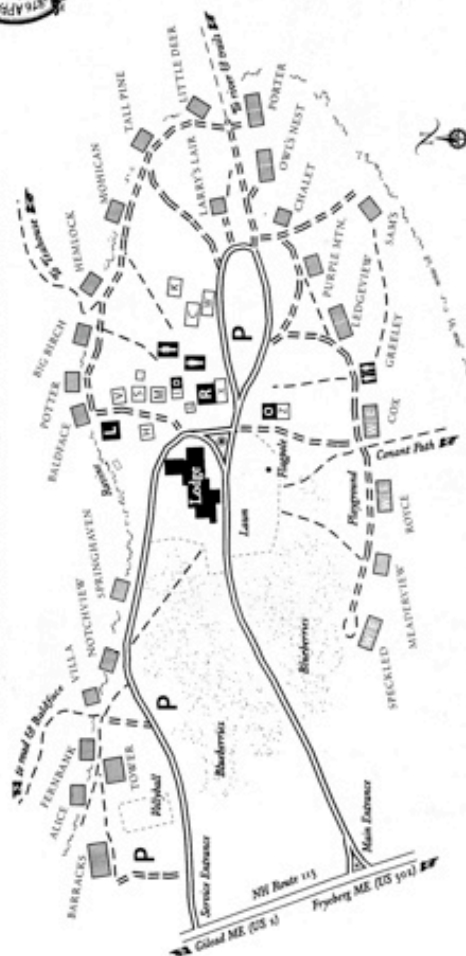




# COLD RIVER CAMP, A.M.C.

32 AMC ROAD • CHATHAM, NH 03813 • 603-694-3291



CONVENT (CREW) ICE HOUSE (STAFF) OFFICE VATICAN (STAFF)  
 DRY ROOM KAY'S CABIN (CHIEF) PARKING WOODSHED  
 GARDEN SHED LIBRARY REC HALL X - MANAGERS QTRs  
 HOUSEKEEPING MONASTERY (CREW) SHOP/MANAGER'S Z - ASST MANAGERS

## the Little Deer Dispatch

Summer 2010 issue • Number 22

Cold River Camp • AMC

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www.amccoldriver.com  
 44° 14' 10.1" N • 71° 0' 42.8" W

# Welcome to Cold River Camp!

After another winter the mountains have shed their snow caps and Evans Notch is blooming. Summer is upon us and we can't wait to welcome you here.

Among the Cold River Camp staff and crew you may see a few familiar faces. We are excited to be back for our second summer as managers. Todd Barber returns to Cold River's kitchen for yet another season of fantastic meals. Returning to the kitchen staff as well are Charleen Granger and Stefan Gaschott. Crewmembers Jenny Dean, Joe Harmon, Ellie Morris, and Silas Robinson have signed-on for another summer. Former campers Sarah Hansen, Emma Huse and Kyle Soeltz are now part of the crew!

It is our hope that you will find your days as full, or as empty, as you wish them to be. There are hikes and walks, for all skill levels, leaving right from Camp or only short drive away. There's the river to cool your toes. There are blueberries in the fields. There's the Lodge, porch, library, and Tea House for sitting, reading, chatting, snoozing,...

But now it's time to settle in and get down to the business of summer. Relax and enjoy your stay. Welcome.

Welcome Back.

*Jim & Laurie*

Jim DiCarlo & Laurie Barr  
Cold River Camp Managers



# A WELCOME FROM YOUR TRIP LEADERS

The tradition of great led hikes continues at CRC. In late 2008 the AMC mandated that all of our leaders, hikers and naturalists, be certified in CPR, WFA (Wilderness First Aid), and the AMC's General Leadership training. Since then, many of our leaders have become certified, but, unfortunately, we did lose some. Therefore, this year we will have only three certified leaders per week, or the equivalent, and will offer two hikes of varying levels of difficulty each day. Naturalists will lead traditional hikes in length and difficulty but with a focus on our natural world.

Our leaders have spent many years hiking in the area around CRC and in the White Mountains and are willing to provide information to guests who want to hike on their own. With only two hikes being offered each day, and access to the Wilderness Areas limited, it's likely that more of our guests will be organizing their own hikes. In keeping with CRC's Sustainability Policy, remember that there are many hikes of varying degrees of difficulty within Evans Valley – from rocky summits to cool, inviting pools – some of which can be done from Camp on foot. If you must drive, carpooling is always encouraged.

