

The Southeast Breeze

The Newsletter of the Southeastern Massachusetts Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club | September 2023

Get your preferred AMC-SEM activities delivered right to your email inbox!

To sign up for the AMC Activity Digest, go to the very bottom of [Outdoors.org](https://www.outdoors.org) & click **Login to My Outdoors**.

Choose **Go to Activities Database**.

Under **My Dashboard** on the left, click **Manage Digest Emails** and **Create new digest**.

Or call 1-800-372-1758 for help.

Find past issues of *The Southeast Breeze* on our [website](https://www.outdoors.org).

Like us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/AMCSEM).
Follow us on [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/AMCSEM).

Have a story for *The Southeast Breeze*?

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

Please send original, full resolution photos as separate attachments, including the name of each photographer. Include the words "Breeze Article" in the subject line.

Shop the Breeze Market for equipment bargains!

Members looking to sell, trade, or free-cycle their used equipment can post for free. Send listings to breeze.editor@amcsem.org.

Business ads start at just \$10/month. Send inquiries to breeze.editor@amcsem.org.



AMC-SEM bikers took advantage of the extended daylight for a ride along the Cape Cod Canal. Cecelia MacWilliam, E.M. "Em" MacWilliam, Tara Violette, Barry Young, Cheryl Pare. *Photo by Len Ulbricht*

Sunset to full moon ride along Cape Cod Canal *by Len Ulbricht*

At 7 pm Wednesday, August 2, AMC-SEM bikers at the Sandwich end of the canal departed for our ride westward toward the setting sun. We fortunately caught the weather change after the previous week's heat, humidity, and haze, and enjoyed an almost-cloudless deep blue sky, gentle northerly breeze, and cool low 70s temperature that dipped to chilly 60s after dark. Just perfect conditions.

The six of us—Em, Tara, Cheryl, Cecilia, Barry, and yours truly—glided gently along the uncrowded canal path. Though no boats traveled the canal, wildlife abounded in the form of scattering rabbits and great blue herons. I counted 10 great blues searching for dinner along the shoreline, one of which gracefully flew by us. We passed the railroad bridge and reached our viewpoint across from the Maritime Academy several minutes ahead of the 8 pm sunset. That gave us time to soak up the sun's golden rays as it slowly set, a breath-taking moment.

As dusk settled in, it was time to ensure both headlights and taillights were on for our return ride to the canal's east end for the full moon's 9:06 pm rise. With slack water and no boat traffic to create wakes, the moderate north wind and the remaining dusky sky light created unusual visual effects on swells in the canal: a twisted ribbon pattern of light and dark rolling toward us, swell after swell.

Upon reaching our starting point with 20 minutes to spare, we packed away the bikes, and as darkness arrived brought out headlamps and flashlights for our short walk to the east end of the canal and Cape Cod Bay. After a few minutes' wait, the top cusp of the moon appeared, gradually rising to a full round orange orb with glistening reflections off waves in the bay. Fully dark now with a chill setting in, we said goodbyes and called it a wonderful night.



View from the Chair: 2024 Executive Committee Slate

I am delighted to report that AMC-SEM has a strong 2024 [Executive Committee nomination slate](#). SEM members will vote on this slate at our November 4 Annual Meeting, which will be held at the Bay Pointe Club at Buzzards Bay. [Register today!](#)

Short biographies for everyone on the nominating slate follow:

Paul Brookes, Chapter Chair: Paul was elected as Chapter Chair in November 2022. Prior to his current role, Paul was chosen as Hiking Vice Chair in May 2020 and elected as Hiking Chair at the November 2020 Annual Meeting. He is also a four-season destination hike leader and mentor. He regularly teaches Leadership Training, Winter Workshops, and Map and Compass. He has been an active AMC-SEM member for twelve years. Paul retired from Philips Healthcare in 2014, where he had been an engineer and a product manager.

Jeannine Audet, Chapter Vice Chair: Jeannine was elected as Chapter Vice Chair at the same time as Paul. Prior to her current role, Jeannine served as Skiing Chair since 2017. Jeannine was the 2020 recipient of SEM's Distinguished Service Award and has been a chapter member for more than 15 years. As well as being a Winter Workshop Instructor, she is one of the few SEM multi-activity leaders (skiing, hiking, backpacking, and biking).

Lindsey Meyers Bertone, Secretary: Lindsey was elected as Secretary in September 2022. As Secretary she keeps and distributes the minutes of our Executive Committee meetings, records Executive Committee decisions, and sends out the Volunteer of the Month award and certificate. She received a gift membership to AMC in 2020 and has been active in SEM ever since. She helped teach the last two Map & Compass workshops and has taken Wilderness First Aid. She works full-time as a special education teacher.

Earl Deagle, Treasurer: Earl was elected as Treasurer in February 2022. As Treasurer he provides regular financial updates to the Executive Committee, assists in the preparation of the annual budget, and maintains our checking and savings accounts, collecting fees and paying debts. Earl retired from Raytheon after a 38-year career in Finance. He is a member of the board of directors, with treasurer responsibilities, for the Association of Raytheon Retirees. Earl enjoys hiking and is an avid sailor. He supports the Buzzards Bay Coalition as a Baywatcher, collecting water samples and assisting with fundraising.

Bill Trimble, Biking Chair: Bill was elected as Biking Chair in May 2022. He is an appointed member of the Dartmouth Pathways Committee, which promotes the establishment and use of trails and bikeways in the Town of Dartmouth. Bill is a certified bike mechanic and teaches bike mechanic classes. Bill is active in helping his community. He leads group rides for school youth (for Youth Opportunities Unlimited) and organizes a youth lacrosse program (playing in the Mass Bay Youth Lacrosse League).

Robin McIntyre, Cape Hiking Chair: Robin was elected Vice Chair of Cape Hiking in September of 2020 and is on the nominating slate to take over from Jane Harding as Cape Hiking Chair. Robin has been an AMC-SEM member for 13 years and a Cape Hike leader for seven years. Prior to being Vice Chair of Cape Hiking, Robin was a member of the nominating committee. Robin leads frequent Cape Hikes each year and is a regular presenter on our Leadership Training days. She is a retired physical therapist who is a woodturner and enjoys playing music.

Justin Anderson, Communications Chair: Justin was chosen as Communications Vice Chair in March 2023 and was elected Communications Chair in June 2023. Justin says, "Outdoor recreation is vital to mental and physical well-being; we have an obligation to conserve and protect those spaces." His views are well-aligned with the AMC mission, and he has submitted multiple articles to the Breeze. Justin has a bachelor's degree in political sciences/economics and a master's degree in education policy. He is currently employed in the Office of the State Auditor as an Occupational School Financial Analyst. Prior to joining the OSA, he worked in public policy think tanks, academia, and children's mental health. He has devoted much of his spare time to public service and advocacy, including as a Big Brother, a municipal and county office holder, and coach/board member for a town soccer association.

Zoe Rath, Conservation Chair: Zoe was elected Conservation Chair in July 2023. She is a librarian at Norwell Public Library, where she organized several events for Earth Day, including a Goodbye Lawn Event, Sustainable Gardening, Bee Presentation and Insect Walk. Zoe joined AMC in 2012 and became a leader in 2013. She was very active with the Boston chapter before moving to Brockton, leading over 50 hikes, assisting with their series and training programs, and being a board member on the Young Adults Committee from 2015-2018. She was recently an Associate Leader on an AMC Adventure Travel to Liechtenstein and will be an Associate Leader on an Adventure Travel trip to Utah National Parks in 2024.

Continued on page 3



2024 Executive Committee Slate

Continued from page 2

Anne Duggan, Education Chair: Anne was elected shortly following the 2021 Annual Meeting. As Education Chair, she organizes and teaches at our SEM Leadership Training, including Advanced Leadership Training. She also coordinates our Wilderness First Aid training. She is a Four-Season Mountain Hiking Leader, as well as an active Backpacking Leader mentoring many of our newer Backpack Leaders. In 2022 she participated in AMC's Mountain Leadership School and is now an Assistant Adventure Travel Teacher. In her professional life, Anne was a family Nurse Practitioner. She was also an educator as an adjunct professor and clinical instructor. Anne volunteered as an instructor and mentor with Partners in Development.

Bill Belben, Hiking Chair: Bill was chosen as Hiking Vice Chair in April 2022 and elected Hiking Chair at the November 2022 Annual Meeting. Bill joined AMC in 2019, is an avid hiker, and quickly became a very active Hike Leader. Bill completed the New Hampshire 48 4Ks in November 2021 and participated in AMC's Mountain Leadership School in 2022. As Hiking Chair, Bill organizes the largest of our committees. As well as overseeing our local hikes and series, thanks to Bill SEM has had a big return to New Hampshire hiking.

Samantha Fisher, Membership Chair: Samantha was elected Membership Chair at the November 2021 Annual Meeting. As Membership Chair, Samantha organizes the Annual Open House, welcomes new members, and organizes new member activities.

Diane Simms, Past Chapter Chair: Diane Simms was Chapter Chair from 2020 to 2022 and now holds the post of Past Chapter Chair. As a Past Chapter Chair, Diane has been a valuable source of advice for me in my first year as Chapter Chair. I talk with her in person, by text, or email almost every week and appreciate her insight and perspective. Diane is a member of the Development Projects Committee that presents funding proposals to the Executive Committee twice yearly. Diane is also a very active Hike Leader and has just become a Level 2 Three-Season Mountain Hike Leader.

Dia Prantis, Skiing Chair: Dia served as Skiing Vice Chair beginning in 2020 and was elected Skiing Chair at the November 2022 Annual Meeting. In addition to being a Skiing Leader, Dia is also a Hiking Leader who started as a co-leader in 2016 and has since led local hikes, New Hampshire hikes, and skiing/snowshoe trips.

Steve Scala, Trails Chair: Steve was elected Trails Vice Chair in November 2020 and Trails Chair in November 2022. He has helped to lead trail projects in the Blue Hills. He volunteers with Borderland State Park and is an avid New Hampshire hiker.

Those highlighted in blue on the slate as "new" to their positions are new since the 2022 Annual Meeting, but have been serving for months on an interim basis per our [bylaws](#) (article 4.2). I believe that the nominating committee is putting forward a strong Executive Committee for your review and vote. I hope as you read through these bios that you share this sentiment.

Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to the Executive Committee members who volunteer their time and energy to ensure proper governance of our chapter and keep it running smoothly. Their dedication and commitment are truly appreciated. Happy trails!

Paul Brookes, Chapter Chair

2023 Executive Board

Chapter ChairPaul Brookes
Vice ChairJeannine Audet
Secretary.....Lindsey Meyers Bertone
TreasurerEarl Deagle
Past Chapter ChairDiane Simms

2023 Standing Committees

Biking ChairBill Trimble
Biking Vice ChairOpen

Cape Hiking Chair.....Jane Harding
Cape Hiking Vice ChairRobin McIntyre
Communications ChairJustin Anderson
Communications Vice Chair.....OPEN
Conservation ChairZoe Rath
Conservation Vice ChairPaul Williams
Education ChairAnne Duggan
Education Vice ChairSrinu Iyengar
Hiking ChairBill Belben
Hiking Vice Chair.....Tracy Hawes

Membership Chair.....Samantha Fisher
Membership Vice ChairNancy Piedra
Paddling ChairBarry Young
Paddling Vice ChairJoe Keogh
Skiing ChairDia Prantis
Skiing Vice ChairOpen
Trails ChairSteve Scala
Trails Vice ChairLarry Petrone
20's & 30's Chair.....Open
20's & 30's Vice Chair.....Open

Ad Hoc Committee Chairs & Other Chapter Contacts

Social Media Administrator Lisa Robitaille
Webmistress.....Cheryl Lathrop
Nominating Committee Chair.....Walt Granda
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion.....Maureen Kelly

Volunteer Relations...Katherine Brainard
Regional Director.....Jenna Whitney
The Breeze Editor..... Mo Walsh
Blast Editor.....Marie Hopkins

Please contact chair@amcsem.org or nominatingchair@mcsem.org if you are interested in any open position.



AMC-SEM provided funds for Upper Cape Technical School students to create new entrance signs and benches for two properties in the Town of Bourne. *Photos courtesy of UCT*

Bourne conservation areas revitalized—a community effort

This article is adapted from a release published in the Bourne edition of the Enterprise, June 23, 2023, [here](#).

Two conservation areas in Bourne have received a facelift due to the work of students from the Upper Cape Technical School (UCT) in partnership with the Southeastern Massachusetts Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC-SEM) and the Town of Bourne Conservation Department.

In the fall of 2022, AMC-SEM's Robin McIntyre and Len Ulbricht approached the Bourne Conservation Agent, Stephanie Fitch, about the chapter's interest in funding improvements at the Leary Property and Four Ponds Conservation Areas. A field survey of the properties determined that broken or degrading benches at Four Ponds and deteriorating entrance signs at both properties needed replacing. Ms. Fitch contacted UCT, and a partnership was formed.

This spring, AMC-SEM purchased and delivered all materials for the project to UCT. Carpentry and Environmental



Science students—under the supervision of their instructors, Joe Zajac, Wilbur Lavoie, and John Kelly—constructed, assembled, and installed 12 benches at Four Ponds, and designed, engraved, and installed the wood entrance signs at both Leary Property and Four Ponds. UCT's Director of Vocational Programs, Nolan LeRoy, provided coordination and support with the community groups.

When you have a chance, stop by the Leary Property and Four Ponds Conservation Areas to check out the new signs and benches.



Celebrate the Outdoors with AMC FallFest, Sept. 22nd-Oct. 1st

By Katherine Brainard, AMC Volunteer Relations

Join us later this month for a memorable week celebrating all the things we love: outdoor experiences, friends, food, and fall! A week of regional activities will culminate in a wonderful day of fun on Saturday, September 30th, at Noble View Outdoor Center in Western Massachusetts, Mohican Outdoor Center in New Jersey, and locations in Maine. Thank you to all who have already volunteered to lead activities, to help at the Sign-In table handing out swag and greeting new folks, to share your experience at one of our committee tables, and so much more!

Please forward this link to anyone who would like to attend FallFest. Kids come free! Non-members receive a free one-year AMC membership, and music, meals, and all-day programming are included in the registration. [Register Here](#).



Local SEM chapter events will be running from September 22nd to September 30th. Click on this [link](#) for SEM FallFest events, or search activities.outdoors.org for anything with "FallFest" in the name, and sign up to enjoy this beautiful season with others who love being outdoors.

The goal of FallFest is to showcase what AMC does best: leading activities outdoors for all and engaging your local community.

Distinguished Service Award nominations

By Walt Granda, DSA Coordinator

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

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 [DSA Nomination Form](#) and email it to [Walt Granda](#) the 2023 DSA Committee Coordinator. If you prefer, just email the person’s name with a brief explanation of why you think they deserve to receive this prestigious annual award based on the above criteria. All nominations must be received by October 1, 2023. The award will be presented at the SEM [Annual Meeting](#) on Saturday, November 4, 2023. Thank you.



