



# The Gansett Gazette

Newsletter of the Narragansett Chapter of the  
Appalachian Mountain Club

DEC-JAN.  
2014  
Vol. 10, No. 6

## This is our last Mailed Gazette

As mentioned before, we are discontinuing mailing the Gazette newsletter. This issue is the last issue to be mailed. The same (pdf format) Gazette will still be available on the website if members wish to download and print a personal copy. The enhanced online Gazette will not change, and will still include trip changes and additions through the bi-monthly schedules. **If you do not currently receive email notification when a new Gazette is available, please sign up on the AMC Member Center for electronic notification.** See the **Green button** on our front web page to link to the member center.

For those who absolutely rely on the mailed version, they should contact the webmaster or any of the Board members. Arrangements will be made to print and mail a copy of the Gazette to these members. The upside is that the Chapter will save over \$6,000 per year, which can be used to enhance activities and benefit our Chapter, members and volunteers. Since our Chapter has been, and is, financially stable, various suggestions have been discussed. The Board would appreciate input from members. You may contact any of the Board members with your ideas.

Remember the best source for current trips and events is our website [www.amcnarragansett.org](http://www.amcnarragansett.org). Too much typing? Try Google with the phrase 'amc-ri'. We should be at the top of the search, or any other search engine you use.

### Narragansett Chapter Annual Meeting November 9th

Our Annual meeting was held on **Saturday November 9th** at the **Save the Bay facility**, and was a nice opportunity to meet other members while enjoying great food and presentations. The Chapter's major awards, as described below, are presented as this time.

1. The **Appie of the Year award** is presented annually to that person who, in an outstanding manner, exemplifies the mission of the Appalachian Mountain Club. The recipient of this award receives an individual engraved plaque as a permanent memento and is also presented with a plaque with their name engraved, along with the names of the previous Appies. This plaque is retained for one year before it is passed on to the next Appie of the

Year. The recipient of this years award is **Bonnie England**.

Bonnie has been a long time member of the AMC. During this time in addition to his/hers busy personal life, this person has made significant contribution to the AMC and has worn many hats. She has spent many hours painting blazes on our trails, doing other trail maintenance duties, as well as been a good cheerleader to the trails crew. She also has served the chapter as a Vice Chair and Chapter Chair. She is a person who loves the outdoors, love people, and loves animals and developed and implemented our popular "dog walks" as well as training dedicated dog walk leaders.

2. The **John Clark Service Award** is the Chapter's second highest honor. This award is given to the "unsung hero" of our chapter - someone who quietly goes about their business of contributing to the chapter. The recipient of this years award is **Ed Poyer**.

Presently Ed serves as leadership sub-chair, and ran a successful leader training this spring, he is also involved in MLS, and is the Northern hikes sub-chair, as he has been for many years. Although Ed is sometimes in the front line leading trips, a lot of his activities with the chapter now are in the chapter are organizing and work behind the scenes.

3. Over the years, some members have given their time and talent to the AMC, and to our Chapter, for such a long time that other yearly awards do not express the appreciation the Chapter has for these members. To show our appreciation, the Chapter has inaugurated our **Golden Appie Award**. This award is not a yearly award but a lifetime achievement award for service to the Narragansett Chapter. This years award goes to **Roy Benoit**.

Roy has been involved in the AMC for a long time. During many of the last years he has been involved iupfront in planning out difficult trail projects and gets out to assist on the execution of these projects, especially projects involving skilled work, since he has considerable design knowledge, carpenter skills, and ways to accomplish tasks.

### Chapter Leader Summaries

A big Thank You to all our chapter leaders. Without them, we would not have the vibrant

chapter that we enjoy today. Huge Thank You!

