



amcberkshire.org
outdoors.org

Winter 2003/04



AMC BERKSHIRE CHAPTER NEWS & EVENTS

BERKSHIRE EXCHANGE

FROM *the* CHAIR

2004: The Year of the Volunteer and the Berkshire Chapter's 75th Anniversary

As the Berkshire Chapter celebrates its 75th anniversary, the volunteer efforts of our Chapter members are foremost in our thoughts. Volunteerism has been a cornerstone of the AMC since its founding in 1876. Now as we recognize and honor our 75 years as an AMC Chapter, we are also honoring 75 years of the volunteerism that continues to serve as our legacy. This tradition has endured—from the days of AMC outdoor adventurers wearing heavy wool skirts or jackets and ties, to today's enthusiasts in lightweight, wind- and water-proof tech clothing. Our volunteers make a great contribution to the membership and to the public as well, in areas that include conservation, outings, mountaineering, kayaking, and canoeing.

As the Chapter moves forward, volunteers are needed more than ever to carry out the Chapter's many and varied tasks. And this is where we ask for your help. Giving your time can be a wonderful way to become part of the larger AMC community. Spend an hour a week or take a few hours a month to help with special events or lead an outing. Give a few hours a quarter in a trail project. The list of jobs is long, the projects are varied, and every task is important; pick one that fits your life. Become a volunteer and you will be rewarded with a sense of accomplishment and the joy of giving to the organization that you have joined. I know that you can fit in somewhere. Please review the volunteer opportunities listed on page 3. If you do not see something that fits, call me and I am sure I can find you the perfect opportunity.

The past year has ended on a high note for the Chapter, with a Young Member Chair being elected at the Annual Meeting and a Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer being added at their committee meetings. In many of the past year's Annual Reports, it was evident that Young Members have much to contribute to the workings of the Berkshire Chapter. And now with a Young

Members Committee, the Chapter can finally celebrate.

The celebration, however, may be short-lived by a referendum to consider a petition to abolish young members' groups. The ballot on this referendum appears on page 63 of the December *AMC Outdoors* and requires your vote. Please

return this ballot by December 31, 2003 to 5 Joy Street with a NO vote. The AMC Board of Directors, Chapters Committee and Berkshire Chapter Executive Committee oppose the petition to abolish young members' groups and we encourage members to vote against the petition. We need to stress once again that the age reference to Young Members' events that are listed in the *AMC Outdoors* activity section is intended not to age discriminate but to encourage age participation. As I have said in the past, young members must be supported and nurtured—they are tomorrow's leaders.

Again I seek a volunteer to step forward as Vice Chair for 2004 and to assume the position of Chapter Chair for 2005 and 2006. If you are interested, I invite you to attend the Chapter's Executive meetings to see what it is all about. I will not continue as Chair in 2005. Please give the position some thought. It is a great way to serve the Club and Chapter.

At the Chapter's Annual Meeting, four members joined the ranks of the Executive Committee: Mary Norton as secretary, Lisa Bozzuto as Membership Committee Chair, Cathy Wickens as Leadership and Training Coordinator, and Melissa Zeitz as Young Members Chair. Please welcome these individuals aboard. Stepping down from the Executive Committee are Ann Wood and John Berndtson. I thank these two members for the great contributions they have made.

The Fall Gathering hosted this year by the Berkshire Chapter has received outstanding reviews by all who were present. The event was attended by more than 170 members who joined in outdoor activities, meetings and presentations. The high point was Saturday evening's band, Rani Arbo & Daisy Mayhem. Of course this event could not have been held without the many volunteers who gave their time for the weekend. Of those volunteers, over 25 strong, special thanks must be given to Fall Gathering Chair Barbara Veal for the outstanding organization and coordination of this important event.

As we enjoy the winter activities in the next several months, please thank all of the volunteers you meet for jobs well done. And keep thinking about how you, too, can join the ranks of these dynamic members.

Thank you for your support for again electing me as your chairperson and best wishes for a joyous holiday season.

