

**APPALACHIAN
MOUNTAIN
CLUB**

CONNECTICUT CHAPTER



Annual Report

November 18, 2000

APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB

CONNECTICUT CHAPTER



Annual Report

November 18, 2000

APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB

CONNECTICUT CHAPTER

MISSION STATEMENT

Through our broad range of activities and programs, the Connecticut Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club encourages people to enjoy and appreciate the natural world. We believe that successful conservation depends on this experience. The Connecticut Chapter Club promotes the protection, enjoyment and responsible use of the Appalachian Trail in Connecticut as well as other trails, rivers and byways within the state in cooperation with other maintenance organizations. We believe that the mountains and rivers have an intrinsic worth as well as provide recreational opportunity, spiritual renewal, and ecological and economic health for the state. The members of the Connecticut Chapter of the AMC form a network of users and stewards who protect these areas and educate others as to their use.

Adopted May 1993

APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB
CONNECTICUT CHAPTER
2000 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chapter Chair	<i>Eric Stones</i>
Vice Chair	<i>Roger Hall</i>
Secretary	<i>Doug McKain</i>
Treasurer	<i>Al Puches</i>
AMC Outdoors Liaison	<i>Peg Peterson</i>
Bicycling Committee Chair	<i>Judy Kunkel</i>
Conservation Committee Co-Chairs	<i>Frank Junga</i> <i>Lisa Spencer</i>
East of the River Committee Co-Chairs	<i>Dick Don</i> <i>Bob Hayman</i>
Education Committee Chair	<i>Shirley Sutton</i>
Excursions Committee Chair	<i>Janice Parker</i>
Fairfield County Group Chair	<i>Peter Heyel</i>
Membership Committee Chair	<i>Liz Egli</i>
Mountaineering Committee Co-Chairs	<i>Paul Maresca</i> <i>Bill Walters</i>
Program Committee Chair	<i>Dale Geslien</i>
Newsletter Co-Editors	<i>Patti Allard</i> <i>Marion Liberati</i>
Northwest Camp Committee Chair	<i>Chuck Doll</i>
Trails Committee Chair	<i>Ann Sherwood</i>
Whitewater Committee Chair	<i>Mark Schappert</i>
Young Adults Committee Co-Chairs	<i>Sue Bartley</i> <i>Darron Kannenberg</i>
Past Chair	<i>Carl Rosenthal</i>
Member-at-Large	<i>Tom Carruthers</i>
Regional Director	<i>Paula Burton</i>

CHAPTER CHAIR'S REPORT

I'm pleased to report that the Chapter is healthy and growing. Here are a few highlights from the past year:

- ♦ Sue Bartley and Darron Kannenberg started the Young Adults Group this year. Starting with just three members at the beginning of the year, they have grown to several hundred participants, with over 140 on their email list. Much new blood has joined the club and with it they have broadened our scope and membership.
- ♦ The Handicapped Trail was completed this year and is a feather in the cap of all whom helped Dick Blake complete this "first" for the Appalachian Trail (AT).
- ♦ The web site has continued to improve and is now an excellent source for information. Thanks to Andrea Hebert for her good work on this.
- ♦ The Whitewater winter "rolling" sessions continue to attract more and more participants.
- ♦ The Bicycling Group led many more trips this past year and has greatly increased participation.
- ♦ Though probably not very noticeable to most members, it's quite a job pulling together all the activities for the Backcountry section of each Outdoors Magazine. Peg Peterson did a superb job over the past year organizing this task.

Many other groups continued to contribute much to the club: for example, the Trails Committee has a huge job maintaining the Connecticut Section of the AT. They work very hard, do a superb job, and receive little credit. Likewise, the other committees are full of dedicated volunteers who keep the Chapter strong, active and providing the outdoor experience to all that wish to participate. It has been a pleasure serving with so many competent and hard working individuals.

However, there is always a need for more of our general members to lead activities and serve on one of the committees. The work is fun and rewarding, and not too hard. The pay isn't much, but the rewards are immense in terms of friendships made, self-growth, and providing a general feeling of helping your fellow man. I hope those reading this, who do not currently participate in the club, will call me and let me know of their wish to join in on the fun. To contact me about leading activities or helping with one of the committees, please call me at 203-797-0377. Please leave a message if I'm not there.

Best wishes,
Eric Stones - Chapter Chair

CONNECTICUT CHAPTER ANNUAL MEETING - 1999

The 79th Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club was held on November 20, 1999, at the Marriott Hotel in Rocky Hill, Connecticut.

Dale Geslien, Program Committee Chair, introduced Chapter Chair, Carl Rosenthal.

Carl welcomed everyone to the meeting and acknowledged the efforts of the members and volunteers who keep the Chapter strong and vibrant.

Carl thanked Dale and the Program Committee for organizing the Annual Meeting.

