



# New York-North Jersey Chapter Appalachian Mountain Club

## ANNUAL REPORT 2024





# 2024 Executive Committee Officers

**Ed Spirko, *Chair***

**Crystal Williams, *Vice Chair***

**Scott Frank, *Treasurer***

**Dean Parmiter, *Secretary***

 **Steve Galla, *Activities Liaison***

 **Rebecca Goldberg, *Communications Liaison***

 **Andrew Ricci, *Facilities & Services Liaison***





# Ex Officio Executive Committee Officers

**Richard Perez**, *Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Chair*

**Ed Sobin**, *Leadership Chair*

**David Hartree**, *Conservation Chair*

**Hank Zupnick**, *Membership Chair*





# *with* GRATITUDE

THANK YOU EILEEN YIN!

The New York-North Jersey Chapter wants to extend our deepest thanks to Eileen Yin for her invaluable contributions during her time as Regional Director. Her leadership, vision, and unwavering commitment have made a lasting impact, and we are truly grateful for her time, energy and positive spirit.

Eileen's guidance and strategic insights have been instrumental in shaping our direction, and her dedication to our mission has inspired all of us. Eileen will always be a part of our community, and we look forward to enjoying the outdoors together in the near future.





# Committee Chairs



**Dawn Riley**, *Advisory Chair*

**David Mong**, *Backpacking Chair*

**Skip Doyle**, *Bicycling Chair*

**Brian Horowitz**, *Canoe & Kayak Chair*

Anthony Leong, **Acting Climbing Chair**

**Crystal Williams**, *Fire Island Cabin Committee Chair*

**Steve Galla**, *Hiking Chair*

**Henry Schreiber**, *Nominating Chair*

**Ed Sobin**, *Ski Chair*

Trish Bansi, *Stephen & Betsy Corman Harriman Outdoor Center Programming Chair*

**Ed Spirko**, *Trails Committee Chair*

**Richard Dabal**, *Wilderness First Aid Chair*

**John Perilli**, *Young Members Chair*







A Beautiful  
shot from  
Baldface  
Mountain







Astoria Park  
Gear Shakedown  
(Queens, NY)





# REPORT FROM THE CHAPTER CHAIR

AMC has a long history of providing outdoor recreation and hospitality. While participating in local outdoor events is a part of AMC's allure, staying at camps and facilities is a very special outdoor experience. The New York North Jersey (NY-NoJ) chapter has been part of AMC's success for 112 years.



*Ed Spirko*

CHAPTER CHAIR



**Leading the NY-NoJ for the past year has been a rewarding experience. My AMC onboarding has included beautiful places and interactions with spectacular volunteer leaders.**

The journey began last November by learning AMC systems and procedures. Outgoing chair Dawn Riley showed an amazing command of the position and taught me valuable lessons in leadership. I was off to a great start.

Young Members Committee chair John Perilli organized the annual holiday party. The party was a great time to meet so many members who live in the city. I learned about transportation challenges and how valuable AMC membership is in getting people outdoors.

January brought the AMC Summit in Norwood, Massachusetts. Past vice chair Rick Bryan provided a wealth of information during the conference and provided valuable insight. There are many committee meetings working to improve AMC and engage members.

During the winter there were several great zoom meetings. One of the most memorable was a presentation by the Shinnecock nation of Long Island. Host Gregory Kanhai did a wonderful job facilitating a very rich discussion between AMC members and the Shinnecock guests.





Through the winter a number of volunteers continued trail maintenance work in coordination with the New York New Jersey Trail Conference to keep the trails in Harriman and Bear Mountain State Park in good shape.

A Juneteenth event featured a hike starting at Seneca Village in Central Park walking to an AMC sponsored Street fair in Harlem. Both the hike and street fair showed the best of two AMC leaders, Roger Horton and Crystal Williams.

The chapter picnic at the Corman Harriman Outdoor Center drew nearly 100 members together for a celebration. There were lots of

outdoor activities, some great food and prizes. Trish Bansi made the picnic weekend possible and did an amazing job running many other events at the Harriman Outdoor Center during May-October.

There are typically A few hikes a week run by NY-NoJ leaders. I joined a fun overnight backpack trip to a shelter in Harriman and a hike in Ramapo Mountain State Forest. It was part of a Wednesday hike series thanks to the leadership of Mark Gordon and Rich DeCicco.





In early October, I joined my favorite trip of the year, a three-day paddling trip in the Adirondacks. Leader Rich Breton has vast experience paddling in the Adirondacks. I learned on this trip that AMC does not actually mean Appalachian Mountain club, it means "Appalachian Mountain Caterers." Rich along with chefs Lenny Grefig and Henry Schreiber provided some amazing food and hospitality at a campground.

October also brought a leaders' meeting where 30 leaders gathered for the first chapter-wide leader's meeting since the pandemic. Scott Frank, Becky Goldberg, Dave Mong and Anthony Leong all went above and beyond the call of duty to ensure a great event. The day of learning and discussion was rewarding.

Thank you to the nearly 300 amazing volunteers leading trips and events on a regular basis. I hope to participate in many more trips and events in the coming year.

If you are interested in joining this amazing team by getting trained to become an event leader, please don't hesitate to contact me at [chair@amc-ny.org](mailto:chair@amc-ny.org)

I'm looking forward to 2025, the plans are exciting.

Take care,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ed Spirko". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Ed Spirko





# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion (DEI) Committee**  
*submitted by Gregory Kanhai and Richard Perez*
- **Membership Committee** *submitted by Hank Zupnick*
- **Young Members Committee** *submitted by John Perilli*
- **Leadership Committee** *submitted by Ed Sobin*
- **Conservation Committee** *submitted by David Hartree*
- **Treasurer's Report** *submitted by Scott Frank*

# DEI COMMITTEE

The purpose of the DEI (Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion) Committee is 'to bring social justice outdoors' for AMC's New York-North Jersey Chapter. We are committed to growing our membership and advancing new leadership opportunities for those not historically represented by outdoors clubs. Our goal for the 2024 season is to promote connections to the City University of New York (CUNY) community and Native American nations in the New York-North Jersey Chapter region.





