



The CATSKILL CANISTER

Volume 57 - Number 1 | January - March 2024

First Growth Forests

The Burroughs Range

We Call for State Action

Stewardship & Sustainability

Hiking with Raynaud's

Gear Review Video

MSR EVO Ascent

Talking the Catskills

A Winters Tale: Part 2

North Dome & Sherrill

Canister Backtrack

1974 - High Peaks Precipitation

Winter
CATSKILL 3500 CLUB
WEEKEND

JANUARY 19-21, 2024

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The Catskill Canister

Volume 57 - No. 1 | January - March 2024

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The Catskill Canister is published quarterly by the Catskill 3500 Club, Inc., a registered 501(c)3 non-profit organization. P.O. Box 294, West Hurley, NY 12491 For more information about the club please visit www.catskill3500club.org

President's Column by Michael Bongar



Welcome to the newest version of the Catskill Canister. I would like to thank our editor Jack Walker, #4190 and the co-chairs of the Canister Committee Julie McGuire, #3500 and Colin DeVries, #3382. I would also like to thank the previous editor Yana Levchinsky-Grimmond, #2814 for assisting the editor and the committee.

I went back and looked at the Winter 1968 Canister, Vol. I, No. 1. I recommend visiting our website and looking at this typewritten and mimeographed newsletter. The price of the annual dinner was \$5.50. Our current Canister is in a newer format, and we hope you enjoy it. You will find it to be interactive and if you are viewing it on a digital device, you will be able to turn pages, watch videos and follow links.

We have decided to add a gear review column. For this issue we are assisted by Ryan Penny and Moe Lemire, #2921 from Camp Catskill and Ryan is generously offering Club members a discount at the store. Our intention is to reach out to local retailers and give them an opportunity to talk about gear for our members.

I'd like to point out the growth of our 3500 Club Trailhead Steward Program. With the addition of Woodland Valley to the Slide Trailhead, we now have two Trailheads where we can meet hikers. This is all thanks to the tireless efforts of Lourdes Sonera, #2525 and Colleen Hardcastle, #2990. I look forward to making it to Woodland Valley where I can greet hikers with my standard hello by saying, "Welcome to Mt. Marcy."

There are other ways to get involved. Look for dates for our Adopt-a-Highway Program and Trail Maintenance. If you have expertise that you can share with our all-volunteer organization, please reach out to me.

Please participate in our Winter Weekend which is scheduled for January 19-21, 2024, at the Frost Valley YMCA. If you book lodging at the Y, you will have an opportunity to spend quality time with our members. Please attend our Winter Weekend Hikers' Happy Hour and Dinner scheduled for Sat., Jan. 20. See our website and socials for more information. Thanks to our committee, Sharon Klein, #3364, Colleen Furmanski and Sherri Goffman, #3950.

Jerry Licht, #1423 and I were on Hunter Mountain on Black Friday, and we met a young man hiking his sixth peak. He saw my 3500 Patch and he recognized it and asked us questions with a sense of wonder and discovery. I remember when I was new to the 3500 and had the same curiosity. I don't want to lose this sense of wonder and curiosity.

So, relax, buckle your snowshoes, and enjoy the Canister.

On the cover: Basking in the winter sun stands the rime ice encrusted fire tower atop Hunter Mountain. The fire tower is located at the highest elevation of any fire tower in New York State - at 4040 feet. Photo courtesy of Sara Chapman

Winter CATSKILL 3500 CLUB WEEKEND JANUARY 19-21, 2024

Winter Weekend is shaping up to be a You-Can't-Miss-This-Event event. 3500 Club Members and Aspirants are already experiencing major pangs of FOMO and are registering by the droves. Hurry up and don't miss the fun and camaraderie.

If you stay at The Frost Valley Y Campus, you will have full access to hot breakfasts on Sat. and Sun. and boxed lunches on both days. In addition, The Neversink Country Store will cater our Club Dinner on Sat. evening.

Bring your favorite guest or family member and if they don't hike, they can participate in Y activities or venture off for some downhill skiing.



You can stay at Frost Valley for a fee payable to the Y. Check on prices for our Cabin or if you're a big spender, stay in the Castle or the Lakeside Lodge.

Contact: Pam and Anna @

Reservations, Frost Valley YMCA, Ph (845) 985-2291 ext 450 or reservations@frostvalley.org

The Club Dinner and Happy Hikers' Hour (with a cash bar) will start at 4 PM and will be open for all members and aspirants for a \$50 fee. We are planning on inviting vendors and more information about that will follow.

And get in line for a pay-as-you-go chair massage after your winter hike.

Contact: <https://www.catskill3500club.org/event-details/winter-weekend-2024>

Currently there are 31 Club led hikes scheduled on Jan. 19-21. Those include the required 4 regular patch winter peaks and many other 3500 Club peaks as well as some off-the-beaten-track opportunities with renowned 3500 Club hike leaders.



Activities available for members and guests who are staying at the Frost Valley Y are among the following, weather permitting:

- **Cross Country Ski Rentals and Course**
- **Snowshoe Rentals**
- **Tube Run (they even have a snow making machine)**
- **Indoor Climbing Wall**
- **Indoor Archery**
- **Arts n Crafts: candle making, pottery, wood working, painting and more...**

the  **FROST VALLEY YMCA**

How You Can Support the Catskill 3500 Club



As a member of the Catskill 3500 Club, you are a “*Steward of the Catskills*” and a vital part of our hiking community. The club is managed solely by volunteers who dedicate their time and resources to doing what we all love; hiking in the mountains!

Since the very beginning, the club has engaged in stewardship and conservation efforts in the Catskills region; from our Trailhead Stewards program; to our Adopt-A-Highway clean-ups; to our Trail Maintenance; to regularly advocating for good policies and legislation affecting the region’s natural resources.

The club also hosts annual events and provides the community with educational courses on outdoor skills, Wilderness First Aid and a search and rescue team, better known as Catskill Mountain Search and Rescue (CMSAR).

Most importantly, the club offers group-led hikes almost every weekend and some weekdays throughout the year. The club encourages respect, equality and inclusion among the hiking community.

**Your support means MOUNTAINS to us!
Please consider making a tax-deductible gift to the club and help sustain all these important initiatives.**

BY CHECK

Checks can be made out to: Catskill 3500 Club, Inc.
and sent by mail to:
P.O. Box 294, West Hurley, NY 12491

Does your employer offer a match for charitable donations? If so, please apply for a match through your employer, or your employer’s foundation’s, web portal.

As a 501c3 organization, all contributions to the Catskill 3500 Club, Inc are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

Mission Statement

The Catskill 3500 Club, founded in 1962, continues to uphold the following principles for its members:

- Foster interest in hiking;
- Provide on-going education on outdoor skills;
and
- Engage in public service, stewardship, and responsible conservation of our region’s natural resources.

Value Statement

We value and celebrate those who have ascended, on foot, the 33 highest peaks on public lands in the Catskill Mountains, as well as those who have additionally hiked these mountains in winter.

Catskill 3500 Club Service Award Recipients



Besides recognizing hiking accomplishments, the 3500 Club also acknowledges members who give back to the Club and the Catskill Forest Preserve. The purpose of the 3500 Club Service Award is to recognize service to the Club by its members. The award is open to any member in good standing who accumulates seven points by participating in various volunteering activities. Points earned as an Aspirant count toward your total.

We would like to acknowledge the following most recent **3500 Club Service Award** qualifiers:



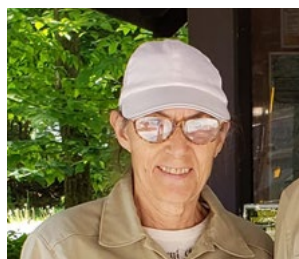
Sherri Graifman Goffman #3950.

She has been an active trailhead steward as well as a participant in the Club's Adopt-A-Highway litter cleanups on Route 214.



Karen Bischoff #4281

She has been a very active trailhead steward who began her Club-related volunteering as an aspirant.



Linda Betancourt #4282

Linda began volunteering as an aspirant and has continued to participate in activities such as trailhead stewarding at both Slide and Woodland Valley trailheads, as well as participating in Adopt-A-Highway cleanups on Route 214.

*Thank you for your dedication, stewardship
and commitment to the Club!*



Batavia Kill Headwaters. Photo by Steve Aaron, #3199



We Call for State Action!

In November, the club along with 40 other organizations and municipalities endorsed a letter sent by the Adirondack Mountain Club to Governor Kathy Hochul, calling for key actions to address sustainability and stewardship in the Catskill and Adirondack Forest Preserve Parks.

The letter, signed by the **40+ organizations** who make up the Forest Preserve Group, outlined the following actions for the year ahead and requested that the state budgeting process address the following:

Stewardship

- » Retain \$10 million fund restricted to Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) for the Catskill and Adirondack Forest Preserve Parks
- » Maintain EPF funding for the Forest Preserve visitor centers
- » Support research and monitoring in the Adirondacks and Catskills
- » Develop an accessibility policy for DEC-managed lands
- » Clear the backlog of land conservancy acreage projects to achieve climate goals

The Catskill and Adirondack Forest Preserve Parks collectively represent over 6.5 million acres of land or nearly a quarter of New York State. This incredible resource serves the public by protecting wildlands, water, and providing recreational access for health and well-being, supporting local and state tourism and economies, and preserving intact mature forests and habitat. In our current climate crisis, the Adirondack and Catskill Forest Preserve Parks serve as the lungs of New York, a great force to combat climate change as its forests provide oxygen and sequester carbon. They protect critical habitat, and provide fresh drinking water to millions, including those in New York City. *“The Catskill 3500 Club fully supports the EPF”, said club president Michael Bongar. “Because of increased usage in the Catskill Mountains we need to use this coalition to protect the environment and local communities”.*

The letter also applauds this year’s historic commitment to the environment, which includes a \$400 million EPF and the passage and roll-out of the \$4.2 billion Clean Water, Clean Air, Green Jobs Bond Act. Projects are now being implemented with

Sustainability

- » Continue adding and supporting agency staff
- » Invest in the Catskill and Adirondack communities, including affordable housing, cellular and broadband services, as well as other critical projects.

this funding including the expansion of trail work, more educational stewards, improvements to recreation infrastructure (e.g., trailheads, parking, and water access), projects to improve inclusivity and accessibility, and Visitor Use Management (VUM) planning and implementation.

The dedicated funding line in the EPF for the Catskills and Adirondacks is an impressive step toward meeting the vision outlined by the groups to protect wilderness, provide safe and welcoming visitor experiences, and to invest in Catskill and Adirondack communities.

The full letter can be read [HERE](#)



Ian Dunn Memorial

On September 16, 2023, a tree-planting ceremony was held at the Catskills Visitor Center to honor and remember the life of Ian Dunn, who was a champion and passionate advocate of Catskill Park.



The event was organized by the Catskill 3500 Club in partnership with the Catskills Visitor Center and members of NYSDEC. During the ceremony, attendees planted a burr oak tree in memory of Ian Dunn, who was a Life Member of the Catskill 3500 Club. The oak tree is regarded as a symbol of strength, endurance, and longevity. It is also associated with wisdom, knowledge, and nobility, which describes many of Ian's qualities. He supported the club's efforts to maintain trails, lean-tos and help start the trailhead stewardship program to promote safe hiking practices. The tree-planting ceremony was a testament to his legacy and the impact he had on the community.

