



**EVERYONE UNITE!**  
**MEMORIAL DAY 1997**

**WOMEN'S PROFESSIONAL GROUP OF THE  
ASSOCIATION FOR EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION**



**“Women Across the Country, Take  
Back the Trails: Everyone Unite!  
Memorial Day 1997  
Final Summary Report  
(as of 6/25/97)”**

We did it! This national initiative was truly amazing!! From the very beginning, this has been a helluva wild and incredible experience! There were 275 people (from all 50 states!) on the monthly electronic update list. And, as with the other updates, thanks to everyone who forwarded the last/final update as well ~

I've summarized and compiled a list of all information received to date. People continue to send news articles, cards, stories about what they did, etc. It's ALL so empowering! This report is rather lengthy -- so, rather than be talkative with this intro, I'll just let the "results" speak for themselves. So kick back, take a deep breath, and read on!

**(1) TBTT WEBSITE:** If you still haven't seen the Trails Website, you should check it out! This includes a graphic of the national logo/design in \*full color\*(!).... It's AWESOME!  
<<http://www.princeton.edu/~rcurtis/aeetrail.html>>.

**(2) CARLETON COLLEGE Website:** We had many links to various websites on the internet (thanks to everyone who linked up!). I would like to offer special recognition to the page designed by Paula Lackie at Carleton College. Carleton is Julianne Williams alma mater and this site is outstanding! Visit this location next time you're surfing the web:  
<<http://www.carleton.edu/campus/TBTT>>

**(3) STATE/AREA CONTACT PEOPLE (final):** As of Memorial Weekend, there were 48 contact people in 33 states. While we hoped for a contact person in \*each\* state, our goal was for at least half of them! And, as mentioned before, this was exceeded ☺ so thanks! If you are interested in seeing the entire list of people who have offered/volunteered to be contact people in their areas, please let me know. Aside from these key individuals, MANY others helped promote this initiative all along and this is greatly appreciated. So now, I hope to have the full list updated for our website.

**(4) NATIONAL T-SHIRTS:** Due to continued requests for these awesome t-shirts, Margaret ended up placing one last order! If you would like to order one (or more!?) T-shirts, please contact Margaret Lechner directly. She is the Wilderness Program Director at Earlham College, 765-983-1684 or <[lechnma@earlham.edu](mailto:lechnma@earlham.edu)>. Remember, all proceeds are being donated to the Women's Professional Group of AEE for scholarships, research grants, etc. And, they will also be available for sale at the AEE International Conference in November (Asheville, NC).

**(5) POSTERS:** The 11x17 green and white posters were a big hit.... Thanks again for everyone who put them up all around the country! We had 650 printed up and I have a few posters left -- Anyone interested in a poster can contact me directly with your snail mail address and I'll send one to ya ☺

**(6) “RESULTS” → The list that follows consists of SAMPLE HAPPENINGS ACROSS THE COUNTRY!** I'm not including \*numbers\* for the most part because some reported numbers, others did not..... besides, when you see all that occurred, you can just imagine the hundreds (thousands?!) of women and men that participated! And, note that participants also included children, babies, and lots of dogs! Several states are not listed here although I know activities went on -- I just haven't heard back yet (e.g., Alaska, Arkansas, Texas, and others). As I continue to gather new information, I'll do my best to report on numbers later on.... hmmm.... we'll see ~

### ***ACTIVITIES/EVENTS***

(See also Colleges/Universities section for other states not listed here)

#### **CALIFORNIA**

- 1) Director of Winged Boots, Arcata, CA; Keynote speaker at a Young Women's Empowerment Weekend; Speaking engagement at the Women's Backpacking Day of Adventure fair; Also spoke at the Humboldt women for shelter, “women honoring women” banquet.
- 2) Shelter Against Violent Environments (S.A.V.E.): Organization contacted and information sent (Bay Area).
- 3) Anthony Chabots Camp Grounds: Camping with friends, toast to Julianne and Lollie
- 4) Lake Berriessa (northern calif): Camping with co-workers

#### **GEORGIA**

- 1) GROWIN' (Group Of Women In Nature), Athens, GA; miscellaneous activities planned for the weekend. Women and men engaged in informal discussion on women's safety in the wilderness at Sandy Creek Park. A few women (from UGA) took day hikes through this park as well. Several women from this discussion group went on weekend backpacking trip--started in the Standing Indian area, headed towards Winding Stair Gap, camped at Siler Bald and returned on Sunday.
- 2) Small group of women hiked to Sarah's Gap off War Woman Road in Rabun County.
- 3) Women's Outdoor Network (of Atlanta): Camping and 10 mile hike. Hiked from Standing Indian Campground (Nantahala National Forest, NC) to the top of Standing Indian Mountain and back to the campground. The loop included several miles along the AT near the top of the mountain.
- 4) Women on the Rock - Southeast Women's Climbing Club climbing at the New River Gorge in W.VA. Included women from “Sheclimbs” based in D.C.
- 5) Outdoor Rec/GA Tech program: Backpacking on the AT near the TN/NC border. Discussion on fear in the wilderness and solo hiking. Group left a note in one of the AT shelter registers about TBTT. Other women (independently/diff. groups) went caving, paddling, and sailing.

