

Black River Currents

A Publication of the
Black River Chapter



Adirondack
ADK
Mountain Club

Fall 2025
NEWSLETTER
Volume 34 Issue 3

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Facebook & Newsletter

Linda Burns

Caryn Clements

Rich Ross

Email:

blackriveradk@gmail.com

Instagram:

@blackriveradk

Phone:

(315) 775-8375

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About Us

The Black River Chapter of the Adirondack Mountain Club is composed of members primarily in Jefferson and Lewis Counties. The region includes Eastern Lake Ontario shoreline, the Northern portion of Tug Hill, the Black River Valley, and the Western edge of the Adirondack Mountains.

The chapter offers something for everyone, from active support for conservation to a variety of outdoor activities and social events. Outings include hiking, canoeing, cross country skiing, and other outdoor activities. We also have social events such as chapter picnics and dinners. You do not have to be a triathlete or drive long distances to enjoy many of our activities. Hikes range from short, easy walks to more difficult high peaks climb. Many activities are local and do not all require a long drive to the Adirondacks.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, See us on Facebook at: **Black River Chapter of the Adirondack Mountain Club**, or Email us at: blackriveradk@gmail.com

Black River Currents is published quarterly, printed by Coughlin Printing (Watertown, NY) and distributed to its members who “opt-out” of electronic copies. **To Opt-Out, send your name and address to: Rich Ross, Editor, PO Box 156, Natural Bridge, NY 13665.**

Color copies are available at the ADK Website: <https://adk.org/chapter/black-river/>

Membership

As of 8/12/2025

Family Member	102
Adult Member	64
Senior Member	35
Family Life Member	4
TOTAL	205



• Family Member • Adult Member • Senior Member • Family Life Member

Photo credit: Front Cover-Biking along the Black River Feeder Canal, NY
Back Cover-Charter Members: Don Hoffman & Gordon Ludwig, Pisgah National Forest, NC

Next newsletter deadline November 1st, 2025

From the Editor

Well, summer is nearly behind us—it's flown by, hasn't it? Now we turn our attention to fall, with its brilliant colors and crisp air. And before long, winter will be upon us, bringing a new season of adventure tucked between family gatherings and holiday traditions. According to early forecasts and the Farmer's Almanac, we may be in for an early arrival, colder temperatures, and more snow than usual.

In anticipation, the Black River & Onondaga Chapters have begun scouting Winter Outing sites a bit farther north than Lacona. This shift could open the door for greater participation from our fellow chapters in Northern New York—a welcome opportunity to connect and collaborate.

If you've been keeping up with our chapter's activities, you'll find a full recap in the "Backtracks" section. It's been a busy and rewarding year: despite vacations and unpredictable weather, we've accomplished a lot. We cleaned up a stretch of highway, attended conferences, paddled, picnicked, hiked, biked, hosted trail work days, and even pulled off a successful work weekend. Only a few events were sidelined by rain or high heat—pretty impressive for a summer season.

Looking ahead, we've got a full slate of fall events to enjoy before the snow flies. One highlight is the ADK Fall Heart Lake Work Weekend at the end of October. It's a fantastic opportunity to lend a hand, meet members from other chapters, and spend time in a beautiful setting. As always, many hands make light work—and our chapter knows how

to show up.

On the digital front, we've expanded our presence beyond Facebook and Instagram. This summer, we joined Strava! If you use a Garmin or other smartwatch, consider linking up and joining our group: ADK Black River Chapter. It's a great way to stay connected and share your adventures.

We're also proud members of the League of American Bicyclists and the American Hiking Society—two organizations that provide valuable resources and advocacy support for our chapter's mission.

Planning for the Annual Meeting is well underway. We've reserved the Elks Lodge in Carthage, selected a menu, and selected a speaker. Last year's monogrammed shoulder packs were a hit, and we're working on another thoughtful giveaway for this year. Details are included in this issue.

