

Westchester Trails Assoc.

# Join our Yahoo group: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/westhike

# WINTER HIKING SCHEDULE DECEMBER 2018, JANUARY and FEBRUARY, 2019

Hikes ratings are based on terrain (mileage is stated separately in the description). An "easy" hike is one with relatively flat terrain while "easy to moderate" adds rolling hills. A "moderate" hike has steeper grades, possibly going up and down all day, and may involve some bushwhacking or short rock scrambles (like much of Harriman Park). A "strenuous" hike has steep ascents, often with rough or difficult terrain on much of the hike (like most Schunemunk trails, Breakneck Ridge, etc.). These ratings apply during good weather. Bad weather may lead to poor footing and increase the difficulty of any hike.

Hiking boots and sufficient drinking water (1-2 liters) are required on all hikes. A trail lunch should be carried unless otherwise noted. Hikers with improper footwear, without sufficient water, or who are otherwise unprepared, may be refused or turned back by the leader. Well behaved dogs on leashes are welcome if the hike is listed as "dog friendly," but dogs are not allowed on other WTA hikes. New hikers are asked to contact the leader in advance of the hike. In fairness to yourself and others, please choose a hike that is within your abilities - contact the leader if you have any questions about the level of difficulty or experience required. All who participate in the activities of Westchester Trails Association (WTA) do so at their own risk.

A hike listing with an "NWP" designation means that the group meets in the parking lot of the North White Plains train station at the stated time for a carpool to the trailhead. (Otherwise, please contact the leader for information about the meeting time and place and whether public transportation is available.) To reach the NWP lot, take the Bronx River Parkway to Fisher Lane in North White Plains and follow the train station sign. The parking lot is half a block from the turn, on the right hand side, <u>before</u> the underpass. There is no charge in this lot on Saturdays or Sundays. If coming by train please notify the leader. Walk down the stairs from the train platform to the parking lot on the NYC bound side, then walk north toward the toll booth.

We encourage carpooling to the hike site. This arrangement is entirely voluntary and entails no obligation on the part of the drivers. Passengers should reimburse the driver for a share of the expenses. We suggest that you multiply the miles driven round trip (to and from the trailhead) by 30¢ per mile, add tolls and parking fees if applicable, and divide the total by the number of people in the car (including the driver). You may wish to round these amounts up or down to the nearest dollar, to make things easier.

A schedule of WTA activities is printed 4 times a year. If a leader's contact information is not listed below, please e-mail Eileen West at <u>eileenw1000@gmail.com</u> for details.

To become a member, please visit the "Join/Contact" page on our website for an application and dues payment options.

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# It's Winter - Don't Forget to Put Traction Aids in Your Pack!

# Saturday, December 1 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Saturday, December 1</u> - **Hi-Tor**. 7 miles, moderate. We will have spectacular views on this shuttle hike, which begins at Ridge Road (near Rockland State Park), goes north along the Long Path with a side visit to the Youmans winery ruins, then heads up and over Hi-Tor and Little Tor, and ends at Gurnee County Park in Mount Ivy. Contact leader Frank Lee at <u>fleessa@yahoo.com</u> to register and for details. *Joint with ADK Mohican*.

<u>Saturday, December 1</u> - Orchard Beach, Twin and Hunter Islands. 3-4 miles, easy. Enjoy the diverse environments of this park (marshlands, woodlands, meadows) with wonderful views of the Long Island Sound. Meet the leader at the Orchard Beach parking lot at 10 AM, on the right side closest to the beach. Leader Diana Catz, <u>dscatz@gmail.com</u> or (718) 549-1735. Rain cancels. *Joint with ADK Mohican.* 

# Sunday, December 2 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Sunday, December 2</u> - **West Mountain, Pawling, NY**. 7.4 miles, moderate. This hike uses the Appalachian Trail, starting out through a marsh area with a wooden pathway, continuing through the woods and farmland to a huge oak tree, and then ascending West Mountain to a viewpoint at 3.7 miles, where we will have lunch and then return the way we came. Parking is at the Appalachian Trail train station, just to the west of Route 22; if crowded, there is a large lot a bit further north, past the Native Landscapes Nursery. Call the leader, Jean Dolen, to register at (914) 522-4310. *Joint with ADK Mohican.* 

