



# the catskill canister

Vol. XI, No. 1

W I N T E R 1 9 7 8

## GEORGIA TO MAINE - Part VI

On September 14 I left Monson, with 115 miles left in my journey. The remainder of the Trail in Maine was relatively easy hiking, occasional steep climbs over mountain ranges; the Barren Range, White Cap, and Chair Back. From White Cap I got my first view of Katahdin. Legend has it that a through hiker once walked non-stop the entire distance to Katahdin Stream after seeing that view. As there was still 75 miles left to cover, it is doubtful that this is true.

Between mountain ranges the Trail twisted through lowlands, passed by beaver ponds, and skirted around beautiful lakes. One quiet afternoon as I passed Joe Mary Lake, I came to an opening by a sandy beach. About six feet away was a middle-aged couple doing what a lot of folks do when the weather is sunny and warm and they think they are in the middle of nowhere. I mumbled an embarrassed "Sorry!" and kept on walking, noting a seaplane bobbing in the lake nearby. The man hollered, "Are you alone?" I yelled back that I was, but thought that it might have been fun if I'd said, "No, there are twenty boy scouts with me!" In about two minutes I heard the plane take off.

On September 16 I caught up with Alan Gross. We had a grand time swapping news and Trail gossip, for I had last seen him way back in Virginia. Alan was having a difficult time accepting the fact that the trip was almost over, and was savoring every last mile. Other through hikers greatly accelerated their pace as they approached Katahdin. I was among those who slowed down to about a ten-miles-a-day pace.

On September 21 I reached Katahdin Stream Campground in Baxter State Park. Chris arrived later that afternoon and we camped in our van. The next morning the weather was not on our side for the final five and a half miles. We found that the Trail had been closed due to high winds and poor visibility at the summit of Katahdin. We spent the day loafing and took some time to hike back to Daicey Pond to visit Alan Gross, who was also waiting for the weather to clear. On our way back to Katahdin Stream later that day, I saw my one and only moose.

September 23 was an overcast day and we went to the ranger station expecting to hear that the Trail was closed again. We were surprised and happy to learn that the weather was acceptable, and before the ranger had a chance to change his mind, we signed the register and took off. The last few miles of the A.T. were memorable ones as the route ascended the steep Hunt Spur. In several places iron spikes had been placed to provide hand and foot holds. Once over the spur we crossed the wide barren Tableland, passing the Tor-

THE CATSKILL CANISTER

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eau Spring, and heading for the cairn at the summit. We arrived at 11:25 a.m. It was very windy, and I saw my first snowflake of the winter. My journey was over.

Post Script

Alan Gross reached the end of the Trail shortly after I did. He ran the last  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile, pack and all, whooping and hollering. We shared his can of beer, Chris having forgotten my champagne in the van. Just as we were about to retrace our steps, we were surprised to meet Norm and Marilyn Fancher (now #242 & 243). They were parked at Roaring Brook Campground and offered to drive us back to our van if we wished to descend the other side of the mountain. Chris accompanied them on their route via Chimney Pond, while Alan and I crossed the spectacular Knife Edge, ending our trip on a treacherous, but scenic note.

When I returned home, news about other through hikers began to come in. Most of those whom I had gotten to know finished the trip. Several however, reached Katahdin Stream late in the season and after waiting a week for the weather to clear, went home with five of the 2050 miles uncompleted. They returned the following spring to conquer Katahdin.

When I have a chance, I enjoy returning to the Trail. I have spent plenty of time on the northernmost seven miles of the Trail in Massachusetts, as I am the overseer for that section. The urge to hike the entire Trail again is still with me. Alan Gross did not kick the habit. He has since completed the Long Trail and the Pacific Crest Trail. Jim Stolz also found it difficult to stop walking, and spent a year and a half hiking from Maine to California. I suspect that in about 35 years, if I am still in good running condition and if the Trail has withstood the ravages of civilization, I may be found once again on the top of Springer Mt., Georgia, setting my sights on Katahdin.

--Jonathan B. Clement, East Greenbush, N.Y.

CATSKILL 3500 CLUB

#265 E. A. Blair 10/23/77  
28 Murray Place, Princeton, N.J. 08540

609-921-6657

CALENDAR

The annual dinner meeting of the CATSKILL 3500 CLUB will be at Kingston, Saturday, April 8.

