



APPALACIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB

CONNECTICUT CHAPTER

ANNUAL REPORT

DECEMBER 2, 1989

CHAPTER CHAIR'S REPORT

Many people have described the Connecticut Chapter of the AMC as the best chapter in the AMC. They're right! When I see the efforts and dedication of the volunteers of our chapter, I know that I am part of a great organization. Just look at the results for this past year! For example, Doug Christie has led the Trails Committee in its work on the Silver Hill Shelter which will serve the through-hikers on the AT. We can be very proud of all their hard labor, as well as of the planning and organization that went into this wonderful venture.

In addition, Gerry Stanton and Merri Swanson have revitalized the Excursions Committee and managed to increase the number of qualified leaders for our hiking programs. They spearheaded the drive to get more members involved as leaders. Their partnership is just one example of where we have had two persons successfully co-chair a committee. They made a great team this past year, and we thank them.

I thank all the volunteers for their renewed spirit and commitment to the ideals of the AMC. Some have been very concerned about the direction of the Club as a whole and have joined a group called the Concerned Veterans. I believe that the Veterans have generated a lot of positive discussion about the future direction of the Club. The winds of change are blowing through Boston and the Club as a whole.

Dick Blake joined me this year for "an historic occasion" (as Dick called it) when our new executive director, Andy Falender, came to visit us in Connecticut. Our executive director has been very responsive and has answered, for instance, every one of the letters (and there have been many!) that I have sent him on behalf of various concerns in our Chapter. I am impressed with the new management. However, I ask each of you to carefully review the proposed changes to the bylaws of the Club and to consider the implications for the Club you have come to know over the years. Fiscal responsibility and preservation of the environment are just a few of the strategic goals to which the Club has re-dedicated itself.

It is time for the Connecticut Chapter to move on, as well. Ken Richardson has taken the first step in a public relations campaign, which is something our Fairfield County Chapter has done extremely well for years. We are now on our way to increasing awareness of the Connecticut Chapter in our home state. This greater visibility will make other people aware of our mission, offer others the many fine opportunities you yourselves now enjoy to become volunteers and leaders, increase our impact on conservation issues and, possibly, increase our membership. I think it is a time for growth, provided we manage it well.

I salute all those dedicated members out there. There is not enough we can say to thank the Harry Durens of the world who served not one, but two, terms as chapter treasurer. I know there are more like Harry out there. Tell me, tell the executive committee, tell the person who first led you into the fold of the Connecticut Chapter how we can help offer you the opportunity to become more involved. Believe me, it's fun!

Respectfully submitted,

Glen Parchmann
Connecticut Chapter Chair

TREASURER'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1988

Cash at January 1, 1988:

Cash Held by Treasurer:	
CT Bank & Trust - Savings	\$13,031.99
CT Bank & Trust - Checking	1,624.69
Society for Savings - Memorial	<u>700.00</u>
Total Held by Treasurer	\$15,356.68
Cash Held by Committees:	
Whitewater	\$ 1,730.03
Mt. Riga	<u>2,190.18</u>
Total Held by Committees	<u>4,020.21</u>
Total Cash	\$19,386.89

Revenue Collected:

AMC Dues Collected	\$15,020.50
Program Activity Collections	8,518.57
Used Equipment and Book Sales	1,456.23
Chapter Merchandise Sales	204.60
Contributions Received	25.00
Interest Income	778.75
Net Increase in Mt. Riga Cash Balance	255.72
Net Increase in Whitewater Cash Balance	<u>46.18</u>
Total Revenue	<u>26,305.53</u>
Total Available Funds	\$45,692.42

Expenditures Made:

Cost of Program Activities	\$ 8,077.89
Net 1988 Expenditure for CT Nite at Lakes of the Clouds (Note 1)	697.00
Cost of Used Equipment and Books	861.05
Cost of Merchandise Purchased	-0-
Contributions Made	1,500.00
Committee/Administration Operating Expenses:	
Administration (Note 2)	8,784.85
Conservation	133.41
Education	8.00
Excursions	1,587.07
Fairfield County	1,094.23
Membership	1,301.74
Mountaineering	-0-
Newsletter	2,007.53
Program	311.68
Trails	<u>2,895.68</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>29,170.11</u>

Cash at December 31, 1988 \$16,522.22

Cash at December 31, 1988:

Cash Held by Treasurer:	
Harbor National Bank - Certificate of Deposit Maturing 2/28/89 (8.5% APR)	\$10,000.00
Harbor National Bank - Checking	1,450.96
Society for Savings - Memorial Account	<u>719.24</u>
Total Held by Treasurer	\$12,190.20
Cash Held by Committees:	
Whitewater	\$ 1,776.19
Mt. Riga	<u>2,555.20</u>
Total Held by Committees	<u>4,332.09</u>
Total Cash	<u>\$16,522.22</u>

Note 1 - Net profit realized from CT Nite at Lakes of the Clouds is the result of:

Deposits received in 1987	\$ 900
Deposits received in 1988	<u>3,453</u>
Total received	\$ 4,353
Less cost to use the hut	<u>4,150</u>
Net profit	<u>\$ 203</u>

Note 2 - This amount includes approximately \$2,400 invested in an IBM compatible and Joy Street compatible personal computer and accessories. The computer is currently being used regularly by the Excursions Committee and is expected to be of even greater use in the coming year.

