

TRAILWRITES



Writes

TRAILWRIGHTS 1987 – 2012
25 YEARS MAKING TRAILS RIGHT

APRIL 2012

We have seen a lot of changes in our first 25 years. In the beginning, we saw a need for communities to stop building new trails improperly, to maintain what they had, and to build their trails to last. There were not enough people to do all that. So a small group of experienced, eager people got together, named themselves Trailwrights, and an organization was born in Washington, N.H. in 1987. The Harris Center in Hancock was the first organization to use our services. They had a group of volunteers willing to learn, and eventually they formed their own trail crew. Trailwrights then spread across the state and into Massachusetts and Vermont, training and helping willing trail crews to maintain their trails. Today we can look back with satisfaction that many trail crews were taught the “Wright” way.

Trailwrights is in the process of purchasing a paving stone at the Old Man viewing monument, as part of the Legacy Fund and would appreciate any donation if you think it is a worthwhile project for us. A picture of the stone is elsewhere in the newsletter.

Now we are not getting the numerous requests for assistance as in the beginning, and the Board of Directors is wondering if we should alter our direction and return to being a “mud and pizza” trail crew, though we are in the process of updating our slides to digital format so we can make a power point presentation as part of the educational process, when needed.

We have had wonderful people come and go through the years, and we would like to thank you all for your dedicated work. Many have gone on to form their own trail crews, or assist their towns the “Wright” way. I would especially like to thank Jane Jackson for her continued loyal work of putting out our newsletter so professionally. She is now a busy grandmother, so I am attempting at least to keep our members informed of the work to be done.

The Board continues to meet monthly, the 3rd Monday, in Concord, NH, and any member is welcome to join us at our meetings.

Our **annual meeting** this year will be a special dinner to celebrate 25 years of good work. Even if you are brand new, or are a veteran member, we would like to have you attend and meet the Board of Directors and each other.

In the future, newsletters will be sent by email, and can be found archived on our website: www.trailwrights.org. If you do not have email, please let me know and I will send you a copy through the US postal service. We are trying to update our email list so you won't miss a single issue of our newsletter. Don't forget, dues are due at the annual meeting.

Peggy Graham, Secretary



Meeting for the Mt. Pemigewasset Trail workday



this space for paver stone pic

RAY'S RAMBLINGS

Congratulations all Trailwrights old and new! We are in our 25th year of helping others learn the fine art of maintaining trails Right! Our first board meeting in February is usually set aside for scheduling trail workshops for the first half year. It suddenly became apparent that we needed to have a special Annual Meeting event to celebrate our first quarter century supporting our trails and maintaining organizations. There will be a dinner out on the town (not pizza!) this year, and all the members should be notified already.

New ideas for this year are to include traveling slide shows using our "legacy" slides in a power-point format. Focusing on our charter goals for providing trail maintenance education, we intend to reach more people young and old with the message that our "existing" trails need your loving care-now!

There is a real and pressing requirement for "Trail Adopters" because the same few people simply cannot take care of them all.

The trail projects this year incorporate trails we as Trailwrights consider important to us, as well as some new locations. Artist's Bluff and the Pemigewasset trails, are important to us, located in Franconia State Park. We will support the Chatham Trails at Cold River Camp and the Dan Doan Trail as well.

Fox Forest Trail system work was started last year with a large drainage project. It needs some culvert repair, probably requiring our grip hoist skills! In Holyoke, MA, there may be an opportunity to improve another trail in Mt. Tom State Park requiring a new bridge.

As we move ahead into our second quarter-century, let us commit to bringing in new and younger members to learn and carry on our traditions in trail maintenance.

The trails need us!

I hope to see you all at the annual meeting and on the trail,

Sincerely,

Raynold Jackson - President

Spring & Summer 2012 schedule

Sat. April 21 – Annual meeting

May 25 – 28 – Chatham Trails Work weekend – Reservations required, free room and board for work. Contact Sandy Finn at sandycta@comcast.net.

Sat. June 2 – National Trails Day, Mt. Pemigewasset. More work needs to be done on this much used trail in Franconia Notch. Contact Hal Graham for times and information. 286-3506 or email at halpeg76@metrocast.net.

Sat. June 23 – Artist's Bluff, Franconia Notch. Basic maintenance is the goal, but if we have enough people we will install waterbars and steps. Contact Hal Graham 286-3506 or email halpeg76@metrocast.net

Sat. July 14 – Dan Doan Trail. We will continue to improve the water problems on this trail that has been adopted by the family of our former member, Dan Doan. Contact Hal Graham at 286-3506 or email halpeg76@metrocast.net.

