



Appalachian Footnotes

Delaware Valley Chapter • Appalachian Mountain Club
Winter 2017-2018 • Volume 56 • Number 1

Hiking the AT in 20 years
Winter hiking workshops
More on chestnut trees
Appie Awards
Watching the AT
Memorial tree
Winter waterfowl
Highlands Trail
August Camp 2018
and more





Appalachian Footnotes

the magazine of the
Delaware Valley Chapter
Appalachian Mountain Club
published using recycled electrons.

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AMC General Web Site: outdoors.org

Chapter Ombudsman

Questions, complaints, concerns or comments about the Delaware Valley Chapter of AMC should be directed to Chapter Ombudsman, Allen Male at ombudsman@amcdv.org.



Cover: Jeff Fritzinger, our new hiking chair, makes a snow angel while wearing snowshoes.

Photo by Barbara Beatrice

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Section hiking the entire AT: 20 years of adventure, learning, fun

By Christine Murray

DV Chapter members Christine and Bill Murray (trail names: Shanana and Sweet William) completed their section hike of the Appalachian Trail with their ascent of Katahdin on September 12 of this year.

I was clinging to the almost-vertical granite wall that is the Mahoosuc Arm in western Maine. I was frozen with fear. I couldn't go up and I couldn't go down. I called, "Bill, Bill, help!" But Bill, my husband, was out of ear-shot. Unbeknownst to me, he was trying to get to the top of the Arm before his fear of heights immobilized him. I was stuck like a quivering fly on the wall-like "trail." I started considering calling a divorce lawyer if I ever got near a working phone again in my life.

Somehow, I gingerly found a stable toe hold and continued up the Arm. Bill and I reunited just before a torrential rain storm hit. We got to Speck Pond shelter totally drenched. Thru-hikers were wedged in the shelter like soggy sardines.

We set up our tent on a tent platform, and got so soaked that Bill was close to hypothermia. Just another day on the AT for us two section hikers.

We never set out to do the whole AT. But on September 12, 2017, Bill and I summited Katahdin (5,267 feet) and completed our 20 year section hike of the AT.

As one thru-hiker told us, "We're all section hikers. Some of our sections are just longer than others."

We had a lot of little sections that added up over the years.

As a teen, I was introduced to the AT between Kirkridge and Fox Gap, in Pennsylvania. I kept wondering why anyone would ever want to hike 2,178 miles on these foot-torturing rocks. In my 30s I hiked sections of the AT to raise money for the American Lung Association.

Shortly after Bill and I got married, we did some car camping, but nothing serious. Bill started playing catch-up on the sections I'd already completed. He did the hard parts by himself. I would meet him, or he'd hide his bicycle in the brush so he could bike back to his car!

Once we equipped ourselves with a water filter and a tiny stove, we felt we could go anywhere. We backpacked a few weekends in the Adirondacks and on the Loyalsock Trail. Then we read about the 100-Mile Wilderness in Maine in Backpacker Magazine.

In 1999 we headed up to Abol Bridge, the north end of the 100-Miles. Young Keith Shaw, of Shaw's Boarding House, managed to keep a straight face as I struggled to get my 60-pound pack out of his car. We were so green, we'd packed twice as much food as we needed. We feared we'd be fighting squirrels for food at the end. I had put in an "extra this" and an "extra that." With all that weight, I hurt my knee the second day of the 10-day hike. I didn't sense trouble as I cruised up Nasuntabunt Mountain. But, I couldn't walk down the other side except backwards. We bailed

out and took a rest day exploring Gulf Hagas. We came back on the trail with much less stuff and completed half of the Wilderness that vacation.

Over the years we just kept going farther and farther from Bethlehem. Vacation was a week, then two-weeks, and then three-weeks. Lennie and Bill Steinmetz led us on great hikes in Connecticut and Massachusetts. We hiked with other members of the local AMC chapter. I forgot the tent poles once! Mac and Connie White, who hiked the AT in sections, advised us to do "the worst first." We'd already done part of the 100-Mile, so we started to chip away at Maine on our yearly vacations.

