

TRAILWRITES

MAKING TRAILS RIGHT

NOVEMBER 2013



RAY'S RAMBLINGS

We have just about finished another great trail work season.

Trailwright's members participated on Mt. Monadnock Trails week again this year, as well as CTA weekends, Mt. Tom reservation in MA., Franconia Notch, Eaton, NH, the Dan Doan Trail in Orford, NH and other Forest Society (SPNHF) work days. Other articles in this newsletter will cover more of the accomplishments.

What I would like all of our members to think about and respond to is what our goals might be next year, to accomplish more of our educational goals to help the trail community and clubs provide the necessary maintenance requirements for their trails.

We would like to offer workshops to town conservation and trail committees as requested. If any of you have media skills to offer to help us put together short skill sessions, we would be grateful.

Another idea to think about would be to consider removing the dues structure from the membership process. We could just have a mailing list for members and have a donation system put in place. There is a current need for a hammer drill and accessories to create safe climbing on trails where the soil has eroded, leaving only exposed granite surfaces to navigate. Other items are needed from time to time, to replace worn or broken tools.

A continuing project in Massachusetts and New Hampshire is the Quabbin to Cardigan (Q2C) conservation corridor that is focusing on Land Conservation and connecting trails. We hope to participate in helping with this through trail maintenance educational workshops.

I hope you will consider these ideas and write to the Trailwright's PO Box or me with any constructive views for changes and support. We may have a surprise guest speaker and program for our Annual Meeting in the spring, and can vote on any changes then as required.

Regards,

Raynold Jackson – President

Winter 2013 hiking schedule

Go on our website at
www.trailwrights.org

Sept. 25, Andrews Brook Trail with SPNHF:



WORK DAY REPORTS:

NHTD JULY 20, Fox Forest - Fox Forest was Mike Zlogar, Bernie C., and myself from 9:00 am till 2:00 pm. Drainage improvements in approximately 70 feet of roadside ditch, some brushing, and the disassembly, cleaning, and reassembly of a stone box culvert. The bugs were not bad in spite of the moist muddy conditions. Beers were enjoyed in my backyard afterwards.

Dave Dick

August 3, Kearsarge North Trail - A group of 7 Trailwrights and 1 friend of Trailwrights spent a combined 60 hours rehabilitating the first 100 yards. This section contained a boggy area through which passed a badly deteriorated turnpike and a large mud pit immediately above it. We worked basically in 2 groups of 4 each to accomplish the following:

One group worked with the badly deteriorated turnpike section accomplishing the following:

Refurbished approximately 170 feet of turnpike by relocating timbers on west side (left side facing up hill) effectively narrowing the treadway that had been pushed aside by roots and years of neglect. Removed roots and other growth on treadway between and on the timbers primarily on the west side. This was needed to move the timbers. Crushed rocks with a sledge hammer to create small stones for use on the turnpike treadway. Widened the drains between the sections of turnpike to increase drainage from the west side drains and the bog on the west side to get it headed somewhat down slope on the east side.

Gravel quarried in the woods farther up trail was placed on treadway between timbers effectively increasing the tread height at or near to the height of the timbers. More gravel is required to complete the improvement.

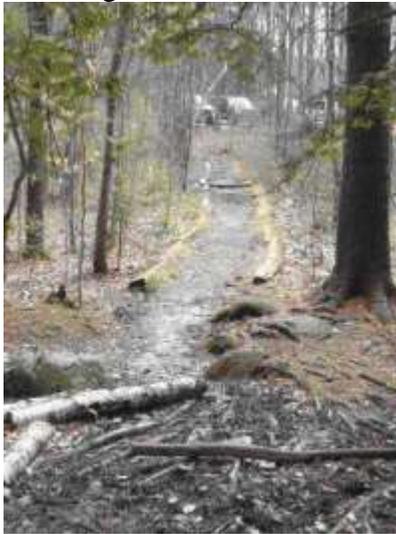
Secured relocated west side timbers and end timbers between the sections with metal spikes and /or wooden stakes to keep them in position.

Added a ditch along most of the west side of the turnpike. Brushed along both sides of the turnpike. The other group set step stones in the large mud pit immediately above the turnpike and accomplished the following: Installed 13 step stones with scree in the large mud pit from rocks quarried in the vicinity.

Enlarged the ditch at bottom of mud pit to get water out and into the woods on the east side.

All in all, a great day weather wise, with significant improvements made and virtually no interference from biting bugs. Another work day will be planned to complete the rehabilitation

Kearsarge North Before:



After:



September 14, 2013 - Mt. Kinsman Trail Work Report

A group of 8 Trailwrights spent a combined 76 hours installing rock steps and a rock water bar immediately above the third water crossing located two miles from the parking lot and just below the junction with Bald Peak spur. Additional rocks were placed as step stones at that area. Other rocks were quarried to be set as rock steps at a later date.

All in all, a great deal was accomplished despite high water levels that impeded the work progress. It was a day with cool weather that is great for moving rock, no rain to speak of and no bugs. Another work day will be needed to complete installation of rock steps in this area.

Bruce

Sept. 21 Dan Doan Trail workday: Bruce, Jason, Hal, Peggy, Ray, Greg



All drainages were cleared again. One had failed since the last visit. The area above the failed drainage could use additional waterbars. We added trail arrow signs at the beginning and end of a re-route that we had cleared last year. We also flagged and cleared a few minor temporary re-routes around two areas that are eroded down to bedrock. Both places are unsafe due to steep, slick sidehill bedrock. We also identified a possible route for the trail to bypass the last steep section of trail before in gains the ridge. This section is essentially a brook now, and an old attempt at a staircase has failed. The re-route would essentially go from the point where the brook leaves the trail to Mike Murphy Spring and would eliminate the need to replace an

extensive length of puncheon, as well as the need to fix the staircase. We hope to brush out the re-route either later this year, or early next work season.

Future work needed: the entire trail needs to be re-blazed. There are a few short sections that need brushing still. The re-route described above. More waterbars as always.

Oct. 5 & 6, Chatham Trails 22 waterbars were installed! Yea!

Oct. 19, Artist's Bluff - 12 great people came out on a beautiful fall day. All the drainages were cleaned, 2 blowdowns removed, 14 rock steps installed, and 3 rock waterbars, and 2 rock relocations. Nice work everyone!



See more pictures on Facebook!

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 to stop at The Old Man viewing and find our 12x12 paver.

Trailwrights Directory

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Many MANY thanks to all Trailwrights and friends who worked with us this year. Many thanks to Dan and Rita Blanchette for letting us use their home for our Board meetings. Thanks to Rick Blanchette for keeping our website up to date. Thanks to Bruce Richards for keeping our Facebook page up to date. Thanks to Hal Graham for leading so many projects. And thanks to Dave Dick for hauling the trailer and handling the tools.

Thanks to Ray Jackson for being involved in all our projects, and staying on as our President. Thank you all so much!!!!

Find us on Facebook!

