



the catskill canister

Vol. XXVII, No. 1

JANUARY - MARCH 1994

PORCUPINE SHOWS EXOTIC TASTES

I was awakened at 1:00 a.m. by an oom-oom, followed by some clicks. I unzipped the flap of my tent and, looking out into the bright night, saw silhouettes of trees and little else. Suddenly, the light from Tom's flashlight moved swiftly, followed by the sound of a rock striking the ground.

"Did you see anything?" I asked.

"It's the porcupine we saw earlier in the evening. God, it's an ugly creature."

Tom Dinceco, Bill Murphy and I were camped in the col between Slide and Cornell and next day planned to bushwhack north down the mountainside to our cars at Woodland Valley. It was quiet now and Tom and I crawled back into our sleeping bags.

As I was dozing off, the animal sounds started again. This time I was the one who got out and threw something. This brought silence, but not for long. It was obviously a losing battle. The animal could outlast us any time. I ignored its sounds as best I could, and eventually fell asleep.

In the morning we looked over our equipment and took inventory. We had known enough to hang our food out of reach; but, undeterred, the porcupine had sampled the brim of my cap, Tom's toothpaste, Bill's insect repellent and parts of his backpack - in fact, anything that bore the salt of our sweat, including the fan-belts of cars.

This was our first encounter with a porcupine. During many years of hiking, we had encountered mice, voles, weasels, even a bear or two - all of them interested in food. The porcupine had shown us it had more exotic tastes.

*Richard Levine (#852)
11 Carnegie Court
Middletown, NJ 07748*

ANNUAL DINNER MEETING SCHEDULED

Keep Saturday, March 26, 1994, free for the Annual Dinner Meeting at the Hillside Manor in Kingston, New York. During the evening, Norm and Kip Smith (#199 and #324) will present a slide show on Mt. McKinley. Invitations for the Dinner will be mailed in February.

CLUB OPPOSES ILLEGAL CUTTING AND MARKING

The Catskill 3500 Club is opposed to any illegal cutting of trees for views, building of trails or marking herdpaths with tape. If anyone wants a new trail, or feels a particular view needs enhancement, he or she must consult the Department of Environmental Conservation.

THE CATSKILL CANISTER

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**CATSKILL 3500 CLUB
1994 OFFICERS AND CHAIRMEN**

President	Sue Eilers	914-698-7219
Past President	Howard Dash	914-255-3409
First Vice President	Bruno Walmsley	609-924-4679
Second Vice President	Doug Robins	203-693-0130
Secretary	Rosemary Walmsley	609-924-4679
Treasurer	Jack Driller	201-652-4031
Annual Dinner Meeting	Roy Messaros	201-337-5004
Canisters	Larry Leslie	914-431-5859
Conservation	Ray Donahue	607-363-2565
Membership	Cyrus Whitney	201-447-2653
Outings	John Graham	914-241-2240
Search and Rescue	Richard Kline	518-622-8870
<u>The Catskill Canister</u>	Darielle Graham	914-241-2240
	Michael Doehring	914-761-7225
	Doug Robins	203-693-0130
Trails	Gerald Gervais	914-236-4208
Winter Weekend	Paul Hoyt	718-631-4784

CATSKILL 3500 CLUB LIFE MEMBERS

Anthony Amaral, Jr.	William H. Leavitt
Vincent H. Biondo	Lawrence T. Leslie, Jr.
Douglas Bowers	Bob Mattsen
Lawrence Braun	Leland McAllister
Daniel D. Chazin	Geoffrey L. Meissner
Ann L. Clapper	Joan Messaros
Jonathan B. Clement	Dan A. Nielsen
James E. Daley	Stephanie Paradise
Wanda Davenport	Lilly Rawlyk-Dash
Lawrence D. David	John T. Reilly
Joan Dean	Douglas H. Robins
George R. Deibert	Ruth Robinson
Joseph DiSaverio	Mark A. Schaefer
Michael F. Doehring	Arlene Scholer
Ray L. Donahue	Friedel Schunk
Robert S. Franzblau	Mary Sive
Deborah F. Glynn	Richard M. Stevens
Walter L. Gregory	John Swanson
John Guiffrida	John C. Timm
Samuel B. Hagner	Donald Wade
Tim Hauserman	Bruce C. Wadsworth
Elizabeth M. Heald	Elizabeth A. Wadsworth
Michael Heitzman	Marcy Wagman
David Hildebrand	Bruno J. Walmsley
David R. Hinkley	Rosemary Walmsley
Geoffrey T. Hoderath	Amy M. Whitney
John M. Kennedy	Cyrus B. Whitney
Arthur E. Kruppenbacher	

CATSKILL 3500 CLUB HIKES: JANUARY - MARCH 1994**ASSUMED RISK**

Hiking involves certain inherent hazards, and persons participating do so at their own risk.

December through April, the windchill on exposed ridges may reach 50 below zero. If you do not know what type of clothing will be adequate, telephone the hike leader in advance. If you cannot buy, rent, or borrow snowshoes, avoid the mountains in winter. Unless specified otherwise, full crampons should be carried. Properly dressed and equipped, and in proper physical condition, a hiker can enjoy the Catskills in what many people consider the most beautiful season of the year.

Sat. Jan. 1 **WESTKILL**

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2000'
Elev.: 3880' Order: 6

A strenuous bushwhack and trail hike. Snowshoes and full (not instep) crampons required. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancel.

Meeting Place: Flagpole at Jct. of Rte. 42 and County Rd. 6 (Spruceton Rd.) in Westkill at 9:00 A.M.
Leader: Jerry Gervais (#687), 914-341-5515 (days); 914-236-4208 (evenings before 10:00 P.M.)

Sun. Jan. 2 **PLATEAU and SUGARLOAF**

Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 3000'
Elev.: 3840', 3800' Order: 12, 13

A strenuous trail hike. Snowshoes and full (not instep) crampons required. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancel.

Meeting Place: Sweet Sue's Bakery in Phoenicia for DEPARTURE at 8:30 A.M.
Leader: Henry Jenkins (#808), 914-471-6316

Sat. Jan. 8 **LONE and ROCKY**

Distance: 12 mi. Ascent: 2000'
Elev. 3721', 3508' Order: 17, 35

A strenuous bushwhack. Snowshoes and full (not instep) crampons required. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancel.

Meeting Place: Denning Trailhead at 8:00 A.M.
Leader: Bruno Walmsley (#610), 609-924-4679

Sun. Jan. 9 **WINDHAM HIGH PEAK**

Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 1825'
Elev. 3524' Order: 33

A moderate trail hike. Snowshoes and full (not instep) crampons required. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancel.

Meeting Place: Rte. 23 state parking area at trailhead 3 mi. west of E. Windham at 9:00 A.M.
Leader: Rosemary Walmsley (#611), 609-924-4679

Sat. Jan. 15 **BALSAM CAP and FRIDAY**

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 3300'
Elev.: 3694', 3623' Order: 19, 25

A strenuous, fast-paced bushwhack. Snowshoes and full (not instep) crampons required. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancel.

Meeting Place: Call leader for details.
Leader: Rick Taylor (#841), 914-226-7639

Sun. Jan. 16 **INDIAN HEAD and TWIN**

Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 2000'
Elev.: 3573', 3640' Order: 30, 23

A moderately strenuous trail hike. Snowshoes and full (not instep) crampons required. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancel.

Meeting Place: Trailhead at Prediger Road at 9:00 A.M.
Leader: Rick Taylor (#841), 914-226-7639

Sat. Jan. 22 **SLIDE**Distance: 6 mi. Ascent: 1650'
Elev.: 4180' Order: 1

A moderate trail hike to a required winter peak. Snowshoes and full (not instep) crampons required. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancel.

Meeting Place: Slide Mountain parking area, County Rd. 47, at 9:00 A.M.

Leader: John Kennedy (#247), W: 914-876-2055; H: 914-876-3269 (before 9:30 P.M.)

Sat. Jan. 22 **HUNTER (and possibly
SOUTHWEST HUNTER)**Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2000'
Elev.: 4040', (3740') Order: 2, (15)

A strenuous trail hike and possible bushwhack. Snowshoes and full (not instep) crampons required. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancel.

Meeting Place: Call leader for details.

Leader: Larry Leslie (#208), 914-431-5859 (7:30 A.M. - 3:40 P.M. Mon.-Fri.)

Sun. Jan. 23 **SOUTHWEST HUNTER**Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2500'
Elev.: 3740' Order: 15

A moderate bushwhack. Snowshoes and full (not instep) crampons required. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancel.

Meeting Place: Call leader for details.

Leader: Richard Kline (#720), 518-622-8870 (before 9:30 P.M.)

Sun. Jan. 23 **BALSAM**Distance: 6 mi. Ascent: 1750'
Elev.: 3600' Order: 28

A strenuous trail hike to a required winter peak. Snowshoes and full (not instep) crampons required. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancel.

Meeting Place: Alpine Inn at 9:00 A.M.

Leader: Sue Eilers (#337), 914-698-7219

Sat. Jan. 29 **RUSK**Distance: 4 mi. Ascent: 1600'
Elev.: 3680' Order: 21

A moderate bushwhack. Snowshoes and full (not instep) crampons required. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancel.

Meeting Place: Flagpole at Jct. of Rte. 42 and County Rd. 6 (Spruceton Rd.) in Westkill at 9:00 A.M.

Leader: Warren Hale (#576), 908-236-9543

Sun. Jan. 30 **BLACKHEAD (and possibly
BLACK DOME and THOMAS COLE)**Distance: 5 mi. Ascent: 1900'
Elev.: 3940' (3990', 3945')
Order: 5 (3, 4)

A moderately strenuous trail hike (with possible additional distance of 3 miles and ascent of 1500 feet). Snowshoes and full (not instep) crampons required. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancel.

Meeting Place: Maplecrest post office at 8:30 A.M.

Leader: Lawrence Armstrong (#827), 607-783-2730

Sat. Feb. 5 **WITTENBERG and CORNELL**Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 3120'
Elev.: 3780', 3865' Order: 14, 9

A strenuous trail hike. Snowshoes and full (not instep) crampons required. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancel.

Meeting Place: Sweet Sue's Bakery in Phoenicia for DEPARTURE at 8:30 A.M.

Leader: Anthony Amaral, Jr. (#612), 212-490-7900 (Days: 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.)

Sat. Feb. 5 **HALCOTT**Distance: 5 mi. Ascent: 1650'
Elev.: 3520' Order: 34

A moderate bushwhack. Snowshoes and full (not instep) crampons required. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancel.

Meeting Place: Jct. of Rtes. 28 and 42 in Shandaken at 8:30 A.M.

Leader: Joan Dean (#360), 201-762-0396 (before 9:00 P.M.)

