



The AMC

IN CONNECTICUT

VOLUME 24, NUMBER 1

SPRING 2003

Chapter Chair's Column by Dale Geslien

Chapter Chair's Column



Greetings to my fellow Appies! I'd like to introduce myself to you as your new Chapter Chair. My name is Dale Geslien and I'm from Bethel which is in western Connecticut, about 20 miles south of the AT. I've been hiking since the age of 12

when a family friend introduced my father to the wonder of climbing Mt. Washington. It became an annual tradition for these two brave men to take 8 children up the Tuckerman Ravine Trail. We were sure to bring back a piece of coal from the cog railroad tracks to "prove" to our mothers that we really made it to the summit!

I've been a member of the AMC for eight years and first started volunteering as a new member caller for the greater Danbury area. I responded to an ad in our newsletter and the rest is history, so they say. My most memorable experience as a caller was the time I was speaking with a new member from a neighboring town who was coincidentally hiking hut to hut in the White Mountains the same week that I was. Not only were we going to the same geographic region but we had planned the same route. The only difference was that he was going west to east and I was going in the opposite direction. After sharing some physical characteristics and explaining that he would be hiking with his two sons and I would be with my daughter, we knew we would recognize one another and say hello face to face at some point during our traverse. And sure enough, we did. It is a small world indeed among hikers. Not long after I began calling new members to welcome them to the CT Chapter, the callers' status was upgraded and we became full-fledged members of the Membership Committee. I then became more active in the Membership Committee participating in preparations for their biggest event of the year, New Member Day. After serving on the Membership Committee for two years, I was recruited to become the Program Chair. The Program Committee is responsible for four chapter-wide events each year, the Spring Dinner, the Trail's Day Potluck, the New Member Day dinner and the Annual Meeting. I was Program *Continued on pg. 6...*

SPRING DINNER

Saturday, April 5

Make Your Reservations Now!

\$12 per person

R.S.V.P. by March 25th

Spring Dinner Speaker:

USFWS's Nickerson Shepherds **"Lightning Rod" Issue of Reintroducing T-H-E W-O-L-F (!) to New England.**

If Paul R. Nickerson has his way, someday soon residents of New England may awaken to the plaintive howl of wolf packs prowling the deep northern woods.

Nickerson is an unabashed advocate of the wolf.

He's the federal contact person overseeing wolf recovery in the Northeast.

He's also the featured speaker at the annual AMC Connecticut Chapter **SPRING DINNER.**

Come meet old friends and make new ones at this annual event held at the Cheshire Grange.

And come hear Paul Nickerson narrate a lively slide presentation about the fascinating - and controversial - issue of restoring one of nature's top-line predators to its once and future home range. His show is: **"CAN WE BRING THE WOLF BACK TO NEW ENGLAND?"**

Nickerson has 31 years at U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and today is chief of the Division of Threatened and Endangered Species for Region Five - Northeast at USFWS. His jurisdiction covers Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, *Continued on pg. 2...*

Fall Gathering 2004

CT Chapter is hosting the Fall Gathering weekend in October 2004. Keep your calendars open for a fun filled weekend. Details and dates to follow.

Biography

Paul R. Nickerson

Paul R. Nickerson, originally from Bourne, Massachusetts, joined the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 1970 following a tour with the U.S. Army.

He has a bachelor of science in Wildlife Management from the University of Maine, and a master of science in Forestry from the University of New Hampshire.

His first assignment in Washington was assessing impacts of pesticides on fish and wildlife, and assisting in the coordination of the National Pesticide Monitoring Program. He went on to serve as a member of a National Task Force designed to reduce raptor electrocutions on powerlines and he coordinated the first nationwide bald eagle surveys in 1973-74.

That interest in eagles ultimately led to his involvement with endangered species and to his current position as Region 5's Endangered Species (ES) Chief, where he has served since 1975.

During that time, he has seen the national program grow to include all of our ES field offices, to involve the states, to include plants and many of the lesser known wildlife species, to become more complex with the addition of new tools like HCPs, candidate conservation agreements, safe harbors, and to become an ever-increasing challenge as Congress and the courts scrutinize the Act more intently.

