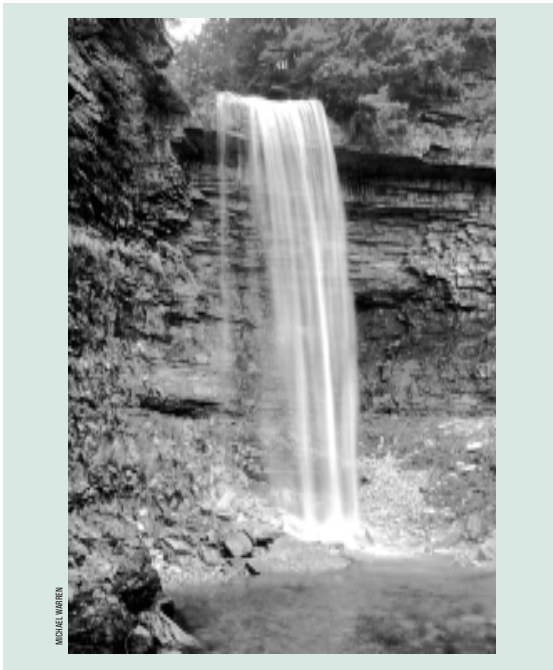




81st Year

TRAIL WALKER

NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY TRAIL CONFERENCE...MAINTAINING OVER 1300 MILES OF FOOT TRAILS MARCH/APRIL 2001



MICHAEL WARDEN

Minnewaska's Stony Kill Falls is added to public open space

Stony Kill Falls—one of four magnificent waterfalls in the Shawangunks—is now part of Minnewaska State Park Preserve. The Trail Conference raised more than \$100,000 toward its purchase price, working with the Open Space Institute (OSI) to acquire the 90-acre parcel, which also protects nearly 3,000 feet of the Stony Kill as it approaches the falls.

The land will provide access to the 87-foot-high falls, and also serve as a much-needed gateway to the adjacent 12,000-acre Minnewaska State Park Preserve. For many years, this region of the Preserve could be accessed only by walking several miles from Lake Awosting.

"This is a truly wonderful new opportunity for the hiking community," said Open Space Institute President Gary Haugland. "We will now turn our efforts to creating an environmentally friendly foot trail that will allow public access to magnificent Stony

Kill Falls." Haugland credited the success of this protection project to the ongoing collaboration between the Conference and OSI. The two organizations will continue to work together as well as with staff from Minnewaska State Park Preserve to design, blaze, and maintain a trail leading to the base and the top of the falls, as well as create a modest parking area on a nearby public road. (Ed. Note: Work dates will be announced in a future issue of the *Trail Walker*.)

The Trail Conference and its members provided about half of the funds for the \$220,000 purchase, through a special appeal orchestrated by the Conservation and Advocacy Committee chaired by past president H. Neil Zimmerman. The Open Space Institute provided additional funding and logistics for the purchase, closing on the sale January 22. The land will

continued on page 4

Welcome new executive director Ed Goodell

Hiker and outdoor enthusiast Ed Goodell joins the Trail Conference staff as its executive director on March 5. Ed's broad experience includes not only leading a variety of mission driven organizations, but also volunteering and serving on their boards.




"Ed's enthusiasm for hiking and the Trail Conference became apparent early in the search process," said Jane Daniels, Chair of the Executive Director Search Committee. "In addition, his degrees in biology and landscape architecture will help the Conference to deal with the issue of hikers' impact on the environment."

On accepting his new position Ed commented, "The Trail Conference has a

great story. It is an enduring grassroots organization with an incredibly successful record of creating usable open space in the most populated region of the country. I am delighted to be joining the volunteers and staff who are creating an even brighter future."

Ed is eager to begin working to improve the quality and quantity of trails in the region, to attract and better serve more members and volunteers and to increase the organization's visibility.

Ed was formerly the Director of Customer Experience at Intellexchange in New York City. Prior to that job he was Director of Corporate Social Responsibility at the Social Venture Network in San Francisco. He has also worked for the Louisiana Board of Regents, the Downtown Development District in Baton Rouge, LA., and operated his own landscaping business. 

Trail Volunteer Training Workshops on May 5

The Conference is conducting workshops on Saturday, May 5, at the Haldane High School in Cold Spring, N.Y., for Conference members, members of Conference clubs, and people from nearby communities. The Conference needs trail volunteers, so attending a class is a good way of determining if you would like to be a maintainer, monitor, or member of a trail crew.

This year we have invited members of our newly formed Science Advisory Committee to participate in the Trail Maintenance Workshop. For the first time there will be two classes helping to bring current scientific knowledge to our members. Each class will consist of a morning lecture and discussion followed by a field trip/hike related to the subject matter.

The day will begin with bagels and coffee at 9:00. The sessions are slated to begin at 9:30 and will include classroom

lecture and discussion, field work, and material to take home. Lunch will be provided. At 3:30 all participants will regroup for socializing and sharing their experiences. Sessions will be held rain or

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Nora Porter *Managing Editor*
Paul Leikin *Advertising Manager*

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NEW YORK - NEW JERSEY TRAIL CONFERENCE

Mission Statement

The New York-New Jersey Trail Conference, founded in 1920, is a federation of member clubs and individuals dedicated to providing recreational hiking opportunities in the region, and representing the interests and concerns of the hiking community. The Conference is a volunteer-directed public service organization committed to:

- Developing, building, and maintaining hiking trails.
- Protecting hiking trail lands through support and advocacy.
- Educating the public in the responsible use of trails and the natural environment.

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The New York-New Jersey Trail Conference is a volunteer, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. It is a federation of 88 hiking and outdoor groups, and 10,000 individuals.

from the president's notepad...

Lowdown on the Highlands

The *New York Times* recently ran a piece of great interest to the Trail Conference in its Weekend New Jersey section (January 21, 2001). Referring to the New Jersey Highlands as "the last frontier," the article put all the perspectives in one place for readers to consider. The wishes of preservationists, the dreams of developers, and the hopes of communities were well reported—as were the inevitable conflicts. The region's ability to contain population growth and control sprawl is being severely tested. Every hillside it seems has a development plan. And the resolve of those who want to save the Highlands needs to be strengthened.

Just west of the Highlands in northern New Jersey is the Wallkill River Valley. The river, whose rich banks and flood plains have been gold to area farmers, is also under siege. Site of a critical national wildlife refuge as well, its waters serve as a sentinel of the health for the entire area. But as more small farms are no longer able to be competitive enough to even pay property taxes, their leveled and cleared landscapes provide ideal settings for new subdivisions. The mountains of the Highlands have served as effective barriers to the transformation of the valley into another city.

Now there is a proposal to provide fast, multi-lane access from I-80 through the Highlands and into the Wallkill Valley. In order to enhance the economic growth of communities in this part of New Jersey (or create a world-class ski resort in Vernon), so the argument goes, a modern highway needs to be built. The widening of Route 15 for this purpose will act as an invitation to those who want to locate their homes and businesses in this area. At the end of the highway numerous roads fan out, soon to be transformed from country roads to commuter arteries. To be sure, many communities see this as a boon to their flagging economies; but the promises of growth are seldom fulfilled, while the irreplaceable destruction of the natural environment is guaranteed.

I urge all Trail Conference members to become aware of the threats to the Highlands, and to become active in trying to preserve as much of this precious region as possible. There are many avenues for activism. Most significant is to communicate with legislators and elected officials your desire not to sell the Highlands and the Wallkill River Valley to the highest bidder.

The Highlands deserve our unflinching attention, but I regret to say that one of the Trail Conference's strongest advocates for the Highlands is leaving. Anne Lutkenhouse, after years of dedication to the Appalachian Trail in New Jersey as well as the Highlands Trail, is moving on. She was responsible for our obtaining the designation as the Highlands Millennium Trail and her abiding love of the parks and open spaces of the Highlands led to the (unofficial) naming of a special resting spot along the AT in Wawayanda State Park. We will miss you Anne.

The Move

We did it! We have moved into our new office in Mahwah and are open for business. With the able planning and coordination skills of Judith Fulmer and with help from many, many volunteers she managed to make the new place fully functional within days. Thanks to one and all—you are a great bunch.

And as you see in this issue of the *Trail Walker*, we have hired a new Executive Director. Best wishes to Edward Goodell as he begins his new position. We look forward to an exciting future with him in Mahwah.

The sign left behind at 232 Madison Avenue said: "Here Today—Gone to Mahwah!"

—Gary Haugland

New York Purchases Second Catskill High Peak

Catskill's Vly Mountain Protected as Public Land


Vly Mountain, one of the last Catskill peaks above 3,500-feet that remained in private ownership, will be purchased and preserved by New York State. Thus another of the key goals of the Trail Conference's and Adirondack Mountain Club's Catskill lobbying efforts has been achieved.

The Trail Conference and the Adirondack Mountain Club have long advocated for the State's purchase of Bearpen and Vly Mountains. On February 1st, Governor Pataki announced that the State will purchase a 500-acre tract in the Town of Halcott for \$375,000, providing permanent protection for the vast majority of Vly Mountain's summit. In 1999, the state purchased Bearpen Mountain.

With an elevation of 3,529 feet, Vly Mountain is among the highest on a long ridge, offering excellent hiking opportunities and providing good views of the Catskills in Greene, Delaware, and Ulster counties.

The Vly Mountain parcel lies directly to the east of Bearpen State Forest, which includes the recently acquired summit of

Bearpen Mountain. Combining the newly acquired Bearpen and Vly properties with the existing Greene-Delaware Reforestation Area, more than 2,600 acres of con-

tinuous land is now available for hiking, cross-country skiing, camping, nature observation, and other public uses. 

