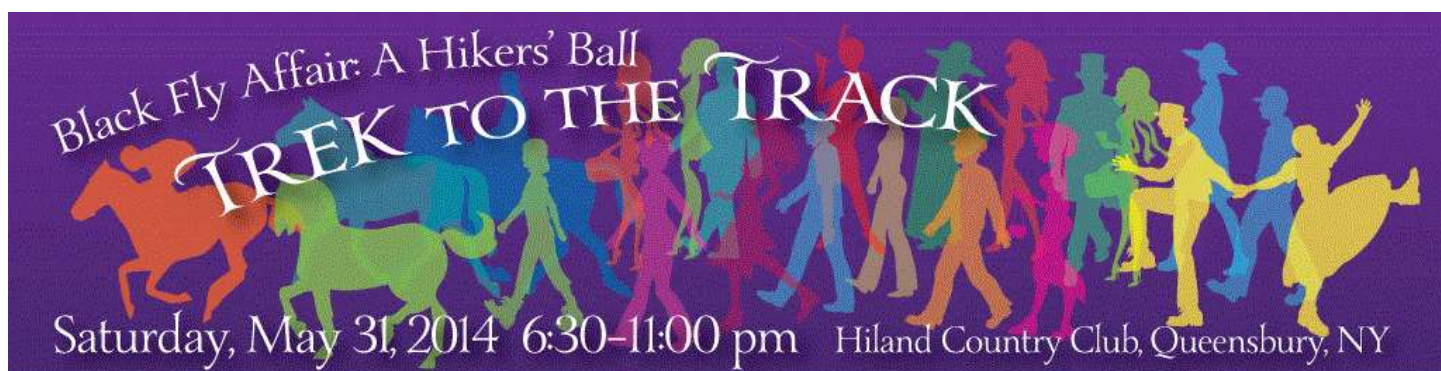




Chepontuc Footnotes

chepontuc — "Hard place to cross," Iroquois reference to Glens Falls

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GLEN FALLS-SARATOGA CHAPTER OF THE ADIRONDACK MOUNTAIN CLUB



And we're off to the races ADK style. Our Black Fly Affair: A Hikers' Ball will be held Saturday evening, May 31st, from 6:30 - 11pm at the Hiland Park Country Club in Queensbury, NY. This year, we invite you to Trek to the Track for an evening of great fun, fanfare and fundraising. The stakes are high, and we've only just rounded the Clubhouse Turn. Included in the festivities are dining, dancing, live and silent auctions, "Dicey Wooden Horse Racing" "a "fabulous" hat contest, 'horse auction," signature brewpub fresh ales sampling from sponsor Davidson Brothers of Glens Falls and hand crafted spirits tasting from sponsor Lake George Distilling Co. ADK's assortment of silent auction items - gear, trips, services, one-of-a-kind offerings and priceless ADK memorabilia - will overtake previous years and winners of ADK's annual raffle will be drawn, so everybody has a stake in it. Andy Pratt - DJ, Auctioneer, ADK Member, ididarider! and 46er will keep us on "track" throughout the evening. The proceeds from ADK's largest annual fundraising event will support ADK C.A.R.E.S "across the board" - wilderness protection initiatives that advocate for greater public access to spectacular recreational resources while protecting them for those that follow.

It's an Affair!

Trek to the Track with
ADKers!

When: 6:30-11pm May 31

Where: Hiland Country
Club, Queensbury, NY

Cost: \$50

Get some good new gear at a great price ... use your ADK Chapter Membership Card at EMS Club Days May 3rd and 4th! Come say hello to us at the Wilton EMS!

Bear-proof storage containers available!

- ◆8.8" dia. X 12" long, weight 2.7 lbs. Designed to slip into your backpack.
- ◆Required in the Eastern High Peaks Zone and important for any backcountry overnight adventure, backpacking or canoe camping destination.
- ◆Rental Rates: 1-3 days \$5.00 4-7 days \$10.00

Call *Jim Schneider* 518-581-9367 to reserve your rental.

Rentals are available exclusively to ADK Glens Falls -Saratoga Chapter members.

This is your chance!

By Laura Fiske, Chapter Chair

Spring has finally arrived in upstate New York. This means there are a lot of spring time rituals coming up for the club and your chapter. The annual Black Fly Affair takes place on Saturday, May 31st at the Hiland Country Club in Queensbury. This is ADK's main fundraiser for the year. The theme for this year's event is the race track with wooden horse racing and a hat contest. The usual silent and live auctions will be held as well. Be sure to watch for your invitation in the mail. For the chapter, the spring EMS club days will be happening on Saturday and Sunday, May 3rd and 4th. This is your chance to get some new gear and save some dollars in the process. Be sure to bring your ADK membership card so you get the discount. We will have a table at the Wilton store both days so be sure to say hello. If you are interested in donating some time to man the table please contact Membership Chair Pat Desbiens. Pat's contact information is to the right of this chair report.

Spring also starts preparations for the chapter annual dinner



"Help out your chapter by volunteering your time!"

ner and the 2015 slate of officers. At this year's annual dinner you will also be asked to approve some by-laws changes. The last time the by-laws were updated was 2007 and they need to be modernized. At the present time we have openings for second vice chair and two directors. The term for these positions begins January 1, 2015. The second vice chair position has a one year term and the director positions have two years terms. Please contact First Vice Chair Kerri Healy if you are interested or would like further information. Kerri's contact information is listed next to this chair report.

In addition to the officer and director positions we have the need for a committee chairperson for the Younger Members Group. This is a position on the chapter executive committee. The goal of this committee is to increase participation in the club and chapter for younger adults in their 20s and 30s. If you are interested in discussing this position, please contact me directly.

Get out there and enjoy the spring weather and help out your chapter by volunteering your time!

Chepontuc Footnotes

Published Bimonthly
Glens Falls Saratoga ADK Chapter
Adirondack Mountain Club
PO Box 2314, Glens Falls, NY, 12801

Executive Committee Members

Officers:

Chapter Chair Laura Fiske
Phone: 884-0345 chapterchair@adk-gfs.org

First Vice Chair Kerri Healy
vicechair1@adk-gfs.org

Second Vice Chair vacant

Secretary John Caffry
Phone: 798-0624 secretary@adk-gfs.org

Treasurer Steve Mackey
Phone: 793-6484 treasurer@adk-gfs.org

Directors:

Jonathan Lane, Bill Bechtel, Linda Ranado
Email for all directors: director@adk-gfs.org

Past Chapter Chair:

Maureen Coutant
Phone: 745-7834 pastchair@adk-gfs.org

Committee Chairs:

Conservation Jacki Bave
Phone: 587-3754 conservation@adk-gfs.org

Education Linda Ranado
education@adk-gfs.org

Hospitality Gretchen Steen
Phone: 638-6139 hospitality@adk-gfs.org

Membership Pat Desbiens
Phone: 899-9688 membership@adk-gfs.org

Newsletter/Editor Jill Gruben
newsletter@adk-gfs.org

Outings Wayne Richter
Phone: 893-7895 outings@adk-gfs.org

Programs Sarah King
Phone: 798-0615 programs@adk-gfs.org

Annual Dinner Anne Paolano
annualdinner@adk-gfs.org

Publicity vacant
publicity@adk-gfs.org

Trails Tom Ellis
Phone: 638-6139 trails@adk-gfs.org

Web site George Sammons
Phone: 743-9692 webmaster@adk-gfs.org

Wilderness Jim Schneider
Phone: 581-9367 wilderness@adk-gfs.org

Young Members Group Jonathan Lane
Phone: 744-4594 ymg@adk-gfs.org

By Linda
Rinado,
Education Chair

We are happy to say we have sponsored one more candidate, Matthew Hunter, to go to Pack Forest for the summer of 2014, bringing our total DEC sponsorships up to five. Added to that, are our three ADK Teen Trails sponsorships. We wish all of you campers a rewarding experience! Also, don't forget to join us at the Glens Falls YMCA for their Healthy Kids Day. As usual, we are always looking for fresh blood and fresh ideas to join us in our pursuit to expose youth to the outdoors and related experiences. If you care to contribute ideas or time, please contact Linda at education@adk-gfs.org

Adirondack Mountain Club

ADK Lake George Property Workday
Saturday, May 3rd
9:00 am - approx. 2:00 pm

Join fellow ADKers and friends to spruce up ADK headquarters property off Exit 21 of the Northway.

Every spring, volunteers help ADK by doing a little spring-cleaning. The decks get treated, trim is painted, the lawn is raked, and other projects are done to maintain the property. **It's fun to meet new people and take part in a community project. You don't have to bring anything other than work gloves - if you have them. Bring a friend along also to make it more fun!** *Breakfast and lunch (including Jim's famous workday cookies) will be provided!*

"Many hands makes light work" - please check your calendar and see if you can spare the day or part of it!
Call Maureen Coutant for more information and to sign up at 745-7834 or email: mojim@roadrunner.com

The Electric Car: Charging the Way to a Clean, Cost-Effective Daily Commute



Chapter member Paul Dietershagen, who has over six months "run time" with a pure electric vehicle, will give an informative presentation on his experience driving, maintaining, and integrating the electric vehicle into his lifestyle. He'll discuss the factors influencing his decision to go all-electric, the pros and cons associated with ownership and leasing EVs, as well as broach more global questions, such as "are electric vehicles really green?" and "how different is driving an EV from driving a gas-car?"

