

the adirondack park **agency**



2002 annual report

George E. Pataki, Governor

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Standing, back row, from left: Commissioner Katherine O. Roberts; Commissioner James C. Frenette; Commissioner James T. Townsend; Commissioner Frank Mezzano; Commissioner William H. Kissel; Chairman Richard H. Lefebvre; NYS Department of State Designee Richard L. Hoffman; Commissioner Deanne Rehm; NYS Department of Economic Development Designee Randall C. Beach; Commissioner Cecil Wray; NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Designee Stuart Buchanan. Photo taken early 2002.

Agency Members

Richard Lefebvre,¹ Chairman [Fulton County]

James Frenette¹ [Franklin County]

James Townsend² [Rochester County]

Frank Mezzano¹ [Hamilton County]

Katherine Roberts² [Putnam County]

William Kissel¹ [Essex County]

Cecil Wray² [New York County]

Deanne Rehm¹ [Warren County]

Randy Daniels, Secretary of State

Erin Crotty, Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation

Charles Gargano, Commissioner of the Department of Economic Development

Agency Designees

Stuart Buchanan, Department of Environmental Conservation

Rob Davies, Department of Environmental Conservation

Karyn Richards, Department of Environmental Conservation

Randall Beach, Department of Economic Development

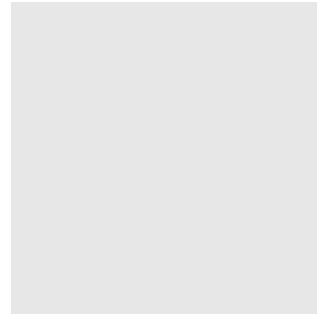
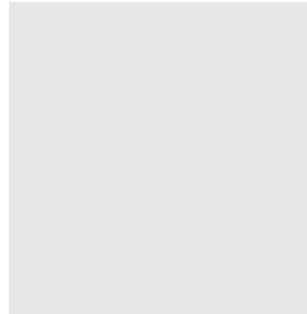
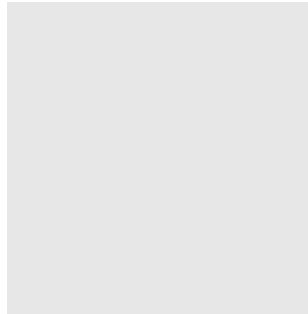
Doug Schelleng, Department of Economic Development

Richard Hoffman, Department of State

¹In-the-Park seat

²Out-of-the-Park seat

letter from the **governor**



Dear Friends:

We are extremely proud of our record of accomplishments in the Adirondack Park. In 2002, we implemented a number of great programs, many under the leadership of the Adirondack Park Agency, designed to improve and bolster the unique communities located throughout these mountains and the local and regional economies upon which our families depend. We have also made great strides in the protection of the scenic and open space character of the Park's private lands and in improved planning and management of the public lands of the Park, making unparalleled recreational opportunities available to New Yorkers of all abilities.

In 2003, we will mark the 30th anniversary of the Adirondack Park Agency Act enacted on May 22, 1973. This is certainly a significant milestone which will provide an opportunity to reflect on our past and refocus our steadfast commitment to a balanced management and protection strategy, perhaps looking forward to 30 or more years of dynamic Park protection and management. Much work remains to be done and my administration is committed to leading the way.

We have faced many challenges as a State, and together we have accomplished a great deal. I hope you will join me in celebrating this year, and in the years to come, the magnificence of this great Park.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "G. E. Pataki". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

George E. Pataki

letter from **interim chairman**



Dear Friends:

I was certainly honored to be asked by Governor Pataki to serve as Interim Chairman of the Adirondack Park Agency. I care a great deal about the Adirondack Park and it is truly a privilege for me to serve in this way.

As I assume this new role, I want to first salute the hard work and dedication of Dick Lefebvre who stepped down from the Agency in November 2002. Dick's contributions and tireless efforts to the Agency will long be remembered and appreciated.

It will be important to keep the Agency moving in a positive direction in which we continue to strive for consistent and balanced decision making. My areas of interest as a Member of the Agency have been the planning and management of the Park's State lands and the working relationships between the Agency and local governments within the Park. I intend to keep these interests at heart as we continue the day-to-day business of the Agency.

Sometimes, as with my predecessors, this mission will be challenging. I believe that with the help and support of the Governor and his administration, my colleagues on the Board, a dedicated staff, and you – the partners and friends of the Agency – we can meet these challenges and establish new visions and goals for the future of this agency, and those of the Adirondack Park.

Best regards,

James C. Frenette

letter from the **executive director**



Dear Friends:

The year 2002 was one that brought both challenges and opportunity.

In November, Agency Chairman Dick Lefebvre retired after 10 years on the Board including five years as chair. During that time he had truly become the public face of the Agency, through tireless outreach to thousands of people. This year also saw the departure of Kathy Talbot, Chuck Scrafford, Dave Fleury, Dick Jarvis, Bill Curran and Gary Duprey, who took with them in retirement a total of over 150 years of combined experience and wisdom. The contributions of each of these people will long be remembered and their day-to-day presence in our working environment will be missed.

These staff transitions presented management challenges. We were able to hire some new staff people and we were able to place “new” faces in key management positions through promotion and appointment. After the initial apprehension that comes with any change, there has been a growing appreciation of the fresh energy and vision of new staff members, and the revitalized perspectives of familiar faces in new positions of leadership. With this energy we have faced several challenges head on, and have made progress on a number of ambitious initiatives you can read about in this report.

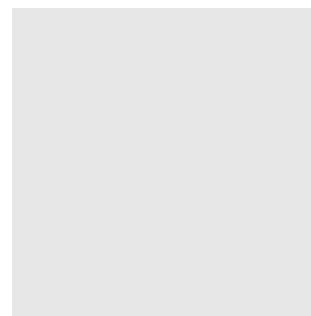
All of this is done with the support of an engaged and dedicated Board. It is purposeful and driven by a strategic plan that has focused management priority on improving the permit issuance process, the enforcement process, and internal and external communications. Its core purpose is to more effectively carry out the mission of the Agency and to improve our service to the public.

This year, as we reflect on the challenges of the last 30 years of the Agency’s history, what a great opportunity it is to look 30 years ahead as we consider the future of the Agency and what we want to achieve. We find great promise in the opportunities the Agency has in front of it and look forward to engaging them in a meaningful and lasting way.

Sincerely,

Daniel T. Fitts

about the agency



Pictured from left to right: Top Row: first image—Governor Pataki with Gay and Dick Lefebvre at the Chairman’s retirement party at the Capitol in Albany; second image—Bill Kissel with Clarence Petty at the Agency’s meeting in Old Forge; third image—Cecil Wray with Sean Connin and Skip Outcalt at the Agency Meeting held in Old Forge; fourth image—Jim Townsend; fifth image—

Deanne Rehm prepares for a television interview in Glens Falls; sixth image—Deanne Rehm, Cecil Wray, Dick Lefebvre and others at the Paul Smiths VIC Whispering Pines Amphitheater; seventh image—Dick Lefebvre receives a Certificate-of-Appeal upon the occasion of his retirement.

Changing Faces of the Agency Board

Former Chairman Richard H. Lefebvre announced on Thursday, November 14, 2002, his retirement as Chairman as of November 30. He hopes to spend more time with his family and at his home in Canada Lake, in Fulton County, within the Adirondack Park. Dick and his wife, Gay, will also be taking an extensive tour of Alaska in the summer of 2003.

Mr. Lefebvre was appointed to the Agency in July 1993 and has served as the Agency’s Chairman since February 1998. He was also appointed by Governor Pataki in August 1998 to serve on the Theodore Roosevelt Commission, and by Lieutenant Governor Donohue in May 2000 to serve on the Quality Communities Task Force. In November 1998 Mr. Lefebvre was part of the first twinning delegation to Italy’s Abruzzo Park.

Chairman James C. Frenette, Tupper Lake native, became the Interim Chairman of the Agency in December 2002.

Mr. Frenette was appointed to the Board in 1992 and currently sits on three committees with the Agency: Interpretive Programs, Regulatory Programs, and Park Policy/State Lands.