Sun. Feb. 6 **VLV and BEARPEN**Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 1900'
Elev.: 3529', 3600' Order: 32, 29

A moderately strenuous, moderately-paced bushwhack. Snowshoes and full (not instep) crampons required. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancel.

Meeting Place: Municipal parking lot in Fleischmanns across from library at 8:00 A.M.

Leader: Murray Friedman (#868), 914-779-6233 (7:30 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.)

Sat. Feb. 12 **NORTH DOME and SHERRILL**Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2600'
Elev.: 3610', 3540' Order: 26, 31

A strenuous bushwhack. Snowshoes and full (not instep) crampons required. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancel.

Meeting Place: Jct. of Rtes. 28 and 42 in Shandaken at 8:30 A.M.

Leader: John Swanson (#592), 908-613-1963

Sun. Feb. 13 **Ashokan High Point**Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 1880'
Elev.: 3080'

A moderate trail hike. Snowshoes and full (not instep) crampons required. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancel.

Meeting Place: Jct. of Rtes. 28 and 28A in Boiceville at 9:00 A.M.

Leader: Brian Sullivan (#681), 914-687-7750 (between 7:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.)

Sat. Feb. 19 **KAATERSKILL HIGH PEAK**Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 1500'
Elev.: 3655' Order: 22

A moderately strenuous trail hike. Snowshoes and full (not instep) crampons required. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancel.

Meeting Place: Warms Restaurant in Tannersville for DEPARTURE at 9:00 A.M.

Leader: Ed Goldstein (#861) 212-486-2692 (Phone Number may change)

Sun. Feb. 20 **DOUBLETOP and BIG INDIAN**Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2900'
Elev.: 3870', 3680' Order: 7, 20

A moderately strenuous bushwhack. Snowshoes and full (not instep) crampons required. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancel.

Meeting Place: Bridge over Dry Brook on Rte. 28 in Arkville at 8:00 A.M.

Leader: Murray Friedman (#868), 914-779-6233 (7:30 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.)

Sat. Feb. 26 **BIG INDIAN and FIR**Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 2150'
Elev.: 3680', 3625' Order: 20, 24

A strenuous bushwhack. Snowshoes and full (not instep) crampons required. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancel.

Meeting Place: Bridge over Dry Brook on Rte. 28 in Arkville at 8:00 A.M.

Leader: Henry Edmonds (#661), 203-743-7039

Sun. Feb. 27 **SHERRILL**Distance: 5 mi. Ascent: 1900'
Elev.: 3540' Order: 31

A moderate bushwhack. Snowshoes and full (not instep) crampons required. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancel.

Meeting Place: Call leader for details.

Leader: Richard Kline (#720), 518-622-8870 (before 9:30 P.M.)

Sat. Mar. 5 **BLACKHEAD**Distance: 5 mi. Ascent: 1900'
Elev.: 3940' Order: 5

A moderately paced hike to a required winter peak. Snowshoes and full (not instep) crampons required. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancel.

Meeting Place: Maplecrest Post Office at 8:30 A.M.

Leader: Joe Gardner (#572), 518-439-1074

Sat. Mar. 5 **PEEKAMOOSE and TABLE**Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 3190'
Elev.: 3843', 3847' Order: 11, 10

A moderately strenuous trail hike. Snowshoes and full (not instep) crampons required. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancel.

Meeting Place: Call leader for details.

Leader: Tim Watters (#268), 201-818-9542 (Days: 212-984-0373)

Sat. Mar. 12 **HUNTER**Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2000'
Elev.: 4040' Order: 2

A moderately paced trail hike. Snowshoes and full (not instep) crampons required. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancel.

Meeting Place: Flagpole at Jct. of Rte. 42 and County Rd. 6 (Spruceton Rd.) in Westkill at 9:00 A.M.

Leader: Kate Borsody (#568), 203-334-3237 (between 6:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.)

Sun. Mar. 13 **PANTHER End-to-End**Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 1800'
Elev.: 3720' Order: 18

A moderately strenuous trail hike. Snowshoes and full (not instep) crampons required. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancel.

Meeting Place: Parking lot behind the Phoenicia Pharmacy in Phoenicia at 8:00 A.M.

Leader: Joan Dean (#360), 201-762-0396

Sat. Mar. 19 **BALSAM LAKE and GRAHAM**Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 1900'
Elev.: 3725', 3868' Order: 16, 8

A moderately strenuous trail hike. Snowshoes and full (not instep) crampons required. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancel.

Meeting Place: Bridge over Dry Brook on Rte. 28 in Arkville at 9:00 A.M.

Leader: Marge Velasquez (#677), 914-361-4351

Sat. Mar. 26 **Tremper**Distance: 6 mi. Ascent: 2030'
Elev.: 2740'

A moderate trail hike. Snowshoes and full (not instep) crampons required. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancel.

Meeting Place: Sweet Sue's Bakery in Phoenicia for DEPARTURE at 9:00 A.M.

Leader: Brian Sullivan (#681), 914-687-7750 (7:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.)

MEMBER REACHES NEW HEIGHTS

Catskill Club member Joe Gardner (#572) has now added the Adirondack 46 to his list of peaks. With companions Ben Morelli (#466) of Cranford, New Jersey, and Jean Holcomb of Saratoga Springs, New York, Joe finished his quest for the 46 on July 3, 1993 on Allen mountain.

MORE LEADERSHIP PATCHES AWARDED

Congratulations to Joan Dean (#360), Sue Eilers (#337), John Graham (#478) and Rosemary Walmsley (#611), who each received leadership patches. The club awards the leadership patch to members who have led six separate hikes scheduled in the Canister. At least one hike must be to a trailless peak, and at least one other must be led during the winter.

CATSKILL WINTER WEEKEND

January 21 - 23, 1994: The Alpine Inn, Oliverea, New York 12462, on County Road 47, 4 miles south of Route 28 at Big Indian, New York. Telephone: 914-254-5026.

Members and aspirants are invited to our annual winter weekend in the heart of the Catskills. Hikes have been, and will be, scheduled for aspirants who might need any of the required winter peaks (**See Page 4 of hiking schedule for hikes already scheduled.**) You don't have to hike or stay overnight at the Inn, but if you're in the area drop by for the Happy Hour and dinner (reservations required for dinner). If you have any questions, contact Paul Hoyt, 43-25 Douglaston Parkway, #4F, Douglaston, New York 11363-1804. Telephone: 718-631-4784.

Reservations: A \$40.00 deposit per person must arrive by **January 2**. Make check payable to "The Alpine Inn" and **mail, along with the completed form below, to The Alpine Inn.**

All rooms have two twin or double beds and private bath. Rates are based on double occupancy. Please specify preference of roommate, if any. For a third and fourth person in a room, there is a 30% discount. Room assignments will be in the order of receipt of reservations. Saturday night only accommodations can be arranged, if available. Extra dinner Friday night and Sunday afternoon - \$17.75, plus tax and gratuity, available by reservation only. Dinner Saturday night only - \$20.00, plus tax and gratuity. \$4.00 will be added for the Saturday P.M. "Happy Hour." Saturday dinner is available by reservation only. Trail lunch - \$6.25 (sandwich, fried chicken, fruit and cake) plus tax.

2 nights = 2 lodgings, 2 breakfasts, 1 dinner (tax and gratuity included)

DELUXE ACCOMMODATIONS: 2 double beds. STANDARD ACCOMMODATIONS: 2 twin beds.

Deluxe: des Alps _____ \$128.00 Edelweiss _____ \$128.00

Standard: Ski Hut _____ \$115.00 Edelweiss _____ \$115.00

\$_____ deposit enclosed for _____ persons. Roommate _____

_____ Friday evening dinner. _____ Sunday afternoon dinner.

Signed _____ Address _____

Phone (____) _____ - _____

CATSKILL 3500 CLUB NEW MEMBERS

875	Catherine C. Moore 7/15/93 P.O. Box 461, Marlboro, NY 12542	914-236-7021
876	Alfred M. Belcher 8/21/93 672 Blue Hill Road, River Vale, NJ 07675	201-391-7858
877	Harry S. Rampe 8/15/93 33 Albion Street, Liberty, NY 12754	914-292-6736
878	Aaron L. Dorf 8/29/93 P.O. Box 562, Orono, ME 04473	207-866-4404
879	John M. Dietrich 9/25/93 217 11th Avenue, #2B, Belmar, NY 07719	908-280-0692

THE HIGH POINTERS CHALLENGE - A HISTORY-MAKING EVENT

As part of the High Pointers 50-State challenge to put a group of people on all 50 state high points on June 29, 1994, Lanny Wexler (#593) will be climbing Mt. Washington in New Hampshire on that day. If any other members would be interested in participating in the High Pointers 50-State challenge, please contact, either in writing or by telephone, Bruce Marshall and his son, Lance (13 Highpoints each), at 5048 West Running Brook Road, Columbia, MD 21044-8061 (Tel: 410-584-8067, Fax: 401-584-8061). Be sure to provide your name, address, telephone and fax numbers.



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Vol. XXVII, No. 2

APRIL - JUNE 1994

WINDHAM REMEMBERED

During the years from 1990 to 1992 that Salley Decker and I were the trail maintainers for the section of the Long Path from Route 23 to the summit of Windham High Peak, we climbed Windham eleven times, seeing it in spring, summer, fall and winter. For the short time that we cared for Windham, it became my favorite peak.

The trail to Windham is unique to the Catskills. It passes through a meadow, a hardwood forest, evergreens, second-growth deciduous trees, more evergreens, black cherry, and swamps before reaching the top.

A century ago, the entire mountain was cultivated as a giant hayfield. You can still see a remnant of that field about halfway up, just beyond the last stone wall. The "enchanted forest" of Norway spruce, not native to the Catskills, was planted by farmers. The stone walls, the spruce groves, the lush vegetation near the top (a result of rich farm soil generated by hay growth), and the nineteenth century carvings uncovered by Jack Sencabaugh of the DEC when he cut one of the summit vistas are the farmers' legacies. To walk this trail is to step back in time.

Maintaining this trail with its waterbars, blowdowns and a leanto, which always needed a cleanup, was a challenge. Most of the tree work and digging was required below the old hayfield. Above the cobble the rich soil yielded bumper crops of grass, ferns, and stinging nettles. Despite all the weed whacking, every July the nettles grew back thick as ever. Mowing the nettles, dismantling a blowdown with a crosscut saw and axe, digging out water bars - these were the tasks of our ancestors. I felt I had journeyed back a century each time I worked that trail.

We had our share of characters on Windham High Peak. Jim Daley was a genius at scheduling work trips either during downpours or snowstorms. One day we met Cal Johnson and his son, Eric, clearing the Route 23 trailhead for the mountain race held in July. Every year over a hundred people race the entire 18-1/2 miles of the Escarpment Trail. The mountain also attracts amateur hikers, such as one couple, he in sneakers, she in penny loafers, who found the mud half a mile below the summit impassable.

