



# **WORCESTER CHAPTER**

YOUR CONNECTION TO THE OUTDOORS

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## ANNUAL REPORT 2017

## **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 2700 members, all of whom are dedicated to having fun in the outdoors. We offer 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.

## **2017 Officers**

David Cole	Chapter Chair
Joe Massery	Vice-Chair
Jose Schroen	Treasurer
Patricia Flanagan	Secretary

## **Committee Chairs**

Bruce Wester	Cycling
Kim Beauchemin	Conservation
Gina Shea	Hiking
Alexandra Molnar	Communications
Zenya Molnar	Communications
Ingrid Molnar	Families
Michele Simoneau	Historian
Deb Herlihy	Leadership
Karen Maki	Membership
Pat Lambert	Endowment
Dave Elliott	Paddling
Jean Sifleet	Skiing
John Grote	Technical Climbing
Fred Mezynski	Third Wednesday
Steve Crowe	Trails
Kim Simpson	Mid State Trail (MST)
Barbara Dyer	At Large - Social Media
Mike Foley	Social
Charlie Arsenault	Past Chair
Christina Ferretti	20's and 30's. (YM)
Jon DiRodi	Programs Chair
Steve Ciras	At Large 100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary

2018 EC slate

Posted below are the nominees for Executive Committee, AMC Worcester Chapter, for 2018

	<b>Position</b>	<b>Candidate 2018</b>
1	Chair	Joe Massery
2	Vice Chair	Kim Beauchemin
3	Treasurer	Jose Schroen
4	Secretary	Patricia Flanagan
5	Past Chair	Dave Cole
6	At Large - Social Media	Barbara Dyer
7	Bike Chair	Co-chairs: Janice Melchiore & Neil Schutzman
8	Communications Co-Chair	Alexandra Molnar
9	Communications Co-Chair	Zenya Molnar
10	Conservation Chair	Jon DiRodi
11	Endowment Chair	Pat Lambert
12	Families Chair	Ingrid Molnar
13	Hiking Chair	Gina Shea
14	Historian	Michele Simoneau
15	Leadership Chair	Deb Herlihy
16	Membership Chair	Jean Langley
17	Midstate Trail	Kim Simpson
18	Paddling Chair	David Elliott
19	At Large 100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	Steve Ciras
20	Ski Chair	Co-chairs: Claudine Mapa & Lauren Rothermich
21	Social Chair	Mike Foley
22	Technical Climbing Chair	John Grote
23	Third Wednesday Chair	Fred Mezynski
24	Trails Chair	Steve Crowe
25	20's and 30's	Stephanie K. Murphy

26	Programs Chair	Charlie Arsenault
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## **CHAPTER CHAIR'S REPORT**

This past year has been a year of growth and great accomplishments for our Chapter. Below I've listed several highlights from the past year. This list is only a summary. I encourage you read the rest of the Annual Report to find out more. My term as Chapter Chair began on November 14th, 2015, and will end tonight at our annual meeting, ushering in Joe Massery as the new Chapter Chair. We all wish Joe the best and believe we are in exceptional leadership hands with Joe and the entire chapter leadership team continuing on the excellent work of our chapter and the overlaying mission of the Appalachian mountain club. In my final year as Chapter Chair, I have worked hard to follow the examples of all our recent past chairs, and indeed I have found my role as Chapter Chair to be rewarding, and enjoyable.

### Significant Chapter accomplishments in 2017:

- The continued strengthening of our 20's & 30's members with many new leaders and an incredible amount of activities coordinated and run by this group
- Trail work! Our volunteers continuing hundreds of hours of trail maintaining and rebuilding on Wachusett Mountain; the MidState Trail, work in Maine, and other locations.
- Our Families activities expanding significantly in 2017
- A significant presence and role on our executive committee for 2018 of members in their 20's!

### Other Chapter Accomplishments that are Notable in 2017:

- Our commitment to our community through endowment grants. In 2017 we helped fund opportunities for youth opportunity and underserved youth in 4 different programs.
- Our Families group- we organized and provided a variety of first time opportunities in rock climbing, paddling, camping, geo-caching and so much more. A banner year. And we also ran joint programs with our Berkshire Chapter.
- Our Chapter Newsletter and communications to our members. We were thrilled with the new layout for our newsletter, our upbeat and timely monthly email blasts to our community providing news and current information on trips and learning opportunities, and our social media outreach.

- The biking program- what a year with a large variety of rides including cycle touring, Tuesday and Thursday evening rides, as well as the Friday night hill climbs for training. There were also many weekday rides in 2017, and 2 rides on the weekends geared for families.
- Our spring picnic — this year was packed with participants and volunteer leaders.

2017 has been a very successful year for our Chapter. We are always seeking our members help and their experience to continue the great work of this chapter and its involvement in our community, furthering the mission of the AMC. Please reach out to any of the executive committee members if you are considering furthering your involvement.

Finally, the Annual Meeting and this report marks a time to acknowledge the many contributions of Executive Committee members who will be transitioning out of their position at our Annual meeting on November 11, 2017, or later in 2018. I want to personally thank the following for their passion and wisdom in guiding the chapter along: Christina Ferretti, Karen Maki, Jean Sifleet, Bruce Wester, Gina Shea, and Patricia Flanagan.

In closing, let me express my heartfelt thanks and appreciation for the effort, passion, and dedication of all of our members, and leaders.

Sincerely, Dave Cole, AMC Worcester Chapter Chair

### **Chapter Vice Chair's Report - 2017**

It has been an honor and privilege to serve as the Chapter's Vice Chair again for 2017, 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 in several ways, including work on a budget subcommittee, the Nominating Committee, and several working groups chartered by the AMC Chapters Committee.

I 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 2016-2017 to date are:

Month	Nominee	Nominator	Reason
	Dana Perry	Debi Garlick	Gear presentation at Winter Hiking Workshop

November	Denise Guillemette	Debi Garlick	Gear presentation at Winter Hiking Workshop
	Walt Lazarz	Debi Garlick	Gear presentation at Winter Hiking Workshop
	Sue Ostrowski	Debi Garlick	Gear presentation at Winter Hiking Workshop
	Paul Glazebrook	Debi Garlick	Slide and gear presentation at Winter Hiking Workshop
	Jean Langley	Debi Garlick	Registraton at Winter Hiking Workshop
	Janice Melchiore	Debi Garlick	Registraton at Winter Hiking Workshop
	Emerson Grant	Steve Crowe	Work on Stratton Pond Shelter and trail work on Wachusett.
	Bill Caulway	Steve Crowe	Work on Stratton Pond Shelter
	Malcolm Beauvais	Steve Crowe	Maintenance work on Stratton Pond Shelter, and trail work on the Pine Hill Trail.
	Denny LaForce	Steve Crowe	Work on Stratton Pond Shelter and Long Trail
	George Fardy	Steve Crowe	Work on Pine Hill Trail
	Fran Gribbons	Steve Crowe	Work on Pine Hill Trail
	Claudine Mapa	Pat Lambert	Close to completing upcountry and four-season hike leadership credentials.
	Walt Lazarz	Pat Flanagan	For being a great leadership mentor.
	Debi Garlick	Charlie Arsenault	Winter Hiking Workshop: Organizer extraordinaire
	Claudine Mapa	Charlie Arsenault	Winter Hiking Workshop: 20s and 30's super leader
	Paul Glazebrook	Charlie Arsenault	Winter Hiking Workshop: Dr. Winter
	Dick Kisten	David Elliott	Cheerful and helpful paddling co-leader.