The presentation will include:
An overview of alternate fuel vehicles

(hydrogen, electric, natural gas); past, present, and potential future of EVs (history, technology, legislation); how EVs work (the engineering); facts vs. myths; global questions and perspectives; current EV options (e.g. Leaf (Nissan), Volt (Chevrolet), i3 (BMW), Tesla; Buying or Leasing an EV (what it means to you); and personal experiences/insights.

Paul is a licensed professional engineer. He has a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Manhattan College and an M.S. in Mechanical Engineering from RPI. He has over 30 years experience as an engineering manager, including 25 years with GE.

Program

The Electric Car: Charging
the Way to a Clean, Cost-
Effective Daily Commute
With Paul Dietershagen
When: 7pm May 22
What: Presentation

Where: Saratoga
Library

Spring mud season alert: Stay below 3,000 feet

During spring mud season, trails are particularly vulnerable to erosion. The spring thaw creates mud that penetrates much deeper into the soil than the surface mud created by summer rains, and trails are thus more easily damaged by hikers' boots. Alpine vegetation, which is fragile and endangered to begin with, is also particularly vulnerable at this time. It is therefore best to stay off higher elevation trails during early spring.

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation institutes a voluntary trail closure in the Eastern High Peaks during this time of year

that asks hikers to refrain from traveling above 3,000 feet. This is done to protect alpine vegetation and prevent trail erosion. More information on trail conditions in the Adirondacks can be found on the DEC Web site or by contacting the DEC Forest Rangers at 518-897-1200.

Closure typically runs from May through early to mid-June. If you are planning a trip to the High Peaks during this period, please call the ADK High Peaks Information Center at 518-523-3441 or DEC Region 5 headquarters to learn about trail conditions and whether the voluntary closure is in effect.

Trails to Avoid:

High Peaks Wilderness Area

• All trails above 3,000 feet – wet, muddy now conditions prevail, specifically at:

- Algonquin
- Colden
- Feldspar
- Gothics
- Indian Pass
- Lake Arnold Cross-Over
- Marcy
- Marcy Dam
- Lake Colden
- Phelps Trail above Johns Brook

Lodge

- Range Trail
- Skylight
- Wright
- and all trail-less peaks

Dix Mountain Wilderness Area

- All trails above Elk Lake and Round Pond

Giant Mountain Wilderness Area

- All trails above Giant's Washbowl, "the Cobbles," and Owls Head

Alternative trails:

Weather permitting, alternative trails for hiking:

- Debar Mt. Wild Forest —
 - Azure Mountain
- Giant Mountain Wilderness —
 - Giant's Washbowl
 - Roaring Brook Falls
- High Peaks Wilderness
 - Ampersand Mountain
 - Cascade
 - Big Slide
 - Brothers
 - Porter from Cascade (avoid all other approaches)
- Hurricane Primitive Area
 - The Crows
- Hurricane Mountain from Route 9N
- McKenzie Mt. Wilderness –
 - Haystack Mountain
 - McKenzie Mountain
- Pharoah Lake Wilderness Area
 - Pharoah Mountain
- Saranac Lake Wild Forest
 - Baker Mountain
 - Panther Mountain
 - Scarface Mountain

JANUARY 2014

New Members

Christine Bourgeois, Ballston Lake
 Carly Briggs, Waterford
 Jared Cherni, Saratoga Springs
 Davis Hawkowl, Amherst, Massachusetts
 Amy Johnson, Lake Luzerne
 Margaret Nelson, Queensbury
 Mark Scirocco, Saratoga Springs
 Andrew Sharts, Greenwich
 Shaun Stillman, Warrensburg

Rejoined Members

Robert Daab, Glens Falls
 John Doty & Beth Kirkpatrick, Westford, Vermont
 Mike Endieveri, South Glens Falls
 Oliver Nichols, Queensbury
 Jeffrey Thompson, Shokan, New York

FEBRUARY 2014

New Members

Steven Eisenhauer, Putnam Station, New York
 Julia Hacker, Corinth
 Glenn Hall, Bedford, New York
 James LaPointe, Saint Augustine, Florida
 Jen Mistretta, Glens Falls
 Elizabeth Molongoski, Saratoga Springs
 David Smith, Saratoga Springs

Rejoined Members

Denise Fuoco & Tom Guggisberg, Ballston Spa
 Terry Gottesman, Adirondack
 Jeann Laguerre, Chestertown

Glens Falls – Saratoga Chapter
Donations 2014

Chapter Donations for 2014

Local Organizations – These local area organizations work to preserve open space, watersheds, nature and wild-life preserves, and promote local recreational opportunities such as trails, canoe access and parklands. Our chapter has worked with all of these organizations on projects such as trail preservation, open space acquisition, trail building, wetlands preservation and promoting public policy that benefits the land or water resource. We also sponsor outings to nature preserves, trails, rivers and areas these organizations have worked to provide access to, preserve or maintain.

Battenkill Conservancy-New York (Washington County)
Feeder Canal Alliance (Warren County)
Lake George Land Conservancy (Warren County)
Saratoga PLAN (Saratoga County)
Queensbury Land Conservancy (Warren County)
Wilton Wildlife Preserve and Park (Saratoga County)

Fire Tower Organizations – Our chapter supports these groups as an extension of our Fire Tower Challenge project. These organizations work to preserve/maintain fire towers, as well as access and trails to the towers.

Friends of Poke-O-Moonshine Fire Tower
Friends of Spruce Mountain Fire Tower
Hadley Mountain Fire Tower
Vanderwhacker Fire Tower

Adirondack Organizations

Adirondack Nature Conservancy & Adirondack Land Trust – This organization helps NYS acquire additional lands for the Adirondack Forest Preserve, and protects farmlands and undeveloped lakeshore through conservation easements.

Protect the Adirondacks! – This group was **formed in 2009 with the merger of The Resident’s Committee to Protect the Adirondacks (RCPA) and the Association for the Protection of the Adirondacks. The group’s mission** is the protection and stewardship of the public and private lands of the Adirondack Park, and building the health and diversity of its human communities and economics for the benefit of current and future generations.

Trails

North Country Trail Association – This group promotes the 7-state North Country Scenic Trail. It partners with the National Park Service in uniting volunteers/local groups with interest in using and maintaining the trail.

Other

Refugees to Camp – This organization provides opportunities for refugee children to attend summer camp.

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Donation</u>
Adirondack Nature Conservancy/ Adirondack Land Trust	\$100
Battenkill Conservancy	\$50
Feeder Canal Alliance	\$50
Poke-O-Moonshine Ranger Trail	\$50
Friends of Poke-O-Moonshine	\$100
Friends of Spruce Mtn. Fire Tower (Saratoga PLAN)	\$100
Hadley Mountain Fire Tower (Cornell Cooperative Extension)	\$100
Lake George Land Conservancy	\$100
North Country Trail Association	\$50
Protect the Adirondacks	\$50
Queensbury Land Conservancy	\$100
Refugees to Camp	\$100
Saratoga PLAN	\$100
Vanderwhacker Fire Tower	\$100
Wilton Wildlife Preserve and Park	\$50
Total	\$1200

ADK NATIONAL TRAILS DAY®
& FESTIVAL
 June 7-8, 2014
 Waterfront Park, Northville, NY
 Celebrating 90 Years on the N-PT

Each year, the Adirondack Mountain Club (ADK) sponsors an event in conjunction with the American Hiking Society's celebration of National Trails Day®. This year, ADK's is partnering with the Northville Merchants Association, the Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce, and the N.Y.S. Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the completion of the Northville-Placid Trail (N-P Trail).

National Trails Day® is recognized as America's largest celebration of the outdoors. In that spirit, ADK has a wide variety of volunteer trail projects planned for this year's event, most notably helping to re-route a section of the N-P Trail off of the road and into the Shaker Mountain Wild Forest. Along with the volunteer trail projects, a guided hike will be available through the re-routed portion of the N-P Trail completed last summer by ADK's Professional Trail Crew.

ADK will be offering registered participants free camping at the DEC Northampton Beach campground Friday and Saturday nights. On Friday night at the campground pavilion, there will be a social and informational gathering with light food and beverages available for trail volunteers. On Saturday evening there will be a recognition dinner for all volunteers that participated in a trail project. During the online registration process, be sure to indicate if you will be camping and attending the Friday social or Saturday recognition dinner.

On Saturday, the Village of Northville will be hosting a number of different activities and dedications in conjunction with the volunteer trail projects. Centered on Waterfront Park, family friendly activities, exhibits, and local craft vendors will be showcased throughout the day. Local eateries will be set up in the Park and will be offering a wide variety of food and beverages to choose

from. The highlight will be the dedications that will start at 3:30pm in the Waterfront Park. First, the Village of Northville will have a ribbon cutting commemorating a new rustic archway at the Park entrance. Second, the DEC will be unveiling a new kiosk that will mark the official beginning or end point of the N-P Trail.

Families can look forward to horse & wagon hayrides, bounce house, petting zoo, and an appearance from Forest Rangers with Smokey the Bear!

Additional events include:

- Chainsaw carving demonstrations
 - Mountain Man Outdoor Supply Company's paddle sports exhibition
 - National Guard Nascar simulator
 - A meet & greet with Adirondack authors
 - Live music from Annie & the He-donists, Doug Moody and others
- And much more!*

Help Wanted for Chapter Nominating Committee

By Kerri Healy, Nominating Committee Chair

At the annual meeting each fall, chapter officers are elected to serve the chapter for the upcoming fiscal year. In the spring, a nominating committee is formed to put together a slate of officers for the annual meeting.

I am seeking four people to serve on the committee with me. The duties of the committee are to brainstorm the names of individuals to serve as officers and contact these individuals to determine their interest and answer any questions they may have about the position. The description of duties for all officers and elected positions is available in the chapter by-laws on the chapter website.