**Successes for the committee included hosting online discussions, participating in affinity activities, doing outreach to under-represented communities and offering trip funds to facilitate activities for persons who would not have access to AMC trips.**

In 2024, the DEI committee hosted and facilitated impactful events, including three online talks on diverse outdoor experiences, a Juneteenth walk in collaboration with Team Wilderness and Kids Passport to Adventure (KPTA,) and support for BIPOC climbing and Women of Color events. Notable successes included funding access to chapter trips, such as a BIPOC climbing event at Rumney and a Women of Color day trip at Harriman Outdoor Center, where participants expressed strong interest in returning to nature, thanks to the chapter's leadership and ongoing commitment to inclusivity.

The DEI committee's goal for the 2025 season is to recruit activity leaders who represent diverse experiences to plan collaborative activities with the other committees, including the backpacking committee, leadership committee and hiking committee. This will be facilitated by hosting online discussions on a variety of topics, collaborating with the inter-chapter DEI committee and engaging in community outreach activities such as affinity groups. DEI chair, Richard Perez, who identifies as a person with low vision, has resolved to organizing hikes and activities that are accessible.



# MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

**Although chapter membership dipped 4% this year, continuing a long term decline, steps have been taken in 2024 with the goal of producing a turnaround in the years to come.**

**Among them are:**

- An email outreach each month to new members, highlighting AMC outings in the week ahead, with links to the Activities database to facilitate sign-up. New members who participate in an AMC activity after joining are more likely than non-participants to further engage and continue their membership at renewal time;
- An email outreach to existing members who have not yet renewed within 30 days of membership expiration. Similar to the new member emails, it provides links to AMC outings in the week ahead
- Participation in NYC Earth Day event in April at Union Square, with follow up email to individuals who visited our booth, encouraging them to try an AMC outing and to become members
- A monthly eBlast series, beginning in November, of AMC outing leader biographies, designed to personalize our volunteers and encourage members to participate in their hikes.





# YOUNG MEMBERS COMMITTEE

The Young Members are greatly appreciative of the engagement and support of the Chapter Executive Committee throughout 2024. The following report identifies the YMs' major successes for the year, as well as challenges we plan to address in 2025.





# Successes

The Young Members program had several successful events in 2024, including the Winter Weekend in February, the Corman Harriman Outdoor Center Takeover weekend in July, and the Fire Island weekend in August. The Winter Weekend had a smaller turnout but was still enjoyable, with plans to return in 2025.

The Takeover event at Harriman was a major success, attracting over 120 attendees and featuring activities like hiking, rock climbing, and canoeing, along with sponsorship from Allagash Brewing.

The Fire Island weekend, led by Aijin Wang, hosted 15-20 members for a relaxing cabin experience.

The program also made progress in growing its leadership ranks, with long-time chair John Perilli becoming a hiking leader and several Young Members attending leadership training. This has helped create a pipeline for future trip leaders, with hopes to expand into paddling and backpacking leadership roles in 2025.



# Challenges

The Young Members program faces several challenges for 2025. One key issue is the need to develop a broader base of trip leaders to increase the frequency of activities, with a goal to have three new leaders ready by summer or fall. There's also a challenge in reviving regular social events like "Thirsty Third Thursday," which struggled to find a suitable venue after COVID closures.

In terms of conservation, while the YMs have excelled in outdoor recreation, they aim to boost their engagement in conservation activities, such as trail maintenance weekends or cleanup hikes.

Lastly, with current YM Chair John Perilli planning to step down after 2025, the focus will be on succession planning, identifying new leadership for both activities and major events to ensure continued success and fresh energy for the group.







Chapter Holiday Party  
Organized by YM  
committee



# LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

This is the 9th year of the Leadership Committee. There was no in-person weekend this year. We still are using Zoom for the 4 1/2 hour training sessions which we plan to continue.





# Leadership Committee Goals



## GOAL 1

Make it easier to get new leaders trained and leading activities

## GOAL 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.

## GOAL 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



## ZOOM SESSIONS

This year (September 2023-September 2024) we ran 3 zoom based training sessions attended by a total of 44 people about the same as last year. But we didn't run an in person so overall about 10-15 leaders trained this year. The classes were in December of 2023, June and September of 2024. Some of those attending the classes are from other chapters, most often Potomac but some from Del Valley.

## WEB-BASED TRAINING

AMC staff continue to run a zoom based leadership training that any chapter can attend. A few of our leader trainees were in those classes and are working on becoming leaders. AMC staff also piloted an on-demand web-based training with self-paced modules compiled by experts in the AMC. Those that finished have become leaders in their respective chapters.

## NEW TRAINER

We added a new trainer, Gregory Kanhai (pictured on the right) who should help greatly with new leader tracking and communication goals.





# Plans for Next Year

Improve tracking the Leaders in Training as they progress towards becoming leaders

Continue to improve communication and assistance to help the Leaders in Training become leaders.

Get those that have taken the class to do the required co-leads in the activity committees they want to lead for so they can start leading on their own.

Run 3 Zoom based training classes followed by half day in person training in the NYC parks.





Scene from a  
Canoe & Kayak  
Excursion





# CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

In 2024, the chapter hosted various conservation events. Highlights included a table at the Union Square Earth Day Festival, litter removal at Pine Meadow Lake in Harriman State Park, and invasive species removal at South Mountain Reservation Essex County, New Jersey (in association with the South Mountain Conservancy.)





The chapter also offered two nature-viewing paddling trips at the Great Swamp watershed in eastern Putnam and Dutchess counties, New York, and participated in an aquatic habitat survey of freshwater mussels in the Paulinskill River in New Jersey, partnering with the Delaware Riverkeeper Network. Additionally, the chapter played an active role in submitting public comments on a proposed 450-foot dock near Fire Island Cabin, voicing concerns about the environmental impact and increased boat traffic in the Fire Island National Seashore.