## **INDIANA**

Morgan-Monroe State Forest. Facility has two-10 mile trails, several short trails, lots of camping facilities, allows trail camping, and now entrance fee. Event planned in this area.

## **MARYLAND**

- 1) Traveling Naturalist: Canoe trip on the Patapsco River
- 2) Joseph D. Brandenburg Center: Group gathering from the folks at this center for day hike along the C&O Canal.

## **MASSACHUSETTS**

- 1) Women Outdoors, Inc. - National women outdoors organization based in Medford, MA. As part of their annual Northeast Women's Outdoor Gathering at Sargent Camp in New Hampshire they dedicated two hikes (one Sat. one on Sun.) to commemorate Julie and Lollie. April 5th they were invited to tape a 28 minute segment on NOW-TV in southeastern, CT. Mentioned TBTT on the segment.
- 2) Great Barrington, MA: Trip organized on the A.T. that runs through the Berkshires; day hike which incorporated a writing section or story sharing section in the middle of the hike. Hike began and ended at a local outdoor shop.
- 3) Hiking/Camping in the Berkshires: Organized by local contact people. Group of women hiking, camping, sharing stories and rituals around the campfire....

## **MICHIGAN**

Thirteen women from Ann Arbor and Lansing went on a 3-day, 19 mile backpacking trip on the North Country and Manistee River Trails in the Manistee National Forest. Backpacking experience ranged from none to a woman who had just completed a trip-leader training. They planned a reunion which took place several weeks following the Memorial Weekend events!

## **MINNESOTA**

- 1) St. Cloud: Speak out; hike, memorial, safety education; announcement of the Julianne Williams Foundation for Social Justice, women's self-defense workshop, BBQ & pot luck, music, letter writing. About 125 participants....
- 2) Ely: Group of friends, day trips on the trails, bike ride, hike on the Superior Hiking Trail
- 3) Spent weekend out on the trails of northern Minnesota, "peddling, paddling and just plain hoofin' it."
- 4) Winternoon/Summersun in Brimson: Sponsored an event

## **MISSOURI**

Johnson's State Park, overnight event. Sponsored by the Women's Wellness Center at Columbia College. Free camping, bring own food, camping, music, empowerment program/discussion, memorial service for Julie and Lollie.

## **NEBRASKA**

- 1) All park superintendents in Nebraska were contacted
- 2) Omaha and Lincoln: Local hikes took place

## **NEW HAMPSHIRE**

- 1) Friends/sisters; backpacking the AT in the Hanover area.
- 2) Friends organizing a hike up Mt. Chacoroad in the White Mountains
- 3) Press releases sent to all the public newspapers and Eastern Mountain Sports' in the state, as well as physically dropping off info at various outdoor gear stores in the White Mountains.

## **NEW MEXICO**

- 1) Organized hike to the Narrows at Zion National Park

## **NEW YORK**

- 1) Coached a canoe race, upstate, NY
- 2) Fasting, drumming, and praying with Nipponzan Myohoji Buddhists at Grafton, NY Peace Pagoda
- 3) Hike 12 trail to Pharoah Lake and fix/clean lean-to overlooking the lake.
- 4) 18 mile walk on Rt. 66 from Troy to Hoags Corners with "Take Back the Trails" posters on backpack. Distributed information from TBTT website.

## **NORTH CAROLINA**

- 1) Press release and posters, sent to: Camp Pleiades; Campfest in PA; miscellaneous state newspapers and university outdoor clubs.
- 2) Mt. Pisgah: Three mile hike with family. Engaged in their own private, internal ceremony for the occasion.
- 3) Walk along the beach of Cape Hatteras each morning of Memorial Day Weekend (proudly wearing her TBTT t-shirt); climb of Hatteras Lighthouse. She brought back a shell for each family -- these were sent to Patsy Williams (Julianne's mom) and Malika, a good friend of Lollie's

## **OHIO**

- 1) Corporate Sponsorship (for local Ohio T-Shirts): The French Loaf (Columbus Bakery) donated \$150; Benchmark Outfitters (Columbus outdoor clothing and equipment store) donated \$150; Little Bear Graphics (Cincinnati artist, Ursula Roma, designed the logo)
- 2) "The Word is Out": Columbus lesbian newsletter, bartered advertising space in the newsletter.
- 3) Highbanks Metro Park, Columbus: Several groups (independently) hiked with friends and/or family.
- 4) Chance Creek, Oberlin, hike w/ friends
- 5) Scioto Trails, group of friends, hiked 8 miles
- 6) Olentangy Bike Path, Columbus, hike
- 7) Ohio Environmental Council: Took a "good long trip" down to Kentucky, near Berea. Spent 2 days hiking and caving with Columbus Outdoor Pursuits. Also hiked with people from the Sierra Club in Central Ohio.
- 9) Mt. Airy Forest, Cincinnati: Day hikes
- 10) Several folks spent the day in Nantahala National Forest in N. Carolina
- 11) John Bryan State Park and Clifton Gorge: Day hikes
- 12) Day of canoeing in Little Miami, Ohio
- 13) Day of hiking in the Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation area. "We saw a lot of other women out there too!"

