



MCM FACT BOOK

Revised January 2020

TOPICS

- I.** Mission
- II.** History and Governance
- III.** Membership
- IV.** Hikes
- V.** Hike Leadership
- VI.** Finances
- VII.** Miles Fund
- VIII.** A.T. Maintenance and Monitoring
- IX.** Local Trail Maintenance

I. MISSION

The Bylaws for the Mountain Club of Maryland state that the purpose of the club is to:

1. Provide its members and guests with the opportunity to enjoy and become educated about nature through hiking.
2. Build and maintain trails and shelters for public use.
3. Aid in the conservation of wildlands and wildlife, and to protect places of natural beauty, particularly in the areas accessible to Baltimore.

II. HISTORY AND GOVERNANCE

- The Mountain Club of Maryland (MCM) was founded in 1934. Its first hike was from Gathland State Park to Weverton Cliffs—this hike is now celebrated every five years as our anniversary hike.
- Governance of the club is laid out in the Club's bylaws. Changes to the bylaws must be approved by a vote of Club members. Day to day management of the club is vested in its Council, which meets every other month.
- There is an election held every spring. The President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Recording Secretary serve two-year terms and are elected in even-numbered years. The Corresponding Secretary serves a two-year term and is elected in odd-numbered years. The three Councillors serve one-year terms and are selected at each annual election.
- The club hosts an annual picnic in June and a holiday party in December. Every two years, the club sponsors the Hike Across Maryland (HAM): a 40-mile hike across the entire Maryland section of the Appalachian Trail (A.T.)

III. MEMBERSHIP

NUMBERS OF MEMBERS

- Membership grew steadily over the 40-year period between 1972 and 2012.

Date	Memberships	Individuals
4/1/1972 *	197	250
4/1/1982 *	304	395
2/1/1991 *	507	610
2/1/2002 *	707	845
3/1/2012 *	612	770

* Source: Old annual membership reports

- More recently, MCM membership was fairly steady from 2009 until 2014. Since 2014, the number of MCM members has declined gradually—at a rate of roughly 3 percent a year.

Year	New Members	Deleted (Did Not Renew)	End of Year Totals	
			Memberships	Individuals (est.)*
2009	158		730	936
2010	162	154	738	927
2011	144	160	722	906
2012	146	142	726	920
2013	148	129	745	942
2014	133	140	738	943
2015	131	164	701	891
2016	150	158	695	876
2017	142	173	659	848
2018	157	160	649	831
2019				

* Assumes 2 individuals per family for the family memberships.

Source: MCM membership reports

GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF MEMBERS

- An analysis of members' zip codes in the March 2014 Directory found that:
 - About 35% of members lived in Baltimore City
 - Approximately 15% of members lived in each of three counties surrounding Baltimore: Baltimore County, Anne Arundel County and Howard County (45% total)
 - A total of 12.5% of members lived in other counties near Baltimore: Carroll, Harford, and Frederick counties.
 - 5% lived in Montgomery and Prince Georges County.
 - 1.5% lived in the other Maryland Counties.
 - 3% lived in other states, primarily Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, and Delaware.

Source: Bill Saunders

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF MEMBERS

- The average age of our membership has been increasing for years. An analysis of past membership directories showed that an increasing portion of our members fall into the “senior” membership categories—an 83% increase over a period of 13 years.
 - Feb. 2002: 28.6% senior
 - Feb. 2004: 32.1% senior
 - Feb. 2006: 39.4% senior
 - Feb. 2008: 42.5% senior
 - Feb. 2010: 46.4% senior
 - Aug. 2015: 52.3% senior

Source: Reuben Dagold

IV. TRIPS

NUMBERS OF TRIPS

- MCM continues to offer a substantial number and range of trips (including hiking, backpacking, canoeing, and trail/shelter work) for its members. The number of trips offered by MCM, and the numbers of participants, has increased in 2016 and 2017 compared to previous years.

Year	Trips Conducted	Trips Canceled	Attendees	Guests	Ave. Attendees per Trip
2012	291	unknown	4158	252	14.3?
2014	281	unknown	3521	179	12.5?
2015	281?	unknown	3642	174	12.9?
2016	315	42	4123	275	15.1
2017	300	41	4158	252	16.1
2019					

TRIP ATTENDEES AND GUESTS

- The numbers of monthly trips organized by MCM are fairly consistently distributed throughout the year.

