Purchase Your Park Pass!

Whether walking, driving, or skiing through the park, all must pay the entrance fee. The Acadia National Park $20 weekly pass ($10 in the shoulder seasons) and $40 annual pass are available at the following locations in Maine:

YEAR-ROUND

ACADIA NATIONAL PARK HEADQUARTERS
(on the Eagle Lake Road/Rte. 233 in Bar Harbor)

MAY – NOVEMBER

HULLS COVE VISITOR CENTER
SAND BEACH ENTRANCE STATION
ISLAND EXPLORER/ACADIA NATIONAL PARK
INFORMATION CENTER
SEAWALL CAMPGROUND
BLACKWOODS CAMPGROUND

Park pass fees make possible vital maintenance projects in Acadia.
Introducing Our New President

It is always a pleasure to report to you, the members of Friends of Acadia, on important changes and progress in our organization. I have something notable to share with you, now—good news about FOA's new president.

On February 28, Ken Olson stepped down as president. Ken set a very high standard of performance during his decade at the FOA helm. With his standard of excellence in mind, the executive committee and the search committee are pleased to announce the selection of John C. Courtin as the next president of Friends of Acadia.

John begins his work with FOA on June 1st. He brings a wealth of talent and diverse experience to the president's role along with a special love of Acadia. We feel very fortunate that he is joining us at FOA and look forward to his expert leadership of this very dynamic organization. Since February, while wrapping up his other projects, John has been assisting FOA as a part-time consultant and working in concert with Acting Director and long-time Stewardship Director Marla O’Bryrne. We certainly feel that he is already an integral part of our team.

Outdoorsman, mountain climber, lawyer, educator, preservationist, and devoted family man, John is a proven nonprofit executive. He has led two nonprofit organizations as CEO in his career, most recently serving as executive director of one of America’s most notable Frank Lloyd Wright restoration projects.

In 1992, John led a group of other preservation-minded citizens to form the Martin House Restoration Corporation. Its mission has been to restore Frank Lloyd Wright’s most important early career masterpiece—the Darwin Martin House in Buffalo, New York. After laboring on this project for six years as a founding board member, John gave up his law practice in 1998 to serve as full-time CEO of the organization. Under John’s leadership, more than $30 million was raised to restore this long neglected National Historic Landmark. In addition to acquiring and restoring the three Wright-designed residences that are part of the D.D. Martin estate and reassembling its historic grounds, John’s project also included reconstruction of three other major Wright-designed buildings that were demolished on the site decades ago.

In connection with the Martin House project, John has worked closely with elected officials at all levels and with state and federal representatives, including National Park Service officials in Washington and across the country. He has also interacted with thousands of donors and community-minded citizens.

Before his children were born, John was deeply committed to work at the National Outdoor Leadership School, headquartered in Lander, Wyoming. He became involved in NOLS first as a student and later as a NOLS trustee and secretary. While a trustee, he was the organizer of NOLS’ first annual fund. This project led a few years later to a very successful multi-million dollar capital campaign. Those campaign dollars underpin NOLS’ core mission of serving as the nation’s premier teacher of outdoor wilderness skills and leadership.

John served as executive director of the Georgetown University Alumni Association from 1984 to 1990. He earned both his B.S. and J.D. degrees from Georgetown, where he was also varsity rowing coach in the 1970s. John practiced law in Washington, D.C. and Buffalo between eras heading nonprofit organizations. In addition, he has been an active fundraiser for Phillips Exeter Academy.

John and his wife, Sharon, have three children—a son who heads to Princeton this fall and two daughters, 15 and 14, who are students at Phillips Exeter Academy. Like John, his family members have a deep love of the outdoors. Among many other family adventures, they have climbed 31 of the 46 High Peaks of the Adirondacks. The Courtins have already begun their exploration of Acadia’s mountains, trails, and carriage roads. We enthusiastically welcome them to Friends of Acadia and look forward to sharing new adventures and our love of the park with each of them.

— Dianna K. Emory
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LOOKING FORWARD

It is a distinct honor to have the opportunity to serve as the new president of Friends of Acadia. As you—our members—and I commence our conversation across time and place through this venerable Friends of Acadia Journal, I can’t help but begin by speaking from the heart—Acadia National Park is a stunningly beautiful place. It takes my breath away, every time. Acadia is worthy of our very best efforts to protect it.

If you care deeply about Acadia and are concerned about its future, then I look forward to meeting you and to knowing you. I want to listen to your ideas and to understand your concerns for the park and its surround. I welcome your advice, and encourage you to write to me. For I seek your good ideas and your thoughtful advice on what you regard as the key challenges, needs, and priorities that should shape the future action agenda for Friends.

