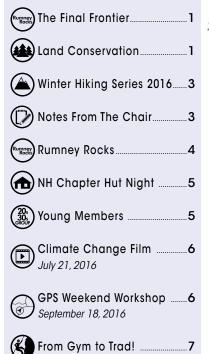
# Mountain

# Highlights...



## **OUR MISSION**

Corrections & Clarifications ..7

The Appalachian Mountain Club is the nation's oldest outdoor recreation and conservation organization, and promotes the protection, enjoyment, and understanding of the mountains, forests, waters and trails of the Appalachian region. AMC has more than 100,000 members, 16,000 volunteers, 450 full-time and seasonal staff. The New Hampshire Chapter is the second largest of the 12 Chapters within the Club.

VOLUME 42, NUMBER 4 JULY-AUGUST 2016



NEW HAMPSHIRE

## Rumney Climbers Association raising funds to expand and protect New England sport-climbing

RCA

Rumney Climber's Association (RCA) and Access Fund are pleased to announce they have secured the exclusive right to purchase Rumney's Northwest Crags for permanent conservation and climbing access. The Northwest Crags are the final set of privately owned climbing resources at the central New Hampshire sport climbing mecca. Now we need the community's help to raise \$300,000 for the purchase and stewardship of Rumney's Northwest Crags.

With the community's help, RCA is poised to acquire and permanently protect six crags—including Northwest Territories, Buffalo Pit, Northwest Passage, Prudential, Asylum, and western portion of the Black Jack Boulders-which account for approximately 12% of developed routes at Rumney, with potential for more. "The routes are less travelled and the experience is less urban than the more frequented crags at Rumney," says RCA board member Jay Knower. "Given the issues of overcrowding at popular crags, adding this area will provide climbers more options for their climbing days."

The 86-acre property extends half a mile along Buffalo Road and gains 600 feet up the forested slopes of Rattlesnake Mountain. It borders White Mountain National Forest and offers extensive views of the valley below. The beautiful, untouched nature of the property is what attracted landowners Gary and Robyn Zielinki to purchase the property 25 years ago. When they expressed interest in conserving their land, Access Fund and RCA offered their support.

In 1994, Access Fund worked with the

THE FINAL FRONTIER, TO PAGE 4



# An Introduction to Land Conservation

Conservation and Education

LINDA MOORE

What draws one into the forest? Is it the peace and quiet? The solitude? Possibly the opposite: You may enjoy hiking in groups and enjoy the social aspect. Maybe it is getting a great workout. Some may go for an amazing view. Maybe all

Those of us who love these wild spaces would

like to see them protected forever,



one way to conserve them. Land conservation is often misunderstood by folks yet it is crucial to keeping everything from open spaces to woodlots to farmland to mountainsides preserved for our wildlife, culture and future generations.

LAND CONSERVATION, TO PAGE 2



There are many reasons to conserve land: Preserving historically significant buildings or landmarks; protecting a special wildlife habitat; ensuring common uses of land, such as farming or timber harvesting, will continue; maintaining unfragmented lands for wildlife to roam without encountering human development. The motives are many and personal.

Did you know that you can conserve a small lot such as an acre? In Sugar Hill there is just such a spot, protecting an amazing view of Franconia Ridge and the Presidential Range. Did you know that there are many options? It's not a blanket contract that limits owners from doing anything on your land. Land trusts are the organizations that normally hold the conservation easement: The legal document that protects the land from being developed in perpetuity. Land trusts will work with you on the terms of the easement.

What if you would like your property kept private? Done. What if you have a large tract and allow hunting? Done. What it you don't want ATV use but will allow hikers to utilize trails? Done and done. The options are endless and you are in the driver's seat. The land is still yours to work, enjoy and



Whipple field in Sugar Hill, NH. The Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust, with the help of over 110 community members, purchased these 20 acres from one of Sugar Hill's earliest farms, maintained mainly as an open field for wildlife habitat. Photo courtesy of Linda Moore.

pass along or sell to whomever you wish. The easement stays with it. All these things, and many more, the trust will help you with.

