

Annual Report for 2015



Appalachian Mountain Club Delaware Valley Chapter





Appalachian Mountain Club

Delaware Valley Chapter

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Overview

The year may have gone by quickly but we were able to accomplish many new things for our chapter during that time. Now that our chapter is financially sound, the Executive Committee is working to come up with ways to use some of the funds to help promote the AMC mission of getting people outdoors and connecting with the outdoors.

Our leaders are the life blood and ambassadors of our chapter, so we focused on what we could do to help them with planning their activities, to be better trained and more qualified as leaders. We enhanced the reimbursement policy for our leaders to encourage them to attend Wilderness First Aid training, or if needed, to re-certify their WFA training.

Our 2015 Outdoor Leadership Training weekend had the largest class ever, partially due to folks taking advantage of the new Young Members Scholarship. For the first time we held a dinner inviting all current leaders and trainees so they could meet, network and learn about posting and leading exciting trips for our chapter. The result of this dinner was a greater variety of trips scheduled for our members and the public.

In an effort to offer more Young Member (members under 30) activities, the Executive Committee created a Young Members Scholarship program to encourage YMs to become leaders. We also created a Young Members Meetup group to bring awareness to our YMs' activities. The combination of new YM leaders and the Meetup site has led to more activities offered for YMs.

Our Volunteer of the Month program is in its second year, and many dedicated volunteers were recognized for their hard work and commitment to our chapter and members. When you look at the different volunteers and their contributions, it gives you a sense of the wide variety of service being done by these dedicated individuals.

We also tried something new in conservation when our Chapter Secretary, Kathy Kindness, suggested that our chapter participate in the Phillies "Red Goes Green" recycling program. A number members attended a free Phillies game and collected recyclables during the first seven innings. It was very successful and the volunteers requested we do it again next year.

Working in conjunction with John Brunner, AMC Mid-Atlantic Recreation Planner, the Executive Committee has formed a new Highlands Trail Stewardship Crew. This trail crew will be working on trails in the Highlands Region in Pennsylvania and a little bit in New Jersey. Greg Bernet a recent graduate of our 2015 OLT class has agreed to work with John as the volunteer leader for this crew. We will be looking for volunteers who

2016 Executive Committee Nominees

Chair	Joan Aichele
Vice Chair	Lois Rothenberger
Secretary	Kathy Kindness
Treasurer	Joe Nanfara
Membership	Denis McCartan
Backpacking	Cindy Crosser
Bicycling	Tammy Brandon
Communications	Rich Wells
Conservation	Adrian Noble
Family Activities	Annette Sheldon
Hiking	Malcolm Preece
Leadership	Lennie Steinmetz
Paddling	Eric Pavlak
Social	Geri Chmiel
Trails	Phil Mulligan
Young Members	June Gondi

would like to give back by helping with trail maintenance.

This crew will be in addition to the already active crew of trail volunteers led by Dan Schwartz which maintains approximately 15 miles of the Appalachian Trail, plus the volunteers working under Phil Mulligan on the trails at Valley Forge National Park. We also want to recognize the many volunteers who visit and help to maintain our Leroy Smith Shelter on the AT on a regular basis. Trash seems to be a big problem recently. All trash left at the shelter has to be physically carried down by these dedicated volunteers.

We had another fun DV Chapter weekend, held this year at the Ironmasters Mansion in the beautiful Pine Grove Furnace State Park. We hiked, we biked, we socialized and

some even went swimming in Fuller Lake. There was lots of good food, laughter and great memories enjoyed by everyone who attended.

Next year we will be heading north for our chapter weekend to the new AMC facility in Harriman State Park at Breakneck Pond. This facility is a bit more rustic but the natural beauty of the area is just breathtaking. It is hard to believe the camp is less than an hour

Appie Awards for 2015

Denis McCartan, Appie of the Year

Rich Wells, Golden Appie of the Year

from New York City. Situated right on Breakneck Pond this camp will be available to organized AMC and chapter led groups seasonally from May through October. We tentatively have next year's chapter weekend scheduled there September 16 to 18.

