



On the Western Slope



November 19, 2009

Annual Dinner/Chapter Election Meeting

**Crossgates Restaurant and Banquet House
Washington Ave Extension & Rapp Rd, Albany**

*Program: Roger Scholl, AMC Director of Volunteer Operations and Mountaineer
"Mount McKinley-Expedition to North America's Highest Mountain"*

*Social Hour 5:30-6:30
Dinner 6:30 followed by
Business Meeting and Program*

Dinner Choices: Baked Atlantic Salmon; Roast Sirloin of Beef; Stuffed Chicken Breast

*Reservation checks @\$26/pp payable to AMC/MH must be received by November 7:
Send check, including your dinner choice(s) and phone number to
Evelyn Dufur, 14 Huckleberry Road, Castleton NY 12033*

The Chapter Has a New Website, Webmaster, & Conservation Chair

Our new webmaster, Jeff Carden, has designed a wonderful and practical website for our chapter to take the place of the one we have been using for ten years. Thanks go to Charlie Hatch for his developing the website and for being our webmaster for so long. Jeff is an IT professional and a third generation AMC member, a winning combination for MH's webmaster.

You are urged to check it out, bookmark or put it on your computer desktop, and to use it frequently. Jeff is continually adding things, and keeping announcements right up to date. He welcomes your ideas, and really wants to help us in any way he can. So go to www.amcmohawkudson.org and see it for yourself!

Arthur Fontjin has volunteered to be the chapter's Conservation Committee chair and member of the Executive Committee. Anyone who would like to also help with this newly rejuvenated committee or offer ideas, should contact Art at 477-7992 or fontia@verizon.net.

The New Chapter Website and You

Communication with and among chapter members should be easier and faster now that our new chapter website is up and running smoothly. It is one of several electronic communication tools available to members to receive information in a more timely manner. Use the website for the latest and previous issues of On the Western Slope. WS will be posted as soon as it goes to the printer, about 10 – 14 days before it appears in your mailbox. If you register at the AMC Member Center (possible from our website) and opt out of the print format, you will receive an email notice when WS is available for you to read, download, or print from our chapter website.

The website includes an activities section which lists both hikes in the printed in WS and hikes and other activities added after WS was printed. News items and announcements from the officers and other members will be routinely added. The website also features Trip Reports of recent hikes, archives of meeting minutes, photos from hikes, resources for hikers, and many links to other hiking and natural resource websites. Of course, there are links to AMC and the other chapters.

The website also includes a space for you to enter your email address to become a member of the chapter's Yahoo Groups email announcement forum (amcmh) that will be used to update you by email about changes and additions to the chapters activities.



www.amcmohawkudson.org

Chapter Nominations

In accordance with the by-laws, the Nominating Committee presents these nominations for the year 2010. Chair: Walter Herrod; Vice Chair: Sharon Bonk; Treasurer: Myra Fedyniak; Secretary: Kathleen Helfrich.

Chapter By-laws provide that any five Chapter members desiring to place additional candidates in nomination may do so by sending to the current Secretary a nominating paper stating the office to be filled, the proposed candidate(s) name(s), and written verification of consent from the nominee(s) to serve if elected. The nomination must be post-marked no later than ten days before the Annual Meeting scheduled for November 19 2009.

Nominating Committee: Gerry Weber; Chris Grossman; Kendra Pratt

Leadership

Workshop/Nov. 7

Want to become more involved in the MH Chapter? Join in a Leadership Workshop on Saturday, November 7, from 9:15AM-4PM covering topics such as group dynamics, safety/emergency response, liability, setting goals, and is appropriate for leading outdoor activities as well as chapter committees. Randy and Amy MacDonald will host the workshop at their home in Nassau. Bring your lunch and plan on some time outdoors. RSVP/Directions: 766-7675; randy04415@yahoo.com.

Mohawk-Hudson Chapter Executive Committee 2009

Evelyn Dufur, Co-Chair
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Sharon Bonk, Secretary & Western Slope Editor
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Myra Fedyniak, Treasurer
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Kendra Pratt, Communications & PR Chair
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Billy Dufur, Membership Chair
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Kevin Cox, Outings Chair
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Arthur Fontijn, Conservation Chair
Phone: 477-7992, E-Mail: fontia@verizon.net

Phone numbers are area code (518) unless noted.

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Mohawk-Hudson Chapter Outings

Oct. - Nov. - Dec. 2009

Reminder: The Mid-Week Hikers welcome you to join them on their Wednesday outings. Although not all events are listed on this schedule, mid week outings are for those of you who are able to take a break during the week. If you would like to join this enthusiastic group, please contact Evelyn Dufur at 518-477-7132 for details.

Hiking at a Relaxed Pace (HARP) is a group that usually bikes on Wednesdays or Thursdays. If you would like to join this group, please contact Frank or Dee Wind 518-458-1781 or we_tell@verizon.net for details.

