



New York-North Jersey Chapter
Appalachian Mountain Club

ANNUAL REPORT 2025





2025 Executive Committee Officers

Ed Spirko, Chair

Crystal Williams, Vice Chair

Dean Parmiter, Treasurer

Stephen Beier, Secretary

● **Steve Galla**, Activities Liaison

● **Faith Duggan**, Communications Liaison

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





Ex Officio Executive Committee Officers

Richard Perez, Outdoors For All Chair

Richard Breusch, Leadership Chair

David Hartree, Conservation Chair

Hank Zupnick, Membership Chair



Committee Chairs



Dawn Riley, *Advisory Chair*

David Bernstein, *Archivist*

David Mong, *Backpacking Chair*

Brian Lownds, *Bicycling Chair*

Eileen Yin, *Canoe & Kayak Chair*

Yan Cheng, *Climbing Chair*

Gwen Hartstein, *Hiking Chair*

Anastasia Tavarez, *Hospitality Chair*

Henry Schreiber, *Nominating Chair*

Ron Gonzalez, *Ski Chair*

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

Ed Spirko, *Trails Committee Chair*

Rene Ruel, *Trails Committee Supervisor - West of Hudson*

Richard Dabal, *Wilderness First Aid Chair*

John Power, *Young Members Chair*





The
Climbing
Committee
in action!





A Backpacking
Committee
Member



REPORT FROM THE CHAPTER CHAIR

I am pleased to present the annual report for AMC's New York - North Jersey (NY-NoJ) chapter. The year 2025 has been pivotal, marked by the dedication of numerous volunteer leaders and a unified, organization-wide focus to act as "one AMC". Membership has risen during the first eight months, reversing a multi-year decline. We are committed to sustaining this positive momentum.



Ed Spirko

CHAPTER CHAIR

Our chapter has also enhanced its sense of community through various initiatives, including bringing back the Wednesday hiking group, strengthened collaboration with City College of New York's outdoor club, the relaunch of the chapter e-blast, improved leader recognition and more effective teamwork among leaders.

Advocacy for the protection, enjoyment, and exploration of the outdoors remains central to our mission and is reflected in the efforts of our leaders. Whether at volunteer-led events at the Harriman Outdoor Center or Fire Island, on paddling, skiing, backpacking, climbing outings, group hikes, "Thirsty Thursday" gatherings for young members, during leadership training or trail maintenance activities, outdoor appreciation is part of the chapter's culture.

It has been an honor to lead and support the NY-NoJ trip leaders this year. Their dedication enables thousands of members to participate in outdoor experiences, and their contributions are highly valued.

This report underscores that, as a chapter, we have made significant progress toward revitalization and growth this year. Looking forward, we remain committed to supporting our leaders and expanding opportunities for member engagement.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ed Spirko", written in a cursive style.

Ed Spirko





EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Outdoors for All Committee** *submitted Richard Perez*
- **Membership Committee** *submitted by Hank Zupnick*
- **Leadership Committee** *submitted by Ed Sobin*
- **Conservation Committee** *submitted by David Hartree*
- **Young Members Committee** *submitted by John Perilli*
- **Treasurer's Report** *submitted by Dean Parmiter*

OUTDOORS FOR ALL COMMITTEE

The purpose of the Outdoors For All (OFA) Committee is to bring equality 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.



Over the past year, the AMC NY-NoJ Outdoors for All Committee organized 16 events that engaged participants in a variety of outdoor activities. These included :

- 7 hikes
- 4 historical urban walks
- 3 conservation or volunteer projects
- 2 nature and art experiences.

The mix of programming provided opportunities for both exploration and community engagement across different urban and natural settings.

Among the most well-attended events were:

- The Washington Heights Urban Walk
 - (23 participants)
- The Fort Tryon & Inwood Hill Park Loop
 - (16 participants)
- The Reflection Walk on the East Side
 - (15 participants)

These activities drew strong interest, highlighting the community's enthusiasm for accessible and culturally engaging outdoor experiences.



MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

For the first time in over a decade*, chapter membership stabilized in 2025, with an increase of close to 1% in total members and slightly more than 1% in memberships in the first 8 months of the year.

This contrasts with a 2024 full year drop of 4%.

*excluding the 2021 post-Covid bounce

Drivers of this important stabilization have included:

- A robust schedule of outings, including well-attended hikes every Wednesday year-round.
- Active promotion by several outings leaders of membership benefits at the starting points.
- Leader profiles in the monthly eBlasts.
- A HQ underwritten, limited-time initiative to offer first-year half-priced memberships led to a significant bump in new sign-ups.