A moment of silence was observed as members stood to honor the memory of Connecticut Chapter members that passed away in 1999:

Donald Dozler
Clois Ensor
Mark Goedecke
Pamela Kramer
Anelissa Lucas
Carlisle "Bud" Lustenberger
Rex Pinson

Eric Stones then presented the 1999 Connecticut Chapter Stewardship Society awards, recognizing those volunteers who contributed more than 30 hours to trails, education, membership, programs, and conservation activities, and to leaders who led five or more activities. The volunteers receiving the award, will be mailed a Connecticut Chapter Volunteer Stewardship Award golf shirt, were:

Arbas, Donna	Arthur, George	Baker, Charles
Baldwin, Bob	Bartes, Richard	Bartes, Luella
Barkman, Leon	Blake, Dick	Boone, Dave
Braciak, Steve	Bromley, Janet	Burton, Paula
Carruthers, Tom	Carter, Gary	Christie, Doug
Clark, Joyce	Cobrain, Hugh	Cowles, Ted
Cronin, Dave	Cullen, Dave	Cunningham, John
Daniels, Walter	Davis, Dot	Dayton, Birge
DeLima, Virginia	DiRienzo, Eileen	Dobbs, Ana
Don, Dick	Dresner, Ed	Dresner, Fay
Duclos, Paul	Dunn, Sandy	Edmonds, Henry
Felsingner, Neal	Funk, Rob	Gagliardi, Dawn
Geslien, Dale	Gorham, Jim	Gorvang, Arlene
Graham, Sue	Griffin, Marty	Hall, Roger
Hansen, Mark	Hendricks, Becky	Heyel, Peter
Houser, Linda	Iannotti, Fred	Jenkins, Dave
Jessup, Harlan	Junga, Frank	Kaatz, Christine

Kaelin, Tom	Kunkel, Judy	LaBella, Elaine
Lewis, Pam	Link, Trent	Linnekin, Jocelyn
Madsen, Erik	Malumphy, Jim	Maio, Anne
Maresca, Paul	Marchion, Carol	McCunn, Ian
McKain, Doug	Merritt, Richard	Mihalek, Dave
Munro, Rob	Naylor, Ron	Newton, Stanley
Novoa, Bill	Olsen, Carolyn	Ouillette, Leo
Parker, Carol	Parker, Janice	Peterson, Peg
Phelan, Carol	Postras, Bob	Puches, Al
Richardson, Ed	Rinehart, Walt	Riotte, Fred
Rioux, Laura	Robinson, Betty	Rosenthal, Carl
Rumford, Kim	Russell, Bill	Russell, Jo
Sangster, Bill	Schumacher, Bill	Sheehan, Gladys
Sherwood, Ann	Shildneck, Donald	Sills, Norm
Spencer, Lisa	Stage, Jerry	Stepanov, Tori
Stino, Michael	Stones, Eric	Stover, Chet
Tedford, Debbie	Walters, Bill	Wood, Mark

Carl then presented Appie of the Year award to Dick Blake, who has been instrumental in initiating a project to construct a handicap access trail in Falls Village.

Carl then recognized Stuart Hamilton who became a 50-year member of the Club in 1999.

Carl then introduced Jennifer Huntington, President of the AMC. Jennifer acknowledged the Spring Gathering hosted by the Connecticut Chapter in Sharon, Connecticut, the work of the Education Committee, and the Chapter's efforts with diversity as represented by the project to construct a handicap access trail in Falls Village.

Carl then introduced Dave Cullen, recognizing the contribution Dave has made to the Chapter and the Club over the years. Dave described the Harry Duren Scholarship Fund that sends one or more youths to an AMC Teen Wilderness Adventure each year. To help support this worthwhile activity, Dave asked for donations to be made at the end of the meeting.

Before opening the business meeting, Carl expressed his appreciation for the efforts of the 1999 Executive Committee.

At 7:40 P.M. Carl called to order the 79th Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. Carl called for a motion to accept the Secretary's Report as presented in the 1999 Annual Report, which was received, seconded and passed. Carl then called for a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented in the 1999 Annual Report, which was received, seconded and passed.

Carl then called on Dave Mihalek, Chairperson of the Nominating Committee. Dave presented the following slate of nominees for 2000.

<i>Eric Stones</i> - Chair	<i>open</i> - Vice Chair
<i>Carl Rosenthal</i> - Past Chair	<i>Doug McKain</i> - Secretary
<i>Al Puches</i> - Treasurer	<i>Peg Peterson</i> - AMC Outdoors Liaison
<i>Judy Kunkel</i> - Bicycling	<i>Frank Junga</i> - Conservation
<i>Lisa Spencer</i> - Conservation	<i>Dick Don</i> - East of the River
<i>Bob Hayman</i> - East of the River	<i>open</i> - Education
<i>Janice Parker</i> - Excursions	<i>Peter Heyel</i> - Fairfield County
<i>Charles Baker</i> - Member-at-Large	<i>Roger Hall</i> - Member-at-Large
<i>Liz Egli</i> - Membership	<i>Paul Maresca</i> - Mountaineering
<i>Bill Waters</i> - Mountaineering	<i>Arlene Govang</i> - Newsletter
<i>Chuck Doll</i> - Northwest Camp	<i>Trent Link</i> - Northwest Camp Caretaker
<i>Dale Geslien</i> - Program	<i>Ann Sherwood</i> - Trails
<i>Becky Hendricks</i> - Whitewater	

The motion was offered to direct the Secretary to cast one ballot for the slate as presented, and it was seconded and passed unanimously.

Carl then recounted the story of how the Chapter Chair came to wear a red hat as a way to be recognized and presented incoming Chair Eric Stones with a red hat. Carl then asked all past chairs in attendance to stand and put on their red hats.

At 7:45 P.M. a motion to adjourn the business meeting was made, seconded, and passed.

Dale Geslien then introduced the program speaker, Andrew Casey, who gave an extremely interesting slide presentation on "The Beauty of the English Lake District."