October

Sunday October 4, Walkway Over the Hudson Grand Opening C-3-C

Join me for the grand opening of the Walkway Over the Hudson, an old train bridge turned trail over the Hudson River @ Poughkeepsie. Time & meeting place TBD. Leader: Myra Fedyniak, myra_fedyniak@yahoo.com

Tuesday October 6, Dickenson Fire Tower, Grafton, NY C-3-C

We will walk along Long Pond Road via the Fire Tower Trail to the restored Dickinson Fire Tower. We will have lunch at the summit and allow small groups to climb the tower and enjoy this panoramic scenery. We will return to our cars via the Chet Bell Trail We will meet at the Wal-Mart parking lot in Brunswick on route 7 at 9:30 AM. Ascent c. 300 ft; distance, 2 miles RT. Car mileage will be about 25 miles round-trip. Leader: Phil Fountain, pfounta1@nycap.rr.com,

Sunday, October 11, Catskills: Blackhead Range Traverse B-2-B

A through hike with car shuttle. Leader: Ken Hubert, hikeleader3500@yahoo.com, 718-463-5675, M-TH after 3 pm or 518-827-7327 Friday or Saturday.

Sunday, October 11, Nippletop and Dial Mountains AA-3-A

We will hike up the Leach Trail from Dial Mt and to Nippletop. From Nippletop, we will hike down to Elk Pass and follow the Lake Road. The distance is 13.1 miles and the ascent is 4000 feet. Leader: Kevin Cox, 279-4839 (before 9pm please), mmcloug1@nycap.rr.com

Tuesday, October 13 French Mountain, Queensbury, NY B-3-B

We will walk one mile on the Warren County Bike Trail before following the marked trail to the summit of French Mountain. Meet at the Northway Exit 9 Park and Ride off Fire Road

at 9:30 AM. Ascent, 900 ft, distance 4 miles RT. Car mileage will be about 90 miles round-trip. Leader: Phil Fountain, pfounta1@nycap.rr.com

Wednesday, October 14, Moreau Lake State Park, Adirondacks C-3-B

Join us for an exploration of the trails that begin at the Moreau Lake Campground, near Glens Falls, NY. Should be plenty of fall foliage. Good beginners' get-to-know you hike. Distance about 4 miles, ascent less than 400 ft. Leader: Wally Herrod, bwherrod, fairpoint.net, 758-9463

Saturday, October 17, Bromley Mt, Vermont B-3-B

We will spot cars and start at Mad Tom Notch, and ascend from the north following the AT (3260 elevation), descending via ski trail and the brightly colored forest to the Rt 11/30. Ascent, c. 1450ft; distance 5.2 miles. Leader: Sharon Bonk, sboqc@mindspring.com, 674-0042

Tuesday, October 20, Sleeping Beauty Mountain, Hogtown, NY B-3-C

This hike will be a moderate stroll to great summit. Depending on road or trail conditions, we will either start from Hogtown (Ascent 1038, 6.8 miles RT) or from Dacy Clearing (Ascent, 700ft; distance 3.8 miles RT). We will meet at the Northway Exit 9 Park and Ride off Fire Road at 9:30 AM. Car mileage will be about 130 miles round-trip. Leader: Phil Fountain pfounta1@nycap.rr.com

Saturday, October 24, North Lake and the Escarpment Trail Catskills B-3-B

This is a great time of year to be up high and enjoying those long views across the Hudson River toward New England. If you haven't experienced the North Lake area, this is a great chance for you. The hiking is rocky, and

there are some steep sections, to add interest. Add the fall colors and a stop for great local ice cream, and this is a fine way to spend a day. L: Wally Herrod, bwherrod@fairpoint.net, 758-9463

Tuesday October 27 Mount Greylock, Lanesboro, MA B-3-B

Mt. Greylock is the highest point in MA (3491 ft.), providing great views of northwest MA and part of NY and VT. We will hike via the Cheshire Harbor Trail to the summit. Ascent c2100 ft; distance, 8 miles RT. We will meet at the Walmart parking lot off Route 7 in Brunswick at 9:00 AM. Car mileage will be about 85 miles round-trip. Leader: Phil Fountain, pfounta1@nycap.rr.com

November

Wednesday, November 11 (Veteran's Day), Sage's Ravine and Bear Mt. B-3-B

Spectacular Sage's Ravine, on the Appalachian Trail in western MA, is a must see, and I come back time after time in different seasons. It is an area of many waterfalls and cascades. Depending on the group's preference, we may also hike up nearby Bear Mt. for its expansive views. Elev. 2,316 ft; ascent c. 750 ft; distance 6 miles RT. Leader: Wally Herrod, bwherrod@fairpoint.net, 758-9463

Saturday, November 21, Hadley Mt. Fire Tower Adirondacks C-3-B

Views from Hadley's summit are among the most spectacular in the Adirondacks. This is a favorite year around and a good chance to experience a hike on a very interesting trail. Bring a camera! Vertical rise 1,550 ft; distance 4 miles, RT. L: Wally Herrod, bwherrod@fairpoint.net, 758-9463