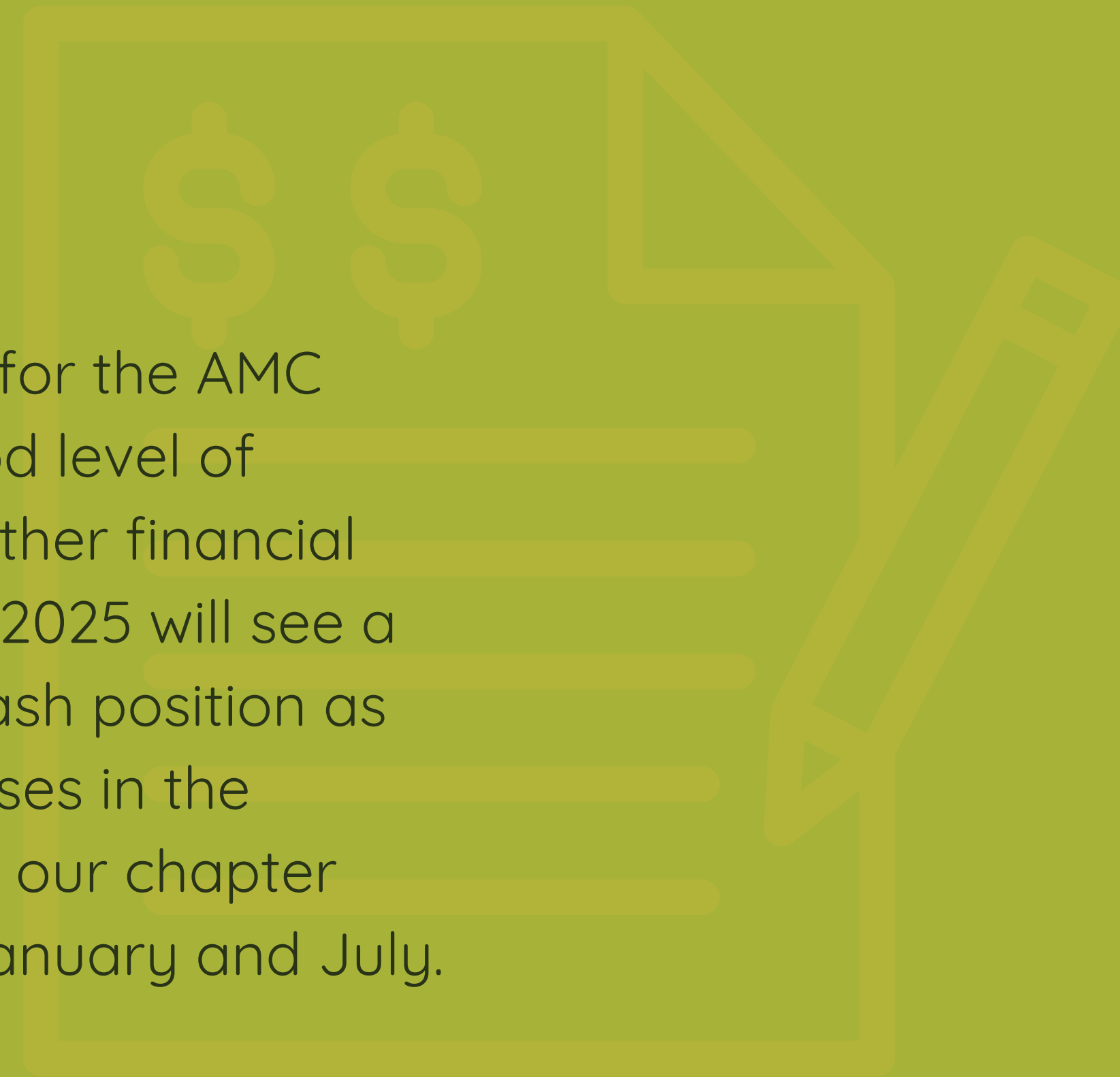
In September, the AMC hosted a webinar during Climate Week NYC titled *Wreaking Havoc: How Climate Change Affects Forests and Trails*. The chapter also continued its Leave No Trace (LNT) training, experimenting with a live webinar format. In November, 50 participants attended an evening session titled *How to Be a Sensible Hiker and Backpacker: Leave No Trace*. The Conservation Committee encourages additional qualified LNT trainers to volunteer in 2025.



# TREASURER'S REPORT



The year-to-date (YTD) through October 2024 for the AMC NY-NoJ Chapter has continued to reflect a good level of activities, as well as further progress towards other financial goals. The local cash position remains healthy. 2025 will see a change in how our local chapter maintains a cash position as we will only be able to keep 6 months of expenses in the account at the beginning of the year. However, our chapter allocations will now be paid out twice a year, January and July.





## HIGHLIGHTS

Endowment distributions for 2024 of \$32,031 were slightly higher than 2023, however membership allocations and website revenue were slightly lower YTD. Program revenue of \$47,489 reflected a 16% decrease YTD over 2023, while program expenses of \$65,223 were down by 17% YTD. Administrative costs are well under budget.

The Chapter's cash position is \$114,400 up from \$101,491 at the start of the year.



## OPERATIONS (THROUGH OCTOBER 2024)

The Chapter started 2024 with \$101,000 in adjusted local cash balances. Revenue or expense generating activities for the year to date have occurred at Corman Harriman Outdoor Center, Trails, Canoe & Kayak, Conservation, Wilderness First Aid (WFA), Young Members, and Diversity Equity & Inclusion (DEI). Additionally, the Young Members (YM) conducted their annual Harriman Takeover on July 19-21, and the Chapter Picnic was held over the June 7-9 weekend. Other committees (including Biking, Hiking, Backpacking, Leadership, Climbing and Programs) have also conducted various free outdoor or virtual events during the 2024 year.

## REMAINDER OF 2024

Aside from the annual meeting, holiday events, volunteer recognition, sundry administrative and receipt of December membership allocations from AMC, most financial activities for 2024 have already occurred. We are looking to break even this year.

### *A note from the Treasurer:*

Unfortunately, after serving one year as Chapter Treasurer, I am stepping down due to unrelated Chapter reasons. I will support Dean Parmiter as we transition the position.

Respectfully submitted by Scott Frank,  
AMC NY-NoJ Chapter Treasurer

## 2025 PLANNING

Our 2025 budget has been submitted for review; the balanced budget process has changed with a due date of November 1st.

During our leadership program event on October 19th, all committees submitted and discussed their budgets. The goals include supporting volunteer recruitment, outdoors training, volunteer appreciation, engagement activities for existing and future members and participants, conservation stewardship/advocacy and exploring new ways to support AMC's mission, while managing Chapter funds carefully.



