



# Foot – Loose!

Newsletter of the Susquehanna Chapter of the Adirondack Mountain Club (ADK), published quarterly – January, April, July, and October

Volume 23, Number 2

April 2011

## Glad To Know You!

As the new Chair of the Susquehanna Chapter of ADK I found myself being quite nervous about how to handle my new responsibilities, but my anxieties were quickly alleviated. Everyone I spoke to willingly gave me helpful hints and suggestions to carry out these new duties. All this guidance and direction has been greatly appreciated and of course much needed.

As I was reading the March-April 2011 issue of the *Adirondack* I came across an article on ADK Volunteer Opportunities and thought perhaps it was time to thank the many volunteers, past and present, we have in our local Susquehanna Chapter. These are some and perhaps many of the people who are making my transition as Chapter Chair an easy one. I'm always amazed by the amount of time individuals commit to an organization they enjoy being a part of and to which they are dedicated. As your new Chapter Chair I would like to recognize these volunteers and to thank them for their many contributions to our organization.

Aleda Koehn served faithfully as Chapter Chair. She organized Executive Committee meetings, gave brief updates about important issues at our Wednesday night dinners, and wrote interesting and informative lead articles for Foot-Loose, doing so with just the right amount of humor. Julie Smith, as Vice Chair, served us well by providing programs for each of our Wednesday dinner meetings. All presentations left us with "food for thought" or the enjoyment of experiencing a virtual outing to a far off place or to a nearby haunt. Muffy McDowell and Harry Barnes have now volunteered to follow in her footsteps with great programs for 2011. Nina Hart, our former Treasurer, simplified our financial records and made them

easy to understand and has passed those reins on to Ginny Marr, our new Treasurer. Linda Wilcox kept the records of the Chapter and of the Executive Committee meetings. She was a good secretary whose minutes were well organized, clear and to the point. Linda Melchionne has volunteered to continue that practice so we can have an accurate record of our activities. Linda Seifried, our Director, represents our Chapter at meetings of the ADK Board of Directors, keeps us updated on policies and practices and solicits our opinions on pending issues before the Board of Directors.

There are a variety of outdoor activities the Susquehanna Chapter of ADK makes available to its members and to the local community. Bev Hensle, our outings coordinator, has scheduled an activity for each Tuesday of the month. Volunteers, too many to name, have led hikes, snowshoeing and skiing ventures, bicycling and canoeing excursions, and leisurely walks resulting in a good time shared by all. Our new Trails Chairs, Joe and Melanie Castine, have begun working on trail maintenance and are also reaching out for other volunteers to help in trail management. They are counseled by our former Trail Chair Joe Hart. He started the stewardship of the Wilson Pond Trail in our adopted Blue Ridge Wilderness Area as well as the overseeing of other trail clearing and bridge building in and around our area.

Moira Beach, head of Publicity, reliably distributes the outings schedule and other important info via e-mail, advertises our organization in the newspaper and helps all of us stay in touch with one another. Erika Heinegg, our Conservation Chair, informs us of local and national conservation issues. Membership Chair Lucille Wiggin

keeps us up-to-date on new members and notifies us if our dues are in arrears. Without the tireless efforts of Fred Johnson we wouldn't have the wonderful quarterly editions of Foot-Loose that are consistently informative and interesting to read. He does a great job of formatting the newsletter and Barbara Meeks makes sure it is mailed to those who do not receive it electronically. Without the wonderful electronic wizardry of Currie Marr who set up and maintains our website I don't know what we would do. He has made it an invaluable resource site.

Our Hospitality Chairs, Jean and Joe Seroka, have made our Wednesday monthly meetings such a pleasure to attend. They always provide an atmosphere for a lovely repast and do all the necessary set-up and clean-up. And I would be remiss to not thank all the culinary chefs who provide a plethora of savory dishes to pass at each of our monthly meetings.

If I have failed to thank someone who has in some way volunteered and contributed to the success of our Susquehanna Chapter of ADK please excuse my negligence. This brings me to a position for which you might want to volunteer. We are in desperate need of an Education Committee. One of its duties, keeping in line with one of ADK's stated objectives, is to increase environmental awareness and appreciation while learning the skills and ethics for a rewarding outdoor experience. Many, if not all, of our Susquehanna Chapter ADK members are talented people. Perhaps you might consider volunteering to become Education Chair, a leadership role that would allow us to reach out to the community to further the causes of our Chapter.

