

Ninetieth
Annual Report
of the
New Hampshire Chapter
Appalachian Mountain Club



October 2, 2010

The Chapter wishes to recognize and thank the following long-time members for their support:

50 Year Members

Maureen	Prohl
Robert	Prohl
Junius	Powell
Jonathan	Bourne
Pauline	Turner
Robert	Eaton
Thomas	Deans
James	Graham
Thomas	Lacy
William	Siebert
Dona	Eaton
Dorcas	Deans

25 Year Members

David	Owen	Leanne	Tigert
Janet	Butler	Stacia	Sower
John	Mudge	Sarah	Warren
Martha	Hunt	Ann	Corte
Robert	Moser	Arthur	Corte
Mark	Gori	Wanda	Irvin
Sandra	Kallman	James	Irvin
Lora	Philp	Charles	Ajootian
Linda	Saari	Glenda	Bishop
Larry	Saari	Stephen	Roy
Barbara	Wauchope	Jack	Stephenson
William	Humm	Norma	Lyman
Barbara	Barrand	Samuel	Smith
Peter	Davis	Elfie	Preuss
Joseph	Kolenski	Richard	Fabian
Sam	Johnson	Georgene	Fabian
Mary	Current	David	Shepard
Carolyn	Tenney	Carol	Malcarney
Manuela	Meier	Richard	Parker
Gregory	Pregent	Judy	Romano
Kathleen	Swift	Thomas	Todd
Walter	Swift	Edward	Kyle
Mary		Cathie	Redpath
Anne	Chapman		
Thomas	Chapman		
Frederick	Kull		
	Dubois-		
Mary	Leeson		
Max	Kay		
Virginia	Prince		
David	Bradford		
Steve	Camerino		
Marsha	Rich		
Mark	Brideau		
Gail	Sebring		
Charlie	Sebring		
Helga	Karker		
Alexis			
Ann	Bundschuh		
Peter	Bundschuh		

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Chapter Chair Report

It's hard to believe that my first year as Chair is almost over. It has been a wonderfully busy and challenging year. Most of all it has been, and continues to be, a great pleasure to work with the Executive Committee as we oversee the activities, programs and events that have been so successful over the years, nurture our more recent initiatives, and continue to develop new ideas and vision for the future of the chapter and the club. Mine would be a far more difficult position if it weren't for the contributions of all of the dedicated volunteers that make up the leadership of the chapter.

Developing new ideas has been a particular focus this year. Inspired by discussions last fall, we have dedicated a portion of each Executive Committee meeting to brainstorming and discussing important topics that go beyond the regular operations of the chapter. Three major themes are recruitment and retention of members, with a focus on younger members; adapting to and using new technologies to reach out to and increase the involvement of current and potential members; and additional ways to recognize outstanding volunteers. These discussions have been a great opportunity to take advantage of the diversity within our chapter and for different parts of the chapter to share ideas and recognize common concerns. We have generated many ideas that we plan to refine and implement in the coming year.

The start of another year is always bittersweet as we look forward to new faces on the Executive Committee but also say farewell to those who are stepping down. This year in particular, we will miss two incredibly hard-working and talented members of the Committee, who leave big shoes to fill. Kim Rexford has served as our Webmaster for several years and has dramatically transformed the chapter website during his tenure. He conceived and implemented many features, most notably the integration of up-to-date trip listings, that have helped increase traffic to our site significantly. Renée Robertie is stepping down as Newsletter Editor. She effected a similarly amazing transformation of our newsletter, including development of an online version with additional features to entice members to switch from the paper to the electronic version.

Although he'll continue on our Conservation Committee, Ross Garofalo will be stepping down as co-chair of Young Members after five years of dedicated service in that role (originally serving as my co-chair before I became Vice Chair). He has been a critical link between those of us who formed the group and the 'next generation', carrying on and expanding the vision. Succeeding him will be Lora Claus, who is already contributing great enthusiasm and new ideas. I look forward to working with her and other new

members of the Executive Committee: Denise Spor (Education), Patty Anderson (Hospitality), Jim Kent (replacing Thor Smith at Mountaineering), Kerry Frazier (replacing Tom Todd at Paddling), and Stephanie Chambers (Trails). Another great year lies ahead.

Eric L. Savage, *Chapter Chair*

Treasurer's Report

It's been an honor and a pleasure to serve as Treasurer for the NH Chapter of the AMC. I'd like to express my gratitude to Mitch Manseau, the previous Treasurer, for his many contributions while occupying this role. Mitch established best practices, showed leadership, and consistently went above and beyond expectations. He was very supportive in the transition of responsibilities to me, spending hours on training and answering my numerous questions. We're fortunate that Mitch continues on the Executive Committee as Membership Co-Chair – thanks for everything, Mitch!

