When you turn to Tom Blagden’s photographs all arguments drop away... These pictures of Acadia—from otherworldly vistas to hair’s-breadth close-ups—are so profound and so immediate that you stop for breath.
— David Nolf

Watch for details this summer at www.friendsofacadia.org

FIRST LIGHT
Acadia National Park
A Concert to Benefit Friends of Acadia

SAVE THE DATE:
Saturday, August 27, 8:00 - 9:30 p.m., and
Sunday, August 28, 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.
St. Saviour’s Church, Bar Harbor, Maine
Special reception for members at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday

First Light: An Oratorio with Chorale and String Quintet
Musical Score by Sally Lutyens
Photographic Slides by Tom Blagden, Jr.
Tom Wallace, Music Director; Lee Patterson, Producer

Partners
Friends of Acadia, Island Explorer and L.L.Bean have formed a partnership to preserve and protect Acadia National Park for future generations.

Protect
Acadia National Park with approximately 35,000 acres, includes 41 miles of coastline, 16 islands, more than 200 species of birds, and numerous historic buildings and trails.
Join us in protecting our national parks.

Preserve
Island Explorer is propane powered for cleaner air and a healthier environment.

Participate
Buy a park pass
Your contribution helps:
• rebuild trails and carriage roads
• protect natural and cultural resources
• support the fare-free Island Explorer

Acadia’s coastal landscape provides opportunities for hiking, biking and kayaking
As part of a government overhaul, federal agencies must consider transferring jobs to the private sector. The object is to save money. But outsourcing National Park Service jobs is problematic because park-level deficits are already eliminating uniformed employees. Moreover, units such as Acadia are heavily privatized and there’s not much left to outsource.

In 2004, 62% of Acadia’s 335 full-time-equivalent jobs (FTEs) were done by private contractors, concessions, nonprofit organizations, or volunteers. (One FTE equals one person working a full year, or two people working a half year, etc.) Only 38% of jobs (126 FTEs) belong to Park Service employees.

Private services are appropriate in many cases. But because of past and continuing cuts in uniformed positions, more outsourcing would damage Acadia’s fundamental character and functions. Last year, for example, the number of interpretive programs declined 29%, from 110 to 78 a week, denying educational experiences to 65,000 visitors. Park-goers encountered fewer uniformed employees, called “flat hats” in NPS jargon.

As flat hats continue to disappear, volunteerism will diminish too. Why would anyone donate time to make someone else a profit? Volunteers (6% of all FTEs) love the agency and respect the civil servants who execute its mission at wages ranging from unexceptional at the low end to unspectacular at the high end. If parks become overly privatized, some essence of their spirit will be lost, including the idea embodied in the name National Park Service.

Several Acadia summer positions were cut for budget reasons in 2004. Many restrooms were closed last winter, inconveniencing cold-weather recreationists and creating sanitation problems. Eight permanent jobs are vacant and won’t be filled. More seasonal slots will disappear this summer. The president’s 2006 budget contains an increase for Park Service operations nationwide, and we thank him. However, in many cases the money won’t reach the parks themselves. Mr. Bush may be unaware of this business snag.

Take the 2005 park budget increase, for which Congress and the Interior Department also deserve credit. Mandated employee raises, agency internal assessments, retirement system changes, terrorism alerts, and emergency expenditures consume the new money, producing shortfalls. It’s not clear whether Congress understands the paradox: its well intentioned funding increases are resulting in service reductions at the park level.

Sens. Olympia Snowe and Susan Collins, and Reps. Tom Allen and Mike Michaud have made salutary efforts to remedy the problem at Acadia, but the full Congress is hard to budge. Each Maine delegation member was justly given the National Park Conservation Association’s Friend of the National Parks award.

Charitable grants from Friends of Acadia make possible about 115 non-operational jobs (an estimated 50 FTEs). Pressure is mounting on philanthropies to fund park operating shortfalls. A recent Park Service review in a western national park stated that its supporting nonprofit “should first and foremost raise funds for the [park] superintendents priorities be they a capital improvement project or for operations.”

Let’s be clear: philanthropy’s role is to add value, including for select improvements and programs; but a charity must never subsidize government operating losses or bankroll private businesses. Federal operations are a government duty, period. Park Service Director Fran Mainella, whose tenure has emphasized nonprofit partnerships, vigorously supports
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**BAD NEWS — GOOD NEWS**

A great deal of attention has been placed on national park budgets lately. So how does the National Park Service (NPS) pay for all of the park-related services and work projects at Acadia National Park?

In any given year, funding is comprised of fee revenues, annual operating funds appropriated by Congress, one-time allocations from the Regional Office for smaller maintenance projects, donations, and any special appropriations designated for land acquisition or major construction projects.

The primary source of Acadia’s daily operating funds is called “Operations: National Park Service” (ONPS), and is appropriated by Congress. Each park is allocated a portion of this funding — the annual amount has increased over the years as the costs to operate increase but not always at the same rate.

Each year Congress specifies federal pay increases to keep pace with inflation and to bring federal salaries more in line with the private sector. For our last fiscal year (FY04), Congress mandated a 4.5% salary increase and provided 1% additional funding to parks to help offset these additional costs. In addition, the Regional Office took a 1% “assessment” from each park to cover important regional and national needs. These changes to our budget result in a decrease in “buying power.” In short, to operate at the same level in FY04 required more money than in FY03 because increasing costs outstripped any increase in appropriations. If annual shortfalls occur in more than one year, they accumulate and so do the impacts. Since almost 90% of our annual budget goes for fixed costs such as salaries, any loss of buying power translates into fewer staff hours to protect park resources and serve the public.

**“The best news is the strong public support for Acadia and our national parks in general. Acadia is particularly fortunate to receive extraordinary donations of time and money through the efforts of Friends of Acadia.”**

New parks or major new responsibilities in existing parks — like Acadia’s taking over the former Navy base at Schoodic — also have to compete for limited funding. With today’s very restricted federal budget, it’s increasingly difficult to completely fund new or additional park functions. In the case of Schoodic, Acadia has received funding to cover some of the new operating expenses, but a large portion will have to be funded through other means.

There is some good news to offset the bad. Congress provided an additional 4% funding to each park in FY05 to completely cover cost increases. NPS has fared better in federal funding than many other agencies. The President’s budget for FY06, currently before Congress, proposes a $50 million dollar increase in ONPS (park operations) to be shared proportionally by all parks and in addition, pay increase costs would be covered separately.

But the best news is the strong public support for Acadia and our national parks in general. Acadia is particularly fortunate to receive extraordinary donations of time and money through the efforts of Friends of Acadia, and to have significant fee revenue. In 2004, Acadia kept almost $1.9 million of entrance and camping fees collected at the park. NPS policy generally restricts the use of fee revenue to fund “backlog” maintenance projects and park improvements, rather than routine operations. We cannot use fee revenue to pay for our permanent workforce, but we can use it to pay for temporary workers on projects like trail work, vista clearing, and building improvements.

Most parks do not have “friends” groups as effective as Friends of Acadia. FOA granted nearly $900,000 in FY04 to projects like carriage road maintenance, trail projects, the Acadia Youth Conservation Corps, and several community efforts, with more than $600,000 granted directly to Acadia. In addition, almost 4,000 volunteers donated approximately 40,000 hours (the equivalent of 100 seasonal employees working 10 weeks) to help with park projects and serve visitors.

Volunteers and donors are an important part of maintaining a high quality visitor experience for the nearly 2.5 million people who visit Acadia each year. Developing new partners, achieving more operating efficiencies, and finding new sources of funding will keep Acadia in good shape and a popular source of recreation and inspiration for generations to come.

— Sheridan Steele, Superintendent
Notes from Friends

Constant Change
The following note was sent by a member who joined Friends of Acadia several years ago, when she was 11 years old. She sent the contents of her piggy bank with a note, “I would like to continue this tradition of saving my change and donating it to you every year as long as I live. I almost didn’t want to give you this check because I thought it wasn’t enough, but you have to start somewhere, right?” We’re grateful for her start and dedicated membership. — Editor

Happy Holidays! This is the annual donation of change I’ve collected over the year. Some of it is straight from Yosemite National Park, where I spent the summer. I’m now working for Cadillac Mountain Sports, which I know has a good relationship with your organization, so I’m excited about that. I should mention, my boyfriend pitched in his change this year as well.