Volunteering is a great way to continue Ian Dunn's legacy and support the Catskills 3500 Club. The club offers many opportunities to get involved, such as trail maintenance, litter pick-up, hike leading, search and rescue, and more. The club also collaborates with the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, and the Catskills Visitor Center to promote volunteerism and conservation efforts.

“

The tree-planting ceremony was a testament to his legacy and the impact he had on the community.



CMSAR CLASSES FOR HIKE LEADERS & MEMBERS

CPR Course - Adult, Child & Infant

The 3500 Clubs SAR team, Catskill Mountain Search and Rescue (CMSAR) team is hosting a CPR course at the Pine Hill Fire Department on Friday, March 22nd. Hybrid blended version where students independently complete online learning before class and then spend the entire class doing in-person skills. If you'd like to register for this course or would like more information, please go to:

www.trailboundproject.com/3500cpr These classes will be open to 3500 Club Members and Aspirants, with priority given to the Catskill 3500 Hike Leaders. All profits from this course go to supporting the Catskill 3500 Club and the club's Search & Rescue team.

By: Bill Winterbottom CMSAR Chief and Course Organizer and Instructor.



Wilderness First Aid Course

The 3500 Clubs SAR team, Catskill Mountain Search and Rescue (CMSAR) team is hosting Wilderness First Aid (WFA) training at the Pine Hill Fire Department on Saturday, March 23rd, and Sunday, March 24th. If you'd like to register for this course or would like more information, please go to:

www.trailboundproject.com/3500wfa These classes will be open to 3500 Club Members and Aspirants, with priority given to the Catskill 3500 Hike Leaders. All profits from this course go to supporting the Catskill 3500 Club and the club's Search & Rescue team.

By: Bill Winterbottom CMSAR Chief and Course Organizer and Instructor.



Knots & Tarp Shelters Course

A collaboration between the Catskill 3500 Club and TrailBound Project to bring valuable outdoor knowledge and skills to Catskill 3500 Club members for free! Open to Catskill 3500 Club members and aspirants with priority given to club hike leaders. The class will be held in Pine Hill NY on April 14th from 9:00 am – 5:30 pm. If you'd like to register for this course or would like more information, please go to:

www.trailboundproject.com/3500knots

By: Bill Winterbottom CMSAR Chief and Course Organizer and Instructor.





Winter Hiking Preparedness Class

by Tom & Laurie Rankin

We love winter hiking! It is likely our most favorite time of the year! For many years we have hosted a Winter Preparation Class for 3500 Club members. Paused due to Covid as most in person gatherings were, we substituted with a video to try to illustrate to our members gear options, helpful hints, and more to prepare them for winter conditions. But nothing beats gathering together and sharing – yes sharing as in actually passing around that lightweight shirt or actually seeing how to put a crampon on a boot. Thus on December 2nd, we held the Winter Prep Class in person again.

Based on our winter experience, we shared information about everything from getting to the trailhead safely (did you bring a shovel, do you know how to open your car if the fob battery dies in the cold), to moisture management (slow your pace, vent your clothing, wear several thin layers) to food hints (that favorite power bar might freeze solid in winter and break your teeth) and more. We were able to share repair kits, how to keep your boots dry, how to seek less expensive alternatives to some items and more. Our 2 hour time frame flew by as quickly as a snowstorm! We hope to hold this class again in 2024.

Thanks to the Pine Hill Fire Department for the location to hold the class and to NYS DEC Forest Rangers Sweeney and Horn for adding their expertise.



SAVE THE DATE!

Catskill 3500 Club Annual Meeting & Dinner July 27, 2024 at the Ashokan Center



CATSKILL 3500 CLUB VOLUNTEERS INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS

Dear Club Volunteers,

We wanted to take a moment to thank all the volunteers for your hard work and dedication to the Catskills 3500 Club and for your unwavering support of trail maintenance, Adopt-a-Highway, and the Trailhead Steward Program. Your contributions have been invaluable, and we could not have continued to uphold the club principles of promoting safe hiking and engaging in public service, stewardship, and responsible conservation of our region's natural resources without your help.

Over the past year, you have given your time, energy, and expertise to help us grow a sustainable and successful volunteer program. You have helped us reach more visitors/hikers, promote Leave no Trace, kept our trails pristine, and made a real difference in the hiking community. Your commitment to our program has been inspiring, and we are grateful for everything you have done.

We hope that you will continue to volunteer and help us achieve even greater success in 2024. Thank you again for all that you do. We could not do it without you!

With Gratitude,
Loudes, Colleen, and Vicki



Our gratitude goes out to the volunteers who made the Spring Adopt-a-Highway event a success:

Sherri Graifman Goffman #3950 W1535
David Zhu #3080 W1278
Ellen Dwyer #1452 W611
Michael Dwyer #1453 W610
Harold Oakhill #0283 W1244

Larry Leslie #0208 W131
Jeff Levitt #2145 W918
Lori Herpen #4105
Linda Betancourt #4282
Judith Estok #3506

John Estok #3505
Karen Bischoff #4281
George Kugler #1782 W713
Roger Green #2627 W1383
Lourdes Sonera #2525 W1075

We also extend a warm thank you to the volunteers who participated in the Fall Adopt-A-Highway event:

Harold Oakhill #0283 W1244
Judith Estok #3506
John Estok #3505
Karen Bischoff #4281
Linda Betancourt #4282
Lori Herpen #4105
Jeffrey A Levitt #2145 W918
Roger Green #2627 W1383
Sherri Graifman Goffman #3950 W1535
Mike Dwyer #1453 W610
Ellen Dwyer #1452 W611
RB Boyce #4312
Roberta Mulder #3548 W1367
Lourdes Sonera #2525 W1075





Spring Trail Maintenance 2023

The Spring trail maintenance event was cancelled due to rain. However, a group of long-time and experienced volunteers including **Larry Leslie #0208 W131**, **Steve Emanuel #1940 W773**, **Jim Gebhard #1794 W720**, and **John Barringer #2178 W990** waited for a sunny day to complete the trail maintenance requirements on the Peekamoose trail. They successfully removed several blowdowns, cleared water-bars, and left the trail in great condition. We are grateful for their knowledge and dedication.

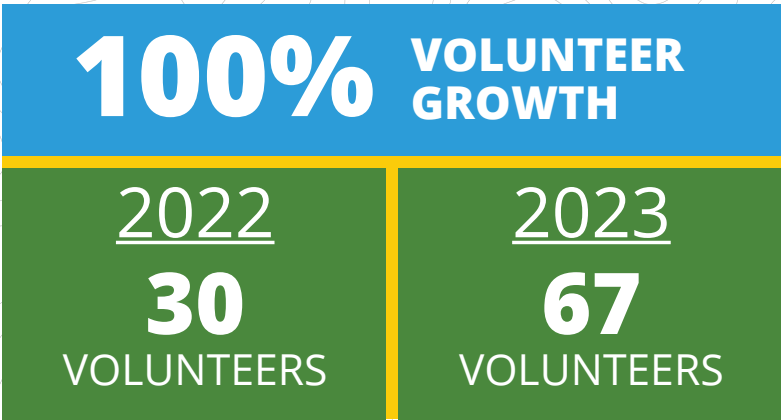


Fall Trail Maintenance 2023

We had an incredible group of trail maintainers for our Fall trail maintenance, putting in a full day at the Peekamoose/Table trail. The Catskill 3500 Club volunteers successfully removed 7 blowdowns, cleared the water bars, filled muddy areas, raked areas as needed, and trimmed overgrown vegetation. We would like to thank **Larry Leslie #0208 W131** and **Steve Emanuel #1940 W773** for taking the lead and sharing their vast knowledge. Our gratitude also goes out to **Mike Siatkowski #4134**, **David Lemmo #3264 W1600**, **Jeffrey A Levitt #2145 W918**, **John Barringer #2178 W990**, **Ron Roberts #2238 W892**, **Steve Emanuel #1940 W773**, **Larry Leslie #0208 W131** and **Lourdes Sonera #2525 W1075**. You make trail maintenance lots of fun!



3500 CLUB TRAILHEAD STEWARD PROGRAM



We are thrilled to announce that the Catskill 3500 Trailhead Steward Program has seen over 100% growth in volunteers who served at least one trailhead day from 30 in 2022 to 67 in 2023. We have also expanded the program to Woodland Valley, where the campground manager and staff have been very welcoming, appreciative, and supportive of the program. During the 2023 season, our dedicated volunteers have devoted 1,500 hours and lots of energy to promoting the Leave No Trace principles and engaging with 4,150 visitors, and let's not forget 260 dogs. Thank you for your dedication and being great stewards!



2023 TRAIL STEWARDS

Anna Inzerillo	aspirant
Anmarie Spiciarich	#0276
Beth Tomlinson	aspirant
Bill Aubrey	#3765
Bill Winterbottom	#1904 W858
Brandi Hoke	aspirant
Brenda Robie	#4208
Brittany Maschal	#4220
Bryan Burnham	#3455 W1373
Chris Daughtrey	aspirant
Christopher Garibian	#3881 W1474
Colin DeVries	#3382 W1589
Colleen Hardcastle	#2990 W1416
Daisy Hsieh	aspirant
David Oliver	#2360 W1040
Denise Grunder	#4062
Denise Weiss	#4232
Eric Rosario	#4229
Erica Miranda	#3934
Erica Pellegrino	#3463 W1390
Gerald Pellegrino	aspirant
Harold Oakhill	#0283 W1244
Heather Daughtrey	aspirant
Izzy Miranda	#3936
Jacob Breinholt	aspirant
Jake Haisley	#2488 W1065
JD Bear Szalla	#3935
Jeffrey Schoenfeld	aspirant
Jessica Robie	#4209
Jim Bouton	#1539 W614
Joseph Ferri	#2223 W945
Julie McGuire	#3500
Karen Bischoff	#4281
Laurie Rankin	#1337 W531

Lev Gorlov	aspirant
Linda Betancourt	#4282
Lourdes Sonera	#2525 W1075
Lyn Walker	#2865 W1312
Malabika Das	aspirant
Margaret McGrath	#2009 W939
Mark Evans	#4101 W1555
Mary Swift	aspirant
Matt Smith	#0889 W309
Michele Kaminsky	#2804 W1305
Mikey Siatkowski	#4134
Milagros Inciarte	aspirant
Monica Harrington	aspirant
Natalia Zotova	aspirant
Paul Stankus	aspirant
Richard Cole	#3752
Rick Inzerillo	#4003 W1563
Robert Gianotti	#4197
Robert Walljasper	aspirant
Roger Green	#2627 W1383
Ruby Rainbow Miranda	#3937
Ryan Raaum	#3819 W1537
Sarah Inzerillo	aspirant
Sharon Burns-Leader	#3685
Sherry Goffman	#3950 W1535
Stacey DeStafeno	Aspirant
Stanley "Stash" Rusin Jr.	#2829
Steve Johnson	#3798
Tracy Rakin	#3961
Vicki Ferreira	#4014
Victor Gorlov	aspirant
Victoria Inzerillo	#3882 W1564
Yana Levchinsky-Grimmond	#2814 W1222



THE CATSKILL 3500 CLUB GEAR REVIEW VIDEO: MSR EVO ASCENT

*This month features Moe Lemire from
Camp Catskill in Tannersville*

Click the image to watch the gear review >>>

Embark on winter adventures with confidence using the MSR Evo Ascent snowshoes, reviewed for the Canister by Camp Catskill's in-house hiking guide Moe Lemire. See why the MSR Evo Ascent is the snowshoe Moe has trusted for the past few seasons, and why it excels in providing stability, traction, and durability, making it an indispensable companion for snow-covered trails in the Catskills and beyond. Grab a pair today at Camp Catskill in Tannersville.

