

St. Regis Fire Tower: The best news from the St. Regis group came on July 21st when the helicopter was able to airlift the new roof parts, the hatch railing and the window frames to the summit of St. Regis Mountain. At the same time, debris from last summer's work was removed from the summit. My hat is off to all of you for the work behind the scenes leading up to this major accomplishment; scheduling, fund raising, designing, and so much more. A NYS Police helicopter (a Huey- I think) flew up from Albany with pilots Pat Hogan and Scott Oseback and Crew Chiefs Steve Jacobs and Rob Jahn. Ground crew consisted of DEC personnel Steve Guglielmi, Jeff Balerno and Kevin Burns and “Friends” Bob Marrone and Scottie Adams. Roof parts, hatch railings and window frame parts were loaded into a sling. The load was airlifted from Saranac Inn Maintenance Center to the summit of St. Regis Mountain approximately 4 miles away. Ranger Kevin Burns, in the chopper and Ranger Tom Edmunds on the summit, unloaded the parts with help from other DEC personnel and volunteers, (Greg Bowler, Sebastian Seubert, Hunter Hintenlang), and Friends of St. Regis Fire Tower (David Petrelli and Rich LaBombard). Dave Vana and his crew of Sean Connin and Jeff Couture, along with FOSRMFT members Jack Burke and Rich LaBombard, worked in beautiful weather Friday. Jack and Rich prepared the panels on the ground. Together with Dave and crew, the panels were hoisted to the cab, and CAREFULLY lifted into place. Then the process of securing the panels to the cab frame and to the other panels was executed. The roof was capped (again carefully with Dave standing outside the cab!!!) and VOILA – we have a new roof! I look forward to hearing more about this at the conference next month. More info and pictures are on the web site. You can check that out here: <http://www.friendsofstregis.org/fire-tower-restoration>.



