



The Gansett Gazette

Newsletter of the Narragansett Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club

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VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Your Chapter needs your help to fill important positions in our chapter. A chapter functions best when the organization and planning of activities are shared by many members. If you have the skills to help your chapter in any of the capacities below, please contact your chapter representatives.

Several important positions need to be filled, as well as positions on committees.

Communications Chair: The applicants should have good verbal and written communication skills both verbally and in print. Knowledge of public relations, website management, and computer skills will be helpful but not required. A sense of humor and a dose of pragmatism might be helpful. The position involves working with the Communication committee to coordinate all Chapter communication operations. The position assists the Executive Board on issues of public awareness and public relations. They shall promote the AMC and Narragansett Chapter membership and activities to members and to the general public through timely and interesting trip descriptions, special notices, editorials, and articles by and in the Chapter newsletter, website, and other public venues. They will oversee the communications equipment and Gazette publication budget. The position works closely with the webmaster. If you are interested, or need more information, contact Mark Dennen, the current Communications Chair (mdennen@cox.net).

Communications Editor: This position is in transition from the previous Gazette Editor to a more general chapter editor. The editor would assist in getting articles for the Gazette and website. The applicant should have good writing and communication skills. Web and computer skills would also be desirable. If you are interested, or need more information, contact the webmaster (mkrabach@cox.net) or Mark Dennen (mdennen@cox.net).

Leadership Development Chair: The position will be responsible for organizing a committee to assist the Chair for planning and implementing a continuous leadership development program within the Chapter. Responsibilities include planning the scope and budget for the Chapter's Leadership Development program, and providing for training programs that are desirable for the Chapter. If you are interested, or need more information, contact Charlie Killam, Leadership Development Chair (charlie.killam@gmail.com).

Narragansett Chapter Fall Harvest Festival Weekend

Cardigan Lodge, October 22-24, 2010

Narragansett Chapter Conservation Co-Chair Jack Schempp did an outstanding job organizing the Fall Harvest Festival weekend at AMC's Cardigan Lodge, located in Alexandria, NH. Over 30 new and current members thoroughly enjoyed the trip which was filled with fun and adventure. The weekend began with an encouraging talk by special guest Roger Scholl, the Director of Volunteer Relations for the AMC.

Events included an informative lecture on how to stay warm in the winter given by hikes leader Tom Grasso; a pumpkin carving contest; walks, paddling and hikes led by leaders Denise Poyer, Tom Grasso, Chris Shafer, Linda Pease and Mike Krabach. One of the highlights of the weekend was the Saturday evening contra dance, which is a traditional American dance derived from English country dancing. The contra dance band was fun and lively and everyone who participated had a great time. The accommodations at Cardigan Lodge were very comfortable and the crew was welcoming and upbeat. The food was also delicious and plentiful.

Membership Chair Robin Kuznitz was excited to meet and get to know our newest chapter members. The weekend was a wonderful success and we're confident that it was an experience that everyone will remember in the most positive way. (by Robin Kuznitz)

Join the AMC Green RI Conservation Committee

All members welcomed. Help us plan and lead events in RI and out of state, "hands on" or with naturalist, foresters, experts in energy, water, wild life, gardening, marine life, recycling and more. Learn about more about RI's conservation diversity. Help make RI a clean energy star. Share your own "natural interests. We work at communicating new, interesting and useful information for improving the RI and national environments. Join us and help develop stimulating new programs for 2011. Contact Jack Schempp 331-4553 or Linda Pease 351-2234 for time and location of next meeting.

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 Microspikes (kahtoola.com) or Stabil-icers. 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. Read more at the chapter web site (www.amcnarragansett.org), on the front page under Snow Resources.

Step by Step Winter Hiking

The Step by Step hiking program is starting again. This time for winter hiking. Learn how to be safe, keep warm, and enjoy the outdoors in the snow and ice. This is a series of hikes to introduce members to winter hiking.

The first hike is Wachusett on Dec. 11, then Monadnock, then Mount Roberts, then Mount Greylock, and finally ending the season with Mount Percival and Morgan. All trips are listed in the calendar. Participants must be suitably active and have proper winter hiking gear. The first hike starts Dec. 11th.

Participants are encouraged to attend a winter gear seminar at REI in Cranston on Dec. 2nd. See the Gazette listing on Dec. 2 for information and contacts.

