



On the Western Slope

Chapter Chair



Spring has arrived! Time for us to get out and enjoy the change of seasons. We are offering a variety of outings and volunteer work on the trails that this chapter maintains.

In addition, our quarterly meeting will be held at the Thacher State Park Visitor Center on April 14, 2018. Our featured speaker, Ken Posner of the NY-NJ Trail Conference, will present a slide show on the Long Path. The general public and members are welcomed to attend.

The AMC is urging the members to write to our congressional representatives to ensure that the Land and Water Conservation Fund will continue. The AMC website has an automated process and a sample letter to facilitate your support. Go to link: <https://www.outdoors.org/conservation-action-network/land-and-water-conservation-fund>, enter your zip code, and click "Check Zip Code" to begin.

The LWCF has provided funding for the national, state and local outdoor areas. The bipartisan federal funding program, whose revenue comes from a small portion of federal revenues obtained from offshore oil and gas development, is due to expire in September 2018. Locally, the state parks have benefitted from this fund. For

See you out on the trails,

Kevin Cox

Chapter Meeting/Social & Long Path Presentation on April 14th

Please join us at the John Boyd Thacher State Park Visitor Center on April 14th for our quarterly meeting and social.

Our featured speaker, NY-NJ Trail Conference board member Kenneth Posner, will give a presentation about the Long Path, New York's 358-mile hiking trail that starts in NYC and ends in the Thacher State Park. Mr. Posner will discuss the history of the trail; the influence of Walt Whitman and John Burroughs; his own 2013 record-setting thru-run; and the volunteer community that supports the trails.

We will meet in the visitor center's Helderberg Room at 2 p.m. for the presentation and a brief chapter meeting; light refreshments will be served. A short, easy hike will follow.

To register, please contact Leader: John Tiff at 518-439-5686 (NCA 9 p.m.), jtiff2@nycap.rr.com.

Get Directions to Thacher Park Visitor Center:

<https://parks.ny.gov/parks/128/maps.aspx>

For GPS devices, use address:

830 Thacher Park Road, Voorheesville, NY 12186.

Dates to note:

April 14 Spring Meeting & Social, Thatcher Park
April 22 Earth Day Cleanup in Coeymans – see page 3
May 14 EComm Meeting, EGTL 6:45 p.m.
June 2 National Trails Day – see “Trail Work on the AT”
June 22-24 Vermont Hiking Weekend, Weston, VT

Save the date!

July 9 EComm Meeting, EGTL 6:45 p.m.
July 14-Aug 11 August Camp 2018, Northern (WA) Cascades
Aug 17-19 Joint Chapters Weekend, Harriman Outdoor Center
Sept 10 EComm Meeting, EGTL 6:45 p.m.
Sept 28-29 MH Chapter Weekend, Harriman Outdoor Center

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Mohawk Hudson Chapter Website:
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“Like Us” on Facebook



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



Once there, click the “Like” image (shown at left) to “like” our page: if you have a Facebook account, log in; else, you’ll have to set one up to “like” our page. We’re up to 202 “likes” on Facebook, and 362 “enthusiasts” on [Meetup](#).

Chapter Outings

April / May / June 2018

- **Listings below are as of March 28, 2018 newsletter distribution date.** Leaders may post e-mail updates for their trips (published in the newsletter or not) via the AMC calendar of events which is available via the [chapter website](#). Leaders may also post updates via the chapter Yahoo group. Please join our [Yahoo group](#) (it’s free!) to see the updates and connect to others.

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

April

Wed 4/4 Peebles Island Hike C-3-C (Hiking) We will walk the trails at Peebles Island, overlooking the waterfalls which will be very full this time of year. These are level trails and it’s an easy walk. Bring lunch and water and we will eat at the visitor’s center tables. Leader: Nancy Crowther 518-698-0531 nancy@crowther.org.

Wed 4/4 Trail Work at Fox Preserve (Conservation) We will join with the Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy to help with needed trail work on their newly acquired [Fox Preserve](#) in the Town of Colonie. Please wear appropriate work clothing and bring water and a snack if you wish. If you wish, bring clipping tools that you may have; if you don’t have any, don’t worry – the land conservancy has tools it can lend. If interested, please contact Leader: John Tiff at jtiff2@nycap.rr.com or 518-439-5686 (NCA9 p.m.) for details.

