



The Gansett Gazette

December -
January
2010
Volume 6,
Number 6

Newsletter of the Narragansett Chapter of the
Appalachian Mountain Club

SAVE THE DATE Friday, March 19, 2010

The New Member and Prospective Member Potluck Social will be at 6:30 pm at the Cathedral of St. John Episcopal, 271 N. Main St., Providence. New, current and prospective members are welcome. Meet, eat, socialize and learn what activities the AMC has planned for the spring/summer season. You'll have a chance to meet committee leaders and get a feel for what they have to offer. For information contact Mary Bonaventure, mlb448@yahoo.com.

ALL LEADERS - SAVE THE DATE Saturday, March 20, 2010

At our last Local Hikes Meeting with Herrick Spencer we decided, we would like to do an "hike leaders only hike". Location: Arcadia Management Area; and leading the hike would be Maria Earley and Dick Sullivan. Social will follow. All Leaders are welcome.

Winter Local Hikes Advisory

It's the time of the year when local hikers need to think about ice on the trails. You can hike just about anywhere with proper winter foot gear. Get Micro-spikes (kahtoola.com) or Stabilizers (the ones with bolts over entire sole - EMS has them - go early while they have a good supply or find them on internet). If you're not yet committed to winter hiking and want something less expensive, go to the hunting/fishing department of your local sporting goods store and buy slip on fishermen's cleats that will serve you well for several seasons. Yaktracks are not recommended for hiking.

ACTIVITIES

Sat., Nov. 14. Big River Hike, West Greenwich. Starts 10:30 am. This scenic area, located in central RI, has for some reason been forgotten. It will be a hike of 4 to 5 miles on level ground. There will be a stop for something hot after the hike. Orange clothing required. L Herrick Spencer (401-723-1974), R Sandi Barber (401-467-7881 evenings)

Wed., Nov. 18. Hike and Social, Providence. Meet 6:00 PM at the kiosk on Water Street. Tour the new Providence water front. Light lunch after the 23 mile hike, Rain cancels. For info call. L Janet Harris (401-272-6772)

Sun., Nov. 22. Great Swamp hike. Meet at 9:00AM for an easy 5 1/2 miles. Ideal for new members. Many holly trees. Lunch and a bit of history by



Worden's pond. Legal orange required. Possible social to follow. Call by Thur. L Maria Earley (401-789-8331 7:00PM - 9:00PM, momearley@netzero.com), CL Matt Putnam

Sat., Nov. 28. Wickaboxet Management Area. Four-to-six miles of former woods roads through Rhode Island's first state forest. Rattlesnake Ledge and a cranberry bog among the unique features of the area. 9:00am start. Bring water and food. Legal orange required. Hiking boots recommended. L Pam Hill (401-269-1610 7:00-9:00pm, pjsh40@aol.com), CL Bonnie England (bonniedune@aol.com)

Wed., Dec. 2. Hike and Social. Meet at Gateway Plaza in North Kingstown at 6pm. Plaza is on the Corner of Rte 1 and Newcomb Rd near the Quonset Pt Rd. Enter Plaza and go to far left and we will pick up bike path there. Bring flashlight. L Dick Sullivan (401338-2880)

Sat., Dec. 5. Goddard Park Hike. A 6 mile hike with views of both the cove and bay sides of this park. We will also be visiting the horse stables. L John Ross (401-884-8458)

Sat. Dec. 5. Hike the South Kingstown Bike Path. Sponsored by Young Members committee, but all are invited. The hike is going to be about eight miles and bring a bagged lunch. Meet at the Kingston Train station on Route 138 at 10:00AM. Reg. req'd. L Chris Turgeon turgeon77@ymail.com. CL Dick Sullivan.