Our chapter continues to grow, thanks to the dedication and enthusiasm of our volunteers, members, and donors. Your efforts make all the difference—and I'm deeply grateful to each of you for helping make the Black River Chapter such a vibrant and welcoming community.

See you on the trail,

Rich Ross

Black River Chapter

Chairperson & Newsletter Guy

WANTED Missing Chapter Newsletters REWARD!

Help Preserve Our Black River Chapter's History!

Over the years, our chapter has built a rich legacy, documented in our newsletters. However, some of those valuable past editions are missing!

We're asking you to take a trip down memory lane—search your attic, bookshelves, storage bins, or even tucked-away corners under the bed. If you happen to find any of these "missing" newsletters (listed below), we'd love to hear from you.

To help in our archival efforts, we're offering \$2.00 per copy for any missing newsletters you can provide. If you locate one, please send an email to blackriveradk@gmail.com with a description of the document's condition. While we'd ideally love them in great shape for scanning and preservation, any contribution is valuable.

There is a possibility that there wasn't one created for whatever reason at that time, but without that history we do not know. These newsletters hold an incredible history—stories, milestones, and insights that have shaped our chapter, just as we referenced them during our 45th Anniversary year. Let's work together to ensure our legacy is preserved for generations to come!

Your help is greatly appreciated. We'll keep you posted which ones are turned in first. Hurry, be the first to collect the reward.

Year	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
2006	V-14 N-1	V-14 N-2	V-14 N-3	Missing
2007	V-15 N-1	Missing	V-16 N-3	Missing
2008	V-17 N-1	V-17 N-2	V-17 N-3	V-17 N-4
2009	V-18 N-1	V-18 N-2	Missing	Missing
2010	Missing	Missing	Missing	Missing
2011	Missing	Missing	Missing	Missing
2012	Missing	Missing	Missing	Missing
2013	Missing	Missing	Missing	Missing
2014	V-23 N-1	V-23 N-2	Missing	Missing
2015	Missing	Missing	Missing	Missing
2016	Missing	Missing	Missing	V-25 N-4
2017	V-26 N-1	V-26 N-2	V-26 N-3	Missing
2018	Missing	Missing	Missing	Missing
2019	Missing	Missing	V-28 N-3	V-28 N-4

ADK Fire Tower Challenge for an AUTUMN VIEW

Adirondack Fire Towers were once essential for forest safety and conservation. After the Great Fires of 1903 and 1908, which devastated over one million acres of forest preserve, a more effective system for managing wildfire detection and public safety became necessary. Built in the early 20th century, these towers allowed observers to spot wildfires before they could spread, helping to protect the region’s vast forests. As fire detection methods advanced, many towers were decommissioned, but today, they stand as historic landmarks and popular hiking destinations, offering stunning panoramic views of the Adirondack landscape. Preserving these structures honors the region’s conservation history and provides a unique opportunity for visitors to connect with the past.

Today, the Adirondack Mountain Club and the Glens Falls/Saratoga Chapter work together to sponsor the Fire Tower Challenge, which encourages participants to explore a variety of regions throughout the Adirondack and Catskill Parks. This popular hiking challenge invites outdoor enthusiasts to experience the rich history and beautiful views of these areas by hiking to the summits of at least 23 fire tower peaks—18 in the Adirondack Park and 5 in the Catskill Park. The challenge promotes adventure and physical activity while highlighting the critical role fire towers have played in forest conservation and public safety. It also includes a stewardship component, reinforcing one of the core tenets of the Adirondack Mountain Club’s mission.

Upon completion, hikers can apply for a certificate, patch, and recognition from ADK, making it a rewarding way to experience the diverse landscapes and heritage of the region. The challenge can be completed in any season, with an optional winter challenge that requires summits to be reached between December 21 and March 21. Whether tackling it in warmer months or braving the winter conditions, the Fire Tower Challenge is a meaningful way to engage with many regions throughout New York States Forest Preserves.

