



**MAINE CHAPTER
APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB
2010 Annual Report
October 1, 2009 – October 1, 2010**



The programs, trainings and trips offered in the past year by the Maine Chapter's Executive Committee, committee members and leaders are highlighted in this report. As you will read, the Maine Chapter has offered a wealth of information and experiences thanks to a dynamic, committed group of volunteers.

Respectfully compiled and submitted,
Carrie Walia
Maine Chapter Chair

Biking Report (Outings Committee), Denise Courtemanche

What an incredible summer! Mother Nature was truly on our side!

The AMC biking group had 25 rides out of 26 scheduled rides for Tuesdays and Sundays. There were 155 participants that joined through out the season with an average of 6 participants for each ride.

Several of our riders opened their homes to potlucks following the rides. I would like to thank Carolyn Welch, Andy Chabot, Lucy Wendell-Thorp, Mary Huff and Joyce Donald. On other days we visited many fine restaurants in the different areas.

We covered many beautiful miles through out Maine from as far south as Kennebunk Port, north to Port Clyde and west to Little Osspie Pond and Lake Auburn. And yes, we did ride a few hills along the way especially in Alna!

I would like to mention Larry Perkins who did yet another incredible ride from Seattle, WA to Bar Harbor, ME in 58 days and almost 4000 miles! Some of the rest of the group have ridden between 900 to 1200 miles and the season is still going!

I hope that everyone has enjoyed the rides. We are a social group on Tuesday nights and a little more aggressive on Sundays. Our Tuesday rides have been between 10 and 20 miles and our Sunday rides range from 20 to 40 miles.

Respectively submitted
Denise Courtemanche

1. Chapter Youth Program, Larry Dyer

Jeanne Christie and Larry DeHof led four CYP outings with high school kids from Hall-Dale and two outings with kids from Bath Middle School. I led another CYP outing with Bath Middle School making seven CYP trips. We had a total of 80 plus students involved. Scott Dyer did a co-hike with Jeanne Christie and Mara Cruze and her husband, Peter Cruze. All-in-all it was a good and an active year with the CYP. Looking for more this year.

2. Meetings & Education Committee (M&E)- John Mullens, Chair

- Activity Period.** This M&E Committee annual report covers the activity period from September 1, 2009 to August 31, 2010. During this period, the primary function of the M&E Committee was to sponsor indoor events with educational and entertainment benefits to members and others. The monthly indoor events started in October 2009 and ended in May 2010. Events were not held in September 2009 and June, July, and August 2010 due to the prevalence of summer outdoor activities and to avoid conflict with the Annual Meeting. The speakers, topics, locations, and attendance is detailed below:

Date	Speaker	Topic	Location	#
Oct 21	Steve Pinkham	Mountains of Maine	So. Portland	12
Nov 17	Jan & Ray Ronan	Walking in Ireland	Brunswick	75
Jan 19	Jon Tierney	Ice climbing	So. Portland	28
Jan 27	Jon Tierney	Ice climbing	Bangor	35
Feb 10	Bryan Wentzell	AMC's Strategy for 66,000 Acres	Brunswick	34
Mar 4	Charlie Ek & Mark Courtenay	Ultralight packing	So. Portland	38
Mar 24	Bryan Wentzell	AMC's Strategy for 66,000 Acres	Bangor	15
Mar 30	Carey Kish	Sentiers Frontaliers Trail	Falmouth	75
Apr 21	Jeff Ryan	Section Hiking the AT	So. Portland	40
May 6	Kate Williams	Northern Forest Canoe Trail	Brunswick	75
Jun 29	Dick Anderson	International AT	Falmouth	

- Numbers Reached.** Please somehow *quantify* the number of people reached or involved with your activities, ideally per activity and then totaled for the year. Use tables and other graphical displays as appropriate to help summarize the information.

The M&E Committee sponsored 10 potluck and presentation events during this eight-month period with a total of approximately 427 attendees for an average of 42 attendees per event.

