

The Southeast Breeze

The Newsletter of the Southeastern Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club I September 2021

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Please send your Word doc and photographs to breeze.editor@amcsem.org.

Please send photos as separate attachments, including the name of each photographer. Identify main subjects. Include the words "Breeze Article" in the subject line.

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Standing: Siri Mohr, left, Meg Hildreth, Meryl Brown, Kristen Reimann. Sitting: Sue Eliason, left, Kelly McCausland, Nancy Tutko. *Photo by Whit Hanschka*

Mainlanders embrace hiking on Martha's Vineyard By Nancy Tutko, Hike Leader

Hazy, hot and humid weather didn't deter eight intrepid hikers who gathered on Martha's Vineyard in July to explore six miles of undulating woodlands, meandering streams, mossy trails and footbridges, and a whimsical Celtic sculpture trail in the Chilmark hills.

This is one of my favorite rambles, so I organized the hike as an experiment to see if mainland hikers would be interested in AMC activities on MV during the warmer summer months. This small group hike was a chance to work out the logistics of ferry travel to the vineyard and transportation to the trailhead. The group took an early ferry from Woods Hole to Vineyard Haven and returned that afternoon.



On the Sculpture Trail. Photo by Nancy Tutko



View from the Chair: Are you willing to help?

Summer went by quickly! I hope you had a wonderful time with family and friends. Although the *Southeast Breeze* was on our two-month hiatus, the chapter has been very active. Since early June we've led about 50 activities, including bike rides, paddles, an overnight backpack, conservation activities, Cape hikes, Fall River Bioreserve hikes, and over 20 Blue Hills hikes, including a spring conditioning series. Thank you, leaders, for offering so much!

You've heard it often and you'll keep hearing it. We are a chapter run by volunteers—leaders, committee members, and the executive committee. Executive committee chairs and vice chairs organize the work. They participate in monthly meetings, and also work closely with leaders, their committee members, and other ExComm members. They are hands-on. These dedicated people keep our chapter vibrant.

We will be posting a slate of committee chairs on the home page of amcsem.org for your vote in the annual meeting, scheduled for November 6. (Once again, this will be a Zoom Webinar.) As of early September, we have four open positions. Do you want to help the chapter? Have you mulled over getting involved? Now is the time! To be a Southeastern Massachusetts chair or vice chair requires only a willingness to help. The positions are:

The Chapter Vice Chair works closely with the Chapter Chair. This person interacts with the SEM executive committee and AMC headquarters to further short- and long-term goals. This person would be expected to move up to the Chapter Chair position when my term is up November 2022. More information available here.

The Education Chair coordinates and supervises programs to improve the skills of SEM's members and activity leaders. The Education Committee's core programs are Leadership Training and Wilderness First Aid. SEM offers 1-2 sessions of each per year. The Education Chair does not teach these sessions. The position requires you to be present for any in-person training classes supported by the Education Committee. More information available here.

The 20s & 30s Chair helps deepen the engagement of 20- and 30-somethings with the chapter and works with activity committees and the ExComm to build bridges for 20s & 30s to the chapter. Plan in-person activities, online socials, and social media. Recruit a committee of enthusiastic 20s & 30s that will help with coordinating events. More information available here.

Email me at chair@amcsem.org or SEM's Nominating Committee Chair Alan Greenstein at nominating.com@amcsem.org. Let's start a conversation.

Diane Simms, AMC-SEM Chapter Chair

2021 Executive Board

Chapter Chair	Diane Simms
Vice Chair	OPEN
Secretary	Natalie Halloran
Treasurer	David Yampanis
Past Chapter Chai	irLen Ulbricht
Biking Chair	Peter Linhares
Biking Vice Chair	OPEN
Cape Hiking Chair	Jane Harding
Cape Hiking Vice	ChairRobin McIntyre

Communications ChairNichole Nelson			
Communications Vice Chair Alanna Halloran			
Conservation ChairJoanne Newton			
Conservation Vice ChairBill Cannon			
Education ChairSue Svelnis			
Education Vice ChairDoug Griffiths			
Hiking ChairPaul Brookes			
Hiking Vice ChairOPEN			
Membership ChairSamantha Fisher			
Membership Vice ChairSandy Santilli			

sher 20s & 30s

Paddling Chair Ed Foster

Ad Hoc Committee Chairs & Other Chapter Contacts

Social Media Administrator	Leah Brodsky
Webmistress	Cheryl Lathrop
Nominating Committee Chai	r Alan Greenstein

The Breeze Editor	Mo Walsh
Blast Editor	Marie Hopkins

Contact chair@amcsem.org or nominating.com@amcsem.org if you are interested in any position



AMC-SEM volunteers bagged trash June 26th near the quarries in the Blue Hills. *Photos by Dan Slavin*

Clean-up crew makes an impact

By Dan Slavin, Hike Leader

I just want to recap the **tremendous** job we did Saturday morning, June 26th. With six volunteers and under three hours of labor each, we made quantifiable and noticeable improvements in the Blue Hills Quarries area. Fingers crossed that party-goers and would-be litterers think twice about trashing this newly cleaned section of nature.

I also think this was a great opportunity to meet some new people. Several of you expressed an interest in doing more volunteer work, getting back into hiking, exploring or re-exploring the Blue Hills, or learning more about what AMC does. I hope I can be a resource for some or all of that for you. Feel free to talk to me on the trail if you have any questions about AMC, hiking, or volunteering in the area.



Top Row: Before the clean-up.

Bottom Row: Trash cleared, paint waits for later removal.

Call for nominations for the AMC-SEM 2021 Distinguished Service Award

By Jeannine Audet, 2021 DSA Committee Coordinator

Every year since 2001, the AMC Southeastern Mass. Chapter has presented one of its members with a Distinguished Service Award (DSA) to recognize his or her outstanding contributions to the chapter. While a committee of past award recipients selects the ultimate recipient, all chapter members are encouraged to make nominations. Click here to see a list of past recipients.