Vacancies currently known are second vice chair and two directors with terms beginning January 1, 2015. In addition to filling current vacancies, I am seeking to build a list of individuals that may be interested in chapter leadership positions in the future. At times, vacancies occur during the year and positions need to be filled. Contact me at vicechair1@adk-gfs.org.

Outings and Programs Schedule

[See adk-gfs.org website for latest calendar]

Date	Day	Type	Destination	Leader(s)	Rating
May					
3	Sat	Hike	OK Slip Falls	Nick Ringelberg	B
3	Sat	Other	ADK Headquarters Work Day	Mo Coutant	NR
3	Sat	Paddle/Camp	North Saddle and South Bay Diameter	Jayne boudier	A
3	Sat	Walk	Spring Bird Walk - Wilton Wildlife Preserve & Park	Rich Speidel	C-
5	Mon	Geocache	Monthly Monday Geocache	Sarah King, Mo Coutant	NR
6	Tue	Walk/Hike	Tuesday Trek	Mo Coutant	NR
7	Wed	Other	Executive Committee monthly meeting	Laura Fiske	NR
10	Sat	Hike	Sleeping Beauty and Bumps Pond Loop	Reg Prouty	B
10	Sat	Walk	Spring Bird Walk - Pack Forest, Warrensburg	Rich Speidel	C-
11	Sun	Hike	Pharoah Mountain	Lorraine MacKenzie	B+
13	Tue	Paddle	Tuesday Paddle	Mo Coutant	NR
17	Sat	Hike	Peaked Mt. Pond and Summit Hike	Rich Crammond	B
17	Sat	Hike	Pitchoff	Wayne Richter, Chris Greco	B+
18	Sun	Hike	The 29th Fire Tower	Bill Carpenter, Jack Whitney	B
20	Tue	Walk/Hike	Tuesday Trek	Mo Coutant	NR
22	Thu	Program	The Electric Car: Charging the Way to a Clean, Cost-Effective Daily Commute	Sarah King	NR
24	Sat	Paddle	Henderson Lake	Jayne Boudier	A
24	Sat	Walk/Hike	Spring Bird Walk & Climb - Pack Forest, Warrensburg	Rich Speidel	C
25	Sun	Hike	Black Mountain Fire Tower/ Loop	Bill Carpenter	B-
27	Tue	Paddle	Tuesday Paddle	Mo Coutant	NR
31	Sat	Bushwack	OK Slip Falls and the Blue Ledge Overlook	Nick Ringelberg	B+
June					
1	Sun	Hike	Cranberry Lake 50	Jack Whitney	A-
1	Sun	Hike	Ampersand Mt.	Lorraine MacKenzie	B
2	Mon	Geocache	Monthly Monday Geocache	Sarah King, Mo Coutant	NR
3	Tue	Paddle	Tuesday Paddle - LG Eagle trip	Mo Coutant	B
4	Wed	Other	Executive Committee monthly meeting.	Laura Fiske	NR
7	Sat	Hike	Balm of Gilead Mountain	Rich Crammond	B
7	Sat	Paddle	Cedarlands Paddle/Hike	Jayne Boudier	A
8	Sun	Hike	Wakley Mt.	Jack Whitney	B
10	Tue	Paddle	Tuesday Paddle	Mo Coutant	NR
14	Sat	Hike	Blue Ledge Overlook Hudson River	Nick Ringelberg	B+
17	Tue	Walk/Hike	Tuesday Trek	Mo Coutant	NR
21	Sat	Paddle	Saranac Lakes Canoe	Jayne Boudier	A
22	Sun	Hike	Cascade and Porter High Peaks	Bill Carpenter	A
24	Tue	Paddle	Tuesday Paddle	Mo Coutant	NR
28	Sat	Hike	Haystack via Panther Gorge	Jen Shepherd	A+
28	Sat	Hike	Free Fishing Day/Hike at Lily, Brindle, Buttermilk Ponds	Nick Ringelberg	B
28	Sat	Hike	Van Deusen Trails and Hudson Pointe Loop	Reg Prouty	C+
29	Sun	Hike	Whiteface from Lake Placid - The Trail Less Taken	Wayne Richter, Chris Greco	A
29	Sun	Hike	Scarface Mt.	Lorraine MacKenzie	B
July					
4	Fri	Camp/Hike	Cranberry Lake 50	Jack Whitney	A
8	Tue	Paddle	Tuesday Paddle	Mo Coutant	NR
12	Sat	Hike	Santanoni, Couch, and Panther	Mike Fuller	A+
12	Sat	Hike	Cat and Thomas Mountains	Reg Prouty	B
12	Sat	Paddle/Camp	Mother Bunch Islands	Jayne Boudier	A
19	Sat	Hike	OK Slip Falls and Blue Ledge Overlook	Nick Ringelberg	B+
19	Sat	Hike	Moxham Mountain	Rich Crammond	B
22	Tue	Paddle	Tuesday Paddle	Mo Coutant	NR
26	Sat	Paddle/Camp/Hike	Raquette Lake	Jayne Boudier	A

Outings Detail

OK SLIP FALLS - [Hike]

Sat, May 3, 2014, 8:00 am, Rating: B
Nick Ringelberg - 518-522-6863, nickringelberg@nycap.rr.com
- Newly opened by the DEC we will go to the fabulous OK Slip Falls. Most hikers go in the camp road, but we will be following the Whortleberry Pond Trail for 0.5, then bushwacking on the new roughly flagged DEC trail through mature hardwood forest for 1.5 miles before following the new DEC Blue trail for 1 mile to the OK Slip Falls Overlook. Then we can drop down to the Hudson River to see the rafters floating by. Eight miles total, 1,000 feet elevation gain. Hike is not listed as a bushwack because we will be following a DEC flagged 'new trail' through open forest where we will have to walk around some downed trees, but there will be no real 'bushwacking.'

ADK HEADQUARTERS WORK DAY - [Other]

Sat, May 3, 2014, time TBD, Rating: NR
Mo Coutant - 745-7834, mojim@roadrunner.com
- Come join fellow ADKers to help spruce up the ADK Headquarters building just off Exit 21 of the Northway. We rake, stain, do windows, fix things, bring out the picnic table, and anything else that needs to get done! I know it sounds like all the stuff you should be doing at home...but it's so much more fun to be doing it at ADK and meeting new people or seeing old friends! I'll be there at 9. Come when you can, stay as long as you can then maybe go up the road to the Lake George Rec Area or down to Lake George for a walk or bike ride. Many hands make light work! Also, a tractor makes light work of moving the stones from the parking lot that the plow guy always moves into the lawn! Anyone have one for us to borrow? Call or email Mo for more info.

NORTH SADDLE AND SOUTH BAY DIAMETER - [Paddle/Camp/Hike]

Sat, May 3, 2014, 7:00 am, Rating: A
Jayne boudier - 793-3770, boudier@verizon.net
- May 3-4. These two live on South Bay, near Whitehall. Saturday we'll put in at the Rt 22 bridge over South Bay, set up camp somewhere, and paddle to and past the Diameter Cliff. This end of South Bay is seriously wild and gorgeous- last year we got most of the way back to South Bay Hamlet, and saw eagles, beaver, osprey, and spawning Alligator Gar. On Sunday we'll go up North Saddle from Devil's Den and have a look at where we were yesterday. 8-10 miles of paddling, and 4-6 miles of hiking, with 1300 ft ascent. I have boats and camping equipment to lend. See 'http://www.governor.ny.gov/press/04232013-finchland-acquisition', under 'S' for Saddles Mountain Preserve.

SPRING BIRD WALK - WILTON WILDLIFE PRESERVE & PARK

Sat, May 3, 2014, time TBD, Rating: C-
Rich Speidel - 623-2587
- May is the best month to hear and see migratory birds in our area. This will be a leisurely morning walk along the trails and varied habitats of Camp Saratoga. Depending on bird activity, we will stop often and keep track of the species identified. Please bring binoculars. Group size is limited, so please call ahead to register. The rain date is Sunday, May 4.

MONTHLY MONDAY GEOCACHE

Mon, May 5, 2014, time TBD, Rating: NR
Sarah King - 744-9348, scubakings@roadrunner.com
Colead: Mo Coutant - 745-7834 or mojim@roadrunner.com
- During the school year, we go out every month for a walk or hike with the purpose of finding geocaches that have been hidden lately. If they aren't too recent, then Sarah has probably already found them! So we leave it up to Sarah to plan where we go each month. You don't have to know anything about geocaching to come. It's just another excuse to get out in the woods. Call or email a few days before to find out the plan!

TUESDAY TREK - [Walk/Hike]

Tue, May 6, 2014, time TBD, Rating: NR
Mo Coutant - 745-7834, mojim@roadrunner.com
- Each week we'll walk/hike within an hour of the Glens Falls/Saratoga area. We may change to another day of the week if the forecast for Tuesday is not good. So, call or email Monday to check where and when we'll be going.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MONTHLY MEETING - [Other]

Wed, May 7, 2014, 7:00 pm, Rating: NR
Laura Fiske - 888-888-8888, lheacox@nycap.rr.com
- Board Meeting Carl R's Exit 18

SLEEPING BEAUTY AND BUMPS POND LOOP - [Hike]

Sat, May 10, 2014, 8:30 am, Rating: B
Reg Prouty - 518-747-9736
- This beautiful 7.6 mile loop overlooking Lake George is a favorite in any season. We will start from Dacy Clearing if the road is open and from the DEC parking lot if it is not. Ascent is 1,038 feet to the summit with a moderate pace and lots of time for lunch on top.