	Emerson Grant	Mike Foley	For all he does on the Wachusett adopt-a-trail program.
NOVEMBER WINNER	Malcolm Beauvais		Maintenance work on Stratton Pond Shelter, and trail work on the Pine Hill Trail.
DECEMBER WINNER	Emerson Grant		For all he does on the Wachusett adopt-a-trail program, and for his work on the Stratton Pond Shelter.
January	Ed Faron	Steve Crowe	For countless hours on the MST Committee and MST Maintainer Coordinator.
	Jean Langley	Joe Massery	Co-leading multiple of my Charm Bracelet hikes. Helped me do scouting hikes, screen hikers, and jump in on short notice to fill in.
	Debi Garlick	Joe Massery	Organizing, planning, and leading the winter hiking program, including leading several gear shakedown hikes.
	Denise Guillemette	Walt Lazarz	For her role in the Inner Winter Hiker trip to Monadnock, including picking the route and leading the first group.
	Denise Guillemette	Paul Glazebrook	For planning and helping to organize the excellent Annual Introduction to Winter Hiking on Mt. Monadnock.
	Steph Keimig	Pat Lambert	For an outstanding crampon clinic.
	Denise Guillemette	Debi Garlick	For her role in the Inner Winter Hiker trip to Monadnock, including picking the route and leading the first group.
	Walt Lazarz	Debi Garlick	For leadership on the Mt. Monadnock hike in January.
	Paul Glazebrook	Debi Garlick	For leadership on the Mt. Monadnock hike in January.
	Bill Manser	Mike Foley	For his work bringing disabled vets out into the woods, and to the Maine woods for a few days of fly fishing.

	John Gau	Jean Sifleet	For his efforts in organizing the the MLK weekend at the Blue Gentian Lodge.
	Jean Langley	Pat Lambert	For outstanding contributions as member of Endowment Committee.
	Rich Dietz	Pat Lambert	For helping the leaders on Osceolas hike.
JANUARY WINNER	Walt Lazarz		For doing a gear presentation at the Winter Hiking Workshop, for being a great leadership mentor, and for leadership on the Mt. Monadnock Inner Winter Hiker trip.
February	Steph Keimig	Debi Garlick	As a hiking mentor for the Winter Hiking Program, filling in as leader for the Inner Winter Hike on Mt. Cardigan and organizing/implementing two ad hoc crampon workshops on Mt. Wachusett.
	Bill Zahavi	Joe Massery & Christine Fogarty	Stepped up on short notice and agreed to take over the lead and co-lead duties for my three posted Charm Bracelet hikes.
	Andy Wojcikowski	Joe Massery & Christine Fogarty	Stepped up on short notice and agreed to take over the lead and co-lead duties for my three posted Charm Bracelet hikes.
	Jean Langley	Joe Massery & Christine Fogarty	Stepped up on short notice and agreed to take over the lead and co-lead duties for my three posted Charm Bracelet hikes.
	Pam Hubley	Joe Massery & Christine Fogarty	Stepped up on short notice and agreed to take over the lead and co-lead duties for my three posted Charm Bracelet hikes.
	Neil Schutzman	Paul Glazebrook	Great leadership assistance on multi-Chapter hike in Whites.
	David Beck	Barb Dyer	Professional knowledge and leadership - going above and beyond and showing great leadership on Adventure Travel trip.
	Denny LaForce		Enthusiastically agreeing to co-lead on various AMC activities.
	Kathryn Converse		Enthusiastically agreeing to co-lead on various AMC activities.

	Bill Zahavi	Pat Flanagan	For a well-organized, fun hike at Whitehall Reservoir
	Tom Zumwalt	Barb Dyer	For co-leading the annual Presidents weekend at Joe Dodge Lodge and for leading the Maine house trip annually, which is a huge trip to organize.
FEBRUARY WINNER	Denny LaForce		For his work on the Stratton Pond Shelter and the Long Trail, and is willing co-leadership on many AMC activities.
March	Joe Young	Mike Foley	For helping with the NQTA hike series and the disabled vets fly fishing group.
	Neil Schutzman	Gina Shea	For organizing the Peak Bagging series.
	Bob Gilchrest	Pat Lambert	For volunteering for the 100th Anniversary Committee, and for his wealth of knowledge, passion, and exuberance.
	Debi Garlick	Annemarie Langhan	For leading the Winter Hiking Program and organizing many of the winter hikes.
	Ed Bajakian	Walt Lazarz	For his stellar and above-the-top excellent support as co-lead on the Quabbin Park hike.
MARCH WINNER	Debi Garlick		For organizing the Winter Hiking Workshop, for leading the Winter Hiking Program and for organizing many of the winter hikes, including several gear shakedown hikes.
	Ken Baldyga	Steve Ciras	For attending and completing AWFA.
	John Gau	Steve Ciras	For attending and completing AWFA.
	Paul Glazebrook	Steve Ciras	For attending and completing AWFA.
	Dave Gottesfeld	Steve Ciras	For attending and completing AWFA.
	Denise Guillemette	Steve Ciras	For attending and completing AWFA.

April

Steph Keimig	Steve Ciras	For attending and completing AWFA.
Annmarie Langhan	Steve Ciras	For attending and completing AWFA.
Walt Lazarz	Steve Ciras	For attending and completing AWFA.
Debi Moore	Steve Ciras	For attending and completing AWFA.
John Roberts	Steve Ciras	For attending and completing AWFA.
Neil Schutzman	Steve Ciras	For attending and completing AWFA.
Juliana Vanderwiele n	Steve Ciras	For attending and completing AWFA.
Andy Wojcikowski	Steve Ciras	For attending and completing AWFA.
Don Hoffses	Steve Ciras	For filling in for Kim Simpson as MST rep on Exec. Committee.
Walt Lazarz	Joe Massery	For contributing to Backpacking Workshop
Debi Garlick	Joe Massery	For contributing to Backpacking Workshop
Paul Glazebrook	Joe Massery	For contributing to Backpacking Workshop
Dana Perry	Joe Massery	For contributing to Backpacking Workshop
Chris Fogarty	Joe Massery	For contributing to Backpacking Workshop
Teresa Iapalucci	Joe Massery	For contributing to Backpacking Workshop
Marcus Ainsworth	Joe Massery	For contributing to Backpacking Workshop
Marcus Ainsworth	Chris Fogarty	For contributing to Backpacking Workshop
Chris Fogarty	Paul Glazebrook	For her work at the Backpacking Workshop
Rob Robertson	Mike Foley	For coming out of AMC retirement to help out with leadership training at Noble View.
Claudine Mapa	Christina Ferretti	For being the driving force behind our Notch Hostel trip.

