



NARRAGANSETT CHAPTER

ANNUAL MEETING and REPORT

**NOVEMBER 19, 2016
SAVE THE BAY, PROVIDENCE RI**

AMC's Mission Statement

The Appalachian Mountain Club promotes the protection, enjoyment and stewardship of the mountains, forests, waters, and trails of the Appalachian region. We believe that mountains, forests, and waters have intrinsic worth and also provide recreational opportunities, spiritual renewal, and ecological and economic health for the region. Because successful conservation depends on active engagement with the outdoors, we encourage people to experience, learn about, appreciate, and understand the natural world.

2016 Annual Report
Narragansett Chapter - Appalachian Mountain Club

www.amcnarragansett.org

Annual Report contents:

Annual Report December 2015 – November 2016

- Chapter Leadership Slate (2016 and 2017)
- Chapter Leadership and Member Accomplishments for 2016
- Committee Reports
- Leader Recognition and retiring committee Chairs

2016 Chapter Leadership (Current)

Executive Board:

Chair:	Bob Tessitore
Past Chair:	Debbie Mitchell
Vice Chair:	Russ Miller
Secretary:	Debra Huntington
Treasurer:	Bill Rafferty
Membership Chair:	Gregg OBrien
Communications Co-Chair:	Mike Krabach
Activities Chair:	Chris Shafer
Leadership Chair:	Ed Poyer
Conservation Chair:	Linda Pease
Trails Chair:	Dav Cranmer
Nominating Committee Chair:	Larry Rollins

2017 Incoming Chapter Leadership

Executive Board:

Chair:	Russ Miller
Past Chair:	Bob Tessitore
Vice Chair:	Vacant
Secretary:	Debra Huntington
Treasurer:	Vacant
Membership Chair:	Gregg OBrien
Communications Co-Chair:	Mike Krabach
Activities Chair:	Chris Shafer
Leadership Chair:	Ed Poyer
Conservation Chair:	Linda Pease
Trails Chair:	Dav Cranmer
Nominating Committee Chair:	Larry Rollins

Committee Leaders / Sub chairs:

2016 Chapter Committee Leaders:

Biking	Marcie Madsen
Skiing	Steve Harrington/Ann Piascik
Backpacking / Northern Hikes	Ed Poyer
Technical Climbing	Peter Barlow
Sea Kayaking	Mike Krabach
Flatwater Paddling	Linda Pease
Family Outings	Open
Young Members	Scott Disnard
Local Hikes	Kerri Green/Colleen Quattronmani
Webmaster	Mike Krabach
Public Relations Liaison	Shannon Kelly
Archivist	Open

2017 Incoming Chapter Committee Leaders:

Biking	Marcie Madsen
Skiing	Steve Harrington/Ann Piascik
Backpacking / Northern Hikes	Ed Poyer
Technical Climbing	Peter Barlow
Sea Kayaking	Mike Krabach
Flatwater Paddling	Linda Pease
Family Outings	Open
Young Members	Open
Local Hikes	Kerri Green
Webmaster	Mike Krabach
Public Relations Liaison	Shannon Kelly
Archivist	Open

2016 Awards Presentation:

Golden Appie – This award is presented to a long-time Chapter leader for their extensive contributions to the Narragansett Chapter over their AMC career. It is a life time achievement award.

John Clark Award – This award is presented to the unsung hero, who goes quietly about their business of contributing to the chapter. This award was started in 1998 after member John Clark.

Appie Award – This is the chapter's highest award. 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.

Annual Report December 2015 – November 2016

2016 Treasurer's Report

As of October 31st, the Chapter has almost \$60,000 in cash and investments, this is an increase of approximately \$4,000 from the beginning of this year. Please be advised these figures do not include the costs and receipts associated with the annual meeting, which is typically a net cost to the chapter, we will still end the year with more cash/investments than we started. The money we have saved, has permitted us to spend more on volunteer recognition and appreciation, training and new programs. We have an incredible number of dedicated leaders, and we know that we have the funds to better support their efforts and to say thank you more often, the board's intention is to do just that.

Bill Rafferty, Chapter Treasurer

2016 COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT 2016

Membership in AMC Narragansett is now over 2700 members. It's great to see so many people enjoying the out-of-doors with our club.

We had a successful new member and old member Spring gathering with hikes, bike rides, paddles and a run all in the area of Colt State Park. And the potluck lunch was scrumptious.

Looking forward to seeing and meeting more of our new members at upcoming events.