Our trip leaders have one goal in mind – to see that our guests have a safe, enjoyable vacation at our beloved Cold River Camp. Wherever your footsteps take you, take time to relax, hike, read that book you've been neglecting, paint, take a nap, study the natural world at Camp, swim, canoe, and dine on Todd's great cooking. Step back in time, away from our current world of stress and have a great time at Cold River Camp, then return to the "real" world invigorated and ready for its challenges. See you on the hiking trails---

*Emma & Bill*

Emma Crane, Naturalist Coordinator  
Bill Gross, CRC Hike Leader Coordinator



GREETINGS FROM THE  
**CHATHAM TRAILS  
 ASSOCIATION**

CTA • 22 Grove Place, Unit 29 • Winchester, MA 01890



**A**s you take to the trails to explore the Evans Notch area, the chances are good that you will find yourself at a trail junction and see a sign sporting the Chatham Trails Association logo. You may notice that the trail is easy to see and follow and that you are not getting brushed by wet leaves as you pass. You are hiking on a trail cared for by the volunteers of CTA.

In 1922 a group of Cold River Camp volunteers formed the Chatham Trails Association to improve hiking in Evans Notch. In the early years before the National Forest had a trail system, the need was to create new routes and build new trails so hikers could enjoy scenic and interesting areas. CTA continues that tradition today but with a purpose of maintaining about 40 miles of trails, a task that becomes more important as trail use increases. The USFS budget is tight, allowing only a single trail crew of 4 in the Saco District. Without the contributions of volunteers the condition of the trails would deteriorate, possibly to the point of being unusable.

If you would like to learn more about the history and work of CTA, there is a binder in the CRC library with copies of meeting minutes and other documentation dating back to 1921. The complete records of CTA are preserved in the Chatham Historical Society at the library in Center Chatham. The library is open Wednesday afternoons or by appointment with Barbara Eastman.

CTA has an important role in keeping Evans Notch and Cold River Camp

Summer 2010

a premier hiking destination. The work weekends are only one part of our trail stewardship, caring for about 40 miles of trails is a year round effort. Through the "Trail Adopter" program members visit their selected trail three or four times each year performing basic maintenance and monitoring trail conditions. The commitment of these hikers is helping our stewardship efforts become year round. This year, seven members have adopted 12 miles of trail. If you would like to adopt a trail (or part of a trail) contact us. We will provide tools and training.

On Memorial Day Weekend and National Trails Day 48 volunteers, including 12 new volunteers, gathered to hike the trails and perform basic maintenance to prepare the trails for summer hiking. Volunteers cleaned and repaired 362 waterbars and removed 144 blown down trees. Extra effort was put into corridor definition work, cutting brush to make the trails more attractive and easier to hike. The volunteers also assessed trail conditions and identified work needed. The trail condition reports are used by CTA and the Forest Service to plan future work. Members invested over 700 hours of trail maintenance and improvement projects so far this season.

The success of our work is not just achieved by the boots-in-the-mud, tools-in-hand crews but with the essential

*The Chatham  
 Association for  
 maintaining  
 following trails*

*Baldface Knot  
 Bickford Brook  
 Bickford Slide  
 Bicknell Ridge  
 Blueberry Mtn. Lc  
 Blueberry Ridge  
 Brickett Fall  
 Chandler Gorge  
 Conan.  
 Conan  
 Deer Hill B.  
 Deer Hill Spring  
 Eagle Cascade  
 Eastman  
 Emerald Pool  
 Hermit Falls  
 Horseshoe Pond  
 Laughing Lion  
 Leach  
 Ledges  
 Little Deer-Big Deer  
 Mine Loop  
 Notchview Corn  
 Rattlesnake Pool  
 Shell Pond  
 Shell Pond  
 Slippery Brook  
 Stone House  
 Tea House  
 White Cairn*



hours of supportive work accomplished by members engaged in tool and sign maintenance, feeding the crews, camp chores, office and paperwork tasks. It is the team work that makes CTA the vital program it is today and I thank all of you for your contribution to this success.

We hope that you will join CTA in our trail stewardship. While you are hiking take a few minutes to move brush off the trail or clear a blocked waterbar, make a note of fallen trees blocking the trail or other obstacles to hikers. When you return to the lodge, make a note in the CTA binder. Fill out a trail report and tell us where you were on the trail, what you did and note work needed. Your help and report is appreciated and will be acted upon.

Visit the Brickett Place. CTA, CRC, USFS and Sable Mountain Enterprises partnered to improve the exhibits. USFS has secured a grant of \$400,000 to repair and restore the building. Up to 100 people may stop on any day to learn more about the Evans Notch area.

We welcome new members and trail volunteers. In addition to volunteers out on the trails, members are needed for committee and support functions. For information, contact us at our website :

<[www.chathamtrails.org](http://www.chathamtrails.org)>

or by mail at Chatham Trails Association, 22 Grove Place, Unit 29, Winchester MA 01890 or through the camp managers. The IRS approved our application for non-profit 501(c)3 status. Contributions to CTA are tax deductible.

Thank you for all your support. Have a wonderful vacation and enjoyable hiking.