We're wimpy — we would backpack for three or four nights at a time, and then get a shower and a good meal. We planned a lot. We liked going over the maps and guide books (Here's a tip: don't use 20-year old AT guides books like we did.)

We hired a lovely assortment of shuttle-people. We learned lots of local history, gossip, and politics. For example, in Maine I had read an article in a local publication about a teenager who'd lived for a summer raising chickens at Katahdin Iron Works. Later we hitched a ride into KI Iron Works and discovered that our middle-aged female driver

was the daughter of that young man in the article. The AT wasn't a "green tunnel" to us. It was more like a rich table cloth spread around the trail full of history and local personalities.

Benton MacKaye and Myron Avery conceived of the AT as a place where city dwellers could enjoy nature for a day or two. Bill and I easily fit into that vision.

We became known as the Cris-Cros couple. Often I'd drop Bill at the start of a day's section. Then I'd drive around to the other end. We'd meet for lunch and Bill would continue to the car. He'd drive to meet me at the other end. Sometimes the drive was many more miles longer than that day's hike. And Bill always finished sooner than me.

Often, we slack-packed and stayed at campgrounds, hostels, or motels. Since my first hikes on the AT, many good hostels have sprung up near the trail.

In 2001 we completed the 100-Mile Wilderness. In 2007 we hiked the 32-mile Mahoosuc Notch section where I almost divorced Bill. The year before, in a small motel room in Gorham, New Hampshire, we were snuggling down the last straps on our backpacks, ready for our shuttle the next morning to start

Mahoosuc. But we realized that neither of us was very healthy. So we postponed Mahoosuc a year.

A similar thing happened with Katahdin. Twice we got to tree line on Katahdin, but we could not go on because of thunder storms or 50 mile an hour winds. So we turned around and said, "Well, maybe next year. And if we can't finish, that's okay, too."

We had a great time walking sections of the AT and we met many wonderful thru-hikers and section hikers.

Photos: Springer Mountain, Georgia, and Katahdin, Maine, the start and finish of the trail.



The American chestnut tree and the blight: how it attacks the once-giants of the forest, and how some still survive

By Mike Manes

In September of 2017 I was participating in an AMC activity while a young lady overheard a discussion I was having about the American chestnut (*Castanea dentata*). After listening for a short time this lady stated “I thought the chestnut was extinct.”

It is a common belief that this tree is either extinct or on threatened or endangered lists, fortunately none of this is true. There are plenty of American chestnuts around, the U.S. Forest Service estimates that there are 460 million American chestnuts growing in the area originally populated by this species. Estimates have been made that there were four billion chestnut trees in 1904, when a blight that disseminated these trees started. Another question that may be heard today is why are we concerned about the existence of a tree when there are close to half a billion of them in existence?

The importance of statistics mentioned in the first paragraph does not show the important ecological concerns on the health conditions of the chestnut tree.

Originally the chestnuts were large trees, five or six feet in diameter and 100 feet in height were common. They were the tallest trees in the deciduous forest, occupying most of the canopy. They were also major producers of food for wildlife, human, and livestock. A single large tree could yearly produce over a million nuts, each nut had the potential to become a tree of equal size of its parents. While many fruiting trees will produce harvests every other year, the chestnut produced yearly.

The chestnut flowers bloom later than most, in the Delaware Valley blooming starts in mid to late June. The late flowering meant that they were rarely affected by a late frost. The position of a tree in the canopy is important since only the areas that are in the sunlight will flower and later fruit. While the flowering chestnut tree produces both male and female flowers, the tree is not able to self pollinate. There must be two or more chestnuts in the area for the tree to produce nuts.

