

**APPALACHIAN
MOUNTAIN
CLUB**

CONNECTICUT CHAPTER

***ANNUAL
REPORT***



DECEMBER 5, 1992

APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB

CONNECTICUT CHAPTER

1992 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chapter Chair	Ken Richardson (West Hartford)
Vice-Chair	Mary Dorpalen (Bristol)
Secretary	Bob Vinopal (Mansfield Center)
Treasurer	Dave Jenkins (East Windsor)
Bicycling Committee Chair	Harry Duren (North Branford)
Conservation Committee Chair	Judy Snyder (Somers)
Education Committee Chair	Paula Burton (Monroe)
Excursions Committee Co-Chairs	Carl Rosenthal (Waterford) Merri Swanson (Milford)
Fairfield County Committee Chair	Bill Russell (Fairfield)
	succeeded by Chuck MacMath (Trumbull)
Membership Committee Co-Chairs	Fran Aloisa (Enfield) Betty Robinson (Storrs)
Mountaineering Committee Chair	Don Reichler (Southington)
Mount Riga Committee Chair	Paul Ives (Bethlehem)
Newsletter Committee Chair	Matt Donachie (Manchester)
Program Committee Chair	Gordon Gaulin (East Granby)
Trails Committee Chair	Norm Sills (Salisbury)
Whitewater Committee Chair	Jan Larkin (Manchester)
Member-at-large	Dave Cullen (Norwich)
Regional Director	Anne Bailey (New Hartford)

CHAPTER CHAIR'S REPORT

A number of diverse yet interrelated happenings occurred during the past year:

- Our membership increased 26 percent, from 4,911 to 6,121 members. The year before, it had increased 21 percent. During the past two years, many committee members gave generously of their time and effort to plan and expand activities to meet the needs of more and more members.
- New activities during 1992 included sailing on Long Island Sound, a formal East of the (Connecticut) River Potluck, and some hands-on river and beach cleanup clinics by our Conservation Committee. Expanded activities included hiking, biking, canoeing, mountaineering, and work parties.
- A major effort by the Ragged Mountain Foundation, which was started by several Chapter mountaineering members and friends, resulted in a Land Management Plan for the use of this 56-acre tract in Southington. Although it is basically a rock climbing resource, the state's oldest and longest trail -- the Metacomet -- traverses the top of Ragged Mountain. Climbing, hiking, bird-watching, and picnicking are envisioned.
- A Memorandum of Understanding concerning the maintenance and management of the Appalachian Scenic Trail in Northwestern Connecticut was signed by the State of Connecticut (the Governor, DEP, DOT, and State Police), the National Park Service, the Appalachian Trail Conference, and the AMC (Joy Street and the Connecticut Chapter). The agreement formally delegates day-to-day responsibility for trail maintenance and management to the ATC and AMC. This was basically the renewal of an agreement signed initially about a decade ago.
- An Ad Hoc Computer Committee has been formed to plan an orderly way to manage and massage the multitudinous bits of information essential to the operation of a chapter which has grown nearly 50 percent in two years. Growing pains we are experiencing, yes.

As you can see, much remains to be done, and I urge you to lend a hand.

Ken Richardson, Chair

CONNECTICUT CHAPTER ANNUAL MEETING - 1991

The 71st Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club was held at the Days Inn in Meriden, CT on Saturday, December 7, 1991.

Chapter Chair Ken Richardson introduced Dereka Smith, who had worked for three and a half years to make Williams '91, the Appalachian Trail Conference meeting, a success. This joint venture of the Connecticut and Berkshire Chapters had 1,304 registrants. The \$20,000 plus in profits from this event will be divided among the two chapters, the ATC, and the AMC.

Anne Bailey, AMC Regional Director, reiterated the Club's mission - the support, protection, enjoyment, and wise use of lands in the Northeast. With the Club growing steadily at 15 percent a year and with membership in the Connecticut Chapter near 5,000, she stressed the importance of long range planning for expansion of Chapter activities, development of a "community" within the state, and encouragement of volunteerism.

Ken welcomed all and thanked the Program Committee for its efforts. He gave special thanks to Gordon Gaulin, Committee Chair, and Richard Bartes, Registrar. He also thanked Kathleen Wright, Chapter Secretary, for coordinating and preparing the Annual Report.

Appreciation was also extended to all the other committees for their excellent programs and workshops during the day: Conservation, Education, Excursions, Mountaineering, Trails, and Whitewater.

Ken also thanked Matt Donachie, Newsletter Editor, who unfortunately could not attend the meeting, for his behind-the-scenes efforts.

The following special guests were welcomed:

Mary and Bob Gilchrist, from the Worcester Chapter
Sue Hardy, AMC Board of Directors Vice President
Dr. and Mrs. Charles Remington, and
Dr. and Mrs. Robert Wyman, seminar participants and spouses
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Olafson, new 50-year member and spouse
Preston (Sandy) and Becky Saunders, AMC President and spouse

Members of the Chapter Executive Committee whose terms were up were thanked for their time and contributions:

Kathleen Wright, Secretary	Doug Christie, Trails
Paul Maresca, Treasurer	Steve Sokoloski, Whitewater
Trevor Thomas, Excursions	Glenn Parchmann, Past Chair

The Chapter Chair then presented Dereka Smith with a small token of the Chapter's gratitude for her extra special volunteer efforts in organizing Williams '91. She received a hardcover copy of Laura and Guy Waterman's "Forest and Craig".

Ken then called to order the 71st annual Business Meeting of the CT Chapter of the AMC. The Secretary's Report was accepted as printed in the 1991 Annual Report. A motion was then made and passed to accept the Treasurer's Report as printed in the same document.