### Year 2013 Qualifiers for Narragansett Chapter Leader Patch:

Kerri Green (local hiking)  
Lesli Kelleter (dog hikes)  
Russ Miller (dog hikes)  
Kathy Raposa (family hikes)  
Rebecca Swagger (local hiking)  
Chris Tate (technical climbing)  
Cherine Whitney (conservation and paddling)

### Prolific Leaders- Led/Co- Led/Administered Multiple Activities:

Bernardo Aumond (Northern Hiking)  
Nancy Baker (Bicycling)  
Carol Baldwin (Local Hiking)  
Sandy Barber (Flatwater Paddling & Conservation)  
Peter Barlow (Technical Climbing)  
Roy Benoit (Trails)  
Susan Boland (Local Hiking)  
Ray Bucacci (Sea Kayaking)  
Jennie Crooks (Trails)  
Henry Cruciani (Trails)  
Scott Disnard (Young Adult Events, Northern Hiking, Local Hiking, and Bicycling)  
Jim Dowling (Trails)  
Maria Earley (Local Hiking & Trails)  
Bonnie England (Dog Hikes)  
Barbara Flagg (Flatwater Paddling & Local Hiking)  
Steve Harrington (Flatwater Paddling, Local Hiking & Bicycling)  
Janet Harris (Local Hiking)  
Steve Harrison (Northern Hiking)  
Pam Hill (Local Hiking)  
Lesli Kelleter (Dog Hikes)  
Charlie Killam (Northern Hiking & Leadership Training Events)  
Mike Krabach (Sea Kayaking & Bicycling)  
Marcie Madsen (Bicycling & Local Hiking)  
Katherine Mears (Local Hiking)  
Debra Mitchell (Family Hikes)  
Corey Mott (Flatwater Paddling, Local Hiking, Dog Hikes, and Young Adult events)  
Gregg O'Brien (Local Hiking & Flatwater Paddling)  
Mike Parker (Trails & Local Hiking)  
Margaret Parsons (Local Hiking, Northern Hiking, & Conservation)

**Narragansett Chapter AMC  
Leadership Roster**

**Chapter Chair**-Debbie Mitchell,  
dmitchell@thebravergroup.com

**Chapter Vice-Chair**-Bob Tessitore,  
bobtess@gmail.com

**Secretary**-Matt Putnam,  
mattputnam15@gmail.com

**Treasurer**-Tom Eagan,  
tomeagan.amc@gmail.com

**Membership Chair**-Robin Kuznitz,  
rmd@psh.com

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

**Communications Chairs**- Mike Krabach,  
333-5350, mkrabach@cox.net

**Conservation Chair**-Linda Pease,  
linda.pease@cox.net

**Leadership Chair**-Ed Poyer,  
edpoyer@gmail.com

**Trails Chair**-Dav Cranmer,  
dcranmer@neit.edu

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

**Biking Subchair**-Marcie Madsen, 364-6538,  
marciem18@verizon.net

**Local Hikes Co-Subchairs**-Christine Galvin,  
christinelgalvin@gmail.com

Mary Ann Topp, maryanntopp@me.com

**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**-Ann Piascik,  
ategiraud@verizon.net

Steve Harrington, sjhep1@hotmail.com

**Young Members Subchair**-Scott Disnard,  
sdizzy@gmail.com

**Family Outings Subchair**-  
Debbie Mitchell,  
dmitchell@thebravergroup.com

**Webmaster/Photographer**-Mike Krabach,  
333-5350, mkrabach@cox.net

**Publicist**-Shannon Kelley, outside@cox.net

**Archivist** – position open

**Send change of address to:  
Appalachian Mountain Club  
5 Joy Street, Boston, MA 02108**

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Narragansett Chapter AMC  
747 Nate Whipple Hwy  
Cumberland, RI 02864

Linda Pease (Conservation,  
Flatwater Paddling, Bicycling,  
Skiing, Northern Hiking, & Local  
Hiking)  
Brian Phillips (Technical Climbing)  
Ed Poyer (Northern Hiking &  
Leadership Training Events)  
Sarah Rich (Technical Climbing)  
Carol Richards (Bicycling)  
Bill Rush (Sea Kayaking &  
Bicycling)  
Jack Schempp (Conservation &  
Skiing)  
Chris Shafer (Trails, Skiing, &  
Hiking)  
Herrick Spencer (Local Hiking,  
Flatwater Paddling, & Bicycling)  
John Stevens (Northern Hiking &  
Local Hiking)  
Dick Sullivan (Local Hiking &  
Family Hikes)  
Judy Van Wyk (Dog Hikes)  
Sue Warthman (Northern Hiking)  
Sid Wax (Bicycling & Local Hiking)  
Paul Wynn (Dog Hikes)

This years presentation was by by Bill Betty  
who talked about “**Mountain Lions in New  
England**”.

