

**APPALACHIAN  
MOUNTAIN  
CLUB**

**CONNECTICUT CHAPTER**



80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

**Annual Report**

November 17, 2001

# APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB

CONNECTICUT CHAPTER



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## Annual Report

November 17, 2001

# 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  
2001 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>Carl Rosenthal</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>Tom Carruthers</i>
Membership Committee Chair	<i>Liz Egli</i>
Mountaineering Committee Co-Chairs	<i>Tim Lenihan</i> <i>Carol Parker</i>
Program Committee Chair	<i>Dale Geslien</i>
Newsletter Editor	<i>Patti Allard</i>
Northwest Camp Committee Chair	<i>Chuck Doll</i>
Trails Committee Chair	<i>Ann Sherwood</i>
Whitewater Committee Chair	<i>Mark Schappert</i>
Young Members Committee Co-Chairs	<i>Sue Bartley</i> <i>Darron Kannenberg</i>
Member-at-Large	<i>open</i>
Regional Director	<i>Norm Sims</i>

CHAPTER CHAIR'S REPORT

The past year was a busy year for the club with growth in many areas and a new focus by the Executive Committee to accomplish some meaningful improvements in serving the membership. Here are a few highlights from the past year:

- ♦ Chapter membership surpassed 10,000 for the first time and now stands at slightly over 10,300.
- ♦ The chapter's web site, *WWW.CT-AMC.ORG*, was greatly expanded to include all hikes and other activities. (Thanks to Peg Peterson for doing a great job with this.)
- ♦ The Young Members group continued to flourish, more than doubled their membership, and added many new activities to their cadre. (Thanks to Darron Kannenberg, Sue Bartley and their committee.)
- ♦ The club continued to expand its activities with growth in bicycling, white-water pool sessions, mountain climbing, and flatwater canoeing. Many hikes and other activities were organized for every week of the year. (Thanks to Judy Kunkel, Tim Lenihan, Carol Parker, Janice Parker, Mark Schappert, and their committees.)
- ♦ The Program Committee produced several highly successful and well-attended events, namely: the Annual Meeting, the Spring Dinner and New Members Day. (Thanks to Dale Geslien and her committee for doing a fabulous job.)
- ♦ The New Member Day event continues to expand and this year held 19 well-attended activities during the day, and drew 190 to the evening event. (Thanks to Liz Egli and her committee for their successful efforts throughout the year.)
- ♦ The Trails Committee continued to maintain the Connecticut section of the Appalachian Trail in superior condition. All the through-hikers I encountered this year reported that "it was one of the best-maintained sections throughout the entire trail." (Thanks to Ann Sherwood and her committee for the continued excellent job.)
- ♦ The Conservation Committee was invigorated, held many events throughout the year, and participated in many advocacy campaigns. (Thanks to Frank Junga and Lisa Spencer for their good efforts here.)

Many other groups contributed much to provide activities and events for chapter members – the East of the River Committee and the Fairfield County Group in particular organized many events. Thanks to all the

many volunteers whose participation kept the AMC the major outdoor activity and advocacy organization in the state.

This summer we instituted a campaign to recruit more volunteers to help run the club and participate in the various committees. We had a wonderful response and I thank all that have offered to help. We expect to greatly draw on their services during the next year.

Best wishes,  
*Eric Stones* - Chapter Chair

P.S. Specials thanks to Doug McKain for preparing this Annual Report and to Al Puches for doing an outstanding job as Treasurer.



#### CONNECTICUT CHAPTER ANNUAL MEETING - 2000

The 80th Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club was held on November 18, 2000, at the Marriott Hotel in Rocky Hill, Connecticut.

Dale Geslien, Program Committee Chair, introduced Chapter Chair, Eric Stones.

Eric welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted that it was encouraging to see so many members attending.

Eric noted the following highlights from the past year:

"Sue Bartley and Darron Kannenberg started the Young Members Group. 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 that helped Dick Blake complete this 'first' for the 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 AT and all that goes along with it. 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."

Eric went on to point out that, "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 that

anyone here tonight, who does not currently participate in the club, but would like to, will call me so they can get in on the fun."

Eric thanked Dale Geslien and the Program Committee for organizing the Annual Meeting and asked them to stand for a well-deserved round of applause. Eric also thanked those who put on the exceptional programs held during the afternoon.

A moment of silence was observed as members stood to honor the memory of Connecticut Chapter members that passed away since the last Annual meeting:

*Virginia G. Aiken  
Chet Marturano  
Hazel Jacoby  
James Kelly  
Phillip Bishop  
Frederick Miller  
Emerson White  
Henry Francis*

Eric then called on Nancy Shooshan, who became a fifty-year member of the Club in 2000, to come forward and receive her fifty-year pin. Nancy was in attendance with her husband Robert, a sixty-year member.

Eric then recognized other members reaching the fifty-year milestone in 2000:

*Ms. Emilie U. Farnsworth  
Mrs. J. H. Bartholomew, Jr.  
Mr. W. W. Stueck  
Ms. L. P. Orjx*

A good number of members stood when Eric asked twenty-five-year members in attendance to stand.