Clearly, one of the most satisfying aspects of his work in the Northeast was having peregrines go from extirpated to recovered in two decades, and watching the Robbins cinquefoil delisting be made possible by many conservation-minded partners.

ESA works well when the mission takes center stage, as it did in these cases. Other recent actions in the Northeast that have raised the level of public awareness of the Endangered Species Act are the lynx and salmon listings, the proposed delisting of the bald eagle due to recovery, and the proposed reclassification of the gray wolf.

... *Spring Dinner continued*

Vermont, Virginia, and West Virginia. He is refreshingly candid for a government employee, and eminently quotable.

In fact, Paul was quoted at length in an October 2002 *YANKEE* magazine story ("Cry Wolf" by Andrew Nemethy) in which he said: "Do we have the generosity of spirit to allow the wolves to return? That's the hardest part. Don't just restore the feel-good things. Restore the hard one." And that one would be the Eastern timber wolf, a subspecies of the gray wolf (although there is some scientific dispute on this point).

The article goes on to say that New England and the Adirondacks may be capable of supporting 1,200 to 2,000 gray wolves, with some estimates as high as 4,800.

Those sorts of numbers have excited both friends and enemies of wolf recovery.

Should the wolf be reintroduced into its former place in the region's food chain?

Is reintroduction of the gray wolf the next logical step in restoration of once-rare animals in New England, like moose, white-tailed deer, beaver, Canada geese, fisher cats, wild turkeys, and black bear?

Come hear Paul share his insights about this emotionally charged debate.

Come find out how you can make your voice heard.

Come to Cheshire Grange on **SATURDAY, APRIL 5.**

Nonalcoholic Social Hour 5:30-6:30 pm

Roast Beef Dinner at 6:30 pm

Evening Program at 8 pm

Driving Directions: Cheshire Grange is near the center of Cheshire. To get there, turn east from Route 10 onto Wallingford Road by Town Hall, one block south of junction of Routes 10 & 68. Go one and a half blocks. Grange is on left with parking on both sides of the building.

Reservations: Send \$12 (make checks payable to "AMC/CT Chapter") for receipt no later than MARCH 25 to: Fred Iannotti, 159-A Hattertown Road, Newtown, CT 06470-2469. For more info, email to: programs@ct-amc.org or phone (203) 426-3197.

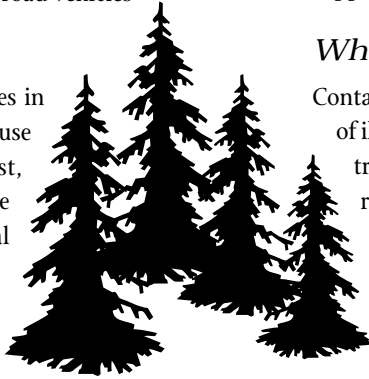
ARE YOU INTERESTED IN PROTECTING CT TRAILS FROM ILLEGAL USE AND MISUSE BY ORVs?

Illegal Off-Road Vehicle Use:

A CONNECTICUT-WIDE PROBLEM

Connecticut's natural areas offer treasures that we all enjoy. With hiking trails, swimming holes, bird habitat, fishing streams, scenic vistas, and spring wildflowers, our public forests and parks and (mostly private) blue-blazed trails provide a wealth of values and resources for quiet recreation. These treasures are threatened by the illegal use of dirt bikes, ATVs, and other off-road vehicles (ORVs).

This past decade has seen dramatic increases in ORV ownership and while riders often make use of legal trails in Pachaug State Forest, motorized vehicles increasingly threaten the integrity of lands designated for natural resource protection and quiet recreation. Aside from Pachaug, ORVs are restricted from state forests and parks, but Connecticut's land managers have difficulty controlling illegal riders and fail to enforce the laws that protect designated non-motorized public lands from ORV abuse.



Concerns and Conflicts

ORVs in the wrong places can rapidly alter the natural environment in many unhealthy ways by increasing soil erosion, reducing water quality, and creating pollution, all of which make natural areas less hospitable for plants and wildlife. This is why there are designated non-motorized use areas like CT's public lands and the extensive network of blue-blazed trails.

