APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB
CONNECTICUT CHAPTER

Annual Report
December 4, 1993
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MISSION STATEMENT

Through our broad range of activities and programs, the Connecticut Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club encourages people to enjoy and appreciate the natural world. We believe that successful conservation depends on this experience. The Connecticut Chapter Club promotes the protection, enjoyment and responsible use of the Appalachian Trail in Connecticut as well as of the other trails, rivers and byways within the state in cooperation with other maintenance organizations. We believe that the mountains and rivers have an intrinsic worth as well as provide recreational opportunity, spiritual renewal and ecological and economic health for the state. The members of the Connecticut Chapter of the AMC form a network of users and stewards who protect these areas and educate others as to their use.

Adopted May 1993
1993 has brought growth and expansion to the Connecticut Chapter of the AMC. Through the on-going efforts of creative and tireless volunteers, we have continued to meet the needs of our 6,688 members. I would like to extend my personal thanks to the chairs of all of the committees of the Executive Committee for their gifts of leadership and organizational skills which have enabled our chapter to offer such an array of diverse activities this year. Further perusal of this report will attest to this fact.

Highlights of accomplishments this year include:

... The adoption of a mission statement for our chapter which is in line with the "Statement of Purpose" from the "Vision for AMC in the Year 2000."

... Organization, under the guidance of Gordon Gaulin, of Fall Meeting '93 (formerly Fall Volunteer Leadership Weekend). This club-wide event was held at the Hemlocks Conference Center in Kebron, Connecticut, in October, with 355 delegates attending.

... Expansion of our leadership training opportunities, through the efforts of our Education Committee, which has resulted in the strengthening of our trip leadership base.

... Expansion of the hiking activities offered which have met with an excellent response necessitating advance booking for the more popular trips.

... Organization (under the auspices of our Membership Committee) of the Northeast/East of the River potlucks and hikes which have been supported by a special newsletter. We would like to see this group take on a life of its own in 1994.

... Support of the Connecticut Forest and Parks Association's organization of Connecticut's National Trails Day in June. Appreciation is extended to all of our hike leaders who participated in this event as well as to our Program and Membership Committee who organized the after-hike events.

... Establishment of a voice mail system (Connecticut AMC Information Line, managed efficiently by Mac Harper) and expansion of our computer capabilities under the direction of our Ad Hoc Computer Committee.

... Continued responsible management and protection of the Connecticut portion of the Appalachian Trail by our Trails Committee, a knowledgeable, experienced and committed group of volunteers.

As we look forward to 1994 and the work which remains, I would like to encourage all who read this report and have not served on a committee to consider doing so. It is only through the efforts of our volunteers that we continue to be a strong and vital chapter of the AMC.

Mary Dorpale, Chapter Chair
The first Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club was held at the Four Points Hotel in Middletown, Connecticut on November 1, 1980.

Chapter Chair, Tom Richert, could not be present, because of traveling duties. Jeff Prescott, immediate past chair, conducted the meeting and welcomed the assembled members. He was slim well, Jeff commented that it was a very special meeting and that the meeting was well attended. Jeff called the meeting to order and introduced the new members.

Door prizes were announced, and Jeff asked for a show of hands of those attending their first Annual Meeting. Appaches greeted a response by perhaps a quarter of the audience.

Jeff then introduced chapter member Dick Blake, Trails Chairman of the Connecticut Forest and Park Association. Dick announced WPA plans to offer hikes on all 100 miles of the Blue Trails system and other trails in the state on national Trails Day, June 6, 1982. Governor Walker is expected to declare this day as Connecticut Trails Day, and many people in positions to help preserve and augment Connecticut Blue Trails and other outdoor resources -- agencies, planning and zoning commissions, legislators, and the like, as well as the general public -- will be invited to participate in hikes. Dick called on the Connecticut AMC to assist in providing leaders for hikes and distributing sign-up sheets.

Joan Larkin, Whitewater Committee Chair, was introduced. She announced two Whitewater Lifetime Appreciation awards, each in recognition of more than twenty years of service, one to Bill Judd, who has conducted rolling sessions on eight Friday nights in January and September for the last twenty-three years and who will be back at it again in 1982. The other award went to Dick Pliski, who has done just about everything for the committee since 1980 rolling sessions for the last 20 years.

Jeff thanked all those involved in the planning for the Annual Meeting, which was especially well-attended this year. He expressed appreciation to the Registrar, Richard Bates, for his work. Chapter Secretary, who sent invitations and prepared the program, to all of the chapter members, for their encouragement and support. Additional support was provided by the A.M.C. Executive Director, who was in attendance.

The meeting concluded with a show of hands of those attending their first Annual Meeting. Jeff thanked all those who had attended. He introduced the Executive Director and spoke briefly, emphasizing the progress made by the AMC since 1980.

A moment of silence was observed for the Connecticut Chapter members deceased in 1981:

Seymour Smith, Connecticut Chapter Chair, 1961-62
John Aldrich
Cecelia Bresnich
Joseph Carleton
Kenneth Galbraith
Bessie Gustafson
Alan Hatchett
Jean Mackness

The AMC has followed the same pattern as in 1980. In 1981, the decrease in long-term debt to $50,000 was a great step forward, and in 1982 the increase is long-term debt, and the AMC has a working capital reserve of about $500,000. Jeff pointed out that we have helped support a new agreement with the American Trail Conference, and that the new agreement will be in place for the coming year. We are excited about the new agreements, and that they provide for new ways to protect the land during the period for hydroelectric facility licensing, and that the new agreements will provide for new ways to protect the land during the period for hydroelectric facility licensing.

