



Wonalancet Out Door Club
HCR 64, Box 248, Wonalancet, NH 03897

Mountain Notes

*A supplement to the
WODC Newsletter
July 2012*

Seasonal Pleasures

WODC Annual Meeting:

Date: Sunday August 19th (and yes, I know the newsletter said the 18th. It was wrong.)

Time: Potluck Dinner at 5 P.M.; Annual Meeting at 6:30 P.M.

Place: Dinner in the Chapel Grove; Meeting in the Wonalancet Union Chapel

Dress: Informal but not optional.

Highlight of the Meeting: The reestablishment of a trail between Wonalancet and Whiteface Intervale. The WODC, USFS, and George Bates have cooperated to establish a new route through the Forest and down George and Nancy Bates' land to Whiteface Intervale. In recognition of this accomplishment we will host an **Inaugural hike** of the new trail. Those interested in this hike should meet at the Chapel at 2:00 P.M. We'll carpool to Whiteface Interval and then hike back to the Chapel via McCrillis Path, Tilton Spring Path, and Red Path. The hike will encompass approximately 4.5 miles. We'll plan to arrive back at the Chapel between 4:30 and 5:00 P.M.

Secret Secondary Highlight: Word has it that samples of the all new WODC t-shirts will be on display! Lighter, cooler, better fitting and even more beautiful!

Tom Wessels Presentation and Walk:

Date: Saturday, October 20th

Time: Talk at 1 P.M.; Walk to follow, ending at 5 P.M.

Place: Cook Memorial Library, Tamworth

Cost: Talk free and open to all; walk limited to the first 24 to register with a fee of \$10. Register for the walk with Chele at: chelem33@gmail.com or: 603-323-8328. You will receive a confirmation email or call.

Background: As you walk through the woods, do you ever wonder if this forest was once farmed? Was it pastureland or tilled? Was it ever logged? Does it show signs of a forest fire, or a windstorm? If you could pick one person to answer these questions, that person would probably be Tom Wessels. Wessels is a terrestrial ecologist and a professor at Antioch University New England, in the Department of Environmental Studies, where he founded a master's program in conservation biology. He is an active environmentalist and is the author of: "Reading the Forested Landscape: the Natural History of New England", "The Granite Landscape: A Natural History of America's Mountain Domes, from Acadia to Yosemite", "The Myth of Progress: Toward a Sustainable Future", "Untamed Vermont", and "Forest Forensics: A Field Guide to Reading the Forested Landscape."

The October 20th walk with Wessels will explore Osgood Road off Hollow Hill Road (an area covered in the Cook Library book "Diary of A Tamworth Boy" and known to contain early homesites), the original location of the 1793 meetinghouse at the corner of Cleveland Hill Road and Hollow Hiill Road, and the area of Parson Hidden's homestead across the road.

Opportunities: By the time you receive this, the first three trail days will be history, but you can still volunteer for trailwork on Saturday, September 29th, National Public Lands Day. WODC also needs volunteers who will spend one day (to be specified) monitoring Wilderness on an assigned trail. For more information, contact Jack at: 603-323-8913 or at: jackw@g4com.com, or Fred at: 603-284-6919.

WODC was founded one hundred and twenty years ago (long before the Weeks Act) to provide and care for paths, trails and other facilities for persons visiting the White Mountains; to promote their conservation and the enforcement of the laws regarding their conservation and use, to promote communication between their owners and the public on these issues, and to promote discussion and education on these matters. We pursue these goals by maintaining 52 miles of hiking trails, restoring and reconstructing deteriorated trails, assisting private landowners that host local hiking trails. publishing the Map and Guide to the Sandwich Range Wilderness. and publishing the WODC Newsletter.

Both the Sandwich Range and our Club have survived and thrived because of the efforts of volunteers. You can volunteer for as much or as little as you like, you can be in Wonalancet or far away; you can volunteer by wielding an axe on the trail or a pen at your desk. All efforts are equally valuable; and all are equally needed. As Newsletter Editor, I hope that you will submit an article; suggest an article; send in a poem or a tale from the trail . . . *something*. Some of the best articles we've published were written by folks who'd never written anything for publication before. And for goodness sake, don't worry about spelling or grammar or suchlike trivia. Just get yourself on the page -- the rest is the job of the editor. After all, as Gene Fowler famously said, "Writing is easy. All you do is stare at a blank sheet of paper until drops of blood form on your forehead." Then simply email your efforts to me at: susangoldhor@comcast.net. Or, even simpler, email me and tell me your idea.



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