



## NW Camp Committee Annual Report for 2010

*Submitted by Rod Parlee, Chairman and Conservation Director*

The rustic but very distinguished American chestnut cabin at NW Camp is holding up well. The Allnighter wood stove and pipe are ready for the new winter season and have been refurbished thanks to the tedious skills of Caretaker Paul Ives and Cabin monitor Don Klein. At the spring workparty a new charcoal grill was installed, a cord of wood moved and stacked, picnic tables and benches cleaned and stained, interior window trim painted and new footings poured for the kiosk. Registrar Sue Ives and member Carol Langely worked many hours on controlling erosion near woodpile. Moldering Privy subcommittee Chair and Camp Co-chair Tom McGrath painstakingly installed fine mesh screening around the inside of the Moldering Privy crib system. All of this hard work wouldn't have been possible without the dedicated efforts of all committee members.

In July, the Committee donated \$200 to the Ridgerunner program recognizing the small staff and huge importance of their job in monitoring the use of such a pristine and vulnerable resource. A video production was initiated by long-time AMC member Russ Charest for the committee focusing on the challenge of balancing conservation with recreation at NW Camp. The final video may be used internally and shared with other volunteer managed facilities.

At the NW Camp committee meeting in August the committee regrettably came to the conclusion that an increase in lodging fees was necessary to keep pace with inflation and help pay for the increase in cordwood consumption. The fee change is the first since 2002 and only targets September - May use with mostly a \$10 increase. Rates stay the same for the summer in hopes of an increase in reservations.

In August, the committee hosted another Perseids Meteor Shower Weekend originating from the cabin with a total of 26 people participating in a hike down to a waterfall in Sages Ravine and up to Mt. Riga to view the annual summer meteor shower. Once again this year, nationally known arborist Matt "Twig" Largess and mycologist Henry Smith joined the event. The waterfall hike was very refreshing for those who braved the cold crystal clear water and went for a swim and the meteor shower produced 28 blazing meteors across the Milky Way in one hour!

The Committee is in the early process of planning for some major exterior erosion control to make way for possible construction of a front porch and a possible cantilever roof that would add structural support to the loft overhang. The next Committee meeting is on Thursday, January 13th, 2011 and planning for the NW Camp 60th Anniversary Party in August will continue. The Spring workparty is scheduled for Saturday, May 14, 2011. For cabin reservations please call our volunteer Registrar at 203-266-6374 only between the hours of 9am to 8pm Monday through Friday. See the NW Camp website at: <http://www.ct-amc.org/nwcamp/index.shtm>

## **Committee Roster**

Rod Parlee (Co-Chair, Conservation Director)  
Tom McGrath (Co-Chair, Moldering Privy Chair)  
Sue Ives (Registrar)  
Paul Ives (Past Chair/Caretaker)  
Merri Fox (Secretary/Volunteer Hours Coordinator)  
Al Puches (Treasurer)  
John Hicks (former Chair/Caretaker – Camp Trails Committee Chair)  
Donald Klein (Cabin Monitor)  
Craig Kennedy (Cabin Monitor)  
Carol Langley (Green Mt Club, CT Rep)  
Chuck Doll (former Chair)  
Jim St.Amand (Former Co-Chair and Caretaker)  
Joni Kafka (Former Registrar)  
Paul Thoma (LNT Trainer)  
John Rek (Past Chair/Caretaker)  
Trent Link (Past Chair/Caretaker)  
Alice Combs (Mt Riga Liaison)  
Ron Zlotoff  
Steve Troop  
Marge Hicks  
Nicole Ives  
Ryan Christensen  
Tom Nichols  
Ken Kostak

## **The following are NW Camp Committee Events for 2011:**

- 1/13/2011 Committee Meeting at CFPA Headquarters
- 2/4-7/2011 Open Winter Weekend (Friday night through Monday noon)
- 5/13-16/2011 Spring Work Party (Friday night through Monday noon)
- 8/12-15/2011 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party & Perseids Meteor Shower Weekend (Friday night - Monday noon)
- 9/16-19/2011 New Members Day Weekend at Cabin (Friday night through Monday noon)
- 11/04-7/2011 Fall Work Party (Friday night through Monday noon)