Eric then introduced Jon Grand, Boston Chapter Chair, who was in attendance.

Eric then introduced Dave Cullen. Dave described the Harry Duren Scholarship Fund that sends one or more youths to an AMC Teen Wilderness Adventure each year. Dave summarized the experiences of the year 2000 recipients. To help support this worthwhile activity, Dave asked for donations to be made at the end of the meeting. Dave has been overseeing the Harry Duren Scholarship Fund since its inception six years ago.

Eric then introduced Elaine LaBella who urged everyone to join the Connecticut Forest & Park Association. The CFPA maintains the 700

miles of "blue trails" in Connecticut. The AMC sponsors many hikes and work parties on these trails.

Eric then expressed his appreciation for the efforts of the 2000 Executive Committee. He asked them to come forward as he read their names and receive a round of applause.

Eric Stones called on committee chairs to present the 2000 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.

<i>Patti Allard Leon Barkman Richard Bartes Dave Boone Tom Carruthers Milt Clark Ted Cowles John Cunningham Birge Dayton Chuck Doll Lorraine Duclos John Eberhart John Figucia Roger Hall Ray Helie Darron Kannenberg Judy Kunkel Tim Linehan Paul Maresca Nancy Meitzler Rob Munro Bob O'Brien Carol Parker Carol Phelan Walt Rinehart Mark Schappert Ann Sherwood Jerry Stage Chet Stover Debbie Tedford Roy Watanabe</i>	<i>George Arthur John Barry Sue Bartley Steve Braciak Russ Charest Hugh Cobrain Dave Cronin Walt Daniels Bob Dest Dick Don Paul Duclos Henry Edmonds Barbara Froebel Bob Hayman Harlan Jessup Joe Kelleher Elaine LaBella Jocelyn Linnekin Ian McCunn Dave Mihalek Ron Naylor Carolyn Olsen Janice Parker Bob Poitras Betty Robinson Bill Schumacher Norm Sills Tori Stepanov Larry Studdiford Russ Waldie</i>	<i>Bob Baldwin Luella Bartes Dick Blake Paula Burton Doug Christie Steve Collins Dave Cullen Dot Davis Eileen DiRienzo Ed Dresner Sandy Dunn Liz Egli Dale Geslien Andrea Hebert Frank Junga Maryann Kouyoumjian Marion Liberati James Malumphy Doug McKain Geri Mihalek Bill Novoa Leo Ouillette Peg Peterson Al Puches Brigitte Rothman Jack Shea Lisa Spencer Eric Stones Shirley Sutton Bill Walters</i>
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Ann Sherwood announced Trails Committee awards for:

New volunteers with 12 hours

<i>Matt Barnett</i>	<i>Charlie Berl</i>	<i>Brian Booth</i>
<i>Glen Briden</i>	<i>Greg Briden</i>	<i>Ted Burghart</i>
<i>George Kuchta</i>	<i>John Lawton</i>	<i>Matthew Walker</i>

Volunteers with 50 hours

<i>Bob Davis-62 hrs</i>	<i>Jeff Glans-52 hrs</i>	<i>John Grasso-61 hrs</i>
<i>Alex Grzybowski-50.5 hrs</i>	<i>Therese Grzybowski-58 hrs</i>	
<i>Trent Link-63 hrs</i>	<i>Bob O'Brien-89.8 hrs</i>	<i>Ron Silvernale-58.5 hrs</i>

Volunteers with 250 hours

<i>Dave Boone-333.8 hrs</i>	<i>John Marren-264 hrs</i>	<i>Walt Rinehart-261.3 hrs</i>
<i>Brigitte Ruthman-329 hrs</i>		

Volunteers with 500 hours

<i>Ted Cowles-534.8 hrs</i>	<i>Jim Malumpy-519 hrs</i>	<i>Bob Poitras 598 hrs</i>
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Eric then presented the Appie of the Year award to Paula Burton. Paula started as a hike leader, later became a bike leader, served on many committees, was Chapter Chair, and is retiring as Regional Director on the AMC's Board of Directors. Everyone stood and applauded in appreciation of Paula's many years of service. Past recipients have been Betty Robinson, Dave Cullen, and Dick Blake.

Eric then recounted the story of how the Chapter Chair came to wear a red hat as a way to be recognized. Back in 1951, John Herr, then the Chapter Chair, felt the Chapter was getting so big that not everyone knew who the chair was. After all there were 500 members. (We are now over 9000 members.) So, he started the tradition of wearing a red hat. Since then the tradition has been for each Chapter Chair to be given a red hat. Eric then asked all past chairs in attendance to put on their red hats, stand, and receive a round of applause.

Gardner Moulton 1963-1964	Glen Parchmann 1989-1990
Ledge Clayton 1975-1976	Ken Richardson 1991-1992
Gerry Hardy 1979-1980	Mary Dorpalen 1993-1994
Sue Hardy 1981-1982	Dave Cullen 1995-1996
Anne Bailey 1985-1986	Paula Burton 1997-1998
Trish Niece 1987-1989	Carl Rosenthal 1999

At 7:50 p.m. Eric called to order the 80<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. Eric called for a motion to accept the Secretary's Report as presented in the 2000 Annual Report, which was received, seconded and passed. Eric then called for a

motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented in the 2000 Annual Report, which was received, seconded and passed.