Long Path North trail lands protected

New York State will also purchase five smaller parcels totaling 400 acres for \$402,000 to help consolidate the Greene County portion of the Long Path hiking trail, which runs from the George Washington Bridge near New York City to John Boyd Thatcher State Park in Albany County. These lands will connect the Long Path with a 175-acre state-owned parcel on the southwest ridge of Ginseng Mountain in the Town of Windham.

State acquisition of the properties guarantees the future of the Long Path Trail in Greene County, and allows hikers to avoid using a one-mile stretch of paved roadway when traveling through the area.

The Trail Conference and

Adirondack Mountain Club's goal is to extend the Long Path to the Mohawk River and Adirondacks. The purchases are supported with funding from the 1996 Clean Water/Clean Air Bond Act and the state's Environmental Protection Fund (EPF).

Neil Woodworth, counsel to the Trail Conference and Adirondack Mountain Club said, "We are thrilled with the purchase of Huntersfield and Ginseng Mountains lands for the Long Path. This will enable the Long Path to be extended north of the Catskill Forest Preserve towards the Mohawk River, and give hikers spectacular, ridge-top views from the summits of these mountains."

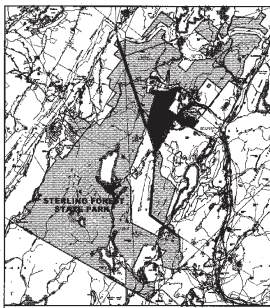


Double Dose of Good News for Sterling Forest

■ The Park Gets Bigger

Ninety-five percent of Sterling Forest is now protected public space following purchase in December of a 1,065-acre parcel at its heart by The Trust for Public Land and the Open Space Institute. After extensive negotiations the environmental groups paid \$7.89 million for two properties owned by Sterling Forest LLC, one of which includes a conference center along Sterling Lake. The parcels are to be turned over to the Palisades Interstate Park Commission and included in Sterling Forest State Park.

The two conservation organizations raised the purchase money from a number of public and private sources that have long participated in efforts to preserve Sterling Forest. New York State provided \$4



million, New Jersey \$1 million, the Federal Forest Legacy program \$2 million, and \$890,000 was donated by the Palisades Interstate Park Commission, various organizations, and individuals, including an anonymous member of the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference.

The purchase of these two parcels at the interior of Sterling Forest leaves approximately 740 acres in the hands of the Sterling Forest Company, which, according to news reports, plans to develop 103 homes and an 18-hole golf course on 571 acres in Tuxedo and business-related struc-

tures on 75 acres along Route 17, also in Tuxedo.

Once again, the Conference thanks all those that made this recent acquisition possible: the States of New York and New Jersey, the Palisades Interstate Park Commission, and our sister organizations The Trust for Public Land, and the Open Space Institute.

■ Former Senator Lautenberg Gives \$1.75 Million for Visitor Center

In January, former New Jersey Senator Frank Lautenberg donated \$1.75 million from his family's foundation toward building a visitor center in Sterling Forest State Park. This money will be augmented by \$500,000 from the State of New York and other private donations.

The Lautenberg Family Visitor Center is to be a 10,000-square-foot building located at the south end of Sterling Lake, in the town of Warwick, New York. It will be built of natural stone and masonry intended to match the beauty of its environment and will include an auditorium, multimedia room, and interactive exhibits as well as function as a rest area for hikers. A conceptual plan for the center (seen above) has been produced by Hudson Design in conjunction with New York State Parks and the Palisades Interstate Park Commission. Construction is scheduled to begin in August 2001, with completion slated for September 2002.

As senator, Lautenberg was crucial in securing \$17.5 million in federal funding toward the \$55 million price of preserving 15,800 acres of Sterling Forest in 1998.

Gary Haugland, President of the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference, said of the proposed center, "Senator Lautenberg and Governor Pataki are to be congratulated for their vision in creating this educational center, located in the heart of the Hudson Highlands. It will be a priceless resource for the metropolitan region's hikers, students, and educators."

Adieu to Anne, our 14-year veteran

by Gary Haugland

After 14 years of dedicated service to the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference, Projects Director Anne Lutkenhouse has announced that she will not be making the move to New Jersey, and thus will be departing to pursue other interests.

During her tenure Anne has served as assistant director for the Conference and as assistant field representative for the Appalachian Trail in New York and New Jersey. In 1993 she was promoted to her current position as Projects Director.

Anne has been a constant and supporting figure in the growth of the Trail Conference over the last decade and a half, particularly in expanding projects in New Jersey. The Trail Conference recognized her efforts by giving her the Anchor Award in 1993. Perhaps her signature project is the 1-mile-long Appalachian Trail relocation effort through the Pochuck Creek floodplain in Vernon Valley, NJ. She initiated this project by pulling together gov-

ernment agencies and volunteers to build the 110-foot-long Pochuck Bridge; several thousand feet of elevated boardwalk has followed. This complex project has taken over 10 years to reach its near-conclusion (planned for 2001/02). Anne's behind-the-scenes encouragement and tenacity kept all parties on track.

Anne also developed the Appalachian Trail Ridge Runner program in 1993 after N.J. State Park Service officials and the volunteers decided to field these trail educators. Anne's driving efforts also have resulted in the Highlands Trail being named the Millennium Trail for the state of New Jersey. She developed new relationships with reporters, editors, and writers for regional newspapers and magazines, helping to increase the Conference's visibility, membership roles, and recruitment of volunteers.

Additionally, Anne has been a key writer for the Trail Conference's newsletter, *Trail Walker*, and coordinator of all material in preparation for the managing editor.

Anne's gentle demeanor and kindness, behind her drive, have earned her great respect and affection among volunteers. "I really enjoyed working with Anne over the last five years both on the Highlands Trail and on mountain bike issues. Besides giving me sage guidance, she was always there with moral support when things got difficult," commented Bob Moss, Highlands Trail Committee chairman.

Anne leaves with mixed emotions, but her heart will always be with the Trail Conference. "The Trail Conference is like a much-extended family to me. It's always hard to leave, but seeing the projects and improvements that I've had a role in achieving makes me proud of my contributions to this region. My heartfelt best wishes to all the volunteers who truly do make such a difference."

We will miss you Anne. Your hard work and successes leave us a valuable legacy. 🌿

Anne is seen here in 1996 presenting the Hoeflerlin Award to Bob Moss.



Where there's a Will, there's a Trail

When we build them, you hike them. We've been building and protecting trails for 80 years for at least four generations of hikers since 1920. That's 1,300 miles in New York and New Jersey to date. Help us keep building for the next generation by naming the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference in your will. A bequest makes a wonderful gift, and it lasts beyond one lifetime.



For confidential information and legal language, contact the Trail Conference at 201-512-9348, or by email: info@nynjtc.org, and someone will contact you.



TRAIL NEWS

New, off-road link between Hewitt State Forest and Wawayanda State Park

Bearfort Ridge and Terrace Pond sections now connected



Helping to span the gap are (left to right): Mike Machetti, Bob Boysen, Jim Cornelius, Sandy Parr, John Grob.

Previously the Terrace Pond North trailhead and the Bearfort Ridge Trail were separated by a deep ravine requiring a .4 mile roadwalk along busy Warwick Turnpike. (See the Conference's *North Jersey Trails* map #21, grid E-3)

Last fall, the North Jersey Trail Crew built a pedestrian bridge over the ravine, on the north side of Warwick Turnpike opposite the Terrace Pond North trailhead. From the bridge, they also built a new .4 mile-long, blue-blazed extension of the Terrace Pond North trail to connect to the Bearfort Ridge Trail, thus eliminating the dangerous roadwalk. The extension traverses two mountains complete with rushing brook and a jungle of huge rhododendrons. Our thanks to all our crew members for this scenic and safety improvement, and to Wawayanda State Park, which supplied the bridge materials and delivered them to the work site.



Schunemunk Mountain's Sweet Clover Trail partially relocated

Two extensive relocations on the Sweet Clover Trail between the railroad tracks and the Jessup Trail recently opened. (See the Conference's *West Hudson Trails* map #8, top quarter.) Heading west from the railroad tracks, new switchbacks help the trail rise steeply. Further upward, another relocated section bypasses a wet area on a gentle grade, reaching new switchbacks and rock stairs as the terrain steepens. Views north and east towards Storm King Mountain, Crow's Nest, and Black Rock Forest are found on the upper switchbacks.



Stony Kill Falls

continued from front page

eventually be conveyed to the Palisades Interstate Park Commission, which owns and maintains Minnewaska State Park Preserve. Until that time, PIPC will administer the lands as part of the adjacent 12,000-acre park. The parcel includes a house with 12 acres that will be sold to defray the purchase price.

Major fundraising challenge is met

The Stony Kill appeal was the most ambitious fundraising effort ever attempted by the Conference, and the generous response by members, both clubs and individuals, quickly put us over our \$100,000 goal. The Trail Conference contributed \$115,000 to the purchase price of \$220,000, including a nonrefundable \$15,000 option payment, from the TC's Outdoor Fund, to hold the property while we raised money. The Outdoor Fund is a revolving, donor supported fund which enables the Trail Conference to participate in land acquisition projects.