Wed., Dec. 9. Hike and Social in Bristol. Meet at 6pm at Leo's Ristorante, 365 Hope St., Bristol. Bring flashlights. L Gregg O'Brien (401-245-0677 Eves., goh243@aol.com)

Sun. Dec. 13. "Walk off the Turkey" at Napatree Point, Westerly. Meet at 1 pm. Pot luck/social after hikes. For longer beach hike reg/w L Linda Pease 351-2234; shorter easy town & beach walk reg/w CL Roberta Jacobs 315-0165 or jacobs6@cox.net).

Wed., Dec. 16. Hike and Social Blackstone Blvd. At 6:00pm. Hike and Social. Bring flashlight. Call for info. L Herrick Spencer (401-723-1974, Spencer295@cox.net), CL Janet Harris (401272-6772)

Wed., Dec. 16. Wed., Dec. 16. Hike Carter Preserve, Charlestown. Five-mile hike through this little gem which is Rhode Island's second-largest nature preserve. Easy walking on woodland trails. Contact leader, may require traction devices. 10:00am start. L Marcie Madsen (401364-6538)

Sat., Dec. 19. Arcadia Management Hike. Meet at 9:00AM for 8-10 miles loop (J.B.Hudson, Breakheart, Shelter trails). Possible lunch at Penny Hill. Moderate hike at a moderate pace. Boots and legal orange required. Call by Thur. L Maria Earley (401-789-8331 7:00PM - 9:00PM, momearley@netzero.com)

Sat., Dec. 19. Pack Monadnock and North Pack Monadnock Winter Hike. Suitable for first-year winter hikers with proper winter gear. Approximately eight miles with some steep sections. Car pool from Rhode Island with eat out after. L

**Narragansett Chapter AMC
Leadership Roster**

Chapter Chair-Tom Eagan;
tomeagan.amc@gmail.com
Past Chair-Gene Mihaly;
eugene@mihaly.org
Secretary- - Jeannine Peterson
Treasurer- Debbie Mitchell;
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Mary Bonaventure;
mlb448@yahoo.com
Activities Chair- Chris Shafer,
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Shannon Kelley; outside@cox.net
Conservation Co-Subchairs
Jack Schempp, 331-4553;
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Linda Pease; linda.pease@cox.net
Leadership Chair
Charlie Killam (508) 252-4349
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elise.delbarone@us.ngrid.com
**Backpacking & Northern Hikes
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Biking Subchair
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Marcie18@att.net
Local Hikes Subchair
Herrick Spencer;
spencer295@cox.net
**Technical Climbing Co-
Subchairs**
Peter Barlow, 860-675-3772
Brian Phillips, 783-0133;
bphillips38@cox.net
Flatwater Paddling Subchair-
Linda Pease, 351-2234;
linda.pease@cox.net
Sea Kayaking Subchair
Michael Krabach; 333-5350;
mkrabach@cox.net
Skiing Co-Subchairs- Dan
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Elizabeth Reardon;
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Young Adult Members Subchair
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Send change of address to:
Appalachian Mountain Club
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The Gansett Gazette is published
February/March, April/May, June/July,
Aug./Sept., Oct./Nov. and Dec./Jan. by
Narragansett Chapter AMC
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Wakefield, RI 12879

CHAPTER WEBSITE
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User Name: members
Password: **ski1911**

Steve Harrison, CL Mike Martin , Reg
with Steve Harrison (401-2703363 7:00-
9:00pm, hikersteve@cox.net)



**Wed., Dec. 23. Hike and Social,
Newport.** Meet at 6:00pm at CVS. Bring
flashlights. L Sid Wax (401-849-2595,
sid_w@yahoo.com)

**Wed., Dec. 30. Hike and Social,
Jamestown.** Hike and Social in
Jamestown at 6:00pm. Meet at the
Town docks. Bring flashlights. L Bob
Richardson (401364-7056)

**Fri., Jan. 1. Newport Polar Bear Hike
and Social.** Take the Polar Bear Plunge,
a bracing way to start the year (or watch
with the rest of us, it's quite a sight!).
Join the festivities at the beach,
followed by a four-mile Cliff Walk hike,
and a potluck social. L Sid Wax (401-849-
2595, sid_w@yahoo.com)