Eric acknowledged the efforts of the Nominating Committee of Dave Mihalek, Chair, Steve Braciak, Dan Casey, Ledge Clayton, and Elizabeth Craven and called for a round of applause. Dave Mihalek, then presented the following slate of nominees for 2001:

*Eric Stones* - Chair  
*Roger Hall* - Vice Chair  
*Al Puches* - Treasurer  
*Doug McKain* - Secretary  
*Carl Rosenthal* - AMC Outdoors Liaison  
*Judy Kunkel* - Bicycling  
*Frank Junga* - Conservation Co-Chair  
*Lisa Spencer* - Conservation Co-Chair  
*Dick Don* - East of the River Co-Chair  
*Bob Hayman* - East of the River Co-Chair  
*Shirley Sutton* - Education Co-Chair  
*open* - Education Co-Chair  
*Janice Parker* - Excursions Chair  
*open* - Fairfield County  
*open* - Member-at-Large  
*Liz Egli* - Membership  
*Tim Lenihan* - Mountaineering Co-Chair  
*Carol Parker* - Mountaineering Co-Chair  
*open* - Newsletter Editor  
*Chuck Doll* - Northwest Camp  
*Trent Link* - Northwest Camp Caretaker  
*Dale Geslien* - Program Co-Chair  
*open* - Program Co-Chair  
*Ann Sherwood* - Trails  
*Mark Schappert* - Whitewater  
*Sue Bartley* - Young Members Co-Chair  
*Darron Kannenberg* - Young Members Co-Chair

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

At 8:05 p.m. a motion to adjourn the business meeting was made, seconded, and passed.

Dale Geslien then introduced the program speaker, Thom Pollard, who made a fascinating presentation on "The Power of Mt. Everest: The quest to Find George Leigh Mallory."

Respectfully submitted,  
 Doug McKain, Secretary.

TREASURER'S REPORT  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1999 AND 2000

	<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>
Cash at January 1	\$43,754	\$73,877
Revenue Collected:		
Joy Street dues allocation	36,418	24,302
Program activities	8,779	11,778
Contributions	2,444	2,625
Reserve funds – sources <sup>(1)</sup>	31,865	46,301
Local sale of memberships	1,972	4,980
Leadership training	4,668	4,475
Subscriptions to <i>THE HIKER</i>	1,185	798
Merchandise sales	1,251	1,252
Interest income	<u>1,076</u>	<u>1,548</u>
Total revenue collected	\$89,658	\$98,059
Expenditures:		
Cost of program activities	\$10,404	\$16,249
Cost of merchandise	756	1,098
Contributions made	1,375	1,325
Reserve funds – uses <sup>(1)</sup>	6,852	51,820
Committee operating expenses:		
Bicycling	1,800	1,628
Conservation	79	244
East of the River	1,207	2,542
Education	4,877	4,497
Excursions	825	1,317
Executive	9,846	16,653
Fairfield County	4,708	3,582
Membership	5,610	6,586
Mountaineering	549	1,178
Newsletter	3,424	11,672
Northwest Camp	797	537
Program	258	436
Trails	<u>6,168</u>	<u>5,811</u>
Total expenditures	\$59,535	\$127,175
Cash at December 31	<u>\$73,877</u>	<u>\$44,761</u>

TREASURER'S REPORT  
FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2000 AND 2001

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>
Cash at January 1	\$73,877	\$44,761
Revenue collected:		
Joy Street dues allocation	\$24,301	38,320
Program activities	5,417	5,328
Contributions	2,625	25
Reserve funds – sources <sup>(1)</sup>	62,988	11,265
Local sale of memberships	3,255	5,020
Leadership training	3,075	3,685
Subscriptions to <i>THE HIKER</i>	658	525
Merchandise sales	104	45
Interest income	<u>1,067</u>	<u>1,015</u>
Total revenue collected	\$103,490	\$65,228
Expenditures:		
Cost of program activities	\$5,669	\$6,660
Cost of merchandise	--	--
Contributions made	0	2,000
Reserve funds – uses <sup>(1)</sup>	68,227	10,146
Committee operating expenses:		
Bicycling	1,400	1,347
Conservation	237	92
East of the River	2,279	1,685
Education	3,046	4,165
Excursions	991	985
Executive	13,142	4,778
Fairfield County	3,051	2,662
Membership	5,241	4,951
Mountaineering	1,178	651
Newsletter	7,929	8,163
Northwest Camp	387	308
Program	321	68
Trails	<u>3,226</u>	<u>2,282</u>
Total expenditures	\$116,324	\$50,943
Cash at September 30	<u>\$61,043</u>	<u>\$59,046</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>12/31/99</u>	<u>12/31/00</u>	<u>9/30/01</u>
Reserve funds:			
American Ref-fuel grant	\$200	\$200	\$200
AT Handicap Accessible project	26,998	13,829	13,783
Bicycle racing fund	410	410	410
Bicycle reserve	332	332	332
Duren Memorial Scholarships	961	1,268	815
Friends of Mansfield Hollow	---	507	562
Jim Wright Memorial	264	264	264
Northwest Camp	3,503	9,994	11,747
Ridgerunner	752	752	752
Stanley grant	3,445	4,558	4,635
Stephen Meyers Memorial	1,895	1,895	1,895
Whitewater	4,580	3,951	3,545
General fund	<u>30,537</u>	<u>6,940</u>	<u>20,106</u>
Total cash	<u>\$73,877</u>	<u>\$44,761</u>	<u>\$59,046</u>