All Catskill 3500 Club members in good standing will receive a 10% discount.



At Camp Catskill, we've got your back, whether you're strolling through easy trails or tackling the challenging Devil's Path. Our collection of hiking gear is tailored to meet your needs, ensuring you're equipped for any adventure. From comfortable essentials for a leisurely hike to rugged gear for the most demanding trails, find everything you need to make your outdoor experience in the Catskill Mountains unforgettable. Camp Catskill: Your reliable partner for every step of the journey, no matter the path you choose.



Scan the QR Code to visit Camp Catskill online

Hiking with Raynaud's Syndrome

by Tom Rankin #1503 W627



Having read the Canister article from last year titled 'Hiking Essentials: How to Keep Your Hands Cozy in Winter', and being a Raynaud's sufferer, I wanted to do an article specifically about Raynaud's. I've hiked extensively in the Catskills, and I'm just a few hikes shy of 300 Winter ascents in the Catskills. I didn't always have Raynaud's, but I do now, and it seems to be getting worse. Ever since I was young, Winter has not stopped me from being outside. I still love winter hiking, and I intend to keep doing it.

First of all, what are we talking about here? Raynaud's Syndrome is a condition where your fingertips (and other extremities, in my case, the toes) lose feeling, and become stiff, white, cold, and painful. I've seen the terms Syndrome, Disease, Disorder, and Phenomenon all used more or less interchangeably in medical literature. It's similar to frostbite, but not the same. For me, it usually happens fairly suddenly.

Doctors don't know why some people have this problem, while others don't.

In my case, I know exactly why it happens. It starts because my BODY is cold, not my fingers! My body reacts by over-aggressively restricting blood flow to my extremities. This is a good survival technique, but some people's bodies overdo it. Sometimes my fingers will get cold in the winter, but not show Raynaud's symptoms. Again, it's mostly about my body being dry and warm. Of course, you don't want to overdo it and get too hot and sweaty. Finding the right balance takes time and only you can discover what works best for you.

That being said, what else can you do? Hand warmers help, but it can take 15 to 20 minutes before my symptoms go away. I mostly get relief because I am moving. No amount of gloves or

mittens will fix the problem, by themselves, once the symptoms develop. You can try windmilling your hands, but I find this only gives minimal, temporary relief. Don't grip your poles too tightly, as this will restrict circulation. Make sure your boots are not too tight. Keep your gloves or mittens dry. I always carry spare pairs. I've seen recommendations advising not to put hand warmers directly against the skin. This is just me talking, but I've used hand warmers hundreds of times, directly against my skin, and I've never felt like they were too hot.

I've been told by a doctor that the more often you allow Raynaud's to happen, the worse it can get. Therefore, it's very important to start your hike warm, and stay warm throughout, minimizing your stops.

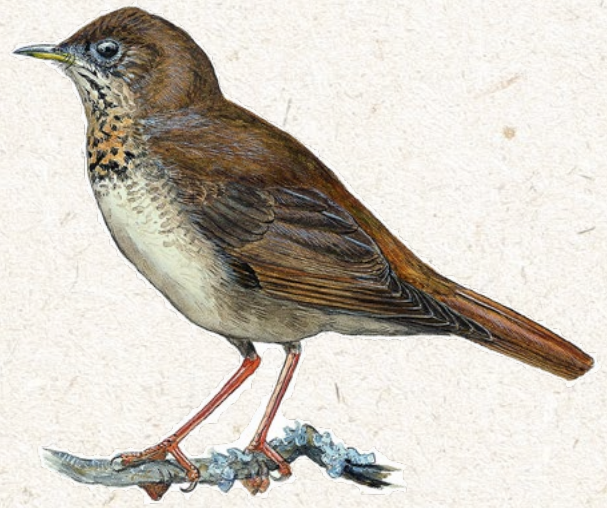
I've been told by a doctor that the more often you allow Raynaud's to happen, the worse it can get. Therefore, it's very important to start your hike warm, and stay warm throughout, minimizing your stops. Having food and hot liquids readily available will help. As soon as you get to the trail head, open a pack of hand warmers and place them in your gloves or mittens, and get ready in the warm car as much as possible.

There are several brands of rechargeable USB hand warmers. They have the advantages of being reusable, causing less waste, with most having adjustable heat levels. There are even models that have lights and can power other USB devices, but of course, these are heavier, larger, and more expensive. A basic USB warmer costs about \$20.00, will last several hours, and can be reused many times.

In summary, Raynaud's is manageable, but it does take preparation and knowing your body.

Tom Rankin is a Past-President of the Catskill 3500 Club. He and his wife Laurie were named 'Hike Leaders of the Year' by the club in 2013

Research fellows investigate hiking impact on already-imperiled songbirds in the Catskill high peaks



Bicknell's Thrush

Presentation review by Colin DeVries #3382 W1589

As climate change pushes lower-altitude animals higher into the Catskill high peaks, montane birds like the Bicknell's Thrush, Blackpoll Warbler, and Winter Wren are declining. The spike in hiking due to the Covid-19 pandemic may be further disturbing these sensitive ground-nesting birds. To investigate this possibility, the Catskill Science Collaborative funded three research fellows: Danielle Takacs, Samuel Mateo, Jr., and Kristyn Gessner, to backpack through the high peaks this summer. The fellows are all recent graduates of SUNY New Paltz, who completed the study under the guidance of Dr. Kara Belinsky at SUNY New Paltz and in collaboration with land managers and scientists at NYSDEC, the New York Natural Heritage Program, and the Vermont Center for Ecostudies.

The fellows completed six overnight trips, stopping at 72 locations on official trails, unofficial trails with high visitation, or unofficial trails with low visitation scattered across high peaks including Slide, Hunter, Rusk, Balsam Cap, Dink, Friday, Sugarloaf, and Plateau. The locations were chosen using data from trail registers and canister sign-ins. At each location, the team identified and counted birds starting at dawn, and then measured vegetation density, tree composition, and trail condition metrics.

Key findings were that high-visitation informal trails (aka herd paths) had the fewest bird species, while official trails with robust vegetation supported more birds. Managers at NYSDEC will use these data to inform future trail management. To learn more, watch the fellow's engaging presentation given in October 2023 on YouTube here: <https://youtu.be/z8tPkv4fRNE?si=9GVXpGjb8IL7UVdT&t=1846>. To see more pictures and videos of the fellows in action this summer, check out @newpaltzornithology on Instagram.

The Catskill Science Collaborative carries out the goals of the Catskill Environmental Research and Monitoring (CERM) group, an informal collaboration coordinated by Cary Institute. Learn more about it here: Catskill Science Collaborative (caryinstitute.org)



Click the above image to watch the presentation



FIRST GROWTH FOREST ALONG THE BURROUGHS RANGE (WITTENBERG-CORNELL-SLIDE MOUNTAIN) TRAIL

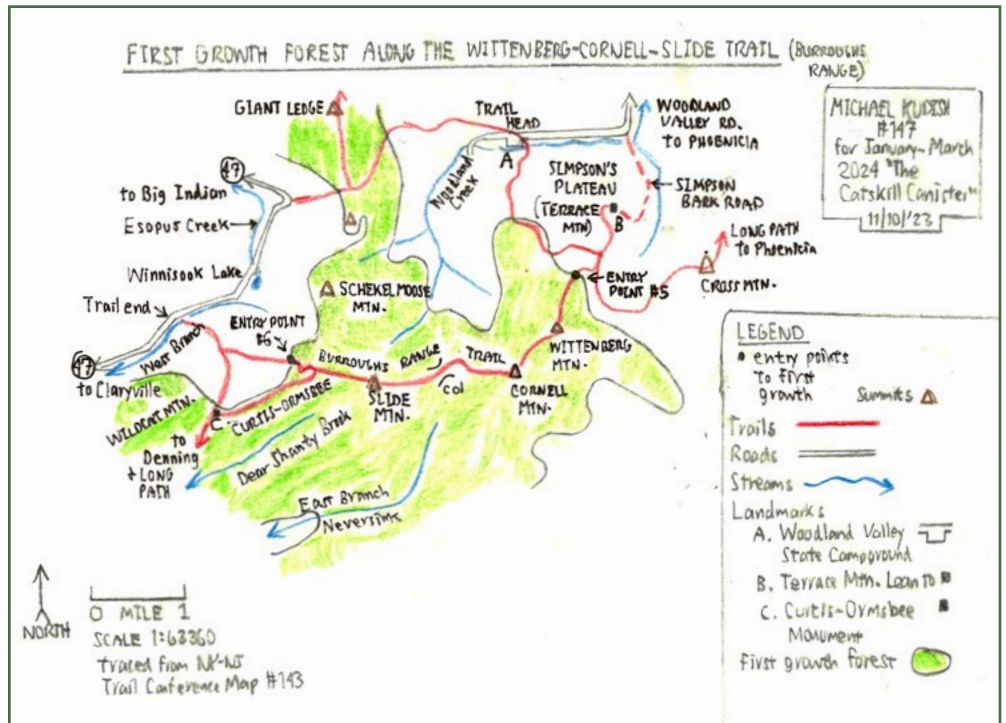
by Michael Kudish #147

This is the fourth article on locating where long distance trails enter and leave first growth forest. The first article was on the Devil's Path, the second on the Pine Hill-West Branch Trail, and the third on the Dry Brook and Mill Brook Ridge Trails. I thought I'd write this time about the Burroughs Range Trail, also known as the Wittenberg-Cornell-Slide Trail. This trail has a simple forest history: one enters and leaves first growth only once. This is unlike the Devil's Path where one enters and leaves 1st growth four times.

Let's begin at mile zero in the Woodland Valley Campground, elevation 1360. From here we follow the trail in woods barked by James Simpson. His tannery, the Phoenix Tannery (after which Phoenicia is named), from 1836 through 1870 was located on the south bank of the Esopus along High Street, near where the recently-built section (in 2014) of the Long Path comes down off of Romer Mountain. [My catalog number for this tannery, in *The Catskill Forest: a History* (Purple Mountain Press, 2000 and 2015) is T53].

Simpson barked as far up as the 2940-foot level on Wittenberg Mountain where the hemlock had run out. This is 1st growth entry point #5 in my catalog. But his main bark road did not come up this way. It began near where Cross Mountain Brook joins Woodland Creek, and worked its way up Simpson's Plateau past where the Terrace Mountain Lean-to is today (Terrace Mountain was called Simpson's Plateau in the 19th century). The current (built ca. 1976) Burroughs Range Trail joins the old Simpson bark road today where the spur trail comes in from

Terrace Mountain Lean-to, at 2.6 miles, elevation 2630.



At 2.8 miles, the recently-built (in 2014) section of the Long Path joins the Burroughs Range Trail at 2720 feet. Here, we are still on Simpson's old bark road.

But at 3.0 miles, elevation 2940, the Burroughs Range Trail noticeably becomes narrower and steeper; the old wider road becomes a foot trail. Here is entry point



Balsam Fir dominated, first growth forest on Slide Mountain

#5 where Simpson ran out of hemlock bark for his tannery.

The best information we have for the timing of Simpson's logging in this area comes from John Burroughs himself, in his essay "The Heart of the Southern Catskills" (1885). He tells us that, in neighboring Woodland Valley to the west, Simpson was done barking about 25 years before, i.e. ca. 1860.