CATSKILL 3500 CLUB HIKES

- Feb. 11 MT. GREYLOCK A cross country ski traverse on the auto road. Not for beginners or persons unwilling to compete with snowmobiles.  
 Distance: 14 mi. Ascent: 2200'  
 Meeting Place: Call leader by February 8 for details. Trip may be cancelled if snow conditions are poor.  
 Leader: Jonathan Clement (#68), R. D. #1, Box 223, E. Greenbush, 518-477-6602 N.Y. 12061
- Feb. 18 PEEKAMOOSE, TABLE, LONE Very strenuous trail & bushwhack hike. Hikers must be in good condition for this trip.  
 Distance: 12 mi. Ascent: 3000' Elev.: 3843, 3847, 3721 Order: 11, 10, 16  
 Meeting Place: Winchell's Corner Antique Store, Rt. 28, Shokan, 8:30  
 Leader: Will Merritt (#22), 106 Oak St., Lincroft, N.J. 07738 201-842-0497
- Feb. 20 HUNTER Moderate trail hike for those lucky to have the (Mon.) day off. Joint trip with Albany Chapter ADK.  
 Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2000' Elev.: 4040' Order: 2  
 Meeting Place: Call leader as reservations are required.  
 Leader: Jim Schaller (#194), 91 Maple Ave., Voorheesville, N.Y. 518-765-3196
- Mar. 4 BALSAM LAKE (& GRAHAM) Moderate ski tour on jeep road. Graham will be included if weather and conditions permit.  
 Distance: 5-7 mi. Ascent: 1200 (2000) Elev.: 3725 (3868) Order: 15, 8.  
 Meeting Place: Bellayre Ski Center Base Lodge for Inter. & Exp. trails at fireplace closest to parking lot at 8:30 a.m.  
 Leader: Sam Owen (#206), 52 Newman St., Metuchen, N.J. 08840 201-548-5875; 914-657-6736 weekends.
- Mar. 18 NORTH DOME Moderate to strenuous bushwhack from col between Westkill and North Dome.  
 Distance: 5 mi. Ascent: 1800' Elev.: 3610' Order: 25  
 Meeting Place: Warm's Restaurant in Tannersville at 8:00 a.m. or Jct. Rt. 42 & Spruceton Rd. at 8:30 a.m.  
 Leaders: Joseph Whitaker, Jr. (#238) & Joseph Whitaker, III (#239), 51 Lamb Ave., Saugerties, N.Y. 12477 914-246-6329
- Apr. 8 BALSAM CAP & ROCKY Strenuous bushwhack. Be prepared for snow conditions.  
 Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 3000' Elev.: 3623', 3508' Order: 24, 34  
 Meeting Place: Winchell's Corner Antique Shop at 8:30 a.m.  
 Leader: Richard Jewett (#237), 127 Western Ave., Altamont, N.Y. 518-861-7256 12009
- Apr. 22 INDIAN HEAD & TWIN Moderate hike on the Devil's Path.  
 Distance: 7 mi. Ascent: 2300' Elev.: 3573', 3640' Order: 29, 22  
 Meeting Place: Warm's Restaurant in Tannersville at 8:30 a.m.  
 Leader: Dave Mattsen (#187), 28 Park Dr., Woodstock, N.Y. 12498 914-679-6289



# the catskill canister

Volume XI, No. 2

SPRING 1978

## A LOUSY DAY

Despite the rain, seven stalwarts started from the covered bridge at Seager on a scheduled CATSKILL 3500 CLUB hike to climb Doubletop and Graham. The group consisted of Gregory (leader), Hentschel, Donahue, Mitchell, Lindo, Bachli, and Virginia Durso. We expected the rain to stop soon, but not so. Climbing through the mud and extremely heavy rain seemed so unreal at this time of the year. It rained all day, and very hard, much as you would get in a tropical storm or a hurricane.

As we started, we noted that Dry Brook was its usual calm stream; Drury Hollow Brook and the North and South Forks of Flatiron Brook were much the same, and were easily crossed by hopping rocks. At about three-fourths of the way up, we encountered the first snow under foot. Now instead of mud we had slush for a period. And still it rained.

Then the snow got deeper, but we slogged along. Nearly at the top, where the depth was about two feet, snowshoes were put on, except for Bachli and Ginnie, who had none with them. We trudged to the canister and back, soon meeting up with Bachli and Ginnie, who insisted on continuing in their own way to the top, even though each step was like stepping into a pot hole. It was still miserable and raining very hard with no let-up.

By now we were quite wet, both inside and out, so the Graham part was scrubbed. Hentschel, Donahue, Mitchell, and Lindo started down, while I waited for Bachli and Ginnie. Whereas the climb was a wet miserable slippery ascent, the descent was much different, a sort of wild challenging experience. Water run-off due to the hard continuous rain and the melting snow made the return dangerous. Once clear of the snow line all was mud and slide and slip and more mud and slip and slide. Also, the placid brooks had all changed character and were now raging torrents.

The first group finally reached Flatiron Brook--South Fork--which was now about four feet deep and fifteen feet across. After much discussion and concern they joined hands, and formed a daisy chain, carefully making this crossing through the deep rushing water. The North Fork was crossed by bridge, but Drury Hollow Brook presented another problem. This, too, was a raging torrent and forced another join-hands-and-make-a-daisy-chain to get safely across. Now really wet, they made a mad dash to the cars and dry clothes to await anxiously the return of the second group, who arrived about forty minutes later.

Gregory, Bachli and Ginnie made a different approach to crossing

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the brooks. At each, Gregory and Bachli ranged up and down in search of suitable logs while Ginnie calmly awaited their return. With much care--and in the case of the South Fork, traveling way up stream--they safely negotiated all crossings and arrived back at the cars, also quite wet. This was the first climb in the CATSKILLS for Ginnie, and through it all she showed much grit and stamina. Quite an introduction for her!

The rain still came down. By now Dry Brook was a wild raging white-water river. Dry clothes make one feel better, and after a rainy day up and down Doubletop, all felt wiser although wetter than at the start. Despite the weather and all that water, above and below and around us, we enjoyed the day with the usual amount of fun and nonsense that explodes on every trip.

--Walter L. Gregory, Valhalla, N.Y.