When you place your land under a conservation easement the land trust that holds it will monitor the property annually to ensure that nothing is encroaching on the terms of the easement. They work to protect that which you chose to protect.

New Hampshire has a long history in land conservation. Our oldest land trust being the Society for the Protection of

New Hampshire Forests which began in 1901. We have over 1.8 million acres conserved! These lands are mainly protected by conservation easements and something called fee ownership. This is when a landowner sells or donates the land to a qualified conservation group. There are tax incentives for both types of conservation.

Even if you don't own land to conserve, there are many land trusts, large and small, in New Hampshire that look for volunteers to assist with stewardship. They are in every region of the state: Simply go to the New Hampshire Land Trust Coalition's website and find one near you: NHLTC.org/find-land-

## **MOUNTAIN PASSAGES**

Volume 42, No. 4 July/August 2016

Mountain Passages is published six times a year by the New Hampshire Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club.

Submissions. Members may submit articles or photos (hi-res jpegs) to newsletter@amc-nh.org. Articles may be edited at the discretion of the editor to meet space and style requirements. Publication is on a space-available basis. While Mountain Passages does not pay for submissions; a byline or photo credit is given. Contact Mountain Passages for reprint permission.

Advertising. The AMC NH Chapter members enjoy the outdoors year-round by hiking, paddling, skiing, backpacking, climbing and biking and more.

For information and the Ad Rate Sheet, send an email to newsletter@amc-nh.org.

We reserve the right to refuse any submission, photo or advertising that is not consistent with the mission of the AMC

Address Changes. Address changes or other changes to your membership must be made through AMC Member Services at 5 Joy St. Boston, MA 02108; 800-3721758; outdoors.org/membercenter

Please note: Member address updates cannot be handled by AMC-NH officers, committee chairs, or the newsletter editor.

Mountain Passages Online. If you're receiving Mountain Passages through the mail, please consider signing up to get the electronic version instead.

You'll get added resources not available to print subscribers: direct links to emails, forms and online information, color photos, online registration forms.

To sign up, go to www.outdoors.org/ membercenter and set your AMC-NH Chapter newsletter preference to online.

Editor: Brett J. Billinas brettjbillings(at)gmail.com

Graphic Design: Jessica Clifford, Graphic Designer, Artist & Photographer. jess.amcnews(at)gmail.com

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For questions, or to submit ad: Advertising@amc-nh.org Please send ads as color PDF or jpeg high-resolution files, at correct size. Ads will appear in color in on-line version and black and white in print version.

Mail check for advertising to: Appalachian Mountain Club c/o Ron Janowitz, 88 W Haven Rd., Manchester, NH 03104

We reserve the right to refuse ads that are not related to the mission of AMC. We do not provide proofs and accept no liability for errors beyond the cost of the ad.



# Winter Hiking Series 2016 Winter is just around the corner!

LARRY YETTER

Did you start hiking this spring only to hit a lot of ice and have to turn around unprepared? Are you interested in hiking year round instead of just in the summer? If so, the NH Chapter is offering the Winter Hiking Series (WHS) again this year.

This is a great course for experienced three-season hikers who wish to expand their hiking into the winter season. The series includes an opening weekend at Highland Center and includes a day of classroom training and a hike. The series continues with four additional hikes spread two to three weeks apart with the final hike in winter. The series is taught by highly experienced NH Chapter Excursion leaders who possess extensive skills and experience. There is a high instructor-to-participant ratio so that participants have good access to instructors throughout the series.

Many winter hikers claim winter is the best hiking season. The views are amazing with

snow and ice covered trees and mountain tops. The rocks hikers clamber over in the summer are covered with snow and a nice snowshoe path is created. The black flies, mosquitos and ticks are all gone, however, that doesn't mean winter hiking is easy or without risk.

