason Wendt (Star Lake)  
Fred Wilhelm (Potsdam)

**Membership Challenge Reminder**

(Chance to win a 50% off coupon for the ADK store)  
The challenge continues! All Laurentian Chapter members are encouraged to introduce one or more person(s) or families to the chapter.

This friendly inter-chapter contest will be won by the chapter that achieves the greatest per cent increase in membership. Each member of the winning chapter will receive a 50% off coupon for an entire ADK online store purchase (some exclusions apply).

Join the challenge and help increase our membership to enhance and support the Laurentian Chapter. With your participation, the entire chapter could win the opportunity to shop for some ADK merchandise.

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration**

Please help the chapter celebrate 50 years on July 24<sup>th</sup> in Potsdam, food and festivities provided. This year also marks the centenary of ADK. For 100 years ADK has been a cornerstone in protecting the wilderness, providing educational opportunities, and promoting the enjoyment of the great outdoors. I look forward to seeing you all at Sandstoner Park on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

If you have any questions about the Chapter, the Contest, or upcoming events, please contact me.

[Mary MacKinnon](#)

## Some Trip Reports...

**Sat, Apr 30: Outing Leadership Clinic**

Six of us turned out for a fun day of learning the ropes to be an outings leader. It was a bluebird day at Higley Flow State Park and participants had a fun day hearing about the funniest and worst outing experiences, and how to prepare for the unexpected.



David Katz,  
Joan Trivilino,  
Ellie Menz,  
Marianne Hebert,  
Debra Mitchell,  
Blair Madore  
(Photo by B. Madore)

**Sun, May 22: Glenmeal State Forest Spring Mud Hike**

(rescheduled to June 12<sup>th</sup> due to weather) It was a cloudy day, with many mosquitos to keep us company. We explored several of the loops and everyone helped with wildflower identification. We found that the trails were a bit overgrown, and we all agreed that this would be better as an early Spring walk. It is certainly a fine snowshoe destination.



Blue loop at  
Glenmeal State  
Forest

**Sat, June 25: Tooley Pond Road "Clarksboro Trail"**

The Clarksboro trail was slightly overgrown, and the views of Twin Falls were obstructed by foliage, but the vistas from the top of the cliffs were lovely and we had a surprise visit by a Coopers hawk. We proceeded to Rainbow Falls—spectacular as usual, and then to Copper Rock Falls for lunch on the rocks.



The Clarksboro Cliffs  
were awesome!  
L-R: Tom Ortmeyer,  
Susan Omohundro,  
Deb Mitchell,  
John Omohundro,  
Carolann Jacobs and  
her mom, Donna.  
(Photo by M. Hebert)



## Outings Schedule...Joan Trivilino

July—September 2022



**All participants must be vaccinated**

**July Weekly Walk, (July 14, 21, 28) Clarkson Munter Trails** Thursdays 6:00pm. We will walk the roads for approximately 2 miles, 1 hour round trip. Meet at 6:00pm near the parking lot behind the Clarkson Walker Arena and Hantz Field off Clarkson Ave (CR59 "Back Hannawa Road"). Leaders for each week will vary. Contact Marianne Hebert, [chair@adklaurentian.org](mailto:chair@adklaurentian.org), 315-265-0756.

**Saturday July 16 - ADK Anniversary Celebration at Murphy's Point Provincial Park.** As US/Canada border considerations still pose problems for some, we're holding a local celebration north of the St. Lawrence. The organized event will be a social gathering and picnic to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Adirondack Mountain Club and the 50th anniversary of the Laurentian Chapter. There are excellent possibilities of self-organized hiking, paddling, and cycling trips as well as swimming available. All from both sides of the border are welcome. Contact John Barron, 613-828-2296 [johnbarron@sympatico.ca](mailto:johnbarron@sympatico.ca).