Friends of Acadia is dedicated to preserving and protecting the outstanding natural beauty, ecological vitality, and cultural distinctiveness of Acadia National Park and its surrounding communities. And that is all that we do. We are narrowly and intently focused on our core mission.

If Acadia is your special place in the world, then Friends of Acadia should rank very high among the organizations you support, for it exists to serve as a vehicle that you can join with other similarly minded citizens to help effect positive change in and around this magnificent park. Friends of Acadia is the voice of the friends and keepers of Acadia. And a strong, steady voice can make a great difference.

Yes, it is true that Acadia belongs to America. But in many ways, Acadia especially belongs to those who care deeply about it, to those who know it best. They know its needs and are its most effective defenders. All of America depends on those who know it best to provide direct support to enhance the park and to take forceful action as needed. That happens every day through Friends of Acadia, this year celebrating its 20th anniversary in service to Acadia National Park.

Simply put, in the years to come, I shall be honored to know you and honored to work side by side with you and with other friends of Acadia National Park to help secure the best possible future for this stunningly beautiful place. Thank you.

—John C. Courtin

A SUCCESSOR’S EARLY REFLECTIONS...

It’s not so easy to walk in the footsteps of a “living legend.” Everywhere I go there is tangible evidence of Ken Olson’s innumerable accomplishments in and around Acadia National Park.

Everyone with whom I speak seems to want to share a “Ken Olson story”—at the heart of each are many generous words of profound respect for all that Ken has done for Acadia over the last decade. Especially, there is unbounded praise for the way he did his job, for the ethos Ken engendered around himself through his labors, an ethos he inspired in all those who worked with him to care deeply about the outdoors.

Folks tell me how passionate Ken was about the natural environment and this glorious national park. They tell me how committed Ken was to the unique mission of Friends of Acadia and of his unwavering dedication to Acadia. I’ve witnessed this pronounced attribute first hand.

Ken Olson was like a force of nature—rolling in from the sea, sweeping down from the high hills and across the meadows, shaping and sculpting the place for the better, leaving a visible legacy—and even howling a bit from time to time in response to threats to the park or its federal funding. FOA should provide “the margin of excellence” for the park, Ken would say. He was focused on that noble goal.

When I make the journey north into this beautiful region of Maine, often starting from New Hampshire or other more southerly places, I always smile when I pass the first warning sign along the highway that says, “Moose Crossing.” You know you’re getting close!

Maybe there should be another sign, near Thompson Island, warning potential park-despoilers to stay away, saying that “You’re Entering ‘Ken Olson Country’.” Thank you, Ken, for being an effective protector, for leaving Friends of Acadia in such great good shape, and for all that you have done for Acadia National Park.

—John Courtin, president of Friends of Acadia

friends of Acadia National Park to help secure the best possible future for this stunningly beautiful place. Thank you.

—John C. Courtin
Finding Cynthia
Thanks to your Journal article [“Small Worlds of Glory,” Fall 2005], I became familiar with Cynthia Thayer’s work. Read all three of her novels in January...can’t wait for more.
—Linda Packard
Bangor, Maine

Living by Bus
I am 82 years old. I stopped driving in January [2005] after an unfortunate accident when I skidded on black ice, total-ing my car. Thanks to Downeast Transportation and the Island Explorer bus I have been able to manage my life very well without a car. I take control of necessities like food shopping. I walk and hike and get into the park with ease. I have particularly used and enjoyed the Island Explorer because it has allowed me to get into the park where I can walk, swim, hike, and climb the mountains as I always have in the past...so essential to keeping fit with my Golden Retriever, Sophie. The drivers are wonderful to us....I would hope [the Island Explorer] could warrant an extended or even year-round system—even if there were to be a fee....Many thanks to Friends of Acadia and of course L.L. Bean.
—Dorothy Zucker and Sophie
Bar Harbor, Maine

Fourth Graders in Acadia
We received thank you letters from the 4th grade students at Trenton Elementary School, who took a field trip last November to volunteer in Acadia, raking along the carriage roads. If we had room, every letter would be printed here, but following are a couple of the letters and one of many drawings from the day. —Ed

Thank you for helping us with raking and cleaning out the carriage roads. It was so fun. The leaves were scattered all over the roads....I had a fantastic time.
—Brock

Thank you for letting us help on the carriage roads. I had a great time, especially when I got to jump in the leaf piles. It didn't seem like work....I even found a salamander.
—Anna Ashmore

Thank you for letting us come and clean Acadia National Park. I had a superb time, especially when I held the salamander and when everyone dumped all the leaves on me!
—Meghan Catanese

Thank you so much for inviting us to come to Acadia National Park to clean up. My favorite part was jumping in the leaves. Jenna measured the whole length that we raked, 903 feet long. I had a lot of fun. I loved raking and dumping all of those leaves. I would gladly love to come back again and rake leaves and pick up the litter.
—Brooke Marshall

Jenna, Brooke, Kristen, and Todd at work in Acadia. (Artist, Brooke Marshall.)
THREE YEARS AND CHANGE

It seems impossible that it has been more than three years now since Barb and I arrived in Bar Harbor and Acadia National Park. It is interesting to think about the many things that have changed during the past, very fast, three years—some for the better and some not.