Special thanks go to our member club donors. The Appalachian Mountain Club/New York-North Jersey Chapter's committees contributed a total of \$10,000; the Mid-Hudson, Ramapo, North Jersey, and Knickerbocker Chapters of the Adirondack Mountain Club gave a total of \$3,500. Other club donors include: The Campmor Environmental Team, New York Hiking Club, Catskill 3500 Club, Interstate Hiking Club, Mosaic Outdoor Mountain Club, Nassau Hiking and Outdoor Club, Sierra Club/New York City Group Photography Committee, and At-Your-Own-Risk Hiking Club. The Conference also received a donation from the staff of Minnewaska State Park Preserve.

The Trail Conference extends heartfelt thanks to all contributors to the Save Stony Kill Falls Appeal.

U

\$5,000 and up

Appalachian Mountain Club/New York-North Jersey Chapter's Committees, B. Harrison Frankel, William & Sibyl Golden, John & Marianne Gunzler, Terry Hamacher & Greg Schumaker, Joan James, Robert & Alma Newton, Patty Lee Parmalee, Hedley Weeks, Dava Weinstein, H. Neil Zimmerman

\$1,000-\$4,999

Adirondack Mountain Club/Mid-Hudson Chapter, Adirondack Mountain Club/North Jersey Chapter, Adirondack Mountain Club/Ramapo Chapter, Anonymous, Larry Braun, James Burns, Wanda Davenport, Peter & Janice Ford, Richard Holler, Karen Krueger, Bill Lockwood, Bill Mishler, Campmor Environmental Team, Neil & Kathryn Rindlaub, Robert Ross, Roy Sengstacken, Malcolm Spector, Ralph Ogden Foundation, Carolyn Zangara, George Zobelein

\$500-\$999

Adirondack Mountain Club/Knickerbocker Chapter, Frank Dogli, Toby Golick, Mark Hammer, David Klem, Keith Kral, Dean & Nancy Lennert, Phyllis Lennert, New York Hiking Club, Thompson & Joan Prentzel, Joe Raiola, Roger Roloff & Barbara Petersen, F. Peter Rose, Richard Warden, Adrienne & David Wiese

\$100-\$499

Burton Angrist, Christopher Bastedo, Sherri Biscan, Jaques & Eleanor Black, John Blenninger, Elizabeth Borden, Douglas Bowers, Sheldon Brown & Kathryn Weld, Peter Brown, Russ & Diane Cannizzaro, Rebecca Prentice Carel, Catskill 3500 Club, Daniel Chazin, William Close, Catherine Crawford & Thomas Eng, Carol Dempster, Carol & Donald Derr, Erna C. Neuman deVegvar, JoAnn & Paul Dolan, John Dryzga, Fran Dunwell & Wes Natzle, Ann & Frank Endress, Frederick Hyde Farmer, David Felsenthal, Robert & Judy Foester, Jakob & Gely Franke, Clark Galloway, Wendy Geffin, Jane & John Geisler, Susan & Barry Gerhardt, Geoffrey Gibson, Jeffrey Glans & Louise Perkins, Stella J. Green, Richard & Carol Grunebaum, David & Glenda Haas, Helen Harkaspi, Gary Haugland, Betty Heald, Raymond Hoeltz, Peter Howell, G. Steve Jordan, Esther Kirk, Charles Klein, John Kolp, Susan Kornacki & Charles Gordanier, Gloria & William Lewitt, John Linderman, Ann G. Loeb, Joel & Ruth Mandelbaum, Ernest Massardo, Mary Anne & Charlie Massey, Roland McIntosh, Geoffrey Meissner, Robert Messerschmidt, William Mitchell, Paul Monti, Nassau Hiking and Outdoor Club, Gail Neffinger, Thomas Nozkowski, NYC Sierra Club Photography Committee, Terry & Janet Pierce, Gale & Louis Pisha, Sidney Lee Posel, Michael & Joan Rea, Paul Rhinehart, Don Rieth, Stanley & Jenny Roberts, Alan Rojer, David & Judith Roth, Lionel Ruberg, Philip & Lisa Tracy Savoie, Murray Schechter, Fred Schroeder, Herbert Shulman, Jeffrey Slade & Ruth Diem, Joseph A. Smith, Phyllis Stewart, Barry Strugatz, Todd Thompson, Peter Tilgner & Suzan Gordon, Abba Tor, Thomas & Diane Tuthill, Lucy Voulgaris, William Ward, Jr., Eugene Wolf, Richard & Nancy Wolff, Hanson Wong, David Naola Woolf

Up to \$100

Kate Ahmadi, Kevin & Madeline Albert, At Your Own Risk Hiking Club, Peter Balma, Michael Bank, Kurt Baureiss, Vaclav Benes, Hanna & Andy Benesch, Ram Biyani, Kay Blumberg, Jacqui Bonavito, Linda Brandt, Walter Britt, Jennifer Broekman, Annette Burgess, Geraldine & George Byrne, Eric & Virginia Calder, Lynne Cashman, William & Marie Chiappane, Harold Chorny, Jean Christie, Herbert Coles, Rocco Coluccio, Joan Dean, Lynne & John Delesky, Claudia Depkin & William Braine, Mary & Roy Derstine, Charles Dexter III, Rosanne Dobbin, Michael Doehring, Patricia Dufort, Edmund Dunn, Dot & Tom Dwyer, David Everett, Edward Fanslau, Benjamin Fazio, Steven Fischler, Edgar & Olive Freud, Beth Gallagher & Rich Saccocio, John Gallagher, Diane Gamgochian, William Gelles, Chris Giffuni, Constantine Gletsos, Marjorie Grimm, Addie Haas, Margaret Haltigan, Brian Hanson Harding, Bruce Henderson & Zhen Ying, Jane Herman, William Richard Hickerson, Brian Horgan, Leonard & Dorothea Houston, Interstate Hiking Club, David & Eleanore Ireland, Lance Jacobs & Esta Shapiro, Robert Jacoby, Kathleen Janocko, Steven Jervis, Peter Johnson, Frank Keech, John Keegan, John Kesich & Emily Rizzo, Charles & Anita Kientzler, Susan & Lorne Kingsley, Stephen & Ann Klepner, Chad Kopp, Judy & Jack Kossover, Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Kurtz, Peggy LaBelle, Charles Leemans, Richard Levine, Doris Lommel, Judith Mage, Robert Marshall, Harold Martin, Seth McKee & Ellen Butowsky, Nicholas Menzorio, Rick & Joan Meril, Lawrence & Doris Merson, Minnewaska State Park staff, Janos Morocz, Mosaic Mountain Club, Martin Moskowitz, Carmen Negron & Carol Vericker, Joachim & Lila Oppenheimer, Don Pachner, Herbert Persky, Jeannine Pinto & G. VanDeWalle, Peter Poccia & Susan Murphy, Eugene M. & Neva M. Powell, Hedy E. & Lamont L. Preble, Paul N. & Joan Prentice, Dorothy M. Prideaux, Rita Prusinski, Maureen G. Radl, Marvin F. Reich, Kevin Riley & Family, Johanna Rioux, Judy Rosenblatt, Howard S. Rowland, Joan L. Russo, Ayako Saito, Gisela B. Schroeder, Noel P. Schulz, Melvin J. & Helga Schwartz, Norman C. Schwartz, Paul & Audrey Scraggs, George Blair Scribner, Joan F. Smith, Renate Spiegler, Thomas & Stacey Spiegler, Judyth Stavans, Thomas Straub, Cathie Swyka & Steven Goldberg, Michael & Sharon Taylor, Alicia & Mathew Tether, Alice Tufel, Evelyn Uriel, Rick & Karina Valdes, Ernest Valera, Joanne & John Velonis, Matthew & Lisa Visco, Karl Volk, John Waffenschmidt, Doris Wall, Pete Weckesser, Lewis Weinfeld, Leonard Weiss, Peter Zadis, Cathleen Zaeplf

TRAIL CREW SCHEDULES



HIGHLANDS TRAIL - NEW JERSEY
What & Where: New trail construction in northwestern New Jersey. Call leader no earlier than one week before the scheduled date for all the details.

When: Saturday, April 14, and Sundays, April 29 and May 6.

Leader: Bob Moss, 973-743-5203.

WEST HUDSON TRAIL CREW

On-the-job training with experienced leaders—beginners always welcome. Bring water, lunch and work gloves. We supply tools.

Sterling Forest State Park

What & Where: Erosion control on the Wildcat Mountain Trail.

When: Sunday, April 8.

Leader: Bob Marshall, 914-737-4792.

Harriman-Bear Mountain State Park

What & Where: Erosion control and trail rehabilitation on the Timp-Torne Trail.
When: Thursday, April 19; Saturdays, April 21 and May 5; Sundays, April 22 and May 6.

Leaders: Bob Marshall, 914-737-4792 (4/19); Claudia Ganz, 212-633-1324 (4/21 and 5/5); Chris Ezzo, 516-431-1148 (4/22 and 5/6).

WEST JERSEY TRAIL CREW

What & Where: Mt. Tammany Trail (Red Dot Trail) reconstruction/rehabilitation in Worthington State Forest. All are welcomed; no previous trail work experience is necessary. Bring sturdy boots, work gloves, lunch and water. Tools are provided. If possible, please notify the leaders that you are coming, so they will know how many people to plan work for.

When: Saturday, May 12.

Meet: 9:15 a.m. (Note: different meeting time than last year!) in the Dunnfield Creek Parking Lot. Rain cancels. Public transportation is available; please contact the leaders for details.

Leaders: Monica Resor and David Day, 732-937-9098.

NORTH JERSEY TRAIL CREW

What & Where: Tackle a variety of projects ranging from trail repair to bridge building in NJ's parks and forests. With all these projects please call the leader in advance and come prepared with work gloves, lunch waters and boots.

