



ANNUAL REPORT
DECEMBER 7, 1991
CONNECTICUT CHAPTER
APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB

CHAPTER CHAIR'S REPORT

I am delighted to report to you that our Chapter is solvent and growing, a condition that fewer and fewer organizations are able to enjoy in this economy. During the past year our membership increased by 11% and our surplus has remained healthy (see Treasurer's Report for details). This excellent position offers us a grand opportunity to provide more activities - existing, proposed and perhaps some not yet thought of - for more members in all sections of our state. It may not be easy or possible to meet the needs and expectations of all members, but we certainly shall try.

A classic example of trying and succeeding was demonstrated this past summer when Williams '91, the 28th General Meeting of the Appalachian Trail Conference, was held at Williams College in Williamstown, Massachusetts. Williams '91, co-hosted by the Connecticut and Berkshire Chapters of the Appalachian Mountain Club, attracted 1,304 paid registrants from 31 states, the District of Columbia, Denmark, England and Canada.

Dereka Smith, the Williams '91 Co-Chair from our Chapter, devoted three years of her life to this biennial celebration which flowed flawlessly from day to day from July 19 through July 26, 1991. It was a memorable week of hiking, biking, canoeing, workshops, slide shows, exhibits, concerts, museums and the traditional Thursday night campfire and singalong as the finale.

Our thanks are extended to Dereka, her Planning Committee - which included Harry Duren, John Greacen, Dane Millette, Connie Prout, Norm Sills, and Joan Tait - and the many, many volunteers who came from Connecticut to lead hikes and help out in other ways. Thank you, each and every one.

Meanwhile, back in Connecticut, we enjoyed our monthly schedule of activities throughout the year - from potluck suppers to work parties, from moonlight hikes to flatwater canoe trips, from cross-country skiing to backroad bicycling. And more of the same is planned for 1992. Many thanks to all of the people who made and will be making these activities possible.

Next year promises to be an exciting, innovative and evolutionary period in the history of our Chapter. We are growing at a rapid rate; how do we manage this growth? How do we provide opportunities for meaningful participation? How can we improve what we have been doing for years and yet preserve those traditions that have given our Chapter the unique reputation it enjoys among all AMC Chapters?

I am not sure what the answers are to these questions. But in seeking them, I am sure that together we will discover the very essence of this organization, this Connecticut Chapter, which has meant so much to so many of us. I urge you to become active in 1992 and join in this quest.

Ken Richardson, Chair

CONNECTICUT CHAPTER ANNUAL MEETING - 1990

The 70th Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club was held at the Day's Inn in Meriden, CT on Saturday, December 1, 1990.

Glen welcomed all and extended thanks to the Program Committee for its efforts in planning the Annual Meeting. Special thanks went to Gordon Gaulin, Program Committee Chair, Richard Bartes, Registrar, and Mary and Peter Dorpalen for the preparation of the Annual Report. Glen asked the audience to note that this year's report was printed on recycled paper.

Appreciation was also extended to all the other committees who put on the exceptionally fine program. Matt Donache's "behind the scenes" work was also noted. Matt is our Newsletter Editor.

The following special guests were welcomed:

Mary and Ken Gilchrest, Worcester Chapter
Dennis Regan, Dalton Office of AMC
Sue Hardy, Vice-President of Facilities
Wayne Foote, Treasurer, NY-NJ Chapter

Ken Richardson presented a special plaque to Dee Christensen and Bonnie Caulfield from the Stanley Works to show our appreciation for the matching grant Stanley Works so generously contributed to the AMC.

A moment of silence was observed for the members of the Connecticut Chapter who had passed away this year - Earle Palmer, Robert Dowd, Peter Krebhiel, Foster Stuarvant, Mrs. Everett Waters, Arn Wilson, Mrs. George Calder, Badger Ferrin, Frank Miller, Bruce Welch and John Ensor.

Susan Peterson was then welcomed into the CT 400 Club. Susan has completed the CT Blue Trails System.

Excursions Co-Chair Trevor Ledger-Thomas came forward to recognize all hike leaders, especially those who led 5 or more hikes during the past year. Patches were awarded.

Three fifty-year members were recognized; Ray Harris Dovell, Robert Schooshan and Mary Arn Taft.

Members of the Executive Committee whose terms were up were thanked for their time and contributions - Don Patterson, Conservation Chair, Ed Budzig, Mountaineering Chair and Ed Bosson and Dick Ploski, Whitewater Co-Chair.

Glen then called to order the 70th Annual Business Meeting of the CT Chapter of the AMC. The secretary's report was accepted as printed in the 1990 Annual Report. A motion was made and passed to accept the treasurer's report as printed.

Jeff O'Donnell presented a motion to create the position of Vice-Chair of the Executive Committee. Motion passed.

The nominating committee was thanked for its diligence in putting together the 1991 slate: Karl Rosenthal, Anne Millbrook, Carolyn Olson, Elaine Luckey and Ledge Clayton, Chair.

Ledge Clayton presented the slate of nominees for 1991 as follows:

Jeff O'Donnell	Chairman
Kathleen Wright	Secretary
Paul Haresca	Treasurer
Judy Snyder	Conservation
Francine Aloisa	Education
Merri Swanson	Excursions
Trevor Thomas	
Bill Russell	Fairfield County
Jan DiMattia	Membership
Trish Niece	
Don Reichler	Mountaineering
Paul Ives	Mt. Riga
Gordon Gaulin	Programs
Doug Christie	Trails
Steve Sokoloski	Whitewater
Mary Dorpalen	Member-at-Large
Ken Richardson	Member-at-Large
Glen Parchmann	Past Chair

The secretary cast one ballot for the above named slate.