50 Year Member

Carl Eliason
Richard Menoche
Patricia Menoche

25 Year Members

Robert Berkelhammer
Miriam Berkelhammer
Peter Covill
Jane A Desforges
Richard Garland

Alan	Hasegawa
David	Hurdis
Carolyn	Hurdis
Greg	Marsello
Douglas	Materne
Carolyn	Materne
Linda	Pease
Kathryn	Petitpas
Daniel	Russell
Nancy	Stedman
John	Stevens
Linda	Stevens
Edward	White
Michael	White

Gregg O'Brien
Membership Committee Chair

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE REPORT 2016

The Conservation committee may do the same hiking, biking, kayaking activities as other groups, but we spend some time discussing the history, conservation efforts, talk about how taxpayers have contributed to our enjoyment of a particular area. Sometimes we organize work groups to do Trail Work at unique parks, like Blackstone Park where we sponsored trail work in conjunction with the trails group. We also promote non-AMC activities to get families and others out who may be interested. This year, we promoted Fairy Garden Days at Roger Williams Botanical Garden. As well had a number of other events promoting conservation education throughout the state.

In 2017, we hope to continue the types of activities we have done in the past, we are always looking for new places and things to do to educate, inform and enlighten our participants.

Sat., Apr. 23. Culinary Art Museum at Johnson and Wales.

Sat., Apr. 23. Save the Bay Earth Day Clean Up,

Sat., May. 28. Big River Conservation Hike in Coventry.

Sun., Aug. 21. Save the Bay Conservation Paddle.

A few highlights for the year were:

- Thu., Apr. 14 thru May 1. Fairy Garden Days at the Roger Williams Park Botanical Center to entertain the imaginations of the young and old.
- Sat., May. 28. Big River Conservation Hike in Coventry.
- October 15, Naturalist walk/workshop on the trails at W. Alton Jones
- Sun., Oct. 30. Halloween Fall Foliage Paddle, Pawtuxet River

Linda Pease, Conservation Committee

TRAILS COMMITTEE REPORT 2016

The Trails Committee of the Narragansett Chapter is tasked with trail maintenance. This involves routine maintenance, such as brushing, blazing, providing dry passage across wet and muddy areas, removing blowdowns, and erosion prevention. The Committee also lays out new trails, as requested, and reroutes already existing trails, as needed. Additionally, the committee takes on major projects such as building the bridge on the Mt Tom Trail over the Wood River and rehabilitating the CCC-built picnic pavilion at Step Stone Falls.

On behalf of the AMC Trails Committee, thank you to the 99 volunteers who contributed a total of 2,050 hours of trail work, pavilion rehabilitation, bridge building, and administrative duties, from October 2015 through September 2016. There were 5 volunteers who contributed more than 150 hours each:

Jim Dowling	329.5 hours
Dominic Zachorne	199.5 hours
George Zachorne	180.5 hours (non-AMC)
Chris Shafer	166.5 hours
Kerry Robinson	153.0 hours

Grants:

- The Trails Committee used the TAC grant of \$4,000 (previously awarded) for renovating the shelter at Step Stone Falls. (See Trail Events below for further details.)

Training:

- AMC chain saw training is scheduled for the weekend of October 29-30.

Trail events:

- There was some additional railing work on the Mt Tom Trail bridge over the Wood River at the deer check station.
- On National Trails Day, June 4, log steps were installed on the Dye Hill Trail, and a good amount of general trail maintenance was completed on the White Dot Trail in the Arcadia Management Area.
- Negotiations with the South County Gun Club for rerouting the Tippecansett Trail continued.
- Committee members have worked with several Land Trusts. Trails were laid out for the Coventry Land Trust and a wetlands permit was submitted in preparation for building a bridge there.
- The major project for the year has been the rehabilitation of the CCC-built pavilion at Step Stone Falls. This has involved using as much of the original structure and materials as possible. Major work on site was accomplished during September and October, including National Public Lands Day, September 24. Additionally, work has been performed on the trails and brooks in the area, as well as rebuilding the pump house and excavating and restoring various other picnic structures nearby.
- There was a corporate work day installing water bars at Burlingame on October 14 with personnel from Dassault Systèmes.

- Brushing, blazing, and addition of preservatives to existing bridges were performed on miscellaneous trails.
- The tool shed was painted and interior lighting was installed.

Other:

- Longtime AMC member and past Trails Committee member, Marge Gaunt, died in March of this year. The Committee voted to allocate \$100 of its yearly funding as a memorial gift to trails work of the AMC. The donation still needs to be sent in.
- Trails Committee member and previous chair, Jennie Crooks, in May 2016 was named Outstanding Volunteer of 2016 by the Rhode Island Chapter of the Nature Conservancy. The Conservancy noted that Jennie's trail maintenance expertise has helped them keep their trails in "tip top shape."
- In August we participated in staffing an AMC booth at the Charlestown Land Trust farmers' market.

