



the catskill canister

January—March, 2010

Volume 43 Number 1

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Doubletop In Winter – semper paratus.

One of our early winter climbs in the Catskills brings Charley Goodrich and me to the Biscuit Brook Trailhead on Olivera Road. Our plan is to climb Doubletop and, if time allows, Big Indian. We would hike the Biscuit Brook Trail to where it makes an unmistakably sharp elbow turn to the right on the side of Big Indian, and at this point we would take a westward compass bearing, leave the trail and bush-whack over to Doubletop. After summiting we would retrace our route back to the point we left the trail, and then on to Big Indian.

stream of locomotive-like vapors that suspends momentarily in the frigid air. Soon we take our first break and feel our breathing settle down in the cold silence.

We reach the sharp turn in the trail and take a compass bearing of 230 degrees SW towards Doubletop. Now the snow is 2 to 3 feet deep, and not having any snowshoes is going to make for a very long day. The sunlight that had greeted us this morning is slowly being covered by a thin band of clouds. As we slog our way down and around numerous ledges the sun suddenly disappears and we observe a decided mood

At 6 a.m. we leave the comfort of the van on a very cold December morning. With the temperature hovering around -3 degrees F., we are glad to get moving in order to generate some warmth. After about a mile of shuffling through 3 to 4 inches of powdered snow we're finally able to ward off the penetrating cold. We use our flashlights until the dark sky slowly bleaches to a pale light. Soon slivers of sunlight glisten through the trees and give a slow motion strobe effect on our faces as we move along this wintry landscape. The silence of the woods lends subtle sounds of creaking and popping from the trees as they sway from a gentle breeze. The thin layer of snow increases in depth as we gain altitude. Climbing steeper terrain, our deeper breaths exhale a

"Now the snow is 2 to 3 feet deep, and not having any snowshoes is going to make for a very long day."

change in the woods: from a bright visual landscape to the advancement of the once far off shadows, now lurking closer and surrounding us like a gauntlet. Even though it's late morning, the absence of the sun combined with the visual effect of the grove of thick tall trees that inhibit natural light make it surrealistically eerie.

Forcing ourselves to shrug off this feeling we eventually descend our way down to a boggy area that we think may be the col. The snow, not being as deep here, exposes the wet bog, wherein we carefully work our way through its maze of brush giving special attention in where we place

(Continued on page 3)

SAVE THE DATE

⇒ **Winter Weekend: Jan 22-24, 2010** (see page 6)

⇒ **Annual Dinner: Saturday, March 27, 2010** (see pages 6 and 8)

⇒ **29-mile Day Hike in Taconics: Sat, May 15 2010** (see page 7)



The Catskill Canister

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Nominal dates for receiving the Canister are: Mar 15, Jun 15, Sep 15, and Dec 15.

The President's Column

Giving Back to the Hiking Community:

Reward and Recognition

It looks like my pleas to you have been answered. Thanks.

Manuel reports that the hike schedule was filled in record time this quarter, and I'm hoping to see lots of new names. I was also very impressed with the outpouring of support for the construction of the new lean-to on Hunter Mountain. Kudos to Laurie Rankin for organizing a great group of volunteers and to Pete Senterman for setting up all the logistics and getting the materials to the site. This new lean-to is a real credit to the members of this club. If you haven't checked it out, you really should; it's in a beautiful location with great views.

Since our club is about recognizing hiking accomplishments, we also like to recognize folks who give back to the club. We currently have two awards in which you might be interested. Both have nice patches for the patch hounds out there.

Hike Leader Award. This award recognizes club members who lead 6 hikes for the club. One of the hikes needs to be a bushwhack and one needs to be led in winter. Manuel Peraza (mapcolus1@verizon.net) is the contact person for this award.

Club Service Award. This award was created to recognize members or aspirants who give back to the club. It is based on a point system with points being assigned to each of a variety of activities such as trail maintenance, service as a club officer, or adopting a trail. Wanda Davenport (c3500c@verizon.net) is the administrator for this award.

Starting next year people qualifying for either of these awards will be recognized at the annual dinner. (More information on these programs is available on the club website under Volunteer Opportunities).

The club has recently instituted another benefit for hike leaders and potential hike leaders: we've established a scholarship program called the **Founder's Award**. This award offers scholarships to members in good standing who attend training courses such as Wilderness First Aid, Leadership Training, or Outdoor Skill Training. The club will reimburse the member for 75% of the tuition up to \$150. (Fine Print: you must have the course approved by Manuel Peraza, the award administrator, prior to registering for the course; you must agree to lead 4 hikes for the club within two years of completing the course; and the number of scholarships available each year is limited).

So please, take advantage of the benefits of membership and give back to your club and fellow hikers.

Jeff Glans

We're on the web at

www.catskill-3500-club.org



(Continued from page 1)

our steps. After a while this seemingly endless obstacle finally gives way to a moderate slope with a mixture of hardwoods and pines. Happy to be on solid ground we work our way up in anticipation of the summit soon to be in our grasp.

A while later we are ready to top out on a quite prominent ridge seducing us into believing it to be the summit. When we get there we see in the distance a massive bulk of a mountain with Doubletop's definitive two humps filling the western skyline - thus realizing "we're not there yet!" Disheartened, we make our way off the ridge and soon the snow starts to fall. As we continue on our compass bearing we see the mountain is beginning to hide behind a shroud of misty gray, waiting patiently for us to trespass on her terms. As I take a step down I suddenly slip and start tobogganing down the slope. When I look down I see the ground below rushing up, I'm gaining speed as my futile efforts to grasp anything stationary failed. In desperation I am able to grab hold of a 4-inch birch and arrest my slide as I am about to catapult over a 15-foot ledge. At the same time Charley finds a little humor in this when suddenly he slips and he's on his way down. He grabs hold of a tree, nearly pulling his arm out of its socket [Grabbing something with the arm fully extended is conducive to dislocating one's shoulder - ed.]. A sense of dread hits us both as though an anvil dropped on each of our heads; we are thinking: this mountain means business ! What was once soft snow melted by the sun is now, with the absence of the sun and decreasing temperatures, crusted ice.

Not having any crampons or ice axes and with the car miles away back at the trailhead, we begin to wonder if we're in over our heads. After a while we collect ourselves and with the snow letting up to a few flurries we decide to chance it and continue. What other choice do we have ? Being apprehensive we work our way up moderately steep slopes in rather easy terrain, a nice stand of hardwoods with an occasional opening filled with high weeds. We hope to come across the wreckage of a plane that's alleged to be somewhere on the mountain close to the top, but we find no evidence of it. The

easy climbing abruptly ends and things get serious with deeper snow, occasional spruce traps, steeper terrain, and thicker brush to add to the difficulties. Resolutely we struggle on seeking the elusive high point and 40 minutes later finally find our elusive reward.

We are indeed happy that we have found the canister but we hesitate to celebrate considering there is only about two hours of daylight left and it's a long way back to the car. Being very careful we take our time descending, knowing that many mountaineering accidents occur when climbers who are spent from the arduous climb stumble or fall on the way down. We continue down, then up over the infamous ridge keeping icy spots in mind. By the time we reach the boggy area again, daylight is definitely waning. Working our way through the bog, a heightened sense of anxiety takes even more out of each of our already depleted energy levels. We are thankful for the light snow that left our tracks uncovered and gives us some confidence of finding our way out. By the time we get to the trail it is very dark; we take a quick break with a couple gulps of water and some chocolate bars for much needed energy. Despite this sugar jolt we have to dig deep, using sheer determination to get our legs to do some semblance of the simple act of walking, for the final push to the car. The frigid cold is rapidly weakening our flashlight batteries that once provided bright spotlights on the trail; the light is now feeble and its breadth is shrinking to the bordering darkness. With our limited visibility, we have many frustrating slips and slides, not to mention frequent falls. After 12 hours of this strenuous activity we are relieved to reach the trailhead and our soon to be warm van.

We finished one of our first winter climbs and had one of the most exhausting days of our lives. We learned a lot the hard way, which can be perilous, but a little bit of skill and copious amount of luck got us through without harm. ▲

Submitted by **Pete Ricci #475** and **Charles Goodrich #474**, and edited by the Canister.

... but she doesn't do windows—
Wanda Davenport #523
recently completed her 346-hour trail maintenance patch for the Adirondack 46-ers.



Reminder

The Canister craves articles of up to 1100 words on the Catskills.

Hike Schedule January — March, 2010

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 winter kit. Ice and snow can come early and unexpectedly to these peaks. **Each hiker must bring snowshoes and full crampons 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. Anyone not properly equipped may be refused permission to participate, at the leader's absolute discretion. **Winter in the Catskills is not to be treated lightly.**

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

Cancelations: Please be aware that, **in the case of bad weather or bad driving conditions, most hikes will be canceled; if you are uncertain, please contact the leader before leaving for the hike.** As a matter of courtesy to our volunteer hike leaders, we ask that you let them know as early as possible if you have to cancel your attendance on a hike.

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.

Volunteer to Lead: If you are a member of the Club please **consider becoming a hike leader.** Just contact Manuel Peraza (mapcolus1@verizon.net; 718-698-4422 (7pm-9pm)), and Manny will arrange to add you to the low-volume private Yahoo list through which hikes are coordinated. You will be contacted via this means when hikes are needed.

Sat, Jan. 2 – NO HIKE SCHEDULED

Sun, Jan. 3 – DOUBLETOP

Distance: 6 mi. Ascent 1860', Elev. 3862'

A moderate trail hike and bushwhack. Well behaved dogs welcome.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader to register after Dec 20.

Leader: Doug Garrity #1757; garrid0@lycos.com; 845-471-1079

Sat, Jan. 9 – PEEKAMOOSE & TABLE

Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 3000', Elev. 3843', 3847'

A moderately paced but strenuous trail hike.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader by Jan 7 to register.

Leader: Carol Nestor #1325; 914-683-3858. (NCA 9 pm)

Sun, Jan. 10 – KAATERSKILL HIGH PEAK

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 1730', Elev. 3651'

A moderately paced trail hike & bushwhack.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader to register.

Leader: Ken Hubert #1351; hikeleader3500@yahoo.com; 718-463-5675 after 3pm (or 518-827-7327 Fri & Sat)

Sat, Jan. 16 – EAGLE

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2000', Elev. 3600'

A moderately paced trail hike.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader to register during the week before the hike.

Leader: Peggy Wissler #1499; 914-260-7506

Sun, Jan. 17 – GRAHAM & BALSAM LAKE

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2040', Elev. 3723', 3868'

A moderately paced, but strenuous, trail hike and bushwhack.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader to register (email preferred).

Leader: Danielle Besso #1496; dbesso@stny.rr.com; 607-724-5523; 6 - 9pm

Sat, Jan. 23 – SLIDE

Distance: 6 mi. Ascent: 1800', Elev. 4180'

A moderately paced trail hike to a required winter peak.

Meeting Place and Time: Please contact leader to register Mon.-Thu. 1/18 - 1/21 only.

Leader: Irene Logan #888; 111er378@optonline.net; 845-753-5651 NCA 9pm

Sun, Jan. 24 – BALSAM

Distance: 5.2 mi. Ascent: 2000', Elev. 3600'

A steep, moderately paced hike.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader by Jan 26 to register.

Leader: Reid Bauer #1810; rbauer@frostvalley.org; 845-985-2291 ext.397

Sat, Jan.30 – SHERRILL & NORTH DOME

Distance: 6.5 mi. Ascent: 2500', Elev. 3540', 3610'

A moderately paced, strenuous bushwhack. Car shuttle likely required.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leaders to register.

Leaders: Tom and Laurie Rankin #'s 1503, 1337; laurierankin@hvc.rr.com; 845-926-2182

Each hiker must bring snowshoes, full crampons, and full winter gear to the trailhead.

Sun, Jan. 31 – CORNELL & WITTENBERG

Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 2850', Elev. 3860', 3780'

A moderately paced, but strenuous, trail hike.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader to register.

Leader: Ken Hubert #1351; hikeleader3500@yahoo.com;
718-463-5675 after 3pm (or 518-827-7327 Fri & Sat)

Sat, Feb. 6 -HUNTER & SW HUNTER

Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 2225', Elev. 3740', 4040'

A moderately paced, strenuous bushwhack and trail hike.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader to register during the week before the hike.

Leader: Peggy Wissler #1499; 914-260-7506

Sun, Feb. 7 – HALCOTT

Distance: 3 mi. Ascent: 1200', Elev. 3520'

A moderately paced bushwhack suitable for beginners.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leaders to register.

