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

- Our membership increased 26 percent, from 4,911 to 6,112 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 1991 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 50-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, DER, 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 AT NOC Computer Committee has been formed to plan an orderly way to manage and pass on the multidinous bits of information essential to the operation of a chapter which has grown nearly 50 percent in two years. Growing pains we are experiencing, yet.

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

Ken Richardson, Chair

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The 15th 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 Derek 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 Gaslin, 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 Olefson, 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
Paul Maresca, Treasurer
Trevor Thomas, Excursions
Doug Christie, Trails
Steve Sokoloski, Whitewater
Glenn Parchmann, Past Chair

The Chapter Chair then presented Derek 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 adopted 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
- Mary Dorpel, Secretary
- Bob Vinopal, Treasurer
- David Jenkins, Open
- Judy Snyder, Merri Swanson
- Bill Russell, 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 31 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
- Stuart Rosemoff
- Don Patterson
- Bill Russell

2nd Year:
- Dave Cullen

2nd Year:
- Eleanor Bielak
- Harry Caldwell
- Arvid Hertzenberg
- Marjorie Hertzenberg
- Anne Millbrooke
- Glenn Porheim

Chuck MacMath
Ron B. Taylor
Steve Braciak
Iona Maisberg
Don Morgan

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

- Mary Adams
- Paula Burton
- Ledge Clayton

Chuck MacMath
Ron B. Taylor
Steve Braciak
Iona Maisberg
Don Morgan

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

- Mary Adams
- Paula Burton
- Ledge Clayton

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 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: $10,412.92
- The Village Bank - Certificates 15,505.70
- The Village Bank - Checking 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 18,678.50
- Program activity collections 9,200.86
- Grants received 4,824.50
- Merchandise sales 1,222.25
- Interest income 1,551.56
- Net increase in Mt. Riga cash balance 499.19
- 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 839.24
- Newsletter 2,396.85
- Program 839.24
- Trails 7,746.18

**Total expenditures:** 28,839.10

**Cash at December 31, 1991:** $38,974.13

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**Cash at December 31, 1991:**
- Cash held by Treasurer: $6,190.85
- The Village Bank - Certificates 12,339.74
- The Village Bank - Checking 14,060.09

**Total held by Treasurer:** $33,590.68

**Cash held by committees:**
- Whitewater 2,846.63
- Mt. Riga 2,837.82

**Total held by committees:** 5,684.45

**Total cash:** $38,974.13

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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 14,560.09

Total held by Treasurer $33,690.68

Cash held by committees:
Whitewater 2,545.61
Mt. Riga 2,837.82

Total held by committees 5,383.43

Total cash $39,074.11

Revenue collected:
AMC dues collected 15,634.50
Program activity collections 2,474.50
Grants received 415.00
Merchandise sales 201.00
Contributions received 125.00
Interest income 751.98

Total revenue collected 19,600.48

Total cash available 58,674.59

Expenditures made:
Cost of program activities 5,924.50
Grants expended 3,221.72
Contributions made 1,300.00
Net decrease in Whitewater cash balance 681.47
Committee operating expenses:
Administration 3,418.75
Conservation 424.39
Education 785.20
Excursions 1,728.21
Fairfield County 1,955.81
Membership 3,252.80
Mountaineering 203.55
Newsletter 3,559.25
Bicycling 846.40
Program 229.51
Trails 3,449.50

Total expenditures 33,181.27

Cash at October 31, 1992:
Cash held by Treasurer:
Connecticut National Bank - Checking 9,756.43
Connecticut National Bank - Savings 15,749.28

Total held by Treasurer $22,711.71

Cash held by committees:
Whitewater 1,864.16
Mt. Riga 2,837.62

Total held by committees $4,701.78

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, VA, to New York's Finger Lakes, Tanglewood in the Berkshires, Lake Champlain in VT, Provincetown, Martha's Vineyard, and Southern VT twice. They were some great trips! Check our stats below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY TRIPS</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trips that were held</td>
<td>1952</td>
<td>1951</td>
<td>1950</td>
<td>1949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMC participants</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trips that were held</td>
<td>1948</td>
<td>1947</td>
<td>1946</td>
<td>1945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMC participants</td>
<td>492</td>
<td>456</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All participants</td>
<td>764</td>
<td>892</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average turnout</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 Island Sound license plate has been issued. Informational Long Island Sound Plate, dept. of Motor Vehicles, 65 State St., Wethersfield, CT 06101-6001

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. Fortunately, the Farmington River was denied the Federal Wild and Scenic designation due to protest in the Mass. area.

