



## MID-HUDSON CHAPTER - ADIRONDACK MOUNTAIN CLUB SCHEDULE OF OUTINGS

A more detailed schedule may be found on our web site:

<https://midhudsonadk.org/>

To join an outing and for details contact the hike leader directly

**February 2022**

### **MHADK OUTINGS SCHEDULE FEBRUARY 2022**

The ADK now requires all participants to be vaccinated for COVID-19. Leaders may set rules and limitations for their outings as they deem fit.

**MID-WEEK HIKES** - The leaders offer hikes of varying difficulty to different areas of the Mid-Hudson Valley. Leaders: Ginny Fauci, [gefaucci@gmail.com](mailto:gefaucci@gmail.com) 845-399-2170 (text preferred) or Lalita Malik, [Lalitamalik@aol.com](mailto: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.

**QUICK-RESPONSE SNOWSHOE** - Leader: Ginny Fauci. When there's snow & the roads are cleared, an email will be sent out to everyone on the list. To add your name to the Snowshoe-Quick Response list, go to the bottom of the weekly e-mail to update your subscription.

**QUICK-RESPONSE CROSS COUNTRY SKI** - Leader: Russ Faller [russoutdoors@yahoo.com](mailto:russoutdoors@yahoo.com)  
Contact Russ to be on his list. If you've already been put on the list, you need not request that again this season. Everyone stays on the list until he/she requests to be taken off or when Russ purges the list.

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**Sat, Feb 5 – Mohonk Preserve Duck Pond to Spring Farm, shuttle hike, ~6 miles of rolling hills**

**Leader: Roberta Forest, [robertaforest@gmail.com](mailto:robertaforest@gmail.com)**

As this is a through hike, all will need to carry masks for shuttle at the start and end of the hike. The hike itself will begin at the top of Pine Road. We will follow Lenape Lane to the Blue trail, which we will take from here, it's start, until it ends, close to the Spring Farm parking area. Weather and land conditions will determine whether we hike or snowshoe, and whether we need traction (such as microspikes). Bring snacks, lunch and something to drink. Dress in layers. ADK COVID guidelines requiring vaccination apply. Must confirm with the leader for meeting time.

**Tues, Feb 8 – Giant Ledge & Panther Mountain Rated A – 7 miles, 1,550 feet elevation gain.**

**Leader: Roger Green, [roggr5959@gmail.com](mailto:roggr5959@gmail.com); Co-leader Sharon Klein**

This hike is offered for anyone who wants a fun winter hike with great views as well as for those who want to meet their 3500 club requirements. We will begin from the Route 47 DEC parking lot and follow a simple out and back route, with a short excursion just beyond Panther summit for another viewpoint. Good foot traction is required. All hikers must also bring snowshoes to the trail head. We will decide at the trailhead whether the snowshoes are needed. Pace will be relaxed, but not too relaxed! We want to get out well before sunset. ADK COVID guidelines requiring vaccination apply. Must confirm with Roger for meeting time and for any additional information.

## **Thursday, Feb 10 – MHADK Winter/Spring Hiking Workshop: Webinar**

**Leaders: Sharon Klein, Russ Faller and David Mong**

Winter/Spring Hiking Webinar, Thursday, February 10, 7:30pm-9:00pm EST via Zoom.

Please join chapter members Russ Faller, Sharon Klein and long time instructor and director of the ADK Winter Weekend and ADK Winter Mountaineering Schools, and recipient of the Winter Mountaineering School Leadership Award David Mong, who will be giving a presentation and answering many of the questions you've always wanted answered. Some topics we will touch upon include:

- Gear selection
- Nutrition before and during a hike
- Training
- Safety and minimizing risk
- Navigation tools
- Hiking with your dog

We ask that you register and ask a question or suggest a topic you'd like discussed. The format will be a short presentation with show-and-tell about what we carry in our packs, followed by the answers to your submitted questions. We'll conclude with a live Q&A session.

Register for the workshop and submit a question: <https://forms.gle/GbnS8EeYydSnwx5F8>

Please register by Monday 2/7 for your question to be included.

You will receive a link to the Zoom meeting after registration.

Questions? Please contact Sharon Klein: [catsngunks@gmail.com](mailto:catsngunks@gmail.com)



## **Fri, Feb 11 – Fahnestock S.P., 4.5-5 miles; B+/A-, depending on conditions.**

**Leader: Georgette Weir, [georgette.weir@gmail.com](mailto:georgette.weir@gmail.com)**

We will hike or snowshoe the Catfish Loop, starting from Dennytown Rd. A perennial favorite, with sometimes challenging ups and downs and many rocks. Foot traction (ie, spikes) required; snowshoes may be required. Poles helpful. Small group. Contact leader to register. Covid guidelines will apply.

