



MAINE CHAPTER

YOUR CONNECTION TO THE OUTDOORS

Maine Chapter
Appalachian Mountain Club
14 Maine St., Suite 0126
Brunswick, ME 04011

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PORTLAND, ME
PERMIT NO. 454

WILDERNESS MATTERS

VOLUME XLIII • NUMBER 1 • WINTER 2018

2017 AMC Maine Chapter Annual Meeting: An Excellent Evening

By Kathleen Redmond-Miller

Over 80 hearty souls braved a rainy evening on November 18th to attend the Maine Chapter's 2017 Annual Meeting in Portland. We enjoyed an evening shared with good friends, delicious food, and some excellent speakers.

The evening kicked off with a cocktail reception enjoyed by all. Elizabeth Rogers from the Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument was in attendance and answered questions, mingled with the crowd, and provided handouts and maps about the new monument.

Outgoing Maine Chapter Chair, Doug Chamberlin, welcomed the membership and presided over the business meeting starting with 2017 highlights, including the successful co-hosting of the Appalachian Trail Conference at Colby College in Waterville. The business meeting also included presentation of the Chapter's 2017 Annual Report and an update to the Maine Chapter's By Laws. The award for outstanding contributions to the Chapter, the "2017 Appie of the Year," was given to Tim Flight, our beloved E-Communications Chair and guru of the electronic communications world. Bill Brooke, Outings Chair, and backbone of the Chapter's interface with the outdoors, presented awards to three Five



Good crowd in attendance

Year Leaders, including Al Mandell, Peg Nation and Stan Moody. Sixteen Maine Chapter volunteer leaders were recognized for leading at least three trips in 2017: Cindy Caverly, Jeanne Christie, Denise Fredette, Lorraine Hussey, Debby Kantor, Sarah Keats, Jeanine Libby, Albert Mandell, Michelle Moody, Stan Moody, Wayne Newton, Stephen Robe, Peter Roderick, Kim Sanders, Susan Surabian and Carolyn Welch. These leaders are the life blood of the Maine Chapter and we extend a sincere thanks to them for all they do in carrying out the AMC mission.

Special Maine Chapter awards were given to Walter Graff, AMC Senior Vice President, who was recognized for his

role in creating the Maine Woods Initiative (MWI) and encouraging, integrating, and appreciating Maine Chapter volunteers in the MWI. Kaitlyn Bernard, Maine Policy Manager and AMC superstar, was recognized for her ardent energy, enthusiasm, and zeal in working with the Maine Chapter to further the mission of the Club. Paul Hahn of the Nominating Committee then introduced the slate

Continued on page 2

Meet Our Maine Chapter Chair and Vice Chair



Kathleen Redmond-Miller, Chapter Chair I'm honored that the Maine Chapter has elected me to serve as Chair of its Executive Committee (ExCom) in 2018. After serving in the Vice Chair role in 2016-2017, and benefitting from much time, energy, and assistance from Doug Chamberlin, John Mullens, Paul Hahn, and others both on the Chapter's ExCom and at the Club level, I believe I am up to the challenge.

Like many of you, I'm a member of the AMC because I truly believe in the mission of this organization. I'm 54 (I own it) and I've lived in Gorham with my husband, Paul for the past 25 years. We've raised two children, a son Joseph and a daughter Megan, who are now young adults and good people, and I'm finally at a stage in my life where I can give back. In my day job, I work as a Project Manager/Senior Scientist for an environmental consulting company in Scarborough. I spend time outdoors every chance I get because I know it somehow helps me to be the best version of myself and because I am, and have always been, fascinated by the natural world. In my spare time, I'm currently working on hiking New Hampshire's 48 4000-footers and New England's Hundred Highest peaks. As of Black Friday, I completed number 24 - Mt. Eisenhower in NH, elevation 4,780', resulting in goals 50 and 24 percent complete, respectively.

As far as goals for the upcoming year, the ExCom met at Medawisla Lodge last September to discuss goals and objectives for 2018. A resounding theme was the recognition that the Maine Chapter is growing in leaps and bounds. We understand that in order to accommodate this growth, we'll need to invest some energy in growing our cadre of volunteers so that we can continue to offer new and exciting trips, training, and educational opportunities to the membership. So, this will be our focus in 2018, and I'm looking forward to working with the excellent team we have assembled as the new ExCom to move the Chapter

forward (gently) into the electronic age and to strengthen the infrastructure supporting our volunteers. I'm sure there will be challenges ahead, but I'm committed to doing my best to support the Chapter and the Club in carrying out the mission of the AMC.



Cindy Caverly, Vice-Chair First, a little about myself. I have lived on Great Pond in Belgrade for nine years, after having left Maine for a 24-year stint in Long Island, NY. I am glad to be back. I work as an accountant in Augusta at the Maine Mathematics and Science Alliance and I spend as much time as possible, hiking, skiing, and biking. Since being bitten by the hiking bug six years ago, I have been working on the New England 4,000-footers and am planning a rim-to-rim hike of the Grand Canyon next year.

I am assuming the Vice-Chair position after having served as Treasurer of the Maine Chapter for the past four years. I will be doing double duty as treasurer and vice-chair this year as the chapter prepares to turn the position over to a new treasurer next year.

My involvement with the Maine Chapter began four years ago when I took the position of treasurer. The Chapter welcomed me warmly and put its faith in me even though I had no previous experience with the organization. At the time, I had not even been on an AMC-lead trip. Since then, I have made many friends within the AMC community, met great leaders, been on numerous trips as a participant and become a leader myself.

I hope that faith has been well-placed and I am excited to work with Kathleen as we continue to promote both the mission of the Maine Chapter and the broader mission of the AMC to encourage people to experience, learn about, appreciate, and understand the natural world.

