



the catskill canister

Vol. XVI, No. 1

W I N T E R 1 9 8 3

TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT

Have you ever done a dumb stunt and not been able to live it down? Well, I have.

Celebrating the Holiday at the Adirondack Mountain Club Loj at Heart Lake is a great way to start the New Year. On December 31, 1971, Glenn Fish, Harry Gamble, and I decided to visit Charlie Nolan at the ranger's cabin on Lake Colden. Charlie had more visitors through the winter than the rest of the seasons put together. Before starting we had carefully tied Harry's mittens together with cord which we ran down the sleeves and across the back of his neck. He was always losing a mitten.

As we left the Loj it was 17 degrees, clear, and a little windy. We wore snowshoes, as the footing was uneven, and a cover of newly fallen snow had left at least two feet in total. At Avalanche Pass the winter ice and snow make a very awesome rugged realistic picture of arctic winter woodland. Clear icicles with a thickness of 2-3 feet, towering snow banks, and cold that is not to be reckoned with lightly.

After crossing Avalanche Lake and passing Caribou Lean-to, we elected to go out to Lake Colden over the frozen swampland. The only fault was that I decided to go on the ice on the frozen brook, and the others stayed on the bank and would get a little ahead. Ignoring the warning ice crackling I continued on, but suddenly I was IN--up to my waist! Snowshoes, pack and all! Oh boy, what a dumb stunt! But no time for such thoughts as I called out, "Hey Glenn! Harry! I am IN! I am really IN! Where are you?" In no time at all they were there, trying to pull me out, as I was floundering in three feet of ice water still wearing snowshoes. Well, they pulled me out, but not until Harry went heels over head when the basket came off my ice axe. (I retrieved the basket on my way back.)

We made a beeline to the Lake and Charlie's cabin. With the accumulating ice on my snowshoes, the going was slow and the shoes felt like clogs. Glenn would continually question me as to warmth and condition. As the answers came back sharp and clear each time, he was reassured of no immediate hypothermia. On arrival at Charlie's cabin I had a complete change of clothing, several cups of hot soup, and was wrapped snugly in a blanket. Not until then did I feel any effects from my immersion in cold water in the winter. About a half hour later I felt completely normal--no chills, suffering, or other after-effects. The fact that I was properly dressed in duofolds, woolen shirts and trousers was the life-saving factor. Had we not been well-equipped and had the know-how, I could very well have been a disaster statistic.

THE CATSKILL CANISTER Published by The Catskill 3500 Club, Inc.

Deborah F. Glynn, President, Traver Road, Pleasant Valley, NY 12569
Franklin B. Clark, Editor, 10 South Washington St., Athens, NY 12015
Elinore G. Leavitt, Assoc. Editor, 246 Joslen Blvd., Hudson, NY 12534

After a long warming period we made our way back to the Loj, with me wearing Charlie's pants and underwear, with the wet clothing in my pack. All three of us were thankful that a real tragedy had been averted.

--Walter L. Gregory, Valhalla, NY

HYPOTHERMIA AND YOU

On my first visit to one of the AMC huts in the White Mountains (Greenleaf in 1961), we were discussing the pathetic deaths from hypothermia of three boys who were caught on the face of Cannon Mountain after dark in a rainstorm with severe wind in July. Dr. McDade, a surgeon who is a rock-climber and hiker, said, "I never go above tree line without a woolen shirt, long pants, and gloves in my pack." A woman asked, "Wouldn't it be better to leave the long pants at the hut so as to have something dry to put on when you get back?" "Lady," he replied, "If you don't have them with you, you may not get back."

Many of us remember reading a few years ago about the sad case of the youth who died at Lake Colden after getting his cotton jeans and his head wet while coming down from Algonquin. "Inexperienced," we said. Last winter, however, the victim of hypothermia going from Lake Colden to Adirondack Loj was an expert cross-country skier with experience in the western mountains. Unfortunately, westerners sometimes fail to realize that our little eastern mountains can be just as dangerous in winter as their higher ones. This man made the mistakes of ignoring the advice of the caretaker, of reading signboards instead of a map, of getting caught out alone after dark, which resulted in his losing the trail, and of being unprepared for such a contingency.

Following is a summary of various published admonitions.

STAY DRY. Water is a good heat conductor. When clothes get wet, they lose most of their insulating value. Wool loses less than other fabrics. Control the ventilation of body perspiration by dressing in layers. Remove garments and open buttons when going uphill. Fishnet underwear helps to keep the skin dry. Be prepared for rain, ice-water rain. The cold that kills is cold water running down the neck and legs.

BEWARE THE WIND, especially above tree line. Put your windbreaker back on, pull up your hood, put on dry mittens before stepping out onto a wind-swept summit or ridge. Most hypothermia cases develop in air temperatures between 30 and 50 degrees.

TURN BACK. If you cannot stay dry and warm in this weather, turn back. Sometimes just getting into the woods will break the wind sufficiently. I have seen the road and fields at Spruceton an unbearable wind tunnel, yet a few feet away in the woods the hiking was a pleasure.