2022	Walt Granda
2021	Leslie Carson
2020	Jeannine Audet
2019	Paul Miller
2018	Maureen Kelly
2017	Joe Keogh
2016	Farley Lewis
2015	Barbara Hathaway
2014	Mike Woessner
2013	Erika Bloom
2012	Carolyn Crowell
2011	Cheryl Lathrop
2010	Walter Morin
2009	Stephen Tulip
2008	Bob Vogel
2007	Lou Sikorsky
2006	Dexter Robinson
2005	Pamela Carter
2004	Robert Bentley
2003	John Smart
2002	Elsie Laverty
2001	Bruce Dunham



New Level 1 Hike Leader Susan Cummings receives her volunteer patch and leader kit from Bill Belben. *Photo by Patty Everett*

Good Great things come to those who wait—and work for them!

By Bill Belben, Hiking Chair

It may have taken a while, but the AMC-SEM Hiking Group was certainly rewarded when Susan Cummings completed her qualifying hike to become a Level 1 Hike Leader. On June 13th, Susan planned, screened, and led her qualifying hike, a 6.5-mile hike of the Wareham Forests. Thanks to Maureen Kelly for supporting her on the hike!

Since joining AMC, Susan has been a regular fixture on many of the hiking series in the Blue Hills and other hiking locations. She is always a lot of fun to have on the hikes with her upbeat and engaging personality. These traits, along with the effort she puts in to plan and execute a hike, will make her a great leader.

When Susan isn't on the trails, she likes to spend her time with her husband, Butch, and daughter Grace.



Leslie Egan, right, Kathy O'Keefe, and Patty Everett make a wonderful discovery. *Photo by Irene Scharf*

A bloomin' beautiful hike to Chickatawbut Overlook

by Patty Everett

The morning was overcast as the hiking group arrived at the Chickatawbut Overlook on Tuesday, June 13th. The early dawn rain kept other hikers away and we had the trails to ourselves. The low clouds kept us cool in the 70-degree humid weather.

We headed to the footpath of Hawk Hill. As we continued our journey along the trails, we rounded the corner to the Laurel Path. We were ecstatic to see the Wild Mountain Laurels were in full bloom, showing off their delicate pink and white umbrella blossoms.

Below: Laurels in bloom. *Photo by Pat Everett* Right: Kathy & Patty pose for a natural glam shot. *Photo by Irene Scharf*





New L1 Hike Leader does it all!

By Paul Brookes, Chapter Chair

Lindsey Meyers-Bertone received a gift membership to AMC in 2020 and has been active in the SEM chapter ever since. She was elected as our Chapter Secretary in September 2022, and as Secretary keeps our meeting minutes and captures our Executive Committee decisions. Some of our leaders also know her since she sends out our monthly Volunteer of the Month certificates.

Most recently Lindsey has been on the journey to becoming a SEM hike leader, which she accomplished this July. Lindsey did her qualifying hike with Natalie Halloran and, as with all qualifying hikes, she planned the route, screened candidates, and led the hike. Her qualifying hike was a young members hike along a lovely stretch of the Bay Circuit Trail from Moose Hill to the Sharon Community Center. Since this was a section hike, she also arranged carpooling.



Lindsey is also an instructor at the SEM Map and Compass weekend workshop, where she has been a small group teacher for the last two years. She always gets great reviews from her Map and Compass group, who say that she is a good teacher and encourages her group when they are struggling with new concepts. She has a friendly and engaging personality, which has translated well into leading small groups on local hikes.

Congratulations, Lindsey, on becoming a local hike leader. We all look forward to joining you on your hikes!



As an aside, Natalie Halloran is our most recent 20's & 30's chair but the position is now open since she is moving to Hawaii, redesigning for herself a most perfect life in the sun.



The Cuffee Hill Conservation area in Norwell was intended to be “a classroom to learn about the unity of life.” *Photo courtesy of the North and South Rivers Watershed Association*

Join SEM chapter's conservation work and event discussions

By Zoe Rath Conservation Chair

The Conservation Committee plans and organizes outdoor conservation work in Southeastern Massachusetts and communicates to our members on conservation topics. Our committee is now recruiting new members to help with planning, organizing, and running new conservation projects:

- [Conservation Zoom Discussion: All Are Welcome](#)
Thursday, September 28, 7 pm - 8 pm
We will discuss “Creating opportunities to learn about conservation.”
- [Cuffee Hill and Black Pond Bog Walk](#)
Tuesday, October 3, 10 am - 12 pm
Will Saunders, the Conservation Agent for the Town of Norwell, will lead. We encourage you to carpool to this event.
- [Day Hiking New England, with Author Jeff Romano: Zoom Event](#)
Thursday, October 19, 7 pm – 8 pm
This talk re-starts our regular conservation speaker series on Zoom.
- Planning an Earth Day Panel event for April 2024.
- Collaborating with the other SEM Committees—Hiking, DEI, Paddling, Biking, Trails and Skiing—to identify and work on areas of interest.

We would very much like to hear from you with your ideas. Please contact Zoe Rath, at: conservationchair@amcsem.org

Jeannine Audet becomes SEM's newest Backpack Leader

By Anne Duggan, Education Chair

Jeannine Audet is widely known among the AMC-SEM chapter members as the woman who can do it all. She is already known for her leadership on local hikes, mountain hikes, winter hikes, snowshoe hikes, X-C skiing trips, weekend trips, and bike rides. Recently Jeannine completed her requirements to become an official backpack leader. To qualify, she planned and implemented a three day 22-mile hike in the Pemigawasset Wilderness.

I first met Jeannine when we both participated in an Introduction to Backpacking Series run by SEM in 2008–2009. Despite her petite frame, Jeannine did not shy away from the rigors of backpacking. In fact, she was one of the only participants to finish all backpacks in that series.



Fully-equipped backpack leader Jeannine Audet at the signpost of the Kilkenny Ridge Trail.

Photo by Jane Hartley

For her qualifying trip, Jeannine put together a detailed plan for a backpack along the Long Trail in Vermont. She researched, planned, and listed the trip and screened participants—only to have a natural disaster (flooding) cancel the plan.

Jeannine quickly regrouped, planned a second trip, listed it, screened participants, and persevered despite a threatening forecast. The result was a fun and exciting trip.

Jeannine loves the outdoors and loves to challenge herself physically and mentally, which is what makes her such a great leader. She also enjoys teaching new participants skills and fostering new leaders within SEM.

Congratulations, Jeannine!



Volunteer of the Month: Raju Jaldu

By Bill Belben, Hiking Chair

Each month SEM recognizes one of our amazing volunteers. We are so fortunate to have people who give their time, energy, and resources to make our chapter one of the best. This month, it is with great pleasure that the Hiking Committee recognizes Raju Jaldy.

Raju quickly ascended to a Level 2 Hike Leader in October last year and a Level 3 Hike Leader in April of this year. Along the way, Raju has been extremely active as a hike leader with hikes in the Blue Hills, 52-with-a-Views and 4Ks. He has assisted in both the winter hiking series and recently the summer hiking series. In addition, Raju is a regular attendee at the Thursday Night Trail Trace Hikes and often assists with leading or co-leading the hikes.

Raju has also helped out with the Spring Leadership Training Course and is currently working with Tom Graefe and Ben West on an overview of technology apps for hiking. All of this while balancing the demands of working full time and raising a family.

We are honored and lucky to have Raju as part of our chapter, and we thank him for all of his efforts. Raju will receive a Volunteer of the Month Certificate and a \$50 gift card.

Thanks, Raju!!



“Reunite with Old Friends and Make Some New Ones”

WE WELCOME ALL



The **Southeastern Massachusetts Chapter**
of the **Appalachian Mountain Club**
invites members, friends, and families
to our

48th Annual Meeting

Followed by the

2023 Annual Dinner

Saturday, November 4th at

[The Bay Pointe Club](#)

19 Bay Pointe Dr, Buzzards Bay, MA 02532

4:30 pm – Registration & Social Hour, free appetizers & cash bar

5:30 pm – Annual Meeting (no charge)

6:30 pm – Buffet Dinner & Guest Speaker, \$30 per person (\$40 after Oct 21)

Includes presentation of the Distinguished Service Award,
Raffles, and Other Awards

Special Guest speaker

Steve Tatko

Licensed Forester

VP of Conservation Research & Land Management

Guest speaker presentation abstract and registration form follow. Questions? Contact Paul Brookes at
chair@amcsem.org

2023 Annual Dinner

A Unique Conservation Model

Presentation by **Steve Tatko**

Steve is the Appalachian Mountain Club's Vice President of Conservation Research and Land Management. Since joining AMC in 2012, Steve led the creation of the Land Department for the AMC's Maine Woods Initiative (MWI). As a licensed forester he oversees MWI's forestry operations, conservation acquisitions and finance, habitat restoration, watershed restoration, and recreation objectives on AMC's 100,000-acre ownership in the 100-Mile Wilderness region and AMC's northeastern Research Department. Steve is a native of northern Maine and is an avid outdoor enthusiast enjoying hunting, fishing, skiing, and canoeing.



In his talk Steve will be reflecting on how a unique conservation model pioneered by AMC has helped to conserve a critical landscape and watershed in northern Maine. By putting ecology and communities first, AMC is forging a new framework for land conservation tailored to fit the 100-mile wilderness region. As national interests in increasing the pace of land conservation heighten, AMC's Maine Woods Initiative is helping to achieve regional 30x30 goals.

AMC Southeastern Massachusetts Chapter 2023 Annual Dinner Registration Form

\$30 per person, \$40 after October 21, 2023

Please print and complete this form. Mail with your check (made payable to AMCSEM) to:
Earl Deagle, 6 Surf Avenue, Wareham, MA 02571

Today's date: _____

Your Name: _____

Guest's name(s): _____

Your email address & cell number: _____

Check for vegetarian/vegan meal: You [☐] Guest [☐]

List any food allergies: _____

Total Price: \$ _____



AMC Trail Crew members clear brush and build frames for new boardwalk through a boggy section of the BCT. *Photos by Robin Lemmerz*

Update: SEM chapter helps build new BCT boardwalk in Hanson

By Robin Lemmerz, AMC Professional Trail Crew

AMC-SEM is proud to have contributed \$1,000 to this worthy Bay Circuit Trail project in the SEM region. SEM has a [process](#) for reviewing and funding AMC development projects and initiatives within the SEM region. Do you have an idea for a development project? Email a [proposal](#) to treasurer@amcsem.org.

Over 6 days in May 2023, AMC's Professional Trail Crew worked on the Bay Circuit Trail in Hanson, MA. The crew installed 192 linear feet of boardwalk and bog bridges through a wet area to relocate a portion of the BCT from a road walk, providing better access to the BCT from adjacent residential neighborhoods.

The Town of Hanson provided project direction, materials, and camping at nearby Camp Kiwanee. The original vision was a continuous boardwalk but integrating the simpler bog bridge construction and having the boardwalk segments independent of each other allowed the Town of Hanson to save costs while still getting the hiker across the wet area with dry boots.

Work Completed

- » 362 labor hours with 6 individuals.
- » Eight 12" sections, totaling 96 linear feet of boardwalk, 5' wide.
- » Eight 12" sections, totaling 96 linear feet of bog bridge, 3' wide.
- » Small amount of vegetation clearing and site restoration upon completion.



Framing is set in place over the boggy path.

Photo by Robin Lemmerz



Crossboards are securely attached to the frames.
Photo by Stephanie Merrill



The segments of the boardwalk connect to provide "dry boots" passage through one of the muckier sections of trail.

Photo by Thomas Bockenbauer



Peggy Qvicklund, left, and Paul Brookes recognize Diane Simms for completing her Level 2 qualifying hike.

New Level 2 Hike Leader Diane Simms targets the Belknap Range

By Peggy Qvicklund, Hike Leader

Who has led countless hikes in Fall River's Bio Reserve? Who has led gradually more challenging hikes in the Blue Hills? Who has frequently connected her hikes to Meet Up to reach a larger audience? Who felt ready to take on New Hampshire mountains and become a Level 2 leader?

Why, it's Diane Simms!

I had spoken so enthusiastically about the Belknap Mt. Range in southern New Hampshire that Diane decided perhaps we could work together towards meeting her requirements for Level 2 leader.

So, there I was, mentoring the former Chapter Chair! Yikes!

Together we worked out a series of three hikes, which would hit all twelve recognized peaks to earn the Belknap Range Hiker Patch. Even though she had not hiked the area prior to our first hike, Diane studied the guidebooks and other resources, then wrote a detailed description for the ActDB posting, with input from me.

If you know Diane, you know she is a "get it done" kind of person. Before I could finish my morning coffee, she had created postings for the three Belknap hikes and coordinated with Paul Brookes to list Mt. Pierce as her 4,000-footer qualifying hike.

Many of you were able to snag a spot on at least one of the Belknap hikes. Thus, you know Diane confidently managed these hikes, even with weather issues. Do we ever trust the multiple weather apps? Each app gives a slightly different forecast. A lot of thought goes into leading a hike, with safety coming first. And this early summer's weather kept Diane busy checking, rechecking, and then saying, "The hike is a go." (We only got wet once!)

I was lucky enough to be a participant on Diane's qualifying hike, Mt. Pierce, with Willard the day before as a warmup.

For Mt. Willard and Mt. Pierce, the weather again was the obstacle. Dark clouds overhead, fog closing in, rain threatening but not yet falling, the group headed toward Willard. Diane and Paul said, "If we hear thunder we will turn back." You can guess how it turned out.

Next day, same game. Diane and Paul got us going earlier than planned in order to reach Pierce and be heading down when the next round of storms blew in. As it turned out, the forecast was wrong (go figure) and we saw sun!! We had a wonderful day and came home dry and happy.

It has been great getting to know and to hike with Diane. Please watch ActDB for her listings. She is on a quest to hike some of the 52-With-a-View mountains soon!

Congrats to SEM's new Level 2 Leader!



A cool, breezy day in August at the top of Mount Eisenhower!

Photo by Mark Batson

On August 22, SEM leaders Dexter Robinson and Diane Simms led hikers via the Edmands Path to the windy and cool summit of Mt. Eisenhower (4,763'). Along the hike Dexter shared information about J. Raynor Edmands, master trail builder—who he was, what trails he built or improved, and his impact on the creation of the White Mountain National Forest.



East branch of the Pemigewasset River with rain coming.

Backpacking in the Pemigewasset wilderness, July 21-23, 2023

Article and Photos by Kate Sullivan

If you want an adventure, you will not be disappointed when joining Anne Duggan and Jeannine Audet for a wilderness backpack!

We had three days of backpacking, and each day was different. What was the same was the awesome camaraderie that we had and, of course, our heavy packs.

In essence, Day 1 was rain, Ethan Pond, shelter, Boy Scouts and Appalachian Trail thru-hikers.