SPRING BIRD WALK - PACK FOREST, WARRENSBURG

Sat, May 10, 2014, time TBD, Rating: C-
Rich Speidel - 623-2587
- A leisurely morning walk through the woods and along the waters of Pack Forest. There will be plenty of stops to observe the migratory and native birds crossing our path. We will check for birds around Pack Forest Lake and the Grandmother's Tree, a towering 175 foot white pine some 315 years old. Please bring binoculars. The rain date is Sunday, May 11.

PHAROAH MOUNTAIN - [Hike]

Sun, May 11, 2014, 8:30 am, Rating: B+
Lorraine MacKenzie - 518-791-9794, otczone@aol.com
- We will start at Crane Pond Road, pass Alder & Crane Ponds, then straight up to the summit. Hopefully we will be too early for the black flies! If it's a clear day, we'll have great views of Schroon Lake, the High Peaks and Lake Champlain. Maximum distance will be 10 miles, with approximately 1,500 ft of elevation gain. Rain cancels.

TUESDAY PADDLE

Tue, May 13, 2014, time TBD, Rating: NR
Mo Coutant - 745-7834, mojim@roadrunner.com
- This week we will begin the every-other-week paddle trip. Instead of me doing a day trip and an evening trip for May and June I'm going to be doing the paddle in place of the walk/hike each week. Sometimes it will be in the day and other times in the evening. Send an email or call on Sunday or Monday to find out the where and when! We will usually be on flat water somewhere within a 1/2 hr of Glens Falls, but not always!

PEAKED MT. POND AND SUMMIT HIKE

Sat, May 17, 2014, 8:30 am, Rating: B
Rich Crammond - 584-2380
- This will be a hike to a nice place in the 'Dacks (hope for good weather), around 1,100 feet of elevation change and 7.2 total hiking miles. Cold or cool weather gear and black fly head nets may be needed. Bring them along. Meeting place: Tops Supermarket parking lot, Main Street, North Creek. Look for the black Ford F150 pickup. Let's get 'er done!

PITCHOFF - [Hike]

Sat, May 17, 2014, 8:30 am, Rating: B+
Wayne Richter - 518-893-7895, wrichter@nycap.rr.com
Colead: Chris Greco - insaratoga@gmail.com
- Pitchoff has fabulous views and will make a great conditioning hike as we prepare for summer High Peaks. We'll start at the south end and hike up to and along the ridge to the north summit. Rather than descend all the way to the road at the north end, we'll turn back and get the views twice. We'll hope for a breeze, but bring your black fly protection. Distance is 7.6 miles with a total elevation change of about 2,000 feet. Perhaps we'll throw in Owls Head (0.6 miles, 460 feet of elevation) as a bonus for those who have never ascended this little gem.

THE 29TH FIRE TOWER - [Hike]

Sun, May 18, 2014, 7:30 am, Rating: B
Bill Carpenter - 793-5506
Colead: Jack Whitney - 793-9210 or jack1758@roadrunner.com
- We will hike this old fire tower located on Loon Lake Mountain. It is a 5.6 mile RT hike with 1600 ft. of elevation gain. It is an open bedrock

Outings Detail

summit with views of other nearby mountains. This is a trail which was just recently completed and is now open to the public. The fire tower is listed on the New York Register of Historic Places.

TUESDAY TREK - [Walk/Hike]

Tue, May 20, 2014, time TBD, Rating: NR
Mo Coutant - 745-7834, mojim@roadrunner.com
- See May 6th

THE ELECTRIC CAR: CHARGING THE WAY TO A CLEAN, COST-EFFECTIVE DAILY COMMUTE - [Program]

Thu, May 22, 2014, 7:00 pm, Rating: NR
Sarah King - 744-9348, scubakings@roadrunner.com
- This program will be held at Saratoga Public Library at 7pm. Chapter member Paul Dietershagen, who has over six months "run time" with a pure electric vehicle, will give an informative presentation on his experience driving, maintaining, and integrating the electric vehicle into his lifestyle. He'll discuss the factors influencing his decision to go all-electric, the pros and cons associated with ownership and leasing EVs, as well as broach more global questions, such as, "Are electric vehicles really green?" and, "How different is driving an EV from driving a gas-car?"

HENDERSON LAKE - [Paddle]

Sat, May 24, 2014, 6:00 am, Rating: A
Jayne Boudier - 518-793-3770, boudier@verizon.net
- This is a beautiful, deep lake- with cliffy shores, interesting swamps and inlets, and great views of Indian Pass and High Peaks. We'll explore 5-6 miles worth of bays and inlets at a moderate to leisurely pace. There is a 1/4 mile carry to the lake, on a good road. I have wheels to share, and a 12 ft. canoe and a 16 ft. canoe to lend. From Upper Works, Newcomb. (If anyone is interested in going on to Duck Hole on Sunday with me, bring along some camping gear. Extreme black flies will cancel.)

SPRING BIRD WALK & CLIMB - PACK FOREST, WARRENSBURG

Sat, May 24, 2014, time TBD, Rating: C
Rich Speidel - 623-2587
- A morning to afternoon bird walk along Pack Forest Lake, and a gradual 400 foot climb to a scenic overlook atop Ben Wood Mountain. We will cover a round trip distance of about five miles at an easy pace, and record the birds identified. Please bring binoculars. The rain date is Sunday, May 25.

BLACK MOUNTAIN FIRE TOWER/ LOOP - [Hike]

Sun, May 25, 2014, 8:00 am, Rating: B-
Bill Carpenter - 793-5506
- The highest mountain on the shores of Lake George provides us with a panorama of the Lake and Adirondacks to the West. Having gotten the Loon Lake Fire Tower last week, this is the second annual 'getting ready for the High Peaks' hike that I lead every year. After a very long winter, it is time to get hiking. The time is approximately 4.5 hours with easy climbing, occasional steepness, using a moderate pace. Bad weather will cancel.

TUESDAY PADDLE

Tue, May 27, 2014, time TBD, Rating: NR
Mo Coutant - 745-7834, mojim@roadrunner.com
- See May 13th

OK SLIP FALLS AND THE BLUE LEDGE OVERLOOK - [Bush-wack]

Sat, May 31, 2014, 7:00 am, Rating: B+
Nick Ringelberg - 518-522-6863, nickringelberg@nycap.rr.com
- We'll do a loop hike to OK Slip Falls and Blue Ledge Overlook with stops at Carter's Landing on the Hudson River with a side trip to the disappearing stream where Carter Brook goes underground for 1/4 mile then bubbles back up near the Hudson River and Tippeecanoe Landing on the Hudson River (below the Blue Ledge ... maybe we'll see white-water rafters). About 1/3 trail and 2/3 bushwack to this newly opened Hudson River remote and seldom explored area. Eleven miles and 15,00 feet elevation gain.

CRANBERRY LAKE 50 - [Hike]

Sun, Jun 1, 2014, 6:30 am, Rating: A-
Jack Whitney - 793-9210, jack1758@roadrunner.com
- This is the beginning portion of the hike/camping trip I have listed for the July 4th weekend. We will either walk or bike from the Burnt bridge trailhead five miles along Rt. 3 to the Peavine Swamp trailhead where we will then hike the 4.8 miles of the Peavine Swamp Trail to Wanakena Ranger Road which we will hike for another two miles to Wanakena. Call or e-mail leader for further details.

AMPERSAND MOUNTAIN - [Hike]

Sun, Jun 1, 2014, 7:30 am, Rating: B
Lorraine MacKenzie - 518-791-9794, otczone@aol.com
- Ampersand Mountain is one of the six mountains surrounding Saranac Lake. I will be leading hikes this season on all six of the peaks to earn the Saranac Lake 6er patch. This hike is 5.4 miles with 1,775 feet of elevation gain. At the top we will have a fantastic 360 degree view - from the High Peaks to the east and the Saranac Lakes chain to the west. Rain cancels.

MONTHLY MONDAY GEOCACHE

Mon, Jun 2, 2014, time TBD, Rating: NR
Sarah King - 744-9348, scubakings@roadrunner.com
Colead: Mo Coutant - 745-7834 or mojim@roadrunner.com
- See May 5th

TUESDAY PADDLE - LG EAGLE TRIP

Tue, Jun 3, 2014, 9:00 am, Rating: B
Mo Coutant - 745-7834, mojim@roadrunner.com
- Chapter member Eric Krantz has once again invited us to launch from his home on Lake George to paddle over to an island where eagles have been nesting the past few years. This year we hope to get there when the young are leaving the nest and 'branching'...hanging out in the nearby trees which will make it easier to see! Bring binoculars and a camera. Last year one of the parents flew right over us with a fish to bring to the young! Call or email a few days ahead for more details.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MONTHLY MEETING. - [Other]

Wed, Jun 4, 2014, 7:00 pm, Rating: NR
Laura Fiske - 888-888-8888, lheacox@nycap.rr.com
- Board Meeting-Saratoga-Wesley Health Center

BALM OF GILEAD MOUNTAIN - [Hike]

Sat, Jun 7, 2014, 8:30 am, Rating: B
Rich Crammond - 584-2380
- Let's plan to visit the old farm clearing, Botheration Pond, William Blake Pond and the old Hooper mine before we head for Balm of Gilead summit. It looks like around seven miles round trip and about 425 feet of elevation change. Bring your black fly 'don't bite me gear.' Let's get 'er done. Meeting place: Tops Supermarket, Main Street, North Creek. It looks like around seven miles round trip for this outing.

