



The Southeast Breeze

The Newsletter of the Southeastern Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club | December 2018

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First-ever "Caroling Around the Pond" troupe at Houghton's Pond on December 1st.
Photo and video by Paul Brookes

Caroling Around the Pond

By Pam Johnson, Hike Leader, & the Troupe

Sixteen festive carolers gathered together at Houghton's Pond on Saturday morning, December 1st, to embark on the First Ever "Caroling Around the Pond" hike! With jingle bells, sparkling garlands, reindeer antlers, and Christmas trees adorning their heads (yes, trees on their heads), the merry band set out on a beautiful, sunny day to sing both sacred Christmas hymns and traditional holiday tunes while hiking around Houghton's Pond.

Paul Brookes pitched (no pun intended) the idea to Cathy MacCurtain, Claire and Craig MacDonald, and Pam Johnson at a White-Lining planning meeting and without missing a beat (sorry!) all were on board with the plan! Paul, Cathy and Claire were in charge of refreshments—hot cider, cookies, and eggnog cake. Pam took the lead on creating the "Caroling Around the Pond" book of 20 tunes and even included some creative verses about the AMC and our chapter! You can tune in right here:

https://1drv.ms/v/s!AiqwzZ_0nJEkj9YCWRuY77hr3TNQBq

(If you don't listen to it all, start from 35 seconds in for the special verse.)

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View from the Chair: Best Winter Activities

I was talking to an arborist the other day about some dead and dying ash trees on my property that need to be cut down. My initial thought was that the emerald ash borers have finally arrived. But he explained that, while they are certainly coming, they haven't reached our area yet. Instead, something in the soil is killing those ashes, but he didn't mention what that might be. He went on to say that the tree cutters are very busy now and will be working throughout the winter and all year round. "Winter is best for tree work," he explained. "No bugs, brisk fresh air, and, if you get cold, you can go sit in the truck to warm up."

But SEMers know, especially those who attended our recent Winter Workshop, that dressing in layers and continuous movement (plus the occasional use of chemical hand and toe warmers) will keep us warm—no truck needed. Yes, winter *is* best for many outdoor activities and SEM has a full schedule for you.

Here are a just a few suggestions:

[SEM's 16th Annual New Year's Day Road Cycling](#) on the Shining Sea Bike path from North Falmouth to Woods Hole.

In addition to our weekly local winter day hikes/snowshoes, try something further afield, such as [Winter Series Hike #2 to Mt. Roberts](#) in New Hampshire on Jan. 5th, offering views of ice covered Lake Winnepesaukee; [Winter Series Hike #3 to Mt. Kearsarge North](#) on Feb. 2nd to enjoy views of the snow-covered White Mountain range; or, if you've participated in previous Winter Series hikes (and have the right winter gear), please consider joining us for the [Winter Hiking Series Overnight](#) trip to beautiful Carter Notch.

Consider a weekend getaway to my favorite: [The Old Field House Weekend in Intervale, NH](#), March 1st-3rd to XC ski, snowshoe, hike (or just do some shopping in nearby North Conway if that's your preference).

Hello, Winter! I don't know about you, but I'm going outside. Hope to see you out and about, too. Just don't forget to dress in layers...and keep moving!

Len Ulbricht, Chapter Chair

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Social Media AdministratorChristine Racine	Blast Editor.....Marie Hopkins	



Ledger: Hikers stop at ‘Eddie’s Tree’

Hike leader Ken Cohen reported that the December 13th hike around Ponkapoag Pond received excellent press coverage, thanks to reporter and AMC-SEM member Sue Scheible.

The group paused at the new maple tree planted at the golf course in memory of Eddie DeSantis, an AMC-SEM member and Blue Hills Trail Watch volunteer. There were 30 hikers, many of whom remembered Eddie and his legend.

The article and photos can be found [here](#).

Thanks, Sue and Ken!

Ponkapoag chorus (Continued from Page 1)

As the merry troupe made its way around the pond, stopping to regale one another with lovely melodies, they also entertained many folks who were simply enjoying a day outside hiking around the pond! Still in fine voice after singing all 20 tunes, they gathered once again at the Houghton’s Pond Visitor Center for the surprise grand finale—a rousing rendition of “Twelve Days of Christmas” Hawaiian style! Thanks to Claire MacDonald we sang of “One mynah bird in one papaya tree!”

Pam has offered to lead this event again next year! Perhaps “Caroling Around the Pond” will become a new SEM chapter tradition! So, if you missed the first Hike & Sing, we hope you will join us in 2019!

Winter Series Hike #4 set for March 1-3

The fourth and final trip in AMC-SEM’s 2018-19 Winter Hiking Series will bring us to remote and pristine Carter Notch in New Hampshire. On Friday, March 1, we’ll hike or snowshoe into the AMC Carter Notch hut via the very pretty 3.8-mile long Nineteen-Mile Brook Trail, with a (mostly) gradual 1,900-foot elevation gain. On Saturday, we’ll visit a nearby 4,000-foot peak, such as Carter Dome and/or Wildcat A, and then hike out on Sunday. Possible option for just staying Saturday night.

Previous winter hiking experience and full winter gear required, including microspikes, snowshoes, crampons, insulated winter boots, and zero-degree sleeping bag. Preference given to those who have participated in previous SEM Winter Series hikes/snowshoes this season. Leaders are Paul Miller, George Danis, Maureen Kelly, and co-leader Dio Gonçalves. [See details here.](#)

In Memoriam: Alan Alexis

SEM member Bill Vickstrom recently informed the *Breeze* that our fellow SEM member, Alan Alexis, has passed away. According to Bill, Alan was a good friend and a very strong and adventurous hiker. Here are some comments from his obituary:

“Alan M. Alexis, of Duxbury, MA, died on Nov 24th. Al graduated from Rutgers University in New Jersey in 1973. Alan was an avid hiker, having hiked the highest points in 48 of 50 states. He participated in many AMC activities including hiking all of the Mid State and North South Trails. He was interested in the environment, reading, cooking, traveling and listening to jazz and blues music. He was a member of the Jones River Historical Society in Kingston.”

We’ll miss you Alan!



The Appalachian Trail,
NH White Mountains.

‘Weather Gods’ Shine Down on SEM Winter Series #1 Hikers

By Paul Miller, Hike Leader

Photos & captions by Dio Gonçalves

Even with several last-minute cancellations, seventeen members showed up at the Balance Rock trailhead in the Mt. Wachusett ski area parking lot on Saturday, Dec. 1st for the first trip in this year’s popular SEM Winter Hiking Series. This included a nice mix of newcomers to winter hiking and more experienced winter hikers.

The weather was great; with crisp, sunny skies; temperatures in the low 30s; and hardly any wind at all. Shortly after hitting the trail, we had to stop to adjust clothing layers to keep from over-heating. Soon after that we stopped once again to slip on our microspikes to avoid slips on the increasingly snow-packed hiking trails. Unusual for a winter hike, due to the warmth of the sun and lack of wind, we didn’t even have to “layer up” again when we arrived at the summit to stop to enjoy the views and eat our trail lunches. We also spent a lot more time on the summit than is usual for a winter hike.

The hike back down to the trailhead was equally enjoyable and—although we never rushed—we completed this 4.1-mile loop hike in good time, particularly for such a large group. May the “weather gods” bless us with equally nice weather for the rest of the hikes in this year’s Winter Series!



The view from this summit was breathtaking! With no wind at the summit and little to no cloud cover, we were able to experience Mother Nature at her finest.



Co-leading this hike was a great experience. Everyone got along very well, and everyone had something different to share. The group dynamic was phenomenal, and the pace outstanding. It almost seemed as if they had all been doing this for a while.

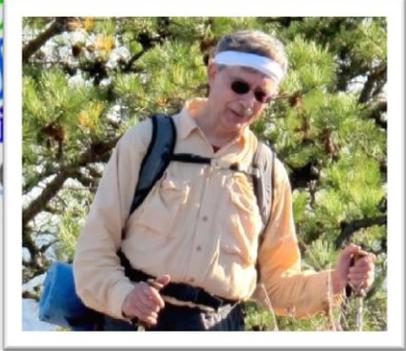


This was my first winter hike, and all the tips I gathered from our winter hiking workshop were very useful. I began with fewer layers than I expected, and it wasn’t long before I had to remove layers. The climb was very moderate, a great opportunity for my first winter hike.

Spend the Weekend!

Enjoy hiking, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing with AMC-SEM friends at the Noble View Outdoor Center in Russell, MA.

Register NOW!



Volunteer of the Month: Bob Vogel

By Skip Maysles, Trails Chair

Each month the AMC-SEM recognizes one of our amazing volunteers. We are so fortunate to have people give their time, energy, and resources to make our chapter one of the best! **Bob Vogel** is December's Trails Volunteer of the Month.

If you're hiking behind Bob, beware of sudden starts and stops! Bob is always in trail maintenance mode, clearing downed twigs from the trail with his hiking poles as he walks along, clipping low-hanging branches that whack him in the face (he's tall), and stopping to saw trees that have fallen across the path.

He is also very good at cajoling friends and family members to help him in his efforts to keep the trails in tip-top shape. This past summer he ran a number of events in the Blue Hills combining hiking, trail work, and instruction in trail maintenance for newcomers. Whether he is participating in a formal trail maintenance event or out on his own, Bob epitomizes devotion to keeping our trails in good shape for the enjoyment of all hikers.

Congratulations to Bob, and thank you for a job well done!

Bob will receive a Volunteer of the Month certificate and a \$50 REI gift card.



Paul Brookes Completes His 10th Redline of the Blue Hills

By Pete Tierney, Trails Vice Chair

Those of us who play the Redline the Blue Hills game know the fun of marking a trail as "done" on our map and the rather disheartening feeling of realizing just how many trails are in the Blue Hills and how much we have left to do. That feeling gives way to a sense of accomplishment as the map fills up with marked trails and is finally complete. Paul Brookes finished the cycle from the first mark on the map to the fully marked map *for the tenth time* on December 5th of this year!

