Adirondack Park Institute, Inc.
Teaching Generations to Care

Fall 2014 Member News

2014 API Leadership Awards Gala

The Adirondack Park Institute (API) held the 3rd Annual Leadership Gala on August 8th at the Adirondack Interpretive Center in Newcomb. The Honorary Co-Chairs for the Gala were State Senator Betty Little and Newcomb Supervisor George Canon. The 2014 Frank M. Hutchins Adirondack Environmental Education Leadership Award recognizing excellence in environmental education was presented to the Adirondack Chapter of the Nature Conservancy. The Conservancy was recognized for its management of the former Finch Paper lands in the Central Adirondacks which has provided for working forests and engaged communities collaboratively in decisions about public access, recreation, and economic opportunity. API President, Mike German said, “This collaborative approach to stewardship has shown leadership and promoted environmental educational opportunities to people of all abilities which embodies the spirit of the Hutchins Award.” Accepting the Award for the Conservancy was its first Executive Director and long time staff member, Tim Barnett. Many thanks to the Morehouse Family Band for fine music at the Gala and to Board Member Frank Pine for an exhibit of his photography.

Educational Enrichment Small Grants Program Announced

At the 2014 Gala, President Mike German announced the launch of the API’s Educational Enrichment Program revolving mini-grant program to support environmental education projects in Adirondack schools, youth groups and community organizations. The goal of the program is to increase opportunities for experiential “hands-on” natural history and conservation literacy as the foundation for stewardship of the Adirondack Park’s natural and community resources. Projects may range from support for costs of a field trip to the Adirondack Interpretive Center, bringing an educator to a school or community program, or for creative on-site programming that exposes participants to hands-on natural history experiences. Grants from $200 to $1,000 will be available annually, with larger amounts considered when a compelling case is made for additional funding. More information on the program will be available in 2015.

Pictured above, API President, Mike German (left), presents the 2014 Frank M. Hutchins Adirondack Environmental Education Leadership Award to Tim Barnett (center) of the Adirondack Chapter of the Nature Conservancy. Looking on (far right) is Gala Co-Chair, State Senator Betty Little. Top left, fall colors on Rich Lake. Bottom left, 2014 API Gala at the AIC in Newcomb. (Photos by Frank Morehouse)
2014 Program Support

Through the fall of 2014, the API has been pleased to release over $12,700 in funding for educational programs at the Adirondack Interpretive Center. It provided funding for a summer naturalist who designed and presented a number of family and children friendly programs and worked on trail enhancement programs. The API also continued to provide funding for the ongoing guide boat interpretation program offered on Rich Lake which features programs on the rich history of the Adirondacks.

About the API

The Adirondack Park Institute, Inc., (API) is a not-for-profit organization formed in 1989 for the purpose of funding environmental education and interpretive programs in the Adirondacks. The API receives its funding through annual memberships, individual donations, and grants. The API funds programs at the Adirondack Interpretive Center in Newcomb and other environmental education programs in the Adirondacks. For the past 25-years, the API has raised and spent well over one-million dollars in support of children and family friendly programs. We believe we have made a difference in the lives we have touched as generation after generation return to experience the wonders of the natural world. More information about the API can be found at adkinstitute.org. Please donate or become a member today. Remember, your gift is tax deductible!