



Explore. Educate. Protect.

THE NIAGARA EXPLORER

Newsletter of Adirondack Mountain Club
Niagara Frontier Chapter



Our next General Meeting

Tuesday,
March 8, 2022
6:30pm

Will be held in person
at Amherst Community
Church, 77 Washington
Hwy, Amherst, NY
14226.

Please keep up to date
by checking your weekly
emails and/or the ADK-
Niagara Frontier Chap-
ter Facebook group.



**Newsletter of
Adirondack
Mountain Club
Niagara Frontier
Chapter**

March 2022

Message from the Chair

We are now entering the "shoulder" season. Winter is hanging on and Spring is trying to poke through. We will enjoy a few more days of skiing while we can, but also look forward to warmer weather, blooming flowers, and wildlife to become more active. We had a great program and education workshop last month. Now that COVID numbers are on the decline and masks are no longer required in NYS, we hope to see more of you at the monthly meeting. Also, be sure to mark your calendars for our annual picnic on June 12 at Sprague Brook.



As you are out in nature, look for the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA). WNY PRISM needs more community scientists. It is really easy, just watch HWA Virtual Survey Training, download iMapInvasives, look for HWA on the trail or head to one of the

HWA Data Gap locations. The steps to join the cause are explained on this page: <https://www.wnyprism.org/hwa-community-scientists/> Hopefully we can curb the infestation before the HWA kills our hemlocks in WNY and ADK.

See you outside,
Mike Radomski
Chapter Chair

Trustee Report—February 2022

As you may have seen in the recent edition of the Adirondack, this year is the 100th anniversary of ADK and lots of great events are scheduled. You might want to look at the 100 mile challenge or help encourage people you know to join our chapter for the Chapter Challenge. Members of our chapter will be working on finding new members this year as part of the Centennial. The Fall Outing on Lake George will include a Centennial Celebration, and you can do trail work on the Northville-Placid trail in June. Meeting people from other chapters at these kinds of events is really fun! If you

have any questions about these events you can look at the newly redesigned ADK website ADK.org for details.

The Club is moving forward with the purchase of Cascade Ski Center for use as an information center and location for meetings and possibly staff. The building in Lake George is being sold to help finance the purchase, and staff in that area will be located in rental space. The building was supposed to be an information center but due to a variety of factors it didn't work out that way, and the new location will be more visible to



UPCOMING SPRING PROGRAMS

April 12, 2022

6:30 pm Education/Dave O'Donnell of Eastern Monarch Butterfly Farm

7:30 pm Program/Kimberly Adriaasen of Tift Nature Preserve

May 10, 2022

6:30 pm Education: Alan Bacziewicz, author of The Backyard Bird Sanctuary

7:30 pm Program: Messinger Woods featuring Jimini Crowket

June 12, 2022

ADK-NFC Picnic at Sprague Brook Park, Glenwood, NY (program to be announced)



the targeted groups of visitors to the high peaks area. The Ski Center and its store will continue to operate and the current owner is assisting ADK with the transition.

The Advisory Council is continuing to work on projects such as improved outings policies, a membership campaign, communications including website development, and development of chapter operation guidelines. I've been elected to represent the Council on the main board and will be a member of a subcommittee of the Finance committee which will review budget submissions from chapters under new budgeting procedures. The new procedures are designed to improve the development of the main club budget and insure

compliance with IRS and NYS tax regulations. We are sharing a large amount of information across chapters and seeing both the similarities and differences between the 26 chapters. The goal is to be One ADK, with increased focus on strengthening the club in a variety of ways.

Volunteering for ADK through the Campground Host, Trail Head Steward, Trail Work day, Photo Contest and other programs is a great way to find out more about what the Club is doing. Staying at the Loj and the campground there is also fun and provides an opportunity to see ADK in action. Please contact me if you have any questions about these programs.

- Kate Hacker

Missed our February Chapter Meeting?

Recordings are available on YouTube!

