



NEW YORK-NORTH JERSEY CHAPTER
YOUR CONNECTION TO THE OUTDOORS

Annual Report 2018

Table of Contents

2018 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS.....	3
REPORT FROM THE CHAPTER CHAIR.....	4
REPORT FROM THE TREASURER	7
ACTIVITY COMMITTEE REPORTS.....	8
BACKPACKING	8
BICYCLING	8
CANOE & KAYAKING.....	8
CLIMBING.....	9
HIKING.....	13
SAILING	13
SKIING	13
SOFTBALL.....	13
YOUNG MEMBERS	14
LEADERSHIP	14
COMMUNICATIONS REPORTS	16
ARCHIVES	14
MEMBERSHIP.....	16
FACILITIES & SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORTS	18
ADVISORY	18
CONSERVATION.....	18
FIRE ISLAND	19
HOSPITALITY	20
NOMINATING	22
TRAILS COMMITTEE.....	22
WILDERNESS FIRST AID	23

2018 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

CHAIR

Nathan Baker

VICE CHAIR

Dee Dee Mozeleski

SECRETARY

Rob Holbrook

TREASURER

David Lloyd

EXECUTIVE FOR ACTIVITIES

Kaspar Alexander

EXECUTIVE FOR FACILITIES & SERVICES

Cheryl Bobe

EXECUTIVE FOR COMMUNICATIONS

Lee Hoffman

MID-ATLANTIC REGIONAL DIRECTOR

Janet Ainsworth

ACTIVITY COMMITTEE CHAIRS

BACKPACKING

David Mong

BICYCLE

Kim Spelman

CANOE & KAYAK

Jake Lewis

CLIMBING

John Tedeschi

HIKING

Stefan Erwin

SAILING

John Sheets

SKIING

Ed Sobin

SOFTBALL

Fern Stolper

YOUNG MEMBERS

Thomas Meehan and Rafal Rogoza

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRS

ARCHIVES

Jack Reilly

EBLAST

Susan Bernstein

MEMBERSHIP

Carrie Ho

SOCIAL MEDIA MODERATOR

David Hartree

TRAILS & WAVES

Ron Gonzales

WEB

Tat Yuen

FACILITIES AND SERVICES COMMITTEE CHAIRS

ADVISORY

Eileen Yin

CONSERVATION

Brittany Gollins

FIRE ISLAND

Diane Serlin

HOSPITALITY

Melissa Marine

NOMINATING

Henry Schreiber

TRAILS

Hope Rodgers

WILDERNESS FIRST AID

Jonathan Silver

STAFF

Your 2018 Executive Committee ...



Nathan Baker
Chair



DeeDee Mozeleski
Vice-Chair



John Allman
Treasurer



Rob Holbrook
Secretary

Lee Hoffman
Communications



Kaspar Alexander
Activities



Cheryl Bobe
Facilities & Services

REPORT FROM THE CHAPTER CHAIR

First and foremost, I would like to say thank you to everyone who supported AMC this past year. In these tumultuous times our conservation first message needs to be heard and by being active in AMC your voices will be heard.

2018 was another exciting year for the NY – No.J Chapter. The annual picnic saw record attendance! We had 199 people, 200 if you count the bear. We are set to have another blow-out in 2019 so stay tuned for the details to come. Our leadership training program continues to produce excellent new leaders who are adding some new innovations to trips. We will have another training weekend this year in May.

I cannot say enough about the wonderful work our Wilderness First Aid Team has accomplished. Their classes continue to sell out. An ER nurse who took the class this year remarked that it was a great refresher and reminded her to think about different ways to approach an incident. There will be a big change in 2019 for the program. Johnathan Silver who started the program will be stepping down as chair after over 20 years in filling the position. Johnathan's classes have educated many of our leaders and that training has been used creating a safer environment for our trip's participants. Richard Dabal the incoming chair has been working closely with Johnathan and I'm certain will continue providing affordable first aid education to our leaders.

We had another stellar year at the Fire Island Cabin and another long-time committee chair and member is retiring. Anita Barberis who has stewarded the cabin to its beloved place among our members will be retiring at the end of 2018. She has chaired and served on the committee for over 25 years. Diane Serlin has taken over for her and is continuing Anita's work in expanding the offering of the cabin and working with the club to broaden the cabin's constituency.

It has taken a scant three years for the Harriman Program Committee to become a cornerstone of the Chapters offerings. With almost 600 participants this year we have just about reached our threshold! Our 2019 schedule is already in place and we will begin taking reservations soon. A special

thanks goes out to former chapter chair and current Harriman Program Committee Chair Eileen Yin for her remarkable work.

The Chapter has continued its work with other organizations to reach into new demographics to spread our conservation message. Our goal is to work with other groups to expose them to nature and get them involved in protecting the environment in their home communities. The Chapter is looking to become more involved in conservation efforts within our local communities. If you know of any local projects or outdoor groups that you think might work well with us, please let me or our conservation chair know.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) training is now part of our leadership training model and we will be offering a training class to everyone in the coming months. The past several years has seen a dramatic shift within the chapter's demographics. The wonderful expansion of our Young Members Committee has been instrumental to the success of this initiative. As the chapter continues to grow and expand into new areas understanding how our actions affect those around us is important in maintaining a welcoming environment. Please join us for the DEI seminar and realize what you can do to help.

The work of the Chapter would not be possible without all the hard work performed by the Executive Committee and the Committee Chairs. We have a tremendously talented group of people dedicated to getting people outdoors and engaged in conservation efforts. The team puts in countless hours of planning to direct chapter funds, develop new initiatives and plan events for everyone to enjoy. I am overwhelmed by their dedication and without them I couldn't do my job. If you would like to get involved reach out to one of them, they will tell you how rewarding the work can be.

I would like to take a moment to say thank you to everyone who has volunteered to help this past year. To the trip leaders, sweeps, individuals who manned tables, those who helped in the shuttles I would like to say thank you. Without your contributions we wouldn't be the best outdoors organization. Thank you for giving your most precious commodity, your time. I'm looking forward to serving you in the coming year.