The Adirondack Fire Tower Challenge will celebrate its 25th anniversary in 2026 with over 2,500 completers so far – are you ready to be the next? For more information go to: <https://members.adk.org/members/members/get-involved/adk-fire-tower-challenge.aspx>



The Fire Towers

Adirondack Park

- Azure Mountain
- Bald (Rondaxe) Mountain
- Belfry Mountain
- Black Mountain
- Blue Mountain
- Buck Mountain
- Cathedral Rock
- Goodnow Mountain
- Gore Mountain**
- Hadley Mountain
- Hurricane Mountain
- Kane Mountain
- Loon Lake Mountain
- Lyon Mountain
- Mount Adams
- Mount Arab
- Owls Head Mountain
- Pillsbury Mountain
- Poke-o-Moonshine Mountain
- Snowy Mountain
- Spruce Mountain*
- Stillwater Mountain*
- St. Regis Mountain
- Swede Mountain*
- Vanderwhacker Mountain

- Wakely Mountain
- Woodhull Mountain

Catskill Park

- Balsam Lake Mountain
 - Hunter Mountain**
 - Overlook Mountain
 - Red Hill
 - Mount Tremper
- *Closed during hunting season.*

***Ascents using ski lifts do not count for these mountains.*

OUTINGS COMMITTEE REPORT

We've had a busy and fun-filled summer! The season kicked off with our event at the **Antique Boat Museum's Family Day**, followed by three events at **Baker Woods Preserve**. We also had a July hike at Mount Marcy and hosted several paddling and biking events for all skill levels.

Our weekly **Tuesday Trails** events had some great turnouts, especially at **Chaumont Barrens and Otter Creek Preserve**. A couple of events were canceled due to the summer heat, but this weekly event will continue into the fall. We'll get to enjoy a new set of beautiful plants and wildlife as the seasons change! Upcoming locations for the fall include **Joseph A. Blake Wildlife Sanctuary**, another paddle in **Chippewa Bay**, and a trip to **Downybrook Nature Reserve**.

Keep an eye on your email and our Facebook page for updates on locations and times.

If you have suggestions for locations to explore in the upcoming season, please reach out to us at blackriveradk@gmail.com or 315-775-8375.

We had the whole of Chippewa Bay to ourselves, with the exception of a bald eagle and cormorants drying their wings in the evening sun.



Pictures cannot capture the beautiful lady slippers and prairie smoke on display at Chaumont Barrens.



We have enjoyed the hospitality of the Antique Boat Museum's weekly Community Sailing offered on Tuesday evenings in Clayton a couple of times this summer.



For many attendees, it is their first time ever sailing and what better place to do this than the St. Lawrence River in a classic boat!

Chapter Phone Number: 315-775-8375

Think of your email address and phone number as keys to your digital and real-world life. Once these keys are out in the open, you lose a significant degree of control over who can reach you and for what purpose. This is why the Chapter and its officers have thought twice about publishing this information and are implementing a change to the way we publicize our outings and events.

The Chapter has procured a new phone number for all members and the general public to use if they have questions about the ADK Mountain Club, need assistance with becoming a member or to RSVP for outings and events.

Voicemail messages left at this number will be transcribed and directed to the chapter email that will be sent to the appropriate Officer or Committee Chair for response. We hope this new procedure will balance privacy and connectivity, allowing us to engage with the community while safe-guarding our members and leaders alike.



Upcoming Chapter Events

September, 2025

BLACK RIVER CHAPTER BUSINESS MEETING

Thursday September 11th 7:00 PM. This is a ZOOM call and you can join via laptop, phone or desktop computer. For connection details, contact 315-775-8375 or email: blackriveradk@gmail.com

MASSAWEPIE LAKE PADDLE

Sunday, September 7th, 2025. – Join us for a scenic paddle on beautiful Massawepie Lake! We'll cover approximately 6 miles at a relaxed pace, perfect for soaking in the late-summer serenity.