Leaders: Tom and Laurie Rankin #'s 1503, 1337;
laurierankin@hvc.rr.com; 845-926-2182

Sat, Feb. 13 – INDIAN HEAD (& possibly Twin)

Distance: 4 (8)mi. Ascent: 1500 (2000)',
Elev. 3573' (3640')

A relaxed pace, but possibly strenuous, hike; come out and enjoy the snow ! Depending on conditions, we will do one or both peaks.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader to register.

Leader: Jean Taylor #1440; Taylor.Jean.E@gmail.com;
908 209 4750

Sun, Feb. 14 – BLACKHEAD RANGE TRAVERSE

Distance: 7.5 mi. Ascent: 2760', Elev. 3940', 3980', 3940'

A moderately paced, but strenuous, trail through-hike.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader to register.

Leader: Ken Hubert #1351; hikeleader3500@yahoo.com;
718-463-5675 after 3pm (or 518-827-7327 Fri & Sat)

Sat, Feb. 20 – FIR & BIG INDIAN

Distance: 10mi. Ascent: 2500', Elev. 3629', 3700'

A strenuous bushwhack at a moderate pace.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader to register by Feb 18 (email preferred).

Leader: George Preoteasa #1478; gvp@ms.com;
201-694-8344

Sun, Feb. 21 – BEARPEN & VLY

Distance: 6.4 mi. Ascent: 2035', Elev. 3600', 3529'

A moderately paced, strenuous bushwhack. Dogs welcome.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader after Feb 7 to register.

Leader: Doug Garrity #1757; garrid0@lycos.com;
845-471-1079

Sat, Feb. 27 – WINDHAM HIGH PEAK

Distance: 6.4mi. Ascent: 1500', Elev. 3524'

An out and back, moderately paced trail hike.

Meeting place/time: Please contact leader to register by Feb. 25.

Leader: Edna Blanchfield #1245;
goatgirl_35r@verizon.net; 845-246-3362 (NCA 9pm)

Sun, Feb. 28 – FRIDAY & BALSAM CAP

Distance: 7 mi. Ascent 2200, Elev. 3694', 3623'

A moderately paced, but strenuous bushwhack to two of the more difficult peaks. Well behaved dogs welcome.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader after Feb 14 to register.

Leader: Doug Garrity #1757; garrid0@lycos.com;
845-471-1079

Sat, Mar. 6 – LONE & ROCKY

Distance: 11mi. Ascent: 2000', Elev. 3721', 3508'.

A very strenuous bushwhack to the most remote peaks.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader to register by Mar 4 (email preferred).

Leader: George Preoteasa #1478; gvp@ms.com;
201-694-8344

Sun, Mar. 7 – WESTKILL

Distance: 8 mi, Ascent: 2400', Elev. 3880'

A moderately paced trail through-hike (shuttle required).

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader to register.

Leader: Ken Hubert #1351; hikeleader3500@yahoo.com;
718-463-5675 after 3pm (or 518-827-7327 Fri & Sat)

Sat, Mar. 13 – RUSK

Distance: 4 mi. Ascent: 1600', Elev. 3680'

A moderately paced trail hike and bushwhack.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader to register during the week before the hike.

Leader: Peggy Wissler #1499; 914-260-7506

Daylight Saving Time Begins 2:00am March 14

Sun, Mar. 14 – NO HIKE SCHEDULED.**Sat, Mar. 20 – PLATEAU & SUGARLOAF**

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 3100', Elev. 3800', 3840'

A moderately paced but strenuous trail hike on steep terrain.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leaders to register.

Leaders: Tom and Laurie Rankin #'s 1503, 1337;
laurierankin@hvc.rr.com; 845-926-2182

(Continued on page 6)

In case of bad weather or bad driving conditions, most hikes will be canceled; if in doubt contact the leader.

Sun, Mar. 21 – PANTHER

Distance: 6 mi, Ascent: 1830', Elev. 3720'

A moderately paced trail hike.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader to register.

Leader: Ken Hubert #1351; hikeleader3500@yahoo.com; 718-463-5675 after 3pm (or 518-827-7327 Fri & Sat)

Sat, Mar. 27 – TWIN

Distance: 5 mi. Ascent: 1640', Elev. 3640'

A moderately paced trail hike.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader to register between Mar. 20 - 26.

Leader: Bob Ricketson #1361; hobrick@mhcable.com; 518-943-5223

Sun, Mar. 28 – OVERLOOK (and possibly Plattekill)

Distance: 5 mi. Ascent: 1300', Elev. 3150', (3100')

A moderately paced trail hike to a beautiful Catskill fire tower and 100-highest peak with the possibility of an additional trail hike and short bushwhack to a second 100-highest peak if conditions allow.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leaders to register.

Leaders: Tom and Laurie Rankin #'s 1503, 1337 laurierankin@hvc.rr.com; 845-926-2182

In case of bad weather or bad driving conditions, most hikes will be canceled; if in doubt contact leader.

Winter Weekend

The club's annual winter weekend is scheduled for **Jan 22—24, 2010**, once again at the Hilltop Acres Inn, Rice St., Jewett, NY 12444. Total cost of \$180 per person includes: 2 nights (Fri and Sat), 2 breakfasts (Sat and Sun), 2 bag lunches (Sat and Sun), 1 dinner (Sat). Optional Fri dinner \$15 + tip. Please send your \$50 deposit per person and/or inquiries to **Art Zimmerman**, 516-432-1205, artzim1@msn.com, 766 Neptune Blvd, Long Beach NY 11561. This is a great opportunity to bag a couple of winter peaks and socialize with fellow club members. After a day of winter hiking, there is nothing like being toasty warm in a winter retreat, away from the tribulations of one's everyday life.

Our annual Club dinner will be held on Saturday March 27, 2010 at the Hillside Manor in Kingston, per usual. For this year's dinner our second vice-president, **Tom Rankin**, has managed to schedule **Bob Berman**, *perhaps the best-known and most widely-read astronomer in the world*, as our guest speaker: Dr. Berman will talk on "The Nature of Light" - not an inappropriate topic for us.

well known for his ability to translate complex scientific concepts into language that is understandable to the casual observer yet meaningful to the most advanced. His dry, edgy wit engages readers of a number of diverse publications.

Founder of the Catskill Astronomical Society, he is

He is director of the Storm King Observatory and has appeared on CBS This Morning, the Today Show, and Late Night with David Letterman.

[A dinner invitation form may be found on page 8].

North South Lake

Walking on the land I know
Muses once returned this way
Across the lake
Across the snow
Promises are kept,
if made that way.

by Paul Levine #1180



Membership Chair, **Dave White**, will shortly be sending out yearly **dues notices** (\$10 cheap). Please remit promptly so that he doesn't have to go to the considerable bother and expense of a second mailing. Please note that the application fee for the winter patch is \$5.

Scree

ADK Appreciative of Our Donations: The ADK newsletter states: “the Catskill 3500 Club awarded a grant of \$4,000 to ADK to support its advocacy of natural resource protection and trail work in the Catskill Park for 2009”. It goes on to say “ADK is deeply grateful to our sister organizations whose generous financial support and member participation brings us that much closer to achieving our mission. ADK wishes to acknowledge the strong partnership and shared conservation goals between [sic] our organizations.”

Porky says “Well said.”



Belleayre Doings: The Kingston Freeman reports that the Nov. 13 “deadline”, set by environmental groups for the transfer of 1200 acres in Big Indian from the developers to the state, has proved to be soft; the transfer still has not been consummated, but the developers say it will be done - in time.

Good Deal on Dinner Tab: The Executive Board has voted to set the price of the annual dinner to that charged us by Hillside Manor; the Club will cover the rest of the annual dinner expenses out of our general treasury.

Trail Maintenance Events Poorly Attended: Last year we didn’t get our usual crowds of eager volunteers out to maintain the trails on which we hike. Interestingly, in contrast, we did get huge turnouts for the John Robb lean-to reconstruction. I guess it’s more fun to build something than to maintain something; after all, trail maintenance is like dusting one’s house: it has to be done twice a year. On the other hand, you only have to build something once in a while. Since there is a good chance that most of those who helped build the lean-to will never use it, this desk speculates that most people turn out to do things that are fun rather than things they should do. So, if you’re looking for that satisfaction high that stems from accomplishing something for the community, keep in mind that nature is out there doing its darndest to provide ample opportunities for those of us who can’t find enough construction projects.

Drilling for Gas in the Catskills: The New York Times reports that bowing to intense public pressure, the Chesapeake Energy Corp. says it will not drill for natural gas within the upstate New York watershed, an environmentally sensitive region that supplies unfiltered water to nine million people. [Thanks to all of you who wrote letters for our environment - ed.]. However, we need to remain vigilant as there are other gas companies who might decide to try and fill the drilling void left by Chesapeake’s departure.

Canister Digitization Program Well in Hand: Someone (with pack rat genes) has stepped forward and provided **Alan Via** with copies of all **The Canisters** ever published, and Alan is moving along like a descent on snowshoes digitizing away.

Our New Members

| | |
|---------------------------|------------|
| 1824 Paul Swieton | 8/30/2009 |
| 1825 Padma Krishna | 9/10/2009 |
| 1826 Michael Stallbohm | 9/12/2009 |
| 1827 Paula Ivill Repka | 10/6/2009 |
| 1828 James F. McArdle | 10/14/2009 |
| 1829 Daniel Pekrol | 8/8/2009 |
| 1830 Julie Moran | 10/6/2009 |
| 1831 Tara Siudy | 10/31/2009 |
| 1832 Thomas F Dickson III | 11/1/2009 |

New York Wants Our Old Stuff: Speaking of dusty, old materials, the archives section of the NY State Library wants to store as many of our old club records as we can dig up, or take down from our attics. So if you’ve got any such historically momentous writings, please contact **Carol White**, who will facilitate their transfer to the state archives. (For contact information see **Dave White** in the masthead, p.2).

Diamond Notch Lean-to Repairs: The Executive Board has voted to allocate \$1500 to replace the cedar shakes on the Diamond Notch lean-to.

A Chance to Hike End-to-End: On Saturday, May 15, 2010 you will have your chance to hike for 29 miles along the Taconic Crest Trail. The sponsors promise views of the Catskills (on a clear day). [Reminder: write your congressperson about curbing air pollution]. Elevation gain is 7,836 feet. Most importantly, certificates and patches will be awarded. Contact taconichikingclub.blogspot.com or Pam Bailey at 39 Fane Ct., Troy, NY 12182.

Have you seen the “EYE” carved in the rock on Platte Clove Road ?

The eye is very well done. Take a drive by and check it out.
- a Cat Tale by **Larry Allen**
#1277.

Too few mountains in the Catskills—

Michael Prowatzke, #1653 completed his White Mountain 4,000-footers, finishing on Mt. Moosilauke.



Members and aspirants are cordially invited to attend the
FORTY-Fifth ANNUAL DINNER MEETING
Saturday, March 27, 2010

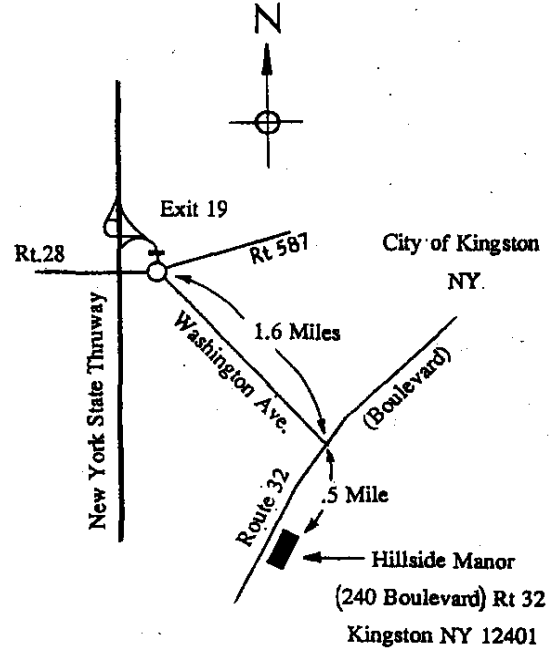
Location: Hillside Manor
 Route 32 (240 Boulevard)
 Kingston, New York 12401
 (845) 331-4386

Social Hour: 3:30 P.M. — 5:00 P.M.
 Cash bar, hors d'oeuvres served

Dinner: 5:15 p.m.