In an old growth forest a chestnut could live for centuries, producing large numbers of nuts (and potential trees) each year. Most of the nuts would be eaten by squirrels and other rodents, turkeys, bears, raccoons, deer, livestock, and humans. The seeds that survive and germinate still have a rough life ahead. The tender young leaves have a high sugar content and are very tender and tasty to deer and rabbits. Old growth forests change little over time, and likely when the centuries old chestnuts passes away only one young large chestnut will take its place.

Enter chestnut blight (*Cryphonectria parasitica*, formerly *Endothia parasitica*). Once upon a time a five foot diameter chestnut was average, now we think of a four inch diameter tree as large. Once a chestnut lived for centuries, now twenty years makes it an old tree. The roots of the present twenty year old tree are probably more than a century old.

Chestnut blight is a fungal disease that affects the cambium layer of the tree, a nutrition distributing layer just under the bark. The blight fungus will not survive under the soil, thus the blight kills the tree but not the roots. The roots will send up sprouts in an effort to survive when the main trunk is threatened. The young sprouts will have smooth bark that the blight is unable to penetrate unless the bark is damaged. If the sprout survives, the bark will start to develop furrows in a few years, and blight can enter at these furrows. Of the millions of chestnuts growing in the eastern US well over 99 percent of them are roots sprouts, trunks less than ten years of age on a root that is over 100 years of age. These old roots are slowly decreasing in number, how much longer they will reproduce is unknown.

One source of misinformation on the chestnut is in Bill Bryson's book *A Walk in the Woods*. Bryson incorrectly states “The elms and the chestnuts are long gone” in the opening passages. Despite this error, I highly recommend this book for all and particularly to those hikers who love the Appalachian Trail. Bryson gets partial redemption for his accurate and thorough account of how chestnut blight attacks the cambium layer of the tree in Chapter 10.

Groups like The American Chestnut Foundation are trying to find a way to bring back the chestnut as the dominant and highly useful tree it once was in the eastern forests. I hope to enlighten the reader on this work in a future article.

*This is the second article of a series on the American chestnut tree.
Our chapter is a member of The American Chestnut Foundation.*



Annual Appie awards presented

John Rogers named Appie and Jim Catozzi Golden Appie for 2017 at annual dinner.

John Rogers, the Appie of the Year for 2017, has been a regular on the Wednesday hike circuit for several years, most notably heading us up the Dunnfield Creek hike to Sunfish Pond. He is serious about his hiking leadership skills, engaging in progressively more advanced training courses. An active member of the Leadership Committee, our Appie is a great contributor to developing leadership skills in others at the DV Chapter leadership training course. He has become a trainer for the club wide Mountain Leadership Skills program. He is known for his careful mentoring of new hike leaders. His knowledge of Wilderness First Aid is reassuring to many hikers who are just starting to enjoy the outdoors. And our Appie is an active trail work volunteer on the DV section of the Appalachian Trail.



While some of his local activities may seem tame, John is a wild man when undertaking his own outdoor adventures. Whether it is backpacking through a week of driving rain in Iceland, in sub-freezing conditions in the Adirondacks, or on an ice route in Switzerland, our Appie takes on adventures not only for fun, but to build his ability to lead others. Many of us have enjoyed his presentation at the Lehigh Valley group meeting—even if we end the evening glad we are going to home to a warm bed.

This year's Golden Appie Award goes to **Jim Catozzi**, who has a long history of involvement with the DV Chapter. He has served as the chapter's Hiking Chair, Backpacking Chair, Vice Chair and Chair. He has also been a member of the chapter's Leadership Committee for many years, served on the Volunteer Committee of the Mohican Outdoor Center, and as the Chapter Representative to the Keystone Trail Association.



This year, he graciously stepped in to fill one of the many voids left by the loss of Rich Wells and now works behind the scene as a data administrator for the activities database.

Our Golden Appie is also well known to many DV members for his culinary skills. Anyone who has in the past enjoyed his dinners for 100+ guests at the Mohican Spring Fling, the Saturday night dinners at the DV leadership training course, the breakfasts and dinners at the DV Leaders' Picnic, the KTA Trail Crew Week dinners, or the many campsite meals he prepared during his AT hike series, would agree he deserves this award.