Windham also had its share of animal life. Porkies besieged the Elm Ridge leanto, chomping up the seat of the new outhouse. Ranger Dennis Martin said bears wallowed at the base of the small cliff above the leanto, where the yellow trail loops over to an old, grown-in vista. We also once spotted a male scarlet tanager on the old road just below the leanto. This little fellow was bright orange, a rarity among the species.

The views from the top of Windham High peak, which is said to have a five-state view, were another reason it was my favorite mountain. From the easternmost lookout point, the one above Route 23 where the road climbs the escarpment, you can pick out the dome of Mt. Everett on the Appalachian Trail in Massachusetts. In front of Mt. Everett, you can discern a V-shaped valley. The

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PRESIDENT SELECTS NOMINATING COMMITTEE

President Sue Eilers has selected Howard Dash, Doug Robins and Amy Whitney to serve as a nominating committee and to recommend a slate of officers for next year to the membership of the annual meeting. Members can also make nominations from the floor of the meeting.

Members interested in serving the club, or in recommending others, should contact Howard Dash, 5 Arden Lane, New Paltz, New York 12561, 914-255-3409.

CLUB CONTRIBUTES \$250.00 FOR CATSKILLS TRAIL MAINTENANCE WORKSHOP

The club approved a \$250.00 contribution to the New York/New Jersey Trail Conference for a Catskills trail maintenance workshop on April 23, 1994 focusing on training the increasing number of members who either live in, or want to maintain trails in, the Catskills. Offering a workshop in the Catskills recognizes the importance of this area for hiking and the ever-present need for trail maintenance. The result of this focus can only translate into better maintained trails for all to enjoy.

CLUB PLEDGES \$250.00 FOR DEC PROJECTS

The Executive Committee has voted to pledge \$250.00 in matching funds to the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to be used for trails or trailheads proposed in two projects by the DEC as part of the New York State Department of Transportation (DOT) ISTEA Transportation Enhancement Program.

The first project, with a budget of up to \$316,000, is designed to link the Long Path with the Catskill Interpretive Center (CIC) being built on Route 28 near Boiceville. The Long Path would be rerouted to go north of Wittenberg through a presently trailless area and then cross the Esopus and Route 28 near the CIC. From there, the new route would proceed over Mt. Tobias, cross Route 212 at Willow, and ascend a shoulder of Mt. Tremper to the fire tower. It would continue northward, through another presently trailless area, to the Devil's Tombstone Campground on Route 214. Approximately 15 miles of new trails are necessary to accomplish this reroute, as well as a pedestrian bridge over the Esopus, a bridge/tunnel/traffic light for safe crossing of Route 28, and acquisition of an easement or fee title for the trail between Mt. Tobias and Sickler Road. Other proposed enhancements in this area are rehabilitation of the Mt. Tremper fire tower and construction of a trailhead parking lot on Jessup Road.

The second project, with a budget of \$335,000, includes acquiring scenic easements, removing billboards, developing a brochure on the Catskill Forest Preserve, building parking areas near the Mt. Tremper trailhead on old Route 28 (County Route 40) and at the Pine Hill Trailhead on Mill Street in Pine Hill, and placing signs on Route 28 to direct the public to recreational sites.

Tantzen Kill dives over Bash-Bish Falls in this clove. To the right, you can barely see the bumps of Mt. Alander and the two Braces (the highest points in Dutchess County). As you scan the horizon to the northeast, you can spot Mt. Greylock and beyond Albany, distinguished by the four Empire Plaza towers, Mt. Equinox in Vermont. The folks down at the Point Lookout Inn claim that both the Green Mountains and the White Mountains are visible on a perfect day. Salley and I were never treated to such a view, but it would be amazing. The White Mountains are approximately 230 miles away from Windham High Peak and would be visible at about 50 degrees on the compass. Being a New Hampshire native, I always scanned the horizon for a glimpse of home.

There were also the two north-facing vistas, which DEC personnel cleared and which feature the Mohawk and Hudson Valleys, Albany, and the southern Adirondacks. Usually, it was too hazy to see much beyond Albany, but that first vista of the Blackhead range to the south was always pleasant.

Caring for Windham, I got back much more than I ever gave. I was nourished by the peaceful wilderness, the beauty of the expanses of country below, the working of muscles and tools, and a feeling of coming home to the mountain again and again. Yes, I have climbed greater mountains. I will probably never return, except for an occasional visit. But I left a good piece of myself on Windham High Peak.

So if you are ever up on Windham, take your time and stroll through the spruce. If the day is clear, look to the northeast and you might, if you look hard enough, see me waving back from a White Mountain peak. Then enjoy a pleasant hike down through Windham's wilderness. And, oh yes, watch out for that orange tanager.

*Lawrence D. David (#703)
P.O. Box 57
Jericho, Vermont 05465*

CATSKILL 3500 CLUB STRESSES HIKER SAFETY AND RESPONSIBILITY

At the most recent winter weekend, five hikers set off in two cars to climb the Black Dome range. They separated into two groups, three starting from Barnum Road, and the other two from Black Dome Valley Road. A woman in the former group proved faster than her two companions, getting ahead of them to Thomas Cole. She waited there almost an hour, unaware that her companions, as well as the two hikers who started from Black Dome Valley Road, had turned back. Each party assumed the woman was with the other, and she was left stranded in the mountains without transport.

Mismatched hikers can be a liability to all concerned as they risk losing contact with one another. Members of a hiking party, even an informal one, are responsible for each other's safety and welfare. A leader should be appointed, and options for bailing out should be agreed upon in advance. A strong person should bring up the rear and the hikers should regroup periodically, particularly when a difficult section must be negotiated. Anyone leaving the group, either to go ahead or to turn back, owes it to their companions to consult with them first.

In this instance, the woman returned safely. Nevertheless, everyone should re-examine their climbing practices to ensure that their actions make them an asset to a hiking group rather than a liability. We bring this to the attention of club members and aspirants, in the hope that no such similar incident will occur in the future.

CATSKILL 3500 CLUB HIKES: APRIL - JUNE 1994**ASSUMED RISK**

Hiking involves certain inherent hazards, and persons participating do so at their own risk.

Winter conditions may prevail through the month of April, and snowshoes and full crampons may be needed. Consult leader if in doubt.

Sat. Apr. 2 **HUNTER**

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2000'
Elev.: 4040', Order: 2

A moderately paced trail hike. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Parking lot behind Phoenicia Pharmacy in Phoenicia for DEPARTURE at 9:00 A.M.

Leader: Irene Logan (#888), 516-621-8129 (Mon. through Thurs. until 9:00 P.M.)

Sun. Apr. 3 **WESTKILL**

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2000'
Elev.: 3880' Order: 6

A strenuous bushwhack from Broad Street Hollow at a moderate pace. Rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Parking lot behind Phoenicia Pharmacy in Phoenicia at 8:00 A.M.

Leader: Murray Friedman (#868), 914-779-6233 (7:30 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.)

Sat. Apr. 9 **THOMAS COLE**

Distance: 6 mi. Ascent: 1800'
Elev.: 3945' Order: 4

A moderate trail hike via Barnum Road. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Maplecrest Post Office at 8:30 A.M.

Leader: Joe Gardner (#572), 518-439-1074

Sat. Apr. 16 **Stoppel Point**

Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 1100'

A moderate trail hike and possible bushwhack. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Call leader for details

Leader: Richard Kline (#720), 518-678-2451 (6:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.)

Sun. Apr. 17 **BALSAM CAP and FRIDAY**

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 3300'
Elev.: 3623', 3694' Order: 25, 19

A strenuous, fast-paced bushwhack.

Meeting Place: Jct. of Rtes. 28 and 28A in Boiceville at 8:00 A.M.

Leader: Sue Eilers (#337), 914-698-7219

Sat. Apr. 23 **SLIDE, CORNELL and
WITTENBERG**

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 2700'
Elev.: 4180', 3865', 3780'
Order: 1, 9, 14

A strenuous traverse of the Burroughs Range. Spectacular viewpoints. Shuttle required. Rain cancels. If in doubt, call leader.

Meeting Place: Woodland Valley Campground (south side of Woodland Valley Road) at 8:30 A.M.

Leader: Lanny Wexler (#593), 516-938-5721 (7:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.)

Sat. Apr. 23 **HALCOTT**

Distance: 5 mi. Ascent: 1650'
Elev.: 3520' Order 34

A moderate bushwhack. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Sweet Sue's Bakery in Phoenicia for DEPARTURE at 9:00 A.M.

Leader: Warren Hale (#576), 908-236-9543

Sun. Apr. 24 **RUSK**

Distance: 5 mi. Ascent: 1750'
Elev.: 3680' Order: 21

A moderately strenuous bushwhack. Rain cancels. If in doubt, call leader.

Meeting Place: Flagpole at Jct. of Rte. 42 and County Rd. 6 (Spruceton Rd.) in Westkill at 9:00 A.M.

Leader: Lanny Wexler (#593), 516-938-5721 (7:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.)

Sat. Apr. 30 **BALSAM LAKE and GRAHAM**

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 1900'
Elev.: 3725', 3868' Order: 16, 8

A moderately strenuous trail hike. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Bridge over Dry Brook on Rte. 28 in Arkville at 8:00 A.M.

Leader: Rick Taylor (#841), 914-226-7639

Sun. May 1 **SOUTHWEST HUNTER**

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2500'
Elev.: 3740' Order: 15

A moderate bushwhack. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Sweet Sue's Bakery in Phoenicia for DEPARTURE at 9:00 A.M.

Leader: Brian Sullivan (#681), 914-687-7750 (7:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.)

Sun. May 1 **TABLE, PEEKAMOOSE and Van Wyck**

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 2300'
Elev.: 3847', 3843' Order: 10, 11

A very strenuous trail hike and bushwhack.

Meeting Place: Jct. of Rtes. 28 and 28A in Boiceville at 8:00 A.M.

Leader: John Swanson (#592), 908-613-1963 (before 9:00 P.M.)

Sat. May 7 **LONE and ROCKY**

Distance: 12 mi. Ascent: 2000'
Elev. 3721', 3508' Order: 17, 35

A strenuous bushwhack. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Denning Trailhead at 9:00 A.M.

Leader: Bruno Walmsley (#610), 609-924-4679

Sat. May 7 **BEARPEN and VLY**

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 1900'
Elev.: 3600', 3529' Order: 29, 32

A moderately strenuous bushwhack. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Municipal parking lot in Fleischmanns across from library at 8:00 A.M.

Leader: Joan Dean (#360), 201-762-0396 (before 9:00 P.M.)

Sun. May 8 **INDIAN HEAD and TWIN**

Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 2000'
Elev.: 3573', 3640' Order: 30, 23

A moderate trail hike. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Trailhead at Prediger Road at 9:00 A.M.