Sat., Jan. 2. Du Vault Hike. Meet at
9:00AM for a 5 miles hike with nice ups
and downs (good footing), Many
mountain laurel and possible sightings
of Block Island. Good hike for anyone
who wants to do a short hike but a nice
workout. Call by Thur. L Maria Earley
(401-789-8331 7:00PM - 9:00PM,
momearley@netzero.com)

**Wed., Jan. 6. Hike and Social,
Wickford.** At 6pm. Meet behind

Wilson's of Wickford and we will do
a different walk than usual. Bring
flashlight. L Dick Sullivan (401338-
2880)

**Sat., Jan. 9. Rome Pt. North
Kingstown** 10 AM. An easy hike of 45
miles with nice views of Narragansett
Bay and a good chance to see the
seals that visit the area this time of
year. L Dick Sullivan (401338-2880)

**Sat., Jan. 9. Sandwich Dome and
Jennings Peak Hike.** Suitable for first
year winter hikers with proper winter
gear. Hike 9mi., with a 2600' elevation
gain. Carpool from RI. L Steve
Harrison , CL Mike Martin , Reg with
Steve Harrison (401-2703363 7:00-
9:00pm, hikersteve@cox.net)



**Sun. Jan. 10. Explore Beautiful
Battleship Cove.** Explore the historic
Battleship cove in Fall River Mass.
We will be exploring four ships
including the museum. The entrance
fee to Battleship Cove is \$15. Reg.
req'd. L Chris Turgeon
turgeon77@gmail.com.

**Sun. Jan. 10. Hike Wolf Hill and
Mercer Lookout.** 45 miles with nice
views overlooking Providence. Meet
at 9:45 am at 215 Pleasant View Dr,
Smithfield, RI 02917, next to the
Smithfield Police Dept. Bring snacks,
lunch and drinks. Boots req'd,
possibly need stabilizers or yak-tracks.
For information on equipment
contact CL John Feather
(jfeather67@cox.net). Reg/w L
Margaret Parsons (247-7760 or
mpkayak@cox.net)

**Wed., Jan. 13. Hike and Social,
Narragansett.** Meet at 6:00pm at the
Towers. Bring a flashlight. L Sue
Boland (401-783-7461)

Fri., Jan. 15-16. Quick Getaway to Mount Monroe. Above-treeline hike for those new to winter above-treeline travel. More experienced winter hikers welcomed as well, as is anyone who just wants to get away for a single night. Full winter gear required, including face protection. \$55 for motel and breakfast. L Ed Poyer (edpoyer@gmail.com), CL Denise Poyer

Fri., Jan. 15-18. Ski Sunday River/ XC Bethel Four Areas. Martin Luther Weekend-Stay at fine AAA rated Maine Inn near Sunday River ski area and Bethel XC touring center trails. Cozy rooms, one queen or two double beds for two w/ shower, TV, VCR, net hook up, hot tub. 3 Old ME breakfasts, one happy hour, dinner Saturday night. Ski tickets not included. Only \$448 for two people. \$150 deposit holds your reservation. L Jack Schempp (401331-4553, jschempp1@msn.com)

Sat., Jan. 16. Ponkapoag Pond Conservation Hike, Blue Hills. Conservation hike around Ponkapoag Pond in Blue Hills. If there's recent snow, the boardwalk will be magically beautiful, if not ... it's just beautiful. Check out Ponkapoag Camp and get some Blue Hills history. About six miles. Great for new members and families. L Linda Pease (401351-2234), CL John Stevens (stevensjohn.m@cox.net)



Wed., Jan. 20. Day Hike Francis Carter Preserve, Charlestown. Five-mile hike through this little South County gem. Easy walking on woodland trails. Contact leader as may need snowshoes or traction devices. 10:00am start. L Marcie Madsen (401-364-6538)