*Dianne Benko*

## Wilson Pond Trail Maintenance Scheduled

Joseph and Melanie Castine invite all members to a trip up North. They are planning a maintenance weekend, August 5-7 with work on the Wilson Pond Trail, Saturday, August 6. They'll be camping at Lake Durant and have already reserved site 53. About six sites remain available in this loop. River sites are already gone. If you are interested, PLEASE make your own reservations soon before all sites are gone. If you decide to cancel, you will only be out the \$9 fee, if you cancel early

enough. Joe and Melanie will provide chili on Saturday evening!!!! Interested? Call 607-441-3120 and tell them which site you got. Act quickly if you wish to camp at lake Durant.

In addition, we will be advertising for new members at the Oneonta Farmers Market. We are hoping to have a table set up on Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup> from 9AM until 3PM. We will need help to staff the table. Call us at [607-441-3120](tel:607-441-3120) to volunteer.

## Welcome New & Rejoining ADKers

New members:

James and Charlene Higgins	32 East Center St.	Oneonta 13820
Ron and Dorothy Luetzger	30 Grand St.	Oneonta 13820
James Austin	1 Belmont Park	Oneonta 13820
Alexandra Rudenko	72 Susquehanna Ave.	Cooperstown 13326

Rejoining:

Wm. and Laura Lamb	1836 Co. Hwy. 33,	Cooperstown 13326
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We'll see you at meetings and on the trails

## ADK Publicity

Susquehanna Chapter hike information now appears on <http://highlandbuzz.wordpress.com/>. Currie Marr continues to maintain our very informative and attractive website, <http://www.susqadk.org>, and Mary Lou Austin and her son distribute posters throughout the community. Information is sent via email to 146 families. We recently began posting our hikes on <http://www.theoneontacalendar.com>. Thanks to Mark Drnek

for making all this information available to the community. Thanks to Patricia Coyle and Joseph, our hikes are also listed in the previously noted highland buzz website.

If you are not receiving weekly hike information via email, let me know at [susqadk@yahoo.com](mailto:susqadk@yahoo.com) and I will add you to the distribution list.

*Moiria Beach, Publicity Chair*

## Officers Elected for 2011-2012

At the January 19<sup>th</sup> annual meeting the slate of officers suggested by the nominating committee for the two-year term that began in January of 2011 was elected. Congratulations to the new officers of the Susquehanna Chapter.

Chair:	Dianne Benko
Vice-chairs:	Muffy McDowell and Harry Barnes
Secretary:	Linda Melchionne
Director:	Linda Seifried

## Best Ever Winter Trip To Adirondack LOJ !!!!

Seventeen Susquehanna Chapter members, the largest group ever, had a wonderful trip to the Loj at the beginning of February. The snow was deep and soft and we skied on trails around the property. The next day we all went to Van Hoevenberg Ski Center for the day. Although NYS had dropped its age 70 free policy, the \$10 for miles of groomed trails was well worth it.

Later that day we had reports of a big snow storm that was to arrive that night and the next day, Wednesday, the day we were to have returned. Calls to Oneonta informed us that schools had closed early and might be closed the next day also. We all decided to stay an extra day.

We had a cozy evening in the Loj, with a great dinner followed by a special carrot cake decorated for the celebration of Norma Lee and Jack's wedding anniversary. The evening was spent talking, reading, and doing a crossword puzzle by the fireplace in the Great Room under the glass eyes of Mr. Moose.

On Wednesday it snowed off and on the entire day. We snowshoed a loop that took us about 3 miles along a lovely trail. Again more skiing and shoeshoeing in the afternoon and a relaxing evening by the fire.

Thursday morning the temperature had dropped, the clouds were gone, and the sun was shining. Most of our group brushed several inches of snow off the cars and headed home. A few of us went back to Van Hoevenberg that morning and were treated to pristine newly groomed trails though a wonderland of snow laden trees, brilliant sunshine, and deep blue skies. We did the perimeter trail, had lunch in the lodge, and then returned to Oneonta. A great winter trip!!

