



WORCESTER CHAPTER

YOUR CONNECTION TO THE OUTDOORS

ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Mission

The Worcester Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club promotes the protection, enjoyment, and understanding of the mountains, forests, waters, and trails of the Appalachian region. In particular our Chapter is dedicated to the outdoor resources of Central Massachusetts for the purposes of education, recreation, and conservation. Founded in 1918, the Worcester Chapter has over 3000 members who are dedicated to the outdoors. The Chapter offers activities for all levels, including backpacking trips, day hikes, bike rides, rock climbing, skiing, paddling, and a wide range of social events and educational programs.

2019 Executive Committee

Officers

Joe Massery	Chapter Chair
Kim Beauchemin	Vice-Chair
Jose Schroen	Treasurer
Sue Serra	Secretary

Committee Chairs

Janice Melchior	Cycling Co-Chair
Neil Schutzman	Cycling Co-Chair
Jon DiRodi	Conservation
Debi Garlick	Hiking
Alexandra Molnar	Communications Co-Chair
Zenya Molnar	Communications Co-Chair
Ingrid Molnar	Families
Michele Simoneau	Historian
Paul Glazebrook	Leadership
Jean Langley	Membership
Bill Zahavi	Endowment
David Elliott	Paddling
Claudine Mapa	Skiing
John Grote	Technical Climbing
Fred Mezynski	Third Wednesday
Steve Crowe	Trails Co-Chair
Don Hoffses	Trails Co-Chair
Kim Simpson	Midstate Trail
Lisa Buckley	At Large - Social Media
Mike Foley	Social
Dave Cole	Past Chair
Mike Morin	20s & 30s (YM)
Shalin Desai	Programs

2020 EC Slate

Listed below are the nominees for Executive Committee, AMC Worcester Chapter, for 2020:

Kim Beauchemin	Chapter Chair
Mike Morin	Chapter Vice Chair
Jose Schroen	Treasurer
Peter Eggleston	Secretary
Joe Massery	Past Chair
Lisa Buckley	At Large - Social Media
Neil Schutzman	Cycling Chair
Alexandra Molnar	Communications Co-Chair
Zenya Molnar	Communications Co-Chair
Jon DiRodi	Conservation Chair
Ingrid Molnar	Families Chair
Dana Perry	Hiking Chair
Michele Simoneau	Historian
Paul Glazebrook	Leadership Chair
Lori Dethloff	Membership Chair
Kim Simpson	Midstate Trail
David Elliott	Paddling Chair
Christine Crepeault	Finance Chair
Ruth Langh	Ski Chair
Mike Foley	Social Chair
John Grote	Climbing Co-Chair
Dave Brainard	Climbing Co-Chair
Fred Mezynski	Third Wednesday Chair
Steve Crowe	Trails Co-Chair
Don Hoffses	Trails Co-Chair
Open ¹	20s & 30s Chair
Peter Hinrichs	Programs Chair

¹ The 20s & 30s Chair position was open when the ballot was presented to the Chapter membership in early September. Later, at the October 2019 Executive Committee meeting, nominations were presented, and Ben Coon was voted to the position, effective with the election at the November 9 Annual Meeting.

Chapter Chair Report

The year 2019 was the start of the Worcester Chapter's second century as a member of the AMC community of chapters. Looking back, I would say our Chapter did an outstanding job fulfilling the AMC mission, and the Executive Committee represented the Chapter's members very well.

Our volunteers were the heroes of the Chapter again this year. These included the activity leaders, trail maintainers, event organizers, committee members, and many others who invested their time and energy to help us realize our mission of outdoors conservation, recreation, and education. This achievement would not have happened without the unselfish contributions and excellent efforts of our volunteers. Our Vice Chair's report lists many dozens of nominees for Volunteer of the Month for the past year, a recognition of the volunteer spirit of our members, by our members.

Further testament to our Chapter's volunteerism came at the 2019 Annual Summit, where the AMC recognized several of our members for outstanding volunteer contributions:

- Distinguished Service Award: Steve Ciras
- Volunteer Leadership Award: Pat Lambert and Peter Lane
- Warren Hart Stewardship Award: Ed Faron and Steve Crowe
- Marian Pychowska Award:
 - Peter Lane
 - Laura Lane
 - John Grote
 - Emerson Grant
 - Joanne Bartlett

The Executive Committee ended 2018 with the retirement of several long-serving EC members; collectively, they represented almost 70 years of outstanding service to the Chapter as EC members. They say that change is good, but we surely missed their contributions and expertise. Nevertheless, the 2019 EC was elected, took office, then hit the ground running! Their accomplishments are noted in this report. Here are a few highlights:

- The Chapter launched its new, greatly expanded TrailsFest event in June to celebrate National Trails Day. Over 400 participants, dozens of partners, all types of outdoor activities. Shalin Desai led a team of over 40 volunteers on this ground-breaking program for the Chapter.
- The EC voted to create a new Financial Chair position with the responsibility for overseeing financial planning and practices, including budgeting and endowment grant management.
- The Chapter approved a major revision to our Leadership Guidelines and created a new policy guide for dogs on trips. Thank you, Paul Glazebrook.
- We put our financial resources to work through Endowment grants to disadvantaged youth groups in our area, as well as trail improvement projects.
- Our 20s & 30s team of young members continued to grow strong, attract new members, and develop leaders.

- The Chapter's Families program expanded both in number of activities offered and in partnering with neighboring Chapters on joint outings.
- After six+ months of preparation, negotiation, and trail improvements, the Midstate Trail team successfully accommodated an ultramarathon race on the trail in October.

As 2019 comes to a close, I'd like to recognize our outgoing EC members, who carried out their duties to the Chapter and the EC with distinction: thank you to Sue Serra, Dave Cole, Janice Melchiorre, Bill Zahavi, Debi Garlick, Jean Langley, Claudine Mapa, and Shalin Desai.

And to the incoming slate of EC officers and members, listed above, thanks for stepping up, for paying it forward, and for working to help keep the Worcester Chapter at the head of the class!

It has been a privilege to serve as your Chapter Chair for the past two years. I look forward to assuming my new role as your Past Chapter Chair and to continuing to support the great work of our Chapter and Executive Committee with our new team in 2020.

Joe Massery
Chapter Chair

Chapter Vice Chair Report

It has been an honor and privilege to serve as the Chapter's Vice Chair in 2019, and to have the opportunity to work with such a dedicated and talented group of volunteers in the Chapter and the Executive Committee.

In the past year, I supported our Chapter Chair with my work on the finance sub-committee and the (1st annual!) TrailsFest sub-committee.

I also oversaw the Volunteer of the Month/Year program, which recognizes volunteers who have shown exceptional volunteering spirit in support of the Chapter and its activities. All AMC members, with the exception of Executive Committee members, are eligible to be nominated and win this award each month; (note that although some EC members were nominated by some appreciative members, they were not included in the VOM selection process). Nominees and winners for 2018-2019 to date are:

Month	Nominee	Nominator	Reason
September	Jeanne Blauner	David Elliott	Boston's family chair for helping run a great family paddling overnight on the Connecticut River and generally infusing family event enthusiasm into the Worcester Chapter.
	Chris Bope	Steph Murphy	For co-leading the Hancocks for Flags on the 48
	Emily Searle	Steph Murphy	For making serious moves to get her co-leads done to move toward full local hike leadership, which she should attain in October!
	Paul Glazebrook	Sue Ostrowski	He puts in a phenomenal amount of time planning the canoe camping trips that he runs. He plans the food for the trip, he brings all the cooking gear, tarps, safety equipment (satellite phone, first aid etc.). Arranges for canoe rentals, hotel rooms etc.
	Karen Maki	Pat Lambert	For designing all the wonderful logos for our 100th Anniversary swag and patches. She was patient with incorporating our feedback and developing multiple logos as we came up with different ideas for swag items
	Mike Morin	Steph Murphy	For lending us his Appalachian Trail game for the 100th Anniversary
	Claudine Mapa - N/A	Steph Murphy	Claudine Mapa for her generosity in hosting the 20s-30s committee in her home.
	Charlie Arsenault - N/A	Steph Murphy	Charlie Arsenault for being a mentor leader for Chris Bope.
	Lauren Rothermich - N/A	Steph Murphy	Lauren Rothermich for serving as a mentor leader for Emily Searle .
	Ruth Lanh	Debi Garlick	Ruth researched and organized a series of 4 hikes in the mountains of the Belknap Range of New Hampshire. This series will allow hikers to summit all 12 peaks needed to obtain the Belknap Range Hiker Patch. Two hikes are offered in September and two hikes are offered in October.
	Ruth Lanh	Renee Pittelli	She is a new leader who has been leading many fantastic hikes. She does excellent pre-hike research, is extremely capable, and fun to hike with.
	Alec Danaher	Charlie Arsenault	for seamlessly taking over webmaster duties and making several ASAP web updates supporting the 100th Anniversary Gala.
	SEPTEMBER WINNER	Mike Morin	
October	Sharon Carroll	Pat Lambert	Gala: Welcome table volunteer
	Dawn Foster	Pat Lambert	Gala: Welcome table volunteer