It's been a good year, the investment reserves continue to regain ground lost in setbacks we experienced last year during the economic crisis.

Our activities committees continue to be largely self-supporting, charging participants for their expenses while the chapter resources leadership training and certification, principally bi-annual participation in SOLO Wilderness First Aid training for all leaders, and some leaders' proficiency training.

Our income continues to derive mostly from thrice-yearly AMC dues allocations, based upon chapter membership, and some donations. We continue as the AMC's third largest chapter, after Boston and NY-NJ.

While it has become easier for members to opt to receive their Chapter *Mountain Passages* electronically, printing and mailing the paper versions continues to be our greatest single expense. We recognize that many of our members enjoy hard copies of the newsletter, and the Chapter wants very much to stay in contact; if you can, please consider saving paper and money by making the switch to the electronic version.

We continue to receive donations, usually through the AMC in Boston, in memory of departed members. You may choose to remember someone in this manner, or otherwise want to contribute to the Chapter's efforts, often with matching employer contributions; one may also choose to make a bequest to the Chapter. If you can help the chapter in this way, please contact me at treasurer@amc-nh.org and I'll be happy to inform and assist you.

Thanks again for your support of an organization that strives to preserve the wild places for the enjoyment of all!

Kathy Ratcliffe, *Treasurer*

Secretary's Report

The 89th Annual Meeting of the New Hampshire Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club was held at the Yard Restaurant on October 3, 2009. The following slate of nominees was presented and accepted by the members for the year 2009-2010 New Hampshire Chapter Executive Committee:

Chair:	Eric Savage
Vice-chair:	Karen Thurston
Treasurer:	Kathy Ratcliffe
Secretary:	Jennifer Varney
Conservation:	Bob Harrington
Education:	Bob Humphrey & Paul Berry
Excursions:	David S. Ross & Peter Hope
Hospitality:	Kathy Ratcliffe & Janice Bremer
Membership:	Mitch Manseau & Keely Norton
Mountaineering:	Tom Meredith & Thor Smith
Newsletter:	Renee Robertie
Paddling:	Tom Todd & Joseph O'Neil
Programs:	Ron Janowitz & Janice Bremer
Ski:	Tony Schmidt & Emilie Phillips
Trails:	Bill Darcy
Young Members:	Ross Garofalo & Wayne Goertel

Ex-officio members: Past Chair, Paul Berry; Regional Director, John Dolloff

Nine meetings of the Executive Committee were held during the 2009-2010 season. Minutes were recorded and distributed to the committee members. The Annual Report was completed and printed for the Annual Meeting.

Jennifer Varney, *Secretary*

Committee Reports

Conservation

This year's Chapter-wide conservation events were the Chapter Activity Day at Cardigan Lodge in May and a work day doing invasive plant cleanup at the Prescott Farm Environmental Education Center in Laconia for our "AMC Green June" effort.

With the season running almost two weeks early due to unseasonably warm weather, we found a great many more wild flowers in bloom on the May 1 Chapter Activity Day nature hike than we have found in previous Activity Days. We had a good group for the hike, led by Bob & Mary Harrington, and all were very pleased to see the profusion of trout lilies, trillium, bellwort and violets in bloom.

For the "Green June" work day we found ourselves starting out the day working through a fine mist which gradually increased to a steady light rain which penetrated into the thick forest where we were attacking oriental bittersweet and Japanese barberry. We called it quits at mid-day but were well satisfied with the progress made. We decided that a half day of that kind of dirty and strenuous work was enough for the crew and the wet conditions just reinforced that call.

Bob Harrington and Ross Garofalo, *Co-chairs*

Education

The Education committee had an active and successful 2009 & 2010. The 2009 Winter Hiking Series (WHS) was very well attended. Mother Nature cooperated by giving us winter conditions nearer the end of the series. Participants enjoyed themselves and, by their own accounts, learned a lot. Following the series from December '09 thru March 2010 one of the participants went on to complete all 48 of the White Mountain four thousand footers.

We had a very well attended Map and Compass class held in Warner's Mink Hill area. We sponsored one class there in October of '09, another at Cardigan in April of 2010 with another planned for October 2nd, 2010. The Education Committee set up a challenging map and compass practice course at Cardigan.

We ran a great Chapter Activity Day this past spring, with activities for the day held in several locations. The Mountaineering committee offered rock climbing instruction at a location of their choice; Paddling committee did the same, and added to the mix we even offered backcountry skiing from the Ski committee, held in Tuckerman's Ravine. All in all the day was truly a success that ended with an enjoyable happy hour and pot luck dinner for those attending the activities held at Cardigan. It was the first time the committee tried the pot luck idea and from all accounts it seemed to go over very well.