Day 2 was sunshine, bog bridges, rushing rivers to cross, bushwhacking, a real sense of wilderness (no cell service and rare passing of other hikers), and an awesome tent site to rest for the night.

Day 3 was sunshine, lots of water crossings, spider webs, a gorgeous mountain pond, steep switchback trail, Nancy Cascades, and finally the parking lot.

Our adventure started with a car spot, and then we set off to hike the Ethan Pond trail to the Ethan Pond Shelter and tent site. The day was overcast with off-and-on showers, mainly on. The trail was steep, and our backpacks heavy with gear we needed for two nights and three days on the trail. We knew we were getting close to the shelter when we passed Ethan Pond. The clouds were low, so the mountain tops were hidden. The pond was

nestled in among trees and lush green foliage. It was breathtaking to view this quiet mountain pond. Just uphill from the pond we arrived at the shelter and tent site.

Not long into our hike, we lost cell service, and we didn't regain a connection until middle of the day on Day 3.

Since we got an early start, we were at the shelter by lunch time. Luckily, we got there early, since the rain made the shelter quite attractive to others hiking through, looking for a place to get out of the rain. We made an advance reservation, so the caretaker kept our spot for us. Ethan Pond shelter has a privy and a cooking area complete with an overhead tarp and a bear box.

While we were eating lunch, a group of Eagle Scouts hunkered under the shelter to eat their lunch, too. They were on their way to another site to set up and sleep in tents and hammocks. There were two adults and about six boys. The boys were very cute and personable. They all seemed happy to be in the wilderness, even in the rain. After lunch they packed up and headed out to continue their adventure.

After lunch we unpacked a few things and hung around. The shelter faces the trail where hikers are coming up from the pond to the higher ground of the shelter site. Many hikers looked at the shelter enviously. We ended up having three roommates, a couple from New York hiking the weekend and a NOBO (northbound) thru-hiker. The assistance of the caretaker at the tent site was invaluable, since she enforced the policy of only six people in the shelter; otherwise, it would have been cramped with twice as many people and a dog.

Continued on page 14



Ethan Pond, surrounded by mist and lush forest, lies below the shelter on this popular trail.



Backpacking Continued from page 13

Anne, Jeannine, and I puttered around getting water, acclimating, and just hanging out. I brought along a knitting project, but I was not comfortably seated so that project did not last long. I envied the NY couple since they brought small backpacking chairs with back support.

As the day wore on, we encountered other hikers. This is high season for AT thru-hikers. Many individuals and pairs and one dog hiked to and through the site.

In the afternoon we encountered another group of Scouts with their leaders. They were super cute and charming too.

Rain continued on-and-off through the afternoon. Around 6 pm we made our way to the food preparation area to make our respective dinners; we all had some sort of warm food to eat. I had rice and beans from premade packets I bought at the grocery store. Jeannine had rehydrated lasagna, and Anne had the most creative meal—BBQ beef on tortillas. After we ate and cleaned up our dinner dishes, we went back to the shelter.

While we were laying on our backpack mattresses, we started talking to the sixth person to join us in the shelter. I don't know her name, but I know that she was a northbound thru-hiker doing a flip-flop hike. She said she started her hike in Harper's Ferry, and she had already hiked 800 miles. She is from Florida, where she has a husband and adult children. She was actually inspired to do this hike when hiking with one of her children. She really enjoyed the hike, then she set her sights on thru-hiking the AT. She seems to be a person who takes things to extremes. It was really interesting to talk to her about her trip so far.

Her plan is to reach Katahdin, then go back to Harper's Ferry and finish the AT going southbound. She said she has her good days and her bad days on the trail. She mostly feels safe on the trail, and only once did she feel scared. She ended up hiking alone, and when night came she was not near an established tent site, so she set up her tent near the trail.

I asked her about eating on the trail. She said she lost 20 lbs. and was not ravenous like she thought she would be. She said she stays in hostels when available and does her laundry and takes a shower. After a while our conversation ended and she went to sleep at 8 pm.

After a fitful night of sleep, morning finally came, the sky started to brighten, and I left the shelter. I went down to the pond and filtered water from the stream that runs into the pond. That is one thing we did not lack on this weekend

backpack, fresh water. Rushing water was abundant the whole time. The three of us gathered under the cooking tent and made our morning meal. I had oatmeal, dried mangos, and instant coffee with hot chocolate to make a warm mocha drink.

Day 2

After breakfast, we packed up our gear and headed out along the Ethan Pond trail, which is also the AT. Our direction was due south. The trails were wet and boggy. The bog bridges were slippery and not very far above the surface of the pooled water. We had to concentrate on our footing. Hiking in the Whites is a meditation of sorts. You cannot let your mind wander



Trailside mushrooms.

for a minute, or a misstep happens and you are on your butt. You also end up observing all the small plants and mushrooms growing on the side of the trail. I have more photos of low growing plants that of soaring vistas!

Continued on page 15

Conservation Corner:

Why Buy Locally?

By Zoe Rath, Conservation Chair

It seems convenient to go to your grocery store and just buy your onions, carrots, and tomatoes. But what about your [carbon footprint](#)?

When you buy at a typical grocery store your carrots may be traveling over 1,500 miles to get to you. Consider buying local food (ex: Farmers Market), thus saving on transportation emissions.

When given the choice of organic food from farther away or conventional food that's local, choose the local option. It's the least-toxic option.

"By buying local, you are supporting local farmers and producers. With your support, these farms are able to stay in operation."—GoGreen.org

Read more the benefits on buying locally [here](#).



Jeannine Audet cleans off and cools off time at Ethan Pond.

Photo by Anne Duggan

Backpacking

Continued from page 14

We reached the junction with the Thoreau Falls Trail and took a left, we were no longer on the AT. We happily crossed over the East Branch of the Pemigewasset River using a convenient wooden bridge. We were thankful for this bridge keeping our feet nice and dry high above the swollen river. That was our last convenient wooden bridge we would encounter.

Not too long after that, we needed to cross the river again. We were at Thoreau Falls. There was no convenient wooden bridge to cross this time. On the sun-bleached rocks, a group of hikers were enjoying a snack near the falls. We quickly passed them and hiked upriver away from the falls. Our mission was to find a suitable crossing point.

We did, and we crossed through thigh high rushing water after donning our water shoes and braving the current. The water was quite refreshing if not terrifying.

We found ourselves off trail and bushwhacked to get back to Thoreau Falls Trail. After hiking this remote trail, I thought that there is no real reason for anyone ever to go on this trail. It really doesn't lead anywhere. Nonetheless, I really enjoyed the sense of wilderness that I got from being on this trail.

As luck would have it, we got to cross the East Branch of the Pemigewasset River AGAIN! This time the river was very wide with a strong current. We again donned our water shoes and unbuckled our packs and made our way across through thigh high water. Water shoes really make a difference. If not for the water shoes, we would have had to go barefooted.

Thoreau Falls Trail ended at the aptly named Wilderness Trail. Yes, wilderness for sure. We saw moose and bear scat on the trail. After nearly eleven miles of

hiking, we came to yet another river crossing. By now it was around 5 o'clock. We decided not to cross and that it was time to set up camp for the evening. This was a beautiful location to camp. We did not have company, but I could tell that others had used this same spot for camping due to evidence of camp fires and cleared tent sites. It was perfect for us.

We had dinner on a sandbar on the river, away from our tents. It was a perfect evening. We turned in about 8 pm, each of us to her own tent. Personally, I had trouble falling asleep, thinking about a bear coming by. The rushing of the river was calming, and I eventually fell asleep.



The "perfect campsite" after a long day in the wilderness.

Day 3

I slept until about 7 am, which I was pretty surprised about. We ate our breakfast and packed up our campsite. Since we had to cross the river, we put on our water shoes to start. We crossed the river and continued on our way. Did I mention how muddy and wet the trails were? We could be walking on a perfect path, then suddenly we find ourselves facing a section of thick, deep mud puddles. This was the whole trip. Mud, Mud, Mud. There were bog bridges here and there, but not enough in my book.

The trails we were on, for the most part, had not seen hikers recently. As you can imagine, the spiders were in their glory, weaving their webs across the trails between close-set tree branches, all at face level, it seemed. The person leading would bear the brunt of the webs. We traded off occasionally, so we were equally clothed with webs.

Continued on page 16



Norcross Pond—the highlight of the trip!

Backpacking

Continued from page 15

We passed a trailhead for Desolation Trail to Mount Carrigain. “Desolation Trail”—I love that name. We came across a group of about seven hikers at that point. We also found some nice tent sites near the river. (Note to self for next time.) We finally turned on to the Nancy Pond Trail, which would lead us out of the wilderness. But we had a long way to go before reaching the car!

Mount Nancy, with a height of 3,926 feet, can be reached by this trail. It is a bushwhack to get to the summit; we opted not to hike it.

The very best treat on this whole adventure was Norcross Pond. It is the ideal mountain pond. The day was

stunning with blue skies and fluffy white clouds reflected off the still water of the pond. We found level boulders to sit on, and we took off our shoes and ate lunch. We waded in the water to cool off. Other hikers joined us at the pond. The hikers had a dachshund, and he was very cute even though he was wary of strangers. (He showed his angst by barking at us.)



Kate Sullivan wades in the refreshing water of Norcross Pond.

Sadly, we had to pack up and leave our mountain paradise. We continued along Nancy Pond trail and came across Nancy Pond. It was also a beautiful pond, but not as nice as Norcross Pond.

Nancy Pond trail parallels Nancy Brook. The brook turns into Nancy Cascades. As you can imagine, cascades are created by steep terrain. The trail traversed this steep terrain with switchbacks. The trail was in pretty bad shape with rocks, roots, holes, and narrow foot paths. This was my least favorite part of the adventure. However, we were treated to the beautiful Nancy Cascades. After this, the trail moderated, and it was very pleasant to the end. We got to the car at 4 pm.

I can't even explain how amazed I am with the two women I hiked with, and that the three of us completed 22 miles with 3,300 feet of elevation gain over three days. Once we were in the middle of the wilderness, we had no choice but to continue (or send an SOS for a helicopter). We did it, no worse for wear. Like I said at the beginning, if you want an adventure, hike with Anne and Jeannine!



The Nancy Cascades! The reward for traversing a difficult and neglected trail.



SEM Memories:

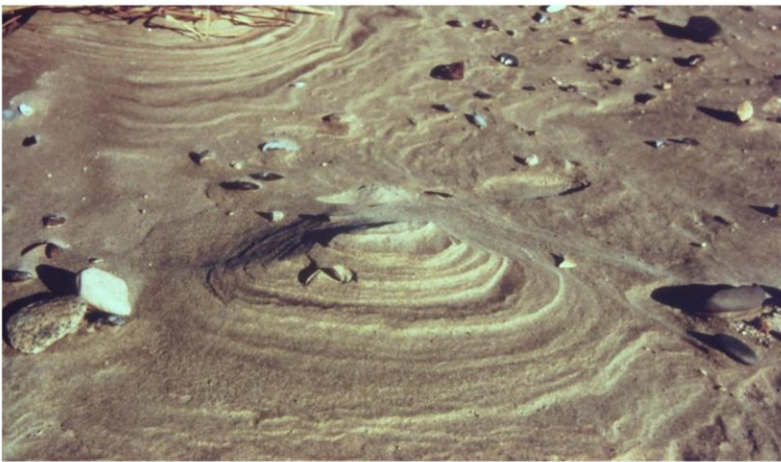
“Blue skies, smilin’ at me...”



Circa 1991: AMC-SEM hiking group on the summit of Mount Monadnock in New Hampshire. Just 30 years ago! Does anyone look familiar?

If you can identify these hikers or provide more information on this “SEM Memory,” send your recollections to the [Breeze](#). Or send in your own photos of AMC-SEM past members and activities!

“What planet is this again?”



No aliens in sight—just these patterns in the sand, looking like a transmission from the Mars rover. Taken circa summer 1992 by an AMC-SEM member with artistic ambitions.



A linden tree still grows by the Cape Cod Canal

By Jane Harding, Cape Hiking Chair

Nancy Wigley is an AMC-SEM life member who contributed to the chapter as a volunteer activity leader for many years. Nancy is a certified Naturalist who continuously shared her wealth of knowledge.

In 1999 she served as Conservation Chair and in that role had a linden tree planted on the Cape Cod Canal for Earth Day.

Nancy no longer joins in our organized hikes, but she still gets out with friends. She recently was walking on the canal and had her picture taken by the linden tree.



SEM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2024 NOMINATION SLATE



Chapter Chair	Paul Brookes
Chapter Vice-Chair	Jeannine Audet
Secretary	Lindsey Meyers Bertone
Treasurer	Earl Deagle
Biking Chair	Bill Trimble
Cape Hiking Chair	Robin McIntyre
Communications Chair	Justin Anderson
Conservation Chair	Zoe Rath
Education Chair	Anne Duggan
Hiking Chair	Bill Belben
Membership Chair	Samantha Fisher
Paddling Chair	Open
Past Chapter Chair	Diane Simms
Skiing Chair	Dia Prantis
Trails Chair	Steve Scala
20's & 30's Chair	Open

Names in **black** are continuing in their current post; Names in **blue** started in their position within the past year; Names in **purple** are new to the position (but not new to the Executive Committee).

The Nominating Committee

Walt Granda

nominatingchair@amcsem.org

Ken Cohen, Susan Rollins, Kathy O'Keefe, Pam Aberle

nominating@amcsem.org



Activities

For the most current information, [search activities online](#)

Create your personal Activities Digest

AMC has an email notification system for members interested in keeping up to date with new and upcoming activities posted on AMC's Activities Database (ActDB) on outdoors.org. 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, go to the very bottom of [Outdoors.org](#) & click **Login to My Outdoors**, then choose **Go to Activities Database**. On the left side, under **My Dashboard**, click **Manage Digest Emails & Create new digest**.

BICYCLING

Sun., Sep. 17. Narragansett Bay Bike Ride; East Providence/Barrington/Warren RI. DISTANCE: 28 miles PACE: 10-12mph. Occasional stops for scenic views, water, re-group. DESCRIPTION: Lots of water views as the route travels through the lesser-known neighborhoods and lesser travelled roads along Narragansett Bay in East Providence/Barrington/Warren RI. The route is mostly on roads - a small portion on the East Bay Bike Path. Point-Of-Interest stops will include the Crescent Park Looff Carousel and Sabin Point. Snack / Food / Coffee stop at Cafe Water St in Warren RI. START LOCATION: Contact ride leader for details. L Joe Tavilla (508-450-1934 8:00AM-8:00PM, silverski@earthlink.net, R Joseph Tavilla (Washington Ave, Osterville, MA 02655, 508-450-1934 8:00AM-8:00PM, silverski6184@comcast.net

Fri., Oct. 27-29. Berkshires Hiking & Bicycling Weekend, Wainwright Inn, MA. Join us for a friendly, fun, Fall (note the alliteration!) weekend of hiking & bicycling. The beautiful & historic Wainwright Inn will serve as our home base. Located in the heart of Great Barrington, the Wainwright has lovely rooms with private bathrooms, & the innkeepers Chris & Barb serve a full breakfast each morning. <https://wainwrightinn.com>. Several hikes of different lengths & degree of challenge will be offered nearby; options may include Mt. Everett, Mt. Alander, or Bear Mtn. The highest waterfall in MA, Bash Bish Falls, is also nearby. A bicycling tour of the Berkshire area via the scenic 26-mile Harlem Valley Rail Trail will also be offered, including a lunch stop & other stops at points of interest. <https://www.hvrt.org>. Participants may opt for hiking or cycling. Participants, once registered for the trip, will need to contact the inn to reserve their room. L Jeannine Audet (508-493-8221 Weeknights after 7:00 pm, weekends anytime., jhummingbirddbp@aol.com. Jeannine enjoys leading hikes, backpacks, bicycling and cross-country skiing throughout New England. The Berkshires is a favorite location.) L Susan Rollins (774-264-9430, rollins_s@outlook.com Susan is a Level 1 Hiking Leader and a Bicycling Leader.)

