



山川會訊

Chinese Mountain Club
Of New York

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CMCNY Newsletter / Outing Schedule 11/01/2002 — 03/31/2003
Visit us online at: <http://www.cmcny.org>



Nature vs Nurture by Wade Zhang

The 2002 annual 26-mile hike was put on May 12, the Mother's Day Sunday due to a scheduling conflict. Since last year's leaders were not available, I was made the leader for the trip. It is incredible that I went from an inexperienced, poorly trained and ill-equipped novice in 2001 to the trip leader of "the most challenging hike of CMC", all in one year.

In spite of the poor weather forecast and knowing the hassle involved with rescheduling, I was determined to at least attempt the hike. Chi Chan and I were the first to arrive at the Tuxedo Park police station at 5:50 AM. Since I did not receive any positive confirmation from anybody, after my usual long distance hiking partners: Joseph Luk, Mr. Chen, and George Li showed up, we promptly started our annual 26-mile hike at 6:15am, my second.

Fully aware of my teammates' commitment and training they had leading into this hike, I never

doubted their ability to complete the hike. Unlike last year, this would have been a quite uneventful hike, if not for the drizzle, rain, and thunderstorm that accompanied us for the entire afternoon. We did have a few mishaps that I will save for the end of this article. First let me regress:

On May 13, 2001, along with other 8 CMC members, I attempted my first official 26-mile hike and most importantly finished it. Although I was a newcomer to the CMCNY, thanks to the articles written by Chi and Michael Tam about their experience with the hike, and Chi's article of our Hawaii trip, I was put on the CMC radar screen and became known as a "tough hiker". On several occasions, some members approached me and inquired about my background and posed me the question: is it "**nature or nurture**"? I would like you to decide for yourself after you finished reading about how I progressed into a long distance hiker.

I first started hiking with CMC in 2000 after a friend asked me to hike with her. I did a few 8 to 10 mile hikes and I was bored. There was nothing really interesting to see at Harriman State Park and the hike was too slow and easy for me. I would certainly have given up hiking if not for someone I met at trail that told me about the long hike.

The short hike is just too unchallenging for me because I used to play in mountains since I was little. I came from a place that is surrounded by mountains. It is called Zhousan archipelago (perhaps the best known island in the archipelago is Putuoshan, one of the four famous Buddhism mountains that is the home of Guanyin Bodhisattva), in Zhejiang Province. While the mountains are not very big or tall, they are very close and big enough that we would always go and play. When I was older, I even went there to gather firewood.

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**Come to celebrate the
CMC Annual Meeting
Saturday, 12/07/2002**
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CMCNY 2002-2003 FALL/WINTER OUTING SCHEDULE

November 2002

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

					1	2
<u>3</u>	4	5	6	7	8	<u>9</u>
<u>10</u>	11	12	13	14	15	<u>16</u>
<u>17</u>	18	19	20	21	22	<u>23</u>
<u>24</u>	25	26	27	28	29	<u>30</u>



Happy Thanksgiving

December 2002

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

					1	2
<u>3</u>	4	5	6	7	8	<u>9</u>
<u>10</u>	11	12	13	14	15	<u>16</u>
<u>17</u>	18	19	20	21	22	<u>23</u>
<u>24</u>	25	26	27	28	29	<u>30</u>

Merry Christmas



Sunday, 11/3/2002 / 3.5 Miles Day Hike / Level A

High Point Get-Together at Norvin Green State Forest, N.J.

Start from Weis Ecology Center parking lot, then hike to High Point. Meet friends from the Chinese Hike and Camp Club and have lunch together at the top of the mountain.

Meeting Time / Place: 8:30 AM at 39th Street & Broadway, Manhattan

Leaders: Ray Lin



Saturday-Sunday, 11/9-10/2002 / Leaders Workshop / Level C

Minnewaska, New York



During these two days, we will discuss leader's functions such as trip planning and management, first aid, outdoor gear, diseases and emergencies. Detail information will be posted on the CMCNY website. Priority will be given to leaders.

Meeting Time/Place: Please contact leaders.

