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The Catskill Canister  
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View from Tremper. Photo by Brenda Robie #4208

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Blackheads from Windham High Peak. Photo by Paul Gebhard #3501 W1566

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### **13 Degree Declination**

*The President's Column by Michael Bongar*

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Lessons Learned as a 3500 Club hike leader.

I lead hikes for the Catskill 3500 Club. An educated guess is that I have led 80 hikes. I have three rules: 1) we stay together as a group; 2) we go at the pace of the slowest hiker in the group; 3) no complaining. Not everyone follows my rules. I also ask hikers to walk in the middle of the trail and through the mud. That's a difficult rule for most of my hikers to follow. I have preferred to lead bushwhacks and winter hikes. One of my early winter hikes was on Lone and Rocky and that's when I learned that hike leading is not a democracy. I was young and naïve and loved the idea of 12 miles in three feet of unbroken snow. I consulted several epic predecessors and was given the excellent advice of going up Lone first and then over to Rocky. And here's the key part, to backtrack in our trench back out to the parking area on Denning Rd. Well, we did just that and I mostly broke the trail, like I said, I was young. However, when we hit Rocky, I got some complaints about backtracking. Like I said, I was young and naïve, so I took a vote, and the majority didn't want to backtrack. I acquiesced. The rest is history and many of the survivors know who they are. The sun set. Head lamps did not function. Snowshoes broke. Hikers sprinted ahead. Hikers complained. We hit the parking area at 9 p.m.. Everyone in the group had a spouse or parent call the DEC Rangers. And that includes a woman who claimed her name was Tina Bongar. I was the last car leaving the parking area just as a Ranger pulled in. He said to me, "I don't worry about 3500 Club hikers. You guys know what you're doing. Hey, I have a question. Have you found the Canadian Air Force memorial marker? I have never found it." I haven't found it either. And I will never again take a vote on breaking three feet of fresh snow.

As the crawl at the beginning of one of my favorite Coen Brothers films' states: *"At the request of the survivors, the names have been changed. Out of respect for the dead, the rest has been told exactly as it occurred."*

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View from Twin. Photo by Dan Mish



## Trail Mix: News and Notes from the Club



### 3500 Club's Fifty Seventh Annual Dinner Meeting Recap



The Catskill 3500 Club's fifty-seventh annual dinner was held on Sunday, July 23, 2023 at the Ashokan Center. There were over 200 guests in attendance.

Congratulations to our newly elected Vice President, Lori Herpen (#4105) and Secretary, Colin DeVries (#3382 W1589). And returning after a hiatus on the Board is Bill Winterbottom (#1904 W858).

Thanks go out to-

- Emily Oakhill for the fabulous quilt that was raffled to benefit the Catskill Mountain Search and Rescue Team. Thank you to all who purchased raffle tickets. We raised a total of \$1,560!
- David (#859 W311) and Carol (#860 W310) White, Sara Chapman and Meg Lachmann (#3465), Colleen Hardcastle (#2990 W1416) and Jake Haisley (#2488 W1065) for sharing their wealth of information and merchandise with us at our information tables.
- Fred Gillen, Jr. (#3928) for his musical artistry and for lending us his sound system.
- Volunteers at the Registration Table: Connie Sciutto (#1234 W460) and Past President, Tracy Little (#3180 W1455) and Pat Johnson (#3284 W1392), for greeting annual meeting guests and collecting ballots.
- Eric Adams for photographing the annual meeting at a reduced rate.
- Russell Ley (#2927 W1262) for organizing and running during the annual meeting.
- Bicknell's Buddies: Dr. Kara Belinsky, Danielle Takacs and Kristyn Gessner, from SUNY New Paltz for the informational poster.
- Linda Van Steenburg (#2274 W968) for service as Secretary and for 2023 vote tabulation.
- Mike Doehring (#144 W51), Linda Van Steenburg and Lori Herpen (#4105) are my fellow Dinner Committee members.

Stay tuned for a 2024 date.

*By: Michael Bongar, President and Annual Dinner Co-Chair*

Members and aspirants who joined or renewed after 2022 will receive a reminder in the month when their dues are due. If you haven't renewed since 2021, you can pay your dues now and we'll remind you to re-up during the correct month next year. Life Members don't have to worry about renewing their dues and Life Membership is now tax deductible as a donation.

Contact [David White](#) or [Chris Adams](#) to confirm your status. Dues can be paid online on the [dues page](#) of the Club website. Dues can also be paid by check via mail. Mail to: Catskill 3500 Club; attn: Membership; PO Box 294; West Hurley, NY 12491. Please make checks payable to the Catskill 3500 Club.

Please note that as a result of the Club's ongoing tech and website upgrades, some links that you previously may have used for paying dues will no longer work. The new website can be found [here](#), the new membership page can be found [here](#), and the new dues page can be found [here](#).

As a reminder, good standing is required to maintain voting rights and privileges of membership (e.g., *The Canister* subscription, ability to buy patches). An active member is one who has completed their requirements for membership and who has paid the prescribed dues for the current year or who is a life member (life membership can be obtained for a one-time fee of \$200). Please note that the initial fee only covers the registration and the first year of membership. Delinquent members may regain good standing by payment of one year's delinquent dues. By renewing your membership (or becoming a life member for a one-time fee of \$200), you help us support our mission of being the stewards of the Catskills and help us give back to the mountains. We appreciate your continued support!

*By: Dave White, Membership Chair and Chris Adams, Assistant to the Membership Chair and Aspirants Chair*

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## ! ! The Club Extends Appreciation to a Departing Board Member, Welcomes New Board Members ! !



Our heartfelt thanks go to our departing Officer and Secretary **Linda Van Steenburg** (#2274 W968), who has been on the Board since the fall of 2021. Thank you Linda for your countless hours of service as our Secretary and including the vote tabulations for 2023. Linda will continue to serve on the Dinner Committee.



The Club thanks **Amy Holiday** (#3831) for her service as Assistant Outings Chair. Amy stepped down in July, and has been replaced by Maria Jose Orchard, and Christina DePinto.

**Colin DeVries** (#3382 W1589) joins the Board of Directors as an Officer and Secretary. Colin has been hiking and exploring the Catskills since he was a child growing up in the Hudson Valley. His Catskill 3500 journey began in 2009 while working as a journalist for the *Catskill Daily Mail*. He learned about the Club through his reporting and joined a trail clean-up event Peekamoose, which was recorded as his first summit in May 2009. Later that year, he joined about two dozen Catskill 3500 Club volunteers to rebuild the John Robb lean-to along Hunter Mountain's Spruceton trail. He still considers the outcropping



by the lean-to to have some of the best views around. He's grown a deep appreciation for fire towers and their history, and has volunteered as an interpreter at the Hunter and Tremper fire towers. After moving to New York City to pursue his career, he stayed committed to the Catskills and finally completed his tally sheet in March 2020. He completed his winter patch in 2023. Colin lives in Jersey City, NJ, and is assistant director of media relations at NYU Langone Health in Manhattan. Prior, he worked nine-plus years as a newspaper editor and reporter for the *New York Daily News*, the News Corp-owned Times Ledger Newspapers group in Queens and daily and weekly papers in upstate New York. He served as president of the New York Deadline Club, the New York City

chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists, in 2021 and 2022 and remains on the board as immediate past president. He is a board member of Safe Streets Jersey City, which advocates for investment in safe street design that prioritizes safety for all road users. He has a master's degree in communication and media from Rutgers University, an advanced certificate in public health from CUNY School of Public Health, an advanced certificate in nonprofit management from NYU Wagner, and a bachelor's degree in sociology from the University at Albany, where his journalism career began writing for the *Albany Student Press*. He also teaches public relations at Hunter College.



**Lori Herpen (#4105)** joins the Board of Directors as an Officer and Vice President. Lori has enjoyed hiking throughout her life and has a passion for the environment and conservation work. She started hiking in the Catskills in 2015, on a camping trip to Peekamoose Mountain. On New Year's Day 2022, she Googled "challenging hikes in the Catskills," learned of the Club, and thus, her journey began. She finished her required climbs on December 26, 2022 and began working on her winter patch, which she hopes to complete this coming winter. Since becoming a member, Lori serves on the fundraising committee and the annual dinner committee, and is leading our newly formed finance committee. In addition, Lori has completed the Club's Wilderness First Aid course for certification. Lori lives in Hunterdon County, New Jersey and has worked in the non-profit sector her entire career. She is currently the Individual Giving Manager at Norwescap, (Northwest New Jersey Community Action Partnership). In her role there, Lori is responsible for liaising with donors and building

relationships with new donors. Lori has a degree in Environmental Science from Rutgers University and worked for both the national Sierra Club and the New Jersey State Chapter. She also served as a Supervisor for the AmeriCorps Program and has held several other positions in non-profit management, development and administration.



**Bill Winterbottom (#1904 W858)** rejoins the Board of Directors as a Director. Bill has been a longtime hike leader for the Catskill 3500 Club, was the previous Outings Chair of the Club, and is the Chief and Wilderness EMT of the Catskill Mountain Search and Rescue Team. Bill is a NASAR instructor for all levels of ground search and is a former Lieutenant on NJ Search and Rescue Team. Bill is a certified WFA, WFR, W-EMT and CPR instructor. Bill lives in Shohola, PA, where he is a Captain of the Volunteer Shohola Fire Department, in addition to volunteering as an EMT and a firefighter. Besides being a 3500 Club member, Bill is an Adirondack 46er and summited Kilimanjaro and Mount Hood.



**Jack Walker (#4190)** joins the Board as an Electronic Communications Editor. Jack is a lifelong hiker, exploring many of the trails throughout Connecticut, Massachusetts, and the Hudson Valley in New York. After many years of admiring the Catskill Mountains from the Taconic Range, he became inspired to start his Catskill 3500 journey in May of 2022 and completed the 37 in April of 2023. His next Catskill project will be the winter round. In addition to hiking the Catskills, he has enjoyed volunteering with the Catskill Trail Crew on two projects this year and is looking forward to helping in any future projects. Jack is a resident of Danbury, Conn. and is the owner of Infinity – a design +

print company. As an owner, he wears many hats including graphic design for print and digital media, customer relations, and print production.



**MariaJose Orchard (#4120 W1584)** joins the Board as an Assistant to the Outings Chair. Maria is a North Jersey native and currently lives in Bridgewater, NJ. Maria was fortunate enough to spend her childhood summers visiting the Catskills where she realized her passion for the outdoors and hiking. Her first 3500 Club hike was in 2022 with Marv on Kaaterskill High Peak. She became a Catskills 3500 Club Member in 2022, and completed her Winter 3500 shortly after in 2023. Maria remains an avid hiker and looks forward to giving her time and support back to the Catskills we all love.



**Christina DePinto (#3951 W1536)** joins the Board as an Assistant to the Outings Chair. Christina began hiking about 10 years ago, soon developed a love for it, and started setting goals for herself. One of her first goals, and one that she's still working on, was to hike the entire Long Path. When that goal brought her to the Catskills, she became a 3500 Club Member in May of 2022, and a winter member in January 2023. Christina has hiked all of the trails in Harriman and Bear Mountain State Parks and has a new goal to complete the Catskill All Trails Challenge. She's the administrator for the Facebook group Harriman Bear Mountain Trail Challenges where members can earn patches by hiking. She's led many hikes in Harriman and will soon begin leading hikes for the 3500 Club. Christina is a NYS Licensed Guide, works full time, and is a wife and mother of two grown children.



**Congratulations to Erica Pellegrino**



Congratulations, and thank you to Erica Pellegrino, our 2022 Hike Leader of the Year.

Erica is helping attract a new generation of hikers with her challenging quick paced hikes.



*By: Marv Freedman, Outings Chair*



**Update from the Trail Maintenance Chair: Benefits of Volunteering**



Can you benefit from any of the following?

A good workout, lessening stress, making new friends or chatting with like-minded folks, improving your mood, feeling accomplished or promoting conservation?