# FINANCIAL REPORT

31-October-2024	2024 Budget	Oct YTD	2025 Budget
Chapter Allocations	\$26,000	\$15,543	\$25,000
Endowment Income	\$32,300	-	\$32,000
Membership Bonus	\$3,700	\$1,800	\$2,000
<b>AMC Revenue</b>	<b>\$62,000</b>	<b>\$17,343</b>	<b>\$59,000</b>
EC Administration	(\$6,300)	(\$2,426)	(\$4,725)
EC Hospitality	(\$12,200)	(\$2,857)	(\$9,400)
EC Recognition	(\$4,000)	(\$60)	(\$3,000)
Advisory	(\$300)	-	\$0
Nominating	(\$100)	-	\$0
Conservation	(\$5,200)	(\$389)	(\$800)
Diversity Equity & Inclusion	(\$30,900)	(\$11,720)	(\$17,250)
Leadership & Learning	(\$2,000)	-	(\$1,500)
Membership	(\$500)	-	(\$800)
Communications	(\$3,000)	(\$885)	(\$1,815)
<b>Total Exec Comm</b>	<b>(\$64,500)</b>	<b>(\$18,338)</b>	<b>(\$39,290)</b>

*continued* ↗

31-October-2024	2024 Budget	Oct YTD	2025 Budget
Activities Exec	(\$200)	-	\$0
Backpacking	(\$2,400)	(\$819)	(\$3,750)
Bicycling	(\$200)	-	\$0
Canoe & Kayak	(\$1,900)	(\$3,294)	(\$3,570)
Climbing	(\$1,700)	-	(\$1,500)
Hiking	(\$1,500)	(\$1,264)	\$0
Sailing	-	-	(\$1,200)
Skiing	-	-	\$0
Young Members	(\$3,000)	(\$1,722)	(\$2,000)
<b>Total Activities</b>	<b>(\$10,900)</b>	<b>(\$7,099)</b>	<b>(\$13,220)</b>
Facilities & Services Exec	(\$400)	(\$108)	-
Harriman Program Comm	(\$700)	(\$4,371)	-
Program Committee	-	-	-
Trails	(\$3,000)	(\$1,273)	(\$2,400)
Wilderness First Aid	(\$2,500)	(\$3,671)	(\$2,100)
Waters and Rivers	-	-	(\$1,990)
<b>Total Facilities &amp; Services</b>	<b>(\$6,600)</b>	<b>(\$9,423)</b>	<b>(\$6,490)</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>(\$20,000)</b>	<b>(\$17,516)</b>	<b>-</b>





# Scenes from a Hot August Harriman Beginner Backpacking Trip







Scenes from a Hot August  
Harriman Beginner  
Backpacking Trip





A background image showing a person's head and shoulders in profile, looking towards the right, set against a dense forest with green and yellowing leaves. A large, semi-transparent yellow rectangle with rounded corners is centered over the image, containing the title and list. The overall scene suggests an outdoor hiking or climbing activity.

# ACTIVITY COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Backpacking Committee** *submitted by David Mong*
- **Canoe & Kayak Committee** *submitted by Brian Horowitz*
- **Climbing Committee** *submitted by Anthony Leong*
- **Hiking Committee** *submitted by Steve Galla*
- **Ski Committee** *submitted by Ed Sobin*



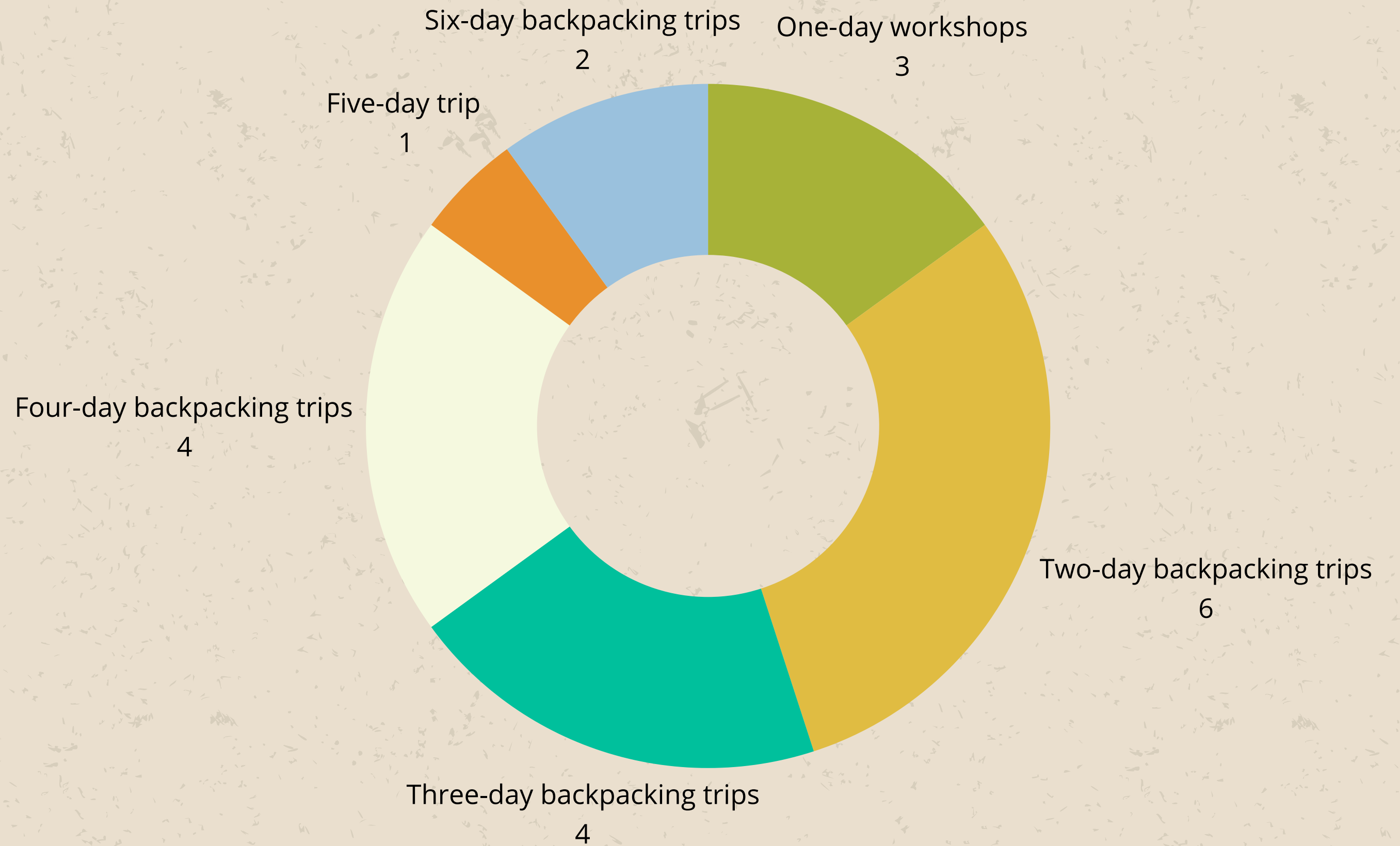
# BACKPACKING COMMITTEE

In 2024 the backpacking committee offered 20 activities from May to December of which 2 were in PA and 18 in NY.