Leaders: Shui-Kei Ng / Chi Chan



Saturday, 11/16/2002 / 8 Miles Day Hike / Level C

Bear Mountain State Park

Hike up to Perkins Tower at Bear Mountain. Enjoy the beautiful 360 degree Fall scenery of the region.

Meeting Time / Place: 8:30 AM at 39th Street & Broadway, Manhattan

Leaders: Fai Cheng / Bounla Sayarath



Saturday, 11/23/2002 / 8 Miles Day Hike / Level D

Silvermine Lake, Harriman State Park

Start from the Silvermine Lake Picnic Area and approach the William Brien Memorial Shelter. Then hike on the Appalachian Trail and come back on the Long Path trail. This will be a very strenuous terrain and will also hike on unmarked trail. **DO NOT PASS THE LEADER!**

Meeting Time / Place: 8:30 AM at 39th Street & Broadway, Manhattan

Leaders: Shui-Kei Ng / Ben Lee



Saturday, 11/30/2002 / 7 Miles Day Hike / Level C

Parker Cabin Mtn., Harriman State Park

This trip starts from Route 106 parking area going uphill along the red Ramapo Dunderberg trail. The whole trip covers Tom Jones, Parker Cabin and Carr Pond Mountains.

Meeting Time / Place: 8:30 AM at 39th Street & Broadway, Manhattan

Leaders: Su Rwei / Leo Ngan

CMCNY 2002-2003 FALL/WINTER OUTING SCHEDULE



Saturday, 12/7/2002 / CMC Annual Meeting 2002

Confucius Plaza, Chinatown

Meet with members and friends, and share your outdoor experiences.

Activities include: Board Member Re-election, Games, Slide Show, Year Highlight Posters, Buffet.

For more information or to contribute your ideas to make this annual event more interesting, please contact the coordinators.

Meeting Time/Place: 3:00 PM for leaders / 4:00 PM for all members at the activity room of Confucius Plaza, Chinatown

Coordinators: Joe Jwo / Nancy Liang



Saturday, 12/14/2002 / 8 Miles Day Hike / Level D

East Hudson, NY

Hike on Camp Smith trail on the east side of Hudson, visit Anthony's Nose and enjoy the view points.

Meeting Time / Place: 8:30 AM at 39th Street & Broadway, Manhattan

Leaders: Alex Wei / Marjorie Leung



Sunday, 12/15/2002 / 10 Miles Day Hike / Level D

Pine Swamp Mountain - Surebridge Mountain., Harriman State Park

Don't gain weight during the winter. Join the monthly training session and prepare yourself for the upcoming annual CMC classical 26 miles day hike. Start from Lake Askoti and expect a long and fast paced hike.

Meeting Time / Place: 8:30 AM at 39th Street & Broadway, Manhattan

Leaders: Chi Chan

(Continued from page 1)

Nature vs Nurture

I must have been up and down the mountains thousands of times while I was growing up in China, never in my wildest dream would I image that one day I would get up at 4:am and climb up and down the mountains for 12 straight hours. Life is so ironic. I left my village for America so I would never have to work in the mountains for the firewood. And now I would get up so early to hike in mountains for exercise to stay in shape. Go figure.

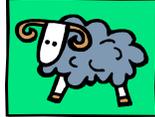
Growing up in the 70's when China was still shut off from the outside world and left in the mid 80's just before Chinese economy took off, I basically grew up at a time when China was very poor and undeveloped. Many families in rural country were still struggling to make the ends meet. And contrary to the westerners' view of China with a billion people on bicycles, most families in the villages did not own a bicycle until mid 80's. And the public transportation was far and between and very unreliable in the rural area, not to mention that it was relatively expensive at that time. It was also very difficult to get on even if you were willing to pay. So relying on ones' feet was common and practical means of getting around. But most I ever had to walk to go somewhere at any given day was probably 3 hours.

So walking and mountain climbing were just part of my childhood. I must admit that even at very tender age, I

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January 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



February 1, 2003
Saturday

Happy Chinese New Year
The Year of the Sheep

February 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	



Saturday, 1/11/2003 / 10 miles Day Hike / Level D Harriman State Park

This trip will start from Johnstown Circle and back on the yellow trail to the parking lot.

