24th Anniversary Reunion Chapter #107 New Hampshire

CCC alumni attendees L-R: Joseph Halpin, Warner, NH; Dick Violette, Warner, NH; Philip Gouzie, S. Portland, ME; Lou Brown, Portland ME; Bill Conary, Plaistow, NH; Dick Carner, Woburn, MA; and Bob Ellis Hollis, NH.

The 24th Anniversary Reunion of N.H. Chapter #107 CCC (Alumni) Legacy was held Saturday, June 14th from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. in the newly named, Alderic O. Violette Pavilion at Catamount Pond in Bear Brook State Park in Allenstown, New Hampshire.

It was a rainy day, with heavy rain early in the morning that discouraged many from traveling. There were 19 persons present: five from Maine, seven from Massachusetts and seven from New Hampshire. Of these, eight of them were former CCC members. The other attendees were: Grace Gouzie, wife of Phil, President of Maine Chapter 111; Nancy and Andres Welch, daughter of Ray Roberts, former Historian for Maine Chapter 111; Tony Nobrega, brother of Vincent Nobrega; Cindy Fernandes, Tony's friend; Laurie Halpin, wife of Joe Halpin; Pat & Joe Dell Isole, Pat is daughter of Bill Conary; Emily Diehl Fairweather & David Diehl, children of Dick Diehl.

The Richard Diehl CCC Museum is in one of the former CCC buildings in Bear Brook State Park. It was dedicated to Dick Diehl, Senior Forester from 1933-1942, in June 1991. This CCC camp site was placed on the National Register of Historic Sites in 1991, and is reported as the most complete set of buildings still standing. (Eight of the original 13 buildings.)

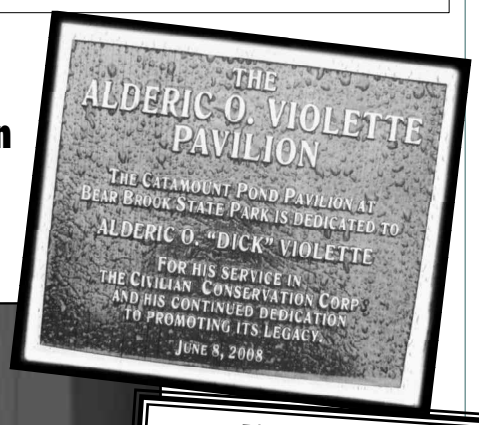
Catamount Pond was dug by the young men of the 1123rd Co. CCC with picks & shovels and wheelbarrows. They occupied the original camp site from October 16, 1935 to October 24, 1938. The young men were transferred to other camps in New Hampshire and replaced that day by the 1107th Veteran Company. Many of these veterans were skilled in quarry and stone work. An old quarry was reopened nearby and they quarried the stone blocks with hard drills and black powder. These blocks were used for construction of two granite stone buildings and a stone arch bridge over the stream in Bear Book State Park. Company 1107-V was the last camp to close in New Hampshire on October 30, 1942.

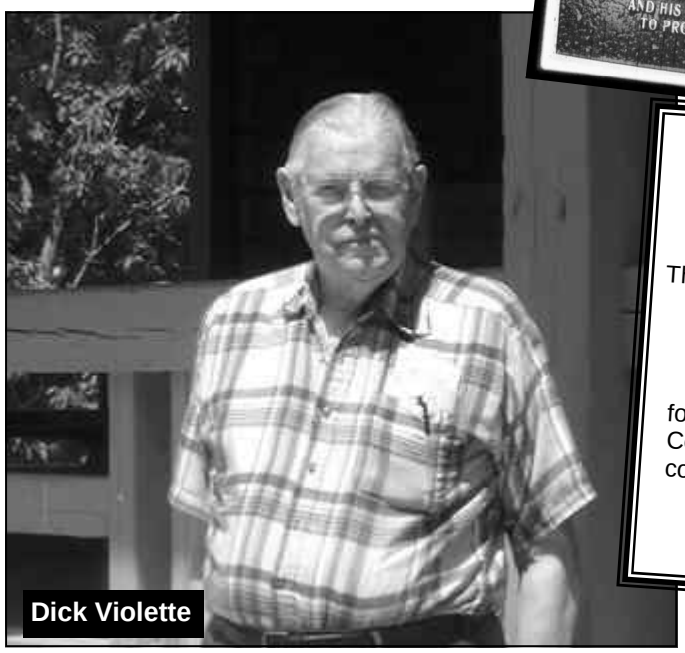
Catamount Pond is used extensively during the summer months for swimming. The pavilion is two story. The beach level has locker/dressing rooms, his and her toilet rooms and a snack shop. The second level is used as a meeting area with large picnic tables. There is a large grass area for picnickers on the grounds near the pavilion. The pavilion was completely renovated during this past year and handicapped access constructed for the second floor level.

