

FROM THE CHAIR

1987 was a GREAT YEAR FOR SE MASS CHAPTER!
We continued our slow but steady growth pattern....
at a time when cutbacks in direct mail programs were
predicted to result in a drastic drop in membership.

We're definitely doing something right!...through-
out the club, we have reputation as a friendly,
outgoing and successful chapter.

In 1987, we had solid representation at the Club's
Spring and Fall Town Meetings by several members of
the Executive Board...and input into Club policies
for the future.

The lack of leaders is always a problem in any
volunteer organization, so this year we worked on
several items to make leading easier and more fun...
standardized trip reporting forms; reviewed the
administering of trip fees for non-members; estab-
lished guidelines to help leaders budget for weekend
and longer trips; and set up a Leadership Recognition
System to be announced at the Annual Meeting.

The Executive Board also approved an Education
Committee proposal to establish a "scholarship" fund,
to partially fund expenses for current/potential
leaders to attend specialized training programs and
then pass their skills along back to the Chapter.
You'll be hearing more about this in 1988!

Also, we've begun a formalized budget process and
revision of our bookkeeping to a common standard to
better coordinate with the Club. Our financial
position is sound...what we need now is some
creativity applied to the best way to use our funds.

One item considered was to acquire a piece of pro-
perty for the Chapter. After much deliberation, it
was felt that this was too major an undertaking in
terms of manpower and logistics for us for the
foreseeable future even if the property was donated.

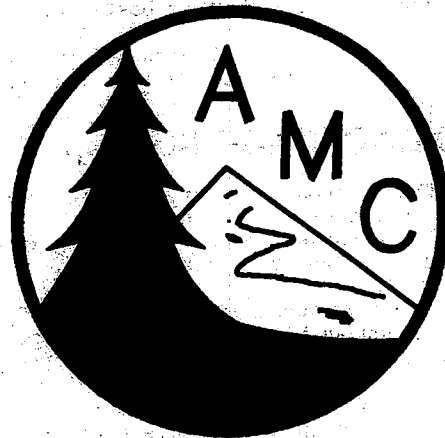
In the last two years, we've strengthened our
programs in three key areas: Conservation, Trails and
Social activities, via such programs as the Spring
Fling, Coastweek Celebration and several Trails
events. Combined with our very strong canoe, biking
and hiking programs, we've really got something going
here. And it's all communicated beautifully via the
most attractive newsletter in the Club, the Breeze!

We've also spent considerable time documenting our
efforts, developing a "Facilities Research File",
writing up some longrange plans, this Annual Report,
etc., so we don't have reinvent the wheel every time.

The Club's Capital Campaign is drawing to a close...
and SE Mass is doing its part, slowly, but surely!
If you haven't pledged yet...do it now!

ANNUAL REPORT

NOVEMBER 7, 1987



SOUTHEAST MASS. CHAPTER

COMMUNICATIONS

Southeast Breeze and Appalachia Bulletin

This is a demanding and challenging job, with several components involved in getting the information to the members at the right time.

First, trip and other Chapter notices must be collected, put into format for Appalachia publication and submitted to Joy St. 2 months in advance for publication in the Bulletin.

Second, collect much the same info for the Breeze, one month ahead....plus up-to-date changes, special announcements, registration forms, etc. and articles of general interest. This has to be edited, typed, formatted and prepared for the printer.

Third is the Distribution. I'd like to thank Chuck Wright for taking on the job of seeing that it got folded, labeled & mailed on time each month.

We've tried to keep the Breeze as up-to-date and informative as possible, given the constraints of time and budget. I apologize for any typographical or editing errors that have affected a trip or slighted anyone.

I offer the following observations for the future....

...A two person editorial team would relieve pressure and allow checking of each other's ideas and work.

...Repeating full trip notices from Appalachia with advance notices as well has advantages, but leaves limited space and energy for more casual notes, articles, etc. What do the members want to see?

...Printing costs were held at \$130 for 4 pages in '87...'88 will likely see increases plus possible costs of typing and/or computer time.

Finally, I'd like to thank the activity chairs for getting their material to me on time each month and for their concern about making the job easier for me.

Tony Arnold, Editor

Communications/PR

The SE Mass Chapter was one of the first chapters in the Club to appoint a Public Relations person to the Executive Board. The clubwide Communications Committee to share expertise on improving our public relations was started just one year ago by our own Regional Councillor (and past SEM Chair), Vicki Fitzgerald.

As SEM's PR rep, I served as secretary at organizational meetings at Spring and Fall and Town Meetings.

