

Catskill High Peaks Festival: History Hikes

Friday, August 24: 9 am to 12 pm

Saturday, August 25: 9 am to 12 pm

Led by Carol and David White

Hikes are FREE

Meeting Location: Meet at 9 am at the Village Square Bookstore & Literary Arts Center, 7950 Main Street, Village of Hunter. The group will then carpool to the trailheads.

NOTE: Both hikes are short, with minimal elevation change, although there is occasional rock scrambling. Pace will be adjusted to the skill level of the participants. Wear good hiking shoes and bring water.

Friday, August 24: Hike to the site of the Catskill Mountain House to Thomas Cole's Artists Rock and Sunset Rock; round-trip, 2.4 miles. Carol and David White will lead a hike to the Historic Catskill Mountain House site, then continue up the Escarpment Trail to Artists Rock, a high ledge on the escarpment favored by Thomas Cole and other Hudson River School artists. Then we will hike up to Sunset Rock, with beautiful views of North-South Lakes and Kaaterskill High Peak.

Saturday, August 25: Hike with Carol and David White to Boulder Rock and Split Rock past the Historic Catskill Mountain House site, about a two-mile total trip. You will pass stunning scenery, interesting geology, and artistic graffiti from 150 years ago.

The Whites measured 345 miles of trails in the Catskill Forest Preserve with a surveying wheel for the Adirondack Mountain Club (ADK) and wrote *Catskill Day Hikes for All Seasons* (2002), sixty favorite Catskill hikes. They also edit ADK's comprehensive guidebook, *Catskill Trails*, and collaborated in 2011 with the National Geographic Society to produce a new Catskill Park trails map.

David is membership chairman of the Catskill 3500 Club and Carol, conservation chairman. Carol compiled *Catskill Peak Experiences: Mountaineering Tales of Endurance, Survival, Exploration and Adventure from the Catskill 3500 Club*, published by Black Dome Press in 2008, and a companion volume, *Adirondack Peak Experiences* in 2009. She wrote *Women with Altitude: Challenging the Adirondack High Peaks in Winter*, published by North Country Books (2005). Her book *Danger, Death, and Daring in the Mountains of the Northeast* will be released in Fall 2012, published by the University Press of New England.

Carol received the Susan B. Anthony Legacy Award in 2007 at the University of Rochester with polar explorer Ann Bancroft and long-distance cold-water swimmer Lynne Cox. They spoke on the theme "Daring the Impossible: Strong Women Take on the World," on how they draw attention to causes larger than their own ambitions.

The Whites completed winter climbs of the 48 White Mountains of New Hampshire after climbing the 46 Adirondack High Peaks in winter and the Catskill 3500-foot peaks in winter. Carol served from 2003-2007 on the 46ers Executive Committee. The Whites are Northeast USA 111ers, climbers of peaks that exceed 4,000 feet, and they have climbed eight of the 14,000-foot peaks in Colorado. They participate in trail maintenance, lead hikes, restore lean-tos, and write a monthly hiking column for the *Catskill Mountain Region Guide*. They have led three four-week classes in hiking for the Mohawk Valley Institute for Learning in Retirement.