Sat 4/7 Citizen Science: Invasive Plants Workshop (Conservation) The Rensselaer Land Trust and Rensselaer Plateau Alliance are cosponsoring a joint event designed to teach the public how to identify, report, and remove invasive species. The event will take place at the [Staalesen Vanderhyden Preserve](#) located at 74 Wynantskill Way in South Troy. Workshop leader Joe Durkin works with the Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISM) and welcomes our participation; a \$5.00 donation is requested. Please register with Joe Durkin at jdurkin1@nycap.rr.com and with AMC MH Leader: John Tiffitt at jtiffitt2@nycap.rr.com or 518-439 5686 (NCA 9 p.m.). Contact John Tiffitt if you need directions, want to carpool, or have any other questions.

Wed 4/11 Narrow Notch Mountain B-3-B (Hiking) Narrow Notch Mtn., 3220', Catskill 67 Rank: 24. Easy to moderate 6 mi. / 1100' gain with the possibility of a snowshoe hike in Relay State Forrest. To gain this peak, we will need to follow a short bushwhack passing a pair of great outlooks with an option to include East Gray Hill, 2980', Catskill 67 Rank: 65 across from Narrow Notch's Col with views west. For more information, please contact Leader: Jean Laverdure at 518-709-2990 (NCA 9 p.m.), jalz111er@yahoo.com, or Co-Leader: John Tiffitt at 518-439-5686 (NCA 9 p.m.), jtiffitt2@nycap.rr.com.

Sat 4/14 Learn About the Long Path at Thacher Park (Social Events) Join us at the Thacher State Park Visitor Center on April 14th for our quarterly meeting and a presentation by NY-NJ Trail Conference board member Ken Posner on the Long Path, New York's 358-mile hiking trail that starts in NYC and ends in Thacher State Park. The event will begin at 2 p.m. in the Visitor Center's Helderberg Room. Light refreshments will be served, and a short, easy hike will follow the presentation. To register, please contact Leader: John Tiffitt at 518-439-5686 (NCA 9 p.m.), jtiffitt2@nycap.rr.com.

Sat 4/14 Tomhannock Reservoir Cleanup (Conservation) This annual event focuses on the cleanup of the shore area of the Tomhannock Reservoir which services 130,000 people in Rensselaer County. Wear appropriate clothes and bring gloves. We will meet at the DEC parking lot located on Rte. 7 on the western side of the causeway which crosses the Reservoir. Please register with both Paul Schroeder at 518-674-2480 or pschroeder1@nycap.rr.com, or with AMC MH Leader John Tiffitt at jtiffitt2@nycap.rr.com or 518-439 5686 (NCA 9 p.m.)

Wed 4/18 Harrier Hill to Greenport Conservation Area B-3-C (Hiking) Join me for an early spring hike along the Hudson. This will be a through hike from Scenic Hudson's Harrier Hill to Columbia Land Conservancy's Greenport Conservation area located just north of the city of Hudson. Approximately 5 miles with the loops and scenic viewpoints. There are a few short steep hills. Trails may be wet and muddy. We will spot cars at both ends. For more information, please contact Leader: Sharon Bonk, 518-674-0042 (NCA 9 p.m.), sboqc@mindspring.com.

Sun 4/22 Earth Day Cleanup in Coeymans (Conservation) We will be helping the Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy to clean up trash on newly acquired land in the Town of Coeymans. Please wear appropriate clothing and gloves suitable for picking up trash. Bring tools for clipping if you have them; but if you don't have them, tools will be available. Bring water and a snack if you wish. Please contact Leader: John Tiffitt at jtiffitt2@nycap.rr.com or 518-439-5686 (NCA 9 p.m.) if interested.