Program: "The Nature of Light" presented by
Dr. Robert Berman, a talk connecting
 astronomy with nature.,

Tariff: \$32.00 per person.
 Name-card reserved seating for everyone.
 Round tables seat 10.



Reservations must be received by March 19, 2010

Please detach and mail to:

Michael Doehring
 7 Cloverdale Avenue
 White Plains, NY 10603

Questions: Clover7med@aol.com (preferred)
 or (914) 761-7225

Reservations \$32.00 per person.

Amount of Check: \$ _____

Check payable to "**Hillside Manor**" (but
 mail to Michael Doehring, see box on left).

(Note: Checks will be deposited **after** the
 dinner)

Please Circle Choice of Entrée

Name: _____ Prime Ribs Chicken Française Mixed Veg. Lasagna

Name: _____ Prime Ribs Chicken Française Mixed Veg. Lasagna

If you intend to sit with a large group, print the names of the people you would like seated at your table,
 and please verify that the people listed will actually attend and wish to sit with you

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Reservations must be received by March 19, 2010



the catskill canister

April—June, 2010

Volume 43 Number 2

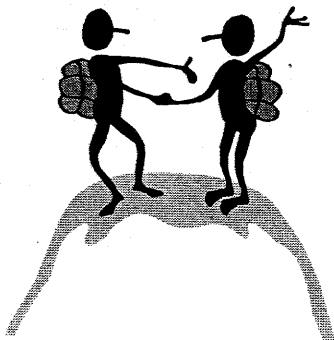
Bushwhacking in the Catskills — and enjoying it

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SAVE THE DATE

- ⇒ **Annual Dinner: Sat., March 27, 2010** (see page 6)
- ⇒ **Annual Trail Maintainers Party: Sat., April 24** (see page 7)
- ⇒ **29-mile Day Hike in Taconics: Sat., May 15** (see last issue)



Washington Irving's story about Rip Van Winkle, the man who got drunk and slept for twenty years, takes place in our mysterious Catskill Mountains. Irving reports that the "Kaatsberg, or Catskill mountains have always been a region full of fable. Native Americans considered them the abode of the spirits, who influenced the weather, spreading sunshine or clouds over the landscape, and sending good or bad hunting seasons." Irving observes that "every change of season, every change of weather, produces some magical hues and shapes in these mountains, and they are regarded ... as a perfect barometer." Even today, those of us who can see the Catskill high peaks etched against the western horizon know these mountains as a reliable sign of changing weather. The official forecast may call for a fair day, but when thunder heads assemble around the northern Catskills and we hear distant rumbles, we know once again the report has failed to factor in the influence of our local weather makers.

"our Catskill State Park nonetheless includes about 700,000 acres as well as 300 miles of marked trails."

Long before I first encountered these mysterious mountains I was attracted to them as my grandfather read Washington Irving's stories to me.

My first Catskills hike occurred when I was a teenager. My grandfather arranged a camping trip for my

cousin, Phil Stoddard, and me to camp with him, fish for brook trout, and hike up Slide Mountain. I can't remember the details but it must have been an exhilarating experience: I've been climbing mountains ever since.

Strangely enough, I didn't return to the Catskills for a hike until three years ago, with mountaineer Fred Schroeder. Fred knows both the Adirondacks and the Catskills better than anyone I've met. You can ask him about any trail or trailhead in either mountain range, and with almost instant recall, he will describe the place as if he had been there yesterday. Fred is both a regular and winter Adirondack 46er and Catskill 35er.

Even though Fred is intimately familiar with the taller, more

well known Adirondacks he will tell you, "It's no secret that I have a love affair with the Catskills." He feels that they have their own unique charms, creating terrain for some of "the most delightful bushwhacking to be found, with open woods leading to interesting rock ledges, flowing streams, and a huge variety of flora." (Fred's observations and many stories about Catskill hiking are anthologized in Carol White's delightful book: *Catskill Peak Experiences*,

(Continued on page 3)

The Catskill Canister

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The President's Column

Recognizing the Folks Who Make the Club What It Is

I'd like to take this opportunity to recognize the folks who gave back to the club last year. First, the officers of the club who keep everything going and make my life so much easier. Their names can be found in the summer issue of the Canister.

Next I'd like to recognize our hike leaders, who are our ambassadors to the hiking public. Last year we had thirty leaders who led over 100 hikes. They were: **Suzanne Kanabe, Elie Bijou, Michael "Mick" Dunn, Jeff Glans, Joseph Polcha, Doug Garrity, Tom Rankin, Laurie Rankin, Carol Nestor, Jean Taylor, Danielle Besso, Jim Malumphy, George Preoteasa, Edna Blanchfield, Ken Hubert, Irene Logan, Jim Kerlin, Cindy Kuhn, Edward Ripley-Duggan, Peggy Wissler, Wanda Davenport, Jim Bouton, Joe Bogardus, Walter Brett, Liz Faulkner, David White, Carol White, Pavel Litvinov, Aaron Schenberg, and Harry Rampe.**

I'd also like to recognize all of the folks who contributed so much to get the new John Robb lean-to built: tied for first and foremost are **Laurie Rankin** and **Pete Senterman**. Laurie organized all of the work parties, while Pete convinced the DEC to allow us to help, and coordinated all of the materials and the actual build. Then of course there were those who pitched in and helped with the actual building: **Tom Rankin, Laurie Rankin, Jay Hui, Paula Repka, Alexander Soroka, Gordon Hoekstra, Ralph Ryndak, William Maurer, Ed Gilroy, Pete Senterman, Doug Senterman, Jeff Senterman, Louise Perkins, Bill Schirmer, Tony Versandi, Carol White, Dave White, Art Zimmerman, Mellonie Sanborn, Cal Johnson, Cindy Kuhn, Jeff Glans, Harry Rampe, Joseph Bogardus, Colin DeVries, Wanda Davenport, Jeremy Wright, Vincent Maendel, and Jean Taylor**

Lastly, and certainly not least, I'd like to recognize the few hardy souls who came out and helped the club with its public responsibilities; trail maintenance and litter pickup. Those folks were: **Doug Hamilton, Mary Hughes, Elie Bijou, Jeff Glans, Colin DeVries, Donna Wamsley, Ken Wamsley and Bill Collier.**

So a big thank you to all of you who have given back to our club and an invitation to the rest of you to come on out and lend a hand.

Jeff Glans

We're on the web at

www.catskill-3500-club.org



(Continued from page 1)

available at Chatham Books).

I'm also an Adirondack 46er, but I'm just an "aspirant" in the Catskills, having climbed about half the peaks. My most recent adventure involved a short trail hike followed by a substantial bushwhack to the summit of Rusk Mountain. This 3500 Club hike, organized by Jean Taylor, was composed of a small but convivial group of five hikers. Jean was the only club member, the rest of us were aspirants.

Our leader wanted us to gain some experience leading a bushwhack, so each of us, in turn, had to follow the compass setting that we had determined should bring us to the summit ridge. Our sixteen hundred foot ascent took us through majestic hemlock stands, the likes of which you seldom see these days. At the lower elevations, the Catskill forest consists primarily of mixed hardwoods with some wonderful beech, maple and cherry stands. Approaching the mountain we passed through fragrant fields of both hay-scented and lady fern. Further up the mountain, as our breath was coming in shorter gasps, we passed by large patches of flowering sorrel and clintonia, the latter already forming their seed heads. Before long we came to a dramatic series of cliffs which forced us to search for a manageable route while not deviating too far off course. In so doing we startled several grouse, which took off on heavy wing beats, sounding like pulsing engines. Working our way through the cliffs, we eventually emerged onto the summit ridge, and a due west compass reading soon took us to the summit canister. I have to admit our guide had a GPS unit with her, to which we could have resorted in order to find the canister, but we didn't need it. However, we did use it to start our descent when we feared we had gotten off course.

Not all Catskill peaks provide a perfect summit view, but most give good limited views, usually as one climbs above a ridge line. That was the case with Rusk. We had fine views of nearby Hunter and Westkill mountains from just above the cliffs, but we chose to eat lunch in a viewless but shady summit bower. From some of the open summits you can see many of the 35 peaks over 3500 feet and the 98 mountains rising to

over 3,000 feet. Dwarfed in acreage by the Adirondacks, our Catskill State Park nonetheless includes about 700,000 acres as well as 300 miles of marked trails. Using any of several published hiking guides, you can find satisfying hikes as short as one mile, and as long as The Long Path, which, when completed, will allow serious hikers to start at the George Washington Bridge and end up at the Mohawk River west of Albany.

As we ate lunch and took photographs we told stories about other hikes. The dozen hikes I have taken with the club have provided good companionship and memorable conversations. Especially on a bushwhack, I find it comforting that the leader is familiar with the terrain, but it's also prudent to be hiking as part of a group in [the unlikely] case of injury.

On our return bushwhack the conversations continued. We passed a large plop of bear scat which triggered a story two of us recalled from an earlier hike. Our leader that day was Harry Rampe, a senior hiker whose exploits are becoming legendary. So many people arrived for that hike that Harry divided us into two groups, with our group starting out first. About an hour into the hike we came to an enormous display of scat, right in the middle of trail. We thought it might be human, but no, Harry declared it was definitely bear. But that gave him an idea—"let's have some fun with those laggards in group two." He pulled some toilet paper from his day pack and poked it into the mess with a stick, then we continued on. As we were relaxing on the summit, group two arrived, complaining mightily. The leader went right up to Harry, shouting, 'I can't believe you'd let someone in your group do a dump right in the trail. Harry smiled, we all chuckled as he commented, "When you gotta go, you just gotta go." We remained two distinct groups for the rest of the hike—the amused followed by the disgusted.

As Washington Irving understood, the Catskills evoke experiences both sublime and ridiculous! ▲

Submitted by John Cooley, aspirant, and edited by the Canister.

Working His Way Up. Past president, **Howie Dash #458**, now retired to New Mexico (a wimpy land with no winter below 4,000'), reports he is still able to climb almost a thousand feet, but needs to rest for a week afterwards. If he wants snow he has to drive over two hours to reach the 10,000-footers, which he is planning to do ... someday.



Reminder

The Canister craves articles of up to 1100 words on the Catskills.

Hike Schedule April—June, 2010

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.** 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 early spring kit. Ice and snow can still be found unexpectedly in these peaks. In early spring, if there is any doubt about the conditions that may be encountered, each hiker is strongly advised to **bring snowshoes and full crampons 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. Anyone not properly equipped may be refused permission to participate, at the leader's absolute discretion. Don't be seduced by buds on the trees at the trailhead, **early spring in the Catskills is not to be treated lightly.**

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

Cancelations: Please be aware that, **in the case of bad weather or bad driving conditions, most hikes will be canceled; if you are uncertain, please contact the leader before leaving for the hike.** As a matter of courtesy to our volunteer hike leaders, we ask that you let them know as early as possible if you have to cancel your attendance on a hike.

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.

Volunteer to Lead: If you are a member of the Club please consider becoming a hike leader. Just contact Manuel Peraza (mapcolus1@verizon.net; 718-698-4422 (7pm-9pm)), and Manny will arrange to add you to the low-volume private Yahoo list through which hikes are coordinated. You will be contacted via this means when hikes are needed.

Sat, Apr 3 – BURNT KNOB & ACRA POINT

Distance: 5 mi. Ascent: 1300', Elev. 3180', 3100'

A relaxed-pace trail hike to two of the Catskill's hundred highest peaks with impressive views and possibilities to add other high peaks as well.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leaders to register.

Leaders: Tom and Laurie Rankin #'s 1503, 1337;
laurierankin@hvc.rr.com; 845-926-2182

Sun, Apr 4 – BEARPEN & VLY

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2035', Elev. 3600', 3529'

Moderately paced bushwhack. Well behaved dogs welcome.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader Mar. 21 - Apr 2 to register.

Leader: Doug Garrity #1757; garrid0@lycos.com;
845-471-1079

Sat, Apr 10 – CATSKILL 3500 LITTER PICK-UP

Please join us for the annual Spring litter pickup on our adopted section of State Route 214. We will meet at Notch Lake. Please bring work gloves. Safety vests, hard hats and trash bags will be supplied. Possible ascent of a trailless peak afterwards.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader to register for this activity. Participation in this activity earns a point for the 3500 Club Service Patch.

Leader: Elie Bijou #1492; adirondacks@verizon.net;
718-377-2990 NCA 9 pm, Fridays & weekends, 6 pm.