Sat., Nov. 4. SEM Annual Meeting and Dinner, The Bay Pointe Club, Buzzards Bay, MA. The 48th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Massachusetts Chapter of the AMC will be held on Saturday, November 4, 2023, at The Bay Pointe Club in Buzzards Bay, MA. It will commence at 4:30 pm with a social hour and the chapters' Annual Meeting will be called to order at 5:30 PM. All SEM members and their friends are welcome to attend the Annual Meeting as well as anyone interested in becoming a member of our chapter. Following the official chapter business, there will be a buffet dinner and special guest speaker. There is no charge for attending either the Social Hour or the Annual Meeting. The cost of the buffet dinner and speaker is \$30. This year our speaker will be Steve Tatko. Steve is the Appalachian Mountain Club's Vice President of Conservation Research and Land Management. Since joining AMC in 2012, Steve led the creation of the Land Department for the AMC's Maine Woods Initiative (MWI). As a licensed forester he oversees MWI's forestry operations, conservation acquisitions and finance, habitat restoration, watershed restoration, and recreation objectives on AMC's 100,000-acre ownership in the 100-Mile Wilderness region and AMC's northeastern Research Department. Steve is a native of northern Maine and is an avid outdoor enthusiast enjoying hunting, fishing, skiing, and canoeing. In his talk Steve will be reflecting on how this unique conservation model pioneered by AMC has helped to conserve a critical landscape and watershed in northern Maine. By putting ecology and communities first, AMC is forging a new framework for land conservation tailored to fit the 100-mile wilderness region. Make an afternoon of it by joining us before the meeting for other activities that will be held locally to The Bay Point Club. These will be listed separately closer to the event. L William Trimble (bikingchair@amcsem.org)



Activities

For the most current information, [search activities online](#)

CAPE HIKES

Sat., Sep. 16. Hike Doane Rock Eastham, MA. We will be meeting at 9:45 AM on Saturday, September 16, 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. Wear sturdy hiking footwear, clothing layers, rain gear. Bring water, hiking poles if desired, tick/mosquito repellent. Contact me if you have any questions. Unfortunately, last minute unexpected events, most often weather, forces us to cancel an event at the last minute. Please check hike postings on the day of the hike to insure it is still happening. L Richard Kaiser (508-246-7582 Before 9 PM, rjkaiser@comcast.net)

Thu., Sep. 21. Hiking Santuit Pond Preserve, 117 Main St/Rt 130, Mashpee, MA. 4 mi hike in Mashpee conservation land. This 287-acre property includes 166-acre Santuit Pond surrounded by abandoned cranberry bogs. Trails take us thru a variety of forests, swamps, meadows, bog, and a herring run. Mildly hilly. Hunting is allowed on all Mashpee conservation lands. Sturdy footwear, hydration required, bug spray. Orange blaze recommended. Hiking poles personal preference. Arrive 9:45 for a prompt 10 a.m. start. Please check listing morning of hike for inclement weather cancellation. Directions: From Mashpee rotary > Rt 28S towards Hyannis x 2.2 mi > LEFT @ light on 130N x 0.5 mi > parking on RIGHT. OR Rt 6 to Exit 59/old Exit 2 x 8 mi. Parking 0.3 mi beyond Shell Station on LEFT. Carpooling recommended. L Barbara Gaughan (781-572-1321 Before 9 p.m., barbaragaughan12@comcast.net Level 1 SEM leader.)

Sat., Sep. 23. Hike Ballston Beach, Truro, Ballston Beach, Truro MA, MA. This 4+ mile hike begins on Ballston Beach, Truro. From there, we hike on woodland trails to the top of Bearberry Hill and then to a spectacular overlook of Longnook beach. Return on trails and beach. Wear sturdy footwear ideally hiking boots, bring fluid for hydration and snacks. Hiking poles are helpful. Unfortunately, unexpected events most often weather forces us to cancel an event at the last minute. Please check hike postings on the day of the hike to insure it is still happening. Thank you. L Trish Crocker (508-345-6260 Before 9.00pm, pmcrocker@yahoo.com)

Sun., Sep. 24. Celebrate FallFest and Hike Yarmouth Bogs, Raymond J. Syrjala conservation area on Winslow Gray Road in West Yarmouth, MA. A very easy hike around the bogs in Yarmouth. Some board walks and maybe harvesting the bogs. Hike is 4 plus or minus miles. Very flat. Bring water, bug/tick spray, and have sturdy walking footwear. Occasionally a hike needs to be cancelled, most often due to inclement weather. Check the website on the day of the hike for any last-minute cancellations. L David Selfe (508-776-4260 any time, and leave message, kdsselfe@comcast.net) CL Kathy Selfe (Cape Hike Leader) (kdsselfe@comcast.net)

Thu., Sep. 28. Celebrate FallFest--Hike Bourne Sisters, Perry Woodlands, Leary Property, Bourne, MA. This 4+ miles, 2-hour Show and Go hike will take place in Bourne. The wooded trails have frequent rolling hills with rocks, and roots to negotiate. We will also walk on a bog and have scenic views of Back River marsh. Participants should have sturdy hiking footwear, water, poles may be helpful. This is not a novice hike. Since this is a Show and Go hike, participants will need to check this website on the day of the hike for any weather cancellation. Directions: From Bourne Bridge/Cape side, take 1st exit off rotary just past the State Police Barracks, before the gas station onto Trowbridge Rd. Go .6 miles and take left onto County Rd at blinking light. Go 1.0 mile and park on left at 221 County Rd (small sign). Some cars will need to park across the street at the Leary Property. L Robin McIntyre (508-789-8252, robinmcintyre@comcast.net, Robin is a 8th year Level 1 SEM/Cape Hike leader with previous WFA training)

Sat., Sep. 30. Celebrate Fall Fest with a Hike at Marconi Beach Wellfleet, MA. We will be meeting at 9:45 AM on Saturday, September 30, 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. Wear sturdy hiking footwear, clothing layers, rain gear if needed. Bring water, hiking poles if desired, and bug spray. Unfortunately, last minute unexpected events most often weather forces us to cancel an event at the last minute. Please check hike postings on the day of the hike to insure it is still happening. Thank you. L Richard Kaiser (508-246-7582 Before 9 PM, rjkaiser@comcast.net)



Activities

For the most current information, [search activities online](#)

CAPE HIKES

Thu., Oct. 5. Hike Scorton Creek East Sandwich, MA. The hike will be on wooded trails with great views of the saltmarsh, we will skirt cranberry bogs and see remnants of a state-run bird farm. Terrain is flat with lots of roots. Sturdy footwear is essential. Bring fluid for hydration. Driving directions: If coming from off Cape take Sagamore Bridge to Rte. 6 and drive to Exit 61 Quaker Meetinghouse Rd, turn L off ramp and drive to Rte. 6A and turn R proceed to Old County Rd opposite E Sandwich Post Office turn R proceed to 2nd cutout opposite Nye Estate and park in cutout off the road. From outer Cape take Rte. 6 to exit 63 Chase Rd, turn R off of ramp and proceed to old County Rd on L, turn L and proceed to 1st cutout on L across from Nye Estate and park in cutout off of pavement. Unfortunately, last minute unexpected events most often weather forces us to cancel an event at the last minute. Please check hike postings on the day of the hike to insure it is still happening. Thank you. L Jane Harding (203-500-3155 Before 8 PM, janeharding@comcast.net, Current Cape Hike Chair, many years as leader.) CL Jane McLaughlin (mclaughlinmediation@gmail.com)

Sat., Oct. 7. Bourne Farm Hike and Pumpkin Day, Bourne Farm, West Falmouth, MA. Bourne Farm, a lovely old homestead, has a "Pumpkin Day" every October when people can pick their own pumpkins. Usually there are other family activities including hayrides, animals, paddleboat rides, and vendors. Families, including children six and older, are welcome on this 2-hour hike which will cross the farm and bike path, and enter some woodlands with a few hills. We encounter two tidal streams and walk along a cranberry bog. We can adjust the pace and route of the hike so that everyone will enjoy it. Ticks and poison ivy might be encountered. Rain cancels the hike but not Pumpkin Day. To tell if the hike is cancelled, on the morning of the hike go to amcsem.org and find the Cape Hike Schedule. If this hike's listing is gone, the hike is cancelled. If unsure about a cancellation, contact the leader. The farm activities begin at 9:00 and our hiking group will meet by the barn at 9:15 to hike from 9:30 to 11:30. On our return there might be opportunities to buy food, or you could bring a picnic lunch. The parking area will be expanded from the main lot to an adjacent field and should accommodate all. <https://saltpondsanctuaries.org/pumpkin-day/>. L John Gould (508-540-5779, jhgould@comcast.net, For 19 years has been a Level 1 SEM/Cape Hikes leader.)

Thu., Oct. 12. Hike Great Neck Audubon Sanctuary, Wareham, MA. This 4-mile, 2-hour Show and Go hike 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 Audubon property. Hikers should have sturdy footwear, water, and poles if desired. Since this is a Show and Go hike, participants will need to check this website on the day of the hike for any cancellations due to poor weather. Directions from the Cape: Over Bourne Bridge, Route 25 for 6.7 miles. Off at new Exit 3/old Exit 2, Onset/Wareham/Glen Charlie Rd. Bear right on ramp and go thru 2 traffic lights. As you cross Rte 28/6/Cranberry Hwy, name changes to Depot St. As you cross Onset Ave/Minot Ave, name changes to Great Neck Rd. Stay straight on Great Neck for 3.2 miles. Pavement turns to gravel, turn left into Great Neck Audubon. Park in lot near white house. L Robin McIntyre (508-789-8252, robinmcintyre@comcast.net, Robin is an 8th year Level 1 SEM/Cape Hike leader with previous WFA training.)

Sun., Oct. 15. Hike Maple Swamp, Sandwich, MA. This hike is a show and go, please contact leader with questions. 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. From Sagamore Bridge take Rte. 6 E and exit 61 Quaker Meetinghouse and turn R off of ramp and then immediate L onto Service Rd., just beyond Mill Rd, look for entrance to Maple Swamp. From outer Cape take Rte. 6 W to exit 63 Chase Rd, turn L off ramp, go over highway and turn R on Service Rd., just beyond Noel Henry Rd is entrance to Maple Swamp. Arrive at 12:45 PM please. Unfortunately, unexpected events most often weather forces us to cancel an event at the last minute. Please check hike postings on the day of the hike to insure it is still happening. L Jane Harding (203-500-3155 Before 8 PM, janeharding@comcast.net, Cape Hike Chair with many years of hiking experience.)

Sat., Oct. 21. Hike: Cape Cod National Seashore, Eastham, MA. Hike in Cape Cod National Seashore with a variety of views and terrain. Travel along a salt pond, thru woodlands, tall marsh grass and an ocean view at Coast Guard beach. We will visit historical sites as we hike the 4.5 miles. Hike is rated easy. Heavy rain will cancel. Hikers should wear appropriate footwear as there are many roots on trails. Water, insect repellent, Sunscreen and rain gear are recommended. Hikes can be cancelled for various circumstances, please check web site on day of hike. Directions: Rt 6 east to Orleans Rotary, travel towards Eastham. Take right turn at Nauset Rd to Cape Cod National Seashore Salt Pond Visitors Center, park in main lot. No parking pass is required. L Robert Akie (617-513-2207 Before 9:00 PM, rakie8888@hotmail.com, Cape Cod Hike Leader)



Activities

For the most current information, [search activities online](#)

CAPE HIKES

Thu., Oct. 26. Hike - Punkhorns, Brewster, MA. We will be taking Eagle Point in & out to Walker's Pond about 4.7 miles. Pine + oak forest with some hills + water views. Directions Take Rt 6 exit 85 (old exit 11) Brewster out to 6A, bear left Take Left @ Flashing light onto Stoneybrook Take Left on Runhill Road to parking lot which will be on your left Recommendations: Bring water & snacks Layered clothing & sturdy footwear Bug spray & hiking poles if desired Unfortunately, last minute unexpected events, often weather, forces us to cancel @ the last minute. Please check the posting on the day of hike to ensure that it is happening. Thank you. L Anne Hennessy (774-534-2238, Henny1960wood@gmail.com)

Sat., Nov. 4. SEM Annual Meeting and Dinner, The Bay Pointe Club, Buzzards Bay, MA. The 48th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Massachusetts Chapter of the AMC will be held on Saturday, November 4, 2023, at The Bay Pointe Club in Buzzards Bay, MA. It will commence at 4:30 pm with a social hour and the chapters' Annual Meeting will be called to order at 5:30 PM. All SEM members and their friends are welcome to attend the Annual Meeting as well as anyone interested in becoming a member of our chapter. Following the official chapter business, there will be a buffet dinner and special guest speaker. There is no charge for attending either the Social Hour or the Annual Meeting. The cost of the buffet dinner and speaker is \$30. This year our speaker will be Steve Tatko. Steve is the Appalachian Mountain Club's Vice President of Conservation Research and Land Management. Since joining AMC in 2012, Steve led the creation of the Land Department for the AMC's Maine Woods Initiative (MWI). As a licensed forester he oversees MWI's forestry operations, conservation acquisitions and finance, habitat restoration, watershed restoration, and recreation objectives on AMC's 100,000-acre ownership in the 100-Mile Wilderness region and AMC's northeastern Research Department. Steve is a native of northern Maine and is an avid outdoor enthusiast enjoying hunting, fishing, skiing, and canoeing. In his talk Steve will be reflecting on how this unique conservation model pioneered by AMC has helped to conserve a critical landscape and watershed in northern Maine. By putting ecology and communities first, AMC is forging a new framework for land conservation tailored to fit the 100-mile wilderness region. Make an afternoon of it by joining us before the meeting for other activities that will be held locally to The Bay Point Club. These will be listed separately closer to the event. L Jane Harding (janeharding@comcast.net)

Sun., Nov. 5. Hike Shallow Pond, East Falmouth, MA. This hike is on a 70-acre conservation area in East Falmouth called Shallow Pond Woodlands as well as an adjacent 68 acres, Breivogel Ponds. The distance will be about 4 miles and the hike will take about 2 1/4 hours. The hike is fairly easy encountering a few hills, both wide and narrow trails, a white cedar swamp, and a sandy open area. For questions, please contact the Leader. We look forward to having you join us on this hike. Unfortunately, last minute unexpected events, usually weather, forces an event to be cancelled. Please check this hike listing on the morning of the hike to ensure it is still occurring. If the listing has disappeared, the hike is cancelled. You can also find instructions to sign up for any last-minute notifications from SNEL (Short Notice Email List) at: <http://www.amcsem.org/assets/chapter/snel.signup.procedures.participants.pdf>. L John Gould (508-540-5779, jhgould@comcast.net, Has been leading hikes for Cape Hiking for 19 years.)