Finally, the most exciting news this year came in October, with relocation of the AMC Mid-Atlantic Regional Office in Bethlehem to a much more visible and accessible location, the



historic Illick's Mill along the picturesque Monocacy Creek. This new location will enable our chapter to hold volunteer led-workshops, host family activities and nature walks and hikes from the mill, as well as work more closely with the office staff to help promote AMC in the area. We will be looking for many volunteers to help us with these activities.

I have really enjoyed working with the Executive Committee this year. They were all very dedicated with lots of energy and good ideas that we were able to build on for the betterment of our chapter. Some of those EC members will be stepping down this November. I will miss them but thank them for their sincere dedication to our chapter. I am looking forward to next year and continuing the momentum from last year. We will have more exciting opportunities and a chance for even more accomplishments with our new Executive Committee, particularly with the four new committee members bringing fresh ideas. See you all in the great outdoors! — *Joan Aichele, Chapter Chair*

Backpacking

The past year has proven to be one of significant growth for backpacking in the Delaware Valley Chapter.

We had 17 weekend backpacks that were scheduled and run from April through November of 2015. These were very well attended, with most wait listed due to the number of individuals interested.

There were two week-long backpacks scheduled along the AT in Shenandoah, in North Carolina and in Tennessee.

The backpacking workshop was held on August 22, and we had 16 participants. They provided very positive feedback on what was worthwhile and what was needed for them to get out on the trail. I would definitely recommend that we do this again and keep the class size to no more than 20 participants.

This was another good year for new leaders to join our ranks. We added two new leaders, Chad Crisp and Jack Kerby-Miller. There were numerous co-leads completed as the leaders-in-training work their way through the requirements of leadership training, WFA, and the final co-lead. I myself am mentoring all of the following with the exception of Lisa Chao: Jeffrey Lippincott, Anthony Palandro, Christina Pisel, Lizzie Grobbel, Adrian Noble and Lisa Chao. I expect they will become be new leaders during 2016.

Overall, I consider this past year to be a year of great change backpacking, with a level of interest and activity we haven't seen in a very long time. The best is yet to come.

— *Cindy Crosser, Backpacking Chair*

Bicycling

Our chapter saw an increase in the number of club bicycle rides during 2015, and also an increase in participation by bicycling leaders. Many rides have been held on rail-trails and paved multi-use paths, and several road rides were led this season. From April through September, 47 rides were held, and three multi-day bicycling trips were run. Rides are listed in October and November, and bicycling could continue through the end of the year, depending on the weather and the level of interest of the participants.

We welcome four new bicycling leaders this season; Christine Loch, Jack Kerby-Miller, Hannelore Rittinger, and Noelle Schwartz. Two leaders-in-training have completed their first bicycling co-lead; Susan Weida and Len Wolf. Much appreciation and thanks goes out to all of the leaders that organized and led bicycle rides for the chapter this season; Joan Aichele, Terry Berntsen, Barb Blythe, Tammy Brandon, Rich Einstein, Ian Kindle, Steve Leibrock, Jeff Lippincott, Ed Loch, Sue Bickford-Martin, Mark Mazer, Rich Pace, Eric Pavlak, and Ann Ross.

Special recognition goes out to leaders who planned and led multi-day bicycling trips this season: Terry Berntsen to Genesee Valley, NY; Terry Berntsen and co-leads Steve Leibrock, Jeff Lippincott, and Sue Bickford-Martin to Lake Champlain and Vermont; Sue Bickford-Martin and Ira Rubinstein to the Hudson Valley.

The chapter saw a 57 percent increase in rides led as compared to 2014, indicating a growing interest in bicycling. There also continues to be interest within the chapter for more multi-day trips. We encourage both seasoned and new bicycling leaders to consider adding a few more rides and trips to the schedule next season. — *Tammy Brandon, Bicycling Chair*

Communications

The Communications Committee manages the Chapter website, three e-mail lists, the newsletter and Meetup. The Committee also serves as the Chapter interface with the On-Line Trip Listing (OLTL) system (renamed the Activity Data Base System or Activity DB).

