

**Eighty-Ninth
Annual Report
of the
New Hampshire Chapter
Appalachian Mountain Club**



October 3, 2009

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

50 Year Members

David Darlington
Ingeborg Lock
Muriel Feely

25 Year Members

Thomas Adams
Mary Atwell
Anne Batchelder
William Batchelder
Rodman Black
Nancy Black
Theresa Boisvert
Mike Boisvert
Leonard Campbell
Kyong Cha
William Clough
Marta Clough
Roland Coates
Walt Crookes
Deborah Crowell
James Crowell
Paul Cunha
Carol Cunha
Gary Donoghue
Scot Drysdale
Gerald Dupont
Ted Eaton
Robert Faiman
Joseph Fellows
Nancy Fellows
Leon Fink
Nancy Frankel
Elizabeth Freeman
Mary Fullerton
Laurance Garland
Guy Gosselin
Anne Gwynne
John Halloran

Patricia Higgins
Mary Hunt
Barbara Hunt
Douglas Huntley
Raymond Landry
Patricia Leavitt
Peter Leech
Matthew Madeira
Leo McCarthy
Mike McCarthy
Jack Mettee
Jerome Mullin
Daniel Mulvihill
Martha Netsch
Maris Noble
Peter Nordblom
Marcia Parody
Douglas Romano
Jadwiga Rosenthal
Carl Rosenthal
Barry Salussolia
Roger Saunders
Andrew Supplee
Linda Taylor
John Thompson
Carol Thompson
Charles Waite
Henry Watts
Jane Welch
Jim Welch
C. Wentzell
Margaret Wentzell
Brian Williams

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Chapter Chair Report

My term as Chapter Chair is drawing to a close. A lot has happened during this time: implementation of changes to Chapter by-laws, documentation of by-laws for several major existing committees, creation of a Skiing Committee and creation of a temporary committee for Walks and Short Hikes. There have been many ExComm meetings with ‘spirited’ discussions. I will leave the details to the individual committee reports and instead focus on my journey with the AMC over the last several years.

As I said in an earlier *Notes From the Chair*, I have been a leader for the AMC NH Paddling Committee for 25 years. During the first 20 years my involvement with the AMC was limited to paddling. When I volunteered to become Chapter Vice-Chair I felt that I needed to get involved with other AMC NH activities. What I found with the other groups is the same as what I first found with the paddling group, a lot of great people, all unique and all dedicated to sharing the outdoors.

My first non-paddling trip was a wonderful hike up Mount Monadnock led by Pete Mason and Roger Scholl. I took the Winter Hiking Series led by Bob Humphrey and learned how to hike above tree-line in the winter. My first AMC snowshoeing trip was with Anne Gwynne and Wes Tucker. I fell in the parking lot but recovered and again had a wonderful trip. I joined the Winter School to learn telemark skiing led by Mountaineering leaders Larry Veal and Bill Darcy. I was not much of a telemark skier but I found out that there is Alpine Touring equipment that lets you ‘free-heel’ up and ‘alpine’ down. That led to several more skiing trips. Finally I did trail work again led by Bill Darcy and have an even greater respect for the work the trails crew do.

I have had a great time with many great people, you should try it!

Paul Berry, Chapter Chair

chair@amc-nh.org

Treasurer's Report

Another good year – except for a little hiccup in our investment reserves, from which we'll recover along with the rest of the country.

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 elect 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 find hard copies of the newsletter more convenient – and the Chapter wants very much to stay in contact; however, please consider going double green with the electronic version if you can: save paper and money.

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.

As I leave this position, I want to again thank all members for their support of our activities, and all activities chairs for providing recreational and educational opportunities to our members. I have only helped them keep score of their resources.