Sun, Apr 11 – DOUBLETOP

Distance: 6 mi. Ascent: 1860', Elev. 3862'

Moderate trail hike and bushwhack from Seager. Well behaved dogs welcome.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader to register (email preferred).

Leader: Danielle Besso #1496; dbesso@stny.rr.com;
607-724-5523 6pm-9pm.

Sat, Apr 17 – RUSK

Distance: 3 mi. Ascent: 1600', Elev. 3600'

Moderately paced bushwhack.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader to register by April 15.

Leader: Edna Blanchfield #1245;
goatgirl_35@verizon.net; 845-246-3362 NCA 9pm.

Sun, Apr 18 – NORTH DOME

Distance: 6.5 mi. Ascent: 2000', Elev. 3540'

Moderately paced bushwhack. Well behaved dogs welcome.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader Apr 4 - 16 to register.

Leader: Doug Garrity, #1757; garrid0@lycos.com,
845-471-1079

In early spring each hiker must bring snowshoes, full crampons, and full winter gear to the trailhead.

Sat, Apr 24 - PLATEAU

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2200', Elev. 3840'.

Moderately paced trail hike from Rte. 214 and down the new trail. Car shuttle required.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leaders to register before April 21.

Leaders: Mike & Ellen Dwyer # 1453 & 1452;
jemsdwy@optonline.net; 631-472-9290 NCA 9 pm..

Sun, Apr 25 - PEEKAMOOSE & TABLE TRAIL MAINTENANCE

Join members of your board and work alongside them as you discuss pertinent issues of the Catskills. Please bring work gloves and a pair of loppers, a saw, or hand clippers. If you don't have tools, they will be supplied by the Club. Please contact leader prior to April 24 to register.

Leader: Elie Bijou # 1492; adironacks@verizon.net;
718-377-2990 NCA 9 pm. Fridays & weekends, 6 pm.

Sat, May 1 - HUNTER & SW HUNTER

Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 2225', Elev. 4040', 3740'

Moderately paced trail hike and bushwhack which will include a stop at the newly built John Robb leanto for maintenance. (See Lean-to Workshop on page 7).

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leaders to register.

Leaders: Tom and Laurie Rankin #'s 1503, 1337;
laurierankin@hvc.rr.com; 845-926-2182

Sun, May 2 - FIR & BIG INDIAN

Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 2400', Elev. 3620', 3700'

Moderately paced trail hike and bushwhack. Well behaved dogs welcome.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader Apr 18 - 30 to register.

Leader: Doug Garrity #1757, garrid0@lycos.com,
845-471-1079

Sat, May 8 - GRAHAM & BALSAM LAKE

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2040', Elev. 3723, 3868'

A moderately paced trail hike and bushwhack. Join us for a chance to visit the observer's and fire tower cabins at BLM.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact Jeff to register.
NCA 9:30 pm

Leaders: Jeff Glans and Cindy Kuhn;
glansj@yahoo.com (preferred), 203-816-8142

Sat, May 8 - HALCOTT

Distance: 4 mi. Ascent: 1,720', Elev. 3520'.

A moderately paced bushwhack.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader to register between May 3-6. Calls only May 7. NCA after 8pm..

Leader: Jim Malumphy #890; lump63@hotmail.com;
203-206-0586

Sun, May 9 - CORNELL via SLIDE and WITTENBERG

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 2800', Elev. 4180', 3860', 3780'

A strenuous trail hike at a moderate pace. Car shuttle required.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader to register by May 7 (email preferred).

Leader: George Preoteasa #1478; gvp@ms.com;
201-694-8344.

Sat, May 15 - SHERRIL & SOUTH SHERRILL

Distance: 6 mi. Ascent 2,400', Elev. 3,540', 2,883'

Moderately paced bushwhack. We'll follow Sherrill's south ridge towards S. Sherrill and then back to the cars.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader to register May 4 - 12 (email preferred).

Leader: Alan Via #429; Peakbagr100@Gmail.com;
518-439-3514

Sun, May 16 - WINDHAM HIGH PEAK

Distance: 6.4 mi. Ascent: 1784', Elev. 3524'

Out and back, trail hike at a relaxed pace.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader to register during the week before the hike.

Leaders: Dick and Joanne Hihn #'s 1746, 1745;
rhihn@skidmore.edu; 518-765-4262.

Sat, May 22 - SUGARLOAF, TWIN, & INDIAN HEAD

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 2800'. Elev. 3800', 3640', 3573'

Moderately paced trail hike with some rock scrambles.

Meeting Place/Time: Please call leader Mon - Thu. of the week of the hike to register.

Leader: Peggy Wissler #1499; 914-260-7506

Sun, May 23 - KAATERSKILL High Peak

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 1700', Elev. 3655'

An easy to moderately paced trail hike and bushwhack.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader to register May 17 - 21.

Leader: Michael L. "Mick" Dunn, Jr. #1272;
mdunn@wyeth.com; 603-809-0348.

Sat, May 29 - PEEKAMOOSE & TABLE

Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 3000' Elev. 3843', 3847'

A strenuous trail hike at a moderate pace.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader to register by May 27 (email preferred).

Leader: George Preoteasa #1478; gvp@ms.com;
201-694-8344.

(Continued on page 6)

In case of bad weather or bad driving conditions, most hikes will be canceled; if in doubt contact the leader.

Sun, May 30 – BALSAM & EAGLE

Distance: 8.5 mi. Ascent: 2596', Elev. 3600', 3600'

A moderately paced trail hike.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader to register.

Leader: Ken Hubert #1351; hikeleader3500@yahoo.com;
718-463-5675 after 3pm (or 518-827-7327 Fri & Sat).

Sat, Jun 5 – SLIDE

Distance: 6.7 mi. Ascent 1900', Elev. 4180'

A moderately paced trail hike.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader to register May 31- Jun 4.

Leader: Suzanne Knabe #1326; suzkna@msn.com;
718-435-3092 (after 7pm)

Sun, Jun 6 – LONE & ROCKY

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 2000', Elev. 3721', 3508'

Moderately paced, arduous, and long trail hike and bushwhack. Well behaved dogs welcome.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader to register (email preferred).

Leader: Danielle Besso #1496; dbesso@stny.rr.com;
607-724-5523 6pm-9pm.

Sat, Jun 12 – PANTHER via GIANT LEDGES

Distance: 5.2 mi. Ascent: 1545', Elev. 3720'

Out and back, trail hike at a relaxed pace.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader to register during the week before the hike.

Leaders: Dick and Joanne Hihn #'s 1746, 1745;
rhihn@skidmore.edu; 518-765-4262

Sun, Jun 13 – BALSAM CAP & FRIDAY

Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 2800', Elev. 3623', 3694'

Moderately paced but strenuous bushwhack to two of the most difficult to reach peaks.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader to register before June 11.

Leader: Joe Bogardus #1399; joe.adks@gmail.com ;
518-576-9739.

Sat, Jun 19 – BLACK HEAD Range Traverse

Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 2760', Elev. 3940', 3980', 3940'

A moderately paced trail hike. Car Shuttle required.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader to register by Jun 17.

Leader: Carol Nestor, #1325; 914-683-3858.NCA 9 pm.

Sun, Jun 20 – ASHOKAN

Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 2070', Elev. 3080'

A moderately-paced trail hike to one of the Catskill's hundred highest peaks with impressive views. Well-behaved dogs welcome.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leaders to register by Jun 17.

Leaders: Heather Rolland #1777 & Mike Wilkie;
haliagrace@hotmail.com

Sat, Jun 26 – WITTENBERG

Distance: 7.8 mi. Ascent 2600', Elev. 3780'

A moderately paced but strenuous trail hike. Please join leader for her 25th anniversary of completing the 35ers on her first-climbed and favorite peak. Sixty-something (65th) birthday hike, too.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader by 8pm Thu, Jun 24 to register.

Leader: Wanda Davenport #523;
wandatrails@verizon.net; 201-670-8383 NCA 9pm

Sun, Jun 27 – WESTKILL

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2400', Elev. 3880'

A moderately paced trail through-hike (short car shuttle needed).

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader to register by Jun 24.

Leader: Bob Ricketson #1361; bobrick@mhcable.com;
518-943-5223

In case of bad weather or bad driving conditions, most hikes will be canceled; if in doubt please contact the leader.

Our annual Club dinner will be held on Saturday March 27, 2010 at the Hillside Manor in Kingston, per usual. For this year's dinner our second vice-president, **Tom Rankin**, has managed to schedule **Bob Berman**, *perhaps the best-known and most widely-read astronomer in the world*, as our guest speaker: Dr. Berman will talk on "The Nature of Light" - not an inappropriate topic for us. Founder of the Catskill Astronomical Society, he is well known for his ability to translate complex scientific concepts into language that is understandable to the casual observer yet meaningful to the most advanced. His dry, edgy wit engages readers of a number of diverse publications. He is director of the Storm King Observatory and has appeared on CBS This Morning, the Today Show, and Late Night with David Letterman. Sign-up deadline is March 19; reservation form in last issue.

The Dues Corner

Dave White and Cindy Kuhn thank all of you who have renewed and the many who have made extra contributions. If you have not yet renewed, please do so in order to save them the time and effort of sending reminders.

Please don't be delinquent.

Scree

The Annual NY/NJ TC Catskills trail maintainers party will be held at 163 Ford Hill Rd., Jewett, NY on **April 24th** at 5:30 pm. Dinner will be served. Please RSVP by April 1st to buddy.jenssen@gmail.com or 201-805-4646. Our hosts, Buddy Jenssen and his wife Linda Bowden are looking forward to seeing all Catskill trail maintainers and those thinking about the possibility. If you're considering getting involved, here's your chance to get some tips from the people with boots in the woods and loppers in their arms.

Catskill Leanto Workshops. Doug Senterman, Leanto Supervisor for the NYNJTC, will be partnering with the Catskill 3500 Club to provide two workshops regarding the duties of a leanto maintainer. The first workshop will be on **Saturday, May 1st** in conjunction with a hike to Hunter and SW Hunter and a visit to the new John Robb leanto. On **Sunday, May 2nd** we will visit the Bouton leanto on Table Mt. Please contact **Laurie Rankin** to sign up for one of these dates: laurierankin@hvc.rr.com (preferred) or by phone at 845-926-2182.

Money Talks. In 2010 the Club will be donating \$3000 to the ADK for advocacy and \$1000 to the ADK trail crew for trail maintenance projects in the Catskills. Thanks for your donations, generous they all are, which make such grants possible.

Reprieve on Drilling in Catskills Only Temporary.

According to the NY Times, New York City environmental officials said that months of scientific research had indicated that hydraulic drilling for natural gas upstate could contaminate the watershed serving the city. While the Chesapeake Energy Corporation, which owns the lease to drill in the watershed, announced in October that it did not plan to drill in the watershed, a spokesperson for the Natural Resources Defense Council said that Chesapeake's promise meant little. "It's nonbinding, it's temporary and it only applies to one company ... Other companies could take over the lease, or Chesapeake could choose to go in and drill if they renew the lease." So keep those letter-writing pencils sharpened in anticipation of the next round in this battle.

Ulster County Chamber of Commerce supports Gitter's Belleayre development project. A recent edition of the newsletter of the Ulster County Chamber of Commerce featured an article on Dean Gitter, espousing his Belleayre development project. The article quotes Mr. Gitter: "The project is very much alive and kicking...". The article also mentions that for each 3% increase in town expenditures, \$8 million in new construction is needed as an offset, but other studies have shown that the cost of services engendered by new construction are greater than the tax revenues they produce! To convince yourself of the latter just compare local tax rates in undeveloped areas with those of developed communities.

NY Park closures. By now everybody has heard about Gov. Paterson's proposal to close many of the NY state parks, and I'm sure that almost everyone of us has sent a message to the governor and state legislators making them aware of our feelings on that matter. In the unlikely case that you haven't yet done so, you might want to think about the closure plan the next time you set foot in a park, or even think about setting foot in a park.

After GPS what else but... Though many of us still meander uncertainly through the woods without the aid of battery-powered devices, the Board had deemed it time to consider the electronic distribution of the *Canister*. Stay tuned as things develop.

Nature takes back German Hollow leanto. The Catskill Leanto Supervisor has recently reported that six trees came down and demolished the German Hollow leanto. He further advises avoiding the area due to the danger from all the splintered wood and metal from the roof.

