Presidents Corner

by Gudy Gaskill

Summer has come with a vengeance. The mountains are still covered with deep snows and the pristine streams are running over their banks. We have had a great many inquiries asking when the ‘right’ time was this year to hike, bike, or ride the Colorado Trail. In March it seemed dubious that it would be open at all this summer, in April we had some warm days, alternated with rain in the lower levels. Ah-ha, we thought, the snows are melting in the high country and it will be a great year for river running. When the clouds receded from the high peaks in early May, they clothed in a pure white cloak. Now it is June and the bare patches are showing on Colorado’s ski areas. Some of our early June Trail Maintenance projects through the adopters proved to have lingering snows in the forested areas, but it gave us all a good indication where the troublesome spots were going to be later this summer. Our latest guess is that there will be little snow left in the San Juans on the Colorado Trail after July 15th. (Or else get up early in the morning and start out while the snow is still hard underfoot). Enjoy the wildflowers!

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Hiking the Colorado Trail

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Tread Lines

is the internal newsletter of the Colorado Trail Foundation. It is published quarterly and distributed to the Friends of the Colorado Trail.

The Colorado Trail is a 470 mile long high mountain educational and recreational hiking trail that meanders through some of the most beautiful terrain in the state. It stretches from Denver to Durango with many intermediate access points.

The Colorado Trail Foundation, an all volunteer, tax deductible, nonprofit corporation, is governed by public agencies and private sector representatives. The Foundation recruits and trains volunteers for trail construction crews, coordinates the Adopt-A-Trail maintenance program, and distributes information on Colorado Trail activities, trail crews and publications.

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This edition of Tread Lines was compiled by Merle McDonald.

The CTF board members had a constructive retreat at Sam Guyton’s cabin above Fairplay. It had snowed so much that our cross country skis were often buried knee deep before struggling to break above the snow. Ten board members as well as BLM facilitator Beth Hahn enjoyed the cozy cabin and its blazing fireplace. Beth was able to keep the board members on track and come up with a possible immediate, 5 year and 10 year plan. Input is now being compiled from the board members and their ensuing ideas might become part of the CT Master Plan. I personally thank the board members that made it to the meeting, as that weekend was a blustery, ice covered roads, with blowing snow mountain storm.

We had a large turnout for our member only slide show in March, even tho I almost forgot about it. It premiered Phil Smith’s and Tom deNaray’s slides on the CT. Thanks to Charlotte for bringing the coffee and cookies (again).

Helen Newell died on April 9, 1993 near her home in Telluride

Helen Newell’s death (as Spock would say) is illogical. She was as much a part of the summer trail crews as I have been. Each summer for the past six or seven summers Helen had signed up for at least two trail crews but more often for four or five. She had made
so many friends and met so many of you, that memories of her will always be part of the trail. Helen’s spirit will walk the trail forever, pointing to the exquisite color of the sunset, or the freshness of the air after the passing storm. She will be part of every flower garden and singing mountain stream for she loved all of nature and its joy of life. All of us, who were touched by Helen, have grown.

Helen never lost her love for nature and seeing it through the eyes of a child. I can remember sitting in a meadow, with Helen during a water break, when Helen pointed to a Larkspur and observed the dewdrops of water in the throat of the flower shimmering in radiant colors of blues, reds, and greens...She then observed how she felt it radiated life returning after a night’s rest. It was the cleansing of the world washing away the cares and dust of the world.

Each seedling that was in the way of the trail being constructed would be transplanted by Helen to a damp shady spot giving life to an otherwise destroyed seedling. If flowers were cut off by the Pulaski, she would gather them up and bring them into the camp to grace the kitchen table. She was the first up in the morning, and the last to leave the clean-up in the kitchen tent at night. Her world was filled with an inner light that brought peace and a sense of joy to those that had the privilege of knowing her. We will all miss her presence and the many gifts that she gave to us.

Volunteers Building the Colorado Trail

How fortunate we all have been to have looked at the world through Helen’s eyes.