These initiatives, or revised versions of them, are planned to continue into Q4 and 2026.



Membership Continued

At the same time, we continue to face challenges with sustaining, let alone growing, our membership.

As a chapter, and across AMC overall, we need to become more persistent in communicating the benefits of AMC membership and encouraging people to sign up. We know there are many people who have come on our outings, have told us how much they enjoyed the outing, yet in many cases nobody in AMC has followed up to convert them to membership. With the implementation of Outdoors Connector, build on the powerful Salesforce platform, we capture emails for all signed-up participants.

We now need to work creatively with the tech and marketing professionals at HQ to develop regular and convincing outreach to these prospective members.

Unlike our largest chapters, Boston and NH, where AMC is well-known and admired as a leading conservation and outdoors-experience organization, we lack this imprimatur in the NY-NoJ area. HQ-funded investment in local land protection efforts such as those undertaken by the Nature Conservancy could help raise our profile and attract new members.

LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

This is the 10th year of the Leadership Committee. There was no in-person weekend this year but we had 2 single in person trainings. We still are using Zoom for the 4 1/2 hour training sessions, but there is now a web based training created by the club. That should be a big help for those that want to lead but aren't free on the days we run the zoom training.



Leadership Committee Goals



GOAL 1

Make it easier to get new leaders trained and leading activities. The web based training will be very helpful.



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. That's another plus for the web based training, it's standard for all chapters.



Activity Highlights

TRAINING

- 2 zoom based training sessions attended 28 people
- 2 in-person single day classes attended by a total of 9 people. June and October

The October in-person was jointly run by our chapter and Del Valley with about 20 attending (most from Del Valley).

WEB-BASED TRAINING

AMC staff created a web based leadership training that any chapter can attend. Only 5 in our chapter have gone through that training but hopefully that will increase next year.

NEW TRAINER

We added a new trainer (Brian Lownds) which should help greatly with new leader tracking and communication goals and there will be a new Leadership chair next year, Rich Breusch.



Leadership Committee Goals

TRACKING

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

COMMUNICATION

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

LEADING

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.

TRAINING

Run 2 Zoom based training classes followed by half day in person training in the NYC parks and somewhere outside the city for those who prefer to drive.





Pelham Bay Park



CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

The number of conservation-oriented activities in 2025 has surpassed that of recent years. Several leaders organized conservation activities on their own initiative (and we greatly encourage this!) while Conservation Committee members led others. Chapter activities led by AMC staff, as part of the AMC's New York Growth Program, also contributed to the total.



In the Five Boroughs of NYC

- Tabled events at the Union Square Earth Day festival and at REI on National Public Lands Day
- The Chapter participated in an invasive species trail maintainer training tour of the Hunter's Island section of Pelham Bay Park, continuing our longstanding partnership with the Natural Areas Conservancy
- The New York Restoration Project (NYRP) provided Chapter participants with a tour of several long-term projects at Highbridge Park
- A hike on the Staten Island Greenway concurrently with the Bioblitz
- A volunteer day at Drew Community Gardens in the Bronx
- A walk at Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
- A trip to the Bronx Zoo and the NYC Climate Week events being held there

Elsewhere in NY and NJ

- An Earth Day flatwater family-friendly paddling trip to the East Branch of Croton/Great Swamp
- A Leave No Trace Awareness Workshop at the Chapter Picnic
- Canoe-based litter removal at Wappingers Creek in the Hudson Valley
- A forest ecology and hydrology hike in South Mountain Reservation in NJ, in partnership with the Rahway River Watershed Association
- Chapter outings to the AMC's Outdoor Stewards Naturalist events in Reeves Meadow and the Kanawauke Nature Museum



YOUNG MEMBERS COMMITTEE

The Young Members have been greatly appreciative of the engagement and support of the Chapter Executive Committee throughout 2025. The following report identifies the YMs' major successes for the year, as well as challenges we plan to address in 2026.



Young member event organizers have had a significant increase in turnout for daily events with most single day hikes hitting the maximum capacity for signups. Hike leaders have also noted an increase in repeat attendees.

The Harriman weekend was also a success with over 80 participants and included activities such as hiking and kayaking. Additionally, Thirty Thursday has been reimplemented as a monthly event and has had strong turnouts.