The series will teach about the gear and clothing needed to safely tackle the NH 4,000 footers in winter, as well as discuss nutrition, hydration, body heat

WINTER HIKING SERIES 2016, TO PAGE 8



# Photos courtesy of Larry Yetter

# **Notes From The Chair**

Make a List

**BILL WARREN** 

So you have been outdoors and having way too much fun.

You want to go somewhere new, but are having trouble making a decision.

Sounds like it is time for you to start a list. Not a list you make, but rather a list just waiting for you to start. There is a saying old hikers don't die, they just become listless.

Hikers probably have the most lists. First and foremost, we have the New Hampshire 48 Four Thousand Footers. At the top of the list is Mt. Washington at 6,288' and ends on Mt. Tecumseh at 4,009'. This list will bring you to places you never imagined to find here in New Hampshire. When I

worked on my 4,000-footer list I spoke with fellow hikers who told me I would absolutely love the Bonds. They were right. I loved the Bonds.

Once you have completed this list (on the honor system) you will get a patch and a scroll to validate your achievement. But do not think this is the end. Then you have the New England Four Thousand Footers, New England Hundred Highest, the Northeast 115, the Three Thousand Footers, Two Thousand Footers, the Trail Wrights list, the Fire Tower list...

Well, you get the idea. And there are plenty more. Did I mention you can do them all twice? Each list is extended to include completing your effort in either the summer or winter.

Two of the really huge lists are the Grid and Redlining. The NH Grid consists of doing each of the 48, 4000' mountains in each calendar month. That is 576 summits, and the list of those who have

completed the Grid is growing. Redlining is hiking every trail listed in the White Mountain Guide. The NH 4000' list was formed in 1957 to encourage hikers to explore new areas and have them travel to some of the less frequently visited sections of the White Mountains and thereby reducing some of the issues of overuse of the most heavily visited areas. The list can be found online at http://www.amc4000footer.org/ or in the



appendix of the AMC White Mountain Guide. There are unofficial lists for biking, paddling and climbing that remain exciting and provide you with the opportunity to explore new areas.

The old cliché, "It's the journey, not

the destination," is apt when you work on completing a list. The best and worst part of completing a list is finishing. While you experience the high of knowing you finally did it, you also feel the low of not having this wonderful goal ahead of you. Fortunately, there is another list for you to choose. The end is really a new beginning, so finishing one list is your opportunity to start another.

# THE FINAL FRONTIER, FROM PAGE 1

local community to purchase 36 acres of private property at Rumney for climbing access. The acquisition protected The Meadows, 5.8 Crag, Monsters, and important habitat for nesting raptors and plants. In this signature "hold and transfer" project, Access Fund held the property for a year while RCA volunteers built the main parking lot and trail improvements before transferring it to the US Forest Service (USFS) for long-term protection. Conservation of the Northwest Crags will draw on a similar conservation strategy and comes just a couple months after RCA and the USFS collaborated together to update the 2008 Rumney Climbing Management Plan.

"We are excited to bring this story full circle by supporting RCA's efforts to secure Rumney's final frontier," says Access Fund Executive Director Brady Robinson. "Our acquisition 22 years ago formed a partnership between Access Fund and the newly formed RCA, and we are proud of all they have achieved to protect this New England gem."

After a year of discussions, RCA, Access Fund, and the Northwest Crags' landowners agreed to a purchase price of \$185,000. Access Fund extended \$10,000 of short-term financing from its Climbing Conservation Loan Program to secure the Option Agreement. RCA now has until December of 2016 to raise the necessary funds to complete the purchase.

Once the purchase is complete, RCA will work with White Mountain National Forest on construction of a new parking area and trail system to the Northwest Crags, which will help alleviate crowding at the main parking area and crags. The final phase will be to transfer the property to the USFS for permanent conservation. The USFS, with support from RCA and Access Fund, will seek federal funding from the Land and Water Conservation Fund, to complete the hold and transfer and match climbers' donations.

