

CHIPS & CLIPPINGS

the annual newsletter of | The Trail Crew Association | published since 1958

Where's da Fish?

No fish. Just *Chips*. *Chips* from chops and *Clippings* from (ugh) standardizing. Published by and for The Trail Crew Association.

Da' Beans Inside

- Smathers Spills 'em 2
- Meet Our Big Beans 3
- A Big Bean's Walk 4
- More Big Beans 5
- Big Bean More 6

Edifications

- A Few Notes: 2022 7
- More Note\$: 2022 8
- A Few Notes: 2002-2005 9
- The Grunt Work 10
- A Few Crews 11
- A Few Notes: 1982 12
- Beans Again 13
- A Few Notes: 1966 14
- Chips & Clippings* 1962 15
- Input Equals Output 16
- A Few Notes: 1942 17
- Dues Come Do 18
- A Few Notes: c. 1922 19
- See Ya' 20

Only Do Social?

[Website](#)

[Facebook](#)

IG: @trailcrew-association

REUNION: NOVEMBER 19

Join us for the 2022 Trail Crew Association Reunion

Featured 20 Year Reunion Crews:

2002, 1982, 1962, 1942, 1922

Trail Crew tales, lies, & fun. Lodging available Fri & Sat



Thor, Eugene, Penny, 2016. photo: Mark Dannenhauer.

HubNorth, Gorham, NH

- 11/19: Board meeting, 3 pm. Annual meeting, 5 pm.

Evening presentation. <https://tufts.zoom.us/j/97784160648?pwd=SjR0QTBsYzhtaWxSWIM3M1Zkb1ZwUT09> • Food: BYO + Sat—pizza dinner + Sun—egg sandwich breakfast.

- Room = \$40/bed per night, \$15/BYO tent per night.

Please donate to cover Reunion costs.



Sierra gold. photo: Marshall Pontrelli

Meet Our Big Beans

TCA President: My name is **Marshall Pontrelli**, woods name Smathers, on crew 2014-2015 and 2017-2018 (TM 2018). I began to participate in Trail Crew Association board meetings as TM/current crew liaison in 2018, then began serving as Secretary in 2019. I've been TCA President since the fall of 2021. • I loved my time on crew and will always cherish the memories of the amazing projects I got to work on and especially the incredible people I got to work with. • My favorite crew tool was without question, the pick mattock. It was lighter and faster than a rock bar, but allowed for types of nuanced movements that I thought were the secret sauce to rock work. • My favorite crew project was either my third year crew lead on the summit cone of Mount Eisenhower where we did some alpine highlining, or my TM year working on a relocation of the

A-Z trail (right where it leaves the Avalon Trail). • Outside of Crew, I am a PhD student at Tufts University where I study natural disaster resilience and design in the Civil and Environmental Engineering department. • Feel free to reach out to me with questions or just to chat at marshallpontrelli@gmail.com or call me at 781-879-0258.

Smathers Spills 'em

President's Message: I hope you are well, and that the year has been a pleasant one for each of you. As for me, I'm writing from my desk in Boston enjoying the warm summer autumn weather and reflecting on the year that the Trail Crew Association has had. The AMC Crew changed significantly over the past few years, and it remains to be seen exactly how these changes will reverberate in the years to come. Regardless, the passion that has been shown by TCA members and the vigor and dedication being shown by the new incoming crew members today is the same as it has always been throughout the illustrious 103 years of trail crew. With your ongoing support and with the energy of incoming members, we'll work to continue our mission: supporting AMC White Mountain professional trail workers, growing our network of trail and caretaker alums, and maintaining Shelburne Cabin as a home away from home for you, our members.



Crush, Hutton II.

photo: Sam Norton.



Doggin' it.

photo:Carrie Childs



Bob and Ariel.

photo: Bob Biddle

Meet Our Big Beans

TCA Secretary: **Carrie Childs**/ "Olly the Savage", Camp Dodge crew leader 2001-2002, TFC 2003-2005

- Current location: Montpelier, Vermont, in a tent in my back yard (due to extensive home renovations).
- "Official" occupation: Veterinarian.
- Secondary "occupations": Home renovation pro (only my own homes). Mother (definitely not a pro). Lots of recreational biking, skiing, running, and knitting.
- Previous occupations: educator in Barre VT, Leadville CO, and Jackson WY, ski bum, event coordinator, farm hand, checkout girl in a grocery store, skin instructor, trail builder outside of Durango CO, GIS analyst-VT State Archaeologist, lots of time as a student
- Work projects while on crew: Grafton loop trail, Goose eye bridges, Grafton Loop Trail, really just a lot of the Grafton Loop Trail.
- Fun Facts: Current TCA Secretary, visited Antarctica via research vessel, spent a very hot summer in India asking farmers about their water buffalo, enjoy playing a lot of field hockey, consider any type of pie a balanced breakfast.

Chopping blowdowns past

Meet Our Big Beans

TCA Director **Bob Biddle** TFC 1980 – 1982. Foo! Greetings from Annapolis, Maryland, on the edge of the Chesapeake Bay, a long way from the White Mountains of NH where I grew up in Holderness.

After TFC and college, I worked in DC for Congressman Judd Gregg of NH (whose district included the WMNF), then law school and a career in criminal law, including a stint as a prosecutor in NY and defending clients in state and federal court. My wife Ariel and I have been married since 1992, and we have two sons, Sam, who works at the Department of Justice in DC, and James, who received a forestry degree from UVM in 2017, and got to know **Ben Church, Sam Kilburn**, and other TFC members from that era.

Trail Crew

Setting steps for those to come 3



A Big Bean's Career Walk

Here's my story: I was hired for the AMC Trail Crew in 1976 (actually the first alternate). My very first day of crew was patrolling a 23 mile route starting with a modest run up the Gale River Trail, then the Garfield Ridge Trail to Galehead Hut for a quick snack. Over the Twins, Guyot and the Bond Cliffs, then down to the Wilderness Trail for the last grueling, flat 6 miles to the Kank for pickup. I was with **Bruce (Jake) Jabcobson** (TM 1977) and **Roger Moore** (TM 1978).

We'd left Pinkham at 7 am, driven one hour to the trailhead, done the mad dash above, had a leisurely swim in the Pemi, and made it out to the pick-up point by 4. We waited half hour wait for the van pick up. 23 mile hike with a few blowdowns to be chopped out in about 8 hours - you do the math! • In 1977 many of us worked on Franconia Ridge (the great walls of Franconia). • In 1978, we experienced a gravitational shift as 3 women (**Joan Chevalier**, **Betsy Kepes**, and **Joy Miller**) were hired for Trail Crew. I was one of several third year folks asked to help train the women. I found this a refreshing challenge and learned a lot about body dynamics/mechanics which has helped me throughout my career. • I worked fall crew in 1978, waking up one cold morning on the lower Crawford Path to find snow on the ground. The rock bars were very cold. • In 1979 I was Trailmaster and started in early May. **Bob Proudman** had left for the National Park Service in Boston. **Reuben Rajala** had become Trails Supervisor. I recall arriving at the trails office and being told by Reuben: you have a plane reservation from Portland, ME tomorrow to fly to Tennessee and help teach a trailsworkshop on the Appalachian Trail. I loaded my pack and double bit (yes I brought that with me as carry on!) and off I went. • One of the folks that I met at the workshop was **Bill Birchard** (TM 1975) who was working with the AT folks in the south. This is where the seed for future trail work was planted.