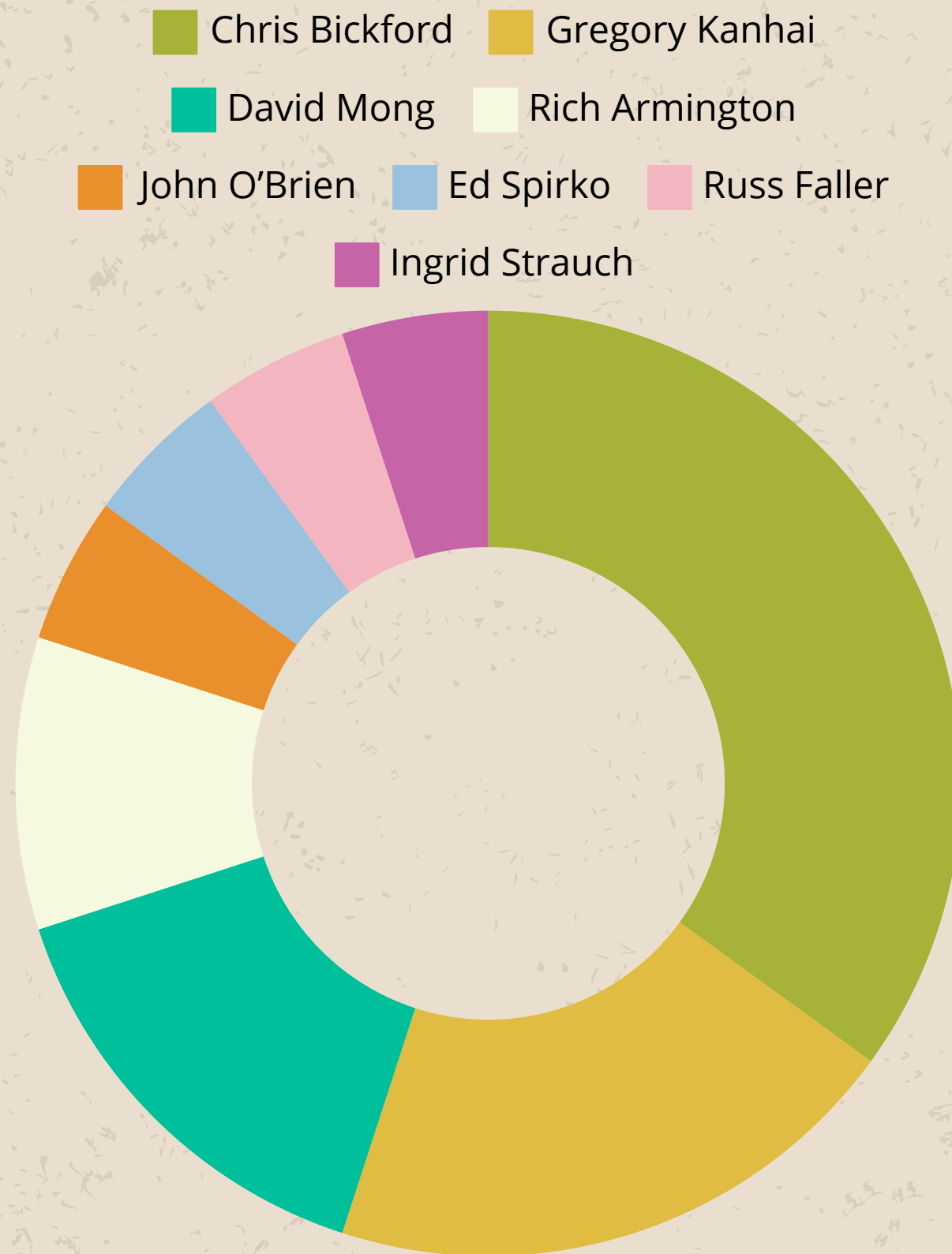


# Length of Activity

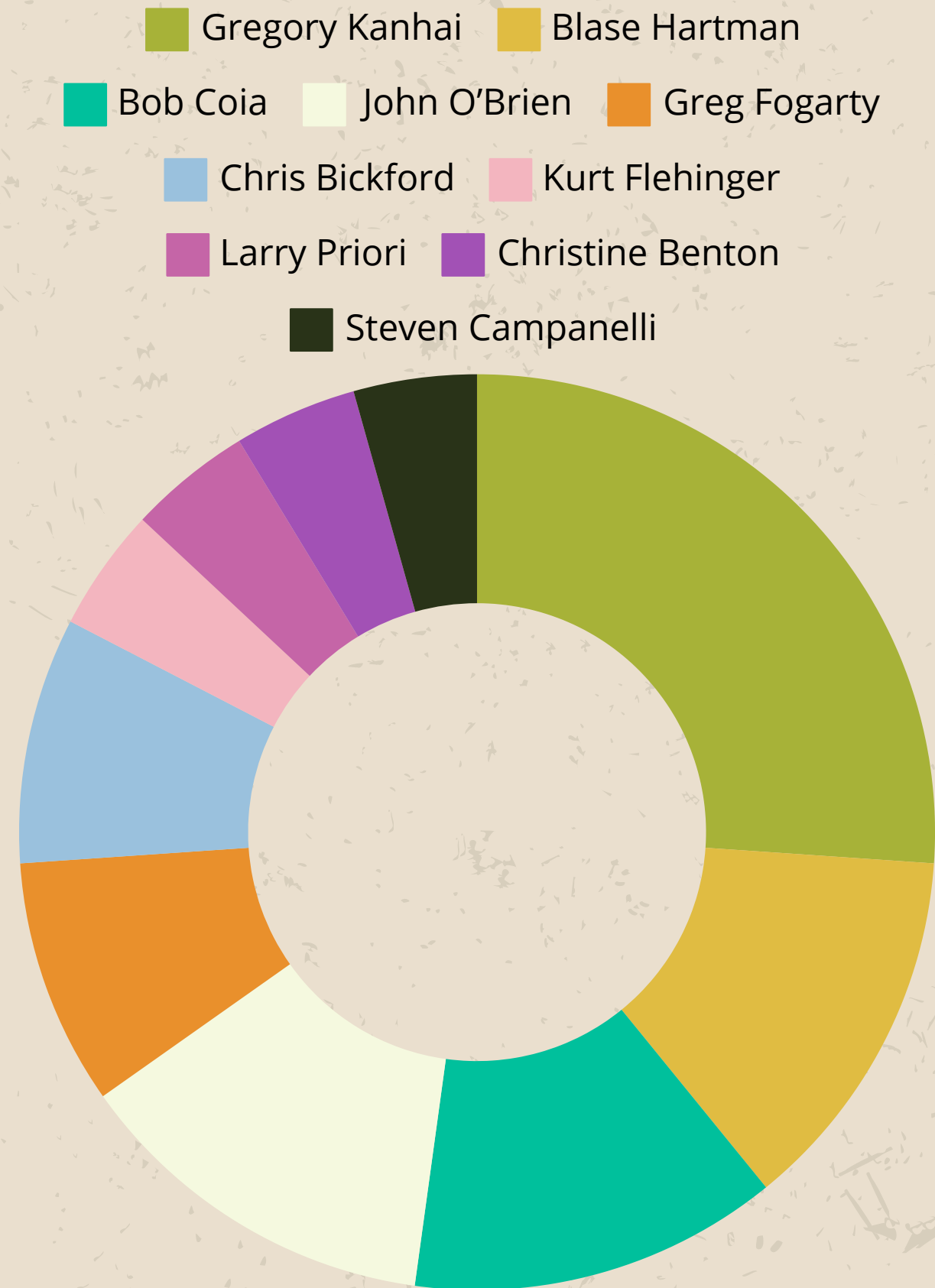




# Primary Leaders



# Supporting Leaders & LITs





On the schedule for 2025 is one winter trip along with plans to add 3 more. Come spring we plan to offer a number of workshops for novice level folks transitioning to backpacking from hiking and camping.







Scenes from a Fall,  
Vigorous, Novice  
Backpacking Trip





# CANOE AND KAYAK COMMITTEE

The Canoe/Kayak Committee had scheduled a full slate of 44 trips in six Mid-Atlantic States for 2024.





## In addition to our annual Paddlers Party, the planned activities included:

- a series of winter pool sessions, run jointly with the Kayak and Canoe Club of New York
- 17 quiet water day and weekend trips
- 19 whitewater day and weekend trips
- 3 extended expedition trips (Pine Barrens; Southern Rivers; and two Adirondack trips)
- 2 Leader Training Workshop
- 1 Paddling Instruction Workshops
- 10 students attended the paddling workshops, several of whom joined our subsequent whitewater trips.
- 23 of our paddlers volunteered this year to be trip leaders or paddling instructors.
- The scheduled Leader Training Workshop developed five new trip leaders, all of whom have already run their own trips after doing their co-leads.
- Our main source of revenue is the instructional workshops (\$1,587.)





## A fall Adirondack paddle







A fun photo  
from a  
climbing trip!





