Nine ADK members from the Hudson Valley, one from Holyoke, Massachusetts, and another from Deer Isle, Maine, all converged on a mountain road up to Moosilauke Lodge where we would be staying for three nights and a couple of days of good hiking, weather permitting. The plan was to move later in the week over to Joe Dodge Lodge in Pinkham Notch farther to the east for a final three days of hiking in the vicinity of Mount Washington. In the party were Shari Aber, Jen Anderson, Dana Bennet, Nathan Church, Al DeMaria, group leader Ginny Fauci, Joe Ferri, Al Limone, Roberta Forest, Lisa Schoonmaker, Anthony Sorace and Joe’s and Shari’s dog Alice.

A Moose on Moosilauke

Moosilauke Lodge is a rustic, spruce log building that was originally constructed in the 1930s as a ski lodge and now owned by Dartmouth College, along with 4,500 surrounding acres. We showered and had our meals in the lodge, perhaps among the last who would be doing so, as the lodge is scheduled to be replaced starting in the fall, after more than eighty years of use. We slept in a roomy, relatively new bunkhouse situated near the lodge. The views were great, and across the nearby stream, trails led up Mt. Moosilauke (4802’) and South Peak (4523’).

The next morning after an ample breakfast, we set out together on the Gorge Brook Trail, then the Snapper ski trail to climb Moosilauke, and as predicted, at about 10:30 am it began to rain. No matter, everyone was equipped for the weather, and there were pretty views close up of mushrooms, clintonia and bunchberry glistening in the woods along the way. We eventually met up with the Carriage Road to the summit where in 1860 the Prospect House was built, a large stone and wood frame hut. Though it burned down in 1942, its foundation can still be seen.

A New Magazine for the Hiking Community

“Back to the Whites!” – Jennifer Anderson

“We passed the inaugural issue around at the Outing Leaders Picnic. Of particular interest to our chapter are photos by Roberta Forest and David Anderson, and uniquely personal articles by our own Shari Aber and Jennifer Anderson.” – Sue Mackson

A NEW MAGAZINE has just come out specifically geared for hikers over 50, edited and published by ADK member Lisa Schoonmaker of Deer Isle Press, LLC, in Maine. The first issue of Senior Hiker is a beauty, filled with spirited articles on hiking and the wilderness environment, poetry, mountain art and breathtaking photographs of places in the northeast where we hike - the Catskills, Baxter State Park and the Whites. Also included in the first issue is a piece on hiking solo, another on hillwalking in Ireland on a summer’s day, and there’s more. Future issues will contain guidelines on hiking (Mountain Sense), descriptions of hikes in international locales (Exotic Hikes), hiking group profiles (Hard Corps) and accounts of hiking “misadventure”.

The editor writes that there is a whole community of older hikers out there everywhere, an active, high-spirited group with wide-ranging experience and the knowledge of a lifetime. To learn more, please visit seniorhikermag.com or contact schoonmakerlisa@gmail.com.

Left: Intrepid leader Ginny Fauci on top of Moosilauke. Above: Roberta Forest, Lisa Schoonmaker, and the author work their way off of Flume

Continued on page 9
**Welcome, Summit Stewards!**

Three of the new Catskill Summit Stewards, recently trained by ADK High Peaks Education under the direction of Julia Goren, are pictured to the right. The program aims to promote summit stewardship in the Catskill Mountains similar to the very valuable and successful ADK-led program in the High Peaks. Olivia Bernard, Raeann Bond, and Sabina Cardenas successfully participated in the training, which Mid-Hudson subsidized with a $500 contribution.

- Jean-Claude Fouere

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**Elected Officers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>EMAIL</th>
<th>PHONE</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Chair</td>
<td>Daniel Jones Jr.</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Jones.daniel.jr@gmail.com">Jones.daniel.jr@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>845-797-9161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice Chair</td>
<td>Peter McGinnis</td>
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<td>845-454-4428</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Ellen Zelig</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ellenzeligcrs@aol.com">ellenzeligcrs@aol.com</a></td>
<td>845-518-0488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
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<td>845-462-3389</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Director</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Club Director</td>
<td>Jean-Claude Fouere</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jcfouere@gmail.com">jcfouere@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>845-462-0142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alt. Club Director</td>
<td>Brenda Harding</td>
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<td>845-565-8566</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Past-Chapter Chair</td>
<td>Lalita Malik</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jaitamalik@aol.com">jaitamalik@aol.com</a></td>
<td>845-592-0204</td>
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**Committee Chairs & Other Volunteers**

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<tr>
<td>Conservation</td>
<td>Sayi Nulu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sayileela@gmail.com">sayileela@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>845-264-2270</td>
</tr>
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<td>New Members</td>
<td>Jennifer Anderson</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publicity</td>
<td>Skip Doyle</td>
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<tr>
<td>News Media</td>
<td>Michele Van Hoesen</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Chair</td>
<td>Don Urmston</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mrurmston@gmail.com">mrurmston@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>845-457-4552</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Events</td>
<td>Carole Marsh</td>
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<td>845-849-2044</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outings Co-Chair</td>
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<td>845-471-9892</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outings Co-Chair</td>
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<td>845-399-2170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trails Chair</td>
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<td>845-592-1572</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Trails &amp; Paddles</td>
<td>Russ Faller</td>
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<td>845-297-5126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NY-NJ Trail Conf. Del.</td>
<td>Salley Decker</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sadecker2002@yahoo.com">sadecker2002@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>845-454-4206</td>
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<tr>
<td>MeetUp</td>
<td>Sayi Nulu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sayileela@gmail.com">sayileela@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>845-264-2270</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Just Three Hours Later, a Better Trail**

Thank you to members Tim O’Shaughnessy, Margaret Douglas, Dave Webber, and Sue Mackson, who joined Georgette Weir’s June 3 ‘Hike and Clip’ at Mills-Norrie State Park. Frequent volunteer Bob Bullions also joined the MH-ADK work party.

While doing a short loop hike, the group clipped and pulled growth from the newly opened Red Trail near the Mills Mansion and cleared a dense patch of multifloral rose and barberry from the otherwise lovely Orange Trail at the park, making both pleasurably passable once again for walkers.

Georgette organizes regular trail maintenance outings at Mills-Norrie. These are often scheduled for weekday mornings (Friday is popular with several volunteers) and typically last just 3 hours, 9-12noon.

Helping to keep these popular trails clear for hikers and walkers is a great way to volunteer. Georgette will be happy to add you to her email list and you help when you can. Every set of hands is appreciated. If you would like to get involved or just learn more, contact her at georgette.weir@gmail.com.

