

AMC WM 2021

Chapter Annual Meeting – Via Zoom!

amc-wma.org



Agenda

- ❖ Welcome and Introductions (5 min)
- ❖ Chapter Year in Review (20 min)
- ❖ AMC Organizational Update (5 min)
- ❖ Vote – 2022 Officers and Committee Chairs (15 min)
- ❖ Vote – Revisions to Chapter Bylaws (15 min)
- ❖ Volunteer Recognition (30 min)
- ❖ Adjourn

All meeting materials at <https://amc-wma.org/annualmeeting2021>





Introductions

A scenic landscape photograph featuring a vast blue sky filled with scattered white and grey clouds. A single bird is captured in flight, positioned in the upper left quadrant of the frame. Below the sky, a wide valley stretches out, characterized by rolling green hills and a small town with visible buildings and a church steeple in the distance. The overall scene is bright and expansive.

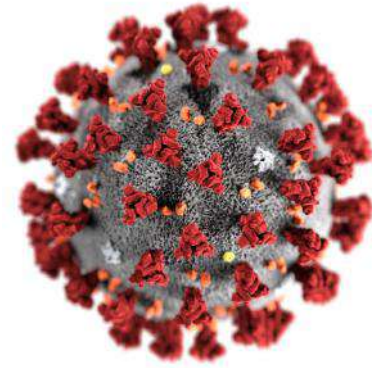
Chapter Chair Report

AMC Mission Statement

- **The mission of the Appalachian Mountain Club is to foster the protection, enjoyment and understanding of the outdoors.**
- We envision a world where being outdoors is an integral part of people's lives; where our natural resources are healthy, loved and protected.



Rebound from COVID-19



- Phase 3 reopening started mid-June
- Outdoor activities resumed with less stringent risk management protocols
- AMC facilities reopened
- Many volunteer leaders came off the sidelines and ran trips again

It got easier to recreate safely outdoors



Rebound from COVID-19

- We ran a remarkable number of outdoor activities...
 - 280+ trips (vs. 85 in 2020)
 - 39 trail work outings (vs. 28)
 - FallFest in October 2021!
- Many activities continued online
 - #BEONLINEWITHAMC
- Dramatically increased use of social media: ~2.4K page followers, >17K engagements w/ page content

Help Keep AMC Healthy!



Get vaccinated

The CDC recommends that eligible people get vaccinated against COVID-19

Practice good hygiene



Stop hand shakes and hugs and use **non-contact greeting methods**



Wash your hands often



Disinfect surfaces in communal areas daily



Cover your coughs and sneezes



Increase ventilation by opening windows and doors

Go outside

Limit indoor face-to-face gatherings

When going outside isn't possible, meet in **well-ventilated rooms and spaces**

Take a step back and give people 6 feet of personal space whenever possible



Do not work or volunteer if you have signs and symptoms of COVID-19

If you are feeling sick:

- Notify your manager or leadership@outdoors.org
- Seek COVID-19 testing



Wear a mask

AMC Staff and Volunteers are **required to wear a face-covering** when indoors in areas of substantial or high community transmission

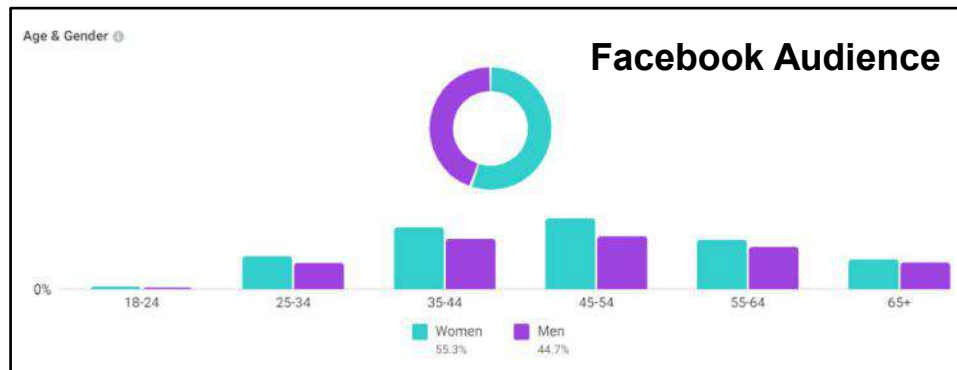
Wear a mask in shuttles and when carpooling