**Narragansett Chapter AMC
Leadership Roster**

Chapter Chair-Tom Eagan,
tomeagan.amc@gmail.com

Vice Chair-Bonnie English,
bonniedune@aol.com

Secretary-Jeannine Peterson,
surnurse@yahoo.com

Treasurer-Debbie Mitchell,
dmitchell@thebravergroup.com

Membership Chair-Robin Kuznitz,
rmd@PSH.com

Activities Chair-Chris Shafer, 789-8331,
Christopher.Shafer@dem.ri.gov

Communications Co-Chairs-
Mark Dennen, mdennen@cox.net;
Shannon Kelley, outside@cox.net

Conservation Co-Subchairs-
Jack Schempp, 331-4553;
Jschempp1@msn.com;

Linda Pease, linda.pease@cox.net

Leadership Chair-Charlie Killam, (508)
252-4349

Trails Subchair-Elise Del Barone,
edelbarone@yahoo.com

Backpacking & Northern Hikes Subchair-
Ed Poyer, edpoyer@gmail.com

Biking Subchair-Marcie Madsen, 364-6538,
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 Reardon, daniel.reardon@verizon.net;
Elizabeth Reardon- bunnycello@yahoo.com

Young Members Subchair-Chris Turgeon,
nagarnett@yahoo.ca

Family Outings Co-Subchairs-
Tom Eagan, tomeagan.amc@gmail.com;
Debbie Mitchell,
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123 Greenwood Dr.
Wakefield, RI 02879

CHAPTER WEBSITE
www.amcnarragansett.org

User Name: members
Password: **climb1953**

ACTIVITIES

**Wed., Dec. 1. Hike and Social,
Warren.** Meet at 6:00pm, 2nd Story
Theater, 28 Market Street. Bring
flashlights. L Wendy Farr (401-533-
3084, wendyfarr42@gmail.com)

Thu., Dec. 2. Winter Gear Seminar.
Evening session: learn and discuss
clothing and gear to keep you warm and
safe on winter hiking outings. Clothing,
footwear, snowshoes, crampons, and
miscellaneous equipment demonstrated
and discussed. Co-hosted with REI
Cranston. Register with Ls or at link
below. L Charlie Killam (508-252-
4349, Charlie.Killam@gmail.com), L
Steve Harrison. Registration limited,
contact REI at
<www.rei.com/event/13797/session/168
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**Sun., Dec. 5. Caratunk Wildlife
Refuge, Seekonk, MA.** 10:00am start.
Seekonk Caratunk Bird Sanctuary was
purchased by the State of Rhode Island
when Massachusetts would not. It's
characterized by scenic streams and
ponds within its 196 areas. In the
spring, blue birds abound in the many
bird houses. After 2-3 mile hike, a
popular place for something hot is
nearby. L Herrick Spencer (401-723-
1974, spencer295@cox.net), CL Jill
Keating (401-862-6159,
annyjillian@cox.net)

**Wed., Dec. 8. Hike and Social,
Providence.** Meet at 6:00pm, Gazebo
on South Water Street. Bring
flashlights. Rain cancels. L Janet Harris
(401-272-6772), CL Herrick Spencer
(spencer295@cox.net)

**Sat., Dec. 11. Queen River and
Master Gardeners Trails, Exeter, RI.**
Start at 10:00am. Hike will combine
trails at Queen River Preserve and trails
around Veterans Cemetery. This is an
easy hike of about 5 miles, and is good
for all and new members. Call for more
info. L Dick Sullivan (401-338-2880),
CL Patty Gold (401-785-0691)

**Sat., Dec. 11. Step by Step Mount
Wachusett Hike.** Ready to learn to
hike safe and happy in ice and snow?
We'll teach you how. Must have proper
winter gear. L Steve Harrison (401-270-
3363, hikersteve@cox.net), CL Mike
Martin, reg/w Mike Martin (401-437-
0957 7:00-9:00pm,
seakayak@juno.com)

**Wed., Dec. 15. Hike and Social,
Bristol.** Meet at 6:00pm, in front of
Leo's Restaurant on 365 Hope Street.
Bring flashlights. L Gregg O'Brien
(401-473-8132, goh243@aol.com)

Sat., Dec. 18. Deep Pond Hike. Meet
at 9:00 for this 8 - 9 miles hike at a
moderate pace. We will do a loop
consisting of Tiptecansett North, Deep
Pond, Hemlock Ledges, and
Tiptecansett south. Great views of beach
pond. You will need: Hiking boots,
lunch, and water. Rain will cancel. L
Maria Earley (401-789-8331,
momearley@netzero.com), L Chris
shafer (401-789-8331)

**Wed., Dec. 22. Hike and Social,
South Kingstown.** Meet at 6:00pm,
behind Applebee's at South County
Commons. Bring flashlights. L Dick
Sullivan (401-338-2880)

**Wed., Dec. 29. Hike and Social,
Wickford.** Meet at 6:00pm, across
from Ryan's Market. Bring flashlights.
L Bob Richardson (401-364-7056)