A long-time resident of Tupper Lake, Commissioner Frenette has been active in community affairs and has held local elected positions including chairman of the Franklin County Board of Legislators. He is currently a member of the Adirondack Railroad Preservation Society and the “Next Stop: Tupper Lake” Committee, and he is a volunteer for the Tupper Lake Chamber of Commerce.

Reconfirmations

The Agency was pleased in 2002 that Governor Pataki reappointed, and the Senate confirmed, the following Agency Members to new terms:

- Frank Mezzano, *Hamilton County (through 6/30/06)*
- William Kissel, *Essex County (through 6/30/05)*
- James Townsend, *Monroe County (through 6/30/05)*

regulatory programs



Pictured from left to right: first image—Mark Sengenberger, Skip Outcalt, Colleen Parker, John Quinn, Theresa LeBaron, (sitting, front row) Virginia Yamrick, Suzanne McSherry, Holly Kneeshaw, Tracy



Frechette, Tom Saehrig; second image—Tracy Frchette; and third image—Doug Hamnerick.



The Regulatory Programs Division of the Agency is responsible for the review, recommendation, and determination of all project permit applications subject to Agency jurisdiction. The Adirondack Park Agency administers three State legislative acts consisting of the Adirondack Park Agency Act, the New York State Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers System Act and the New York State Freshwater Wetlands Act. The Division considered a diverse variety of regional projects during the year including subdivision of land, major public utility uses, industrial uses, commercial uses, forestry uses, public and semi-public buildings and single family dwellings. The Division also considered State agency projects and projects involving wetlands and shoreline restriction variances.

Applications received in 2002 totaled 310. They are listed below by county. Eight applications involved more than one county.

Key Projects Approved

The Agency issued permits for 248 projects during 2002. Examples of important or interesting projects reviewed and approved during the year include the following:

- Ian Freeburg was granted approval for a regulated wetland activity to be undertaken as an Eagle Scout candidate project, involving the introduction of 500 herbivorous beetles to reduce the non-native aquatic invasive plant purple loosestrife in a Saranac Lake pond and associated emergent marsh wetland.
- Top O' the World Golf Resort Inc., located in Queensbury, was granted a permit to expand an existing nine-hole golf course to an 18-hole golf course.
- In Bolton, Green Island Associates was granted approval to construct a new 51-room spa resort hotel on a 2.8±-acre portion of the existing Green Island Planned Unit Development Zone.
- The Natural History Museum of the Adirondacks was granted a permit for the construction of a new museum building, entrance road, parking lot, pond, amphitheater, nature walks and an observation tower. The museum, which will be located in Altamont, will contain exhibits related to the natural history and environment of the Adirondacks.

Figure 1. Number of Applications Received in 2002

<i>County</i>	<i>No. of Applications</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>No. of Applications</i>
Clinton	36	Oneida	2
Essex	88	St. Lawrence	15
Franklin	42	Saratoga	5
Fulton	15	Warren	49
Hamilton	29	Washington	14
Herkimer	12	Total	310
Lewis	3		

- The Upper Mohawk Valley Regional Water Board was granted a permit for the removal of the deteriorated Black Creek Reservoir dam that has a DEC flood designation of “high hazard” and is located in the Town of Norway. The removal of the dam structure in Ohio will return Black Creek to a full “run-of-river” condition.
- The Village of Saranac Lake was granted approval for the development of two new components of its downtown Riverwalk project.
- The Diamond Sportsmen’s Club was granted approval for the subdivision of 3,283± acres in Colton and Parishville into 117 sites to be located in 13 clusters on the project site, including 41 existing camps, a clubhouse and 76 sites proposed for new camps.
- Warren County Department of Public Works was granted a permit for the rehabilitation of 40 miles of the former D&H Railroad, now owned by Warren County, from the Town of Corinth, Saratoga County, north to the Town of Johnsbury, Warren County.
- The Nature Conservancy was granted a permit for the subdivision of 10,000± acres in Hamilton and St. Lawrence Counties into three lots. The 5,730 acres contained in Lot 1 is proposed for conveyance to the State of New York for inclusion in the Forest Preserve. Lots 2 and 3 will be retained by the Nature Conservancy.
- Fort William Henry Corporation was granted a permit for the construction of a 97-unit hotel, 68 feet in height, to expand the Fort William Henry Resort in Lake George.
- The Town of Keene was granted approval for a new one-story, 9,200-square-foot Town of Keene Highway Garage at the existing transfer station located off Schaffer Road. The existing garage on Route 73 will be removed after construction of the new garage.
- The New York State Police was granted a permit to construct an emergency phone system on the Adirondack Northway. This is a replacement of the outdated call box system and will provide cellular phone service to the remote sections of the highway. The infrastructure servicing the call boxes will consist of 33 brown, steel antenna poles, each 38 feet tall, which are “substantially invisible” as called for in the Agency’s Telecommunications Towers Policy.
- The Adirondack Park Agency and NYS Office of General Services were granted an order for proposed additions to the existing Adirondack Park Agency headquarters building in Ray Brook to address handicap accessibility, public access and other health and safety issues.



Pictured from left to right: first image—a demonstration cell tower to be utilized for the I-87 Adirondack Northway emergency phone system; second image—the rehabilitation of the former D&H Railroad in northern Saratoga and southern Warren counties offers tourism based rail service and breathtaking views of the Hudson River; and third image—the Natural History Museum of the Adirondacks to be built in the Town of Altamont;

legal services



Pictured from left to right: first image—Sue Van Wormer, Emily Tyner, Mary Reardon, Leigh Walrath, John Banta, Rita Quinn, Rich Terry, Ed Snizek, (sitting, front row) Brian Ford, Mitch Goroski, Barbara



Rottier, Don Smith, Paul Van Cott; second image—Kathy Talbot with her daughter Heidi, and grandchildren Caroline and Nick ; third image—Rich Terry and Mary Reardon.



The Agency's four staff attorneys, Counsel and Associate Counsel continue to provide advice for all aspects of the Agency's business. The attorneys manage the enforcement program as settlement agreements are developed for enforcement cases, and they oversee related litigation. Counsel also determines pre-existing subdivision status, and the Counsel and Associate Counsel work to ensure consistency in jurisdictional determinations.

The public's first point of contact with the Agency is often a letter or phone call handled by Legal staff in the Jurisdictional Inquiry Office at the Agency. In 2002 the Agency received 950 formal written inquiries, referred to as "JIFs" by staff, and almost 7,000 informal phone contacts. With the support of Agency GIS technology and RASS staff assistance with wetland questions, 2002 written response times generally averaged less than two weeks.

The Agency is involved in a number of litigation matters which are handled by the Legal Division.

Enforcement

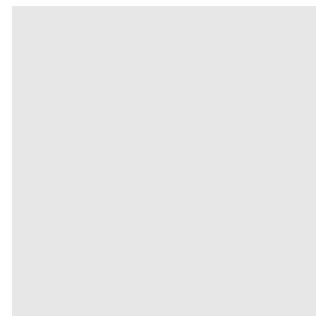
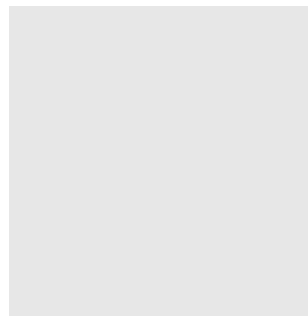
The first goal of the Enforcement Office is to prevent violations through public education and close coordination with

local municipal officials. Where violations have occurred, the office is responsible for the identification and resolution of violations, with the primary objective of requiring the repair of environmental damage and bringing project sites into compliance with regulatory standards.

In 2002, 268 potential violations were reported and 293 enforcement cases were resolved. Seven unresolved enforcement cases were referred to the Agency's Enforcement Committee for a decision, and four cases were referred to the Attorney General for civil enforcement action. Two enforcement cases previously referred to the Attorney General were successfully resolved in 2002.