The DSA is awarded to someone who:

- Is a current AMC-SEM member and has belonged to the SEM chapter for at least five years (to be verified by AMC Membership);
- Has contributed to the SEM Chapter "above and beyond" the high level of volunteer service typically provided by our activity leaders and other members;
- Whose contributions can be at the Board level, committee level, across multiple committees, or in some other chapter-wide capacity;
- Is actively contributing to the chapter or has contributed significantly in the past;
- Has not previously received the chapter's Distinguished Service Award.

If you know of someone who is eligible for this award, please complete a <u>DSA Nomination Form</u> and send it to the <u>2021 DSA Committee Coordinator</u>. If you prefer, just email me the person's name with a brief explanation of why you think he or she deserves to receive this prestigious annual award based on the above criteria.

All nominations must be received by October 1, 2021. The DSA will be presented at the Annual Meeting on Saturday, November 6, 2021, on Zoom.

Thanks! Get outdoors and stay well!

AMC-SEM Annual Meeting Webinar
Saturday, Nov. 6, 2021 from 5 to 7 pm
Registration by Activity DataBase Posting
opens on Oct. 1st. Please visit the amcsem.org
Home Page for links to the Slate of Officers,
and review the proposed 2021 By-Laws with
previous text and revision marks or with
proposed text only and no revision marks.



Blue Hills Observatory. File photo from the Patriot Ledger

Blue Hills Observatory hike & tour By Ellen Thompson

If you have hiked in the Great Blue Hill section of the Blue Hills reservation, you would have seen a unique looking building there. Do you know it's historical and present-day significance?

The building is the Blue Hills Observatory & Science Center, a National Historic Landmark. The Observatory is a benchmark station for the study of climate change and home to the world's oldest climate record. The first weather observations were made February 1, 1885, and unbroken records have been kept for 135 years.

Early this summer Joanne Newton, conservation chair, organized a tour of the Observatory. On a beautiful June day, Bill Doherty, Barry Young, and Karen Foley led 17 AMC hikers to the station, where we broke up into two groups for our tours. The tour started at the base of the Observatory where they have many pieces of equipment to measure rainfall.



Equipment to measure rainwater. The metal hanging on the side keeps the rain from blowing, directing it straight into the measuring tube. *Photo by Ellen Thompson*

As we moved inside, our tour leader explained the various apparatuses used to measure weather patterns. Some of these were as old as the Observatory itself. For example, the oldest mercury barometer was purchased by the Observatory's founder, Abbott Lawrence Roche, and put into service in 1887. It is still in service today!

As you can imagine, it's difficult to get parts for instruments that are 135 years old, and the staff is constantly repairing and upgrading to keep the records exact. They often have many devices running at the same time to guarantee accuracy. It was noted that some of the old equipment is as accurate as the new.

We then took a narrow staircase up to the roof. There were plenty of anemometers, to measure wind speed and wind pressure, whirring away. For the same reason as mentioned before, the multiple instruments being used ensures data is not lost and is accurate.

It turned out to be an incredibly clear day: We could see all the way to Mount Wachusett, some 50 miles away.



Left: The tower extends into the higher atmosphere.

Below: Visitors enjoy the view from the top deck of the Observatory.

Photos by Ellen Thompson



Living as close as we do in Southeastern Massachusetts, this is a very interesting spot to visit and take advantage of the tours offered. The station is currently closed until 2022 for renovations.

For more information: https://bluehill.org/observatory/



"The Women of the Woods." Photo by Jeannine Audet

AMC-SEM 'Women of the Woods' backpack 36 miles of the AT

By Jeannine Audet

A group of seven intrepid hikers enjoyed a fabulous three-day, 36-mile backpack on the Appalachian Trail in New Jersey. The hike started in Culver's Gap. The weather was sunny and fairly cool. About a mile into our hike, as the wooded trail broke into a meadow, we surprised a black bear who was feasting on blueberries—it turned tail and ran. We partook of some of the berries, too, which were delicious!





The group enjoyed views from the Culver Fire Tower. then from the summit of Sunrise Mountain at our lunch break. We made camp Sawmill Lake Campground, shared tips about backpacking stoves and different foods over dinner. and built a campfire. We were treated to a symphony of sounds that night, including bullfrogs, a whippoorwill, a barred owl, and two woodpeckers.

The group broke camp early the next morning to start our hike to Pochuck Mountain Shelter. The day was a bit warmer, and we refilled our water at a lovely stream. The AT led us through several picturesque fields with rolled baled hay. Toward the end of the day's hike, the trail led around the perimeter of Wallkill River National Wildlife Refuge, where we met a snapping turtle (while maintaining a safe distance!). A friendly visitor to the Center also shared some sparkling water and oranges with us, and we were most appreciative.



Views from the Appalachian Trail—and above it!

Photos by Jeannine Audet

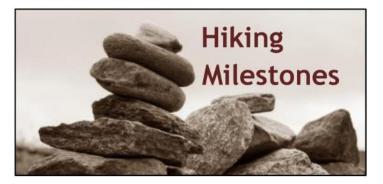
The trail led to our last certain water source, then steeply climbed to Pochuck Shelter. The shelter itself was full, so we made a fine camp at the tent site. Our group shared some conversation with hikers passing through and staying at the shelter.

Our final hiking day, which was quite sunny and humid, provided some beautiful scenery along the two-mile boardwalk just before crossing over the Pochuck Creek Suspension Bridge. We concluded our backpack in Vernon, NJ, with a much appreciated stop for ice cream and cherries. The rain started as we left the trail—what good fortune!

The trip was very thoughtfully planned by leaders Anne Duggan, Leslie Carson, and Diane Hartley. The "Women of the Woods" plan to tackle another AT section soon. Join us for our next adventure!