AMC indoor climbing events are also now hosted monthly at Movement Long Island City with the gym offering discounts to event participants.

There have also been several hikers who have expressed interest in becoming hike leaders. **John Power has taken over as chair of the young members committee as of September 2025.**

Areas of improvement for young members include increasing the turnout for multi-day activities such as the winter weekend and Harriman Takeover weekend. The winter weekend was cancelled in 2025 due to insufficient turnout. Additional hike leaders and event organizers will also be sought in 2026.





Snowy shot near
Limekiln Lake



TREASURER'S REPORT

This has been a rewarding first year serving as Treasurer of the chapter. We have made significant progress in understanding our financial position and remain committed to supporting our leaders in every way possible.

Respectfully submitted by Dean Parmiter,
AMC NY-NoJ Chapter Treasurer



FINANCIAL SYSTEMS AND HIGHLIGHTS

With the successful launch of the Outdoors Connector, we have consolidated our financial collection processes into a single location by utilizing Stripe as our online payment system. This transition has allowed program areas such as Backpacking, Canoe & Kayak, and Wilderness First Aid to efficiently and effectively manage their financial transactions through the new system.

However, due to the complexity involved with lodging arrangements, the Harriman Outdoor Programs continue to use Eventbrite for online payments. This approach has proven reliable and continues to support our needs without interruption. Additionally, the timeline for processing Endowment and Chapter Allocation payments has transitioned smoothly, as outlined in last year's annual Report.



REMAINDER OF 2025

Apart from our annual meeting, holiday events, and volunteer recognition, the majority of our financial activities for 2024 have already taken place. Looking ahead, we plan to make significant purchases for Canoe and Kayak to further refurbish and enhance our fleet, utilizing the remaining available funds in 2025. Our goal is to conclude the year with a balanced budget.

2026 PLANNING

The budget for 2026 has been reviewed by the Chapter Executive Committee during the October meeting and was submitted as a balanced budget ahead of the November 1st deadline. It is currently under review for final approval before the end of the year.

The primary change from last year's budget is a reduction in both income and expenses for the Harriman Program Committee to better reflect actual results from the past two seasons. The 2026 budget has also been further detailed with sub-level breakdowns within committees, offering each group greater visibility into their specific allocations for the upcoming year.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Overall actual YTD is \$26,922.00

2025 Thru October 31, 2025		2025 Budget	October YTD	2026 Budget
Donations			\$50	
Membership		\$2,000	\$1,010	\$1,800
Programs	Annual Dinner		\$1,230	\$1,000
	Backpacking		\$764	
	Canoe & Kayak	\$2,500	\$3,843	\$3,500
	Concrete to Trails		\$2,370	
	Harriman Program	\$48,500	\$29,411	\$30,000
	Outdoors for All		\$210	\$2,000
	Skiing			\$3,500
	Wilderness First Aid	\$1,900	\$5,370	\$5,000
	Young Members	\$7,100		\$3,200
	Chapter Allocations	\$25,000	\$24,352	\$24,000
Endowment		\$32,000	\$35,132	\$35,000
Revenue		\$119,000	\$103,743	\$109,000

Communications		\$2,615		\$1,700
Conferences		\$5,000	\$1,522	\$2,500
Volunteer		\$17,125	\$1,608	\$11,300
Technology		\$1,800	\$2,007	\$2,400
Participant Expenses	Backpacking	\$3,750	\$845	\$4,500
	Bicycling	\$1,200		\$500
	Canoe & Kayak	\$6,250	\$5,620	\$7,000
	Climbing	\$1,500	\$234	\$1,500
	Conservation	\$800	\$350	\$1,500
	Harriman Program	\$50,000	\$39,911	\$36,000
	Leadership	\$1,500		\$1,500
	Outdoors for All	\$8,770	\$5,293	\$10,000
	Sailing	\$1,00		\$500
	Skiing			\$7,000
	Trail Maintenance	\$2,400	\$898	\$4,400
	Wilderness First Aid	\$4,000	\$4,435	\$5,000
	Young Members	\$9,100	\$5,217	\$5,200
Waters & Rivers		\$1,990	\$1,990	\$2,000
Insurance			\$6,247	\$3,500
Credit Card Fees			\$643	\$1,000
Expenses		\$119,000	\$76,820	\$109,000



Adventure in
all seasons!