Harry J. Duren, Treasurer

We have audited the 1988 financial statement for the Connecticut Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club and found it to be correct.

John Langhans, Auditor
Philip J. Bujalski, Auditor

TREASURER'S REPORT

FOR THE TEN MONTHS ENDED OCTOBER 31, 1989

Cash at January 1, 1989:

Cash Held by Treasurer:		
Harbor National Bank - Certificate	\$10,000.00	
Harbor National Bank - Checking	1,450.96	
Society for Savings - Memorial	<u>732.24</u>	
Total Held by Treasurer		\$12,190.20
Cash Held by Committees:		
Whitewater	\$ 1,776.19	
Mt. Riga	<u>2,552.20</u>	
Total Held by Committees		<u>4,328.39</u>
Total Cash		\$16,522.29

Revenue Collected:

AMC Dues Collected	\$10,186.75	
Program Activity Collections	3,475.60	
Grants Received	4,885.50	
Chapter Merchandise Sales and Advertising	258.00	
Contributions Received	25.00	
Interest Income	823.10	
Net Increase in Mt. Riga Cash Balance	180.91	
Net Increase in Whitewater Cash Balance	<u>436.02</u>	
Total Revenue		<u>20,270.88</u>
Total Available Funds		\$36,793.17

Expenditures Made:

Cost of Program Activities	\$ 3,626.51	
Cost of Used Equipment and Books	30.00	
Cost of Merchandise Purchased (Note 1)	444.70	
Contributions Made (Note 2)	-0-	
Committee/Administration Operating Expenses:		
Administration	2148.39	
Conservation	230.93	
Education	-0-	
Excursions	1,234.20	
Fairfield County	774.82	
Membership	975.60	
Mountaineering	78.40	
Newsletter	1,706.52	
Program	257.27	
Trails	<u>5,832.46</u>	
Total Expenditures		<u>17,340.80</u>

Cash at October 31, 1989

\$19,452.37

Cash at October 31, 1989:

Cash Held by Treasurer:		
Harbor National Bank - Certificate	\$13,000.00	
Harbor National Bank - Checking	726.23	
Society for Savings - Memorial Account	<u>777.12</u>	
Total Held by Treasurer		\$14,503.35
Cash Held by Committees:		
Whitewater	\$ 2,212.21	
Mt. Riga	<u>2,736.81</u>	
Total Held by Committees		<u>4,949.02</u>
Total Cash		<u>\$19,452.37</u>

Note 1 - This amount includes a \$150 deposit toward the purchase of CT Chapter patches which had not yet been received at October 31.

Note 2 - The following 1989 contributions were approved at the October Executive Committee meeting and will be disbursed in November:

Organization

The Nature Conservancy (Sage's Ravine)	\$ 500
The Nature Conservancy (General Use)	100
Housatonic Valley Association	250
Appalachian Trail Conference	200
CT Forests and Parks Association	175
Green Mountain Club	175
Four organizations each for \$25	<u>100</u>
	<u>\$1,500</u>

Harry J. Duren, Treasurer

CONNECTICUT CHAPTER ANNUAL MEETING - 1988

The 68th Connecticut Chapter Annual Meeting was held at the Yale Inn in Meriden, CT on Saturday, December 3, 1988. About 344 people attended afternoon and/or evening sessions. Chapter Chair Trish Niece called the business meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. Announcements were made. Trish Niece then recognized the Program Committee, especially Program Committee chair Merri Swanson, registrar Dick Bartes, and Glen Parchmann secretary. The Narragansett chapter was represented by Ken and Penny Hutchins. Special thanks was given to Mary Ann Hardy for her work on the newsletter to publicize the Annual Meeting as well as her work over the years.

Trish then recognized special guest Sue Hardy who is outgoing VP of Programs and incoming VP of Operations, membership coordinator from Joy Street Patti Roka and her husband Jeff Brandt, and lastly AMC President Frank Kelliher. Frank Kelliher spoke briefly about the state of the club and the success of the capital campaign. He reported that the Search and Rescue was to be commended; and that for the year we will meet the budget which is a breakeven budget. Hut income was up this year due to good weather, but contributions were down. A new executive director was chosen. Patti Roka, Membership Director, reported that membership has been up the past two months when compared to last year. She also mentioned that Outward Bound has approached the AMC to see how they could work together with us.

A moment of silence was observed for the following members of the Connecticut Chapter whose deaths have been reported since the 1987 meeting: Dorothy Alexander and Charles Bueck.