By completing his tenth Redline, Paul enters Goldline status, joining Joe Keogh and Michael Swartz in that exclusive club. He began his tenth go-around on September 13th of this year and seven weeks, 40 trips to the Blue Hills Reservation, and 165 miles later, he completed the effort.



The End!
To see Paul, his suit, and his dog, Sunny, in action, [go to this address.](#)

Photo by Pam Johnson

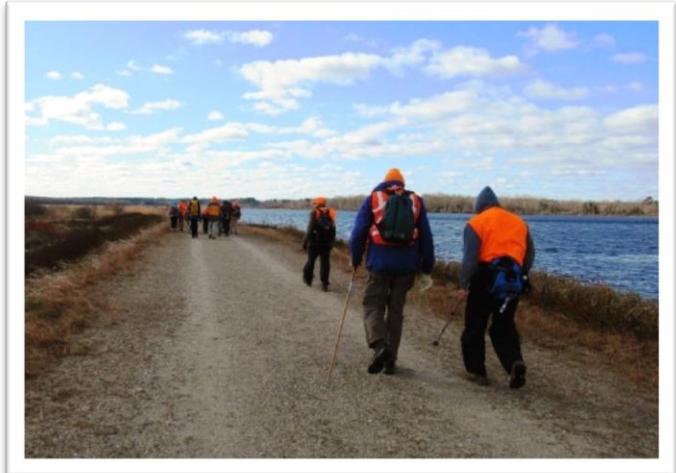
The accomplishment was more noteworthy because this year's unusually heavy rainfall caused extensive flooding of the Fowl Meadow section closest to the Neponset River. The trail that parallels the river is underwater in many places and some spots are chest-deep. To ford these spots, Paul relied on home-made waders constructed of heavy-duty trash bags and (of course) duct tape. Though he looked somewhat like the monster in the old horror movie *The Creature from the Black Lagoon*, the outfit worked, more or less, and Paul waded his way into Goldline status.

Thursday Hikes to Burrage Pond and Cornell Farm at Little River Reserve

Photos & Captions by Ken Cohen, Hiking Leader



Leader Rob MacDonald takes charge.



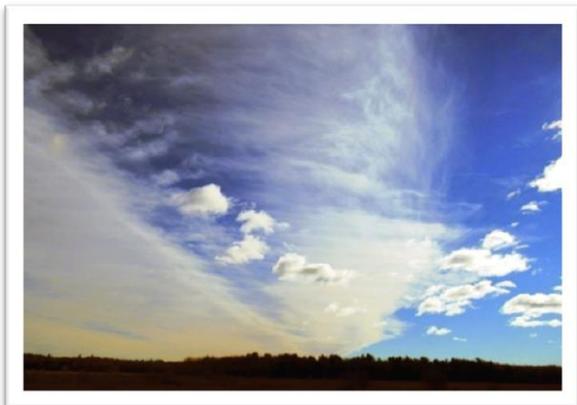
Heading into 20 mph winds with 20-degree chill factor.



Navigating a narrow crossing.



Rob MacDonald & Ken Cohen up front. *Photo by Sue Svelnis*



What a great sky!

Nineteen hardy hikers turned out November 29 for a cold and windy hike through the Burrage Pond Wildlife Management Area in Hanson with leaders Rob MacDonald and Sue Svelnis.

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Thursday Hikes



Happy to be here!

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On Thursday, December 6, Walt Granda led 20 hikers for a sunny outing at Cornell Farm at the Little River Reserve in Dartmouth.



Hello, Cornell Farm!



Goodbye, Farm!



Which way now?



Crossing the bridge over frozen water.

Croo dreams do come true at Zealand Falls Hut!

By Pam Johnson

More than a decade ago I learned about the AMC High Huts in the New Hampshire White Mountains and immediately fell in love with the culture of mountain hospitality offered by the hut “croos”—those amazing teams of young, very strong people who prepare all the meals and keep the huts running. Heartbroken that I would not ever be able to apply to be on a croo due to responsibilities of family and job demands, I happily purchased an AMC High Mountain Huts blue apron and set to work in my own kitchen, always wondering if I had what it takes to be a hut woman.

On Sunday, July 15, 2018, I was enjoying a much-needed pedicure after finishing up the Carter Moriah Range. I apologized to the technician that my feet were a mess due to all the hiking I had recently done. With toes bubbling away in the foot bath, the woman sitting next to me, Meredith, struck up a conversation about hiking in New Hampshire. Sitting next to Meredith was her daughter Rebecca Anderson (nee Atkinson) with her toes bubbling away too. The three of us talked animatedly about hiking and the huts.

Unbeknownst to me, Rebecca was texting with Abby Mnookin. Abby (now living in Vermont) and Rebecca (now living in California) had been planning and dreaming about their 20th Old Hutwomen (OH) Madison Croo reunion for months at Zealand Fall Hut, working as fill-in croo from July 17-19, 2018. Two of their Reunion Croo had to drop out at the last minute. Rebecca had recruited her aunt, Nancy Thomas, another OH, as one replacement, but they still needed one more. Rebecca told Abby she might have found a “substitute” and Abby said, “Ask her!”

So Rebecca asked me, “How would you like to come up to Zealand Falls Hut this week and work on the croo? We’ll hike in on Tuesday, work Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday morning, and then hike out Thursday afternoon once the croo arrive. What do you think?”

Wait. What just happened? Stunned, I replied, “Are you serious? This is actually my DREAM job! Seriously? You’re inviting me to come wash dishes at the hut? This is SO exciting! I think I can make this work! Can I call you when I get home?” Phone numbers were exchanged, pedicures finished, and wheels set in motion.



Who knew Pam wanted to “croo”?

Rebecca and Abby would have their 20th Mad Croo reunion, Nancy would be working in the hut with her niece 44 years after being the first ever female Hut Master at Greenleaf, and I would be washing dishes at Zealand! The stars had aligned! All the dreams were falling into place!

On Tuesday, Rebecca and her eight-year-old son Huck, Nancy, and I met at the Zealand Trail, and we set off to Zealand Falls Hut where we were greeted by Abby Mnookin and her six-year-old daughter Lucy.

Under the expert tutelage of the seasoned OH croo, I quickly learned the art of washing dishes in the hut! Abby, Rebecca, and Nancy easily fell back into the comfortable, organized, and efficient roles of Hutwomen, and in a blink dinner was being served—for 40 people!

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Biking in South Africa with AMC Adventure Travel

By Barbara Gaughan

Sometime last spring I saw the posting—AMC Adventure Travel Garden Route to Cape Town. Tempting! I checked out the prospectus. I was hooked. Not only was the destination exotically desirable, but I had previously biked with both leaders—Biking the Whites and Bicycle Tour of Lake Champlain Islands—and **knew** the group would be in good hands. I would not be disappointed.

Upon completion of the application and phone screening and securing my spot as one of 14 travelers, anticipatory doubt set in. I knew I could bike 40 miles in a day, but I had never biked 40 miles for eleven consecutive days. Could I **really** do this trip **enjoyably**? Initially I signed on for a road bike. E-bikes were an option. Should I? Shouldn't I? Was I selling out by choosing the latter? I chose the latter. Of the 14 cyclists, only two had chosen road bikes. The leaders made an executive decision—e-bikes for all—and one route/group each day rather than two ride options.

British Air took me from Boston to London/Heathrow to Johannesburg to Port Elizabeth, the longest leg being 11.5 hours. Inflight movies, reading material, compression/anti-embolism stockings, and over-the-counter diphenhydramine helped to make two days of air travel tolerable.

Arriving early, my fellow SEMer Patty Williams and I stayed two nights at the Brooke's Hill Suites in Port Elizabeth. There we met up with some other early birds, including Rami Haddad, our trip leader *extraordinaire* from AMC's Boston Chapter. We toured this seaside city on Nelson Mandela Bay on foot, taking in the Campanile, colonial City Hall, Donkin Reserve and Lighthouse, Piazza Mosaic and Pyramid. Sun, a light breeze, and warm temps delighted us.

Saturday and Sunday were for relaxing, checking the bicycles for fit and tire pressure, and getting acquainted. We transferred in our van support to Addo Elephant National Park, established in 1931 to save the Eastern Cape Elephant from extinction. We were treated to many sightings, not just of some of the 700 elephants in the park, but kudu, red hartebeest, zebra, Cape buffalo, warthog, myriad birds, and the dung beetle—which has the right of way in the park!



Barbara Gaughan, left, and Patty Williams with the majestic Jonkershoek Mountains in the background.

Our guide shared his wealth of knowledge of some of the 1,500 plant species in the park. That night we stayed in individual cottages at the Zuurburg Mountain Village. Best outdoor shower with a mountain view!

Monday turned out to be an adventure in spades. Our leaders needed to plan an alternate route due to smoke from forest fires. We also had to deal with strong 20+ mph headwinds, cool temps, and some rain. A word about the bikes here: We got to test drive them on a 6 kilometer loop in the Van Stadens Wild Flower Reserve. Four modes were available—eco, tour, emtb, and turbo. Let's just say that those of us with no fear let those bikes sing in turbo to combat those headwinds on our route along the boundary of the Tsitsikamma Mountain Range to Jeffrey's Bay. On our maiden ride, *#brakeforbaboons* became my mantra. Really!

Tuesday we woke to pouring rain and a temperature of 13°C (55.4°F). Rami and Mike Barry, the co-leader who is also from the Boston chapter, cancelled ride plans. A few ventured a walk about the town anyway, a few took the van a short distance and were treated to drier weather in which to hike, and some hunkered down in the fire-placed living room of the main lodge. Later in the day, we transferred to Kynsha Quays for a cold brew at Mitchell's Brewery and a lagoon boat ride. Two dramatic cliffs known as The Heads guard the entrance to the lagoon, which stretches to the Indian Ocean. They mark one of the most dangerous harbor entrances in the world.