Mitch Manseau, Treasurer
treasurer@amc-nh.org

Secretary's Report

The 88th Annual Meeting of the New Hampshire Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club was held at the Canterbury Woods Country Club in Canterbury, NH on October 4, 2008. The following slate of nominees was presented and accepted by the members for the year 2008-2009 New Hampshire Chapter Executive Committee:

Chair:	Paul Berry
Vice-chair:	Eric Savage
Treasurer:	Mitch Manseau
Secretary:	Karen J. Thurston
Conservation:	Bob Harrington
Education:	Bob Humphrey
Excursions:	David S. Ross
Hospitality:	Kathy Ratcliffe & Janice Bremer
Membership:	Kathy Ratcliffe & Keely Norton
Mountaineering:	Thor Smith & Larry Krutko
Newsletter:	Renée Robertie
Paddling:	Karen Klawiter & Joe Correia
Programs:	Ron Janowitz & Janice Bremer
Ski:	Tony Schmidt
Trails:	Bill Darcy & Tim Doucette
Young Members:	Ross Garofalo & Mary Brundage

Ex-officio members: Past Chair, Ruth "Sam" Jamke; Regional Director, John Dolloff

Nine meetings of the Executive Committee were held during the 2008-2009 season. Minutes were recorded and distributed to the committee members. The Annual Report was completed and printed for the Annual Meeting.

Karen J. Thurston, Secretary
secretary@amc-nh.org

Committee Reports

Conservation

This was a slow year for the NH Chapter Conservation Committee. The Co-Chairs were pursuing their own conservation interests, which included Canterbury Shaker Village and the Prescott Farm Environmental Education Center in Laconia. The one Chapter-wide offering was Chapter Activity Day at Cardigan Lodge in May. We had a small but enthusiastic group join us for a nature walk with the main focus on early blooming wildflowers.

We expect to be involved with another Chapter Activity Day in the spring and will be listing a nature snowshoe hike sometime after the first of the year focused on animal tracking. Tentative venues are Canterbury Shaker Village and Prescott Farm Environmental Education Center. If you have a suggestion of another place known for good tracking, please make it known to the Co-Chairs.

Robert Harrington & Ross Garofalo, Co Chairs

Education

The Education committee had an active and successful 2008 and 2009. The 2008 Winter Hiking Series (WHS) was very well attended. Mother Nature cooperated by giving us winter conditions nearer the end of the series. Participants really enjoyed themselves and, by their own accounts, learned a lot. Following the series one of the participants went on to complete 43 of the 48 winter peaks in the White Mountains. Quite an accomplishment for one accustomed only to three-season hiking before taking the WHS!

We had very well attended Map and Compass classes held in Warner's Mink Hill area. We sponsored one class in October of '08 and another in April of '09 with another being offered on October 3, 2009.

We ran a fun Chapter Activity Day at Cardigan again this past spring, although it was not as well attended as in previous years. The Education Committee wishes to extend its gratitude to those chapter leaders who gave of their time to help with the event. Those participants who did attend had a great time. Chapter Activity Day will be offered again in 2010. We hope to see many more chapter members attend. The day, after all, is run for the benefit of members in hopes of getting some who have not participated in our activities to learn who we are and what we're about and get a taste of all the great things the New Hampshire Chapter has to offer!

We ran an introductory backpacking course at which we had a number of demonstrations and displays of all types of gear that make for a fun and successful backpacking trip. Thanks are extended to Stacie Tate and Anne Gwynne who helped with the day. Anne, being the Backpacking Gourmet, demonstrated dehydration

techniques and had meal samples as well as backpacking recipes which everyone appreciated. A myriad of meal possibilities were covered by Bob and Anne. Stacie lent her superior packing abilities to the cause, being especially helpful to the women who attended, by showing techniques for packing and carrying heavy backpacking essentials. The introductory class was followed up with an actual backpack outing to the White Mountain National Forest. Here participants received “*hands on*” training for picking and preparing an area for tent set-up 100 yards away from both the food prep and hanging food areas. In addition, participants learned about the importance of having a proper camp site system that includes water filtering, proper stove use, and safe food prep, handling and hanging. These practices are basic bear and rodent deterrents. We also covered principles of “*Leave no Trace.*” The weather cooperated for this event helping to make it a great time and success.

Sadly our GPS Training day drew hardly any interest and was cancelled. We plan at a future date to offer this training again in hopes of attracting more interest than was generated this year. Partly to blame for its failure was poor advertising, a situation which has now been rectified by enabling the Education Chair to submit events directly to the On-Line Trip Listing web page. This will enable the committee to post events well in advance in hopes of attracting more attention.