It takes the knowledge, skill and dedication of many Chapter volunteers to make sure everything works smoothly. We acknowledge the contributions from: Joan Aichele and John Garner, e-mail List Membership managers; Jim Catozzi and Bill Steinmetz, OLTL management and Eric Pavlak, *Footnotes* editor and publisher who also serves as web keeper. Support from Rich Pace



that supports the mobile devices as well as desktop system.

The Chapter continues to publish a weekly message. Keeping the message out of spam folders proved to be a challenge this year. In 2015, we intend to explore ways to make the message more useful to members, reduce the likelihood that it ends up in spam folders and lastly reduce the volunteer effort needed to publish the message and maintain the subscription

database. Because of Yahoo policy changes maintaining the database has become a major and labor intensive problem.

— Rich Wells, *Communications Chair*

Conservation

Conservation activities in 2015 continued to focus on two areas. First was raising awareness of environmental issues affecting public recreation lands and waters, especially regional impacts of gas pipeline crossings, as well as other issues. The new chapter website was the primary vehicle, along with Facebook and e-mail to communicate with membership. Eric Pavlak, Webmaster, contributed significantly during the year to this effort. I worked with Cathy Reuscher and Mark Zakutansky of the Mid-Atlantic Office to coordinate with their awareness and engagement efforts. Second was offering opportunities to participate in citizen science and conservation activities. Mike Manes continued his chestnut identification and harvest activities. Cindy Friel led a bird-count hike as part of the annual Bird the Ridge series. Rich Einstein led cleanups for Friends of the Delaware Canal.

— Susan Charkes, *Conservation Chair*

in keeping Meetup up and running continues to be most valuable and much appreciated. Also John Rowen's support maintaining the Chapter Activity Calendar remains vital to the Chapter. This year, John added support for the on-line submission of trip reports and waiver forms, a feature most appreciated by leaders as it ends the need to mail in the reports and forms, and for the Chapter to manually deliver the paper to Boston.

Meetup continues to grow. Membership is now over 4,600, an increase of over 1,100 members since last year's report. A second Meetup site focused on young members was established this year. Membership currently has 225 members. Meetup growth, especially on the main site continues despite fewer activities being posted there.

The Chapter Facebook presence continues. About five new posts appear weekly. Facebook is an excellent way to get information out without flooding member's e-mail inboxes with mail. Facebook allows photo posting and two-way conversation, a feature that we have yet to utilize fully. We salute our contributors to our Facebook site and urge anyone who wants to be involved to contact us.

The Activity DB system underwent changes this year. The trip entry form was redesigned with the objective of making it a bit easier for leaders to use. On the downside, adding new leaders became more complex. Prior to this year, the Chapter could establish an account for a new leader. Now, the leader must first establish the account. An Activity Registration module, which also supports non-members, was also added to the system. While we're not currently making use of the module, it's a stepping stone to future enhancements, including a payment module.

The Chapter continued to expand the use of PayPal as a payment option. PayPal accepts credit cards as well as direct PayPal payment. The system has proven secure and allows the Chapter to avoid having to store or even pass sensitive personal financial information. This year use of the PayPal system was expanded to include more complex events where multiple options and prices apply.

Work continues both at the Chapter level and at the AMC in making websites more compatible with mobile and tablet devices. Changes along that line have already taken place at the Chapter level. The AMC is expected to rollout a new website design, expected in late October



Family Activities

We are continuing to expand the variety of activities offered to families in the Delaware Valley to support Vision 2020. This is an important mission aimed towards inspiring future generations to care for and preserve our natural treasures. Although many activities posted on the activities calendar do welcome families, it can be intimidating for new members and families with young children to participate. If the activity is something new to the child, parents have no way of knowing if the child will enjoy the activity or how they will behave. The goal of family activities is to make families feel welcome to try something new in a noncompetitive, non-judgmental, purely for fun atmosphere.

Some of the more popular hiking and kayaking activities from last year were repeated. Family friendly kayaking was a popular activity, so more paddle trips were organized this year. A new hike leader (and Mom) organized stroller friendly hikes in the Wilmington, Delaware area. We look forward to seeing more family activities in this region listed in the upcoming year. If you have ideas for family activities, we are always looking for volunteers to help with this mission.