Thank you

Nathan Baker

NY – No.J Chapter Chair

AMC, New York-North Jersey Chapter

REPORT FROM THE TREASURER

AMC-NYNol Chapter - Executive Committee - Treasury Report Summary - 2018 Year

Monthly Cash Flow		Balance (\$K)	Deposits	Payments	OK?
0	Dec-17	\$100,470	\$5,754	\$0	\$106,232
1	Jan-18	\$117,442	\$16,758	\$5,549	\$0
2	Feb-18	\$105,642	\$1,290	\$12,890	\$0
3	Mar-18	\$104,111	\$414	\$2,145	\$0
4	Apr-18	\$111,826	\$13,451	\$5,735	\$0
5	May-18	\$95,685	\$1,929	\$18,065	\$0
6	Jun-18	\$106,491	\$38,902	\$28,096	\$0
7	Jul-18	\$93,328	\$10,166	\$25,328	\$0
8	Aug-18	\$108,712	\$31,524	\$14,140	\$0
9	Sep-18	\$109,520	\$3,307	\$6,499	\$0
10	Oct-18	\$114,308	\$14,415	\$3,830	\$0
11	Nov-18	\$113,519	\$1,305	\$1,890	\$0
12	Dec-18	\$121,025	\$16,506	\$9,003	\$0
12/31/2018 Totals			\$155,716	\$135,170	14,792

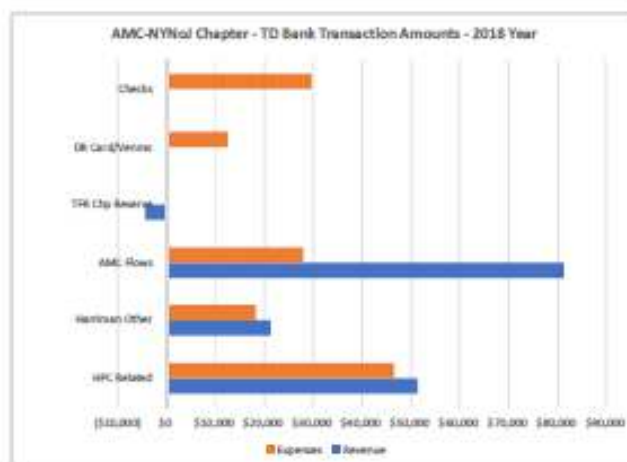
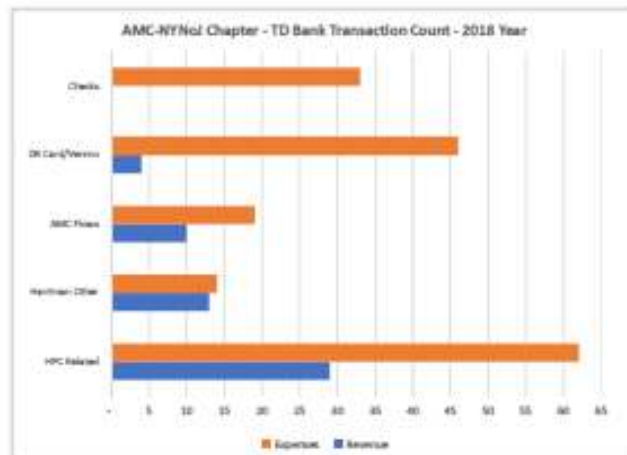
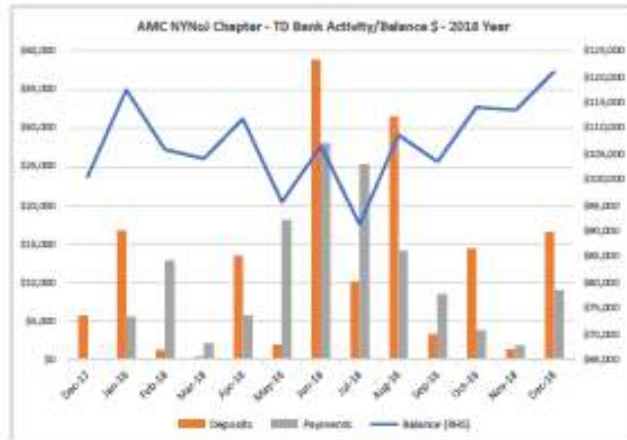
Tickets Sold		Revenue	# Tickets	Average
HPC Related		\$51,398	640	\$80.31
Hardman Other		\$21,517	578	\$36.88
Other Events			101	\$0.00
Dec-18 Totals		\$72,715	1,319	\$55.13

# of Transactions		Revenue	Expense	Total
HPC Related		29	62	91
Hardman Other		13	14	27
AMC Flows		10	19	29
DR Card/Venmo		4	46	50
Checks		-	33	33
Dec-18 Count		56	174	230
Check				-

Average \$		Revenue	Expense
HPC Related		\$1,772	\$750
Hardman Other		\$1,634	\$2,300
AMC Flows		\$8,121	\$1,468
DR Card/Venmo		\$18	\$272
Checks			\$900
Dec-18 Average YTD		\$2,671	\$775

Amounts \$		Revenue	Expense	Net CF
HPC Related		\$51,398	\$46,530	\$4,868
Hardman Other		\$21,346	\$18,301	\$3,045
AMC Flows		\$3,211	\$27,891	(\$24,680)
TFR Chp Reserve		(\$4,322)		(\$4,322)
DR Card/Venmo		\$71	\$12,491	(\$12,420)
Checks			\$29,698	(\$29,698)
Dec-18 Amount YTD		\$149,603	\$134,812	\$14,792
O/y Checks		\$0	\$565	(\$565)
2018 Total Forecast		\$149,603	\$135,377	\$14,227
		100%	50%	
		\$72,715	\$7,688	

Chapter Funds		Actual Dec'17	Actual Dec'18	Adjust Funds	Adjusted Dec'18
Operating Funds		\$106,232	\$116,196	(\$46,448)	\$67,688
Net Accruals		(\$1,800)	\$1,800	\$0	\$1,800
Chapter Reserves		\$0	\$0	\$72,715	\$72,715
* Excess Reserves		\$214,926	\$213,748	(\$14,267)	\$194,981
		\$319,357	\$337,184	\$0	\$337,184
* per AMC HQ		Balances assume 2019 NYNol Budget = 2018 YTD Actual (Excludes 2018 balances from CKC, Climbing, Softball)			



ACTIVITY COMMITTEE REPORTS

BACKPACKING

David Mong, Chair

The Ny-NoJ Backpacking Committee scheduled 62 overnight trips varying in length from 2 to 4 days. In total 45 of those trips ran. Our scheduled trips marked an improvement over last year by 32% though our weather related cancellations were much higher. We still ended up with 3 more trips that ran as compared to last year. Our total number of participants served was comparable to last year. Our focus has been on having a lot of trips geared for novice and beginner backpackers so they can learn the skills to safely enjoy the wilderness on their own.

