



The Gansett Gazette

Newsletter of the Narragansett Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club

FEB/MAR
2010
Vol. 7, No. 1

Save the Date

March 19, Friday

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. Read details in trip listings.

Change in Web Site Password

The **general password** on our web site will be changed on February 1. The new password is on page 2. This password is only needed for a few menu items identified with a (pw).

2009 Annual Meeting Evening

The annual meeting this year was held Nov. 21, and for the first time at the "Save the Bay" center in Providence in the Field Point area. The attendance was over 100 and a good chance to get together with members who might not see others who participate in different activities over the Summer. The social was followed by a quickly moving business meeting. The AMC Executive Director, Andy Falender gave a talk on the accomplishments over the year for the AMC organization. The chapter awards were presented by leaders who know the recipients and are familiar with the contributions of the recipients. After the award ceremonies, dinner was served. After dinner Tom Eagan introduced our feature speaker Dr. Tim Warren who summited Mt. Everest.

2009 Appie of the Year Awards



The Appie of the Year is the Narragansett Chapter's highest award. This year, we have two recipients, **Charlie Killam** and **Brian Phillips**.

Charlie began leading for the Backpacking and Northern Hikes committee in 2000. He

has led or co-led more than 70 activities. Most of these are weekend-long endeavors, and include providing lodging and food (and the food is terrific). Charlie often runs beginner trips, especially beginner winter trips introducing many people to the winter mountain experience. Charlie has been an active with the Northern Hikes Sub-Committee for nearly a decade, instructing in numerous workshops in hiking skills and equipment, winter hiking skills and safety and map & compass. Charlie has been Leadership Development Chair since 2006. As such, he organizes the annual Wilderness First Aid Course, and has organized and run Leadership Development Workshops, and instructed at many Leadership Development Workshops.



Brian has been affiliated with AMC Technical Climbing for twenty years. After one year of climbing with the group he started lead climbing and volunteered to help teach the climbing classes each Spring. He has taught the classes and led trips every year since he started climbing with the AMC. He has been the Co-Chair of Technical Climbing for the past five years. He developed and maintains the AMC Technical Climbing website and email listserv used by 175, both AMC and non-member, climbers in Rhode Island. His love for climbing has brought him all over the country and various locales throughout the world to climb and he brings that enthusiasm to the group. Brian once likened leading a volunteer group to herding cats and at that he excels.

John Clark Service Award

The John Clark award is given this year to **Roy Benoit**. He has been a member since at least the 1970's and was active in technical climbing and northern hiking/backpacking. He was the Narragansett Chapter chair in the 1980-1982 period. He became very active in the chapter's trails committee and has served that committee for many years as a project leader,

planner and designer/builder of structures such as bridges, ladders, and most recently our present tool shed. His wealth of knowledge and technical advice to the trails committee, when questions arise, have been significant contributions to our project efforts.

Golden Appie Award

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. Golden Appie Award recipients this year are Betty Allen, Bob Cillete, and Marjorie Gaunt.

Linda Pease presented the award for **Betty Allen**. Betty has been a member for well over 25 years and has made quiet contributions to the club over the years. She was the first person I know of to invite families to participate in regular events. She and her late husband Burt and participated on many hikes, walks and canoe trips. Later she became a walk leader and led some hikes but mostly walks and later became involved in conservation activities. She has enjoyed introducing members to the Lincoln Woods and Chase Farm and their trails. During her years in the AMC she has always enjoyed being with AMC members and have met many, many interesting people.

Maria Earley presented the award for **Marjory Gaunt**. Marjorie Gaunt has been a member of the AMC since 1966. During this time she has been very active in the club. She was the club secretary, and the trails secretary for a number of years. She did extensive travel with AMC members and she is a good advocate for the AMC. She is a member of the trails committee and at the young age of 87 she was carrying buckets of gravel to fill holes at one of our projects. She has graciously opened her house on more than one location to host the trails committee and always has good coffee and snacks with a smile for everyone.