These outings are generally held under the auspices of the NY-NJ Trail Conference, of which MH-ADK is a member.

This from Stancy DuHamel of the Harlem Valley A.T. Community (and other organizations)...!

One Friday in May, as part of our Adopt a Highway program, I was picking up trash and around the parking lot & brook, and Jane Geisler arrived! She was going to haul gravel to fill in a bit of roadside. She is a phenom. The Grande Dame of our section of the AT!

---

Welcome, Summit Stewards!
MHADK OUTINGS SCHEDULE - September/October/November 2016

MID-WEEK HIKES: The leaders offer hikes of varying difficulty to different areas of the Mid-Hudson Valley. Hikes may be followed by a stop for refreshments. Leaders: Ginny Fauci, gefauci@gmail.com (845-399-2170) or Lalita Malik, lalitamalik@aol.com (845-592-0204). They will be held every Thursday, weather permitting. To add your name to the Mid-Week Hike list, go to the bottom of the weekly e-mail to update your subscription.

MID-WEEK PADDLES: Leader: Glenda Schwarze, schwar582@aol.com. She will lead quiet-water 2 hour paddles with beach put-ins. They will be held on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of every month. To add your name to the Mid-Week Paddle list, go to the bottom of the weekly e-mail to update your subscription.

HARRIMAN DOG-FRIENDLY HIKES: Susan Stern-gold, ADK leader, and her dogs lead hikes every day in Harriman. Dogs will be on all the hikes and you’re welcome to bring yours. Hikes are scheduled a few days ahead of time. To receive notifications of the hikes, please join her Yahoo group http://groups.yahoo.com/group/harrimanhike. When signing up, pick special notices and mention you are a Mid-Hudson ADK hiker.

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(a) fall

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GENERAL OUTINGS GUIDELINES
• Notify Leader of your intent to join an outing at least 2 days prior to the outing.
• Be at designated meeting place 10 minutes prior to the scheduled departure time.
• Car pooling is encouraged. Riders are expected to share the expenses equally at a rate of $.20 per mile plus any tolls and parking fees incurred.
• Dogs may be allowed on some outings; check with trip leader. If allowed: bring a leash, be able to control your dog and provide for its needs (especially water).
• Guests are welcome to participate in two outings. After that they are encouraged to become members of the Mid-Hudson Chapter of the ADK.

HIKING GUIDELINES
• Check out the Ten Essentials (www.midhudsonadk/outings/ten essentials).
• Wear sturdy footwear as required for season and type of outing.
• Be equipped with water, lunch, snacks, extra clothing and foul weather gear.
• Hike Ratings indicate relative degree of difficulty, and may vary with terrain, weather, season, etc. Check with Trip Leader to verify that the trip is suitable for your ability.

HIKE RATINGS
• Class A – Difficult: More than 1500’ climb or more than 8 miles total distance
• Class B - Moderate: Less than 1500’ climb and 6 to 8 miles total distance
• Class C – Easy: Well-graded trails and less than 6 miles total distance
• Walk: Less than 4 miles total distance; suitable for children

Mid-Hudson ADK Fall Picnic & Election of Officers
Date: Sunday, September 25, picnic to start at noon
Location: Mills-Norrie State Park, Rt 9, Staatsburg. Follow yellow ADK signs to gazebo by the river.

The club will provide hamburgers, veggie burgers, hot dogs, buns and necessary condiments. Attendees are asked to bring their own plates, knives, forks and water bottles. Also to bring a dessert, salad or side dish to share.

RSVP to Carole Marsh by September 22. 845-849-2044 or nanagrace91@aol.com

The following nominees will be elected for the two year term 2017-18. All nominees currently hold their positions except for Christopher Cring.

Chapter Chair
Daniel Jones
Vice Chair
Peter McGinnis
Secretary
Ellen Zelig
Treasurer
Ralph Pollard
Chapter Director
William Beehler
Chapter Director
Christopher Cring
Club Director
Jean-Claude Fouere
Alt. Club Director Brenda Harding

Hike and paddle information is listed on page 5. We are also looking for some help with grilling and set-up in the morning. Many hands make light work. Hope to see you there!
FALL OUTINGS AT A GLANCE