The Education Committee wishes to extend its sincere gratitude to those chapter leaders who gave their time and expertise helping to make the day a great success! A special thank you goes to Keely Norton for all her hard work organizing events, communicating with participants, and for adding the pot luck idea to the mix.

One of the goals of Chapter Activity Day is to reach out to new members and those who may not have participated with us in the many activities our chapter has to offer. We would like members, and non members, alike to learn who we are, what we're about, and get a taste of all the great activities New Hampshire Chapter offers!

In April the Education Committee and the NH Fish and Game Department teamed up to offer an Introductory Course on Backpacking. The class was held in Warner and taught by Chapter leaders Anne Gwynne and Bob Humphrey. We had a number of demonstrations and displays of all the gear and equipment that make for a fun and successful backpacking trip.

The introductory day was to be followed up with an actual backpack outing so that participants could receive "*hands on*" training. Unfortunately the weather did not cooperate for this event with heavy rains predicted for the weekend and thus the trip was canceled. The committee will offer this again next year and hopes for better weather for both parts of the event.

With the advent of September the committee is now very busy readying materials and planning for this year's Winter Hiking Series. This year will mark the eleventh anniversary of the series. The Education Committee would like to acknowledge its sincere gratitude to Bob Humphrey, Lou Caron, Norm Michaels, Bill Darcy, Jennifer Gross, Stacie Tate, and Denise Spor for their unselfish donation of time and expertise to this 9 week program.

Respectfully submitted
Bob Humphrey *Chair*

Excursions Committee

Following the adoption of the committee by-laws last year, the Excursions Committee had a smooth-running and uneventful 2009-10.

The main administrative work of the committee consists of approving trips submitted by the nearly 100 Excursions trip leaders. This work was divided between the co-chairs,

Peter Hope and David Ross, with the able assistance of Susan Gimilaro and Denise Penn, who often previewed and edited the trip submissions.

All Excursions trips are now submitted via the AMC On-line Trip Listing website. Now that the bugs seem to have been worked out, this system has proved to be a valuable asset for our trip leaders and also for our leader candidates: those who have gone through the leadership school at Cardigan and are in the mentoring process.

Recognizing the difficulty involved in submitting trips months in advance of the publication of AMC *Outdoors*, the Leadership Board of Review of the committee voted to allow mentored trips to be submitted via the OLTL website and not necessarily in the magazine. Guidelines were established to ensure that leader candidates have plenty of opportunities to screen applicants for the trips over the telephone.

Cardigan Workshops

We again had very popular and successful schools in January, February and April, where we introduced people with varying levels of skills to winter and three-season wilderness travel.

The Cardigan Workshops are also the venue for our Committee to begin the training process for our Leaders, and this year we had very active classes with enthusiastic students, many of whom have gone on to become Leaders within a few months of the Workshop.

Their success and enthusiasm is due in large part to the many current Leaders who instruct and participate in the various Workshops, under the directorship of Rick Silverberg, with the very able help of Bob Humphrey and Lynda Caine. As in the past, Gordon Page and Marty Janoschek provided fantastic food for the weekends, to keep everyone fueled up and happy!

CPR Training

In April Scott Taylor conducted a CPR training course for ten leaders at the fire station in Sanbornton. Scott has volunteered his time on many occasions, especially at the Cardigan workshops, and we owe him a debt of gratitude for all of his hard work.

Family Group

The FG continued its tradition of offering outings and activities for families with children of all ages and abilities. Under the guidance of Wanda Rice and Dave Passios, they have offered weekends at Joe Dodge and Cardigan Lodges, AMC huts, and Tanglewood. They even had a weekend of trail maintenance. A highlight of the FG offerings is the Staying

Found Workshops. They continue to be very popular and important educational event. The search dog demonstrations are particularly impressive.

Over 55 Group

Since 1992, the O-55's have offered trips at a kinder, gentler pace. Nancy Seavey and Linda Holton have completed their first year at the reins and they have done a wonderful job at it. They are continuing to expand the variety of trips offered and increasing the stable of regular O-55 Leaders.

Hut Nights and Presidential Range Hike

Tim Kennedy did an exceptionally fine job in his 5th year as director of the week long Annual Presidential Range Hike (PRH) in July. He will be stepping down from this endeavor, and we will miss him!

Karen Thurston took over the organization of the Chapter Hut Nights for this year. Thanks to Karen for her energy and passion that she brings to our committee!

Training

This coming November we will again sponsor a Wilderness First Aid training weekend, held at the SOLO headquarters in Conway, NH. Each year, 20 or more Leaders receive a two-year certification in WFA, an important factor in making our trips as safe as possible for our participants.

