



Southeast Breeze

Winter Issue 2001-02
Dec. / Jan. / Feb.



WINTER FESTIVAL

Saturday, January 12, 2002
9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Borderland State Park

Winter is a wonderful time of year! Come join us for an introduction to winter hiking, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing. We'll have presentations on gear, clothing, how to stay warm, etc., along with snowshoe and skiing expeditions at Borderland (hiking if there's no snow). There will be some snowshoes available for participants to try out. Cost: \$5 adults, \$2 children (12 and under) includes morning refreshments, and a light lunch (soups and bread). Bring anything else you need.

Please register by January 9 with Erika Bloom (508) 996-3290, email: ebloom@mediaone.net.

SEM/AMC To Host Spring Meeting 2002 "Cape Cod Caper" set for April 26-28

Springtime on the Cape! What better way to enjoy Southeastern Massachusetts' crown jewel (and not have to put up with all the summer traffic). SEM/AMC will be hosting the Clubwide Spring Meeting with a Cape Cod weekend "caper" that promises to be energetic, informative, and fun all at the same time.

The Friday-Sunday meeting will be held at Camp Burgess, a YMCA camp in Sandwich, which is where the Chapter hosted Spring Meeting in the early '90s. The meeting provides the opportunity to meet members and leaders from other AMC chapters, discuss current issues with AMC leaders and staff, take part in various SEM/AMC-led activities, share meals with old friends and new, and kick up your heels with International Dancing on Saturday night.

Multiple food and lodging packages are available. For more information, please contact Erika Bloom, (508) 996-3290, email: ebloom@mediaone.net



View from the Chair by Anne Chace

First let me express my sincere thanks and gratitude to past Chapter Chair Dexter Robinson for his outstanding leadership over the past two years. Thank you, Dexter, for everything you have done!

Welcome to the Silver Jubilee Year for SEM/AMC!

Over the next 12 months, the chapter will be focusing attention on appreciating what resources we have here in our own backyard. We are indeed blessed with an abundance of places to explore and recreate: national and state parks, reservation and conservation areas, rivers, marshes, lakes, parks and camps. All are right here in southeastern Massachusetts.

But our chapter's most important resource is you, our members, and I look forward to meeting many of you personally in the coming months. I also invite each of you to become acquainted or reacquainted with your chapter. Join other members for activities. Help out on a committee that fits your interests. Come to the AMC Spring Gathering on the Cape this April, when our chapter hosts the entire club.

Even if you never participated in the past, make an early resolution to take the plunge. Go on a local hike or walk, participate in a trail work weekend, pedal your bicycle, paddle a canoe, join a conservation effort. Take a break. Have some fun!

If you have any ideas or suggestions about the chapter, I encourage you to call one of the activity chairs or me. We look forward to hearing from you and meeting you.

Acknowledgement

Special thanks to the 25th Anniversary Banquet Committee: Bob Bentley, Louise Desrochers, Paula Remick, Dexter Robinson, Patti Ryder and Wayne Taylor.





The Southeast Breeze is published quarterly by the Southeastern Massachusetts Chapter of AMC. **Chapter Chair:** Anne Chace (508) 824-8871 **Vice Chair:** Bob Vogel (508) 238-7732 **Treasurer:** Donna Desrochers (508) 673-7833 **Secretary:** Barbara Vogel (508) 238-7732 **Education Chair:** Steve Tulip (508) 997-9309 **Membership Chair:** Linda Cronin (508) 447-2597 **Newsletter Editor:** Wayne Taylor (508) 252-6995 or e-mail: wjtaylor@mediaone.net. **Webmaster:** Dexter Robinson (781)294-8840 **Website address:** www.amcsem.org



Editor's Notebook

Tell us about your last great outdoors adventure ... Your comments and suggestions are always welcome, as are your contributions of articles, poetry, photography or anything else related to your SEM/AMC membership. When submitting material, please be respectful of our deadline, which is the 22nd of the month, two months prior to the publication date (e.g. Jan. 22 for the Mar./Apr./May issue). The newsletter will publish your submissions on a space-available basis. Call us at 508-252-6995 or drop an e-mail to wjtaylor@mediaone.net if you've got something you'd like to submit.

Milestones

Congratulations to these longtime AMC members:

- Joseph Gazzola (50 yrs.)
- David Babin (25 yrs.)
- Cornelius Dahill (25 yrs.)
- David and Genovefa Pleau (25 yrs.)
- Walter Morin (25 yrs.)
- Sidney Bamford (25 yrs.)