Wed., Jan. 20. Hike and Social, East Greenwich. Meet at 6:00pm at the Harborside Parking lot. Bring flashlights. L Sid Wax (401-849-2595, sid_w@yahoo.com)

Fri., Jan. 22-24. Step by Step - No

Kinsman. Moderate day hike to the summit of North Kinsman by the Mount Kinsman Trail for new winter hikers and other winter hikers looking for a moderate day hike. Eight miles at a moderate pace, with time allowed for instruction and for new winter hikers to learn and practice winter skills. Sunday, Leader's choice. Some rental gear available. Approximate cost \$110.00, includes two nights lodging, two breakfasts and one dinner. L Charlie Killam (508-252-4349, Charlie.Killam@gmail.com), CL Jim Dunn

Sat., Jan. 23. Presentation/Discussion on Unwelcomed Wildlife in Your Yard. Afternoon program at the North Kingstown Library. Fox, fishers, coyotes, Canadian geese, wild turkey and deer populations are expanding. RIDEM wildlife expert Charlie Brown will comment on the increases; suggest tactics for banishing wildlife from residential areas. Questions welcomed. Refreshments. L Jack Schempp (401331-4553, jschempp1@msn.com)



Fri-Sun Jan. 22-24. W. Bond Backpack from the North. Join us on this adventurous backpack in the heart of the White Mountains Pemigewasset Wilderness. Early start 10+ miles with up to 4000 ft of elevation gain. Challenging backpack for experienced, well-conditioned winter backpackers with full winter gear. Lodging may be available. L Peter Broderick (207-778-0801), CL Joe Piotti (423-0091).

Wed., Jan. 27. Hike and Social in Newport. 6:00pm. Meet in the parking lot near the CVS store on Bellevue Avenue. CL will lead hike. Call for more information. L Janet Harris (401-272-6772), L Herrick Spencer (401-723-1974), CL Mary Alice Smith

Fri., Jan. 29-31. Ski Best XC in the White Mountains. Enjoy AMC Highland Center, 2 nights, fine dining, ski best snow, Bretton Woods, Jackson, or others. Possible Après ski at Mt. Washington Hotel. Includes 2 major breakfasts & 2 sumptuous dinners. For active intermediate skiers, \$169. L Jack Schempp (401331-4553 7-9 p.m.,

jschempp1@msn.com)

Sat., Jan. 30. Hike Bigelow Hollow/Nipmuck State Forest, CT. Discover this gem in northeast CT. Scenic seven miles loop hike includes a ridgewalk, hopefully using snowshoes or traction devices. L Marcie Madsen (401364-6538), CL Steve Harrison

ADVANCE NOTICES

Fri., Feb. 5-7. Mt. Jefferson Weekend. Day hike to Mt Jefferson by the Jewell Tr. 11 miles with 4400 ft of elevation gain. Challenging, all day hike, early start, late finish, for well-conditioned winter hikers with above treeline experience. Sunday, leaders' choice. Approximate cost \$110.00, includes 2 nights lodging, 2 breakfasts and 1 dinner. L Charlie Killam (508-252-4349, Charlie.Killam@gmail.com), CL Ed Poyer

Fri. Feb. 5-7. Best XC Ski in the Whites. Lodging at AMC Highland Center. Bretton Woods has the best snow. We can ski there or at other locations such as Jackson or Great Gorge. Happy hour at Highland, or at the Mt. Washington Hotel. We have 4 two person bunkrooms reserved. Suggest immediate contact if you would like to join us. L Jack Schempp (331-4553, jschempp1@msn.com)

