



# TRAIL WALKER

NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY TRAIL CONFERENCE...MAINTAINING OVER 1300 MILES OF FOOT TRAILS

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2000

## Highlands Trail is New Jersey's Millennium Trail!!

At an October 21 White House ceremony, the Highlands Trail was named New Jersey's Millennium Legacy Trail by First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton.

Stretching from the Delaware to the Hudson River, the Trail, nominated by Governor Christine Whitman, is just 40 miles from Manhattan and provides New Jersey communities organized public access to a rich wildlife habitat located in the most densely populated state in the country. Along the Trail, historically-significant sites link it to the American Revolution and the Civil War. The 100-mile New Jersey portion of the Trail, which is about 50% complete, connects to a similar pathway in New York.

In citing the Highlands Trail as a Millennium Trail, the Washington, DC-

based Rails-to-Trails Conservancy noted, "The Highlands Trail was selected because it is an extraordinary trail connecting the northern part of the state. Also, it is located in an area seen as a major priority by open space protection advocates in an increasingly urban part of our country."

"The New York-New Jersey Trail Conference is thrilled to have the Highlands Trail recognized by the White House Millennium



*The Wyanokies, in the heart of the New Jersey Highlands, typifies the natural features which contributed to the trail's national designation as NJ's Millennium Trail.*

## Anonymous Foundation Awards \$10,000 grant

**Supports training workshops, volunteer recognition**

The NY-NJ Trail Conference is delighted to announce receipt of a \$10,000 grant, awarded recently by a foundation which prefers to remain anonymous. The grant will fund training workshops—for volunteers' trail skills, both specialized and basic, and leadership development—and recognition activities to honor our volunteer workers.

"The Trail Conference deeply appreciates this grant award, which will permit us to better honor our volunteers. Since we are in the 'people-business' as much as the trail business, investing in our active trail workers literally is an investment repaid to the trails," commented Conference Projects Director Anne Lutkenhouse.

Specialized skills training above and beyond trail building and maintenance skills—such as winch and rigging operation, crosscut saw operation and maintenance (for trail maintainers in wilderness areas), and chainsaw safety certification—is increasingly important so we can respond to trail maintenance challenges and new trail building opportunities. Such training is also much valued by Conference members, as it honors the volunteers' commitment to providing the best they can to the regional hiking trail network.

*continued on page 10*

## Jan Hesbon named new Executive Director

After a nationwide search and over 100 applicants, Jan Hesbon—a Conference Life Member and an active volunteer with our Rockland and Orange Counties' Appalachian Trail Management Committee—has been selected as the Trail Conference's new Executive Director.

Jan's wealth of fundraising experience, his knowledge of the Trail Conference, its mission, programs and services, and of the regional issues and agency and colleague organization players were key factors in his selection as the Trail Conference's chief operating staff member.

Trail Conference President Gary Haugland summed up the Search Committee's enthusiasm, "I am thrilled that Jan will become our next Executive Director. He will provide the leadership skills and knowledge base to guide the Trail Conference in the directions that JoAnn Dolan began during her tenure. And I



know that his passionate love of our trails and intimate understanding of our volunteers will make this organization grow stronger

as we face the challenges of the future."

On accepting his new position Jan commented, "Of all my experiences in the non-profit world, my work with hundreds of volunteers, members, and donors has been the most rewarding, so I am very happy to be returning to the work of volunteerism through the Trail Conference. The many challenges faced by the hiking community due to urban sprawl are enormous, and I believe the Trail Con-

*continued on page 3*

Council as a nationally-significant recreation resource. We are creating the Highlands Trail to offer a way for people to explore firsthand the natural, historic, and cultural treasures of this rugged, water-rich region, and thus gain an appreciation for its preservation as open space," said Anne Lutkenhouse, Trail Conference Projects Director, who prepared the nomination application.

The Highlands Trail was born in July 1992, when the NY-NJ Trail Conference and the New Jersey Conservation Foundation/Highlands Coalition, riding on the release of the USDA Forest Service's NY-NJ Highlands Regional Study about the national significance of the Highlands region, applied for technical assistance from the National Park Service's Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program. This proposal asked for help to begin evaluating the concept; seek local support and research; and plan potential routes along an envisioned 150-mile-long hiking trail connecting the Hudson and Delaware Rivers and traversing the 1.1 million acre Highlands physiographic province.

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## TRAIL WALKER

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Nora Porter *Managing Editor*  
Paul Leikin *Advertising Manager*

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New York-New Jersey Trail Conference, Inc.  
232 Madison Avenue  
New York, NY 10016  
212-685-9699  
e-mail: nynjtc@aol.com  
Worldwide Web: <http://www.nynjtc.org/>



### NEW YORK - NEW JERSEY TRAIL CONFERENCE

#### Mission Statement

The New York-New Jersey Trail Conference, founded in 1920, is a federation of member clubs and individuals dedicated to providing recreational hiking opportunities in the region, and representing the interests and concerns of the hiking community. The Conference is a volunteer-directed public service organization committed to:

- Developing, building, and maintaining hiking trails.
- Protecting hiking trail lands through support and advocacy.
- Educating the public in the responsible use of trails and the natural environment.

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The New York-New Jersey Trail Conference is a volunteer, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. It is a federation of 88 hiking and outdoor groups, and 10,000 individuals.

## from the president's notepad...

# From Groundwork to Ground Work

Happy New Year/Decade/Century/Millennium/whatever. No need to get too caught up in the debates about the meaning of the date; the fact is a big chunk of time is behind us and the future lies before us. We have been besieged with historical trivia in the last few months. Why we didn't poll our members to name the 100 best trails of the century I'll never know! But history is the theme of this article—history as the groundwork for the future.

On a beautiful day last autumn I had the pleasure of attending the dedication of a new trailside kiosk commemorating Raymond H. Torrey. Torrey, who died in 1938, was a key figure in the formative years of the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference—one of our Founding Fathers, so to speak. (If you need a visual aid, he's the guy in the knickers on our 75th Anniversary T-shirt design.)

The day also honored another key figure in the Trail Conference's history, one who has dedicated much effort to keeping Raymond Torrey's memory alive—Meyer Kukle. Meyer, who has returned faithfully every year to the site of the Torrey memorial etched in the stone atop Long Mountain, has made me keenly aware of the importance of celebrating our history even as we move forward.

Raymond Torrey helped lay the groundwork for what we are today by helping to develop the organizational framework of the Trail Conference. Formed in 1920 as a federation of hiking and outdoor clubs—most of them centered in NYC—the TC regulated and coordinated the trail building frenzy that followed the annexation of the Harriman estate to Bear Mountain. Torrey was the TC's first secretary, eventually becoming its president.

As a columnist for the *New York Evening Post*, he was a tireless advocate for hiking and parks, keeping the hiking community informed about the area's glorious natural resources and how to get to them. He was also among those responsible for laying out the trails in Bear Mountain/Harriman Parks. And he helped give birth to the Long Path, even giving the trail its name—the “long brown path”—from his weekly column (he in turn had borrowed it from the poet Walt Whitman). While Torrey may have merely fantasized about the LP extending beyond Harriman, the trail now passes through many parklands to the north and will soon be at the boundary of the Adirondack Park.

Torrey laid the groundwork for what we are doing now: protecting trail lands through coalitions and public awareness; providing information about hiking trails to the public; and supplying the impetus for completing the Long Path. We are continuing this work through a different kind

of ground work—one that involves more than dedicated volunteers building and maintaining trails.

As more land is swallowed by sprawl, the value of the remaining open space increases proportionately. Since Torrey's death, the Palisades Interstate Park Commission has continued to add significant new parklands—Minnewaska and Sterling Forest among them—and the Trail Conference has contributed to protecting these and many other public lands and expanding their hiking possibilities. Along the way, we have been mobilized to action by grassroots organizations dedicated to protecting our natural resources. Regional and national land conservation organizations have lent crucial financial and technical support. We've learned that by forging stronger relationships with such groups we can better preserve the region's hiking opportunities.

And the technology at our disposal has changed exponentially since Torrey's time. We have discovered new tools to help us in our ground work—tools often located far off the ground in satellites. We employ

Global Positioning Systems to map parklands and trails with extreme accuracy and GIS technology to add layers of additional information. More and more of us use internet-based communications such as e-mail. The Trail Conference website reaches an audience far larger than Torrey's *Evening Post*. And computers are indispensable to the word-processing and desktop publishing tasks that bring you the *Trail Walker*. You can be certain that Torrey also would have taken advantage of these technological advances.

So when you see the name Raymond Torrey, think of the groundwork he laid, and the ground work remaining for us. There are many new and exciting ways to volunteer your talents to the Trail Conference. We still need people to do the real ground work like building and maintaining trails, but increasingly we need more specialized skills. When you receive your revised Volunteer Data Sheets consider carefully how you can best contribute to the mission of the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference.