## **PENNSYLVANIA**

- 1) French Creek State Park (southeast PA); Horseshoe Trail; group of friends, wearing purple arm bands, distributing flyers to curious on-lookers, share/read information about Julie and Lollie and Rebecca Wright.
- 2) Fairmont City Park (Philadelphia); Andorra Natural Area at the Fairmont City Park Nature Center. Organizing activity with the teens in the program; ceremonial activity and discussion group.

## **TENNESSEE**

Information distributed to members of the Chattanooga Environmental Education Alliance; notice sent to poetry group this individual belongs to.

## **UTAH**

- 1) Booth set up at the National Organization for Women Conference (May 3). Article put in the local N.O.W. newsletter
- 2) Main newspapers contacted as well as specialized newspapers
- 3) Info sent to statewide victim advocate agencies
- 4) Annual Victim Conference 4/24: Flyers circulated, and awareness created.
- 5) Flyers/Posters distributed to local bagel shops, REI stores, other outdoor stores. REI contacted about sponsoring a clinic relating to TBTT and issues regarding women in the wilderness.
- 6) Group hike in Big Cottonwood Canyon at Mineral Basin in Wasatch National Forest.

## **VERMONT**

- 1) Vermont Network Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault sponsored the event statewide. This organization is a coalition of the state's 17 domestic violence and sexual assault agencies. Two local news stations interviewed Annie McCullough and Kara DeLeonardis (co-organizers of VT Take Back the Trails. The Network sponsored 4 hikes in the state with support from Vermont's Green Mountain Club. 180 hikers participated in the events. The State Agency of Natural Resources approved an entrance fee waiver for participants at the Mt. Philo State Park site. As stated by the Commissioner, "since this event is intended to improve the health and safety of the general public as well as provide education on issues related to safe hiking, your request for a fee waiver is granted." On all 4 trails Network advocates handed out safety tips for hikers, info about TBTT, and info about local domestic violence and sexual assault programs. After a day of hiking, the Network sponsored a benefit at a local bar in Burlington ("135 Pearl") who donated the space for the event. Sliding scale fee charged at the door and they raised \$440 by night's end. Food was donated from 7 local restaurants, music, poetry reading, a dance performance, and speakers. Proceeds of the benefit were split 50/50 with Carlton College (Julie's alma mater), and the Pine Ridge Adventure Center (scholarship established in Lollie's name).
- 2) Friends; backpacking trip on the Long Trail for the weekend.
- 3) New Beginnings Women's Support Network; TBTT at Ascutney Mountain in Weathersfield, VT. Hike-a-thon, guided nature walks, safety in the wilderness workshops, wildlife presentations, entertainment, barbeque, memorial service to remember women who have faced violence in the outdoors.
- 4) Christ Church Presbyterian: Little River State Park. Weekend program for 20 girls and women ages 6 to 66. Hike, canoe, circle ceremony after dinner/passed candle around and talked about personal reactions to the Williams/Winans incident and other violations of women's safety; discussion about fears and hopes; church service. "It was a remarkable weekend; it reminded us of the power of women and girls together."
- 5) Student from Oberlin College in Ohio spent the weekend in Southern Vermont (where he'll be for the summer months). He talked to all the folks tenting at Griffith Lake about TBTT and about the incident with Julie and Lollie in 1996. There was a leadership group from Princeton College tenting there at the time and he engaged them in discussion.
- 6) Aid to Women in Abuse and Rape Emergencies (AWARE): Hosted a hike for anyone interested in participating. The group met at the North Beach of Lake Willoughby and hiked Wheeler Mountain.

## **VIRGINIA**

1) Southern Virginia mailing list: Over 100 packets of TBTT materials were sent to state parks, all districts within Jefferson National Forest, Districts within George Washington National Forest, Appalachian Trail Clubs, Park Programs, Retail stores/services. Additional packets were sent to friends out of state coast to coast.

2) Shenandoah National Park: Press Conference (Washington Post, Gannett Press, Richmond Times, T.V. Ch. 3/Harrisonburg, T.V. News Channel 8 / Metro D.C.); Several small groups camping during weekend; Patsy Williams, a few family members, close friends, and ME (Nina Roberts, National Co-Coordinator) enjoyed day hikes (each day, Sat-Mon). People came from Minnesota, North Dakota, Maine, New Hampshire, Maryland, and Virginia to spend the wkend together (other states? I forget!)- Twenty four women and Andrew! Yes, we were 25 strong in Shenandoah N.P.! (Thanks to Rosemary and Debbie at the Ruby Rose Inn for everything....). Monday was time for family and friends to visit the site where Julianne and Lollie were slain -- poems, prayers, tears, hugs, planting sage, sharing of emotion and memories. (Be sure to read the "Prologue" by Rosemary Mirocco attached to this summary report).