Respectfully,

Gary Forish
Berkshire Chapter Chair



CHAPTER HISTORY

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A new look for amcberkshire.org

The Chapter's website has been completely redesigned! In addition to looking better (of course), it's now a more useful resource, bringing together news and announcements, trip and event schedules, contact information, and other useful bits. Select an activity category like "Hiking" or "Mountaineering" or "Young Members," and you'll see information relevant to that activity. Or, go to the section for the Metacomet-Monadnock Trail or Noble View, and see information about that. There's even an interactive schedule: enter the kinds of events you're interested in and a date range, and a customized list will be created for you.



It's brand new, so there may be a few rough edges. If you find any, please inform our webmaster—you'll find his email address on every web page. (If you use Netscape version 4.x, you won't see any formatting at all, just an ugly but functional site. Upgrading to a later Netscape version is recommended.)

This site is designed to be a resource that you come back to often. So please, send us suggestions about how to make it even better! We've got some ideas for more features to add, but we'd like to hear yours.

As always, you can find the website at <http://amcberkshire.org>.

Cheers,
Ian Beatty
AMC-Berkshire Webmaster

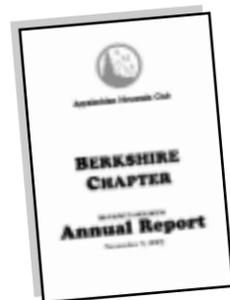
CHAPTER PUBLICATIONS ON THE WEB

Visit <http://amcberkshire.org> where you can download these documents in Adobe Acrobat format.



BERKSHIRE EXCHANGE

Back issues of the *Exchange* can be downloaded at:
<http://www.amcberkshire.org/info/pubs/newsletter>



2003 Annual Report

The Chapter's seventy fourth Annual Report can be downloaded at:
<http://www.amcberkshire.org/info/pubs>
If you would prefer a printed copy mailed to you, please contact Gary Forish (413-562-6792; chapterchair@amcberkshire.org).

Berkshire Chapter Executive Committee

• 2004 •

Chapter Officers

Chairman: Gary Forish
Vice Chair: *vacant*
Treasurer: Kevin Costa
Secretary: Mary Norton

Committee Chairs

Appalachian Trail Committee:
Cosmo Catalano
Berkshire County Representative:
Vicky Singer
Canoe & Kayak Committee:
Charlie Camp
Conservation Committee:
Cinda H. Jones
Leadership Training: Cathy Wickens
Membership Committee:
Lisa Bozzuto
Mountaineering Committee:
Jim VanNatta
Noble View Committee: Elvery Veal
Nominating Committee: Chris Ryan
Outings Committee: Sabine Dietrich
Programs: June Hoerle
Special Events: *vacant*
Trails Committee: Pat Fletcher
Webmaster: Ian Beatty
Young Members Committee:
Melissa Zeitz

BERKSHIRE EXCHANGE
– December 2003 –
newsletter@amcberkshire.org

Editor: Jon Hanauer
Assistant Editor: Maureen Flanagan
Proofreading: Gail Blackhall
Contributors (special thanks):
Gary Forish, Ian Beatty,
Sabine Dietrich, Alan Doty,
Cinda Jones, Gloria LaFlamme,
Peggy MacLeod, Norie Mozzone
Title photo:



A winter trek in
Monroe State Forest
led by Tom Eaton.
Photo by
Helen Staiger

Contact information on all
Executive Committee members can
be found in *AMC Outdoors* and
www.amcberkshire.org.

Berkshire Chapter History

How it began

This is the first part of a continuing series of the Chapter history that was recorded and presented by Edith Libby at the 1985 Annual Meeting.

This very informal history of the Berkshire Chapter has been compiled by going through three full file drawers of records—minutes, correspondence, etc.—dating to the birth of the chapter in 1929. The "Western Massachusetts" members of the Appalachian Mountain Club had their first outing on April 13, 1929. Despite recent sleet and snow, it was a "very successful" hike over Mt. Tom by ten enthusiastic hikers. It was then proposed to form a Western Massachusetts Chapter of the AMC, but so few could not take any action.

A brief notice in an issue of *Appalachia* from the time describes the birth of the new Chapter, the sixth to be formed (there are now twelve):

"The Berkshire Chapter of the Club was organized June 15, 1929, in Springfield, Mass., following an intensive campaign by a volunteer committee to crystallize sentiment that has been favorable toward this move for several years. It was found that, based on the May Register, there are fifty-seven members of the Club living in Western Massachusetts. Some of these members joined the Club through the summer camps, and others through the Club excursions and trips.