—Gary Haugland

## Conference helps underwrite new interpretive signs in PIPC parks

Hikers will find three new interpretive signs at key trailheads in Minnewaska State Park Preserve and Harriman-Bear Mountain State Park, cooperative funding projects organized by the Trail Conference. In addition to the Wildmere kiosk, pictured at right, which was funded by the Charles W. Kennard Foundation; Furthermore, the publications program of the J.M. Kaplan Fund; and the NY-NJ Trail Conference, two other new signs grace Harriman-Bear Mountain State Park trails.

At the Long Path trailhead to the Torrey Memorial atop Long Mountain, off Route 6 in the northern part of the park, hikers will find a sign interpreting the history of the 340-mile, bi-state Long Path hiking trail, and the trail's champion Raymond H. Torrey, co-founder of the NY-NJ Trail Conference. The Charles W. Kennard Foundation graciously donated the funds for this project.

On the Appalachian Trail, near the Trailside Museum and Nature Center, a double-paneled kiosk depicts a historic and inspirational trilogy from the park's annals: the building of the very first section of the AT right in the park by Trail Conference volunteers; the genesis and growth of the NY-NJ Trail Conference as the leadership organization for hikers' interests;



Rita Heckler refers to the new, three-sided kiosk in Minnewaska State Park Preserve. Known as the Wildmere kiosk, it is located near the picnic area by the upper parking lot of the park's main entrance.

and the Palisades Interstate Park Commission's visionary General Manager Major William A. Welch, who was responsible for the design and building of the park. This sign was made possible by a grant from Furthermore, the NY-NJ Trail Conference, and an anonymous donor. The Palisades Interstate Park Commission staff provided technical, design, and construction services for all three signs.

# TORREY MEMORIAL

## Delegates' Meeting February 3rd

**O**ctober 31, 1938. Five hundred people gathered atop Long Mountain, to scatter the ashes of Raymond H. Torrey, and to dedicate the monument carved in the rock.

Sixty-one years later, on October 31, 1999, 70 people gathered at the newly built information kiosk and interpretive sign for a ribbon cutting ceremony at the base of Long Mountain parking lot, a Long Path trailhead. The sign celebrates the 340-mile Long Path hiking trail and its champion, Raymond H. Torrey, as well as the history of the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference and its partnership with the Palisades Interstate Park Commission.

Meyer Kukle displays his award.



Torrey was one of the founders of the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference, co-author of the 1923 *New York Walk Book*, and writer for the *New York Evening Post*. Beginning in 1934, the *Post* ran nineteen of Torrey's columns entitled "The Long Brown Path" showcasing this "trail-less trail," originally conceived by Vincent J. Schaefer.

At the 1999 ceremony hikers came with family members, some representing two and three generations joined together. Even people with disabilities came, including veteran walker Marty Mahler, who is blind now but walked all these trails in the late 1930's when he had full vision.

Palisades Interstate Park Commission Deputy Executive Director, Ken Krieser, joined Trail Conference President, Gary Haugland, and Executive Director, JoAnn Dolan, in dedicating the kiosk. Honorary ribbon cutters for the kiosk opening were Meyer Kukle, Trail Conference oral historian, and Peter Kennard who funded the project. Meyer also received special recognition



Among those continuing the Torrey tradition: (l. to r.) Ken Krieser of the PIPC, Meyer Kukle, Peter Kennard, and TC president Gary Haugland

award for his devotion to teaching the history of the Trail Conference.

Following the ribbon-cutting, some walked the 1-mile trail to the top of Long Mountain swiftly, others slowly with help. After people had gathered over picnic lunches a few words were spoken, flowers laid, and songs sung as part of a simple memorial service.

Meyer Kukle summed up the day: "This gathering on the last Sunday of every October has continued throughout the years. Some of us have kept the tradition going to honor Torrey's memory. His legacy needs to be kept alive. One way to do this is to make this Torrey Hike an annual event, inviting member clubs to join us."

### All Trail Conference members invited

All Trail Conference members are invited to attend the next meeting of hiking club delegates on Thursday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Seafarers and International House, 123 East 15th Street, in Manhattan (corner of 15th Street and Irving Place, one block east of Union Square). The meeting starts at 7 p.m. Please join us for a social hour, beginning at 6 p.m., for a chance to share refreshments and chat with hiking club representatives.

Although each member club or organization of the Trail Conference designates a delegate to act as liaison to the Conference, individual Conference members are always welcome at delegates' meetings. Meetings, held in New York City or at Fort Lee Historic Park on the New Jersey Palisades, provide a wonderful opportunity to share hiking and conservation news, discuss issues and help guide the Trail Conference's future work and activities. We look forward to seeing you there!

Public transportation to the Seafarers House: subway lines 4, 5, 6, N, R and L to 14th St./Union Square. Or bus lines 6 and 7 (Broadway); lines 1, 2 and 3 (Park Ave.); and lines 102 and 103 (Third Ave.).

### New Executive Director

continued from page 1

ference Board can continue to protect more open space for hikers in the bi-state area."

Jan has been a member of the Trail Conference since 1993. As an active volunteer, he was most recently the corridor manager for the 20-mile-long section of the AT in Orange County, NY. He is also active with the Sterling Forest Partnership: in 1996 he became a board member, and was elected chair last year. He was formerly the Planned Giving Officer at The Nature Conservancy of New York, a job he held since 1998. Prior to that job, he was the first Director of Planned Giving at the Natural Resources Defense Council. For nearly 30 years, he has worked with other non-profit organizations including The Paulist Fathers, The Fellowship of Reconciliation, and the American Red Cross.

Upon reflection, Gary Haugland mused, "It's a strange coincidence that Jan and I started our trail work for the Conference on the Appalachian Trail in Orange County. Both of us were inspired at different times by the view from Mombasha High Point into Sterling Forest. Could this be good karma or what?"

### A House Committee proposes a draft budget bill recommending first funding in five years for stateside LWCF

## Update on Land and Water Conservation Fund legislation

When Congress adjourned late last year, a draft budget bill which recommended more than \$450 million for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), including—for the first time in five years—\$40 million in state matching grant moneys for the upcoming fiscal year 2000, was recommended out of a House of Representatives committee. Recommended funding for both the federal and stateside LWCF in the draft bill nearly doubled from an earlier amount proposed. This shows how important the LWCF issue has become to members of Congress. It marks the resurgence of interest in parks, recreation, conservation, smart growth, and open space protection by our elected leaders—thanks to grassroots efforts in support of LWCF funding.

It's not over yet:

### What you should still do

Congress reconvenes this month and both the Senate and House will begin considering final LWCF legislation. We need to continue to express support for LWCF to our members of Congress. Take a minute to call or write your senator and representative and urge them to support full, permanent funding of both federal and stateside LWCF programs. Also, call or write and say thank you to New Jersey Reps. Jim Saxton (R-3rd), Rush Holt (D-12th) and Frank Pallone (D-6th), and New York Rep. Joseph Crowley (D-7th), who were so instrumental in getting this legislation through a House committee.



**New Life Members.** The Trail Conference welcomes four new life members, to our growing "family" of 745: Norman Reicher and Bob Reiss from New Jersey, and from New York, John A. Huke and Emanuel Ieracles Anastos, newborn grandson of Ben Frankel, who joins his cousins (left to right) Abraham Jack Levy, Joseph Levy, Sylvia Hagen Frank, (donor and grandfather Ben Frankel), Jeremy Frank and Ethan Bernard Levy—all given Life Memberships when they were born. Emanuel is "at present no fit hiker as he sleeps all day and stays awake only at night," according to Ben. An individual life membership is \$400, and a joint life membership (two adults at the same address) is \$600. Next time you renew, we hope you'll consider becoming a "lifer." Your money goes directly into the Outdoor Fund, our trail lands protection fund.





# TRAIL NEWS

## Reminder: Storm King trails closure continues

As of press time, all Storm King State Park trails remain closed as well as the five parking lots on Route 9W. See Trail Conference's West Hudson trail map #7. We have no information about when the trails will re-open. The Trail Conference continues to work with Palisades Interstate Park Commission and federal officials to quickly clean up the ordnance and allow public access to resume. The PIPC closed the trails after last year's forest fires when old, unexploded ordnance was discovered in the park.

## Long Path bridges out

The footbridge over Horse Chock Brook and the bridge over the east branch of the Minnesceongo Creek were washed out as a result of Hurricane Floyd. A re-route of the trail is planned around the Minnesceongo Creek. Caution is urged when crossing Horse Chock Brook until the bridges can be replaced.

## Some Catskill watershed lands open for hiking

On National Trails Day 1999, some of New York City's Catskill watershed lands were opened to hiking. Hikers need a permit, which is free, to hike, snowshoe, or cross-country ski on any of the designated New York City Watershed parcels.