Every day we learn that spending time in nature benefits our mental and physical health. The benefits of a walk in the woods can regulate blood pressure, boost mental health, lower the risk of illness, and reduce stress. You may be surprised to learn

that volunteering also has a positive effect on your mind and body.

Volunteerism is a long tradition for the Club. Members consistently show up year after year and give their time to maintain the Catskills trails, pick up litter, steward, or support with any necessary lean to or bridge repairs. Participating in the 3500 volunteering events is a great chance to get your hands dirty, learn trail maintenance tips and tricks from long-time volunteers, share your skills, and become part of a service-oriented community of Catskills 3500 lovers.

The Club is responsible for 7.3 miles of section 18 of the Long Path (Peekamoose and Table Mountains) and the Bouton Memorial Lean-to. During our maintenance outing, volunteers gained new skills through their work and the volunteers expressed a completely new appreciation for the trails. If you enjoy volunteering because you enjoy time in nature, want to forge new friendships, or appreciate having a deeper connection to a place you hold in high regard consider joining us for our next trail maintenance event on October 21st, 2023. Sign up [here](#).

The Club also participates in an Adopt-A-Highway program. The Club is responsible for a section of route 214 near the Devils Tombstone Campground. This is a great opportunity for families to volunteer together and to plant the volunteer seed in the next generation. Our next litter pick up event on October 29th, 2023. Sign up [here](#).

Consider signing to become a 3500 Club [volunteer](#). There is so much we can do and you'll be able to see first-hand your impact on the Catskills Park and contribute to the ripple effect of sustainability and conservation.



Our sincerest appreciation to our amazing volunteers. Thank you for bringing your energy and uplifting spirit to the Clubs Adopt-A-Highway event in May 2023. Thank you! Sherri Graifman Goffman, David Zhu, Ellen Dwyer, Michael Dwyer, Harold Oakhill, Larry Leslie, Jeff Levitt, Lori Herpen, Linda Betancourt, Judith Estok, John Estok, Karen Bischoff, George Kugler, Roger Green and Lourdes Sonera.

Our gratitude goes to Larry Leslie, Steve Emanuel, Jim Gebhard and John Barringer for completing spring trail maintenance on the Peekamoose-Table Trail. You are such an inspiration! The weather did not stop this group of long-time volunteers to go out and to remove several blowdowns and clear water bars — they left the trail in great condition.

*By: Lourdes Sonera, Trail Maintenance Chair*



## Official Catskill 3500 Club Community Facebook Group Update



The [Official Catskill 3500 Club Community](#) has been growing steadily. We are proud of our group members for their willingness to share experiences as well as the supportive tone of the group! The Club continues to provide informative and

historical posts as well as educational opportunities brought about by our partner organizations.

With volunteering season in full swing, we would love to see all the ways in which you are giving back to the Catskills. We encourage you to post your photos from Club led hikes, trail maintenance, litter removal, and stewarding. We want to thank our trailhead stewards for their service and for providing reports about their experiences at Slide and Woodland Valley.

Sign ups for volunteering can be found in the Official Catskill 3500 Club Community Group or you can contact Colleen Hardcastle: [trailhead-steward@catskill-3500-club.org](mailto:trailhead-steward@catskill-3500-club.org).

A new feature in the group will be a monthly photo contest. Each month, we will start a thread encouraging you to post your best photo. The photo with the most likes will become the cover page for the following month.

Finally, as we continue to grow, we need your feedback. Please feel free to message us with any recommendations on how we can make the community a better experience for you.

See you on the trails!

*By: Julie McGuire, Social Media Chair*

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### **New Merchandise Store Update**



The merchandise committee is finalizing business operations that will allow us to sell all the merch we have lined up in our online store. We previewed some of this merchandise at the Annual Dinner, including our new pint glasses, water bottles, hats, beanies, and more. We got some great feedback from you during the dinner, and we look forward to creating even more merchandise while we wrap up the paperwork. We will continue to sell off old apparel at future events as we transition to an almost entirely virtual model. Keep an eye out for an announcement this fall about when merch will be ready to order online!

*By: Sara Chapman and Meg Lachmann, Merchandise Coordinators*

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### **Wilderness First Aid Course**



The Catskill Mountain Search and Rescue (CMSAR) team is hosting Wilderness First Aid (WFA) and Basic Life Support (BLS) CPR/AED training at the Pine Hill Fire Department on Saturday September 30th and Sunday October 1st. These classes are currently full. If you'd like to pre-register for the next offerings in the spring and fall of 2024, please contact Marv Freedman via [marvfreedman@gmail.com](mailto:marvfreedman@gmail.com). These classes will be open to 3500 Club Members and Aspirants in good standing, with priority given to Hike Leaders and CMSAR members/candidates.

*By: Marv Freedman, Outings Chair, CMSAR Lieutenant and CPR/WFA Course Organizer and Instructor*

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### **CMSAR Update**



In July, Catskill Mountain Search and Rescue responded to a call for help locating a missing man in Putnam County. Working with Sam's Point Search and Rescue, a seven man team was asked to cover 25 acres of dense forest covered in thorny bushes and poison ivy. The team completed its mission, and effectively ruled out the presence of the subject in the area. Days later, the subject was located in a different forested area by a state trooper and his K9. The subject was in a confused state and was brought in for medical assistance. For its contribution to the successful search, CMSAR received a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition from US Congressman Michael Lawler, and a Certificate of Merit from NYS Assemblyman Matthew Slater.





CMSAR would like to thank everyone who purchased tickets for the quilt raffle at the 3500 Club dinner in July. We raised \$1,360 for the team. Sherri Goffman is the proud winner of the quilt. Once again, thank you to Emily Oakhill for donating the quilt.

By: Jake Haisley, CMSAR Chair

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### New York-New Jersey Trail Conference Update



The Trail Conference adopted the maintenance of the Huckleberry Loop. The Trail Supervisor and Trail Chair for the area led a work trip earlier this year to clear the overgrown trail. That was followed up by trail work by the Catskill's Trail Crew led by Matt Smith (#889 W309).

The Catskills Trail Crew worked on a drainage project on the Long Path near Vernooey Falls on August 31 and September 1st. The Trail Crew, led by Matt Smith, is always in need of volunteers as well. For more information contact [Charlie Gadol](mailto:Charlie.Gadol).

The Catskill's Lean-to Crew will be completing work started at the Trout Pond Lean-tos on Labor Day weekend. The project was started in July with a 10-day trip at the lean-tos to rebuild the roofs, privies, replace floorboards, and make general site improvements. The Lean-to Crew also hopes to complete projects at the Quick Lake Lean-to and the Kelly Hollow Lean-to this fall. Folks who are interested in signing up or learning more about the Lean-to Crew can contact [volunteer@nynjtc.org](mailto:volunteer@nynjtc.org).

The New York/New Jersey Trail Conference is always looking for volunteers to become trail maintainers. At this time the Western Catskills are in need of trail maintainers. The Trail Conference is also looking for a Trail Supervisor for the Dry Brook Ridge North area. For information about these positions contact [volunteer@nynjtc.org](mailto:volunteer@nynjtc.org).

By: Dick Vincent, New-York-New Jersey Trail Conference Representative

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### Website Update



Our new [website](#) is launched and we are working hard to make it convenient for all of our members. Upgrades and new features are taking place on the new site to help make it easy for members to register for hikes and to pay dues, etc. Our new online store should be opening this fall.

By: Lynn Houston, Digital Content Chair and Webmaster

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## Save the Date for Winter Weekend 2024



Save the date for our annual Winter Weekend, scheduled for January 19-21, 2024. Thanks to Sharon Klein (#3364), Winter Weekend Chair and Colleen Furmanski, Assistant to the Winter Weekend Chair, for some fun ideas and surprises. More information is soon to come.



## Gratitude Report



The Catskill 3500 Club is an all-volunteer organization. We thank our numerous, tireless, volunteers, who make our Club possible. Board and committee members, hike leaders, SAR team members, trailhead stewards, trail maintainers, and highway pickup team members, and *The Canister* and monthly e-blast contributors, we appreciate your dedication and hard work. You turn our plans into actions, and without you, our Club would not function.

The Club would like to thank those who donated goods or services thus far in 2023, in addition to those acknowledged in the Annual Dinner update above:

- Pine Hill Fire Company, for providing meeting space,
- Tina Bongar, for her fabulous work planning the annual meeting,

As a reminder, as of the date the Club became a 501c3 (July 26, 2022), donations are tax-deductible.

*By: Colleen Hardcastle, Fundraising Committee Co-Chair*



## Update from the Trailhead Stewarding Committee



Thanks to our fabulous volunteers, our Club's Trailhead Steward program has served over 7,400 hikers as we approach the end of our third year, including over 1,400 at Slide and over 1,100 at Woodland Valley in 2023. Sixty-two of you have either stewarded, or signed up to volunteer on a future date, this season. Stewards report having a wonderful time greeting visitors, sharing knowledge with hikers, and being inspired and learning from others. In addition to the joys of serving, every day volunteering counts towards the Club's Service Award, and those who serve as stewards at least two days in a year earn either a Steward patch, or, if the person earned the patch in a prior year, another year rocker for the patch. A Woodland Valley campsite is available for volunteers one weekend a month. All training is online, and may be done at your convenience.

We are especially proud of the following Stewards, who have earned their patches, or rockers, already this year. Congratulations to you all!





**Patch:**

- Brittany Maschal (#4220)
- Chris Daughtrey, aspirant
- Denise Weiss (#4232)
- Eric Rosario (#4229)
- Stacey DeStafeno, aspirant
- Ryan Raaum (#3819 W1537)
- Brenda Robie (#4208)
- Jessica Robie (#4209)
- Roger Green (#2627 W1383)
- Victoria Inzerillo (#3882 W1564)
- Anna Inzerillo, aspirant
- Sarah Inzerillo, aspirant
- Robert Walljasper, aspirant
- Daisy Hsieh, aspirant
- Monica Harrington, aspirant
- Steve Johnson (#3798)

**Two Year Rocker:**

- Vicki Ferreira (#4014)
- Karen Bischoff (#4281, earned as aspirant!)
- Linda Betancourt (#4282, earned as aspirant!)
- Sherri Goffman (#3950 W1535)
- Tracy Rakin (#3961)
- Jim Bouton (#1539 W614)
- Colin DeVries (#3382 W1589)

**Three Year Rocker:**

- Bryan Burnham (#3455 W1373)
- Michele Kaminsky (#2804 W1305)
- Richard Cole (#3752)

If you would like to hear from a first-year steward, please read the [article below](#), written by Eric Rosario.

We encourage you all to join us as volunteer Trailhead Stewards, by signing up for a site and date via the new Club [website](#). We will continue this year through Columbus Day weekend / Indigenous Persons Day.

*By: Colleen Hardcastle, Trailhead Steward Program Co-Chair*

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 **Race Alert** 

The ninth annual Cat's Tail Trail Marathon will be held this September 30<sup>th</sup> at 7 a.m.

The 26 mile, 7,000 feet of elevation gain event begins at the Fox Hollow Trailhead for Panther Mountain. After going up the north side of Panther , trail runners descend Panther and cross over Giant Ledge en route to Winnisook Lake. From there they go over Slide Mountain, Cornell Mountain, and Wittenberg Mountain. Once over Wittenberg, runners descend via Phoenicia East Branch Trail and Romer Mountain, to the Lanes Street trailhead, finishing at the Parish Hall on Main Street in Phoenicia.

As per the DEC permit, runners start in waves of 15 runners every five minutes. You can expect the first runners to finish in Phoenicia sometime after 11 a.m.

The course records are held by Steve Lange (4:13:08 set in 2021) and Kehr Davis (5:14:42 set in 2016).

For more information contact [Charlie Gadol](#).

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**Congratulations to the Latest 3500 Club Service Award Recipients**



The Club, besides recognizing hiking accomplishments, also acknowledges members who give back to the Club and the Catskill Forest Preserve. The purpose of this 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](#).



We would like to acknowledge the following most recent 3500 Club Service Award qualifiers: David Lemmo (#3264 W1600) and Colin Devries (#3382 W1589).

