



On the Western Slope

Chapter Chair



Greetings everyone,

Summer is now upon us! We will hold our summer picnic on Thursday July 11th at Peebles Island State Park. Details of this event are included in this edition of the Western Slope.

AMC will be celebrating 150 years of existence in 2026 and is now planning for *AMC 150*. Similar to *AMC Vision 2020*, *AMC 150* is broken into segments to include:

- *AMC Mission* is dedicated to protecting, enjoying, and understanding the outdoors.
- *AMC Vision* envisions a world where being outdoors is a part of people's everyday lives and where our natural resources are healthy, loved, and protected.
- *AMC Core Values* are the outdoors is for everyone, lifelong learning, intrinsic worth of the outdoors, active stewardship and sustainability, and leadership and fun.
- *AMC Strategic Themes* include active conservation, being outdoors, and recreational network.

During July, AMC will be conducting a survey to solicit member input to *AMC 150*; please watch your mailbox and plan to participate in this survey.

John Tift has stepped down as Trails and Conservation Chair. John has been an enthusiastic leader on our chapter Executive Committee, a dedicated trail steward, and an active liaison to

many local conservation organizations. He will be sorely missed, and we thank him for all his efforts on behalf of the chapter and AMC.

We do have excellent opportunities for members to flourish and excel as one of our committee chairs: 20s & 30s, trails, conservation, or membership. If you have any questions about filling any chair vacancy or an interest in helping out, please feel free to contact me.

Have a great summer and I look forward to seeing you out on the trails!

Kevin Cox

Summer Gathering & Picnic

July 11, 2019 @ 4:00 p.m.

Please join us for MoHud's summer gathering and picnic at Peebles Island State Park. There will be a short hike at 4 PM and a brief business meeting at 5:30 PM, followed by the potluck picnic. So, bring your hiking shoes and a favorite recipe to share, and join us for some summer fun!

As the weather can be variable in July, check the weather in advance and come prepared with the necessary layers, and don't forget the bug spray.

If you are interested in joining us for part or all of this fun event, please RSVP to Kim Berg at bergkimberly@gmail.com. Let her know if you plan to attend the hike and/or potluck picnic, and if both, what type of dish you plan to share (appetizer, main, dessert, beverage, etc.). See you in July!

Dates to note:

July 8 EComm Meeting, EGCL 6:45 p.m.
July 11 Summer Picnic/Meeting & Hike,
Peebles Island State Park, 4 p.m.
Sept 9 EComm Meeting, EGCL 6:45 p.m.
Sept 13-15 Harriman Outdoor Center Outing

Save the date!

Oct 17 Annual Banquet, Brown's Brewing, Troy
Nov 11 EComm Meeting, EGCL 6:45 p.m.

**AMC Mohawk Hudson Chapter
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20s & 30s Chair, *vacancy*

Trails Chair, *vacancy*

Conservation Chair, *vacancy*

Membership Chair, *vacancy*

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Mohawk Hudson Chapter Website:

<http://www.amcmohawkhudson.org>

“Like Us” on Facebook



Ctrl + click the “facebook” image at left to view the Mohawk Hudson AMC chapter Facebook group page.



Once there, click the “Like” image (shown at left) to “like” our page: if you have a Facebook account, log in; else, you’ll have to set one up to “like” our page. We’re up to 242 “likes” on Facebook, and 425 “enthusiasts” on [Meetup](#).

Chapter Outings

July / August / September 2019

Listings below are as of the June 27th newsletter distribution date. Leaders may post e-mail updates for their trips (published in the newsletter or not) via the AMC calendar of events which is available via the [chapter website](#). Leaders may also post updates via the chapter Yahoo group. Please join our [Yahoo group](#) (it’s free!) to see the updates and connect to others.

All activities require advance registration: Please contact the Leader for information about hike difficulty, meeting time and place, carpooling, and hike updates due to weather or trail conditions. If you leave a message, please include a phone number where you can be reached in case hike plans must be changed.

July

Thurs 7/4 Saratoga National Historic Park Wilkinson Trail C-3-C (Hiking) The Wilkinson Trail is a 4.2-mile loop around the northern section of the Saratoga Battlefield with about 220 feet ascent elevation. What better way than to start the 4th of July! Leader: Kevin Cox 518-279-4839 (NCA 9 p.m.) mmcloug1@nycap.rr.com.