National Trails Day
June 5, 1993
We had a successful National Trails Day. Not only did we have hikes led by Merle McDonald, Bruce Armstrong, Bob Kinter and Bonnie Streight as well as a bike ride led by Belinda Wiman and her son. There was a horse back ride at Mt. Princeton as well as a trail sign dedication at Waterton Canyon. There was a nature walk along the Waterton Canyon railroad bed as well as a slideshow and clinic at the Chuckwagon at Heritage Square. The CTF had a booth at Heritage Square both Saturday and Sunday and Saturday evening two retired board members Charlie Russel and Roger Gerard were honored with CT plaques made by CT volunteer George Miller. Board member Reed Donnelly coordinated all of the events. Publicity was distributed by Belinda Wiman. A successful joint effort by a wonderful group of volunteers.

The CT Trail Crews were sponsored by MOUNTAINSMITH INC. as well as EASTERN MOUNTAIN SPORTS on National Trails Weekend. Jim Miller had 24 volunteers working on the east end of Lost Creek Wilderness area (see page 10 for a full report) while

Presidents Corner continued on page 6
500 MILE SUMMER
FOR
MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS
(500MS FOR MS)

Covering the distance of the Colorado Trail would be a challenge for anyone. For Manuel Bettencourt, a 47 year old victim of MS, it will be a special challenge. Manuel is Treasurer of the MS Society of Colorado Springs (MSSCS) and a veteran of three trail crews (1986 - 87) before his MS manifested itself. He suffers from weakness and loss of feeling in his arms and legs, pain and muscle cramps, as well as vision, hearing, bowel and bladder control problems. In an effort to help the MSSCS provide more client services to the 1 in 800 people of the Colorado Springs area who have MS and to continue his support to the Colorado Trail, Manuel is hiking and/or bicycling the length of the Colorado Trail this summer (1993).

He has now completed the segment from Leadville to US 50. His reports are being used to target maintenance this summer. He is also logging key locations along the CT with a hand-held Satellite Positioning System. (GPS)

You can support this effort by making a contribution of a few pennies for each mile Manuel will cover. Half the proceeds will go to the Colorado Trail Foundation and half will go to the MSSCS.

If you would like a pledge card now, call or write Manuel at 719-495-0225; or 1825 Summit Dr., Black Forest, CO 80921.

Summer Crews 93

With the wintersnows rapidly melting in the high country it is time to get out on the Colorado Trail. Most of the 22 summer work crews are already full. Some 450 volunteer positions have been signed for. However, crews # 4, 8 and 14 still have some vacancies.

While crews 4 & 8 are listed as Jeep-ins, Forest Service personnel advise the roads are in good shape in those areas and barring heavy rain 2wd vehicles are expected to be able to drive to the campsites without problems. Both of these crews are working right on the crest of the continental divide between Marshall Pass and North Pass (50 miles SE of Gunnison). Much of this section was never constructed but just appeared. The crews will be making a lot of minor improvements that will make the Colorado Trail a more pleasant hiking experience.

Although crew 14 already has over 20 people Gudy would like a "double crew" with her during the week of August 7/14 at Browns Gulch in view of the amount of work that needs to be accomplished.

So you last minute people still have a chance to volunteer for a fun week in the mountains working on the Colorado Trail. For current status of registrations contact Al (Gramps) Mauhe at 303-422-7926.
Thanks, Helen, For Your Friendship!

By: Kay Hubbard

In June of 1988, near Gunnison, my husband Bob and I first met Helen Newell, and we became friends immediately — good friends, the kind you appreciate and feel close to. That year we worked on a Colorado Trail Crew near Taylor Reservoir, and we shared a week on trail crew every year since.

When you are on the early shift and have your first cup of coffee together in the dark, then work side by side throughout the day, you have time to discuss many things and many feelings. After dinner Helen was with us each evening as we walked through the beautiful Colorado scenery, marveled at the colors of the sunset, and then back to sit around the campfire and laugh and talk for hours.