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South Africa Bike Adventure

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I won't detail the day-by-day routes and sights. Suffice it to say each day was an adventure, and each day was different from the one before and the one to follow. For our rides, we climbed Montagu Pass (800 m/2,625 ft), Robinson Pass (850m/2,789 ft), and Op de Tradouw Pass (950m/3,117 ft); cycled landscapes varying from the evergreen coast to the dry expanse of Little Karoo; pedaled level ground through olive estates and vineyards; bucolic sheep farms; dairy, beef, and ostrich farms; and traveled the foothills of the Outeniqua Mountains, Swartberg Mountains, Langeberg Mountains, and Hex River Mountains. The surface varied from paved roads and gravel roads in decent shape to washboard bone-grinding gravel and a cement road built between 1946 and 1950.

We were asked to have our phones equipped with *maps.me*, our *ridewithgps* routes and *WhatsApp*. Personally, I didn't trust my ostrich-sized brain to navigate with the app comfortably, so my strategy (successful) was to cycle with the lead group and pair up with a buddy who was secure in their use of the apps and iPhone battery life. There were several lost cyclists, but all found their way back to the fold.

Accommodations ranged from simple to sumptuous. We stayed on a charming historic working farm (search for Oue Werf Country House and Manor in Oudtshoorn), in a charming boutique hotel (search for Karoo Art Hotel in Barrydale), a resort with hot springs (search for Avalon Springs Resort, Montagu), to name a few. Every lodging had a pool.



It's a big pink...
bike rack?

Yep.

Secure your
wheels here in
Stellenbosch,
South Africa.



Barbara Gaughan receiving an ostrich hug at the Congo Ostrich Farm in Schoemanshoek, SA.

Meals were generously portioned. A full English breakfast was an option almost every day, along with fresh fruit, yogurt, granola, breads. Dinners allowed the adventurous to try ostrich in many variations as a stew, as carpaccio, as steak, and barbecued. Springbok, the name of the SA rugby team, is also a menu item served as steak or as carpaccio. To my knowledge, no one tried monkey gland sauce.

Sightseeing excursions were plentiful. We toured Congo Caves, caverns that began forming 20 million years ago.

At Congo Ostrich Farm, we learned, among other factoids, that the ostrich's brain is smaller than its eyes! I also learned from my fellow cyclists that there is a great YouTube video of cyclists being chased by an ostrich in South Africa!

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Zealand Falls Hut

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We introduced ourselves to the hut guests and shared the story of how the Zealand Falls Hut Fill-In Croo 2018 came to be. All of the guests were delighted to be a part of this once-in-a-lifetime adventure!

With Tuesday night dinner dishes done and Wednesday breakfast prep underway, we were coming together as a team (with a lot of help from Lucy and Huck!). Nancy shared the history of how women came into leadership roles in the huts and recalled her experiences as the first-ever AMC female Hut Master in 1974..

Wednesday breakfast was finished and hikers were out the door! While the soup was simmering, the bread rising, and the dinner roasting, Abby and Rebecca caught up on happy memories and funny stories from working together 20 years ago at Madison Hut. I happily and eagerly washed dishes and helped with dinner prep!

Wednesday was blissfully busy with hikers coming and going, all enjoying the hospitality of the hut! Truly this is the happiest place on earth! Abby, Rebecca, and Nancy made the work look so easy—but I will tell you that the effort required to keep the huts running is anything but easy. The biggest lesson I learned is how much the croo sincerely cares about making the hut experience a lifelong happy memory for everyone who crosses the threshold. That goal hadn't changed at all for Rebecca, Abby, and Nancy. And Lucy and Huck, perhaps future croo, were learning this lesson too.

Thursday came too quickly, the Blanket Folding Demonstration was a Star Wars Extravaganza, and before long the regular croo was returning after enjoying a few days away together. The fill-in croo slowly hiked out, not wanting this experience to end. We shared hugs and smiles, and then went on our merry ways knowing that something really special had just happened. That's the magic of the AMC huts! Dreams do come true!

* * *

Pam Johnson completed the AMC Leadership Training with the AMC-SEM Chapter in 2018, earned her Wilderness First Aid Certification at Joe Dodge Lodge in 2017, passed her Map and Compass Skills at the Mohican Outdoor Center in New Jersey in 2017, and completed the NH 4000-Footers on August 12, 2018. This was Pam's "Dream-Come-True Croo!"

AMC Travel in South Africa

Continued from Page 10

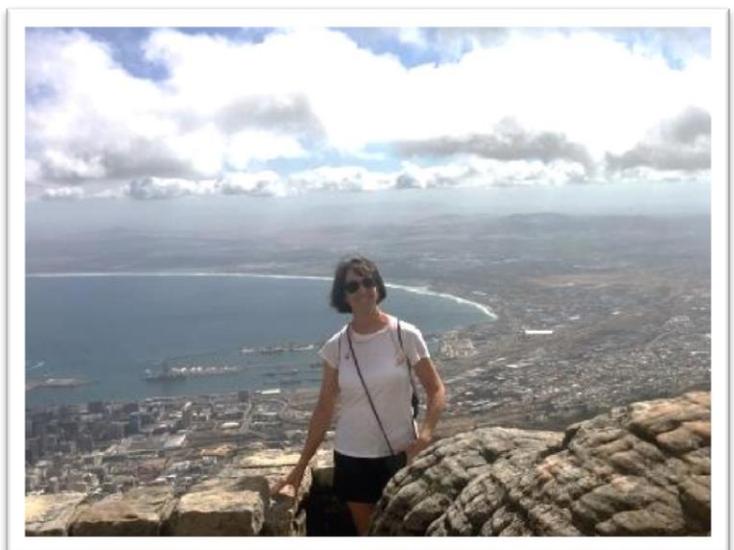
Van Loveren Family Wines on the banks of the Breeze River in the Robertson valley was the site of our wine and chocolate pairings.

Boulders Beach is the only place in the world one can get close to African Penguins!

Biking Route 62 was itself a sightseeing excursion. Where else in the world can one get a peanut butter and jack or a lime and Jägermeister milkshake or purchase an "I've survived the world famous Ronnie's Sex Shop" tee-shirt, or start a ride with an *affogato* at The Barn on 62 or end a ride with a cold brew/cider at the Route 62 Brewing Company?

I could go on and on and on. The Garden Route to Cape Town by bike was extraordinary. Rami and Mike were exemplary leaders and worked well to coordinate with African Bikers, our outfitter. The group of sixteen, ages 33-75, gelled well. Hans, our support van driver got us everywhere safely. The weather gods were with us. The drought did not significantly impact us. The exchange rate was in our favor.

The Rainbow Nation beckons me back. I am dreaming of retirement time in Stellenbosch and my next AMC Adventure Travel!



Barbara Gaughan atop Table Mountain, overlooking the city and harbor of Cape Town. Elevation 3,558 feet.



AMC's 2019 Annual Summit – Register Today!

January 26, 2019 – [Four Points by Sheraton, Norwood MA](#)

Please join AMC in kicking off another year in the outdoors! No matter what adventures you are planning for 2019, the 143rd Annual Summit has something for you. This event will connect both newcomers and lifelong members with valuable resources and provide opportunities for meeting people with similar interests and passions.

Annual Summit is AMC's thank you to our dedicated volunteers and members! We welcome you to sign up for a combination of workshops, trainings, and meetings that matches your interests. The full list of offerings will be available at outdoors.org/annualsummit starting in October.

This event will feature:

- Interactive workshops led by AMC experts and outdoor pros
 - Organization-wide committee meetings
 - A delicious buffet lunch
 - AMC's annual volunteer service awards
 - The 143rd Annual Business Meeting
 - Early evening reception, with complimentary drink and hors d'oeuvres
 - Updates on AMC's work in conservation, recreation, and education
- For those interested in staying over Friday and/or Saturday night, AMC will arrange for special group rates. Visit our registration page after October for more details.

Registration is Open!

Early Bird Special Pricing: Pay \$35 when you register before January 1, 2019.

Regular Rate of \$45 applies after January 1, 2019

Register at www.outdoors.org/AnnualSummit

Mount Rainier

AMC's August Camp 2019



Experience magnificent Mount Rainier National Park! See stunning waterfalls, alpine meadows carpeted with wildflowers and grand scenic vistas on dozens of easy to challenging hikes led by trained AMC volunteers. Visit Mount St. Helens. Trek across the shoulders of one of the highest and most dramatic peaks in the lower 48 states.

Camp in the small former lumbering town of Packwood, WA, adjacent to the park. Just arrive and enjoy the activities and camaraderie. Everything's provided: tents, hearty, delicious meals prepared by our staff, local transportation and a free shuttle from Seattle-Tacoma International Airport.

July 13 through August 10. Attend one week or two. Detailed information and registration will be posted at augustcamp.org by early December. Camp filled by mid-January last year, so don't miss out! Registration opens January 2, 2019.

Week 1:	July 13 — July 20
Week 2:	July 20 — July 27
Week 3:	July 27 — Aug. 3
Week 4:	Aug. 3 — Aug. 10

One Week: \$975 for members; \$1150 for non-members.

Applications are accepted beginning January 2, 2019 in the order in which they are received. Get sign-up information after December 1 at our web site, augustcamp.org.