M&E Series	No. of Events	Attendees	Average No. of Attendees
2006-2007	5	75	15
2007-2008	10	313	31
2008-2009	9	288	32
2009-2010	10	427	42

Attendance at M&E events has grown over the last four years and this has been encouraging. In terms of numbers of people reached during the 2009-2010 program year, the low point was the very first event of the year on October 21 when 15 people came. At the other extreme, three events later in the year drew 75 people each: Jan Ronan's wonderful talk on walking in Ireland, Carey Kish's inimitable adventures hiking the Sentiers Frontaliers Trail, and Kate Williams' inspiring overview of the Northern Forest Canoe Trail.

In addition to assessing the straight numbers of attendees, the M&E Committee also evaluated the numbers by location. This was of particular interest because of our committee objective to hold some events in other outlying cities, such as Bangor, that are historically underserved with such opportunities. We wanted to see how this strategy affected attendance in the four locations:

Location	Number of Events	Average number of attendees
Bangor	2	25
South Portland	3	30
Brunswick	4	61

Falmouth	1	75
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We suspect that the Bangor numbers are low because there is no recent history of AMC indoor activities there, and a solid participant base takes time to develop. The Brunswick attendance average, on the other hand, is likely a result of being both an AMC population center with a history of M&E events and an outstanding facility. The M&E Committee will continue to track numbers, locations, and types of events to better evaluate reasons behind attendance variations.

Quality Assessment. Please somehow *qualify* how well received the activities were.

- Is there enthusiasm for these types of activities? Are they in demand?

Yes and yes. Enthusiasm for M&E events in Maine has grown and demand has increased steadily over the last four years. The success of these events is likely due to several factors including popular and timely topics that often combine education and adventure in a single talk, well-traveled speakers who are also accomplished presenters, prior publicity in print and on the web, and a growing membership base that has learned to expect great programs.

Furthermore, there is some anecdotal evidence that many people attend these events as an alternative to the more physically-challenging outdoor events. The M&E events also provide weekday AMC opportunities for those seeking an outdoor fix between weekend outdoor activities.

- Do we need to offer more of them? Less of them?

We think that having indoor M&E events available to any given population base, such as the Portland-Brunswick area, on a monthly frequency is both successful and sustainable, given the audience base, potential speakers, and committee workload. It may be desirable, and with additional M&E committee members may be possible, to establish that monthly frequency in more than one population base. The M&E Committee will explore that option in the next program year.

- Any feedback from the general membership to share?

There continues to be a significant core group of attendees who are present at many events along with a broader range of members and non-members who attend periodically, depending on the topic. According to direct verbal feedback from attendees and from program attendance numbers, the most popular programs are those that combine a significant personal experience with learning about a little-known area. The Committee interprets the information as meaning that events that feature both entertainment and education are most popular, and among those dual-focus events, those with a higher entertainment component are more popular than those with a higher education component.

Partnerships.

- What other Maine Chapter or AMC committees did you co-host activities with?

The M&E Committee received tremendous help and guidance from other Maine Chapter ExCom members, but never specifically co-hosted activities with any other Maine Chapter Committees. A hoped-for partnership with the Conservation Committee never gained traction. Next year, the M&E Committee hopes to partner with the Conservation Committee in sponsoring programs of mutual relevance. M&E already has several program topics that are perfect for Conservation Committee co-sponsorship and we are very eager to share our event-planning experience with a willing Conservation Committee.

- What other organizations did you co-host with?

M&E had one very successful partnership with the Maine Audubon featuring Carey Kish at the Audubon Society's Gilsland Farm facility. While the AMC M&E Committee did all the planning and organizing, the joint event provided an opportunity to get to know and establish a professional relationship with Eric Hynes, Maine Audubon Chief Naturalist. The working relationship was good, sharing the evening responsibilities went well, and the potluck and turnout was rewarding for each organization. A second joint event, totally organized by Maine Audubon was held at Gilsland Farm in June 2010. Since this was primarily the work of Maine Audubon, attendance numbers are not included in the statistics. We expect to partner with Maine Audubon again this coming year, and hope to investigate similar arrangements with other outdoor organizations.

Goals.

- Please list the goals you had developed for the current year.