"However, it remained for the migration of enthusiastic Boston members like Mr. and Mrs. John M. Sherman, formerly of Belmont and late of Chicopee Falls, to bring the necessary energy and initiative. Missing the hikes and parties to which they had been accustomed when living near Boston, Mr. and Mrs. Sherman aroused the interest of the members living in the western section of the State. Several interesting hikes were planned and carried through, and everyone was surprised at the response of the hiking talent uncovered.

"A post-card ballot was sent out to the members living in the western section of the State and 41 signatures were secured to the petition to form a Chapter. A temporary executive committee, consisting of Joseph E. Partenheimer, Franklin L. Couch, John M. Sherman, E. Porter Dickinson, Genevieve Bowen, Donald E. Temple, and Edward K. Allen arranged an organization meeting with dinner at the Hotel Kimball, Springfield, to which were invited President Dean Peabody, Jr.; Henry R. Buck, Chairman of the Chapter Committee of the Club; W.H.

Beaumont, Chairman of the Worcester Chapter; and others, so about thirty-five persons were present to form the Chapter.

"Then-AMC President Dean Peabody, Jr. is fondly known as 'the father of the Berkshire Chapter.' His prompt and sympathetic action in getting the petition through Council, and his subsequent interest in and support of the Chapter were much appreciated and enjoyed. He attended Berkshire's Annual Meetings until his death, and his widow came as long as she was able.

"After discussion as to a suitable name for the 'new baby,' it was suggested by President Peabody that the name 'Berkshire' would be very fitting, and this suggestion was received and adopted with enthusiasm. Mr. Partenheimer, chairman of the nominating committee, presented the list of officers, who were duly elected: Edward K. Allen of Springfield, chairman; John M. Sherman, of Chicopee Falls, secretary; Genevieve Bowen, of Northampton, treasurer; Franklin L. Couch of Dalton, Joseph E. Partenheimer of Springfield, E. Porter Dickinson of Amherst and Augusta M. Sherman of Chicopee Falls executive committee.

"The Berkshire Chapter will aim to uphold the best traditions of the Club in the western section of the State."

At the end of six months, the new Chapter had 64 members. It held fourteen outings with a total attendance of 271, an average of twenty. At the first Annual Meeting in May 1930, membership was up to 85 and the young Chapter celebrated its birthday with a cake and one candle. The Mt. Holyoke Summit House was opened especially for this occasion. The usual reports were presented, there being only five committees: Outings, Social, Trails, Transportation, and Noble View. Yes, even before the Chapter bought Noble View, there was a committee, then called the Hut Committee, and it has been going strong ever since. At that first Annual Meeting, the Chapter voted to change its annual meeting date to the first Saturday in November, which it has been ever since, so there were actually two annual meetings held in 1930. At the second Annual Meeting in November 1930, it was voted decisively to purchase Noble View, which from the beginning has been the main focus of the Chapter's activities.

Volunteer Opportunities!

Volunteers needed to HAVE FUN, MINGLE AND SOCIALIZE

Join many like-minded individuals in serving the Berkshire Chapter. Many areas of expertise are required to fulfill chapter needs. Join us for a one time, short event, and/or limited event. All that is required is to have FUN. Contact Gary Forish, Berkshire Chapter Chair; phone 413-562-6792 or e-mail forgary@comcast.net.

General Opportunities

- Appalachian Trail work crews
- Education Workshop Coordinator, Program Director, and leaders
- Trails Committee Co-Chair
- Chapter trail maintainers
- Noble View volunteers
- Noble View trail maintainers
- Noble View work party leaders/co-leaders
- Skilled & unskilled construction craftsmen for Noble View

- Grant writers
- Special Events volunteers

Committees

- Berkshire Chapter Chair
- Berkshire Chapter Vice Chair
- Monthly Outing Coordinators and event leaders for 2004 and 2005
- Conservation Committee members
- Special Events Committee Chair

Berkshire Chapter **EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS** at Noble View

