

WONALANCET OUT DOOR CLUB

Newsletter

May 2003



Caring for the Sandwich Range since 1892

Walking in Verdant Woods

An Essay on Connection to Place

“Wonalancet is not a geographical expression, it is a spirit.” So stated Edgar J. Rich in a moving oration presented to the Sixth Annual White Mountain Forest Conference in 1914. This hyperphysical connection to place has inhabited the hearts of Wonalancet’s tenants from the day Bradbury Jewell forsook one of Tamworth’s choicest dwellings to raise a new home in the wilds of “my birch intervale.”

It is not uncommon among immigrant Wonalanceters, both full- and part-timers, to share fond remembrances of their first encounter with this intervale nestled into the foothills of the Sandwich Range, to vividly recall the initial awe and immediate bond to the woods, fields and – yes – even the cottages and farm houses tucked into swales and perched on knolls. We acknowledge that the spell was cast on our first visit; a spell that draws us back year after year, that ties us to the natural beauty so delicately enhanced but respected by those of us fortunate to call Wonalancet “home.”

The spell never fades. The charm endures through the seasons of our lives. It blossoms anew each time we return, whether we may be annual visitors rounding Mt. Katherine towards our first glimpse of the Chapel or year-rounders returning from our travels. Though duties lead us elsewhere, a sentient spiritual link abides. Local summer resident John Finley, Jr., upon leaving for a winter of academia, expressed the traveler’s lament well: “. . . you hang up your soul along with your khaki trousers, and find them both rather stiff when you come back to them in the spring.”

John, Jr. must have inherited his eloquence and sensitivity to place from his father, a man respected for his literary talent who built a summer home near the top of Stevenson Hill, commanding a stunning vista of the Sandwich Range – a range he tramped with regularity. Marjory Gane Harkness styled John Finley, Sr. the “walkingest man ever heard of.” He had his own method of dealing with long absences from the hills he loved and shared it in his 1909 poem, *Men as Trees Walking*:

*If I may not have my sight
Give me, then a little light,
Such as comes at early dawn
Or as waits when day has gone. –*

*Just enough that men may seem
As the trees, of which I dream,
On the mountains, far away
From the streets where I must stay:*

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Treasure Chest



Photo courtesy of Laconia Public Library

This is the “small hand trunk studded with brass nails” into which Erastus P. Jewell’s 1861 diary was placed almost a hundred years ago. WODC member and local historian Doug McVicar unearthed this prize in the Laconia Public Library. The diary offers an intimate look at Wonalancet during the beginning of the Civil War and adds to the lore of one of the area’s most historically significant houses. Read excerpts from the diary in Doug’s piece, **Life, Hope and Fear in a Startling Age**, on page 4.

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2003 SUMMER TRAILS PLANS

The 2003 trail season will follow the basic pattern established last year: A 4-person crew is being recruited through the Student Conservation Association for an 11-week season. But rather than spending the entire time with WODC, the crew will spend 4-5 weeks working with the Forest Service. This will provide a more varied crew experience, while reducing the amount of supervision required by WODC.

The crew will continue to be housed at the Mead Conservation Center and supported by funding from WODC and US Forest Service. Everyone is invited to welcome the crew on May 30 with a potluck supper at the Mersfelders'.

During the first three weeks with WODC, the crew will work on a range of basic but critical tasks such as cleaning the 600+ water bars on WODC trails and

attending to any special requests from adopters such as brushing in ice-storm impact areas. The crew may also have the opportunity to participate in special Forest Service training, including a two-day wilderness first aid program.

For the next four weeks the crew will work alongside US Forest Service crews from the Saco District. Projects will include the construction of a 42' foot bridge on the Sawyer Pond Trail, during which the crew may be camped in the Sawyer Pond area in order to avoid a long daily commute from Sandwich to Bartlett.

The final four weeks will focus on trail restoration and reconstruction work with WODC. Possible projects include replacement of rotten log water bars on the Dicey's Mill Trail or a continuation of the rock step and water bar construction that began on Wiggin Trail last year.