Leader: Rosemary Walmsley (#611), 609-924-4679

Sat. May 14 **TABLE and PEEKAMOOSE**

Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 3190'
Elev.: 3847', 3843' Order: 10, 11

A moderate trail-clearing hike on a portion of the Long Path that the club is responsible for clearing. Bring loppers, weed whackers, etc., if you have them. If not, the club will furnish them - BUT, COME. Meeting Place: Jct. of Rtes. 28 and 28A in Boiceville at 8:30 A.M. or parking lot at the trailhead on Peekamoose Road at 9:00 A.M.

Leader: Gerald A. Gervais (#687), 914-341-5515 (days); 914-236-4208 (evenings before 10:00 P.M.)

Sun. May 15 **GRAHAM, DOUBLETOP, BIG INDIAN and EAGLE**

Distance: 12 mi. Ascent: 4000'
Elev.: 3868', 3870, 3680', 3605'
Order: 8, 7, 20, 27

A very strenuous, fast-paced bushwhack and trail hike from Seager. All-weather hike; however, inclement weather may necessitate changes in route and pace.

Meeting Place: Bridge over Dry Brook on Rte. 28 in Arkville at 8:30 A.M.

Leader: Anthony Amaral, Jr. (#612), 212-490-7900 (9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.)

Sun. May 15 **WITTENBERG and CORNELL**

Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 3200'
Elev.: 3780', 3865' Order: 14, 9

A moderately strenuous trail hike. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Sweet Sue's Bakery in Phoenicia for DEPARTURE at 9:00 A.M.

Leader: Larry Armstrong (#827), 607-783-2730

Sat. May 21 **Devils Path: INDIAN HEAD, TWIN SUGARLOAF, PLATEAU and HUNTER**

Distance: 18 mi. Ascent: 6300'
Elev.: 3573', 3640', 3800', 3840', 4040'
Order: 30, 23, 13, 12, 2

An extremely strenuous trail hike. Shuttle required.

Meeting Place: Devil's Tombstone Parking area on Rte. 214 at 7:00 A.M.

Leader: Alvin DeMaria (#655), 914-255-1704

Sun. May 22 **BALSAM LAKE**

Distance: 6 mi. Ascent: 1200'
Elev.: 3725' Order: 16

Easy hike to firetower. Rain or shine. Group size limited.

Meeting Place: Call leader for details.

Leader: Richard C. Kline (#720), 518-678-2451 (6:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.)

Sun. May 29 **KAATERSKILL HIGH PEAK and Wildcat Falls**

Distance: 11 mi. Ascent: 1700'
Elev.: 3655' Order: 22

A moderate trail hike on the Long Path, with a side trip to Kaaterskill High Peak. Heavy rain could cancel.

Meeting Place: Junction of Rte. 32A and 23A in Palenville at 9:00 A.M.

Leader: James Shearwood (#700), 718-937-6277

Sat. June 4 **NORTH DOME and SHERRILL**

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2600'
Elev.: 3610', 3540' Order: 26, 31

A strenuous bushwhack. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Sweet Sue's Bakery in Phoenicia for DEPARTURE at 8:30 A.M.

Leader: Henry Jenkins (#808), 914-471-6316

Sun. June 5 **BLACKHEAD, Acra Point,
Burnt Knob and WINDHAM HIGH PEAK** Distance: 11 mi. Ascent: 3400'
Elev.: 3940', 3524' Order: 5, 33
A moderately strenuous trail hike. Rain will modify hike to include Blackhead and Acra Point only.
Meeting Place: Maplecrest post office for DEPARTURE at 8:45 A.M.
Leader: Wanda Davenport (#523), 201-670-8383 (7:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M. only)

Sat. June 11 **Hemlock, Spruce, FIR (and
possibly BIG INDIAN)** Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2000'
Elev.: 3625', (3680') Order: 24, (20)

A strenuous bushwhack at a moderate pace, with possible additional distance of 5 mi. and ascent of 500'. Possible return on trail. Rain cancels. Short shuttle required.
Meeting Place: Biscuit Brook Trailhead on Rte. 47 at 8:00 A.M.
Leader: Murray Friedman (#868), 914-779-6233 (7:30 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.)

Sun. June 12 **WESTKILL, NORTH DOME and SHERRILL** Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 3600'
Elev.: 3880', 3610', 3540'
Order: 6, 26, 31

A strenuous bushwhack. Car shuttle required. Heavy rain cancels.
Meeting Place: Jct. of Rtes. 28 and 42 in Shandaken at 8:30 A.M.
Leader: Ed Goldstein (#861) 212-486-2692 (Phone Number may change)

Sat. June 18 **BALSAM and Belleayre** Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2800'
Elev.: 3600' Order: 28

A strenuous trail hike. Heavy rain cancels.
Meeting Place: Trailhead at end of McKinley Hollow Road in Oliverea (approx. 3 mi. south of Rte. 28) at 9:00 A.M.
Leader: Brian Sullivan (#681), 914-687-7750 (7:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.)

Sun. June 19 **KAATERSKILL HIGH PEAK** Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 1700'
Elev.: 3655' Order: 22

A moderate trail hike with perhaps some bushwhacking. Heavy rain cancels.
Meeting Place: Warms Restaurant in Tannersville for DEPARTURE at 9:00 A.M.
Leader: Doug Robins (#153), 203-693-0130 (before 9:00 P.M.)

Sat. June 25 **PANTHER End-to-End** Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 1800'
Elev.: 3720' Order: 18

A moderately strenuous trail hike. Shuttle required. Heavy/steady rain cancels.
Meeting Place: Jct. of Rtes. 28 and 42 in Shandaken at 8:30 A.M.
Leader: Irene Logan (#), 516-621-8129 (Mon. - Thurs. until 9:00 P.M.)

Sun. June 26 **ROCKY, LONE, TABLE (and
possibly PEEKAMOOSE)** Distance: 11 mi. Ascent: 2600'
Elev.: 3508', 3721', 3847' (3843')
Order: 35, 17, 10, (11)

A strenuous bushwhack and trail hike (with possible additional distance of 1 mi. and ascent of 300'). Heavy rain cancels.
Meeting Place: Denning Trailhead at 8:30 A.M.
Leader: Ed Goldstein (#861), 212-486-2692 (Phone Number may change)

LEADERSHIP PATCH AWARDED

Congratulations to Lawrence Armstrong (#827), who has received a leadership patch. The club awards the leadership patch to members who have led six separate hikes scheduled in the Canister. At least one hike must be to a trailless peak, and at least one must be led during the winter.

CATSKILL 3500 CLUB ADDRESS ROSTER AVAILABLE

An updated list of Catskill 3500 Club members is now available. Anyone wishing to receive this list should send \$3.00 to Cyrus B. Whitney, 41 Morley Drive, Wyckoff, New Jersey 07481.

CATSKILL 3500 CLUB NEW MEMBERS

880	Robin E. Jormark 10/16/93 243 West End Avenue, Apt. 1404, New York, NY 10023	212-595-4308
881	Carter Bland 10/23/93 114 Clinton Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201	516-496-1259
882	Greg A. Dyck 11/6/93 18 Whitehouse Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601	914-473-0933
883	Ben P. Lostracco 11/13/93 104 Melba Street, Chateauguay, PQ, Canada J6J1W8	514-692-4020
884	Jerry Gentile 9/7/93 447 Henry Street, West Hempstead, NY 11552	516-485-1578
885	Carol Mantell 1/1/94 58 Van Nostrand Place, Amityville, NY 11701-3508	516-598-1015
886	Robert E. Walberg 1/2/94 8 Mountain View Road, Red Hook, NY 12571-1811	914-876-1821
887	Andrew Bagatta 1/2/94 30 Belmont Avenue, Middletown, NY 10940	914-342-3670
888	Irene A. Logan 1/8/94 59 Edwards Street, Apt. 2A, Roslyn Heights, NY 11577-1100	516-621-8129
889	Matthew P. Smith 1/19/94 11 Streamside Terrace, Woodstock, NY 12498	914-679-9234
890	James D. Malumphy 1/23/94 245 Colonial Avenue, Apt. 4A, Waterbury, CT 06704	203-753-6106
891	Sam D. Jones 1/25/94 243 Washington Avenue, Scotia, NY 12302	518-374-5276
892	Marguerite Munch-Weber 1/30/94 230 North 6th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11211	718-387-9605
893	Cecelia Horne 2/6/94 44 East Main Street, Chester, NJ 07930	908-879-5278



the catskill canister

Vol. XXVII, No. 3

JULY - SEPTEMBER 1994

WALTER MITTY STICKS HIS NECK OUT

One afternoon on Southwest Hunter, a young man astonished me with his description of an impossible sounding hike. On the year's longest day, he and two friends climbed nine 3500 footers: Slide, Cornell, Wittenberg, Cornell again, Friday, Balsam Cap, Rocky, Lone, Peekamoose and Table. They used two cars and exited at Denning.

Other club members told me the feat was done occasionally by stalwarts. In my middle sixties, plagued with old injuries and other problems, I could only dream of such an adventure. But I couldn't stop playing with the idea that, "If I could gain time by finessing the five bushwhacks, then maybe" A friend and I hiked the route in May. It took us two days. Still I speculated, "With an early start, a car shuttle and carrying almost nothing"

It was now late August. I'd lost an hour and a half of daylight. The springs had been dry for months at those elevations. I would have to carry six quarts of water weighing almost 14 pounds. It seemed crazy but I decided to go for it.

The night before, Ranger Pat Rudge discussed my plans with me at the Slide trailhead. She told me she would look for my car Monday morning and if it was still there set up a search. I fell asleep with misgivings. How could I do a two-day hike in one? I would be walking in the dark at both ends. I prayed I would be back onto a trail by dusk and my stamina would hold out.

At 3:47 a.m. on Sunday, August 22, 1993, I started the adventure. Negotiating the rocky trail by headlamp was difficult, but I carried a moosewood staff which helped. It was still dark when I reached Slide's summit plateau. The eastern horizon glowed red, and I was surprised by the many lights visible in the valleys. I switched off the lamp as I descended into the Slide-Cornell col. It was 5:15 a.m.

An unseen camper chopped wood south of the trail as I started up Cornell. Dropping my pack at the start of the bushwhack route to Friday, I continued over Cornell to Wittenberg. Returning to my pack, I headed off into the brush. This leg is notoriously difficult and as a result is seldom done. Some hikers drop directly off the top of Cornell to traverse the steep slope below the escarpment. However, if done correctly, my route is easy. That morning, I could not seem to get it right, regardless of how I adjusted my course. Not a promising start. Instead of gaining the canister by traversing the final pitch up and left, I found myself angling in from the east. I had botched this leg and wasted precious time.

Heading on to Balsam Cap, I found myself on the west side of the Cap and had to turn 90 degrees and climb the west facing slope, arriving on top almost opposite the canister. I usually leave Balsam Cap northward on the herd path to where it doubles back to the south below the brush. That day, I did not have time for such luxury and headed directly toward Rocky. The gamble worked and, after a brief struggle, I found an open route.