"The White Mountain

National Forest is very excited about this acquisition. This property will provide new climbing opportunities," says Jon Morrissey, District Ranger of the Pemigewasset Ranger District." We look forward to working together with RCA on this final phase of land protection at Rumney Rocks."

Many local and professional athletes cut their teeth at Rumney. "My early years as a climber were spent in Rumney," says professional climber Joe Kinder. "It is what shaped me as a climber today. And it's why all of us to need to take initiative and help protect areas like Rumney—so future climbers can share the same experience."

The Rumney Climbers Association is a nationally recognized 501(c)3 nonprofit and represents a large community of climbers with the common goal of preserving the climbing resource located on Rattlesnake Mountain. RCA was formed during the early 1990s when Rumney needed to secure access to critical cliffs. Through collaborative efforts and educa-

tion, RCA works to ensure that the impact and influence rock climbers have on this natural resource is positive! Learn more at www.climbrumney.com.

The Access Fund is the national advocacy organization that keeps climbing areas open and conserves the climbing environment. Founded in 1991, the Access Fund supports and represents millions of climbers nationwide in all forms of climbing: rock climbing, ice climbing, mountaineering, and bouldering. Six core programs support the mission on national and local levels: climbing management policy, stewardship and conservation, local support and mobilization, land acquisition and protection, risk management and landowner support, and education. Since 1991, the Access Fund has supported 52 land acquisitions by land trusts, public entities, and local climbing organizations, totaling 15,623 acres across twenty-seven states. For more information, visit www.accessfund.org.

# NH and Boston Chapters lead effort to protect Rumney Rocks

BRETT BILLINGS

The AMC NH Chapter Executive Committee pledged \$15,000 during its May meeting to aid the acquisition of 86 acres of privately owned land abutting the Rumney Rocks in the White Mountain National Forest (WMNF). The NH Chapter joins the Boston Chapter's Mountaineering Committee in supporting the Rumney Climbers Association's (RCA) Final Frontier capital campaign to secure the land and add six crags to New England's premier sport-climbing destination.

"Rumney Rocks is one irreplaceable destination for the mountaineering adventurers of the NH-AMC members

for climbing outings as well as a prime location for both ice and rock training clinics," AMC NH Chapter Mountaineering Co-Chair Thomas Sintros said. "It is a wonderful example of AMC, local climbing organization, community, forest service and state partnership that stands as a model for the future of this type of outdoor experience."

"The purchase and conservation of this Final Frontier goes to the very core of what the AMC is all about," AMC NH Chapter Chair Bill Warren said. "Those of us involved in the final decision to fund this effort are very enthusiastic. It is an occasion of having the opportunity to provide a benefit directly to our members, especially our mountaineering people."

Since its founding in the 1990s, the RCA has sought to expand and protect the Rumney Rocks area. RCA activists worked with the Access Fund, a national advocacy organization that works to keep climbing areas open and conserve climbing environments, to buy the land and then sell it to the United State Forest Service (USFS), as well as build the main parking lot and secure future access to the area.

After a year of discussions, RCA, Access Fund and the crags' landowners agreed to a purchase price of \$185,000. The RCA has raised 15 percent of its \$300,000 goal, and has until December 2016 to complete the purchase and stew

ardship efforts, which include construction of a new parking area and trail system to the six additional crags.

Rumney Rocks encompasses approximately 150 acres on the south facing slopes of Rattlesnake Mountain in the WMNF. Scattered across these slopes are approximately 28rock faces known by the climbing community as "crags". The 1987 guidebook, Rock Climbs in the White Mountains of New Hampshire by Ed Webster showed 48 published routes. Two decades later, there were more than 480 documented routes, and today, there are an estimated 707 routes, 261 boulder problems and numerous ice routes.