Although it will be another year before these  
major awards are presented again, nominations  
for deserving volunteers are always welcome.  
Please contact Debbie Mitchell with any  
nominations.

**New Social Event Category**

Social Events has been added to the Activities  
Committee to allow members to become  
contributors for social events without going  
through formal qualifications. Of course we  
assume that you know what you are doing  
when you enter a social event. The Reviewer  
for social events will be Chris Shafer, our  
Activities Committee Chair. Events of this  
nature could include ice skating, roller blading,  
slide shows, picnics, or any other social event  
that does not require a formally qualified  
leader as for biking, paddling, etc. If you wish  
to be included with a database account, contact  
Chris Shafer.

**New Skiing Co-Subchairs**

We wish to thank our two new co-subchairs  
for the XC Skiing Committee, **Ann Piascik**

**CHAPTER WEBSITE**  
www.amcnarragansett.org  
User Name: members  
Password: skidec1911

and **Steve Harrington**. They have volunteered  
to coordinate our skiing trips this year, taking  
over from our previous subchair **Sue Rollins**.  
Everyone is hoping for not only snow up  
north, but some snow down here in Rhode  
Island. Since good snow is somewhat  
unpredictable in our local areas, be sure to sign  
up for XC skiing notices on our **email list-  
server**. Snow in Pulaski may or may not mean  
good snow in Goddard State Park or the Great  
Swamp. We will try to keep you informed of  
good local XC skiing.

**Volunteer Positions Desperately Needed**  
Three volunteer positions are becoming  
vacant. We need members to fill important  
chapter executive board positions for  
**Treasurer, Secretary, and Membership**. If  
you have interest in any of these positions, or  
know of anyone who might be interested,  
please contact any of our Board members.  
Contacts are listed on this page. More  
information on the duties of these positions are  
listed on our volunteer web page.

**The Appalachian Mountain Club's 138th  
Annual Summit**

The Annual Summit will be held on Saturday,  
January 25, 2014, at the Four Points by  
Sheraton, Norwood Hotel & Conference  
Center, Norwood, MA. The day's activities  
will include:

- 138th Annual Business Meeting 4-5pm
- Clubwide committee meetings and  
workshops 8am-4pm
- Volunteer Leadership Awards Dinner with  
Guest Speaker, Kristen Kelliher 6pm
- AMC Expo, Doors open at 8am
- Outdoor destination exhibits
- Chapter information
- Sponsor booths
- Mountain of Fleece

Information about the Summit and registration  
forms is at  
[www.outdoors.org/about/annualsummit](http://www.outdoors.org/about/annualsummit)  
Members are encouraged to attend. Besides the  
usual committee meetings, there will be  
workshops and presentations that are of  
interest to all AMC members.

Registration for the whole day, meetings,  
workshops and dinner is only \$50, and just \$15  
if you don't plan on dinner.

**ACTIVITIES**

**Sun., Dec. 1. Walk off the turkey at Caratunk in Seekonk.** Explore the trails on this Audubon property looking for signs of winter wildlife. 9 to noon. Hiking boots req'd. New members and families welcome. L Linda Pease (401-351-2234, linda.pease@cox.net) CL Karen Rudio (508-397-2316 7-9pm, karenrudio@comcast.net)

**Wed., Dec. 4. Hike and Social, East Greenwich.** 2-3 mile hike & a light supper out. Get off the couch. 6 pm start from Harborside parking lot. Bring flashlights. L Sidney Wax (401-849-2595, sid\_w@yahoo.com)