The committee is now very busy readying materials and planning for this year’s Winter Hiking Series. This popular program has been well attended in the past and is well on its way to a repeat performance with the class already over half full. This year will mark the tenth anniversary of the series. The Education Committee would like to acknowledge its sincere gratitude to Bill Darcy, Norm Michaels, Lou Caron, Jennifer Gross, Stacie Tate, and Denise Penn for their unselfish donation of time and expertise to this program! Without their years of tireless support and dedication the WHS would not exist! I thank each of you for the dedication and support you have given me and the program year after year.

Your Education Committee hopes to continue offering valuable educational opportunities and programs in the future and welcomes any ideas or input from you the members of the best chapter in the AMC; New Hampshire!

Bob Humphrey, Chair

Excursions

This year has been an eventful one for our committee. Wes Tucker stepped down after many years doing yeoman work as Chair, and we owe him tremendous thanks for starting the committee on its way into the electronic age of trip submission, as well as for his dedicated service and organizational skills.

New Committee Structure

It’s clear that the work of the Excursions Committee is too great for one person to do without demanding a time commitment that is unreasonable for the typical volunteer. Recognizing this, I initiated, and many others honed and refined, the development of the Excursions Committee by-laws, an important part of which provide for several committee officers—Co-chairs, Secretary, Treasurer, and Workshop Director—to handle the increased load of committee business.

The by-laws were approved by all the voting members present at an Excursions Committee meeting this past spring, and approved at a subsequent NH Chapter Executive Committee meeting. This gave us the go-ahead to ask for volunteers, and to present a slate of candidates to a recent Excursions Committee meeting, where the slate was unanimously adopted.

The candidates are as follows:

David Ross	Co-chair, continuing
Peter Hope	Co-chair, incoming
Paul Hopkins	Secretary
Rick Desmarais	Treasurer
Rick Silverberg	Workshop Director

Election of the Co-chairs will occur at the Chapter meeting in October.

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 means by which our Committee begins 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.

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 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 his usual superb job putting together two Chapter Hut Nights this year, and he did an exceptionally fine job in his 5th year as director of the week long Annual Presidential Range Hike (PRH) in July.

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

Training

Last November, and again this coming November, we will be sponsoring a Wilderness First Aid training weekend for Excursions Committee Leaders, 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.

Also this November we will be holding our triennial Leader Appreciation Lunch and Workshop at Pat’s Peak in Henniker, NH. This forum is an opportunity for Leaders to receive kudos for the hard work they have done for the Chapter, and also to have an open discussion about practical problems that arise when leading trips.

Our 100 Leaders deserve our gratitude for the many hours of dedicated service to the Chapter they have performed in leading hikes all over New England. With your support, they will continue to offer safe, informative and enjoyable hikes in the future.

David S. Ross, Chair

Hospitality and Programs

The New Hampshire Chapter – Appalachian Mountain Club conducted five dinner programs during the 2008 – 2009 year. The dinner programs were held on Saturday evenings at various locations throughout the state and focused on diverse topics.

October 4, 2008 – The 88th Annual Meeting and Dinner was held at the Canterbury Woods Country Club in Canterbury, NH. Guest speaker was mountain climber and photographer, Charles Gray. His multimedia presentation included video and photos of his attempt to climb Mt. Cho Oyu located in the Himalayan mountain range. At 26, 907 feet it is the sixth highest peak in the world. He also shared photos and memories of his travels in Asia that included cultural and historic landmarks of Beijing, China and Tibet.

February 21, 2009 – The Chapter held its first Pot Luck dinner at Wesley United Methodist Church, Concord, NH. Guest speaker, Tim Kennedy, (Chapter Trip Leader) provided a very interesting and entertaining presentation of his Presidential Range Hikes followed by a question and answer period as well. In addition, the pot luck dishes prepared by our guests were varied, delicious, and plentiful.

April 4, 2009 – This Chapter dinner was held at The Yard Restaurant, Manchester, NH. Julie LePage, Boston Chapter trip leader, was guest speaker. She awed our guests with a spectacular slide presentation of her hut-to-hut trip through Slovenia from the Mediterranean coastline to the caves and castles of the Postojna region, and to the Julijske Alps in Triglav National Park.