In 2002, the Agency adopted new Enforcement Regulations; they became effective on January 29, 2003. The new regulations streamline and clarify the enforcement process in keeping with the existing statutory authorities, ensure due process, and promote the more efficient and effective disposition of alleged violations. With respect to freshwater wetlands, the new enforcement regulations for the first time implement the full range of the Agency's statutory enforcement authority.

interpretive program services



Pictured from left to right: top row: first image—Newcomb VIC staff Mike Tracy, Emily Dehoff, Rynda McCray, Kathy Jennings, and Ellen Rathbone; second image—Paul Smiths VIC staff Joanne MacDowell, Brian McAllister, Mike Brennan, Ariel Diggory, Milt Adams, Andy Flynn, and Cara McCann; third image: Paul Smiths VIC maintenance staff Robbie Cox, Penny Dufrane, Adam Cox, Larry Duprey and George Hare; fourth image—Robbie Cox works with inmates from Camp Gabriels to install a new entrance sign at Paul Smiths. The sign was designed by Cara McCann and built in the Camp Gabriels wood

shop; bottom row: first image—Mr. and Mrs. Roger Welling (holding photo) with Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hutchins (far left), Mr. and Mrs. Curt Welling, and Executive Director Dan Fitts at the Paul Smiths VIC. The lobby upgrade at the center was made possible by a generous donation by the Welling family to the Adirondack Park Institute; second image: Dick Lefebvre, Frank Hutchins, Jim Frenette, and Katie Roberts sow wildflower seeds at the dedication of the Frank M. Hutchins Wildflower Garden at the Paul Smiths VIC.

The year 2002 was another productive year at the two Adirondack Park Agency Visitor Interpretive Centers (VICs), marked by many physical improvements to the VIC facilities, a recharged publicity campaign, an expanded special events calendar and more environmental education programming for the general public.

At the same time, the Interpretive Programs Division solidified its partnership with the Adirondack community as the VICs launched new parkwide programs and continued to provide excellent service at the two facilities, which are located in Paul Smiths and Newcomb.

Accomplishments

The Newcomb VIC staff finished resurfacing the Rich Lake Trail, completed building a new outlook on the Peninsula Trail and constructed a new wooden walkway to the Sucker Brook Trail overlook. The programs at Newcomb continued to be well received by the public as more programs were added. The staff expanded the Bird-of-Prey Program with a new

red-tailed hawk and expanded outreach programming as staffing allowed. The facility had its highest winter school visitation ever with the Snow Patrol Program in 2002, and its highest summer program participation to date since the building opened in 1990.

The inaugural season for the Adirondack Interpretation Through the Arts program was a resounding success, resulting in the formation of seven new events, including three Adirondack Park Institute fund raisers.

Many improvements were made to the Paul Smiths VIC in 2002, including a new front desk, wildflower garden, highway sign, amphitheater, fences, sidewalk to the parking lot, flower planters, and guide rails along the driveway. In addition, inmates from the Camp Gabriels Correctional Facility continued resurfacing the trails with bark; volunteer Dick Harvey and staff members overhauled the winter trail system with new signs and markers; and staff and volunteers planted new flowers in the gardens.

In early 2002, the VICs partnered with the Wildlife Conservation Society's Adirondack Communities and Conservation Program to produce a panel entitled "A Park Like No Other" for the two new High Peaks Welcome Centers on the Adirondack Northway, I-87, in the Town of North Hudson. In May, the Paul Smiths VIC opened the new Adirondack Wetlands Exhibit, which was acquired from the Leahy Center for Lake Champlain and refurbished by the VIC staff. The interactive exhibit features the sights, sounds and smells of a marshland community. The gift shop reopened at the Paul Smiths VIC in the summer, with the St. Regis Canoe Outfitters selling tourist items through Columbus Day Weekend.

Partnerships

Partnerships with the community continue to form the basis of the Centers' activities.

The Interpretive Programs Division extends special thanks to the New York State Department of Correctional Services, as two correctional facilities sent crews to help VIC staffers re-surface miles of interpretive trails. Inmates and officers from the Moriah Shock Camp spread bark along the trails in Newcomb, and crews from Camp Gabriels assisted at the Paul Smiths VIC. Moreover, Camp Gabriels crews donated more than 8,000 hours of time to help with projects at Paul Smiths, including the installation of amphitheater seating and guide rails in the driveway, and the construction of flower planters and the new highway sign.

Special thanks to the Paul Smiths College students who under the direction of Hans Michielen worked on the VIC amphitheater and many trail projects. Special thanks also to the College of Environmental Science & Forestry and its many contributions to the Newcomb VIC.

Newcomb Center

The Newcomb VIC continued to be an integral part of the southern Essex County community thanks to ongoing partnerships with the Town of Newcomb, the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry Adirondack Ecological Center, the Adirondack Museum, the Newcomb Central School, the Newcomb Mountain Quilters, and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's Lake Harris State Campground.

Paul Smiths Center

The Paul Smiths VIC continued to be an integral part of the Franklin County community thanks to ongoing partnerships with the Wildlife Conservation Society, the Arts Council for the Northern Adirondacks, High Peaks Cyclery Mountain Adventure Center, the Saranac Lake Area Chamber of Commerce, Paul Smith's College, the Natural History Museum of the Adirondacks, the Adirondack Mountain Club Education Department, the Student Conservation Association AmeriCorps Program, and tourism partners throughout the Park.

The Adirondack Interpretation Through the Arts program created many more partnerships, including North Country Public Radio, Dan Berggren (Sleeping Giant Records), the Adirondack Center for Writing, the NYS DEC, the Tri-Lakes Amateur Radio Club, the Franklin County Health Department, the Essex County Health Department, the Adirondack business community and public schools throughout the region.

Let's Hear It for the Volunteers!

As adjunct staff, the VIC volunteers assist in many areas both on and off the Centers' properties. Many of the VIC volunteers are part of the Franklin County and Essex County Retired and Senior Volunteer Programs (RSVP).

The best part of the volunteer program at the Newcomb and Paul Smiths VICs is the camaraderie and friendships that begin to blossom in these informational and educational institutions.

One of the main areas where volunteers help out is at the front desk, where they serve as information specialists. VIC volunteers also play an integral role in the Centers' school visitation programs. As naturalists, they sometimes teach environmental education programs to visiting school children from around the Adirondack region and New York State. Volunteers can also be found in the Paul Smiths VIC's Native Species Butterfly House in the summer, showing the public a myriad of moths and butterflies in all stages of development.

resource analysis and scientific services



Pictured from left to right: first image—Dan Spada, Hillary Oles, Sunita Halasz, Shaun LaLonde, Mark Rooks, (sitting, front row) Ray Curran, Sean Connin, Brian Grisi, Alexia Hain; second image—Jim Townsend and Dan Spada at the Old Forge Agency Meeting; third image—Hillary



Oles on Chaumont Pond near Cranberry Lake, St. Lawrence County, collecting and identifying invasive aquatic plants for the Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program.



In 2002, the Agency's staff-level Resource Analysis and Scientific Services (RASS) Unit continued to provide the Agency with technical and scientific services, working in close coordination with the Agency's Park Ecology Committee. With its varied qualifications and areas of expertise, the RASS staff was well positioned to assist in educational endeavors as well as to contribute to Agency progress in all program areas including the implementation of the Strategic Plan.

Private Land Development

Staff assisted in the review of more than a dozen complex projects which involved multiple areas of expertise. Examples include NYCO Minerals, Diamond Sportsmen's Club, Lake George storm water treatment, Lens Lake residential development (McHugh), and the relocation of the National Sports Academy to a new campus site in North Elba.

In the area of smaller projects, RASS staff continued to work on more than 240 active projects in 2002. Staff gave advice on issues like septic system siting, re-vegetation of shorelines, screening, erosion control and wetland mitigation.

