The President's Corner

CTF and UNITED WAY

The Colorado Trail Foundation is participating in the 1990-91 Mile High United Way Campaign through the CHOICE program.

Through Specific Care, the donor may designate a donation to any tax-exempt non-profit agency with offices in the state of Colorado. The Colorado Trail Foundation qualified for this designation. If you wish to donate to the United Way, you may specify that the Colorado Trail Foundation receive the donation. Which we will accept with great honor!

TRW donates $$ for tools

John Wehrle, adoptee for Maintenance Section 17 (Lake Fork to Half Moon Campground) has received two checks of $200.00 each from TRW System International Company to purchase tools. John, with other leaders and Cub Scout Pack 630, has done a great job in maintaining this long, heavily used segment. We thank TRW for helping John and the Cub Pack in making their work a little easier with sharper and handier tools.

PRIDE IN AMERICA AWARD

Abe and Hanna Ohr flew to Washington, D.C. on September 18 to receive the Pride in America award on behalf of the Colorado Trail Foundation. Abe, an airline pilot and flight instructor, was able to arrange transportation, enabling the CTF to have a representative present.

The Ohr's also attended a VIP cocktail party the night before the award ceremony and had a special tour of the White House with other awardees.

Thanks to all of the Colorado Trail Foundation members and Friends for their continued involvement and pride in our trail. You all deserve this award for a cumulative effort. Once more, TAKE PRIDE IN YOUR TRAIL.

Five new CTF Board Members elected

At the October board meeting five new board members were elected to fill vacancies. Elected were the following: Sally Hopper, State Senator; Bob Moore, BLM; Stuart McDonald, State Trails Coordinator; Bob Boblette, Colorado Trail Leader; and Roy Johnson, EMS. Pictures and profiles of the board members will be included in the January newsletter.

The next board meeting is January 22nd. We welcome members.

LOOKING FOR A GREAT HOLIDAY GIFT IDEA?

Order your guidebook, gift wrapped with a CT card enclosed, for a sure holiday pleaser. If we can grab Randy, we'll see if we can't get him to autograph your gift copy. Still only $12.95, plus tax and shipping. Make Santa's job a little easier.

A special THANK YOU to MARTIN MARIETTA who printed this issue of TREADLINES as a courtesy to the COLORADO TRAIL FOUNDATION.
NEW ADDITIONS TO CT EQUIPMENT PILE

Bob Bobbette, veteran crew leader, donated $500.00 towards the purchase of a new tent after he saw the condition of a couple of our tents this summer. We must admit that when a tent falls off a pickup bed and drags along behind for several miles, it comes out looking the worse for wear.

Merle McDonald, foundation member, maintenance chairman, and crew leader, took care of that problem once and for all. This fall Merle built a new wooden rail for the pickup bed that is one FANCY piece. It has sure-proof loks and hooks for tent poles. He cleaned and painted and fixed. It's a "new" looking pickup, thanks to Merle's efforts.

Did you ever wonder what happens to the mountains of equipment when it all comes home to roost at 548 Pine Song Trail? There are heaps tossed into sheds, and it takes a whole weekend effort to sort, clean, inventory, and stack neatly. Leftover food is stored, inventoried, and placed in warm storage for the winter.

In October the big weekend took place with Denise Wright overseeing the food sorting and Lynn Mattingly in charge of the equipment. Both ladies are crew leaders and board members. (As you can guess, we have a hard working and responsible board.) Thanks to all who helped that weekend to get everything stored for the winter. You are appreciated.

Summer 1990 Trail

Crew Summaries

CREW 1
Location: Mancos
Co-Leaders: Lynn Mattingly, Randy Jacobs
Date: June 23 to 30
A well-humored and energetic crew of 20 battled mosquitoes, flies, and the heat to construct over a mile of trail on the Mancos Loop. We worked both directions from our camp, which was perched above the West Mancos River.

Starting downstream about one-half mile, we constructed new trail from the remains of an old mining town westward along the river, across a meadow, and upward through thick aspen forest to Horse Fly Flats, at the base of Mt. Hesperus.

Special thanks to a helpful Mancos Forest District.

CREW 3
Location: Camp Hale
Leader: Jim Miller (assisted by Margarita Miller)
Date: June 23 to 30
Crew 3 was a reunion crew from 1987 (Little Molas Lake), and was comprised mostly of former FBI and NASA personnel (including astronaut-aquanaut Scott Carpenter). All but one member of the 1987 crew was there, plus welcome additions from Alabama, Colorado, and New York. The average age was 55, with Julie bringing it down from an embarrassing to a respectable high.

There was no rain, and the days ranged from warm to hot. Our sealed dry ice lasted only until noon Tuesday. We enjoyed the great water and facilities of Camp Hale, and the cooperation of the White River Holy Cross Ranger Station, as well as warm companionship, misting (read sweat), the dedication and inspiration of the crew, trees falling by John and Ed, and tree wrestling by Don and Bob. This crew completed the entire planned new trail section, taking the Colorado Trail completely off the dusty Forest Road 726. The signed trail now crosses FR 726 South (to Durango) and travels through the woods, with a beautiful lookout point at Camp Hale valley. It connects after one mile, 140 yards with old trail en route to Tennessee Pass, for those of you following Randy's maps.

We put up our camp Saturday afternoon and were blessed with a new cook tent, if no muffin pans. It was too hot, anyway, for muffins or soup, but correct planning did bring extra ice cream makings (oh, what a nice new-type hand cranks!), and Cataract Creek (East Fork Eagle River?) was excellent for cooling watermelons and extra beverages.

A Mexican dinner (Margarita's green chili over tamales and homemade flan by "Hey, Vargas!") set the mood. Sunday morning we did hands-on reacquaintance with the tools to eliminate the possibility of careless hikers following the cross country ski markers and missing the waterfall at Cataract Creek.
Summer 1990 Trail Crew Summaries (continued)

coming down from Kokomo Pass. After checking the planned "easy mile" and questions of the crew leader's ability to estimate distance, six stalwart volunteers got the jump on the east end of the new trail switchback, much to the relief of the others on Monday. We also skipped a hard canyon cut in the heat of Thursday evening to go back and dig it in the cooler Friday morning air.

Otherwise, we enjoyed the week, with the great evenings in camp, a BVD TV-type commercial to welcome Scott, followed by "IGNITION" to start us off, and listening to the chorus of coyotes in the early morning, followed by Down blowing reville.