In addition to the environmental damage, illegal ORV use conflicts with non-motorized forms of recreation. Increasingly, illegally ridden ORVs access the same roads and trails set aside for hikers and bicyclists. Many visitors object to their noise at campsites, favorite hunting and fishing spots, and wildlife viewing areas, as well as being concerned about personal safety.



Solution

During Connecticut's 2003 legislative session, the Connecticut

Forests and Parks Association will re-introduce legislation to help curb the illegal use of ORVs.

THE LEGISLATION WILL REQUIRE THAT:

- All ORV's be registered.
- Funds from the registration fees to be split between Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Motor Vehicles thus providing for trail maintenance funds, while also offering an incentive for law enforcement to pursue illegal users.
- License plates be adequately displayed.
- A new schedule of fines for illegal riding be developed that will include confiscation for repeat offenders and make it a felony for an ORV rider to run from law enforcement.

There will be considerable opposition from the well-organized ORV community to this legislation. At present, the CT ORV community claims that they want to register their vehicles, but will fight the license plates and the fine schedule. Connecticut hikers, mountain bikers, wildlife enthusiasts and others need to take part in supporting this legislation to ensure its success.

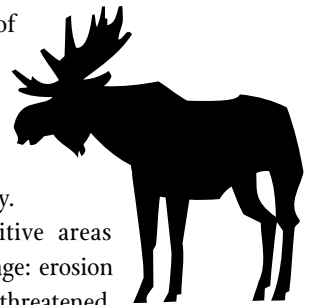
What Can You Do?

Contact your elected officials to share your views about the problem of illegal use of ORVs in state parks and forests and on blue-blazed trails. Representatives need to hear that areas created for quiet recreation and natural resource preservation need protection from illegal ORV users. Elected representatives depend on hearing your feedback and concerns.

Join AMC's Conservation Action Network (AMC-CAN), and get your friends to join too. This e-mail alert comes out 1-3 times per month with the latest information on conservation concerns in your region including ORV issues. Sign up at www.outdoors.org/conservation or contact Bryan Wentzell, bwentzell@amcinfo.org or (617) 523-0655 ext. 386.

Help document ORV abuse. Photos, site descriptions, dates of witness, news articles, and news photos are needed to prove:

- ORV users ride illegally in designated non-motorized areas in spite of restrictions on access and have at times vandalized signage, gates, and fences.
- There is little or no self-enforcement within the CT ORV community.
- Constant motorized use in sensitive areas causes serious environmental damage: erosion and destruction of vernal pools and threatened and endangered plant species.



AMC has created an action pack about how to document ORV use and misuse in a non-confrontational fashion. If you would like copies of this information, please contact Bryan Wentzell, bwentzell@amcinfo.org or (617) 523-0655 ext. 386. For more information, see *AMC Outdoors* magazine, October 2002, p. 21.

Article written by Faith Salter and Amy McNamara of AMC, and Patty Pendergast of Connecticut Forest and Park Association.

Wilderness Leadership Workshop

HIKING • MOUNTAINEERING • BACKPACKING

AMC Connecticut Chapter - White Memorial Foundation

WOW! We had a ton of fun at the Leadership Training Workshop, learned tremendous skills from great-gurus, AND making new friends with a really neat bunch of people was the best part. I've not laughed so hard, for so long, and so often, in a long-long time... But then neither have I attended such an informative and interesting workshop in a long-long time!

A BIG THANKS to all the organizers and instructors for the really successful training - Eric Stones, Dale Geslien, Leo Kelly, Anne Rehm, Paula Burton, Jeff Hogan, Tom Carruthers, Bill Russell, and Katherine Byers. And a BIG THANKS to my wonderful teammates, the 23 hardy souls who graduated from the workshop.