3) George Washington National Forest: 8 mile circuit hike along the Virginia/West Virginia border. Sponsored by Women in Their 20s and the Twenties Group (social/discussion groups for lesbian, gay, and bi people in their 20s in the Washington, DC area). "Most of the group didn't know each other before the hike. By the end of the day we had talked, joked, admired views, spotted birds, and shared food enough to really feel like a group of friends and to feel like our great woman-energy had taken back that trail"....

4) Charlottesville; group of friends doing a hike on Saturday; loop hike of moderate difficulty about 4 miles in length off the parkway.

5) Blacksburg; Group get together

6) Winchester area; Group of 20 hiked the Blue Trail near Elizabeth Furnace

7) Jefferson National Forest near Mt. Lake and just below an A.T. access. Friends organized group gathering. Hiking a 2.5 mile loop. Stop at partial clearing and time to reflect on the meaning of the day and share thoughts, poems, or whatever seems appropriate for people in the group.

8) Rivanna Trails Foundation: Fourteen women aged 13-60 and two men walked along the Rivanna Trails Foundation Trails along the rivers of Charlottesville. "Two of the women had never walked by themselves on any trail, out of fear." Two TV stations interviewed the group (Richmond 1 and Ch. 29). Both anchor people wanted to talk about "fear." Betsy Dalglish (former Board member of AEE) felt it was important to "emphasize the joy of being outdoors, and the connectedness we all feel when our feet are on the earth."

9) VCOAE: Virginia Outdoor Educator's conference in the Spring; open forum - discussed safety, harassment, and other issues on trails and brain stormed ways of coping.

## **WASHINGTON, D.C.**

Washington Women Outdoors: Events at Great Falls National Park. Hike on the Billy Goat Trail, walk on the C&O Canal, biking on the canal, self defense demonstration, outdoor safety talk, family walk on the canal.

## **WASHINGTON STATE**

- 1) Cispus Learning Center; hike organized in the Mount St. Helens area. Shirt/flyer/misc. TBTT info placed at the climbing gym in town.
- 2) Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA; Women's Resource Center in collaboration with the Challenge Program, event planned for weekend.
- 3) North Fork Campground area; hike and overnight camping took place.

## **WEST VIRGINIA**

New River Gorge, over 20 women climbing (Women on the Rock from GA and SheClimbs from DC)

## **WISCONSIN**

- 1) Committee formed of 8-10 people working together for Wisconsin activities. Bi-weekly meetings held. Memorial service and TBTT community building celebration on Saturday, May 17th. Commemoration of the lives and deaths of Lollie and Julie and supporting and celebrating the future of women in the outdoors. Potluck supper, fire and s'mores, music. Event took place at Lake Farms County Park, south of Madison.
- 2) Wyalusing State Park, hiking with small group of friends
- 3) Natural Bridge State Park, Trail hike with friends
- 4) Madison 1/2 marathon, 5k along bike path and local park
- 5) Devil's Lake and Palfrey's Glen, hike with friends
- 6) Devil's Lake, hike up to Devil's Head Bluffs, rockclimb with friends
- 7) Indian Lake Park: Hike with friends
- 8) Madison School Forest (in Verona): Hike with friends

## ***MISCELLANEOUS OTHER HAPPENINGS AND OUTCOMES:***

- a] Safety Pamphlet: Prepared and distributed nationally. Text and design by Sandy Dechert of the St. Cloud Take Back the Trails, and the Central Minnesota Lesbian Center.
- b] Research: University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill); Issues of Fear
- c] Grade School in NH: "I have been implementing Take Back the Trails to the 6th thru 8th graders I teach!!" (From an outdoor education teacher in Freedom, NH).
- d] World Wide Web Sites: Many links have been created to the AEE/WPG web page for this initiative.
- e] Coalition building through critical dialogue (e.g., Appalachian Trail Commission; National Park Service Law Enforcement)
- f] Letter to the President: Letter sent to President Clinton (via email) by a graduate student at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, informing him about the initiative asking him for his support and to help spread the word across America!
  
- g] New Zealand:  
√ Information and letter disseminated to 11 women around the country - 4 to outdoor centers and organizations, 4 to academics who work in the area of women in the outdoors, 2 went to all women outdoors groups and 1 went to an outdoor instructor who is a journalist specializing in women in the outdoors. (She expressed interest in writing a story on the initiative for the New Zealand Wilderness Magazine).

(New Zealand, cont'd)

√ Received postcard from a couple of women ☞ “we walked along the Mendocino Heads for a few hours to remember Julianne and Lollie and all other women who have had violence in their lives. Fortunately in New Zealand we don't have a high incidence of violence against women in the outdoors but this has really made me aware..... I also publicized the 'TBTT' as much as I could with women friends in NZ....”