Wilderness Matters

is the newsletter of the Maine Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the policies or views of the AMC or its Maine Chapter. Not responsible for errors or omissions, except to acknowledge them in a subsequent issue. **Copyright 2018 - Maine Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club.**

Address corrections: Send to AMC Member Services, 10 City Square, Boston, MA 02129 | (617) 523-0655 | amcmembership@outdoors.org

Newsletter submissions and photographs: Send to Carey Kish, Editor, at newsletter@amcmaine.org | (207) 838-9669

Maine Chapter Executive Committee

Chapter Chair: Kathleen Redmond-Miller, chair@amcmaine.org, (207) 400-2529
Chapter Vice-Chair: Cindy Caverly, vicechair@amcmaine.org, (207) 465-9097
Secretary: Jeanine Libby, secretary@amcmaine.org, (207) 858-5500
Treasurer: Cindy Caverly, treasurer@amcmaine.org, (207) 465-9097
At Large: Dave McCarthy, atlarge@amcmaine.org, (207) 363-2791
At Large: AVAILABLE
Past Chapter Chair: Doug Chamberlin, past_chair@amcmaine.org, (978) 761-3815
Archives Chair: AVAILABLE
Conservation Chair: Pete Carney, conservation@amcmaine.org, (207) 644-4047
Meetings & Education Chair: Nancy Jacobson, education@amcmaine.org, (207) 942-4924
Membership Chair: Kristen Grant, membership@amcmaine.org, (860) 675-9339
Maine Woods Initiative: Paul Hahn, mwi@amcmaine.org, (207) 222-2837
Newsletter Editor: Carey Kish, newsletter@amcmaine.org, (207) 838-9669
Nominating Chair: Paul Hahn, nominating@amcmaine.org, (207) 222-2837
Outings Chair: Bill Brooke, outings@amcmaine.org, (207) 239-4483
Trails: Jeff Pengel, trails@amcmaine.org, (207) 446-8290
E-communications: Tim Flight, web@amcmaine.org, (207) 650-6809
Young Members Co-Chair: Nick Montecalvo, youngmembers@amcmaine.org, (978) 463-9200
Young Members Co-Chair: Sarah Keats, youngmembers@amcmaine.org, (207) 245-2563

Other Contacts

Regional Director: John Mullens, rd@amcmaine.org, (802) 793-1775
Newsletter Designer: Lauren Mier, brightredbicycledesign.com, laurenmier@gmail.com,
E-newsletter Distribution: Laura Flight, enews@amcmaine.org
Meetings & Education Committee: Michelle Moody, meamc@micstan.us, (207) 373-8082

Maine Policy Office

Kaitlyn Bernard, Maine Policy Manager, kbernard@outdoors.org, (207) 808-4424
Eliza Baker-Wacks, Conservation Policy Associate, ebakerwacks@outdoors.org, (207) 808-4423
14 Maine Street, Suite 0126, Brunswick, ME 04011

Maine Woods Initiative Office

Dan Rinard, MWI Operations Manager, drinard@outdoors.org, (207) 695-3085
15 Moosehead Lake Rd., PO Box 310, Greenville, ME 04441

AMC Headquarters 10 City Square, Boston, MA 02129, (617) 523-0655

Outings Committee 2017 Annual Report

By Bill Brooke

- **Outings activity summary:** 26 leaders led 97 trips and 7 workshops
- **Leaders:** Two new leaders, Sue Surabian and Nick Montecalvo, were added. Two candidates are currently in the leader training program.
- **Breakdown of activities by type:** 36 snowshoeing, 39 hiking, 7 backpacking, 6 skiing, 5 biking, and 4 paddling trips.
- **Training and workshops held:** Wilderness First Aid, Advanced Wilderness First Aid, Beginner Backpacking, Beginner Bike Touring, Self and Assisted Kayak Rescue, Map & Compass Skills, Outdoor Leadership Training, and Beginner Winter Hiking
- **Three Trips per Year Award:** 16 leaders received this award for leading three or more trips in the past 12 months. These leaders are Cindy Caverly, Jeanne Christie, Denise Fredette, Lorraine Hussey, Debby Kantor, Sarah Keats, Jeanine Libby, Albert Mandell, Michelle Moody, Stan Moody, Wayne Newton, Stephen Robe, Peter Roderick, Kim Sanders, Susan Surabian, and Carolyn Welch
- **Five-Year Leader Award:** Three leaders entered the ranks of leaders leading trips for five or more consecutive years. They are: Al Mandell, Peg Nation, and Stan Moody.
- Three Maine chapter members attended the AMC Train the Trainer for Leaders workshop in October and are now certified as AMC Outdoor Leadership Training Trainers: Bill Brooke, Denise Fredette, Kathleen Redmond-Miller.
- **Maine Chapter Outdoor Leadership Requirements and Guidelines:** The Maine Chapter Leader Handbook was revised and renamed to reflect the current AMC Leader requirements. Changes include updated Maine Chapter Leader requirements, added policies on leader participation and recognition. Defined activity specific leader requirements. Defined the process of becoming a Maine Chapter Leader. Incorporated the latest AMC information on trip planning, accident scene management, and incident response. The updated version was approved by the Outings committee in October and the Executive Committee in November.

Annual Meeting -continued from page 1



Speakers: Above, Steve Tatko.
Below, Jed Williamson



of officers and committee chairs for the 2018 Executive Committee. The membership approved the slate by a unanimous vote via show of hands, concluding the business meeting.

Featured speakers included Steve Tatko, Land Manager for the MWI, who gave an excellent presentation on the innovative management strategies implemented on the 75,000-acre property combining outdoor recreation, resource protection, sustainable forestry, and community partnerships. Steve's passion and enthusiasm for his work was clear in the way he talks about the MWI, accomplishments of this groundbreaking initiative, and the positive impact this initiative is having on the local community and economies.

Jed Williamson, for 40 years the editor of the American Alpine Club's Accidents in North American Mountaineering, wrapped up the evening with a presentation on the risks and potential causes of accidents in outdoor pursuits. His talk was informative and entertaining, with good story telling, beautiful photography, and the skillful communication of lessons learned when things go sideways in the outdoors.

On a personal note, I noticed recently that there's something special about AMC activities that energizes me like nothing else. I hadn't been able to put my finger on it... until I read this email from one of the annual meeting attendees commenting on the MWI.

It speaks so deeply to the core of AMC and who we are – a band of people committed to the outdoors willing to put time and effort into what we believe in and have fun while doing it. What could be better?

That's it! Spending time with a group of people committed to the outdoors willing to put time effort into what we believe in and having fun while doing it. Seriously, what could be better?!

Read the Maine Chapter's Annual Report 2017 summary online at: www.amcmaine.org/2017-annual-report

AMC-Maine Chapter Potluck and Presentation: Thursday, January 18, 2018 Connecting Rivers, People and Fish - by Bike



Join us for this unique presentation on fish passage and biking in Europe. Alicia Heyburn, of Brunswick, spent five weeks last summer on a solo bicycle tour from the source of the Rhine River in the Swiss Alps, to the

outlet at the North Sea near Amsterdam. Traveling on an exceptional network of bike paths, she experienced the various characters of the river along its 1300 km course - wild, tamed, power-producing, awe-inspiring, industrial and bucolic; and met with people who are working to improve river conditions for migratory fish, such as salmon.

In her presentation you will learn about Europe's extensive international network of bike trails, free cultural exchange and accommodation services, the stages and benefits of re-naturalizing a river, and how to travel alone without being lonely or turn an interest into an expedition.