CEDARLANDS PADDLE/HIKE

Sat, Jun 7, 2014, 6:00 am, Rating: A
Jayne Boudier - 518-793-3770, boudier@verizon.net
- Phil Brown says Cedarlands is best left for late summer-early fall, because he got bug-eaten alive in early July. So maybe we'll be OK in early June. He went on to say 'they'd discovered one of the best short paddle/hike excursions in the Adirondacks!' Most of this 5,500 acre Boy Scout Reservation has been open to the public for 10 months of the year, for several years, but hasn't made it to the guidebooks yet. Start with a 7/10 mile carry to Mud Pond on a good road - and add another couple of tenths to get to McRorie Lake. The hike up Mud Pond Mountain is a mile round trip, with 700 ft ascent, and gives a 180 view of where you've been. So expect 9/10 miles of carrying, one mile of hiking, and 7-8 miles of paddling. I've got canoe wheels, and a 12 ft canoe, to lend. See <http://blog.timesunion.com/explore/outdoors-fall-is-the-best-time-to-paddle-and-hike-this-adirondack-gem/970/>

WAKLEY MOUNTAIN. - [Hike]

Sun, Jun 8, 2014, 7:15 am, Rating: B
Jack Whitney - 793-9210, jack1758@roadrunner.com
- This spectacular hike features a fire tower with great views and also

Outings Detail

fantastic old beaver meadow to explore. This is Spud Perkins's favorite hike. Round trip distance six miles with an elevation gain of 1,635 ft. Call or e-mail leader for details.

TUESDAY PADDLE

Tue, Jun 10, 2014, time TBD, Rating: NR
Mo Coutant - 745-7834, mojim@roadrunner.com
- See May 13th

BLUE LEDGE OVERLOOK HUDSON RIVER - [Hike]

Sat, Jun 14, 2014, 7:00 am, Rating: B+
Nick Ringelberg - 518-522-6863, nickringelberg@nycap.rr.com
- Newly opened by the DEC, this overlook of the Hudson River near the OK Slip Falls gives a northern view up the Hudson River toward Vanderwhacker Mountain and the Santanonis. We will be following the Red Whortleberry Pond Trail for two miles, then taking the Yellow Ross Pond trail for a half mile, then leaving the DEC markers and continue on old trails and roads for about three miles past OK Slip Pond, Carter Pond, Blue Ledge Pond and up to the Blue Ledge Overlook where we will creep carefully near the edge to look down 250 feet to the Hudson River and beyond. Then, we can drop down to the Hudson River to see the rafters floating by at the Tippecanoe Campsite at the Blue Ledge Narrows. Although over half of this hike is not on marked trails it is not listed as a 'bushwhack' because the 'bushwhack' half is on old trails/roads through open hardwood forest with the occasional old 'camp' trail markers. These are not maintained trails and we will have to walk around some downed trees, but there will be no real bushwhacking, just use of observant trail following. 12 miles total, 1,000 feet elevation gain. Private for the past 100 years, you will see sights restricted to a privileged few. Likely this will be the trail that DEC will be marking for future use. Come join me before it gets crowded.

TUESDAY TREK - [Walk/Hike]

Tue, Jun 17, 2014, time TBD, Rating: NR
Mo Coutant - 745-7834, mojim@roadrunner.com
- See May 6th

SARANAC LAKES CANOE - [Paddle]

Sat, Jun 21, 2014, 6:00 am, Rating: A
Jayne Boudier - 518-793-3770, boudier@verizon.net
- We'll put in on Middle Saranac lake, and take out at First Pond campground headquarters. This trip includes a small, hand-operated lock, a great lunch spot, and islands of all shapes, sizes, and heights. Approx. 10 miles, at moderate to leisurely pace, with lots of stops side trips. The A rating also stands for 'all day' paddle.

CASCADE AND PORTER HIGH PEAKS - [Hike]

Sun, Jun 22, 2014, 8:00 am, Rating: A
Bill Carpenter - 793-5506
- After a very long winter, it doesn't get much better than to get back to the mountains, whether to get outdoor exercise or your first High Peak. Cascade, by itself, is an exhilarating introduction into the Adirondack High Peaks. To also do Porter gets the second peak as a bonus. The approximate distance for both is 6.5 miles. Bad weather will cancel.

TUESDAY PADDLE

Tue, Jun 24, 2014, time TBD, Rating: NR
Mo Coutant - 745-7834, mojim@roadrunner.com
- See May 13th

HAYSTACK VIA PANTHER GORGE - [Hike]

Sat, Jun 28, 2014, 6:00 am, Rating: A+
Jen Shepherd - 518-312-0133, jshpherd501@gmail.com
- This is a trip that I've been wanting to do for some time now. Panther Gorge is a long day all by itself but what a beautiful walk in the woods! Round trip hike is going to be roughly 21 miles with quite a bit of elevation gain (4500+ ft). We will keep a steady moderate pace and hike out the same way we came in. Please plan to come prepared with plenty of water and food for the trip. Contact hike leader with any questions or to sign up. Email is faster and preferred, no phone calls after 7pm please. Be prepared to provide info on your hiking experience as I do ask lots of questions. This hike is not for beginners as it is a long and physically demanding day. Rain/bad weather will cancel.

FREE FISHING DAY/HIKE AT LILY, BRINDLE, AND BUTTERMILK PONDS

Sat, Jun 28, 2014, 8:00 am, Rating: B
Nick Ringelberg - 518-522-6863, nickringelberg@nycap.rr.com
- Free Fishing Weekend. We will drive/hike to three DEC trout stocked ponds located above Brant Lake, stopping for fishing/exploring for about an hour at each pond. This is a free fishing weekend by the DEC statewide, so no fishing license required! If you have fished in the past and want to bring your family for a fun day of fishing/hiking...bring them along or just come for the hike! Drive from Brant Lake up DEC fire access road (bring canoes/high clearance cars suggested) 2.6 miles to Lily Pond. We will hike on lady slipper infested old roads (see Barbara McMartin's 'Discover the Eastern Adirondacks' for a description) to Brindle and Buttermilk Ponds about 3.5 miles. Depending on how wet the trail is, there is a possibility of completing a loop and including two more ponds, Duck and Round Ponds. Otherwise we will retrace our steps. Total distance is seven miles. Elevation gain 600 feet. Rain will postpone hike to Sunday the 29th.

VAN DEUSEN TRAILS AND HUDSON POINTE LOOP - [Hike]

Sat, Jun 28, 2014, 9:00 am, Rating: C+
Reg Prouty - 518-747-9736
- These two short hikes in the Town of Queensbury afford a few hours of easy hiking with the Hudson Point trail taking us down to the shore of the Hudson River. Estimated distance is less than six miles for both with a relaxed pace.

WHITEFACE FROM LAKE PLACID - THE TRAIL LESS TAKEN -

[Hike]
Sun, Jun 29, 2014, 6:00 am, Rating: A
Wayne Richter - 518-893-7895, wrichter@nycap.rr.com
Colead: Chris Greco - insaratoga@gmail.com
- We'll ascend Whiteface via the little used trail that goes up from Lake Placid. Along the way, we should see evidence of Hurricane Irene with beach ball sized boulders piled high above the banks of Whiteface Brook. Following some fine views back to Lake Placid as we climb, the final ascent up the southwest face on steep, open rock, like the back sides of Algonquin and Marcy, is one of the great dramatic treats of the High Peaks. We'll schmooze with the tourists who drove to the summit or not as we choose, then head back down. If it's a warm day, bring a bathing suit for a swim off the dock at Whiteface Landing on Lake Placid, about three miles from the road. It's 12 miles round trip with an ascent of 3200 feet.

SCARFACE MOUNTAIN - [Hike]

Sun, Jun 29, 2014, 7:30 am, Rating: B
Lorraine MacKenzie - 518-791-9794, otczone@aol.com
- Scarface is the 2nd of my the Saranac Lake 6er quest. It's 6.8 miles round trip with an ascent of 1480 feet. There are limited views at the top but any day in the woods is a great day! Rain cancels.

CRANBERRY LAKE 50 - [Camp/Hike]

Fri, Jul 4, 2014, 6:30 am, Rating: A
Jack Whitney - 793-9210, jack1758@roadrunner.com
- This will be a two night/three day hike/camping trip along the pristine Cranberry Lake in the Cranberry Lake Wild Forest and Five Ponds Wilderness. Google Cranberry Lake 50 for details on this trip. The trail's terrain is gentle with beautiful views of the Oswegatchie River, Cranberry Lake and numerous ponds along the way. There are numerous campsites and lean-to all along the way. On June 1st, we will be hiking or riding bicycles along Rt. 3 to the start of the Peavine Swamp Ski Trail and will hike the 4.8 miles of the trail and 2 miles along the road to the Wanakena Ranger School Road which will leave us more time in July to take a leisurely pace and enjoy the scenery.

TUESDAY PADDLE

Tue, Jul 8, 2014, time TBD, Rating: NR
Mo Coutant - 745-7834, mojim@roadrunner.com
- See May 13th

Outings Detail & Trip Reviews

SANTANONI, COUCH, AND PANTHER - [Hike]

Sat, Jul 12, 2014, 5:30 am, Rating: A+
Mike Fuller - 802-254-3314, farmalloy55@hotmail.com
- This is my third summer leading this hike. It's a big day so know your limits. We'll go to Panther, then Couch, and finish on Santanoni. I'll bring a water filter to refill bottles after Santanoni. Bring 3-4 liters of liquid for the hike. I've always got the group out before dark. Should be a fun day. Meet at Panera Bread Queensbury 5:30 or trailhead at 7:00.