	Walt Lazarz	Debi Garlick	For collecting trash along 57 miles of AT during section hike.
	Neil Schutzman	Debi Garlick	For collecting trash along 57 miles of AT during section hike.
	Neil Schutzman	Walt Lazarz	For collecting trash along 57 miles of AT during section hike.
APRIL WINNER	Denise Guillemette		For leadership and planning of the Inner Winter Hiker workshop and hike series.
	Many	Mike Foley	The whole group of volunteers for working at our spring workshops... leadership training, wfa, backpack workshop, LNT, etc.
	Chris Fogarty	Deb Herlihy	Planning, preparing, delivering leadership education and training for AMC and Worcester Chapter.
	Sharon Whalen	Joe M/ Charlie A	For helping with the Chapter's Spring Picnic.
	Walt Lazarz	Joe M/ Charlie A	For helping with the Chapter's Spring Picnic.
	Debi Garlick	Joe M/ Charlie A	For helping with the Chapter's Spring Picnic.
	Kristen Maki	Joe M/ Charlie A	For helping with the Chapter's Spring Picnic.
	John Gau	Joe M/ Charlie A	For helping with the Chapter's Spring Picnic.
	Mike Jones	Joe M/ Charlie A	For helping with the Chapter's Spring Picnic.
	Dave Laska	Joe M/ Charlie A	For helping with the Chapter's Spring Picnic.
	Jean Langley	Joe M/ Charlie A	For helping with the Chapter's Spring Picnic.
May	Don Wiser	Joe M/ Charlie A	For helping with the Chapter's Spring Picnic.
	Liz Browne	Joe M/ Charlie A	For helping with the Chapter's Spring Picnic.

	Joan Lattke	Joe M/ Charlie A	For helping with the Chapter's Spring Picnic.
	Chris Bope	Steph K Murphy	For active participation in 20-30s committee work, and for working toward completion of his leadership credentials.
	Bill Zahavi	Pat Flanagan	For co-leading the May 13th Wachusett Loop hike for the Wachusett to the Whites series.
	Steph K Murphy	Pat Lambert	For completing requirements for becoming an upcountry leader for the 20s-30s group.
	Pete Lane	Mike Foley	For stepping up to fill in on 30 minutes notice for no-show 3rd Wednesday speaker.
	Kathy Martin	Chris Fogarty	Kathy Martin from the Berkshire Chapter for all her hard work in learning how to train leaders. Well deserving because of her enthusiasm and dedication.
	Faith Salter	David Elliott	For driving the families paddling and camping event at Barton Cove tentatively scheduled for July 14-16.
	Steph K Murphy	Christina Ferretti	For hard work in obtaining her upcountry hike leadership, and helping with the Notch Hostel trip.
MAY WINNER	Sue Ostrowski	Debi Garlick	Gear presentation at Winter Hiking Workshop
	Steph K Murphy	Charlie Arsenault	For contributions as a member of the Nominating Committee.
	Janice Melchiore	Charlie Arsenault	For contributions as a member of the Nominating Committee.
	Jeffrey Mayes	Karen Maki	For representing AMC at the Knox Trail Boy Scout Event in Southboro.
	Bob Gilchrest	Steve Ciras	For an awesome job of trail maintenance at the Phoenix Shelter and Henderson Brook Trail.
	Walt Lazarz	Steve Ciras	For an awesome job of trail maintenance at the Phoenix Shelter and Henderson Brook Trail.

June	Peter Roderick	Steve Ciras	For an awesome job of trail maintenance at the Phoenix Shelter and Henderson Brook Trail.
	Andy Wojcikowski	Charlie Arsenault	For contributions as a member of the Nominating Committee.
	Dave Brainard	John Grote	For helping out with the rock climbing trip to Crow Hill on Sunday June 11.
	Jeffrey Daub	John Grote	For helping out with the rock climbing trip to Crow Hill on Sunday June 11.
	Gerard Fowley	John Grote	For helping out with the rock climbing trip to Crow Hill on Sunday June 11.
	Kevin Danis	John Grote	For helping out with the rock climbing trip to Crow Hill on Sunday June 11.
	Steph K Murphy	John Grote	For helping out with the rock climbing trip to Crow Hill on Sunday June 11.
	Laurie Faille	John Grote	For helping out with the rock climbing trip to Crow Hill on Sunday June 11.
JUNE WINNER	Jeffrey Mayes	Karen Maki	For representing AMC at the Knox Trail Boy Scout event in Southboro.
July	Bill Zahavi	Walt Lazarz	Leadership on Mousilauke trip
	Bill Zahavi	Mike Foley	Organizing the weekly paddles at Whitehall.
	Sharon Whalen	Mike Foley	Organizing the weekly paddles at Whitehall.
	Claudine Mapa	Steph Murphy	Organizing our YM Weekend in the Whites and helping continue our positive relationship with the Notch Hostel in Woodstock
	Dave Laska	Andy Wojcikowski	For multiple contributions over the years, and recently, including co-leads at Nickerson and music at various venues.
	Janice Melchiore	Jean Langley	For quick, decisive, and appropriate reaction to an incident on a trip where a hiker was incapacitated after an insect bite and needed Epi pen injection - may have saved hiker's life.

	Jean Langley	Janice Melchiore	For quick, decisive, and appropriate reaction to an incident on a trip where a hiker was incapacitated after an insect bite and needed Epi pen injection - may have saved hiker's life.
JULY WINNER	Dave Brainard	John Grote	For helping out with the rock climbing trip to Crow Hill on Sunday June 11.
August	Annmarie Langhan	Walt Lazarz	For her lead on the Monadnock-Sunapee Greenway middle section backpack. Monitoring the weather, rescheduling the trip, and executing a great trip.
	Steph Keimig	Steph K Murphy	For serving as a mentor leader for Chris Bope's Monadnock hike
	Steph Keimig	Steph K Murphy	For serving as a mentor leader for Zenya Molnar's Mt. Moosilauke hike.
	Chris Fogarty	Steph K Murphy	For serving as a mentor to Mike Morin in backpacking.
	Sharon Whalen	Steph K Murphy	For serving as a mentor leader for Zenya Molnar's Mt. Garfield hike.
	Bill Zahavi	Steph K Murphy	For serving as a mentor leader for Alex Molnar's Mt. Jackson hike.
	Bill Manser	Mike Foley	For taking disabled vets year after year to Maine for a few days of fly fishing.
AUGUST WINNER	Dana Perry	Debi Garlick, Joe Massery	For his gear presentation at the Winter Hiking Workshop, and contributing to the Backpacking Workshop.
September	Walt Lazarz	Debi Garlick	For quick reaction in rescuing another hiker who had slipped into deep, fast water.
	Neil Schutzman	Debi Garlick	For aiding another hiker who was stuck in the middle of a tough water crossing.
	Pat Fanjoy	Fred Mezynksi	For covering for Fred at 3rd Wednesday while he was on vacation.