As a committee we are committed to building up a group of leaders that can continue to serve the needs of the region with high quality backpacking programs. As part of that effort we increased the number of co-leaders on trips from 13 last year to 25 this year. We have a great group of leader trainees in the midst of their process of becoming leaders.

Leading more than a couple of trips per year takes a considerable amount of time and effort. Here are the leaders who scheduled or co-led 3 or more trips last year. We appreciate their service.

David Mong 22
Maria Gonzalez 9
Chris Bickford 9
Howie Dow 7
John Hilley 7
Russ Faller 6
Frank Zarb 4
Jill Watkins 4
Ingrid Strauch 3
Bryna Selig 3

BICYCLING

Kim Spelman, Chair

There has been a refreshing influx of new leaders into the bicycling committee and our number and variety of trips has expanded in 2018 and we are looking forward to continuing this trend into 2019. Eileen Yin offered a bike packing trip to the Corman Harriman Outdoor Center and looking into the future we are going to try and work on offering multi-day bike supported bike trips.

CANOE & KAYAKING

Jake Lewis – Chair

Marty Plante – Treasurer

Suzanne Villages - Secretary

Loretta Brady – Training Program Coordinator

Activities:

- Due to rebuilding of their sports facilities, our decades long relationship with New Jersey Institute of Technology was interrupted this year. Hence there were no indoor pool sessions during the off-season.
- Liaising and organizing trips with other canoe and kayak groups – Sebego Canoe Club, Carolina Canoe Club, Kayak and Canoe Club of New York, Hunterdon County Canoe Club.
- Beginners Instructional weekends for both canoes and kayaks.
- Successful week long trips to Carolina and Adirondacs
- Weekend trips to Deerfield MA, Esopus NY, Yough PA, Mullica NJ, Salmon NY.
- Day trips to Mongaup NY, Ramapo, Lackawaxen, Lehigh.
- Paddlers Holiday Party in NYC. Charles Michener was granted the keeper of the BigMouth Bass.
- Received a \$5000 bequethment.

CLIMBING

John Tedeschi – Chair

Nancy Lee – Vice Chair

Toks Ajadi – Vice Chair

Michael Geramita – Treasurer

Gary McElvany – Lead Instructor & Training Program Coordinator

Summary:

- AMC NY-NoJ Climbing Committee celebrated its 92th birthday.
- Commemorating video slide show created for this occasion depicting major events, trips, and activities of club members was featured during our Annual Solstice Dinner in January.
- The Committee also continued support of the regions where we climb donating to the Ragged Mountain Foundation, the Connecticut Forest and Park Association, Gunks Climbers Coalition, and Torne Valley Climbers Coalition that is building our the new Powerlinz climbing area in southern Harriman Park.
- Our Annual Spring Training Class yielded 16 new graduates.
- Continuing a tradition started in 2010, the Committee honored another volunteer with the Golden Cam.
- Popular monthly Rock/Ice Top Rope Socials continue.
- 2018 Rock Climbing season kicked off with a Welcome To The Gunks weekend.
- Climbing/Safety workshops during summer of 2018 kept AMC climbing members in their top shape.
- AMC NY-NoJ Chapter's sponsored several members to undertake their Single Pitch Instructor certification.
- Annual Picnic in September marks the end of Summer.
- An interchapter climbing committee meeting was held in November to share experiences and issues facing like minded committees throughout the AMC.

Key 2018 Climbing Committee events:

- Winter Solstice Dinner - January
- Spring Training Class took place in April
- SPI training with Alpine Endeavors – took place over the summer and early fall
- Welcome To The Gunks (WTTG) weekend and The Golden Cam Award – April
- Workshops – Summer 2018
- Rock/Ice Climbing Top Rope Socials – Once a month, every month
- Annual Picnic (Gunks, Singerland Pavilion) – September, 2017

Winter Solstice Dinner/Slide Show

2018 marked the 106th year of the AMC NY-NoJ Chapter and 92th birthday of the AMC NY-NoJ Climbing Committee. The Climbing Committee was established in 1926 as the Mountaineering Committee and the first Chair was Percy Olton. Every year a club member creates a video slide show to celebrate our birthday. Just like last year, the request for photographs from our members resulted in a great turnout and therefore yet another exciting and eclectic slide show. The video premiered at the annual Winter Solstice dinner and was also shown at the Welcome to the Gunks dinner welcoming our 2018 training class graduates.

Link: https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1uWFdsYfOkAQtyCIWbygPBECsv_YfBavk

Enjoy....can you spot the climber??



Donations to The Ragged Mountain Foundation, Connecticut Forest and Park Association.

Our annual Spring Training class takes place at cliffs located in Southington Connecticut. Therefore in 2018 we continued support of Connecticut nonprofit organizations dedicated to conservation, preservation and maintenance of public access and trails in Connecticut Forests. We normally make a donation to the Gunks Rescue squad for their great effort in responding to climbers, hikers and bikers who enjoy the Shawangunks. Unfortunately, this year we could not afford to do so this year due to the unexpected costs with the summer picnic venue. Previously we were able to access the Pavilion at the Mohonk Preserve for free but this year they requested a \$500 fee

Spring Training Class 2018 and WTTG

Over the course of two weekends in April, the Committee initiated 16 new members. With skillful guidance of 17 Climbing Committee volunteers, the new AMC climbers learned skills needed to climb with the club. The Training Class culminated with Welcome to the Gunks (WTTG) event. The recent graduates are introduced to one of the best outdoor rock climbing areas in North East, The Shawagunks. Here is the class of 2018 !!



