



Q4/2013

We invite those who are receiving this newsletter and who have not yet joined AdkAction.org to visit our website and to join our growing membership and add your support. Membership payment by credit card or PayPal is [quick and simple online](#). Please help us recruit new members by forwarding this newsletter, with your personal message, to urge your friends and neighbors to join us too.

AdkAction.org Membership Drive

Our 2014 membership drive is underway, with almost 300 letters sent to current and past members. Your membership helps us take positive steps to improve the beautiful area we enjoy and in which we live. Road salt reduction, universal access to high-speed broadband, control of invasive milfoil, fair property assessments, saving Monarch butterflies, promoting Adirondack artists, and creating a vision plan to enhance Adirondack villages are all projects funded by our supporters. We thank you!

Fourth Quarter Accomplishments

If your fourth quarter was as busy as ours, you might want to go back and review three very successful events we drove and/or co-hosted:

October 10: AdkAction.org sponsored a presentation by Superintendent Joe Kardash, on the Colton-Pierrepont School District's experience equipping each student in grades 3 to 12 with an internet-enabled netbook, and taking almost all their instruction to secure servers known as the Cloud. The presentation was attended by nearly 40 Tri-Lakes educational leaders, including superintendents, principals, teachers and school board members.

October 24th: AdkAction.org co-hosted a **Rural Community Broadband Roundtable** to inform Adirondack officials how to prepare for and to apply for state and federal broadband funding. The attendance

of over 50 area community leaders attests to the importance of broadband to the economic health of the region. You can watch all or part of the event on The Wild Center's YouTube site at [this link](#).

October 25: AdkAction.org helped fund and collaborated on a day-long program on how to use the internet in your classroom by noted education consultant Alan November of [November Learning](#). [This story](#) published by The Adirondack Almanac web site summarizes the event for you and gives you live links to follow to watch the entire event on The Wild Center's YouTube channel. Over 200 educators took part in this program either in person or via the web, as part of BOCES' in-service training day.

Coming Up: Early Childhood Education

AdkAction.org has been invited to join with a number of local foundations to start a study of our pre-school systems. Recent studies, some of them initiated over thirty years ago but which are just now providing meaningful statistics, show that investment in preschool education shows returns not just in grade school but later in life, including higher college graduation rates and lower rates of incarceration and teen pregnancy. Further background information will be available on our web site.

Depending on how it unfolds we may be participating in an effort to see how a combination of public and private initiatives could help our less advantaged citizens give their children a better start in life. At this stage we have nothing to report other than "stay tuned", but it seems to be the type of project AdkAction.org loves. No politics, no opponents. No losers, only winners. Stay Tuned!