— Cindy Friel, Family Activities Chair

Hiking

Hiking remains the most frequently posted activity. The 2015 hike data up to September 30 are:

Hikes Completed	402
Unique leaders	113
Unique hikers	1244
Total miles hiked	29,962

Congratulations to all of the DV Chapters leaders who made the effort to plan and lead such a variety of hikes.

As in 2014, the number of regular repeat hikes is being maintained for Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. The TGIF effect may have something to do with no regular hikes on Friday.

While the majority of our hikes occur in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware, we have several leaders who venture further afield. These trips are usually multi-day events requiring a higher degree of planning and execution, and are held over more challenging terrain than we are used to locally. A selection of such events during 2015 are:

January 10-11, Catskill weekend led by Bill and Lennie Steinmetz.

March 7-8, Catskill Encore, Led by Barbara Beatrice and Jeff Fritzinger.



Barbara and Jeff have led two additional weekend hikes in the Catskills with a fourth scheduled for October.

July 4 weekend to the White Mountains, New Hampshire, led by Barb Blythe and Sue Bickford Martin.

July 30 to August 3, Lake Champlain Vermont. A bike and hike trip led by Theresa Bernsten with co-leaders Sue Bickford-Martin and Jeff Lippincott.

During 2015 we noted improvements in the quality of Release Agreements and Trip reports submitted by our leaders, a major contributor to these improvements has been the implementation of the on-line system developed by John Rowen.

The DV Chapter data base reveals that for every AMC member who participates in hikes, two non-members participate. These values suggest that there is an opportunity to increase AMC membership by encouraging participating non-members to join the AMC.

— Malcolm Preece, Hiking Chair

Leadership

The AMC-DV's annual Outdoor Leadership Training course took place this year on the weekend of April 10-12 at the Environmental Education Center at Nockamixon State Park. There were a total of 39 participants, the largest group ever to take the course. This year's trainees included seven young members taking advantage of the Young Members Scholarship, which was offered for the first time by the DV Chapter. In addition to providing a full scholarship to the course, a one year AMC U-30 membership will also be provided free of charge to these new YM leaders once they have successfully completed their required co-leads.

The Class of 2015 graduates included: Mark Becker, Matt Beckius, Sue Berg, Greg Bernet, Lynn Brass-Smith, Kenneth Card, Dennis Chadwick, Lisa Chou, Ann Colliluori, Marek Crosser, Jeffrey DiFrancesco, Evan Ernest, Judy Farrell, Marina Gresham, Lizzie Grobbel, Jack Kerby-Miller, Jan King Jr, Lily





Lin, Lisa Lombardo, Peni MacMeekin, Clara Masessa, Theresa McCartin, Cara Meglio, Margaret Moore, Robert Mraz, William Murray, Joseph Nanfara, Angela Oliveira, Christina Pisel, Larry Priori, Hannelore Rittinger, George Rockett, Haider Shamsuddin, Kenneth Shuck, Linda Stephens, Yongxuan Mike Tan, Patrick Toriello, Linda Watsula, and Leonard Wolf.

The trainers for this year's course were: Joan Aichele, Jeff Alpert, Terry Berntsen, Tammy Brandon, Susan Charkes, Cindy Crosser, Cindy Friel, John Garner, June Gondi, Aaron Gorban, Pete Jarrett, Mark Kern, Phil Mulligan, Rich Pace, Ron Phelps, Malcolm Preece, Bill Steinmetz, Lennie Steinmetz and Rich Wells.

One feature that was new for this year's Leadership Training weekend was the Leaders Dinner on Saturday night, which all DV Chapter leaders were invited to attend. Over 100 current and future leaders came together at the Pennridge Community Center in Silverdale on Saturday, April 11 to get acquainted, learn about several new programs in AMC of interest to leaders, and share ideas about expanding and improving the DV Chapter activities schedule. Tutoring sessions on the use of the AMC Activities Database system for entering trips online were provided in the Pennridge computer classroom for new and experienced leaders alike, and AMC Volunteer Relations Coordinator Susannah Hatch (from AMC's Boston office) provided information on new programs that would be coming online this spring. Most importantly, future leaders had a chance to meet veteran DV Chapter leaders, learn from their experience, and make plans for doing the two co-leads that are required for them to become chapter leaders. It was generally agreed that this was a very worthwhile experience on many levels, and one that we should consider repeating next year.

