Notes from the Chair

As I am writing this I realize that, personally, I have had a very busy winter! Unfortunately, this did not leave much time for “recreation.” I was, however, able to join an AMC NH Ski trip on March 28. We went up to Cardigan Lodge for the day and had a great time. The Ski Committee started as a temporary committee last year and became a regular activity committee this year. The group has done a great job. We have offered skiing for many years via both the Excursions and the Mountaineering Committees; however having a separate committee focusing on skiing has increased our ability to provide trips to our members. This year we have had several members become Ski Leaders based on the new criteria established by the Ski Committee.

Last year we also created another temporary committee for Walks and Short Hikes. That committee will continue this year. I am scheduling a training session on Sat. June 20 in Southern NH for those interested in becoming a Walks and Short Hikes Leader. It will be a full day and evening event. For more information see the AMC NH Chapter website amc-nh.org or contact me at 603-423-1192 or email PaulBerryAMCNH@aol.com.

There is also interest in forming another temporary committee for biking. I expect more information soon.

Paul Berry
NH Chapter Chair

Destination Denali!
AMC-NH Chapter Dinner Program
Saturday, June 13
Intervale Country Club, Manchester, NH

Guest Speaker: Tony Schmidt, AMC-NH Chapter Ski Committee

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to climb the tallest and most spectacular peak in North America?

Veteran climber Tony Schmidt, AMC New Hampshire Chapter Ski Committee Chairperson, and two highly experienced climbing partners spent months planning for this self-guided trek to the land of the midnight sun. Learn about pre-trip preparations such as selecting an appropriate route, physical and mental conditioning, and how a high-calorie budget influences meal planning at 17,000 feet. Follow the team as they arrive in Anchorage, shuttle to the town of Talkeetna, take a bush plane to the Kahltna Glacier, and master the mountain one camp at a time before altitude sickness denies them the summit.

Questions will be welcome during and after the presentation. Mark your calendar now for an evening you won’t soon forget! See page 8 for registration form, dinner menu, and directions.
Who’s Who in AMC-NH

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tr>
<td>Chapter Chair</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Mitch Manseau</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
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<td>Bob Harrington</td>
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<td>Ross Garofalo</td>
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<td>Karen Klawiter</td>
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<td>Past Chapter Chair</td>
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<td>603-472-2536</td>
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<td>Dave Passios</td>
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AMC-NH Chapter Website  www.amc-nh.org
Address changes and membership renewals:
AMC Member Services, 5 Joy Street, Boston, MA 02108
617-523-0636 or www.outdoors.org/membercenter

Notes from the Vice Chair

Looking forward to a new administration (not that there’s anything wrong with the current one).

Have you ever looked at the list of names on the left and wondered what those people do? Perhaps you’ve wondered how they came to be in those positions. Or even better, maybe you’ve thought, “Hey, I could do that. I wonder if they need any help.” These people make up the Executive Committee of the Chapter (aside from a few names at the end of the list) and are the people who are responsible for organizing and implementing the activities and programs that we all enjoy throughout the year.

As I look forward to becoming Chair, assuming tradition endures and I am nominated and elected, I look forward to the support of this group as I take on the responsibility of running the Chapter. Though many of the current committee members will continue in their positions, some will step down or move into new positions and leave vacancies that will need to be filled. This leads to the second question, how did they come to be in those positions? To put it simply: they volunteered. There are the technical details of nominations and elections, but essentially they are there because they decided that they wanted to get involved and help the Chapter accomplish the goals of the Club.

The elections won’t happen until October, at our Annual Meeting, and though it may seem like a long way away, especially as we’re still settling into spring, it won’t be long before the Nominating Committee and I start work on putting together next year’s Executive Committee.

This is where you come in. If you would like to share your talents and interests with us, please let us know. While some positions are more appropriate for people who have some involvement already (most notably, the activity committee co-chairs have generally served as trip leaders), many are accessible to anyone with some people skills and the ability to organize.

In particular, due to term limits in our by-laws, we will be looking for a new treasurer. This would be a great opportunity for someone with some accounting skills (we do not have a terribly complicated budget) to make an important contribution.