Thank you everyone for your dedication, stewardship and commitment to the Club! If anyone is interested in joining the volunteer list to stay up to date with the future trailhead stewardship, trail maintenance and road clean-up opportunities, please contact [Colleen Hardcastle](#).

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**Current Directors, Board Members and Contacts**



With the recent change of slate of the elected officers and directors, new committee assignments, departures and introductions, we think that it is also a good opportunity to list all the Club Board members for those who may not know who they are.

<b>ELECTED OFFICERS</b>
PRESIDENT <a href="#">Michael Bongar</a>
VICE PRESIDENT <a href="#">Lori Herpen</a>
SECRETARY <a href="#">Colin DeVries</a>
TREASURER <a href="#">Jay Hui</a>

## DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR <a href="#">David White</a>	NYNJTC REPRESENTATIVE <a href="#">Dick Vincent</a>
ASPIRANTS CHAIR AND ASSISTANT TO THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIR <a href="#">Chris Adams</a>	TRAILHEAD STEWARD PROGRAM CO-CHAIR <a href="#">Colleen Hardcastle</a>
THE CANISTER EDITOR <a href="#">Yana Levchinsky-Grimmond</a>	DIRECTOR Bill Winterbottom
OUTINGS CHAIR <a href="#">Marv Freedman</a>	CANISTERS CHAIR and STEWARDSHIP AND CONSERVATION CO-CHAIR <a href="#">Jim Bouton</a>
TRAIL MAINTENANCE CHAIR <a href="#">Lourdes Sonera</a>	SAR COMMITTEE CHAIR <a href="#">Jake Haisley</a>
STEWARDSHIP AND CONSERVATION CO-CHAIR <a href="#">Maria Bedo-Calhoun</a>	DIGITAL CONTENT CHAIR AND WEBMASTER <a href="#">Lynn Houston</a>

## NON-VOTING BOARD POSITIONS

ANNUAL DINNER CO-CHAIR and DIRECTOR EMIRITUS <a href="#">Mike Doehring</a>	ARCHIVIST <a href="#">Jeff Glans</a>
SOCIAL MEDIA COMMITTEE CHAIR <a href="#">Julie McGuire</a>	MERCHANDISE COORDINATORS <a href="#">Sara Chapman</a> and <a href="#">Meg Lachmann</a>
ASSISTANT TO THE TREASURER Chris Hummel	ASSISTANTS TO THE TRAIL MAINTENANCE CHAIR Maria Orchard and Christina DePinto
WINTER WEEKEND CHAIR Sharon Klein	ASSISTANT WEBMASTERS <a href="#">Bill Roehrig</a> and <a href="#">Sara Chapman</a>
ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS EDITOR Jack Walker	ASSISTANT SAR Chair <a href="#">Lyn Walker</a>

Please say hello on the trails!



The Club Board at the Annual Dinner. Missing: Dave White, Maria Bedo-Calhoun, Marv Freedman, Lourdes Sonera and Yana Levchinsky-Grimmond.



## New Mission and Values Statement



As part of our transition to a 501c3 nonprofit organization, the Club's fundraising committee was tasked with developing a new mission and values statement which was approved by the Board at its last meeting. We'd like to thank the following fundraising committee members who worked on this project: Michael Bongar, Colleen Hardcastle, Maria Bedo-Calhoun, Lori Herpen and a very special thanks to committee member, Laura Fredricks (#4154) for her expertise in this area.

### 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 Park, as well as those who have additionally hiked these mountains in winter.

*By: Lori Herpen, Vice President*

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Boroughs Range from Giant Ledge. Photo by Steve Aaron #3199

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## **Why Should I Become a Steward?**

Text by: Eric Rosario #4229

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The first time I volunteered was with my local hiking group Hudson Valley Hikers (HVH), doing garbage pickup on Breakneck Ridge. I remember volunteering with great hesitation, not because I didn't want to help, but because I wondered, "Will it even matter? Will our efforts even make a difference?"

While I cleared trash on the trails, to my surprise, at least a dozen hikers stopped to go off trail to thank me personally for my efforts, and the efforts of those helping as well. We were clearing trash, raising awareness, and encouraging others to be bold to do their part in volunteering, too. I will say with a resounding YES, volunteering made a difference and did in fact matter!

I share this story because it was the same sentiments that entered my thoughts as I considered being a part of the Catskill 3500 Club's Trailhead Stewarding program, "Would being a steward matter?"

My first-time volunteering as a steward was Memorial Day weekend. The amount of gratitude we encountered at the trailhead that weekend eased my thoughts and confirmed yet again that volunteering does in fact matter! What better source of information is there when out-of-town hikers can stop to inquire about trail conditions, routes, Leave No Trace principles, campsites and water sources than getting that information from local hikers who know the Catskills so well like we do? We hike the Catskill Mountains regularly and have tons of knowledge that out-of-towners not only find useful but are grateful for. We have local information in our heads that maps don't generally have.



Stewarding has been so rewarding both in sharing what I know about the Catskill Mountains as well as learning from more experienced hikers who openly share their vast knowledge. Other local hikers will say hello and continue their journey up Wittenberg or Slide because they already know the route well. Out of towners will almost always stop at the stewarding tent to inquire about routes and trail info. While stewarding one weekend several hikers went up Wittenberg on Saturday and on my second day volunteering Sunday, I was greeted by those same hikers who camped overnight. Not only were they genuinely delighted to see me Sunday morning but thanked me for suggesting the best spot to camp at which they thoroughly enjoyed. Their gratitude made my day!

A part of me thought stewarding would be a thankless job but it's the complete opposite. Hikers are truly grateful for our presence and information. In partnership with the Catskills Trail crew, NY-NJ Trail Conference and the DEC Rangers, our presence not only raises awareness about responsible hiking but together we all make hiking an overall better experience for everyone.

I encourage everyone to try volunteering at least once because you won't regret it. Sign up today, <https://www.catskill3500club.org/adopt-a-trailhead>.

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Photo of Eric and a fellow co-steward Milagros Inciarte at Slide Trailhead is by Milagros Inciarte.

During the week Eric works in advertising and on weekends he is always finding a peak to climb. The lower Hudson valley mountains are his playground while the Catskills are his second home. One of Eric's greater accomplishments is hiking the entire stretch of Devils Path in a single day three years in a row, but don't tell anyone because he feels that he is seriously out of shape these days. When he is not hiking, he loves reading a good book. Eric can be reached by [email](#).

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Mill Brook Ridge bog. Photo by Jim Bouton #1539 W614

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## FIRST GROWTH FOREST ALONG THE DRY BROOK and MILL BROOK RIDGE TRAILS

Text and map by: Mike Kudish #147

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In the [spring 2023](#) issue of *The Catskill Canister*, we hiked the Devil's Path and examined where it entered and exited first growth forest. In the summer 2023 issue, we hiked the Pine Hill-West Branch trail and did the same. In this issue, let's hike two more long trails, both passing through miles of first growth forest – forest never logged, barked, burned, farmed, or quarried by people. I combined these two trails because they are near each other and can be shown together on a single map.

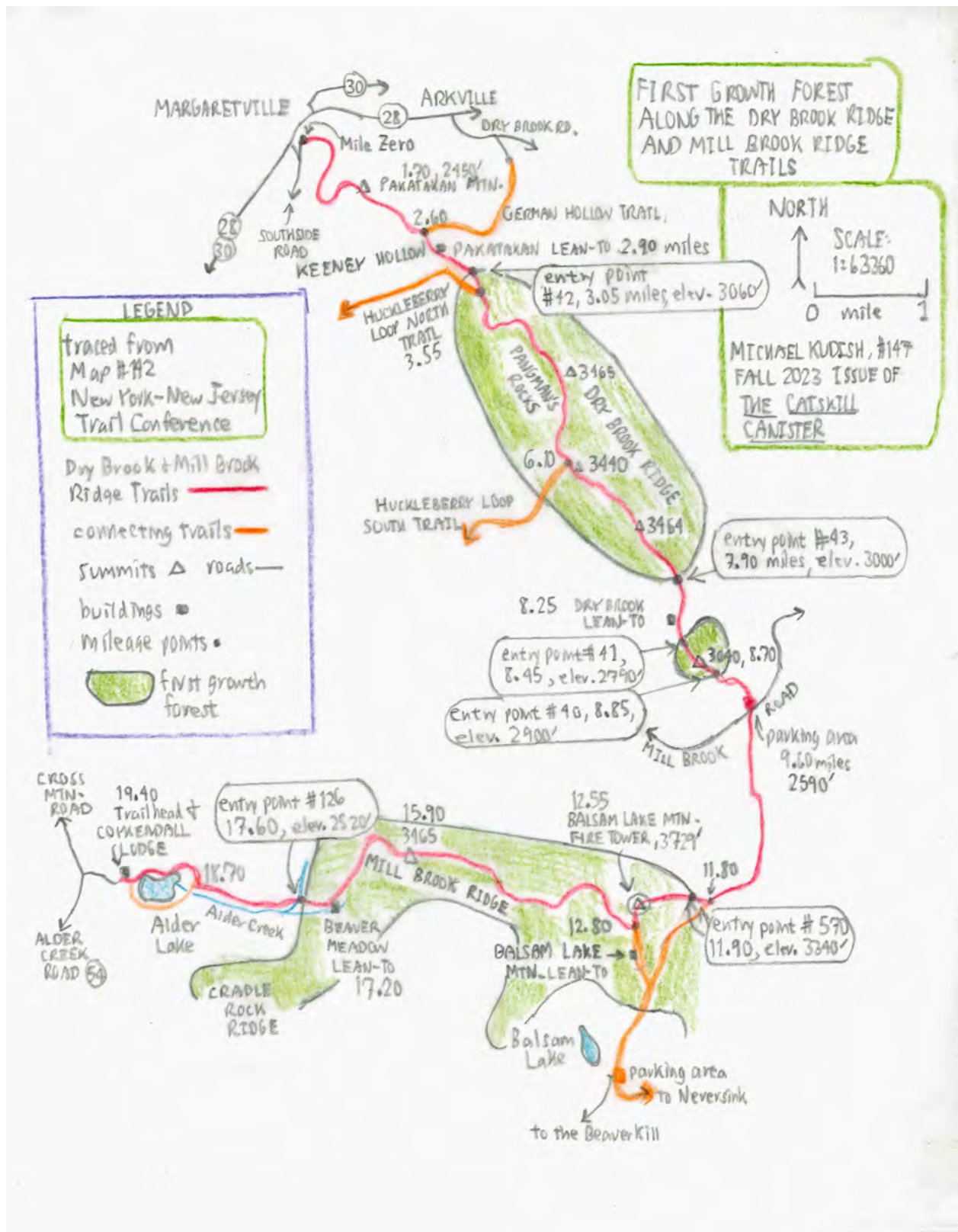


### DRY BROOK RIDGE

Let's begin at mile zero on the Southside Road Extension trailhead outside the Village of Margaretville. The trail winds up the northwest spur of Dry Brook Ridge, also known as Pakatakan Mountain, via a series of old logging roads all the way up to and slightly past the new (April 2017) Pakatakan Lean-to at 2.90 miles. I cannot determine specifically which companies logged the first mile or two during the nineteenth century; it might have been several. The northeast side of the ridge was later logged by the Lucerne-Treyz acid wood company, based in nearby Arkville, between 1901 and 1905; they came up the ridge from the northeast via Reservoir and German Hollows. The southwest side of the ridge was logged by the Corbett & Stuart acid wood company, based in Corbett, in 1912, approaching from Keeney Hollow. A small tract on the northeast shoulder of Pakatakan Mountain was logged in 2000, with the trail passing right by it on adjacent state land.

The area around the new Pakatakan Lean-to (2.90 miles) was logged more recently, on the lands of Zora Jane Persek in the 1960s. When I first climbed Dry Brook Ridge in 1969, the logging had just ended and the skid roads were clear for mapping. Persek had come up the ridge from Keeney Hollow.