Please plan to meet at 9:30 AM at the entrance to Massawepie Boy Scout Camp, marked by a large sign directly on Route 3 heading east. You'll find it just past the town of Gale and the cemetery. If you reach Casagrains, you've gone too far!

This is a great opportunity to connect with fellow paddlers, enjoy the outdoors, and explore one of the hidden gems of the Adirondacks. RSVP: 315-775-8375 or email: blackriveradk@gmail.com



TUG HILL TRAVERSE TRAIL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY #7

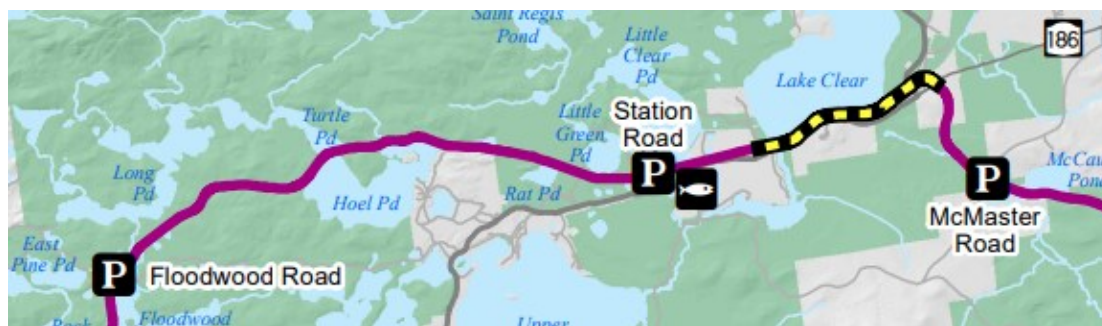
Friday, September 12th, see details later in the newsletter



#3 RIDE THE ADIRONDACK RAIL TRAIL: STATION RD TO FLOODWOOD!

Saturday, September 13th – Experience the breathtaking Adirondack wilderness on this ride along the newly completed **Adirondack Rail Trail**!

This round-trip adventure spans less than **12 miles one way**, leading from Station Road to Floodwood Outpost along a smooth, well-packed stone dust trail—ideal for road bikes, hybrids, and mountain bikes. Along the way, we'll make a stop at the Floodwood Outpost, where you'll get a glimpse into the area's rich history from the 1970s.



To ensure a comfortable ride, we'll begin early and avoid the midday rush.

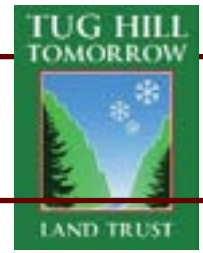
Whether you're looking for a casual ride or eager to immerse yourself in the natural beauty of the Adirondacks, this trip promises a fantastic cycling experience.

RSVP: 315-775-8375 or email: blackriveradk@gmail.com

Upcoming Chapter Events

TUG HILL TRAVERSE TRAIL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY #8

Saturday, September 27th, see details later in the newsletter



October, 2025

BAKER WOODS PRESERVE FALL CLEANUP

Saturday, October 4th, Once again we will meet at Baker Woods to help Matt & Linda Carney prepare the trails for fall & winter, clean up brush, prepare the garden for spring, see if any work needs to be done on the new Sensory Trail that was introduced this summer, inspect signage and possibly stain them.

We will meet at 4114 Factory Rd in Natural Bridge at 10:00 AM and work till 12:00 PM. Breakfast will be provided, bagels, muffins. Please remember to bring water, snacks, gloves, and any tools that you may think helpful. Afterwards you are welcome to hike the various trails.

Please RSVP 315-775-8375 or email: blackriveradk@gmail.com



MASSAWEPIE HIKE

Saturday, October 25th, We will meet 9:30 AM, at the camp entrance (There is a very large sign "Massawepie Boy Scout Camp" directly on Rt 3, (heading east) after the town of Gale, cemetery. If you get to Casagrains (again if you are heading east) you have gone too far.