After Trail Crew and university (UNH - Soil Science and Minor in Geology), **Roger Moore** called me and said I needed to apply for a trails job at AMC (where Roger was working at the time). I called, got the job, and spent 6 years working with AMC volunteers in the southern New England Region on projects including trail layout, landowner meetings, public meetings, etc.

In 1988, I left AMC to pursue "the dream", starting my own business. Using the many contacts accrued during my tenure with AMC, I created a business focused on management of open space including trails. • By the mid 1990's I was living in western MA and completed my first machine-built trail in western MA. And my western MA trail business expanded. • In early 2001, I was invited to bid on a large state trail project in North Carolina. My first bonded trail project, first project with a subcontractor, first project outside New England, a project of many firsts! That contract kept getting amended to include other trails and lasted for several years. • That year I joined the Western Trailbuilders Association (<https://www.trailbuilders.org/>).

In 2005, I morphed my business from a sole proprietorship to a Limited Liability Company with 8 partners. We built many trails in cool places and continue to do so. • One of my best achievements is the spawning of new trail companies. Of my original 8 partners 4 now have their own business. Given the quantity of work out there, we need more qualified trail contractors. • 2022, I call Washington, VT home. I'm in the midst of building a house for Sara and me, boiling maple sap in the early spring, and tending wild apple trees for hard cider and apple cider vinegar. This is in addition to continuing with trail planning, construction, consulting, and skills training.

I have been involved with the Trail Crew Association since its inception in 1999, am a past President, and currently serve as Treasurer. Trails and trail work has been my life and it continues to be. 4 seasons of AMC Trail Crew served as a great foundation for the career path which I have taken. I can highly recommend this lifestyle to anyone who wants to work in trails as a career!—*Peter Jensen*

Photo: Sara and I are resting on one of the black locust benches I designed and built for a Nature Conservancy All Persons Trail in Manchester NH. photo: Peter Jensen.



Meet Our Big Beans

TCA Director **Sam Hoffman**, 1993-1996, trailmaster 1996. Shortly after finishing my time with TFC, I made my way west to Red Lodge, Montana. After a few years of ranch work, construction, and working at a ski hill, I opened a small brewery, <https://www.redlodgeales.com/about>. 24 years later, I still run a small brewery. I added a cider mill in 2017.

I live with my wife, Lindsey, and our boys Nelson and Ethan, 3 miles north of town. We ski, hike, raft, and road trip around the great west for fun. I planted a 400-tree orchard at our property that often grows more wind and frustration than apples. I don't let that stop me though. Foo!

Meet Our Big Beans

TCA Director **Dylan DiMartino/ Goldrush**:

On crews summers & falls, 2014, 2015, 2016.

Professional arborist.

Portland, Maine.

Favorite crew memory: The axe ceremony at Bash my first year.



Top Photo: 2019 Crew portrait, photo: Sam Norton. Bottom left photo: Sam Hoffman. Bottom right photo: Dylan DiMartino.



Limmers in Antarctic. photo: Ashley Fife

Meet Our Big Beans

TCA Director **Ashley "Switchback" Fife** here. I was on crew from 2013 to 2016, the last year being my Trail Master year. I joined the Board this past spring 2022. Trail Crew set me on a wild path this last decade and I am so thankful for it. After sharing time between trail work and getting my college degree, I took the seasonal lifestyle and ran with it. I continued working for the AMC doing construction in the summers and spent my winters in Antarctica. The community in these polar regions always reminds me of my time on trail crew. Put a bunch of hard working and interesting people in a small environment and you are going to get a romping good time. In July, I moved back to the Whites after many years away. Instead of it feeling like another stop in my journeys, it felt like coming home.



2010s Foo, 2019 Centennial. photo: Mark Dannenhauer.



California steamin'. photo: Alex Milde

Meet Our Big Beans

TCA Director **Alex Milde/Nova**: I was on TFC from 2014-2017. Since my time on crew I have moved out west to work in the middle of the desert (Mojave, CA) as a mechanical engineer for Composites, a small airplane prototyping company. Despite now building slightly more weight optimized structures, I've been surprised at how similar the skills needed are between building a stone staircase and an airplane's landing gear. I've filled my free time exploring the mountains of CA, through rock climbing, skiing, and hiking. While spectacular, especially the Sierra Nevada, the Whites certainly hold their own, and will always feel like home.



Bridging the Mahoosucs. photo: Reuben Rajala collection.

Meet Our Big Beans

TCA Director **Sam Hartwell**, WMTC '82-'85. Service trip, Alaska '89.

Stating that the AMC trail crew made a lasting impression on me is like saying “pack-boards take some getting used to.”

I’ve carried the work-ethic trail crew inspires throughout my career in finance. It has been the universal language that has allowed me to work across many different cultures in Africa, where my family lived and I built an offshore accounting practice. Inside each of us is a desire — a need — to identify and strive for a story of epic proportions – whether that story is building trails in remote regions of our country or creating top finance functions in some of the most challenging places to do business overseas.

The critical element is working with others to achieve something greater than what they might do alone. When I was on crew, the only things that counted were effort and attitude. It mattered little if you were strongest, fastest or most senior. You were fully accepted if you put forward your all. That’s the beauty of an epic; it’s an equal opportunity in which each person pushes their limits and finds inspiration from others doing the same. Each participant learns they’re capable of more than they thought possible.

I’ve always felt the epic nature of trail crew was inherently inclusive. With few exceptions, people of diverse backgrounds and abilities rose to the occasion and bonded, thanks to the example and encouragement of upper-year men and women – even if, or perhaps especially when, they feared they’d bitten off more than they could chew. Those who had the gravest doubts about the job then are the likeliest to tell you now the experience was one of the, if not the, most positive of their lives.

I’m ever grateful the AMC gave us this formative experience. It took faith to let a bunch of irreverent teenagers loose in the mountains. But without that healthy dose of unadulterated freedom, and the responsibility that came with it, most of us would not have returned year-after-year – perpetuating a centuries-old apprenticeship that made AMC’s trail crew one of the finest in the land. I feel the best way to pay it forward is for alumni to find ways of working with the Club to help remake its trails program.



Abigail Lown, Don Stevens, Lonesome Lake Trail. photo: Mark Dannenhauer.