In my capacity as Activities Liaison on the 2025 Executive Committee, my primary focus was to facilitate the adjustment of activities leaders to the newly implemented Outdoors Connector program. Additionally, I provided support to our newly appointed activities leaders in the process of listing their activities on Meetup. My responsibilities encompassed event planning and coordination, effective communication, and program development. Furthermore, I served as an approver for activity leaders who were planning and posting their activities on the Outdoors Connector platform. It's nice to see the Outdoors Connector program succeeding. **-Steve Galla, Activities Liaison**



ARCHIVES REPORT



The year 2025 saw the appointment of David Bernstein as Archives Chair and also marked the 100-year anniversary of the Fire Island Cabin. To commemorate the occasion, David Bernstein digitized all the records relating to the Fire Island Cabin that are available in the AMC Archives at the Highland Center in New Hampshire, including over 600 photographs, with the assistance of Becky Fullerton, AMC Archivist.



DIGITIZED MATERIAL

The digitized material was used by the Archives committee with the assistance of Nadine Bernstein, who curated an exhibit for the centennial at the Fire Island Cabin of approximately 20 photographs that best exemplified the construction of the cabin and the members involved in the same.

Additionally, the first 25 years of records for the New York/North Jersey Chapter of the AMC were also digitized during a separate trip to the Highland Center in New Hampshire.



REQUESTS

Requests from various members, leaders, and executive committee volunteers were fielded by David Bernstein, who provided answers for various inquiries about the archives/former members and/or historical information that would enrich their AMC activities.



TRIP TO CORNELL

Furthermore, another trip was made by David Bernstein to Cornell University to research the collection of Lawrence Grinnell, an ornithologist at the University and a longtime member of the AMC who at one time was the Chair of the New York Chapter of the AMC. Dr. Grinnell was an avid paddler, who wrote books published by the AMC on the subject and was a regular at the Fire Island Cabin, where he met his wife, Julia Grinnell nee Temple, another lifelong AMC member.

RESEARCH FINDINGS

Based on the research conducted at Cornell, David Bernstein determined that there are several films in the Grinnell collection, which document paddling trips with the AMC. A request was made by David Bernstein to digitize these films to be used by the New York/North Jersey Chapter for teaching, learning, research and service to our members who are interested in the rich history of our Chapter and Organization.



A background photograph of a person hiking on a rocky trail. The person is seen from the side, looking towards the right. The ground is covered with grey rocks and some fallen leaves. In the background, there are trees with green and yellowing leaves, suggesting an autumn setting. A yellow rectangular box with rounded corners is overlaid on the image, containing the title and list.

ACTIVITY COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Backpacking Committee** *submitted by David Mong*
- **Bicycle Commitee** *submitted by Brian Lownds*
- **Canoe & Kayak Committee** *submitted by Eileen Yin*
- **Climbing Committee** *submitted by Yan Cheng*
- **Hiking Committee** *submitted by Gwen Hartstein*
- **Ski Committee** *submitted by Ron Gonzalez*

BACKPACKING COMMITTEE

In 2025 the committee has offered 23 activities as compared to the 20 from 2024. We held 3 introduction to winter backpacking workshops, where the focus was to appeal to those with limited experience so they can get involved with the club. We plan to continue this in 2026. Most programs are being held at Hickory Run State Park in PA which offers group sites open year round.



1/3 of our activities were in the cold weather months. The majority of our activities are led by several key active leaders who will be challenging to replace when they age out. We do have a few new leaders that joined us this year which was very helpful.

Two of the activities listed in the total were posted as hikes. One was to the Whites as a hut to hut trip and one to the Adirondacks to camp at Lewey Lake State Park and hike in the area. We plan to coordinate with the Paddling Committee for the Lewey Lake program in 2026. Our programs overlapped this year by random chance but only by one day.



BICYCLE COMMITTEE

The Bicycle Committee will focus on gravel riding and bikepacking in 2026. We will offer workshops, rides and overnight trips to help members build skills and confidence and discover a new way to enjoy the outdoors. Seasoned riders are also welcome.





CANOE AND KAYAK COMMITTEE

The Canoe & Kayak Committee offered a diverse slate of activities in 2025 with a mix of instructions and skill building sessions, flatwater and whitewater trips, single-day and multi-day journeys, plus social events.





From January through October 2025, there were a total of 36 Canoe & Kayak events. The Canoe & Kayak Committee recognizes with gratitude the 20 unique Paddling Leaders who organized trips this year, plus the many, many more dedicated paddlers who acted as Instructors, River Leaders, River Sweeps and Safety Boaters.

