Carter Notch is Pleasing in Any Weather

Written by Paul Miller, SEM Hike Leader

My co-leader for this trip, Peggy Qvicklund, summed up the weekend best in her follow-up email to the participants: “Where else but in the AMC can you gather together eleven strangers, be outdoors in the rain, sleep in tight quarters, and end the weekend with smiles and hugs!”

While most of my visits to pristine Carter Notch in recent years have been as an SEM Winter Hiking Series leader, Peggy and I had just led a trip there earlier in July. The contrast in the Carter Notch “experience” between winter and summer is amazing! For one thing, rather than the cold, crisp, sunny/snowy weather and snow-covered trails typically encountered in winter, on this summer trip into the Notch we contended with cool, damp, rainy weather and soggy trails.

Continued on Page 3
View from the Chair

Dear SEM Members,

The First thing I have to tell you is to **SAVE THE DATE** for the **SEM Annual Meeting and Dinner on Nov. 5 at the Brookside Club in Bourne**. We are expecting a great crowd this year but it will be more fun if you and your friends join us. Even better, work up an appetite first with our Winter Hiking Workshop or the Stroll Down Memory Lane at Eagle Pond. All the Annual Dinner details are [here](#). Business will include voting on the slate of Executive Board members for the coming year.

The second thing I have to tell you is that **Fall is a fabulous time to be outdoors in New England!** October is the final month of the SEM Paddling Season so get your boat on top of your car and paddle Long Pond in Brewster, Cotuit Bay in Osterville, Indian Lakes in Marston Mills, the Bass River in Dennis, and a mysterious Leader’s Choice paddle. Click [here](#) for paddling details.

I can’t list all of the other activities we have for October. You'll have to read about them yourself. Ok, I’ll just mention two—The Full Hunter Moon Bike Ride on the Cape Cod Canal and the weekend in Acadia National Park. What could be better? The SEM Chapter has leaders who can’t wait to take you to beautiful places. They are the best.

**See you outdoors.**

Maureen Kelly
AMC SEM Chapter Chair

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### 2016 Executive Board

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<th>Position</th>
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<td>Chapter Chair</td>
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<td>John Pereira</td>
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<td>Trails Vice Chair</td>
<td>Wayne Anderson</td>
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### Ad Hoc Committee Chairs and Other Chapter Contacts

- **Social Director**: Open
- **Social Vice Chair**: Open
- **Social Networking Moderator**: Susan Mulligan
- **Web-master**: Cheryl Lathrop
- **Breeze Editor**: Mo Walsh
- **Blast Editor**: Marie Hopkins
- **Membership Chair**: Jodi Jensen
- **Membership Vice Chair**: Ed Miller
- **Membership Vice Chair**: Ellen Thompson
- **Paddling Chair**: Ed Foster
- **Paddling Vice Chair**: Open
- **Skiing Chair**: Barbara Hathaway
- **Skiing Vice Chair**: Open
- **Trails Chair**: Cathy MacCurtain
- **Trails Vice Chair**: Wayne Anderson

**Short Notice Email List**: snel.admin@amcsem.org

Contact the Chapter Chair at chair@amcsem.org if you’re interested in any open position.
Carter Notch  Continued from Page 1

In the winter, we typically don either snowshoes or microspikes at the trailhead to negotiate the deep snow and/or icy conditions often encountered on the hike into the AMC Carter Notch Hut from any direction. For this trip, we had to dig out our rain gear, since the sunny, hot, and humid weather earlier in the week had given way to cool and wet weather, with the forecasters predicting steady rain for pretty much the entire weekend with a chance of thunderstorms ominously popping up at any time!

After arriving at the AMC Pinkham Notch center Friday afternoon, as planned, we did our pre-dinner “mini-hike” to nearby Square Ledge (.5-mile each way) to stretch out our legs from the long drive and shake out our wet weather gear. While the ground was plenty wet from earlier showers, we lucked out with just light mist for this hike.

