

# SKI CHATTER

4/1/2011 ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS  
SWC, PO 228, Schenectady, NY 12301  
Clubhouse Phone (802) 244-8918

Clubhouse Reservations Call 518-573-6431

A SCHENECTADY WINTERSPORTS CLUB PUBLICATION

Phone numbers in the Ski Chatter are in the 518 area code unless otherwise noted. WEB Site: [www.swcweb.org](http://www.swcweb.org)

## April 7<sup>th</sup> – Cross Country By Bike

The April 7<sup>th</sup> meeting will feature our own Rich Vertigan and his incredible saga of crossing the country alone by bike. He has great photos of the Mountains, rivers, paths, highways and people he met along the way. Rich had been wanting to do this trip since he read about the folks who celebrated the country's bicentennial back in 1976. After retiring he started planning and training in earnest and completed the trip last year, starting on July 4<sup>th</sup> in Seaside OR and finishing in Rehoboth Beach, DE after passing through Washington, DC on the way.

The meeting is at the Ancient Order of Hibernians 1748 State St. There is a social session from 7:00 to 7:30 where you can catch up on what is happening in the Club while the formal meeting starts at 7:30.

**Ancient Order of Hibernians 1748 State St.** is just east of Rt 7 (the Cross town) in uptown Schenectady. To find the **Ancient Order of Hibernians** take State Street (Rt 5) toward Albany. It is on the right side approximately 4 ½ blocks past the Rt 7 overpass. If coming from the Thruway take I-890 to Rt 7 East and exit at State Street (Rt 5). Turn right at the top of the ramp and go East 4 ½ blocks. From the Troy direction, take Rt. 7 all the way to State Street (Rt 5) and turn left at the top of the ramp and go 4 ½ blocks to 1748 State St. on the right.

Make it a point to attend these meetings! Not only for the topics mentioned, but also for any club related questions, purchasing lift tickets, etc. Or just come and have a drink with friends and exchange ski tales. It's been a pretty good ski season so far!

## Spring Clean/Fix-up Weekend May 6-8

We have lots of cleaning, painting and fixing to do at the Clubhouse this year so plan on coming up and helping. Inside, we will be doing more cleaning, painting and finishing work like baseboards. Outside, we will work on the fire escape, back lot clean up and make trips to the recycle center to get rid of a massive amount of excess stuff in the basements. Call Bill Kornrumpf (370-4017) to sign up and get a good room (one where we will not be making a mess). There may even be some time set aside to do a bike ride or quick hike if the trails have dried out.

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- April 7 Slide show **Rich Vertigan's bike ride across the USA, 2010**
- April 10 Tour of the Battenkill (**we need volunteers**)
- April 21 **Last Meeting** Elections/Ice Cream Social
- May 5 First Thursday bike ride of the season at Holly Hawkes
- May 6-8 Work Party at the Clubhouse
- May 12 Second Thursday bike ride

## Annual Election of Officers & Ice Cream Social at the April 21 Meeting

The last meeting of the season is our Annual Business Meeting with the election of officers and any Official Business that may need to be acted upon. The present slate of officers is listed below. Have a say in the operation of the club. The club has been short handed for several years now and it time to ask what you can do for your club. Below is the current board and some of these volunteers cannot serve again. All positions are open to nominations. Anyone wishing to run for any of the offices may call Bill Schaefer (370-0229) or self nominate from the floor.

Following the business meeting, there will be an Ice Cream Social with choices of both ice cream and toppings. The meeting starts at 7:30 at the Ancient Order of Hibernians Hall in Schenectady.

### Board of Directors slate:

|                      |                           |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Pete Weykamp         | President                 |
| Open position (call) | VP Administration         |
| Anna Dugan           | VP Nordic                 |
| Bob Wright           | VP Activities             |
| Dorie Valenti        | VP-Alpine                 |
| Anna Dugan           | NNYP President            |
| Lat Schmidt          | Secretary,                |
| Ray Asselin          | Treasurer                 |
| Stetson Tanner       | At Large                  |
| Larry Callahan       | At Large                  |
| John Rack            | Mohawk Valley Hiking Club |

## Thursday Night Biking Kickoff 5/5

Our season is about to begin on May 5 with the first ride starting from Holly Hawkes house in Burnt Hills. Remember that biking is an excellent form of aerobic exercise and it is a great way to keep in shape for next year's snow season. As you can see from the article inside, some hosts have called Terry and signed up for their favorite Thursday. However, there are still many more slots that are unfilled. We want to thank all the hosts who have or will volunteer to lead a ride. Please call Terry (435-1704) to volunteer and don't wait for him to call you or your favorite date may be taken. Your fellow club members will really appreciate it.