Thurs 4/26 Joralemon Park C-3-C (Hiking) This town park in Coeymans features some of the best spring wildflowers in the area. There are some interesting geologic features too, including limestone ledges and supposedly a small cave (big enough to enter and stand in but not big enough to wander in). Ferns and spring birds should be notable too. Length: There are about 3 miles easy to moderate terrain, although footing on the limestone ridge could be challenging. Mostly easy walking however. For more information, please contact Leader: Bob Armao at bob_armao@yahoo.com, or 518-271-6512 (home, before 9 p.m.), or 518-322-6889 (mobile).

Thurs 4/26 Citizen Science: Frog Watch Walk (Conservation) The Pine Bush Preserve is presenting a citizen science walk to listen for frogs and toads, document the kinds, and where they are located. This may serve as an introduction to you of what this project involves and even may lead you to taking the course to become a volunteer frog watch monitor. The course will be offered on June 6th (details are not yet available). As space is limited, please register with both the Pine Bush Discovery Center at 518-456-0655 or www.albanypinebush.org and click on the events calendar, and Leader: John Tiffitt at 518-439-5686 (NCA 9 p.m.), jtiffitt2@nycap.rr.com.

Sat 4/28 Citizen Science: Invasive Plants Workshop (Conservation) Participants at this workshop, cosponsored by Rensselaer Land Trust and Rensselaer Plateau Alliance, will learn about the identification characteristics of invasive plants and their negative impacts on the ecosystem of Rensselaer County and beyond. The event will take place at the Albert Family Community Forest, 120 Hayes Rd. East Nassau, N.Y., a newly acquired property of the RPA. After the workshop, the leader will answer questions about entering data into the *iMapInvasives* database, and more. This event will be followed later in the year by a workday dedicated to the removal of the invasive plants. Please register with Joe McCagg at jmccagg@fairpoint.net and with John Tiffitt at 518 439-5686 (NCA p.m.) or jtiffitt2@nycap.rr.com; contact John for directions, about carpooling, with any other questions.

May

Tues 5/1 Trail Work at the Winn Preserve (Conservation) We will be joining the Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy in the [Winn Preserve](#) to help empty and restore an old cabin located there and build some benches for a future outdoor classroom space. Afterwards, we'll take a nature walk to view the unique wildflowers to be seen there. If interested, please contact Leader: John Tiffitt at jtiffitt2@nycap.rr.com or 518-439-5686 (NCA p.m.)

Wed 5/2 Hadley Mountain Hike C-3-B (Hiking) Join us for a hike up Hadley Mountain in the southern Adirondacks in spring, before the bugs have arrived! This is a fairly short hike, about 3 miles total round trip, but with elevation gain of 1500 feet. There is a fire tower and beautiful views of Sacandaga Lake and surroundings from the bare stone top. Bring lunch and water, and a light jacket in case it is cool at the top. Leader: Nancy Crowther 518-698-0531 nancy@crowther.org.

Sat 5/5 Trail Work on Taconic Crest Trail (Conservation) In preparation for the Taconic Crest Trail's End-to-End Endurance Challenge event on May 12, we are obliged to clear our section of the Taconic Crest Trail. The majority of the work will likely be clearing out the water bars, so a rake and shovel will be the primary tools needed for this work. Please dress appropriately for outdoor work and bring water and a lunch. Be forewarned that parts of this trail are very

steep. Leader: John Tiffitt 518-439-5686 (NCA 9 p.m.) or jtiffitt2@nycap.rr.com.

Mon 5/7 Trail Work with the Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy (Conservation) We will assist the Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy with trail work at the [Bozenkill Preserve](#). Bring your own tools if you wish or borrow from the land conservancy or us. Dress appropriately with gloves and bring water. Please contact Leader: John Tiffitt at jtiffitt2@nycap.rr.com or 518 439 5686 (NCA 9 p.m.) to register and with any questions about directions or the project.

Tues 5/15 Trail Work at the Holt Preserve (Conservation) We will assist the Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy in clearing this preserve of some of the intruding vegetation on its trails. As always, appropriate clothing and water are needed by participants. You may bring your own clipping tools, but if you'd rather not or are without, the land conservancy will provide them. If interested, please contact Leader: John Tiffitt 518-439-5686 (NCA 9 p.m.) jtiffitt2@nycap.rr.com.

