



# Giant News

NEWSLETTER of the  
Sleeping Giant Park Association

June 1994  
No. 43

## *Hike-A-Giant '94*

by Randy Miller

For the first time in its three-year history the sun shone brightly upon the Hike-A-Giant. The gorgeous weather Saturday, June 4, coupled with the planned festivities, brought over 170 hikers to Sleeping Giant Park to participate in Hike-A-Giant '94!



The Sleeping Giant Park Association was again pleased to present the Hike-A-Giant both as a celebration

of the return of spring hiking season and to commemorate National and Connecticut Trails Day. Hike-A-Giant '94 was one of over 100 hikes (with 4,000 participants) held in Connecticut on June 4. For the second year Hike-A-Giant easily had the largest participation of any hike in Connecticut.

Participants ranged from toddlers (or younger!) to those in their 70's (or more?) Upon registering, all hikers received their Giant continued on page 2...

### WELCOME NEW LIFE MEMBERS

**Allan Seymour**  
**Sally Seymour**  
**Kathy May**

on Hike-A-Giant Day!!

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### Credits

Photographers for this issue are:

Irwin Beitch  
Burt Benham  
Virginia Dowd  
John Hogan  
Mike Miller

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bounty that included a specially designed Hike-A-Giant '94 button, a Giant decal and a post card. Before the hikes children of all ages were able to enjoy face painting and participate in contests for the most unusual hiking staff, best patched backpack and most colorful hiking hat. Winners were selected (with difficulty in most cases) by a distinguished group of judges. Judging for the third year was Harden Mayor Lillian Clayman, for the second time Park Manager Alex Sokolow and for the first time we welcomed Dick Clifford, Bureau Chief of the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection. Support was also provided by State Senator Phil Robertson who completed one of the hikes. Congratulations are offered to all participants, and especially the judges for having to make some tough decisions.

Three hikes were offered, ranging from a Kid's Hike on the Nature Trail, to the Mountain Laurel Hike and the challenging Blue Trail Hike, which included over 30 hearty individuals who hiked the 5 miles plus from Hartford Turnpike back to the Picnic Area. All participants seemed to return with good spirits and, hopefully, fond memories.

To orchestrate an event of this size requires planning and hard work by many people. Heartfelt thanks are offered to all who worked in planning, leading hikes or assisting in other ways. Hike-A-Giant '94 committee members included Irwin Beitch, Ginnie Dowd, Ed Goldman, Dick Majka, Mike Miller, Felicia Tencza, and Maddy Williams. A special thank you is offered to Linda

Olender for designing the outstanding Hike-A-Giant '94 buttons and brochures.

Making the day an even greater success was the addition of 40 new members three of whom became SGPA Life Members. I offer a warm welcome to the new members, hope that you enjoy this issue of the GIANT NEWS, and look forward to meeting you at future SGPA events.

This special edition of the GIANT NEWS, put together by George Heston, features pictures of many Hike-A-Giant participants. If you are pictured, congratulations, if not, you will have another opportunity at Hike-A-Giant '95.