*Aleda Koehn*

## FINGER LAKES TRAIL HIKING OPPORTUNITIES

Karen Serbonich coordinates the FLTC (Finger Lakes Trail). The Cortland County hike series this year will be on the 3rd Saturday of each month. If you are interested in hiking Cortland County, please go to the following website. It is listed as the Cross County Hike series. <http://www.fltconference.org/trails/what-s-happening/hike-programs-2/>

## Winter 2010 - 11 Meeting Reviews

**Wednesday, January 19.** Thirty-two members attended the Susquehanna Chapter of the Adirondack Mountain Club annual meeting chaired by Aleda Koehn. Officers for 2011-12 were elected as noted. Nina Hart presented the Annual Financial Report which appears in this edition of Foot-Loose with the roster of elected officers for 2011-12. The following committee reports were received:

**HOSPITALITY** will continue under the direction of Joe and Jean Seroka. The menu for February meeting will be soup/bread and chili. Aleda would like to purchase the corned beef for the March meeting and needs some volunteers to cook.

**TRAILS.** Joe and Melanie Castine will take over trails from Joe Hart. They are planning to camp out and canoe when they work on Wilson Pond trail. Others are invited to join them in August.

**MID-WEEK HIKES.** Bev Hensle will continue scheduling leaders. Please remember to save the sign-up sheets and give them to Bev or Currie Marr. They will be forwarded to Headquarters for the record.

**PROGRAMS.** Julie Smith noted the February program would feature Dr. Jay Fleisher's trip to Nevada/California. For February, Moira Beach had asked Tom Briggs to tell us about the adult learning camp that was held last summer in Delhi, NY.

**CONSERVATION.** Erica Heinegg and Linda Seifried are sharing the responsibility.

**PUBLICITY.** Moira Beach will continue

**WEB SITE.** Currie Marr will continue to manage.

**FOOT-LOOSE** Fred Johnson will continue as editor.

**Wednesday, February 16.** Via PowerPoint, Jay Fleisher shared his October 2010 trip from the bottom of Death Valley (282 ft. below sea level) to the crest of the Sierra Nevada Range (Tioga Pass, 9,945 ft. above sea level). The group's travels covered a regionally extensive chain of Ice Age lakes, a forest as old as the pyramids, an abandoned mining town, a winter playground, and a collapsed mega volcano on the way to one of America's topographic icons – Half Dome of Yosemite National Park.

**Wednesday, March 16.** Tom Briggs, Delaware County Office for the Aging, presented a PowerPoint program and talk about the 4C Camp (Camping to Create Caring Communities) in Delaware County near the Delaware River between Delancy & Delhi. He was assisted by Moira Beach who has participated in the program. The main campground is a large open meadow surrounded by naturally wooded hillsides. Campers are housed in cabins spaced among the trees and along the meadow's edge. Tom encouraged ADKers to consider participating this summer, August 25-28. Information can be downloaded from the 4C website: [4c-camp.org](http://4c-camp.org).

Thanks to Rita Salo and her Irish culinary team who prepared a corned beef & cabbage dinner with many additions celebrating St. Patrick's Day.

## Looking Back

*Our Susquehanna Chapter has been around for about 35 years. To get an idea of how we've come to where we are, it's sometimes fun to take a look at where we've been. With that thought and with thanks to Aleda Koehn for lending her Foot-Loose collection, we share an article from Winter 1987.*

The Susquehanna Chapter had a rather typical year – some bright spots, some not so bright. Being one of the smallest chapters, maintaining steady leadership while bringing in new members into important roles has been a problem. Unfortunately, Chairman Tim Mallery was transferred to South Carolina early in the new year. Bill Swain filled in as acting chair with timely support from old-timers as well as some new members. In making plans for next year, Jo Koenig, the founder and first chairman of the Chapter chairman for 1987, pending Chapter elections in January, has begun to assemble a “team” that represents a broad cross section of the Chapter; a more vigorous Chapter is the goal for next year.

Chapter membership and activities were maintained near the same levels as in previous years. Some members discontinued their affiliation but new people got news of the Chapter and joined ADK. Favorite outings continued to be day hikes in warm weather and cross-country skiing when there is snow on the ground. Many of us look forward to the annual weekends at the lodges.

One of the most interesting activities was a “mushroom hike” in September led by Professor Currie Marr, SUNY Oneonta. The group found a wide variety of common and rare fungi in a most unlikely place – a City of Oneonta park. After identification and examination of the specimens, Professor Marr took the group to

his laboratory where the mushrooms were prepared for cooking. We all enjoyed tasty portions of “curried” mushrooms.