Friday evening, after most had removed at least part of the dust and dirt with solar showers or dips in the creek, we enjoyed the company of Ranger Bill Wood, and we were grateful that Harold had kept the brisket, plus the extra cooked by "Hey, Vargas", in his refrigerator. If not for the drive-in conveniences, we would have had the brisket Tuesday evening, much to Ranger Bill's disappointment. Our crew of 20 made it disappear like magic.

Kudos to: Lynn Alexander; Jim Boyden; Scott Carpenter; John Gwin; Gladys Kingsolver; Virginia Knowlton; Harold Laurence; Kick Maurer; Mao McKinney; Ramon and Jody McKinney; Don McQueen; Edd Quigley; Bob Sage; Max Smith; Bill and Mary Todd; Mel Wright; and, Julie Wumer. With special thanks to Barbara, Jody, and Ramon, who supervised most of the cooking chores.

CREW 4

The Vintage Excavators Unlimited

Location:
Co-Leaders: Bob and Kay Hubbard, Irene Cazer
Date: June 30 to July 7

This special group merited a special name not only because they built two miles of good trail, enthusiastically helped with all camp chores, and had a lot of fun in the process, but because their average age was in the mid-sixties (53 to 73).

They had worked on the Colorado Trail for from two to nine years, many of them for more than one week each summer.

Their pasts included interesting careers, and those who have retired are now doing the things that they didn't have time for when they were working.

Bob and Kay Hubbard are retired from the oil industry and the Public Service Company, respectively. Hiking, climbing, skating, traveling, sailing, and especially biking now fill their days.

They have biked in Holland, Germany, Denmark, Scotland, and Ireland, as well as various parts of the United States, and returned from leading a two week bike trip in Scotland just two weeks before the start of our crew.

During those two weeks they biked for a week in southwestern Colorado, and Bob spent several days as a mechanic on the Ride to the Rockies.

They also volunteer with Historical Denver and are writing a family history from their genealogical research.

In addition, they have built two cabins from the ground up, including wiring and plumbing.

This is their fourth year on trail crews and their second as leaders.

Neal and Melba McCaskill are from Midland, Texas and have worked on the same crew for five summers. Neal is a former petroleum engineer, and Melba is a registered nurse.

They have lived in Alaska, Libya, Venezuela, Pennsylvania, Arizona, and Texas, and still travel, attending two to four Elderhostel sessions each year. They both walk, and Neal golfs and volunteers with the Midland city government; Melba works part time doing research on southwest Texas history and the cattle industry. She also works on family genealogy and plays bridge.

John Watt, who now lives in Fruita, Colorado, came to Colorado from St. Louis, where he was an electric technician on the Mercury, Genesis, and Skylab space projects.

John hikes, backpacks, fishes, gardens, and has adopted maintenance section 25 of the Colorado Trail. This was his second year and second week on a crew.
Gerald Fall of Dallas enlisted in the Air Force in 1942 and retired in 1975, serving in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam. He attended law school after his retirement, did graduate work in Salzburg, Austria, was legal counsel for a multi-national corporation in Paris, practiced criminal law, served as assistant director and general counsel to the Texas Prison System, was an assistant district attorney, and is now in private practice. This is his second year on trail crews, and this week was the second of three this summer.

Jim and Sheila Goetz live in Council Bluffs, Iowa. Jim retired from the Army in 1989 after 30 years service in Korea, Japan, Germany, Taiwan, Vietnam, Ethiopia, Iran, Mississippi, Kansas, Wisconsin, and South Carolina.

Jim’s volunteer work includes: reviewing books; writing a book on his father’s life; serving as guardian to four mentally retarded adults; serving on the Board of the Ministries for the Mentally Handicapped; serving as secretary for the County Society for the Mentally Handicapped; and, singing in a men’s choir.

Sheila still teaches handicapped children, helps with a camp program for the handicapped, and both of them are active in the Volksmarching Walking Program. This is their fourth year of trail work, three on the same crew.

Otis and Elsie Teets are from Boulder. Otis worked in the dairy industry and at Rocky Flats, and Elsie was a school librarian.

They enjoy hiking, camping, and are avid square dancers. This is their third year on the trail.

Dick and Doris Brown divide their time between Shawnee Mission, Kansas and Winter Park. Both are former teachers, and Dick retired as a middle school principal. They hike, backpack, ski, canoe, bike, travel overseas, and have done missionary work in Mexico.

This is their second year working on the Colorado Trail.

Jack Saradat of Brusly, Louisiana, is retired from Kaiser Aluminum Company and spends his time fishing and doing volunteer work in his church, at the Veterans Administration Outpatient Clinic, and at the War Veterans Home.

This is Jack’s fourth year on the same crew and his second week this summer.

In addition, he spent two weeks one summer building trails on an Alaskan island with the International Trail Society.

Helen Newell lives in Telluride. She worked for 43 years in secretarial and newspaper work, and now works at Telluride’s summer and winter festivals.

Helen skis, bikes, hikes, and climbs Fourteeners. This was her tenth trail crew week in four years, and she has two more to go this summer.

Philip Emery of Denver worked for a publisher of college textbooks before retirement. He is now active in his church and is involved in an experimental one-on-one literacy program with children.

Philip also helps his wife with her landscaping business. This is his fourth year on the Colorado Trail.

Elsie Dickert lives in Denver and is still employed as a secretary. She camps and hikes, and is active at the Museum of Natural History and in the Mushroom Society.

This is her fourth year on the trail.

Jim Boyden of Monterey, California was with us for only three days of his second of three weeks this summer. Jim had to leave early to take his grandchildren on a trip to Ireland.

Irene Cazer, Denver, retired 20 years ago from teaching kindergarten. She now gardens, walks, camps, fishes, hikes, and flat-track skis, as well as volunteers in the Pediatric Outpatient Clinic at University Hospital, at a lunch program for the homeless, and in the CHUN Coupon Program, which aids various community agencies.

This is her ninth year on the trail.

After a great week, made so in part by a very nice campsite and helpful, friendly Forest Service Personnel, our award night was exciting but damp, with 25 of us crowded in the cook tent due to pouring rain.
Summer 1990 Trail Crew Summaries  (continued)

Our special guests were Randy Jacobs, Paul Peck, Jimmy Dickerson, and Walt Jones of the Regional Forest Service, as well as Paul’s wife and three children, and Walt’s wife.

CREW 5
Location: Swan River
Co-Leaders: Denise Wright, Hugh Duffy
Date: June 30 to July 7
Another great crew, just like every other I’ve lead! Of course, Loren Kronlokken’s constant stream of limericks kept us all in good spirits both on and off the trail. No wonder we all keep coming back year after year!