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<th>LEADER</th>
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<td>Sat. Sept 3</td>
<td>Mills-Norrie Walkabout</td>
<td>Georgette Weir</td>
<td><a href="mailto:georgette.weir@gmail.com">georgette.weir@gmail.com</a> or 845-462-0142</td>
<td>Walk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat. Sept 3-5</td>
<td>Oswegatchie River Basecamp</td>
<td>Russ Faller</td>
<td><a href="mailto:outdoorsruss@gmail.com">outdoorsruss@gmail.com</a> or 845-297-5126</td>
<td>Class A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun. Sept 11</td>
<td>Onteora Lake Hike &amp; Paddle</td>
<td>John Ragusa</td>
<td><a href="mailto:john.ragusa@bnymellon.com">john.ragusa@bnymellon.com</a> or 917-692-1159</td>
<td>Class C</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat. Sept 17</td>
<td>Hyde Park Trails Day</td>
<td>Salley Decker</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sadecker2002@yahoo.com">sadecker2002@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>Work Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat. Sept 17</td>
<td>Kaaterskill High Peak &amp; Roundtop</td>
<td>Joe Ferri &amp; Shari Aber</td>
<td><a href="mailto:newpaltz33@yahoo.com">newpaltz33@yahoo.com</a> or <a href="mailto:shnaber@yahoo.com">shnaber@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>Class A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat. Sept 24</td>
<td>National Public Lands Day</td>
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<td>Sat. Sept 24</td>
<td>Long Dock, Beacon</td>
<td>Tamisson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tamisson@aol.com">tamisson@aol.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat. Sept 24</td>
<td>Schunemunk</td>
<td>Alvin DeMaria</td>
<td><a href="mailto:demonalvin@yahoo.com">demonalvin@yahoo.com</a> or 845-255-1704</td>
<td>Class A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun. Sept 25</td>
<td>Zaidee's Bower, Mohonk</td>
<td>Roberta Forest</td>
<td>845-750-7059</td>
<td>Class B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun Sept 25</td>
<td>Annual MHADK Fall Picnic</td>
<td>Jeff &amp; Dave Kaplan &amp; Salley Decker</td>
<td>845-454-4206</td>
<td>Paddle &amp; Hike</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat. Oct 1</td>
<td>Bear Mountain</td>
<td>Jean-Claude Fouere</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jcfouere@gmail.com">jcfouere@gmail.com</a> or 845-462-1909</td>
<td>Class A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun. Oct 2</td>
<td>Wappingers Greenway</td>
<td>Lou Ruidisch</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ruidisch3@gmail.com">ruidisch3@gmail.com</a> or 845-896-9332</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat. Oct 8</td>
<td>Fahnestock SP</td>
<td>Georgette Weir</td>
<td><a href="mailto:georgette.weir@gmail.com">georgette.weir@gmail.com</a> or 845-462-014</td>
<td>Class B+</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun. Oct 9</td>
<td>Pelham Bay Park</td>
<td>Sue Mackson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:suemackson@gmail.com">suemackson@gmail.com</a> or 845-471-9892</td>
<td>Class C</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat. Oct 15</td>
<td>Catskills</td>
<td>Russ Faller</td>
<td><a href="mailto:outdoorsruss@gmail.com">outdoorsruss@gmail.com</a> or 845-297-5126</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat. Oct 15</td>
<td>Mt Beacon – Night Hike</td>
<td>Tamisson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tamisson@aol.com">tamisson@aol.com</a></td>
<td>Class A</td>
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<td>Sat. Oct 22</td>
<td>North Dome &amp; Sherrill</td>
<td>Joe Ferri &amp; Shari Aber</td>
<td><a href="mailto:newpaltz33@yahoo.com">newpaltz33@yahoo.com</a> or <a href="mailto:shnaber@yahoo.com">shnaber@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat. Oct 29</td>
<td>Minnewaska SP</td>
<td>Jean-Claude Fouere</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jcfouere@gmail.com">jcfouere@gmail.com</a> or 845-462-1909</td>
<td>Class A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat. Nov 5</td>
<td>Mt Beacon</td>
<td>Alvin DeMaria</td>
<td><a href="mailto:demonalvin@yahoo.com">demonalvin@yahoo.com</a> or 845-255-1704</td>
<td>Class A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun. Nov 6</td>
<td>Annual Planning Meeting</td>
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<td>Sat. Nov 12</td>
<td>Storm King Mountain</td>
<td>Mel Kleiman</td>
<td>845-216-6805</td>
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<td>Sun. Nov 13</td>
<td>Rusk &amp; East Rusk</td>
<td>Joe Ferri &amp; Shari Alber</td>
<td><a href="mailto:newpaltz33@yahoo.com">newpaltz33@yahoo.com</a> or <a href="mailto:shnaber@yahoo.com">shnaber@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<td>Nov. Nov 19</td>
<td>Fishkill &amp; Scofield Ridges</td>
<td>Russ Faller</td>
<td><a href="mailto:outdoorsruss@gmail.com">outdoorsruss@gmail.com</a> or 845-297-5126</td>
<td>Class B+</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat. Nov 19</td>
<td>Overlook Mountain</td>
<td>Brenda Harding</td>
<td><a href="mailto:brendaharding99@yahoo.com">brendaharding99@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>Class B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>through a boreal marsh and conifer forest. Expect a few log jams, beaver dams and a riffle that’ll require lining your boat. No roads penetrate the 5 Ponds Wilderness. No carries. Contact leader to register.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**September 2016**

**Sat, Sept 3:** Mills-Norrie Walkabout (4-5 easy miles, including the 2-mile River Trail, B-) Leader: Georgette Weir, georgette.weir@gmail.com or 845-462-0142

**Sat, Sept 3-5** (Labor Day Weekend): Oswegatchie River Basecamp, NW Adirondacks (Moderate Pace, A) Leader: Russ Faller, outdoorsruss@gmail.com or 845-297-5126 before 9:30 PM

Arrive Friday night Sept. 2 and camp off the parking area. On Saturday, Paddle 13 miles up the Oswegatchie River, in the 5 Ponds Wilderness, to basecamp at High Falls. On Sunday, either day paddle to the headwaters of the Oswegatchie or day hike up Cat Mtn. for the view. Return to your cars on Monday. The Oswegatchie is a meandering, quiet-water river through a boreal marsh and conifer forest. Expect a few log jams, beaver dams and a riffle that’ll require lining your boat. No roads penetrate the 5 Ponds Wilderness. No carries. Contact leader to register.

**Sun, Sept 11:** Onteora Lake Hike & Paddle (4.25 miles, C) Leader: John Ragusa john.ragusa@bnymellon.com or 917-692-1159 Starting at the trailhead parking lot off State Route 28, we will hike along an old woods road to the yellow trail, passing through upland oaks, moist hemlock forest and many abandoned bluestone quarries. The trail passes near Pickeral Pond where we pick up the red trail, ascending a ridge with 2 large vernal pools and upland forest with scattered pitch pines. After finishing the hike, those interested can then paddle on Onteora Lake with a hand launch on the west side of the lake. Meet at 11 am at the trailhead parking lot off State Route 28 near Kingston. Directions: Take NYS Thruway to exit 19 - Kingston. After toll, bear right onto Route 28 West 3 miles to the Onteora Lake entrance sign on the right. Bring picnic lunch. Heavy rain cancels.

**Sat, Sept 17:** Hyde Park Trails work day Contact: Salley Decker, sadecker2002@yahoo.com

**Sat, Sep 17:** Kaaterskill High Peak and Roundtop (8 miles, 2000’ ascent, A) Leaders: Joe Ferri, newpaltz33@yahoo.com or 914-489-1582 and Shari Aber, shnaber@yahoo.com or 914-489-0654 This is a challenging hike – partly on trails and partly off-trail to these two peaks. Good views. Call or email to register. Joint with Catskill 3500 Club – maximum 12 hikers. Sign up period 9/8/16 – 9/15/16

**Sat, Sept 24:** National Public Lands Day

www.midhudsonadk.org 4
Sat, Sept 24: Paddle from Long Dock Beacon.
Leader: Tom Amisson, email only: tamisson@aol.com
Contact leader for additional information

Sat, Sept 24: Schunemunk (7 miles, 1500’ ascent, Map: West Hudson #114, A)
Leader: Alvin DeMaria demonalvin@yahoo.com or 845-255-1704
From Otterkill parking, we’ll take the Trestle tr. up the Western Ridge. Then Ridge-to-Ridge over to eastern ridge and Jessup trail, crossing the high point (1664’). Descend on Trestle tr. again. Meet at Otterkill road (under trestle) at 9 AM. Contact leader for additional information

Sun, Sept 25: Zaidee’s Bower (7 miles)
Leader: Roberta Forest, 845-750-7059
Meet at Mohonk Preserve Visitor Center parking lot at 9:30 for a shuttle to the starting point. This hike will include some scrambling. Joint with Mohonk Preserve

Sun, Sept 25: Annual MHADK Picnic Details to Follow
Jeff and Dave Kaplan will lead a paddle at the picnic. Launch is at 9:45 AM.
Canoeists are encouraged. Note: we go out as a group and we return as a group! High tide is ~ 9:15AM. The plan, therefore, is to travel upstream (The Hudson) for 2 miles, circle the Esopus Lighthouse and return: first leg is upstream/north and should take 1 to 1 1/2 hours with the 2nd leg (return to launch site) downstream, falling tide should take about 40 minutes, barring unforeseen issues such as weather, wind, etc. (Alternate is Indian Creek.). Must have at least 13.5 ft. boat, equipped with proper flotation devices such as bulkheads or airbags, PDF and plenty of water.
Salley Decker will lead a hike, 845-454-4206.
Hike the “new” section of the Greenway Trail starting at Thompson Lane. This will be an in and out hike of less than 4 miles round trip. Trail goes through nice woods with a wonderful viewpoint of the Hudson River and Shauganeak Ridge. Contact leader for additional information.