Respectfully submitted,
Doug McKain, Secretary.



rvtech



TREASURER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1998 AND 1999

	<u>1998</u>	<u>1999</u>
Cash at January 1	\$42,906	\$43,754
Revenue Collected:		
Joy Street dues allocation	36,191	36,418
Program activities	9,785	8,779
Contributions	1,853	2,444
Reserve funds - sources ⁽¹⁾	18,968	31,865
Local sale of memberships	1,760	1,972
Leadership training	4,887	4,668
Subscriptions to <i>THE HIKER</i>	1,447	1,185
Merchandise sales	1,880	1,251
Interest income	<u>664</u>	<u>1,076</u>
Total revenue collected	\$77,435	\$89,658
Expenditures:		
Cost of program activities	\$12,745	\$10,404
Cost of merchandise	1,067	756
Contributions made	2,800	1,375
Reserve funds - uses ⁽¹⁾	14,492	6,852
Committee operating expenses:		
Bicycling	1,799	1,800
Conservation	551	79
East of the River	1,179	1,207
Education	5,266	4,877
Excursions	2,240	825
Executive	11,300	9,846
Fairfield County	3,065	4,708
Membership	4,539	5,610
Mountaineering	540	549
Newsletter	8,166	3,424
Northwest Camp	756	797
Program	60	258
Trails	<u>6,022</u>	<u>6,168</u>
Total expenditures	\$76,587	\$59,535
Cash at December 31	<u>\$43,754</u>	<u>\$73,877</u>

TREASURER'S REPORT
FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 1999 AND 2000

	<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>
Cash at January 1	\$43,754	\$73,877
Revenue collected:		
Joy Street dues allocation	\$24,740	\$24,301
Program activities	4,282	5,417
Contributions	2,045	2,625
Reserve funds – sources ⁽¹⁾	27,304	62,988
Local sale of memberships	745	3,255
Leadership training	2,907	3,075
Subscriptions to <i>THE HIKER</i>	600	658
Merchandise sales	285	104
Interest income	<u>561</u>	<u>1,067</u>
Total revenue collected	\$63,469	\$103,490
Expenditures:		
Cost of program activities	\$3,617	\$5,669
Contributions made	0	0
Reserve funds – uses ⁽¹⁾	6,210	68,227
Committee operating expenses:		
Bicycling	1,724	1,400
Conservation	0	237
East of the River	1,066	2,279
Education	3,195	3,046
Excursions	532	991
Executive	5,345	13,142
Fairfield County	3,272	3,051
Membership	3,494	5,241
Mountaineering	548	1,178
Newsletter	2,764	7,929
Northwest Camp	556	387
Program	0	321
Trails	<u>1,940</u>	<u>3,226</u>
Total expenditures	\$34,263	\$116,324
Cash at September 30	<u>\$72,960</u>	<u>\$61,043</u>

TREASURER'S REPORT
RESERVE FUNDS

⁽¹⁾ Reserve funds are cash set aside by the Chapter for a specific future use or spending objective. Sources of such funds are often grants, gifts, or contributions, but can also include funds set aside from the Chapter's operating budget. A summary of the Chapter's reserve funds is as follows:

	<u>12/31/98</u>	<u>12/31/99</u>	<u>9/30/00</u>
Reserve funds:			
American Ref-fuel grant	\$500	\$200	\$200
AT Handicap Accessible project	0	26,998	13,829
Bicycle racing fund	2,320	410	410
Bicycle reserve	332	332	332
Duren Memorial Scholarships	891	961	938
Friends of Mansfield Hollow			120
Jim Wright Memorial	264	264	264
Northwest Camp	2,985	3,503	10,194
Ridgerunner	625	752	752
Stanley grant	3,842	3,445	5,446
Stephen Meyers Memorial	1,988	1,895	1,895
Whitewater	4,580	4,580	3,721
General fund	<u>25,427</u>	<u>30,537</u>	<u>22,942</u>
Total cash	<u>\$43,754</u>	<u>\$73,877</u>	<u>\$61,043</u>

Al Puches – Treasurer



Bicycling Committee

AMC Bicycling 2000 was another active year for our chapter. Larry Hayden continued as ride coordinator and Jo-Ann Oberg became our newsletter editor with Maureen Sylvestre-Craig maintaining our database records. The ride leaders utilized our web page again this year to help plan their rides and weekend trips. Our monthly newsletter was published from March through October.

We also continued to publicize special events for other bicycle clubs and many of our leaders and riders participated in charity fund raisers throughout the bicycling season.

As in past years, we enjoyed the usual weekend rides, a very active Monday ride schedule, and Tuesday and Thursday evening rides during the summer months. Our mountain bike riders also had several rides to choose from.

Weekend trips this year were to terrific places as Chincoteague, VA, Hampton Beach, NH, the North Shore of Massachusetts, Woodstock, VT, and Killington, VT.

Three of our members traveled all the way to Bellingham, WA to participate in the League of American Bicyclists National Rally, and many more attended the Great Eastern Rally (GEAR) in Bloomsburg, PA.

An end of the season picnic was held at Harkness Memorial State Park in Waterford on Saturday, October 14, 2000.

The 2000 committee members did terrific job this year and most of them have agreed to stay on as members of the 2001 bicycle committee, so we look forward to another great time next year.