When: Sundays, March 11 and April 8.
Leaders: Sandy Parr, 732-469-5109; Dick Warner, 201-327-4945.

EAST HUDSON TRAIL CREW

What & Where: Tackle a variety of projects on the trails in the East Hudson Highlands.

When: Call leader for details of outings, or check the Trail Conference's website, www.nynjtc.org.

Leader: Bernie Stringer, 914-528-5018; string2@ibm.net.

1920 • 81 Years of Volunteer Spirit • 2001

GET INVOLVED

VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT

Help introduce families to trails

The Trail Conference's Outreach Program in Harriman State Park seeks volunteers to lead one-and-a-half hour nature walks along the Appalachian Trail for families who are unfamiliar with the trails and woods of the park.

The walks are conducted on Saturday mornings in July and August. Leaders will work in teams and will recruit participants from among the families picnicking in the vicinity of Tiorati Circle.

This is a wonderful opportunity to cultivate an interest and love for walking and nature among children and their parents.

A training workshop in the natural sciences will be offered to prospective leaders; look for an announcement in the next issue of the *Trail Walker*. For further information or to volunteer contact Outreach Program Committee chair Wanda Davenport at 201-670-8383 before 9 p.m.

Trail Training Workshops on May 5

continued from front page
shine.

Registration is required. Select one of the following workshops, fill out the coupon, and send it to the TC Office by April 22 along with a \$3 registration fee (\$4.00 for non-members). An information packet will be sent to all registrants in late April. Sign up is first come, first served. Past workshops have been oversubscribed, so send in your registration early.

Maintenance "101"

Ever wonder what makes the one hiking trail more pleasant to walk on than another? The answer is in how well the trail is clipped and blazed. This training session teaches techniques, maintenance standards and what problems to expect and how to solve them. You should take this class if you are interested in becoming a maintainer or enhancing your skills.

Construction and Restoration

Hiking trails are built with side hills, steps, and waterbars. These elements are also used to restore an eroded trail. Workshop

participants will restore a section of a trail by constructing steps, waterbars, and side hill. If you have wanted to help on a trail crew or do some heavy repairs on a trail, this is the workshop for you.

Monitoring Trail Lands

Monitors are the "eyes and ears" to ensure that no one misuses or encroaches on trail lands. This workshop draws heavily on the experience the Trail Conference has had in managing the Appalachian Trail on National Park Service property. Participants will learn how to check the boundaries and what problems to look for. Take this course if you are interested in helping trails in a different way. You need to feel comfortable in off-trail situations.

Trails, Watersheds, and Wetlands

This science workshop will be led by William Richardson, a watershed hydrologist with the NYC Department of Environmental Protection.

Endangered and Threatened Species and Habitats in the East Hudson Area

This science workshop will be led by Chris Harmon, Director of Stewardship for the Eastern N.Y. Chapter of The Nature Con-

An AT monitor's tale

Monitors sought in Orange County, N.Y.



by Don Myers

On September 17, while I was training George Li, a new Appalachian Trail boundary monitor, we found a log cabin under construction. Its builders had cleared approximately a quarter acre of standing timber and blowdowns well within the National Park Service boundary. In addition they had nailed the cut logs to live, standing trees to create the cabin, effectively destroying four more trees. Their purpose in building this structure is unclear but its net effect is a degraded landscape.

This was an unusual find. More commonly, the situations that monitors en-

George Li stands by a cabin discovered by AT monitors.

counter on NPS land deal with off-road vehicles such as ATVs and mountain bikes and, to a lesser extent, hunters and horseback riders. All of these are prohibited within the AT corridor. Sometimes we come across trails that have been cut and abandoned but live on as washouts and eroded hillsides. Infrequently, we find encroachments by neighboring property owners.

AT boundary monitors are not enforcement officers. We are volunteers who walk the boundary on a regular basis and report what we find. We post and replace signs and boundary markings so people know that they are on NPS land if they approach from off the trail. We also watch for any development that might make an impact on the trail.

■ *Anyone interested in becoming a monitor should contact Don Myers at 845-362-6020. There are several sections available between the New Jersey state line and Route 17 in Orange County, NY.*

REGISTRATION FORM

Trail Maintenance Workshop ■ Saturday, May 5, 2001

Please check the session you want to attend:

- Maintenance "101" Construction and Restoration
 Monitoring Trail Lands Watershed Issues
 Species and Habitat Issues

- I am a Trail Conference Member and I enclose a check for \$3.00
 I am not a Trail Conference Member and I enclose a check for \$4.00.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Day Phone (____) _____ Eve. Phone (____) _____

Do you currently maintain a trail? Yes No

If yes, do you work As an individual or with a club?

Name of club, if applicable: _____

Name of trail you maintain: _____

Check here if you have questions and would like someone to call you.

Return by April 22nd with a check payable to: NY-NJ Trail Conference, Trail Maintenance Workshop, 156 Ramapo Valley Road, Mahwah, NJ 07430

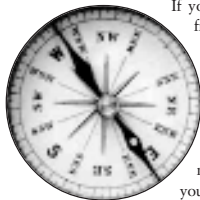
HIKERS' BOOKSHELF



Wilderness Navigation

by Bob & Mike Burns. The Mountaineers Publishing Company, 1999. Softcover, 128 pages. \$9.95.

Reviewed by John P. Jurasek



If you are seeking a refreshing new book on using navigational tools in the wilderness that is also a quick and easy read, then *Wilderness Navigation* may be the book for you. This latest release

by The Mountaineers Press will certainly keep good company alongside some of their more famous releases.

I was surprised at the amount of information packed into the book's eight chapters and 125 pages. All of the standard topics are covered, including a description of topo maps, compass usage, and various navigation techniques. There are many illustrations and map views that, although in black and white, certainly help with understanding the sometimes-difficult concepts. There are also "Wilderness Navigation Practice Problems" which test the reader on his or her knowledge. The chapters on the use of the altimeter and GPS unit were particularly informative. Regarding the latter, it is important to note that the authors discuss the use of selective availability—the intentional scrambling of the GPS signal, which introduced errors up to 300 feet—which was eliminated last year by presidential order. Because selective availability has been shut down, GPS is now a far more useful navigational tool than the authors suggest.

This book provides a good overview of the various wilderness navigation techniques, allowing readers to move on to some of the more comprehensive books on the subject and explore whatever area interests them.

A Fine Kind of Madness: Mountain Adventures Tall and True

by Laura & Guy Waterman. The Mountaineers Publishing Company, 2000. 206 pages, paperback \$16.95.

Reviewed by Alice L. Tufel

Why do we climb? That question—and, by extension, the question "Why do we hike?"—is the unifying theme in Laura and Guy Waterman's fifth and final book together, *A Fine Kind of Madness: Mountain*

Adventures Tall and True.

A selected compilation of the Watermans' writings through the years, both fiction and nonfiction, the book illustrates the authors' diverse talent for humor, biography, gothic horror, memoir, contemporary stories, and meditative essays, all of which they handle here with ease. While many of these pieces "are meant simply to entertain," the book's exploration of the "basic impulse to climb" also leads inevitably to critical questions about wild lands preservation.

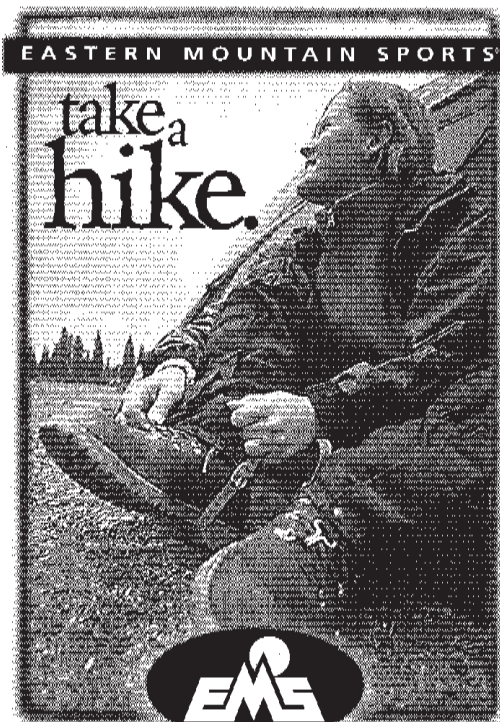
Set in the mountains of New York, Vermont, and New Hampshire, the selections in this volume were inspired by both the Watermans' own experience on rock and ice, and writers ranging from Dr. Seuss to Shakespeare. Guy's Mickey Spillane-like "The Gearfreak Caper," inspired by a Woody Allen story, is about one climber's obsession with gear, while the final, thoughtful essay, "Why the Lorax Lost," inspired by Dr. Seuss, considers our complicity in the increasing drain on our natural resources. "The First Ascent," a highly inventive fictional rendering of Satan's entry into Eden, offers a gloss on Milton's *Paradise Lost*, casting the guardian angels as rock-climbers. "The Two Highest Women in the World" is Laura's evocative fictionalized account of two women who made climbing history in the 1800s, while "Climbing with Margaret" tells the story of two twentieth-century women planning a fiftieth-birthday climb together. "Education in Verticality" presents a drily humorous take on a challenging winter climb, and the more serious "Winter Above Treeline" and "Five Winter Trips: The End of Adventure?" depict vividly both the majesty and the brutality of the mountains in winter, offering lessons and posing questions that no winter hiker or climber can afford to ignore.