#### BOOK REVIEWS

ON THE MOUNTAIN, IN THE VALLEY, CATSKILLS ARCHITECTURE 1750-1920 by Joseph Aronson, Bruce Sherwood, Mark Zeek, and Bruce Guyot, \$8.95 or \$4.95

In his introduction, Peter Borelli states: "At the age of 76, Joe was not up to a November conference in the Adirondacks, so in his place went Roland VanZandt, historian and author of THE CATSKILL MOUNTAIN HOUSE, who presented the Aronson Paper on behalf of the Catskill Center before an audience of architects and historic preservation experts. So enthusiastic was the response that Joe was asked if he would consider expanding the paper into a book. He was delighted and promised to begin immediately upon his arrival in England where he spent the winters in his later years. During a visit to Rome, Italy, in March 1976, however, he died of a heart attack. He was 77. On the Mountain, in the Valley is based on and includes the original Aronson essay. Historian Bruce Sherwood of Trout Creek edited the manuscript and has written the descriptive text and captions and selected the buildings which were photographed by Mark Zeek of Cooperstown. The design of the book is by Bruce Guyot of Milford.

One does not have to be an architect or know a lot about architecture to appreciate this book. Aronson advises us to "look carefully at our environment, including our rich architectural heritage, because we will not be allowed that privilege for long--the record is disappearing."

GUIDE TO THE CATSKILLS AND THE REGION AROUND by Arthur Gray Adams, \$12.00

Adams, as we all remember, was co-author with Roger Coco and

Harriet and Leon Greenman of the excellent Guide to the Catskills published by Walking News two years ago.

This new Guide is different. It is more than a guide. It is an amazing book. Amazing is the correct word, because the reader is amazed and surprised so many times by the scope of the work, the wealth of information, and the pleasing manner in which it is presented. Consisting of 275 pages, it measures about  $8\frac{1}{2}$  x 11 x  $\frac{3}{4}$  inches and is divided into three parts.

PART I. The first 59 pages is devoted to the geography of the region. He describes the area he considers to be the Catskills, the mountain groupings and the waterways. The reader who does not know the Catskills geography should find himself fairly well oriented. The one who does know will find himself revisiting his old familiar haunts.

Robert W. Service describes another area "where the mountains are nameless and the rivers all flow God knows where." That may well describe the feelings of those who do not know the Catskills, but to Arthur Adams, and one who reads his book, this is not so. He describes the mountain ranges and touches on geology; he describes the streams from their sources to their mouths in such detail that one wonders how it is possible to acquire this information without three lifetimes of walking.

PART II. This section is devoted to a brief but interesting history of the Catskill Region. It is followed by an appendix of miscellaneous facts and fiction relating to the Catskills.

PART III. We are amazed again in Part III. The last 100 pages is an Encyclopedia-Gazetteer. Here almost every nook and corner of the Catskill area is listed. Not only do we have all the place names but descriptions and historical memorabilia.

That is the good news. Now, regretfully, we must mention the bad. While an effort of this size cannot be expected to be perfect, and we must overlook a few errors now and then, this book seems to me to have more errors than it should. Yet, one wonders at the great amount of information that is given in such detail and so accurately that perhaps I should be more charitable than to criticize its mistakes. Perhaps another printing will correct the errors. It is a fine book and I am pleased to have it in my collection.

THE CATSKILLS, LAND IN THE SKY, by John G. Mitchell and Charles D. Winters, \$16.95

This book should be described as beautiful. It is a combination of eloquently written text by Mitchell and magnificent photographs by Winters. The foreword is written by Peter Borelli, the preface by Senator Daniel P. Moynihan, and the introduction by Brooks Atkinson. It is a book that I am proud to possess. It is one that everyone who has concern for the future of the Catskills should see and read.

This is a book of such class that perfection in accuracy as well as appearance is expected. But such is not quite the case. Unfor-

Unfortunately, there are a few errors, both typographical and factual. For instance: Folkerts in Phoenicia is spelled with "V" instead of "F". Their shop is ship. Johannis Hardenbergh, in his petition for the Hardenbergh Patent, had, according to the book seven partners. Actually he had six partners. The seventh came into the picture later as a holdup. A beautiful picture of Otter Falls, up in the head of the Big Indian Valley, graces the jacket of the book. It is reproduced again on page 29 under the caption of Winnisook Road Falls.

These are a few of many errors that could have been avoided if a knowledgeable person had read the galleys. Perfection cannot be attained, but an effort of this magnitude deserves a nearer approach to it.

--Edward G. West, Shandaken, N.Y.

CATSKILL 3500 CLUB

- |      |   |              |
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CATSKILL 3500 CLUB HIKES

- May 7      CORNELL & WITTENBERG CLEAN-UP      This is an opportunity for  
(Sun.)      members and aspirants to  
help remove litter in this heavily used area. Encon will  
provide bags and will haul the collected debris.  
Distance: 7-9 mi. Ascent: 2700' Elev.: 3780', 3865' Order: 14, 9  
Meeting Place: Campground in Woodland Valley at 8:00 a.m.  
Leader: Fred Schmelzer (#140), 116 Summit Ave., Waldwick, N.J.  
201-444-4387      07463
- May 21      OLDERBARK & PLATEAU      A moderate trail hike & bushwhack.  
(Sun.)      A route not scheduled recently.  
Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 2700' Elev.: 3840' Order: 12  
Meeting Place: A&P supermarket on Rt. 212 in Woodstock at 8:30 a.m.  
Leader: Mark Schaeffer (#209), 4 Hilltop Apts., Saugerties, N.Y.  
914-246-9451      12477
- June 3      (ASHOKAN) HIGH POINT      A very scenic trail hike & bush-  
Chapter Sierra Club.      whack. Joint trip with Mid-Hudson  
Distance: 4-5 mi. Ascent: 1600'  
Meeting Place: Please call or write leader for details.  
Leader: Don Rain (#246), 23 Fair Way, Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12603  
914-876-3269
- June 10      LONG PATH TRAIL CLEARING      Help is needed with spring  
maintenance of our section  
of the Long Path which traverses Table & Peekamoose.  
Please bring tools.  
Distance: 1-9 mi. Ascent: 500-2300' Elev.: 3843, 3847' Order: 11, 10  
Meeting Place: Grocery Store in Sundown at 8:00 a.m.  
Leader: Fred Schmelzer (#140), 116 Summit Ave., Waldwick, N.J.  
201-444-4387      07463
- June 17      BLACKHEAD & BLACK DOME      A moderate trail hike to finish  
off the spring season.  
Distance: 6 mi. Ascent: 2500' Elev.: 3940, 3990' Order: 5, 3  
Meeting Place: General Store & Post Office in Maplecrest at 8:30 a.m.  
Leader: Deborah French (#159), Traver Rd., Pleasant Valley, N.Y.  
914-635-8756      12569