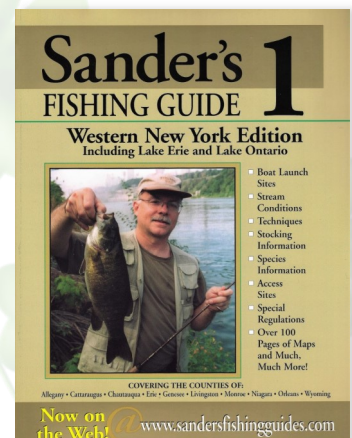
- [ADK NFC Program for Feb 2022 // The Habitat Project](#)
- [ADK NFC Education Workshop for Feb 2022 // Friends of Allegany State Park](#)

General Meeting Agenda for March 8th, 2022

Education Workshop | 6:30pm

March 8, 2022 educational class will be presented by John Sander, a certified master naturalist and the author of several books on fishing in western and central New York. The title of the presentation is "Discovering Underappreciated Natural Resource Areas in Western

New York." Mr. Sander, who has spent many years exploring the waters, wetlands, and forests of our region, will identify some of his favorite "secret" places for hiking, paddling, field botany, and birding. Hope you can join us!



Presentation: Alexis Oltmer, “An Unnatural Diet” | 7:30 pm

Our March program will feature environmental artist, Alexis Oltmer, who will talk about her most recent works, “An Unnatural Diet,” permanently installed at The Aquarium of Niagara, and For Future Gen-



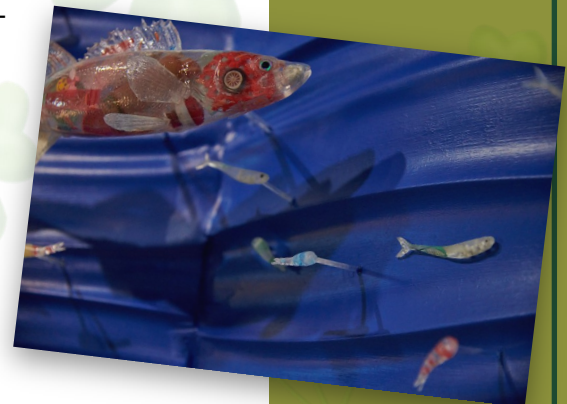
erations: A plastic pollution study of Lake Erie 2020. Oltmer will talk about her influences and practice, and will bring along samples of her artwork for discussion and view. After the artist talk, she will open up the conversation to a Q&A regarding art and activism.

Alexis Oltmer (b. 1990) is an American Artist whose multi-disciplinary practice is focused on conceptualism and environmentalism. Oltmer artistic practice consists of documenting, collecting, and processing objects she finds in the natural spaces she explores on the outskirts of the built environment. Oltmer uses photography for documentation and sculpture for recontextualization. Oltmer understands both the spaces she studies and the objects



she produces to be heuristics to query and denaturalize standard discourses around material consumption and the construct of the “natural” environment. Her work is influenced by her experiences growing up in a factory town where she was exposed regularly to the complex relationship between production and consumption and the benefits and costs of each.

“Making art with freshwater plastic pollution has been an exciting process which has left me with many questions regarding the origin story of the products turned pollution. The life cycle of each pollution object began with an idea, created through design, supply chains, approval processes, production, advertising, then put onto shelves and brought into our lives via consumption. There is a human aspect behind the pollution that I enjoy capturing visually and physically as “time capsules,” relics of the capitalocene, industry, and consumption. By creating art with these objects, I question the “original use” of these plastic pollution objects and create a new narrative which swifts the conversation that questions the capitalocene, demands corporate responsibility, and encourages community action.”



