

THE TRAIL MARKER

April-May Issue 2020

Published by the *New York Chapter, Inc. of the Adirondack Mountain Club, Inc.*
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Camp Nawakwa on Lake Sebago, 845-351-4135 www.adkny.org

MEMBERS SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

To All New York Chapter Members:

The current Coronavirus pandemic has changed life as we know it and, with it, all of our expectations and plans. New York State is on a basic lockdown. The Main Club closed its lodging facilities, the High Peaks Information Center, and Member Service Center on March 16th through April 30th. Thru-hikers and section-hikers on the AT have been asked to come off the trail. Everyone is encouraged to stay home and to limit unnecessary travel. ADK says that if you are inclined to get outdoors that you do so locally and individually.

Given the realities at hand and the need to be careful and vigilant, individually, socially, and as a club, the New York Chapter announces the following:

1. All group hikes will be cancelled and rescheduled when possible. This means that the traditional Palm Sunday Hike to St. John's in the Wilderness scheduled for April 5th is cancelled.
2. Although Camp season at Harriman Park normally starts May 1st, the opening of Camp Nawakwa will be delayed until further notice.
3. The first work-day of Spring at Camp Nawakwa, usually held in early May, will be rescheduled.

The current world-wide emergency is an ever-changing situation. We urge all members to follow all Public Health recommendations and guidelines regarding the COVID-19 epidemic so that everyone may stay safe and healthy. Through our website and emails, we will work to keep all New York Chapter members apprised of developments with the Chapter and Camp Nawakwa.

New York Chapter Board of Directors

ADKNY Board of Directors and Committees

Chapter Chair: Lisa North

LisaNYChapterADK@gmail.com

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blaugabels@msn.com

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Evemancuso@gmail.com

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Membership Committee:

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Maryann Poris and Mary Hilley

hostingadkny@gmail.com

Commissary: Maryann Poris maporis@aol.com

Activities Committee:

Marty Kellerman mmkellerman@gmail.com

Camp Committee:

Chair: Don Gabel blaugabels@msn.com

Co-Chair: Bill Burns wmjburnsjr@gmail.com

Members:

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Eve Mancuso Evemancuso@gmail.com

Teri Gabel blaugabels@msn.com

Hiking Committee:

Chair: Glen Nison gnisonbike@juno.com

Trails Committee:

Chair: William Burns wmjburnsjr@gmail.com

Park Liaison:

Lisa North LisaNYChapterADK@gmail.com

Conservation/Education:

Chair: Ira Stahl irastahl@yahoo.com

Environment Committee:

Chair: Marty Kellerman mmkellerman@gmail.com

Archives Committee:

Chair: Ellen King ellen_king13@msn.com

Webmaster:

Marty McDonald martymcd@me.com

Problems Receiving the Trail Marker?

See the solution to the problem as explained on page 3 of this issue.

Change of address: Moving? Please contact the Main Club AND the NY Chapter Membership Chair, Jerry@adkny.org, to notify us of your address change.

Notice: ADKNY Members occasionally receive email notifications about hosted weekends, hikes and related Camp events. These notifications are only to be sent by the Secretary, the Hosting Committee or the Newsletter Editor.

Mass-emailing the membership for any other reason is bad etiquette and is prohibited.

Like us on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/New-York-Chapter-of-the-Adirondack-Mountain-Club/167423969980047>

Follow ADK-NY on Twitter!

Get updates on Nawakwa happenings on Twitter! Go to https://twitter.com/ADK_NY, click on follow, then receive news, reminders, and special notices effortlessly! Account managed by Ingrid Strauch.

Deadline for submissions to the next edition of the Trail Marker (June-July) is May 22, 2020. All submissions can be forwarded to Ray Kozma, at raymondkozma@gmail.com

Do You Know of Any Member Who Is Not Receiving the Trail Marker?

Last year, a problem with the email delivery of the Trail Marker to some members was discovered. We are working with the Main Club to resolve the issue. [First check that the email is not in the spam folder.]

