



Southeastern Breeze

Oct/Nov/Dec 2000

View from the Chair

by Dexter Robinson

Greetings. I can hardly believe that the summer has slipped away. All the rain didn't help much. But it held off long enough to allow our summer picnic to proceed. I enjoyed meeting some new members and families and catching up with older members. Our thanks to Bob Vogel and Cindy Letourneau for organizing this annual event.

Although your Executive Board does not meet during June and July, chapter business still goes on. Our Nominating Committee completed its job of securing people to fill board positions. We are still looking for someone to serve as Skiing Chair. My thanks to the committee: Louise Desrochers, John Poirier, Rich Iovanni, Mary Gravel, and Don Costa.

Unfortunately, I was unable to make the June meeting of Chapter Chairs. But from the minutes I received, the main focus of

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Inside the Fall Breeze

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Chapter Annual Meeting Set for Nov. 4th

The Southeastern Mass. Chapter's 2000 Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, November 4, at the Fireside Grill in Middleboro. There will be a social hour before the buffet dinner, followed by a business meeting and the election of officers for the Chapter executive board. This year's speaker will be Craig Della Penna, who will talk about the Rails to Trails Conservancy and its work here in New England. **For more information, see page 8.**

Executive Board Nominations for 2001

The Nominating Committee presents the following slate of nominees for the 2001 Chapter Executive Board. Members attending the Annual Meeting on November 4 will have the opportunity to vote on these nominees. Additional nominees may be made by any 10 members who specify their candidate for office. These additional nominations should be presented to Nominating Committee Chair Louise Desrochers (508-822-1372) or Chapter Secretary Linda Wells (508-279-1963) not later than 21 days prior to the Annual Meeting. Nominations may not be made from the floor except in the case of death, incapacity or withdrawal of the nominee.

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| Chapter Chair | Dexter Robinson |
| Chapter Vice Chair | Ann Chace |
| Treasurer | Donna Desrochers |
| Secretary | Linda Wells |
| Hiking Chair | Walter Wells |
| Biking Chair | Connie Austin |
| Canoe/Kayak Chair | Arthur Hart |
| Ski Chair | Vacant |
| Trails Chair | Lou Sikorsky |
| Communications Chair | Wayne Taylor |
| Educations Chair | Bob Vogel |
| Membership Chair | Jennifer Simmons |
| Conservation Chair | Cindy Letourneau |



The *Southeastern Breeze* is published quarterly by the S.E. Mass. Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. **Chapter Chair:** Dexter Robinson (781) 294-8840; **Vice Chair:** Anne Chace 824-8871; **Treasurer:** Joey Gallus 428-5391; **Secretary:** Linda Wells 379-1963; **Education Chair:** Bob Vogel 238-7732; **Membership Chair:** Jennifer Simmons 761-7888. **Newsletter Editor:** Wayne Taylor 252-6995 or e-mail: wjtaylor@mediaone.net. **Website address:** <http://www.amcsem.org> All area codes are 508 unless noted.

Editor's Notepad

New Schedule ... Beginning with the next issue, the Breeze will adopt a seasonal publishing schedule. Next will be the Winter issue, covering activities for the months of December, January and February. It should arrive sometime in mid-November. It is our hope that a seasonal quarterly will do a better job of grouping activities according to the time of year when we offer them most.

Tell us about your last great outdoors adventure ... Your comments and suggestions about this newsletter are always welcome ... as are your contributions of articles, poetry, photographs or anything else related to your membership in AMC. If you're submitting something, please be respectful of our deadline, which is the 22nd of the month, two months prior to the publication date (e.g. October 22 for December issue). The newsletter will endeavor to publish submitted articles on a space-available basis. Give us a call at 252-6995 or drop us an e-mail at wjtaylor@mediaone.net if you're got something to submit.

Not getting your copy of the Breeze? If you're not receiving the newsletter, please call Membership Chairperson Jennifer Simmons (761-7888) to be sure you're on the list.

AMC Fall Gathering — October 20 - 22

Cannonicus Camp & Conference Center, Exeter, RI. Spend a great weekend with AMC's Narragansett Chapter during RI's peak foliage. For more info, visit <http://users.ids.net/~amcri>, or call Susan Cerullo at 401-295-0870.