Sixteen volunteers (three women, one girl, and 12 men) included two leaders, six prospective leader trainees, three rookies, and five veterans. The weather was great at this Breckenridge work site, and within the course of the week we completed three-fourths of a mile of new trail, built one rock causeway, three to four rock drains, on small footbridge, and one large log footbridge.

Hugh Duffy, a landscape architect with the National Park Service, coordinated work assignments and instruction on trail construction techniques. Each prospective leader took a turn leading a mini-group working on flagging effective trail routes, tread construction, causeways, and bridge building.

On day one all of us were well “broken in” by the 100 degree heat. After only an hour rookies Larry Zier, Bob Dorman, and all the veterans were having second thoughts about those air conditioned desk jobs. However, by day’s end, as we walked back to camp on the beautiful new trail we’d just created, our reward was clearly visible. All the sweat we’d lost and the dirt we now wore were well worth it!

Back in camp it was definitely Miller (and shower) time! Under Bill Bloomquist’s engineering direction Shirley DeJagera, Lisa Bloomquist, Larry, and Bob created a super shower with a dressing stall. Certainly this was the most deluxe Colorado Trail shower ever!

As the afternoon temperature dropped and with the receipt of our official USFS fire permit, we felt it was time to get the evening fire going. Although he used a special technique that night, I didn’t learn the secret to Ken Stagner’s fire starting talents until the next morning. Just use the Boy Scout method, Ken states, tongue-in-cheek, then proceed to douse the wood thoroughly with charcoal lighter.

On Tuesday the weather broke, leaving us with cool temps the rest of the week. Gene Cash, Dennis Mishkin, Rick Hoffstatter, and Ken finished the causeway, laying a 16-foot long and 4-foot wide foundation of rocks, followed by a 3-foot wide dirt layer on top. Such beautiful work, you’d never know it wasn’t natural!

On the last day we finished both bridges and final trail clearing.

Jerry Robinson’s limb and brush clearing crew transformed a confusing jumble of willows and branches to a clear pathway through the woods. Harriet Patton’s crew of three installed their first ever footbridge over a small but muddy stream.

Definitely the highlight for all was the big bridge project by Gene Cash and his mini-crew of three or four, which often became eight-plus. Maybe it was the presence next to cool stream water that drew them all, or maybe they just liked hard work! When all was near completion Friday we celebrated lunch with the watermelon Larry lassoed and corralled in the stream.

Of course, Friday was the big banquet farewell, and what better caterer could we have than our own chef extraordinaire, crew member Bill Cannon. Our tradition of good meals was capped off with Bill’s special preparation of Dutch oven peach cobbler, BBQ brisket, stir fry veggies, and unburnt baked potatoes!!! All week I’d encourage my crew of hearty men to eat up, as we had plenty of food and a crew of only 16. Don Brewington was just amazed and commented that he’d heard of Mother Theresa but not “Mother Denise”.

Crew 5 on Swan River was a great success and enjoyed by all. If we’re as crazy and fun loving as I believe, I’m sure you’ll see each one back next year for more delicious food and rewarding hard work! After all, is there any better way to
spend a week's summer vacation than trail work in the beautiful Colorado Rockies?

**CREW 6**

**Location:** Long Branch Baldy  
**Leader:** John Stanley  
**Date:** July 7 to 14

Crew 6 rerouted the trail to bypass an 11,547-foot peak on the Continental Divide near the west end of Sargent's Mesa. Between July 7 and 14 the crew of 14 stalwart, experienced workers constructed a half-mile section of new trail around the peak, roughly following the 11,400-foot contour. In addition to building a much-improved, more level section of trail, Crew 6 closed off the original trail by strewing rocks, brush, and logs along its full length over the peak, to obscure the tread and promote recovery of native vegetation. The old trail was quite steep and badly eroded.

Luckily for us, some rain during the previous week reduced the forest fire hazard, and we were able therefore to enjoy the comfort, cheer, and convenience of an open campfire. The base camp was situated in a meadow on the south flank of Sargent's Mesa, adjacent to a spring, and only a quarter mile or so from the actual work area. Both the Saguache District of Rio Grande and the Cebolla district of Gunnison National Forest were very supportive and instrumental in making our efforts a rousing success.

**CREW 7**

**Location:** Swan River  
**Leader:** Merle McDonald  
**Date:** July 7 to 14

The purpose of the Georgia Pass-Swan River reroute is to separate the trail from a heavily used 4WD and ORV road that it now follows for some nine miles from Georgia Pass to where it crosses Highway 9, three miles north of Breckenridge. The bypass has been under construction for four summers now and will probably take one or two more summers to complete. The Forest Service still has some easement problems in the immediate vicinity of Highway 9, but they think they can be worked out soon. It will be a great improvement to get that section off the road and back into the woods.

Crews 7 and 8 were assigned the task of constructing 4300 feet of trail through the woods, just below treeline to the north, northeast of Georgia Pass. This section of trail contours along at the 11,600-foot level. Almost all of this section had to be cut in a 25 degree slope, which called for a lot of serious Puluski and rock bar work. Completion of this section would finish the southern six-plus miles of the bypass.

Nineteen volunteers arrived at the Jefferson intersection on Highway 285 at one o'clock on Saturday. They arrived from places as diverse as California, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania and Texas. There was even a genuine Colorado native.

Steve Dahmn, the Dillon Forest Service District representative, and Denise Wright, who led the previous week's crew, were there with a load of the CT’s camping equipment. The whole caravan proceeded up Michigan Creek Road to Georgia Pass, where it was determined that the previously selected campsite was not suitable, due to the fragility of the terrain and the prevailing wind. So the whole caravan was halted for a couple of hours while a new campsite was located.

The new campsite was good for camping, but over a mile from where the trail was to be constructed. However, the walk to and from the construction site offered spectacular view which were some of the highlights of each day.

The weather was kind and allowed us to get the camp set up before the rains began. For the next 36 hours it was either raining hard or not quite so hard. The community tent, with its heat-radiating Shepherd's stove, proved to be a very popular place. We hustled to keep the stove supplied with relatively dry wood.

By Monday morning the rains were abating, so our construction proceeded on schedule. Due to the steep slope of the terrain, a lot of dirt had to be
moved to get a two-foot wide tread. Of course, there were the usual problems with rocks and roots. Initially we bypassed some boulder in inconvenient location, but as we gained experience we were able to move increasingly larger ones and produce very high quality trail.

The area in which we were working was virgin forest and therefore very attractive. Trees with two foot diameter trunks were not unusual. The interwoven root structure of the plants was amazing. I suspect this section of the trail will become very popular for both winter and summer recreation.