The Chapter continued to carry out its responsibilities for maintaining an 11.2 mile network of cross-country ski trails in the Milford State Forest near Oneonta in cooperation with the local DEC. Trail clearing crews went out in October and November, and members checked the trails during the season while skiing. A winter health care and skiing techniques clinic was held jointly by the Susquehanna Chapter and the local DEC Forester in February, with some sixty-five skiers signing in. Information about this ski area and maps of the trails may be obtained by writing to the Susquehanna Chapter.

The Chapter is currently involved in exploring another area east of Oneonta as a possible site for another network of ski and hiking trails. An application for a small grant to help promote this project has been submitted to the regional planning agency. Several members have visited the site and initial flagging of a basic loop has been done. If this project continues, the trails should be ready for the winter of 1987-88.

The final meeting of 1986 was the annual holiday social in December last year at the Koenig home. Each year, all ADKers are welcome; admittance is some dessert or beverage to share and five of your favorite photographs – slides or prints – of the outdoors.

*Bill Swain, Acting Chair*

**Annual Financial Report, 2010**  
ADIRONDACK MOUNTAIN CLUB, SUSQUEHANNA CHAPTER  
FINANCIAL REPORT, YEAR 2010

ACCOUNT BALANCES	12/31/2009	
Savings		1,074.59
Checking		1,013.86
Chapter Deposit Note (est.)		2,024.50
TOTAL		\$ 4,112.95

INCOME		
Dues share		2,197.30
Newsletter		-
Interest		41.41
Loj outings		1,036.00
Dinners		-
Other		-
TOTAL INCOME		\$ 3,274.71

EXPENSES		
Loj outings		858.00
Director (governor) expenses		340.00
Rent		295.00
Special projects		-
Programs		9.62
Exec. Committee expenses		21.75
Donations		1,000.00

Conservation Committee		-
Hospitality Comm: Dinners		65.13
Hospitality Comm: Supplies		49.33
Membership Committee		-
Newsletter: Printing		162.30
Newsletter: Postage		311.10
Outings Comm: Midweek		-
Outings Comm: Weekend		-
Publicity Committee		-
Trails Committee		-
Blue Ridge Committee		-
Education Committee		-
Other		19.43
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$ 3,131.66

NET GAIN/(LOSS)      \$ 143.05

ACCOUNT BALANCES	12/31/2010	
Savings		1,169.63
Checking		1,022.31
Chapter Deposit Note (est.)		2,061.88
TOTAL		\$ 4,253.82

### Black Fly Affair

Would you like to support ADK financially, have a lot of fun, enjoy a good dinner, and possibly win something useful, all at the same time? Then consider attending ADK's largest single fundraising event of the year, the "Black Fly Affair: A Hikers Ball"! This year's event will be held Saturday evening, May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011, from 7:00pm to 11:30 at the Hiland Park Country Club in Queensbury, NY [near Glens Falls/Lake George; see <http://www.hilandparkcc.com> for map and photos].

This is an evening of fun and food in an elegant setting. In addition to the auctions and dinner, there is wine-tasting, art and craft exhibits, and raffles for a canoe, a kayak, and a quilt. The silent auction offers many items for sports and camping, plus tickets to ski areas and vacation packages. It features items both large and small, including baskets of "goodies" from many of the Chapters. So, come out if you can; have fun and support ADK. Reservations may be made at [www.adk.org](http://www.adk.org) or by calling 1-800-395-8080, ext. 42.

### ADK and Liability - What We Need to Know

No one wants an accident to happen. ADK works hard to avoid problems in two ways.

**Insurance:** ADK carries Liability Insurance for Chapter outings that are officially sanctioned - that is, they are approved by the Outings Chair and are published in the Chapter Newsletter beforehand. [Note that informal gatherings of members for an impromptu activity are not covered by this insurance.] This insurance covers trip leaders, as well as the Club itself.

Protection for leaders and the Club is enhanced by the use of ADK's Liability Release Form, available on the Chapter website for trip leaders to print out. Every person joining an outing should sign this form. The form must be retained for 3 years, so trip leaders should turn in the form to the Outings Chair. They will be collected and sent to ADK for long-term retention.

**Accident prevention:** The trip leader and ALL PARTICIPANTS in a hike must cooperate in this matter. The trip leader's responsibilities are spelled out in detail in "Guidelines for ADK Chapter Outings" [more on this coming up]. If an accident should occur on an outing, ADK must be notified quickly, and a copy of the signed Liability Release Form must be sent in, along with a written account of the accident.