"Membership in a bottle"

A great gift for your favorite outdoors enthusiast.

Single Membership \$40.00

Family Membership \$65.00

*Nalgene Bottle with \$10 Gift Certificate
good for AMC lodging, workshops and books.*

New members only

Contact: Jen Simmons at 761-7888
or e-mail: jensimmons@massed.net



ON THE COVER

One of the most recognizable of peaks in the White Mountains, the snow-covered summit of Mt. Lafayette in the Franconia Region is a favorite destination of many fall hikers. Photo taken from Sunset Hill.

SEM/AMC's 25th Anniversary

LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS !

The SEM/AMC Chapter will be celebrating its 25th year on November 3, 2001. We're now looking for volunteers to assist us in our Anniversary Celebration. We've got a few ideas about how we'd like to celebrate — a multimedia show and a special program and ad booklet, for example — but we need several people to help us. If you'd like to join the effort, please call Ann Chace at 824-8871.

AMC Volunteer Opportunities

Opportunities in the Whites ! Public Education Information Volunteers are needed at AMC roadside visitor centers and high mountain huts 2 weekends (or 4 days per year). Help visitors plan a safe hike, practice wise forest stewardship, learn more about the AMC, or just find a good spot for lunch! Training is April 20-22, 2001; we can arrange a mentor for you in the meantime.

Trail Crew Program: Staff will lead volunteers in the clearing, repair or reconstruction of popular trails. One- and two-week programs are based in the White Mountain National Forest and Maine's Acadia National Park and Baxter State Park. Opportunities are available for teens, adults, and seniors.

Adopt-A-Trail: Take on basic trail maintenance duties for your favorite stretch of trail.

Appalachian Trail Corridor Monitors: Help preserve the wild nature of the AT as you bushwhack the boundary lines of this National Scenic Trail. Inspect the area and identify issues that affect trail use in the Mahoosuc Range. **For more information,** call 603-466-2721 ext. 192 or e-mail Allison Ruth Nelson at apaules@amcinfo.org.

Lake Nippenicket Clean-up

Sat., Nov. 4 — Volunteers needed from 9-12. Call Maryhelen Shuman-Groh, 821-4704.

Hiking and Backpacking

Chair — Walter Wells 279-1963

Vice Chair — Charlie Farrell 822-2123

Hike Rating: First character indicates distance in miles. Second character indicates leader's pace over average terrain. Third character indicates terrain.

| Miles | Pace/ mph | Terrain |
|--------|-----------------|------------------|
| AA=13+ | 1=very fast/2.5 | A=very strenuous |
| A=9-13 | 2=fast/2 | B=strenuous |
| B=5-8 | 3=moderate | C=average |
| C=<5 | 4=leisurely | D=easy |

Hikers unsure of their ability should try only one level higher than previously completed. **Note: NO PETS** without permission of Trip Leader. Individuals under 18 must obtain prior consent from Trip Leader.

Sat. Oct.7 (A3B) "Exploring Massachusetts Series" Hike #1- Mt. Graylock State Reservation, Lanesboro. Strenuous full day hike over 5 mountaintops and along the AT in Mass. Area offers many great views with foliage peeping, plus a visit to Bascom Lodge. Car spotting possible at campground. Limited to 10. Not for beginners. L Steve Tulip 977-9309 (7-10 pm) e-mail: stulip@dpyus.nj.com. Please register with CL Erika Bloom 996-3290 (6-9pm) e-mail: ebloom9239@aol.com.

Sat. Oct 7 (B3B) Camels Hump, Vermont - Enjoy the fall foliage by hiking to this spectacular Vermont 4000 fter. Please register with L John Pereira 254-8303. CL Richard Jus-saume 285-8940 (7-9 pm) email: richjuss@ici.net.

Wed. Oct. 11 Hike planning meeting for Jan.-Mar. 2001. All SEM members are welcome to attend. New hiking leaders are needed. Contact Walt Wells, 279-1963 (7-9 pm) e-mail: wwells50@aol.com. Meeting held in basement room at the Universalist Unitarian Church, 25 South Main St., Middleboro starting at 7:00 pm.