# the catskill canister

Vol. XI, No. 3

S U M M E R 1 9 7 8

## WANDERING IN THE CATSKILLS

Sometimes at parties I am introduced as a mountain junkie, and people expect me to regale them with stories of clinging to precipices with my eyelashes and of dodging falling rocks. I have some of these tales, but a number of my best stories--and some of my favorite memories--concern the CATSKILLS, which makes some people downright uncomfortable.

When I approached the CATSKILLS, I did so with ambivalence. Yes, I wanted to climb mountains, but no, I did not want to climb the CATSKILLS. Naturally, I suffered under the delusion borne by most people, that of the CATSKILLS as a region of race tracks, decaying hotels, and neon signs that could blind anyone not wearing polaroid sun shades. Initially, I cared only to climb the two 4000-footers toward my 111, and I did so. I found not wilderness but wildness, which was quite satisfying, so I returned.

My impecunious status as a graduate student and later as a researcher made firm my ties to New Jersey. The White Mountains were assuredly beyond a weekend's striking distance; indeed, the January weekend my friend Scott and I tried Owl's Head in the Pemi, I was late getting back to work--3:30 on Monday afternoon. The 111 and I had reached a temporary impasse.

My first trip to the CATSKILLS was late in the winter, and I spent the first night sleeping on a miniature glacier in the cave on the Wittenberg. The wind was blowing a mixture of rain and pine needles onto my upturned face, and I could not quite make up my mind whether to swallow or to spit. Later on, fog moved in, and I could not see the foot of my sleeping bag. Still later I felt something at my back, and turned to find the world's biggest racoon grinning at me.

One evening in June, I found myself at the edge of the Escarpment on the site of the Catskill Mountain House. The sun was low in the sky, and my shadow cast itself halfway to the Hudson River. At that moment I realized I was hooked on the CATSKILL region. I have returned often since then, mostly to climb the 3500' peaks. Admittedly, I started haphazardly and had racked up over a dozen CATSKILL peaks before I ever saw a topographical map of the area.

I determined that I wanted to complete the project alone. Some people have asked me, "Is trailless climbing alone the safest thing in the world?" I can only answer, "It's safer than driving." Being alone in the mountains has never bothered me, but it does while I drive home; I have sometimes wished for a companion capable of driving, or of keeping me awake with scintillating conversation. Instead, I rely on the car's irritating radio to stave off sleep. Once, I considered wearing my Joe Brown rock-climbing hard hat, so that if I

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fell asleep at the wheel I would stand a chance of surviving a crash but I decided to camp instead and thereby to make everyone safer. Sometimes I found myself talking to the trees and shrubs by Sunday morning. All the same, I was reluctant to share my CATSKILL trips. Several times when the girl I was seeing suggested that we hike together in the CATSKILLS, I changed the topic of conversation.

Unlike in other Eastern ranges, I have seen more deer than people almost every time out in the CATSKILLS. I have also seen quite a few porcupines, one of them trying to eat my car, Rollerskate. Mr. or Ms. Porcupine menaced me with 30,000 quills when I criticized his/her choice of breakfast, and only ambled off when he/she realized that I was yelling too loud for him/her to enjoy his/her meal.

The worst blowdown I encountered was on a bushwhack up Friday, when I came up from the Neversink too close to Cornell. There I learned the origin of the expression, "That's as easy as falling off a log." Persevering--at a snail's pace--I won through and chalked up Friday to clean living, a liberal education, and being thin enough to pass through the scrubby trees. Blowdown resulted in bloodshed on Rocky: I lost a fight with a branch which took a chunk out of my right hand. I bled like a stuck pig until I bandaged myself, and on Monday I enjoyed the sympathy of my co-workers, who thought I had been injured.

For a while I was worried that I would finish the 3500' peaks too quickly. This thought dawned on me the April day I decided, having hiked up Table and Peekamoose, to continue on to Lone, Rocky, and Balsam Cap. I left the summit of Peekamoose at 11:30, signed in on Lone at 12:30, on Rocky at 1:30, and on Balsam Cap at 2:30. By logical extension, I could capture Friday at 3:30 and undoubtedly be caught by darkness; I headed straight down to the Neversink from Balsam Cap, singing John Denver songs as I walked through the open woods.

Every time I am on the Devil's Path, I look everywhere for covens of witches performing their odd rituals, but so far I have had no luck. In gloomy weather the Devil's Path is aptly named, for the dark rock ledges, the sound of running water, and the absence of light beneath the tree canopies all contribute to a nether world effect. A special place.

