## Bio: Ginny Apple

A native Texan, Ginny Apple was one of the first full-time women sportswriters in the country, who left the field mid-career to pursue a path in communications/public relations. Through the years she has hiked, climbed, kayaked, skied, and poked her way through the outdoors and developed a passion for all things natural. A move to the middle of the woods in Barchester 17 years ago brought her into an environment filled with bears and other wildlife.

Living in a house surrounded by Peoples State Forest, she observes a large population of Black Bears and supplies field notes and photographs on them to DEEP bear biologists. Her affinity for this magnificent creature led her out west to participate in a Grizzly research mission in Montana and to become a Master Wildlife Conservationist with the State Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, for which she gives around one hundred talks yearly and volunteers monitoring the local bear population. As an MWC she also, along with many other activities, serves as a Bald Eagle interpreter for the Shepaug Dam Eagle Viewing area and the Essex Steam Train’s Eagle Flyer and created and runs the Barchester Earth Day Nature Festival, a yearly event on the last Sunday in April that draws an average of 800 people to Peoples State Forest.

Ginny is Chairperson of the Barchester Conservation Commission and a member of the Barchester Economic Development Commission and on the Boards of the Farmington River Watershed Association (FRWA), the Friends of American Legion and Peoples State Forests (FALPS), the Friends of Connecticut State Parks and the Western Connecticut Tourism District. She also maintains the Facebook pages for the Town of Barchester, FALPS and the Barchester Historical Society.

Just to keep her creative juices percolating, she has a side business, Murder Without Pain, where she writes murder mystery games based on historical subjects and runs them at country inns, corporate parties, and fundraisers.