On our day of leisure, Helen, Bob and I climbed a 14’er or another peak in the camp vicinity. We marveled at the strength of Helen. She was a petite, slender woman, yet she always worked extremely hard on the trail and she climbed well on the mountain and was quick to volunteer for any chore. She said she felt fortunate to live in Telluride and stay in a healthy condition all year long with daily walking, hiking or skiing into town.

The summer we bicycled into Telluride and visited Helen she was suntanned and happy, involved with family visits and local town projects. And our winter ski trips to Telluride had to be planned far in advance to catch her when she was “free” for a few days to ski with us.

The last visit we shared with Helen was in February of this year. Her smile was warm and lovely as always. When we went to town for dinner in the evening, she seemed to know everyone, and it was fun just to be with her. On our last day we cross-country skied up to the old Ghost town of Alma and again marveled at her strength. Coming down, as the peaks around Telluride glistened in the sun,

Helen told us she was fortunate to be surrounded by such beauty. We felt fortunate, too, just to be with her and to have shared many beautiful moments over the past years.

Thanks, Helen, for your friendship! You were special.

In Memory of Helen Newell

On many a chilly morning my dark and frigid cook tent was warmed by Helen’s bright and cheery presence.

It was “Hi, Irene, I’ll be back and help you as soon as I go to the john.” And back she was before anyone else was up, building the best fire ever in the sheepherder stove, stirring the oatmeal, getting the lunch food out, and bringing me a cup of coffee as soon as it was ready. After breakfast she was off for a hard day on the trail, culminated by joining any after dinner hike that was underway.

She will be sorely missed but she leaves behind countless friends and many miles of trail to be enjoyed by her grandchildren and ours. Through our tears we can’t help but smile, shake our heads and say “That Helen, wasn’t she something?”

Irene Cazer
Tom Butterfield had 18 horse club members working in the central part of the Lost Creek Wilderness Area. Turnpike (raised) footing was accomplished with horses and human labor. In the Twin Lakes area Dominic Gabor had a crew doing maintenance from Lake View Campground south while Phil Smith had a group working from Lake View Campground north towards Half Moon Campground clearing off winter windfall as well as cleaning out waterbars. We thank both EMS and Mountainsmith for their financial support to all four crews.

It's time for the 1993 summer trail crews. It's people like you, dear FRIENDS OF THE COLORADO TRAIL who have made these upcoming crews possible with your contributions. This summer we have close to 500 volunteers signed up to work on the 22 trail crews. It is going to be an exciting summer with a lot of returning crew members and a great set of leaders. Each summer the CT becomes a better and more scenic trail through the combined effort of the FRIENDS, Volunteers and Leaders. Consider yourself hugging, as you are an integral part of the Colorado Trail!

National Trails Day, June 5, 1993, was a little early in the season for hiking the higher parts of the CT. Merle McDonald and Gladie Youngblood are at the 12,000 ft. level with Mt. Yale in the background. Photo by Herb Hinze

Slide Shows and Programs

Wendell Phillips and Charlotte Bruber have had a full schedule for the months of May and June, of slide shows for retail stores and service and garden clubs. The C.T. slide show was also given on National Trails Day at Heritage Square. The next scheduled slide show is at R.E.I. on July 1st at 7:00 p.m. There is no charge for the slide shows, but a donation is welcomed. Last fall Gudy gave a slide show in Greeley and the CTF was presented with a check for $215. These are rare occasions but most welcome! Please call Wendell at 303-421-4956 to set up a date for a slide show.

Trail Crew Reunion 1993

Although the season has just begun, it is time to mark your calendar for the popular trail crew reunion. This year it will be held Saturday, September 18, 1993 with the location to be announced. As in other years, there will be door prizes, awards, and food and fun for all.

Presidents Corner continued on the next page
Picnic and Barbecue on the CT on September 12th

All Friends are invited to join board members on a walk from Kenosha Pass to the beaver ponds. This has become an annual affair and encourages new CTF friends to walk through the fall colors and become acquainted with the CT. Call Charlotte Briber for reservations. Her number is (303) 756-0787. Donations accepted. Homemade ice cream and other goodies...

