



the catskill canister

April— June 2012

Volume 45 Number 2

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**50 Words for 50 Years:
A Catskill Canister
Essay Contest!**

And the winner is...

In spring the flowers bloom like long
lost friends
In summer hikers linger in the long
daylight
In fall the leaves turn to colors that con-
tinue to amaze
In winter the icicles glisten when the
sun shines thru
This is the way of nature. It deserves our
love and reverence.

By Sue Kenyon, #1774

Save the Dates:

Annual Dinner—3/31/12

*Volunteer Recognition Din-
ner—6/2/12*



Peak Experiences of a Catskill Senior Hiker

By Jim Kennard

There are some experiences that we end up putting off too long and then it becomes too late in life to physically do them. I should have, would have, could have!! For years I had heard people talk about hiking the Adirondack 46's and thought, "That would be really neat to accomplish someday." However, I had never met anyone that had actually climbed all of them. In April of 2008 I retired from the Eastman Kodak Company and now had all day long to spend on the computer with my main hobby of researching and then locating sunken shipwrecks in the Great Lakes. I definitely was fitting into the criteria of a "couch potato." At this point hiking those mountains in the Adirondacks was probably not going to happen.

Shared Experiences with father and sons

In September 2009, while visiting my son, Jamie, at his house in Woodstock, NY, he suggested that we take a hike up to the fire tower on Overlook Mountain. It was a sunny day and quite warm. His little Boston terrier, Ocho, was running back and forth on the trail with no trouble at all, while I had to stop several times just to catch my breath. WOW!!! Was I out of shape for this hike? YES!! It made me tired just watching little Ocho. Finally, it was a treat to reach the summit of Overlook and climb up the fire tower. I enjoyed it. I had hiked while in the Boy Scouts and when I was hunting while attending college in the North Country but this was the first hike I had made in 50 years.

Then in mid-October 2009, Jamie invited my younger son, Doug, and me to hike up Westkill. I purchased a pair of hiking shoes and borrowed a pack. Oh boy, that was a struggle for me during the ascent. It had been raining for 3 days straight and the leaves and rocks were soaking wet making the trail very slippery. I was tired and had to stop multiple times. Jamie found a nice hiking staff in the woods and that helped me somewhat. Finally, at the Buck Ridge Lookout near the summit we were rewarded with one of the most spectacular autumn views of the Catskills that I can remember. Being able to share this experience with both of my sons was priceless. While hanging out at the overlook, Jamie mentioned that Westkill was one of the Catskill 35s. He had started to hike some of these mountains in his quest to complete the Catskill 3500 requirements. Even though Westkill had been a tough one for me I thought that I could probably still do this but I would need to get off the couch and start working on being more physically fit.

During 2010 both my sons and I got out together when we all could and hiked some of the 35s. I also hiked with a couple of hike mates and did a number of solo hikes. One book that became my bible on hiking these mountains was Catskill Peak Experiences by Carol White. I vowed that these dramatic situations would not happen to me and except for a close call on KHP and a very long day in the Neversink, I was successful!

My Peak Experiences

In May 2010, my brother-in-law and I got up late on a Sunday and then took a walk out to Huckleberry Point. It was early afternoon and I decided that I still had time to climb Kaaterskill Mountain as we had just hiked up part of the trail. I had not previously talked to anyone about this hike. I looked at the map and planned my route. I would hike up the old road bed to 3000 feet and bushwhack through the woods to a ski mobile trail, follow the ski mobile trail around to the south side of the mountain and then head up to

(Continued on page 3)

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

I'm very excited about our plans for the club's 50th anniversary bash at the Annual Dinner on March 31. If you haven't signed up yet, contact Michael Doehring, the Canister's Associate Editor and Annual Dinner Chair (contact information is at left) to do so.

An interesting discussion has been happening on the club's Yahoo group with respect to an article in the Poughkeepsie Journal by an aspirant. It was about getting lost trying to bushwhack North Dome and Sherrill and eventually stumbling across a hunter who turned out to be a relative. The article was well written in a very light-hearted and lively way. Some people joined in the laughter of the aspirant about her misadventures. Others were more concerned about what seemed to us to be a glorification of recklessness.