Presentation starts at 7pm. Optional Potluck starts at 6pm - please bring a dish to share and help us be green by bringing your own silverware, plate and cup. Curtis Memorial Library, Morrell Meeting Room, 23 Pleasant Street, Brunswick, ME

For questions or information, contact Michelle Moody at meamc@micstan.us or 207-406-5221

Visit www.amcmaine.org for all our outings and activities.

The Peter Roderick Trail Work Award: Seeking New Trail Work Volunteers

By John Mullens

You are invited to apply for a scholarship that will cover all costs for food and overnight lodging during one of three trail work opportunities in AMC's Maine Wilderness Initiative (MWI).

The Peter Roderick Trail Work Award (PRTWA), named to honor a longtime Maine Chapter trail volunteer, will cover the cost of a multi-day volunteer trail work outing in AMC's 78,000-acre Maine Woods Recreation and Conservation Area east of Greenville in the heart of the 100-Mile Wilderness.



Kristina Sullivan debarks a log. Photo by Cindy Caverly

The goals of this program are to encourage first or second-time trail volunteers into the woods, to expand our cadre of new trail volunteers, and to provide an on-site opportunity to learn trail work skills.

With preference to first or second-time trail work volunteers

and to Young Member volunteers, up to four PRTWA scholarships may be awarded for use during any of three volunteer trips during 2018.

Here are the scholarship details:

Volunteer trips: The three volunteer trips during 2018 are May 25-28, July 9-12, and October 5-8. The trips are led by one or more seasoned volunteer leaders and new volunteers get appropriate instruction and oversight. Each trip begins with 6pm dinner and an overnight at one of the three AMC lodges in the Maine Woods Recreation and Conservation Area, and ends after lunch on the final day. Accommodations and all

meals during that time are covered by the scholarship.

Who may apply: The PRTWA is open to any AMC member who has the desire to work outdoors in the Maine woods—on projects such as building or improving foot trails and bog bridging, stacking firewood, gardening, and marking boundaries—under the supervision of a volunteer leader. Preference will be given to first- or second-time trail work volunteers and to young members.

How to apply: Complete the PRTWA Scholarship

Application, found as a link on the Maine Chapter website at amcmaine.org. The application is designed to gain an understanding of the applicant, such as prior experience with volunteering, with trail work, and with AMC. Applicants should identify their first, second, and third preference for trip dates. Complete the form online or download, complete electronically, and email to mwi@amcmaine.org.

Deadline for applications: Applications must be received by March 1, 2018. Awardees will be notified by March 15.

Questions? Contact MWI Committee Chair Paul Hahn at mwi@amcmaine.org for answers to specific questions.

Not for You? The Maine Chapter offers other no cost one-day trail work opportunities in Maine. FMI, email trails@amcmaine.org.



Kristina Sullivan, Jeannine Libby, Cindy Caverly, Maureen McCauley, Diana Neff as happy trail work volunteers. Photo by Jared Coyne

Tim Flight Awarded “Appie of the Year”

By John Mullens

Tim Flight, long-time chapter volunteer and Maine Chapter Webmaster, received the Appie of the Year Award at the chapter's annual meeting on November 18 in Portland.

The Appie of the Year Award is presented annually to a member of the Maine Chapter for his or her outstanding contribution to the growth, success, and leadership of the Chapter and/or the Executive Committee within the past year. The Appie of the Year receives accolades from Maine Chapter members plus a Maine Chapter Appie Hiking Stick with his or her name burned into the wood.

Tim, the Maine Chapter's E-Communications Chair and Webmaster, has done that job for 11 years and doesn't see an end in sight to his volunteering. In a time when most chapters are contracting out website management or turning over chapter website control to the Club, the Maine Chapter has been blessed to have a top-of-the-line volunteer webmaster. As the Club has rolled out a number of makeovers of its website design over the last few years, Tim has been especially busy updating the Chapter website to match Club website design



and functionality. In addition, he also helps other chapter webmasters update their sites to meet Club requirements. Especially when web designers are a hot commodity and seem to move on to new opportunities every six months, Tim's stability has been a remarkable and much appreciated gift to the Chapter.

Outside of his AMC volunteer duties, Tim is an active outdoorsman, enjoying sea kayaking, mountain biking, fat-tire biking, and downhill skiing.

The term “Appie” originated in the early days of the AMC when members were affectionately known as “Appies.” Retaining that term on this

award conveys the long history of volunteer leadership so important to the organization.

Tim will be entrusted with the Maine Chapter Appie of the Year Walking Stick, now engraved with his name alongside those of previous winners. Congratulations to the talented, competent, and valued volunteer, Appie of the Year, E-Communications Chair and Webmaster Tim Flight!

READ MORE ONLINE ABOUT:



AMC Maine Chapter's Annual Report 2017 Summary:
www.amcmaine.org/2017-annual-report



142nd AMC Annual Summit in MA on January 27, 2018:
www.amcmaine.org/142nd-annual-summit



Backpacking the IAT through KWWNM:
www.amcmaine.org/backpacking-the-international-at/



A nice post-Thanksgiving AMC hike:
www.amcmaine.org/post-thanksgiving-hike-no-turkeys-observed



AMC uses Meet Up to connect people for trips:
www.meetup.com/Appalachian-Mountain-Club-Maine-Chapter

WINTER CALENDAR: OUTINGS | EVENTS | MEETINGS

A note about the listings: The listings below—presented in date order by category—include only those posted online prior to the submission deadline for this issue of Wilderness Matters. For the most complete and accurate information and up-to-date listings—and so you don't miss spontaneous outings—please periodically check out the calendar online at www.amcmaine.org/calendar.

For general questions or comments regarding these calendar listings, please contact Bill Brooke, Outings Chair and Master of the Calendar Listings, outings@amcmaine.org or (207) 549-5100.

Note: Please be courteous when contacting trip leaders by doing so before 9:00 PM unless otherwise specified. Thanks!

Deadline for submissions to Wilderness Matters (Spring Issue) is March 1, 2018.

Submission info: Wilderness Matters is your chapter newsletter. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to contribute, be it stories, news, opinions, photos, or whatnot. We want to hear from you! Please email submissions to newsletter@amcmaine.org.

Submission guidelines: Articles, opinions, stories and should be limited to 400-500 words maximum (word counts greater than that may be edited or may not be accepted) in an attached Word or similar document that is clearly labeled. Images should be reduced in size to 1024 x 768 pixels or thereabouts and include a photo title, captions and any other identifying info plus proper photo credit. Use of Dropbox to send images would be great too. Thank you!