## Off-road, Allis Trail Extension connects AT and Sterling Ridge Trail

Sterling Forest State Park has taken a big step for safety and aesthetics by eliminating a 2-mile road walk along Route 17A, a curving mountain road way. The blue-blazed Allis Trail is now within the newly-acquired park land, paralleling the roadway. The Allis Trail is a connecting link between the Sterling Ridge Trail and the Appalachian Trail. Additionally a new parking area has been opened along Rt. 17A at the northern termini of the Sterling Ridge Trail, opposite the Allis Trail. Special thanks to all Conference members whose efforts created this important addition: Steve Butfilowski for flagging the trail connection route, work-trip leaders Pete Tilgner and Suzan Gordon (who are also the Conference's Trails Supervisors for Sterling Forest State Park), and crew members Ginny Livsey, Tom Murray, Warner Johnston, Mike Okamoto, Roel Hammer-

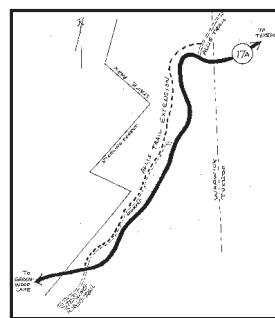
schlag, Susan Gerhardt, Robert Novack, Richard Sumner, and Ursula Levelt. It was blazed and Ginny Livsey, who participated in all seven trail building outings, is now its maintainer. The Highlands Trail follows this new extension.

## Catskills Back Country Hiking Advisory

Hikers should be aware that trails in the New York Forest Preserves (Catskills and Adirondacks) were hard hit by last autumn's Hurricane Floyd, and may still be in damaged condition. There is still potential for downed trees, loose falling rocks, and debris. Caution is advised. Department of Environmental Conservation staff have been taking appropriate actions to address any hazardous situations that may have resulted.

## Catskill Land Planning to be Completed

In October, New York Governor George E. Pataki announced a strategic plan to complete unit management plans for all forest preserve lands in the Catskill and Adirondack Parks during the next five years. A unit management plan (UMP) must be completed before any recreational facilities, such as trails, camping sites, or parking areas, can be constructed within the two parks. The plans involve an extensive analysis of the natural features of an area and the ability of the land to accommodate public use. In the Catskills, the NY Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is responsible for developing unit management plans and ensuring they conform to the requirements of the Catskill State Land Master Plan. One new staff person is slated to be assigned to DEC to work on the 5 remaining UMPs in the northern Catskills which need to be completed.



Larry Wheelock attended. Focusing on a variety of winching techniques, and analysis of the differing types of set-up for a winching system, participants—under the watchful eye of trainer Peter Jensen, a professional trails consultant from Massachusetts—applied learned skills to stockpile rocks in preparation for an upcoming trail work project on Breakneck Ridge, site of the training. In November, East Hudson Trail Crew members under crew chief Bernie Stringer began to apply their skills when they installed 20 of the stockpiled rocks into place as steps. Above, trainer Peter Jensen (left), oversees "students" John Graham, Walt Daniels, and Larry Wheelock as they guide a quarried stone along the highline.

A grant from the Charles W. Kenward Foundation provided a two-day, advanced skills training course in highline rigging techniques and safety. Trail Conference crew members Walt Daniels, John Graham, Mark Hudson, Peter Perricci, Dennis Riel, Denise Vitali and

## Sterling Forest State Park Public Programs

Enjoy winter this year by joining the staff of Sterling Forest State Park for the Hike of the Month. Saturday, January 15, our destination will be Cedar Pond and on Saturday, February 19, the Sterling Fire Tower. Both hikes are rated moderate and are 2-3 long. There will be stops along the way to enjoy the views and interpret the natural and historical features of the landscape. All participants should meet at 11 a.m. at the Sterling Forest State Park Information Center on Route 17, just south of 17A, in Tuxedo, NY. The Hike of the Month is free, but registration is required. To register and for more information call 914-351-5907.



Adirondack Mountain Club/New York Chapter's trail crew members (left to right) Marvin Kirkland, Herman Claussen and Tom Dunn take a breather after a morning of blow down removal on the White Bar Trail in Harriman-Bear Mountain State Park.

## How to get your mail-in hiking permit for Pequannock Watershed trails

■ **Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope with check or money order** with the appropriate fee to: NWCDC, 223 Echo Lake Road, P.O. Box 319, Newfoundland, NJ 07435. Include your telephone number, a photocopy of a current NY-NJ Trail Conference membership card (or photocopy of a hiking club membership card), and a list of the license plate number(s) of the vehicle(s) that will be used on the NWCDC property. This information will expedite the application process.

### FEE STRUCTURE

Newark resident.....	\$4
Newark Senior Citizen.....	\$2
Non-Newark resident.....	\$8
Non-Newark Senior Citizen.....	\$4
Club Group.....	Free
Duplicate [permit] for 2nd car.....	\$1

*(Duplicate is non-transferable)*

■ **Group Permit:** Hike leader must send a letter of request two weeks in advance. Indicate the date of hike, number of persons in group, and intended trail(s). Include contact name, address and phone number (use club stationery when possible). You will receive original and copy of a Special Permit to sign. Return original and save copy to display on vehicle.

■ **Individual Permit:** Includes spouse and children under 18 years of age. Permits are available now. Secure permits early in the year to derive the most benefit. (Permits are always issued for the current calendar year, regardless of the month.)

■ The permit includes an updated trail map, parking decal and a list of regulations, including the locations of areas where hiking is not allowed during hunting seasons. The NWCDC office is located 1 mile north of Route 23, on Echo Lake Rd. in Newfoundland, NJ; telephone 973-697-2850.

## Minnewaska State Park Preserve Winter Events Calendar

Minnewaska is located 5 miles west of the intersection of Route 44/55 and Route 299. Admission prices may change due to weather. Ski season admission prices: Weekends and holidays: \$6 adults, \$5 juniors; Weekdays: \$5 adults, \$4 juniors, \$3 seniors. Park Preserve phone: (914) 255-0752. Hours: 9 am-5 pm daily. Call for conditions.

**Castle Point Ski.** Saturday, January 8, 10 am. Anna Niedzielski Ski or Hike to Castle Point. Bring skis, dress warmly in layers. Please sign up by January 6; 914-255-2011.

**Igloos and other ways to keep warm in winter.** Sunday, January 16, 1 p.m. Join ranger Naja Kraus for a discovery walk and scramble for the whole family in a winter wonderland. Meet at the Peter's Kill Area prepared for an hour and a half outdoors and snow fort or shelter building. Please sign up by January 13; call 914-255-2011.

**Ski Clinic: Basic Cross-Country Skills.** Sunday, January 23, 10 am. (Tentative,

please call 914-255-0752 for information.)

**Ski (or Hike) with the naturalist to Millbrook Mountain.** Sunday, January 30, 11 am. Enjoy a splendid view from Millbrook Mountain. About three hours of moderate skiing with park interpreter Hatti Langsford. (five mile hike if there is no snow.) Bring water and lunch. If hiking, wear comfortable hiking boots, some of the trail might be wet. Everyone welcome. Meet at the upper parking area. Please sign up by January 28; 914-255-2011.

**Snowshoe in Mossy Glen.** Saturday, February 12, 1 pm. Anna Niedzielski, SCA AmeriCorps Educator, leads a moderate hike or snowshoe on the Mossy Glen trail. Meet at the Awosting Parking area. Bring water and a snack, dress warmly in layers. Please sign up by February 10; 914-255-2011.

\*Please Note: During the ski season, hiking access is limited. Please do not walk or hike on groomed carriageways; hiking and snowshoeing permitted in the Peter's Kill area.



## GET INVOLVED

### Long Path sections available in Harriman Park

Sections of the Long Path in Harriman Park are available for trail maintenance assignments. For more information contact Long Path South Chairman Jakob Franke in care of the Trail Conference office.

## TRAIL CREW SCHEDULES



### NEW JERSEY TRAIL CREW

What & Where: Tackle a variety of projects ranging from trail repair to bridge building in NJ's parks and forests. Bring lunch, work gloves and a beverage.

When: Sundays, January 9 and February 13.

Leaders: Sandy Parr, 732-469-5109; Dick Warner, 201-327-4945.



### SECRETARY RECEPTIONIST WANTED

Excellent word processing (70 wpm)

Great writing skills ■ Pleasant phone manner ■ Attention to detail 5 days, 12:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Please mail or fax resume to:  
New York-New Jersey Trail Conference,  
232 Madison Avenue, New York, NY  
10016 212-779-8102

## THE RIVER WALKER

*He walks along the Hudson shore from Nyack to Haverstraw. Midst wild engulfing growth he views abandoned abodes, shorn of roof, interiors forlorn. They are yet of pleasing form, their classic symmetry retained in indestructible stone.*

*Clearings reveal magnificent cliffs, quarried hills spared destruction by the munificence of a few men of means, and of dreams. Weathering and time have given the cliffs a russet hue, the patina of redemption. The WALKER shudders as he contemplates the consequences had quarrying gone on.*

*Tempted by the occasional footpaths to the river edge the WALKER finds small beaches littered with flotsam. Off shore are rotting pile of long-gone piers. Here rock and ice from the Hudson's hills and nearby lakes were barged into the City's insatiable maw. No more!*

*Near Haverstraw a historical marker stands where Benedict Arnold's treachery occurred. As the Revolution triumphed, here also has the battle for the preservation of the magnificent Hudson River Valley won significant victories.*

*Off shore the RIVER KEEPER minds his PCB's and the resurgent fish as he cruises the healing stream. On shore the RIVER WALKER ambles on, alert for glimpse of eagle and returning deer.*

- Paul Leikin

## Volunteer Recruiting Workshop Scheduled

The Trail Conference, like any volunteer-based organization, is always seeking active volunteers for its many programs and services. To help meet the challenge of finding volunteers and to help those who manage volunteers or volunteer programs within our member organizations, the Conference will sponsor a Volunteer Recruiting Workshop on **Saturday, February 12**, at 9 a.m. at Long Pond Iron Works State Park in Ringwood, NJ. Trail Conference Executive Director Jan Hesbon and Vice President Jane Daniels are presenting this free, three-hour, hands-on workshop.