The biographical profiles cover, among others, "Hot Henry" Barber, the youngster who took the climbing world by storm in the 1970s, and Lester Germer, who took up rock-climbing at age 49. Also represented are Ed Nester and his heroic rescue of two climbers stranded by an avalanche in Huntington Ravine in March 1968, and Charles Ernest Fay, who in 1891 cut a trail up New Hampshire's Mount Passaconaway only to descend via a bush-whack. Fay's quandary, say the Watermans, "is ours." They wonder "Do we really do anyone favors by smoothing the way? Or...do we impoverish the mountain experience for those we set out to help?" It is not just our environmental resources that are diminished by the attempt to make the backcountry ever more accessible, the Watermans seem to be saying, but our own personal resources. Their ideas have particular resonance as the twenty-first century ushers in a seastorm

of personal technology that threatens to rob us of any remaining self-sufficiency we might have.

Before Guy Waterman died in February 2000, he had become concerned that his and Laura's message had not traveled far or wide enough. But he needn't have worried. The Watermans remind us, without preaching, that we must continually ask ourselves why we seek out the backcountry—and this book goes a long way toward making us think hard about that question. What we do with the answer will have a lasting impact on both our external environment and the internal environment to which it is inextricably linked.

Editor's Note: Laura and Guy Waterman's previous publications are *Backwoods Ethics*, *Environmental Concerns for Hikers and Campers* (1979, rev. 1993), *Forest and Crag: A History of Hiking, Trail Blazing and Adventure in the Northeast Mountains* (1989), *Yankee Rock & Ice: A History of Climbing in the Northeastern United States* (1993), and *Wilderness Ethics: Preserving the Spirit of Wilderness* (1993).



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FOR & ABOUT

Our Members

❖ A reminder that EMS' Club Day will be **Saturday, April 28, 2001**, when Trail Conference members will receive a 20% discount on purchases made in EMS stores. Be sure you have your membership card handy when buying. If you have lost your membership card, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the Trail Conference office and request a new one.

❖ Special thanks are due to the members of the Executive Director Search Committee: **Jane Daniels, Wanda Davenport, John Gunzler, Pete Heckler, Joan James, Art Lebosky, and Larry Wheelock.** Once Mahwah was selected as the new office location for the Trail Conference, they began a structured search process through a pool of 81 applicants.

❖ Thank you, thank you, thank you to our hale and hearty members who pitched in with the Conference office's move from New York City to Mahwah, NJ: **Tanya Buchanan, Van Caliendo, Vivian Cannata, Dan Chazin, Walt Daniels, Wanda Davenport, Stella and Bob Green, Anne and John Grob, Pete and Rita Heckler, Fred Liberman, Paul Leiken, Ann Loeb, Walter Madsen, Bob Marshall, Roy Messaros, Bob Moss, Tom Prentzel, Don Roeske, Trudy Schneider, Annie Shreffler, Marilyn Siskind, Pete Strong, Larry Wheelock, and students Mario Andolina, Jennifer Suero, and Michael Lee.** We LIT-

ERALLY could not have done it without you ALL !!



❖ Discover a scenic wonderland where you least expect it!! Highlands Trail Committee chairman Bob Moss seeks one or more "pioneers" to thru-hike the Highlands Trail from Mahlon Dickerson Reservation in Morris County, NJ, almost to Storm King State Park (at press time still closed to the public, but call the Conference office for the latest info). This would be a 7-9 day, bed-and-breakfast trip, as there are no camping opportunities along the route. Bob has developed a tentative itinerary covering an average of 11.5 miles per day. He will help you arrange your trip. Those who seek adventure with a lot of creature comforts should contact him at 973-743-5203.

❖ **Adventures for Women** celebrates its 20th anniversary. In the spring of 1981, Betsy Thomason organized the first Adventures for Women hike, a preliminary map workshop held at the Montvale, NJ, public library. Today, Adventures for Women has over 100 members who enjoy being outdoors, learning wilderness skills and meeting women looking for adventure.

Do you Want to Be a Landowner Along the Appalachian Trail?

And Have a Home in the Woods!

You can become a Conservation Buyer through the Appalachian Trail Conference Land Trust. Our program matches conservation buyers—people like you—with people who are selling land along the A. T.

You locate your home out of sight from the Trail, and all we ask is that you donate a conservation easement on the rest of the property. A conservation easement "runs with the land"; that is, no present or future owner can develop it!

And, because an easement is an irrevocable gift of a property right, you get a nice income tax deduction equal to the value of the easement.

Contact Bob Williams, Director of Land Trust Programs, at 304-535-6331, or write to: PO Box 807, Harpers Ferry, WV 25425.

Betsy, who has been the energy behind the organization, is pleased to announce that a team of members, led by Betty Plunkett, is assuming the administrative responsibilities of the group. The organization is being incorporated as a 501 (c)(3) non-profit in the state of New Jersey. Adventures for Women will continue offering day trips in the metropolitan area, and vacations in the Adirondacks and Austria, and will continue maintaining the MacEvoy Trail in Ramapo Mountain State Forest in Oakland, NJ.

For more information about Adventures for Women, contact Betty Plunkett, Director, at 973-644-3592 or at the web site, adventuresforwomen.org.

❖ Friendly, experienced hike leaders for the 2001 **Biennial Meeting of the Appalachian Trail Conference** in Shippensburg, PA, sought. If interested, contact Katie Jones at jonesk@dickinson.edu.

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LIFE MEMBERS

The Trail Conference welcomes nine new life members to our growing family of 805: **Brett L. Garren** from New Jersey, and, from New York, **Grace V. Ambrose, Michael J. Ashworth, Michael J. and Sandra S. Mandel, Neil B. and Kathryn M. Rindlaub, and Ronald J. and Krystyna O. Doerfler.**

An individual life membership is \$400, and a joint life membership (two adults at the same address) is \$600. Next time you renew, we hope you'll consider becoming a "lifer."

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we receive between 5% and 15% of the sales traceable to our homepage. It doesn't cost you anything to "earn" dollars for the Conference. Remember, start your shopping trip at the TC's home page, and help protect the trails.



▪ Be Prepared! ▪ Give a Gift!

Hikers' Market Place

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NEW!! Sterling Forest Trails (2000)	\$7.95	\$5.95	+ .80	_____
Harriman-Bear Mtn. Trails (1995, rev. 1999)	\$7.95	\$5.95	+ .95	_____
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NEW!! Shawangunk Trails (2000) & see combo	\$9.95	\$7.75	+ .95	_____
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North Jersey Trails (1998)	\$7.95	\$5.95	+ .95	_____
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Shawangunks (1999) & see combo	\$10.95	\$8.75	+\$1.75	_____
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ADK Guide to Catskill Trails (1994, repr. 1998)	\$19.95	\$15.95	+\$2.50	_____
Catskill Trails: A Ranger's Guide to the High Peaks	\$16.95	\$13.55	+\$3.00	_____
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Harriman (2 map set & book)	\$22.40	\$17.55	+\$2.50	_____
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The Personal Touch

NY-NJTC T-Shirt Circle: L XL	\$13.95	na	+\$2.50	_____
Harriman Map Bandanna	\$6.95	\$5.25	+\$1.25	_____
Conference Logo Patch	\$2.50	na	postpaid	_____
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IN MEMORIAM

Shirley Rosen

Members and friends of the Trail Conference were saddened to learn of the recent death of Shirley Rosen, the wife of Dr. Albert P. Rosen, who writes *the Trail Walker* column, Health Hints for Hikers.

Born in Brooklyn, NY, she graduated from the Long Island College Hospital School of Nursing. During nursing school she met her husband who was a medical student. In 1949 they settled in Fair Lawn, NJ, where she assisted her husband in the establishment of his pediatric practice, and remained active in his office until her recent illness. A prodigious seamstress and quilter, she was also a skilled tennis player.

She and her husband were avid hikers. They traveled the globe on hiking excursions which included the Rockies, the Andes, and the Tien Shen Mountains of

Kazakhstan. She summited the Grand Teton, Mt. Kilimanjaro, and Mt. Ararat, among others. Her affiliations and memberships included The Appalachian Mountain Club, The Woodland Trail Walkers, The Iowa Mountaineers, The Sierra Club, The Catskill 3500 Club, and the AMC 4000 Footer Club.

She is survived by her husband, her sister, Rhoda Tomashefsky of Somers, NY, her daughter Nancy Rosen Blackwood of New York, NY, her son Jonathan M. Rosen, MD, of Albany, NY, and two grandsons, Benjamin G. Blackwood and Isaac L. Rosen.

Memorial donations may be made to the Long Island College Hospital School of Nursing, the NY/NJ Trail Conference, or the Brandeis University National Women's Committee.

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THE VIEW FROM ALBANY

by Neil Woodworth and Meg Carr

Proposed State Budget Contains Funding for Wilderness and Parks

The release of the governor's budget marks the beginning of the Albany political year. The Trail Conference and the Adirondack Mountain Club lobby the state budget to ensure that sufficient funds are appropriated for buying and managing wilderness and state parks. Governor Pataki proposes to spend more than \$1.3 billion for environmental and public recreation programs in his 2001-2002 Executive Budget.

The Governor's budget would increase funding in the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) from \$125 million to \$150 million, the highest level ever proposed for the EPF. The budget provides more than \$70 million for buying forest preserve and state parks. Over the past six years, New York has invested more than \$300 million to preserve more than 300,000 acres.

Taking Care of Public Lands

Other EPF funding priorities in 2001-02 include \$14 million for state park and forest preserve stewardship projects from EPF and Bond Act sources. The TC and the ADK have successfully lobbied for this funding to finance hiking trail maintenance in the Adirondacks and Catskills, summit steward program funding, construction of canoe portages and river access points, campground rehabilitation, and support for unit management planning.