Certain activities are not covered by ADK's liability insurance carrier, such as indoor activities, rope, rock, or ice climbing; or boat trips where rapids are Class IV or higher. Also not covered: medical expenses for injuries suffered by leader or participants on hikes; or automobile insurance matters for leaders driving their own vehicles.

*Linda Seifried, Director*

# Winter 2010 - 11 Trip Reports

## Greenway Hike

**Tuesday, December 7.** Fifteen hikers walked through the snow at the Oneonta Greenway on Tuesday morning. The cold west



winds did not seem to dampen the spirits of the group. Eleven met for lunch at the Underground Eggplant deli after the hike.

*Group photo and review - Julie Smith*

## Basswood Pond Hike

**Tuesday, January 4.** ADK members met at Basswood Pond parking area. The temperature was about 26 degrees and clouds made it overcast, but there was no wind, for a change! There was just a dusting of snow on the trails, and many icy patches, but we travelled on the trail all the way to Jacobs Road, then on to the trail again to the Pond, across the dam, and onto Conservation



Road and back to the parking lot. Approximately 2.9 miles totally. The road was snow covered and quite icy, but we were able to make our way along the side where there were leaves and a bit of snow.

*Currie Marr*

## Greenway Hike/Snowshoe

**Tuesday, January 11.** Substituting for the Fielders, the Marrs led 16 walkers, some with snowshoes, on the Oneonta Greenway trail. After entering the trail, we turned right, walking counterclockwise a 2.6 mile loop that went along the Susquehanna River in both directions while avoiding a stretch of trail next to the highway. Afterwards 10 people warmed up at the Underground Eggplant deli while enjoying lunch.

*Currie Marr*

## Fortin Park Ski & Snowshoe

**Tuesday, January 25.** Fifteen ADK members met at Fortin Park under sunny skies and 24 degree temperature for an invigorating ski or snowshoe outing. The dusting of new snow was perfect for both activities. Four skiers did 1 or 2 loops in the lower portion of the park, while the 11 people on snowshoes did a 1.8 mile loop that included the hillside of the park. Everyone seemed to enjoy the exercise and deliverance from cabin fever.

*Currie Marr*

## Goodyear Lake Outing

**Tuesday, February 15.** After considering the morning temperature and wind-chill factor, I decided to postpone our outing to start with soup at 11:30 and to hike afterwards. With e-mails and phone calls, the time change info got around. At 11:30, much to my surprise, 14 hearty souls arrived, even though it was still quite cold. After enjoying some hot soup and fellowship, we set out on the RR tracks - 12 walkers and 3 skiers. The snow surface was very good for either activity and it turned out to be a very pleasant afternoon with a clear blue sky and plenty of sunshine.

*Linda Pearce*

## Cooperstown Golf Course

**Tuesday, February 22.** We live in a beautiful area, as you all know. Some of the places that we go to on Tuesdays feel special. That's how it was on Tuesday, February 22, 2011. Although the temperature was only nine degrees when we started skiing and snow shoeing at the Cooperstown Golf Course, the sun was bright, the sky was blue and there was no wind. The turnout was kind of low, but 12 of us did brave the cold. The frozen Glimmerglass was our background. People did their own thing at their own pace. It felt like a world apart - very special and very beautiful.

*Rita Salo*

## Clark Tower Outing

**Tuesday, March 1.** Seven snowshoers and 2 walkers met at Clark Sports Center and proceeded to Beaver Meadow Road to park and enter the Clark Tower trails. Even after the heavy rains of Monday, there was adequate snowpack, which had softened. We followed the trail around the ponds and beaver dam, and accessed the bicycle trail toward the top of the woods. Cutting across the last switchback, we came to the old water tower and then traveled downhill and out of the area. Beautiful blue sky and bright sunshine made the 2 hour trek most enjoyable.

*Kay & Ted Kantorowski*

Seeing the photos in black & white? Enjoy the photos in color by receiving Foot-Loose via e-mail. It's the "green" way to save trees and postage. Contact your editor at [jfred212@frontiernet.net](mailto:jfred212@frontiernet.net) and request the e-mail version.