BE PREPARED. Your winter pack for the CATSKILLS should contain a flashlight (4 oz.) with a strip of tape over the switch, spare battery and bulb, compass, map, food (granola bars are convenient), in-step crampons, windpants, kitchen matches in waterproof container, whistle, wire and twine or nylon shoe laces for snowshoe and binding repair.

AVOID EXHAUSTION. Do not go up a second mountain if you are in one-mountain condition. If you have not been out recently, get back in condition by climbing a little mountain or half a mountain. You should end a hike with some reserve energy, especially in cold weather.

Most of us know about hypothermia caused by windchill, but we think of it as something that happens to other people. It is easier to prevent it than to recognize and treat it on a day hike. The first step in prevention is to realize that this is something that could happen to YOU.

--F. B. C.

FATAL FALL

A Germantown youth slipped on wet rocks at Kaaterskill Falls and fell 200 feet to his death yesterday, State Police reported. The sixteen-year-old was hiking with a group of 12 persons around 1:20 p.m. when he went to the edge of the falls and slipped on wet rocks.

--Catskill Daily Mail, Nov. 12, 1982

CATSKILL 3500 CLUB

416	Richard E. Casler 10/16/82 20 Linten St., R. D. 1, Selkirk, NY 12158	518-439-7268
417	Robert E. Green 10/23/82	201-391-9410
418	Stella J. Green 10/23/82 10 Lynn Court, Woodcliff Lake, NJ 07675	
419	Ted Asch 11/7/82 6 Fox Hill Road, Spring Valley, NY 10977	914-352-4025
420	Marie J. Hoehn 10/9/82 173 Montgomery Ave., Irvington, NJ 07111	201-375-0173
421	Franz L. Alt 10/9/82 245 Bennett Ave., New York, NY 10040	212-569-6149
422	Stephen J. Sopko 11/7/82 R. D. 2, Rensselaer, NY 12144	518-286-3448
423	Anne Bartash 11/20/82 Colonial Hill Apts. B34, Monticello, NY 12701	914-794-7427
424	Stewart B. VanBuren 11/20/82 P. O. Box 726, Margaretville, NY 12455	607-326-4754
425	Donald J. Reis 12/4/82	914-331-0961
426	Kathleen L. Reis 12/4/82 18 Charlotte St., Kingston, NY 12401	
427	Diane M. Edge 12/11/82	914-657-8193
428	Thomas L. Edge 12/11/82 HC-2, Box 73, Olive Bridge, NY 12461	
429	Alan Via 12/18/82 27 Brookview Ave., Delmar, NY 12054	518-439-3514

CATSKILL 3500 CLUB HIKES

Feb. 5 HALCOTT Moderate bushwhack.

Distance: 4 mi. Ascent: 1800' Elev.: 3520' Order: 33
Meeting Place: Parking lot behind drug store in Phoenicia at 8:30 a.m.
Leaders: Erik & Roman Hrycun (#347 & 314), R. D. 1, Box 49B, Rhinebeck
914-876-2451 NY 12572

Feb. 19 PANTHER & GIANT LEDGE A required winter peak.

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 1500' Elev.: 3720' Order: 5
Meeting Place: Parking lot behind drug store in Phoenicia at 8:00 a.m.
or Ramsey Square Shopping Center lot, Rt. 17, Ramsey,
NJ at 6:00 a.m.
Leader: James Older (#391), R. D. 3, Box 353, Neshanic Sta., NJ
Days: 212-790-0591 Eves.: 201-369-4213 08853

Mar. 12 RUSK & HUNTER Part bushwhack, part trail hike. Rusk
first then Hunter, if time & conditions permit.
Distance: 8-9 mi. Ascent: 2700' Elev.: 3680', 4040' Order: 20, 2
Meeting Place: Parking lot behind drug store in Phoenicia at 8:30 a.m.
Leader: Timothy J. Watters (#268), 30 Godwin Dr., Wyckoff, NJ 07481
201-891-1553

Mar. 19 PLATEAU & SUGARLOAF Moderate to strenuous trail hike will
include Sugarloaf, conditions permitting.
Distance: 6 mi. Ascent: 2400' Elev.: 3840', 3800' Order: 12, 13
Meeting Place: Warm's Restaurant in Tannersville at 9:00 a.m.
Leader: H. Neil Zimmerman (#306), 10 N. 65th St., New York, NY 10023
Days: 212-644-1620 Eves.: 212-873-5209

Apr. 16 TWIN, INDIAN HEAD & (SUGARLOAF) Moderate to strenuous
trail hike. Ascent of Twin via Jimmy
Dolan Notch trail, and return to cars over Indian Head.
Leader will decide if Sugarloaf will be included.
Distance: 8-10 mi. Ascent: 2800 (3300) Elev.: 3640, 3573, (3800)
Order: 30, 22, (13)
Meeting Place: Howard Johnson's parking lot, Rt. 9W (next to Thruway
Exit 23), Albany at 7:00 a.m. or Blue Mountain Store,
Blue Mountain Road at 8:30 a.m.
Leader: Peter Henner (#376), 92 Chestnut St., Albany, NY 12210
Home: 518-436-4891 Work: 518-489-8424

Apr. 23 SHERRILL & NORTH DOME Moderate bushwhack from Spruce-
ton Road.
Distance: 7-8 mi. Ascent: 2500' Elev.: 3540', 3610' Order: 25, 30
Meeting Place: Big Scot parking lot in front of Ramada Inn in
Kingston at 8:00 a.m.
Leaders: James P. Higgins (#304), Appletree Dr., Hyde Park, NY 12538
914-229-2996
Patrick T. O'Farrell (#318), P. O. Box 215, Red Hook, NY
914-758-3494 12571

ASSUMED RISK

Hiking involves certain inherent hazards, and persons partici-
pating do so at their own risk.