Sat/Sun Oct 14/15 *Chapter Hut Night* at Mizpah Hut

Sun.Oct.15 (C3B/C) "Exploring Massachusetts Series" Hike #2- Mt Tom State Reservation, Holyoke..Moderately strenuous but short climb to the top. Discover geological formations and precipitous cliffs along the way to spectacular views of the Pioneer Valley, Conn. River and out to the Berkshires and southern NH/VT. Good intermediate climb for those interested in the higher peaks of New England. Beginners welcome. L Steve Tulip 977-9309 (7-10 pm) e-mail: stulip@dpyus.nj.com. Please register with CL Cindy Letourneau 947-5533 (7-9pm) e-mail: Clet8@aol.com

Sun Oct. 22 (A3B) "Exploring Massachusetts Series" Hike #3-Monroe State Forest, Monroe. Hike among towering hardwoods and evergreens in this remote old growth/ old field forest. Moderate elevation gains thru forest to Spruce Mtn. and Hunt Hill. Limited to 10 hikers. L Steve Tulip 977-9309 (7-10 pm) e-mail stulip@dpyus.nj.com. Please register with CL Patrick Holland 781- 925-4433 (7-9 pm.) e-mail: pat.holland@littletbrown.com.

Sat Oct 28 (B3B) Mt. Monroe, NH. Join us for Walt Wells' 48th 4000 fter on this moderately paced 8.2 mile hike via the Edmonds and Crawford paths. Please register with L Dexter Robinson 781-294-8840 (7-9 pm) e-mail dexsue@massed.net or CL Linda Wells 279-1963 (6-9 pm) e-mail: wwells50@aol.com

Sat. Nov 4 (B3B) Massasoit State Park, Taunton. Hike past beautiful Lake Ricco, thru wooded areas and around other ponds. Moderate pace, suitable for beginners. A great hike any time of the year. Register with leaders John Poirier or Louise Desrochers 822-1372 (6-10 pm).

Sat. Nov. 4 "The Fourth Annual Winter Hiking Workshop" Join us for an afternoon of classroom instruction on the basics of winter hiking and camping. We'll go over dressing for the winter environment, heat management, hydration, proper diet, cold weather injuries, shelter, snowshoes, etc. Find out how enjoyable hiking in the winter months can be if you are prepared for it. This class is a must if you plan on going on the Winter Hiking Series. Register with Walt Wells 279-1963 or Charlie Farrell 822-2123. Note: this workshop will be held before the Chapter Annual Meeting.

The Fourth Annual Winter Hiking Series

Winter can be a fun and enjoyable season to hike. The views are better, trails are smoother, and best of all, there are no bugs!

Again this year, the hiking committee will be offering a series of winter hikes, concluding with an overnight backpack, to acquaint hikers with the pleasures of hiking in winter. These will be non-technical hikes (i.e. no crampons or ice axes). We will begin with an easy hike, and each hike will be a little more difficult than the last, including a 4000 fter to provide above-tree-line experience. The final hike will be an overnigher.

The kickoff to the series will be an indoor workshop to be held on Sat., Nov. 4, the same day as the SEM Annual Meeting, from 1:30 until 4:30 pm. Contact Walt Wells 279-1963 or Charlie Farrell 822-2123 for more info and to register.

Hiking and Backpacking (continued)

Sun Nov. 12 (B3B/C) "Exploring Massachusetts Series" Hike # 4—Appalachian Trail section in S.W. Mass. Discover the beauty of western Massachusetts as we climb over the Mt. Race and Mt. Everett ridge on the AT. Get a feel for alpine style bare rock and high elevation without all the work of the Presidential Range. Limited to 10 hikers. L Steve Tulip 977-9309 (7-10 pm) e-mail: stulipdpyus.jnj.com. Please register with CL Wayne Taylor 252-6995 (7-10 pm) e-mail: wjtaylor@mediaone.net.

Sun Nov. 19 (C4B) Map and Compass workshop-High Rock area of Gilbert Hills State Park in Foxboro. Improve your navigation skills while using your map and compass. Leaders John Poirier and Louise Desrochers 822-1372.

Sat/Sun Nov. 25/26 (B3B) Backpack to Ethan Pond Campsite. Sharpen up your between season skills as we head into winter. Limited group size. Register with L Walt Wells 279-1963 (6-9 pm) CL John Poirier 822-1372.