The aspirant tells me she by now knows how to use a compass (and has climbed most of the peaks). However, the article says "We had no compass, but even if we did, it would have been useless, as we did not know how to use one." Their resulting lack of ability to tell what direction they were going (apart from "up") was indeed comical.



I think that readers inexperienced in hiking might think "hey, bushwhacking sounds like fun, I'm going to go try it." After all, that is part of the reason we write such articles, no? But parts of the Catskills are true wilderness; getting lost can be a lot more serious. There are cliffs galore, and people have been seriously injured and died falling off them. So I wish there had been more of an explicit "lessons-learned" there.

Misadventures happen sometimes to us all. But you can reduce the chances and minimize the consequences by learning the basics. Here's my short list (others have posted theirs): Always carry a map and compass, even if you have a GPS, even if you've never actually had to use your compass before. Believe your compass. Let someone know where you are going and call when you get back. Take a headlamp and plenty of water. Have some extra food and enough warm stuff that you can survive a night or two (a space blanket is invaluable but not sufficient). Learn basic first aid; take a first aid kit.

And so to my last point: The club is planning to sponsor a Wilderness First Aid course for leaders, potential leaders, and, if room, other club members. As I write, the date hasn't been fixed, but will be either April 21-22 or May 19-20, at the Kripplebush Fire Department. Watch our yahoo group, website, or Facebook page for details! ☘

In Memorium

In memory of Diana Edelman (#1428, W617), who passed away on December 3, 2011. I first met Diana on a spring trip to Balsam Lake and Graham. She said she only lacked Doubletop to finish, though she had been there, but not found the canister. Thus two weeks later in 6 inches of snow on May 18th, we climbed Doubletop for her finish. Her hiking companion for the day informed me that she was a breast cancer survivor, not Diana. Rather, Diana enjoyed every step she took out there and her joy was contagious. Cancer, her family said that she looked it right square in the eye and marched forward through life. She chose to look at life through the eyes of gratitude, to treasure each day for the gifts to be found in it. Just weeks before her death, she decided to see how far up Overlook she could go, "just to see that view one more time". She made it to the top. We should all take a bit of Diana's attitude with us as we hike. ☘

Laurie Rankin #1503, W627

Volunteer Recognition Dinner June 2, 2012

The 3500 Club is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. It was founded by a small group of people with a tremendous love of hiking the Catskills. They were all willing to volunteer their time to assist others in pursuit of that goal. As such, it seems fitting that we should take the opportunity to celebrate and recognize the volunteers of this wonderful organization. On Saturday, June 2nd, 2012 we will hold a Chicken Barbecue for all of the volunteers of the Club, those who have led hikes, served on the board, participated in trail work projects, served on a committee, litter pick up, built lean-tos, whatever it may have been that you volunteered for in the last 50 years.

Location: Grant Avery Park Pavillion - Bostock Road and Route 28 in Shokan, NY. Facilities include ample parking, restrooms, playground, dogs on leash welcome.

Time: 5:00pm until 11:00pm

Cost: Free to all volunteers who are preregistered! All other guests, including children will need to be preregistered and pay \$10.00. Children under 6 years old are free. All checks must be made payable to the Catskill 3500 Club.

Chicken will be bbq'd on site, salads and beverage included.

Vegetarian option will be available. BYOB if you desire.

Must preregister by May 15th!

To preregister contact Laurie Rankin by e-mail, laurierankin@hvc.rr.com, by phone - 845-926-2182, or by mail - 8 Wallkill Ave. Tillson, NY 12486.

There will be hiking related door prizes given away throughout the evening.