Finally, Glen conducted the Red Hat Ceremony. All Past Chairs were asked to come forward wearing their red hats. Glen passed the red hat on to Jeff O'Donnell, in-coming chair.

It was moved, seconded and unanimously approved that the 70th Annual Meeting of the CT Chapter be adjourned.

Mary Dorpalen
Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT
FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1990

Cash at January 1, 1990:		
Cash Held by Treasurer:		
Harbor National Bank - Certificate	\$ -0-	
Harbor National Bank - Checking	10,597.55	
The Village Bank - Checking	5,781.81	
The Village Bank - Certificate	-0-	
Society for Savings - Memorial Account	784.95	
Total Held by Treasurer		\$17,164.31
Cash Held by Committees:		
Whitewater	\$ 1,856.25	
Mt. Riga	3,253.81	
Total Held by Committees		5,110.06
Total Cash		\$22,274.37
Revenue Collected:		
ANC Transfers (Dues Collected)	\$16,937.75	
Program Activity Collections	17,910.95	
Grants Received (Note 1)	3,635.21	
Chapter Merchandise Sales and Advertising	2,434.50	
Contributions Received	604.48	
Adjustment	172.94	
Interest Income	963.42	
Net Increase in Mt. Riga Cash Balance	-904.38	
Net Increase in Whitewater Cash Balance	153.46	
Total Revenue		41,908.33
Total Available Funds		\$64,182.70
Expenditures Made:		
Cost of Program Activities	\$17,121.04	
Cost of Used Equipment and Books	1,712.18	
Cost of Merchandise Purchased	324.48	
Contributions Made (Note 2)	1,400.00	
Program Location Deposits	-195.00	
Committee/Administration Operating Expenses:		
Administration	4,837.55	
Conservation	394.38	
Education	47.39	
Excursions	1,086.71	
Fairfield County	927.50	
Membership	1,495.50	
Mountaineering	60.75	
Newsletter	2,292.35	
Program	87.73	
Trails	3,478.89	
Total Expenditures		35,071.45
Cash at December 31, 1990		\$29,111.25

Cash at December 31, 1990:		
Cash Held by Treasurer:		
Harbor National Bank - Certificate	\$ -0-	
Harbor National Bank - Checking	-0-	
The Village Bank - Certificate	10,412.92	
The Village Bank - Checking	13,505.70	
Society for Savings - Memorial Account	833.49	
Total Held by Treasurer		\$24,752.11
Cash Held by Committee:		
Cash Held by Committees:		
Whitewater	\$ 2,009.71	
Mt. Riga	2,349.43	
Total Held by Committees		\$ 4,359.14
Total Cash		\$29,111.25

Note 1 - Actual Grants received is \$9,665.00 of which \$6,029.79 has been expended to date.

Note 2 - The following 1990 contributions were approved at the September Committee meeting and were distributed in November:

Organization	Amount
The Nature Conservancy (General Use)	\$ 100
Housatonic Valley Association	350
Appalachian Trail Conference	200
CT Forests and Parks Association	175
Green Mountain Club	500
Three Organizations Each for \$25	75
	<u>\$1,400</u>

Paul Maresca, Treasurer

TREASURER'S REPORT
FOR THE TEN MONTHS ENDED OCTOBER 31, 1991

Cash at January 1, 1991:		
Cash Held by Treasurer:		
The Village Bank - Checking	\$13,505.71	
The Village Bank - Certificate	10,412.92	
Society for Savings - Memorial Account	833.49	
Total Held by Treasurer		<u>\$24,752.11</u>
Cash Held by Committees:		
Whitewater	\$ 2,009.71	
Mt. Riga	2,349.43	
Total Held by Committee		<u>4,359.14</u>
Total Cash		<u>\$29,111.25</u>
Revenue Collected:		
AMC Transfers (Dues Collected)	\$12,081.75	
Program Activity Collections	3,276.56	
Grants Received	950.00	
Chapter Merchandise Sales and Advertising	253.00	
Contributions Received	16.00	
Adjustment	100.29	
Interest Income	1,424.70	
Net Increase in Mt. Riga Cash Balance	751.51	
Net Increase in Whitewater Cash Balance	-8.79	
Total Revenue		<u>18,845.02</u>
Total Available Funds		<u>\$47,956.27</u>
Expenditures Made:		
Cost of Program Activities	\$ 2,631.42	
Cost of Used Equipment and Books	-1.00	
Cost of Merchandise Purchased	701.40	
Contributions Made (Note 1)	-0-	
Program Location Deposits	170.40	
Grants Expended	950.00	
Specific Use Contributions	246.99	
Committee/Administration Operating Expenses:		
Administration	3,141.97	
Conservation	319.68	
Education	22.66	
Excursions	1,274.06	
Fairfield County	1,236.73	
Membership	1,306.44	
Mountaineering	797.21	
Newsletter	2,379.47	
Program	485.57	
Trails	2,767.61	
Total Expenditures		<u>\$18,430.21</u>
Cash at October 31, 1991		<u>\$29,526.06</u>

Cash at October 31, 1991:		
Cash Held by Treasurer:		
The Village Bank - Checking	\$13,084.46	
The Village Bank - Certificate	11,339.74	
Society for Savings - Memorial Account	-0-	
Total Held by Treasurer		<u>24,424.20</u>
Cash Held by Committee:		
Cash Held by Committees:		
Whitewater	\$ 2,000.92	
Mt. Riga	3,100.94	
Total Held by Committees		<u>5,101.86</u>
Total Cash		<u>\$29,526.06</u>

Note 1 - Contributions of \$1,000 have been approved for 1991 distribution and these will be made in December.