Just in that short time period, I have seen many new houses, subdivisions, and roads built on Mount Desert Island. Although real estate price increases have recently slowed on the island, the long-range trend is still upward, and development pressures continue to mount. Early in my tenure as superintendent, I identified land protection inside Acadia’s boundaries as my highest priority because land is the very essence of any national park. It is the land that contains the natural and cultural resources that people come to enjoy. Over the last year or so, Acadia has entered into a unique new partnership with Friends of Acadia, Maine Coast Heritage Trust, and private donors to actively buy available properties within the park and “fill in the holes.” Already, several key tracts of nearly 200 acres have been protected. Much more remains to be done, but this is solid progress despite a significant downward trend in Congressional appropriations for this purpose. Once again, private individuals are stepping up to continue the long-standing role of private philanthropy here at Acadia.

Also of concern are 3,500 acres on the Schoodic Peninsula immediately adjacent to Acadia. During the past two years, the owners have hired consultants and started the process to develop this very significant piece of land. A short hike to the overlook on Schoodic Head affords a spectacular view and makes it clear that we need to work hard to save this area from incompatible development. Partners are working to help protect the park experience from negative impacts caused by the biggest single threat to Acadia.

Many changes are occurring at the former navy base, now called the Schoodic Education and Research Center. The number of participants in park programs at SERC is increasing. With Acadia Partners for Science and Learning, we are about to begin construction that will convert the commissary into a state-of-the-art auditorium and classroom building. We are also converting the former bowling alley into an overnight “hostel.” In addition, we are making improvements to the Schooner Club and to the apartments. These changes will greatly improve the marketability of SERC and help us advance science and resource education related to Acadia and the entire National Park System.

For the past three years, budget pressure has continued to present big challenges to all of us here at Acadia. Even with increasing budgets, we are not able to provide the same level of service as we have in preceding years. As cost increases rise faster than budgets, this loss of buying power accumulates more each year, resulting in eleven vacant permanent positions at Acadia. Thanks to volunteers, the carriage road and hiking trail endowments, and our dedicated employees, we have been able to maintain most seasonal operations, but further erosion will likely force us into making even harder choices in the years ahead.

As I approach my fourth summer at Acadia, I must deal with another big change—Ken Olson’s retirement. Ken provided outstanding leadership, making Friends of Acadia one of the best park “friends” groups in the nation. We will all miss him, but we are also eager to welcome John Courtin as the new president. I am confident that John will be another great leader and take Friends of Acadia to new heights of success.

Despite all of these changes, our mission remains the same: to protect the many natural and cultural resources contained in Acadia and make them available for public use and enjoyment. Thanks to the park staff, our many volunteers, and key partners like Friends of Acadia, Acadia Partners for Science and Learning, Maine Coast Heritage Trust, and our outstanding private donors, we are determined to achieve our mission and maintain a high-quality visitor experience for all who come to enjoy this very special place.

“A short hike to the overlook on Schoodic Head affords a spectacular view and makes it clear that we need to work hard to save this area from incompatible development.”

— Sheridan Steele
IN MEMORIAM

We gratefully acknowledge gifts received in memory of:

Shirley Allison
David and Kitzi Crofoot
Michael Curlutu
Donald P. Doolittle
Michelle Dunbar
Cordelia Gabb
Carol Ann Katz
Joseph W. Kelley
Frieda Klopfenstein
Sally Lutyens
Christopher Maier
Bobby Mickschutz
Betty Meiklejohn
Francis Parkman
David L. Rabasca
Gordon Smith

IN NOMINE

We gratefully acknowledge gifts received in the name of:

Cynthia Bean
Eric Scott Christensen
David, Ann, and Beth Ingram
Michelle Kamfjord
The Rev. Dr. Vesta Kowalski
Ken Olson
George Peabody

January 2 – March 31, 2006

Poem

map lichen

snow lichen can frost
whole patches of a mountainside
in the heat of august
and reindeer moss
propel the herds of caribou
across the northern tundra

it is map lichen
that causes us to slip
in the mountains
after a rain
reminding us of the thirst
it too has for water

at the narrowing of choices there
between a point of granite
and the sky
it spreads its charts
gray-green on black
and we
who thought we knew
our destination
are suddenly bemused
enlarged
by the dream archipelagos
and non-existent landfalls
its false cartography

on old stone benches
in the city
we see it flash chartreuse
in the December sun
bestowing
on the overcoated old men
huddled there
the light of early May

