

# TRAILWRITES 1987 – 2012 25 YEARS MAKING TRAILS RIGHT

From the President:

**Matters  
of the Heart**



I returned home on Friday, August 31 from a bypass and valve replacement adventure at Brigham and Women's Hospital. Only one restriction - no trail work and not to lift any more than 10 lbs.  
I'm listening, Sort of ... mostly ... sometimes ...  
The APB for a ball and chain was answered by iron worker - iron man Paul Chartier, a fellow trailtender. Jane has the key.  
The hazel hoe is under the 10-lb. lifting limit, so I can prepare for the Spring of 2013.  
Thanks to all our friends and family who have called, visited, sent cards, well wishes and prayers. It means a lot to both of us.

Happy Trails,  
Raynold

Our 25th anniversary season maintaining the trails, has been very busy this year. National Trails Day in June on the Pemigewasset Trail. In July during New Hampshire Trails Week had us participating on Mt. Monadnock with volunteers from the Society for the Protection of NH Forests (SPNHF) as well as the Dan Doan Trail in Orford, NH.

On New Hampshire Trails day, we had a group of 17, Trailwrights and USFS staff and other volunteers working on the Mt. Kinsman Trail in Eaton, NH. A new challenge and interesting work day was with volunteers from Temple, NH. We opened up the trail and road to the Historic Temple Glass Factory site.

Other new adventures with old friends groups, where our equipment and individual efforts were applied building 4 bridges Monta Rosa Trail - 16 ft bridge, Kennelly Bridge in Dublin, NH with SPNHF - 32 ft.; Amherst, MA:- Conservation Trust land - 18 ft; and Mt. Tom State Park, Holyoke, MA. with DCR and other volunteers - Disabled access bridge - 56 ft.

After the last bridge, I had a scheduled test to determine if I had any heart problems besides a leaky valve! At the conclusion, I learned that my left coronary had an 80% blockage and was operated on the following week. Limited to no more than 10 lbs. of lifting, I am attending cardiac rehabilitation classes. Hopefully by next spring, I will be out denting the earth with my tools and moving some rocks.

It's good to be back, thanks to all who have supported me, and I hope to see you on the trails,

Sincerely,  
Raynold Jackson, President



Trailwrights has purchased a 12x24" Legacy Stone at the Old Man viewing in Franconia Notch. Look for it on the left side when you go there. If you think it is a worthwhile project, we would appreciate any donation towards its purchase.

**NEED ASSISTANCE ON YOUR TRAIL?** All you need to do is download the form from our website, then mail to PO Box 1223, Concord, NH 03301. [www.trailwrights.org](http://www.trailwrights.org)

winter 2012-2013

Dan Blanchette and Hal & Peggy Graham hike all winter long. If you are interested in joining them, please call ahead.

## TRAIL REPORTS FROM 2012

We had a lot of rainy days this year!

**June 10 – Mt. Pemigewasset trail** – Nine Trailwrights turned out in the rain to tackle the erosion problem near the two tunnels of the Parkway. A wheelbarrow was used to aid in bringing back a lot of gravel that had washed from the trail revealing 90 feet of textile fabric. Three waterbars and rock steps were installed at that point, and almost 200 feet of ditching was cleaned out. Above, 12 step stones were lowered for easier walking. Hal Graham

**June 23 – Artist's Bluff** – Seven Trailwrights gathered to make another treadway improvement on the Artist Bluff side of the path. In a section below the Bluff there were some rocks that were too high causing people to go around them causing trail creep in a short but steep section. We installed steps to cut the grade and screed the sides to keep traffic on the steps. We also made a water bar just above this area, and two double rock steps and two single steps. Another wood water bar was torn out and replaced with a rock bar and 4 steps. Rain sent us home. Hal Graham

### **July 21 – NH Trails Day, Mt. Kinsman Trail**

In keeping with the Trailwrights tradition of having a project to celebrate on this years NH Trails Day we met at the Mt. Kinsman trailhead to help out one of our own Trailwrights on his adopted US Forest Service trail along with two hard working representatives of the Forest Service, Jen Burnett and Giff Kriebel. After the usual safety and tool use discussion we hiked to



the first project just over and on the Forest where we met a 14" Birch tree smack in the way of the first project which was a wet area with seeps. Chris dispatched that in hurry with a little help from Darrell. Dave and his crew installed 100 linear feet of trailside drainage ditch to get the water moving into a newly installed waterbar that should handle the new flow. They also installed rock steps and rocks set stones in the treadway. As usual they ran into a rather large rock that had to be moved for the water bar. All this was followed with a covering of soil.

Meanwhile a little farther up the trail Gene and Giff and a crew tackled a wet and very rocky 50 foot section with seeps. Drainage was installed in two places to take the water to an existing water bar hopefully controlling the seeps. They then placed some 15 smaller steps stones to harden and then filled between with soil.



At the same time Hal and Jen led a crew on another wet area digging another 75 foot trailside ditch with another ditch emptying into that one to drain the area. Darrell with

help from Hal and Glenn installed 4 step stones to harden and improved the water bar outlet at the start of this section and used a good deal of gravel, soil from the waterbar outlet to fill around the step stones. Finishing up this section the crew with Hal and Darrell in charge moved up hill to install a new rock water.