New this year were Stand Up Paddle Board Trainings offered by Loren Edelson, an online Canoe Expedition training offered by Geoffrey MacDougall, a Canoe Paddle Making Workshop offered by Chris Raab, and the return of joint trips with the AMC Connecticut Chapter offered by Neil Grossman.

It's especially worth celebrating Richard Breton, who this year leads his 30th annual Adirondacks Fall Foliage weekend!



Canoe & Kayak Committee's Fleet of low-cost rental canoes & kayaks is housed at our storage facility, the "Barn," in Pomona, NY. A Clean Up Day is planned later this year to refresh the space and re-organize the equipment. Additionally, the Canoe & Kayak Committee plans to retire canoes in the fleet that are past their serviceable life and purchase replacements.

Paddle Splashes, the Canoe & Kayak Committee's fan-favorite newsletter, continues to be lovingly edited by Loretta Brady and Marty Plante. It's an important way for our chapter's paddlers, whether active and retired, to remain connected as a tightly-knit community.

Finally, the Chair would like to express her gratitude to Mary Ann Hoag, who served as Vice Chair in 2025 and will succeed as Canoe & Kayak Committee Chair in 2026.

Canoe & Kayak Activities included:

- Annual Paddlers Party, organized by Brian Horowitz
- 1 Leadership Training Event led by Henry Schreiber & Lenny Grefig
- 1 River Cleanup trip
- 8 Instructional trips
- 8 Overnight and Multi-day trips to the Adirondacks, Pine Barrens, and northern NY
- 11 Whitewater trips
- 22 Quiet Water trips



Enjoying a scenic paddle



CLIMBING COMMITTEE

The Climbing Committee is dedicated to providing safe outdoor climbing experiences. Their goals for 2025 focused on increasing the number of climbing leaders and expanding the number of events.



EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

- Top-Rope Climbing at the Powerlinez, Ramapo, NY.
This was a prospective trip leader meetup
- Trip Leader Training at the Powerlinez, Ramapo, NY
- Trip Leader Training - Party of 3 - efficiency and rope management
- Outdoor Traditional Climbing Style, Leader Refresh
- AMC Inter Chapter Committee Schist-Mas* at Rumney, New Hampshire



Fun fact!

**The term "Schist-mas" is a mashup of "schist," a type of metamorphic rock, and "Christmas". It is not a formal word but a creative and humorous name used in the rock climbing community.*