<u>Sunday, December 2</u> - **Irvington Woods Preserve**. 3-4 miles, easy to moderate. An easy paced hike on various trails in a lovely nature preserve. Meet the leader at 10 AM at the O'Hara Nature Center, 170 Mountain Road, Irvington. Directions: From Rt 9 turn east on Sunnyside Lane, then make a right onto Mountain Road. The parking lot is a short distance up the hill. Lunch optional in the garden next to the center after the hike. Leader: Asha Chauhan, <u>A1chauhan@gmail.com</u>, (212) 730-2351. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No 54)*.

# Saturday, December 8 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Saturday, December 8 - **Overlook Mountain, Woodstock NY**. 5 miles, moderate. This is our annual pre-holiday hike to the fire tower. The footing is good but it does go up. We will have plenty of time to shop and snack in town. Contact leader Jane Restani at <u>irabjanea@aol.com</u> by 5 PM on Friday for time and carpool meeting spot. *Joint with ADK Mohican.* 

Saturday, December 8 - Twin Lakes Trail and Teatown Lake. 4-5 miles, moderate. Visit three lakes today - Vernay Lake, Shadow Lake and Teatown Lake, and make a detour to Griffin Swamp. Bring snacks and water. Meet in the parking lot across the street from the Nature Center; carpooling is encouraged as there is a \$5 charge per car. Please register with the leader: Sheila Sarkar, <u>shechris6@gmail.com</u>, (914) 498-2464. In the event of rain, sleet or snow, the hike will be cancelled. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 62).* 

# Sunday, December 9 - WTA Holiday Party.

# Saturday, December 15 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Saturday, December 15 - Bear Mountain via Major Welch Trail. 5-6 miles, strenuous. We will have constant views of the Hudson River on this strenuous but rewarding hike. Meet the leader at 9:30 AM on the east side of the Bear Mountain Bridge. Inclement weather cancels. Leader: Steve Singlak, <u>srshudson@verizon.net</u>. *Joint with ADK Mohican*.

Saturday, December 15 - Within the County: Towns of Cortlandt and Ossining. Part 1: Briarcliff/Peekskill and Croton Gorge Trails. 7-8 miles, easy to moderate. Now that we have completed our "Around the County" series we're starting a new project, this time to explore the parks and preserves in Westchester County's interior. This season's hikes will be in the Towns of Cortlandt and Ossining. First we'll take the Briarcliff/Peekskill Trail from Watch Hill Road in Cortlandt to Croton

Gorge Park and have lunch near the spillway. Then we'll hike south to the Village of Croton on other trails. Our route will be along both sides of the Croton River as we travel through Croton Gorge Park and on the Croton River Gorge Trail, where today's hike will end. Contact leader to register: Eileen West, <u>eileenw1000@gmail.com</u>. Shuttle required; rain cancels. *Joint with ADK Mohican*. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (Nos. 67 [if done with Part 3 of this series] and 99b)*.

#### Sunday, December 16 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Sunday, December 16</u> - Old Croton Aqueduct, Dobbs Ferry to Tarrytown and Back. 8 miles, easy. Let's close out the year with a leisurely roundtrip walk. Historic sites along the way include the Octagon house built in 1860, the estate of Madam C.J. Walker and Lyndhurst Castle. Meet at the intersection of Walnut and Main Streets in Dobbs Ferry. Call leader for meeting time. Leader: Marvin Pasternak, <u>marvp7025@gmail.com</u>, (718) 261-7199. Rain or snow cancels. *Joint with ADK Mohican*.

<u>Sunday, December 16</u> - **Silver Lake Preserve, West Harrison, NY**. 4-5 miles, easy to moderate. The route of this 3 hour hike is through woods on varied terrain with some fallen trees to navigate, and along a lovely lake. Leader: Jean Dolen, (914) 522-4310. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 40).* 

#### Saturday, December 22 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Saturday, December 22 - **Sylvan Glen Park Preserve**. 5-6 miles, moderate. Sylvan Glen in Yorktown is a nature preserve of over 400 acres. This hike will cover most of the trails in the park, and will be about four hours with lunch. It is a heavily wooded park with wetlands that include Westchester's largest aquifer. We will hike past the remains of the Mohegan Quarries; discarded granite columns, old machinery, and cables high in the trees or buried underfoot giving us a look back into the history of the granite construction business a century ago. Call leader to register. Jane Smalley (914) 276-0413 or email jsmallpt@aol.com. Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 20).