Fri., Feb. 5-7. X-C Ski Beginner & Intermediate Instructional Weekend. Cross-country ski at Sargent Center in southern New Hampshire near Peterborough. \$150 fee includes Fri & Sat bunk room lodging, three Sat. meals and two Sun. meals, happy hour, skiing at Sargent Center and instruction in small groups. Ski rentals available. Leader has option to move event to Feb 19-21 weekend, by Feb 1 postponement deadline, if adequate



snow is in question. Non-refundable \$50 deposit due by December 23, payable to Chris Shafer. Full payment due in early January. L Chris Shafer, christopher.shafer@dem.ri.gov, Reg with Chris Shafer (PO Box 103, Wakefield, RI 02880, 401-789-8331 7

PM - 9PM)

Fri., Feb. 12-14. Mount Passaconaway

Hike. Sunday hike leaders' choice. Stay at ski lodge in Conway. \$100 includes two nights lodging, two breakfasts and one dinner. L Steve Harrison (401-2703363 7:00-9:00pm, hikersteve@cox.net), CL Mike Martin, Reg with Steve Harrison (401-2703363 7:00-9:00pm, hikersteve@cox.net)

Sat., Feb. 27. Mounts Percival and Morgan Winter Hikes.

Views! Suitable for first year winter hikers with some experience and proper winter gear. Carpool from RI. L Steve Harrison, CL Mike Martin, Reg with Steve Harrison (401-2703363 7:00-9:00pm, hikersteve@cox.net)

Sat., Feb. 27. Windblown X-C Ski Day

Trip. Join us for intermediate level cross-country skiing at Windblown ski center. Twenty-five miles of well-groomed trails, including views of Mount Monadnock. Rental skis currently not available. Carpooling planned. For details and to register, contact leaders. L Dan Reardon (401-884-6931), CL Bunny Reardon,



bunnycello@yahoo.com), Reg with Bunny Reardon (401-884-6931, bunnycello@yahoo.com)

Fri., Mar. 12-14. Mount Madison

Winter Hike. Join us on a true alpine summit. For those with some above-treeline winter experience. Excellent follow-up to Mount Monroe hike. Willey Range if too windy for Madison. Full winter gear required, including face protection. Sunday's hike is leaders' choice. \$112 for two nights motel, two breakfasts and one dinner. L Ed Poyer (EdPoyer@gmail.com), CL Peter Broderick

Fri. Mar. 19. New Member and Prospective Member Potluck Social.

6:30-9:00 pm at the Cathedral of St. John Episcopal, 271 N. Main St., Providence. New, current and prospective members are welcome. Meet, eat, socialize and learn what activities the AMC has planned for the spring/summer season. You'll have a chance to meet committee leaders and get a feel for what they have to offer. Those whose last names begin with A to L should bring a substantial appetizer to feed 8; M-Z - bring dessert. For information contact Mary Bonaventure, mlb448@yahoo.com; for church directions go to www.episcopalri.org.

Fri., Mar. 19-21. Mt. Mansfield

Weekend. Join us for a weekend of day hikes in scenic Vermont. Saturday we'll hike to summit of Mt. Mansfield, the highest peak in Vermont. Sunday - Leader's choice. For experienced, well-conditioned hikers. Approximate cost \$160.00, includes 2 nights lodging in Stowe, 2 breakfasts, 1 dinner. L Charlie Killam (508-252-4349, Charlie.Killam@gmail.com), CL Joe Piotti

Sat., Mar. 20. Spring Seal Walk.

Enjoy Springs' first seal walk. URI Professor Bob Kenney will lead us on a beach combing expedition, checking for migrating birds/ducks and culminating with a seal watch. Last trip, we spotted 94. A light spring lunch will be provided. Limited enrollment. L Jack Schempp (401331-4553, jschempp1@msn.com)



Fri-Sun March 26-28 Cabin Backpack to Mt. Adams.

Backpack to rustic, (i.e.unheated, unlit) Randolph Mountain Club Crag Camp cabin at treeline on Mt. Adams. Great way to practice skills for winter backpacking. Full winter gear and winter hiking experience req'd. Cost \$63 fee includes motel & cabin. L Ed Poyer (EdPoyer@gmail.com).