—Philip Dane Levin

PHILIP DANE LEVIN lives in Gloucester, Massachusetts, and is the poetry editor for the Journal. “Map Lichen” originally appeared in the Worcester Review and is republished by request.
The man in the teashop waved me over to his table. He was small and brown, slightly balding with a round face, prominent ears and a toothy smile. “Hello, my friend.” He stretched his hand toward the empty seat across from him, “My name is Mohammed. Please join me.” I’d been in Ethiopia for three weeks, shooting a documentary film for the BBC about Sudanese refugees, and with a free afternoon I’d come to the open-air market in Addis Ababa looking for souvenirs to bring back to family and friends in the States. The day was hot, the market crowded, and I was happy to have an excuse to sit for a few minutes and drink tea.

The conversation started as these encounters usually did.

“Where are you from?” my new companion asked in accented but well-practiced English.


“No, I’m from Maine. It’s in the Northeast, above Boston.”

“Ah, Maine!” His eyes brightened. “What part of Maine?”

A bit surprised that he had even heard of Maine I said, “I live on an island off the coast. It’s called Mount Desert.” Mohammed’s face lit up in a broad grin.

“Oh, my friend, you are a very lucky man! You live on the most beautiful island in America!”

Exploring the world used to be my job. For 20 years I was sent by various broadcasters—PBS, BBC, National Geographic, The Discovery Channel—to far-flung locations in order to bring back photogenic nuggets of culture or adventure. It was a dream job in many ways. I filmed in more than 50 countries, from Greenland to Sumatra. I climbed on Mt. Everest and rode a camel across the Sahara. I lived with Eskimos, head-hunters and desert nomads. I enjoyed a rare opportunity to visit places where few outsiders ever go, and spend time with people who know little of the world beyond their horizon.

Yet more than a few times I bumped into people who, like Mohammed, knew about Mount Desert Island. These meetings often occurred in the unlikeliest places. In a dingy Tibetan noodle shop on the road to Everest Base camp I met a Dane who had visited MDI and said it was his favorite place in America. Outside the Grand Mosque in Mecca I chatted with an Indonesian man who had seen photographs of Acadia in a magazine and dreamed of visiting it in person. Over the years I came to realize that the fame of this island extends well beyond our shores.

I am sometimes asked if I have a favorite among the places I’ve traveled—a place to which I’d like to return and explore further. It is an easy question to answer. My favorite of all the places I’ve been is right here—the island that is my home; the park that is my backyard.

I no longer travel as I once did. I’ve packed away my passport; my film camera gathers dust in a closet. With four children to raise at home, the prospect of a long journey to a far-away place doesn’t thrill me as it once did. Wishing to stay home with my family is just one of the reasons. I have also discovered that I do not need to climb aboard an airplane or cross an ocean to find adventure. Paradise, or the closest thing to paradise I am ever likely to find, is just outside my door.

So two months ago, when the call came from a film producer asking if I was ready to shoot another film on Everest, I turned him down without a moment’s hesitation. There is no need to travel half way around the world for an adventure. I’d rather pull on my hiking boots, pack a load of peanut butter sandwiches, organize my children into a summit team, and set out on a Sunday afternoon assault up the east face of the Beehive.

NED JOHNSTON discovered Mt. Desert Island in 1985 when the boat he was sailing was blown up Somes Sound by Hurricane Gloria. Three years later he moved here from Boston. Ned studied film at Harvard and has worked as a director/cameraman on more than 80 documentaries. He now does mostly still photography and lives in Bar Harbor with his wife and four children.
In 1961, the Bar Harbor Garden Club sponsored a wildflower growing contest for its club members. Members were wildly successful in propagating and growing the flora of Acadia National Park, yet they lacked the appropriate habitat to maintain the plants. To remedy the situation, the garden club approached Harold Hubler, superintendent of Acadia National Park and husband of a club member, about allocating space in the park for developing habitats for the plants.

Hubler agreed to allot three-quarters of an acre of land surrounding Sieur de Monts Spring for their project. Many years earlier the land had been donated to the park by George B. Dorr, the principle founder of Acadia National Park. He had the vision for the land to be a “sanctuary for the flora and fauna and also an opportunity for study and a means of information.” Dorr named the area the Wild Gardens of Acadia but never fully implemented his early plan. The property burned in the 1947 fire and grew back in blackberries and other plants. Still, Wild Gardens of Acadia founders Janet TenBroeck and Betty Thorndike, along with their fellow volunteers, knew that the spring, a mountain brook, and some early Dorr plantings that survived would make the land ideal for their project.