The Nominating Committee was thanked for its efforts in putting together the 1992 slate. Members serving on the Committee were:

Eleanor Bielak
Carolyn Olsen

Norma Paggioli
Carl Rosenthal

John Langhans, Chair

John Langhans presented the slate of nominees for 1992 as follows:

Ken Richardson	Chair	Fran Aloisa	Membership
Mary Dorpalen	Vice-Chair	Betty Robinson	"
Bob Vinopal	Secretary	Don Reichler	Mountaineering
David Jenkins	Treasurer	Paul Ives	Mt. Riga
Judy Snyder	Conservation	Gordon Gaulin	Program
open	Education	Norm Sills	Trails
Merri Swanson	Excursions	Jan Larkin	Whitewater
Carl Rosenthal	"	Dave Cullen	Member-at-large
Bill Russell	Fairfield County		

The Secretary cast one ballot for the above named slate, which was seconded and unanimously passed.

Sandy Saunders spoke briefly of the Club's growth. In 1966 there were 8 chapters and 11,000 members, as compared to 1991, when 11 chapters and 48,000 members create new challenges. The biggest challenge is the need to recruit more leaders from a membership which has less time to give.

Ken Richardson thanked all hike leaders and presented patches to those members who had led 5 or more hikes during the year:

1st year recipients:

John Agnew	Jo Russell
Stuart Kosnoff	Carol Sinnamon
Don Patterson	Bob Vinopal
Bill Russell	

2nd year:

Dave Cullen	Bobby Curtiss
-------------	---------------

3rd year:

Eleanor Bielak	Rich Rahmig
Harry Caldwell	Betty Robinson
Arvid Hertzzenberg	Carl Rosenthal
Marjorie Hertzzenberg	Dick Ruddock
Anne Millbrooke	Bill Schumaker
Glenn Parchmann	Merri Swanson

4th year:

Steve Braciak	Chuck MacMath
Iona Malmborg	Ron Naylor
Don Morgan	

Harry Duren, Biking Coordinator, recognized those members who led 3 or more bike rides:

Mary Adams	Jake Epstein
Paula Burton	Gary Gudinkas
Ledge Clayton	Jennie Keeler

Ken then introduced the Chapter's only new 50-year member, Paul Olafson, and his wife Sandra, and presented Paul with a pin to commemorate the occasion.

Jeff O'Donnell conducted the Red Hat Ceremony and presented a red hat to Ken Richardson, who had taken over the position of Chapter Chair in early 1991 when Jeff had to resign due to a job move out of state.

At 8:20 pm it was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved to adjourn the 71st Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Chapter.

Subsequent to adjournment, members enjoyed a presentation of the program "Outback Tandem Riding Off the Beaten Path", by Gary and Debbie McConville.

Kathleen M. Wright
Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1991

Cash at January 1, 1991:-		
Cash held by Treasurer:		
The Village Bank - Certificates	\$10,412.92	
The Village Bank - Checking	13,505.70	
Society Account - Memorial Account	833.49	

Total held by Treasurer		\$24,752.11

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

Revenue collected:		
AMC dues collected	18,878.50	
Program activity collections	9,200.86	
Grants received	4,824.50	
Merchandise sales	3,222.25	
Interest income	1,551.56	
Net increase in Mt. Riga cash balance	488.39	
Net increase in Whitewater cash balance	535.92	

Total revenue collected		38,701.98

Total cash available		67,813.23

Expenditures made:		
Cost of program activities	5,587.74	
Cost of merchandise sales	2,790.95	
Contributions made	925.00	
Use of grants received	246.99	
Committee operating expenses-		
Administration	6,291.59	
Conservation	456.47	
Education	29.02	
Excursions	1,649.74	
Fairfield County	1,432.67	
Membership	1,627.45	
Mountaineering	819.21	
Newsletter	2,396.85	
Program	839.24	
Trails	3,746.18	

Total expenditures		28,839.10

Cash at December 31, 1991		\$38,974.13

Cash at December 31, 1991:-		
Cash held by Treasurer:		
Connecticut National Bank - Checking	\$8,190.85	
The Village Bank - Certificates	11,339.74	
The Village Bank - Checking	14,060.09	

Total held by Treasurer		\$33,590.68

Cash held by committees:		
Whitewater	2,545.63	
Mt. Riga	2,837.82	

Total held by committees		5,383.45

Total cash		\$38,974.13

David Jenkins, Treasurer

TREASURER'S REPORT
FOR THE TEN MONTHS ENDED OCTOBER 31, 1992

Cash at January 1, 1992:-		
Cash held by Treasurer:		
Connecticut National Bank - Checking	\$8,190.85	
The Village Bank - Certificates	11,339.74	
The Village Bank - Checking	14,060.09	
Total held by Treasurer		\$33,590.68
Cash held by committees:		
Whitewater	2,545.63	
Mt. Riga	2,837.82	
Total held by committees		5,383.45
Total cash		38,974.13
Revenue collected:		
AMC dues collected	15,634.50	
Program activity collections	2,472.50	
Grants received	415.00	
Merchandise sales	201.50	
Contributions received	125.00	
Interest income	751.98	
Total revenue collected		19,600.48
Total cash available		58,574.61
Expenditures made:		
Cost of program activities	5,924.53	
Grants expended	3,321.72	
Contributions made	1,300.00	
Net decrease in Whitewater cash balance	681.47	
Committee operating expenses-		
Administration	3,418.75	
Conservation	434.39	
Education	785.23	
Excursions	1,798.23	
Fairfield County	1,545.83	
Membership	3,252.80	
Mountaineering	203.55	
Newsletter	3,959.27	
Bicycling	846.49	
Program	239.51	
Trails	3,449.50	
Total expenditures		31,161.27
Cash at October 31, 1992		\$27,413.34

Cash at October 31, 1992:-		
Cash held by Treasurer:		
Connecticut National Bank - Checking	\$1,756.43	
Connecticut National Bank - Savings	9,205.65	
Connecticut National Bank - CD's	11,749.28	
Total held by Treasurer		\$22,711.36
Cash held by committees:		
Whitewater	1,864.16	
Mt. Riga	2,837.82	
Total held by committees		4,701.98
Total cash		\$27,413.34

David Jenkins, Treasurer

BICYCLING COMMITTEE

It was the best of times! It was the worst of times! What a rainy year we had.

