

# SEM/AMC Annual Reports, 1994

Southeastern Massachusetts Chapter—Appalachian Mountain Club

November, 1994

## Chapter Chair's Report

In 1994, the Spring AMC Clubwide Weekend Meeting drew upon all the energies and talents of our chapter members as SEM hosted 191 leaders of the 62,000 members in eleven chapters. Attendance was almost doubled from former clubwide meetings—largely due to the great response from our members. The year of planning culminated April 29–May 1 with a “Whale of a Weekend.” During the superb spring weather of Sandwich “Daffodil Days”, internationally known cetacean biologist, Stormy Mayo, highlighted the full day of meetings and the clam-bake dinner with a slide lecture on the status of whales along the Cape Cod coastline. Thank you letters from AMC Joy Street executives described the event as “a meeting that created and embodied an atmosphere that bonded us all” and “the best club weekend ever.” This tremendous undertaking owes its success to the planning committee and to all chapter volunteers who worked for months to assure that our noted SEM hospitality was extended to all the visiting club leaders.

Throughout the year, leaders in SEM volunteered to run the activities described in this report which contribute to the fulfillment of the mission of the AMC—to promote the protection, enjoyment, and wise use of the mountains, rivers, trails, and coastlines of the northeast.

Vice-chair Bruce Dunham, the faithful, dependable leader who has so responsibly coordinated the many details for every chapterwide event during the year, has compiled statistics which indicate that 10,543 hours were given by SEM volunteer leaders. Accolades to all the capable leaders who gave so much time and talent to assure the success of our chapter year.

In addition to organizing a full schedule of trips and activities, an exceptionally talented executive board made significant progress in governance of the chapter. Unique contributions in 1994 include the following: revision of the Chapter Bylaws, formation of a Finance Committee, adoption of the first set of Board Operating Rules, initiation of the Open Forum, submission of a grant for Leader Training, participation in goal-setting at AMC February weekend, leadership training on Thompson's Island, preparation of an Annual Report.

Being chairperson during the past two years has given me the satisfaction of working with a team of genuinely supportive and enthusiastic leaders. Together we have built a truly successful year of accomplishments for our chapter. I have had a good time; I hope you have, too. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve!

Suzanne Scolamiero  
Chapter Chair

## Hiking/Backpacking Annual Report

Although I feel our leaders have offered a wide variety of hikes in 1994, except for the Cape Hikes, participation was down this year and we can't find the reason. Our Wednesday Night Hikes over the Summer were well attended with an average of five hikers, a nice sized group for an evening hike through some of our local parks and forests. Of course, we would rather have a few people on a lot of hikes than a lot of people on a few hikes. We have given hike leader qualification patches to quite a few people over the past years. If every SEM/AMC qualified leader led just one hike a year I'm sure we would have more than enough hikes.

The Hiking/Backpacking Committee meets four times a year to plan hikes for each season. At each meeting it is the same reliable core of leaders that virtually carry the Hiking/Backpacking Committee and to these leaders, and you know who you are, thank you!!

To sum up 1994, it wasn't a bad year, but we can and have done better. So come on out leaders and lead your favorite hike in 1995.

Don Auclair, Hiking Chair

## Cape Hike Vice-Chair Report

As vice-chair of hiking on Cape Cod I wish to report there will have been 72 hikes offered by the end of the calendar year.

The hikes range from the Cape Cod Canal to Provincetown and are of varying terrains to include woodlands, marsh edge, pond view and ocean views.

We have had a most successful year, the attendance being good to excellent and I wish to thank all of you who have participated. Your help was essential and appreciated.

Al Johnson, Vice-Chair, Cape

## Skiing Committee Annual Report

1993 was a great year for X-C skiing. Several weekend long trips were planned ranging from cozy bed & breakfasts at ski touring centers to rustic cabins in the back woods. Several day trips were offered that helped our members round out an excellent season.

The 1994 skiing season looks great! To begin we have a X-C ski workshop for the beginner and intermediate skier in December. Come and learn about or review what equipment is best for you. This is followed with an instructional X-C ski weekend for beginners at the end of January. Also in January a favorite SEM/AMC weekend at the lovely Applebrook B&B is being offered. February gives us two annual trips to rustic cabins where you can get your fill of back country skiing. As always, leaders choice day trips, both Cape and off-Cape round out the season. Call your NEW SEM/AMC X-C SKI HOTLINE for late breaking ski trip news.

Tom Waddell, Ski Chair

## Canoe Committee Annual Report

This past canoe season was filled with fun and wonderful fellowship. We planned and carried out some excellent instructional outings, the many leaders provided a variety of day, weekend, and wilderness adventures. We increased our inventory with the purchase of another canoe.