At the 3900 foot point of our construction we were very surprised to find the skeletal remains of a VW beetle that had apparently rolled down from the jeep trail a few hundred yards above. A very incongruous sight in the midst of virgin forest.

Since our camp was located just to the east of Mount Guyot (13,370 ft), it provided an interesting challenge for most of us on our Wednesday off. Not only were the views almost endless in every direction, but we also observed three mountain goats grazing on the tundra.

We also found that by walking a half mile or so up Glacier Ridge at dusk we could observe a small herd of elk coming out of the forest to graze across the tundra each evening.

On Thursday evening a reporter and photographer from the Summit Daily News came to spend the night with us. They wrote a nice article about us for the paper. They also collected information and pictures for what they termed a large format coffee table book on the Colorado Trail, which they hope to publish in about a year.

By quitting time on Friday afternoon we had managed to construct 3900 feet of difficult trail. We were all well pleased with our efforts and a little sad that the week was already over. Tired and with aching muscles we hiked the two miles back to camp, only to be confronted with a new emergency - the main beersupply was exhausted. The Forest Service had promised relief, but they were nowhere to be seen. We anxiously peered down the road but to no avail.

Over the next couple of hours the camp grew tense and quiet. Some of the member even consented to drinking Meister Brau from the leader's private stock, which they had scoffed at earlier in the week, when the lites, golds, and silver bullets were available.

Finally, just as supper was being announced, we heard the unmistakable, high-pitched, V-8 whine of the Forest Service's new Ford truck climbing the steep grade from Swan River. The Forest Service personnel warned that they would not be responsible for the condition of the beer after the fast, rough trip up the jeep road.

Many cans were quickly opened, and in spite of all the squirting and foaming the day was saved! The once again happy crew feasted on brisket, stir fry vegetables, baked potatoes with sour cream, and garden fresh salad, all topped off with three homemade rhubarb pies. Uta McDonald had just delivered.

Crew members were: Becky Bowman; Tracy and Lois Cochran; Jason, Laura and William Cooley; Sally Crawford; Ernie Falk; Linda Heckert; Jeff June; Scott Kahney; Ken and Sue Kerchenfant; Robert Limon; Art Porter; Daisy Salve; Mary Ann Sandoval; and Kim Stevens.

CREW 8
Co-Leaders: Paula Moore, Larry O'Donnell
Location: Georgia Pass - Swan River
Date: July 14 to 21

How may times have the backpacker and the hiker wanted to camp high on a pass to be able to watch the final rays of sunlight in the evening and to catch the first rays of sunlight in the morning? We had just such a camping last summer. High on Georgia Pass, the crew was treated to spectacular views of South Park on the one side and impressive views of the Swan River drainage and the Gore Range on the other side.

It was difficult to leave such a splendid camping each morning, but the 13 members of the crew managed to hike down into the Swan River valley and complete the middle section of
the trail as it winds down from Georgia Pass to the Middle Fork of the Swan. The workite was as impressive as our campsite as our section of the trail wound through the only virgin forest left in Summit County.

Half of the crew was "retired" people, one-fourth were close enough to retirement to be making plans, and the final fourth were of an age to not even be considering retirement. The mix of ages was a great combination and provided interesting camp wit and conversation. All of the crew especially enjoyed the good humor and gourmet meals of Bill Cannon, an Indiana transplant from Breckenridge. The crew was also fortunate to have State Representative Jim Pierson and his wife Dee Ann on working with them. Jim's diligence and hard work disproved the notion that politicians are all talk and no action. Thanks, Jim and Dee Ann, for helping us build an important link of the Colorado Trail, and your concern for the environment.

Crew 8 worked hard and played hard. As you walk down the trail from the top of Georgia Pass or up the trail from the Swan, when you come to the battered body of a Volkswagen sedan (obviously a roll-over from the jeep road high above), take a moment to look at the quality and craftsmanship of the Colorado Trail at that point, and thank Crew 8 for their skill in the art of trail building.

CREW 9
Location: Beartown
Leader: Pat Nagorka
Date: July 14 to 21

For a beginning leader, this week was a piece of cake. I had an outstanding teacher/leader in Bob Boblett, and I knew it would be a familiar reunion crew, so what's to worry? Well, I did anyway, as most first timers do.

Our week started with a two and a half hour 4X4 drive in. Our crew had grown from the expected 12 to 17, due to a counting confusion, and we welcomed Scott Kehney and Mary Ann Sanovol straight from a crew the previous week. There was a slight shortage of vehicles, leaving Bob to make a second trip over a slow road. He didn't return to camp until 9:30 pm. The cook and food tent became home to Roger and David Burkhardt for the night.

In the morning we knew it was chilly, but 20 degrees? The ice on the tents was a clue. After a welcome hot breakfast, we bid a fond farewell to Bob, whose arthritis was giving him a pain you know where. I felt like a bear cub whose mother had said, "You're on your own now."

On Sunday we took a walk up the trail to our starting point, and then we had the "tool talk," after which the explorers scattered for their free time.

Since this was an experienced crew, camp life was smooth and pleasant; in fact, many times it was hilarious, because we never knew what David was going to spring on us next. Mother Earth was providing an incalculable bounty of flora and fauna. Elk were on the ridge every morning — a thrill in anybody's book. Their onepass below camp through the meadow was a double — no, quadruple — thrill. Even that was dimmed in comparison to the bear seen by the people heading out for Polecat Creek on Wednesday. That bear got bigger and faster for the rest of the week! (I'm just jealous; I didn't get to see it.) Food kept in tents was moved out pronto. We wondered if we would come back from work to a cook tent looking like a Walt Disney movie. The bear sighting was only two miles away.

It was hard to keep our attention on the trail "living" in such a majestic mountain valley. But, work we did. Work was slow because we couldn't find the markers. Very frustrating. The markers, nails with orange/blue plastic "feathers", were buried beneath three to four feet of grasses, skunk cabbage, and willows. At times, three or four of us did nothing but try to see where we were supposed to go. Then along came Emily, who could spy what the rest of us couldn't. Eagle-eye Emily's talent was frequently called upon. I think it was Thursday before a forest crew (of two) came up and flagged the rest of the trail after they saw and heard of our plight. Because of time and personnel lost in search, we may not have finished our full mile. A shortage
of Pulaskies didn’t help either. I apologize to the next crew — we tried.

As isolated as were were — one vehicle and no radio until Tuesday — I was thankful we had no more problems than a touch of flu with altitude symptoms and a bad knee.

It was a week of gorgeous vistas, fascinating weather, an incredibly compatible crew, plentiful pleasantries, and ample edibles.

You were a terrific crew, and I thank you.