Lacking a single full-time leader, our summer crew will continue to focus on more accessible projects where training and supervision can be provided by members of the Trails Committee on a day-trip basis. For the longer term, the TC continues to explore alternatives for addressing more serious trail restoration projects, including portions of the Lawrence, Wiggin, and Blueberry Ledge Trails. Although the SCA has proven to be a reliable source of crew members, finding experienced leaders continues to be the greatest obstacle to addressing these major projects.

While many organizations are able to recruit leaders from their prior trail crews, this method of recruitment hasn't been successful for WODC, given the small number of crew members we work with each year. Prior crew members (and anyone else who might be interested) are always encouraged to contact the Trails Committee about these opportunities. One way or another, we'll find a way to put you to work!

While our SCA crew is focused on a few specific projects, general trail tending will continue to be performed by WODC adopters with an extra boost from several public trail days: May 17 will be a general trail clearing day, followed by a potluck supper at the Boettigers'. July 19 is NH Trails Day, with a variety of brushing and water bar cleaning projects, and a potluck supper/barbecue at Dick Daniel's pond.

Anyone wanting a real backcountry trail work experience is invited to join us for the annual Sleeper Trail weekend on September 12-14. (Reservations are requested.) While we can't promise a repeat of last year's exploding stove, a couple of days of clearing and treadway stabilization are always a satisfying experience and the camaraderie is great. Or join us for an end-of-season trails day on October 18, followed by a great pizza supper.

Peter Smart
Trails Committee Chair
trails@wodc.org

The Newsletter is published semiannually by the Wonalancet Out Door Club. Submissions for inclusion in future issues should be sent to:

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Or,

Articles@wodc.org

WODC was established in 1892 for maintaining trails, promoting conservation, and social recreation.

WODC web site: www.wodc.org

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Have you noticed more garter snakes on the trails the past few years? Perhaps the ice storm improved their habitat.

Photo by P. Smart

SUMMER CALENDAR

Trail Work

May 17 – Spring Cleaning

It takes a lot of work to get 52 miles of trails ready for the summer. Come help our trail adopters on this annual opening of the trails. Emphasis will be on general clearing – blowdowns and some brushing – and maybe a little drainage cleaning if we're feeling ambitious. And don't worry, we'll be back at Ferncroft in time for the party at the Boettigers' Meet at 8:15 am at the Ferncroft kiosk.

May 31 – SCA Crew Starts

The crew's work week will generally be Saturday through Wednesday. The first three weeks will concentrate on some serious waterbar cleaning and other drainage work – a great way for them to cover a lot of ground and get familiar with the trail network. Everyone is welcome to join them for a day. Call Peter Smart at 323-8827 to find out when and where to meet up with the crew.

June 23 - July 17 – SCA Crew Works With USFS

This year WODC is sharing the crew with the USFS Saco District. Planned projects include patrolling and building a foot bridge on Sawyer Pond Trail.

July 19 – New Hampshire Trails Day

The hobblebush and blackberries will be crowding the path by mid-summer and this state-wide project is an excellent opportunity to keep the vegetation in check. Depending on the turn-out, we might do some rock or log work. Come for a full day or just the morning. There will be projects for all interests and abilities. And afterwards, you can cool off with a swim in Dick Daniels' pond. Meet at 8:15 am at Ferncroft kiosk.

July 19 - August 13 – SCA Crew Project

The crew returns to WODC to start some technical trail work. The exact project has yet to be determined but you can be sure there will be a lot of digging and heavy lifting. Most likely the project will be within an hour's hike of the trailhead and visitors are welcome and encouraged. Call Peter Smart at 323-8827 for specifics.

September 12 - 14 – Sleepermania Weekend

An annual extravaganza. We would do it even if the trail didn't need any work (but it will). Three days in the most remote section of the Sandwich Range Wilderness, this trip is for hard-core trail fanatics. The group size is limited to 10 but we almost always have room for two or three more. Call 323-8827 for details.