Sun., Nov. 12. Hike Eagle Pond, Cotuit, MA. Hike in historic conservation land, some roads to Cotuit Bay and around a white cedar swamp. Terrain is fairly flat, many roots and most trails are wide. Hike is 4.2 miles. Sturdy footwear required ideally hiking boots, fluid for hydration and snack if desired. Hiking poles are useful. Driving Directions: Take Rte. 6 (mid Cape Highway) to Exit 5) and turn S on Rte 149, follow signage and take 149 to Rte. 28, Turn R. At traffic light with shopping plaza on R and CVS on L turn L onto Putnam Ave. Travel a mile or less until you see dirt cutout on L. Park in cutout. From Falmouth take Rte. 28 towards Hyannis and at lights in Marston Mills with shopping plaza on L and CVS on R, turn R on Putnam Rd and proceed a mile or less until you see dirt cutout on L, park in cutout. Parking is limited so carpooling will be helpful. Meet at 9:45 AM Unfortunately, unexpected events most often weather forces us to cancel an event at the last minute. Please check hike postings on the day of the hike to insure it is still happening. Thank you. L Jane Harding (508-833-2864 Before 9 PM, janeharding@comcast.net)

Sun., Nov. 19. Hike--Bourne Town Forest/Four Ponds, Bourne, MA. This Show and Go 4+ mile, 2-hour hike is in the Bourne Town Forest and Four Ponds Conservation area. This hike is not suitable for novice hikers. The terrain is over wooded mountain bike trails and fire roads with frequent rolling hills in a loop without easy bailout points. This historic area has pond views. Participants must have sturdy hiking footwear, water, and tick repellent. May have poison ivy exposure. Hiking poles if preferred. Directions: NOTE: NOT meeting at Four Ponds trailhead and GPS will not work. From Bourne Rotary/Cape side, take Route 28S for 1.7 miles. Go right onto Clay Pond Road--green state sign says Monument Beach--before McDonald's. Go .5 miles and turn left onto Valley Bars Road. Go .3 miles and park on the left side of the road. Since this is a Show and Go hike, check the website on the day of the hike for any weather cancellation. L Robin McIntyre (508-789-8252, robinmcintyre@comcast.net, Robin is an 8th year Level 1 SEM/Cape Hike leader with previous WFA training.)



Activities

For the most current information, [search activities online](#)

CAPE HIKES

Thu., Dec. 21. Hike-Great Neck Wareham (NOT Audubon), Wareham, MA. This Show and Go hike is 4+ miles, 2 hours in Wareham. The wooded trails have some minor hills and rocks/roots to negotiate in conservation areas. Nice views of Swan Pond and Onset Bay. Waterproof hiking shoes/boots are required. Bring water, use tick repellent, clothing layers. Note we are NOT meeting at the Great Neck trailhead on the map. Since this is a Show and Go hike, if it is cancelled due to inclement weather, it will be on the website. Please check the website on the day of the activity for updated status. Directions: over Bourne Bridge on Rte. 25 for 6.7 miles to Exit 3/old Exit 2 (Rte. 28/Rte6/Onset/Wareham). Right off ramp, straight thru 2 traffic lights, becomes Depot St. As you cross straight across Onset Ave/Minot Ave, name changes to Great Neck Road, go 1.2 miles. Go right on Crooked River Road for .5 mile. Go left on Indian Neck Road for .4 mile, bearing left to stay on Indian Neck for .1 mile. Go left at 3-way intersection and immediate sharp left onto Bourne Hill Rd. Park up the hill on the side. L Robin McIntyre (508-789-8252, robinmcintyre@comcast.net, Robin is an 8th year Level 1 SEM/Cape Hike Leader with previous WFA training.)

CONSERVATION

Thu., Sep. 28. Conservation Zoom Discussion: All Are Welcome (FallFest), Zoom, MA. We are reforming this committee with Zoe Rath as our new Conservation Chair. If you are interested in conservation/the environment, would like to write conservation-focused articles for the Breeze, organize talks or help plan nature walks with experienced guides, please join our next Conservation Committee Interest meeting on Zoom. We will also spend time talking about environmental issues of concern - so please come even if you are not interested in being on the committee! L Zoe Rath (617-308-9489 before 10pm, conservationchair@amcsem.org, Zoe is the new chair of Conservation for SEM. She has a passion for conservation, excited to plan and share ideas at the coming meeting! Co-lead over 30 hikes and overnight trips. Led over 50 hikes and overnight trips and organized over 20+ day trips. Was on the Boston Young Adults committee board from 2015-2018. Currently an associate leader with AMC Adventure Travel - Leading a hiking trip to Utah NP, Oct 2024)

Tue., Oct. 3. Cuffee Hill and Black Pond Bog Walk, Town of Norwell, MA. The Cuffee Conservation Area is part of a unique sensitive ecosystem that includes a rare quaking bog, known as Black Pond Bog, an 83-acre preserve owned by The Nature Conservancy (TNC). There are pockets of white cedar swamp growing out of the thick sphagnum moss mat that encircles the pond. The property derives its name from an historic stone-wall-lined cart path, which begins on Mt. Blue Street and extends through the property, known as Cuffee's Lane. Cuffee Conservation Area is the largest continuous area of protected and town owned open space in Norwell. This walk will be led by conservationist Will Saunders. Will Saunders is the Conservation Agent for the Town of Norwell, overseeing the permitting of the Wetland Protection act and Town of Norwell Wetland Bylaw, along with managing approximately 2,000 acres of town land. He graduated from University of Maine with an B.S. in Ecology and Environmental Science, and SUNY ESF with an M.S in Forest and Natural Resource Management. Will spent 6 years as a project manager and supervisor on wetland restoration projects throughout New York State, restoring native habitat. We encourage all participants to carpool or take public transit whenever possible. Email a leader if you would like help trying to arrange a carpool. L Zoe Rath (617-308-9489 before 10:30pm, conservationchair@amcsem.org, Zoe is the new chair of Conservation for SEM. She has a passion for conservation, excited to plan and share ideas at the coming SEM monthly conservation discussion! She wants to make a difference and hopes you will join this group effort - by joining this and future SEM Conservation events!) CL Paul Brookes (I am a four-season hike leader with the SEM chapter.)

Thu., Oct. 19. Day Hiking New England, with author Jeff Romano: Zoom Event. Join author Jeff Romano for a slideshow presentation over Zoom, highlighting hiking opportunities throughout New England. The program will cover destinations in all six states with a focus on itineraries featured in his latest guidebook, an updated edition to 100 Classic Hikes New England (June 2023). Jeff will share advice, provide insights, and answer questions on how and where to plan your next hiking adventure. The presentation will also include information on New England wildflowers, birds, wildlife, history, and conservation success stories. L Zoe Rath (617-308-9489 before 10:30pm, conservationchair@amcsem.org, Zoe is the new chair of Conservation for SEM. She has a passion for conservation, excited to plan and share ideas at the coming SEM monthly conservation discussion! She wants to make a difference and hopes you will join this group effort - by joining this and future SEM Conservation events!)



Activities

For the most current information, [search activities online](#)

CONSERVATION

Sat., Nov. 4. SEM Annual Meeting and Dinner, The Bay Pointe Club, Buzzards Bay, MA. The 48th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Massachusetts Chapter of the AMC will be held on Saturday, November 4, 2023, at The Bay Pointe Club in Buzzards Bay, MA. It will commence at 4:30 pm with a social hour and the chapters' Annual Meeting will be called to order at 5:30 PM. All SEM members and their friends are welcome to attend the Annual Meeting as well as anyone interested in becoming a member of our chapter. Following the official chapter business, there will be a buffet dinner and special guest speaker. There is no charge for attending either the Social Hour or the Annual Meeting. The cost of the buffet dinner and speaker is \$30. This year our speaker will be Steve Tatko. Steve is the Appalachian Mountain Club's Vice President of Conservation Research and Land Management. Since joining AMC in 2012, Steve led the creation of the Land Department for the AMC's Maine Woods Initiative (MWI). As a licensed forester he oversees MWI's forestry operations, conservation acquisitions and finance, habitat restoration, watershed restoration, and recreation objectives on AMC's 100,000-acre ownership in the 100-Mile Wilderness region and AMC's northeastern Research Department. Steve is a native of northern Maine and is an avid outdoor enthusiast enjoying hunting, fishing, skiing, and canoeing. In his talk Steve will be reflecting on how this unique conservation model pioneered by AMC has helped to conserve a critical landscape and watershed in northern Maine. By putting ecology and communities first, AMC is forging a new framework for land conservation tailored to fit the 100-mile wilderness region. Make an afternoon of it by joining us before the meeting for other activities that will be held locally to The Bay Point Club. These will be listed separately closer to the event. L Conservation Chair (conservationchair@amcsem.org)

EDUCATION

Sat., Nov. 4. SEM Annual Meeting and Dinner, The Bay Pointe Club, Buzzards Bay, MA. The 48th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Massachusetts Chapter of the AMC will be held on Saturday, November 4, 2023, at The Bay Pointe Club in Buzzards Bay, MA. It will commence at 4:30 pm with a social hour and the chapters' Annual Meeting will be called to order at 5:30 PM. All SEM members and their friends are welcome to attend the Annual Meeting as well as anyone interested in becoming a member of our chapter. Following the official chapter business, there will be a buffet dinner and special guest speaker. There is no charge for attending either the Social Hour or the Annual Meeting. The cost of the buffet dinner and speaker is \$30. This year our speaker will be Steve Tatko. Steve is the Appalachian Mountain Club's Vice President of Conservation Research and Land Management. Since joining AMC in 2012, Steve led the creation of the Land Department for the AMC's Maine Woods Initiative (MWI). As a licensed forester he oversees MWI's forestry operations, conservation acquisitions and finance, habitat restoration, watershed restoration, and recreation objectives on AMC's 100,000-acre ownership in the 100-Mile Wilderness region and AMC's northeastern Research Department. Steve is a native of northern Maine and is an avid outdoor enthusiast enjoying hunting, fishing, skiing, and canoeing. In his talk Steve will be reflecting on how this unique conservation model pioneered by AMC has helped to conserve a critical landscape and watershed in northern Maine. By putting ecology and communities first, AMC is forging a new framework for land conservation tailored to fit the 100-mile wilderness region. Make an afternoon of it by joining us before the meeting for other activities that will be held locally to The Bay Point Club. These will be listed separately closer to the event. L Anne Duggan (educationchair@amcsem.org)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Volunteer Opportunities

Ongoing. Nominations Committee Member. Do you regularly attend activities and are comfortable talking to people about open positions. If so, please consider the nominations committee. We are looking for people from all over our region, but especially someone from the Cape. For more information contact Walt Granda by emailing nominatingchair@amcsem.org. L Paul Brookes (chair@amcsem.org) CL Walt Granda

Ongoing. Diversity Equity & Inclusion Committee. Our DEI committee works to welcome everyone to our activities, especially previously underrepresented groups. All you need for this committee is openness, interest, and enthusiasm. Our next task is to create the content for our DEI webpage. For more information, please contact Maureen Kelly by emailing deichair@amcsem.org or Rachel Brown-Eisenstadt by emailing deivicechair@amcsem.org. You can also discuss this position or any other volunteer opportunities by contacting our Nominating Committee chair Walt Granda by emailing nominatingchair@amcsem.org or our chapter chair Paul Brookes by emailing chair@amcsem.org.

Ongoing. Membership Committee. If you're a fan of SEM and regularly promote SEM to those you meet, this committee could be for you. In addition to supporting our Open House and other outreach events, you would help our new members fully engage with the chapter by organizing new member activities and social events. For more information contact Samantha Fisher by emailing membershipchair@amcsem.org or contacting Nancy Piedra by emailing membershipvicechair@amcsem.org. L Paul Brookes (chair@amcsem.org, SEM Chapter Chair)



Activities

For the most current information, [search activities online](#)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Volunteer Opportunities

Ongoing. 20's & 30's Committee. As we all know, our younger members are the future of our chapter. We are looking for someone to jumpstart & form our 20's & 30's committee which is currently without a chair or vice chair. Do you have an outgoing personality? Do you like organizing events especially social ones? If you do, send an email to Walt Granda (nominatingchair@amcsem.org) or Paul Brookes (chair@amcsem.org) for more information

Ongoing. Communications Committee member. We are looking for people to train under our current Communications Committee volunteer staff as backup and support for the following roles. Social Media Administration: Will work with Lisa Robitaille our Social Media Administrator Web development and maintenance. Will work with Cheryl Lathrop our Web Mistress who maintains our SEM Website Editing and typesetting: Will work with Mo Walsh who produces our monthly Breeze magazine. We are also looking for someone with Video editing skills to help generate video content for our website. For more information contact Walt Granda by emailing nominatingchair@amcsem.org or Paul Brookes by emailing chair@amcsem.org.

Ongoing. 20's & 30's Chair. SEM is run by volunteers, and we need your help to offer the programs that we all enjoy. As we all know, our younger members are the future of our chapter, and we are looking for someone to jumpstart & form our 20's & 30's committee which is currently without a chair or vice chair. Do you have an outgoing personality? Do you like organizing events especially social ones? Perhaps this could be a role you would consider. For more information on the responsibilities of the 20's & 30's chair click on 'Roles & Responsibilities' under Related Link(s) however although positions have specific responsibilities, what gets done and how it's done is up to whoever fills that position. None of these roles should be overwhelming either in duties or time commitment but should give you a chance to give back to your chapter in a meaningful way. To discuss this position or any other volunteer opportunities please contact Walt Granda by emailing nominatingchair@amcsem.org or Paul Brookes by emailing chair@amcsem.org.