October 2016

Sat, Oct 1: Bear Mountain Loop (10 miles, A)
Leader: Jean-Claude Fouéré jcfouere@gmail.com or 845-462-1909
A fast paced loop taking us from Fort Montgomery Historic Site, off 9G up along the Major Welch trail to the Perkins Tower, down along the AT to West Mountain, looping back along Sufren Bear Mountain trails for a total of about 10 miles. Trail Conference map 119. Contact leader for exact start time.

Sun, Oct 2: Wappingers Greenway Details to Follow
Leader: Lou Ruidisch ruidisch3@gmail.com or 845-896-9332

Sat, Oct 8: Fahnestock State Park (6-8 moderate miles, exact route TBD, B-B+)
Leader: Georgette Weir georgette.weir@gmail.com or 845-462-0142

Sun, Oct 9: Let’s Explore Pelham Bay Park in the Off Season
Leader Sue Mackson suemackson@gmail.com or 845-471-9892
Largest Park within the confines of NYC. It is also the site of Orchard Beach on Long Island Sound. If possible, we will car pool to the park and explore it’s trails and marshes, walk on the beach. Expect to leave by 8:30 am and spend the day.

Sat, Oct 15: Catskills Hike (moderate pace, A)
Leader: Russ Faller outdoorsruss@gmail.com or 845-297-5126 (before 9:30 PM)
This will be a bushwhack up one of the lesser Catskills peaks - those between 3000 & 3500 ft. Exact one TBD. Watch the weekly email updates or contact leader.

Sat, Oct 15: Night hike up Mt Beacon (4 miles, A)
Leader: Tom Amisson e-mail only: tamisson@aol.com
Enjoy the sunset from the Fire Tower, and the Newburgh and Beacon night view from the Casino. Headlamps a must.

Sat, Oct. 22: North Dome and Sherrill (6+ miles, 2600’ ascent, A)
Leaders: Joe Ferri, newpaltz33@yahoo.com or 914-489-1582 and Shari Aber, shnaber@yahoo.com 914-489-0654
This is a challenging bushwhack to two of the 35 highest peaks in the Catskills. We will be using compasses on this through-hike. Bring a compass with you and we’ll give a little instruction in its use. E-mail or call for registration and details. Joint with Catskill 3500 Club – maximum 12 hikers. Sign up period 10/13/16 - 10/20/16

Sun, Oct 23: Burger Hill and Ferncliff Forest
Leader: David Kaplan, 845-876-4462 before 10 PM
Come out at 10:30 am to Burger Hill, on Rte 9G in Rhinebeck, for a short uphill walk and a spectacular view to the Catskills with a bas relief map for identifying the mountains. We’ll linger for less than an hour and then drive a few miles to Ferncliff Forest in Rhinebeck Village. Bring a light lunch to eat in the parking lot. We’ll walk the trails and climb the firetower for additional views of the autumn scene. Heavy rain cancels. Register by Oct 21.

Sat, Oct 29: Minnewaska State Park (10 miles, A)
Leader: Jean-Claude Fouéré jcfouere@gmail.com or 845-462-1909
From Jenny Lane parking area, off Route 44, to Castle Point and back. Moderately strenuous, fast-paced 9-10 miles will include Mossy Glen Trail, Blueberry Run, Shawangunk Ridge Trail, and Jenny Lane for a total of about 10 miles. Trail Conference map 104. Contact leader for exact start time.

November 2016

Sat, Nov 5: Mt. Beacon (7 miles, 1500’ ascent, Map: East Hudson #102, A)
Leader: Alvin DeMaria demonalvin@yahoo.com or 845-255-1704
From base at old inclined railway, a counterclockwise loop over South Beacon Mountain, Wilkinson trail and Lambs Hill. Meet at Mt. Beacon Scenic Hudson Park, Route 9D at 8:30 AM. Contact leader for additional information.

Sun, Nov 6: Annual Planning Meeting Details to Follow

Sat, Nov 12: Storm King Mtn B (7-8 miles)
Leader: Mel Kleiman, 845-216-6805
Meet at 9:30 at Esty & Hellie Trailhead off Rte 218 in Cornwall. Please call leader to confirm and for additional information

Sun, Nov 13: Rusk and East Rusk (5 miles, 1800’ ascent, A)
Leaders: Joe Ferri, newpaltz33@yahoo.com or 914-489-1582 and Shari Aber, shnaber@yahoo.com 914-489-0654
As bushwhacks go, this is a relatively easy one. After a short trail hike, we’ll climb Rusk, one of the 35 Catskill peaks over 3500’ and then follow a ridge to the top of East Rusk before heading back to the trail and our cars. If you have a compass, bring it with you. You'll have ample opportunity to hone your skills. E-mail or call for registration and details. Joint with Catskill 3500 Club - maximum 12 hikers. Sign up period 11/4/16 - 11/11/16

Sat, Nov 19: Fishkill & Scofield Ridges Loop, Hudson Highlands (Moderate Pace, B+)
Leader: Russ Faller outdoorsruss@gmail.com or 845-297-5126 before 9:30 PM
This is an 8 mile loop with some steep sections and some easy sections. From the Sunnyside Rd. trailhead, we’ll follow old woods roads & trails over Bald Hill and past the Beacon Reservoir back to our starting point. Nice views. Contact leader for meeting time.