From entry point #5, the forest is in first growth all the way over Wittenberg, Cornell, and Slide Mountains and past the point (7.7 miles, elevation 3780) where the Curtis-Ormsbee Trail comes in.

At 8.1 miles, elevation 3560, there used to be an old gate across the trail; this gate marked the upper limit of Winnisook Club lands. The DEC had installed the gate, which I remember, to prevent people on motorized vehicles from climbing the remainder of the way up Slide. Below the gate, entry point #6 in my catalog, the trail was on private Winnisook Club lands. The Club had used the trail as a skid road to haul logs out during a logging operation in the early 1960s. Then the Club sold this portion of their lands to the state in the spring of 1980 and the gate was removed.

A short distance below the gate were two log roads that branched off the trail and headed north and up the ridge over toward the still privately-owned James Dutcher's Steps Trail. One was at 8.2 miles, elevation 3455, and the other at 8.3 miles, elevation 3380. These two branch log roads were still plainly visible when I climbed Slide as a student in the mid- to late 1960s through the early 1970s, but are difficult to find now because they are so grown over. For the Catskills as a whole, elevations of 3455 and 3380 are quite high for a forest to have been logged, although we have nowhere a record here; Hunter and Southwest Hunter were logged to

their summits by the Fenwick Lumber Company between 1906 and 1917.

At 9.1 miles, elevation 2810, the Burroughs Range Trail joins the Phoenicia-East Branch Neversink Trail coming in from the south. The Winnisook Club had used the latter trail as a main log road almost all the way to the Curtis-Ormsbee Monument in the early 1960s;

when this tract became state land in 1980, I mapped most of the branch log roads that fed into it.

At 9.8 miles, elevation 2420, the Burroughs Range Trail ends at the somewhat recently-built (1980) parking area along County Route 47. The original trail head was farther up the Neversink, closer to Winnisook Lodge.

Footnote: Between the Woodland Valley Campground at mile zero and the Terrace Mountain Lean-to Trail junction at 2.6 miles, Simpson may have missed some hemlock because of unusually inaccessible steep and/or rough terrain. Therefore, the Burroughs Range Trail might still be in and out of some small pockets of 1st growth between these two points, but nothing extensive.



First growth forest at elevation 4100'. Slide Mountain lookout that marks the top of the 1819 landslide, after which the peak gets its name.

Michael Kudish's Ph.D. thesis was on the vegetational history of the Catskill High Peaks (SUNY E.S.F. 1971). This thesis initiated a life-long study on the forests from the end of the Ice Age to the present. He became member #147 on Panther Mountain on March 12, 1973 (with Ed

West #45), and around that time wrote several articles for The Catskill Canister. Professor Mike taught in the Forestry Division of Paul Smith's College in the Adirondacks for 34 years, retiring in 2005, and moved to the Catskills to continue studying the forest full time.

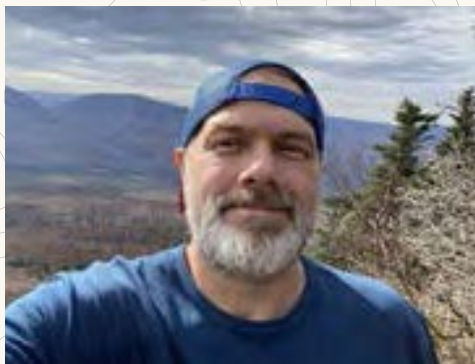




Morning view of Ashokan High Point and Burroughs Range. Photo by Steve Aaron #3199

NORTH DOME & SHERRILL - A WINTER'S TALE: PART II - REAL WINTER

by Brian Hoody #3805



Everyone has a nemesis (or perhaps several). In my case it's North Dome Mountain and because Sherrill is indubitably connected, it also made my nemesis list. But they were also on another list, my winter one. So on a cold, windy February day I made my way up the steep sections out of the trailhead and I was on my way down the Devil's Path towards the other "Mink Hollow". The weather theme of the day was overcast and cold, with a wind that seemed to blow through the length of the hollow with reckless abandon.

I put my head down into the wind, thinking that at least on the way out it would be at my back and made it to the turn-off for the bushwhack to North Dome quickly - not because I'm fast, but mostly out of an effort to keep myself warm. Keeping my microspikes on for now I noted a change in the consistency of the snow, which higher up in the pass had an icy layer on top, with a sugary consistency below. Thankfully the snow was not too deep as every other step I would break through the icy crust and have to yank my foot out.

The first series of cliffs were reached

and breached without difficulty, but as I gained on the mountain, the terrain began to steepen significantly and I rather suddenly found my microspikes to be woefully inadequate. Carefully picking my way to a less vertical spot I began the arduous process of putting my crampons on. Even after wearing them on and off for a few decades, it seems like every year I forgot how they go on, but once I had them strapped to my feet there was indeed a much better sense of being attached to Mother Earth.

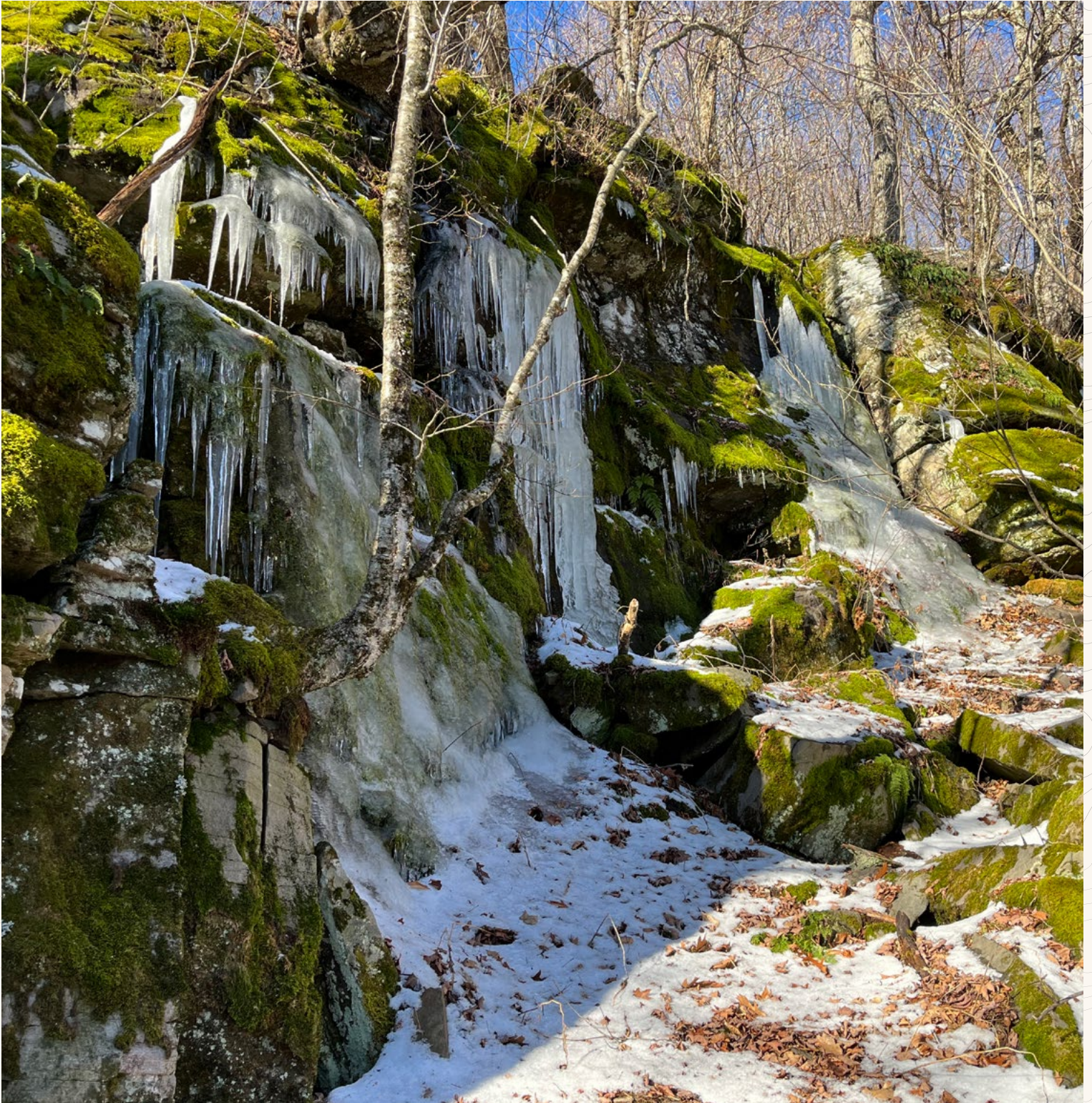
As I scratched my way upwards my safe passage through the cliff bands petered out and I was forced to backtrack. Heading roughly north I was eventually able to find a cleft which in theory I could wedge myself in and make my way up. As I kicked my crampons into the side of the unforgiving North Dome, small avalanches of ice peeled off and slid down in sheets, causing a disconcerting sound as it crashed its way down the mountain. The grade steepened even more, but the crampons held firmly into the ice and snow and after a few more unnerving spots where chunks of ice broke off, tumbling back down behind me, I was able to haul myself up past the final cliff bands and onto the summit ridge.

A bit later there was that wonderful orange canister and a little over an hour later I was at the Sherrill can, although I did end up keeping my crampons on the entire time, much to the dismay of my feet. I'd like to tell you fair reader, that the day got easier, but that whole nemesis thing... The snow was

supportive in some places and then a few steps further I would find myself breaking through into sugary snow beneath the icy coating that covered the ground. Navigating was tough and I kind of just made my way best that I could and that infinity ridge phenomena that I had endured in the Catskills before seemed to be haunting me.

Another hour (or so) back to North Dome from Sherrill I began the decent that I had begun to dread like a Monday morning after a long weekend. I feared the worst, but it actually turned out to be not too bad - a few sections where I had caused the mini-avalanches on the way up I was able to avoid, as my earlier passage was quite evident. Eventually I made my way down to the Devil's Path and finally reached a point where I could remove my crampons. Sitting on a snow covered rock I unraveled the medieval weapons from my feet and placed my microspikes back on. Upright and vertical once again I began the walk out towards the trailhead. Somehow the wind had shifted and it was once again blowing in my face. Muttering something about North Dome/nemesis under my breath and just because it could, the wind picked up even more...

Brian spent his formative years wandering around the Adirondacks, but in recent years has taken to wandering about the Catskills, which he finds historical, challenging and immensely beautiful. Currently Brian is enjoying revisiting the peaks during the winter (and all the other seasons as well).



North Dome Cliff Bands

TALKING THE CATSKILLS – EDUCATING THE PUBLIC: A KEY TO PROTECTING THE MOUNTAINS

By Stash Rusin #2829



Giving Back to the Mountains

One of the biggest accomplishments in my life came October 17, 2017. It was the day I completed the 3500 Club challenge and became member #2829 of the 3500 Club. A year after that, I joined the Catskill Search and Rescue team. A year later, in 2019, I was elected as the second vice president of the 3500 Club! I never saw any of this coming. I really liked hiking, but I felt like I needed to do more for the mountains because they gave a lot back to me while completing my list (and helping a few friends complete their lists). Unfortunately, in 2021, I stepped down from the second vice president of the club. Due to my jobs, volunteering for SAR and just life in general, I felt that I wasn't pulling my full weight as second VP since I was so busy. I was overwhelmed and I wasn't fully prepared to thrive in that role and be a productive team member.