Leaders Picnic and Camp-out: Based on the success of last year's picnic, it was decided to go with a similar format for 2015.

Leadership Vice Chair Pete Jarrett and Chapter Chair Joan Aichele coordinated this event, which took place on the weekend of July 11, once again at Tohickon Valley Park. Chef Jim Catozzi prepared a wonderful dinner on Saturday night for a large and appreciative group, and a number of participants enjoyed the overnight campout and Sunday breakfast as well.

The DV Chapter's 2016 Outdoor Leadership Training course

will be offered on April 15-17, 2016, at the Nockamixon Environmental Education Center near Quakertown. DV Chapter members interested in becoming an activity leader for the chapter are encouraged to contact leadership@amcdv.org for additional information. — *Lennie Steinmetz, Leadership Chair*

Lehigh Valley Group

The Lehigh Valley Group has now completed its twenty-third year of existence. Meetings take place on the third Wednesday of every month (except December, July, and August) at the Friends Meeting House on Route 512 in Bethlehem. Programs this year have included presentations on a wide range of topics including: "Kyrgyzstan, the Hidden Gem in Central Asia" by David Stein, "Six Weeks in Africa" by Ira Rubinstein and Marcia Comstock, "Touring Ireland" by Christine and Ed Loch, "A Trek to Everest Base Camp" by Phill Hunsberger, "Little Lyford Camp" by Bill and Christine Murray, "Exploring Newfoundland" by Jim Bloom and Lynn Fraser, "The Things We Did Last Summer" by various LVG members, "An Alaskan Adventure" by Dan and Noelle Schwartz, and "The PA Highlands Trail" by John Brunner. AMC Bethlehem staff member Cathy Reuscher frequently shares information on conservation efforts and concerns, and Chapter Chair Joan Aichele provides information on upcoming AMC-DV events.

The LVG monthly meetings also include a short discussion on upcoming outdoor activities and a social time with refreshments. Meeting attendance ranges from 30 to 50 people, including longtime AMC members as well as potential members who have read about the meeting in local newspapers. The group looks forward to continuing these monthly get-togethers for years to come. — *Phill Hunsberger, Lehigh Valley Group Chair*

Membership

The number of members in our chapter continues to hover around 5,000. A number of factors may account for that, including the increase in the number of competing Meetup groups, the economic climate over the past few years, and a long-term



societal trend away from joining formal organizations. Nevertheless, individuals who are new to the Club often express delight in the existence of an organization which so completely suits their interests and hobbies.

We have developed a Meetup message that was sent to all members of our Meetup page. Eric Pavlak drafted the final version of this message, which included the wonderful tagline, “You are missing so much!” along with a photo suggesting that the reader is missing out on the fun and excitement of an activity that is not posted on Meetup. We do know this message was effective in convincing Meetup members to join the AMC itself: there was an increase in memberships immediately following the e-mailing.

Our New Member Social once again was held in early March at Valley Forge. We chose this venue for its central location and ease of access; in 2014 we held this event at Peace Valley Park in Doylestown, PA. Also, we held it on a Sunday afternoon rather than a weeknight in order to hold a hike which would give prospective members a taste of what we do, while at the same time enlisting other AMC leaders who would otherwise be participating in activities on Saturday. This Social was successful with over 40 attendees.

— from the report of John E. Garner, Membership Chair

Paddling

Flatwater trips remain popular, and are often filled to capacity. For six years, we have been running numerous flatwater trips using Meetup to successfully fill trips to capacity, and used it to boost training course registration. We ran a total of 23 flatwater trips this year, plus one sea kayak trip.

We ran basic and solo canoeing courses, plus a safety course, for a total of six instructional days. We added one new paddling leader, Cindy Friel.

There were 11 whitewater trips run, mostly on the Lehigh,

but with trips to West Virginia and western Pennsylvania. This number, less than in past years, was due to the declining number of whitewater paddlers, plus the bridge construction on the Tohickon, which caused the cancelation of the spring release weekend.