# CLIMBING COMMITTEE

The Climbing Committee is dedicated to providing safe outdoor climbing experiences. Their goals for 2024 focused on increasing the number of climbing leaders and expanding the number of events.





# Climbing Committee



Notable events included leadership training in November 2023, Single Pitch Skills Refresh Days in March, and a top-rope climbing trip at Peter's Kill in May. In June, they co-hosted the AMC BIPOC Rumney Weekend with AMC Boston and Rhode Island, and in July, they were part of the AMC 20's & 30's Harriman Takeover. An upcoming Climbing Leadership Training is scheduled for November 2024.

The committee collaborated with other chapters, such as AMC Boston and RI for the Rumney Weekend, and worked closely with the Inter-Chapter Climbing Committee (ICC) for climbing education and certifications.

Dimitri Akrivos was especially recognized for his leadership in organizing the monthly indoor climbing events at Movement Long Island City and various outdoor climbing trips.

Looking ahead to 2025, the committee aims to continue educational programs, including refreshing skills in early spring and offering leadership training in late fall, with hopes of recruiting more climbing leaders.





# HIKING COMMITTEE

This year has been a very good year for our committee. Our numbers of hikes in 2024 have increased to 301 hikes as of closing on October 31, and our number of new leaders has also substantially increased. The hiking committee has been active leading a variety of hikes in rural, urban and suburban locations within our coverage area. We are looking forward to making 2025 another banner year.