The good news is we offered 83 day rides this year - up from 67 in 1991! Although this year's rain only knocked out 11 rides so far, it and April's cold kept some turnouts down from what we expected for rides which rolled.

Weekend trips saw a big jump - from 5 in 1991 to 11 in 1992. We traveled to Amish country near Lancaster, PA, to Skyline Drive in VA, to New York's Finger Lakes, Tanglewood in the Berkshires, Lake Champlain in VT, Provincetown, Martha's Vineyard, Cooperstown, NY, and Southern VT twice. They were some great trips! Check our stats below:

	-- Through September 30 --			
	1992	1991	1990	1989
<u>Day Trips</u>				
Trips that were held	57	49	N/A	16
AMC participants	492	456	N/A	72
All participants	764	892	N/A	72
Average turnout	13	18	N/A	5
<u>Weekend-Long Trips</u>				
Trips that were held	10	3	N/A	N/A
AMC participants	132	28	N/A	N/A
All participants	159	35	N/A	N/A
Average turnout	16	12	N/A	N/A

In February, 35 of us gearheads had a marvelous time on our first annual Killington X-C Ski joint weekend with SCCC and HCC. We delighted in good snow, good weather, good company, and a heavenly hot tub.

We arranged a large number of bicycling tips sessions that were put on by local bike dealers around the state early in the season. We held several leadership training rides around the state. And our Wednesday Wanderers offered a ride on most Wednesdays throughout the season.

We accomplished a lot! By we I mean our dedicated ride leaders, many of whom led a number of rides for us this year. I also mean our committee, which came into being this year. They were a great help to me! Those members are:

Bicycling Committee:

Donna Arbas (Meriden)	Jennie Keeler (Northford)
Roger Borgerson (Milford)	Pat Murray (Plantsville)
Paula Burton (Monroe)	Susanne Roberts (Woodus)
Aart Hoogenboom (Brookfield)	Mike Stino (Windsor Locks)
Tom Jones (Collinsville)	

Harry Duren (North Branford), Chair

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Open Space. Probably the biggest break-through for conservation in Connecticut this year is the formation of the Greenways Committee by the Governor. "Greenways" are formations of long linking areas of properties preserved solely for recreational and wildlife purposes, and incorporate rivers as well. This is directly related to the "Rails - Trails" movement that was initiated several years ago. Although state appropriations will probably still be tight in the coming legislative session, hopefully funds will be available for this endeavor, particularly because it has the Governor's blessing. During the past year, \$4 million in additional bonding for the Recreational and National Heritage Trust program was approved for open space protection.

Long Island Sound. Progress is being made to rectify the "hypoxia" problem in the sound caused primarily by sewage treatment plants. Several of the larger plants are being retrofitted to alleviate the problem of discharging excess nitrogen into rivers that eventually empty into the Sound. In order to raise additional funds to support this project a special Long Island Sound license plate has been issued. Informational brochures and order forms are available by writing to: Long Island Sound Plate, Dept. of Motor Vehicles, 60 State St., Wethersfield, CT 06161-6001

Rivers. As dam relicensing in the Northeast becomes due, the AMC is becoming more involved in monitoring how the dams are used, particularly in regards to the watershed areas. Unfortunately, the Farmington River was denied the Federal Wild and Scenic designation due to protest in the Mass. area.

Rails - Trails. The most successful program held by the Conservation Committee this year was our "Clean-up Day". "Children of all ages" - 18 in number - cleaned up a section of the Hop Brook Rail - Trail in Columbia. A partial inventory consisted of 30 tires, numerous automobile and motorcycle parts, and 25+ bags of extraneous items.

Conservation Committee:

Bob Dickinson (South Windsor)	Fred Riotte (Portland)
Don Patterson (Vernon)	Joan Tait (Bridgewater)

Judy Snyder (Somers), Chair

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

In 1992 the Committee sponsored six leader's training hikes, two leader's bicycle rides, a bicycle leader's potluck, and a weekend training session for hike leaders.

A variety of educational and training materials were collected or developed, and distributed. Several training activities were developed by Anne Millbrooke and used with great success during the "Fun and Leadership Weekend", June 5-7 at Bascom Lodge. We used these same activities for bicycle leader's training at a potluck at Roger Borgerson's house in Milford on November 7.

"Leader's Tips", originally written by Anne Bailey, was updated with new material, much of it by Anne Bailey, Sue Hardy, and Jeff O'Donnell, and incorporated into a softbound Leader's Manual. Copies of the manual, which may also be used by "rap hike" leaders, are available at general membership meetings and potlucks, or can be obtained by contacting me (Paula Burton).

I also wrote, illustrated, and printed a humorous pamphlet explaining how to become a co-leader, and prepared and distributed "Leader's Update", a newsletter designed to provide helpful information for leaders, publicize leadership activities, and support and encourage leaders.

Some additional materials available, intended for the general membership, are pamphlets on hypothermia, on how to fix a flat tire, etc., and the series of hiking and outdoors pamphlets published by the AMC and paid for by the Rockport Corporation. The Committee also made a photographic display of leadership activities.

At the 1992 Chapter Annual Meeting, the Education Committee is sponsoring two leader's training sessions, a workshop on the disabled in the outdoors, and a workshop to develop cooperation among participants. A First Aid on the Trail course will be offered from 9-12 on the day of the meeting, at nominal cost.

Education Committee:

Anne Bailey (New Hartford)	Marcia McGowan (Watertown)
Harry Duren (North Branford)	Anne Millbrooke (Hartford)
Scott Elkins (South Windsor)	Trish Niece (Wallingford)
Carol Elkins (South Windsor)	Rich Rahmig (Trumbull)
Sue Hardy (Manchester)	Shirley Snow (Canton Center)

Paula Burton (Monroe), Chair

EXCURSIONS COMMITTEE

The Excursions Committee coordinates a varied program of day hikes, backpacking, cross-country skiing, family activities, flatwater canoeing, and weekend excursions. The individual activity coordinators try to provide a mix of events to appeal to the widest audience among our membership.