October 18 – The Finale

There's always something we didn't get around to doing and October is a beautiful time to be on the trails. Brushing, waterbar work, building a foot bridge on Brook Path – who knows? And chances are good we'll end the day at Pizza Barn in Ossipee. Meet at 8:15 am, probably at Ferncroft but call 323-8827 for any last-minute changes.

Just for Fun

(and a little bit of business)

May 17 – Potluck Picnic at the Boettiger's

You don't have to be a bow-saw toting, mud-encrusted trail votary to enjoy the party. Besides, someone's got to be there to listen to all the war stories about black flies and snow storms. Good food, pleasant company and possibly an intense game of croquet if the lawn is ready. Join us at 5:30 pm, across from Squirrel Bridge on Ferncroft Road.

May 30 – Welcome the SCA Trail Crew

This annual potluck supper at John and Cathy Mersfelder's has always been a highlight of the crew's summer-long visit to Wonalancet. They often talk of it while they're swatting at bugs with a root mattock – how friendly and supportive the club members are. Join the fun, meet the crew and bring your favorite dish. 5:30pm at Mack Hill Farm, Old Mail Road, Tamworth. Call 323-7793 for directions.

July 19 – Potluck Barbecue at Dick's Pond

Cap off New Hampshire Trails Day with swimming, burgers (real or veggie) and cold drinks. Bring a side-dish and your glove. There might be a softball game if we have any energy left. 5:30, behind Dick Daniels' house on Chase Road, North Sandwich. Call 323-8078 for directions.

August 17 – Annual Meeting

The pinnacle of democracy – everyone gets to talk and sometimes we even take turns. It's guaranteed there will be something to debate and decisions to be made. It's your club. They're your mountains. Get involved. And, of course, a potluck supper in the grove precedes the meeting. Supper at 5:30, meeting at 7:00; at the Wonalancet Chapel on Chinook Trails (Rte. 113A).

And maybe more . . .

Our intrepid activities team is busy working on one or two other events – something both fun and educational but not nailed down at the time of printing. Keep an eye on the mail, wodc.org and newspapers for further developments.



Yeah, we really work our crews hard.

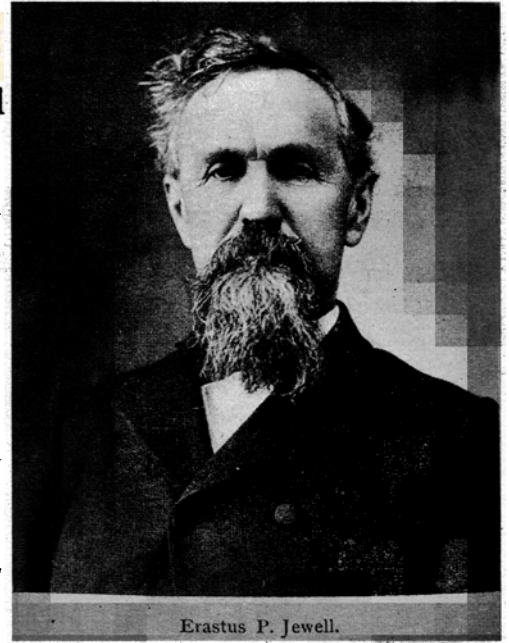
Photo by L. Labrie

Life, Hope and Fear in a Startling Age: Wonalancet in 1861

by E.P. Jewell

Club members may be interested in the diary kept throughout 1861 by Erastus Perry Jewell. In that year Jewell was still living on the farm in Wonalancet his grandfather had carved out of the wilderness. But Jewell was ambitious – he records in this diary his progress in the study of the law. He would soon leave Wonalancet for a more urban and professional life in Laconia, where his legal practice flourished. Each summer he returned to his boyhood home for vacation. Upon his death he left the Jewell homestead in Wonalancet to the Laconia Public Library; the library trustees sold it to the owners of the Ferncroft Inn.