The mailing list used to distribute the Trail Marker is provided by the Main Club. It is based on the information they have for all current members of the New York Chapter. Even though you have paid your annual dues, if the email address they have is incorrect or no longer in use, that is the email they forward to us and which we use for the Trail Marker.

A list of members who are not receiving the Trail Marker, along with their current email addresses, is being put together. This list will be sent to the Main Club so they can update their records.

If you know of anyone who is not receiving the Trail Marker, please contact them and ask them to send the following information to susanneflower@gmail.com:

Name
Address
Email Address

Doing Some House Cleaning?

Cleaning out some closets or the attic or basement? If you find old documents from the New York Chapter, let Ellen King, our Archivist, know about it! Ellen is gathering records to make our archiving of materials as complete as possible. Whatever you find could be very valuable. Ellen can be reached at ellen_king13@msn.com. Tel: 201-247-0243.

Activities Calendar for 2020 at Camp Nawakwa

(Coming soon and we are looking forward to it!)

The Activities Committee has scheduled the following special events so far for the 2020 Season. (If you have an idea for an activity or have a question/concern, please contact Marty Kellerman @ mmkellerman@gmail.com)

Sat 6/27 - Talk on Snakes/Reptiles (beginning after dinner clean-up)

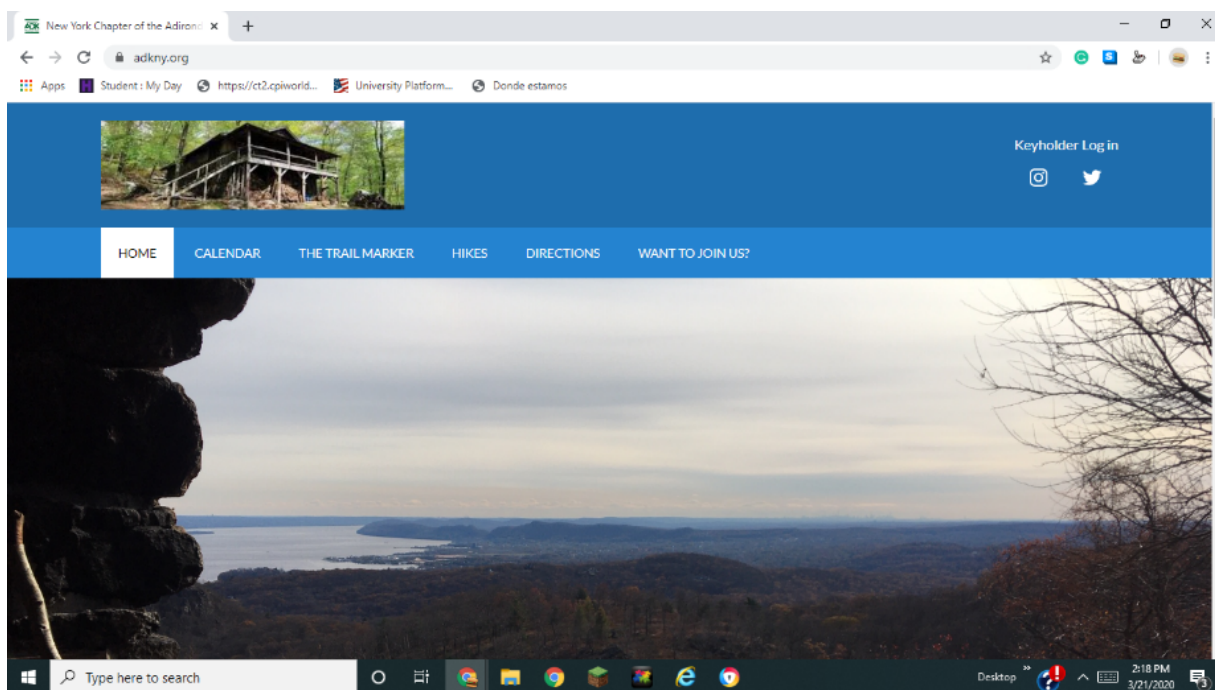
Sat 7/25 - Interpretive Walk @ 10:30 @ Main Lodge
Games Night (beginning after dinner clean-up)