Sandra Godin has very capably assumed the job of Bulletin Editor, preparing activity schedules and messages on the computer to send to Boston, and following up with the various coordinators when questions arise. Rich Rahmig has been maintaining the Hiking Leaders List and preparing the packets that go to the monthly hiking coordinators. Sue Graham has taken over the job of mailing trip report forms to hike leaders. Next year we hope to acquire another computer and enlist a volunteer to enter trip report information into a database.

The Committee continues to encourage and qualify new hike leaders through active participation in running hikes with current leaders. In 1992, a leadership training hike was held to answer questions and provide experience for members interested in becoming leaders. More such hikes will be offered next year.

Trip Statistics

	1992*	1991	1990	1989
All Activities				
Trips	336	370	384	390
Participants	4,993	5,124	4,289	4,507
Average Turnout	14.9	13.8	11.2	11.5
Day Hikes				
Trips	302	291	358	314
Participants	4,524	4,258	4,006	4,123
Average Turnout	15.0	14.8	11.2	11.7

*(October 1, 1991 - September 30, 1992)

Special Activities. 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 activities to meet specific needs.

Weekend Trips Coordinator: Paula Burton. A Leadership Training weekend and a family weekend were featured this year. There are now 30 active weekend leaders, five of them newly recruited. Trips included visits to the Catskills, the Berkshires, the Adirondacks, the White Mountains, and Bear Mountain in CT.

	1992	1991	1990	1989
Weekends				
Trips	6	11	15	10
Participants	130	165	191	180
Average Turnout	21.7	15.0	19.1	18.0

Family Activities Coordinator: Dave Cullen. Some of the year's highlights were a hike/chemical magic show, several hike /picnic /swims, and a trip to the Audubon Sanctuary in Sharon. The second annual tubing trip on the Farmington River was held jointly with the Worcester Chapter. We had family bike rides for the first time this year, and thirty-nine hikes specifically listed for families. The big event of the year was the Family Weekend at Northwest Cabin. Thirty people attended, with a good mix of children of all ages and genders. Most camped out, but some stayed in the cabin itself. There are now seventy names on the family activities membership list. They receive newsletters four times a year listing family activities.

Backpacking Coordinator: Chuck MacMath.

	1992	1991	1990	1989
Backpacking				
Trips	1	3	6	N/A
Participants	6	25	6	N/A
Average Turnout	6	8.3	6	N/A

Flatwater Canoe Coordinators: Jack and Vel Randall. Activities in 1992 included two overnight trips and two 2-day basic canoe training courses run for us by the American Red Cross. Two trips were run jointly with the Berkshire Chapter.

	1992	1991	1990	1989
Canoe Trips				
Trips	21	19	8	12
Participants	247	203	45	132
Average Turnout	11.8	10.7	5.6	11.0

Cross-Country Skiing Coordinator: Marty Griffin. Eighteen day trips were planned, but due to lack of snow only one took place. Five weekend trips with varying amounts of snow were scheduled and completed.

Ski Trips	1992	1991	1990	1989
Trips	6	4	7	N/A
Participants	88	10	41	N/A
Average Turnout	14.3	2.5	5.8	N/A

Blue Trail Series. We are currently looking for someone to take over this series, and plan hikes to help Chapter members complete the CT 400 over a period of time. Maybe two or three people would volunteer to plan the hikes and take turns leading them.

CT 400 Club: Darryl Borst. Darryl Borst continues to monitor completion by AMC members of the now approximately 500 miles of Blue Trails in Connecticut. In 1992 Gail Gracy, Richard Gracy, and Paul Saubestre reached this goal. Congratulations!

Monthly Hike Coordinators - 1992. Each month day hikes are coordinated by a different person, who solicits hikes by mail, follows up by phone, and attempts to get a balanced mix of hikes with regard to distance and location. The FCC hike coordinator was Diane Dingley.

Donna Arbas (Meriden)	Janice Parker (East Lyme)
Steve Braciak (Colchester)	Roberta Peron (Harwinton)
Dave Cullen (Worwich)	Rich Rahmig (Trumbull)
Paul DuClos (West Haven)	Ann Rehn (Bristol)
Sue Graham (Old Greenwich)	Carl Rosenthal (Waterford)
Don Morgan (Coventry)	

Excursions Committee:

Paula Burton (Norwalk)	Marty Griffin (Newington)
Dave Cullen (Worwich)	Chuck MacMath (Trumbull)
Diane Dingley (Norwalk)	Rich Rahmig (Trumbull)
Sandra Godin (New Britain)	Jack Randall (East Lyme)
Sue Graham (Old Greenwich)	Vel Randall (East Lyme)

Carl Rosenthal (Waterford), Co-Chair
Merri Swanson (Milford), Co-Chair

FAIRFIELD COUNTY COMMITTEE

This is my first year as Chair of the FCC. I hope I will be able to follow the trail blazed by our Past Chair, Bill Russell. With the help of my dedicated committee members, listed below, I am sure we will grow and prosper.

Unlike other CT Chapter committees, the FCC has its own constituency, our area membership. Our membership now stands at over 1,500 and is growing rapidly. Our bimonthly newsletter "The Hiker" is mailed to an even larger audience. Our bimonthly potluck meetings are very popular, with attendance averaging about 60 people. These evening programs consist of a wine and cheese happy hour, followed by dinner, a very brief business meeting, and a presentation by a guest speaker. Topics have ranged from the population explosion to climbing Mt. McKinley.

We don't spend all our time indoors. This year the FCC organized 44 hikes, 3 backpacks, 4 flatwater canoe trips, 4 whitewater canoe trips, 4 X-C ski trips, 3 trail work parties, 2 contra dances, and a car camping trip. As you can see, we try to keep busy and provide a nucleus for AMC members in Fairfield County.

