

# WONALANCET OUT DOOR CLUB

Newsletter

July 1990

## TRAIL WORK

In order to have trails in good condition early in the hiking season, a Trail Day was held on May 26, 1990. Six members (Dana Steele, Chris Conrod, Doug Mayer, Clarinda Philips and friend, and John Mersfelder) worked for eight hours clearing overgrown areas and cutting many blowdowns on the Kelly Trail and Square Ledge Trail. After weeks of cold and rainy weather, the day was sunny and warm--warm enough so one of the trail crew, after returning from the day's work, cooled off with a swim in Mersfelders' pond. It was a long and exhausting day, followed by a potluck supper at Mersfelders' accompanied by good food and congenial company.

The Club is hiring the Sandwich Range Conservation Association crew, under the leadership of Nat Scrimshaw, and crew leader Chuck Marecic of Sandwich, to work on WODC trails for approximately four weeks in July. The principal objective is to improve the Lawrence Path on the west slope of Mt. Paugus. WMNF is making the major financial contribution to this effort.

An additional Trail Day will be held on August 18. It gives an opportunity to those who are in the area in the summer to volunteer their time, and help the Club with its 42 miles of trails. Everyone is urged to take part in this effort. Volunteers will meet at the Ferncroft Road kiosk at 9:00 am. For additional information, call Dana Steele at 323-7287.

## SUMMER ACTIVITIES

Peter Pohl, the Carroll County Extensive Service Forester, will give a talk on the subject of "Modern Woodlot Management." This topic was suggested because of its timeliness to those in the area whose small forest holdings are not currently under management. The talk is scheduled for July 22 at 7:30 p.m. in the Wonalancet Chapel.

On July 28, Fred Steele, longtime WODC member and noted botanist, will lead a group on a walk to Black Spruce Bog bordering White Lake State Park. Directions to meeting place follow: from Tamworth Village, go south on Route 113 (towards Brett School) and take your first left, which is Depot Rd. In 2.4 miles, take a left onto a dirt road, which

ends at the edge of White Lake. We will meet there at 9:00 am. If you wish any further information, call 323-8693. The walk will last between one and two hours.

People living in Wonalancet have been aware of lumber truck travel along the roads; trailer trucks have been transporting wood chips to a biomass plant in Westbrook Maine, and logging trucks carrying logs to a local mill. Many of those trucks are associated with timber cutting on Whittin Ridge on the side of Mt. Mexico within WMNF. A trip is planned to the logging site on August 11. Those interested in seeing the patch cuts and skid roads should meet on Route 113A at the start of the Cabin Trail at 9:00 am on August 11th. It will be an easy hike, lasting about two hours. For further information, call 323-8693.

For details on August 18 Trail Day see information under TRAIL WORK.

The Annual Meeting will be held on August 19 at 7:30 pm in the Chapel, preceded by a potluck supper in the Grove. The supper will begin at 5:15 pm. Potluck usually works, but if you have any questions, or can't think what to bring, call Barbara Sidley (323-8694), Cathy Mersfelder (323-7793) or Sally Zink (323-8693).

Please read the following WODC Bylaws and Revisions. Only those Bylaws considered for revision are included. They will be voted upon at the Annual Meeting. Also on the agenda are: a report on the trail work completed by Nat Scrimshaw and the SRCA crew, a report from Dana Steele on the condition of WODC trails, a preview of the new map drawn by Mike Bromberg, a report from George Zink of the latest news on the Flat Mountain Pond issue, and, of course, the nomination and election of new WODC officers for the 1990-1991 year.

A short hike into the Sandwich Range Wilderness Area, lead by Nat Scrimshaw of the SRCA, will take place on August 25. Meet at the Ferncroft kiosk at 10:00 am. For further details call 726-7059.

## FMP DECISION

On February 14th, 1990, Forest Supervisor Hathaway issued his decision to open the Guinea Pond and Flat Mountain Pond Trails for access by the mobility impaired using All Terrain Vehicles (ATV's) and 4-wheel drive motor vehicles weighing up to 4000 pounds. The road to be constructed, leading from Sandwich Notch to Flat Mt. Pond, is seven miles in length, and

## CALENDAR: Summer Activities

**July 22 Peter Pohl. "Modern Woodlot Management,"  
Wonalancet Chapel. 7:30 pm.**

**July 28 Fred Steele. Black Spruce Bog Walk;  
White Lake boat launching area. 9:00 am.**

**August 11 View timber cuts and roads on Whittin Ridge;  
start of Cabin Trail on Rt. 113A. 9:00 am.**

**August 18 WODC Trail Day; kiosk on Ferncroft Road  
9:00 am.**

**August 19 Annual Meeting and Potluck Supper;  
in Grove at Wonalancet Chapel. Supper at 5:15 pm,  
meeting at 7:30 pm.**

**August 25 Nat Scrimshaw. Talk and walk in Sandwich  
Range Wilderness; Ferncroft kiosk at 10:00 am.**

will require the construction of 13 bridges 14-46 feet in length (a total of 478 feet), and ten feet wide. There will be 140 feet of wooden raised deck near the pond, parking lots at each end of the road, gates, and road reconstruction wherever needed. The Supervisor estimates that the total cost of construction will be \$70,000. (Editor: I wish I could get that contractor to install a waterline to my well!)