Paul Maresca, Treasurer

WILLIAMS '91

The culmination of about three years of planning, Williams '91 took place between July 19th and 26th. There were 1,304 registrants, up from the 1989 figure of 1,225. We were ambushed by an extraordinary heat wave which lasted through the first three days, but the conference otherwise went very well. Highlights of the weekend included the premiere of Lynne Wheldon's new videotape about the Long Trail, Brad Washburn's spectacular presentation on mapping Mount Everest and an important keynote speech about national energy policy delivered by U.S. Representative John Oliver.

Fifty workshops, including a week-long quilting bee, were an important part of the program, as were the five panels developed to discuss special and sometimes controversial themes. Thirty bus excursions throughout the week took conference participants to such historical sites as Arrowhead, Hancock Shaker Village and Old Deerfield Village, as well as to cultural events including Tanglewood, Jacob's Pillow and the Clark Art Institute. And every day there were hikes; short, long, difficult, moderate, local and far afield. The hike program offered about 150 hikes, many of which were over-subscribed. In this instance the heat proved a blessing, encouraging many people to look for cooler ways to spend an afternoon. Also included in the array of offerings to Williams '91 participants were several hike trips, as well as raft and canoe excursions.

A final accounting is not yet available, but we are happy to report that Williams '91 did have a surplus of something around \$18,000. This will be divided equally between the Appalachian Trail Conference, the Appalachian Mountain Club and the Connecticut and Berkshire Chapters of the AMC.

While the work involved in planning and producing an event of this magnitude involved a significant expenditure of time and energy, those Connecticut Chapter members who worked together on Williams '91 are proud of having made a success of this logistical challenge. We enjoyed working with the Berkshire Chapter in a rewarding cooperative relationship and appreciate the valuable contributions to the overall effort made by members of other chapters, particularly Worcester. A total of about 400 people worked to make Williams '91 a success. Many of those people were Connecticut Chapter members and to all of them we give our thanks. Special appreciation goes to Ann Bailey, Dick and Luella Bartes, Dick Blake, Doug Christie, Barry and Mary Ann Doucette, Ky Johnson, Sue Hardy, John Langhans, Trish Niese, Ken Richardson, Nancy Sills, Jane Stone, Jeanne Thompson and Colin and Debbie Tait.

Williams '91 Committee (Connecticut Chapter Members):

Dereka Smith	Harry Duren
John Greacon	Dave Millette
Cornie Prout	Norm Sills
Joan Tait	

Dereka Smith, Co-Chair

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

This had been a good year for the Conservation Committee and our four areas of study. Rivers, Long Island Sound, Rails-to-Trails and Open Space are pulling together nicely.

Although our own scheduled program for the Long Island Sound problems was cancelled due to inclement weather, Ellie Sulston found another program being sponsored by the Junior League which we both attended. We assisted with a "clean-up" along one of the beaches in Fairfield and then attended a very interesting and informative panel discussion. We will be showing a documentary film sponsored by the DEP and produced by CPTV at the Annual Meeting in December. Commissioner Keeney of the DEP has pledged that the Long Island Sound clean-up will be a top priority on his agenda and has already put in motion the necessary programs to address the issue of nutrient pollution which seems to stem from the amount of nitrogen being released from sewage treatment plants. The Long Island Sound Study Committee has been working for several years on various aspects of the problems surrounding the Sound pollution and hope to have their recommendations completed and published by 1992. This is indeed a complicated and far reaching problem as it encompasses not only the Connecticut but New York shoreline along with all the rivers and tributaries that feed into the Sound.

In May, Dick Blake escorted us through some of the areas the Trails Committee has been working on adjacent to the AT in Kent and also showed us areas of building expansion that could have a detrimental effect on the Trail. A database of rare and endangered species that border the Trail is currently underway in an attempt to better identify and preserve them.

June was "the Month of the Rivers". Ken Richardson and I attended an interesting photography contest at the State Legislative Offices put on by the Rivers Management Program. On another day, Sarah Leff led us on a field trip bordering the Farmington River at People's State Park and spoke with us about that river. Conservation Day, October 19th will also have "rivers" as its theme and Sarah will speak to us about her work with American Rivers based in Washington, D.C.

On Sunday, September 8th, Fred Riotte spoke with us about his trip to the Rails-to-Trails Convention. Fred has been working for several years with this organization and their accomplishments sound very exciting. He also led us on a field trip to show us one of the proposed sites for the Scantic River Park which included a section of abandoned rail property.

I have been trying to get some information on the effects of the new budget on the DEP, but it's still too early to tell just how things will sift out. However, the general consensus is that there will not be extra dollars or manpower, therefore the volunteer work by groups such as ourselves will be even more important.