In keeping with the spirit of volunteering, we are looking to find a project or two to work on earlier in the day. ☘

Conservation Corner—

A Note from our Conservation Chair, Carol White

Only 22 Years Late

An environmental initiative that began in 1990 in the Bush 1 Administration is finally coming to fruition after years of litigation by polluters and political obstruction. Power plants will have to reduce emissions of mercury and other toxic pollutants by more than 90% in the next five years, which will prevent asthma, other respiratory diseases and heart attacks. The quality of life in our region and others downwind of power plants will dramatically increase. The technology to control these pollutants is readily available and power plants have had years to implement it. In addition to reducing emissions of global warming gases and ground-level pollutants, the upgrades will create many thousands of temporary construction jobs over the next five years and possibly as many as 8,000 permanent jobs. This rule was published in the Federal Register in mid-February 2012. The importance of this environmental rule and the struggle to achieve it is recounted on our 3500 Club Website on the Conservation page: "Good News and Bad News." ☘

Peak Experiences continued from page 1

the summit of Kaaterskill. All went as planned, but the ascent from the south side of Kaaterskill is an old trail which is not well marked any longer and is quite steep. I made it up to Hurricane Ledge took some pictures and followed a herd path to the summit about a quarter mile away. It was getting later in the day and I was concerned about the steepness of doing a solo descent off the south side of Kaaterskill. I decided to take the north trail back down as that should be easier even if it is slightly longer. I saw only one trail but it led me to the eastern viewpoint that had a 200 foot drop. The trail stopped there. I was now afraid of losing daylight and I had not recalled seeing the other trail. I walked around the cliff area to see if there was a place where I could descend safely. It looked like my only option to get to the forest floor below was to hop on to a tall tree and shimmy down it and then tree hop again until I reached the bottom. And that is what I did. From the cliff base I set a course east to the ski mobile trail passing over very dense blow downs and a few more small cliffs. I reached the ski mobile trail and followed it around. This time I avoided the previous bushwhack to stay on a known trail. It would take longer but it was the safe thing to do. That evening I made it out in the moonlight and got back just before my brother-in-law was about to call the ranger.

In September 2010, now having completed a number of Catskill 3500's I felt confident that we could take on what some call the "bushwhack range" (Lone, Rocky, Balsam Cap & Friday). All was going well as we summited Lone and then over to Rocky. The hike to Balsam Cap is through thick Balsam growth and a number of blowdowns slowed our expected travel time considerably. From Balsam Cap we followed a partial herd path and then around one of the tall cliff faces to a large crack in the cliff where one can ascend to the summit area. We spent 20 minutes trying to find the canister on Friday. Finally, after almost giving up we found it just as we started to head back down. I had been told that from the Friday summit to just follow the ridge line on the way down, which was correct to a point. The ridge line at 3300 feet brought us to a large cliff. We had to find another way around this area. My concern was to get to the forest floor before it got dark. We made it just in time but our new route had taken us away from our intended path. We now had been hiking for 12 hours, it was dark, and I was getting tired. Several hours later we made it out successfully and were more than ready to get a good night's rest. Fortunately it all ended without any injuries or life threatening issues.

Reaching our goal and beyond

Jamie and I went on to complete our Catskill 3500 hikes on December 23, 2010. I completed my Catskill winter round of hikes on December 29, 2011. Climbing the Catskill peaks built my confidence enough to take of the Adirondacks. I've now climbed nearly half of the 46s. For this retired senior hiker it wasn't too late in life to still get out and hike those mountains I had been thinking about for the past 50 years. ☘



Hike Schedule April 2012—June 2012

Assumed Risk: Hiking involves certain inherent risks and persons participating do so at their own risk. In cool weather, hike participants should avoid cotton clothing, as it retains dampness and the resulting chill can result in hypothermia, **which can lead to death.** Instead, wear (and have available in your pack) garments of wool or fleece. Silk or polypropylene make the best base layers, as they tend to wick moisture away from the body. Hats, gloves, and a headlamp must be part of the standard early spring kit. Ice and snow can still be found unexpectedly in these peaks. In early spring, if there is any doubt about the conditions that may be encountered, each hiker is strongly advised to **bring snowshoes and full crampons to the trailhead**; the leader may advise that these do not have to be taken on the hike, but be aware that while there may be bare ground at the trailhead, there is often very significant ice and snow as the elevation increases, which could result in those improperly prepared being sent back. Anyone not properly equipped may be refused permission to participate, at the leader's absolute discretion. Don't be seduced by buds on the trees at the trailhead, **early spring in the Catskills is not to be treated lightly.**

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

Private Property: All Catskill 3500 Club hikes respect "No Trespassing" signs and the owners' wishes in such regards; leaders shall obtain permission to cross private property when so required.