Sun. Nov. 26 (B3C) George Washington Management Area. Join us on an easy 6 mile hike on the Walkabout Trail in this area of R.I. Twenty-two miles west of Providence and two miles east of the Connecticut border, this should be a beautiful low-key hike for burning off those extra calories from Turkey Day. Register with L Richard Jussaume 285-8940 (7-9 pm) email: richjuss@ici.net

Sat. Dec. 9 "Winter Hiking Series" Greeley Ponds off the Kancamagus Highway in NH. This is the first in the winter hiking series for this season. Join us as we explore this wonderful area in the early part of the winter season. Hopefully, there will be snow to try out your snowshoes. Some winter gear will be required. Register with L Charlie Farrell 822-2123 (6-9 pm) CL Walt Wells 279-1963.

Sat. Dec. 16 (B3B) - Mt. Liberty/Mt. Flume. Dust off your winter equipment for this classic 4000 fter. Full winter gear required. Register with L Dexter Robinson 781-294-8840 (7-9 pm) email dexsue@massed.net. CL John Pereira 254-8303 (7-10 pm) iceclimbing@backpacker.com.

Sun. Dec. 31 (C3D) "Exploring Massachusetts Series" Hike # 5 - Whitney and Thayer Woods, Cohasset. Say farewell to Y2K with this cold weather beginners hike. Some winter day hiking gear may be required. Newcomers and family hikers welcome. L Steve Tulip 977-9309 (7-10 pm) e-mail: stulip@dpyus.jnj.com. Please register with CL Rick Barnes 830-0479 (7-9 pm) e-mail RWBarnzee@aol.com.

Mon. Jan. 1 (C3C) Borderland State Park. Pleasant short hike

around ponds and through woods on this first hike of the New Year. L Bob Vogel 238-7732 (7-9 pm) CL Ray Butts 880-8579. (7-9 pm).

Local Hikes on Cape Cod

Thursday & Sunday Hikes - Oct to Jan. Cape Hikes Committee Chair: Janet Kaiser 375-0574; Co-Chair: Janet DiMattia 394-9064. Thursday Hikes start 9:30 am, last about 2 hrs, 5-7 miles. Sunday hikes start 1:00 pm, last 2-2 1/2 hrs, 6-8 mi. Moderate pace. No dogs.

Sun. Oct 8 - Sandwich, Scorton Creek/Talbot Conservation. Exit 5 N from Rte. 6 to L on 6A. at 3.6 mi. cross concrete bridge, take next L to Scorton Creek prkng lot. L George Bowman, 362-0163.

Thurs. Oct. 2 - Mashpee. John's Pond. N on Currier Rd. off Rte. 151 and quick R onto Hoopole Rd. Follow signs to Town Landing thru trailer park. L Harry Dombrosk 385-9502.

Sun. Oct 15 - Falmouth, Beebe Woods. Follow signs to hospital on Ter Heun Drive off Rte. 28. Go beyond hospital and JML Facility and park in sm. dirt prkg lot on Left. L Janet Kaiser 375-0574, CL Barbara Hollis 240-1973.

Thurs. Oct. 19 - Orleans, Pochet Island. From Rte. 6A or Rte 28 in Orleans, Main St to Beach Rd. to prkg lot for Nauset Beach. Park at S end. L. Pat Kimball 255-3717.

Sun. Oct. 22 - Yarmouth, Inkberry Trail. From Rte. 6 Exit 7 S. Turn L on Higgins Crowell Rd. then L at lights on Buck Island Rd. Turn R at end on Winslow Grey Rd. Go 0.5 mi. Park on right at Raymond J. Syrjala Conserv. Area. L Peter Selig 432-7656 CL Janet DiMattia 394-9064.

Thurs. Oct 26 - Doane Rock. From Rte. 6 turn R on Nauset Rd. at lights at Visitor Center. Bear R off Nauset Rd to Doane Rd. Turn R at Picnic Area sign and park in 2nd prkg lot. L. Frank Handlen 349-7396 CL Janet Kaiser 375-0574.

Sun. Oct 29 - Eastham, Salt Pond Visitors Center. From Rte. 6 at traffic light turn R on Nauset Rd and park in Visitor Center Prkg lot on R. L. Frank Handlen 349-7396.