Saturday, December 22 - **Untermyer Park and Old Croton Aqueduct**. 4 miles, easy. This walk, which does have some hills and steps, allows us to explore the park, the Persian Garden and the Temple of Love. We will then hike south on the Aqueduct, exit at Shonnard Terrace, and proceed to the Hudson River Museum where we will have time to explore the exhibits and/or have lunch indoors or outside the museum. Our return to Untermyer Park will have some variations in the route. The park is located at 945 North Broadway (U.S.9), just south of St. John's Hospital in Yonkers. Meet the leader at 10 A.M. inside the park's entrance, near the Community Center building. There is a small parking lot inside the park; if it is full, park on the street along Broadway. Many beautiful views. Bring lunch and water. Leader: Ellie Carren (914) 591-7038. May call up to 11p.m. *Joint with ADK Mohican*.

<u>Sunday, December 23</u> - **Muscoot Farm**. 4 miles, easy. This two hour hike is on interesting terrain and will be a nice break from the holiday preparations. There is some elevation gain but most of the hike is flat. Afterward, the farm exhibits can be checked out. Snow or ice can make the outing more difficult. Bringing microspikes or equivalent would be a good idea. Leader: Steve Klepner, <u>spk010@yahoo.com</u>, (845) 297-7066. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 58)*.

<u>Tuesday, December 25</u> - **Christmas Day Walk on the Bronx River Pathway** (NWP). 4-5 miles, easy. This will be a leisurely walk from the NWP train station to Kensico Dam Plaza and back. There is an option for lunch in Valhalla, and another option to go up to the top of the Dam. Meet at NWP at

11:00 a.m. Leader: Carolyn Hoffman, <u>carhof123@aol.com</u>, home (914) 948-0608, cell on day of hike only (914) 420-5778. *Joint with ADK Mohican.* 

# Saturday, December 29 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Saturday, December 29 - **Wonder Lake State Park**. 5-7 miles, moderate. This hike of about 3-4 hours is not for first-time hikers. Wonder Lake State Park is in Putnam County and was acquired by New York State in 1998 and expanded in 2006. The park covers nearly 1000 acres in both the Towns of Paterson and Kent. Traction aids such as Stabilicers or Microspikes may be required by the leader. To register, call leader Barry Leibowitz by 6 p.m. on the day before the hike at H: (845) 278-2479 or C: (914) 774-5321. Snow on the road or rain cancels. *Joint with ADK Mohican*.

<u>Saturday, December 29</u> - Jack Harrington Greenway and Bryant-Mamaroneck Park. 4 miles, easy. This will be a hike on two different trails in White Plains. First, we will walk along the Greenway and return, then head over to the Bryant-Mamaroneck Park where we will walk the path and walk back. Meet the leader at 85 Gedney Way in White Plains at 10:15 a.m. Leader: Patti Kass, puddicats@gmail.com or (914) 946-6414. Cell on day of hike only (914) 525-6853. *Joint with ADK Mohican.* 

<u>Sunday, December 30</u> - **Rockefeller Preserve**. 6 miles, easy to moderate. Starting with the 13 Bridges Trail we will explore various parts of the Preserve, stopping at the café where you can buy lunch or bring your own. To register contact leader Sarah Davis, (917) 501-1322 or <u>sewdavis@gmail.com</u>. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 59).* 

<u>Monday, December 31</u> - **Early New Year's Eve**. Meet at 2:30 p.m. at NWP, or 3:00 p.m. at the Rockwood Hall State Park trailhead on Rockwood Road, just west of Route 117. We'll do a two mile, mostly level walk around the former Pocantico Hills estate of William Rockefeller (now part of the State Park Preserve) and then offer our traditional sundown toast to the old year within sight of the Hudson River. Due to time constraints this year we won't be able to have goodies brought to the toast in advance, so please <u>bring snacks and alcohol-free beverages with you to share with the group</u>. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 38)*.