Sat. July 21 – NH Trails Day. Mt. Kinsman Trail, Kinsman Notch. We will be concentrating on installing water bars and hardening perennially muddy areas, as well as rock work, on the lower half of the trail. This is a hands-on workshop for Level 2 maintenance, the level beyond that required of USFS trail adopters. Tools provided; bring lunch, water, gloves etc., and a desire to help. Meet at 8:30 at the trailhead parking lot off Rt. 116, in Easton, NH. The parking area is just below the Easton/Franconia town line diagonally across from the tennis courts. Contact Bruce at (603) 703-6566 before 9:00 PM or brucedottie125@gmail.com for more information."

Hiking

Hiking chairman Dan Blanchette and Hal and Peggy Graham, lead hikes throughout the year and welcome Trailwrights and friends to join them. Please e-mail or call to see what's on their schedule and signup. We try to update the Trailwrights website on hiking opportunities as well.

ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

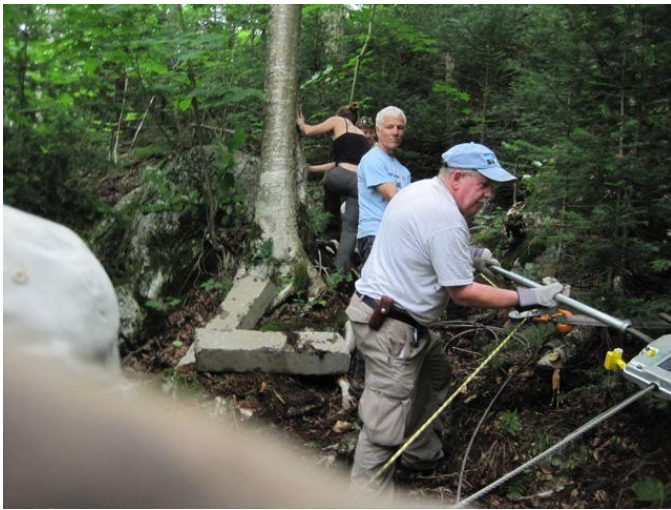
The annual meeting for members and guests of Trailwrights will be held on Saturday, April 21, 2012 from 11:30 to 2:30 at the Weathervane restaurant in Chichester, NH. The agenda includes election of officers, as given below, special news and a meal. We will also have a talk given to us by the U.S. Forest Service spokesperson, Christin Bailey. A short hike will precede the meeting for all those interested, at Winant Park in Concord, NH.

Winant Park Trails, Concord, NH

April 21, 2012, 9:00 AM

Easy to moderate trails on Winant Hill in Concord approximately 2.6 miles of trails. Top of hill has views of Bow to the Southwest and the City to the East. Get a little of exercise before our 25th anniversary dinner. If interested call Dan at 226-0762 or email at

knapsac@aol.com



Ray Jackson and Grip Hoist crew on Artist's Bluff

TRAILWRIGHTS' STORE

Member Non-Member

Blue or gray tee shirts	\$ 8.00	\$10.00
Blue or gray sweatshirt	\$12.00	\$15.00
Hooded sweatshirts	\$15.00	\$17.00
Bumper sticker	\$ 1.00	\$ 2.00
Logo decal	\$ 1.00	\$ 2.00
Logo patches	\$ 4.00	\$ 5.00
Pins	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00

Items available at outings. Please call or email Peggy for sending through the mail.

Don't forget!

Dues are still \$5.00 due at annual meeting.

Trailwrights Directory

www.Trailwrights.org ; • Trailwrights@pobox.com

President: Ray Jackson	978-597-8813	Rayjanejackson@aol.com
Vice President: Bob Spoerl	603-437-0541	rspoerl@myfairpoint.net
Secretary: Peggy Graham	603-286-3506	halpeg76@metrocast.net
Treasurer: Ralph Potter	603-228-2366	sandyjs1@comcast.net
Membership: Donna DiCiaccio	978-922-2686	roccodd88@verizon.net
Director: Darrell Hamilton	603-471-0249	darrell-h@comcast.net
Director: Hal Graham	603-286-3506	halpeg76@metrocast.net
Director: Donna DiCiaccio	978-922-2686	roccodd88@verizon.net
Hiking Chairman: Dan Blanchette	603-226-0762	knapsac@aol.com
Trailmaster, Toolmaster: Dave Dick	603-464-4628	ddick1@comcast.net
Webmaster: Rick Blanchette	603-878-1464	rickblanchette@yahoo.com

Welcome new members Bob Saari, Merrimack, NH and Philip Werner, Malden, MA, and Steven Brothers of W. Yarmouth, MA

ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION

Name _____

Phone # _____

Email _____

How many in group? _____

Please enclose \$15 per person, checks made payable to Trailwrights, c/o Ralph Potter, PO Box 1223, Concord, NH 03302

Alcoholic drinks will be extra.

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS:

President – Ray Jackson

Vice President – Bob Spoerl

Secretary – Peggy Graham

Treasurer – Ralph Potter

Tool/Trailmaster – Dave Dick

Hiking – Dan Blanchette

Membership Chair – Donna Diciaccio

Webmaster – Rick Blanchette

Director – open