And while there are many people on the Executive Committee, even they do not do all the work by themselves. There are many others working in the background to support them. If a position on the committee seems like too much at this time, consider volunteering for some

Continued on page 4
Chapter Activity Day – May 2
Come join the fun at AMC’s beautiful Cardigan Lodge and surrounding area for Chapter Activity Day. You can sample what the NH Chapter has to offer. Meet our trip leaders, make new friends, learn map and compass, see kayak and canoe demonstrations or take a paddle on beautiful Newfound Lake. This day is offered free of charge. Registration begins at 7:30 and programs begin at 9 a.m. We will serve continental style refreshments in the morning. Bring a bag lunch and your desired thirst quencher. For more information refer to the March/April edition of Mountain Passages or online at AMC-NH.org, or contact Bob Humphrey (7-9 p.m. only please) 603-456-3708 or bobh@mcttelecom.com. Come join the fun!

Introduction to Backpacking – May 16 (rain date May 17)
This will be a day for all those interested in learning basics of backpacking to see and sample all that goes into a good backpacking trip. We will have a number of different styles of tents set up and go over pros and cons of each. We will have pads, tarps, and almost all the creature comforts associated with a fun trip. We will display stoves and go over food preparation, show you simple, yet delicious, back-country meals and have examples of how to dehydrate foods. This will be a day you won’t want to miss if you have the urge to get into the back-country or atop a peak for either a weekend getaway or multi-day trip. We will show you what you need to know and have. This offering is to be followed up with the beginner backpacking trip on June 6.

Beginner Backpack into the ‘Pemi’ Wilderness – June 6
This offering is a follow-up of the May 16 program. Its aim is to educate those new to backpacking on all aspects of a safe and enjoyable back country experience. We will cover camp site logistics, safe food prep and storage (food hanging techniques) water filtration and cooking and ‘leave no trace’ ethics. Although this is meant as a follow-up to the May 16 event, anyone can sign up; you don’t have to have taken part in the May 16 event. Contact Bob Humphrey (7-9 p.m. only please) 603-456-3708 or bobh@mcttelecom.com.

Requirements: You must have a protractor-type compass. EMS sells a number of different styles. (Good ones are made by either Silva or Suunto. The Suunto M-2 or M3 are a couple of good compass models.) Hiking boots, safety glasses, long sleeve shirts and long pants (unless you enjoy scratches and thorns), small day pack, trail snacks, and water.

Annual Winter Hiking Series
October - December
This series begins with a weekend-long event taking place at AMC’s Pinkham Notch Visitor Center and Joe Dodge Lodge and is mandatory for those who wish to participate in any of the remaining five day hikes in this series.

Sat. Oct. 24 will be devoted to lectures on gear, nutrition, hydration, group dynamics and group safety topics. On Sun. Oct. 25 we will hike to beautiful Tuckerman Ravine and to Slide Peak and descend via Boot Spur. Additional hikes include:

- 10/31 Mt. Flume
- 11/14 Mt. Liberty
- 11/21 Mt. Mooselauke
- 12/5 Eisenhower and Clinton
- 12/19 Franconia Ridge Mts. Lincoln & Lafayette

This is not a beginner hiking course! This class is for those who can demonstrate considerable 3-season experience, preferably in the White Mountains of New Hampshire or their equivalent. Candidates should be able to hike 12 or more miles in a day over steep and rough terrain. Participants are chosen through an application process.

Continued on page 4
AMC New Hampshire Chapter Annual Hut Night #1
June 13 at Madison Hut

This special night is exclusively for the great people of the N.H. Chapter. Come on out and visit old friends and meet some new friends.

We will ascend to the hut where we have reserved 25 bunks for Saturday night June 13. The social hour will begin at 4 p.m. with wine and snacks.

Cost is $90 and includes the social hour, Saturday night dinner, Sunday morning breakfast, tip for the croo, and a wonderful bunk with blankets. That is a $13 savings to you!

Madison Hut is located above treeline on the shoulder of Mt. Madison. This is a great time of year to catch the alpine flowers in bloom. Be sure to bring warm clothing and rain gear. A sleeping bag and clothes to relax in are a good idea. We will have NH Chapter trip leaders available for a group-led hike to the hut if you are interested. Consult your AMC Guidebook for trail details.

Registration: Send your application and check, or for more information and an application, contact Tim Kennedy at 603-635-2517 or takhike@comcast.net; 109 Garland Drive, Pelham, NH 03076.