Meeting Time / Place: 8:30 AM at 39th Street & Broadway, Manhattan
Leaders: Wade Zhang / Marjorie Leung



Saturday, 1/18/2003 / 5-6 Miles Day Hike / Level A Bear Mountain Area

Hike on the Bear Mountain area for a short distance; however, winter outdoor gear (i.e. waterproof hiking boots, gaiters) are required.

Meeting Time / Place: 8:30 AM at 39th Street & Broadway, Manhattan
Leaders: Henry Jiang / Sharon Kam-Jiang



Saturday, 2/8/2003 / Cross Country Skiing Fahnestock State Park, Cold Spring, New York

Suitable for both beginner and experienced skiers. Ski equipment rental is available in the area.

Meeting Place: 9:30 AM at Fahnestock State Park (contact leaders for detail)
Leaders: Charlie Ong / Nancy Liang



Saturday, 2/15/2003 / 8 miles Day Hike / Level C Harriman State Park

Start hiking from the Tiorati Circle, cross the Fingerboard to Time Square, back on Sure-bridge Mountain and Lemon Squeezer on Long Path trail.

Meeting Time / Place: 8:30 AM at 39th Street & Broadway, Manhattan
Leaders: Cathy Huang / Marjorie Leung



Saturday, 2/22/2003 / 8 Miles Day Hike / Level C Doodletown Path Bridge, Bear Mountain State Park

It is the monthly training trip for the upcoming annual CMC classical 26 miles day hike. Start from Route 9 near Bear Mtn Inn. Hike begins with a short but steep climb along a river. Visit the remains of a mine. Lunch at the tip where a panoramic view is outstanding.

Meeting Time / Place: 8:30 AM at 39th Street & Broadway, Manhattan
Leaders: Shui Kei Ng

March 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Outing the four seasons with CMCNY



Sunday, 3/9/2003 / 15 Miles Day Hike / Level E

Blauvelt Mtn-Pound Mtn, Harriman State Park

It is the monthly training trip for the upcoming annual CMC classical 26 miles day hike.

Various terrain and expect a long and fast paced hike.

Meeting Time / Place: 8:30 AM at 39th Street & Broadway, Manhattan

Leaders: Wade Zhang



Saturday, 3/15/2003 / 5 Miles Day Hike / Level A

Hooks Mountain, New York

Located in the Rockland County. Start walking through Long Path and enjoy the Hudson River view.

Meeting Time / Place: 8:30 AM at 39th Street & Broadway, Manhattan

Leaders: Maria Jen / Terry Lou



Saturday, 3/22/2003 / 10 miles day hike / Level D

Cranberry Hill / Silvermine Lake, New York

A very popular CMCNY hiking trail. Hike sections of the Long Path, Appalachian & 1779 trails. Visit Lake Nawahunta, Silvermine and Turkey Hill. Gentle trails with diversity of terrain conditions, and few hills. Starting from Turkey Hill parking lot, off of Route 6.

Meeting Time / Place: 8:00 am at 39th Street & Broadway, Manhattan

Leaders: Yet Chang / Marjorie Leung



CMCNY HIKING RATING SYSTEM

"A" very easy, flat, 3-5 miles	"B" easy, some hills, 4-7 miles
"C" moderate, some steep hills, 5-8 miles	"D" challenging, steeper hills, 8-10 miles
"E" tough, strenuous hills, 9-15 miles	"F" very tough, 15 miles plus

Nature vs Nurture *(Continued from page 3)*

could out walk even many of the adults. I guess I am blessed with the ability to hike for both the distance and the speed.

Like earlier alluded to I would have stopped hiking if I had not been made aware of the existence of the long hike. Once I knew about it, I was very excited and intrigued. Though I knew all along that I could hike long distance, I had no idea how far I could go. I was never pushed and tested. But I knew better not to try a long one without first testing out on an intermediate distance. Since my occupation pretty much limited how much activity I could do during the busy tax season, I did not try any of the long hikes scheduled for the winter of 2001. After a winter of hibernation, I first tried an 8-mile hike in March 2001 for conditioning. We saw Mr. Chen, in shorts, when we got to the parking lots at Route 106. He had already finished about 4 miles on a snow-covered trail. Little did I know that I would later on trek on that same trail so many times with him. That was the first time I met Mr. Chen. I was very impressed.