Al Puches - Treasurer



## Bicycling Committee

The *AMCyclist* newsletter was published again in 2001 and covered rides from April through November. In addition to leading rides and weekend trips, several of our leaders participated in special events and fundraisers for several charities.

A total of 122 road rides, 17 mountain bike rides, and seven trips were scheduled during 2001.

Thanks to our ride leaders, we had the usual weekend rides, and rides every Monday from April through November, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings during the summer months, and several mountain bike rides. Leaders were once again able to use our web site to review and schedule their rides.

The "ABC" ride series scheduled over a two year period concluded on October 28<sup>th</sup> with the "Z" ride. Thanks to Jeri Jaminet for this terrific idea and to the ride leaders who volunteered to help Jeri lead rides to accomplish this goal.

Weekend trips (and one mid-week trip) during 2001 included Washington, DC; Hampton Beach, NH; Gettysburg, PA; the North Shore of Massachusetts; Cooperstown, NY; and Killington, VT.

The 2001 Bicycling Committee was very supportive during this past year and all of them who have been contacted to date have agreed to continue on the Committee for 2002. I look forward to another exciting year of AMC bicycling.

### BICYCLING COMMITTEE

Gary Carlson                      Deborah Casey                      Larry Hayden  
Doug McKain                      Jo-Ann Oberg                      Mike Stino  
Maureen Sylvestre-Craig

Judy Kunkel - Chair



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## Conservation Committee

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We are continuing to bring guest speakers to our monthly meetings in order to stimulate more interest in the Conservation Committee. We have also instituted weekend hike meetings with guest leaders. These have been warmly received. Specific activities this year were:

- A talk by Robert Thorsen (University of Connecticut Geology Department), *Geology of Traprock Ridges*,
- A talk by Julie Victoria (Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection - Wildlife), *Timber Rattle Snakes in Connecticut*,
- A talk by Jim O'Rourke (Connecticut State Representative), *Environmental Legislation*.
- A hike/talk by Prof. Sherm Clebnie (Eastern Connecticut State University), *Effect of Glaciers on Landscape in Connecticut*, and
- A hike/talk by Ralph Lewis (Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection), *Connecticut Geology*.

We are planning a November hike with a member(s) of the state legislature.

Responding to comments that too many hike leaders have little to say about the land on which we hike, we have started a program to provide our hike leaders with some natural history background. Ed Richardson started this experimental program on October 13, 2001 with a tree identification walk. Ralph Lewis has agreed to hold a seminar on Connecticut geology for hike leaders.

Many thanks to Joe Grzybowski, who has volunteered to keep the Committee e-mail list up to date. It's a real help.

The Conservation Committee co-chairs attended a gathering in Litchfield for the Conservation chairs of each AMC chapter. Our ideas to interest new people in the Conservation Committee were well received.

### CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

*George Bosse  
Kristen Grant  
Juliet Leeming*

*Birge Dayton  
Joe Grzybowski  
Marion Liberati*

*Jo-Anne Giblin  
Marilyn Lassow  
Eric Stones*

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

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## East of the River Committee

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This has been another highly successful year for members living and hiking east of the Connecticut River, with 100 scheduled hikes. Tuesday hikes averaged 25 hikers and there were 8-18 hikers on Thursday hikes. This success is largely due to our *East of the River Newsletter*, published three times in 2001, that gets information out to our membership. Thursday hikes were added to our usual Tuesday hiking schedule. They are usually longer and more strenuous than the Tuesday hikes are. We owe our thanks for these Thursday hikes to John Cunningham, Jack Shea, Ed Richardson, and John Figucia. We've also improved the weekend hiking schedule east of the river 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 East of the River chair, has established Friends of Mansfield Hollow State Park, which will support the park as a viable recreational area.

We held two very well attended dinners and slide presentations (about eighty at each presentation), with profits going to the Harry Duren Scholarship Fund.

Beginning on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, East of the River will offer, in addition to our regular 5 to 8-mile hikes, hikes that are less than 5 miles. These are for hikers who for one reason or another can't manage longer hikes.

On a weekend in October, hike leaders were treated to a tree identification hike. Those hike leaders will pass on to their hikers this informative information.