The overall goal of the Meetings and Education committee for 2009 – 2010 was to support the mission of the Maine Chapter of the AMC through educational activities intended to provide members with opportunities to learn about the natural world, healthy outdoor recreational opportunities, and our responsibilities to help protect our natural environment. Specific activity objectives to accomplish this included the following:

1. Develop and implement an annual schedule of eight monthly events in high-density population centers (Portland, Brunswick) to provide educational opportunities for AMC Maine members that maintain last year's average of 30 attendees each.
 2. Develop and implement two meetings during January through May 2010 in lower-density population centers (Augusta and north) that average 30 attendees each.
 3. Work together with other organizations with compatible goals to co-sponsor joint programs, seeking to expand our influence to already-established communities of other like-minded individuals who might not otherwise participate in our activities.
 4. Provide logistical help to any other AMC Maine committee that wants to sponsor a meeting.
- Were your goals for this year met, or do you anticipate that they will be met? Why?
 1. This goal was met. We held eight events in those locations that averaged 47 attendees at each program.
 2. This goal was partially met. We held two meetings in Bangor that averaged 25 attendees each. It was more difficult than we imagined generating the anticipated number of attendees, perhaps because there was no recent M&E activity in the Bangor area and we were starting from scratch. Next year we would expect attendance to be higher in Bangor simply because we have established some following and expectation for programs. However, the Committee will continue to assess whether we are using the right location, timing, and topics for the Bangor outdoor community.
 3. This goal was partially met. As noted, Maine AMC co-sponsored one event with Maine Audubon. This was a beginning, a successful one, that we hope to build on and expand in the coming year.
 4. This goal was not realized. Perhaps because the M&E Chair was in a learning mode himself for most of the year, we did not make overtures to other AMC Maine Committees to help with planning and logistics. We have already offered our help with a planned tribute to Bob Cummings in the upcoming program year and hope to build on that with other Committees seeking to do public programs.

Lessons Learned. Any valuable information learned that would benefit other committees?

- Things that worked well.
 1. Obtaining speakers. I learned that potential speakers are generally willing to talk to the group and that negotiations well in advance on possible dates worked best for coordinating speakers, venues, and the AMC event calendar.
 2. Generating an audience. AMC members and other people with outdoor interests will turn out for a popular, well-publicized program that combines adventure and education. Developing


and expanding an M&E e-mail list worked well along with articles in Wilderness Matters and notices in newspapers and online calendars.

3. Obtaining a venue. The Curtis Memorial Library is often booked far in advance, while the South Portland Library is more open on near-term dates.

o Things that didn't work as well.

1. A committee of one. There are limitations to having a single M&E Committee member devise, plan, and produce all events, especially if we expand our Bangor area offerings. Additional committee help would be wonderful and "we" will be working to recruit such a person to help. ExCom members who attend M&E events are always willing to help with on-site logistics; the current M&E Chair just has to get used to asking for that sort of help.

2. Lack of reliable technology for meetings. For most public presentations, appropriate technology is very important and expected by the audience. Technology that allows for slide shows, PowerPoint presentations, and audio amplification is very important to audience enjoyment. Unfortunately, when the M&E Committee must rely on others to loan or donate equipment or even bring their own, much can go wrong with technology at critical moments. At least half of the M&E events were technologically challenged this year. All were resolved before the scheduled start time, but only after much consternation, heart pounding, and creative problem solving. At this point, the best solution is for the Maine AMC to have its own laptop, projector, and screen that are all reliable and that are present at every meeting. That is a learning, but not yet an actuality. One of the Committee's goals for the coming year will be to obtain such equipment. The Chapter has submitted a grant application to support the purchase of such needed equipment. If this grant is not successful, another approach would be to retain the unspent portion of the 2009-2010 M&E budget for equipment.

 **Thank yous.** A huge special thanks to past M&E Chair (and current Outings Chair) Jeff Aceto for sharing his experience and knowledge at the beginning and for his year-long support of M&E efforts and to Chair Carrie Walia, Past Chair Laura Flight, Public Relations Chair Jeanne Christie, and Trails Chair Peter Roderick for behind-the-scenes encouragement and on-the-floor logistical help.