In Memoriam: We note with sadness the passing of Nancy Ellis of Orleans. Nancy had been an active SEM/AMC member and had recently moved to Florida.

"Membership in a bottle"

A great gift for your favorite outdoors enthusiast.

Single Membership \$40.00

Family Membership \$65.00

*Nalgene Bottle with \$10 Gift Certificate
good for AMC lodging, workshops and books.*

New members only

Contact: Linda Cronin at
508-447-2597



On the Cover — Vermont farm in winter. Along the woodline is a groomed cross-country ski track, which is part of the vast network of ski and snowshoe trails at the Craftsbury Outdoor Center in Vermont's Northeast Kingdom. (Feb. 1994, Wayne Taylor)

We Celebrate our 25th Anniversary



Bruce Dunham: Distinguished Servant

Former Chapter Chair, Breeze Editor, and Hiking Committee Chair Bruce Dunham (left) was the inaugural recipient of the SEM/AMC Distinguished Service Award — a 14K gold plated Sierra Cup — which was presented by Bob Bentley, a founding member of the Chapter. The award was made at the 25th Anniversary Celebration and Annual Meeting in early November at BR's Monponsett Inn in Halifax.

Member Perspective:

Inclusion: Diversity of Activities and Participants

by Bob Vogel, former SEM/AMC Education Chair

Who is the SEM/AMC? SEM/AMC is all of us. But when you look at who takes part in SEM activities, you find a much smaller group. There are many reasons for this. Some members join AMC as a way to support conservation and don't desire to actively take part in our activities. Others are at a stage in their lives where work or families limit the time, or money, available for pastimes like hiking, biking or paddling.

But another reason why people aren't involved is because we tend to offer 'hard core' activities. Check our listings and you will find hikes to the 4000 foot peaks of NH, summer or winter. But there are a shortage of what one participant calls "Weenie Walks", those easier 3 to 5 mile walks over easier terrain that are the level of exertion more in keeping with some members abilities or desires.

(continued on back page)

Hiking and Backpacking

Chair — Erika Bloom 508-996-3290

**Vice Chairs — Charlie Farrell 508-822-2123
Patrick Holland 781-925-4423**

Hike Rating: First character indicates distance in miles. Second character indicates leader's pace over average terrain. Third character indicates terrain.

Miles	Pace/ mph	Terrain
AA=13+	1=very fast/2.5	A=very strenuous
A=9-13	2=fast/2	B=strenuous
B=5-8	3=moderate	C=average
C=<5	4=leisurely	D=easy

Hikers unsure of their ability should try only one level higher than previously completed. **Note: NO PETS** without permission of Trip Leader. Individuals under 18 must obtain prior consent from Trip Leader.

Fri. Nov. 30 Massasoit State Park, Taunton (C3C) Let's hike by the light of the silvery (full) moon. Take an adventurous nighttime hike through woods and open fields. We are planning to dine out by moonlight. Prepare to be creative as we cook up a fine feast. "Bring your own food and beverage." This is a good time to try out that new backpacker stove and winter gear. Headlamps are mandatory. Register with leader Steve Tulip 508-977-9309 6-9p.m. email stulip@dpyus.jnj.com CL Pat Holland 781-925-4423 7-9 p.m. email pat.holland@littlebrown.com

Sat. Dec. 8 Hedgehog Mt. UNH Trail, NH. (B3B) This is the first hike in the Winter Hiking Series. Fine views for a modest effort and a great way to get us going on winter hiking. Learn about cold weather hiking. Register with L Charlie Farrell 508-822-2123 7-9 pm CL Mike Woessner 508-384-8344 7-9 pm

Wed. Dec. 12 Hike Planning Meeting. Meet at the Universalist Unitarian Church, 25 South Main St. Middleboro at 7:00 pm. Call Erika Bloom for info or directions. 508-996-3290 (7-9 pm) email ebloom@mediaone.net. All are welcome to attend.