*Michael*

Michael V. Zlogar  
CTA President 2010



### Chatham Trails Association Officers

|                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| President:      | Michael Zlogar |
| Vice President: | Merritt Foster |
| Secretary:      | Corinne Waite  |
| Treasurer:      | Robert Goeke   |

|                     |               |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Board of Directors: | Ted Barrett   |
|                     | Frank Eastman |
|                     | Ann Landers   |
|                     | Marvin Swartz |

|           |              |
|-----------|--------------|
| Advisors: | Alan Cressy  |
|           | Birge Dayton |
|           | Sandy Finn   |



## Volunteer Opportunities at Cold River Camp

Cold River Camp is successful because of the efforts of its many volunteers. All camp activities are overseen by the Cold River Camp Committee, a group of volunteers who establish policies for the property, affairs, business and operation of the camp. Other volunteers help with a wide variety of camp projects and activities. Volunteers are the lifeblood of Cold River Camp! New volunteers are always welcome. If you enjoyed your camp experience, would you be willing to share your talents to make CRC an even better place? You do not need a background in education, recreational management or environmental science, just a simple willingness to help.

**Volunteering for CRC can be a very rewarding experience. Ask anyone who does it!**

**How Can I Volunteer at CRC?** Volunteering for Cold River Camp takes many forms. Your contributions of time and effort are welcomed in a variety of areas. Please use this form to be contacted (on a "no obligation" basis) about ways you can help CRC. Or speak with one of the managers during your stay.

**Hike Leaders/Naturalists:** Would you like to be a hike leader or naturalist? Hike leaders and naturalists receive training and undergo an "apprenticeship" program before they become leaders. They are encouraged to keep their skills sharp by participating in periodic "refresher" sessions. Special interests or a background in these areas are certainly helpful, but people skills, common sense and a willingness to see to it that guests have a good time are much more important.

**Maintenance / Facilities:** Keeping CRC's buildings and grounds operating properly requires continuing effort. Volunteers perform needed maintenance on selected weekends in the spring and fall. Please join us for one or more of these weekends. We get a lot done and have a lot of fun doing it! People with skills in plumbing, electrical work and carpentry are of

course very welcome, but we also need people willing to paint, do landscaping, prune shrubs and trees, and do assorted simple jobs.

### Individual and Committee Activity Involvement:

Individuals and committees administer various aspects of CRC life. CRC also hosts a number of weekend conferences and workshops in the off-season, and volunteers make these possible. Some of the current volunteer opportunities are:

- Hike Leaders/Naturalists
- Trail Work Weekends (with C.T.A.)
- Maintenance/Facilities
- Camp Opening (May) & Closing (Oct)
- Extension Season Crew -Sept
- Conservation & Education Programs
- Naturalist Weekend Crew -May
- Land Management and Planning
- Flower Gardening
- Publicity & Communication
- Annual Reunion Committee
- CRC Committee
- Winter Season Activities
- Assisting in Other Events /Activities

If you would like to be contacted about any of these, please circle your choice(s). If you have ideas for other needed activities, please let us know.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City / State / Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Evening phone: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in \_\_\_\_\_



*The Alice Cabin, Daddy Tucker and Doc Johnson, 1935.*

**Please return this to the Camp Office before you leave camp. Or mail/e-mail it to:**  
**Frank Mastro, Chair, Cold River Camp Committee**  
**15 Green Street, Lebanon, NH 03766 • 603-443-9978**  
**amc.crcchair@gmail.com**

## Helpful Hints for CRC

by Sally Morris

**H**ere is a glimpse into the possibilities that draw us back each year to CRC. Are you new to Camp? Did you think you had exhausted all the options? Let us share some of the customs that old timers know to make a week at camp even more enjoyable.

**Packing List:** Summer hikers know that they need good boots and socks, raincoats and warm layers, water bottles, maps, sunscreen, and bug dope, in addition to snacks and lunch, before they hit the trail. At CRC, close to brooks and rivers, some people pack a swimsuit and light towel, or even water shoes, for trips. Some prefer to pack lunch in reusable containers (i.e., sandwich boxes and snack cups) from home to reduce waste.

**Enjoy time in Camp:** CRC is first and foremost a hiking camp, but it is also so beloved in large part for the companionship that can be found so easily just inside the gate. The buildings were designed to encourage people to enjoy each other's company, but also to provide retreat and relaxation. How do campers while away the day when they just don't feel like hiking? Reading, drawing, or napping on the porch is refreshing. Some spend part of the day picking from the low-bush blueberry meadow. Gardeners enjoy the garden around the porch, designed with local and xeriscaping plants, complete with a map and botanical names. The garden is full of birds, especially hummingbirds, for the ornithologists.



Interior of Hall, Cold River Camp, North Chatham, N.H.


The Rec Hall, with a piano and a ping pong table, is the spot for evening programs. Guests can read through naturalist materials on the walls and tables. The building provides a great option for rainy day activities.

The Camp Library is for people who crave silence and a good book, or perhaps a little unfinished work. For children, the Lodge provides a well-loved collection of books for all ages in addition to board games and cards.