Become an activity leader

Chapter's Outdoor Leadership Workshop will be held the weekend of April 6-8

The Delaware Valley Chapter will host an AMC Outdoor Leadership Training Workshop on the weekend of April 6-8, 2018. To make this event easily accessible for DV Chapter members, this session will take place at Nockamixon State Park and the Weisel Hostel near Quakertown.

Everyone is welcome to attend: leader wannabes, new leaders, new members, experienced leaders, members who just want to learn what leadership is all about.

Topics to be covered are the elements of outdoor leadership common to all AMC outdoor activities:

- Activity planning**
- Leading safe and enjoyable activities**
- Leadership styles**
- Group dynamics**
- Liability issues**
- Decision making model**
- Accident scene management**
- Conservation and minimum impact issues**
- AMC leadership requirements and guidelines**
- How to become a DV Chapter activity leader**
- Map and compass skills**

The instructors are experienced AMC volunteers and staff.

Why attend? If you want to step up to leading outdoor activities, the workshop will give you the confidence and skills that you need. If you are already an experienced leader, this workshop will make you a better one.

What's the cost? The cost for the course is \$35 for AMC members, \$50 for non-members, \$20 for AMC members who complete one co-lead by April 1, 2018. If you'd like to stay overnight at Weisel Hostel (four miles from Nockamixon), the cost is \$15 for one night or \$24 for two nights. The Saturday night dinner cost is \$15.

How to register: Contact DV Leadership Chair Lennie Steinmetz, leadership@amcdv.org or by phone at 610-694-8677 for additional information and registration.

Runners & hikers invited to 8th Annual Polar Bear 5K Trail Run/Hike, January 13

Runners and hikers are invited to participate in the Lancaster Group of the Sierra Club's 8th Annual Polar Bear 5K Trail Run/Hike at 10 AM Saturday, January 13, in scenic Lancaster County Central Park. Dogs on a leash are also welcome to run or walk with their masters.

The trail run/hike will follow the same route as last January's, winding through the park on well-maintained trails with some hills. Race day registration and check-in will begin at 8:30 AM at the park's Pavilion 22 (Kiwanis Lodge). Prizes will be awarded to the overall top three male and female runners. The top two runners in each age and gender category will also get prizes, while third-place finishers get a ribbon. Additionally, the first three finishers with dogs (any age group) will receive prizes.

Registration fee is \$25 from now until December 20; \$30 after this date and until race day. T-shirts are guaranteed for all people who register by Jan. 3. Registration is at lancastersierraclub.org, or e-mail sierraclubevent@gmail.com.

All money raised by this annual event, the Sierra Club - Lancaster Group's major fundraiser, supports local efforts to end global warming. Funds raised in the 2018 race will help subsidize the group's popular "green project" grant program. Approximately 245 runners and hikers registered for the race last January.

Three more opportunities remain to attend Winter Hiking Essentials Workshop

Snow and ice have not yet made an appearance, but more than 20 aspiring winter hikers did for the “Intro to Winter Hiking” event at Illick’s Mill in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania on December 4.

Participants had fun learning about winter gear, clothing and safety. Many said they are eager to venture out in the snow and try out gear. A woman who recently completed the AT said she was excited about continuing to hike into the winter and to meet other hikers.

One participant said, “I’ve wanted to snowshoe for a long time, and this presentation inspired me to procrastinate no more.”

Another commented “I’ve done some winter hiking, but this presentation really opened my eyes to how to do it more safely.”

Another reported that it was a very thorough presentation that balanced the safety issues while capturing the fun of winter hiking.

Jeff Fritzinger, hiking chair for the chapter, and Barbara Beatrice, both winter hike leaders, conducted the presentation. They received support from AMC staffer Mark Zakutansky, Bill Steinmetz, winter activities chair, and Lennie Steinmetz, the chapter’s leadership chair.