Learn different recruiting techniques to find enthusiastic and competent volunteers, learn when and how to use them effectively, and how to provide a progres-

sion of jobs to keep volunteers interested and motivated. Attendees should bring their sense of humor, a willingness to experiment, and a list of jobs for which they need to find volunteers. The workshop begins at 9:30 a.m. Bagels and coffee will be available at 9 a.m. There will be a hike in the afternoon. If you plan to hike, bring a bag lunch.

Please register via the Internet at the Trail Conference's website: [www.nynjtc.org/committee/membership](http://www.nynjtc.org/committee/membership). If you do not have Internet access, please send the coupon below to the Trail Conference office. Travel directions will be sent with your confirmation letter. Public transportation is available via NJ Transit bus route #197.

### REGISTRATION FORM Volunteer Recruiting Workshop Saturday, February 12, 2000

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As of June 1998, portions of the Wyanokie Crest, Wyanokie Circular, Hewitt-Butler and Mine trails have been closed to public use by the landowner, Sam Braen of Saddle Mountain Industries (a.k.a. VanOrden Quarry), in the Saddle Mountain area adjacent to Norvin Green State Forest in Ringwood, NJ (Trail Conference North Jersey Trails map 21, Grid 5-E/F).

Skylands CLEAN, a local environmental and conservation advocacy organization, reports on the status of two of their efforts, now in the courts, to preserve the landscape and public recreational access in the New Jersey Highlands.

## Outcome of cases will affect Highlands trails

Two lawsuits are underway in Ringwood, New Jersey, that may well determine the fate of several popular trails which until recently were in public use for 75 years. Many hikers have already discovered, much to their disappointment, that parts of the Hewitt-Butler, Wyanokie Circular, Mine, and Wyanokie Crest trails are now closed outside of Norvin Green State Forest, and access to the area known as the Pine Paddies has been cut off. This is the result of trail closings suddenly imposed by landowner Sam Braen, operator of the quarry in Ringwood.

The closings were in retaliation for efforts by residents and by Skylands CLEAN to end, or at least to scale down greatly, the quarrying, which is taking place in a rural, residentially-zoned neighborhood. The closed trails traverse miles of beautiful mountainous forest. Because these approximately 400 acres are also zoned residential, there is the ever-present danger of development. The permanent preservation of these acres, popularly known as the "Wyanokie Highlands," including Saddle Mountain, continues to be one of CLEAN's goals.

After tremendous public pressure from Skylands CLEAN and residents, and based on major ongoing violations, the Ringwood Borough Council voted in May 1999 to deny a license renewal for the quarry. The quarry then filed suit against Ringwood. This case is expected to be heard by February 2000. CLEAN has successfully petitioned the court for intervenor status in this case, both to support the license denial and to serve as a watchdog, since the Borough has been less than enthusiastic about regulating the quarry. One

of the motions we have filed demands that the trails be reopened.

In October 1999, Skylands CLEAN filed a lawsuit against the Borough of Ringwood, in an effort to nullify what CLEAN considers to be an improper zoning ordinance recently passed by the Borough. The ordinance is troubling in several key aspects, including: the definition of steep slopes as those over 25% grade, whereas the State standard is 15%; provision for the granting of variances, under loose and vague terms, to allow for re-grading of steep slopes in preparation for development; lack of ridgeline protection; improperly small lot sizes for non-sewered, environmentally-sensitive terrain—to name but some.

Sam Braen's Wyanokie acres come under this new zoning ordinance. The ordinance's provisions are likely to serve as an inducement for landowners like Braen to develop their lands, which would forever destroy these historic trails. Skylands CLEAN is asking individuals and organizations for help. Your financial support is absolutely essential to help us pay for the legal and professional fees needed to continue these efforts. Contributions are tax-deductible. Checks should be payable to "Skylands CLEAN Legal Fund" and mailed to Skylands CLEAN, 153 Skylands Road, Ringwood, NJ 07456. If you have any questions or have professional expertise that might be useful in one of these cases, please contact CLEAN's coordinator Kathy Baker at 973-962-7599 or by e-mail [clean@skyclean.org](mailto:clean@skyclean.org). Please also visit our web site: [www.skyclean.org](http://www.skyclean.org). Help us to reopen, and permanently preserve, these irreplaceable trails!

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FOR & ABOUT

# Our Members

❖ Thank you to recent new member **Richard Mitnick**, who has a novel "Thank You" of his own: he sent a \$5 donation after a recent hike to say thanks for the good work on the trails. He can't give time, so he wants to offer his thanks with a contribution.

❖ The **Student Conservation Association** is offering paid outdoor leadership positions with their high school volunteer conservation work crews. Crew leaders manage most aspects of 4-5-week-long summer crews comprised of 6-10 high school student volunteers. Candidates must be at least 21 years old with proven youth leadership skills, camping/backpacking experience, and have at least Wilderness First Aid certification or equivalent. Conservation internships are also available in national parks, forests, and wildlife refuges across the country. Many interns will be

eligible for AmeriCorps education awards. For more information on these positions, contact SCA's Recruiting Dept. at 603-543-1700 or e-mail at [cwc-program@sca-inc.org](mailto:cwc-program@sca-inc.org).

❖ The **Adirondack Mountain Club** is now accepting applications for summer 2000 employment. The application deadline is February 15th. The club will hire 40 seasonal employees to maintain trails, provide backcountry information, and operate two mountain lodges in the Adirondack High Peaks. All positions require a strong outdoor orientation and good public skills. Benefits include room and board, a modest salary, and a great setting. Most positions begin in early June and end on Labor Day. To apply, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Adirondack Mountain Club, Box 867, Applications, Lake Placid, NY 12946.

❖ Congratulations to our two newest Long Path End-to-Enders, **Raymond S. Wilkin** of Greenville, SC, and **Donna L. Pasternak** of Huntington, WV. They are end-to-enders #57 and #58, respectively. Both Ray and Donna completed their trek on the Long Path as a series of hikes over a number of years. Ray, formerly of Cohoes, NY, is the first end-to-end to begin his hike on the Long Path north of the Catskills. Although Donna finished her Long Path hike in 1996, she only submitted her tally form in October 1999. Even though the requirements for end-to-end status have grown since 1996, the LP End-to-End Committee decided to recognize her hike since she completed the requirements as they existed at that time. This is in keeping with the committee's motto, *Semper Gumby* (Always Flexible).

The current requirements for Long Path end-to-end recognition are to complete the 341 miles of the Long Path from the George Washington Bridge to NYS Route 146 near Altamont, NY. Most people do it as a series of hikes over a number of years; it's not necessary to hike the trail in

a single trip. After completing your hike send in a tally sheet to the Long Path End-to-End Committee, Ed Walsh, 11 Kwiecinski Street, West Haverstraw, NY 10993-1410. End-to-enders receive a patch and a certificate in October at our annual meetings. Non-members of the Trail Conference should include a \$5 application fee. Tally sheets are available from Ed Walsh at the above address. Please send an SASE with your request.

❖ I am seeking information about the late **Victor Martineck**, who may have been a long-time NYNJTC member, for an upcoming exhibition of his paintings, letters, and artifacts at the Museum of the Hudson Highlands in Cornwall, NY. I'd love to talk to anyone who knew Victor, who can tell me stories about him (both good and bad; I know he was a complicated fellow), and who may have letters, artifacts, or paintings they would be willing to loan to the museum for the exhibition. Reply to David Noland, 914-534-2966 (days or evenings); e-mail at [dnoland123@aol.com](mailto:dnoland123@aol.com). Mailing address is Box 204, Mountainville, NY 10953.

## A Day Out

By Cosmo Catalano

He drives his car about 20 minutes south to the trailhead with the familiar white blaze, parks, shoulders his pack, gathers his maps, and sets off up the trail. The sky is overcast, trying to be blue. Leaves carpet the earth, a gentle breeze encouraging those that haven't yet taken the plunge. It is warm for almost November, a few hardy bugs orbit his head. The smell like no other time of year: not decay, not death, but not renewal either. A few yards up the trail he heads off into the woods, compass out, map in hand, scanning for a sign. There! Along the trees bordering the yard with the swimming pool that's visible from the trail on those hot July days past. He stops, peering at the ground, then at the surrounding brush. He consults his map, and with another glance at his compass, heads into the woods. He is following blazes, but not a path. His trail makes no acknowledgment of the topog-



raphy, views, water sources. He is an [Appalachian] Trail Corridor Monitor on his annual corridor boundary walk.