CREW 11

Location: Indian Ridge

Leader: Merle McDonald

Date: July 21 to 28

Five weeks of trail construction were programmed in the Colorado Trail 1990 Schedule for the Indian Ridge - Cape of Good Hope Reroute in the Animas District of the San Juan National Forest. I asked to lead one of these crews because (1) the San Juan’s are beautiful, and (2) the Animas District is noted for its outstanding support of trails and trail crews.

The purpose of the reroute is to get the trail off of an old logging road through a clear cut. This year’s work involves opening a corridor through a virgin forest in very rugged terrain and an abrupt 600-foot elevation gain. While a great deal of work is involved for a relatively short section of trail, it is well worth the effort, for even a 30-year-old clear cut is still incredibly ugly and unpleasant to walk through. The new section of trail is eerily majestic as it winds its way through virgin a forest containing 150-foot-high spruce and fir.

The campsite chosen for the first three weeks of work was at the head of Roaring Fork Creek, a tributary of the Dolores River. It was almost 100 road miles from the Animas District office, where the crew gathered, to the campsite. The last three miles were on an old logging road that was bad when dry and nearly impossible when wet. This meant that it would be unlikely that we would have any vehicular resupply all week. So I issued a call to all crew members with large ice chests to fill them with ice and bring them along. We took eight chests and still had five pounds of ice left the following Saturday morning! We were able to keep the fresh fruit in an ice chest and it survived the week in much better condition than my previous week’s supply. Even our brisket was still frozen on Friday.

We had an interesting experience with one of our members who developed pulmonary edema. He lives near sea level, but had not experienced any problems in working at the 11,000 to 12,000 foot level before. This time his the slight remains of a chest cold. By midnight Sunday pulmonary distress was preventing him from sleeping. He spent the remainder of the night sitting up so that he could breathe. On Monday he sought medical help at a local hospital emergency room. He was given an antibiotic and advised to get below 6,000 feet to sleep. This advice seemed to work fairly well, although he spent a lot of time walking up and down the mountain.

The Animas District has acquired a curious device that we facetiously referred to as the Wrap-Around John Tent. Its small size made it difficult to get your entire body inside the tent while using the facility. Some of the ladies objected to this, so we solved the problem by erecting a privacy screen around the tent.

On Monday morning the Forest Service personnel arrived early, and we set out to survey the reroute. Although I had scouted the work area a month previously, I had failed to find the flagging for the new trail. Now I knew why; the reroute was laid out through an area so wild and rugged that I didn’t believe that it was possible for a volunteer group to build a trail through it. To build a trail through there, I thought, we would need bulldozers, backhoes, and dynamite. Well, I was right about the dynamite.

Four strong backs assisted the two Forest Service sawyers in clearing a corridor through the dense forest, and by 9:00am the rest of the crew got to work with Pulaskies and McLeods. By evening the sawing crew had managed to cut 900 feet of corridor into the forest, and the rest of us had cut some 400 feet of tread.
Summer 1990 Trail Crew Summaries (continued)

At this point it should be noted that the Animas District likes to have a full bench (i.e., no fill dirt), 36-inch wide tread cut into side hill situations, and we were working in terrain with 35- to 45-degree slope. We didn’t go around or over anything; we cut wide, straight, constant-grade tread. It was all premium quality trail.

On Tuesday the four strong backs returned to the tread-cutting crew, while the two sawyers continued hacking away at the trees. By quitting time we had progressed to the 1,000-foot mark.

Wednesday was a much-appreciated day of rest. Most everyone took short hikes up and down the trail and out on the Cape of Good Hope for some rather grand views.

Thursday was a good day, except that we ran into the wall, a rock outcropping across the path of the trail. This occupied three men with rock bars for the next day and a half to clear 30 feet of trail.

By quitting time Friday we had reached the 2200 foot mark, and though exhausted we were very proud of the trail we had created.

We enjoyed a nightly serenade by a band of coyotes, and one night we were treated to a spectacular display of lightning. Our spring went dry by Thursday.

Larry Johnson, a Forest Service ranger, left us his personal 4WD pickup truck to shuttle our gear back down to the trailhead on Saturday morning, so we wouldn’t have to wait for the Forest Service truck, which was expected late Saturday afternoon, to get started on our trips home. Everyone on the crew appreciated this courtesy. We were all able to leave the trailhead by 9:00 am, rather than having to wait until 6:00 pm.

Crew members were: Charles Ament; Tom Bowser; Sean Curry; Richard Hackman; David Lichtenstein; Jean Mann; Laurie McCane; Uta McDonald; Helen Newell; Charles and Joy Perry; Mary Pfister; Kim Randelli; Ruth Rose; Matt Smith; Ken Stagner and Larry White.

CREW 14
Location: Indian Ridge
Co-Leaders: Lynn Mattingly, Fred Braun
Date: July 26 to August 4
An international crew of twelve worked incredibly hard on a short section of Indian Ridge north of Durango. The trail is being re-routed to avoid clear-cut sections through a beautiful, dense forest on a rocky hillside. We pulled out more rocks and stumps than any of us had ever encountered before. The result was an unusually labor-intensive stretch of trail. All of the hard work was matched by hearty laughter as we entertained one another in the evenings.

CREW 15
Location: Indian Ridge
Leader: Randy Jacobs
Date: August 4 to 11
Our week was the third of five weeks on Indian Trail Ridge, following Merle and Lynn’s crews 11 and 14 at the same camp location. Our job was to continue a major trail reroute
between Hotel Draw and the Cape of Good Hope. Begun in 1988, the goal was to relocate the trail off sections of the existing Highline Trail, which had been largely obliterated by heavy logging activity. Specifically, we were to relocate the trail on a steep hillside east of the existing old Highline, which had fallen into disrepair just below the top of the Cape.

We had a small but intimate and hardworking group of ten adults and three children. As the week progressed, so did the angle of our worksite, which included such discouraging obstacles as Embedded boulders and stumps from ancient spruce felled by the Animas district liaisons. But one of the greatest challenges by week's end was trying to cling to the increasingly vertical hillside while scratching out the beginnings of a trail.

We are indebted to Roy Johnson and his company, EMS, which sponsored this week of work on the trail. Roy and his wife Sue enlivened camp with their bubbly personalities and made things more colorful with the EMS T-shirts and hats passed out to crew members.

The Animas District, as usual, did an outstanding job of supporting our efforts. Not the least of which was perching our camp conveniently on a scree of the crest along the rambling Animas/Dolores River divide, where predictable afternoon San Juan showers evaporated into brilliant sunsets, silhouetting the Rico Mountains to the west into bumpy postcard relief.