This was my last year as canoe chair. My deepest thanks for all of the many hours of time given by the dedicated leaders and co-leaders. They are the binding fiber of our club. My personal thanks for all the love and support I have received from my involvement with the AMC.

My best wishes for a continued future of many good times.

Lois Rogers, Canoe Chair



## Conservation Committee Report

The goal of Chapter Conservation programming is to reiterate and further the cited goals and issues of the Conservation Department at Joy Street. These issues include Northern Forests, Trails, River Protection, and F.E.R.C. relicensing of dams, to name a few.

The S.E.M. Chapter has assisted the Joy Street Conservation Office with their agenda by providing programs such as the Spring Flings' Northern Forests overview presentation by Tom Steinbach. The 1994 programming concentrated on Wetland education, Duxbury dune restoration, a Coastweeks beach cleanup and the sponsoring of trailwork and Arbor Day tree planting on the Cape Cod Canal. Additional activities included the writing of Breeze articles and attending planning sessions in development of a Cape Trail.

The 1994 Conservation season has been both active and successful, thanks to the many volunteers that have given their time and talents to making this season.

This coming year will see Laura Judd take over as the Conservation Chairperson. She has demonstrated an excellent sense of motivation and technical skills necessary to lead a successful Conservation Committee and programs.

John Pribilla, Conservation Chair

### Conservation Co-Chair's Report

This year started off with the Conservation Program at the Spring Fling. The program centered around the Northern Forest, with a slide show and discussion. Members gained an awareness of the plight, both economic and environmental, of this region and of how they can make a difference. Other spring conservation activities included a beachgrass planting on Duxbury Beach led by John Pribilla. Members did their part to protect this coastal resource from future erosion. We kicked off Summer with a Conservation Workshop and Hike led by myself and co-led by Diane Yohe and Bruce Dunham. The day started with a brief workshop on basic conservation "activism" skills. We then hiked around the woods and wetlands of a local conservation area, the Boyden Wildlife Refuge in Taunton. A good time was had by all. Members are learning how to make their voices heard about conservation issues that are important to them, whether regional or in their own back yard. The most recent initiative is the passing of the Massachusetts Rivers Bill, which proposes to protect a buffer zone around all rivers in the state. I look forward to working with members to get the bill passed and to building a committee of people interested in working for conservation!

Laura K. Judd, Co-Chair

## Bicycle Committee Report

The 1994 bicycling season was mostly successful. On Cape Cod we had three regularly scheduled weekly rides. These were as follows:

Tuesday morning Rail Trail led by Bud Carter.

Tuesday evening rides coordinated by Nancy Wigley and Alice Oberdorf.

Sunday morning canal rides led by Al Johnson.

Each of these provided leisurely riding with much socializing.

Several larger rides were offered this year. Three metric century rides were led by Mark Tisdale. A Plymouth to Provincetown ride with return by ferry in one day was led by Carol Swete. The Cape Cod Marathon ride for the Fall Frolic had several members from the Boston chapter joining us. Various other rides were led by Al Johnson, Mark Tisdale and Elsie Laverty. Bill Boles continued in his efforts to establish an 'off road' ATB group. The annual Century Ride led by Mark Tisdale, Carol Swete and a crew of eight volunteers was a success for the thirteenth year. Fall bicycling has continued with a tour of Martha's Vineyard and a second year of 'Winter Biking' is in store for any and all.

Mark Tisdale, Bicycle Chair

### Cape Cod Bicycling Report

A total of 16 Tuesday evening bicycle rides led by Alice Oberdorf and Nancy Wigley were held from May 17th thru August 30th. All rides started at 6 p.m. and ended at approximately 8 p.m. Attendance ranged from 5-12 people. The rides varied between 12-20 miles in length. Riders met afterwards for pizza/dinner. Thanks to Barbara Rogers for being guest leader again on the Yarmouthport ride and for the gorgeous garden stop. Thanks too to Pam and Bud Carter for their warm hospitality in having everyone over for pizza after the Yarmouthport ride.

The enjoyable and relaxed Sunday rides along the service road of the Canal began May 29th and ended September 11th for a total of 15 rides. Lunch was enjoyed at the picnic area at the west end of the Canal. Each bicycle trip ended with ice cream and swapping stories of fun times, past, present and future.

A 30 mile bicycle trip led by Al Johnson took place July 2nd with 11 riders. It began at the head of the rail trail in Dennis and went to Rock Harbor in Orleans where the bicyclists toured the gardens and events of the Star Spangled Spectacular.