Great Location - Great Team

The workshop was held at the White Memorial Foundation in Litchfield, Connecticut. For people outside CT, I highly recommend visiting this location because it is specially convenient to reach in winter. The entrance is a very short drive away from a major road that is well paved, and has two-lanes with wide shoulders. Unlike some others, for example Cardigan, which too is a wonderful-wonderful lodge but is located at the end of a long drive on an unpaved road. I do however love both for their distinctive charms.

Our workshop included participants of all levels of abilities from the highly-experienced-leaders to first-time-novice's. This wide range of skills and varied perspectives, it turned out, was really helpful in developing solutions to wilderness challenges we had to solve over the next 2.5 days.

Simple & Critical Lessons

Taught Simply & Effectively

Reflecting on the workshop, a particularly interesting aspect was how it brought out critically important aspects of leading hikes by using a variety of teaching methods - small group exercises, discussions by seasoned experts, role-playing exercises based on real hiking problems, simulated hikes with rotating leaders & pre-assigned participant roles.

Dale started the workshop by pairing-up people to get to know each, followed by a go-around of every pair introducing each other. This seemed pretty simple at the time, but the importance of really knowing team members was brought out the next day when I was leading a hike on which two people developed hypothermia, and one was very serious.

Having learned on the previous evening that Leo was an EMT helped me to immediately tap into his expertise and ask him for appropriate actions, which saved the day. Otherwise I would have been in big trouble! ...However, by tapping into Leo's real expertise, unbeknownst to me, I completely messed up his role-playing assignment, and momentarily confused him, but he recovered

quickly. At the end the whole group had a good laugh about this.

Maureen & Regina, for their roles as the two hypothermic hikers, deserved Tony Awards. They both definitely have careers waiting on Broadway!

Successfully Solving Difficult "Real-World" Wilderness Challenges

One instance in particular stands out because in our simulated-role-playing-hike it was one of the more dramatic situations. In our exercise, we were on a simulated hike (everyone had assigned roles but no one knew anyone else's role) and our hike-leader was Michael. When we reached a bridge on the trail, one group member became extremely upset and was unable to get herself to cross over. While the leader was trying to calm her, three other teammates were obnoxious testosterone-kings and only aggravated the situation by their exasperation to rush to the Summit.

Eventually the hike leader decided to split the group in two and let the guys move ahead. After that, with the assistance of the remaining all-women team he was able to convince the slow hiker to cross the bridge and bring the hike to a happy conclusion.

The following day we were astonished to hear from Jeff Hogan, the director of the Mountain Leadership School, that on one of their hikes of elite-outdoor-athletes a similar situation had developed... in that instance too, after much frustration, the team finally decided to "get rid" of the troublesome guys. The remaining all-ladies group became much more cohesive, fully supported the injured member, and eventually concluded the hike safely.

It was astonishing to learn that the gurus had come up with a solution similar to ours. That was pretty amazing, and it sure felt good. This workshop was definitely teaching real-world essentials!

Christa's excellent performance as the "slow-hiker" in our role-play won her a Tony as well. For a group of "supposedly rough-&-ready" outdoor enthusiasts we sure had a large group of exceptionally talented actors. In another section of the program, Egbert deserved a Tony for his role as the obsessive-trail-cleaner, and David for leading a group that was more intent on collecting roadside garbage than on the hike. ...Maybe I'll give up my day job and become a talent manager!

Comprehensive Program

Different sessions covered various important aspects of wilderness leadership, and each one was equally impressive. Some of the highlights included:

- Different hike-leadership styles discussion was excellent. My take on it is that it is important to be aware of one's natural approach, and then to understand that the approach needs to be modified

rkshop A Great Success

KING • BIKING • CANOEING • SKIING

undation, Litchfield, November 22 - 24, 2002

(sometimes radically changed) to suit the type of activity (e.g., hiking vs. biking vs. skiing vs. canoeing, etc.); the experience & preparation of team members; level of difficulty & goals of the activity; the specific situation e.g., sudden weather change, or accident, or illness, etc. Flexibility is the key to success.