At 3.05 miles is my entry point #42 at an elevation of 3,060 feet. Here the first growth begins and continues to 7.90 miles, elevation 3,000 feet where the forest becomes second growth.

The area in the col on both sides of the Dry Brook Lean-to (8.25 miles) had been logged probably prior to 1924 (by folks unknown to me), from entry point #43 (elevation 3,000) just before the Dry Brook Lean-to to entry point #41 just beyond the lean-to at 8.45 miles (elevation 2,790).

We soon climb over the summit of a 3,040-foot knob at 8.70 miles. The upper elevations of this knob remain in first growth,

but not for long. As we descend the knob, the trail leaves first growth at 8.85 miles at entry point #40 (2,900 feet). Between this point and the trail parking area (9.60 miles, elevation 2,590) on Mill Brook Road, the trail runs very close by the edge of a Norway spruce plantation, most likely put in by New York State in the 1920s [see *The Catskill Canister*, [July-September 2022](#), pages 9-12 for an article on plantations].

#### BALSAM LAKE MOUNTAIN DIVISION OF THE DRY BROOK RIDGE TRAIL

From Mill Brook Road, the Dry Brook Trail continues south toward Balsam Lake Mountain, following an old road built to serve the fire tower either shortly before or in 1909. Furlow Properties owns the land all the way up to the 3,500-foot level at 12.15 miles. They used this old road to log in the 1960s. When I first climbed Balsam Lake Mountain in 1969, the evidence of cutting was clear and I was able to map branch log roads and four log landings along the way; the landings have since grown in. In 2012, following Hurricane Sandy, there was a small salvage logging operation in the area between Mill Brook Road and the trail register.

The 1960s Furlow logging ended at entry point #570, elevation 3,340, where we re-enter first growth forest on the east spur of Balsam Lake Mountain at 11.90 miles. From here, except for the small clearing atop the mountain around the fire tower at 12.55 miles, the trail is in first growth forest.

#### MILL BROOK RIDGE TRAIL

At 12.80 miles we turn onto the Mill Brook Ridge Trail. It is in first growth from this junction all the way to a point at 17.60 miles, beyond the Beaver Meadow Lean-to (17.20 miles).

From 17.60 miles, the most recent logging was in 1979 on lands owned by the Nassau County Boy Scouts, who sold their tract to the state in 1980. The logging roads from the 1979 operation were very clear in the 1980s – on both the adjacent south slopes of Mill Brook Ridge and the north slopes of Cradle Rock Ridge – so that I was able to map the network. The Mill Brook Ridge Trail ends at 18.70 miles near the east end of Alder Lake, and the Alder Lake Loop Trail carries the hiker traffic all the way to the west end of Alder Lake at the trailhead at 19.40 miles. There were even some farms around Alder Lake.

Those of you who have observed the old foundation near the trailhead know that it was the summer home of the Coykendalls, owners of the Ulster & Delaware Railroad, before the Nassau County Boy Scouts acquired the tract.

#### SUMMARY OF TRAIL MILEAGES AND FIRST GROWTH FOREST ALONG THEM:

Dry Brook Ridge Trail: 5.25 miles out of 9.60 miles or 54.7%.

Mill Brook Ridge Trail: 5.65 miles (with a small gap at the summit of Balsam Lake Mountain along the Balsam Lake Mountain Trail) out of 7.60 miles or 74.3%.

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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. Mike can be reached by [email](#).

Mike's photo is by Dave Turan.

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Pangman's Rocks lookout along the Dry Brook Ridge Trail. Photo by Shawn Bubany #2521.

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**Book Review: "*Beer Hiking New York State, A Guide to the Best Hikes and Microbreweries in New York State*"**

Text by: Kevin Borden #4225

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Peanut butter and jelly, salt and pepper, steak and eggs, bacon and just about anything. Life is often encapsulated by two items that are destined to be intertwined. I'm thrilled to put pen and paper together and share a review of a book dedicated to the wonderful pairing of hiking and breweries that the Empire State has to offer.

After reading an advance copy of *Beer Hiking New York State, A Guide to the Best Hikes and Microbreweries in New York State*, by Jason Friedman and Phil Vondra (Helvetique, 2023), I'm thoroughly convinced that this guidebook would be a great addition to the libraries of fellow Catskill 3500 Club members. In fact, this guidebook really is for anyone who loves to match enjoyment of the outdoors with a delicious can of suds.



The authors are accomplished area ultra-runners and hikers. Both are Catskill 3500 Club members. Jay (#4171) has completed over 50 ultramarathons and Phil (#3088 W1284) holds the record time for summiting all of the 33 Catskill peaks in Winter in three and one-half days.

The book strikes an incredibly good balance between providing all of the necessary and intricate details of particular hikes and breweries with informative and historical narrative. It covers 33 selected hikes across the state that are partnered up with a local brewery. The hikes range from easy, urban strolls in Manhattan to strenuous excursions in the Adirondacks. Each hike is intricately laid out with colorful maps, turn by turn directions, and other pertinent information, such as any associated fees, pet accessibility, mileage, and approximate duration.

On the beer front, the book gives an excellent backdrop of New York's overall impact on the craft brewing industry. Each brewery review selects one specific beer and covers its alcohol content, taste (bitter/sweetness factor), color, and aroma. When appropriate, Jay and Phil also provide additional details around food options that may be available.



As someone partial to sticking close to home in the Gunks and Catskills and whose default beer selection is narrowly focused on IPAs, I found the guidebook to be an inspirational source to stretch my own, self-imposed limitations. I'm already anticipating hopping in the car and heading over to Schunemunk Mountain to check out the "puddingstone," a greyish-red sandstone mixed with conglomerate pebbles. Post hike, I'm very much looking forward to slurping down a Bear Head Porter at Rushing Duck Brewery.

I'm equally intrigued to go check out Moreau Lake State Park. I had no idea that this 7,000 acre park even existed. Moreau Lake State Park offers itself up as an important migratory bird conservation and wintering bald eagle area. This particular hike is married with a recommended visit to Dancing Grain Farm Brewery. Dancing Grain is committed to sustainable brewing in a "farm to table" atmosphere, and my palate eagerly awaits meeting their Harvest Sun Saison.

Last, but not least, this guidebook is also a great primer for others in your life that may be intimidated to lace up their hiking boots and head out on the trails. Jay and Phil take the necessary care to lay out gear essentials and other key skills and knowledge points, like being mindful of hunting regulations, to make any expedition safe and enjoyable.

Cheers to Jay, Phil, and those they acknowledge that made this guidebook a reality!

The book, which was released on September 5th, is available on Amazon.com, BarnesandNobles.com, and Bookshop.com. That's just in time to utilize this handy guidebook during NY's beautiful Fall season. It also provides plenty of lead-time to add it to a holiday season gift basket for your friends, family, and neighbors.

Kevin Borden is an avid hiker and trail runner who lives with his wife, Teresa, and their two sons, Finnbar and Cormac, in New Paltz. When he isn't out on the trails with his friends or with his trusty dog, Rosie, Kevin spends his time working on affordable housing issues. Kevin can be reached by [email](#).

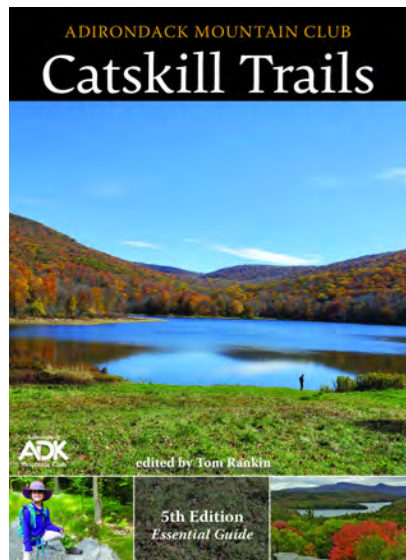


Sugarloaf from Devil's Path. Photo by Yana Levchinsky-Grimmond #2814 W1222

## Book review: *Catskill Trails*, Fifth Edition, 2023, edited by Tom Rankin

Text by: Joseph Bogardus #1399 W588

The revised and updated guide to *Catskill Trails*, published since 1988 by the Adirondack Mountain Club, continues the tradition of quality and essential information for Catskill hikers. The smaller 5" X 7" format and lighter weight (8.5 oz, 247 g) make it easy to fit into any backpack. *Catskill Trails* is coordinated with the National Geographic Trails Illustrated Map 755 and also includes map coordinates for the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference *Catskill Trails* map set.



With a new trail guide, most readers want to go directly to the trail section chapters. Readers are encouraged to read the 20-page introduction which contains valuable information about the Catskills, regulations, and hiking (and probably many things you cannot find on web sites). The chapters are logically organized by trail section making it easy to find what you want, or you can use the excellent index. The trail descriptions continue the tradition of being clear and concise, and also serve to encourage knowledge and use of map and compass for navigation. More general route descriptions are provided for off-trail navigation and hiking to the trailless peaks above 3,500 feet elevation.

Resources available on the internet have changed our lives and the availability of hiking information is no exception. Following a downloaded GPS track on a phone app is amazing technology and capability for hikers (especially when not on marked trails), but it doesn't replace the information available in *Catskill Trails*. Regardless of the source or type of information or technology hikers use, they should plan their hikes thoroughly for a safe and enjoyable experience.

Joe began his mountain hiking career in the Adirondacks, moved to the Catskills (#1399 #588W), then returned to the Adirondacks and wider Northeast. He served as President of the 3500 Club in 2007-2008 and has been a frequent hike leader and volunteer. He is proud to say his winter hiking "career" began in the Catskills and led to many rounds in the Adirondacks and becoming one of only a few people to complete the Northeast 111 in all four seasons. He thinks he has a few good years left and you will probably see him wandering on the trails somewhere. Joe can be reached by [email](#).



Boroughs range from North Dome cliffs. Photo by Matty Lonergan

## Take a Right Off of the Devil's Path - Part I - Fake Winter

Text and photo by: Brian Hoody #3805

That's what somebody told me – go up the Devil's Path until it makes a hard left to ascend Saint Anne's/West Kill and make a right into the woods - then just head straight for the summit, but look out for those cliffs! So on a late November day I began the trudge up towards the fabled turn off. It was a cold overcast day with a promise for sun later on, but right then it was various shades of gray. There was a light skim of ice on wet areas, but for the most part the trail was in decent shape and I made good time, reaching the sharp left where a sign proclaimed the mileage to various points of interest. For me, this is where I made my right hand turn and headed into the woods.



Right off I felt like Frodo attempting to navigate the Dead Marshes as the landscape became wet and boggy. Hopping from one dry patch to the next, glancing left I saw a pond of sorts and straight ahead I spied the summit ridge through the leafless trees. The wet stretch was blessedly short and I began to climb North Dome in earnest. And true to form from what I had heard and read it was a series of cliffy areas punctuated by flattish sections. As I ascended a thin layer of snow covered over the landscape and the word of the day was damp.

Some of the cliffs were like giant sections of a rocky puzzle; figuring out safe passage from one level to the next... I got pushed farther north than I wanted to in order to get around some of the larger cliffs, but I figured I could make up for my wandering once I reached the ridge. But I digress – I'm going to skip ahead in this riveting tale. Since you're reading *The Catskill Canister*, most of you already know what it's like to climb North Dome and Sherrill! Safe to say it was a beautiful hike to the canister on North Dome – weaving through a tunnel of dark spruce laden with snow. More open woods greeted me on the backside of North Dome and on the ascent of Sherrill, where when I found the canister I did an awkward jig of sorts out of sheer joy. It was on the way back down North Dome my fair readers that my good fortune vanished faster than daylight on a late November day.

My first mistake was to drift further and further north in an attempt to try and avoid some of the larger cliffs that I had encountered on the way up. But the bigger problem was the strange slurry of wet leaves, ice and snow. While it was no issue on the way up, now that gravity was reversed, it became the world's worst ski slope (and I'm am a terrible skier). Somewhere along the way I lost my bearings, my left microspike and what was left of my composure.