Sat 7/6 Scarface Mt. & Baker Mt. B-3-B (Hiking) This is the second series of hikes for the Saranac Lake 6er. Scarface Mountain has limited views from the summit. The distance is 6.8 miles round trip with an ascent of 1480 feet. After completing this hike, we will drive to the trailhead for Baker Mountain, the views of which are great. The distance is 1.8 miles with an ascent of 900 feet. Leader: Kevin Cox 518-279-4839(NCA 9 p.m.) mmcloug1@nycap.rr.com.

Mon 7/8 and 9/9 Executive Committee Meeting (Social Events) We will be meeting at the East Greenbush Community Library to discuss future events for our chapter. The public is invited. Leader: Kevin Cox 518-279-4839 (NCA 9 p.m.) mmcloug1@nycap.rr.com.

Thurs 7/11 @ 4p.m. Summer Gathering and Picnic (Hiking | Meetings | Social Events) See page 1 for details; join us by RSVPing to Kim Berg, bergkimberly@gmail.com, and letting her know if you'll be attending the hike and/or potluck picnic. For any question about the hike, contact Leader: Kevin Cox mmcloug1@nycap.rr.com.

Sat 7/13 McKenzie Mt. & Haystack Mt. A-3-A (Hiking) We will start from the trailhead off Route 86. Following up the red markers, we will summit at McKenzie Mountain first, then head down to Haystack. The distance is 12.2 miles and an ascent of 2240 feet. Leader: Kevin Cox 518-279-4839 (NCA 9 p.m.) mmcloug1@nycap.rr.com.

Wed 7/24 Plotter Kill Preserve Hike C-3-B or B-3-B (Hiking) Come on a beautiful cool shady hike along a deep gorge with close views of three waterfalls, 60 feet high and 40 feet high. We will do a two-mile loop which takes in all the waterfalls. Since we have two leaders, those who want to go longer can do an extended loop of 6 or 7 miles altogether. There are some short steep hills on these hikes. Bring lunch and water, and hiking poles if you use them. To join us on the hike, contact Leader: Nancy Crowther 518-698-0531 nancy@crowther.org.

August

Wed 8/7 Vroman's Nose hike C-3-B (Hiking) Join us for a short, steep hike with a spectacular view to reward you. The view goes across Schoharie Valley farmland to the Catskills. The trailhead is off Route 30 in Middleburgh. The hike will be just under two miles. After the hike, those who wish to can go to nearby Bohringer's Berry Farm, and/or go out to lunch at the "The Carrot Barn" farm store on Route 30. We will meet you at the park and ride off I-88 exit 23 at 10 a.m. Take I-90 to I-88, get off at exit 23. Turn left over the highway, then right into a parking lot. You can come with us to the trailhead or follow us. If you prefer to go directly to the trailhead, here is its location: <https://goo.gl/maps/7DgVmCzUbbm>. We would arrive from the park and ride about 10:15 or 10:20 a.m. Leader: Nancy Crowther 518-698-0531 nancy@crowther.org.

Wed 8/21 Shaker Trail B-3-C+ (Hiking) We will do a loop hike over Shaker Mountain and Holy Mountain in the Pittsfield State Forest, near Hancock Shaker Village. Along the trail we will see many historical remains from the Shaker North Family site along the lower stream and the remains of the Shaker holy sites on both mountain

summits. The distance is 6 miles with cumulative elevation gain of about 1200 feet. Contact Leader Martha Waldman at martha829r@aol.com or 518 869 5109 (NCA 9 p.m.) for meeting time and location.

Sat 8/24 Glenville Greenway C-3-C (Hiking) Easy-to-moderate hike of 5.0 mi / 200' gain. We'll explore the Town of Glenville's Greenway Trail from Andersen Park, crossing into Indian Meadows Park to the YMCA knowing that the trail is a double-track groomed for snowshoe / ski in snow season. Leader: Jean Laverdure 518-709-2990 (NCA 9 PM) jalz111er@yahoo.com.