Thurs. Nov. 2 - Wellfleet. Griffin Island. Turn N off Rte. 6 at "Wellfleet Center" sign onto Main St. Turn L. on Chequessett Neck Rd. "at the dory". Park in Great

Local Cape Hikes continued

Island prkg lot on L at end of Chequessett Neck Rd. L. Brigitte Falzone 394-6343.

Sun. Nov. 5 - Barnstable Conservation Land. Exit 5 S off Rte. 6 onto Rte. 149 to R on Service Rd. Park under power lines on Left. L. Janet Kaiser 375-0574 CL Barbara Hollis 240-1973.

Thurs. Nov. 9 - Brewster. Parson's Perch. Exit 9 N off Rte. 6 onto Rte 134 and turn R at 2nd traffic light onto Setucket Rd. At 1.0 mi turn R onto Slough Rd. and at 0.8 mi. prk on L at Walker Pond prkg area. L Harry Dombrosk 385 9502.

Sun. Nov. 12 - Brewster. Nickerson State Park. From Rte. 6A enter Park and park in main parking lot. L Don Costa 760-5478.

Thurs. Nov. 16 - Bourne. Four Ponds Conservation. From Rte. 28 between Otis Rotary & Bourne Bridge turn W on Barlows Landing Rd. Go 0.7 mi. to prkg lot on R. L Hilary Hunt 993-6680.

Sun. Nov. 19 - Truro. Pamet. From Rte. 6 Ruro, turn E at Pamet Rd. sign. Meet at end of So. Pamet Rd. L Ron VanderWeil 255-3361.

Thurs. Nov. 23 - (Thanksgiving) Yarmouth, Dennis Pond. Exit 7 N from Rte 6 turn R (East) onto Rte. 6A. Turn R (South) onto Summer St at Old Yarmouth Inn. Park in Dennis Pond prkg lot. L Richard Kaiser 375-0574.

Sun. Nov. 26 - Sandwich. Ryder Conservation Lands. N on Rte 130 from Rte 28 for 1.0 mi. to R onto Cotuit Rd. 1.8 mi to "Ryder Cons. Land" prkg sign on Left. L Barbara Hollis 240-1973.

Thurs. Nov. 30 - Bourne. Canalside. Park in main visitor prkg lot at traffic light on Rte 6 on N side of canal for hike along canal. L Donna Nickerson 528-3043.

Sun. Dec. 3 - Wellfleet, White Crest Beach. From Rte 6, E on LeComte Hollow Rd. to end, L on Ocean View Rd. to beach prkg. lot. L Frank Handlen 349-7396.

Thurs. Dec. 7 - Dennis, Indian Lands, S on Old Bass River Rd from Rte. 6A in Dennis Village. R into prkg lot in 4.0 mi. at Town Hall. L Barbara Hollis 240-1973.

Sun. Dec. 10 - Harwich, Herring River. Exit 9 S off Rte 6 onto Rte 134. Turn L at 3rd traffic light on Upper County Rd. then L onto Great Western Rd. Follow approx. 2.2 mi.

Park inside fence on L at Sand Pond. L Peter Selig 432-7656 co-L Janet DiMattia 394-9064.

Thurs. Dec. 14 - Truro, Paradise Hollow. Park on George Nelson Rd. on West side of Rte. 6, 1/2 mi N of "Entering Truro" sign. L Patrick Kimball 255-3717.

Sun. Dec. 17 - Dennis. Run Pond, From the intersection with Old Bass River Rd. go W on Setucket Rd. approx. 1.0 mi and park in small lot on N side (bike path) of road. East of junction with Mayfair Rd. L Richard Kaiser 375-0574.

Thurs. Dec. 21 - Yarmouth, Chase Garden Creek, >From Getty Station at flashing light go E on Rte 6A 0.5 mi. turn L at Rod & Gun Club sign and park in prkg area. L Janet Kaiser 375-0574.

Sun. Dec. 24 - NO HIKE

Thurs. Dec. 28 - Wellfleet, Marconi HQ. Follow signs from Rte. 6 (Marconi Beach Rd L to HQ prkg) Go past HQ bldg. take 1st R park on road. L Barbara Hollis 240-1973.

Sun. Dec. 31 - Brewster, Nickerson State Park. Park at Flax Pond parking area. L Jack Handlen 255 5292.