We will have run trips on about 40 paddling days this year, up five from last year. Late summer and fall were mostly dry, resulting in low river levels. The following 12 led trips this year: John Chalikian, John Milne, Rich Pace, Jill Arbuckle, Esther Underhill, Walt Underhill, Francine Carlini, Tammy Brandon, John Brunner, Cindy Friel, Al Schwartz and me.
— Eric Pavlak, Paddling Chair

Shelter: Leroy Smith shelter on the AT

The volunteers in the Shelter Care Taking program, in place following the shelter’s dedication in 1974, report conditions that keep the shelter as one of the best on the AT trail from Harper’s Ferry into New Jersey.

Summer Watch extends from mid-April through October with a volunteer visiting the shelter each week. Winter Watch follows from November to mid-April with a volunteer visiting the shelter once every two weeks, weather permitting.

During deer hunting season, two plus weeks in December and in January, the visits are only Sundays. We observe Pennsylvania State Game Lands regulations requiring all users (hunter, hikers, et. al.) to wear fluorescent orange-colored clothing and the DV Chapter funds orange caps for the winter watchers.

Leroy’s Log: The Shelter Chair compiles an occasional column for an issue of *Footnotes* from the entries in the Log Book. Objectives are to inform DV members of our shelter responsibilities and to recruit Shelter Watch volunteers.

Shelter Watch Hours: An average of five hours x 45 trips = 225 hours plus 40 hours chair = 265 hours total. Note that the Chair’s increase in hours was due to activities concerning the



stolen log in mid-August, the illegal campsite at Spring #3, and related Pennsylvania Game Commission contacts. Estimate Maintenance Hours = 70

Shelter Watchers, November 2014 to October 2015: Jim Bloom, Jane Cope, Kevin Dealy, Nick and Karen Franco, Lyn Frazer and Jim Bloom, Ben Giralico, Nancy Greene, Philip and Marty Hunsberger, Bob Huey, Ed Johns, Russell and Sabrina Keim, Margot Kraft, David McGrath, Louis Miller, Charles Ogle, George Omick, Ken and Pat Sacks, Dan, Benton and Dimitri Schwartz, Mike Sinclair, Donald Stewart, Ruth, Aaron and Benjamin Yeiser.

— Patricia Sacks, Shelter Chair

Social

The Spring Activity Social was held on Saturday, April 18 at the American Legion, Doylestown, PA. A pre-social hike was well attended. There were 55 attendees. Awards (caps and vests) were given to members and leaders based on miles hiked and activities lead. Kevin Williams, AMC's Ridge Runner, gave an entertaining presentation.

The Annual Picnic was held on Saturday, June 13 at Ft. Washington State Park, at the Flourtown Day Use area. A pre-picnic hike was well attended. The weather was perfect. Pickelball was a success.

The 72-plus chapter members were treated with great food and members brought awesome snacks and delicious desserts. Games and social time were enjoyed. Left-overs were taken to the Victory House Veterans Shelter in Bethlehem, PA.

The Annual Dinner will be held on Saturday, November 7 at the Pennridge Community Center, Perkasio, PA, with a night full of socializing, recognition and great food. During the business meeting, we will recognize outgoing and incoming Executive Committee members, 25 and 50 year members, present the Appie awards, and draw a 2015 volunteer of the month prize winner from the 12 monthly winners. Silas Chamberlin, a non-profit executive, trail advocate and historian will speak to the group about America's rich history of hiking and trails.

— Geri Chmiel, Social Chair

Trails

Our Chapter has continued to work on trails in three significant areas of our jurisdiction.

First, we are maintaining our segment of the Appalachian Trail in partnership with the National Park Service, Keystone Trails Association and Appalachian Trail Conservancy. Mike Manes, Dan Schwartz, Bill Steinmetz and a host of others lead and perform work there.

This year's Ridgerunner program, where we work with ATC to provide someone to patrol the AT during the Summer, as well as to meet and greet the hikers, was again a huge success. It entails patrolling for encroachments, unauthorized structures, and damage to the trail, both natural and man-made. Our volunteers are also assisting in defining the boundaries of the ATC corridor.