As his way leads him further from the well-traveled precincts of white blazes, the world he moves through unfolds him in its mysteries. Soon all that can be seen are trees and underbrush. Wildlife, hearing his crunching approach through downed leaves and branches, moves away well in advance of his passage. Except for squadrons of south-bound geese passing overhead, he is alone with his map, compass, and thoughts. Because his way is not of the many, there are no footprints, muddy roots, candy wrappers, or chatter. A dog on a distant farm is his only reminder that others inhabit this realm. He sees much evidence of past dwellers, though: cellar holes, tree stumps, stone walls slowly sending their substance back into the earth, rusty barbed wire fence. "People lived here," he muses, "they actually had farms,

raised crops, animals and children. Went to town on Saturday." All gone now.

As he moves up the steep hillside of quartzite boulders hidden by moss and ferns, he leaves the last wisps of humanity behind. Too rugged for practical men and women with families to raise, this land only witnessed the boots and wagons of sawyers gathering energy to cook food and warm dwellings below. "Bad place to hurt myself," he thinks. "Long ways from any trail; wonder how long it'd be before they found me? Kinda stupid to do this part alone, but the silence..."

Gradually—mercifully—the way levels out as he tops the rise, panting. Just ahead, an opening in the trees. The bones of the hill, scraped clean centuries ago by ice, still resisting the forest's efforts to skin them over. There is no trail to this corner of the mountain. Only he ("and a dozen or so surveyors," he admits ruefully) know this place. No footprints, no crampon scratches on the rocks, no places worn smooth of moss. Pebbles sprinkled onto the surface by the retreating ice have lain here undisturbed ("except for those loggers 100 years ago, who cut nearly every tree on this mountain," he recalls). These thoughts detract not a bit as he sits on glacier-grooved rock and eats his sandwich. Later, he reaches the end of this section of his travels, and must make a crossing, unguided by blazes, to intersect another way that awaits his gaze. Marking his path with small bits of flagging tape, he feels a certain twinge of guilt, as if he is desecrating this place by deliberately leaving what amounts to litter to mark his passing.

Then he reconsiders: "I will come this way next time. These marks will help me

in my task to protect what is here." Stopping them well short of the footpath, only he and the trees will know they are there. Having no bearing on geography, being drawn by humans, the way has little to do with the landscape. It travels up and down over ravine and stream. It lays awkwardly on the ground. Through hemlock and maple and beech. One moment he is striding through knee deep ferns, the next through leafless hobblesh, nascent buds already awaiting the spring.

The most jarring thing about the day is his discovery of each marker, growing in the woods like a metallic mushroom as if it had just sprouted from some strange alien spoor. Utterly and completely of our age, utterly and completely out of place in this world. No signs of how it got there; no tracks, tool marks or disturbed brush. Still, these markers keep the promise that this land can be saved for the future. Heading back now, as the sun moves to light the sides of the trees, he begins to sense the familiar in the landscape. Suddenly a swimming pool is visible through the trees, and yes, here is monument MA239-1, just as it was when he left it.



This essay was originally posted to the Appalachian Trail Mailing List (at-l) at <http://www.backcountry.net> in October, 1999. Catalano is the Monitor Coordinator for the AT in northern Massachusetts, and monitors a section of trail near Cheshire, MA.

*Editor's Note: This article introduces you to Appalachian Trail monitors—volunteers who keep watch on the National Park Service-owned AT lands. Monitors walk the property line boundaries of the federal lands rather than the footpath itself to check for illegal uses of the corridor of publicly-owned land which surrounds and insulates the AT. Monitors are the "eyes and ears" of the National Park Service, providing a vital land stewardship service. In our region all three of our AT committees—east of the Hudson, west of the Hudson, and New Jersey—have, and need, trail monitors. If you are interested in the monitor's role, contact Anne Lutkenhouse at the Trail Conference office, 212-685-9699.*





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# HIKERS' BOOKSHOP

*Story Line: Exploring the Literature of the Appalachian Trail*, by Ian Marshall. University Press of Virginia, 1998. 284 pages.

Reviewed by Nancy Z. Leck

Ian Marshall, an avid hiker and professor of English at Pennsylvania State - Altoona, has written an expressive, unique book about the literary history and geography of the Appalachian Trail; this book belongs to a relatively new form of literature termed "eco-criticism." This survey of almost 20 works, some of which will be familiar to every reader and some of which, at least to this non-English major, are not at all well-known, is woven together with Marshall's own personal observations from hiking the AT over the past twenty years.

In *Story Line* we find Cherokee myths, stories by Mary Noailles Murfree, a writer of the late nineteenth century who focused on local rural society, as well as Robert Frost's poetry, and the novel *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek* by Annie Dillard. We also find Evergreen's (his AT trail name) comments about his fellow hikers, including a pair named Puck and Wolverine and a Harley-riding couple who camp in the Shenandoahs complete with cloth placemats, silverware, and wine glasses. At first Marshall silently mocks this couple for bringing along all the comforts of the "civilized" world but then retreats when he realizes that their enjoyment of the surrounding mountains is as genuine as his.

The chapter on Thoreau's *The Maine Woods* is one in which Marshall's tech-

nique of moving between his own exploration of a place and its literary companion works well. Here he hikes Mt. Katahdin and admits to feeling both disoriented and afraid during a thunderstorm, much as Thoreau did one night when a fire tree suddenly blazed into flames.

At times I found this book engrossing, especially when being re-introduced to great American writers such as Thoreau and Hawthorne. But at other times I was lost in a literary discussion that seemed much like a boring college English lecture. Then, I wished the author would return to the keen observations of the natural world that inspired these writings.

So if you want a very different armchair tour of the Appalachians, filled with lore, and can appreciate a serious literary focus, then you will enjoy *Story Line*.



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## Highlands Trail is NJ's Millennium Trail

continued from page 1

### The value of designation

Legacy Trail designation brings a number of benefits. The trail will receive a marker bearing the White House Millennium Council logo; it will be promoted in the media as an important part of the National Millennium Celebration; a map and description of the trail will be posted on the Millennium Trails website, where it will be featured as a "Trail of the Week"; a Trail map and description will be included on a new national trails database; assistance will be given to staging a major celebratory event on the Trail; and it will be included in a national event on National Trails Day 2000.

Designation will also generate greater public focus on the region that the Trail traverses, thus fulfilling one of the TC's main goals in its development: to focus attention on the Highlands landscape and thereby increase preservation support through grass-roots activism. This is a natural extension of recent greater attention to Highlands' preservation efforts. Just before Earth Day 1999, the Sierra Club named the NJ Highlands as one of 52 "Special Places in America"—one natural feature in each state with national significance worth saving for future generations.

Funds are increasingly becoming available for vital land preservation work. First, NJ Governor Whitman's stable funding source, approved in the November 1998 election, authorizes \$98 million a year for the next 10 years to acquire sensitive open space for permanent preservation. In addition, national efforts by many states and environmental organizations have put forward legislative bills appropriating full funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund to assist both federal and state governments with a pool of funds for preserving dwindling open space.

### Honoring our past and imagining our future...

Millennium Trail selection criteria required that the trail chosen "honors the past and imagines the future" of America by reflecting the heritage and culture of the area it traverses while uniting public and private sectors in collaborative support. The Highlands Trail continues to be a cooperative partnership among volunteer trail clubs, community groups, private landowners, and public agencies, overseen by the Trail Conference.

The Highlands' iron-ore-laden hills have given rich and long-lived service to the independence and history of the United

States. Ringwood Borough's iron-ore industry began in 1740, fueling the colonists' needs for arms and ammunitions during the Revolution. Iron mines and forges dotting the region produced cannonballs, while the famed West Point iron chain across the Hudson River was cast from Highlands ores. Revolutionary War battles were fought throughout the Highlands because of these ore reserves as well as the area's strategic significance to New York City. Gen. Washington over-wintered his headquarters there for several seasons. Mahlon Dickerson, a military general, NJ governor, and Secretary of the Navy under President Andrew Jackson, owned one of the largest mines in the country, in Succasunna.

The Highlands Trail was envisioned as a small-scale model of the "Greenway Spine" concept: a foot trail forming the backbone of a recreational hiking system with other trail networks feeding into, or off of, it—much like ribs attach to the spinal column. Already, the Fanny Highlands Trail Network serves as an example of this concept. The Fanny system, a planned 50-mile hiking trail network branching off the Highlands Trail, has 30 miles open for public use, bringing communities' local trail resources into a

more regional network, which can permit wider exploration and recreation. Other proposals for trails and trail systems to connect with the "spine" include the Ridge and Valley Trail, the Liberty-Water Gap Trail, and municipal systems.

The Trail Conference would like to thank the growing list of sponsors to the Highlands Trail project over the years: National Park Service's Rivers Trails and Conservation Assistance program, New Jersey Conservation Foundation, and Sen. Frank Lautenberg (NJ-D) for the original application for RTCA help. We would also like to thank our funders: Eastern Mountain Sports; Wickers, Inc.; Recreational Equipment, Inc.; Open Space Institute-Rural New York Grant Program; Conservation Fund's American Greenway Dupont Awards Program; Campmor; ABC Interactive; Sierra Club; our agency partners: NJ Department of Environmental Protection - Divisions of Parks & Forestry, and Fish, Game & Wildlife; Newark Watershed Conservation and Development Corporation; Townships of West Milford and Washington; Morris County Park Commission; North Jersey District Water Supply Commission; Palisades Interstate Park Commission; Passaic and Warren Counties, and private landowners.

