



# Good Tidings



March - June 2010

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"Climb the mountains and get their good tidings. Nature's peace will flow into you as sunshine flows into trees. The winds will blow their freshness into you and the storms their energy, while cares will drop off like autumn leaves." John Muir (1838-1914)

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## Chair Words

*A message from Chapter Chair, Bert Yost*

Happy New Year! Mother Nature has been good to us to start off the New Year. The weather has been cold, but tolerable. Snow continues to fall building up a good base for snowshoeing and cross country skiing. If you haven't been out in the woods, it's time to take out the skis or snowshoes.

I have been out on the Flume Trails numerous times since the Christmas holidays. There are tracks everywhere from people skiing or snowshoeing or just out for a walk in the woods. With the wind we've been having, each day is like skiing in fresh powder.

Some of our members have been quite active too. Ed Hale has been working with the Snow Boomers Club at Whiteface on their downhill skiing techniques and Joe Kahn is offering a similar program for cross country skiing at Mt. Van Hoevenberg. And as usual Joe Bogardus ([joe.adks@gmail.com](mailto:joe.adks@gmail.com)) is actively seeking leaders for the spring outings – March, April, May, & June. Just remember, it's never too late to volunteer to lead an outing.

On a more serious note, 2010 promises to be a very challenging year for the Hurricane Mountain Chapter. With the looming state budget deficit, more responsibility for trail maintenance and work will fall on volunteer groups like ours. If you haven't made all of your New Year's resolutions yet, then I would like to ask you to add one more to your list. Try to participate in at least one Hurricane Mountain Chapter work day, one outing, and one potluck. Come and meet your fellow chapter members in 2010.

Even if you find it difficult to participate in our local chapter activities, you can still participate at the state level. There are many wilderness issues that will need our chapter's support. Please be aware of events that are happening in your local area. There are many issues regarding gas drilling in the Catskill Park, the Allegany State Park, and the southern tier; development within the Adirondack and Catskill Parks; and water issues for the NYC reservoir system and Hudson River. All of these issues are likely to have an impact on our public lands for years to come. It is our responsibility to protect these lands for future generations. See you in 2010.

[Membership Update](#) - *Please extend a warm welcome to the following new members and affiliates who have joined our chapter.*

[New Members](#)

Wyatt MacGaffey and Susan Herlin, 2454 Glenmary Ave. Apt. 9,  
Louisville, KY 40204

Doug and Alicia Serson, 518 Mohawk Rd., High Falls, NY 12440  
Bill Harral and Susan Atkinson, P.O. Box 316,  
Grantham, PA 17027

[New Affiliates](#)

Rhan Estling and Anita Anthony, 48 Kiwassa Rd.,  
Saranac Lake, NY 12983

Pete and Megan Gillander, 7146 Beaver Trl.,  
Alder Creek, NY 13301

[New Address](#)

Tony and Ellena Lucas, P.O. Box 245, Keene, NY 12942

Bert

### Go Green! Receive Good Tidings by email

In the interest of saving paper, money and the planet, we would like to encourage members and affiliates to sign up to have Good Tidings sent by email rather than U.S. mail. If you would like to receive your copy by email, please send an email to: [adkhurricanenewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:adkhurricanenewsletter@gmail.com). Please include your current mailing address so that we can accurately make the transition.

### Call for Volunteers

On Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, the Hurricane Mountain Chapter will sponsor a Trail Maintenance Day. We will work on the trail from Crow Clearing to the Biesemeyer lean-to by Lost Pond. Check the outings calendar for more details and please join us for as much of the day as you can. Contact Ruth Kuhfahl (576-4699) for more information.

## Guidelines for Participating in Hurricane Mountain Chapter Outings

- **MUST CALL trip leader 24 hours in advance to register unless otherwise designated.**
- **Be willing to sign the liability form (required by ADK)**
- **Total participants including trip leader(s) is 15 for day hikes. (DEC/ADK standards)**
- **Check distance and ascent in the hike description, or check with leader.**
- **Check hike rating. Know your capabilities.**
- **Wear appropriate clothing and footwear.**
- **Take an extra water bottle.**

### Guide to Hurricane Mt. Chapter Hike Ratings

- A+ Very Strenuous: Rugged terrain, steep climbing (over 2500' elevation gain) and/or long distances (over 12 miles). Participants should be experienced and in excellent condition.**
- A Strenuous: Possible steep ascents (1500-2500' gain) and/or distances of 10-15 miles. Can be demanding. Expect faster rate of travel. Participants should be experienced and in excellent condition.**
- B Moderate: Elevation gains 1000'-1500' and approximately 5-9 miles distance. Expect rolling hills and short steep climbing. Participants should be in good physical condition.**
- C Easy: Hiking/walking under 5 miles with very gradual or no climbing**

## Hurricane Mountain Chapter Outings Schedule March - June 2010

**PARTICIPANTS PLEASE NOTE: Adirondack weather conditions in the late winter/early spring are highly variable and snow persists into May at higher elevations. Some stream crossings may be difficult. Winds and rapid weather changes can also affect boating trips. Always consider the weather forecasts carefully and bring appropriate clothing and gear to the outing.**

### March, Date TBA

#### Nordic Downhill Ski Instruction

This freeheel primer at Whiteface Mountain involves two-hour morning and afternoon sessions as well as a brief evening meeting at the Hales' home. It's aimed at skiers with some downhill experience who'd like an introduction to telemarking and a refinement of their Alpine skills. High Peaks Cyclery and The Mountaineer both rent telemark skis and boots. Please call the leader March 3-7 between 7-8 pm to discuss your interests. Limited to six participants.