Although the results in conservation issues are not immediate, I'm finding the subject matter to be fascinating and very far reaching. There are a lot of contributions to be made in this field and I hope anyone interested in how they can become involved and contribute will contact me. CONSERVATION IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY!

Judy Snyder
Conservation Chairman

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Annual Meeting Program Plans:

American Red Cross CPR Training planned 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Annual Meeting. Notices have been printed in the Bulletin and Fall Newsletter. Instructors will be Fran Aloisa and Craig Woods.

Organization of "Restructuring of Connecticut Chapter" Committee:

A committee was formed with 10 members from the Executive Committee, with their first meeting on 10/28/91. Purpose of the committee is for evaluating the planned growth of the Connecticut Chapter and administering the growth.

Research for Semi-Annual Meeting for 1992:

The idea of holding a "semi-annual meeting" during the summer months which would include workshops, hikes and evening meal was discussed at Executive Committee meetings throughout the year. Research on locations, dates and feedback from the Executive Committee was done in preparation for this event. The decision was to have a one day event at Noble View in July, 1992.

Committee Task Lists:

A master task list, outlining tasks for each committee, was compiled with copies distributed to each committee chair. The purpose of the task lists is to keep all committee chairs informed as to the needs of the committee and to be used as a referral system. The task lists can also be handed out at AMC functions to anyone wanting to get involved in volunteer projects or potential committee members.

Fran Aloisa, Chair

EXCURSIONS COMMITTEE

The Excursions Committee coordinates a varied program of day hikes, backpacking, cross-country skiing, bicycling, flatwater canoeing, family activities and weekend excursions. The individual activity coordinators (names to follow) have all tried to provide a creative mix of events to appeal to the widest membership, even at times when circumstances (such as lack of snow!) have deterred high participation levels. Interest and participation levels in all activities seem to cycle over the years and we owe the coordinators a lot of thanks for keeping all these activities going.

Judy Snyder and Heidi Partmann have been the Bulletin Editors this year, preparing the activity schedules on the computer to send to Boston and following up with the various coordinators when deadlines approach or questions arise. Our former Chapter Chair, Jeff O'Donnell, continued to maintain the chapter database in absentia for several months until Judy Snyder offered to assume that very important responsibility also, including the generation of

reports and mailings. Kathy Lindbeck is still mailing out trip report forms to hike leaders (but after several years is reasonably asking to be replaced - any volunteers?). Again, these people should receive all our thanks for keeping activities hanging together.

The committee continues to encourage and qualify new hike leaders through active participation in running hikes with current leaders. One leadership training hike was scheduled specifically to answer questions and provide experience for members interested in becoming leaders. More of such hikes will be offered during the next year.

Trip Statistics - October 1, 1990 - September 30, 1991 N/A - not available

All Activities	1991	1990	1989	1988
Trips	370	384	390	405
Participants	5124	4289	4507	4496
Average Turnout	13.8	11.2	11.5	11.1
Day Hikes	1991	1990	1989	1988
Trips	291	358	352	314
Participants	4258	4006	4123	3737
Average Turnout	14.8	11.2	11.7	11.9

Special Activities

The Special Activities are each headed by a coordinator who maintains a leader's list for that activity and solicits leaders to organize events, sometimes offering suggestions or requesting specific activities to meet specific needs. The newly organized Family Activities is a good example of this latter, an attempt to reach a specific group, identify the requirements and organize events to meet those requirements. Family Coordinator Dave Cullen continues this task, and this past year organized approximately 20 hikes oriented toward family participation.

Weekend Trips Coordinators: Jeri Lyons/Paula Burton

Weekends	1991	1990	1989	1988
Trips	11	19	10	11
Participants	165	191	180	242
Average Turnout	15	19.1	18	22

Backpacking Coordinator: Jake Kos

Backpacking	1991	1990	1989	1988
Trips	N/A	1	N/A	11
Participants	N/A	6	N/A	57
Average Turnout	N/A	6	N/A	5.2

Bicycling Coordinator: Harry Duren

<u>Bike Trips</u>	1991	1990	1989	1988
Trips	45	N/A	16	34*
Participants	488	N/A	72	238
Average Turnout	10.8	N/A	4.5	9

Flatwater Canoe Coordinator: Chuck MacMath

<u>Canoe Trips</u>	1991	1990	1989	1988
Trips	19	8	12	14*
Participants	203	45	132	196
Average Turnout	10.7	5.6	11	14

Cross-Country Skiing Coordinator - Bob Dickinson

<u>Ski Trips</u>	1991	1990	1989	1988
Trips	4	7	N/A	26*
Participants	10	41	N/A	250
Average Turnout	2.5	5.8	N/A	9.6

* Includes weekend trips

Blue Trail Series: Steve Braciak

Steve Braciak completed his tenure of several years as Blue Trails Coordinator this year. We are currently seeking someone to take over the organization of this series of hikes. During 1991, there were six hikes (covering 42 miles) offered as an opportunity for those people interested in completing all the CT Blue Trails. Hikes led were as follows: the Old Furnace Trail, Gay City, Pine Knob Loop, People's Forest, Quinnipiac and Salmon River trails.

CT 400 Club: Darryl Borst

Darryl Borst continues to monitor the completion by AMC members of the 400 miles of Blue Trails in Connecticut. During this past year Susan Peterson reached this goal. Congratulations, Susan!

