

NORTH CENTRAL SECTION. The North Central Section was without a chairman in 2006 as the former chair of eight years, Scott Christensen, resigned to finish his Ph D. in comparative physiology. Because of this, communication within the Section was a problem, as the position is still unfilled. However, there were activities and climbing taking place! Major projects for 2006 were patterned after those of 2005: further work to develop a sorely needed Section Web site, clean-up days at two areas, and further communication with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) regarding closed areas at the most popular climbing destination in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area. The clean-up days were held. The Web site is still incomplete. In addition, a small social was again held at an indoor climbing gym and restaurant in Stillwater, Minnesota, in October, and an AAC table was manned at Midwest Mountaineering's gigantic Winter Fest in Minneapolis in November.

As background, Inter-State State Park lies along the St Croix River bordering Minnesota and Wisconsin. Because of the river valley, the geological formations are spectacular. The routed climbs vary from 5.3 to 5.12 and are about 50 feet long. In July of 2001 there was a large rock fall that necessitated closing 40 percent of the Minnesota side. The North Central Section continues to work with the DNR to point out the closed areas as well as plan for the possible re-opening of part of the area. In addition we had a garbage pick-up day at the park in June. There were five members on hand, and the day included some climbing and a barbeque, along with a meeting with the State Park staff. There were two other clean-up days in other parts of the summer at this crag. One of them, organized by the Access Fund, was attended by four of our members. The Section was represented again this year at a clean-up day on July 6 at Blue Mounds State Park in Luverne, Minnesota, along the Minnesota-South Dakota border. This is an area that has had a big increase in the number of climber visits over the past 10 years with growing maintenance needs

SCOTT CHRISTENSEN, *Past Chair*

NEW YORK SECTION. New York Section members, like everyone else, love rituals, and one of our most enduring, second in longevity to our black tie dinner in the fall, is our Adirondack Winter Outing, now in its 16th year. Historically the weather in the third week of January is the coldest of the year, making the event an unusually invigorating exercise. Not in 2006, however, as January turned out to be the warmest on record in the Northeast. Thankfully, a cold snap just a few days before the event made the ice climbable, although not all routes were in condition. Anyhow, if the climbing wasn't world class, the happy hour, dinner and slide show afterward definitely were top notch, making the trip worthwhile for the 36 members and guests. A special treat was Fritz Selby's show on his expedition to Mongolia the summer before. In addition, a number of Club members and guests arrived early on Friday to take in Olaf Soot's exhibit of Adirondack photos at the Lake Placid Center for the Arts. These may be found in his new coffee table book, *Adirondacks Alive*, co-authored by Don Mellor, the well-known Adirondack climber and writer.

In February the Section launched a new collaboration with the Rubin Museum of Art in Manhattan. Housing an extraordinary collection of Himalayan art and artifacts, the Museum, in the Chelsea District of Manhattan, also has a first-class theater seating over 150 people. It was at this location in February that the Section co-sponsored a special tribute to Heinrich Harrer, who had passed away the month before. Hosted by David Breashears, with the participation of