See page 7 for biking details and directions to the rides. Terry Tamer

## Hosted Easter at Clubhouse Canceled

The Kornrumpf's are sorry to report that they will not be hosting Easter Weekend at the Clubhouse as they usually do. Easter is so late this year (April 24) that the Stowe Mountain Resort will be closing the lifts before then. However, there still will be an Easter Sunrise service on the Mountain for those who would like to go.

## Clubhouse News by Sandy Leith

### Clubhouse Ski Season Almost Over

We are winding down the ski season in VT now and as of April 1 the clubhouse rates have been lowered to the weekday rates.

Rates from 4/1 to summer

Members - \$20 Guests - \$30 Juniors - \$10

Hosted dinner: Members \$10 Guests \$15 Juniors\* \$5

\*juniors are age 7-15, kids under 7 are free.

Make sure that you make reservations on the e-res system or call Dave Slezak (573-6431). Also, remember to **Cancel your reservation** as soon as you know you will not be using the clubhouse.

### Thank You to SWC House Chairs

As ski season draws to a close I would like to say THANK YOU to each of the volunteers that help make Our Ski House the wonderful home away from home that I have come to love!

From wonderful dinners to the sprucing up done by the Decorating committee this ski season was a great success!

During all the holiday weekends we had great groups of people staying. Over 30 guests both weekends during Presidents week! What a pleasure to watch people from 5 to over 50 interact and come together to share our common love of snow!

Both the January and March Stowe ski club appreciation days bought a good group of folks to the house for some great skiing. Mother Nature blessed us in January with a powder day and in March with beautiful warm sunny days and a pile of new snow.

Thank you again to all that help to keep the house a wonderful place and make it easy to play in Vermont! *Sandy Leith, Clubhouse Director*

### Donations Request from the Decorating Committee

Our Decorating Committee has been hard at work sprucing up the House. To continue the work we are looking for a few things. If you have any of the following you would like to give to the house please phone or email me at 518-727-4768 or

[traildiamond@gmail.com](mailto:traildiamond@gmail.com)

Lamps (floor & table)

End tables/night stands

Fabric for covering seat cushions

Picture frames

Small shelves

### New Quad Lift for Stowe

There will be a new Quad lift at Stowe for the 2011-2012 season. The present Forerunner Quad is 25 years old and needs to be replaced. The present quad will be removed this spring and the new one in place by December 2011.

## On-Line Reservation System

Please use the E-Reservation system if possible. If you are having difficulties you may **e-mail or call** the Reservations Chair, **Dave Slezak (573-6431)**, for assistance.

Please follow these instructions:

Your computer needs to have Mozilla Firefox as the web browser <http://www.mozilla.com>. This is a simpler web browser and the download will transfer all your bookmarks over too!

- *Open the Clubhouse reservation page.*
- *Click on request username-password.*
- *Fill out form and click submit.*
- *The system sends an email confirming request.*
- *Validation of membership .*
- *Your membership is checked and an email is sent to requestor with a username-password combination. (this can take a few days)*
- *Sign on to the e-res system for the first time.*
- *You must Update profile, and fill in all the security questions which will be used in case the requestor forgets his/her password. (This is a must do) Click submit*
- *Make a reservation, or view reservations.*
- *Select dates (up to 6) and select beds. Confirm and choose dinner options (yes or no)*
- *Click confirm - and an email is generated to lodge reservations and the member.*

If you have trouble making or canceling a reservation, call **Dave Slezak (573-6431)** and let him know you need help.