News Beans

- During an Official **TCA work weekend** in June, a hard-working group of recent alums performed basic maintenance on the cabin, hauled out an impressive pile of bulky metal trash, and built two new benches around the fire pit. After a couple of years with various issues, the Cabin is now back and open as usual. Your dues and donations make all the work of TCA possible.

- **Jad Brown**, '71-'72, and his crew of volunteer alums took over AMC sign work from the Trail Crew in 2013 at the invitation of then-TM **Ashley Fife**, '13-'16, and they're still doing it. Contact Jad if you want to help them out.

- **Mark Dannenhauer**, '66-'69, continues to document **Crews** past and present. See some of his work at <https://ninots.smugmug.com/Events/Trail-Crew-Association>.

A Few Notes From 2022

TCA Dodge Dedications

TCA members were not only the donors but played large roles in the Centennial Fund Donor appreciation ceremonies at the new Camp Dodge, July 23, 2022. • **Bob White**, '75-'78, oversaw the dedication of the New Hutton Lodge outdoor patio, for which he also led the fundraising and project work. • **Lee Burnett**, '74-'76, dedicated the White Mountain Trails Interpretive Panels which he developed in conjunction with WMNF. • **Peter Jensen**, '76-'79, guided us around the Demonstration Trail which he and other alums constructed and which shows historic and modern trail maintenance techniques. • **Bob Watts**, '52-'55, traced current crew work and philosophy from the many contributions of **Jack Hutton**, '33-'36, . • **Andy Narva**, '69-72 recounted the Crew's transition from Whitefield Hutton to Pinkham Hutton in 1972. • Current Trails Supervisor **Matt Moore** closed out the day with an update on the Crew's projects this summer and with some hints about the future. • At this event, we saw firsthand that the new crew members exhibit fine character and a passion for the work that will serve them in their time as trail workers. • TCA's **Peter Jensen** has been integral in the training that the crew has received, their skills are growing, and in the next several years they'll have the opportunity to work with many highly skilled trail workers to further hone their abilities and on many large and interesting projects. Not only are these crew members excited to be in the Whites and are ambitious, but they said that they're having the best summer of their lives. Sounds familiar!

Here is a summary of Crew work in 2022, gathered from an email from Profession Trail Crew Manager *Matt Moore*. Based in the new Hutton III at Camp Dodge, the Crew worked a 40 hour week, Monday at 7 to Thursday at 5:30. Their 3 day weekend activities were totally up to them. The Crew numbered 20, with 5 Crew Leads, all first years. For the nuts and bolts of the 2022 season, please see <https://www.amctca.com/wp-content/uploads/AMC-White-Mountain-Trail-Crew-2022-Summer-Report.pdf> • In 2023 the Crew looks to field 5 White Mountain crews from May-August working full seasons on the Ammonoosuc

Ravine, Franconia Loop, and Rumney, plus work at Cardigan and more.

2022 Crew

Matt Moore, Professional Trail Crew Manager.

1st year: Ben Albert, Elle Pelletier (fs); Jarrod Holgate, Danica Mooney-Jones (fc); Michale Grossman, Sarah Jencson, Miriam Maistelman, Ehud Plaksin, Emily Wight (cl); Claudine Aoun, Erik Bakken, Grace Brustin, Anya Buchovecky, Joe Caswell, Ellie Chappuis, Rich Danyko, Tim Eaton, Pierce Fernandez, Shirley Frautschi, Rachel Freedman, Anna Gerner, Scott Kaufman, Lou Kimball, Rebecca Kosugi, Owen Mahoney, Kate Ramseyer, Connor Rodgers, Margaret Rusch, Maya Sessions.

(cl) = crew leader, 2022, (fs) = field supervisor, (fc) field coordinator



TCA Hutton III patio dedication, 2022.

photo: Mark Dannenhauer.

A Few (more) Note\$ From 2022

TCA Treasurer's Report

October 8, 2022

Period: September 30, 2021 - October 1, 2022

INCOME

Annual Dues: \$3,458.62
 Life Memberships: \$2,150.00 from 5 life members this year; 73 life members to date.
 Donations: \$950.00
 Centennial Poster Sales; \$0.00
 Promotional sales: \$60.00 (hats)
 Shelburne Lodge Registrations: \$70.00
 Checking Interest : \$0.29
 Savings Interest: \$2.17
Income Summary: \$6,691.08.

Funds: No activity this period.
 General Memorial Fund: \$ 1,449.55.
 Proudman Memorial Fund: \$980.
 Shelburne Lodge Fund: \$3,287.37
 NET Fund Increases/Decreases: (\$0.00)

EXPENSE

Annual Meeting/Reunion: \$0
 Association Operations: \$2,524.58 - D&O Insurance, website, paypal fees, postage
 Chips and Clippings: \$0 (Centennial Issue)
 Golden Axe Award: \$0
 Membership: \$5.10 Postage
 Shelburne Lodge: \$2,189.00
 Donations: \$0
Expense Summary: \$4,718.68

NET INCOME FOR PERIOD: \$1,972.40
 Account balances as of September 15, 2022
 Northway Checking acct balance - \$6,124.17
 Northway Savings acct balance - \$8,835.14

Respectfully submitted,
 Peter Jensen, TCA Treasurer

Centennial Endowment

Steve Rice, our Centennial Endowment fundraiser writes: "The purpose of the "Endowment for the AMC White Mountain Professional Trail Crew" is to benefit the Pro Crew by funding opportunities (vs. regular year-in, year-out operating expenses) that may not be otherwise possible to pursue due to budget constraints or other reasons.

I use Centennial Endowment because that references its formal name in the administrative organization of AMC. It helps remind everyone, in the coming and going of staff and volunteers, what the Endowment is and who it benefits: exclusively the White Mountain Pro Crew.

TCA and AMC jointly administer the Centennial Endowment as a partnership: TCA a small association of Trail Crew alums, AMC a large conservation organization with diverse members, both groups sharing a long-term commitment benefitting the work of the AMC White Mountain Pro Crew in its second century." [The Endowment was part of overall TCA Centennial fundraising which also funded the Hutton III patio, the Interpretive Trail, and the Interpretive Trails History panels, all at Camp Dodge.—ed.]