BICYCLING COMMITTEE

Deborah Casey Larry Hayden Doug McKain
Jo-Ann Oberg Jan Rosenthal Mike Stino
Maureen Sylvestre-Craig

Judy Kunkel - Chair



Conservation Committee

In order to achieve our goal of heightening conservation awareness in Connecticut, we need to increase Conservation Committee membership. That was our objective for 2000. We instituted a series of educational meetings, which we believe have heightened interest in the Conservation Committee. We had special meeting programs on "The History of Connecticut's Forests" (DEP speaker), "How to Conduct a Discussion with a State Legislator," (Ruth Dinerman, AMC), discussion of state legislation and strategies with Gail Hamm, State Representative, and a presentation by Donna Ellis from UConn on alien, invasive plants. We also sponsored a conservation hike, by Jim Parda, a DEP Forester on forest management practices. The programs were well received.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

George Bosse Birge Dayton Jo-Anne Giblin
Joe Grzybowski Marilyn Lassow Juliet Leeming
Marion Liberati Eric Stones

Frank Junga - Co-Chair
Lisa Spencer - Co-Chair



East of the River Committee

This has been another highly successful year for members living and hiking east of the Connecticut River. One hundred scheduled hikes, averaged 25 hikers on Tuesdays and about 8 – 10 hikers on Thursdays. This success is largely due to our EOR newsletters. Published three times in 2000, it gets information out to our membership.

Thursday hikes, which began last year, are usually longer and more strenuous than the Tuesday hikes. We owe thanks for the Thursday hikes to John Cunningham, Jack Shea, Ed Richardson, and John Figucia. The EOR weekend hiking schedule improved this year thanks to Ed Dresner whose machete has also worked on our behalf to add more trails east of the river.

Betty Robinson, founder and former EOR Chair, is working hard to establish Friends of Mansfield Hollow State Park, which will support the park as a viable recreation area.

Two very well-attended dinners and slide presentations were held, with profits going to the Harry Duren Scholarship Fund.

EAST OF THE RIVER COMMITTEE

<i>George Arthur</i>	<i>John Cunningham</i>	<i>Linda Cunningham</i>
<i>Dot Davis</i>	<i>Ed Dresner</i>	<i>Fay Dresner</i>
<i>Bill Engster</i>	<i>Nancy Meitzler</i>	<i>Carolyn Olsen</i>
<i>Ruth Pfeifer</i>	<i>Betty Robinson</i>	<i>Meg Sertl</i>
<i>Diane Wright</i>		

Dick Don – Co-Chair
Bob Hayman – Co-Chair



Education Committee

The Education Committee prepared and presented the annual Leadership Weekend for training hike leaders in December of 1999. The result of this training is the availability of new leaders within our chapter. The 2000 weekend is scheduled for December 1, 2, and 3 at White Memorial in Litchfield, CT.

On November 30 - December 1 and 2 we will host the 2001 weekend. We are fortunate to have many volunteers to teach leadership skills such as leave no trace, accident management, trip planning, and map skills.

The popular SOLO (Stonehearth Open Learning Opportunities) Wilderness First Aid workshop was held March 18 & 19, 2000, again in Litchfield. Thirty individuals from the region participated in this valuable experience. March 31 and April 1, 2001 will be the next opportunity for members to learn or refresh these skills. A Friday night option will be the Heartsaver Plus CPR or the Saturday night CPR recertification for those members attending the weekend.

The Junior Naturalist booklet has undergone a third printing. This booklet, modeled on others throughout the Northeast, was written, composed, drawn, compiled, and edited by Connecticut Chapter members. Our continued thanks goes to these dedicated individuals. Available free of charge the booklet is geared toward teaching young people the benefits of the outdoors and its environment. If a child completes the activities within the booklet, and mails the enclosed postcard, they will in turn receive a Junior Naturalist embroidered patch. A small donation is requested to defray this expense.

The Education Committee is in need of interested members to aid in leadership training, registration for events, visibility at events, and be visionaries and. Please contact the Chapter Chair or the Education Committee Chair if you are will to make a commitment.

Finally, great thanks to Anne Rehm, chapter and committee member, who diligently stays in contact with our hike leaders. Hers is a job that seldom receives recognition.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

<i>Paula Burton</i>	<i>Merri Fox</i>	<i>Anne Rehm</i>
<i>Eric Stones</i>		

Shirley Sutton – Chair

Excursions Committee

The Excursions Committee coordinates Chapter activities in the areas of day hiking, backpacking, family activities, cross-country skiing, and weekend trips. The Committee continues to encourage and qualify new activity leaders through a co-leader program and through rap hikes, in addition to the more formal leadership development programs offered by the Education Committee.

More than 360 day-hikes were offered over the course of the year, with more than 4000 participants. Currently, there are 153 active leaders in the Chapter, an incremental increase over 1999 (148), and a comparatively small roster given the number of trips led over the year. Thanks to all activity leaders who contributed their time and effort, and in particular to those individuals who made exceptional contributions: more than two dozen leaders led five or more trips during the year.

While we have had a gratifying number of new leaders qualifying over the past year, there has also been attrition as members left the area or retired from active leadership. We are keen to increase recruitment of new leaders in order to maintain, or better still, to increase the number and variety of excursions that we can offer. To this end, we would like to recruit individuals willing to act as coordinators for family activities, backpacking, cross-country skiing, weekend activities, and leader recruitment, as well as to recruit new leaders. Anyone interested in serving in one of these capacities should contact Janice Parker at (860) 536-0756 or janiceparker@netscape.net.