Jewell's 1861 diary is preserved at the Laconia Public Library. No other diary by Jewell is known. The following excerpts comprise approximately 12% of the text of the diary. I have added a few explanatory notes [in brackets], and sparingly smoothed and modernized the punctuation.



Erastus P. Jewell.

— Doug McVicar

Photo courtesy of Laconia Public Library

As the year opens Abraham Lincoln's recent election has thrown the nation into crisis. We find the 23-year-old Jewell teaching in a local school . . .

Jan 1, 1861 Tuesday Passed the day very pleasantly with my scholars – received the “Happy New Year” from their united voices when I arrived at the school-house in the morning.

Jan 16 Most severe storm of the season. Roads drifted. Scholars prevented from getting home in many cases. No Mail. Read Mr. Seward's Union Speech. Find some fine passages – better such sentiments long ago ere the dark results of Sectional agitation threatened the destruction of the best government the world ever saw.

Jan 20 Sunday Feel much anxiety for my father – he was not quite so well yesterday. Very cold.

Jan 22 Received a letter from AMH. [Ann M. Hodgkins of Tamworth, also a school teacher]

Jan 25 Sent a letter to A.M.H. Arrived at home just before dark. Found my father very low Weaker than I ever saw him before. Father quit work today.

Jan 26 Passed a wearisome night myself. Father suffered more than common. looks very pale & sick. I have concluded to dismiss my school.

Jan 27 Sunday Father worse. Company all day. Jefferson [Jewell's older brother] arrived at ½ past 10.

Jan 28 Father still worse. His courage is astonishing.

Feb 4 Mother, Uncle Hobbs & Jefferson watched last night. Father very distressed. Looks purple in the face – feet swollen & evidently much worse. Dr. Page here today – says the case is hopeless – says he may die very soon & may continue a few days – thinks it is useless to come again.

Feb 9 Mrs. G. Gilman & myself watched last night. Father slept only twenty minutes – spitting some blood today – Mr. & Mrs. Fowler came again – arrived after dark. Roads drifted. Mrs. Cook and Mr Hodgkins attempted to come [from Tamworth Village] but were prevented by drifts

Feb 19 Hiram Currier & Mr. Tilton watched last night They say father got no rest – is worse today – had several bad spells . . . [Father] says he thinks he shall not live till tomorrow night. Gave Jefferson & myself some advice. Said he should like to die if the Lord would prepare him & added he didn't know but what He had. Said he had never cheated any one in life knowingly. Said he wished to be buried with his friends – in the row with his children – that mother might do as she wished about being buried.

Feb 21 Several neighbors have been with us nearly all the time for some days. Father was led into the bed-room & looked out upon the orchard & barn – was much affected & all in the house were in tears . . . Soon after [father] called for his acct books & had them examined lest there might be some error in certain transactions

Feb 26 He is wandering in his mind – talks of devising fences – of baskets – as he has before of secessions & a hundred subjects

March 5 O.L. Gilman & Myself watched. Father rested till nearly three this first night for many. After that he complained of being cold & trembled very much – the first touch of death. Twenty four neighbors here nearly all day after learning his condition. Mortification took place upon his leg at three, as we all judge [The leg has turned black from gangrene.] Think he cannot live till morning. He is very happy & puts his fingers with delight upon the dark omen of death & says 'tis plain'

March 6 Benja. Currier, S. Lock, E.G. Tilton, J.N. Tewksbury, Mother, Wm. H. Tilton, Mahala Berry & Harriet Currier remained . . . to watch if necessary. after being called at twelve we laid down in our drapes till called at about ½ past three just in time to see him die – He died at 1/4 to 4 very easy after an almost unconscious state of several hours.

March 10 Sunday Lonesome Sunday – several in during the day. Mr. & Mrs. Currier in the evening.

March 20 A little warmer – made some preparation for making sugar. Snow deep & the best sleighing we have had for the winter

April 1 The 1st of Apr brings prospect of more tax.