**Wed., Dec. 4. Fisherville Brook/Cuttyhunk Brook Preserve Hike.** 7-8 mile hike in two preserves, Audubon & Nature Conservancy in Exeter, minutes apart. Really nice. Not a difficult hike. Bring lunch, snacks, water and wear orange! 10:00 start. L Marcie Madsen (401-364-6538, marciem18@verizon.net) L Margie Parsons (401-743-3405, mpkayak@cox.net)

**Sat., Dec. 7. Narr. Trail and Boy Scouts reservation Hike.** 7 - 9 miles hike through several trails. Challenge terrain with some rock scrambling, ups and downs, at a moderate pace. Not a beginners hike. Sturdy boots, lunch, snacks, water, legal orange required, and dress accordingly. Rain will cancel the hike. L Maria Earley (401-789-8331 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM, xswampy50@gmail.com) L Carol Baldwin (ctbaldwin36@yahoo.com)

**Sun., Dec. 8. Step by Step: Hike the Midstate Trail.** Are you interested in winter hiking but don't know where to start? Join us for a hike along the Midstate Trail, we will hike and give instruction on the basics of winter hiking. Out and back, ~2MPH, 14mi total. Cold weather gear required, snowshoes and or microspikes depending on conditions. The Midsate trail is a 95 mile footpath from the RI/MA border to the MA/NH border. L Scott Disnard (sdzizzy@gmail.com) CL Tammy Daugherty, reg/w Scott Disnard (sdzizzy@gmail.com)

**Tue., Dec. 10. Walkabout Trail/ GW Management Area Hike.** 8 mile hike on the Walkabout Trail. A great day in the woods. Bring boots, water, lunch, snacks and must wear legal orange!! 10am start. L Margie Parsons (401-743-3405, mpkayak@cox.net) L Marcie Madsen (401-364-6538, marciem18@verizon.net)

**Wed., Dec. 11. Hike/Social, East Bay Bike Path, Warren.** 3 mile hike and we go to dinner. Get off the couch and join us. Meet in

parking lot beside Second Story Theater on Market St in Warren. Bring flashlight. We leave at 6:00 pm. L Steven Harrington (401-434-3409, sjhep1@hotmail.com)

**Sat., Dec. 14. Escoheag Trail/ Mt Tom Ledges Hike.** 7 mile hike in Arcadia Mgmt Area. Enjoy lunch from the expansive ledges. Short carspot. Bring lunch, snacks & lunch. MUST wear at least 200 sq. in. of legal orange. 10am start. L Katherine Mears (401-348-9413, medtho@cox.net) L Marcie Madsen (401-364-6538, marciem18@verizon.net)

**Wed., Dec. 18. Hike and Social, Narragansett.** Meet at the courtyard by the Narragansett Towers by the Coast Guard House. Hope we'll see some Holiday lights. 2-3 mile hike and we go to dinner. Get off the couch and join us. Leave at 6:00 pm. Bring flashlights. L Susan Boland (401-556-3926, sboland2@cox.net)

**Sun., Dec. 29. Great Brook XC Ski.** Breaking in your XC Ski's for the start of the season. Beginner's more than welcomed. Plan to meet around 10Am at Great Brook, carpool from RI. Rentals available at Great Brook. Lack of snow will postpone trip. This trip is Sponsored by the Young Members Committee. L Chris Turgeon (401-364-8082, turgeon77@ymail.com) CL Karen Rudio

**Wed., 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. Please register with leader. L Sidney Wax (401-849-2595, sid\_w@yahoo.com)

**Sun., Jan. 5. Ponkapoag Pond Trail, Boardwalk and Campground.** Start at 9:30am. We will carpool from the Apex Store in Pawtucket off of 95 for this 4.5 mile 'no' hills hike. Some snow will make this hike visual treat while hiking around the pond, out on the board walk through the Atlantic Cedars and peat swamp. We will hike through the AMC campground with winter rental Cabins equipped with wood stoves, bunks, tables and chairs but no electrical power. Return to Pawtucket by 2 PM. L Herrick Spencer (401-723-1974 anytime, spencer295@cox.net)