HIKING/SNOWSHOEING

Saturday, January 6: Winter Hike on Old Speck in Grafton Notch, ME.

www.amcmaine.org/calendar/#101707. Hike to the summit of Old Speck (4,170 ft.) in Grafton Notch State Park via the AT for a round trip distance of 7.6 miles and elevation gain of 2,720 feet. This is a strenuous hike suitable for experienced advanced intermediate winter hikers. Full winter gear including snowshoes with crampons/cleats and crampons or micro spikes are required. Contact the leader to register or for more information. Leader: Bill Brooke, 207-549-5100, bill@mesoft.org.

Sunday, January 7: Intro to Winter Hiking at Bradbury Mtn. State Park, Pownal, ME. www.amcmaine.org/calendar/#101245. Join us to learn or practice some winter hiking skills. If there is enough snow, we will be using snowshoes. Bring them along in any case to practice getting them on and carrying them when not using. Plan on ice to practice using your traction footwear such as micro spikes if there is not enough snow. A good time to work on layering for cold weather. Bradbury is a fun place to get the feel of climbing a mountain without the work of bigger mountains. Great for those new to winter hiking/snowshoeing. Email leader for details and recommended gear, include information about your level of hiking or snowshoeing experience and gear you already have. State park entrance fee. Leaders: Michelle and Stan Moody, 207-406-5221, meamc@micstan.us.

Saturday, January 13: Little Bigelow Snowshoe/Hike. www.amcmaine.org/calendar/#101795. Snowshoe to 3,040 ft. summit of Little Bigelow. This is a moderate 7-mile out and back hike with 1,920 ft. elevation gain. Beautiful, panoramic views of Sugarloaf, Bigelow Range, and Flagstaff Lake. Excellent introduction to snowshoeing in the mountains. Winter gear required. Leader: Cindy Caverly, 207-530-2446 cindycaverly@gmail.com.

Thursday, January 18: Explore Pondicherry Park, Bridgton, ME. www.amcmaine.org/calendar/#101917. Explore Pondicherry Park, a downtown forest park full of beautiful stone walls, animal tracks, squirrel middens, and who knows what we might see. 2-2.3 miles on snowshoes or micro cleats depending on day, then stop at Beth's for hot chocolate. After that explore town on your own. Leader: Jo Anne Diller, 207-647-2117, jsdiller@roadrunner.com.

Saturday, January 20: Beginner Snowshoe Hike to Table Rock in Grafton Notch, ME. www.amcmaine.org/calendar/#101705. Beginner snowshoe hike to follow up the winter hiking workshop. Table Rock (2,350 ft.) is

a 2.6 mi. RT hike with an elevation gain of 900 ft. Short but somewhat steep hike provides opportunity to experience snowshoe hiking in a mountain setting with a spectacular view to reward your efforts. Moderate winter hike suitable for beginner to intermediate hikers. Winter gear including snowshoes with crampons/cleats are required. Contact leader to register and FMI. Leader: Bill Brooke, 207-549-5100, bill@mesoft.org.

Saturday, January 20: Cranberry Peak Snowshoe Hike, Stratton, ME. www.amcmaine.org/calendar/#101693. Snowshoe trek to Cranberry Peak near Stratton. Experienced winter hikers with full winter gear needed for fun day in Maine woods. With car spot we hike from trailhead near Stratton to Cranberry Peak and on to Cranberry Pond and the junction with the Appalachian Trail. We then head south on AT to Route 27. Trip length = 8 miles. Incredible views of Bigelows, beautiful woods walk. Contact leader FMI. Leader: Peter Roderick, 207-293-2704, roderick1027@fairpoint.net.

Sunday, January 21: Beginner Winter Hiking on Bradbury Mtn., Pownal, ME. www.amcmaine.org/calendar/#101896. Have you been wanting to extend your 3-season hiking to include winter or possibly only interested in winter hiking? Are you looking to learn and/or practice your winter hiking skills? This is the trip for you! We'll pick trails depending on the size and ability of the group. No one will be left behind and all will feel welcome and supported. If there is snow, we can practice snowshoeing. Come find out what the Maine Chapter is all about! This is part of the Young Members winter series of events but all are welcome! Leader: Kim Sanders, kimberlyannsanders@gmail.com.

Saturday, January 27: Easy Snowshoe Hike in Libby Hill Forest, Gray, ME. www.amcmaine.org/calendar/#101913. This snowshoe hike will be on the Libby Hill trail system, with some bushwhacking to explore along the edge of the beaver pond. Terrain is rolling, total length of hike about 3 miles. Leader: Jeanne Christie, 207-310-8708, jeanne.christie@aswm.org.

Sunday, January 28: Hike Bald Mountain in Weld, ME. www.amcmaine.org/calendar/#101858. Hike up Bald Mt. (Weld) (2,370ft), a moderate but steep RT hike of 3 miles. Trail reaches open ledges at 0.9 miles. Summit has fine views in all directions. Leader: Susan Surabian, 207-474-6100, suebeau1@gmail.com.

Saturday, February 3: Snowshoe Hike to Baldpates, Grafton Notch, ME. www.amcmaine.org/calendar/#101709. Snowshoe to the west and east peaks of Baldpate Mtn. from Grafton Notch. RT distance 8 mi., elev. gain 2,280 ft. Enjoy extensive views of the western Maine mountains and lakes. Moderate to strenuous hike suitable for experienced winter hikers. Full winter gear including snowshoes with crampons/cleats and crampons or micro spikes required. Contact the trip leader to register and FMI. Leader: Bill Brooke, 207-549-5100, bill@mesoft.org.

Sunday, February 11: Young Member Pleasant Mountain Loop Hike. www.amcmaine.org/calendar/#101898. Hike Pleasant Mountain via North Ridge Trail, Sue's Way, and Bald Peak Trail. Hike is 5.2 mi. and 1,740' elev. gain. Moderate pace, so not for beginners, but for those with experience hiking in winter and comfortable managing themselves in winter conditions, especially various terrain. Leader: Kim Sanders, kimberlyannsanders@gmail.com.

Saturday, February 17: North & South Crocker, Carrabassett Valley. www.amcmaine.org/calendar/#101712. Two 4000-footers in winter. Snowshoe North and South Crocker via the AT south. North Peak of Crocker (4,228 ft.) is 5.5 mil. with 2,500 ft. elev. Gain; South Crocker an additional 1 mi. and 250 ft. elev. gain for total 13 mi. and 3,750 ft. elev. Gain. Strenuous hike for experienced winter hikers with full winter gear. Contact the trip leader to register and FMI. Leader: Bill Brooke, 207-549-5100, bill@mesoft.org.