State Land Issues

- Bog River Complex Unit Management Plan
- Whiteface Mountain Ski Area
- Comments on more than 10 other draft unit plans including the "Limits of Acceptable Change" approach
- Evaluation of campground improvements including improvements in universal access, washroom and septic upgrades, halting site deterioration, and shoreline protection

Water Protection Issues

- Aquatic invasives monitoring and public outreach
- Road salt issues in Cascade Lakes and their shoreline areas
- DEC fisheries management information needs in Wilderness Areas
- Campsite remediation along shorelines
- Franklin County and Essex County water quality coordinating committees
- Accumulation of lead from aquatic systems in the Adirondack loon population
- Evaluating pesticide impacts to wetlands in Lake George, and dredging accumulated sediment in tributary streams to Lake George
- Sediment accumulation and dredging of Lake Algonquin
- Field visits to observe lampricide use in Lake Champlain
- Modeling of lake trophic status and storm water and project review
- Lens Lake and bog as an open space resource
- Society of Wetlands Scientists international meeting in Lake Placid (scheduled for August 2003)

Education and Outreach

While providing assistance internally to other divisions within the Agency, RASS staff are also continually involved in sharing information with citizens, researchers and organizations in the Park.

economic services



In 2002, the Agency was involved in a number of significant economic activities in the Park. Pictured from left to right: first image—Governor Pataki announces the acquisition of the former Newton Falls Paper Mill by Newstech, NY in Newton Falls; second image—the State of New York opened two new welcome centers along the Adirondack Northway in the Town of North Hudson in 2002; third image—the Agency visits the U.S. Olympic Committee's Olympic Training Center in Lake Placid focusing attention on the economic importance of athletic training and competition to the Lake Placid area; and fourth image—in October 2001, the Agency issued a permit for a 20,000 square foot production facility and showroom for Old Adirondack, Inc., a manufacturer of cedar Adirondack furniture in Willsboro. The new plant began operating in the summer of 2002.

During 2002, the Agency continued to support regional economic improvement in ways that are consistent with the preservation of the Park's visual and open space character and overall environmental quality.

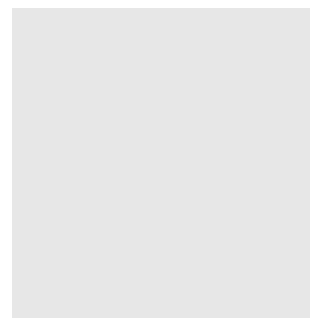
The Agency's Economic Affairs Committee, co-chaired by Commissioners Frank Mezzano and James Townsend, showcased a number of economically important regional institutions including the U.S. Olympic Training Center at Lake Placid, Paul Smith's College, and PARC, the civilian organization working to redevelop the former Plattsburgh Air Force Base. While located just beyond the "Blue Line," the over-3,000-acre PARC facility is providing a steadily growing set of employment opportunities for Adirondack Park residents in Clinton, Franklin and Essex Counties.

The Committee also focused on the important economic and community development opportunities through the reuse of railroad corridors within the Park for tourist excursions.

On the staff level, the Economic Services Unit in 2002 continued its work as a planning resource for communities interested in economic improvement and for economic developers and project sponsors seeking information about Agency regulatory programs. The Agency issued permits for 50 economic development projects. These included the expansion of a golf course at Top O' the World, a residential resort in Lake George, Warren County; an expansion of the Riverwalk in the Village of Saranac Lake, Town of Harrietstown; a new pharmacy in Star Lake, Town of Fine, St. Lawrence County; a new spa at the Sagamore Hotel in Bolton Landing, Warren County; and the Natural History Museum of the Adirondacks in the Town of Altamont. Other economically important projects that were permitted by the Agency in 2002 included a 97-room hotel proposed for Fort William Henry in Lake George, the rehabilitation of 40 miles of the former D&H Railroad for use as a tourist excursion line in Warren County, and the installation of a cellular-telephone-based emergency phone system along the Adirondack Northway.

park planning

| AND POLICY SERVICES |



Pictured from left to right: first row, first image—Jim Connolly, Rick Weber, Henry Savarie, Pat Kimpton, Jim Hotaling. Sitting: Walt Linck, Nancy Heath, John Barge; second image—the Agency’s GIS Outreach Team: Bob Kreider, John Barge, Sunita Halasz; third image—Ed Hood, “on the move”; second row, first image—Nancy M. Heath, Prin-

icipal Clerk, Planning; second image—Henry Savarie in the Five Ponds Wilderness Area; third image—Town of Keene Highway Garage which is scheduled to be removed from the Route 73 scenic corridor with federal Scenic Byways funding.

The Planning Division in 2002 continued to expand its involvement in private and State land planning and its support of the work of all of the Agency’s other divisions. During the year, staff provided strong support and leadership for a number of key Agency initiatives.

Significant initiatives accomplished in regional planning, State lands and local planning by the Planning Division are discussed below.

REGIONAL PLANNING

A. Telecommunications Towers Policy

The revised policy, developed after 18 months of research, drafting and public meetings, provides notice to applicants that new towers and tower facilities in the Adirondack Park will be required to demonstrate they are “substantially invisible,” are consolidated and co-located to the extent possible, and otherwise will avoid undue adverse impacts. The policy became effective in February 2002.

B. Regulatory Revision

During 2002, the Planning Division continued to coordinate the Agency’s ongoing regulatory revision effort initiated in 1996. This is a role served by the Division’s assistant director in close coordination with the Agency’s legal staff.

In May, the Agency’s second phase of rule making was completed, involving some 22 regulatory definitions. The third rule-making phase, involving a comprehensive replacement of the Agency’s enforcement processes and procedures, was also completed and became effective as of January 2003.

C. Scenic Byway Project Implementation

During the year 2002, the Agency made continued progress on the implementation of its numerous scenic byway projects in the Park. Over the past several years, the Agency has been awarded some \$2 million in scenic byway funds pursuant to the Federal Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21).

Three of the Agency's scenic byway projects were successfully completed in 2002. These include:

- development and production of interpretive exhibit panels for the first Adirondack Community Information Center in the Town of Inlet;
- development and printing of a map/brochure, “Au Sable River Watershed – A Traveler’s Guide to River and Scenic Byway Resources”; and
- development and printing of a guide, “Caring for Our Rivers and Roads – A Homeowner’s Guide to Erosion Control in the Adirondack Park.”

Additionally, work is well under way on the Hamlet Improvement and Marcy Field projects in the Town of Keene. Final plans and permits for the remainder of the work on the Keene projects are expected in 2003, with all improvement work anticipated to be finished in 2004.

The project to develop and install interpretive roadside exhibits along the Hudson River in the Town of Johnsbury saw the selection of a contractor, and development and completion of an integrated interpretive plan in 2002. The completed exhibits are expected to be installed in Fall 2003.

Work on the remaining Agency scenic byway projects is expected to continue through 2004.

D. Cartographic Services

The Planning Division has the responsibility for maintaining and keeping up to date the official Adirondack Park Land Use and Development Plan Map. The 30th anniversary edition of the Adirondack Park Land Use and Development Plan Map was updated in 2002 in preparation for printing. In addition, the Division continues work on a shaded relief map of the Adirondack Park which will be available in the near future.

Furthering the Agency's ongoing outreach efforts with local governments and others, staff was busy in 2002 delivering a variety of GIS programs at a number of opportunities including:

- GIS training for UMP planners
- Code Enforcement Officer training
- Local Government Day 2002
- Adirondack Research Consortium
- Cooperative effort on Arc View training

- National Society of Wetland Scientists annual meeting in Lake Placid

Also noteworthy is that more than 450 sets of the “Shared Adirondack Park GIS CD-ROM” were made available to some 325 organizations and individuals during 2002.

E. Website Update

During 2002, Planning staff led the effort to overhaul and update the Agency's website. The new “look,” content, and easy navigation system is scheduled to be unveiled in 2003. The Agency counted over 40,000 public visits to its website during the year.

F. Records Management

Planning staff also supervise the Agency's records management program. Over 120 boxes of materials were processed for microfilming and archival storage in 2002. All paper files transferred to Confidential Services for filming are now scanned to CD format for quick and easy look-up on our computer system. Also, we have started the process of converting the previously filmed (microfiche) materials to CD format for faster retrieval.

STATE LANDS

A. Unit Management Planning Initiative

The DEC, in consultation with the Agency, is in the third year of a five-year project to prepare all outstanding unit management plans within the Adirondack Park. The process requires a thorough analysis of an area's resources and public use to develop management actions which protect the wild character of the Forest Preserve while still providing appropriate public recreational opportunities.