Jeff thanked all those who have been involved in the planning for the Annual Meeting, and that we would continue to have the natural treasures of the northeast for our enjoyment and use as long as we are willing to stay involved.

Jeff then introduced Sue Bailey, Assistant Director, who provided just a few words. She pointed out that although she and Sue Hardy are both veterans, she joined the AMC first, and that Sue has been in the organization for three years. She has been very surprised to find herself extending for two more years, but this is an exciting time for the AMC.

A second annual meeting will be held on June 6, 1983, and will be open to the public. The benefits of cooperation have been especially evident in the area of leadership training, which the AMC is working to improve. The benefits of cooperation have been especially evident in the area of leadership training, which the AMC is working to improve.
Jeff then announced that the Chapter had 48 activity leaders with five or more leads in the year from October 1, 1991, to September 30, 1992, an all-time record. He introduced Rich Ramsig, incoming Excursions Chair, and Carl Rosenthal, 1992 Excursions Chair, to present awards. Rich read messages from Merri Swanson and Carl Rosenthal, 1992 Excursions Chair, who thanked our leaders and encouraged new people to get involved. Rich then asked leaders to come forward, and awarded patches – the old leader path patch and the new all-activity patch. Special recognition was given to 10 or more leaders: Ted Groom, Bill Prueschner, and Bob Vinopal.

Dona Arbas (5)  
Eleanor Bielak (4)  
Bill Blaha (10)  
Janet Blaha (9)  
Roger Borgerman (5)  
Jo Law (8)  
Karl Hackett (9)  
Steve Brack (7)  
Elizabeth Buckley (8)  
Paula Burton (17)  
Ed Boscom (5)  
Dale Hackett (7)  
Steve Brack (7)  
Marjorie Herbertson (7)  
Karl Holstein (6)  
Mary Jane Doleis (6)  
Dave Cullen (15)  
Kurt Hoogenboom (5)  
Don Morgan (5)  
Ron Naylor (7)  
Jake Epstein (5)  
Lee Owen (5)  
Dick Plochik (5)  
Bill Prueschner (5)  
Rich Ramsig (10)  
Ann Rehn (6)  
Fred Rott (5)  
Bettie Robinson (6)  
Carl Rosenthal (7)  
Dick Ruddock (6)  
Bill Russell (7)  
Mark Schroder (5)  
Bill Schumacher (12)  
John Scully (6)  
Mike Stilin (6)  
Merri Swanson (5)  
Tom Tyurski (5)  
Wendy Tyurski (5)  
Bob Vinopal (5)

Outgoing Executive Committee members were:

Ken Richardson, Chair  
Don Reichler, Mountaineering  
Paul Ives, Mt. Riga  
Gordon Goulin, Program  
Al Sills, Trails  
Jan Larkin, Whitewater

Jeff then called to order the 72nd annual business meeting of the Connecticut Chapter of the AMC. The Secretary's Report was accepted as printed in the 1992 Annual Report. A motion was then made and passed to accept the Treasurer's Report as printed in the same document.

There being no old business and no new business, the meeting proceeded to the report of the nominating committee. Members of the committee, Eleanor Bielak, Fay Dresner, Carolyn Oelsen, Lisa Spencer, and Glen Parchman, Chair, were thanked for their efforts in assembling the 1993 nominations for Chapter officers. Glen presented the slate of nominees for 1993:

Mary Dorpalen, Chair  
Marilyn Harber, Membership  
Betty Robinson, Membership  
Mary Jane Doleis, Secretary  
Bettie Robinson, Membership  
David Jenkins, Treasurer  
Rick Orlin, Mountaineering  
Harry Duren, Bicycling  
Gary Camant, Mt. Riga  
Don Patterson, Conservation  
Matt Donachie, Newsletter  
Paula Burton, Education  
Helene Goulet, Program  
Rich Ramsig, Excursions  
Henry Edmonds, Trails  
Carl Rosenthal, Excursions  
Cord Gaske, Whitewater  
Chuck MacBeth, Fairfield County  
Ken Richardson, Past Chair  
Dave Cullen, Member-at-Large

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

Attending Past Chairs of the Connecticut Chapter were asked to come forward to receive their red hats for the induction of the incoming Chapter Chair, Mary Dorpalen. Past Chairs present included:

John Herr, 1951-52  
Sue Hardy, 1981-82  
Gordon Moulton, 1953-64  
Anne Bailey, 1985-86  
Bill Schmidt, 1975-76  
Trish Klee, 1987-88  
Ledge Clayton, 1975-76  
Glen Parachan, 1989-90  
Dodge Lins, 1977-78  
Jen O'Donnell  
Gerry Hardy, 1979-80

Jeff O'Donnell then conducted the Red Hat Ceremony and presented Mary with Ken Richardson's gift of a red hat.

At 8:10 pm it was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved to adjourn the 72nd Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Chapter.

After adjournment, Gordon Goulin, Program Committee Chair, introduced a very enjoyable evening program, "A Canoe Adventure in Arctic Alaska," presented by Kirby and Jeff Holcomb.