- Leave-No-Trace talk was good for understanding new ways of protecting our environment. I related well to Leo's story of his Scouting days, having myself been an Eagle Scout. I too cleared all traces of vegetation for preparing the 'perfect tent platform', then dug a trench around it as wide as the Panama Canal!
- Talking about pets on hikes, cell phones, graffiti, commercial group tourists, etc. was an eye opener. There are no "perfect" answers to these controversies, and each of us has a perspective. However, hearing other people's point of view helped to appreciate that the other side too has valid & rational reasons.
- The risk management presentation helped settle anxieties regarding leader responsibilities. This was the most entertaining presentation I've ever attended about essentially legal stuff.

Throughout the workshop we solved about 8 serious problems that had previously occurred on real-hikes. The real-world experience about serious problems is that they occur in less than 5%, or in less than 1 in 20, hikes. Therefore, we would have had to go on more than 160 hikes to encounter all these challenges. That's impressively accelerated and intense learning. Most hikes, more than 95%, that is 19 out of 20 outings, are fun and without major incident. That's worth remembering. It's the reason I've described in fairly great detail the fun we had.

What made it all especially valuable was that all the role-playing situations were real-world experiences of difficult situations and not "far-fetched absolutely worst-possible imaginable fantasies". Since the scenarios were based on reality, it meant that we all could instantly relate to each situation. Either we'd heard of it before, or worse still, we'd actually faced it. In either case everyone was committed to finding solutions. The whole program was like a power bar - good for everyone and good until the very end.

Great Food

The food at every meal was outstanding - great variety, and plentiful. Tom Carruthers and Fiona Nicholson did a marvelous job of providing a superb spread, as they do at all training events. Everyone considering a future workshop should know that they are in for a big treat.

Future Challenges - Next Horizons

Simultaneously with our workshop, AMC's all-chapter class for training major excursion leaders was being held at the White

Memorial Foundation. This meant that at meal times & for socializing we had a pretty big group; while for the class itself the smaller size meant a more intense & intimate learning experience.

Throughout the 2.5 days of the workshop I was in the kitchen a lot (I love cooking, serving, & basically anything related to the kitchen or food). There I became friends with Bob, a highly experienced multi-day backpacker - who'd have thought that friendships could start at the kitchen sink! Well, drinking beer later that night also helped! He gave me great ideas about how to progress from day hikes to backpacking... Ideas for my next adventure were starting to emerge... .

It was nice to have more experienced outdoor experts to talk about more advanced levels of activities; and also for making friends with people in other regions where I love the outdoors - Christine from NY-NoNJ, Dan from Boston, Kathy from VT, and Jack from PA.

Moonlight Hike

A moonlight hike on Saturday night was one of the highlights of the weekend. The weather was great and we enjoyed a good 1.5 hour walk. Dale was the leader with Egbert was co-leader. Even though we had hiked in the area during the day, in the darkness it looked completely different. Thankfully, both the leaders were very familiar with the trails. Newbie's should definitely not attempt this alone as getting lost is easy on the extensive property. Since our group was with experts who knew the area well we had a great time.

It was magical walking through dense dark forests and when we got to the clearing by the lakeside the moonlight was so bright that even with all the torches turned off everything was clearly visible. The view of the bright moon shining on the dark and still surface of the lake was breathtaking. It was so perfect that it looked almost unreal.

Tons Of Fun & Mid- Night Bonding

Fun is the whole reason to go outdoors and we certainly had a ton of it on this workshop. On the first night, Friday, after the class ended at about 10.45 pm, Julie, Garry, Leo, and myself sat around talking and munching snacks until fairly late ... and as expected, we solved many of the worlds problems easily, and quickly, ... Then we made the ultimate mistake of discussing politics with a group of relative strangers, many of whom had totally divergent viewpoints! WOW! ... No, it's not what one would expect... This helped us to develop a good friendship in a very short time!

I guess this was just another example of traditional wilderness-wisdom, that "standard rules don't apply in the wilderness" - In this case tossing out the old niceties held us become friends in a very short time, which in turn helped us to have a great deal of fun throughout the workshop!