Volunteer to Lead: If you are a member of the Club please **consider becoming a hike leader.** Just contact Manuel Peraza (outings@catskill-3500-club.org; 718-698-4422 [7pm-9pm]), and Manny will arrange to add you to the low-volume private Yahoo list through which hikes are coordinated. You will be contacted via this means when hikes are needed.

Group Size: All Club bushwhacks are limited to 12 participants including the leaders. The DEC limits group size to 12 in the Wilderness Areas. Accordingly, one should assume that all Club hikes allow no more than 12 participants. If in doubt, please contact the leader.

Sun., Apr. 1—INDIAN HEAD & TWIN

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 1600' Elev: 3573', 3643'

Challenging traverse with car shuttle. Well behaved dogs welcome if arranged in advance.

Registration Period: 3/23 — 3/31

Leader: Heather Rolland #1777, W757; hali-agrace@hotmail.com

Sat., Apr. 7 — HALCOTT

Distance: 4 mi. Ascent: 1700' Elev: 3537'

Relaxed-pace bushwhack. Possibility of adding Sleeping Lion (CHH peak) as well.

Registration Period: 3/25 — 4/4

Leader: Hans Schick #1853, W759;
Hans.W.Schick@gmail.com; 845-896-6454 (7 to 10 PM)

Sun., Apr. 8 — KAATERSKILL H.P.

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 1900' Elev: 3655'

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

Registration period: 3/25 — 4/5

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

Sat., Apr. 14 - LITTER PICK-UP.

Please join us for our adopted 2 mile segment on Rt. 214. Bring work gloves; helmets and orange safety vests will be supplied. Contact: Cathy O'Neill; cathyon1@gmail.com (Preferred); 914-737-4990 (H) 914-772-7423

Sun., Apr., 15— DOUBLETOP

Distance: 6 miles Ascent: 1900' Elev: 3860'

Moderately paced bushwhack

Registration Period: 4/2 — 4/12

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

Sat., Apr. 21 — NORTH DOME & SHERRILL

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

Relaxed paced bushwhack and trail hike. Car shuttle required.

Registration Period: Please contact leaders to register.

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

Sat., April 21 — SW HUNTER & HUNTER (from route 214)

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

Moderately paced bushwhack and trail hike, with the possibly of a short car spot or road walk.

Registration period: 4/15—4/19

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

Sun., Apr. 22 — PANTHER via GIANT LEDGE

Distance: 8.3 mi. Ascent: 2400' Elev: 3720'

Relaxed paced hike from Fox Hollow to County. Rt. 47. Car shuttle required. A Catskill Hundred Highest will be summited as well.

Registration Period: Please contact leaders to register.

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

Sat., Apr. 28 — PEEKAMOOSE & TABLE TRAIL MAINTENANCE.

Please join us for our annual spring maintenance day. Bring work gloves and tools if you have them: loppers or hand clippers, gar-

(Continued on page 5)

Like us? Then "like" us at <http://facebook.com/Catskill3500Club> !

den trowel, hand saw. If you do not have tools, the Club will supply them.

Leader: Cathy O'Neill; cathyon1@gmail.com (Preferred); 914-737-4990 (H); 914-772-7423

Sun., April 29 – FRIDAY & BALSAM CAP

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

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

Registration period: 4/15 — 4/26

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

Sun., Apr. 29 – WINDHAM H.P.

Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 1800' Elev: 3524'

Leisurely paced trail hike along the Escarpment Trail.

Registration Period: By 4/27.