Consider wearing a mask anytime you go indoors in the local community

SOURCE: CDC.GOV

updated 8/19/21



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Chapter Membership Trends

2020

| Level | Members | Memberships |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Family | 1,738 | 695 |
| Family Life | 78 | 31 |
| Individual | 613 | 613 |
| Lifetime | 76 | 76 |
| Senior | 248 | 248 |
| U-30 | 29 | 29 |
| Youth Leader | 8 | 8 |
| Total | 2,789 | 1,700 |

As of 12/31/2020

2021

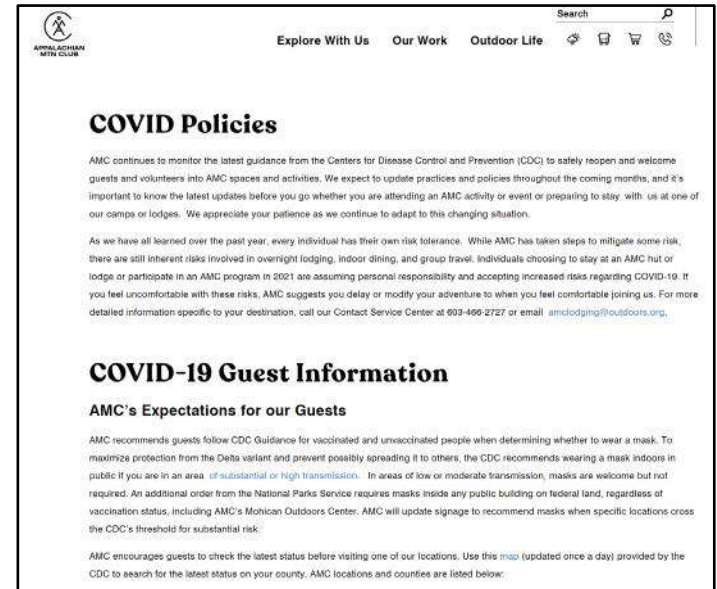
| Level | Members | Memberships |
|--------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Family | 1,883 | 753 |
| Family Life | 78 | 31 |
| Individual | 697 | 697 |
| Lifetime | 82 | 82 |
| Senior | 277 | 277 |
| U-30 | 35 | 35 |
| Youth Leader | 1 | 1 |
| Total | 3,052 (↑9.4%) | 1,876 (↑10.3%) |

As of 9/30/2021



New COVID Policies!

- New COVID management policies go into effect December 1
- Starting on December 1, 2021, all volunteers must be fully vaccinated as defined by CDC as a condition of volunteering for AMC
- Volunteer leaders are now permitted (but not required) to require participants to provide proof of vaccination status or proof of a negative PCR test within 72 hours of the start of the event
- Questions?
Email leadership@outdoors.org



COVID Policies

AMC continues to monitor the latest guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to safely reopen and welcome guests and volunteers into AMC spaces and activities. We expect to update practices and policies throughout the coming months, and it's important to know the latest updates before you go whether you are attending an AMC activity or event or preparing to stay with us at one of our camps or lodges. We appreciate your patience as we continue to adapt to this changing situation.

As we have all learned over the past year, every individual has their own risk tolerance. While AMC has taken steps to mitigate some risk, there are still inherent risks involved in overnight lodging, indoor dining, and group travel. Individuals choosing to stay at an AMC hut or lodge or participate in an AMC program in 2021 are assuming personal responsibility and accepting increased risks regarding COVID-19. If you feel uncomfortable with these risks, AMC suggests you delay or modify your adventure to when you feel comfortable joining us. For more detailed information specific to your destination, call our Contact Service Center at 803-496-2727 or email amclodging@outdoors.org.

