



the catskill canister

Vol. XXXX, No. 1

JANUARY - MARCH, 2003

WINTER IN THE WHITES

The forecast was for hail, extreme plunging temperatures and high gusting winds - conditions usually associated with winter. Except this was the middle of summer.

The continuous pelting hail beat a staccato rhythm against the northern window of Madison Hut the night of July 1st. The stone walls of the unheated hut were quickly penetrated by the rapidly plummeting temperature as it continued its descent to below freezing. Throughout the night the hurricane force fury shook the windows to the point where I thought they would break. The relentless wail piercing the hut's picture window and the frigid temperature inside the bunk room were the middle-of-the-night wake-up calls. The cold numbed my hands and feet despite the fact that I wore multiple layers of warm clothing and was ensconced in a cocoon of three wool blankets. Move, I told myself, generate some heat and stay hydrated. Once I left my cocoon, I began to visibly shiver and couldn't control it. There wasn't enough space for much movement in the cramped bunk room.

After I returned to my bunk, I became captivated by the scene unraveling outside the window. The wind continued to moan in anguish. The single pane of glass that separated me from the outside world served to slightly muffle the wind's intense, ever-present howl. The only audible change in the howl ranged from a strong and steady dirge to increasingly sustained shrill blasts that tunneled through every seen and unseen crack and gap in the hut's roof, walls and window frames.

Coupled with the anguished screams of the wind assaulting the hut was the way it vented its force on the balsam fir trees. Coated with rime ice, they twisted as if being thrashed, or doubled over as if punched in the stomach. The scene on the other side of the window was eerily bright, filled with grotesque ghosts of trees repeatedly whipped by the wind until I thought they would uproot.

At 6 o'clock that morning, the weather atop Mount Washington was reported at a record low of 25 degrees with a wind chill index of -15 degrees and the wind at 63 miles per hour gusting to 81 miles per hour. Violent winds and freezing fog resulted in winter conditions with visibility of 100 feet and relative humidity of 100%. The trees, rocks and ground were covered in rime ice.

In the afternoon the weather turned kinder, with bright sunshine, a temperature of 34 degrees and a sustained wind from the west at 53 miles per hour gusting to 69 miles per hour. Nevertheless, the hike towards Lake of the Clouds Hut continued to be a constant battle with the wind and I was very glad to reach the safety of the hut for an overnight stay.

The next day dawned with calmer winds, and a partial traverse was manageable on the Gulfside Trail to Mount Jefferson. We had an enjoyable lunch break in warm sunshine with a panoramic view from the summit. When we descended into tree line via the Jewell Trail, it became warmer still, a dramatic change from the weather above tree line.

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The Catskill Canister is published four times yearly by the Catskill 3500 Club, Inc., for \$5.00 a year. Articles on hiking or travel experiences, essays or poetry, should be sent to Darielle Graham, 60 Barker St., #419, Mount Kisco, NY 10549

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

We are still searching for an enthusiastic volunteer to step forward to serve as our Annual Dinner Chairman. After 24 years of making the annual dinner a successful, well-attended event, Roy Messaros would like to retire from this position. The person accepting this position is not responsible for the evening's speaker, nor will he or she have to mail invitations. Responsibilities will include forwarding checks to the club treasurer and communicating with the banquet facility. If you are interested, please contact me by phone at 315-685-2083 or by email at nanny-poppy@msn.com. We really need someone to accept this highly visible position!

Our club exists due to the volunteer efforts of our members, be it as a member of the audit committee, nominating committee, a hike leader or doing trail maintenance. Much time and effort are spent in dealing with aspirants and with membership chairman responsibilities, not to mention what is involved in setting up the hiking schedule and publishing the *Catskill Canister* four times yearly. Thank you to all who are involved in making our club a success.

I'm looking forward to seeing those of you who will be enjoying the Winter weekend at the Sunshine Valley House on January 24 -26, 2003. If you have never attended a winter weekend and are wondering what to expect, you will find the opportunity to spend time, both in the woods and in a social setting, with experienced winter hikers. If you need to gain experience in winter hiking or need advice, this is the place to be! The meals are excellent and you will have an outstanding time. See you there.

Gerald A. Gervais

PERIPATETIC PORCUPINE

Katrina van Tassel (#67) went to China on November 29, 2002 to pick up her second adopted daughter, Emily Lynn, and spent two weeks touring the country. • Dave Pehlke (#909) and his wife Karen summited Mount Whitney on August 27, 2002 from the Whitney Portal trailhead, a climb of 6200' and over 10.7 miles one way. Their group of eight from the Outback Hiking Club, Saint George, Utah, started at 3:40 a.m. and returned to the trailhead at 9:20 p.m. Dave notes that he and Karen were "the oldest hikers (by far) on the trail".... • On September 13, 2002, Dave Bourke #468) finished the Northeast 111 on Mount Abraham in Maine, also completing the New England 4000 Footers. • On September 21, 2002, Pat Desbiens (#1,360) completed the Northeast 115 and the Adirondack 46 on Mount Colvin. • On August 31, 2002, Carol Moran (#1,381) completed the Adirondack 46 on Mount Marshall, accompanied by Steve Barlow (#1,354) and Sid Borthwick (#1,327).

If there is a special event in your life or that of another member (graduation, engagement, marriage) or a special achievement on or off the trail that you would like to appear in the Peripatetic Porcupine column, please send the news to Ralph Ferrusi, 34 Kim Lane, Stormville, NY 12582; email: rferrusi@us.ibm.com.

The record low temperature and severe weather conditions encountered in the Whites in July only served to reinforce the saying that you can, and will, experience extreme weather, so always be prepared because anything is possible in the Whites - even in July.

Irene Logan (#888)

To-night the Winds Begin

To-night the winds begin to rise
And roar from yonder dropping day;
The last red leaf is whirl'd away,
The rooks are blown about the skies;

The forest crack'd, the waters curl'd,
The cattle huddled on the lea;
And wildly dashed on tower and tree
The sunbeam strikes along the world;

And but for fancies, which aver
That all thy motions gently pass
Athwart a plane of molten glass,
I scarce could brook the strain and stir

That make the barren branches loud;
And but for fear it is not so,
The wild unrest that lives in woe
Would dote and pore on yonder cloud

That rises upward always higher,
And onward drags a labouring breast,
And topples round the dreary west,
A looming bastion fringed with fire.

Lord Alfred Tennyson

CATSKILL WINTER WEEKEND:
JANUARY 24 - 26, 2003

Once again, this event will be held at Schwarzenegger's Sunshine Valley House located on Spruceton Road in Westkill, New York. Hikes have been, and will be scheduled for members and aspirants (see p. 5 of hiking schedule). Downhill skiing is available within a half hour's drive at Windham, Hunter Mountain, Belleayre and Cortina Ski Areas. Guests can also enjoy outside pavilions, Conan's Corner Bar and Lounge and a heated swimming pool. The hotel telephone number is 518-989-9794.

Rates: Double occupancy - \$130.00/night, which includes Friday night lodging, Saturday breakfast, trail lunch and dinner, as well as tax and gratuity. Saturday night dinner only - \$17.00, including tax and gratuity. Add \$15.00 per person for a single room. All rooms have a private bath, color television and telephone. Meals comprise a hearty breakfast, trail lunch and full dinner served family style. Before dinner, guests can enjoy free cheese and wine.

To reserve, send a deposit of \$35.00 to Arthur Zimmerman, 766 Neptune Boulevard, Long Beach, New York 11581; telephone 516-432-1205. Checks should be made payable to the **Sunshine Valley House**. Cancellation, with full refund, requires one week's notice.

***** **ADVANCE NOTICE** *****

The annual dinner meeting will again take place at the Hillside Manor in Kingston, New York, on Saturday, March 29, 2003. A social hour with hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar will precede dinner which includes a choice of three entrées. The invitation for the dinner will appear in the April-June 2003 issue of the *Catskill Canister* due out at the end of February 2003. In the meantime, mark the date on your calendar.

T-SHIRTS AVAILABLE AT ANNUAL DINNER

3500 Club t-shirts can be purchased for \$7.00 at the annual dinner on a first-come, first-served basis. No mail orders will be available.

CATSKILL 3500 CLUB HIKES: JANUARY - MARCH 2003**ASSUMED RISK**

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

January through March the wind chill on exposed ridges may reach 50 below zero. Adequate and appropriate clothing is essential to prevent hypothermia and ensure added safety in case of an emergency. Avoid cotton. Once cotton gets damp from perspiration, it remains damp and the resulting chill of damp material against the skin can lead to hypothermia. Polypropylene, wool and/or fleece are the preferred choices of winter clothing, but cheaper alternatives such as polyester or nylon will suffice. Full (not instep) crampons and snowshoes should be carried on the hike. If you cannot buy, rent or borrow snowshoes, avoid the mountains in winter. Lastly, a headlamp or flashlight with spare batteries should always be carried in winter. Leaders reserve the right to turn away any hiker who is not properly attired or equipped.

Wed., Jan. 1 **FIR (and possibly BIG INDIAN)**

Distance: 8 (10) mi. Ascent: 1900'
Elev.: 3620' (3700') Order: 25, (19)

An easy to moderately-paced bushwhack and trail hike. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancels.

Leader: Rocky Walberg (#886), 845-876-1061 (between 5:00 - 7:30 P.M.)

Meeting Place/Time: Call leader to register between Dec. 26-30

Sat., Jan. 4 **HALCOTT**

Distance: 5 mi. Ascent: 1500'
Elev.: 3537' Order: 32

A relaxed-paced bushwhack. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancels.

Leader: Jean Taylor (#1,440), 908-209-4750; taylor@math.rutgers.edu

Meeting Place/Time: Call or email leader to register between Dec. 30-Jan. 3.

Sun., Jan. 5 **BALSAM LAKE and GRAHAM**

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 1700'
Elev.: 3723', 3868' Order: 16, 7

A moderately-paced trail hike. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancels.

Leader: Chris Post (#1,409), 518-537-5165; cbone@webjogger.net

Meeting Place/Time: Call or, preferably email, leader to register between Dec. 30-Jan. 2

Sat., Jan. 11 **VLV and BEARPEN**

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 1900'
Elev.: 3529', 3600' Order: 33, 29

A moderately-paced bushwhack. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancels.

Leader: Harry Rampe (#877), 914-292-6736 (after 5:00 P.M.)

Meeting Place/Time: Call leader to register between Jan. 6-10.

Sun., Jan. 12 **WINDHAM HIGH PEAK**

Distance: 5 mi. Ascent: 1500'+
Elev.: 3524' Order: 34

A moderately-paced trail hike. Conditions permitting, we will take in Burnt Knob and Acra Point. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancels.

Leader: Edward Ripley-Duggan (#1,389), 845-657-7057 (between 9:00 A.M.-8:00 P.M.); erd@wilsey.net

Meeting Place/Time: Call or email leader to register between Jan. 6-10.

Sat., Jan. 18 **LONE and ROCKY**

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 2000'
Elev.: 3721, 3508' Order: 17, 35

A strenuous bushwhack at a brisk pace. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancels.

Leader: Ed Goldstein (#861), 516-487-2374 (between 7:00 P.M.-10:00 P.M.); amc_leader@hotmail.com

Meeting Place/Time: Call or, preferably email, leader to register between Jan. 13-17.