CAT AND THOMAS MOUNTAINS - [Hike]

Sat, Jul 12, 2014, 8:00 am, Rating: B
Reg Prouty - 518-747-9736
- These two little mountains near Bolton Landing offer good views of Lake George and are part of the Lake George Land Conservancy's new trail system in the Cat and Thomas Preserve. Distance is about 7-8 miles round trip with gradual elevation changes.

MOTHER BUNCH ISLANDS - [Paddle/Camp]

Sat, Jul 12, 2014, 6:00 am, Rating: A
Jayne Boudier - 518-793-3770, boudier@verizon.net
- July 12-13. This group of islands live just offshore of Black Mountain's steep slopes. The easiest way to them is from Hulett's Landing, where there is a \$7 fee to launch and \$10 per night parking fee- and I'll buy the campsite. Kayaks are recommended, but not required. Plan on 8-10 miles of paddling and beautiful scenery. A high wind forecast will cancel.

OK SLIP FALLS AND BLUE LEDGE OVERLOOK - [Hike]

Sat, Jul 19, 2014, 6:00 am, Rating: B+
Nick Ringelberg - 518-522-6863, nickringelberg@nycap.rr.com
- We'll do a loop hike to OK Slip Falls and Blue Ledge Overlook with stops at Carter's Landing on the Hudson River (where the disappearing stream, Carter Brook, goes underground for 1/4 mile then bubbles back up near the Hudson River) and Tippecanoe Landing on the Hudson River (below the Blue Ledge). About 1/3 trail and 2/3 bushwack to this newly opened Hudson River remote and seldom explored area. Eleven miles and 1,500 feet elevation gain.

MOXHAM MOUNTAIN - [Hike]

Sat, Jul 19, 2014, 9:00 am, Rating: B
Rich Crammond - 584-2380
- This outing will be 5.4 miles round trip with some ups and downs along the way, approximately 900 feet of elevation change. Great views from the summit. See you there and let's hope for clear skies! Meeting place: At the trailhead 2.4 miles up Fourteenth Road, Minerva, off Route 28N. Bear right at the Y in Fourteenth Road.

TUESDAY PADDLE

Tue, Jul 22, 2014, time TBD, Rating: NR
Mo Coutant - 745-7834, mojim@roadrunner.com
- See May 13

RAQUETTE LAKE - [Paddle/Camp/Hike]

Sat, Jul 26, 2014, 6:00 am, Rating: A
Jayne Boudier - 518-793-3770, boudier@verizon.net
- July 26-7. We could camp at Tioga Point and explore the Needle Islands, or at Big Island and explore South Inlet to the Falls (maybe even hike to the old Sagamore powerhouse)- I'm open to suggestions. But Sunday, after noon, we're paddling to St. Williams on Long Point for their annual chicken barbecue and silent auction- for sure! Round trip is usually 8-10 miles, with a pace as moderate as possible. I have a 12 ft canoe and a 16 ft canoe to lend. Anyone who'd like just to go to the barbecue can get there on Sunday without a boat- there's a free ferry from 1-3 p.m. between Raquette Lake village and St. Williams. (Go to www.stwilliamsonlongpoint.org/bbq.html for more information.)

Colvin & Blake via The Ausable Club Sat, Feb 8, 2014, Michael McLean

- This trip was changed to Sunday the 9th. Wonderful winter conditions allowed a nice ski up the Lake Road and over Lower Ausable Lake as well. The Carry Trail was unbroken fluffy powder of 1-3 feet in depth over significant ice, making the 1.1 miles up last for almost 2 1/2 hours. A mostly sunny morning allowed for wonderful views all the way over to Blake. We did not attempt Colvin due to hiker fatigue and also one participant turned around and would have a significant wait in the parking lot. The trip down the Carry Trail was quite quick, as well as the wonderful ski back down the Lake road. 4 Participants: Rob Roy, Wayne Richter, Cindy and Mike McLean.

Tuesday Trek Tue, Feb 11, 2014, Mo Coutant

- This week we changed things up and went for our trip in the afternoon in hopes of increasing our odds of seeing a snowy owl in the Ft. Edward Important Bird Area (IBA). They've been spotted there regularly this winter, but to increase our chances again we were lucky enough to have Laurie LaFond join us. She's very involved with the Friends of the IBA and gets lots of reports of sightings. Laurie first got permission from a local landowner to walk along a snowmobile trail on their property (thanks Tom & Gretchen). We got some exercise and warmed up but did not see much bird activity. On our way back to the cars, Laurie got a call from the amazing bird photographer Gordon Ellmers who had spotted a snowy nearby! Off we raced to the spot. Right before we got there it left its perch but flew across the field next to us and perched on top of a tree. We all looked through binoculars and spotting scopes and got a great view! Gordon waded through the snowy field in his sneakers and a camera with a huge lens. The photo in the gallery was taken by him ... not from one of our official participants. Everyone was thrilled to see the snowy fly by and perch then hang out! 17 Participants: Doug and Judy Beers, Jerry and Nancy Burke, Mo Coutant, Liz Gee, Bill Gledennning, Eric Krantz, Laurie LaFond, Licia and Steve Mackey, Kathy McMahon, Joy Munro, Sheri Shevy, Joanne Szot, Edna and Neal Van Dorsten.

Winter Fire Tower Challenge Sun, Feb 16, 2014, Jack Whitney

- We hiked two fire towers on this trip. Rondaxe and Blue Mts. Rondaxe were first. The trail started climbing right from the get go. A short trip to the summit - took our pictures, a short break and on the road to the next mountain. We arrived at the trailhead to Blue Mt., we thought full of energy, until we started to climb and noticed that our pace was slower (this was our second mountain of the day!). We arrived at the summit and once again were greeted by a stiff breeze. We made our way to the cabin out of the wind, but it was cold in the shade. We had a snack and headed back to our cars, tired but happy. 6 Participants: Eric Kimmelman, Dan Pekrol, Francis Willis, Ethan Willis, Dan Monroe, and Jack Whitney.

Basin and Saddleback Sat, Feb 22, 2014, Mike Fuller

- We arrived at the Garden at 6:20 and were lucky to get the last few spots left. A gear check, sign in and we on our way. It was micro-spikes to JBL then snowshoes. At Slant Rock we fueled up and took Erica's new Facebook picture WOW! Then off to Shorey Shortcut; it was great to see it broken open. With the first views of Basin, Jesse was really enjoying the Winter DAKS. The Range Trail yielded another break, then off to Basin. We met hikers coming back warning us of icy spots. Soon we were all on the summit, some pictures, and off the back side where we bushwhacked to avoid the icy drop off. At the foot of Saddleback we were met by two other hikers and we all switched to crampons. The rocks were glare ice so we went to the right and found a spot Leighann called 'The Chimney.' Rick tried to go first but couldn't reach anything. Then the other two hikers appeared above us they used ice axes but said it wasn't easy. I tried to throw them my rope but it was too windy. As I was perched on a rock I hear a voice, 'grab onto my meager trunk and pull yourself to safety.' It was coming from a little alpine tree. I yelled to the others, 'I'm about to do something crazy.' I grabbed and failed and up I went. Soon after letting down the rope they were all up on top. As I looked back with the coiled rope in my hand it said to me, 'let's get with the others before your ego explodes.' Thank to the others or making sure we got up alright and taking our group picture. We had a great hike and were out by dark. Congrat's to all that needed Basin and Saddleback winter. 5 Participants: Leighann Helson, Erica

Read the reviews in the next column!

Trip Reviews

Holbrook, Jesse Cole, Rick Lennox, and Mike Fuller.

Heart, Bear, and Rock Pond Loop Sat, Feb 22, 2014, Reg Prouty

- We had a good workout as about 80% of the loop was not broken and the snow was deep. We took turns and had a break at Bear Pond and lunch at Rock Pond. Some visited the cave after spending time at the huge toppled boiler. 6 Participants: Reg Prouty, Mary Alice Nyhan, Don Washburn, Jim Charboneau, Marsha LaPointe, and Kate Huestis.

Winter Fire Tower Challenge Sun, Feb 23, 2014, Jack Whitney

- It was a warm day to hike Hurricane Mt. from Rt. 9N- we tried to start from the East; however, the plowed road ended at the snowplow turnaround, so this left us the alternative to hike from Rt. 9N. The trail was broken out, although it was a little icy. There was even some exposed soil where the sun hits the trail. When we got to the summit, the wind was howling. We took some quick pictures and headed down out of the wind to the junction where we took a quick break and headed on down. Another good day in the woods. 4 Participants: Dan Pekrol, Dan Monroe, Francis Willis, and Jack Whitney.

Tuesday Trek Tue, Feb 25, 2014, Mo Coutant

- This week we did a short steep hike near West Mtn. It probably wouldn't have felt so steep, but we were in snowshoes and hadn't had too much practice in those this winter. We've had the snow, but have been doing walks or XC skis. We were out of practice on snowshoes! Anyway, we hiked along a nice ridge and then down to another spot where we saw a few deer cross the trail. This was on the steep uphill section. At this point, three of the group turned around due to a wobbly knee and a fuzzy head. The rest of the group did some equipment adjustments and led by Steve made it to the lookout and enjoyed some great views. 8 Participants: Mo Coutant, Paul Dietershagen, Sarah King, Licia and Steve Mackey, Kathy McMahon, Joanne Szot, and Laurie Williams.