	Dave Laska	Fred Mezynksi	For covering for Fred at 3rd Wednesday while he was on vacation.
SEPTEMBER WINNER	Paul Glazebrook	Debi Garlick, Charlie Arsenault, Steve Ciras, Joe Massery	Contributing to the Winter Hiking and Backpacking Workshops, leadership of Monadnock hike, and completing AWFA training.

The Spring Picnic is our Chapter's annual membership appreciation event. At the picnic, volunteers and members gather for a picnic social, plus a wide range of activities for kids of all ages. This year's Spring Picnic was on Saturday, May 20, at Hopkinton State Park. An enthusiastic crowd of 95 members and guests enjoyed a wonderful BBQ lunch, and participated in paddling events, local hikes, bike rides, a fishing contest, slack-line walking, and field games.

Sincerely,

Joe Massery

Vice Chair

### Treasurer's Report AMC Worcester Chapter

#### **Income and Expenses**

**1 January - 6 November, 2017**

	<b>Total</b>
<b>Income</b>	
40600 grants from AMC	26,191.60
41600 Subscription revenue Web membership	30.00
43100 program and workshop income	8,341.31
81000 Chapter allocation	6,721.25
<b>Uncategorised Income</b>	<b>1,961.00</b>

	\$
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>43,245.16</b>
	\$
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>43,245.16</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
<b>55200 participant cost</b>	15,233.85
<b>72700 AMC Meetings and Conferences</b>	305.00
<b>72800 volunteer and committee expenses<sup>2</sup></b>	12,234.22
<b>73560 internet service</b>	205.46
<b>73630 Software</b>	250.00
<b>74100 printing expense</b>	1,043.04
<b>74200 postage</b>	285.94
<b>78300 property and liability insurance</b>	323.00
<b>81031 AMC C&amp;C Contribution expense</b>	300.00
<b>81040 endowment spending allowance</b>	18,040.87
<b>Office, general and administrative expenses</b>	700.25
	\$
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>48,921.63</b>
	\$
<b>Beginning cash balance Jan 2017</b>	<b>22,252.67</b>
	\$
<b>Ending cash balance</b>	<b>16,576.20</b>

Monday, Nov 06, 2017 12:44:40 PM GMT+11 - Cash Basis

Sincerely,  
Jose Schroen  
Treasurer

## **Past Chair's Report**

In my second and final year as Past Chair, I served as an advisor to the Chair and Executive Committee. It was very satisfying to see the chapter continue as a well-run and evolving organization under Dave Cole'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 and interim Nominating Committee Chair, Jose Schroen. Members of the 2017 Ecom nominating committee included: Dave Cole, Fred Mezynski, Joe Massery, Janice Melchiorre, Stephanie Krzyzewski, Jose Schroen, and Andy Wojcikowski. This Nominating Committee reviewed open committee positions, identified candidates, and recruited candidates for each open position. The Nominating Committee was successful in nominating candidates for all the open positions on the 2018 Executive Committee. A huge debt of gratitude to Jose Schroen, who took over my Nominating Committee Chair duties while I was hiking the AT. Jose formed the committee in June and formally completed its mission by presenting nominations in September.

Charlie Arsenault – Past Chair

## **Worcester Chapter Leadership 2017**

It's been another record year for the Worcester Chapter; over 400 activities were posted by 116 of our most active leaders!

And it's evident that our leaders enjoyed hiking this year, whether in the backcountry or local, getting outdoors was the goal! But it's not just hiking for this club, we held close with cycling and paddling activities too. There's also a new activity promoted by our 20's and 30's leaders for running this year, and the year is not over yet...

Activity	# of Events	Overall %
Hiking	171	38%
Biking	94	21%
Paddling	46	10%
Social Eve	40	9%
Running	34	8%
Backpack	26	6%
Trails	16	4%
Leadershi	7	2%
Skiing	7	2%
Climbing	5	1%
<b>Grand To</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>100%</b>

As we take a closer look, we can see who posted the most activities this past year too... Congratulations **Michael Foley** for your outstanding efforts in leading the most activities 3 years running! And running close behind, **Bill Zahavi** and **Claudine Mapa**!

Leader	Total # of Activities
Michael Foley	26
Bill Zahavi	25
Claudine Mapa	25
Joe Massory	22
Sharon Whalen	22
Fred Mezynski	21
John Gau	21
Debi Garlick	20
Steph Murphy	19
Neil Schutzman	18
Zenya Molnar	18
Paul Glazebrook	17
Jose Schroen	16
Walt Lazerz	16
Christina Ferretti	15
Steve Crowe	15
Denis LaForce	14
Janice Melchione	11
Jean Langley	10
Stephanie Keimig	10

Note: #'s incl., all leader positions 1, 2, 3, 4, and co-leads

We also held four (4) very successful trainings this year; two (2) leadership trainings, the 1<sup>st</sup> one in March with our sister chapter, Berkshire and again in May with 60 participants! Both classes not only had new leaders in training but long time leaders looking to re-fresh their soft skills and knowledge! There are a lot of new and exciting things going in leadership!

As a result, we were able to bring on several new paddling, climbing and hiking leaders this year for both chapters! It continues to be our goal as a chapter to welcome new leaders and co-leaders from other chapters, once they are properly vetted. We will continue to look to

our leader mentors to help grow these opportunities and will be providing you with more resources to help you out in 2018!

We also hosted two fun-filled (2) SOLO Wilderness First Aid (WFA) courses with 57 participants from various chapters, as well as Boy Scouts, Mid-State trail crew and Women's Outdoor club in VT.

Still, the most important recognition this year goes to our leaders who have used their skills gained through either WFA or First Aid training to assist and care for a participant(s) injured while enjoying their favorite outdoor activity.

So, when you hike, bike or backpack with either; **Janice Melchiore, Jean Langley, Denny LaForce, Walt Lazarz, and Neil Schutzman**, know that they have trained well, stayed calm in an otherwise challenging situation and assisted others who were in need of help in an emergency situation. You're in good hands when you go out with these leaders!

**Thank you to All of our Volunteer Leaders for another great year!**

Respectfully Submitted,

Debora Herlihy, Leadership Chair and  
AMC Outdoor Leadership Development Committee(OLDC) Chapter Representative

### **Hiking**

The Worcester Chapter offered many well-attended hiking activities in 2017.

Highlights of the year include:

#### **\*Winter Hiking**

Winter Hiking Workshop and "Explore Your Inner Winter Hiker" Series 2016/2017

This workshop provides education on the basics of hiking safely in the winter and covers a variety of topics ranging from winter hiking gear to hydration and nutrition on the trail.