April 4 Fine sap day. gathered 102 pail-fulls in the afternoon.

April 14 Sunday Firing commenced at Charleston S. C. [Fort Sumter] Bad look as we read the daily.

April 17 Made 562 lbs of nice sugar in about three weeks. Lent D. S. Gilman one bushel of oats.

April 21 Sunday Attended Mr. Riddell's Church at Tamworth Vill He preached concerning our national troubles – a very fine discourse

April 25 This day's work closed at nearly eleven at night – doctoring a sick horse

April 28 Sunday At home most of the day – Read H.W. Beechers War sermon

April 30 Worked with A Bickford part of the day getting in wheat. [Alonzo Bickford was a neighbor contracted to help manage the farm after the death of Jewell's father.]

May 7 Ann M. Hodgkins came home with me

May 12 Sunday Brought Miss Hodgkins up to her school

May 13 Worked in the garden for Mother the first part of the day – Commenced to review Blackstone in the Afternoon – Rainy – Jefferson came to build his fences

May 21 Carried Ann Hodgkins to ride. Went over the Great Hill by Mrs. Dows – Some showery

May 28 Borrowed two vol. of Greenleaf on Evidence of Esq. Heywood. [Bought] of C.P. Cook a vest pattern.

May 30 Read fifty pages of Law.

June 4 Mr. Currier helped plow a few hours in the afternoon.

June 6 Rained part of the day – Planted some potatoes for exercise as well as profit

June 8 Helped Mr. Currier plant a few hours in the forenoon.

June 11 Went to Sandwich Ctr got coat and vest cut

June 15 Paid C.P. Cook for vest.

June 21 Read some law. Jefferson & myself caught sixty six pickerel. one measured two feet in length & weighed after being dressed two lbs & nearly one half.

June 23 Sunday A. C. Quimby called to request me to speak to the citizens of Sandwich at their Sabbath School Celebration July 4th.

June 28 Sent 50 cents to pay Mrs.W. Hobbs for making vest

June 30 Sunday Searched after Joseph Foss till past noon. He left home Tuesday & has not been seen since that day Nearly one hundred men met at Wyatt Marston's & went north in the direction he went when last seen .

July 4 Went with Miss Hodgkins to Skinner Corner to the Sabbath

School celebration. Eld Fernald estimated that 1000 persons were present. The day fair – tables well supplied & everything pleasant. Remarks were made by D. G. Beede, Eld Fernald, Eld Dearborn, Eld Rogers, Joseph Wentworth, Ira Bean Esq, Myself & Dr. Ingalls, followed by a few more remarks of Mr. Beede

July 16 Mowed some in the forenoon – Helped Sanford a few hours in the afternoon hoeing corn

July 21 Sunday Quaker meeting at old Mrs. Browns.

July 23 Went to Tamworth. First news of the great battle near Manassas Junction fought Saturday & Sunday in which the Union forces were completely routed. Called to see [Ann Hodgkins's cousin] Edwin Woodman a soldier of Mass 13 Rifles Co. A – he leaves Mass Friday for the seat of War.

Aug 18 Sunday Attended Church in the afternoon. Wm Kingsbury preached. The sermon was very good but peculiar.

Aug 24 Stopped at the Vill. The Soldiers came home the last time before going to Washington – they go again Monday

Aug 28 Talked with a soldier of the 1st Reg. He says [Capt Daniel] Kenney had not a friend in the Reg.

Sept 2 Talked with Mr. Merrill & Perkins upon the war. Perkins would not make the emancipation of slaves an issue in the war while Mr. Merrill seemed to indicate he would saying [England] would recognize the Confederacy unless we did declare such purposes.

Sept 5 Heard it reported that Jeff. Davis was dead – don't put much confidence in the report. Went to the shore of Ossipee Lake at night found the water remarkably low, there having been no rain for a long time, everything seems suffering from the drought.