Sunday, March 11: Little Jackson Mountain - XC Ski and Snowshoe. www.amcmaine.org/calendar/#101921. Ski and snowshoe to summit of Little Jackson Mountain. If Byron Road is unplowed, we'll ski in 2.5 miles to trailhead to Little Jackson Mountain. From there we'll snowshoe to summit and back and then ski out to parking lot. 360-degree view from top with many peaks near and far visible. Approx. 13 miles RT. Leader: Peter Roderick, 207-293-2704, roderick1027@fairpoint.net.

Saturday, March 24: Moat Mountains Traverse, NH. www.amcmaine.org/calendar/#101851. This classic hike is 9.6 mi. with 3,300 ft. elev. gain. Will set up a car spot and hike southbound starting with North Moat then summiting Middle and South Moat. All 3 peaks have open summits with incredible views. Average group pace 1.5 mph. Recent winter hiking experience and above tree-line hiking experience required. Possible winter conditions will call for full winter gear. Trip plan

may be altered due to weather and conditions at leaders' discretion. Optional stop at Moat Mountain Brewery and Restaurant after. Leader: Denise Fredette, 207-939-3670, deniserae77@gmail.com.

OUTDOOR INSTRUCTION

Monday, January 8: Young Member Winter Skills Workshop

www.amcmaine.org/calendar/#101894. An evening of fun and winter skills building at Allagash Brewing Co., 50 Industrial Way, Portland, ME 04103. Come at 6pm to socialize over beverages and appetizers, followed by a Winter Skills discussion beginning at 6:30pm. Workshop will focus on basic winter skills and safety concerns, like: layering, staying hydrated, signs of hypothermia, but there will much more. A variety of gear will be available to check out, as well as folks available to answer more advanced and technical questions. We'll discuss upcoming Maine Chapter events and winter trip planning in general. Whether you are new to winter adventures, experienced, or somewhere in between, there will surely be something for all to learn and/or contribute. Registration is not required, but helpful in determining numbers and quantity of food. Going to be a fun night to meet new people, learn new skills, and enjoy some delicious beverages. Thank you, Allagash Brewing Co., for sponsoring this event. Part of the Young Members Winter Series, but all are welcome. Leader: Kim Sanders, kimberlyannsanders@gmail.com.

Saturday, April 21: Wilderness First Aid, Falmouth, ME.

www.amcmaine.org/calendar/#101714. Wilderness First Aid training goes beyond standard Red Cross First Aid, providing you with the skills needed when you're more than one hour from medical care. Learn to assess and treat injuries in outdoor situations. Course is two full days, and will be taught at Maine Audubon in Falmouth by Wilderness Medical Associates (WMA). Fee covers instruction and materials, but does not include lodging or meals. Class includes patient assessment, immediate life threats, disabling injuries, hypothermia and other environmental hazards, fractures, sprains and more. Upon successful completion students will receive certification in Wilderness First Aid and Adult CPR, valid for three years. Cost is \$175 for AMC Maine chapter members, \$200 for AMC members (non-Maine chapter), and \$250 if you are not an AMC member. Course fills quickly. To register or FMI, contact Leader Bill Brooke at 207-549-5100, outings@amcmaine.org.

MEETINGS/EDUCATION

Thursday, January 11: Hiking in and around Katahdin Woods & Waters

National Monument with Greg Westrich, Bangor Public Library. www.amcmaine.org/calendar/#101899. Greg will discuss hiking and paddling routes in and around Katahdin Woods and Waters and have suggestions for where to go for a family outing, where to get lost for a week, where to find wildlife, and where to see spectacular scenery. Greg's passion for nature began when he was a young child and carried him through travels and adventures while he grew up. Twenty years ago, Greg and his wife settled in Maine to continue this journey. They hike, camp, canoe, ski, and generally love their wild home. Author of five Falcon guides about hiking in Maine, Greg has also published more than fifty articles. He has an MFA in Creative Writing and teaches writing at Husson University and Eastern Maine Community College. He'll bring copies of his five hiking guides for sale and discuss his latest book projects. Greg lives in Glenburn with his family and too many pets. Leader: Nancy Jacobson, 207-942-4924, education@amcmaine.org.

Thursday, January 18: Potluck and Presentation: Connecting

Rivers, People and Fish - by Bike, Curtis Memorial Library, Morrell Meeting Room, 23 Pleasant Street, Brunswick, ME. www.amcmaine.org/calendar/#100017. A unique presentation on fish passage and biking in Europe. Alicia Heyburn of Brunswick spent five weeks last summer on a solo bicycle tour from the source of the Rhine River in the Swiss Alps to the outlet at the North Sea near Amsterdam. Traveling on an exceptional network of bike paths, she experienced the various characters of the river along its 1300 km course— wild, tamed, power-producing, awe-inspiring, industrial and bucolic, and met with people who are working to improve river conditions for migratory fish like salmon. You'll learn about Europe's extensive international network of bike trails, free cultural exchange and accommodation services, the stages and benefits of, re-naturalizing a river, how to travel alone without being lonely or turn an interest into an expedition. Presentation starts at 7pm; optional potluck starts at 6pm. Please bring a dish to share and help us be green by bringing your own silverware, plate and cup. Free and open to the public. Leader: Michelle Moody, 207-406-5221, meamc@micstan.us.

Thursday, February 1: Tales of Adventure on a Winter Evening, Bangor

Public Library. www.amcmaine.org/calendar/#101902. A mélange of the tales of adventure provided by explorers in our area. Everyone who stepped up to the plate has 10 minutes to tell of their memorable adventure and 5 minutes for Q&A while we sip hot cocoa with marshmallows. Our stories include walking on the Camino Santiago de Compostela in Spain, Icelandic forestry in the face of a changing climate, an epic thru hike of the AT, canoe camping while building AMC campsites, a solo journey across country by bicycle, the first solo woman paddler to complete the Northern Forest Canoe Trail, and a ski trip to the AMC lodges. Join us on a whirlwind adventure. Leader: Nancy Jacobson, 207-942-4924, education@amcmaine.org.

Thursday, February 15: AMC Potluck and Presentation:

Appalachian Odyssey - A 28-Year Hike on America's Trail.

www.amcmaine.org/calendar/#100270. When two new hiking companions went on a day hike of Katahdin in 1985, they had no idea they were starting a 28-year, 2,100-mile adventure. Author, speaker, photographer and avid hiker Jeff Ryan's book, *Appalachian Odyssey*, has delighted readers who enjoy reliving the adventure through a refreshing blend of history, photography and humor. He has hiked 9,000 miles in the U.S. and is still going strong. Jeff combines terrific storytelling and 30 years' worth of trail AT photos. Potluck dinner starts 6pm (please bring a dish to share, help us be green and bring your own cup, plates and silverware). Presentation at 7pm. Free and open to the public. Leader: Michelle Moody, 207-406-5221, meamc@micstan.us.

