

WONALANCET OUT DOOR CLUB NEWSLETTER

February 7, 1983

Snow has come at last and in quantity sufficient to make skiers, snowshoers, and 11 persons longing for that white blanket, supremely happy. Wonalancet has seen small amounts of snow come and go with bare ground the most common sight until now. Hikers have used the trails in greater numbers with no need for snowshoes or skis. High winds have brought down trees and branches on our trail which had been so well cleared by so many hours of effort only a few months ago. Since adopting a trail (Red Path, Pasture Path), we are just a bit more apprehensive when storm winds blow and just a trifle more reluctant to head to "our" trail to survey the winter's surprises.

Summer 1982 was an active one in the intervale. WODC meetings, trail clearing, a second "annual" folk concert in the Chapel park were among the events in which young and old participated. Blackflies were about in their usual numbers, gardens thrived and the quantity and quality of the blueberry crop on our own Blueberry Ledges was outstanding.

The 83rd Annual Meeting of the Club was held on August 2nd at which time the following slate was elected:

President	Walden Randall
Vice-president	Ted Sidley
Secretary	Barbara Sidley
Treasurer	Nat Steele
Newsletter	Martha Chandler
Trails/Liaison with Forest Service	George Zink

A highlight of the meeting was the trail report by Chairman Zink who noted that all the 18 trails were open, blazed, and signed. He reported, too, that much heavy work, such as erosion control projects and shelter repairs, still needs to be done, tasks which will place a severe burden on our treasury. Thanks were expressed to the many volunteers who aided in the trail work. Special note was given to the 38 days of work put in by Russell Kelly on the Walden, Square Ledge, and Wonalancet Range Trails. Also the AMC received thanks for allowing us the use of their professional trail crew to lead a group of volunteers in 3 work-day projects this past summer, including extensive granite waterbars work on the Blueberry Ledge Trail.

Trail adoption continues with four more adoptions taking place this past year:

Lawrence Trail	George Zink Jr. and Jeff Zink
Bickford Trail	George and Sally Zink
Cabin Trail	The Weymouths
Bennet Street to Sandwich Dome	Rudy Mutter

A number of major trails await selection. Please note options for adopting in Denny Randalls' president's letter which follows.

Questions have arisen in the past year about the status of a few trails over private lands. The Executive Committee has been exploring each situation on an individual basis and will, as instructed by vote at the last meeting, report back to the membership at the next annual meeting. Central to the issue is the continuance of the club's trail system which dates back to the 1800's.

T-shirts are still available - now in both light blue with dark blue lettering and in navy with white lettering. Sizes are S, M, L, and XL (men's sizes) and children's sizes (8-10), (12-14) and (16-18). The material is a 50-50 cotton blend which does not shrink. The price is \$6.00 for adult sizes and \$5.50 for children's sizes. Add \$1.00 for mailing costs.

Please send orders to: John Chandler
16 Orchard Street
Laconia, N.H. 03246

Club member Fred Steele has a new book published recently and available through the AMC at 5 Joy Street, Boston. Entitled, At Timberline: A Nature Guide to the Mountains of the Northeast, it was released in December of 1982 in soft cover with illustrations.

President's Letter

January 1983

Greetings from the land of huge woodpiles, little snowfall, full fuel tanks, and great skating on Lake Chocorua over the New Year Holiday. Your executive committee met on New Year's Day and things look good for 1983.

Our tentative schedule looks like this:

- Saturday July 2 at 4pm with tour!*
- First week in July: Talk by David Brooks on "Wonalancet Hydro-Electric Company, 1983".
 - Third week in July: Forest Service speaker on the new Plan for the Forest.
 - First Sunday in August: Folk Concert in the Chapel Park - our third and a very popular event.
 - Third Sunday in August: Annual Meeting, WODC's 84th.

You will hear again when dates and times are finally set.

Dues for the 1983 year are now being accepted by Treasurer Nat Steele, at Wonalancet, N.H. 03897. They remain at \$5.00 per person 18 years and up and \$10.00 per family. As usual, contributions in all denominations will be received with great gratitude. All who enjoy hiking our trails or just being in the Wonalancet area are welcome to join WODC and lend support to WODC's work, support of a physical, moral or financial nature or any combination of the above.

The Adopt-a-Trail Plan seems to be the best way to ensure that the trails are in order. The Executive Committee has three ways you may adopt a trail at this point. Please consider so doing so we can keep things in good order.

1. "Hike and clear" category, where you are the true parent in charge and really have time and energy to maintain "your" trail.
2. "Walk and inventory", where the spirit is willing but the flesh is weak, so you check how things are on a regular basis and tell George Zink if things need doing.
3. "Monetary", where you are temporarily unable to do anything yourself but love a specific trail and will hire a worthy teenager with a strong arm at minimum wage to clear the trail for you, a tax-exempt donation to WODC. This idea, new this year, was contributed by Nat Steele.

There is no new word on the pending Forest Plan at this time. Probably February or March is a realistic date to hear from the White Mountain National Forest. The Executive Committee has a tentative plan to meet in mid-March to review any documents which may be available then for WODC comment.

John Randall has some examples of safety equipment, helmets and ear muffers for chain saw work, to display to members, and Ralph Weymouth would like Club support for a New Hampshire bottle return bill. Be thinking of these and have a pleasant winter.

Denny Randall, President