- Sun., Jan. 19 **BLACKHEAD, BLACK DOME and THOMAS COLE** Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 2400'
Elev.: 3940', 3980', 3940'
Order: 5, 3, 4
An easy to moderately-paced trail hike. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancels.
Leader: David Galvin (#1,201), 607-538-9518 (by 10:00 P.M.); porcupine@dmcom.net
Meeting Place/Time: Call during evening hours only, or preferably email, leader for details by Jan. 17.
- Sat., Jan. 25 **GRAHAM and DOUBLETOP** Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2300'
Elev.: 3868', 3860' Order: 7, 8
A long, steady-paced bushwhack. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancels.
Leader: Tom Regan (#1,026), 516-822-3720 (no calls after 9:00 P.M.)
Meeting Place/Time: Call leader to register by Jan. 23.
- Sat., Jan. 25 **SOUTHWEST HUNTER** Distance: 6 mi. Ascent: 2000'
Elev.: 3740' Order: 15
A moderately-paced bushwhack. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancels.
Leader: John Graham (#478), 914-241-2240 (by 9:00 P.M.); jbgraham@optonline.net
Meeting Place/Time: Call or email leader to register between Jan. 20-24.
- Sun., Jan. 26 **WESTKILL** Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 2000'
Elev.: 3880' Order: 6
A comfortably-paced trail hike; may require car shuttle. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancels.
Leader: Laurie Moore (#1,337), 607-538-9484 (before 9:00 P.M.)
Meeting Place/Time: Call leader for details.
- Sat., Feb. 1 **EAGLE and BIG INDIAN** Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 1800'
Elev.: 3600', 3700' Order: 27, 19
A moderately-paced bushwhack and trail hike. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancels.
Leader: Roman Benke (#1,216), 718-357-2582 (before 9:00 P.M.); doodath-man@att.net
Meeting Place/Time: Call, or preferably email, leader to register between Jan. 27-31.
- Sun., Feb. 2 **BALSAM CAP and FRIDAY** Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 3000'
Elev.: 3623', 3694' Order: 24, 20
A strenuous bushwhack at a moderate pace. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancels.
Leader: John Graham (#478), 914-241-2240 (by 9:00 P.M.); jbgraham@optonline.net
Meeting Place/Time: Call or email leader to register between Jan. 27-31.
- Sat., Feb. 8 **NORTH DOME and SHERRILL** Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 3000'
Elev.: 3610', 3540' Order: 26, 31
A moderately-paced bushwhack. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancels.
Leader: Ken Hubert (#1,351), 718-463-5675 (after 3:00 P.M.); ckhub@aol.com
Meeting Place/Time: Call leader to register between Feb. 3-6.
- Sat., Feb. 15 **PEEKAMOOSE and TABLE** Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 1900'
Elev.: 3843', 3847' Order: 11, 10
A moderately-paced trail hike. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancels.
Leader: Harry Rampe (#877), 914-292-6736 (after 5:00 P.M.)
Meeting Place/Time: Peekamoose parking lot at 9:00 A.M.

Sat., Feb. 16 **KAATERSKILL HIGH PEAK**Distance: 5 mi. Ascent: 1900'
Elev.: 3655' Order: 22

An easy to moderately-paced trail hike. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancels.

Leader: David Galvin (#1,201), 607-538-9518 (by 10:00 P.M.); porcupine@dmcom.net

Meeting Place/Time: Call during evening hours only, or preferably email leader for details by Feb. 15

Sat., Feb. 22 **WITTENBERG, CORNELL and SLIDE**Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 3000'
Elev.: 3780', 3860', 4180'
Order: 14, 9, 1

A moderate to fast-paced trail hike. If conditions warrant, everyone participates in breaking trail. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancels.

Leader: John Swanson (#592), 732-618-1963 (between 7:00 P.M.-9:00 P.M.)

Meeting Place/Time: Call leader to register between Feb. 19-22

Sun., Feb. 23 **FIR and BIG INDIAN**Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 2500'
Elev.: 3620', 3700' Order: 25, 19

A brisk-paced bushwhack. If conditions warrant, everyone participates in breaking trail. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancels.

Leader: Nan Giblin (#1,328), 718-896-6829 (between 7:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.)

Meeting Place/Time: Call leader to register between Feb. 19-22

Sat., Mar. 1 **BLACKHEAD, BLACK DOME and THOMAS COLE**Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 2400'
Elev.: 3940', 3980', 3940'
Order: 5, 3, 4

A strenuous trail hike at a moderately fast pace. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancels.

Leader: Pavel Litvinov (#1,348), 914-631-4861 (no calls after 9:00 P.M.); pavellitvinov@hotmail.com

Meeting Place/Time: Call or email leader to register between Feb. 24-27.

Sun., Mar. 2 **INDIAN HEAD and TWIN**Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 2000'
Elev.: 3573', 3640' Order: 30, 23

A moderately-paced trail hike. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancels.

Leader: Chris Post (#1,409), 518-537-5165; cbone@webjogger.net

Meeting Place/Time: Call or, preferably email, leader to register between Feb. 24-27.

Sat., Mar. 8 **RUSK**Distance: 5 mi. Ascent: 1600'
Elev.: 3680' Order: 21

A moderate bushwhack. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancels.

Leader: Jim Malumphy (#890), 860-355-5573 (no calls after 8:00 P.M.)

Meeting Place/Time: Call leader to register between March 3-7.

Sun., Mar. 9 **BALSAM**Distance: 6 mi. Ascent: 1600'
Elev.: 3600' Order: 28

A moderately-paced trail hike to a required winter peak. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancels.

Leader: Judy Weiner (#1,287), 201-840-7078; jmw755@aol.com

Meeting Place/Time: Trailhead at McKenley Hollow Road at 9:00 A.M.

Sat., Mar. 15 **DOUBLETOP**Distance: 5 mi. Ascent: 1850'
Elev.: 3860' Order: 8

A strenuous bushwhack at a relaxed pace. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancels.

Leader: Jean Taylor (#1,440), 908-209-4750; taylor@math.rutgers.edu

Meeting Place/Time: Call or email leader to register between Mar. 10-14.

Sun., Mar. 16 **PANTHER (Giant Ledge)**

Distance: 6 mi. Ascent: 1900'
Elev.: 3720' Order: 18

A moderately-paced trail hike to a required winter peak. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancels.

Leader: Ed Goldstein (#861), 516-487-2374 (between 7:00 P.M.-10:00 P.M.); amc_leader@hotmail.com
Meeting Place/Time: Hairpin turn parking lot on County Road 47 at 9:00 A.M.

Sat., Mar. 22 **SUGARLOAF**

Distance: 5 mi. Ascent: 1800'
Elev.: 3800' Order: 13

A moderately-paced trail hike. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancels.

Leader: Roman Benke (#1,216), 718-357-2582 (before 9:00 P.M.); doodath-man@att.net
Meeting Place/Time: Call, or preferably email, leader to register between Mar. 17-21.

Sat., Mar. 29 **SLIDE**

Distance: 6 mi. Ascent: 1650'
Elev.: 4180' Order: 1

A moderate trail hike at a comfortable pace to a required winter peak. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancels.

Leader: Laurie Moore (#1,337), 607-538-9484 (before 9:00 P.M.)
Meeting Place/Time: Call leader for details.

Sun., Mar. 30 **LONE and ROCKY**

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 2000'
Elev.: 3721, 3508' Order: 17, 35

A strenuous bushwhack at a moderate pace. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancels.

Leader: Edward Ripley-Duggan (#1,389), 845-657-7057 (between 9:00 A.M.-8:00 P.M.); erd@wilsey.net
Meeting Place/Time: Call or email leader to register between Mar. 24-28.

Alms

My heart is what it was before,
A house where people come and go;
But it is winter with your love,
The sashes are beset with snow.

I light the lamp and lay the cloth,
I blow the coals to blaze again;
But it is winter with your love,
The frost is thick upon the pane.

I know a winter when it comes:
The leaves are listless on the boughs;
I watched your love a little while,
And brought my plants into the house.

I water them and turn them south,
I snap the dead brown from the stem;
But it is winter with your love,
I only tend and water them.

Edna St. Vincent Millay

NEW MEMBERS

<u>No.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date Finished</u>
1437	Jack Sexton	08/09/02
1438	Bonnie McNamara	01/11/02
1439	James M. West	08/10/02
1440	Jean E. Taylor	09/28/02
1441	Sandra L. West	08/10/02
1442	Mark Pitcher	10/14/02

NEW LIFETIME MEMBERS

Abner Berzon (#1346)
Bonnie McNamara (#1438)

ON WHITNEY'S EAST FACE OR, JUST DON'T LOOK DOWN

Tomorrow will be my first time on a big-wall climb and the guide book is making me nervous. "Move left across a narrow, downward sloping ledge without hand holds. Looking between your legs, the glacier is 700 feet straight down." Thus reads the description of the Tower Traverse pitch on Mount Whitney's 2000-foot East Face route. Higher up, the harder Fresh-Air Traverse offers an ever scarier 900 feet of exposure.

I've never climbed on cliffs higher than 250 feet, yet in twenty-four hours I'll be launched onto this horror show. I'm unsure how I will handle it. Maybe I'll panic. Maybe I should hope my partner won't show up.

But he does. It's just my luck to be doing this with one of the most dependable guys I ever met - and also one of the most unforgettable - a Navy electronics petty officer and recently-reformed wild man whose earlier hobby had been bar room brawling. Gary holds two Navy Commendation medals from twice being the only one in his fleet operation capable of repairing another ship's crippled electronic steering control. Once, off the Aleutians, and again in the Gulf War, he was helicoptered from his ship to another dead in the water. And I'll always retain the image of him diagnosing his van's faulty engine computer module on a camp table in Yosemite.

We bushwhack the dim climber's route up the North Fork of Lone Pine Creek to its source where Iceberg Lake nestles under Whitney's immense East Face. Several parties have tents pitched, spurring us to start our climb before dawn next morning to be first on the route.

In the darkness before sunrise there are already lights in the other tents so we hurry to the start of the climb. But it turns out we are the only ones on the face today. All the others ascend a steep gully on the right, the non-technical Mountaineer's Route, discovered and first climbed by John Muir. The intimidating Tower Traverse actually goes without incident, but I don't have the nerve to look down. Later, almost across the more exposed Fresh-Air Traverse, I rush the last move and come off swinging out over 900 feet of space. I hadn't foreseen this precise form of excitement or last night's sleep would have been less than sound.

On easier pitches, we "simulclimb," moving upward at the same time with the rope running through carabiners held to the rock by removable camming devices placed into cracks by the leader and removed by the second.

The end of this climb is recommended for those who want their egos stroked. As we pull over the top onto the spacious summit, we are met by startled looks from the crowd of hikers who trekked up the foot trail from their high camps. For several minutes we are the subject of every camera in sight. One man was good enough to later mail us prints.

The occasional stone duck guides us north through a maze of boulders to the only safe, ice-free notch from which to start our descent down the Mountaineer's Route. I deem it fortunate that the eminent outdoor writer and High Sierras traveler, Colin Fletcher, hasn't recently passed this way. He knocks over every duck he happens upon, since they "compromise the wilderness experience" (and in many places they do). Here, though, trying to descend through the wrong notch has killed people.

Gary leads a knee-hammering, 6000 vertical-foot charge back down to the trailhead. There we shower, enjoy a celebratory dinner at the rough and ready Whitney Portal Café and with endorphins still flowing, drive off into the night towards our homes on separate coasts.

Bob McElroy (#797)



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Vol. XXXX, No. 2

APRIL - JUNE, 2003

HIGH POINT IN IRELAND: CLIMBING CARRANTUOHILL

Kathy and I live to travel, and we travel as often as we can. After a while, wherever we were, we began climbing the highest mountain/point. We've been to the top of about a dozen Caribbean islands, and summited Kosciuszko, the highest mountain in Australia (and one of the Seven Summits).

While planning our trip to Ireland, I began looking for the highest point and found a brief reference, in one of our guidebooks, to Carrantuohill, 1,050 meters, in the MacGillicuddy Reeks, in County Kerry. 1,050 meters is a little over 3,400 feet, smaller than Halcott. A piece of cake.... What a surprise I had waiting for me.

After three days in Dublin, we headed south into the Wicklow Mountains, then down to Kilkenny, Blarney, and Cork, and finally west to Killarney. After a night at a beautiful Victorian farmhouse B&B in Muckross, we headed out on the Ring of Kerry, with a goal of spending the night within striking distance of Carrantuohill. After driving for hours on narrow, bumpy, winding back roads trying to find the "town" closest to the mountain, we finally gave up and settled upon a hotel for the night. As luck would have it, the owner (whose wife was from Red Hook, New York), had climbed the mountain several times, and was able to give us detailed directions to a trailhead.

The day of the climb was windy and cold, with a threatening sky. Whilst we had Goretex rain jackets and fleece jackets, we made the mistake of going without rain pants and gaiters, and my new, low-cut walking shoes proved less than ideal. We met two Brits at the trailhead, far more appropriately outfitted than either Kathy or I, who had summited the previous day and told us that there were a couple of dangerous stream crossings. It had been raining for much of the week and the streams everywhere were swollen. We were advised to start from a different trailhead, a couple of miles away, where we would have to make one stream crossing instead of two. We decided to follow this advice. In parting, the Brits generously gave us one of their maps.