Herrick Spencer presented the award for **Bob Cillete**. Bob has been a chapter member since the mid 80's. He is someone so many us know and has done so much for chapter members through the many and varied

**Narragansett Chapter AMC
Leadership Roster**

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

Past Chair-Gene Mihaly,
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Secretary-Jeannine Peterson,
surnurse@yahoo.com

Treasurer-Debbie Mitchell,
dmitchell@thebravergroup.com

Membership Chair-Robin Kuznitz,
rmd@PSH.com

Membership Vice-Chair-Mary Bonaventure,
mlb448@yahoo.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 Adult Members Subchair-Chris
Turgeon, nagarnett@yahoo.ca

Family Outings Co-Subchairs-

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User Name: members
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activities he has sponsored and led over the many years. Bob was the 1996 Appie of the Year. 18 years ago he started the Wednesday Hike and Social as a way for members to get together 50 weeks a year. He has helped make the chapter the success that it is and the award so fitting for him.

Feature Slide Presentation



Our feature presentation, sponsored by REI of Cranston, was by Dr. Tim Warren, a Warwick Chiropractor, who reached the summit of Mt. Everest at 29,035 feet and became the first and only Rhode Islander to reach the World's highest peak. Tim gave a most interesting presentation and slide show. He gave a good indication how difficult it is to climb Everest and the obstacles, and good or bad luck faced by all on the mountain.

Activities

Wed. Feb. 3. Hike and Social - Jamestown. Meet at 6:00pm at the Town Dock. Bring flashlights. L Donna Chellis (423-1259), Reg with Gregg O'Brien (245-0677, goh243@aol.com)

Fri. Feb. 5-7. Ski Best XC in the Whites. Stay at the popular AMC Highlands Center at Crawford Notch. Bretton Woods has the best snow; we can ski there on a great groomed trail from our lodge. If the snow is better at other locations (examples: Jackson or Great Gorge) we may ski there. We have 4 two person bunk rooms reserved. We suggest immediate contact if you would like to join us. L Jack Schempp (331-4553, jschempp1@gmail.com)

Fri. Feb. 5-7. Mt. Jefferson Weekend. Day hike to Mt Jefferson by the Jewell Tr. 11 mi. with 4,400 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. 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 (789-8331 7 PM - 9 PM, christopher.shafer@dem.ri.gov), Reg with Chris Shafer (PO Box 103, Wakefield, RI 02880, 789-8331 7 PM - 9PM)

Sat. Feb. 6. Neutaconkanut Park Hike. The highest point in Providence, great views of downtown Providence and beyond. Find out what the name means and its significance for Native American, Colonial and WPA history. Recent renovation of trails by the community and AMC trails group. L Yvonne Federowicz (354-5524, yfederowicz@cox.net), CL Linda Pease (351-2234)

Tue. Feb. 9. Bike Planning Meeting. Time to fill up the riding schedule for this year! Meet at 6:30pm at the Stop & Shop in North Kingstown, on the corner of Frenchtown Road and Route 1. Please RSVP and bring your schedules! Everyone is welcome to attend. L Marcie Madsen (364-6538, marcie18@att.net)

Wed. Feb. 10. Hike and Social - Barrington. Meet at 6:00pm at the Middle School tennis courts. Bring flashlights. L Gregg O'Brien, CL Wendy Farr (533-3084, wendyfarr42@gmail.com), Reg with Gregg O'Brien (245-0677, goh243@aol.com)

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, CL Mike Martin, Reg with Steve

Harrison (270-3363 7:00-9:00pm, hikersteve@cox.net)

Sat. Feb. 13. Pachaug Trail Hike. Strenuous eight-mile hike that should take us approximately 5+ hours. Rocky footing and boulders which will be more difficult in snow conditions. Proper conditioning, attire, hiking boots, micro-spikes, and legal orange required. Start at 9:00am sharp. Bring water and lunch. Deep snow and lightning cancels. L Al DiOrio (377-8124, al@awdrls.com)(742-1850)

Sun. Feb. 14. Trustom National Wildlife Refuge Hike. Start time is 9:30am. This will be a mid-winter Valentine's Day hike. Three mi.. Check with the L about weather and ground conditions. L Adele Holcombe (284-3061)

Wed. Feb. 17. Hike and Social - Garden City. Meet at 6:00pm in front of EMS. Bring flashlights. L Sid Wax (935-5466, sid_w@yahoo.com)