**Sunday July 24 - 50th Anniversary Celebration** at Sandstoner Park 2:00-8:00PM. **Outing choices:**

- ◆ Greg Smith & Cindy Glover Paddling the Log Driver's Trail in Potsdam. 2:00PM departure from Sandstoner Park beach. Join us for an easy 3 mile scenic paddling tour of attractive islands in the Raquette river and a view of downtown Potsdam below the dam. [smithgn.greg@gmail.com](mailto:smithgn.greg@gmail.com)
- ◆ John & Susan Omohondro: The hike will mix nature observation with some history of the Raquette River. We'll start walking at 2:00, from the Mill St trailhead (across from the Hannawa Fire Department), We'll amble north along the river shore for an hour or so, then retrace our steps. Wear sturdy walking shoes and bring some water. [adknwoutings@gmail.com](mailto:adknwoutings@gmail.com).
- ◆ Tom Ortmeyer: Upper and Lower Lakes Bicycle Tour. We'll start at 1pm from the Grass River Boat Launch on Rte. 68, and bike around the perimeter of the Upper and Lower Lakes Wildlife Management Area. This will be a leisurely ride with multiple stops, including the Indian Creek Nature Center. 16 to 18 miles total. Level 3. Contact Tom Ortmeyer [tortmeyer@gmail.com](mailto:tortmeyer@gmail.com), 315-244-3707.

### The Details

#### Foot Travel—

Difficulty Level	Elevation Gain	Miles Traveled
5—Very Strenuous	> 1,500 feet	10+
4—Strenuous	1,000—1,500 feet	8-10
3—Moderate	500—1,000 feet	5-8
2—Fairly Easy	< 500 feet	3-5
1—Easy	Mostly level	1-3

**Cycling—**Leaders will specify mileage, elevation and surface.

\*Check for last minute updates: [www.adklaurentian.org](http://www.adklaurentian.org)

\*Please contact the leader at least one day before the trip.

\*Car pooling makes sense—so does sharing the cost of gas.

**Monday, July 25 - Huckleberry Lake Hike.** 4.4 mile round-trip hike to Huckleberry Lake in Wolf Lake State Forest from the west parking area on Ames Road in Talcville. This will be a leisurely out and back hike with a lengthy lunch at the lean-to, so you might bring something special to share. Trails in Wolf Lake State Forest have little elevation gain but sometimes rough or wet footing, suggesting hiking boots and poles. The forest is geologically part of the Laurentian Shield of Canada, so the terrain and plant life are as seen in the paintings of Tom Thompson and the Group of Seven at the National Gallery in Ottawa. Contact Dick Mooers at 315.854.4186

**Sunday, July 31 - Joint Laurentian/Black River Chapter Bicycle Outing** to Kringle Point State Park. We will start near Oak Point on the St. Lawrence and take an inland route upstream to Kringle Point State Park, where we'll have a leisurely lunch break with perhaps a stop for ice cream when leaving the park. We'll ride at a relaxed pace and enjoy the views. Our return will be along the river, and we expect to have a nice tailwind. Total distance: 31 miles. Level 3-4 depending on conditions. Contact Tom Ortmeyer [tortmeyer@gmail.com](mailto:tortmeyer@gmail.com), 315-244-3707.

**August Weekly Walk, (Aug. 4, 11, 18, 25) Bayside Cemetery** Thursdays 6:00pm. We will walk the roads for approximately 2 miles, 1 hour round trip. Meet at the entrance to Bayside Cemetery (730 CR59 "Back Hannawa Road"). Leaders for each week will vary. Contact Marianne Hebert, [chair@adklaurentian.org](mailto:chair@adklaurentian.org), 315-265-0756.

**Wednesday August 3 - Evening Paddle on Hannawa Pond.** We'll meet at 5:00pm at the cartop launch at the junction of Lenny Road and Browns Bridge Road, and paddle Hannawa Pond. We'll stop for a picnic along the way. Contact Tom Ortmeyer [tortmeyer@gmail.com](mailto:tortmeyer@gmail.com), 315-244-3707. Life jackets required.