Thank you to Debi Garlick, Charlie Arsenault, Paul Glazebrook, Jose Schroen and Joe Massery for sharing your knowledge and enthusiasm for winter hiking.

The hiking series that supports the workshop offers progressively more difficult hikes between December and March. The hikes start locally with gear shakedown hikes and progress to 4,000 footers of the White Mountains, and culminate with a "graduation" weekend in the White Mountains. This workshop for the 2017/2018 season is set up for this November. Thank you to Debi Garlick for organizing the workshop and series again this year, as well as other Winter Hiking leaders to ensure this program's success.

#### **\*Advanced Winter Hiking**

For the more experienced and skilled winter hikers, there was a series of advanced hikes in the mountains. Thank you to Pat Lambert and Steph Keimeg for bringing more adventure to winter hikers. Another thank you to Steph Keimeg who held several crampon and ice axe clinics to introduce these skills to those advanced winter hikers.

### \*Local Hiking

There was an “Introduction to 3 Seasons Hiking” workshop in April to introduce new members to hiking on our local trails. Thank you to Michael Foley for leading the majority of these local hikes again this year, and for getting hikers out on our local trails on Sundays year round. Thank you to Janice Melchiorre for leading the effort to getting hikers out on the Midstate Trail again this year.

### \*Peak Bagging

This series offers multiple hikes for those looking to complete their White Mountain 48 4,000 footers. Thank you Neil Schutzman for polling our members and organizing this hiking series tailored for them to work on their 4,000 footer checklists.

### \*Backpacking

There was an “Introduction to Backpacking” workshop in April. This full day workshop provided education on topics ranging from nutrition/hydration to backpacking gear, conditioning and trip planning and Leave No Trace ethics. There also a series of backpacks offering progressively more difficult backpacks throughout the season.

The series started with local shakedown hikes to review gear and fitness, and continued on the Midstate Trail, the Berkshires ending up in the White Mountains.

Thank you Kim Beauchemin, Paul Glazebrook, Joe Massery, Chris Fogarty, Jose Schroen, Steve Ciras, Dana Perry and Teresa Iapalucci for sharing your knowledge and love of backpacking. Thank you to Walt Lazarz for organizing a series of more advanced backpack trips for experienced backpackers, and Thank you to Joe Massery for leading the series of Appalachian Trail backpack from border to border through Massachusetts.

I would like to thank all of the other leaders who volunteer to share their time to lead various types of hiking trips and share their passion and enthusiasm for the outdoors.

Respectfully submitted,

Gina Shea  
Hiking Chair

### **Endowment Committee**

Proposals submitted to the Endowment Committee for consideration should in some way promote the protection, enjoyment and wise use of mountains, rivers and trails, through responsible recreation, conservation and educational efforts.

The voting members of 2017 Endowment Committee are: Mike Jones, Pat Lambert, Jean Langley, and Michele Simoneau. The non-voting members are Dave Cole (Chapter Chair), Sharon Foster (Regional Director) and Faith Salter (Club representative).

I continued a series in the Chapter’s quarterly newsletter, Wachusett Views, On the Road with the Endowment Chair. The purpose of the series is to promote the Endowment and to make

our Chapter members aware of the different programs/projects we have funded through our Endowment. Projects highlighted this year included the Pine Hill Reconstruction Project and the Bay Circuit Trail: If interested in learning more about the Endowment, please contact me, at [endowment@amcworchester.org](mailto:endowment@amcworchester.org).

The Endowment Committee also reviewed and revised the Endowment Guidelines, which were approved by the Chapter’s Executive Committee in September.

Endowment Requests Approved for 2017:

<b>Project / Program</b>	<b>Amount</b>
AMC Leadership Giving Initiative (Camp Dodge Project)	\$10,000.00
AMC Mountain Classroom – Ayer-Shirley	\$ 3,500.00
Midstate Trail	\$ 2,073.00
AMC Youth Opportunities Program	\$ 5,000.00
Just Understand My Potential (JUMP)	\$ 1,815.00
Project Healing Waters	\$ 3,000.00
Burncoat Outdoor Adventure Squad	\$ 2,450.00
Chapter Operations	\$15,250.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 43,088.00</b>

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Lambert  
Endowment Chair

**Communications Report**

We were thrilled to serve as communications co-chairs this year and to reinvigorate the monthly email blast and quarterly newsletter. Our goal in 2017 was to make the newsletter more exciting and visually approachable for today’s reader—folks who are accustomed to receiving information in short spurts and on the go. In anticipation of the Worcester Chapter’s 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, we started a *History Corner* which appears in each edition. We are thankful for Michele Simoneau, the Chapter Historian, for transcribing the journals of historic AMC member Harriet Roe and compiling photos of past people and events associated with the Chapter. Of course we still encourage longer contributions and were grateful to receive everything from trip journals to articles featuring leave no trace to pieces written by our young members. We also appreciate receiving photos from trips that capture a special moment so that our wider audience can be inspired and motivated to get outdoors. The email blasts continue to serve as a beacon of information for upcoming events and to cast the spotlight on our volunteers of the month and numerous activities—from skiing to

hiking, rock climbing to families trips. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed ideas, stories, and photos. We look forward to another exciting year of working on Communications with the Worcester Chapter!

Zenya Molnar and Alexandra Molnar

### **The Young Members**

20's and 30's, of the Worcester AMC chapter had a wonderful year! Several new members join our planning committee and with them came a bunch of experience, knowledge, and great new ideas. The activities ramped up into the summer season with a lot of New Hampshire trips and White Mountain hiking. Several of the Young Members planned large weekend trips that were very successful which required a lot of planning and hard work.

They had weekend trips to places in Massachusetts and New Hampshire for all abilities and offered a wide variety of activities. Our social media presence grows larger each month with people subscribing to our Facebook page and our new monthly newsletter. Our next year will be even better than ever. There are plans to include new types of activities like mountain-biking and snowboarding. We are ready to accept new members and new ideas. I wish the best of luck to the incoming chair, Steph Murphy. I know she will do an excellent job.

Christina Ferretti  
Young Members 20's and 30's Chair  
AMC Worcester Chapter

### **Paddling Program**

Congratulations to leaders and participants for a busy, fun and adventurous Worcester paddling season 2017. We had some 40 events at locations familiar and not so much, among old friends and 8 (count 'em) newly minted paddle leaders. Along with a whole lot of water – at least until the rain decided to quit entirely in July – before opening the firehose again in October. In short, typical weather, only more so.

The usual crowd pitched in, doing their faves: Paul Berry, Pat Fanjoy, Pat Howe – Joe Walsh pinch hitting – plus the usual over achievers Elaine Cibelli, Bill Zahavi, Sharon Whalen and - did I mention that David Miller the godfather of Worcester paddling is back to full strength and his usual slate of events? And of course there are those who officially (or not) always lend a generous hand. Did somebody say Dick Kisten and Debbie Gallagher?