Respectfully submitted,
John Mullens, Chair
2009-2010 Meetings & Education Committee

3. Membership Committee, Mara Cruze, Chair

The Maine Chapter is comprised of 3,760 members as of September 30, 2010. Since last September the membership has stayed consistent, with small gains and losses over the year, resulting in a small gain of 50 members. The types of membership categories the Maine Chapter maintains are displayed in the table below.

We have made several efforts with the help of Laura Flight to promote the AMC Member Center. Approximately 650 of the total members have a member log in, which is a 31% increase since last year. We continue to promote the chapter website as tool for new members to join the AMC, as the chapter receives a greater percentage of the membership contribution as a result.

The Membership Committee, in partnership with the Public Relations Committee, updated the photographs and materials used for the Chapter display. The new poster highlighting photographs of Chapter activities is on display at the Joy Street headquarters.

CATEGORY	ME
Family	2,214
Family Life	26

Individual	1,304
Junior	28
Lifetime	78
Senior	110
Youth Leader	0
Grand Total	3,760

4. Newsletter Committee- Bob Cummings and Brenda Cummings, Co-Chairs

A total of five newsletters are published per calendar year in the months of February, May, July, September, and November. A new schedule was created this year to better organize the seasonal activities and trips. This is a reduction from six issues published in 2008; the decrease is directly attributed to financial considerations.

The newsletter continues to be filled with photos and submissions from Maine Chapter Executive Committee, Maine Policy staff, and general members. Articles range in topics from recent outings and trips, upcoming activities, nature tid-bits, and conservation topics of interest.

Wilderness Matters went electronic in the summer of 2009 and is now produced with color photos in its electronic format. Members have to sign up for the electronic (vs. paper) version in AMC's member center. As of this report's date, 449 subscribers have gone electronic.

Copies of past newsletters are available for download at <http://www.amcmaine.org/newsletter/>.

5. Outings Committee – Jeff Aceto, Chair

Activity Period. The Outings Committee measures its activity period from the Annual Meeting date, which for the past year is identified as October 2, 2009 to October 1, 2010. The trips for Annual Meeting 2009 are included in this report.

Numbers Reached. The Outings Committee held 124 trips with an attendance of approximately 855 attendees. (Final numbers will be provided at the October 2, 2010 Annual Meeting.)

Quality Assessment.

- Is there enthusiasm for these types of activities? Are they in demand?

Outings are the core of the Maine Chapter service and will continue to be an important marker of the Chapter's success. Outings are essential to our mission and the Outings Committee is the largest Chapter committee with 57 volunteer leaders. Based on member feedback, an emphasis on diverse and frequent outings was a goal for this period. The 2009 Outings Committee report stated that there had been about 500 attendees in 50 trips in that period. For this period, there were 124 trips with over 855 attendees. The Outings Committee has been sensitive to member requests for types of outings and it is apparent that "if you hold it, they will come" is accurate.

- Do we need to offer more of them? Less of them?

The 2009 Outings Committee report stated that there had been about 50 trips in that period. In June 2010, Bryan Wentzell, Maine Policy Manager, observed that the Maine Chapter (about 3,500 members had three times the number of trips in the listing system as the Boston Chapter (about 20,000 members). The impact of the service our leaders provide is huge in relation to our member population. At the end of this period, approximately 124 trips have been led. The attendance for these trips ranged from 2 to 8 for most trips, with workshops ranging from 10 to 75 in attendance. For our present number

of leaders, 124 trips per year is a sustainable number and would be an appropriate target number for the next period.

- Any feedback from the general membership to share?

Feedback from the membership has been continuously positive. In the activity period, there has not been one negative comment about a Maine Chapter outing or leader. There have also been no AMC-reportable accidents and no significant non-reportable accidents in this period. Hiking continues to be the most popular outing for our members. The Winter Hiking Series has grown from 7 to 21 to 32 trips in 3 years and has become very successful providing 3 season hikers with an opportunity to experience winter hiking. Biking continues to have a strong following under Biking Chair Denise Courtemanche’s organization and a specific biking committee report is attached to this report. An emphasis on paddling (flat water and sea kayaking) in this period resulted in 9 trips and feedback indicates that demand warrants more in the next period.