One Connecticut Chapter member was recognized to have completed the Blue Trail System and thereby to have joined the CT 400 Club: Stewart Kosnoff.

Excursions Chair, Gerry Stanton, came forward to recognize all hike leaders, especially those who led 5 or more hikes in the past year. The 24 people who led 5 or more hikes were:

Anne Bailey	Bob Dowd	Leona Klerer	Jeff O'Donnell
Eleanor Bieliak	Dale Hackett	Leonard Lohr	Suzi Peterson
Dick Blake	Mary Ann Hardy	Chuck MacMath	Bill Pruehsner
Steve Braciak	Keith Johnson	Iona Malmborg	Cathy Sardinha
Paula Burton	Susan Joy	Don Morgan	Joe Sardinha
Harry Caldwell	Pat Kimball	Ron Naylor	Helen Shoneck

Four fifty-year members were recognized although none were able to attend: Grace Averill, Edmund Hogan who wrote to say he was sorry he could not attend, Mary Sawers who sent her good wishes, and Mrs. Edward Goodrich whose husband sent a special letter.

Trish thanked the outgoing members of the Executive Committee for their hard work and loyal support: Art Mauger, Conservation; Jeri Lyons and Marian Ritter, Membership; Al Carilli, Mountaineering; Dick Blake, Trails; Anne Bailey, Past Chair; Glen Parchmann, Secretary; Merri Swanson, Programs; and, though not officially a member of the Executive Committee, Mary Ann Hardy for her Newsletter work.

The Secretary's report was accepted as printed in the 1988 Annual Report. The Treasurer's report was also accepted as presented, as were the committee reports. Chair, Trish Niece, reported no old business to conduct. No new business was brought to her attention.

The nominating committee was thanked for putting together another fine slate. Serving this year have been: Janet DiMattia, Dave Mihalek, Steve Tuckerman, Jeanne Thomson, and Ginny Dowd, Chair.

Ginny Dowd presented the slate of nominees for 1989 who were unanimously accepted and included the following persons: Glen Parchmann, Chair; Mary Dorpalen, Secretary; Harry Duren, Treasurer; Don Patterson, Conservation; Gerry Stanton and Merri Swanson, Excursions; Mitch Underwood, Education; Susan Joy, Fairfield County Committee; Janet DiMattia, Membership; Ed Budzik, Mountaineering; Paul Ives, Mt. Riga; Fay Dresner, Programs; Douch Christie, Trails; Ed Bossom, Whitewater; Trish Niece, Past Chair; Matt Donachie, Newsletter.

Trish Niece discovered a bit of history among Anne Bailey's notes regarding the start of the Red Hat tradition by John Herr who started wearing the red hat in 1951-52 to identify himself as chairman. Trish then read the names of past chairmen who came forward with their red hats to help induct Glen Parchmann as the new chapter chair: Roger Waite, John Herr, Kornel Bailey, John Ensor, Seymour Smith, Gardner Moulton, John Gardner, Ned Greist, Bente Morch, Bill Schmidt, Ledge Clayton, Dave Sinish, Gerry Hardy, Sue Hardy, Judy Besancon, Anne Bailey, and herself Trish Niece. We look forward to another good year.

The business meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m. The evening program was presented by Laurie Hauser and concerned her travels in Africa.

Respectfully submitted,

Glen Parchmann
Chapter Secretary (1988)

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

The Conservation Committee held monthly meetings, alternating between Hamden and Vernon. We were involved in several issues such as rails-to-trails, Farmington River Diversion, scenic trail system, and the potential closing of some state parks due to the budget deficit.

The AMC continued to work with the Land Conservation Coalition on legislative issues. The second phase of the Recreation & Natural Heritage Trust Program passed, which will continue to provide \$15 million for state parks and forests and \$5 million for municipal parks. The Endangered Species Act passed unanimously and \$200,000 will be spent on land acquisition along the Connecticut River.

Conservation Saturday was held in October with a Rails-To-Trails theme. Wilma Frey, the Northeast Field Coordinator of Rails-To-Trails Conservancy, was the guest speaker. The Annual Dinner featured Fred Riotte, who gave a workshop on Rails-To-Trails as well as Fred Preston, who gave a workshop on the Backcountry Stewardship Task Force. This workshop dealt with the future of the privately-owned forest lands in northern New England.

Many thanks to the people who were active on the committee.

Ginny Dowd	Sue Kirk	Nancy Hatfield
Fred Riotte	Joan Tait	Elaine Luckey
		Don Patterson, Chair

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

No report submitted.

EXCURSIONS COMMITTEE

The Excursions Committee offers a varied program of day hikes, backpacking, cross-country skiing, flat water canoeing, cycling, and weekend excursions. Thanks to the entire committee and to all the leaders whose efforts make these activities possible, for without them we wouldn't have any activities to report.