In addition, \$30 million in state park revenues from the State Parks Infrastructure Fund will be used to maintain, improve, and rehabilitate state park facili-

ties, trails, and camping areas throughout the state that are operated by the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation.

Tax Incentives for Granting Trail Easements

The Governor's budget also contains a new tax incentive, the conservation donor tax credit, to further promote the protection of additional scenic lands. The incentive would provide private landowners with a tax credit for donating land to a governmental entity or not-for-profit, or donating a conservation easement on their property. The value of the credit would be 25 percent of the value of the land or easement donation up to \$250,000. This program, if approved by the state legislature, should be a valuable tool for encouraging landowners to grant hiking trail easements for the Long Path and other long distance trails.

Assembly Proposes Increases for Open Space Conservation

Richard Brodsky, chairman of the Assembly Environmental Conservation Committee, has proposed legislation to add more than \$50 million to the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF). The Trail Conference and Adirondack Mountain Club support this Assembly initiative to supplement the EPF to replace Bond Act funding for land acquisition and open space preservation. The state Senate under the leadership of Majority Leader Joe Bruno, has also indicated support for both additional land acquisition funds and for land stewardship needs.

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A first year report from the New Jersey Field Representative

New Jersey Trails: A New Beginning

by Larry Wheelock

In 1999 the Trail Conference, in its effort to bring a greater focus on the trail and land conservation needs of northern



Larry Wheelock

New Jersey, chose to hire a Field Representative. This position was to provide a center point for volunteer needs, trail management

planning, and improved state and local agency communications, and to begin the assessment and development of trail lands conservation planning.

Among the projects begun in this first year were:

A plan for land acquisitions in Northern Passaic County was completed. At the request of the Passaic River Coalition, which is developing a master land acquisition plan, we provided a detailed list of valuable lands for developing "greenways," protecting existing trail corridors, and preserving open space that could be used for recreational and wildlife conservation.

The nucleus of a West N. J. Trail Crew has been formed. With the help of Monica Resor and David Day a core of dedicated trail workers began an on-going project to rehabilitate the Red Dot (Mt. Tammany) Trail in Worthington State Forest at the Delaware Water Gap. Many volunteers working in the spring and again in the fall developed a new trailhead from the Dunnfield parking lot, constructed a magnificent flight of timber stairs, and continued with extensive rock work to rehabilitate an eroded portion of the trail.

Trail crew members will continue with this project and others in Stokes State Forest and elsewhere in the 2001 season.

On the Appalachian Trail in New Jersey work continues on the Pochuck wetland crossing. Over 800 feet of new boardwalk was constructed with the help of volunteers from the region and the Appalachian Trail Conference's Mid-Atlantic

Trail Crew. With the direction of the N. J. Department of Environmental Protection we moved 156 tons of materials across the Pochuck River and into the work site, mostly by hand. Once the weather cooperated the project went like clockwork and was completed by late fall.

If all continues going as well in 2001 we hope to complete this project with 2200 feet of boardwalk, another bridge, and 500 feet of conventional trail construction.

The Farny Highlands Trail System remains an important focus for the T. C. With the hard work of volunteers and the ongoing cooperation of the N.J. Department of Environmental Protection we remain hopeful that this trail system will become wholly open in the near future.

Under the direction of DEP staff and Brian Rogers, our Trail Conference Farny Highlands Supervisor, we successfully rerouted a mile of the Four Birds Trail away from the environmentally sensitive edge of the Split Rock Reservoir. The project was completed in December with the help of Sandy Parr and Dick Warner's enthusiastic North N.J. Trail Crew.

In the coming season we will start construction of a new trail over Buck Mountain to connect the Split Rock Loop Trail to the Pyramid Mountain trail system.

With these and many other projects in progress, we look forward to a very busy season ahead.



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continued from back page

UHC. Pyramid Mountain Ramble. Leader: Micky Siegel, 201-797-7054. Meet: 10 AM at Pyramid Mt. Visitor's Center. This hike is a very rewarding experience; see Tripod Rock, one of the world's wonders. Call if weather in doubt.

MONDAY, APRIL 9

RW. Schunemunk Mt. Call 845-246-4580. Meet: 8 AM at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market St., Saugerties. Inclement weather date: following Monday. Moderate 5 miles.

TUESDAY, APRIL 10

FVT. Mt. Tammany. Leader: Joe Rapp, 973-334-4382. Meet: 10 AM at Delaware Water Gap AT parking. Climb to Mt. Tammany overlook, back down on Durfield Creek Trail.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11

SW. Upper Nyack Rockland Lake Congers. Leader: Oliver Wayne, 201-840-4145. Meet: Call leader. Join a moderate 9-mile walk with some ups and downs. Optional dinner in Congers afterwards. We go in any weather.

THURSDAY, APRIL 12

FVT. Wondrous Wyanokies. Leader: Al & Jane Leigh, 973-471-7528. Meet: 10 AM at Weis Ecology Center. 7-10 miles. Let's visit this choice hiking area before more of it is sold.

SATURDAY, APRIL 14

UHC. Garrett Mountain Reservation. Leader: Peter Wolff, 973-239-0766. Meet: 10 AM at Lambert Castle, Clifton. Following steep climb, we'll walk along periphery of park, enjoying views such as Paterson Falls. Those who wish may visit the castle or Paterson Historic District including the falls after the hike. Rain cancels.

SUNDAY, APRIL 15

UHC. Lewis Morris Park Ramble. Leader: Lynn Gale, 973-763-7230. Meet: 10 AM at Lewis Morris Park, Sunnyside Lake, upper lot. Come out for a moderate hike and a chance to see spring flowers.

MONDAY, APRIL 16

RW. Ashokan High Point. Call 845-338-6263. Meet: 8 AM at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market St., Saugerties. Inclement weather date: following Monday. Moderate + 7.5 miles.

THURSDAY, APRIL 19

FVT. Johnsonstown Circular. Leader: Joe Brownlee, 973-635-1171. Meet: 10 AM at Johnsonstown Rd. Circle. 9-mile circular with a lake and views from Parker Cabin Mountain and Blue Disc Trail.

SATURDAY, APRIL 21

NYHC. Bethpage to Syosset. Leader: Ray Krant, 718-435-4994. Meet: 9:45 AM at Penn Station, Long Island RR level. 11 moderate miles; many easy stretches along the Nassau Greenbelt Trail and through Stillwell Woods.

UHC. Jockey Hollow Ramble. Leader: Mary Doyle, 908-580-1778. Meet: 10 AM at Jockey Hollow Visitor's Center. Enjoy a brisk ramble in this beautiful Morristown Historic National Park, where Washington's army camped. \$4 charge to those without parking passes. Steady rain cancels.

SUNDAY, APRIL 22

NYHC. Canal Walk. Leader: Dorothy & Dan Dombroski, 609-585-6674, or Bob Ward, 718-471-7036, after 8 PM. Meet: Call for meeting place and time. 5 miles; all flat in NJ or PA. Will take NJ Transit from Penn Station to Hamilton, NJ.

WWW/VEC. Northern Fanny Highlands: The Chffs. Leader: Don Weise. Meet: Call Weis Ecology Center at 973-835-2160; 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM. Wed. through Sun. Strenuous 7-8 miles; the cliffs of the Four Birds Trail are a must see! Explore Green Pond Mountain, White Pine Bluff and views of Charlotteburg Reservoir. Cost \$4 members, \$5 non-members.

SW. Celebrate Earth Day - Kingston to Princeton. Leader: Dorothy Lourdou, 212-685-6443. Meet: Take 9 AM Suburban Lines bus from Port Authority to Kingston, NJ (arrive 10:20, call bus to verify departure time). Drivers call leader for meeting place. Walk 8 moderate miles along Raritan Canal towpath, explore Revolutionary War battlefield and Princeton woods. Heavy rain may cancel.

UHC. South Mountain Reservation Ramble. Leader: Mimi Solomon, 973-763-6440. Meet: 10 AM at Tulip Springs parking lot, Brookside Ave., Millburn. A family ramble; children second grade and older welcome. Casual pace to Hemlock Falls and beyond.

GAHC. Wavayanda Park, N.J. Leader: Evelyn Hoyer, (718) 457-8319. Meet: 9:30 a.m. at Parking lot of shopping center, 600 feet west of junction of Routes 511 & 513 in Greenwood Lake.

MONDAY, APRIL 23

RW. Indian Head Mt. Leader: Call 845-246-8670. Meet: 8 AM at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market St., Saugerties. Inclement weather date: following Monday. Strenuous 6 miles on CCCD trail.

THURSDAY, APRIL 26

FVT. Pequannock Watershed. Leader: Jim & Theresa McKay, 973-538-0756. Meet: 10 AM at Pequannock Lot P-4 (turn right on Clinton Rd. off Rt. 23 North). Circular hike of 8-9 miles around Hank's Pond to lookout tower and back.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28

UHC. South Mountain Reservation Ramble. Leader: Naomi Shapiro, 973-762-1832; call before 9 PM. Meet: 10 AM at Locust Grove parking lot, across from Millburn RR station. Brisk 5-mile ramble with steep up at the beginning. Steady rain cancels.

SUNDAY, APRIL 29

SW. Verrazano Bridge to Brighton Beach. Leader: Ruth Mainier, 718-428-4558; call on April 29 only. Meet: 11 AM in front of library on 95th St. at end of R line. 10 miles along Gravesend Bay; maybe some rock scrambling.

