

1996 ANNUAL REPORTS

Chapter Chair Report

1996 marks the twentieth anniversary year for the Southeastern Massachusetts Chapter. We have grown from a few hundred at our first Annual Meeting in November 1976 to over 2300 members in 1996.

Several important events took place this year. A Winter Festival, the first of four quarterly Chapter Meetings took place. New members learned about Winter Hiking and tried snowshoeing for the first time. In June a SOLO Wilderness First-Aid Training to train leaders in wilderness emergencies took place. 15 Southeastern Mass. Chapter leaders received \$50.00 Scholarships to attend.

The Chapter Summer Picnic was on August 3. 45 Chapter members enjoyed a great Barbeque on a beautiful Summer day.

On November 23, 1996, the Chapter's Annual Leadership training Conference will be held. This marks the first time in S.E.M. history, we have had back-to-back training for AMC activities. Activity leaders from several Chapters have been invited.

Our activities continue to provide a wide diversification of trips at all levels of ability and interest.

The Chapter Finances are in very good shape with a substantial increase in operating reserves from 2 years ago.

At this time I'd like to thank all members who volunteered their time, the Nominating Committee and the 1995-1996 Executive Board who contributed many hours to make

the Southeastern Massachusetts Chapter, the best chapter in the Appalachian Mountain Club.

Bruce Dunham
Chapter Chair

Education

The Education Committee began the year with the planning of a SOLO Wilderness First-Aid Training. The training was on June 8-9 with 15 Southeastern Mass. Leaders participating.

The second program planned by the Education Committee is set for November 23, at Borderland State Park in Easton. This will be a leadership training conference for leaders of any of the SEM/AMC activities. Mark Yerkes, AMC Director of Urban Programs and Outdoor Leadership will lead the training.

Biking

The biking program continues in 1996 with Tuesday evening Rides led by Alice Oberdorf and Sunday Rides on the Cape Cod Canal led by Al Johnson.

In 1997 the Bike Committee will have a Chairperson. Please contact Carol Julien if you are interested in helping.

Communication

In 1996, the Breeze was again printed four times. It continues to be the Chapter's largest expense currently costing \$420 to print a 6 page issue and \$235 to mail 1900 issues.

Thanks to a loyal, hard-working group of people, processing the "BREEZE" was possible. Thank-you to Elsie Laverty and Janet Richardson for allowing their homes to be used for label parties.

last year.

We had 2 trips to Lonesome Lake Hut where our gourmet chefs prepared 5 excellent meals on each trip. We cleaned a total of 128 water bars 2 times during the year, Re-paired 28 water bars & built 12 new water bars. Removed a total of 28 blow downs and built 12 new bog bridges from scratch plus made repairs to 18 bridges. We finally made a complete trip from the campground around the lake and to the top where our trail intersects the Kinsman ridge trail. We still have lots of work to do on the upper section with the possibility of 2 more trips being planned if we can get the participants needed to put it together.

The total hours spent doing the trail at Lonesome lake with the combined efforts of a few diehard trail crew members was around 1500. A special Thank-you to Paul Chartier for putting in 245 hours on his own, now that is dedication! Also a Thank-you to Robin Grant, Steve Oulett, John Poirier, Louise Desrochers, Gardner Lewis & Dave Lundquest for participating in both trips to Lonesome Lake and doing additional work for the trails committee, *we could use a few more dedicated folks like these*, after all these are the Trails that your Chapter has adopted and a lot of you folks hike on.

So in closing I would like to once again thank all of you who made this a succesful year and appeal to those who have not yet gotten involved, please come out and lend a

hand, there is lots that can still be done and a little something for everyone at any age.

Lou Sikorsky Trails Chair

Ski Committee

The 1995-'96 season was great for X-C skiing. Several weekend long trips werw3 planned ranging from mountain chalets and cozy bed & breakfasts to rustic cabins in the backwoods. This season saw the second annual beginners X-C ski instructional weekend in New Hampshire. Several day trips were offered that helped our members round out an excellent year.

The 1996-'97 ski trip leaders have planned an excellent season! There are seven weekend trips scheduled that range from a rustic cabin to mountain chalets and gourmet B&B's. These trips will feature snowshoeing, cross country and downhill skiing. Look for a new trip to a 200 year old farmhouse B&B in the Berkshires. For beginners, we will have a repeat of last seasons excellent instructional X-C ski weekend at Sargent Camp in Peterborough, N.H. This trip provides "learn at your own pace ski lessons from experienced instructors. As always, leaders choice day trips, both Cape and off-Cape round out the season.

The folowing people are your current ski trip leaders and Co-leaders. Some have lead trips year after year and others are new to leading trips for the SEM/AMC.