Ongoing. Hiking Vice Chair of Local Walks and Hikes, MA. We are looking for a SEM hike leader interested in working with Bill Belben and Tracy Hawes as an additional Hiking Vice Chair with a focus on Local Hikes and Walks (as opposed to Destination hikes). For more information, please contact Bill Belben our Hiking Chair at HikingChair@amcsem.org or Tracy Hawes our Hiking Vice Chair at HikingVicechair@amcsem.org

Ongoing. Biking Vice Chair. SEM is run by volunteers, and we need your help to offer the programs that we all enjoy. Would you consider contributing to SEM as the vice chair of our biking committee. This is a great way to ease into a role under an existing Chair and you do not have to be a long-time member to volunteer as a Vice Chair, just interest and enthusiasm. For more information click on 'Responsibilities' under Related Link(s) however note that although positions have specific responsibilities, what gets done and how it's done is up to whoever fills that position. None of these roles should be overwhelming either in duties or time commitment but should give you a chance to give back to your chapter in a meaningful way. To discuss this position or any other volunteer opportunities please contact Walt Granda by emailing nominatingchair@amcsem.org or Paul Brookes by emailing chair@amcsem.org. L William Trimble (774-301-1209 5-9 PM, bikingchair@amcsem.org)

Ongoing. Communications Vice Chair. SEM is run by volunteers, and we need your help to offer the programs that we all enjoy. Would you consider contributing to SEM as the vice chair of our communications committee. This is a great way to ease into a role under an existing Chair and you do not have to be a long-time member to volunteer as a Vice Chair, just interest and enthusiasm. We are particularly looking for someone with good organizational skills, who is tech savvy and detail oriented who would support the activities of the Communications Chair. You do not need to be active outdoors to do well in this role. For more information click on 'Responsibilities' under Related Link(s) however note that although positions have specific responsibilities, what gets done and how it's done is up to whoever fills that position. None of these roles should be overwhelming either in duties or time commitment but should give you a chance to give back to your chapter in a meaningful way. To discuss this position or any other volunteer opportunities please contact Walt Granda by emailing nominatingchair@amcsem.org or Paul Brookes by emailing chair@amcsem.org.

Ongoing. Skiing Vice Chair. SEM is run by volunteers, and we need your help to offer the programs that we all enjoy. Would you consider contributing to SEM as the vice chair of our skiing committee. This is a great way to ease into a role under an existing Chair and you do not have to be a long-time member to volunteer as a Vice Chair, just interest and enthusiasm. For more information click on 'Responsibilities' under Related Link(s) however note that although positions have specific responsibilities, what gets done and how it's done is up to whoever fills that position. None of these roles should be overwhelming either in duties or time commitment but should give you a chance to give back to your chapter in a meaningful way. To discuss this position or any other volunteer opportunities please contact Walt Granda by emailing nominatingchair@amcsem.org or Paul Brookes by emailing chair@amcsem.org. L Dia Prantis (xcskichair@amcsem.org)



Activities

For the most current information, [search activities online](#)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Volunteer Opportunities

Sat., Nov. 4. SEM Annual Meeting and Dinner, The Bay Pointe Club, Buzzards Bay, MA. The 48th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Massachusetts Chapter of the AMC will commence at 4:30 pm with a social hour and the chapters' Annual Meeting will be called to order at 5:30 PM. All SEM members and their friends are welcome to attend the Annual Meeting as well as anyone interested in becoming a member of our chapter. Following the official chapter business, there will be a buffet dinner and special guest speaker. There is no charge for attending either the Social Hour or the Annual Meeting. The cost of the buffet dinner and speaker is \$35. This year our speaker will be Steve Tatko. Steve is the Appalachian Mountain Club's Vice President of Conservation Research and Land Management. Since joining AMC in 2012, Steve led the creation of the Land Department for the AMC's Maine Woods Initiative (MWI). As a licensed forester he oversees MWI's forestry operations, conservation acquisitions and finance, habitat restoration, watershed restoration, and recreation objectives on AMC's 100,000-acre ownership in the 100-Mile Wilderness region and AMC's northeastern Research Department. Steve is a native of northern Maine and is an avid outdoor enthusiast enjoying hunting, fishing, skiing, and canoeing. In his talk Steve will be reflecting on how this unique conservation model pioneered by AMC has helped to conserve a critical landscape and watershed in northern Maine. By putting ecology and communities first, AMC is forging a new framework for land conservation tailored to fit the 100-mile wilderness region. Make an afternoon of it by joining us before the meeting for other activities that will be held locally to The Bay Point Club. These will be listed separately closer to the event. L Paul Brookes (Chair@amcsem.org, I am the Chapter Chair for the Southeastern Massachusetts Chapter of the AMC)

HIKING

Get your 100-mile patch! Contact hikingchair@amcsem.org.

Always looking for additional hike leaders! Contact hikingchair@amcsem.org

Fri., Sep. 15-17. SEM Chapter Hut Weekend at Cardigan Lodge, 774 Shem Valley Road, Alexandria, NH. Join us for the return of SEM's Annual Chapter Hut Weekend at the beautiful AMC Cardigan Lodge! Located 2 hours north of Boston in Alexandria, NH, the lodge is situated in a 1,200-acre reservation and offers many nearby activities, including nature trail walks, hikes to waterfalls, swimming in the on-site pond & hiking up Mt. Cardigan. Leaders will plan a variety of activities. Participants will stay in shared bunkrooms with shared bathrooms on each floor. Three meals each day are prepared for the group by the Lodge innkeeper & chef, & appetizers are provided on Saturday. Participants may BYOB. The weekend will be chock-full of good times, good food, great company and lots of outside activities. In past years the Chapter Hut Weekend has filled up quickly so if you would enjoy relaxing in a stunning environment, why not register today? We look forward to seeing you there. L Jeannine Audet (508-493-8221 Weeknights after 7:00 pm, weekends anytime., jhummingbirdbp@aol.com, Jeannine enjoys exploring & sharing experiences in the outdoors, leading a variety of activities (hiking, biking & xc skiing) year-round, throughout New England,.) 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.) L Dia Prantis (dprantis@yahoo.com, Dia is the SEM XC Skiing Chair. She is an all-season hike leader who likes to encourage others to step onto the trail. Being involved with AMC is a way to balance our inside lives with being outside and closer to nature!) L Paul Miller (paulallenmiller@verizon.net, Paul is an experienced four-season hike leader who likes to hike at a moderate pace.)

Sat., Sep. 16. Hiking and Fall Cleanup of F. Gilbert Hills, 45 Mill Street, Foxborough, MA. Our plan is to hike and clean up the southeast portion of F. Gilbert Hills, including part of the red and green trails. Trails work includes cutting briar and intrusive brush on trails, and in some cases widening trails. We plan to hike approximately 4.5 miles in total. Steve Scala and Larry Petrone of the Southeastern Massachusetts Trails Committee will provide tools and work gloves to volunteers and lead the work. L Lawrence Petrone (508-215-7736 Before 7:00 PM, lpetrone57@gmail.com, Larry is a Level I hike leader for the AMC Boston and SEM chapters, and Co-chair for the SEM Trails Committee. He is a four-season hiker and Nordic ski enthusiast)



Activities

For the most current information, [search activities online](#)

HIKING

Sat., Sep. 16. Mt. Garfield Hike 4,502 ft. (3,100 ft Elevation Gain), Franconia, NH. 8:30 am-3:00 pm. Join us for a fun day of hiking in the Whites as we summit Mt. Garfield (weather permitting). Mt. Garfield, located in Franconia, NH, is on the Garfield Ridge Trail and connects the mountains of Franconia Ridge to the Twin Mountain Range. This is a 10 mile out-and-back with 3100 ft. of elevation gain. Hikers must be in good physical condition with hiking experience of similar distance and terrain. Additional challenges of the hike include stream crossings, rocky and rooty footing, and a .2-mile rocky climb and ledge scramble to its bare summit. On a clear day, hikers can take in a spectacular 360-degree view of the Pemigewasset Wilderness. We will hike at a steady, moderate pace of 1.5 miles per hour and stay together as a group. Registration is a three-step process: 1. Complete the online registration form. 2. Expect a call from one of the leaders who will provide more information about the trip and answer any questions you might have. 3. You will be confirmed as a participant. This hike is open to all qualified registrants, regardless of AMC membership. Confirmed participants will receive an e-mail 3-5 days prior to the hike with detailed information, weather updates, directions to the trailhead, and the hike's route with a printable map to bring along. Essential Gear: Sturdy hiking boots with good traction and extra pair of wool socks Two liters of water in a hydration flask or water bottles Lunch and snacks Extra layer of clothing: fleece or wool (no cotton) Brimmed hat & gloves (liners are usually enough in the summer) Puffer jacket or vest Bandana or handkerchief Toilet paper and plastic bag to carry out used paper Rain gear - jacket and pants & backpack cover or plastic bag to line pack Headlamp, fully charged or with fresh batteries Trekking poles (optional) Insect repellent and bug net to cover face (optional but highly recommended) Personal first aid kit with medications Backpack large enough to carry everything. L Diane Hartley (508-566-6517, dihartley@comcast.net, Diane is a four-season hiker and SEM Level 3 hike leader. She enjoys exploring the flora and fauna of lowland conservation properties and summer backpacking in the Northeast, but her true passion lies in higher peaks, particularly the White Mountains of NH. Diane has hiked the NH48 and completed AMC's Mountain Leadership Training.) CL Abi Natarajan (nabirami@hotmail.com, Abi is a 3-season Level 1 Hike Leader for AMC Boston Chapter Local Walks and Hikes. She is also a Level 2 Leader-in-Training with AMC Southeastern MA Chapter.)

Sun., Sep. 17. Fall Hike at Gilbert State Forest, 45 Mill St, Foxborough, MA. Join us on a hike of Tupelo, High Rock and Wolf Meadow trails. It will be a beginner friendly hike roughly 5 - 6 miles. The pace will be slow to moderate, good for walking and chatting at the same time. Depending on the day, if it's not too hot, we can add an extra loop to the route. The goal is to get a nice walk in the woods with good company. We will be stepping over rocks and roots. Please wear sturdy hiking boots. (No open toed shoes). Dress for the weather. Please bring about 2 liters of water, trail snacks, lunch and pack to carry them. Heavy rain will cancel. As with all AMC hikes, we start as a group and end as a group; nobody is left behind. No pets. L Sujatha Srinivasan (ncsuja2021@gmail.com)

Thu., Sep. 21. Thursday Morning Hikes - Noon Hill & Shattuck Reservation, Medfield, MA. Join us as we explore the trails of Noon Hill and adjacent Shattuck Reservation, two open space preserves located in Medfield, Massachusetts that are managed by The Trustees of the Reservation. Our hike will take us on a 7.5-mile trip with a combined elevation of approximately 400 ft., that includes Noon Hill, Holt Pond and the Stop River. The duration of the hike is expected to be about 4 hours, including lunch. L Lawrence Petrone (508-215-7736 Before 7:00 PM, lpetrone57@gmail.com, Larry is a 4-season Level 1 hike leader for the Boston and Southeastern Massachusetts (SEM) chapters of AMC, and Co-chair of the SEM Trails Committee. He is also a Nordic ski enthusiast.)

Sat., Sep. 23-23. Celebrate Fallfest and Trail Trace the Blue Hills, End to End, Blue Hills Reservation, MA. Join us for a Saturday End to End hike of the Skyline trail from Fowl Meadow to Shea Rink. This route is approximately 8.5 miles with over 2,000' of elevation gain. This is a difficult and strenuous hike - not for beginners. Participants should be in great shape and have been hiking regularly this season and be able to manage steep inclines, scramble over rock ledges and be prepared to keep up a good pace. Duration of the hike is expected to be 7 plus hours. We will need to spot cars at each end of the hike and carpool at the beginning and end to get everyone back to their cars. Extra time will be needed for this. Start time and trail head location will be sent out with the Information sheet a few days before the hike. We will limit this hike to 12 and hikers will be screened before they are approved to join. This is a hike of the Trail Trace Blue Hills series so Trail Tracers who have participated in the series will be given priority. Thunderstorms or severe weather will cancel this hike as conditions could be unsafe from heavy rain. L William Doherty (781-660-5534 5-8pm, wdoeherty1@verizon.net, Level 1 AMC Hike leader. Four season Blue Hill hiker. Trail maintenance volunteer.) L Joanne Newton

Sun., Sep. 24. FallFest - Afternoon Hike of Jericho Town Forest, Burchard Park, Concord Road, Weston, MA. Join us for a Sunday afternoon hike in the Jericho Town Forest in Weston, Massachusetts, to celebrate the Appalachian Mountain Club's FallFest Celebration. This hike will be enjoyable for beginners, new members, and families. The hike will be approximately 4 miles with minimal elevation gain and take about 2 hours to complete. We will be walking through the woods over roots and rocks so sturdy footwear is required - sneakers or hiking boots, no flip flops or sandals. Bring water and a few snacks to eat while we walk. We'll stick together and go at the pace of the slowest participant. I hope you will join us for a relaxing walk in the woods on a Sunday afternoon. L Nancy Piedra (nancypiedra@yahoo.com)



Activities

For the most current information, [search activities online](#)

HIKING

Mon., Sep. 25. Fall Hike to Mount Tecumseh, Tripoli Rd, NH. Please join us on a fun day of hiking in the whites as we summit Mt. Tecumseh (4,004' elevation) which is one of the NH 48 4'000' peaks. We will be hiking via the Mt. Tecumseh Trail which starts on Tripoli Road. This route is .6 miles shorter than the Waterville Valley summit approach and is a more gradual ascent of a smooth trail which is oddly devoid of racks making it the easier option. The trail ends with a steep ledgy climb just before the summit. The total elevation gain for this hike will be about 2,385'. We will hike at a steady, moderate pace of 1.5 miles per hour, take short breaks when necessary, and stay together as a group throughout the hike. This hike is open to all that qualify, and you do not have to be a member of AMC to attend. Registration will be a three-step process: 1. Complete the online registration form. 2. Expect a call from one of the leaders who will provide more information about the trip, gather information about your recent hiking experiences and answer any questions you might have. 3. You will be confirmed as a participant. Confirmed participants will receive an e-mail 3-5 days prior to the hike with detailed information, weather updates & directions to the trailhead. Essential Gear: Sturdy hiking footwear with good traction and extra pair of wool socks, non-cotton clothing layers suitable for hiking in fall conditions, two liters of water in a hydration flask or water bottles, lunch and snacks and a backpack large enough to carry everything. A full gear list will be provided to those who are confirmed for the hike. L William Belben (william.belben@yahoo.com) CL Kristin Parnell

Tue., Sep. 26. FallFest- Blue Hills Hike, Blue Hills Reservation, MA. Please join for a fall hike in the Blue Hills Reservation. The hike will be moderately paced (1 1/2-2 mph) at a distance of approximately 6 miles and 1,200 ft of elevation gain. Appropriate hiking clothes for fall weather conditions, sturdy hiking footwear and a small backpack are required. Please bring a minimum of 2 liters of water and light snack. I look forward to seeing you there! L William Belben (william.belben@yahoo.com) L Lawrence Petrone