TCA Centennial Capital Campaign & AMC Endowment for the AMC White Mountain Professional Trail Crew as of July 23, 2022

Endowment as of 12/31/2021	
Beginning Balance - Jan. 1, 2021 - AMC Initial Contribution	\$ 100,000
Additional Contributions	5,000
2021 Investment Returns	17,970
TCA Endowment, Ending Balance as of December 31, 2021	\$ 122,970

TCA Centennial Capital Campaign	
Total Contributions to TCA Capital Campaign	\$ 210,246
(-) Total Capital Expenditures To-Date	(161,283)
Subtotal	48,963
(-) Anticipated Additional Expenditures	(14,300)
(-) Amounts already transferred to Endowment	(5,000)
Estimated 2022 Addition to Endowment	29,663
Estimated Endowment Balance* - as of 7/23/2022	\$ 152,633

*Excludes 2022 Investment Gains/Losses or 2022 spending allocations from the endowment

A Few Notes from 2002-2005

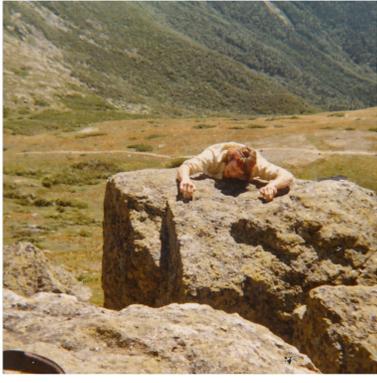
- Where: Hutton Lodge at Pinkham Notch, the heart of gooferville. Days off we ate meals in the Pinkham dining hall or on the front porch. There was one computer in Pinkham used on days off, no computers in Hutton. Phones: A few people had cell s (they hid for the summer), a phone in the Hutton common room, pay phones elsewhere in Pinkham. Bunk rooms were mixed genders split up by years. The bathroom was two toilet stalls, a row of sinks, and one communal shower with 2 shower heads.
- Size of the crew: 18-22 people, about 65% male, 35% female. Each woods week we split up into smaller groups of 3-6. 3rd year crew leaders stayed on a project until it was finished; 4th, 2nd, and 1st years rotated job sites.
- Crew Jobs/Responsibilities: 1st years: Figuring out TFC life. Learning how to set rocks. Doing the dishes. Making the daily morning goop (mix of yogurt, grape nuts, and fruit). 2nd years: Big work numbers. 3rd years: Leading the crews. Organizing tool, equipment, and food needs for each week. Cooking meals in the woods. Assigning projects, checking work standards. 4th years: Big work numbers, setting high work standards. Trail Master: Setting the tone for the crew on the job and off. Making sure the crew was working hard and not getting into too much trouble. Visiting crews in the woods, bringing tools, food, gossip, jokes, project insight and inspiration. Acting as liaison between Trails Supervisor/AMC management, and the crew.
- Key Work Sites: Grafton Loop. Cascade Brook, Willey Range, Fishin' Jimmy, Lion's Head, Falling Waters, Hancock Loop.
- Types of work: Lots of rocks. Rock steps, scree, water bars. Laying out and cutting the Grafton Loop trail. Tent pads, wooden ladders, bog bridges, pre-fab bridge project.
- Crew 'tude: We were rockstars. We worked hard, moved big rocks, and did it well. We were invested in our projects and worked for big work counts and high quality, not the clock. We liked each other and spent days off hanging out together. We had events at Hutton, crew member houses, and Shelburne. We told stories, made fun of each other, wrestled, showered together, shared heavy packboard loads, chopped big blowdowns, humped rocks together, ate from the same bowls, slept in tents and bunk rooms or under tarps, dated each other, competed with each other, supported and encouraged each other. It was much more than a group of people working in the woods. —*Carrie Childs*

2002 Crew:

Trails Director, Andrew Norkin; Trails Supervisor, Cristin Bailey.

Trail Master, 5th year, Dave Reynolds. • 4th year, Ben Ewing, Sam Heidenreich. • 3rd year, Ben Chaffee (c), Adrienne Gass (f), Jared Thomas (c), Christa Sanders-Flemming Bahner, Berry Carroll (c), Elyse Fenton, Simon Fischer-Baum (c), Mike Millette, Dave Sheehan. • 2nd year, Dave Cloutier, Annie Doran, Leah Dunham, Beth Dushman, Joel George, Dylan Kidder, Alex Lester, Ed O'Brien, Rob Ostrum (c), Dan Schieffelin. • 1st year, Matthew Aiello-Lammens (c), Tianna Brown (c), Carrie Childs (d), Sally Curran (c), Jay Garnham (c), Lyrica Hamman (c), Alison Kidder, Dan Leary, Tyler McNulty, Kate Miller, Otto Neumuth, Aletha Oberdier, Graham Platner, Trevor Pratt, Derek Schott (c), Penash Shah, Tom Webb (c), Stu Woodham (c).

(c) = caretaker, (d) = Dodge



Hangin' on. photo: Reuben Rajala collection.

Did You Know? #1

What percentage of each year's full-summer 1st years return for a second season?

Here's a preliminary draft drawn from our TCA Roster, sorted by Supervisor era.

1961-1971:
Y 55, N 26. Y% = 68%

1972-1978:
Y 42, N 13. Y% = 76%

1979-1993:
Y 90, N 64. Y% = 58%

1994-1998:
Y 26, N 7. Y% = 79%

1999-2001: (lazy editor)

2001-2006:
Y 52, N 20. Y% = 72%

2007-2013: (lazy editor)

2014-2018:
Y 25, N 6. Y% = 81%

The Grunt Work

I always fancied myself a hard worker. I think most people do who arrive at Hutton Lodge for a summer on The Trail Crew. I grew up working on farms – long, hard hours bent over in a field, working through heat and cold, rain, snow, and sunshine. I had already summited all 48 White Mountains and had one season of [other] trail work under my belt.... You know what they say about assumptions, and still, I assumed that I would be well-prepared for the summer that lay ahead.

There are countless things about my first year on TFC [2014] that I won't soon forget. My most prominent early memories are the blisters and the unthinkable work pace. After one week of work, I had 27 blisters on my hands. Twenty-seven! I would previously have said that was impossible. I also didn't think it was reasonable to run on White Mountain trails. Once again, I was proven wrong on my first patrol. To say I was humbled would be a wild understatement. Time and time again, my perception of what the human body was capable of was changed, expanded, improved.

This perception expansion is perhaps the greatest gift that TFC gives to each of its members who find success on The Trail Crew. Trail work is inherently hard. There is nothing easy about moving timber and stone over difficult terrain, swinging tools all day long, or spending extended periods living in the mountains in bad weather. On TFC you learn to push yourself to your limit and then keep pushing. Your limits grow, you learn to drive others to succeed, and soon enough you have a group of mutants whapping out work at a pace that I have never found with any other group of people. This gift – the mental toughness to keep pushing past your limits – has stayed with me, and with all members of TFC, far beyond the end of their time on the crew. In the words of **Rachel Wheeler** (1995 TM), “where else do you push your body to your limit and then learn it can go further?”

One of the other amazing things about my time on the TFC was the makeup of the crew. I have never been a part of another trail crew that was run by so many young people. We used to make jokes about the unfathomable amount of autonomy that a bunch of 18–25-year-olds had. Deep in the backcountry of the White Mountains, setting up complex rigging systems and operating chainsaws on steep mountainsides, at eighteen years old.... Regardless, what an amazing gift that TFC gives to young people: you are worthy and capable of leadership. —*Sam Kilburn/Archie*, 2014-2017 (Trail Master).