Thurs. Jan. 4 - Yarmouth, Inkberry Tr. N from Rte 28 on Winslow Gray Rd. at light, 0.4 mi to prkg on L. L Frank Handlen 349-7396.

Sun. Jan. 7 - Mashpee, So. Cape Beach. From Mashpee Rotary take Great Neck Rd. S for approx. 2.5 mi. Turn L on Great Oak Rd. and follow to end to town beach prkg lot, approx. 3 mi. L. Gary Miller 540-1857.

LONGER CAPE HIKES ON SAT / SUN. - BRING LUNCH

Sat. Oct 14 - Brewster, Punkhorn Parklands. Exit 9 N off Rte 6 onto Rte. 134. Turn R at 2nd traffic light onto Setucket Rd. then R onto Run Hill Rd. Park in Punkhorn Parklands main pkge lot past dump at end of road. 10 am.

Sunday, October 15. Truro, Paradise Valley. 9-10 mi. Approx. 0.25 mi. past Entering Truro sign on Rte 6, L on George Neilson Rd. Park on side of road. 11:00 am. Please register with L. Alice Oberdorf 771-8261.

Sunday, November 5. Wellfleet, Marconi Area. 8-9 mi. From Rte 6, Wellfleet, turn right (E) at lights, follow signs to Marconi Beach. Turn left, pass Marconi HQ bldg, take next right and park at end of road. 11:00 am. Please register with L. Alice Oberdorf 771-8261.

Local Cape Hikes continued

Sat. Nov. 18 - Wellfleet & Truro, Truro Ponds. From Rte 6 in No. Wellfleet, drive east on Gull Pond Rd 1 mi to granite marker "Gull Pond Landing". N 1/4 mi, then E to parking lot. 10 am. L Patrick Kimball 255-3717.

Sat. Dec. 9 - Wellfleet, Great Island to Jeremy Point. Turn N. off Rte 6 at "Wellfleet Center" sign onto Main St. Turn L on Chequessett Neck Rd. "at the dory". Park in Great Island prkg lot on L. 10 am. L Brigitte Falzone 394-6343.

View from the Chair

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discussion at this meeting was about AMC Club policies including Code of Conduct, Sexual Harassment, Conflict of Interest, and Leadership Guidelines. There was discussion about conflict of interest and interchapter trips. Several chapters shared their experience and current guidelines.

The Chapter Chairs recommended 1) that all Chapters include in their newsletters a similar and consistent disclosure statement concerning conflict of interest particularly in regard to interchapter trips and 2) that the new Education Committee broaden the Interchapter Excursion Committee to review consistency with trip postings, procedures for trip approvals, and review problems and issues that develop. I can report that earlier this year our chapter Executive Board approved a policy and developed procedures to guide our chapter leaders who run trips that require collecting a fee from participants.

Andy Falender, AMC Executive Director, reported that the AMC contributed 60% or 2069 of the comments to the Forest Service relative to the White Mountain National Forest management plan which is in the process of being updated. More than 50 percent commented on ORVs (off-road vehicles), with the "overwhelming majority" dead set against ever allowing them in the forest. Andy commented that the response we generated on forest planning, just like the response on CARA (Conservation and Reinvestment Act) proves that our members truly are interested in protecting, as well enjoying and wisely using the mountains, rivers, and trails of the Appalachian region.

Finally, I want to remind you about our Annual Meeting (see page 8) which will feature a very interesting speaker who has written several books on rail trails and spoken to many groups on this subject.

Hope to see you there. Till next time. ▲ ▲

Skiing

Wed. Oct. 4. Ski planning meeting/pot luck supper at the home of Mary DuBois Leeson in So. Dartmouth. All are welcome. Bring your ideas for winter ski trips. Call Mary at 997-4489 for directions and food items.

Fri - Mon, Jan. 12-15, 2001. Martin Luther King Weekend at Applebrook. Please join us for the SE Mass. annual long weekend of x-country skiing, hearty meals and great company (and the "hot tub under the stars"!). Ski possibilities include Bretton Woods, Great Glen, or The Balsams. Downhill, snow shoeing and ice skating also possible. \$135-\$200 for 3 nights lodging, 3 breakfasts, 1 full dinner and 1 supper, all at cozy Applebrook Inn in Jefferson, N.H. Reserve early as the news of the fun is spreading! Call L. Sarah Beard 758-2613 or CL. Bob Kalchthaler 947-4924.