Winter Backpacking Workshop

January 24 to 25; February 21 to 22: Designed to introduce families and/or singles to the great outdoors in winter. An opportunity for children and their guardians to share an experience unavailable to most. A heated cabin and cleared parking area near the tent sites allow for safe exit, should the need arise, from an otherwise wilderness setting. Review of gear, terrain and winter basics will precede the setting up of campsites, followed by two- to three-hour treks at a pace suited to the slowest member of the group. Children should be at least 10 years old, although exceptions are possible. Camp chores will be shared. Meals will be shared except for Saturday lunch, which each person should provide. Snowshoes (limited), stoves, pots, pans, etc. will be provided. Each person or family will need specific gear and clothing, a list of which will be forwarded to participants in advance. Fee: \$75 to Registrar Michael Ripa at 413-572-4501.

Poetry and Writing Workshop

January 31: Join writers of all levels who love the outdoors. A half-mile hike brings us to the rustic hilltop farmhouse for hot drinks by the woodstove, followed by a guided hike (on foot or snowshoe) to overlooks and frozen waterfalls. We will pause for observation and reflection, and then return to the farmhouse for writing time indoors. The facilitator, Tammis Coffin, is a naturalist committed to fully inhabiting the natural world through sensory, imaginative and artistic "reaching." Her work appears in *The Berkshire Review*, *Appalachia Journal* and a book by Friends of Acadia. Workshop will be repeated in the spring (date TBA). Fee: \$25. From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. For further information, call Registrar Michael Ripa at 413-572-4501.

Leadership Training Weekend

April 3 to 4: Annual Chapter training with professional staff will be held at Noble View. New leaders, group leaders, and family unit leaders are encouraged to participate. There will be an emphasis on group-led activities, leaders' responsibilities, trip planning/management, special needs requirements, weather emergencies, principles of emergency first aid in the backcountry, and leader awareness/decision making. A two-day workshop with refreshments. Bring your own lunch, liquids and a daypack with the usual contents. Fee \$15. For further information, call Cathy Wickens at 413-268-7340 or e-mail cathywick3@yahoo.com.

Wilderness First Responder

April 17 to 18; May 1 to 2; May 15 to 16; May 22 to 23: Created to provide outdoor leaders, guides, and rangers with the knowledge needed to deal with crises in remote settings, this 80-hour certification course meets DOT National Standards for First Responder with additional protocols for extended-care situations. Like all SOLO programs, the emphasis of the WFR is on prevention and decision making. The intensive 80-hour curriculum will take place over four weekends. A typical day consists of a mixture of hands-on practical skill work and instructive sessions, complemented with a variety of mock scenarios and simulations. The program is fast-paced and both intellectually and physically demanding. Fee \$550. For further information, call Cathy Wickens at 413-268-7340 or e-mail cathywick3@yahoo.com.

SOLO – Wilderness First Aid

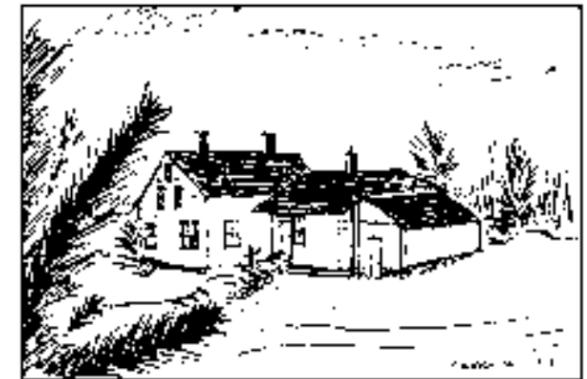
May 8 to 9: Standard first aid practices are generally based on the assumption that help will arrive shortly and that the patient will be out of your hands and at the hospital in under an hour. Wilderness First Aid training intends to prepare you for the medical situation that arises where there is no ambulance, roof or walls to provide shelter from the elements, your supplies are few, the wait for help is unknown, and moving the patient a short distance might take hours. The SOLO Wilderness First Aid course is an intense yet fun journey through the world of wilderness emergency care and is recommended for all outdoors people. It covers the full range of situations, from scrapes and blisters to life-threatening emergencies. In addition to wilderness medical care, it teaches accident scene management and effective communication with an outside world that may be days away. While much of the material appears to be standard emergency care information, the backcountry emphasis on long-term care and evacuation complications make this course unique. Fee \$140. For further information, call Cathy Wickens at 413-268-7340.