As spring moved the green line of leaves higher up the mountains, finding the summit registers on the trailless peaks became challenging and, on Friday and Fir, time consuming. I praised orange canisters for their high visibility.

There have been disagreeable times, too. On Doubletop in August a thunderstorm overtook me just after I left the summit, and the stream bed I was following down became an inclined skating rink. I slipped and stumbled endlessly. On Bearpen in October, a careless

hunter zinged a shot over my head. Appropriately enraged, I cursed him roundly and then asked, "Do I look like a grouse?" I was nervous for days afterwards and had to give up watching violent shows like Kojak. For the rest of the fall I cowered in the deepest recesses of a library.

A constituent analysis of the CATSKILLS shows that they are composed of sedimentary rock, slippery moss, a bit of blowdown, and a lot of bugs or snow, depending upon the season. The word peak brings to mind a pinnacle cleaving the sky, so climbing in the CATSKILLS is not strictly peak bagging; think of it rather as plateau collecting.

Mountains in general and the CATSKILLS in particular mean a great deal to me. I was very proud when, having written of some of my CATSKILL adventures to a friend in Seattle, I received by return mail a postcard addressed to "The Katskill Kid."

--Robert A. Forrest, Randolph, N.J.

### CANISTERS

The Catskill 3500 Club maintains canisters on the tops of the twelve trailless peaks and one on the Long Path Trail on top of Table Mountain. Each canister contains a notebook for hikers to sign. Our Club is responsible for maintaining the portion of the Long Path Trail from the Denning Lean-to, south over Table and Peekamoose Mountain to Gulf Road (Peekamoose Road). The purpose of the canister on this trail is to provide a record of trail usage.

A canister replacement program has been in progress for the past two years and was completed in March 1978. The purpose of this article is to serve as a record of what has been done so that as maintenance becomes necessary, it will be a source of information for future Canister Chairmen.

Our biggest problems in keeping the canisters serviceable are weather and porcupines. The porcupines gnaw at the painted finish on the metal boxes, exposing some metals to rust. They also chew up aluminum; therefore, the use of aluminum exterior parts must be avoided.

Eleven of the canisters are reconditioned steel electrical boxes with stainless steel latches, brass mounting straps, and brass nameplates. The canisters on Fir and Big Indian are G. I. 30 cal. Ammo boxes, which are being used as an experiment to determine if they are suitable for our application. If this proves to be the case, they can be considered as a convenient source for boxes with only minor modifications required. We also have five boxes in reserve for future use.

The paint used is Rustoleum, 4 parts orange #1151 and 1 part Red #1210. With periodic repainting, we expect years of service from the boxes now in use. As replacement becomes necessary, consideration should be given to reusing the brass mounting straps, the brass nameplates, stainless steel catches, and stainless steel hinges.

The boxes on North Dome, Lone, and Double Top are mounted on dead trees which are quite sturdy. When it becomes necessary to re-

mount the box on Lone Mountain, it will probably be relocated within a 50-foot radius on a suitable tree that is not obstructed.

The dates of replacement are as follows:

Rocky.....	Mar. 1976	Double Top..	Nov. 1977	North Dome..	Dec. 1977
Lone.....	Nov. 1976	Rusk.....	Nov. 1977	Sherill.....	Jan. 1978
Balsam Cap..	Apr. 1977	Halcott.....	Nov. 1977	Big Indian..	Jan. 1978
Friday.....	Apr. 1977	Fir.....	Dec. 1977	Table.....	Mar. 1978
Vly.....	Nov. 1977				

Hikers are requested to use the sign-in space in the notebooks sparingly, and to inform the Canister Chairman or an officer of the Club if any problem exists with canisters, or if notebooks require replacement.

--Roy Messaros, Franklin Lakes, N.J.

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- #278 Robert A. Forrest 4/15/78 201-361-7983  
9 Maple Drive, Randolph, N.J. 07801
- #279 Marjorie Seymour 1/28/78  
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- #280 Gail Arends 5/7/78  
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- #281 Michael Fitzmaurice 5/7/78 914-758-6662  
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1978 OFFICERS & CHAIRMEN

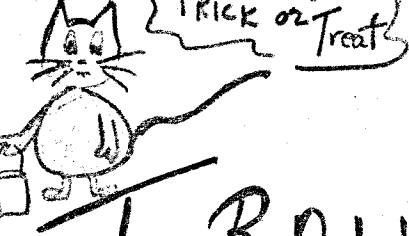
President, Roy Messaros; Past President, Franklin B. Clark; First Vice President, Jonathan B. Clement; Second Vice President, Deborah P. French; Secretary, Phyllis Wirth; Treasurer, David L. Clapper; Canisters, Roy Messaros; Conservation, Rev. Ray L. Donahue; Information, Kenneth A. Shuker; Membership, Elinore G. Leavitt; Outings, Carl A. Zwingli; "The Catskill Canister", Franklin B. Clark; Trails, Fred Schmelzer; Winter Weekend, Walter L. Gregory.

THE PERIPATETIC PORCUPINE

We are anticipating an article by the scion of #68 and #150, who carries the appellative cognomen of Heather Jane Root-Clement.