APPALACHIAN TRAIL CONFERENCE - 1983

This spring hikers from around the country will gather at New Paltz for the 60th Anniversary meeting of the Appalachian Trail Conference. The Conference will be held on Memorial Day Weekend 1983, from May 27 to June 3, at the campus of the State University of New York at New Paltz. Lodging and meals will be available on campus.

The program includes 29 workshops ranging from using computers in backpacking to a contest of gourmet trail cooking. The keynote address will be given by Alan Gussow, Hudson Valley artist and conservationist. David Richie, who heads the National Park Service's Appalachian Trail Project office, will give a report on the status of the trail. Registration forms may be obtained by writing: P.O. Box 650, Shrub Oak, NY 10588.

THE FRIDAY CANISTER

We have received some inquiries about the location of the canister on Friday Mountain. One party spent two fruitless hours searching for it in that thicket of spruce and balsam. The canister is on the east side of the summit just a few feet from a defile which can be used to gain the highest level. A short distance to the north (within calling range) is a viewpoint from which I have counted twelve peaks. It is easier to go from Friday to Balsam Cap than the reverse, because a short herd path leads from an east-facing lookout directly to the canister on Balsam Cap.

--F. B. C.

ANNUAL DUES OR SUBSCRIPTION NOTICE

\$2.00 is now payable. Make checks to Catskill 3500 Club, Inc.

Send dues to:
Elinore G. Leavitt, 246 Joslen Blvd., Hudson, NY 12534
or

Send subscription to:
Deborah French Glynn, Traver Road, Pleasant Valley, NY 12569

.....please cut here.....

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Phone () _____ (members only)



the catskill canister

Vol. XVI, No. 2

SPRING 1983

FRAGILE - - - Handle With Care

I have worked for the Department of Environmental Conservation as a wilderness Park Ranger for two seasons in the Southern CATSKILLS and I should like to share some of our problems and concerns. Our job is to educate users about the existence of regulations and to explain why they were created. The three main problems we find in the CATSKILLS are camping above 3500 feet, camping too close to trails or streams, and littering. Camping at least 150 feet from trails and streams helps to disperse campers so there is no long-term damage to a few select sites. Camping above 3500' is what I would like to address. I am not only asking for your compliance, I am asking you to help spread the word.

The regulations state that there are to be no fires or camping above the 3500-foot elevation in the CATSKILLS (except 12/21 - 3/21). The reasoning behind this is that the tops of high mountains are fragile environments. How many times have you conquered a peak and found it too cold and windy to enjoy the view? Or how about the times you have begun a hike in fall foliage and been surprised to find an icing of snow on the summit?

The vegetation on the tops of mountains leads a precarious existence. Some of the dead Balsam Fir we have used for trail improvement was over a hundred years old and only twenty feet tall. The summits get the last frost in the spring, and the first in the fall. They are battered by sleet, snow and wind, baked in the summer, and frozen in the winter. I am sure you know that springs at higher elevations are the first to fail. They have a smaller watershed feeding them runoff. It is the same for the mountain top flora; whatever precipitation it receives is all the water it gets.

Now, you say, that is all well and good, but we didn't know about the regulation, or we just want to watch the sunset, or we are only going to use a stove, and we're tired, and we'll be gone first thing in the morning. Well, I understand. I too am an expert at low impact camping, and leave nothing but footprints. But it is not a question of one or two people spending one night on Slide Mountain. It is a question of fifty to a hundred people staying the whole summer and most of the fall on several fragile peaks.

Next weekend will be my last for the season, it will be my 58th time up Slide and my 28th time around the loop. I'll talk to a lot of nice people, point out regulations, explain the reasons, give directions, name the peaks in the Northern CATSKILLS, take group pictures with all kinds of different cameras, tell about bears and snakes, extol the virtues of wool and the evils of sneakers and cotton, and last, but not least, kick people off Slide Mountain. It is too bad; for some it may ruin their weekend. But a weekend is a short

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span of time; we are concerned about a special place and a long span of time. So the next time you are up "where the works of man dwindle," remember what a precious place it is, and handle it with care.

--Steve Mackey, #357, Lake Luzerne, NY

LONG PATH Guide

Guide To The Long Path is divided into sections that can be hiked in a day. Information on facilities, services, and access points is given at the beginning of each section.