Stopping to take stock before I did something stupid, between my compass and GPS I figured out I was on the leeward side of the ridge and headed in the direction of private property. I wrote off my microspike as an offering to the crew of Henry Hudson's Half Moon and began angling my way back towards the part of the ridge that I needed to be on while slowly making my way down.

To say that I slipped and skittered around was an understatement, but with my remaining microspiked foot I was able to press on towards the Devil's Path. The light was indeed slipping away as I finally found my way back onto the marked path – in fact, I'm not sure if I had ever been happier to get back to something shaped by the hand of man... A quick haul back to the trailhead and I was signing out as the last of the light began to fail. Just take a right off of the Devil's Path. Well, not exactly...

Postscript: A cool dude named Mike actually found my wayward microspike and returned it a few weeks later as he ascertained from the canister on North Dome that I might be the owner. Furthermore it turned out that we knew each other from my days working as an Adirondack 46er Correspondent – small world!

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). Brian can be reached by [email](#).



View from Poet's Ledge. Photo by Barbara Fritzing #2183 W902

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## Poet's Ledge

Text and photo by: Henry Dircks

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Words fail  
Any attempt  
To depict  
The panorama  
Before me.

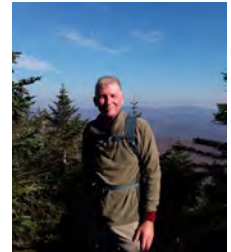
A serpentine valley,  
Hollowed by cascades,  
Coursing westward  
From the clove?

A lush amphitheater,  
Whose audience,  
Arms akimbo,  
Sways in appreciation?

A verdant clock dial,  
Numeral'd by peaks,  
Announcing  
Seasonal advance?

No.

Atop this promontory,  
I submit  
To the view;  
One cannot  
Depict  
Majesty.



Henry Dircks is a retired social studies teacher from Long Island. A lifelong hiker, he began climbing in the Catskills in 2019. He looks forward to hiking more of the Catskill high peaks, and has the goal of climbing Mount Marcy someday. He can be reached via [email](#).

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Winter is coming. Photo by Phil Vondra #3088 W1284

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### **Hiking Essentials: Anticipating Mountain Weather Conditions**

Text and photo by: Ira Orenstein #415 W776

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One winter day my wife Karen and I pulled into New Hampshire's Franconia Notch Lafayette Parking Area at the trailhead to Lonesome Lake Hut. As we were putting on our boots, gaiters and snowshoes, the cold northerly wind was howling with such intensity through the notch that we were concerned the car doors would be ripped from their hinges. We even considered canceling the hike until I recalled learning how the high winds should start to ease as we ascended out of the notch; We were at the narrow bottom of a V-shape that accelerates winds similar to water running through a narrow constriction in a stream. I recently learned about this phenomenon at a weekend mountain weather course. The fellow who hosted the program owns a mountain guide service and regularly takes ice climbers to Stony Clove in the Catskills where the steep walls of juxtaposed Plateau Mountain and Hunter Mountain receive very little sun, thereby allowing ice to accrue (an ice climber's paradise). He related that on a breezy day the wind often funnels through the parking area at Stony Clove but he assures his clients that as soon as they ascend to their ice climbing destination the winds will abate as the notch widens.



I remember returning from the mountain weather course, eager to share my newly acquired knowledge with a co-worker who happens to be an outdoor enthusiast. She responded with "Oh, I just check the Accuweather forecast and off I go," which prompted me to wonder how much value such a course offers knowing that meteorologists are subject matter experts devoting entire careers to this field. They utilize sophisticated and ever improving technologies that generally provide reasonably accurate five-day forecasting (particularly on the east coast where information is derived as weather patterns typically cross the mainland from the west). Maybe I will be camping in a remote area with no signal to allow for weather updates. Possibly, but then again how often does that happen? Let's face it, the National Weather Service, Accuweather and the like are great resources. And there are others. When planning a hike in the Presidential Range by New Hampshire's Mount Washington (the Northeast's highest peak and home to some of the world's worst weather) one can navigate the internet to the Mount Washington Observatory Higher Summits Forecast. This resource provides forecasting of current and predicted summit conditions over the next two days and is crucial information for anyone venturing on its slopes where weather is volatile and extreme. The hiker can even access the U.S. Forest Service Mount Washington Avalanche Center for predictions on snow slope stability. Mountain Weather Forecasts is another personal favorite.

Since taking the mountain weather course, its value has become increasingly apparent. We have all heard the phrase "the mountains create their own weather." The National Weather Service will provide indispensable information to help us plan outdoor activities by painting a broad picture as to what to expect. For example, if the forecast is for sub-freezing temperatures, we know it will be cold and will therefore know how many layers to bring. Heavy prolonged rains with



temperatures just above freezing? Maybe we sit this one out due to the risk of hypothermia. Knowledge of local mountain weather provides a deeper understanding of anticipated conditions that, while we should be ready for anything, may help make the day go smoother. Following are tips I've garnered from the course and over the years that can be applied to hiking in the Catskill Region:

- **It's cold up there:** Temperature generally drops 3-5 °F for each 1,000 feet of elevation gain (approaching 5 °F/1,000 feet when skies are clear and 3 °F/1,000 feet when clouds blanket the mountains).
- **Yes, you should bring your rain gear even on cold winter days:** Even though “**It's cold up there**” conditions sometimes create a **thermal inversion** where temperatures in the air above are higher than where you are standing. Snow from way up high can pass through that warm layer of air that may be on the order of 2,000 ft. thick and convert to rain or sleet before it reaches the cold layer of air where you are standing, creating the ideal set-up for hypothermia. In other words, **sub-freezing temperatures do not guarantee snow**. Also, temperature is measured in the shade and there can be areas where strong sunlight can cause snow accumulated in the trees to melt and soak into your clothing. **Rain gear is a year-round essential.**
- **It's windy up there:** Winds generally increase with elevation gain, especially on exposed summits.
- **“Dew” be careful and on time:** Warm air can hold more moisture than cold air. The Dew Point is the temperature at which the air can no longer hold water in its vapor (gaseous) state, so it turns from vapor to rain (or snow/ice if it is below freezing). We all, however, have experienced the formation of dew or frost on surfaces without there being rain or snow. This usually occurs on clear, calm nights. On a clear night the heat absorbed by the surface of the earth gets radiated back into space. Weather reporting services usually measure temperature at 5 feet above the surface, but the air immediately above that surface may be cooler because the warmer air rises (warm air is less dense than cool air) and the cool air tends to sink. This cool layer tends to remain undisturbed if the air is calm, which minimizes mixing with the warmer air above. If the air temperature within a few inches of the surface is below the Dew Point, dew will form which may make your footing more slippery when hiking. **If the surface temperature is at or below 32 °F it will take the form of frost on the ground. For this reason, a low temperature forecast of say 38 °F with a Dew Point of say, 35 °F does not guarantee there won't be ice formation on the ground since the air temperature immediately above the ground may be at or below freezing.** So, on a humid day with the previous night's low no wind and clear skies, it behooves the well-prepared hiker to bring traction “just in case.” As well, dew is more likely to form on your car if it is parked in the open under clear skies rather than, say, under a tree that would interfere with radiative heat loss. So, if you want to get to the trailhead on time, anticipate the possible need to use an ice scraper and defroster, and position your car in an area least likely to accumulate frost.
- **It's snowy up there:** Snow accumulations tend to be greater in the mountains. Recall that temperatures tend to decrease with altitude so what may be coming down as precipitation in the form of rain at the trailhead may turn out to be snow at the summit. In addition, the Snow Line tends to be approximately 1000 feet below the Freeze Line since it is falling from the colder sky above. Also, wind drives air up mountain slopes with resultant cooling and possible precipitation. You can therefore experience snow in temperatures above freezing which may or may not stick. When in doubt, carry those snowshoes along.
- **Get over it – the undercast that is:** You are driving to the trailhead in a soupy fog. The start of the hike is no different and you begin to wonder if the sunscreen you applied and the sunglasses you brought will be of any use. As you ascend you eventually find yourself in the clear. Upon reaching Giant Ledge you look in the direction of Woodland Valley that is completely blanketed by the cloud layer below you and you are mesmerized by the beautiful scene. With autumn and early winter comes longer and colder nights. Clear and calm skies allow for radiative heat loss during the night that can cause the warm surface air to rise and form what is termed a thermal inversion where temperature increases with elevation gain, forming a blanket of clouds, a.k.a. undercast. Valleys are a particularly suitable location for undercast to form. Cold air drops to the bottom of valleys (recall that cold air is denser than warm air) and valleys tend to be protected from the wind. Undercast is just one of the beautiful features to look forward to as the days begin to shorten.
- **Not to get political, but I am all for anti-bot:** As the autumn and winter approach, traction devices like microspikes become a part of our hiking quiver. A good understanding of local weather conditions may help us decide whether it pays to also bring even more substantial traction like crampons that have longer points and anti-balling plates. **This author feels that it is a strong misconception that full crampons are only needed for steep terrain.** We have, in fact, needed to don crampons on flat terrain where our microspikes became completely useless. Balling is a potentially serious problem that occurs when snow collects and gets compacted under your spikes, raising you further off the ground and preventing the points from penetrating into the snow or ice. Recall times when you were able to make the perfect snowball. Usually, the snow was fresh and relatively warm and moist. As you compressed the snow into shape you were making it denser which liquified the surface (sintering). Upon releasing your hand pressure, the

snowball became less dense again, causing the surface to freeze. It is harder to get very cold snow to compact into a snowball because it would require tremendous pressure to get it to reach a liquid state. Warm freshly fallen snow, even as little as a quarter-inch, can compact underfoot and when overlying and often obscuring ice can create treacherously slippery conditions due to the underlying ice. Balling can also occur when cold snow (maybe from a previous cold night) is exposed to warmer daytime temperatures and strong sunshine that liquifies the surface. As the crampon points contact the thin film of surface liquid and are wetted, they penetrate the underlying cold snow that freezes onto the moistened metal points on contact (think of wetting your fingers and then grabbing ice from your freezer – the ice sticks to your skin). Older snow tends to not compact underfoot and “merges” or consolidates with any underlying ice, creating less of a problem. Crampons usually come with anti-bot (anti-balling) plates that prevent snow from compacting and getting stuck underfoot. So, if there was recent fresh snowfall in mild conditions or if the forecast is for fresh snow and mild temperatures, it may behoove the hiker to bring a pair of crampons that have anti-bot plates.

- **Eeny, meeny, miny, moe...on which trail should I give it a go?** Choosing a hike can often be based on anticipated local conditions. On a cold, windy day (and a knowledge of forecasted wind direction) a decision can be made to mitigate exposure by choosing a trail on the leeward side of the mountain. Likewise, the north side of a mountain gets less sunlight and therefore may be colder and more likely to have residual snow and ice than the south side (a plus for the ice climber, and sometimes a plus for the hiker who wants to avoid a wet, slushy day).

Maybe the rationale for appreciating an understanding of local mountain weather can be summed up from a quote by Jeff Renner in his book *Mountain Weather* (The Mountaineers Books 2005 third printing 2010, Introduction P.) “*Life in high places exists by meteorological consent.*”

Happy trails!

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Ira Orenstein is a member of the Catskill 3500 Club (#415 W776), The Adirondack Forty Sixers, The New Hampshire Four Thousand Footers, New England 4000 Footers and the Northeast 111. Ira currently leads hikes for the 3500 Club and previously served the Club as a merchandise coordinator, along with his wife, Karen Bloom (#1733 W777). He and his family enjoy spending time together in the outdoors. He can be reached via [email](#).

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Neversink. Photo by Margaret McGrath #2009 W939

## IN MEMORIAM

**Neil Zimmerman, #306 W106**, 77, died at his home in Accord, NY, on February 28. He was a member of the Minnewaska State Park Master Plan Advisory Committee, and served as the Chair of the American Hiking Society, as a Governor of the Adirondack Mountain Club, and as a member of the DEC's Forest Preserve Advisory Committee. Neil was president of the NY/NJ Trail Conference from 1987-1999. He is co-author of two hiking books, *Fifty Hikes in the Lower Hudson Valley* and *Fifty Hikes in New Jersey*. He was member of the Catskill 3500 Club, ADK 46ers, AMC NE111, 100 Highest and 4000Footers. He was working on the Colorado Fourteeners and the Highpointers list.