UHC. High Mountain Preserve Park. Leader: Peter Wolff, 973-239-0766. Meet: 10 AM at Wm. Paterson University parking lot #6, upper-most level. We will use new red, white and yellow trails to climb to this 885 ft. peak; unsurpassed views of the Passaic Valley and the NY skyline. Steep and rocky trail; sturdy boots recommended. Rain cancels.

MONDAY, APRIL 30

RW. Thomas Cole Mt. Call 845-246-8616. Meet: 8 AM at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market St., Saugerties. Inclement weather date: following Monday. Moderate 7 mile hike plus trail maintenance.

MAY

TUESDAY, MAY 1

FVT. Elk Pen Circular. Leader: Annie Seymour-Jones, 201-768-3864. Meet: 10 AM at Elk Pen parking in Harriman (Arden Valley Rd.). A variety of trails and features such as mines, the Lemon Squeezer and Times Square.

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CLUB CODES

ADK-J Adirondack Mountain Club, North Jersey Chapter. Contact: Rob Lehmann, 201-529-1154.

FVTW Frost Valley Trail Walkers. Contact: Cherryll Short, 973-299-0212. Mon. 3 mi., Tues. 6-7 mi., Wed. 5 mi., Thurs. 7-10 mi., Fri. ramble up to two mi.

GAHC German-American Hiking Club. Contact: Evelyn Hoyer, 718-457-8319.

HHC Hunterdon Hiking Club. Contact: Lud Bohler, 908-788-3941.

LIGTC Long Island Greenbelt. Contact: L.I. Greenbelt Trail Conference, 516-360-0753.

MSC Miramar Ski Club. Contact: Jay Schwarz, 212-673-7132.

MJO. Mosaic Jewish Outdoor Mountain Club. Contact: 516-938-5721.

NYHC New York Hiking Club. Contact: Halina Jensen, 212-568-6323, or Bob Ward, 718-471-7036 (after 8 pm).

The activities listed are sponsored by member clubs of the NY-NJ Trail Conference. All hikers are welcome subject to club regulations and rules of the trail. You are responsible for your own safety. Wear hiking boots or strong, low-heeled shoes. Bring food, water, rain gear, first aid kit, and flashlight in a backpack. Leaders have the right and responsibility to refuse anyone whom they believe cannot complete the hike or are not adequately equipped. Easy, moderate, or strenuous hikes are relative terms; call leader if in doubt.

Many of our affiliate groups sponsor hikes not listed in the *Hikers' Almanac*. For a descriptive list of Conference clubs, send an SASE with your request to NY-NJ Trail Conference, 156 Ramapo Valley Road, Mahwah, NJ 07430.

NYR New York Ramblers. Contact: Anna Marynowska, 718-384-2908. Hikes may be strenuous.

OCSJ. Outdoor Club of South Jersey. Contact: PO Box 455, Cherry Hill, NJ 08003.

RWV Rip Van Winkle. Contact: Fred Backhaus, 914-246-5670.

SW. Shorewalkers. Contact: 212-330-7687.

UHC Union County Hiking Club. Contact: Herb Chertock, 908-464-8289.

WWW/VEC Weis Wyanokie Wanderers/NJ Audubon Society's Weis Ecology Center. Contact: Wendy Rhoades, 973-835-2160, for hikes and program schedule.

WTW Woodland Trail Walkers. Contact: Michelle Keller, 63 Stevens Rd., Clifton, NJ 07013; 973-773-7984. Guest card \$2. for 6-month hike listing.

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e-mail _____



HIKERS' ALMANAC

MARCH

SATURDAY, MARCH 3

HHC. Washington Crossing Towpath. 4-5 miles. Leader: Phil Tunison, 609-466-3602. Meet at 10 AM at Flemington Outlet Center. Hike north from Washington Crossing, NJ and return through Titusville. Bring water and snacks. There will be a lunch stop after the hike if desired.

SUNDAY, MARCH 4

HHC. Prallville Mill to Covered Bridge. Circular hike of 6.7 miles from Stockton to the Sergeantsville Covered Bridge and back. Leader: Betty Lancaster, 609-397-4060. Meet: 8 AM at Prallville Mill (north of Stockton, NJ on Route 29).

MONDAY, MARCH 5

RWW. Kaaterskill High Peak. Leader: Call 845-246-8774. Meet: 8 AM at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market St., Saugerties. Inclement weather date: following Monday. Strenuous 9 miles; snowshoes and crampons required.

THURSDAY, MARCH 8

LIGTC. Smithtown Special. Info: Tom or Sheri, 631-967-9484. Meet at 9 AM at our Office. 3.7 miles; easy pace. Tour historic Caleb Smith and Blydenburgh parks. Rain cancels.

ADK - NJ. Thursday in the Woods. Leader: Betty Heald, 201-967-2937. 5.7 miles with ups and downs.

FVT. Tammany & Sunfish Pond. Leader: Joe Brownlee, 973-635-1171. Meet: 10 AM at Delaware Water Gap AT parking. 7-10 miles climbing to Mt. Tammany overlook and then following ridge to Turquoise Trail, to Sunfish Pond then back down Dunfield Creek Trail.

SATURDAY, MARCH 10

LIGTC. Stillwell and South. Info: Steve, 631-261-7885. Meet at 8:30 AM at Stillwell Woods parking (South Woods Rd., north of NY 25, opposite Sycostet F.S.). 7 miles; moderate pace. Hike the Nassau Suffolk Trail to Northern Pkwy. and back. Rain cancels.

MJO. Bear Mountain Circular. Leader: Ken Segal, 718-795-3557. Meet: Call by March 1; 7-10 PM. 7-mile, moderately strenuous circular going up, over and around Bear Mt. Fine views, quality company and a good workout. Accessible by public transportation. No go in rain. Non-member fee \$10 or free with guest card.

UHC. South Mountain Reservation Ramble. Leader: Miri Solomon, 973-763-6442. Meet: 10 AM at Turtle Rock parking area in West Orange. Enjoy a brisk ramble in this nicely wooded area.

RWW. Shaugnessy Ridge, Town of Esopus. Moderate 4.5 miles, 3 hours. Snowshoes and crampons may be necessary. Meet: 8 AM at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market Street, Saugerties. Inclement weather date: following Saturday. For more information call: (845) 246-4145.

SUNDAY, MARCH 11

LIGTC. Smithtown Ramble. Info: Nicholas, 631-586-3396. Meet at 10 AM at Blydenburgh. 8 miles; moderate pace. An out and back hike through historic Blydenburgh County Park and Caleb Smith State Park. We hike snow or shine, but rain cancels.

MJO. Nyack Beach Walk. Leader: Rick Levey, 845-680-0023. Meet: Call by March 9; 7-10 PM. 5-mile walk through Nyack and Piermont, including a mile out into the middle of the Hudson on spectacular Piermont pier. Enjoy lunch at restaurant in Piermont. Accessible by public transportation. Rain/snow cancels. Non-member fee \$10 or free with guest card.

NYHC. Rockland Lake to Nyack. Leader: George Glatz, 212-533-9457, call between 7-8 AM. Meet: 9:45 AM at Port Authority bus terminal near the commuter statue. 7 miles; level walking with one short descent.

WTW. Ramapo Tonne. Leader: Sarah Collins, 973-744-5126. Meet: Call leader if you intend to go. 6-7 mile hike along the Pine Meadow and Kakiat trails to enjoy some classic views from the Ramapo Tonne. Snow, ice or extreme cold cancels.

LIGTC. Rifle Camp Park Ramble. Leader: Mary Sive, 973-746-3986. Meet: 10 AM at Rifle Camp Park, Rt. 46 to Great Notch exit, then north on Rifle Camp Rd. Nice views midway in this circular hike at a moderate pace.

MONDAY, MARCH 12

RWW. Bearpen Mt from County Route 2. Strenuous 8 miles, 5.5 hours. Snowshoes and crampons may be necessary. Meet: 8 AM at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market Street, Saugerties. Inclement weather

date: following Monday. For more information call: (845) 246-8670.

THURSDAY, MARCH 15

FVT. Sterling Forest Circular. Leader: Jim & Theresa McKay, 973-538-0756. Meet: 9:30 AM at Jennings Hollow (Long Pond). We will consolidate cars and drive to smaller parking lot. 8 miles from East Shore Rd. to Greenwood Lake to the fire tower and back.

ADK - NJ. Thursday in the Woods. Leader: Phyllis Key, 201-358-9252. 5-7 miles with ups and downs.

SATURDAY, MARCH 17

LIGTC. Long Pond Paumanok Walk. Info: Ken K., 631-331-5938. Meet at 10:30 AM at Saggi Industries parking lot, Bridgehampton Sag Harbor Turnpike. 6 miles (optional second hike); fast pace; flat terrain. Hike a new piece of Paumanok. Path through gorgeous Long Pond Greenbelt from East Hampton.

MJO. Sterling Ridge & The Iron Works. Leader: Lanny Wexler, 516-938-5721. Meet: Call by March 15; 7-10 PM. Moderately strenuous 8-9 mile hike on scenic Sterling Ridge Trail. Visit historic iron works. No go rain/snow. Non-member fee \$10 or free with guest card.

UHC. South Mountain Reservation Ramble. Leader: Lee Fanger, 973-376-3180. Meet: 10 AM in Locust Grove parking lot across from Millburn RR station. Brisk 5-mile ramble. Rain or ice cancels.