### EAST OF THE RIVER COMMITTEE

<i>John Cunningham</i>	<i>Linda Cunningham</i>	<i>Dot Davis</i>
<i>Ed Dresner</i>	<i>Fay Dresner</i>	<i>Rob Funk</i>
<i>Frank Junga</i>	<i>Maryann Kouyoumjian</i>	<i>Pam Lewis</i>
<i>Nancy Meitzler</i>	<i>Carolyn Olsen</i>	<i>Ruth Pfeifer</i>
<i>Betty Robinson</i>	<i>Meg Seril</i>	

*Dick Don - Co-Chair  
Bob Hayman - Co-Chair*

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## Education Committee

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The Education Committee of the Connecticut Chapter of the AMC continued to offer technical training at reasonable expense to its members. The ever-popular SOLO Wilderness First Aid was presented in March to a full house. At the Annual Meeting each year, a morning CPR class is offered. The last November/first December weekend hosts the Major Excursions Training and the Leadership Weekend at White Memorial in Litchfield.

The Committee is also responsible for its own Junior Naturalist Booklet, which was reprinted this year.

My hope is that the new chair and committee not only continue these valuable programs, but also expands into new areas of education.

### EDUCATION COMMITTEE

*Paula Burton*  
*Eric Stones*

*Merri Fox*

*Anne Rehm*

*Shirley Sutton* – Chair



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## Excursions Committee

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

A total of 356 day hikes were offered over the course of the year, with more than 4,000 participants. Currently, there are 140 active leaders in the Chapter, a comparatively small roster given the number of trips led over the year. Thanks to all of the activity leaders who contributed their time and effort, and in particular to the more than twenty leaders who made exceptional contributions by leading five or more trips over the course of the year.

While we have had a gratifying number of new leaders qualifying over the past year, there has also been some attrition as members left the area or retired from active leadership. Therefore, our roster of active leaders has not increased as we would wish. 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 are always seeking to recruit individuals willing to act as coordinators for family activities, backpacking, weekend activities, and leader recruitment.

For each issue of *AMC Outdoors*, hikes are coordinated by a different AMC member who solicits hikes by mail, phone or e-mail, and then prepares the listings that ultimately appear in *AMC Outdoors*. Their efforts help 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 2001 were:

<i>Carl Rosenthal</i> , Waterford	January/February
<i>Eric Stones</i> , Bethel	March
<i>Paul Duclos</i> , West Haven	April
<i>Fred Riotte</i> , Suffield	May
<i>Charlotte Hitchcock</i> , New Haven	June
<i>Dick Don</i> , Manchester	July/August
<i>Heather Davidson</i> , Lakeville	September
<i>Janice Parker</i> , Ledyard	October
<i>Ann deVona</i> , Wingdale, NY	November
<i>Janice Parker</i> , Ledyard	December

The indispensable jobs done by Suzanne Graham and Heather Graham, who were 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 acknowledgement.

EXCURSIONS COMMITTEE

<i>Paul Duclos</i>	Computer Coordinator, Backpacking
<i>Heather Davidson</i>	Trip Reports Coordinator
<i>Bob Dickinson</i>	Cross-country Skiing

*Ann deVona* – Co-Chair  
*Janice Parker* – Co-Chair

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Fairfield County Group

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The Fairfield County Group continued in 2001 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.

*Tom Carruthers* - Chair




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Membership Committee

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As of October 1, 2001 there were 10,328 AMC members affiliated with the Connecticut Chapter. This is the first year that chapter membership has exceeded 10,000. Membership-in-a-Bottle sales have increased significantly due to the continued successful use of the web site and the ongoing Adopt-a-Store program.

After some deliberation over whether to hold our annual New Member Day on Saturday, September 15, so soon after the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, we carried on with our original plans, and the event was an overall success. There were 19 well-attended events held around the state, including hikes, bike rides and canoe trips. One hundred ninety people attended the New Member Day evening program at Northeast Utilities in Berlin consisted of a social hour, spaghetti dinner, and multi-media presentation given by Heidi Howkins, world-class mountain climber and author of *K2: One Woman's Quest for the Summit*. Heidi has led or participated in five Himalayan expeditions in five years. She focused this inspiring presentation primarily on her 1998 expedition to K2. New Member Day continues to be a tradition that brings together old, new, and prospective members of all age groups and backgrounds to experience what the AMC has to offer.

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>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>John Kelling</i>	New Member Day Planning
<i>Nancy Meitzler</i>	Voice Mail Inquiry Response
<i>May Nevius</i>	Member-at-Large
<i>Carolyn Olsen</i>	New Member Day Activities Coordinator
<i>Ted Platt</i>	Member-at-Large
<i>Betty Robinson</i>	Member-at-Large
<i>Gladys Sheehan</i>	New Member Day Planning
<i>Tori Stepanov</i>	Past Co-chair

*Liz Egli* - Chair

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## Mountaineering Committee

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We opened the year with a winter attempt on the summit of Mt. Marcy, in the Adirondacks of New York. Eleven intrepid individuals snowshoed or skied to Marcy Dam and set up camp. That night we were treated to 12 inches of new snow. The next day we set out for the summit, tramping a five mile long trail in two feet of snow only to be turned back by the weather a few hundred yards from the summit.

