

## SPRING 2009

Dear ADK Members,

By now, you have received a mailer containing the news that the Ramapo and North Jersey ADK Chapters have planned to join together. The written information on those pages is VERY important in understanding why, when, and how this will take place.

WHY we are merging was apparent to those of us who hiked regularly. During the last several years, we gradually began to share our hiking schedule since we walked in the same areas, our newsletter editor wrote North Jersey's newsletter as well as ours, and we combined special events to increase attendance. We walked in the woods together as one chapter, but were duplicating the efforts of our wonderful, but separate, volunteers.

WHEN we will vote is Thursday, April 23rd, 7 PM at the Nanuet Public Library.

HOW it will get approved is that each voting ADK member will cast one vote to pass the Resolution, Bylaws and Slate of Officers. Please read the material carefully and plan to attend the meeting. We will vote by a show of hands; a majority vote will pass the merger. North Jersey will have their meeting on April 26th, vote, and then, when it is passed by both chapters, it will get approved by ADK Headquarters in June. They know of our plans and are pleased that we are joining together.

The new Executive Committee will be comprised of those Chairs who wish to remain doing their jobs and some new volunteers eager to add fresh ideas. We have an attractive logo that will be placed on the newsletter, "Trail Talk." The newsletter will be somewhat different, containing articles of interest and maybe a hiker's favorite cookie recipe will appear occasionally. So, think about submitting your recipe since we All love those treats on a hike.

### **Please make note of the following events:**

#### **April 23rd** CHAPTER MEETING

Nanuet Public Library, 7 PM Pot Luck Supper, sale/swap of gently used hiking items, and VOTE. You may bring a dessert, entree or salad, and items priced for display and sale. RSVP by April 15th to Suzan Gordon.

#### **June 18th** NORTH JERSEY RAMAPO CHAPTER MEETING

On Thursday evening, June 18th our new chapter will have its first program and meeting at 7 PM in the Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 125 Glasgow Terrace, Mahwah, NJ. This convenient NJ location is on Route 202 (Ramapo Valley Road), just a bit west of Route 17, the Mason Jar Restaurant, and the Trail Conference Office. Our speaker will be Rick Cech, natural history author, photographer, and field observer of butterflies. Rick is the author of a magnificent 234 page field guide, Butterflies of the East Coast. We will hear many interesting and surprising facts about the hidden lives of butterflies as well as observing his beautiful pictures during his presentation, "Lifestyles of East Coast Butterflies." Rick will have copies of his books to be autographed when you purchase one for your library. Questions and refreshments will follow his presentation. Plan on attending this informative, interesting meeting and please bring friends and family with you. Visit Rick's web site [www.butterfliesarestillfree.com](http://www.butterfliesarestillfree.com).

#### **Sept. 12th** MOHONK DAY

We will meet at Mohonk Mountain House for a day of hiking. Two levels of hikes as well as a rock scramble will be offered. After our day's adventures we will meet at 4 PM on the verandah for tea, shower and change in the spa and go to a delicious four course dinner at 6 PM in the main dining room.

The cost per person is \$50 for the day. Please RSVP to Suzan Gordon by August 20th. Our rain date is Sunday, Sept. 13th. Please clear both days just in case.

Hope to see you on the trails soon.

*Suzan Gordon,*

Chapter Chair