Sat. Dec. 22 Worlds End Reservation, Hingham. (C4D) Take a break from the holiday madness with a nice stroll at the edge of Hingham Harbor. Fine views of the islands and Boston skyline. Gentle rolling hills and open fields/woods. Small entrance fee. Register with co-leader Laura Smeaton 617-695-9903 7-9 pm email smeaton@sdac.harvard.edu Leader Patrick Holland 781-925-4423 7-9 pm email pat.holland@littlebrown.com

Tues. Jan. 1 Borderland State Park, Easton(C3C) Pleasant hike through woods and around ponds on this first hike of the new year. Register with leader Dexter Robinson 781-294-8840

7-9 pm email dexsue@massed.net CL Mike Woessner 508-384-8340 7-9 pm email mike.woessner@med.va.gov

Tues. Jan. 1 Boulder Loop Snowshoe, NH. (snow dependent trip) Hope for snow to try out those snowshoes along the short (3-plus miles) Boulder Loop Trail with excellent views for a moderate 950 feet elevation gain. Possible group meal on return. Register with leader Erika Bloom 508-996-3290 7-9 pm email ebloom@mediaone.net CL Patrick Holland 781-925-4423 7-9 pm email pat.holland@littlebrown.com

Sat. Jan. 5 Caribou Mt., ME. (B3B) Moderate hike to a broad open summit with views of Evans Notch and Wild River Valley. Previous winter hiking experience and full winter gear required. Limited to 8 hikers. Register with L Patrick Holland 781-925-4423 6-10 pm email pat.holland@littlebrown.com CL Walt Wells 508-279-1963 7-9 pm.

Sat./Sun. Jan. 5-6 Carter Hut overnight "food fest" (A3B) Hike to Carter Hut, which has unheated bunkhouses and kitchen facilities. Participants will bring food to share for a backcountry feast! Side trip to Carter Dome peak(weather/time dependant). Full winter gear and previous winter hiking experience required. Cost is \$19. Register by Dec. 1 with leader Erika Bloom 508-996-3290, email ebloom@mediaone.net CL Bob Vogel 508-238-7732 email rvogel@mediaone.net

Sat. Jan. 12 Mt. Monadnock (B3B) Beginner/Intermediate hike up this popular mountain up the White Cross Trail and down the White Dot Trail. Some winter hiking experience and winter gear is required. Register with leader Patrick Holland, 781-925-4423 6-10 pm email pat.holland@littlebrown.com CL Bill Ruel, 781-878-7713 7-9 pm email eruel@iopener.net

Sun. Jan. 13 Camedy Comer, Lakeville. (C2C) Across Bill Markson's farm to the Assonet Cedar Swamp and out onto the ice in the swamp (temperture and conditions permitting). Register with L Bill Markson 508-947-6739 email mogulero@yahoo.com CL Richard Jussaume 508-930-2445 7-9 pm email richjuss@ici.net

Sun. Jan.13 Wompatuck State Park, Hingham. (C3C) Easy walk through woodlands along forest roads and trails. A nice intro to winter hiking. Good snowshoeing if there is enough snow. Register with co-leader Bill Ruel, 781878-7713 7-9 pm email eruel@iopener.net Lr Patrick Holland 781-925-4423 email pat.holland@littlebrown.com

Sat. Jan. 19 Mt. Crawford, NH. (B3B) This is the second hike in the winter hiking series. Climb moderate grades to the 3100 foot summit of Mt. Crawford on the Davis Path. Register with leader Walt Wells 508-279-1963 7-9 pm. CL Erika Bloom 508-996-3290 7-9p.m. email ebloom@mediaone.net



Sun Jan. 20 Pemigewasset Snowshoe, NH. (B3B/C) Enjoy a mostly flat snowshoe along the Lincoln Woods Trail, which is groomed, then follow the Osseo Trail into the woods for a ways. Return via the same route. Can be combined with Sat's Mt. Crawford winter hike by staying overnight locally. Register with co-leader Mike Vining, 781-344-0103 7-9 pm. L Erika Bloom 508-996-3290 7-9 pm email ebloom@mediaone.net

Sat. Jan. 26 Mt. Lafayette, NH. (A3B) Challenging 8 mile winter hike to this popular summit via the Old Bridle Path. Previous above tree-line winter experience and full winter gear are required. Moderate to fast pace. Register with L Dexter Robinson 781-294-8840 7-9 pm email dexsue@massed.net CL Paul Vermette 603-598-6623 5-8 pm email pjvermette@yahoo.com

Sun. Jan. 27 Come play in the snow! (B3B) Local snowshoe (hike if no snow) to prove you can have fun in the winter without getting cold. (SEM has snowshoes to loan.) Blue Hills is our destination, fun is our plan. L Bob Vogel 508-238-7732 rvogel@mediaone.net

Sat. Feb 2 Blue Hills Skyline Trail (B3B) This can be a challenging hike if conditions are right. Snowshoes required if there is enough snow. Register with IL Bill Ruel 781-878-7713 7-9 pm email eruel@iopener.net CL Walt Wells 508-279-1963 7-9 pm.