Please clip and post

## SUSQUEHANNA CHAPTER Spring 2011 SCHEDULE

ALWAYS CALL LEADERS FOR DETAILS

Area codes are 607 unless otherwise noted

**Riders should contribute a fair share toward gas. Each trip's leader must have all participants sign the liability release form, which may be downloaded from our website: [www.susqadk.org](http://www.susqadk.org).**

Ernie Mahlke, 432-2583, will be happy to hear from people who want to hike on weekends and include them in any plans he and Heide may have. For bikers looking for group rides, please call Leon and Lucille Wiggin, 432-1022, and Frank and Jean Oakley, 263-5832. Both Wiggins and Oakleys will again be riding as much as possible this season.

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Leaders</u>	<u>Phones</u>	<u>Destinations</u>
April 5	Aleda Koehn	432-8870	Gilbert Lake
April 12	Julie Smith	432-8642	Pine Lake
April 19	Lucille Wiggin	432-1022	Crumhorn Mtn.
Apr. 20	Monthly Meeting.	See below	
April 26	Irv&Monica Peters	315-858-0261	Basswood Pond
May 3	Rita Salo	432-3656	Finger Lakes Trail-start in Masonville
May 10	Ernie&Heidi Mahlke	432-2583	TBA
May 17	Jim & Charlene Higgins	432-7012	Higgins's Property-Oneonta
May 18	Monthly Meeting.	See below	
May 24	Mary Dunkle	547-2162	Hike on Land trust Property-TBA
May 31	Julie Smith	432-8642	Photo OP at Gilbert Lake
June 7	Currie & Virginia Marr	432-5434	College Camp
June 14	Barb Means	432-4903	Means Property
June 15	Monthly Meeting.	See below	
June 21	Linda Pearce	432-8969	Goodyear Lake
June 28	Linda Melchionne	315-858-0359	Moe Pond Cooperstown

Your executive committee, wishing to reduce our carbon footprint, encourages members to carpool to meetings and activities.

### Meetings Ahead, 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays

Unless otherwise noted, we meet at Elm Park Methodist Church, 401 Chestnut St. Oneonta, for 6 pm potluck dinners followed by programs at 7 pm.

- Apr 20 Frank and Cynthia Waterman will do a power point presentation on New Zealand, focusing on birds.
- May 18 Amy Lieberman will present "Everest Panorama Trek", Trekking in Nepal.
- June 15 Picnic, 5 – 8 pm at Briggs Pavilion, Gilbert Lake State Park.
- July 20 Picnic at Wiggins Camp, Crumhorn. Swimming, boating, floating and fun from 3:30 and dishes to share at 6 pm.
- August 17 Pot Luck Picnic 6 – 8 pm at Fortin Park.

# Delaware- Otsego Audubon Society Submits Gas Drilling Comments

The following letter was sent by DOAS conservation chair, Andrew Mason

Commission Secretary February 22, 2011  
Delaware River Basin Commission  
P.O. Box 7360  
25 State Police Drive  
West Trenton, NJ 08628

The following are formal comments by our organization on the pending Draft Natural Gas Development Regulations. The Delaware-Otsego Audubon Soc. is the Chapter of the National Audubon Soc. covering Delaware and Otsego and portions of Schoharie and Chenango Counties in New York. A large part of our Chapter area is within the Delaware River watershed, and the environmental quality of the river, its tributaries, and the lands making up the watershed are of great importance to our organization and members.

We have adopted a formal position statement detailing our position on gas drilling and hydrofracking wells (attached). Our first concern in that statement is *“potential ground and surface water contamination from the many toxic chemicals used in hydrofracking the shale”*.

We further state that *“The practice of injecting large quantities of toxic substances into the earth to physically fracture it and permanently leave behind damaged geology and foreign substances is an assault on the very resources that sustain life. This damage will remain for millennia, and will threaten unseen future generations, as well as present-day humans and wildlife. Even with the most stringent controls and oversight, this activity is an unacceptable danger to our planet, with no environmental benefits. As such, we oppose hydrofracking gas exploration and production in our region and elsewhere.”*

The draft regulations put forth by the Commission attempt to put in place such stringent controls and oversight. However, it is clearly impossible for the Commission or any other agency to administratively control, regulate or otherwise assure the safety of an activity that largely takes place thousands of feet below the surface of the earth, and the ramifications of which may not be apparent or experienced for hundreds or thousands of years.