In the early years, the volunteers created different growing environments ranging from mixed woods, a meadow, a heath, a bog, thickets, and a mountain environment. Having no formal training in horticulture, the original committee members learned about gardening and wildflowers by trial and error. TenBroeck and Thorndike realized that in order for the botanical experiment to live on, they must recruit young volunteers to provide the manpower to maintain the gardens. Three of those young recruits are today’s leaders of the Wild Gardens Committee—Barbara “Bobbie” Cole, Anne Kozak, and Sue Leiter.

Cole grew up in Bar Harbor and had known Thorndike since she was a child. She worked on her first project in the gardens in the late 60s, moved on to other activities in her life, and became involved in the gardens again in 1983. Like many of the volunteers, she doesn’t have formal botany training but gained extensive knowledge of the plants and garden management passed down from the founders and early volunteers. Cole said, “The Wild Gardens are important not just for their beauty but for education. They help visitors identify plants growing throughout the island. Often visitors will come to the gardens and remark, ‘Oh, that’s what that is!’ ” In addition to her administrative and clerical duties, Cole makes many design decisions in the gardens, choosing which trees need to be cut and where new plants should be added.

When a new job brought Kozak and her young family to the island in 1973, TenBroeck recruited her to volunteer in the gardens. Kozak appreciated the mentoring. Some of the early leaders even paid for her to take a botany class. The investment has paid off. Kozak is a knowledgeable and dedicated volunteer and key leader. The director of College of the Atlantic’s writing center and
a freelance writer, Kozak has helped to preserve the gardens not only through hands-on work but also by serving as a writer to record and report on the history and progress of the gardens, and as the Wild Gardens’ liaison to Acadia National Park.

In 1974, Kozak recruited Leiter as a garden volunteer. Leiter recalled that on her first day, she was assigned some difficult rockwork. “I must have done a good job,” she says, “because the committee asked me to come back and the rockwork hasn’t fallen in yet.” Leiter supervises and mentors two student interns and garden volunteers. She estimates that there are now 25 volunteers serving on the committee, with 15 to 18 active garden volunteers.

Cole, Kozak, and Leiter have identified two goals to sustain the gardens for the future—recruit the next generation of volunteers and secure long-term funding for the gardens. Prospective volunteers need not have a botany background but simply an interest in learning about and ultimately preserving the wild, native plants found in Acadia National Park.

The three women would like to establish an endowment to provide for the gardens in perpetuity. The proceeds from the endowment would be used to hire a head gardener, hire student interns, and finance some of the gardens’ maintenance costs. While they are still in the planning phase for the fundraising, they encourage all who are interested in supporting the project to contact them.

The same spirit of determination, vision, and hard work that existed in 1961 is alive today and is especially evident in these three key leaders of the Wild Gardens of Acadia. With Cole, Kozak, and Leiter leading the efforts, there is no doubt that they will be successful in reaching their goals.

— Lisa Horsch

WAYS OF GIVING

The future of Friends of Acadia depends to a large degree on the foresight and generosity of today’s visionaries—our members—who are willing to consider new ways to make gifts. Here are a few suggested methods of making a difference for Friends of Acadia:

• Gift of Cash or Marketable Securities
• Gift of Retirement Assets
• Gift of Real Property
• Charitable Trust
• Bequests

For more information about any of these suggested methods of giving to Friends of Acadia, please contact us at 207-288-3340.
EARTH DAY ROADSIDE CLEAN UP

Our thanks to the nearly 450 volunteers, who removed 13,000 pounds of trash from MDI, Trenton, and Schoodic area roadsides, and to the following organizations that joined us to sponsor and recruit volunteers for this annual event:

EARTH DAY SPONSORS
Bar Harbor Bank and Trust
Bar Harbor Bicycle Shop
Birch Bay Village
Burdick and Booher
The First
Graves’ Supermarkets
The Knowles Company
Machias Savings Bank

EARTH DAY VOLUNTEER GROUPS
A4 Architects
The Acadia Corporation
Acadia Family Center
Acadia National Park
Bar Harbor Bank and Trust
Bar Harbor Brewing Co.
Black and Dillon
Cadillac Mountain Sports
Church of Our Father
College of the Atlantic
The First
Friends of Schoodic
Gordon Stanley Architects
Hinckley Real Estate
Island Acupuncture
The Jackson Laboratory
Jesup Memorial Library
KidsPeace
The Knowles Company