Dav Cranmer, Trails Committee Chair

CLIMBING SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT 2016

The Technical Rock Climbing committee is all about rock and ice climbing.

In the beginning of the year, January and February, we have our two Ice Climbing trips, which turn out to be more than Ice climbing, as we have skiers(downhill and Nordic), snowboarders, and winter hikers on the trip as well.

During the months of April and May we run our classes, for beginners, and as continuing education.

First is the Beginner course which is focused on introducing gym and first time/new climbers to climbing outdoors. The systems and techniques they will need to perform safely on their own, outdoors at the crags. For the first time in a long time, we ran this class on back to back days.

Second is our Intermediate class, which takes the outdoor climber/top-roper to the next level of seconding on single and multi-pitch climbs, following a lead climber. The techniques and systems learned and applied here correspond to the next level of climbing and would be the stepping stone to a climber who is looking to move towards lead and trade climbing.

In conjunction with our Intermediate Class, for the first time this year, we ran a class specifically for the new leaders. Aspiring, accomplished lead climbers that were looking to make the move to leading ON our AMC trips. This class established and confirmed their capabilities and aptitude, and ultimately gave them approval, or areas to strengthen.

The final Spring activity is our Self-Rescue Class. This is a class we are striving to make a tradition. As we bring new climbers up through the ranks, we want them to have all the tools to conduct safe rock climbing adventures(whether as a leader or a second).

Beginning in June, we had our monthly trips, with the Gunks. July was Cannon, August was Rumney, September was Cathedral/Whitehorse, October concludes with a trip back to the Gunks.

We are always looking to inject new ideas and sometimes new approaches to our group. Beginning with Joe Vaglio and myself, we have had 4 members take the Single Pitch Instructors course. Between this 3 day course, which promotes the most up to date systems and procedures for the Single Pitch Instructor, the members who are guides, and the long experience of other senior members, we have a wealth of information to draw from when designing our instructional classes.

For 2017, we hope to maintain about the same schedule of trips and classes. We might add in another monthly trip, to a different destination (we have to see if someone wants to Lead/co-lead a new trip destination)...perhaps the Adirondacks! We also hope to have a "leaders only weekend" at a multi-pitch destination like the Gunks. With this weekend we hope to promote more learning amongst our leaders. By having leaders climb with more experienced leaders, there can be a greater exchange of ideas and systems, as well as new leaders will learn new climbs that they can then work towards leading, and thus broadening their climbing and leading capabilities.

Peter Barlow, Technical Climbing Co-Chairs

BACKPACKING & NORTHERN HIKES REPORT 2016

The Backpacking & Northern Hikes group offers day hikes, weekend trips based in lodges, hut trips and backpacks in the mountainous and / or northern regions of the North East. We lead trips north of the Mass Pike and west of the Connecticut River. We lead backpacks for the chapter anywhere in the region.

We've enjoyed another excellent and safe year of hiking and backpacking. This year our group sponsored 20 activities run by 22 leaders and co-leaders. Our leaders provided activities ranging from the popular day hikes in the Holyoke range to winter trips above tree line in the White Mountains. Hikes were offered in Massachusetts Vermont and New Hampshire.

In addition to day hikes, we offered hut trips in New Hampshire. We once again enjoyed an overnighiter to the Lakes of the Clouds Hut, where we enjoyed the Alpine Flowers and the hearty food.

All of our leaders continue with their Wilderness First Aid / CPR training and some have maintained their Wilderness First Responder certification. Four of our leaders are instructors at AMC's Mountain Leadership School. One of our leaders has now served for six years as the School Director.

Some of our leaders offer club-wide events, and one of our leaders has led hikes at "August Camp" for several seasons. Our leaders also serve as resources to the Leadership Development Committee for workshops and trips.

The committee again offered workshops in map & compass and winter mountain safety, which were well attended and very well received.

Our Step by Step hiking series, which trains new hikers to mountain hiking skills and conditions, continued to attract interest, thanks to the commitment of our leaders.

In 2017, we hope to expand the number of leaders, especially younger leaders, and to offer at least 26 trips.

Many thanks to our northern hikes leaders and co-leaders who offered us so many fun, challenging, well run and reasonably priced activities this year.