Sat 8/01 - Musicale/Sing-along Night (beginning after dinner clean-up)

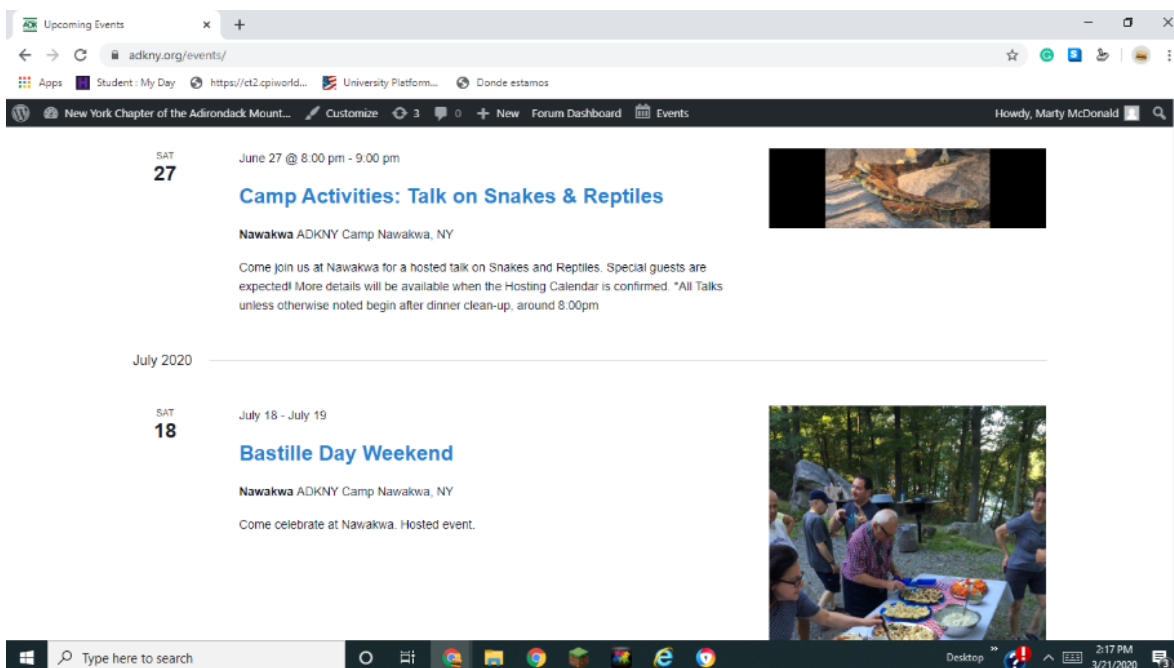
Sat 8/15 - Talk on the History of Harriman State Park (beginning after dinner clean-up)