Robert T. Vinopal - Secretary
# Treasurer's Report

## For the Year Ended December 31, 1992

**Cash at January 1, 1992:**
- Cash held by Treasurers: $8,190.85
- Connecticut National Bank - Checking: 11,339.74
- The Village Bank - CDs: 14,060.09
- The Village Bank - Checking: 2,545.63
- Whitewater: 7,837.82
- Total cash at beginning of year: $58,971.13

**Revenue collected:**
- AMC dues collected: 23,677.25
- Programs and merchandise sales: 12,731.41
- Grants and contributions received: 550.00
- Interest income: 883.38
- Total revenue collected: $37,822.04

**Expenditures made:**
- Cost of program activities: 14,116.66
- Cost of merchandise sales: 1,702.49
- Grants expended: 3,969.19
- Contributions made: 1,300.00
- Net decrease in Whitewater cash balance: 1,262.67
- Committee operating expenses:
  - Administration: 4,517.97
  - Conservation: 948.36
  - Education: 1,994.48
  - Excursions: 1,637.21
  - Fairfield County: 3,578.15
  - Membership: 492.63
  - Mountainaering: 3,059.27
  - Newsletter: 921.55
  - Bicycling: 1,738.14
  - Trail: 3,660.07
- Total expenditures: $24,742.33

**Cash at December 31, 1992:** $30,359.84

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## Treasurer's Report

**For the Ten Months Ended October 31, 1993**

**Cash at October 31, 1993:** $30,353.06

**Revenue collected:**
- AMC dues collected: 17,321.00
- Programs, merchandise sales, and camp use: 2,859.50
- Contributions received: 46.00
- Interest income: 457.01
- Total revenue collected: 20,635.51

**Expenditures made:**
- Cost of program activities: 2,168.25
- Cost of merchandise sales: 314.90
- Grants expended: 478.75
- Contributions made: 1,900.00
- Purchase of computer and other equipment: 5,259.98
- Committee operating expenses:
  - Administration: 4,985.46
  - Conservation: 266.94
  - Education: 1,300.17
  - Excursions: 1,209.25
  - Fairfield County: 1,134.26
  - Membership: 3,258.14
  - Mountainaering: 250.94
  - Newsletter: 6,107.72
  - Bicycling: 974.28
  - Program: 202.40
  - Mt Riga: 565.29
- Total expenditures: $2,806.09

**Cash at October 31, 1993:** $9,181.25

**Cash held by Treasurers:**
- Connecticut National Bank - Checking: $5,759.16
- Connecticut National Bank - Savings: 989.60
- Connecticut National Bank - CDs: 12,128.94
- Cash held by Whitewater committee: 1,303.56

Respectfully Submitted

David P. Jenkins
Treasurer

November 5, 1993
BICYCLING COMMITTEE

What a difference a year makes! Unlike 1992's rainy, cold spring, we had fabulous weather this year. Our Amish weekend trip in particular saw absolutely delightful weather throughout. Of course, that's only fitting for a trip that had 68 participants.

We're pleased to have been able to offer so many rides this year thanks to our many gracious leaders. And we're equally pleased at the increase in average turnout over last year. We think that says you what we're offering.

We repeated a number of our weekend trips from 1992 this year and we offered two trips to the Cape House in Falmouth, MA. Next year we hope to do three Cape House trips to handle more of the demand we've had to turn away.

Our stats really tell the story of this year's success. See for yourself:

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<td>Trips held</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>AMC participants</td>
<td>875</td>
<td>892</td>
<td>892</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<td>All Participants</td>
<td>1275</td>
<td>784</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average turnout</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trips held</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>AMC participants</td>
<td>172</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>All participants</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average turnout</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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</table>

We continued to arrange a number of bicycling tips sessions around the state primarily in the early spring. We also enjoyed our second annual Killington K-C 31 (ski weekend and look forward to our third, February 11-13 next year.

We hosted our first annual free picnic for weekend trip participants in August at Hampton. Fifty people attended and enjoyed a great day of riding, camping, and sunbathing.

All these accomplishments are the fruits of the labors of all members. Please be sure to thank them when you come home for their efforts.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

This was a bleak year for the passage of new environmental legislative initiatives, and numerous state parks and forests barely survived closings during the summer. The Heritage Bill, which provides for open space land acquisition, did receive continued funding for two more years.

The Conservation Committee held Conservation Day in October with a Greenways theme. Susan Morrow, Connecticut Greenways Committee Co-Chair and former Sierra Club President, was the main speaker. Several hikes on greenways throughout the state were held during the day.

The Conservation Committee held three workshops at the Annual Meeting. These workshops included: Healthy People, Healthy Planet; Housatonic Riverbend Greenway; and the Northern Forests.

In conclusion, I would like to thank my committee members for their help with the Conservation Committee this year. I would also like to thank non-committee members, Ed Dresner and Bill & Jo Russell for leading hikes on Conservation Day.

Conservation Committee:
Mary Adams     Fred Riolte     Sue Klink
Lisa Spencer   Bob Dickinson  Joan Tait
Cindy Dowd    Linda Kauker    Judy Snyder
Don Patterson, Chair

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Education Committee has continued to grow and expand its activities. Most of our activities have been related to leadership training; we are attempting to provide other activities related to education.

Leadership training activities included: five leadership training rides; one run and a Leadership Weekend; one Leaders' Appreciation Day; and three issues of the "Leaders' Update." The Connecticut Chapter also participated in the Chapter Outdoor Leadership School in October, and helped sponsor a regional Leadership Training Weekend in November. The Committee is presently in the process of updating the leaders' guidelines; this project should be completed by January, 1994. The availability and frequency of these training activities have helped to increase the number of active hike leaders and raise the standards for leaders.

