New York Section. In 2010 the New York Section of the American Alpine Club continued its upward trajectory as new records were set in terms of membership count and number and variety of events, both indoors and outdoors. Starting with the latter, our Annual Outings to the Adirondacks draw sell-out crowds each and every January and June. Our favorite winter haunt is Adirondack Rock and River, in close proximity to the High Peaks Area near Lake Placid, and our early summer home for almost three decades is the historic Ausable Club in Keene Valley. Meanwhile we enjoyed slide presentations in the New York City area by Olaf Soot, Jeff Blumenfeld, Michael Lederer, and Mike Barker. In addition there were book signings by Majka Burhardt on Ethiopia, Graham Bowley on K-2, and Jennifer Jordan on the Dudley Wolfe/Fritz Wiessner K-2 mystery and controversy. We also partnered with the Nepal Mission to the UN to celebrate the launch of Nepal Tourism's 2011 year. Additionally we were invited to the grand opening in June of David Breashears' *Rivers of Ice* exhibit at the Asia Society and Conrad Anker's film on the mystery of Mallory and Irvine's disappearance. And, for the fourth consecutive year, we volunteered guides for the Rubin Museum's very popular program, *Peak Experience*, a simulated climb of Everest and sleepover for kids 11–14 years old inside the Museum.

Our Annual Dinner, a mid-November black-tie benefit now in its 31st consecutive year at New York's Union Club, undoubtedly attracts the most attention, out-of-town guests, and press coverage. Last year we undertook one of our most ambitious programs. We celebrated the 25th Anniversary of the First Completion of the Seven Summits by Dick Bass, a long-time friend. It was also his 80th birthday. Besides Dick, presenters included some old friends and climbing partners including Dave Breashears and Phil Ershler. "Bo" Parfet, one of the many younger followers of Dick's historic accomplishment, completed the line-up. We also feted another significant birthday, that of Vic Benes, who had recently celebrated his 80th atop Forbidden Peak in the Cascades with partner Ron Bixby. At the other end of the age spectrum was guest Jordan Romero, who at 17 has only Vinson to climb to become the youngest Seven Summiteer of all time. Among the many attendees were seven successful Seven Summiteers from the Section who were presented with special plaques marking their achievement as well as Charles Irion, the author of the Seven Summits Murder Mystery Series.

None of the above would have been possible without the help of a large cadre of dedicated volunteers including Andrea Salerno, Howard Sebold, Jon Light, Mike Barker, Michael Lederer, Kaitlin Herlihy, Martin Torresquintero, Vic Benes, our previously mentioned slideshow presenters, and others.

A special thank you goes to our new webmaster, Conor Moran , who has created an instructive, attractive and very popular blog where members can post trip reports and photos, and where news of upcoming events are frequently posted and updated. If you want to know what's happening in busy New York, look for a partner or whatever, log on to nysaac.blogspot.com.

PHIL ERARD, *CHAIR*

Blue Ridge Section. In 2010 the Blue Ridge Section continued to meet at the Rhodeside Tavern in Rosslyn, Virginia. In April four members—Daniel Ressler, Hunt Prothro, Rob Borokantics, and Simon Carr—presented an overview of Sierra climbing, ranging from cragging in Tuolumne to routes on remote backcountry peaks such as the Incredible Hulk. In July, with the ACC Golden office, we helped organize a talk by Freddie Wilkinson to publicize his book, *A Thousand Summits Shining*, on the 2008 K2 tragedy. We also held our "Not-so-black-tie" annual dinner in December at the home of Jeanette Helfrich, a previous Section Chair. Section members also participated in Access Fund Adopt-A-Crag events at Carderock and Great Falls, and have continued to work with

the National Park Service to preserve climbing opportunities at these and other nearby national parks.

Simon Carr, *Chair*

Southern Appalachian Section. The primary objective for the new Southern Appalachian Section was to establish itself as relevant to AAC members as well as to the broader climbing community across the southern Appalachian mountains. Our membership continued to grow, fueling a expanded offering of Section events. In early April the Section welcomed the spring rock climbing season at the Moore Weekend with the AAC, held at the home of Susan and Jeff Hanks in Oak Ridge, North Carolina. We climbed at Moore's Wall and Pilot Mountain on a beautiful spring Saturday, enjoyed drinks and dinner that evening courtesy of Susan and Jeff, camped out in the Hanks' backyard Saturday night, rose early on Sunday for a robust country breakfast, and then headed out for another beautiful day of climbing. Adding to the AAC camaraderie were visiting members of the Blue Ridge Section.

A superb example of increased emphasis on locally produced AAC events were the self-rescue classes taught in June and July in Brevard, North Carolina, by AAC partner Fox Mountain Guides and Climbing School. These classes were offered free to AAC members. Class pricing for non-AAC members was set to encourage participants to join the AAC rather than pay class tuition. Attendees came away with new or enhanced self rescue skills; the AAC gained new members. Our thanks to Adam Fox and AAC Ambassador Karsten Delap for their contributions.

As a follow-up to the success of the AAC Wilderness First Aid class delivered in 2009 in the Raleigh/Durham area, two classes were offered to AAC members in March and October. Instructor Danny McCracken delivered the classes to Red Cross WFA certification standards with significant customization to focus upon climbing accident first response.

Building on a strong tradition, the 6th Annual Eastern North Carolina AAC Get-Together was held on November 6 in Wake Forest. Thirty members and their guests gathered at the home of Brigitte Weston and Keith Nangle to discuss over food and drink how the AAC community could help.

people achieve climbing goals. The speaker was Dr. Amer Adam, who presented slides from his 2010 expedition to Mt. Everest.

I would like to thank all of the AAC staff for their support for our Section. In 2011 we will focus on recruitment of additional AAC Ambassadors, an increased focus on alpine conservation issues in the Appalachian range, and the continuing effort to build a strong AAC community across our region.

David Thoenen, *Chair*

Deep South Section. Our Section is plugging along with three AAC Ambassadors in place: Jay Love (Athens, Georgia), Frank Nederhand (Atlanta), and Gray Ruhl (Tampa).

We have been attracting new members and establishing a presence in the Deep South by having ongoing events throughout the year. Our most important event is the upcoming CBEE Expedition to Peru's Cordillera Blanca to test air quality, with Frank Nederhand, Chadwick Hagan, and Ellen Lapham as co-leaders. For more information, contact chagan@gmail.com or go to www.americanalpineclub.org/p/cbee2011.

Chadwick Hagan, *Chair*