National Trails Day a Success

The CTF supported a number of activities for hiking, biking, to horseback rides on this day. All the activities were enjoyed by the participants under clear blue sunny skies. A new trailhead sign was erected at the parking lot at Waterton Canyon, to signify the beginning of the eastern end of the Colorado Trail. The booth at Heritage Square was kept busy all day with answering inquiries and sale of CT items. The festivities at the Chuck Wagon in the evening were topped by the recognition of Merle McDonald as the outstanding Volunteer of the Year.

Merle McDonald Honored.

CTF Vice President. Merle McDonald was awarded the outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award by the state of Colorado and the American Hiking Society.

Not only is Merle Vice President, but he wears many coats as well. He is chairman of the program committee, chairman of the adopt-a-trail program, editor of Tread Lines installer of new computer programs, member of the finance committee, mechanic of the CT vehicles, and is always there wherever he can be of help. He has also adopted a section of the Colorado Trail. Merle is indispensable!!!

CTF Appoints New Committee Heads

The CTF is a volunteer, hard working Foundation and is successful because of the high quality of the Board members. At the recent retreat, Belinda Wiman from Boulder was appointed head of the Funding and Revenue committee. The members have had numerous constructive meetings to determine their goals within the perimeters of the CT Master Plan. Reed Donnelly chairs the Public Relations Committee. The committee was responsible for putting together the recent events held during National Trails Day. Publicity articles about the CT are an on-going thing. CT’s treasurer Chris Abston chairs the Business Committee. They too have had regular meetings covering all facets of office work from audits to computer programs, from mailings to budgets. Merle McDonald chairs the Program Committee which wears many hats. It covers the organization of the trail crews, the adopter program and all the other facets of support for the crews. Dr John Sowell from Western State College heads the Education Committee that will formulate the direction of the educational programs on the Colorado Trail. The Executive Committee consists of; Gudy Gaskill, Chris Abston, Denise Wright and Merle McDonald.

Retiring Foundation Board Members Recognized.

Two retiring CTF Board members received Outstanding Service Awards at the Awards Banquet at The Chuckwagon at Heritage Square on National Trails Day. Roger Gerard and Charlie Russel were given awards made by CT leader and equipment chairman George Miller. A piece of red Quartz had a miniture CT post and marker drilled into the rock. The rock and post were mounted on polished mahagony and embellished with a CT pin. Hand made with love for two worthy members!

Roger was our marathon runner who has worked on trail crews as well as a leader. He has been in charge of the Awards program. Charlie has been our PR expert, he oversaw the printing of the Official Guide Book, was responsible for finding corporate sponsors, donated a vehicle to the CT and offered the use of his office for projects.

**Presidents Corner continued on the next page**
New, and Continuing, Volunteers............

Bonnie MacDonald will be doing the mailing for book and map orders. She takes this duty over from one of Denise Wright’s many duties.

Jerry van Stroh has been doing the data entering of the mail log for Gudy, to keep up with a tally of all of the CT inquiries.

Larry Mack has been working with Merle on the CT’s aging vehicles and so far has managed to keep the running.

Food Packing Helpers; Pat Nagorka, chairperson, Larry Mack, Paul Laughlin, Abdi Jama, Ken Stagner, (he collects the 300 boxes needed to pack all the food for the trail crews) Charlotte Brier, Clara Foote (Ft Collins) Denise Wright and Harriet Patton.

Baking and preparing the briskets: Irene Cazer, Denise Wright, and Stacy Singer. Bruce Armstrong, Bob Kinter and Bonnie Straight are our hiking leaders. Wouldn’t you like to join the fun? Volunteers are always needed.

Public Relations
We recently had articles in Colorado Home and Lifestyles as well as Silent Sports, Mountain Bikes Destination Guide and the Colorado Springs Gazette Telegraph. If your local newspaper will take articles we have them.

Corporate Donations
Once again we have had a great response from the following wonderful people in supporting the trail crews with supplies. We are grateful to each of you for supporting our endeavor and work on the Colorado Trail.