A significant amount of staff time was devoted to review of the Bog River Complex Unit Management Plan, which was approved by the Agency in 2002 as consistent with the State Land Master Plan. Agency approval of this unit management plan is a key action in the creation of a 30-mile wilderness canoe route that connects the Bog River with Lows Lake and via a canoe carry with the Oswegatchie River and Cranberry Lake. Private in-holdings of non-conforming structures and motorized access were all significant issues dealt with in this plan.

Staff also participated in a number of special committee meetings and conferences about State lands, including the Ad Hoc Committee on Low Level Flights, Americans with Disabilities Act Advisory Committee, Forest Preserve Advisory

Committee, Adirondack Park Snowmobile Focus Group and the Hydrologic and Habitat Modification Working Group.

During the course of 2002, the Agency approved two new unit management plans, three amendments and one plan update. These include the Pharaoh Lake Wilderness UMP Amendment, a five-year update to the Gore Mountain Ski Center Intensive Use Area UMP, the Fulton Chain Wild Forest UMP, the Whiteface Mountain Intensive Use Area UMP and the Scaroon Manor Public Campground UMP, providing for the development of a new 60-site public campground and other facilities.

B. Agency Public Comment Policy

Agency staff worked on updating the public comment policy for unit management plans. The new procedure has been established to provide a routine and well-defined procedure for public comment to ensure that all written comments are received by Agency Members during their deliberations on compliance of an individual unit management plan with the State Land Master Plan.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES

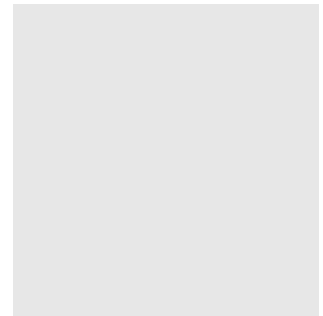
Local land use decisions impact the Adirondack economy and environment and have a direct relationship with all aspects of the Agency's work. In this sense, the task of land use management is a shared responsibility, with the Agency learning from the experience of communities about many vital issues of the day. Local Government Services continued to provide support to and learn from Adirondack communities during 2002.

Agency staff continued to provide assistance to communities in the form of shared technical expertise and information. For example, staff worked closely with the Town of Chesterfield on the implementation of its local land use program, the sixteenth to be approved by the Agency.

The Agency also participated in a number of popular outreach programs, including Local Government Day, and co-sponsored workshops with the Department of State.

The Planning Division is very excited about a new program called "APA 101," a training program for practitioners and the public to learn the basics of our laws and regulations. This program is critical to the goal of closer coordination between the Agency and local governments within the Park.

administration services



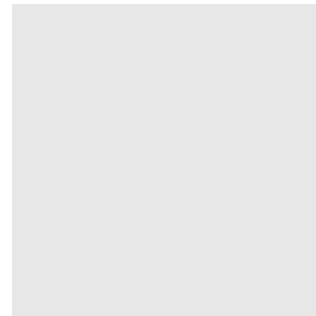
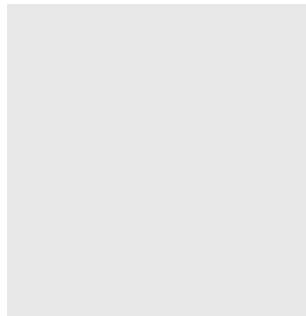
Pictured from left to right: (first row) first image– Victoria Hristovski, Bob Kreider, Bettijane Forrester, Steve Erman, Pat Farrell, Laurie Bullis, Judy Smith, Debbie Lester, and Sue Carey; second image–Green Thumb Program Staff Cherie Phillips and Howard Baker; third

image–Sue Carey with granddaughter Caitlin Quinn at the Ray Brook Headquarters; (second row) first image–Ray Curran and Victoria Hristovski; second image–Laurie Bullis; third image–Pat Farrell.

The Agency's Administrative Unit is responsible for all budgeting, personnel, and the building's physical upkeep and maintenance. In addition to all daily matters related to the operation of a \$4 million New York State agency with three facilities and 65 permanent employees and several seasonal staff, the Administrative Unit continues work on several significant initiatives. These include overseeing health and safety

issues and reasonable access-related improvements at the Agency's headquarters located in Ray Brook, as well as the ever-increasing use of computer technologies in all Agency functions. The Administrative Unit also monitors all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Scenic-Byways-funded projects.

local government review board



Pictured from left to right: first image–Joe Rota, Executive Director, at Agency meeting in Ray Brook; second image–Joe Rota with Commissioner Frank Mezzano and Chairman Lloyd Moore at Paul Smiths VIC.

Section 803-a of the Adirondack Park Agency Act provides for the establishment of the Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board. As provided by law, the purpose of the Review Board is to advise and assist the Agency in carrying out its mission. The Agency enjoys a strong working relationship with the Review Board through open discussion and dialogue focused on local government perspectives.

Agency Members and staff regularly attend the Review Board meetings which are held monthly throughout the Adirondack Park. At the monthly Adirondack Park Agency meetings, Review Board staff play a prominent and active role in all deliberations. The Agency's efforts to achieve balanced decision making are greatly enhanced by this dialogue.

In keeping with his commitment to foster a strong working relationship with the communities of the Adirondack Park, Governor Pataki included \$50,000 in operating funds for the Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board in the Agency's budget.

Local Government Review Board Staff

- CHAIRMAN, Lloyd Moore, St. Lawrence County
- EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, Joseph T. Rota
- COUNSEL, John C. McDonald
- SECRETARY, Carol A. Monroe

Members of the Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board

Clinton County	John Maye/Howard Aubin
Essex County	George Canon/Ronald Jackson/John Paradis
Franklin County	Nellie Staves
Fulton County	Stephen Barker/George Manchester/Sylvia Parker
Hamilton County	John R. Risley/Brian Towers/James O'Rourke
Herkimer County	Henry Eykelhoff/Linda Eykelhoff
Lewis County	Randolph Kerr
St. Lawrence County	Lloyd Moore (Chairman)
Saratoga County	Bruce Brownell/Jean Raymond
Warren County	John O'Neill/Jerold Quintal
Washington County	Bob Banks/John LaPointe

Contact: Joseph Rota, Executive Director, Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board, PO Box 63, Huletts Landing, New York 12841, Phone 518-499-2753, Email: aplgrb@aol.com.

adirondack park **institute**

The Adirondack Park Institute, Inc. (API) is a New York State not-for-profit 501(c)(3) charitable organization. It was founded in 1989 by a Statewide constituency of private citizens interested in raising money to provide environmentally focused educational curricula and resources to our communities through the Adirondack Park Visitor Interpretive Centers (VICs).

API is the private funding vehicle for program development and resource enhancement at both the VICs. The API's mission is to give children and their parents the tools to answer their own questions and learn how to think, especially about caring for the environment around them.

The funding for promotion and support of the educational programs available at the Centers comes from two principal sources: the general public in the form of API memberships and donations, and grants from corporate sponsors and foundations.

The API's goal for the future is to continue to promote and facilitate funding for the ever-changing and developing programs offered at the Visitor Interpretive Centers. It is essential to continue to provide communities, and especially children, with up-to-date information concerning the environment around them. It is with this knowledge that they may better comprehend, relish, utilize and protect the Adirondack Park.

Adirondack Park Institute, Inc.

PRESIDENT, Col. Robert C. Lilly, USAF (Ret.)

SECRETARY, Mary E. Lyle

TREASURER, Herman F. Cole

ASSISTANT TREASURER, George H. Canon

VICE PRESIDENT, Development/Membership,
Charles F. Monzeglio, Jr.

TRUSTEES

Frank A. Augsbury, Jr.

Sarah Bogdanovitch

Thad P. Collum

Michael I. German

Thomas H. Gosnell

William B. Hale

Frank M. Hutchins

Pieter V.C. Litchfield

George Miller

Charles E. Sporck

Robert Stegemann

HONORARY TRUSTEES

Richard J. Bartlett, Esq.

Wayne H. Byrne (died June 7, 2002)

Scott F. Cristman, Esq.

Douglass C. Harvey

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Linda J. Bennett

P.O. Box 256

Newcomb, NY 12852

518-582-2022

2002 budget

| APPROPRIATIONS & STATISTICS SUMMARY |

The Adirondack Park Agency operates three facilities: its headquarters in Ray Brook and the two Visitor Interpretive Centers in Paul Smiths, Franklin County, and Newcomb, Essex County. In addition to the operating funds for these facilities, the Agency's budget contains a \$50,000 appropriation for the ongoing operation of the Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board.