Wed 5/16 Taconic Crest/Snowhole/Birch Brook/Hopkins Forest (Hiking) From the Petersburg Pass parking lot on Rte 2 in New York, we will spot at least one car at the Hopkins Forest parking lot in Williamstown, MA. When the car spotters return, we will hike north on the TCT to the Snow Hole, passing the Birch Brook Trail intersection. After the Snow Hole, we return to the Birch Brook intersection and begin a steep (1200' in 1.5 mile) descent to the gentler terrain of Hopkins Forest trails. Distance: approximately 6 miles, with 500' ascent to Snow Hole, and cumulative 1700' descent. Very wet or icy conditions or too few participants for the car spot will cancel the descent portion of the hike. You'll need poles and sturdy footwear, perhaps with some form of cleats. Leader: Sharon Bonk 518-674-0042 (NCA 9 p.m.), sboqc@mindspring.com.

Fri 5/18 Moxham Mountain B-3-B (Hiking) The summit of this mountain, located in the Vanderwhacker Mountain Wild Forest of the Adirondacks, is 2418 feet with an elevation gain of 1152 feet, but don't let those numbers fool you. The trail was built so as to minimize the climb as much as possible. Views after views are possible while climbing and returning down this mountain. If interested and for further information about meeting place and time, please contact Leader: John Tiffitt at 518-439-5686 (NCA 9 p.m.), or jtiffitt2@nycap.rr.com.

June

Fri 6/1 Art Omi Sculpture Park (Hiking) Art Omi is a sculpture park in Ghent NY (Columbia County) with 2-3 miles of paths that wind amid the sculptures with views of the Hudson Valley. There is a visitor center with a café. We will amble about the grounds and have our lunch among the sculptures. Leader: Sharon Bonk 518-674-0042 (NCA 9 p.m.), sboqc@mindspring.com.

Sat 6/2 Trail Work on the Appalachian Trail (Conservation) On National Trails Day, we have an opportunity to give back to a fellow maintainer of the Appalachian Trail who has helped us in the past.

The work will involve improving a trail section recently ruined by ATV usage. Time has not been set yet. Tools to bring would include shovels and rakes. For further information and for any questions you may have, please contact the Leader: John Tiffitt 518-439-5686 (NCA 9 p.m.) jtiffitt2@nycap.rr.com.

Sat 6/9 Black Mountain Loop B-3-B (Hiking) One of my favorite hikes, we will start at the Pike Brook Road trailhead. Following the red marker trail to the summit. From the summit, we will go down the other side of the mountain. Then, we follow the trail past two ponds back to the parking lot. The distance is 7.7 miles, with ascent of 1361 feet. Leader: Kevin Cox 518-279-4839 (NCA 9 p.m.) mmclou1@nycap.rr.com.

Tues 6/12 Trail Work at Mosher Marsh Preserve (Conservation) We will help the Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy to clear the trails at the [Mosher Marsh Preserve](#) in the Town of Amsterdam. Please dress appropriately for outdoor work and bring a lunch and water. Your own tools are fine to bring for clipping, but if you don't wish to bring them, the land conservancy will have extra tools. Please contact John Tiffitt at jtiffitt2@nycap.rr.com or 518-439-5686 if interested.

Wed 6/20 Hoosac Range Trail B-3-B (Hiking) Easy to moderate 6.2 mi / 550' gain out-and-back ridge walk to Spruce Hill offering splendid views across the Hoosic River Valley to Mt Greylock and the southern end of the Green Mtns. For more information, please contact Leader: Jean Laverdure at 518-593-2058, jalz111er@yahoo.com. Co-Leader: John Tiffitt 518-439-5686 (NCA 9 p.m.), jtiffitt2@nycap.rr.com.

Fri – Sun 6/22 – 24 AMC Vermont Hiking Weekend (Hiking) Hike in the Green Mountain National Forest. We will be staying at the Colonial House Inn and Motel in Weston, Vermont. Cost \$216. to \$268. ppdo, or \$268.

to \$422. ppso. Includes 2 breakfasts, 2 trail lunches and 2 dinners, all taxes and gratuities. Leader: Randy MacDonald 518-766-7675 (NCA 9 p.m.) randy04415@yahoo.com.