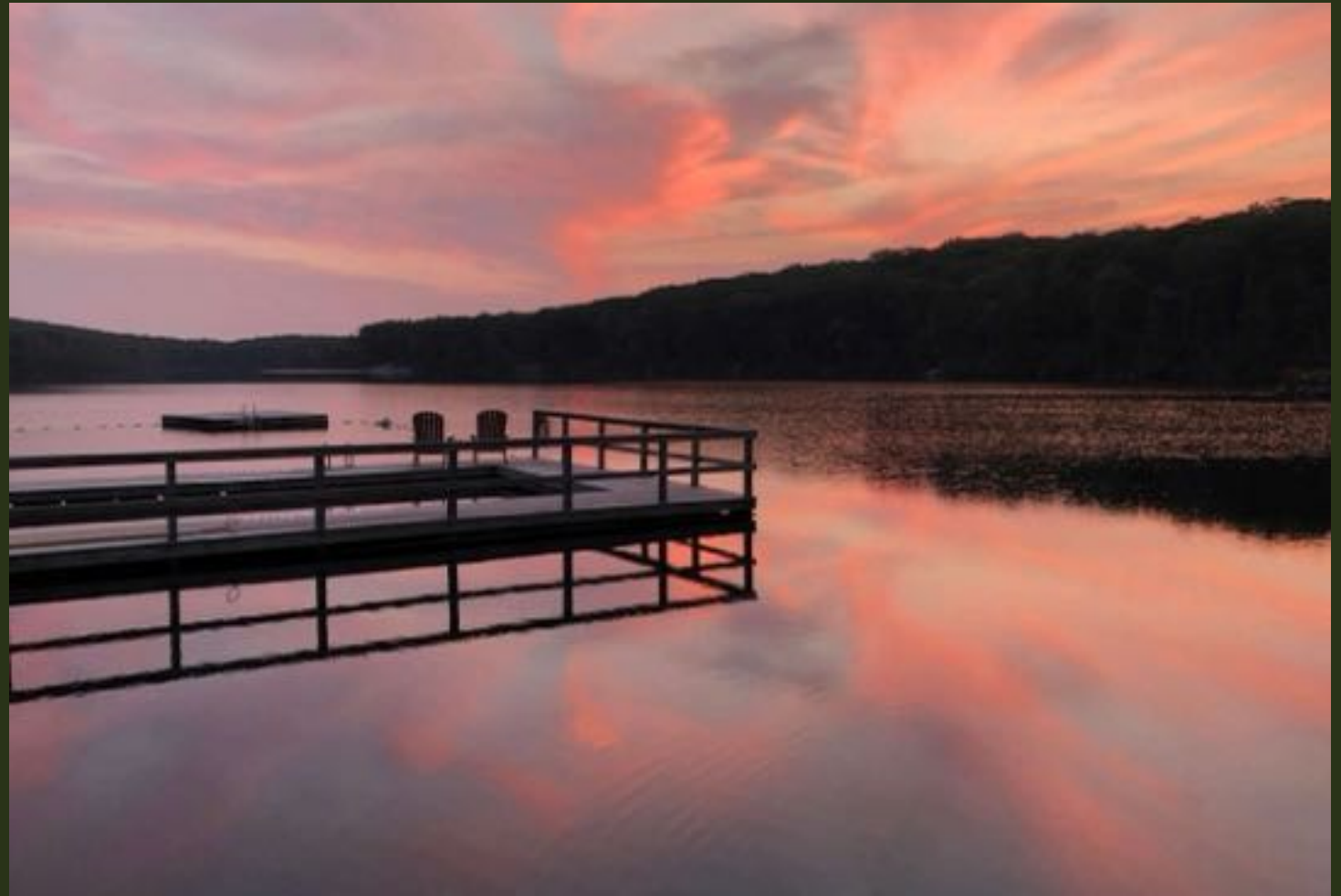
HIKING COMMITTEE

At the close of September 2025, we've had 318 hikes and walks (and counting). We've also welcomed a handful of new hike leaders and are looking forward to closing out 2025 with a few more hike leaders. 2026 we anticipate leading more public transportation accessible hikes.





The Stephen &
Betsy Corman
AMC Harriman
Outdoor Center



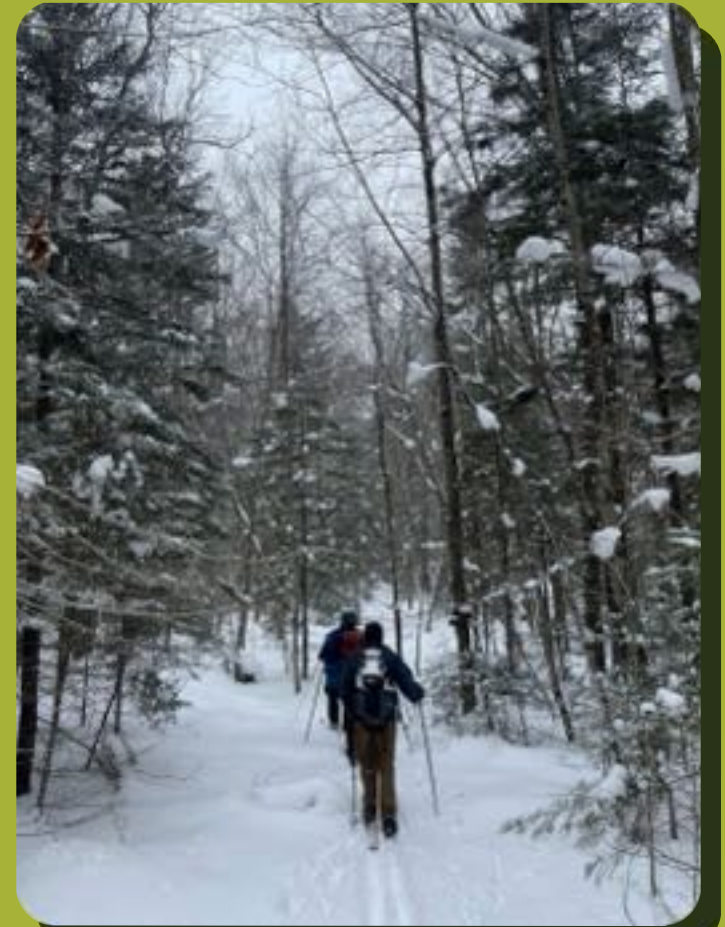


A beautiful
pause



SKI COMMITTEE

The winter of 2024-25 was great for snow north of Albany, on the Tug Hill and in the Adirondacks and Vermont. But south of I-90, in the Catskills and Berkshires, and down through the Shawangunks and the Hudson Valley, there were only a couple of weeks when there was enough snow cover for skiing.