2022 crew, Camp Dodge. photo: Matt Moore



2000s TMs, 2019 Centennial. photo: Hans Erik Jensen.



1980s cohort, 2019 Centennial. photo: Hans Erik Jensen.



1967 Crew, Whitefield. photo: Bob Watts collection.



1942 crew, Whitefield. photo: Bob Watts collection



1920s crew. Locust Cottage. photo: Bob Watts collection.

A Few Notes from 1982

I met Bob Proudman and saw the TFC in action in the mid 70's with my Dad, Bill Biddle, and met Reuben Rajala in 1978 when I was hitchhiking into Gorham after hiking in the Mahoosucs the summer before starting college. A few years later I was a first year hearing **John Lamanna**, now on the TCA Board, tell us everything we needed to know about axe work in the Pinkham parking lot. A highlight of my first year was helping build a new Imp Shelter under **John McIntosh's** watchful eye. I went on to serve as the signman in 1981, what a great job, the AMC supplied a car and I could pick my routes to replace trail signs most of the summer. **Peter Flemings** was the TM, and four of us, Peter, **Nat Whitcomb, Leslie Wright**, and I, did a hut traverse, beating the Hut Croo at their own game and setting a new record of just over 14 hours, representing the TFC in a new way. Being paid to hike was a perfect summer job... However I especially enjoyed my third year, improving my rock work, ditching, water barring, and patrolling, and leading crews, as well as doing another Hut traverse, with **Chip Miller**. I really enjoyed working with so many people on the TFC, the hut traverse crews, **Dave Warner, Paul Smith, Dave Salisbury, Tom Ross, Margie Prevot, John Murphy, Mark Meneghin, Nate Lowery, Whitney King, Don Jackel, Dennis Damici, Karen Clough, Guy Moffatt, Beaver Brown, Sam Hartwell** (on the TCA Board), **Leland Howe** (RIP) and many others. —*Bob Biddle*

I remember my first all-crew days more vividly than any classroom lecture. I was among 11 first-years. It had rained all night. Digging out my first rock-bar, I ran into one scree-sized rock after another until my trench resembled a flooded rice field. I stood puzzling how to root out the last offending boulder—while still keeping my boots dry—when along came 2nd year “Momma” Damici, who merrily jumped knee-deep into the mud and humped the boulder out. It was an enlightening moment for me. —*Sam Hartwell*

On a recent phone call, **Reuben Rajala** recounted how around 1982 then-Club director Tom Deans asked Reuben as Trails Supervisor if anything could be done with then-abandoned Camp Dodge. Yes, over the years, Reuben worked with Tom and the USFS to build new barracks; install a kitchen w/cook and camp director; and to create and run—a volunteer program w/staff; the Adopt-a-Trail program; White Mountain Trail Day which became NH Trail Day; volunteer service trips to AK, WY and elsewhere; hosting of international trail workers. In the first years Reuben siphoned off trail crew applicants with leadership skills to be Dodge vol leaders instead. The first two were **Tom Ross** and **Dennis Damici**, with **Glenn Adams** soon to follow.—*Mark Dannenhauer*.

1982 Crew:

Trails Supervisor, Reuben Rajala.

Trail Master, Whitney King; • 4th year, John McIntosh (t), Ted Rankin; • 3rd year, Bob Biddle, Cam Bradshaw (c), Bill Meduski (c), Mark Meneghin (v,s), Chip Miller, Paul J. Smith; • 2nd year, Dennis Damici, Guy Moffat, David Salisbury, Leslie Wright; • 1st year, Spence (Beaver) Blomfield-Brown, Kristin Brown, Karin Clough, Gerard Cote (c), Mark Duguay, Paul Geiss (c), J.D. Lindeberg (c), Dave McKechnie, Tom Parker, Jim Picone, Margaret Mitchell Prevot, Marco Restani, Tom Ross, Tim Rumbinas (c), Craig Slaughter, Pat Smith (c), Tom Taylor, David Warner.

c=caretaker, t=trips, s=shelter coordinator, v=vol coordinator,



Trail Fixing Collective. photo: Sam Norton

News Beans

- Historic Crew **photos** continue to roll in, including great collections from **Bob Watts** and from **Reuben Rajala**, '71-'74, Trails Supervisor '79-'93. Send us your photos, writings, collectibles. <https://trailcrewassociation.smugmug.com>
- After 3 years of meritorious service, **Lee Burnett** is stepping away from editing our quarterly newsletter, *Steps & Scree*. For bringing TCA communications into the modern age and a job well-done, a big thank you, Lee!
- And, sad to report the passing this spring of **David "Stretch" Hayes**, '52-'56, Councillor of Trails, '68-'70, long a supporter of and advocate for Crews.



Stretch Hayes, Don Sessions, 1953. photo: Bob Watts Collection

Greetings from the Trail Fixing Collective!

Greetings from the Trail Fixing Collective! I am writing as one of the six current members of TFC, LLC, a blossoming independent trail crew: **Ally Scholtz** ('18-'19), **Annie "Zeta" Dumais** ('19-'20), **Colin "Coupons" Pogue** ('16-'18), **Finn "Wrench" Mahoney** ('17-'20), **Hunter "Youseff" Scott** ('17-'18) and **Sam "Bananas" Norton** ('18-'20).

We bring our trail building skills and experiences to a unique project: a White Mountain trail crew structured as a worker cooperative, owned and managed by its members, integrating what we love about past TFC tradition with more diverse trail work skills and new ways of management.

We're busy making preparations for the 2023 trail work season, while buttoning up this year's work. During this past summer we worked with Peter Jensen ('76-'79) in Pennsylvania on a Blue Mountain ridge section re-location of the Appalachian Trail. Our work consisted of a sectional trail relocation, which will continue in spring of 2023. This fall we warmed our axes with patrolling work for the Wonalancet Out Door Club (WODC) on the Kate Sleeper trail.

Presently, we are working towards securing work in the Mahoosucs, the Squam Lakes region, and in the Notches. We cannot wait to join the fray in repairing the trails we know and love, and are anticipating a full season of trail work next year.

We value good thinking as much as good trail work. We hope the crew we're building will be guided by all manner of TFC and White Mountain history.

We very much hope to hear from any and all trail crew alum. We welcome support, be it tool or financial donations, sound advice, or thick wool sweaters. Purchase some merchandise. Please stay tuned for news on our upcoming fundraising events. On March 7th, 2023 we will be collaborating with North Conway's *Flatbread Company* for a night of pizza and White Mountain pride!