We are always in need of volunteers. If you feel that the service we provide in Fairfield County is important and would like to keep it going, please volunteer to help out on one of our subcommittees: Environment, Excursions, Membership, Newsletter, Potlucks, Programs, Public Relations, Publications, and Trails. We also need a Secretary! The time commitment is small but the rewards are great. Call me at 374-5938 between 6 and 11 pm.

Fairfield County Committee:

Bob Barker (Stamford)	Jane Michaud (Ridgefield)
John Barry (Riverside)	Rob Munro (Darien)
Dave Cronin (Ridgefield)	Bill Russell (Fairfield)
Diane Dingley (Norwalk)	Liz Schoengood (Stamford)
Bill McDonald (Milford)	

Chuck MacMath (Trumbull), Chair

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Connecticut Chapter, AMC, has grown to 6,144 members as of October 1, an increase of 1,218 over last year at the same time - your Committee has had a busy year! Our committee represents a wide geographic distribution and includes both experienced and fairly new members. We always welcome new members.

We are continuing last year's goal of calling all new members of the Chapter personally; this is not always easy, particularly in months when the increase is nearly 300. Dave Cullen has taken over the task of contacting our callers, finding missing phone numbers, and identifying necessary changes to the data sent from Joy Street. He deserves hearty thanks. The following individuals have been callers during the year; many have had to drop out, and others have come on board later - I hope no one is omitted; you all deserve a big thank you:

Roberta Ambrosino (Fairfield)	Chris Kaatz (Norwich)
Polly Buckley (New Haven)	Denise King (Bridgeport)
Dona Burdick (Winsted)	Jeri Lyons (South Windsor)
Karen Fisher (Waterford)	Aina Makela (Storrs)
Virginia Fisher (Waterford)	Diane Mischke (Meriden)
Martine Flory (Norwich)	Jeanne Thompson (Old Lyme)
Phyllis Freeman (Windsor)	Trish Treat (Orange)
Cathy Garnett (Gulford)	Howard Treat (Orange)
Sue Graham (Old Greenwich)	Mary Whitehead (Norwalk)

Change seemed to be the order of business all year; Fran Aloisa, Committee Co-Chair, served for several months, arranging printing and copying, but resigned to get married, go to Alaska on a honeymoon, and leave the Chapter for the Berkshires - she is missed! Jeri Lyons, Denise King, Mary Whitehead, Polly Buckley, and Martine Flory, also active for years on the Committee, had to leave during the year, primarily to take on other Chapter responsibilities - best wishes and thanks.

In addition to serving new and long-time members, we responded to over 300 requests for information from prospective members, sending out brochures, lists of club contact people (Ledge Clayton and Gerry Hardy served as main area contacts), and copies of current month activities. It's a pleasure when I recognize one of these names on a new-member list from Joy Street.

New Member Day on September 19 was bright and sunny after a threat of rain, and the sixteen activities were well attended, as was the potluck in Torrington. The comment that there were too few "mid-range" hikes was heard, and next year we'll try for more B's. More than half of the 130 attendees at the supper were new members, and gave the impression that they will be an active, involved group.

Thanks to the efforts of the Ad Hoc Computer Committee, the Chapter will soon own a computer to be housed in Membership. In preparation for its arrival we are circulating an updated membership sheet to all members; a trial run at New Member Day was wildly successful, with nearly everyone present completing the sheets and returning them with expressions of interest and a willingness to become active.

Dave Cullen continues his involvement with Family Activities, and Betty Robinson is starting a regional newsletter for members who live in northeast Connecticut. 300 cards are being sent to long-time members in the east-of-the-river area prior to the first East of the River Potluck on November 14. Noble View Day in July was lightly attended, but those who came found a beautiful location in the Berkshires. A repeat next year will feature area hikes and a late-day Potluck Picnic, followed by a campfire.

Members active on the Committee this year (in addition to the callers above) are listed below. Thanks again to all for helping the Chapter during its growth spurt!

Membership Committee:

Anne Bailey (New Hartford)	Marjorie London (Farmington)
Fran Aloisa (Enfield)	Trish Niece (Wallingford)
Ledge Clayton (Fairfield)	Bill Emerson (Oxford)
Dave Cullen (Worwich)	Christine Simeone (Newington)
Gerry Hardy (Manchester)	Helen Flood (Thompson)
Narilyn Harper (Glastonbury)	Lisa Spencer (Middletown)
Dot Davis (Columbia)	Dawn Gagliardi (Southington)
Jan DeMattia (Fairfield)	

Betty Robinson (Storrs), Chair

MOUNT RIGA COMMITTEE / NORTHWEST CAMP

This last year has been active at the Northwest Camp. The cabin was used for 111 registered overnight users, with still more people stopping in off the trail to rest and visit throughout the year.

On January 18 the CT Caribou Clan and the Mt. Riga Committee co-hosted the Annual X-C Ski and Hike in the tri-state marker region. The day was enjoyed by many who found the NW Camp area quite rewarding. March 15 saw the Annual Sugaring Off Party at the Camp, with a good crowd enjoying the maple sugar candy made at the cabin.

The May 16 Spring Workparty was a great success, with a new information sign made, a wash pit dug, and Camp boundaries remarked. In June, on the 12th and 13th, Karl Holstein and David Cullen led a Family Day weekend, with about 33 people enjoying the tri-state area with hiking and a grand BBQ.

On the 15th of August, the NW Camp welcomed thru hiker and Committee member Herb Van Winkle. Many thanks to NW Camp committee member Tony Shookus for coordinating the celebration with the CT AMC and the Green Mountain Club. September 19 had the Annual Cabin Warming for New Member Day, with several hikes stopping in for information at the cabin. The 1992 Annual Woodcutting was on November 7, to cut the wood for '93 and upgrade the Camp for the winter.

We wish to thank all those who helped throughout the year to maintain and run events: Karl Holstein, David Cullen, David Terrill; Bill Forman, Marlene Kopcha, and all the CT Ridgerunners; Rod Farlee, Keith Larson, and all the CT Caribou Clan. Thanks also to Gary Canant, for designing a new map for the NW Camp, and to all who shared in NW Camp activities.