Don Hoffses	Pat Lambert	Gala: Welcome table volunteer
Joan Lattke	Pat Lambert	Gala: Welcome table volunteer
Nomi Monroe	Pat Lambert	Gala: Welcome table volunteer
Bonnie Schutzman	Pat Lambert	Gala: Welcome table volunteer
Sharon Whalen	Pat Lambert	Gala: Welcome table volunteer
Dave Laska	Steve Ciras	Gala: musical entertainment
Walt Lazarz	Steve Ciras	Gala: activity leader
Andy Wojcikowski	Steve Ciras	Gala: activity leader
Ben Coon	Joe Massery	Ben is a leader-in-training and was my co-lead for our Greylock backpack in early October. I developed knee problems that created somewhat of a distraction for me as leader. But Ben took the initiative and handled many of the responsibilities of leader in keeping the group on track, finding our way into and out of the (new) campsite we had chosen, and helping me with the various adjustments we had to make along the way. He did a great job
Joan Gallagher	Steve Ciras	Gala: activity leader
Karen Maki	Jean Langley	For working with me to convert a graphic she created for postcards to a new promotional flyer for AMC (attached). I have not share this with EC yet, but plan to use it at our next tabling event.
Tom Zumwalt	Andy W	Tom has been leading the very popular Columbus Day Maine House Worcester trip for over a decade. This is a complex coordination effort although Tom now makes it seem effortless. In addition, he also often leads a bike ride or hike as part of the activities. Beyond that, however, Tom has been an integral cycling leader for many years, often leading the "hard" Thursday night rides in the past as well as Tuesday night and weekend rides. Finally, he has served on our Exec Comm in a number of capacities including Secretary. All in all a worthy fellow for the honor!
Teresa Iapalucci	Steve Ciras	Gala: activity leader
Ruth Langh	Paul Glazebrook	For organizing and leading the Belknap Range series of 4 hikes. She also qualified as an upcountry 3 season leader thru this series. An excellent job and an excellent leader.
Rick Chin	Walt Lazarz	He stepped in on very short notice to co-lead the Carrigain-Pemi backpack on Oct 6-8. He did an excellent job in all respects including nicely monitoring and tending to one of the participants

			who was fatigued after a challenging ascent.
OCTOBER WINNER	Teresa Iapalucci		Gala: activity leader
November	Ruth Langh	Paul Glazebrook	For organizing and leading the Belknap Range hiking series: 4 hikes over 4 weekends. She is a very good new Leader.
	Ed Faron & bridge building team	Steve Ciras	Gala: bridge building demo
	Mike Morin - N/A	Christina Ferretti	For making the YM Planning Weekend such a success!
	Claudine Mapa - N/A	Christina Ferretti	For making the YM Planning Weekend such a success!
	Darryl Gagne	Joe Massery	For all his work to update the web site and our email aliases for this year's regime change.
NOVEMBER WINNER	Ed Faron (& bridge building team)		Gala: bridge building demo
December	Steve Ciras	Joe Massery	For helping with the 2019 budgeting process as a member of the Finance Committee, even though he has retired from the EC!
	Walt Lazarz	Debi Garlick	For his assistance as a co-lead for the Gear Shakedown and hike on Mt. Wachusett, Dec 15th.
	Steph Keimig	Joe Massery	For helping with the winter hiking gear shakedown. At the start and throughout the hike, she provided helpful guidance on gear, techniques, and safety.
	Steph Keimig	Walt Lazarz	For her excellent instruction to the new winter hikers (and this leader too) on the Wachusett gear shakedown/hike.
	Steph Keimig	Debi Garlick	For her assistance as a co-lead for the Gear Shakedown and hike on Mt. Wachusett, Dec 15th.
	Joe Massery - N/A	Debi Garlick	For his assistance as a co-lead for Gear Shakedown and hike on Mt. Wachusett, Dec 15th.
	Cathy Stratford	Mike Foley	For her effort on adopt a trail program that I hosted at Wachusett mtn. She was running late. We were on the loop trail. She came hiking down with a box of joe, cups, cream, sugar ect. She was like our trail angel who appeared before us. We had some disable vets on the trip and their eyes just lit up when the coffee appeared for them. I give Cathy a big standing O for her efforts

DECEMBER WINNER	Steph Keimig		For helping with the winter hiking gear shakedown. At the start and throughout the hike, she provided helpful guidance on gear, techniques, and safety.
January	Tim Loftus	Joe Massery	For his presentation at the January Third Wednesday social on his experiences as a volunteer water chemist with the "Forward in Health" project in Haiti.
	John Gau	Andy Wojcikowski	John has been a long-time cycling leader and Exec Committee member as both Cycling and Skiing Chair. He has been leading the annual MLK 3-day weekend trip to Vermont for several years now, a task which requires a lot of patience and planning. He has also led multiple cycling trips and has coordinated the Thursday night rides for several years. All in all, very worthy.
	John Gau	Ingrid Molnar	For organizing the MLK Blue Gentian Winter Weekend in Vermont. John's commitment and long-standing dedication have contributed to a fun weekend for many years.
	Dave Brainard	John Grote	For helping with an ice climbing trip in Keene, NH on January 12, 2019.
	Steve Gabis	John Grote	For helping with an ice climbing trip in Keene, NH on January 12, 2019.
	Dave Gottesfeld	John Grote	For helping with an ice climbing trip in Keene, NH on January 12, 2019.
	Gerry Fowley	John Grote	For helping with an ice climbing trip in Keene, NH on January 12, 2019.
	Colin Novack	Mike Foley	For coming to our planning meeting. And for all his work he does for the trails around Worcester area
	Jim Walsh	Debi Garlick	For volunteering to escort a hiker back down to Highland Center after hiker become ill while ascending Crawford Path to Mt. Eisenhower.
	Denise Guillemette	Debi Garlick	For volunteering to escort two hikers back down to Highland Center after they had decided they were not physically able to continue the hike up to the summit of Mt. Eisenhower.
	Norm Dubuc	Pat Lambert	Gala: Welcome table volunteer. Norm also provided the narration for the Chapter's historical timeline during the Saturday evening event.
	Will Desrosiers	Debi Garlick	For filling in as co-leader on Mt. Eisenhower hike due to loss of two leaders. Will filled in as lead hiker and sweep and assisted hikers with gear and layer changes.
	Denny LaForce	Neil Schutzman	For organize a variety of 2019 bike tours for our cyclists.
JANUARY WINNER	Norm Dubuc		Gala: Welcome table volunteer. Norm also provided the narration for the Chapter's historical timeline during the Saturday evening event.
February	Jim Walsh	Paul	For his most excellent assistants on the Welch-

		Glazebrook	Dickey and the Tecumseh hikes.
	Angela Smith	Steve Ciras	Gala: activity leader (yoga)
	Ed Bajakian	Joe Massery	For the great job he did helping Mike Foley corral the large group of hikers on his Sholan Farm hike. Ed volunteered to be the sweep for the entire hike, he helped a couple of hikers who had issues with gear and minor discomfort problems, and livened up the conversation with his patented fun stories about druids, etc.
FEBRUARY WINNER	Angela Smith		Gala: activity leader (yoga)
March	Deb Herlihy	Joe Massery	For an outstanding job as the master chef at our recent Leadership Training and WFA workshops. Deb made sure everyone was well fed and greeted with a smile. Plus, she was the first to arrive and the last to leave.
	Tom Corrigan	Mike Foley	For their help on the mid state trail in Douglas state We clear 2 different sections on the mid state trail.
	Karen Peterson	Mike Foley	For their help on the mid state trail in Douglas state We clear 2 different sections on the mid state trail.
	Ruth Langh	Paul Glazebrook	For organizing and leading the Belknap Range hiking series: 4 hikes over 4 weekends. She is a very good new Leader.
	Ed Bajakian	Mike Foley	For their help on the mid state trail in Douglas state We clear 2 different sections on the mid state trail.
	Steph Keimig N/A	Pat Lambert	For organizing and conducting the winter backpacking series. She shared her extensive knowledge, gear, and love of adventure and all things outdoors with the participants. This was a very successful series that she plans to run again next winter.
MARCH WINNER	Ruth Langh		For organizing and leading the Belknap Range hiking series: 4 hikes over 4 weekends. She is a very good new Leader.
April	Bill Grant	Chris Fogarty	For doing an outstanding job at the intro to backpacking workshop. His presentation was charismatic, enthusiastic and inspiring to all who were there. Many participants came up to me and told me that they appreciated his candor and humor about this process.
	Walt Lazarz	Kim Beauchemin	For their enthusiasm and support in helping and teaching at the Intro to Backpacking Workshop
	Gina Shea	Kim Beauchemin	For their enthusiasm and support in helping and teaching at the Intro to Backpacking Workshop

