

Southern New England chapter report

Over the last year Lookout staffing across the chapter has remained constant in Ma. With all usable towers operated as conditions warrant. Ongoing maintenance continues and funding remains level even though staffing levels have dropped over that of previous years.

RI. Lookouts staffing has decreased to only 5 usable lookout towers, four of which are in the northern 1/3 rd of the state, West Greenwich being the only southern tower all are in use only during the extremist fire danger days. Staffing levels continue to drop as personnel retire.

CT. No lookouts staffed in the state and only 7 known lookout structures remain standing.

During the past year chapter membership and funds have remained level But FFLA awareness has increased. This is due to a two fold reason,

1st, is due to very good press coverage we received for the summer conference held in West Greenwich,RI.

2ndly due in part to the conference itself, it has since produced 2 sub-chapters within RI. And promoted greater bonds with entitles within the lookout community in adjoining CT.

During the RI conference many new bits of information on past lookouts in RI and CT. were discovered. The tower owned and run by the West Greenwich Fire dept. was placed on the NHLR. and a restoration grant was presented to the fire chief.

2005 saw many field trips to lookout locations across the chapter, 9 sites explored in RI, 5 in CT and 7 in MA. Two new lookout location were discovered in Ma. In 2005 and one in CT. 2005 also saw all but two of Massachusetts lookouts put onto the NHLR, with the last two remaining to be finished in January of 2006 thus completing every standing lookout on MA.

In Dec. of 2005, 50 FFLA brochures were requested by a Ma. State forest fire representative.

Respectfully submitted.... Henry Isenberg

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