The Long Path begins at the George Washington Bridge and continues along the top of the Palisades. After traversing Hook Mountain and High Tor, it swings west into Harriman State Park and onto the Ramapo Rampart. It cuts across the escarpment of Schunemunk Mountain and the farm land beyond. The bluff of the Shawangunks in Minnewaska State Park is the next height of land. Descending to cross the Round-out Valley, the trail enters the Catskill Forest Preserve. There it crosses Peekamoose, Slide, Blackhead, et al., and ends at Windham.

Guide To The Long Path has 52 pages, eight maps, and a key. Send check or money order, payable to "Trails", to NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY TRAIL CONFERENCE, 20 West 40 St., NY, NY 10018. \$4.95 plus \$1.05 postage. NYS residents please add applicable tax.

Request For Information

This spring and summer I shall be studying the nesting habitat and ecology of the Northern Goshawk in the Hudson-New Jersey Highlands and CATSKILLS. Goshawks are big grey hawks, somewhat larger than a crow in size. They are very aggressive and attack persons who wander near their nests. The alarm call is a screaming "kak-kak-kak-kak...". Nests are usually situated near trails in deep timber. I would appreciate hearing of locations of attacks by a large hawk on hikers. All information will be kept confidential. Please send a postcard to : Robert Speiser, #307, 13 Beam Place, Haledon, NJ 07508.

Catskill 3500 Club

- 430 Nancy Pfirmann 9/12/82 914-462-0784
88 Colburn Dr., Poughkeepsie, NY 12603
- 431 Dr. Vratislav Zbuzek 11/7/82 201-330-9046
- 432 Dr. Vlasta Zbuzek 11/7/82
100 Manhattan Ave., Apt. 1314, Union City, NJ 07087
- 433 Lee H. Jordan 10/6/82 914-338-0234
- 434 Paul H. Jordan 1/9/83
78 Plymouth Ave., Kingston, NY 12401

435	Dorothy Matthews 1/9/83	914-331-4296
436	James Matthews 1/9/83 1 Grandview Ave., Kingston, NY 12401	
437	Jean Shuler 1/29/83 140-42 Union St., Poughkeepsie, NY 12601	914-473-5158
438	Eric M. Richman 1/28/83 175 Riverside Drive, Apt. 2F, New York, NY 10024	212-873-0058
439	Ron Menner 12/31/82 108 W. Hanover Ave., Morris Plains, NJ 07950	201-285-1528
440	Herbert J. Coles 3/6/83 101-17 97th St., Ozone Park, NY 11416	212-845-3927
441	Arlene Scholer 3/12/83 17 Willow Rd., New Hyde Park, NY 11040	516-354-0231

In Memoriam

Newell Mitchell, #94, who led a memorable hike to Balsam Cap via Hanover in 1971, died October 25, 1982.

The Peripatetic Porcupine

Our Adirondack cousin reports that Ralph Joseph Ferrusi II, #122, was observed on the Northville-Lake Placid Trail in August, going end to end in eight days. On New Year's Eve at the McKinley Hollow Lento, we heard him talking about a 325-mile bicycle trip in France last September. * * * * Lee Trow, #152, has twice been seen leading Binghamton hikers over the Blackhead Range in the rain. * * * * Sam Owen, #206, has been missing from our cross-country ski slopes. His doctor has advised him to stay on the level. * * * * Charles Bennett, #79, is hiking in Maine these days, where he roosts on Pigeon Hill. * * * * Al Dieffenbach, #244, has scaled Bordeau Mt. (1277'), the highest mountain in St. John (U.S. Virgin Is.). He trained for this with three weeks climbing in the Austrian Limestone Alps. * * * * Dr. Lee Bowker, #9, is now Dean of the Graduate School, Indiana State University of Pennsylvania. Where do you suppose that is? * * * * Past President Ray Donahue, #23, sent greetings from the summit of Snowdon (Wales), which has two peaks, Crib y Ddisgl (3258') and Yr Wyddffa (3560'). * * * * We have wondered why we never see Past President Allan Wirth, #55, on the trails. It seems that he has a new toy, a home computer, and spends his spare time programming. * * * * Jeffrey Miller, #236, left his heart in the CATSKILLS, but the rest of him hikes in the Smokies and the Pisgah National Forest (NC). * * * * Lena Hevey, #32, who used to lead the Balsam Lake Mountain hike, thought the boiler had exploded when an earthquake shook her house in New Hampshire. * * * * Sandy Stash, #260, sends greetings from Colorado. * * * * Drs. Vratislav and Vlasta Zbuzek, #431 and #432, have climbed in the Rockies, Mexico, Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador, Nepal, Kenya and Tanzania, including Mt. Kenya and Mt. Kilimanjaro.