With the low cloud cover and mist, we couldn’t deliver the fine views of Pinkham Notch from Square Ledge that I had promised in the “poop sheet” sent to hike participants the week before. Still, everyone enjoyed this pleasant little hike and, as intended, it also gave us a chance to get to know each other a little better. Most trip participants, who had traveled from as far as Ottawa, Canada; West Harford, CT; and the Bronx, had never hiked with the SEM before.

Due to the nasty forecast, Peggy and I decided to alter our plans for the weekend. All along we had planned to hike into Carter Notch “from the south,” via the peaceful and beautiful Wildcat River Trail. For the return leg on Sunday, we had planned to first summit 4,800-foot Carter Dome and then return to the trailhead via the relatively remote Rainbow, Wild River, and Wildcat River Trails (with a short jaunt on the conveniently located NH forest road to avoid the aptly named Bog Brook Trail). However, due to one potentially problematic crossing of the Wildcat River, we decided to use the more popular (and much drier) Nineteen Mile Brook Trail.

On the Way to Square Ledge
Photo by Peggy Qvicklund
Continued on Page 4
But I get ahead of myself.

Pretty much as forecast, it began to rain in earnest after breakfast on Saturday morning—just as we were meeting outside the Pinkham Information Center/Trading Post/Dining Hall to carpool the short distance up Rte. 16 to the Nineteen Mile Brook trailhead. Undaunted, we covered our packs, donned our raingear, and hit the trail at around 9:15 a.m. Luckily, the steady rain at the onset gradually gave way to light rain, drizzle, and ultimately light mist, so we could shuck our rain gear. It took about three hours for us to make our way the 3.8 miles to Carter Notch, where we found the two pristine, now-mist-enshrouded Carter Lakes quite captivating.

When we arrived at the hut, we found Morgan, the croo chef for the evening, hard at work preparing the fresh bread for that evening’s dinner. After checking in with Morgan, we dropped off our things in our assigned bunkrooms in the two separate bunkhouses; washed up a bit in the washhouse where, unlike in winter, the sinks have running water from a spring piped in from somewhere on Wildcat Mountain; and got together in the cozy main hut building to eat our packed-in lunches.

After lunch, we marshalled our energy for a group hike up to the 4,288-foot summit of Wildcat A. While only a mile away from the hut (at 3,290 feet), this stretch involves a gain of 1,000 feet of elevation. The slick footing made the steep climb a little challenging, and the descent back to the hut even more so. While we couldn’t see a thing from the summit, everyone got up and down safely, in good spirits, and—from most important—in time for the hearty turkey dinner served by the amiable young hut croo!

Following some post-dinner socialization accompanied by the wine many of us hiked in, most of us turned into our bunks early for a well-deserved night’s sleep. After an equally hearty, croo-prepared breakfast in the morning, we packed up our things and hit the Nineteen Mile Brook Trail again for the mostly downhill hike back to the trailhead. There we hugged each other goodbye, made pledges to hike together again at a future date, and then took to the road for the long drive back to our homes.

While not the trip that I had planned, I can’t say that I have a single regret about the route, the weather, or this very nice group of people.

**Adventure Travel Leadership Training**

**November 11-13, 2016**

For experienced outdoor leaders only: Visit some of the most exciting places in the world as leader of an AMC Adventure Travel trip! Learn the range of skills needed, and exchange ideas, problems, and solutions with some of AMC’s most experienced and knowledgeable leaders. Small group size assures abundant discussion and access to instructors. Click for full details. For a registration packet, click here. Please register by October 18th.
Volunteer of the Month

Bill Fischer

Each month the SEM recognizes one of our amazing volunteers. We are thankful for the wonderful people who donate their time and energy to lead terrific trips. This month the Paddling Committee recognizes BILL FISCHER for his continuing contributions. This is the fifteenth year that Bill has led paddling trips for the AMC. He began paddling with us in 2001, and the next year he volunteered to lead several trips. That was at a time when we had almost 20 leaders, so several trips per leader pretty well filled up our schedule. As years went on and we gradually lost more and more leaders, Bill regularly stepped forward to pick up the slack. This year he volunteered to lead eleven paddling trips. He has also served as chairman of the Paddling Committee, accepting that position when no one else was willing to serve, and thereby keeping the program going.