Rather than a rigorous day hike, some campers enjoy the gentle trails that encircle camp: the Conant Path and the Tea House Trail, both of which lead to the Cold River and can be combined into one nice loop. Small children enjoy the varied woodland views along the Conant Path, which starts behind the Cox cabin, skirts along a farm property, then descends to the river, providing lots of puttering opportunities in little streams, full of mushrooms and fungi. Occasional benches along the way or glimpses onto the river are a treat to discover. The Tea House is a screened gazebo, a soothing spot with the sounds of the brook and the river just below. Campers enjoy this retreat for art projects, reading, or a quiet lunch picnic.

**Early mornings at Camp are magical.** The sunrise cresting over Little Deer, lighting the Baldfaces, draws the early bird to the Porch where the weather update is posted and hot coffee, tea, or hot chocolate is ready before the horn blows. On cold mornings, the fire in the Lodge draws people together before breakfast to plan their day's outing.

**Other Tips:** Some pack a sleeping bag or comforter instead of heavy wool blankets. Families with children prefer battery operated lamps to the kerosene. Wool blanket under the bottom sheet makes the bed warmer.

**Outings or Activities:** Post-dinner drive to Moose Blind or Deer Hill Bog Blind. Esther Williams Pool (on the Wild River) for a slightly warmer swim. Sebago Lake beaches and Songo Locks. Antiquing in Bethel. Eastman Homestead Day on the Farm. Square Dancing in the Rec Hall. Games on the Lawn (soccer, badminton, Frisbee, tether ball). Playground. Pre-breakfast hike up Little Deer. Sing-a-longs. Finding and exploring the lesser known trails: Speckled's Cold Brook Link Trail to the Ledges. Albany Basins. Grafton Notch. Mount Sabbatus. Lowe's Bald Spot. Rumford White Cap. 



## **GUEST INFORMATION**

**HOW MAY WE ASSIST YOU?** Our goal is for your stay at Cold River Camp to be as comfortable and enjoyable as possible. If there is any way we can be of service, please ask any of the Staff or Crew.

### IMPORTANT TIMES:

*For early risers, coffee is available in the Lodge after 6:30 am.*

***RISING HORN** sounds at 7:00 am daily.*

***BREAKFAST HORN (second horn)** at 7:30 am.*

***DINNER HORN** at 6:00 pm.*

*Please be prompt for all meals.*

**TRAIL LUNCHES** are made by individual guests from the lunch table either before or after breakfast. Please supervise children. **DAILY TRIPS** by qualified leaders are announced at breakfast. **WANDERER'S LIST** is on the Lodge porch. Please sign if you plan your own hike or trip away from Camp.

**ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES** are consumed in the privacy of your cabins.

**CABIN CHECK-OUT TIME** is by 10:00 am to give crew time to clean. Please feel free to remain at camp after leaving your cabin.

**CHAMBER POTS** are available in Service Room by Men's Lavatory. Please clean & return them to Service Room at end of your stay.

**CHILDREN:** It is expected parents will assume responsibility for their children at all times. Children may not stay in camp during the day without the direct supervision of a parent or an assigned guardian.

**DO NOT DISTURB:** Outside your cabin door is a small wooden rectangle: one side green, one side yellow. This a "do not disturb" sign: if you turn the yellow side outward, crew will not enter your cabin (e.g., to refill your water, replace towels on Wednesdays, etc.).

**FIRE IS AN EVER-PRESENT HAZARD.** Fire extinguishers and smoke detectors are strategically placed in every cabin. Buckets of dry sand are just outside. Please take note of their location and use. Please **DO NOT** leave cabins with oil lamps lit or fires flaming. Please use fire screens at all times and **DO NOT** leave children unattended in the cabins.

**ICE** is available from the ice machine by back door of the kitchen.

**LAMPS:** If you are unfamiliar with kerosene lamp use, ask for help.

**LAUNDRY** may be done in Service Room by the Men's Lavatory.

Cabin clothes lines should be used for the drying of clothes.

Ironing may be done on the first floor of the Tower.

**LIBRARY** is open 24 hours/day for quiet reading or writing time.

**LINEN:** Clean sheets & towels are furnished once a week. Each guest receives an additional clean towel on Wednesday. Please leave soiled items near your cabin door for Wednesday am pickup.

**OFFICE** is open as announced or upon request.

**PARKING** in Camp is for registered guests only. Please use designated areas. A permit is required to park in the National Forest.

Permits may be obtained at the Office.

**QUIET TIME** is 9:30 pm to 7:00 am. The Lodge is an excellent place to socialize at night. However, for those guests wishing to use the Lodge late at night or who wish to visit on the porch or at the Tea House, please remember that other guests are sleeping and sounds carry at night.

**RECYCLING:** Barrels are outside of Housekeeping for all materials to be recycled (glass, plastic, cans). Please help us conserve.