## **Sat, Feb 12 – Petersburg Pass Ski Touring (Backcountry Skiing)**

**Leader: Ron Gonzalez, [iamrongon@gmail.com](mailto:iamrongon@gmail.com)**

Registration is required. Ron will be screening all prospective participants. He will be asking you about your prior ski and winter hiking experience and your gear. Registration limited to 5 participants.

Petersburg Pass is a great place for advanced skiers to access great backcountry skiing (in the alpine touring sense). If there's good snow, we'll spend a day exploring their ski trails and glades. You will need an alpine touring (A.T.) or telemark ski setup with climbing skins for this outing. We'll skin up to access the abandoned ski trails and then make turns coming down. Local volunteers maintain the ski trails for great skiing. However, the skiing isn't a piece of cake. You'll need to be a capable cross country skier for the touring/climbing, and an advanced to expert downhill (or telemark) skier for the downhill fun (comfortable on black diamond trails at downhill ski resorts, but expect to be challenged).

NOTE: Backcountry downhill/down-mountain skiing is an inherently dangerous sport. You must wear a helmet while downhill skiing, and you are responsible for maintaining control \*at all times\*. Running into a tree or falling off a ledge can \*kill you\*. While this is an abandoned ski area, there is no ski patrol, and the terrain is mostly natural, with all the hidden hazards that implies. If you get separated from the group and get lost in the woods, you can find yourself in extremely steep terrain, in the cold and snow. That can be deadly. If you are not 100% confident in your ability to handle extremely tough downhill skiing and challenging winter wilderness terrain, this is \*not\* the trip for you. You have been warned. In case of bad snow conditions, our Plan B will be to travel another 1/2 hour north to Prospect Mountain for cross-country skiing and maybe some skin up/ski down if their telemark trails are in good condition. (\$22 trail fee at Prospect Mt.) Petersburg Pass is about a 2-hour drive from Poughkeepsie. ADK COVID guidelines requiring vaccination apply.

**Wed, Feb 16 to Fri, Feb 18 – Basecamping at Vernooy Falls, Southern Catskills 3.4 mi. RT for sled/backpack; ~5 mi. for day hike loop; ~2.5 mi. for bushwhack from basecamp**

**Leader: Russ Faller 845-297-5126 (before 8 PM) or russoutdoors@yahoo.com**

The Sundown Wild Forest, near Kerhonkson, in the southern Catskills is an interesting place. It has a lot of history as well as natural beauty. There are the ruins of a grist mill built by the Vernooy family, early settlers who lived on this tract of land from 1694 to 1870. Cornelis Cornelissen VerNooy, Jr. was baptized in the Dutch Reformed Church in Kingston, NY, by his parents on Jan. 5, 1679. So, the Vernooy family has deep roots in Ulster County, NY. Wessel VerNooy enlisted into the New York Regiment in 1779, during the Revolutionary War. The natural beauty of the area includes a balsam swamp with the most beautiful plant growth and a “steps” waterfall with many swimming holes.

We’ll sled-pack or backpack 1.7 mi. from Upper Cherrytown Road to Vernooy Falls, where we’ll set up a basecamp. The next day, we’ll snowshoe the ~5-mi. loop around the Wild Forest. We’ll also do ~2.5-mi. trail hike and bushwhack to the beautiful balsam swamp. For a list of required gear, visit <http://www.amc-ny.org/backpacking/backpacking-gear-lists/#.YHHY8qySIPY>. Scroll down to the Winter list. Scroll further if you’ll need to rent items. Many of these suppliers will mail the gear to you. You could also contact Kenco Outfitters of Kingston (845-340-0552) to inquire about possible rentals. Water purification tablets are required. Water filters will freeze up. Canister or alcohol stoves are not acceptable. White gas stoves (e.g., MSR Whisperlite) are recommended. Each participant will be required to supply their own food. If you need suggestions, contact the leader. Rain or other dangerous weather will cancel this outing. Everyone must be fully vaccinated and with a booster to participate. Pack a face mask. Contact leader to register. Driving directions, meeting time & place will be sent to qualified participants.

**Fri, Feb 18 – Mon, Feb 21 – Wiezel Cabin Program**

**Three day weekend of winter activities in the high peaks region.**

**Contact Pete Cantline: [pete.cantline@gmail.com](mailto:pete.cantline@gmail.com)**

The MHADK Chapter typically rents Wiezel Cabin at Heart Lake, North Elba, NY for our exclusive use for Presidents’ Day Weekend (2/18-2/21). The cabin holds 16, four in each of four bunk rooms; however we will be limiting the occupancy to 8-10 persons, 2-3 max per room, to permit adequate social-distancing. We share men’s/women’s bathrooms, a common room for socializing and eating, and a small kitchen for meal preparation.