You can see that the climbing committee strives for diversity and inclusion. We had more men than women apply for the training program this year but we targeted 50/50 split female to male.

We also had a few highly skilled lead-rock-climbers join our committee during the year. All these individuals were reviewed by senior members of our committee and were deemed skill enough to be accepted into the committee. Not all candidates were accepted, adhering to our long standing tradition of safe climbing.

The Golden Cam Award

The 2018 Golden Cam recipient is Daryl Cheang who embodies the spirit of giving back to our AMC climbing community through his service and commitment. Since joining the Committee, Daryl has provided his artistic skills to design our training tee-shirt along with all our event posters and flyers. Daryl has mentored aspiring climbers and helps with the annual training program. Daryl is passionate about the outdoors and helps support gaining access to public spaces. Thank you to our Crasin (aka Crazy Asian)!

Single Pitch Instructor training with Alpine Endeavors.

Although all of us enjoy and participate in top-rope climbing and multi-pitch climbing, advancing to be a confident lead climber (aka “being on the sharp end of the rope”) takes significant commitment and time. In order to assist a few club members in making this commitment, the club helped offset some of the costs. We continue growing our leaders by supporting their interests in obtaining their Single Pitch Instructor certification by sponsoring 2 members and would like to expand it going forward.

Top Rope Socials

Every month, we conduct top rope socials which allow a more social climbing environment. These events are a great way to try more challenging terrain than you might lead or even second. We take the opportunity to reinforce new techniques that require more focused time to learn. These events usually include sharing of food to further enhance the social aspect.

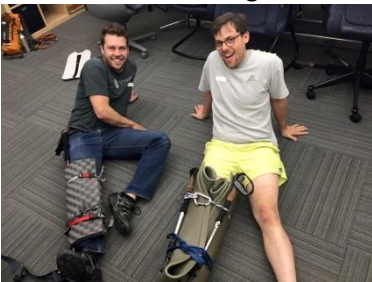
Summer Workshops

Every summer the Committee organizes climbing workshops. In 2018 thanks to our experienced veteran members, the following climbing workshops took place:

- “Getting Back to the Ground” Workshop - The self-rescue workshop featured various rappelling techniques and belay escapes, all of which are invaluable when faced with climbing mishaps.
- Leading Workshops - In this one-on-one workshop, a new lead climber climbs with experience lead climber. During their session, depending on experience of the new lead climber, either on mock-leads or actual lead, the climber receives suggestions on critical gear placement, anchor set-up, and gear retrieval.
- Anchor Placement Workshop - This workshop was offered for both leaders as well as seconds. Reliable gear placements and solid anchor building are key skills that make a climber safe.
- Rappelling with an injured climber – a very challenging endeavor when dealing with full body weight of someone hanging from single rope.

Wilderness First Aid

It is important to our Committee that all our members are proficient in first response/first aid scenario in the outdoors. Due to popular demand, this year, the Climbing Committee organized and subsidized AMC Wilderness First Aid Course exclusively for our members. The class was offered and lead by our own Certified Climbing Committee member, Christiane Siebert.



Annual Picnic at the Singerland Pavilion in Mohonk Preserve.

Keeping with our annual tradition, in September, our best event yet, the Annual Picnic, took place. Cybill took over the organization of this event. Cybill and the other volunteers did a superb job organizing it. Climbing and travel stories were told and the exchange of experience was priceless. A fun raffle brought this evening to an end. We honored the many attendees who have been committee members for decades.

Helping develop or expand climbing crags.

Over the past few years our members have assisted in the accessibility of several climbing crags in the greater NYC area. This includes helping develop and maintain trails through the greater Mohonk preserve area including Dickie Barre. The goal is to keep the setting as natural as possible and reduce the number of unnecessary trails, this is especially difficult given the number of climbers and high concentration along the carriage road. We have helped create, develop and maintain the Powerlinz climbing area that is part of Harriman state park, this expansion is helping reduce the volume at the Gunks.

HIKING

Stefan Erwin, Chair

Hiking had another great year. We expanded our trip offerings in New Jersey with the addition of several new leaders from the Garden State. Mirmar and AMC partnered to offer a multiday hiking trip to Stowe, VT and a great time was had by all. There were several medical incidents over the past year and all were handled wonderfully by our trip leaders, a special thank you to the wilderness first aid committee for preparing our leaders to handle emergencies. The Harriman Program Committee offered a Wilderness Skills Weekend that was attended by leaders to improve our level of preparedness in the field. Everyone learned some new skills and refreshed some old ones. We never knew fire building could be so much fun.

SAILING

John Sheets, Chair

The sailing committee after many active years has found itself without any more wind for it's sails. John has stepped down as chair and we are looking for new members to revitalize the sailing committee. If you would like to help please contact the Executive for Activities.

SKIING

Ed Sobin, Chair

The ski committee along with the Young Members Committee partnered with Mirmar Ski Club to run a series of bus trips to their house in Vermont. Access to lift served downhill skiing at Stowe and Sugarbush were available along with cross country and back country skiing. We plan to do this again in 2019.

SOFTBALL

Fern Stolper, Chair

The softball committee consists of ten members who organize the AMC softball activities. We meet annually in the winter and as needed during the softball season, April through late fall, weather permitting. During the season, and throughout the year, committee members contact each other via e-mail, in addition to our informal, frequent meetings on the field.

We meet Sunday mornings at 11:00 am and play until 3 pm. Approximately thirty plus to fifty plus players show up each week. We have 2 fields and play 2 games on each. We go over the rules/make

announcements each week before the start of play. Sides/teams are randomly chosen for each game allowing everyone to mix, mingle and team up with a variety of teammates.

AMC softball games include a diverse group of members that age from their twenties into their seventies. Players of all skill levels are welcome and we try to foster supportive, harmonious, injury-preventing atmosphere. This is also reflected in our rules of the games. We also try to accommodate a player's wishes, for example, as to a particular position he/she might want to play.