Sat. Feb. 2 Lincoln Woods, NH. (B3C) No summits on this hike. A good beginner/intermediate trek along the East Branch of the Pemigewasset River to Black Pond with beautiful winter landscapes. Register with CL Laura Smeaton 617-695-9903 7-9 pm email smeaton@sdac.harvard.edu Leader Patrick Holland 781-925-4423 7-9 pm email pat.holland@littlebrown.com CL Steve Tulip 508-977-9309 email stulip@dpvus.jnj.com

Sat. Feb. 9 Mt. Tom, NH. (B3C) This is the third hike in the winter hiking series. We'll climb to the summit of Mt. Tom via the Avalon and A/Z Trails. Register with leader John Pereira 508-254-8303 7-9 pm email iceclimbingbackpacker.com CL Patrick Holland 781-925-4423 7-9 pm email pat.holland@littlebrown.com

Sat. Feb 16 Mt. Eisenhower, NH. (B3B) Climb to the summit Eisenhower via the Edmonds Path. Full winter gear is required on this hike. Register with leader Walt Wells 508-279-1963 7-9 pm Leader Charlie Farrell 508-822-2123 7-9 pm.

Sat/Sun. Feb. 23-24 The Hancocks Backpack, NH. (A3B) Hike to the base of the Hancocks, set up camp, then bag the summits. Excellent views of the Sandwich Range and the Pemigewasset Wilderness. Previous winter hiking experience and full winter gear required. Register with L Patrick Holland 781-925-4423 6-10 pm email pat.holland@littlebrown.com CL Paul Vermette 603-598-6623 5-8 pm pjvermette@yahoo.com



Sat./Sun. Mar.2-3 Backpack to Sawyer Pond, NH. (A3C) This is the final hike in the Winter Hiking Series. Hike in on fire road 34 and the Sawyer Pond Trail to the Sawyer Pond Campsite. Winter gear for an overnight stay is required. Register with Leader Erika Bloom 508-996-3290 7-9 pm. email ebloom@mediaone.net CL Walt Wells 508-279-1963 7-9 pm CL Bill Ruel 781-878-7713 7-9 pm email eruel@iopener.net

Sat./Sun. Mar. 9-10 Grey Knob Cabin Overnight, NH. (A2B) Hike to RMC Grey Knob cabin and weather/time permitting, dash to the summit of Mt. Adams. Cabin is \$8/pp. Previous winter hiking experience and full winter gear required. Limited to six participants. Register with Leader Patrick Holland 781-925-4423 6-10 pm email pat.holland@littlebrown.com CL Mike Woessner 508-384-8344

Fri. evening/Sun. Mar.15-17 Snowshoe/Yurt trip to Philips Brook Backcountry Recreation Area (NH) For experienced snowshoers. Join us as we drive to a yurt for the first night, then enjoy a strenuous snowshoe into a backcountry yurt for the second night. Facilities are self service and very basic. Approx. lodging cost \$50.00. Register with L Erika Bloom 508-997-3290 7-9 pm email ebloom@mediaone.net L Bob Emery 508-222-8460 6-8 pm. email hikerrobert@cs.com CL Bill Ruel 781-878-7713 7-9 pm email eruel@iopener.net

Sun, Mar 24 Borderland State Park. (B3D) Come hike as we celebrate Spring!! Winter's over, let's get out and move. Good trip for new members, or those just coming out of hibernation! L Bob Vogel 508-238-7732 email rvogel@mediaone.net

AMC Activities Risk Statement: Activities listed here involve varying degrees of danger. When you participate in these activities, you should be prepared physically and mentally, and equipped with appropriate gear. You should be aware of the risks and conduct yourself accordingly. Volunteer trip leaders are not responsible for your safety; you are. Before registering for any activity, you should discuss your capabilities with the trip leader. To participate in chapter activities, individuals under age 18 must be accompanied by a parent or responsible adult, or obtain prior consent from the trip leader. Those accompanied by a minor are responsible for the minor's actions.

Cape Cod Hikes

Chair — Janet DiMattia (508) 394-9064

Thurs. hikes start at 9:30 am — Sat. hikes start at 10 am (Bring lunch) — Sun. hikes start at 1 pm unless noted. NO DOGS allowed. Heavy rain or snow CANCELS. See page 3 for Hike Rating information. Call Leaders for more information on individual hikes.