Leader: Sue Kenyon #1774; snowsusie88@yahoo.com; 917-613-2042.

Sat., May 5 – HUNTER & S.W. HUNTER (John Rob Leanto) MAINTENANCE

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

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

Registration Period: Please contact leaders to register.

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

Sun., May 6 – TABLE & PEEKAMOOSE (Bouton Leanto) MAINTENANCE

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

Moderately paced trail hike that will include a stop at the Bouton leanto for maintenance.

Registration Period: Please contact leaders to register.

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

Sat., May 12 – BIG INDIAN

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2400' Elev: 3700'

Moderately paced trail hike.

Registration Period: Call leader to register.

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

Sat., May 12 – THOMAS COLE, BLACKDOME & BLACK HEAD.

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2800' Elev: 3940', 3980', 3940'

Easy to moderately paced trail hike. Heavy rain cancels.

Registration Period: 5/7 — 5/11

Leader: Michael L. "Mick" Dunn, Jr. #1272; mick-fords@gmail.com; 603-809-0348;

Sun., May 13 - GRAHAM & BALSAM LAKE

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

Moderately paced hike and bushwhack.

Registration Period: 5/7 — 5/11

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

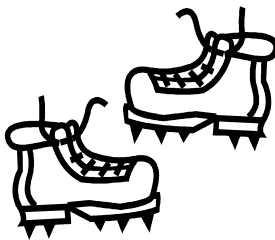
Sat., MAY 19 – PEEKAMOOSE & TABLE

Distance: 8.5 mi, Ascent: 2950' Elev. 3640', 3800'

Moderately paced trail hike.

Registration Period: 5/12 — 17

Leader: Alan Via # 429; Peakbagr100@gmail.com



Sat., MAY 19 – BEARPEN & VLY

Distance: 8.5 miles. Ascent: 2668'. Elev: 3606' 3529'.

Moderately paced bushwhack. Rain (or threat of)

cancels.

Registration Period: Contact leader to register.

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

Sun., May 20 – NO HIKING

Sat., May 26 – INDIAN HEAD & TWIN

Distance: 9.4 mi Ascent: 2,300' Elev: 3,573' 3,640'

Relaxed-pace trail hike.

Registration Period: 5/13 — 5/23

Leader: Hans Schick #1853, W759;

Hans.W.Schick@gmail.com; 845-896-6454 (7 to 10 PM)

Sat., May 26 – PLATEAU Traverse

Distance: 6.5 mi. Ascent: 2100' Elev. 3840'

Moderately-paced trail hike. We will take a short side trip on the Warner Creek trail. Several great views on this route. Shuttle required. Bad weather cancels.

Registration period: 5/14 — 5/24.

Leader: George Preoteasa #1478; gypreo@gmail.com; 201-694-8344.

Sun., May 27 – BALSAM MT.

Distance: 5.25 mi Ascent: 1600' Elev: 3602'

Rider Hollow loop. Well behaved dogs welcome if arranged in advance.

Registration Period: 5/20 — 5/26

Leader: Heather Rolland #1777, W757; hali-grace@hotmail.com

Sat., Jun. 2 – FIR MT.

Distance: 7 miles Ascent: 1,500' Elev: 3620'

Moderately paced trail hike and bushwhack. Rain may cancel.

Registration period: 5/28 — 6/1

Leader: Jim Malumphy #890; lump63@hotmail.com; 203-206-0586 NCA 8pm.

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

Sun., Jun. 3 – LONE & ROCKY

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

Very difficult, long and strenuous bushwhack to the most remote peaks. Well behaved dogs welcome.

Registration period: 5/20 — 5/31

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

Sat., Jun. 9 – RUSK

Distance: 4 mi. Ascent: 1,600' Elevation: 3,680'

Relaxed-pace bushwhack. Possibility of adding East Rusk as well.

Registration Period: 5/27 - 6/6

Leader: Hans Schick #1853, W759;

Hans.W.Schick@gmail.com 845-896-6454 (7 to 10 PM)

Sun., Jun. 10 – WITTENBERG, CORNELL & SLIDE.