## Discount Ski Ticket Report

By March 15, the club had sold over \$27,000 worth of discount lift tickets to the members. These 500 tickets have saved members \$20,000. The majority of the ticket sales have been to Stowe. At this time, tickets are still selling and I expect will get to \$30,000. Watch next month for a full accounting. (Bill Schaefer)

## Last call for ski tickets

See previous Chatters for details. As the season winds down, the ticket inventory will also wind down. Plan ahead and don't be disappointed.

To purchase tickets: Purchasers and ticket holders must be SWC Members. Here are the details:

1. Tickets will be available at program meetings
2. Send Self-Addressed, Stamped Envelope with Check (made out to SWC), number needed and area to Bill Schaefer, 804 Charter Oak Dr, Niskayuna, NY 12309-3041

Tickets are typically mailed the day after receipt, however, please allow for the need for us to re-order or we may go skiing ourselves. Remember: **Lack of thought and foresight** on your part **does not constitute an emergency** on our volunteer's part.

Find further information at [www.swcweb.org](http://www.swcweb.org), or you can email questions to [swctickets@swcweb.org](mailto:swctickets@swcweb.org).

## Word From the President April 2011

I'm pulling out the last of the frozen raspberries and picking up sticks in the front lawn. The cardinals are singing, the geese are flying and the snow in Albany has disappeared, at least for now. I'm pulling the bikes down from the rack. It's spring time.

I should have 1,000 ski stories but I can't think of one. What comes to mind is making turns on the soft snow. I'm skiing way left or way right and making tracks farther and farther out. Sometimes I knife the turns, sometimes I squash 'em. Sometimes there is another track, sometimes I'm the furthest out. I'm on fat boys and enjoying the ride. Late starts and lower mountain skiing on narrow-ass snowboards is a story worth telling. "Getting float" is no longer just a snowboarder term. In the last week or so, I find myself having more fun skiing the ridge between the trail and the woods than in the trees. The snow in the trees is still a little hard. It'll be there for a while.

I was fortunate enough to spend a month traveling to different ski areas and I to ski 22 days at 16 different mountains. Sweet. Despite all that though, I can't come up with one good story. I have snippets:

At Heavenly you can ski from Nevada into California and vice versa. On the California side it'll remind you of Cape Cod because the water is blue, the smell of tanning lotion is thick, and the skiers are hanging out. In Nevada you can play the slots in the bathroom.

The instructors at Kirkwood tell you NOT to look at bad skiers least you might unconsciously imitate them. They also say the best snow is in the middle – so maybe you won't turn into an uncoordinated boob if you watch a newbie struggle down a bump run. Alpine Meadows is not to be missed. Loop Our Father to the Scott Chair and into the Gentian Gully.

The mountains aren't so big in the Laurentians. The instructors at Saint Sauveur say stop after 10 turns because by the 8<sup>th</sup> turn you've lost some form. Stop, regain yourself and do another 10. By then you'll be at the bottom. For trouble working your lower body, they tell you to make your belly button wink. In Quebec they have Sous-Bois. I'm not sure what Sous-Bois literally means in French – but it does indicate some pretty good tree skiing. Mostly open hardwoods. The French-Canadians don't name their glades, though Sutton numbers theirs: Sous-Bois I, Sous-Bois IV, and so on. Most American resorts name their glades and some have great names. Name the mountain: Barkeater Glades ; White Birch Glades, Everglades, Julio; Angel Food; Promised Land, The Chutes; Chatterbox Glades Killibrew Canyon, The Wall; Portugese Gap, Hard Coin, No Name Bowl, The Black Hole, Gunsight, STH, Victor's Vortex

There's snow in Utah. Go up Big Cottonwood Canyon. Everything that a human can access has tracks on it in the Little Cottonwood Canyon. At those other places, you can turn on the backside of some bowling ball-like steep slope three times over and there will still be a still a pile of snow for the next three turns. And you'll be the only one tracking it up.

I haven't seen a bathroom yet – anywhere – that can match the bathrooms at Snow Basin.