COVID-19 Guest Information

AMC's Expectations for our Guests

AMC recommends guests follow CDC Guidance for vaccinated and unvaccinated people when determining whether to wear a mask. To maximize protection from the Delta variant and prevent possibly spreading it to others, the CDC recommends wearing a mask indoors in public if you are in an area of [substantial or high transmission](#). In areas of low or moderate transmission, masks are welcome but not required. An additional order from the National Parks Service requires masks inside any public building on federal land, regardless of vaccination status, including AMC's Mohican Outdoors Center. AMC will update signage to recommend masks when specific locations cross the CDC's threshold for substantial risk.

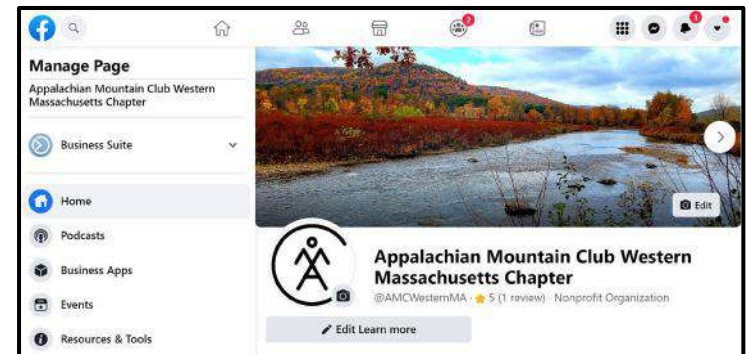
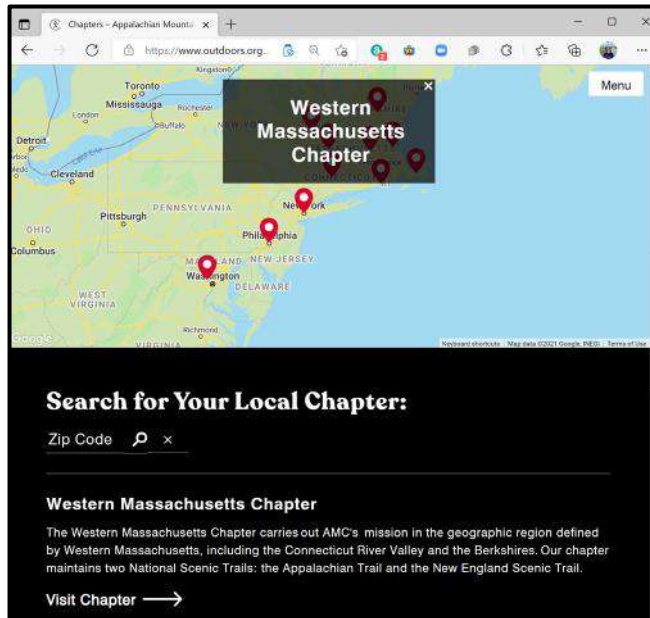
AMC encourages guests to check the latest status before visiting one of our locations. Use this [map](#) (updated once a day) provided by the CDC to search for the latest status on your county. AMC locations and counties are listed below:

<https://www.outdoors.org/policies-covid/>



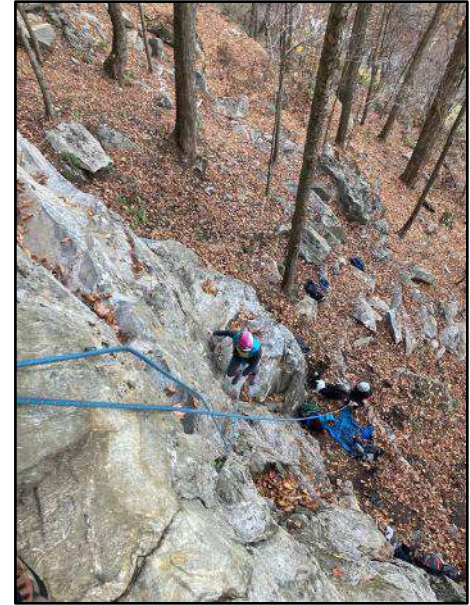
Chapter Name Change Completed!

- New website at amc-wma.org
- Name updated on [outdoors.org](https://www.outdoors.org)
- New Facebook page
- New MeetUp page
- New email addresses [@amc-wma.org](mailto:amc-wma.org)



Hanging Mountain Opens!