Hoffman Sat, Mar 1, 2014, Jayne Boudier

- We had a nice day, a big bump to climb, great views, and deepening snow as we trudged up Hoffman's four mile long ridge. Nearing the lumpy top, the GPS goaded us on. Nick spotted the canister brackets, sticking out of the snow-covered half down summit tree, and the elements were kind to us as we celebrated and recouped there for a while. We were all plenty whopped, but happy to follow our broken trail downhill, and the Big Pond trail out by dark. Great Day! Great group! 5 Participants: Jayne Boudier, Wayne and Laura Dewey, Jeff Manns, and Nick Ringelberg.

Iroquois Sat, Mar 1, 2014, Mike Fuller

- We had two groups. Justin, Rob, and I started about a 1/2 hour earlier. With a good hard trail we made our way to Avalanche Pass on Micro Spikes. Once on the lake, we stopped to look up at the shear walls of the Pass. Awesome! The Pass makes a great 'end of the snow-pack hike' just after the winter season is over and is well worth it. Ahh, now the climbing starts. We fueled up and switched to snowshoes. A hiker was coming down the trail and warned us of strong winds on the ridge. This was my second time up this trail this winter; it's a great calf burner. Soon we were at the foot of Algonquin. I looked for our other group, but no sign of them. On Boundary we looked back and saw three hikers heading off Algonquin, then spotted Jesse's red shell. Justin, Rob, and I went to Iroquois where Rob got another winter peak. On our way back we met Jesse, Leighann, and Erica. They went with Jesse to Wright; he needed all three peaks. So I went back to Iroquois with them and Justin and Rob headed to the Loj. On Iroquois we took pictures and headed back to the foot of Algonquin where we fueled up on Erica's blueberry coffee cake and hot cocoa. Over Algonquin we could barely walk with the wind blasting us. Once in the treeline we couldn't believe we didn't get blown off the mountain. After that it was a great hike out with plenty of daylight. Congrats to all who got Iroquois and to Jesse for his first three peak day. Good Job! 6 Participants, Justin Lefco, Robert Roy, Jesse Cole, Leighann Helson, Erica Holbrook, and Mike Fuller.

Winter Fire Tower Challenge Sun, Mar 2, 2014, Jack Whitney

- We drove to the Catskill Mountains with a goal of climbing two of the fire tower mountains. We drove to the farthest away, Red Hill. After a short climb of about 800 ft. on a hard-packed trail we arrived at the fire

tower. We spent a short time for a snack at the cabin adjacent to the tower before heading back down, jumping in the car and driving to Woodstock to climb Overlook Mountain. Again, we had a well-packed trail for the 2.5 mile gradual climb to the summit (we had to be ready to quickly jump to the side of the trail because of a number of people who were using sleds to rapidly descend the mountain). We took time to explore the ruins of the hotel, take pictures and enjoy the view from the lookout. 4 Participants: Francis Willis, Dan Monroe, Pat Desbiens, and Jack Whitney.

Giant and Rocky Peak Sun, Mar 2, 2014, Steve Mackey and Rick Lennox

- It was cloudy and snowing very lightly when we arrived at the trailhead. The trail was well packed with about an inch of new powder on top, and we were to sue microspikes for the entire day. With the trail well packed and smooth, and with only a few icy spots, we did well on our ascent. The views were limited by the clouds, especially as we got higher, but we did get to see Noonmark, a bit of Round Pond and some of the Great Range. The immediate surroundings were beautiful with the new snow on the conifers and the contrast of the open slides against the vegetation. We stopped for a snack just after the "bump," met the group of four who had preceded us on their way down, and caught up with Jim Schneider and Mark McLean, who had started up ahead of us. Visibility on Giant was about 100 feet so after a brief chat with Jim and Mark, we headed for Rocky Peak Ridge. As we left the summit, just as a tease, the clouds thinned enough for the sun to throw a weak shadow. The descent was certainly easier and faster than in summer with, for the most part, a ramp-like, packed trail with three inches of fresh powder through which we were the first to pass. We had one tricky spot where the trail makes a sharp left to pass along a rock ledge, then drops down. The rock wall to the left was very icy and the section ended with a three to four foot drop at the end with little if anything apparent that could be held on to. Rick decided that we could go perhaps 12 feet down a very steep slope before the ledge with the assistance of the trees. And so we did, without too much trouble. The clouds and mist in the gap between Giant and Rocky Peak Ridge were quite impressive. The wind was light on the summit and we stopped for lunch. Then Rick discovered that sheets of ice could be popped off east facing rocks. These were perhaps 1/4 to 1/2 inch thick. While pieces could be pulled off, they tended to shatter if you just looked at them hard. Still, we tried to get the biggest pieces possible. We did pretty well with some about 1 by 2 feet, then Rick got a giant piece about a foot high and four feet wide. After Steve photographed him holding it, he actually managed to put it back on the rock. As Steve said, "Leave no trace camping." Arriving at the road before 3:00, we went to the Noonmark Diner for a bite to eat. Sitting in a warm place with warm food after a few hours outdoors in the cold certainly felt good. 3 Participants: Wayne Richter, Rick Lennox, and Steve Mackey.

Monthly Monday Geocache Mon, Mar 3, 2014, Sarah King and Mo Coutant

- Today we decided to head to the Inman Pond Trail off Sly Pond Road in search of a few different geocaches. Not being sure how the trail would be, we all carried our snowshoes but ended up just using grippers, as the trail was nicely packed down for us. First on the list was a puzzle cache, which entailed solving a puzzle at home to get the coordinates to the cache. Sarah and Larry did this and shared the location with the rest of the group for a quick, winter friendly find. We continued on to another cache, just before a bridge over the trail. Next we continued on the trail, taking the left fork toward Buck and Pilot Knob. Our destination was a cache called All Things Aviation. This was a reference to the airplane that crashed on Pilot Knob in the 1960s. This cache was a bushwack but luckily, the 'trail' had been broken for us the previous week by some fellow geocachers. We found this one and headed back to the trailhead. We decided we would return once the snow melts to seek the site of the air crash and cache located near it. Great day out as usual. Treats were provided by Licia. 4 Participants: Mo Coutant, Larry Eaton, Sarah King, and Licia Mackey.

Tuesday Trek Tue, Mar 4, 2014, Mo Coutant

- This week we walked along the Feeder Canal trail from the beginning to the Rt 9 bridge. From there we headed into Glens Falls for a warm up beverage at Coffee Planet. The trail was surprisingly bumpy. I

Trip Reviews

thought it would have had more snowshoe traffic to beat it down, but the snowshoers all seemed to make their own individual trails and not really pack it down flat. So the walking in grippers was a bit more difficult than we expected and we opted for travelling the sidewalks of Glens Falls back to the parking lot at the beginning of the trail. It's good to have options! 7 Participants: Mo Coutant, Sarah King, Eric Krantz, Licia Mackey, Gwenne Rippon, Diane Sante, and Bill Schwartz.

Winter Fire Tower Challenge Sun, Mar 9, 2014, Jack Whitney

- We journeyed back down to the Catskill Mountains today - Mt. Tremper. As with last week, the trail was hard-packed and we were able to climb wearing our microspikes. The sun was out with brief light snow flurries. We stopped at the Baldwin Lean-to for a few minutes and then continued on to the summit. This mountain has 2,030 ft. of elevation to climb, but with the switchbacks it's a gradual climb, adding to the enjoyment of the day. Finally, we reached the final lean-to with the fire tower just beyond. Great views at this time of year without climbing the tower. 7 Participants: Ethan Willis, Francis Willis, Eric Kimmelman, Dan Monroe, Carl N Briggs, Pat Desbiens, and Jack Whitney.

Tuesday Trek Tue, Mar 11, 2014, Mo Coutant

- This week we did a mixed outing of XC skiing or walking depending on what the participants brought. It was our first outing in warm weather since the fall and our first time to the Wilton Wildlife Preserve this 'season!' The temperature was in the 40s, but there was still a base to ski on. The skiers reported icy conditions just at the very start, but after that nice conditions. Good thing Steve brought his backpack, since he filled it up with layers of shedded clothing. The walkers hiked on the other side of the road and stopped at the fire tower, the old scout camp, and to observe the 'snow fleas' that came out in the warm weather. The next day was even warmer ... followed by a snow storm! 10 Participants: Mo Coutant, Carolyn Curren, Liz Gee, Sarah King, Licia and Steve Mackey, Kim Moore, Bill Schwarz, Joanne Szot, and Laurie Williams.

Allen 'The Big Nasty' Sat, Mar 15, 2014, Mike Fuller

- Well 'The Big Nasty' really turned out to be a great hike this winter. After we geared up, the enthusiastic group headed out. Thanks to a new Hudson River bridge and a nice frozen Lake Jimmy we were off to Allen. Being hike leader I often sweep, making sure we don't let anyone fall behind. At breaks I would check with people out front to make sure that the same person wasn't breaking all the trail. Word was the trail was good and broken out. Little Miss Opalescent yielded a nice snow bridge and a break where I told the story of my first time to Allen in 2001. The area was more open then, and hike leader Ron Lester often used his compass to keep us headed in the right direction; there was no broken trail on that day. A fuel up at Skylight Brook then up Allen Brook slide where views started. At the summit lots of happy climbers and a winter Allen to check to off their list. We all enjoyed the great butt-slide where we dropped over 600 feet in a matter of minutes. The group spread out heading back as Adams Fire Tower kept watching us on our way out. Suddenly just before the Hudson crossing the group stopped, I went ahead to see what the problem was. A polar bear displaced by climate change was hunting for seals on the ice of the Hudson. I took off my pack and took out a bottle of coke, I had seen this on TV. Tossing the bottle to the side of the trail, the bear went for it and the rest of the group made it to the safety of the parking lot. I looked back to watch the bear remove the cap, take a drink, look at me and raise its clawed paw as if to say "thanks." I raised my hand and said "don't forget to recycle." We parted ways. The Big Nasty lives. A great day spent with great people. 12 participants: Rachel Lane, Davis Hawkowl, Dan Forbush, Joe Walsh, Leighann Helson, Lucas LaBarre, Jesse Cole, Erica Holbrook, Wayne Richter, Beth Hesseltine, Haley Bitner, and Mike Fuller.