Sun. Dec. 2 Barnstable Conservation Area (C3B) Hike new trails coming in from south side. Exit 5 off Rte. 6. Go S on Rte 149 1.5 mi. to roundabout. Turn R on Race Lane 1.5 mi. to R on Crooked Cartway, park at end. L Heidi Moss 508-362-6440.

Thurs. Dec. 6 Falmouth, Long Pond (C3B) From Mashpee Rotary, W. on Rte 151 3.2 mi., turn L on Sandwich Rd. at lights. In 3.7 mi. turn R on Brick Kiln Rd. at lights. In 0.8 mi. turn L on Gifford St at lights. In 1 mi. enter Goodwill Park on R and park immediately. L Janet Kaiser, CL Farley Lewis 508-775-9168

Sun. Dec. 9 Yarmouth, Buck Island (C3C) S. from Exit 7 on Rte. 6 to L on Higgins Crowell Rd. Turn R at lights and park at Sandy Pond Recreation Area on R opposite Buck Island village L Barbara Hollis. HOLIDAY PARTY at 16 Driftwood Lane following hike.

Thurs. Dec. 13 Yarmouth, Inkberry Trail (C3C) N from Rte 28 on Winslow Gray Rd. at light, 0.4 mi to pkg on L. Leader Janet DiMattia 508-394-9064

Sun. Dec. 16 Truro, Longnook to Jenny Lind Tower and return. (B2B) N on Rte 6 to Eon Longnook Rd (4th right after Pamet Rd) Meet at end of Longnook Rd, Truro, at beach pkg lot. L. Ron VanderWeil 508-255-3361

Thurs. Dec. 20 Yarmouth, Chase Garden Creek (C3B) Exit Rte 6 at Exit 8. Go N to 6A. From Getty Station at flashing light go E on Rte 6A 0.5 mi. turn L at Rod & Gun Club sign and park in pkg area. L Janet Kaiser 508-375-0574

Sun. Dec. 23 Harwich, Herring River (C3B) Exit 9 S from Rte 6 onto Rte 134. Turn L at 3rd traffic light on Upper County Rd then L onto Great Western Rd. Follow approx. 2.2 mi. Park inside fence on L at Sand Pond. Leader Janet DiMattia 508-394-9064

Thurs. Dec. 27 NO HIKE

Sun. Dec. 30 Brewster, Nickerson State Park (B3C) Park in main parking lot at entrance on Rte. 6A. Leader Bob Freeman, 508-432-4341

Thurs. Jan. 3 Harwich, Hawks Nest State Park (B3C) Rte. 6 to Exit 11 S onto Rte 137. Take first R onto Spruce Rd. At .05 mi. park on side of road. Leader Bob Freeman 508-432-4341

Sat. Jan. 5 Wellfleet, Newcomb Hollow and Wellfleet Ponds (B2B) Meet Newcomb Hollow Beach parking lot. Go N on Rte. 6 to second light Wellfleet Center, turn R on Gross Hill Rd. follow to end at Ocean View drive, turn L and follow to end. Leader Ron VanderWeil 508-255-3361

Sun. Jan. 6 Mashpee River Woodlands East (C3C) Take Orchard Street off Rte 28 then a R on Quiniquisset Ave., then L on Mashpee Neck Rd. and continue 1 mi. Parking lot on R. Leader Nancy Wigley 508-548-2362

Thurs. Jan. 10 Dennis, Indian Lands (C3D) S. on Old Bass River Rd. from Rte 6A in Dennis Village. R into pkg lot in 4.0 mi. at Town Hall. Leader Barbara Rodgers 508-362-3945

Sun. Jan. 13 Eastham, Doane Rock (C3C) From Rte. 6 at traffic light by the National Seashore Visitor center turn right and follow road to Doane Rock area on R, park in second parking lot. Leader Janet Kaiser 508 375-0574

Thurs. Jan. 17 Cotuit - Eagle Pond (C3C) Meet at "Cotuit Landing" corner of Rte 28 and Putnam Ave. in Cotuit to carpool to trailhead. L Farley Lewis 508-775-9168

Sun. Jan. 20 Mashpee, South Cape Beach (C2C) From Mashpee Rotary take Great Neck Rd. S for approx. 2.8 mi. Turn L on Great Oak Rd. and follow to end of town beach pkg. lot approx. 2.5 mi. L Gary Miller 508-540-1857

Thurs Jan. 24 Yarmouth, Grays Beach (C3C) Exit 8 N from Rte 6 to Rte. 6A. Go N on Old Church Rd. at playground to Center St. to pkg lot at Beach at end of road. Chili party following hike at L's home. L Janet Kaiser 508-375-0574