—Amy Sprague
Maine

Acadia’s Winter Trails
The following letter was sent to the Acadia Winter Trails Association volunteers — Dirck Bradt, Paul Haertel, Bill Jenkins, Stan MacDonald, and Bob Massucco — who laid ski tracks for cross-country skiing along 25 miles of Acadia’s carriage roads this past stormy, frigid winter. — Editor

Well, guys, you’ve done it again. You’ve provided us ski enthusiasts with another great season here on the Acadia carriage roads. And it was a great ski season with lots of beautiful snow! We really appreciate your dedication to frequent grooming. What a difference it makes for excellent skiing.

Upper Hadlock and the Amphitheater loops were lovely and we had some wonderful Round-the-Mountain trips this time, one a bit of a challenge after Bob got stuck on the north side!

Thank you, thank you, thank you for making our winter snow season such an enjoyable one. We are so grateful.

—Mary Allen and Doug Monteith
Maine

Thanks! You provide the most unique skiing experience on the East Coast!

—John Bernardin
Maine

(President’s Column, continued from page 1)
that philosophy. The agency needs to make sure its employees understand it.

In the words of David Rockefeller, Jr., whose family’s gifts helped establish Acadia and other national parks, Americans “need to have assurances that their private dollars will not be used to offset public responsibilities...I refer to this distinction as the ‘bright line’.”

President Bush has a great deal of business acumen. We urge him to apply the proper management fix to the cash delivery malfunction. This would honor the bright line, expand charitable giving, favor a prudent mix of public and private jobs, and ultimately reverse park-level deficits. The president can accomplish this by proposing, and ensuring that Congress appropriates, an annual funding margin that exceeds the exactions that will otherwise eliminate it.

[President’s Column, continued from page 1]
**WAITING FOR THE MAPLE TO LEAF OUT**

First there is the premonition of green.
Imposed over bare branches in the
Still April air, exuded by memory
And will, oozing through small scars.
Next there is the idea of green
Swirling currents of expected color
Disturbing the air. Tugging impatiently
At stubborn buds. A cloud without form.
Then there is the aura of green
A crown floating. A gift not quite given.
Finally there is the reality of green
Each leaf an epiphany opening
Into spaces barely able to contain them
 Redeeming desire. Exchanging the
Wish for the open act.
First there is the premonition of love...

Nathan M. Simon

---

**Memorial**

**FRANCES WILLIAMS**
1913-2005

With sadness we mark the passing of Mrs. Frances Goodrich Williams. In 2001, Mrs. Williams and her daughter, Susan Oblinger, granted Friends of Acadia permission to build the Great Meadow Loop trail on their properties. Friends of Acadia presented its Community Preservation Award to both women in 2002 for their “tangible commitment to the people of Mount Desert Island and Bar Harbor; their outstanding gift of two trail rights to establish the new Great Meadow Loop across private lands; and their sense of history in enabling the reconnection of the famed Jesup Path to Acadia National Park.”

Mrs. Williams had a vision for the future, as well. In 2001, she granted a conservation easement on her farm, one of Bar Harbor’s last remaining in-town farms, preserving the fields, forest, and orchards that provide invaluable habitat for deer, fox, coyotes, beaver, and migratory songbirds.

All who take the Great Meadow Loop into Acadia, winding through woods beside an old farm with breath-stopping views of Dorr and Cadillac Mountains, benefit from the commitment and generosity of Mrs. Frances Williams.

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**IN MEMORIAM**

We gratefully acknowledge gifts received in the name of:

- Lou Anreoli
- Annette Axtmann
- Grace Bakalian
- Kary Bakalian
- Robert Brown
- Jane Caldwell
- Jennifer Carter
- Carlyle Cochran
- Kitzi and David Crofoot
- Dorothy H. Craig
- Michael Curlatu
- Dissy Denton
- LaRue C. Flegal
- Brigitte Fortier
- Ellie D. Frailey
- Mary and Laurence Godfrey
- Alfred Hand
- Virginia Hart
- Jeremy William Head
- Betty Hess
- Claude R. Hicks
- Joan Reed Hudson
- Sandra Johnson
- F. Peter Jordan
- Kel and Abbi, who loved Acadia
- Cooper E. King
- Ruth I. Knepper
- Eric Lindermayer
- Christopher Maer
- Betty and Don Meiklejohn
- Arnold Michelson
- Bobby Mickschutz
- Robert J. Miller
- Nicene Pascal
- Mary Ellis Pelz
- The Rev. and Mrs. P. Perkins
- Mary Pizzimenti
- Kate Quesada
- Henry T. Reath
- Marsha Schaan
- Thomas G. Sheets
- Dr. Warner F. Sheldon
- Stanley Shiner
- Beauchamp and Josephine Smith
- Carol Smith
- Henry Smith
- Dick Stewart
- Barbara Tyson
- Patricia F. Wagner, “Patsy”
- James Wooster
- Brandy, dog and best friend

**IN NOMINE**

We gratefully acknowledge gifts received in the memory of:

- Dr. and Mrs. David Babbott
- Dick Cossaboon
- Jane Emery
- Dianna Emory
- Emmi
- Andy and Lois Fisher
- Helen Goodhue
- Alfred Hand
- Amanda Law
- Karen Michelson
- Ken Olson
- George Peabody
- John T. Roberts
- Patricia Scall
- Rosemary Steele
- Gevrie, Phoebe, and Robbie Stone
Had John Godfrey Moore not died prematurely at age fifty-one, the wildly beautiful Schoodic Point might be a very different place today. As it happened, after Moore’s death his heirs began spending their time away from their summer places in Winter Harbor and it was not until 1922, some twenty years after his death, that George Dorr was able to make arrangements to acquire Schoodic for the park. By then Moore’s somewhat younger second wife, Louise, had remarried and Moore’s daughters were living in England, one married to Viscount Lee and the other, a spinster, living near her sister. The contact between Dorr and Louise Leeds was a casual one, made while both were having supper at the Jordan Pond House, but the result was that Dorr was able to set the wheels in motion for the eventual land acquisition.

At the time of his death, however, Moore had vastly different plans for Schoodic Point. John Godfrey Moore came from modest beginnings. He was born in Steuben, Maine, the son of Captain Henry D. and Maria (Godfrey) Moore. The young Moore took whatever schooling he had at the local common schools, and spent one year at nearby Cherryfield Academy. When he was 18, he went to New York and entered into employment as a clerk in the lumber dealership of Thomas Mahew and Wilson Godfrey, his uncle. At age 21, Moore started his own lumber business and prospered almost immediately. In company with a partner named John Evans, he executed several important contracts with the War Department, including piers and breakwaters at Buffalo, New York, and Cleveland, Ohio, as well as dredging projects along the Delaware River.

In 1880, he and Evans went into the fast-developing telegraph business, founding the Mutual Union Telegraph Company and constructing lines to rival Western Union. Their intentions were to lease their lines to businesses by day and to newspapers by night. Before all their plans could be realized Evans died and Moore, as the new president, led the company into one of the biggest competitive wars in the history of telegraphy. The outcome was that Western Union was forced to lease Mutual Union lines. Moore and his associates realized vast profits from the deal. Moore was subsequently elected to the Western Union board of directors.

After living some years abroad, Moore returned to New York as the head of the brokerage firm Moore and Schley, also acquiring large interests in Chase Manhattan Bank and several railroads. After the panic of 1893, he invested $25,000 of his own money in a case to defeat a new federal income tax law. The Supreme Court ruled in his favor and the law was defeated, at least for the time being.