“Nature does not hurry, yet everything is accomplished

- Lao Tzu

2021 ADK Niagara Frontier Chapter Year End Financial Report

Nicole Pane



The ADK board recently made some changes to the Club by-laws which change the budgeting process used by local chapters. Instead of receiving half of the dues of the members of a chapter, local chapters will now submit a budget to the Club and receive requested funding on a quarterly basis. If more funding is needed during the year for unanticipated expenses additional funding can be requested. This new approach allows the ADK board to anticipate expenses and ensure that all funds are spent in accordance with IRS and State rules for non-profits. The process for submitting requests has been distributed and the new by-laws will go into effect at the beginning of March.

Our chapter by-laws call for the publication of a summary of our finances to be published in the

newsletter each year. That summary is below. This year with the new method for receiving funding coming the Executive Committee looked very carefully at what was spent this year and what is anticipated for 2022. Covid has cut our spending significantly because we have not paid for room rental, outings, a conservation symposium, travel, training, speakers and a variety of other things. In addition, our newsletter expenses have gone way down over the years and the website, email service and Zoom fees are much lower than the newsletter costs were.

This year we hope to increase spending for our annual picnic, conservation, education, training, equipment to lend to members, a winter outing, programs, and pro-

motional items for the Club centennial. While Covid may prevent us from meeting in person every month we expect higher fees for room rental, door prizes and refreshments at meetings for the full year. We have often made a contribution to the Club but chapters will not be doing that anymore because of the change in method of funding. We hope to add trail work to our activities and will have expenses for that.

The last year has made it difficult for all ADK chapters to operate normally, leaving many with unspent funds, including our chapter. Hopefully this year we can provide our members with a strong set of programs and activities to support our mission knowing we have sufficient funds to achieve that.

- Kate Hacker & Doug Gaffney

*In every walk
with nature, one
received far more
than he seeks*

- John Muir

Nicole Pane



ADK Niagara Frontier Chapter
Annual Financial Report
For the Year Ending December 31, 2021



	2021	2022 Budget
INCOME		
Book Royalties	\$186.34	\$120.00
Dues Received	\$8,966.55	\$1,400.00
Interest	\$72.01	\$120.00
Miscellaneous Income	\$50.44	\$60.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$9,275.34	\$1,580.00
EXPENSES		
Bookstore Expenses	-	
Chapter Annual Meeting	\$513.76	\$1,500.00
Conservation Committee	\$122.28	\$1,000.00
Directors' Travel	-	\$200.00
Education Committee	-	\$600.00
Equipment Purchase	-	\$1,000.00
Gen'l Meeting Refreshments	-	\$900.00
Grants and Contributions (ADK Main Club)	-	
Hall setup	-	\$450.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$600.00	\$500.00
Newsletter	\$509.70	\$525.00
Outings		\$2,050.00
Programs	\$701.54	\$2,100.00
Promotional Items - Centennial		\$800.00
Rent	\$200.00	\$900.00
Training	-	\$1,500.00
Treasurer	\$11.00	\$120.00
Website	\$434.80	\$450.00
Zoom	\$149.90	\$150.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$3,242.98	\$14,745.00
2021 NET SURPLUS	\$6,032.36	-\$13,045.00
Cash	\$21,695.66	
Deposits	\$660.65	
Less: Accounts Payable	-\$331.26	
Cumulative Surplus	\$22,025.05	



Trip Report

SNOWSHOE HIKE - CHESTNUT RIDGE PARK

Saturday, Feb. 12, 2022

Eight cheerful hikers enjoyed a 4-mile trail with energizing hills in one of WNY's most historic parks, Chestnut Ridge. Most of the group wore snowshoes, but two were fine with microspikes on the hard-packed trails. Recent temperatures above freezing resulted in a couple of serious wet zones, but our skilled group had no problem creating detours around these tricky spots. We enjoyed seeing a variety of trees, including hemlock, pine and beech, as well as some "snags" - standing dead trees often filled with

pileated woodpecker holes that provide habitat for wildlife. The historic stone bridges, rushing creeks, majestic woods, and scenic ravines, along with delightful companions, made for an idyllic winter outing.