Sincerely and FOO, —*Sam Norton* "Sammy Bananas" ('18-'20)
TFC, ('22-) TFC, LLC

Website: www.trailfixingcollective.com

Email: trailfixingcollective@gmail.com

Instagram: [trail_fixing_collective](https://www.instagram.com/trail_fixing_collective)

Trail Fixing Collective, P.O. Box 52, Tamworth, NH 03886

A Few Notes from 1966

In 1966, 1st years received \$20 per week, plus room & board at Hutton Lodge on Spring Street, Whitefield NH. The pre-arrival gear list strongly suggested, but didn't require: a pair of Limmers (c. 2 1/2 weeks pay), a wool shirt and 2 pairs of wool socks. 1st years received an *AMC White Mountain Guide*. A pair of Limmers would generally last two crew years with one re-soling. Most other hiking boots would last 1-2 weeks.

Joe May, Trails Supervisor, **Sally May**, cook, Chris and Melissa May, kids, lived in Hutton with the Crew on crew days off, Friday nights through Sunday evening. We came out of the woods late Friday. Saturday morning was chores: vehicles at the local garage, food from the grocery store, tools prepped in the barn, plus personals. No alcohol, loud music in Hutton. We ate on the porch.

Joe was a professional educator, first as a principal, then a school superintendent. He took an educational approach to managing the crew. He preferred to present the Crew with high expectations, then provide them with the support which enabled the crew to meet or surpass those expectations. His influence on future Trails Supervisors **Bob Proudman** and **Reuben Rajala** was immense..

Trailmaster **Al Thorndike** managed the woods assignments and oversaw woods work. Sign man **Duncan Lewis** did signs all season. 4th year **Garvin Morris** led crews. After 3 years, they had travelled all 300+ miles of AMC trails, seen all the shelters and bridges, which were the crew's, and Club's, only mission. Planning was based on their direct experience. 3rd year **Jim Robjent** designed and built a new shelter at Kinsman Pond. Crew packed in the material, including 8' dimension lumber, on packboards; and assisted with the construction

The first 2-3 weeks of the season were spent patrolling; up one trail and down another was a standard day's work. Patrolling lunches were carried in wool shirt pockets: 2 candy bars, a small box of raisins, and an orange. Water was taken from streams.

Standardizing occupied most of the summer because many trails were so infrequently traveled that they would brush in within a few years. Crew's overall task was to keep the mountains accessible for the hiking public. In the Mahoosucs, Crew would see more wildlife than hikers.

At the end of the summer, Al posted an assignment: Mizpah Cut Off: PIM. PIM stood for Play In Mud. A crew went up, found the mud, threw in a few rocks, then progressively bigger rocks, all to no effect. That was the start of modern rock work. —*Mark Dannenbauer*

1962 Crew

Councilor of trails, Lyle Richardson. Trail Master, Don Montgomery, • 3rd year. • 2nd year, George Atwood, Donald Palmer, John Pieper, Gary Precanico; • 1st year, Enoch Bell, Eugene Brooks, David Edel, Hugh Montgomery, Lyle Richardson Jr., James Tynan

“One must inevitably compromise when considering how to preserve the White Mountain area. It will accommodate thousands of hikers during a week. No party need be aware of another's presence Unfortunately, the presence of thousands of persons introduces problems. They get lost and injured, chop down live trees, peel bark, and discard paper, tinfoil, and tin cans...• For these reasons the pure conservationists would argue... only persons knowledgeable in the techniques and courtesies of wilderness living be allowed in the woods. But such a policy fails to offer the beauty of the forests and the hills to those who need it most—precisely, those who have not seen and do not know that beauty. • The A.M.C. trail system is a compromise designed to allow safe travel in the wilderness for even the uninitiated, while at the same time displaying the rugged woods and hills of this area. The A.M.C. has for some time supported a crew to maintain this trail system....• Work on the trail crew is one of the best jobs in the world. We thrive on hard work. We are proud of our scars and calluses. Cutting through a two-foot hardwood and leaving a smooth, clean ax cut is not only a matter of pride but also of pure enjoyment....” — Al Thorndike, *Trail Crew Thoughts in Appalachia*, <https://www.amctca.com/wp-content/uploads/Trail-Crew-Thoughts-Al-Thorndike.pdf>

Did You Know? #2

Trail Crew built or developed:

- Early Shelters
- Twin Brook Trail
- Centennial Trail
- May Cut-off
- Old Speck Trail re-lo
- Grafton Loop Trail
- Great Gulf Bridge, 1954
- Kinsman Pond shelter, 1964
- Shelburne Cabin, off hours
- Camp Dodge vol program
- Adopt-A-Trail program
- Trails Day program
- Service trips
- Bog bridges
- Shelter dispersed camping sites w/caretakers

Chips & Clippings 1962

NOVEMBER 1962 VOLUME V

Reunion is Coming! December 15, 1962.

The Hotel Commander, on Garden Street in Cambridge, near Harvard Square and opposite the Common. Many of you have been there before for reunions. The same room, gather at 5:30, with dinner shortly after seven. For men on this year's crew the fee is \$3.25, for alumni \$5.00. Hope to see as many there as can make it. If you have some new slides bring them along. Promises to be an interesting meeting.

At last year's meeting Hix Henrich was re-elected Chairman and Fran Maker re-elected Secretary-Treasurer.

For years now your association has been on a very informal basis but the 1961 crew felt it would be beneficial to have a little more organization. Therefore a steering Committee of John Legates (58-60) Gene Maynard (61-) and Howard Goff (CT 50-52) was elected. Its duties: to develop by-laws and plans for strengthening the organization. They will probably report at this year's meeting.

It was announced that Baxter State Park trails now maintained by the Club will be worked on by Baxter State Park people with \$400 per year appropriated by the AMC from the "Murphy Fund". This will eliminate sending the crew to Maine.

A recommendation by a special committee is now before the AMC Council. This calls for moving headquarters of the Trail Crew to Pinkham Notch and placing them under the supervision of the individual in charge of the Huts. The council also has a paper outlining recommendations against this action prepared by Mr. Blood. This letter was prepared after consultation and correspondence with all former trail masters and trail crew members who are now members of the Club.

WHAT HO!