For each issue of *AMC Outdoors*, a Monthly Hike Coordinator solicits hikes by mail and/or phone or e-mail, and prepares the listing that ultimately appears in *AMC Outdoors*. The efforts of the Monthly Coordinators helps the Committee meet its goal of offering a wide variety of hikes each month to AMC members and guests throughout the state. We would like to thank these individuals for their efforts and contributions. The Monthly Hike Coordinators for 2000 were:

<i>Carl Rosenthal</i> , Waterford	January/February
<i>Anne Rehm</i> , Bristol	March
<i>Paul Duclos</i> , West Haven	April
<i>Fred Riotte</i> , Suffield	May
<i>Mark Wood</i> , Stamford	June
<i>Dick Don</i> , Manchester	July/August

<i>Christine Kaatz</i> , Norwich	September
<i>Tom Carruthers</i> , Bethel	October
<i>Janice Parker</i> , Ledyard	November
<i>Charles Baker</i> , Old Saybrook	December

The exemplary jobs done by Suzanne Graham, who is responsible for the distribution of the hike report sign-up sheets that form the basis for Excursions Committee record-keeping, and Paul Duclos, who coordinates distribution of hike solicitation materials to the Monthly Coordinators and disciplines our computers, deserve particular acknowledgment.

EXCURSIONS COMMITTEE

<i>Paul Duclos</i>	Computer Coordinator, Backpacking
<i>Suzanne Graham</i>	Trip Reports Coordinator
<i>Peg Peterson</i>	<i>AMC Outdoors</i> Coordinator

Janice Parker – Chair

Fairfield County Group

The Fairfield County Group continued in 2000 to do what it does so well: hold bimonthly spaghetti socials in Westport and Danbury, issue *THE HIKER* newsletter, and conduct many local hikes each weekend.

However, there's a dark cloud on the horizon. At the time of writing this report, there is no Fairfield County Committee. There are three dedicated members of the committee, but others from the area have not stepped forward to volunteer their time to keep the group running. Without that help, the group will fold. This would be a great pity after some twenty years of success.

If you wish to get involved and keep the group alive, please call me at 203-797-0377. (See below for open positions.)

FAIRFIELD COUNTY GROUP

<i>John Barry</i> , Membership/Hiker Editor	<i>Tom Carruthers</i> , Programs
<i>Al Puches</i> , Treasurer	<i>Eric Stones</i> , Ex-Chair
Open, Distribution	Open, Public Relations
Open, Leader Development	Open, Hike Coordinator

Eric Stones - Chapter Chair

Membership Committee

As of September 1, 2000 there were 9,584 AMC members affiliated with the Connecticut Chapter. This number is only slightly higher than a year ago, despite welcoming over 2,000 new members in the past 12 months. Membership-in-a-Bottle sales have increased significantly due to successful use of the web site and the ongoing Adopt a Store program.

Our annual New Member Day was held on Saturday, September 16th. There were a number of well attended activities held during the day, including hikes, canoe trips, and a bike ride, followed by our traditional spaghetti dinner. The social hour and dinner, followed by a slideshow of "Walking the Appalachian Trail" presented by Larry Luxenberg, was attended by 138 members.

A Young Adults group, headed by Darron Kannenberg and Sue Bartley, was formed this year to offer activities to members in the 21-39 year age range. The group grew rapidly throughout the year and became a separate standing committee of the Chapter at the September Executive Committee meeting. There are approximately 160 members in the CT Chapter Young Adults group at this time.

This year we began the practice of distributing 25-year pins to members, in addition to the ongoing tradition of giving out 50-year pins. 25-year pins were sent retroactively to 342 members with 25-49 years of AMC membership.

The responsibility of recruiting and welcoming new members to the club and serving the interests of the general membership would be an impossible task without the help of the many dedicated volunteers who serve on this committee. I am most grateful for their continuing efforts.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

<i>Patti Allard</i>	Member-at-Large
<i>Sue Bartley</i>	Young Adults Group
<i>Mary Ann Burns</i>	Member-at-Large
<i>Dave Cullen</i>	Past Co-chair
<i>Dot Davis</i>	New Member Day Planning
<i>Virginia Fisher</i>	Adopt a Store Coordinator
<i>Dawn Gagliardi</i>	New Member Day Planning
<i>Dave Jenkins</i>	MIB Coordinator
<i>Darron Kannenberg</i>	Young Adults Group
<i>John Kelling</i>	New Member Day Planning
<i>Marion Liberati</i>	New Member Day Planning

Nancy Meitzler
May Nevius
Carolyn Olsen
Ted Platt
Betty Robinson
Gladys Sheehan
Tori Stepanov

Voice Mail Inquiry Response
 Member-at-Large
 New Member Day Activities Coordinator
 Member-at-Large
 Member-at-Large
 New Member Day Planning
 Past Co-chair

Liz Egli - Chair



Mountaineering Committee

The Mountaineering group had a very active year with many successful outings. It was also a very sad time. One of our long time friends, Ed Budzik, our Chief, passed away this summer. The Chief was the Mountaineering Committee Chair from 1989 to 1991, and climbed with the AMC for two decades. He was still climbing and instructing beginners well into his seventies. His ashes were spread from the top of one of his favorite climbs, Disneyland.