Ed Poyer, Backpacking & Northern Hiking Sub Committee

LOCAL HIKES REPORT 2016

There were approximately 90-100 hikes were led locally including conservation, local, dog, and Wednesday night social hikes. About 1/2 of the total hikes were the Wednesday night social hikes. We have Sid Wax to thank for organizing the social hikes. We hike locally allover RI and some MA and CT, hikes of varied levels. Next year we hope to add have more local hikes on the AMC calendar and to get some interest from people wanting to become hike leaders themselves. We also hope to get some family oriented hikes onto the schedule as well. In 2017 Dog Hikes will become a separate committee, this was decided because they have unique leadership needs and training requirements.

Kerri Green, Local Hikes

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT 2016

The Leadership Development Committee supports the Chapter's activities committees' leader development by producing leadership training and wilderness first aid workshops. We work with other committee chairs and sub-chairs, and are substantially helped by the general membership. We rely on the AMC Education Department for help with leadership training workshops. We hire the professional trainers from Stonehearth Open Learning Opportunities for wilderness first aid. The committee also offers map and compass training for anyone interested. The committee also manages chapter scholarships for leaders to attend Mountain Leadership School. The annual Wilderness First Aid Workshop was held once again in April at Camp Hoffman in Charlestown. This workshop is essential for ensuring safe opportunities for your membership, and to enable leaders to fulfill their WFA requirement for leading for some chapter committees. This training was attended by 23 chapter members, leaders and members of the public. This course was again coordinated by Charlie Killam with cheerful help from registrar Linda Pease. We also produced, with the help of the AMC Education Department, a leadership training course at Camp Cookie in Gloucester. The workshop was attended by 13 experienced and prospective leaders. In May, the committee ran the annual Map and Compass Workshop and Field Practice, instructed by Ed Poyer, Bob Janus, Charlie Killam and Denise Poyer. Three of our chapter leaders instructed at both the June and August Mountain Leadership Schools. One of our chapter leaders is the School Director. In 2017, we plan to offer the WFA and Map & Compass workshops, and to encourage leaders to attend a leadership workshop in conjunction with the South East Massachusetts chapter, and to attend Mountain Leadership School.

Ed Poyer, Leadership Development Committee Chair

SEA AND FLATWATER KAYAKING PADDLE REPORT 2016

All sea kayaking and flatwater kayaking listed together in a single report because of the blending of both types of paddles on some types of paddles. Our paddles this year continue to be a repeat of popular paddles done in the past with a couple new trips. Several popular paddles were canceled because of weather. Our annual Winaukee Labor Day paddles were very popular and the beautiful weather the Labor Day Weekend was fully appreciated. The following is a listing of the paddles this year.

Sat., May. 23. Kayak Fishing or Lounging.

Mon., May. 25. Twisty, Scenic Great Swamp Paddle.

Sat., May. 30. Spring Gathering Sea Kayaking Paddle.

Sat., Jun. 13. Wickford Harbor, Kayak to Rome Point.

Sat., May. 14. Big River Conservation Flat Water Paddle, Coventry.

Sun., May. 29. Flat Water Paddle from Warwick City Park.
Sun., May 29. Sea Kayakng to Patience and Prudence Islands.
Sat., Jun. 11. Quonset Air Show Sea Kayaking.
Sat., Jun. 18. Exploratory Paddle.
Mon., Jun. 20. Sunset/Moonrise on the Kickemuit River.
Sat., Jun. 25. Wickford Paddle, Narragansett.
Sat., Jul. 2. Flatwater paddle on Gull Cove, Portsmouth, RI.
Sat., Jul. 9. Paddle on the Palmer River.
Tue., Jul. 19. Full Moon Paddle on the Upper Pawtuxet.
Sun., Jul. 31. Salt Pond Scenic Paddle, Salt Pond, RI.
Sun., Jul. 31. Spinks Neck Beach Sea Kayaking.
Sun., Aug. 7. Black Tie Paddle. Annual Black Tie Paddle.
Sat., Aug. 13. Three Lighthouse Kayaking Paddle.
Sun., Aug. 14. Sizzling Summer Paddle On The Lower Wood River With BBQ.
Tue., Aug. 16. Kayak Rescue Practice.
Thu., Aug. 18. Full Moon Flatwater Paddle.
Sun., Aug. 21. Save the Bay Conservation Paddle.
Tue., Aug. 23. Kayak Rescue Practice.
Sat., Aug. 27. Battleship Cove Sea Kayaking trip.
Fri., Sep. 2-5. Multi Activity, Camp Winaukee Labor Day 3 Day Weekend.
Sat., Sep. 10. Boston Harbor - Advanced Sea Kayak Trip.
Sun., Sep. 11. Slocum River Paddle.
Fri., Oct., 14-16. Fall Gathering, W. Alton Jones Campus.
Sun., Oct. 30. Halloween Fall Foliage Paddle, Pawtuxet River

Linda Pease Flatwater Paddling Committee Chair
Mike Krabach Sea Kayak Committee Chair

NARRAGANSETT CHAPTER LEADER SUMMARIES

A big THANK YOU to all our chapter leaders. Without you, we would not have the vibrant Chapter that we enjoy today! Huge Thank You!