**Ian B. Dunn, #1912**, died unexpectedly at home on July 14, 2023. Ian was a life member of the Catskill 3500 Club. In his role as a forester for the NYS DEC Region 3, he worked tirelessly for the Catskill Preserve. His job included coordinating the writing of Unit Management Plans; working with volunteer organizations on various maintenance projects; working with the Division of Operations overseeing construction of lean-tos, bridges, trails, and parking areas; and maintenance of the fire towers and ground cabins in the region.

Over the last few years, Club members had the honor to work closely with Ian to make possible the replacement and new installation of the new Bouton Memorial Lean-to, repaired the Neversink bridge and collaborated on many other trail maintenance projects. Ian supported the initiative of forming the 3500 Trailhead Steward Program under Adopt a Trailhead Program and facilitated training and guidance to equip stewards with the necessary knowledge to run a successful program.

Ian's love and passion for the Catskills was contagious. To honor Ian's life and contributions to the Catskills hiking community, the Catskills 3500 Club in partnership with the Catskills Visitor Center and the DEC invite you to a Tree planting memorial on Saturday, September 16 at 10am at the Catskills Visitor Center.



**Richard "Dick" Furman, #131 W78**, passed away on August 3, 2023, at the age of 95. Born in Huntington, NY, Dick was a lifelong Huntington resident and devoted community member. An ardent outdoorsman throughout his life, Dick was a surf fisherman (Long Island Beach Buggy Assoc. #74), car camper, hiker, backpacker, and avid birdwatcher (Audubon Society). He passed his love of the outdoors to his children and grandchildren.

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Photo (Ian, center, with Lourdes Sonera (right) and McCrea Burnham (left)) credit: Lourdes Sonera.

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Kaleidoscope of fallen leaves in the Burroughs Range. Photo by Yana Levchinsky-Grimmond #2814 W1222

## Rambles and Brambles [Hike Schedule](#) October - December 2023

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 and 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:** 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.

**Assumed Risk:** 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.**

**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.

**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.

**Blaze Orange Alert:** The hunting season is coming! Refer to this [DEC link](#) for the summary of hunting seasons. Wear orange, avoid white and remember the same for your four-legged hiking companions!

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Beaver Pond in Kelly Hollow. Photo by Dick Vincent #3055

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The calendar of the current hike schedule can also be found on the [Club site](#).

Club hiking schedule is subject to change.

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**Sun. Oct. 1 - E RUSK & RUSK**

Distance: 5.4 mi. Ascent: 1715', Elevs: 3628', 3686'  
Bushwhack and trail hike. Moderate pace. Beginners welcome.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Mark Evans #4101 W1555  
[mark.evans2112@gmail.com](mailto:mark.evans2112@gmail.com)

**Sun. Oct. 1 - BLACKHEAD, BLACK DOME & THOMAS COLE**

Distance: 7.5 mi. Ascent: 2700', Elevs: 3940', 3994', 3953'  
Relaxed-moderate pace. Shuttle Required.  
Registration Period: Sep. 21 - 30  
Leader: Lyn W. #2865 W1312  
[catskill35r@gmail.com](mailto:catskill35r@gmail.com)

**Thu. Oct. 5 - PANTHER**

Distance: 6.6 mi. Ascent: 1900', Elev: 3724'  
Moderate pace via Giant Ledge.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Anne Rubin #3832 W1507  
[annaswartz@netscape.net](mailto:annaswartz@netscape.net)

**Fri. Oct. 6 - E RUSK & RUSK**

Distance: 5.4 mi. Ascent: 1715', Elevs: 3628', 3686'  
Moderate pace bushwhack and trail hike. Beginners welcome.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Bob Nuzzo #3918 W1541  
[rmnuzz@gmail.com](mailto:rmnuzz@gmail.com)

**Fri. Oct. 6 - SLIDE**

Distance 6.7 mi. Ascent: 1834', Elev: 4184'  
Relaxed to moderate pace. Beginners welcome.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Sharon Klein #3364  
[catsngunks@gmail.com](mailto:catsngunks@gmail.com)

**Sat. Oct. 7 - WEST KILL**

Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 2000', Elev: 3898'  
Relaxed to moderate pace. Beginners welcome.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Marv Freedman #2242 W951  
[marvfreedman@gmail.com](mailto:marvfreedman@gmail.com)

**Sun. Oct. 8 - BALSAM & EAGLE**

Distance: 9.35 mi. Ascent: 2180', Elevs: 3607' & 3583'  
Moderate pace from Rider Hollow. Beginners welcome.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Christopher Leon Garibian #3881 W1474  
[christophergaribian@gmail.com](mailto:christophergaribian@gmail.com) 201-669-9361

**Sun. Oct. 8 - INDIAN HEAD & TWIN**

Distance: 8.5 mi. Ascent: 2368', Elevs: 3573', 3650'  
Moderate pace.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Mark Evans #4101 W1555  
[mark.evans2112@gmail.com](mailto:mark.evans2112@gmail.com)

**Sun. Oct. 8 - KAATERSKILL**

Distance: 8+ mi. Ascent: 1850', Elev: 3652'  
Relaxed pace bushwhack and trail hike. Up Hurricane Ledge and bushwhack down to Long Path.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Michael Bongar #2173 W994  
[michael@bongarbiz.com](mailto:michael@bongarbiz.com)

**Sun. Oct. 8 - PANTHER**

Distance: 6.6 mi. Ascent 1900', Elev: 3724'  
Relaxed to moderate pace via Giant Ledge. Rain and inclement weather will cancel.  
Registration Period: Oct. 2 - 5  
Leader: Suzanne Knabe #1326 W498  
[suzkna@msn.com](mailto:suzkna@msn.com) 917-679-5547

**Sun. Oct. 8 - WEST KILL & ST. ANNE'S**

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2500', Elevs: 3898', 3423'.  
Moderate pace. Beginners welcome. Shuttle Required.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Tonda Highley #1944 W857  
[Thighley1944@gmail.com](mailto:Thighley1944@gmail.com)

**Thu. Oct. 12 - BALSAM LAKE & MILL BROOK RIDGE**

Distance: 12 mi, Ascent: 2650', Elevs: 3729', 3465'  
Out and back to Balsam Lake Mountain and Mill Brook Ridge. Moderate to quick pace.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Ed Moran #2007 W950  
[edmoran@gmail.com](mailto:edmoran@gmail.com)

**Thu. Oct. 12 - DRY BROOK RIDGE VIA HUCKLEBERRY LOOP**

Distance: 13 mi. Ascent: 3100', Elev: 3465'  
Moderate pace loop hike. Beginners welcome.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Anne Rubin #3832 W1507  
[annaswartz@netscape.net](mailto:annaswartz@netscape.net)

**Thu. Oct. 12 - PLATEAU & SUGARLOAF**

Distance: 5.25 mi. Ascent: 2870', Elevs: 3835', 3783'  
Moderate pace. Steep climbs and great views. Fit beginners welcome.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Marv Freedman #2242 W951  
[marvfreedman@gmail.com](mailto:marvfreedman@gmail.com)

**Sun. Oct. 15 - INDIAN HEAD, TWIN, SUGARLOAF & PLATEAU**

Distance: 13 mi. Ascent: 4700'+, Elevs: 3573', 3650', 3783', 3835'  
Long, challenging Eastern Devil's Path traverse at a moderate, steady pace. Shuttle required.  
Registration Period: Open

Leader: Christopher Leon Garibian #3881 W1474  
[christophergaribian@gmail.com](mailto:christophergaribian@gmail.com) 201-669-9361

**Thu. Oct. 19 - 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](mailto:marvfreedman@gmail.com)

**Thu. Oct. 19 - VLY & BEARPEN**

Distance: 6.5 mi. Ascent: 2100', Elevs: 3541', 3587'  
Moderate pace.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Anne Rubin #3832 W1507  
[annaswartz@netscape.net](mailto:annaswartz@netscape.net)

**Sat. Oct. 21 - BLACKHEAD, BLACK DOME & THOMAS COLE**

Distance: 7.5 mi. Ascent: 2700', Elevs: 3940', 3994', 3953'  
Moderate pace trail hike with challenging climbs and great views. Shuttle required.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Marv Freedman #2242 W951  
[marvfreedman@gmail.com](mailto:marvfreedman@gmail.com)

**Sat. Oct. 21 - PEEKAMOOSE-TABLE TRAIL MAINTENANCE**

Join us for our club trail maintenance outing. Please help us keep the Peekamoose-Table Trail clean, clear and safe for the enjoyment of all. Bring work gloves and your favorite trail maintenance tools (the Club will also have tools available). It's fun work and a great way to help the Club and the hiking community. Refreshments will be provided afterward. Please be sure to sign up so we know who's coming.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Lourdes Sonera #2525 W1075  
[L\\_Sonera@outlook.com](mailto:L_Sonera@outlook.com)

**Sat. Oct. 21 - RUSK, E RUSK, HUNTER & SW HUNTER**

Distance: 12 mi. Ascent: 3200', Elevs: 3686', 3628', 4030', 3753'  
Strenuous bushwhack and trail hike at a moderate pace.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leaders: Peggy Wissler #1499 W612 and Yanny Hecht #1868 W751  
[YannyHecht@gmail.com](mailto:YannyHecht@gmail.com)

**Sun. Oct. 22 - FIR, BIG INDIAN, EAGLE, BALSAM & BELLEAYRE**

Distance: 18.5 mi. Ascent: 4700', Elevs: 3629', 3699', 3583', 3607', 3424'  
Long, challenging bushwhack and trail traverse from Biscuit Brook to Lost Clove at a fast pace. Shuttle required.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Erica Pellegrino #3463 W1390  
[ericapellegrino71@gmail.com](mailto:ericapellegrino71@gmail.com)

**Thu. Oct. 26 - HALCOTT**

Distance: 3.5 mi. Ascent: 1700', Elev: 3509'  
Short, steep bushwhack at a moderate pace.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Anne Rubin #3832 W1507  
[annaswartz@netscape.net](mailto:annaswartz@netscape.net)

**Sat. Oct. 28 - HALCOTT**

Distance: 3.5 mi. Ascent: 1700', Elev: 3509'  
Short, steep bushwhack at a moderate pace. Beginners welcome.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Mark Evans #4101 W1555  
[mark.evans2112@gmail.com](mailto:mark.evans2112@gmail.com)

**Sat. Oct. 28 - SLIDE, CORNELL & WITTENBERG**

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent 2600', Elevs: 4184', 3857', 3782'  
Challenging hike with great views and fun scrambles at a moderate pace. Shuttle required.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leaders: Shari Aber #2224 W944 [shnaber@yahoo.com](mailto:shnaber@yahoo.com)  
Joseph Ferri #2223 W945 [newpaltz33@yahoo.com](mailto:newpaltz33@yahoo.com)



**Sat. Oct. 28 - SW HUNTER & HUNTER**

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 2300', Elevs: 3753', 4030'  
Relaxed Pace. Beginners Welcome.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leaders: Marcy Felter #3492 W1480 and Joe Felter #3560 W1479  
[mjfelter@optonline.net](mailto:mjfelter@optonline.net)

**Sat. Oct. 28 - TWIN & INDIAN HEAD**

Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 2100', Elev: 3650', 3573'  
Map and Compass instruction with pre-hike homework.  
Moderate pace. Beginners welcome.  
Registration Period: Sep. 20 - Oct. 6  
Leader: Russell Ley #2927 W1262  
[russell.buildingscience@gmail.com](mailto:russell.buildingscience@gmail.com) 518-370-3600