Sept 6 Went to Ossipee Corner . . . Saw Capt Daniel R. Kenney at the hotel. Kenney offered me the situation of 1st lieut. in his company in the 5th N.H.

Sept 7 I saw Capt. Kenney again this morning – he urges me to go with him saying I shall be lieut. if I choose or if that is too hard I may share his tent & fare – as clerk & to perform such other duties as shall pay me well & save me from exposure from night air rain & the like. & that his influence shall be given to secure any situation or transfer desirable

Sept 10 Read law nearly all day – went fishing & duck hunting at night with Jeff.

Sept 11 Rained nearly all day the first rain for a very long time. The potatoes in many places have died for want of rain.

Sept 12 Fair again – the ground still dry below a few inches

Sept 28 Threshed here in the forenoon threshed 12 & a little over bushels of oats & 6 of Wheat. Went to Weeds mill in the afternoon & got horse shod. Called on D.R. Kenney a few hours – read certificates from Gov. Berry, Cols Tappan & Fellows & others of his temperate character as an officer. He was Capt in Co. B 1st N.H. Reg.

Sept 30 Went to Tamworth with mother. Got bounty for A. Bickford's bear (\$4.00) L. Remick paid it as the Col. was short for money. I signed Bickfords name to the receipt as he sent the ears. The first news at T[amworth] of the entire loss of the N.H. 4th Reg. lost in the gale Friday night near Long Island.

Oct 1 . . . The report of the loss of the N.H. 4th Reg contradicted

Oct 3 Attended Fair at Ossipee . . . had the honor to be Chairman of Com. on Wines, Sugar & honey with Mr. Amés.

Oct 8 Rained nearly all day. Bickford husked corn.

Oct 9 Bickford dug potatoes. J. Page & George B. helped him.

Oct 10 Divided potatoes & corn. Went to Skinner corner in the



Jewell House, shown as seen today by hikers starting up the Blueberry Ledge or Dacey's Mill Trails, was restored in the 1960s by long-time club members Red & Charlotte Smalley. Photo by Doug McVicar

afternoon. Called to Mr. McCrillis' to see if he had engaged a teacher – found he had.

Oct 17 At court . . . Had a long talk with Col Stevens upon the national question . . . Called on Wheeler & got permission to connect myself with his office at any time

Oct 22 At court again The case of Penniman vs. Snow on trail, – some hard swearing & the appearance is that some one will suffer for perjury & forgery. F. Chase invites me to read law with him

Oct 23 At Court all day – Penniman v. Snow. Tough swearing Fine arguments Court House full

Nov 2 Cold. Went gunning with Fowler. Started two deer.

Nov 10 Sunday Attended Church at Tamworth. Mr. Riddell preached concerning the war

Nov 18 Put in a few barrels of apples with D.Q. Tilton for cider

Nov 21 Passed the day preparing for winter – banking house, drawing the remainder of manure etc.

Nov 26 Went to Tamworth Vill was married to Miss Ann M. Hodgkins at her home by Rev M. Riddell at about two o'clock in the afternoon.

Nov 27 Came to the Vill stopped with my wife. Attended lyceum – took part in the discussion.

Nov 28 Came home from Tamworth in the forenoon Left Ann with her mother a few days. Thanksgiving. Mr. B Lock spent the Eve with us.

Nov 29 Stormed hard the first part of the day. D.Q Tilton had a sleigh to carry poultry to market Sent chickens by him 21 lbs.

Dec 6 Prospect of a storm. Helped Sanford Gilman draw bridge covering with oxen & sled one half of the day

Dec 7 Any quantity of noise last night in compliment to my marriage. Wentworth Hobbs spent the eve. with me – remained late eleven o'clock & got the benefit of another serenade. There were twenty in the company of all sizes . . . bearing harps bells & coffee pots

Dec 10 [Ann's brother] Frank Hodgkins came to see us as he goes to Concord tomorrow to get transferred if he can, into the Co of McPherson's Sharp Shooters

Dec 16 Mr. Riddell called in the afternoon & took Tea with us – He referred to some remarks of H W Beecher in not very flattering terms.