Finally, we were hiking, walking on an ancient road, with no signs or trail markers, a lot of puddles and rocks and no trees. We eventually came to the raging stream the Brits had talked about, and scouted it for quite a while before finally finding a place where we could cross. We rock-hopped and, in places, slogged through swift, icy-cold water up to our knees. Relieved to be safely on the other side, we had to slog through deep, black bogs to return to the trail. And, there, looming in front of us into the mist, was a ravine that looked very much like Tuckerman's on Mount Washington, except steeper and more foreboding, with water flowing down. We could just make out some tiny figures struggling up it.

We began to climb. There was no trail, just piles of rocks and cascading water making the steep ascent wet and slippery. Both of us just lowered our heads and applied ourselves to the task of getting up the ravine. All the while, I was thinking about how treacherous it was going to be to go back down.

Rocky ridges on both sides rose steeply into the cold mist. The landscape looked as if someone had lopped the final 3,000 feet off the top of a 14,000-footer and planted it here in County Kerry. Up and

Cont'd on Page 3

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Peripatetic Porcupine

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The Catskill Canister is published four times yearly by the Catskill 3500 Club, Inc., for \$5.00 a year. Articles on hiking or travel experiences, essays or poetry, should be sent to Darielle Graham, 60 Barker St., #419, Mount Kisco, NY 10549

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Many thanks to Art Zimmerman for all the work he undertook, including arranging hikes, so that club members could enjoy this year's Winter Weekend at the Sunshine Valley House in Westkill. The hiking was superb, as were the meals and companionship. I myself had an outstanding time on Saturday's South West Hunter hike led by John Nye. The club plans to return to the Sunshine Valley House next year for the Winter Weekend.

The Catskill Club will be donating up to \$3,000.00, made possible by contributions to the club, to help repair the foundation of the Overlook Fire Tower ground cabin which is in serious need of repair. The cabin was built when the tower was moved to Overlook in 1950 and the repair work would ensure the cabin's existence for at least another fifty years.

The NYSDEC is seeking volunteers willing to act as interpreters at the fire towers on Balsam Lake Mountain, Mt. Tremper and Hunter. Opportunities also exist for volunteers to perform occasional maintenance work on the towers and ground cabins. If desired, volunteers can stay overnight in the ground cabins. If you would like to help, please contact Helen Budrock (project coordinator for the DEC) at the Catskill Center for Conservation and Development at 845-586-2611. Thanks to those who have already volunteered.

After doing an excellent job as Outings Chairman since the spring of 1992, John Graham has submitted his resignation. He would like others to become involved with the club. The club is searching for someone to replace John. Prospective applicants should be organized and possess the discipline necessary to produce the hiking schedule in time for publication in the *Catskill Canister*. Applicants should also possess good communication skills and an ability to encourage people to lead hikes. Knowledge of the Catskill peaks and the members would also be helpful. If you think you would like to tackle this task, please contact Wanda Davenport by phone or email: 201-670-8383; wandatrails@aol.com.

Our new Annual Dinner Chairman is Chuck Brock. He has agreed to fill this position following the resignation of Roy Messaros. We will miss Roy's expertise at arranging the dinner, but I'm sure that Chuck will learn quickly and we will continue to have successful dinners. I hope to see you at the upcoming dinner on March 29, 2003 at the Hillside Manor in Kingston.

I would like to thank all those who have helped the club over the years, whether as hike leader or on the executive committee, or in another area. All these efforts are appreciated. Over half of the club's executive committee is new to their position in the last two years. This is a large turnover, and as those who have been involved in the club limit their involvement, we need new people to step forward to lead the club. The club not only exists, but thrives, due to the efforts of volunteers who contribute time and energy so that we can all enjoy our time in the mountains. This will be the last column I write as President. Wanda Davenport will be the next club President and I know she will do an excellent job.

Gerald A. Gervais

up we went. Near the top we caught some of the party in front of us. When we finally reached the crest, we were stunned to find about thirty people in the col. It turned out that they were a group of kids and parents on a fundraising hike. At least we would have company as we ascended the final 1,000 socked-in feet up the summit ridge.

And what a ridge it was: straight out of the Presidentials - steep and rocky. There was a fairly well-defined trail (more like a deep rut) up the ridge, marked with cairns. Again, Kath and I just slugged away, passing most of the kids and their long-suffering parents. At last, we saw a huge metal cross rising in the mist in front of us; we had reached the highest point in Ireland - 3,414 feet. Less elevation than Halcott, yes, but more on a par with ascending Mount Washington via Tuckerman's Ravine.

The cold and wind prevented a long stay at the summit. We took a couple of photographs, wolfed down some energy bars and water, then headed back down. That evening, we saluted Carrantuohill with a couple of pints of Guinness in a nice, warm pub - another "highest point" behind us.

Ralph Ferrusi (#122)

FAREWELLS AND A WELCOME

Roy Messaros has stepped down as Chairman of the Annual Dinner Committee, after having held this position for twenty-four years. Previously, Roy was President of the club. Though the position of Annual Dinner Chairman demanded a great deal of time, effort and organization, no detail was too small or insignificant to handle for Roy, including accommodating people's dietary and table seating requests. In going the extra mile to make people happy, Roy ensured that the dinner was a successful, well-attended affair. He also made himself readily available to greet members and aspirants at the dinner. Anyone who might have felt out of place in such a large gathering was warmly welcomed and put at ease by Roy's beaming smile and friendly personality. For all the work Roy has done for so many years to make the annual dinners such enjoyable and well-run events, the club expresses its deep appreciation and a huge thank you.

After eleven years as Outings Chairman for the Catskill 3500 Club, John Graham is stepping down to give someone else the opportunity to become involved with the club. During John's tenure as Outings Chairman, he produced outings schedules that included almost every Catskill peak and gathered together an experienced group of hike leaders. John also made a point of attending the annual club dinners to thank his leaders in person and encourage new members who experienced an interest in leading to do so. John will continue to lead hikes for the club because of the pleasure he gains in introducing people to the Catskills and because his leadership skills and experience of the mountains are appreciated by those who hike with him.

* * * * *

The club welcomes Chuck Brock, a recent new member (#1,087) who has taken over the responsibilities of Annual Dinner Chairman. Members and aspirants who wish to attend the club's annual dinner on March 29, 2003 at the Hillside Manor in Kingston, New York (see page 7 for the annual dinner invitation) should send their check for \$28.00, made payable to the Catskill 3500 Club, along with the portion of the invitation specifying meal choice and seating arrangement, to Chuck. His address is: 307 Myrtle Avenue, Port Jefferson, New York 11777-1714; telephone (631) 473-0186. The club thanks Chuck for taking over this important task to ensure that the annual dinners continue to be a success.

CATSKILL 3500 CLUB HIKES: APRIL - JUNE 2003**ASSUMED RISK**

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

Snowshoes and crampons may still be needed during April. If in doubt, contact the leader.

Sat. Apr. 5 **BALSAM LAKE, GRAHAM
and DOUBLETOP**

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 2600'
Elev: 3723', 3868', 3860' Order: 16, 7, 8

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

Meeting Place/Time: Call leader to register between April 1-3.

Leader: Bob Novick (#1,086), 201-385-3161 (7:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M. only)

Sun., Apr. 6 **HALCOTT**

Distance: 5 mi. Ascent: 1500'
Elev.: 3537' Order: 32

A moderately-paced bushwhack. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place/Time: Call leader to register between March 31-April 3.

Leader: Dave White (#859), 315-853-6942 (7:00 P.M.-10:00 P.M.)

Sat., Apr. 12 **WESTKILL**

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2400'
Elev.: 3880' Order: 6

A moderately-paced trail hike. Shuttle required.

Meeting Place/Time: Call or email leader to register between April 7-10.

Leader: Ken Hubert (#1,351), 718-463-5675 (after 3:00 P.M., Mon-Thurs.); 518-827-7327 (Fri-Sat);
ckhub@aol.com

Sun., Apr. 13 **SLIDE and CORNELL**

Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 2400'
Elev.: 4180', 3860' Order: 1, 9

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

Meeting Place/Time: Call or, preferably, email leader to register between April 7-10.

Leader: Chris Post (#1,409), 518-537-5165; cbone@webjogger.net

Sat., Apr. 19 **PANTHER**

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 2820'
Elev.: 3720' Order: 18

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

Meeting Place/Time: Brio's Restaurant, Main Street, Phoenicia at 8:00 A.M.

Leader: Dave White (#859), 315-853-6942 (7:00 P.M.-10:00 P.M.)

Sun., Apr. 20 **NORTH DOME and SHERRILL**

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 3000'
Elev.: 3610', 3540' Order: 26, 31

A moderately-paced bushwhack. Rain cancels.

Meeting Place/Time: Call leader to register between April 14-18.

Leader: John Graham (#478), 914-241-2240 (by 9:00 P.M.)

Sat., Apr. 26 **BALSAM LAKE and GRAHAM**

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 1700'
Elev.: 3723', 3868' Order: 16, 7

A moderately to fast-paced trail hike. Rain cancels.

Meeting Place/Time: Millbrook Ridge parking lot at 9:00 A.M.

Leader: Harry Rampe (#877), 845-292-6736 (after 5:00 P.M.)

Sun., Apr. 27 **WINDHAM HIGH PEAK**

Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 1700'
Elev.: 3524' Order: 34

A moderately-paced trail hike. Shuttle may be required. Heavy, steady rain cancels.

Meeting Place/Time: Trailhead parking lot on Route 23 at 9:30 A.M.

Leader: Margaret Freifeld (#929). 914-666-0710 (evenings); m.freifeld@att.net

- Sat., May 3 **TABLE and PEEKAMOOSE:** Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 1800'
Trail Maintenance Elev.: 3847', 3843' Order: 10, 11
 Give back to the woods and possibly bag one or both peaks. Rain cancels.
 Meeting Place/Time: Trailhead at Denning at 9:30 A.M.
 Leader: Daniel Case (#1,238), 845-7781090; dancase@frontiernet.net
- Sun., May 4 **North Mountain** Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 1800'
 Elev.: 3180'
 A strenuous climb with stops for the best views in the Catskills. Rain cancels.
 Meeting Place/Time: Call or email leader to register between April 28-May 1.
 Leader: Pavel Litvinov (#1,348), 914-631-4861 (before 9:00 P.M.); pavellitvinov@hotmail.com
- Sat., May 10 **Adopt-A-Highway Litter Pick-Up**
 Give back to the Catskills and help pick up litter along a beautiful two-mile stretch of Route 214.
 Meeting Place/Time: Call or email leader to register.
 Leader: Daniel Case (#1,238), 845-7781090; dancase@frontiernet.net
- Sun., May 11 **RUSK and HUNTER** Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 3800'
 Elev.: 3680', 4040' Order: 21, 2
 A moderately-paced bushwhack and trail hike. Heavy rain cancels.
 Meeting Place/Time: Call or, preferably, email leader to register between May 5-8.
 Leader: Chris Post (#1,409), 518-537-5165; cbone@webjogger.net
- Sat., May 17 **SLIDE, CORNELL and WITTENBERG** Distance: 10 mi. Ascent:
 Elev.: 4180', 3860', 3780' Order: 1, 9, 14
 A long strenuous trail hike at a moderate to fast pace. Rain cancels.
 Meeting Place/Time: Woodland Valley Campground at 8:30 A.M. SHARP.
 Leader: Harry Rampe (#877), 845-292-6736 (after 5:00 P.M.)
- Sun., May 18 **PLATEAU** Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 1800'
 Elev.: 3840' Order: 12
 A moderately-paced trail hike. Shuttle required. Rain cancels.
 Meeting Place/Time: Bus stop in Lake Hill on Rte. 212 where Mink Hollow Road meets 212 at 9:00 A.M.
 Leader: Wanda Davenport (#523), 201-670-8383 (before 9:00 P.M.; no calls Saturday night).
- Sat., May 24 **DOUBLETOP** Distance: 5 mi. Ascent: 1850'
 Elev.: 3860' Order: 8
 A moderately-paced bushwhack. Heavy rain cancels.
 Meeting Place/Time: Call or email leader to register between May 19-23.
 Leader: Larry Armstrong (#827), 607-783-2730 (7:00 P.M.-9:00 P.M.); armstrwl@oneonta.edu
- Sun., May 25 **BLACKHEAD, BLACK DOME** Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 2400'
THOMAS COLE Elev.: 3940', 3980', 3940'
 Order: 5, 3, 4
 An easy to moderately-paced trail hike.
 Leader: David Galvin (#1,201), 607-538-9518 (by 10:00 P.M.); porcupine@dmcom.net
 Meeting Place/Time: Call during evening hours only or, preferably, email leader for details by May 23.
- Sat., May 31 **HUNTER and SOUTH WEST HUNTER** Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2500'
 Elev.: 4040', 3740' Order: 2, 15
 A fast-paced bushwhack. Rain cancels.
 Meeting Place/Time: Call leader to register between May 26-30.
 Leader: John Nye (#1,132), 845-278-2770

Sun., June 1 **BEARPEN and VLY**Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 1900'
Elev.: 3600', 3529' Order: 29, 33

A moderately-paced bushwhack. Rain cancels.