The games are posted on the AMC site and on Meetup (450+ members). A camaraderie has developed amongst the participants. As an example, players use the Meetup site to encourage a sick player to recover quickly, to comment about the games, to enjoy reading one of our committee member's weekly diary. Everyone looks forward to our annual pizza party.

We collect \$5 from each player each week to cover expenses which include buying and transporting equipment; fees for field permits and Meetup.

YOUNG MEMBERS

Co-Chairs Thomas Meehan and Rafal Rogoza

Our committee continues to grow and had become more active in providing volunteers for chapter wide activities. The monthly Thirsty Third Thursdays are a huge success and our turnouts continue to grow. The NY-No.J Chapter had been active in club wide YM events such as the YM takeover at Harriman. In 2018 all of the clubs YM committee pitched in and rented the entire camp for a fun filled weekend. Our annual MLK ski trip sold out in 2018 and is sold out for 2019 as well. The inter-chapter YM leadership training weekends have been instrumental in providing the necessary interaction between chapters that are leading the way to bigger events for all the clubs YM committees. We have an active calendar planned for 2019 as well and everyone is welcome to attend our planning meetings which occur on the first Wednesday of the month. Looking forward to seeing you there.

LEADERSHIP

Ed Sobin, Chair

In this third year of the Leadership Committee we're continuing to look for new ways to train more leaders. The Leadership Training weekend is now geared only to train new leaders and is reliably run each spring. The prior years had it in the fall once and also tried to have a track for experienced leaders as well as for new leaders.

Our goals are basically unchanged -

- 1) Make it easier to get new leaders trained and leading activities

2) Make sure potential leaders learn the basic AMC leadership skills that aren't activity specific (i.e. trip planning, incident reporting, trip talk at the start, using the ActDB and social media, liability issues, etc.) so that the activity committees can concentrate on the skills needed for the activity

3) Make it easier for AMC leaders to lead for different chapters if they move out of (or into) the NY/NJ area.

Activity highlights -

1) While not run by this committee there were a few leadership initiatives worth mentioning. At the club level there were some Young Member oriented (but not limited to YM of course) leadership weekends and also work done to partner with a local college to train their students. Those trained are handled as if they attended the chapter training. They still have to fulfill the requirements of the activity they want to lead for (e.g. lead 2 hikes with a mentor, etc.).

2) The Leadership Workshop Weekend at Harriman Outdoor Center had 31 (up from 17 the prior year) potential new leaders attending.

3) We are continuing to share new leader info between the nearby Delaware Valley and Connecticut chapters. This has been helpful to a few that live in between the 2 chapters. For instance we trained a leader here and they did their mentored activities at DV and can now lead for both chapters.

4) While we plan to continue offering half day intro leadership classes at the club office next year, this past year there were none.

Plans for next year -

- 1) Improve tracking the Leaders in Training as they progress towards becoming leaders
- 2) Improve communication and assistance to help the Leaders in Training become leaders
- 3) Run another Leadership Workshop (already scheduled for May 17-19 in Harriman)
- 4) Continue with the half day intro classes



COMMUNICATIONS REPORTS

EXECUTIVE FOR COMMUNICATIONS

Lee Hoffman

MEMBERSHIP

Carrie Ho, Chair

Yearly statistics

Number of Members per Chapter: 5 Year Trend

Year	AA	BK	BN	CT	DV	ME	MH	NA	NH	NY	PC	SE	WR	Total
2014 Final	8,282	2,894	23,199	7,984	4,740	5,143	732	2,633	12,677	11,480	2,735	3,829	2,890	89,218
2015 Final	9,052	2,988	23,815	8,364	4,918	5,184	760	2,641	13,014	11,352	2,905	3,834	3,007	91,834
2016 Final	8,736	2,936	23,805	8,253	4,803	5,262	747	2,685	13,234	11,246	2,853	3,845	2,999	91,404
2017 Final	8,910	2,953	23,604	8,280	4,825	5,736	822	2,668	13,106	10,746	2,907	3,786	2,906	91,249
2018 YTD	9,798	3,213	25,907	8,745	5,118	6,557	837	2,965	14,575	11,233	3,008	4,106	3,266	

* "Final" data are from December of the designated year; "YTD" data are from the current month and year.

* As of March 2018, we are now counting Family Memberships as 2.5 members instead of 2 members to more closely align with broadly accepted standard family size. Please take this into consideration when comparing numbers from before and after March 2018.

Source: AMC – Membership Club-wide, August 2018

Accomplishments in 2018:

- Attended the Member Committee meeting in AMC Annual Summit (January) and the monthly New York Chapter Executive Committee meetings. Contributed the add-valued idea to the Club.
- Hosted a new members family weekend in Corman Harriman Outdoor Center. We welcomed 14 families, and nine (9) children performed in a Talent Show.
- Hosted one new members weekend in Mohican Outdoor Center.
- Hosted four (4) speaker series. Kicked-off by Benno Rawlison on his arctic adventures in a German brewery. Co-hosted with Outdoor Afro, JR Harris, the author of "Way Out There", shared his stories in Upper West Side North Face Store. The popular speaker series continues in 2019.
- Organized the second hiking trip in Catskill Mountains in the Memorial weekend. The number of participants was increased by 87%, a total of 28 participants in 2018.

Outlook in 2019 :

- The Membership Chair continues to host speaker series. We have been approached by three (3) authors who want to give speak to AMC.
- Continue to lead Catskills Hiking trip in May.
- New Members Weekend, Corman Harriman Outdoor Center in July
- New Members Family Weekend, Corman Harriman Outdoor Center in August
- New Members Weekend, Mohican Outdoor Center in September
- Continue to host Membership Party in December.
- Co-host walks with Shorewalkers.

Again, your feedback and comments are very important to us! Please write to Membership@amc-ny.org if you want me to organize any events that could be beneficial for the AMC members. Let us work together to build a better AMC community!