***COLLEGES / UNIVERSITIES (listed in no particular order)***

1. Carleton College, Northfield, MN: Group of about 10 students (w/ faculty assistance) planned major local event
2. University of Minnesota, Minneapolis: Center for Outdoor Adventure organized a 4-day all women backpacking trip on the Superior Hiking Trail (two groups hiked from Sugar Loaf Cove Road to Temperance River State Park)
3. Unity College, ME: Students from the Outdoor Recreation and Park Management developed informative flyers to create awareness. Brought to internship sites and summer jobs at National Parks. Goal: To raise consciousness and motivate action, not to alarm park administrators politically.
4. University of North Carolina at Greensboro: Information sent to outdoor groups/clubs (GORP)
5. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill: Information sent to various departments and to B-GLAD
6. ECU, Greenville, NC; Information sent to outdoor adventure group
7. Duke University, NC: Information sent to the Women's Center
8. Davidson College, NC: Information packet sent to the College's Outdoor Program and the campus women's group.
9. Princeton University, NJ: Director of the Outdoor Action Program organized program with the Women's Center and the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Alliance.
10. Framingham State College, MA: Posters/flyers posted on campus bulletin boards.
11. Hampshire College, Hampshire, MA: Posters/flyers posted around campus and in the outdoor adventure department
12. University of Massachusetts, Amherst: Posters/flyers posted around campus
13. Howard County Community College, Columbia, MD: Information sent to the Office of Continuing Education
14. Loyola College, Columbia, MD: Information and posters sent
15. Johns Hopkins University, MD: Information and posters sent
16. Allegany College, MD: Speaking engagement took place on March 10th about the initiative.
17. Towson State University, Baltimore, MD: Information and posters sent
18. Catonsville Community College, MD: Information and posters sent
19. St. Mary's College, MD: Posters/Flyers posted
20. University of Oregon, Eugene: Information sent to Leisure Studies Department; and the Center for the Study of Women in Society. This center has several Research Interest Groups (RIG's), one of which is in the area of women and the environment.
21. Oberlin College, OH: Discussions, information posted, press release in campus newspaper; table set up at the annual May Fair.



22. Dartmouth College, NH: Posters/flyers posted; article about the initiative and the history behind it submitted to an undergraduate women's journal; groups organized participation occurred locally.
23. University of Georgia at Athens: Flyers/Posters distributed and posted; promo coverage on local radio stations, local weekly community paper printed announcement. Students participated.
24. Georgia Tech, GA: Group of women organized to backpack for the weekend in Tennessee.
25. University of Florida, Gainesville, FL: Organized program by the student-run Women in the Wilderness Program (part of the Travel and Recreation Program offered to students and members of the surrounding community). Trip planned to the lower end of the A.T. (North Georgia) for interested students.
26. Western State College, Gunnison, CO: Wilderness Pursuits program; Two night and three day backpack trip. Open to all WSC students, staff and faculty.
27. University of Utah, UT: Information and posters sent
28. University of New Mexico, Albuquerque: Contact made and information sent to the Women's Center.
29. University of Wisconsin, Madison: Hooper Outing Club; sea kayaked at Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin River.

### ***MISC. ORGANIZATIONS/GROUPS SENT INFORMATION NATIONALLY***

The Women's Center, Cambridge, MA ~ Chiltern Mountain Club, Boston, MA ~ New Words Women's Bookstore, Cambridge, MA ~ Boston Gay and Lesbian Adolescent Social Services ~ Outdoor Explorations, New England ~ AMC Outdoors, MA ~ Lady Jane's Inn, Provincetown ~ National Organization for Women, Washington DC ~ National Women Students Coalition, Washington DC ~ Women of Color Partnership Program, Washington DC ~ Girls, Inc., New York NY ~ Vermont Network Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault ~ Girls and Women in Sport, Reston, VA ~ Girl Scouts of the USA, New York NY ~ Feminist Majority, Washington DC ~ American Association for University Women, Washington DC ~ Women of All Red Nations, Chicago, IL ~ Women Helping Women, Stoughton, WI ~ Women's Information Bank, Washington DC ~ Camp Fire Girls, Kansas City, MO ~ Human Rights Campaign Fund, Washington DC ~ Maryland School for the Deaf, Columbia, MD ~ Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) ~ National Park Service; Public Affairs Directors across the country notified via email ~ American Camping Association, IN ~ American Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation & Dance, VA ~ New York State Outdoor Education Association ~ National Outdoor Leadership School, WY ~ AmeriCorps ~ Coalition for Education in the Outdoors, NY ~ Becoming an Outdoors Woman, WI ~ Women in Natural Resources, ID ~ National Parks and Conservation Association, VA ~ Lady Footlocker, New York ~ Moving Comfort, VA ~ Road Runner's Club of America, VA ~ National Anti-Violence Project, NY ~ Women's Sports Foundation, NY ~ Alaska Women of the Wilderness ~ America Outdoors, D.C. ~ Camping Women, CA ~ Highlands Inn, NH ~ In-Touch, VA ~

### ***TV / RADIO STATION COVERAGE:***

WWBT - TV, NBC 12, Richmond, VA

Richmond One

WRC - TV, Ch. 4, Washington, DC metropolitan area

WJLN Radio (AM), St. Cloud, MN

TV, Ch. 8, Washington, DC

NOW, TV, Southeastern CT, 4/5/97 (Segment by Women Outdoors, Inc.)