2017 Trip Summary

MONTH	TRIPS/EVENTS CONDUCTED	TRIPS/EVENTS CANCELLED	TOTAL ATTENDEES	GUESTS	DOGS
JANUARY	24	4	344	5	2
FEBRUARY	24	0	395	12	1
MARCH	27	3	396	24	0
APRIL	30	3	393	18	0
MAY	24	3	422	24	0
JUNE	26	3	309	11	1
JULY	23	1	271	16	0
AUGUST	22	0	307	18	0
SEPTEMBER	22	3	248	35	1
OCTOBER	22	3	335	15	0
NOVEMBER	30	1	448	59	5
DECEMBER	26	0	290	15	2
TOTALS	300	24	4158	252	12

Source: Peter Johnson

V. HIKE LEADERS

- MCM is very dependent on a small number of hike leaders for its weekend hikes. A review of the weekend hikes on the November 2017 – February 2018 hike schedule shows that 12 members scheduled one or more hikes for a total of 57 hikes:
 - The single most active hike leader led 23% of the hikes (13); the second most active hike leaders led 18% of the hikes (10); the third most active hike leaders led 14% of the hikes (8).
 - Together, these three most active hike leaders led 54% of weekend hikes.
 - 5 hike leaders led 75% of the hikes.

The departure of one or two hike leaders could lead to significant reductions in the availability of weekend hikes.

- The hike leadership of Wednesday hikes is less concentrated.
 - In the November 2017 – February 2018 schedule, a total of 9 persons lead the 18 Wednesday Hard hikes. The three most active hike leaders led a total of 50% (9) of these hikes.
 - The Wednesday Tweener and Leisure hikes' leadership are even more widely distributed: 28 individuals lead the 34 hikes in their schedules, and only one individual led more than two hikes (this individual led 2 hikes in each of the Leisure and Tweener sections).

Source: Bill Saunders

VI. FINANCES

- As the number of members declines, annual income from dues is also decreasing.
- Although expenditures exceeded revenues in 2016 and 2017, MCM still has an ample balance of funds in its operating budget.

Year	Income	Operating Expenses	End of Year Operating Funds
2012	\$18,632.43	\$13,138.13	\$22,044.49
2013	\$17,161.74	\$12,167.87	\$27,038.86
2014*	\$6,450.01	\$13,482.98	\$19,512.59
2015*	\$21,441.25	\$14,594.15	\$26,329.69
2016	\$12,776.16	\$17,605.18	\$19,993.97
2017	\$12,645.00	\$13,680.03	\$20,709.99

** NOTE: Income was artificially low in 2014, and artificially high in 2015, because of a delay in sending out members renewal forms; as a result, dues that would normally have been received in late 2014 were instead received in early 2015.*

Source: MCM Treasurer Reports

VII. MILES FUND / GRANTS

- I. In 2002, MCM received a bequest of \$200,000 from the estate of Lester Miles. The gift was unrestricted, meaning that that donor did not state any conditions or uses of the donation. MCM maintains the Miles Fund as a restricted long-term endowment fund by maintaining at least the \$200,000 principal investment and only spending from earnings on the principal. The Miles Fund will be invested in accounts approved by the Council.
- II. Disbursement of any earnings above the \$200,000 principal must be approved by a majority vote of the Council.
 - The Miles Fund balance was \$260,970.58 as of 12/31/2017.
 - Under MCM policy, funds above the \$200,000 base amount are available for grant awards.
 - Since the inception of the Miles Grants program in 2007, MCM has awarded a total of 40 grants to support projects consistent with club goals. The total amount of these grant awards is \$134,039.