Three more sessions are scheduled this winter:

Thursday, January 11, Newtown Township Municipal Building, 7-9 PM. Registration fee: \$12 (township resident, \$10). Registration: at www.newtownfun.com; phone 215-968-2800, ext. 239.

Friday, January 19 – Sunday, January 21, Mohican Outdoor Center, includes lodging, meals, instruction and practice hikes. Registration fee: \$179 for AMC members, \$193 for non-members. For reservations please call 603-466-2727. Questions about Camp Mohican, call 908-362-5670.

Thursday, February 8, Newtown Township Municipal Building, 7-9 PM. Registration fee: \$12 (township resident, \$10). Registration: at www.newtownfun.com; phone 215-968-2800, ext. 239.

Participants for all sessions will be offered the opportunity to join an introductory winter hike on a later date when there is snow.



Hiking Chair Jeff Fritzinger and Barbara Beatrice led the first of four workshops they have developed and are presenting as an introduction to winter hiking. Twenty people attended the first one, which was given December 4 at Illick’s Mill in Bethlehem.
— Mark Zakutansky photo.

Volunteer to spend a day outdoors hiking, and help protect the Appalachian Trail



Boundary and corridor monitors are volunteers who keep AT corridor lands free from boundary encroachment and misuse. They also serve as an information source for trail neighbors with questions or concerns about AT lands.

Our AMC chapter maintains and monitors the corridor for about 15 miles of the Appalachian Trail from Wind Gap, PA south to Little Gap.

Monitors are not responsible for enforcement. Their task is to observe and report. Typically this means an annual or semiannual visit to their section of corridor lands and a simple one-page report. On rare occasions, serious encroachments are discovered. Once reported by a monitor, follow-up is handled by AMC volunteers, the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, and in rare cases, a National Park Service ranger.

If you want to volunteer and give back to the trail we all use and love, contact Greg Bernet at atmonitor@amcdv.org.



Chapter plants memorial tree at Spruce Run Recreation Area

On a beautiful October Sunday morning, several vigorous AMC DV volunteers planted a memorial tree at Spruce Run Recreation Area in Clinton, NJ. Spruce Run is still recovering from Superstorm Sandy that felled or damaged numerous trees within the park. The Executive Committee donated a stunning October Glory red maple which now shades a bench overlooking the reservoir and honors AMC volunteers who passed away this last year.

Lennie Steinmetz, Susan Weida, Reed Goossen, and Kathy Kindness, on behalf of AMC DV, fondly remembered the contributions of those who donated their time and talents to AMC, including:

Ruby Horwood, was DV Chapter Chair from 1969-70 and the first female president of the AMC (club wide) from 1974-75. During her time in those roles, she was active in the Tocks Island Dam battle, which led to the creation of the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, and also in protecting Franconia Notch in the White Mountains from the proposed widening of I-93 to a four-lane superhighway.

She passed away on August 2, 2017 after celebrating her 100th birthday in the spring, compete with greetings from two of AMC's past Executive Directors and a celebration with the female DV Chapter Chairs who had followed in her footsteps.

Dave Simpson was the Manager of the Mohican Outdoor Center from 1998-2011. For hundreds of Mohican visitors, Dave (and his collie Mo) was the face of Mohican - the friendly guy who greeted them at check-in, who served countless breakfasts and dinners, who offered information on trails and activities in the area, and who served as pianist/guitarist/singer at the Saturday music nights. Dave lost his battle with cancer on October 24, 2016.

Rich Wells served on the DV Executive Committee from 2007-2017 as Hiking Chair, Webmaster, and Communications Chair. He was also a member of the chapter Leadership Committee, who maintained the records on all current DV leaders and monitored trips posted on the DV activity schedule. The number of behind-the-scenes activities that Rich handled for the chapter became apparent after his untimely death this spring, when the Executive Committee worked diligently to try to fill the many holes left by his passing.