Maine Dept. of Transportation
MDI Sea Coast Mission
MDI Biological Laboratory
MDI High School Track Team
MDI High School Honors Society
Mount Desert Island Hospital
Pemetic 7th Graders Trash-a-thon
Schoodic Scenic Byways
Scout Troop 692—Williston, Vermont
Somes-Meynell Wildlife Sanctuary
Sumner High School
Sweet Timber Frames
Town Hill Village Improvement Society
Tremont Recreation Committee
Trenton Community Group
Union Trust
U.S. Coast Guard, SW Harbor
West of Eden B & B
Window Panes
Woodland Park Cottages

TRAIL & CARRIAGE ROAD VOLUNTEER CREW
Leaders
Bruce Blake
Bucky and Maureen Brooks
George and Anna Buck, ex officio
Betsy Champlin
Rod Fox
Mike Hays
Stephen and Yvonne Johnson
Alan King
Vesta Kowalski
Mark Munsell
Bob Sanderson
Julia Schloss
Dee and Howard Solomon
Al and Marilyn Wiberley

IN-KIND DONATIONS
Berry, Dunn, McNeil & Parker—accounting services
Tom Blagden—cover photographs
Map Adventures—Winter issue cover photograph
Ed Monnelly—photographs
Outside the Lines—website design services
Joe Pagan—computer restoration services
Nicole Taliaferro—photographs
BLACKFLIES, MOSQUITOES, AND MORE!

by Ginny Reams

If these insects don’t scare you, then Acadia National Park has an opportunity for you! This July, the park will host its fourth annual BioBlitz, co-sponsored by the Maine Entomological Society, Maine Forest Service, University of Maine, and the George B. Dorr Museum of Natural History at College of the Atlantic. A BioBlitz—a rapid snapshot assessment of living things in a specified geographic region—is a useful tool to begin assessing the park’s biodiversity.

While resource managers have a thorough understanding of the biodiversity of Acadia’s larger animals and plants, there are still gaps in their knowledge of the insects and other invertebrates and non-vascular plants. A BioBlitz can help the park begin to document some of these lesser-known taxonomic groups. While BioBlitzes cannot provide a complete inventory, they can document species occurrence, provide estimates of number of species, and identify rare and unique species. During the three previous BioBlitzes in Acadia, researchers identified species of beetles, moths and butterflies, and ants never before reported in Maine. Last year’s BioBlitz, for example, identified 310 beetle species: 48 new to Maine and 60 new to the park. These baseline biodiversity data are critical for park resource managers tasked with conserving natural resources unimpaired for generations to come.

This year’s BioBlitz will focus on flies (Diptera), with the goal of identifying as many species as possible in 24 hours. The BioBlitz will take place at Acadia’s Schoodic Education and Research Center on the Schoodic Peninsula on the weekend of July 15–16. Amateur and professional entomologists are invited to participate. For general audiences, a half-day Resource Acadia program on Biodiversity and Blitzes for Beginners will be offered on Saturday morning, July 15. This program will focus on general biological classification and the significance of biodiversity, as well as the important ecological role of Diptera. (Yes, there is an important role!) Some training in insect collecting will be provided, and participants will have an opportunity to take part in blitz collections in the field.

Who knows what might be found during this year’s BioBlitz? If you are interested in finding out more, visit the park website at www.nps.gov/acad/serc/research.htm or contact Jim McKenna at 207-288-8733 or jim_mckenna@nps.gov. Registration deadlines are June 17 for the weekend blitz and July 7 for the Resource Acadia program. Don’t miss out on this exciting opportunity to be involved in hands-on science!

PASSAMAQUODDY HISTORY AND CULTURE: A TRAVELING TEACHING KIT

A suggestion several years ago by Passamaquoddy elder Joseph Nicholas has evolved into an exciting new resource for Maine educators. Passamaquoddy History and Culture: A Traveling Teaching Kit for Grades 5–8 was developed by National Park Service and Abbe Museum staff in consultation with Passamaquoddy elders and community members and the Wabanaki Studies Commission. Funded by the National Park Service “Parks as Classrooms” program, this kit is a welcome addition to the resources available to Maine educators. The kit directly addresses a 2001 state law requiring educators to teach Maine Native American cultures and history in grades K–12. The Passamaquoddy Kit contains nine lesson plans that explore history, art, culture, people, and politics through hands-on activities using tactile objects (baskets, artifact replicas, and more) and media resources.

Teachers or schools can create their own kit by downloading content and purchasing materials. Background information, lessons, worksheets, and a list of the kit objects with purchasing information are available on the Acadia National Park website at www.nps.gov/acad/passkit. Although the curriculum was designed to utilize tactile objects, special instructions enable users to complete the lessons independently of the physical kit.

The Passamaquoddy Kit is also available for loan through Acadia National Park (207-288-8822), Saint Croix Island International Historic Site (207-454-3871), or the Abbe Museum (207-288-3519). It is loaned free of charge for up to four weeks.