MILES FUND GRANT AWARDS THROUGH MARCH 2018

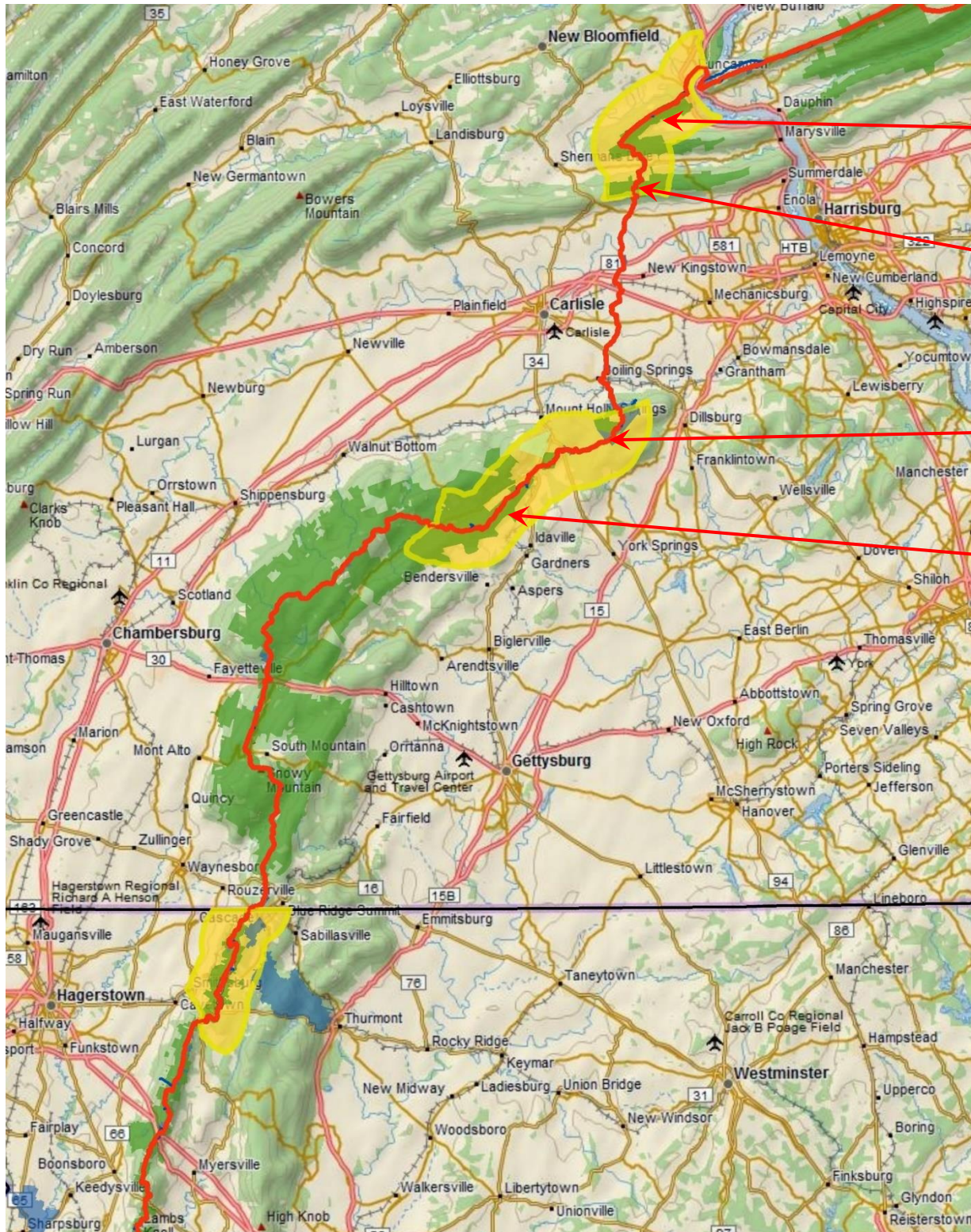
DATE	GRANTEE	AMOUNT
Jan-07	Boy Scouts Baltimore Area Council - Preserve Hemlock	\$2,500.00
Jun-07	ATC Mid Atlantic Region - Trail Crew	\$2,500.00
Jun-07	AT Museum - Donation	\$250.00
Jul-07	YMCA Museum of Central Maryland - Youth Hiking	\$1,000.00
Aug-07	Cromwell Valley Park - Habitat Restoration	\$1,700.00
Oct-07	YMCA of Central Maryland - Water Monitoring	\$750.00
Oct-07	Prettyboy Watershed Alliance - Newsletter	\$2,000.00
Dec-07	Student Conservation Association - Donation	\$3,000.00
Aug-08	Kleindinst MCM Brochure	\$638.00
Sep-08	East Coast Greenway Alliance - Kiosk	\$5,000.00
Jan-09	YMCA Central Maryland - \$1800.00, Water Monitor \$850	\$2,650.00
Mar-09	MCM - 75th Anniversary	\$3,000.00
Apr-09	C&O Canal Trust - Trail Improvements	\$1,000.00
Oct-09	AT White Rock Project - Acquisition of trail land	\$7,500.00
Jun-10	East Coast Greenway - kiosk	-\$3,000.00
Mar-11	PA Conservancy - Iron Master's Mansion - Kitchen	\$20,000.00
Oct-11	CVAT-Parking Lot	\$3,000.00
Nov-11	Duncannon-Kiosk panel	\$1,770.00
Dec-11	For Love of Children-Kiosk	\$1,280.00
Dec-11	MCM-Canopy	\$858.78
Mar-12	Duncannon AT Community - Trail Town	\$1,520.00
Apr-12	Center Point Knob Plague	\$1,050.00
Sep-12	Kuhn Road Kiosk	\$1,200.00
Nov-12	Balto Green Map-Jones Falls Map	\$5,320.00
Feb-13	Catoctin Forest Alliance-Intern	\$5,000.00
Mar-13	Student Conservation Assoc - Trail Maintenance	\$10,000.00
Apr-13	More - Trail Etiquette Signs	\$3,000.00
May-14	Friends of Herring Run Parks - Trail Maintenance	\$15,698.00
May-14	Duncannon AT Community - Festival	\$1,275.80
Jul-14	Catoctin Forest Alliance-Intern	\$5,000.00
Sep-14	Rails to Trails of Catonsville, Inc.	\$1,560.00
Sep-14	Howard County Conservancy	\$2,500.00
Nov-14	Rails to Trails of Catonsville, Inc.	\$1,460.00
Jun-15	Friends of Gwynns Falls / Leakin Park - Boardwalk	\$1,159.00
Sep-15	Central Pennsylvania Conservancy - Land Purchase	\$6,000.00
Nov-15	Friends of Benjamin Banneker Park - Tool Shed	\$2,400.00
Jan-16	MORE - Patapsco trail maintenance	\$3,000.00
Mar-17	MCM - Build parking area in Duncannon, PA	\$7,000.00
Jun-17	MORE - Patapsco trail maintenance	\$2,500.00
Mar-18	Rails to Trails of Catonsville, Inc. - Mellor bridge	\$3,000.00
	TOTAL AWARDS THROUGH MARCH 2018	\$137,039.58