Questions? Ask Lois Rothenberger at ACRegistrar@comcast.net

augustcamp.org



Photos by Kathy Kelly-Borowski, August Camp 2014

Activities

For the most current information, [search activities online](#)

Hiking Key:

C4D

Indicates distance in miles

AA13+

A.....9-13

B.....5-8

C.....less than 5

Indicates pace

1.....very fast

2fast

3moderate

4leisurely

Indicates terrain

Avery strenuous

Bstrenuous

Caverage

Deasy

Found in the description

LActivity leader

CLActivity co-leader

FT.....First Time

NM...New Members

AN....Advance Notice

C.....Conservation

BICYCLING

Tue., Jan. 1. SEMAMC 16th Annual New Year's Day Road Cycling, MA. - We'll cycle the streets and Shining Sea Bike Path from North Falmouth to Woods Hole and return for 27+/- miles for 2/3 hours or so. We'll do a shorter ride if the weather is iffy. We'll start at the Shining Sea Bike Path parking lot in North Falmouth. First re-group is Old Silver Beach and a look toward Marion, Rochester, Mattapoisett, Fairhaven, New Bedford and Puget Sound. Perhaps I'll include a couple of side tours into Gunning Point and Racing Beach areas. Then we're on to Woods Hole for refreshments. The return ride will bring us to Nobska Light and then the Shining Sea Path. Start time - late morning with riders and tires pumped and ready to roll. Helmets, water, spare tube required; user pump and tire changing tools would be a plus. Contact leader - paulbcurrier@comcast.net - 508-833-2690 - for start time and registration Helmets required. L Paul Currier (508-833-2690 8-7, paulbcurrier@comcast.net)

CAPE HIKES

Thu., Jan. 3. Hike Long Pond, Goodwill Park, Falmouth, MA. Come hike around Long Pond in winter! Traverse Falmouth's Town Forest on rolling wooded trails. Enjoy scenic views of Long Pond, Grews Pond and Angel Mirror Pond. The Angel Mirror Trail, a relatively new trail, has some steep, narrow sections. Sturdy shoes, layered clothing, plenty of water, snacks, sunscreen and tick repellent are strongly recommended. Pack traction devices such as Yak Traks, Stabilicers for icy conditions. Meet promptly at 9:45 for trail talk and introductions. This hike begins in Goodwill Park at 10 AM. We will hike approximately 2 1/4 hours, about 4 1/2 miles. It is rated B3C, moderate pace, average terrain. Heavy rain/deep snow cancels. Questions, call leader Cathy Giordano 508-243-3884 Directions - From Bourne bridge (Cape side) - Rt, 28S to Brick Kiln exit From Rt. 151 W (near the end) to Rt. 28S to Brick Kiln exit Then bear left off exit ramp. Travel 1.2 miles. Turn R at traffic light onto Gifford St. For 1.1 miles. Look for anchor chain fence on right. Turn right into Goodwill Park. Continue on paved road. Park in lot on right near Grews Pond and covered picnic area. L Catherine Giordano (508-243-3884 before 9 PM, cmgiordan@msn.com)

Sun., Jan. 6. Hike--Great Neck Wildlife Sanctuary, Wareham, MA. This outing will be in one of 2 forms--2 miles snow shoeing or 4 mile hiking, depending on weather and trail conditions. It will take place in the Great Neck Wildlife Sanctuary in Wareham, on wooded trails through Mass Audubon lands. The trails are relatively level but require negotiating roots and rocks. There are several trees to step over on the trails during hiking. We will avoid most step overs for snow shoeing. No dogs are allowed in the sanctuary by Audubon rules. There is a view of Bass Cove from the Osprey Overlook. Go over the Bourne Bridge and continue on Route 25 for 6.7 miles. Take Exit 2, Onset/Wareham/Glen Charlie Road. Bear right on the ramp and continue through 2 traffic lights. As you cross Route 28/6/Cranberry Highway, the name changes to Depot Street. As you cross Onset Ave/Minot Ave., the name changes to Great Neck Road. Stay on Great Neck for 3.1 miles. Turn right onto Stockton Short Cut Street. At the turn, Sacred Hearts Spirituality Center is on your left and a small Audubon sign is on the right. The parking is shortly on your left. Park close together to maximize available parking. L Robin McIntyre (508-789-8252 Before 9 pm, cmgiordan@msn.com) Robin is a 3rd year Level I SEM/Cape hike leader with WFA training)

Thu., Jan. 10. Harwich, Hawks Nest State Forest, Harwich, MA. Hike wooded trails and roads past Olivers, Hawks Nest, Black and Walkers Ponds. Meet at 9:45 for 10:00 start (2 hours). From Rte 6 travelling east, take Exit 11. Go left at traffic light at the end of the ramp. Take IMMEDIATE right on Spruce Rd. Travel approx. 0.3 mi (just before a hill) at second blue hydrant and park on sides of road. L Pat Sarantis (508-430-9965 Before 9:00 pm, patsarantis@gmail.com)

Continued on next page

Activities

For the most current information, [search activities online](#)

CAPE HIKES

Sat., Jan. 12. Hike Scorton Creek Sandwich, Old County Rd. East Sandwich, MA. Hike along saltmarsh, through old state game farm and past one of the original pilgrim homesteads. Contour is fairly flat, with lots of roots and some trails may be muddy. Driving Directions from Sagamore Bridge take exit 3 and turn N on Quaker Meetinghouse Rd to 6A and turn R and follow 6A to E Sandwich Post Office and turn R onto Old County Rd and park in horseshoe across from Grange Hall. From down cape take Rte 6 to Exit 4 Chase Rd and turn N and take 2nd L onto Old County Rd and park in horseshoe on L across from Grange Hall. Meet at 9:45 AM for 10 AM hike start. L Jane Harding (508-833-2864 Before 9 PM, janeharding@comcast.net)

Thu., Jan. 17. Hike - South Cape Beach Mashpee (C3C), Mashpee, MA. Flat hike through woods for 2 miles, then 2 miles on sandy peninsula, or dirt fireroad. From Mashpee rotary, take Great Neck Rd.S 2.7 mi, left on Great Oak Rd. Follow to town beach pkg. Meet at 9:45.AM 2 hours. L Gary Miller (774-392-5356, Garymaxxx@gmail.com)

Sat., Jan. 19. Hike Over Hill over Dale, West Barnstable, MA. Walk the hills and some fire roads of the West Barnstable Conservation area. Hills are steep but short with a little flat spot between them. Good hiking boots are suggested. Hike could go over in time depending on the speed of the slowest hiker and conditions of trails. Take exit 4 on Rt6 (mid-cape highway) go 1 mile south and park under the high tension lines. L David Selfe (508-771-0620 after 5pm before 9pm, kdsselfe@comcast.net, I have been a member of AMC since 2005 and have hiked over 600 miles on Cape Cod.)

Sun., Jan. 20. Bell's Neck Conservation, Harwich, MA. 4.5 mile mostly flat hike along East & West reservoirs, cranberry bogs, marshland and a herring run. Exit 10 to 124S to end. R on 39S x 1.9 mi to Sand Pond prkg on right. Arv 12:45 for 1 p.m. start. L Barbara Gaughan (781-572-1321 before 9 p.m., barbaragaughan12@comcast.net, Level 1 hike & bike leader.)

Thu., Jan. 24. Hike Coast Guard Beach Eastham, Eastham, MA. 2 hour hike. Visit Salt Pond, salt marshes, Coast Guard Beach. Directions: From Route 6 take Right into National Seashore Salt Pond Visitors Center. Meet at 9:45 and hike 10 am - 12:00 pm. L Richard Kaiser (508-432-3277 Before 9 PM, rjkaiser@comcast.net)

Sun., Jan. 27. Beebe Woods Hike, Cape Cod Conservatory parking lot in Falmouth, MA. Join me for a moderate hike in beautiful Beebe Woods. Approx 5 miles. Terrain is flat to ups and downs. Conditions might require snowshoes or ice traction. L Linda Church (lchurch@whoi.edu)

Sun., Feb. 3. Hike Craigville Beach, Centerville, MA. We will visit Christian community overlooking Craigville Beach and then hike down road to trail through saltmarsh to Centerville River; we will return walking Craigville Beach.. Directions to hike take Rte 6 to Exit 6 and turn R at Shootflying Hill Rd.to L on Old Stage Rd., becomes Main St. follow to beach parking lot for meet location. Follow signs from 132 for Craigville Beach. Meet at 12:45 PM for 1 PM start. L Jane Harding (508-833-2864 Before 9 PM, janeharding@comcast.net)

Thu., Feb. 21. Hike - Yarmouth, Greenough Ponds (B3C), Yarmouth, MA. Walk through Yarmouth Botanical Gardens, Dennis & Greenough Ponds. Meet at 9:45, 2 hr. Exit 7 off Route 6 to North, right on 6A, at sharp turn go right on Summer St. to beach parking lot. L Richard Kaiser (508-432-3277, rjkaiser@comcast.net)

Sun., Mar. 3. Hike Shawme Crowell State Park, Sandwich, MA. Two hour hike on wooded trails through the scenic campground, some hills. Driving directions: Take Rte 6 to Exit 2, Rte 130 and turn N. Stay on Rte 130 until you see entrance sign for Shawme Crowell. From Sagamore Bridge take 1st exit and at bottom of ramp turn R at lights, follow Sandwich Rd and merge left on 6A and then turn R onto Rte 130. Turn into Shawme Crowell and turn right drive past entrance booth and follow road until you come to open space and paved cutout on R. Park along road off pavement if possible. Meet at 12:45 PM. L Jane Harding (508-833-2864 Before 9 PM, janeharding@comcast.net)

Thu., Mar. 7. Hike Long Nook, Truro, MA. 2 hour hike. Visit AF Base and Jenny Lind Tower. Directions: From Route 6 take Right on Long Nook Rd (1.2 miles after Pamet Rd Exit) and follow to parking lot at the end. Meet at 9:45 and hike 10 am - 12:00 pm. L Richard Kaiser (508-432-3277 Before 9 PM, rjkaiser@comcast.net)

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Activities

For the most current information, [search activities online](#)

HIKING

Get your 100-mile patch! Contact hikingchair@amcsem.org.
Always looking for additional hike leaders!