Hurry! Act Now! Get that Registration in!!

Registration Form
Madison Hut Night June 12

Please print!

| Name |
| Address |
| City, State, Zip |
| Phone # |
| Email |

# of people in your party ______

Names of those attending: Under age 15?

Yes No

Workshops and Training
continued from page 3

The course fee is $70, which covers participant materials and instructor expenses for day one. Lodging packages are available by calling 603-466-2727.

• Do not reserve lodging until you have been accepted for the course.

• Do not purchase new gear in anticipation of this class; let us educate you first so you can make informed choices in gear selection.

For more information and an application contact Bob Humphrey (7-9 p.m. only please), or preferably by email to bobh@mcttelecom.com.

All correspondence for this course is done electronically, therefore a valid email address or email access is required.
I’m Done Hikin’!
By David Ross and Anne Gwynne

Just about a year ago, I set out on the road
Seekin’ my fame and fortune, lookin’ for a pot of gold,
Things got bad and things got worse, I guess you’ll know the tune.
Oh Lord! Stuck in old Lodi again.
John Fogerty, “Lodi” Creedence Clearwater Revival

Just about a year ago we had a couple of articles in Mountain Passages about winter peak-bagging. (See the March/April and May/June 2008 issues.) In those articles one of us complained, a little tongue-in-cheek, about all the “work” it was bagging those peaks last winter, and the other of us complained, not tongue-in-cheek, about being a Peak-bagger’s Widow.

Winter New England 100 Highest
One of the things you learn when you start hiking in the northern New England states is how hiking varies from one region to the other. Bushwhacking in Vermont is a pleasure; if it were summer, we would call it “fern-whacking,” because the woods tend to be open and friendly, with few spruce forests.

New Hampshire has some terrible bushwhack peaks, many clustered along or near the Kancamagus Highway, but of course our state has 48 four thousand footers, which are often the first summits an aspiring peak-bagger claims in the winter season. There is a temptation to think “Oh, I’m nearly halfway done with the New England 100.”

That’s when you realize there is something called “Maine.” Some of these mountains live a long way down private logging roads which may be plowed this year, or next year, or never; getting accurate information is a major accomplishment. Sometimes you have a choice: an overnight ski trip just to climb one peak or a wait of a year or more until loggers are operating in the area.

Baxter State Park
By happy coincidence, my friend Carl and I both finished our quest in northern Maine’s Baxter State Park, home to six of the Hundred Highest. We had each climbed Mt. Katahdin and its two peaks in the past, so we had four mountains left, in a different part of the park.

The folks who administer this park want to make sure that winter visitors are well-equipped and experienced, so they make you jump through a few hoops. You need a permit. The permit is for a specified date and area. The permit must have the names of the members of your team, and there must be at least three of you, but not more than six, and you cannot substitute anyone at the last minute. Therefore it’s necessary to get your team members to commit to this expedition months in advance.

You’re not home free once you’ve got the permit. The biggest factor can be the weather, both while driving the 300 miles from southern NH and in the park itself, where mountain-climbing may be prohibited by the rangers if the weather is too severe. There are also the human factors—people have changes of schedule and have to cancel, or they get sick, or have personality conflicts, or just get fatigued and can’t hike. It’s not surprising that many teams return multiple times before they achieve their goal in Baxter.

Luckily for our two teams, the hiking gods smiled upon our effort (or maybe they were just tired of dealing with us). One day we pulled our sleds—each loaded with 30 pounds of gear—for 10 miles to our camping area. The following day we were most fortunate to summit all four of our peaks in a 12 mile, 10 hour effort with no mishaps of any sort, returning to our tents just as the sun set.

The Payoff
Readers who have succumbed to the allure of peak-bagging know for sure that there is little fame and no fortune associated with the endeavor. When I returned home, after 10 miles of sLED-pulling and 5 hours of driving, I should have fallen comatose into bed, but I was so wired I got little sleep that night.

I kept reviewing the highlights of this very odd quest: finding the register bottles on trailless peaks; group dinners in Stratton, Maine; driving for miles on icy logging roads; seeing two bull moose clashing their antlers while a cow looked on. Yes, I wouldn’t trade the experience for any pot of gold.

