



NW Camp Committee Annual Report for 2009

Submitted by Rod Parlee, Chairman and Conservation Director

The NW Camp cabin and surrounding property are holding up well and impacts have been held to a minimum. Unlike many volunteer managed facilities that have seen a downturn in reservations NW Camp is ahead of previous year's bed nights. Most of this is attributed to the promotional efforts of the committee at AMC functions, word-of-mouth and the return of happy campers year-after-year.

In January, the first-ever moldering privy out house at NW Camp was constructed and installed by Boy Scout Sam Fernandez and members of Scout Troop 162 from Columbia, CT. Sam raised \$450 with his troop by organizing a car wash to go towards the purchase of the building materials. Committee member and Scout leader Tom McGrath helped organize efforts with the scouts on behalf of the Committee.

The Spring work party consisted mostly of cutting down limbs from a winter ice storm for firewood. In August, the committee organized a weekend of mushroom, old growth tree and meteor shower hikes. Roger Scholl, AMC Director of Chapter and Volunteer Relations joined us and toured the cabin and found the cabin to be in good shape. On Saturday, special guests Matt "Twig" Largess a nationally known arborist and Mycologist Henry Smith led a hike down to Sages Ravine and back discovering a myriad of old-growth trees and colorful mushrooms along the way. The diversity of trees and mushrooms in the area was unbelievable! Later that night we all hiked up MT Riga and saw 20 meteors streaking across the summer sky. On behalf of the Committee, the Chairman donated \$200 to Matt Moore of the AMC Ridgerunner program. The Ridgerunners are valuable to the committee as they monitor the cabin and area during summer months.

Other accomplishments throughout the year include adding a self-addressed camp-user survey post-cards with every registration thanks to Ron Zlotoff, customized NW Camp Volunteer long-sleeved Tee shirts thanks to John Hicks, updating the bylaws by the entire committee, and many trips to the cabin to keep it safe thanks to Caretaker Ryan Christensen, Craig Kennedy and Don Klein.

The Committee elected the following officers for the next two years beginning in January 2010. Rod Parlee and Tom McGrath - Co Chairs, Sue Ives - Registrar, Paul Ives - Caretaker, Merri Fox- Secretary and Al Puches – Treasurer.

Anyone planning to book a weekend this year can do so by calling Registrar, Sue Ives at 203-266-6374 from 9am - 8 pm Monday thru Friday only.

See our updates on the Chapter's NW Camp Committee home page at:

<http://www.ct-amc.org/nwcamp/index.shtm>

The following are NW Camp Committee Events for 2010:

- 01/30/2010 Annual Meeting on January 30th at Danvers, MA
- 02/10/2010 Committee Meeting at CFPA Headquarters
- 02/26- 03/01/2010 Snowshoe Weekend at Cabin (Friday night through Monday noon)
- 04/14/2010 Committee Meeting at CFPA Headquarters
- 04/30-05/02/2010 Spring Work Party at Cabin (Friday night through Monday noon)
- 08/11/2010 Committee Meeting CFPA Headquarters
- 08/13-08/16/2010 Perseids Meteor Shower Weekend at Cabin (Friday night through Monday noon)
- 09/10-09/13/2010 New Members Weekend at Cabin (Friday night through Monday noon)
- 10/13/2010 Committee Meeting CFPA Headquarters
- 11/05-11/08 /2010 Fall Work Party at cabin (Friday night through Monday noon)