As soon as the 2001 tax season was over, I tried a 14-mile hike, my longest up to that point. I was extended a bit, but manageable. My third hike was the 22-mile. When I showed up at the trailhead, two female members, Chi and Marj started questioning me whether I had done any long distance and that if I was capable of such long distance. I did not like people questioning my ability. I was very annoyed. How would I know if I never tried? Regrettably, I was unable to finish the hike due to insufficient water I was carrying. The unseasonable temperature, high humidity, and the inexperience did me in.

I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation for the concern Joseph showed for me during that trip. I was hiking without a map in an unfamiliar territory after I split with the group. I was just waiting for them to catch up at an intersection unknowing that I might have got lost in a big mountain when Joe, Chi and John finally caught up. He not only shared his precious water with us, but also stayed with me all the way back to the parking lot. Joe showed the same concern on this year's hike again. Thanks, pal.

Although that 22-mile was an unsuccessful journey for me, at least I knew that I could hike with the big boys. I just needed to be better prepared and trained. Gaining the confidence of the long distance hikers, I was invited by

George and Mr. Chen for a warm up 26-mile trial run the week before the official one. So basically, I ended up doing two 26 mile hikes in a span of 8 days, not bad with the limited training. Just like Michael and Chi described in their articles, I too experienced some pain both on the second hike. Looking back, two 26 mile hikes in two consecutive weeks was just too much without adequate training.

Pain or not, at least I did it. From being questioned about my ability, to finishing 26 miles twice, I have proven myself. Chi and Marj never doubted my hiking ability again.

I must have been a dark horse that surprised many people. Hence the curiosity about me.

In case some people got the wrong impression that I was a born hiker, I want to say that since last year's 26 mile hike, I have been doing a lot of long distance hike with Mr. Chen, George and Joe. I also jog on a regular basis the last few years. Even Chi has been doing a lot of intermediate hikes with us since we got back from Hawaii. She had definitely gained speed as well. To me, "nature or nurture" is as irrelevant as "chicken or egg". Anyone who had done 26 mile hike would concur with me that proper training and conditioning is key to the long distance hikes. When I first started out hiking with Mr. Chen, I used to have to run just to keep up. Now I normally set the pace for them. I sure have come a long way.

As for this year's hike, Chi is the only one that experienced some pain toward the end. But the constant rain definitely makes this hike more interesting. Oh, we all missed the trail a few times. The climb down the cliff in the rain when the rock became so slippery was quite an amazing experience. To top all, Chi, Joe and I managed to get ourselves lost in the mountain in the rain around Orak Ruin just before we reached the fire tower. Wasn't that fun?

As for George, he started out in such a quick pace. Initially I thought he would be the laggard of the group and he would sweep. He caught us all by surprise. He must be possessed. After Mr. Chen and I stopped to put on our rain gear in the early morning, they were gone. We did catch up with Chi shortly after. We finally caught up with George on the Red Cross trail just past the Lake Tiorati, after we shaved off about one half mile because we missed the Long Path turn just past the Time Square. He was going so fast that not even Joe could keep up with him. Since Joe too missed the Long Path turn, he ended up far behind all of us. We did manage to catch up with George

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Nature vs Nurture

(Continued from page 6)

again near Pingyp Mountain after he took a short lunch break around noontime. He lost us again when we took our break. At that point, I knew I needed to stay with Chi and I gave up pursuing him. Mr. Chen did try though, to no avail.

When Chi and I finally arrived back at Tuxedo Park police station just past 6:00 pm, we expected they all would be gone. (Joe hiked the second half with Chi and I after he finally caught up with us around Irish Mountain and left us just before reaching the parking lot.). Instead, we saw Mr. Chen waiting in his car. Since 5:20 pm. He was so concerned and surprised that George had not yet shown up, he and I were about to drive back to the cliff near Route 106 to look for George. I was just about to start my car when George finally showed up at the parking lot around 6:45 pm. We were so worried that he might have fallen off the slippery cliff in the rain.

I suppose George has not read the fable story about the race between "hare and tortoise". Though he did not want to admit it, from his sheepish look, we all knew that he must have taken a detour like the fabled hare. The two tortoises, Chi and I got the last laugh.