Please congratulate the following members who completed a Trail Trace series in 2021. These finishers receive a Trail Trace the Blue Hills patch.:

Trail Trace the Blue Hills-Q1, Q2, & Q3 Finishers

Ken Cohen 3/3/2021 Trail Trace the Blue Hills	3x	Green
1/31/2021 Winter Trail Trace the Blue Hills	1x	White
Karen Foley		
4/7/2021 Trail Trace the Blue Hills	3x	Green
7/26/2021 Trail Trace the Blue Hills	4x	Orange
1/4/2021 Winter Trail Trace the Blue Hills	1x	White
Joanne Newton		
3/29/2021 Trail Trace the Blue Hills	4x	Orange
6/29/2021 Trail Trace the Blue Hills	5x	<u>Yellow</u>
1/4/2021 Winter Trail Trace the Blue Hills	1x	White
3/3/2021 Winter Trail Trace the Blue Hills	2x	Blue
Stephanie Carvallaro		
7/20/2021 Trail Trace the Blue Hills	4x	Orange
Sue Svelnis	_	
2/4/2021 Trail Trace the Blue Hills	5x	Yellow
Bill Belben		
4/9/2021 Trail Trace the Blue Hills	5x	<u>Yellow</u>
6/17/2021 Trail Trace the Blue Hills	6x	Purple
Linda Douglas		
4/11/2021 Trail Trace the Blue Hills	8x	Bronze
Walt Granda		
5/7/2021 Trail Trace the Blue Hills	8x	Bronze
Bob Vogel		
3/29/2021 Trail Trace the Blue Hills	9x	Silver
5/18/2021 Trail Trace the Blue Hills	10x	Gold
1/27/2021 Winter Trail Trace the Blue Hills	3x	Green
2/24/2021 Winter Trail Trace the Blue Hills	4x	Orange
Bill Doherty		
9/2/2021 Trail Trace the Blue Hills	11x	
Michael Swartz		
3/9/2021 Trail Trace the Blue Hills	18x	
Pam Johnson		
1/19/2021 Winter Trail Trace the Blue Hills	1x	White
2/19/2021 Winter Trail Trace the Blue Hills	2x	Blue
Tom Graefe		

3/10/2021 Winter Trail Trace the Blue Hills



Cape leaders hold a late summer reunion—and review of procedures for the fall season. Photo by Marcella Rippell

Cape hiking leader gathering By Robin McIntyre, Cape Hiking Vice Chair

On August 2, twenty Cape hike leaders and leaders-inprocess gathered at Jane Harding's house for a kick-start to the Cape hiking season for September. Jane reviewed and updated pertinent information for leaders including proposed Cape hike leader requirements; hike registration possibilities, including Show and Go, use of SNEL, use of the ActDB for posting and registering for a hike; service dog considerations; the upcoming leader appreciation gathering in September; and potentially including other groups on our hikes.

A social time with a cookout followed under pleasantly cool blue skies. Everyone enjoyed being together again and thinking about a robust season of hiking on the trails ahead of us!

Conservation Corner Suggestions for Going Greener

These actions won't save the planet, but if we each try, we can incorporate more environmentally friendly habits into our lives. This month:

Let's try to reduce our use of paper products.

Billions of pounds of paper products are sent to landfills every year. Products such as reusable rags, beeswax food containers, and silicon bags can reduce the amount of rubbish being sent to landfills. Try to go paperless four days this month, one day a week, or four days in a row.

Look online for many affordable sources for sustainable alternatives to paper products, including local retail stores.





Cassels, Joanne, Ken, and

Patty. Photo by John Schepis





The making of a new Class 1 Hike Leader: Patty Everett

By: Ken Cohen, Hike Leader

Hike Leader Patty Everett and I have known and hiked with one another for approximately three years. It all began during AMC-SEM programs such as "Winter Tracing the Blue Hills" and Bob Vogel's "What the Heck Kind of a Hike Is This?"

More than a year ago, during the COVID-19 Pandemic, Patty and I began to hike with small groups and occasionally as a pair when others weren't available. That's when I realized her enthusiasm, preparedness, hiking abilities, and trail-tracing expertise would all be talents needed to become a successful hike leader.

With encouragement from many fellow AMC-SEM hikers, Patty decided she would enroll in our chapter's Leadership Training Course. She was soon a participant of the virtual training and studies made available by AMC Headquarters and enhanced by AMC-SEM. During that time, we shared many trails with small groups of other AMC hikers on a regular basis (one-to-three times per week).

Once her online training was successfully completed, we discussed and started to plan for her first co-lead with me as her mentor.

Patty's first co-lead on May 27, 2021, went very well. I turned the reins over to her after the circle-up for our five-mile Ponkapoag Pond hike in the Blue Hills Reservation.

Overall, Patty's group leadership performance was excellent! She learned quite a bit as the hike went on.

We briefly talked about her second "Qualifying Hike," which we hoped Joanne Newton would attend as comentor and co-leader. The timing of that hike would take place when Patty felt she was ready.

The second required co-lead, scheduled to take place on August 26, was virtually all hers! I put Patty in charge of everything except for the actual listing and participant administration of the hike, since she did not yet have full access to the AMC ActDB system. Actually, we took the time to walk through the procedure I used to list the trip on the database, in a virtual kind of way, via telephone.

Patty successfully designed the hike route through the St. Moritz and Pipeline regions, starting from the Shea Skating Rink in Quincy; qualified all individuals; conducted the circle-up; led the hike; added points-of-interest details along the way; organized separation and snack breaks; and conducted the circle-up at the end of the hike. With the experience and assistance of Joanne Newton as our second seasoned hike leader, the trip went extremely well!

Letters of recommendation from Joanne and me were sent to our Hiking Chair, Paul Brookes, and Hiking Vice Chair Pam Johnson. Patty was approved as a Class 1 Hike Leader on August 29th. I am confident that Patty will make an excellent trip leader. Her knowledge and hiking expertise will benefit and inspire many participants and future hike leaders. Personally, I can't wait to be one of those participants during a hike led by Patty Everett!