Mary Dorpalen has been the Bulletin Editor again this year, faithfully typing the activities and getting them to Boston on time. Jeff O'Donnell has continued to feed our statistics into the computer and to print out reports, data, and address labels. This year Kathy Lindbeck has been mailing out the trip report forms to all the hike leaders. All these tasks are on-going and take a great deal of time. A special thanks for their dedication.

The committee continues to offer hikes and programs to develop new leaders. A day-long workshop focusing on leadership styles and techniques was held again this year. We always welcome the name of anyone whom you think has the potential of becoming a good leader.

This year we introduced the "Day Hike Leader Recognition Patch". This patch is awarded to all leaders who lead five or more day hikes within our statistical year. Included is a rocker to show the year, or years, in which they accomplished this feat.

Trip Statistics Oct. 1, 1988 - Sept. 30, 1989

Figures in () indicate weekend trips included. NA - not available.

	1989	1988	1987	1986
All Activities				
Trips	390	405	461	453
Participants	4,507	4,496	NA	4,780
Average turnout	11.5	11.1	NA	10.6
Day Hikes				
Trips	352	314	348	329
Participants	4,123	3,737	3,644	3,957
Average turnout	11.7	11.9	10.5	12.0

Special Activities

The Special Activities are each headed by a Coordinator who maintains a leader's list for that activity and plans the program. This involves a great deal of time. A big thanks to them for their efforts. Their reports are listed below:

Weekend Trips Coordinator: Jeri Lyons

	1989	1988	1987	1986
Weekend				
Trips	10	11	14	10
Participants	180	242	280	NA
Average	18.0	22.0	20.0	NA

Backpacking Coordinators: Betty Goyette & Marty Ritter

	1989	1988	1987	1986
Backpacking				
Trips	NA	11	17	23
Participants	NA	57	NA	121
Average	NA	5.2	NA	5.3

Bicycling Coordinator: Ray MacMath

	1989	1988	1987	1986
Bicycling				
Trips	16	(3) 34	21	(3) 17
Participants	72	238	NA	193
Average	4.5	9	NA	16.1

Flatwater Canoeing: Chuck MacMath

This was my first year as flatwater chairman and I would like to thank all the leaders for their help and cooperation. This has been a very busy year for me, personally, so I couldn't put as much effort into the program as I had wanted. Next year should prove to be bigger and better than ever (I hope)! I would also like to take this opportunity to recruit new leaders. If anyone is interested, please contact me.

	1989	1988	1987	1986
Flatwater Canoeing				
Trips	(2) 12	(3) 14	(4) 18	(7) 31
Participants	132	196	234	293
Average	11.0	14.0	13.0	9.5

Cross-Country Skiing: Bob Dickinson

	1989	1988	1987	1986
Cross-Country Skiing				
Trips	NA	(10) 26	43	(7) 19
Participants	NA	250	NA	164
Average	NA	9.6	NA	8.6

Blue Trail Series: Steve Braciak

The Blue Trail Series is continuing with Steve Braciak as coordinator. During the past year, 12 hikes were offered covering a total of approximately 92 miles. Eleven different trails were either partially or totally completed. These include the Crest, Miller, Naugatuck, Nayantaquit, Pachaug, Pomperaug, Quinebaug, Sempsit, and Tunxis Trails.

CT 400 Club: Daryll Borst

Since 1973, records have been kept of people who have hiked all 400 miles of the Connecticut Blue Trails. This year one new member, Donna Arbas, joined the ranks to bring the total to 40 people.

Monthly Hike Coordinators: January - December 1989

Each month day hikes are coordinated by a different person known as a "monthly". They solicit hikes by letter, follow up with phone calls, balance out A, B and C hikes, and type them up. Jim Luptak coordinates the FCC hikes each month. We thank them for their time and effort.

Carl Rosenthal	Susan Peterson	Don Morgan
Janet DiMattia	Donna Arbas	Carol Sinnamon
Sara Zagorski	Steve Tuckerman	Jeri Lyons
Gerry Stanton	Gil Eifler	Kathy Korbich

Excursions Committee

Betty Govette
Kathy Lindbeck
Marty Ritter
Steve Braciak

Bob Dickinson
Daryll Borst
Chuck MacMath
Marty Dorpalen

Jeri Lyons
Kathy Lindbeck
Jim Liptack
Jeff O'Donnell

Gerry Stanton, Co-Chair
Merri Swanson, Co-Chair

FAIRFIELD COUNTY COMMITTEE

The Fairfield County Committee, celebrating its fifth anniversary, continues to contribute to the overall success of the Connecticut Chapter. Through an exciting assortment of program events and trips of interest to local members and potential members, we have, once again, helped increase AMC membership in Fairfield County. What's more, our monthly theme potlucks are just as popular as they were the previous year, averaging 15-20 participants on week nights.