We plan to offer Advanced Wilderness First Aid, as well as the regular WFA course. There has been great interest in these educational and practical clinics, not only from Excursions leaders, but from leaders of the Ski and Mountaineering committees as well.

Respectfully submitted,

David S Ross and Peter Hope *Co-chairs*

Hospitality and Programs

This year our committees conducted four dinner programs during the 2009 – 2010 year. These programs were held at various locations throughout NH and focused on diverse topics.

October 3, 2009 – The 89th Annual Meeting and Dinner was held at The Yard restaurant in Manchester, NH. Eric Savage and Karen Thurston were voted in as Chapter Chair and Vice Chair as well as various other Committee Chairs. Guest speaker was Bruce Marcus, Storyteller. Bruce, an avid outdoor person, entertained our guests with tales of his outdoor adventures and misadventures.

February 20, 2010 – Our 2nd annual Pot Luck dinner was held at the Wesley United Methodist Church in Concord, NH. Pat Piper and Nancy Sporborg were guest speakers. They provided our guests with a presentation that was inspiring, moving, emotional, and uplifting about their journey as they climbed and reached the summits of the 4,000 footers throughout New England. And once again our guests provided a wonderful variety of salads, entrees, and desserts.

April 17, 2010 – This spring dinner was held at the Pheasant Ridge Country Club in Gilford, NH. Scott Taylor, a NH Hike Leader and workshop instructor, gave a moving presentation of his July 2004 climb and unexpected rescue while descending Mt. Adams (WA). His stories and photos were a testament to the resourcefulness and abilities of this group of NH climbers that helped avert a tragedy.

June 19, 2010 – This Seacoast Summer Solstice Celebration occurred at The Great Bay Discovery Center in Greenland, NH. After a buffet luncheon our guests were entertained with an informative presentation on Horseshoe Crabs by Beth Heckman, a Great Bay naturalist. Guests then had the option of exploring the area around Great Bay on a variety of walking and hiking opportunities or enjoying a sunset kayak tour in the tidal basins of Great Bay.

Ron Janowitz and Janice Bremer, *Programs Co-Chairs*
Kathy Ratcliffe and Janice Bremer, *Hospitality Co-Chairs*

Membership

Our chapter began its reporting year with 9,678 members as of September 2009 and reports 9,783 as of September 2010. We have a gain of 105 members for this year. We remain the third largest chapter after the Boston and New York-New Jersey chapters.

We sent out 1963 new member letters in the 12-month period. The new member letters include material welcoming new members. In addition, the new member letters contain information about activity committees and New Hampshire Chapter contacts, to help new members become involved with the club. We also insert a trip listing to tide new members over until they receive their first AMC Outdoor Magazine.

We sent out 72 certificates of appreciation to 25 and 50 year New Hampshire Chapter members thanking them for their continuous support over the years.

Finally, this year we sold individual and family memberships through the Membership in a Bottle program and via our facility for purchasing memberships on-line.

Keely Norton and Mitch Manseau, *Co-Chairs*

Mountaineering

For the year September 2009 through August 2010, the Mountaineering Committee had a successful and safe program of trips and clinics. Overall, the schedule of trips and clinics offered was quite similar to past years.

Trips

Last fall and this summer we offered 20 rock climbing trips on crags from Crow Hill, Massachusetts to Whitehorse cliff in North Conway, NH. Our rock leaders put up ropes on single pitch sport climbs, single and multi-pitch “trad” climbs and at top roping areas. In addition we offered “Rumney After Work” every other Tuesday during the summer and “Indoor Climbing at Vertical Dreams, Manchester” most Monday evenings throughout the year. Both these weekday sessions are informal, not requiring pre-registration. During the winter we offered three technical ice climbing trips, but one was cancelled due to weather. Most of our ice and rock climbing trips were full or even wait listed.

Clinics and Classes

The Mountaineering Committee continued our commitment to education and instruction by offering a total of eleven clinics and classes. The winter season began with the two day Avalanche Hazard Awareness Class at Pinkham Notch. This was followed with two introductory ice climbing classes coordinated with instructors from the International Mountaineering and Climbing School in North Conway. In April the popular three day Glacier Travel Workshop was again held. The leader of the glacier travel class made some changes and improvements this year were well received based on positive feedback from the participants. With the melting of snow and ice and emergence of black flies we began our rock program. We offered five introductory rock climbs with instruction and all equipment provided. We also ran a basic top rope set up clinic, a two day advanced sport and trad top rope set up clinic, and a climbing rescue, haul system clinic.

Finances

Income from our classes and clinics amounted to \$4685.00. Expenditures were \$3047.17, resulting in net income of \$1637.83. Equipment purchased this year includes new static ropes for top rope set up and four sets of pulleys and carabiners for the

glacier class. The main other expenditure was for payment to the IMCS ice climbing instructors. There were no expenditures this year for training of our climbing leaders.