Also, we are continuing to maintain the trails on Mt. Misery at Valley Forge National Park. We are continuing to keep the

trails in their current state of good repair. National Public Lands Day is usually held in September but was rescheduled to October because of the Pope's visit to Philadelphia.

We are continuing to keep the trails at Nockamixon State Park in good repair. Pete Jarrett leads the work there in conjunction with the Friends group at that Park.

In addition AMC-DV members continue to volunteer at other



parks in the area, under the leadership of other clubs.

We have enquiries from several parks for trailwork projects. We can use volunteer leaders to come forward to help lead projects there, and trail workers as well.

— Phil Mulligan, Trails Chair

Treasurer's Report

Overall Financial Assessment

The activities of the Delaware Valley Chapter resulted in a small deficit.

Financial Details

The Delaware Valley Chapter operates as a branch of the Appalachian Mountain Club, a non-profit corporation with headquarters in Boston, MA. Chapter financial activities comply with rules established by the AMC, including the AMC fiscal year from January 1 through December 31. The chapter's books are maintained on a cash basis in a computerized accounting system and the chapter provides an annual financial report for AMC audit and review within a month after completing the fiscal year.

Chapter income comes primarily as an allocation of a portion of the AMC dues paid by members who reside in the Delaware Valley area. In the 12 months covered by this report, the dues allocation provided most of the chapter's income similar to previous years. Because this report occurs before the end of the official fiscal year, it follows the format from recent years and covers a 12-month accounting period from October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015. Comparisons are provided with the preceding 12 month period.

— Richard Einstein, Treasurer

Financial statement follows on the next page:

Operational Income vs. Expense for the 12 month period from 10/1/2014 thru 9/30/2015 compared to prior 12 month period				
	Current Period	Prior Period		
Allocation from AMC Dues	16,640.75	16,792.75		
Membership sales	1,630.00	1,330.00		
Reimbursement from ATC	5,989.66	7,486.00		
Other Income	3,578.49	4,944.33		
Interest from Bank Accounts	7.50	12.97		
Total Income	27,846.40	30,566.05		
Communication	841.65	1,004.32		
Attendance at Club Wide Mtgs	3,855.37	2,005.73		
Trails & Shelter Maintenance	6,966.85	8,258.42		
Recognition	4,182.22	2,947.00		
Chapter Social Events	4,614.84	3,013.43		
Committee Expenses	756.18	936.21		
Membership Activities	119.63	481.20		
Leadership and Outdoor Skills	3,459.63	2,164.43		
Other Expenses	4,004.56	2,840.49		
Total Expenses	28,800.93	23,651.23		
Surplus - income less expenses	(954.53)	6,914.82		

Cash Assets on 9/30/2015 compared to 9/30/2014				
	9/30/15	9/30/14	Increase (Decrease)	
Checking Account	2,167.73	4,920.11	(2,752.38)	
Money Market Account (savings)	29,046.20	26,640.04	2,406.16	
Operating Cash Assets	31,213.93	31,560.15	(346.22)	
AMC Investment Account*	58,318.64	57,017.89	1,300.75	
* The AMC Investment Account is managed by AMC and is available to Chapters to provide long term growth opportunities for funds not needed for current operations. Deposits and withdrawals of these funds are restricted to specific periods of each calendar quarter.				
Checking and money market funds are in FDIC insured bank accounts				
Cash assets are divided among the three categories as:				
	Current Period	Prior Period		
Operating Funds	30,411.21	30,757.43		
Reserve Funds	58,318.64	57,017.89		
Henry Wu Scholarship Fund	802.72	802.72		
	89,532.57	88,578.04		
Operating Funds are the funds and reserves for day-to-day operations of the Chapter				
Reserve Funds are set aside for long-term growth				
The Henry Wu Scholarship Funds are allocated for financial support to youth and student programs in fields appropriate to the AMC's mission of conservation, education and recreation.,				
Questions or comments on this report are welcome and can be addressed to the Treasurer at the Annual Dinner or by e-mail to treasurer@amcdv.org - Richard Einstein Treasurer.				