Then there are the new leaders, new blood with their fresh ideas and personal favorite paddling locales. And to think half came via our chapter's leadership training - people from Vermont, western Mass, Boston – eager to lead for Worcester! To name a few trips Bonna Wieler and Debra Weisenstein ran their special brand of low key instructionals on the Connecticut River. Stephanie Keimig also earned her stripes helping out the Cole man on the Connecticut.

Jeffrey Mayes and Faith Salter (yes, that Faith Salter) have both been treating us to their favorite sections of the Nashua. And Jose Schroen, well she's everywhere, as you'll see below.

Speaking of the Connecticut we had our joint Worcester, Boston, Berkshires Family paddle weekend in Barton Cove just north of Greenfield MA which happened to include many of the new paddle leaders – including Berkshire chapter member but new Worcester Paddle Leader, Dee Dice - with David Cole Chair and paddler in charge and Ingrid Molnar Worcester's manager on land. A great team that ensured a great time. Shall we make it a regular event? And speaking of chairs, our new one Joe Massery is also now a paddle leader. What plans has he got?

As for bodies of water, besides all our local faves we revisited the Charles, the Swift, and accompanied folks conducting a source to the sea Connecticut River pilgrimage. During the annual Maine House Columbus Day weekend we also paddled a portion of the Androscoggin canoe trail from Bethel, a must repeat event. It just doesn't get any better than this, at least until Paul Glazebrook makes venturing into Canada and Maine look easy with paddle camping in Algonquin Provincial Park north of Toronto and down the storied Allagash. Nor is the paddling season over. There's my Black Friday #OptOutdoors paddle, and on December 2nd, our traditional farewell to the paddle season along the Assabet River from Northboro, often accompanied by a dusting of white, though the weather was so fine last year we made it a round trip.

In other news the chapter now owns a 13 foot Necky Manitou recreational kayak – in my experience a sweet go straight machine - available for loan on official chapter paddles. We also have a sea kayak. And some canoes can usually be wrangled. Leaders and wanna be participants take note. Just wait 'till next year though, and our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemorative paddles, which so far include:

Jose, another in the new crop of paddle leaders, has jumped on a “back in the day” traditional Worcester Chapter paddle camping trip to Beal Island near AMC's Nubble Bay facility on the Maine coast, a paddle yours truly, your paddle chair had dismissed as too ambitious. Hah, not to Jose it wasn't, with assistance from Steve Gabis, Paul Glazebrook, and an already completed “paddles in the water” investigatory visit with Ken Pickren.

Speaking of Paul Glazebrook, he has already scheduled a 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary paddle on the Penobscot in Maine, another river full of stories from the days of transporting running by water. There is also the traditional Seven Mile River first paddle of the season lead by David Miller, going back some 50 years. Launch with us in the snow and you too might earn the Loony Bird badge.

Leaders, what else 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary you got? Besides the push to identify favorite trips from the chapter's past, I personally am also interested in commemorating the rich history of the waterways we paddle. From their use as “highways” by native Americans, powering mills during the industrial revolution, decades of neglect and severe pollution, and their rediscovery as natural resources for us to explore. In short our waterways have come full circle in a way that would please our chapter's founders.

Finally, I'll repeat my admonition for all paddlers to take whitewater training offered by our sister chapters New Hampshire (lead by our vary own Paul Berry) and Boston come Spring. Not just for the excitement – as in honestly you don't have to be an adrenaline junkie – than to take your skills to the next level. Think of White Water as alpine skiing less the cold and pricey lift ticket.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Elliot  
Paddling Chair

## **SKIING**

Fresh snow means fun!

Unfortunately, there wasn't much snow last season. Many planned activities were cancelled. So, we had to improvise and travel for skiing and be creative about outdoor winter activities including hiking and snow shoeing.

For example, the MLK weekend, organized by John Gau at the Blue Gentian lodge in Vermont was full of activities including eating, drinking, and socializing, as well as a variety of outdoor adventures guided by experienced AMC leaders including Dave Elliott and Ken Pickren.

When there is fresh snow we have to act quickly. The email list for "short-notice activities" continues to grow and we hope to put it to good use this season.

AMC members can be found:

Downhill skiing at Wachusett – midweek .

Cross-country skiing – mid-week and weekend – at touring centers and untracked areas.

While we can't predict the weather, we can share the fun of winter with our AMC companions.

Jean Sifleet  
Ski Chair

## 2018 Season

This upcoming season two young members, Lauren and Claudine, are taking over leadership of the ski chair. They would like to continue the local downhill and cross-country meet-ups that take advantage of good snowfall. They also hope to build upon the highly successful and anticipated ski weekends that have become an ongoing tradition, such as the one Jean describes above. One of their main goals is to involve more young members in these trips and perhaps plan some young member-oriented events. They also plan on having ski socials to help introduce newer members with the local ski community. They are very excited to see what 2018 brings!

## **TECHNICAL CLIMBING**

This past year we had a good year of climbing. We started the year out with several ice climbing trips.

We had a joint trip with the family group at Central Rock Gym. The kids had a lot of fun and we hope to inspire the next generation of climbers.

We also held a climbing event with the 20's and 30's members (young members) at Central Rock Gym. This trip were very successful and had a great turn out.

In June we held a climbing trip to Crow Hill where indoor gym climbers had a chance to climb on real rock. They learned the new challenges outdoor rock presents, basic anchor setups, rappelling and knots.

Now in the winter we will be continuing our climbing trips to Central Rock Gym.

Respectfully submitted,

John Grote  
Technical Climbing Chair

## **MIDSTATE TRAIL COMMITTEE**

Once again, the Midstate Trail Committee was very active in 2017. All sections were cleared and ready for hiking by May. Another mild winter allowed our maintainers to begin their work early and finish in a timely fashion. This involved our 30 maintainers walking their sections of trail, clearing winter debris, refreshing blazes where needed and reporting larger blowdowns that needed certified sawyers to clear.

As with every spring, there were several of these large blowdowns that needed certified sawyers to remove. AMC Worcester Section funding paid for several additional sawyers to be certified and supplied with all required safety equipment. This year was very unusual in that over 40 blowdowns were reported and removed by our sawyers during the hiking season.

Removal of brush and high grass is an ongoing issue along the trail. This summer, Bill Caulway and Verne Hebard were extremely active using brush cutters funded by AMC Worcester clear brush and high grass in many problem areas along the Midstate Trail.

Colin Novick of the Greater Worcester Land Trust (GWLT) has been very helpful with trail protection projects. This year he negotiated a permanent easement on the Gunter property

just north of Route 20. This provided a permanent route for the trail substantially in its current location as part of a development plan for this parcel. The Lussier property in Spencer, which contains a portion of the Midstate Trail, was purchased by DCR, providing permanent protection for this section of the trail.

