

## **2006**

### **Conservation Committee NY-NoJ Chapter Annual Report 2006 Submitted by: Skip Doyle**

In the spring of 2006, the Conservation Committee was in jeopardy of being disbanded. Though the efforts of a two-person committee we delivered 11 conservation activities in 2006 (see the itemized list attached) and participated in many working sessions laying the groundwork for 2007 events. A goal for 2007 is to increase member participation in conservation event leadership.

The purpose of the Conservation committee is to foster the preservation of land and waterways for their natural use and to promote a healthy environment. This is done through raising awareness of preservation, natural use and the environment; and by involvement in conservation issues and events.

In 2006, we increased awareness by sponsoring a voyage of the sloop Clearwater in the New York harbor for AMC members. In each issue of Trails and Waves I have written a conservation article highlighting preservation victories, and I have rewritten the Conservation committee description in The Schedule. Our committee participated in the Clearwater Festival, the AMC exhibition at Holy Cross School, and AMC Open Houses. And we have raised political awareness through the League of Conservation Voters.

To deliver conservation events, we have been partnering with other conservation groups. Among them are: Highlands Coalition, Fire Island Wilderness Committee, Clearwater, Scenic Hudson, Friends of Old Croton Aqueduct, and other AMC organizations. The many fruits of these labors we shall see starting with the Summer 2007 schedule.

Also in 2007 we will have major events such as an AMC sponsored conservation lecture at the Princeton Club, and a conservation weekend at Fire Island. Many events in hiking, biking and kayaking will include a conservation component. And we will work with travel/adventure exhibitions and the AMC to foster new memberships.

## **Conservation Activities in 2006:**

- June 13**      **AMC Executive Committee**  
Presented Conservation Committee platform and appointed as chairman.
- June 16**      **Clearwater Festival**  
Conservation committee (Richard Barcia) represented AMC and signed up new members.
- July 25**      **Trails and Waves – Fall Issue**  
Conservation Corner: Highlands Conservation Act, Clearwater, conservation teamwork.
- August 13-18**      **Toured AMC White Mountain huts and facilities**  
Hiked to Highland Center, Lakes of the Clouds, Galehead, Zealand in this land preservation area.
- September 13**      **AMC Exhibition**  
Represented Conservation Committee and Biking Committee at the AMC exhibition conducted at Holy Cross School in Manhattan.
- October 2**      **AMC Open House**  
Spoke about conservation, hiking, biking, climbing, kayaking, White Mountains huts, Fire Island, introductory weekend backpacking, softball.
- October 12**      **League of Conservation Voters**  
Attended Dinner and speeches representing AMC NY-NoJ Conservation committee.
- October 22**      **Clearwater**  
Chartered the sloop Clearwater and organized passage for AMC members from the 79<sup>th</sup> Boat Basin in Manhattan.
- October 25**      **Trails & Waves – Winter Issue**  
Conservation Corner: Awosting Reserve added to Minnewaska State Park, Rachel Carson (author of Silent Spring), League of Conservation Voters.
- November 2**      **The Chapter Schedule**  
Revised the committee description of the Conservation Committee.
- December 15**      **Fire Island Wilderness Committee**  
Met with the representative of the FIWC and drafted a letter to the National Parks Service at Fire Island on behalf of the AMC NY-NoJ Chapter recommending actions on the Fire Island general management plan and wilderness management plan.