The Need to Educate Hikers

There were many positive things that

came out of hiking and my love of the mountains. I learned a lot about the Catskill 3500 Club and all that they do. I learned more about volunteering, and that education for future and current hikers is key.

During the role as second VP, we had several events that had major impacts on the club and the hiking community in the Catskills. First, the Covid-19 pandemic. Most of us were stuck at home, couldn't travel, or do what we loved, but after the restrictions were lifted and we could travel again, it was like the Catskills became a desired and sought after spot, much like it was back in the early 1900's. People from all over the tri-state area flocked to the Catskills because it was the closest mountain range to the public and people were seeking outdoor adventure since many "usual" attractions and social places were closed, or limited access still. The whole area saw a massive increase in hikers and the 3500 Club saw a huge increase in people participating in and completing the club challenge. Since there were so many people going after the patch, the bushwhacks started to show major herd paths instead of the typical faint path as they previously once were. With all these concerns, what could we do? Shut them down? No. The Catskill Park is public land. Stop the 3500 Club challenge? No. That challenge gets people outside and shows them the true beauty of the mountains. Educate? Absolutely! The amazing members of the Catskill 3500

Club Board brainstormed on the several challenges that we face during these times. As a result, an idea came to life – develop a program for trail stewarding as a way to reach and educate hikers. What better way to get a hold of the public and educate than to be there at the trailhead to meet, greet and teach people about the basics of not just the club, but more importantly, how to take care of the mountains in general. On May 28, 2021, the 3500 Club Trailhead Steward program was started. A great program that makes people feel comfortable when visiting our area and educates them on various ways of how to protect the wilderness and the general ins and outs of hiking.

Let's "Talk" about the Catskills

After I stepped down as second VP, I still felt I needed to give more back to the mountains. We had great programs that taught people on site about how to be prepared and also how to protect the trails. I thought, well, I like to talk a lot so why not start a podcast about the Catskills? There were a few out there, but none of them were exclusively about hiking in the Catskills. I thought that would be a great way to keep people's interest when they are not hiking in the mountains. Whether on the drive, at home or at work. So, in August 2021, I decided I should give it a shot and I started "Inside the Line: The Catskill Mountains Podcast." What started as a hobby and a way for me to research and interview cool people living in, hiking, or

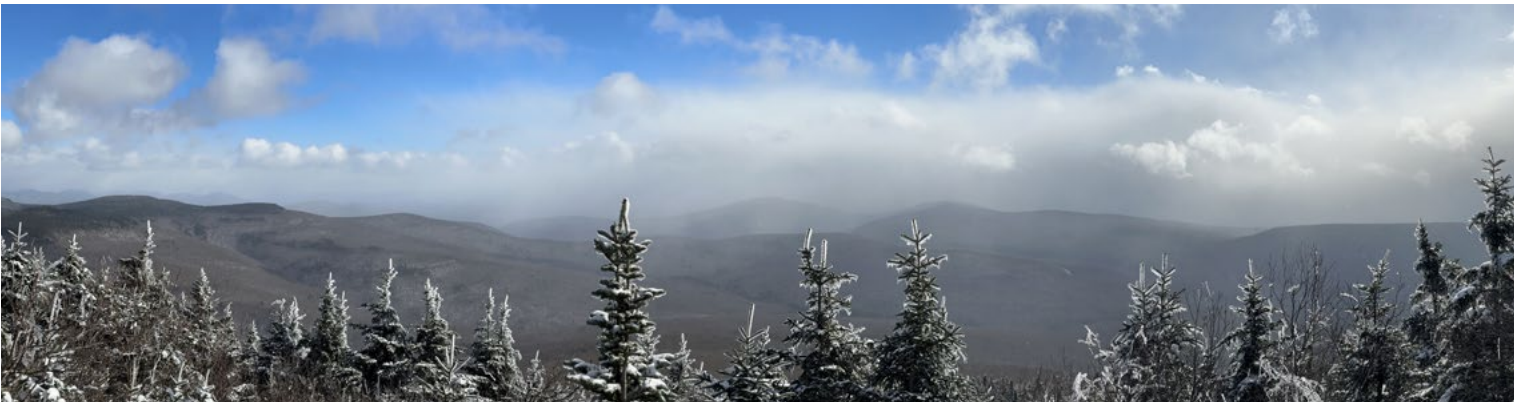


Photo courtesy of Phil Vondra #3088 W1284

having businesses in the Catskills, turned into a way to treat our outdoors better and how to enjoy the Catskills even more. My goal was to reach out and educate people about the Catskills as a whole, not just the actual peaks.

I immersed myself in the history of them, the local communities and found interesting topics that I thought people would be interested in. I'm just over 100 episodes in, have great and helpful listeners and most of all, I'm having fun spreading the word about our great mountains. I've had fantastic interviews with forest rangers, local volunteers, local businesses, and even just random hikers who love the Catskills and who want to make new and regular visitors feel comfortable and welcomed when they reach our beautiful park. I've chatted about rescues, new plans for the park, how important volunteering is, hidden hikes and much, much more.

One of the most important topics I stress is volunteering. With the rise of visitors here, we need all the help we can get in taking care of our trails, lean-tos and even the parking lots! It's a tough job to do, but every volunteer here in the Catskills is so important and we all work hard to keep our mountains looking the best that they can.

As you can see, I can't stop talking about the Catskills and hopefully that's a good thing! I might not have the biggest audience when it comes to podcast history, but I hope that whomever I'm reaching with the podcast, learns a little more about our area and hopefully gain the love that I have for these mountains.

You can listen to "Inside the Line – The Catskill Mountains Podcast" on any streaming platform like Apple or Spotify as well as YouTube. You can also follow "Inside the Line – The Catskill Mountains Podcast" on Facebook and Instagram. Contact Stash Rusin at itlcatskillspodcast@gmail.com if you have questions about the podcast or need some information!

THE FENWICK LUMBER COMPANY, A MARVEL AND A MYSTERY

By Elaine Warfield



In 1906, the newly capitalized Fenwick Lumber Company out of Pennsylvania bought property, rights of way and various other rights to log timber on Southwest Hunter and down into Spruceton.



Carts on rails, with the aid of two cabled steam donkey engines, were used to transport logs from Spruceton and the back side of Hunter Mountain, to the sawmill at Edgewood, about a mile above the current Ostrander Road.

At the summit were various buildings, plus a cook house and bunk house. A railroad industrial siding sat below Ostrander Road, across what is now State Route 214. Fenwick shipped finished lumber to various buyers, including 5 million board feet for the Ashokan Dam project. When the operation concluded around 1917, Fenwick all but vanished.

CANISTER ← BACKTRACK →

Winter
1974

PRECIPITATION ON CATSKILL SUMMITS

The average amount of rain plus melted snow varies greatly from place to place and from elevation to elevation. For such a small area, roughly 2000 square miles, with a relief of only 4180 feet from the Hudson to the summit of Slide, there is a twofold increase in mean annual precipitation: from 33 inches to about 70.

United States Weather Bureau stations in the CATSKILL Region are located in the valleys, hence precise values of precipitation, temperature, and other climatological factors on the summits are unknown. By examining the valley data carefully and finding relationships, estimates for the summits can be produced; it must be emphasized that the following values are estimates) and can be verified only by installation of weather stations upon the summits.

The wettest area of the CATSKILLS consists of a belt forming an arc beginning over Mongaup Mountain in northern Sullivan County and traceable

eastward over the Beaverkill Range and Frost Valley in Ulster County; from there it curves east-north-eastward over Slide Mountain and then northeastward over Plateau Mountain where it terminates around North Lake. Here, valley stations are receiving over 50 inches of precipitation per year, the maximum being at the Slide Mountain Station at Winnisook Lodge (elevation 2650 feet) with 60 inches, the wettest station in the State. Within this wet belt and to the south and east of it, precipitation increases with elevation at the rate of about 7.5 inches per year per 1000 feet. Thus, Hudson Valley stations such as Kingston receive about 40 inches per year; a station at 1000 feet elevation should ideally receive 47.5 inches, a 2000-foot station 55 inches, a 3000-foot station 62.5 inches, and a 4000-foot station 70 inches,

However, on the north and west side of this wet belt arc. the relationships are not symmetrical with those on the

east and south. The patterns are more complex, so that the precipitation for a given location is dependent on not only how high it is, but also on how far it is from the wet belt. The elevation rate falls from 7.5 inches per year per 1000 feet in the wet belt to only about 4 inches in Delaware County.

The wettest area of the CATSKILLS consists of a belt forming an arc beginning over Mongaup Mountain in northern Sullivan County and traceable eastward over the Beaverkill Range and Frost Valley in Ulster County; from there it curves east-north-eastward over Slide Mountain and then northeastward over Plateau Mountain where it terminates around North Lake.



A station at a given elevation in Delaware County will be drier than one at the same elevation in the southeastern CATSKILLS. For example, Arkville and Arena at 1300 feet elevation receive barely 39 inches, while Mohonk Lake, a trifle lower in elevation, averages 47.

Within ten to fifteen miles on the northwest side of the wet belt, mean annual precipitation increases rapidly as one travels closer to the arc while maintaining the same elevation. The rate is nearly one inch per mile per year. For example, High Mount (44 inches) and Frost Valley (53 inches) are both at elevation 1840 feet and 11.5 miles apart, yet the latter is wetter because it is in the wet belt. New Kingston, also at elevation 1840, is 11 inches drier than Frost Valley, as it is still further from the wet belt than High Mount. Stamford is almost the same elevation as the others but 14 inches drier than Frost Valley. For stations more than 15 miles northwest of the wet belt, distance has considerably less effect.

Following is a list of CATSKILL peaks and their mean annual precipitation estimates. For a thorough account of why certain parts of the CATSKILLS are wetter than others, see Bernard E. Dethier's *Precipitation in New York State*, published in 1967 by the Cornell University Agricultural Experiment Station in Ithaca as Bulletin #1009, 78 pages.