Maryland - MPT (MD Public Television); Fox Ch. 45; Ch. 13; Ch. 2

WINA News Radio, Charlottesville, VA

WUGA 91.7 FM (GA)

WUOG 90.5 FM (GA)

WCAX - TV, Ch. 3 (Vermont)

WVNY - TV, Ch. 22 (Vermont)

### ***NEWSPAPERS / MAGAZINES / NEWSLETTERS***

#### **NEWSPAPERS**

The Washington Post (D.C.)

The Washington Blade, Metropolitan D.C.

Cumberland Times (Allegany County, MD)

Star Tribune, Newspaper of the Twin Cities, MN

Sierra Sun, Truckee, CA

Salt Lake Tribune, SLC, UT

Laramie Daily Boomerang, WY

Associated Press (AP Wire)

Bay Windows, Boston, MA

Gay Community News, Boston, MA

The Christian Science Monitor, Boston MA

Women's Times Great Barrington, MA

Seven Days, Burlington, VT

Burlington Free Press, VT

Hardwick Gazette, VT

Vermont Times, Chittenden County's Newsweekly

Detroit News, Detroit, MI

The Roanoke Times, VA

The Richmond Times, VA

Our Own, Norfolk, VA

New River Free Press, VA

The Womyn's Community Calendar, VA

Daily News Record, Harrisonburg area, VA

Daily Press, Newport News, VA

Virginia Gazette, Williamsburg, VA

Carolina Lesbian News, Charlotte, NC

Carolina Woman, Durham, NC

Triangle Woman, Raleigh, NC

Raleigh N&O, NC

Independent, Durham, NC

Spectator, Raleigh, NC

The Front Page, Raleigh, NC  
Triangle, Sierra Club, Raleigh, NC  
FLAGPOLE (Georgia)  
The Athens Observer (GA)  
Northfield News, MN (Column: "In My Opinion")  
Woodswomen News, Minneapolis, MN  
Ely Timberjay, MN (three editions: Tower, Ely, and Orr)  
Ely Echo, MN  
Duluth News-Tribune (Outdoors & Travel section), MN  
Go West, CO (women's outdoor issues column)  
Outlook, Columbus, OH (GLB newspaper)  
The Columbus Dispatch, OH  
Cincinnati Enquirer, OH  
The Cleveland Plain Dealer, OH  
City Beat, Cincinnati, OH (Alternative newspaper)  
The Northsider, OH  
Everybody's News, OH (Cincinnati alternative newspaper)  
The Columbus Stonewall Journal, OH

**MAGAZINES (sent press kit; most published info, a few noted possible follow up story)**

Cond Nast Sports for Women  
Parks & Recreation (monthly magazine of the National Recreation & Park Association)  
OUT Magazine  
Women's Sports & Fitness  
Backpacker  
Outside  
AMC Outdoors  
Women in Natural Resources  
Others?

**NEWSLETTERS (sent press kit; most published info, a few noted possible follow up story)**

AEE Horizons  
VOICES of Women in Experiential Education (AEE Women's Professional Group newsletter)  
Outdoor Network  
NAAEE Communicator (North American Alliance for Environmental Education)  
National Organization for Women  
Outdoor Recreation Coalition of America News Flash  
Woodswomen News  
People, Land & Water (NPS publication)  
The Ridgeline (Superior Hiking Trail's publication, Northern MN)  
Lesbian Pride (Denver, CO)  
Lavender Express (New Jersey)  
SVGLA (Virginia)  
Sierra Club Generation E  
Women's Outdoor Challenges (Sunapee, NH)  
Lesbian Connection

The Word is Out! Lesbian Voices of Columbus (OH)  
Out in the Mountains (Vermont's Forum for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and transgendered issues)  
Old North End RAG (Newsletter of Wards Two and Three in Burlington, VT)  
GOSSIP (News and Notes from the Burlington Women's Council, VT)  
Peace & Justice NEWS (A publication of the Peace and Justice Center, VT)  
Network News (Newsletter of the VT Network Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault)  
Washington Woman (D.C. area)  
Others?

## ***SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS ESTABLISHED***

A] Woodswomen Scholarships:

a-1] **“Julianne Williams Leadership Award”** --> To support women interested in enhancing their outdoor leadership skills. This award will provide financial assistance for extensive leadership training opportunities.

a-2] **“Women & Kids Scholarship Program”** --> For some women, this assistance allows them to share a special time with their children in a safe supportive outdoor environment. Individuals interested in making a contribution in Lollie's name can donate to this special fund.

Contact Woodswomen staff if you are interested in contributing to their Scholarship Funds, or for information about their membership program:

Peg Lonquist, Executive Director, 25 W. Diamondlake Rd., Minneapolis, MN 55419.  
1-800-279-0555.