On Saturday morning, with the customary hugs and handshakes, we were off, hoping to beat the ominous storm clouds that were gathering, gaining strength on the horizon. We had no idea how lucky we had been with the weather, or the ordeal to be endured by the following week at the same camp location. But more about that from leader Sue Frey.

CREW 18
Location: Indian Ridge
Leader: Sue Frey
Date: August 11 to 18

Twenty-three of us arrived at the campsite around 2:30 Saturday afternoon, full of wonder and awe at the location, nestled in the bowl of a mountain at 11,200 feet, with a mountain peak between us and the Cape of Good Hope worksite. We were buzzed with anticipation of the week ahead.

We quickly set up camp and enjoyed the opportunity to hike and get to know the people who would soon become our closest of friends. The rain started Saturday evening and continued sporadically until Monday morning.

We hiked to our worksite on Sunday afternoon and were racing to go by Monday at 7:30 am. We had a great day on the trail, cutting into a mountain angled at a precarious degree for mountain goats, let alone CT volunteers.

The size of our crew and the personalities involved enabled us to make amazing progress on rocks the size of living room furniture and shrubbery and trees with no intention of becoming uprooted. Of course, we made it back to camp just in time for the evening rain to set in.

Due to the weather, we had an unofficial day off on Tuesday, although several brave souls mastered the mountain and were able to make mincemeat of some nasty overhanging tree branches that were in our way. We were visited by a couple hiking the trail who needed directions.

By Wednesday, the rain had transformed the trail into a red clay loam rink and we chose not to risk damage to wither the trail or ourselves. The activities of the day included digging a trench around our community tent to attempt to divert the nonstop water from turning the ground in the tent into a mud lake, some fresh air/rain hiking, baking and non-stop eating, story telling, a professional level Hearts tournament, drying (as much as possible) tents, clothes, sleeping bags, boots, and the ever-necessary socks.

Our hiking friends revisited us, seeking conversation and a dry spot for a brief reprieve from the elements. Wednesday evening the word came from down below that we were sitting under a stormfront that had settled in for a five-day stay. Plain English: five more days of nonstop rain.
Summer 1990 Trail Crew Summaries

Thursday morning we decided to head down off the mountain, a tricky decision in and of itself because we had no idea what to expect on the drive out on a rain-drenched road. Our hikers returned, in full gear, as we were packing up, asking to be rescued. We threw their gear in with ours, and they helped us break camp and came out with us.

All in all, an amazing week, with strong and supportive personalities and much talk of the hopefully dry crew we planned in be in the summer of 1991.

CREW 20

Location: Gunnison National Forest, West Matchless Mountain and Doctor Park Gulch

Leader: Gudy Gaskill

date: August 18 to 25

We moved into Crew 19's muddy campsite for three days, constructing new trail a couple of miles south. On Tuesday we decided to move camp to Doctor Park Gulch and work from the other end. Jeeping up a horrendous five miles brought us to a beautiful meadow campsite. The crew was notable for its hard work, cheerfulness, compatibility, and good fishermen.

Thursday night we had a trout cookout - 32 trout steamed over red hot coals that had been covered with moss. A superb culinary feast! We completed our goal of bringing the trail to the ridge to the south of Matchless Mountain.

CREW 9  L-R standing Ken Mesec; Curt McDonald; Bill Stevens; David Burkhart; Bob & Galtha Castleman; MJ Monroe; Irene Medeiros; Bob Boblette; Scott Kahney; Jack Putt; Mary Sandoval sitting: Pat Mesec; Roger Burkhart; Bruce Armstrong; Clare Foote; Emile Kaune;

CREW 21

Location: Pike National Forest, Lost Park Wilderness Area

Co-Leaders: Gudy Gaskill and Tom Butterfield

Date: June 18 and 17

The RV horse packers and a group of hikers joined together and reconstructed a section of the trail in the Blue Stem Draw area. Work consisted of cutting large trees and positioning the trunks on the boggy (quagmire) sections, filling in between the walkways with more logs and creating a raised walkway (punchen).

Three long and several shorter sections were completed during the weekend, as well as a shorter reroute of a steep, very muddy section. Log lifters were borrowed from the Hot Sulfur and South Platte districts. The project was a solution to an extremely wet hillside that could not be drained of its moisture. Several small wet areas still remain. For the weekend, the project was a huge success.
ADOPT-A-TRAIL PROGRAM

The ADOPT-A-TRAIL MAINTENANCE PROGRAM provides for the continuing maintenance of the Colorado Trail by volunteer groups or individuals who adopt a section of the trail. The trail is currently divided into 47 sections for maintenance purposes. (These sections do not correspond to the segment delineated in the Colorado Trail Official Guide Book.) The maintenance sections vary in length from 4 to 20 miles.

An adopter is responsible for the following:

1. Surveying (walking) the section and removing deadfall at the beginning of the hiking season.
2. Maintaining adequate signage.
3. Maintaining erosion structures and correcting minor erosion problems.
4. Controlling vegetation within the trail corridor.
5. Maintaining the tread in conformance with the construction standards.
6. Providing annual status reports to the Forest Service and the Colorado Trail Foundation on their section of the Trail.
7. Advising the Forest Service and the Colorado Trail Foundation of maintenance requirements beyond the adopter’s capabilities.

Upon request, the Forest Service will provide technical advice and assistance, tools and materials, subject to budgetary restrictions.

Maintenance sections have been adopted by individuals, family groups, Scout Troops, school science classes, hiking clubs, Colorado Mountain Club chapters, Army National Guard Units, and groups of friends.

Currently 42 of the 47 maintenance sections are adopted. All of the sections that are open are in the southern part of the state. Two of them require 4WD for access to either end and one requires it for one end. Three of the open sections are located SW of Lake City, one SSE of Gunnison and one just South of Mt. Princeton.

Persons or groups interested in adopting a section of the Colorado Trail or in assisting an adopter with maintenance should contact Merle McDonald, the maintenance coordinator, at 1580 Mount Woodmen Court, Colorado Springs, CO 80919 or (719) 599-4258.

TRAIL CREW

REUNION UPDATE

About 175 volunteers gathered together at the Clements/Center in Lakewood, where they enjoyed an evening of eating, visiting and sharing pictures and memories. The tables were heavily laden with delicious casseroles, a whole roasted turkey, fresh garden vegetables, and delectable desserts. Those who sat next to the dessert table saw plates go by piled high with delicious assortments of confections.