Last year ended strong with four members (El Bobbo Dest, Debbie Smith, Cheryl Eveland, and Paul Maresca) spending Thanksgiving climbing in El Potrero Chico, Mexico. To begin this year, eleven of us hiked Mt. Washington on New Years Eve night. When the weather turned bad we became the first in the new millennium to spend the night on top of Mt. Washington and we were rewarded with a spectacular sunrise.

Our monthly trips to the "Whites," the "Daks," and Delaware Water Gap averaged twenty climbers, hitting a high of thirty-three on the Fourth of July with our annual Lake Placid-Mr. Mike's snowball fight. The group's major expedition was to Mt. Kenya. Cheryl Eveland, John Rek, Carol Parker, Dwight White, Joy-joy-joy Curry, and Paul Maresca spent

over three weeks in Kenya climbing and on safari. Because of bad weather and some illness, the highest technical peak was not reached, but five members summited the 16,500-ft peak Pt. Lenana where Dwight White proposed to Joy-joy-joy. A spring wedding is planned.

In 2001, seven of us will be heading to Barcelona Spain for a Thanksgiving sport climbing and gear shopping spree. Other plans are for a New Year Eve (continuing a theme) midnight ascent of Mt. Marcy, an expanded ice climbing program, and a single day winter traverse of the Presidentials.

MOUNTAINEERING COMMITTEE

Bob Dest

Carol Parker

Carol Phelan (web site)

Paul Maresca - Co-Chair
Bill Walters - Co-Chair



Newsletter Committee

In the year 2000, there were three issues published of the AMC Connecticut Chapter newsletter. Arlene Golvang edited the first issue. The second and third were co-edited by Patti Allard and Marion Liberati. The printer is now Economy Printing and the mailing house is Focus Mailing, both of Danbury. Our postal permit moved to New Milford, Connecticut. Approximately 8,891 members in the Chapter are being sent the newsletter. This is an increase in membership of approximately 1300 people since the June 2000 issue. Our thanks to our fellow committee members, Dale Geslien and Tori Stepanov, and to Chapter Chair Eric Stones for all of their support.

We would also like to thank everyone who contributed articles and photographs for publication. Without your input, we have no output. We look forward to your support in 2001. Happy Trails!

Patti Allard - Co-Chair
Marion Liberati - Co-Chair

Northwest Camp Committee

The first event of 2000 was the Annual Spring Work Party. The outhouse was moved with the help of some scouts passing by. Committee member Jim St. Amand built an ash pit for ashes from the fire ring and wood stove. When the pit is full, the ashes will be spread around the property. J. B. Gardner and his wife showed up and told us stories about early times at the cabin. Robert O'Brien (treasurer of Mt. Riga Corporation) also showed up. It was agreed with him, Rod Parlee (committee member) and Danny Brassie (caretaker for Mt. Riga) to add a second lock for Northwest Camp on the gate of North Road on Mt. Washington Road. Mt. Riga Corporation has a combination lock on that gate. It was originally intended for Northwest Camp use only, however Mt Riga Corporation, for emergency use, can still open the gate.

In May I met with one of the proposed contractors to work on the cabin. The committee is reviewing the outline of the work and will soon request estimates. The work is scheduled for May-June 2001.

The second event was held on New Member Day, September 16th. No one showed up except a friend and we hiked the Taconic Trail. We hoped we could encourage hikes in the area other than Bear Mountain and the Appalachian Trail. This was a chance to show trail use on private property that belongs to Mt. Riga Corporation.

The third event will be the Annual Fall Work Party. We will stack two cords of wood that we have delivered. We will review and update our policies and signs around the cabin. We will cover up the recently marked in red "B" line trail. Only the Northwest Camp and Trails committees have authority to mark that trail. It is our policy to leave that trail unmarked for low impact reasons, and also because it runs onto Mt. Riga Corporation property. We do not know who is marking the trail.

A Model Environmental Educational Facility plan is still under development.

THANKS to all the visitors and users who have helped keep the cabin clean for the next guest.

NORTHWEST CAMP COMMITTEE

Josh Hugo

Paul Ives

Ken Kostak

Keith Larsen

Trent Link

Rod Parlee

Meghan Patrick

John Rek

Jim St. Amand

Dave Terril

Chuck Doll - Chair

Program Committee

The Program Committee had another successful year of providing entertaining and appetizing social events for the Chapter. Last year's Annual Meeting at the Rocky Hill Marriott had twelve interesting workshops, and an evening presentation, "Beauty of the English Lake District" by Andrew Casey of Walkwise UK. Attendees were able to browse through the book and used equipment sales, as well as the chapter committee exhibits. The Spring Dinner, held at the Cheshire Grange, had everyone longing to go to Alaska with Culver Modisette. His slide program on a canoeing expedition on the Sheenjek and Porcupine Rivers in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, "North of Fort Yukon: Alaska with the Bark On," was the next best thing to being there. The Trail's Day Potluck, a joint event with Connecticut Forest & Park Association at Northeast Utilities, had everyone still looking north with Dan Casey's presentation "Hiking in Newfoundland." New Member Day's spaghetti dinner was followed by the Membership Committee's guest speaker, author Larry Luxenberg and his tales of "Walking the Appalachian Trail."