Occupancy of the cabin shall conform to the ADK Covid-19 Precautions and Protocols listed below. These are subject to change over time and can be viewed at [adk.org](http://adk.org). The cost for 8 persons will be \$150 per person, for 10 persons it will be \$120, for the three nights.

Arrival date is Friday the 18th. All meals, hors-d’oeuvres and beverages will be on your own this year. There will also be no pot-luck meals. At this time meals prepared in the Loj are only for guests at the Loj. This may change over time as well.

ADK Covid-19 protocol, as of 11/12/21, requires the following:

- All participants must be vaccinated
- Submittal of proof of vaccination to Pete Cantline by 12/15/21
- Submittal of proof of negative Covid-19 test within 72 hours of 2/17/22 to Pete Cantline
- Masks are required indoors, provided by yourself
- Maintain social distancing (6-feet or more)
- Maintain healthy hand sanitation, including regular hand washing and use of hand sanitizer, provided by yourself
- Wipe down and disinfect shower stall and sinks after use, materials will be provided in each of the two bathrooms

At this point we are looking for an expression of Interest, proof of vaccination, and an indication of your willingness to share a room with one or two other persons by 12/15. The list of intended participants will be distributed to permit you to select the individuals with whom you would be willing to share a room. Your final commitment and payment of fee will be due by 1/20/22. If the number of registrants is less than eight, a revised fee schedule may be required.

Please contact Pete Cantline: [pete.cantline@gmail.com](mailto:pete.cantline@gmail.com)

**Sat, Feb 19 – Catskills Fire Tower Challenge; Red Hill Fire Tower 4.2 miles rated B**

**Leader: Sharon Klein, CatsNGunks@gmail.com**

The DEC has given us a new fire tower challenge for 2022. Hike all 6 Catskills towers (there is a new one) in 2022 and you are awarded a patch! Red Hill is the shortest of all of them, and with the new trail and trailhead, it is more accessible and pleasant. The drive there is also quite beautiful. The newly constructed trail gives us many switchbacks on this otherwise steep trail. Closer to the hike we will determine if snowshoes or traction will be needed. As with all the fire towers, there is a picnic area, ranger cabin and fire tower to climb. Please confirm with your full name and phone number to the leader. ADK COVID rules requiring vaccination apply.

**Tues, Feb 22 – Red Wing Recreation Area ~4 miles C+**

**Leader: Lalita Malik, Lalitamalik@aol.com**

Snowshoe or hike, depending on trail conditions. Red Wing is a gem, known to locals, at the intersection of Rt. 55 and Rt. 82. We will hike in fields around ponds, along a creek and through evergreen tunnels. If there is sufficient snow, we will require snowshoes. Otherwise, Micro spikes may work on sections of the trail. Inclement weather cancels. Contact Lalita at LalitaMalik@aol.com by 3:00 pm Monday, February 21. Meeting time and place will be sent to everyone on Monday evening. ADK COVID rules requiring vaccination apply.

**Sat, Feb 26 – Peach Hill in Poughkeepsie, 3-ish miles; B-/C, depending on conditions.**

**Leader: Georgette Weir, georgette.weir@gmail.com**

We will hike or snowshoe trails at this former orchard to the highest point (485 feet) in the Town of Poughkeepsie. Foot traction (ie, spikes) required; snowshoes may be required. Poles helpful. Small group. Contact leader to register. Covid guidelines will apply.

**Sat, Feb 26 – Moonbeams Preserve Hike/Snowshoe, Middletown, NY, 2.0 miles, Class C**

**Leader: John Ragusa, 917-692-1159 or jrjr1059@msn.com**

Part of the Orange County Land Trust, the preserve is comprised of fields, forests and wetlands located at the base of the Shawangunk Ridge and bordering the Shawangunk Kill. We will hike or snowshoe the Shawangunk Kill Trail and the Orange and Yellow Trail. Contact Leader to register and for meeting time. Use GPS Address: 219 Prosperous Valley Rd, Middletown, NY 10940. Heavy rain or snow cancels. ADK COVID rules requiring vaccination apply.

**Sun, Feb 27 – Dickie Barre/High Peterskill winter trek; search for the “Compass Stone”**

**Leader: Sharon Klein, CatsNGunks@gmail.com**

Join NYS DEC guide Glenn Kreisberg from Overlook Mountain Center. We'll hike up into Lost City to view the chasms and crevices found there. We will then head up to an old bedrock quarry found near the summit of Dickie Barre preserve. From there we descend into the Peterskill pass and then ascend to view the High Peterskill “Dolmen”, an unusual boulder with directional features, which make it a potential “compass stone” used for navigation by ancient peoples. This hike will take a different route normally taken once atop Lost City. Depending on conditions it may be rated as moderate-difficult. We will determine the gear required and exact route taken closer to the hike. Depending on the route the hike will be between 3.5 and 6.5 miles.