Bicycling Committee:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donna Arias (Middletown)</th>
<th>Jennie Keeler (Northford)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Roger Borgerman (Milford)</td>
<td>Pat Murray (Pattisville)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paula Burton (Now)</td>
<td>Suzanne Roberts (Moodus)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aart Hoogenboom (Brookfield)</td>
<td>Mike Stine (Windsor Locks)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tom Jones (Collinsville)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harry Duren (North Branford), Chair</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 11 -
"Leader's Tips", originally written by Anne Bailey, was updated with new material. Much of it by Anne Bailey, Sue Hardy, and Jerry O'Donnell, and incorporated into a softbound Leader's Manual, which may also be used by "trap hike" participants. Copies of the manual, which may also be used by "trap hike" potlucks, or can be obtained by contacting me (Paula Burton), are available at general membership meetings and help in the office or by telephone. 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 outdoor 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 McGovern (Watertown)  
Harry Duren (North Branford)  
Ann Millbrooke (Hartford)  
Scott Elkins (South Windsor)  
Trish Niece (Wallingford)  
Carol Elkins (South Windsor)  
Rich Rahmiz (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 are responsible for providing 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 who sometimes arise to handle maintenance of the Hiking Leaders List and preparing the packets to 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.

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**Trip Statistics**

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<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trips</td>
<td>356</td>
<td>370</td>
<td>384</td>
<td>397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participants</td>
<td>4,393</td>
<td>5,124</td>
<td>4,289</td>
<td>4,507</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Turnout</td>
<td>14.9</td>
<td>13.8</td>
<td>11.2</td>
<td>11.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trips</td>
<td>392</td>
<td>293</td>
<td>358</td>
<td>314</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participants</td>
<td>4,524</td>
<td>4,258</td>
<td>4,006</td>
<td>4,123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Turnout</td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td>14.8</td>
<td>11.2</td>
<td>11.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* (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.

**Weekends**

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trips</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participants</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Turnout</td>
<td>21.7</td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td>19.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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 Northeast 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 MacMeth.

<table>
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<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trips</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participants</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Turnout</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Flatwater Canoe Coordinator:** Jack and Vai 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.

<table>
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<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trips</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participants</td>
<td>247</td>
<td>203</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Turnout</td>
<td>11.8</td>
<td>10.7</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>11.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Cross-Country Skiing Coordinator: Marty Griffin. Eighteen day trips were planned. Due to lack of snow, only two took place. Five weekend trips with varying amounts of snow were scheduled and completed.

**All teams**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>1982</th>
<th>1983</th>
<th>1984</th>
<th>N/A</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trips</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participants</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Turnout</td>
<td>14.3</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>5.8</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Blue Trail Series. We are currently looking for someone to take over this series, and plan hikes to help Chapter members complete the 400 km 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 1982 Call Gray, Richard Gray, and Paul Seabrook reached this goal. Congratulations!

**Monthly Hike Coordinators - 1982**

- 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 Hike coordinator was Diane Dingley.

  - Donna Arbee (Middletown)
  - Steve Brack (Wethersfield)
  - Roberta Paron (Newington)
  - Paul Druce (New Haven)
  - Don Rahnig (Trumbull)
  - Sue Graham (Old Greenwich)
  - Don Morgan (Coventry)

  **Excursions Committee:**

  - Paula Burton (Norwich)
  - Dave Cullen (Norwich)
  - Sandra Goul (New Britain)
  - Sue Graham (Old Greenwich)

  **Membership Committee:**

  - Janice Parker (East Lyme)
  - Rich Rahnig (Trumbull)
  - Carl Rosenthal (Waterford)