The Education Committee has also been active on the Chapter and Club levels. We sponsored a full day "First Aid on the Trail" course in October; three workshops at the Fall Volunteer Meeting; and four workshops at the Connecticut Chapter Annual Meeting as well as a CPR course and a video about AT hike Bill Erwin. We had a bicycle workshop scheduled, but it was canceled due to lack of interest, as was a wheelchair accessible hike.
An ongoing project is Connecticut Junior Naturalist. We are currently discussing and deciding what will be the best type of program of this sort for our Chapter.

Much was accomplished in 1993. I wish to thank the members of the Education Committee for all that they have done, and I sincerely hope 1994 will be as exciting, interesting, and satisfying as 1993.

Education Committee:
Cindy Mangini
Anne Behn
Scott Elkins
Jean Silverio

Shirley Sutton
Trish Rice
Ken Sutton
Marcia McManus
Anne Millbrooke

Paula Burton, 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 have tried to provide a mix of events to appeal to the widest audience among our membership.

Sandra Godin has very capably continued in the job of Bulletin Editor, preparing the activity schedules and messages on the computer to send to Boston and following up with the various coordinators when questions arise. Rich Rahill has been maintaining the hiking leaders list and preparing the packets that go to the monthly hiking coordinators so that they can do their jobs on time. Sue Graham contributes by performing the task of mailing the trip report forms to the hike leaders. We have acquired a new computer and printer which should help us to more efficiently print labels and update our leader's database.

The Committee continues to encourage and qualify new hike leaders through active participation in running hikes with current leaders. One leadership training hike was scheduled specifically to answer questions and provide experience for members interested in becoming leaders. More of such hikes will be offered during the next year. During the year 22 members have qualified as new leaders.

Trip Statistics - October 1, 1992 - September 30, 1993
(NA = Not Available)

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Activities</td>
<td>1375</td>
<td>1397</td>
<td>1370</td>
<td>1342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trips</td>
<td>379</td>
<td>336</td>
<td>370</td>
<td>384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participants</td>
<td>4,062</td>
<td>4,993</td>
<td>4,124</td>
<td>4,289</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average Turnout</td>
<td>13.0</td>
<td>14.9</td>
<td>13.8</td>
<td>11.2</td>
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SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

The Special Activities are each headed by a coordinator who maintains a leader's list for that activity and solicits leaders to organize events, sometimes offering suggestions or requesting specific activities to meet specific needs.

WEENDKIRIPS COORDINATOR: MARJORIE HERZENBERG

Thanks to a small number of dedicated leaders there was an increase in weekend hiking this year. A total of 10 trips were enjoyed by 218 participants. The trips went to the Catskills, the Adirondacks, the White Mountains, Vermont, Massachusetts and our own northwest Cabin. The trips included a leadership weekend and two car camping weekends.

Weekends
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trips</th>
<th>10</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>11</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participants</td>
<td>218</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>165</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average Turnout</td>
<td>21.8</td>
<td>21.7</td>
<td>15.0</td>
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FAMILY ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR: DAVE CULLEN

It was a busy year for family activities. There were 35 hikes specifically listed for families. Between the hikes and other special activities there was at least one family activity most weekends of the year.

The big event of the year was once again the Family Weekend at the Northwest Cabin. Thirty people attended, with a good mix of children of all ages and genders so that most made new friends. Most camped out, but some stayed in the cabin itself.

Other special activities included the Membership Committee day at the Noble View facility run by the Berkshire Chapter, the third annual tubing trip down the Farmington River and several bike rides.

There are now about 100 names on the family activities membership list. They receive newsletters four times a year listing family activities. This gives people more notice than is possible with the AMC Outdoors.

BACKPACKING COORDINATOR: STEVEN KING

In recent years the number of backpacking trips has declined. This year we have a new coordinator who is enthusiastic about reviving the program. Steve will be appearing at various club activities to talk to people about backpacking and discuss his plans for trips during the upcoming year.
FLATWATER CANOE

We regret to report the recent passing of Jack Randall. Jack and his wife Velma have served as our flatwater canoe coordinators.

Jack contributed to the AMC in many ways. He was a trail builder, a hike leader and a major excursions leader. We will miss him.

Canoe Trips

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trips</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participants</td>
<td>367</td>
<td>277</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Turnout</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>1.8</td>
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CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING COORDINATOR: MARTY GRIFFIN

Winter 1992-93 was a better cross-country season than usual. There were four weekend trips with 53 participants. Twenty one day trips were planned; thirteen had good skiing with 88 participants total.

Ski Trips

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<tr>
<td>Trips</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participants</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Turnout</td>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>14.3</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>5.8</td>
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BLUE TRAIL SERIES

We are currently looking for someone to take over this series of hikes. The idea is to lead hikes with the goal of helping members to complete the Connecticut 400 over a period of time. Maybe two or three people would volunteer to plan the hikes and take turns leading them.

CONNECTICUT 400 CLUB: DARYLL BORST

Daryll Borst continues to monitor the completion by AMC members of the approximately 500 miles of Blue Trails in Connecticut. During the past year Mary Ann Fruhmanger, William Fruhmanger, Taylor Holzer and Thomas Ronald Tedsen, Linda Epp, Don Ligon, and Elizabeth Tentler reached this goal. Congratulations! This brings to 52 the total number of people who have completed the Connecticut 400 since 1975 when we began tracking this award.