Sat 8/29 - Talk on Porcupines

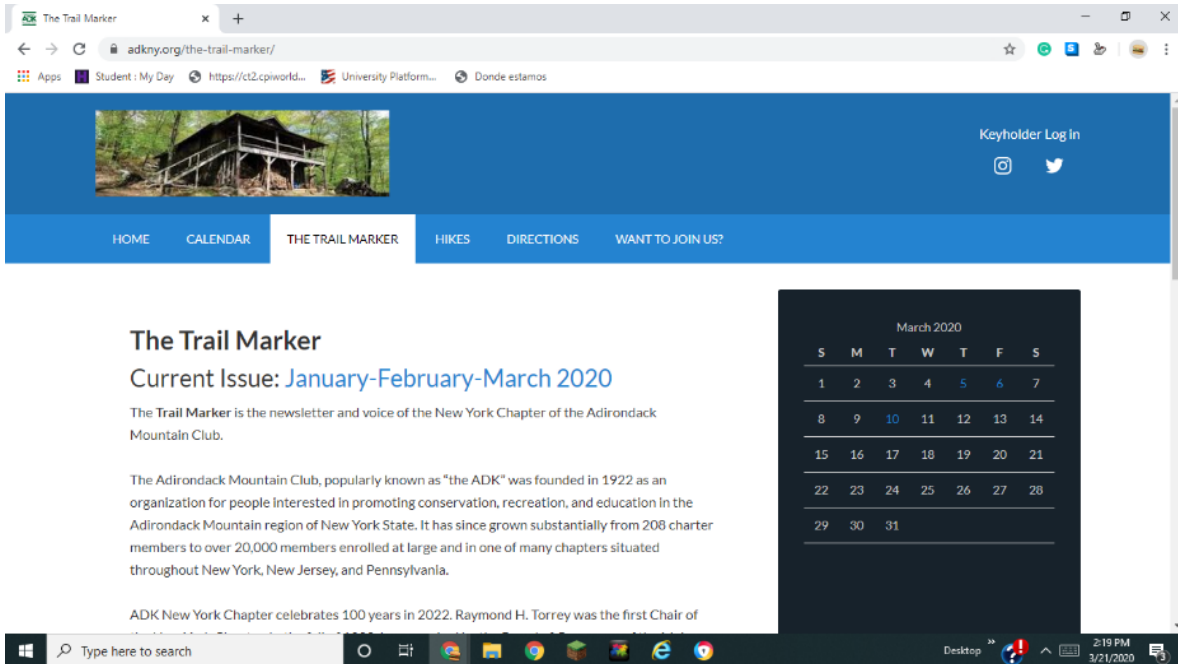
Announcing the Updated adkny.org Website with links to Instagram and Twitter!



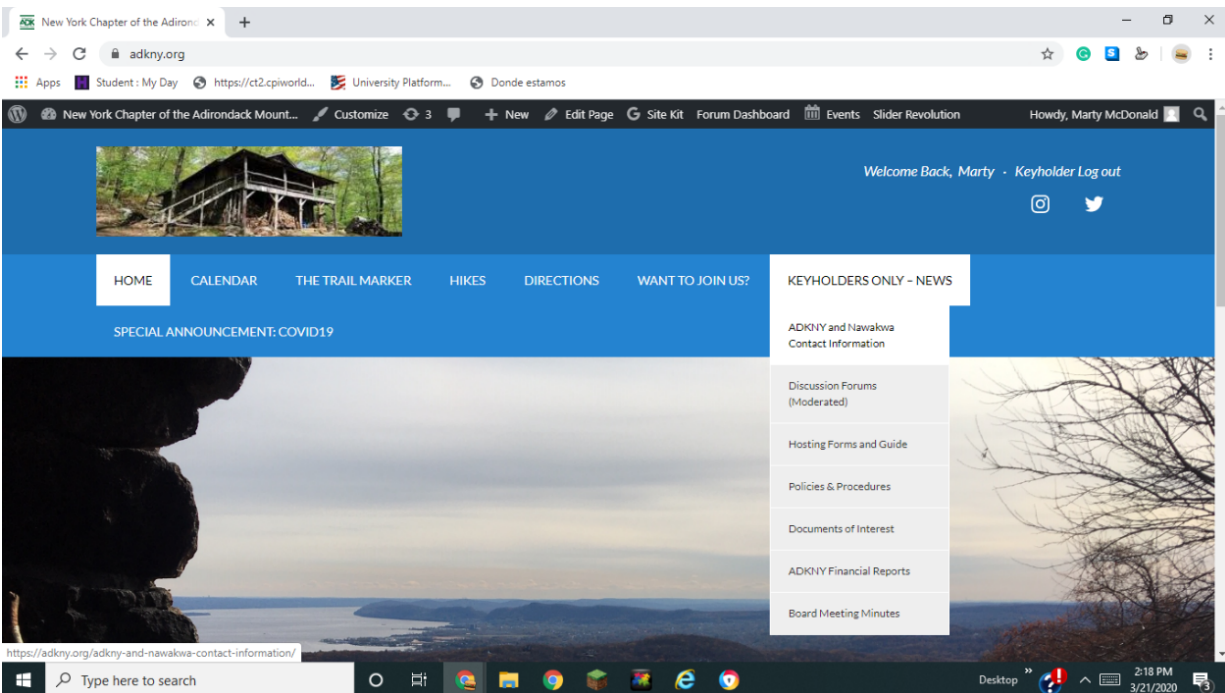
This year we've updated the website of the New York Chapter of the Adirondack Mountain Club, adkny.org to a more user-friendly design featuring easy to navigate pages and many more photographs. The website is available to all chapter members and includes details on how to obtain Nawakwa membership status - which everyone is encouraged to do! Some of the new features on the website are a calendar of activities and events, and the ability to post comments online.