Noble View Trails Weekend

April 17 to 18: Come help reconstruct the hiking trails at AMC's Noble View camp. There are over 12 miles of hiking and ski trails that meander through the surrounding landscape at Noble View. Many are in need of erosion control, brushing, and tread hardening. Come learn the basics of trail maintenance, share your own trail knowledge and experience, or simply lend a hand. Work may include rock and log water bar construction, large rock step construction, grade dips, clipping and clearing brush, and general tread hardening. Participants must be 15 or older. Bring sturdy boots, long pants, lunch, and plenty of water. Tools and instruction will be provided. Work for one day or camp out for the entire weekend. All trail workers get free camping in a beautiful setting with views, nearby paddling, and hiking. The event is FREE with no-cost lodging if required, but pre-registration is mandatory. For more information or to register, please contact the AMC Berkshire Trails Office at 413-528-6333 or tweber@amcinfo.org.

Trail Building Workshop

Noble View Give Back to Trails Day, April 26-27: By helping with trail reconstruction, you give back to the trails that have given you so much. Here we will rehabilitate a section of trail that is severely eroded, by constructing appropriate drainage features and re-establishing the treadway. Hard work, dirty hands and clothes, and lots of fun will be mandatory. Bring a lunch, work clothes, long pants and sturdy shoes. For more information, contact the AMC Southern New England Trails Office at 413-528-6333 or tweber@amcinfo.org.



Double AMC's Dollars!

Help Us Meet the The Paul L. King Charitable Foundation Challenge

The AMC is thrilled to be the recipient of a remarkable President's Society Challenge grant from The Paul L. King Charitable Foundation and Mount Washington Fellow Challengers. To receive the \$200,000 grant, the AMC must raise \$200,000 in new or increased President's Society gifts by December 31, 2003. All gifts will be matched dollar for dollar.

Sign Me Up. How Can I Help?

1. Join the President's Society by giving an annual gift of \$1,000 or more.
2. If you are already a President's Society member, increase your gift. For every dollar that you increase your current gift, the challengers will match it dollar for dollar.

We are holding a special raffle for all donors to The Paul L. King Charitable Foundation Challenge. The winner of the drawing will receive a free midweek stay for two at the majestic National Historic Landmark, The Mohonk Mountain House, which stands in the heart of a magnificent 26,000-acre natural preserve in New York's Hudson Valley!

For more information on the President's Society, contact Wendy Krauss at 617-523-0655 ext. 342 or wkrauss@amcinfo.org.

The Referendum Ballot for Young Members' Groups

THIS BALLOT APPEARS ON PAGE 63 OF YOUR DECEMBER AMC OUTDOORS. THE CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, AMC CHAPTERS COMMITTEE, AND THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OPPOSE THE PETITION TO ABOLISH YOUNG MEMBERS' GROUPS WITHIN AMC, AND ENCOURAGES MEMBERS TO VOTE (CAST A NO VOTE) AGAINST THE PETITION.

**RESPECTFULLY,
GARY FORISH**

REFERENDUM BALLOT

A referendum petition has been submitted to the Secretary. In accordance with AMC's bylaws, a referendum petition is to provide advisory, non-binding guidance to the Board of Directors.

Summary of the vote: A vote *for* ("yes") would eliminate all references in AMC printed and other means of communication to age-oriented activities and programs, and would specifically eliminate Young Members Committees. There would be no change in AMC's discrimination policy, which provides that all activities and programs are open to all members and the public. A vote *against* ("no") would allow AMC to continue to describe in its marketing efforts activities and programs aimed at certain groups. There would be no change in AMC's discrimination policy, which provides that

all activities and programs are open to all members and the public.

Petition Submitted: "Whether the AMC should pursue a policy of non-discrimination on the basis of age, sex, national or ethnic origin, race, color, or religion, in the administration of its programs, access to its facilities, employment policies, or any other AMC sponsored activities; that admission to such activities be limited only by the member's ability to satisfactorily complete the activity in question; and, in particular, that so-called Young Members Committees be abolished, and that henceforth no indication should be given, formally or informally, express or implied, in plain language or by innuendo, that older persons would not be as welcome in any activity as younger persons, or that younger persons would be preferred to older persons, or that younger persons

would be especially welcome."