The following are the funds appropriated for the 2002-2003 fiscal year for the operation and staffing of facilities:

Total operating funds	\$4,237,000
Local Government Review Board	\$50,000
Staffing level for 2002	66 permanent staff

The Agency's budget further contains authorization to receive funds from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for ongoing wetland characterization projects in the Park's major river basins, and Scenic Byway Funds, both described herein. In addition, the Agency receives New York State funding for two Green Thumb staff at the Ray Brook offices.

Workload Statistics

Project Review	
Applications received	310
Permits issued	248
Jurisdictional Inquiry Office	
Written jurisdictional inquiries	950 received, 931 responded to, with an average of 12 days to respond
Telephone inquiries	7,000
Wetland delineations	271 completed in an average of 6 days after request
Enforcement cases	268 reported, 293 resolved
Wetland Delineations	296
<i>Visitor Interpretive Centers</i>	
	<i>No. of Visitors</i>
Paul Smiths	61,139
Newcomb	22,231
School groups (Paul Smiths)	21,888
School groups (Newcomb)	6,239
Outreach (Paul Smiths)	3,229

changing faces



Pictured, left to right: (first row) first image—John S. Banta; second image—Mark Sengenberger; third image—James E. Connolly; fourth image—Leigh Walrath; (second row) first image—Holly Kneeshaw;

second image—Dr. Ross S. Whaley with Dick Lefebvre; third image—Milt Adams, fourth image—Shaun LaLonde; (third row) first image—Ann LaRose; second image—Ariel Diggory.

John S. Banta was named Counsel for the Agency on February 14, 2002. John is the long-serving Director of Planning and spearheaded many significant initiatives including local planning in the Lake George Basin, the promotion of the use of computer technology in all Agency functions, and State land planning and classification. John is a 1972 graduate of Harvard Law School and has been with the Agency since 1979. Prior to joining the Agency, he was an associate attorney at Ross, Hardies, O’Keefe, Babcock and Parsons law firm in Chicago, and also worked for five years at the Conservation Foundation in Washington, D.C.

Mark Sengenberger was promoted to Deputy Director of Regulatory Programs in September 2002. He had previously held

the Assistant Director of the Division position since joining the Agency in 1999. Mr. Sengenberger is a New York State registered landscape architect. He began State service in 1974, working 10 years with the New York State Office of General Services. In 1983 Mr. Sengenberger joined the NYS Department of Transportation, working in the Landscape Architecture Bureau and the Environmental Analysis Bureau as head of the Water and Ecology Section. His work led to the development of statewide policies on water and ecology issues, and he was instrumental in helping to develop DOT’s Environmental Procedures Manual. Mr. Sengenberger received a bachelor’s degree in environmental studies from the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry in 1973, and a bachelor’s degree in landscape architecture from SUNY ESF

in 1974. Mr. Sengenberger recently received accolades for his more than 25 years of New York State service.

James E. Connolly is the new Director of Planning at the Agency. Mr. Connolly comes to the Agency from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) where he started in 1980. He joined Region 5 DEC (Ray Brook) in 1983 and began working there as a Citizen Participation Specialist, and in 1990 became the Lake Champlain Coordinator, serving as primary staff liaison with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Vermont DEC, and the Quebec Ministry of the Environment on the implementation of the Lake Champlain Management Plan. Mr. Connolly holds a bachelor's degree from Fordham University, a degree in environmental studies from Antioch College's graduate program, and a master's degree in public administration from Russell Sage College.

Richard Weber joined the Agency as the new Adirondack Park Regional Planning Supervisor. He comes to the Agency with an extensive background in environmental planning, site design, visual impact assessment, and geographical information systems (GIS). Mr. Weber graduated from SUNY ESF in Syracuse and attended the University of Michigan's School of Natural Resources. Rick comes to the Agency from the LA Group where he was an associate and worked for over 13 years in a variety of positions, the most recent of which was the Director of Geographic Information Systems. He has worked on important Adirondack projects like the Noblewood Estate and Town Park in Willsboro, the Silver Lake Trail System for The Nature Conservancy, North Country Community College, Town of Chester Land Use Mapping Amendments and Saranac Lake schools to name a few. From 1983 to 1988, Rick worked as a National Park Planning Advisor to the Republic of Panama where, among other responsibilities, he prepared a management plan for the Darien National Park and Biosphere Reserve, the largest such reserve in Central America. Rick is excited to be working for the Agency.

Holly Kneeshaw is the new Assistant Director of Regulatory Programs for the Agency. Ms. Kneeshaw has worked in the field of regulatory permitting and environmental analysis for over 18 years, is a certified professional geologist, and has specialized in the field of hydrogeology. Holly comes to the Agency from the Saratoga Springs-based company, the LA Group, where she was an associate, a project manager, and hydrogeologist. Over the years, Ms. Kneeshaw has prepared several environmental impact statements and unit management plans including the Olympic Sports Complex master plan in Lake Placid; Gore Mountain master plan and implementation in North Creek; Sagamore Hotel and Resort

rehabilitation in Bolton Landing; and the Lake Placid Resort. Holly attended SUNY Geneseo where she obtained her bachelor's degree in geology, and Kansas State University where she worked as a research assistant in the area of oil field technology. Holly is from Bolton Landing originally, and is a fourth generation Adirondacker.

Dr. Ross S. Whaley is heading the Adirondack Park Educational Outreach Initiative, a collaborative project involving SUNY ESF and the Adirondack Park Agency. This outreach initiative has been developed around three different, but overlapping, organizational themes - collaborative relationships, projects and institutional design, and implementation. This multi-faceted project is aimed at promoting communication and partnership among all the stakeholders of the Park and includes such initiatives as promoting natural resource interpretation and showcasing the Adirondack Park's unique cultural resources. Dr. Whaley is the past president of SUNY ESF.

Milt Adams joined the staff of the Paul Smiths VIC in August as an Environmental Educator 2, creating more environmental education programming and helping restructure and reorganize the school programs to better meet the needs of the schools. He earned a bachelor's degree in resource management in 1986 from SUNY ESF. He worked at the Cumming Nature Center, the Mendon Ponds Nature Center and the Genesee County Museum. In 1995, he moved to the Adirondacks with his wife and worked as a seasonal naturalist at the Paul Smiths VIC from the summer of 1996 to 1999. We welcome Milt back to the VIC!

Shaun LaLonde is the Adirondack Park Agency's new Soil and Water Engineering Specialist. Mr. LaLonde is a licensed professional engineer (P.E.). He holds a B.A. in geology from SUNY Potsdam and a B.S. in civil engineering from Clarkson University. For the past 14 years, Mr. LaLonde has worked for the NYS DEC in the Hazardous Spills Unit. He has extensive experience with environmental compliance, including preparation of remediation plans, testimony in adversarial proceedings and assisting in the preparation of notices of violation and material for pending enforcement cases. Shaun is a native of Tupper Lake and has a wide variety of extracurricular activities, including youth hockey, hunting, fishing and camping.

Leigh Walrath joined the Agency's Jurisdictional Inquiry Office as an Environmental Program Specialist. Mr. Walrath holds an M.S. in ecology from SUNY Albany and a B.S. in resource management and economics from Empire State College. In his most recent position as an environmental analyst with the Department of Public Service in Albany, Leigh performed

State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) reviews for electric generating facility proposals. He worked in 1999 and 2000 as assistant program manager for the Adirondack Lakes Survey Corporation. Leigh has also spent time with the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission as an environmental analyst in both Essex Junction, Vermont, and Albany, New York. Leigh is thrilled to be in the Adirondacks and is an outdoor adventure enthusiast.

Ann LaRose was hired in August to help the Newcomb VIC with front desk duties and cleaning. Prior to her employment at the Agency, she was the secretary for the zoning board, planning board and youth commission for the Town of Newcomb.