Winter Fire Tower Challenge Sun, Mar 16, 2014, Jack Whitney

- For the last hike of the winter season, it was a sunny but cold start. The trail was broken out except for the last quarter mile where it became slow going due to the steepness of the trail and the deep snow. Congratulations to Dan Monroe for completing the winter fire tower challenge this day! 5 Participants: Francis Willis, Ethan Willis, Eric Kimmelman, Dan Monroe, and Jack Whitney.

Colvin and Blake Sun, Mar 16, 2014, Steve Mackey and Rick Lennox

- We had a blast from the past, with Jim Appleyard (Apples) joining us. He said he hasn't been on an ADK hike in 20 years, so we were in rarefied territory before we even got started. I had thrown in my old Sherpa snowshoes because I assumed we were going to be breaking trail all day. Even though it had snowed on Thursday and the hike was on Sunday, someone had already broken the trail all the way to Blake. Several of us skied the Ausable Road, but we ended up going up the Gill Brook Trail (because it was broken), and in hindsight, the skiing part was probably too short to justify the extra equipment. The trail conditions were excellent, and it was the most snow I have been on all winter. The views from Colvin were spectacular. The view (obviously) is very similar to Pyramid (which is one of my favorite winter peaks). The hike over to Blake didn't look too bad, until we got a look at the col between us. The horizontal distance wasn't bad, but the descent was not pretty (as well as what comes after that). We found a sunny spot on the summit of Blake, and had a nice lunch break. I wandered around the sunny spot, and managed to find a waist deep spruce trap. Luckily I only found one. The trail out was A-number-one, excellent butt sliding. (The fact that the Sherpa's hardly had any crampon on the bottom, might have been a factor.) We had one slide near the top that almost sent us flying into the trees, but luckily we all made it. We also had a few slides where you could grab a strategic tree and pivot around a 90 degree turn. It seemed a lot like a ride at the Great Escape. Afterwards we all went out for dinner at DeCesare's, in Schroon Lake. 6 Participants: Rick Lennox, Rich Elton, Denise McQuade, Joe Babcock, Jim Appleyard, and Steve Mackey.

Tuesday Trek Tue, Mar 18, 2014, Mo Coutant

- This week we walked along the trails in Saratoga State Park. We needed our grippers once again especially in the uphill sections of the trails. It was a great day to be out, but with snow and winter temperatures it was hard to imagine that we're about a month away from when they normally stock the creek with fish! Maybe we'll be back again for that big event! 8 Participants: Mo Coutant, Paul Dietershagen, Sarah King, Eric Krantz, Licia Mackey, Kim Moore, Joanne Szot, and Neal Van Dorsten.

Additional reviews can be found on our chapter web site at adk-gfs.org by clicking on "Reviews" in the Chapter Links.

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Outings Instructions: For more information see "Chapter Handbook" on our website's Chapter Links

Sign Up

Contact the Outing Leader at least two days (preferably a week), before the activity so he/she can explain the capabilities required and to determine the number attending. Failure to call may result in not knowing about cancellations, rescheduled departures, etc. Guests are always welcome, but must also register! **PLEASE** be considerate when signing up for a trip. Advise the leader if you cannot make a trip so as not to impact others' plans. **Trips WILL BE CANCELLED if minimums are not met**, thereby affecting all parties. For safety, the MINI MUM number for Outings is: 3 people, including the leader (4 in winter). Panera Bread is the meeting spot unless otherwise noted in the trip description. Be there and ready to depart at the posted time (directions below).

Meeting Place Information - Panera Bread

Northway Plaza, 820 Route 9, Queensbury, NY 761-6957/3

• **From NORTHWAY (I-87)** Take Exit 19 and go east on AVIATION / QUAKER Road. Follow 0.5 miles to ROUTE 9/GLEN STREET. Turn North (LEFT) onto ROUTE 9, then right at the light into the NORTHWAY PLAZA. Then take a left at the four-way stop, and park in front of Panera Bread.

Travel Information/Car Pools

We encourage carpooling to trailheads for both environmental and practical reasons (limited trailhead parking) and may alter meeting locations due to destination or participants. If you are able, it's helpful to offer to drive your vehicle. If you are a passenger, consider current fuel prices, travel miles and number of passengers when contributing your fair share to the driver.

Participation Guidelines

Leaders are responsible to evaluate interested parties' fitness for that outing, review specific guidelines, and lead the trip. They are not paid guides, but volunteers. Participants are asked to cooperate and respect their authority and decisions. *Is this the right Outing for you? For those not experienced in strenuous trips, it is best to begin with something easier and work your way up. The Leader will assist in evaluating skill level and suggest alternative outings if more appropriate. **For the safety and comfort of all, the Leader has the discretion to deny participation if he/she feels someone is not a good match for that trip.** Based on the expectations and skills of the entire group, Leaders may have more flexibility for some trips, so definitely talk with them. **DO NOT TRY STRENUOUS OUTINGS UNLESS YOU HAVE DONE THAT ACTIVITY REGULARLY (and recently and are in good shape as necessary for that outing.)** *An ADK Liability Waiver must be provided by the Leader and signed by all participants before the trip begins. This is a requirement by ADK HQ. Parents must sign for minors. *No Pets allowed on outings except where designated in the description.

Hiking Needs/Preparation/Equipment

Bring trail food and plenty of water on ALL hikes! *Clothing made of Polyester blends, polarguard or wool are recommended as they retain warmth even when wet. — please do not wear 100% cotton clothing! It is also wise to bring raingear. Other pack essentials: compass and map, headlamp/flashlight, first aid kit, hat, gloves, and extra socks. Adirondack weather can and does change suddenly. Don't trust the forecast or the sky based on the start of the day. Be prepared!

Ratings

Special Winter Needs

In addition to the preparation/equipment mentioned above, winter requires some EXTRA planning. Look for special notes in the Outing description and discuss with the Leader. Depending on conditions, participants can expect to bring Snow Shoes and Crampons. Bring lots of Water. Dehydration comes easier in the winter and we feel its effects later ... usually AFTER the fact. Be wise with Emergency Clothing. Bring an extra wool/polypro hat, mittens and socks. Vented Shell pants, jackets and mittens are commonly used with warm layers beneath.

Rating	Effort Level	Elevation Gain (feet)	Miles	Time (hours)
A+	Very Strenuous	4,000+	10+	10+
A	Strenuous	3,000+	8-12	8-10
B+	Moderately Strenuous	2,000+	5-10	6-8
B	Moderate	1,000+	5-8	5-6
C+	Fairly Easy	1,000+	5-8	4-6
C	Easy	Under 1,000	Under 5	Under 5

*Descriptions are only typical and can vary.

Become an Outings Leader

Ask any Chapter Leader for details. Offer to Co-lead to get the experience! We're always looking for new leaders to help share the fun while filling in the calendar. New faces offer more varied outings while sharing personal favorite destinations. Contact the Outings Chairs on page 2 for more information.

Programs and Meeting Directions

Chapter Programs and Meetings are held monthly, alternating facilities between Glens Falls and Saratoga Springs. Brief directions are below. More detailed information and maps can be found on the Chapter Web page: www.adk-gfs.org

Wesley Health Care Center 131 Lawrence Street, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866, 587-3600.

From the South: Route 9 North. LEFT onto CHURCH STREET. RIGHT onto LAWRENCE. • **From the North:** EXIT 15 off of the Northway. RIGHT onto ROUTE 50 South. Continue onto VAN DAM STREET, RIGHT onto LAWRENCE STREET.

Carl R's Café Restaurant and Bar, Main Street and Interstate 87, Glens Falls, Main Street and Interstate 87, Glens Falls, NY 12804, 793-7676.

• EXIT 18 of the Northway. Turn EAST onto MAIN STREET. Carl R's is on the RIGHT.

Lake George ADK Headquarters: EXIT 21 of the Northway. Turn WEST onto ROUTE 9N South. ADK is on the LEFT.

Saratoga Springs Public Library: Henry Street., Saratoga Springs, NY 12866, 584-7860.

• **From Northway (I-87),** Take Exit 14 onto Route 9P North (Union Avenue). Proceed 1.5 miles, past three traffic lights to T-junction, RIGHT onto CIRCULAR STREET to the first,

traffic light. LEFT onto SPRING STREET for two blocks., RIGHT onto Putnam Street for 1.5 blocks. (There is public parking here also!) The library parking lot is on the right. There is a two-hour parking limit.

• From Route 9 and Route 50

Route 9 and Route 50 converge to become the main street (Broadway) in downtown Saratoga Springs. Follow in to downtown, up to the main street. Turn onto SPRING STREET (right from South/left from North) at the corner of Congress Park. LEFT on the first street onto Putnam. Parking as described above.



Chepontuc Footnotes

Glens Falls - Saratoga Chapter Adirondack Mountain Club
P.O. Box 2314,
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*Adirondack Mountain Club,
814 Goggins Road,
Lake George, New York 12845.*

You may call Headquarters at 668-4447. The Chapter receives all its mailing labels and membership lists from the Club.

Therefore, any change of address need NOT be sent to the Chapter - one form or one call to the Club is all you need!

Reminder:

Please include your e-mail address when renewing your membership!