You can access the latest issue of *The Trail Marker*. Past issues over the years are available to all.



There is also a member's login for Nawakwa Keyholders containing contact information, hosting information, the Applicant handbook, Board meeting minutes, organization financials and many other documents. Each Nawakwan has an individual username and password, increasing the site's security. An archive of important documents goes back several years.



Photos of hikes, dinners, and all events help us share the message about the special nature of ADKNY and are a great way to generate new members. We've created an Instagram account [adkny_chapter](#) to share photos and encourage visitors to our website. A lively Twitter account [@ADK_NY](#) helps do the same. If you have photos to share online, please send them to our webmaster Marty McDonald at martymcd@me.com.



Please email me at martymcd@me.com if you have any problem accessing the website. I'm happy to walk anyone through the setup.

Thanks!
Marty McDonald
Webmaster

Notes on Hosting

Updates to this hosting schedule will be provided in the weekly hosting emails sent out by the Hosting Committee

To host a weekend or midweek, contact Hosting Committee: hostingadkny@gmail.com or call Maryann Poris (973) 731-7117 if you have any questions.

Commissary Concerns?

Call or email Maryann Poris (973) 731-7117 maporis@aol.com

There is a limit of one host plus one co-host per weekend or midweek

Note: Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, the opening of Camp Nawakwa is on hold until further notice. The schedule of events and the hosting schedule will be published when the danger of COVID-19 has been eliminated and camp can safely be opened.

Hikes and Outings

Hikes Chairperson: Glen Nison 718-625-2182 gnisonbike@juno.com

For listings of hikes not led by members of ADKNY, (and not necessarily qualifying) try these links:
<http://www.nynjtc.org/content/scheduled-hikes> <http://www.hudsonhikers.org/schedules.htm>

Although all hikes are on hold until further notice, some special hikes of interest have been planned. As part of our planned Centennial Anniversary Events [see article on page 10 of this Trail Marker issue], we will be conducting a series of 'historic hikes and outings.' Please read on for a description of these hikes.

Annual Palm Sunday Hike to St. John's Church in the Wilderness Sunday – April 5, 2020

CANCELED

The annual Palm Sunday hike to St. John's Church in the Wilderness has been a tradition since the 1930's. Unfortunately, due to the Coronavirus pandemic, this year's Palm Sunday Hike is canceled.

Historic Hikes

As part of our anticipating the 100th Anniversary of ADK and the New York Chapter, we are planning a series of 'historic hikes' in which we try to recreate early hikes and visit places treasured by that first generation of chapter members. The dates for these hikes are to be announced once the world-wide Coronavirus pandemic has ended.

Torrey Memorial and Turkey Hill Lake (5-6 miles) – Date to be announced

Raymond H. Torrey was the first Chair of the New York Chapter. In the fall of 1922, he was asked by the Board of Governors of the Main Club to organize local walks for members in the Metropolitan area. In January 1923, he issued a small two-page outing schedule. Another schedule was issued in the Spring. This hike will visit and pay tribute to Raymond Torrey at the memorial placed on Long Mountain after his sudden death in 1938 (see the accompanying article in this issue of the Trail Marker). The hike to the memorial entails a good climb up Long Mountain. The hike will then continue down to Turkey Hill lake where we will stop for lunch. There is a good steady climb up from the lake back to the cars. Note: The whole hike is qualifying, but for those who wish just to do the hike to the memorial, it would be easy to return to the cars after we have hiked down Long Mountain - this would be about a 2 mile total - and before we head down to the lake. Hike is qualifying.