Although we were soaked wet since noon, the rain certainly did not dampen our spirits. It was a long and gruesome day, but it was also great fun. To me, instead of describing it as the "most challenging hike of the year", I would call it "**the most rewarding hike of the year.**" What's a challenge so long as one trains for it? Besides, what other hike would allow you to accumulate 26 miles in one day?

Two down, many more yet to come. See you guys next May!!!



Chinese Group Hikes, Eats and Falls in Love

By Marc Ferris

Marc Ferris is a freelance writer.



September 25, 2002

Members of the Chinese Mountain Club get around.

Almost every weekend, a bunch of them hike the mountains north of the city.

On occasion, they will trek to faraway mountains in Maine, Colorado, Alaska and Hawaii.

"When we're on the trail, we'll take a break and make hotpot, a traditional Chinese meal, where we boil water in a big pot, dump in a lot of raw seafood and vegetables - whatever everyone brings - and make a stew," said Elizabeth OuYang, who joined the club in 1995.

Started in 1985 by four friends who shared a passion for the great outdoors, the almost one-of-a-kind club has swelled to 200 members. (The German-American Hiking Club of New York & New Jersey, founded in 1958 and also known as the Deutscher Wanderverein,

is the only other local hiking club of this ilk, organized along ethnic lines.)

The mountain club also sponsors bicycle trips, camping and rock climbing, and shares its appreciation for hiking with city children. It has, for example, led field trips to Harriman State Park and the Appalachian Trail for children at the Asian American Youth Center in crowded Chinatown.

"We could take them to a video-game arcade or to Great Adventure, but it's good for them to go outside and experience nature," said Kelly Ko, the center's events coordinator, who has hiked with the club. "The kids must have had fun and told their families."

The club also boasts some love connections. Two of OuYang's friends met on the trail and got married on a mountaintop, she said.

Born in Rochester, OuYang now lives in Brooklyn, but she has no preference for treeless asphalt. When the

(Continued on page 9)

FIRE ISLAND BEACH WALK, JUNE 22

by Kady Harn



If you ask me how I remember the beach walk on the Fire Island on the last Saturday. These are few moments engraved in my mind. The chill of the night air, the colors of the sunset, the laughs of little Joshua, the cold splash of sea waves and the warm ocean breeze. All of the elements above summed up a joyful day for me.

We started out in the late afternoon, a hot, humid summer day. Due to the heavy traffic and intensive heat, I was suffering from minor car sickness. Soon as we parked into the Bay Shore Ferry parking lot, I couldn't wait to stumble out to get some fresh air. The first warm sea breeze I inhaled into my lungs was the best sedative fume I could ever have.

We had a rather big crowd that day; everyone was ready for summer fun. The hike was prepared and led by Yolanda, Josephine and Maria. We boarded the 5 pm ferry that took us to the island in about 1/2 hour. After a quick early dinner, we started our beach walk at half past 6. When we approached close to the beach, the curious two-years-old Joshua was fastening his steps down the ladders with his mother. He took my offering hand and we marched toward the sand beach. We were all excited and eager to rush to the waterfront. Oh, then I figured he was way too slow, I had to dump this little prince of charming.

The open sky and sea were magnificent! I was immersing myself totally with the surroundings; the crushing sound of the waves, the silky sand under my feet and the splash of water...than I heard the happy laughter of little Joshua. He got himself all wet by chasing the waves. His mother was guarding him from a strong wave to knock him off. The little fellow was enjoying himself with ecstasy. His crystal laughs and giggles spread out simply with joy. I couldn't help but laugh with him. That was one of the best sounds to the ears.

We were supposed to walk 5 miles round trip; however, you could enjoy the walk at your own pace. Just be back to the town center for the 10:50 pm ferry departure. Or else, spend a night on the beach counting the stars...as another option.

Anyway, I paid much attention looking for my photo shooting targets rather than excising walking. Soon after I lost trace of most people. John Hsu, with his SLR camera in hands, was searching for his picture perfect object as well. He was the only one in sight. So, we paired up the pace and looked for our own target search. It was relaxing and fun...