Year 2016 Qualifiers for Narragansett Chapter Leader Patch:

Cindy Benevides (Flatwater Paddling and Local Hiking)
Mary Fasano (Northern Hiking)
Marcy Feibleman (Dog Hiking)
Kerry Robinson (Trails)
Christine Satterwhite (Bicycling, Local Hiking & Skiing)
Cynthia Sexton (Local Hiking)
Dominic Zachorne (Trails)
Joe Vaglio (Technical Climbing)

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

Nancy Baker (Bicycling)
Carol Baldwin (Local Hiking)
Sandra Barber (Paddling, Local Hiking & Conservation)
Peter Barlow (Technical Climbing)
Ted Bell (Biking)
Susan Boland (Local Hiking)
Maria Earley (Local Hiking & Trails)
Bonnie England (Dog Hikes)
Mary Fasano (Northern Hiking)
Tom Freeman (Local Hiking)
Kerri Green (Local and Northern Hiking)
Janet Harris (Local Hiking)
Ken Hamel (Technical Climbing)
Elise Hedglen (Northern Hiking and Bicycling)
Brian Hodess (Dog Hikes)
Mary Hodess (Dog Hikes)
Debra Huntington (Local and Northern Hiking)
Jean Marie Josephson (Local Hiking & Flatwater Paddling)
Charlie Killam (Northern Hiking and Leadership Events)
Mike Krabach (Sea Kayaking and Bicycling)
Liz Kroll (Local Hiking)
Marcie Madsen (Local Hiking)
Russ Miller (Dog Hikes)
Gregg O'Brien (Membership and Conservation Events, Flatwater Paddling and Local Hiking)
Karen Paley (local Hiking)
Margaret Parsons (Northern and Local Hiking)
Linda Pease (Conservation Events, Flatwater Paddling, Bicycling, Local and Northern Hiking)
Kim Pepas (local hiking)
Ed Poyer (Northern Hiking & Leadership Training Events)
Carol Richards (Bicycling)

Kerry Robinson (Trails)
Bill Rush (Bicycling & Sea Kayaking)
Chris Shafer (Trails, Local Hiking, and Northern Hiking)
Herrick Spencer (Local Hiking and Bicycling)
John Stevens (Northern & Local Hiking)
Dick Sullivan (Local Hiking)
Rebecca Swagger (Local and Northern Hiking)
Joe Vaglio (Technical Climbing)
Sid Wax (Bicycling & Local Hiking)
Sue Warthman (Northern Hiking)
Paul Wynn (Dog Hikes)
Dominic Zachorne (Trails)

Thanks to Other Year 2016 Outdoor Leaders/Co-leaders

Thanks to Other Year 2015 Outdoor Leaders/Co-leaders

Bicycling: Steve Harrington, Chris Josephson, Larry Rollins, Sue Rollins, Christine Satterwhite

Dog Hikes: Marcy Feibleman, Mary Hodess, Mercedes Rivero Hudec, Lesli Kelleter, Judy Van

Local Hiking: Cindy Benevides, Virginia Calabrese, Patti D'Ambra, Fred Griffith, John Halloran, Chris Josephson, Matt Lightsey, Colleen Quattromani, Cesare Mitrano, Debra Mitchell, Matt Putnam, John Ross, Karen Rudio, Cynthia Sexton, Christine Satterwhite, Mary Alice Smith

Northern Hiking: Sean Buckley, Tom Grasso, Steve Harrison, Bob Janus, Denise Poyer, James Swanberg

Paddling: Cindy Benevides, Jerry Bernardini, Anne Fusco, Bill Hahn, Janet Huntley, Bill Luther, Corey Mott, Denise Poyer

Skiing: Mark Dennen, Ann Piascik

Technical: Greta Cottrell, Brian Phillips, Dave Schlenz, Frank Sokolow, Kevin Sweeney,

Climbing Chris Tate

Trails: Roy Benoit, Tony Chernasky, Jennie Crooks, Henry Cruciani, Jim Dowling, John Keavy