A "bike friendly" stringer bridge with ramps leading onto it was built just south of East Hill Road on Treasure Valley Scout Reservation property. Another major project involved raising bog bridging on Mass Audubon property in Spencer. This bridging was under water and required additional support logs to be inserted underneath the existing supports. This was a difficult and time consuming operation that was successfully completed.

GWLT now has two interns working with GPS data to complete an updated edition of our Guidebook. For now, we are continuing to print copies of our 2015 Guidebook to meet sales requirements.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimball Simpson  
Midstate Trail Chair

### **Trails Committee Report**

2017 was our 16<sup>th</sup> 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. This year the dates were:

April	28 and 29	Friday and Sunday	Work with DCR Heavy Equipment Operator
June	3 and 4	National Trails Day	Drainage Project on the Balance Rock Trail
July	26 and 27	Saturday and Sunday	
September	8 and 9	Saturday and Sunday	
October	28	Saturday	
November	18 and 19	Saturday and Sunday	Wednesday the 15th

Saturday, June 3, 2017 we participated in our annual National Trails Day event at Wachusett Mountain State Reservation bringing greater awareness to trails, along with their many benefits and pleasures. We encourage folks to get out and give back one day of trail maintenance each year; you may never look at trails the same again.

The Chapter entered into a 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. Emerson Grant and Mike Foley lead some group outings to improve the Trails on Wachusett.

There was a Trip with a Purpose in June and September to work on some trails on Mount Washington. The Mid-State Trail continued their work, including an accessible bridging project in Rutland and the Chapter also continues to adopt 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 2018, 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  
Worcester Chapter Trials Committee Chair

### **Conservation**

This year, it was my pleasure to step in for the legendary Steve Ciras as Chair of Conservation. Like Steve, my mission this year was to remind all that AMC is, in fact, a conservation organization that also has a hiking, biking, climbing, skiing, and paddling problem. Founded in 1876, AMC is the nation's oldest outdoor recreation and conservation organization. AMC promoted the protection, enjoyment, and understanding of the mountains, forests, waters, and trails of the Northeast outdoors. We are different from other organizations in that we promote the use of our resources. If you don't experience the outdoors, how can you feel obliged to protect it?

This year, I continued to provide guidance to our members on incorporating conservation into their outdoor activities. I spoke at Leadership Training, the Backpacking Workshop, and at Executive Committee Meetings – keeping the rest of the organization up to date on club conservation matters and Leave No Trace principles. We also provided club conservation cards and posters for our booths we manned at various events during the year.

With the increasing popularity of hiking and other outdoor activities, it is imperative that we continue to educate those that are taking advantage of the wonderful wilderness that nature provides to us. I implore you all to continue to spread your knowledge on conservation and LNT – we have a lot of work to do and we have a lot of land to protect. Please get out there and talk to people about us and our mission!

Thanks in advance,

Kim Beauchemin  
Conservation Chair

### **Chair – 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee**

It's time for the party of the century! It's been 100 years since a group of Worcester residents organized our chapter in a home near the current Dorothy High School. It has been my honor to Chair the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee, a temporary but eminent position. A committee

was formed to organize this celebration nearly a year ago and has planned a series of events showcasing our chapters impact in promoting conservation and stewardship in our community. For 100 years the Worcester Chapter has been providing opportunities to the adults and children from the heart of Massachusetts to get outdoors and appreciate the beauty of our home.

Over the next year, we will be hosting events that will relive significant and traditional activities and showcase the impact of our financial and sweat equity to the community. The celebration will culminate in an overnight gala weekend of events to be held at Prindle Pond in Charlton next Fall.

Look for listings that note the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Participate and have some fun! You won't be able to do this again for another 100 years.

Keep your feet moving,

Steve Ciras, Chair

**Planning team:**

Kim Beauchemin	Deb Herlihy	Fred Mezynski
Norm Debuc	Don Hoffses	Bonnie Shutzman
Jon Dirodi	Pat Lambert	Michele Simoneau
Bob Glichrest	Karen Maki	Sharon Whalen
Dave Greenslit	Janice Melchiore	Bill Zahavi

**3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday Annual Report 2017**

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

Our monthly socials (3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday's) were held at the Northborough Historical Society with the exception of July which were 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 pot luck 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 – Gregg Valentine – Long Range Traverse On Anascocha trail.

February – Colleen Mclaughlin -Bike Ride from Washington DC to Pittsburg

March – Mass Audubon, Amid Ghazanfani - Hummingbird

April – Joe Gingras - Landscapes of Northeast

May – Pete Lane – Appalachian Trail Hike

June – Cory Bulleck – Solar City

July – Annual Picnic at Broad Meadow Brook Visitors Center.

August – Tracy Horgan - Equipment on Appalachian Trail

September – Philip Werner – GPS Smartphone Navigation

October – Garry Harrington – Book, Chasing Summits

November – Bryan Farr – History of RT. 20

December – Annual Christmas party. Yankee Swap and sing along with Dave Laska.

Many thanks to those who contribute to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday's to make the programs enjoyable and comfortable for everyone who attends.

Respectfully submitted.

Fred Mezynski - 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday Chair

### **Social Media**

The Worcester Chapter social media includes Facebook, MeetUp, and Twitter.

The popular Facebook page (Appalachian Mountain Club - Worcester Chapter) has nearly 800 members, up ~100 new members, and is growing weekly with fans from far and near. There is also a Young Members page (AMC Worcester Chapter 20s & 30s) and Families page (AMC Worcester Family Group), and our Chapter history page (AMC Worcester Chapter Historian). MeetUp @AMCWorcester is very popular way of recruiting new members which surpass our FB page. Twitter is not widely followed, but we encourage members to follow us and tweet about their experiences at @amcworcester. We do not have an Instagram or Snapchat yet, which is widely used with the younger generation and perhaps somebody is interested in running these sites. Social media is monitored by the Past Chapter Chair Barbara Dyer, but all members and non-members may post pictures and events. All posts should represent AMC related information only. We encourage members to use social media to stay connected with our chapter including the web page where all events are posted live at ([www.amcworcester.org](http://www.amcworcester.org)). The web page is going to change in the near future. Social media is open to new and prospective members. Thank you to all who share their experiences and posts. We love seeing all you do!

See you online and on the trails!

Barbara Dyer  
Social Media –At Large

### **Families Program**

The families program celebrates a banner year with an incredible variety of families activities offered in 2017! The numerous activities, many of which were inter-chapter, gathered families and friends from across the state to enjoy the following, plus more: indoor rock climbing at the Central Rock Gym, local hiking on the Charm Bracelet trail with a scavenger hunt, hiking at Red Apple Farm, family activities at the Annual Picnic, geo-cacheing at Wachusett Meadows, and hiking the Bay Circuit Trail at Nashoba Brook while exploring the potato caves and historic foundations of pencil factories. Additionally, we offered a joint camping and paddling weekend at Barton’s Cove of the Connecticut River along with the Berkshire and Boston Chapters, an event we hope to make annual. Family members enjoyed paddling, camp cooking, hiking, and games throughout the weekend. I would like to thank all of the leaders who planned the activities, instructed the children in new skills—such as rock climbing and paddling—, and took the time to engage them with the ultimate goal of showing everyone how to appreciate the outdoors. I look forward to another fantastic year as Families Chair with even more variety and more events.