Suddenly, I spot somebody familiar from my eye corner, Ray was napping by the beach. Sneaking closely and trying to steal a shot for the fun...somehow he sensed my approach and blew the whole picture. So I had him sit properly and smile into my camera instead.



Before the sunset, John & I walked over to the other side of the island for a better photo view. The hue of the sinking sun was enchanting. The haze of summer heat softened the brightness of the fireball. The gradations of orange to purple were paste smoothly across the sky. By the dock, both of us were checking the best composition for the quick disappearing moment. With my point & shoot, it saved me a lot of time and granted me some time to admire the scenery.

The darkness mingled in quickly, so we headed back to town. Shortly after 10:00 pm, people started to

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Fire Island Beach Walk *(Continued from page 8)*

show up, looked tired indeed. Don't ever underestimate the strength of sand walking; it's actually tougher than regular hike. The night air was a bit chilly. Some people did not prepare for the extremes in the temperature, couldn't stop shivering from the blow of cold wind. Anyway, we were back to the parking area by 11:30 pm to call it a day.

Thanks to our leaders and friends, I enjoyed this walk very much. If my pictures come out the way I expect, I wish you all could share some of the moments with me. And hopefully, you can come and join us on the next trip....

Kady

<http://community.webshots.com/user/kady125>

Chinese Group Hikes, Eats and Falls in Love *(Continued from page 7)*

weekends roll around, she and fellow nature lovers carpool out of town and pick up a trail into the hills for a day. They usually split the nominal cost of gas and tolls. Hikes are separated by skill level, from A for beginners to F for hard-core devotees.

Inadvertently, Ko said, the organization also helps ease first-generation Chinese immigrants into mainstream Chinese-American culture, placing them in situations where they can interact easily with second-generation Chinese-Americans, along with a few Koreans and Japanese.

The clubs mix people of different ages and occupations, as well as those from widely separated and culturally distant regions of China.

"Some people speak Cantonese or Mandarin, others are from Taiwan or Hong Kong," said Joe Jwo, the group's president. "Since we have so many different local dialects, we sometimes speak English so that everyone can communicate."

The Chinese Mountain Club has considered changing its name to avoid seeming exclusionary to other Asians, said Jwo, but no one has so far agreed on an alternative.

"Someone who doesn't speak Chinese may feel left out," said OuYang, "but the intent is not to offend anybody. The intent is for us to feel comfortable being ourselves."

Last weekend nine members marked the August Moon festival by eating mooncakes under the stars in upstate New York. As some of them put it, communing with nature is the top priority. Being Chinese is a close second.

"I'm comfortable in a setting of first- and second-generation Chinese-Americans, where no one says our customs are strange," said OuYang.

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NYNJ Trail Conference Advice

Harriman State Park Car Break-ins



Please read this and pass along to any groups and individuals that may be interested, to protect our fellow hikers and help the park police apprehend these thieves. Please pass the information along verbally to those you hike with or encounter at trailheads the next few weeks.

A NJ gang, composed primarily of young Hispanic males, is breaking into cars at Harriman trailheads. Thus far they've been reported at Reeves Meadow, Sebago, and Rt. 106/210/White Bar. This same group was active last year, disappeared after some arrests were made, and now has re-surfaced just during the last few days.

Their MO is very consistent: they break in via the passenger-side door lock, and search the car primarily for credit cards. They try to leave the car looking as much as possible as it was before their entry, presumably to delay reporting of the entry and any credit card thefts.

They tend to travel in older-model cars with NJ plates, are not dressed like hikers, and probably will not behave the way legitimate park visitors do. (see account below)

Park police recommend the following:

- Do not leave any valuables in parked cars, especially credit cards. Do not leave any tempting targets visible (purses, wallets, or anything that looks like these), even if they contain nothing important.
- Hikers should be sure to check their passenger-side door locks upon returning to their cars. (Damage will be visible if a break-in occurred.) If a break-in occurred, any credit cards that were in the car should be checked for immediately.
- Be alert to any suspicious activity at trailheads. Try to note any related license plates. If possible, try to call park police (845-786-2781) about any current activity.