# Reserve Your Space for NH Chapter Hut Night

MARK HESLIN

Hut Nights are a longstanding tradition for the NH Chapter, and we look forward to a memorable evening at one of our western-most huts. We have reserved a limited number of bunks at a special rate of \$98.50 for NH Chapter Mem-

On the morning of September 10, you are welcome to join us for a group hike to the hut. Upon arrival, we will check in, select our bunks and unpack our gear. Tripsters will then be free to relax around the hut, or join us for a group hike to the summit of Mount Lafavette (5,260' elevation).

Built in 1929, Greenleaf Hut (4220') is located 1.1 miles below the summit of Mount Lafayette. Starting from the Lafayette Place parking area, the most common approach is from the Old Bridal Path Trail (a moderate 2.9 miles, 2.5 hours, 2,450' elevation gain). For the more adventurous, the Falling

Waters trail can be taken to the Franconia Ridge trail, crossing the summits of Little Haystack (4761'), Mount Lincoln (5089') and Mount Lafayette (5260'), before descending to the hut (a rugged 6.0 miles, 6+ hours, 3,490' elevation gain).

In late afternoon, we will gather for our traditional wine and cheese "happy hour" on the porch, followed by a hearty dinner prepared and served by the Greenleaf Hut "Croo." After dinner, we'll relax with new friends, swap trail stories with our fellow hikers, play card games or read a book before retiring for the evening.

On the morning of September 11, we'll enjoy breakfast and entertainment by the hut crew before saying goodbye and heading home.

## **OPTIONAL**

Jump Start Your Weekend by joining us at the Highland Center on the evening of Friday September 9. We'll have an afternoon warm-up hike around Ammonoosuc Lake followed

by happy hour and dinner in the lodge's dining room. The Highland Center has a variety of lodging options and we've reserved the entire Shapleigh

Bunkhouse for our group. If interested, inform the AMC reservations desk when you make your hut night reservation.



## **HOW TO RESERVE YOUR SPACE**

- 1. Call the AMC Reservations Line at (603) 466-2727 (Monday-Saturday, 9 am-5pm).
- 2. Tell them you are with the NH Chapter September 10 Hut Night (Group Number 292952).
  - 3. You will be asked to provide contact info, food allergy and vegetarian requests.
  - 4. Reservations are first come, first serve and deadline to book is August 27, 2016.
- 5. Questions? Call Mark Heslin (Hut Night Trip Leader) at (603) 930-6880 (7-9pm).



# Young Members 20s and 30s Group Update

JAMIE GILLON

The Young Members/20s and 30s Group is very busy this summer thanks to an upswing in volunteers from the group. We recently had three people complete leadership training, and would love to have some more. Additionally, we have seen our recurring social locations grow from two to five in the last year.

The interest for our two June camping trips has been really strong, and they are already at capacity. There is, however, still room on the climbing trip to Rumney on

June 25 or the hikes to Cannon on June 25 and Tecumseh on June 26. We'll be offering two more camping weekends later this summer, Barnes Field in the Northern Whites on August 19-21 and Osceola in the Southern Whites on September 9-11.

Our Wednesday night hiking series had a successful first trip to Piper Mountain. We have room for the upcoming trips to Oak Hill, Mt Rowe and Bear Brook State Park. These hikes take place on the last Wednesday of each month. We also have scheduled socials for June 7 in Portsmouth, June 13 in Concord and should be having one in the Lakes Region

toward the end of the month. Please check out the full listings on outdoors.org to find out trip details and registration.

If you are looking for a way to keep up with our group, we've recently launched a meetup page: http://www. meetup.com/AMC-New-Hampshire-Young-Members-20s-30s-Group/. We still have the facebook page that we share with the Maine Young Members: https:// www.facebook.com/groups/ amcmaineyoungmembers/. We also have a monthly blast email through our yahoo group: https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/ groups/youngamenh/info. If

you aren't into social media, you can always find our events on outdoors.org.