The Program Committee worked hard to insure that a good time was had by all and I thank everyone for their efforts. We welcomed one new member to the Committee this year. The more, the merrier, so we invite all to participate as much or as little as your schedule permits. We are looking forward to an exciting year with more AMC fun in 2001.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Luella Bartes
Ed Dresner
Wilford Parker

Richard Bartes
Fay Dresner
Denise Pulaski

Frank DeFasio
Kathy Holden
Wilda Wise

Dale Geslien – Chair



Trails Committee

The Trails Committee had a very productive year that included the following accomplishments:

- Conducted annual workshops for monitors, maintainers, and chainsaw certification.
- Completed the clearing of eleven of fourteen vistas reviewed.
- Completed all open-space mowing projects.
- Held the annual "Give a Day to Trails" in May with another outstanding turnout. Rock cribbing and side hill construction was completed on the north side of Ten-Mile Hill. Rock steps, scree work, and drainage were completed at Northwest Camp. Erosion problems near the top of St. Johns Ledges as well as side hill and rock cribbing projects south of West Cornwall Road were addressed.
- Continued repairs and upgrades to the ridgerunner cabin.
- Constructed another tent platform at the Sages Ravine camping area and completed additional repairs and upgrading of the area's campsites and trails.
- Finished a trail hardening and erosion control project north of Skiff Mountain Road.
- Finished installing step stones and completed bank retention at the Guinea Brook crossing north of State Route 4.
- Replaced a wooden bridge with stone work and installed rock steps, erosion control, and trail definition north of Great Falls in Falls Village.
- Installed twenty-one rock steps, 120 feet of full bench side hilling, and twelve feet of rock cribbing north of West Cornwall Road.
- Converted the Stewart Hollow Shelter Campsite and Silver Hill Campsite privies to new red worm technology. Completed shelter repairs and upgraded the camping area at Stewart Hollow.
- Completed the Handicap Accessible Trail project. The trail was opened on July 21, 2000. A partnership hike preceded a grand ceremony with trail partners from the Appalachian Trail Conference, the National Park Service, and the State of Connecticut. The ceremony also included signing a renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding with all trail partners.
- Considerable progress was made in implementing recommendations to all camping and shelter areas from a "Leave No Trace" perspective.
- Constructed a bilingual signboard at Bulls Bridge.

- Completed repairs to the privies at the Ten-Mile Hill and Plateau camping areas.
- Made progress with trail hardening and definition, erosion control, and replaced a bridge with stone on Riga Plateau and below Paradise Junction.
- In light of serious injuries and rescues taking place in the Sages Ravine area, all trail partners worked together to address the problems and make recommendations. Another SOLO Wilderness Medicine training was held, focusing on developing a ropes team with the area rescue squads along the trail corridor in Connecticut.
- Started the development of a natural heritage land management pilot project with the state partners in the trail corridor.
- Supported National Trails Day with two projects on Connecticut's blue blaze trail system.
- Continued the next phase of the painting and checking of monuments on the external Appalachian Trail (AT) corridor boundaries.
- Continued reviewing the AT land acquisition process by the National Park System (NPS) which is almost complete in Connecticut.
- Continued mapping lands outside the AT corridor for possible protection by the Appalachian Trail Conference Land Trust (formerly the Trust for Appalachian Trail Lands).
- Supported the Connecticut Forest and Park association at its April workshop refurbishing trails.
- Completed a proposed revision draft of the Connecticut Local Management Plan for review and approval by the trail partners.
- Implemented pages for the Trails Committee under the Chapter's web site that includes the background of the Committee and a listing of upcoming work parties.

Again, my heartfelt thanks to the tireless efforts and time of this Committee, including all of the seventy-five active maintainers, monitors, and guides that oversee the Connecticut section of the AT.

TRAILS COMMITTEE

*Dick Blake
Hugh Cobrain
Birge Dayton
Elaine Labella
Bob Poitras
Norm Sills*

*Dave Boone
Ted Cowles
Henry Edmonds
Jocelyn Linnekin, Secy.
Wali Rinehart
Tori Stepanov, Treas.*

*Doug Christie
Walt Daniels
Harlan Jessup
Paul Palmer
Brigitte Rothman*

Ann Sherwood – Chair

Whitewater Committee

The year 2000 has been a busy year for the Whitewater Committee. Starting in January, our annual pool instructional sessions in Wilton saw a large growth in attendance. On average there were 25-30 boats in the pools each week. The attendance at Suffield was also up from last year. As a result of this unexpected increase to our budget, there were several changes made to the way Whitewater has run its trips.

First, the Committee voted to remove the \$1.00 per trip fee that has been collected in the past. The fee has long been a major source of problems in trying to get leaders to forward trip reports and fees to the treasurer.

Second, the Committee voted to purchase two used kayaks and related gear to add to the club's inventory of boats. This makes five fully outfitted kayaks, six outfitted canoes, and a C-1 and a C-2 closed boat. This has made instructionals much easier to run because many of the people interested in learning to kayak have not purchased boats due to the rising costs and specialization of many of the newer kayak models. Students can now "try before they buy" to see if whitewater kayaking is for them.

Recently the Committee voted to possibly sell off one or more of the canoes in the fleet. There has been a transition from open boats to kayaks in the Chapter. Our kayaks are rented out for club trips on a regular basis, while the canoes have been in storage for more than two years.