Thu., Dec. 27. Blue Hills hike-- Yellow triangle, Meet at Houghtons Pond parking lot. 840 Hillside Street Milton MA. This hike follows the yellow triangle starting behind Ranger headquarters: very hilly in sections, no rock scrambling though. Traction devices necessary. Rain or snowstorm cancels. L Rachel Thibeault (774-360-2539 before 8:00 PM, rateebo@yahoo.com)

Sat., Dec. 29. Winter Morning Out Hike at Myles Standish State Forest, Plymouth/Carver, MA. Join me for an 8 am Saturday hike at Myles Standish State Forest in Plymouth/Carver. See the beauty of the forest in winter. Combining the flat, pond-side East Head Loop and the hilly, wooded Bentley Loop will give us about 7 miles of beautiful trails. Once we're done, we'll still have the rest of the day for other things. Meet at 7:45 at the Forest Headquarters Parking Lot, 194 Cranberry Road, Carver, 02330. We'll plan on a moderate pace to complete the hike in approximately 3 hours. Registration is not required, but email the leader with questions or concerns. If we have snow, the hike will become a snowshoe and the distance will be adjusted. L Maureen Kelly (617-943-4288 before 8 pm, mokel773@aol.com)

Sun., Dec. 30. Hiking in Weetamoo Woods, RI. Join is for a (hopefully!) snowy hike/ snowshoe of approx. 5 miles of flat trails through beautiful Weetamoo Woods. There are a number of historical features of interest, as well as interesting rocky formations & lots of holly. L Jeannine Audet (508-493-8221 weeknights after 7:00 pm, weekends anytime, milmod@aol.com)

Tue., Jan. 1. White Line the Blue Hills hikes, Canton/Milton, MA. For the fifth year, this popular series will run from the Winter Solstice to the Spring Equinox. We meet on Tuesday mornings at 10 am and hike trails in the Blue Hills Reservation for 3 to 4 hours. We hike at a moderate pace, perfect for hiking and chatting at the same time. We stop for lunch on the trail when the weather is not too cold or eat as we walk during cold weather. This is a social group but also serious about winter hiking safety: we hike together, wait at intersections and watch out for one another. The first hike is on Jan 1 and the last hike is March 19. Since the first hike is on New Year's Day, for this hike only, we will be meeting earlier (9 am) and hiking for only 2 hours. Register once and then come when you can. We hike different trails each week and start from different locations. Registered participants will be emailed the location of the next hike during the prior week. Winter hiking clothes, insulated hiking boots, and stabilizers such as micro-spikes are required on all hikes. Snow-shoes must be brought to the trailhead after the first major snowfall. All hikers are expected to bring a backpack with sufficient water, lunch, extra layers and a first aid kit. A complete clothing and equipment list will be given to you during registration. For the safety of those driving, hikes will be canceled during active snow-storms. In addition, hikes may be canceled during heavy rain, excessive cold or simply unpleasant weather. People new to winter hiking are welcome and encouraged to register; you will also be asked to attend the excellent SEM winter hiking workshop on November 3. If you have a scheduling conflict you can attend any winter hiking workshop with any AMC chapter. One of the hike leaders will have a Yellow Lab with him, no other dogs are allowed. We hope you consider this winter series; it's pleasant hiking without bugs, social and an effective way to keep fit during the long winter. L Paul Brookes (603-799-4399, PaulBrookes1966@outlook.com, Living in Boston I enjoy hiking around Greater Boston and beyond. You may often find me in the Blue Hills with my dog Sunny.) L Catherine MacCurtain (camaccurtain@aol.com) L Claire MacDonald , R Cathy MacCurtain (camaccurtain@aol.com)

Thu., Jan. 3. BCT hike in Walpole Town Forest, MA. We will hike 5 mostly flat miles through the Town Forest on the BCT and adjoining trails past ponds, the Neponset River and ballfields of the high school. In case of sufficient snow, we will snowshoe a shorter loop. In any case: bring water, lunch, proper footwear, traction devices for slippery conditions, proper clothing. and possibly snowshoes. Rain cancels. L Hans Luwald (508-668-0462 Before 9:00 PM, hans.luwald@gmail.com) CL Debbie Lepore (617-778-4339 Before 9:00pm)

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Spend the Weekend!
Enjoy hiking, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing with AMC-SEM friends at the Noble View Outdoor Center in Russell, MA.
Register NOW!

Activities

For the most current information, [search activities online](#)

HIKING

Sat., Jan. 5. Dog Friendly Hike at Wompatuck State Park, Hingham, MA. Come with or without your dog for a fun winter hike at Wompatuck State Park. If conditions allow this hike will be about 5 miles. The route and mileage will be adjusted if there is snow or ice. Dogs are allowed off-leash at this DCR property. However, dogs will need to be leashed at leader's discretion. Dogs must be able to keep pace with the group and not be disruptive to the human hikers. This will be a flat hike with an average pace. Snowshoes are optional if there is fresh snow but traction devices and water proof boots may be required. Registration is not required but please contact the leader with any questions. Meet at 9:45 at the park headquarters, 204 Union Street, Hingham, MA. L Susan Svelnis (781-849-9299, suesvelnis@gmail.com, Local hike leader who loves hiking with her dog, Danny Boy.)

Sat., Jan. 5. Winter Series Hike #2 - Mt. Roberts, Moultonborough, NH. Join us for the second hike in our popular SEM Winter Hiking Series to Mt. Roberts. This is a beautiful 5.5-mile, 1350' elevation hike with moderate difficulty. Mt. Roberts is the westernmost peak in the Castle in the Clouds complex in the Ossipee Mountains. While the summit features strong views to the north, perhaps the most scenic portion is the ledge area along the Mt. Roberts Trail. The Lake Winnepesaukee views from this section are second to none. - All Trails In addition to appropriate winter-rated hiking boots and appropriate (non-cotton) clothing, depending on conditions, microspikes and/or snowshoes may also be required for this hike. Participation in the SEM Winter Hiking Workshop or equivalent and/or significant winter hiking/snowshoeing experience required to participate in this series. L Maureen Kelly (moke1773@aol.com) L Paul Miller (paulallenmiller@verizon.net) L George Danis CL Susan Schobel (susan.schobel@gmail.com), R Susan Schobel (susan.schobel@gmail.com)

Tue., Jan. 8. White Line the Blue Hills hikes, Blue Hills, MA. For the fifth year, this popular series will run from the Winter Solstice to the Spring Equinox. We meet on Tuesday mornings at 10 am and hike trails in the Blue Hills Reservation for 3 to 4 hours. We hike at a moderate pace, perfect for hiking and chatting at the same time. We stop for lunch on the trail when the weather is not too cold or eat as we walk during cold weather. This is a social group but also serious about winter hiking safety: we hike together, wait at intersections and watch out for one another. The first hike is on Jan 1 and the last hike is March 19. Since the first hike is on New Year's Day, for this hike only, we will be meeting earlier (9 am) and hiking for only 2 hours. The last hike of the series will be a shorter hike followed by a social lunch at one of the local restaurants. Register once and then come when you can. We hike different trails each week and start from different locations. Registered participants will be emailed the location of the next hike during the prior week. Winter hiking clothes, insulated hiking boots, and stabilizers such as micro-spikes are required on all hikes. Snow-shoes must be brought to the trailhead after the first major snowfall. All hikers are expected to bring a backpack with sufficient water, lunch, extra layers and a first aid kit. A complete clothing and equipment list will be given to you during registration. For the safety of those driving, hikes will be canceled during active snow-storms. In addition, hikes may be canceled during heavy rain, excessive cold or simply unpleasant weather. People new to winter hiking are welcome and encouraged to register. You will also be asked to attend the excellent SEM winter hiking workshop on November 3. If you have a scheduling conflict you can attend any winter hiking workshop with any AMC chapter. One of the hike leaders will have a Yellow Lab with him, no other dogs are allowed. We hope you consider this winter series; it's pleasant hiking without bugs, social and an effective way to keep fit during the long winter. L Paul Brookes (603-799-4399 After 7am and before 9pm, PaulBrookes1966@outlook.com, Living in Boston I enjoy hiking around Greater Boston and beyond. You may often find me in the Blue Hills with my dog Sunny.) L Catherine MacCurtain (781-848-9506, camaccurtain@aol.com) L Claire MacDonald , R Cathy MacCurtain (camaccurtain@aol.com)

(C) (FT) (NM) Thu., Jan. 10. Thurs. AM Monastery Grounds Hike, Cumberland, RI. Thursday Morning 10:00 AM Hike. Nice easy hike on the beautiful Monastery grounds in Cumberland, RI - Bring lunch or snack. Snow equipment may be needed. Rain cancels. Rte. 295S to exit 11. Take 114S app. 1-1/2 mi. Take right into Monastery, go past playground and park on right. L Muriel Guenther (508-699-7461 Before 9:00pm, murielguenther@comcast.net)

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Activities

For the most current information, [search activities online](#)