B] **“Lollie Winans Scholarship Fund”** --> Lollie was going to work for the Pine Ridge Adventure Center in Vermont during the summer of 1996. The tragedy of the murders also affected the Adventure Center deeply and they have established a Summer Wilderness Scholarship Program in Lollie's name. This will support young girls who would otherwise not be able to afford an opportunity to explore the beauty of wilderness in New England. For more information or to make a donation, contact Matt Bourgault, 802-434-5294.

C] **“Julianne Williams Foundation for Social Justice”** --> This project is associated with Julianne Williams' high school (Cathedral High) in St. Cloud, MN. Students can apply for grants for social justice projects, programs, education, etc. Details currently being worked out (e.g., decisions whether to accept applications from students from other school still in progress).

D] **“Julie Williams Memorial Fund”** --> Established by students and faculty at Carleton College (Julie's alma mater) in Minnesota, this fund is to commemorate Julie's life and beliefs. Rather than select one organization or event, friends and professors decided to establish a fund for student projects that generally promote the things Julie fought for and which her death demonstrates are sorely needed: Social justice, empowerment, education, equality, and self-protection. Note: This fund will provide small grants to Carleton College campus organizations, or individual students with ideas for particular projects or events. Checks should be made payable to: “Carleton College” and mailed to -- The Development Office, c/o Elise Eslinger, One N. College Street, Northfield, MN 55057. (In the memo line of the check, please indicate the money is for the Julie Williams '94 Memorial Fund).

E] **“The Lollie Winans Program”** --> The Hurricane Island Outward Bound School, located on the coast of Maine, is offering a new program for survivors of violence. The program will primarily serve survivors of domestic, sexual and physical violence and is designed to help survivors learn to trust themselves and regain a sense of personal strength. Plans are to offer 5-day wilderness programs. Lollie was majoring in experiential education at Unity College in Maine. She had completed a training program at a rape crisis center in Maine, planned to get involved in a Vermont program primarily working with women survivors of violence, and had hoped to participate on an Outward Bound semester course.

### ***A FEW COMMENTS FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY***

“My fear is ever present but I’m not going to let it stop me.” (Female, from Mass. spending weekend backpacking in VT)

“We know there is an extensive network out there in solidarity around this issue, and we’ll be proud to be part of it.” (Female, Pennsylvania)

“I was so relieved to hear that violence of last summer was not being forgotten, and that there was a national effort to raise consciousness about Julie and Lollie’s deaths as well as about victimization of women in the outdoors in general. For me, on a very significant level it is a memorial service, and I know that no matter what involvement I have with the national organizing of this event, over Memorial Weekend, I will remember, recognize, and educate those I am with.” (Student, Oberlin College, male)

“This initiative is going to educate people and it’s going to scare people. Why should we make women fearful of being in the outdoors?” (Reporter from Salt Lake Tribune, female)

“More than twenty people attended a recent planning meeting for Northfield’s [MN] Take Back the Trails. Most were Carleton students with extensive experience as camp counselors, backpackers, canoeists, hikers and naturalists. I was unpleasantly surprised to find out that about half of these students had either experienced or witnessed harassment while recreating. Many of them want to find out how widespread this kind of violence is and how to prevent it....” (Excerpt from the Northfield News, May 7, 1997, female).

“I’m a less frequent hiker than I used to be in part because of the murder and shooting of Rebecca Wight and Claudia Brenner as well as the abduction and murder of a young woman college student several years ago here in Blacksburg.” (Woman from Blacksburg, VA)

“I have talked about this adventure in church and with other people in the human service field...in particular men. Men need to start talking to men who abuse or violate or murder. Men can become, and need to become part of the solution...power in honest numbers.” (Woman from northern California)

“When I expressed my frustration to my friend about the reluctance of anyone to organize a TBTT group for this campus, she suggested that I could organize something myself. I feel somewhat uncomfortable being the person spearheading a project like this on campus. My gut says that a woman should be in charge. If we are talking about the empowerment of women, what place should men have in this project?” (Male student, college in southern Maryland)

Response 1: “For whatever reason you are the one with the enthusiasm and the knowledge to bring this message to your school. As the \*leader\* of this program, you are responsible for spreading knowledge and excitement. Your task is to generate interest in this topic and bring others into it. Besides, it is not only women that are being harassed, raped, robbed and murdered on the trails. We cannot afford to treat this as a women’s only issue. Fortunately, there is a national group spearheading this effort to give you information and support.” (Response over the internet, male)

Response 2: “I am a woman and I am completely comfortable with men championing women’s issues....These issues are first and foremost human issues and having this project coordinated by SOMEONE is most important. If you’ve got the passion for it, then go for it!” (Response also via internet)

“I want to write a piece about Julie, her death, and the way in which she is STILL bringing people together to take action against injustice in the world. I am thinking about sending it to MS. for a try at publication. What do you think?” (Woman from Albuquerque, NM)

“It was a remarkable weekend -- it reminded us of the power of women and girls together.... it was an event few of us will forget.” (Female from Burlington, VT)

