

# Appalachian Mountain Club Southeast Mass Chapter

## 2010 Annual Report

Presented to the members of the Appalachian Mountain Club  
Southeast Massachusetts Chapter  
at the SEM Annual Meeting held Saturday, November 6, 2010.



### Chapter Chair Report

Respectfully submitted, Wayne Anderson, Chapter Chair

I would like to start off by thanking all the Executive Board members and the countless number of volunteers for their hard and dedicated work. It is their effort and many hours of hard work that has kept our chapter vibrant and able to provide a wide variety of activities. One of our goals was to get both new members and arm chair members involved and join us on a hike, bike ride, paddle, or even a social event. Our efforts have paid off as the year 2010 has seen an increased participation of first timers and newcomers. Let's keep the momentum up for 2011 and get more folks out. Good luck to the incoming Board. I wish you a successful year.



### Treasurer's Report

Respectfully submitted, Leslie Carson, Treasurer

Another year has come and gone—and I'm pleased to say that the year has gone well. We continue to operate in the black and not spend beyond our means. At the beginning of the year we had our annual audit and all was found to be in order. Many thanks go out to Claire Goode for her diligence and hard work reviewing the records, making sure every penny and all items were accounted for.

The Chapter had a successful Spring Bash and an even more successful Chapter Hut Weekend this past fall at Cold River Camp with a net income of \$165.64.

A highlight of this year's spending is the \$500 matching grant from Joy Street for a digital projector. Joanne Jarzobski, Conservation Chair, applied for and received this grant for the Chapter's use. The digital projector was purchased for a total price of \$934.94 and was immediately utilized at the Chapter Hut Weekend. It was an added bonus for all to be able to view the days' activities shortly after they ended. We look forward to using the projector for training, education, and conservation.

A major part of our expenditures continues to be the quarterly cost of printing and postage for the paper version of the *Breeze*. The total cost to date is \$5149.53. We encourage all members to sign up for the electronic *Breeze* to help reduce the environmental impact.

In closing, I would like to thank the Board and Committee members for their help and support during the past year. I look forward to another year of financial success for the Chapter.



### Membership Committee Report

Respectfully submitted, Len Ulbricht, Membership Chair

Membership is essentially flat from a year ago. The approximately 750 new memberships balanced our attrition. Overall the number of SEM members remains at over 3300.

A successful Open House principally for prospective and new members was held one evening in March. Over 40 attendees enjoyed a pot luck supper, socializing with each other and a number of SEM leaders, and heard brief presentations about SEM activities and programs from the leaders.

The Chair was invited to attend a regional Boy Scout Klondike Derby in January, and provided an overview of the SEM chapter of AMC to scout leaders and scout parents

Each incoming new member received a welcome letter and an initial copy of the *Breeze*.

Recipients of 25-year membership pins were identified for 2009 through August 2010, and were awarded their pins and recognized in the winter *Breeze*.

## The Breeze

### Communications Committee Report

Respectfully submitted, Cheryl Lathrop, Communications Chair

This year the Communications Committee produced four quarterly issues of the chapter's newsletter, *The Southeast Breeze* (more commonly just called the "Breeze"). Two versions of the Breeze are produced each quarter – the extended-content, color, electronic Breeze sent out via the Kintera system (~500 subscribers) and the 12-page black and white paper Breeze sent out via snail mail (~1950 subscribers). The paper Breeze costs a considerable amount for printing and postage. We encourage all members to contact the AMC Member Center (the link is on our chapter website) to convert to the more environmentally friendly electronic Breeze.

This year the Communications Committee officially took over the chapter website at [amcsem.org](http://amcsem.org), so it now has a 'home'. To effectively rehabilitate the somewhat stale website, we acquired additional web staff. And the website has now been updated and refreshed! We use technology to our advantage—web updates/changes are entered into a shared "Google doc", executed by the webmaster or an assistant, marked as done, and finally proofread and removed from the doc by the proofreader. We made another technology jump this year by creating a Facebook page ("Appalachian Mountain Club, Southeast Mass Chapter") and a Twitter account ("amcsem"). Both are used to publicize chapter activities. Find us and follow us!

The Communications Committee also produced this Annual Report.