- AMC partnered with Western MA Climbers Coalition (WMCC) to acquire Hanging Mountain in Sandisfield MA
- Contributed \$30K (of \$102K) and 300+ volunteer hours
- Built half-mile walking trail system, stone steps to climb staging areas, dozens of climbing routes
- Opened to public on 10/2/2021



Learn more at <https://climbgneiss.org/hanging-mountain-to-open-oct-2-2021/>

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Diversity



- **Justice, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (JDEI) Committee formed**
- **20 open meetings**
- **3 invited speakers (1 upcoming)**
- **JDEI training requirements established for chapter Executive Committee**



HEATHER BRUEGL

MORE THAN A LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

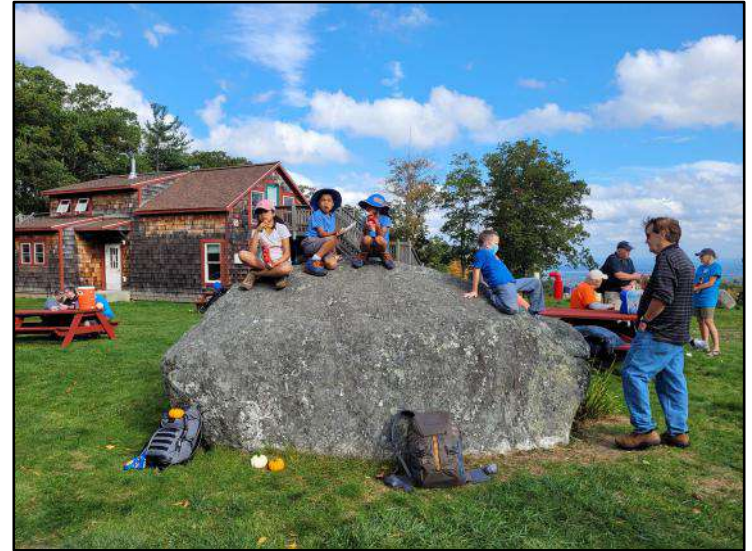
Thursday, November 18, 2021, 6:00PM - 7:30PM

Join Us on Zoom!



Closing Thoughts

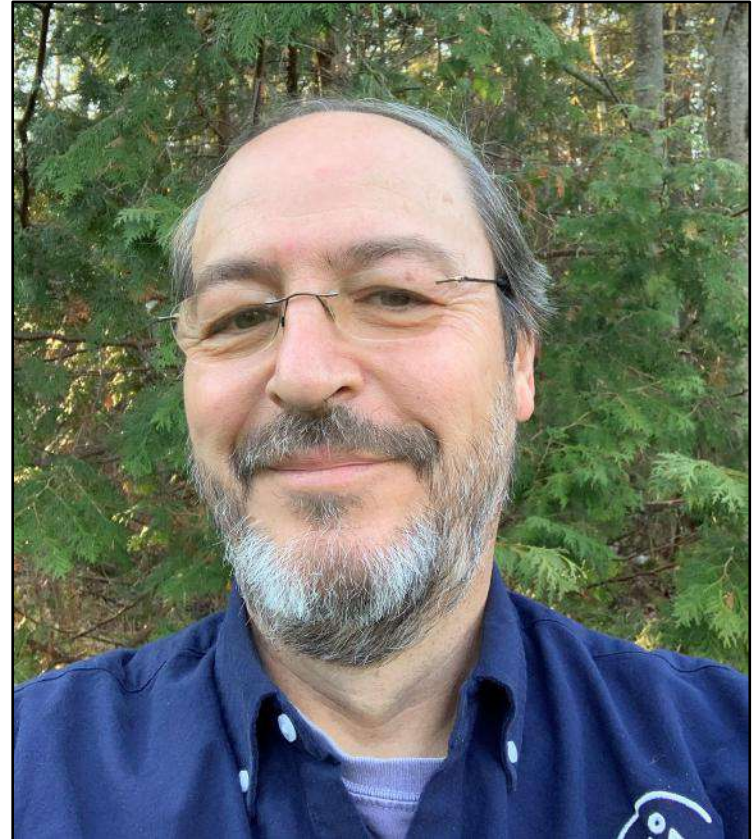
- A strong and resilient chapter, active outdoors again
- Please consider volunteering for us!
 - Webmaster
 - Membership/Social
 - Diversity
 - Family Programs
 - Activity Leaders
- Stay connected with us:
 - Website – amc-wma.org
 - Facebook & Instagram
 - Monthly email blasts (must have valid email address on file w/ AMC)