The loss of the sense of direction and speed when its all white in the Mineral Basin is called Verti-bowl. An instructor at the Canyons - obviously from Australia – responds the question of whether he skis year round replies, "I haven't seen a summer since '98." The Canyons have a mile long natural half pipe called Canis Lupus. Snowboarders love it. Every year they have a race for time

down Canis Lupus. Every year the race is won by a skier. Last year the winner cleared a section of S turns to destroy the field. Prize money. U Tube it. Its spring skiing. Enjoy your favorite mountains and explore new one. Bon Ski, baby.

## Volunteer for the Tour of the Battenkill April 10 and earn \$300 for SWC SWC needs your help

The Tour of the Battenkill is a unique race where racers compete over 64/82 miles of rolling terrain on both dirt and paved roads through the world famous Battenkill Valley. It has been called the "Toughest 1 day bike race" in America. It starts and finishes in Cambridge, NY and courses through covered bridges, family farms, and rural villages along backcountry roads.

Over 3,000 amateur and professional cyclists from North America and dozens of nations worldwide are registered. It goes over many hills - total climbing is over 4000 feet - with a maximum gradient of 18%!

### SWC Needs Your Help as a Race Volunteer

Not-for-profits (SWC) that organizes 10 volunteer helpers; can receive a cash payment of \$300. You can help the Club raise money watching some of the best US racers punish themselves up close and personal. You only need to work 4 hours as a corner marshal or driver on race day (April 10).

Gina and Bill Kornrumpf have been volunteering the last 2 years and will be organizing the SWC team of volunteers. Please call on 370-4017 or email Bill ([wkornrum@nycap.rr.com](mailto:wkornrum@nycap.rr.com)) to let him know you will be available to help with this excellent race. The race web site is: <http://battenkill.squarespace.com>

## The Great Ski Deals

Check out the New York Capital District Ski Council web page at <http://www.nycdsc.org/69.html> for the complete listings ski deals. The web page has all the restrictions and special requirements to receive these rates. Members must present their ski club membership card to receive the discount. One ticket is available per membership card, per day.

|         |     |           |      |
|---------|-----|-----------|------|
| Apr 2   | Sat | Okemo     | \$36 |
| Apr 3   | Sun | Okemo     | \$33 |
| April 3 | Sun | Whiteface | \$38 |
| April 4 | Mon | Whiteface | \$38 |
| April 9 | Sat | Gore      | \$40 |

### Whiteface Super Sundays:

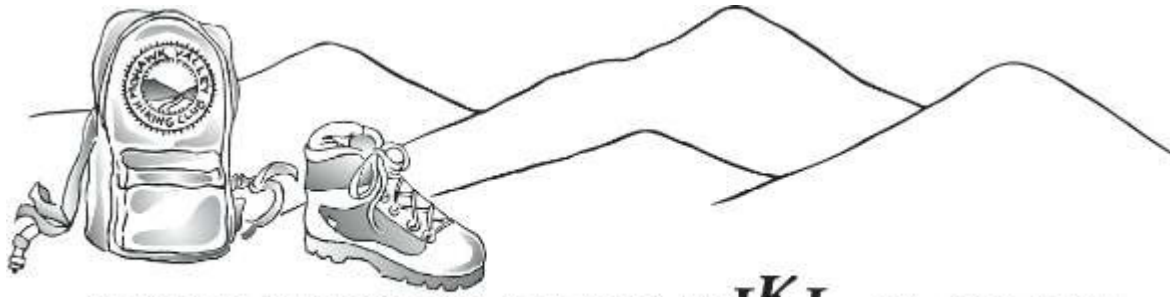
4/3 Retro Sunday \$35 adults, \$30 teens, \$25 Jrs Okemo; Purchase tickets at the Group Sales Center in the Motor Coach Parking (Clock Tower base area)

Whiteface on any of the dates listed, show your Ski Council or Club ID as well as a photo ID

Ski Butternut and Save \$20.00 off your lift ticket, discounts on Rentals and Lessons.

Plattekill Mountain ANY DAY \$10 OFF with card.

Mt. Snow: purchase tickets at the Group Sales office in the Sundance Base Lodge (8:30-1:00 midweek, 7:30-1:00 weekends and holidays).