All during his career, he maintained his interest in and loyalty to the rural section of Maine from which he sprang. He became involved in the plan to develop Grindstone Neck in Winter Harbor and built himself one of the largest cottages there, which he called “Far From the Wolf.” He purchased hundreds of acres of forest and islands in the vicinity, including Schoodic Point. He built Schoodic Drive, the first carriage road on the point, which wound from his newly-built bridge at Frazer Creek, along the bold, rocky shores to the salt ponds and Devil’s Anvil. His road also climbed to the summit of Schoodic Head, a favorite spot, reputedly, because from there
he could see all the way to his native Steuben and beyond. He had plans to build a grand hotel at the summit, and supposedly had ideas for the further development of the rest of Schoodic. He died, however, before these plans could be brought to fruition. Apparently his heirs were not as enamored of the area as he was, although his daughter Faith did maintain a summer home on Grindstone for several years afterward.

The day after Moore’s death, an article appeared in the Bar Harbor Record quoting a previous interview with him concerning his acquisition of Schoodic Point and the islands and of the pleasure he realized from building the first substantial road on the point. He stated that he had acquired the land because of its beauty, noting that there was nothing he admired more than a mountain, “especially when an ocean goes with it.” Also, he explained, he had enjoyed the experience of Yankee trading with the previous landowners, and he thought that it would be a good investment considering what was being developed in Bar Harbor at the time. The road, he said, was built for his own pleasure and convenience, but also as an object lesson in economy for the local authorities. He felt that they could repeat his successes in the public roads all over the area. Moore said, “[The road] is nine miles long and I enjoyed every foot of it…. It did me and my family as much good as a trip to Europe and didn’t cost any more. Besides, it gave employment to a large number of people who need the money.” While it may have seemed arrogant of him to assume that he could teach the locals how to build roads, any hard feelings the statement may have provoked was probably defused with his sincere efforts to create jobs and to aid the local economy.

After Moore died on June 27, 1899, concurrent services were held in New York City and at St. Christopher’s-by-the-Sea in Winter Harbor. Bedford Tracy, a young Winter Harbor attorney who was a local associate of Moore’s, elaborately eulogized him at the Grindstone service and concluded with the words, “The fragrance of his acts of kindness perfumes his sepulcher, and he must live on, embalmed by our love and garlanded with our affection. The cold marble bears in mockery many a name forgotten but for the letters chiseled on its icy slab. It cannot be so with the name of John G. Moore, which is chiseled on the tablets of too many hearts to need the aid of marble or bronze to perpetuate it.”

Nevertheless, Acadia National Park has placed a bronze tablet in his memory at the overlook on Big Moose Island. Also in his honor, in 1937 the name of the road which runs from the village south to the bridge at Frazer’s Creek was officially, albeit belatedly, changed by the people of Winter Harbor from Schoodic Street to the Moore Road.

ALLAN SMALLIDGE is a native of Winter Harbor and a graduate of the University of Maine. After a career teaching high school English both in Maine and in Massachusetts public schools, he returned to Winter Harbor to serve as Town Manager for fourteen years, until retiring in 1998.

Foresight & Generosity

Preserving and protecting those things that we all hold dear — our quality of life, a distinctive heritage, and the integrity of Mount Desert Island’s natural wonders — is a wise investment. You can help protect Acadia forever.

It’s simple. Add only one of the following sentences to your will, or a codicil:

1. I hereby give ______% of my residuary estate to Friends of Acadia, Inc., a Maine charitable corporation, P.O. Box 45, Bar Harbor, Maine 04609, for its charitable purposes.

2. I hereby bequeath $_________ to Friends of Acadia, Inc., a Maine charitable corporation, P.O. Box 45, Bar Harbor, Maine 04609, for its charitable purposes.

3. I hereby devise the following property to Friends of Acadia, Inc., a Maine charitable corporation, P.O. Box 45, Bar Harbor, Maine 04609, for its charitable purposes: [legal description of property].

For more information, contact Lisa Horsch at 1-800-625-0321, email her at lisahorsch@friendsofacadia.org, or visit our website at www.friendsofacadia.org.
ACADIA STATE PARK?
On January 24, Friends of Acadia President Ken Olson testified before the Maine Legislature’s Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government, about L.D. 73, a bill to prohibit new federal land in Maine and direct state agencies to recommend procedures for transferring to the state all U.S.-owned land “not specifically authorized in the United States Constitution.”

Pointing out that Acadia was donated as a federal park, Olson questioned the legality and negative public relations consequences of a forcible takeover by the state. He estimated the costs of Acadia’s land, annual operations, and construction/capital improvements at $3 billion for the first ten years of state ownership and characterized the idea as a “fantasy taking.” The bill was introduced by Rep. Henry Joy (R-Crystal), who in testimony voluntarily withdrew the takeover proposal.

MAINE LAND BOND
Friends testified in Augusta in favor of a $75-million bond for the Land for Maine’s Future (LMF) program (L.D. 800). The bond would reestablish a funding stream for land or easement acquisition. Since inception, LMF has conserved more than 192,500 acres and secured an average $2.40 match for each state dollar spent. The program has protected several properties near Acadia National Park. The Legislature has not yet recommended a final bond package for voters to consider.

U.S. SENATE ACTION
On the federal side, Friends Conservation Director Stephanie Clement testified on February 17 before the Senate Subcommittee on National Parks regarding implementation and technical amendments to the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act, passed as part of the Omnibus Appropriations legislation last fall. The law contained provisions to establish a national pass program that allows purchasers to enter all federal lands, including national parks. Invited to testify by committee chairman Senator Craig Thomas (R-Wyo.), Clement spoke in favor of involving the National Park Foundation in administering the pass program, allowing parks to retain no less than 80% of fees collected on site, along with any transit fees, and allowing parks to recover the cost of collection from the fee revenues.

These activities are part of Friends’ goal to preserve and protect Acadia National Park and the surrounding communities. If you would like to become more involved, join the Acadia Advocacy Network by contacting Stephanie Clement at stephanie@friendsofacadia.org or (207) 288-3340.

— Stephanie Clement

Heart of the Matter
We must handle the woods, the water, the grasses so that we will hand them to our children and our children’s children in better and not worse shape than we got them.

— President Theodore Roosevelt
Each year, on the last Saturday in April, Friends of Acadia sponsors the Earth Day Roadside Clean Up, working with local businesses and individual volunteers to clean up along our roadsides. In mid-April 2002, Julie Hall heard about the clean up event, and knew it was something she wanted to see happen in Trenton. With a fast approaching deadline, she enlisted her family and recruited her neighbors to pick up trash along the Goose Cove Road. As she remembers that first effort, “We could not believe how much stuff was thrown out on the roads. I was amazed — and stinking lame from all the bending.” A challenge to prepare for the next year.

Julie is an involved resident and parent — volunteering with the Acadian Football League and serving on the Trenton Parent Teacher Community Group — but that first year’s effort deepened her understanding of the importance of this particular volunteer effort. “My daughter and I were picking up trash along Rte. 204 on that windy, cold Saturday morning,” she said. “The wind gust ed and dust blew all around us, and some got into my daughter’s eye. She rubbed and rubbed, and I looked at it but couldn’t see anything. Anyway, I finally had to take her to the eye doctor, and he removed a small bit of plastic from her eye. He said that when plastic gets run over and over it breaks down and blows around like dust. What we throw out on the roads is more than just mess. It affects us in so many ways.”

Since 2002, Julie has been the driving force behind the Earth Day event in Trenton. In 2003 she measured the miles of state road in town, discovered there are only 20 miles (“only” 20 miles), and began planning how to get them all cleaned up for the next roadside clean up. She recruits her neighbors and friends, elementary school students and parents, and high school students. She has expanded the effort in Trenton to meet volunteers’ schedules — she will pick up trash with volunteers the day before and/or after that last April Saturday and arranges work earlier on the “official” clean up day to beat traffic on Rte. 3. Julie uses incentives — she points out the spare change just waiting to be picked up, sorted, and “returned” and the hours of required school community service that can be met by joining in the volunteer effort.