The Club is now playing with the Big Dogs. As the club's yearly income has exceeded \$25,000, it now has the honor of needing to file additional documentation with the IRS. Since being able to navigate by map and compass isn't great preparation for understanding the implications of the tax code, the club will seek professional advice from an accounting firm as to how to proceed.

Why Do We Get So Many People Out to Build a Leanto and So Few to Do Trail Maintenance ?

Some possible answers.

- ⇒ Building leanto's is once in a long while, trail maintenance is 2 – 3 times a year.
- ⇒ Building is more fun than clipping.
- ⇒ Building provides better visual gratification: the leanto might last for a few years; the bushes grow back every spring.
- ⇒ Clipping bushes is just not macho enough. (After a big storm, when there are numerous blowdowns, a lot of volunteers come out to help in the heavy removal work)..
- ⇒ A better organizing effort tends to go into leanto building initiatives.
- ⇒ The pizza (or beer) is better at the leanto party.

Our New Members

| | | |
|------|----------------------|----------|
| 1833 | Alex B Marra | 12/01/09 |
| 1834 | Eunsil Recksiek | 12/27/09 |
| 1835 | Dan Mahoney | 12/27/09 |
| 1836 | Stanley Eng | 12/26/09 |
| 1837 | James J Darcy | 12/28/09 |
| 1838 | Marcus Holmes | 12/28/09 |
| 1839 | Dennis J Kelly | 12/28/09 |
| 1840 | Will Soter | 12/01/09 |
| 1841 | Danny Tavares | 01/09/10 |
| 1842 | Patsy P Perrotto | 01/24/10 |
| 1843 | Maret Panzenbeck | 01/29/10 |
| 1844 | Timothy R Simpkins | 01/24/10 |
| 1845 | Victoria L Cosentino | 01/24/10 |
| 1846 | Lois Rothenberger | 02/06/10 |



Winter

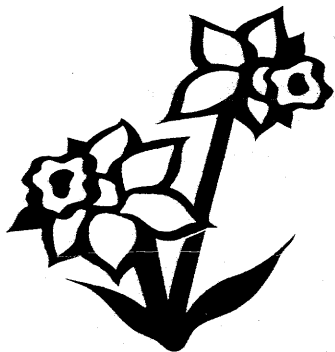
| | | | |
|------|----------------|-------|----------|
| 725W | Don Sutherland | 1680R | 02/04/10 |
| 726W | J Noel Cotter | 1620R | 02/06/10 |
| 727W | Jeffrey Ritter | 1278R | 02/13/10 |

She Really Loves Playing in the Mud. Word has it that **Jane O'Connell, #530** of North Creek, NY, has earned her 746-hour trail work patch from the ADK 46'ers. [Do the bushes grow back faster in the Dacks ?]



Life

| | |
|------|-------------------|
| 1409 | Richard Siegelman |
| 1653 | Michael Prowatzke |
| 1774 | Sue Kenyon |
| 1795 | Donna McBride |
| 1826 | Michael Stallbohm |
| Asp | Eric Schlobohm |
| Asp | Edward DeSalvio |
| Asp | Melinda Broman |



They love driving. Past president, Winter 111er, and Northeast 770er, **Sue Eilers #337** completed every last one of the 2,178 miles of the Appalachian Trail, at Harpers Ferry, West Virginia last fall.



Jane Smalley #1068 completed the Appalachian Trail, November 20, 2009 on Springer Mountain, Georgia after 11 years of section hiking.



the catskill canister

July-September, 2010

Volume 43 Number 3

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3500-Footers as Seen from Belleayre Ski Lifts and Trails - How many can you identify ?

Since I can't winter hike any longer, I am very happy that I can keep in touch with my 3500-foot friends, even on the coldest days, by very frequent downhill skiing. Particularly rewarding are our get-togethers on Belleayre Mountain, from where I can locate at least 24 peaks scattered through my entire love affair with the Catskills— a tryst which started more than 50 years ago on Slide Mountain. As the crow flies, my final peak, Fir, bagged on an unforgettable June day in 2006, is only 5 miles away; yet it took me a long time using compass and binoculars to find it.

lost somehow in the Catskill Park and wandered away. Moving east along the northern horizon we return to the Catskill Park guarded by Halcott and followed by two more trailless peaks: Mount Sherill and North Dome. It's time now to switch to the eastern ski trails to get a better vantage point. I recognize and say hello to West Kill and maybe even to Southwest Hunter. Looking almost due East some 20 miles away I am trying to separate Plateau, Sugarloaf, Twin and Indian Head. I rejoice at my success by a feeling of an exhilaration rush a hundred times greater than skiing fast to the lodge (where I celebrate with lunch and beer). I rest on my laurels before returning to the Tomahawk ski lift and the summit trail to work on the southern hemisphere.

"I convince myself I can glimpse Doubletop between Eagle and Graham "

So, whether you are a member of our Club, a hiker or just a Catskills' admirer, join me on this fun Odyssey. It will add more excitement and a new challenge to skiing; and who knows, it may even entice you to seek a more intimate relationship with our beautiful mountains - and that will change your life for ever.

So, here I am again scanning the beautiful, dreamy, white landscape from East to West. Oh yes, the fire tower on Balsam Lake Mountain with its faithful companion Graham barely showing the decayed radio station. What a lucky start ! Two more peaks,

Balsam and Eagle are easy to name due to their closeness. But now the identification gets much harder, due

(Continued on page 3)

.....

• **SAVE THE DATE** •

.....

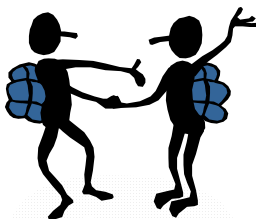
⇒ *Survival training, Aug 14, see p. 5*

.....

⇒ *Annual Dinner, Sat, April 2, 2011 (but don't send in your reservations yet)*

.....

.....



The Catskill Canister

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The Catskill Canister is published four times yearly by the Catskill 3500 Club, Inc. for \$10.00 a year. Articles, not previously published, of less than 1100 words on hiking, essays, or poetry, should be sent to wm169@verizon.net.

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Nominal dates for receiving the Canister are: Mar 15, Jun 15, Sep 15, and Dec 15.

The President's Column

Hiker Education

One of the club's major services to the hiking community is hiker education. New hikers join club hikes and through interactions with the hike leader and the other participants learn about proper backcountry protocol: what needs to be in your pack, and how to navigate both the trailed and the trailless peaks.

There have been some suggestions recently that a bit of formal education might be beneficial as some perceive an increasing abundance of clueless hikers in the mountains. In my experience there appears to be about the same level of 'cluelessness' as there has always been but, as experienced hikers, we do have a responsibility to educate those around us (if, for no other reason, that we can avoid participating in their resulting rescue).

A few suggestions: first, be a good role model. Carry the proper equipment even if it's a short hike and 'nothing could possibly happen'. You're probably right, but it encourages others to go out unprepared. Second, when you run into the occasional clueless hiker, help them out. Don't read them the riot act, just chat them up a bit. Tell them about the club, tell them stories about your death defying trips when the right piece of gear saved your bacon. You know, all the stuff we talk about at the annual dinner.

Trip leaders are our ambassadors to the greater hiking community and as such have a greater responsibility. Please make sure all of your hike participants are properly prepared.

I always like to include some educational content on my hikes. In a recent hike up Fir, one of the easier bushwhacks, I had everyone pull out their compass and set the bearing which we had agreed upon in the parking area. Then we all spread out and followed a bearing up the hillside. It was a pretty low pressure introduction to compass navigation, as everyone could see where everyone else was going. For some of them it was their first use of a compass. I think we do newbies a disservice by guiding them right up to the summit without helping them to learn how to navigate on their own. Most of us know the woods well enough now that we don't bother with a compass - we follow a ridge etc. I always make a point of telling my hike participants how we're going to find our way to the summit and back, and what our backup plan is.

So please help the clueless hikers learn how to avoid becoming a statistic, it makes the woods safer for everyone.

Jeff

We're on the web at

www.catskill-3500-club.org



(Continued from page 1)

to the trees obscuring the view, the many peaks, and, of course, my insufficient knowledge. In a way I welcome the challenge because I have time and many more days of skiing. Finally, after a long deliberation, I convince myself I can glimpse Doubletop between Eagle and Graham as well as Big Indian and Fir Mountain. Panther, Wittenberg, Cornell and Slide are not hard to recognize, and they, complete my quest. I am happy as a

hen who has all her chicks around her, even though I doubt hens can count to such a high number – but then, I was not sure I could either, when I started this project. ▲

Submitted by **Henry Halema #1647** and edited by the **Canister**.

RATTLERS

Before I'd climbed my first Catskill peak, I had read (in the 1971 edition of the New York Walk Book) that the only two places in the Catskills where rattlesnake dens were known to exist were Mount Tremper and Overlook Mountain.

Sure enough, in the summer of 1972 when friends and I prepared to climb Tremper, just after we'd begun walking up from the parking area on Old Route 28 east of Phoenicia, a hiker coming down warned us to go back, because he'd seen rattlers on the trail. We took his advice.

The next time I set out to climb Tremper I made sure it was in a different season, and I didn't see any snakes on the hike.

So now it is eight or nine years later, and a friend and I are climbing Overlook (my initial visit to that peak) on the first day of a weekend backpack. I am of course looking for rattlers the whole trip up from Meads Mountain Road, but don't see any.

When we reach the top, where the fire tower is still manned by a resident keeper, he is on the scene - a grizzled old man standing between the tower and his rustic cabin. He greets us warmly, and after I return his greeting I get right to the point: asking him when the rattlers were out on Overlook.

To this day, I still remember how his mouth curled into a grin and a gleam came into his eyes, but it was the way he answered my question that I doubt that I'll ever forget.

"When the leaves on the oak trees are the size of a kitten's ears", was what he said.

Top that if you can. ▲

Submitted by **Richard Barr, #604** and edited by the **Canister**.

The Haiku Corner

through misty breath
the last gray canister
strapped around a spruce

Matt Beck, #1857

He's Not in Hiding — From **Murray Friedman, #887**: "Wondering if anyone is breathing from the many off-trail hikes I led around the eighties. Today am alive in the beautiful state of Oregon".

Contact: mrsfrdmn@aol.com



Reminder

Dave's updating the mailing list. If you haven't paid your **dues please**, please pay them now or let him know you will not be doing so.



Reminder

The **Canister** craves articles of up to 1100 words on the Catskills.

Hike Schedule July—September, 2010

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.

On the 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

Cancelations: Please be aware that, **in the case of bad weather or bad driving conditions, most hikes will be canceled; if you are uncertain, please contact the leader before leaving for the hike.** As a matter of courtesy to our volunteer hike leaders, we ask that you let them know as early as possible if you have to cancel your attendance on a hike.

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.

Volunteer to Lead: If you are a member of the Club please **consider becoming a hike leader.** Just contact Manuel Peraza (mapcolus1@verizon.net; 718-698-4422 (7pm-9pm)), and Manny will arrange to add you to the low-volume private Yahoo list through which hikes are coordinated. You will be contacted via this means when hikes are needed.

Sat, July 3 - NO HIKES SCHEDULED

Sun, July 4 - THOMAS COLE, BLACK DOME (& possibly BLACKHEAD)

Distance: 6.5 mi. (8 mi.) Ascent: 2100' (2600'),
Elev: 3940', 3980' (3940')

A moderately paced trail hike. Car shuttle required. We'll bag Blackhead if the temperature is moderate.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader to register by noon, July 3.

Leader: Wanda Davenport #523; c3500c@verizon.net;
201-670-8383 (NCA 9 pm)

Sat, July 10 - LONE & ROCKY

Distance: 11 mi. Ascent: 2000', Elev. 3721', 3508'

A very strenuous bushwhack to the most remote peaks.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader to register by July 8 (email preferred).

Leader: George Preoteasa #1478; gvp@ms.com;
201-694-8344.

Sun, July 11 - PEEKAMOOSE & TABLE

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent 2600', Elev. 3640', 3800'

A moderately paced trail hike.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader Sep 6 - 10 to register.

Leader: Suzanne Knabe #1326; suzkna@msn.com;
718-435-3092 after 7pm

Sat, July 17 - DOUBLETOP

Distance: 6mi. Ascent: 1700', Elev. 3800'

A moderately paced bushwhack over rough terrain.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader to register before July 17.

Leader: Reid Bauer #1810, reid_bauer@hotmail.com

Sun, July 18 - RUSK & East RUSK

Distance: 6 mi. Ascent 1600', Elev. 3680', 3644'

A moderately paced trail hike and bushwhack. Well behaved dogs welcome.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader July 4 - 16 to register.