Partnerships.

- What other Maine Chapter or AMC committees did you co-host activities with?

John Mullens, Meetings and Education Chair, created an excellent synergy by organizing presentations that are in sync with the outings interest of our members and encourage participation in trips. Jeanne Christie, Public Relations Chair, assisted with press releases for the workshops, which resulted in a significant number of non-member attendees.

- What other organizations did you co-host with?

The Outings Committee coordinated with the following organizations:

- Maine Search and Rescue Dogs (MESARD) for leader training.
- Lincoln Canoe and Kayak for sea kayak rescue training.
- SOLO for Wilderness First Aid, which is a continuing relationship.

Goals.

The Outings Committee goals for the activity period included the following three general goals:

Goal #1: Sponsor diverse outings and workshops in all 4 seasons.

Method: The trips for this year were organized into Series to provide a frame of reference for content and scheduling. As always, leaders were responsible for creating the trips, but were encouraged to do so per individual Series goals. In example, the Summer hiking series included a goal of at least one trip every weekend. Emphasis was also placed on diversity of trips (i.e. family or dog-friendly) and creativity (i.e. paddling or biking trips with a destination)

Result: The following table summarizes the series and associated trips in this period:

Type of Series	Individual Series	Number
Annual Meeting 2009: 8 total	Hiking, paddling, naturalist, other	8
Fall 2009: 5 total	Hiking/Backpacking	4
	Young Member	1
Winter 09-10: 32 total	Beginner Series	18
	Advanced Series	11
	Backpacking	2
	Young Member	1
	Alpine Skiing	1
Summer 2010: 72 total	Hiking	25
	Backpacking	3
	Flat Water Paddling	5

	Naturalist	3
	Young Members	2
	MWI (hiking and paddling)	5
	Biking	25
	Sea Kayaking	4
Workshops; 7 total	Winter Hiking	1
	Lost Person Scenario (sponsored by Bryan Courtois)	1
	Sea Kayak Rescue (with Lincoln Canoe and Kayak)	1
	Wilderness First Aid (by SOLO)	1
	Backpacking	1
	Land Navigation	1
	Hiking 101: Step By Step	<u>1</u>
	TOTAL:	124

These trips were led by a total of 50 leaders (who led at least one trip), with a significant number of leaders leading more than 5. The workshops were generally very well attended and these leaders should be recognized for the additional effort these events required. Based on these results, the goal was met.

Goal #2: Recruit new leaders

Method: The method for this goal was to recruit new leaders from attendees on outings. Leaders were encouraged to identify potential leaders and allow the Chair to approach and recruit candidates. Special attention was made to recruit leaders in series other than hiking including young members, paddling, and workshops.

Result: There were 47 leaders (including Trails Committee leaders) who were known to be active at the beginning of the activity period. Seven new leaders added in this period, including Mary Reindeau, Kit Pfeiffer, Larry Dyer, Roger David, Michelle Moody, Bill Brook, and David Littig. These new leaders made an immediate impact by listing their own trips in multiple series including hiking, paddling, and workshops. Five others (Guy Merrill, Jason and Sarah Toner, John Mullens, and Scott Dyer) were established as co-leaders in this period. At the end of the activity period, there are presently 58 active leaders and co-leaders and 50 of those led at least one trip in the period. The goal was met for the activity period.

Goal #3: Retain Existing leaders

Method: The method for this goal was to maintain good communication with leaders through sending habitual Outings Updates by email on the first of the month. These updates included planning, scheduling, training and trip opportunities and guidance from the Chair and were generally well-received as a communication tool. The Chair also made individual contacts throughout the year to develop relationships with the leaders and encourage their participation and feedback.

Result: There was only one leader from the beginning of the activity period who was not active at its end. Kim Sanders moved out of state for graduate school and has been listed as inactive (with the possibility of returning to Maine). As stated in Goal #2, the number of active leaders and co-leaders increased from 47 to 58, so the goal was met for the activity period.

Lessons Learned. Any valuable information learned that would benefit other committees?

- Things that worked well?
- Things that didn't work as well?

Thank yous.