	Chris Fogarty	Kim Beauchemin	For their enthusiasm and support in helping and teaching at the Intro to Backpacking Workshop
	Dana Perry	Kim Beauchemin	For mentoring Pete Marchese on Pete's final local hike co-lead as part of the Bay Circuit Trail series. This will enable Pete to serve as the leader for another hike in this series.
	Joe, Jose, Debi, Zenya - NA	Kim Beauchemin	For their enthusiasm and support in helping and teaching at the Intro to Backpacking Workshop
	Dirk Flachbart	Kim Beauchemin	For their enthusiasm and support in helping and teaching at the Intro to Backpacking Workshop
APRIL WINNER	Dana Perry		For their enthusiasm and support in helping and teaching at the Intro to Backpacking Workshop
May	Denis LaForce	Janice Melchiore	Enthusiastically planned and coordinated the 8th Annual Bike Touring Workshop
	Kathryn Converse	Janice Melchiore	She was responsible for registering folks for the Touring Workshop, collecting the workshop fees from participants and handling all communications / questions. She was also a presenter.
	Michael Hauck	Janice Melchiore	For a great job presenting content at the workshop and demonstrated their touring bikes to workshop participants.
	Bruce Wester	Janice Melchiore	For a great job presenting content at the workshop and demonstrated their touring bikes to workshop participants.
	Ben Coon	Christina Ferretti	For making the YM Planning Weekend such a success!
	Karen Mackin	Janice Melchiore	For a great job presenting content at the workshop and demonstrated their touring bikes to workshop participants.
	Peter Eggleston	Zenya Molnar	For organizing and executing his second co-lead to become a local hike leader. The hike was a great success, and the Chapter needs good leaders like Peter to keep up the momentum of the hiking program, especially for 20s & 30s.
	Mike Hauck	Denny LaForce	It was only 2 years ago he joined us at a cycle touring workshop followed a few weeks later on his first tour to Otter River. Since then he has become a cycle leader and has been leading rides both short and long. Last year he took the plunge as the leader of a 6 day cycle tour to Cooperstown NY and this year is leading a 5 day tour in Western Ct, Ma, Vt, returning through Eastern NY. Mike does not just pick a pleasant route with a few campgrounds along the way. His tours are well researched and note all the alternate places to camp, grocery stores, convenience stores, and places to restock along the way. He enters all that information as a

			Worcester Chapter's Ride w/ GPS route so everyone has more than enough information on what is along the route, and where to find it. He always displays sound judgment, even disposition, and is thoughtful of the needs and abilities of everyone on the ride / tour.
	Sean Cotter	Joe Massery	Being leaders for this year's BP Gear Shakedown
	Chris Fogarty	Joe Massery	Being leaders for this year's BP Gear Shakedown
	Ed Faron	Shalin Desai	Big props to Ed for connecting us to a dozen or so organizations and acting as an ambassador for TrailsFest. With his help, we were able to recruit 10 different organizations to show up for TrailsFest as tabling partners.
	Colin Novick	Shalin Desai	Big thanks to Colin for letting us use the Greater Worcester Land Trust space for TrailsFest planning meetings and for connecting us to several land trusts, providing sage advice on marketing and advertising TrailsFest, and for doing a radio show on behalf of TrailsFest.
	Geoff Caldwell	Shalin Desai	Geoff, on his own, jumped onto the Trail Maintainers podcast and did a huge podcast promo for TrailsFest. He did a wonderful job explaining what we were trying to accomplish with this event and welcoming any and all to TrailsFest.
	Will Holden	Shalin Desai	In addition to joining the TrailsFest planning team, Will also managed to get the New England Scenic Trail to join us at TrailsFest and also helped with the signage and marketing for TrailsFest.
MAY WINNER	Ben Coon		For making the YM Planning Weekend such a success!
June	Bill Caulway	Joe Massery	He displayed his backpacking gear and talked at length about tick disease prevention - was a big hit.
	Rick Chin	Walt Lazarz	He led the 13 Falls - Owls Head backpack with me and did an outstanding job. He has a very nice way with participants.

	Dave Elliot - NA	Faith Salter	For bringing boats, PFDs, and paddles so that our Family Friendly Paddle the Ponds of Ayer series could include people who no longer have boats, or who do not own boats. He kindly waived the rental fee for participants to remove cost as a barrier to participation. He was also an amazing co-leader. He led part of the group on an adventure paddle into the wetlands, and when we got locked into the park by the Town, he patiently helped everyone lift their boats over the fence. After all of that, he came again for the next paddle with all the right gear, and helped people get set up for launch in the AMC boats. These paddles went a lot better because David was there. I hope I can convince him to join my next paddle in the series which has a very tricky put-in.
	Jim Madden	Joe Massery	For filling in at the last minute as my co-leader on my June Inner Backpacker trip in the Berkshires.
	Chris Fogarty	Joe Massery	For organizing and leading an outstanding Inner Backpacker trip on Sandy Neck Beach.
	Walt Lazarz	Ingrid Molnar	For all of his efforts in helping to plan and co-lead the Families Geo-Caching hike at TrailsFest that drew an overwhelming 21 participants.
	Emerson Grant	John Grote	For helping with the rock climbing at Redemption rock for the TrailsFest on Saturday June 1.
	Bill Brooke (Maine Chapter)	John Grote	For helping with the trail work on the Henderson Brook trail on Saturday June 22. (Phoenix shelter trip)
JUNE WINNER	Dirk Flachbart		For their enthusiasm and support in helping and teaching at the Intro to Backpacking Workshop
July	Rick Chin	Walt Lazarz	For his solid leadership on the Wild River - Carter Range backpack. He was very effectively dealt with 2 different issues on this trip.
	Rick Chin	Joe Massery	For co-leading my Berkshires backpack in July.
	Steph Keimig N/A	Mike Foley & Ingrid Molnar	
JULY WINNER	Walt Lazarz		For all of his efforts in helping to plan and co-lead the Families Geo-Caching hike at TrailsFest that drew an overwhelming 21 participants.
August	Karen Mackin	Dan Foster	For getting the new AMC Worcester bikepacking program a reality. She organized and lead three overnight bikepacking trips this summer, presented at the bike touring workshop, and introduced over twenty non-members to the Worcester chapter's cycling offerings.
	Dirk	Joe	For co-leading my Berkshires backpack in

	Flachbart N/A	Massery	August.
	Jose Schroen N/A	Mike Foley	For leading a paddle trip on the Spanish River
	Walt Lazarz	Joe Massery	For organizing and leader hikes for the Gorman Chairback weekend in August.
AUGUST WINNER	Dawn Foster		Gala: Welcome table volunteer
September	David Elliot N/A	Jose Schroen	For doing an outstanding job in co-leading the 9day Spanish River trip. Besides making sure we had the best water to drink and enough wood to burn, their humor and laughter was unmatched. Thanks for helping out.
	Karen Maki	Jean Langley	For lending her expertise (and better software) for completing the flyer for our Annual Meeting and designing the postcard to notify those who will not be getting the e-mail notices. She took the trouble to come to my house to put the draft of the flyer on a flash drive, when I was unable to send attachments.
	Steve Gabis	Jose Schroen	For doing an outstanding job in co-leading the 9day Spanish River trip. Besides making sure we had the best water to drink and enough wood to burn, their humor and laughter was unmatched. Thanks for helping out.
SEPTEMBER WINNER	Gina Shea		For her enthusiasm and support in helping and teaching at the Intro to Backpacking Workshop
October	Jose Schroen N/A	Walt Lazarz	For her wonderful planning and leadership on the Cohos trail backpack thru the Nash Stream Forest.
	Walt Lazarz	Paul Glazebrook	For taking over and leading the Wapack #1 hike. This was on very short notice after I developed tendonitis and was not able to walk the 9 miles. The hike was a great success.
	Ruth Lanhg	Sue Serra	For stepping up as co-lead on our Monadnock Sunapee Greenway Backpack when I had to send my original co-lead down the chairlift with an injured participant.
	Steph Keimig	John DiRodi	For stepping in last minute in assisting Steve Crowe with a Trails Training Workshop at Mt. Wachusett back in the beginning of the month. She went over important concepts with regards to leadership skills and how those skills play a major impact especially when it comes to doing trail maintenance. As she definitely went above and beyond explaining certain scenarios that could happen on any trip and how these scenarios can be mitigated and resolved.

OCTOBER WINNER	Will Desrosiers		For filling in as co-leader on Mt. Eisenhower hike due to loss of two leaders. Will filled in as lead hiker and sweep and assisted hikers with gear and layer changes.
2019 WINNER VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR	Gina Shea		For her enthusiasm and support in helping and teaching at the Intro to Backpacking Workshop

This year, I'm especially grateful for all the work that the TrailsFest team put in to making that event a huge success. I really enjoyed working with some new faces I hadn't worked with before! This unique event took the place of our previous Spring Picnic (our membership-appreciation event) and was held at Wachusett Mountain on Saturday, June 1st – National Trails Day. Instead of focusing just on membership appreciation, this event brought together over 30 conservation-minded partners and over 400 participants! It was a fantastic experience and I'm so happy to have been there with many of you. I hope it is a conservation tradition we can keep going for years to come!