Meeting Place/Time: Call leader to register between May 26-30.

Leader: John Graham (#478), 914-241-2240 (by 9:00 P.M.)

Sat., June 7 **BLACKHEAD**Distance: 5 mi. Ascent: 1900'
Elev.: 3940' Order: 5

A moderately-paced trail hike. Rain cancels.

Meeting Place/Time: Call leader to register between June 2-6.

Leader: Jean Laverdure (#1,299), 518-891-8117

Sun., June 8 **KAATERSKILL HIGH PEAK**Distance: 5 mi. Ascent: 1900'
Elev.: 3655' Order: 22

A relaxed-pace trail hike.

Meeting Place/Time: Warms Restaurant in Tannersville at 9:15 A.M.

Leader: Jean Taylor (#1,440), 908-209-4750; taylor@math.rutgers.edu

Sat., June 14 **BALSAM CAP and FRIDAY**Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 3000'
Elev.: 3623', 3694' Order: 24, 20

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

Meeting Place/Time: Call leader to register between June 6-13.

Leader: Tom Regan (#1,026), 516-822-3720 (by 9:00 P.M.)

Sun., June 15 **INDIAN HEAD and TWIN**Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2200'
Elev.: 3573', 3640' Order: 30, 23

A slow to moderately-paced trail hike. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place/Time: Call or email leader to register between June 9-13.

Leader: Michael ("Mick") Dunn (#1,272), 603-595-2678, X2 (10:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M.); mdunn@wyeth.com

Sat., June 21 **LONE and ROCKY**Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 2500'
Elev.: 3721, 3508' Order: 17, 35

A strenuous bushwhack at a moderate pace. Rain cancels.

Meeting Place/Time: Call leader to register between June 16-20.

Leader: Jim Malumphy (#890), 860-355-5573 (no calls after 8:00 P.M.)

Sun., June 22 **BALSAM and EAGLE**Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 2500'
Elev.: 3600', 3600' Order: 28, 27

An easy to moderately-paced trail hike.

Leader: David Galvin (#1,201), 607-538-9518 (by 10:00 P.M.); porcupine@dmcom.net

Meeting Place/Time: Call during evening hours only or, preferably, email leader for details by June 20.

Sat., June 28 **BALSAM LAKE - Millbrook Ridge
to Alder Lake**Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 2000'
Elev.: 3723' Order: 16

A moderate trail hike. Shuttle required. Rain cancels.

Meeting Place/Time: DEC kiosk in Margaretville at 8:00 A.M.

Leader: Laurie Moore (#1,337), 607-538-9484 (before 9:00 P.M.)

Sun., June 29 **FIR**Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 1700'
Elev.: 3620' Order: 25

An easy to moderately-paced hike and bushwhack. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place/Time: Call or email leader to register between June 23-27.

Leader: Michael ("Mick") Dunn (#1,272), 603-595-2678, X2 (10:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M.); mdunn@wyeth.com

You are cordially invited to attend the
THIRTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL DINNER MEETING
of the
Catskill 3500 Club
Saturday, March 29, 2003

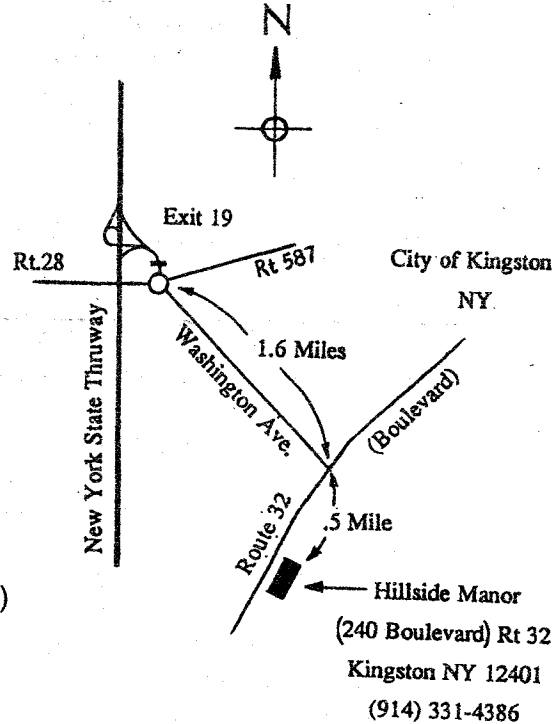
Location: Hillside Manor
Route 32 (240 Boulevard)
Kingston, New York 12401
(845) 331-4386

Social Hour: 4:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.
Cash bar, hors d'ouvres served

Dinner: 6:15 p.m. - Choice of Entrée:
Prime Ribs au Jus
Chicken Française
Mixed Vegetable Lasagne

Program: "Logs From Heaven": the Fenwick Lumber Company's logging of the summits of Hunter, South West Hunter and Westkill Mountains, and its occupation of Devil's Acre from 1906-18.
By: Richard C. Brooks, Land Surveyor (#128, Life Member)

Cost: \$28.00 per person
Check payable to "Catskill 3500 Club, Inc."
Name card reserved seating for everyone, round tables seat 10
Reservations required by March 24, 2003



Detach and mail to: Charles B. Brock (631-473-0186)
307 Myrtle Avenue
Port Jefferson, NY 11777-1714

Reservations received later than
March 24, 2003 will not be accepted.

Catskill 3500 Club

Reservations \$28.00 per person. Amount of Check: \$ _____

Circle Choice of Entrée

Name: _____	Prime Ribs	Chicken Française	Mixed Veg. Lasagne
Name: _____	Prime Ribs	Chicken Française	Mixed Veg. Lasagne

Use back of this form for additional names and choice of entrée.
Also list names of others with whom you want to be seated.
Name card reserved seating provided for groups and individuals.

LEADERSHIP PATCHES AWARDED

Congratulations to John Swanson (#592), Nan Giblin (#1,328), Edward Rippley-Duggan (#1,389) and David Galvin (#1,201), who have been awarded the leadership patch. The club awards the leadership patch to members who have led six separate hikes scheduled in the *Canister*. At least one hike must be to a trailless peak, and at least one other must be led during the winter. Also, attendance at one club-scheduled trail maintenance hike is required.

T-SHIRTS AVAILABLE AT ANNUAL DINNER

3500 Club t-shirts can be purchased for \$7.00 at the annual dinner on a first-come, first-served basis. No mail orders will be available.

PERIPATETIC PORCUPINE

Dennis Clarke #1,336) completed the ADK 46s in August 2002, the ADK Firetower Challenge in September 2002 and the NE Hundred Highest and the NE 111 in October 2002 • Diane Grunthal (#899) finished the ADK 46s in May with a 21-mile hike to Allen Mountain, accompanied by Allen Grunthal and Ernie Kriese.

If there is a special event in your life or that of another member (graduation, engagement, marriage) or a special achievement on or off the trail that you would like to appear in the Peripatetic Porcupine column, please send the news to Ralph Ferrusi, 34 Kim Lane, Stormville, NY 12582; rferrusi@us.ibm.com.

NEW MEMBERS

<u>No.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date Finished</u>
1443	Charles W. Teuscher	11/09/02
1444	Sandy Dunn	11/14/02
1445	Timothy Holmes	11/24/02
1446	Diana Freid	11/10/02
1447	Irene Fusco	11/16/02
1448	Ledge Clayton	11/14/02
1449	Vincent T. Polywoda	11/03/02
1450	Julie Ebert	12/28/02
1451	Jack VanDerzee	12/30/02
1452	Ellen Dwyer	01/05/03
1453	Michael Dwyer	01/05/03
1454	Stuart A. Kosnoff	01/05/03

NEW WINTER MEMBERS

547	Kevin Roosa	03/09/02
548	Edward Ripley-Duggan	12/29/02
549	John Pecoroni	01/10/03

NEW LIFETIME MEMBERS

701	Jacob J. Goldberg
702	Trudy L. Wood
755	Peter C. Ford
1204	Peter Anderson
1321	Cody J. Smith
1383	John C. Fontana
1402	Thomas P. Logan
1414	Annette Burgess
1455	Joel Mandelbaum



the catskill canister

Vol. 36, No. 3

JULY - SEPTEMBER, 2003

WEST KILL

On a hot day in July I follow the Mink Hollow Brook upstream through a grove of hemlocks toward West Kill Mountain with my dog, Dell. We pass yellow birch, the shiny golden sheen that seems to glow from within in papery curly strips. Lemony leaves clink, brushing gently against delicate branches. We reach a first false summit where treetops touch the sky. The air changes, still with no hint of wind, the silence broken by crow calls and airplanes. When I stand and rest, Dell stands, inflexible, back rigid, and stares at the ground. We hike in silence, communicate by gestures. She looks at me, eye-locking for license, and leads the way, a sashay on the trail. Border collie feet barely leave the ground as they trot. Dell carries her tail up, but not curved over her back. The long coarse white fur on the flanks swishes, a perfect pair of pantaloons.

We follow tracks at this higher elevation, where deer have made the trail their path and eaten beechnuts in their swirled forest beds. A split cherry tree rises out of the brush like old liver-spotted arms. High winds descend, knives that cut the red wood, unusual for cherry trees so strong. We pass a stand of soft silver maple, tapped for syrup by the birds; orange leaves rattle like paper chimes. An owl coos close by as we leave the sun on the western slide. I feel the heat on my wet back. The trees on the second false summit are twisted and bent, caused by lightning, microbursts, dust devils and ice storms. At some point in history, a powerful windstorm struck just below the 3500-foot elevation. More recently, damage was caused by upstate tornadoes.

We reach a West Kill summit, sign buried in the balsam, elevation 3880 feet. A few paces farther east the Buckridge lookout opens into a panoramic view of the Hunter Mountain Wild Forest. This lookout is not the true summit of West Kill as I once thought. I stand in a sudden chill on the sun-swept cliff, say hello to a spectacular view in the Catskill Mountains, and sight northwest to my destination, Hunter Mountain. I hold Dell as I scan the vast vista, warming my nose in her woolly fur. Dell digs a nest in the balsam and sleeps, curled like a cream puff, while I eat lunch.

We continue hiking another three or four miles to a camping spot below the summit of Hunter where we spend the night. The following afternoon from a perch on the Hunter fire tower, I see storm clouds swelling in the distance; the air is fluid, the sky emerald and olive black, becoming murky purple, and the clouds seem to seep like mercury. I decide to curtail our camping trip to Sugarloaf and return to West Kill where we might spend one more night.

We hike ahead of the storm and arrive on the Buckridge lookout at five o'clock. Within minutes, the storm hits the cliff like surf, lashing the ledge, white mist whipping the beach of bedrock. As temporary cover, I erect the tent in a clearing in the balsam about sixty yards from the ledge. There is not enough time to descend below 3400 feet where camping is permitted.

Dell sits with me in the tent and cocks her head to the sound of thunder, blinking between flashes of lightning. Then she goes to sleep. She is not afraid. If only I could sleep like Dell, stop the incessant fear. I try to read, drift. The nylon tent floor lashes in the wind, the sound of tractor-trailers on wet highway. I try to eat, gag on cheese and bagels. I cannot cook a real meal inside the tent and am too terrified to unzip the door.

The small outcropping of low trees is thin shelter for the tent, and potential danger for blowdown and electrocution. More hikers are killed by lightning and stream crossings than from any other causes. The image of the cave below the peak did not enter my mind even as a picture, a memory, the most rational alternative to the rain-whipped shore of summit sounds and sitting still. Yet, even there, electrical ground currents are passed among cave walls.