Dec 25 Breaking road part of forenoon. [Later attended a child's funeral – no mention of Christmas]

Dec 26 Helped Mr. H. Currier butcher in the forenoon.

Dec 28 Jeff came home with me . . . left our horse at Mr. Tiltons on acct of drifts

Dec 29 Sunday Worked till two o'clock breaking road.

Dec 31 Putting up wood. D. S. Gilman helped me all day. Very pleasant

So ends the year – the most important ever experienced – important in my life as encircling my most sorrowing & joyful hours little thought I one year ago, that these few pages should tell of anxiety & alarm as death approached & bid a father hasten to the tomb – of days of loneliness & grief as we listened for his voice, his footsteps – awaited long, but long in vain

Little thought that the close of 1861 should find one country the grand battle field of ages – a million & scores of thousands of brothers armed in deadly strife & the world trembling as upon the verge of ruin. Oh for a prophet's eye & a seraph's pen to tell of events of 1862 – to be in many respects the most remarkable and important in history – should these every day lines outlive the writer the date shall indicate that he lived – hoped & feared in a startling age.
E.P.J.



Essay, from page 1

*So amid the multitudes
I shall walk in verdant woods;
If I may not have my sight
Grant me, Lord, a little light.*

Yes, grant us all a little light, that we may embrace in absence the tangible pleasures and percipient well-being derived from a close association with place – connection to the land. And, as Finley deftly implies with repetition of the line, grant us all the *insight* to appreciate our ability to experience such a profound association.

In an anthropocentric bent we fret about how humankind shapes the land, as well we should. We debate the advantages of exploitation. We quarrel over proper management. But let us not forget that the land shapes us. Let us recognize that our connection to place molds our sentiment and colors our mood. It defines our perception of both the natural world and society.

The hills and forests of Bradbury Jewell's birch intervale fashioned the tiny hamlet we call Wonalancet as much as the settlers, farmers, millers and vacationers did. We are what we are today because the terrain was assertive enough to guide our hands; the natural beauty was sufficient to temper our ambition.

And so, in the same manner, Wonalancet Out Door Club was created and shaped. We are born of the land and guided by the topography. As stewards, we strive to attend to the needs of the environment over the desires of humanity. Our history is replete with examples: Charles Fay's deep ambivalence when opening a trail up Passaconaway; Kate Sleeper's successful campaign to save Whiteface from the ax; George Zink's push to create the Sandwich Range Wilderness; and 3300 hours last year of volunteers' caring for the mountains, allowing the terrain to guide their hands and thus leading hikers up a more appropriate path.

WODC's activity has waxed and waned over the years, sometimes distracted by societal perils; but there has always remained a core group of members connected to place, attentive to the mountains and forests that are an intrinsic component of their being. The club's future may continue to be mixed with hills and valleys. But as long as cognizant citizens frequent Wonalancet, the core will remain. And we shall walk in verdant woods.

Chris Conrod

HEY, BUY A T-SHIRT, WILL YA?

The T-shirts just haven't been moving lately. Hardly any sold from both the November Newsletter's shameless promotion and February's dues ~~exaction~~ appeal.

But the reprint of the **1901 Guide to Wonalancet** (\$10.00 for a classic - what a deal!) sold OK and you were reasonably generous with your contributions. We know you have money. We want it!

And we sure aren't going to get rich on the **Sandwich Range Maps** (\$5.00), the **WODC Trail Map History: 1901 - 1995** (\$7.00) or the **WODC Patches** (\$3.00). Heck, we practically give them away. Our bread and butter is the T-shirts.

So we formed a blue-ribbon committee to investigate this sudden drop in sales. The conclusion: The market has been saturated. All who would want a WODC T-shirt or whom we

could badger into acquiescence - not to mention most people on their Christmas lists - already own both a **Blue Coolmax T-shirt** (\$17.00) and a **Grey Cotton T-shirt** (\$14.00).