Sincerely,
Kim Beauchemin
Vice Chair

Treasurer's Report

appalachian mountain club
Income and Expenses
1 January - 19 October, 2019

	<u>Total</u>
Income	
40600 grants from AMC	27,354.87
41600 Subscription revenue Web membership	150.00
43100 program and workshop income	6,307.78
45100 interest income	4.76
81000 Chapter allocation	6,266.75
Total Income	<u>\$40,084.16</u>
Gross Income	<u>\$40,084.16</u>
Expenses	
46900 Education Facility transfers \$\$ for YOP	5,000.00
46910 Camp/Facilities transfer (MST)	1,230.93
55200 participant cost	9,084.67
72800 volunteer and committee expenses2	5,637.73
73560 internet service	367.85
73630 Software	107.07
74100 printing expense	42.96
74200 postage	48.49
78300 property and liability insurance	416.00
81031 AMC C&C Contribution expense	5,004.42
81040 endowment spending allowance	170.34
81050 MCR sponsorship	3,500.00
Total Expenses	<u>\$30,610.46</u>
Net Earnings	<u>\$9,473.70</u>

Past Chair Report

In my 2nd and final year as Past Chair, I served as advisor to the Chapter Chair and the Executive Committee. It was very satisfying to see the chapter continue as a well-run and evolving organization under Joe Massery's leadership. Beyond providing guidance and advice to our current Chapter leadership, my one and only official Past Chair duty is to chair the Chapter's Nominating Committee. This duty was successfully completed with the help and dedication of members of said committee, who helped immeasurably in identifying and recruiting qualified and enthusiastic new EC Members.

The 2019 Nominating Committee included Joe Massery, Alexandra Molnar, Zenya Molnar, Paul Glazebrook, Mike Morin, Fred Mezynski, Jose Schroen, and Jean Langley. The Nominating Committee was successful in nominating candidates for all but one open position on the 2019 Executive Committee. I formed the committee in June and the committee formally completed its mission by presenting nominations in September.

Sincerely–
Dave Cole
Past Chair

Leadership Chair Report

My first year as the Leadership Chair has flown by! A lot has been accomplished and more is to be done in 2020. Kudos to both our veteran and our new leaders for their efforts. Without you and the hours you put in, the Worcester Chapter would not be at the forefront of the Appalachian Mountain Club.

By my calculation, the Chapter sponsored 421 events this year.

Hiking	130
Bicycling	97
Paddling	42
Social	42
Backpacking	33
Young Members	30
Family	21
Trails	10
Skiing	8
Climbing	4
Programs	4
Total	421

Our top leaders (leaders + co-leaders) for the year past are:

Joe Massery	26
Ruth Langh	24
Bruce Wester	23
Mike Foley	21
Zenya Molnar	21
Bill Zahavi	21
Sharon Whalen	20
Debi Garlick	18
John Gau	18
Neil Schutzman	17
Richard Chin	15
Walt Lazarz	15

One of the highlights this year has been in the area of ‘Leaders in Training’. The number of people having expressed interest in Leadership is exciting. We have 10 new leaders this year. This does not include those leaders that have added to the categories of trips they are qualified to lead. (for example; local hiking to upcountry hiking, or road biking to Touring).

In 2019, I led an effort to update the Chapter’s Leadership Guidelines. These guidelines are posted on the Chapter’s website. In addition, the Appalachian Mountain Club has updated its Leadership Requirements and its policy on ‘Dogs on Trips’ with significant input from our Chapter.

Our ongoing efforts to enhance the skills of our members continued with Wilderness First Aid Training in March and Leadership Training the following month. Both will be offered again in 2020. In addition, our activity chairs held workshops on Backpacking, Bikepacking, Winter Hiking, Crampon and Ice Axe Use, and Trail Maintenance.

Respectfully Submitted,
Paul A. Glazebrook
Leadership Chair and AMC OLDC Chapter Rep

Hiking Chair Report

Throughout the year, there was a strong hiking presence in the Worcester Chapter. This was evidenced not only by the large number of 3-season hiking events, but also the variety of winter hiking events.

Highlights of the year include:

Winter Hiking Workshop and “Explore Your Inner Winter Hiker” series 2018-2019. The Winter Hiking Workshop was held in November 2018. This workshop provided education on the basics of hiking safety in the winter and covered a variety of topics ranging from winter hiking gear to hydration and nutrition on the trail. Thank you to Charlie Arsenault, Paul Glazebrook, Mike Morin, Jose Schroen, and Joe Massery for sharing your knowledge and enthusiasm for winter hiking at the workshop. The hiking series that supports the workshop offered both local hikes (Track I) and progressively more difficult upcountry hikes (Track II) between December and March. These hikes started locally with a gear shakedown and progressed to 4,000-footers of the White Mountains. Thank you to all winter hiking leaders who ensured the program’s success.

Winter Backpacking. For the more experienced and skilled winter hikers, there was a winter backpacking workshop offered by Steph Keimig. A series of backpack trips followed the workshop. Thank you, Steph.

Ad Hoc Winter Clinics. Another thank-you to Steph Keimig who held several ad hoc clinics on crampon use and self-arrest to introduce/refresh those skills for winter hikers.

Introduction to Backpacking and “Explore Your Inner Backpacker” series 2019. Introduction to Backpacking Workshop was held in April 2019. This full-day workshop provided education on topics ranging from nutrition/hydration, backpacking gear, conditioning, trip planning, and Leave No Trace ethics. Thank you to Kim Beauchemin, Paul Glazebrook, Joe Massery, Chris Fogarty, Walt Lazarz, Jose Schroen, Gina Shea, and Dana Perry for sharing your knowledge and love of backpacking. The hiking series that supports the workshop started with a local gear shakedown hike to review gear and fitness. Backpacking trips started locally within Worcester Country and progressed with a series of trips covering the Appalachian Trail in Massachusetts and more advanced trips in the White Mountains of New Hampshire. Thank you to all backpacking leaders who ensured the program’s success.

Family Hikes. The Family Activities continue to promote geocache hikes to attract not only families but people who are looking for shorter hikes. Thank-you, Walt Lazarz for researching and organizing these hikes. In addition, the Worcester Chapter has reached out to the Boston Chapter and started to participate in joint hiking events such as the Easter Egg Hunt and the Hawk Migration on South Pack Monadnock.

Four Thousand Footers. It is noted that five members of the Worcester Chapter successfully completed their goal of summiting all of the 48 four thousand footers of the New Hampshire White Mountains. Congratulations to you all.

The Worcester Chapter hiking leaders continue to exhibit a high passion and enthusiasm for the outdoors. Thank you to all the hiking leaders who volunteered their time to organize and lead various hiking activities. Thank you to all the hiking leaders who volunteer their knowledge and experiences to mentor new and up-coming hiking leaders. Your spirit is contagious.

Respectfully submitted,
Debi Garlick
Hiking Chair

Endowment Committee Report

The following funding requests were reviewed and approved by the Endowment committee during 2019:

1 - **YOP** - \$5000.00 - 2019 contribution of a multi-year request for AMC's Youth Opportunity Program.

2 - **JUMP** - 2019 - \$2500.00 – JUMP (Just Understand My Potential) is an organization that directly supports hikes involving disadvantaged youth from the Boys and Girls Club of Fitchburg and Leominster.

3 - **JUMP** - 2020 - \$2500.00 - JUMP (Just Understand My Potential)

4 - **Connecticut River Paddlers' Trail** - \$2000 Approved by Endowment Committee.

AMC staff have been working since 2012 to expand the Connecticut River Paddlers' Trail, originally 280 miles in New Hampshire and Vermont, into Massachusetts and Connecticut. Over the last 7 years we have built or designated 5 campsites in Massachusetts and Connecticut. With the recent acquisition of the Fannie Stebbins Unit of the Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge (Refuge) we now have the opportunity to develop a campsite in Longmeadow, Massachusetts. This campsite will complete the Massachusetts stretch of the Connecticut River Paddlers' Trail and will provide a contiguous thru-paddle from New Hampshire to Enfield, Connecticut. The Connecticut River Watershed is home to 396 communities and 2.4 million people, yet in areas like Springfield, Massachusetts or Hartford, Connecticut there is little opportunity to access the river. The Connecticut River Paddlers' Trail will connect communities to the river with the hope of developing future environmental stewards of this important resource. The Fannie Stebbins campsite will consist of two tent platforms, a mouldering privy, a picnic table and kiosk. It will be built by AMC professional trails staff. Jeffrey Mayes will be leading a family outings paddle down to the campsite in October. Jeff led a wait-listed family outings trip on the Connecticut River last fall. We are also working with the Friends of Fannie Stebbins and The Nature Conservancy on some fun programs that will involve the local community.

5 – **A Mountain Classroom** - \$3500 - Plan of Action: To bring ~50 7th grade students from Ayer-Shirley Middle School to the mountain classroom program in the White Mountains to AMC Cardigan Lodge at a subsidized price.