Trail is yet to be determined, however, plan to spend about 2 hours hiking, bring lunch/snacks, etc. https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/docs/lands_forests_pdf/massawepietrailmap.pdf



RSVP: 315-775-8375 or email: blackriveradk@gmail.com

Upcoming Chapter Events

ADK/HEART LAKE WORK WEEKEND

Join Us for the Fall Work Weekend: As the vibrant colors of autumn fade into the crisp air of late October, it's time to gear up for another rewarding Fall Work Weekend in the Adirondacks. This year's event will take place **October 31st – November 2nd, with early arrivals welcome on October 30th**. Work officially begins Friday morning, so come ready to roll up your sleeves and make a difference!

*This year, all registration will be done exclusively through the ADK iMis online registration system. **Please remember that completion of up-to-date sexual harassment training is required.***

As we approach the weekend, I'll coordinate with staff to put together a comprehensive task plan. The specific projects will be shared closer to the event, but rest assured, there will be plenty of valuable work to be done in support of these cherished areas.

At this time, I simply want to get the dates on your calendar and encourage you to start thinking about joining us for this important effort. Once the registration site is live, I'll send out a follow-up announcement with all the necessary links and details. Stay tuned for more updates, and we look forward to seeing you out on the trails for another great Fall Work Weekend!.....Tim Randolph

Questions? Contact: 315-775-8375 or email: blackriveradk@gmail.com



November, 2025

BLACK RIVER CHAPTER BUSINESS MEETING

Thursday November 6th, 7:00 PM. This is a ZOOM call and you can join via laptop, phone or desktop computer. For connection details, contact 315-775-8375 or email: blackriveradk@gmail.com

HIGLEY STATE PARK, HIKE

Saturday, November 8, 2025. We will meet at the ski lodge at 9:30am where parking is also available.

Plan to hike (about 3 miles) the Cedar Brook Trail to the first lean to and then change to the Beaver Pond Trail, circle around back to the Cedar Brook Trail and end at the ski lodge.

Bring snacks/lunch/etc. <https://parks.ny.gov/documents/parks/HigleyFlowWinterTrailMap.pdf>

RSVP: 315-775-8375 or email: blackriveradk@gmail.com



BLACK RIVER CHAPTER ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, November 15, 2025 Annual Meeting See details in this issue.

TUG HILL TRAVERSE TRAIL WORK—2025



TUG HILL TRAVERSE TRAIL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

September 12, Friday

September 27m, Saturday

Our region is well known for the Tug Hill plateau, but how many have actually experienced it? Come along on one of our work days while we build the trail from end to end.

Working on this 20 mile trail, you will immerse yourself in pure forest that is a scarcity nowadays.

Bring insect repellent, gloves, water, lunch, and tools such as pruners and loppers. Rating C (fairly easy).

For questions and meeting place contact
blackriveradk@gmail.com or 315-775-8375

For registration go to Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust.

<https://tughilltomorrowlandtrust.org/>



Backtracks

May 2025

ADOPT A HIGHWAY ROUTE 3 CLEANUP

Saturday May 10th, was a great sunny day as we started our second year of spring cleanup on our adopted stretch of Route 3, a gateway to the Adirondacks. Our six volunteers (Rich, Terri, Matt & Linda, Dave & Caryn) collected 14 bags of trash (lots of aluminum cans, plastic bottles and food containers), various car parts and lumber totaling approximately 225 pounds of debris. Thank you for all your help - couldn't have done it without you. And thank you to Glider Oil Company, Inc. for the use of their parking lot and to Save The River for the 5 gallon pails and scales. And to the NYS DOT Jefferson County for the hard hats, safety vest, grabbers and bags.