Controversial Land Case

CONTROVERSIAL LAND CASE IN CONNECTICUT MOVES STEP FORWARD

The disposition of a small tract of land sought since the 1980s for the Appalachian Trail's protective corridor might have moved a step forward this month with a preliminary denial of federal recognition of the Schaghticoke Tribal Nation. The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) ruled that the organization of 330 members failed to prove it has a cohesive community or maintained continuous political leadership from the early 1800s to 1875 and again from 1885 to 1967. Federal recognition - in this case opposed by the state - brings with it a number of U.S. benefits programs and enhanced ability to own and operate casinos on tribal land. The state had argued that Christian missionaries in the mid-1700s formed a group that called itself the Schaghticoques from the remnants of several small tribes.

AT protection might seem a tangential issue, although tribal leaders told a sympathetic Senate hearing two years ago that conflict with the Trail was a major problem. Less than a mile of the Trail has crossed the northwestern corner of the Schaghticoke's state designated reservation near Kent, Connecticut, for decades - the only crossing of reservation land along its length. The National Park Service sought to buy a tract just to the north - to move the footpath there - from the Preston Mountain Club. The agency found ambiguities in the tract's title and went to court to clarify ownership before the purchase, and new leadership of the Schaghticoke organization stepped into the case, claiming the land belonged to it. The tribe later asserted ownership over 2,200 more acres. The cases eventually were combined in federal court, with a judge delaying trial until BIA settled the recognition issue. (He had been overruled earlier when he said he could decide that question.) The tribe could appeal the preliminary decision, with a final BIA ruling due in September 2003.

... Chapter Chair continued

Chair for three years before serving as Vice Chair last year. When I first responded to that newsletter plea, I never dreamed I would one day be Chapter Chair, but I am looking forward to an exciting and productive term where I can work with Chapter leaders to continue our conservation and educational efforts while providing safe and fun-filled outdoor activities to our membership. I am fortunate to have seven new Executive Committee members with 22 veterans returning, which translates to strong leadership for our chapter. As one of the larger chapters within the club, we are continually looking for new volunteers so we can provide as many activities as possible. So, please consider volunteering in an area of special interest to you. Check out the CT Backcountry masthead listing to contact Committee Chairs or our web site at www.ct-amc.org. Who knows? Maybe one day you will become Chapter Chair!



The Best-Kept Secret in the AMC

by August Camp Committee

For 125 years, members of the AMC have been organizing and running August Camp, a month-long camping experience that provides a ready-made way for campers to explore new or familiar hiking areas around the country. Fifty-five adults get to be kids again during each two-week session, sleeping in two-man army tents, showering *al fresco*, telling tall tales at campfire and just being relaxed and silly if they feel like it.



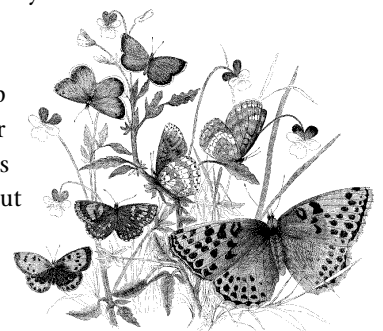
Last summer, we enjoyed the rigors of the Sawtooth Mountains in Stanley, Idaho, with their pristine aqua lakes, dusty trails and 30-degree nights. Brrr! The summer of 2001, we did lots of sweating in the White Mountains of New Hampshire during that torrid heat wave that engulfed the East Coast, when many campers opted for waterfall hikes. The summer of 2000, in Washington State, we were totally overwhelmed with the sight of Mt. Rainier around every bend in the trails. Being in nature morning, noon and night is the best medicine for whatever ails us city slickers.



This summer, August Camp will be visiting Stratton, Maine in the heart of the Bigelows, Crockers and Tumbledowns. We will hike along the AT, paddle along beautiful rivers and lakes, and get our first taste of mountain biking.

So, be you a new hiker, a seasoned backpacker, canoeist or biker, August Camp is the place for you. Besides, where else would you have the chance to get to know your fellow Appies so intimately!

Check out the August Camp web site at www.augustcamp.org for stories about past summers and more information about registering for this summer in Maine or call Marion Chalot at (212) 362-4946.