Desired Results: Annual trip (past 10 years) to introduce students to the AMC facilities, hiking, teamwork, and leadership for 3 days/2 nights including transportation, education, food, and lodging.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Zahavi
Endowment Chair

Communications Chair Report

Over the course of 2019, we have endeavored to create awareness around special events and happenings, entertain with stories from talented contributors, and hear from the Chapter about the best ways to share information and what content excites people the most. As we reflect upon a productive and fun year, we are proud to report the following accomplishments:

- Publishing three issues (the fourth to come in December) of the quarterly Chapter newsletter, *Wachusett Views*, which contain trip stories, conservation tips, information on how readers can become more involved with various AMC initiatives, and more;
- Developing and sending monthly email blasts for which we have standardized features to keep upcoming events, activities, and recognitions at the forefront of everyone's minds;
- Mapping a plan for 2020 to better communicate to our community, which includes outreach to fellow communications chairs, developing an infographic on AMC communications methods and types of emails, email tracking, and executing a first-ever communications survey. The survey, which is still at the data collection stage at the time of this writing, will give us a comprehensive understanding of how members currently receive information, how they would like to receive information, and what kinds of information they most want to read so that we can more effectively communicate to them. We look forward to analyzing the results and making changes as needed in order to better achieve our goals and ultimately, AMC's mission.

Thank you to our faithful readers, talented contributors, and AMC community who make it an enjoyable task to serve as your Communications Co-Chairs.

Zenya Molnar and Alexandra Molnar
Communications Co-Chairs

3rd Wednesday Chair Report

The Worcester Chapter offered another successful year of Monthly Speaker Series and Potluck Socials.

Our monthly socials (3rd Wednesdays) were held at the Northborough Historical Society with the exception of July, when we held our annual picnic at Broad Meadow Brook Visitors Center. Each program was meant to embrace the spirit of the AMC Mission:

To promote the protection, enjoyment and the wise use of the mountains, rivers, trails, and wildlife of the northeast. Each attendee brought a potluck dish to share, helping in the arranging of furniture for the evening event, and helping in the kitchen so all ran smoothly.

This is the run-down of the entertainment we had for the year:

- January – Tim Loftus. Trip to Haiti.
- February – Norm Sims. Canoes. History in North America.
- March – John Rockwood. Owls and Ospreys on Plum Island.
- April – Bill Caulway. 800 Mile Arizona Trail.
- May – Kristen Sykes. Connecticut River Paddlers.
- June – David Miller. Backpacking trip to Scotland.
- July – Broad Meadow Brook Visitors Center – Colin Novak. East West trail.
- August – Philip Carcia. Hiking the White Mt. Grid in one year.
- September – Charlie Arsenault. Hiking the Long Trail.
- October – Pat Lennon/Jen Lawson. Walking in Watercolor.
- November – David Brainard. Ice Climbing Trips.
- December – Annual Christmas party. Yankee Swap and sing-along with Dave Laska.

Many thanks to those who contribute to the 3rd Wednesdays to make the programs enjoyable and comfortable for everyone who attends.

Respectfully submitted.

Fred Mezynski

3rd Wednesday Chair

The 20s & 30s Chair Report

The 20s & 30s group continued driving membership growth through our monthly social program. At these socials, we promote the club and encourage participants to become more involved through trips and leadership training.

Beyond our standard “meetup” style socials, we continued our tradition of catering a holiday social and had great participation. Additionally, we held a summer barbeque which we hope to make an annual tradition going forward.

Throughout the year, our leaders hosted trips including hiking, backpacking, and winter sports. We are continuing to try to expand our trip offerings through recruitment and training of new leaders.

20s & 30s Subcommittee

The 20s & 30s subcommittee continued our monthly planning meetings. In November, we held our first leader’s retreat in New Hampshire where ten of us gathered for team building exercises and planning sessions. The major accomplishment of this retreat was to formalize roles for our committee member. These formalized roles have significantly increased the efficiency of our monthly planning meetings compared to the former communal responsibilities committee

structure. Based on the success of last year's retreat, plans are already in place to hold another retreat this year.

We did face a challenge this year as three of the original committee members needed to step down due to changing circumstances in their personal and professional lives. While we miss their experience, we have continued our recruiting efforts and have gained new committee members. Looking forward, it will be important to continue engaging with new committee members to help them grow into their new roles and to continue recruiting efforts.

On a Club level, we participated in the new AMC faculty facilitated quarterly conference calls between the 20s & 30s chairs of each chapter. These conference calls allowed the chairs to collaborate on inter-chapter events, discuss challenges that chairs encountered, and share our successes.

Chapter Participation

This year, the 20s & 30s group grew our presence in the overall Worcester Chapter program. Five of our members held positions on the Chapter's Executive Committee. Members of the 20s & 30s group helped facilitate chapter events including TrailsFest, Leadership Training, Train the Trainer, a Book Signing Event, Guest Speakers, and the Winter Hiking Workshop.

As long-term members of the Chapter have begun stepping down from their roles over the last couple years, it is important for us to continue integrating our young members into the overall program in order to preserve Chapter traditions and ensure its future success.

Michael Morin
20s & 30s Chair

Conservation Chair Report

One of the main highlights captured this year is representing the AMC Worcester Chapter at the Massachusetts Land Conference for the first time. The mission was to not only to represent the AMC as a hiking club, but to show the public our involvement with conservation efforts. At the table, we shared information regarding trail work on the Midstate Trail and recent conservation projects. Next year, our goal should be to sponsor the AMC in the Mass Land Conference, as well as to invite a couple of representatives from AMC Headquarters and have them present in the local workshops. This workshop would be beneficial especially in educating our concerned scientists in the changing world and showing how we can help save our land and parks.

Most members of the AMC are so caught up having fun in hiking, biking, or paddling that when it comes to conservation there is less chatter about it. One method we should try to do as a chapter is incorporate more conservation into our trailhead talks. Yes, we talk is about "leave no trace" practices, but there is more to conservation than this. We need to educate the participants on our trips as to why we need to protect our land. Another objective for 2020 is to partner with local non-profit environmental agencies, such as the Mass Audubon. My recommendation is to either have a speaker series as well as joint hikes to educate the public about rising environmental issues or even just having a guided ornithology hike. Hopefully these

recommendations will carry into 2020. Stay tuned for more information and keep protecting our public lands and parks!

Sincerely,
Jon DiRodi
Conservation Chair

Cycling Chair Report

We continued the cycling program in 2019 by building on the successes from 2018.

We continued to use MailChimp (an email marketing tool) to send emails to our subscribers and cycling leaders. MailChimp was used to promote upcoming bicycle rides and provided direct links to the AMC database activity listing. We started 2019 with 170 email subscribers and as of October 1, we have increased to 199 subscribers.

As for cycling, we have had another fun and successful year. We continued to offer the Tuesday night relaxed rides, the Thursday night intermediate rides, and the mid-week daytime rides. We offered about 10 rail trail rides throughout the riding season - some of which were offered as a joint event with the Boston Chapter. These collaborative rail trail rides were very well attended.

We offered the Cycle Touring Workshop which continues to be a popular annual event. This year, the workshop was offered in the new Blackstone Valley Heritage Corridor Visitor Center located in Worcester. As part of this year's touring workshop, we included the topic of 'Bikepacking,' which is growing in popularity. Bikepacking is a unique form of off-road cycle touring. We started with one leader who was qualified to lead bikepacking trips, and this year, we worked to get another leader qualified. There were three bikepacking trips that were offered. Since there is growing interest with two qualified bikepacking leaders, we are expecting to continue to offer this activity in 2020 and beyond. As for Cycle Touring, we offered the annual two-day beginner tour to Otter River State Park in MA and offered several other multi-day cycle tours including a 9-day tour through the Berkshires in MA, a 3-day tour to Tulley Lake in MA, a 5-day tour from CT to Long Island NY, and a 4-day tour along the Maine and NH coast.

We had 25 Leaders who led at least one cycling activity this year—the same as in 2018. Over the entire cycling season, we offered 96 rides (in 2018, the number was 90). We added one new leader this year (for bikepacking) in the last 12 months. Recruiting new leaders will need to be a priority for next year's cycling season.

We appreciate the efforts of all of our Leaders. We held a Leader Appreciation Dinner in early September to formally thank them for making this year another fun, safe, and successful riding season!

Janice is stepping down as the Cycling Co-Chair, but we are expecting the transition to be seamless, as Neil will be continuing in 2020 as the Cycling Chair.

Janice Melchiorre and Neil Schutzman
Bicycling Co-Chairs

Families Chair Report

In 2019, the Worcester Chapter Families program expanded to numerous first-time activities while continuing to offer opportunities for kids to enjoy the outdoors in Central Massachusetts and beyond. This year's highlights include:

- ***TrailsFest.*** We celebrated National Trails Day with a geo-caching hike to two geo-caches on Wachusett Mountain. The event drew 21 participants, including children ages from 3-13, adults, and members of a local Lions chapter.
- ***National Summit Day.*** In celebration of National Summit Day, we led a families hike to the summit of Wachusett Mountain.
- ***Summit Hawk Migration Watch.*** In partnership with the Connecticut and Boston family outings programs, we led a hike up Pack Monadnock to observe the annual hawk migration, which included a picnic of afternoon snacks and naturalist talk.