The Breeze staff consists of the editor (the Communications Chair), an Assistant Editor (Ann McSweeney), and a proofreader (Kate Patroli). The web staff consists of a webmaster (Susanne Piche for the first half of the year, and Kerry Grenier for the second half of the year), Assistant webmasters (James Allen, Bill Desmond, Chad Wohlers), and a proofreader (Kate Patroli). Facebook/Twitter staff consists of a moderator who watches for inappropriate postings/pictures. Several board members shared this responsibility this year, but in November it was taken over by Sue Salmon. This committee has a lot of responsibilities; and the Communications Chair sincerely appreciates the efforts of all the communications staff to keep all the chapter communications functions running smoothly.

A special thank you is extended to Susanne Piche who has been our webmaster for the last several years (without any help!), and who recently retired. She kept the website going when it had no 'home' all these years.

You can find additional information on the Communications Committee on our chapter website, [amcsem.org](http://amcsem.org). Click on "communications" in the top navigation bar.



### Canoe / Kayak Committee Report

Respectfully submitted, Bill Fischer, Canoe/Kayak Chair

The paddling group scheduled 60 trips for the 2010 season. These trips were all scheduled in December, 2009 for the entire year. This year we had wonderful early spring weather that was followed by a warm summer. The great weather continued well into the fall. All of this has contributed to an exceptional year of paddling. All of the success for this year's program is due to our trip leaders. Without them we have no paddling season.



### Cape Hiking Committee Report

Respectfully submitted, Pat Sarantis, Cape Hiking Chair

AMC members enjoyed another successful year of hiking on the Cape this past year. Highlights included the annual Chili Party in mid-winter and a picnic at Great Island ending the season in May. The number of hikers remains steady. We wish to extend our thanks for the many years of leadership and dedication to the club to Heidi Moss and Peter Selig who retired as leaders. They will be missed.



### Conservation Committee Report

Respectfully submitted, Joanne Jarzowski, Conservation Chair

The Conservation Committee had another successful year bringing attention to important conservation issues and areas throughout our chapter. The year was launched with a series of events to celebrate the chapter-wide Green June with conservation-minded hikes on Cape Cod, through the dunes of Provincetown and salt marshes in Sandwich. Additionally, over a dozen members went on a whale watch in celebration of Green June, connecting both the land and sea. During the summer picnic, a lovely conservation hike was led through Myles Standish State Forest, highlighting some of the native plants that are found in the forest. The digital projector purchased through a matching grant will allow us to expand our conservation programs and outreach, with monthly conservation programs throughout our chapter. (The conservation committee continues to look for volunteers to help us continue to expand our programs each year.)



### **Biking Committee Report**

Respectfully submitted, Joseph Tavilla, Biking Chair

The SEM Chapter sponsored rides throughout Southeastern Massachusetts which includes the following areas: South Coast (Wareham to Seekonk), South Shore (Hingham to Plymouth), and Cape Cod (Bourne to Provincetown). The biking program consisted of both recurring rides and scheduled rides.

#### Recurring Rides:

- Monday Rides – late day/early evening in the South Coast area
- Tuesday Rides – late day/early evening on Cape Cod
- Thursday Rides – late day/early evening in the South Coast area
- Weekend Ride – enjoy the spectacular New England seasons on your bike

#### Scheduled Rides:

- 4C Ride (College Cafe Cycling Series) – which features a lunch stop at a college campus in Southern New England
- Special Event Rides – which feature a lunch stop at a local community event
- Follow-The-Leader Rides – where all riders stay together at a group pace
- Easy Rider – for all those who enjoy the scenery at a casual/relaxed pace

There continues to be growing interest in the *2000 Mile Club*. Riders report their monthly mileage and all who achieve a cumulative total of more than 2000 miles in a calendar year are recognized and receive a specially designed *2000 Mile Club* embroidered insignia.

Special commendation to all ride leaders – Paul Currier, Jodi Jensen, Jack Jacobsen, Sheila Place, Larry Kornetsky, Ed Foster, Jon Fortier, Keith Brunell, and Janet Brentzel.



### **Cross Country Skiing Committee Report**

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Hathaway, Skiing Chair

Despite the many cross country skiing activities planned for 2010, only two overnight trips took place during the entire season. One was the traditional – and very popular – Martin Luther King weekend stay at Applebrook B&B in Jefferson, NH, led by Barbara Hathaway of SEM and Wayne Cardoza of 40+ (Boston Chapter), and co-led by Ken Jones. Twenty-four participants enjoyed the great ski conditions at Bretton Woods and Bear Notch and snowshoeing in the fields and woods behind the inn. We enjoyed the camaraderie of a great group, fun and games, and the coziness of Applebrook.