Russ Moyer did not have an official leadership role in the chapter but was an extremely active hiker and an ambassador of goodwill. He always had a ready, welcoming smile for everyone and infectious enthusiasm for the activity in which he was participating. He loved hiking and his AMC family and will be missed by many in the club who enjoyed his love of trivia and anecdote.

Top: Lennie Steinmetz and Susan Weida dig. Bottom: Reed Goossen, Kathy Kindness and Susan Weida with the planted tree.



Explore Washington's North Cascades with August Camp 2018



In 2018 AMC's August Camp returns to the breathtaking North Cascades of Washington State. Hikes will be in the North Cascades National Park, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, and Ross Lake and Lake Chelan National Recreation Areas. Choose from a variety of 4-6 hikes every day, or add in backpacking, rafting or kayaking to expand your experience. No matter what you do, you'll be surrounded by amazing vistas!

This full-service tent village for 64 campers each week offers home-cooked meals, daily hikes at all levels, nightly campfires and wonderful camaraderie. The 2018 campsite is on the banks of the swift-flowing Skagit River, a popular rafting destination, in the shadow of glaciated 10,781-foot Mt. Baker, and just down the road from Cascadian Farms, known for their organic food and wonderful ice cream.

The site is reached by the North Cascades Highway, considered the most scenic drive in Washington State. Fly into Seattle-Tacoma International airport, from where the fleet of camp vans provides free transportation to Camp each Saturday. The

vans also provide transport to and from daily activities.

Activities are planned and led by AMC-trained and approved volunteer leaders; meals are prepared by our friendly camp staff. All you have to do is show up at the airport Saturday to enjoy the hiking, the scenery, the people, and the fun that is August Camp!

Detailed info and registration materials will be available on the August Camp web site (<http://www.augustcamp.org/>) in early December. Availability is limited so plan your one or two week adventure now and be part of one of the AMC's oldest traditions. Registration opens January 2. Also, see ad on page 10.

August Camp Schedule

Week 1: July 14 - July 21,
Week 2: July 21 - July 28
Week 3: July 28 - Aug. 4
Week 4: Aug. 4 - Aug. 11



Winter Images

Top three: Snowshoeing in the Catskills, Lennie Steinmetz

Snow Geese, Middle Creek Wildlife Management Area, Mike Manes
(see story on the next page)

Light snowfall, Valley Forge, Eric Pavlak

Winter birds: snow geese and tundra swans

You undoubtedly watched massive flocks of white geese with little black tips on their wings flying in multiple V formation overhead. It is a fantastic sight, as is observing a massive white streak on a dark body of water.

I plan to lead hikes that look for these birds over the winter. Unfortunately there is no guarantee that we will find these migratory birds. The best place to look is where there is water (not ice), water for their swimming although they may also appear on agricultural fields.

The best place to look in our area is Middle Creek Wildlife Management Area near Kleinfeltersville, PA. The management of this area is very helpful, keeping a count on their web site of snow geese and tundra swans.

I have been there on occasions when there were 100,000 plus snow geese and 15,000 tundra swans. Usually the highest numbers of these two species are there the last week of February or the first week of March, but peak season has occurred both earlier and later.

This facility has a wonderful museum with information mainly on migratory waterfowl, but includes other information for bird watching, breeding, and hunting. The hike will meet at the museum and proceed for a seven mile loop hike south of the facility, returning to the museum about 3:00 PM. At this point you are free to examine the museum or drive to various waterfowl watching spots around a large reservoir. Since the hike is on State Game Land, I will follow the rules and limit the group size. If there is a demand I will lead a second hike.

The second location is a Merrill Creek Reservoir, a short distance north and east of Phillipsburg, NJ. I have seen large flocks of geese from 10,000 to 50,000 in number here on occasions from late December to late February. The problem with this area is they are here today, gone tomorrow, and may be here next Wednesday. This facility has a nice walk with good opportunities to see a variety of waterfowls even if the geese are not present. Tundra swans are very rare at Merrill Creek.