Check out this resource today to explore the richness of Passamaquoddy history and culture.

GINNY REAMS is the writer-editor at Acadia National Park.
One day I was in Acadia with my family and our friends. We go up to Acadia to bike. Biking is one of our favorite things to do as a family.

The first day that we biked, we went just in the afternoon around Eagle Lake and stopped to eat our snack at Jordan Pond on the lawn.

The next day we got to the carriage trails and we just started going. We went by this beautiful pond and under big bridges. We had to go up big hills that made me very tired. When we got up a little on the mountain, I looked back at how far we went, but we hadn’t gone that far. We stopped again where we could look out to a different mountain. We saw little people standing at the top, but they were not really small they were just so far away that they looked little. When we finally got to the top, I was so tired, but it was also a lot of fun. I looked out at the water down below and it was sparkling at me. I was so happy that my family liked to bike mountains.

When we went down the mountain I was going so fast that I was speeding past my parents. When we got to the bottom I was ready to take a nap.

Before our day ended, we had lunch at Jordan Pond House. This time we ate at the tables on the lawn. Bees were swarming around us because they wanted to eat our jam, but I wasn’t afraid. Well, maybe a little bit. Our friend told us we had just biked 18.9 miles. I was surprised that I had gone so far in just one day. I felt really proud of myself. Next time my goal is to bike 24 miles!

“I looked out at the water down below and it was sparkling at me. I was so happy that my family liked to bike mountains.”

NINA is in the fourth grade. She and her family vacation in Acadia every year to bike Acadia’s carriage roads. They have introduced the joys of biking the carriage roads to many families over the years.
John D. Rockefeller Jr.

From his family’s Cleveland estate to Central Park then to Pocantico Hills and ultimately on to Mount Desert Island, John D. Rockefeller Jr. spent his lifetime cultivating an understanding and appreciation for the outdoors and outstanding landscape design. When Rockefeller arrived on the Island in 1908, he was already an experienced rider, carriage driver, and builder of carriage roads. After purchasing the Eyrie, a Seal Harbor summer cottage, in 1910 he began building his first carriage road from the entrance of the family’s property to Barr Hill and along Little Long Pond.

Rockefeller was involved in all stages of the carriage road design and construction. He proposed and walked the road sites, and identified vistas. He was deeply involved in the engineering and general style of the roads, including that of the coping stones; affectionately known today as Mr. Rockefeller’s Teeth.

In 1915 at the urging of Harvard President Charles W. Eliot, George B. Dorr contacted Rockefeller to explore his interest in joining them to protect the forests, shoreline, and mountaintops of Mount Desert Island from overdevelopment. Both Eliot and Dorr were members of the Hancock County Trustees of Public Reservations, a preservation society established to accept donations of land and money for the conservation of the rare and unique landscape of Mount Desert Island. The Trustees also wanted to provide sensible public access to the interior of the island and many of the spectacular and unique island features.

The Trustees decided to accomplish their goals in perpetuity by converting their accumulated protected land into a national monument, a feat which would require significant financial support. Rockefeller agreed to join them in their efforts. In July 1916, Sieur de Monts National Monument came into existence. (Sieur de Monts National Monument came into existence. (Sieur de Monts National Monument would later become Lafayette National Park in 1919 and Acadia National Park in 1929).

During the next two decades, Rockefeller spent millions of dollars on the construction and landscaping of the carriage roads, both on his family property and in the newly established national park. When he died in 1960, Rockefeller had completed more than 50 miles of beautiful carriage roads and bridges in addition to building many of the interior motor roads and protecting thousands of acres of land.

John D. Rockefeller Jr., along with Charles W. Eliot and George B. Dorr, was instrumental in the founding of Acadia National Park. Each played vital roles—inspiration, advocacy, and financial support. If any one of these generous men had been missing from the equation, the landscape of Mount Desert Island would be dramatically different today and we would likely not have Acadia National Park.

Last year one of our members astutely advised that before we ask modern day philanthropists for support [for the park], we should celebrate and honor the founding philanthropists. And another recently spoke of the “cycle” of park philanthropy—that we must constantly inspire a new generation of advocates to protect Acadia and Mount Desert Island.

In November 2004, two dozen MDI community leaders gathered at Acadia for the first time to discuss ways of celebrating the contributions of the three founders of Acadia National Park—George B. Dorr, Charles W. Eliot, and John D. Rockefeller Jr. The committee, calling itself The Spirit of Acadia, focused its first year celebrations on the life and contributions of George B. Dorr.