SOLO Wilderness First Aid

April 5-6, 2003

Two full days of instruction. Topics include: patient assessment, shock, long-term patient care, soft tissue injuries, environmental emergencies, fractures, dislocations, splint improvisation and preparedness.

- Location:** White Memorial Conservation Center, Litchfield, CT.
- Cost:** \$130 includes instruction, meals, lodging.
- PLUS:** Saturday night CPR certification; \$35, open only to those attending weekend.
- Contact:** Leo Kelly (LGK48@aol.com) Please act soon; enrollment is limited.

Ray Taberman

October 29, 2002

Ray Taberman, 80, CFPA Trail Manager passed away on October 29, 2002.

Ray was a real workhorse. For the past forty years he has helped maintain Connecticut's blue blazed trails that AMCers use so much. He was the CFPA Trail Manager for the northern end of the Metacomet Trail for many years, and, after he moved to Waterford, was the Trail Manager for part of the Narragansett Trail in southeastern CT. He worked on CFPA's Roving Trail Crew. He was a member of CFPA's Trails Committee. He was still active on the trails. Per his family's request, donations in Ray's memory can be made to the "Hibbard Trust for Land & Trails," c/o CFPA.

News From Trails Committee *by Dave Boone, Trails Chair*

As winter is coming closer to an end, the work of the Trails Committee moves from planning to action. This winter surely has impacted the condition of our trails, and all hikers will want to do their part in restoring and protecting them. Our work party calendar is already filled with opportunities for you to help at your convenience. Check out *AMC Outdoors* and our Chapter web page to learn if something is scheduled for your favorite section of the Appalachian or blue-blazed trails, and come on out with us. A major project to be launched this year is the construction of one, or possibly two, moldering privies in the Sage's Ravine camping area. This is in line with the committee's plan to eventually convert all AT privies in Connecticut to this more modern method of waste disposal, and will serve to better protect the beautiful and sensitive environment that is Sage's.

Of interest to all Chapter members is the annual "Give A Day To Trails" scheduled for May 10. This is an opportunity for all hikers to not only learn trail maintenance methods, but to make a contribution to the Trail which means so much to us all. Offerings from light to heavy effort are planned, so anyone can help out!

The committee has several "job openings" that need to be filled. Monitors are needed to ensure that the AT and its adjoining corridors are not being impacted by conflicting uses. More

specialized "natural resource monitors" are needed to see that the many rare plant and animal species identified along the AT are properly protected. This is a priority with the Trails Committee this year, and help is needed. A committee Treasurer is sought to manage our spending and funding. A "display coordinator" is needed to help promote wise use of the AT through displays, slides, and photos. A co-volunteer coordinator/awards is needed to ensure individuals who give their time are properly recognized. Finally, for experienced maintainers, there are several sections open for assignment. Contact Monitor Coordinator Dick Blake, Natural Heritage Coordinator Paul Palmer, Maintainer Coordinator Harlan Jessup, or myself, Dave Boone if you are interested in the mentioned positions. Our contact information is on the Trails web page.

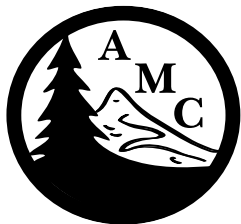


Last, plan on attending the 34th biennial meeting of the Appalachian Trail Conference in Waterville Valley, New Hampshire, July 25-August 1. This event features hikes, workshops, excursions, and entertainment. The meeting is hosted by the NH Chapter of AMC. You will not be disappointed!

Appalachian Mountain Club

Connecticut Chapter
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The AMC
IN CONNECTICUT

Spring 2003

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 - ✿ Wilderness Leadership Workshop Nov. 2002
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COMING EVENTS:

- Sat. Apr. 5 - Spring Dinner, Cheshire Grange
- Sat. June 7 - Trails Day Potluck, NEUtilities, Berlin
- Sat. Sept. 20 - New Member Day Spaghetti Dinner,
NE Utilities, Berlin
- Sat. Nov. 15 - Chapter Annual Meeting,
Farmington Marriott

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