AMC Organizational Update

Paul Cunha Vice President of Operations

Starting with the AMC in 1981, Paul has held various positions including Construction Manager, White Mountain Operations & Trails Manager, and Outdoor Program Centers Director; managed the construction and opening of the Highland Center in Crawford Notch, as well as many rebuilding projects in the Huts, Camps and Lodges. Paul is currently responsible for Trails Operations, Shelters, Camp Dodge, Club-wide Lodging Destinations including Volunteer-led Camps and Cabins, Capital projects, Merchandising and Operational Support (Fleet, Maintenance, Purchasing and Logistics). Paul has been a member of the AMC's Leadership Team since 1997 managing operations throughout the AMC region from Harriman State Park in NY to the Maine Woods Initiative in ME. His office is located at the Pinkham Notch Visitor Center. Paul and his wife Carol live in Jefferson, NH and enjoy hiking, world travel and gardening.

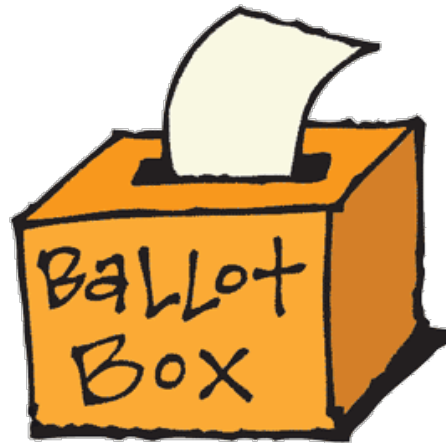
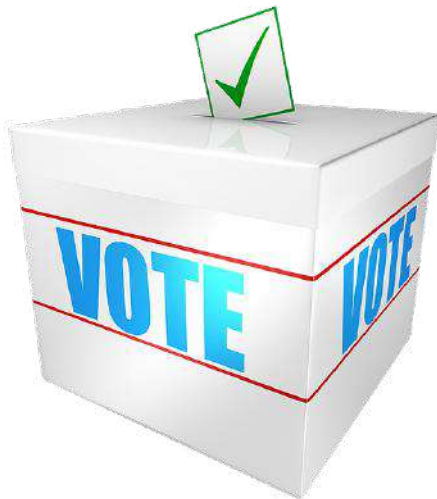
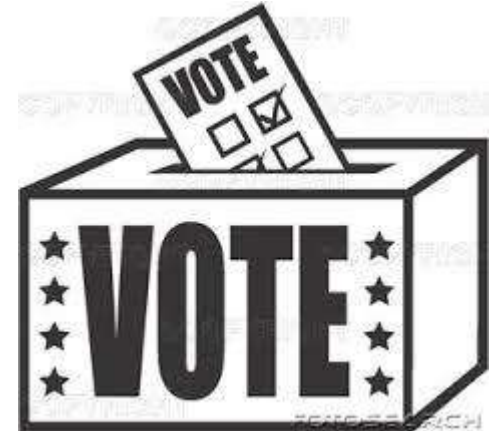


AMC Updates

- Thank you, members and volunteers!
- AMC's Maine Woods designation as the first International Dark Sky Park in New England
- Opening and running the two new visitor centers in Harriman State Park in New York
- Completion of the Croo Bridge at Cardigan Lodge in memory of Andrew Norkin.
- See you at Annual Summit on January 22, 2022! Annual Summit will be held virtually again this year.



Time to Vote!