# MOHAWK VALLEY HIKING CLUB

4/1/11

## Conservation Report

by Henri T. Plant

Henri is still recuperating and Ruth Hasler has graciously agreed to fill in with a column called **Conservation Corner**. This will begin next month.

Please call leader in advance; weather and other factors may cause changes. Please, no pets on any hike as a courtesy to others. This is a volunteer organization and with any activity there is a presumption of risk. Each participant is responsible for his or her own safety. Bring ample food and water, dress appropriately.

**Hike leaders:** Please send your reports to:

Cecilia A. MacDonald, 260 Sever Road, Delanson, NY 12053.



**Saturday - April 16 - Cecilia MacDonald**, in conjunction with the Nature Center at **Thacher Park**, will co-lead a hike to **High Point**, a cliff not too far from the hang glider's point. Meet at the Nature Center at 9:45 (they plan to begin at 10 and I want to make sure we are all there in plenty of time). We will car-pool to the trail head and have beautiful views from the cliff, enjoy woodland wildflowers and have muddy feet. Please call Cecilia at 872-0823, **by Thursday**, to register so I can sign up with the naturalist by Friday. Thanks!

Watch for a Peebles Island Walk in May and a hike at the Wilton Preserve. Happy Trails!

## Trip Tales

An Afternoon at Thacher - Sun., Feb. 13 - Anna, Heidi, Joe, Beth, and the leader trekked from the Paint Mine parking area into the surrounding winter wonderland for a short but pleasant walk. Our goal was to find the "Reservoir," but we had to give it up in order to make the moose talk at 2:00.

At the nature center we added Nancy, Lynn, Jan and her young neighbor (who came back for a second go with us old folks).

We were happy to learn that the state takes pretty much a live-and-let-live attitude when it comes to the moose. It doesn't do a lot of stalking, tracking, and

tagging of the animal. A lot of what it learns comes from callers like us. Collisions on our roadways are a concern. It seems that the animal is so tall and so much of its body is above our headlights, the driver just doesn't get the picture. Moose are in residence in New York State, mostly in the Adirondacks, but at certain times of the year they do wander and you do have to watch your cows! Be sure to call DEC with all suspicious activity.

After this informative event, some of us headed to a VFW post in Schenectady for scrumptious chicken and biscuits. See you next time. Ruth H.



"Winter Wonderland"



"Moose Musings"



"Vegging at the VFW"

## Member News

We're happy to report that Ron Neadle, after a slight setback, is recovering gradually from his triple bi-pass and valve replacement surgery. He has many, many sessions with therapists, walks up and down the hall, and especially enjoys all the visits, cards and notes from friends. These have made his recovery so much more pleasant. As usual, he is following doctor's orders to a "T" and allowing Lois complete peace of mind.

## FOR SALE

The MVHC has a 17 1/2 foot aluminum canoe for sale for \$350. Call John Rack at 399-5081 for further information. Available immediately.



# THE BLADE

box 228, Schenectady, New York 12301

PUBLISHED MONTHLY FOR MEMBERS OF

NORTHERN NEW YORK PADDLERS

April 1, 2011

## Monday Night Canoeing Starts May 9 (& Potluck Suppers)

Monday Night Paddling begins Monday May 9, and continues every Mon evening after through Sept 12. The group will get together at Kiwanis Park (Rotterdam Junction at Route 5S) at 6pm. Experienced and non-experienced paddlers are welcome – there generally is someone in the group that is willing to give some paddling advice. On “potluck” nights, you might want to start paddling around 5pm. Canoes and paddles are available (see later) but if you have a life vest (PFD) you should bring it along.

The traditional **Potluck Suppers** will be held the **SECOND Monday** of each month, starting on May 9<sup>th</sup> at Kiwanis Park, Rotterdam Junction, and following on 5/9, 6/13, 7/11, 8/8 and 9/12. These are popular get-togethers through the years, so come and join in.

Bring a hot or cold dish for the group (remember to put food in the dish) and your own beverages. The proverbial bird has whispered in my ear that Ruth Hasler will spearhead the May 9th potluck (food starting around 6pm), and Heidi Walsh the 6/13, 7/11, 8/8 and 9/12 affairs (food starting around 6:30pm). I hope other people will volunteer to help as well.