Sat, Nov 19: Fishkill & Scofield Ridges Loop
Leader: Brenda Harding email only: brendaharding99@yahoo.com
Easy hike up a groomed road (steep in sections with elev. +1378') past the ruins of the old hotel and guest house and on to the fire tower where we'll have lunch. On the return we’ll take the path to the right of the Rangers cabin for another view point. Bring plenty of water, snacks and lunch. Appropriate hiking gear and clothing for weather. Directions: Take NYS thruway to Kingston exit 19. Take Rt 28W towards Woodstock. Make a right on Rt 375 and then left onto Rt 212. In the center of town take a right on Rock City Rd which then turns into Meade Rd. At the top of the hill there will be a large dirt parking lot on the right. Meet at the trail head at 9:30 AM. Confirm with leader.

www.midhudsonadk.org
April 10: Mohonk - Humpty Dumpty  
**Leader:** Roberta Forest  
A sunny day in the 30s-40s, good weather for scrambling. We walked up to Old Minnewaska to the start of the scramble, then scrambled through Giants Workshop, over Humpty Dumpty, up Eagle Cliff. Lunch overlooked Mohonk Lake. Then we went on to scramble through Zaida’s Bower. We were out about 6 hours and covered about 7 miles. Participants: Elsie Rattenbury, Karen Dehaan, Tonda Highly, Jill Abrahamsen, Eddi Zampft, Al Limone, Anthony Sorace, Joan Billows.

May 7: Wappinger Creek Estuary Clean-up with Riverkeeper’s Hudson R. Sweep  
**Leader:** Russ Faller  
**Co-Leader:** Wilfredo Chaluisant  
Between 2 rainy days, we were able to get out onto the lower Wappinger Creek to clean it up and finish just as more drizzle started. We pulled out about 780 lbs. of trash that less responsible people threw into the creek! This included 18 bags of trash, 9 bags of recyclables, 5 tires, well over a hundred pounds of metal and other odds and ends, including a ceramic toilet bowl, golf club, 3 soccer balls, plastic roofing, part of a wooden chair, a lawn mower wheel, a can of paint, a very large tarp, hose, a trash can lid and 2 buckets. Seventeen wonderful volunteers worked on this project. Hanaford and Shop Rite were generous in donating a lot of snack foods, all-juice drinks, apples, etc. So we didn’t have to bring our own lunches. Afterwards, we went to the North River Brewery, in the Village of Wappingers Falls, for free beers donated by the brewery. We spent a couple of hours there mellowing and socializing. All in all, it was a great day. Wonderful volunteers were: Stan Augie, Jeff Kaplan, Dave Kaplan, Jean-Claude Fouere, Mike Pettigrew, Bob Clark, Gino Platania (all members), Marilyn Carkner, Lindsey Fazzinga, Jesse Inoncillo, Jim Doherty, Bryan Griton, Kristen Planck-Kuney, Patrick Oehler, Naina Maloni (all non-members), the leader and co-leader. Non-members were given a 3 month complimentary subscription to our outings schedule and encouraged to come out with us just for fun.

May 10: South Taconics Three States  
**Hike Leaders:** Jennifer Anderson & Sue Mackson  
Seven of us enjoyed a crisp spring day out in the woods scrambling up Round Mountain on a varied trail from the Salisbury CT area, down the other side and up Mt. Frissell where we signed in at the top. The woodland was just beginning to leaf out, and buds were on abundant laurel everywhere. We inspected the tri-state marker and lunched at a quiet, grassy spot on the ridge trail with a view of the Hudson Valley and a smattering of an actual rainbow overhead. The Catskill Mountains lay beyond. We continued south to the summit of Breeze Mountain and descended a wet jeep trail to our cars through deciduous woods and hemlock groves with hobble bush in bloom. We stopped to admire the streams, listen to birds and to taste the young leaves of the trout lily, and we learned more from surveyor Anthony in our party about NY-CT state line markers set throughout the woods. Participants: Judith Ahrens, David Anderson, Doug Kramer, Martha Rabson, Anthony Sorace.

May 14&15: Harriman Backpack - Elk Pen to Reeves Meadow  
**Leader:** Russ Faller  
Finally, a joint backpack that was not cancelled for ADK, because two members came! We camped at 2 pristine back country locations. Friday night’s site was the best - in an open forest with mature trees and no ground cover, except lush grass that stretched in every direction. We all slept well on that soft ground. Saturday night we camped on Breakneck Pond at a woody place, with downed trees, brush, big rocks. We found just enough spots for our tents. Saturday’s weather was better than forecast, with no T-storm and rain only after we had set up our camp. Participants were: Chris Bickford, Anthony Sorace (both ADK) and Grace & Nick Scarfo, Justin Bailey, Amanda Corwin (all AMC).

May 15: AT in Fahnestock State Park  
**Leader:** Jean-Claude Fouere  
Very congenial group composed of 4 ADKers and 7 hikers who learned about the hike from Mid-Hudson ADK.com Meetup. Sayi slid and knocked her head. She kept hiking upon resting for a few minutes. Was advised to have it checked by MD. Members: Jeff Levitt, H. Millman, Sayi Nulu Guests: Alfredo, Zach Warner, Angela Michaels Coline Griffith, Colette Salyk, Roberta Clements, Ann Hanson.

May 15: Norrie Point Paddle  
**Leader:** Dave Webber  
A strong west wind had me nervous as I scanned the river. Was it going to be too rough? I spied no whitecaps and the water on the west shore looked calm with a dozen boats scattered along the west shore fishing for stripers. We made our plan - get to the west shore and avoid the worst of the wind. Setting off from the Norrie Point marina we paddled a short way up the Indian Kill when we were stopped by a beaver dam. We retreated and headed out to the Hudson River and the wind. After circling Esopus Island and a stop at the Black Creek we paddled north to the Esopus Meadows Park pavilion for lunch. Delightful to be there before the invasive water chestnut clogs the river between the Esopus Meadows lighthouse and the west shore. After lunch we paddled out to the lighthouse and then back to our launch spot. Participants: Steven Medwid, Kathi Marek, Roberta Forest.

May 15: North Dome and Sherrill  
**Leaders:** Joe Ferri and Shari Aber  
We began our through hike at the start of the Devil’s Path. Leaving the trail about .75 miles in, we began our bushwhack to first North Dome, then Sherrill, and finally our cars on Shaft Road. After climbing 1400 feet, we scrambled up some rock ledges. There, unfortunately, the leaders’ dog, Alice, found a porcupine,
which she tried to eat. Shari took Alice with quills in her snout, shoulder, side and legs back down North Dome, for an early exit and an afternoon at the vet. Joe successfully led the rest of the intrepid hikers over the two peaks, stopping for lunch in the col where they were protected from the winds. Participants: Jill Abrahamsen, Karen Glemming, David Knudsen, Tom Grossman, Sue Hall, Victor Lum, Yuet Mui, Margie O’Brien, Sarah Perazzo, Tim Babicz, Allison Desiderio.