Probably the biggest event in the Chapter this year was the Housatonic re-licensing process. The controversy surrounding the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection's "Run Of River" plan for river flow management has been sorely debated this year. After several public meetings and a widely publicized protest on the river, the DEP decided to release its 401 water certification recommending the "Run of River" flow regime. What this amounts to is the end of over thirty years of recreational boating on the Falls Village section of the Housatonic. The Falls Village run will no longer be allowed to release the flows that have made the river navigable from June through October. This decision was made against protests from the AMC, American Whitewater, the Connecticut Rivers Alliance, and several other environmental and recreational groups. The DEP has disregarded the Federal "fair and equal use" policy, and even their own policies dealing with the type and number of studies to be run in order to make informed decisions on the river's health. The most glaring example is the complete lack of

information on the effects of the PCB contamination in Lake's Zoar and Lillinonah.

Lastly, the Chapter ran 75 trips this year from West Virginia to Maine. Membership is slowly growing again. Next year there are plans to increase the number and variety of trips run. We're trying very hard to recruit new leaders. We are planning more instructionals as a way to increase membership. We are also planning a river rescue class for trip leaders.

WHITewater COMMITTEE

Jeff Barnard
Ed Chase
Bruce Kindseth
Barry Smith

Clark Bowlen
Becky Hendricks
Mike Madison
Dave Jamison

Tracy Britt
Paul Hendricks
Matt Manzik
Shelly Jamison

Mark Schappert – Chair



Young Adults Committee

The AMC Young Adults of Connecticut (21 to 39) started in January of 2000 with nine members. There are now 160 members and guests. Our first event was a four-mile hike at Sleeping Giant State Park on April 8th, 2000. After that, we went on hikes to Macedonia (twice), Bear Mountain, Sleeping Giant (numerous times), Ragged Mountain, Paugusset, and People's Forest. We hiked on weekends and on Tuesday or Wednesday night hikes. We did a backpacking trip in the Adirondacks that included two overnights and a day trip to the top of Mount Marcy. We had kayak trips in the Thimble Islands and Lake Quonnipaug, a barbecue at Hammonasset, a trail workday at Cornwall, two Monday night socials in Hamden, and a trip to the Big E.

In the months ahead we look forward to more events at more places, more socials, and more participants and leaders. You may visit us on the Young Adults web page on the Chapter web site at www.ct-amc.org. For

more information, please contact Sue Bartley (sbartley_2@yahoo.com) or Darron Kannenberg (darron.kannenberg@snet.net or 203-929-5903).

The success of the group is attributed to the efforts of many people. Thank you to the AMC Connecticut Chapter for its support of the Young Adults group. Thank you to the Young Adults committee for providing events that meet the interests of the members and guests. Thank you to the committee also for providing and maintaining the Young Adults' web page. And special thanks to the participants for making all of these events enjoyable!

YOUNG ADULTS COMMITTEE

Steve Collins
Roy Watanabe

John Eberhart

Larry Studdiford

Sue Bartley – Co-Chair
Darron Kannenberg – Co-Chair



Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee's charge is to fill any open chair positions with qualified volunteers. We get to meet many wonderful people that tend to give their time to our club over and over. We also get to "beat the bushes" looking for new talent that can give so much to the AMC. One need not be an "expert" to chair a committee. You need to be organized, have a great sense of humor, and be willing to lead. We will provide the rest. As of this report we still have a couple of open chairs: Education and Fairfield County. Any interest? Give any of us a call.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Steve Bractak
Elisabeth Craven

Dan Casey

Ledge Clayton

Dave Mihalek - Chair

Nominations for the 2001 Executive Committee

In accordance with the Chapter Bylaws, the Nominating Committee is pleased to present the following slate of candidates:

Chapter Chair	<i>Eric Stones</i>
Vice Chair	<i>Roger Hall</i>
Secretary	<i>Doug McKain</i>
Treasurer	<i>Al Puches</i>
Bicycling Committee Chair	<i>Judy Kunkel</i>
Conservation Committee Co-Chairs	<i>Frank Junga, Lisa Spencer</i>
East of the River Committee Co-Chairs	<i>Dick Don, Bob Hayman</i>
Education Committee Chair	<i>open</i>
Excursions Committee Co-Chairs	<i>Janice Parker, open</i>
Fairfield County Group Chair	<i>open</i>
Member-at-Large	<i>open</i>
Member-at-Large	<i>open</i>
Membership Committee Chair	<i>Liz Egli</i>
Mountaineering Committee Co-Chairs	<i>Tim Lenihan, Carol Parker</i>
Newsletter Editors	<i>Patti Allard, Marion Liberati</i>
Northwest Camp Chair	<i>Chuck Doll</i>
Northwest Camp Caretaker	<i>Trent Link</i>
Program Committee Co-Chairs	<i>Dale Geslien, open</i>
Trails Committee Chair	<i>Ann Sherwood</i>
Whitewater Committee Chair	<i>Mark Schappert</i>
Young Adults Co-Chairs	<i>Sue Bartley, Darron Kannenberg</i>
Regional Director	<i>Norm Sims</i>

50-YEAR MEMBERS

Congratulations and best wishes to the following Connecticut Chapter members who we are honoring for their 50 years of membership in the Appalachian Mountain Club! They have been invited to attend the Annual Meeting and banquet as guests of the Chapter.

Ms. Emilie U. Farnsworth of Bridgeport

Mrs. Robert D. Shooshan of Middletown

Mrs. J. H. Batholomew, Jr. of West Hartford

Mr. W. W. Stueck of Satellite Beach, Florida

Ms. L. P. Onyx of Niantic