- David Kowalski



Tundra Swan at Buckhorn State Park



Bonaparte Gull at Lewiston Landing



Buffleheads at Goat Island

Birds on the Niagara Winter Birding Challenge Wrap-Up

I recently finished the Birds on the Niagara Winter Birding Challenge presented by the Buffalo Audubon Society and Outside Chronicles. The challenge was to visit 13 key birding locations along the Niagara River and try to locate a 'target' bird species at each one. Many of the locations are also at or near local hiking trails, making it a great way to spend a winter day. From Tundra Swans

at Grand Island, hundreds of gulls at Devils Hole, and a lone bald



Goldeneye at Goat Island

eagle at the Erie Basin Marina, I never realized the full variety of birds that we have in this area in winter. Trying to

identify all the gull varieties themselves was a task!

The challenge was a lot of fun and I definitely learned more about bird species, as well as some of the tools available to assist with identification. The challenge is going on through March 20th, so there is still time to participate. Visit <http://outsidechronicles.com/bonchallenge/> for more info.

- Nicole Pane

Centennial Calendar

NEW GUIDEBOOK: PEAKS AND PONDS

New ADK publication, to be published in the early 2022, features thirty-seven classic and less-traveled day hikes throughout the Adirondack Park that can be enjoyed year 'round.

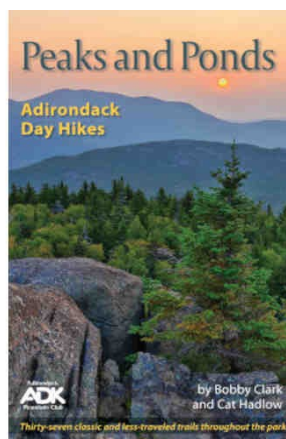
Written by ADK staff members Bobby Clark and Cat Hadlow, the book includes historic information about ADK's role in conservation, trail building and maintenance, land easements, and more, telling the story of ADK's 100 years of "Educating, Exploring, and Protecting" the park's wild lands and waters.

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION & FALL OUTING (SEP 23 – 25)

The Cold River Chapter will be hosting at the Silver Bay YMCA Conference & Family Retreat Center in Silver Bay, New York.. Join us for all three days or come just for the Centennial Celebration on Saturday. Many outings are planned including musical entertainment on Friday night by Dan Berggren and Jamcrackers and noted environmentalist Bill McKibben.

Information and updates about all events, including some that are still being planned, will

be listed on [ADK.org/centennial-celebration](https://adk.org/centennial-celebration) and in *Adirondac* magazine.



100 Mile Challenge

Join the 100 Mile Challenge! Walk, run, hike, paddle, or pedal—or any combination of any human-propelled activity—100 miles in 100 days (from May 29th—September 5th). Miles can be done anywhere. Raise \$100 or more in sponsorships, and receive a 100 Mile Challenge

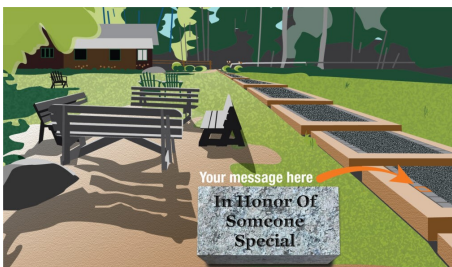


patch. Additional prizes will be awarded to the three people who raise the highest amounts, and to those who reach sponsorship levels of \$250, \$500, and \$1000. Visit [100 Mile Challenge \(qgiv.com\)](https://100milechallenge.org) to register.

Memorial Pathway

In 2022, honor a loved one with a dedicated engraved paver at Heart Lake while supporting ADK's mission and commemorating ADK's Centennial. The ADK Memorial Pathway will start at the Loj and head down to Heart Lake, replacing the current pathway.

Learn more: <https://adk.org/centennial-celebration/memorial-pathway/>



Adirondack
Mountain Club
Niagara Frontier Chapter



ON THE WEB:

adk.org

adk-nfc.org

facebook.com/ADK-NiagaraFrontier



Nicole Pane

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