SUNDAY, MARCH 18

GAHC. Bear Mountain Park, NY. Leader: Brian Kassenbrock, 718-748-0524. Meet: Bear Mountain Inn, 10 AM. Beautiful views of the Hudson River; difficult, average and easy hikes.

LIGTC. South Haven Circular. Info: Ken S., 631-654-2438. Meet at 10 AM at the main picnic area parking lot (north service road of NY 27 between Exits 57 and 58). 8+ miles; moderate pace; flat terrain. Come for a ramble in this large county park along the Carman's River.

NYR. Arden to Bear Mt. Leader: Anna Marynowska, 718-384-2308. Meet: 8 AM at Port Authority bus terminal main lobby near Zaro's bakery. Walk from Arden to Bear Mountain on the AT and RD trails.

SW. Fort Tilden to Breazy Point. Leader: Ursula Hahn, 212-638-7526, call during day no later than Fri. for any changes. Meet: 10 AM at token booth of #2 subway platform, Flatbush Ave. (Brooklyn College). 5.6 mile, moderately paced walk from Fort Tilden along beach to Breazy Point and back. We'll take bus from Flatbush Ave. across Gil Hodges Bridge.

UHC. Watchung Reservation Ramble. Leader: Bob Hagon, 908-788-8360, call right before 7:9 PM only. Meet: 10 AM at Trailside Nature & Science Center, intersection of Coles Ave. and New Providence Rd. Brisk 6-mile ramble. Rain cancels.

MONDAY, MARCH 19

RWW. Vly and Bearpen. Strenuous trail and bushwhack: 8 miles, 5.5 hours. Snowshoes and crampons required. Meet: 8 AM at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market Street, Saugerties. Inclement weather date: following Monday. For more information call: (845) 246-7158.

THURSDAY, MARCH 22

ADK - NJ. Thursday in the Woods. Leader: Phyllis Key, 201-358-9252. 5-7 miles with ups and downs.

FVT. Anthony's Nose. Leader: Charles & Anita Kientzler, 973-835-1063. Meet: 10 AM at Bear Mt. Inn. 7-10 miles on newly opened trail from the AT over Anthony's Nose to Camp Smith; spectacular views from east side of Hudson. Shuttle to starting point if weather permits; otherwise hike from the Inn.

FRIDAY-TUESDAY, MARCH 23-27

MSC. Spring Fling Weekend. Ski and cross-country, by bus, at our lodge in Waitsfield, VT. Call 212-978-9309 for info.

SATURDAY, MARCH 24

LIGTC. Laurel Valley Ramble. Info: Ken K., 631-331-5938. Meet at 10:30 AM at Saggi Industries parking lot. 6 miles (optional second hike); fast pace; flat terrain. Hike a new piece of the Paumanok Path through enchanting Laurel Valley and eastward.

MJO. Appalachian Trail Hike - NY. Leader: Herb Gocht, 718-743-5825. Meet: Call March 19 - 22 only; 7:9:45 PM. 7-mile moderate hike along the AT to Mt. Egbert. Rain/snow cancels. Non-member fee \$10 or free with guest card.

NYHC. Orangeburg to Nyack. Leader: Ray Krant, 718-435-4994. Meet: 10 AM at Port Authority bus terminal near the commuter statue. 6 miles; easy walk along abandoned railroad rights of way with no tracks to trip over.

UHC. Watchung Reservation Ramble. Leader: Elle King, 908-233-8411. Meet: 10 AM at Trailside Nature & Science Center, intersection of Coles Ave. and New Providence Rd. Steady, moderate pace; 5-6 miles.

SUNDAY, MARCH 25

LIGTC. Manorville Hills March. Info: Ken S., 631-654-2438. Meet at 10 AM at the Trails Info Center (1/4 mile north of ILE exit 70). 10+ miles; strenuous pace; hilly terrain. Hardy hikers-only excursion into the remote Manorville Hills; some bushwhacking.

NYHC. Red Trail on Staten Island. Leader: Mike Puder, 718-743-0920. Meet: Call any time during the week of the hike for meeting time and place. 8 miles; moderate pace with some ups and downs. See remains of old mansion; bring your Metrocard.

WWW/WEC. Pancake Brunch Hike. Leader: Don Weise. Meet: Call Weis Ecology Center at 973-835-2160; 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM, Wed. through Sun. Strenuous 6-7 miles; hike the peaks of Norwin Green State forest and end up with a full brunch including pancakes and home-made Weis Maple Syrup. Cost, including brunch, \$8 members, \$10 non-members.

MONDAY, MARCH 26

RWW. Sages Ravine & Mt. Race. Leader: Call 845-246-4590. Meet: 8 AM at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market St., Saugerties. Inclement weather date: following Monday. Strenuous 7.6 miles; snowshoes and crampons may be needed.

TUESDAY, MARCH 27

FVT. High Point Monument. Leader: Joe McLaughlin, 973-263-2799. Meet: 10 AM at High Point State Park monument parking lot. 6-mile circular featuring scenic views and a beautiful lake at lunch. Steady rain cancels (call before 8:15 AM if doubt).

THURSDAY, MARCH 29

ADK - NJ. Thursday in the Woods. Leader: Betty Heald, 201-967-2937. 5-7 miles with ups and downs.

FVT. Long Path. Leader: Carolyn & Jim Carfield, 973-729-9774. Meet: 10 AM at parking area at intersection of Rt. 106 & Suffern/Bear Mt. trail crossing. 9+ miles on the Long Path and SBM to Chesseccote Pond; return on woods roads and SBM.

SATURDAY, MARCH 31

MJO. Appalachian Trail Hike - NJ. Leader: Herb Gocht, 718-743-5825. Meet: Call March 26 - 29 only; 7:9:45 PM. 8-mile moderate hike along the AT to Wawayanda Mountain. Rain/snow cancels. Non-member fee \$10 or free with guest card.

NYHC. Staten Island Greenbelt. Leader: Steve & Betty Soffer, 718-720-1953, call between 7-9 PM. Meet: Take 10:30 AM Staten Island Ferry from Manhattan. Meet leaders at rear of St. George ferry terminal near the Staten Island Transit ramp. 7 miles with moderate hills. Metrocards required.

RWW. Westkill Mt. Leader: Call 845-246-4145. Meet: 8 AM at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market St., Saugerties. Inclement weather date: following Saturday. Strenuous 8 miles; snowshoes and crampons required.

WTW. Ridgewood to Dunkershook Park. Leader: Ruth Lupicki, 201-843-

2243. Meet: PABT NJ Transit #163, leaving at 9:20 AM; get off at Duck Pond, East Ridgewood Ave., Ridgewood, NJ. Drivers meet at 10:30. 6-7 mile hike along Saddle River. Rain cancels.

UHC. Pyramid Mountain Ramble. Leader: Don Messerlan, 973-228-2258. Meet: 10 AM at Pyramid Mt. Visitor's Center. Interesting hike past a beaver dam and reservoir.

OCSJ. Delaware Water Gap. Leader: John & Hedy Bauer, 609-877-7018. Meet: 9:30 a.m. at Visitors' Center off Interstate 80. Moderate, 12 miles. Up Dunfield Creek to Sunfish Pond, then along ridge to Red Trail. Hiking boots required. Bring lunch and beverage.

APRIL

SUNDAY, APRIL 1

MJO. Allis Trail & AT. Leader: Hanna Abolite Benesch, 732-565-1125. Meet: Call by March 31 until 11 PM. 7-mile moderate hike on trail maintained by our club and on the AT up to Mombasha High Point and past Fitzgerald Falls. (Don't forget to set clock ahead 1 hour before going to sleep the night before.) Non-member fee \$10 or free with guest card.

SW. Croton to Teatown Circular. Leader: Dorothy Lourdou, 212-685-6443. Meet: Take 8:54 AM Metro North train from Grand Central to Croton, arrive 9:43 (check schedule). Pleasant 10-mile woods walk from Croton Station to Teatown via Croton Aqueduct and Dam. Moderate pace; one steep up and down.

GAHC. Seven Hills Trail (Harriman Park). Leader: Mathias Wuesthrich, (908) 253-9042. Meet: 9:30 a.m. at Parking lot of Staatsburg Railroad Station.

MONDAY, APRIL 2

RWW. Giant Ledges/Panther Mt. Call 845-246-7997. Meet: 7 AM at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market St., Saugerties. Inclement weather date: following Monday. Moderate + 6.5 miles.

THURSDAY, APRIL 5

FVT. Stonetown Circular. Leader: Elle King, 908-233-8411. Meet: 10 AM at town recreation parking on Stonetown Rd. 9+ mile circular hike over many good hills with excellent views.

SATURDAY, APRIL 7

NYHC. Temp Torne Trail. Leader: Mike Puder, 718-743-0920. Meet: Grand Central. Call during week of the hike for meeting time. 8 miles at moderate pace with one steep hill.

SW. Gravesend Bay and Upper NY Bay. Leaders: Leslie and Walt Wright, 718-338-3561. Meet: 10:30 AM in front of Bay Parkway stop on the B and M lines. 6 flat miles along the scenic Shore Parkway path, from Bensonhurst Park to Owl's Head Park. Will end up at the Bay Ridge Ave. stop on the R line.

SUNDAY, APRIL 8

SW. St. John's in the Wilderness. Leaders: Nestor Danyuk, 718-364-6445, and Nicholas DiNapoli, 718-897-8278. Meet: Call leader. Join in an annual tradition of the hiking community. Hike 10 miles through Harriman Park to attend Palm Sunday services; lunch is served. Cost: about \$20.

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TRAIL WALKER

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