JUNE 2025

ANNUAL BLACK RIVER WATERSHED CONFERENCE

Monday, June 3rd. The 15th Annual Black River Watershed Conference was held from 9:00 AM—4:00 PM at the Hilton Garden Inn Watertown. Both Caryn Clements and Rich Ross attended. The theme was “Exploring Our Watershed: Insights, Innovations, and Action”.

This year's conference updated stakeholders living and working in the 5 counties and over 60 communities in the watershed on topics including soil and water conservation district updates from Lewis, Jefferson, Oneida, Hamilton, and Herkimer counties, culvert replacements by Trout Unlimited, Black River Watershed water quality sampling results from the Upstate Freshwater Institute, invasive species updates from the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets, and regional winter climate analysis from the NYS Tug Hill Commission. The last event of the conference included a feature an interactive session to collaborate on ideas, projects, challenges, and solutions in the watershed.



The Black River Watershed Conference allows citizens, local leaders, and other stakeholders from local government, conservation, and agencies to come together and discuss opportunities to protect our environment, enhance recreational opportunities, and manage developing issues within the watershed. The conference is part of outreach efforts originating from the Black River Watershed Plan.

Backtracks

1000 ISLANDS FAMILY FREE DAY

Saturday, June 7th, What a fantastic way to welcome summer! The 1000 Islands Family Free Day was a resounding success, with beautiful weather, strong attendance, and plenty of enthusiasm from the community.

Our ADK booth, set up near the refreshing breeze of the river, was staffed by Rich, Dave, Linda, and Kris—thank you all for your time and energy! Throughout the day, we welcomed a steady stream of visitors curious about ADK and its role in the region. Brochures and handouts sparked conversations about our local chapter events, and several attendees—already familiar ADK members—signed up for more information about our popular Tuesday Trails outings.

The event offered a wonderful opportunity to connect with both longtime supporters and new faces. With such positive feedback and engagement, it's clear this is one to keep on the calendar for future years.

A heartfelt thanks to all the chapter members who helped make the day a success!



GENESEE VALLEY CHAPTER'S 25TH ANNUAL OUTDOOR EXPO

Saturday, June 14th. Our chapter was proud to once again participate in the Genesee Valley Chapter's 26th Annual Outdoor Expo, a beloved regional tradition that celebrates all things outdoors. Held at the scenic Mendon Ponds Park—one of the area's premier spots for recreation—the event was free and open to the public, drawing a vibrant crowd of outdoor enthusiasts.

Local clubs and organizations filled the park's beach area, offering hands-on experiences, expert advice, and the chance to explore the latest gear. The day was packed with workshops covering hiking, canoeing, kayaking, backpacking, camping, cycling, and more—each designed to deepen participants' skills and enjoyment of outdoor adventures.



Our ADK booth was a hub of activity, with chapter members engaging visitors in conversations about our mission, upcoming events, and opportunities to get involved. It was a great chance to connect with fellow nature lovers and support the Genesee Valley Chapter in hosting such a well-organized and inspiring event. Kudos to everyone who made the day a success—and thank you to our chapter members for representing ADK with enthusiasm and heart!

Backtracks

CHAPTER SUMMER PICNIC

Sunday, June 29th This year's Annual Summer Picnic was held at the beautiful Baker Woods Preserve, a site our chapter proudly supports through seasonal cleanups and the development of a Sensory Trail—thanks to the leadership of Matt and Linda Carney.

The chapter provided hot dogs, hamburgers, rolls, and table service, while attendees brought a delicious variety of dishes to share. And wow—there was no shortage of food! The picnic was a wonderful mix of familiar faces, new members, and folks curious about joining our chapter. In total, about 20 people attended, including several children who added to the lively atmosphere. A drawing for various items added a fun burst of excitement to the day, and the weather couldn't have been better. It was the kind of gathering that reminds us why community matters.

Thank you to everyone who helped organize, contributed food, and made the day so special.