FallFest 2021 coming Oct. 16-23!

In place of our Annual Fall Gathering, AMC will provide opportunities for learning and networking closer to home. Each evening from Oct. 18 to Oct. 22, a special online guest will address a topic related to the AMC community, followed by an opportunity to discuss and ask questions.

AMC will host Volunteers and Members in person on Oct. 16 at Noble View Outdoor Center in Massachusetts, and on Oct. 23 at Highland Center in New Hampshire and Mohican Outdoor Center in New Jersey. Enjoy a barbecue and time to reconnect in an outdoor setting that allows for social distancing!

Further details will be coming soon! Any leader interested in hosting an activity for FallFest, please contact <u>volunteerrelations@outdoors.org</u>.



Photo Op on Rattlesnake Hill on the Skyline Trail. Caron Alibrandi, left, Dexter Robinson (Leader), Maureen Kelly, and Linda Church.

Photo by Kathleen Nash (foreground)

Hiking the lofty Skyline Trail end-to-end in the Blue Hills

By Dexter Robinson, Hike Leader

In early August several of us did a Skyline end-to-end hike. It was a warm, overcast, and very humid day with the threat of rain in the afternoon. We met at Shea Memorial Rink in Quincy and then carpooled to the end of Royall Street in Canton. We left a car at Houghton Pond in case someone needed to drop out.

Travelling eastward from the western terminus near Rt. 95, we had a chance to get our legs warmed up for the trek up Great Blue Hill. The North Skyline section was selected for its easier sections to descend and less buggy conditions. As the lunch hour approached, we divided our lunch into two shorter breaks to minimize the common post lunch energy drop. The first break utilized a picnic table near the DCR Headquarters on Hillside Street, and the other was on Buck Hill.

Past Buck Hill was a series of hills featuring some good scrambles. The last hill of the hike was the climb up Rattlesnake Hill, which offered a challenging ledge climb near the top. An easier bypass was an option. All of us did the more challenging route. A short distance later we arrived at St. Moritz Ponds and finally our initial meeting location.

The hike was 8.5 miles long, which took us just under six hours to complete. The vertical ascent was 1,953 feet, and the descent was 1,914 feet.

Beginner Hiking series kicks off

By Samantha Fisher, Membership Chair

A new Beginner Hiking series had its official kickoff hike on Sunday, July 3. It was a great turnout of all new AMC members. Samantha Fisher and Joanne Newton led the hike at Massasoit State Park in East Taunton.

It was an unusually cool and misty July morning, but luckily the rain stayed away the entire time, and the group was able to hike through the state park, completing about 4.5 miles. They learned the history of the park and what AMC-SEM is all about. Joanne showed the patches offered by chapter, and several members got noticeably excited about the 100-mile patch.

Samantha and Joanne loved seeing each hiker's enthusiasm and being part of something everyone enjoyed. The beginners were excited to be a part of the AMC-SEM group, and expressed interest in joining many more beginner hikes.

The Beginner Hiking series is focused on complete beginner AMC hikers. The locations chosen will be very easy trails that can be hiked even in good quality sneakers. During the hikes we educate the new hikers on best attire and footwear.



I hope to keep the series going all year, with a hike everyother month. If more hike leaders volunteer to lead, it can be more frequent. Individual hiking leaders can set conditions, such as number of hikers or a pre-screening process. (I would highly recommend doing this, especially since all participants will be brand new to our group.)

Bill Cannon will be leading a hike in September at Borderland State Park. If any other leaders/ co-leaders are interested in leading a Beginner Hike, or if you have an idea for a great hike location, please reach out to Samantha Fisher via email at membershipchair@amcsem.org.



'Apple-tracking' wildlife by the signs they leave on autumn fruit Article and photos by Patricia Liddle

Apples! It's the time of year to celebrate and eat them, and so many of us in the northeast do. What does this have to do with tracking? Not just humans eat apples.

Consider this crow. He found an apple to enjoy that I had put out in front of a game camera to see which animals were attracted to the treat. The crows peck the apples into pieces, eating on-site or flying away with them.



In my backyard, blue jays peck at apples on the trees, knocking them down. Apples on the ground attract other animals, including deer. The apple on the right at the top of the page shows the holes left by the blue jays as they ate, while the one on the left shows the curved bite mark left by a deer's bottom incisors.

Deer only have incisors (front teeth) on the lower jaw with a hard palate on the upper jaw. With the blue jays' help, the deer didn't have to wait for the apples to drop



naturally. This buck picked up the apple with his incisors and maneuvered it to the back of his mouth where his molars crushed it to swallow. I checked the lawn where he had stood and found small pieces of apple that had fallen out of his mouth as he ate.

Apples and other fruit are also enjoyed by foxes, fishers, bears, raccoons, coyotes, skunks; rabbits and porcupines and other rodents of all sizes. This beaver was caught on the game camera enjoying an apple. Apple treats may

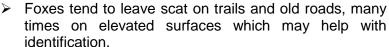


not be the norm for beavers, since they may cut down any apple tree they would have access to.

As with most food eaten, there may be other signs left. A bear left evidence of what was eaten with obvious apple skins in the scat.



There are apples trees all over the landscape, either deliberately or inadvertently planted. Keep an eye out for them and look in and underneath for sign on the apples or the scat that may have been left. By the way, take a look at the tree bark for claw marks where a bear, porcupine, or fisher may have climbed the tree to get to the apples.



- Scat left by an apple-eating animal may be tubular, a blob, or somewhere in between, but the apple skins will be evident.
- Take a bite of an apple and look at the bite evidence you leave. Compare your bite marks with another animal's apple (that includes another human's). Differences/similarities? My lower right canine is not in line with the teeth on either side of it, so that stands out in my bite mark.
- Scat may contain parasites, so it's best to use a stick to break it apart and not get your face real close.

So, as you enjoy your apple, know you have company.