52 With-a-View: A Different Kind of List

Written by Dexter Robinson

Several years ago I was introduced to a list I had never heard of called the 52 With-A-View. I took a look and was intrigued with some of the mountains and locations in New Hampshire I had never visited. At one time I had vowed to retire from doing “lists,” but this one seemed quite different from most of the others. I was looking for some easier mountains to climb as a warm-up to some other hiking.

52 WAV originated in 1979 by a group called the “Over the Hill Hikers” who were tired of only hiking the NH 4000 footers. This list of 52 mountains in NH contains mountains with elevation between 2500 and 4000 feet with “amazing views.” What is different about this list is that some of the views are not at the summits, but rather at locations on the way to or near a viewless summit. When I first took a look at the list I was surprised at how many I had already done, like Mt. Chocorua, Welch-Dickey, Hedgehog, and Mt. Monadnock, to name a few.

Here are a few mountains that I found memorable.

Square Ledge (2620’) near Sandwich, NH, is one of the “mountains” on the list that does not seem like a mountain at all. It resembles a huge rectangular block of rock that was just dropped into the woods. It is nearly impossible to see from a distance. When you find the place to scramble up onto it and walk to one end you are rewarded with a 180 degree view that includes Mt. Passaconaway and surrounds.

Sign Up For the Fall Gathering: October 14-16

If you missed our Chapter Hut Weekend at Cardigan Lodge, think about attending the Fall Gathering in Bristol, RI, October 14-16. AMC members from all of the chapters come together for social time and ocean kayaking, rock climbing, biking, and hiking. Check it out here.
Some of the mountains require very little effort for a great view. **Mt. Pemigewasset** (2557’) in the Franconia area is one such mountain. The trail to its summit is 1.8 miles with a vertical of 1200 feet that can be easily hiked in an hour and a half or less. It offers great views to the west and south, and limited views of the Franconia ridge.

**Mt. Success** (3565’) located near Gorham lies on the Appalachian Trail and offers a short nearby side trip to a plane wreck. In December of 1954, a commercial airliner, Northeast Airlines, crashed on the side of Mt. Success on its approach to Berlin airport. Most of the seven passengers survived, although it took almost two days to rescue them. The wreck is fairly intact as wrecks go and you can actually go into the galley area of the plane.

Part of the challenge of hiking **Magalloway Mountain** (3383’) is getting to the trailhead which is east of Pittsburg, NH, a town not far from the Canadian border. This is almost a three-hour drive from Lincoln, NH one way. I knew I was entering a faraway wilderness area when I encountered a road sign that read “Moose Crossing Next 15 miles”. After leaving the paved highway a few miles from Pittsburg, I traveled 8 miles on two different gravel roads. It was here that I encountered a moose trotting along the edge of the road. I slowed down to his travel rate to enjoy watching him for a short while. Reaching the summit is a steep but short .08-mile hike climbing 800 feet to an area that features a large mowed grassy area, camp buildings, and a fire tower that offers 360 degree views of the surrounds including several of the Connecticut lakes.

**The Horn** (3905’) is north of Mt. Cabot near Berlin and can be reached via the Unknown Pond and
**52 With A View**  *Continued from Page 5*

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**View to the north from the fire tower atop Magalloway Mountain**

Kilkenny Ridge trails. An intense rain shower marked the beginning of this hike and then the temperature dropped to the upper 30’s—not what one would expect for early June. But the weather front passed quickly and by the time I reached Unknown Pond I had a nice view of the Horn. Climbing onto the summit ledge (or rock) can be quite a challenge, but the views are well worth it.

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**The Horn from Unknown Pond**

Mt. Crawford (3119’) was one of my favorite hikes. The first time I did it was in January and I was impressed with the view into Crawford Notch for a modest climbing effort. This five-mile round-trip hike is listed as taking 4 hours but in winter it seemed to take much less time. I had a chance to do it again this past summer and it seemed more difficult despite several trail sections of stone stairs.