Winter 2000/2001 was a spectacular ice-climbing season; teams were out almost every weekend on trips throughout New York and New England. There were three-day trips to Smuggler's Notch (ice-climbing, skiing, winter hiking) and the White Mountains (ice climbing, winter hiking). In addition to Wednesday gym climbing, members met at Mt. Southington a few times on Thursday nights to practice telemark skiing techniques (an effort we hope to expand during the 2001/2002 season).

As the weather warmed, we exchanged crampons for rock shoes and took to the crags once again. Our season rock-climbing opener saw 20 climbers out -- including a few new faces. In addition to cragging in Connecticut on Wednesday evenings, teams made weekend trips to climb in Massachusetts, New York, New Hampshire, and Maine.

A Summer Solstice traverse of the presidential range in New Hampshire has become something of an annual tradition. This year 4 teams attempted the peak-bagging, 18+ mile, 8000 feet of elevation gain/loss hike that begins in Crawford Notch and ends on Dolly Copp B (or vice versa).

John Rek logged a record time of 11 hours. Other teams completed the route in times varying from 12 to 14 hours.

As the season progressed, members spread out for objectives further afield. Several teams traveled to the Cascades in Washington State for climbs on Mt. Adams, Mt. Rainier, Forbidden Peak, and Liberty Bell. Two members traveled to Northern Italy for a week of climbing in the Dolomites. In September, members climbed at Cochise Stronghold in Arizona -- our scheduled "major" trip. Two teams climbed "big walls" in Zion and Moab during October, and a group will be climbing in Southern New Mexico over the Thanksgiving holiday.

When not climbing, we were engaged in a number of support activities:

Education - Our annual *Introduction to Rock-Climbing* class was a sell out with 21 students of varying age in attendance. Two members attended an AMC sponsored Avalanche Awareness program, others took courses in backcountry first aid. Our section taught a workshop

in self-rescue techniques for multi-pitch leaders and "seconds." Former committee chair Paul Maresca provided instruction and coaching in big-wall climbing techniques to several members of the section (the big-wall outing in Zion was a "graduation" outing for one of the students). Informal tutelage from other members of the section greatly assisted in the development of five new leaders on rock and two new leaders on ice.

Trail work \crag clean-up efforts - Members of the section joined with the Access Fund and the Ragged Mountain Foundation (RMF) to perform trail maintenance and crag clean-up.

Fund Raiser - Our section coordinated a screening of the Banff Film Festival, raising \$1,300 for the benefit of RMF.

Access Issues - Many of the best crags in Connecticut remain closed to climbing. AMC regional staff met with our section and members of RMF and the Access Fund to help coordinate an effort to re-open these areas.

Service Work - Several members assisted Everest climber Thom Pollard in sponsoring a day of rock climbing for the American Leadership Forum; participants included State Representative Jesse Stratton.

Connecticut Climbing Guide - Members assisted climbing guide author Dave Fasulo, by traveling to and producing route descriptions for two Connecticut crags; the information will be included in a forthcoming new guidebook to Connecticut climbing.

Gear - We replaced several climbing ropes, adding SAM and air splints to our first aid kits, and acquired a portaledge to support multi-day big-wall climbs. Several gear donations were received this year including a pair of avalanche transceivers, and some general mountaineering ice axes.

Clearly these sorts of activities require volunteered time and skill from many people. We would like to thank everyone in the section for their assistance this year, especially the contributions of the Committee.

### MOUNTAINEERING COMMITTEE

Bob Dest                      Ged Fay                      Ken Klopfer  
Carole Phelan                Bill (Dollar Bill) Walters

Tim Linehan - Co-Chair  
Carol Parker - Co-Chair



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## Newsletter Committee

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In the year 2001, there were two issues published of the AMC Connecticut Chapter newsletter. The over 10,000 members in the Chapter are being sent the newsletter. This is an increase in membership of approximately 2,500 people since the June 2000 issue. Thanks to Committee members, Dale Geslien, and Chapter Chair Eric Stones for their support.

I 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 2002. Happy Trails!

*Patti Allard – Co-Chair*

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## Northwest Camp Committee

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Three pallets of stone were ordered for the cabin's new foundation.

The spring work party was held on May 5th and stones were moved up to the cabin.

A proposal was approved for \$10,000 and the work to build a foundation for the cabin was completed in October.

Three cords of cut wood were ordered and delivered to the cabin.

A fall work party was held on Friday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Northwest camp celebrated 50 years on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. There were hikes and a cookout held in celebration.

Ken Kostak, a committee member, donated signs to replace the worn out signs around the cabin.

The outside furniture was painted.

A new picnic table was purchased for \$300.