Leader: Ray Kozma; co-leader: Stephanie Lai.

Camp Quannacut – (5 miles) – Date to be announced

The New York Chapter's first camp in Harriman State Park was at Camp Quannacut situated on Queensboro Lake and used April and May of 1924). This hike will visit and have lunch at Queensboro Lake as we try to imagine what that first generation of members experienced having their first camp in the park. The hike would begin at the Anthony Wayne parking lot. Hike is qualifying.

Leader: Ray Kozma; co-leader: Stephanie Lai.

Camp Blue Bird – (5-6 miles) – Date to be announced

In the Fall of 1924, the Chapter subleased Camp Blue Bird (on the east side of Upper Twin Lake) from a group that used the property as a girl's camp in Summer. In May, the Chapter vacated Camp Blue Bird, but was back in October and remained until April of 1925. It was at Camp Blue Bird that the members developed the model of the Saturday night communal meal. As stated by Ira Ayres in his write-up for the 50th anniversary of the Chapter: "Our very successful system of community meals began on our second weekend in October 1924." The hike will start at the Silver Mine parking area. Hike is qualifying.

Leader: Ray Kozma; co-leader: Stephanie Lai.

Other historic hikes and outings are being planned.

The Annual New York Chapter Winter Social

About thirty New York Chapter members enjoyed taking part in this year's annual Winter Social held at Pete's Tavern on Sunday, January 26, 2020. Friends old and new gathered to celebrate last year's events and to look ahead to a new year of adventures.

The success of the New York Chapter has always been founded upon the membership. At this year's social we recognized the following long-term New York Chapter members:

- Winifred Clark – 1951 (69-years),
- Phyllis Quinn – 1960 (60-years),
- Graham Bright – 1961 (59-years),
- Suzanne Soulier – 1964 (56-years),
- David B. Taylor – 1970 (50 years).

A special plaque, honoring their long commitment and faithful dedication to the ideals of the Adirondack Mountain Club and the New York Chapter, was presented to each honoree.



We look forward to another season of building memories and friendships until we celebrate again at next year's Social.

(Photos by Ray Kozma)

Presidents Birthday Weekend at the Adirondack Loj February 14-17, 2020 REPORT

Another great trip was enjoyed by New York Chapter members and friends at the beautiful Adirondack Loj near Lake Placid, New York. Luckily a week before we arrived there was a major snowstorm that dumped a few feet of snow in the mountains, so snowshoeing, cross-country and backcountry skiing were incredible. While it was a little cold, it was comfortable enough for people to bag some large peaks such as Colden and Esther and smaller ones like Mt. Jo (not too high but it has incredible views). Avalanche Lake, always a spectacular hike, was also on the agenda.

The food was fabulous and as usual Rob and Rosalie Goldberg provided incredible happy hours on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. The Loj staff was great and accommodating as always. We had a nice Saturday evening presentation on owls given by Maggie of the educational staff. Lots of hanging out in the great room telling each other about the day's adventures and lots of good laughs were heard throughout the evening (and morning too).

Here's hoping next year brings lots of snow!

Glen Nison



ADK Loj at night (All photos by Glen Nison except where otherwise noted)



Through Avalanche Pass



Herman Barrocales and crew heading up Mt. Jo



Steve Adams and Mike Yesko in Avalanche Pass



Hiking through Avalanche Pass



Rich DeCoursey on summit of Mt. Colden (photo by Lisa Fernandez)



Summit of Mt. Jo (short on height but great on views)

The New York Chapter - ADK Centennial Anniversary Events

(Keep watching this space!)