Respectfully submitted,

Ingrid Molnar  
Families Chair

## **Membership**

The Worcester Chapter attended a variety of events in 2017 to promote conservation and outdoor activities. In April we attended the UMass Medical School Earth Day event. We shared AMC lodging opportunities with Boy Scouts and their families at the Knox Trail Council Program Exposition in Southborough. We also greeted Cabella’s customers at their Conservation Partner Meet and Greet and shared our conservation message with people at the Soular Jazz Festival in Northborough.

As of August 2017, the AMC had 65,006 memberships chapter-wide (which included families of 2-4 people) and a total of 92,835 members. The Worcester Chapter membership is broken down as follows:

- Family 882
- Family Life 26
- Individual 809
- Lifetime 46
- Senior 190
- U-30 119
- Youth Leader 21
- Total 2,093

Members for the Worcester Chapter total 3,001.

Taking a further look at our roster with milestone memberships, thanks to you for being so loyal to the AMC:

- 6 with 75+ year memberships
- 20 with 50+ year memberships
- 157 with 25+ year memberships

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Maki  
Membership Chair

### **Cycling Report**

It's been another fun year of cycling, thanks of course to our cycle leaders and their willingness to offer such a wide variety of rides. With another light winter we once again got off to an early start with our rides, ramping up quickly with a fairly full calendar of our rides: The traditional Tuesday night relaxed rides continued to be popular. And there is still a 'hard core' Thursday night group. The Friday night Hill climb rides are competing with the Thursday night group, we will probably discontinue those rides and concentrate on the Thursday ride group. As with so many of our chapter activities, food is always a big attraction on our rides. Farm stands, bakeries were popular this year. And of course if you follow us on the AMC Worcester Facebook page you'll see that we can't pass up an ice cream shop. The weekday daytime rides started 3 years ago continue to grow in popularity. We are now attracting riders from other chapters seeking mid-week rides

Cycle Touring: (Backpacking on a bike) it's a niche that is unique to the Worcester Chapter. Unfortunately with Colleen McLaughlin's illness and passing we had to cancel our popular cycle touring workshop. Denny LaForce has agreed to pick up the lead and continue the great work done by Colleen. We will miss her. We did have several one, two and three night tours. There are already plans for even more and longer tours for 2018. (They are not always camping. Watch for these events and give them a try).

While we did have a number of weekend rides as well as 2 weekend family rides. the number of weekend rides is still not where we would like it to be. We have had numerous requests to add more. Next season we will try a series of weekend Rail Trail rides throughout the New England area in an effort to attract new riders and folks not able to join us on the popular weekday rides.

We have once again had a good year adding cycling leaders. We have several folks who have expressed an interest in becoming leaders and look forward to their leading this spring.

We now have a Club Account with Ride with GPS, a great tool for our leaders for planning, mapping, leading and cataloging their rides in a common format that can be used by any of our chapter leaders. A heartfelt 'Thank You' to all the cycling leaders who lead rides this year and make this program successful. It's been a lot of fun for me as Cycling Committee Chair. I am stepping down this year but will continue to be an active leader. With much enthusiasm Janice Melchiorre and Neil Schutzman are stepping up as Co-Chairs.

Bruce C Wester  
Cycling Committee Chair

### **Historian's Report**

In light of the upcoming 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the Worcester Chapter in 2018, the Historian has had a very busy year in 2017. The Historian is a member of and attended meetings of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee and has researched and provided information for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee, the Executive Committee, Activities Leaders and other Worcester Chapter members.

Harriet Roe left the Chapter an amazing journal of activities from 1926 – 1928, complete with photos and illustrations. In 2017, the Historian has transcribed three of the events from Harriet's journal to submit as articles for the Chapter newsletter, with more to come in future newsletters.

The Historian is also researching and writing articles on the early members and leaders of the Chapter. In 2017 the profile of Albert Inman, the first Chapter Chair, was written and submitted to the Chapter newsletter.

In 1944, Harriet Roe wrote an article on the history of the Chapter's meeting place from the building of Woonnasako Hut in 1920 up to and including the purchase of the Worcester Lodge in 1944. This article was transcribed by the Historian and submitted as an article to the Chapter newsletter. A future article will be written to take the history from the purchase of the Worcester Lodge in 1944 to the fire in 1993 to the establishment of the Endowment Committee in 2004.

In order to give greater access to the photos and historical documents in the Chapter's archives, the Historian has started a Facebook group for this purpose entitled AMC Worcester Chapter Historian. Members are invited to join the group.

The Historian has started 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

## **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 ExecComm. 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 ExecComm. Appropriations consistent with approved budgets within Chapter Committees are subject to review by the Chapter ExecComm.

**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 ExecComm 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	1966-68	John F. Stiles, Jr.
1920-22	Owne W. Kennedy	1968-70	Melvin H. Knapp
1922-24	W. Gray Harris	1970-72	Charles A. Keisling
1924-25	Bert Greenwood	1972-74	Robert F. Wagner
1925-26	Arthur J. Young	1974-76	Robert W. Eaton
1926-28	Fred Holdworth, Jr.	1976-78	Taimi Van Buren
1928-30	William Beaumont	1978-80	Albert G. Pinard
1930-32	John B. Knowlton	1980-82	S. Bruce Snow
1932-34	Harry E. Carson	1982-83	Carol R. Kanis
1934-36	Arthur Snow	1983-84	Michael Allega
1936-38	Bradley B. Gilman	1984-86	Russell W. Schott
1938-40	Ralph E. Hale	1986-88	Roy E. Johnson
1940-42	A. Gerry Blodgett	1988-91	Robert W. Gilchrest
1942-44	Stuart Van Buren	1991-93	Paul V. Meleski
1944-46	John H. Hitchcock	1993-95	Paul Adams
1946-48	Harold D. Woodbury	1995-97	Kathleen Ondrasik
1948-50	J. Adams Holbrook	1997-99	Bruce Harmon
1950-52	Lawrence Corbett	1999-01	Andy Wojcikowski

1952-54	Alson C. Patton	2001-03	Bruce Blais
1954-56	Richard R. Leonard	2003-05	Jim Walsh
1956-58	Linwood M. Erskine, Jr.	2005-07	Barbara Dyer
1958-60	Stanton H. Whitman	2007-09	Sharon Foster
1960-62	Berton G. Towle	2009-11	Steven V. Ciras
1962-64	James L. Marston	2011-13	Patricia Lambert
1964-66	Kenyon C. Maynard	2013-15	Charlie Arsenault
		2015-17	Dave Cole