**REPAIRS** needed should be reported to the Managers.

**SMOKING is not allowed anywhere on Camp property including in or around any building, public or private. Fire is always a danger.**

**TELEPHONE:** There is a telephone for guest use on the west side of the Housekeeping shed for outgoing calls on a credit card or reverse charge basis only. The phone number is 603-694-2918. Incoming emergency calls may be directed to the camp's business phone at 603-694-3291.

**WASTE BASKETS** may be emptied into barrels by Housekeeping. "Chez Pig" is for kitchen scraps only and not to be used by guests.

**WATER** is available at any tap. Arrangements can be made for a daily water delivery to your cabin at your request.

**WOOD** is available in the Wood Shed. Please pick up your own or ask a staff or crew member if you need assistance.

## A CENTURY OF THE LODGE

### 1909 - 2009

**F**or guests of Cold River Camp, the center of camp life is Conant Lodge. It is the first building we glimpse as we drive in the main entrance at the start of a week, and usually our final memory of our stay is the sound of the bell signaling our departure. In between, we enjoy the camaraderie of meals, the assembly of groups for hiking, canoeing, and other outings, and the pleasant buzz of conversation on the porch or beside the fireplace. If we were to ask the person with the longest memories of CRC about this building, the answer might begin, "Well, it's always been here..." As far as the AMC's tenure at Cold River Camp is concerned, that statement is true: the Lodge, and five other structures (Barracks, Tower, the Library, the Office, and Cox Cabin) were standing when CRC welcomed its first guests ninety years ago, on July 1, 1919.

Like many of New England's older buildings, though, this place has a history that reaches further back than its current owner, predating the AMC's acquisition of the property earlier that year. Over time, fragments of that "pre-history" have been passed down, rather like a jigsaw puzzle that has various pieces missing. At times, pieces from other puzzles have been added, such as the oral tradition that CRC was originally a church camp – not far off the mark, but not accurate. Over the past few years, a CRC group has been working on that puzzle. **We do know that the Lodge dates from 1909. Its centennial is a fitting occasion to tell more of the story.**

Ted Barrett has traced the successive ownership of the property that became CRC, from the early settlement of Chatham to the present. We know that it was known as the "Mill Place," indicating it was the site of one of the number of water-powered mills in the Valley. In the 1890's, when the US Geological Survey mapped this area for the first time, a small black square indicated a structure, most probably a house, on this site, although the map's scale makes it impossible to pinpoint its exact location. To judge by the photos taken in the early 1920's, the "campus" in 1906

would have been mostly open fields, reverting to second- or third-growth forest – much as our blueberry fields are still trying to do. The views of the surrounding hills and mountains were largely unencumbered, and spectacular. To the north, clear-cuts marked the aftermath of lumbering. To the west, the upper slopes of South Baldface were covered in scorched soil and blackened tree trunks, the scars of the devastating forest fires of 1903. The Valley Road was a dirt track that dead-ended a few miles north, at the old Brickett farmhouse. This would have been something of what Wilford Lash Robbins saw when he visited the property prior to acquiring it. At that point, the 38 acres of the "Mill Place" were part of Deer Hill Farm, which still stands, just south of Camp on Route 119.

Dr. Robbins was an Episcopal clergyman. Born in Boston in 1859, he had attended Amherst College, graduating in 1881, and the Cambridge Divinity School, an Episcopal seminary. After serving as rector of a church in Lexington, Massachusetts for two years, he was chosen for the prestigious position of Dean of the All Saints Cathedral in Albany, New York in 1887. In 1903, he became dean of the General Theological Seminary (GTS) in New York City. A Phi Beta Kappa scholar at Amherst, he was the author of several books, dealing with the reconciliation of faith and belief with science. He also served as a trustee of Amherst College.

It is not clear what specifically drew Robbins specifically to buy property in the Cold River Valley. His obituary mentions his having been acquainted with the White Mountains since boyhood, and having explored them in the company of local guides. He had also gone on hunting trips to the Maritime Provinces of Canada. During his time in Albany, he had vacationed in the Adirondacks, but he had also stayed at Deer Hill Farm, staying with its owners, the Charles Chandler family. His superior in Albany, Bishop William Doane, was a long-time summer resident of Mount Desert Island. Robbins was not unusual in seeking a rural retreat from the oppressive heat of the city in the summertime. Elsewhere in New England, other urban professionals had begun to acquire old homesteads, and either renovate them or replace them with new structures. Robbins chose the latter course. The main building – which he christened "The Ledges" after the prominent outcrops on South Baldface – was built in 1909 in




what is known as "Shingle Style," popular in that era. The main building was followed by others. In all probability, the Library and Office, as well as Tower, were all residential. Cox Cottage was built for Robbins' married sisters: Robbins himself never married. The Barracks served as a chapel, and a number of the chairs in the present lodge were originally used for worship, perhaps by visiting seminarians. As an ordained priest, Robbins would have conducted daily services, but we also do not know why he built a facility with a capacity for up to 30 guests. No doubt he made use of local residents for cooking, maintenance, and other tasks.