### WODC APPEAL

The WODC Executive Committee at a meeting on February 22, 1990 voted unanimously to join several organizations in an appeal of the Flat Mountain Pond Decision signed by the WMNF Supervisor on February 14, 1990. It was agreed that WODC trail interests are involved, that a consensus

of opinion is evident from previous actions of the Club and the letters from members in response to the Sandwich Range Wilderness Management Plan. The decision of WMNF authorizes construction of a truck road across the WODC maintained Bennett Street Trail.

As a result of the Executive Committee decision, WODC joined with the Sierra Club, The Wilderness Society, Wilderness Inquiry, and the Sandwich Range Conservation Association in filing an appeal. The joint appeal was filed on April 2, 1990. Wilderness Inquiry is a Minneapolis based organization which has as one of its objectives the development of equipment and programs to "advance the study of the recreational and educational needs of people with disabilities with particular emphasis on accessibility to wilderness areas." The Sandwich Range Conservation Association, based in Campton, N.H., is the environmental organization founded by Nat Scrimshaw for the purpose of maintaining public

hiking trails in New England. SRCA has held contracts to do major trail maintenance on WODC trails. Club members John Chandler and George Bates are officers of the Association.

The appeal, prepared by the staff of the Conservation Law Foundation in Boston, "argues that the Forest Service does not consider that motorized access, complete with road, 13 bridges, drainage construction, speed limit signs and parking lots, in fact degrades the primitive experience the agency is trying to create." In announcing the Decision, the Forest Supervisor states, "I acknowledge that the approximately last 2 miles near the pond are in MA 6.3 which is inconsistent with the Forest Plan." He then goes on to justify his decision to amend the plan without public comment.

Separate appeals have been filed by the Sandwich Conservation Commission and Dr. Nathan T. Sidley. There are numerous intervenors. A response to the appeals is expected in mid-July.

### Proposed Constitutional Revision

It is proposed that the underlined words be added, and words crossed-out be deleted, in the Bylaws and Constitution.

#### ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

##### Section 1. Individual Membership

Any individual in agreement with the purposes of the Club and paying dues as provided in the Bylaws may become an individual member.

##### Section 2. Institutional Membership

Any institution in agreement with the purpose of the Club and paying dues as provided in the Bylaws may become an institutional member.

#### ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of the Club shall be a President, a Vice-President, ~~a Secretary~~, a Recording Secretary, a Newsletter Secretary, and a Treasurer, with duties as set forth below .... The offices of Recording Secretary and Treasurer may be held by one person. The Club may provide for other officers by bylaw and resolution.

Section 3. If the office of President becomes vacant ...those duties shall be performed during the remainder of the current term by the Vice-President, if there is one, or by the Recording Secretary, or.....the Treasurer, in that order.

Section 6. The Recording Secretary shall keep records of the Club's meetings and all past records of the Club, and shall maintain a current membership list.

Section 7. The Treasurer shall have custody and make prudent investments of all Club moneys....Authorized expenditures shall include regular trail and administrative expenses ... and emergency expenditures authorized by the President with the concurrence of either the Recording Secretary or the Treasurer.

#### ARTICLE V. MEETINGS AND NOTICES

Section 1. The Annual Meeting of the Club shall be in ~~August~~ the summer in Albany, Sandwich or Tamworth...

Section 2. A quorum at any meeting is ~~twenty-five~~ fifteen members. If less than a quorum is present at a meeting, those present may adjourn to a later time and/or a different place, and the Recording Secretary shall make reasonable efforts to notify all members of the adjournment.

Section 5. The Newsletter Secretary shall notify the members of each meeting in writing, by mail....

Proposed Bylaws Revision

ARTICLE II

Section 2. Dues for each year are payable before the start of the Annual Meeting. ~~Dues are \$3.00 for an individual member and \$5.00 for a family,~~ for each class of membership are set by resolution of the membership at Annual Meetings.

An institutional member is a partnership, corporation, business, or other association. Each institutional member shall be allowed one vote, by a designated individual. A person voting as an individual member, however, may not also vote on the same issue as an institutional designate.

ARTICLE III. MEETINGS

~~Section 1. A meeting of the Club shall be held in June or July, in Albany, Sandwich or Tamworth, at a place and time set by the President.~~

~~Section 2.~~ Educational and social meetings,....may be held at any place or time, at the call of the President....Depending on the number and frequency of such meetings, the officers or committees calling them shall help the Newsletter Secretary to give notice.

ARTICLE V. COMMITTEES

Section 1. There shall be an Executive Committee, comprised of the Club officers and committee chairs. The Executive Committee may meet at times and places set by the President. When authorized by the membership, the Executive committee may conduct business in the name of the Club.

Section 2. There shall be a Trails committee, and there may be a Nominating Committee, an Activities Committee and other committees. ....The Club may establish standing or temporary committees by resolution at an Annual Meeting.



**DUES NOTICE**

Dues for 1990-1991 are now payable. Family membership is \$15.00; Individual membership is \$8.00. Make checks payable to the WODC and mail to:

Nat Steele, Treasurer  
Wonalancet, NH 03897