### NORTHWEST CAMP COMMITTEE

<i>Paul Ives</i>	<i>Ken Kostak</i>	<i>Keith Larsen</i>
<i>Trent Link</i>	<i>Megan Patrick</i>	<i>Rod Parlee</i>
<i>John Rek</i>	<i>Jim St. Amand</i>	<i>Dave Terril</i>

*Chuck Doll – Chair*

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## Program Committee

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The Program Committee provided another exciting and fun filled year to AMC Members. Last year's annual meeting at the Rocky Hill Marriott surpassed attendance records in recent years. Members found a great variety of workshops from which to choose -- from learning about Timber Rattlesnakes to viewing our Mountaineers' most recent adventures. They also interacted with committee members and perused the offerings at the Used Equipment Sale and Book Sale. The highlight of the day was

Thom Pollard's awesome presentation "The Power of Everest: The Quest to Find Mallory." The Spring Dinner at the Cheshire Grange was also well attended. Martin Torresquintero gave us an extremely interesting and educational presentation entitled "Two Ocean Safaris – Exploring South Africa's natural and cultural heritage." As usual, the Cheshire Grange members provided a superb meal. We had more delectable delights at the Trail's Day Potluck, held jointly with Connecticut Forest and Park Association at Northeast Utilities in Berlin. CFPA's speaker, Kim Robert Nilsen, founded New England's newest and one of its longest trail systems, the Cohos Trail. Everyone was excited about the opportunity to explore a "new" wilderness closer to home. Our annual New Member Day spaghetti dinner, also held at Northeast Utilities, was another well attended event. Mountaineer Heidi Howkins' presentation "K-2: One Woman's Quest for the Summit" was especially intriguing in light of the tragic events of September 11<sup>th</sup>.

Committee members did a great job this year providing hors 'doerves and filling our famous punch pot, making sure the projectors, screen, PA system etc. were all in working order for our speakers, as well as taking care of registration and overall logistics. I hope you will join me in thanking them for all their hard work in making these events run so smoothly. We were also happy to welcome Ellen and Joy, two new members to our Committee this year. Our membership is growing so our committees need to grow as well. Please think about volunteering. We'd love to have you join us. 2002 is just around the corner and we're looking ahead to another exciting year of Connecticut Chapter events!

### PROGRAM COMMITTEE

<i>Luella Bartes</i>	<i>Richard Bartes</i>	<i>Barbara Beckerman</i>
<i>Frank DeFazio</i>	<i>Edgar Dresner</i>	<i>Fay Dresner</i>
<i>Doreen Guarino</i>	<i>Kathy Holden</i>	<i>Fred Ianotti</i>
<i>Ellen McGuire</i>	<i>Joy Monka</i>	<i>Wilford Parker</i>
<i>Wilda Wise</i>		

*Dale Geslien – Chair*

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## Trails Committee

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

- All open space mowing projects were completed.
- A new signboard was installed at south gate on River Road in Kent to continue the education and outreach to the general public about the Appalachian Trail (AT), especially since this is such a busy starting point for day hikers and first time people to the Trail.
- Red worm privy renovations were completed to the Stewart Hollow Shelter privy.
- The replacement of the bog bridging to tumpiking was completed at Macedonia Brook.
- Two chums were relocated.
- The deck at Silver Hill Campsite was repaired.
- The upgrade to Privy A and repaired two tent pads at Sages Ravine Camp Area was completed.
- Made progress with trail hardening projects at Bulls Bridge, on Macedonia Ridge, St. John's Ledges, Guinea Brook, and near Sages Ravine.
- Temporary bridge repairs north of Warren Turnpike were completed.
- Repairs to Pine Swamp Shelter were completed.
- The annual Maintainers Workshop was held in April.
- Another successful Give-a-Day Back-to-the Trail event was held.
- Inter-chapter weekend work parties with the New Hampshire Chapter were held in Connecticut and New Hampshire.
- Plans were completed, National Park Service approval received, and the approval of neighbors, for the installation of a hiker parking lot on Bunker Hill Road for the Lion's Head Trail. Parking lot construction was also completed.
- Participated with the AMC Berkshire County AT Trails Committee in sponsoring a Student Conservation Association Trail Crew for one month in Connecticut and Massachusetts.
- The annual Vista Review was completed.
- Testimony was submitted on behalf of the Committee to the Town of Sharon Planning and Zoning Commission regarding the siting of a digital telecommunications tower on the Sharon/Salisbury town line along Route 7. The tower, which was ultimately

approved by the Planning and Zoning Commission, proved not to be an impact to the trail.

- The initial review of a Management Plan for the Bulls Bridge area with the State of Connecticut was completed.
- The Committee participated in the New England Regional ATC meeting in Fairlee, Vermont.
- AMC Club Trail Committee meetings throughout the year were attended.
- Water well testing was brought to current guidelines of the National Park Service.
- A vault privy at the Undermountain Trailhead Parking lot was installed.

### TRAILS COMMITTEE

*Dick Blake  
Hugh Cobrain  
Birge Dayton  
Elaine Labella  
Walt Rinehart  
Sue Springer*

*Dave Boone  
Ted Cowles  
Henry Edmonds  
Paul Palmer  
Brigitte Rothman*

*Doug Christie  
Walt Daniels  
Harlan Jessup  
Bob Poitras  
Norm Sills*

*Ann Sherwood – Chair*

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## Whitewater Committee

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2001 has been a busy year for the Whitewater Committee. Starting in January our annual pool instructional sessions in Wilton saw solid attendance of 25-30 people a week. Attendance at Suffield was also up from last year.