If you would like to get involved in the group beyond just participating, please contact one of our co-chairs: Jamie Gillon: jmegillon149@hotmail.com or Ann Hudnall: ahudnall1@ gmail.com. We'll be meeting in July for our next Advisory Board meeting. We're always looking for new camping organizers, trip leaders and social hosts. We are especially looking for people who may want to lead biking and paddling trips.

We hope to see you at an upcoming event!



# AMC Sponsors Climate Change Film in Concord Thursday, July 21, 2016

117 WYMAN

The issue of climate change can feel overwhelming. We know we are all part of the problem, and we all need to be part of the solution. But changing a lightbulb, biking to work, even investing in a hybrid car or solar panels can seem futile in a growing world run on fossil fuels.

It has been ten years since Al Gore brought the science of climate change to the big screen with his slide-show-turned-film An Inconvenient Truth. Awareness of the issue has grown, but in the past ten years, political progress has been slow.

Yet grassroots activism is

mounting, and communities facing the most immediate impacts of climate change and fossil fuel extraction are at the forefront of this movement. Across the globe, people are rising up to fight against the destruction of their native landscapes and to keep fossil fuels in the ground.

Naomi Klein's groundbreaking book and film This Changes Everything explores the inspiring stories of seven communities around the world that are standing up and making their voices heard to stop destructive fossil fuel extraction and the devastating impacts of climate change. Many of these activists are living in poverty,

oppressed by governments or facing violent consequences for their actions.

If they can stand up against the environmental and human consequences of climate change, can't we?

Klein proposes that the crisis of climate change is the exact opportunity we need to transform our economic system.

Please join us for a free screening of the film This Changes Everything, followed by a discussion of what we can do in our communities to curb climate change.

To reserve your free ticket to the event, RSVP at: https://nh.nextgenclimate. org/sign-up-for-this-changes-

FILM: **This Changes Everything** 

Thursday, July 21, 2016 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Doors open at 6:30pm

**Red River Theatres** 11 S. Main Street Concord, NH

everything/

RSVP guests should arrive at 6:30 p.m. to check-in. Seats not claimed by 6:45 p.m. will be opened to the general public.

This event is co-sponsored by the Appalachian Mountain Club's New Hampshire Chapter and NextGen Climate.

Details on the film and a preview are available at http://thefilm.thischangeseverything.org/about/. For questions about the event, e-mail conservationnh@amc-nh.org.

# **GPS Navigational Weekend Workshop**

Saturday, September 18, 2016

BETH 7IMMER

Do you own a GPS device but would like some help learning how to use it? Are you hiking un-trailed peaks? Are you working on the New England Hundred Highest? Our September weekend GPS Navigational Workshop may



Photo courtesy of Beth Zimmer

be for you! The GPS workshop is taught by two experienced hikers, bushwhackers and AMC NH Volunteer instructors, Beth Zimmer and Barb Audin.

The Workshop Includes: Four weeks of advanced informational emails and phone support so that everyone arrives to the workshop with some basics in place and on the same page; lodging at the beautiful Highland Center in Crawford Notch (bunk style lodging, linens and towels provided); Saturday dinner and Sunday breakfast; and maps and handouts.

Saturday's session includes: Classroom sessions and light field exercises; map and compass review; GPS Handhelds basics, settings, compass, altimeter, bearing vs. heading, etc.; GPS Use, creating and saving tracks, navigating with the unit; Garmin's Basecamp (computer



Photo courtesy of Beth Zimmer management of your data and tracks); and planning a hike/ bushwhack and uploading it to your handheld device.

The Sunday session involves a hike/bushwhack to a 3,000foot peak, where participants will put all of the skills they learned to use. This hike is both trailed and un-trailed (bushwhack), and participants need

to be in good hiking shape for this hike.

Workshop Dates: Saturday-Sunday, September 17-18, 2016

Cost: \$130 members / \$150 non-members

Class size is limited to 12. If you are interested, contact Beth Zimmer at btzimr@gmail.