As mentioned in the last Trail Marker, the 100th Anniversary of the Adirondack Mountain Club (Main Club) and of the New York Chapter will take place in 2022. The marking of a hundred years is always a notable occasion whether it be for an individual, an event, or an organization. This space in each issue of the Trail Mark will be used to provide information and updates about plans for celebrating the Centennial of the New York Chapter.

1. As a way to count down to the anniversary, the *Trail Marker* will carry articles about the history, significant events, and people connected to the development of the Main Club and the New York Chapter. In this issue, we highlight Raymond H. Torrey, our first Chapter Chair, and note the special achievements he had accomplished until his sudden death in 1938 at age of 58. The article follows this page.
2. We will be conducting a series of 'historic hikes and outings' in which we try to recreate early hikes and visit places treasured by that first generation of chapter members. Please see description of these hikes on page 8 of this issue.
3. **Early notice! A Committee is being formed to plan a grand celebration in 2022 to celebrate our 100th Anniversary. The date and venue are not set yet. Right now, we are looking for help from any and all New York Chapter members who might be interested in working on the planning committee. If interested, please email Susanne Flower (susanneflower@gmail.com) or Ray Kozma (raymondkozma@gmail.com).**

The Creed

"I believe in the Out-of-Doors, the woods, streams and hills, the wildlife that lives therein; I believe that man's care for them in a state of nature consistent with conservation is his best investment for the future." New York Chapter, 1923

Raymond H. Torrey (1880-1938)

The Kiosk at the start of the trail that leads to the Torrey Memorial on Long Mountain states the following:

"Raymond H. Torrey's (1880-1938) curiosity for nature led him into the Hudson Highland's wilderness to explore as a geologist, geographer and historian. Considered the founder of the NY-NJ Trail Conference, serving as an officer until his death in 1938, Torrey pioneered hiking and trail building in this region. He was actively involved in the construction of the present trail system, whether it be the design, cutting or blazing of new hiking pathways, maintaining old trails or scouting potential new routes, including the very first section of the Appalachian Trail.

As newsman, amateur botanist and publicist for the Palisades Interstate Park Commission, Torrey intensively studied and wrote of his wilderness findings, including a definitive study of area lichens. He popularized "tramping" through his daily newspaper column titled "The Long Brown Path," named for a line in a Walt Whitman poem, "Song of the Open Road." The column included a weekly list of hikes, news of the hiking clubs and the trail geography, geology, botany and history. He described every twist and turn of every trail in the Hudson Highland, and as far afield as the Catskills, the Adirondacks and Katahdin, Maine. With co-authors Frank Place and Dr. Robert L. Dickinson, Torrey wrote in 1923 the New York Walk Book, the classic and comprehensive guide to trails with 100 miles of New York City. Like his newspaper column, the book, in its many revisions, includes regional geological, botanical and biological information and historical legends and facts. Torrey held high positions in many organizations, including the Appalachian Trail Conference and NY-NJ Trail Conference effectively advancing their conservation causes."

The following article on Raymond Torrey is from Wikipedia:

Raymond Hezekiah Torrey (July 15, 1880 – July 15, 1938) was the author of weekly [columns](#), *Outings* and *The Long Brown Path* in the New York Evening Post in the 1920s and 1930s. The column played a major role in the development of the 2,100-mile (3,400 km) Appalachian Trail, the Long Path and the popularity of hiking generally. He was a founding member of the New York–New Jersey Trail Conference and one of the authors of the first edition of the New York Walk Book. He had extensive scientific knowledge, writing about everything from the short-billed marsh wren to marine fossils and lichens; he could identify over 700 plants. He was secretary of the Association for the Preservation of the Adirondacks, and also secretary of the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society.

Early life

Born in Georgetown, Massachusetts, where his father was a sea captain, he began a career in journalism in newspapers in the Berkshires first, but soon moved to New York City. In 1903 he started at the New York American, then moved to the [Tribune](#) and finally

the Evening Post (today the [New York Post](#)) in 1918. He became involved in the New York hiking scene at a time when the forests and mountains of the [Hudson Highlands](#) were relatively unknown but interest in the outdoors was increasing and city hiking clubs were coming into existence.