Thu., Sep. 28. FallFest Thursday Morning Hike-, Allens Pond Wildlife Sanctuary, Westport/Dartmouth, MA. Meet at 9:45 AM, Stone Barn Farm, Allens Pond Wildlife Sanctuary. Directions to Sanctuary Entrance at Stone Barn Farm From Interstate 195, in Westport, take Exit 16 (Rt 88 South). Follow Route 88 for 7.2 miles through three lights to intersection with Hixbridge Rd at 4th light. Turn left onto Hixbridge Rd and proceed 1.5 miles to stop sign at Pine Hill Rd and Horseneck Rd. Turn right onto Horseneck Rd. Proceed 3.3 miles to corner with East Horseneck Rd and turn left. Stone Barn Farm entrance will be 0.4 miles further on your right at 786 E. Horseneck Rd. in Dartmouth. Our hike at the Allens Pond Wildlife Sanctuary is 5+ miles at a moderate pace winding through forests, salt marsh, and a beach. The Mass Audubon reserve is an excellent habitat for wildlife, birds and plants. After retuning to the parking lot, I will offer a second optional 2+ mile hike for anyone wishing to explore another section of Allens Pond. Hiking shoes, rain gear, water, and snacks/lunch required. Weather, pace or trail conditions may shorten the hike. Dogs are not allowed at Allens Pond Wildlife Sanctuary. The hike might be canceled due to heavy or steady rains. Since this is a Show and Go hike, please check the hike posting on the day of the hike or contact hike leader to insure it is still happening. L Walt Granda (508-971-6444 before 9:00 pm, wgranda27@gmail.com) L Susan Rollins (rollins_s@outlook.com)

Fri., Sep. 29-Oct. 1. FallFest - Section Hiking the Long Trail: Stratton to Woodford, Grout Pond, Vermont, MA. Join us for the first in a series of weekend backpack trips on the beautiful Long Trail. The Long Trail spans 272 miles from Massachusetts, along the length of Vermont, through the Green Mountains, to Canada. Constructed between 1910-1930, the Long Trail is the oldest long-distance hiking trail in the US. The first trip will bring us south from the area near Grout Pond at Stratton-Arlington Road (elevation 2230') to the area just south of Maple Hill at Rte. 9 (elevation 1360'). This section is shared with the AT. We will hike a total of 25 miles over the 3 days, camping for 2 nights at backcountry shelters along the trail. Participants must have the required gear & the ability to maintain a 1-1.5mph pace with a full pack. Completion of an AMC introduction to Backpacking workshop or prior backpacking experience is required. L Jeannine Audet (508-493-8221 Weeknights after 7:00 pm, weekends anytime., jhummingbirdbp@aol.com, Jeannine enjoys hiking & backpacking throughout New England, sharing her love of the outdoors with others.) L Anne B Duggan (508-789-5538 before 9 pm, abduggan12@gmail.com, Anne has been a SEM hike leader for more than 10 years! She enjoys leading winter hikes and snowshoes and has hiked the 48 NH 4K mountains. She is a graduate of AMC's Mountain Leadership School.) CL Tracy Hawes (508-642-7124, trachaw@mac.com, Tracy has loved hiking since her teens. Naively finding a trail on her first adventure named Ammonoosuc and saying, "That sounds fun". She has hiked throughout the Pacific Northwest, Alaska, and the mountains of the Northeast. Tracy is an SEM chapter Back Country Hike Leader and currently serving as SEM Hiking Co-Vice Chair.)



Activities

For the most current information, [search activities online](#)

HIKING

Sat., Sep. 30. Fallfest Mounts Avalon, Field, Willey, and Tom Loop, Crawford Notch, NH. We will enjoy an early fall hike in stunning Crawford Notch summiting three 4000 footers and one 52 WAV. We will begin and end the hike at Crawford Depot, hiking approximately 10 miles and gaining roughly 3400 feet of elevation. We will start on the Avalon Trail to the summit of Mount Avalon, continuing to Mount Field and Mount Willey. We will hike north to Mount Tom via the Spur trail. Finally, we return to the Depot via the A-Z trail. This is a challenging hike with steep sections and plenty of rocks and roots. Recent hiking experience of similar distance and similar elevation gain is required. Once you register, you will be contacted by a hike leader to confirm your participation. L Dia Prantis (617-504-8797, dprantis@yahoo.com, Level 3 hike leader who feels most energized when hiking in the mountains and loves to share the outdoors with others!) L Raju Jaldy (508-446-4220, raju.jaldy@gmail.com, SEM chapter All Season Back Country Hiking Leader. Enjoys being outdoors hiking. Recently completed NH 48 4000 footers.) CL Kate Sullivan (kbsullivan2014@gmail.com)

Sat., Sep. 30. Celebrate FallFest and Hike the Emerald Necklace to the Embrace, Leverett Pond (Willow Pond Rd parking lot) Brookline/Jamaica Plain, MA. See how the neighborhoods of Boston connect as we meander through 5 miles of Frank Law Olmsted's beautiful greenway. Join us as we explore the portion of the Emerald Necklace from Leverett Pond to "The Embrace" sculpture on the Boston Common. We will walk mostly on flat, paved pathways (some unpaved but generally level) at a moderate pace with stops along the way at memorials, plaques and the incredible community Victory Gardens. View the extensive Muddy River Restoration Project underway as we walk. Not only will you notice beautiful trees and contrasting vistas, but you will also see the larger community effort that is creating a healthier environment. At the Boston Common, we will view "The Embrace" which was designed and built by Hank Willis Thomas and MASS Design Group. This unusual sculpture "aims to honor the life and legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and Coretta Scott King, celebrate their history in Boston, and spark a public conversation on advancing racial and social justice in Boston today." <https://www.boston.gov/news/embrace-unveiled-boston> We'll have lunch here and see what we think about the sculpture. We will return to our cars via the green line E train. Bring water, lunch/snacks, sunscreen, sunglasses/hat. Wear comfortable clothing and sturdy footwear that compliments the weather. Steady rain will cancel. This hike is open to everyone. You do not need to be an AMC member, but online registration is required. Carpooling from the south shore may be possible. L Maureen Kelly (617-943-4288 Before 8 pm, mokel773@aol.com, Maureen is a 4 season hike leader for SEM and the chair of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Committee) CL Ashley Stehn (ashc215@aol.com, Ashley is a Hike Leader in Training and a member of the SEM Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Committee)

Sat., Sep. 30. Celebrate FallFest and follow the steps of conservationist Thoreau with a walk around Walden Pond and Hapgood woods, 5 miles, Walden Pond, MA. This Saturday morning walk is a little over 5 miles, is almost totally flat, and will be at a slightly slower pace. It is a great beginner hike and a fun hike for anyone. We will meet at the main parking at Concord-Carlisle High School at 10:30 am From the school, we will cross under RT 2 using a 50-yard stretch of path that follows alongside the railway line. We will then walk out to Walden Pond where we will learn a little about the time Thoreau lived here in his cabin. Leaving Walden Pond we walk along the Bay Circuit Trail for a while, pass by Goose Pond, and then take a walkway under RT 2 into Hapgood Woods. Lunch will be at a circle of stone seats that is part of the Thoreau Amble. After lunch we will continue strolling through the Thoreau Amble, stopping to enjoy the many reflective verses carved into the stones. Leaving the amble, we will walk down to Fairyland Pond which I think has a very interesting dam. After the pond it's a short walk back to our cars. I may have my friendly dog Sunny with me. 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.)

Thu., Oct. 5. Thursday Morning Hike - Burrage Pond WMA - 15 Hawks Ave, Hanson, MA. Hike in The Burrage Pond WMA in Hanson & Halifax. A three hour, 5-to-6-mile moderate hike on mostly flat sandy trails. This area was once a large cranberry bog operation and now has been reverted to wild lands. Bring lunch or snack, water, windproof rain gear and bug spray. Heavy rain or thunder will cancel. NO PETS. Please wear bright orange clothing (Hat or Vest or something bright) as this hike is in a hunting area and it is hunting season for some game animals. L Richard Carnes (508-947-3204 Before 8 PM, rcarnes2@aol.com)

Tue., Oct. 10. Blue Hills Hike, Blue Hills Reservation, MA. Please join me for a moderately paced hike of approximately 6-7 miles and up to 1,200 ft of elevation in the Blue Hills Reservation. The pace will be 1 1/2-2 MPH. Appropriate hiking clothes for fall weather conditions, sturdy footwear and a small backpack are required. Please bring a minimum of 2 liters of water and light snack. I look forward to seeing you there! L William Belben (william.belben@yahoo.com) L Lawrence Petrone



Activities

For the most current information, [search activities online](#)

HIKING

Thu., Oct. 12. Thursday Morning Hike, Fall River Bioreserve, Fall River, MA. Meet time is 9:45 am at the corner of Yellow Hill Rd & Tower Rd, Fall River. Enjoy a moderate 4-5 mile hike in the Fall River Bioreserve 16,000 acres in the heart of the Southeastern Massachusetts region. You must have recently walked a comparable distance. Trails are mostly flat. Be prepared to step over tree roots, some rocks and wet trails. Much of the Bioreserve is open to hunting. Hunting season in Massachusetts for 2023 runs from October 2 through December, daily except Sundays. Wear blaze orange during this period. Hiking shoes, rain gear, 1-2 liters water, and snacks/lunch required. Weather, pace or trail conditions may shorten the hike. The hike might be canceled due to heavy or steady rains. Since this is a Show and Go hike, please check the hike posting on the day of the hike or contact hike leader. L Walt Granda (508-971-6444 Before 9:00 PM, wgranda27@gmail.com, Past hiking chair 4 season hiker)

Sat., Oct. 14. Fall Hike to Mt. Passaconaway, Sandwich Range, NH. Are you looking for a moderately challenging hike? Then this is a perfect hike for those of you who are looking to build up your hiking experience in the White Mountains. Mount Passaconaway is a 4000-footer (4043'), so it is challenging, but not too challenging. We will hike approximately 9 miles and gain approximately 2900 feet of elevation. We will start and finish together, so plan on this being a full day of hiking! This is an challenging "out and back" hike on the Dicey Mill Trail. Recent hiking experience of similar distance and elevation gain is required. Once registered, you will be contacted by a hike leader to review your recent experience before being confirmed for the hike. L Dia Prantis (617-504-8797, dprantis@yahoo.com, Dia is a level 3 hike leader who enjoys being in the Whites and encouraging others to get on the trail too!) L Raju Jaldy (508-446-4220, raju.jaldy@gmail.com, SEM chapter All Season Back Country Hiking Leader. Enjoys being outdoors hiking. Recently completed NH 48 4000 footers.) CL Kate Sullivan (617-460-5843, kbsullivan2014@gmail.com, Kate is a 4 season hiker who is working on her level 2 qualifications so she can lead others on adventures into the Whites and beyond!)

Sat., Oct. 14. Fall River Bioreserve 20 Mile Loop Trail Hike, 2929 Blossom Road, Fall River, MA. Join us for a hike along the historic 20-mile Fall River Bioreserve Loop Trail. The trail is mostly flat but features varied terrain. Hikers who complete the loop will earn a limited-edition patch! L Jeannine Audet (508-493-8221 Weeknights after 7:00 pm, weekends anytime., jhummingbirdbdp@aol.com, Jeannine enjoys leading hikes of varied level of challenge throughout New England. The Fall River Bioreserve is in her "backyard".) L Paul Audet (508-287-3122 Anytime, milmod@aol.com, Paul enjoys local hikes, & has a great fund of knowledge about local history.) L Tracy Hawes (508-642-7124 Before 8:30 pm, trachaw@mac.com, Tracy has loved hiking since her teens. Naively finding a trail on her first adventure named Ammonoosuc and saying, "That sounds fun". She has hiked throughout the Pacific Northwest, Alaska, and the mountains of the Northeast. Tracy is an SEM chapter Back Country Hike Leader and currently serving as SEM Hiking Co-Vice Chair.) L William Belben (william.belben@yahoo.com, Bill is the AMC SEM Hiking Chair. He leads hikes locally & in NH year-round.)

Mon., Oct. 16. Bioreserve 2nd Leg Hike / 20 Mile Loop Completion, Wattuapa Reservation Headquarters Exact location TBA later, MA. Join us, Monday, October 16th, as we complete the 2nd half of the 20-mile loop in the Bioreserve. We will hike approximately 11 miles of the Blue Blaze Bioreserve Loop Trail. Please note that this will start where the Spring Bioreserve hike ended. Priority will be given to past participants of the June 2023 10-mile first leg in the first 48 hours. After that, it opens to all. You don't have to have hiked the first section to be considered for this hike, although if you did you will qualify for the Bioreserve Loop Patch. These trails are mostly flat and somewhat diverse with slight elevation. Be prepared to step over tree roots and some rocks. There are some spots that may have water on the trail that can be navigated easily around should we have any rain. We will take breaks for food, water, and bio as needed. Our pace will be approx. 2 - 2.5 mph however, it will be set by the group. The hike is listed as moderate due to the distance. It would help if you have done a similar distance recently. Registration is required. You will be contacted by one of the leaders for your registration to be fully accepted. Confirmed participants will receive detailed information 3 to 4 days before the hike. To address unforeseen challenges such as adverse weather, unacceptable trail conditions, or excessive crowding, the planned trip destination activity and/or meeting place and time may be modified. In that event, participants may elect to join in that activity or opt out. If you are interested in learning more about hiking and other outdoor activities offered by the Southeastern Massachusetts chapter, you can click the "AMC SEM Hiking" link in the Related Links section. L Tracy Hawes (508-642-7124 Before 8:30 pm, trachaw@mac.com, Tracy has loved hiking since her teens. Naively finding a trail on her first adventure named Ammonoosuc and saying, "That sounds fun". She has hiked throughout the Pacific Northwest, Alaska, and the mountains of the Northeast. Tracy is an SEM chapter Back Country Hike Leader and currently serving as SEM Hiking Co-Vice Chair.) L Walt Granda (wgranda@aol.com, Walt is a long-time multi-season hiker. He leads hikes throughout Southern Massachusetts and the Blue Hills area.) L Diane Simms (dianemsimms@comcast.net, Level 1 SEM local hike leader since 2019. Leader-in-training for level 2 mountain hike leader. Let's enjoy the mountains together!)



Activities

For the most current information, [search activities online](#)

HIKING

Tue., Oct. 17. Fall Hike Series: Stair Climbing the Blue Hills, Blue Hills Reservation, MA. This hike in the Blue Hills will be focused on stair work--sections of the Skyline trail that offer rock steps which we will be walking up and down multiple times, for cardio benefits, and to become more proficient with stairs/lunge stepping. You can take the stairs as quickly or as slowly as you like as we will be doing stair drills and everyone can go at their own pace. But you must have some comfort negotiating the uneven and boulder rocks that make up large sections of the Skyline trail. We will intersperse the stair drills with hiking to different locations that provide staircase opportunities! L Deborah Sepinwall (401-595-7575, deborahsepinwall@gmail.com, Deborah is a local walks and hikes leader with the Boston chapter and a Level 1 leader with SEM. She has hiked and backpacked with her husband Vincent extensively in the White Mountains as well as in other parts of the U.S., Europe, and Canada.) L Diane Simms (dianesimms@comcast.net, SEM hike leader since 2019. Let's enjoy the outdoors together!)