Monthly Hike Coordinators: January - December, 1991

Each month day hikes are coordinated by a different person who solicits hikes by mail, follows up by phone and attempts to attain a balanced mix of "A", "B" and "C" hikes. The FCC hike coordinator for the entire year was Leona Klerer. Without these people we would have a very thin offering indeed!

Carl Rosenthal	Betty Robinson	Don Morgan
Marion Ledger-Thomas	Harry Caldwell	Bob Vinopal
John Agnew	Donna Arbas	Rich Rahmig
Norman Hingkeldey	David Cullen	

Excursions Committee: (1991)

Jeri Lyons	Leona Klerer	Bob Dickinson
Jake Kos	Chuck MacMath	David Cullen
Harry Duren	Steve Braciak	Paula Burton
Darryl Borst	Judy Snyder	Kathy Lindbeck
Heidi Parchmann		

Merri Swanson, Co-Chair
Trevor Ledger-Thomas, Co-Chair

FAIRFIELD COUNTY COMMITTEE

The Fairfield group of the Connecticut AMC is growing because there is a need in the area for the kinds of things that the AMC can deliver.

We like to hike and enjoy the outdoors as well as the camaraderie of periodic AMC meetings without having to drive too far. We concentrate on AMC activities in Fairfield County.

The FCC has given us a working point of communication with people of like interest in the out of doors and the response has been very rewarding.

We have bi-monthly pot-luck dinners on the 2nd Wednesday of every month in Fairfield at the Congregational Church. Not only do we have great meals following a wine and cheese party, but each meeting includes an interesting speaker. For example, on November 13th, we'll hear Jack Randall tell us about hiking in Hawaii. We've had shows on climbing Mt. Everest by successful climber and Easton resident, Ian Wade, as well as hiking the Blue Trails in Connecticut. Plenty of variety.

Our group has grown from a few hundred a few years ago, to a mailing list of over 1,000. Where will it stop?

We publish a bi-monthly bulletin called The Hiker. It's free to all and tells of our events. If you would like to be on the mailing list, call John Barry, Jr. at (203) 637-1509. He'll be happy to add your name. Hope to see you at one of our pot-lucks.

William Russell, Chair

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The CT Chapter of AMC has grown to 4,832 members! Over 850 new memberships were added to the chapter in 1991.

This year our goal was to personally contact incoming members. Each month welcoming calls were made to as many new members as possible. Making calls and serving as area contacts were:

Bill Emerson	Martine Flory
Dona Burdick	Denise Kine
Elizabeth Buckley	Deborah Shea
Mary Whitehead	Marlene Kopcha
Jeri Lyons	

Our thanks to Gerry Hardy for continuing to serve the CT Chapter by sending out membership information.

Several new activities were hosted by the Membership Committee through the efforts of Betty Robinson, David Cullen, and Martine Flory. An informational session and social gathering for new and prospective members was held in the Groton Library in May. Members from the area joined Martine to demonstrate and answer questions. This event was a first for the area and was well attended.

This year found David Cullen successfully planning family activities in the eastern part of the state. In September David sent special invitations to members in the Norwich area to join in the Green Falls Rendezvous. Various hikes were held followed by a cook-out picnic supper. Unfortunately the weather was bad, however those attending had a great day.

Thanks to Betty for sponsoring hikes and potlucks in the northeastern part of the state. And new members joined old-timers for an evening of food, fellowship and slide show at Trish Nieces' in Wallingford.

The annual CT Chapter's New Member's Day was held September 21. Many thanks to the activity leaders who helped to make this day a success. Wearing "green tags" 58 new members joined in the evenings festivities in Goshen, featuring our own Anne Bailey's slide show on New Zealand.

Active on the Membership Committee during the past year were:

Anne Bailey	Norm Hingkeldey
Ledge Clayton	Lisa Spencer
David Cullen	Martine Flory
Betty Robinson	Denise King
Paula Burton	Lorraine Schweitzer
Jeri Lyons	

Our thanks for their never-ending help and faithfulness!

Janet DiMattia, Co-chair
Trish Niece, Co-chair

MOUNTAINEERING COMMITTEE

Our committee started the year by hosting 4 winter trips to northern New England for ice climbing, backcountry and downhill skiing, snowshoeing and hiking. Other major trips this year included mountaineering in British Columbia - Canada, and Alaska - USA, with one member even reaching the summit of Denali.

We participated in a clean-up at the Shawangunks (New Paltz, NY) in May, with a great turnout of 30 plus climbers from various AMC chapters, including CT, Berkshire, Delaware and others.

Our Beginner's Introduction this year was a huge success. We expected approximately 15 people and ended up with 32. The weather was good for both days and the ability and attitude of many was generally higher than last year.

Our technical rock climbing program included 36 one-day or two-day weekend excursions in CT, NY, NH and ME and 31 Wednesday afternoons.

Issues regarding Ragged Mountain in Southington, the most popular rock climbing area in CT, occupied a large amount of time for some members. The Nature Conservancy had offered to turn over a parcel of land at Ragged to the AMC; the Chapter set up an ad-hoc committee which researched the issues and offered suggestions in its report to the Chapter and to Boston. The ownership, access, parking and other issues are all in flux at present, though it seems probable that the AMC will not take ownership due to liability and other concerns. We hope that should an independent organization form, the AMC will support it and be part of a coalition to help the group to reconcile these issues for benefit of all.