All the leaders should be collectively thanked for their efforts and dedication to the Chapter. Special recognition is due to Executive Committee members who also lead trips including Carrie Walia, Larry Dyer,

Jeanne Christie, Denise Courtemanche, Keith Chapman, Laura Flight, Peter Roderick, John Mullens, and Scott Dyer.

Goals/Intentions for 2010-2011

Based on these results, the following are practical goals for the next activity period:

- Maintain the same three general goals
- Continue the Series approach to trip planning and scheduling
- Add Nordic skiing trips to the Winter Series
- Increase sea kayaking trips, including an overnight.
- Offer the same workshops, at a minimum.

6. Past Chair Report- Laura Flight

The Past Chair is not a formal “committee” of the Maine Chapter Executive Committee, but rather more of a courtesy position and a means to ensure succession management. In addition, the position serves as a sounding board and can provide an historical context for other Executive Committee members. However, this person is a voting member of the Executive Committee. Despite the lack of a formal “committee” and distinct role for this position, I have compiled this report to summarize my activities in the past year. I enjoyed my term as Chair of the Maine Chapter from 2007-2009, and I have enjoyed this past year as well, with a little more free time (spent outdoors!) and less “administrative” tasks.

The first activity I participated in was an orientation for new Executive Committee members in November of 2009. With six new members on the committee it was important to introduce these people to the Executive Committee’s role in the AMC, their primary duties on the committee, as well as ensure they received all of the administrative requirements they would need to fulfill their roles.

Throughout the year I actively posted material to the Chapter’s website (www.amcmaine.org), for both internal and public use. This included content changes to pages as well as posting a short article at the top of the home page on average every 3-5 days to ensure fresh content and a dynamic site. For the reporting period I made approximately 92 posts to the website. Thank you to Jeff Aceto (Outings Chair) for also making several posts and to Tim Flight (Webmaster) for his technical support.

Beginning in the fall of 2009, the Maine Chapter offered our Chapter newsletter *Wilderness Matters* in electronic format. Delivery is managed through an AMC database accessible to chapters for electronic newsletter distribution. During the summer of 2009, the Executive Committee voted to provide an electronic copy of our newsletter to those who preferred this media format. Since its inception, I have managed the delivery of the electronic version of our newsletter and aided several members in signing up for this service. We are up to 449 subscribers as of this report!

At the larger AMC level, a proposal I co-authored in 2009 with our now Chair Carrie Walia and the now Chair of the New Hampshire AMC Executive Committee has been working its way through AMC channels. This is a request for chapters to have a more defined and involved role during the nominating and selection process of Regional Directors.

I also served on the Maine Chapter Awards Committee, which is a subcommittee of the Executive Committee and is active during the late summer when our reporting year comes to a close. This committee solicits nominations for the annual Maine Chapter “Appie of the Year” award as well as possible “Lifetime Achievement” awards if one is deemed suitable. This/These award/s are presented at the annual meeting. This year the awards committee worked to establish more consistent and specific measures to evaluate candidates for these awards.

In addition to some of the administrative and consultation tasks I have provided during this past year, I have also spent more time outdoors leading hikes in all seasons as well as co-lead two workshops sponsored by the Outings Committee; the Introduction to Winter Hiking in December of 2009 and the Introduction to Backpacking in June of 2010. These have been enjoyable duties to share knowledge and engage more directly with out members.

My goals for the coming year are to maintain the roles I have served in 2010. In addition, our chapter newsletter is in a transition phase as our long-fabled editors will be retiring. I hope to aid in this transition and research formats for this important chapter communication mechanism.

Respectively submitted,
Laura Flight
Past Chair, Maine Chapter AMC
September 16, 2010

7. Public Relations, Jeanne Christie, Chair

The PR Committee was involved with several events, including the Common Ground Country Fair, LL Bean Spring Expo, Banff film fest, Teens to Trails Conference, and Boy Scouts Pine Tree Council ScoutFest (to take place next weekend). At these events Chapter and AMC information was displayed and promoted to visitors.

In other activities the PR Committee assisted with updating the press contacts directory available for AMC members organizing events for the Maine Chapter. The PR Committee assisted in developing press releases and promoting Chapter activities such as meetings, instructional classes and evening talks.