Boots Perry (58-60) at last report was studying at Seattle Univ. in Dept. of English. Invites any of the crowd going through the north-west to stop in and say hello. Walt Fries (51-) is also back at school. After leaving the Army and Alaska in 60 came home, married his home town girl and went right back to Alaska for a year. Now at Univ. of Bridgeport working towards teaching Math. Another teacher on the way is Tom Lisco (56-59) who got his B.S. from Univ. of Chicago in 61 and is now studying in the graduate Dept. of Economics there. He writes that in 61 he and Ghandi () went to Alaska and worked oil prospecting and canning salmon. "The amount of rain put Glen Boulder storms to shame, but on one clear day after work we were able to climb a 3400 foster (starting elevation 0) and enjoy one of the most spectacular views I have ever seen. Ocean on one side and

<https://www.amctca.com/wp-content/uploads/1962-Vol-V.pdf>
scan: Alex McKenzie



2018 Crew, site of Whitefield Hutton barn, post-pancake breakfast.

photo: Mark Dannenhauer

Input Equals Output

We all know the feeling of mountain hunger. In my life I've eaten Thanksgiving dinners lovingly prepared by my grandma, simple weeknight suppers after a day in an office, and lazy weekend morning breakfasts. While eating is still pretty much the best part of any day, I'm not sure any of those meals compare to the deep seated satisfaction of diving into a big meal in the middle of the woods after a day of trail work, miles from the nearest restaurant or the kitchen you call home. "Hunger is the best spice!" we would chant when the meal was not something we'd be particularly excited to tuck into down in civilization. It was entirely true. Sweating and pushing, log-lugging and packing, walking, walking, walking over the rocky White Mountain trails is the greatest appetite engine I've ever had."

Since trail crew, my work took a natural next step in the direction of food. I moved to Waldo County, Maine, where farmers of all living things tend and sell the freshest and best stuff this rocky land can offer. I live in a great place to eat. I worked on a vegetable farm for two years and more recently stepped into a role helping livestock farmers in the state qualify for federal funds to improve their manure handling practices. As much as my life is centered around food now, Trail Crew will always be the place I fell in love with the joy of eating. We had it pretty good. The widespread abundance of Cabot cheddar was a sharp and salty bliss I have not encountered since. The seriousness with which crew leaders took the task of feeding their crew well was downright intense. So here are my top three trail crew meals, because my crew leaders fed me well.

1. My first ever woods meal. The tall and gentle Todd 6'4"—**Evan McManamy**—seemed to effortlessly produce a huge pot of Franks hot sauce-laden chicken with onions, peppers, kale and spices. He insisted on steaming the pita in which the bomb was wrapped for the perfectly flexible carb vehicle. Sour cream, lettuce, and of course grated cheddar cheese finished off the masterpiece, of which I was known to eat three in one sitting. Our Nineteen-mile Brook camp's bear hang was expertly launched into the stratosphere by the capable and engineering-minded 6'4". Capable of keeping the leftovers safe from even a mouse.
2. Goldrush's chili. Chili may seem like an easy woods meal, but I think Goldrush mastered it better than any other crew leader I had. Anyone who knows this man—**Dylan Dimartino**— knows that he takes his cooking extremely seriously. He loaded up his pot with allllll the good stuff. Beef, corn, beans, tomato and very important mushrooms, perfectly spiced with cumin and several types of chili powder. Topped with the ever-present cheddar, Doritos and hot sauce, this meal was always one of my favorites.
3. Osgood camp's Risotto special. Wrench — **Finn Mahoney** — took woods cooking to the next level. He packed in a small box of white wine, parm, plenty of butter, and loads of vegetables to get his stick-to-the ribs risotto brick perfect. I was lucky enough to be visiting camp one night when he nailed this one. It required lots of stirring and adding of broth incrementally. Topped with more parm, this was such a satisfying dish at the end of a long day in the woods.

Are you hungry yet? As I continue to adventure in new ways over in Maine, I don't think any camping food will compare to the goodness I got on the trail crew. "INPUT equals OUTPUT" was our philosophy. Food is fuel. Trail Crew taught me that the joy of eating should be unbridled and indulgent. The harder we worked during the day, the greater the pleasure when it was finally time to sit in the duff and eat.

—*Abigail Lown*/Eugene Beauharnais Cook, 2015-2017, 2019 Trail Master

A Few Notes from 1942

In 1942, Crew was settling in for its 3rd year at Spring Street, Whitefield, in a new house purchased by the Club at the urging of **Jack Hutton** (for whom it was to be named following his death on Iwo Jima in 1945). On New Year's Day, 1942 Jack married Kathryn Rockefeller of Pittsburgh, PA. In the year to come, 1943, Jack tried to enlist in the Army but asked that his service be delayed a month or so in order that he might train the 1943 Crew. The Army refused his request, so Jack went down the street and enlisted in the Marine Corps, who would accommodate him. Jack trained the sub-draft age Crew who then finished the season "successfully under the supervision of his wife." Brooklyn-born Jack graduated from Flushing High in 1933 whereupon he joined Crew, recommended by **Paul R. Jenks**. While on Crew he pursued a degree in forestry from Syracuse University. After 4 years on Crew Jack was "one of the most rugged physical specimens and one of the cleverest woodsmen the trail crew has ever produced." Jack had the Crews build shelters and bridges, introduced accident prevention and tool safety measures. From 1937 to 1940 Jack continued to work on trails, from '38 to '40 as Trails Supervisor. In 1938, Jack wrote *Windthrow*, in *Appalachia*, June, 1939. analyzing the effects of the 1938 hurricane and offering a basis for the Club's emergency trail clearance work. (*Death of Jack Hutton*, **Austin Chase**, *Appalachia*, December, 1945.)

- Trail Master **Dave Lovejoy** reported on a crew of five's 1941 working trip to Baxter State Park, *Vacation with Pay*, *Appalachia*, June, 1942. The Club had assumed maintenance of trails and shelters at Katahdin. The crew spent a week standardizing around Chimney Pond and a week in the Northwest Basin cutting a new trail and dining on fried frogs' legs from Lake Cowles. In 1967 a crew of 4, trail master Garvin Morris, Bob Proudman, **Ed Spencer**, and Mark Dannenhauer embarked on a similar vacation with pay, doing some standardizing and some climbing at Chimney Pond and the Northwest Basin.

- In 1942, Crew returned to Katahdin to re-build the shelter at Davis Pond in the Northwest Basin. Verne Samson, "a woodsman of the old school", supplied the brains. **Cabin House** was trail master. The crew and a packhorse brought in the supplies. Work began at first light and ceased at dark. The crew of six moved foundation rocks; felled, limbed and peeled trees; rolled and dragged logs to the site. Then 3rd year **Tink Bailey**, **Peter Berning**, and **Arthur Goodrich** headed to Chimney Pond for patrolling, cairning, signing, and packing in re-supplies. Cabin, **Dick Lewis**, and **Dick Williams** worked with Verne on the shelter. The finished shelter was similar to the recently completed Great Gulf shelter: open door in front, space for beds on either side, a floor in the middle, with room for 12. *The New Davis Pond Shelter*, *Appalachia*, December, 1942.