The Former Widow Speaks
Last winter I complained about the crampons under the table, the mountains of dirty laundry, the half-eaten Fluffernutter sandwiches that always showed up in his pockets after the clothes had been through the wash cycle. I went on and on about lonely dinners at home and spruce needles littering floors, shower and bed.

But now the great peak-bagger is done hikin’! No more fun girls’ nights out with dinner and a movie! No more hanging out in my pajamas all day, curled up with a good book and the cats. No more having the bed to myself.

Enough of this shared life! Maybe I can get him interested in the Adirondacks next winter….

Anne Gwynne is a recovering peak-bagger.
David Ross hasn’t gotten there yet.
Views to Amuse

Views to Amuse is on the move again. Check out the new mapping feature integrating Google Maps. It’s simple to play. Just got to amc-nh.org/views and click on the map where you think the photo was shot. A new photo will be featured each month. You can guess as many times as you like, but only once per day. The person who places a mark on the map closest to where the photographer was standing wins!

March Winner: David Roy guessed the photo of the Ranger’s Cabin in Tuckermans Ravine. April and May winners will be announced online and in upcoming issues of Mountain Passages.

Go to amc-nh.org/views and enter now!

Advertise in Mountain Passages

The AMC NH Chapter membership is over 10,000 strong. Members enjoy the outdoors year-round by hiking, paddling, skiing, backpacking, climbing and biking. If you have a product or service that New Hampshire AMC members would benefit from, consider advertising in Mountain Passages, published six times a year!

Display ad rate: $12 per square inch (4 sq. inch min.)
Classified ad rate: $1 per word (20 word minimum)

Email newsletter@amc-nh.org for a rate sheet. The AMC-NH Chapter reserves the right to refuse ads that are not related to the mission of the AMC (outdoor adventure, education and conservation).

For more information, or to place an ad, email newsletter@amc-nh.org.

Submitting Articles & Photos

Members are welcome to submit articles or photos to newsletter@amc-nh.org. Articles may be submitted as MS Word docs. They may be edited at the discretion of the editor to meet space and style requirements.

Photos must be high resolution: 300 DPI when sized to about three inches wide. If you set your camera to the highest or best quality setting, this will produce a high resolution image. Lower resolution images may look sharp on your camera or computer screen, but do not work in print. Please save the image as a JPG file. The image must not include a date stamp or caption embedded in the photo. Please include separately as text caption, the names of the people in the photo, where it was taken and the photographer. Email photos and text as attachments to newsletter@amc-nh.org.

Publication is on a space-available basis at the discretion of the editor. While Mountain Passages does not pay for submissions, a byline or photo credit is given.
Walk and Short Hikes Leadership Training
Sat. June 20
Location will be in southern NH (probably in Merrimack). This will be a full day & evening event and there will be a small fee to attend. Contact Paul Berry by phone at 603-423-1192 or via email at PaulBerryAMCNH@aol.com.

Join August Camp in Oregon this summer!
The 2009 August Camp will be in the Central Cascades of Oregon. Our base camp will be set up in the Willamette National Forest near Santiam Pass (elevation 4800 ft) where the Pacific Crest Trail traverses Route 20. Enjoy views of the volcanic horns of Three Fingered Jack to the north, Mount Washington to the south as well as smaller volcanic features near the summit of the pass.
An intimate tent village for 64 adult campers, August Camp offers multiple hikes each day for all levels of ability. Car camping, sightseeing excursions, mountain biking, river rafting, canoeing and kayaking are also available. Delicious cooked meals and trail lunches are provided; great camaraderie and nightly campfires make for a memorable experience.
Check out website for more info at augustcamp.org.

Moving?
Contact AMC Member Services for address changes or membership renewals. To update your member information, visit www.outdoors.org/membership or call 617-523-0636 Ext 0.

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

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AMC-NH Chapter Dinner Program
Saturday, June 13

Destination Denali!
Guest Speaker: Tony Schmidt, NH Chapter Ski Committee
“1903” Pub & Banquet Hall at the Intervale Country Club
1491 Front Street, Manchester, NH

6 p.m. social hour (cash bar and appetizers)
7 p.m. dinner followed by the program

For questions or additional information, call Janice Bremer, Hospitality Co-Chair, at 603-672-9626 (6:30 to 8:30 p.m. only).