We plan to make these annual events that families can look forward to attending each year.

Additional first-time offerings included a family fly fishing clinic at Wachusett Reservoir in Boylston and a scavenger hunt in the town of Lancaster, both well attended by kids of all ages and their families and lots of fun for adults as well. For both activities, we partnered with Boston Family Outings and the Lancaster Recreation Department as well as Mass Department of Fisheries and Wildlife and Mass Audubon, respectively. We also offered an apple picking event at Berlin Orchards, a favorite local activity to ring in the fall that included a post-picking social with apple cider, cider donuts, and popcorn from the farm.

In addition, families enjoyed the annual overnight paddling camping event on the Connecticut River over Labor Day weekend offered by several enthusiastic paddling leaders, as well as a series of local hikes in Ayer and Shirley, leading up to spring.

We have successfully laid the groundwork for partnering with other chapters and nature-oriented organizations to engage families to get outdoors. This was one of our goals for 2019 and we are off to a good start! We plan to increase our activities with the Boston, Berkshire, and Connecticut chapters as well as organizations such scouts, Outdoors Rx, and nature centers, which will allow us to expand into new areas in 2020. We are planning to offer new programs to include safety, conservation, sustainability, and Leave No Trace, as well as seasonally oriented activities such as wildlife tracking and a maple sugaring tour and hike.

Thanks to everyone for contributing your ideas, passion, time, and skills to increasing families' events this past year. I look forward to greater participation of leaders, families, and anyone interested in contributing in 2020.

Respectfully submitted,
Ingrid Molnar
Families Chair

Historian's Report

After a busy two years in advance of the 100th Anniversary Gala, the Chapter Historian has had a slow year in 2019.

In order to give greater access to the photos and historical documents in the Chapter's archives, the Historian maintains a Facebook group for this purpose entitled AMC Worcester Chapter Historian. Members are invited to join the group and submit old photos and documents. This Facebook page has had very little activity in 2019.

The Historian continues to work on a project to sort and digitize all the records in the archives. The digitized records will be uploaded to Summit and the Historian's Facebook group when appropriate. This will be an ongoing project.

Respectfully Submitted,
Michele Simoneau
Chapter Historian

Membership Chair Report

During the 2019 calendar year, I received about 10 inquiries from new or prospective members about attending the orientation offered prior to every 3rd Wednesday Speaker Series (potluck), down from last year. Notably, at least twice that many new people came, mostly from receiving a Meetup notice. They know there's no registration required for the dinner and program, but few know that an orientation is available. Since we have **3,175 members** in Worcester Chapter, and the same people do not come every month, it can be difficult picking out the new people. Fortunately, I've noticed our more established members have been quick to make conversation with the newcomers, and if there's time, to refer them to me. Our best recruitment tool is word of mouth, so it's great to see people make others feel comfortable.

We are often invited to have a table representing AMC at an event, such as the UMass Medical School's annual Earth Day event. We also had a table at our very successful TrailsFest Day at Mt. Wachusett on June 2.

One project I am continuing is bringing a flyer to the various public libraries in central Massachusetts promoting the activities that the AMC Worcester Chapter offers. The flyer was developed by Karen Maki, a former Membership Chair, based on a postcard she had designed a couple of years ago. She was also helpful in designing the flyer and postcard advertising our Annual Meeting and Banquet this year.

In an effort to reduce costs and paper waste, the Executive Committee voted this year to do the majority of advertising for our Annual Meeting through our website, Facebook page, Meetup, e-mail blasts, and the electronic newsletter. As of this writing, it is not clear whether this was a successful strategy, as it seems that some of our members missed the notices. Next year's Executive Committee and Membership Chair will evaluate the best way to proceed.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean M. Langley
Membership Chair

Midstate Trail Committee Report

Thanks to the work of our more than thirty Trail Maintainers, the Midstate Trail was in excellent shape by May for the beginning of the 2019 hiking season. Again, this year, there were many blowdowns to start the season and many more that fell during the year. Many of our swampers and certified sawyers needed to be recertified both for first aid and chain saw use. This was accomplished with AMC courses in April. We now have an adequate number of certified sawyers. The Worcester Chapter of the AMC paid for this required training.

As in past years, removal of high grass and intrusive brush was a major item for regular maintenance throughout the hiking season. Once again Ed Faron, Ken Baldyga and Mike Peckar did the bulk of this work using AMC funded brush cutters and battery powered hedge trimmers. As part of this work, six 4”X4”X8’ posts were set to further mark the trail through Fay Mountain Orchards.

Our long awaited new “Guidebook for the Midstate Trail” was published in time for the hiking season. This updated Guidebook was dedicated to Marie Auger, the book’s long time editor. Again for this issue, she put in many years of work to ready it for printing. To date sales have been brisk, with Mark DuBois overseeing sales.

One of the major events of 2019 was a proposed “Ultra Marathon” run of the entire trail. This was first brought to our attention in March. Extensive negotiations with the running group led to a number of re-routes for the runners away from particularly sensitive sections of the trail. These were generally areas where the trail is very close to homes and it was thought that the runners would be too intrusive. Colin Novick from the Greater Worcester Land Trust was instrumental in negotiating several of these re-routes. Heather Clish from AMC staff put in many hours developing an MOU with the running group and overseeing a legal agreement. Ed Faron and our maintainers put in many additional hours getting the trail in the best shape for the runners. In the end, the race was successfully held on Columbus Day weekend with approximately 120 runners running distances of 100, 50 and 25 miles.

The “Beaver Deceiver” on Goodnow Road worked quite well, but the trail was still flooded after major rains. Ed Faron oversaw the creation of a permanent re-route around this spot for hiker’s use during high water periods. In addition, work was done to direct water flowing down Goodnow Road to the side of the road.

Other major construction projects included two separate major bridge efforts in the Treasure Valley Section of the trail, bridge repair and additional bridging around the Muddy Pond area, and extensive work locating the trail and marking it after a logging operation carried out in Ashburnham obscured the trail’s location. AMC’s Worcester Chapter funded both tools and materials needed for these major projects.

Midstate Trail volunteers recently met with AMC Worcester leaders to discuss making our finances more transparent and aligning them closely with Worcester GMC's budgeting process. We agreed on a plan to closely coordinate our budgets but to keep the Midstate Trail budget separate from the Worcester Chapter AMC budget.

Respectfully submitted,
Kimball Simpson
Midstate Trail Chair

Paddling Chair Report

As another paddling season draws to a close, how to report on the accomplishments and fun we've had? Beyond pointing out it's been another great job by our volunteer leaders.

Something that comes increasingly to my attention is the inclusiveness of our paddling program. Yeah that's a stated goal of City Square, part of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion. But I'm actually referring to something Worcester leaders accomplish kind of by accident.

Namely, we paddle *flatwater*.

This turns out to be a big draw—since to a newcomer it's less intimidating. It also happens to describe most historical paddling, on waterways that provided practical transportation for thousands of years.

Beginners can start with lakes, say the weekday evening paddles at Whitehall reservoir in Upton. From there local rivers provide a gentle increase in challenge until you may find yourself on quick water—depending on which river and the amount of rain.

Benefits of the gentle learning curve we provide include: 1) Worcester draws participants from all neighboring chapters; and 2) we sometimes inject enthusiasm back into their flatwater programs. (Shout out to Dee Dice, Worcester leader and newly minted Berkshire Flatwater Chair)!

Yes, leading new paddlers is work. It often means transporting Chapter-owned kayaks for them. Newbies do have a learning curve. And yes, sometimes folks get in over their heads in terms of fitness and skills. And screening isn't a panacea for that either, as it's best kept short of interrogation; participants often don't know what they don't know, and they can always fall short of full disclosure. In the end, our leaders do a great job of keeping things safe and fun while growing skills for future paddles. Though, be sure and get those *liability waivers* signed and submitted to City Square.

On the positive side, paddling accommodates physical challenges in ways other activities cannot since it is done sitting down. For instance, it allows the overweight an outdoor path to greater fitness that puts less strain on the knees.

And for leaders there's the pleasure of sharing a newbie's eureka moment—as Elaine relates from her Squannacook paddle with some graduates of our fundamentals class—the first time they experienced the thrill of moving water. Thanks again Steph Keimig for that great class!

Also, City Square’s (and Worcester’s) own Faith Salter got her fellow townspeople (and kids) paddling on a couple of “open space” appreciation events drawing attention to under-appreciated town resources—first in many ways.