Governor Whitman submitted three



## SOME FEATURES OF THE HT

Winding through the North Jersey counties of Passaic, Sussex, Morris, Hunterdon and Warren, the Highlands Trail offers a wide range of experiences, from challenging, lung-straining climbs up Windbeam Mountain to dangle over the Wanaque Reservoir—the state's largest, supplying 25% of NJ's residents with water—to easy strolls along the former Morris Canal towpath in Stephens State Park. Other features include:

- ❖ Monksville, Wanaque, Clinton, Oak Ridge reservoirs
- ❖ Weis Ecology Center, with its environmental education center
- ❖ Chickahoki & Post Brook water falls
- ❖ mountain laurel and rhododendrons on the ridges
- ❖ puddingstone rocks on Bearfort Ridge
- ❖ Bearfort Ridge fire tower
- ❖ Ken Lockwood Gorge & trout stream
- ❖ sections of the old Morris Canal towpath
- ❖ Long Pond Ironworks Historic district (with scheduled tours)
- ❖ shoreline of Echo Lake
- ❖ iron mines
- ❖ diverse wildlife: over 400 black

bears roam here, as well as bobcats, river otters, bald eagles, rare, threatened and endangered species; also a migratory resting place for countless hawks and neo-tropical songbirds

### Current status of the Highlands Trail

About 50 contiguous miles of the Trail are open from the NY/NJ state line to Mahlon-Dickerson reservation in Morris County. Heading south from the state line, the Trail passes through Wanaque, Wildcat Ridge, and Sparta Mountain Wildlife Management Areas; Long Pond Ironworks State Park; Norvin Green and Abram S. Hewitt State Forests; Mahlon Dickerson Reservation, and private lands.

Other trail sections have been built in southern Morris and Hunterdon Counties. We expect to announce public access to these later this spring. The Warren County route is progressing through the land acquisition phase as the county's open space preservation program acquires property. Most recently, the county closed on the Marble Hill property, the anchor point for the Highlands Trail on the Delaware River.

For the Highlands Trail description and maps pamphlet to sections currently open, send a self-addressed, stamped (55 cents) envelope to the Trail Conference office, requesting the Highlands Trail packet.

trails as finalists to the Washington, DC-based panel which made the final selection. The other two were the Liberty-to-Water-Gap Trail, a combination of both existing and envisioned trails stretching across the state from Liberty State Park to the Delaware Water Gap, and the Batona Trail, a 50-mile, long distance trail in southern New Jersey's Pine Barrens.

The Millennium Trails initiative, a collaborative effort of the White House Millennium Council, the US Department of Transportation, and the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy, seeks to recognize, promote, and stimulate the US trail movement. Each

of the 50 Millennium Legacy Trails—representing 47 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands—is the essence of the themes of history and future within a state's boundaries.

There are two other types of Millennium trails: the 12 Flagship Trails which encapsulate our history and hope for the future on broad national themes (the Appalachian Trail is one) and the 2000 Community Millennium Trails—those trail projects registering for National Trails Days 1999 and 2000.

## \$10,000 grant funds volunteer programs

continued from page 1

Three thousand dollars of this grant will cover costs (food, travel, leader's salary) associated with hosting 2 professionally-led, volunteer trail crews to our region. This format allows local Conference members to learn new, and bolster existing, skills by working side-by-side with these visiting experienced leaders.

Another three thousand dollars will permit the Trail Conference to sponsor additional trail maintenance, chainsaw certification, and leadership development courses, especially in the western New Jersey region where efforts are underway to strengthen the presence of the Trail Conference. The Volunteer Recruiting Workshop announced in this issue (see page 5) is the first workshop to be offered through this grant.

Although so many active Conference trail volunteers do their service for the love

of it and the sense of giving, receiving acknowledgment is still important for morale. While the Trail Conference puts its limited dollars primarily into direct trail work or trail protection, literally investing in the ground, it nonetheless wanted to recognize in a more broad way our cadre of volunteers. Four thousand dollars of this grant award is earmarked for volunteer acknowledgment to honor the volunteers of the Trail Conference's 11 trail committees—the maintainers and committee leaders who literally are the heart and soul of our services and mission. To say "Thank You," a series of regionally-located "socials"—picnics, small receptions, or similar—are planned, since volunteers are widely dispersed in both states. If funds allow, a small memento of thanks might also be given.



continued from back cover

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15**  
FVT. Wyantikie Circular Ringwood. Leader: Mary Dell Morrison 908-694-1173. Meet 10 a.m. Weis Ecology Center. Circular hike may include Chickahole Falls, Otter Hole and other points of interest.

**FRIDAY - MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18 - 21**  
SCAC. President's Weekend cross-country ski trip to Stowe, Vt. Leader: Norman Paley, 718-668-1354. Annual ski trip to the #1 rated x-c ski area in the East. By bus there and return. Stay at granite Vermont country inn.

MSC. Washington's Birthday Ski Weekend. Ski and x-c ski at our lodge in Waitsfield, VT. By bus. Call 212-978-8191 for info.

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19**  
UTC. Jamaica Bay and Rockaway Beach. Leader: Judy Levine, 718-482-9659 till 10 p.m. Meet: 10 a.m. at Broad Channel on A trail station upstairs near token booth. Brisk to moderate pace, 5.6 miles. Circular hike around the Bay, through scenic town, over a bridge to the beach and ocean of Jamaica Bay Wildlife Preserve. Then go over bridge to Rockaway Beach. \$1 donation to Jamaica Bay Preserve appreciated. Dress warmly; bring lunch and water.

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20**  
GAHC. Ward Pound Ridge Reservation, Cross River, NY. Leader: Wolfgang Helm, 212-931-8254. Call ahead requested. Meet: 10 a.m. at museum parking lot. Hikes with possible cross-country skiing NYR. Peekskill to Bear Mountain. Leader: Dennis Gin, 212-925-2739. Meet: call leader. Hike on the Camp Smith Trail, Popolopen Gorge Trail, and a climb over the summit of Bear Mountain.

IHC. Black Rock Forest. Leader: Jim Hayes, 201-825-9506. Meet: 9 a.m. at Anthony Wayne Recreation Area north parking area, Harriman Park, NY. Moderately strenuous, about 8 miles. Route will probably include Mount Misery, Black Rock Mountain, Rattlesnake Hill, and Hill of Pines. Several good views.

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21**  
RWV. Thomas Cole and Black Dome Mountains. Meet: 7 a.m. at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market Street, Saugerties. Strenuous 5.9 miles, 5.5 hours. Snowshoes and crampons required. In-clement weather date-following Monday. For more information call 914-246-7987.

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24**  
FVT. Lake Tiorati Circular. Leaders: Charlie & Anita Kientzler 973-835-1080. Meet: 10 a.m. Lake Tiorati, Seven Lakes Drive, Harriman State Park. Moderately strenuous hike around Lake Tiorati. If the trails

are clear we shall get to see the Hassendever Mine.

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26**  
OC. Byram River Gorge. Leader: Mayer Wiesen, 516-671-2095 before 10:30 p.m. Meet 9:30 a.m. at Bainbridge and Jerome Avenues, street level. Moderate steady pace, 7 miles. Visit hemlock gorge in Connecticut that stays green year round along a river trail. Maybe there will be some white snow, a yellow sun, and a blue sky to go with the green hemlocks and clear river. Bring an extra pair of socks. No smoking on trip. Service Fee: \$3 non-members.

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27**  
TMC. Old Croton Aqueduct: Greystone to Irvington. Leader: Hal Kaplan, 914-636-3156, message on ans. machine. Meet: at Greystone Station at 10:57 a.m. Take 10:20 a.m. Hudson line train from Grand Central Terminal to Greystone. A 7-mile winter walk, including side trips to nearby preserves. Basically level but includes two steep stair climbs. Drivers: park locally, not in station commuter lot. Station is on Harriman Ave., west of Warburton on the river, in northwest Yonkers.  
OC. Saxon Woods Park. Leader: Roland Chapeau. Meet: board the New Haven Line train from GCT 42nd St. to Mamaroneck at 9:40 a.m. or at 9:57 from Fordham Station where the leader boards, arrive at 10:19 a.m. Easy 8-10 miles; circular hike along ponds, lake, swamp, brooks, and the Weinberg Nature Center with big trees and mountain scenery. Dress warmly. Bring lunch and hot drink. No smoking on hike.  
IHC. Jones Point. Leader: Pete Pigotti, 718-769-3814. Meet: 9 a.m. at Jones Point parking lot on Rt.9W, Jones Point, NY. Moderately strenuous, with some bushwhacking. Very different hike to an obscure location unknown even to the leader.

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28**  
RWV. Blackhead Mountain via Lockwood Gap. Meet: 8 a.m. Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market St., Saugerties. Strenuous 4.4 mi., 4 hrs. Snowshoes and crampons may be necessary. In-clement weather date-following Monday. For more info call 914-246-7616.