Sat 8/31 Killington Mountain B-3-A (Hiking) We will be hiking up the Bucklin Trail to the Long Trail. Then, climb up the Killington Spur to the summit of Killington Mountain. Hopefully, it will be a clear day. Killington is the second highest mountain in Vermont. The distance is 7 miles and the ascent about 2450 feet. Leader: Kevin Cox 518-279-4839 (NCA 9 p.m.) mmcloug1@nycap.rr.com.

September

Sat 9/7 East Trail to Rocky Peak Ridge and Giant A-3-A (Hiking) We will start from New Russia up to Rocky Peak Ridge. Then head down and up to Giant Mountain. Hopefully, it will be a clear day. Great views are possible along this trail. We will go down via the Ridge Trail. This hike will require a car spot at New Russia and Chapel Pond. The distance is 11 miles and the ascent 5700 feet. Leader: Kevin Cox 518-279-4839 (NCA 9 p.m.) mmcloug1@nycap.rr.com.

Fri to Sun 9/13 to 9/15 Chapter Weekend AMC Harriman Outdoor Center (Hiking) Experience AMC's three-year old lodge/camp facility on 64-acre Breakneck Pond in Harriman State Park, about 100 miles south of Albany. Hike, kayak, swim, or relax. Two nights' lodging with two dinners (Friday and Saturday) and two breakfasts (Saturday and Sunday) are \$134 per person for a cabin. For weekend details and registration instructions, see *Chapter Weekend at AMC Corman Harriman Outdoor Center* on page 4. **Registration deadline is July 13.** Leader: Kevin Cox 518-279-4839 (NCA 9 p.m.) mmcloug1@nycap.rr.com.

Wed 9/18 Schoharie Crossing/Yankee Hill Lock walk C-3-C (Hiking) We will meet at the Schoharie Crossing - Yankee Hill Lock state park in Amsterdam, NY, at 10:00 a.m. and walk the historically interesting tow path which follows the remains of the old Erie Canal and passes by several old locks. At our starting point there is an old store which used to service boats on the Erie Canal.

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We will see the Barge Canal (the Mohawk River), the original Erie Canal, the Enlarged Erie Canal, and remains of the Schoharie Aqueduct. We will visit the Schoharie Crossing Visitor's Center in Fort Hunter and turn around there. Round trip walk is 5 miles, all flat. Bring lunch and water to eat at picnic tables at our starting point.

Leader: Nancy Crowther 518-698-0531

nancy@crowther.org.

Wed 9/25 Hurricane Mountain B-3-B (Hiking)

Starting from the trailhead, we will follow the new trail up to the summit. Great views can be observed. The distance is 6.8 miles and an ascent of 1700 feet. Leader: Kevin Cox 518-279-4839 (NCA 9 p.m.)

mmcloug1@nycap.rr.com.

Chapter Weekend: AMC Corman Harriman Outdoor Center

September 13-15, 2019

Registration deadline is July 13!

If you haven't been there yet, the Corman Harriman Outdoor Center is a new addition to the AMC's system of lodges and camps located 100 miles to the south of the Capital District, in Harriman State Park.

You can hike, kayak, swim, relax or go sightseeing in the surrounding area. We plan to offer two organized hikes on Saturday and one on Sunday morning. You can also do hikes of your own choosing – with more than 200 miles of trails nearby, including Harriman State Park system, sections of the AT and the Long Path, and the Buck, Cranberry, Bear and Breakneck Mountain trails – there is a wide selection of trails and hike ratings. There is a hike for you. Note that parking near some of the trailheads involves paying a fee, whereas at others it does not.

The HOC is located on 64-acre Breakneck Pond within the park. You can enjoy kayaking or canoeing with kayaks and canoes provided by the NY-NJ Chapter, or go swimming, as the water temperature is expected to still be warm in mid-September!

Lodging: We have reserved two cabins, both of which are located near a central bathhouse:

Storm King 1 is a four-bedroom cabin with a set of bunk beds in each room.

White Oak is a two-bedroom cabin with a set of bunks with a twin bed in each room.

Cabins have electric lights; however, we recommend bringing a head lamp for reading and getting around the campground after dusk. The HOC provides pillows, pillowcases, and blankets; you will need to bring sheets and towels for your use. Each cabin has a small refrigerator and an outside grill.