The Coming Year

Looking forward, we hope to continue in a general way our current program of trips and clinics. We are also considering expanding our winter offerings by developing a late winter or spring trip involving snow gully climbing in Huntington Ravine or King Ravine. We are also considering developing a class for leading technical ice. We anticipate a significant increase in expenditures for training and to upgrade or replace some of our climbing equipment. Finally, this summer three climbers who completed our leader training class last year have stepped up to the rock to co-lead trips and help with clinics and will be full fledged trip leaders by the end of this climbing season. Much thanks to them and to all our climb leaders for making our trips happen.

Tom Meredith and Thor Smith *Co-chairs*

Newsletter Committee

The Chapter published six issues of *Mountain Passages* during the 2009-10 program year. Beginning with the November/December 2009 issue, we implemented a new electronic format that is more user-friendly and easier to navigate.

With *Mountain Passages* being the single highest budget item for the Chapter at 49% of the budget, continuing to reduce costs has been an important goal over this past year. In the March/April 2010 issue, we sought input from members who were still receiving the newsletter through the mail. This resulted in our greater understanding of many members' lack of access to high-speed internet, and therefore their difficulty in downloading the newsletter, as well as the desire of some members to have a physical newsletter to read. It also resulted in raised awareness among many members who expressed their disappointment in the high cost of the newsletter. Shortly thereafter, an additional 400 members signed up for e-newsletter.

Over the past year, the number of electronic subscribers has nearly doubled from 674 (8.5% of membership a year ago) to 1,380 (over 14% of New Hampshire's current membership). That represents a print and postage savings of about \$575 per issue and \$3,445 per year. So, *thank you* to those members who have made the switch.

Perhaps with the anticipated expansion of broadband in New Hampshire, more members will consider this cost-effective, eco-friendly method of receiving AMC-NH information. While other AMC chapters have fully eliminated their print version of the

newsletter, the New Hampshire ExComm continues to explore options that will provide meaningful communication to its members.

Ad revenue is another opportunity to offset expenses, however without additional volunteer support, the ability to reach out to potential advertisers was not possible. If you can assist with that effort, please email newsletter@amc-nh.org.

Although I will be stepping down as editor, I have enjoyed contributing to the efforts of the NH Chapter and Appalachian Mountain Club and have appreciated members' comments and support.

Renée Robertie, *Editor*

Paddling Committee

The NHAMC Paddlers continues to be well supported by the paddling community with active leaders, many participants, numerous trips and clinics, and a solid financial base.

The paddling group continues to evolve with new leaders filling in for those stepping down and new directions as paddling interests change.

In particular, the historical major focus of the group on canoe paddling is now becoming more diverse as the interest in kayaks and availability of kayaks are far greater than canoes. The NHAMC Paddlers has continued to respond to this interest with continuation and expansion into flat water, touring and sea kayaking programs, although it has been hard to develop a growing group of leaders for these activities.

The internet has provided access to many other opportunities such as "show and go" message boards and communications have allowed the people (the younger generation) to delay activity decisions to the last minute "best offer" available. We have had to compete with such opportunities. We do this by offering clinics, instruction, and a sense of friendly community in our activities. We also have to make trips available on a last minute basis based on weather and water conditions. To this end, we have sped up our trip approval process to generally within a few hours and have considered an occasional last minute update to our weekly trip email.

So far this year we have scheduled 99 trips, courses, and activities.

Training Curricula and Anchor Courses

Our training is one of the ways we attract and keep new active members. In order to keep our paddlers coming back and progressing, we have begun to develop several curricula in the various interest areas. The idea is that people will come back for the training and in the process develop friendships and a sense of community within the NHAMC Paddlers so that they become active participants and then contributors.

Training Curricula

In order to encourage people to continue to paddle with us, we have begun to refocus our training into series of courses in each of the interest groups.

* Wilderness Expedition Paddling Curricula - This year we introduced and marketed a new program focused on Wilderness paddling skills. We have looked to ways to bolster interest in our canoeing program by offering additional canoe oriented courses. Canoeists have traditionally been the major supporters of our programs.

Courses in the curriculum include:

- Wilderness Canoe Expedition Planning, Equipping, and Provisioning
- Touring
- Introduction to Whitewater (in Canoe)
- Poling
- Basic Whitewater Rescue
- Canoe Sailing
- Attaining: The art of going upstream
- Wilderness First Aid

* River Skills Building Curricula include:

- Most of the above paddling courses
- Advanced Whitewater Safety and Rescue
- Class II+ and Class III whitewater skills

We are developing a curriculum for Sea Kayaking which currently includes basic sea kayaking, rescue, and pool rolling sessions.

