

ADK Today

Vol. 2, No. 11: December 1, 2009

Winter's Coming

Don't get stuck inside this winter! Join ADK for outdoor adventure and master the skills you'll need to survive and thrive in the backcountry in cold weather. Whether you're a novice or an old hand, we have cross-country and snowshoeing [programs](#) to meet your needs. Work on your Winter 46 with our [Trailless Day Hikes](#). Looking for a real adventure? How about [Winter Camping?](#) And don't forget the [kids](#). Don't miss out this winter. [Register](#) early.

Loj Road Bridge

The state Department of Transportation has agreed to provide a two-lane, prefab bridge for Adirondack Loj Road. The new bridge would replace a temporary one on loan from Essex County. More [here](#).

President's Dinner

The ninth annual President's Dinner was held in Guilderland, an Albany suburb, on Oct. 24. The Eleanor F. Brown ADK Communication Award was presented to Phil Brown, editor of *Adirondack Explorer*. David Pisaneschi, ADK's conservation chair, received the David L. Newhouse ADK Conservation Award; the Mid-Hudson Chapter received the Arthur E. Newkirk ADK Education Award for its Breakfree Program; Marilyn Gillespie received the ADK Trailblazer Award; Woody Glebe and Jane Geisler received the Distinguished Volunteer Awards; and Neil Woodworth received the President's Award. Full details of the event and awards will be included in the January-February issue of [Adirondac](#).

APA Reversal

The Adirondack Park Agency reversed its decision to classify part of Lows Lake as Wilderness. In a 7-4 vote, the agency classified nearby acreage as Wilderness, but left the lake bed and waters unclassified. The classification was necessary to ensure the state doesn't backslide on its commitment to phase out floatplanes on Lows Lake by the end of 2011. ADK is reviewing its legal options. However, we did receive reassurance from DEC Commissioner Pete Grannis that his agency would manage Lows Lake as Wilderness. Also, Grannis noted that DEC is moving ahead with regulations to phase out floatplanes.

In addition, the classification package sent to Gov. Paterson states that "In light of the wilderness and primitive classification of lands surrounding Lows Lake and Bog River, DEC will manage the waters as wilderness, precluding both public and administrative use of motor vehicles, motorboats and aircraft to the extent prohibited by the wilderness classification. Public float plane use will be eliminated December 31, 2011."

If the governor signs the classification package with this language, much of ADK's concern about the future management of Lows Lake will be addressed. However, we remain concerned about the legal precedent of the state having the discretion to not

classify wholly state-owned Forest Preserve waters where the Executive Law and the Adirondack State Land Master Plan plainly require it to classify those waters.

Leave No Trace

ADK is one of only nine organizations across the United States to be designated as a provider of [Leave No Trace](#) Master Educator training. Outdoor Leadership Coordinator Ryan Doyle, Summit Steward Coordinator Julia Goren, Interpretive Programs Coordinator Matt Maloney, High Peaks Information Center Coordinator Danielle Mangold, Trails Coordinator Matt McNamara and Community Outreach Coordinator Thea Moruzzi have received instructor-level training. This will allow us to provide Leave No Trace Master Educator courses and continue to weave low-impact information into our school outreach, outdoor skills, trails, summit steward and backcountry education programs.

Clarence Petty

Adirondack legend and wilderness defender Clarence Petty died Monday (Nov. 30). Here are some of the news stories about his passing:

- [Adirondack advocate Clarence Petty dies at 104](#)
- [An Adirondack classic dies at 104](#)
- [Clarence Petty dies at 104](#)
- [Clarence Petty: A personal history of Adirondack preservation](#)

Facebook

ADK is now on [Facebook](#).

Exhibit

ADK is presenting a variety of original miniature paintings from local artists of the Upper Hudson Valley Watercolor Society. The pictures are no larger than 36 square inches inside the mat. The paintings are available for viewing or purchase through Dec. 31 at the ADK [Member Services Center](#) in Lake George. Hours are Monday-Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Shop ADK

Avoid the crowds at the mall this holiday season. Shop ADK online or by phone. The new edition of the *Adirondack Reader* and ADK's 2010 calendar, *With Wilderness at Heart*, make great gifts. More [here](#).

Work for ADK

The Adirondack Mountain Club is accepting applications for job openings at its Heart Lake Program Center. More [here](#).

Blue Moon

Only get up to the Loj once in a blue moon? Then here's your chance. There'll be a full moon on New Year's Eve, the second full moon of the month, which is considered a blue moon. New Year's Day is also on a Friday, the start of a three-day weekend. But space at the Loj is limited on New Year's weekend. To make a reservation, call (518) 523-3441. New Year's Day also marks the kick off of [Heart Lake Winter Happenings](#), with the first of a series of Friday Night Campfires.

ADK in the News

- [Lake Placid in 5](#)
- [Larry Beahan: Hydrofracking for gas contains multiple threats](#)
- [Politi: State agrees to provide bridge for Loj Road](#)
- [Snowmobile trail plan pits APA against some environmental groups](#)
- [Local ADK couple receive the Clar-Willis Award for their trail work](#)
- [Adirondacks: Stargazing parties, holiday events](#)
- [Meteor time](#)
- [Senate hears gas drilling debate](#)
- [Thinking dark thoughts](#)
- [Adirondacks Fight to Hold On to Visitors Through the Winter](#)
- [Proper backcountry bathroom etiquette](#)
- [Enviro groups argue legality of snowmobile trail guidelines](#)
- [APA classifies land but not Lows water](#)
- [Politi: State may have bridge for Loj Road](#)
- [Travel Briefs](#)
- [Gillibrand promises to tackle acid rain](#)
- [Meteor Mania kicks off Adirondack Park Events](#)
- [EDITORIAL: 'Yes' to state propositions](#)
- [NY voters asked to consider land swap](#)
- [Gillibrand to talk climate change](#)

Other News

- [First ski of the season](#)
- [Doctor falls to death on Mount Washington](#)
- [DEC Offers a New Way to Help Support Kids Connecting With Nature](#)
- [No 'No More Wilderness'](#)
- [Officials Looking for Adirondack Loj Road Bridge Solution](#)
- [Politi: State may have bridge for Loj Road](#)
- [Lyme disease creeping north](#)
- [Proposed Lyon Mountain Classification Would Save Fire Tower, Roads](#)
- [Take a hike and call me in the morning](#)
- [Mount Marcy a safer ski this season](#)
- [Addition to Preserve would allow hunting camps to stay put](#)
- [Ruling a split one for greens](#)
- [Adviser to NY governor to be regional EPA director](#)
- [New York voters OK land swap](#)
- [Standing Tall: For 100 years, fire towers have stood guard over our forests](#)

ADK Today is an occasional compendium of news and views of interest to members of the Adirondack Mountain Club (ADK). It is produced and distributed by the ADK Communications Department, 301 Hamilton Street, Albany, NY 12210. **Comments, questions or concerns** about the content of this newsletter? Want to be added to or dropped from our distribution list? Send us an [e-mail](#).

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