June 13, 2009 – The 1903 Pub & Banquet Hall at the Intervale Country Club was the scene for guest speaker, Tony Schmidt’s, photo presentation entitled “Destination Denali”. Tony (AMC-NH Chapter Ski Committee) captured the interest of our guests on this self-guided trek with his two climbing partners to the land of the midnight sun. We followed the team as they arrived in Anchorage, shuttled to the town of Talkeetna, and took a bush plane to the Kahiltna Glacier.

August 15, 2009 – RiverWoods Retirement Community in Exeter, NH was the site of this Chapter dinner. Sam Jamke (former Chapter Chair and Chapter Trip Leader) was speaker for the evening. She provided a spectacular repeat photo presentation of her 2007 Major Excursion Trip on *Trekking New Zealand’s Great Walks*. RiverWoods provided our guests with a tasty meal of grilled chicken, penne pasta, vegetarian lasagna and assorted cookies for dessert. Since alcoholic beverages could not be purchased at RiverWoods our guests were permitted to bring their own wine.

Ron Janowitz and Janice Bremer, Programs Co-Chairs

Kathy Ratcliffe and Janice Bremer, Hospitality Co-Chairs

Membership

Our chapter began its reporting year with 9,932 members in September 2008 and reports 9,678 members as of September 2009. We remain the third largest chapter after the Boston and New York-New Jersey chapters.

We sent out 1,834 new member letters in the 12-month reporting 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 Outdoors Magazine.

We sent 69 certificates of appreciation to 25 and 50 year New Hampshire Chapter members thanking them for their continuous support over the years.

We sold individual and family memberships through the Membership in a Bottle program and via our facility for purchasing memberships on-line.

Kathy Ratcliffe and Keely Norton, Co-chairs

Mountaineering

For the period September 2008 through August 2009, the Mountaineering Committee offered 23 rock climbing trips (176 participant-days) and 3 ice climbing trips (20 participant-days). Indoor gym climbing had 97 participant-days for the year.

We also offered newcomers the opportunity to try technical climbing with 3 beginner rock-climbing days (20 participants) and 2 beginner/novice ice-climbing days (23 participants) run in conjunction with the International Mountain Climbing School (IMCS) of North Conway.

The Mountaineering Committee continued the tradition in 2008-9 of offering winter mountaineering skills workshops. The Avalanche Awareness Workshops have grown in popularity (apparently due to word-of-mouth and our improved advertising skills), and had a total of 25 participants for the two 2-day clinics. The 3-day Glacier Travel and Crevasse Rescue series proved very popular once again (66 participant days) and drew glacier-seeking pilgrims from as far away as Maryland. Sterling Ropes again provided sponsorship for the glacier program, and provided 3 new ropes and nylon cord to the Mountaineering Committee.

Rock-climbing clinics began when the glaciers melted (summer). In June through August 2009, these included our 3-day Top-Rope Site Management series (7 participants) and 3 advanced rock clinics for experienced climbers (20 participants). The rock, ice, and snow clinics and workshops generated a total net income of \$3787 for the Mountaineering Committee in 2008-9.

The Mountaineering Committee sponsored training with professional guides at IMCS for several of our trip leaders and workshop instructors this year. This included a 2-day glacier rescue course for 3 of the GTCR workshop instructors, a 3-day Single-Pitch Instructor course (American Mountain Guides Association curriculum) for one rock-climbing leader/instructor, and a 3-day 'trad-leading' rock-climbing course for 3 Mountaineering Committee trip leaders. The total cost to the Mountaineering Committee for this leader/instructor training was \$1955.

Other Mountaineering Committee expenses for 2009 were the purchase of 5 used avalanche transceivers and 3 avalanche-safety evaluation charts to be used in the Avalanche Awareness Workshops, for total equipment purchases of \$476.

Finally, the N.H. Mountaineering Committee would like to welcome 4 new aspiring trip leaders who successfully completed our TRSM training course in June, and are now progressing through their mentored trips. And we would like to thank all of the trip leaders and workshop instructors who worked hard to make 2009 another successful, fun, and rewarding year for the Mountaineering Committee.

Thor Smith and Larry Krutko, Co-chairs

Newsletter

The Chapter published six issues of *Mountain Passages* during the 2008-09 program year. The newsletter and the Chapter website are the primary communications vehicles for the Chapter to get program and event information to members.