Anchor Courses

We have 3 anchor courses that are generally the first courses people take with us. These always fill and are well regarded in the paddling community.

* Sea Kayak Training - Held at Knubble Bay Camp in August, this is a full weekend of safety, skills, rescue and technique training. As part of the weekend, there are a couple of short trips. The clinic handles both beginner and intermediate sea kayakers. This year's course had 12 students taught by 3 instructors.

* Touring Training - This is a one day course focused on the skills of paddling lakes and rivers and covers safety, equipment, paddling techniques, and trip organization. Traditionally this has been a canoe paddling course but now it includes touring kayaks. It is run in June.

* Introduction to Whitewater - This course is run in April based in Henniker and on the Contoocook and Sugar Rivers. The course includes a pool session, a full weekend of lectures, demonstrations, and practice along with a big dinner on Saturday night. This year we added a skills building trip to the course three weeks after the school. As our largest event of the year, this year we had 42 students taught and supported by 76 instructors and volunteers.

Introductory Trips

Although many of our trips are introductory, our Wednesday night flat water paddles have been particularly well received. It was gratifying this year to see a changing of the guard as new leaders stepped up to organize and lead the trips as the instigators of this program stepped down. The NH Chapter helped initiate this program by helping finance a rental fleet used for this program.

Our family paddling program is always enjoyed and we would like to expand this program with more trips and some training programs.

Our canoe poling program is bringing in yet another group of new canoeists.

Membership and Communications

Our weekly email containing trip listings and announcements goes out to 1030 members, an increase of 20% over the 861 of late last year.

These messages list our trips, meetings, announcements, and equipment swap items.

This year we've managed to publish 4 quarterly issues of our newsletter, the *WrapAround*, which is published now completely on-line to save expense. It contains stories, pictures, and information about our programs.

Our website continues to attract new members. In addition to information about the club and listings of our trips, it contains descriptions of our instructional programs, trip descriptions, newsletter, pictures of the group, conservation issues, outfitting tips, and stories about some of our members' expeditions.

Our members continue to distribute our business cards and flier. We are working on getting them distributed in the AMC facilities to generate new active members.

Meetings

The NHAMC Paddlers have two general meetings a year in the fall and spring with pot luck dinners, presentations, equipment swaps. Traditionally these meetings have been used for developing the schedule, but now more of that is being done on-line.

Leadership

Our real challenge has been to replace the leaders that are retiring and to develop leaders for our sea kayak and flat water programs. This year we offered leadership training during the student lectures of the Spring Whitewater School which was very successful in getting 17 more paddlers trained.

We are developing a leadership recognition program to recognize service to the group and thank our leaders.

Overall we continue to have a core group of paddling friends that welcome new members into the group and encourage them to participate. This group is dedicated to providing a safe and fun paddling program while learning and teaching others about the sport we love.

We owe a big thank you to the many who actively support our programs.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tom Todd and Joe O'Neil *Co-chairs*

Ski Committee

Trips

During the 09-10 season, the Ski Committee offered 23 backcountry trips, 6 telemark clinics and 3 back country ski clinics. While 5 back country trips were canceled due to poor conditions, trips were attended by 200 participants. Even though this was a very low snow year, the trip participation was up by almost 20% over last season.

Attendance at the Gunstock telemark clinics was up by almost 100%. Attendance at the Bedford backcountry clinic was up slightly.

Administration

The Gunstock ski clinics have a fixed income as a result of an agreement reached with Gunstock. In exchange for volunteer instructor teaching time for 6 seasonal clinics, Gunstock has agreed to provide the ski committee with complimentary instructor passes, discounted lift tickets for the Gunstock instructors clinic and has agreed to donate \$175 to the ski committee. Clinic student purchase lift tickets and clinic passes directly thru Gunstock guest services. The ski committee continues to use the standard AMC Waiver for all clinic participants. This agreement worked out well for both Gunstock and the Ski Committee. The Ski Committee looks forward to working with Gunstock again next season.

Two instructors this past season attained certifications. Scott Taylor obtain a PSIA Level I Nordic certification and Tony Schmidt obtained a PSIA Level II Nordic Downhill Certification.

The Ski Committee had an income of \$175 from the Gunstock clinics and \$130 from the Bedford clinics for a total of \$305 which will be used towards supplies and training for next season.

The ski committee ran the first annual Cardigan Backcountry ski festival. Unfortunately, poor weather prevented much skiing, but the potluck lunch was enjoyed by 18 participants. Next season we will plan for a rain date.