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Patricia Liddle studied tracking with Sue Morse of Keeping Track; George Leoniak, The Mindful Tracker; Josh Woods with Flying Deer Nature Center; and, of course, the animals.

Patricia, a member of the Northeast Wildlife Trackers Conference planning committee, invites you to check out the October 22-24 <u>tracking conference</u> at the Rowe Center in Rowe, MA.

Activities

For the most current information, search activities online

Create your personal Activities Digest

AMC has an email notification system for AMC members interested in keeping up to date with new and upcoming activities posted on AMC's Activities Database (ActDB) on <u>outdoors.org</u>. The Activities Digest system can send email notifications on a daily, weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly basis depending on how a user configures the settings.

The Activity Digest functions in a very similar way to the search function on the ActDB listing page, but it pulls the data you want to see straight from ActDB to your inbox. To get started, Login to your account at the bottom of the home page at outdoors.org, and then click My Outdoors.

CAPE HIKES

Thu., Sep. 16. Hike Truro Bearberry Hill, MA. Easy. Pretty soft and hard sand trails with 2 hills ending with a 15 minute beach walk. Two outstanding views: Bearberry Hill and overlook at Longnook Beach. Proper footwear required. From Rte 6 in Truro take Pamet Rd exit and go right at end of ramp. Left on South Pamet Rd. Park at beach lot at the end. Meet at 9:45 for 2 hour hike. Registration not required. L Pat Sarantis (774-722-0355 Before 8:30 PM, patsarantis@gmail.com)

Sat., Sep. 25. Hike Doane Rock Eastham, MA. We will be meeting at 9:45 AM on Saturday, September 25, at the Doane Rock Picnic Area. To find this area, turn from Route 6 in Eastham at the Cape Cod National Seashore Salt Pond Visitors Center and continue with no turns for 1.4 miles turning right into the Doane Rock Picnic Area and park in the first available spot. The hike will start at Doane Rock and proceed to the Three Sisters Light Houses over dirt roads and woods trails. Next, we will visit the Nauset Lighthouse and walk along the ocean to Coast Guard Beach and then return to Doane Rock. The total distance is 4.6 miles in about 2.5 hours. Contact me if you have any questions. L Richard Kaiser (508-246-7582 Before 9 PM, rjkaiser@comcast.net)

Thu., Sep. 30. Hike—Wareham A, Wareham, MA. This pre-registered 3.5 mile, 1 3/4 hour hike with a limit of 19 participants and 1 leader is suitable for novice hikers. The wooded trails are relatively flat with uneven ground and roots through tall pines and historic lands. No dogs are allowed on this property. Hikers should have sturdy footwear, water, and insect repellent. Directions to the trailhead will be sent to pre-registered hikers. L Robin McIntyre (508-789-8252, robinmcintyre@comcast.net, Robin is a 6th year Level 1 SEM/Cape Hike leader with previous WFA training.)

Sun., Oct. 3. Hike--Falmouth, MA. This pre-registered hike, 4+ miles, 2 hours, with a maximum of 18 participants and 2 leaders is on wooded trails with several modest hills and lovely views. Participants should have sturdy footwear, water, insect repellent, and hiking poles if preferred. Driving directions to the trailhead will be sent to registered participants. L Robin McIntyre (508-789-8252, robinmcintyre@comcast.net, Robin is a 6th year Level 1 SEM/Cape Hike leader with previous WFA training) CL Marcella Rippel (508-463-7895, marcellarippel@gmail.com)

Sat., Oct. 9. Hike Eastham Quarry, Eastham, MA. We will be meeting at 9:45 AM on Saturday, October 9, at a bike trail parking lot in Eastham. To find this parking lot travel north on Route 6 in Eastham passing the National Seashore Salt Pond Visitors Center. Continue 2.2 miles north of the visitor's center and turn right at a traffic light onto Nauset Road, cross the bike trail, and park in a lot on right after the bike trail. This is a 2 hour and 45 minute hike in the National Seashore on dirt roads, wooded trails, and with high cliff views of the ocean covering 5.6 miles. L Richard Kaiser (508-246-7582 Before 9 PM, rikaiser@comcast.net)

Sun., Oct. 10. Hike Maple Swamp, Sandwich, MA. This hike requires pre-registration, please contact leader for assistance. This is a very hilly hike over uneven glacial terrain. Sturdy footwear preferably hiking boots and fluid for hydration required, hiking poles strongly recommended. Be prepared for ticks and poison ivy. L Jane Harding (508-833-2864 Before 8 PM, janeharding@comcast.net, Cape Hike Chair with many years of hiking experience.)

Thu., Oct. 14. Hike Hawknest State Park, Harwich, MA. Registration is required for this hike. If you need assistance, please contact leader. This 4+ mile hike is mainly on woodland trails and dirt roads with pond views along the way. Generally flat terrain. Sturdy footwear and water for hydration required. Be prepared to encounter poison ivy and ticks. L Jane Harding (508-833-2864 Before 8 PM, janeharding@comcast.net, Cape Hike Chair with many years of hiking experience.) CL Trish Crocker (pmcrocker@yahoo.com, Leader in training)

Activities

For the most current information, search activities online

CAPE HIKES

Sun., Oct. 17. Hike Shallow Pond, East Falmouth, MA. With a GPS or smartphone, the parking lot is across from 225 Thomas B Landers Rd,, East Falmouth., MA. This hike is in a 70-acre conservation area in East Falmouth called Shallow Pond Woodlands as well as an adjacent 68-acre parcel, Breivogel Ponds. The distance will be about 4 miles and the hike will take about 2 1/4 hours. There are a couple of hills but most of the hike will be relatively flat and easy. Please meet at 1245 and after an introduction and review of safety measures, we will depart by 1300. Registration is required and masks are recommended during the introduction. If you have symptoms of Covid-19, or test positive before the hike, please cancel. Significant rain will cancel the hike. If, after registering, you find that you cannot attend, please cancel online and let the leader know. For specific driving directions, or for questions, please contact the Leader. We look forward to having you join us on this hike. L John Gould (508-540-5779, index.org index. Has been leading hikes for Cape Hiking for over 17 years.)