## Spring Hike in Harriman







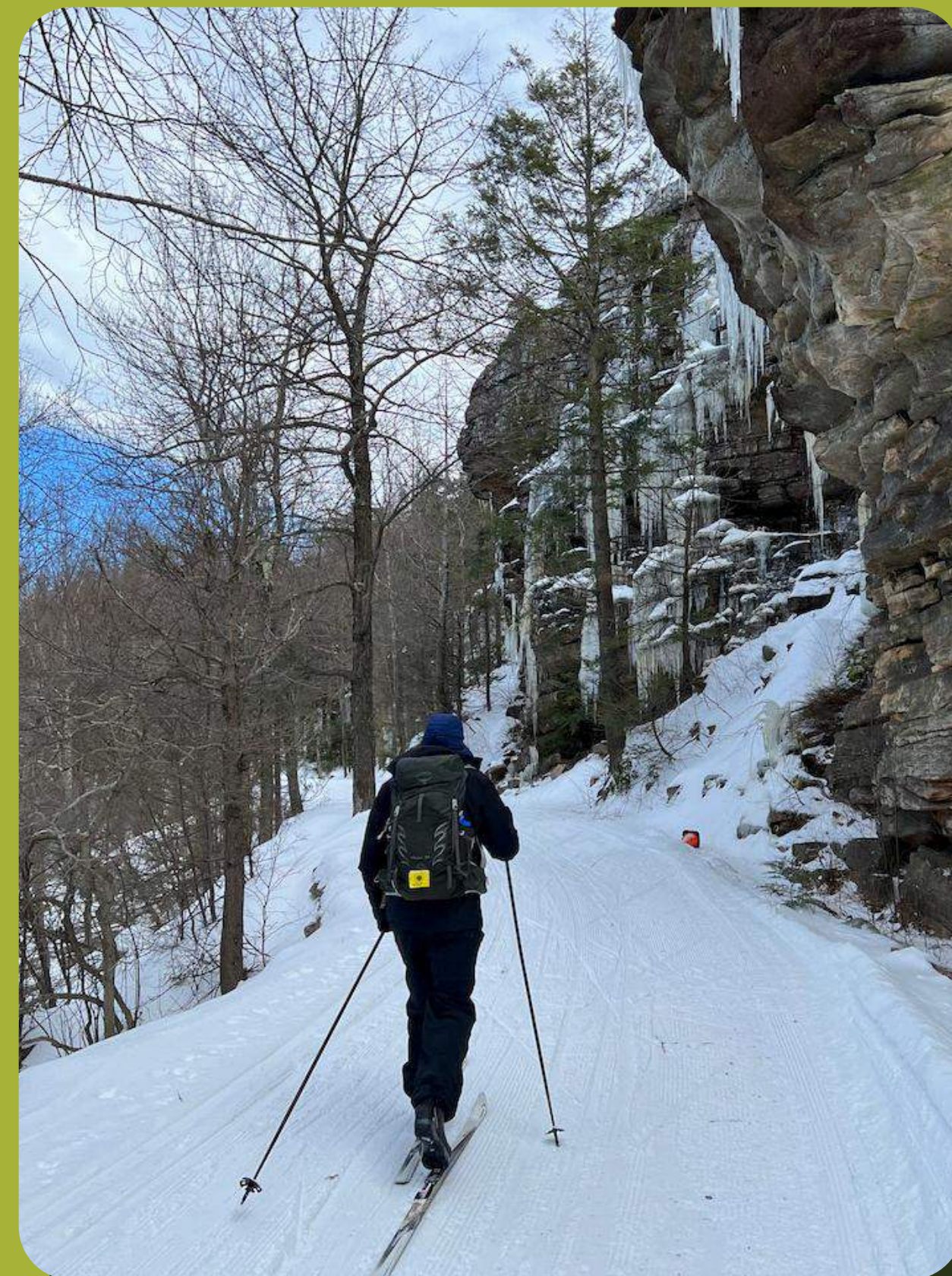
# Spring Hike in Breakneck





# SKI COMMITTEE

Our leaders are focused on cross country and backcountry skiing but there are sometimes trips to lift served areas. These are usually not for downhill skiing/riding but mostly to practice on backcountry equipment for when the snow is good enough.





There are still too few active leaders and again the lack of reliable snow within a couple of hours of NYC makes it difficult to run any day trips. And weekend trips are a challenge as well as the greater distance to snow requires 3 day weekends to be worthwhile.

The new trip series that was started a couple of years ago by our most active ski leader Ron Gonzalez (with Ron also being a Hike leader) to scout possible backcountry ski locations in the off season has continued and expanded a bit. Ron is continuing to run most of the trips and is also mentoring the new leaders so hopefully more trips are on the way.

The Googlegroup discussion forum on ski equipment, conditions, etc. continues to be very active and is one of the highlights of the ski committee.





# FACILITIES & SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Fire Island Cabin** *submitted by Crystal Williams*
- **Stephen & Betsy Corman AMC Harriman Outdoor Center**  
*submitted by Jim Om*
- **Trails** *submitted by Ed Spirko*
- **Wilderness First Aid** *submitted by Richard Dabal*



# FIRE ISLAND CABIN

At AMC's Fire Island Cabin, you can immerse yourself in the rugged beauty of dunes, forests, and marshes, located within the Fire Island National Seashore. Enjoy the stunning Atlantic Ocean beaches, explore the area by canoe or kayak, and sail along the Great South Bay, on Long Island, New York.





I've included pictures from our opening weekend, which has traditionally been a family weekend, and our Kids Mid-Week and BIPOC Women's retreats. We are excited to offer financial assistance now and have introduced an Affinity Fund to promote diversity at the cabin and throughout Fire Island.

Additionally, the cabin is now open to families and children over the age of 5 at all times.





# STEPHEN & BETSY CORMAN AMC HARRIMAN OUTDOOR CENTER

The Corman Harriman Outdoor Center had a full season in 2024 with 15 weekend programs from May to October with a little less than 200 participants.





We could not run our programs without our wonderful CHOC leaders who generously gave of their time to share their wisdom and expertise with everyone. We tried some new programs like self-defense for the outdoors and intro to canoe camping, which were well attended. We are planning a few new programs for 2025 under Trish Bansi's leadership as the chair of CHOC Program Committee. We look forward to seeing many more people on the trails in Harriman and paddling on Breakneck Pond next year.





# TRAILS

The New York North Jersey AMC trail maintenance team logged 730 hours on trail work, 350 hours of administration, and 230 hours traveling as of October 31st.

We'd like to thank all trails volunteers!





## HARRIMAN & BEAR MOUNTAIN STATE PARK TRAILS

Our trail volunteers coordinate with the New York New Jersey Trail Conference who reports to the Palisades Interstate Park Commission. Most of the work is light trail maintenance such as:

- removing twigs and small blowdowns
- clearing water bars and drains
- clipping the trail to allow hikers to pass without having to contact bushes
- repairing or replacing blazes

## BREAKNECK POND AT CORMAN HARRIMAN OUTDOOR CENTER

The trail around Breakneck Pond is a two mile loop trail that is not part of the Harriman trails network. Last year the NY-NoJ chapter began maintenance of the trail and two teams of approximately 6 people worked on maintaining the trail. The maintainers were overnight guests at the outdoor center who signed up for trail maintenance. Thank you trails volunteers!





# WILDERNESS FIRST AID

The Wilderness First Aid (WFA) Committee conducts training on how to manage back country medical issues. Training is a two day, 16 hour class. Using powerpoint and hands-on practice through scenarios, students get learn how to effectively manage injuries from sprained ankles, to fractures to shock and weather related issues. These classes are held three to four times a year at multiple locations and training provides a baseline knowledge.





# 2024 and beyond

One WFA class was conducted at the Fire Island Camp. This was the first time a class was held there. This class was a collaboration between the WFA and First Island Committees.

WFA has always suffered from not having enough instructors. For several years there have been only three instructors. Only one instructor lives close to the locations used for classes. The other two are not nearby. This makes scheduling instructors difficult.