For their dedicated leadership this summer, all the leaders received a green lined nylon jacket with a CT logo embroidered on the front. Leaders were: Carolyn Adams; Bob Boblette; Fred Braun; Marshall Buttrey; Irene Cazer; Hugh Duffy; Marj Dunmire; Sue Frey; Gudy Gaskill; Steve Gladback; Bob Hubbard; Randy Jacobs; Jeff June; Bob Long; Pat Magorka; Lynn Mattingly; Jim Miller; Merle McDonald; Paula Moore; Larry O’Donnell; Abe Ohr; Steve Quinn; Jim Rey; Bea Slingsby; John Stanely; and Denise Wright.

Gudy Gaskill gave handmade “Light My Way” pottery luminaries to committee members Charlotte Briber, Lynn Mattingly, Al Mauthe (absent), Merle McDonald, Bea Slingsby, and Dave Smith (absent). She also awarded bookkeeper Liz Truitt with a sculptured rabbit to keep another rabbit company and Anne McDonald with a handmade pottery flowerpot. Lynn Mattingly also received a wooden collage for her leadership on the CT Trek and dedication to the CT. Gudy presented Randy Jacobs (absent) an Indian pot with figures holding hands around the pot. The pot was made by Jan Redwood and painted by the Ute Indians. Jan and Husband Bill supplied the backpack crews this summer with llamas for packing in equipment.

Several slide shows were given before the evening ended.
MAINTENANCE REPORTS
(additional maintenance reports will be included in the next issue of Tread Lines. ed)

Section 17
Location: North Fork of Turquoise Lake to Halfmoon Creek
Adoptor: John R. Wehrle
Four maintenance trips were conducted on the trail this year by John Wehrle and the Boy Scouts of Troop 630. In total, 87 man days were volunteered to keep the trail in excellent condition. No major work remains, and the trail is ready for the winter season. We are anxious to return next year to complete the new tasks and enjoy the splendor of the Mt. Massive Wilderness.

June 8-10: The entire section was hiked, all trees cleared, and water bars cleaned and added where needed. The trail was open end to end at this time.

June 29-July 1: The efforts of the team were concentrated just north of Willow Creek. The entire steep rise from the creek was groomed and the tread marked so that the growing width could be controlled. This has helped significantly in controlling the route taken by hikers.

August 3-5: Water bars were again cleaned and new aspen growth was trimmed to allow travel by horse. The Breathtaking (Webb Waring) event was supported on the 5th.

September 4-6: A new bridge was constructed across the south fork of Rock Creek, and bridge repair was accomplished at Rock Creek. Large trees were also cleared on the access road out of the Leadville Fish Hatchery. One sign was added to the trail where it intersects this road.

No major work remains. We will plan to open the trail again next year in late May or early June. A plan will be submitted at that time, once we have made our initial assessment.

Section 39
Location: Molas Pass to Bolam Pass
Adoptor: John Watt
I signed up for this 19.9 mile section of the trail last January, sight unseen. Having recently moved to Colorado from the "flatlands" of eastern Missouri, I thought it would be a good chance to get in some backpacking, camping, hiking, and exercise all at the same time.

My trail is divided at the 11.2 mile point by a high pass, giving it east-west segments with different looks. The eastern section is mostly open country using an old, narrow pack trail, while the western section is more wooded, with more water.

in mid June I walked the eastern segment to the snow level, to get a feel for what maintenance and tools were needed. In July I walked the western segment eastward across the pass. I started working westward from the pass, patching trail and cutting weeds, but after one good day's work, I got rained out.

In August I walked about halfway up the eastern segment to work on some problem areas, but it rained about 75 percent of the time, so I had to leave. I went back again in early September and had better luck. It quit raining late the second day, and I got in two good days' work. I made repairs in six problem areas and reworked two wet spots. I started chopping out weeds along the edge of the trail to widen it. I hope to have better luck next year with the weather and scheduling.
PHOTOGRAPhS FROM SUMMER 1990


Jeff June
August 5, 1990

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Most non-profit organizations are highly dependent upon their volunteers in day-to-day operations. The Colorado Trail Foundation, a 100 percent volunteer group, is totally dependent on its dedicated cadre of talented volunteers to continually “grease the wheels” that keep the CT moving along. Spring is the busiest time, involving much activity to plan, think through the logistics, and prepare for the upcoming CT trail crews and treks. Listed below are some of the most active committees, headed and staffed by the devoted people who keep the Colorado Trail running smoothly. Next time you visit a trail crew camp, give some thought to the hours of advanced planning that went into making it all possible. And if you have an interest in being part of making it happen, please contact the appropriate committee head.

- Food Committee:

Most people on the CT trail crews are pleasantly surprised by the food arrangements, having perhaps expected to receive K rations. As any culinary economist knows, much thought must go into menu planning and food purchasing, especially when you are expecting 560 guests!

The Food Committee, headed by Denise Wright and assisted by Sally Fistermeir, Sue Frey, Lynn Mattlin, and Stacey Singer, has done an outstand-
Committee Report (continued)

7461) or Lynn Mattingly (443-4398). Next year ... 
- Maintenance Committee:

The Adopt-A-Trail program initiated by the Colorado Trail Foundation several years ago will become more important in the near future as the organization switches its focus from building trail to maintaining existing sections of the Colorado Trail.

The Adopt-A-Trail program is part of the Maintenance Committee, which organizes maintenance workshops and training sessions, and coordinates with the volunteers who maintain all 47 sections of the 469-mile Colorado Trail. This committee also must maintain a line of communication between the Colorado Trail Foundation and the U.S. Forest Service, as well as sending informative mailings to the adoptees.

Letter of Gratitude

Dear Crew 18:

I am in awe of my fortune regarding the individuals who participate on my crews. Each year, I meet the most fascinating and truly positive people while on the Colorado Trail. I wait with anticipation each summer until my week in the mountains arrives, knowing that I will come away from the adventure with a renewed sense of self and joy in those with whom I share this planet. This year I was relying upon my time away to restore my strength, due to an unusually stimulating and stressful year in the city (my first year in law school).

I was thrilled at the size of this crew — 23 brave and diverse souls planning to spend a week with me. I was not disappointed by you. Unfortunately, I was forced to make one of the hardest decisions a crew leader must make — coming down off the mountain early due to weather conditions. My crew was extremely supportive of me and the decision I made. The encouragement and trust in my ability to judge what was best for the crew as well as what was best for the trail amazed and enlightened me. Volunteering is about placing oneself in a position out of one’s control for the enhancement of a greater goal. You — Crew 18 — gave your complete faith to me, and for that I am grateful. Along with that, you gave me your friendship, and for that I can't thank you enough. I hope that every crew leader can be as fortunate as I was if ever faced with a decision like the one I made.