## Join in the NNYP Canoe Races

Time to get the racing season down on your calender. This includes the NNYP races as well as the long-standing weekly time trials.

The 4.5 mile **Towpath Regatta** will take place on Thursday June 16<sup>th</sup>, beginning at Jumpin’ Jacks in Scotia and ending at Aqueduct Park in Niskayuna. Registration starts at 5:30pm and the race starts at 6:30pm. Race Director “He Can Be Bought” Geoff Moore has agreed to pay the entry fee for everyone. That’s cool, Goeff. Contact: gmoore03@nycap.rr.com or 518-435-1704

The **Electric City Regatta** will be a one-day affair on Saturday July 16<sup>th</sup>. It has again been selected as a NYMCRA points race. We will have the usual 12-mile races for amateur and stock canoes and touring and unlimited kayaks, plus a 1-mile fun race. If there is sufficient interest, we will also include a 3-mile recreational race. As of this writing, there are no plans for a pro-race or potluck picnic. Start/finish is at Lock 9 Park in Rotterdam Junction. Registration starts 8:30 am, the first race is at 10am. Entry fee is \$18, \$15 for NYMCRA and NNYP members. The Fun Race is free.

Please help us get the word out. For more info, contact Kim or Ed Greiner 518-875-6497, [eleccityrace@yahoo.com](mailto:eleccityrace@yahoo.com).

The remaining paddling regatta is the **Barge Chaser**, being run by Anna Dugan, 489-5092 or [adugan@nycap.rr.com](mailto:adugan@nycap.rr.com): It will be held on Sunday, Sept 25, at Grafton State Park, just outside of Troy. The registration is at 9:30 am; with races beginning at 10:30am. The 1st race is 7 miles w/portage. The 2nd race is more for people who don’t want to paddle 7 miles, and is a 2.5 mile “sprint” (I normally do it, so the term “sprint” is used advisedly)!!!!. There will be a \$10 fee for racers, and \$5 for youths – and no other fees.

Potluck lunch will be in the Grafton Beach Tent after the races for participants (bring a salad or dessert or such to add to the burgers, veggie burgers, & dogs)

Kayak demos will begin at noon and continue throughout the afternoon. Just sign in at the entrance hut; race held at the center of the Beach.

## Changes to NNYP Time Trials

The Wednesday-night time trials start May 4, and will continue until Sept 21, at 6:30 PM and on the Mohawk River, starting and finishing at the Aqueduct Park dock, Town of Niskayuna (that’s where NY Route 146 crosses the river on the Rexford bridge).

Big change this year will be an additional course, of about 16 minutes duration – and geared to the more-recreational paddler as seen in local racing at the Towpath or Barge Chaser races.

Any self-powered craft is welcome - usually paddling are canoes and kayaks, sometimes war canoes, outrigger canoes, rowing shells, and sculls. There are age and gender classes for any imaginable paddler, with an infamous class for inadvertent swimmers. Paddlers have registered from MA, VT, ME, VA, FL, Long Island (part of NY), PA, and even Schenectady.

Registration starts at 6, is free for club members, but \$10 for the season for non-members (the first night is free for non-members). It’s best to be early as the gun goes off at 6:30PM whether you’re on the start line or not (we’ve been 2 minutes late one time in 18 years). Times are recorded for comparison during the season or against prior recent seasons. The “standard” course is 3.65 miles long and takes from 27 minutes to a week (that is why they’re held only once a week). Coaching for racing or paddling technique usually follows the time trial for all interested. Cancellation is only in cases of lightning or river over the bank.

Further information is available from Alec Davis, 518 399-1435 or [alecdavis@earthlink.net](mailto:alecdavis@earthlink.net)

### **Paddle The Battenkill Sunday July 31**

This day trip starts at the County Route 64 bridge about a mile south (upstream) from Shoshan. This rural clear-flowing trout stream makes a scenic & fun trip especially with sunny summer weather (we hope).