**Tue., Jan. 7. Maxwell Mays Refuge/Parker Woodlands Hike.** First hike 3 miles in the Maxwell Mays Refuge, then drive 10 minutes to Parker Woodlands for a 7 mile hike. May need traction devices or dare we hope snowshoes. bring water, snacks, lunch. 9:30

start. L Marcie Madsen (401-364-6538, marciem18@verizon.net) L Margie Parsons (401-743-3405, mpkayak@cox.net)

**Thu., Jan. 9-12. Winter Weekend at Zealand Falls Hut.** Spend two nights at cozy Zealand Hut in the winter on a care taker basis. Hike in Friday; hike to a peak on Saturday; and hike out Sunday. Thursday night lodging will be at Shapleigh House. Potential peaks include Zealand Mountain and Mount Tom. We will be carrying winter sleeping bags, full winter gear and group meals provided by leaders. Cost: \$175 for member, \$200 for non-member This trip is for experienced winter hikers who enjoy a group experience. You must be comfortable with managing yourself in the cold and have experience with snowshoes and possibly crampons. The hut has unheated and unlighted bunkrooms. There is no running water. We will take turns with other hut guests getting water from the nearby river. Leaders will provide food for two group dinners and breakfasts. We will prepare and cleanup our own meals using the equipment at the hut. Bring your own lunches and snacks. The fee includes Thursday night at Shapleigh House, Friday and Saturday night at Zealand Hut, three breakfasts and two dinners. You should have full winter gear, which will include snowshoes, microspikes, and possibly crampons. You will need extra insulation and a winter sleeping bag rated to at least 20 degrees or lower. Feel free to discuss your gear needs with the leaders. We do have crampons available for rent if you don't have them. L Denise Poyer (denisepoyer@gmail.com) CL Edward Poyer, reg/w Denise Poyer (Denisepoyer@gmail.com)

**Sat., Jan. 11. Annual Climbing Party.** Come catch up with friends old and new. Slide shows of trips. Gear swap. Pot Luck - Last name: A-L - appetizers, M-R - desserts; S-Z- entrees. L Sarah Rich (saeandpetzl@gmail.com), reg/w Brian Phillips

**Wed., Jan. 15. Hike and Social - Wickford.** 2-3 mile hike and we go out to eat. Get off the couch and join us. Meet at the municipal lot behind Rite Aid. 6 pm. Bring flashlight. L Richard Sullivan (401-338-2880, grampydick2001@yahoo.com)

**Fri., Jan. 17-19. Wildcat Ridge Traverse.** Hike the length of the Wildcat Ridge with spectacular views of the Presidential Range and Mt. Washington. Challenging all day hike, 9.4 miles with 3,250 ft of elevation gain for experienced, well-conditioned winter hikers. Sunday, leaders' choice. Stay at Joe Dodge Lodge, approximate cost \$160.00, includes 2 breakfasts and 1 dinner. Register by Jan 2 with



CL. L Charles Killam  
(Charlie.Killam@gmail.com) CL Elise  
Hedglen, reg/w Elise Hedglen  
(ehedglen@yahoo.com)

clothes, and proper footgear for conditions. Will  
change route in case of deep snow or ice. L  
Sidney Wax (401-849-2595,  
sid\_w@yahoo.com)

Hiking poles optional. GPS corner of Bay Rd  
and Chachapacasset Rd in Barrington, and drive  
down to beach. L Jean Josephson (401-245-  
5523, kayakmj@yahoo.com)

**Sat., Jan. 18. Step By Step: Mount  
Monadnock hike.** Open to previous step by  
step participants or those with winter hiking  
experience. Carpool from RI. 8-10 miles with  
exposed summit. Full winter gear required. L  
Scott Disnard (sdizzy@gmail.com) CL Tammy  
Daugherty, reg/w Scott Disnard  
(sdizzy@gmail.com)

**Fri., Jan. 24-26. Ski Best of the Whites.** XC  
or Alpine at Bretton Woods, stay at the  
Highland Center. 2 per room, 2 dinners, 2  
breakfasts, happy hour, for active skiers. Cost  
\$187.48/person. L Jack Schempp (401-311-  
4553 7-9pm, jschempp1@gmail.com)