Trip leaders, Bob Bentley, Art Paradise, Marc Bober and six back country skiers stayed at the Lodge at Mt. Snow in Dover, VT, and skied the Catamount Trail during the MLK weekend.

Farley Lewis's Ski Cape Cod trips scheduled for January 9, February 3, and March 3; Bob Bentley's January 2 back country instructional and the January 31 Myles Standish trip were canceled because of unfavorable conditions. Barbara's February trip to Craftsbury Outdoor Center in Vermont was canceled because of lack of interest.

However, thanks to Len Ulbricht, our chapter is now offering mid-week downhill ski trips. Len led a trip to Ragged Mountain on January 12 and another to Sunapee on February 3, with four skiers each time. The trips scheduled for January 27 and February 22 were canceled.

I invite all of you skiers to participate in our 2011 activities. See the Breeze, *Outdoors*, and online trip listings for details.



### **Chapter Youth Program (CYP)**

Respectfully submitted, Sally Delisa, CYP Coordinator

The Chapter Youth Program (CYP) conducted their first event in early August. Twenty-one children and four of their counselors from the South Coast YMCA-New Bedford attended the outing in South Dartmouth.

CYP Leaders Leslie Carson, Walt Granda, and Sally Delisa led the children on hikes in the woods and on the beach at the Lloyd Center for the Environment. The leaders introduced Leave No Trace (LNT) concepts while assisting the children with environmentally friendly scavenger hunts in both habitats. The group also explored the indoor exhibits and played games led by the CYP Leaders. The children enjoyed their outing and future activities with the "Y" are being planned.

Outings require planning meetings with the facility. More CYP Leaders are needed to help with planning and/or leading children at their events. We were forced to cancel an August activity with a Boys and Girls Club due to our lack of available CYP Leaders. If you are interested in the gratifying experience of getting kids out on the trails, please contact the CYP Coordinator. We will be offering CYP Leader and Leave No Trace training soon.

REI donated a box of children's clothes primarily for winter use. We inventoried the clothes and they will be available for loan to children who do not have proper equipment.



### Trails Committee Report

Respectfully submitted, Kevin Mulligan, Trails Chair

The SEM chapter continues to be instrumental in support of trail work locally and with our adopted trails in New Hampshire. These efforts become even more important in light of budget cuts at both Federal and State levels as volunteer organizations shoulder a good portion of the burden in keeping our trails clear and safe for all to enjoy. Over the course of this past year, our members contributed over 530 person hours in volunteer efforts and I would like to thank everyone for their support. With your help, not only our chapter members, but other hiking enthusiasts have been able to truly enjoy their passions.

I would like to extend a special thanks to our trail leaders: Ken Jones has done a fantastic job with Dexter Robinson in the Blue Hills; Joe Keogh and Cheryl Lathrop have both been instrumental in helping keep trails clean on each of their weekly hikes in the Blue Hills. Bob Vogel continues to do his share and leads by example with efforts at a number of locations including New Hampshire and locally in Easton. Chris and Bill Pellegrini led efforts at Boyden Refuge and Myles Standish. A special thanks to each of you.

The SEM trails group has done an outstanding job locally, and we are exploring better ways to improve our presence in the White Mountains next year, particularly with our adopted trail. We planned our first event for next year, on May 21, with an overnight at the hut and will also have a hiking event the following day. I am sure I can count on each of you for your support in the upcoming year. Thank you



### Education Committee Report

Respectfully submitted, Hagit Moverman, Education Chair

2010 was another successful year in the education and training of the AMC SEM members and public. The committee offered the following programs:

On February 23 and 24 the committee held a CPR and First Aid course at the Red Cross Building in Brockton, MA. Nine people attended the training and received certification. The committee thanks the Red Cross, Brockton branch, for volunteering to give us this valuable training.

The 2010 Leadership Training was held on April 10 at Borderland State Park, Easton, MA. Fourteen participants completed training and some went on to become leaders. Many thanks to: Aaron Gorban, Leadership Training and Risk Management Manager, AMC New Hampshire, Wayne Anderson, AMC SEM Chair, and Barbara Hathaway, XC Ski Chair who helped to inspire and educate the new leaders.

The annual Wilderness First Aid scheduled for the Labor Day weekend was postponed to the spring of 2011 due to conflict with the date. The SEM board decided to give a one-year grace period to those who needed to renew their certification that year.

At the annual spring bash on May 1, restoration ecologist Tim Simmons from the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife program presented a "fire for habitat restoration and management" at the Blue Hills. Mr. Simmons offered to present other nature-related programs for our chapter in the near future.