Recognition of Past Service and Awards

Appie of the Year is awarded to a newer chapter member who has provided extraordinary service to the chapter. Past winners:

2014 Sue Bickford-Martin	2003 Kevin Perry
2013 Terry Berntsen	2002 Chris Cayer
2012 Rich Pace	2001 Andrea Deaton
2011 Midori Wakabayashi	2000 Paul Davis
2010 Rhoda Eisman	1999 Bill McCaughey
2009 Anne Murphy	1998 Kevin Burkman
2008 Joan Aichele	1997 Kevin Krame
2007 Rich Wells	1996 Rajat Tandon
2006 Craig Smith	1995 Rich Kajander
2005 Jim Catozzi	1994 Marty Seibert
2004 Jennifer Decker	1993 Kathy Kelly-Borowski

Golden Appie of the Year is awarded to a chapter member who has provided extraordinary service to the chapter over many years. Past winners:

2014 Esther Underhill	2005 Walt Underhill
2013 Nancy & Cliff Hince	2004 Dan Schwartz, Lois Nichols
2012 John Rowen	2003 Gary Leander
2011 Mark Kern	(None for 2002)
2010 Allen Male	2001 Bill Steinmetz
2009 Peter Jarrett	2000 Helmut Gude
2008 Joseph Bell	1999 Malcolm White
2007 Eric Pavlak	1998 Jane Shepard
2006 Lennie Steinmetz	

Chapter Committee Recognitions. The Appalachian Mountain Club and the Delaware Valley Chapter gratefully acknowledge the volunteer hours and many contributions of all outgoing and continuing Chapter Executive Committee as well as the Nominating Committee members.

Past Chapter Chairs

Allen Male, 2012-13	Kent Johnson, 1987-89
Craig Smith, 2010-11	George Heckler, 1985-86
Jim Catozzi, 2009	Kay Cox, 1982-84
Paul Davis, 2007-08	Jane Shepard, 1980-81
Andrea Deaton, 2005-06	Malcolm White, 1978-79
Chris Rapacki, 2003-04	Win Howe, 1976-77
Peter Jason, 2001-02	Fred Cox, 1973-75
Priscilla Estes, 2000	Gardner Dean, 1971-72
Lennie Steinmetz, 1997-99	Ruby Horwood, 1969-70
Bill Steinmetz 1994-96	Martin Davenport, 1967-68
Tom Stress, 1993	Ted Talbot, 1965-66
Alan Kahn, 1990-91	Dr. Robert Tyson 1962-64

Outgoing Executive Committee Members

Rich Einstein, Treasurer
John Gardner, Membership
Susan Charkes, Conservation
Cindy Friel, Family Activities

Many thanks to the members of the 2015 Nominating Committee: Lennie Steinmetz (Chair), Rick Hudson and Terry Berntsen completing this often difficult task.

Member Anniversary Recognitions

The Delaware Valley Chapter is proud to recognize the following for their many years of membership with AMC. We thank each of them for their commitment and continued support of AMC. If you have reached either the 25 or 50 year milestone and are not on this list, please contact the membership chair so you can be included at next year's annual dinner.

Fifty years: These members joined AMC in 1965 and have faithfully continued their membership for the past 50 years:

James Irving
Charles Sterne III
Peter Talbot

Twenty-five years: These members joined AMC in 1990 and have continued their membership for the past 25 years:

Mr. & Mrs. Daryl Ackerman
Hans H. Bauer
Jon F. Bauer
June Bente
Peter C. Buffum
Kevin Burkman
Thomas Byron
Kathy Ciliberti
Phil Duncan
Robert P. Faherty
Rich Fish
James R. Flandreau
Helen L. Gentile
Joann T. Gliniak
Sally Hilderbrand
Warren A. Lappin
Maureen L. Nosal
Russell Patera
Susan W. Peck
Jacqueline W. Root
Daniel Schwartz
Noelle Schwartz
Raymond P. Scott
Steven Shelly
Alan Zorn

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<http://amcdv.org>

and

<http://paddlenow.com>