- We don’t spend all our time indoors. This year the FCC organized 44 hikes, 3 back packs, 4 ice/snow canoes, 3 whitewater canoe trips, 4 k-11 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 (Stanford)
- Jane Michaud (Biddefield)
- John Barry (Riverdale)
- Bob More (Darien)
- Dave Cronin (Biddefield)
- Bill Russell (Fairfield)
- Diane Dingley (Norwalk)
- Liz Schoenpoed (Stanford)

- Chuck MacMath (Trumbull), Chair

**Fairfield County Committee:**

- This is my first year as Chair of the FCC. I hope I will be able to follow the track 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 bi-monthly newsletter “The Hiker” is mailed to an ever larger audience. Our bi-monthly potluck meetings are very popular, with attendance averaging about 45 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.

**Membership Committee:**

The Connecticut Chapter, AMC, has grown to 6,144 members as of October 1, an increase of 1,215 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 near 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 been dropped out, and others have come on board later - I hope no one is omitted; you all deserve a big thank you:

- Robert Ambrosino (Fairfield)
- Chris Kast (Norwich)
- Polly Buckley (New Haven)
- Denise King (Bridgeport)
- Dona Burdick (Westport)
- Karen Fisher (Waterford)
- Jeri Lyons (South Windsor)
- Virginia Fisher (Waterford)
- Aina Makela (Storrs)
- Martine Flory (Norwich)
- Diane Mischke (Middletown)
- Phyllis Freeman (Windsor)
- Jeanne Thompson (Old Lyme)
- Cathy Garnett (Guilford)
- Trish Tratt (Orange)
- Sue Graham (Old Greenwich)
- Howard Tratt (Orange)
- Mary Whitehead (Norwalk)

Change seemed to be the order of business all year: Fran Aloia, 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 you 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, with few "mid-range" hikes being heard, and next year we'll try for more. 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 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. 500 cards are being sent to long-time members in the rest-of-their-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)
Fran Alcove (Storrs)
Ledge Clayton (Fairfield)
Dave Cullen (Newtown)
Gerry Hardy (Manchester)
Marilyn Harper (Clinton)
Dot Davis (Columbia)
Jan DeMattia (Fairfield)

Betty Robinson (Storrs), Chair

Marjorie London (Farmington)
Triah Neuve (Wallingford)
Bill Emerson (Northford)
Christine Simone (Newington)
Helen Flood (Thompson)
Lisa Spencer (Middletown)
Dawn Gagliardi (Southport)

Mount Riga Committee / Northwest Camp

This last year has been active at the Northwest Camp. The cabin was used for 117 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 Y-C Ski and Rigs in the tri-state ski region. The day was enjoyed by many who found the NW Camp area quite rewarding. March 11 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 Work Party was a great success, with a new information sign made, a wash pit dug, and Camp boundaries marked. 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 Warning for New Member Day, with several hikes stopping in for information at the cabin. The 1922 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 Tervill, Bill Purman, Marlene Kopsch, 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 Mount 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)
Folly Buckely (Woodbridge)
Gary Canant, (West Hartford)
Dan Magli (Montville)
Chuck Doll (Wallingford)
John Hicks (Salisbury)
Rod Farlee (Bolton)
Ted Hinman (Narofk)
Chris Man (Prospect)
Karl Holstein (North Haven)
John Rek (Prospect)
Susan Ives (Bethlehem)
Dawn Stang (Simsbury)
Marlene Kopsch (Perryville)
Bob Van Winkle (Wilcot)
Keith Larson (West Hartford)
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 tri-state trip is 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 24 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 goal 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, and informing town officials about vandalism, etc., to help address issues threatening 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 Rudzik (Chelten)
- Dennis Burke (Bristol)
- Al Carilli (West Hartford)
- Chris Kissiah (West Redding)
- Paul Scafe (East Hartford)
- 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; Rockland 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 spent 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 Wulf 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, Jupetehsheim National Park, and Finsen. At the Spring Dinner, Trish Wiesz showed slides on her trip to Mexico. She visited the ancient Maya and Zapotec ceremonial sites of Palenque, Chichen Itza, Dzibil, and Monte Alban. At the East of the River Potluck, a new potluck added this year, John Roland presented a program on the Heritage Corridor project. At the 1991 Annual Meeting, Debbie and Barry 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 Nullabor 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 286 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 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:

Program Committee:
- Luella Hartzell (Torrington)
- Rosalie Bartula (Ellington)
- Diane Blahm (New Britain)
- Harold Carpenter (Glastonbury)
- Fay Dremer (Vernon)
- Mary Jane Gately (Avon)
- Helene Goullet (South Windsor)
- Emilie Hall (Andover)
- Gordon Gaulin (East Granby), Chair
- Roger Haas (Andover)
- Dave Jenkins (East Windsor)
- Stephanie Labanowski (South Windsor)
- Marjorie London (Farmington)
- Iona Malsey (Terryville)
- Irving Mills (Torrington)
- Wilford Parker (Southington)
- Wilda Wyre (Manchester)

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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 most yet successful task of relocating the Mohawk Trail in Cornwall. This year, the "old AT", now goes over Cliffsfoot Mt. from the vicinity of Marvelwood School. AMC volunteers scouted and flagged the approximately three miles of trail to Echo Rock through terraced dammed 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 overnight stops. Regular scheduled and bootleg work parties were held every weekend and often during the week in addition to regular maintenance trips by individual volunteers. Monitoring and guide activities, including workshops, continued as usual. Our ridgemonkey program had its most successful year. This year we had donations from the Rig Committee (Brattleboro Camp) and an individual friend of the trail which enabled us to have two ridgemonkeys on weekends in the fall instead of one.

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

We installed a walk 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 Dorrill Corners.

We think the AT in Connecticut is 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 the entire Chapter staff support, Dennis Keegan and Tim Coverdell, but especially the members of the Committee, who have made my job much easier.

Trails Committee:


Noreen 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 week in season there is a trip scheduled on high 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 Appalachian when time allows, but more often are announced on the CT AMC Whitewater hotline (203-842-6078), a message tape coordinated by Committee member Dick Pioski. 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 times 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 level 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 at IV (expert). Paddlers can take part in trips on rivers which are rated one level above their rating, and, with a trip leader's approval, on rivers one level below. 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 Grays 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 Pioski (203-582-6021) coordinates equipment rental from his home in Bristol. If we found a
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 Komoritz
- 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 Montahal 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! The other award was made to Dick Ploski, who has done all the chores of the Committee at one 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 Boose (Southbury)
- Ed Chase (Suffield)
- Joel Friedman (Stanford)
- Naomi Friedman (Stanford)
- Cord Gaskue (Enfield)
- Ted Groom (Bristol)
- Kevin Koss (Guilford)
- Becky Hendricks (Windsor)
- Paul Hendricks (Windsor)
- Bruce Kindseth (Enfield)

Laurie Loud Komoritz (Bethel)
Ray Larkin (Manchester)
Ned Komoritz (Bethel)
Glen Moroney (New Milford)
Dick Ploski (Bristol)
Doree Sandman (Trumbull)
Leo Sandman (Trumbull)
Don Saunders (Bronfield)
Don Saunders (Bronfield)
Nancy Wendt (Bronfield)

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 Bielski (Newfield)
- Ray Dreger (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 Dorgan (Bristol)
Treasurer
Mary Jane Gatesy (Avon)
Bicycling
Dave Jenkins (East Windsor)
Conservation
Harvey Duren (North Branford)
Education
Paula Burton (Norwich)
Excursions
Rich Baugh (Trumbull)
Fairfield County
Chuck MacMath (Trumbull)
Membership
Betty Robinson (Storrs)
Mountaineering
Marilyn Harper (Glastonbury)
Mount Riga
Rick Drisin (Middletown)
Newsletter
Gary Canan (West Hartford)
Program
Matt Donahue (Manchester)
Trails
Helene Goulet (South Windsor)
White Water
Henry Edmonds (Danbury)
Past Chair
Dave Cullen (Norwich)

*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 Thomas (Hartford)

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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.