Nestles Food Co.
Contact: Mark Hoven
corned beef, munch bar, hot chocolate, salsa

King Soopers
Contact: Don Gallegos
$50 certificate

Pet Incorporated
Bancker Nicholls-East
Contact: Rick Spellman
evaporated milk, refried beans, taco seasoning

Great Western Tortilla Factory
Contact: Mike Bauchamp
tortilla chips

Schultz Honey and Wax
Contact: Connie and Herman Schultz
honey sticks

Early Bird Granola
Contact: Mike Flinn
granola

Stokes-Ellis
Contact: Pat Bayhouse
refried beans

Eastern Mountain Sports
backpack foods and trail hats

Rockport Shoes
National Trails Day T-shirts
Another farewell: Helen’s last walk
by Art Goodtimes

(Bd note: this article appeared in the Telluride Times-Journal on April 15, 1993.)

BLESSsed BE HELEN
I wish I could have given you one last hug before you took your own dive into the great mystery. You were older than most of us who settled in this region. But you shared the love of the outdoors that brought so many of us here originally ... I saw you just a couple of days ago, walking along the highway near the Brown Homestead, and I had this overwhelming intuitive urge to stop the car and offer you a ride. I wasn’t sure why. Maybe because we hadn’t chatted in a while, as we always did in the post office or by the free box. Talking about the weather, our children, local politics, the environmental concerns that were rooted deep in your being. You always seemed so radiant and beautiful — exactly the kind of elder I hoped I might become when I grew to your age. And you always spoke so eloquently and generously, with a kind of modesty I so admired ... I remember when you and Bill Hammer spent time together, he the cantankerous, eccentric, lascivious sculptor and you the woman strong in yourself, unwilling to leave the place you dearly loved for mere companionship ... I thought of all the times I’d seen you walking, skiing, picking up trash, collecting mushrooms, being outdoors. Like Patrick Ray you coffin ... In the end, that’s why I didn’t stop when I saw you by the road. I was ashamed that I continue to be part of the problem by committing a crime against nature every time I put a key in an ignition. And I didn’t want to tempt you away from walking by offering you a ride, when all I wanted to do was talk a bit, and touch bases with a friend ... Even if I don’t clearly understand why you left us when you did, I have this strong feeling of love and admiration for your beautiful will and sense of self connected to this place, and I will carry your memory with me, elder sister. May I learn to live life as fully and have the strength to face death as fearlessly as you did.

Helen’s land, the La Platas from Indian Trail Ridge
1993 COLORADO TRAIL WEEK-END CREW # 19

*by Jim and Margarita Miller*

We had the honor of being the *first* crew out in 1993. How did that happen you might ask? We were chosen by fate (and Gudy) to be the *token* crew to participate on National Trails Day, Saturday, June 5, thus our original date of July 10th-11th, 1993 was upped over a month. The purpose of the crew was to improve the CT through or around some of the bogs caused by springs on the northeastern slope of the Kenosha’s in the Lost Creek Wilderness Area. These springs have been a source of dismay to trail builders at least ever since Mr. Hooper first tried to put a trail through in 1875. Nor may I add, have the efforts of the CTF completely solved the problem. After our weekend of effort you can now probably get through with dry feet if you are wearing high topped waterproof shoes and are careful where you step. Another crew is scheduled to continue our work the weekend of June 26th.

To continue our saga, six stalwart Jayhawks from N.E. Kansas joined their five Colorado kinfolk, plus six Colorado trailblazers and pitched their tents in the rain along side Leader Jim and Chef Margarita Miller’s pick-up and co-Leader Harold and co-Chef Helen Laurence’s dry trailer. We were all pleased the CT cook tent and the Camp Hale

Building trail through a bog is hard, dirty work, but much appreciated

maintenance crew’s campgear and rain shelters were up before the 3 p.m. rain started. Our work tools were cached 4.5 miles up the trail so we got acquainted, had a make-believe tool demonstration, safety talk and all the mundane stuff about blisters and ticks and sought out a dry spot after our smothered tacos plus supper.