Original article appeared in the Catskill Canister, Winter 1974, Volume 7, No. 1: Written by Michael Kudish & Paul Smiths



Photos courtesy of Ralph Ryniak

Estimates of Mean Annual Precipitation (1974)

Inches	Elevation	Peak
71	4180	Slide
66	4040	Hunter
66	3990	Black Dome
62	3880	West Kill
68	3843	Peekamoose
69	3800	Sugarloaf
68	3780	Wittenberg
60	3725	Balsam Lake
64	3700	Big Indian
60	3680	Rusk
58	3610	North Dome

Inches	Elevation	Peak
60	3600	Balsam
51	3600	Bearpen
67	3573	Indian Head
59	3524	Windham High Peak
55	3520	Halcott
66	3508	Rocky

Nearby Villages for Comparison:

47	830	Phoenicia
52	1920	Tannersville
40	1500	Windham

CATSKILL 3500 CLUB MEMBERS - 2023 / 4Q

NUMBER	NAME	DATE	LAST PEAK
4291	Joshua Fitzgibbons	09/04/23	Wittenberg
4292	John Shebey III	09/03/23	Rusk
4293	Elaine Shebey	09/03/23	Rusk
4294	Heather Billington	09/04/23	Wittenberg
4295	Geri Mulligan	07/26/23	Balsam Lake
4296	Chris Cosgrove	07/26/23	Balsam Lake
4297	Paige Olscamp	09/16/23	Plateau
4298	John A Jonas Jr	09/16/23	Plateau
4299	Yoko Kawai	09/09/23	Rocky
4300	Inga Guerrera	07/21/23	Panther
4301	Sean Gelston	09/13/23	Panther
4302	Bambi Auer	09/22/23	West Kill
4303	Robert L Hileman Jr	09/22/23	West Kill
4304	Chris Martin	09/28/23	Sherrill
4305	Connie Allen	10/01/23	Slide
4306	Susan Rera	10/10/23	Panther
4307	John C Plasse	10/01/23	Kaaterskill
4308	Jesse Surprise	10/09/23	West Kill
4309	Michael Radomski	10/05/23	Kaaterskill
4310	Allison Galuska	10/09/23	North Dome
4311	Eric Galuska	10/09/23	North Dome
4312	RB Boyce	09/04/23	Panther
4313	Stefanie Delleteri	10/15/23	Black Dome
4314	Benjamin Rauschendorfer	08/19/23	North Dome
4315	Alexander Setzko	09/01/23	Slide
4316	Barb Adams	10/19/23	West Kill

NUMBER	NAME	DATE	LAST PEAK
4317	Serena Brochu	10/27/23	Peekamoose
4318	Matthew G Kelly	10/25/23	Slide
4319	Melissa Cascini	10/28/23	Twin
4320	Dana Jaffray	10/11/23	Cornell
4321	Arlene Chisdak	10/24/23	Rocky
4322	Deborah Lewis	10/27/23	Indian Head
4323	Robert Eckstein	10/26/23	Rusk
4324	Hannah Eckstein-Gowans	10/26/23	Rusk
4325	Beth Scoville	10/28/23	Sherrill
4326	Terry Bouck	10/28/23	Sherrill
4327	Bradley Bouck	10/28/23	Sherrill
4328	Andrew W Rowlands	10/28/23	Rocky
4329	David Gallagher	10/18/23	Thomas Cole
4330	James Huben	11/11/23	Eagle
4331	Alex Drivdahl	11/04/23	Balsam Lake
4332	Andrea Krug	08/14/23	West Kill
4333	Janell Bissonnette	11/06/23	Blackhead
4334	Jill Rich	11/11/23	Kaaterskill
4335	Ryan Miller	11/11/23	Kaaterskill
4336	Charlie Prezzano	06/13/20	Big Indian
4337	Peter Stewart	06/13/20	Big Indian
4338	Olivia Bernard	11/04/23	Fir
4339	Mousa Haddad	11/04/23	Kaaterskill
4340	Ralph Green III	11/18/23	Slide
4341	Wales Carter	03/26/23	West Kill
4342	Heather Priolo	10/08/23	West Kill

LIFE MEMBERS

0871	Lawrence Tsao	
1243	Anthony A Bliss III	
1244	Anthony A Bliss Jr	
3729	Todd France	
3887	John A Lang	
4097	Paige Olscamp	
4098	John A Jonas Jr	
4301	Sean Gelston	From Life Aspirant
4312	RB Boyce	
4314	Benjamin Rauschendorfer	

4315	Alexander Setzko	
4316	Barb Adams	From Life Aspirant
4320	Dana Jaffray	
4330	James Huben	
4333	Janell Bissonnette	From Life Aspirant
4336	Charlie Prezzano	
ASP	Maryse Mitchell-Brody	
ASP	Joe Recine	
ASP	James P Boyer	

NEW WINTER MEMBERS

NUMBER	NAME	REGULAR	DATE	LAST PEAK
1601	Daniel F Mulvihill IV	1380	01/31/21	Vly

Winter in the **CATSKILLS**



THE CATSKILL 3500 CLUB GROUP HIKES: PRINCIPLES & GUIDANCE



Familiarize yourself with the seven Leave No Trace Principles for all your hikes.

- 1** Plan Ahead and Prepare
- 2** Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces
- 3** Dispose of Waste Properly
- 4** Leave What You Find
- 5** Minimize Campfire Impacts
- 6** Respect Wildlife
- 7** Be Considerate of Other Visitors



THE CATSKILL 3500 CLUB'S HIKING CREDO INCLUDES THREE BASIC PRINCIPLES:

- 1** Follow the Rules
- 2** Use your Map & Compass
- 3** Know your Limitations

THE CLUB ALSO PROMOTES THE ADHERENCE TO THE HIKESAFE HIKER RESPONSIBILITY CODE.

hikeSafe encourages hikers to be prepared:



- ✓ with knowledge and gear
- ✓ to leave your plans
- ✓ to stay together
- ✓ to turn back for emergencies
- ✓ to share the hiker responsibility code with others





Assumed Risk

Cool Weather & Summer

Hiking involves certain inherent risks and persons participating do so at their own risk. In cool weather, hike participants should avoid cotton clothing, as it retains dampness and the resulting chill can result in hypothermia, which can lead to death. In summer participants should have available in their pack garments of wool or fleece and a headlamp, should one have to unexpectedly spend the night in the mountains. Anyone not properly equipped may be refused permission to participate, at the leader's absolute discretion.

Hike Pace

Pace is indicated as one (or a range) of the following, based on the intended moving pace. It should be understood that for any particular hike, actual pace is usually slower in steep/icy/difficult terrain or while bushwhacking.

-  **Relaxed (1 mph or less)**
-  **Moderate (about 1.5 mph)**
-  **Quick (about 2 mph)**
-  **Fast (faster than 2 mph)**

Rating System

Please be advised that the hikes listed herein would most likely be rated more difficult by clubs who hike in non-mountainous terrains. Club hikes may be canceled at the hike leader's discretion if dangerous weather conditions exist. When in doubt (heavy rain, high winds, or other serious weather conditions), please contact your hike leader.

Blaze Orange Alert

Please refer to this DEC link (<https://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/65231.html>) for the summary of hunting seasons. Wear orange, avoid white and remember the same for your four-legged hiking companions!

Cold Weather & Winter

Hiking involves certain inherent risks and persons participating do so at their own risk. In cold weather, hike participants should avoid cotton clothing, as it retains dampness and the resulting chill can result in hypothermia, which can lead to death. Instead, wear (and have available in your pack) garments of wool or fleece. Silk or polypropylene make the best base layers, as they tend to wick moisture away from the body. Hats, gloves and a headlamp must be part of the standard fall kit. Ice and snow can come early and unexpectedly to these peaks; if there is any doubt about the conditions that may be encountered, each hiker is strongly advised to bring traction aids to the trailhead; the leader may advise that these do not have to be taken on the hike, but be aware that while there may be bare ground at the trailhead, there is often very significant ice and snow as the elevation increases, which could result in those improperly prepared being sent back. The hike leader may specify required clothing or gear for a hike. Anyone not properly equipped may be refused permission to participate, at the leader's absolute discretion. Fall in the Catskills is not to be treated lightly.

Group Size

Maximum group size is limited to **12 persons** including hikers and leaders, but a leader may specify a smaller groups size. **The minimum group size is 3.** The hikes listed here and on the online events calendar are official Catskill 3500 Club hikes. Any other advertised hikes to the 3500 peaks are private hikes and, while they can count for membership to the Club, the Club is not affiliated with those hikes.

Private Property

All Catskill 3500 Club hikes respect "No Trespassing" signs and the owners' wishes in such regards; leaders shall obtain permission to cross private property when so required. Identify private property via the NYNJTC Catskill Trail maps (2023 13th edition), and determine property ownership via online county tax maps.

CLUB HIKE SCHEDULE - JANUARY

Hike schedule can also be found on the 3500 Club website. Club hiking schedule is subject to change.

■ Winter Weekend Hikes

Wed. Jan. 3 - BALSAM & EAGLE

Distance: 9.5 mi. Ascent: 2800', Elevs: 3607', 3583'
Includes required winter peak (Balsam). Moderate pace from Rider Hollow. Fit beginners welcome.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Marv Freedman #2242 W951
marvfreedman@gmail.com

Thu. Jan. 4 - WINDHAM HIGH PEAK

Distance: 6.2 mi. Ascent: 1412', Elev: 3525'
Moderate pace trail hike.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Anne Rubin #3832 W1507
annaswartz@netscape.net

Sat. Jan. 6 - VLY & BEARPEN am / HALCOTT pm

Distance: 6.5 mi. Ascent: 2100', Elevs: 3541', 3587' (Vly & Bearpen)
Distance: 3.5 mi. Ascent: 1700', Elev: 3509' (Halcott)
Informal (non-DEC) trail hike in the morning, followed by short, steep bushwhack in the afternoon.
Moderate pace. Fit beginners welcome.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Marv Freedman #2242 W951
marvfreedman@gmail.com

Sat. Jan. 6 - PLATEAU

Distance: 7.5 mi. Ascent: 2381', Elev: 3835'
Moderate pace trail hike. Warner Creek to Devil's Path.
Shuttle required.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Mark Evans #4101 W1555
mark.evans2112@gmail.com

Thu. Jan. 11 - HALCOTT

Distance: 4 mi. Ascent: 1800', Elev: 3509'
Moderate paced bushwhack. Spikes and snowshoes required.
Registration Period: by Jan 7
Leader: Ed Moran #2007 W950
edmoran@gmail.com 631-741-3765

Thu. Jan. 11 - WEST KILL

Distance: 6.8 mi. Ascent: 1900', Elev: 3898'
Moderate pace trail hike.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Anne Rubin #3832 W1507
annaswartz@netscape.net

Fri. Jan. 12 - HALCOTT

Distance: 3.5 mi. Ascent: 1700', Elev: 3509'
Short, steep bushwhack at a moderate pace, beginners welcome.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Bob Nuzzo #3918 W1541
rmnuzz@gmail.com

Fri. Jan. 12 - RUSK

Distance: 3.9 mi. Ascent: 1612', Elev: 3686'
Short, steep bushwhack at a moderate pace, beginners welcome.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Bob Nuzzo #3918 W1541
rmnuzz@gmail.com

Sat. Jan. 13 - BLACKHEAD

Distance: 5 mi. Ascent: 1772', Elev: 3940'
Required winter peak. Moderate pace hike. Beginners welcome.
Registration Period: Jan 8 - 11
Leader: Jake Haisley #2488 1065W
jacobhaisley@gmail.com

Sat. Jan. 13 - FIR, BIG INDIAN & EAGLE

Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 3200', Elevs: 3629', 3699', 3583'
Challenging bushwhack and trail hike from Maben Hollow to Burnham Hollow at a moderate pace.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Marv Freedman #2242 W951
marvfreedman@gmail.com

Thu. Jan. 18 - BALSAM & EAGLE

Distance: 7.4 mi. Ascent: 2580', Elevs: 3607', 3583'
Moderate pace trail hike.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Anne Rubin #3832 W1507
annaswartz@netscape.net

Fri. Jan. 19 - RUSK, HUNTER & SW HUNTER

Distance: 12+ mi. Ascent: 3200', Elevs: 3680', 4030', 3753'
Long bushwhack and trail hike at a moderate pace.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Marv Freedman #2242 W951
marvfreedman@gmail.com

Sat. Jan. 20 - WINDHAM (WW)

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 1800', Elev: 3525'
Moderate pace trail hike with great views. Fit beginners welcome.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Marv Freedman #2242 W951
marvfreedman@gmail.com

Sat. Jan. 20 - BALSAM (WW)

Distance: 5.2 mi. Ascent: 1607', Elev: 3607'
Relaxed Pace. Beginners welcome.
Registration Period: Jan. 10 - 18
Leaders: Tom Rankin #1503 W627 and Laurie Rankin #1337 W531
tomrankin7@gmail.com 845-926-6209