The Long Brown Path

In the early 1920s Torrey developed a weekly outdoor column for the Post, called the Long Brown Path which was named for a line in Walt Whitman's "Song of the Open Road". Major William A. Welch, General Manager of the Palisades Interstate Park Commission, was interested in creating hiking trails in Bear Mountain-Harriman State Parks, but was lacking funds. Welch suggested that Torrey use his influential column to help organize New York metropolitan area hiking clubs into a volunteer trail-building confederation; this led to the creation of the Palisades Interstate Park Trail Conference, a precursor of the NY/NJTC.

Torrey not only wrote the columns, he organized and coordinated the resulting volunteers and did plenty of route-scouting and trail building himself.

The column was very popular: along with news of the clubs and their trails, it included a listing of hikes, as many as 20 or 30 weekly. He also used the column as a "bully pulpit," railing against litter, championing environmental causes, giving notice of upcoming conservation bills in New York and New Jersey, and organizing letter-writing campaigns in support of [reforestation](#) measures and proposals for the creation of new parks.

The Appalachian Trail

In 1922 Torrey publicized a proposal by forester Benton MacKaye to build a 2,100-mile (3,400 km) trail from Maine to Georgia (subsequently named the Appalachian Trail or AT) with a story under a full-page banner headline reading "A Great Trail from Maine to Georgia!"; the idea was quickly adopted by the new Trail Conference as their main project.

Working with volunteers organized by J. Ashton Allis of the Trail Conference, Torrey helped blaze the first 6 miles (10 km) of the AT running from the Ramapo River to Fingerboard Mountain. By January 4, 1924, the 20-mile (32 km) stretch from the Hudson to the Ramapo River was complete. On November 18 of that year, he worked with the Tramp and Trail Club on what he dubbed a "Speed Special", clearing and blazing a 20-mile (32 km) section through Sterling Forest, New York.

The effort involved much more than the physical effort of building and blazing trails—complex negotiations with property owners were required as well, particularly east of the Hudson where no established system of hiking trails existed. By 1929, with the help of New Jersey state park officials, a 43-mile (69 km) section from the Delaware River to High Point along the Kittatinny Ridge was completed. Two years later, 160 miles (260 km) of the AT, from the Delaware River to Kent, Connecticut, was in place.

Confrontation with Robert Moses

Later that year, he tangled with Robert Moses, a onetime ally who had named him secretary of the New York State Parks Council, a forerunner to the current New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, in order to help establish Letchworth State Park. Torrey opposed the route Moses wanted for the Northern State Parkway along Long Island's central glacial moraine. He had arranged for the reprinting of an article sharing this view in the ASHPS newsletter, which enraged Moses.

On September 12, Moses learned that Torrey had been providing information about Parks Council meetings, information that was available to the public in any event, to an attorney for wealthy North Shore landowners similarly opposed to the road project. He called Torrey to his office, where the council's finance committee was meeting, and berated him for this and the newsletter article, which he considered serious breaches of trust.

Torrey stood firm and defended both actions. When Moses responded to Torrey's telling him he had no right to tell him what he could and could not print by saying "Goddamn you! What do you mean by doing something like that?", Torrey, who had many Jewish friends, lost his temper and said "You big noisy kike; you can't talk to me like that." Moses attempted to choke him and had to be pulled off Torrey by other members of the committee; he threw a smoking stand at Torrey afterwards.

While Torrey apologized for the incident (and Moses did not), he eventually resigned from the Parks Council, a move which ultimately gave Moses control of that body.

Death and legacy

Torrey died of a heart attack on his 58th birthday, stunning the hiking community. The NY/NJTC soon found that it took a committee to do the work he alone had carried out. A memorial was placed on Long Mountain in Harriman State Park, which had one of his favorite views, reading "In Memory of Raymond H. Torrey, A Great Disciple of the Long Brown Path, 1880-1938." His ashes were scattered to the winds there in a brief ceremony.