In August one individual contacted the Committee saying they would like to teach. They have the certifications and backcountry experience to teach. The extra instructor is much appreciated. Another one/two more would be great.

The 2024 goals were to teach upwards of five classes in different locations. These locations were the Weis Center in Ringwood, NJ, The AMC camp in Harriman (HOC), and Fire Island Camp.

Plans for 2025 are for three classes. Two at the Weis Center in Ringwood, NJ and one at CHOC. The Weis classes would be March/April. The HOC class would be July/August.





## Scenes from our Juneteenth Event







THE NEW YORK-NORTH JERSEY CHAPTER OF THE  
APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB IS PROUD TO  
RECOGNIZE LONGSTANDING MEMBERS WHO  
CELEBRATE THEIR 25TH AND 50TH YEARS OF  
MEMBERSHIP IN 2024.



# celebrating 25 YEARS OF MEMBERSHIP



RUTH ANSELL  
GREGORY ARENSON  
KAREN ARENSON  
MIKE AUSTIN  
MICHAEL BANAS  
SUSE BELL  
COLIN BELL  
MICHAEL BRAILOVE

JOHN BREENKEN  
CARTAXO  
MARSHA CLARK  
ISABELLA D'AGOSTINO  
KATHLEEN DIETRICH  
FREDERICK DIETRICH  
LAURIE DONALD  
MARGARET DOUGLAS

JUNE DUFFY  
LISA DUNHAM  
ROBERT ELSE  
SUSAN FARENCI  
DAVID GARFUNKEL  
TOBY GOLICK

*wait there's more!*





# celebrating 25 YEARS OF MEMBERSHIP



BONNIE GONZALES  
JANET GOTTLIEB  
LAUREL HOFFMAN  
VIVIAN HOLZER  
MITCH IGNATOFF  
ANNA KURZ  
MICHAEL LEPORE  
WILLIAM MAUS

LINDA MAYERIK  
MUNYEE PANG  
BENJIE PLOTCH  
RICHARD SALZ  
MIOK LEE SALZ  
ALLISON SCOLA  
JOEL SOLOMON  
A. LANETTE SPALDING

BETTY SPERBER  
OLAF STINER  
JOSINE VECA  
ELENA VILLALON  
SETH WARREN  
JOSHUA WILNER



# celebrating 50

YEARS OF MEMBERSHIP



HOPE ANDERSON  
JUDITH BELLINI  
LORETTA CAIRO  
LAURENCE CHASIN  
JACK DRILLER  
JANICE DUNHAM  
DORIS FIELD  
GEORGE FRUHMANN  
WILLIAM HLADKY

HERBERT HOCHBERG  
HENRY KESSIN  
WILLIAM KIRKPATRICK  
TOM LAMBRIX  
GWYNNE LENNON  
GLORIA LEWIT  
WILLIAM LEWIT  
LESLEY LULL  
ALICE MAIRS

FRANK MOLLOY  
ALICE MOLLOY  
JACQUELINE ROSAY  
DONALD SEIDEL  
ROSALYN SMOLEN  
JACK VARTOOGIAN





IN MEMORY OF OUR FRIENDS WHO SHARED A  
PASSION FOR THE OUTDOORS

FRAN BRALEY | DAVE KAPLAN | DON KRESS



# *in* MEMORIAM

JOHN "JACK" T. REILLY

John T. Reilly, Ph.D., called "Jack" by all who knew and loved him, died on July 9, 2024, at age 84. Jack was a long-time AMC member. He was active in Mountaineering (as the Climbing Committee was known until some time in the early 2000s) and chair of that committee sometime in the 1990s.

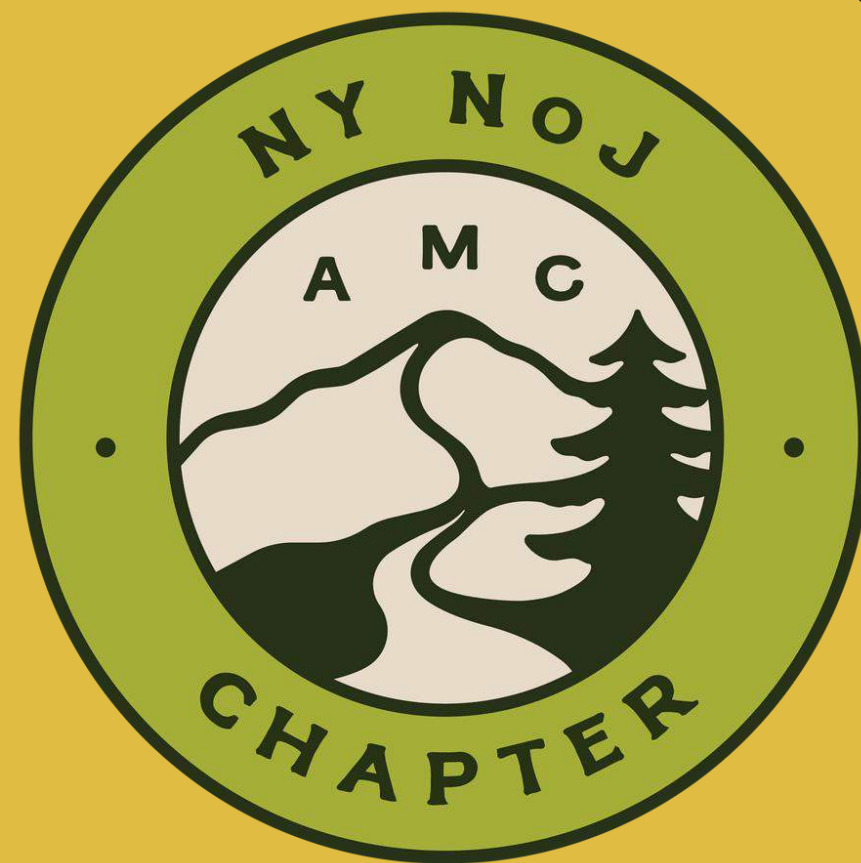
In 2000 Jack became the Activities Liaison. In 2001 he became Chapter vice chair, serving two years. Following that, he became Chapter chair in 2003, serving for two years, after which he became chair of the Archives Committee.

To plant a beautiful memorial tree in memory of John, please visit [tree.trubutestore.com](https://tree.trubutestore.com)





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YOU



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