Cont'd on p. 3

IN MEMORIAM

Nelson O. Shultis, an honorary member of the Catskill 3500 Club, died Wednesday, March 26, 2003 at his home in West Shokan, New York. He was 89. Mr. Shultis, formerly of Wittenberg, a former councilman of Woodstock and a member of the original Woodstock planning board, operated the Wittenberg Lumber Company for many years until his retirement in 1985. He made many donations of lumber and time to various civic projects.

He was a member of Overlook Methodist Church, the Woodstock Rotary Club, and Region 3 New York State Forest Practice Board, and a charter member of Woodstock Fire Co. No. 3 in Wittenberg, and Wittenberg Sportsmen's Club, among others. In 1995 he was named sportsman of the year by the Federated Sportsmen's Club of Ulster County.

Born July 17, 1913 in Wittenberg, he was the son of Oakley N. and Eliza Lockwood Shultis and had lived in West Shokan for the past twenty years. His wife, Frances Skyles Shultis, died June 17, 2001. Survivors include two daughters, Gail Carl of Wittenberg and Susan Kizis of West Shokan and Florida; a sister, Alice Bailey of Wittenberg; four grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and nieces and nephews.

Mr. Shultis was always friendly to hikers and encouraged use of his land. The Catskill 3500 Club extends its condolences to his family.

Reprinted, in part, from the March 27, 2003 edition of the Daily Freeman.

THE CLUB WELCOMES NEW OUTINGS CHAIRMAN

Edward Ripley-Duggan (#1,389) takes over from John Graham as the new Outings Chairman. Ted's gregarious and patient disposition, along with his knowledge and love of the Catskills, make him well suited to the task, which he embraces with enthusiasm and commitment. Ted's "New Tools For Hike Leaders" is summarized below.

A small website for hike leaders can now be found at: <http://www.wilsey.net/3500/>. An important feature on the site is the list of hikes presently available for leading. This is shown during the planning period each quarter. During this time (after the letter goes out to leaders to request hike submissions), this page is constantly revised in order to show which peaks have already been applied for and who is leading them (specifics of hikes are not requested until this schedule has been completed). If you have Internet access, this page has obvious utility in deciding which hikes you intend to lead. Please note that quarterly requests for hikes will continue to be mailed to all leaders, and response by regular post (or by phone call) is entirely acceptable.

It is now possible to submit hike forms electronically, either by scanning hike sheets and uploading files using a simple utility, or by filing a simple Internet form. Unless you have responded to the recent survey by indicating that you wish to file the information by this method, you will continue to receive stamped envelopes with hike forms. This will not change for the foreseeable future.

Another feature is the ability to download hike sheets (especially handy for those substitute-leading a hike at short notice) as an Acrobat PDF file, which can then be printed to provide an exact facsimile of the standard forms. All of the tools above (and more will come) can be accessed by following links from the home page noted above.

Finally, there is now an email list service for hike leaders (and those who have their 3500 patch and would like to consider leading hikes), intended to make the flow of information between leaders and the outings chair easier. This is a closed list: as with the main Club e-list, the moderator must approve your application (to keep out spam). Send a message to: 3500leader-subscribe@yahoogroups.com to join. If you have any problems subscribing, please email me at erd@wilsey.net.

Submissions must be in plain text only (no HTML in the messages or added graphics or attachments), and it is requested that messages be at least approximately related to hike leading! If a member of the list wishes to post a graphic, e.g., a map, please contact the list owner (Edward Ripley-Duggan, erd@wilsey.net) attaching the file as a graphic. This will be uploaded to the website and a link will be provided which you may include in your list message. Apologies, but aspirants will not be accepted on the list without special dispensation from the outings chair.

Edward Ripley-Duggan, Outings Chair
845-657-7057

I have to get the food out of the tent, suspend it between two high trees according to bear-proofing procedures. Balsam, of course, is too low. As I wander outside the tent, drenched, I am only dimly aware of this detail. Dell hugs my legs, then leaves, to pee, perhaps. Neon light zaps the sky. I duck for cover when I hear her growl, bark. She is in the trail creeping, snarling, lunging, flying backwards. A black bear has appeared and Dell is stalking our boundary. The bear shifts back and forth behind a tree on the edge of brush, not fifty feet away, fully stretched to charge. The image seems cartoon-like in slow motion. I gasp for breath, but without effect. I am oddly calm.

I keep my eyes on the bear. And on Dell. I fold tent poles and unfurl flapping fabric, smash gear into the green pack. These are shock-induced symptoms. You can pop a modern, waterproof tent in less than five minutes. I dismantle mine in about sixty seconds. I know enough about bears to take a chance that this is a false charge, that the details of this scene are a smoke screen. I even pack the food. The DEC warns about leaving food traces for unruly bears. It will train them to behave in consistently menacing ways: false charge, hiker drops pack, bear gets food. Still, I should have left the food, an offering, a distraction for us to get away.

It is twilight when I run away. Dell noses my shins, nips my heels, herding me down the mountain; then she takes the lead. For the next five miles I anticipate the strain of running a marathon. I use a hand-made ash walking stick, grope with it like a blind person, tap for level boulders, crags and traps. The stick is still green and absorbs the rain, a cumbersome weight, like Dell's wet fur and saddle-sagging dog pack. We sink into sudden darkness along slippery rock crevasses, sliding away, enveloped in liquid black. I whistle a marching tune, *Onward Christian Soldiers*, and focus on forward motion. Dell leads and looks over her shoulder repeatedly, eye-electrocuted. I make mental notes of level ground, where I might lie down and die.

Foolishly, I brought a red discount-store flashlight with a built-in battery that is not waterproof. Tonight it is a hand-held beacon, a red ember glowing in my wet hand, stigmata, white light pointed at Dell's black back. It lights the red trail blazes like Stations of the Cross. I follow Dell faithfully, because the light on her back seems false, not what I expect, independent of the flashlight. The glow seems to come from within the dog. When we arrive at the car near midnight, the flashlight finally fails. Dell sighs deeply and falls asleep on the back seat, thick fur steaming, a misty glow and then, caliginous gray, pungent mist hovering over the dog like an apparition.

Kathryn Kurtz (#1,134)

PERIPATETIC PORCUPINE

On November 9, 2002, Jack VanDerZee (#1,451) became the 76th hiker to complete the 560 miles of the main Finger Lakes Train across New York State; Jack also completed the ADK 46 on August 17, 2002 on Colvin • Paul Rabenold (#999) completed the ADK 46ers and the Northeast 111 on his 50th birthday, August 8, 2003, on Haystack in the Adirondacks • Kevin Lockett (#1,010) completed his first marathon in November in Philadelphia, in 3 hours 5 minutes; Kevin also climbed all 35 Catskill peaks again this winter - for the 8th winter in a row • On February 1, 2003, Bob Consadine (#646), completed the "Catskill 420" (all 35 3500 footers climbed each month of the year) by climbing Halcott Mountain with Julie Ebert (#1,450) and Don Rain (#246). Bob's first Catskill climb was Hunter Mountain on December 30, 1977. He has also climbed Mount Rinjani on the island of Lombok in Indonesia on July 27, 1977 and Mount Fuji in Japan on July 24, 1999 while visiting his daughter and son-in-law • On February 2, 2003, Jeff Glans (#793) climbed his one and only seventh summit, Mt. Kilimanjaro, accompanied by his wife Louise • June Fait (#392) summited Kilimanjaro, along with Herbert Coles (#440), Earl Albright, Yoshiko Takeshita, Jo Ellen Elsener (#493) and Lilo Richter. • Kathy (#1,022) and Ralph (#122) Ferrusi savored the snows of Kilimanjaro via the Mandara Route in October 2002, Kathy at Stella Point (19,200') and Ralph near Hans' Cave (17,000') where severe H.A.C.E. symptoms forced a rapid descent.

If there is a special event in your life or that of another member (graduation, engagement, marriage) or a special achievement on or off the trail that you would like to appear in the Peripatetic Porcupine column, please send the news to Ralph Ferrusi, 34 Kim Lane, Stormville, NY 12582; rferrusi@us.ibm.com.

CATSKILL 3500 CLUB HIKES: JULY-SEPTEMBER 2003ASSUMED RISK

Hiking involves certain inherent hazards, and persons participating do so at their own risk. When you participate in activities listed in the schedule, you should be both physically and mentally prepared and equipped with the appropriate gear. The trip leader is not responsible for your safety, you are.

Sat., July 5 Ashokan High Point

Distance: 11 mi. Ascent: 2400'

A strenuous trail hike and bushwhack to open rocky knob at a moderate pace. Rain cancels.

Leaders: Carol and Dave White (#859, #860), 315-853-6942 (Mon-Thurs); ccswhite@juno.com

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

Sun., July 6 Huckleberry Loop

Distance: 10.5 mi. Ascent: 1900'

A strenuous trail hike at a moderate pace through second-growth ridgetops and recovering former agricultural land. Route includes a high elevation bog and unusual views from Dry Brook Ridge of the Allegheny Plateau to the west and south.

Leader: David Galvin (#1,201), 607-538-9518 (by 10:00 P.M.); porcupine@dmcom.net

Meeting Place/Time: Call or, preferably, email leader on Friday before hike for registration and details.

Sat., July 12 Giant Ledge & PANTHER

Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 1545'

Elev.: 3720' Order: 18

A moderately paced trail hike. Heavy, steady rain cancels.

Leader: Margaret Freifeld (#929), 914-666-0710; mcfreifeld@yahoo.com

Meeting Place/Time: Trailhead parking lot on Rte. 47 at 10:00 A.M.

Sun., July 13 SHERRILL & NORTH DOME

Distance: 6 mi. Ascent: 2300'

Elev.: 3540', 3610' Order: 26, 31

A strenuous bushwhack at a steady pace. Shuttle required. Rain cancels.

Leader: Harry Rampe (#877), 845-292-6736 (after 5:00 P.M.)

Meeting Place/Time: Call leader to register and for details.

Sat., July 19 North Lake & North Point

Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 1000'

A moderately paced trail hike. Rain cancels.

Leader: John Graham (#478), 914-241-2240 (by 9:00 P.M.)

Meeting Place/Time: Schutt Road parking area at 9:30 A.M.

Sun., July 20 Western Catskills: Split Rock Lookout

Distance: 3 mi. Ascent: 600'

Elev.: 2500'

A moderately paced trail hike to an interesting and off-the beaten track area in *Catskill Day Hikes for All Seasons* authored by the leaders.

Leaders: Carol and Dave White (#859, #860), 315-853-6942; ccswhite@juno.com

Meeting Place/Time: Call or email leaders for details between July 14-17 (Mon.-Thurs.)

Sat., July 26 KAATERSKILL HIGH PEAK: Nature Hike

We will discuss and examine the natural history of the area and perhaps bushwhack to attempt to find the remains of the Revolutionary War fort in the KHP-Roundtop col. Please note that this hike may not summit. Slow to moderate pace with stops for discussion of flora, etc.

Leader: Edward Ripley-Duggan (#1,389), 845-657-7057; erd@wilsey.net

Meeting Place/Time: Call or email leader for details after July 21, no earlier.

Sun., July 27 SUGARLOAF

Distance: 5 mi. Ascent: 1800'

Elev.: 3800' Order: 13

A moderately paced trail hike. Rain (but not threat of) cancels.

Leader: Susan Puretz (#1,208), 845-246-1823 (between 7:00 A.M.-8:00 P.M.); puretz@newpaltz.edu

Meeting Place/Time: Contact leader for details.

Sat., Aug. 2 PEEKAMOOSSE & TABLE

Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 1900'

Elev.: 3843', 3847' Order: 11, 10

A leisurely paced trail hike. Heavy precipitation cancels.

Leader: Jean Taylor (#1,440), 908-209-4750; jtaylor@CIMS.nyu.edu

Meeting Place/Time: Contact leader for details.

Sun., Aug. 3 **EAGLE & BIG INDIAN**Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2300'
Elev.: 3600', 3700' Order: 27, 19

A fairly strenuous trail hike at a moderate pace followed by a short bushwhack to Big Indian. Rain cancels.
Leader: Laurie Moore (#1,337), 607-538-9484 (before 9:00 P.M.); robert@dmcom.net
Meeting Place/Time: Contact leader for details.