We drafted a job description for this new function with a kickoff task for each local PR person to choose an event to publicize...ours was the Coastweek Celebration, with news releases sent to 52 local papers as well as to the Mass. Coastweek organizers.

In 1988, the big clubwide event, the AMC's Hut Centennial Celebration will provide a focal point for some special media play. Hopefully, we'll be adding some local sparkle of our own for SE Mass!

Suzanne Scolamiero, PR Chairperson

MEMBERSHIP

As of August 31, the Southeast Chapter stood at approximately 960 members....a slight increase over the previous year. And this despite the dire predictions of a major drop in membership when the mass mailing program was discontinued!

With a new Director of Membership(Patti Roka) at the Club level and a renewed effort to improve Chapter membership services, we'll be ready to move into the 1000+ class very soon!

Thanks to our many hosts and hostesses, the Potluck Supper program has been very successful and will be continued in 1988. The suppers are open to both new and old members and provide informal opportunities for us to share our AMC experiences, tall tales and great photos, and of course, indulge in two favorite AMC activities.... talking and eating! We're currently looking for volunteer hosts for '88.

John Abbott, Chairperson
Margaret Brown, Vice-Chairperson

HIKING/BACKPACKING

We had another successful year, despite poor weather during the course of the hiking season. Attendance was good, for a variety of hikes ranging from nature walks to full-fledged backpacking trips.

The Cape Cod group continued their regular program of Thursday and Sunday hikes every week except during the summer. There were also 23 hikes off-Cape.

Highlights of '87 were the introduction of a Hike Rating System to help people select the right hike for their abilities; an Equipment Workshop; the annual Labor Day weekend trip to Baxter State Park; and the Hiker's Potluck Supper in August.

In closing, I'd like to thank all of the hiking leaders for the time they put into planning and leading hikes. I also encourage all new members to participate in our hikes next season.

Bruce Dunham, Chairperson

BICYCLING

The season started in March, with our popular series of Bike Workshops, covering many aspects of bike repair and maintenance. An average of 26 people attended each session.

This year's ride roster of 24 scheduled rides, included 18 daytrips, 5 weekends, (Montreal, Nantucket, the Vineyard, Block Island and Camp Burgess), and a weeklong inn-to-inn trip in VT.

Attendance has been very good for most rides, with the overnight trips filled to capacity.

To wind up the season, the 6th Annual Century Bike Ride on Sept. 26 drew about 100 riders for one of the best fall weather riding days ever! Many thanks to all the riders and the crew that makes it happen!

A number of impromptu rides were held on Wed. evenings throughout the summer, with an average of 8-10 participants. The success of this program plus numerous requests will result in greater emphasis next year on shorter rides, better suited to novice and beginner riders.

Thanks to all who were instrumental in making this a most enjoyable biking season, and to my vice-chair, Roz Reilly, for her able assistance.

Art Wessel, Chairperson

TRAILS

1987 was a good year for our Trails Programs. The spring session in the White Mtns. produced a record number of bog bridges (14!) along with cutting and blazing a new relocation on the Austin Brook Trail. We even had a story in the Christian Science Monitor about that effort!

The fall trip to our Chapter's Adopted Trail..... (Lonesome Lake) ran into some bad weather, but we did replace several rotted bog bridges and water bars.

On a local basis, we also had several work sessions along the Cape Cod Canal, and new areas in Plymouth and the Lower Cape.

I would like to extend my thanks to the dedicated longtime workers who have been the backbone of the crews for their support this past year.

As we look to the future, I ask the support of all members...(and age is no barrier)...to come on out and join us in making the trails more enjoyable for everyone.

Russ Ottey, Chairperson

CANOEING

During 1987, there were 12 daytrips and 11 weekend trips, involving 25 canoe leaders and a total of 148 participants...and at this writing, there are still 6 trips to go. Only six of our scheduled trips were cancelled this year.

There was little response to the format this year of beginner's instruction on an informal basis, so we should return to organizing a regular instruction day or weekend.

The Chapter's sea kayak and canoe were rented several times, generating some income for the canoe treasury. This year, we purchased a kayak paddle and some camping gear. We now have a good inventory of camping equipment available for weekend trips, including a C1 solo covered canoe donated by Eve Spencer.

The committee this year included: Chuck Wright, Bob Scolamiero, Tony Arnold and Judy O'Bryant.

Barbara Hughes, Chairperson

Sub-report on Whitewater Activities....

As promised at the '86 Annual Meeting, we had a full and aggressive whitewater schedule this year. We "broke the ice" on Feb. 21, at the Cohasset Tidal Rips. In early April, official whitewater instruction began, starting with an indoor pool session in Bourne, and continued by initiating 12 students into the "flow" of whitewater paddling in late April on the West River in VT. Three other weekends rounded out the schedule; one on the Deerfield River, and 2 more on the West, including a joint trip with Narragansett Chptr.