The annual Martin Luther King Jr. Weekend trip this past year was held in Inlet, NY, east of Old Forge, in the western Adirondack Park. We had 10 participants, the maximum we could allow, due to our accommodations. We were rewarded with 16 inches of snow in the week before the outing. Cross country skiing at Fern Park was great, as was the mild Nordic backcountry outing around Rondaxe Mountain. By all accounts, the trip was a resounding success, with beautiful powder snow.

We now have two leaders, Martin Egan and Dawn Zimmer. Both are accomplished backcountry skiers who are also all-around skiers who enjoy both downhill ski resorts and Nordic center cross country skiing.

For 2025-26, with three leaders, we expect to offer more weekend trips up north.



2025–26 Ski Committee Plans



Goal:

Provide expanded weekend offerings with a focus on inclusive access for NYC-based skiers without cars, supported by AMC funds for transportation.

Trip Highlights:

- MLK Weekend (Jan 16–19, 2026) – XC ski trip to Old Forge, NY
- Presidents Weekend (Feb 13–16, 2026) – Easy-going XC trip to Adirondacks or Vermont
- Advanced Backcountry Trips – Led by Martin & Dawn, targeting
- Southern VT / Mt. Greylock, MA
- Potential Ski Resort Skin-Ups – Mohawk Mountain(CT) or Jiminy Peak (MA)

Next Steps / Open Questions

- Determine van rental, insurance, driver requirements
- Decide if chapter or participants cover transport cost
- Clarify payment process for accommodations via Outdoors.org / ActDB
- Maintain individual lodging responsibility to avoid conflicts





FACILITIES & SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Archives** *submitted by David Bernstein*
- **Stephen & Betsy Corman AMC Harriman Outdoor Center**
submitted by Trish Bansi
- **Trails** *submitted by Ed Spirko*
- **Wilderness First Aid** *submitted by Richard Dabal*

ARCHIVES REPORT

- Chapter information recovered from Camp Mohican.
- Met with AMC's archivist and reviewed the chapter archives stored in New Hampshire.
- Video restoration project is in the works.



STEPHEN & BETSY CORMAN AMC HARRIMAN OUTDOOR CENTER

The Corman Harriman Outdoor Center had another strong season in 2025. The CHOC Program Committee hosted 14 very well-attended weekend programs from May through October. We were excited to welcome over 275 participants, including both new members and many returning friends of CHOC.



This season we introduced Intro to Backpacking and Chinese Yoga, which were enthusiastically received, alongside our classic offerings of hiking, paddling, and outdoor skills. None of this would have been possible without our dedicated CHOC leaders, who continue to volunteer their time, share their expertise, and create a welcoming atmosphere for all.

Looking ahead, 2026 promises to be another bright year. Our leaders and guests can look forward to a mix of beloved returning programs as well as fresh new offerings designed to expand skills, build community, and deepen our connection to the outdoors.

We can't wait to see more of you on the trails, in the boats, and around the campfire next season!



TRAILS

NY-NoJ members completed a major re-blazing of all 198 miles of trails in Harriman and Bear Mountain State Parks, replacing every blaze with new reflective markers to improve visibility, safety, and trail navigation. Ongoing maintenance by 32 dedicated volunteers, along with special trail work events, continues to keep Harriman and Breakneck Pond trails clear, safe, and enjoyable for all hikers.



HARRIMAN & BEAR MOUNTAIN STATE PARK TRAILS

A two-year project that included re-blazing all local trails (198 miles) was completed in September. NY-NoJ members lead this effort in coordination with the NY/NJ Trail Conference. This project consisted of replacing every metal or painted blaze in the park with new reflective blazes. The proper spacing and alignment of the new blazes make the trails much easier to follow. The addition of the reflective material assists search and rescue crews operating in the dark. The trails now offer a better and safer experience for hikers.

32 NY-NoJ trail maintainers continue to maintain local trails in Harriman State Park. These trail volunteers coordinate with the New York New Jersey Trail Conference and keep the trails in great shape for hikers. The work includes:

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



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. The NY-NoJ Chapter maintains the trail. In addition to the work the regular maintainers do in Harriman and heavy work such as chain sawing, large blowdowns are done by these maintainers.