Sat. Jan. 20 - BLACKHEAD (WW)

Distance: 5.2 mi. Ascent: 1700', Elev: 3940'
Required winter peak. Moderate pace trail hike with winter instruction. Microspikes and snowshoes are a must. Beginners welcome.
Contact Hike Leader in advance of winter gear purchases.
Registration Period: Dec. 27 - Feb.16
Leader: Russell Ley #2927 W1262
russell.buildingscience@gmail.com 518-370-3600

Sat. Jan. 20 - PANTHER (WW)

Distance: 6.6 mi. Ascent: 1800', Elev: 3724'
Required winter peak. Moderate relaxed pace in & out from Giant Ledge parking area.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Tonda Highley #1944 W857
Thighley1944@gmail.com

CLUB HIKE SCHEDULE - JANUARY

Sat. Jan. 20 - SW HUNTER & HUNTER (WW)

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 2100'; Elevs: 3753', 4030'
Moderate pace hike via formal and informal trails.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Mark Evans #4101 W1555
mark.evans2112@gmail.com

Sat. Jan. 20 - RUSK & HUNTER (WW)

Distance: 8.1 mi. Ascent: 2757'; Elevs: 3628', 4030'
Moderate paced trail and bushwhack.
Registration Period: Open
Leaders: Shari Aber #2224 W944 & Joseph Ferri #2223 W945
shnaber@yahoo.com & newpaltz33@yahoo.com

Sat. Jan. 20 - WEST KILL, NORTH DOME, & SHERRILL (WW) |

Distance: 12 mi. Ascent: 3853'; Elevs: 3898', 3605', 3558'
Strenuous bushwhack and trail hike at a moderate to quick pace.
Shuttle required.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Maple D'Angelo #2910 W1168
nmdange@live.com

Sat. Jan. 20 - FIR (WW)

Distance: 6.6 mi. Ascent: 1733'; Elev: 3629'
Moderate paced bushwhack and trail hike. Beginners welcome.
Registration Period: Jan 15 - 18
Leader: Jake Haisley #2488 1065W
jacobhaisley@gmail.com

Sat. Jan. 20 - SLIDE (WW) |

Distance: 6.4 mi. Ascent: 1584'; Elev: 4184'
Required winter peak. Relaxed-moderate pace.
Beginners welcome.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Christina DePinto #3951 W1536
cdepinto3951@gmail.com

Sat. Jan. 20 - FROST VALLEY ADVENTURE- HIGH FALLS RIDGE (WW)

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 1200'; Elev: 3211'
Relaxed pace bushwhack and trail hike.
Leader: Michael Bongar #2173 W994
michael@bongarbiz.com

Sat. Jan. 20 - BALSAM LAKE (WW)

Distance 5.9 mi. Ascent: 1103'; Elev: 3729'
Fairly easy hike on marked trail from the Dry Brook Ridge Trailhead.
Beginners welcome.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Bob Nuzzo #3918 W1541
rmnuzz@gmail.com

Sat. Jan. 20 - HALCOTT (WW)

Distance: 3.5 mi. Ascent: 1700'; Elev: 3509'
Check the website for details on this hike.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Christopher Leon Garibian #3881 W1474
christophergaribian@gmail.com

Sun. Jan. 21 - WEST KILL (WW)

Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 1900'; Elev: 3898'
Moderate pace trail hike. Fit beginners welcome.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Marv Freedman #2242 W951
marvfreedman@gmail.com

Sun. Jan. 21 - BIG INDIAN (WW)

Distance 8.2 mi. Ascent: 1583'; Elev: 3583'
Moderate pace trail hike with a short herd path at the summit.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Anne Rubin #3832 W1507
annaswartz@netscape.net

Sun. Jan. 21 - HALCOTT, VLY & BEAPEN (WW)

Distance: 3.5 mi. Ascent: 1700'; Elev: 3509' (Halcott)
Distance: 6.5 mi. Ascent: 2100'; Elevs: 3541', 3587' (Vly & Bearpen)
Short steep bushwhack followed by moderate bushwhack & trailed hike. Hike one or both.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Maple D'Angelo #2910 W1168
nmdange@live.com

Sun. Jan. 21 - RED HILL FIRE TOWER (WW)

Distance: 4 mi. Ascent: 1000'; Elev: 2979'
Relaxed pace, for friends and family of 3500 hikers, Catskill highest 100. All are welcome.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Sharon Klein #3364
catsngunks@gmail.com

Sun. Jan. 21 - SLIDE (WW) |

Distance: 6.7 mi. Ascent: 1740'; Elev: 4184'
Required winter peak. Relaxed-moderate pace.
Registration Period: Open
Leaders: Ira Orenstein #415 W777 and Karen Bloom #1733 W776
ksbiho@aol.com (preferred) 914-262-5816

Sun. Jan. 21 - BALSAM (WW)

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 1600'; Elev: 3607'
Required winter peak.
Moderate pace trail hike with winter instruction.
Microspikes and snowshoes are a must. Beginners welcome.
Contact Hike Leader in advance of winter gear purchases.
Registration Period: Dec. 27 th - Feb. 16 th .
Leader: Russell Ley #2927 W1262
russell.buildingscience@gmail.com 518-370-3600

Sun. Jan. 21 - BLACKHEAD (WW)

Distance: 5.2 mi. Ascent: 1720'; Elev: 3940'
Required winter peak. Moderate pace.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Yanny Hecht #1868 W751
YannyHecht@gmail.com

Sun. Jan. 21 - BLACKHEAD & BLACK DOME (WW)

Distance: 5.2 mi. Ascent: 2200'+, Elevs: 3940', 3994'
Includes required winter peak (Blackhead).
Challenging out and back trail hike. Relaxed pace.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Christopher Leon Garibian #3881 W1474
christophergaribian@gmail.com

CLUB HIKE SCHEDULE JANUARY

Sun. Jan. 21 - PEEKAMOOSE & TABLE (WW)

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 3200'; Elevs: 3819'; 3825'
Moderate pace.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Joe Chenier #2233, W1138
jchenier1073@gmail.com

Thu. Jan. 25 - PEEKAMOOSE & TABLE

Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 2700'; Elevs: 3819'; 3825'
Moderate pace trail hike.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Anne Rubin #3832 W1507
annaswartz@netscape.net

Sat. Jan. 27 - KAATERSKILL

Distance: 8+ mi. Ascent: 1850'; Elev: 3652'
Moderate pace bushwhack and trail hike. Fun scrambles and 2 plane crashes. Spectacular views from Hurricane Ledge.
Fit beginners welcome.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Marv Freedman #2242 W951
marvfreedman@gmail.com

CLUB HIKE SCHEDULE FEBRUARY

Thu. Feb. 1 - HALCOTT

Distance: 3.5 mi. Ascent: 1700'; Elev: 3509'
Moderate pace trail hike.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Anne Rubin #3832 W1507
annaswartz@netscape.net

Sat. Feb. 3 - BALSAM & EAGLE

Distance: 9.4 mi. Ascent: 2350'; Elevs: 3607'; 3583'
In and out from Rider Hollow.
Relaxed Pace. Beginners Welcome.
Registration Period: Open
Leaders: Joe Felter #3560 W1479 & Marcy Felter #3492 W1480
felter_joe@yahoo.com

Sat. Feb. 3 - FIR & BIG INDIAN

Distance: 10.5 mi. Ascent: 2460'; Elevs: 3629'; 3699'
Moderate pace bushwhack and trail hike. Fit beginners welcome.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Marv Freedman #2242 W951
marvfreedman@gmail.com

Sat. Feb. 3 - WEST KILL

Distance: 6.8 mi. Ascent: 1800'; Elev: 3898'
Relaxed Pace. Beginners welcome.
Registration Period: Jan. 20 - Feb. 1
Leaders: Tom Rankin #1503 W627 and Laurie Rankin #1337 W531
tomrankin7@gmail.com 845-926-6209

Sat. Feb. 3 - BLACK DOME & THOMAS COLE

Distance: 6.2 mi. Ascent: 2255'; Elevs: 3994'; 3953'
Moderate paced trail hike.
Registration Period: Open
Leaders: Shari Aber #2224 W944 & Joseph Ferri #2223 W945
shnaber@yahoo.com & newpaltz33@yahoo.com

Sat. Feb. 3 - HUNTER & SW HUNTER

Distance: 9.5 mi. Ascent: 2030'; Elevs: 4030'; 3753'
Relaxed-Moderate Pace. Beginners welcome.
Registration Period: Open
Leaders: Christina DePinto #3951 W1536
cdepinto3951@gmail.com

Thu. Feb. 8 - SLIDE, CORNELL & WITTENBERG

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 2700'; Elevs: 4184'; 3857'; 3782'
Includes required winter peak (Slide). Challenging hike with multiple scrambles. Crampons and snowshoes required.
Moderate pace. Shuttle required.
Registration Period: by Feb 6
Leader: Ed Moran #2007 W950
edmoran@gmail.com 631-741-3765

Thu. Feb. 8 - VLY & BEARPEN

Distance: 6.5 mi. Ascent: 2100'; Elevs: 3541'; 3587'
Moderate pace snowmobile trail and unmarked trail hike.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Anne Rubin #3832 W1507
annaswartz@netscape.net

Fri. Feb. 9 - TWIN & INDIAN HEAD

Distance: 7.3 mi. Ascent: 2349'; Elevs: 3650'; 3573'
Through hike on marked trail at a moderate pace. Beginners welcome.
Shuttle required.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Bob Nuzzo #3918 W1541
rnnuzz@gmail.com



View of Indian Head from KHP

CLUB HIKE SCHEDULE - FEBRUARY

Sat. Feb. 10 - RUSK, HUNTER & SW HUNTER

Distance: 12+ mi. Ascent: 3200', Elevs: 3680', 4030', 3753'
Long bushwhack and trail hike at a moderate pace.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Marv Freedman #2242 W951
marvfreedman@gmail.com

Sat. Feb. 10 - INDIAN HEAD, TWIN, SUGARLOAF & PLATEAU (EASTERN DEVIL'S PATH)

Distance: 13 mi. Ascent: 4700', Elevs: 3573', 3650', 3783', 3835'
Extremely challenging non-beginner trail hike. Relaxed pace.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Christopher Leon Garibian #3881 W1474
christophergaribian@gmail.com

Sat. Feb. 10 - WINDHAM, BLACKHEAD, BLACKDOME | & THOMAS COLE

Distance: 13 mi. Ascent: 4300', Elevs: 3525', 3940', 3994', 3953'
Includes required winter peak (Blackhead). Challenging bushwhack & trail loop from Big Hollow Rd at a moderate to quick pace.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Maple D'Angelo #2910 W1168
nmdange@live.com

Thu. Feb. 15 - SW HUNTER & HUNTER

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 2300', Elevs: 3753', 4030'
Moderate pace bushwhack and trail hike.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Anne Rubin #3832 W1507
annaswartz@netscape.net

Sat. Feb. 17 - EAST RUSK & RUSK

Distance: 5.4 mi. Ascent: 1715', Elev: 3686'
Bushwhack and trail hike. Moderate pace.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Mark Evans #4101 W1555
mark.evans2112@gmail.com


Sat. Feb. 17 - WITTENBERG, CORNELL & SLIDE

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 3800', Elevs: 3782', 3856', 184'
Includes required winter peak (Slide).
Challenging trail hike with great views and fun scrambles at a moderate pace. Shuttle required.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Marv Freedman #2242 W951
marvfreedman@gmail.com