Two leaders in training have completed the mentoring requirements. Emilie Phillips and Tyson Sawyer are the 1st two committee trained leaders to successfully complete the mentoring process. Congratulations to Emilie and Tyson who are qualified to lead class I and II ski trips! The committee has 11 skiers that are at various stages of the mentoring process.

Emilie Phillips has offered to co-chair the committee with Tony Schmidt next season.

Respectfully submitted,
Tony Schmidt, *Chair*

Trails Committee

People are getting the message. If you're using trails for recreating (hiking, biking, skiing, whatever) you should also contribute to their maintenance. **Just one day a year** is all that's necessary if everyone pitches in. Don't be surprised that you find trail work as fun, creative, interesting and compelling as the rest of us who return time and time again – for your one day a year, or more. Its all so simple we can teach you how and why while we work on any project.

What do we do? We do and teach everything that trails need to protect the land they help you travel on including: digging in the dirt, clipping branches, painting blazes, moving rocks, building steps and bridges, changing and building trails. Just as it sounds, some of it is physically easy. Some of it is a physical and mental challenge – “How should I move that rock so I don't have to move it again?” I'm sure we do something you'll find fun.

Where do we work? From May to October you'll find our trips throughout New Hampshire including: the Old Bridle Path in Franconia Notch, the Sunapee Ridge section of the Monadnock-Sunapee Greenway (the New Hampshire chapter's adopted trails), Pawtuckaway State Park, Meredith and more.

Why? So its easier for you to hike? Noooooo. To protect the trails from the damage done by boots, rain, and melting snow. Join us to learn how this damage occurs and how – with your help – we can prevent it.

Many people have earned rewards for doing trailwork with the New Hampshire chapter: **bandanas** (for 1.5 days of work), short sleeve **T-Shirts** (for three days), long sleeve **T-shirts** (for five days). AMC offers \$20 and \$40 gift certificates for 12 and 17 days of your time. What would you like to earn next year?

This year chapter volunteers – including some for their first time – contributed hundreds of hours to the following projects:

- Old Bridle Path (the chapter's White Mountain adopted trail): spring and fall basic maintenance plus the continuous work rebuilding the many rock staircases.
- Basic maintenance on the Sunapee ridge section of the Monadnock-Sunapee Greenway.
- Improving trails on Meredith, NH Conservation land
- Installed and maintained drainage at Pawtuckaway State Park.

- Participated in volunteer trailwork weekends at AMC's Three Mile Island, Cold River.

If this sounds fun, that's because it is (we wouldn't do it if it weren't). We're ready to teach you how and why if you have no experience and challenge you (both mentally and physically) when you're ready. Every project is different and has work for everyone. We have all the tools you'll need (funded by part of your AMC membership dues). So, all you have to bring is yourself. To join us, look for our events on the web site and magazine.

See you on the trails,

Bill Darcy, Stephanie Chambers, Richie Holstein, Don MacFarlane, *Co-chairs*

Website Committee

NH AMC website URL is: www.amc-nh.org.

The website contains: upcoming events, trip listings, descriptions of groups and committees with integrated trip listings, and other information for Chapter members.

Website Traffic, Annual:

- **Visits: 33,900** (up 8% over last year)
 - 32,400 US (from 40 states):
 - 13,000 from NH (up 10% over last year)
 - 8,700 from MA (up 16% over last year)
- **Length of Visit:**
 - Avg time on site 2:37 (down 8.6%)
 - 39% look at one page then leave the site (up 5%)
- **Top 10 Pages (Page Views):**
 - Home Page 33,300
 - Activity Calendar 25,800
 - Views to Amuse 9,200
 - Weekend Calendar 6,900
 - Excursions 6,000
 - Education 3,000
 - Website Links 2,600
 - Local Weather 2,500
 - Social Calendar 2,500
 - Walks & Short Hikes Group 1,800

Issues:

Need spam-bot protection to mask email addresses on the website

Next Steps:

- 1) consider new Club's "suggested" website design/template
- 2) consider allowing advertising on the website
- 3) consider changing the back end to Joomla content management system

Kim Rexford, *Webmaster*

Young Members Committee

The goal of the committee is to bring in people in their 20s and 30s into the AMC by offering trips, social events, and volunteer opportunities. We are organized by two co-chairs with the support of an Advisory Board, a group of dedicated members that meet about four times a year to organize trips and events. The Advisory Board appoints the co-chairs to the Nominating Committee for the upcoming year.

The Young Members committee continues to foster leadership among its members. There are a few young members who are finishing their mentored co-leads and we look forward to having them serve as leaders for the AMC. We have continued to increase our offerings of hikes and social activities as a way of getting young members involved and engaged with the club.

Recognizing the need to keep up with new technology, such as social networking sites, we have established a Facebook group. In addition, we continue to maintain our Yahoo! Groups email list. Between these two tools, we have been very effective in recruiting new members and informing all members about upcoming trips and events.