**Fri., Jan. 31-Feb. 2. Webster Jackson Intro  
to Winter Hiking.** Moderate day hike to the  
summits of Mt Jackson and Webster for new  
winter hikers and other winter hikers looking  
for a moderate winter hike. 6.5 mile hike at a  
moderate pace, with time allowed for new  
winter hikers to learn and practice winter skills  
and learn how to enjoy the winter. Sunday,  
Leader's choice. Some rental gear available. Fee  
\$120 includes 2 nights lodging, 2 breakfasts and  
1 dinner. L Charles Killam  
(Charlie.Killam@gmail.com) CL Bob Janus,  
reg/w Bob Janus (janus68@cox.net)

**Wed., Jan. 22. Hike/social - Kingston Bike  
Path.** 2 1/2 - 3 mile hike and we go to dinner.  
Get off the couch and join us. Meet at train  
station on Rt138. 6:00pm. Flashlights, warm

**Wed., Jan. 29. Hike/social Barrington Beach.**  
2 mile hike and we go to dinner. Get off the  
couch and join us. A bit more hardy than our  
usual Wednesday walks. Enjoy the bay in  
winter Dress WARMLY with appropriate  
footwear in case of snow, and bring a flashlight.

NARRAGANSETT CHAPTER, AMC  
747 Nate Whipple Hwy  
Cumberland, RI 02864

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
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#### ADVANCE NOTICES

**Fri., Feb. 7-9. Hike the Hancock's.** Interesting  
loop over Hancock North/South Peaks,  
formerly the most remote, inaccessible  
mountain in the Whites. 9.8 mi, 2650 ft of  
elevation gain via Hancock Notch, Cedar  
Brook, and Hancock Loop Trails. Approximate  
cost \$140, includes 2 breakfasts and 1 dinner at  
4BR house in Lincoln, access to indoor pool,  
hot tub, sauna. L Bernardo Aumond  
(bdaumond@yahoo.com) CL Elise Hedglen  
(ehedglen@yahoo.com), reg/w Bernardo  
Aumand (bdaumand@yahoo.com)

**Fri., Feb. 7-9. Ski Best of the Whites.** XC or  
Alpine; stay at Highland Center for 2 nights  
w/fine dining. \$187.48 incl. 2 breakfasts, 2  
dinners, happy hour. For active intermediates.  
L Jack Schempp (401-311-4553 7-9pm,  
jschempp1@gmail.com)

**Fri., Mar. 21-23. Mount Adams Alpine  
Hiking Weekend.** Join the leaders as they  
attempt to summit Mount Adams in the  
Northern Presidentials. We will have an early  
start on Saturday and then overnight at one of  
the RMC high cabins (either Crag Camp or  
Gray Knob). Possible additional alpine hikes  
(conditions permitting) and hike down on  
Sunday. Full winter gear, appropriate fitness  
level, and significant above-treeline in winter  
experience required. Limited availability. \$80.  
L Bernardo Aumond (617-335-7684,  
bdaumond@yahoo.com) L Scott Sprague (401-  
934-3103, dadders154@hotmail.com)

**Sat., Apr. 26. Chapter Spring Fling.** Save  
this date for our annual Spring Fling to be held  
at the Kettle Pond Visitors Center in  
Charlestown.

**Fri., Jun. 6-8. Alpine Flowers hike weekend.**  
Enjoy the miniature beauty of alpine blossoms  
and spectacular views along the Presidential  
Range. One night at the Highland Center, one  
night at the Lakes of the Clouds Hut. For the  
experienced mountain hiker with proper  
equipment. Twelve miles r.t., 6-7 hours per day,  
2800 feet of elevation gain at a moderate steady  
pace. Should be comfortable scrambling rocks  
with a full pack. \$260 includes bed and  
breakfast at the Highland Center (\$110  
optional) and dinner + bed and breakfast at  
Lakes of the Clouds (\$150). L Margie Parsons  
(401-743-3405, mpkayak@cox.net), reg/w  
Bernardo Aumond (464 Hanover Street, #6,  
Boston, MA 02113, 617-335-7684,  
bdaumond@yahoo.com)