Sat 6/23 MacIntyre Range A-3-AA (Hiking) We will start at the High Peaks Information Center, following the blue marked trail. Then, we will follow the yellow marked trail to the summit of Algonquin. Then, we will follow the herd path to Iroquois. We will follow the same trail back, stopping at the blue marked trail to Wright Peak. The distance is 10.8 miles and the ascent is greater than 4000 feet. Bring bug dope with you. Leader: Kevin Cox 518-279-4839 (NCA 9 p.m.), mmclou1@nycap.rr.com.

Wed 6/27 Huckleberry Point Hike B-3-B (Hiking) This is a spectacular, moderate hike out to Huckleberry Point in the Catskills where you are rewarded with views of the Hudson Valley and nearby mountains. The trail is also famous for its mountain laurels, and we are hoping to coincide with the height of their blooming. Total hiking distance is just under 5 miles with 640 feet of elevation gain. Bring lunch and water and wear boots. We will meet at the park-and-ride at exit 21 (Catskill exit) of the NYS Thruway at 9:30 a.m. Leader: Nancy Crowther 518-698-0531 nancy@crowther.org.

Wed 6/27 Trail Work at Van Dyke Preserve (Conservation) We will assist the Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy in trail work needed at the [Van Dyke Preserve](#) in the Town of Bethlehem. There is also the possibility of the planting of milkweed for a future monarch waystation. Dress appropriately and tools will be available from either AMC or the land conservancy. You may bring your own tools if you wish. If interested, please contact Leader: John Tiffitt at jtiffitt2@nycap.rr.com or 518-439-5686 (NCA 9 p.m.)

Sat 6/30 Mount Greylock via Bellows Pipe Trail A-3-B (Hiking) We will hike the Bellows Pipe Trail from North Adams to the summit of Mount Greylock, returning via the Appalachian Trail and Bernard Farm Trail. We can add a short jaunt to Mount Williams if people would like. 9.6 miles with elevation gain of 2,191 feet. Parts of this hike are strenuous. Wear appropriate footwear and layers. Bring snacks, lunch, and plenty of water. Leader: Michelle Filiault arthemise29@gmail.com.

Sat 6/30 Survey of Long Path through Thacher Park (Conservation) Join us as we survey our section of the Long Path through Thacher Park. This is your chance to give back towards the preservation of Thacher Park. We will do the entire length (about 7 miles) by dropping a car or two at one end. Clipping tools are optional to bring.

We will begin at 9 a.m. Please register and ask any questions you may have of the Leader: John Tiff2 518-439-5686 (NCA 9 p.m.) jtiff2@nycap.rr.com.

The MH chapter also offers additional weekday outings.

- *The Midweek Hikers* invite you to hike with them on Wednesdays. To join our e-mail list, contact Gerry Weber at (518) 758-7189 gww@fairpoint.net.
- *The Hiking at a Relaxed Pace (HARP)* group hikes on Thursdays or Fridays. To join our e-mail list, contact Frank or Dee Wind at 518-458-1781 deewindtells@gmail.com.

Welcome New Members!

Steven Allen	Michael Arthur
Daniel Berheide	James Costello
Patricia Driscoll	Andy Duffek
Debra Feinberg	Laura Greninger
Jim Higgins	Laura Hudy
Myna Joseph	Lynn Kohrs
Jeff Levitt	Jayne Maloney
Patricia Marshall	Michael Mason
Karen McShane	Patricia Miller
Robert Mitchell	Joshua Myers
Robert Pedersen	Lorraine Plauth
Donna Racine	Julita Ramirez
Scott Rechnitzer	Jeff Rosnick
Jesse Saperstein	Lillian Slaughter
Renny Stone	Glenn Thompson
Steven Tryon	Brenda Willits

Chapter volunteer opportunities

Program Committee Volunteers – We need a few members with event coordination experience to organize the summer picnic and November annual dinner. If interested, please call Kevin Cox at 518-279-4839 (NCA 9 p.m.), or email him at mmcloug1@nycap.rr.com.

Nominating Committee Volunteers – This three-person committee identifies candidates for the four chapter leadership positions for 2019, and fills vacancies that arise. If interested, please call Kevin Cox at 518-279-4839 (NCA 9 p.m.), or email mmcloug1@nycap.rr.com.