If this body is to responsibly *“ . . . protect the water resources of the Delaware River Basin . . . ”* and *“ . . . avoid pollution of or injury to the water resources of the Basin ”* as the draft regulations envision, it should deny any and all uses of Delaware River basin ground or surface waters, or disposal of any wastewaters, or importation of water for the purpose of hydrofracking gas wells or related activities. We call on the Commission to withdraw the draft regulations and enact a permanent ban on use of basin waters for these purposes. Anything less would be an abrogation of your responsibilities to the waters and the residents of the Delaware watershed.

Sincerely,  
Andrew Mason, Conservation Chair

## One Square Mile of Hope – 2011

Saturday, September 24, 2011

On Fourth Lake, Inlet, NY

Three years ago, in 2008, this tiny town in the West Central Adirondacks raised over \$50,000 for the Susan G. Komen Foundation to fight breast cancer and broke a world record while doing it. And now they're going to do it again!

Over 2,000 women, men and kids came to Inlet, NY in 2008 and formed the world's largest floating canoe/kayak raft on an open body of water. The 1,104 boats smashed the record previously set by the city of Cleveland, Ohio, and Inlet now holds the title of champion in the Guinness Book of World Records.

Pittsburgh, PA challenged the record last June, with an unofficial count of 1,800, but Inlet remains the title-holder for the time being. Cleveland is planning another challenge this year, and Inlet is determined to keep the title in Inlet!

So, here's what happening on Saturday, September 24, 2011.



- Over 4,000 paddlers will arrive on the shores of Fourth Lake and set another Guinness record with over 3,000 boats in a canoe/kayak raft.
- The town will hold an all-day festival including a health and wellness fair, music, good food, special events, and friendship.
- The city of Pittsburgh, population 380,000, will be challenged to a head-to-head and boat-to-boat competition with the town of Inlet, population 420. This is a classic David and Goliath battle!
- Grab nationwide media attention with the can-do attitudes of over 4,000 dedicated and caring people who want to join the fight against breast cancer, while they take on the brawny boats of Pittsburgh.
- And raise over \$65,000 for the renowned Susan G. Komen Foundation.

For registration information visit <http://www.onesquaremileofhope.com/> See you there!

## Foot-Loose!

Newsletter of the Susquehanna Chapter ADK  
www.susqadk.org  
c/o Lucille Wiggin  
80 Chestnut Street  
Oneonta, NY 13820

Subscription to this newsletter is included in membership in the Susquehanna Chapter of the Adirondack Mountain Club. It is available to the public and to non-chapter members for \$5 per year. Contact Barbara Meeks at (607) 783-2924 for more information. Portions of this newsletter are also available online at [www.susqadk.org](http://www.susqadk.org).

### Susquehanna Chapter Officers and Committee Chairs

Chair: Dianne Benko  
432-8870 dbenko@frontiernet.net

Vice-Chairs: Muffy McDowell and  
Harry Barnes

432-8642 brckbns@yahoo.com

Secretary: Linda Melchionne  
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Treasurer: Virginia Marr  
432-5434 cmarr@stny.rr.com

Director, ADK: Linda Seifried 265-  
3780 sseifried@mkl.com

Conservation: Erika Heinegg  
432-0405 eheinegg@yahoo.com

Hospitality: Jean & Joe Seroka  
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Trails: Joe & Melanie Castine  
441-3120 momo@castine.net

Website: Currie Marr  
432-5434 cmarr@stny.rr.com

Chapter meetings are held the third Wednesday of the month, September through May, at the Elm Park United Methodist Church, 401 Chestnut Street, Oneonta (except where noted). Members and the public are invited to our early evening potluck supper at 6pm (please bring a dish to pass, your own table service and mug or cup); programs begin at 7pm, followed by a short business meeting.

Adirondack Mountain Club annual membership dues are \$50 for individuals and \$60 for families (other membership levels are available, including seniors and students). Benefits of membership include:

- discounts on ADK workshops and programs
- discounts on ADK merchandise
- invitations to member only outings and extended trips
- reduced rates at ADK facilities: lodges, lean-tos, cabins, and campgrounds
- 20% discount on ADK trail guides, canoe guides, maps, books and calendars
- membership in one of ADK's 27 chapters throughout the Northeast

For more information please go to [www.susqadk.org](http://www.susqadk.org) or call 1 800 395 8080