We are all out there to build the Colorado Trail, and we gladly donate our time and strength for that goal. Yet, the unspoken, but equally as important goal of acknowledging the gift we give by participating in this endeavor is the one that became primary on this particular crew. You are all amazing individuals. I am the better person for having shared this time with you. I want to thank you for what you brought within yourselves to the Trail. Most importantly, I want to thank you for what you enabled me to bring away, within myself, from our time together.

I wish you all the best.

Susan Gabrielle Frey

AMERICAN DISCOVERY TRAIL

American Discovery Trail, a trail conceived by Backpacker Magazine and endorsed by the American Hiking Society, is being put on the drawing boards. The trail, running from the East Coast to the West Coast, has had a recommended route placed through Colorado. Bob Boblette, Gudy Gaskill, and Merle McDonald attended the meeting, since one of the possible routes was the Colorado Trail. The group recommended following the I-70 corridor east to west through Colorado, with side loops of the CT, Santa Fe Trail, Hiiline Canal, Platte River Greenway, Kocapelli Trail, Colorado River Trail, and all other intersecting trails.

Dear Reader

Perhaps you have noticed this issue of Tread Lines is in a new format. This is the editors first attempt at desktop publishing. It has not been without challenges! Hopefully, it will get better and easier as we gain skill with the program.

Anne & Merle McDonald
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Gudy,

I am writing this letter to express my appreciation for all of your work on the Colorado Trail.

My mother and I started on the trail in July, 1986, and finished in Durango last week. It was one of the most exciting adventures of my life.

I'm writing an article about our experience; I'll send you a copy when I finish it.

The trail was so varied and full of beauty and excitement, but my favorite section was between the Eddiesville Trailhead and Molas Pass.

Thanks again.

Sincerely,

Peggy Grant
August 31, 1990

Dear Gudy,

Karl K. Kading, who worked on W. Jefferson Loop trail in the summer of 1986, was killed in an auto accident on September 15, 1990. He was the brother of John Kading, who also worked that summer with Jean Franck and June Jeff. I was also there.

Sincerely,

Debra Kading-Beasley

IMPRESSIONS

by Elizabeth Furgus

Impressions of the Day We Left Hunters Camp for Cochetopa Creek

Intense light and shadow pouring over these miles of grassy, rolling pasture. Hundreds of cumulous formed with might energy control the scene allowing a blaze of brilliance here or majestically withdrawing the purple shadows from an entire forested hillside to allow a gentler shade of green its place.

This is theater. Illusion is at work here creating mood and motion, demanding my attention. I gaze with enchantment at sudden brilliances in flowing water until shade extinguishes the fierce display. I must now examine a distant bluff which only briefly assumes a wonderous quality. My eyes are drawn to a sinuous slope made suddenly perfect as it becomes silhouetted against a shiny mass.

I willignly surrender to this enchantment. Joyful memories fill the senses effortlessly shifting through time to the rhythms of this dreamscape.

And so I walk through these immense spaces at a stately pace as if to ceremonial music propelled along by the intense play of light and shadow.
by Forester Larry Johnson

The Reunion Crew rolled into Durango in mid-July. This year, they finished the half-mile section in the Junction Creek drainage. Spirits were high even though this crew had to endure a downpour as they entered the forest. I caught up with them Monday morning at Walls Gulch. They had a primitive camp for the next two days; however, all was well. Fellow forester Cyndi had the bottom leg and her crew did maintenance on the lower portion of the trail. When we all met up on Thursday the "Wild Bunch" was in a partying mood. We danced the night away at the old Sundance Saloon. Our thanks to these hearty souls.

Cyndi and I did basic maintenance on the trail until the Roaring Fork crews came on line. We have such beautiful country down here - if you haven't hiked in the San Juans, take the time to do it.

Crew 11, led by Merle McDonald, headed up our first onslaught up the new reroute towards the Cape of Good Hope. Downfall, steep side slopes, and virgin ground lay before us. Merle's crew did a fantastic job. Cyndi and I were hustling trying to stay ahead of the "trail machine." I want you guys to know - you'll never realize how easy your section of the trail was. It was the "Twilight Zone" for the next five crews.

Crew 14, led by Lynn Mattingly and Ed Braun, was the first to "hit the wall." This was a short crew, and they worked hard to get to the first bench. They made it, barely. I have never seen so many rocks and stumps in my life.

Crew 15, led by Randy Jacobs, continued where the last crew left off. The boulder field was a nightmare, but by the second day we were close to the first switch. Randy's crew put in the two switchbacks and came within 100 yards of the second switchback. Again, more boulders and stumps.

Crew 16, led by Sue Frey, had a tough go with the weather. A large crew had to endure steady rain and freezing temperatures. This weather caused morale problems, and, as a result, we hardly completed any trailwork. Sue's crew advanced 100 yards above the second switchback.

Crew 19, led by Steve Quinn, finished the new section and connected to the old Highline Trail. Steve's crew also jumped to the top and placed a good half-mile tread on the upper reroute. This was done due to a timber sale in the area. We did this so that the timber crews could find the trail and leave a 200-foot buffer as per Ted LeMay's request. I hope this works out.

CT WEEKEND HIKE

The Colorado Trail Weekend Hike, held September 22 to 23, was a resounding success. Nineteen tired but happy hikers sat in soft sofas on Saturday evening in a quiet condo, eating dinner. All had soaked their aching bodies in the hot tub, cooled off in the swimming pool, and were fighting sleep before dessert was served - warm apple brown betty with ice cream.

The 13 miles, 3400 foot elevation gain that day had been strenuous, but it was made easier by the blue skies, billowing white clouds, and skiff on new snow on the high peaks. There were beautiful vistas, but it was a hard, steep trail.

The following day's hike was 15 miles, but it was a gentler grade up on an excellent trail. Lunch at Searle Pass provided views in all directions while sitting amidst brightly colored orange lichen rocks. The new trail, built by Crew 13, was a joy to walk on. Kokomo Pass was calm with views of golden aspens in all directions. The last two steep miles were breathtaking walking among golden and red aspens, and the hike ended up at lovely Cascade Falls in Camp Hale.

Al Mauwhe, who had driven all the way from Arvada to pick up the hikers, and Monica Glinki had hot tea and ice cream waiting at the finish line. The fall weather could not have been better, providing the hikers with two very beautiful and thoroughly enjoyable hiking days on the Colorado Trail.

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*Quarterly Newsletter  *Periodic discounts on services
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___ I would like to work on a trail crew, please send me information
___ I would like to "adopt" a section of the trail to maintain

NAME________________________________________________________________________

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