Please contact the Mt. Riga Committee for information on use of the Camp; the CT Chapter section in Appalachia Bulletin has contact information. Gary Canant will be the 1993 Mt. Riga Chair.

Mt. Riga / Northwest Camp Committee:

Dave Benton (Avon)	Tom Lusciuskan (West Hartford)
Polly Buckley (Woodbridge)	Rich Lusietti (Unionville)
Gary Canant (West Hartford)	Dan Magri (Monroe)
Chuck Doll (Wallingford)	Tom Nichols (North Haven)
John Hicks (Salisbury)	Rod Farlee (Bolton)
Ted Hinsan (Norfolk)	John Rek (Prospect)
Karl Holstein (North Haven)	Col. A.H. Shookus (Newington)
Susan Ives (Bethlehem)	Steve Stang (Simsbury)
Marlene Kopcha (Terryville)	Dave Terrill (Winsted)
Keith Larson (West Hartford)	Herb Van Winkle (Poquonock)

Paul Ives (Bethlehem), 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 technical rock climbing in the western United States, with three Committee members climbing El Capitan in Yosemite - a slide show on the trip will be given at the Annual Meeting.

The wet spring this year yielded a small turnout of only 11 people for our Beginner's Introduction. None of that group still participates on a regular basis, but other climbers of varying experience started climbing with our group this year.

The Committee organized an active technical rock climbing program in 1992, including a total of 34 one-day trips and two-day weekend excursions to a variety of locations in CT, NY, MA, and NH, and 32 Wednesday afternoons.

The Ragged Mountain Foundation (RMF) was incorporated as a non-profit organization this year, with its first goals being to settle issues of climbing and hiking access to Ragged Mountain in Southington. Some of our committee members have worked with the RMF, performing trail work, educating users about parking, informing town officials about vandalism, etc., to help address the issues which threaten access to the area. If you're interested in climbing, hiking, or other uses of Ragged Mountain, our committee can put you in touch with the RMF so you can help make a difference.

Mountaineering Committee:

Ed Budzik (Shelton) Paul Maresca (Bristol)
 Dennis Burke (Brookfield) Rick Orsini (Meriden)
 Al Carilli (West Hartford) John Rek (Prospect)
 Chris Kimball (West Redding) Paul Scarpa (East Hartland)

Don Reichler (Southington), Chair

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Our Connecticut Chapter newsletter, *The AMC in Connecticut*, was published twice in 1992. I have some suggestions for increasing this to possibly four issues in 1993; more on this below.

During the past year, several people and organizations contributed to the preparation, production, and distribution of the newsletter. These included PIP Printers of Manchester, who can turn a quality newsletter around in a very short period of time; Hockanum Industries of Rockville, a mailing house that helps us prepare the newsletter and get it to the Post Office on time; and my wife, Martha, who spends a considerable amount of time typing up the information, especially true for this latest issue. Thanks to all.

For a number of years I served as Newsletter Editor, a position of somewhat undefined status within the Chapter organization. This year, the Executive Committee formalized the position by establishing Newsletter as a new standing committee and naming me Chair. Since then, I have been planning the composition of the Newsletter Committee, which would produce up to four issues of the newsletter a year, beginning in 1993.

The largest issue, perhaps eight to ten pages, would be published in the fall and would communicate information about the Annual Meeting and contain other articles. The other three issues - winter, spring, and summer - could be four pages each and would carry a variety of articles, and perhaps commentaries from members. To make this expanded program work, we need writers, editors, and typists. Some of you have discussed this with me and volunteered these services in the past. Please let me know now what you think of this idea, and please let me know how you can help, especially as a member of the Newsletter Committee.

Matt Donachie (Manchester), Chair

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Our committee has continued to serve the Chapter by putting on five potluck suppers, the Spring Dinner, and the Annual Meeting. We provided the program for the Mid-Winter Potluck, when Barry Wulff showed slides on "Hiking in Norway's Highlands", a presentation from three AMC major excursions to Norway. Primary features of the program were the Rondone National Park, Jutenheimen National Park, and Finse. At the Spring Dinner, Trish Niece showed slides on her trip to Mexico. She visited the ancient Maya and Zapotec ceremonial sites of Palenque, Chichen Itza, Uxmal, and Monte Alban. At the East of the River Potluck, a new potluck added this year, John Boland presented a program on the Heritage Corridor project. At the 1991 Annual Meeting, Debbie and Garry McConville showed slides of their recent tandem tour of the world, from Tahiti to Tasmania and Istanbul to England. We saw them cross the Australian Nullarbor Desert, backpack across Tasmania's mountains, and explore rugged Turkey, in their program "Outback Tandem Touring Off the Beaten Track"

The Annual Meeting on December 7, 1991 at the Days Inn in Meriden included a CPR course in the morning, many workshops led by Chapter committees in the afternoon, a happy hour, and an evening banquet and program. A total of 284 people joined us for dinner, and 73 others came only in the afternoon.

We were fortunate to have been able to use the K of C in East Hartford, Sky Top Bowling Lanes in Torrington, space at Northeast Utilities in Berlin, and the K of C in Coventry for five potlucks. The Spring Dinner was held at the Cheshire Grange. We are always on the lookout for suitable facilities for our events.

We welcome additional members to our Committee, even to help out at just 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.