Bob Scolamiero, Vice-Chair/Whitewater

CONSERVATION

We've made some real progress this year....setting our focus on Wetlands Protection issues. Since Nov '86, several members have written letters to their State legislators on various bills, especially the environmental bond bill, covering \$418 million for land acquisition, restoration of parks and care of coastal beach areas.

Second, we've been involved in the development plans for the Cape Cod National Seashore project to put in a bicycle path linking the Rail Trail to the Provincetown trail to get cyclists off Rte 6. More help is needed as the debate heats up!

Work is underway with the Brewster Conservation Committee on designing a trail system for their newly-acquired land. And in Sept., we finally got the OK from Nickerson State Park to maintain some of our favorite trails there.

As we head into 1988, we're going to be involved in a very exciting land management project in our own area....the establishment of a "Greenway" along the Taunton River. Watch the Breeze for news!

The SE Mass Chapter is on the move....I'm proud to have lead such a fine and vital organization over the last two years. They've been extremely rewarding to me personally, and I hope that more of you will step forward to enjoy the fun and challenge of a volunteer spot with the AMC..for a day's worktrip, for a few hour's worth of committee work per month, or even a seat on the Exec. Board. It's well worth the trip!

Linda Thomas, Chairperson

NOMINATIONS FOR 87/88

| | |
|---|---|
| Chairperson | Paul Murphy |
| Vice-Chairperson | Walter Morin |
| Secretary | Phyllis Godby |
| Treasurer | Joey Gallus |
| Communications/Breeze /PR | Naomi Lipton Chuck Wright |
| Membership Chair Vice-Chair | John Abbott Margaret Brown |
| Conservation Chair | Pam Carter |
| Education Chair | Anita Franks |
| Hiking/Backpacking Chair " " Vice-Chair Vice-Chair/Cape | Bruce Dunham Ron Caron Harry Dombrosk |
| Canoeing Chair " Vice-Chair/Flatwater Vice-Chair/Whitewtr | Judy O'Bryant Chuck Wright Bob Scolamiero |
| Bicycling Chair Vice-Chair | Art Wessel Roz Reilly |
| Trails Chair Vice-Chair | Russ Ottey Don Ouellette |
| Historian | Carolyn Crowell |

HISTORY

Past Chairpersons of SE Mass. Chapter AMC

| | |
|-----------|------------------|
| 1976-1977 | Ralph Poole |
| 1977-1981 | Robert Bentley |
| 1981-1983 | Vicki Fitzgerald |
| 1983-1985 | Russ Ottey |

CONSERVATION ...Cont'd!

Oct. brought Coastweek, and our participation with a beach cleanup, a coastal hike and evening dinner and square dance.

Ideas for '88 include....

- ...a telephone hotline to share info re: wetlands issues
- ...scheduling more events to emphasize/educate on the importance of wetlands..hikes, workparties,etc.
- ...make conservation meetings more fun....slides, potlucks, etc.
- ...put heavy emphasis on Coastweek 1988...with even more events for SE Mass Chapter, inviting the public.
- ...develop Conservations Co-chairs...On and Off-Cape!

Pam Carter, Chairperson

TREASURER

September 1, 1986 - August 31, 1987
General Account

Cash Balance as of September 1, 1986 \$5,485.73

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|--|--------------------|
| <u>Income</u> | |
| Allocations from AMC/Joy St. | \$5,747.25 |
| Bank Interest | 318.23 |
| Chapter Events (Annual Dinner, Camp weekends, etc.) | 6,439.00 |
| Sunlite Sales | 810.00 |
| Misc. Income | 39.00 |
| Total Income | \$13,353.48 |

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|---|--------------------|
| <u>Expenses</u> | |
| Breeze (printing/mailling) | 3,023.80 |
| Postage/tel/supplies | 547.46 |
| Donations (Cap.Campaign/ Bourne Comm Ctr) | 2,600.00 |
| Meeting Attendance Reimbursement/Exec. Board | 294.50 |
| Chapter Events | 5,066.19 |
| Cash Advances | 200.00 |
| Insurance | 278.00 |
| Miscellaneous | 40.00 |
| Total Expenses | \$12,049.95 |

Cash Balance as of August 31, 1987 \$6,789.26

Chapter Loan to AMC Camp Reserve Account,
including interest as of 6/30/87 5,420.22

TOTAL CHAPTER ASSETS \$12,209.
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Joey Gallus, Treasurer