**MARCH**

**THURSDAY, MARCH 2**  
FVT. Johnsonstown Road Circular. Leader: Joe Brownlee 973-635-1171. Meet: 10 a.m. Johnsonstown Road, Harriman. 8 miles with several views.

**SUNDAY, MARCH 5**  
HHC. Washington Xing State Park. Leader: Phil Tunison 609-466-3802. Meet 10 a.m. Flemington Outlet Center. 5 moderate miles through the woods and fields of the State Park. Hiking boots, water and snack/lunch.

**CLUB CODES**

FVTW Frost Valley Trail Walkers. Contact: Cheryl Short, (201)299-0212. Mon. 3 mi., Tues. 6-7 mi., Wed. 5 mi., Thurs. 7-10 mi., Fri. ramble up to two mi.  
GAHC German-American Hiking Club. Contact: Evelyn Hoyer, (718)457-8319.  
HHC Hunterdon Hiking Club. Contact: Lud Bohler, (908)788-3941.  
IHC Interstate Hiking Club. Contact: Brian Mazur, (973) 478-5285; interstatehiking@mindingspring.com. Schedule \$1. on request.  
MSC Miramar Ski Club. Contact: Jay Schwarz, (212)6173-7132.  
NYR New York Ramblers. Contact: Chris Zeller, (212)260-4879. Hikes may be strenuous.  
OC Outdoors Club. Contact: The Outdoors Club, PO Box

227, Lenox Hill Station, NYC 10021. Free schedule on request.  
PPOW Protectors of Pine Oak Woods. Contact: Richard Buegler, (718)761-7496. Staten Island hikes.  
RWV Rip Van Winkle. Contact: Fred Backhaus, (914) 246-5670.  
SC-AC Sierra Club, Atlantic Chapter Outings Committee. Contact: Sierra Club, Atlantic Chapter Outings Committee: (718)370-2096.  
TMC Thendara Mountain Club. Contact: Sybil Sidelman, (516) 295-0582, or Val Cutajar, (516)838-2614.  
UTC Urban Trail Club. Contact: Cap Field, (718)274-0407.  
WWW/WEC Weis Wyantikie Wanderers/NJ Audubon Society's Weis Ecology Center. Contact: Wendy Rihoades, (973) 835-2160, for hikes and program schedule.

The activities listed are sponsored by member clubs of the NY-NJ Trail Conference. All hikers are welcome subject to club regulations and rules of the trail. You are responsible for your own safety. Wear hiking boots or strong, low-heeled shoes. Bring food, water, rain gear, first aid kit, and flashlight in a backpack. Leaders have the right and responsibility to refuse anyone whom they believe cannot complete the hike or are not adequately equipped. Easy, moderate, or strenuous hikes are relative terms; call leader if in doubt.

Many of our affiliate groups sponsor hikes which are not listed in the Hikers' Almanac. For a descriptive list of Conference clubs, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your request to NY-NJ Trail Conference, 232 Madison Ave., Rm. 802, NY, NY 10016.

**HEALTH HINTS FOR HIKERS**

**THE SILENT KILLER**

by Albert P. Rosen, M.D.

A recent "Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report" issued by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) listed six deaths, all in Georgia in March 1999, caused by carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning associated with camping. In the first incident, four people were found dead in a zipped-up tent: a 51-year-old man, his 10-year-old son, a 9-year-old boy, and a 7-year-old girl. A propane gas stove, found still burning inside the tent, was assumed to have been brought inside for heating.

In a second incident, a 34-year-old man and his 7-year-old son were found dead in a zipped-up tent located in a group



campground. A charcoal grill, found inside the tent, had been used outside for cooking then brought into the tent to provide warmth.

Between 1990 and 1994 there was an annual average of 30 fatal CO poisonings occurring inside tents or campers. The CDC advises campers not to use fuel burning equipment such as lanterns, camp stoves, camping heaters, or charcoal grills inside tents, campers, or other enclosed shelters. Opening tent flaps, doors, or windows is *insufficient* to prevent the buildup of CO concentration.

Unfortunately, carbon monoxide is odorless and colorless and gives no warning. To prevent hypothermia, the CDC recommends adequate clothing and bedding and the consumption of extra calories and fluid when exposed to the cold. All backpackers and overnight hikers take heed and wear a hat!

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# HIKERS' ALMANAC

## JANUARY

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 1

UTC. Garvies Point and Welwyn Preserve. Leader: Rolande Chapeau. Meet: Take IRT #7 train to last stop in Flushing, meet in front of Stern Dept. Store on Roosevelt Ave. by bus stop N21. Bus leaves at 9:45 a.m., arrives at 10:43, to Glen Cove Pratt Blvd/Bridge St. 7 to 8 miles, easy circular hike through the beautiful trails of the preserves and their shore. Scenic bus ride along L.I. Sound. Bring lunch and hot drink. Optional New Year's dinner in Chinese restaurant upon return to Flushing. No smoking on hike.

OC. Long Beach to Lookout Point. Leader: Mike Puder, 718-743-0920. Meet: at Roy Rogers across from the LIRR ticket windows, Penn Station lower level, to take train to Long Beach. Please call leader week of hike for meeting time. Moderate, steady pace, 5 miles along the beach to welcome in the New Year. Bring lunch and water.

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 2

IHC. Skylands in Winter. Leader: Roy Williams, 973-283-9756. Meet: 9 a.m. in Parking Lot A, Skylands Manor, Ringwood St. Park, NJ. Moderately strenuous. The views from Pierson Ridge will be clear and crisp. The ice flows on Mount Delancey should be worth recording on film.

### MONDAY, JANUARY 3

RWV. Shaupneak Ridge, Town of Esopus. Meet: 8 a.m. at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market Street, Saugerties. Moderate 5.4 miles, 4 hours. Depending on snow conditions, snowshoes and crampons may be necessary. Inclement weather date following Monday. For more information call: 914-246-5670.

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 6

FVT. Reeves Meadow Circular. Leaders: Carolyn and Jim Canfield 973-728-9774. Meet: 10 a.m. Reeves Meadow Parking Winter ramble over Raccoon Brook Hills and a few other favorites. Moderate to strenuous depending on trail conditions.

### SATURDAY OR SUNDAY, JANUARY 8 OR 9

SCAC. Cross-country skiing. Leader: Roy Silverfarb, 212-877-5921. We will ski wherever the snow lies, either day to Minnevaska, the Catskills, or Berkshire. Expect 8-mile moderate ski outing.

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 8

IHC. Hundson Highlands - Anthony's Nose. Leader: Eileen Berch, 201-703-5555, ouat55@hotmail.com. Meet: 8:30 a.m. at Old Toll House, Rts 6 and 202, Peekskill, NY. Moderately strenuous, great views. Hike north from toll house to Anthony's Nose and follow same route back, with ups and downs. Please pre-register by phone, message with name and phone number is fine. Very bad weather cancels. Call between 6:00 a.m. and 7:15 a.m. if doubtful.

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 9

HHIC. Rambling Road Hike, PA. Leader: Sharon Rider 908-788-8993. Meet: 9 a.m. Remington Outlet Center. Rambling road hike 4.5 miles will take place just across the bridge from Stockton, NJ. Bring positive attitude and water. Possible lunch in Stockton, if group agrees. UTC. Rockland Lake to Nyack. Leader: George Glaz, 212-533-9457. Meet: 9:45 a.m. at the George Washington Bridge Bus Terminal in the upper level information area. About 6 miles level walking and one short descent. Bring lunch and beverage.

GAHC. Staten Island Greenbelt/Richmond town Restoration Leader: Al Rosenblatt, 718-720-5370 & Evelyn Hoyer, 718-457-8319. Meet: 10 a.m. at Historic Richmond town parking lot at Richmond Road & Richmond Hill Road. Map with exact description available.

NYR. Lenape Trail, Newark to Verona. Leader: Ray Krant, 718-435-4094. Meet: Call leader. Walk through the parks of Essex County, climb the Watchtowers, and pass the Cedar Grove Reservoir.

TMC. Arden Hot Spots. Leader: Barry Skura, 718-727-7294; Bskura@interport.net. Lemon Squeezer, Times Square, Ship Rock, Fingerboard Mountain. Brisk pace, goes in snow but, in event of heavy snow, call leader for additional directions.

WEC/WWW. Sterling Forest Loop Hike. Leader: Don Weise, 973-835-2160. Meet: for 9:30 a.m. Strenuous 6 miles through the forest, including new trails through several different wild habitats, cliff top views and more. For adults and teens. Dress for weather and bring plenty of water and lunch. \$5 for non-members, \$4 for members.

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IHC. Tuxedo Circular. Leader: Frank Bauer, 201-845-3066. Meet: 9 a.m. at Tuxedo Railroad Station, Tuxedo, NY. Moderately strenuous. A combination of the Ramapo-Dunderberg, Triangle, and Tome-Mount Ivy trails and a visit to Claudius Smith's Den. Rain cancels.