The Education Committee thanks all who helped and shared their enthusiasm to educate others for the wise use of the Appalachian Region.



### Hiking Committee Report

Respectively submitted, James Plouffe, Hiking Chair

The 2010 hiking season has been a success. Starting this year, the Hiking Committee developed several new series to go along with our existing hiking series. They include a series of section hikes on the North-South trail, family hike series, a stay-in-shape/fast-and-hilly series on Sundays, and a series of beach hikes that will be occurring this winter.

The most important, at least from my seat, is the series of family hikes. This fall, we expanded on last year's Parent and Grandparent hikes and scheduled 4 family hikes: The Tully Trail in Western Massachusetts (with apple picking); a Halloween hike on October 30 in Gilbert Hills State Forest (with a small cookout afterwards); a Thanksgiving hike in Plymouth (with ice cream near the Mayflower); and a cookies and eggnog hike to be held at the beginning of December at Borderland State Park. We have worked to try and encourage the youngest people to find the joy that the rest of us older people have already found. In the coming year, the Hiking Committee will continue this pursuit.

In addition to the existing hikes, the Hiking Committee has produced several returning series. These include the ever-popular Red Line the Blue Hills Series, the summer and winter series, the snowshoe series, the Tuesday Morning Training hikes, and the Thursday Morning Local Hikes series. Each of these programs has proved to be a success and it appears that more and more members are taking advantage of these offerings.

Overall, the 2010 hiking year has been productive. However, success doesn't come without its failures once in a while. A year ago, each hike planning meeting would have 20-25 leaders attending. Our last hike planning meeting had only 6 leaders attending. In the past, it was not uncommon to have many of our trips have a waitlist for participants. This year, this status was not used as often. The Hiking Committee will be evaluating solutions to this decline. Although the crowd is small right now, the active leaders are dedicated and tireless and will work hard to make 2011 the best year in recent memory.

My thanks go out to our extremely active leaders and co-leaders and also to Chris Pellegrini, my Vice-Chair of Hiking who has assisted in many visible and invisible ways. Chris will be taking over the reins as Hiking Chair in the next few weeks as I will be moving onward to bigger and better things. I wish Chris good luck with her advancement, but knowing her, luck will not be necessary.

## 2010 Executive Board, Chairs, & Staff

Chapter Chair	Wayne Anderson, chair@amcsem.org
Vice Chapter Chair	Claire Goode, vicechair@amcsem.org
Past Chapter Chair	Mike Woessner, pastchapterchair@amcsem.org
Treasurer	Leslie Carson, treasurer@amcsem.org
Secretary	Susan Salmon, secretary@amcsem.org
Biking	Joe Tavilla, bikingchair@amcsem.org
Biking (Vice)	Open
Canoe/Kayak	Bill Fischer, paddlingchair@amcsem.org
Canoe/Kayak (Vice)	Open
Cape Hiking	Pat Sarantis, capehikingchair@amcsem.org
Cape Hiking (Vice)	Open, capehikingvicechair@amcsem.org
Communications	Cheryl Lathrop, communicationschair@amcsem.org
Communications (Vice)	Open
Conservation	Joanne M. Jarzowski, conservationchair@amcsem.org
Conservation (Vice)	Open, conservationvicechair@amcsem.org
Education	Hagit Moverman, education@amcsem.org
Education (Vice)	Open
Hiking	Jim Plouffe, hikingchair@amcsem.org
Hiking (Vice Chair)	Chris Pellegrini, hikingvicechair@amcsem.org
Membership	Len Ulbricht, membershipchair@amcsem.org
Membership (Vice)	Open
Skiing	Barbara Hathaway, xcskichair@amcsem.org
Skiing (Vice Chair)	Farley Lewis, farlewis@comcast.net
Trails	Kevin Mulligan, trailschair@amcsem.org
Trails (Co-Chair)	Open
Webmaster	Susanne Piche, Kerry Grenier, webmaster@amcsem.org
Webmasters (Asst.)	James Allen, Bill Desmond, Chad Wohlers
Web Proofreader	Kate Patroliia

## CHAPTER HUT WEEKEND 2010 COLD RIVER CAMP, NH



Chapter Hut Weekend this way !



Chapter members enjoying the weekend

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The 2010 AMC SEM Annual Report was prepared by the SEM Communications Committee.  
An electronic copy can be found at [amcsem.org](http://amcsem.org) under "documents."