Sat. Jan. 26 Yarmouth, Inkberry Trail (B2C) N from Rte 28 on Winslow Gray Rd. at light 0.4 mi to parking on Left. Meet 10:00. Bring Lunch. L Peter Selig 508-432-7656

Sun. Jan 27 Falmouth, Beebe Woods (B2C) Follow signs to Hospital on Ter Heun Drive, off Rte 28. Go beyond Hospital and JML Facility and park in sm. Dirt pkg lot on Left. L Linda Church 508-495-1308

Thurs Jan. 31 Brewster, Parsons Perch (C4D) From intersect of Rtes. 6A & 134, take 6A E 0.8 mi. Turn R on Airline Rd. At 1.3 mi. continue across to Slough Rd. and park on L at 0.8 mi. at Walker Pond pg. area. L Harry Dombrosk 508-385-9502

Cape Cod Hikes continued

Sun. Feb. 3 Barnstable Conservation Land (C3B) Exit 5 S off Rte 6 onto Rte. 149 to R on Service Rd. Park under power lines on Left. L Heidi Moss 508-362-6440

Thurs. Feb. 7 Yarmouth, Bud Carter Trail (C3B) From Rte 6 Exit 8 S onto Station Rd. Turn L at first traffic light onto Whites Path, follow to end. L across bridge to Driftwood Lane. Park at 16 Driftwood Lane if no space avail at Trailhead. L Pam Carter 508-398-2605

Sun. Feb. 10 Mashpee River Woodlands West (C3D) Take Orchard Street off Rte. 28 then R on Quiniquisset Ave (do not turn onto Mashpee Neck Rd) and watch for sign on L indicating Mashpee River Woodlands pkg area. This area is near Rte. 28. L Nancy Wigley 508-548-2362

Thurs. Feb. 14 Barnstable, Spruce Pond (C3C) Exit 5 off Rte. 6 N on 149 park at triangle. L Heidi Moss 508-362-6440

Sun. Feb. 17 Truro, South Pamet (B2B) Rte. 6 to Truro, exit Pamet Rds. Take Pamet Rd. S to Ballston Beach pkg lot. Leader Ron VanderWeil 508-255-3361

Thurs. Feb. 21 Brewster, Nickerson State Park- Part 1 (C2B) Park at main pkg area. Leader Jack Handlen 508-255-5292

Sat. Feb. 23 Barnstable Conservation Area (B2B) Exit 5 onto Rte 149 to R on Service Rd. Park under power lines on L. 10 am Bring Lunch. L Bob Freeman 508-432-4341

Sun. Feb. 24 Brewster, Nickerson State Park - Part 2 (C2B) From Rte 6A enter park and take first L on Flax Pond Rd. Park at Flax Pond. Leader Jack Handlen 508-255-5292

Thurs. Feb. 28 Barnstable, Deacons Farm (C3C) Exit 5 from Rt 6. Go N on 149. Park at grass triangle in front to church on L and walk N to trailhead behind firehouse. Leader Harry Dombrosk 508-385-9502

SEM / AMC Classifieds

This feature is a courtesy to SEM/AMC members. There is NO CHARGE, and ads will run on a space-available basis. Space is strictly for offering outdoor gear. Editor will decide what is and is not appropriate use of this space.

FOR SALE: Petzl headlamp w/ extra battery, excellent condition, \$20. Dexter Robinson, 781-294-8840

To submit your ad, please send to Wayne Taylor, 409 Fairview Avenue, Rehoboth, MA 02769, or e-mail: wjtaylor@mediaone.net. Include your name, address, phone and e-mail address. Submissions must be received by the 22nd of Jan (Spring issue), Apr (Summer), July (Fall) and Oct (Winter).

Skiing

Chair — Barbara Hathaway 508-880-7266

Sun. Jan. 6 Local day trip. Leaders' Choice. Possibilities include Borderland, Blue Hills, Myles Standish, Ponkapoag, Great Brook Farm in Carlisle or Wildblown XC. We'll hike if there's no snow. Call CL Barbara Hathaway 508-880-7266 or L Bob Kalchthaler 508-947-4924 for more information.