Meals:

- Dinner is served in the dining hall on Friday and Saturday evenings at 6 p.m. sharp!
- Breakfast is served on Saturday and Sunday mornings from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.
- Lunches may be purchased from the HOC for an additional fee, or you can bring your own food.

Note: The HOC does not sell alcohol. Participants aged 21 or older may consume alcohol in the dining hall and cabins.

Registration: Registration fees for the weekend are \$134 per cabin; this includes two nights lodging, two dinners (Friday and Saturday evenings and two breakfasts (Saturday and Sunday mornings).

Trail lunches are available for a cost of \$13 each. To purchase trail lunches, please identify which additional lunches you want (Saturday and/or Sunday) and add \$13.00 for *each* trail lunch to your registration payment amount.

Save the dates and join us! Make your reservation now!

- Make check payable to "AMC Mohawk Hudson" (see pricing above)
- If trail lunch(es) is requested, add the trail lunch(es) payment and identify for each date.
- Mail to: Kevin Cox, 2 Longhill Road, Troy, NY 12180.
- Include your email address, telephone number, and note any dietary restrictions and food allergies.
- **All payments must be received by July 13, 2019.**

Check in time: 3 p.m.

Cancellation Policy: No refunds for cancellations after July 13, 2019. Full refunds will be given for cancellations received prior to July 13, 2019.

Contact/Info: Kevin Cox, mmcloug1@nycap.rr.com

New Outings Leader in Training

Melinda Rowley has completed Leadership Training at Harriman Outdoor Center. She plans to lead hikes and backpacking trips in the future. We look forward to hitting the trails with her!



20s & 30s Harriman Takeover

July 12-14, 2019

The 20s & 30s are taking over the AMC Corman Harriman Outdoor Center in New York's beautiful Hudson Valley—you

won't want to miss out! The weekend will include fun outdoor activities (hikes, swimming, paddling, biking, etc.), workshops, good food, live music, and a campfire. The event will also include a meeting for 20s & 30s leaders from across the region, so if you're interested in getting involved as a volunteer, this is a great way to learn about how it all works. Of course, people of any and all ages are welcome to participate in this event! So, sign up and bring a friend! Spots sell quickly, so claim yours soon! [More info and registration >](#)

20s & 30s, Trail Work, Conservation Volunteer Opportunities

For info about these opportunities, contact Kevin Cox 518-279-4839 (NCA 9 p.m.) mmcloug1@nycap.rr.com.

20s & 30s Committee Chair – This group within the AMC MoHud chapter aims to bring together young people interested in learning about and participating in outdoor activities in our area. Our chapter works closely with other 20s & 30s groups within AMC, so getting involved is a great way to meet like-minded people from across the region and/or club.

What is the role of the 20s & 30s Chair?

- -Coordinate activities for 20- and 30-somethings in the MoHud Chapter.
- Recruit enthusiastic 20s & 30s to the committee
- Network! Be an advocate for the group, get the word out, and encourage more people to get involved.
- Attend bimonthly Mohawk-Hudson Executive Committee meetings
- Attend large chapter events; assist where possible.
- Qualifications: Be friendly, welcoming, and capable of working with a diverse group of individuals. Be organized and a good communicator.

Being 20s & 30s Chair does not mean you have to be the most intense hiker, rock climber, etc.; it is simply a great leadership opportunity, resumé builder, and offers many ways to have fun. AMC 20s & 30s Chairs also have a lot of support, both from designated AMC Staff as well as from the leadership of the Mohawk-Hudson Chapter. Reach out if you are interested in joining our committee – we would love to have you join the team!

Trails Committee Chair –Mohawk-Hudson Chapter volunteers as a "maintenance entity" for the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference (NYNJTC). As such, we plan, schedule, and lead trail maintenance (e.g., "keep the path clear" activities) for two sections of the Long Path and for a few other selected trails in our area.

The Chair's duties include the following:

- Keep current on trails in the area and on the organizations involved in their development/maintenance; seek opportunities for joint ventures.
- Cultivate and maintain a current list of chapter trail maintenance volunteers.
- Schedule trail work outings and submit for newsletter publication to attract participation.
- Supervise maintenance of Long Path sections 33 and 34; and of other selected trails as necessary.