We are delighted to report that, as usual, we have attained our objectives of increasing the involvement of area AMC members, expanding membership in the county and providing a variety of AMC events. Our six yearly open meetings featuring adventure slide programs/social hours drew an average of 50-60 attendees per session. Again this year, we have raised the number and variety of trips led by FCC leaders as well as the actual number of qualified leaders. To encourage participation in these trips, all excursions led by FCC leaders have a meeting point in Fairfield County as well as at the trail head.

In addition to FCC Day held in September and a Winter Carnival held in February, we have added a Photo Contest (this is the second year we've organized this) to our special Fairfield County Committee-sponsored annual events. The contest is open to the public, with the winning entries displayed at the Annual Meeting. Offering a full slate of daytime activities, both the Carnival and FCC Day feature a potluck supper and after-dinner presentation.

The Fairfield County Committee's main goal remains the same: to maintain its momentum and make an even greater impact this coming year.

Melanie Ancin - Potluck Coordinator
Bob Barker - Member-at-Large
Peter Brownstein - Management Information Systems
Paula Burton - Membership
Dave Cronin - Treasurer
Randy Kessler - Newsletter/Public Relations
Jim Liptack - Excursions
Toby Moore - Secretary
Bill Russell - Programs

Susan Joy, Chair

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The CT Chapter welcomed 776 new members during the past year bringing the total chapter membership as of September to 3,912.

Several membership-sponsored activities were held throughout the year. A pizza-hike, beach-hike, cook-out-hike, potlucks, and after-hike refreshment gatherings offered new members a chance to become acquainted with AMC.

Renewed interest was expressed in holding more hikes in the eastern part of the state. Betty Robinson is the contact person in the Storrs area and, recently, Carol Sinnamon joined the committee to service the Stonington area.

An attempt was made to compile a permanent slide collection of AMC activities and facilities to be kept on file and show whenever the occasion calls. This was not completed and will be continued, if more slide contributions are received.

The annual New Members' Day was held September 16th. A "thank-you" is extended to the activity leaders who helped to make the day a pleasant one in spite of the rain. There was an especially large number of new members at the potluck dinner this year. It is hoped that they will become actively involved in AMC. A special "thank-you" to Sue Hardy for her slide presentation.

Many thanks, also to the following AMC members who were active on the Membership Committee during the past year:

Gerry Hardy
Norm Hingkeldey
Trish Niece
Jeri Lyons
Anne Bailey

Denise Michelson
Ledge Clayton
Eileen Anderson
Paula Burton
Peter Anderson

Paul Hermenau
Jennifer Glick
Betty Robinson
Carol Sinnamon

Janet DiMattia, Chair

MOUNTAINEERING COMMITTEE

We began our year with a trip to Wheeler Pond for a fine weekend of X-country skiing, ice climbing and a day at Jay Peak for downhill skiing. Other winter trips included Wonaloncet and a climb up Mt. Marcy.

This spring we had a good turn-out for beginning climbing sessions, but interminable rain added to the usual attrition of new climbers. About six beginners have survived and are becoming skilled climbers. We lost two regulars, Leo Labranche who moved to New Mexico, and John Bickel, who moved to Idaho.

This summer our members hiked and climbed in the Cascades, and the Grand Tetons. Dennis Burke climbed the Caucasus in Russia and is headed for Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, Africa.

Two climbers were injured this summer. Brad Buck suffered a dislocated shoulder, and Jeff Butler a broken elbow and wrist. Jeff is recovering and in good spirits now at the Danbury Hospital.

Five new members, experienced climbers, joined us over the summer.

Committee Members:

Chris Kimball
John Rek

Paul Maresca
Paul Scarpa

Maria Scarpa

Ed Budzik, Chair

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Our committee has continued to serve the chapter by putting on four potluck suppers, the Spring Dinner, and the Annual Meeting. We provided the program for the Midwinter Potluck, when Marge Hackbarth showed slides of Chile and Easter Island, at the Spring Dinner, when Reuben Rajala talked about AMC facilities; and at the Annual Meeting when Laurie Hauser recreated her trip to Africa.

The Annual Meeting, on December 3, 1988 at the Yale Inn in Meriden, consisted of a CPR course in the morning, many workshops led by chapter committees in the afternoon, and an evening banquet and program. A total of 270 people joined us for dinner, and 83 others came only in the afternoon. We netted about \$600 on the book and used equipment sales.

We are fortunate to have been able to use the Third Congregational Church in Middletown and the Church of Christ Congregational in Goshen for our four potlucks. The Spring Dinner was held at Valle's in Hartford. We are always on the lookout for suitable facilities for our meetings.

We welcome additional members to our committee, even to help out at only one or two events. Our committee members worked faithfully and were responsible for the smooth operation of our activities. The committee met several times during the year to plan our programs. We also acknowledge the help of many others who pitched in from time to time in the best "Appie" tradition.