HIKING

Tue., Jan. 15. White Line the Blue Hills hikes, Blue Hills, MA. For the fifth year, this popular series will run from the Winter Solstice to the Spring Equinox. We meet on Tuesday mornings at 10 am and hike trails in the Blue Hills Reservation for 3 to 4 hours. We hike at a moderate pace, perfect for hiking and chatting at the same time. We stop for lunch on the trail when the weather is not too cold or eat as we walk during cold weather. This is a social group but also serious about winter hiking safety: we hike together, wait at intersections and watch out for one another. The first hike is on Jan 1 and the last hike is March 19. Since the first hike is on New Year's Day, for this hike only, we will be meeting earlier (9 am) and hiking for only 2 hours. Register once and then come when you can. We hike different trails each week and start from different locations. Registered participants will be emailed the location of the next hike during the prior week. Winter hiking clothes, insulated hiking boots, and stabilizers such as micro-spikes are required on all hikes. Snow-shoes must be brought to the trailhead after the first major snowfall. All hikers are expected to bring a backpack with sufficient water, lunch, extra layers and a first aid kit. A complete clothing and equipment list will be given to you during registration. For the safety of those driving, hikes will be canceled during active snow-storms. In addition, hikes may be canceled during heavy rain, excessive cold or simply unpleasant weather. People new to winter hiking are welcome and encouraged to register; you will also be asked to attend the excellent SEM winter hiking workshop on November 3. If you have a scheduling conflict you can attend any winter hiking workshop with any AMC chapter. One of the hike leaders will have a Yellow Lab with him, no other dogs are allowed. We hope you consider this winter series; it's pleasant hiking without bugs, social and an effective way to keep fit during the long winter. L Paul Brookes (603-799-4399, PaulBrookes1966@outlook.com, Living in Boston I enjoy hiking around Greater Boston and beyond. You may often find me in the Blue Hills with my dog Sunny.) L Catherine MacCurtain (camaccurtain@aol.com) L Claire MacDonald , R Cathy MacCurtain (camaccurtain@aol.com)

Thu., Jan. 17. Borderland State Park hike, Borderland State Park 259 Massapoag Ave. North Easton, MA. Easy hike around ponds at Borderland State Park. About 4 miles. Lunch stop at Ames original house foundation. Bring traction device in case of icy trails. Directions; From Rt 24 take exit 16 (Rte 106West/Mansfield) follow Rt.106 West through 4 sets of traffic lights. Go thru 4th light, which will be intersection of 123 and 106, cont. west on Rtes 123&106 for 1/2 mile. Take right on Poguanticut Ave. Then take left on Massapoag Ave. there will be a brown sign for Borderland. Follow Massapoag for about 3 miles and park all be on right. There is a fee to park of 5 dollars. L Rachel Thibeault (774-360-2539 call before 8:00PM, ratebo@yahoo.com)

Tue., Jan. 22. White Line the Blue Hills hikes, Blue Hills, MA. For the fifth year, this popular series will run from the Winter Solstice to the Spring Equinox. We meet on Tuesday mornings at 10 am and hike trails in the Blue Hills Reservation for 3 to 4 hours. We hike at a moderate pace, perfect for hiking and chatting at the same time. We stop for lunch on the trail when the weather is not too cold or eat as we walk during cold weather. This is a social group but also serious about winter hiking safety: we hike together, wait at intersections and watch out for one another. The first hike is on Jan 1 and the last hike is March 19. Since the first hike is on New Year's Day, for this hike only, we will be meeting earlier (9 am) and hiking for only 2 hours. The last hike of the series will be a shorter hike followed by a social lunch at one of the local restaurants. Register once and then come when you can. We hike different trails each week and start from different locations. Registered participants will be emailed the location of the next hike during the prior week. Winter hiking clothes, insulated hiking boots, and stabilizers such as micro-spikes are required on all hikes. Snow-shoes must be brought to the trailhead after the first major snowfall. All hikers are expected to bring a backpack with sufficient water, lunch, extra layers and a first aid kit. A complete clothing and equipment list will be given to you during registration. For the safety of those driving, hikes will be canceled during active snow-storms. In addition, hikes may be canceled during heavy rain, excessive cold or simply unpleasant weather. People new to winter hiking are welcome and encouraged to register. You will also be asked to attend the excellent SEM winter hiking workshop on November 3. If you have a scheduling conflict you can attend any winter hiking workshop with any AMC chapter. One of the hike leaders will have a Yellow Lab with him, no other dogs are allowed. We hope you consider this winter series; it's pleasant hiking without bugs, social and an effective way to keep fit during the long winter. L Paul Brookes (603-799-4399 After 7am and before 9pm, PaulBrookes1966@outlook.com, Living in Boston I enjoy hiking around Greater Boston and beyond. You may often find me in the Blue Hills with my dog Sunny.) L Catherine MacCurtain (781-848-9506, camaccurtain@aol.com) L Claire MacDonald , R Cathy MacCurtain (camaccurtain@aol.com)

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Activities

For the most current information, [search activities online](#)

HIKING

Thu., Jan. 24. Thursday Morning Hike - Pratt Farm Middleboro, MA. Meet at Oliver Mill Park, 8 Nemasket Street, Middleboro, MA 02346 for car pool to trail head., MA. Explore the many paths and byways of Pratt Farm. Mostly gentle rolling hills. We will meet at an off site parking area due to limited trail head parking and car pool to Pratt Farm. Do NOT go to Pratt Farm directly. Meet before 10:00AM at the Oliver Mill parking area at the intersection of Rte 44 and Plymouth Street in Middleboro. Hike is approximately 5 miles and 2 - 3 hours depending on routes taken and time spent exploring. Bring light lunch, water and appropriate weather gear. Heavy snow or rain will cancel. L Richard Carnes (508-947-3204, rcarnes2@aol.com)

Sat., Jan. 26. Winter Morning Out Hike at Myles Standish State Forest, MA. Join me for an 8 am Saturday morning hike at Myles Standish State Forest in Plymouth/Carver. See the beauty of the forest in winter. Combining the flat, pond-side East Head Loop and the hilly, wooded Bentley Loop will give us about 7 miles of beautiful trails. Once we're done, we'll still have the rest of the day for other things. Meet at 7:45 at the Forest Headquarters Parking Lot, 194 Cranberry Road, Carver, 02330. We'll plan on a moderate pace to complete the hike in approximately 3 hours. Registration is not required, but email the leader with questions or concerns. If we have snow, the hike will become a snowshoe and the distance will be adjusted. L Maureen Kelly (617-943-4288 before 8 pm, mokel773@aol.com)

Tue., Jan. 29. White Line the Blue Hills hikes, Blue Hills, MA. For the fifth year, this popular series will run from the Winter Solstice to the Spring Equinox. We meet on Tuesday mornings at 10 am and hike trails in the Blue Hills Reservation for 3 to 4 hours. We hike at a moderate pace, perfect for hiking and chatting at the same time. We stop for lunch on the trail when the weather is not too cold or eat as we walk during cold weather. This is a social group but also serious about winter hiking safety: we hike together, wait at intersections and watch out for one another. The first hike is on Jan 1 and the last hike is March 19. Since the first hike is on New Year's Day, for this hike only, we will be meeting earlier (9 am) and hiking for only 2 hours. Register once and then come when you can. We hike different trails each week and start from different locations. Registered participants will be emailed the location of the next hike during the prior week. Winter hiking clothes, insulated hiking boots, and stabilizers such as micro-spikes are required on all hikes. Snow-shoes must be brought to the trailhead after the first major snowfall. All hikers are expected to bring a backpack with sufficient water, lunch, extra layers and a first aid kit. A complete clothing and equipment list will be given to you during registration. For the safety of those driving, hikes will be canceled during active snow-storms. In addition, hikes may be canceled during heavy rain, excessive cold or simply unpleasant weather. People new to winter hiking are welcome and encouraged to register; you will also be asked to attend the excellent SEM winter hiking workshop on November 3. If you have a scheduling conflict you can attend any winter hiking workshop with any AMC chapter. One of the hike leaders will have a Yellow Lab with him, no other dogs are allowed. We hope you consider this winter series; it's pleasant hiking without bugs, social and an effective way to keep fit during the long winter. L Paul Brookes (603-799-4399, PaulBrookes1966@outlook.com, Living in Boston I enjoy hiking around Greater Boston and beyond. You may often find me in the Blue Hills with my dog Sunny.) L Catherine MacCurtain (camaccurtain@aol.com) L Claire MacDonald , R Cathy MacCurtain (camaccurtain@aol.com)

Sat., Feb. 2. Winter Series Hike #3 - Mt. Kearsarge North, Mt. Washington Valley, NH. Join us for the third hike in our Winter Series. Weather permitting, this moderate 6.2- mile, 2600' elevation hike to Mt. Kearsarge North in the Mt. Washington Valley promises fabulous views from the fire tower summit. There are some steep sections near the summit. Participation in our current or past Winter Hiking Workshop or equivalent is required for those without winter hiking experience. Full winter gear (snowshoes, microspikes, winter-rated boots, etc.) required. L Maureen Kelly (mokel773@aol.com) L Eva Das (borsody@gmail.com), R Maureen Kelly (617-943-4288 before 8:00 pm, mokel773@aol.com)

WINTER SERIES HIKES

**Jan. 5. Winter Series Hike #2 -
Mt. Roberts, Moultonborough, NH.**

**Feb. 2. Winter Series Hike #3 -
Mt. Kearsarge North,
Mt. Washington Valley, NH.**

**March 1-3 Winter Series Hike #4 -
Overnight at Carter Notch, NH.**

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Activities

For the most current information, [search activities online](#)

HIKING

Tue., Feb. 5. White Line the Blue Hills hikes, Blue Hills, MA. For the fifth year, this popular series will run from the Winter Solstice to the Spring Equinox. We meet on Tuesday mornings at 10 am and hike trails in the Blue Hills Reservation for 3 to 4 hours. We hike at a moderate pace, perfect for hiking and chatting at the same time. We stop for lunch on the trail when the weather is not too cold or eat as we walk during cold weather. This is a social group but also serious about winter hiking safety: we hike together, wait at intersections and watch out for one another. The first hike is on Jan 1 and the last hike is March 19. The last hike of the series will be a shorter hike followed by a social lunch at one of the local restaurants. Register once and then come when you can. We hike different trails each week and start from different locations. Registered participants will be emailed the location of the next hike during the prior week. Winter hiking clothes, insulated hiking boots, and stabilizers such as micro-spikes are required on all hikes. Snow-shoes must be brought to the trailhead after the first major snowfall. All hikers are expected to bring a backpack with sufficient water, lunch, extra layers and a first aid kit. A complete clothing and equipment list will be given to you during registration. For the safety of those driving, hikes will be canceled during active snow-storms. In addition, hikes may be canceled during heavy rain, excessive cold or simply unpleasant weather. People new to winter hiking are welcome and encouraged to register. You can attend any winter hiking workshop with any AMC chapter. One of the hike leaders will have a Yellow Lab with him, no other dogs are allowed. We hope you consider this winter series; it's pleasant hiking without bugs, social and an effective way to keep fit during the long winter. L Paul Brookes (603-799-4399 After 7am and before 9pm, PaulBrookes1966@outlook.com, Living in Boston I enjoy hiking around Greater Boston and beyond. You may often find me in the Blue Hills with my dog Sunny.) L Catherine MacCurtain (781-848-9506, camaccurtain@aol.com) L Claire MacDonald , R Cathy MacCurtain (camaccurtain@aol.com)

