AMC POTOMAC CHAPTER ANNUAL MEETING

November 14, 2021

AGENDA

AMC Potomac Chapter Sponsored Outings Slide Show
Call to Order and Welcome
2021 Chapter Highlights
Chapter Members Recognitions
Election of Chapter Officers
Introduction of Committee Leaders
AMC Headquarters Update
Guest Speaker: NPS Shenandoah National Park Ranger Claire Comer
Upcoming Chapter Events
Opportunities to Get More Involved in Your Chapter
Adjourn
2021 Potomac Chapter Highlights—There are Many!

• In 2021, the Chapter sponsored events in ~30 parks and in 5 states and DC: Hikes, Backpacking, Bicycling (a new committee!), Bike-packing, Paddling (a reestablished committee!)

• We scheduled a lot more activities in 2021 than in 2020 offering 98 programs in 2021 (over 61 in 2020) and got people outside on 144 days (over 80 days in 2020).
  • Hikes increased by 42% over 2020 (from 24 to 34)
  • Backpacks trips increased by 42% (from 29 to 38) and by nearly 90% (from 46 to 87) in days out over 2020
  • Paddles increased from 0 to 6, including overnight trips
  • Conservation programs doubled (from 2 to 4)
  • Social events (all online) increased tenfold (from 1 to 10)

• We reengaged with skills training: map & compass training (Sky Meadows); leader role plays and Leave No Trace Workshops (Pocahontas). By the end of the year, we'll have two leaders newly trained as LNT Trainers.

• We supported Ward 8 Woods application to the DC recreational trails program.

• We had a very fun first Chapter Weekend Gathering at Pocahontas State Park, an amazing Novice Backpacking Workshop at the Boy Scout's Summit Bechtel Reserve in WV, and created the Wilderness Supper Club.

• We organized several fascinating Conservation Conversations on topics from the night sky to the Chesapeake Bay.
We recognized the following fellow Potomac Chapter members at our Chapter’s group outing at Pocahontas State Park back in early October.
Rich Batiuk

...for working to rebuild the Potomac Chapter’s paddling program by developing the Chapter’s leadership certification program and working to get new paddling leaders certified and leading their own trips. And as the Chapter’s Treasurer, he brought us into 21st century and updated policies and procedures to facilitate annual budget planning and tracking expenditures.
Robin Burt

...for supporting other leaders so they would have a co-leader on their trip by traveling from New York City on the train to Union Station in DC and carpool with another leader to the trailhead, for being our "Train Captain" for the novice backpacking workshop in Glen Jean, WV, and for coordinating with those who likewise wanted to take mass transit to the program all while being very attentive to making sure participants are staying safe and having fun!
Carey Butler

...for leading many, many, many, many trips taking newcomers out in the woods, hiking, backpacking and sharing his love for stargazing and pointing out constellations and telling stories about the stars and planets.
Kate Ratcliffe

... for leading a multitude of day hikes in the greater Baltimore region, getting members and many others outdoors and enjoying natural areas that they did not even know about and, therefore, had not experienced yet.
Dave Mong

...for teaching beginners backpacking and leading 1.5 million hiking, biking, backpacking, combined paddling and backpacking, combined biking and backpacking, winter camping, and winter backpacking trips not only across the Potomac Chapter’s mid-Atlantic region but in concert with our New York/North Jersey Chapter colleagues, all while sharing great recipes for how to eat well outdoors and sharing a lifetime of experiences on the trail!
25 Year Members

- John Butler
- Renee Butler
- Debra Dionne
- Denis Dionne
- John Menard
- Alan Penczek
- Cathy Scheiner
50 Year Members

• ANN FEATHER
• JAMES HALPERN
• PHILIP HARRIS
• FRANK IBER
• MICHAEL WAROBLAK
New Chapter Members

We welcome the over 630 new AMC Potomac Chapter members who joined us in 2021!
Chair: Lisa Novins. Lisa has been an AMC member for more than a decade. She enjoys hiking, biking, paddling, and introducing her two young kids to all things outdoors. Last year Lisa became an AMC hiking leader and has since led a hikes in Virginia and DC. She’s working on becoming a backpacking leader, and her 7 year old daughter and 4 year old son are excited to go on AMC backpacking trips together. Lisa is looking forward to leading more hikes and getting more people outside in the years to come.

Vice Chair: Peter Mason. Peter has been a member of AMC for fourteen years and currently is the Vice Chair, Membership committee Chair, and Diversity Equity and Inclusion representative for the Potomac Chapter. He is a hiking leader for the Chapter and enjoys hiking, camping, backpacking, biking and paddling.

Treasurer: Rich Batiuk. A long time AMC member, Rich has been the Chapter Treasurer since 2020 and is the Chapter’s Paddling Committee Chair. An avid hiker, camper, paddler and fly fisher, Rich is enjoying everyday being Saturday as a retired U.S. EPA science manager after decades of working on Chesapeake Bay restoration.

Secretary: Deborah Ward. Deborah is a life-long hiker, camper, and aficionado of campfire cookery who grew up in the American West and spent summers in Grand Teton National Park. She recently took up backpacking by way of AMC’s Novice Backpacking Workshop and cherishes time on the trails with her eleven grandchildren. Deborah has been a member of AMC for about a year.
Introducing Our 2022 Chapter Committee Chairs

- Communications – John Pacovich
- Conservation – Kathy Campbell
- Excursions – Dave Mong
  - Paddling – Rich Batiuk
  - Bicycling – Leslie Tierstein
  - Backpacking – David Mong
- Family Outings - vacant
- Leadership – vacant
- Membership - Randy Turk
- Young Members – Dushyant Chaudhari
- At Large Member 1 – Kate Lawrence
- At Large Member 2 – Laura Falender
- At Large Member 3 – Kate Ratcliffe
AMC Headquarters Update

Susan Arnold, AMC Vice President for Conservation

She coordinates AMC’s overall conservation mission and strategy across the AMC region from Maine to Virginia, overseeing research, conservation and recreation policy, and volunteer relations.
AMC Headquarters 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
Our Annual Meeting Guest Speaker

Ranger Claire Comer from Shenandoah National Park.
Upcoming Chapter Events

- Outings
  - Hiking
  - Backpacking
  - Bicycling
  - Paddling
  - Climbing (coming soon!)

- Annual Chapter Outing
  - Being scheduled for October 2022

- Leadership training and certification
Opportunities to Get More Involved in Your Chapter

• Get people outside – become a leader!
  ▪ Hiking, Paddling, Backpacking, Bicycling, Bikepacking, Climbing, and more!

• Plan activities, coordinate events, collaborate with other groups:
  ▪ Conservation, DEI, Family Outings, Membership, Young Members

• Write for or submit pictures to our quarterly newsletter!

• Join the Conservation Action Network!
Thank You for Participating in Our 2021 Annual Meeting