During his tenure as dean of GTS, Robbins was considered an able administrator. In April of 1916, however, he stepped down from his position, for reasons that are not clear. Press reports indicated he had "suffered a nervous breakdown due to overwork," and was given a leave of absence. He also resigned from the Board of Trustees at Amherst at the same time. Apparently, it was these circumstances that led him, two years later in 1918, to put "the Ledges" up for sale, and to retire to Birchmont Farm, a property he owned outside Bethel, Maine, where he lived until his death in 1927.

That fall, a group of AMC members were staying just up the road at the Royce House on a hiking holiday. On one of their walks along the Valley Road, the "For Sale" sign at the Robbins property caught their attention. The group of "Appalachians" soon reached a consensus that it would be an excellent addition to the Club, which at that time had a permanent camp at Three Mile Island on Lake Winnepesaukee, and owned other reservations elsewhere in New Hampshire and Massachusetts. After their return to Boston, the group formed an ad hoc committee, headed by Frank Mason and Theodore Conant. Mason was treasurer of a savings bank. Conant, a retired businessman, had joined the AMC on the recommendation of his doctor, and quickly became a leader of weekend walking trips in the countryside outside Boston. The group initiated fund-raising to meet Dean Robbins' asking price of \$5,000, and made an initial proposal to the Trustees for Real Estate, the AMC committee in charge of Club properties. They were turned down. Then, in the new year, they gained

an influential ally, Philip Ayres, the new president of the Club, and the head forester of the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests. Ayres agreed with their desire for a camp in the eastern White Mountains, and persuaded the Trustees to re-consider. They approved the proposal, with a provision that there was to be no charge against the operating funds of the AMC for the first three years of operation.

Immediately after the decision was reached, Conant took Frank Mason aside. Noting that the funds the committee had raised would be needed for supplies and other operating costs, Conant indicated that he was prepared to assume the full purchase price himself. Mason and the rest of the committee accepted this generous offer, the purchase went forward, and in the spring of 1919, "The Ledges," with its 38 acres and six buildings, and the furnishings in them, became AMC property, and was renamed "Cold River Camp." An illustrated prospectus was quickly printed and distributed to Club members. Hattie Chandler, a member of a long-time family in the Valley, was engaged as cook for the summer. Tents, cots, blankets, and other items were purchased to supplement the accommodations available in the buildings. Additional furnishings were hastily acquired in late June, when it became clear that the first group of campers would be larger than expected. Conant provided the funds for this, and made subsequent contributions to Cold River, most notably underwriting the cost of building the Rec Hall. His gifts to Camp totaled over \$20,000 – no small amount for those times. In recognition of his role, the main building was renamed "Conant Lodge, and remains that to this day.

Over the years, changes have been made. Electricity has taken the place of oil lamps, the kitchen has been expanded and upgraded more than once, and the dining porch was added as camp capacity grew with the construction of additional cabins. New furnishings have been acquired, although some of the original chairs are still in use. More importantly, though, the spirit of Camp still remains what it was for Dean Robbins and his relatives and friends, a quiet corner away from the busy world. 

## Camp Wish List

The Cold River Camp Wish List allows interested campers to donate funds toward the purchase of a variety of items for CRC to improve the overall Camp experience in some small or large way. All donations will be recognized and published on the CRC web site and in the winter edition of *The Little Deer Dispatch*. Donors may elect to remain anonymous, if desired. All contributions are greatly appreciated and are tax deductible, and the CRC committee gives their sincere thanks to those that have given generously to the Wish List.

1. Rechargeable fluorescent lanterns for use by those who prefer not using the kerosene lanterns. (\$35 each).
  2. Three cold beverage containers (\$90 each).
  3. Two dozen towels (\$10 each).
  4. Five replacement mattresses (\$150 each).
  5. Underwrite production costs of *The Little Deer Dispatch* (\$400).
  6. Unrestricted Gift (amount to be determined & always welcome).
- Please contact Frank Mastro (amc.crcchair@gmail.com) if you would like to make a donation. Checks should be made out to Appalachian Mountain Club and mailed to: Dick Goettle, CRC Treasurer, 308 LaGrange St., West Roxbury, MA 02132-3432. This assures the tax deductible status for donations. Thanks for your support of Camp.

Thank you to our generous donors for funding in 2010:

1. An energy efficient washer and dryer FUNDED by Meg Holland and Dwight Wilder.



2. A piano FUNDED by the Baehr, Basile, Brown, Bullard, Carter, Holden, Janer, MacLeod, Pearson, Schrading, Sherwood, and Wiltse Families, and the Weston Family.