“This Take Back the Trails event provided an opportunity for women to meet other women, learn new skills, and experience the beauty of the Superior Wilderness. Conversations about women on trails, women’s roles in society, safety for all in both wilderness and non-wilderness areas reminded the participants of the larger purpose of the trip. Over 4 days a group of people who had once been unfamiliar to one another shared stories, wisdom, and friendship. The trip was a huge success. Thank you to all who helped publicize this event and who participated in your own way through contributions and getting out on Memorial Day and remembering the women who lost their lives in the wilderness.” (Female outdoor leader/organizer of trip in MN)

“How fortunate we were to have had a wonderful time during the one-year remembrance of such a tragic event. I now hope that our Athens group GROWIN’ can take action on this cause. I feel that I gained a little bit better understanding of what it might take to build a network of STRONG women, after having been involved in TBTT....” (Female student, outdoor leader, UGA)

“I’m not sure if you know exactly what you’ve done for us....you’ve turned something that’s been very frustrating and unresolved into something wonderful and very important. You’ve given Julie’s family and friends a positive outlet to bring awareness and education to other people.....” (Patsy Williams during a conversation with me prior to Memorial Weekend)

“Overall the event was a bittersweet success. It is unfortunate to have an event like “Trails” given the reason for why we are organizing it. Yet it was an extremely empowering piece to the on-going movements toward ending anti-gay violence and violence against women in general...” (Vermont Network Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Abuse, from two women who organized TBTT statewide)

**(7) ASSOCIATION FOR EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION (AEE) INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:** The Grove Park Inn, Asheville, North Carolina, USA. November 23-26, 1997. Join us in the Blue Ridge Mountains as we celebrate 25 years of service to the profession! For more information: Contact the AEE Headquarters in Boulder, 303-440-8844, <info@aee.org>.

**(8) INFO REQUESTED \*\* Reminder \*\* -->** You can still send me information about what you’ve done, details about what you've heard that other people did, etc. And, copies of articles from newspapers or newsletters, and copies of advertising for program/activity happenings during Memorial Weekend would also be appreciated! Also, don’t forget to get me numbers-- if possible from the weekend: How many people went out in your group? (describe the group - if organized program, name of group? Number of men/women? If participation was with friends/family - how many folks? If solo trip, state this also, etc); how many days; location; actual activity you participated in.

**(9) IS TBTT GOING TO BE AN ANNUAL EVENT??** This question has surfaced repeatedly! The answer is NO. TBTT will not be an annual event for the Women’s Professional Group (WPG) of AEE. However, this is not the end, it is just the beginning. We encourage continued grassroots efforts across the country and around the globe....The WPG is available to support the interests, needs and concerns of women in experiential education.... We provide a safe place/space to support, network and mentor each other around the joys, pains and problems we meet as women within our work settings.....The WPG is available as a resource.... We encourage leadership development through workshops, publishing articles, professional group projects... We publish a bi-annual newsletter.....The WPG is engaging in fundraising efforts to offer conference scholarships and fund research for women in experiential education. So, all this to say that the energy and power cultivated from the TBTT initiative must continue with your motivation and efforts to keep the spirit alive. This is a life-long challenge!

**(10) “Women’s Voices in Experiential Education”** -- (1996) edited by our good friend Karen Warren (former Board member of AEE) -- If you haven’t already done so, be sure to purchase your very own copy of this book. A must for your personal library (or as a university course text selection!). This book is a celebration of women’s voices in experiential education and a contribution to the dialogue about gender issues in the profession. The book includes feminist analysis of many topics in experiential education, particularly as it applies to the outdoors and adventure education, as well as practical examples of how women’s experiences can contribute to the field as a whole. To order: Kendall/Hunt Publishing Co., 4050 Westmark Dr., P.O. Box 1840, Dubuque, IA 52004. 1-800-228-0810. International orders call 319-589-1000. AEE members = \$19.00; Non-members = \$23.95

**In closing,** I'd like to share a few words excerpted from the end of a prayer read at the campsite where Julie and Lollie were killed in Shenandoah National Park. A private memorial took place on Monday of Memorial Weekend during a hike with Julianne's family and close friends. This prayer, written by Julianne's Godmother, is titled "Dear God":

".....Help this case to foster goodness and serve to change our world. Where there is intolerance and hatred, let there be growing, understanding and love. Let us work to savor today; embracing the richness of our world given to each of us as a gift.....Let us be grateful for the gift of Julie and Lollie. Thank you for making their lives have meaning. Keep their spirit alive in us and shepherd us O' God beyond our fear and pain. Help us to see the good, O' God, and to trust in your assurance that Julie and Lollie are safe in you. Amen."

Whew! Thanks again for your support! Well, it's been great knowing ya. I look forward to learning about all the continued efforts in support of women outdoors..... get out there and hike the trails, climb the mountains, and canoe the rivers.... cultivate compassion, stay connected with loved ones, and be safe in your journey.

Yours in adventure,  
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