Active Committee Members:

Luella Bartes
Richard Bartes
Edgar Dresner
Gordon Gaulin
Martin Jacobs

Iona Malmborg
Irving Mills
Willie Mills
Billie Morrow

Heidi Parchmann
Carol Sinnamon
Judy Snyder
Merri Swanson

Fay Dresner, Chair

MOUNT RIGA COMMITTEE

This last year has been an active one with the Northwest Camp. We have increased the use of the cabin through advertisement in the Appalachia Bulletin. There has been a total of 75 registered days of use at the camp with many more people stopping in off the trail.

The Woodcutting Party on Oct. 31, 1988 had an excellent turnout of 23 people. Approximately 3 cords of wood were cut by noon. With all the manpower, the outhouse was moved, the cabin door repaired, an additional log installed to the foot bridge. Many thanks to all that helped.

The cabin was used extensively in the winter for hiking, snowshoeing, and X-C skiing. However, there was not much snow this past season. The X-C Ski & Hike on Feb. 11, turned out to be a nice day with 10 people attending. It was sponsored by the Carhou Clan and Mt. Riga Committee. Our Sugaring-Off Party on March 11, 1989 was a success, once again, with 21 people enjoying a hike to Northwest Camp. We had to use crushed ice instead of snow. We had the dull pickles this year. Thanks to Karl Holstein for all the help.

The May 14, 1989 Spring Work Party saw 4 members. With the help of Rod and Barbara Parlee and Dave Benton, the fireplace was rebuilt, a new stovepipe installed, the cabin door repaired, and a new steel door installed.

Our July 15th, Summer BBO & Hike to the Taconic Mts. was a grand event with an attendance of 17 people. Everyone enjoyed the views, blueberries, and BBO. The summer was quiet, once again, at the cabin with only a few reservations.

On Sept. 16, 1989, New Members' Day, 5 people stopped in to say hello and to dry out from all the rain.

There will be a committee meeting along with our Annual Woodcutting Party on Nov. 12, 1989. Extensive repairs will also be carried out at this time. Finally, on Dec. 16, 1989 a Christmas Hike and Carroling will be held at Northwest Camp.

This past year has been exciting at Northwest Camp with new activities added to our calendar. The future of the Mt. Riga Committee looks to be one filled with projects and gatherings of all kinds. We invite all chapter members to take advantage of the cabin by using it or by coming to one of our outings.

Please contact any committee member or chairman if interested in Northwest Camp.

Tom Gostyla
John Rek
John Hicks
Dave Terrill
Ted Hinman
Col. A. H. Shookus

Chuck MacMath
Herb Van Winkle
Ray MacMath
Karl Holstein
Roger Makepeace
Rod Parlee

Tom Nichols
Dave Benton
Susan Ives
Keith Larson
Tom Lusenskis

Paul Ives, Chair

TRAILS COMMITTEE

The Trails Committee, managers of the Appalachian Trail and the associated Appalachian Trail lands in Connecticut, has had a busy, but productive year. An extensive and demanding list of goals was set and happily, through the efforts of many, will come close to full realization.

Two of our key goals were to "operate a full schedule of work parties" with advance notice and to "broaden the base of volunteer participation and leadership". In these areas we met considerable success. As of Oct. 1st, our records indicated 90 work parties held with 116 different volunteers participating for a total of 3,175 work hours. This does not include the still to be compiled work hours of our regular management team - maintainers, monitors, guides and others - who work outside the work party schedule. We anticipate that total hours, as well as number of work parties, will set a new record as will the number of different participants and work party leaders. Knowing the number of Connecticut Chapter members, however, we see room for further progress on the second goal.

The success of most goals is reflected in this year's major trail and land management achievements as follows:

- Three new campsites established (Belter, Rattlesnake Den & Sharon Mt.). This completes our master plan for campsites along the Trail.
- Pine Swamp Brook Lean-to constructed. This completes our basic plan for lean-tos at reasonable distances along the Trail.
- Silver Hill Shelter renovated and opened for backpacker use. This was a major undertaking with extensive volunteer effort (approx. 750 work hours) and considerable cost covered by a grant from the Stanley Works and an ATC grant.
- A "chum" designed specially for our remote campsites use- constructed, transported and installed at four sites. (Construction plans are available and have already been requested from various parties around the country.)
- Two new outhouses installed, four old ones relocated.
- Bridge built over Macedonia Brook.
- Forest management plan for the red pine areas on Stanley Tract completed. This included clearing the areas for the planting of over 1000 conifer seedlings.
- Open space management initiated with clearing and mowing (hopefully) of fields at Ten Mile and clearing of select sites on the Stanley Tract.
- Prospect Mt. section of new A.T. route planned and cut. One piece open by Grand Falls; rest ready to go when last small tract now under litigation is settled.
- A number of small, but significant relocations carried out.
- Signs constructed and installed at all new facilities and other spots requiring up-grading or repair.
- Trail cleared of blow downs and side effects from July tornado.
- Vista improvement at a number of Trails sites.
- Trail hardening and drainage work at various trail locations.
- Extensive rock work and heavy trail construction carried out on and above Limestone Springs.