We offered the Spring Hiking Series for the fifth year. This program continues to be a success. The series is geared toward beginner hikers with each successive hike increasing in difficulty. This offers a way for new members to appreciate the outdoors, learn basic outdoors skills and safety, and to meet other members. It also prepares them to try more challenging hikes for summer and fall seasons.

Socials are held each month in Portsmouth, Manchester, and Concord. Plus, a new social has been established in the Monadnock Region. The socials are informal gatherings held at various local restaurants for members to meet and discuss outdoor activities. We also had our Annual Dinner in April and our Annual Picnic in June. This year we tried a new event and had a Fourth of July Weekend up in Baxter State Park that was well attended. Our Annual Campton Car Camp Weekend in August was a success once and the Barnes Field Car Camp Weekend in September continues to build in popularity. This year our

group raised the flag on Mt. Madison as part of the Flags on the 48 ceremony, in honor of those who lost their lives in the 9-11 tragedy. All these activities have generated interest and new members to the AMC.

Although geared toward younger adults, we welcome people of all ages. Our hope is that young members will help strengthen the AMC by bringing in new members who will contribute their time and skills for many years to come. To find out more, visit our web page, www.amc-nh.org/youngmemb.html, where you can learn about upcoming events and find out how to join our email group. You can also contact Co-chairs by emailing youngmembers@amc-nh.org.

Ross Garofalo and Wayne Goertel, *Co-chairs*

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee, consisting of Ed Hawkins, Garry Crane and Stephanie Chambers, submits the following slate of officers and committee chairs for action at the New Hampshire Chapter Annual Meeting on October 2, 2010. All nominations are for one year, to serve until the next annual meeting in October of 2011.

Officers

Chair	Eric L. Savage
Vice-Chair	Karen J. Thurston
Secretary	Marianne Page
Treasurer	Kathy Ratcliffe

Committee Chairs

Conservation	Bob Harrington & Ross Garofalo
Excursions	David Ross & Peter Hope
Education	Bob Humphrey & Denise Spor
Hospitality	Patty Anderson & Kathy Ratcliffe
Membership	Mitch Manseau & Keely Norton
Mountaineering	Tom Meredith & Jim Kent
Newsletter	Jennifer Varney
Paddling	Joe O'Neil & Kerry Frazier
Programs	Ron Janowitz & Janice Bremer
Ski	Tony Schmidt & Emilie Phillips
Trails	Bill Darcy & Stephanie Chambers

Webmaster <vacant>
Young Members Wayne Goertel & Lora Claus

Immediate Past Chair, Paul Berry, and Regional Director, Ruth “Sam” Jamke, will be ex-officio members of the Executive Committee.

Past Chapter Chairs

1921	Frank E. Heald	1994-95	Kathleen D. Piper
1921	John R. McLane	1996-97	Roger R. Scholl
1920-22	Wilbert F. Gilman	1998-99	Andrew H. McBride
1923-25	Louis P. Elkins	2000-01	Anne Melvin
1926	Wilbert F. Gilman	2002-03	C. Pete Mason
1927-29	William C. Brunel	2004-05	Robert Harrington
1930	Julius C. Sturm	2006-07	Ruth "Sam" Jamke
1931-32	Dr. John Worthen	2008-09	Paul Berry
1933	Julius C. Sturm		
1934	Samuel P. Hunt		
1935	Clifton A Smith		
1936	Julius C. Sturm		
1937-38	I. Reed Gourley		
1939-40	Walter T. Winch		
1941	Avis Cross		
1942-43	Elizabeth Crosby		
1944-45	Arnold Perreton		
1946-47	Earnest C. Goland		
1948-49	Osgood E. Waite		
1950-51	Almon G. Harris		
1952	H. Shirley Dwyer		
1953	Harry Birch		
1954-55	Charles V. Tallman		
1956-57	Florence W. Harris		
1958-60	J. Clifford Gallant		
1961	Dr. Harry C. McDade		
1962-63	Mrs. Luther G Dearborn		
1964	Robert Hill		
1965	Dr. Ursula Sanders		
1966-67	Mrs. Miriam Underhill		
1968-69	Terence P. Frost		
1970-71	Dorothy G. Burak		
1972	S. Robert Colby		
1973-74	E.H.B. Bartelink		
1975-76	Ruth Houghton		
1977	Holly Anderson		
1978-79	Robert C. Hansen		
1980-81	Paul S. Shaw		
1982-83	Harry Wescott		
1984-85	Henry Peterson		
1986	Jay Seavey		
1987-89	Douglas F. Wyman		
1990-91	David L. Harrigan		
1992-93	D. Kurt Piper		