Catskill 3500 Club Hikes

May 7 BLACKHEAD Moderate hike from Big Hollow that will be in part on the old state trail. Acra Point may be included if time allows.
 Distance: 5 mi. Ascent: 1780' Elev.: 3940' Order: 5
 Meeting Place: In front of the Sugar Maples in Maplecrest at 9:00 a.m.
 Leader: William Lawson (#78), 395 Hudson Ave., Albany, NY 12203
 518-436-1781

May 14 MT. TREMPER Long Path from Phoenicia over Mt. Tremper to Willow.
 Distance: 7-8 mi. Ascent: 1900' Elev.: 2720'
 Meeting Place: Big Scot parking lot in front of Ramada Inn in Kingston at 9:00 a.m.
 Leader: Angie Mahdavian (#372), R. D. 4, Box 218C, Kingston, NY 12401
 914-338-6263

June 12 KAATERSKILL HIGH PEAK Mostly on trail, some bushwhacking, some scrambling, marvelous views, a wrecked airplane, a waterfall, a swim in a very secluded pond, dinner together for those who wish.
 (Sun.)
 Distance: 8-9 mi. Ascent: 1500' Elev.: 3655' Order: 21
 Meeting Place: Howard Johnson's at Saugerties exit of Thruway, 10 a.m.
 Leader: Richard Wolff (#321), 648 Market St., Newark, NJ 07105
 Days: 201-344-1214 Eves: 201-746-7415

June 18 WESTKILL A moderate loop on the state trail.
 Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2100' Elev.: 3880' Order: 6
 Meeting Place: Parking lot behind drug store in Phoenicia at 8:30 a.m. or jct. Rt. 42 & Spruceton Road at 9:00 a.m.
 Leader: Donald A. Schoudel (#414), P. O. Box 161, Milton, NY 12547
 914-795-5482

ASSUMED RISK!

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





the catskill canister

Vol. XVI, No. 3

S U M M E R 1 9 8 3

Herring and Snow

Over the Xmas holidays my wife and I went to Norway for a week of ski touring. An English travel agency named Waymark runs many holidays (as they call vacations) in Scandinavia during the course of the winter.

We flew to London's Heathrow airport, picked up tickets they had left for us, and then flew to Oslo, where the two Waymark leaders met us. Then a 2-hour bus ride to Gjovik, a small city on Norway's largest lake, Lake Mjosa. Gjovik is an industrial town, lake resort, and winter resort, all pleasantly rolled into one. The hotel where we stayed was a short bus ride from the trail head, and it was possible to ski downhill into town almost to our hotel. There was snow on the streets all week long (probably all winter long!) and it is quite a sight to see elderly ladies, all dressed up in fur hats and coats, pushing sledges (sleds with chairs attached) all over town to do their shopping. They stand on them going downhill, and push them along with one foot, like a scooter, on the flat. The runners are about six feet long, and it's a mystery to me that there are not serious accidents in the heavy pedestrian traffic.

Days are short in Norway at this time--pitch black at 4:00--but the main trail into town is illuminated for about 8 miles. So, one could plan a trip to hit the lighted track way out when dark came, giving another 8 miles of skiing that would not be possible otherwise. The trails have no extended steep climbs; in fact the countryside reminded me of the extreme western part of the CATSKILLS. They had a snowfall just before we came, so we were skiing on about two feet of great dry snow. They run a snowmobile over fresh snow, packing it down about eight feet wide, and at the same time setting two tracks, one for outgoing skiers and one for incoming. Conditions like this have to be described as absolutely ideal.

And the breakfasts! Two kinds of herring, four kinds of meat, two kinds of bread, two kinds of cheese, four pots of jam, hard-boiled eggs, soft-boiled eggs, orange juice, corn flakes. Fantastic! Dinners were nice but not outstanding, with the exception of Xmas Eve dinner, which had to be the most magnificent smorgasbord I have ever eaten, complete with all the beer and aqavit one could drink.

To say we enjoyed the vacation is an understatement. It was perfect in every way, and we heartily recommend that any ardent ski tourer try a trip of this type some time.

--Dick Wolff, #321, Newark, NJ

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Long Path Project

Twelve hikes and twelve months after we started this trip at the George Washington Bridge in October 1981, we reached the foot of Peekamoose Mountain. The last report took us as far as the Wallkill at Montgomery Village. From there, we walked for fifteen miles, mostly on roads, to the Shawangunk escarpment on a very muggy day in June. We took a break near the end of the day and spotted a lake equipped with dock, float, and bath house. Then the owner drove up and five minutes later we were in the water, mostly in whatever we were wearing. The day was topped off with a picnic that included delicious homemade cakes and fresh-picked strawberries.

In July we climbed over that rare natural treasure, the Shawangunk Mountains. The natives pronounce it Shongum, and claim the Esopus Indians named them that meaning white rocks.* That day was noted for perfect weather and a swim in Lake Awosting. The Verkeerder Kill falls were a disappointment, however, almost dry. After that, the August hike was down hill, and up again across the Rondout Creek to the foothills of the CATSKILLS. The views of the CATSKILLS from the west side of the Shawangunks were superb, and the beautiful scenery from near and far took our minds off the hot, hard road. We were glad to see that the next hike would be on trails and through woods.

The September hike wound around Samson Mountain and Dangle Hill through some grand, mature forests. It was on this hike that we learned a lesson that will do us for the rest of the trip. One member of the party left the group just after a break without telling anyone. Three hundred yards later he was missed. Calls and whistle blowing produced nothing, so I went back to look for him. He had disappeared. This is what happened: he had not been able to find the trail after the group had left, and knowing the direction we were heading in, he bushwhacked down the mountain to Gulf Road and met us at the cars. All agreed that what he should have done was to sit down where he was until we came back for him. The dangers of bushwhacking alone down steep mountains are obvious, and we are all certain now that no one will be left behind again without being missed.