Over the past four clean up efforts, Trenton volunteers have removed more than 600 bags of trash from their roadsides. “You can drive along,” Julie said, “and see that there’s something here and there, but when you walk you see that there’s more than something — there’s a lot lying out along the roads.”

Anyone who has cleaned up a mile or so of roadside generally can’t drive that same stretch of road without noting the latest coffee cup in the ditch, or the plastic sheet flapping against a tree trunk, or the styrofoam square half in the ditch water. As Julie said, “Whenever I see someone chuck something into the back of their pick up, I just want to tell them to go ahead and throw it on the road. That’s where it’ll blow out to anyway.” That’s one reason that recruiting students, and neighbors, and family, and fellow employees is so important. Trash gets picked up, and caretakers are created — individuals who care if litter blows out, is thrown out, or gets dumped out on the road, making its way into our larger environment.

In 2004, Friends of Acadia presented Julie Hall with its Excellence in Volunteerism Award for her “spirited contributions to a physically cleaner region; her tireless work to inspire kids to improve their neighborhood environments; and her magical way of instilling in them the highest, most durable values of public service.”

“In 2004, Friends of Acadia presented Julie Hall with its Excellence in Volunteerism Award for her ‘spirited contributions to a physically cleaner region; her tireless work to inspire kids to improve their neighborhood environments; and her magical way of instilling in them the highest, most durable values of public service.’”

— Marla S. O’Byrne

Special Person

JULIE HALL
A group of more than two dozen volunteers gathered last November at Acadia National Park to discuss ways to celebrate and carry on the legacy of the “Father of Acadia,” George Bucknam Dorr (1853-1944). Since Mr. Dorr was a bachelor, there are no descendants to keep his memory alive and the few publications about the early history of the park have not sustained public interest.

The committee, calling itself The Spirit of Acadia, shares the common goal of drawing attention to the achievements of Acadia National Park’s founders — George B. Dorr, Charles W. Eliot, and John D. Rockefeller, Jr.


Volunteers gathered again in January 2005, with Ron Beard from the University of Maine Extension Service facilitating discussions. The brainstorming session led to the creation of several sub-committees exploring efforts related to: land conservation and stewardship, education and exhibitions, publications, and trails and the Dorr Old Farm. Each sub-committee is working on both short-term and long-term ideas that will promote awareness of the founders’ roles in the history of Acadia and MDI.

Spirit of Acadia projects under consideration include:

- “George Dorr” riding in an antique car in Bar Harbor 4th of July Parade;
- A brochure outlining the history of Acadia’s early days and founders;
- Displays in museums and libraries describing the efforts of Acadia’s first philanthropists and visionaries;
- An essay contest for island school children, encouraging research into Dorr’s contribution to the island; and
- A project studying water quality of Frenchman Bay and the lakes and ponds on MDI.

Long term plans are being considered, as well, including:

- A self-guided trail at Old Farm with brochures, maps, and signs explaining the property history and George Dorr’s role in forming Acadia;
- A permanent museum housing Dorr artifacts and a scale model of Old Farm;
- A biography of George Dorr, currently being written by Dr. Ronald Epp, co-chairman of The Spirit of Acadia; and
- Restoration of the Sieur de Monts area and the Dorr monument at the foot of Dorr Mountain, already planned by the park.

The Spirit of Acadia Committee currently meets every other month at Park Headquarters on the Eagle Lake Road. Anyone interested in participating in this project may contact Dr. Ronald Epp, Southern New Hampshire University, 2300 North River Road, Manchester, NH 03106-1049 or Mrs. Alice Long, P.O. Box 743, Bar Harbor, ME 04609.

ALICE MACDONALD LONG, co-chairman of The Spirit of Acadia Committee, grew up in suburban Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She served in the WAVES as a Hospital Corpsman in the United State Navy during the Korean Conflict. She married a Pennsylvania State Park Superintendent and, following his death, married an ornithologist who taught science at Mount Desert Island High School. With the help of both her husbands, she developed both knowledge and love of the outdoors, especially through hiking the trails of Acadia and camping. She has lived on MDI for the past 26 years, continuing her interest in the park by volunteering and serving on the Acadia Advisory Commission. A genealogist, Alice has edited Vital Records Of Mount Desert Island, Maine; Marriage Records Of Hancock County, Maine; Marriage Records Of Washington County, Maine; and was Associate Editor of Maine Families In 1790, Volume II.

It is an opportunity of singular interest, so to develop and preserve the wild charm and beauty of this unique spot on our Atlantic coast that future generations may rejoice in it yet more than we. But I trust it will be recognized that what we have now achieved is a beginning only and that our needs are many.

— George B. Dorr, The Story of Acadia National Park
ISLAND MONITORING

Catherine Schmitt

Garbage on the beach, sodden toilet paper, and beer-can littered campfires are not what one wants to see in the wilderness. This holds true on the thousands of uninhabited islands that dot the Maine coast. Some islands are just a tuft of trees clinging to rocks, others are acres in size, but they all have a wild and rugged character that calls us to their shores. To land on a Maine island is to feel like a 15th century explorer, scrambling over rocks, climbing cliffs, and wandering through fields and woods. But islands are more fragile than they seem. Exploring takes its toll on unique island ecosystems.

Recreational activity on state-owned islands increased by 50 percent between 1996 and 2003, prompting the Maine Island Trail Association and the Bureau of Public Lands, which oversee activity on the Maine Island Trail, to recommend science-based monitoring of recreational impacts. The National Park Service owns about 15 outer islands around Acadia and has a growing interest in monitoring island use. In response to this need, the Island Monitoring Task Force was created in 2004.

Last summer the task force, coordinated by Natalie Springuel of Maine Sea Grant, began a pilot monitoring project on three islands, including Long Island in Blue Hill Bay. Acadia has held an easement on 4,460 acres of Long Island since 1995. “The park’s islands don’t experience the heavy use of islands to the south,” says Charlie Jacobi, recreation specialist with the park, “mostly because they are further away from population centers and have less camping.” Backcountry camping traditionally hasn’t been managed by the Park Service because they focused on the heavily used areas on the mainland, but that’s changing. “I know we are going to manage island recreational use more intensively,” says Jacobi, “and having baseline data before we begin to manage is ideal.”

With more visitors, the park’s natural areas are vulnerable to human impacts beyond just litter. There are other, more subtle impacts that Springuel’s group is attempting to monitor, effects like campsite expansion, erosion and soil compaction, tree damage, and footpaths. The project is developing monitoring methods that are science-based, island-specific, and standardized so they can be used by managers and volunteers.

Studying recreation-related impacts on natural areas is still a fairly new science, and even less is known about impacts on coastal islands. “Much of the literature that exists is for large wilderness areas where the use area is concentrated,” says Springuel, “but impacts on islands are dispersed because people tend to roam across the whole island.” Islands are also unique because habitats with different sensitivities overlap, including intertidal areas and sandy banks. “The intertidal zone represents a particularly complicated environment because it is difficult to distinguish between human and natural impacts,” says Springuel.

Last summer Springuel, Jacobi, and a volunteer took measurements on Long Island to experiment with different monitoring methods and to establish a baseline of information on impacts, so managers can make informed decisions about resource use.

At almost five miles long and two miles wide, Long Island is the largest island in Blue Hill Bay and one of the largest undeveloped islands on the Maine coast. It has a long history of human habitation and recreational use, beginning in the late 1700s. Today, there are a few private homes on the western side of the island and campsites on the eastern side. The easement prohibits commercial use, so kayak guides and other tours are not allowed to land there. Visitors to Long are more likely to be local residents, people who have been visiting for generations. Most aren’t aware that the Park Service is the responsible land owner, or that they might meet up with an enforcement officer. Stuart West, assisted by the Town of Blue Hill, enforces easement restrictions and park regulations on the outer islands, but education about Leave No Trace principles and camping rules comes first.

The park is charged with preserving and protecting ecological, scenic, and cultural resources on Long Island, while at the same time providing public access. “It’s a balancing act,” says Jacobi, “and monitoring will help managers ensure that the island remains forever wild.” I think 50 years from now people will be pretty glad Long Island was preserved and is still available for use.”