Trails Committee and/or Conservation Committee

Volunteers – If you are interested in helping to maintain local trails or participate in conservation efforts, please contact John Tiff2 at jtiff2@nycap.rr.com or call him at 518-439-5686 (NCA 9 p.m.).

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

Martha Waldman, MH Treasurer

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) was established by Congress in 1964. It is set to expire in September 2018. The Fund supports outdoor recreation areas and conservation in your area; your help is needed to help renew it.

Over the past five decades New York has received approximately \$326.6 million in funds which went towards acquisitions and improvements in many of the parks and preserves that you enjoy. A few examples include: every NY State Park in the area, Pine Bush Unique Area, Lisha Kill Preserve, the Mohawk River and Lake George – Glens Falls bikes paths. The following link contains a listing of NY locations that received LWCF funds from 1965 to 2011; it is sortable by county, amount, year, etc.

<http://projects.invw.org/data/lwcf/grants-ny.html>.

The LWCF is funded by a small portion of federal offshore drilling fees. It was created to protect our land, water and recreational areas as well as improve outdoor recreational opportunities for all Americans.

The Fund has strong bipartisan support; over 82% of voters approve use of the royalties in the LWCF. Hikers, paddlers, fishermen, hunters, farmers, outdoor equipment and clothing manufacturers and retailers, the tourism industry and others support the LWCF.

Unfortunately, the administration's 2018 fiscal budget would reduce the LWCF budget by nearly 85%. Such a cut would severely hurt NYS conservation and outdoor recreation needs.

Go to <https://www.lwcfcoalition.com> to find much more information on the LWCF. On the "Resources" page, scroll down to the "New York State" link containing specific information on the LWCF and NYS.

Go to the AMC Conservation page <https://www.outdoors.org/conservation-action-network>. There is a link there to help you send an email to your representative.

Citizen Science Projects

John Tifft, MH Trails Chair and Conservation Chair

Now that Spring is right around the corner, there are a number of citizen science projects in this region that you and your family can take part in. The importance of these citizen science initiatives cannot be over-emphasized since each is concerned with the preservation of our native habitat.

Those of you interested in learning more may do so by investigating opportunities planned for the coming months by local conservation-themed organizations. Please check out our [Conservation page](#) for information and links to local citizen science projects. Then [visit MH's Activity listing](#) to locate the "Citizen Science" outings and join us on one or several of these opportunities to learn and apply our knowledge in support of conservation causes.

My hope is that by pooling our collective learning experiences we can begin to plan future activities designed to aid in the eradication and control of invasive agents and help with the preservation of our native species.



January 2018 – Schenectady County Forest



February 2018 – Anchor Diamond Park

Key Priorities Identified for MH Chapter

On February 28th, Faith Salter, AMC's Director of Volunteer Relations, and Justin Bailey, New York/North Jersey Chapter Program Manager, facilitated a planning meeting of MH chapter leadership and interested members to brainstorm and set goals for 2018 and beyond.

Three priorities were identified:

- 1 - Increase visibility of AMC MH chapter to members and the larger community
- 2 - Increase the number of activity leaders and opportunities for training
- 3 - Provide more and different types of activities

To address priority 1 - increase chapter visibility, we identified elements of a communications strategy to include: streamline social media maintenance by updating the admin access policy; develop a communications flow chart to publicize activities across media platforms; create a social media campaign to encourage content creation and sharing; change the Facebook page into a Facebook Group; and send postcard invitations for special events.

For priority 2 - increase leaders and training, we identified two sub-goals:

- Add five new leaders in 2018
- Make participating in trail work more accessible

To reach these goals, we propose to: publicize Leadership training offered by other AMC chapters; work more directly with and provide incentives for active leaders to lead more outings; acquire and store trail work tools, add "tools are provided" to all trail work listings, and schedule a trail skills workshop; introduce Citizen Science experiential learning; and develop Leave No Trace expertise with support from the NY-North Jersey chapter.