Saturday, 5:30 a.m. broke bright and clear, and we were joined for breakfast by our last crew member from Lakewood with his guitar case in hand. Roger, Harry and Bill volunteered to ferry the crew the three plus miles to the CT trailhead where we were greeted by three deer; then walked the 1.8 miles to Lost Creek Wilderness, plus 2.7 miles more to our work area. Enroute we said hello to the maintenance section adopter, Tom Butterfield who passed by with some of his crew a horse in route to Last Park Campground. We caught up to them again while the rested their horses—gives you an idea of the altitude gain those first few miles. The USFS South Platte Ranger District’s new volunteer coordinator and her two helpers had placed our tools the previous day. They lent a hand while we played in the mud and muck, trenching and draining the old Hooper Road Trail. Allen and Harold with Bill a close third won the “get dirty, muddy, wet and filthy contest”. After lunch we mucked an bit more and then started the two hour walk out—got back to camp a bit after six to enjoy Margarita and Helen’s bar-b-que and fixings—followed by Bill’s guitar and songs plus Allen’s PVC flute and Erik’s g. picking. No winner was declared in the sing-along. Beautiful late raising full moon, no varmint noises, no
mosquitoes--maybe the BIG smoke from the BIG fire and NO TICKS. In our guess your lucky number contest Harry won the National Trails Day T-shirt, Herb won the CT cap and no one was a loser with all getting EMS caps with stickers attached.

Sunday, with full tummies and lunch bags we returned to the CT, but this time we only had to walk 3.5 miles to our new tool cache. There we drained a bit more and built a 100 yard bypass around the "daughter" of the "mother" of the Hooper bogs. Back in camp we broke camp in record time before the forecast SNOW. All told we were blessed by good weather Saturday and Sunday; good companionship; no injuries, no mishaps (well, one slightly misplaced pulaski) and the entire crew satisfied with another feeling of accomplishment along the Colorado Trail--and ALL(almost) saying where do I sign-up for next year!! Kudos to: Co-leaders Harold and Helen Laurence; Herb & Sherry Drury of Breckenridge; Sunny Johnson, Highlands Ranch; Erik Neatherlin, Boulder; Allen & Alex Ramsey, Golden; Bill Ruzzo, Lakewood; and the Patton Platoon headed by long-time CT leader Harriet Patton of Denver: Aaron Jamvold, Denton KS; Marianne, Jim, Roger and Josh McClintock and Emily Jane Stoll, Holton KS; Harry and Jo Patton, Denver; and Joel and Jolie Stainbrook of Denver. WELL DONE!!!

Donations Vital to Food Committee

by Pat Nagorka, Chairperson

What would it be like for the trail crews if they had to bring their own food? Save the CTF money, alright, but what a nightmare; 20 people all in the kitchen tent at the same time, trying to their "own thing".

"Community" food saved a lot of hassles, but not necessarily the budget. What does help the budget is the many generous donations we receive from various companies. A significant part of the food gathering is soliciting donations.

A new season is upon us and those generous companies that donated have not yet been acknowledged in Tread LInes as they were promised.

The following companies donated to the 1992 Colorado Crews:
Boyer's Brothers Gourmet Coffee
Celestial Seasonings
Early Bird Granola
H.J. Heinz
King Soopers
Kuner-Empson Co.
Nestles Food Co.

While each company got an individual thank you, I would like everyone on the crews to know and appreciate which companies supported the trail in 1992.

It should also be known that there were several other companies that sold us their products at cost or a good discount. We very much appreciate their generosity too.

MASTER PLAN UPDATE - URGENT ACTION NEEDED NOW !!!

by Gudy Gaskill

The Colorado Trail Master Plan is the document that defines the relationship between the CTF and the government agencies who are the caretakers of the land through which the Colorado Trail passes. (USFS & BLM)

The Rocky Mountain Region of the USFS distributed a coordinating copy of the proposed Colorado Trail Master Plan to the appropriate Ranger Districts in March of this year. Some of the Ranger Districts have not yet returned the Plan with their comments to the Regional headquarters where the Plan will be finalized and become the governing document.