In November we started the trek over the CATSKILLS with a hike from Gulf Road over Peekamoose and Table to the parking lot near Winisook Lake. It was a crisp clear day, our last reprieve before the onslaught of what was predicted to be the coldest winter in fifty years. The view sign erected by Roy Messaros and Cy Whitney on Table Mt. was very visible and directed us to the best and clearest view we have ever had in the CATSKILLS.

--Fred Schmelzer, #140, Pine Bush, NY

* State Museum experts prefer as a source the Delaware word Schawaneu, meaning south. As with the CATSKILLS, the Kill may have been named first, and the name later extended to the mountains behind the Kills.



1983 OFFICERS and CHAIRMEN

Pictured from left: First Vice President John Kennedy, Secretary Kathryn Griffen, President Fred Schmelzer, Second Vice President Cyrus Whitney, and Treasurer David Clapper.

Also, Deborah Glynn, Past President and Information; Annual Dinner, Roy Messaros; Canisters, James Stone; Conservation, Ray Donahue; Membership, Elinore Leavitt; Outings, Paul Hoyt; "The Catskill Canister", Franklin Clark; Trails, Cyrus Whitney; Winter Weekend, Walter Gregory.

Catskill 3500 Club

- | | | | |
|-----|---|---------|--------------|
| 442 | Barbara A. Reeves-Ellington | 3/19/83 | 607-336-1494 |
| 443 | Richard H. Reeves-Ellington | 3/19/83 | |
| | R. D. 4, Box 415, Norwich, NY 13815 | | |
| 444 | Ilka Krochmal | 3/13/83 | 203-237-2376 |
| | 167 Lambert Ave., Meriden, CT 06450 | | |
| 445 | Paul F. Pikula | 3/13/83 | 203-723-7080 |
| | 53 Summerfield St., Naugatuck, CT 06770 | | |
| 446 | Fred G. Turnbull | 4/1/83 | 518-385-3973 |
| | 829 Sanders Ave., Scotia, NY 12302 | | |
| 447 | Elliot Gorman | 5/7/83 | 914-354-3757 |
| | 49 Lyncrest Drive, Monsey, NY 10952 | | |
| 448 | June P. Slade | 5/15/83 | 201-488-3067 |
| | 60 River Rd., W206, Bogata, NJ 07603 | | |

Catskill 3500 Club Hikes

- Sept. 18 PANTHER A moderate trail hike with Long Island ADK.
(Sun.)
Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 2400' Elev.: 3720' Order: 17
Meeting Place: Fox Hollow Trailhead, 2 mi. from Allaben (4.5 mi. west
of Phoenicia), where there is a state marker for Fox
Hollow Road on south side of Rt. 28, at 9:00 a.m.
Leader: Arlene Scholer, (#441), 17 Willow Rd., New Hyde Park, NY
516-354-0231 11040
- Sept. 24 THOMAS COLE & BLACK DOME A moderate trail hike.
Distance: 5 mi. Ascent: 2300' Elev.: 3940', 3980' Order: 5, 4
Meeting Place: Maplecrest Store & Post Office at 8:30 a.m.
Leader: Wilson Hoyt, (#309), 9 Fairmount Blvd., Garden City, NY
516-775-2059 11530
- Sept. 25 FIRE ISLAND A long easy walk.
(Sun.)
Distance: 14 mi. Ascent: -0- Elev.: -0-
Meeting Place: Smith's Park Parking Lot at 9:30 a.m.
Leader: Richard Furman, (#131), 169 West Rogues Path, Huntington, NY
516-692-7356 Send stamped, self-addressed envelope. 11743
- Oct. 8 ROCKY A strenuous bushwhack from Gulf Road.
Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 3000' Elev.: 3508' Order: 34
Meeting Place: Jnct. Rts. 28 & 28A in Boiceville at 8:30 a.m.
Leaders: Erik & Roman Hrycun, (#347 & 314), R. D. 2, Box 419B,
914-876-2451 Rhinebeck, NY 12572
- Oct. 15 NORTH DOME & SHERRILL A moderate bushwhack.
Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2600' Elev.: 3610', 3540' Order: 25, 30
Meeting Place: Jnct. Rts. 28 & 42 in Shandaken at 8:30 a.m.
Leader: Ernest Mahlke, (#72), 39 Spruce St., Oneonta, NY 13820
607-432-4394
- Oct. 22 VAN WYCK, SOUTH RIDGE OF TABLE, PEEKAMOOSE A strenuous
half-bushwhack, half-trail hike.
Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 3300' Elev.: 3206, 3847, 3843 Order: 62, 11, 12
Meeting Place: Sundown General Store at 8:15 a.m.
Leader: Roy Messaros, (#97), 249 Mulberry Way, Franklin Lakes, NJ
201-337-5004 07417
- Oct. 29 WITTENBERG CLEAN-UP This is an opportunity for members
& aspirants to help remove litter
from this heavily used area. Trash bags will be provided.
Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 2500' Elev.: 3780' Order: 14
Meeting Place: Parking area near trailhead in Woodland Valley, 8:00 a.m.
Leader: Cy Whitney, (#266), Morley Drive, Wyckoff, NJ 07481
201-447-2653