Leader: Ed Hale

576-4236

e7hale@kvvi.net

### Saturday, March 13

#### Street and Nye Mountains

We will climb these 46er peaks (el. 4166 and 3895 ft) in late winter conditions, starting from Adirondack Loj. Street has good views, but Nye is just a lonely little bump. Snowshoes required.

Level A, 8.8 miles, 2700 ft ascent

Leader: Joe Bogardus

576-9739

joe.adks@gmail.com

**Saturday, April 3****Algonquin and Iroquois Mountains**

Snowshoes and possibly crampons will be needed, but walking above treeline on the deep snow will be an experience to remember. Maybe we will stop by Wright Mt on the way back.

Level A+, 10.8 miles, 3400 ft ascent

Leader: Joe Bogardus 576-9739 joe.adks@gmail.com

**Saturday, April 24****Noonmark Mountain**

We shall hike this mountain as a loop, ascend via the Stimson Trail and down by way of the Adler and Old Dix trails. Please bring lunch and winter gear and traction devices as there are icy sections. Pace is slower moderate. Registration is accepted until noon on Friday April 23. Cross-listed with ADK Schenectady Chapter.

Level A, 5.4 miles, 2175 ft ascent

Leader: Elie Bijou 873-2119 (preferred) adirondacks@verizon.net

**Thursday, April 29****Silver Lake Mt and Bog**

The attractions of this peak (el. 2374 ft) are the rocky ledges on the summit with wonderful views of Whiteface, Silver Lake and Taylor Pond. There are also Peregrine Falcons that frequent the ledges. Be sure to bring your camera. We will then follow this hike with a walk through Silver Lake Bog, a Nature Conservancy preserve, and the Pine Bluff trail to a ridge above Silver Lake.

Level C, 0.9 mile, 2.5 mi, 900 ft ascent

Leader: Char Newman 647-5484 newmanators@gmail.com

**Thursday, April 29****Paddle West Branch of Ausable**

Meet at 1 p.m. for our annual paddle on the Ausable River. From the iron bridge on the River Road, Lake Placid we float/paddle to the Rt. 86 bridge. Cars will be spotted at both ends. Bring libation and munchies to share at the pull out!

Leader: Jeri Wright 946-2658

**Saturday, May 1****Chapter Trail Maintenance Day**

Meet at 9:30AM in the parking area at the top of O'Toole Road. All the trail will need to be trimmed back, but especially the lush greenery above Lost Pond/before the Biesemeyer Lean-to. Some drainage ditches will need to be cleared, too. Bring loppers, clippers, etc. This is NOT hard work and it is very rewarding...so come out and help make the chapter's trails beautiful again.

Leader: Ruth Kuhfahl 576-4699

**Saturday, May 8****Annual Bird Walk**

Join Ruth's annual bird walk. Everyone come -- bring binocs, etc., meet at 7:30AM at the Keene Valley end of Hulls Falls Road. Pat and John Thaxton will help us to hear and then see lots of the avian residents.

Leader: Ruth Kuhfahl 576-4699

**Monday, May 10****Waterfall Exploring in the AMR**

This hike will explore several of the beautiful waterfalls in the AMR off the Lake Road. We will visit some or all of Pyramid Falls, Wedge Brook Falls, Beaver Meadow Falls, and Rainbow Falls. Depending upon which falls we visit, the trip may be 3.2 to 10.2 miles.

Level B

Leader: Frank Lescinsky 523-0334 lescinsky@adelphia.net

**Saturday, May 15****Hanging Spear Falls/Flowed Lands Loop**

This hike will go along the Opalescent River up the old yellow trail to the red trail, past Hanging Spear Falls to Flowed Lands, and then back to Upper Works by the Calamity Brook trail.

Level A, 13.2 miles, 1000 ft ascent

Leader: Peter Biesemeyer 483-0641 pbiesemeyer@nccc.edu

**Sunday, May 16****Wildflower Walk**

We will search for spring woodland flowers on Baker Mountain in Saranac Lake.

Level B, 1.8 miles, approx. 900 ft ascent

Leader: Frank Lescinsky 523-0334 lescinsky@adelphia.net

**Saturday, May 22**                      **Red Rock & Potash Mountain**

On this 4th annual trail/bushwhack hike, we will look for the elusive *Clematis verticillaris* on the shoulder of Potash Mountain (elevation 2900 ft, north of the Crows), the only place in the area where the leader has observed it. Only a few flowers were spotted last year (were they eaten by deer?). Historic Red Rock, which appeared on the first topographic map of the area issued in 1898, has great views over a 200' cliff of ancient quartzite rock.