## The Convent

Something you may not have known about 'Convent'

During the summer the building known as 'Convent' serves as quarters for female crew. However, in the offseason – October 1st through April 30th - it is available as a 'Winter Cabin' rental. The cabin is winterized with an efficient wood stove to provide heat and, if need be, an extra cooking surface. There is electricity in the cabin and a small kitchen area. It sleeps six in the bunk room, but is not limited to six guests. ♦ The kitchen comes equipped with a microwave oven, a small refrigerator, a two-burner hot plate, a coffee maker and a hot water kettle. There is no running water during the off-season (camp water is turned off). Guests bring their own water, food, bedding and linens. Blankets, pillows and wood for the stove are provided. ♦ In the winter, the driveway gates are locked, so a key is provided. A small area at the edge of 113 is plowed at the northern entrance. The camp road is not plowed beyond this point. ♦ Current rates are \$60/night. Payment in advance is requested. ♦ New this year: Camp has installed a composting toilet near the cabin for Winter Cabin guest use. ♦ If interested please contact the registrar for information and reservations. With confirmation of reservation guests receive cabin instructions and where to pick up the key. There is now an on-line calendar showing availability that can be accessed from the Winter Cabin page on our website: <http://amccoldrivercamp.org/>

Meg Holland, Winter Cabin Registrar  
(603) 865-5345 (before 8 pm please)  
offseasonsignup@gmail.com





**LOGGING AT COLD RIVER CAMP:** Logging at Cold River Camp has been an ongoing activity. I came across a old publication of Cold River Reflections 1919 – 1986. In 1956 Walt Sharp (a long time manager of CRC) wrote in the CTA Chattering:

"At nine that evening I heard mutterings ... toward the ravine. On investigation, ... there was a Council Ring of Indian Braves. Chief Hemlock was in council with Springhaven, Baldface, Potter, Big Birch, Mohican, and Tall Pine ... their topic, 'What can be done about our increasing blindness?' Springhaven said he hadn't been able to see Meader. Baldface said he couldn't even see himself. Big Birch thought the Royces had left the area. The Chief wondered whether the new trails by palefaces through the notch had worn down Speckle so it couldn't be seen. They agreed outside help was needed so the called in Millard Chandler. When Millard arrived he started axing about the situation, saw what was needed to be done and now the braves are roaming about with open eyes, pleased with their new outlook."

A couple of years ago we realized, as Walt Sharp had realized, that the views were gone again. So camp contracted with a local logger to open views in front of the ravine cabins. But logging is a messy undertaking. A lot of slash was left in the ravine because, as the logger explained, it provided matting for his skidder so that the tires wouldn't leave large gouges in the unfrozen wet earth. Since that time our logger has not been able to get back into the ravine to open additional views because of it being constantly wet.

This past fall, the committee, with advice from the camp's logger and Frank Eastman, decided it was past time to remove the large pine right behind the Lodge. This was a painful decision for all but it had to be made. Several years ago a large portion of the pine was removed to prolong its life and prevent any damage to the Lodge. At the time we all knew that the tree standing alone, in the path of the winter winds needed to be removed. There was never a question that when the pine did fall, we could expect severe damage to the Lodge. The tree was removed after camp was shuttered for the winter. Frank Eastman and I identified a promising young oak sapling, located just into the blue berry fields. We marked the sapling so that Frank wouldn't cut it when he cuts the fields. In the future this young sapling will provide shade from the late afternoon sun for those who sit on the Lodge

porch in our place.

While the logger was in camp, we looked around at the tall trees that have blinded us to the mountains around us. Many were identified and marked. We also marked those trees that posed a danger to our cabins and other buildings. Trees that blocked the light and air, causing roofs to prematurely fail, and wood siding to rot were marked. So, as you drive into camp this summer, it may look a little more open because it is. But in 1972, my first year at CRC, I could look out the windows of the cabin my family and I were staying in and see the Baldfaces and the Evans Notch. My cabin was Ledgeview. •

**Do you have contacts within AMC Chapter? If so, CRC could use your help.** We are trying to develop partnerships with various AMC Chapters to make CRC a destination for chapter events & trips. Please email Mark Winkler at [Mark.Winkler.79@gmail.com](mailto:Mark.Winkler.79@gmail.com)

## THE CRC WEBSITE

[WWW.AMCCOLDRIVERCAMP.ORG](http://WWW.AMCCOLDRIVERCAMP.ORG)

**T**he website has been updated and improved since last summer to provide campers and guests with more information about the camp, a means of timely communication between the Camp Managers and campers in the weeks before their stay at camp, and information on Volunteer Opportunities at camp or in service to the CRC Camp Committee, the new CRC Nature Trail that uses both the Tea House and Conant Paths, and printable copies of the CRC's Early History 1919 – 1986, the Nature Trail Guide, and of the Trip Leader Handbooks. The site still provides a wealth of pictures of Camp, the cabins, camp activities, space availability and registration information for fall or summer season and for the winter cabin. It also provides a chance to hear the CRC Camp Horn during time away from CRC.