Committee Members:

Ed Budzik	Janet Larry	Paul Scarpa
Dennis Burke	Paul Maresca	Maria Scarpa
Al Carilli	Rick Orsini	John Reik
Chris Kimball		Don Reichler, 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 mid-winter Potluck, when Douglas Webster showed slides of Alaska "Gates of the Arctic National Park", which is four times the size of Yellowstone and nearly 100 miles above the Arctic Circle; at the Spring Dinner, when Marge Hackbarth showed slides about the Tatra Mountains, which are located in the eastern part of Poland along the Czechoslovakia border; and at the Annual Meeting when Ellie Barksdale, a storyteller, told four humorous stories about nature and ecology "In Concert with Nature".

The Annual Meeting on December 1, 1990 at the Days 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 250 people joined us for dinner and 94 others came only in the afternoon. We netted about \$460 on the book and used equipment sales.

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

We welcome additional members to our committee, even to help out at 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 "Apple" tradition.

Active Committee Members:

Luella Bartes	Emile Hall
Richard Bartes	Roger Hall
Rosalie Bartula	Dave Jenkins
Diane Blahun	Iona Malmberg
Harold Carpenter	Irving Mills
Edgar Dresner	Wilford Parker
Fay Dresner	Wilda Wyse
Bill Eyrstrom	Helene Goulet
Gregory Golden	

Gordon Gaulin, Chair

MT. RIGA COMMITTEE

This last year has been busy at the Northwest Camp. The cabin steadily increased to 130 nights registered with still more people stopping in off the trail to rest and visit throughout the year.

The Annual Woodcutting Party on Nov. 3rd saw an excellent turnout of manpower. All the wood was cut and stacked by early afternoon. With the extra manpower, the out house was moved, cabin cleaned and prepared for the year ahead. Also the B-Line trail was worked on.

The Mt. Riga Committee sponsored 4 hikes over the July 20-21 Williams '91 weekend. We consolidated 4 hikes down to 2 because of the turnout. All who attended enjoyed the hikes despite the high temperatures that day. The BBQ on Saturday was a feast fit for the hungry hiker.

The summer months this year saw the most use ever for June, July and August; it was probably due to the comfortable loft area with its new skylight. On New Member's Day the cabin was open for visitors who wished to stop by, inspect or ask question about the camp.

We wish to thank those that have helped throughout the year to maintain and run events: Karl Holstein, Marlene Kopcha, Dave Terrill, Rod Parke and the CT Caribou Clan and all those Ridgerunners for helping to maintain a constant surveillance over the NW Camp.

Please contact the Mt. Riga Committee for information or see the AMC Bulletin for details and upcoming events.

John Hicks	Dave Terrill	Chuck Dol
Col. A. H. Shookus	John Reik	Marlene Kopcha
Herb Van Wirklen	Rod Parlee	Steve Thompson
Tom Nichols	Karl Holstein	Rich Luzzietti
Chuck MacBeth	Dave Berton	Steve Stein
Ted Hirman	Keith Larson	Susan Ives
Den Magri	Tom Luscinekas	

Paul Ives, Chair

TRAILS COMMITTEE

The past year has been busy and productive as the Trails Committee worked to fulfill its major responsibility of managing and maintaining the National Appalachian Trail in Connecticut. It has been a year when major effort was devoted to completing not only many identified trail needs, but also a number of other major projects. Thanks to the efforts of many most of these efforts have been successful and ongoing responsibilities have been met.

Much credit for maintaining our operations again goes to those on the Management Team. They are the front line, day in and day out, agents who collectively make a difference. Currently this includes 16 Guides who meet and greet the public who use our trails, the 22 Maintainers who assume responsibility for assigned sections of the Trail and the 23 Monitors who are the eyes and ears in protecting specific units of the nearly 7,000 acres of NPS land in Connecticut. Also included are members of the Trails Committee with their various assigned responsibilities, the Silver Hill Committee and others who assist in specific volunteer roles. All are important and all deserve recognition. While figures are not yet in for this year, volunteer time in the field for these contributors will certainly exceed 2,000 hours.

In addition to the above, our Work Party program involving many other volunteers carried out major trail, field management and construction projects. These workers also deserve credit for helping with a most important operation. Tentative figures now indicate approximately 60 work parties took place this year with a total of about 2,800 work hours and involving at least 122 different people - our highest recorded yearly count. The results of this year's efforts have been significant; some examples follow:

- We have caught up with most of the identified, high priority, major trail work needs, although we know new ones will certainly arise.
- The relocation of the A.T. this year over Prospect Mt. was a major step in finalizing the permanent Trail location. It eliminated a long road walk, added .6 miles to the Trail and opened excellent new vistas.
- With the summit of Broadleaf Mt. now NPS land, the major feeder from Rt. 7 at Rt. 4 (one end of the Mohawk Trail) is now relocated to hit the summit before going onto the A.T.
- Shelter and camping area needs are now in place for the foreseeable future with added provisions for group sites included. Silver Hill has operated this year as a camping area with considerable success. The present recommendation is to continue this use for next year and put off a decision to possibly erect a lean-to until another year. There no longer is significant support for rebuilding a cabin.
- Sanitary facilities are now provided at all overnight locations and a program for maintenance and repair for older units is now in process.
- In the area of land management, our Open Space Plan is now in place with all mowing scheduled for this year completed; maintenance and study continues with our reforestry effort; Special Use Permits are being more carefully monitored.