Continued on Page 3

THE CATSKILL CANISTER

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Contributions of articles on hiking or travel experiences, or essays on the history or natural history of the Catskills, are earnestly solicited from members and aspirants, and should be sent to Darielle Graham, 60 Barker Street, Apt. 419, Mount Kisco, NY 10549.

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MOON HAW ACCESS THREATENED

Last winter, six hikers set out to climb Friday and Balsam Cap from Moon Haw Road. As had been the practice for several years, they parked on the access road of Nelson Shultis' property. Mr. Shultis' son-in-law, a local town sheriff, happened by and informed the hikers they could no longer park on Mr. Shultis' property in winter. The son-in-law mentioned recent incidents with Catskill 3500 Club members who seemed to think they "owned the land." He had even been asked to keep the trails in better shape. The son-in-law stated that if this type of behavior persisted, access to Friday and Balsam Cap from the Shultis property would be closed permanently.

All hikers should be aware of their guest status when using private lands. Leaders should also inform their groups of the status of the land they are using. Thanking cooperating land-owners and heeding all their wishes is vital for continued access.

For Friday and Balsam Cap, winter hikers can continue up Moon Haw Road, past a stream crossing to a wide area in the road which is signed "State land/No dumping" and from there walk back to the Shultis property or access the Friday ridge on state land from that spot.

Neil H. Zimmerman (#306)

LEADERSHIP PATCHES AWARDED

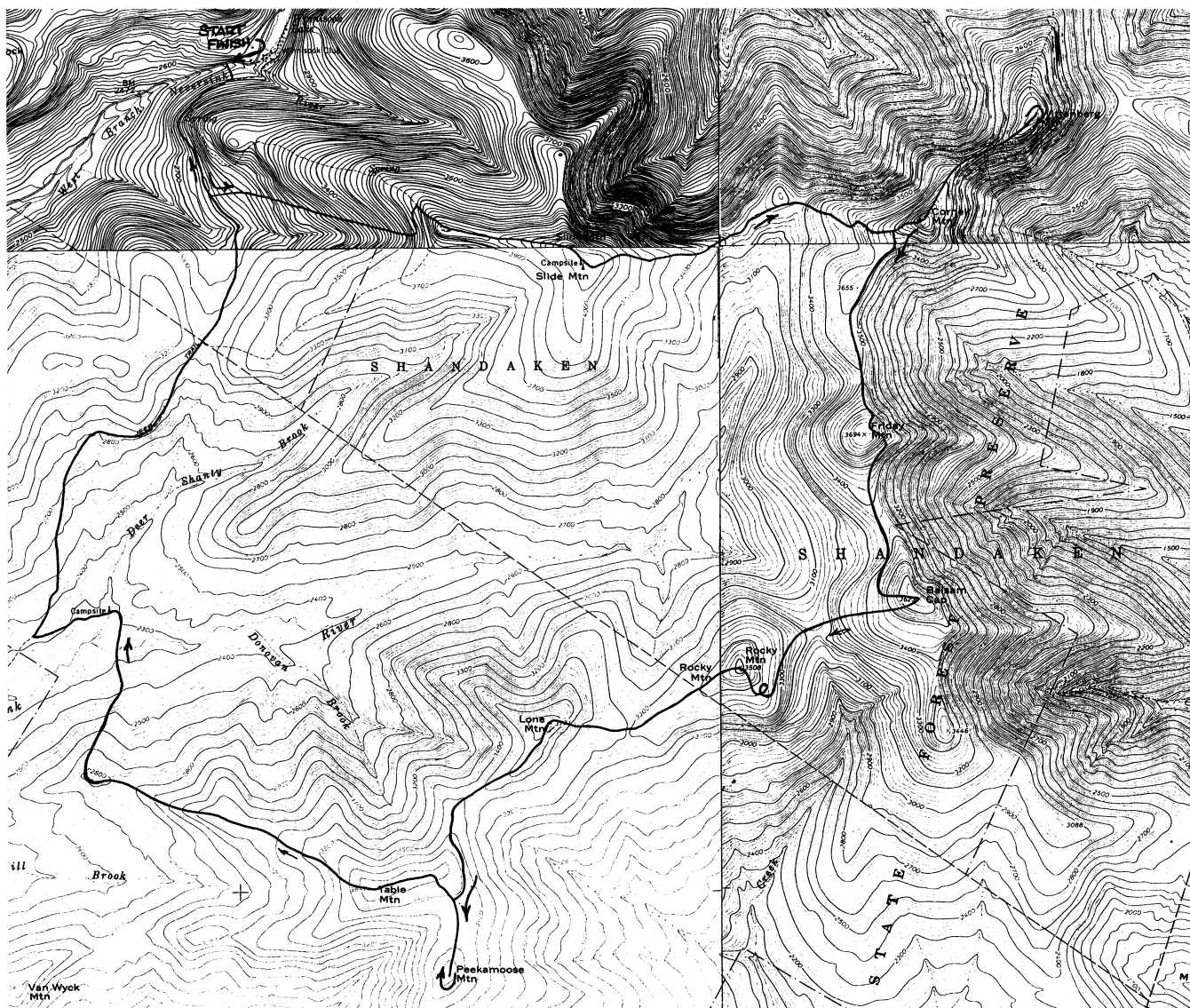
Congratulations to Brian Sullivan (#681) and Marge Velasquez (#677) who each received leadership patches. The club awards the leadership patch to members who have led six separate hikes scheduled in the *Canister*. At least one hike must be to a trailless peak, and at least one must be led during the winter.

UPDATE ON BLEECKER STAATS

The latest word on Bleecker Staats, who has recently been ill, is that he has left the hospital and is recuperating at home. Everyone sends you their best wishes, Bleecker, for a speedy recovery and looks forward to seeing you back on the trail.

REMINDER

Membership dues for members and subscription fees for aspirants are now past due. Please send \$5.00 to Cy Whitney, 41 Morley Drive, Wyckoff, NJ 07481-3322.



Bob McElroy's route

I had always walked directly to Rocky's canister, even in rain and fog. That day I could not find it until I realized I was on a large level area below and south-east of the peak. When I finally reached the canister, it was 12:23 p.m. In spite of inept route finding, I was ahead of my most optimistic estimate and dared to envision a daylight finish.

From Rocky to Lone, I took a shorter route than usual, which worked beautifully. From Lone to Table, the route was straightforward along the fairly open ridge. I left my pack near the Peekamoose/Table trail, and climbed Peekamoose, before going over Table to catch the Phoenicia-East Branch Trail North. My inability to arrange a car shuttle provided a final bonus: a four-mile, nine-hundred foot climb up past the Curtis monument to the Slide parking area. I signed out at 6:53 p.m.

My trip covered twenty-two miles, six thousand vertical feet and nine mountains and had yielded an unusually satisfying Catskill adventure.

*Bob McElroy (#797)
36 Rabbit Run Road
Malvern, PA 19355*

Editor's Note: Solo bushwhacking is a risky undertaking even for the experienced mountaineer and novices would do well to limit themselves to more modest trips.

CATSKILL 3500 CLUB HIKES: JULY - SEPTEMBER 1994ASSUMED RISK

Hiking involves certain inherent hazards, and persons participating do so at their own risk.

Sat. July 9 ROCKY, LONE, TABLE

Distance: 11 mi. Ascent: 2600'
Elev.: 3508', 3721', 3847'
Order: 35, 17, 10

A strenuous bushwhack. Heavy rain cancels.
Meeting Place: Denning Trailhead at 9:00 A.M.
Leader: Henry Jenkins (#808), 914-471-6316

Sun. July 10 FIR

Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 1800'
Elev.: 3625' Order: 24

A moderately packed bushwhack. Heavy rain cancels.
Meeting Place: Biscuit Brook Trailhead on Rte. 47 at 9:00 A.M.
Leader: Wanda Davenport (#523), 201-670-8383 (7:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M. only)

Sat. July 16 WINDHAM and Burnt Knob

Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 1825'
Elev.: 3524 Order: 33

A moderately paced trail hike. Heavy rain cancels.
Meeting Place: Maplecrest Post Office at 8:30 A.M.
Leader: Irene Logan (#888), 516-621-8129 (Mon. through Thurs. until 9:00 P.M.)

Sun. July 17 NORTH DOME and SHERRILL

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2600'
Elev.: 3610', 3540' Order: 26, 31

A strenuous bushwhack at a moderate pace. Heavy rain cancels.
Meeting Place: Jct. of Rtes. 28 and 42 in Shandaken at 8:00 A.M.
Leader: Murray Friedman (#868), 914-779-6233 (7:30 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.)

Sat. July 23 KAATERSKILL HIGH PEAK

Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 1700'
Elev.: 3655' Order: 22

A moderate trail hike. Heavy rain cancels.
Meeting Place: Warms Restaurant in Tannersville for DEPARTURE at 8:30 A.M.
Leader: Robert Walberg (#886), 914-876-1821

Sun. July 24 SLIDE, CORNELL and WITTENBERG

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 2700'
Elev.: 4180', 3865', 3780'
Order: 1, 9, 14

A fast-paced, strenuous birthday hike. Heavy rain cancels.
Meeting Place: Parking lot behind Phoenicia Pharmacy in Phoenicia for DEPARTURE at 9:00 A.M.
Leader: Brian Sullivan (#681), 914-687-7750 (7:00 P.M. - 8:30 P.M.)

Sat. July 30 **DOUBLETOP and GRAHAM**Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2200'
Elev.: 3870', 3868' Order: 7, 8

A strenuous, moderately-paced bushwhack. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Seager parking lot (from Rte. 28 in Arkville, follow Dry Brook Rd. 9.5 mi. to trailhead at road end) at 10:00 A.M.

Leader: Marty Cohen (#728), 201-853-4198

Sun. July 31 **BEARPEN and VLY**Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 1900'
Elev.: 3600', 3529' Order: 29, 32

A moderately strenuous bushwhack and trail hike. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Flagpole at Jct. of Rte. 42 and County Rd. 6 (Spruceton Rd.) in Westkill at 8:30 A.M.

Leader: David Bieri (#710), 201-664-3813 (before 11:30 A.M. or after 8:00 P.M.)

Sat. Aug. 6 **WESTKILL**Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2000'
Elev.: 3880' Order: 6

A moderate trail hike. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Sweet Sue's Bakery in Phoenicia for DEPARTURE at 8:30 A.M.

Leader: Marge Velasquez (#677), 914-361-4351 (before 10:00 P.M.)

Sat. Aug. 20 **RUSK and HUNTER**Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 2600'
Elev.: 3680', 4040' Order: 21, 2

A moderately strenuous bushwhack and trail hike. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Flagpole at Jct. of Rte. 42 and County Rd. 6 (Spruceton Rd.) in Westkill at 8:30 A.M.