Sat. Feb. 17 - BEARPEN & VLY

Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 2000', Elevs: 3529', 3619'
Relaxed pace bushwhack and trail hike.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Michael Bongar #2173 W994
michael@bongarbiz.com

Sat. Feb. 17 - PANTHER

Distance: 8.2 mi. Ascent:  Elev: 3724'
Required winter peak. Relaxed-Moderate Pace. Beginners welcome.
Registration Period: Open
Leaders: Christina DePinto #3951 W1536
cdepinto3951@gmail.com

Thu. Feb. 22 - ROCKY & LONE

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 2500', Elevs: 3700', 3487'
Moderate pace bushwhack from Denning.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Anne Rubin #3832 W1507
annaswartz@netscape.net

Sat. Feb. 24 - FRIDAY, BALSAM CAP, ROCKY, LONE, TABLE, | & PEEKAMOOSE

Distance: 12 mi. Ascent: 5000', Elevs: 3692', 3608', 3487', 3700', 3825', 3819'
Long, challenging bushwhack and trail hike at a moderate to quick pace. Shuttle required.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Maple D'Angelo #2910 W1168
nmdange@live.com

Sat. Feb. 24 - BALSAM LAKE & MILL BROOK RIDGE

Distance: 8.5 mi. Ascent: 1900', Elevs: 3729', 3465'
Moderate pace trail hike to Balsam Lake and Mill Brook Ridge, then a short bushwhack down to Kelly Hollow. Shuttle required.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Marv Freedman #2242 W951
marvfreedman@gmail.com

Sat. Feb. 24 - HUNTER & SW HUNTER

Distance: 10mi. Ascent: 2100', Elevs: 3753', 4030'
Moderated bushwhack & trail hike good for beginners.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Tonda Highley #1944 W857
Thighley1944@gmail.com

Sat. Feb. 24 - NORTH DOME & SHERRILL

Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 3100', Elevs: 3606', 3558'
Moderate pace trail hike with winter instruction.
Microspikes and snowshoes are a must.
Registration Period: Feb. 3 - Feb. 20
Leader: Russell Ley #2927 W1262
russell.buildingscience@gmail.com 518-370-3600

Sun. Feb. 25 - BALSAM

Distance: 5.2 mi. Ascent: 1600', Elev: 3600'
Required Winter peak.
Relaxed pace trail hike.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Christopher Leon Garibian #3881 W1474
christophergaribian@gmail.com

Thu. Feb. 29 - FRIDAY & BALSAM CAP

Distance: 7+ mi. Ascent: 3100', Elevs: 3692', 3608'
Moderate pace bushwhack.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Anne Rubin #3832 W1507
annaswartz@netscape.net

CLUB HIKE SCHEDULE - MARCH



Red Hill Fire Tower

Sat. Mar. 2 - PLATEAU, SUGARLOAF, TWIN & INDIAN HEAD 🧑🏻‍🦵🧑🏻‍🦵

Distance: 9.5 mi. Ascent: 4300'; Elevs: 3835', 3783', 3650', 3573'
Challenging trail hike with great views and fun scrambles at a moderate pace. Shuttle required.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Marv Freedman #2242 W951
marvfreedman@gmail.com

Sat. Mar. 2 - BALSAM LAKE 🧑🏻‍🦵 | 🧑🏻‍🦵

Distance: 7.5 mi. Ascent: 1400'; Elev: 3729'
Relaxed-Moderate pace. Beginners welcome.
Registration Period: Open
Leaders: Christina DePinto #3951 W1536
cdepinto3951@gmail.com

Sat. Mar. 2 - HALCOTT 🧑🏻‍🦵🧑🏻‍🦵

Distance: 3.5 mi. Ascent: 1700'; Elev: 3509'
Short, steep bushwhack at a quick pace. Beginners welcome.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Colin DeVries #3382 W1589
colinmdevries@gmail.com

Thu. Mar. 7 - PANTHER via GIANT LEDGE 🧑🏻‍🦵

Distance: 6.6 mi. Ascent: 1775'; Elev: 3724'
Required winter peak. Relaxed pace. Snowshoes and appropriate traction required.
Registration Period: by March 5
Leader: Ed Moran #2007 W950
edmoran@gmail.com 631-741-3765

Thu. Mar. 7 - BLACKHEAD, BLACK DOME, & THOMAS COLE 🧑🏻‍🦵🧑🏻‍🦵

Distance: 7.8 mi. Ascent: 2600'; Elevs: 3940', 3994', 3953'
Includes required winter peak (Blackhead). Moderate pace trail hike.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Anne Rubin #3832 W1507
annaswartz@netscape.net

Fri. Mar. 8 - BLACK DOME, THOMAS COLE & BLACKHEAD 🧑🏻‍🦵🧑🏻‍🦵

Distance: 7.8 mi. Ascent: 2724'; Elevs: 3994', 3953', 3940'
Includes required winter peak (Blackhead). Through hike on marked trail with several scrambles. Moderate pace, beginners welcome.
Shuttle required.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Bob Nuzzo #3918 W1541
rmnuzz@gmail.com

Sat. Mar. 9 - TABLE & PEEKAMOOSE 🧑🏻‍🦵

Distance: 9.5 mi. Ascent: 2539'; Elevs: 3825', 3819'
Challenging trail hike. Relaxed pace.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Christopher Leon Garibian #3881 W1474
christophergaribian@gmail.com

Sat. Mar. 9 - PLATEAU, SUGARLOAF, TWIN & INDIAN HEAD 🧑🏻‍🦵🧑🏻‍🦵 | 🧑🏻‍🦵🧑🏻‍🦵

Distance: 9.5 mi. Ascent: 4300'; Elevs: 3835', 3783', 3650', 3573'
Trailed hike of 4 peaks of the Devil's Path at a moderate to quick pace.
Shuttle required.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Maple D'Angelo #2910 W1168
nmdange@live.com

Sat. Mar. 9 - PANTHER 🧑🏻‍🦵

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 3000'; Elev: 3724'
Required winter peak.
Out & Back from Fox Hollow. Relaxed pace, beginners welcome.
Registration Period: Open
Leaders: Marcy Felter #3492 W1480 & Joe Felter #3560 W1479
mjfelter@optonline.net

Wed. Mar. 13 - SLIDE 🧑🏻‍🦵🧑🏻‍🦵

Distance: 6.7 mi. Ascent: 1700'; Elev: 4184'
Required winter peak.
Moderate pace trail hike with great views. Fit beginners welcome.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Marv Freedman #2242 W951
marvfreedman@gmail.com

Thu. Mar. 14 - FIR, BIG INDIAN, EAGLE, & BALSAM 🧑🏻‍🦵🧑🏻‍🦵

Distance: 13.5 mi. Ascent: 3600'; Elevs: 3629', 3699', 3583', 3607'
Long, challenging bushwhack and trail hike at a moderate pace.
Shuttle required.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Anne Rubin #3832 W1507
annaswartz@netscape.net

Sat. Mar. 16 - BEARPEN & VLY 🧑🏻‍🦵

Distance: 6.5 mi. Ascent: 1850'; Elevs: 3587', 3541'
Relaxed paced bushwhack & trail hike.
Registration Period: Open
Leaders: Shari Aber #2224 W944 & Joseph Ferri #2223 W945
shnaber@yahoo.com & newpaltz33@yahoo.com

CLUB HIKE SCHEDULE - MARCH

Sat. Mar. 16 - BALSAM & EAGLE 🧑🏻‍🦴🧑🏻‍🦴

Distance: 9.7 mi. Ascent: 2357'; Elevs: 3583', 3607'
Includes required winter peak (Balsam). Relaxed-moderate pace.
Beginners welcome.
Registration Period: Open
Leaders: Christina DePinto #3951 W1536
cdepinto3951@gmail.com

Sat. Mar. 16 - INDIAN HEAD, TWIN, SUGARLOAF & PLATEAU 🧑🏻‍🦴 (EASTERN DEVIL'S PATH)

Distance: 13 mi. Ascent: 4700'; Elevs: 3573', 3650', 3783', 3835'
Extremely challenging non-beginner trail hike. Relaxed pace.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Christopher Leon Garibian #3881 W1474
christophergaribian@gmail.com

Sat. Mar. 16 - WITTENBERG, CORNELL, & SLIDE 🧑🏻‍🦴 | 🧑🏻‍🦴🧑🏻‍🦴

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 3600'; Elevs: 3782', 3857', 4184'
Includes required winter peak (Slide). Trailed hike with some
challenging scrambles at a moderate to quick pace. Shuttle required.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Maple D'Angelo #2910 W1168
nmdange@live.com

Sun. Mar. 17 - KAATERSKILL 🧑🏻‍🦴

Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 1900'; Elev: 3652'
Moderate pace bushwhack & trail hike. Fun scrambles & great views.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Yanny Hecht #1868 W751
YannyHecht@gmail.com



Canister on Halcott

Thu. Mar. 21 - MILLBROOK RIDGE & BALSAM LAKE 🧑🏻‍🦴

Distance: 8.5 mi. Ascent: 2800'; Elevs: 3465', 3729'
Short bushwhack from Kelly Hollow to Millbrook Ridge, then trail hike
at a moderate pace. Shuttle required.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Anne Rubin #3832 W1507
annaswartz@netscape.net

Sat. Mar. 23 - MAP AND COMPASS TRAINING STARTS

Three separate exercises are to be completed at home.
We will be using the NY-NJ Trail Conference Trail Maps for the Catskill
Mountains and the SUUNTO A-10 Compass.
Test Out Hike days will be scheduled during April - May.
Twin, Indian Head, Panther, Bearpen and Vly have been the locations of
the Test Out Hikes in the past.
Registration Period: Mar. 1 - Mar. 29
Leader/Instructor: Russell Ley #2927 W1262
russell.buildingscience@gmail.com 518-370-3600

Sat. Mar. 23 - SLIDE 🧑🏻‍🦴

Distance: 4 mi. Ascent: 1900'; Elev: 4184'
Required winter peak.
A moderate paced trail hike. Rain or Inclement weather will cancel.
Registration Period: Mar. 18-21
Leader: Suzanne Knabe #1326 W498
suzkna@msn.com (917) 679-5547

Sat. Mar. 23 - TABLE & PEEKAMOOSSE 🧑🏻‍🦴

Distance: 9.5 mi. Ascent: 2539'; Elevs: 3825', 3819'
Trail hike from Denning. Moderate pace.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Mark Evans #4101 W1555
mark.evans2112@gmail.com

Thu. Mar. 28 - HUCKLEBERRY LOOP 🧑🏻‍🦴

Distance: 13 mi. Ascent: 3100'; Elev: 3465'
Longer trail hike at a moderate pace.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Anne Rubin #3832 W1507
annaswartz@netscape.net

Fri. Mar. 29 - PANTHER 🧑🏻‍🦴

Distance: 8.2 mi. Ascent: 2850'; Elev: 3724'
Required winter peak.
Fox Hollow to Oliveria Road. Moderate pace. Great views from Giant
Ledge. Shuttle required.
Registration Period: Open
Leaders: Mark Evans #4101 W1555
mark.evans2112@gmail.com

Sat. Mar. 30 - TABLE & PEEKAMOOSSE 🧑🏻‍🦴

Distance: 9.5 mi. Ascent: 2539'; Elevs: 3825', 3819'
Relaxed pace trail hike.
Registration Period: Open
Leader: Tonda Highley #1944 W857
Thighley1944@gmail.com