Conservation Committee Chair – The focus is on bringing conservation awareness, messaging, and activities to our local membership and communities.

The Chair's duties include:

- Connect with AMC's Conservation Action Network (CAN) and through their workshops, news, and reports, engage chapter members on conservation issues at regional and local levels.
- Serve as a member of the club-wide Conservation Committee, which meets twice a year, and assist in applying for Special Project Funds.
- Plan chapter conservation activities; for example:
 - Partner with a local conservation organization on a tree-planting, clean-up, trail work, or educational programming project.
 - Present a conservation workshop to raise awareness and educate chapter members.
- Organize members to attend public meetings of importance to AMC.
- Be familiar with AMC's website www.outdoors.org/conservation.
- Attend Chapter Executive Committee meetings.

Other Volunteer Opportunities

Membership Chair – Our chapter is looking for an enthusiastic, welcoming member with good communications skills to volunteer as Membership Chair. The Membership Chair focuses on developing initiatives to support member development and retention. The position involves coordinating events to bring together new and existing members. For more information, please contact Kevin Cox at 518-279-4839 (NCA 9 p.m.) or mmcloug1@nycap.rr.com.

Webmaster/Content Editor Volunteer – We are looking for a volunteer interested in using his/her technical skills to maintain our current site, and work toward migrating existing web content to a new template and managing the new website's structure. If you can help us out, please contact Dave Esmond at David.Esmond1@gmail.com.

Nominating Committee Volunteers – This three-person committee identifies candidates for the chapter's four leadership positions and fills vacancies that may arise during the year. If interested, please contact Kevin Cox at 518-279-4839 (NCA 9 p.m.) or mmcloug1@nycap.rr.com.

Not getting email messages from AMC/Mohawk Hudson? For help, call AMC Membership at: **1-800-372-1758**

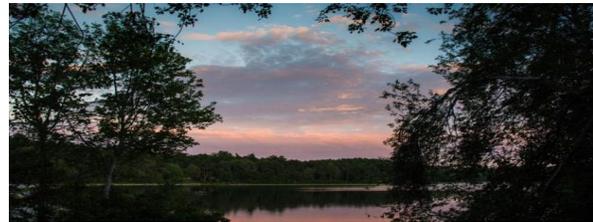


April 2019 Peebles Island Hike

Discover where the locals hike, bike, and paddle on Cape Cod at Fall Gathering 2019

Save the dates: October 18-20th, 2019!

The Cape is particularly appealing in the fall when the leaves start to change, the air turns crisp, and the summer crowds disappear. The location we've selected for FG 2019 is the beautiful [Camp Burgess](#) in Sandwich, Massachusetts.



Sunset over lake at Camp Burgess on Cape Cod

This great facility spans nearly 300 acres of forests, meadows, trails, and freshwater ponds. It offers a large private lake; spotless cabins (many with lake views); indoor washrooms and shower facilities; and a bounty of on-site recreational opportunities including zip line; climbing wall; and basketball, volleyball, tetherball, and gaga ball courts.

Come join the Southeastern Mass. Chapter at AMC Fall Gathering 2019, October 18-20th on Cape Cod. As always, you'll have a chance to meet, socialize, and share ideas with members from AMC chapters up and down the East Coast. And at this Fall Gathering, you'll also have a special opportunity to let our local leaders "on Cape" share their favorite – and often hidden – hiking trails, bike routes, and paddling areas with you!

At this event, you'll be able to explore the best "the Cape" has to offer! We're planning a wide variety of hikes, bike rides on quiet roads and pristine trails, and (weather permitting) one or two paddles. The hikes will include woodland hikes, hikes on the National Seashore, dune walks, and naturalist hikes. We're also planning to have live music, a trivia contest, yoga, campfires, and other activities to keep everyone engaged and entertained throughout the weekend.

One-night, two-night, or single-day options will be available along with delicious and healthy meals in the camp's expansive dining/meeting facility. Save the date for FG 2019 and visit www.outdoors.org/fallgathering for details. Registration opens July 1, 2019.