This summer we ran a new instructional program on Thursday nights in July and August at the Lake Lillinonah boat ramp in Bridgewater, CT. The class attracted more than forty students over the course of the sessions. The lack of any rental charges for the facility allowed us to run this class for no charge. It was a great success and will be run again next summer.

The Committee approved the purchase of a used Perception "Shock" rodeo style kayak and related gear to add to the club's inventory of boats. This makes six fully outfitted kayaks, six outfitted canoes, and a C-1 and C-2 closed boat. The Shock was purchased to make instruction easier for smaller students. All of our existing fleet is designed with larger paddlers in mind.

The Whitewater committee also sponsored a swiftwater rescue class run by Wayne Sundmacher, who co-authored with Charlie Walbridge, the Swiftwater Rescue Manual. The class was attended by thirteen paddlers. The Committee voted to cover half of the cost of the class for our trip leaders. Seven of the thirteen were leaders. The class taught students many valuable techniques for river rescue.

The Committee ran seventy-five trips this year from West Virginia to Maine. Membership is slowly growing. Next year there are plans to increase the number and variety of trips. We're trying very hard to recruit new leaders and more instructionals are planned as a way to increase membership. We're 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




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### Young Members Committee

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The AMC Young Members of Connecticut (ages 21 to 39) started in January of 2000 with nine members. As of October 2001 we have 303 members and guests, and 16 event leaders. We started the year with multiple ski trips to Mt. Southington, several cross-country ski trips, including one in the Berkshires, and two snowshoe trips. We continued the year with numerous hikes in central and Northern Connecticut and one by the Long Island Sound. We also had two hikes in the Catskills, two in the Berkshires, and one at Mt. Tom in southern Massachusetts. We went rafting in the Hudson Gorge and in the Dryway, camping out both times. We went mountain biking twice. We went roller-blading twice. We had a trail work day. We visited the Hancock Shaker Village in the winter, and in the fall, toured a museum display of paintings of

Connecticut history and landscape, toured a science center, and attended an outdoor jazz festival in Hartford. We had a summer picnic with more than 40 members and guests and lots of food at Wadsworth Falls State Park. We also had numerous socials after events, or just to get the group together. We generally had between 10 and 25 participants at each event. We would like to thank the committee for providing many successful events. We would like to thank the following leaders of the group for leading at least one event this year:

David Bellemare  
Brad Long  
Roy Watanabe

Mike Dews  
Eric Madsen

Hrissi Haldezos  
Mark Schappert

We would also like to thank everyone for attending the events and for helping to make every event a fun time.

#### YOUNG MEMBERS COMMITTEE

Steve Collins  
Julie Nye  
Larry Studdiford

John Eberhart  
Dave Schowalter

Jamie Howland  
Rick Strunk

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

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### Nominating Committee

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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 need a couple of co-chairs: Education and Program, and a Newsletter Editor. Any interest? Give any of us a call.

Dave Mihalek - Chair



## Nominations for the 2002 Executive Committee

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

AMC Outdoors Liaison	<i>Carl Rosenthal</i>
Bicycling	<i>Judy Kunkel</i>
Chair *	<i>Eric Stones</i>
Conservation Co-Chair	<i>Frank Junga</i>
Conservation Co-Chair	<i>Lisa Spencer</i>
East of the River Co-Chair	<i>Barry Resnick</i>
East of the River Co-Chair	<i>Ruth Griffin</i>
Education Co-Chair	<i>Shirley Sutton</i>
Education Co-Chair	<i>open</i>
Excursions Co-Chair	<i>Ann deVona</i>
Excursions Co-Chair	<i>Duncan Schweitzer</i>
Fairfield County	<i>Tom Carruthers</i>
Member-at-Large	<i>open</i>
Membership	<i>Liz Egli</i>
Mountaineering Co-Chair	<i>Tim Lenihan</i>
Mountaineering Co-Chair	<i>Carol Parker</i>
Newsletter Editor	<i>open</i>
Northwest Camp	<i>Chuck Doll</i>
Northwest Camp Caretaker	<i>Trent Link</i>
Program Co-Chair	<i>Dale Geslien</i>
Program Co-Chair	<i>open</i>
Secretary	<i>Doug McKain</i>
Trails	<i>Ann Sherwood</i>
Treasurer	<i>Al Puches</i>
Vice Chair	<i>Tim Lenihan</i>
Web Site Coordinator	<i>Peg Peterson</i>
Whitewater	<i>Mark Schappert</i>
Young Members Co-Chair	<i>Sue Bartley</i>
Young Members Co-Chair	<i>Darron Kannenberg</i>
Regional Director	<i>Norm Sims</i>

- \* There is no nomination to replace Eric Stones as Chapter Chair. Eric has agreed to serve an additional year.

## 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.

*Mr. Frederick K. Bailey* of West Hartford  
*Mrs. Kornel Bailey* of Somers  
*Mr. Alfred A. Beale* of Trumbull  
*Mrs. Brita Cappel* of Wilton  
*Mrs. George W. Carden* of Plainville  
*Mr. Richard W. Constable* of Darien  
*Mr. Daniel E. Damer* of North Hampton, New Hampshire  
*Miss Drucilla Littlehales* of Waterbury