Our Ridgerunner Program (formerly Roving Caretakers) deserves special mention again this year. With the steadily increasing use of the Trail by individuals and groups and the pressures involved, what started 13 years ago as a small added program has become a real necessity. Fortunately, it has also become an excellent program and a model for duplication on other Trail areas. The

persons hired are paid employees of the AMC supervised by Tim Loverage, the A.T. Coordinator from the Dalton Office; the Trails Committee oversees the program, however. This year, particularly, our Guides and the Ridgerunners worked closely and effectively together to further strengthen the operation with strong credits to Henry Edmonds, Guide Coordinator and Trails Liaison to the Ridgerunners. The service given, problems handled, community relations furthered, outreach programs initiated and good will generated deserve our recognition and thanks.

In past years there has been one Ridgerunner on duty weekends in the fall and spring, both increasingly busy seasons, with our volunteer Guides left to handle further coverage. This is no longer realistic or adequate. This fall two Ridgerunners have been hired with the Chapter to cover costs of the second person if funds can not be found elsewhere. The hope is that the position will be a regular budget item another year.

- A new Management Plan for the Appalachian Trail in Connecticut has been completed and formally approved following a two year study. Thanks mainly to the volunteer effort and generosity of Art Bailey, a long time Trail supporter, the Plan has been computerized and fifty copies printed with notebook covers for distribution to various parties. It is an ongoing, basic operational document with provisions for revisions as needed.

- The final draft of a new Memorandum of Understanding for the Appalachian National Scenic Trail in Connecticut has been completed and should be signed by the "partners" involved before the end of this year. This includes the NPS, Appalachian Trail Project, Appalachian Trail Conference, AMC and our CT Chapter. This updates and improves a previous agreement that expired in 1985.

- The Natural History Inventory of the A.T. in CT, initiated late last year, has completed the field work. The report is now in process and should be in our hands late this year or early in 1992. This continues to involve support from our Monitor program. Recommendations will be incorporated in our operations.

- A pilot program with our first group camping area has been completed, assessed and recommendations approved. The area, now identified as Paradise Group Camping Area, will continue in use but the permit system will be dropped. Also, other group camping sites will be established in existing camping areas.

- A special committee studying the possibility of additional trails in the former Stanley Tract has submitted its report and recommendations for consideration and probable action at the Nov. Trails meeting.

- And finally, Williams '91, the 28th Biennial Meeting of the Appalachian Trail Conference held at Williamstown MA on July 19-26 and jointly sponsored by the CT and Berkshire Chapters of AMC was a tremendous success. Over 1,250 people from all parts of the country and abroad participated. In its promise to provide "all reasonable support", the Trails Committee and Trails volunteers were heavily represented and major contributors. In addition to the excellent Trails display, Trails people were hike leaders, panel members, workshop presenters, hosts for two nights at "The Shelter" and leaders in the overall planning and operations. Special thanks go to Dereka Smith who devoted several years of effort as Co-Chair of the project and who contributed so much to its success.

Throughout the year a variety of other activities took place, many with a strong emphasis on service and/or sociability. Trails returned again for a weekend of trail work at PEEK in the Delaware Water Gap and a Trails Work Weekend at Camp Dodge, NH. Also, we assisted the CT Forest & Park Assoc. in sponsoring a trail maintenance workshop in eastern CT for their volunteers and provided people power to help with two joint work parties to help reopen the Mohawk Trail. A weekend Trail Maintenance Workshop and campover was held in the spring and a Work Weekend with potluck and overnight this past fall. Other events included a Management Outing in Salisbury and a Workshop for Guides and Ridgerunners in June. The Trails Committee also was represented at the ATC N.E. Management Meeting, the N.E. Trails Assoc. Conference, meetings of the AMC Trails Committee and both AMC Leadership Weekends this past year.

Our thanks to all who have helped behind the scenes or out on the Trail. It's only through such support that the achievements of the past year have been possible and the goals of next year will be realized.

Trails Committee:

George Andrews	John Greacen	Cheryl Peatfield
Dick Blake	* Tim Loveridge	* Dennis Regan
Rose Brostic	Jim Liptack	Ken Richardson
Hugh Cobrain	Elaine Luckey	Richard Rouse
Ted Cowles	Maria Mendes	Norm Sills
Henry Edmonds	Paul Palmer	Colin Tait

Doug Christie, Chair

* Staff

WHITewater COMMITTEE

CT AMC Whitewater leaders conducted over 90 trips during the 1991 paddling season. Each fall a tentative schedule of trips is prepared for the following year encompassing the months from January to November. On a typical weekend there is a trip scheduled on mild water close to home with another trip scheduled on more difficult water somewhere in greater New England. The schedule is built around seasonal events such as ice breakup, snowmelt, dam releases and annual periods of low and high water. As seasonal weather modifies paddling conditions, the schedule is modified. Changes are posted in Appalachia when time allows, but more often, are announced on the CT AMC Whitewater Hotline (203-582-6978), a message tape coordinated by whitewater committee member Dick Ploski. Impromptu trips (especially after rainy weather) are arranged through the message tape. The hotline is used extensively through the season to keep paddlers updated on current information. Paddlers are charged \$1.00 per person per trip to participate on trips. This provides funds for mailing, functions and equipment.