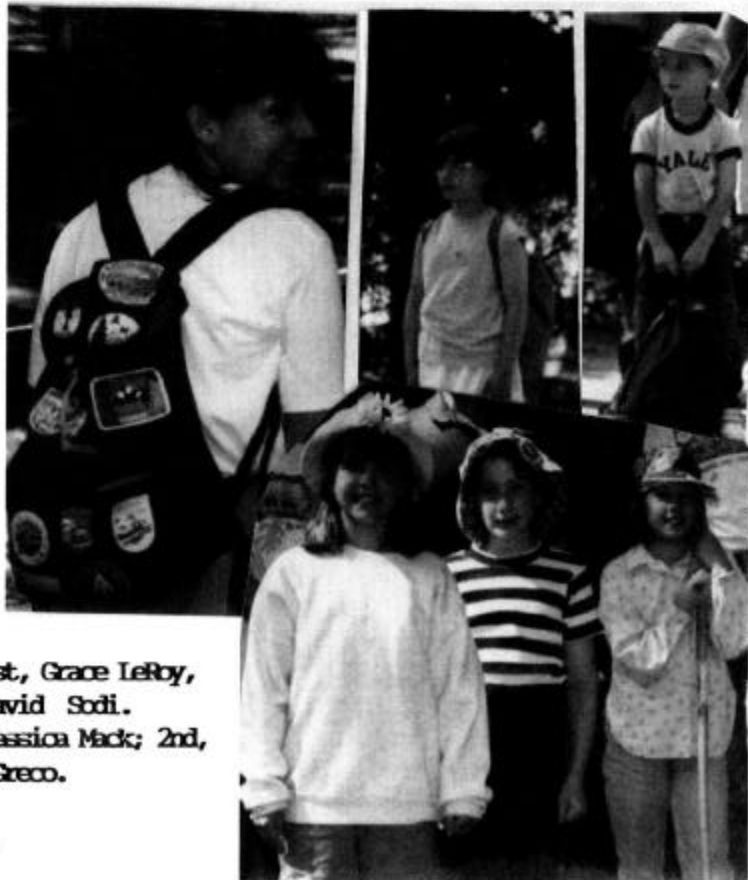
Thanks again to all our members for the support you provide the SGPA and in maintaining the Giant. With all of us pulling together the Park will retain its wonderful character and host many more Hike-A-Giants in the years to come. See you at the Park!

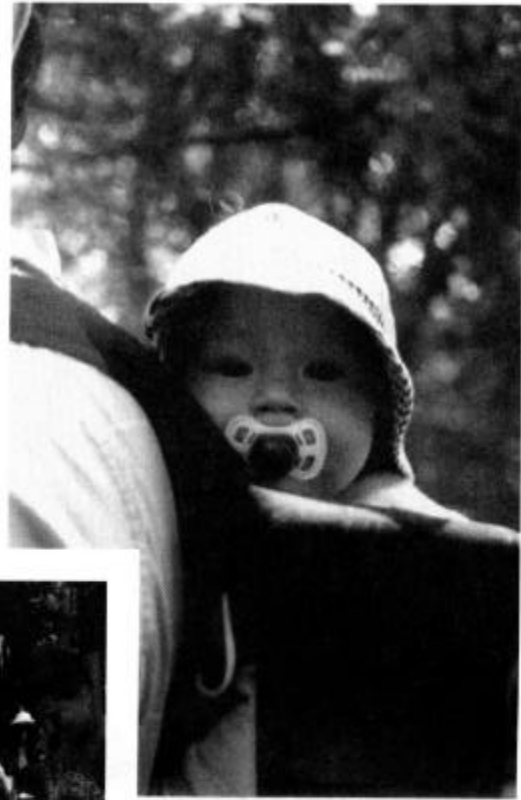
**Top: Contest Judges, from left: Alex Sokolow, Park Manager; State Sen. Phil Robertson; Harden Mayor Lillian Clayman; CT DEP Chief, Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, Richard Clifford.**

**Hiking Stick Winners: 1st, Dave Krevolin; 2nd, Peter Saranich; 3rd, Jonathan Bytantis.**

**Best Patched Back pack: 1st, Grace LeRoy, 2nd, Claryn Spies; 3rd, David Sodi.**

**Most Colorful Hat: 1st, Jessica Mack; 2nd, Trina Mayer; 3rd, Regan Greco.**







**KIDS  
LOVE  
THE  
GIANT**



**Bottom, left:** This couple were part of the Mt. Laurel hike, and from their resting spot at the quarry seem to be wondering if they are going to the top.

They made it along with all the younger folks. See the picture of this group at the top of the page. They are on the chest.

**Middle:** This is the Blue Trail group near the end of their five mile trek at the lookout on the chin.

**Bottom right** is the same group scrambling up a short rocky rise somewhere enroute.





Under the watchful eye of Mike Miller, the hike-leader, standing tall to the left rear, the group scrambles down the homestretch, in this case the rim of the quarry. And a great day was had by all!!

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**Giant News**

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