AMC Position: AMC's Board of Directors strongly opposes the petition to abolish Young Members groups within AMC, and encourages members to vote against the petition. AMC's long-standing, published policy is that all activities are open to any and all members and the public (subject to physical and skill qualifications for the activity), and that all are welcome to participate. The term Young Members is merely a descriptive term that is not intended to exclude and, in fact, is not exclusionary in any way based on age criteria. The descriptive term is used to identify activities that may be more appealing to certain AMC members, including the young at heart. AMC actively supports and has taken many steps to encourage diversity for all in its membership, staff and volunteers.

Tuesdays

by Gloria LaFlamme

A short entry to let Berkshire Chapter members know that the Tuesday Hikers are very much alive and kicking, thanks to the dedication and support of many people. We have had a very busy six months! We began with the first section of the AT in North Adams, and explored an AT section every other week—at times interrupted by rain. The alternate Tuesdays were spent hiking anywhere from the Quabbin to Mohawk Trail State Forest.

I want to take this opportunity to gratefully thank the following people for their willingness to lead hikes this past year. They are: Dona Burdick, Diane Crowell, Tom Eaton, John Murphy, Elizabeth Terp, Al Shane, Jerry Weinstein, Paul Hollander, Ann Wood, Paul Dower, Dave and Mary Conley, Debra Schey, Malcolm Meltzer, Doc Collins, Phyllis Freeman, Cindy Mahlau, Rosmarie O'Connor and Tom Leary. I hope that I have not forgotten anybody!

A Mahican-Mohawk Day

by Alan Doty

The day was warm and sunny, about 82 degrees. I was very pleased to have four others come on this hike, though that number was rather small compared to the usual turnout—this is a very popular hike.

During the hike I introduced Leave No Trace outdoor ethics to the group. This trail provided many teachable moments. There were illegal campsites and fire rings, social trails that created erosion, and trash. In one case where the trail bordered private property, the landowner had been forced to post ugly “No Trespassing” signs because the area had been overly abused.

With all the rain we had had in previous weeks, we had an opportunity to see many different types of mushrooms and fungi.

The river crossing at the intersection of the South River and the Deerfield River provided a welcome opportunity to wade in the water to cool off and practice proper ways to cross a river safely.

Overall, this hike turned out great. I look forward to leading more!



Long Pond, Royalston.
Photo by Helen Staiger



A Quabbin snowshoe led by Al Shane.
Photo by Helen Staiger



The Oxbow, from Mount Tom.
Photo by Jodie Scott



A pleasant summer day on Mount Greylock.
Photo by Helen Staiger



Chapter Outings Chair Sabine Dietrich
enjoying the White Mountains.
Photo by Richard Gassan

• 2003 •

ANNIVERSARIES

The Berkshire Chapter thanks you for your many years of support and volunteer efforts.

50-year Members

Emma J. Carlson
Donald S. Pitkin
Mary E. Parker

25-year Members

Pliny Norcross, III
Carol Anne Eldridge
Walter J. Jurkowski
Susan Mary Peterson
Stuart A. Dalheim
Zoe Dalheim
Dr. H. Douglas Barnshaw
Libby Barnshaw
Jack Gill
Gerrie Kennedy
Jeremy P. Schrauf
Damon Reed
Elizabeth Neyland
Mark A. Israel
Richard Mayer
Joan Spalding
John V.E. Ridgway
Edward P. Smith
David B. Godek
Neil Sutton
G. Grant Bowman
Nancy Hazard
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas N. Hazen
Edward W. Edler
Albert Shane

Correction for 2002

Chris Ryan – 25 years

If any information is incorrect, please notify Chapter Chair Gary Forish at 413-562-6792.

Give a Green Light to Green Energy: Renewable Electricity Choice in Massachusetts

Members of the Appalachian Mountain Club may be happy to learn that the AMC has agreed to promote a 100% Green-e certified renewable energy product, GreenerWatts New England. Through a partnership with the Center for Ecological Technology (CET), a western Massachusetts-based nonprofit, the AMC will receive ten dollars for each person who mentions the AMC as their referral source when enrolling. (To learn about Green-e and the Green-e logo visit their website at <http://green-e.org>.)