Fri - Mon, Jan. 12-15. MLK Weekend at Wonalancet Cabin, NH. Ski out the back door into miles of un-groomed backwoods trails in the Mt. Chocorua area. Rustic heated cabin has cold running water, full kitchen, large bunkroom and outdoor facilities. Trip open to 16 intermediate to advanced skiers. Bring snowshoes for opt. 3-hour hike on Monday. \$45 includes lodging and meals. Bring trail lunches. \$20 non-refundable deposit required. Ls Marilyn Dunn and Tom Waddell, 781-837-5537, (before 8 pm) e-mail: keene_nh@hotmail.com.

Sat - Sun, Feb. 3-4. Intermediate Backcountry Ski / Snowshoe, Crawford Notch, NH. Carrying snowshoes, we'll ski up Sawyer River Rd., a gradual incline of 4 mi. Donning snowshoes, we'll hike 1.25 mi. into lovely Sawyer Pond Scenic Area. 10+ mi. RT. Backcountry skis not required, but participants should be in good physical condition. Previous snowshoe experience not required. Snowshoe rentals available near trailhead. Sunday we'll ski in the Mt. Washington area. Lodging at local inns or AMC Hostel. Please call L Mary DuBois Leeson, 997-4489, or CL Wayne Taylor, 252-6995, (before 9 pm) to register.

AMC Activities Risk Statement: Activities listed here involve varying degrees of danger. When you participate in these activities, you should be prepared physically and mentally, and equipped with appropriate gear. You should be aware of the risks and conduct yourself accordingly. Volunteer trip leaders are not responsible for your safety; you are. Before registering for any activity, you should discuss your capabilities with the trip leader. In order to participate in chapter activities, individuals under age 18 must be accompanied by a parent or responsible adult, or obtain prior consent from the trip leader. Those accompanied by a minor are responsible for the minor's actions.

Adventure on Mt. Rainier

By Dexter Robinson



At 14,410 feet, Mt. Rainier is the second highest peak in the contiguous U.S. states. It is the most glaciated peak in the lower 48 and the "crown in the jewel" of the Cascades in Washington State. In good weather, it is easily visible from Seattle

Well, as you can tell, I survived the Mt. Rainier course/ climb trip. (Mt. Rainier is the most glaciated peak in the lower 48, the "crown in the jewel" of the Cascades in Washington State. In good weather it is quite visible from Seattle). But unfortunately, no one in our climbing group summited. In fact, no one in the previous two weeks made it to the top of Mt. Rainier due to bad weather.

I had a big plane snafu getting out of Boston. I sat on the tarmac for two hours due to weather problems in Dallas. Upon arrival in Dallas I learned that my connector flight, the last flight to Seattle of the day, was cancelled. I got routed through San Diego then put on Alaska Airlines to Seattle. Of course luggage got delayed as well and arrived several hours later. I went down to Paradise on the south side of Rainier to do some conditioning hiking but arrived there in snow and rain. The inn was charming with fire place and piano. Monday's weather proved no better with steady rain driven by high winds. I enjoyed a few waterfalls before returning to Seattle to join my climbing team.

The team ranged in age from 20-something to my age (two others were my age), and all walks of life from a doctor from ND to a Pittsburgh steel worker to a bankruptcy lawyer from East Texas. We met Monday night, divided up group gear (tents, wanes, pulleys, rope, etc.). We had three guides, all very experienced climbers with significant mountaineering experience. Took off Tues. morning via van for the White River campgrounds and trailhead to Glacier Basin, our base camp, all located on the east side of the mountain. The hiking was a little rough at first getting use to a 60 lb pack (although I had one some pack conditioning ahead of time) and walking in plastic mountaineering boots over soft slushy snow. The first day hike was only 4 miles but uphill and challenging as we did not have our first rest stop until after an hour of hiking (my only complaint with the trip).