Thu., Oct. 21. Hike--Bourne T, Bourne, MA. This pre-registered 4+ mile, 2 hour hike is limited to 19 participants and 1 leader. This hike is not suitable for novice hikers. The terrain is over wooded trails and fire roads with frequent rolling hills in a loop without easy bailout points. Participants must have sturdy hiking footwear, water, and insect repellent. Bring hiking poles if preferred. Driving directions to the trailhead will be sent to pre-registered participants. L Robin McIntyre (508-789-8252, robinmcintyre@comcast.net, Robin is a 6th year Level 1 SEM/Cape Hike leader with previous WFA training.)

Sat., Oct. 23. Hike Marconi Beach Wellfleet, MA. We will be meeting at 9:45 AM on Saturday, October 23, at the Marconi Beach parking lot in Wellfleet. To find this parking lot travel north on Route 6 in Wellfleet to the first traffic light turning right at the brown sign, "Marconi Area". Follow the signs to Marconi Beach and park at the far end on the right side of the lot. This is a 3 hour hike in the National Seashore on dirt roads, wooded trails, and with high cliff views of the ocean covering 5.2 miles. L Richard Kaiser (508-246-7582 Before 9 PM, rjkaiser@comcast.net)

Sat., Oct. 30. Hike Falmouth Moraine Trail, Goodwill Park, Falmouth, MA. Nine mile, 5-hour hike along the Buzzards Bay moraine, and a pond, with lunch stop. Meet in Goodwill Park in Falmouth at 0830, and we will carpool at 0845 to the trail start at 0900. These times are an hour earlier than usual because of the length of the hike. Directions: From the Mashpee rotary, take Rt 151 west 3.4 miles and turn Left at Sandwich Rd. Go 3.7 miles and turn Right onto Brick Kiln Rd; go 0.9 miles and turn Left onto Gifford St. After 1.1 miles turn Right to enter Goodwill Park and continue 0.3 miles to parking. This hike has areas with hills and is moderately difficult. Sturdy boots and hiking poles are recommended. Bring lunch, water and snack. A mask is recommended for the meetup and required for the carpooling to the beginning of the hike. Ticks and poison ivy will be encountered. Registration is required and if you have symptoms of Covid-19, or test positive before the hike, please cancel. Significant rain will cancel the hike. If, after registering, you find that you cannot attend, please cancel online and let the leader know. For specific driving directions, or for questions, please contact the Leader. We look forward to having you join us on this hike. L John Gould (508-540-5779, index.org/linearing-10.20m highould@comcast.net)

Sat., Nov. 6. Hike Marconi Station Wellfleet, MA. We will be meeting at 9:45 AM on Saturday, November 6, at the Marconi Station Site parking lot in Wellfleet. To find this parking lot travel north on Route 6 in Wellfleet to the first traffic light turning right at the brown sign, "Marconi Area". Follow the signs to Marconi Station Site and park on the left side of the lot. This is a 3-hour hike in the National Seashore on dirt roads, wooded trails, and with high cliff views of the ocean covering 6.1 miles. L Richard Kaiser (508-246-7582 Before 9 PM, rjkaiser@comcast.net)

Sun., Nov. 21. Hike--Bourne S, Bourne, MA. This pre-registered hike with a limit of 14 participants, 4+ miles, 2 hours, will take place in Bourne. The wooded trails have frequent rolling hills with leaves, rocks, and roots to negotiate. Participants should have sturdy hiking footwear, water, and insect repellent. Directions to the trailhead will be sent to pre-registered participants. L Robin McIntyre (508-789-8252, robinmcintyre@comcast.net, Robin is a 6th year Level 1 SEM/Cape Hike leader with previous WFA training)

Sun., Dec. 19. Hike--Wareham G, Wareham, MA. This pre-registered hike with a limit of 19 participants is 4+ miles in Wareham. The wooded trails have some minor hills and rocks/roots to negotiate in conservation areas. Waterproof hiking shoes/boots are required and microspikes/Yak Trax and poles if snowy/icy. Bring water. Directions to the trailhead will be send to registered participants. L Robin McIntyre (508-789-8252, robinmcintyre@comcast.net, Robin is a 6th year Level 1 SEM/Cape Hike Leader with previous WFA training.)

Activities

For the most current information, search activities online

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Volunteer Opportunities

Ongoing. Chair, SEM Communications, MA. Join the SEM Executive Committee! Do you love to write, coordinate activities, and engage others? The Communications Chair supports the activities of Communications Committee volunteer staff (Breeze Editor, Blast Editor, Webmaster, Social Media Administrator, etc.) to manage communications to our members. Find our more here:. L Diane Simms (chair@amcsem.org) CL Alan Greenstein (nominating.com@amcsem.org Alan is Chair of the SEM Nominating Committee.)

Ongoing. SEM Chapter Vice Chair, MA. Would you like to be involved in all facets of SEM? Do you like planning and collaborating with others? Are you an active leader or interested in becoming one? The Vice Chair assists Activity Chairs and leaders with questions so it's important that the candidate be a leader or be willing to become one. More details available here. L Diane Simms (chair@amcsem.org) CL Alan Greenstein (nominating.com@amcsem.org Alan is Chair of the SEM Nominating Committee.)