CATSKILL 3500 CLUB HIKES

- Sept. 9      WINDHAM HIGH PEAK      An easy trail hike to the midpoint of the northeastern escarpment.  
Distance: 6 mi. Ascent: 1800' Elev.: 3524' Order: 32  
Meeting Place: Warm's Restaurant in Tannersville at 8:30 a.m.  
Leader: N. Jansen Fowler (#250), 21 John St., U.P.O. Box 457,  
914-331-3011 (Res.) 914-331-0788 (Bus.) Kingston, N.Y. 12401
- Sept. 16      ADIRONDACK HIGH PEAKS      Ranger Fish will lead another strenuous 15-mile hike from Keene Valley or Adirondack Loj, probably as part of a day's patrol. Call leader for details including equipment.  
Leader: C. Peter Fish (#12), Box 43, Hulls Falls Rd., Keene, N.Y. 518-576-4796 12942
- Oct. 1      LONG PATH TRAIL CLEARING      Members & aspirants can assist with the maintenance of the Club's section of the L.P. Those helping may be able to clear their way to the top of Peekamoose and/or Table.  
Distance: 1-9 mi. Ascent: 500-2300' Elev.: 3843', 3847' Order: 11, 10  
Meeting Place: Grocery store in Sundown at 8:00 a.m. or call leader to arrange a more convenient place.  
Leader: Fred Schmelzer (#140), 116 Summit Ave., Waldwick, N.J. 201-444-4387 07463
- Sept. 29 - Oct. 1      ADK FALL OUTING
- Oct. 8      WESTKILL      A moderate trail hike from Diamond Notch.  
Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 2100' Elev.: 3880' Order: 6  
Meeting Place: Jnct. Rt. 42 & Spruceton Rd. at 9:00 a.m.  
Leader: James Lynch (#228), Box 403, Margaretville, N.Y. 12455 914-586-4400
- Oct. 21      SHINGLE GULLY CREVICES      An interesting trail & bushwhack hike through 80-foot crevices in the Shawangunks.  
Distance: 10 mi.  
Meeting Place: Coachman Diner in Ellenville on Rt. 209 at 9:00 a.m.  
Leader: Tom Millard (#210), 332 Haverstraw Rd., Suffern, N.Y. 914-354-5649 10901
- Nov. 4      FRIDAY & CORNELL      Strenuous bushwhack up slide on Friday over ridge to Cornell.  
Distance: 6 mi. Ascent: 2800' Elev.: 3694', 3865' Order: 18, 9  
Meeting Place: Jnct. Rts. 28 & 28A in Boiceville at 8:30 a.m.  
Leader: Jim Daley (#51), Upton Lake Rd., Clinton Corners, N.Y. 914-266-3007 12514
- Nov. 18      WITTENBERG      Strenuous bushwhack from Traver Hollow over Samuels Point.  
Distance: 8 mi. Ascent: 3100' Elev.: 3780' Order: 14  
Meeting Place: Jnct. Rts. 28 & 28A in Boiceville at 8:30 a.m.  
Leader: Sam Steen (#92), 6 DuBois St., Kingston, N.Y. 12401 914-331-1010
- Nov. 20 - Dec. 12      DEER SEASON (firearm) in CATSKILLS.      No scheduled hikes.

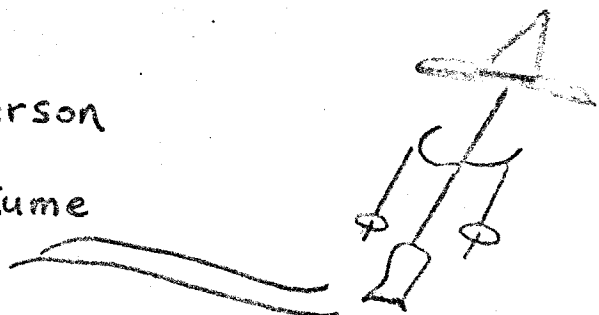


# T RAIL SWEEPERS ANNUAL HALLOWEEN PARTY

At: Twin Lakes Mountain House  
When: After regular meeting (8:30 p.m.)  
Oct. 26<sup>th</sup>, 1978

With: Live recorded music!  
Dancing  
FREE Beer  
Refreshments  
Prizes for Best Costumes  
Door Prizes

Admission: \$1.50 per person  
Only \$ .50 with costume





# the catskill canister

Vol. XI, No. 4

A U T U M N 1 9 7 8

## HELMSLEY TO FILEY ON THE CLEVELAND WAY

In September 1974 when I reached Katahdin to complete my end-to-end hike on the Appalachian Trail, I hoped that it would not be the last of my long-distance hiking. About two years later Chris and I decided to take an extended hike in England, a country we had enjoyed during a trip to Europe in 1973. We had some difficulty in getting information on trails in England until we learned about the Rambler's Association, a hiking club based in London. We wrote for details and found that there are at least ten long-distance trails in England, the most famous being the Pennine Way. Because that was too long for us with our limited time, we decided to look for a Way which we could complete in an unhurried fashion in about ten days. We found the Rambler's Association Headquarters tucked away in a back alley of London, and after consulting with staff there, decided to hike the Cleveland Way. This footpath is located in Yorkshire and is a comfortable 100 miles in length. What intrigued us most was that the path travels through the moors for about 50 miles before reaching the coast and heading south along high cliffs. We thought this would give us a great variety of terrain and views.