Monthly Hike Coordinators - 1993

Carl Rosenthal
Sue Graham
Ann Rehm
Robert Frehm
Dave Cullen
Paul Dixons

Excursions Committee - 1993

Diane McInerney..........................Family Activities Coordinator
Sandia Godin..........................FCC Hike Coordinator
Sue Salmberg..........................Bulletin Activities Editor
Marjorie Kerber..........................Weekends Coordinator
Marty Griffin..........................Blue Trail Coordinator

Steve King..........................Backpack Coordinator
Rich Rahmig..........................Computer Coordinator
Jack & Vel Randall..........................Flatwater Canoe Coordinators
Vacant..........................Blue Trail Series Coordinator

FAIRFIELD COUNTY COMMITTEE

1993 provided a few challenges for the Fairfield County Committee. We overcame them and we are now looking forward to an even more prosperous year in 1994. Among the problems we had to deal with was having to find a new location to have our meetings. We were also faced with a mailing list for our newsletter that was growing out of control. This forced us to remove about 300 names of members who seemed inactive. We also lost some very important committee members, but these vacancies have been filled.

On the positive side, our monthly slide show meetings are eagerly anticipated and well-attended. Our newsletter The Hiker is very popular with our membership and keeps everyone well informed.

We offer a full range of activities including sailing on Long Island Sound and even a "Hiking Tour" of New York City. Membership is growing at a steady pace, most of whom were introduced to the AMC through our meetings and activities which we publish in all the local papers, with experience under our belts and fresh people on our committee, I'm sure we'll be able to handle whatever problems we encounter next year and continue our forward momentum.

Fairfield County Committee:

Bob Barker
Anne Crane
Peter Meyel
Bill Mclntosh
Toby Moore
Bill Russell
Chaz Taylor

John Barry
Dave Frehm
Jane Michaud
Rob Munro
Frank Santacoe

Chuck MacMath - Chair

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Connecticut Chapter, reflecting the growth of the entire organization, now numbers 6,638, an increase of 500 over last year. However, the number of new members who joined in the last twelve months was 4,432, indicating that we are not keeping members. Our challenges in the years ahead continue to be to encourage new members to become active, involved, renewing members. Each committee member, each telephone caller, each activity leader in the Club needs to be an enthusiastic salesman for AMC, and a spokesman for the Club in their daily life. One of our
Chapter’s goal is to make the Chapter more member-friendly; in our Committee-sponsored activities we try to put this aim into action. The Committee at present consists of thirteen regular members, three regional contacts and fifteen more members functioning as telephone callers to new members in their local areas. Some of us have very specific tasks:

... Betty Robinson, co-chair, houses the computer, and does much administrative work.

... Marilyn Harper, co-chair, houses the voice mail, assisted by her husband Mac; she also responds to requests for information from prospective members.

... Dave Cullen is in charge of heading up the telephone outreach to new members, a massive job involving locating phone numbers, assigning names, filling in reports and contacting prospective callers.

... Trish Niece receives all those responses to questionnaires, and distributes them to appropriate committee chairs.

... Chris Simone is our representative to the Fall Meeting and also receives replies indicating willingness to assist in Membership activities.

The remaining members meet regularly, stuff envelopes, help plan and carry out Committee-sponsored activities, staff a table at all potlucks, and lead hikes on New Member Day. The Committee is responsible for that day’s program as well. This year members assisted with Trail Day hikes and a potluck picnic in June and sponsored a successful Membership Picnic at Noble View in July. It was a BUSY summer!

We wish to thank those members who participated during the year, but had to resign -- Marjorie London, Jan DeMattia, -- and callers Sue Graham, Aina MacNeil, Dave & Marcia Parler, and Jeanette White. They are missed, but most are still active in other Chapter responsibilities. Thanks to the continued response of a few good people, we have been able to continue our telephone calls welcoming all new members to the club.

I continue to be most appreciative for the support we receive from the entire Board. New Member Day, although rainy, had a good turnout of new people for the evening program. Our expanded social hour, the exhibits by Education, Lodges and Biking, and the Getting to Know You game were all well received; supper moved faster with two lines for the buffet, and it seemed that a good time was had by all. Another year we will hope for more hiker-friendly weather! The roads were so wet, in fact, that the bikers were washed out; the two planned trips would have been glorious in good weather.

Dave Cullen continues to reach out to Family Groups, and Betty Robinson is sending out a regional newsletter to interested East of the River members. There are plans to start some sort of regional group like the Fairfield County Committee, or like the Andover Group in the Boston area, in order to make more Chapter activities easily accessible to members.

The October Chapter Newsletter again will have a questionnaire page; please look for it and fill one out. We'll review them for interests as well as to find volunteers.

Telephone Callers:

| Roberta Ambrosino | Jon Burr |
| John Cunningham | Francine Curto |
| Dot Davis | Bill Emerson |
| Karen Fisher | Virginia Fisher |
| Helen Flood | Phyllis Freeman |
| Cathy Garnett | Inger Hesselstrom |
| John Hicks | Steve King |
| Iona Maldoborg | Diane Mischke |
| Christine Simone | Trish Niece |
| Howard Treat | 

Committee Members:

| Dave Cullen | Dawn Gagliardi |
| Helen Flood | Trish Niece |
| Mark Renson | Christine Simone |
| Lisa Spencer | John Cunningham |
| Dot Davis | Marjorie London |
| Bill Emerson | Phyllis Freeman |

MOUNTAINEERING COMMITTEE

This has been a very good year for AMC members participating in Mountaineering Activities! Good turnouts were enjoyed at the "Clunk" as well as those planned at "Pinecreek.