Thursday, March 15: Potluck and Presentation: Atlantic Canada:

Our Closest Neighbor and its Exceptional Natural Beauty, Curtis Memorial Library, Morrell Meeting Room, 23 Pleasant St., Brunswick, ME. www.amcmaine.org/calendar/#101897. Priscilla Anson is a world traveler whose most recent journey took her through the four provinces of Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and New Brunswick. Boondocking most nights with no planned itinerary, Priscilla experienced through hiking and wanderlust-filled days the expansiveness, natural beauty, and cultural warmth of this unique region. Join us as she shares photos, narrative, and anecdotes that will bring to life this beautiful region, with a focus on Newfoundland. Potluck dinner at 6pm (please bring a dish to share, help us be green and bring your own cup, plates and silverware). Presentation at 7pm. Doors open at 5:30pm. Free and open to the public. Leader: Michelle Moody, 207-406-5221, meamc@micstan.us.

Tuesday, March 20: A Promising Method to Combat Climate Change,

Bangor Public Library. www.amcmaine.org/calendar/#101904. Carbon Fee and Dividend has received accolades and commitments from both sides of the aisle in Congress, and from leading scientists and economists who tout it as the best method to combat climate change. The cities of Bangor and Portland have endorsed CF&D. Learn about it from Peter Garrett, the Maine Chair of the Citizen's Climate Lobby, as well as members of the Bangor Chapter, which is one of 456 chapters of this national grassroots organization. Leader: Nancy Jacobson, 207-942-4924, education@amcmaine.org.

Thursday, April 5: Monitoring Maine's Great Blue Herons

Across State and International Borders, Bangor Public Library. www.amcmaine.org/calendar/#101905. In Spring 2016, five Great Blue Herons in Maine were outfitted with lightweight GPS tracking devices and released to allow researchers to follow their movements during nesting, migration, and wintering. Two of the herons migrated to Florida, one to the Bahamas, one to Cuba, and one flew all the way to Haiti. Hear about herons and the project from Danielle D'Auria, a wildlife biologist for the Maine Dept. of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and project leader for the Heron Observation Network of Maine (HERON), a citizen-science initiative that has involved hundreds of volunteers over the past nine years. She will present the results from the heron movement data collection, and how it ties in with what we have learned thus far about the natural history and current status of Maine's Great Blue Heron population. Leader: Nancy Jacobson, 207-942-4924, education@amcmaine.org.

SKIING

Sunday, January 14: X-Country Skiing - Maine Huts and Trails.

www.amcmaine.org/calendar/#101887. 15 miles more or less of skiing on Maine Huts and Trails system, including stops at Poplar Stream and Stratton Brook huts. Good workout for advanced beginner or intermediate and above skiers. Beautiful Carrabassett Valley locale. Leader: Peter Roderick, 207-293-2704, roderick1027@fairpoint.net.

Trip Listings - continued from previous page

Sunday, January 21: Cross Country Skiing - Maine Huts and Trails.
www.amcmaine.org/calendar/#101888. Ski on groomed trails between Popular Falls Hut and Flagstaff hut. 22 miles RT. Fun skiing on MHT trail system with great views of Bigelow Mtn. and Flagstaff Lake in Bigelow Preserve. Leader: Peter Roderick, 207-293-2704, roderick1027@fairpoint.net.

February 4-9: Claybrook Mountain Lodge Ski Week.
www.amcmaine.org/calendar/#97282. Join us for a week of great cross-country skiing on the Maine Huts and Trails system of well-maintained trails. We'll have the opportunity, weather permitting, to visit each of the 4 huts without the burden of large backpacks. Enjoy the luxury of skiing with just a small daypack while enjoying the magnificent trails and scenery in the Bigelow area. Our accommodations will be in shared twin or triple rooms at the Claybrook Mountain Lodge in Highland Plantation, owned by Greg, a certified EMT and Maine Guide, and his wife Pat. Pat is a fantastic cook who will spoil us with homemade bread, muffins, cookies and multi-course meals. Breakfast, trail lunches and dinner are included in trip fee. All meals from supper on Sun Feb 4 (day of arrival) through and including lunch on Fri Feb 9 (day of departure). We'll eat our trail lunch at one of the MHT huts whenever possible, so we can purchase hot food items as well. Claybrook Lodge has twin and triple rooms, shared baths, living room areas, large wood stove on 1st floor. Clean, cozy, rustic and surrounded by mountain peaks. Greg will act as our naturalist guide each day and give us information on tracking, wildlife identification, tree identification and historical perspectives of the area; his skills will increase our enjoyment of the area while maintaining a good level of safety. There will also be two AMC trip leaders on the trip who are trained in Wilderness First Aid and CPR. Leader: Ginette Beaudoin, 207-294-6302, ginette4000@yahoo.com.

Sunday, February 11: Intermediate X-C Skiing.
www.amcmaine.org/calendar/#101915. Libby Hill Forest is a little-known gem with a 10km trail system designed for x-c skiing and groomed for both skating and traditional methods. Good for intermediate skiers; very hilly and not suitable for beginners. Price is right: free! However, there is no place to go inside to warm up. Meet in the parking lot and head out on the trail. We'll likely ski it once in one direction and then again in the opposite direction. Leader: Jeanne Christie, 207-310-8708, jeanne.christie@aswm.org.

Saturday, March 3: Bethel Inn Resort X-C Skiing.
www.amcmaine.org/calendar/#101916. The Bethel Inn has it all: groomed trails, ski rentals, heated indoor areas to get organized and even a ski/swim/sauna package. Meet in morning for a ski, enjoy lunch, and go out again in afternoon. Those interested can linger to swim in a heated outdoor pool and finish up with a sauna. Trails are suitable for experienced beginners i.e., not the first time on x-c skis, however. There are extensive relatively level areas, but also a few hills to navigate. Day passes are \$18, with the ski/sauna \$27. Ski rentals are available for additional cost. Leader: Jeanne Christie, 207-310-8708, jeanne.christie@aswm.org.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Wednesday, January 10: Dinner & Trivia at The Deckhouse.
www.amcmaine.org/calendar/#101829. Meet us at Deck House Sports Tavern & Restaurant in Windham for dinner and/or drinks starting at 6pm followed by Trivia at 7pm for those who are interested. Find out about upcoming AMC events, how to get involved, and make some new outdoorsy friends. Plenty of free parking. RSVP isn't required but is appreciated so that I know how many seats to reserve. Leader: Denise Fredette, 207-939-3670, deniserae77@gmail.com.