Leader: Irene Logan (#888), 516-621-8129 (Mon. through Thurs. until 9:00 P.M.)

Sun. Aug. 21 **HUNTER and SOUTHWEST HUNTER**Distance: 11 mi. Ascent: 2250'
Elev.: 4040', 3740' Order: 2, 15

A strenuous, moderately-paced bushwhack and trail hike.

Meeting Place: Flagpole at Jct. of Rte. 42 and County Rd. 6 (Spruceton Rd.) in Westkill at 8:30 A.M.

Leader: Sue Eilers (#337), 914-698-7219

Sat. Aug. 27 **North Point and Southern Half of Escarpment Trail**

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 3400'

A strenuous trail hike on Sleepy Hollow and Escarpment Trail to North Point. Shuttle required. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Schutt Road Trailhead outside North Lake Gatehouse at 8:30 A.M.

Leader: Lanny Wexler (#593), 516-938-5721 (7:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.)

Sun. Aug. 28 **FIR and BIG INDIAN**Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 2150'
Elev.: 3625', 3680' Order: 24, 20

A strenuous, fast-paced bushwhack and trail hike. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Biscuit Brook Trailhead on Rte. 47 at 8:30 A.M.

Leader: David Bieri (#710), 201-664-3813 (before 11:30 A.M. or after 8:00 P.M.)

Sat. Sept. 3 **INDIAN HEAD**Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 1500'
Elev.: 3573' Order: 30

A moderate trail hike. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Warms Restaurant in Tannersville for DEPARTURE at 8:30 A.M.

Leader: Joe Gardner (#572), 518-439-1074

Sun. Sept. 4 **LONE, TABLE and PEEKAMOOSE**

Distance: 12 mi. Ascent: 3300'
 Elev.: 3721', 3847', 3843'
 Order: 17, 10, 11

A strenuous bushwhack and trail hike. Rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Jct. of Rtes. 28 and 28A in Boiceville for departure at 8:00 A.M.

Leader: Stephen Fishman (#618), 914-331-1206 (before 10:00 P.M.)

Sat. Sept. 10 **BLACKHEAD, BLACK DOME (and possibly THOMAS COLE)**

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 2400'
 Elev.: 3940', 3990' (3945')
 Order: 3, 5, (4)

A strenuous trail hike and bushwhack, with possible additional distance of 1.5 mi. and ascent of 600'.

Meeting Place: Warms Restaurant in Tannersville for DEPARTURE at 8:30 A.M.

Leader: Alvin DeMaria (#655), 914-255-1704

Sun. Sept. 11 **Van Wyck, TABLE and PEEKAMOOSE**

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 2300'
 Elev.: 3847', 3843' Order: 10, 11

A strenuous bushwhack. Rain cancels.

Meeting Place: From Jct. of 28A and County Rd. 42 (Peekamoose Rd.), follow County Rd. 42
 10.1 mi. to DEC parking area (1.6 mi past Buttermilk Falls) at 8:00 A.M.

Leader: Murray Friedman (#868), 914-779-6233 (7:30 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.)

Sat. Sept. 17 **HALCOTT**

Distance: 5 mi. Ascent: 1650'
 Elev.: 3520' Order: 34

A moderate bushwhack. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Call leader for details.

Leader: Joan Dean (#360), 201-762-0396 (before 9:00 P.M.)

Sun. Sept. 18 **TWIN and SUGARLOAF**

Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 3000'
 Elev.: 3640', 3800' Order: 13, 23

A moderate bushwhack and trail hike. Rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Parking lot at First Wok Restaurant, Rte. 212, eastern entrance to Woodstock, for
 DEPARTURE at 8:30 A.M.

Leader: Stephen Fishman (#618), 914-331-1206 (before 10:00 P.M.)

Sat. Sept. 24 **WITTENBERG, CORNELL (and possibly SLIDE)**

Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 3120'
 Elev.: 3780', 3865', (4180')
 Order: 14, 9, (1)

A strenuous, moderately-paced trail hike, with possible additional distance of 5 mi. and ascent of 1120'.

Meeting Place: Sweet Sue's Bakery in Phoenicia for DEPARTURE at 8:30 A.M.

Leader: Tim Watters (#268), 201-818-9542

Sun. Sept. 25 **BALSAM CAP and FRIDAY**

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 3300'
 Elev.: 3623', 3694' Order: 25, 19

A strenuous, moderately-paced bushwhack. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Jct. of Rtes. 28 and 28A in Boiceville at 8:00 A.M.

Leader: Robert Walberg (#886), 914-876-1821

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ANNUAL DINNER

The 29th annual dinner meeting of the Catskill 3500 Club took place on Saturday, March 26, 1994 at the Hillside Manor in Kingston, New York. Sue Eilers, Club President, welcomed everyone and introduced the past club presidents: Bill Spangenberg (the first president); Franklin Clark; Roy Messaros; Fred Schmelzer; Cy Whitney; Paul Hoyt; and Howard Dash. She also recognized Neil Zimmerman, President, and Stella Green, Vice President, of the New York/New Jersey Trail Conference for their trail maintenance efforts, as well as DEC rangers Pat and Bill Rudge, Rick Dearstynne and Peter Fish. Neil Zimmerman took the dais to inform members and aspirants that they could no longer park on the Shultis property during the winter to climb Balsam Cap and Friday (see page 2). The Nominating Committee, comprising Chairman, Howard Dash, Amy Whitney and Doug Robins, presented a slate of officers for 1994/95, namely, Sue Eilers as President, Bruno Walmsley as First Vice President, Doug Robins as Second Vice President, Rosemary Walmsley as Secretary and Jack Driller as Treasurer. No further nominations were received from the floor, and the above slate was unanimously elected. During the presentation of certificates to new members, Bill Spangenberg (#3), a Charter member, was called upon to present member #900 to Bernard Japy. The evening ended with an enjoyable slide show presented by Norm and Kip Smith on their climb of Mt. McKinley.

BOOK REVIEW

By Greg Schumaker

Backwoods Ethics: Environmental Issues for Hikers and Campers. 280 pages.
Wilderness Ethics: Preserving the Spirit of Wildness. 239 pages. Both books:
 Laura and Guy Waterman. Softcover. \$13.00 each. The Countryman Press, P.O.
 Box 175, Woodstock, Vermont 05091. Telephone: 802-457-1049.

Backwoods Ethics and *Wilderness Ethics* are two companion books written by Laura and Guy Waterman (authors of *Forest and Crag* and well-known figures in the northeast hiking community). *Backwoods Ethics* is an updated version of, and differs extensively from, the book by the same title originally published in 1979.

While both books share a number of common themes, *Backwoods Ethics* deals more with issues involving the nature of hiking and the hiking community (including an entertaining section on peak-bagging). The Watermans make a strong case for the movement toward low impact hiking and camping. *Wilderness Ethics* deals relatively more with the broader questions of what is wilderness, what is the value of wildness to wilderness, the negative impacts that people, even hikers, can have on the wilderness experience, and what the hiking community can and is doing to protect wilderness.

The reader clearly benefits from the fact that Laura and Guy have been involved with a tremendous array of hiking/wilderness issues, *i.e.*, the impact of hang-gliding, parapentes, etc., on the wilderness experience. *Wilderness Ethics* also discusses, in several sections, the value of the challenge and risks associated with hiking, and the distressing trends in some areas to make it easier for people to abdicate responsibility for their own actions.

Both books include several interesting case studies to highlight the practical impact of the broader discussion about wilderness ethics. These case studies range from the disheartening (the apparent decline in 'environmental stewardship' among the rock-climbing community) to the encouraging (the positive role played by many snowmobile clubs and ways in which hikers and snowmobilers have learned to coexist).

The books are well-written, informative and entertaining, and are 'must reads' for anyone interested in hiking and wilderness preservation.

MEMBERS' COMMENTS INVITED ON BACKPACKING IN THE CATSKILLS

Several members have approached me about scheduling backpacking trips in the Catskills. I would appreciate hearing from you on whether or not this would be of interest. Please send your comments to John B. Graham, Outings Chairman, 60 Barker Street, Apt. 419, Mount Kisco, NY10549.

CATSKILL 3500 CLUB NEW MEMBERS

- | | | | |
|-----|--|-----|---|
| 894 | Lawrence R. Blumberg 2/12/94
803 Town Line Road
Johnson City, NY 13790
(607) 797-0912 | 900 | Bernard Japy 3/20/94
383 Brownstone Court
Wyckoff, NJ 07481
(201) 848-0520 |
| 895 | Larry Springsteen 2/19/94
100 Fairview Square, #7N
Ithaca, NY 14850
(607) 273-5368 | 901 | Lisa Ford 3/13/94
230 Central Park West, #8J
New York, NY 10024
(212) 496-6331 |
| 896 | Donald P. Berens, Jr. 2/21/94
15 Ashley Drive
Latham, NY 12110
(518) 783-1302 | 902 | Henry Mangione 3/13/94
144 Washington Avenue, #3
Saugerties, NY 12477
(914) 246-0488 |
| 897 | Gay Barton 3/1/94
445 Hickory Drive
Campbell Hall, NY 10916
(914) 496-4110 | 903 | David Krein 3/13/94
144 Washington Avenue, #3
Saugerties, NY 12477
(914) 246-0488 |
| 898 | Richard Gracy 2/19/94
210 Flood Bridge Road
Southbury, CT 06488
(203) 264-5328 | 904 | Michael Greco 3/13/94
1 Skyline Drive
Saugerties, NY 12477
(914) 246-6588 |
| 899 | Diane Piliere 3/13/94
39F Lexington Lane
West Milford, NJ 07480-4908
(201) 728-8057 | | |

NEW WINTER MEMBERS

- | | | | |
|-----|-----------------------------|-----|------------------------------|
| 298 | Elizabeth F. Leahey 1/26/94 | 307 | Francis E. Dogil 3/13/94 |
| 299 | Richard M. Taylor 2/12/94 | 308 | Dorothy D. Consadine 3/17/94 |
| 300 | Henry C. Jenkins 2/20/94 | 309 | Matthew P. Smith 3/17/94 |
| 301 | Sam D. Jones 2/27/94 | 310 | Carol S. White 3/20/94 |
| 302 | Ann Hunt 3/06/94 | 311 | David S. White 3/20/94 |
| 303 | Ira D. Sasowsky 2/28/94 | 312 | Lorraine Schwinger 3/19/94 |
| 304 | Mark M. Wilson 2/28/94 | 313 | Amelia O'Shea 3/20/94 |
| 305 | Lilly Rawlyk-Dash 3/12/94 | 314 | Sandra LaPerche 3/19/94 |
| 306 | Gordon R. Ingles 3/13/94 | 315 | Edwin LaPerche 3/19/94 |
| | | 316 | George Sheedy 3/20/94 |



the catskill canister

Vol. XXVII, No. 4

OCTOBER - DECEMBER 1994

THUNDER, LIGHTNING, AND TEAR OF THE CLOUDS

A quiet, sun-dappled pond, located on the shoulder of Mt. Marcy, New York's highest peak, is the source of the great Hudson River. Its name is, aptly, Lake Tear of the Clouds. My family has lived along the Hudson since 1630, and its "well spring" has become a revered place. This was my fourth trip to that lofty spot to get baptismal water for another grandchild. After a relaxing lunch and a brief, chilly swim in the shallow "tear" itself, I dipped my bottle for the baptismal water, then Alice, Martin and I headed to the summit.