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**View from Mt. Crawford summit looking north into Crawford Notch**

The Internet has much information about 52 WAV. A complete list of peaks, directions to trailheads, hiking trails, and photos can be found at the website [here](#). A patch is available after hiking all of the peaks on the list.

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**Full Harvest Moon Over Cardigan Lodge**

*Photo by Ellen Thompson*

See the article on Page 8.
Superb Chapter Hut Weekend at AMC Cardigan Lodge, Alexandria, NH

Written by Alan Greenstein

Forty-five AMCSEM Members and guests enjoyed two summer-like days of outdoor activity during the 2016 Chapter Hut Weekend September 15-18. Five hikes of varying lengths and difficulty were led by Leslie Carson, Barry Young, Maureen Kelly, and Paul Miller. Among the destinations were Walton Falls, Holt Trail to Grand Junction, Clark Mountain, Orange Mountain, and Fire Screw and Cardigan Summits.

Luther Wallis led well-attended kayak paddles on Friday and Saturday on Newfound Lake. In addition to the distance, the paddlers dealt with considerable headwinds on Saturday, but were treated to a bald eagle sighting and crystal clear water on the picturesque lake.

The Caretaker and supporting staff at the Cardigan Lodge provided delicious meals and were most hospitable in all regards including setting up well-attended after dinner camp fires both Friday and Saturday evenings.

Special thanks to Jodi Jensen, Membership Chair & event Registrar as well as the activity leaders mentioned above. It was a FUN gathering with terrific camaraderie!
“Reunite With Old Friends and Make Some New Ones”
All SEM members, potential members, spouses and friends are welcome!

The **Southeastern Massachusetts Chapter** of the **Appalachian Mountain Club**

Invites You to the

**2016 Annual Meeting**

Followed by the **Annual Dinner**

Saturday, November 5, 2016

The **Brookside Club in Bourne**

4:30 pm – Registration and Cocktail Hour – cash bar, **no charge for appetizers**
5:30 pm – Annual Meeting – **no charge**
6:30 pm - Buffet Dinner - **$20.00 per person**; $30.00 after 10/27

Distinguished Service Award, Raffles and Other Awards

Special Guest Speaker

**Douglas N. Arion, PhD**
Coordinator of the astronomy programs at AMC huts and lodges
President, Galileoscope LLC

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[www.galileoscope.org](http://www.galileoscope.org)
SEM Executive Board
2016 Slate

Chair  Barry Young
Vice-Chair  Open
Secretary  John Pereira
Treasurer  Patty Rottmeier

Biking Chair  Bernie Meggison
Cape Hiking Chair  Jane Harding
Communications Chair  Paul Miller
Conservation Chair  Bill Cannon
Education Chair  Doug Griffiths
Hiking Chair  Leslie Carson
Membership Chair  Sandy Santilli
Paddling Chair  Ed Foster
Past Chapter Chair  Maureen Kelly
Skiing Chair  Barbara Hathaway
Trails Chair  Peter Tierney

Names in black are continuing in their current post; names in blue have taken the next position in line; names in green are new to the position.

The 2016 Nominating Committee

Alan Greenstein, Hingham, alan.b.greenstein@gmail.com
Walt Granda, Dartmouth, wlgranda@aol.com
Robin McIntyre, Buzzards Bay, robinmcintyre@comcast.net
See Registration Form below. Click here with any questions.

Bring your gently used fleece and wool outdoor clothing for urban youth.

AMC Joy St is collecting outerwear for their YOP Youth Opportunities Program

To register for the Annual Dinner fill out the Registration Form below and mail your check (payable to AMC-SEM) to: Patty Rottmeier, 1 Belmont Rd. TH5, W. Harwich, MA 02671

AMC Southeast Massachusetts Chapter Annual Meeting Registration Form

$20.00/per person; $30.00 Oct. 28 – Nov. 5

Deadline to Register is Thursday, November 3rd

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Bring a Friend - We'll See You There!
Activity Listings will return in next month’s issue of *The Breeze*.

Check the upcoming Schedule on our web site [HERE](#).

*Happy Trails!*