- In 1942 Paul R. Jenks was likely gathering his thoughts for his seminal piece, *Twenty Five Years of the A.M.C. Trail Crew*, to be published in *Appalachia*, December 1943. "The years 1914 to 1916...witnessed a surge of interest in tramping, which resulted in the project of the Appalachian Trail...and the formation of regional Trail Conferences, of which ours in New England was the first....Interest in a through trail stimulated interest in local trails...As the mileage of A.M.C. trails increased, the question of maintenance came to the fore. Fortunately for the Councillor of Trails, it was not a monetary problem as the Club was always willing and able to grant necessary funds; rather it was a problem of labor." Jenks solved the labor problem by recruiting the first paid crews from his Flushing High School students, while Nat Goodrich, Dartmouth College librarian, contributed future Golden Axe awardee **Sherman Adams** who was the only one with previous woods experience via the DOC. The first summer, some were coached by Karl Harrington around North Woodstock, Ray Evans around Pinkham and further east, by Gray Harris of Worcester chapter on the Twins, and Jenks himself in Carrigain Notch.

1942 Crew

Trail Master, Forrest (Cabin) House; • 3rd year, Joseph (Tink) Bailey; • 2nd year, Paul Johnson (Johnsen); • 1st year, Peter Berning, Arthur Goodrich, Richard W. Lewis, John Shaper, Richard A. Williams.

Did You Know? #3

- Most of the early Crews were recruited from two locales. Can you name them?.
- Crews were housed at several locations prior to Whitefield Hutton. Can you name them?
- When did Crews stop cutting boughs for bedding?
- When did Trail Crew stop standardizing?
- When did Trail Crew stop staffing shelter caretakers?
- When did Trail Crew stop working solely on AMC trails and shelters?
- When did Trail Crew stop patrolling?
- What was a gaboon?
- What was the last White Mountain trail built by Trail Crew?
- Come to Reunion and discover some answers.

[amctca.com](https://www.amctca.com)

Check it out for:

Photos, fungi, schwag, contacts, blog, articles, history, our mission, dues and donations forms, newsletters, board members, reports, Centennial info, TCA Dodge projects, Golden Axe Awards, cabin updates, sign projects, meeting announcements, and more..... Tell us what else you want to see: info@amctca.com

Dues Come Do

Welcome to *Chips & Clippings*, since 1958 dedicated to the activities and history of the Trail Crew Association. **Hix Heinrich** put out the first Volume in 1958 and continued through 1977. An incomplete list of our volunteer member editors include: **Alex McKenzie**/Mahoosuc Mac, 1978-1992; **Jim Hourdequin**, 1995; **John Weeman**, 1996-2002; **Bennett Schmidt**, 2003-2006; **Barbara Whiton**, 2011-2017; **Bruce Jacobson**, 2021; **Mark Dannenhauer**, 2022. Please send us your additions and corrections.

Chips started as an annual paper newsletter mailed each fall to Crew alums. Now, *Chips* is a digital newsletter distributed by mail and by email. Let us know if you Don't want a paper copy and we'll save some postage. Let us know if you Don't want a digital copy and we won't plug your inbox. If you know folks who aren't getting *Chips* at all, tell them to send TCA their address and/or email address, might as well send the phone number too for the complete catastrophe.

Your dues <https://www.amctca.com/product/yearly-dues/> and donations <https://www.amctca.com/product/donate/> support: upkeep and bills for the Cabin; the annual newsletter *Chips & Clippings* and the quarterly *Steps & Scree*; the TCA web site and social media; the annual and other meetings; and other operating costs. Donations specified for earmarked funds are reserved for those purposes. Cabin fees go directly for Cabin expenses. Your support is essential. Thank you.



New benches.

photo: Marshall Pontrelli

A Few Notes from (around) 1922

1917 1917 was a big year. • The USFS arrived in the Whites. AMC and USFS signed an agreement as to who would maintain which trails. Amended agreements have continued since. • AMC was a founding and lead member of the New England Trail Conference, formed “to promote cooperation in the creation and maintenance of a system of connecting trails in New England, and to disseminate information concerning them.” • “The Club turned over other trails to the Intervale Improvement Society, Wonalancet Outdoor Club, and the Waterville Athletic and Improvement Association. • The Club would continue to “build and maintain long trails between tramping centres, single trails or entire systems of trails.... • New work: Mt. Flume Trail, Kinsman Ridge Trail, Garfield Pond Camp, Garfield Pond trail, Mahoosuc Trail (in process). • “The great storm of September, 1915, “such a storm as old men know but once in a lifetime” blocked some trails and obliterated others. • The need for standardizing trails was recognized and addressed. • “The unfortunate condition of the footway on certain paths (notably the Crawford Path on Mt. Clinton, the Mt. Lafayette path, and the Valley Way) has long been a matter of common knowledge”. — Excerpts from *Reports of the Councillors for 1917, Improvements*, by Paul R. Jenks, *Appalachia*, Vol. XIV.

1919 9 high school and college boys were hired for 6 to 8 weeks. 5 based in North Woodstock, two in Gorham, two a “flying squadron.” Many trails were built, re-located, re-opened, in total 19 miles of new trails, 18 miles re-opened. (Paul R. Jenks, *Appalachia*, Vol XV.)

1920 The AMC’s *Guide to Paths in the White Mountains and Adjacent Regions*, Fourth Edition published. \$2.75. “Mahoosuc Range Trail. This A.M.C. Trail was cut in 1918 from Speckled Mountain to the W. end of Mahoosuc Notch and in 1919 was extended as far S. as the first col of Mt. Carlo. Inasmuch as it will probably be extended in 1920 to Mt. Success, the description is given as the completed trail will probably run, but persons contemplating using the section next Mt. Success should first make inquiries as to its conditions.” (sic). • trail work was done by [Sherman] **L.S. Adams**, [Robert] **Elsasser**, [Donald] **Sawyer**, [Cyril] **Fyles**, [Clarence] **Stilwell**; trail maintenance cost for the season: \$895.08. —N.L. Goodrich, [first] *Report of the Supervisor of Trails for 1920*.

1923 The whole crew lodged at Locust Cottage, a farm boarding-house in Whitefield, a site chosen for its proximity to Jenks’ summer place and to Whitefield Junction which offered rail connection to all sections of the trail system. The trailmaster kept records of each trail, their condition, character and work needed. Work consisted of patrolling, standardizing, and shelter work. Tools included: axes, machetes, clippers, scythes, weed-cutters, packs, packboards, camping gear.

In **1924**, 4th year **Harold Miller** became the first Trailmaster, “entrusted full charge of the field work. He laid out the work, assigned duties, directed the actual clearing, paid the current bills from a checking account at Whitefield, and reported weekly to the councillor [of trails]....” (*Twenty Five Years of the A.M.C. Trail Crew*, Paul R. Jenks, *Appalachia*, December, 1943.

1922 Crew

Trail Master (Trails supervisor), Paul R. Jenks. • 3rd year, Clarence Stillwell, Nat Goodrich, Harold Miller; • 2nd year, William Gallagher, Elliott Weier; • 1st year, Gregory Belcher, Warren Cook, Arthur Curren, Ralph Loomis, William Starr.

Trail Crew Association

P.O. Box 100

Washington, VT 05675