TRAIL WORK EVENTS

Several trail maintenance events were held this year either as part of the Harriman Outdoors Committee programs, during the chapter picnic or at other special events. The many participants learned about trail maintenance and helped either the Breakneck pond crew or the regular Harriman State Park crew.



**A big thank you to all
trails volunteers!**

WILDERNESS FIRST AID

For 2025 There were three Wilderness First Aid (WFA) classes. All three classes were held at The New Weis Center in Ringwood, New Jersey. The classes are held there because their costs are much lower than the AMC camp in Harriman State Park. Plus their cancellation policy is more lenient than the Harriman camp policy.



2025 HIGHLIGHTS

- 39 students trained this year (similar trend of large early-year class, smaller later ones).
- 50/50 split between re-certifications and first-time students.
- 4 active instructors (up from 3) – coordination with Delaware Valley Chapter continues.
- Hands-on teaching focus: stage props, fake blood, and mannequin highly rated by students.
- New props purchased: \$301; replacements needed again in 2026.

2026 PLANNING

- ~3 WFA classes at Weis Center (additional sites possible).
- No Harriman camp sessions planned.
- Continue cross-chapter instructor collaboration.
- Estimated costs are ~\$1,900.

Goals

- Expand outreach & advertising through partner groups and Meetup.
- Maintain high engagement, hands-on learning approach unique to NY WFA classes.





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 2025.

celebrating 25 YEARS OF MEMBERSHIP



BRETT BARTICK
SUSAN BERNSTEIN
LARRY BERNSTEIN
JENNIFER BERRENT
KATHY BITTNER
MICHAEL BROCHSTEIN
MARK BUCKLEY
MARGARET BUCKLEY
WILLIAM CROWLEY

ROBERT EBERWEIN
GINNY FAUCI
ALBERT FEI
SHARI FINE
LESLIE FISHBONE
DANIEL FISHBONE
JAMES FLORENTINE
DONALD FRAZIER
SANDRA FRIED

JULIE GARBER
EDUARDO GARCIA
G NIGEL GODSON
ALBERT GOLDSON
BENJAMIN GOODWIN
DARIA GREGG
SHELLEY HAVEN

wait there's more!



celebrating 25 YEARS OF MEMBERSHIP



BERNARD HENRICHSEN
JAMES HOEGLER
ELISA HORBATUK
DONALD HUMMEL
MICHAEL JUDGE
JANET KATZ
BRENDA KLEIN
ODILE KORY
EILEEN KOWLER

BRIAN KRUSE
CHRISTOPHER LAFFOON
PURNELL LANCASTER
JOHN LEWIS
MICHAEL LOVELL
HUGH MCDONALD
JOSEPH MINUTI
AURELIA MINUTI
TINA NANNARONE

VIRGINIA NEARY
HELEN O'CONNOR
QUYEN PHAM
RACHEL RADIN
PETER SENICA
D LOREN SOUTHERN
SABINE STEZENBACH
CAROLYN TAYLOR
JOSEPH WEINER

celebrating
50 YEARS OF MEMBERSHIP



MAUREEN BUCKLEY-FOX
STANLEY FOX
BARBARA FUCHS
CLIFFORD HARVEY
SHIRLEY LUBAN
J. ROBERT MANN
LILA OPPENHEIMER

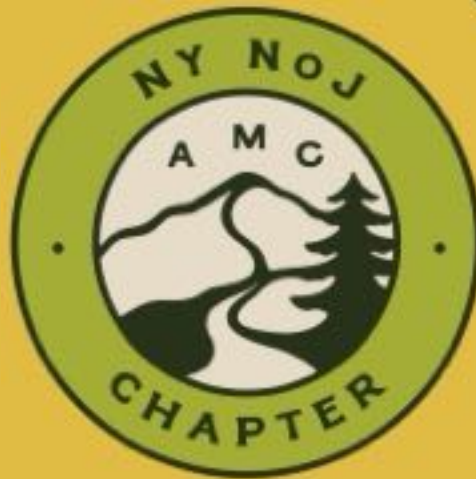
JOE OPPENHEIMER
RICHARD ROWE
SUSAN SCHUUR
KATHRYN STARZER-FARRELL
RUTH STEWARD
REYNOLD WELCH



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

RITA GOLLIN | THOMAS PARLIMENT | TANYA MCCABE

THANK
YOU



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