## Outings Schedule...Joan Trivilino

### July—September 2022 (cont'd)

**Sunday Aug. 14 - Wellesley Island State Park.** This is an ADK Laurentian [Loony Loop Challenge](#) hike. The trail passes through a variety of habitats and offers spectacular views of “The Narrows” and Eel Bay along the St. Lawrence River. The climb to the overlook is fairly steep and rocky. State Park day use fees may apply. 3.5 miles RT, 180 ft. elevation gain. Level 2, Fairly easy. Contact Marianne Hebert, [chair@adklaurentian.org](mailto:chair@adklaurentian.org), 315-265-0756.

**Saturday August 20 - Hike Conservation Easement to the West Branch of the St. Regis River and Moose’s Pond.**

We will hike a 4-mile loop trail with stops at the West Branch of the St. Regis River and Moose’s Pond, in the D.E.C. 5-mile conservation easement. Learn where to hike, paddling opportunities and how a D.E.C. conservation easement works. We will also see the entrance to the proposed D.E.C. Kildare conservation easement. Just on the dirt road drive in, I have seen deer, ruffed grouse, spruce grouse and wild turkey. On the hike, we may see a Barred Owl, beaver or Red-shouldered hawk. Contact Greg Nye Smith [smithgn.greg@gmail.com](mailto:smithgn.greg@gmail.com)

**September Weekly Walk (Sept. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29)** Clarkson Munter Trails Thursdays 6:00pm. We will walk the roads for approximately 2 miles, 1 hour round trip. Meet at 6:00pm near the parking lot behind the Clarkson Walker Arena and Hantz Field off Clarkson Ave (CR59 “Back Hannawa Road”). Leaders for each week will vary. Contact Marianne Hebert, [chair@adklaurentian.org](mailto:chair@adklaurentian.org), 315-265-0756.

**Saturday September 17 - Arkon Loop in Frontenac Provincial Park.** Rugged trails in Canadian Shield country. 11km, Level 3-4. A Loony Loops Challenge destination. Contact John Barron, 613-828-2296 [johnbarron@sympatico.ca](mailto:johnbarron@sympatico.ca).

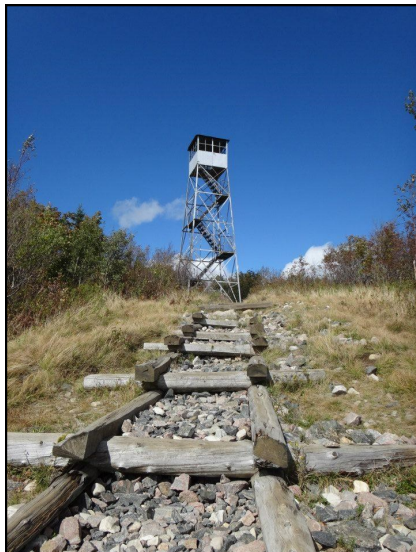
**Saturday September 24 - Lost Pond Loop** (Cranberry Lake). This is an ADK Laurentian [Loony Loop Challenge](#) hike. A lovely trail through an open pine forest to a boreal pond. 2 miles RT, no significant elevation gain. Level 1. Easy. Contact Marianne Hebert, [chair@adklaurentian.org](mailto:chair@adklaurentian.org), 315-265-0756.

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### More on Azure Mt. Fire Tower...

**Location:** 6 miles south of Santa Clara.

**Status:** Restored by the Friends of Azure Mt. and is open to the public.



The first structure on Azure was a wooden tower constructed by the Conservation Commission in 1914. In 1918, the tower was replaced with a 35' Aermotor LS40 tower.

This tower was closed at the end of the 1979 season and now appears on the National Historic Lookout Register and the National Register of Historic Places being placed on the latter September 28, 2001.

An initial meeting of the of Azure Mt. Friends took place in November of 2001 to organize restoration of the facility. The tower is now completely restored and officially reopened to the public on Sept. 27, 2003.



For much more information on the Azure Mountain Fire Tower:

<https://people.clarkson.edu/~csmith/azure-hist.html>