The PR Committee, in partnership with the Membership Committee, updated the photographs and materials used for the Chapter display. The new poster highlighting photographs of Chapter activities is on display at the Joy Street headquarters.

8. Trails Committee- Peter Roderick and Keith Chapman, Co-Chairs

The Trails Committee has a few work trips remaining for the year and a successful year it has been. Despite some fluctuations in the numbers of participants attending work trips over the entire schedule, we have seen a definite increase in average group size – we thank all trail volunteers for their support

We led trips to Pleasant Mountain, Stone Mountain, Burnt Meadow Mountain, Rumford Whitecap, Little Lyford Pond Camps (3 trips), Bald Mountain, Speckled Mountain, Bald Mountain near Weld, Rattlesnake Mountain, Black Mountain and the Appalachian Trail near Stratton.

The trips to Little Lyford Pond Camps continue to be one of our most popular events with many volunteers returning for additional trips once they have been there with us. We are planning three volunteer weekends there for next year as well as a possible volunteer mid-week trip.

Keith has had a very successful season with outstanding volunteer responses to our schedule of the various work trips in southern and western Maine. The Friends of Burnt Meadow Mountain was formed and published a report for 2009. The report mentions that a new trail called the Twin Brook Trail was completed and is open for use. This is no small part due to Keith's official trail work trips there as well as visits that he made to do further work on his own during non-scheduled trips.

He is also leading the effort to add a new trail on Stone Mountain. The trail should be complete by the end of the current trail work season. Keith is ably assisted by Richard York who joins Keith for all of his trips. Thanks Rick and Congratulations, Keith.

Peter led fewer trips this season as he looks to step down as co-chair of the Trails Committee.

His trips to Little Lyford Lodge and Cabins were notable for great volunteer effort as well as a new distance traveled to do trail work with us by Vidya from Falls Church, Va. She traveled a long way to play in the dirt with us.

On July 4th weekend at LLLC, we accomplished lots of trail work and many of us participated in a rescue near Gulf Hagas as well. A hiker suffering from heat exhaustion was littered out by her friends and our volunteers assisted with the rescue as we waited for Greenville Rescue to arrive and transport the victim who made a complete recovery. We also hiked the entire length of Gulf Hagas after the trail work and before the rescue so it was a full day for all of us.

Our plans for the off-season include a continuation of efforts to recruit a corps of volunteers through contact with college and high school organizations starting with outing clubs and other outdoor-based groups including more cooperative events with land trusts. Our goal is to have a stand-by group of workers who we can rely on to supplement the present volunteer group so that we can take on additional trail work and also improve our effectiveness as we maintain those trails already in our inventory.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith Chapman
Co-chair Trails Committee

Peter Roderick
Co-chair Trails Committee

9. Website Committee- Tim Flight, Chair

During the previous year 125 new articles were published to the website in contrast to 117 in the prior year. Readership is up about 10% over the previous year. Laura Flight and Jeff Aceto are credited for virtually all of those articles.

Wilderness Matters is now being distributed electronically, with color versions of photos available. Email notifications of new editions are sent to members who have elected to receive the newsletter electronically, with over 400 e-subscribers.

The homepage and calendar continue to be the most popular pages.

Currently we are working to bring the site layout in closer match with the outdoors.org site. That release should go live in the next couple of months.

Tim Flight
Website Committee Chair

10. Young Members Committee- Carolyn Arcand, Chair

In the past year, the YM's had one social outing in the Portland area and four day hikes to engage and involve people in their 20 & 30's in the AMC. The social activity, dinner and a Portland Red Claws basketball

game, had a great turnout with eight attendees. The day hikes took place in both New Hampshire (Mt. Kearsarge and Mt. Jackson) and in Maine (Pleasant and Speckled Mts.). There were between four and eight attendees on each trip.

In the coming year, we are hoping to encourage more YMs to become trip leaders, and to put on several more hikes and social activities. Please contact me, Carolyn Arcand, at carolynarcand@yahoo.com to learn more about becoming an active young member.

Carolyn Arcand