Thanks to an innovative program launched this fall, residential, non-profit, or small business customers served by Massachusetts Electric Company (MECO) now have an opportunity to “GreenUp” the electricity they use. It will cost just a few pennies a day. Almost all of the electricity that comes into our houses today is generated by coal, oil, and nuclear facilities or large-scale hydropower. GreenUp will ultimately increase the supply of renewable energy.

In contrast to what currently comes through the electric lines, GreenerWatts New England uses solar power and landfill gas in eastern Massachusetts, low-impact hydropower from Putnam, Connecticut, and wind power from Searsburg, Vermont.

This is how it works: For a small premium paid through the monthly electric bill (about \$6 to \$12 per month depending on actual electricity consumption), participants can enjoy the advantages of reliable electricity from the utility company and, at the same time, support the growth of environmentally responsible energy production in New England. Massachusetts Electric Company does not profit from the GreenUp program; in fact, the majority of the revenues go directly to the renewable energy suppliers. This helps them expand current facilities and be more competitive with fossil fuel and nuclear plants.

At the time of this writing, the 2003 Energy Bill is nearing passage in Congress. It continues to provide large subsidies to fuel industries, leaving a greater burden on private individuals to support renewable energy initiatives like this one. Furthermore, adding new local wind, solar, and landfill production facilities to GreenerWatts over time will increase the amount of energy dollars that stay in our communities.

Joining the GreenUp program is a simple and direct action that everyone who enjoys the outdoors can take to benefit the mountains, rivers and streams of the Appalachian region.

Massachusetts Electric Customers wishing to obtain an enrollment form for GreenerWatts New England may send an email request to energyhome@yahoo.com or call CET at 800-238-1221. Or learn more and enroll online at www.GreenerWattsNewEngland.com. Remember, to support the Berkshire Chapter, mention the AMC when you enroll!

Order Your Bandanamaps!

Sales to Enable Land Conservation

Buy a Bandanamap of the Connecticut River and help support land conservation! That's the gist of the fundraising effort currently under way by the Berkshire Chapter's Conservation Committee.

The bandanas feature the design of a recreation guide to the Connecticut River and a paddling motif. The vibrant colors will complement any outfit.



The bandanas are being sold for \$10 retail or \$8 wholesale (to anyone who buys 12 or more). Of the \$10 purchase price, \$5 will be earmarked for land conservation efforts, such as conservation easements, in western Massachusetts.

Every sports enthusiast knows bandanas make great fashion statements—as sweat wipers, slings, goodie-holders, mosquito swatters, and tourniquets. And this one can help you find your way on the Connecticut River! Don't leave home without one.

To order, send \$10 to AMC Berkshire, c/o CH Jones, PO Box 9303, North Amherst, MA 01059. Shipping and handling are included.

TO ALL INTERESTED IN LEADING (OR ALREADY LEADING) OUTINGS

We're having a meeting/potluck on **January 9** at Elbert Bowler's house in Holyoke. It's just a stone's throw from Mt. Tom! We'll be coming together with our ideas and dates for hikes, backpacks, ski trips, contra dancing, family trips, etc. The Berkshire Chapter is looking forward to having more diverse events where people can mingle and have fun! Please join us with your ideas. Call Sabine at 949-3914 for more information and Elbert at 532-4464 for directions.

HELP WANTED:

Manager for AMC Swans Falls Campground, Fryeburg, Maine, 2004 season. This campground operates in a beautiful riverside location (with housing provided) from April to October. Priority is to provide excellent customer service to Saco River visitors. Duties also include housekeeping, basic maintenance and employee supervision. Please send your résumé with cover letter to Peter Madeira, Appalachian Mountain Club, 5 Joy Street, Boston, MA 02108 (or e-mail to pmadeira@amcinfo.org). This position will remain open until a suitable candidate is found. Check out the Appalachian Mountain Club's website, www.outdoors.org, for employee benefits and additional information.

Winter 2003/04

BERKSHIRE EXCHANGE



Berkshire Chapter
Appalachian Mountain Club
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Boston, MA 02108

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