### MONDAY, JANUARY 10

RWV. Rusk and Hunter Mtns. Meet: 7 a.m. at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market Street, Saugerties. Strenuous. Rusk is a bushwhack, 9.0 miles, 6.5 hours; snowshoes and crampons necessary. Inclement weather date following Monday. For more information call: 914-246-1823.

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 11

FVT. Butler-Montville Trail. Leader: Bill Barton 908-647-6658. Meet: 10 a.m. Pyramid Mt. Visitors Center. Bear Rock, Pyramid Mt., Tripp Rock and more.

### FRIDAY - MONDAY, JANUARY 14 - 17

SCAC. Holiday cross-country skiing. Leader: Roy Silverfarb, 212-877-5921. Ski at the Garnet Hill and Lapland Lakes ski resorts in the Adirondacks. Rentals and lessons available. Estimated lodging costs \$100 p.p. for a double room for 3 nights.

MSC. Martin Luther King Ski Weekend. 212-978-9191 for info. Ski and cross country ski at our own lodge in Waitsfield VT, by bus.

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 15

HHIC. Delaware River Ice Formations. Leader: George Bishop 908-788-7262. Meet: 8:30 a.m. Remington Outlet Center. 7 miles. Pleasant walk along Delaware River from boat launch parking lot, south of Frenchtown to cliffs. Hiking boots, water and lunch.

RWV. Mt. Everett, MA. Meet: 8 a.m. at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market Street, Saugerties. Moderate 5.6 miles, 4.5 hours, from Rt. 41 via Race Brook Falls. Depending on snow conditions, snowshoes and crampons may be necessary. Inclement weather date following Saturday. For more information call: 914-246-4145.

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 16

UTC. Scarborough to Tarrytown on the Old Croton Aqueduct. Leader: Mike Puder, 718-743-0920; call anytime for information. Meet: Grand Central Terminal Information booth to take train to Scarborough. Please call leader week of hike for meeting time.

IHC. Cranberry Galore. Leader: Pete Rigotti, 718-769-3814. Meet: 9 a.m. at Silvermine Parking Area, Harriman Park, NY. Moderate, circuitous locus. Bushwhack to our favorite mine.

### MONDAY, JANUARY 17

RWV. North Lake picnic area via Horse Trail from Palenville. Meet: 8 a.m. at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market St., Saugerties. Moderate 8.25 miles, 5.5 hrs. Depending on snow conditions, snowshoes and crampons may be necessary. Inclement weather date following Monday. For more info call: 914-246-7616.

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19

FVT. Ramapo Mountain State Forest. Leader: Mickey Siegel 201-797-7054. Meet: 10 a.m. in 1<sup>st</sup> parking lot. Tour of Ramapo Lake and surrounding Ramapo Mountains. Bring lunch.

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 22

UTC. Branch Brook Park. Meet: 11 a.m. at top of PATH escalators in World Trade Center. Then Newark subway to park.

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 23

GAHC. Nassau Greenbelt, Cold Spring Harbor, NY. Leader: Gunter Georgi, 516-893-2336. Meet: 10 a.m. at parking lot east at beginning of trail, 500 ft. north of traffic light at junction of Routes 25A & 108.

### MONDAY, JANUARY 24

RWV. Halcott Mt. Meet: 8 a.m. at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market Street, Saugerties. Strenuous bushwhack, 4.5 miles, 4.5 hours; snowshoes and crampons necessary. Inclement weather date following Monday. For more information call: 914-246-7158.

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 27

FVT. Ramapo Circular. Leaders: Charlie & Anita Kentler 973-

835-1060. Meet: 10 a.m. Skyline Drive parking lot #2. Boy scout lakes, Matapan Rock, Ramapo fire tower and old castle to be seen on this moderately strenuous traversing both east and west sides of Skyline Dr.

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 29

PPQW. Staten Island Greenbelt Circular. Leader: Dick Baugler, 718-761-7496; Co-leader: Herman Zaags, 718-727-0772. Meet: Meet 9:30 a.m. at Clove Lakes parking lot, one block north of Victory Blvd. on Clove Road. Take 6:30 a.m. boat from South Ferry and 9 a.m. any 60's bus from St Terminal to Clove Road. Moderate 10 miles. We go in all weather conditions. Sturdy shoes, lunch, and beverage a must.

TMC. Van Cortlandt Ramble. Leader: Ruth Harwood, 212-749-3994. Meet: 1 p.m. in front of bldg. opp. Burger King at 242nd St. and B'way. An easy walk of about 3.4 miles on wooded trails and paths. Pain or ice cancels. Register with leader in advance.

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 30

IHC. Wawayanda. Leader: Steve Rikon, 973-962-4149; RIKON@prodigy.net. Meet: 9 a.m. at A & P/Hewitt Post Office/Five Star Shopping Center, Warwick Tpk, Hewitt, NJ. Moderately strenuous. We'll follow a variety of trails through frozen rhododendron and cedar swamps.

### MONDAY, JANUARY 31

RWV. Mt. Everett and Guildler Pond, MA. Meet: 8 a.m. at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market Street, Saugerties. Moderate 4.5 miles, 3.5 hours. Depending on snow conditions, snowshoes and crampons may be necessary. Inclement weather date following Monday. For more information call: 914-246-5664.

## FEBRUARY

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5

IHC. Tohicon Creek Hike. Leader: Judy Moore 908-782-1782 (no calls after 9:30 p.m.). Meet: 10 a.m. parking lot at Frenchtown Bridge. Brisk 6 miles along the Tohicon Creek in Upper Black Eddy to High Rocks in Stover State Park. Bring water, snacks/lunch or optional lunch in Frenchtown.

RWV. Thacher Park, Helderbergs. Meet: 8 a.m. at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market Street, Saugerties. Moderate cross-country skiing/snowshoeing possible, 3-4 miles, 4 hours. Inclement weather date: following Saturday. Depending on snow conditions, snowshoes and crampons may be necessary. For more info call 914-246-4145.

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6

GAHC. Palisades & Hudson River Shoreline. Leader: Helly de Liz, 201-592-6377; call leader beforehand. Meet: 10 a.m. at Linwood Park Shopping Dr., at west side of Route 9W, Fort Lee, NJ.

NYR. Butler to Haskell in Norvin Green. Leader: John Augliera 212-877-3351. Meet: call leader. Hike on various trails in the Norvin Green Forest visiting Oslo Rock and Roomy Mine.

TMC. In Search of Paradise Rock. Leader: Barry Skura, 718-

727-7294. About 10 miles at a brisk pace. Warm up for Valentine's Day by joining our search for the legendary lovers' hideaway, Paradise Rock, overlooking Lake Cohasset. Most of the day we will explore the Long Path and a variety of other central Harriman trails with a short bushwhack in the Lake Cohasset area. Goes in snow but in event of heavy snow, call leader for additional directions.

OC. Nassau Greenbelt-Bethpage to Massapequa. Leader: Mike Puder, 718-743-0920 anytime for recorded message. Meet: Roy Rogers across from LIRR ticket windows on lower level of Penn Station to take LIRR train. Call leader week of hike for meeting time. Moderate steady pace, 8 level miles. Bring lunch and water.

UTC. Old Croton Aqueduct - Glenwood to Tarrytown. Leader: Sal Vartaro, 718-420-9509 between 8-10 p.m. Meet: 9:00 a.m. at Grand Central Terminal. Beautiful 8 miles along the Hudson.

IHC. Mystery Swamp. Leader: Pete Rigotti, 718-769-3814. Meet: 9 a.m. at Elk Pen Parking Area, Arden, NY. Strenuous, circular hike from the Elk Pen. Never done before with a secret location.

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7

RWV. Graham Mountain. Meet: 8 a.m. at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market Street, Saugerties. Strenuous bushwhack 7 miles, 5 hours. Snowshoes and crampons required. Inclement weather date following Monday. For more information call 914-246-8546.

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8

FVT. Allamuchy Mountain State Park-Ski or Hike. Leader: Peter Wolff 973-239-0766. Meet: 10 a.m. Panther Valley "BDL" restaurant and we will decide which parking lot to be used depending on weather. Level hike with beautiful lake for lunch spot.

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13

WEC/WWW. Harriman Fire & Ice Hike. Leader: Don Weise, 973-835-2160. Meet: for 9:30 a.m. Strenuous 8 miles including great views, a mine, scenic lake, and the "lemon squeezer." For adults and teens. Dress for the weather and bring lunch and water. \$5 for non-members, \$4 for members.

IHC. Appalachian Trail: PIP/Anthony Wayne to Bear Mountain Bridge. Leader: Elsie and Joel McKenzie, 973-694-3056; emckenzie@spynet.com. Meet: 9 a.m. at Bear Mountain Inn, Bear Mtn, NY. Moderately strenuous, about 7 miles traversing West and Bear Mountains with lots of great views and some climbing. \$5 parking fee at inn. Shuttle required.

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14

RWV. Tivoli Bays & Cruger Island. Meet: 8 a.m. at Sawyer Savings Bank parking lot, 87 Market Street, Saugerties. Moderate 5.5 miles, 3.5 hours. Inclement weather date following Monday. For more information call 914-246-4580/246-4145. Depending on snow conditions, snowshoes and crampons may be necessary.

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