Not included above is the regular, on-going trail maintenance by maintainers, monitoring including boundary marking by monitors, and public information/trail supervision by guides and the summer staff in the Roving Caretaker Program.

The two remaining goals related to major management efforts which should have long range benefits. A full Trail Assessment has been carried out, including field coverage and the prioritizing of identified trail and management needs. This data has been computerized for ready reference. Also, a Study Committee is well along on a major revision and update of the Management Plan for the Appalachian Trail in Connecticut. This is the official policy guide for Trails operations and a basic document for the Connecticut Chapter.

Other activities not reflected in the goals also took place and deserve mention. A two day Trail Maintenance Workshop was held last spring at HVA and on the Trail with good attendance and much accomplished, supper and overnight arrangements were included. Marathon Day was well attended with all sections of the A.T. covered and reported; the potluck and evening program were well received. A Management Team Outing was held in Salisbury in June for members and their families; Peter Jensen, who resigned to go into business on his own, was honored.

A number of Trails and Chapter members attended the ATC Biannual Conference at Stroudsburg, Pa. Many looked closely at this large and extensive operation since the CT Chapter, along with the Berkshire Chapter, will be co-hosting this event in July 1991 at Williams College in Williamstown, Mass. A Trails Skills Exchange Workshop was sponsored by ATC and AMC at Camp Dodge in N.H. this fall for A.T. managing groups in New England. CT Trails had a full quota of seven present for the two days. A successful, October Interchapter Weekend Work Party saw the final completion of a three year effort to relocate and reconstruct the Race Brook Trail. Many also enjoyed the sociability, the evening potluck and the overnight hospitality at the Hicks' home. And lastly, four representatives from the Trails Committee took part in the ATC New

England Management Conference held in Hanover, N.H.. The meeting was chaired by our Colin Tait who is Vice Chair for the New England Region on the ATC Board of Directors

Before closing this report, a welcome is due to Dennis Regan, our new AMC Coordinator for Conn & Mass. With the sale of the Undermountain House in Salisbury, Dennis is now operating from a new AMC Field Office in Dalton, Mass. We are glad to have him with us. Also, thanks must be extended to the trail volunteers and the many other individuals and organizations who have helped and supported our efforts over the past year.

Particular note is given here to the Housatonic Valley Association which has generously allowed us to use their facilities in our time of need. And finally, my personal thanks to the Trails Committee for their support, understanding and jobs well done.

Trails Committee:

Dick Blake	John Hicks	Paul Palmer
Jack Burbank	John Keeley	Glen Pirschmann
Hugh Cobrain	Jim Lipuck	Cheryl Peatfield
Ted Cowles	Elaane Luckey	Dennis Regan
Henry Edmunds	Maria Mendes	Norm Sills
John Greacen	Sharon Olsen	Colin Tait
Bob Dowd - Consultant	Doug Christie - Chair	

WHITewater COMMITTEE

The Connecticut Whitewater Leaders conducted more than 60 trips in February through October 1989. A tentative schedule is prepared in October each year for the following year. Anticipated availability must include conditions created by dam releases, ice break-up, snow melt-down, and low water as the year progresses. As the various conditions change, the schedule is rearranged. Impromptu trips can be held, but only after the trip and its leader are approved by the committee. Trip information is placed on the "Hot Line", 203-582-6978. The hot line committee is headed by Tom Ploski. This info line is heavily used.

The boaters are very conscientious. Each trip is led by an approved, competent, rated leader. Most state laws require that each person have a flotation cushion or vest aboard the water craft. We require that each person wear a personal flotation device (pfd). Closed boat paddlers and advanced canoe paddlers also wear helmets. Trip leaders will not allow paddlers without sufficient skills for the day's river to participate. They also require proper equipment and warm clothing, such as wet suits, booties, drysuits, and polypro; cotton is not recommended because it does not dry easily, which could lead to hypothermia.

Whitewater rivers are rated as Class I, II, III, or IV. The rivers are detailed in AMC and other river guides. Paddlers are also rated I, II, III, or IV according to their ability. The rating definitions are standard in all AMC Whitewater Chapters and most other whitewater groups. The CT AMC rating committee, headed by Steve Tuckerman, advances appropriately skilled persons to new levels after receiving evaluations from trip leaders.

Several training sessions were offered during the year:

Class II, a two-day overnight session, Eskimo Rolling, evenings in a pool during January/February; Solo Paddling Clinic; AMC New Member's Day Whitewater Experience; and a Whitewater Sampler for nonrated paddlers.

The Class II and Sampler sessions were headed by Laurie Loud Kommitz; Rolling by Ed Chase; Solo by Tom Ploski; and New Member's Day by Dick Ploski.

The Whitewater Committee maintains four Tandem (two-person) open canoes, two Solo (one-person) open canoes, and one C2 (closed tandem canoe). We furnish open canoes for the instruction sessions and rent them to whitewater and flatwater paddlers on official AMC trips for modest fees. Several whitewater leaders also lead official flatwater trips each year.