Distance: 10 mi. Ascent 3000' Elev. 3780', 3860', 4180'

A moderately paced hike. Rain cancels.

Meeting/Place/Time: 6/4 — 6/8

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

Sat., Jun. 16 – WESTKILL

Distance: 9.5 miles. Ascent: 1700' Elev: 3880'.

Moderately paced trail hike.

Registration Period: Call leader to register.

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

Sun., Jun. 17 – KAATERSKILL HP

Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 1900' Elev: 3655'

Moderately paced trail/unmaintained trail hike to summit & Hurricane Ledge. Well behaved dogs welcome if arranged in advance.

Registration Period: 6/10 — 6/16

Leader: Heather Rolland #1777 W757; hali-grace@hotmail.com

Sat., Jun. 23 – EAGLE

Distance: 8 miles. Ascent: 1600' Elev: 3600'

Easy to moderately paced trail hike. Heavy rain cancels.

Registration Period: 6/18 — 6/22

Leader: Michael L. "Mick" Dunn, Jr. #1272;

mickfords@gmail.com; 603-809-0348

Sat., Jun. 23 - SUGARLOAF

Distance: 7 mi., Ascent: 2000' Elev: 3800'

Moderately paced trail hike.

Registration Period: 6/16 — 6/22 @ 7 PM

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

Sun., Jun.24 – HALCOTT

Distance: 4 mi. Ascent: 1700' Elev: 3537'

Relaxed pace bushwhack. Expect nettles and pricklers. Well behaved dogs welcome if arranged in advance.

Registration Period: 6/17 — 6/23

Leader: Heather Rolland #1777 W757; hali-grace@hotmail.com

Sat., Jun. 30 – WESTKILL

Distance: 6.4 miles. Ascent 1700' Elev: 3880'

Moderately paced trail hike to celebrate leader's 25th anniversary as a 3500 Club Member. Champagne and cake served.

Registration Period: 6/25 — 6/29

Leader: Lanny Wexler #593 highpt43@verizon.net; 516-644-5867 7 pm – 10 pm

**Some say McKenly,
I say McKenley, most say McKinley
And, they're all wrong!!!**

My son Ralph III (#1122, 509W) is documenting his third round of Catskill peaks, and we were heading for Balsam, from, as always, McKinley (or is it McKenley???) Hollow. As a dotting-my-i's-and-crossing-my-t's writer, I became intrigued: "i" or "e"??? Pete Kick's 2002 Catskill Mountain Guide says McKenley on page 161, then McKinley on page 163. My 2001 NYNJTC New York Walk Book says McKenley on page 225. My very own 2006 Catskill Tales and Trails goes with McKenley, probably influenced by the "Holy Grail" Walk Book, and Kick's page 161. My 1993 (time for a new one...) New York State Atlas/Gazetteer says McKinley Hollow Road. MapQuest goes with McKinley Hollow Road, but there's a McKenley Hollow branching from it, via Brown Road...

Saturday morning, there were two street signs at the intersection of CR47: MCKINLEY HOLLOW ROAD, and, MCKENLEY HOLLOW!!! Mystery solved??? Nay, the plot thickened: the big new DEC trailhead sign at the end of MCKINLEY HOLLOW ROAD boldly stated, MCKENLEY. The trail sign just below it said, McKinley!!! And, I'm pretty sure the DEC sign in the col at the Pine Hill-West Branch trail intersection pointed back down to, McKinley Hollow...

Hold the phone—why didn't I think of this before: I have a big pile of U.S. Geological Survey maps up in the loft!!! Viola! The 1960 SHANDAKEN, N.Y. map clearly states "Mc Kenley Hollow"!!! These maps only identify geographical features; roads are not identified either by name or number.

And, even "McKenley" is wrong: There's a space between the "c" and the "K"!!!!