# From Gym to Trad!

### **VALERIO VITI**

The AMC NH Chapter is introducing our first rock climbing educational series "From couch to the Nordwand." Or, with a little less panache and more realism, "From gym to trad!"

The series consists of nine individual classes that began in June, each class addressing a

specific topic in rock climbing. Each class is a self-contained, one-day event, so no need to sign up for the entire series: Pick and choose the classes that you are interested in and will benefit you the most. If you are interested in the entire series, kudos to you!

You can also spread it over two climbing seasons. The series is intended to gradually build your rock climbing skills from easy rock climbing scenarios, such as top rope climbing, to more advanced situations and techniques such as multi-pitch climbing and self-rescue.

We will hold the classes in different locations around New Hampshire, and we want to keep the class size to a maximum of ten participants so as not to crowd the cliff and promote good climbing ethics. There is a cost for each class, see below for details.

If you are looking for more information on the individual classes, feel free to contact the instructor directly at the email listed for each event, and if you have any other questions, contact Valerio Viti at valerio.viti@gmail.com

## From Gym to Trad • 2016 New Hampshire AMC Rock Climbing Series

## July 9th, 2016, Pawtuckaway, NH

Intro to rock climbing July 9th, 2016, Pawtuckaway, NH Michelle and Jen Gross mpbeadle@aol.com

## Saturday, July 23, 2016, Echo, NH

Intro to traditional climbing Saturday, July 23, 2016, Echo, NH http://activities.outdoors.org/search/index. cfm/action/details/id/90720&act=7 Cost: \$35/45 member/non-member Jed and Valerio Valerio.viti@gmail.com

## July/Aug 2016, TBD

Advanced anchors class July/Aug 2016, TBD Ben and TBD benmelon@gmail.com

## Saturday Aug 27 2016, TBD

Intro to multi-pitch rock climbing Saturday Aug 27 2016, TBD Cost: \$35/45 member/non-member Basil and Valerio alwinholdings@gmail.com

## Aug/Sept 2016, TBD

Intro to self-rescue class Aug/Sept 2016, TBD TBD



# Corrections and Clarifications

In the article titled, Kilimanjaro, in the May-June issue, the second sentence should have read, "...due to the Ebola outbreak."

Please contact the editors at newsletternh@amc-nh.org with further corrections or clarifications.



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•	ŭ

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# 'Mountain Passages' is only the beginning...

From hiking to biking, AMC's New Hampshire chapter has it all. Visit our website at amc-nh.org and read more about us and our many year-round events.

## WINTER HIKING SERIES 2016, FROM PAGE 3

management, group emergency/survival gear, trip planning and weather. The goal of the series is to ensure that every graduate has the knowledge to begin safely hiking the 4,000 footers in winter.

The cost of the series is \$279 for members which includes two nights lodging at Highland Center with two dinners, two breakfasts, one lunch, a manual and instruction. The opening weekend is October 28 to 30. Hikes are scheduled for November 19, December 3, December 17 and January 7. All hikes are scheduled for Saturdays but could be moved to Sunday if weather warrants a change of date.

The WHS is geared toward those having gathered a considerable amount of experience during the three seasons who now want to push the envelope, just a little, and enjoy a season packed with beauty and excitement for those who are properly prepared. The experienced staff of WHS instructors will impart the knowledge and skills needed to safely hike in winter.

Participants will make incredible friends, meet likeminded people and form a bond with one another, which in some cases, will last for a life time.

We urge you to apply today. If accepted, you will be amazed by the camaraderie, fun, challenges and true beauty winter hiking can bring! This series has become quite popular and will fill fast, class size is limited to 24, so don't miss your chance. Apply early today!

If you are interested, please contact Larry Yetter at Larry@ texloom.com or 603-554-8284 for more information and an application.





Photo courtesy of Larry Yetter