**Sat., Jan. 1. Newport Polar Bear
Hike.** 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 4-mile Cliff Walk hike
and potluck social. L Sid Wax (401-849-
2595, sid_w@yahoo.com)

**Wed., Jan. 5. Hike and Social,
Narragansett.** Meet at 6:00pm, Towers
Patio. Bring flashlights. L Sue Boland
(401-556-3926)

Sat., Jan. 8. Tri Pond Trails Hike, South Kingstown. 10:00am start. Easy hike of about 5 miles around three ponds, with some interesting brook crossings. Good hike for all members. Call for more info. L Dick Sullivan (401-338-2880), CL Jill Keating (401-862-6159, annyjillian@cox.net)

Sat., Jan. 8. Step by Step Pack Monadnock Hike. Suitable for new winter hikers with proper gear. Time taken for instruction. L Steve Harrison (401-270-3363, hikersteve@cox.net), CL Mike Martin, reg/w Mike Martin (401-437-0957 7:00-9:00pm, seakayak@juno.com)

Tue., Jan. 11. Carter Preserve Hike, Charlestown. 5-mile hike through this little gem-RI's second-largest nature preserve. Easy walking on woodland trails. Contact L as traction devices may be necessary. 10:00am start. Lunch/late breakfast afterward. L Marcie Madsen (401-364-6538, marcie18@att.net)

Wed., Jan. 12. Hike and Social, East Greenwich. Meet at 6:00pm, parking lot across from Harborside Restaurant, Water Street. Bring flashlights. L Sid Wax (401-849-2595, sid_w@yahoo.com)

Fri., Jan. 14-15. Mount Passaconaway. Quick getaway. Proper gear and winter experience required. 9.2 miles with 2950' gain. 7.5 hrs. L Ed Poyer (401-783-6623, edpoyer@gmail.com), CL Tom Grasso

Fri., Jan. 14-17. Ski Sunday River/Bethel, Maine: MLK Weekend. Martin Luther King Weekend. XC or Alpine. Known for reliable snow. Stay at fine AAA-rated inn near skiing, three nights with queen beds, bath, refrigerator, continental breakfast, three happy hours, and dinner in town. \$424/couple. Three XC centers in Bethel. Send deposit by 12/1. L Jack Schempp, reg/w Jack Schempp (47 Arbor Dr., Providence, RI 02908, 401 331 4553 7-9 pm, jschempp1@gmail.com)

Sun., Jan. 16. Ponkapoag Pond Trail, Boardwalk, and Campground. 9:30am start. 4.5 miles with no hills, around pond, out on boardwalk, and through the Atlantic Ceders growing, with a peat moss swamp forest floor in

this acidic environment. Trail will go through AMC campground rarely used by this chapter. Easy carpool from I-95 for 35-minute trip up. L Herrick Spencer (401-723-1974, spencer295@cox.net)

Wed., Jan. 19. Hike and Social, Wakefield. Meet at 6:00pm. Park in municipal parking lot in center of Wakefield behind Phil's Diner. Bring flashlights. L Dick Sullivan (401-338-2880)

Fri., Jan. 21-23. Mount Madison Weekend. Hike to the summit of Mount Madison via interesting alternative route, the "wild and scenic" Howker Ridge Trail. 8.7 miles with 4350' elevation gain. Good above-treeline experience with probable trail breaking and navigation challenges for well-conditioned winter hikers. Sunday, L's choice. Approximately \$120 includes two nights lodging, one dinner, and two breakfasts. L Charlie Killam (508-252-4349, Charlie.Killam@gmail.com), CL Joe Piotti

Wed., Jan. 26. Hike and Social, Jamestown. Meet at 6:00pm, Jamestown Town Dock. Bring flashlights. L Bob Richardson (401-364-7056)

Thu., Jan. 27-30. Snowshoe Long Weekend at Harvard Cabin. Join us for all or a part of a long winter weekend in the eastern White Mountains. May offer multiple full hikes on Friday and Saturday, with a short hike on Sunday. Possibles include Moriah, Carter Dome, and Carrigain. \$90 includes 3 nights lodging, Saturday breakfast and dinner, and Sunday breakfast. L Ed Poyer (401-783-6623, edpoyer@gmail.com), CL Denise Poyer

Fri., Jan. 28-30. Ski Best XC and Alpine Snow in the Whites. Go for best snow. Two nights at convenient Highland Center, two breakfasts, two dinners, active intermediate skiers. Possible apres-ski at Mount Washington Hotel, and fun. \$172/pp. L Jack Schempp, reg/w Jack Schempp (47 Arbor Drive, Providence, RI 02908, 401 331 4553 7:00-9:00pm, jschempp1@gmail.com)