Bob Crane, CRC Webmaster, 603-526-7684, [bcrane@ou.edu](mailto:bcrane@ou.edu)





FRONT ROW L->R: Jim, Kyle, Sarah, Joe, Ruby, Silas; MIDDLE: Charleen, Laurie, Sadie, Ellie, Jenny, Emma; BACK: Stefan, Clay, Vicki, Todd.

#### 2010 REGULAR SEASON STAFF

Laurie Barr & Jim DiCarlo, Managers, Exeter, NH  
 Victoria Allen, Assistant Manager, Moab, UT.  
 Todd Barber, Head Cook, Albany, NH.  
 Charleen Granger, Assistant Cook, Suquamish, WA.  
 Stefan Gaschott, Prep Cook, Silver Lake, NH.

#### 2010 REGULAR SEASON CREW

Clay Contee, Baltimore, MD  
 Jenny Dean, Wellesley, MA  
 Sarah Hansen, Birmingham, AL  
 Joe Harmon, Nottingham, NH  
 Emma Huse, Sharon, MA  
 Ellie Morris, Exeter, NH  
 Silas Robinson, Brentwood, NH  
 Kyle Soeltz, Acton, MA

#### 2010 EXTENSION SEASON STAFF

Ned Beecher & Chris Clyne, Managers, Tamworth, NH  
 Barb Bloomberg, Head Cook, Conway, NH

#### 2010 EXTENSION VOLUNTEER CREW

Carol Adams (Portland, ME), Betsy & Bob Goeke (Winchester, MA),  
 Ann Landers (Quincy, MA), Jack Lutz (Shelburne, VT),  
 Frank & Mary Ann Mastro (Lebanon, NH),  
 Rosie Probasco (Tiverton, RI), Corinne Waite (Weymouth, MA).

#### CRC Committee

Frank Mastro  
 (Chair) '10  
 15 Green Street  
 Lebanon, NH 03766  
 (603) 443-9978  
 amc.crcchair@gmail.com

Mark Winkler  
 (Vice Chair) '10  
 Pleasantville, NY  
 (914) 747-3194

Dick Goettle  
 (Treasurer)  
 West Roxbury, MA  
 (617) 325-7357

Emma Crane '12  
 (Naturalist Weekend/  
 Naturalist Coordinator)  
 New London, NH  
 (603) 526-7684

Jim Gorman '11  
 South Boston, MA  
 (617) 268-1040

Amy Damon Grover '12  
 Waterbury, VT  
 (802) 434-4180

Nancy Kellogg '11  
 (Member Recruitment)  
 Chappaqua, NY  
 (914) 238-3626

Cheryl Poirer '10  
 Holden, MA  
 (508) 853-8538

Mark Weston '12  
 Arlington, MA  
 (781) 507-4340

#### Summer 2010

Ted Shwartz '10  
 (Volunteer Coordinator)  
 tedshwartz@verizon.net

Winter Address  
 145 Lloyd Ave  
 Providence, RI 02906

Summer Address  
 94 Solemar St  
 South Dartmouth  
 MA 02748  
 (508) 951-0349

Dwight Wilder '11  
 Grantham, NH 03753  
 (603) 865-5345

Mike Zlogar  
 (CTA President)  
 mzlogar@comcast.net  
 Amherst, MA  
 (413) 253-7522



#### COLD RIVER CAMP AMC

32 AMC Road  
 Chatham, NH 03813  
 (603) 694-3291

#### CRC MANAGERS

Jim DiCarlo &  
 Laurie Barr  
 20 Main Street, Box 2261  
 Exeter, NH 03886  
 (603) 772-3849  
 crcmanagers@gmail.com

Extension Managers  
 Chris Clyne & Ned Beecher  
 Tamworth, NH

• • •

#### CRC Volunteers

Lois Winkler (Registrar)  
 17 Southview Street  
 Pleasantville, NY 1057  
 (914) 747-3194

Meg Holland  
 (Winter Cabin Registrar)  
 Grantham, NH 03753  
 (603) 865-5345

Bill Gross  
 (Hike Leader Coordinator)  
 wmgross4@verizon.net  
 Merion, PA  
 610-667-3605

Bob Crane (Webmaster)  
 New London, NH  
 (603) 526-7684

Ted Barrett  
 Chelmsford, MA  
 (978) 256-9184  
 Chatham, NH  
 (603) 694-3004

Bill Fuchs  
 (Facilities/ Closing)  
 Newton, MA  
 (617) 872-0043 (cell)

Bill & Kathy Waste  
 (Opening)  
 Lyme, NH  
 (603) 795-4440

Jim Weston  
 (AMC VMF Chair)  
 Bedford, MA  
 (781) 275-8034

John Dean (past chair)  
 Wellesley, MA  
 (617) 346-9740