Monday, February 12: Dinner at Nosh & Banff Film Festival.
www.amcmaine.org/calendar/#101853. Dinner at Nosh Kitchen Bar on Congress St. in Portland starting at 5pm, before we walk over to the State Theatre for the Banff Mountain Film Festival (doors at the theatre open at 6, show starts at 7pm). RSVP by 2/10 so we can reserve a table at Nosh that is big enough for the group. This listing will be updated when tickets go on sale, with the where and how of getting tix. Exhilarating and thought provoking, BFF is a must-see for mountain enthusiasts and those with a spirit of adventure. Through the big screen, audiences can visit remote cultures and the world's last great wild places as well as experience footage of adrenaline packed action sports. Leader: Denise Fredette, 207-939-3670, deniserae77@gmail.com.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

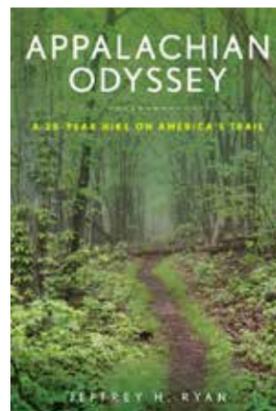
Become a Trip Leader! www.amcmaine.org/calendar/#100864. Become a YM Leader for hiking, backpacking, biking (road and mountain), paddling, winter hikes, and/or socials, or write articles for the Maine Chapter "Wilderness Matters" newsletter. You can start the process of becoming a leader anytime of the year and you choose how little or how much you want to get involved. Young Members (YM) focus is to get young people in their 20's and 30's, and young at heart, involved in AMC activities: socialization, recreation, and conservation. We're hoping to increase young membership in the AMC and ensure that the Maine Chapter remains strong and active well into the future. The Young Members Committee plans workshops, trips, and events geared towards specific interests, while also working with other AMC committees and outing clubs on Maine's college campuses. Contact: Denise Fredette, 207-939-3670, deniserae77@gmail.com.

Help with AMC Presentations in Brunswick and Bangor.
www.amcmaine.org/calendar/#100015. Have you considered how you could help the AMC Maine Chapter, but not sure what you might be able to do? Do you enjoy coming to the presentations that AMC offers in Brunswick or Bangor? Would you be willing to get involved with helping to keep them going? We're looking for volunteers to take over these duties. I'd be happy to explain what is entailed in doing the job. The task can easily be shared if there are several volunteers. Contact: Michelle Moody, 207-406-5221, meamc@micstan.us.

Assistant Newsletter Editor Wanted! One or more organized and thoughtful persons are needed to help produce our wonderful quarterly Wilderness Matters newsletter. Enthusiasm but no experience required. Current editor has the process down to a science and can get you easily up to speed in no time. Contact Carey at newsletter@amcmaine.org.



**AMC-Maine Chapter Potluck and Presentation:
Appalachian Odyssey**
A 28-year hike on America's trail
Thursday, Feb. 15, Curtis Memorial Library,
Morrell Meeting Room, Brunswick



When two new hiking companions went on a day hike of Katahdin in 1985, they had no idea they were starting a 28-year, 2,100-mile adventure. Author, speaker, photographer and avid hiker Jeff Ryan's book it, *Appalachian Odyssey*, has delighted readers who enjoy reliving the adventure through a refreshing blend of history, photography and humor.

Born and raised in Maine, Jeff grew up in a family that relished time outdoors and he has certainly carried on that tradition. He has hiked 9,000 miles in the U.S. and is still going strong.

In the past year and a half he has traveled the U.S. in a 1985 VW camper, sharing the story of *Appalachian Odyssey* in hundreds of venues nationwide. His presentations combine terrific storytelling and 30 years' worth of trail AT photos to create a memorable evening.

Potluck dinner will start at 6pm (please bring a dish to share, help us be green and bring your own cup, plates and silverware). Presentation at 7pm. Free and open to the public.

For questions or information, contact Michelle Moody at meamc@micstan.us

Visit www.amcmaine.org for all our outings and activities

Meetings and Education in Bangor Offering a Broad Array of Adventures and Conservation Themes for 2018 from January to April

By Nancy Jacobsen



Greg Westrich

We start the new year of programs on **January 11** with guidebook author and avid hiker Greg Westrich. His talk is titled, "Hiking and Paddling in and around Katahdin Woods & Waters National Monument." Since 2013, he's mapped more than 500 hikes in Maine including numerous hikes in KWWNM. His first visit there was more than fifteen years ago. Since then he's also paddled the East Branch and the Sebobeis River and has backpacked from one end of Baxter

State Park to the other. In his slideshow, Greg will be discussing hiking and paddling routes in and around Katahdin Woods and Waters. He'll have suggestions for where to go for a family outing, where to get lost for a week, where to find wildlife, and where to see spectacular scenery.



John Wilson on his solo cross-country bike trip.

On **February 1**, serve yourself a cup of hot cocoa and get cozy for a medley of tales of adventure provided by explorers from our local area. These voyagers each have 10 minutes to tell of their memorable adventure and 5 minutes for Q&A. Their stories include walking on the Camino Santiago de Compostela in Spain, Icelandic forestry in the face of a changing climate, an epic thru hike of the AT, canoe camping while building AMC campsites, a solo journey cross country by bicycle, the first solo woman paddler to complete the Northern Forest Canoe Trail,

and skiing to the AMC Maine lodges. Join us on a whirlwind adventure.

On **March 20**, we'll learn about a promising method to combat climate change. Carbon Fee and Dividend has received accolades and commitments from both sides of the aisle in Congress, and from leading scientists and economists who tout it as the best method to combat climate change. The cities of Bangor and Portland have endorsed CF&D. Come hear and ask about it with Peter Garrett, Maine Chair of the Citizen's Climate Lobby, as well as members of the Bangor Chapter, which is one of 456 chapters of this national grassroots organization.

Danielle D'Auria will tell us about her fascinating work and findings with Maine's great blue herons on **April 5**. A wildlife biologist for the Maine Dept. of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, she has been monitoring their movements across state and international borders for eight years. In Spring 2016, five great blue herons in Maine were outfitted with lightweight GPS tracking devices and released to allow researchers to follow their movements during nesting, migration, and wintering. Two of the herons migrated to Florida, one to the Bahamas, one to Cuba, and one flew all the way to Haiti! Danielle is also project leader for the Heron Observation Network of Maine (HERON), a citizen-science initiative that has involved hundreds of volunteers over the past nine years, including students from eight schools. She focuses on understanding statewide populations of colonial wading birds, secretive marsh birds, black terns, loons, and other rare water birds. Since 2009, Danielle has spent a majority of her time researching why great blue herons have undergone a decline along Maine's coast.