Here's how I found out about this:

A car with two young men, probably Hispanic by appearance, arrived at the White Bar parking this morning about the same time as my group. They sat in their car for a few minutes, then hurried up the White Bar trail southbound from the parking lot for a short distance, then left the trail to run directly up the hill. They were wearing long pants and sneakers, and carried no gear or water whatsoever. They stayed away for the next 10 minutes or so that we were at the lot.

When we returned, the driver of the other car immediately noticed that her passenger-side door was not quite shut securely, and determine that the lock had been damaged. We suspect that they set off the alarm in the neighboring car (because it signaled when disarmed that it had been activated at some point during the day) and that this made them leave in haste, as they apparently did not find an item in the car that should have interested them, and they left the door noticeably ajar, not in keeping with their usual "neatness".

The affected party later reported the incident to park police. What she heard led directly to me sending this message out.

A suggestion: please keep in mind that young Hispanic men from NJ also could come to the park to hike ... and that young white or other-race men could be part of this gang and come to the park to steal. (There **might** also be some women involved, BTW.) Close attention should be paid to behavior and dress in assessing a situation.

-Jill Hamell

CMCNY Membership Application Form

Date / : _____

1. Name / : _____ 2. Sex / : _____

3. Date of Birth / : _____

4. Address / : _____
 Street Number Apt. #

 City State Zip Code

5. Telephone / : Home / : () _____
 Office / : () _____

6. E-Mail Address: _____

7. Occupation / : _____

8. Interest / :
 Hiking () Camping () Biking ()
 Canoeing () Backpacking ()
 Other () _____

9. Volunteer :
 Trip Leader () Publishing () Bookkeeping ()
 Public Relation () Other: _____

10. Do you have a car for travel ? _____

11. Do you have the following basic outdoor gear?
 Hiking Boots Day pack Backpack
 Wind/Rain Parka Bike Sleeping Bag
 Compass Water Bottle Tent

12. Please check your membership choice:
 1 Year Individual \$12.00 Family \$ 20.00
 5 Year Individual \$50.00 Family \$ 90.00

Please make check payable to:

Chinese Mountain Club of New York
 Please submit this form along with your payment to the trip leaders or follow the mailing instructions posted on our website:
<http://www.cmcny.org>, click on "Membership" section.

CMCNY POLICY

Activity Registration

To participate activity you must contact leader in advance by either calling them or use an online registration form on CMCNY website at <http://www.cmcny.org>

Since all the trip leaders are volunteers, please be courteous to call in between 8:00pm-10:00pm unless noted otherwise. Registration for all day trips end on 10:00pm Thursday.

What to Bring or, Not to Bring?

We recommend you to bring the following items for the day hiking trip: Daypack, hiking boots, wind/rain jacket, drinking water, food (lunch), map of the area, compass, watch, sun screen, first-aid kit.

Pets might not allowed on certain trails. Dogs must be leashed all the time. Please check with leader before the trip. Absolutely no alcoholic beverages.

During the trip

Please stay on the trail all the times. Do not litter. Be conscious to protect the environment. Follow leader's pace, neither ahead nor falling too far behind. The leader should be told if you drop out, even temporarily. Courtesy to the leader and your fellow hikers.

Transportation Arrangement

CMCNY can provide carpool arrangements for the most of one day activities. Car-poolers must contact trip leader in advance to reserve the seat. Carpool fees (usually from \$8.00 to \$12.00, depends on the distance) will be paid directly to the drivers.

Where Do We Meet?

In New York City
 West 39th Street & Broadway
 Or
In Queens
 Cunningham Park at Union Turnpike
 near the intersection of Francis Lewis Boulevard

Always check with leaders before the trip to confirm the meeting place. Meeting time is departure time! NOT assembly.

Activity Fee

One-day hiking or biking activities are free to CMCNY members. Non-members please pay \$2.00 per person to leader on the day of the trip.

Legal Disclaimer

The Chinese Mountain Club of New York, Inc. and/or its trip leaders, officers, or representatives, shall not be liable for any injury, loss or damage to persons and/or property, direct or consequential, arising out of any trips and/or activities of the Club. The assumption of risk, which is inherent in this type of rugged outdoor activity, is implied on the part of each person who attends any outing trip and every person participating in any of said trips and/or activities assumes all risk and liability in connection therewith.



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