Fri., Feb. 8-10. Winter Hiking and Cross-Country Ski Weekend - Noble View Outdoor Center, 635 South Quarter Rd, Russell, MA. Join the SEM Chapter for its seventh annual winter weekend at Noble View Outdoor Center in Russell, MA, approximately 2 hours' drive west of Boston. Noble View sits atop a pristine mountaintop with beautiful trails that wind through quiet woodlands. Hiking, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing will be offered, depending on conditions. Participants will need to bring their own equipment. The cottages have electricity, water, and wood-stove heating. A short walk from either cottage is a bathhouse with toilets and hot showers. This popular event is limited to 28 participants so register early. L Paul Brookes (603-799-4399 After 7am and before 9pm, PaulBrookes1966@outlook.com, Living in Boston I enjoy hiking around Greater Boston and beyond. You may often find me in the Blue Hills with my dog Sunny.) L Jeannine Audet , R Paul Brookes (603-799-4399 before 9 pm, PaulBrookes1966@outlook.com)

Tue., Feb. 12. White Line the Blue Hills hikes, Blue Hills, MA. For the fifth year, this popular series will run from the Winter Solstice to the Spring Equinox. We meet on Tuesday mornings at 10 am and hike trails in the Blue Hills Reservation for 3 to 4 hours. We hike at a moderate pace, perfect for hiking and chatting at the same time. We stop for lunch on the trail when the weather is not too cold or eat as we walk during cold weather. This is a social group but also serious about winter hiking safety: we hike together, wait at intersections and watch out for one another. The first hike is on Jan 1 and the last hike is March 19. The last hike of the series will be a shorter hike followed by a social lunch at one of the local restaurants. Register once and then come when you can. We hike different trails each week and start from different locations. Registered participants will be emailed the location of the next hike during the prior week. Winter hiking clothes, insulated hiking boots, and stabilizers such as micro-spikes are required on all hikes. Snowshoes must be brought to the trailhead after the first major snowfall. All hikers are expected to bring a backpack with sufficient water, lunch, extra layers and a first aid kit. A complete clothing and equipment list will be given to you during registration. For the safety of those driving, hikes will be canceled during active snow-storms. In addition, hikes may be canceled during heavy rain, excessive cold or simply unpleasant weather. People new to winter hiking are welcome and encouraged to register. You can attend any winter hiking workshop with any AMC chapter. One of the hike leaders will have a Yellow Lab with him, no other dogs are allowed. We hope you consider this winter series; it's pleasant hiking without bugs, social and an effective way to keep fit during the long winter. L Paul Brookes (603-799-4399 After 7am and before 9pm, PaulBrookes1966@outlook.com, Living in Boston I enjoy hiking around Greater Boston and beyond. You may often find me in the Blue Hills with my dog Sunny.) L Catherine MacCurtain (781-848-9506, camaccurtain@aol.com) L Claire MacDonald, R Cathy MacCurtain (camaccurtain@aol.com)

Activities

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HIKING

Tue., Feb. 19. White Line the Blue Hills hikes, Blue Hills, MA. For the fifth year, this popular series will run from the Winter Solstice to the Spring Equinox. We meet on Tuesday mornings at 10 am and hike trails in the Blue Hills Reservation for 3 to 4 hours. We hike at a moderate pace, perfect for hiking and chatting at the same time. We stop for lunch on the trail when the weather is not too cold or eat as we walk during cold weather. This is a social group but also serious about winter hiking safety: we hike together, wait at intersections and watch out for one another. The first hike is on Jan 1 and the last hike is March 19. The last hike of the series will be a shorter hike followed by a social lunch at one of the local restaurants. Register once and then come when you can. We hike different trails each week and start from different locations. Registered participants will be emailed the location of the next hike during the prior week. Winter hiking clothes, insulated hiking boots, and stabilizers such as micro-spikes are required on all hikes. Snow-shoes must be brought to the trailhead after the first major snowfall. All hikers are expected to bring a backpack with sufficient water, lunch, extra layers and a first aid kit. A complete clothing and equipment list will be given to you during registration. For the safety of those driving, hikes will be canceled during active snow-storms. In addition, hikes may be canceled during heavy rain, excessive cold or simply unpleasant weather. People new to winter hiking are welcome and encouraged to register. You can attend any winter hiking workshop with any AMC chapter. One of the hike leaders will have a Yellow Lab with him, no other dogs are allowed. We hope you consider this winter series; it's pleasant hiking without bugs, social and an effective way to keep fit during the long winter. L Paul Brookes (603-799-4399 After 7am and before 9pm, PaulBrookes1966@outlook.com, Living in Boston I enjoy hiking around Greater Boston and beyond. You may often find me in the Blue Hills with my dog Sunny.) L Catherine MacCurtain (781-848-9506, camaccurtain@aol.com) L Claire MacDonald, R Cathy MacCurtain (camaccurtain@aol.com)

Sat., Feb. 23. Winter Morning Out Hike at Myles Standish State Forest, MA. Join me for an 8 am Saturday morning hike at Myles Standish State Forest in Plymouth/Carver. See the beauty of the forest in winter. Combining the flat, pond-side East Head Loop and the hilly, wooded Bentley Loop will give us about 7 miles of beautiful trails. Once we're done, we'll still have the rest of the day for other things. Meet at 7:45 at the Forest Headquarters Parking Lot, 194 Cranberry Road, Carver, 02330. We'll plan on a moderate pace to complete the hike in approximately 3 hours. Registration is not required, but email the leader with questions or concerns. If we have snow, the hike will become a snowshoe and the distance will be adjusted. L Maureen Kelly (617-943-4288 before 8 pm, mokel773@aol.com)

Tue., Feb. 26. White Line the Blue Hills hikes, Blue Hills, MA. For the fifth year, this popular series will run from the Winter Solstice to the Spring Equinox. We meet on Tuesday mornings at 10 am and hike trails in the Blue Hills Reservation for 3 to 4 hours. We hike at a moderate pace, perfect for hiking and chatting at the same time. We stop for lunch on the trail when the weather is not too cold or eat as we walk during cold weather. This is a social group but also serious about winter hiking safety: we hike together, wait at intersections and watch out for one another. The first hike is on Jan 1 and the last hike is March 19. The last hike of the series will be a shorter hike followed by a social lunch at one of the local restaurants. Register once and then come when you can. We hike different trails each week and start from different locations. Registered participants will be emailed the location of the next hike during the prior week. Winter hiking clothes, insulated hiking boots, and stabilizers such as micro-spikes are required on all hikes. Snow-shoes must be brought to the trailhead after the first major snowfall. All hikers are expected to bring a backpack with sufficient water, lunch, extra layers and a first aid kit. A complete clothing and equipment list will be given to you during registration. For the safety of those driving, hikes will be canceled during active snow-storms. In addition, hikes may be canceled during heavy rain, excessive cold or simply unpleasant weather. People new to winter hiking are welcome and encouraged to register. You can attend any winter hiking workshop with any AMC chapter. One of the hike leaders will have a Yellow Lab with him, no other dogs are allowed. We hope you consider this winter series; it's pleasant hiking without bugs, social and an effective way to keep fit during the long winter. L Paul Brookes (603-799-4399 After 7am and before 9pm, PaulBrookes1966@outlook.com, Living in Boston I enjoy hiking around Greater Boston and beyond. You may often find me in the Blue Hills with my dog Sunny.) L Catherine MacCurtain (781-848-9506, camaccurtain@aol.com) L Claire MacDonald, R Cathy MacCurtain (camaccurtain@aol.com)

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HIKING

Thu., Feb. 28. Thursday Morning Blue Hills Hike/Snowshoe - Ponkapoag Pond, Canton, MA. Moderate to fast pace, with occasional stops. 4 ½ - 5 mile hike around The Pond. Approx. 10:00am-12:30pm. Please arrive by 9:45 am for a prompt 10:00 am start. Bring hiking shoes, micro-spikes or similar traction devices, snacks/lunch & water. We'll take a break at the AMC Camp, down near the pond, weather permitting. Steady rain or snow cancels. Dogs on leash O.K. L Ken Cohen (508-942-1536 Before 8:00 pm, k-cohen@comcast.net, Year-round hiker and snow shoe enthusiast. Join groups in the Blue Hills, other DCR reservations, land trusts (active supporter of many), White Mountains, and our nation's National Parks. AMCSEM Class I Hiking Leader for the past 18 months having organized approximately a dozen trips in The Hills and other local hiking destinations. Longtime member of DCR's "Trail Watch" in the Blue Hills. Active ad-hoc member of the Board of Trustees for The Friends of The Blue Hills. Avid nature photographer.)