Leader: Doug Garrity #1757, garrid0@lycos.com;
845-471-1079

Sat, July 24 - SLIDE

Distance: 5.7mi. Ascent 1750', Elev. 4180'

An easy to moderately paced trail hike. Plan on an early start.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader July 16 - 22 to register.

Leader: Alan Via #429, peakbagr100@gmail.com

Sun, July 25 PANTHER

Distance: 6.7 mi, Ascent 1830', Elev. 3720'

A relaxed-pace trail hike.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leaders to register.

Leaders: David and Carol White, #'s 859 and 860;
ccswhite@juno.com; 315-853-6942

Sun, July 25 - INDIAN HEAD (& possibly TWIN)

Distance: 7 mi Ascent: 2200', Elev. 3573' (3640')

Enjoy the views on a loop over Indian Head and Twin, at a relaxed pace.

Meeting time/place: Please contact leader to register.

Leader: Jean Taylor #584, Taylor.Jean.E@gmail.com;
908-209-4750.

Crampons are usually not necessary in summer, but you might consider extra water.

Sat, July 31 – HUNTER & Southwest HUNTER

Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 2225', Elev. 3740', 4040'.

A moderately paced bushwhack and trail hike. Excessive heat cancels.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader by July 29 to register.

Leader: Carol Nestor, #1325; 914-683-3858 (NCA 9 pm)

Sun, Aug. 1 – BIG INDIAN & FIR

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 2500', Elev. 3629', 3700'

A strenuous bushwhack at a moderate pace.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader by July 30 to register (email preferred).

Leader: George Preoteasa #1478; gvp@ms.com; 201-694-8344

Sat, Aug. 7 – PLATEAU

Distance: 8 mi Ascent: 2200', Elev. 3840'

A relaxed-pace trail hike up and over Daley Ridge, then returning via the Devils Path to State Route 214. Car shuttle required.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leaders to register

Leaders: Tom and Laurie Rankin #'s 1503, 1337; laurierankin@hvc.rr.com; 845-926-2182

Sun, Aug. 8 – NORTH DOME & SHERRILL

Distance: 6.5 mi. Ascent: 2500'. Elev. 3610', 3540'

A relaxed paced bushwhack and trail hike. Car shuttle required.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leaders to register

Leaders: Tom and Laurie Rankin #'s 1503, 1337; laurierankin@hvc.rr.com; 845-926-2182

Sat, Aug. 14 – SUMMER SURVIVAL PROGRAM

We will construct a swamp and debris shelter, choose locations for shelters, start a survival fire, locate, purify and make water. We will become lost, then find our way back to our base camp. We will discuss signs of hypothermia and what action should be taken to ensure survival. We will locate and prepare food, and navigate without compass. This program will provide basic survival skills for a 72-hour event, such as being lost or not being able to move in a wilderness setting.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader Aug. 9 - 13 to register.

Leader: Joseph Polcha; ipolcha@aol.com; 914-245-4717

Sun, Aug. 15 – GRAHAM & BALSAM LAKE

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2040', Elev. 3723', 3868'

A moderately paced trail hike and bushwhack. Dogs welcome.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader to register (email preferred).

Leader: Danielle Besso #1496; dbesso@stny.rr.com; 607-724-5523 (6-9pm)

Sat, Aug. 21 – BEARPEN & VLY

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2035', Elev. 3529', 3600'

A moderately paced bushwhack.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leaders before Aug. 19 to register.

Leaders: Mike & Ellen Dwyer #'s 1453, 1452; jemsdwy@optonline.net; 631-472-9290

Sun, Aug. 22 – BALSAM & EAGLE

Distance: 10.3 mi. Ascent: 2596', Elev. 3600', 3600'

A moderately paced trail hike. A car shuttle may be required. Well-behaved dogs welcome.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader by Aug 20 to register.

Leader: Heather Rolland #1777; haliagrace@hotmail.com

Sat, Aug. 28 – SUGARLOAF

Distance: 5 or 8 miles Ascent: 2600, Elev. 3800'

A moderately paced trail hike; joint with AMC.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader by Aug 27 to register..

Leader: Bob Ricketson #1361; bobrick@mhcable.com; 518-943-5223

Sun, Aug 29 – HALCOTT

Distance: 4 mi. Ascent: 1720', Elev. 3520"

A moderately paced bushwhack. Well behaved dogs welcome.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader Aug 15 - 27 to register.

Leader: Doug Garrity #1757; garrid0@lycos.com; 845-471-1079

Sat, Sep. 4 – WESTKILL

Distance: 6.4 mi. Ascent: 1700', Elev. 3880'

A relaxed-pace trail hike.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leaders by Sep 2 to register.

Leaders: David and Carol White, #'s 859, 860; ccswhite@juno.com; 315-853-6942

Sun, Sep. 5 – WINDHAM

Distance: 7 miles, Ascent 1800', Elev. 3524'

A moderately paced trail hike.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader to register.

Leader: Ken Hubert #1351; hikeleader3500@yahoo.com; 718-463-5675 after 3pm (or 518-827-7327 Fri & Sat)

(Continued on page 6)

In case of bad weather or bad driving conditions, most hikes will be canceled; if in doubt contact the leader.

Sat, Sep. 11 – SLIDE, CORNELL & WITTENBERG

Distance: 11 mi. Ascent: 2230', Elev. 4180', 3160', 3940'. \ A moderately paced, but strenuous trail hike with great views. Dogs welcome.

Meeting Place/Time: Please call leader Mon.-Thu. before the hike to register.

Leader: Peggy Wissler #1499; 914-260-7506.

Sun, Sep. 12 – PANTHER via GIANT LEDGES

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent 2600', Elev. 3800'

A moderately paced hike.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader Sep.6 – 10 to register.

Leader: Suzanne Knabe #1326; suzkna@msn.com; 718-435-3092 after 7pm

Sat, Sep. 18 – MEAD Mt. TO MINK HOLLOW (via Indian Head, Twin & Sugarloaf)

Distance: 15 mi. Ascent: 3000', Elev. 3573', 3640', 3800' Long and strenuous; minimal stops.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader by Sep 16 to register.

Leader: Edna Blanchfield #1245; goatgirl_35r@verizon.net; 845-246-3362 (NCA 9pm)

Sun, Sep. 19 – FRIDAY & BALSAM CAP

Distance: 7 mi. Ascent 2200, Elev. 3694", 3623'

A moderately paced, but strenuous bushwhack to two of the more difficult peaks. Well behaved dogs welcome.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader Sep 5 - 17 to register.

Leader: Doug Garrity #1757; garrid0@lycos.com; 845-471-1079

Sat, Sep. 25 – INDIAN HEAD

Distance: 6 mi. Ascent: 1573', Elev. 3573'

A moderately-paced trail hike.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader by Sep 23 to register.

Leader: Manuel Peraza #1373; mapcolus1@verizon.net; 718-698-4422. (NCA 9:30pm)

Sun, Sep. 26 – KAATERSKILL

Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 2100', Elev. 3655'

A moderately paced, but strenuous, trail hike with a short bushwhack.

Meeting Place/Time: Please contact leader by Sep 24 to register (email preferred).

Leader: George Preoteasa #1478; gvp@ms.com; 201-694-8344

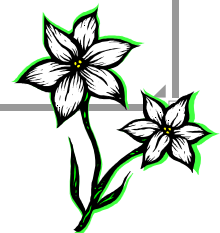
In case of bad weather or bad driving conditions, most hikes will be canceled; if in doubt contact leader.

In Memoriam

Fred Schroeder, #181 died on March 18, 2010 at the age of 85. Fred was an outdoorsman in many senses of the word. He knew trees, plants constellations, animal tracks, birds, and mountain lore. He advocated for land preservation and for the conservation of natural resources. One of his greatest delights was introducing others to the natural world. For 30 years, every week, year round, he led hikes throughout the northeast.

He was a director of the Albany Boys Club and the director of Camp Thacher which he and his wife helped to found. He designed and organized the development and maintenance of miles of hiking trails, particularly in the expanded sections of Thacher State Park.

Fred spent his childhood years in orphan asylums in New York City, served in the Army during World War II and was a recipient of the Purple Heart and other medals.



Scree

The Friendly Battle with our Mother. Trails Chair, **Elie Bijou**, reports that on April 24 , **Mary-Helen Hughes, Robert Hladik, Jeff Glans, Louise Perkins,** and **Donna Wamsley** showed their dedication to the Catskills by clearing blowdowns, digging out waterbars, and clipping brush (ever necessary) for the seven and a half miles of the Club's adopted trail on Peekamoose and Table Mts. [That's a lot of miles for six people, even if they are 3500-ers; next time how about more of us get out there and help them.]

Drilling for Gas in the Catskills. The NY Times of April 23 reported that New York State environmental officials announced that they would impose far stricter regulations on a controversial type of natural gas drilling in the upstate area that supplies most of New York City's drinking water, making it highly unlikely that any drilling would be done there. [For the full article search the NY Times archives for "State Decision Blocks Drilling for Gas in Catskills" – and keep those letter-writing pens handy for the next time this subject comes up.]

Paving Over the Catskills. One of the Catskills favorite homeboys, developer Dean Gitter, "lashed out at Ulster County legislators he said are standing in the way of his multimillion-dollar **development at Belleayre Mountain**" according to a March 10 article in the Kingston Freeman. The article further mentions that "the project is being reviewed under the State Environmental Quality Review Act, and it must get approval from the Ulster County and Delaware County towns in which it will be located. Additionally, Gitter said, Crossroads will be looking to use the bonding authority of the Ulster County Industrial Development Agency." [Does it sound like he wants the Ulster County taxpayers to guarantee his funding ? Time for you locals to write some letters to your respective town councils.]

Hiker Dies on Blackhead. By now we've all heard, and have much discussed, that on March 14 **Seth Lyon**, age 49, died of hypothermia on Blackhead; but we include this note in the hopes that we don't soon forget the lesson that his death teaches us about be the dangers of winter hiking in the mountains.

Elie is His Name, Service is His Game. Trail maintenance chair, Elie Bijou #1492, has (over) qualified for the club's service award. Elie wears many hats, including trails, leantos, and litter pickup (the remuneration for which doesn't quite compete with that of a Wall St. financier, but he accomplishes more for our community). Elie will have to wait until the next annual dinner to receive his patch, along with other such volunteers.

Our New Members

| | | |
|------|-------------------|------------|
| 1847 | Eric Koppel | 03/07/2010 |
| 1848 | Grace Watters | 02/07/2010 |
| 1849 | Patrick Watters | 02/07/2010 |
| 1850 | Alain Chevrette | 01/12/2010 |
| 1851 | Maria Bedo | 03/07/2010 |
| 1852 | Cathy O'Neill | 03/20/2010 |
| 1853 | Hans W. Schick | 03/20/2010 |
| 1854 | Kathleen Hartford | 03/20/2010 |
| 1855 | Mary-Helen Hughes | 03/20/2010 |
| 1856 | Joe Whalen | 03/21/2010 |
| 1857 | Matt Beck | 03/20/2010 |

Winter

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------|----------|----------|
| 728 (W) | Stephen Sadowski | 0772 (R) | 02/09/10 |
| 729 (W) | Paul Swieton | 1824 (R) | 03/06/10 |
| 730 (W) | Robert Massey | 1712 (R) | 03/09/10 |
| 731 (W) | Alain Chevrette | 1850 (R) | 01/17/10 |
| 732 (W) | Jean-Andre Laverdure | 1299 (R) | 03/11/10 |
| 733 (W) | Ted Wallace | 1819 (R) | 03/21/10 |
| 734 (W) | Keith Johnson | 1776 (R) | 03/20/10 |
| 735 (W) | Joe Whalen | 1856 (R) | 03/21/10 |

Life

| | |
|------|----------------|
| 1853 | Hans W. Schick |
| Asp | Matt Stupple |
| Asp | Patti Lancto |