For those interested in bald eagles, I have seen them at both locations. I have watched eagles flying low over flocks of snow geese causing the geese to go into panic mode.

Since the possibility of viewing geese depends greatly on weather conditions, all hikes will be announced with short lead times. If you are interested in one or both of these hike locations, please e-mail me at AMCDVtrails@aol.com. — *Mike Manes*

Also see the photo on the preceding page.



Pennsylvania Highlands Trail Network Update

November was a busy month for AMC's all-volunteer trail crew, the Pennsylvania Highlands Trail Stewards, who have been working hard to improve trails in Bucks County as part of the effort to create trails that promote the Pennsylvania Highlands region.

In early November, the Highlands Trail Stewards were at work in Ringing Rocks County Park in Bridgeton Township, developing new trail, maintaining existing trails, and installing new trail signage throughout the park.

Later in November, the Highlands Trail Stewards were at work in Richland Township installing new trail signage and markers along the Pennsylvania Highlands Trail Network, from the trail at Veterans Park on East Pumping Station Road to the trail in the Walnut Banks Farm neighborhood.

Learn more about AMC's work in planning, developing and improving the Pennsylvania Highlands Trail Network on our web site, <http://pahighlands.org/>

Reprinted from AMC Executive Update which is distributed club-wide to all chapters.



Mountain Majesty

North Cascades • AMC's August Camp 2018



Explore magnificent North Cascades National Park, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, and Ross Lake and Lake Chelan National Recreation Areas. Camp on the banks of the swift Skagit River in the shadow of 10,781 foot high glaciated Mt. Baker.

Hike, raft, bike and more, visiting many stunning waterfalls and scenic vistas on dozens of activities led by trained AMC volunteers. Just arrive and enjoy the activities and camaraderie. Everything's provided: tents, hearty, delicious meals prepared by our staff, local transportation and a free shuttle from Seattle-Tacoma International Airport.

July 14 through August 11. Plan to attend for one week or two. Detailed info, pricing and registration will be on our web site by early December. Camp filled by mid-February last year, so don't miss out! Sign up early for the week(s) you want!

Week 1: July 14 — July 21

Week 2: July 21 — July 28

Week 3: July 28 — Aug. 4

Week 4: Aug. 4 — Aug. 11

One Week: \$925 for members \$975 for non-members

Two Weeks: \$1,800 for members \$1,900 for non-members

Applications are accepted beginning January 2, 2018 in the order in which they are received. Get sign-up documents and more information after December 1 at our web site, augustcamp.org. **Questions? Ask Trish Niece at AugCampReg1887@gmail.com**

Photos by Jim Borowski, August Camp 2013



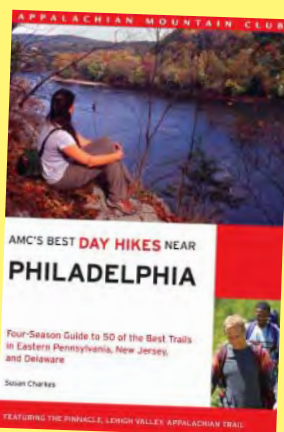
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Outdoors with Kids Philadelphia is the latest addition to the AMC's Outdoors with Kids series. Providing comprehensive guides to low-cost adventure, the book includes destination and trip information for locations in and around Philadelphia. It focuses on the "pay-off" for children of each age group while specifying which locations are good for hiking, swimming, paddling, biking, etc. It features safety tips and a "Plan B" for each destination.