If you live in or near a USFS Ranger District through which the CT passes, we urge you to contact your district ranger about the status of his review of the CTMP. Encourage him to complete his review (if appropriate) and return the Plan to the Rocky Mountain Region as soon as possible.
Re-orient *Tread Lines*?

by Merle McDonald, VP
Colorado Trail Foundation

The orientation of *Tread Lines* has been up for discussion among the CTF board members. For the past several years it has been directed to CTF Friends, Volunteers and Adopters to keep them informed on the progress of the CT and interested in continuing to donate time and money to maintain and improve the CT. The questions under consideration are:

- Does it do that?
- Is that what it should do?
- How could it be done better?
- Is there another more efficient way to attract funds and volunteers?

Items to consider:

- The CTF is an all volunteer organization. It has no paid staff, not even part time.
- The CTF has no commercial office space. Its workspace is scattered among the homes of various volunteers.
- It costs about 40 cents cash money to print and deliver each of approximately 2000 copies of *Tread Lines* to a home each quarter.
- It also cost a bunch of donated time, labor, materials and equipment for the production and mailing of each issue.

*Tread Lines* is the major source of advertising for the CT Treks
- For some reason almost all 500 CT workcrew positions have been filled by volunteers for 1993.
- Friends donations and Crew registrations cover about half of the CTF’s annual cost of operation. For the past few years book and map sales have covered the remainder of the costs. Book and map revenues can be expected to decline as the market demand becomes satisfied.
- It is assumed that there will be a requirement for at least 10 (and probably more) workcrews per year for the foreseeable future to maintain and improve the CT. Although the CT is officially “complete” it still has quite a few rough spots and some overlap with motorized routes. In other places we have not yet obtained the rights-of-way for the optimal trail location. It is also anticipated that trail deterioration in some locations will overwhelm the resources of the adopter. In addition the development of loop and feeder trails will enhance the usability of the CT.

What we the staff would like to know is does *Tread Lines* meet a need or interest for you, the reader? What would you find of more interest? Or could *Tread Lines* be dropped without serious impact?

We need your opinions, in person, by phone or mail, signed or unsigned. Contact Gudy or me at the phone numbers listed on page 2 or write to us at the business office address also listed on the same page. Give us your opinions on *Tread Lines* and its orientation and usefulness to the continuation of the Colorado Trail. While we are on the subject is there anyone out there who would like to take over as editor of *Tread Lines*? I am probably one of the least qualified persons imaginable by both temperament and training to be editing a newsletter. I can't type or spell, have only a rudimentary grasp of English grammar and no imagination. We badly need some artistically inclined editorial talent. Would you like to volunteer?
Become a caretaker of a section of the Colorado Trail

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 49 sections for maintenance purposes. (These sections do not correspond to the segments delineated in the Colorado Trail Official Guide Book.) The maintenance sections vary in length from 3 to 20 miles.

An adopter is responsible for the following on the adopted section:

1. Surveying (looking at) the section and removing deadfall and other obstructions at the beginning of the hiking season.
2. Maintaining adequate signage. (signs are furnished by the CTF or USFS)
3. Maintaining erosion structures (waterbars and drains) and correcting minor erosion problems.
4. Controlling vegetation within the 8 foot wide trail corridor.
5. Maintaining the tread (the walking surface) in a usable condition.
6. Providing annual status reports (a one page form) 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 resources and/or 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.

The amount of work required per year to maintain the trail in its present condition varies with its environment and amount and type of use, but a good planning figure is about three to four hours of labor per mile of trail. Obviously improvement projects can take much more time but they are optional.

Experience indicates an annual turnover in adopters of about 10%. A waiting list is maintained of potential adopters who would like to adopt in a specific area. Sections closer to Denver are quickly snapped up while sections further away are frequently available.

Persons or groups interested in adopting a section of the Colorado Trail or in assisting an adopter with maintenance should contact the maintenance coordinator, Merle McDonald, Ph 719-599-4258 or by mail at 1580 Mt. Woodmen Ct., Colorado Springs, CO 80919.