Sat. Feb. 20. Vin Gormley Trail Hike. Meet at 9:00 for an 8 mi. loop trail intermediate hike at a moderate pace. This is a warm up for spring. Boots required, may need stabilizers, lunch, water, snacks and legal orange. Rain cancels. L Maria Earley (789-8331 7PM-9PM, momearley@netzero.net)

Sat. Feb. 20. Burlingame State Park Hike. Eight-mile intermediate hike at a moderate pace. This is a warm up for Spring. Vin Gormley trail loop. Boots required, may need stabilizers, lunch, and water. Rain cancels the hike. L Maria Earley (789-8331 7:00pm - 9:00pm, momearley@netzero.net)

Wed. Feb. 24. Hike and Social, East Side of Providence. Meet at Gazebo, South Water st. Bring flashlight. For info call. L Herrick Spencer (723-1974, spencer295@cox.net), CL Janet Harris (272-6772)

Sat. Feb. 27. Fisherville Brook Wildlife Refuge Hike, Exeter. Audubon property: fields, forest, pond, streams, waterfall & historic cemetery. Beautiful in snow! Start 9:30am; 4-5 mi.. L Pam Hill (269-1610 7:00-9:00pm, pjsh40@aol.com)

Sat. Feb. 27-28. Ice Climbing at Smuggler's Notch, VT. Designed for experienced rock climbers who have attended rock courses, or who have equivalent experience. Must have (or rent) own gear. Cost share lodging. L Peter Barlow (860-675-3772, freeclimb@aol.com)(mitziekramer@yahoo.com), Reg with Peter Barlow

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 (270-3363 7:00-9:00pm, hikersteve@cox.net), CL Mike Martin , Reg with Steve Harrison (270-3363 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 mi. 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 (884-6931), CL Bunny Reardon , Reg with Bunny Reardon (884-6931, bunnycello@yahoo.com)

Wed. Mar. 3. Hike and Social - South Kingstown Bike Path. Meet at 6:00pm at the South Kingstown train station. Bring flashlights. L Sid Wax (935-5466, sid_w@yahoo.com)

Sun. Mar. 7. Great Swamp Hike. Start time at 9:30am. Winter makes its last two weeks stay before spring and Daylight Savings Time arrives. View this passing season with a moderate hike of five mi.. Stop afterwards for hot drinks to warm up. Orange required for this hike. For information, call. L Adele Holcombe (284-3061)

Sun. Mar. 7. Roger Williams Botanical Center. Join us at Roger Williams Park Botanical Center for a tour of the largest public indoor display gardens in New England. Over 165 species from ecosystems such as rain forests bogs, tropical, subtropical, tropical aquatic and mediterranean from six of the seven continents are represented. Join us at 11:00 AM. Tour fee is \$5.00. Must register with leader. L Dennis McCarthy (401-455-0866, dmccarthy12@cox.net)

Wed. Mar. 10. Hike and Social Wickford. Meet 6pm at the Town Dock parking lot across from the old Ryan's Market. Bring flashlights. L Dick Sullivan (338-2880), Reg with Gregg O'Brien (245-0677)

Sat. Mar. 13. Lincoln Woods Hike. A nice hike of about 7-8 mi. through a State Park with a cross over to Butterfly Farm. We will meet at entrance off of Rte 146. Go into Lincoln Woods Park and turn right and Parking lot is on left about 1/4 mile down Rd. Call to register by Thur. L Dick Sullivan (338-2880), CL Deborah Laughlin (437-9239)

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

Wed. Mar. 17. Hike and St. Patrick's Day Social - Wakefield. Wakefield Bike path - Meet 6pm. Park at Post Office lot. Bring flashlights. Rain cancels. L Aram Deradoorian (401-789-7811)

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. 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, Rome Pt. 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 (331-4553, jschempp1@gmail.com)

Sat. Mar. 20. Leaders Hike. Meet at 9:00 for a 8 mi. hike in the Arcadia Management Area. All hike leaders and co-leaders are invited to

attend. Social will follow and we'll share experiences, exchange ideas and enjoy the friendship. L Maria Earley (789-8331 7:00 - 9:00 pm, momearley@netzero.com), L Dick Sullivan (338-2880)

Wed. Mar. 24. Hike and Social in Narragansett. Hike and Social in Narragansett. Meet at 6:00pm at Narragansett Towers Park. Bring flashlights. L Bob Richardson (364-7056), Reg with Gregg O'Brien (245-0677)

Fri. Mar. 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), CL Tom Grasso.