My final conclusion: the trailhead is indeed at the end of McKinley Hollow Road, in Mc Kenley Hollow. Period... ☘

Ralph Ferrusi, #122, W34

The Peripatetic Porcupine

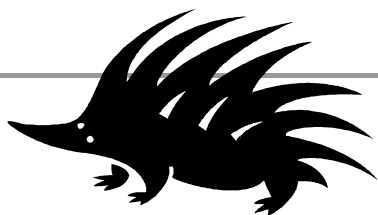
On Monday, Oct. 17, 2011 at 12:50 PM, Aaron Schoenberg #1582 completed his New England 67 ascents of all mountains over 4,000 feet with his climb of Killington Peak in Vermont. It was a bitter cold day with a high overcast as my body had not adjusted to below freezing wind chill temps yet, but that got me ready to enjoy the freak October snowstorm a week plus later. Due to the bleak weather conditions, we did not hang around at the summit to celebrate. *Submitted by Aaron Schoenberg #1582*

This summer, Laurie (#1337, 531W) and Tom (#1503, 627W) Rankin flew out to Washington and Oregon. While there, they climbed up PART of Mt. Rainier, PART of Mt. Saint Helens, and summited “Tom Dick and Harry” Mountain, which affords excellent views of Mt. Hood. They also managed to visit 30 or so brew-pubs in 11 days! Hikers get thirsty! *Submitted by Tom Rankin #1503, 627W*

In perusing my copy of Peeks...I spotted a number of Catskill members who had become 46ers. Here are the ones I spotted:

Catskill #	Name	46er #
1689	Ian Marchant	6746
1789	Felix Modugno	6755
1936	Dawn M. Mallory	6756
1855	Mary-Helen Hughes	6871
Asp	Gail Tremblay	6873
1856	Joe Whalen	6938
(Previously printed Oct-Dec)		
0160	Gary M. Klee	6945
1688	John F. Klebes	6980
1941	Pete Rieseler	7008
Also,		
1141	Mike Vetrano	5939
had a nice article entitled A Compassionate 46er.		
Sadly, there was also an obituary for:		
0065	Werner Bachli	0033
And an In Memoriam for:		
0101	Richard A. Hudson	1602
322	Kathleen Gill	1179

Submitted by Dave White #860, W311 ☼



The Catskill 67 — A Book Review

As a peakbagger married to a non-peakbagger, I have made a few promises over the years. I swore that I would not do The Grid, and I promised that I wouldn't do the Hundred Highest. The Grid was a no-brainer, but the Catskill Hundred Highest was a tougher promise to make: after all, the project does involve 102 different mountains. But what of those mountains: Aren't they all privately-owned, thankless, viewless, prickler-filled bumps in Sullivan or Delaware County? And wouldn't that project involve more research and interacting with land owners than actual hiking? I interact with humans all week long at work; why would I want to sully my woods time with such interaction?

But in truth, at some point back in the winter of 2009, I found myself skidding backwards on crappy snowshoes, egg-beater legs working away at some prickery slope on Pine Island on a day that saw a high of about six degrees Fahrenheit. Somehow the Cat100 had found me.

That “somehow” is really a someone: Alan Via. I met Alan at his Cat100 finish hike on Stoppel Point, and hiked a number of the peaks mentioned in his book, The Catskill 67, over the next few years mostly with Alan as my guide. The Book, as Alan referred to it, was a constant in the background of our hikes and our friendship, and that now the book is finally here, it is an honor and a privilege to be able to review it.

The Catskill Hundred Highest include the thirty-five mountains we all know so well, but the title of Alan's book lets the reader know his focus. The other 67 – the mountains that are not on the 3500 Club's patch list – are the ones Alan introduces to us. Some of them I'll bet you know well: Overlook or Giant Ledge, for starters. Some of them, I'm willing to bet, you've never heard of. Many of them are prickery and plenty are located partly or wholly on private land. Alan does a good job of handling the private property issue, providing general guidelines for seeking permission to hike, and only basic information about the mountains that have limited access.