Paddlers with canoes or kayaks need enough skills to negotiate the class I stream and be able to back-paddle and land quickly in case of snags or downed trees. We plan to leave at 10 AM at the bridge above Shoshan. Pack a lunch since we will stop to eat and swim. Take-out is at the Meadow Camp on Skelley Road where a watermelon will be eaten. Sign up with Lat Schmidt (372-2915) or [glschmidt17@yahoo.com](mailto:glschmidt17@yahoo.com).

### **Tenandeho White Water Derby Sunday April 3**

For those of you who are getting the early-bird version of the Blade by email, here's fun. The Mechanicville Tenandeho Canoe Association and the City of Mechanicville host the 37<sup>th</sup> Mechanicville White Water Derby. Registration starts at 9AM and the race at noon. If not competing, it's fun to watch. Contact Ken Perrault ("lauraperrault" [ncreek9@nycap.rr.com](mailto:ncreek9@nycap.rr.com), or 664-6781).

This 4.5 mile "downriver" race is held from Coons Crossing Road to the old elementary school on North Main Street at the confluence of the Tenandeho and the Hudson River. It's easy to see with the crowds.

### **Hudson River White Water Races 5/7-8**

See the 54th anniversary of the Hudson River race. The 54th anniversary Hudson River race schedule is:  
Sat, May 7th White Water Derby Slalom 9 Register 11 Race  
Sunday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, White Water Downriver 9 Register 11 Race

For details, contact Hudson River Whitewater Derby Inc  
PO Box 84, North Creek, NY 12853 518-251-2612  
[info@whitewaterderby.com](mailto:info@whitewaterderby.com)

### **For Sale**

Nothing for sale this month. I'm selling my kids!

### **More to Life than a Canoe in the Winter!**

Several NNYP members trained all winter on skinny skies and went to The American Birkerbeiner in Hayward, Wisconsin, the largest race in North America with over 9216 competing in three different distances. They were Alec Davis, Sherry and Richard Dixon doing the 53K race and Roger and Joan Henry doing the 23K race. At the start it was 10 below zero and got up to 7 degrees as a high for the day, lots of frost bite on many competitors. It took about two hours to get all the racers started in 21 waves. Competitors came from all over the world with the first three places in the mens from Norway, France and Russia. We had a very good showing with Alec taking 1st in his age group (old) and Roger and Joan taking 2nd in their age

group (very old). Trails out there were in excellent condition and very wide. All in all it was great and we will all go back again someday.

Then we continued on to Silver Star, BC for the Masters World Cup Cross Country Skiing along with the US Nationals, held in conjunction with the Worlds competition where several other folks from NY joined us, 12 in all. Again the trail conditions were fantastic and snow depth at least 6 feet. All the races were very exciting. There were 1100 competitors from 22 countries 30 years of age and older. Again we had a great medal showing with Alec coming home with two second places in the Nationals and a 2nd place in the Worlds on a relay team. I came home with a first and second in the Nationals and second in the Worlds.

This year was very uneventful compared to other years. Roger did manage to kneel on his glasses and break them, but that was it, no hospitals or awful train rides. Joan Henry

### **Keep The News Coming**

You see that smile on my face – it's when someone sends in some write-up, photo, joke, story, etc. or activities that might interest the group (like hiking, theater, unruly neighbors, etc). Send to Allan Foster: [adfoss@aol.com](mailto:adfoss@aol.com), 379 McCormack Rd, Albany, NY 12208, by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month. Put NNYP, SWC or Blade in the email subject title line so I don't Spam you out. Pictures should preferably be less than 100Kb.

### **YOUR Dues**

The NNYP/SWC fiscal year runs from June to May so pretty soon you'll have to renew. Why not do it now?

### **New Paddling Rules**

Remember the new NYS law that you must WEAR a PFD if you are paddling anywhere in NY State between Nov 1 and May 1. This applies to anyone in any watercraft under 21 feet, which includes most canoes, kayaks, rowboats, motorboats and sailboats. For more info about boating safety and marine recreation in NYS, visit [www.nysparks.com](http://www.nysparks.com).