Base camp (6500 ft) in Glacier Basin was a nice place surrounded by ridges. We were on a slight rise amongst the fir trees which helped break the wind. For Tues. P.M. we practiced snow travel, self arrest with our ice axes, and rope travel. Tues. night the wind came up and it rained a little. Wed. brought mixed clouds, showers, and some sun. We broke camp and started up toward high camp at Camp Shurmann (9500 ft.). The winds picked up dramatically. After a while we stopped and struggled to get roped up for the long climb on the glacier. At about 7500 feet a ranger came down and informed us that the sustained winds at Camp Shurmann were 40-50 mph gusting to 70 mph. The wind was already blowing us over at times. The ranger's avalanche test pit indicated severe avalanche conditions since two feet of new, wet, heavy snow had fallen on the mountain. It would take 2 sunny days at least for conditions to change. The guides (we had 3 of them) gave us a choice of continuing to the camp to experience windy conditions or returning to base camp to do other instruction. Since I had already spent two windy nights in a tent a couple winters ago on Mt. Madison, just before the great northern New England ice storm, I opted to return to base camp. That proved to be a good move since those that went up spend another grueling 5-6 hours trudging up the glacier to high camp then struggling to set up their tents.

The wind did not let up until late the next day. Back at base camp we got avalanche/snow condition instruction along with a review of map and compass. The next day we took light packs and hiked back up to where we had turned around continuing on across the Inter-glacier and bypassing several crevasses. It was quite a beautiful site gazing out on the Cascades. We got to about 9000 feet, just before high camp, a place known as Steamboat Prow before turning around due to high winds. After descending a little and getting out of the wind we just stretched out and enjoyed the scenery for about 30 minutes.

So, unfortunately, we missed our summit bid by about two days. Ideally, we would have hiked the second day to high camp, had some more instruction, then gone to bed early. Then we would have left around midnight for the summit (safer to travel when colder), reaching it around 7 a.m. then returning to high camp and out the next day. But I knew the chances of summiting were only 50/50 when I went out and was really after the technical mountaineering experience on a glacier. We returned to Seattle on Friday and enjoyed a nice dinner at a restaurant on the ocean. (the group at high camp did entertain the thought of trying to summit Thursday night but the snow and wind conditions were still not favorable plus none of the guides felt anyone had the strength to hike for 24+ hours.). My plane trip out took 24 hours but the return was a thankfully uneventful 5 hour non-stop flight to Boston.

So all in all it was good trip. I learned a great deal. Got some more equipment and camping ideas. Was surprised at how some things worked as well as some that did not. I am now interested in doing a NH winter Presidential traverse preceded by an avalanche course. It would also be good for us to plan a more advanced winter trip for our leaders with lots of above treeline experience. ▲ ▲

2000 Annual Meeting
Southeastern Massachusetts Chapter
APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB

When: Saturday, Nov. 4, 2000
 Where: Fireside Grill, Middleboro, MA
 Cost: \$20.00 per person

Evening Program: "Tales from the Trail" with Craig Della Penna — Craig is the New England representative of the nation's largest trails organization, the Rails to Trails Conservancy. (RTC) He will talk about trail development in our region. RTC's vision is to enrich America's communities and countryside by creating a nationwide network of public trails from former rail lines and connecting corridors.

Dinner will be a buffet-style meal of garden salad, baked stuffed shells parmesan, chicken & broccoli, vegetable of the day, rolls and butter, Kahlua mousse for dessert and coffee.

Winter Hiking Workshop will be conducted during the afternoon. Call Walter Wells (279-1963) for details.

Registration deadline: October 28, 2000. Call Dexter Robinson at 781-294-8840 with questions.

Schedule

6:00—7:00 pm Happy Hour (Cash Bar)
 7:00—8:00 pm Dinner Buffet
 8:00—8:30 pm Business Mtg / Election
 8:30—9:30 pm "Tales from the Trails"

Directions to Fireside Grill in Middleboro (508-947-5333)

Take Exit 6 off Route 495 onto Route 44 East. Head east for about two-tenths of a mile until you reach the Middleboro rotary. Bear right past a Friendly's restaurant. The Fireside Grill is located close to the rotary, next to Friendly's. (Route 28 will also take you to the rotary.)

Cost is \$20 for members and non-members

Registration Deadline: Oct. 28, 2000

Make non-refundable check payable to:

SEM/AMC

Mail completed form and check to:

Dexter Robinson
 227 Winter Street
 Hanson, MA 02341

Registration Form for 2000 Chapter Annual Meeting

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Tel. _____ Number attending _____ Amt. Enclosed _____



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