

April 1992

Dear Former FOOT Leader,

I have recently returned from our April spring training weekend with the new FOOT leaders. Remember how much fun we had when you were a leader? Things haven't changed that much concerning sharing good times and fostering comraderie. FOOT is going as strong as ever. We now have 46 leaders and 20 support crew members, and we hope to take 230 entering students on FOOT this August. We have expanded the trips to include 8 in the Catskills, 4 in the Adirondacks, 4 on the Appalachian Trail in northwest Connecticut, 3 in the Yale Forest in northeastern Connecticut and 4 new trips this year in southern Vermont. That makes a total of 23 trips compared to the 6 we started with in 1985. We now have more leaders and support crew members than participants that first year!

We have a good standing in the Yale community now. We still have more people apply to be leaders than we can take and the quality of the leaders has remained exceptionally high. We have been fairly successful in getting PROP students to do FOOT since they now end PROP early to accommodate our dates. We also have improved our first aid training by contracting SOLO: Wilderness Emergency Medicine from Conway, New Hampshire to run a workshop for the leaders during the August training.

Some happy news to report is that we have had our first FOOT marriage. Ben Sayler and Betsy Jubitz were married last summer. I am also happy to report that Jamie Williams and Florence Williams are engaged to be married this June, thus our second official FOOT marriage. They are in Paonia, CO. I hear from former leaders from time to time which is great -- Jamie, Eric Greenwald (who will be returning to New Haven this fall to work for a law professor), Trex Proffitt (who is working for Investor Responsibility Research Center), Chris Roberts (who worked for my husband Steve last summer in Africa and then went to New York to work for Bill Moyers), Emel Gokyigit (who is also in New York working for a magazine), Eve Porter (who is at the University of Geneva), Ann Vileisis (who is finishing her master's thesis on environmental history in CO), Baker Mallory (who has been on a Syracuse program in Florence, Italy for the year), and Karen Shipley (who was in Ohio, I think, the last time I heard

from her). I have recently seen Renee Gleeson (who is going to art graduate school), Joanna Rosen (who is at Yale medical school and runs by my house), Ben Doolittle (who is going to Yale divinity school and walks by my house), Stewart Moritz (who was working for Yale admissions and whom we got to do support crew at the last moment last year!) and Paul Jahnige (who worked for my husband Steve in Africa last summer and who is at the Yale school of forestry and environmental studies). I have received hellos through word of mouth from Tiff Bingham and Katie Hackett. Of course, I would like to hear from more of you! For those more recent graduates we had a very successful season last year with Sumner McCallie and Lee Deigaard as head student coordinators. This year I am working with Perry de Valpine and Katie Michel who are just as terrific as all their predecessors.

So now down to business. Yes, it had to happen. This is our first official FOOT annual fund raising letter. (Hey, if the sailing team can build a palatial boat house with alumni funds, why not a FOOT chalet in the Alps?) Seriously, we are hoping to establish an alumni fund that will help FOOT do mainly two things. First, we would like to increase our scholarship money so that we can improve our minority participation and also provide funds for those who just can't afford the cost. Second, we would like to help subsidize the cost of our first aid training by SOLO for our leaders. The training costs \$75 per leader, which is hard for some leaders to pay. We are looking for multiples of 25: \$25, \$50, \$75, \$100, but we would appreciate any amount you can afford. In any case, **you know it is for a good cause**. We are still self-supporting (we are still not a part of the Yale budget), and this gift is tax deductible for you. Please make your check payable to FOOT and mail it to **FOOT**, 1434 Yale Station, New Haven, CT 06520. Please also send us news of what you are doing. It would be fun to start a FOOT leader newsletter.

Many thanks and I hope all is well with you. One final note. I am planning to put together a 10th year anniversary trip for former FOOT leaders (so that is probably 3 years away, but it never hurts to plan early). I am thinking of a river trip out west somewhere. Mark your calendars!

Cheers,

Cilla Kellert

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