Sat., Aug. 9 **Evergreen & RUSK**Distance: 6 mi. Ascent: 1600'
Elev.: 3680' Order: 21

A moderately paced bushwhack at a steady pace. Shuttle required. Rain cancels.
Leader: Harry Rampe (#877), 845-292-6736 (after 5:00 P.M.)
Meeting Place/Time: Call leader for details.

Sun., Aug. 10 **PLATEAU**Distance: 6 mi. Ascent: 1700'
Elev.: 3840' Order: 12

A leisurely paced trail hike. Rain cancels.
Leader: Dan Case (#1,238), 845-7781090; dancase@frontiernet.net
Meeting Place/Time: Call or email leader for details.

Sat., Aug. 16 **Spruce, Hemlock & FIR**Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 1700'
Elev.: 3620' Order: 25

A moderately paced bushwhack. Rain cancels.
Leader: Edward Ripley-Duggan (#1,389), 845-657-7057; erd@wilsey.net
Meeting Place/Time: Call or email leader to register between Aug. 9-14.

Sun., Aug. 17 **TWIN & INDIAN HEAD**Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 2000'
Elev.: 3573', 3640' Order: 30, 23

A moderately paced trail hike. Heavy rain cancels.
Leader: Bob Gram (#1,400), 845-336-6586; bgram@hotmail.com (email possibly subject to change)
Meeting Place/Time: Call or email leader to register.

Sat., Aug. 23 **RUSK**Distance: 5 mi. Ascent: 1600'
Elev.: 3680' Order: 21

An easy paced, moderate bushwhack. Heavy rain cancels.
Leader: Manuel A. Peraza (#1,373), 718-698-4422 (7:00 P.M.-9:00 P.M.); mapcolus1@att.net
Meeting Place/Time: Call or email leader to register between Aug. 11-14.

Sun., Aug. 24 **WESTKILL**Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 2000'
Elev.: 3880' Order: 6

A moderately paced, end-to-end trail hike, including West Westkill, a/k/a St. Anne's Peak. Shuttle required.
Leader: Howard Dash (#458), 845-255-3409, gunkman@bestweb.net
Meeting Place/Time: Sweet Sue's Bakery in Phoenicia at 9:00 A.M.

Sat., Aug. 30 **BALSAM LAKE & GRAHAM**Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 1700;
Elev.: 3723', 3868' Order: 16, 7

An all-weather, moderately paced trail hike.
Leader: Anthony Amaral, Jr. (#612), 212-874-9492 (NCA 10:00 P.M. or after Aug. 28); aaajr@email.com
Meeting Place/Time: Intersection of Rte. 28 and Dry Brook Road just over the bridge in Arkville at 9:00 A.M.
Depending on the number of participants, a shuttle to the trailhead parking area may be necessary.

Sun., Aug. 31 **HALCOTT**Distance: 5 mi. Ascent: 1700'
Elev.: 3537' Order: 32

An all-weather, moderately paced bushwhack.
Leader: Anthony Amaral, Jr. (#612), 212-874-9492 (NCA 10:00 P.M. or after Aug. 28); aaajr@email.com
Meeting Place/Time: Call or email leader to register between Aug. 25-28 ONLY.

Sun., Aug. 31 **Mt. Tremper Traverse**
(Fire-Tower Hike)Distance: 6.7 mi. Ascent: 2300'
Elev.: 2740'

A moderate trail hike to a fire tower with a view traversing Mt. Tremper. Shuttle required. Rain cancels.
Leader: Ken Hubert (#1,351), 718-463-5675 (after 3:00 P.M., Mon-Thurs.); 518-827-7327 (Fri-Sat);
ckhub@aol.com
Meeting Place/Time: Call leader to register between Aug. 25-30.

Sat., Sept. 6 **WITTENBERG, CORNELL & SLIDE**Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 3500'
Elev.: 3780', 3860', 4180' Order: 14, 9, 1

A strenuous trail hike at a moderate pace. Shuttle required. Rain or shine.

Leader: Roman Benke (#1,216), 718-357-2562 (before 9:00 P.M.); doodah-man@att.net

Meeting Place/Time: Call or, preferably, email leader to register between Sept. 1-5.

Sun., Sept. 7 **DOUBLETOP**Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 2600'
Elev.: 3862' Order: 8

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

Leader: Joe Bogardus (#1,399), 609-737-2542 (7:00 P.M.-10:00 P.M.); jbbogardus@yahoo.com

Meeting Place/Time: Call or email leader to register between Sept. 2-5.

Sun., Sept. 7 **PEEKAMOOSE (& possibly TABLE)**Distance: 5 (9) mi. Ascent: 2623'
Elev.: 3843', (3847') Order: 11, (10)

A moderately paced trail hike. Heavy rain cancels.

Leader: Manuel A. Peraza (#1,373), 718-698-4422 (7:00 P.M.-9:00 P.M.); mapcolus1@att.net

Meeting Place/Time: Call leader to register between Sept. 1-5.

Sat., Sept. 13 **THOMAS COLE, BLACK DOME,
BLACKHEAD & WINDHAM HIGH PEAK**Distance: 14 mi. Ascent: 4200'
Elev.: 3940', 3980', 3940', 3524'
Order: 4, 3, 5, 33

A strenuous trail hike at a fast pace. Rain cancels.

Leader: Pavel Litvinov (#1,348), 914-631-4861 (before 9:00 P.M.); pavellitvinov@hotmail.com

Meeting Place/time: Call or email leader to register between Sept. 8-11.

Sun., Sept. 14 **ROCKY & LONE**Distance: 10 mi. ascent: 2000'
Elev.: 3721', 3508' Order: 17, 35

A strenuous bushwhack.

Leader: Rocky Walberg (#886), 607-967-5840 (between 6:00 P.M.-8:00 P.M.)

Meeting Place/Time: Call leader for details between Sept. 8-11.

Sat., Sept. 20 **VLY & BEARPEN**Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 1900'
Elev.: 3600', 3529 Order: 29, 13

A moderate to fast-paced bushwhack. Rain cancels.

Leader: Harry Rampe (#877), 845-292-6736 (after 5:00 P.M.)

Meeting Place/Time: Call leader to register.

Sun., Sept. 21 **SOUTHWEST HUNTER & HUNTER**Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 1500'
Elev.: 3740', 4040' Order: 15, 2

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

Leader: Laurie Moore (#1,337), 607-538-9484 (before 9:00 P.M.); robert@dmcom.net

Meeting Place/Time: Contact leader to register between Sept. 15-20.

Sat., Sept. 27 **KAATERSKILL HIGH PEAK**Distance: 6 mi. Ascent: 1800'
Elev.: 3655' Order: 22

A moderately paced trail hike.

Leader: Jeff Glans (#793), 203-254-2157 (by 10:00 P.M.); jhglans@aol.com

Meeting Place/Time: Call or email leader to register between Sept. 21-25.

Sun., Sept. 28 **BALSAM CAP & FRIDAY**Distance: 6.5 mi. Ascent: 2200'
Elev.: 3694', 3623 Order: 20, 24

A difficult and demanding bushwhack at a moderate pace. Route will be determined by weather conditions and the stamina of the participants.

Leader: David Galvin (#1,201), 607-538-9518 (by 10:00 P.M.); porcupine@dmcom.net

Meeting Place/Time: Call or, preferably, email leader on Friday before hike for registration and details.

Sun., Sept. 28 **Beaverkill Ridge**Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 1500'
Elev.: 3224', 3062'

A moderate trail hike. Long shuttle. Heavy/steady rain cancels.

Leader: Richard Barr (#604), 212-877-2694; richardedbarr@aol.com

Meeting Place/Time: Contact leader by Sept. 26 for details and if you want to carpool from NYC.

THE 420 PATCH: FOR AND AGAINST

Three Catskill 3500 Club awards are currently available: a certificate for completing membership requirements; a certificate for climbing all 35 summits in winter; and a hike leader certificate. A fourth award was proposed at the March 2003 annual dinner meeting: a certificate for completing the 420 Grid, which involves climbing all 35 summits in every month of the year for a total of 420 hikes. As in the other awards, there is no time requirement or limitation for this proposed new award. What follows are arguments for and against adding this fourth award provided by Susan Puretz (#1,208), who proposed the award, and the Club's First Vice President, Geoffrey Hoderath (#657).

The Argument For the 420 Patch by Susan Puretz:

Article II, Section 1 of the Catskill 3500 Club By-Laws states the club's purposes as providing an incentive for hikers to climb those Catskill mountain peaks in excess of 3,500 feet in height, promoting the interests and bringing together socially those persons hiking the Catskill mountains, and providing opportunities for engaging in such hiking and social activities. Climbing all the summits on the "Official List" in every month of the year for a total of 420 hikes is well within the club's stated purposes. While an individual may accomplish the goal in one year, for most it would be a long-term project extending their association with hiking the Catskills for many years. Also, it would channel their hiking interest into intimately learning about the 35 peaks at all times of the year. To those who might present "overuse" or the "Catskill mud seasons" as reasons against this award: first, trails would not be overused, especially no more than is being done by aspirants seeking the 3500 patch, who grow in number with each passing year; and second, if the Club were so concerned about ecological damage, no hikes would be scheduled in April/May. While not irritating DEC officials may seem a good reason to oppose the award, it raises questions about the Club's relationship with the DEC as to access and use of our trailed and wilderness peaks. Finally, to dismiss a 420 grid award as frivolous is to discount the motivation of those who want to climb all 35 peaks in every month of the year.

The Argument Against the 420 Patch by Geoffrey Hoderath:

The proposal now before the Club begins an undesirable process of creating increasingly arbitrary recognition levels and introduces a competitive element that may encourage some hikers, unwisely, to overreach their level of technical skill and physical endurance. The potential for rivalry is contrary to the Club's function of fostering friendships among Catskill climbers. Most significantly, by its very concept, this award will necessarily increase the level of use on all of the Catskill peaks, particularly the trailless peaks. That goes against the modern trend in environmental policy, which strives to minimize human impact on wilderness areas. In this regard, the Club and its members must continue to act as responsible stewards of, and advocates for, the Catskills. By increasing the level of use, the proposed award will prompt the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to re-evaluate its relationship with the Club and its response to the Club's activities. That could prompt the DEC to further restrict the Club's organized hikes to the trailless peaks or require the Club to remove its canisters from those peaks to avoid the development of herdpaths. Although undesirable, those actions would be within the DEC's power and consistent with its statutory mandate. Not merely undesirable, those actions would strike at the very heart of the Club's program and purpose. Private landowners would likewise re-evaluate their response to the Club's activities. That could jeopardize the Club's access to some of the required peaks. In sum, the risks attendant upon the adoption of this award are such that the Club should reject the proposal.

NEW MEMBERS**NEW WINTER MEMBERS****MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

No.	Name	Date Finished	No.	Name	Date Finished
1455	Joel Mandelbaum	04/11/02	550	Julie Ebert	02/05/03
1456	Michael L. Davis	2/29/02	551	John X. Logue	02/09/03
1457	John X. Logue	06/23/02	552	Isabelle Daverne	02/19/03
1458	Kevin Komisky	02/08/03	553	Roger Brandt	02/21/03
1459	Margaret Gaerner	02/16/03	554	Susan Hoger	03/01/03
1460	David B. Weeks	02/08/03	555	Miriam Kaminer	03/04/03
1461	Mary Cobb	02/28/03	556	Jane Restani	03/04/03
1462	Jane A. Restani	03/04/03	557	Maria Walsh	03/04/03
1463	Francis X. Resch	03/08/03	558	David B. Spriet	03/06/03
1464	Conrad Dierking	03/09/03	559	Suzanne B. Olson	03/06/03
1465	Janet Priest Jones	03/16/03	560	Mark D. Olson	03/06/03
1466	Jon Fried	03/16/03	561	Susan L. Smith	03/08/03
1467	Russell Faller	01/25/03	562	Jerry Licht	02/21/03
			563	Francis X. Resch	03/08/03
			564	Thomas V. Walsh	03/08/03
			565	Donna Anderson	03/08/03
			566	Manuel A. Peraza	03/09/03
			567	Donald E. Gjertson	03/08/03
			568	Alexander Lantino	03/09/03
			569	James W. Havender	03/15/03
			570	Joyce B. Gannon	03/11/03
			571	Janet Priest Jones	03/16/03
			572	Carl Schiller	03/19/03
			573	Lorraine Comito	03/17/03
			574	Chris Olney	03/17/03

<u>NEW LIFETIME MEMBERS</u>		
299	James R. Stone, III	
714	H. Claude Shostal	
1125	Mitchell Fritz	
ASP.	Herb Terns	
ASP.	Elizabeth Cropper	

Congratulations to new regular and winter members and many thanks to new members and aspirants who became lifetime members. The 2003 roster, containing the names of all current members, can be obtained for the cost of postage or via email. I also have t-shirts in M, L and XL for \$7 plus shipping. Email me at ccswhite@juno.com.