Thu., Oct. 26. Thursday Morning Hike - Arnold Arboretum, Jamaica Plain (Boston), MA. Please join us for the "7th Annual Autumn Peak Hike at The Arnold Arboretum"! We will summit the arboretum's two tallest hills, visit the spectacular bonsai exhibit, and wander thru "Explorer's Garden". Our group will meander thru this "Tree Museum" during a 4.5 - 5.5-mile hike at a moderate pace. There will be a number of stops and photo-ops along the way. Bring water, sturdy footwear, snack, or lunch. We will meet in Jamaica Plain (Boston) at 9:45 for a prompt 10:00 am start. The exact meeting point will be sent to those who are registered; 24-48 hours prior to the day of the hike. There's plenty of free on-street parking along both sides of the nearby Arborway; or you can walk to the entrance from the Forest Hills Orange-Line MBTA Station. The group will be limited to 14 participants plus the two leaders. Steady rain will cancel the trip. Well behaved dogs on leash will be permitted. L Ken Cohen (508-942-1536 Before 7:00 pm, k-cohen@comcast.net, Year-round hiker and snowshoe enthusiast. Joins groups in the Blue Hills, other DCR reservations, land trusts (active supporter of many), White Mountains, and our nation's National Parks. AMC Southeastern Massachusetts and Boston Chapters Hike Leader and Leader-In-Training Mentor. Avid nature photographer.) L Lawrence Petrone (508-215-7736 Before 7:00 pm, lpetrone57@gmail.com, Larry is an experienced four-season hiker and Nordic ski enthusiast. He has been an AMC member since 2018 and is a Level I hike leader for the Southeastern and Boston Massachusetts chapters.)

Thu., Oct. 26. Full Moon Hike at Borderland State Park, 259 Massapoag Ave., North Easton, MA. Come and hike under the Full Moon. This hike will be under the Hunter Moon. Also known as the falling leaves moon. We will be hiking about 5 miles on mainly wide flat trails between and around 2 large ponds and through rolling meadows. In the past we have seen the moon 90% of the time. This is our First hike of the season. Sturdy, waterproof and insulated hiking shoes are a must for the wet Fall conditions on the sometimes wet and slippery trails. A few days before the hike I will email all registrants regarding additional equipment. A detailed information sheet will be sent to all who register. This hike is not appropriate for Pets. L William Cannon (508-649-6730 Before 8pm, bcannon56@gmail.com) L Nancy Coote (cranstonstreet22@gmail.com) L Patricia McNally (pmcallyma@comcast.net)

Fri., Oct. 27-29. Berkshires Hiking & Bicycling Weekend, Wainwright Inn, MA. Join us for a friendly, fun, Fall (note the alliteration!) weekend of hiking & bicycling. The beautiful & historic Wainwright Inn will serve as our home base. Located in the heart of Great Barrington, the Wainwright has lovely rooms with private bathrooms, & the innkeepers Chris & Barb serve a full breakfast each morning. <https://wainwrightinn.com>. Several hikes of different lengths & degree of challenge will be offered nearby; options may include Mt. Everett, Mt. Alander, or Bear Mtn. The highest waterfall in MA, Bash Bish Falls, is also nearby. A bicycling tour of the Berkshire area via the scenic 26-mile Harlem Valley Rail Trail will also be offered, including a lunch stop & other stops at points of interest. <https://www.hvrt.org>. Participants may opt for hiking or cycling. Participants, once registered for the trip, will need to contact the inn to reserve their room. L Jeannine Audet (508-493-8221 Weeknights after 7:00 pm, weekends anytime., jhummingbirddbp@aol.com, Jeannine enjoys leading hikes, backpacks, bicycling and cross-country skiing throughout New England. The Berkshires is a favorite location.) L Susan Rollins (774-264-9430, rollins_s@outlook.com, Susan is a Level 1 Hiking Leader and a Bicycling Leader.) L Maureen Kelly (617-943-4288 Before 8 pm, mokel773@aol.com, Maureen leads hikes year round locally & in the mountains.)



Activities

For the most current information, [search activities online](#)

HIKING

Sat., Nov. 4., SEM Annual Meeting and Dinner, The Bay Pointe Club, Buzzards Bay, MA. The 48th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Massachusetts Chapter of the AMC will begin at 4:30 pm with a social hour; the chapters' Annual Meeting will be called to order at 5:30 pm. All SEM members and friends are welcome at the Annual Meeting as well as anyone interested in becoming a member. Following the official chapter business, there will be a buffet dinner and special guest speaker. There is no charge for the Social Hour or the Annual Meeting. The cost of the dinner and speaker is \$30. This year our speaker will be Steve Tatko, the AMC's Vice President of Conservation Research and Land Management. Since joining AMC in 2012, Steve led the creation of the Land Department for the AMC's Maine Woods Initiative (MWI). As a licensed forester he oversees MWI's forestry operations, conservation acquisitions and finance, habitat restoration, watershed restoration, and recreation objectives on AMC's 100,000-acre ownership in the 100-Mile Wilderness region and AMC's northeastern Research Department. Steve is a native of northern Maine and avid outdoor enthusiast enjoying hunting, fishing, skiing, and canoeing. He will reflect on how this unique conservation model pioneered by AMC has helped to conserve a critical landscape and watershed in northern Maine. By putting ecology and communities first, AMC is forging a new framework for land conservation tailored to fit the 100-mile wilderness region. Make an afternoon of it by joining us before the meeting for other activities that will be held locally to The Bay Point Club. These will be listed separately closer to the event. L William Belben (hikingchair@amcsem.org)

Thu., Nov. 9. Thursday Morning Hike - Pratt Farm, 110 East Main Street (GPS) on Rte 105 in Middleboro, MA. Explore the many paths and byways of Pratt Farm. Mostly gentle rolling hills. We will meet at the Pratt Farm Trail head parking area at 110 East Main Street on Rte 105 in Middleboro. Meet before 10:00AM ready to hike. Hike is approximately 4-5 miles and 2 - 3 hours depending on routes taken and time spent exploring. Bring light lunch, water and appropriate weather gear. Heavy rain or thunder will cancel. L Richard Carnes (508-947-3204 before 9 PM, rcarnes2@aol.com)

Tue., Nov. 21. Fall Hikes Series: Houghton's Pond Skyline Loop on Repeat, Blue Hills Reservation, MA. A moderate paced 3-4-hour loop hike from Houghton's Pond to the State Police barracks and back again. Yes--we will retrace our steps and return the way we came--to double the fun! This 6-mile hike includes many ups and down on steep rock. Please be comfortable ascending and descending uneven boulder-y rocks--we will be keeping a brisk but safe pace to maximize heart rate and calorie burn! Wear sturdy hiking boots or shoes. Bring insect repellent, sunscreen, water, snacks, and rain jacket (just in case). Heavy rains/thunderstorms will cancel. Group size is limited to 10 hikers plus the two leaders. Trail head and other logistical information will be emailed to confirmed registrants. L Deborah Sepinwall (401-595-7575, deborahsepinwall@gmail.com, Deborah is a leader in training with the Boston chapter and a Level 1 leader with SEM. She has hiked and backpacked with her husband Vincent extensively in the White Mountains as well as in other parts of the U.S., Europe, and Canada.) L Diane Simms (dianesimms@comcast.net, SEM hike leader since 2019. Let's enjoy the outdoors together!)

Thu., Dec. 7- Thursday Morning Hike - Great River Preserve & Taunton River WMA, Bridgewater, MA. Meet at The Great River Preserve small dirt parking area past 963 Auburn St. Thursday Morning 10 AM / 2-3 hour/ flat 4 to 5-mile Hike- Wildlands Trust Great River Preserve and Taunton River Wildlife Management Area on Auburn Street in Bridgewater. Travel through pine and holly forest onto open meadow trails paralleling the Taunton River. Do not approach from Auburn Street in Middleboro as the bridge has been removed. Heavy rain/snow or icy conditions will cancel. L Richard Carnes (508-947-3204 Before 8 PM, rcarnes2@aol.com)

PADDLING

Sat., Nov. 4. SEM Annual Meeting and Dinner, The Bay Pointe Club, Buzzards Bay, MA. The 48th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Massachusetts Chapter of the AMC will begin at 4:30 pm with a social hour; the chapter's Annual Meeting will be called to order at 5:30 pm. All SEM members and their friends are welcome to attend the Annual Meeting as well as anyone interested in becoming a member. Following the official chapter business will be a buffet dinner and special guest speaker. There is no charge for attending the Social Hour or Annual Meeting. The cost of the dinner and speaker is \$30. Our speaker will be Steve Tatko, the AMC's Vice President of Conservation Research and Land Management. Since joining AMC in 2012, Steve led the creation of the Land Department for the AMC's Maine Woods Initiative (MWI). As a licensed forester he oversees MWI's forestry operations, conservation acquisitions and finance, habitat restoration, watershed restoration, and recreation objectives on AMC's 100,000-acre ownership in the 100-Mile Wilderness region and AMC's northeastern Research Department. Steve is a native of northern Maine and avid outdoor enthusiast enjoying hunting, fishing, skiing, and canoeing. He will be reflecting on how this unique conservation model pioneered by AMC has helped to conserve a critical landscape and watershed in northern Maine. By putting ecology and communities first, AMC is forging a new framework for land conservation tailored to fit the 100-mile wilderness region. Make an afternoon of it by joining us before the meeting for other activities that will be held locally to The Bay Point Club. These will be listed separately closer to the event. L Barry Young (508-339-3089 Before 9 pm, paddlingchair@amcsem.org)



Activities

For the most current information, [search activities online](#)

SKIING

Sat., Nov. 4. SEM Annual Meeting and Dinner, The Bay Pointe Club, Buzzards Bay, MA. The 48th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Massachusetts Chapter of the AMC will begin at 4:30 pm with a social hour; the chapter's Annual Meeting will be called to order at 5:30 pm. All SEM members and their friends are welcome to attend the Annual Meeting as well as anyone interested in becoming a member. Following the official chapter business will be a buffet dinner and special guest speaker. There is no charge for attending the Social Hour or Annual Meeting. The cost of the dinner and speaker is \$30. Our speaker will be Steve Tatko, the AMC's Vice President of Conservation Research and Land Management. Since joining AMC in 2012, Steve led the creation of the Land Department for the AMC's Maine Woods Initiative (MWI). As a licensed forester he oversees MWI's forestry operations, conservation acquisitions and finance, habitat restoration, watershed restoration, and recreation objectives on AMC's 100,000-acre ownership in the 100-Mile Wilderness region and AMC's northeastern Research Department. Steve is a native of northern Maine and avid outdoor enthusiast enjoying hunting, fishing, skiing, and canoeing. He will be reflecting on how this unique conservation model pioneered by AMC has helped to conserve a critical landscape and watershed in northern Maine. By putting ecology and communities first, AMC is forging a new framework for land conservation tailored to fit the 100-mile wilderness region. Make an afternoon of it by joining us before the meeting for other activities that will be held locally to The Bay Point Club. These will be listed separately closer to the event. L Dia Prantis (xcskivicechair@amcsem.org)

SOCIALS

Mon., Sep. 18. SEM Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) discussion via Zoom, Online. The SEM DEI Committee works to keep our chapter open and welcoming, especially to previously underrepresented groups in our community. Our monthly DEI zoom meetings are open to all, and we would be happy to have you join us to share your thoughts and comments. No commitment is needed; join us once or each time we meet. The zoom link will be sent to you when you register. L Maureen Kelly (617-943-4288 before 8 pm, mokel773@aol.com, Maureen is a former SEM Chapter Chair and a current SEM hike leader) L Ken Cohen (k-cohen@comcast.net)

Sat., Nov. 4. SEM Annual Meeting and Dinner, The Bay Pointe Club, Buzzards Bay, MA. The 48th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Massachusetts Chapter of the AMC will begin at 4:30 pm with a social hour; the chapter's Annual Meeting will be called to order at 5:30 pm. All SEM members and their friends are welcome to attend the Annual Meeting as well as anyone interested in becoming a member. Following the official chapter business will be a buffet dinner and special guest speaker. There is no charge for attending the Social Hour or Annual Meeting. The cost of the dinner and speaker is \$30. Our speaker will be Steve Tatko, the AMC's Vice President of Conservation Research and Land Management. Since joining AMC in 2012, Steve led the creation of the Land Department for the AMC's Maine Woods Initiative (MWI). As a licensed forester he oversees MWI's forestry operations, conservation acquisitions and finance, habitat restoration, watershed restoration, and recreation objectives on AMC's 100,000-acre ownership in the 100-Mile Wilderness region and AMC's northeastern Research Department. Steve is a native of northern Maine and avid outdoor enthusiast enjoying hunting, fishing, skiing, and canoeing. He will be reflecting on how this unique conservation model pioneered by AMC has helped to conserve a critical landscape and watershed in northern Maine. By putting ecology and communities first, AMC is forging a new framework for land conservation tailored to fit the 100-mile wilderness region. Make an afternoon of it by joining us before the meeting for other activities that will be held locally to The Bay Point Club. These will be listed separately closer to the event. L Paul Brookes (chair@amcsem.org)

TRAILS

Sat., Nov. 4. SEM Annual Meeting and Dinner, The Bay Pointe Club, Buzzards Bay, MA. The 48th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Massachusetts Chapter of the AMC will begin at 4:30 pm with a social hour; the chapter's Annual Meeting will be called to order at 5:30 pm. All SEM members and their friends are welcome to attend the Annual Meeting as well as anyone interested in becoming a member. Following the official chapter business will be a buffet dinner and special guest speaker. There is no charge for attending the Social Hour or Annual Meeting. The cost of the dinner and speaker is \$30. Our speaker will be Steve Tatko, the AMC's Vice President of Conservation Research and Land Management. Since joining AMC in 2012, Steve led the creation of the Land Department for the AMC's Maine Woods Initiative (MWI). As a licensed forester he oversees MWI's forestry operations, conservation acquisitions and finance, habitat restoration, watershed restoration, and recreation objectives on AMC's 100,000-acre ownership in the 100-Mile Wilderness region and AMC's northeastern Research Department. Steve is a native of northern Maine and avid outdoor enthusiast enjoying hunting, fishing, skiing, and canoeing. He will be reflecting on how this unique conservation model pioneered by AMC has helped to conserve a critical landscape and watershed in northern Maine. By putting ecology and communities first, AMC is forging a new framework for land conservation tailored to fit the 100-mile wilderness region. Make an afternoon of it by joining us before the meeting for other activities that will be held locally to The Bay Point Club. These will be listed separately closer to the event. L Stephen Scala (trailschair@amcsem.org)



**BE
OUTDOORS**
APPALACHIAN MTN CLUB

SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER



Photo by Ale Hidalgo on Pixabay

THE END