The delightful 22-mile round trip Tuesday morning bicycle rides led by Bud Carter took place as scheduled during June, July and August. The rides began at the lead of the Rail Trail in Dennis with a destination of Nickerson State Park for lunch.

Nancy Wigley, Vice-Chair, Cape

## Communications Committee/Breeze Report

1994 saw the *Breeze* continuing much as in the past with 10 issues per year. Many Thanks to Nancy Wigley, Lois Rogers and Ruth Shephard for helping to get it out. As you can see from the Treasurer's Report, the *Breeze* consumes the bulk of our dues allocation from Joy St. We probably cannot continue the present form and frequency of publication for at least 2 reasons: First we can't afford it (Joy St. is not going to return much more of our dues to us.) Second, we have not been able to find a new *Breeze* editor and crew; although we have had several offers of significant help.

The communications Chair has also been increasingly caught up in Club-wide committees exploring various aspects of club

communications including the increasing use of computers and other forms of electronic communications.

The future of Chapter communications looks like this to me:

- 1) A voice-mail bulletin board (similar to the one proposed by the Ski committee) to have the details of each week's trips plus some general information and voice mail for committee chairs.
- 2) Monthly activities schedule in *AMC Outdoors* as at present.
- 3) Quarterly published activities schedules well in advance and perhaps distributed only to participating members, and
- 4) Chapter news (*Breeze*) when and as we can get it out.

If you would like to help us, we would like to hear from you.

David Shephard, Communications Chair



## Membership Committee Report

As of August 31, 1994, the Southeastern Massachusetts Chapter has 1,565 members. The geographic distribution of members is:

South Shore	308
S.E. Mass.	702
Cape Cod & Islands	464
Middlesex/Essex	5
Worcester area	11
Springfield area	4
Rhode Island	35
New Hampshire	9
Maine	4
Other areas: VT (1), CT (1), NJ (1), PA (1), DE (1), MD (2), GA (1), FL (5), MI (1), TX (1), AZ (1), NM (1), CA (3), OR (1), WA (1)	22
Total	1,565

Membership activities for the past year have included sending a welcome letter, a S.E. Chapter Questionnaire, and a sample issue of the *Breeze* to each new member. Through this literature, new members have been encouraged to participate in all club activities and, in particular, to participate in social events.

More can certainly be done. Membership Chair Diana Yohe is looking to form a Membership Committee. This committee would be responsible for developing programs to recruit new members and to encourage participation in Club activities by *all members*. At least one representative from each of our high membership population areas would be ideal. Meeting times and locations will be decided upon by the members of the committee.

If you are interested in helping to find ways to get more members involved, call Diana Yohe at 508-947-5622 between 5 p.m. and 9 p.m.

Dianna Yohe, Membership Chair

## Treasurer's Report

January 1, 1993 - December 31, 1993

General Account	
Cash Balance as of Jan. 1, 1993	\$7,386.26
Income	
Allocations from AMC/Joy St.	\$6,825.00
Bank interest	157.52
Chapter events	5,982.00
Miscellaneous income	727.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$13,691.52
Expenses	
Breeze (printing & mailing)	\$5,127.64
Postage/telephone/supplies	2,553.85
Equipment	1,596.95
Meeting attendance reimbursement for Executive Board	1,554.28
Chapter events	4,305.00
Miscellaneous expense	409.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$15,546.72

Cash Balance as of December 31, 1993 5,531.06

Chapter Loan to AMC Camp Reserve Acct.  
(incl. est. interest to 12/13/93) 9,389.57

Total Chapter Assets \$14,920.63

Mary Angulo, Treasurer

## Education Committee Report

On February 5, 1994, the Education committee ran a leadership conference. It began at 9:00 a.m. and ran until 3:30 p.m. Mark Jerges and Bill Aughton, from the Joy St. office, along with Bruce Dunham, were the presenters. Twenty-three experienced and novice leaders attended the conference which focused on responding to emergencies, as well as trip planning, leadership liability, and other related topics. The conference was held at Mitchell's Restaurant, Rt. 28, on the Cape.

Since the Leadership Conference, the Education Committee has turned its attention to planning its next chapter-wide gathering. This will be a weekend conference which will focus on Wilder-

ness Medicine. The committee has met several times in planning sessions. Currently, it expects to hold the conference early in the spring of 1995.

Besides the all-chapter gatherings, the committee has continued to encourage each section of the SEM/AMC to continue to hold instruction in the basic skills necessary for their activities. The hiking, canoeing and white-water canoeing groups have held very successful instructional programs.

Raymond D. Butts