**May 22: Mt. Tremper**  
**Leader: Sue Mackson**

The flowers were out, as I’d hoped, on this clear spring day. See website for Connie’s trip photos. Can’t do better than lots of painted trillium, bishop’s miter and foam flower. Lots of red efts as we started up the trail. Met a couple at the fire tower who suggested we head for John Burroughs’ birthplace. Maybe at another time. Members: Marsha Kramer, Ellen Kelly, Annette Caruso, Connie Haven.

**May 22: Mohonk Preserve**  
**Leader: Roberta Forest**

We took Chapel Trail to Stokes Trail, as we hiked over to Rock Rift – our destination scramble. After Anthony replaced an essential Cedar Log ramp we completed the scramble and went up to Lily Pond for lunch and turtle viewing. Returned via Cedar Road after 6 miles. Participants: Anthony Sorce, Tonda Highly, Guest: Richard Partridge.

**May 24: Beacon Evening Paddle**  
**Leader: Dave Webber**

The first evening paddle of the season had an outgoing tide so we headed north to get some help when we returned. At Brockway we searched for the bald eagle nest but couldn’t see anyone in the nest but mom or dad was perched nearby. Tacos Tuesday afterwards.

**May 29: Castle Rock Unique Area**  
**Leader: John Ragusa**

The day was sunny and hot. There were 3 other participants. We walked through the meadow in the blazing sun until we reached the relative coolness of the forest. We then proceeded on the red trail and made our way up past a vernal pool and the final ascent of Sugar Loaf Hill. We had spectacular views of the Hudson River looking south and of West Point across the River. We also observed native Prickly Pear Cactus growing wild on top of the ridge. We settled down for lunch and pictures and then made our way back down and out but were able to rest for a few minutes at a gazebo along the red trail before we were back out of the coolness of the forest and into the hot meadow with good views of Osborn Castle. A good time was had by all. Members: Carol Gray, Annette Caruso, Kathy Sutherland.

**June 3: Beacon Evening Paddle**  
**Leader: Dave Webber**

This week the tides were about opposite of last week so heading south seemed like a plan. A hot summer-like evening but pleasant on the water. We paddled around Dennings Point an up Fishkill Creek to Madam Brett Park. A few blue herons, one bald eagle and lots of swallows were spotted. Taco Tuesday afterwards. Participants: Kathi Marek, Mike Pettigrew.

**June 5: Taconic Hereford Multiple Use Area Hike**  
**Leader: John Ragusa**

The day started out rainy but the rain stopped just in time for our hike. It was a lovely walk through dense forest and gently sloping hills. We walked about 3 miles and it took about 2 hours. We observed young salamanders called efts with a bright orange color, a toad and a snapping turtle. The mosquitoes were out in full force and all of us forgot to bring bug spray! Nevertheless, all had a nice time. Participants: Debbie Ragusa, Carol Gray, Sue Mackson.

**June 4: Wittenberg, Cornell, Slide**  
**Leaders: Joe Ferri and Shari Aber**

After shuffling cars, we started this through-hike from the Woodland Valley campground, reaching the first peak, Wittenberg, after 4 miles and over 2000’ of elevation. There we sat and enjoyed one of the most dramatic views in the Catskills, looking out over the Ashokan and many surrounding mountains. We continued across the ridge to Cornell, scrambling up the famous Cornell Crack. From there we continued on to Slide, at 4180’, the highest mountain in the Catskills - more views along the way, a little less spectacular. From there three miles downhill to the Slide Parking Area. Participants: Dana Bennet, Garrett Yankow, Judith Adams, Cristina Pruazan.

**June 4: Mohonk Preserve**  
**Leader: Roberta Forest**

Participants: Eddi Zampft, Alan Sobel, Mary Nicolis, Al Limone, Anthony Sorce. This was a day of scrambling after Old Minnewaska Trail. First, Giant’s Workshop, then Arching Rocks, and Cathedral Path to Copes Lookout, lunch at Skytop and return via Humpty Dumpty.

**June 7: Poughkeepsie Evening Paddle**  
**Leader: Dave Webber**

Or the paddle that almost wasn’t. As we were prepped the boats for launch dark clouds started to roll in to the north. The sky to the south was getting equally dark. And then the lightning started. No rain or lightning at Poughkeepsie but we could see the rain coming down 3 miles up river and it sure was dark down towards Wappingers. But after a 30 minute lightning delay we launched and paddled north for an hour into the wind and current. When we turned around though it was like we had motors on the boat making for a quick trip back to Wayras Park where we enjoyed watching the sun set from the restaurant patio. Participants: Russ Faller, Mike Pettigrew, Sam Doran, Carol Doran

**June 9: Paddle Wappingers Creek**  
**near Franey Reese Park**  
**Leader: Glenda Schwarz**

Windy out at the creek where it meets the river. Beautiful day! Participants: Eli Cohen, Ellie Shortle. Leader, Glenda Schwarz.
Twelve members of the Mid Hudson Chapter of ADK visited Maine to climb Mt. Katahdin (Maine’s highest mountain), hike the Northern terminus of Appalachian Trail and hike in Baxter State park for views and moose. We succeeded in all our objectives. On day 1 we all summited Sentinel Peak. Day 2 was a rainy day, so we went Moose hunting. We saw three Moose frolicking in a pond in Baxter. Day 3 was the big day. An early start took us to Roaring Brook campground from where we started our hike to Baxter Peak. We made pretty good time up to Chimney Pond, but lost time on the steep (almost 90 degree) climb up to Table Lands. From there it was another mile and 1,000 feet to Baxter Peak. We made the summit for a late lunch and decided we did not have time for the Knife Edge, so returned the same way. Day 4 was a recovery day so we split up and took short hikes. One group hiked the last few miles of the AT through Baxter Ponds to Katahdin Stream campground. Day 5 we hiked the last section of the AT inside Baxter to Abol Bridge. This was a delightful section along pristine rivers, on a trail covered with golden pine needles. We had two dicey stream crossings, one of which required wading through knee deep water.

All too soon, it was time to leave. We all said good bye to Baxter and many of us decided to come back next year to hike the AT in the 100 mile wilderness.