ASSUMED RISK

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

the catskill canister

Vol. XVI, No. 4

A U T U M N 1 9 8 3

SEARCH AND RESCUE

"I would like to thank the 3500 Club for their excellent help in the search for the lost hiker near Maplecrest. I have worked with other groups on many searches but none showed more dedication to getting the job done than the members of your group who participated in the search. I am proud to have had a small part in helping to organize your club for use as a search team. I am sure other forest rangers seeing the high quality of your efforts are going to want to use your teams on future search missions." Dick van Laer, Forest Ranger.

The above letter was written to the Catskill 3500 Club following our Search and Rescue Group's involvement in a search in May of this year. The effort ended happily when the hiker emerged from the woods on her own after spending two days and nights in the area between the Escarpment Trail and Rt. 23. About fifteen members took part in the search. On July 19 the Search and Rescue Group was again asked for assistance; this time in the Highmount area. A despondent individual had disappeared from his home and it was feared that he might have taken his own life. This was tragically confirmed when a team of three forest rangers and five Club members found his body while conducting an intensive "string line" ground search about half a mile from his house.

The two search efforts described above are the first involving our Search and Rescue Group since its establishment in March, 1981. The idea to form a group was conceived after two popular Club members spent an unplanned night in the woods, causing a great deal of anxiety among fellow members. After a request for volunteers was published in The Catskill Canister, a list of forty members and aspirants was compiled and made available to Region 3 of the Department of Environmental Conservation (ENCON). A one-day training session was conducted by Ranger Dick van Laer at Frost Valley, with nineteen volunteers attending.

The Search and Rescue Group does not operate independently, but works directly under the supervision of ENCON Rangers who are responsible for all search efforts, with the exception of those involving suspected criminals. The group is most likely to be called on for assistance with intensive ground searches after preliminary search efforts by the Rangers have not been successful. The second search noted above is a good example of this.

Now that the Club Search and Rescue Group has had some exposure, it is likely that it will be called upon more often. As a result, we are going to need additional volunteers. Because requests for assistance usually come with less than a day's notice, and because it is difficult for many members to get time off from work on short notice, we need to have a larger group to draw upon. Any member or aspirant

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who is interested in getting involved is invited to complete the enclosed form and return it to me by December 1. You will then be added to our list and will receive information regarding the notification procedures and other details. You will also be informed of any future training sessions.

--Jonathan Clement, Search and Rescue Chairman

1984 ANNUAL DINNER MEETING

The committee has reviewed the 1983 annual dinner meeting held at "The Hedges." As pleased as we were with the food, with our attendance reaching 200, we have simply outgrown it.

The 1984 annual dinner will be held at "Meadowbrook Lodge" on Route 94 in the Newburgh-Vails Gate vicinity. The Meadowbrook Lodge banquet room will accomodate 400 people; the adjoining cocktail-hour room is spacious and has table seating.

Complete details for the March 31, 1984 dinner will be mailed in February. We sincerely hope that, with your continued support, our club's annual social event will be a success.

--Roy Messaros, Chairman

CATSKILL MAP SET

Enclosed is a flyer describing a set of new maps covering the Catskill area. The maps, in addition to hiking and other trails, include all state leantos and campgrounds, many springs, parking areas, bus stops, and viewpoints. Special features include state land boundaries (useful to off-trail hikers and hunters), north-south magnetic navigation lines and a grid system coordinated to U.S. Geological Survey quadrangles. Every drivable road is shown with name and route number for easy access to trails. The reverse of each map contains a complete trail guide as well as phone numbers for Department of Environmental Conservation offices, recorded weather information, and bus companies.

Any member or aspirant wishing to acquire these maps is eligible to purchase them at the discount price of \$6.45 plus postage and tax if the order is received by 12/31/83. Indicate "Catskill 3500 Club" on the order form, and mail to Trail Conference (NOT A.M.C.).

DOUBLE SPACING

The editor and the volunteer typist request again that all articles and notices sent to THE CATSKILL CANISTER be double spaced.

MOUNTAIN GATE LODGE

Mountain Gate Lodge has a comfortable fireplace lounge, rooms with private baths, generous meals, van to bus-line service, and free X-country ski instruction. We offer free meals and lodging to a leader who brings 10 or more paying guests, and a special rate of only \$24 per person per day for groups of 15 or more. The rate includes lodging, breakfast and dinner.

For reservations: Rex & Mary Brusgul, Mountain Gate Lodge, Mc-Kenley Hollow Road, Oliverea, NY 12462, 914-254-4770

CROSS-COUNTRY SKI REPORT

1. Diamond Notch.* Granular snow, 25^oF., 2 hours going north, one hour return, intermediate to expert.

2. Balsam Lake Mountain from Millbrook Road.* Snowmobile-packed corn and wet snow, 30^oF., 2 hours in, one hour out, intermediate to expert.