VIII. APPALACHIAN TRAIL MAINTENANCE AND MONITORING

- The A.T. was the first national scenic trail and is part of the national park system, and is managed by the National Park Service and the Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC).
- MCM is one of 31 trail clubs that maintain the 2,190 miles of the A.T.
- MCM maintains approximately 39 miles of the A.T. -- 29 miles in Pennsylvania and 10 miles in Maryland (see map below), plus additional miles of side trails. (*Source: Appalachian Trail Conservancy Data Book*)
- We maintain 4 hiking shelters along our sections of the A.T. in Pennsylvania.
- MCM also performs boundary monitoring for National Park Service lands along the MCM sections of the A.T. in Pennsylvania.
- MCM belongs to several A.T.- related committees whose responsibilities affect our Trail sections:
 - Mid-Atlantic Regional Partnership Committee
 - Maryland Appalachian Trail Management Committee
 - Pennsylvania Appalachian Trail Advisory Committee
 - Keystone Trail Association
- The Duncannon A.T. Community in Pennsylvania is a designated A.T. community located along on our section of the Trail.

A.T. LENGTH BY SECTION

Section	Length (Miles)
Maine	281.8
New Hampshire–Vermont	311.7
Massachusetts–Connecticut	140.5
New York–New Jersey	162.0
Pennsylvania	229.2
Maryland–West Virginia–Northern Virginia (Maryland = 40.9)	94.9
Shenandoah National Park	107.8
Central Virginia	226.1
Southwest Virginia	166.8
Tennessee–North Carolina	302.6
North Carolina–Georgia	166.4



Cove
Mountain
Shelter

Darlington
Shelter

Kennedy
Shelter

Fry
Shelter

VIII. LOCAL TRAIL MAINTENANCE

- MCM maintains two trails in Patapsco Valley State Park: the Tall Poplar Trail and the Valley View Trail.