Major trips to the Western United States were undertaken by various members on three separate occasions.

Al Carelli and Dennis Burke pulled off an expedition on Mount Olympus in Washington State in only two and a half days time. The two then also summited Mount Adams and St. Helen's during the same trip.

Don Riehler was led off of the Grand Teton during this summer, but was able to summit Wolf's Head in the Wind River Range of Wyoming. He also climbed Irene's Arête in the Teton Range.

The highlight of the summer climbing season occurred during the excursion attended by Rick Grason, Paul Maresca and Frank Baily. Rick freed the East Buttress of Middle Cathedral in Yosemite Valley. The Crux Pitch goes free at 5.10c. During the next three days the team summited Cathedral Peak in Tuolomne Meadows. They also topped off onto Fairview Dome. Mr. Whitney was summited at the end of the five day stretch.
Rick Orsini and Paul Maresca then traveled to Washington State to team up with Dwight Curry and Rod Sutowski. The four went in two roped pairs to summit Mount Rainier via the Emmons Glacier. Done in three days time, the summit day was clear and windless.

The group minus Rod Sutowski then drove to the north Cascades where the Northwest Ridge of Mount Triumph was conquered. The route became troublesome when an icy section had to be overcome without the use of crampons or ice axes.

The two-week trip ended with a half day of rock climbing at Smith Rocks in Oregon. Rick Orsini led a route rated 5.10a and Paul Maresca lead a route rated 5.10c. Dwight Curry got his kicks by leading a 5.9 route before the group departed for San Francisco.

Members of the Mountaineering Committee are now planning next years activities.

Beginner sessions were cancelled due to liability issues so we will no longer offer beginning rock climbing lessons.

Mountaineering Committee:
Paul Maresca
Steve Waltz
Dwight Curry

Rich Orsini - Chair

MOUNT RIGA COMMITTEE/NORTHWEST CAMP

This last year has been active at the Northwest Camp. The cabin was used for 124 registered overnight parties, with more people stopping in off the trail to rest and visit throughout the year. A new sign was erected near the cabin to give information about the cabin and the area. Boxes were installed to store AMC membership applications and public versions of the area map and cabin rules for visitors to take as needed.

On March 5 the Caribou Clan and the Mount Riga Committee co-hosted the Annual Cross Country Ski and Hike trip and were greeted with some of the deepest snow in years. The Sugaring Off party on February 27th was slowed down by the deep snow on the Riga Plateau.

The May 15th spring work party improved the cabin area by installing a new gutter on the front of the cabin to cut down the ice formation in the winter. The outside fireplace was moved away from the cabin and rebuilt smaller to reduce the bonfire size and conserve wood. During the work party, Maxie Canant managed to take a rare sunny day picture of the cabin which was turned into a postcard to be included with each cabin reservation card.

On June 4th, Dave Cullen and Karl Holstein led the Second Annual Family day hike with hikes in the area.

On September 18, the cabin was opened up for the 4th Members Day with hot dogs and hot chocolate. Unfortunately, the weather did not cooperate, and the new member attendance was spotty.

We wish to thank all of those who helped throughout the year to maintain and run events: Karl Holstein and Dave Cullen for the family day outing, Paul Ives for his support in turning over the chairmanship, Rod Parlee for his conservation efforts, the Ridgemen who kept the unauthorized use under control, and all of the Connecticut Caribou Clan.

Please contact the Mount Riga Committee for information on use of the Camp. See AMC Outdoors for the number of the current Mount Riga Registrar.

Mount Riga/Northwest Camp Committee:
Chuck Doll
Karl Holstein
Susan Ives
Tom Nichols
Col. A.W. Sookus

Gary Canant - Chair

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

The Newsletter increased its publication schedule to three issues per year in 1995. Efforts were made to interest other members in assuming the Editor's position but with no success at this time. Special thanks are owed to my wife, Martha Donachie, who typed many of the items submitted for eventual incorporation by the Editor into the Newsletter. P3 printers continued to do a fine job of printing the Newsletter and Kickabon Industries provided the sealing, addressing and mailing services. We mailed about 5,600 copies of the Newsletter this Fall, an increase of about 2,400 since the Spring issue of 1995.

In 1995, a Newsletter Editor will be needed as I intend to resign the position at the end of 1996 (earlier if someone wishes to assume the position before year's end). We would like to have a volunteer or volunteers for the position and for other contemplated positions. Access to a word processor, preferably a MAC or IBM compatible, is highly desirable.

Matt Donachie - Chair

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Our committee has continued to serve the Chapter by putting on five potluck suppers, the Spring Dinner, and the Annual Meeting. In addition, in 1995, we hosted a potluck supper for the Connecticut Forest and Park Association's National Trails Day. We provided the program for
the Mid-Winter Potluck when Joan Tait showed slides on "Treking at the North Pole Biv.: Spitzbergen, Norway," a presentation of an AMC major excursion to Norway. At the Spring Dinner, Doug Webster was our speaker, and he gave a slide presentation about his trip to Baffin Island in Canada's Northwest Territories. At the 1992 Annual Meeting, Kirby and Jeff Holcombe presented a multi-media show entitled "A Canoe Adventure in Arctic Alaska." We experienced a 435 mile trip from the Kuskokwim River through the Gates of the Arctic National Park to Kotzebue Sound.