Ariel Diggory was hired in January as a Seasonal Naturalist to help with Snow Patrol and other school visitation programs. A native of Saratoga Springs, she graduated from Middlebury College in Vermont with a bachelor's degree in environmental studies, concentrating in conservation biology. In the summer of 2001, she worked in the High Peaks Wilderness Area as a summit steward in the program headed by the Adirondack Nature Conservancy, Adirondack Mountain Club and NYS DEC.

PROMOTIONS

John L. Quinn was promoted to the Environmental Protection Specialist (EPS) 3 position in Regulatory Programs. In addition to handling complex projects and issues for the Agency, he will assume supervisory responsibilities for Regulatory Programs staff. John has been with the Agency since 1980.

Colleen Parker and **Thomas Saehrig** were both promoted from the EPS 1 to EPS 2 positions in Regulatory Programs. Both have been with the Agency for some time, having started in 1989 and 1991, respectively. Colleen moves from the Jurisdictional Inquiry Office, and Tom has always worked in Project Review.

Sue Parker transferred from her Cartographic Technician 2 position in the Planning Division to assume an EPS 1 position in the Agency's Enforcement Division. Sue has been with the Agency since 1984.

Mike Hannon transferred from a long-serving EPS 1 position in Enforcement to Regulatory Programs. Mike has been with the Agency since 1989.

Rynda McCray and **Mike Brennan**, both Environmental Educators 3 at the Newcomb and Paul Smiths VICs, respectively, as-

sumed Facility Manager responsibilities at their respective Centers. Both Mike and Rynda have been with the Agency since 1994.

John Barge was reclassified from his Senior Natural Resource Planner position to Mapping Technologist 2 in the Planning Division. John has been with the Agency since 1982.

LEFT THE AGENCY...

Emily Dehoff, the Newcomb VIC Seasonal Naturalist, left in December after a 15-month tour of duty to pursue her teaching certification and master's degree in the Buffalo area. She graduated from SUNY ESF and received a bachelor's degree in environmental science with a concentration in ecosystem studies. She was instrumental in school visitation programs such as Snow Patrol and Life in the Woods, and created the Butterfly Bonanza event in August 2002.

Mary Hall, the Newcomb VIC Coordinator of Volunteer Services, left in July and remains active as a volunteer. She is an elementary school teacher for the Long Lake Central School.

RETIREMENTS

William J. Curran retired as the Agency's Director of Regulatory Programs. Mr. Curran graduated with a bachelor's degree in landscape architecture from Utah State University in 1971 and began working at the Agency in July 1972. Mr. Curran worked for the Agency as an Associate Planner, Associate Project Review Officer, and Director of Regulatory Programs, a position he held since 1986. He has made significant contributions to the implementation and interpretation of the Adirondack Park Land Use and Development Plan and worked on many major projects. Bill will long be remembered for his sense of humor, his gift of gab, and his love of cooking, garlic, and seafood.

Gary J. Duprey retired as an Environmental Program Specialist 2 from the Agency. Mr. Duprey is a Saranac Lake native and has served the Agency since 1972. He graduated from Paul Smith's College in 1966. In addition to handling numerous projects through the years, Gary specialized in projects related to the NYS Department of Transportation, including overseeing the rehabilitation of many of the major highways in the Adirondack Park. Gary also helped organize the annual Black Fly Golf Tournament and led the Adirondack Park Agency to victory in 2002.

Richard D. Jarvis retired from the Environmental Program Specialist 3 position in Regulatory Programs. He was with the

Adirondack Park Agency since October 1974, the date he transferred to the Agency from SUNY Binghamton, where he was a natural resources planning assistant. Dick handled a host of complex projects including marinas, large-scale subdivisions, and invasive aquatic plant control programs. He is renowned for his preparation and thoroughness, and as a highly respected supervisor in Regulatory Programs.

Kathleen D. Talbot began working for the Adirondack Park Agency in December 1980. Mrs. Talbot was a Legal Secretary for the Agency for more than 20 years and retired in August 2002. Kathy will be long remembered for the life and festivity she brought to the Adirondack Park Agency family, especially the annual Children’s Holiday Party and the Halloween Buffet.

Charles W. Scrafford completed 29 years of service to the Adirondack Park Agency in April 2002. His service to the Agency exemplified high professional standards in every aspect of the Agency’s services: Legal (he wrote jurisdictional letters early in his career), Local Planning (as Director of the Agency’s Lake George regional office), Regulatory Programs (as a Senior Project Review Officer), and State Lands (as Supervisor of Regional Planning). Chuck will be remembered for the significant contributions he made in furthering the

purposes of the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan, something he was formally recognized for by the Association for the Protection of the Adirondacks. We will miss his “sunny” disposition.

David B. Fleury began working at the Adirondack Park Agency in August 1984 as a Soil and Water Engineering Specialist. Mr. Fleury retired in August 2002. As the staff engineer, Dave reviewed construction plans for the thousands of projects throughout the Adirondack Park, and freely shared his extensive experience. In addition, he contributed in a very meaningful way to many of the design standards the Agency uses today.

IN MEMORY OF FRIENDS LOST...

- Richard Lawrence**, first Agency Chairman
- Ted Ruzow**, former Agency Chairman
- Rose Johnson**, retired Secretary, Agency Planning Division
- Dick Sage**, ESF professor, Huntington Forest, Newcomb
- Jack Shea**, Olympic hero and friend
- Wayne Byrne**, “Champion” of the North Country
- Glenn Harris**, long-time Adirondack assemblyman
- Reginald Austin, Sr.**, a seasonal laborer at the Newcomb VIC



Pictured from left to right: (first row) first image—Bill Curran and Gary Duprey; second image—Kathy Talbot; third image—Chuck Scrafford; (second row) first image—Dave Fleury; second image—Barbara Rottier and Dick Jarvis; and third image—“ A Night to Remember”, Gary Duprey , Bill Curran, Dick Jarvis, Dave Fleury, and Kathy Talbot at their retirement party on August 22, 2002 in Lake Placid.

strategic plan update

The ongoing Strategic Planning effort continued in 2002 with steady progress and improvement.

The Agency's focus combines three specific management priorities:

- improving permit timeliness,
- reducing the enforcement backlog,
- improving internal and external communication.

Despite substantial changes in the staffing of the Regulatory Programs Division due to retirements in 2002, the Agency continued to improve on permit timeliness. Better coordination with other Agency divisions and units, a new management structure, continued process and procedure improvements, and education and training for the staff and public were all factors contributing to this improvement.

The enforcement backlog continued to be steadily reduced and staff are now keeping ahead of new cases coming in the door. There are many reasons for this. New enforcement regulations designed to improve the process were implemented.

Staff also continued its efforts to find ways to improve current process and procedures, and to find ways to better handle matters administratively.

Improving internal and external communications is key to improving the overall operation of the Agency, and a number of initiatives were launched or continued to accomplish this. Numerous mechanisms have been established to share information more efficiently among staff and between the Agency and the public we serve. For example, we continue to provide consumer surveys with every Agency transaction. In 2002, the Agency was awarded a Workforce Training Initiative Grant through the Governor's Office of Employee Relations. It provided the resources necessary to identify and prioritize internal and external communication needs and training to improve the way Agency staff work is coordinated.

Finally, the Agency continued work on the development of a system of performance measurement. This system is keyed to the management priorities and is designed to determine if the Agency is succeeding in its initiatives or if changes need to be made.

agency awards

| AND RECOGNITION |



Pictured from left to right: top row: image one—Governor Pataki with 2002 Winter Olympic medalists Jimmy Shea and Andrea Kilbourne at a post-Olympic celebration in Lake Placid; second image—Clarence Petty at Agency retreat October 2002; third image: Eric Holmland, President George Miller, Dick Lefebvre, Jim Allen, John Mills, Hans Michielen and Kathy Fuller gather to salute Paul Smiths College's contributions to the Agency; fourth image—the Agency recognized Camp Gabriels staff for their many contributions to the Agency. Pictured are Officer Pete Martin,

Superintendent Justin Taylor, Officer Jeff Trudeau, and the head of the Agency's Ray Brook maintenance staff, Pat Farrell; bottom row: first image—Kathy Talbot at the Agency's annual Halloween luncheon; second image—Gary Duprey presents Chairman Dick Lefebvre with the 2002 Black Fly Golf Tournament Championship Trophy won by the Adirondack Park Agency; third image—Adirondack Park Invasive Aquatic Plant Program volunteers are recognized for their hard work by the Adirondack Park Agency.