After spending two days in London, we headed north by train and hitchhiked to the town of Helmsley, where we began our jaunt. As we started out, we saw the first of many castles. Most were in ruins, but enough remained to stir visions of the life which went on within and around their walls. Soon after, we passed the remains of Rievaulx Abbey which again inspired the imagination. A few miles from Helmsley we reached the western escarpment of the North York Moors and began walking northward along its edge. We were immediately impressed by the expanse of treeless heather-covered moorland to our right and the beautiful farming country to our left. We followed the escarpment for the next several days, dipping down into the valley on occasion to pass through a small village. We spent all our nights but one in bed-and-breakfast homes, and in this way met some of the local farm and village people. We spent one night in our tent on the Cringle Moor, surrounded by sheep. The only shower came that night. We found ourselves in the midst of a critical drought for England, and soon realized that most of our water had to be obtained from houses along the way. Almost all springs were dry; those which we did find were questionable because of the large number of sheep which invariably frequented the area around them. In addition to water problems, we found that the Way was not as clearly marked as our trails back home. An occasional "acorn" stenciled on a fencepost or rock would confirm we were on the route, but without our guidebook and its maps we would have been frequently lost. We rather enjoyed the challenge of keeping on the route, and only became seriously lost on one occasion. Our maps showed that there were hundreds of public footpaths which the Way followed here and there, and crossed

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Franklin B. Clark, Editor, 10 So. Washington St., Athens, N.Y. 12015  
Elinore G. Leavitt, Associate Editor, Joslen Blvd., Hudson, N.Y. 12534  
Deborah P. French, Asst. Editor, Traver Rd., Pleasant Valley, N.Y. 12569

on occasion, confusing the route at times. The footpaths were centuries old and had served as routes for people going from farm to farm and town to town. They sometimes followed old Roman Roads. Tumuli (burial mounds) were commonly seen along them. Like trails at home, some of the footpaths have disappeared through disuse or through illegal closure by farmers or other landowners. One of the Rambler's Association's primary functions is to keep the Public Footpaths open.

Four days after leaving Helmsley we reached the coast at a town called Saltburn-by-the-Sea. Here the Way headed south along the ocean, through quaint fishing villages and not-so-quaint resort towns and across cliffs several hundred feet above the sea. While the region was heavily populated and crowded due to the summer vacation, we thoroughly enjoyed the views of oceans and cliffs, as well as our walks through the narrow cobblestone streets of the villages. Our favorite village was Staithes, a tiny fishing port tucked in a small cove. The boats barely had room in their moorings, and the houses were perched on the cliffs around them. Seagulls were everywhere, and we noted that the women wore kerchiefs as protection against their bombardment. This beautiful scenery was occasionally marred by concrete observation bunkers, remnants of World War II.

While walking along the coast we discovered that busses ran regularly between towns along the Way. We began using them as a shuttle service, leaving our heavy packs at a youth hostel for the day, and hiking back to the hostel after being let off by the bus somewhere along the Way. Our last two nights were spent at a hostel in a cove called Boggle Hole, near Robin Hood's Bay. Here, hostellers enjoyed taking evening strolls along the base of the cliff. It was not unusual to hear of someone getting caught by the tide, and warning signs were numerous. On the ninth day of our trip we left Boggle Hole, hiked through the ancient town of Scarborough and finished our journey at Filey. From there we hitchhiked back to Helmsley, where we stayed at a bed-and-breakfast home before spending a few days in the Lake District.

For anyone who enjoys being in another country but does not enjoy trying to cope with a foreign language, likes castles and abbeys and genuine fish-and-chips, and would just as soon pull into a bed-and-breakfast as a lean-to, England is the place to go for a long hike.

--Jonathan Clement, East Greenbush, N.Y.

#### LOST AND FOUND

A whole envelope of Club records was lost in the mail in 1977 at the time of the changeover from Kenneth Shuker to Deborah French of the mailing responsibility for THE CATSKILL CANISTER. We hope that subscribers who missed copies of the newsletter have already



let either Ken or Debby know. If, however, anyone has not received issues for which he paid, he may request the same from the editor. The persons affected were chiefly new subscribers.

CATSKILL 3500 CLUB

- #282 William M. Wilber 7/11/78 914-687-0110  
Box 354, Peak Rd., Stone Ridge, N.Y. 12484
- #283 Harold Oakhill 8/16/78 914-876-4761  
38 Appletree Dr., Rhinebeck, N.Y. 12572
- #284 Harry B. Sokol 9/3/78  
#285 Yetta Sokel 9/3/78  
6 Jefferson Ave., Hicksville, N.Y. 11801
- #286 Philip Levy 9/10/78 516-437-5664  
952 Maple Dr., Franklin Square, N.Y. 11010
- #287 Marie Shafer 10/15/78  
#288 Robert Shafer 10/15/78 607-586-4669  
Box 342, Margaretville, N.Y. 12455
- #289 Winifred J. Clark 10/20/78 518-945-1413  
10 So. Washington St., Athens, N.Y. 12015

THE PERIPATETIC PORCUPINE

Our New England cousin reports that #248 has qualified for the 111 Club, as well as the New England 100 Highest. \* \* \* \* From the north country comes the news that #12 & #54 have another fingerling who has been tagged Kathryn Ann.