The work was just completed this summer and a bronze plaque was placed near the flagpole for the main entrance ramp. A "CCC Worker Statue" was dedicated in this area on September 29, 2001.

75th Anniversary Reunion—

Bear Brook State Park Pavilion Renamed "Alderic O. Violette Pavilion"





Plaque Reads:

The
Alderic O. Violette Pavilion

The Catamount Pond Pavilion at Bear Book state Park is dedicate to
Alderic O. "Dick Violette

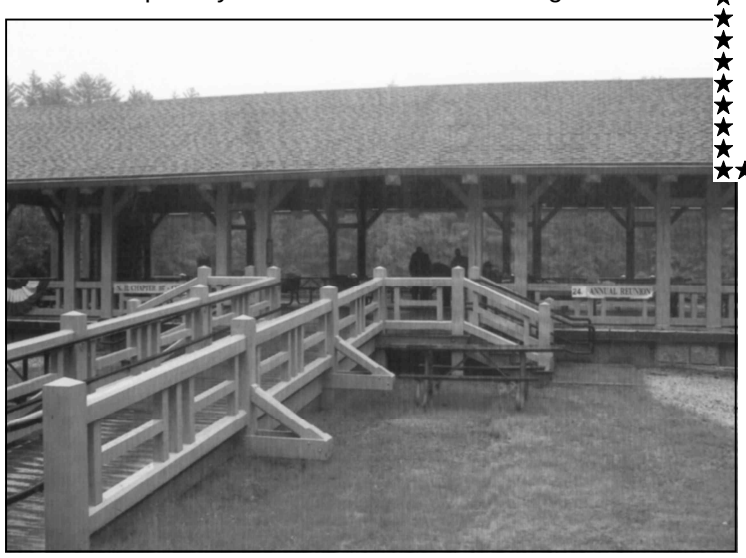
for his service in the Civilian Conservation Corps and his continued dedication to promoting its legacy.

June 8, 2008

During the 75th Anniversary Celebration, June 8, 2008, the pavilion was re-named and dedicated the "Alderic O. Violette Pavilion". Over the years, Dick Violette was recognized for his many year of working on behalf of the CCC alumni as the New Hampshire Chapter 107 Secretary and Historian.

Dick joined the CCC in January 1935 and was assigned to the 160th Co. CCC in Greenville, Maine. He was a member of the cadre from the 160th to go to Warner, NH to establish the 1147th Co. CCC in June 1935. He served as clerk of the works during the construction, then Canteen Steward when the new men arrived in September. He was promoted to Senior Leader in July 1936. He left the 1147th Co. in November 1938 to accept local employment. In 1944 he joined the U.S. Army. He served as a Combat Infantryman in Co. A., 129th Infantry of the 37th Infantry Division of Luzon, Philippines. At war's end he was transferred to the 263rd Ordnance MM Co. on Luzon, where his CCC experience as a Senior Leader helped him become the First Sergeant. He return home in 1946 and later joined the Army Reserves as a Master Sergeant and retired as a Chief Warrant Officer, W-4, in February 1976, due to compulsory retirement for Officers at age 60.

Dick, Special thanks for your years of service to CCC heritage and to Chapter #107



Alderic O. Violette Pavilion displaying new handicap accessible entrance. June 2009