FACILITIES & SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORTS

ADVISORY

Eileen Yin, Chair

The Advisory Committee provides two services to the Executive Committee: a) ad hoc advice and guidance upon request and b) management of the Chapter's Volunteer Recognition Awards.

This is the second year the Advisory Committee oversaw the selection process for the Chapter's four Volunteer Recognition Awards. The Selection Panel for Appie of the Year was comprised of 10 former Chapter Chairs. The Selection Panel for all other Volunteer Recognition Awards was the Executive Committee. There were 39 candidates for Awards this year.

The Chapter's Volunteer Recognition Awards are:

- **Appie of the Year Award** : For an individual who gives selflessly of him/herself for the good of the club; one who works tirelessly, often behind the scenes, organizing, leading in fact and by example; someone who has served in this manner for several years, thus over time continuing this commitment; an active volunteer, rather than someone who served well in the past, or for a limited time. The Appie exemplifies what is best about the volunteer ethic that makes our Club, and most particularly our Chapter, so special.
- **Inspiration Award** : For a member who embodies the spirit of our chapter and inspires others by leading, mentoring, or encouraging leadership or activity for AMC this year.
- **Ambassador Award** : For a member who encourages others to participate with AMC or promotes AMC and our Chapter by recruiting, speaking for or representing AMC at events (including in office, outside venue or related to an activity), etc this year.
- **Unsung Hero Award** : For a member who supports the chapter in less visible or celebrated ways behind the scenes , such as public service (conservation, trails), communications, editing, committee service, record keeping, etc this year.

Details of this year's Awards recipients are listed at the end of this Annual Report.

CONSERVATION

Brittany Gollins, Chair

The conservation committee was active this year in promoting the save the Land Water Conservation Fund. We also ran seminars on Leave No Trace and the chapters initiative of Erase the Trace. Our incoming chair Danni has some family-oriented presentation on how to have fun and save money with recycling and repurposing everyday projects. Keep your eyes out for when she will be doing her events.

FIRE ISLAND

Diane Serlin, Chair

No other AMC Facility had as dramatic a season as the Fire Island Cabin had this year!

In early March, John Judge advised the new Chair that the Fire Island Cabin was going to be put up for sale, and our 2018 season was cancelled effective immediately. Out of that devastating news, the most amazing chain of events began, resulting in a new, stronger relationship between the Cabin and management in Boston, and, with the Chapter.

Members in the Chapter were up in arms over the proposed sale-- Nathan put the FI Cabin on the agenda for the Chapter's March meeting. Over 80 people showed up, and all of us present were treated to story after story of what Fire Island meant to each person who spoke: long time members, children, volunteers, guests. John and Rol (the Chair of the Board of Directors) viewed the meeting via the Facebook live broadcast and decided a few days later to cancel the vote on the sale of the Cabin. John and Rol and other Board of Directors came out to the Cabin in August for a meeting. We agreed to listen and learn from each other, to ensure that going forward the Cabin would be the best possible representative of the AMC mission and goals for the future.

We scrambled to get the Summer schedule back on track, and we wound up with our best season in several years. Here is what we looked like:

We opened Memorial Day weekend with sloop rides on the Great South Bay, and ended the last weekend in September with Irish Dancing. In between, we ran our usual water based events: Two Learn to Sail weekends, an Adventure Sail for experienced sailors, and two midweek sail schools. For kayakers we had two learn to paddle weekends, one devoted to intermediate kayakers and a 3 day midweek kayak workshop.

Other activities included yoga, painting, chess and music. We ran two Young Member's weekend and will do so again in 2019. We had three Family midweeks AND were totally excited to connect with a nonprofit organization called Kids Passport to Adventure—a group that promotes learning experiences in nature for children. Twenty eight children spent a day at the Cabin. We partnered with FINS for a trek the rangers run from the east part of Fire Island, to the Cabin, where they spend the night.

In addition to the usual repairs to the structures on the property, due to its position on a barrier island buffeted by salty winds and waters, we had one structural change to the Cabin. A bunk bed was removed from each of our two dorms, to accommodate the installation of a wall of windows. They look nice, and greatly improve air flow. But, we now sleep 22 people instead of 24. We are looking at ways to increase our capacity. Tent platforms on the property are not out of the question!

In an effort to improve our reservation process, we used the Call Center for weekend reservations in 2018, and are in conversation to have the Call Center handle the midweeks as well, for next season.



HOSPITALITY

Melissa Marine, Chair

2018 NY-NJ AMC Chapter Annual Picnic Weekend

For the second time, we had the incredible opportunity to host and plan the 4rd Annual NY-NJ AMC Chapter Picnic as a full weekend event at the Harriman Outdoor Center. The event was a smashing success with 200 AMCsers in attendance for the picnic and 100+ overnight! And it was so much fun that the executive committee decided to do it again in 2019.



A very special thanks to our volunteer-led picnic committee team including Cynthia, Eileen and Nathan who spent many, many hours behind the scenes planning and putting this amazing weekend event together!

Executive Committee Chair Meeting

We also organized our biannual meeting and dinner for committee chairs on Oct 25, 2018. We had a full agenda including Club Updates from Chapter Committee Meeting, Diversity, Equality and Inclusiveness Initiative, Annual Dinner, Leader Training Initiatives, and much more.



Thanksgiving at Bear Mountain

Members of the NY-NoNJ Chapter have regularly looked forward to attending the annual Thanksgiving Day Dinner at the Bear Mountain Inn and this year was no exception. More than 25 AMC members and their guests attended this year's event, spending time renewing old friendships and creating new ones at the historic Inn. We look forward to an even bigger event next year, and would love to work with anyone in the Chapter who would like to help volunteer for the 2019 Thanksgiving event. For more information, and to learn about other upcoming activities, please email

We look forward to organizing many more events in the upcoming year starting with the chapter's **106th AMC Annual Meeting & Dinner to be held this Saturday, Jan 5, 2019 At The City College of New**

York. This annual event will include: Election of the 2019 Executive Committee, Recognition Awards, Guest Speaker, Raffle and more. We hope to see you all there!

