

Tim Tefft  
**The Greenwich Journal and Salem Press**  
PO Box 185  
Greenwich, New York 12834

Friday, March 16, 2007

To: Grace Peak Committee  
62 Pendergast Road  
Phoenix, New York 13135

Dear Members of the Grace Peak Committee -

I wish hereby to endorse the renaming of two of the high peaks of the Dix Range in the Dix Mountain Wilderness of the Adirondack Mountains in the town of North Hudson and County of Essex.

It is appropriate and fitting that the peak of the Dix Range which has been known as East Dix, for lack of a better name, since it was so designated by Robert Marshall in his booklet, "The High Peaks of the Adirondacks" be renamed *Grace Peak* to commemorate Grace Leach Hudowalski, the pioneering woman climber of the High Peaks of the Adirondacks, a president and the longtime historian/secretary of the Adirondack Forty-Sixers, and a respected writer (both in public media and private correspondence) concerning the Adirondack High Peaks.

It is also appropriate and fitting that the peak of the Dix Range which has been known as South Dix, for lack of a better name, since it was so designated by Robert Marshall in his booklet, "The High Peaks of the Adirondacks" be renamed *Carson Peak* after Russell M. L. Carson. His 1928 volume about the High Peaks and the histories of those peaks, *Peaks and People of the Adirondacks*, was the definitive work about the mountains throughout the last three quarters of the twentieth century.

I note that Carson wrote, concerning South Dix and East Dix, that those "two subordinate peaks of the Dix range" had almost no history, in part, because "they do not have distinctive appellations" and thus "have never had much notice." Carson continued, "Yet South Dix is higher than such better known peaks as Colvin, Cascade and Seymour. If Marshall had not called them South Dix and East Dix in his booklet, in order to identify them, they would still be nameless mountains. The most interesting fact about these two mountains is that their names are not important enough to be retained and that they can be given distinctive titles, when the right occasion comes, without violation of old-established names."

I firmly believe that the "right occasion" has come: that East Dix, which in a sense overlooks Grace Hudowalski's longtime vacation home, the Boulders, on Schroon Lake near Adirondack, be renamed *Grace Peak*; and that South Dix, which, in a sense, affords a vista towards Carson's longtime Glens Falls home, be renamed *Carson Peak*. It is time that the current appellations be discarded and that the new names be applied to the peaks in honor of and in memory of two individuals who recorded much of and contributed much to the history of the Adirondacks. Precedence — the naming of other peaks (Nye, Phelps, Street, Colvin, Blake, Marshall, Emmons, Redfield — even Porter and Allen — recommends the renaming of East Dix and South Dix. They should be *Grace Peak* and *Carson Peak*.

Sincerely,



Tim Tefft  
Former President of the Adirondack Forty-Sixers  
Editor of *Of the Summits, Of the Forests* (1991)