Thanks to all who bought our book *Catskill Day Hikes for All Seasons* at the dinner. We sold 30 copies, generating a donation of over \$100 to the Adirondack Mountain Club for trail maintenance in the Catskills.

As new leaders assume various positions in the club, let's welcome them aboard and thank those who have given so much over the years.

Dave White
Membership Chairman

P.S. Anyone who has not paid 2003 dues, you are now "past due."

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the catskill canister

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OCTOBER - DECEMBER, 2003

HIKERS' OBLIGATIONS

All of us who choose to hike together have obligations to one another. It needs to be understood that by hiking with others, we are sacrificing a degree of individual autonomy in exchange for the companionship and safety of a group. Whether we are on an organized or an unofficial hike, there should be recognition of these mutual obligations.

There will always be a leader, whether or not the group acknowledges the fact. The group may function by consensus and mutual consent to shared goals, but should an actual crisis emerge, that leader will need to step forward. There are certain ideal traits that we might hope for in a leader, such as good judgment, enthusiasm, decisiveness, knowledge, tact and humility. The fact is, very few leaders will measure up to these expectations all of the time. This is a heavy burden to assume, and group members need to be supportive and understanding if the reality falls short of these expectations.

Hike participants who want to be an asset to the group will follow the leader's instructions, including when to register for a hike. They will be honest about their capabilities and preparedness when registering, recognizing that a leader who questions them about these issues is only doing his or her job. Hike participants will ensure that they come with enough food, water, equipment and clothing to survive in the worst of conditions, and not rely on others to carry emergency gear for them. If they find themselves in over their head, either due to inability to keep up or the difficulty of the terrain, they will advise the leader and be prepared to turn back early, if that can be done safely, allowing the group to proceed with its planned agenda.

Hike participants should attempt to follow the route on a map, and if they have any suggestions about the route, they should make them in a tactful manner that does not undermine the leader. If they see someone in distress, they will not just tell the leader, but also offer to help, and perhaps act as a sweep. Even if participants cannot contribute much in the way of route finding or map reading and are having troubles of their own, by not grumbling and spreading discord, their positive attitude can contribute toward boosting others having similar problems.

As far as the stronger hikers who want to break away from the group to climb extra peaks or because of impatience with the pace, they need to recognize that they are undermining the leader, even if he or she has consented. If hike participants do not intend to follow the route or the pace indicated in the write up, they should not sign up. In doing so, they may have denied someone else the chance to go on the hike. Even if the leader has willingly given prior consent to hike participants going for an extra peak, this does not justify them pushing the pace in order to allow time for their peak. Likewise, when the time comes for them to depart, they should consider whether their departure will leave the leader with few other experienced hikers to help with an inexperienced or weary group.

There are those who show up on a hike and do not sign in, as if this somehow relieves them of any obligation to the leader or the rest of the group, yet permits them to benefit from the security of the group. This is known as "piggybacking," and is the opposite of what I would call responsible behavior.

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The *Catskill Canister* is published four times yearly by the Catskill 3500 Club, Inc., for \$5.00 a year. Articles on hiking or travel experiences, essays or poetry, should be sent to Darielle Graham, 60 Barker St., #419, Mount Kisco, NY 10549.

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The purpose of the President's Corner is twofold: to inform members of what the club is doing, and to give a very public thanks to members who serve the club in some capacity. In this, my first President's Corner, I especially want to thank Gerald Gervais, immediate past President, for all his years of service. When Jerry says he'll take care of something, it's a given that it will be done immediately and done well. In addition to climbing the board ladder, Jerry served as long-time Trail Maintenance Chair. Now, read on to find out what's been happening.

- The Overlook Mountain Fire Tower Stewards met the challenge and raised an additional \$1,000.00 to qualify for a 3 for 1 matching grant from the club towards restoration of the ranger cabin foundation. Hike up and check out the work.
- In July, Geoff, Laurie and I, your First Vice President, Secretary and President, respectively, dug in for the interpretive sign installation at the Catskill Center for Conservation's Platte Clove Preserve as an additional "contribution" to the project. The club had already made a donation toward the cost of the aluminum posts for the signs. This was done in memory of Nelson Shultis, honorary 35er, who died in late March.
- Thanks to timely nudges from Cy Whitney, Membership Chair Emeritus, the club will participate in the Hudson Valley Ramble, offering two hikes. Hopefully, our participation will become a tradition for the club. See Ted Ripley-Duggan's comments on page 7 of this issue.
- The club continues to support Neil Woodworth and the ADK-NY/NJ Trail Conference for their efforts in Albany on behalf of the Catskill and Adirondack parks. This year our donation increased by 33%.
- For the first time, the club is supporting the ADK trail crew and its work in the Catskills with a donation to pay for the food budget for a week. This is a significant donation as hard physical labor builds appetites as big as our mountains.
- I urge all members to join a work party to maintain the trail over Peekamoose and Table or for litter patrol along the club's Adopt-A-Highway two-mile stretch of Route 214. October 11 and November 2 are the respective dates for the next efforts. See the schedule on pages 4 and 5 of this issue.
- To keep the lines of communication open, the telephone number and email address of board members and committee chairs will be published once a year in the next Canister after the Annual Dinner Meeting. We welcome input from all members at any time, as long as it is before 9:00 P.M.!

Thanks to all our volunteers, hike leaders, trail maintainers, Adopt-A-Highway workers and the hard-working board members and committee chairs/members who all make my job easier.

Wanda Davenport (#523)

NEW MEMBERS: No. 1,468, Robert E. Fuller, finished 4/6/03; No. 1,469, K.W. Hanson, finished 4/6/03; No. 1,470, Anna Parker, finished 4/28/03.

NEW LIFETIME MEMBER: Edward Ripley-Duggan (#1,389).

In summation, we all have obligations to each other, no matter how foolish, ill-prepared or annoying some of our fellow hikers may be. This may include having the courage to turn them away from the hike. But once we are out in the woods together, we are responsible for one another. I would even extend this to include strangers we may encounter in the woods who are in obvious distress.

John B. Graham (#478)

WILDERNESS FIRST-AID COURSE

On Saturday, November 1 and Sunday, November 2, we will be offering our first Wilderness First Aid Course, directed towards 3500 Club leaders and members. It will be led by Club aspirant and EMT Maureen McCahery (with the assistance of another EMT). Maureen will be offering a sixteen-hour course, with a substantial book and completion certificate through the American Safety and Health Institute. The cost of the course will be approximately \$100.00, which includes the accompanying book and certification. The venue is the firehouse hall (a large, comfortable space) in Olivebridge, near the Ashokan reservoir in Ulster County. The fire company has permitted us to use this, and two members from their emergency squad (which occasionally has to respond to wilderness emergencies on neighboring Friday and Balsam Cap) have been invited to attend gratis.

The WFA course is an intensive 16-hour course. It emphasizes patient assessment skills, treating back-country trauma and environmental problems such as heat stroke and hypothermia. Practical exercises and outdoor scenarios help students gain confidence and encourage the development of critical decision-making skills. There are no prerequisites for this course and no first-aid background is assumed. The certification is valid for 3 years.

For those who wish to camp, I am making my lawn available; we live within a few hundred yards of the firehouse. I may be able to find space for a few more who are attending the course with friends in the area. There are many B & Bs and motels within reasonable driving distance. If you are interested in participating and have not previously contacted me, please call at (845) 657-7057 (or email to erd@wilsey.net) to confirm.

*Ted Ripley-Duggan (1,389)
Outings Chairman*

PERIPATETIC PORCUPINE

Arlene (#801) and Ernie (#802) Valera completed the NE 111ers in July 2003. They also completed all 3000 footers in the Catskills and in May walked part of the Appalachian Trail at Clingman's Dome in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park en route to their granddaughter's high-school graduation. • Dave Kocian (#1,358) summited Oregon's Mt. Hood on April 24, 2003. This makes state highpoint #34. • On March 20, 2003, Liz Moloff (#1,059) completed the Northeast 115 on Saddleback, the Horn, in Maine (the 39th person - 11th woman - to complete the 115 in the winter); Liz also completed the Long Trail on October 5, 2002 and the New England 100 Highest on October 13, 2001. • On September 4, 2000, Barbara Traver (#690) completed the ADK Adirondack Quest, spending at least a day hiking in fifteen different wilderness areas and fifteen different wild forest areas in the Adirondacks for a total of fifty outings. Barbara chose to do all hikes, though canoeing, biking, etc., would also have qualified.

If there is a special event in your life or that of another member (graduation, engagement, marriage, promotion) or a special achievement on or off the trail that you would like to appear in the Peripatetic Porcupine column, send the news to Ralph Ferrusi, 34 Kim Lane, Stormville, NY 12582; ferrusi@us.ibm.com

CATSKILL 3500 CLUB HIKES: OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2003**ASSUMED RISK**

Hiking involves certain inherent risks and persons participating do so at their own risk. As cold weather approaches (the Club's official winter season begins on December 21), hike participants should avoid cotton clothing, as it retains dampness and the resulting chill can result in hypothermia. Instead, wear (or have available in your pack) garments of wool or fleece. Silk or polypropylene make fine base layers, as they keep the wearer warm even when wet. Hat, gloves and a headlamp (or flashlight) should be part of the standard winter kit. Ice and snow can come early and unexpectedly to these peaks. Snowshoes and crampons should be carried to the trailhead, although these need not be taken on the hike unless the leader deems they are warranted. For early season ice conditions instep crampons are often adequate, but in winter full crampons are requisite. Anyone not properly equipped may be refused permission to participate, at the leader's absolute discretion.

Sat., Oct. 4 **INDIAN HEAD**Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 1570'
Elev.: 3573' Order: 23

A moderately-paced trail hike. Heavy rain cancels.

Meeting Place/Time: Call or email leader to register between Sept. 29-Oct. 2.

Leader: Manuel Peraza (#1,373), 718-698-2244 (7:00 PM - 9:00 PM); mapcolus1@att.net.

Sat., Oct. 4 **LONE & ROCKY**Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 2250'
Elev.: 3721', 3508' Order: 17, 35

A strenuous bushwhack at a moderate pace. Rain cancels.

Meeting Place/Time: Call leader to register between Sept. 29-Oct. 3.

Leader: Jim Malumphy. (#890), 860-355-5573 (no calls after 8:00 PM please).

Sun., Oct. 5 **WESTKILL**Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2000'
Elev.: 3880' Order: 6

A moderately-paced trail hike. Heavy rain cancels. Will be done as a through hike if participants are willing to spot cars.

Meeting Place/Time: Call or email leader for details between Sept. 28 -Oct. 3.

Leader: Dawn Hamilton (#1,359), 845-473-0317; DawnLH333@yahoo.com.

Sat., Oct. 11 **PEEKAMOOSE & TABLE: Trail Maintenance**

Give back to the woods and possibly bag one or both peaks. Rain cancels.

Meeting Place/Time: Trailhead at Peekamoose parking area at 9:30 AM

Leader: Dan Case (#1,238), 845-778-1090; dancase@frontiernet.net

Sun., Oct. 12 **THOMAS COLE, BLACK DOME & BLACKHEAD**Distance: 7.5 mi. Ascent: 2760'
Elev.: 3940', 3980', 3940' Order: 3, 5, 4

A moderately-paced trail hike. Shuttle required.

Meeting Place/Time: Call leader to register and for details.

Leader: Ken Hubert (#1,351), 718-463-5675 (Mon.-Thurs., after 3:00 PM); 518-827-7327 (Fri. & Sat.); ckhub@aol.com. Use subject: "hike."

Sat., Oct. 18 **GRAHAM & BALSAM LAKE**Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 1900'
Elev.: 3723', 3868' Order: 16, 7

A relaxed-paced trail hike and bushwhack. May require car shuttle. Rain cancels.