Ongoing. SEM Bicycling Vice Chair, MA. Are you an avid cyclist? Do you like planning and collaborating with others? Are you an active leader or interested in becoming one? The Bicycling Vice Chair assists the Bicycling Chair and leaders with questions so it's important that the candidate be a leader or be willing to become one. More info available here. L Peter Linhares (bikingchair@amcsem.org) L Diane Simms (chair@amcsem.org) CL Alan Greenstein (nominating.com@amcsem.org, Alan is Chair of the SEM Nominating Committee)

Ongoing. SEM Education Chair, MA. The role of the Education Chair is to coordinate and supervise programs to improve the skills of SEM's members and activity leaders. The Education Committee's core programs are Leadership Training and Wilderness First Aid. In addition, the Education Committee's goals include supporting the chapter and other SEM committees to develop on line or in person programs that contribute to education. The position requires you to be present for any in person training classes supported by the Education Committee. An effective candidate will demonstrate a willingness to collaborate & share new ideas. A love of nature is also a plus. Please email chair@amcsem.org for more information. L Diane Simms (chair@amcsem.org) CL Alan Greenstein (nominating.com@amcsem.org, Alan is Chair of the SEM Nominating Committee).

Ongoing. SEM Hiking Vice Chair, Blue Hills, MA. Do you lead Hikes for SEM, do you have a vision for how we can continue to grow and promote hiking, are you good with people? Do you have a knack for planning and organization, are you somewhat tech savvy? If this describes you then please check out the roles and responsibilities below and consider applying for the Hiking Vice Chair position. The Hiking Vice Chair assists the Hiking Chair. Responsibilities include: •Coordinating hiking series, workshops and ad-hoc hiking task forces *Leading your own hikes and participating in other leaders' hikes *Recruiting and mentoring new hike leaders •Participating in monthly board meetings and working with other committees as needed e.g. soliciting Breeze articles for communications and working with education on WFA needs •Partnering with the hiking chair in planning for the quarter. •Help lead quarterly hike leaders' meetings and take on specific responsibilities and projects as delegated and accepted. Applicant must be an active hike leader with the SEM chapter. Applicants need to have access to a desktop or laptop computer and be comfortable leading online meetings. If interested in applying for the role send an email to the Hiking Chair (hikingchair@amcsem.org) and a member of the nominating committee (see list below): Nominating Committee: Alan Greenstein (nominating.com@amcsem.org) Pete (nominating1@amcsem.org), Cathy Giordano (nominating2@amcsem.org). Paul **Brookes** (hikingchair@amcsem.org, I am the Hiking Chair for the SEM chapter of the AMC.)

Ongoing. Chair SEM 20s & 30s Committee, MA. Help engage SEM 20s & 30s members by planning in-person activities, online socials, and social media. Be an active member of SEM's Executive Committee. More details here. For more information, contact L Diane Simms (chair@amcsem.org) CL Alan Greenstein (nominating.com@amcsem.org, Alan is Chair of the SEM Nominating Committee).

CHAPTER

Sat., Nov. 6. SEM 2021 Annual Webinar Meeting, MA. The SEM Annual Meeting webinar will be held from 5-7 pm on Saturday November 6. There will be a report to the membership, election of your 2022 Executive Board, a vote on bylaw revisions, and presentation of the Distinguished Service Award. L Diane Simms (chair@amcsem.org)

Activities

For the most current information, search activities online

EDUCATION

Sat., Sep. 18-19. Wilderness First Aid, AMC Southeastern Massachusetts Chapter, Wompatuck State Park, Hingham, MA. Wilderness First Aid is a two-day class designed for trip leaders, co-loaders, and outdoor enthusiasts. This course teaches the skills necessary to identify and treat medical issues common to wild settings and to prepare for long-term care scenarios. This emergency response training includes patient assessment social exercises, animal and insect bites, and a variety social exercises. Both days are required to certify. CPR is Social exercises. Both days are required to certify the contre

HIKING

Get your 100-mile patch! Contact hikingchair@amcsem.org. Always looking for additional hike leaders! Contact hikingchair@amcsem.org.

Thu., Sep. 16-16. Trail Trace the Blue Hills Hike, September 16, 6-8PM, Blue Hills, MA. Join us for the 16th year of this popular series. We hike at a moderate pace for 2 to 3 hours in the Blue Hills reservation every Thursday evening. This is a great way to end your day, get outside, strengthen your hiking legs, and socialize with a nice group of people. Register once for the series and you will get a weekly email with the location where we will be meeting. Come for one Thursday or come for them all. Appropriate hiking clothes and a small backpack are required. Hiking shoes or other functional footwear are required (no work shoes or gym shoes). We hike until sunset so you must bring a headlamp in case we end up hiking out after dark. The latest (as of May 29) Mask advisory from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health is all unvaccinated residents to continue to wear masks in indoor settings and when they can't socially distance. Often on our hikes we may not be able to maintain a social distance of 6 feet apart. L Joanne (newt665@comcast.net), Natalie Halloran (natalie.halloran@yahoo.com), Paul **Brookes** Newton (PaulBrookes1966@outlook.com)

Fri., Sep. 17. Mts Jefferson and Adams hike, White Mountains, NH. Ascend to the summit of Mt Jefferson via Caps Ridge Trail. Based on time and conditions we will then head over to Mt Adams before returning to our cars. This is a strenuous hike with significant elevation gain and time above tree line. Participants should have above tree line experience. L George Danis (339-236-0597 after 5:00 pm, danisdad51@outklook.com)

Wed., Sep. 22. First Day of Autumn Hike at Myles Standish State Forest, Plymouth/Carver, MA. Welcome in the Fall with me at Myles Standish State Forest in Plymouth/Carver. Combining the flat, pond-side East Head Loop and the hilly, wooded Bentley Loop will give us about 7 miles of beautiful trails. Once we're done, we'll still have the rest of the day for other things. Meet at 7:45 at the Forest Headquarters Parking Lot, 194 Cranberry Road, Carver, 02330. We'll plan on a moderate pace to complete the hike in approximately 3 hours. Registration is required; email the leader with questions or concerns. L Maureen Kelly (617-943-4288 before 8 pm, mokel773@aol.com) L Barry Young (508-339-3089 Before 9 PM, barry.young@comcast.net)