MLK WEEKEND AT APPLEBROOK INN, N.H. (Jan. 18 -21) All chapters welcome to join us for our 15th MLK weekend of cross-country skiing, great company and hearty meals. Ski possibilities include Bretton Woods, Great Glen, Balsams, Jackson Village. Downhill, snow shoeing and ice skating also possible. \$135 to \$199 per person includes 3 nights lodging, 3 breakfasts, 1 full dinner and 1 supper, all at cozy Applebrook Inn in Jefferson, N.H. Don't forget the famous "hot tub under the stars"! Register with leader Sarah Beard (508) 758-2613, 7-9 p.m. Co-leader Bob Kalchthaler (508) 947-4924.

Fri.-Sun. Feb 1-3 Intermediate Backcountry Ski and Snowshoe in Crawford Notch area. Routes to be determined by snowcover / group experience. Register with L Wayne Taylor 508-252-6995 or CL Mary Dubois Leeson 508-997-4489

Sat. Feb. 16 Local day trip. Leaders' Choice, depending on snowcover. Call L Wayne Taylor 508-252-6995 7-9 pm or CL Sarah Beard 508-758-2613, 7-9 pm, for more information.

Sat. Feb. 23 Local day trip. Leaders' choice. Call L Bob Kalchthaler (508) 947-4924, CL Sarah Beard (508) 758-2613.

CRAFTSBURY OUTDOOR CENTER (Fri./Mon. Mar. 1-4) Join fellow AMCers for the ultimate ski weekend in Craftsbury, VT, where snow conditions are often described as "the best in the East" and 100 km of groomed ski trails, plus backcountry, ice skating and showshoeing await you. \$330 pp/pvt. bath or \$285 pp/shared bath, includes 3 nights lodging, 3 wholesome, healthy hearty meals a day, and trail passes. Enjoy hot chocolate and a warm fire by the skating pond or pamper yourself with a massage or sauna after an exhilarating day of activities. Register with CL Barbara Hathaway, 508-880-7266, 7-9 pm

SKI-YOUR-BUTT-OFF WEEKEND (March 15-17) -- Joins us at the Mountain Fare Inn in Campton, NH, for a weekend of cross-country/alpine skiing in the Waterville Valley region. There is a comprehensive network of groomed XC trails nearby, plus downhill at Waterville Valley, Loon, and Cannon. Depending on interest, we also may lead an intermediate backcountry trip in the area. Stay Friday and Saturday nights at this comfortable country inn, with two breakfast meals, one dinner, and happy hour included. Cost: \$130 per person. Register with leader Anne Chace (508) 824-8871, or (if interested in the backcountry ski) with leader Wayne Taylor (508) 252-6995, wjtaylor@mediaone.net

Trails

Chair — Patrick Holland 781-925-4423

Greetings from the New Trails Chair

The sun is setting on the long legacy of Lou Sikorsky as Trails Chair and I have been prevailed upon to try and fill his shoes. And why would anyone even attempt such an impossible task? The reason is actually pretty simple: I Love the Outdoors

For me being out in nature is an escape from all the noisy clutter and frustrations of modern life. Cell phones, fax machines, rude drivers, the cable company, Pat Roberson and more are constantly working to raise my blood pressure, make me vent at the wrong people and just succumb to cynicism. But out on the trails, all that sheds away and becomes less important. When people ask me why I love the cold, the heat, the bugs, the cuts and scrapes, sore muscles, dirt and wet from playing in the outdoors, I tell them because its pure. It's just you, nature, your gear and the confidence in your abilities to get you home safe and sound. The rewards for your efforts can be breathtaking—a sunset over the Presidentials or sublime autumn leaves dancing in a rushing stream.

Now to get out there and enjoy all that I usually have to do two things: drive and hike. Which we usually don't give too much thought to (aside from car maintenance, trip planning, etc.). But consider this: in order for you to get in your car, gas up and hit the road you had to take advantage of an intricate socio-economic system. Engineers with college degrees designed the car, trained factory workers built it, our banking system gave you the means to buy it, our government regulates commerce so there's always gas for your tank, your taxes go toward keeping the roads in good repair, and our legal system keeps them reasonably safe.

Similarly, when you get to the trailhead and start hiking, you take advantage of another social/economic system. Your taxes fund the National Park/Forest system, conservation groups (like the AMC) work to protect the land, and volunteers clear the downed trees, cut back the brush, repair the bridges and more. All these people and organizations function so you—the outdoor person—can get out and restore your spirit.