We put our R&D team on this problem and, as usual, they came up with a solution that is elegant in both simplicity and cunning. We are exceedingly proud and monetarily optimistic to introduce our newest offering: the **Grey Coolmax T-shirt** (\$17.00)! Moisture-wicking Coolmax fabric in a light-reflecting color, it is the perfect summer hiking shirt. And we know you don't have one - at least not with our ever-popular WODC logo on the left breast.

And while supplies last, we will still offer the cotton version. There is only a limited number so purchase these soon-to-be collector's items while you still can.

C'mon. Buy a T-shirt. Please?!



Please mail completed form and payment to:

WODC Member Services
HCR 64, Box 248
Wonalancet, NH 03897

Name:.....

Street:.....

City, State, Zip:.....

Phone:...(.....).....

Email:.....

Wonalancet Out Door Club

Merchandise and New Member Order Form

Qty.	Description	Price	Amount
	WODC Trail Map & Guide	\$5.00	
	WODC Flat(unfolded) Trail Map & Guide	\$7.00	
	1901 Guide to Wonalancet (Reprint)	\$10.00	
	WODC Trail Map History, 1901-1995	\$7.00	
	WODC Patch	\$3.00	
	Cotton T-shirt (grey)	Medium Large X-Large	\$14.00
	Coolmax T-shirt (grey)	Medium Large X-Large	\$17.00
	Coolmax T-shirt (blue)	Medium Large X-Large	\$17.00
	New Membership (Do not use this form for renewing existing memberships.)	Pathfinder Steward Trail Blazer	\$15.00 \$25.00 \$50.00
Additional Contribution (tax deductible)			
All prices include shipping.			Total Enclosed:



The Outlook

Ideas and Observations

Forest Planning Redux

The Forest Service is wending its careful way towards a new management plan for the WMNF, with completion expected in 2004. It's a cumbersome, time-consuming process for all concerned, and members of WODC have been at the table throughout. The devil, as always, is in the details, and they abound. Sometimes one loses sight of the fact that such planning is also an important process, with real impact on the forest's quality of life, and thus on WODC and its mission.

The concept of conservation – new in American public discourse only a century ago – has evolved into a dense political, commercial, scientific and bureaucratic thicket: a daunting, complex balancing of interests, activities and resources. Recreation, wildlife habitat, water quality, timber harvest, roadless areas, wilderness; advocates and analysts galore. One might be forgiven for assuming that the forest is there for us, instead of in its own right. Such, after all, is implied by the very idea of management.

Most of WODC's 52 miles of trail are within the Sandwich Range Wilderness, protected by congressional mandate from further timbering and vehicular use, as close as possible to forever wild, the forest caring for its own. The Wilderness Act of 1964 has an often-quoted passage unusual in the dry language of

legislation. Wilderness is described as “an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain” – a rare gem, one of the few occasions in which human beings are more notable for their absence than their presence.

The likelihood is that more designated wilderness areas will emerge from the current planning, including – we trust – additions to our own Sandwich Range Wilderness, as well as Wild River, Pemigewasset, Dartmouth Range and the Kilkenny.

Inventoried roadless areas constitute about half of the WMNF's 800,000 acres. It is conceivable and highly desirable, if not likely, that all of them could be protected for wilderness, hiking, camping, and the well-being of “the earth and its community of life.”

Hiking and camping, in the language of planning, are “non-motorized backcountry recreation.” That means – imagine Gifford Pinchot, John Muir and Aldo Leopold tumbling in their graves – that there is something in the forest known as “motorized recreation” – off-road, all-terrain vehicles and dirt bikes, noisy and noxious toys that would reduce national forests to the level of theme parks. The concept of conservation will not bend so far.

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The Outlook is a forum open to all readers of the WODC Newsletter. Send submissions to WODC News Editor, HCR 64 Box 248, Wonalancet NH 03897 or articles@wodc.org.