Volunteers are needed this summer. Contact Natalie Springuel, Marine Extension Associate, Maine Sea Grant, College of the Atlantic, Bar Harbor 207-288-3015 x298, nspringuel@coa.edu.

Catherine Schmitt is a science writer at the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Environmental and Watershed Research and Maine Sea Grant at The University of Maine.
Poem

SUSPENDED

There was a fold we slipped into in sleep, a crease in the week's cloth, missed by machine, so that the day opened unstamped by grief,

and we woke to sunlight buttering the bed, birds' aural jet streams, and leaves as full of themselves as they ever are. We climbed

the side of the day. Its scarlet tanager, seldom seen, sang in a hornbeam, shone like a bright button on tweed. We climbed

until we saw the bay's silk shimmering and islands suspended in air, then slid down the hours as the sky rumbled and grayed.

While rain laid blue irises to the ground, we tucked between sheets and half slept, spine to spine at the seam. Rain wet the sill, wind

blew the curtains in. And the sky ripped and groaned as though something were about to be torn out of the long afternoon.

— Elizabeth Tibbetts

ELIZABETH TIBBETTS received a Maine Arts Commission Fellowship, and her book, In the Well (2003), won the Bluestem Poetry Prize. She lives in Hope, Maine.
We’re pleased to welcome the newest Friends to join our efforts to protect Acadia National Park and the surrounding communities:

Steven Albert, NY
Clifford Andreasen, ME
Jane and Tom Babbitt, ME
Glenn Bayfield, ME
Cheryl Becker, NH
John Bernardin, ME
Barrett Browd, CT
Krista Cheney, VT
Margaret Collamorecampbell, ME
Vicky Copelton, NC
George Corbin, WA
Tom Craven, ME
Jason Crawford, NH
Hank and Beth Van deWater, PA
Tom Doolittle, MA
Eastern Maine Camera Club, ME
Richard Eichenberg, ME
Virginia Farley, VT
Georgia-Pacific Corporation, FL
Luke and Sharon Griffin, NC
Nancy Holtje and Thomas Hageman, MA
Arthur Horsch, VA
Lisa Horsch and Bob Clark, ME
J.B. Howard, ME
Jewish Federation of Cincinnati, OH
Michael and Jean Johnson, ME
Jonnie Joseph, PA
Timothy Kannally and Jennifer Ray, MA
David and Becky Keefe, ME
Douglas C. Kimmel, ME
Karen Knuuti, ME
Franklyn Kraus, NY
Amanda Law, NY
John and Tricia Law, ME
Christopher Leighton, ME
Wendy Lessard, ME
Theodore Mason, NY
M.J. McIsaac and Trisha Rhodes, ME
William Memmer, OH
Tracey A. Merrill, ME
James W. Michel, MD
Jeff and Susan Moeller, MA
Howard Monroe, ME
Rosemary Mullin and Tom Friedman, MA
Denny O’Brien, ME
Helen D. Orr, CT
Anne D. Osborne, ME
Terry and Janice Overton, MA
Susan Perry, MA
Ignacio Pessoa and Anne McGurk, VA
Marianne Ray, ME
Peter and Phyllis Rees, ME
Frances J. Rhodes, ME
Teresa and Philip Roberts, ME
Schoodic Futures
Mark J. Shulkosky, PA
Anna E. Silver, ME
Rosemary Steele, OH
Charlotte Stetson and Lesley Straley, VT
David and Patricia Thomas, NH
Joanne and Paul Thomann, ME
Kim Tomlinson, PA
Wachovia Matching Gifts Program, NJ
Geraldine Wagner, NY
Matt Warren, PA
Wayne and Judy Worrell, PA
Matthew and Christine Worthern, ME

January 1 – April 30, 2005
During blustery Maine winters, people—bundled tightly against the cold—appear only briefly along the coast. Not so for the sturdy purple sandpiper (*Calidris maritima*), which gathers in flocks along wave-exposed rocky shores to feed on mussels, amphipods, and other intertidal invertebrates. These stocky, grayish-brown birds winter along the northeast Atlantic coast from Newfoundland to Virginia, the most northerly wintering distribution of any shorebird. Because little is known about their ecology and distribution in Maine, biologists Glen Mittelhauser of the Maine Natural History Observatory, Lindsay Tudor of the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, and Bruce Connery of Acadia National Park launched an initial three-year study in 2001.

The study was designed to assess seasonal movements and site fidelity, determine abundance and distribution, and estimate sex and breeding origin of wintering purple sandpipers from the Schoodic Peninsula to western Penobscot Bay. Researchers used a variety of methods, including analysis of historic records, boat and shore-based surveys, capturing and banding, standard body measurements, dissection, DNA testing, and computer modeling.

Purple sandpipers were present in the study area from mid-October to mid-May. The birds gathered in flocks averaging more than 70 birds. The largest observed flock contained approximately 900 birds. Fourteen locations had flocks of more than 250 birds. The Isle au Haut area included the greatest number of islands with more than 250 birds, as well as the greatest number of birds per kilometer of shoreline surveyed (16.6 birds/km). Using data from boat and shore-based surveys, researchers estimated the minimum winter population from Schoodic to western Penobscot Bay to be 7,150–7,650 birds.

Male and female purple sandpipers differ in body size. Because females are larger in all morphological measurements (e.g., weight or first secondary feather length), researchers were able to use body measurements to predict the sex of 89 males and 40 females.

Morphological measurements have been used in past studies to propose the recognition of three subspecies of purple sandpiper (*C. maritima*): *C.m. belcheri*, which breeds in Canada’s eastern Hudson Bay; *C.m. maritima*, which breeds in northern Canada, Greenland, and northern Europe; and *C.m. littoralis*, which breeds in Iceland. Researchers have suggested, based on body measurements and recovery of wintering birds banded in New...
Brunswick, that at least some of the birds wintering in eastern North America are part of the Hudson Bay population (C.m. belcheri). Although some wintering birds in the study area were found to be part of the Hudson Bay population, the majority of birds (80% of both males and females) were classified as C.m. maritima, breeding in northern Canada or northern Europe. The remaining 20% of males were classified as C.m. belcheri. The remaining 20% of females were divided between C.m. belcheri (10%) and C.m. littoralis (10%).

This study revealed insights that can be used to help conserve and manage this at-risk species. Purple sandpipers are particularly vulnerable along the northeast Atlantic coast. The Hudson Bay and northern Canada/northern Europe populations were classified as “Species of High Concern” in the 2001 U.S. Shorebird Conservation Plan because of their small population size and potential threats to the wintering population at key wintering sites.

Preliminary results of a Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife hazardous spill analysis demonstrated that purple sandpiper habitats in Maine are located in areas with a high vulnerability to oil or other hazardous material spills. Because of similar threats in the rest of their wintering range along the northeast Atlantic coast, the North Atlantic Regional Shorebird Plan has made it a priority to identify and protect purple sandpiper winter habitats along the east coast.

The purple sandpiper distribution outlined in this study has been used to determine key areas essential to the survival of the wintering population, which will help guide the species’ conservation in Maine. The inclusion of key areas in the Maine Oil Spill Contingency Plan helps the U.S. Coast Guard determine where to focus response if an oil spill occurs along the coast. An analysis of the land ownership of these key areas has resulted in a listing of top priorities for purchase or establishment of conservation easements by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, Maine Coast Heritage Trust, and other environmental agencies and organizations.

This study provides a first step toward understanding the ecology and winter requirements of purple sandpipers in Maine, but questions remain. The breeding origin of wintering birds needs to be confirmed. Contrary to previous assumptions, this initial investigation concluded that only a small percentage of birds wintering in Maine were part of the Hudson Bay population. Additional assessments are necessary to determine whether subspecies percentages are consistent, cyclic, or irregular. The research team also has questions about the fidelity of birds to specific sites, and whether fidelity is influenced by age, sex, or flock size. In addition, researchers must confirm that morphological measurements can be used to identify all three subspecies and to serve as an adequate predictor of sex. Upcoming studies should provide the answers to these questions, allowing wildlife managers to continue working toward the conservation of purple sandpipers in Maine and elsewhere along the northeast Atlantic coast.