Fri., Mar. 1-3. SEM Winter Hiking Series Overnight Trip to Carter Notch, NH. The fourth and final trip in the Southeastern Mass. Chapter's 2018-19 Winter Hiking Series will bring us to remote and pristine Carter Notch. On Friday, we'll hike or snowshoe into the AMC Carter Notch hut via the very pretty, 3.8-mile long Nineteen-Mile Brook Trail with a (mostly) gradual 1,900-foot elevation gain. On Saturday, we'll visit a nearby 4,000-foot peak such as Carter Dome and/or Wildcat A and then hike out on Sunday. Possible option for just staying Saturday night. Previous winter hiking experience and full winter gear required, including microspikes, snowshoes, crampons, insulated winter boots, and zero-degree sleeping bag. Preference given to those who have participated in previous SEM Winter Series hikes/snowshoes this season. L Paul Miller (508-369-4151 before 9:00 pm please, paulallenmiller@verizon.net, Paul, an experienced four-season hike leader, prefers to hit the trails in winter.) L George Danis L Maureen Kelly (mokel773@aol.com) CL Dio Goncalves , R Paul Miller (508-369-4151 before 9:00 pm please, paulallenmiller@verizon.net)

Tue., March 5. White Line the Blue Hills hikes, Blue Hills, MA. For the fifth year, this popular series will run from the Winter Solstice to the Spring Equinox. We meet on Tuesday mornings at 10 am and hike trails in the Blue Hills Reservation for 3 to 4 hours. We hike at a moderate pace, perfect for hiking and chatting at the same time. We stop for lunch on the trail when the weather is not too cold or eat as we walk during cold weather. This is a social group but also serious about winter hiking safety: we hike together, wait at intersections and watch out for one another. The first hike is on Jan 1 and the last hike is March 19. The last hike of the series will be a shorter hike followed by a social lunch at one of the local restaurants. Register once and then come when you can. We hike different trails each week and start from different locations. Registered participants will be emailed the location of the next hike during the prior week. Winter hiking clothes, insulated hiking boots, and stabilizers such as micro-spikes are required on all hikes. Snow-shoes must be brought to the trailhead after the first major snowfall. All hikers are expected to bring a backpack with sufficient water, lunch, extra layers and a first aid kit. A complete clothing and equipment list will be given to you during registration. For the safety of those driving, hikes will be canceled during active snow-storms. In addition, hikes may be canceled during heavy rain, excessive cold or simply unpleasant weather. People new to winter hiking are welcome and encouraged to register. You can attend any winter hiking workshop with any AMC chapter. One of the hike leaders will have a Yellow Lab with him, no other dogs are allowed. We hope you consider this winter series; it's pleasant hiking without bugs, social and an effective way to keep fit during the long winter. L Paul Brookes (603-799-4399 After 7am and before 9pm, PaulBrookes1966@outlook.com, Living in Boston I enjoy hiking around Greater Boston and beyond. You may often find me in the Blue Hills with my dog Sunny.) L Catherine MacCurtain (781-848-9506, camaccurtain@aol.com) L Claire MacDonald, R Cathy MacCurtain (camaccurtain@aol.com)

(FT) (NM) Thu., Mar. 7. Thurs. Morning Hike - Oldham Trail & Harold Clark Forest, Foxboro, MA. Hike the Oldham Trail and Harold Clark Forest in Foxboro. Meet at 10:00 am at parking lot on Rt. 140 across from Sunoco Station. Heavy rain will cancel. Bring lunch or snack and water and wear appropriate footwear. L Muriel Guenther (508-699-7461 Before 9:00PM, murielguenther@comcast.net)

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HIKING

Tue., March 12. White Line the Blue Hills hikes, Blue Hills, MA. For the fifth year, this popular series will run from the Winter Solstice to the Spring Equinox. We meet on Tuesday mornings at 10 am and hike trails in the Blue Hills Reservation for 3 to 4 hours. We hike at a moderate pace, perfect for hiking and chatting at the same time. We stop for lunch on the trail when the weather is not too cold or eat as we walk during cold weather. This is a social group but also serious about winter hiking safety: we hike together, wait at intersections and watch out for one another. The first hike is on Jan 1 and the last hike is March 19. The last hike of the series will be a shorter hike followed by a social lunch at one of the local restaurants. Register once and then come when you can. We hike different trails each week and start from different locations. Registered participants will be emailed the location of the next hike during the prior week. Winter hiking clothes, insulated hiking boots, and stabilizers such as micro-spikes are required on all hikes. Snow-shoes must be brought to the trailhead after the first major snowfall. All hikers are expected to bring a backpack with sufficient water, lunch, extra layers and a first aid kit. A complete clothing and equipment list will be given to you during registration. For the safety of those driving, hikes will be canceled during active snow-storms. In addition, hikes may be canceled during heavy rain, excessive cold or simply unpleasant weather. People new to winter hiking are welcome and encouraged to register. You can attend any winter hiking workshop with any AMC chapter. One of the hike leaders will have a Yellow Lab with him, no other dogs are allowed. We hope you consider this winter series; it's pleasant hiking without bugs, social and an effective way to keep fit during the long winter. L Paul Brookes (603-799-4399 After 7am and before 9pm, PaulBrookes1966@outlook.com, Living in Boston I enjoy hiking around Greater Boston and beyond. You may often find me in the Blue Hills with my dog Sunny.) L Catherine MacCurtain (781-848-9506, camaccurtain@aol.com) L Claire MacDonald, R Cathy MacCurtain (camaccurtain@aol.com)

Thu., Mar. 14. Thursday Morning Blue Hills/Buck Hill Hike, Blue Hills, Milton, MA. We will hike 5 hilly miles in the Blue Hills from the State Police Barracks on Hillside Street to Buck Hill and return. Bring water, lunch, sturdy footwear, rain gear. Storm cancels. L Deborah Lepore (617-778-4339 Before 9:00 pm, DLepore2@GMail.com) CL Hans Luwald (508-668-0462 before 9:00 PM, hans.luwald@gmail.com)

Tue., March 19. White Line the Blue Hills hikes, Blue Hills, MA. For the fifth year, this popular series will run from the Winter Solstice to the Spring Equinox. We meet on Tuesday mornings at 10 am and hike trails in the Blue Hills Reservation for 3 to 4 hours. We hike at a moderate pace, perfect for hiking and chatting at the same time. We stop for lunch on the trail when the weather is not too cold or eat as we walk during cold weather. This is a social group but also serious about winter hiking safety: we hike together, wait at intersections and watch out for one another. The first hike is on Jan 1 and the last hike is March 19. The last hike of the series will be a shorter hike followed by a social lunch at one of the local restaurants. Register once and then come when you can. We hike different trails each week and start from different locations. Registered participants will be emailed the location of the next hike during the prior week. Winter hiking clothes, insulated hiking boots, and stabilizers such as micro-spikes are required on all hikes. Snow-shoes must be brought to the trailhead after the first major snowfall. All hikers are expected to bring a backpack with sufficient water, lunch, extra layers and a first aid kit. A complete clothing and equipment list will be given to you during registration. For the safety of those driving, hikes will be canceled during active snow-storms. In addition, hikes may be canceled during heavy rain, excessive cold or simply unpleasant weather. People new to winter hiking are welcome and encouraged to register. You can attend any winter hiking workshop with any AMC chapter. One of the hike leaders will have a Yellow Lab with him, no other dogs are allowed. We hope you consider this winter series; it's pleasant hiking without bugs, social and an effective way to keep fit during the long winter. L Paul Brookes (603-799-4399 After 7am and before 9pm, PaulBrookes1966@outlook.com, Living in Boston I enjoy hiking around Greater Boston and beyond. You may often find me in the Blue Hills with my dog Sunny.) L Catherine MacCurtain (781-848-9506, camaccurtain@aol.com) L Claire MacDonald, R Cathy MacCurtain (camaccurtain@aol.com)

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HIKING

Sat., Mar. 30. Winter Morning Out Hike at Myles Standish State Forest, MA. Join me for an 8 am Saturday morning hike at Myles Standish State Forest in Plymouth/Carver. See the beauty of the forest in winter. Combining the flat, pond-side East Head Loop and the hilly, wooded Bentley Loop will give us about 7 miles of beautiful trails. Once we're done, we'll still have the rest of the day for other things. Meet at 7:45 at the Forest Headquarters Parking Lot, 194 Cranberry Road, Carver, 02330. We'll plan on a moderate pace to complete the hike in approximately 3 hours. Registration is not required, but email the leader with questions or concerns. If we have snow, the hike will become a snowshoe and the distance will be adjusted. L Maureen Kelly (617-943-4288 before 8 pm, mokel773@aol.com)

SKIING

Fri., Jan. 11-13. Cross Country Skiing in Waterville Valley, 5 Old Waterville Rd., Campton NH 03223. Join us for a cross country skiing weekend in Waterville Valley, NH. We will stay at the lovely Mountain Fare Inn, & ski beautiful trails at nearby Waterville Valley Resort. Late check out from the Inn allows us to ski on Saturday & Sunday. The Inn provides a hot breakfast & we will have dinner at local restaurants. After skiing, we enjoy Happy Hour at the Inn (BYOB & a snack to share). L Jeannine Audet (508-493-8221 weeknights after 7:00 pm, weekends anytime, milmod@aol.com) L Barbara Hathaway (barb224@tmlp.net), R Barbara Hathaway (508-662-0724, barb224@tmlp.net)

Fri., Mar. 1-3. Cross Country Skiing- The Old Field House, 347 NH 16A, Intervale NH. Join us for a weekend at the Old Field House in Intervale, NH. We will cross country ski, snowshoe &/or hike, depending upon the snow conditions. The Old Field House is a cozy B & B, with a hearty breakfast included. There are many opportunities for outdoor activities and shopping close by. Dinners will be at local restaurants. L Jeannine Audet (508-493-8221 weeknights after 7:00 pm, weekends anytime, milmod@aol.com) CL Barbara Hathaway (508-662-0724, barb224@tmlp.net), R Barbara Hathaway (508-662-0724, barb224@tmlp.net)