Sat. Mar. 27. 7th Land-Water Summit. The Summit offers 30 workshops relating to land & water reservation, restoration & more, fosters partnerships. fee, 300 attend. Contact Lesley for more details. L Jack Schempp (331-4553, jschempp1@gmail.com), Reg with Lesley Lambert (874-6482)

Sat. Mar. 27. Stepstone Falls Hike, West Greenwich. Escoheag and Ben Utter Trails in Arcadia Management Area, 6-7 mi. at a moderate pace. Lunch at Stepstone Falls. 9:00am start. L Pam Hill (269-1610 7:00-9:00pm, pjsh40@aol.com)

Sun. Mar. 28. Conservation Meander. Enjoy winter tranquility on an easy paced meditative

meander at The Lloyd Center in S. Dartmouth, MA on a variety of trails in forest, farm and shore habitats. We'll also go inside the Center to view exhibits. www.lloydcenter.org. Families, new members welcome. Meet in Seekonk at 9 am to carpool. L Linda Pease (401-351-2234), CL Kris Caproni (401-333-6589, krcapro@aol.com)

Wed. Mar. 31. Hike and Social in Bristol. Hike and Social at 6:00pm in Bristol. Meet in front of Leo's Ristorante, 365 Hope Street. Bring flashlights. L Gregg O'Brien, CL Wendy Farr (533-3084, wendyfarr42@gmail.com), Reg with Gregg O'Brien (245-0677, goh243@aol.com)

Advance Notices

Thu. Apr. 1. AMC/URI Mastergardeners Backyard Makeover. Convert your yard to a beautiful low maintenance natural habitat with flowering plants and bushes. Provide food for birds & bees. Questions encouraged. At REI Cranston, 7:00pm. Call 275 5250 for Directions. L Patty D'Ambra (949-3374 6-9pm, jschempp1@gmail.com), L Yvonne Federowicz (261 3368 6-9pm)

Sat. Apr. 10-24. Beginner Rock Climbing Course. This course consists of three progressive Saturday classes and is intended for beginning climbers and gym climbers who want to make the transition to the outdoors or for boulderers who want to "learn the ropes." Participants will learn technical rock climbing skills with an emphasis on safety. Instruction will include learning how to tie and use various climbing knots, belaying, rappelling,

and building anchors for top rope climbing. A benefit of the course is that you meet experienced climbers and have the chance to develop climbing friendships. Students seeking climbing instruction should be serious about pursuing the sport and going on to the intermediate course. Course Cost: AMC Member \$60, Nonmember \$100. Student Discount--AMC Member \$40, Non Member \$80. L Peter Barlow (860-675-3772, freeclimb@aol.com), CL Brian Phillips (783-0133, bphillips38@cox.net)

Sat. Apr. 24-25. Wilderness First Aid. This course will provide the knowledge you will need to deal with medical emergencies when you are more than one hour from medical care. In addition to patient assessment, this course will teach you how to treat immediate life threats, disabling injuries, hypothermia and other environmental hazards, fractures, sprains and more. This is a two day course and will be taught at Camp Hoffman in West Kingston, RI. The course will once again be taught by the outstanding instructors from Stonehearth Outdoor Learning Opportunities (SOLO). Preregistration for volunteer leaders will begin January 18. Cost for Narragansett Chapter leaders is \$60. Registration for all others will begin on February 1, and will cost \$115 for Narragansett Chapter members and \$165 for all others. The fee covers all instruction and materials and does not include lodging or meals. Register early, as this course has been a sellout for the past several years. For registration information, contact Linda Pease, (401-351-2234, linda.pease@cox.net), L Charlie Killam (508-252-4349, CharlieK@bufftree.com).