Our Club Officers

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| President | Jeff Glans | 203-816-8142 | glansj@yahoo.com |
| Past President | Joe Bogardus | 518-576-9739 | joe.adks@gmail.com |
| 1st Vice President | Jean Taylor | 212-410-1181 | jtaylor@cims.nyu.edu |
| 2nd Vice President | Tom Rankin | 845-926-6209 | trankin@hvc.rr.com |
| Secretary | Laurie Rankin | 845-926-2182 | laurierankin@hvc.rr.com |
| Treasurer | Ed Gilroy | 908-419-2543 | egilroy@gmail.com |
| Conservation Chair | Carol White | 315-853-6942 | ccswhite@juno.com |
| Aspirants Chair | Cindy Kuhn | 570-954-7541 | cindykuhn@charter.net |
| Membership Chair | Dave White | 315-853-6942 | ccswhite@juno.com |
| Outings Chair | Manuel Peraza | 718-698-4422 | mapcolus1@verizon.net |
| Representative to the NYNJTC | Richard Barr | 212-877-2694 | richardedbarr@aol.com |
| Canisters Chair | Jim Bouton | 607-326-4033 | jbouton@catskill.net |
| Trail Maintenance Chair | Elie Bijou | 718-377-2990 | adirondacks@verizon.net |
| Annual Dinner Chair | Mike Doehring | 914-761-7225 | clover7med@aol.com |
| Winter Weekend | Art Zimmerman | 516-432-1205 | artzim1@msn.com |
| The Canister Editor | Marty Cohen | 201-670-8383 | wm169@verizon.net |

Volunteers

| | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| Assistant to the Trail Maint. Chair | Donna Wamsley |
| Assistant to the Dinner Chair | Manuel Peraza |
| Peripatetic Porcupine | Ralph Ferrusi |
| Service Patch Database | Wanda Davenport |
| Audit Committee | Edna Blanchfield |
| Audit Committee | Bill Schirmer |
| Canister Archive Project | Alan Via |



the catskill canister

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Volume 43 Number 4

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Doubletop'n Eagle

(and Fir, Big Indian, and Hunter too)

The challenges of winter hiking are daunting variables to any peaking attempt. Weather, snow depth, bushwhacking terrain, daylight, temperatures, physical and emotional well being, plans, all mix. Robert Massey (#1712) and I planned to finish our Catskill challenge with a long weekend of hiking (Feb. 27-Mar 1, 2010). We would summit Doubletop (for me) the first day, and the next day do a through hike from Rte. 47 along Biscuit Brook to the leanto, and then bushwhack up Fir and Big Indian (for "moi"). After that we would press on to Eagle (for Bob) then directly down east along the ground's crown to McKenley Hollow, nearly nine miles all told. On the following day, we would separate for our final climbs, Hunter and Balsam Cap. In actuality the weather gods had no respect for our plans, dumping four feet of fresh snow, leaving parking unplowed and trails unbroken. The latter slowed us to a crawl, leaving us moving more against, than over some very deep snow.

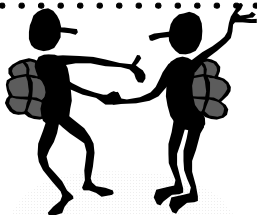
strike westward quite easily while breaking trail. We soon fall into broken yards of deer path. We are in quicker motion now, when the grove suddenly begins raising a ruckus. Was snow falling from the branches above? No, no such luck. The snow on the ground is in downhill motion, a tremor underfoot, noisy. I imagine that our warming day has lubricated the snow pack into motion, a spurious ground of thunder. On the easiest of climbing slopes, among stands of wood, the snow's motion is more curious than menacing, the surrounding hemlock hibernally shrouded. Although we fail to reach Eagle's summit, a stag entertains us about tomorrow's possibilities by running and jumping out of McKenley Hollow, climbing steeply up into belly deep snow.

"sweet, not a sinner in sight"

On Sunday we begin at 8:30am, quickly retracing our broken and frozen path. We follow our GPS bearing to head toward the Pine Hill - West Branch Trail, which turns agonizingly slow after we pass the previously broken section. I dream that Big Indian will have a hard crust.

(Continued on page 3)

- SAVE THE DATE**
- ⇒ Leanto Maintenance, Oct. 2 and Oct. 3 (see page 4)
 - ⇒ Litter Pickup, Sun., Oct 3 (see page 4)
 - ⇒ Trail Maintenance, Sun., Oct 10 (see page 5)
 - ⇒ Winter Survival Program, Sat., Nov. 27 (see page 6).
 - ⇒ Annual Dinner, Sat., April 2, 2011



Accepting our defeat we turn back, and then decide to drive over to McKenley Hollow for a 3pm start on Eagle. Without packs [really ! ed.], we

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We're on the web at

www.catskill-3500-club.org

The President's Column

Winter Weekend

A long standing tradition within the club is a weekend spent at an inn or motel in the Catskills in mid to late January. These allow members and aspirants to spend a bit more time getting to know each other than simply showing up for a hike. We usually try to schedule club hikes to some of the required winter peaks at the same time. The club's executive committee also meets during the event allowing the opportunity to see it in action.

In recent years the attendees have largely been the executive committee with only a few other brave souls joining us. We'd like to revitalize the event, making it attractive to more of the membership so we get a larger turnout.

Art Zimmerman, who has been organizing the event for many years, has decided to step down from this responsibility. We thank him for all of his hard work and dedication.

The primary responsibility of this job is organizing the annual winter weekend. This includes finding a suitable venue, making the appropriate reservations and arranging for a group meal on Saturday evening. This position is a member of the executive committee and so would require attendance at the three board meetings each year. Art has agreed to help his replacement get up to speed.

If this sounds interesting to you please contact me at glansj@yahoo.com or (203) 816-8142.

Jeff Glans



(Continued from page 1)

Too soon the moment fades. Without crust we manage but a quarter mph pace. Big Indian fades, let's try for Eagle again.

I learn it is much easier to break trail, with knees above the snow, otherwise increasing snow depth correlates directly to a progressively slower pace. There are too few hemlocks to ease our passage by collecting snowfall in their branches; their falling clumps compacting the snow cover beneath. When traversing, steeply pushing upwards with my body, poles and gloves bury deep into angry snow. I envy yesterday's agile deer throwing itself up chest deep into it. Will Eagle be reached? Not if we turnaround at 4:30. By the time we reach the trail's nearly buried blazes it is after 4 pm. Finally, on trail we quickly lose our way chasing the little blue circles. Southwest compass and GPS readings take us through a spruce thicket and cul-de-sac dead ends of snow-coned evergreens and spruce traps of even deeper snow. We bag Eagle on a height of land at 5:15 pm. Our return of 2.5 miles back takes us 2.5 hours, versus 8.5 hours up. The evening's twilight sees us back to our bit of blue blazes and then down. We reach the deer yard with our lamps lit. In leading, I alarm a resting grouse which flaps past my waist like a dark demon, venting from me a scared, tired, startled, trailside grunt of satisfied pleasure.

How will a week affect conditions? In a few days, I'll try hiking again. On March 10th I hope to bag Doubletop, Big Indian, and Fir. I solo along the Biscuit Brook Trail undecided about which to attempt first: Fir or Doubletop. A broken trail heading for Doubletop makes my choice. Two miles out, the broken trail stops. Up to now going over firmer snow has been fun. The steep upward melting cover gives strong purchase to the snowshoes compared to Eagle's dry powder slipping away. With GPS, I know just when to move north from Doubletop's lower southern peak, the summit spruce still melting snow. From the col my GPS leads me directly to Doubletop's can-

ister, which I reach at noon. A quick lunch of views, sign in, then I begin my tramp to Big Indian. Straight-away east took me down to the eastward ridgeline again catching more broken trail. Across the escarpment, I head northeast toward my next piece of the Pine Hill - West Branch Trail. When finally reached, it is broken right up to the Big Indian herd path. Big Indian's spruce is dry, the day beginning to cloud over, with a whisper of flurry in the air. Another rest, view around, and canister signed into at 2pm. I cross one more ridgeline wandering along broken track. My own wandering arc leads me round a deep gorge's rim to Fir, which I reach at 4pm. Enjoying southwest views, I make for the leanto. With twilight a new set of tracks leads me directly on. A quick stop for supper finds me starting to freeze in the cold night air. A lesson learned: short breaks and move to stay warm. My long day's outing (0.7 mph, 9.9 miles in 13+ hours), made for three summits all signed into by GPS, up on a late winter scene.

The next morning, I climb the Becker Hollow Trail and summit loop about the Hunter fire tower, which I reached at 3pm. Broken trail again speeds me along. The wet and icy snow, though steep, allows me to step nicely. Two solo days, I've kept safe by sure slow motions. Like the Irishman, who broke some of my trail to Big Indian, pleased with his outing wrote "sweet, not a sinner in sight" my days were spent transcendent warm in nature. Birdsong kept me company hiking up, sweet trill at steep pitches turning. Plumed chums echoed 'chirrup' to my mimic-elated whistling. The way down was a quick slip and slide. Back by 5pm, I change clothes at Hunter Mt. Ski Resort, resting my visions warm and dry bench camped.

Hunter (climbed first 4-10-99) with Blackhead (12-23-99), are an alpha and omega to finishing my decade's quest. In eleven hours a week later, Bob finally got to Balsam Cap in wet snow, becoming winter Catskiller #731. ▲

Submitted by Jean André LaVerdure, #1299 and edited by **the Canister**.



Keep in touch, subscribe to the yahoo group.

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/3500club/>

Reminder

The Canister craves articles of up to 1100 words on the Catskills.

Hike Schedule October—December, 2010

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 snowshoes and full crampons 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. 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.**

On the Rating System: Please be advised that the hikes listed herein would most likely be rated significantly more difficult by clubs who hike in non-mountainous terrains.

Cancelations: Please be aware that, **in the case of bad weather or bad driving conditions, most hikes will be canceled; if you are uncertain, please contact the leader before leaving for the hike.** As a matter of courtesy to our volunteer hike leaders, we ask that you let them know as early as possible if you have to cancel your attendance on a hike.

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.

Volunteer to Lead: If you are a member of the Club please **consider becoming a hike leader.** Just contact Manuel Peraza (mapcolus1@verizon.net; 718-698-4422 (7pm-9pm)), and Manny will arrange to add you to the low-volume private Yahoo list through which hikes are coordinated. You will be contacted via this means when hikes are needed.

Sat, Oct. 2 – TABLE & PEEKAMOOSE

Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 3000', Elev. 3843', 3847'

A moderately paced trail hike which will include a stop at the Bouton leanto for maintenance.

Registration: Please contact leaders.

Leaders: Tom and Laurie Rankin #'s 1503, 1337;
laurierankin@hvc.rr.com; 845-926-2182

Sun, Oct. 3 - HUNTER & SW HUNTER

Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 2225', Elev. 4040', 3740'

A moderately paced trail hike and bushwhack which will include a stop at the John Robb leanto for maintenance.

Registration: Please contact leaders.

Leaders: Tom and Laurie Rankin #'s 1503, 1337;
laurierankin@hvc.rr.com; 845-926-2182

Sun, Oct. 3 - INDIAN HEAD & TWIN

Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 2200', Elev. 3575', 3640'.

A moderately paced trail, through-hike (shuttle required).

Registration: Please contact leader.

Leader: Ken Hubert #1351; hikeleader3500@yahoo.com;
call 718-463-5675 after 3pm (or 518-827-7327 Fri & Sat.).

Sun, Oct. 3 - Litter Pickup

If you can't climb a mountain today, maybe you'd like to join club members doing some community service on our adopted two mile stretch of Route 214. Please bring work gloves. Safety vests and hard hats will be provided.

Leader: Elie Bijou #1492; adironacks@verizon.net;
718-377-2990; NCA 9 p.m.

Sat, Oct. 9 – HALCOTT

Distance: 4 mi. Ascent: 1720', Elev. 3520'

A moderately paced bushwhack.

Registration: Please contact the leader the week before the hike.

Leader: Peggy Wissler #1499; 914-260-7506

Sat, Oct. 9 – DOUBLETOP

Distance: 6 mi. Ascent: 1860', Elev. 3862'

A relaxed-pace trail hike and bushwhack. Possible bushwhack to Big Indian if group desires.

Registration: Please contact leader.

Leader: Jean Taylor; Taylor.Jean.E@gmail.com;
908-209-4750.

Sun, Oct. 10 - TWIN & SUGARLOAF

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 2600', Elev. 3640', 3800'

A moderately paced hike.

Registration: Please contact leader from Oct. 4 – 8.

Leader: Suzanne Knabe #1326; suzkna@msn.com;
718-435-3092 after 7pm

If in doubt, bring snowshoes and full crampons to the trailhead; the leader may advise that these do not have to be taken on the hike.

Sun, Oct. 10 - PEEKAMOOSE & TABLE Trail Maintenance.