Distant thunder and a blackening sky sent us scurrying down from the summit. We were back at the lake's outlet when a flash of lightning and a thunder clap brought forth torrents of rain. Bolts of lightning froze raindrops in space, and the air smelled of sulphur. Caught in this thunderstorm, two of the golden rules came to mind: first, keep away from high places; and second, keep our feet out of water. Unfortunately, we were at 4,000 feet and hiking down the trail was like walking down the middle of a stream.

Another clap of thunder sent us moving as fast as possible, past the confluence of the Feldspar Brook and the Opalescent River. We dreaded having to negotiate the trail back to Flowed Lands with our flashlights, and with good reason. Uphill Brook, which one normally steps across on rocks, had become a raging torrent. Crossing it was unthinkable. A quarter of a mile upstream, it looked as bad, so with daylight fading, we headed a mile back up the trail to Feldspar leanto. The trail across the Feldspar was impassable too but about 100 feet upstream we spotted a makeshift bridge in the form of a fallen cedar. Waist-deep in the swirling current, we inched our way along the trunk, trying to find firm footholds. We made it to the other side and took the bridge over the Opalescent to the leanto.

We found the leanto occupied by a group of twelve Yale students whom we had met earlier on the trail. Concerned by our wet, bedraggled appearance, within minutes they produced dry clothes, pasta and hot coffee. The Yale folk moved all their packs out under plastic tarps and freed up three foam pads for our use. Two backpackers camping in the area drained the rain water from one of their tents, wrung out a wet sleeping bag and offered them to us. It was remarkable how comfortable the three of us were in that tent, lying on foam pads with a wrung-out sleeping bag for a blanket.

Before sleep came, my mind was filled with thoughts such as how grateful I was to the students and campers, how the poor trail conditions made the climb to Marcy harder than my climb to Mt. Washington via Tuckerman's Ravine, and how I had slept soundly under a tarp through a similar storm at Lake Tear of the Clouds in 1971.

The morning sun was bright when we bid goodbye to our benefactors. The thunderstorm, the arduous stream crossing, and the concern shown by fellow hikers made this a memorable trip. And still there is that feeling of awe as I picture Lake Tear of the Clouds.

*Bleecker Staats (#272)
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Contributions of articles on hiking or travel experiences, or essays on the history or natural history of the Catskills, are earnestly solicited from members and aspirants, and should be sent to Darielle Graham, 60 Barker Street, Apt. 419, Mount Kisco, NY 10549.

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IN MEMORIAM: RUDY STROBEL

There have been a few times during my life when I have not kept in contact with people who, at one time or another, perhaps years ago, touched my life in some unique way. I have occasionally thought about sending them a Christmas card or dropping them a line just to let them know what I have been up to. But I am a procrastinator. When I hear of their passing, I feel that pang of regret for not keeping in touch, wishing that I had shared a little bit more time with them. Such is the case with Rudy Strobel.

Rudy died on April 10, 1994, at the age of eighty-seven. He became Catskill 3500 Club Member #14 on April 17, 1965.

I do not remember exactly when or where I met Rudy. It was in the late sixties, perhaps, on a 3500 Club or ADK hike, maybe on one of the many trail maintenance trips he organized for ADK, or possibly on a jaunt in the Taconics that he loved so much and knew like the back of his hand. Rudy was thirty-seven years my senior, a father figure in many ways. He taught me how to use a map and compass and showed me how to simplify factoring in magnetic declinations by drawing lines on the map that were parallel to magnetic north. He gave me the confidence to bushwhack alone. My first go at it was on Friday and Balsam Cap, and I "nailed" both canisters head-on.

Rudy shared my dream of hiking the Appalachian Trail, and his encouragement was one factor in my decision to do it. We half seriously talked about hiking the AT together, but I went off on the trail on my own, and Rudy enjoyed his retirement, climbing the highest point in each of our states and exploring the country in his motor home.

Rudy was a special person, and I am grateful that the path on which he travelled in life crossed mine.

*Jonathan Clement, #68
RD#1, Box 223
East Greenbush, NY 12061*

LEADERSHIP PATCHES AWARDED

Congratulations to Murray Friedman (#868) and Henry Jenkins (#808) who each received leadership patches.

The club awards the leadership patch to members who have led six separate hikes scheduled in the *Canister*. At least one hike must be to a trailless peak, and at least one other must be led during the winter.

"MARCH OR DIE": THE ASCENT OF MT. FUJI

Forty-two years ago, I was stationed in Korea and scheduled for five days of "R & R" (rest and relaxation). I decided to use that time to climb Mt. Fuji and contacted an old school pal, Geof Orton, who was stationed in Kyoto. He had just climbed Fuji for the second time the previous month despite the ancient Japanese saying: "He who never climbs Fuji-san is a fool. He who climbs it twice is a bigger fool." Naturally, he agreed to go with me.

Mt. Fuji is 12,388 feet high and no technical climbing is involved. There are trails all the way to the summit, with elderly people and groups of children climbing them regularly. Above 10,000 feet, the altitude and snow make the climb more challenging. Although it is a two-day trip, no supplies are required, as stone huts, from which you can buy tea and food and sleep overnight, are located every few hours apart all the way to the top,

We did not take any food as we knew we could get whatever we wanted at any of the huts. After about an hour of climbing, we reached the first hut. To our chagrin, it was closed. When we reached the second hut, that too was closed. We had not seen any other climbers, which was odd as the trails were usually crowded, and we began to realize that at that time of year (September) there would not be any services. By that time, we were several miles up and did not want to turn back. "March or die" was our motto, so we continued.

Several hours later, we noticed someone coming down. He turned out to be a German tourist who did not speak much English. He managed to convey that the climbing season ended in August and that it was dangerous to climb later in the year, which was why he had turned back. Undaunted, we decided to continue, despite the fact that it was getting cold and windy and we were wearing summer uniforms.

By dusk, only a few thousand feet from the top, we reached the last hut. The doorway was blocked shut with stones, but we managed to get inside and found some charcoal and what looked like some shrivelled potatoes. We had no water with us, but we found a cistern outside, which was covered with boards. After removing the boards, we found a little water at the bottom with a dead bird floating in it. We took a little water and cooked the potatoes or whatever they were, and that was all we had to eat or drink for two days.

That night it snowed and turned very cold. We got little sleep, as without ventilation, the charcoal fire produced only an asphyxiating gas and no heat. At dawn we made a dash to the summit, which was so shrouded in clouds and snow that we had difficulty seeing each other. We started down a different trail, supposedly leading to an American Army post. The volcanic ash was deep enough for us to glissade along, far faster and dirtier than walking.

There really was an army camp at the bottom of this trail. By the time we staggered into it, startling the guards at the gate, we were tired and in need of food and drink. The guards couldn't believe we'd kept on climbing once we realized all the huts were closed. We knew we had been fortunate to survive. Mt. Fuji can be extremely treacherous after August, and had there been a worse storm, we would not have been found until the following spring.

I still climb mountains in all weather conditions, but after my Mt. Fuji experience, I always carry sufficient food, water and equipment.

*David R. Hinkley (#798)
53 Spackenkill Road
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603*

CATSKILL 3500 CLUB HIKES: OCTOBER - DECEMBER 1994ASSUMED RISK

Hiking involves certain inherent hazards, and persons participating do so at their own risk.

Sat. Oct. 1 BALSAM CAP and FRIDAY

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 3300'
Elev.: 3623', 3694' Order: 25, 19

A strenuous bushwhack. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Jct. of Rtes. 28 and 28A in Boiceville at 8:00 A.M.

Leader: Bruno Walmsley (#610), 609-924-4679

Sun. Oct 2 TABLE and PEEKAMOOSE

Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 3190'
Elev.: 3847', 3843' Order: 10, 11

A moderate trail-clearing hike on a portion of the Long Path that the club is responsible for clearing. Bring loppers, weed whackers, etc., if you have them. If not, the club will furnish them - BUT, COME.

Meeting Place: Denning trailhead at 8:30 A.M.

Leader: Gerald A. Gervais (#687), 914-341-5515 (days); 914-236-4208 (evenings before 10:00 P.M.)

Sat. Oct. 8 BLACKHEAD, BLACK DOME and THOMAS COLE

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 3400'
Elev.: 3940', 3990', 3945'
Order: 5, 3, 4

A strenuous trail hike at a moderate pace. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Maplecrest Post Office at 8:30 A.M.

Leader: Robert Walberg (#886), 914-876-1821

Sun. Oct. 9 PLATEAU and SUGARLOAF

Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 3000'
Elev.: 3840', 3800' Order: 12, 13

A strenuous trail hike at a moderate pace. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Sweet Sue's Bakery in Phoenicia for DEPARTURE at 8:30 A.M.

Leader: Irene Logan (#888), 516-621-8129 (Mon. through Thurs. until 9:00 P.M.)

Sat. Oct. 15 SLIDE, Giant Ledge and PANTHER

Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 2900'
Elev.: 4180', 3720' Order: 1, 18

A strenuous bushwhack and trail hike at a moderate pace. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Panther parking lot on Slide Mountain Road at 8:30 A.M. Car spotting involved.

Leader: Joan Dean (#360), 201-762-0396 (before 10:00 P.M.)

Sat. Oct. 15 RUSK

Distance: 5 mi. Ascent: 1750'
Elev.: 3680' Order: 21

A moderate bushwhack. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Flagpole at Jct. of Rte. 42 and County Rd. 6 (Spruceton Rd.) in Westkill at 8:30 A.M.

Leader: Rosemary Walmsley (#611), 609-924-4679

Sun. Oct. 16 Samuel's Point and WITTENBERG

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2600'
Elev.: 3780' Order: 14

Very strenuous bushwhack at steady pace, with two steep thousand foot climbs from Moonhaw Road. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Jct. of Rtes. 28 and 28A in Boiceville at 8:00 A.M.

Leader: Murray Friedman (#868), 914-779-6233 (7:30 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.)

Sat. Oct. 22 **TWIN and SUGARLOAF**Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2800'
Elev.: 3640', 3800' Order: 23, 13

A moderate trail hike at a steady pace. Heavy/steady rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Trailhead at Prediger Road at 9:30 A.M.

Leader: Marty Cohen (#728), 201-853-4198

Sun. Oct. 23 **KAATERSKILL HIGH PEAK**Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 1700'
Elev.: 3655' Order: 22

A moderate trail hike at a steady pace. Heavy/steady rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Trailhead at Prediger Road at 9:00 A.M.