Sat., Jan. 29. Step by Step Mount Roberts Hike. Great views! Approximately 5 miles. Suitable for beginners with proper gear. L Steve Harrison (401-270-3363, hikersteve@cox.net), CL Mike Martin (401-437-0957 7:00-9:00pm, seakayak@juno.com), reg/w Mike Martin (401-437-0957 7:00-9:00pm, seakayak@juno.com)

Sat., Jan. 29 135th AMC Annual Meeting The (www.outdoors.org/about/annualmeeting) 135th Annual Meeting of the Appalachian Mountain Club will be held on Saturday, January 29, 2011, at The Sheraton Four Points, Norwood Hotel & Conference Center, Norwood, MA.

ADVANCE NOTICES

Fri., Feb. 4-6. Cross-Country Ski Instructional Trip (Beginner/Intermediate). Ski at Boston University's Sargent Center near Peterborough, N.H. \$160 covers Friday and Saturday nights' bunk room lodging, meals on Saturday and Sunday, happy hour, skiing at Sargent Center, and instruction in small groups. Ski rentals available. L has option to move event to 2/18-20 by 1/31 postponement deadline, if adequate snow is in question. Non-refundable \$50 deposit and SASE due by 1/4 (balance due by 1/14) and payable to Chris Shafer, P.O. Box 103, Wakefield, RI 02880. L Chris Shafer (401-789-8331 7:00-9:00pm, christopher.shafer@dem.ri.gov), reg/w Chris Shafer (401-789-8331 7:00-9:00pm, christopher.shafer@dem.ri.gov)

Fri., Feb. 4-6. Mount Whiteface Hike. Stay at ski lodge in North Conway. \$110 for two nights, two breakfasts, and one dinner. Hike is 8.3 miles with 2850' elevation gain. Moderate pace. L Steve Harrison, CL Mike Martin, reg/w Steve Harrison (401-270-3363 7:00-9:00pm, hikersteve@cox.net)

Fri., Feb. 11-13. North and South Twin. Long, strenuous day. Expect to exit by headlamp. Proper winter gear and winter experience required. Sunday is L's choice. \$115 includes two nights lodging and meals. L Ed Poyer (401-783-6623, edpoyer@gmail.com), CL Charlie Killam

Fri., Feb. 11-13. Ski Best XC, Alpine in the Whites. Best snow in Whites, Highland Center, two nights, two breakfasts, two dinners. Apres-ski at Mount Washington Hotel for active skiers. \$172/pp. L Jack Schempp, reg/w Jack Schempp (47 Arbor Dr, Providence, RI 02908, 401 331 4553 7:00-9:00pm, jschempp1@gmail.com)

Thu., Feb. 17. Hike Carter Preserve, Charlestown. 5-mile hike through this little gem-RI's second largest nature preserve. Easy walking on woodland trails. 10:00am start. Contact L, as traction devices may be necessary. Lunch/late breakfast afterward. L Marcie Madsen (401-364-6538, marcie18@att.net)

Sat., Feb. 19. Step by Step Mount Greylock. Massachusetts' highest! 6-8 miles depending on group and conditions. Proper gear required. L Steve Harrison (401-270-3363, hikersteve@cox.net), CL Mike Martin, reg/w Mike Martin (401-437-0957 7:00-9:00pm, seakayak@juno.com)

Fri., Feb. 25-27. Franconia Ridge Traverse. Challenging, rewarding hike with spectacular views along the ridge from Lafayette to Lincoln. Exposed hiking above-treeline for well-conditioned, experienced winter hikers. 10 miles with 4000' elevation gain, all-day hike. Sunday, L's choice. For well-conditioned, experienced winter hikers.

Approximately \$120 includes two nights lodging, one dinner, and two breakfasts. L Charlie Killam (508-252-4349, Charlie.Killam@gmail.com), CL Jim Dunn

Fri., Mar. 4-6. Northern Presidential Cabin Backpack. Backpack to rustic (i.e., unheated, unlit) Randolph Mountain Club Crag Camp cabin at treeline on Mount Adams. Great way to practice skills for winter backpacking. Full winter gear and winter hiking experience required. \$63 fee includes motel and cabin. L Ed Poyer (401-783-6623, edpoyer@gmail.com), CL Mike McGuinan

Sat., Mar. 12. Step by Step Mounts Percival and Morgan. End the winter with great views! Must have proper winter gear. 5.1 miles at a moderate pace. L Steve Harrison (401-270-3363, hikersteve@cox.net), CL Mike Martin, reg/w Mike Martin (401-437-0957 7:00-9:00pm, seakayak@juno.com)

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