Menu: Tossed salad, beef tips bourguignon, chicken broccoli alfredo, roasted red potato, penne pasta, vegetable medley, coffee/tea, and vanilla ice cream with strawberries for dessert. Vegetarian plate available upon advance request – see registration form.

Directions:
• From the North (Concord and beyond): Take I-93 South to Exit 10. Take a left off the exit onto Rte. 3A (Front St.). Follow for one mile. Intervale is on the left.
• From the South (Nashua area): Take Everett Turnpike North to I-293 North, to Exit 7. Take a right off the exit and follow Rte. 3A (Front Street) for about ½ mile. Intervale is on the right.

Registration Form
AMC-NH June Chapter Dinner
Saturday, June 13
$27 Members and $30 Non-Members

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Please send Registration Form and your check payable to AMC-NH Chapter to: Kathy Ratcliffe, 19 Gould Rd. Warner, NH 03278
All registrations must be received by June 6. You will not receive a confirmation.
Tea Wilderness Adventures

Just for teens ages 12 to 18, AMC’s Teen Wilderness Adventures offer more than 30 outdoor adventures in the White Mountains and Lakes Regions of New Hampshire, as well as in Acadia National Park and western Maine. Summer trips range in length from 5 to 23 days, and many of them combine different outdoor activities such as backpacking, canoeing, kayaking, mountain biking, and rock climbing. New programs for 2009 include nature photography, 4,000-footer backpacking, conservation and service adventure, and introductory single and multi-sport adventures. Visit outdoors.org/teenwilderness for details.

White Mountain Guide Online

Check out AMC’s top 10 spring mountain flower hikes on White Mountain Guide Online

Subscribers can access the Top 10 Spring Mountain Flower Hikes, selected by AMC staff naturalists. Not a subscriber yet? You can sample this content when you sign up for a free 14-day trial subscription. The White Mountain Guide Online combines expert descriptions of over 500 trails and detailed maps in an online format that is easy to use and continually updated as conditions change. Post your own photos and trip and trail reports, and share them as part of our free online community. You can also take a virtual tour of your hike using 3D Google Earth satellite images! Get started today with a free 14-Day trial. Visit outdoors.org/wmgonline. An annual subscription is just $12 for AMC members.

Leave No Trace Master Courses in the White Mountains

AMC and the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics team up to provide Master-level educational courses in the White Mountains, NH. These are 5-day programs that provide instruction and training in becoming a Leave No Trace Master Educator. This program is designed for individuals with previous backpacking experience and an understanding of Leave No Trace Principles.

Information on AMC’s 2009 LNT Master Courses can be found at outdoors.org/education/lnt. Or call Hawk Metheny, AMC LNT Coordinator & Backcountry Management Specialist, at 603-466-2721.

Adopt-A-Trail in the White Mountain National Forest or NH State Parks

Interested in a way to give back to the trails that you love? Now you can adopt a section of trail in the White Mountains, the Mahoosucs, and in several NH State Parks. AMC provides the trail maintenance training required to care for your section of trail. Visit outdoors.org/volunteer to learn more about the AMC Adopt-A-Trail Program. For additional information, contact Alex DeLucia, AMC Trails Volunteer Programs Supervisor, at 603-466-2721, x8128.

Membership in a Bottle

The Perfect Gift for your favorite outdoors person!

Specially designed AMC Nalgene® Bottle with Gift Card

• Single membership $50
• Family membership $75
• $10 Gift Certificate good toward AMC workshops, books, and lodging!

Call Bob at 603-456-3708.

Available to new members only.
Enter to WIN a two-night stay at an AMC destination!
Deadline to enter: July 1, 2009

Members who elect to receive *Mountain Passages* electronically will be entered into a drawing to win a two-night stay for two at an AMC destination.

In our continuing effort to reduce our newsletter costs, while still providing our membership with information about AMC New Hampshire Chapter events and other important news, we are urging all Chapter members to set their newsletter delivery preference to e-delivery. By doing so, you'll help us save money on printing and postage so more of our NH Chapter budget can go toward the outdoor adventure activities that we all enjoy.

Members can elect to receive *Mountain Passages* through the new online Member Center at www.outdoors.org/membercenter. All AMC-NH Chapter members who have set their preference to electronic delivery by July 1, 2009 will be entered to win.