As of June 27, 1993 the following sections were available for adoption:

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Length</th>
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<td>Clear Creek Road to Pine Creek Road</td>
<td>10 miles</td>
<td>NW of Buena Vista ***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Browns Creek to Shavano Road</td>
<td>8 miles</td>
<td>West of Salida ***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orphan Butte to Fassbinder Gulch</td>
<td>10 miles</td>
<td>North of Durango</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*** Offered but not yet accepted
Maps Maps Maps Maps Maps
by Merle McDonald

To save you some time in the beginning I will tell you that if you don’t have a greater than normal interest in maps you are not going to be interested in this article. For those of you who are still reading, this article is about maps that are useful in the study of the Colorado Trail.

The maps that the Colorado Trail Foundation have created for users of the CT are not in the purest sense maps. They are **optically reduced photographs of extracts of crudely (change that to inexpensively) modified maps**. However they have some unique advantages that cannot be found on any other maps of which I am aware.

1. They have the most accurate depiction of the location of the CT there is except for Randy Jacobs hand modified set of 7.5' Topographical Quadrangle maps.

2. Each map lists mileage between significant, identifiable points along the Colorado Trail.

3. They are small enough to be conveniently carried by a backpacker.

In my opinion the CT map set and the **Official Guide Book of the Colorado Trail** by Randy Jacobs are absolutely essential to anyone planning to hike the CT.

The shortcomings of the CT maps are; the lack of border information, the legend blocking about 10% of each sheet, missing feature identification (since these are extracts of much larger maps) and the obsolescence of other than CT road and trail information on the sheets. Therefore I find additional maps are required for serious planning purposes.

For a single map that shows the whole CT I have found **COLORADO (close up) RECREATIONAL ROAD MAP** by Pierson Graphics Corp. 899 Broadway, Denver CO, 80203. Ph (303)623-4299. to be excellent. It’s scale is 1:600,000, costs only $5.00 and depicts and identifies most Forest Service roads. Pierson is a quality map producer with lots of great maps in their show room.

Next up on the $ scale is an 11"x16" book of Colorado maps called **COLORADO ATLAS & GAZETTEER** by DeLorme Mapping, P.O. Box 298, Freeport, Maine 04032 Ph (207)865-4171. It contains a series of Topos of all of Colorado in 1:160,000 scale with a 300 ft. contour interval. If you are interested in outdoor Colorado and can only have one map this is the one to have. It shows most roads, trails and recreational features in the state and it only costs $15. It contains 104 pages packed with information. If you are over 50 years of age a magnifying glass and bright light might be a useful accessory for this book.

Continuing up the cost scale, National Forest maps can’t be beat for depiction and identification of Forest Service roads and most of the older hiking and pack trails, but several of the more laggard Forests have not yet added the CT to their maps. So you must copy the CT from the CTF map set to some of the Forest Service maps by hand. Neither are the FS maps contoured. Six FS maps are needed to encompass all of the CT and they cost about $4 each. You can get the list of these maps from the **Official Guide Book**. But they are quite valuable if you are a map nut. Their scale is 1/4 inch to the mile or 1:126,720.

Continuing our cost escalation there is a 1:100,000 contour map set out called **Colorado Recreation Maps** that boldly advertises the Colorado Trail on its cover. While it does show most of the CT I don’t find it very useful. That was $30 wasted.

Now for the serious map nut you will need $147.50 (plus tax) worth of 7.5 minute Topographical Quadrangle maps to cover the complete CT. And you still have to draw in the CT. But there is no substitute for the 7.5 minute Topos for detail with their scale of 1:24,000 and contour interval of 40 ft, if that is the kind of thing that turns you on. Again you can get the complete list of map sheets from Randy’s book **Colorado Trail the Official Guide Book**. If you still don’t have your copy of the Guide Book it can be ordered from the CTF. The order blank is on the inside back cover of this issue of **Tread Lines**.

Happy Map Reading!
The Colorado Trail Store

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