Member Price: \$15.16



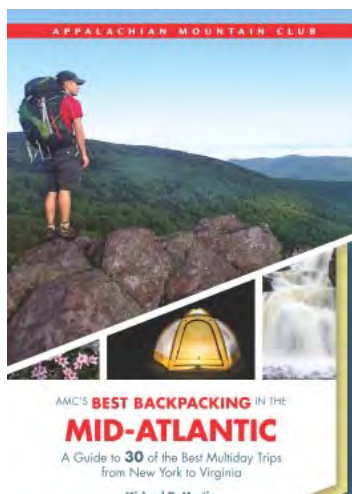
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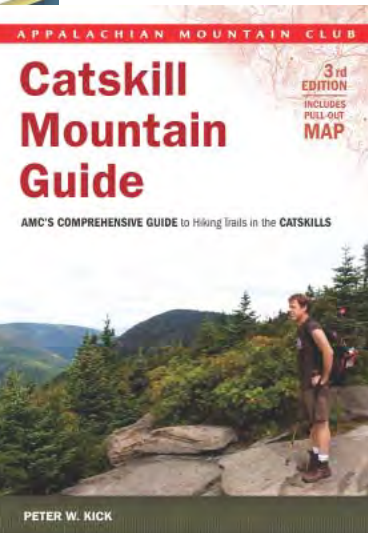
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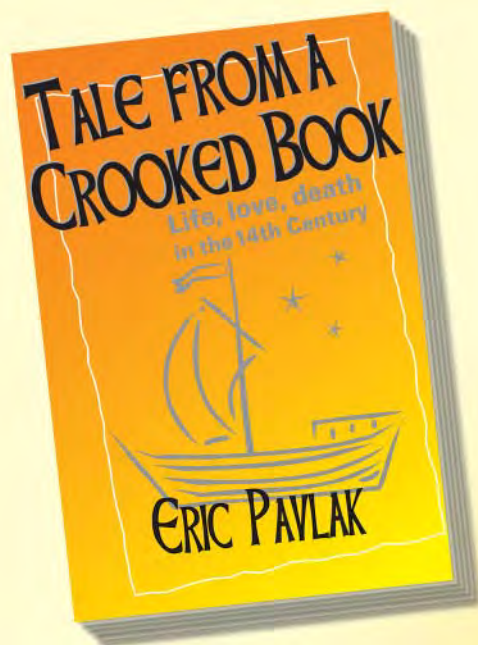


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Electronic trip reporting: you no longer need to mail forms!

With our new on-line trip report system, AMC-DV leaders can file trip reports electronically, instead of mailing them to the appropriate activity chair. You will need to:

1. **Get a User ID and password for the chapter trip reporting system.** This is not the same thing as having a user ID and password for entering trips into AMC's on line activity system. However, you can keep things simple by using the same user ID and password for both.

(Explanation why: AMC's on line activity system is located on a secure server controlled by the staff at AMC headquarters in Boston. The trip reporting system is located on the secure server that hosts this web site, our DV Chapter site. This site and the trip reporting system was created by two local volunteers. We are actually a step or two ahead of what the folks in Boston are doing. For security and technical reasons, we have no access to your log in credentials on the trip listing server.)

If you have not yet been sent a link to set up your User ID and password, or if you have forgotten your ID, please contact login-help@amcdv.org. This help mailbox is monitored by a volunteer, so it may take a day or more to get a response, particularly on weekends. Please be patient!

2. **Scan or photograph your trip sign in sheets.** We just need the side with the signatures. The file format should be either PDF or JPEG. [Click here for some very useful help](#) with scanning or photographing your sign in release sheets. After you are done scanning, look at the file, and make sure that you could read it.
3. **Fill out the trip report** on line at <http://amcdv.org/TripReport.php>

When you report on line, here is what happens:



Sign-in sheet,
plus on-line trip report.

This goes to the activity chair. You can get a copy e-mailed back to you if you check the appropriate box.



A copy automatically goes to our volunteer activity logger, who enters the trip and participant information. This is how we track miles hiked, rivers paddled, trails worked on, etc. This will be used for our new annual awards.



A copy automatically goes to AMC headquarters in Boston, where it is used for statistical purposes, and kept as a legal record.

Click Here to go to the log in page
<http://amcdv.org/TripReport.php>