NOMINATING

Henry Schreiber, Chair

The Nominating Committee nominates candidates for the Chapter's annual election for Chapter Executive Committee – Chapter Chair, Chapter Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Liaison for Activity Committees, Liaison for Communication Committees, and Liaison for Service Committees. Chapter by-laws require that the list of nominees be published not less than 60 days before the Chapter annual election.

The Committee might also be asked to suggest possible candidates to fill any Executive Committee vacancy that occurs between elections, as well as committee chairs.

Nominees for the 2019 Executive Committee are:

Nathan Baker, Chair

DeeDee Mozeleski, Vice Chair

, Secretary

John Allman, Treasurer

Kaspar Alexander, Executive Liaison for Activities

, Executive for Communications

Cheryl Bobe, Executive for Facilities & Services

The Mid-Atlantic Regional Director is a non-voting ex-officio member of the Executive Committee.

The Nomination Committee members are:

- Henry Schreiber, Chair
- David Lamb
- Richard Seibel
- Barry Skura
- Lisa Williams

TRAILS COMMITTEE

Hope Rodgers, Chair

Many hard-working AMC maintainers took care of 9 miles of trails east of the Hudson, 17 miles in New Jersey, and 41 miles west of the Hudson, primarily in Harriman/Bear Mt. State Parks, as well as the Siwanoy Trail in the Bronx. A hot and rainy summer gave us plenty of growth to deal with but also caused several maintenance outings to be cancelled due to bad weather.

Joe Rodriguez supervised efforts east of the Hudson. Steve Weissman, who also directs maintenance for the AT in New Jersey, continued to direct a highly organized group of maintainers in New Jersey. In Harriman/Bear Mt. State Park, Bill Hladky, always raring to go, supported, assisted and recruited a large troupe of maintainers. And in the Bronx, Ken West supervised urban trails.



A chapter picnic on a very hot June 30 drew a hardy core of heat-resistant maintainers. It was a chance for maintainers, who often work alone, to meet each other.

The chapter keeps a stash of trail maintenance tools at the Corman Harriman Outdoor Center. These tools can be used for group trail maintenance outings, or for individual maintainers who don't have tools of their own. So we hope it's now easy for

more people, including those using public transportation, to join in maintaining our many beautiful trails. We're always in the market for more maintainers!



WILDERNESS FIRST AID

Jonathan Silver, Chair

The mission of the Wilderness First Aid committee is to provide professional quality wilderness first aid training to chapter members and to encourage members to get this kind of training. We stand ready to provide support to any unit of the club who wishes to learn more about wilderness emergency care.

During 2018, our twenty-first year, we conducted 5 WFA courses. We trained over 70 chapter members and others in the basics of wilderness emergency care.

The committee rolled out a new version of the WFA course this year, bringing it up to date and making it compliant with the *Guidelines and Scope of Practice for Wilderness First Aid*, a new industry standard. Additionally, the entire slide-set for the course as provided by ECSI was modified for our 16-hour course to make it better conform with our text book *Wilderness First Aid – Emergency Care in Remote Locations 5th edition*.

We would like to introduce a new instructor candidate, Graham Donohue. Graham comes to us with a wealth of experience in both civilian and military emergency medicine. We look forward to working with Graham during the coming year.

We will continue to run our voucher program in 2019. The WFA committee makes available two vouchers to each activity committee chair for distribution to people active in their committee. Each voucher is worth \$40.00 off the cost of a WFA committee sponsored wilderness first aid course.

The WFA committee is constantly on the lookout for new, qualified instructors. If you or anyone you know has significant pre-hospital emergency care (EMT, Ski Patrol, etc.) and outdoor experience, we encourage you to have them contact Richard Dabal at WildernessFirstAid@amc-nj.org.

Finally, I will be stepping down as committee chair effective the end of 2018. Richard Dabal will be taking up the duties as the new committee chair. We wish Richard the very best in moving the committee forward into the future.

Committee Members/ WFA Instructors

Jonathan Silver, Outgoing Chair

Richard Dabal, Instructor, Incoming. Chair

Maureen McCahery, Chair Emeritus

Jeffrey Alpert, Instructor

Christiane Siebert, Instructor

Ethan Gracer, Instructor

Graham Donohue, Instructor Candidate

Harriman Program Committee

Eileen Yin, Chair

The Chapter celebrated a successful third season at the Corman AMC Harriman Outdoor Center! We never let the poor weather get us down.

The Harriman Program Committee (HPC) is dedicated to getting as many people as possible to enjoy the outdoors by utilizing The Stephen & Betsy Corman AMC Harriman Outdoor Center (CHOC). Each year, HPC develops a schedule of chapter-sponsored, volunteer-led programs that promote the AMC's and New York-North Jersey Chapter's Mission, Vision, Goals and Objectives. HPC Programs offer fun outdoor activities, skills instruction, leader training, new member events, family programs, and social events.

Programs

Chapter programs ran from May 18 through September 30, 2018. The biggest challenge was atrocious weather. We either suffered terrible rainy forecasts or horrendous heat and humidity every single weekend throughout the season. Understandably, there were fewer registrations than anticipated.

Nevertheless, all programs continued as planned and everyone who participated had a great time. Only Novice Backpacking was rescheduled due to thunderstorms.

In 2018, New York-North Jersey Chapter offered 32 Programs at CHOC, including the iconic Chapter Picnic and Leadership Training Workshop sponsored by the Executive Committee, and 30 Events organized by HPC. Six events were sold out or oversubscribed, including the ever popular Picnic, Yoga, Ladies Canoe & Kayak, and Fall Hiking & Fine Dining Weekends.

New this year were programs targeted to engage more diverse audiences, such as LGBTQ Friends & Family and Outdoor Afro Weekends, and programs that offered hard skills instruction, such as Novice Backpacking and Wilderness Skills Weekends. HPC also piloted Arts in the Outdoors, with two Photography Workshops and a Writers Woodland Retreat.