All leaders deserve your recognition and support for organizing ski trips for you and making the ski season as

SKIING continued on page 4

Canoe/Kayak

The 1996 Flatwater paddling began on March 28. After a scheduled hike at John's Pond in the Falmouth Region. Hardy Canoeists and Kayakers put to the water.

On May 19, the traditional spring lunch, with hikers meeting paddlers took place on Walkers Pond. The Canoeists and Kayakers provided a gourmet lunch.

Approximately 637 members and guest registrations were recorded for 49 of the 54 scheduled trips, encompassing 68 days, on 54 different bodies of water. Five (5) trips were cancelled due to inclement weather or lack of registration.

The 68 days included: 4 three day trips, 1 one-week trip, 1 day Pot-Luck and 1 Moonlite Paddle Pot-Luck.

The last scheduled paddle is October 17 following the Thursday hike at John's Pond.

This past season has seen more interest in Kayaking by present members and prospective members.

A \$2.00 Fee per Paddler per Day Charge for non-members was accepted by vote by the S.E. Mass. Executive Board.

AMC is now on the Internet with Canoe/Kayak trips listed.

Thanks to all that led trips and those of you who helped with the paper work and phone networking.

A SPECIAL thanks to Ralph Upton from all AMC Paddlers for his time, expertise, and leadership. We will miss his energy as Canoe/Kayak Chair.

Carrie P. Dobson, Vice-Chair
David Williams, Vice-Chair

Hiking/Backpacking

1995-96 has been fairly successful for the hiking committee.

The committee would like to thank Al Johnson for keeping the Cape hiking members with the standard Thursday, day hikes. In addition to fine planning, Patrick Kin has been offering Saturday hikes through the dunes, marshes and around ponds of Cape on a monthly basis.

As of October 5, one-hundred and fourteen different members participated in thirty-off-Cape trips ranging from ever-popular Blue Hills to Green and White Mts. Of many avid hikers, I would particularly like to commend Peter Wells and Dexter Robinson who led and/or participated in ten hiking events.

The Chair would like to invite all members to participate in our hikes. If you would like to see a particular hike offered, please send a note to either Dave Bennett or David Robinson. If at all possible, a leader will be found, and a hike planned and offered.

David Bennett, Hiking Chair

Trails Committee Report

This year was a busy year for the Chapter Trail Crew. Participation on away trips was up 60% over last year while local trips suffer considerable loss with a 60% fewer people helping on our three local trails we take care of. Our goal next year is to bring up local participation to the level of people that attend

SKIING continued from page 3
 exciting and varied as it is,
 offering something for
 everyone. Your support is most
 appreciated and felt the
 strongest when you sign up for
 one or more of the ski trips
 being offered this season. If
 there is something else the
 club's ski committee could
 offer you, please call your
 ski trip leaders. All are
 interested in seeing you out
 on the trails.

Mary Dubois-Leeson, Anne
 Chace, Bob Bentley, Suzanne
 Scolamiero, Bob Scolamiero,
 Tom Waddell, Marilyn Dunn, Al
 Johnson & Nancy Wigley.

I have enjoyed being your
 Ski Chair for the past two
 years. Now I would like to
 take this opportunity to wel-
 come the nominees for the
 current season, Mary DuBois-
 Leeson, Chair, and Suzanne
 Scolamiero, Vice-Chair. Both
 have years of experience lead-
 ing Cross-Country Ski Trips
 for the AMC.

Tom Waddell Ski Chair

Membership Committe Report

New members have joined our
 Chapter each month since the
 1995 Annual Report as follows:

Year	Month	New Members
1995	September.....	24
	October.....	54
	November.....	83
	December.....	56
	January.....	28
	February.....	32
	March.....	56
	April.....	92
	May.....	58
	June.....	44
	July.....	34

August.....35
 September.....24
 Total = 620

Each member was personally
 welcomed by letter and encour-
 aged to complete an interest
 questionnaire so that the
 Executive Board might know the
 overall interests and talents
 of our newest members. This
 information is available to
 Activity Chairs.

The total membership count of
 the SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS
 CHAPTER as of September 30,
 1996 is 1808 members catego-
 rized as follows:

Individual	
Memberships.....	1,145
Contributing.....	3
Family.....	530
Student Youth.....	24
Family Life.....	1
Supporting.....	64
Employee.....	3
Life.....	37

Our members live in communi-
 ties from Weymouth to the Cape
 and Islands and from Attlebo-
 ro, Swansea, Fall River, New
 Bedford, and everything in
 between!

It has been a pleasure serving
 as your Membership Chair for
 the past three years. I wel-
 come our new membership chair,
 Ann Silva of Fall River. I've
 had the pleasure of being in
 her company on several outings
 and I know she will do a great
 job! **WELCOME Ann!**

Diana Yohe Membership Chair

Conservation

The Highlight of the Chapter's
 Conservation Program was a
 Beach Clean-up on September
 28th.