At the Bald Knob Spur trail jct. Bruce and Jeremy tackled a bog bridge that was in serious disrepair, removed the pieces, and started draining the immediate area in the hopes a new bridge would not be needed. A natural spring and seeps caused the flooding and mud in this area. The natural spring outflow was cluttered with a tangle of blowdowns, roots and rocks that were then removed. A 14 foot ditch was dug along the uphill side of the trail to the spring and then across the trail and approximately 16 feet into the outflow area. Rock steps were placed to reinforce the sides of the ditch across the trail and cobble stoning in the muddy section of trail. Thus the need for a bog bridge was eliminated.

In all there were 15 Trailwrights working 7 hours = 105 hrs. and two Forest Service workers for 5.5 hrs.= 11hrs. for a total 116 hours.



A really fun day with a lot accomplished. Thanks go out to all for the hard work but even better a good day protecting this particular resource. Bruce Richards. May there be many more days such as this one.

**Aug. 11 – Temple Glassworks project** – 7 Trailwrights and 7 Temple volunteers accomplished the primary task for the day, and more. 75 feet of ditch was realigned and hardened while at the same time leveling,

widening, and smoothing the trail surface. One seasonal wet area was ditched to promote water to drain rather than pond. Another crew worked on encouraging water to drain



through a stone wall to limit the ponding that occurs there and to allow for the soils to dry out. It looks like it will be a future bridge project. In

addition 4 new waterbars were installed and a handful of rocks were plucked from

the trail surface. We were able to move a good sized rock using the Walk-E-Dog winch. Pizza was provided at the Town Hall by the Project sponsors. Bob Spoerl.

**Aug. 18 – Mt. Pemigewasset Trail** – 8 hard workers helped remove two bad log bridges and put in steps over the water crossings and in a steep section just above. Hal Graham

**Sept. 8 – Chocorua Mtn. Club** - Morning weather was not promising with low clouds and fog on the drive in. It turned out to be a perfect day for playing in the water. After meeting at the little bridge at Chocorua Lake a crew of 6 headed to the trail-head. Forest Service gave us permission to take a vehicle in behind the gate so the trailer was right at the work-site. We used the Clydesdale winch and the walk-e-dog winch (a Chinese Griphoist copy). We used both winches a couple of times and additional cables, chains, and straps in multiple configurations but we were not able to use a high-line as initially proposed due to the size of the stones we chose and distances the rocks had to be moved. Five stones were moved into place to make the crossing easier for all. Workers were Dave Dick, Bob Spoerl, Bob Seston, Howard Mathews, Jean-Sebastien Roux, Bernie Calder and Tim Twitchell.

Bob Spoerl

**Sept. 15 – Dan Doan Trail** - We have made great progress on the Dan Doan Trail in the last few years! On Saturday, we added about 180 feet of ditching, and 23 stepping stones, as well as clearing a few blowdowns and clearing drainage features. Hal Graham

**Sept.. 28 – Chatham Trails Assn.** We had a very successful weekend at CTA. There were about 20 volunteers on the Blueberry Ridge Trail. Saturday in a light rain we rebuilt four deteriorating log waterbars as rock waterbars, cleaned about 50 yards of ditching and repaired a turnpike treadway. Sunday, nine volunteers worked on the Deer Hills By-Pass Trail to construct about 100 yards of new trail to move the existing trail out of a very wet area. The new trail was cleared of brush and some grading and bench cut done to create the proper outslope and a comfortable treadway. Heavy cold rain and the attraction of warm soup for lunch ended the workday about noon.

On the 2013 Memorial Weekend or National Trail Weekend a crew will complete the grading and blazing. Mike Zlogar

**Oct. 27 Artist's Bluff** – Six people came out to clean waterbars before the hurricane. A few hardening steps were placed.



**72 SUMMITS CLUB.** what is that? The purpose of this unique hiking club is to provide an opportunity and a challenge to the serious hiker in a mountain environment; to develop his or her skills in areas of navigation on and off trails; to spread the impact of hikers over a larger area and less often visited peaks; to discover each peak as a unique entity; and to give the hiker a well-rounded experience in mountain weather and topography. To provide an awareness of stewardship for the trails we enjoy. The requirements are to hike to and from the 72 peaks on the official list, and complete 72 hours of documented trail work. The reward is a patch and the satisfaction of giving back to the trails.

## 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.

## Trailwrights Directory

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Welcome new members Roger and Marion Cross, Concord, Scott Barbour, Barre, VT, Jeremy Clark, Ashland, and internationally from Canada-Jean Sebastian Roux, Quebec. Welcome back Damian & Laurie Canuto, Littleton

## HELP WANTED

Can't do Trailwork? We may have another kind of job for you.

We need someone to attend Board meetings;  
Newsletter editor, or printer.

Project Leaders

Someone to haul the trailer.

Photographers for outings

Publicity

Someone to set up and monitor Facebook page

Hikers and hike leaders

IN REMEMBRANCE OF Donna DiCiaccio –  
always a Trailwright