<u>Tuesday, January 1</u> - New Year's Day at Greenwich Point Park, Greenwich CT. 3 miles, easy. We will walk around the seaside park, and then those who are willing may jump in the Sound. Goodies will follow. Celebratory wear is appreciated. No requirements and no registration necessary. Meet at 10:30 AM at the second concession stand. Email Jane Restani at <u>irabjanea@aol.com</u> if you need directions. *Joint with ADK Mohican.* 

# Saturday, January 5 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Saturday, January 5</u> - **Devil's Den, Weston, CT**. 7-8 miles, moderate. Devil's Den is the largest Nature Conservancy preserve in Connecticut and contains sites of historical and archeological significance. We will do the Grand Tour of the park utilizing all the outer trails with an extension to the Great Ledge, a high rock formation with a spectacular view of the Saugatuck Reservoir. Traction devices may be needed. Contact leader for meeting time and place. Kathie Laug, (203) 348-3993, (203) 722-5490 (cell), <u>kfriedmanlaug@optonline.net</u>. *Joint with ADK Mohican.* 

<u>Saturday, January 5</u> - **Bennett's Pond State Park, Ridgefield CT**. 4-5 miles, easy. Enjoy a 2 to 3 hour walk through meadows, along a lake with beaver dams and water fowl, then onto a woods trail. Sturdy shoes and water are recommended. 10:00 AM start. Contact the leader, Rosanne Schepis, to register at <u>rschep@yahoo.com</u> or (203) 417-5552. *Joint with ADK Mohican.* 

#### Sunday, January 6 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Sunday, January 6</u> - **The Catfish Loop, and More**. 7-8 miles, moderate. This is a figure eight hike incorporating the Catfish Loop at Fahnestock State Park in the morning and a loop around John Allen Pond in the afternoon, with plenty of rolling hills and water views to enjoy. Rain cancels; contact leader for meeting time and other information. Leader: Mike Jablonski, <u>mjab5749@gmail.com</u>. *Joint with ADK Mohican.* 

Sunday, January 6 - **Rockwood to Rockefeller**. 6 miles, easy to moderate. This hike will be approximately four hours through rolling hills and on flat carriage roads with views of the Hudson River. Bring lunch, water, snacks. Leader: Jean Dolen, (914) 522-4310. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (Nos. 38 and 59).* 

#### Saturday, January 12 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Saturday, January 12 - **Pine Meadow Lake**. 7-8 miles, moderate. Hike or snowshoe around Pine Meadow Lake in Harriman. Bring stabilizers if needed. Starting from the Visitor's Center on Seven Lakes Drive, we will go to the Lake and then hike around it, adjusting for conditions. Leader: Mike Kaplan, kaplanm2001@yahoo.com. No first time hikers please. *Joint with ADK Mohican*.

Saturday, January 12 - Within the County: Towns of Cortlandt and Ossining. Part 2: Croton Preserves. 7 miles, easy to moderate. Today we'll continue to explore the trails in Croton, going from Oscawana Park to Graff Sanctuary, then to Brinton Brook Sanctuary and the Lytle Arboretum. Along the way we'll be treated to views of the Hudson River and the hills to the east. Contact leader to register: Eileen West, <u>eileenw1000@gmail.com</u>. Shuttle required; rain or heavy snow cancels. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (Nos. 13 and 22).* 

# Sunday, January 13 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Sunday, January 13</u> - **Hook Mountain**. 6 miles, moderate, with easy return on shore path. Lovely views from the ridge. Snow and ice may make this a more rigorous hike. Contact leader to register: Catharine Raffaele, <u>raffaele.catharine@yahoo.com</u>. *Joint with ADK Mohican*.

Sunday, January 13 - **Rockefeller Preserve**. 4-5 miles, easy. Enjoy a relaxing hike in a pretty part of the preserve. Meet the leader at 10 a.m. at the trailhead parking on Old Sleepy Hollow Road. Leader: Toby Garfinkel, (914) 337-6612. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 59).* 

# Saturday, January 19 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Saturday, January 19</u> - **Black Rock Forest**. 6 miles, moderate. We will meet at the Hudson Highlands Museum's Outdoor Discovery Center and ascend into Black Rock Forest for a circular hike on various trails. Although rated moderate, the difficulty is greater if there is snow on the ground. Participants may be required to carry snowshoes and microspikes or equivalent (last year this hike was truncated because of deep snow and the absence of snowshoes). Leader: Steve Klepner, <u>spk010@yahoo.com</u>, (845) 297-7066. *Joint with ADK Mohican*.