Level B, 6 miles, 1800 ft ascent

Leader: Joe Bogardus      576-9739                      joe.adks@gmail.com

**Sunday, May 23**                      **Moose Mountain near Lake Placid**

This mountain has one of the more spectacular views in the region. Our ascent will follow the Twin Brooks and we will descend steeply via Loch Bonnie. Pace is slower moderate. Registration accepted until 6 p.m. Friday May 21. Cross-listed with ADK Schenectady Chapter.

Level A, 5.5 miles, 1900 ft ascent

Leader: Elie Bijou      873-2119 (preferred)      adirondacks@verizon.net

**Saturday, May 29**                      **Peaked Mountain, near Weston Mt**

We will hike from Crow Clearing to Weston Mt and then bushwhack about 0.5 mile to this nice little rocky peak with great views all around. We may return by way of Nun-da-ga-o Ridge, adding about a mile.

Level B, 7-8 miles

Leader: Peter Biesemeyer 483-0641                      pbiesemeyer@nccc.edu

**Sunday, May 30**                      **Paddle Middle Saranac to Weller Pond**

We will launch our boats from the South Creek access on Rt 3 and paddle up South Creek where you will see huge clumps of pitcher plants perched on sphagnum moss clumps and sundew plants on logs. We will then paddle across Middle Saranac Lake through Hungry Bay to Weller Pond. Hopefully we will see Bald Eagles close up and Great Blue Herons--so bring your camera.

Leader: Carol Gates      523-4784                      carolgates@aol.com

**Saturday, June 5**                      **Mount Discovery**

This little peak between Lewis and Elizabethtown offers an extensive, open ledge top, with views of Vermont and our high peaks. The trail begins at the Meadowmount School of Music. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the bottom of Spruce Hill (9N & 73 intersection) to car pool (preferred), or from Rte 9 in Lewis, turn on the Lewis-Wadhams Road. Meadowmount is about 3 miles on the right.

Level C, about 3 miles

Leader: Monique Weston 576-2224                      adkweston@gmail.com

**Sunday, June 13**                      **Tabletop Mountain**

Ascend a trailless Forty-Sixer peak (el 4427 ft) on a short herdpath from Indian Falls. A great view of Mt Marcy is available near the summit. We will have the option of an ascent of nearby TR Mtn as well. Pace is slower moderate. Registration accepted until 6 p.m. Friday June 11. Cross-listed with ADK Schenectady Chapter.

Level A, 10.8 miles, 2500 ft ascent

Leader: Elie Bijou      873-2119 (preferred)      adirondacks@verizon.net

**Wednesday, June 16**                      **Owen, Copperas, and Winch Ponds**

After spotting cars at the upper trailhead, we will hike this delightful loop trail and visit the three scenic ponds. Meet at St. Brendan's Church in Keene at 10:00 a.m.

Level C, 3 miles

Leaders: Bob & Nancy Kohlbecker 576-2294                      robertkohlbecker@earthlink.net

**Thursday, June 17**                      **Paddle Lower Saranac Lake**

Put in at the South Creek boat launch on Route 3, and paddle up to the locks between Lower and Middle Saranac Lake. Meet at St. Brendan's Church parking lot at 9 a.m.

Leader: Marcia Mosey 576-9580                      mgmosey189@earthlink.com

**Saturday, June 19**                      **Paddle the Raquette River**

We will explore a meandering wilderness section of the Raquette River, putting in at Axton Landing off Coreys Road a few miles south of Route 3 between Saranac Lake and Tupper Lake. Pack a picnic lunch for a stop along the river.

Leader: Bill Roberts 576-2027                      billandlizroberts@gmail.com

**Thursday, June 24****Rocky Falls**

We will hike from Adirondack Loj to Rocky Falls along Indian Pass Brook. Meet at St. Brendan's Church parking lot at 9:30 a.m.

Level C: 4.2 miles

Leader: Marcia Mosey 576-9580

mgmosey189@earthlink.com

**Saturday, June 26****New Section of the NPT, Wakeley Dam to Lake Durant**

Hike the new section of the Northville-Lake Placid trail through beautiful forest. This trail was developed last year by the ADK Pro trail crew. We will need to spot a car at the destination at Rt 30 near Lake Durant.

Level A, 12 miles, moderate ascent

Leader: Peter Biesemeyer 483-0641

pbiesemeyer@nccc.edu

**Sunday, June 27****Mounts Marcy and Skylight**

Please join me for my annual June hike to these two great peaks. Our route takes us from the Loj via the Van Hoevenberg trail to the summit of Marcy (5344 ft), then we descend 1000 ft to Four corners, and ascend 500 ft to Skylight (4924 ft). Please bring at least three liters of water. Pace is moderate. Registration accepted until 6 p.m. Friday June 25. Cross-listed with ADK Schenectady Chapter.

Level A+, 17.4 miles, 3744 ft ascent

Leader: Elie Bijou 873-2119 (preferred)

adirondacks@verizon.net