Trips are run in all six New England states in NY, PA and WV each year. Most paddlers learn skills, safety, and techniques in tandem open canoes. Many, as their skills advance, become solo boaters, using a kayak, open solo canoe, or C1 (similar to a kayak, but paddled in a kneeling position with a single blade paddle).

Each paddler donates a dollar per trip. This provides funds for mailings, functions, and equipment. The group participates in the chapter, but is financially independent.

All AMC members are invited to attend Class II training or the Sampler next year.

Whitewater Committee Staff:

Ed Chase	John Kotchian	Steve Sokoloski
Ken Cook	Jan Larkin	Steve Tuckerman
Kent Heidems	Ray Larkin	Tom Tyburski
Herb Kommitz	Bill McDonald	Wendy Tyburski
Laure Lud Kommitz	Dick Ploski	Jerry Walton
	Tom Ploski	

Ed Bossom, Chair

**"AMC IN CONNECTICUT"
CONNECTICUT CHAPTER NEWSLETTER**

The Connecticut Chapter Newsletter, "The AMC in Connecticut", was published twice in 1989. As usual, the April issue focused on conservation with additional space devoted to other committees and special information; a volunteer task list form was published. The October issue was devoted largely to the Annual Meeting with significant space also provided for the Sages Ravine/Sharon Mountain project, committee reports and other information.

Publication and distribution of the newsletter depends upon the help of many volunteers. Thanks to all those who submitted articles and information for the newsletters. Thanks, as well, to Jeff O'Donnell for providing crisp laser printed copy for the October publication. Finally, thanks to the interested, interesting and cheerful mailing party people who worked together to get the newsletters out and special thanks to my wife, Martha, for hosting our diverse band for each of the mailing parties this year. I could not do it without her help.

Mailing Party Volunteers:

Kay Dorn	Gordon Lyons	Kathy Cotter	Carol Rudert
Sue Hardy	Richard Abrabams	Martha Donachie	Bob Dickinson
Jen Lyons	Ginny Dodd	Ansley Carter	June Michaud
Gerry Hardy	Sally O'Connell	Leslie Rubenstein	Don Patterson

Matt Donachie, Editor

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

A special thanks is given to the nominating committee for their diligence in putting together the 1990 slate.

Steve Braciak
Peter Dorpalen

Betty Goyette
Jeanne Thomson

Dave Mihalek, Chair

NOMINATIONS 1989

In accordance with the Chapter Bylaws, the Nominating Committee is pleased to present the following slate for the coming year.

Chairman	Glen Parchmann
Secretary	Mary Dorpalen
Treasurer	Paul Maresca
Conservation	Don Patterson
Education	Francine Zawstowski
Excursion	Mern Swanson
Fairfield County	Trevor Thomas
Membership	Bill Russell
Mountaineering	Janet DiMattia
Mt. Riga	Ed Budzik
Program	Paul Ives
Trails	Gordon Gaulin
Whitewater	Doug Christie
Past Chair	Ed Bossom
Member-At-Large	Dick Ploski
	Trish Niece
	Jeff O'Donnell

MID-ATLANTIC REGIONAL PROGRAM DIRECTOR

I would like to thank the CT Chapter for the warm welcome that I received when I started this position. The transition period was a bit rough, as I tried to continue my work responsibilities from my past AMC job and to also follow through with all the new job responsibilities of this position. The job has evolved to my spending 75% of my time on AT management issues in CT and MA, and 25% on "other" AMC projects, such as the Delaware Water Gap Project and the Catskill and Bascom Volunteer Trail Crew Program.

To assist in these responsibilities, I was able to hire a six month seasonal assistant, Tim Loveridge, to manage the seasonal programs. These included the trail crew and the Roving Caretaker programs.

The Roving Caretaker program consisted of one weekend person in the spring in the Salisbury area for four weekends, four persons for 13 weeks during the summer months, and one person for eight weekends in the fall. This program is responsible for educating AT users and for assessing the use and the condition of the trail. The spring and summer rovers talked with 2800 hikers. If anyone would like a copy of the final report, please contact my office.

This year 15,000 AT brochures were printed and distributed. The CT Light and Power property was officially transferred to the NPS this year, as well. We acquired 2.75 miles of trail, 311.54 acres in fee, and one mile and 24 acres of right-of-way. Undermountain House was also sold this year. The town purchased the house and surrounding areas, and the NPS purchased the AT trailhead abutting the property and the trailhead on Route 44. At this time, the NPS has purchased 31.3 miles of trail and 5,735 acres, with four miles and 1,374 acres yet to purchase. The state DEP has purchased 8.4 miles. The Connecticut Chapter has the responsibility for management and protection of this resource.

I would like to congratulate the CT Trails Committee for doing such a superb job fulfilling this major responsibility.

Dennis Regan
Regional Program Director