Danielle D'Auria works with Maine's great blue herons. Photo courtesy Danielle D'Auria

All of these events are held at 6pm in the Bangor Public Library.

AMC Maine Policy Office Has Moved!

The AMC Maine conservation team is excited to announce our recent move from our Portland office into the Fort Andross Mill in Brunswick.



View from new office window

The new space features beautiful views of the Androscoggin River and is large enough to host chapter meetings and events for the Maine Chapter. AMC's construction crew will be building the conference table for this new space out of wood from the Maine Woods property, thanks to the generous support of the Maine Chapter Executive Committee. We are excited for the new opportunities presented by this space! Feel free to stop by and give us a visit. Our new address is 14 Maine Street, Suite 0126 in Brunswick.

AMC-Maine Chapter Potluck and Presentation: Atlantic Canada

Our Closest Neighbor and its Exceptional Natural Beauty

**Thursday, March 15, Curtis Memorial Library,
Morrell Meeting Room, Brunswick**



Priscilla Anson is a world traveler whose most recent journey took her through the four provinces of Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and New Brunswick.

Boondocking most nights with no planned itinerary, Priscilla experienced through hiking and wanderlust-filled days the expansiveness, natural beauty, and cultural warmth of this unique region. Join us as she she shares photos, narrative, and anecdotes that will bring to life this beautiful region, with a focus on Newfoundland.

Potluck dinner will start at 6pm (please bring a dish to share, help us be green and bring your own cup, plates and silverware). Presentation at 7pm. Free and open to the public.

For questions or information, contact Michelle Moody at meamc@micstan.us

Visit www.amcmaine.org for all our outings and activities



Young Members Section

Our focus is to get young folks in their 20's and 30's and the young-at-heart involved in outdoor recreation, raise awareness of conservation and sustainability and have fun!

Recap of 20's and 30's Leadership Training and Trail Stewardship Weekend at Cardigan Lodge, September 2017 by Kimberly A. Sanders



Photo by Lindsay Watkins, Youth Opportunities Program (YOP) Manager of Training and Support.

For the second year, the Appalachian Mountain Club helped to sponsor a Fall Young Members Leadership Training at one of their many beautiful AMC lodges. AMC promotes the involvement of this age demographic, people in their 20's and 30's, as they are the next generation of volunteers and chapter members to continue AMC's mission: *Founded in 1876, the Appalachian Mountain Club promotes the protection, enjoyment, and understanding of the*

mountains, forests, waters, and trails

of America's Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions. Happening at the same time, was a Young Members Trail Stewardship weekend. It was a blast to socialize at dinner and the campfire with both groups and talk about the day's adventures and work!

The leadership weekend is an intense combination of classroom time with opportunities to practice skills in small groups and on the trail each day. There were two Young Members from the Maine Chapter: Hannah Sirois and Alex Dickinson, both interested in learning more leadership, trip planning, and first-aid skills to use as volunteers and in the outdoors. As Hannah put it. *"The YM Leadership Training was an extremely valuable experience that helped me to not only develop my leadership skills, but gain a greater appreciation for all that the AMC volunteers do. The training was also a great time to make new friends and enjoy the trails at Cardigan. I am excited to put my new skills to use!"*

Next year's Information:

20s & 30s Leadership Training & Trail Stewardship Weekend

Where: AMC Corman Harriman Outdoor Center, NY

When: September 21-23, 2018

MAINE CHAPTER YOUNG MEMBERS 2018 WINTER EVENTS (20's and 30's, and Young at Heart)

Mon, Jan 8: Winter Skills Workshop @ Allagash Brewing Co.

Wed, Jan 10: Dinner & Trivia at The Deckhouse

Sun, Jan 21: Beginning on Bradbury Mountain snowshoe/hike

Sun, Feb 10: Pleasant Mtn. snowshoe/hike

Mon, Feb 12: Dinner @ Nosh and Banff Film Festival

Sat, Mar 24: Moats Traverse, Intermediate/snowshoe/hike

Sun, April 8: Tuckerman's Ravine Snowshoe/hike

Still TBD: Rock Climbing Social, Skiing at Shawnee under the lights, and Full Moon Walks!

For more information: www.amcmaine.org/calendar/



2nd annual Young Members trip into Tuckerman Ravine

A Note from New YM Co-Chair Nick Montecalvo

My name is Nick Montecalvo and I am your new AMC Maine Chapter YM Co-Chair. This position has big shoes to fill. Over the last four years I have seen from behind the curtain the work that Kim Sanders, Denise Fredette, Marielle Postava-Davignon and Sarah Keats have put into making the Young Members what it currently is, and their imprint is so evident in every outing big or small. I can only hope to measure up to what they have already built.

Getting outside and experiencing what we have here in New England has been vital to shaping who I am, as I know it has been with many of you. Some of you may remember my story in the newsletter from a few years ago, about a young man who got a very tangled past straightened out and behind him in large part because he was accepted by the AMC Young Members. As Co-Chair, it will be extremely important to me to be accepting of any-and-all who want to make the outdoors a part of their lives by way of this group. A hike up Mt. Agamenticus (691 ft.) in York can have just as much of an influence on one than a strenuous winter traverse across the Crockers in western Maine. One of my goals is to spearhead a beginner hiking series starting in mid-spring and spanning through mid-fall.

I am a New Hampshire resident living in Seabrook, but I have been so involved with the Maine Chapter over the last few years by way of the New



Nick Montecalvo on Mt. Jefferson's Capps Ridge, September, 2017.

Hampshire Chapter, that it is very natural for me to take this position. I lead for both chapters. I love Rangeley, and there is no bigger fan of the Mahoosucs than me. Mt. Agamenticus has served as an outdoor gym of sorts for me over the last few years, maybe I'll see you some time as I run up and down Vulture and Goosefoot trails one late-afternoon in the summer. There's just something about Maine that has always agreed with me. And there is no doubt about it that now that I am a YM co-chair for this wonderful chapter, Maine will always come first.

I'll be working closely with Sarah Keats, who has been Co-Chair of the YM since November of 2012. I hope to learn a lot from her knowledge and experience

going forward. This will be a learning experience at the start, and I aim to earn your trust so that you can come to me in times when YM is needed to help the whole of the Maine Chapter in the future. I will be involved in Executive Committee and Leader meetings, and I will listen. If the time comes for me to speak I will surely do so, but in the beginning, it will be almost always at the behest of the Executive Committee and Sarah Keats.

I am excited about the direction of the Young Members in the Maine Chapter, and hope to be a good steward. Hope to speak with you soon. Thank you. —Nick Montecalvo