Participants... Standing: Barb Hansen, Peter Cantline, Tom Ammison, Will Nixon
Sitting: Connie Haven, Marsha Kramer, Nathan Church, Lalita Malik, Judith Adams, Craig Brown, David Weber.
Not pictured: Joan Billows and Ellen Kelly

June 17: Clermont Historic Site Sunset, Moonrise walk.
Leader: Sue Mackson
Few of the attendees, Eli Cohen & Alice Renna, Annette Caruso, Bert and Diane Waehler, and guests Doris and Dave Hanson had been to the site and all marveled at its beauty, enhanced by an almost perfect, clear, warm, not too humid summer day. Walk was leisurely and encompassed several gardens, dramatic views of the Catskills across the Hudson, and reading the many interpretive signs along the trails. Barry & Kathy Skura joined us for the meal as we watched the sun set below the mountains and I realized that mountains do obscure a full sunset experience. The moon began to light the darkening sky as we drove east to Holy Cow for ice cream.

June 26: Annesville Creek Paddle Leader: John Ragusa
We met at the Paddlesport Center at 1 pm. There were 10 participants including the leader. Three of the participants rented kayaks from the Center. The day was warm and sunny with a nice breeze from the south. We entered the inlet at 1:30 pm and paddled around and enjoyed the views. We then paddled over to the Peekskill River Park and had lunch and some of us went swimming. We then paddled further into the inlet and up near the Annsville Creek. We paddled about 2 hours. All had a wonderful time. Participants: Joann Cox, Samantha Greaba, Marie Caruso, Annette Caruso, Ellie Shortle, Don Wilde, Liz Lunn, Carol Gray, Kathleen Sutherland

July 2: Mills-Norrie State Park Walk Leader: Georgette Weir
Lovely Morning with a congenial group. Participants: Ray Winchcombe, Sayi Nulu, Jeff Gross, Michael Lichtman, Jan Jurutka, Rara Montomgery, Larry Montgomery, Margaret Douglas, Beatrix Clarke, Jim Wood, Carol Gray, Marie Caruso

July 10: Dover Stone Church Leaders: Carol Gray and Sue Mackson
A return for some, first time for others, the Dover Stone Church Trails were a treat. We were 11 in all. We opened for the Blue trail, one of three trails of varying terrain. It led to a lovely lookout in Connecticut. The weather pattern was fickle; sun, rain, sprinkles and hot. Each of the
The day was sunny and warm and the waters were calm. There were 8 of us including the leader. We first paddled up near the dam and the leader pointed out the physical features of the dam including the spillway and the gate house. We then paddled north and had a very nice picnic lunch along one of the beaches. The leader then spoke about the history of the NYC water supply system and how the drinking water flows from the Neversink down to NYC. Pinchas Ovide, Denise Karolewicz, Froman & Martha Rabson, Don Wilde, Allison Kappella, Arlene Lucas

Three trails leads to the stunning Dover Stone Church. Historically, Sassacus led survivors of his settlement from a war between British and native Americans into the church (cavern) where they took refuge. Challenging footing, fabulous pictures and a congenial group made for a stimulating day. Ellen Kelly, Connie Haven, Carol Lee, Lorraine Lauffer, Carol Marsh, Jeff Ruhloff, Guest, Jeannette Tully-Baker.

July 10: Mohonk Leader: Roberta Forest
We started at Pine Rd parking area and walked up the Duck Pond trail (after watching some water snakes and the ancient turtle in the pond). The scramble began on the Birchen Trail up through the Lemon Squeeze. Lunch at Lily Pond and afternoon scramble on Labrinth before heading back to our starting point. Rick Pattridge, Cindy Reifenberger, Denno Augustine.

July 16: Harriman- Breakneck Pond Hike Leader: Jean-Claude Fouere
Six of us hiked along the Buck and the Breakneck Mountain trails from Sebago Lake to Breakneck Pond, welcoming the shade of trees on this very hot summer day. We visited the recently renovated AMC Harriman Outdoors Center before heading back by way of an unmaintained trail along the west shore of Breakneck Pond and bushwhacking to reach the lucedo – Mount Ivy trail. A congenial group discussing many topics along the way for a total of 8 + miles. Participants: Maria and Michael Simon, Georgette Weir, Lalita Malik and Anthony Sorce

July 17: Neversink Reservoir Paddle Leader: John Ragusa
The day was sunny and warm and the waters were

Back to the Whites
Continued from page 1
On our way up, hikers coming down the trail informed us that there was a moose in the narrow trail up ahead, but that we could pass it as they had just done. “Avoid eye contact,” they said. Well, by this time we were spread out a bit on the trail, a few having taken a side trail over to South Peak (4523’), a couple of us waiting at the intersection for them and a few coming from behind. We debated the wisdom of making close contact with a wild animal, one that could weigh half a ton at that, but ventured on with the idea that if others had passed the moose without incident so could we. And suddenly there it was, in the mist, up ahead, standing gazing at us, sniffing the air. All its ribs were showing. Clearly the moose was not well, for why would it remain there and not move off into the trees? There was no way to bushwhack around it, as the trees were so dense. We consulted, then proceeded slowly and deliberately, one or two at a time, pausing to assess, looking away, passing by the moose close enough to touch, watching her great cloven hooves intently for any sign of movement. Then the heart-stopping moment was over, as each of us moved toward the summit in the rain, with low scrub all around now, a line of cairns and a thru hiker walking out of the mist toward us on a trail from the west.

The moose had apparently been in the area for a couple of weeks before we saw it, its health deteriorating badly, standing in the trail, and had been reported to the DEC. We learned the next morning that soon after we came down from Moosilauke, it had been shot, mercifully, by an officer and would no longer be on the trail. We were chilly, but once we were back at the lodge we had three courses of hearty mountain fare and there was a
wood fire to dry our belongings before we took to our bunks. All was still. Only the dog Alice could be heard, after her hike and her sight of the moose, lapping from her water bowl and shaking her ears during the night.

**Peaking Out on Liberty and Flume**

We had sun the next day for a shuttle hike of 10 or 11 miles up Mt. Liberty (4459’) on the Liberty Springs Trail, over Mt. Flume (4328’) and down the other side to the Lincoln Woods trailhead. As it is with the group, some intended to summit the first mountain and return the same way, while others planned to go the whole way, so we strung out along the path. It was a while before we started gaining elevation, and as we walked along through the woods, Al D. commented, “This is not good,” meaning we had a lot of work ahead of us before we would arrive at the summit. Predictably, the terrain changed, and we now faced a steep climb with rocks in the trail for a long way, plus it had begun to rain. By some force of nature, everyone was able to keep in touch by cellphone. Five went ahead to the summit, one eventually caught up with them, and as it was raining harder, the others confirmed that they would definitely turn around and go back down.

Once out of the trees on Mt. Liberty, there were precipitous rock ledges and a hiker with three dogs, one barking fanatically, but the rain had stopped, and the views of the mountains all around were magnificent. The trail taking us off Mt. Liberty was exceptional, a narrow earthen path winding around rocks with a huge slide on one side, dwarf trees on the other. Looking back you could see a typically western scene of jagged cliff and sky.