Along with a lot of hard work also comes the celebration of success. In 2002, there was certainly much to celebrate and many memorable moments...

The Agency recognized **Clarence Petty**, a true Adirondacker in every sense. Clarence's life of adventure and accomplishment, and his underlying love of and devotion to the Adirondack Park, is certainly an inspiration to us all.

President **George W. Bush** visited the Adirondacks on Earth Day, 2002. He was greeted by hundreds of Adirondackers who waited in the April snowstorm to see him and hear his re-

marks. The President participated in several conservation events and gave an address on his environmental policies at Whiteface Mountain Ski Center in Wilmington.

Earlier in the year, **Governor George Pataki** and other local dignitaries welcomed back with great fanfare in Lake Placid the area's 2002 Adirondack Winter Olympians - **Jimmy Shea** of Lake Placid, and **Andrea Kilbourne** of Saranac Lake. Jimmy's Olympic Gold medal in skeleton, and Andrea's Olympic Silver medal in ice hockey brought Olympic pride to the Adirondack Park.

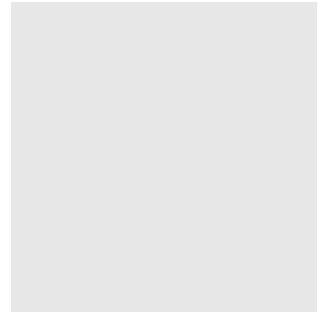
| OTHER AWARDS PRESENTED IN 2002 |

Earth Day Awards

North Country Public Radio
Lake George Association's Floating Classroom
Paul Smith's College
Dr. Nina Schoch
Tom Kalinowski, Saranac Lake High School
Adirondack Discovery

Partnership Awards

AuSable River Association
Adirondack Park Institute
Paul Smith's College
Invasive Aquatic Plant Program Volunteers
CAP-21, Old Forge
AmeriCorps
Department of Corrections, Camp Gabriels
Jeff Trudeau, Camp Gabriels
Adirondack Nature Conservancy



Pictured from left to right: first image—Mark Sengenberger with Katie Roberts; second image—James Hotaling (center) with Frank Mezzano and Jim Townsend; third image—Bettijane Forrester with Cecil Wray and Dick Lefebvre.

Staff Service Awards-25 Years of State Service

The Agency also saluted three of its staff with 25 years (or more) of New York State service: **Mark Sengenberger**, Deputy Director, Regulatory Programs (1974-present); **James Hotaling**, Chief, Local Government Services (1977-2003); and **Bettijane Forrester**, Secretary, Administration (1963-1975, 1985-present).

The Agency acknowledges and expresses its appreciation for the contributions of Eleanor F. Brown and the graphic design work of In the Woods Design Studio in the preparation of this report.

As always, the Agency's secretaries were recognized and saluted on Administrative Professionals Day for their exceptionally high standards of professionalism and steady hard work.

staff roster

Administration

Daniel T. Fitts, *Executive Director*
Deborah Lester, *Secretary to Executive Director*
Stephen M. Erman, *Special Assistant-Economic Affairs*
Victoria Hristovski, *Director of Public Information*
Judith A. Smith, *Head Clerk*
Robert Kreider, *Senior Computer Program Analyst*
Patrick Farrell, *General Mechanic*
Susan A. Carey, *Calculations Clerk 2*
Lauretta H. Bullis, *Keyboard Specialist 1*
Bettijane Forrester, *Keyboard Specialist 1*
Howard Baker, *Green Thumb*
Cheri Phillips, *Green Thumb*

Legal

John S. Banta, *Counsel*
Barbara A. Rottier, *Associate Counsel*
Mary L. Reardon, *Keyboard Specialist 1*
Susan Van Wormer, *Keyboard Specialist 1*
Ellen Egan George, *Senior Attorney*
Mitchell Goroski, *Senior Attorney*
Richard R. Terry, *Senior Attorney*
Paul Van Cott, *Senior Attorney*
Brian M. Ford, *Environmental Program Specialist 1*
Rita G. Quinn, *Environmental Program Specialist 1*
Leigh R. Walrath, *Environmental Program Specialist 1*
Susan H. Parker, *Environmental Program Specialist 1*
Donald D. Smith, *Environmental Program Specialist 1*
Edward S. Snizek, *Environmental Program Specialist 1*
Emily M. Tyner, *Environmental Program Specialist 1*

Planning

James E. Connolly, *Deputy Director of Planning*
Edward J. Hood, *Assistant Director of Planning*
James W. Hotaling, *Chief, Local Government Services*
Patricia A. Kimpton, *Secretary 1*
Nancy M. Heath, *Principal Clerk*
Henry A. Savarie, *Senior Natural Resource Planner*
Richard E. Weber III, *Supervisor of Regional Planning*
John W. Barge, *Senior Natural Resource Planner*
Walter W. Linck, *Project Coordinator(State land)*

Resource Analysis & Scientific Services

Raymond P. Curran, *Supervisor, Natural Resource Analysis*
Shaun LaLonde, *Soil & Water Engineering Specialist*
Brian F. Grisi, *Associate Project Analyst, Forest Resources*
Daniel M. Spada, *Associate Project Analyst, Biological Resources*
Sean Connin, *Associate Project Analyst, Freshwater Resources*
Mark Rooks, *Biologist 2 Trainee (Ecology)*
Sunita S. Halasz, *Environmental Program Specialist 1*

Regulatory Programs

Mark Sengenberger, *Deputy Director of Regulatory Programs*
Holly E. Kneeshaw, *Assistant Director of Regulatory Programs*
Theresa LeBaron, *Secretary 1*
Tracy Frechette, *Keyboard Specialist 1*
John L. Quinn, *Environmental Program Specialist 3*
George V. Outcalt, *Environmental Program Specialist 2*
Colleen C. Parker, *Environmental Program Specialist 2*
Thomas E. Saehrig, *Environmental Program Specialist 2*
Michael P. Hannon, *Environmental Program Specialist 1*
Suzanne B. McSherry, *Environmental Program Specialist 1*
Virginia Yamrick, *Environmental Program Specialist 1*
Jennifer Carlo, *Special Assistant*

Interpretive Programs

Paul Smiths Visitor Center

vacant, *Director of Interpretive Programs*
Michael Brennan, *Environmental Educator 3 (Facility Manager)*
Milton B. Adams, *Environmental Educator 2*
Joanne B. McDowell, *Administrative Aide*
Cara McCann, *Artist Designer 3*
Andy Flynn, *Senior Public Information Specialist*
Brian McCallister, *Coordinator of Volunteer Services*
Clarence G. Hare, *Maintenance Supervisor 1*
Robbie Cox, *Laborer*
Penny Dufrane, *Maintenance*
Ariel Diggory, *Naturalist*
Larry Duprey, *Maintenance*

Newcomb Visitor Center

Rynda McCray, *Environmental Educator 3 (Facility Manager)*
Ellen Rathbone, *Environmental Educator 1*
Michael Tracy, *Maintenance Assistant*
Kathleen Jennings, *Keyboard Specialist 1*
Ann LaRose, *Coordinator of Volunteer Services*



Agency staff in Ray Brook, from the left, left of sign: Bob Kreider, Cheri Phillips, Mark Rooks, Laurie Bullis, Sue Parker, Mark Sengenberger, Holly Kneeshaw, Tom Saehrig, Virginia Yamrick, Emily Tyner, Rick Weber, Sue VanWormer, Walt Linck, Brian Ford, Tracy Frechette, Henry Savarie, Jim Frenette, and Sunita Halasz. From left, right of sign: Jennifer Carlo, Ray Curran, Colleen Parker, Rich Terry, Steve Erman, Dan Spada, Dan Fitts, Judy Smith, Sue Carey, Howard Baker, Theresa LeBaron, John Banta, Hillary Oles, Ed Hood, Shaun LaLonde, Mike Hannon, Suzanne McSherry, John Quinn, and Debbie Lester.



George E. Pataki, *Governor*
James C. Frenette, *Interim Chairman*
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