July 2025

JBL-100 YEAR CELEBRATION

Friday July 4th Johns Brook Lodge celebrated its 100th anniversary! The festivities included a historical JBL timeline and booklet, tours of the recently renovated Camp Peggy O'Brien, a keynote speech by Tony Goodwin, and a barbecue dinner with chocolate cake. Rich, our chapter chair and board member attended among others. Thank you to everyone who came to JBL to share stories, enjoy the outdoors and the company of others, and honor this historic centennial.



Backtracks

MOUNT MARCY: A HIKE TO REMEMBER

Monday, July 14, On a crisp Monday morning, five hikers set out to conquer Mount Marcy, the tallest peak in New York State. With 14.8 miles of trail ahead and over 3,000 feet of elevation gain, the group departed from the ADK High Peaks Information Center with high spirits at about 7:30 am, sturdy boots, and a shared sense of adventure.

The trail to Marcy is known for its beauty and its challenge—and it delivered both in full. Early stretches offered peaceful forest paths and glimpses of distant ridgelines. As the group ascended, the terrain grew steeper and more rugged, demanding focus and stamina. With the threat of an oncoming storm, the weather held steady, providing ideal conditions for the day.

But as every seasoned hiker knows, the mountain doesn't always yield easily. One member of the group became unable to complete their 3rd trip to the summit and made the wise decision to turn back, prioritizing safety. The remaining four hikers pressed on, reaching the peak and soaking in the panoramic views from 5,344 feet above sea level. On the decent, one hiker twisted his knee which slowed his return till almost dark.

Though not all reached the summit, the day was a success in every meaningful way. It was a reminder that hiking is not just about the destination—it's about the journey, the camaraderie, and the resilience we discover in ourselves and each other. Every member of the group contributed to the spirit of the day, and each step—whether on the ascent or the return—was part of a shared story.

We extend our gratitude to our Level 3 trip leader for ensuring a safe and well-organized experience, and to all participants for their enthusiasm, grit, and good humor.

Join Us on the Next Adventure: Whether you're a seasoned hiker or just starting out, we welcome you to be part of our next outing. Reach out at blackriveradk@gmail.com or call 315-775-8375 to learn more or get involved.

LOON COUNTING AT STAR LAKE

Saturday, July 19th, A fantastic day to kayak and count loons. We had a total of 4 people. Launched about 7:50am and saw our first look at 8:05. The count is only from 8am to 9am and in that time we saw a total of 4 loons. 2 in the lake and 2 flying overhead ultimately finding a spot on the lake. At 9:10 we spotted 2 more loons but unfortunately could not be included in our count. Great kayaking weather too!

PIERCEFIELD FLOW PADDLE

Wednesday, July 23rd, This paddle was postponed but a timeframe became available and I just went for it! Three of us paddled on another gorgeous day. We paddled to the end and then back around by the shoreline. Paddle was lovely, however my group likes to swim and the flow was so full of milfoil that it was unfeasible. The flow is choked with milfoil and 75% of the flow has extremely low oxygen levels. This is a good time to remind everyone to wash their boat after each paddle. This lake is pretty much dead and cannot be revived without enormous funding and dedication by each and every paddler.



Backtracks

A SCENIC RIDE ON THE BLACK RIVER FEEDER CANAL TRAIL

Saturday, August 9th, We couldn't have asked for a better day to explore the historic Black River Feeder Canal Trail. With beautiful scenery and a smooth dirt path, the route offered a peaceful and enjoyable ride alongside the canal's gentle flow.