Another adventurous yet kind of old-fashioned thing we do with increasing frequency is paddle camping. (Including each year one or two multi-day, even weeklong paddles in Maine and Canada thanks to Paul Glazebrook & recently Jose Schroen). Old-fashioned because it puts people back in canoes as they are so much easier to pack with gear. Camp chair? Check. Cooler for food & beer? Check. Entire kitchen? Check. And of course, canoes lend themselves well to families. They can also be readily purchased used and cheap from Craigslist or Facebook Marketplace.

Among our many canoeists is our senior leader David Miller, paddling solo and tandem. He’s an artist with paddle on water. Which is to say he doesn’t “take the easy way” by canoeing with a double-bladed paddle like me & my wife Sue. Then again, she has a new 22 pound 12 & ½ foot Swift solo canoe *outfitted with kayak seat* designed specifically for double bladed paddling. This setup was all the rage at the turn of the 20th century and is experiencing a resurgence as arguably the best of both worlds. This setup provides me greater speed when paddling solo. For Sue, the more symmetrical stroke of the double-blade paddle is necessary to avoid strain.

2019 Worcester Chapter Paddles

Title	Date	Descriptor	Leader1	Leader2
Sevenmile River	3/23/2019		David Miller	
Assabet River to Concord	4/6/2019		David Miller	
Whitewater Instruction, NH	4/6-4/7	NH Chapter	Paul Berry	David Elliott
Quinebaug Sbridge to Thomp CT	4/13/2019		Elaine Cibelli	
Contoocook Peterboro, NH	4/27/2019		David Miller	
Ipswich River Camping	5/4/2019	Camping	Pat Howe	David Miller
Sandy Pond Ayer	5/11/2019	Families	Faith Salter	David Elliott
French River	5/18/2019		Elaine Cibelli	Deb Gallagher
Grove Pond Ayer	5/25/2019	Families	Faith Salter	David Elliott
Nashua - Oxbow Ntl Wild Ref	6/1/2019	Families	Jeffrey Mayes	
Women's - Squam Lake	6/1/2019	Camping Women	Deb Weisenstein	Bonna Wieler
TRAILSFEST Paradise Pond	6/1/2019	Families	Jose Schroen	Gabis & Pickren
Evening - Whitehall Reservoir	6/4/2019		Bill Zahavi	Sharon Whalen
Deerfield & CT Rivers Overnight	6/8/2019	Camping	David Miller	
Evening - Whitehall Reservoir	6/13/2019		Bill Zahavi	Sharon Whalen
Evening - Whitehall Reservoir	6/18/2019		Bill Zahavi	Sharon Whalen
Quaboag To West Brookfield	6/22/2019		Elaine Cibelli	Debbie Gallagher
Evening - Whitehall Reservoir	6/27/2019		Bill Zahavi	Sharon Whalen
CT River Putney to Brattleboro	6/30/2019	Families	Dee Dice	Debra Weisenstein

Evening - Whitehall Reservoir	7/2/2019		Bill Zahavi	Sharon Whalen
Kayak Gerrish Island Kittery ME	7/6/2019	Seakayak	Steve Gabis	Elaine Cibelli
Evening - Whitehall Reservoir	7/11/2019		Bill Zahavi	Sharon Whalen
Swift River Belchertown	7/13/2019		Elaine Cibelli	Debbie Gallagher
Evening - Whitehall Reservoir	7/16/2019		Bill Zahavi	Sharon Whalen
Kayak Paddling Instruction	7/21/2019	Instruction	Steph Keimig	David Elliott
Evening - Whitehall Reservoir	7/25/2019		Bill Zahavi	Sharon Whalen
Evening - Whitehall Reservoir	7/30/2019		Bill Zahavi	Sharon Whalen
Tully Lake	8/3/2019		Pat Thibodeau	
Evening - Whitehall Reservoir	8/8/2019		Bill Zahavi	Sharon Whalen
Quinebaug Canoe Trail	8/10/2019		Elaine Cibelli	Debbie Gallagher
Evening - Whitehall Reservoir	8/13/2019		Bill Zahavi	Sharon Whalen
Evening - Whitehall Reservoir	8/22/2019		Bill Zahavi	Sharon Whalen
Evening - Whitehall Reservoir	8/27/2019		Bill Zahavi	Sharon Whalen
Spanish River, Ontario, CANADA	8/29-9/8	Camp, WW	Jose Schroen	Gabis & Elliott
Tully River	9/7/2019		David Miller	
Squannacook Groton, MA	9/14/2019		Elaine Cibelli	Ken Pickren
Fall Colors Great Swamp, RI	10/5/2019		David Miller	
Nashua Oxbow Natl Wildlife Ref	10/5/2019		Elaine Cibelli	Deb Gallagher
Androscoggin, Bethel, ME	10/10/2019		Elaine Cibelli	
Upper Wood River, RI	10/19/2019		Elaine Cibelli	
Ware River	11/2/2019		David Miller	
Assabet Northboro to Hudson	12/7/2019		David Miller	

David Elliott
Paddling Chair

Programs Chair Report

Report not available.

Skiing Chair Report

Report not available.

Social Media Chair Report

After several years as the Chapter's Social Media Chair, Barbara Dyer. We thank her for her help and commitment. Lisa Buckley transitioned to this Chair a couple months prior to the end of last term. This year's goals include reviewing the social media strategy and how our social media presence helps promote AMC Worcester and all it has to offer.

Lisa Buckley
Social Media Chair

Social Chair Report

Report not available.

Technical Climbing Chair Report

This past year we had a good year of climbing.

We started the year out with several ice climbing trips where people learned the essential skills of climbing steep and lower-angled ice. They gained skills in moving over frozen water using ice axes and crampons as tools to gain purchase on ice. These trips included two intro classes at the Keene Railroad Cut in Keene, NH; both were full.

We also ran an up-country trip to Grafton Notch—also full—where we climbed in the Grafton Notch Amphitheater and on the Bog Walls. We ran one additional trip to Cathedral Ledge, where we climbed Goofer's Delight.

For the TrailsFest event held in June we set up several top ropes at Redemption Rock where people could try rock climbing.

Respectfully submitted,
John Grote
Technical Climbing Chair

Trails Chair Report

2019 was our 18th season continuing the reconstruction work on the Pine Hill Trail at Wachusett Mountain. The Trail was originally constructed by the CCC as a ski trail in the 1930's, however since it has become very popular, it has widened considerably into a steep, eroded trail. We spent time this year splitting rock, quarrying rock with the high line system and building the trail treadway itself on the section of trail above the intersection of the Downhill Road.

There were 16 volunteers who joined us in April for a day of trail work at Wachusett Mountain State Reservation as part of Park Serve Day.

This year we had a bigger and better TrailsFest at the Wachusett Mountain Ski Area to celebrate National Trails Day. There were several trail work projects, along with hikes, family geocaching, yoga, food trucks, awards, and a tent full of information and trail ambassadors with many of our partners. Thank you Shalin.

The SCA worked three 10-day hitches this summer and the trail crew joined them on 7 days to help them understand the project they were taking on.

The Chapter continued the 2 Year Volunteer Service Agreement with the DCR to promote an Adopt-A-Trail Program at Wachusett Mountain State Reservation. We had several meetings to iron out the details, Basic Maintenance Skills sessions to train the Adopters.

Ed Faron and the Midstate Trail maintainers continued their fine work keeping the trail in good condition. The Chapter also continues to support Steve Ciras who has adopted the Henderson Brook Trail in the AMC's Maine Woods Initiative. Some members also worked on the Stratton Mountain area of the LT/AT.

Please, consider joining us in one of our many events in 2020, or better yet, we need lots of help on the committee and have a variety of tasks you could help out with.

We can use some help with the marketing and administration of the committee. Photographers, trail Ambassadors, social media activities, and writing articles for the newsletters or blogging.

Submitted by Stephen Crowe and Don Hoffses
Worcester Chapter Trails Committee Co-Chairs

WORCESTER CHAPTER APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization is the WORCESTER CHAPTER OF THE APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB, herein referred to as the Chapter. It is an administrative sub-division of the APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB, herein referred to as the Club.

ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVES

The objective of the Chapter is to cooperate with and to further the objectives of the Appalachian Mountain Club as a whole, and in particular as they may encompass Worcester County and adjacent regions.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the Appalachian Mountain Club Worcester Chapter shall consist of those members who requested such affiliation upon initial membership or upon request at the member's yearly renewal with the Appalachian Mountain Club.

ARTICLE IV - ADMINISTRATION

Section 1. The administration of the Chapter shall be vested in an Executive Committee, herein referred to as the ExecComm, consisting of the elected officers: Chapter Chair, Chapter Vice-Chair, Chapter Secretary, Chapter Treasurer, and the Chapter's Immediate Past Chair as well as the Chairs of each of the Chapter Committees.

Each member of the ExecComm may cast one vote at any ExecComm meeting attended by them personally or by their designated representative, on any and all matters which come before the ExecComm for a vote. In the event that a position is shared by (2) two or more people (such as co-chairs), then they may cast only one vote between them. In the event that a committee member holds more than one position, that member is entitled to only one vote per motion.