— Ginny Reams

GINNY REAMS is the writer-editor at Acadia National Park.

During winter, purple sandpipers gather in flocks along wave-lashed rocky shores along the northeast Atlantic Coast.

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We create the world in which we live; if that world becomes unfit for human life, it is because we tire of our responsibility.
— Cyril Connolly

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After grossing over $400,000 last year, the term “don’t mess with success” has taken on a whole new meaning for our 2005 Gala Committee. How to keep the Friends of Acadia Benefit Gala, a 16-year island tradition, fresh and exciting was the prime topic this past winter. Well, timing is everything.

Friends of Acadia recently joined representatives from island historical societies, libraries, museums, the Beatrix Ferrand Society, the College of the Atlantic, Acadia National Park, the Wild Gardens of Acadia, and the Woodlawn Museum to work collaboratively on efforts celebrating “the Spirit of Acadia.” The goal is to raise awareness of the foresight and legacy of notable Acadia founders, several of whom are featured in the photograph above.

The 2005 Gala theme incorporates the history of Acadia and its founders, particularly George Bucknam Dorr, also referred to as the “Father of Acadia.” We’ve received donated items and pledges fitting the Dorr theme, including:

- A guided hike of a trail designed by Dorr, led by Acadia National Park trail crew
- A Dorr-related antique from Michael Graves of Michael Graves Antiques
- Several copies of Dorr’s memoir, *The Story of Acadia National Park*, which a handful of gala attendees will receive as a door prize

Gala tree sponsors will help with the reconstruction of “George Dorr’s Mother’s Path.” Sponsored trees will provide a scenic buffer along this village trail connecting to Old Farm, Dorr’s family home. The gala catalog will provide brief histories of the park and its founders. And, for those who want to have a little fun with history, Dorr-themed cocktails might be on offer. Could we pour you a “Dorr-on-the Rocks,” or a “Dorr-tini,” or how about a Dorr-jito?

The Committee is grateful to Ed Darling, owner of Downeast Toyota of Brewer, for his generous pledge of a 2005 Prius for the Gala. Friends commends Ed and Downeast Toyota for this significant donation — a demonstration of continued support of our mission, and a contribution toward the ultimate betterment of Acadia National Park. Other items can be previewed by visiting our website at www.friendsofacadia.org and choosing the benefit gala link on the side bar.

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The auction committee welcomes donations of quality items: art, antiques, trips, or something unusual to strike a bidder’s imagination. If you have an item you would like to donate, please contact Terry Begley at terry@friendsofacadia.org or 1-800-625-0321.
A Partner’s View

On becoming CEO of Friends of Acadia, in October 1995, I knew little about friends groups and not much more about the National Park Foundation. Nine years later, I feel deeply fortunate working among so many true partners and selfless citizens who love one of America’s greatest birthrights, the national parks.

The seminal experience for me came when the foundation began identifying, adopting, and counseling the estimated 160 park-based friends organizations. My friend and conservation colleague Jim Maddy, later helped by David Rockefeller, Jr., led this important outreach. The friends movement is vastly better for their involvement, and for the foundation board’s direction-setting and the stature of its directors.

It’s been edifying to witness the foundation’s growth and the consequent strengthening of the friends idea. NPF started the Friends Initiative, which evolved into an informal federation called the Friends Alliance, whose combined charitable output is now quite significant. According to the General Accounting Office, 215 nonprofits donated $208 million to national parks from 1997 through 2001. Add the foundation’s $103 million, and the total reaches $311 million.

NPF has hatched new friends organizations and helped old ones. Friends of Acadia, founded in 1986, benefited from the foundation’s grants since 1991. These have helped Acadia National Park conserve its natural splendor unimpaired for all generations.

Under Jim Maddy, the foundation pioneered — and Friends of Acadia gratefully copied — the concept of drafting corporate support for parks in ways that honor their integrity. We negotiated a $1-million grant from L.L. Bean to underwrite the park’s award-winning propane bus system, which in six seasons has removed 493,000 vehicles from roads. Jim helped engineer the visits of Interior Secretaries Babbitt and Norton, who put their welcome imprimatur on our $13-million trails rehabilitation and the first privately endowed trail system in national park history. In 2004, NPF supported Friends of Acadia’s planning for a park transportation center, with a $25,000 Ford Motor Company grant, and helped launch our Park Steward program.

With David Rockefeller’s forbears in the lead, Acadia became the first national park to spring full-blown from philanthropy. His family figures prominently in park system history. So it was fitting — and probably genetically natural — for David to spearhead the renaissance of charitable giving for all national parks. I have watched his work, listened to his measured and often eloquent voice on behalf of this great American cause. The high-water mark was, in a view shared by many friends executives, David’s speech at the 2003 Los Angeles conference for public lands partners. Into a personal meditation on parks, he wove the message of philanthropy’s role, which is to provide a margin of excellence beyond what the National Park Service can accomplish alone.

He made clear that a bright line must be maintained between public financing and private charity: government must never accept charitable gifts on the one side and cut basic funding for park operations and maintenance on the other. This is the sure road to undermining the motive force of private giving, which is to add value to national parks.

David and Jim are by all accounts great partners, always focused on the cause above personal attention or gain. They both view their work as that of trustees, who desire to pass the trust to new heirs, without interference and with every measure of support. As someone once advised when I began what has become twenty years as the head of three different conservation nonprofits, “A good executive is one who consciously works himself out of a job.” Rockefeller and Maddy took leave in that spirit. This is great for the revitalized foundation they have led with class and distinction, and sets a model for the institution’s new keepers, whose own focus, we hope, will add even greater value to our national parks through expanded private generosity, wisely applied.

Thank you, David and Jim, for informing our common movement, and for teaching me a great deal. — W. Kent Olson
MEMBERSHIP

Join our 3,000 members from all over the world in funding necessary park projects and new initiatives. Member benefits include:

- A one-year subscription to the Friends of Acadia Journal, published three times annually, highlighting the beauty of Acadia, issues facing the park, and Friends of Acadia programs, activities, and events
- A Friends of Acadia window decal
- A Friends of Acadia bookmark
- The satisfaction of knowing you’re helping preserve Acadia for this generation and for all time

Already a Friends of Acadia member? Give a gift membership and treat a friend or loved one to a one-year subscription to the Journal plus other special benefits.

For more information, contact us at 1-800-625-0321, membership@friendsofacadia.org, or visit our website at www.friendsofacadia.org.

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ACADIA WINTER TRAILS ASSOCIATION
Dirck Bradt
Paul Haertel
Bill Jenkins
Stan MacDonald
Bob Massucco

EARTH DAY VOLUNTEERS
Our thanks to the 325 volunteers who trawled through puddles and braved the impending rain to remove 8 tons of trash from nearly 150 miles of roadside in the MDI, Trenton, and Schoodic area. The following businesses and organizations helped recruit and lead volunteers:

Acadia Corporation
Acadia National Park
Bar Harbor Bank and Trust
Bar Harbor Brewing Company
Cadillac Mountain Sports
The First
Friends of Schoodic
Girl Scout Troop 620
Island Acupuncture
The Jackson Laboratory
Jesup Memorial Library

In Gratitude

The Knowles Company
Maine Department of Transportation
The Maine Seacoast Mission
MDI Biological Laboratory
MDI High School National Honors Society
MDI Time Dollars
MDI Water Quality Coalition
MJs Design
Mount Desert Island Hospital
National Park Kayak Tours
Pemetic Elementary School
Somes Meynell Wildlife Sanctuary
Sweet Timber Frames
Town Hill Village Improvement Society
Tremont Recreation Group
Trenton Community Group
Union Trust
U.S. Coast Guard, S.W. Harbor
West of Eden B & B
Window Panes

EARTH DAY SPONSORS
Bar Harbor Bank and Trust
The First
Graves’ Supermarkets
Machias Savings Bank
Union Trust

OTHER IN-KIND DONATIONS
Berry, Dunn, McNeil & Parker accounting services
Tom Blagden cover photographs
Bruce Blake passenger van
Dorothy Kerper Monnelly photographs
Outside the Lines website design services
Joe Pagan computer services
Annual Meeting

Friends of Acadia’s members and donors are invited to spend the afternoon with Friends along the coast.