--Howard Adriance, #327, Kingston, NY

CATSKILL 3500 CLUB

449	Albert A. Mullen	6/18/83	914-691-7567
450	Edith K. Mullen	6/18/83	
	48 Bellvue Road, Highland, NY 12528		
451	Harold Cohen	7/23/83	201-327-1180
452	Mimi Cohen	7/23/83	
	47 Cider Hill, Upper Saddle River, NJ 07458		
453	F. William Walker	3/5/83	518-393-5519
	1618 Lenox Road, Schenectady, NY 12308		

THE PERIPATETIC PORCUPINE

Our New England cousin reports that Betty Maury, #305, was seen climbing the Bigelows in Maine last July. She is one of the few Amazons who have qualified for membership in The 111-ers of Northeastern U.S.A., and have also climbed New England's Hundred Highest. In August she and Phil Heald, #359, led the A.M.C. Presidential Range Hike. The 36 participants included Don Rain, #246, and John Kennedy, #247. * * * * Leonard and Danielle Bernstein, #342 and 363, will be living in Oxford, England, for a few years, and are planning to hike in England, Wales, Switzerland, and Norway. * * * * Another backyard injury. Franklin Clark, #33, neglected to block an aluminum stepladder, which teetered, causing a ladder leg to buckle under the brace, and landed him on the ground with a broken wrist. * * * * Paul Hoyt, #315, climbed Mt. Talloc (9735'), near Lake Tahoe, in beautiful weather but with lots of snow on the ground. * * * * Friedel Schunk, #248, spent 16 fruitless days looking for porcupines on the West Buttress and top of Mt. McKinley last May. Since we mentioned in Vol. XV, No. 2 that porcupines originated in South America, we surmise that Friedel was following the wrong end of his compass needle.

*see Catskill Trails, ENCON, free at New Paltz or Catskill offices, or by mail from 50 Wolf Road, Albany, NY 12223.

CATSKILL 3500 CLUB HIKES

Nov. 5 DOUBLETOP & GRAHAM A moderate bushwhack.

Distance: 5 mi. Ascent: 2728' Elev.: 3860', 3868' Order: 8, 7
Meeting Place: Arkville R.R. station parking lot, Rt. 28, at 9:00 a.m.
(30 miles, 45 minutes from Kingston exit.)
Leader: Kip Patnode (#324), 266 N. Main St., F-3Y, Spring Valley, NY
914-356-4090 (evenings) 10977

Nov. 12 FRIDAY A strenuous bushwhack up the slide.

Distance: 6 mi. Ascent: 2400' Elev.: 3694' Order: 18
Meeting Place: Jnct. Rts. 28 & 28A in Boiceville at 8:00 a.m. Please
make reservations with leader in advance in case of
need to cancel hike because of bad weather.
Leader: Jonathan Clement (#68), R. D. 1, Box 223, East Greenbush, NY
518-477-6602 (home) 518-473-8187 (work) 12061

Nov. 21-Dec. 13 DEER SEASON (firearms) IN CATSKILLS no scheduled hikes.

Dec. 17 BLACKHEAD Moderate trail hike from Big Hollow.

Distance: 5 mi. Ascent: 1780' Elev.: 3940' Order: 5
Meeting Place: In front of Sugar Maples in Maplecrest at 9:00 a.m.
Leader: William Lawson (#78), 395 Hudson Ave., Albany, NY 12203
518-436-1781

Dec. 24 TABLE & PEEKAMOOSE A moderate trail hike.

Distance: 10½ mi. Ascent: 2800' Elev.: 3847', 3843' Order: 11, 10
Meeting Place: Claryville General Store, County Rd. 47, 8:30 a.m.
Leaders: Eric Richmond (#438), Richard Maltz (#407), H. Neil Zimmerman
(#306), 10 W. 65th St., New York, NY 10023 Bad driving
conditions may cancel. 212-873-5209(home) 212-644-1620(work)

Jan. 8 SLIDE Via jeep road, ideal for beginning snowshoers; short
(Sun.) easy grades, and superb scenery.

Distance: 5½ mi. Ascent: 1850' Elev.: 4180' Order: 1
Meeting Place: Ramada Inn parking lot, Kingston, at 8:00 a.m.
Leader: John M. Kennedy (#247), 12 Springbrook Ave., P.O. Box 71,
914-876-3269 Rhinebeck, NY 12572

Jan. 14 PANTHER Moderate trail hike via Giant Ledge.

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 1500' Elev.: 3720' Order: 5
Meeting Place: Ramada Inn parking lot, Kingston, at 8:00 a.m.
Leader: Bradley Snyder (#323), Mohonk Lake, New Paltz, NY 12561
914-687-7065

Jan. 21 CATSKILL WINTER WEEKEND at Alpine Inn, Oliverea, NY

Jan. 28 BALSAM Moderate trail hike.

Distance: 6 mi. Ascent: 2700' Elev.: 3600' Order: 27
Meeting Place: Village Bakeshop in Phoenicia at 8:30 a.m.
Leader: Fred Schmelzer (#140), R. D. 1, Box 433A, Pine Bush, NY
914-361-3629 12566