### **Club Canoe Availability**

Remember that NNYP has canoes, paddles, PFD's (limited), and one kayak for use by members:  
*18' 6" Wenonah CC 18' 6" Lincoln CC 18' 6" Sawyer CC*  
*18' 5" Alumicraft 12" Acadia Kayak*

Club members may borrow these boats for a \$5/day, \$25/week donation. They are located at Uncle Donnie Patneau's house at 741 River Road, Lower Rotterdam Junction (about 0.3 mile from the Kiwanis boat launch (518-887-5483).

There are also four canoes for members who are up at the Clubhouse.

Since the availability of life vests (PFDs), is limited, you might want to bring one along if you have one.

# Thursday Night Bike Rides 2011 Season

## Bike Rides Start May 5

Join riders of all skill levels every Thursday from May through August to get some exercise, enjoy the outdoors and socialize afterward over pizza. Terry Tamer is coordinating the rides this year, so please go easy on him and don't wait for him to call you but give him a call and volunteer to host a ride.

The rides begin **May 5** with a ride from the home of Holly Hawkes. The rides will continue every Thursday evening starting promptly at 6:30. Each Thursday the host plans at least two rides (a short easy ride and a longer more challenging ride) so there is something for everyone. They will provide maps and all you need to bring is your bike and a helmet (helmets are required for all riders with SWC). If you are thinking of hosting a Thursday night bike ride, THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

However, if you could also give him a call as soon as possible, you can get the date you want. His phone number is **518 435-1704**.

### Bike Ride Schedule (so far)

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| May 5     | Holly Hawkes                                    |
| May 12    |   |
| May 19    |   |
| May 26    |   |
| June 2    | Carol Jones                                     |
| June 9    | Kelly de la Rocha and<br>John DeBrita           |
| June 16   | Towpath Regatta - no ride                       |
| June 23   |   |
| June 30   | Warren and Jean Burton July 7<br>Mary MacDonald |
| July 14   |   |
| July 21   |   |
| July 28   |   |
| August 4  |   |
| August 11 |   |
| August 18 |   |
| August 25 |   |

### Driving Directions to Rides/ Host Homes

**May 5 Holly Hawkes 399-2596**  
**14 Davids Lane, Burnt Hills**

Take Rte 50 north from Scotia to Burnt Hills. Turn left at light onto Lake Hill Rd. (there is an ice cream stand on the near left corner called "Mamas"). Turn right onto Goode St. (second right). Turn right onto Davids Lane (second right). Holly's house is # 14, at the end of the street. If you need further directions, call Holly at the number above.

**June 2 Carol Jones 383-1224**  
**10 E. Haystack Rd., Clifton Park**

**From Schenectady:** Balltown Rd. (Rte 146) cross over the Mohawk River (Rexford Bridge). Turn right onto Riverview Road. Bear left onto Grooms Road. Right onto Moe Road at light. Take 4<sup>th</sup> left onto Mystic (Crescent Estates-Aspenwood). Take first right onto Pico. First left onto East Haystack Road. Go to #10 on left.

**From Albany:** Take Northway (I-87) to exit 8. Turn left – west – onto Crescent Road at 4<sup>th</sup> traffic light. Turn right onto Moe Road. Take first right onto Sugarbush Road (Crescent Estates- Aspenwood). First left on Pico. First Right on East Haystack Road # 10.

**June 30 Jean and Warren Burton 872-2333**  
**129 Manchester Drive, Gallupville**

**From Albany:** Take Route 20 (Western Avenue) out of Albany Turn Left on Route 146 which goes through Altamont. Go straight in Altamont and take 156 up the hill. After going though Knox take a right at the sign to Gallupville. Approximately five miles on this road look for Manchester Drive on the right. If you descend into Gallupville, you missed Manchester Drive. We are the second house on the left, #129, a raised ranch.

**From Schenectady:** Take route 58 (Guilderland Ave) out of Schenectady. Turn right on Route 146, which goes through Altamont. Go straight in Altamont and take 156 up the hill. After going though Knox take a right at the sign to Gallupville. Approximately five miles on this road look for Manchester Drive on the right. If you descend into Gallupville, you missed Manchester Drive. We are the second house on the left, #129, a raised ranch.

Schenectady Wintersports Club  
Northern New York Paddlers  
PO Box 228  
Schenectady, New York 12301



10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division memorial  
at Stowe's Spruce Peak Plaza