It may come as no surprise that I love maps (don't most peakbaggers?), and The Catskill 67 does not disappoint in this regard. Alan has organized the book into nine sections corresponding to geographic areas indicated on the pull-out map found in the book's back pocket. He includes detailed directions to trailheads and GPS coordinates for parking areas or trailheads along with each profile. The map for each sub-region is reproduced at the start of each section such that you are never flipping back more than a few pages to get a sense of where a peak might be on the map.

Each peak's profile offers a rating (1-5 with 5 being the best) for interest, views, overall difficulty, and a specific bushwhack rating indicating level of challenge for that aspect of the hike. The profiles are a pleasure to read: I highly recommend Alan's treatment of South Vly if you are just dipping into the book. I read through

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Book Review, continued from page 7

his Ashokan High Point description

with an arched brow, ready to challenge or critique his offering for my “home peak.” Indeed, that he had done his homework was apparent: he managed to offer several history and natural history tidbits of which I was not aware.

Geek that I am, my favorite part of the book might be the glossary. Comprehensive and comical by turns, his entry on microspikes is a must read. I promise you will nod and grin before finishing. Other appendices offer suggestions for tandem peaks (peakbaggers will want to grab at least two if they’re driving all the way to the Schoharie County line!), and a thoroughly charming “Subjective Look at the Peaks” that reads somewhat like a high school yearbook’s “superlatives” page. Alan’s suggestions for further reading are excellent choices – the classics are there and I would add Will Nixon and Michael Perkins Walking Woodstock to the list, especially as Will sings the praises of the lesser peaks.

Perhaps the highest commendation I can offer is that after only a few evenings of dipping in here and there, I was hooked, eagerly anticipating my next hike. The mark of a great guidebook is just this: Suddenly the prospect of seeking a few permissions and fighting off a few peakbagger-eating plants doesn’t seem so daunting. It sounds like fun. In fact, it sounds too good to miss. ☚
Heather Rolland, #1777, W757

New Winter Members

0774	Jim Kennard	1888	12/28/11
0775	Paul West	1004	12/30/11
0776	Karen Bloom	1733	12/23/11
0777	Ira Orenstein	0415	12/23/11
0778	Tom Vernooy	1896	12/31/11
0779	George Brenish	1974	12/23/11
0780	Danny Tavares	1841	02/04/12
0781	Rick Day	1737	02/12/12
0782	James Hopson	1813	02/17/12
783	James Spinner	1814	02/17/12
784	Tracy Gourlay	1992	02/20/12

New Life Members

1691	Maryann Cascarino
Asp	Nicholas Blassmann
Asp	Paul C. Nelson

Our New Members 2011-2012

1960	Christopher Ware	11/27/11
1961	Nicholas Kalosky	11/27/11
1962	Donald Slick	11/27/11
1963	Thierry Croizer	12/03/11
1964	Cynthia L. Burkee	12/26/11
1965	Steve Subcleff	12/26/11
1966	John W. Dyce	12/23/11
1967	Douglas White	12/26/11
1968	Suzanne Provenzano	12/30/11
1969	Haym Gross	01/07/12
1970	Nina Jordan	01/07/12
1971	Joseph Jordan	01/07/12
1972	Richard Johnson	01/10/12
1973	Charles Blanchet Jr.	12/31/11
1974	George Brenish	12/18/11
1975	Dorothy Kucar	01/08/12
1976	Saily Sanchez	01/08/12
1977	Jenny Lutz	01/28/12
1978	Michael Katz	01/29/12
1979	Christiane Mulvihill	01/29/12
1980	Richard Carr	01/29/12
1981	Brian S. Whitney	02/04/12
1982	Carmen Cabuhay	01/29/12
1983	Tera Stoner	01/14/12
1984	Ed Stoner	01/14/12
1985	Yin Yin Liu	02/05/12
1986	Michele Beilman	12/30/11
1987	Wendy Backus	02/09/12
1988	Lori McCarron	02/20/12
1989	Chris Sedlack	02/11/12
1990	Lindy Pearce	02/11/12
1991	Chris Kulk	02/19/12
1992	Tracy Gourlay	05/01/11