This year, AMC headquarters introduced the Kintera tool to Chapter newsletter editors. We began distributing *Mountain Passages* through this system with the Nov/Dec 08 issue. Use of this system relieves us of the burdensome task of managing the newsletter mail files, as members can indicate their preference for receiving *Mountain Passages* either in print or electronic format through the online Member Center and mail files are sorted accordingly.

We continue to encourage NH members to choose the electronic format, which greatly reduces the Chapter's printing and postage costs. While the numbers are steadily growing, to date, only 8.5% of NH members have elected to receive their newsletter electronically, this despite continuous promotion of the e-version in saving Chapter budget dollars that could otherwise be put to use for programs and activities. Since *Mountain Passages* is the single highest budget item for the Chapter, we will re-double our efforts to promote online distribution and provide incentives for doing so, such as enhanced content and photos, interactiveness, and drawings for prizes exclusively for those receiving the *Mountain Passages* electronically. We will also seek to gain an understanding of why print members are not electing to switch, as well as what information our members want, in an effort to improve the value of this member benefit.

Ad revenue for the year was \$378. We will continue to seek ad revenue for the coming year and are looking for member volunteers to assist with that effort.

Renée Robertie, Editor Mountain Passages

Paddling

The Paddling Committee of the New Hampshire Appalachian Mountain Club posted over 100 trips and events in 2009, including touring trips on flat and moving water; whitewater river trips; sea kayaking trips; and recreational evening paddles. Most of our trips were single day trips, and we also ran a number of overnight and multi-day trips (wilderness excursions as well as base camp paddles).

We have continued our very successful Wednesday Evening Recreational Paddle series. These trips provided terrific opportunities for new members to join up with more experienced paddlers to try out paddling and demo a variety of boats.

In 2009, we held our first Sea Kayaking Workshop at Knubble Bay Camp. At this weekend-long workshop, students learned about safety, skills, gear, and trip planning – among other things. The event was a great success, and our Sea Kayaking leaders hope to present another workshop next year.

Our annual Spring Class II Whitewater School was a great success as well. Most of those students have returned to paddle with the club on many subsequent trips, and many have become regular paddlers with the AMC.

Twice each year, we host meetings (fall and spring) for our General Membership to conduct committee business, hear sub-committee reports, schedule upcoming trips, and socialize over potluck dinner.

In addition to our paddling trips, weekend classes, and General Meetings, we offer additional educational courses in safety and rescue, leadership, and whitewater skills.

Paddling on rivers, lakes, and ponds throughout New England, we offer organized trips, courses, instruction, and great fun for canoeists and kayakers of all experience levels. Come paddle with us!

Karen Klawiter and Joe Correia, Co-chairs

Ski

Trips

The ski committee had a very successful season. We offered 17 back country trips with 128 participants and 9 telemark and back country clinics with 46 participants. Note that last few trips had sizable wait lists. The Gulf of Slides trip alone had 50 skiers on the wait list. We are attributing this to the expanded exposure we've had via the ski committee website.

Administration

The telemark clinics brought in \$140 of revenue for the committee. The committee had expenditures of \$140 over the course of the season to cover the costs of lift tickets for instructors. The committee had a balance of \$65 from last season which was used to fund the 2009 end of the year party. The committee's current balance is \$0.00. A by-laws change was approved by ExComm and went to a member vote at the chapters annual meeting in October 2008. The members approved the by-laws change and the ski committee was made a full committee.

The committee sent all of its current ski leaders to PSIA Nordic Downhill training and all ski instructors are now at least PSIA level I certified ski instructors. Two additional instructors are level I certified that are in the mentoring process.

The ski committee continued to support both January and February winter schools with ski instructors. 3 new leaders were trained during the February winter school for future instructor positions. One instructor was cross trained in the January winter school to instruct a different level than what he normally instructs.

Tony Schmidt, Chair

Trails

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. It's 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, the Davis Path, Meredith and more.

Why? So it's 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.
Basic and construction projects on the Davis Path.
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 Camp and Cardigan Lodge facilities.

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.

Bill Darcy & Tim Doucette, Co-chairs

Website

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.