Leader: Wanda Davenport (#523), 201-670-8383 (before 9:00 P.M. - No calls Saturday night)

Sat. Oct. 29 **BALSAM LAKE and GRAHAM**Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 1900'
Elev.: 3725', 3868' Order: 16, 8

A moderate trail hike. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Bridge over Dry Brook on Rte. 28 in Arkville at 9:00 A.M.

Leader: John Graham (#478), 914-241-2240 (before 9:30 P.M.)

Sun. Oct. 30 **BEARPEN and VLY**Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 1900'
Elev.: 3600', 3529' Order: 29, 32

A moderate trail hike and bushwhack. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Municipal parking lot in Fleischmanns across from library at 9:00 A.M.

Leader: John Graham (#478), 914-241-2240 (before 9:30 P.M.)

Sat. Nov. 5 **HALCOTT**Distance: 5 mi. Ascent: 1650'
Elev.: 3520' Order: 34

A moderate bushwhack at an easy pace. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Flagpole at Jct. of Rte. 42 and County Rd. 6 (Spruceton Rd.) in Westkill at 8:30 A.M.

Leader: Joe Gardner (#572), 518-439-1074

Sat. Nov. 5 **FIR and BIG INDIAN**Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 2150'
Elev.: 3625', 3680' Order: 24, 20

A strenuous bushwhack and trail hike at a moderate pace. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Biscuit Brook Trailhead on Rte. 47 at 8:30 A.M.

Leader: Henry Jenkins (#808), 914-471-6316 (6:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.)

Sun. Nov. 6 **SHERRILL**Distance: 5 mi. Ascent: 1900'
Elev.: 3540' Order: 31

A moderate bushwhack. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Sweet Sue's Bakery in Phoenicia for DEPARTURE at 9:00 A.M.

Leader: Warren Hale (#576), 908-236-9543

Sun. Nov. 6 **WINDHAM HIGH PEAK, Burnt Knob, Acra Point, BLACKHEAD, BLACK DOME and THOMAS COLE**Distance: 15 mi. Ascent: 4000'
Elev.: 3524', 3940', 3990', 3945'
Order: 33, 4, 3, 5

A very strenuous, fast-paced trail hike.

Meeting Place: Maplecrest Post Office at 8:00 A.M.

Leader: Sue Eilers (#337), 914-698-7219

Sat. Nov. 12 **BALSAM and Belleayre**Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2800'
Elev.: 3600' Order: 28

A strenuous trail hike at a moderate pace. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Trailhead at end of McKinley Hollow Road in Oliverea (approx, 3 mi. south of Rte. 28, off County Rd. 47) at 8:30 A.M.

Leader: Irene Logan (#888), 516-621-8129 (Mon. through Thurs. until 9:00 P.M.)

Sun. Nov. 13 **BIG INDIAN and DOUBLETOP**Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2900'
Elev.: 3680', 3870' Order: 20, 7

A strenuous trail hike and bushwhack at a moderate pace. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Bridge over Dry Brook on Rte. 28 in Arkville at 8:00 A.M.

Leader: Robert Walberg (#886), 914-876-1821

Sat. Nov. 19 **KAATERSKILL HIGH PEAK**Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 1700'
Elev.: 3655' Order: 22

A moderate trail hike. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Sweet Sue's Bakery in Phoenicia for DEPARTURE at 8:30 A.M.

Leader: Alvin DeMaria (#655), 914-255-1704

Sun. Nov. 20 **ROCKY and LONE**Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 4000'
Elev.: 3508', 3721' Order: 35, 17

A strenuous bushwhack at a steady pace. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place: Denning Trailhead at 8:00 A.M.

Leader: Murray Friedman (#868), 914-779-6233 (7:30 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.)

**Nov. 21 - Dec. 16: HUNTING SEASON (FIREARMS) IN THE CATSKILLS.
NO HIKES SCHEDULED IN THE CATSKILLS.**

December through April the windchill on exposed ridges may reach 50 below zero. If you do not know what type of clothing will be adequate, telephone the hike leader in advance. If you cannot buy, rent, or borrow snowshoes, avoid the mountains in winter. Unless specified otherwise, full crampons should be carried. Properly dressed and equipped, and in proper physical condition, a hiker can enjoy the mountains in what many people consider the most beautiful season of the year.

Sun. Dec. 4 **Taconics near Bear Mountain, Connecticut**

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2000'

A moderate hike in the Taconic mountains of Connecticut and/or Massachusetts. Exact route will depend on conditions. No hunting in Connecticut and Massachusetts on Sunday. Heavy rain or bad driving conditions cancel.

Meeting Place: Call leader for details (before 9:00 P.M.)

Leader: Doug Robins (#153), 203-693-0130

Sun. Dec. 11 **Minnewaska**

Distance: 11 mi.

Scenic trail hike using carriage roads. Heavy rain or bad driving conditions cancel.

Meeting Place: Lower parking lot at Minnewaska State Park on Rte. 44/55 at 9:00 A.M.

Leader: Brian Sullivan (#681), 914-687-7750 (7:00 P.M. - 8:30 P.M.)

Sat. Dec. 17 **SOUTHWEST HUNTER**Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 1700'
Elev.: 3740' Order: 15

A moderate bushwhack. Snowshoes and full (not instep) crampons required. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancel.

Meeting Place: Flagpole at Jct. of Rte. 42 and County Rd. 6 (Spruceton Rd.) in Westkill at 9:00 A.M.

Leader: Tim Watters (#268), 201-818-9542

Sun. Dec. 18 **NORTH DOME and SHERRILL**Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2600'
Elev.: 3610', 3540' Order: 26, 31

A strenuous bushwhack at a moderate pace. Snowshoes and full (not instep) crampons required. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancel.

Meeting Place: Jct. of Rtes. 28 and 28A in Boiceville for departure at 8:30 A.M.

Leader: Robert Walberg (#886), 914-876-1821

Sat. Dec. 24 **BALSAM and EAGLE**Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 3000'
Elev.: 3600', 3605' Order: 28, 27

A strenuous bushwhack and trail hike. Snowshoes and full (not instep) crampons required. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancel.

Meeting Place: Jct. of Rte. 28 and County Rd. 47 in Big Indian across from Morra's Grocery Store on County Rd. 47 at 8:30 A.M.

Leader: Ed Goldstein (#861), 212-486-2692

Sat. Dec. 31 **BLACKDOME and THOMAS COLE**Distance: 6 mi. Ascent: 2000'
Elev.: 3990', 3945' Order: 5, 3

A strenuous trail hike at a moderate pace. Snowshoes and full (not instep) crampons required. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancel.

Meeting Place: Maplecrest Post Office at 8:30 A.M.

Leader: Irene Logan (#888), 516-621-8129 (Mon. through Thurs. until 9:00 P.M.)

BOOK REVIEW

The Hudson Valley and Catskill Mountains by Joanne Michaels and Mary-Margaret Barile, 239 pp, softcover, black and white photographs, \$15.00. The Countryman Press, P.O. Box 175, Woodstock, VT 05091. Tel: 802-457-1049.

This excellent guidebook is designed for tourists or local residents who travel for a day, a weekend, or an extensive journey in the areas covered in the book, which include Rockland, Orange, Sullivan, Ulster, Delaware, Greene, Columbia, Dutchess, Putnam and Westchester Counties, as well as the cities of Albany and Saratoga Springs. One author is a former editor of *Hudson Valley* magazine; the other has written magazine articles and cookbooks.

The book is arranged in a convenient style, with a chapter and a map for each county and city. The sections are labeled: To See and Do; Green Space; For Families; Scenic Drives; Airplane Tours; Biking; Farm Stands and Pick-Your-Own-Farms; Fishing; Golf; Hiking; Cross-Country Skiing; Downhill Skiing; Where to Stay; Where to Eat (subdivided into Dining Out and Eating Out); Entertainment; and Selective Shopping.

The Table of Contents faces a map of the entire area, showing the location of the counties. The General Index contains approximately 800 entries, and the Lodging Index has approximately 132 entries. Highly recommended.

Franklin B. Clark (#33)
10 South Washington Street
Athens, NY 12015

CATSKILL 3500 CLUB NEW MEMBERS

- | | | | |
|-----|---|-----|---|
| 905 | Richard A. Sederquist 5/7/94
61 Sunset Road
Newington, CT 06111
(203) 666-3226 | 909 | David Pehlke 5/21/94
13 Roxbury Road
Port Washington, NY 11050
(516) 944-7973 |
| 906 | Jeffrey Sederquist 5/7/94
426 Locust Road
Harwinton, CT 06791
(203) 485-1692 | 910 | Stephen L. Schifani 5/23/94
70 Sunnybrook Circle
Highland, NY 12528
(914) 691-7767 |
| 907 | Jack Blank 4/24/94
36 Wellington Road
Locust Valley, NY 11560
(516) 674-4265 | 911 | Jeff Starbuck 6/23/94
72 Gulick Road
Princeton, NJ 08540
(609) 924-8489 |
| 908 | George Perkinson 5/15/94
P.O. Box 16
Nyack, NY 10906
(914) 358-9132 | 912 | Edward J. Brophy 7/9/94
43 Southward Avenue
Congers, NY 10920-2050
(914) 268-7486 |
| | | 913 | Laurence T. Cagle 7/10/94
RD 2, 14 Meditation Way
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866 |

CLASS OF 1994

According to statistics, of the 39 hikers who finished their peaks in the year that ended with the annual dinner in Kingston, the women (9) displayed a remarkable single mindedness of purpose and enthusiasm. They took an average of 21.5 months to complete the peaks. This compares to an average of 5 years 4 months for the group as a whole, and 6 years 4 months for the men. Since we have started compiling these numbers, an average of 6 years has been the length of time needed to finish.

This year's group averaged 41 years 4 months in age with the women at 43 years 8 months and the men at 38 years 11 months. The ages of the women ranged from 35 to 52 and the men from 24 to 71. The quickest lady required only 6 months to do the 39 climbs and the most relaxed 4 years 3 months. The men required 43 years 1 month to finish the peaks.

As usual, Slide was most often the first to be climbed, with Wittenberg and Blackhead close behind. While these proved the most popular hikes, Eagle, Rocky and Halcott were the least favored. Panther was the finishing peak for more of the hikers, with Rocky in second place. Friday and Balsam Cap were named as the most difficult, followed by Southwest Hunter and Rocky.

A larger than average group of 19 received their winter patches and certificates, leading me to believe that while we Catskill hikers outwardly commiserated with our non-hiking friends about the "terrible" winter of 1993-94, inwardly we rejoiced about the conditions in the mountains, where the snow was measured in feet, not inches, and we had to look down, not up for the canisters.

*Cyrus B. Whitney (#266)
Membership Chairman
41 Morley Drive
Wyckoff, NJ 07481*