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Vote #1: 2022 Officers & Committee Chairs

Officers

Chair – *Brant Cheikes*

Vice Chair – *Jim Walton*

Treasurer – *Jaclyn Jones*

Secretary – *Rosalee Walter*

Standing Committees

20s/30s – *Jack Spear*

AT – *Debra Weisenstein*

Bicycling – *Janine Papesh*

Communications – *Rick Whitney*

Conservation – *Robert Cherdack &
Rosalee Walter*

JDEI – *Dawne Piers-Gamble*

Families – *Dawne Piers-Gamble &
Laura Stinnette*

Mountaineering - *Chris Neil &
Chris Thompson*

NET – *Ray Girard*

Nominating – *Cosmo Catalano, Kathy Martin,
Jan Alicia Nettler, Jack Spear*

Outings – *Kathy Martin*

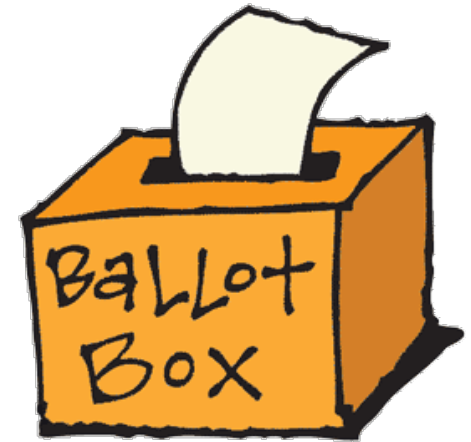
Paddling – *Dee Dice, Mary Therese Durr &
Bonna Wieler*

Training/Education – *Bill Fogel*



Vote #2:

Chapter Bylaw Revisions



- All revisions are administrative in nature:
 1. Change the chapter name
 2. Clarify the operating region
 3. Clarify financial policy for independently managed bank accounts
 4. Clarify policy on public statements
 5. Provide flexibility on scheduling the annual meeting
 6. Clarify the no-discrimination policy, and set expectation of compliance with Code of Conduct



Details here: <https://www.amc-wma.org/proposed-bylaw-revisions-2021>

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A scenic landscape photograph featuring a vast blue sky filled with scattered white and grey clouds. A single bird is captured in flight, positioned in the upper center of the frame. Below the sky, a lush green valley stretches out, with rolling hills and a small cluster of buildings visible in the distance. The overall scene is bright and expansive.

Volunteer Recognition

In Memoriam

Gloria LaFlamme (1930-2021)

Founder of Tuesday Hikers

- Inspiring Leader
- Encouraging and Welcoming
- Deeply Knowledgeable
- Determined and Persistent
- An Unstoppable Force



Completed Chapter Leadership - June 2021

Lorie Banks

Robert Cherdack

Alice Flyte

Margot Lacey

Dawne Piers-Gamble

Nancy Mack

Julie Rosier

Jerry Sambrook

Shahbaz Soofi

Rosie Walter



New Leaders!



Greg Deily

Alice Flyte

Bill Fogel

Margot Lacey

Deborah Lewis

Nancy Mack

Dawne Piers-Gamble

Jose Schroen

Jerry Sambrook

Rosie Walter

Most Valuable Leaders

AT

Cosmo Catalano

Jim Pelletier

Bicycling

Robyn Maislin

Steve Maislin

Family

Laura Stinnette

JDEI

Chaoran Xie

Julie Rosier

Alex Cowley

Mountaineering

Chris Neil

NET

Frank Bequaert

Outings/Hiking

Alice Flyte

Paddling

Mary Therese Durr

David Elliott

Training and

Education

Adam Jasionkowski

Kayla Crowe

Special Mention

Dawne Piers-Gamble

Kathy Martin

Tricia O'Neil Hanrahan

Western MA - Appie Of the Year

IN RECOGNITION OF
OUTSTANDING SUSTAINED
COMMITMENT IN SERVICE
AND LEADERSHIP IN THE
WESTERN MA CHAPTER OF
THE APPALACHIAN
MOUNTAIN CLUB



Heather Wyman

A wide-angle landscape photograph showing a vast mountain range under a bright blue sky filled with soft, white clouds. A single bird of prey is captured in flight, silhouetted against the sky in the upper center. The foreground and middle ground consist of rolling green hills and valleys, with some small settlements visible in the distance.

Thank You!

amc-wma.org