The Annual Meeting on December 5, 1992, at the Days Inn in Meriden included a First Aid 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 329 people joined us for dinner, and 106 came for just the afternoon program.

We are fortunate to have been able to use the Sky Top Bowling Lanes in Torrington, space at the Northeast Utilities in Berlin, the Church of Christ, Congregational, in Goshen, and the Knights of Columbus in Coventry for the potlucks. The Spring Dinner was held at the Chapite 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 have been 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 pitch in from time to time in the best "Appalachian tradition."

Program Committee:
Lusia Bartes
Richard Bartes
Diane Blair
Lorna Malberg
Edgar Drexler
Ray Drexler
John Fahey
Mary Fahey
Wilford Parker
Roger Hall
Emile Hall
Harold Carpenter
Irving Mills
Wilda Wise
Jean Kesselburgh
Debby Fahey
Sandy Tanzi

Helene Goullet - Chair

TRAILS COMMITTEE

Besides our normal duties in managing the Connecticut Section of the Appalachian Trail, Trails worked on several extra "goals" this season. The primary focus has been on the last major relocation in Connecticut over Schaghticoke Mountain. This change will eliminate most of the road walk between Bulls Bridge, Dogtail Corners, and Preston Mountain Road. The effort is in cooperation with the Dutchess Putnam AT Committee, as part of the trail will be in New York. We will assume the maintenance responsibilities of this section upon its completion. The trail will be cut by November but won't be officially open until spring.

A study was conducted of the dying red pine stands to evaluate their usefulness for future construction needs. We had to act fast to salvage some of the trees. Nearly 80 20-foot sections were cut, peeled, and stacked at summer's end.

Vista clearing was another priority. By the end of the season, all but one or two will have been completed. A new group site was constructed north of Ten Mile River, removing the old site from the middle of the field to a more private wooded area. Wash pit sites have been added to all group areas and sites and are being installed at all remaining camp areas.

Out "moving crew" was very active again this year with five service trips. Two returned to the Van Camp Trail in New Jersey and one to the Poconos Environmental Education Center in Pennsylvania, assisting the National Park Service in the Delaware water gap NRA. In August we traveled to Vermont for the first time working with the Connecticut Chapter of the Green Mountain Club on their section of the LT/AT. Also in August we returned to Camp Dodge to work on the East Royce Trail.

The Ridge runner program completed its 15th successful season. Our thanks to the Mount Riga Committee for a special donation to extend the season. Thanks also to an anonymous gift of $100 to purchase much needed first aid equipment.

The Regional Office was relocated this year from Dalton, MA., to the Visitors' Center at Mount Greylock. The new address is:
Appalachian Mountain Club
P.O. Box 1500
Lanesboro, MA 01237
(413) 433-0011 Phone
(413) 432-9101 fax.

The year was highlighted by many events. The monitor workshop in March featured our new responsibilities with the Natural Heritage Program (monitoring endangered species). Workshops were held for mountainiers in May and for guides/ridge runners in June. Marathon Day was a success once again. The Appalachian Trail Conference (ATC) held their biennial conference (Deep South) in June and was well represented by Connecticut. Norm Sills received a well-deserved plaque for 25 year of service to the AT. Norm completed his term on the Board of Managers of ATC and will be replaced by Connecticut's Doug Christie as one of the New England representatives. New Hampshire Chapter Trails Committee joined with us for the Fall work weekend and social.

Along with our extensive work party schedule, individual mountainiers, monitors and guides continue to contribute to the successful program we have. They are the unsung heroes. My thanks to them, all the committee members, and those volunteers who gave their time to Trails, it can only happen because of you. Special thanks to Dennis Regan and Tim Lovern of AMC's regional staff.

Trails Committee:
George Andrews
Dick Blake
Doug Christie
Bill Engstrom
Tom Ester
Elaine Luckey
The 1993 whitewater season started out as one of the best in the last decade. Due primarily to heavy snowfalls and spring rains there were a variety of rivers, brooks and small creeks to run throughout New England. Some examples of these were Sandy Brook, Hubbard Brook and the New Boston section of the Farmington, all fine runs of varying difficulty near the Massachusetts/Connecticut state lines. Farther north, two difficult high water runs like the West Branch of the Deerfield, the Monroe bridge section of the Deerfield, and the classic Cold River just outside of Cheshire, MA. There are too many to mention, but all boaters regardless of skill level realize how fortunate we all were this spring; let's keep our fingers crossed for next year.

Safety is the Connecticut AMC's main emphasis. Potential paddlers can learn through a variety of programs at minimal cost to ensure proper training. All trips are led by approved rated leaders. At all times paddlers must wear personal flotation devices (PFD's); have proper clothing (wet or dry suit, when needed) wear a helmet, carry personal first aid, rescue equipment and always have appropriate flotation in their craft. Trip leaders review the skill levels and equipment requirements for safe participation as paddlers register. Leaders, who have group safety responsibility, may decline participation to paddlers who they feel do not have the necessary skill level for the water on their trip. Leaders also assign river duties such as who will lead, sweep, and scout. The trip leader's decision is the final word.

White water rivers are rated on the International Scale of Difficulty as class I-VI. Connecticut 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 publications. 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 leaders 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 Connecticut 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 they can call to arrange for joining us on a trip. Contact Leo Sandmann, 26 Gray Rock Road, Trumbull, Connecticut 06611 (203) 261-6077.