ExecComm officers and Chairs shall have the right, with notification to the Chapter Chair, to send to meetings of the ExecComm a representative who may serve in their place and vote in his or her stead. No other person may vote at ExecComm meetings.

The Chapter Chair may, with the approval by majority vote of the ExecComm, appoint other non-voting advisory members to the Exec Comm, with the length of service to be set at the time of appointment.

Section 2. The ExecComm will normally meet nine times per year at regular intervals or at the call of the Chair. Also, the Chapter Chair shall call a meeting at the request of six members of the committee. All ExecComm meetings will be open to attendance by members of the Club.

Section 3. One third of the voting members of the ExecComm rounded to the nearest whole number shall constitute a quorum.

Section 4. In the absence or disability of the Chapter Chair, the order of succession is as follows: Chapter Vice-Chair, Chapter Secretary, and Chapter Treasurer.

Section 5. The Nominating Committee is a standing committee consisting of at least three Chapter members appointed by the Chapter Chair, with the advice and consent of the other

members of the ExecComm. This committee shall prepare a list of candidates for Chapter officers and all Chapter Committee Chairs.

The Nominating Committee shall consult all proposed Chapter Officers and committee chairs and obtain the consent of all nominees.

If the Chapter Nominating Committee is unable to find a candidate for any position on the ExecComm, that position shall remain vacant until such time as a candidate can be found. The Nominating Committee shall send the complete slate to the Chapter Secretary at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting. The final slate of Chapter officers recommended by the nominating Committee will be published in the Annual Meeting Notice for the given year. Any Chapter member desiring to place additional candidate(s) in nomination may do so by sending to the Chapter Secretary, not later than 60 days before the Annual Meeting, nomination paper(s) with the name(s) of the suggested candidate(s), the office(s) desired, and a statement indicating consent to serve, if elected. Ten Chapter members must co-sign each nomination paper. Upon receipt of the nomination paper(s) the Chapter Secretary shall inform the Chapter Membership of the alternate slate of candidates prior to the Annual Meeting. The consenting candidate(s) will then be placed in nomination at the Annual Meeting.

Section 6. The Chapter shall call its members to general assembly at least once annually at times designated by the ExecComm. One of these shall be the Chapter Annual Meeting.

Section 7. The members of the Chapter ExecComm shall be elected by a majority vote of the Chapter membership at the Chapter Annual Meeting and shall assume office immediately and hold it until the next Chapter Annual Meeting. If the slate of Chapter Officers and Committee Chairs is unopposed the Chapter Secretary shall cast one vote for election.

Section 8. Should a vacancy occur in the ExecComm prior to the Chapter Annual Meeting, said Committee shall appoint by majority vote a consenting member of the Chapter to fill such vacancy until the Chapter Annual Meeting.

Section 9. No official pronouncement in the name of the Appalachian Mountain Club which involves opinion or policy in matters of public interest shall be made by the Chapter, a Chapter Committee, or any Chapter member which is inconsistent with the goals and objectives of the Appalachian Mountain Club. The Chapter, upon consent of the ExecComm, may make pronouncements on local matters only.

Section 10. Any Chapter Officer or Committee Chair may form one or more sub-committees to provide assistance in executing assigned duties.

Section 11. Any Chapter member wishing to change any Chapter policy will, upon presentation of 10 Chapter members' signatures, have a petition listed among the agenda for the next general assembly of the Chapter for its consideration.

Section 12. The majority vote of the Chapter Membership at general assembly on any Chapter policy is the final and overriding decision on any policy of the Chapter.

Section 13. Any Chapter Officer or Committee Chair may be removed from office at an ExecComm meeting, by a vote of three fourths of the Committee members present and voting, provided that a notice of the proposed removal has been sent to all board members at least seven days prior to such vote.

Section 14. The Endowment Committee is a standing committee consisting of the Endowment Chair and at least (4) four other members appointed by the Chapter Chair with the advice and consent of the ExecComm. The Endowment Committee is responsible for reviewing all applications submitted in accordance with the Endowment Guidelines and forwarding recommendations to the full ExecComm for approval.

ARTICLE V. OFFICERS' RESPONSIBILITIES

Section 1. The Chapter Chair shall preside at all meetings of the ExecComm and the Annual Meeting and shall supervise the duties of the Chapter Officers and Chapter Committees. The Chapter Chair shall also attend the Club's Annual Meeting and all other Club-wide meetings where Chapter participation is required or designate another Chapter Officer or Committee member to be a substitute.

Section 2. In addition to the duties listed in Article IV, Section 4, the Chapter Vice-Chair (upon consent) shall assume other responsibilities as may be delegated by the ExecComm or the Chapter Chair. The Chapter Vice-Chair shall automatically succeed to the office of Chapter Chair in the event said office is vacated before the term of office is completed.

Section 3. The Chapter Secretary shall give notice of all Chapter ExecComm Meetings and provide a written copy of the minutes of each ExecComm Meeting to each member of the Exec Comm. The minutes will be subject to ratification at the next ExecComm Meeting. The Chapter Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings and the records of the Chapter and shall conduct correspondence of the Chapter as requested. Meeting minutes and records shall be maintained for a minimum of five (5) years.

Section 4. The Chapter Treasurer shall receive all funds paid to or belonging to the Chapter, shall disburse the same under the direction of the ExecComm, shall keep proper accounts and provide a report of receipts, disbursements and assets at each Chapter ExecComm Meeting subject to ratification by the committee. The Chapter Treasurer shall safeguard and maintain a record of all other Chapter assets and the location of such assets. At the Chapter Annual Meeting a fiscal report of Chapter assets and disbursements shall be given to the Chapter general assembly. The Chapter Treasurer shall also oversee the budgets of the Chapter Committees and officers.

ARTICLE VI. ASSETS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Section 1. Chapter funds may be disbursed by vote of the Exec Comm. Appropriations consistent with approved budgets within Chapter Committees are subject to review by the Chapter Exec Comm.

Section 2. No expenditure over \$10,000 shall be made for which the Appalachian Mountain Club could be held responsible unless it has been authorized by the AMC Board of Directors.

Section 3. Title to, or leasehold of any real estate or property administered by the Chapter must be taken in the name of the CLUB, the only legal entity capable of taking title to, owning, or leasing property.

ARTICLE VII. BYLAWS

Section 1. These Bylaws shall be reviewed as important developments so warrant. Proposed amendments shall be made by majority vote of the Chapter Exec Comm subject to ratification by the Chapter Membership at an Annual Meeting.

Section 2. The Chapter Membership shall be notified of proposed Bylaws Amendments prior to the meeting at which they will be up for ratification. This information shall be communicated in an official Chapter publication such as the Annual Meeting Notice, the newsletter, or other forms of communication used to provide information to Chapter members.

Section 3. A copy of the Bylaws shall be made available to any Appalachian Mountain Club members requesting them from the Chapter Secretary.

Section 4. These Bylaws will be subject to the approval of the Club's Board of Directors.

Section 5. Bylaws adopted by the Club supersede any and all Bylaws adopted by the Chapter.

Last bylaws revision date: November 2012

**PAST CHAIRS OF THE WORCESTER CHAPTER
APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB**

1918-20	Albert H. Inman
1920-22	Owen W. Kennedy
1922-24	W. Gray Harris
1924-25	Bert Greenwood
1925-26	Arthur J. Young
1926-28	Fred Holdworth, Jr.
1928-30	William Beaumont
1930-32	John B. Knowlton
1932-34	Harry E. Carson
1934-36	Arthur Snow
1936-38	Bradley B. Gilman
1938-40	Ralph E. Hale
1940-42	A. Gerry Blodgett
1942-44	Stuart Van Buren
1944-46	John H. Hitchcock
1946-48	Harold D. Woodbury
1948-50	J. Adams Holbrook
1950-52	Lawrence Corbett
1952-54	Alson C. Patton
1954-56	Richard R. Leonard
1956-58	Linwood M. Erskine, Jr.
1958-60	Stanton H. Whitman
1960-62	Berton G. Towle
1962-64	James L. Marston
1964-66	Kenyon C. Maynard
1966-68	John F. Stiles, Jr.

1968-70	Melvin H. Knapp
1970-72	Charles A. Keisling
1972-74	Robert F. Wagner
1974-76	Robert W. Eaton
1976-78	Taimi Van Buren
1978-80	Albert G. Pinard
1980-82	S. Bruce Snow
1982-83	Carol R. Kanis
1983-84	Michael Allega
1984-86	Russell W. Schott
1986-88	Roy E. Johnson
1988-91	Robert W. Gilchrest
1991-93	Paul V. Meleski
1993-95	Paul Adams
1995-97	Kathleen Ondrasik
1997-99	Bruce Harmon
1999-01	Andy Wojcikowski
2001-03	Bruce Blais
2003-05	Jim Walsh
2005-07	Barbara Dyer
2007-09	Sharon Foster
2009-11	Steven V. Ciras
2011-13	Patricia Lambert
2013-15	Charlie Arsenault
2015-17	Dave Cole
2017-19	Joe Massery