Our annual meeting will be held on Friday, July 22, at the Walsh House of the Regency Hotel.

Join us to learn about our accomplishments in 2004 and our ambitious plans for the 2005 season and beyond. Of special interest are plans for improving traffic during the summer months on Mount Desert Island.

Friday, July 22, 2005
3:45 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. — Business Meeting
5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. — Cocktails on the Lawn

The Walsh Cottage on Frenchman Bay
at the Regency Hotel, 123 Eden Street, Bar Harbor

Casual dress.

RSVP by July 15 to Terry
207.288.3340, 800.625.0321, or terry@friendsofacadia.org

Parking is limited. We encourage use of the Island Explorer.
Bus schedules: www.exploreacadia.com

Friends 2004 Annual Meeting.
Welcome Lisa Horsch

This February Lisa Horsch joined the Friends of Acadia staff as Director of Development and Donor Relations. A native of Virginia, Lisa joins us after a career in fundraising for higher education.

Lisa has vacationed on MDI for the last twelve years. She says, “The idea of putting my development experience to work for an organization dedicated to the stewardship of Acadia, for which I have great passion, is very exciting! No matter the season, I have been awed by the beauty and breadth of activities available to visitors and residents.”

Prior to her arrival, Lisa served as the Director of Family Giving at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia. She also served as a Capital Gifts Officer and Assistant Director of Annual Giving at James Madison University (JMU) in Harrisonburg, Virginia. In 1997, she received the Award of Excellence from the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education for her management of an outstanding fundraising campaign while at James Madison University. She brings complementary skills to Friends of Acadia’s already strong fundraising staff and program.

Lisa’s public service includes terms as president of the Harrisonburg Junior Woman’s Club, president of the Shenandoah Valley Chapter of the JMU Alumni Association, board member of the Harrisonburg Chapter of the American Cancer Society, and fundraising team leader for the Norris Cotton Cancer Center at Dartmouth College. She holds both a bachelor of business administration degree and an MBA from JMU and was named the university’s 1995 MBA Student of the Year.

Lisa can be reached at 207-288-3380 or lisahorsch@friendsofacadia.org.

Earth Day Spirit

On Saturday, April 30, more than 300 volunteers joined Friends to celebrate Earth Day. During a brief morning respite from rain, volunteers removed more than 8 tons of trash from 150 miles of Mount Desert Island, Trenton, and Schoodic roadsides.

The success of this annual clean up is a result of the enthusiastic support of many local businesses and organizations, who recruit and lead volunteer teams, donate snacks and water, or help purchase supplies. A list of the participating businesses

A volunteer team from Pemetic Elementary cleaned along Route 102 in Southwest Harbor.
and organizations is on our website at www.friendsofacadia.org, and listed on page 18 of this journal.

We are grateful to the residents and businesses that join in this community effort to remove trash from the roadsides leading into our villages and the park.

**Accessible Touring**

Horse-drawn, wheel-chair accessible carriages provide visitors with disabilities an opportunity to see areas of Acadia they may not otherwise be able to reach. Friends of Acadia donated these accessible carriages to Acadia National Park in 1997, with a grant from the Shelby Cullom Davis Foundation.

To make a reservation for a carriage road tour on the wheelchair accessible carriages, contact Wildwood Stables at (207) 276-3622, Box 241, Seal Harbor, ME 04675, carriages@wildwood.acadia.net, or visit www.acadia.net/wildwood.

**Blake Donates Van**

Bar Harbor resident Bruce Blake (left) and Jim Velasti, Maintenance Chief at Acadia National Park, stand beside a 1996 Chrysler minivan that Blake donated to Friends of Acadia in March. Friends subsequently conveyed title to the Park Service, which will use the vehicle for general park maintenance and for transporting volunteers. Blake and his wife Margaret have been Friends of Acadia members for five years. We are deeply grateful for their generosity.

**Charitable Profits**

From left: Robin Paulos, The North Face; Kelly Dickson and Ken Olson, Friends of Acadia.

In January, The North Face store in Bar Harbor donated $3,620 to support Friends of Acadia efforts. Owners Matt and Cheryl Curtis had pledged 10% of the store’s after-tax profits to Friends of Acadia from 2002-2004. We are most grateful for this generous contribution.

**Heart of the Matter**

I do not know what I may appear to the world; but to myself I seem to have been only like a boy playing on the seashore, and diverting myself in now and then finding a smoother pebble or a prettier shell than ordinary, whilst the great ocean of truth lay all undiscovered before me.

— Sir Isaac Newton

**PURCHASE YOUR PARK PASS**

Whether walking, bicycling, driving, or riding the fare-free Island Explorer through the park, all must pay the entrance fee.

The Acadia National Park $20 weekly pass and $40 annual pass are available at the following locations in Maine, mid-June through mid-October:

- Hulls Cove Visitor Center (off Rte. 3 in Hulls Cove)
- Sand Beach Entrance Station (on the Park Loop Road)
- Island Explorer/Acadia National Park information center (next to the Bar Harbor Village Green and Island Explorer transfer location)
- Seawall campground (off Rte. 102A in Southwest Harbor)
- Blackwoods campground (off Rte. 3 in Otter Creek)
- Acadia National Park Headquarters (on the Eagle Lake Road/Rte. 233 in Bar Harbor)
- The gift shops at Jordan Pond House and Cadillac Summit

Park pass fees make possible vital maintenance projects in Acadia.
Unique among national parks, Acadia was created by citizen philanthropy, and the driving force was George B. Dorr, the “Father of Acadia.” The idea of protecting land on Mount Desert Island for the perpetual enjoyment of the public originated with Charles W. Eliot in 1901, but it was Dorr’s unshakable determination and hard work that brought it to fruition. As Dorr states in his book, he let “no grass grow under his feet” as he went about collecting property from friends. The first significant gift of land came from Mrs. Charles D. Homans of Boston: the Bowl and the Beehives tracts. After this he obtained ownership to the summit of Cadillac, Sieur De Monts spring, and the eastern shore of Eagle Lake. Over the course of 15 years he had negotiated the acquisition of 5,000 acres, which he presented to the Hancock County Trustees of Public Reservations and, ultimately, the federal government for the creation of Sieur de Monts National Monument (which later became Lafayette National Park and finally Acadia National Park). In 1916, Dorr offered to serve as custodian of the land for the lowest salary paid to anyone in governmental service, a dollar a month.

Dorr devoted his life to preserving land for the park, leaving a priceless legacy for the millions who visit Acadia.

— Kelly S. Dickson

From The Story of Acadia National Park: “Springs, from boyhood on, have always held a singular interest for me, an interest heightened by years of travel abroad where, from the earliest period on, they have been objects of mystery and worship. And [Sieur de Monts Spring] was wonderfully placed, with the mountains rising steeply up beside it, contrasting with the Great and Little Meadow lands on either side.

.... one fair spring morning in 1909, when I was out, here and there, looking after work I had in hand, Mr. Harry Lynam, knowing my interest in the [Sieur de Monts Spring] tract, drove up hastily, out searching for me, and said: ‘Mr. Dorr, a bunch of them up town have got together and raised the money to take over the option on the spring, which they believe to be essential to your plans. Ora Strout gives you until noon to take it, but will sell to them upon the stroke of twelve unless you close with him first. Cash in hand, they are waiting by the clock upon the Village Green till noon shall come to make the purchase. What will you do?’”
Twenty-two years ago I took a photograph of my wife and daughter sitting on a massive boulder at Schoodic Point. We were on our first visit to Acadia National Park, and we had listened to Thunder Hole, watched sunrise atop Cadillac, enjoyed popovers at Jordan Pond House, sunned at Sand Beach, and hiked Precipice and Beehive. We needed to use the BX at the Schoodic navy base and wanted to get off MDI for a change. Little did we know that we would find our favorite part of Acadia National Park. We returned year after year to enjoy Schoodic and take a family picture on that rock.