**Sun. Oct. 29 - ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY CLEAN-UP**

Route 214 Clean Up. Bring work gloves and a great attitude – all else will be provided, including refreshments afterward. Your participation helps the Club, the environment, and keeps the Catskills beautiful!  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Lourdes Sonera #2525 W1075  
[L\\_Sonera@outlook.com](mailto:L_Sonera@outlook.com)

**Tue. Oct. 31 - WINDHAM, BLACKHEAD, BLACKDOME & THOMAS COLE**

Distance: 13 mi. Ascent: 4300', Elevs: 3525', 3940', 3994', 3953'  
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](mailto:nmdange@live.com)

**Wed. Nov. 1 - 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 or somewhat slower pace. Shuttle required.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Christopher Leon Garibian #3881 W1474  
[christophergaribian@gmail.com](mailto:christophergaribian@gmail.com) 201-669-9361

**Thu. Nov. 2 - 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 pace. Shuttle required.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Anne Rubin #3832 W1507  
[annaswartz@netscape.net](mailto:annaswartz@netscape.net)

**Sat. Nov. 4 - HALCOTT**

Distance: 4 mi. Ascent: 1800', Elev: 3509'  
Relaxed pace bushwhack.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Michael Bongar #2173 W994  
[michael@bongarbiz.com](mailto:michael@bongarbiz.com)

**Sat. Nov. 4 - PANTHER**

Distance: 6.6 mi, Ascent 1900', Elev: 3724'  
Relaxed to moderate pace via Giant Ledge. Beginners welcome.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leaders: Ira Orenstein #415 W777 and Karen Bloom #1733 W776  
[ksbiho@aol.com](mailto:ksbiho@aol.com) (preferred) or 914-262-5816

**Sat. Nov. 4 - HUNTER**

Distance: 6.8 mi. Ascent: 2080', Elev: 4030'  
Moderate pace trail hike from Spruceton Road.  
Registration Period: Oct. 17 - 31  
Leader: Colin DeVries #3382 W1589  
[colinmdevries@gmail.com](mailto:colinmdevries@gmail.com)

**Sat. Nov. 4 - LONE & ROCKY**

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 2500', Elevs: 3700', 3487'

Bushwhack at a moderate pace from Denning.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leaders: Peggy Wissler #1499 W612 and Yanny Hecht #1868 W751  
[YannyHecht@gmail.com](mailto:YannyHecht@gmail.com)

**Sat. Nov. 4 - WEST KILL, NORTH DOME & SHERRILL**

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](mailto:nmdange@live.com)

**Sun. Nov. 5 - BALSAM LAKE**

Distance: 6 mi. Ascent: 1300', Elev: 3729'  
Relaxed pace with great views from the fire tower.  
Registration Period: Oct. 20 - Nov. 4  
Leaders: Tom Rankin #1503 W627 and Laurie Rankin #1337 W531  
[tomrankin7@gmail.com](mailto:tomrankin7@gmail.com)

**Sun. Nov 5 - FRIDAY & BALSAM CAP**

Distance: 7+ mi. Ascent: 3100', Elevs: 3692', 3608'  
Quick pace bushwhack.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Erica Pellegrino #3463 W1390  
[ericapellegrino71@gmail.com](mailto:ericapellegrino71@gmail.com)

**Sun. Nov. 5 - WINDHAM**

Distance: 6.2 mi. Ascent: 1325', Elev: 3525'  
Relaxed moderate pace. Beginners welcome.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Tonda Highley #1944 W857  
[Thighley1944@gmail.com](mailto:Thighley1944@gmail.com)

**Thu. Nov. 9 - 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](mailto:annaswartz@netscape.net)

**Fri. Nov. 10 - NORTH DOME & SHERRILL**

Distance: 6+ mi. Ascent: 2450', Elevs: 3605', 3558'  
Moderate pace bushwhack & trail hike with steep climbs. Shuttle required.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leaders: Shari Aber #2224 W944 [shnaber@yahoo.com](mailto:shnaber@yahoo.com)  
Joseph Ferri #2223 W945 [newpaltz33@yahoo.com](mailto:newpaltz33@yahoo.com)

**Fri. Nov. 10 - SLIDE, CORNELL & WITTENBERG**

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 2600', Elevs: 4184', 3857', 3782'  
Challenging hike with great views and fun scrambles at a moderate pace. Shuttle required.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Mark Evans #4101 W1555  
[mark.evans2112@gmail.com](mailto:mark.evans2112@gmail.com)

**Sat. Nov. 11 - WEST KILL, SW HUNTER & HUNTER**

Distance: 15.5 mi. Ascent: 4100', Elevs: 3898', 3753', 4030'  
Challenging hike at a moderate pace.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Marv Freedman #2242 W951  
[marvfreedman@gmail.com](mailto:marvfreedman@gmail.com)

**Sat. Nov. 11 - 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](mailto:nmdange@live.com)

**Sun. Nov. 12 - TABLE & PEEKAMOOSE**

Distance: 9.6 mi. Ascent: 2300', Elevs: 3825', 3819'  
Relaxed to Moderate pace. Beginners welcome.  
Registration Period: Oct. 2 - 11  
Leader: Lyn W. #2865 W1312  
[catskill35r@gmail.com](mailto:catskill35r@gmail.com)

**Thu. Nov. 16 - SW HUNTER & HUNTER**

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 2300', Elevs: 3753', 4030'  
Moderate pace.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Anne Rubin #3832 W1507  
[annaswartz@netscape.net](mailto:annaswartz@netscape.net)

**Thu. Nov. 16 - 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](mailto:marvfreedman@gmail.com)

**Thu. Nov. 16 - WITTENBERG & CORNELL**

Distance 9.4 mi. Ascent: 3104', Elevs: 3782', 3857'  
Moderate pace out & back from Woodland Valley Campground  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Ed Moran #2007 W950  
[edmoran@gmail.com](mailto:edmoran@gmail.com)

**Fri. Nov. 17 - WITTENBERG, CORNELL & SLIDE**

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 3600', Elevs: 3782', 3857', 4184'  
Challenging hike with great views and fun scrambles at a moderate pace. Shuttle required.  
Beginners welcome.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Bob Nuzzo #3918 W1541  
[rmnuzz@gmail.com](mailto:rmnuzz@gmail.com)

**Sun. Nov. 18 - NORTH DOME & SHERRILL**

Distance: 6+ mi. Ascent: 2450', Elevs: 3605', 3558'  
Relaxed to moderate pace bushwhack with steep climbs. Shuttle required.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Christopher Leon Garibian #3881 W1474  
[christophergaribian@gmail.com](mailto:christophergaribian@gmail.com) 201-669-9361

**Sat. Nov. 18 - PLATEAU, SUGARLOAF, TWIN & INDIAN HEAD**

Distance: 9.5 mi. Ascent: 4300', Elevs: 3835', 3783', 3650', 3573'  
Four 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](mailto:nmdange@live.com)

**Wed. Nov. 22 - BLACKHEAD, BLACK DOME & THOMAS COLE**

Distance: 7.5 mi. Ascent: 2750', Elevs: 3940', 3994', 3953'  
Moderate pace, Beginners welcome.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Christopher Leon Garibian #3881 W1474  
[christophergaribian@gmail.com](mailto:christophergaribian@gmail.com) 201-669-9361

**Wed. Nov. 22 - SW HUNTER, HUNTER & RUSK**

Distance: 12 mi. Ascent: 3200', Elevs: 3753', 4030', 3686'  
Long bushwhack and trail hike at a moderate to quick pace  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Maple D'Angelo #2910 W1168  
[nmdange@live.com](mailto:nmdange@live.com)

**Thu. Nov. 23 - HALCOTT Turkey Trot**

Distance: 4 mi. Ascent: 1800', Elev: 3509'

Short, steep pre-Thanksgiving bushwhack at a moderate to quick pace.

Registration Period: Open

Leader: Anne Rubin #3832 W1507

[annaswartz@netscape.net](mailto:annaswartz@netscape.net)

**Sat. Nov. 25 - WITTENBERG, CORNELL & SLIDE**

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 3600', Elevs: 3782', 3857', 4184'

Challenging hike with great views and fun scrambles at a moderate to quick pace. Shuttle required.

Registration Period: Open

Leader: Maple D'Angelo #2910 W1168

[nmdange@live.com](mailto:nmdange@live.com)

**Sun. Nov. 26 - INDIAN HEAD, TWIN, SUGARLOAF & PLATEAU**

Distance: 13 mi. Ascent: 4700'+, Elevs: 3573', 3650', 3783', 3835'

Long, challenging Eastern Devil's Path traverse at a moderate, steady pace. Shuttle required.

Registration Period: Open

Leader: Christopher Leon Garibian #3881 W1474

[christophergaribian@gmail.com](mailto:christophergaribian@gmail.com) 201-669-9361

**Thu. Nov. 30 - PLATEAU**

Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 1800', Elev: 3835'

Moderate pace.

Registration Period: Open

Leader: Anne Rubin #3832 W1507

[annaswartz@netscape.net](mailto:annaswartz@netscape.net)

**Sat. Dec. 2 - FIR, BIG INDIAN, EAGLE & BALSAM**

Distance: 13.5 mi, Ascent: 3600', Elevs: 3629', 3699', 3583', 3607'

Long, challenging bushwhack and trail hike from Biscuit Brook to McKenley Hollow at a moderate to quick pace. Shuttle required.

Registration Period: Open

Leader: Maple D'Angelo #2910 W1168

[nmdange@live.com](mailto:nmdange@live.com)

**Sat. Dec. 2 - MILL BROOK RIDGE AND BALSAM LAKE**

Distance: 8 mi, Ascent: 2162', Elevs: 3465', 3729'

Relaxed Pace from Alder Lake to Balsam Lake. Shuttle required. Beginners Welcome.

Registration Period: Open

Leaders: Joe Felter #3560 W1479 and Marcy Felter #3492 W1480

[felter\\_joe@yahoo.com](mailto:felter_joe@yahoo.com)

**Sat. Dec. 2 - NORTH DOME & SHERRILL**

Distance: 6+ mi. Ascent: 2450', Elevs: 3605', 3558'

Moderate pace bushwhack with steep climbs. Shuttle required.

Registration Period: Open

Leaders: Peggy Wissler #1499 W612 and Yanny Hecht #1868 W751

[YannyHecht@gmail.com](mailto:YannyHecht@gmail.com)

**Sat. Dec. 2 - WINDHAM, BLACKHEAD, BLACK DOME & THOMAS COLE**

Distance: 14.5 mi. Ascent: 4700', Elevs: 3525', 3940', 3994', 3953'

Long, challenging trail hike from Peck Road to Barnum Road at a moderate pace. Shuttle Required.

Registration Period: Open

Leader: Marv Freedman #2242 W951

[marvfreedman@gmail.com](mailto:marvfreedman@gmail.com)

**Sun. Dec. 3 - KAATERSKILL**

Distance: 8+ mi. Ascent 1850' Elev: 3652'

Relaxed pace bushwhack and trail hike.