Program Committee:

Iuella Bartes (Torrington)	Roger Hall (Andover)
Richard Bartes (Torrington)	Dave Jenkins (East Windsor)
Rosalie Bartula (Ellington)	Stephanie Labanowski (South Windsor)
Diane Blahun (New Britain)	
Harold Carpenter (Glastonbury)	Marjorie London (Farmington)
Edgar Dresner (Vernon)	Iona Malmberg (Terryville)
Fay Dresner (Vernon)	Irving Mills (Torrington)
Mary Jane Gately (Avon)	Wilford Parker (Southington)
Helene Goulet (South Windsor)	Wilda Wyse (Manchester)
Emilie Hall (Andover)	

Gordon Gaulin (East Granby), Chair

TRAILS COMMITTEE

In addition to fulfilling its traditional role of managing the Connecticut section of the Appalachian Trail, the Chapter Trails Committee this year devoted over 700 volunteer hours to the not yet quite completed task of relocating the Mohawk Trail in Cornwall. This Blue trail, the "old AT", now goes over Coltsfoot Mt. from the vicinity of Marvelwood School. AMC volunteers scouted and flagged the approximately three miles of trail to Echo Rock through tornado damaged forest, cut the trail (assisted by volunteers from the Connecticut Forest and Park Association) and built a very substantial bridge, using telephone poles, over Furnace Brook.

Other highlights of the year were, of course, our annual marathon, interchapter work weekends at the Delaware Water Gap and Camp Dodge, NH, and two weekend workparties on our own trail with overnights and potluck suppers. Regular scheduled and bootleg work parties were held every weekend and often during the week, in addition to regular maintenance trips by individual maintainers. Monitoring and guide activities, including workshops, proceeded as usual. Our ridgerunner program had its 14th successful year. This year we had donations from the Mt. Riga Committee (Northwest Camp) and an individual friend of the trail which enabled us to have two ridgerunners on weekends in the fall instead of one.

The "Memorandum of Understanding" (between NPS, DEP, ATC, and the Connecticut Chapter AMC) was signed on September 30 at a ceremony in Hartford.

We installed a well and hand pump at the Ten Mile River campsite and had the pump at Silver Hill, out of order all summer, repaired. Our camping areas have been upgraded to reflect the reality of heavier use and two minor relocations were established. Another year should see the last major AT relocation in Connecticut in place. This will eliminate the road walk by Dogtail Corners.

We think the AT in Connecticut is in pretty good shape, and comments from thru hikers bear this out. My personal thanks to the more than 100 volunteers who have donated their time and effort, to our AMC staff support, Dennis Regan and Tim Loveridge, but especially to the members of the Committee, who have made my job much easier.

Trails Committee:

George Andrews (Wethersfield)	Bill Engstrom (West Haven)
Dick Blake (Milford)	John Greacen (Avon)
Doug Christie (West Hartford)	Elaine Luckey (Washington Depot)
Hugh Cobrain (West Hartford)	Paul Palmer (Southbury)
Ted Cowles (Collinsville)	Richard Rouse (Wethersfield)
Henry Edmonds (Danbury)	Chet Stover (Litchfield)

Norm Sills (Salisbury), Chair

WHITewater COMMITTEE

The CT AMC Whitewater Committee scheduled 115 trips during the 1992 paddling season. Each fall a tentative schedule of trips is prepared for January to November of the following year, based on seasonal events: ice breakup, snowmelt, dam releases, and periods of low and high water. On a typical weekend in season there is a trip scheduled on mild water close to home and another on more difficult water somewhere in New England. As 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 Committee member Dick Ploski. Impromptu trips (especially after rainy weather) are arranged through the Hotline, which is used extensively throughout the season to keep paddlers updated. To sign up for a trip, call the trip leader for time and meeting place. Paddlers are charged \$1 a person per trip, providing funds for mailing, functions, and equipment.

CT AMC Whitewater emphasizes safe paddling. Trips are led by approved, rated leaders. Whitewater paddlers must wear personal flotation devices (PFDs), have clothing appropriate to the weather (wet or dry suits when needed), wear helmets when paddling closed boats or open boats in difficult water, carry personal first aid and rescue equipment, and have appropriate flotation in their boat. Trip leaders review the skill levels and equipment necessary for safe participation as paddlers register. Leaders are responsible for safety, and may decline participation to paddlers they feel are not ready for the level of water. Leaders also establish guidelines for safety on the water, assigning such duties as lead, sweep, and scouting.

Whitewater rivers are rated on the International Scale of Difficulty as Class I - VI. CT AMC trips are scheduled on rivers from Class II (beginner) to Class IV (expert). Descriptions of rivers are found in AMC river guides and other guidebooks. AMC paddlers are matched by ability to the class of river they can handle safely, by being rated as Class I (beginner), II, III, or IV (expert). Paddlers can take part in trips on rivers which are at or below their rating, and, with a trip leader's approval, on rivers one level above. A Rating Committee reviews ratings at the end of the season and makes adjustments based on their observations and trip leader evaluations. The AMC Interchapter Canoe Committee sets guidelines for ratings across the club. Thus, a CT Chapter Class II paddler can safely participate in a similarly rated trip offered by another chapter.

Paddlers needing partners may sign up on our Tandem Paddler's List and receive the names of others, who may be called to arrange for joining us on a trip. Contact Leo Sandmann, 26 Gray Rock Road, Trumbull, CT 06611 (203-261-6057).

The Whitewater Committee maintains canoes and equipment which are used in instruction classes and can be rented for use on CT AMC whitewater and flatwater trips. This includes fully outfitted open tandem boats, solo high performance open boats, paddles, PFDs, and a kayak. Dick Ploski (203-582-6021) coordinates equipment rental from his home in Bristol. If we found a

volunteer in Fairfield County, some boats could be kept there for better access by paddlers in the southwestern part of the state.