Sunday, November 22 , Mt. Colden AA-3-A

The plan is to hike up Mt. Colden from Lake Arnold via the L. Morgan Porter Trail and return the same way. Ascent, 2535; distance is 12.6 miles. Expect winter conditions; bring stabilizers or crampons. Leader: Kevin Cox 279-4839 (before 9pm, please), mmclou1@nycap.rr.com

December

Saturday, December 5, Rooster Comb Mt. Adirondacks B-3-B

We will hike up the new Jim Goodwin Trail from Keene Valley to this peak with a broad

summit ledge and good views. It is the start of the famous Great Range in the High Peaks. With leaves off the trees, there should be vistas for most of the way. Winter clothing and gear should be brought, and the leader can help you decide. A stop at The Mountaineer store will be part of the trip, and likely some pie at the Noonmark Diner. Ascent, 1750; distance, 5 miles RT. Leader: Wally Herrod, bwherrod@fairpoint.net, 758-9463

Saturday, December 12, Hopkins Memorial Forest, Williamstown MA 3-C-3

Upper and lower loop trails will give us 4.2 moderate miles. Options for extensions include steep 1.5 mile ascent and descent to Taconic Crest Trail or 2 miles of the Hoosic River Trail at the eastern edge of Hopkins Forest. Leader: Sharon Bonk, sboqc@mindspring.com, 674-0042

Sunday, December 13, Fifth Peak of Tongue Mt. Adirondacks. B-3-C

This summit has fine views of Lake George and Vermont, and a lean-to for a leisurely lunch (think hot soup!) on top. The trail features beautiful hemlock forests, falls, and glades. Likely instep crampons or Stabilizers will be needed. Elev. 1500 ft; Ascent 1400 ft; distance, 5.2 miles RT. Leader: Wally Herrod, bwherrod@fairpoint.net, 758-9463

Sunday December 20 Panther Mt Catskills B-3-A

We will start from the Giant Ledges trail to Panther Mountain. Ascent 1545 ft; distance is 5.2. We may need stabilizers or crampons. Leader: Kevin Cox, 279-4839 (before 9 PM, please), mmclou1@nycap.rr.com

Friday, January 1 Snowshoe/Ski & Potluck Lunch, Schodack State Park

Save the date for our annual New Years Day outing, chapter meeting and potluck hosted by Dee and Frank Wind. Meet at 10AM at Schodack SP Lunch RSVP: 459-1781 or we_tell@verizon.net

Please note that all hikes require advance registration. Please contact the leader for information about hike difficulty, meeting time and place, and carpooling. All numbers are 518 unless otherwise noted.

New Members May-July 2009

- Janice Adams Burnt Hills
- John Addu Claverack
- Carol Ashby Castleton
- Daria Belevich Queensbury
- Makay laBoden Schuylerville
- Ruth Burday Troy
- Pilar Burnett Schenectady
- Robert Chase Schenectady
- Margaret Cipperly Troy
- Michael Clarke Glenmont
- Stacey Coppey East Greenbush
- John Crist Sr. Rensselaer
- Donald Cropsey Schenectady
- James Davis Glens Falls
- John Doyle Bolton Landing
- Dan Forget Castleton
- Emily Gallagher Delmar
- Martha Greene Rensselaer
- Marilyn Greitzer Spencertown
- Rachel Grimm Albany
- Patrick Higgins Albany
- Gordon Hobday Schenectady
- Marilyn Huber Albany
- Carol Kobuskie Troy
- David Koehler Claverack
- Merle Longwood Schenectady
- Jan MacLanchlin Fort Plain
- Margaret Mangano Saratoga Springs
- Todd Matthew Troy
- Denis Mault Troy
- Richard Molloy Queensbury
- R. Dennis O'Leary Albany
- Ray Palmer Glenville
- Mary Riehman Schenectady
- Paul Russell Latham
- Anthony Savarese Copake
- Toni Schaeffer Delanson
- Christopher Shaw Delmar
- Peter Smith Putnam Station
- George Steele Amsterdam
- John Tiff Delmar
- Ruth Yetto Ballston Lake

Volunteers Wanted: Membership Chair and Committee Members

The Membership Committee performs the important and invaluable role of sustaining the chapter by recruiting new members, communicating with them about the chapter and its activities. The chair is a member of the chapter Executive Committee attending its bimonthly meetings and the four chapter meetings. The chair also is liaison to AMC Membership Office for questions, reports, mail label production and other administrative tasks. The new chair will attend a training meeting at AMC headquarters in Boston in January. Committee members organize new member events, greet members at meetings, answer questions about the chapter from prospective members. Examples of Membership Committee responsibility: recruitment brochures, social activities for new members, follow-up with new members as their names are communicated to the chapter. Your service on this committee will make a difference and an important contribution to the vitality of the chapter! Current Membership chair, Billy Dufur, will mentor you. Please contact Wally Herrod or Enny Dufur if you are willing to serve. Thank you.