<u>Saturday, January 19</u> - **Butler Sanctuary, Bedford/Mt. Kisco Area**. 3-4 miles, easy to moderate. Level on one trail, hilly on the other. If sufficient snow, this is an ideal place for snowshoes. If not we will hike but traction devices may be needed. This hike will be done at a leisurely pace. To register, call Carol Harting at (845) 669-6731 or e-mail at <u>c.harting@verizon.net</u>. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 49).* 

# Sunday, January 20 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Sunday, January 20</u> - **Ward Pound Ridge**. 5 miles, moderate. A brisk hike in Ward Pound Ridge. If there is snow on the ground, we will snowshoe in the northern section and if there is no snow, we will do a hike in the southern part. Traction devices may be needed. Bring lunch, snacks and water. We will carpool from the Cross River Shopping Center. To register contact leader Sarah Davis, (917) 501-1322 or <u>sewdavis@gmail.com</u>. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 63).* 

<u>Sunday, January 20</u> - **Cranberry Lake Preserve**. 3-4 miles, easy to moderate. This is a two to three hour hike through a North White Plains preserve in an area of quarry used to build the Kensico Dam a century ago. Trails, some of which may be rocky, go past various ponds, woods, rock formations, bridges and the foundation of an old quarry building (the quarry climb is optional). Leader: Jean Dolen, (914) 522-4310. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 51).* 

#### Saturday, January 26 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Saturday, January 26</u> - **Hudson Highlands in Nelsonville**. 8-9 miles, moderate to strenuous. We will meet in Nelsonville and hike on the Undercliff, Notch and Nelsonville Trails. Views should be nice in the winter. Be prepared for winter conditions with appropriate clothing, snowshoes and traction devices. To register contact Janice Miller at <u>madjan11@optonline.net</u>. *Joint with ADK Mohican*.

<u>Saturday, January 26</u> - **Rockefeller State Park**. 6-8 miles, easy to moderate. The distance of this hike will be determined based on weather conditions and ground cover, but no matter what we will make our way around a series of loops throughout the park including the Thirteen Bridges Trail, Ash Tree Loop and Eagle Hill. Contact the leader, Alice Benash, for details at <u>ajrb3@verizon.net</u>. Rain cancels. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 59).* 

# Sunday, January 27 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Sunday, January 27</u> - Within the County: Towns of Cortlandt and Ossining. Part 3: Briarcliff/Peekskill Trail, the OCA, and Sing Sing Kill Gorge. 9 miles, easy to moderate. Today's hike is on a southern segment of the Briarcliff/Peekskill Trail, which we'll take from Spring Valley Road to the Croton Dam. There we meet up with the start of the Old Croton Aqueduct, which until 1955 brought water from the Dam to NYC, and follow it into the village of Ossining. We'll end the hike with a short stroll through the Sing Sing Kill Gorge along the recently built Greenway. Contact leader to register: Eileen West, <u>eileenw1000@gmail.com</u>. Shuttle required; rain or heavy snow cancels. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 67 [if done with Part 1 of this series] and* 72).

<u>Sunday, January 27</u> - Edith Read Sanctuary, Rye NY. 2-3 miles, easy. Wooded trails, a marsh, a lake, a rocky beach, and a bamboo forest. The planned hike is 2-3 hours, but we can add more walking on the boardwalk for another hour or two. Leader: Jean Dolen, (914) 522-4310. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 16).* 

# Saturday, February 2 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Saturday, February 2 - **Turkey Hill and Queensboro Lakes**. 5-6 miles, moderate. This will be a relaxing hike that starts from the Anthony Wayne Recreation Area and goes to Queensboro and Turkey Hill Lakes in Harriman. Leader: Minu Chaudhuri, <u>minuch50@gmail.com</u> or (914) 391-5918. *Joint with ADK Mohican.* 

<u>Saturday, February 2</u> - **Croton Point Park**. 4 miles, easy. We will explore this small scenic peninsula, where eagles are often sighted in winter. Dress very warmly for the winds blowing off the Hudson. Contact leader to register: Catharine Raffaele, <u>raffaele.catharine@yahoo.com</u></u>. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 52)*.