Most paddlers progress from tandem open boating, to solo open boating, to closed boat paddling, but some start out in closed boats. Paddlers wishing to enter any of these sports may take advantage of scheduled training sessions held during the year. During the summer, evening and weekend trips to Tariffville Gorge become "unofficial" training sessions when warm water and weather make pushing your luck a more pleasant proposition. Training sessions held in 1992 included:

- * Closed Boat Rolling, January-February at Suffield Academy Pool - Ed Chase
- * Beginning Open Boat Tandem Training, two-day training and practice - Laurie Loud Kommritz
- * Beginning Solo Boat Training, one-day session - Nancy Wendt
- * Beginning Closed Boat Training, part I and part II, two one-day sessions - Chuck Noonan
- * New Member Day, one-day session for AMC members wanting a taste of mild whitewater - Dick Ploski
- * Safety and Rescue, two-and-a-half-day program for advanced paddlers - conducted by the Nantahala Outdoor Center of Bryson City, NC (coordinated by Tom and Wendy Tyburski)

The Whitewater Committee is a small group of hard-working volunteers who make paddling whitewater with the CT AMC possible. Two members have had the dedication to serve on the Committee for over twenty years. For their outstanding contribution and hard work they were named the first recipients of the CT AMC Whitewater Lifetime Appreciation Award, a gift certificate for dinner for two at a local restaurant and a custom T-shirt with their names and the name of the award. One award went to Ed Chase, who has organized and conducted rolling sessions for 8 Friday nights in January and February for the last 23 years! He will be doing it again in 1993. The other award was made to Dick Ploski, who has done all of the chores of the Committee at one time or another (sometimes concurrently!) and has truly been the backbone of the Committee for many years. Dick has done more jobs than the rest of the Committee combined; we are grateful for his hard work and guidance. Our deepest thanks to both Ed and Dick.

Whitewater Committee:

Ed Bosson (Southington)	Laurie Loud Kommritz (Bethel)
Ed Chase (West Suffield)	Herb Kommritz (Bethel)
Joel Freedman (Stamford)	Ray Larkin (Manchester)
Naomi Freedman (Stamford)	Glenn MacGrady (New Milford)
Cord Gasque (Enfield)	Dick Ploski (Bristol)
Ted Groom (Northford)	Dolores Sandmann (Trumbull)
Kevin Hannon (Guilford)	Leo Sandmann (Trumbull)
Becky Hendricks (Windsor)	Don Saunders (Bloomfield)
Paul Hendricks (Windsor)	Tom Tyburski (Berlin)
Bruce Kindseth (Enfield)	Wendy Tyburski (Berlin)
	Nancy Wendt (Bloomfield)

Jan Larkin (Manchester), Chair

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Our special thanks go to the members of the Nominating Committee for their efforts in putting together the 1993 slate:

Eleanor Bielak (Wethersfield)	Fay Dresner (Vernon)
Carolyn Olsen (East Hartford)	Lisa Spencer (Middletown)

Glen Parchmann (Rocky Hill), Chair

NOMINATIONS FOR THE 1993 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

In accordance with the Chapter by-laws, the Nominating Committee is pleased to present the following slate for 1993:

Chair	Mary Dorpalen (Bristol)
Secretary	Mary Jane Gately (Avon)
Treasurer	Dave Jenkins (East Windsor)
Bicycling	Harry Duren (North Branford)
Conservation	Don Patterson (Vernon)
Education	Paula Burton (Monroe)
Excursions	Rich Rahmig (Trumbull)
Fairfield County Membership	Carl Rosenthal (Waterford)
	Chuck MacMath (Trumbull)
	Betty Robinson (Storrs)
Mountaineering	Marilyn Harper (Glastonbury)
Mount Riga	Rick Orsini (Meriden)
Newsletter	Gary Canan (West Hartford)
Program	Matt Donachie (Manchester)
Trails	Helene Goulet (South Windsor)
Whitewater	Henry Edmonds (Danbury)
Member-at-large	open*
Past Chair	Dave Cullen (Norwich)
	Ken Richardson (West Hartford)

*Jan Larkin (Manchester) has offered to act as interim Whitewater Chair until a permanent Chair is found.

50-YEAR MEMBERS

Three CT Chapter members observed their fiftieth year of AMC membership in 1992. They have been invited to attend the Annual Meeting and banquet, as guests of the Chapter. We hope they will be able to come!

Vincent G. Morgan (Akron, OH)	Leslie Newell (Meriden)
A. Lindsay Thomson (Hartford)	

INTERESTED IN GETTING INVOLVED?

There are lots of opportunities to pitch in and make a difference in the CT Chapter of the AMC. There's no need to commit yourself to more than you feel like doing. The easiest way to contribute is to help out with the activities of one of our twelve committees - Bicycling, Education, Excursions, Fairfield County, Membership, Mountaineering, Mount Riga / Northwest Camp, Newsletter, Program, Trails, and Whitewater. Just their names give a pretty good idea of what they do, but the committee reports on preceding pages will fill you in on the full range of their activities and identify special needs for volunteers. Committee Chairs are listed with addresses and telephone numbers in the CT Chapter entry in the Chapter Activities section of Appalachia Bulletin. Don't be shy!

WANT TO BE A LEADER OF MEN?

Women? Children? There's a special satisfaction in introducing others to things you enjoy yourself. The Chapter has an active program for training and qualifying hike leaders and leaders of many other activities. Ask your leader on any CT Chapter activity to arrange for you to get details, or call our Education Committee Chair, Paula Burton, at 452-1716.

HAVE IDEAS, SUGGESTIONS?

Complaints, even? Please, share them with us! The CT Chapter is always interested in improving its services and meeting your needs better. Jot your thoughts down and send them to the appropriate Committee Chair (names and addresses in Appalachia Bulletin) or straight to the top, to our new Chapter Chair, Mary Dorpalen, 472 Burlington Avenue, Bristol, CT 06010. We'll acknowledge your input, and see what we can do about it.

WHAT?!? YOU'RE NOT AN AMC MEMBER?

That can be fixed in a hurry! Call Betty Robinson, our Membership Committee Co-Chair, at 429-3206. She'll send membership materials and a copy of the current month's CT Chapter activities list. There's no need to be a member to participate in any of our activities.

* * * COVER CREDIT * * *

Our thanks to CT Chapter AMC member Dolores Russo (Tolland) for designing the cover of this report. Dolores, a former art teacher and longtime graphic artist, does commercial layouts, lettering, computer art, logos, and direct mail designs. The presentation check handed to the winner of the Greater Hartford Open is her work! She can be contacted at 875-6984.