The Whitewater Committee maintains canoes and equipment which are used for instructional and scheduled Connecticut AMC Whitewater Flatwater trips. These include a variety of open boats for both solo and tandem, kayaks and just recently a CI. Dick Ploski (203) 582-6021) coordinates equipment rental from his home in Bristol.

During 1993, the Connecticut AMC Whitewater Committee scheduled 128 trips. Each fall a dedicated small group of boaters puts together a whitewater trip schedule that runs from January through November. There are usually trips of varying difficulty on any given weekend, adapted to weather conditions, which modify paddling conditions. Boaters can usually find current updates by calling the Connecticut AMC Whitewater hotline (203) 582-6975. In the near future, we hope to be going to a "twice a week" system. To join a trip, call the trip leader for time and meeting place. Paddlers are charged a nominal fee per person per trip; this minimal charge covers administration costs.

The progress of an individual paddler may achieve, whether in a Kayak, CI, or open boat, depends primarily on one thing, and that is paddling. The AMC offers many avenues for novices to come on board or hone their skills. The following is a list of training sessions that were held throughout the year of 1993:

- Closed/open boat rolling Jan/Feb Ed Chase
- Interchapter A.C.A. Instr. Cert. May Don Getzin
- Closed boat skills dev. May Cord Gasque
- Female closed boat skills dev. Cord Gasque
- Open boat skills dev. July Eric Gasque
- Open boat skills dev. June Ted Sroom
- Open boat skills dev. July Jim Mahaud
- Safety/Rescue Course June Jim Mahaud
- Interchapter A.C.A. River Rescue June Walt Levy
- Introduction to closed boating June Don Getzin
- Intermediate to closed boating July Chuck Koonan
- Intermediate class II tandem June Chuck Koonan
- Open boat instructional June Tom Tysulanski

There were several new training programs put in place during 1993. Many of these were designed as skills development and showed a lot of promise for up and coming paddlers. The Whitewater Committee is constantly reviewing training needs versus programs offered, and for 1994 we will be offering additional programs for beginners.

In summary, the 1993 paddling season has been an exciting one. Even with many rivers very low this summer, all paddlers had access to the Deerfield River which sponsored numerous releases on both the class II Zoor Gap Section as well as the class IV Monroe Bridge Section. These releases were made possible by New England's F.I.O.W. organization with additional help from the A.W.A. and A.M.C. We should all be very thankful to these hardworking people. See you on the river.
Committee Members:
Kris Gandon
Wendy Tyburski
Ed Bossom
Becky Hendricks
Bruce Kindleth
Paul Hendricks
Dave Janieson
Ray Larkin
Kevin Hannon
Dick Pleski
Jan Larkin
Ed Chase
Tom Tyburski
Sally Janieson
Joel Freedman
Leo Sandmann
Cord Gasque - Chair
Jan Larkin - Liaison to Board

Auxiliary Committee:
Naomi Freedman
Dolores Sandmann

AD HOC COMPUTER COMMITTEE

The Computer Committee supports the various PC based activities of the other chapter committees, primarily the Membership Committee's database and the Excursion Committee's Mike Leaders database. Activities include data entry of new member questionnaire responses, special activity inquiries, and support of the existing databases. Future activities will include updating the existing club database documentation, developing a desk top publishing library of Education Committee information, determining the appropriate method for transfer of data among the chapter computers, and assisting the Bicycle Committee in updating its databases.

The Club owns three PCs and a number of committees use members' computers. The club uses Word for Windows for document processing and Access for database processing. In addition, some committees use other products, such as PFS and Word Perfect and would appreciate any support they can receive. If you would like to become a part of the Committee, please call Paul Duclos at (203) 932-9866.

Ad Hoc Computer Committee:
Nancy Butler
Mac Harper
Oscar Ruiz-Diaz
Dawn Gagliardi
Mary Nevius
Paul Duclos - Co-Chair
Chris Dutro - Co-Chair

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Our special thanks go to the members of the Nominating Committee for their efforts in putting together the 1994 slate:
Eleanor Bielak
Bill Schumacher
Fred Rielle
Lida Spencer
Marjorie Herzenberg - Chair

NOMINATIONS FOR THE 1994 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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

Chapter Chair
Vice Chair
Secretary
Treasurer
Bicycling
Conservation
Education
Excursions
Fairfield County
Membership
Mountaineering
Mount Riga
Newsletter
Program
Trails
Whitewater
Member-at-Large

Mary Sorpaian
Dave Cullen
Mary-Jane Gately
Dave Jenkins
Harry Duren
Mary Adams
Paula Burton
Carl Rosenstal
Rich Kamig
Chuck Mockenhuth
Betty Robinson
Marilyn Harper
Rick Osman
Gary Canant
Matt Donachie
Melene Goulet
Henry Edmonds
Cord Gasque
Paul Duclos

50-YEAR MEMBERS

Emerson M. Clark of Simsbury, Connecticut, is being honored for his 50 years of membership in the Appalachian Mountain Club. He has been invited to attend the Annual Meeting and banquet as a guest of the Chapter.
On the Cover

Northwest Camp on Mt. Riga
Salisbury, Connecticut
Cabin built in 1951 from chestnut trees killed by the blight

Drawing by Julian Schmidt - April, 1953

The Cabin

The woods are dark and empty,
barren, yet content.
The only signs of life are trees
that stretch toward the skies,
rivers that endlessly bubble,
and birds that chirp with delight
Perfect contentment!
Never before have I experienced
Such a thing, and I probably
won't again
that is, until we return,
to the cabin. . . .

From the 1984 Cabin Log Book