#### Sunday, February 3 - A HIKE AND A CROSS-COUNTRY SKI TODAY:

Sunday, February 3 - Fahnestock Winter Park, Carmel, NY. Cross country ski on groomed trails if the winter provides adequate snow. Otherwise, we can hike or snowshoe. Information about admission and rental fees can be found on the Park's website; hot food is available in the park's café. Call the leader, Jean Dolen, to register at (914) 522-4310. *Joint with ADK Mohican.* 

<u>Sunday, February 3</u> - **Cliffdale-Teatown Trail and Teatown Lake**. 4 miles, easy to moderate. Bring a thermos of hot chocolate and enjoy a hike from the Visitor's Center to the Cliffdale Education Center, using part of the Teatown Lake and other trails. We'll have a snack on the benches at Cliffdale, then return to the Visitor's Center on the other side of the lake. Contact the leader for meeting time or information. Leader: Elspeth Kramer, <u>elspethkramer@aol.com</u>, (347) 262-4802. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 62).* 

# Saturday, February 9 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Saturday, February 9</u> - **Anthony's Nose via Camp Smith Trail**. 7.4 miles, moderate to strenuous. This is the most rugged trail in Westchester County. We will start at and return to the historic Bear Mountain Bridge toll house on Route 6. The hike will afford panoramic views of the Hudson River, Bear Mountain Bridge, and Iona Island. The summit of Anthony's Nose is an excellent spot for viewing raptors. Traction devices may be needed. Contact leader for meeting time. Kathie Laug, (203) 348-3993, (203) 722-5490 (cell), <u>kfriedmanlaug@optonline.net</u>. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 50).* 

<u>Saturday, February 9</u> - **Marshlands Conservancy**. 3-4 miles, easy. Enjoy a two hour hike in this Rye preserve on a network of trails through a field, a deciduous forest and a salt marsh. Meet at 10:30 AM at the Conservancy parking lot, located at 220 Boston Post Road near the Rye Golf Course. Leader: Leslie Millman. Contact leader by e-mail at <u>oooleslie@aol.com</u>. Cell number is for day of hike changes only: (914) 552-7720. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 9).* 

#### Sunday, February 10 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Sunday, February 10</u> - **Mountain Lakes Camp, North Salem NY**. 6 miles, easy to moderate. This is a three to four hour hike through a County park with carriage roads, wooded trails and a few short steep hills. Bring lunch and water. Leader: Jean Dolen, (914) 522-4310. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 57).* 

<u>Sunday, February 10</u> - **Kensico Cemetery Tour**. 4-5 miles, easy to moderate. There are many points of interest in this 460 acre cemetery including gravesites of celebrities, structures with architectural interest and special landscape features. Sturdy shoes, water and lunch recommended. Meet 10.30 a.m. in the parking lot of the Administration Building, 273 Lakeview Avenue, Valhalla. Directions: Taconic Parkway to Lakeview Avenue. Turn west, pass the monument shop, cross the railroad tracks and turn right into the parking lot. More information about the cemetery is available at <u>www.kensico.org.</u> Leader: Sue Soni, <u>surekhasoni1968@gmail.com</u> or (914)747-2452. *Joint with ADK Mohican.* 

#### Saturday, February 16 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Saturday, February 16</u> - Long Path/Hudson River. 6 miles, moderate. We will start this circular hike at the Long Path just east of Rockland Lake State Park. There is an initial steep ascent to reach the top of the Palisades and breathtaking views of the Hudson. We will follow the Long Path with its many spectacular vistas and return on the trailway along the Hudson River. The hiking route may be changed if the ascent on the Long Path is deemed dangerous due to winter weather conditions. Leader: Joe Rodriguez. Please email jpr50@optonline.net by February 14 for information or to register. *Joint with ADK Mohican*.