Meeting Place/Time: Contact leader for details

Leader: Laurie Moore (#1,337), 607-538-9484; Robert@dmcom.net

Sun., Oct. 19 **EAGLE & BIG INDIAN**Distance: 10.5 mi. Ascent: 2800'
Elev.: 3600', 3700' Order: 27, 19

A moderately-paced bushwhack and trail hike. Rain cancels.

Meeting Place/Time: Call or email leader to register between Oct. 14-16 (no registration Fri. or Sat.).

Leader: Wanda Davenport (#523), 201-670-8383 (NCA 9 PM); wandatrails@verizon.net.

Sat., Oct. 25 **INDIAN HEAD, TWIN, SUGARLOAF
& PLATEAU**Distance: 14 mi. Ascent: 4000'
Elev.: 3573', 3640', 3800', 3840'
Order: 30, 23, 13, 12

A strenuous trail hike. Shuttle required.

Meeting Place/Time: Call or email leader to register.

Leader: Pavel Litvinov (#1,348), 914-631-4861 (before 9 PM); pavellitvinov@hotmail.com.

Sat., Oct. 25 **SLIDE**Distance: 6 mi. Ascent: 1600'
Elev.: 4180' Order: 1

An easy trail hike at an easy pace. Steady rain cancels.

Meeting Place/Time: Preferably email leader for details between Oct. 20-23.

Leader: Chris Post (#1,409), 518-537-5165; cbone@webjogger.net.

Sun., Oct. 26 **VLY & BEARPEN**Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 1900'
Elev.: 3600', 3529' Order: 29, 13

A moderately-paced bushwhack. Rain cancels.

Meeting Place/Time: Call leader to register.

Leader: Harry Rampe (#877), 845-292-6736 (after 5:00 PM).

Sat., Nov. 1 **WITTENBERG & CORNELL**Distance: 9.6 mi. Ascent: 3100'
Elev.: 3780', 3860' Order: 14, 8

A very strenuous trail hike at an easy-to-moderate pace. Rain cancels.

Meeting Place/Time: Call or email leader to register between Oct. 27-30.

Leader: Dave White (#860), 315-853-6942 (between 7:00 PM-9:00 PM); ccswhite@juno.com.

Sun., Nov. 2 **Adopt-A-Highway**

Litter patrol on the Club's adopted two-mile stretch of Rt. 214 south of Stony Clove Notch.

Meeting Place/Time: Notch Lake parking area at 9:30 AM.

Leader: Dan Case (#1,238), 845-778-1090; dancase@frontiernet.net.

Sat., Nov. 8 **TABLE & PEEKAMOOSE**Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 2620'
Elev.: 3843', 3847' Order: 11, 10

A moderately-paced trail hike. Shuttle required. Rain cancels.

Meeting Place/Time: Call leader for details.

Leader: Harry Rampe (#877), 845-292-6736 (after 5:00 PM).

Sun., Nov. 9 **FRIDAY & BALSAM CAP**Distance: Approx. 7 mi. Ascent: 2200'
Elev.: 3694', 3624' Order: 20, 24

A strenuous bushwhack at a moderate pace. Weather conditions will determine route.

Meeting Place/Time: Call or, preferably, email leader to register.

Leader: David Galvin (#1,201), 607-538-9518 (No calls after 10:00 PM or on day prior to hike. Note: leader cannot be consistently contacted via telephone at any time); porcupine@dmcom.net.Sun., Nov. 9 **BALSAM**Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 1600'
Elev.: 3600' Order: 28

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

Meeting Place/Time: Call or email leader to register between Nov. 3-7.

Leader: Judy Weiner (#1,287), 201-840-7078 (between 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM); jmw755@aol.com.

Sat., Nov. 15 **KAATERSKILL HIGH PEAK**

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 1700'
Elev.: 3655' Order: 22

A moderate trail hike and bushwhack at a very moderate pace.

Meeting Place/Time: Call leader for details before Nov. 10.

Leader: Robert Walberg (#886), 607-967 5840 (between 6:00 AM - 9:00 AM).

Sun. Nov. 16 **NORTH DOME & SHERRILL**

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 3000'
Elev.: 3610', 3540' Order: 26, 31

A strenuous bushwhack at a moderate pace. Rain cancels.

Meeting Place/Time: Call leader to register between Nov. 10-14.

Leader: John Graham. (#478), 914-241-2240 (no calls after 9:00 PM).

NOV. 18 - DEC. 10: HUNTING SEASON (FIREARMS). NO HIKES IN THE CATSKILLS SCHEDULED.

Sat., Dec. 6. **Map and Compass Orienteering.**

Club members are invited to attend a scheduled orienteering meet run by the Hudson Valley Orienteering Club in Poughkeepsie. Leader will give an overview of map reading and compass use, after which participants can navigate point to point on a highly detailed 5-color "O" map. This workshop is intended to educate members on how to take a bearing with confidence and introduce people to the sport of orienteering. Come out and sharpen your compass skills! \$10.00 registration fee per person, or participate as a group for \$10.00. Call leader to register between Dec. 1-5.

Leader: Jim Malumphy (#890), 860-355-5573 (no calls after 8:00 PM, please).

Sat., Dec. 13 **RUSK**

Distance: 4 mi. Ascent: 1700'
Elev.: 3680' Order: 21

A relaxed-paced bushwhack. Winter gear may be needed. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancels.

Meeting Place/Time: Call or email leader to register between Dec. 7-12.

Leader: Laurie Moore (#1,337), 607-538-9484, Robert@dmcom.net.

Sun., Dec. 14 **HALCOTT**

Distance: 5 mi. Ascent: 1700'
Elev.: 3723' Order: 32

A moderate bushwhack. Winter gear may be needed. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancels.

Meeting Place/Time: Call leader to register.

Leader: Howard Dash (#458), 845-255-3409 (between 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM).

Sun., Dec. 14 **WINDHAM HIGH PEAK**

Distance: 6.8 mi. Ascent: 1800'
Elev.: 3524' Order: 34

A moderately-paced trail hike. Winter gear may be needed. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancels.

Meeting Place/Time: Call or email leader to register between Dec. 8-11.

Leader: Carol White (#859), 315-853-6942 (between 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM); ccswhite@juno.com.

Sat., Dec. 20 **HUNTER & SOUTH WEST HUNTER**

Distance: 9.5 mi. Ascent: 2600'
Elev.: 3740', 4040' Order: 15,2

A moderately-paced trail hike and bushwhack. Winter gear may be needed. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancels.

Meeting Place/Time: Call leader to register.

Leader: Ken Hubert (#1,351), 718-463-5675 (Mon.-Thurs., after 3:00 PM); (518) 827-7327 (Fri. & Sat.); ckhub@aol.com. Use subject: "hike."

Sun., Dec. 21 **FIR & BIG INDIAN**Distance: 10 mi. Ascent: 2500'
Elev.: 3620', 3700' Order: 25, 19

A moderately to fast paced trail hike and bushwhack. Winter gear may be needed. Heavy precipitation or bad driving conditions cancels.

Meeting Place/Time: Call leader to register.

Leader: Harry Rampe (#877), 845-292-6736 (after 5:00 PM).

Sat., Dec. 27 **DOUBLETOP**Distance: 6 mi. Ascent: 1860'
Elev.: 3862' Order: 8

A moderately-paced strenuous bushwhack and trail hike. Winter gear may be needed. Precipitation or bad driving conditions cancels.

Meeting Place/Time: Call or email leader to register between Dec. 15-19.

Leader: Manuel Peraza (#1,383), 718-698-4422 (between 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM); mapcolus1@att.net.

Sat., Dec. 27 **SLIDE**Distance: 6 mi. Ascent: 1600'
Elev.: 4180' Order: 1

A moderately-paced trail hike to a required winter peak. Winter gear may be needed. Precipitation or bad driving conditions cancels.

Meeting Place/Time: Call leader to register.

Leader: Susan Poretz (#1,208), 845-246-1823 (between 7:00 AM-8:00 PM).

Sun. Dec. 28 **PANTHER**Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 1545'
Elev.: 3720' Order: 18

A moderately-paced bushwhack and trail hike to a required winter peak. Winter gear may be needed. Precipitation or bad driving conditions cancels.

Meeting Place/Time: Call leader to register.

Leader: Ted Ripley-Duggan (#1,389), 845-657-7057 (between 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM).

FOURTH ANNUAL HUDSON RIVER VALLEY RAMBLE

This year, for the first time, the 3500 Club will be participating in the annual Hudson River Valley Ramble, the fourth such event. Featured are nearly 140 outdoor explorations and events that highlight the scenic and natural landscapes, and historic and cultural riches of the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area and the Hudson River Estuary. It will take place on the weekend of September 20-21 throughout the 10-county region of the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area .

The 3500 Club is leading two hikes for the event. One, geared more to kids and families, is an ascent to Dibble's Quarry and (after lunch) to Pecoy Notch. This is, of course, a pleasant and easy hike. Our other contribution will be among the most demanding of the listed events – a through-hike from Slide parking area to Woodland Valley parking area, a true Catskill classic. We hope for good weather!

For a free program booklet, call (800) 453-6665 or (845) 334-9574, or email ramble@highlandflings.com. The program may also be viewed and printed at www.hudsonvalleyramble.com.

LEADERSHIP PATCHES AWARDED

Congratulations to Dave and Carol White (#859, #860) and Laurie Moore (#1,337) who have been awarded the leadership patch. The club awards the leadership patch to members who have led six separate hikes scheduled in the *Canister*. At least one hike must be to a trailless peak, and at least one other must be led during the winter. Attendance at a club-scheduled trail maintenance hike is also required.

READERS RESPOND REGARDING 420 PATCH

I would not support a 420 patch even though I recognize the accomplishment as significant. Many lists can be made, and this only acknowledges one such list. Also I feel the endorsement would lead to more traffic unnecessarily. Anyone captivated by the idea, can still go ahead and work at it. On completion, recognition in the Peripatetic Porcupine would be sufficient.

Don Rain (#246, #91W)

With the same rationale the club could create patches for climbing all the peaks after age 80, 85. This sort of effort, while appealing to some, is not worthy of encouragement as it would expose the club to ridicule from the general public and possible retaliation by the state. A lifetime is not enough to hike every trail. Why repeat?

Mary Sive (#595, #234W)

I object to a 420 patch award. This sort of thing should be personal. I don't believe the club should promote overuse of the Catskills. Who cares what month someone stood on the summit? I joined the club in the 1970s and am considering becoming a life member, but will probably not do so if the club promotes such tomfoolery.

Robert Speiser (#507)

I am against the proposed 420 patch because it violates the club's mission of conservation and protecting the Catskills. It seems that the Catskill 3500 Club is starting to become more commercial in its thinking. I hope this is not the case, and that the proposal was just an ill-conceived idea with good intentions.

Tom Moore (Aspirant)

I believe it far more appropriate for the club to confer recognition on an individual for his or her contribution to the club, rather than a personal achievement, however novel it may be. Such recognition could be in the form of a "service award" based on the number of hours a person devotes to club activities. Hike leaders, trail maintainers, lean-to stewards, as well as anyone else who contributes to the club's activities, would be eligible for the "service award."

Anthony Amaral, Jr. (#)

[Refer to p. 7 of the July-September 2003 *Canister* for arguments for and against the 420 patch. - Editor]

******* ADVANCE NOTICE *******

The following dates have been scheduled for the Catskill Club winter weekend and the annual dinner meeting: January 24-25, 2004 and April 3, 2004, respectively. The winter weekend will once more be held at Schwarzenegger's Sunshine Valley House in Westkill, New York, and the annual dinner meeting will again take place at the Hillside Manor in Kingston, New York. Details regarding both events will appear in the January-March 2004 issue of the *Canister* due out in early December 2003. In the meantime, mark the dates on your calendar.

MOUNTAINS AT NIGHT

The lake has died down,
The reed, black in its sleep,
Whispers in a dream.
Expanding immensely into the countryside,
The mountains loom, outspread,
They are not resting.
They breathe deeply, and hold themselves,
Pressed tightly, to one another.
Deeply breathing,
Laden with mute forces,
Caught in a wasting passion.

ACROSS THE FIELDS

Across the sky, the clouds move,
Across the fields, the wind,
Across the fields the lost child
of my mother wanders.

Across the street, leaves blow,
Across the trees, birds cry --
Across the mountains far away,
my home must be.

Hermann Hesse
(translated by
James Wright)