Mt. Flume’s summit was blasted with sun when we arrived, and we took off our packs and rested for a good 15 minutes before it was time to go. The way down was tough, though. One particular spot was almost impossible to navigate, a rock cliff with a massive slab almost totally separated from the mountain, the only option and slippery from the rain. There were also stairs in the woods, no handrail, nothing to support or orient the hiker, and there were many sets of these. We made it off the mountain, passing through hemlock lower down, and followed a brook in the glow of afternoon light out to Lincoln Woods by about 7 pm. Since the car shuttle had to change when others in the party turned around, there ended up being six of us plus a dog packed into one car with all six backpacks as well. Facing the rear, Joe and Alice the dog had their eyes closed much of the way back to the Lodge.

**Heading for Mt. Washington**

The next day, Tuesday, we left Moosilauke and all the wonderful hummus lunches they provided. We headed over to Pinkham Notch and Joe Dodge Lodge, named for the legendary AMC hut master who first worked there in the 1920s. Major trails up Mt. Washington start right from Joe Dodge Lodge, but by the time we arrived, it was “elevenies,” meaning time to eat! Plus everyone had different things they wanted to do. One made it out to Low’s Bald Spot on the Old Jackson Road, while another contingent walked the 1.3 mile Liebeskind Loop nearby. Even though Lisa wanted to lie down in the woods and take a nap, the loop paid off. It led to two different ledges, Brad’s Ledge and Lila’s Ledge, with spectacular views of Mt. Washington at close range, and on the return passed close to massive, lichen-covered cliffs rising from the forest floor.

Wednesday was the day all of us planned to hike on Mt. Washington. Much of the evening before was taken up with alternatives for the day, as we wanted to stay together as much as possible and stay safe, but there were varying ideas on how to accomplish this. Jill Abrahamsen, who had come to the Whites with an independent group of ADKers, wished to stay on with us and hike some more, so now we numbered twelve. A core group wanted to summit Mt. Washington (6288’), choosing the Boott Spur Trail up and Lion Head down (8.4 miles or so round trip). Another group wanted dearly to do a loop going up the Glen Boulder Trail and hike clockwise across the Davis Path to Boott Spur (5500’) and down (7.5 miles total). A third group wanted to do the same route, only reverse it and work counterclockwise. Then two hikers wished to climb the Glen Boulder Trail with those going up that way, but stop at the spectacular...
Glen Boulder, an enormous glacial erratic clinging to the mountainside above treeline at about 3700’ before returning the way they came.

It all worked out. We had clear skies all the way, with a prediction of no rain and no thunderstorms, especially important when there is no escape route above treeline. Everyone was sufficiently challenged. Everyone was stunned by the views and enjoyed being in the sunny alpine environment among mountain cranberry, sweet bilberries, the vastness and great silences. Judging from the stories exchanged at the end of the day, the routes chosen were hugely satisfying.

For those taking the clockwise route, the Glen Boulder Trail led up through deciduous woods on a steep boulder-strewn path. Approaching treeline, the reaches were greater until it became a serious scramble over the rocks. At Glen Boulder, there were views across the ravine to Boott Spur, the ridge we would follow on the descent, a great, wide mass of rocks and scrub, a shoulder, virtually the mountain itself rooted far below at the base. As the trail leveled out near the top of the trail, we entered high scrub, a woods where a white-throated sparrow sang in a small tree. We saw fritillaries, green grasshoppers with black racing stripes, and heard a raven calling, and here came Al DeMaria in our direction, one of the counterclockwise hikers. At the intersection with the Davis Trail, we met up with Nathan and Al Limone, too, taking a break. It seemed surreal to meet our companions in such a remote place.

The way east to Boott Spur was a moonscape of black rock and ominous crag, and the way down the mountain required all of our concentration because of the felsenmeer, the sea of large loose rock with crevasses between that you could hardly call a trail. So much of the time we must look down at our feet and we miss the scenery, we lamented! “But there’s a lot to see at our feet,” Roberta said, and right she was, for there was colorful lichen growing everywhere, along with brilliant, miniature alpine goldenrod and dark wolf spiders going about their lives.

When we stopped to rest, we could enjoy looking at the Alpine Garden spread below the summit of Mt. Washington on the next ridge over and at the headwall of Tuckerman Ravine behind to our left. The light was changing now, becoming more golden. We had more tricky terrain to navigate before entering the trees, and from there we would have 2.5 miles more of hiking down the mountain on switchbacks. The forest changed as we dropped in elevation, and then we began to hear the Cutler River. We felt the cool air rising out of the ravine, a sign of progress, though the reality was we were still a long way from the base. We met up with the Tuckerman Ravine Trail at about 7 pm, made our way past Crystal Cascade and then we were down. We went straight in to dinner completely covered with grime to join the others already seated there, back from their day on the mountain. Judy, the volunteer maître’d setting two great pitches of water in front of us and telling us to drink all of it.

Alice says she plans to come back next year

Taking a break on the Imp... from left to right: Jill Abrahamson, Joe Ferri, Al Limone, Roberta Forest, Dana Bennet, and Anthony Sorace

**Last Look**

Friday was our last full day in the Whites, and although no one wanted a challenging hike, no one wanted to lie around either. It was decided that we would go on a modest 6.3 mile loop nearby, the Imp Trail up to a fine lookout where we would be able to see the entire eastern flank of Mt. Washington. We spent a long time relaxing on a ledge at about 3000’, picnicking, conversing, picking out the ridges and ravines we had visited the day before and resting in the shade of the fir trees.

Conversations about our experiences on Mt. Washington continued long after and went something like this. “It was a loooong hike up to the summit . . . !” 

“Was it better going up Boot Spur?”

“Boot Spur was demanding for us. Once we got to the Davis Path, though, we were fine. We really picked up speed."

“The Glen Boulder Trail going down was made for me with those chutes, but not the Direttissima Trail at the end of the day, with all those rocks and roots? Phew!”

“Glen Boulder going up wasn’t easy. We had a great time, though. We stayed at the boulder out in the open a long time. It was a beautiful spot!”

So, we survived the adventure, and we have the memories and photos. The only time anyone got lost was not in the woods, but on the mountain roads planting cars for our shuttle hike. There were no serious injuries either, only the impressive scrapes and bruises from falling on slippery rocks and a sprained ankle that happened in the parking lot.

![Alice says she plans to come back next year](image1)

![Glen Boulder going up wasn’t easy](image2)
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