CATSKILL 3500 CLUB HIKES

- Dec. 16 INDIAN HEAD, TWIN, SUGARLOAF, & PLATEAU A strenuous hike on the Devil's Path.
- Distance: 12 mi. Ascent: 4300' Elev.: 3573, 3640, 3800, 3840'  
Order: 39, 22, 13, 12
- Meeting Place: Parking lot just above Devil's Tombstone Campsite at 8:30 a.m.
- Co-leaders: (Hikers may call either leader) Don Deem (#214),  
35 Henry St., Succasunna, N.J. 07876, 201-584-4717  
Don Seeger, (#215), 32 N. Hillside Ave., Succasunna, N.J.  
201-584-4681 07876
- Dec. 23 SLIDE A requirement for 3500 Club membership. Joint hike with North Jersey Chapter ADK.
- Distance: 6 mi. Ascent: 1650' Elev.: 4180' Order: 1
- Meeting Place: Village Bakeshop in Phoenicia at 8:30 a.m.
- Leader: Cy Whitney (#266), Morley Drive, Wyckoff, N.J. 07481  
201-447-2653

(hikes continued on page 4)

Jan. 6      WITTENBERG & CORNELL      A trail hike. Joint hike with North Jersey Chapter ADK.  
 Distance: 12 mi. Ascent: 2700' Elev.: 3780, 3865' Order: 14, 9  
 Meeting Place: Village Bakeshop in Phoenicia at 8:00 a.m.  
 Leader: Fred Schmelzer (#140), R. D. 1, Box 433A, Pine Bush, N.Y. 12566  
 914-361-3629

Jan. 13      NORTH LAKE SKI TOUR      Easy ski tour in the scenic escarpment area at North Lake.  
 Distance: 5 miles  
 Meeting Place: Entrance to North Lake Campsite (follow signs from Haines Falls) at 10:00 a.m.  
 Leader: Sam Owen (#206), 52 Newman St., Metuchen, N.J. 08840  
 201-548-5875 weekdays; 914-657-6736 weekends

Jan. 20      WINDHAM HIGH PEAK      A trail hike to the midpoint of the northeastern escarpment.  
 Distance: 6 mi. Ascent: 1800' Elev.: 3524' Order: 32  
 Meeting Place: General Store & Post Office at Maplecrest at 9:30 a.m.  
 Leader: Tom Millard (#210), 332 Haverstraw Road, Suffern, N.Y. 10901  
 914-354-5649

Jan. 26, 27, 28      CATSKILL WINTER WEEKEND      Hiking and ski touring in the area around Alpine Inn, at Oliveria. Reserve by Jan. 17.

Feb. 4      BLACKHEAD      A requirement for 3500 Club membership.  
 Distance: 5 mi. Ascent: 2000' Elev.: 3940' Order: 5  
 Meeting Place: Ramada Inn parking lot at Kingston just off Thruway and across Rt. 28 from Howard Johnson's at 8:00 a.m.  
 Leader: John Kennedy (#247), P. O. Box 122, Rhinebeck, N.Y. 12572  
 914-876-3269 home; 914-876-2055 office

Feb. 17      FIR & BIG INDIAN      Moderately strenuous bushwhack to two trailless peaks.  
 Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 2100' Elev.: 3625, 3680' Order: 23, 20  
 Meeting Place: Village Bakeshop in Phoenicia at 8:30 a.m.  
 Leader: Ralph Johns (#172), 18 Riekens Trail, Denville, N.J. 07834  
 201-625-1648

Feb. 23-26      WINTER WEEKEND AT ADIRONDACK LOJ      Hiking & ski touring in the Adirondack high peaks. Reserve by Dec. 30, 1978.

Feb. 24      PANTHER      A requirement for 3500 Club membership. A strenuous route will be followed if the weather is suitable.  
 Distance: 9 mi. Ascent: 2700' Elev.: 3720' Order: 17  
 Meeting Place: Village Bakeshop in Phoenicia at 8:30 a.m.  
 Leader: Will Merritt (#22), 106 Oak St., Lincroft, N.J. 07738  
 201-842-0497

CATSKILL WINTER WEEKEND

January 27, 28, 1979 - at The Alpine Inn, Oliverea, N.Y. 12462.  
 South of Rt. 28 at Big Indian, N.Y. Tel.: 914-254-5026.

Reservations: \$10.00 per person must arrive by Jan. 17. Make check payable to Walter L. Gregory, registrar, and mail to Walter L. Gregory, 8 Wall Ave., Valhalla, N.Y. 10595. Tel.: 914-949-7567.

All rooms have twin beds. Rates are based on double occupancy. Please specify preference of roommate, if any. Room assignments will be in the order of receipt of reservations. Edelweiss has 4 rooms with private bath & 8 rooms with semi-private. des Alps has private bath in all rooms. Extra dinner Friday evening - \$5.00 plus tax & gratuity. Extra dinner Sat. evening and/or Sun. - \$8.00 plus tax & gratuity.

.....  
 Arrival Friday evening after dinner (2 nights lodging, 2 breakfasts, 1 dinner)

_____ Edelweiss	\$45. per person	} includes tax & gratuity
_____ des Alps	\$50. per person	

Arrival Saturday for dinner (1 night lodging, 1 breakfast, 1 dinner)

_____ Edelweiss	\$28.50 per person	} includes tax & gratuity
_____ des Alps	\$33.00 per person	

\_\_\_\_\_ Friday evening dinner. \_\_\_\_\_ Sunday afternoon dinner.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ deposit enclosed for \_\_\_\_\_ persons. Roommate \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

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ADIRONDACK LOJ WEEKEND, LAKE PLACID, N.Y.

February 23-26, 1979. Reservations must be in by Dec. 30, 1978. Bunk with three meals - \$23.50 plus tax and 10% service charge. ADK members may deduct 15%. Send check for \$10.00 each to Mrs. Wm. H. Leavitt, Joslen Blvd., Hudson, N.Y. 12534 (payable to Mrs. Leavitt)

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 Please reserve the following for Feb. 23-26, 1979 at Adirondack Loj:

	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Lodging
Friday, 23				
Saturday, 24				
Sunday, 25				
Monday, 26				

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ check enclosed, for \_\_\_\_\_ men &/or \_\_\_\_\_ women.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_