Novice thru experienced maintainers welcome. Please bring work gloves and tools: a saw, lopper, hand clipper and/or hoe, if you have them; otherwise the Club will provide tools. Earns point towards 3500 Club Service Award.

Leader: Elie Bijou #1492; adirondacks@verizon.net; 718-377-2990; NCA 9 p.m.

Sat, Oct. 16 - WITTENBERG, CORNELL, & SLIDE

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 2230', Elev. 3940', 3660', 4180'
A moderate to fast paced, strenuous, trail hike (car shuttle required).

Registration: Please contact leader by Oct. 14.

Leader: Edna Blanchfield #1245, goatgirl_35r@verizon.net; 845-246-3362 (NCA 9pm).

Sat, Oct. 16 - KATTERSKILL

Distance: 6 mi. Ascent: 1400', Elev. 3655'
A moderately paced trail hike with a short bushwhack. We will visit Hurricane Ledge's great view.

Registration: Please contact leaders by Oct.14.

Leaders: Mike & Ellen Dwyer #1453, 1452; 631-472-9290

Sun, Oct. 17 - PLATEAU (From Notch Inn Road)

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2200', Elev. 3840'
A moderately paced trail hike up and over Daley Ridge, then returning via the Devils Path to State Route 214. Car shuttle required, Well behaved dogs welcome.

Registration: Please contact leader by Oct 15.

Leader: Heather Rolland, #1777; haliagrace@hotmail.com

Sat, Oct. 23 - NORTH DOME & SHERRILL

Distance: 6.5 mi. Ascent: 2500', Elev. 3610', 3540'
A relaxed-pace bushwhack and trail hike. Car shuttle required.

Registration: Please contact leaders.

Leaders: Tom and Laurie Rankin #'s 1503, 1337; laurierankin@hvc.rr.com; 845-926-2182

Sun, Oct. 24 - DRY BROOK RIDGE TRAIL

Distance: 9.5 mi. Ascent: 1500'
A trail hike to one of the Catskill's hundred highest peaks starting from Millbrook Road and ending in Margaretville. Lovely vistas along the way. Car shuttle required.

Registration: Please contact leaders.

Leaders: Tom and Laurie Rankin #'s 1503, 1337; laurierankin@hvc.rr.com; 845-926-2182

Sat, Oct. 30 - PANTHER Traverse

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 1830' Elev. 3720'
A moderately paced through-hike; shuttle required.

Registration: Please contact leader by Oct 28.

Leader: Carol Nestor #1325; 914-683-3858 NCA 9 pm

Sun, Oct. 31 - THOMAS COLE & BLACK DOME

Distance: 6.5 mi., Ascent 2100', Elev. 3940', 3980'

A moderately paced trail hike. Car shuttle required.

Registration: Please contact leader between Oct. 27 and Oct. 30 (until 6 pm).

Leader: Wanda Davenport #523; c3500c@verizon.net; 201-670-8383 (NCA 9 pm)

Sat, Nov. 6 - WINDHAM & BURNT KNOB

Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 1500', Elev. 3524'

A moderately paced trail hike. Well behaved dogs welcome. Car shuttle required.

Registration: Please contact leader by Nov. 4.

Leader: Heather Rolland, #1777; haliagrace@hotmail.com

Sat, Nov. 6 - BLACKHEAD

Distance: 4.5 mi. Ascent: 1740', Elev. 3940'

A moderately paced trail hike.

Registration: Please contact leader from Nov. 1 - 5.

Leader: Manuel A. Peraza #1373; mapcolus1@verizon.net; 718-698-4422 (NCA 9 pm)

Reminder: Daylight Savings Time Ends—get an extra hour's sleep before Sunday's hikes.

Sun, Nov. 7 - BEARPEN & VLY

Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 2200', Elev. 3600', 3520'

A moderately-paced trail hike and bushwhack.

Registration: Please contact leader by Nov 5 (email preferred).

Leader: George Preoteasa #1478; gvp@ms.com; 201-694-8344

Sun, Nov. 7 - FIR & BIG INDIAN

Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 2400', Elev. 3629', 3700'

A moderately paced trail hike and bushwhack. Well behaved dogs welcome.

Registration: Please contact leader from Oct 24 - Nov 4.

Leader: Doug Garrity, #1757, garrid0@lycos.com, 845-471-1079

(Continued on page 6)

In case of bad weather or bad driving conditions, most hikes will be canceled; if in doubt contact the leader.

Sat, Nov. 13 - WEST KILL

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 1700', Elev. 3880'

A moderately paced through trail hike with a short car shuttle.

Registration: Please contact the leader the week before the hike to register and to discuss required gear.

Leader: Peggy Wissler #1499; 914-260-7506

Sun, Nov. 14 – ASHOKAN HIGH POINT

Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 2070' Elev. 3080'

A moderately paced trail hike to one of the Catskill's hundred highest peaks with impressive views. Well behaved dogs welcome.

Registration: Please contact leader by Nov 12.

Leader: Heather Rolland, #1777;

haliagrace@hotmail.com

Sun, Nov. 14 – LONE & ROCKY

Distance: 11mi. Ascent: 2000', Elev. 3721', 3508'

A very strenuous bushwhack to the most remote peaks. Well behaved dogs welcome.

Registration: Please contact the leader from Oct 31 – Nov 11.

Leader: Doug Garrity #1757; garrid0@lycos.com;

845-471-1079

* **Sat, Nov. 20 – HUNTING SEASON BEGINS;** *
* **No club hikes in the Catskills.** *

Sat., Nov. 27 - WINTER SURVIVAL PROGRAM at HARRIMAN PARK

The class will concentrate on winter survival and include: survival planning, water procurement, finding and preparing edible plants, immediate and temporary shelters for winter, traveling safely on various terrain types, finding and making potable water, strategies and tactics to consider for winter conditions, and natural and compass navigation.

Registration: Please contact leader from Nov 22 – 26

Leader: Joseph Polcha; jpolcha@aol.com; 914-245-4717

***Sun., Dec. 12 - HUNTING SEASON ENDS** *

Sat, Dec. 18 – RUSK

Distance: 4 mi. Ascent: 1600', Elev. 3680

A moderately paced trail hike and bushwhack.

Registration: Please contact the leader during the week before the hike.

Leader: Jeff Glans #793; glansj@yahoo.com (preferred), 203-816-8142 (NCA after 10pm)

Sun, Dec. 19 – FRIDAY & BALSAM CAP

Distance: 7 mi. Ascent 2200, Elev. 3694', 3623'

A moderately paced, but strenuous bushwhack to two of the more difficult peaks. Well behaved dogs welcome.

Registration: Please contact leader from Dec 5 – 16.

Leader: Doug Garrity, #1757, garrid0@lycos.com, 845-471-1079.

Sat, Dec. 25 – BALSAM LAKE & GRAHAM

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent 2040', Elev. 3723', 3868'

A moderately paced trail hike and bushwhack.

Registration: Please call leader from Dec 20 – 24.

Leader: Suzanne Knabe #1326; suzkna@msn.com; 718-435-3092 after 7pm.

Sun, Dec. 26 – BALSAM (& EAGLE depending on interest & conditions)

Distance: 9.4 mi. Ascent: 2520', Elev. 3600', 3600'

A relaxed to moderately paced trail hike.

Registration: Please contact leader by Dec 24.

Leader: David White #859; ccswhite@juno.com, 315-853-6942

The wide awake reader (do we have any ?) will have noticed by now that the designation "Meeting Place/Time" has been replaced by "Registration" which is more appropriate since all our hikes are registration only (and we never listed the meeting places and times, anyway). The hike leader will provide all the necessary details at registration time.

In case of bad weather or bad driving conditions, most hikes will be canceled; if in doubt contact leader.

Scree

Spring Litter Pickup. On Saturday, 10 April 2010, eight community-minded club members showed up to clear and re-beautify our two-mile stretch of Rt. 214. Included were **Wanda Davenport, Donna Wamsley, Ken Wamsley, Jeff Glans, Bobby Hladik**, Trail Chair **Elie Bijou**, and two unknown soldiers. The group filled about sixteen bags of trash and worked approximately two hours.

Trail Maintenance. On Sunday, 25 April 2010, despite a forecast of rain, six conscientious club members challenged Mother Nature and showed up to work on our adopted segment of trail. We tried something new this year. **Donna Wamsley** would lead a party from Peekamoose Rd and **Elie** would lead a party from Denning. **Bobby Hladik** and **Mary-Helen Hughes** showed up on the Peekamoose side and **Louise & Jeff Glans** on the Denning side. All told this gang put in 65 volunteer-hours of work including travel.

Like Ships That Pass in the Night. Club president **Jeff Glans**, #793, could have waved at past president **Joe Borgardus**, #1399, when they completed their Northeast 111 across from each other on Katahdin and Hamlin in Maine. (The Northeast 111 consists of 115 4,000-footers, or 4,000-footer wannabees).

Aspiring for Her Attentions. Aspirant Chair, **Cindy Kuhn** married **Brian Yourdon** on July 10 atop Balsam Lake Mt. The ceremony was performed by ADK 46er Trail Master and well known brewmeister, **Pete Hickey**.

Advertise Your Advocacy. Rumor has it that club canister maintainer, **Jim Bouton**, may have started a trend by ordering a 3500 club decal for "his little buddy".



Warming Up for the Himalayas. **Nola Royce**, #1515, completed the 54 Colorado 14,000-footers on August 26th on Little Bear.



Our New Members

| | | |
|------|-----------------|----------|
| 1858 | Chayim Goldberg | 03/05/10 |
| 1859 | Stuart Smith | 06/05/10 |
| 1860 | David Hultgren | 06/12/10 |
| 1861 | Arthur Harris | 06/12/10 |
| 1862 | Douglas Harris | 06/12/10 |
| 1863 | John Molinari | 07/11/10 |
| 1864 | Paul Tomasko | 06/21/10 |
| 1865 | Barbara Bave | 07/04/10 |
| 1866 | Jacqueline Bave | 07/04/10 |
| 1867 | Ryan Mason | 07/24/10 |

Winter

736(r) Kim Tatarsky 1698(w) 03/06/10

Dialogue

To my companion of a

rainy day and a

sunlight hour

--Oh August going

from me like a cloud

To love the trees not

pick the flowers

--Never August

never to be seen again

Is it better not to

know or to

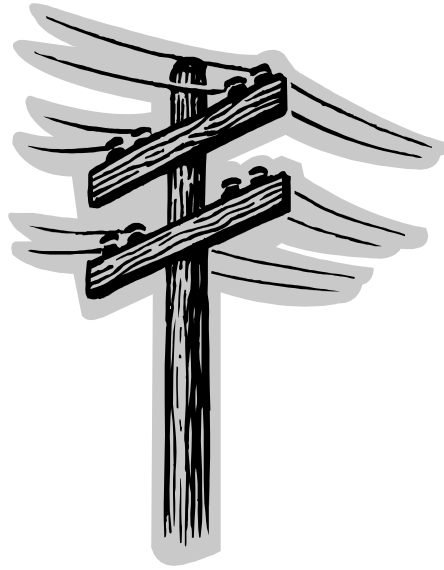
chance the power.

Paul Levine #542

The Electronic Canister is Here

The word has been spreading: it is now possible to download a PDF version of the Canister from our web-site. Our web service provider has reported that, so far, there have been about 600 downloads of the electronic Canister.

For a number of reasons, including cost, tree conservation, and efficiency, the club desires to reduce to a minimum the number of paper Canisters delivered via USPS mail, and so is urging its members to sign-up for the electronic version.



Frequently Asked Questions

How Do I Download an Electronic Canister ?

1. Use your internet browser to go to www.catskill-3500-club.org/
2. Click on the Newsletter tab.
3. Then click on Download.
4. Enter your name in the box provided.
5. Check one of: Member, Aspirant, or Guest.
6. Click Download Now.
7. Finally, click Current Newsletter, and your PDF reader (usually Adobe) should display the current issue, which you can then save on your own computer and/or print.

All told, the above takes less than a minute (even for me).

What do I do if I want to continue receiving my paper copy ?

By May of 2011, you need to notify Dave White that you want to keep receiving a paper copy. If not, in the summer of 2011 you will no longer receive a paper copy.

What if I do nothing ?

If you do nothing, in the summer of 2011 you will no longer receive a paper copy.

Can I receive my electronic copy via email ?

Not at the moment, but the club is looking into the possibility of providing such a service. If you would like to receive your Canister via email please let Jean Taylor know; Taylor.Jean.E@gmail.com