For priority 3 - expand activity listings, we propose to: offer faster/more advanced and slower/shorter/local/urban walk outings; provide refreshments or food as part of meetings; and focus on communications to reach non-members via tools like Meetup, target membership by zip code, improve our e-blast/website/electronic newsletter sign-up processes, and increase leadership advocacy in the community.

If you have comments, questions, or wish to join us in our mission, please contact any member of the Executive Committee (see page 2 for contact info; if using email, please include Subject line of "MH Priorities").

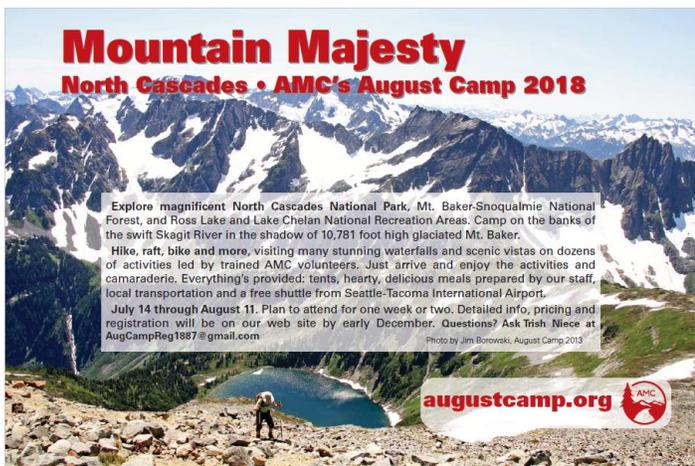
Hold the date! AMC Joint Chapters Weekend at Harriman Outdoor Center, August 17-19

Our chapter is planning a joint weekend with the Delaware Valley and New York North New Jersey chapters at Harriman Outdoor Center in Harriman State Park. Details are not yet available, but there will be hikes at all levels, paddling on Breakneck Pond using the HOC kayaks and canoes, yoga, swimming, and time to chill plus delicious meals in the central dining hall.

Accommodation choices and reservation information will be forthcoming. Registration will be through a web form similar to the Fall Gathering type of registration. Sharon Bonk (sboqc@mindspring.com) is our chapter's liaison to the planning group. At this time, Sharon requests that chapter members consider attending and outing/activity leaders volunteer to lead a hike on one of the weekend's days.

Don't confuse this with our chapter's weekend on September 28-30, 2018 at the Harriman Outdoor Center. More information about both weekends will be forthcoming via email and the June issue of the chapter newsletter, *On the Western Slope*.

August Camp Update



As of January 26th, all weeks of August Camp 2018 are full. Confirmations for accepted individuals will be sent soon. We continue to accept names for the waitlist for all four weeks. To be added to the waitlist, please follow normal application procedures (including a check to cover the deposit). Your deposit check will not be cashed until such time as a space opens up, you are notified of that open space, and you agree to take it.

AMC Adventure Travel: Red Rock Vistas and Vortices in Sedona, AZ

Saturday, October 13 – Sunday, October 21, 2018

Come hike with us among the spectacular sandstone formations that have drawn nature lovers, artists, spiritual seekers, and even movie directors to the Red Rock area of Sedona. We'll walk in the footsteps of John Wayne and Jimmy Stewart, discover the ruins of ancient cliff dwellers, and explore the vortices that many believe are centers of the earth's energy. You don't need to be a mystic or a fan of Westerns to be amazed by the beauty of Cathedral Rock, charmed by the whimsical Coffee Pot Rock, and energized by the variety of hikes and vistas.

We'll stay in a comfortable, centrally located hotel or condos (2 persons to a room) and share our experiences over group dinners. Most hikes will be moderate in difficulty and length (5-8 miles) with some easier half-day hikes on days when we visit archeological sites and at least one more challenging optional hike.

Adult: \$2,225 member / \$2,225 non-member. Includes hotel accommodations in Sedona and Phoenix with all breakfasts and 5 group dinners, rental vehicle transportation in Arizona. A Red Rock Park Pass also is included. Air fare not included.

To register, please contact:

Leader: Merri Fox, (860) 485-1697, or

Co-Leader: Bonnie Riedinger, HikeCT2017@gmail.com.



March 2018 – Moreau State Park