Now we are lucky enough to live on the Schoodic Peninsula, and Schoodic is a central element of our life. Our love of the place led us to Friends of Schoodic (FOS), a group of passionate volunteers focused on preserving and protecting Schoodic’s natural and cultural environment, as well as supporting education and research activities and maintaining and enhancing the visitor experience. Among the significant contributions FOS made to the Schoodic District in 2004:

- FOS members volunteered 1,144 hours as National Park interpreters for Schoodic. After a full day of training by park personnel, our volunteers staffed the Gatehouse Information Center daily from June thru September.
- Five FOS volunteers were trained by park rangers on trail grooming. Throughout the year, they supervised groups of volunteers who provided 82 volunteer hours of maintenance on the Alder, Anvil, Schoodic Head, and Sundew trails, as well as Schoodic Head road.
- FOS members volunteered 278 hours removing trash from Schoodic’s road and shoreline. FOS conducted park wide clean-up events in the spring, summer, and fall, as well as a special Little Moose Island clean up, during which 30 volunteers removed trash from this distinctive Schoodic feature.
- FOS members removed the 4,530-foot chain link and barbed wire security fence, which presented a barrier to wildlife and was an unsightly obstruction, that surrounded the former Navy base. The project was recognized by the Boston Regional Office of the National Park Service.

Originally organized as a committee of Schoodic Futures, in 2004 FOS considered how to grow our volunteer base and expand our ability to support Schoodic. As we considered starting our own non-profit organization, we were approached by FOA, and chose to become The Friends of Schoodic, a Committee of Friends of Acadia.

We have taken a huge step forward to become part of a wonderful organization with a deep, abiding devotion to this incredible place called Acadia National Park. We will continue to staff the gatehouse, provide visitor support and interpretation, conduct shore clean-ups, perform trail maintenance, complete the fence removal project, publish the FOS newsletter, and host an annual picnic.

We are exploring ways to contribute to the Schoodic Education Adventure (SEA) program, the Artists-in-Residence program, and scientific research conducted at Schoodic. We are brainstorming other nonintrusive efforts at Schoodic and will coordinate with FOA on critical long-range concerns.

Friends of Schoodic is a special volunteer group with an extraordinary level of energy and commitment. We seek ideas, participants, helpers, and suggestions. Friends of Schoodic meets at 7:00 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month on the Schoodic Education and Research Center campus. You can find out more about us on the web at www.friendsofschoodic.org or by contacting us at PO Box 194, Prospect Harbor, ME 04669. We invite you to join us — our only requirement is love for Acadia National Park and a special passion for the undeveloped splendor that is Schoodic.

— Garry Levin

GARRY LEVIN, vice-chairman of FOS, finds inspiration in Schoodic and fatherhood.
Healthy Efforts

America’s national parks are an extraordinary gift to our citizens and the international community. Sites like Acadia offer park enthusiasts the opportunity to refresh their minds, bodies, and spirits through a variety of activities. One of Friends of Acadia’s goals is to assist in providing the healthiest possible environment for these endeavors. The organization’s focus on clean air issues illustrates this effort.

Friends’ lobbying work on behalf of clean air initiatives acknowledges the deleterious impact of air-born pollutants from mid-western power plants and factories as well as from our local production of pollutants.

Friends’ lobbying work on behalf of clean air initiatives acknowledges the deleterious impact of air-born pollutants from mid-western power plants and factories as well as from our local production of pollutants. Reducing the number of cars traveling the park’s roads and idling in blocked traffic is one way of doing our part at the local level.

Friends encourages conservation-minded people to leave their cars behind and walk, run, or ski into the park and into town on a network of village connector trails, which we are creating with Maine Coast Heritage Trust and other partners. In addition, Friends’ Village Connector Trail Program, in partnership with Healthy Acadia and the Acadia Scenic Byway committee, has produced “Bar Harbor by Foot,” a walking map that encourages visitors and residents to explore the village without vehicles. Friends co-leads the MDI Tomorrow Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee, which works to provide and promote safe bicycle routes and pedestrian opportunities on Mount Desert Island, further inspiring people to give their cars a rest.

Of course, there are times when cars are a critical part of the trip to Acadia. Three million or so visits each year mean clogged roads and parking lots, and air emissions. To combat these problems, visitors and locals are encouraged to use the fare-free propane-powered Island Explorer bus system to reach trail heads, landmarks, villages, jobs, and other destinations in and around Acadia. Island Explorer partners were recently awarded the EPA Clean Air Excellence Award — this bus system and its partnerships are a model for other national parks.

In another project promoting cleaner air, Friends of Acadia joins the Natural Resources Council of Maine and the Board of Environmental Protection to encourage people to drive “clean cars” (see www.maineenvironment.org). In support of this effort, Ed Darling, Downeast Toyota President, has generously pledged to again contribute a state-of-the-art hybrid Prius to Friends’ August Gala and Auction. “Clean cars” like the Prius, which pollute up to 90% less than standard models, have significant implications for our environment.

These are but a few of the things which Friends of Acadia, with conservation partners, is doing to promote a healthier environment. We appreciate your participation in these efforts.

— Dianna K. Emory

A generous $1-million grant to Friends from L.L. Bean has extended the season for the Island Explorer fleet. We are also currently working with the park, the Maine Department of Transportation, and others to create a new, off-island Acadia National Park transportation hub that will act as a center for Island Explorer buses, cluster parked cars, and reduce traffic in the park.

Village connector trail committee members research a possible trail route in Town Hill.

Frank Simon and Dianna Emory on Minerva. Frank and his wife, Libby, support Friends in many ways, including hosting a friend-raising event in Rockland last summer.
To accomplish our mission,

1. **We advocate.** We advance park interests before Congress and the Maine Legislature, within the National Park Service and other federal, state or local bodies, and among the general public.

2. **We make grants.** We raise private funds for select capital projects in Acadia and for its enlightened stewardship, creating sustainable revenues through endowments where appropriate. We strive to supplement federal funds and services, not replace them.

3. **We nullify threats.** We mobilize people and forge nonprofit alliances to neutralize threats to park and community resources.

4. **We promote excellent management.** We speak for responsible users in the continual betterment of park operations.

5. **We operate independently.** We function as a free-standing nonprofit, supportive of the park but independent from it. We reserve the right to differ respectfully.

6. **We seek a broad membership.** We seek to maximize the number of park defenders, stewards, and donors. We encourage every visitor to join Friends of Acadia as a means of giving something back to the park for the privilege of experiencing it.

7. **We enhance communities.** We promote conservation in border communities through programs and grants that enhance their natural character and complement park values.

8. **We support volunteerism.** We supply a corps of motivated volunteers to meet designated park needs, including the upkeep of footpaths and carriage roads.

9. **We produce tangible results.** We achieve measurable results from programs and funds expended.

10. **We leverage donated funds.** We operate on a sound financial basis, leveraging member dues and other gifts to bring the highest conservation return per donated dollar.

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**VISION**

Friends of Acadia seeks an Acadia National Park that is the best funded, best managed, and best maintained national park for its size and volume of use. Mount Desert Island is distinguished by its intact natural character and the quality of village life. The air is clean, the water pure. Low-emissions public transit, funded primarily by park entry fees, contributes to conserving Acadia’s special qualities. Park visitation conforms to sensible carrying capacities. People feel a powerful reverence for their great national park and its host island. They want to keep this place beautiful for all generations. They help protect its outstanding natural, cultural, and economic attributes by supporting Friends of Acadia.
The mission of Friends of Acadia is to preserve and protect the outstanding natural beauty, ecological vitality, and cultural distinctiveness of Acadia National Park and the surrounding communities, and thereby to ensure a high quality experience for visitors and residents.