Some experimental programs ultimately attracted only small numbers. Three Bikepacking Lite cyclists rode 60 mostly trail miles from CHOC to GWB. Seven caffeine-loving Friends of Bill W participants were fewer than we hoped, but all were new to CHOC and planned to return. And while constant rain kept the Interchapter Midsummer Frolic numbers to only 28 participants, the intrepid members of the New York-North Jersey, Delaware Valley, and Mohawk Hudson chapters braved the weather and went out on multiple hikes and paddling activities, plus played games and watched movies in the evening.

One benefit of the rainy season was a bumper crop of wild fungi. Tat Yuen's wildly popular Mushroom Identification Walk around Breakneck Pond had to be capped. Lucky participants not only learned about the mushrooms around camp, but also were treated to a unique tasting experience in Stone Lodge!

Based on the tremendous turnout last year for the Young Member Camping Events and their campfire karaoke-ers, HPC tweaked the program design this year so most events offered both cabin and more economical camping options. It was such a popular option, that at the Fall Wilderness First Aid course, students eschewed cabin bunks altogether; All overnight participants chose to camp! Tenting novices and mass transit riders loved the free camping equipment provided by the camp!

Volunteers

HPC is grateful to our 36 HPC Leaders who led wonderful programs. We also appreciate the dedicated Spring Work Day Volunteers, led by John Rowen, who prepared the camp for Opening Day. Five Volunteers joined the Committee and will take on the hard work of preparing the 2019 HPC Program Schedule. Herb Zoota accepted the HPC Vice Chair this autumn and has already been instrumental in compiling the 2019 schedule.

Participants

NY-NoJ Chapter brought more than 640 participants through CHOC. Of these, more than 100 enjoyed themselves so much they joined more than one chapter event! It was also exciting to see that many participants went on to make their own private reservations and introduced their friends to CHOC. AMC members receive a 20% discount for all chapter events at CHOC.

The majority of event participants are current AMC members. Approximately 15% of participants are Non-members. Approximately 6.5% of participants joined AMC for the first time or renewed their membership in order to take advantage of preferred member pricing for HPC Programs. In the past 3 years, overall 1,350 participants joined Chapter events at CHOC.

Administration

HPC continued to leverage online tools. The EventBrite Registration application provided the Chapter with financial transparency and fiscal controls. The Asana Task Management tool prompted leaders to make time-sensitive decisions and meet deadlines. Survey Monkey provided the platform to collect “Voice of the Customer” feedback from our participants that was so valuable when planning the following year’s program.

Financials

HPC priced programs to break even financially at year-end. HPC ended the season with a \$667.63 Net Loss. Although registrations were subdued by foul weather, Day Use and sold out programs tempered the effect.

NY-NoJ Chapter is one of the largest CHOC clients. This year, the chapter spent more than \$46,400 at CHOC on accommodations, meeting rooms, meals and sundries at CHOC. In the past three years, overall the chapter spent more than \$90,000 at CHOC.

Looking forward to 2019!

The 2019 HPC Program Schedule includes 28 programs, so far. Members can look forward to expanded popular programs, including Yoga & Hiking and Yoga & Self-care Weekends. New pilot programs include fun social events, such as Dance-Hike-Sing! and Latin Dace Exercise. We’re also experimenting with a Seniors Midweek and Group Trail Maintenance Events. Keep your eyes open for more information in April 2019!

Big Thanks to all the Leaders who volunteered at Chapter Events at CHOC!

Ana Agudelo, Jeff Alpert, Justin Bailey, Nathan Baker, Richard Barcia, Carol Ann Benton, Greg Bernet, Cheryl Bobe, Sharon Boq, Howard Braunstein, Richard Breusch, Rick Bryan, Sharron Crocker, Richard Dabal, Stefan Erwin, Steve Galla, Donald Getzin, Ethan Granger, Katina Grays, Carrie Ho, Rob Holbrook, Len Keff, Don Kress, Gail Larkin, Rita Luo, Melissa Marine, Klara Marton, Beth Mason, Robert Matson, Patrick Mecurio, Cate Milin, Joe Nigro, Aurora Olivieri, Martina Puchta, Miriam Rakoswki, John Rowen, Akasha Shanelsois, Jonathan Silver, Geraldine Sweeney, Cynthia Tollo-Falls, Chris Viani, Victoria Waldruff, Sandy Wavrick, Eileen Yin, and Herb Zoota

2018 50 Year Members

Sandor Halasz
Carolyn Lippmann
Constantina Salamone
George Cartamil
Alvin Lippmann
Dolores Fernandez
Henry Zeuren
Herbert Persky
Carol Wilcox
Abraham Dubin
Annette Benedict
Henry Blagden
Vaclav Benes
Eleanor Carothers
Frances Fanger

2018 25 Year Members

Ruthellen Miller
Susan Cameron
Karen Howenstein
Michele Elkins
Edna Berkovits
Laszlo Berkovits
George Werner
Barry Elkins
William Glaser
Mark Howenstein
Charles Miller
Jonathan Ochs
Daniel Mosenkis
Mike Selender
Eleanor O'Connell
Debra Laks
Vicki Steinhardt
Joe Carasso
Margaret Foster
Judith King
Richard Breton
William Drapkin
Ellis Lader

William Oserin
Louise Berkman
Lenny Grefig
Clifford Raynor
Maria Pitaro
David Hartree
William Maguire
Carl Hanson
Rob Taurozzi
David Branigan
Karl Vetter
Lawrence Huntington
Philip Rodman
C. Wilson
Marjorie Mcandrews
William Raffaele
J. Kevin Broderick
Joan Nemiroff
Felicia Moldovan
Catharine Raffaele
Michele Davis
Johanna Rioux
Mark Dubivsky

William Schmidt
Scott Becker
Joanne Lott
Estrella Jacobowitz
Mary Bayno
Frederick Alexander
Myles Brakman
Marietta Phoenix
Grace Becker
Walter Lott
Hal Ginsburg
Jim Datri
Werner Mueller
Harold Jacobowitz
Karen Rychlicki
Gary Lehner
Andrew Mead
Rosemarie Keller
Nancy Kelley
Christopher Kelley
Lenore Schlossberg
Martin Keller
Barry Greene



Chapter secretary Rob Holbrook got outdoors this summer in the Grand Canyon



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