But what do these different systems have in common? And why should you care? Well for the most part, no effort of ours contributed to the creation of them. We are born into a ready made world of hospitals, schools, banks, jobs, roads, laws, parks and trails. Everyone who came before us did all the work creating and maintaining these systems. So I could argue we owe a debt to our present day society and

those past generations. After all we've done pretty well by them. Now you can pay back this debt in different ways. Some would entail a major life change: Military service, the Peace Corps, missionary work. But there are a myriad of other choices for those of us who can't take a couple of years out of our lives: being a big sister/brother, delivering meals to shut ins, protecting open space in your town, helping the homeless, anything that takes some of your personal time/energy and gives it back for the greater good of us all. You don't have to save the world, just work to make it a better place.

SEM/AMC offers many opportunities to give something back. We always need leaders for the activities the chapter offers or help with the social events. And we need your help in building and maintaining those trails! In the next issue of the Breeze there'll be a schedule for Spring thru Fall 2002 offering trail work for all levels and ages. From easy brushing, clearing blowdowns and blazing to more strenuous work building stairs, repairing rock walls and installing water bars. By the way, easy does not mean unimportant, its all valuable work. We'll even do some "My First Trail Work" days to get people introduced to what its all about (its not rocket science folks). And there'll be the trips up north to work in New Hampshire. We're also considering sending people to trail maintenance training at Camp Dodge in NH if there's enough interest.

So the next time you're thinking about what to do about that "debt" of yours or want to give back for all those "breathtaking and sublime" rewards, keep us in mind. We're not asking for a lot, just a day or two. Plus we have a fun time and you get lots of complements from passing hikers (not to mention impressing your co-workers on Monday morning). I hope to see you out there next year!

Patrick Holland

Canoe and Kayak

Sat. Jan 11 Paddlers Meeting. Come help set the committee's course for the 2002 paddling season. We need your ideas about training, safety, new trips and to set the Spring schedule. Location to be announced on our web page or contact Art Hart 781-762-5251 or ajhart@webtv.net.

Paddling Videos and Guide Books - We have a few paddling videos and guide books for loan to members. If interested contact Art Hart, 781-762-5251 or ajhart@webtv.net.

Canoe Loaners - We would like to see better utilization of our canoes. Any SEM/AMC member interested in getting started may request the loan of one of our 17 ft Grumman aluminum canoes for an extended period of time. Contact Art Hart, 781-762-5251 or Dave Williams, 508-238-3638.



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Inclusion: Diversity of Activities and Participants

(continued from page 2)

Why is this? Are we trying to weed out the less able or less ambitious? NO!!! Not at all. One 'feature' of the AMC, as a volunteer organization, is that the volunteer leaders get to run the type of activities that they like to participate in. As Education Chair for the past two years I've struggled with a situation that I haven't been able to solve. Those that want to run ambitious activities are more likely to volunteer to become leaders. This is good in that we always need new leaders. But it doesn't help solve the 'diversity of offerings' issue.

A Three Pronged Proposal

I'd like to suggest a three pronged approach to helping us diversify our offerings. First I'd like to encourage existing leaders to help out by offering some easier trips. That doesn't mean that you have to cut back on your hard core activities. But if each leader could add just one easy trip each Breeze it would help us get more members involved. This could help us get a jump start.

For a long term solution it will also take a second step. We need more leaders for the easy, more inclusive, activities. And, being a volunteer organization, that will only happen if people like you step up to the plate. Being an AMC activity leader may sound like a challenging task. It may sound like something that you couldn't possibly do. You might be right, but chances are you will find as you

get involved that it isn't as hard as it sounds. SEM is very good at training leaders. We offer free leadership training in the Spring and Fall. (Some chapters charge \$100 for it.) We also do a better job of tutoring new leadership candidates than some other chapters. We will advise you, we help you become a co-leader. We provide support as you help start leading, and can act as a co-leader on your trips to get you going. Even if you never progress beyond co-leading you will be helping as having a good group of co-leaders makes it easier for the current leaders to offer more trips.

Finally as a third step to being more inclusive I'd like to ask members who don't currently participate in our activities, but who would like to, to get involved with planning for next year's activities. We need to know what activities you would like to see offered. Your leaders are human, and like everyone we sometimes get in a rut. We need to have some fresh suggestions for trips: Nature walks where we go slower and look at birds, trees, etc.; bike rides that are shorter or slower; trips to different locations.; activities that are more accessible to people with disabilities (A wheelchair accessible hike at Myles Standish or the Canal along the bike paths?) Longer trips? Shorter trips? Trips where we stay in motels? Suggestions are always welcome.

So if you have any, please let me know. Email me at rvoegel@mediaone.net or call me at 508-238-7732. I can't promise we'll run every event you suggest, but if you don't ask, I'm afraid we probably won't think of it on our own. *Help us help you!*

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