Registration Period: Open

Leaders: Shari Aber #2224 W944 [shnaber@yahoo.com](mailto:shnaber@yahoo.com)

Joseph Ferri #2223 W945 [newpaltz33@yahoo.com](mailto:newpaltz33@yahoo.com)

**Sun. Dec. 3 - NAVIGATION: GPS ON A SMARTPHONE**

Bluestone Wild Forest (Kingston, NY)

Distance: 4-5 mi. Ascent: 500', Elev: 625'  
Navigation instruction with pre-hike homework.  
Registration Period: Nov. 21 – Dec. 1  
Leader: Lyn W. #2865 W1312  
[catskill35r@gmail.com](mailto:catskill35r@gmail.com)

**Thu. Dec. 7 - NORTH DOME & SHERRILL**

Distance: 6+ mi. Ascent: 2450', Elevs: 3605', 3558'  
Moderate pace bushwhack with steep climbs. Shuttle required.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Anne Rubin #3832 W1507  
[annaswartz@netscape.net](mailto:annaswartz@netscape.net)

**Thu. Dec. 7 - PLATEAU**

Distance 7 mi. Ascent: 1800', Elev: 3835'  
Moderate pace trail hike.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Ed Moran #2007 W950  
[edmoran@gmail.com](mailto:edmoran@gmail.com)

**Fri. Dec. 8 - BALSAM LAKE & MILL BROOK RIDGE**

Distance: 12 mi, Ascent: 2650', Elevs: 3729', 3465'  
Out and back to Balsam Lake Mountain and Mill Brook Ridge. Moderate to quick pace.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Ed Moran #2007 W950  
[edmoran@gmail.com](mailto:edmoran@gmail.com)

**Sat. Dec 9 - HALCOTT, VLY & BEAPREN**

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 & informal (non-DEC) trail hike. Hike one or both.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Maple D'Angelo #2910 W1168  
[nmdange@live.com](mailto:nmdange@live.com)

**Sat. Dec. 9 - INDIAN HEAD & TWIN**

Distance 7 mi. Ascent: 2100', Elevs: 3573', 3650'  
Moderate pace. Great views. Fit beginners welcome.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Marv Freedman #2242 W951  
[marvfreedman@gmail.com](mailto:marvfreedman@gmail.com)

**Sun. Dec. 10 - BLACKHEAD, BLACK DOME & THOMAS COLE**

Distance: 7.5 mi. Ascent 2650', Elevs: 3940', 3994', 3953'  
Fast pace. Shuttle required.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Erica Pellegrino #3463 W1390  
[ericapellegrino71@gmail.com](mailto:ericapellegrino71@gmail.com)

**Thu. Dec. 14 - MILL BROOK RIDGE & BALSAM LAKE**

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

**Sat. Dec. 16 - VLY & BEARPEN**

Distance: 6.8 mi. Ascent: 2100', Elevs: 3587', 3541'  
Moderate pace bushwhack & informal (non-DEC) trail hike. Beginners welcome.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Tonda Highley #1844 W857  
[Thighley1944@gmail.com](mailto:Thighley1944@gmail.com)

**Thu. Dec. 21 - PANTHER**

Distance: 6.6 mi. Ascent: 1900', Elev: 3724'  
Required winter peak.  
Moderate pace via Giant Ledge.

Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Anne Rubin #3832 W1507  
[annaswartz@netscape.net](mailto:annaswartz@netscape.net)

**Fri. Dec. 22 - LONE & ROCKY**

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 2500', Elevs: 3700', 3487'  
Bushwhack at a moderate pace from Denning.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Maple D'Angelo #2910 W1168  
[nmdange@live.com](mailto:nmdange@live.com)

**Sat. Dec. 23 - NAVIGATION: MAP & COMPASS**

Bluestone Wild Forest (Kingston, NY)  
Distance: 3 - 5 mi. Ascent: 500', Elev: 625'  
Navigation instruction with pre-hike homework.  
Registration Period: Dec. 11 - 21  
Leader: Lyn W. #2865 W1312  
[catskill35r@gmail.com](mailto:catskill35r@gmail.com)

**Thu. Dec. 28 - SLIDE**

Distance 6.7 mi. Ascent 1700', Elev: 4184'  
Required winter peak.  
Moderate pace.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Anne Rubin #3832 W1507  
[annaswartz@netscape.net](mailto:annaswartz@netscape.net)

**Sat. Dec. 30 - BALSAM CAP & FRIDAY**

Distance: 7+ mi. Ascent: 3100', Elev: 3608', 3692'  
Relaxed pace bushwhack.  
Registration Period: Open  
Leader: Michael Bongar #2173 W994  
[michael@bongarbiz.com](mailto:michael@bongarbiz.com)

**Sat. Dec. 30 - BLACKHEAD**

Distance: 4.5 mi, Ascent: 1900', Elev: 3940'  
Required winter peak.  
Relaxed pace trail hike with challenging climbs and great views.  
Registration Period: Dec. 20-29  
Leaders: Tom Rankin #1503 W627 and Laurie Rankin #1337 W531  
[Tomrankin7@gmail.com](mailto:Tomrankin7@gmail.com)

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Blackhead from Acra Point. Photo by Laurie Hladik #2416 W1059

## NEW MEMBERS

Members listed are as of the publication; more recent finishers will be listed next quarter.

### New Lifetime Members:

Number	Name
934	Maeve Maurer
1666	Norm Brandinger
1689	Ian Marchant
1911	Nathan West
2949	Sean Iannucci
3345	Michael Karnas
3603	Josh Fabian
3986	Lynda Shenkman
4232	Denise Weiss
4239	Jeff Corbin
4246	Darrel Schoeling
4252	Aarti Gupta
4254	Victor Ortega
4255	Emily Sims
4266	Mira Surowiec
4269	Tristen Laney
4277	Tara Tornello
4286	Bryant Tolles
4287	Hannah Thiemann
4288	Richard Pascal
4290	Hugo Portu

ASP Katherine Bradley  
ASP Lauren Bancroft

**New Members:**

<b>Number</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Date of Finish</b>	<b>Final Peak</b>
4200	Michael Bachor	4/22/2023	Rocky
4201	Suzette Bachor	4/22/2023	Rocky
4202	Bobby Schuttrumpf	4/24/2023	Balsam
4203	Ross Scalese	4/8/2023	Hunter
4204	Joseph Creighton	3/18/2023	Slide
4205	Adam C Kerel	5/9/2022	Slide
4206	Laura Hollander	4/15/2023	West Kill
4207	Peijun Huangfu	4/22/2023	Windham
4208	Brenda Robie	4/30/2023	Twin
4209	Jessica Robie	4/30/2023	Twin
4210	Anna Cone	4/27/2023	Rocky
4211	Susan Algerio	5/1/2023	Balsam
4212	Tom Richardson	5/8/2023	Thomas Cole
4213	Leonard Laky	5/8/2023	Lone
4214	Kristen Peek	5/7/2023	Table
4215	Paul J Hildreth, Jr	5/7/2023	Table
4216	Dan Vanderkam	5/14/2023	Panther
4217	Stephanie Bohl	4/22/2023	Halcott
4218	Andrew Konzelmann	5/7/2023	Lone
4219	Kishan Patel	5/14/2023	Peekamoose
4220	Brittany Maschal	5/14/2023	Balsam
4221	Merico A Catallo	9/23/2022	Balsam
4222	Robert A Seeloff Jr	9/23/2022	Balsam
4223	Syed Ali	4/23/2022	Big Indian
4224	Zach Cunningham	5/13/2023	Panther
4225	Kevin R Borden	3/17/2023	Blackhead
4226	Taylor Latsha	5/8/2023	Windham
4227	Laurie J Freeman	5/7/2023	West Kill
4228	Alpa Patel	2/12/2023	Blackhead
4229	Eric Rosario	4/16/2023	Rusk
4230	Dale E Haas	5/25/2023	Kaaterskill
4231	John Effinger	12/27/2022	Panther
4232	Denise Weiss	5/25/2022	Rusk
4233	Jolee A Helf	5/6/2023	Peekamoose
4234	Brett Brandt	6/4/2023	Big Indian
4235	Laura Tolve	6/4/2023	Kaaterskill
4236	Jeremy Reynolds	6/1/2023	Sherrill
4237	Rachel Tegiacchi	6/12/2023	Lone
4238	Jack Flood	6/12/2023	Lone
4239	Jeff Corbin	2/20/2023	Kaaterskill
4240	Sunyang Shin	3/25/2023	Lone
4241	Ashley Schreyer	5/28/2023	West Kill
4242	Aaron Taube	5/28/2023	West Kill
4243	Sarah Jones	6/11/2023	Big Indian
4244	Gregg Kenney	6/18/2023	Balsam Lake
4245	Andrea L Egan	5/1/2023	Balsam
4246	Darrel Schoeling	2/20/2023	Kaaterskill
4247	Lisa K Bailev	5/6/2023	Peekamoose



4248	Qi Wang	6/18/2023	Balsam
4249	Michael Dewey	6/21/2023	Cornell
4250	Priyanka Gokhale	5/20/2023	Panther
4251	Stefanie Seebacher	6/25/2023	Blackhead
4252	Aarti Gupta	6/10/2023	Balsam Lake
4253	Thomas Richard Nolan II	6/13/2023	Balsam Lake
4254	Victor Ortega	6/25/2023	Rocky
4255	Emily Sims	6/25/2023	Rocky
4256	Gregory Douglas Turner	3/19/2017	Slide
4257	Robert M Lewis	7/4/2023	Slide
4258	Brent Pierce	7/5/2023	Plateau
4259	Gaia Pelton	7/5/2023	West Kill
4260	Justin Metzger	7/8/2023	Friday
4261	Joseph Lutz	8/28/2022	West Kill
4262	Julia Allen	7/8/2023	Cornell
4263	Vincent Leon	7/20/2023	Big Indian
4264	Alivia DeLane	7/20/2023	Balsam Lake
4265	Harris Eisenhardt	1/30/2022	Balsam
4266	Mira Surowiec	1/21/2023	Panther
4267	Roger Brown	6/24/2023	SW Hunter
4268	John Bohuniek II	7/26/2023	Lone
4269	Tristen Laney	5/6/2023	Kaaterskill
4270	Sonal Mehta	6/11/2023	Kaaterskill
4271	Kevin Cho	7/22/2023	Sherrill
4272	Katlyn Lederer	3/20/2022	Panther
4273	Ashwin Varkey Zachariah	7/29/2023	Kaaterskill
4274	Brendan Kelly	7/30/2023	Plateau
4275	Thomas Gabrielline	7/31/2023	Rocky
4276	Rachel Frascella	8/5/2023	Sherrill
4277	Tara Tornello	8/9/2023	Cornell
4278	Katie Fargo	7/23/2023	Twin
4279	Rachna Singh	6/18/2023	Sherrill
4280	Bill McKay	8/11/2023	Kaaterskill
4281	Karen Bischoff	8/20/2023	Rocky
4282	Linda Betancourt	8/20/2023	Rocky
4283	Geoffrey Warne	8/19/2023	Kaaterskill
4284	Michael Donnelly	6/6/2023	Lone
4285	Cathaleen Donnelly	6/18/2023	North Dome
4286	Bryant Tolles	8/26/2023	Lone
4287	Hannah Thiemann	7/22/2023	Panther
4288	Richard Pascal	7/22/2023	Panther
4289	George W Flavell Jr	8/28/2023	Fir
4290	Hugo Portu	08/11/23	Rusk

**New Winter Members:**

Winter Number	Name	Number	Date of Finish	Final Peak
1597	Terrence Brasile	3653	3/18/2023	Sugarloaf
1598	Thomas Denniston	3859	3/20/2023	Rocky
1599	Westley Brion	2931	1/15/2023	Kaaterskill
1600	David Lemmo	3264	3/19/2022	Halcott



Twisty tree on Bearpen. Photo by Russell Handford #3331 W1538

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### Editor's Notes

By Yana Levchinsky-Grimmond



I hope you are continuing to enjoy *The Canister*, and I thank each and every one of you who has reached out with feedback, suggestions and of course, with submissions. Feedback, as well as content contributions to future editions and ideas are very much welcomed and appreciated. Submissions on the topics of hiking with kids, pushing your limits, exploring something new and exciting, history of the Catskills, ecology, wildlife and geology, your personal experiences, advice, etc. are just some of the examples of what we would love to include in the next issue of *The Canister*! Any book lovers out there? I would love to publish your review of a relevant nature/Catskills/hiking book. Poems are always welcome as well! For photo submissions, please ensure the photos are high resolution (several MB at a min) and in a landscape or panoramic format. We would love to see your photos of foliage, geological oddities, waterfalls, wildlife, views, flora, sunsets and sunrises. Please contact me at [editor@catskill-3500-club.org](mailto:editor@catskill-3500-club.org).

Please note: the newsletter will print best if downloaded as a pdf file directly from the [Club's site](#).



Deep Notch from Halcott. Photo by Steve Aaron #3199

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Dry Brook Ridge bog. Photo by Yana Levchinsky-Grimmond #2488 W1224

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