Sat., Sep. 25. Hike Brockton Conservation Trails, Brockton, MA. Enjoy an easy 4-5 mile hike at the beautiful woodland trails and boardwalks of Brockton's conservation properties. The hike will be 2-3 hours. Beginner hikers welcome! You must have recently walked a comparable distance. Trails are mostly flat. Be prepared to step over tree roots and some rocks. Sturdy walking shoes required; sneakers are okay. No open-toed shoes. Bring at least 1 liter of water and snacks. Insect repellant is recommended. As with all AMC hikes, we start as a group and end as a group; nobody is left behind. The exact location will be emailed after you email hike leader at chair@amcsem.org. L Diane Simms (chair@amcsem.org) L Maureen Kelly (617-943-4288, mosel773@aol.com)

Sun., Sep. 26. Fall River Bioreserve Hike, Fall River, MA. Join us for a 4-5 mile hike in the historic, beautiful Fall River Bioreserve. We will walk on some of the lesser-traveled trails. This hike is appropriate for beginners who are looking for a bit of a challenge, as we will encounter muddy & rocky areas of the trail. Sturdy footwear (boots or trail shoes, no sneakers) needed, & trekking poles would be helpful. Bring water, a snack, sunscreen & bug spray. The exact location will be emailed to confirmed registrants. One of the leaders will have his well-behaved dog 'Sunny' with him, no other dogs permitted. L Paul Brookes (paulbrookes1966@outlook.com, Living in Boston I enjoy hiking around Greater Boston and beyond. I am a four season hike leader for the Southeastern Massachusetts chapter of the AMC and lead both local hikes as well as destination hikes such as to the White Mountains (I am certified in Wilderness First Aid). You may often find me in the Blue Hills with my dog Sunny.) CL Paul Audet (508-287-3122, milmod@aol.com)

Activities

For the most current information, search activities online

Sat., Oct. 9. Trail Trace the Blue Hills Hike: Fowl Meadow, 9:30AM - 2:30PM, Blue Hills Reservation, MA. Join us for a Saturday hike of the Fowl Meadow section of the Blue Hills. The moderately paced hike will be approximately 8 plus miles. The terrain is mostly flat but some sections may be wet. Online registration is required. Exact starting time and parking location will be communicated a week before the hike. L William Doherty (781-857-4148 5-8pm, wdoherty1@verizon.net, Level 1 AMC Hike Leader. Four season Blue Hill hiker. Occasional White mountain hiker. Trail maintenance volunteer.) L Paul Brookes (Living in Boston I enjoy hiking around Greater Boston and beyond. I am a four season hike leader for the Southeastern Massachusetts chapter of the AMC and lead both local hikes as well as destination hikes such as to the White Mountains (I am certified in Wilderness First Aid). You may often find me in the Blue Hills with my dog Sunny.)

Sat., Nov. 13. Trail Trace the Blue Hills Hike, End To End, 8:00am - 3:30pm, Blue Hills Reservation, MA. Join us for a Saturday hike of the famous Skyline trail from Shea Rink to Fowl Meadow. This moderately paced 8 plus mile hike crosses numerous hills including Great Blue hill. It is a difficult and strenuous hike, not for beginners, due to its length and cumulative vertical ascent of over 2000 feet with some scrambling. Duration of hike is expected to be 7 plus hours. Participants should be in great shape and have been hiking regularly this season. Registration is required by all participants. Rain on the day of the hike will cancel as well as rain the day before. The leader will communicate exact starting time and parking location a week before the hike. L William Doherty (781-857-4148 5-8pm, wdoherty1@verizon.net, Level 1 AMC Hike Leader. Four season Blue Hill hiker. Occasional White mountain hiker. Trail maintenance volunteer.) L Paul Brookes (Living in Boston I enjoy hiking around Greater Boston and beyond. I am a four season hike leader for the Southeastern Massachusetts chapter of the AMC and lead both local hikes as well as destination hikes such as to the White Mountains (I am certified in Wilderness First Aid). You may often find me in the Blue Hills with my dog Sunny.)

PADDLING

Sat., Sep. 18. Paddle Barnstable Harbor, Yarmouthport, MA. Arrive no later than 10:15 for a 10:30 departure. Bring water and a lunch. PFDs are required by Massachusetts law. We'll launch from Grays Beach, Yarmouth Port, and paddle up Clay's Creek to Bass Creek and then into Barnstable Harbor. If conditions permit we'll cross Barnstable Harbor to have lunch on Sandy Neck and view the cottages and lighthouse. If conditions don't permit crossing Barnstable Harbor we'll explore Hallet's Mill Pond instead. Plan on a 6 to 7 mile trip. L Ed Foster (erfoster@comcast.net)

SKIING

Fri., Dec. 10-12. Cross Country Skiing & Snowshoeing in the Berkshires, Wainwright Inn, Great Barrington, MA. Join us for cross country skiing, snowshoeing &/ or hiking in the beautiful Berkshires. The activities offered will depend upon snow conditions. There are many possible activity locations in the area. Participants must have their own skis/ snowshoes or rent ahead of time. The group will be staying at the Wainwright Inn in Great Barrington, MA. Breakfast is included. Participants will need to contact the inn to reserve their rooms. (413) 528-2062. https://wainwrightinn.com/. Jeannine Audet (508-493-8221 Weeknights after 7:00 pm, weekends anytime., milmod@aol.com) L Dia Prantis (617-504-8797, dprantis@yahoo.com)

TRAILS

Volunteer Opportunities

Sat., Oct. 16. Trail Maintenance in the Blue Hills, Milton, MA. No experience necessary! Everyone welcome! Skyline Trail between Houghton's Pond and Route 28. Where to meet: Directions will be emailed to registered volunteers. AMC will supply tools. Please bring your own work gloves, water, snack, wear appropriate clothing (long pants/long sleeve shirt, boots, hat), sunscreen, bug spray. No open toe sandals! Please contact the leader to register no later than Wednesday, Oct. 13, 2021. All tools will be cleaned before and after trail work. L Skip Maysles (774-284-5080 Before 9 pm, skip.maysles@outlook.com) L Stephen Scala