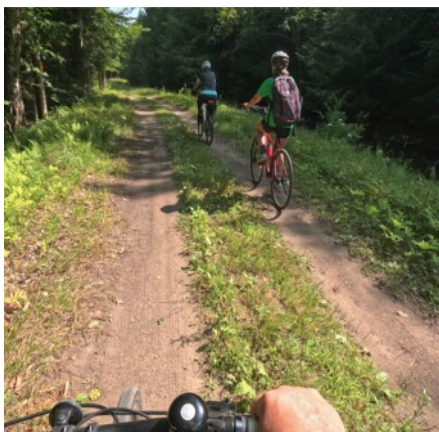
Four of us set off around 9:15 AM from the covered bridge in Erwin Park, Boonville, riding a trail well-suited for gravel, hybrid, and electric bikes. Along the way, we appreciated thoughtful trail markings—white paint for minor rock protrusions and red for more significant obstacles—helping riders navigate safely

We crossed about 8 roads; Sargent Road, the Moose River Road, Hayes Road, Hawkinsville Road, then Williams Road, Millers Woods Road Edmonds Road. Wildlife added to the charm, with ducks and deer calmly observing our passage. We paused a couple of times to regroup and enjoy the surroundings.

By 11:15 AM, we reached the end of the trail and headed toward the Forestport Diner, hoping for a bite—but they were just closing. Instead, we found a shady spot and enjoyed a quiet lunch together before beginning the return trip.

One rider noted we were following the river's flow and predicted a downhill ride back. While the elevation change was a modest 67 feet, a refreshing breeze made the return especially pleasant. We arrived back at the covered bridge around 3:15 PM, tired but satisfied after completing the 9.8-mile round-trip.

The packed dirt surface made for a smooth ride, ideal for both seasoned cyclists and those newer to longer distances. It was a day of camaraderie, nature, and gentle adventure—one we'll surely remember. Afterwards, we did go to the Boonville Hotel for a lunch.



Annual Meeting

2025 ANNUAL MEETING RESERVATION FORM

NOVEMBER 15TH, 2025

Name: _____ Phone: () _____ - _____

Email: _____

_____ I plan to attend with _____ guests OR _____ I do not plan to attend

\$25.00/per person \$ _____ total and donation (optional) \$ _____

\$10.00/member shirt S M L XL XXL total \$

Member Shirt Order (\$10.00 each – partially subsidized by the chapter) Only available to members who pre-order. Shirts will be distributed at the meeting.

Enclose a check for \$ _____ for each person and shirt (member only) made out to Black River Chapter and send to:

Linda Burns, 5 Pitcairn Path, Harrisville, NY 13648

Please send this in **ON OR BEFORE October 31st** . Thank you! Hope to see you!

Name (s) of Guests _____

Join us on: **November 15th, Saturday, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM** at the Elks Lodge, 1762, 511 Fulton St, Carthage, NY 13619 as we celebrate 46 great years of the Black River Chapter.

This is open to all members of the Black River Chapter, spouses and guests. Dinner will be a buffet consisting of roast beef, roasted turkey, tossed salad, rolls, roasted red potatoes, mixed vegetables, desserts, coffee, tea. A CASH bar is available for beverage purchases.

The event will include the buffet, guest speaker and a brief business meeting summarizing the years events.

The speaker will be our own chapter member; Manoj Vora.

He will share a bit about his history with the chapter and some memorable trips he has taken—both near and far. The presentation will mix a little chapter nostalgia with some adventure stories and photos.



Annual Meeting 2024

Black River Chapter / Publications Editor
PO Box 156
Natural Bridge, NY 13665



Please email the editor any
questions, comments,
and/or suggestions at:
blackriveradk@gmail.com

US Postage

Mail to:

Upcoming Events

September 4th Chapter Business Meeting
September 5th Massawepie Lake Paddle
September 12th Traverse Trail Work Day #7
September 13th Adirondack Rail Trail Bike
September 27th Traverse Trail Work Day #8
October 4th Baker Woods Preserve Fall Cleanup
October 2th Massawepie Hike
October 31st ADK/Heart Lake Work Weekend
November 6th Chapter Business Meeting

November 8th Higley State Park Hike
November 15th Annual Meeting

Follow us on **FACEBOOK** for additional events and updates.
Please make sure your address and email information is up to date.
Send any updates to our email address: blackriveradk@gmail.com

Questions?? Call (315) 775-8375