Saturday, February 16 - Within the County: Towns of Cortlandt and Ossining. Part 4: Sunny Ridge and Teatown. 5-6 miles, easy to moderate. We return to Ossining today to explore one of its less-visited preserves (Sunny Ridge) and a much more popular one (Teatown), using another short segment of the Briarcliff/Peekskill Trail to connect the two. While in Teatown we'll hike along the Waterfall and Twin Lakes trails to take in the water views. Contact leader to register: Eileen West, eileenw1000@gmail.com. Shuttle required; rain or heavy snow cancels. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (Nos. 19 and 62).* 

#### Sunday, February 17 - A HIKE AND A SNOW SHOE TODAY:

<u>Sunday, February 17</u> - **Harriman Circular**. 6-8 miles, moderate. We will take in views from the beautiful Blue Disc Trail and Parker Cabin Mountain on this hike. Excessive snow, ice, and extreme cold may shorten the route. If conditions are icy, traction devices such as microspikes or stabilicers may be insisted upon by the leader. Please contact the leader, Judy Hirschman, at <u>hirschmanjudith@gmail.com</u> no later than 48 hours prior to the hike for meeting time and place. *Joint with ADK Mohican.* 

<u>Sunday, February 17</u> - **Snow Shoe at Richter Park in Danbury CT**. Snow shoe (conditions permitting) on a beautiful golf course with ups and downs. If there's no snow, there is the option of a beginner hike (on a wooded trail) of about 2 hours. Will start at 10:30 AM. Please call or email the leader, Rosanne Schepis, for more information or to register: <u>rschep@yahoo.com</u> or (203) 417-5552. *Joint with ADK Mohican.* 

#### Saturday, February 23 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Saturday, February 23</u> - **Balsam Lake Fire Tower in the Catskills**. 5 miles, moderate. This out and back Catskill 3500 peak with less than 1500 feet of elevation gain makes it an ideal winter hike. If there is snow, it is a perfect snowshoe hike especially for beginners. If no snow, we will just hike up to the fire tower and if the sun is shining on the trees at the top, it is wonderful. Snowshoes or traction devices are a must. We will carpool from Exit 19 in Brewster off Route 84 or we could also meet at the park and ride in New Paltz off the Thruway. Register with leader Carol Harting at c.harting@verizon.net so we can arrange carpools. *Joint with ADK Mohican.* 

Saturday, February 23 - **Sylvan Glen**. 6 miles, easy to moderate. This underused gem of a hike offers up soft earth and well-marked trails, enough climbs to keep us warm, views, streams, and a huge 200 year old Oak tree used to hang horse thieves (but not recently). All that plus a long abandoned granite quarry to explore. There's a lot of local history here and I'll share my enhanced insights as we go along. Meet at 10 AM at the Morris Avenue parking lot, just 1/4 mile east of Lexington Avenue in Yorktown (Mohegan Lake). If there's sufficient snow, we'll modify our route so we can snowshoe about three miles. Leader: Howard Millman, <u>hwardmillman@aol.com</u>, (914) 439-8031. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 20).* 

# Sunday, February 24 - A HIKE AND A CROSS COUNTRY SKI TODAY:

<u>Sunday, February 24</u> - **Doodletown at Bear Mt State Park**. 5-6 miles, moderate. On Routes 9W and 202 there is a parking area just south of the Bear Mountain Inn near Iona Island, where we will meet. We will explore Doodletown starting on the 1777E trail and returning on various ski trails. Hopefully there will be enough snow for snowshoeing. Bring lunch, snacks, water, layers and appropriate footwear. To register contact leader Sarah Davis, (917) 501-1322 or sewdavis@gmail.com. *Joint with ADK Mohican.* 

<u>Sunday, February 24</u> - **Cross Country Ski or Hike**. Ski location TBA, at the closest site with sufficient snow - don't give up if snow is feeble nearby because conditions may be glorious at Minnewaska or High Point. If no snow is to be found, we will do an easy to moderate hike in Cranberry Lake Preserve. Must RSVP to leader: Carolyn Hoffman, <u>carhof123@aol.com</u>, home (914) 948-0608, cell on day of hike only (914) 420-5778. *Joint with ADK Mohican*.