The CT AMC Whitewater Paddlers emphasize safe paddling. Each trip is led by an approved, rated leader. Whitewater paddlers on trips are required to wear personal flotation devices (PFD's), have clothing appropriate to the weather (wet or dry suits when needed), wear helmets when paddling closed boats or paddling open boats in difficult water, carry personal first aid and rescue equipment and to have boat flotation appropriate to the paddling conditions. Trip leaders review the skill levels and equipment necessary to participate

safely on a particular trip as paddlers register. Trip leaders are responsible for trip safety, and may decline participation on a trip to a paddler that they feel not ready to take on the level of water for a particular trip. Trip leaders also establish the guidelines for safety on the water, such as running order and scouting.

Whitewater rivers are rated on the International Scale of Difficulty on Class I,II,III,IV,V & VI. CT AMC trips are scheduled on rivers Class II (beginner) to Class IV (expert). Description of rivers are found in AMC river guides and other guidebooks. To ensure safe paddling, AMC paddlers are matched by their ability to the level of river they can safely paddle. Paddlers are rated as Class 2,3 or 4 paddlers. For example, a Class 3 paddler has demonstrated the ability to handle any situation presented by Class III water and paddles with the safety precautions necessary to Class III water. A Rating Committee headed by Dick Ploski and Ray Larkin reviews ratings at the end of the paddling season and based on trip leader evaluations makes adjustments to ratings as necessary. The AMC Interchapter Canoe Committee establishes guidelines for ratings across the club. The chapters try to coordinate rating requirements to allow paddlers to safely participate on other chapter trips. Thus, CT Class II paddler can participate in a similar rated trip offered by another chapter.

The Whitewater Committee maintains a supply of canoes and equipment. These are used in instruction classes and are rented for use on CT AMC Whitewater and Flatwater trips. The equipment includes fully outfitted open tandem boats, solo high performance open boats, paddles, PFD's and a kayak. Dick Ploski (203-582-6021) coordinates equipment rental from his home in Bristol. Some equipment is kept at the home of Bill MacDonald in Milford for better access by paddlers in the southern part of the state.

Most paddlers progress in skills from tandem open boating, to solo boating, to closed boat paddling. Paddlers wishing to progress in skills can take advantage of several training sessions held during the year. During the summer months weekday and weekend trips at Tarriffville Gorge become "unofficial" training sessions when warm water and clement weather make pushing your luck a more pleasant proposition. Training sessions held this year include:

- Closed Boat Rolling, January-February, Suffield Academy Pool- Ed Chase
- Beginning Whitewater Training, two day training and practice -Laurie Loud
- Beginning Kayak Clinic, one day session - Chuck Noonan
- Solo Paddling Clinic, one day session - Tom Ploski
- Whitewater Sampler, one day session for AMC members who want a mild taste of whitewater - Ed Bossun

CT AMC Whitewater Committee:

Ed Bossun	Clark Bowlen
Ed Chase	Ken Cook
Ken Cook	Herb Kommitz
Laurie Kommitz	Jan Larkin
Ray Larkin	Bill MacDonald
Dick Ploski	Tom Ploski
Leo Sandman	Dolores Sandman
Dorrie Wellins	Nancy Wendt
Don Saunders	Tim Elder

Steve Sokolowski, Chair

"AMC IN CONNECTICUT"
CONNECTICUT CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

The Connecticut Chapter Newsletter, "The AMC in Connecticut", was published twice in 1991. Conservation was emphasized in both issues. The October issue was devoted principally to the Annual Meeting. Both issues featured a number of questionnaires related to various operations and planned activities of the Chapter. Williams '91 was highlighted in the April issue and reviewed in the October issue. Each issue contained committee reports and a variety of other information.

One of the significant changes in the Newsletter this year was the use of a commercial bulk mailer. Also, wafer seals were used to seal the Newsletter, thus providing a more professional looking mailing and a document which is easier to open.

Use of a mail service meant the demise of the mailing parties. We thank those who have contributed to these parties over the years. The fellowship was outstanding but the additional time was more than your editor could spare.

Thanks to all who contributed items for the Newsletter. Also, thanks to Jeff O'Donnell who provided the crisp laser copy used to print the Newsletter. Thanks as well to the printer and mailer who did a fine job at a very reasonable price, on time! Lastly, thanks should go to my wife, Martha, who puts up with my nocturnal efforts twice a year and who typed much of the script for the October Newsletter.

Matt Donachie, Editor

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

A special thanks is given to the members of the nominating committee for their diligence in putting together the 1992 slate.

Carolyn Olsen	Eleanor Bielak
Carl Rosenthal	Norma Paggioli
	John Langhans, Chair

NOMINATIONS FOR 1992 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

In accordance with the Chapter by-laws, the nominating committee is pleased to present the following slate for 1992:

Chair	Ken Richardson
Vice Chair	Mary Dorpalen
Secretary	Robert Vinopol
Treasurer	Dave Jenkins
Conservation	Judy Snyder
Education	Open
Excursions	Carl Rosenthal
	Merri Swanson
Fairfield County	Bill Russell
Membership	Francine Aloisa
	Betty Robinson
Mountaineering	Don Reichler
Mt. Riga	Paul Ives
Program	Gordon Gaulin
Trails	Open*
Whitewater	Jan Larkin
Member-at-large	David Cullen
Past Chair	Glen Parchmann

*Norm Sills has offered to act as interim Trails Chair until a permanent Chair is found.