New this year:

- Website has been redesigned
- Easy to find trip listings (un-like outdoors.org) pulled from OLTL
- Moved web hosting to a new provider for more features and disk space.
- Views-to-Amuse online (Photo Quiz from around New England)
- Dinner Program Online registration and payment
- Member Surveys
- Google Analytics for tracking visitor activity
- ExComm Document Archive (login required)

Issues:

None.

Website Traffic, Per Month:

- **Unique Visits: 2,800** (down 11% from last year)
 - 2,700 US (from 40 states):
 - 1,100 NH (up 10% from last year)
 - 650 MA (down 19% from last year)
 - 100 non-us (down 50% from last year)
- **Length of Visit:**
 - Avg time on site 2:31 (up 15%)
 - 35% look at one page then leave the site (down 31%)
 - Top 10 Pages (Page Views in August 09):
 - Home Page 3,005
 - Activity Calendar 2,650
 - Excursions 639
 - Weekend Calendar 586
 - Views to Amuse 503

- Website Links 278
- Social Calendar 252
- Education 241
- Walks & Short Hikes Group 215
- Local Weather 189

Website Next Steps:

- 1) minor page layout changes
- 2) consideration of allowing advertising on the website
- 3) content management feature for removing expired content

Kim Rexford and Karen Klawiter, Co-chairs

Young Members

The goal of the committee is to bring 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 Excursions leaders for the AMC. We have continued to maintain our adopted trail, the lower section of the Castle Trail on Mt. Jefferson through the Adopt-a-Trail program. We offer a couple of trail days a year that are open to all members to help support this program.

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 fourth 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 Nashua area. 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. Our Annual Campton Car Camp Weekend in August was well attended and this year was particularly special as

two of our members, who met through our group, were married on top of Mt. Moosilauke that weekend. We were honored that they decided to share their special day with us. The Barnes Field Car Camp Weekend in September continues to build in popularity. 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.

Mary Brundage and Ross Garofalo, Co-chairs

Nominating

This year we failed to meet the dates established in Article VII Section 1 of our by-laws. There is an alternate method listed in Article VII Section 2 which is the method that is being presented here. The following list of nominees has been provided to our secretary with signatures of five members of our chapter. The list has also been endorsed by the majority of the Nominating Committee and the majority of the current Executive Committee. All nominations are for one year, to serve until the next annual meeting in October of 2010.

Chair	Eric Savage
Vice-chair	Karen J. Thurston
Secretary	Jennifer Varney
Treasurer	Kathy Ratcliffe
<u>Committee Chairs</u>	
Conservation	Bob Harrington & Ross Garofalo
Excursions	David Ross & Peter Hope
Education	Bob Humphrey & Paul Berry
Hospitality	Janice Bremer & Kathy Ratcliffe
Membership	Keely Norton & Mitch Manseau
Mountaineering	Thor Smith & Tom Meredith
Newsletter	Renée Robertie
Paddling	Tom Todd
Programs	Ron Janowitz & Janice Bremer
Ski	Tony Schmidt
Trails	Bill Darcy
Webmaster	Kim Rexford
Young Members	Ross Garofalo & Wayne Goertel
Immediate Past Chair	Paul Berry

Past Chapter Chairs

1921	Frank E. Heald	1977	Holly Anderson
1921	John R. McLane	1978-79	Robert C. Hansen
1920-22	Wilbert F. Gilman	1980-81	Paul S. Shaw
1923-25	Louis P. Elkins	1982-83	Harry Wescott
1926	Wilbert F. Gilman	1984-85	Henry Peterson
1927-29	William C. Brunel	1986	Jay Seavey
1930	Julius C. Sturm	1987-89	Douglas F. Wyman
1931-32	Dr. John Worthen	1990-91	David L. Harrigan
1933	Julius C. Sturm	1992-93	D. Kurt Piper
1934	Samuel P. Hunt	1994-95	Kathleen D. Piper
1935	Clifton A Smith	1996-97	Roger R. Scholl
1936	Julius C. Sturm	1998-99	Andrew H. McBride
1937-38	I. Reed Gourley	2000-01	Anne Melvin
1939-40	Walter T. Winch	2002-03	C. Pete Mason
1941	Avis Cross	2004-05	Robert Harrington
1942-43	Elizabeth Crosby	2006-07	Ruth "Sam" Jamke
1944-45	Arnold Perreton	2008-09	Paul Berry
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		