Following in the footsteps of The Spirit of Acadia, Friends honored Mr. Dorr in its publications and events last year. In 2006, Friends will honor the outstanding contributions that John D. Rockefeller Jr. made towards the establishment of Acadia. Celebration plans include:

• a series of articles about John D. Rockefeller Jr. in the Friends of Acadia Journal and the Friends of Acadia Benefit Gala Guide;
• a carriage ride through the park concluding at the Jordan Pond House for a luncheon lecture given by Mrs. Ann Rockefeller Roberts, author of Mr. Rockefeller’s Roads: the Untold Story of Acadia’s Carriage Roads and Their Creator;
• storytelling activities and carriage rides at Family Fun Day at Little Long Pond on July 23,
• the establishment of the John D. Rockefeller Jr. Society, a Friends of Acadia giving society for donors with a cumulative lifetime giving of more than $1 million.

To participate in, or learn more about, the John D. Rockefeller Jr. celebrations, please contact Lisa Horsch at the Friends of Acadia office at 207-288-3340 or lisahorsch@friendsofacadia.org.

—Lisa Horsch
Michigan Landscape

Dry shell of a mayfly hangs from a dead birch, 
the wind through the spider web brings a shadow
softly across my face. In answer 
to night moving over hills I whisper

a bird song I’ve memorized, 
the name I give to lapping waves.

Night after rain rolls in, cool, 
a long word said over and over.

Rolling, the syllables are small waves 
rising over my feet and ankles.

The swallows call out 
to swallows who answer

in swooping phrases that catch 
at high points.

Here, syllables are hills over water 
where night keeps them beyond naming.

— Jane Olmsted

JANE OLMSTED is associate professor of English and director of the Women’s Studies Program at Western Kentucky University. Her work has appeared in *Poetry Northwest*, *Nimrod*, *Kalliope*, and *Beloit Fiction Journal*. She is co-founder and co-editor of the Kentucky Feminist Writers Series, which has published three collections, of poetry, fiction, and personal narrative.

I only went out for a walk, and finally concluded to stay out till sundown, for going out, I found, was really going in.

Friends of Acadia Benefit Gala
Saturday, August 12

The annual Friends of Acadia Benefit Gala & Auction will be held on Saturday, August 12, 6:00 p.m., under the big tent at the Asticou Inn. This event, produced by an extraordinary committee of volunteers and generous donors, raises significant funds that provide critical grants to park-protective projects and helps underwrite FOA’s general needs.

The theme of the evening will be “Acadia Shores”—the Benefit Gala Guide and tent décor will pay homage to Acadia’s magnificent shoreline. Imagine blues and greens, sea glass, shells, etc. on the tables with seagulls soaring amongst twinkling lights overhead. The Benefit Gala Guide will feature stunning photographs and informative articles centered on Acadia’s shores. Several auction items will also reflect this theme.

We invite all our friends to join us for an exciting evening of spirited bidding, delicious food, and dancing in a beautifully designed setting.

Invitations will be mailed in late June. For more information or to volunteer, contact Terry Begley at 800-625-0321 or terry@friendsofacadia.org, or visit our website at www.friendsofacadia.org and click the Benefit Gala sidebar.
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 us 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].

Your concern and appreciation for Acadia and Mount Desert Island will extend far beyond your own lifetime. It will be a lasting legacy, enriching the lives of millions now and in the future.

For more information, call the office at 800-625-0321, email the Director of Development at lisahorsch@friendsofacadia.org, or visit our website at www.friendsofacadia.org.
In a recent meeting with Friends of Acadia staff and board, Acadia National Park Superintendent Sheridan Steele shared alarming statistics about the decrease of young people exploring Acadia and other national parks. This is not a problem unique to national parks—today’s children are increasingly disconnected from nature.

Richard Louv, child advocacy expert and author of Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder, paints a disturbing picture of how we are losing touch with the natural world and, more importantly, how we are failing our children by not working harder to introduce them to nature. Instead of passing their free time hiking, swimming, and exploring the outdoors, children are more likely to sit in front of the computer or the television set.

To counteract this problem and to introduce the island’s young people and their families to the great activities available in the park, Friends will host Acadia Adventure: Family Fun Day on Sunday, July 23 from 2:00 to 5:00 at Little Long Pond in Seal Harbor. The activities will be ideal for children from 3–10 years old and their parents, grandparents, aunts, and/or uncles. Event details are not finalized, but the possible activities include:

- Nature walk
- Scavenger hunt
- Maze
- Rock climbing
- Carriage rides
- Max the horse
- Wild animal showcase
- Kayaking
- Story telling
- Pony rides
- Hot air balloon rides

We hope you will save the date and join us for family fun on July 23! For more information or to register, contact Lisa Horsch at 288-3340 or lisahorsch@friendsofacadia.org.
L.L. Bean Acadia Research Fellowships Awarded

Over the next five years, L.L. Bean will grant $25,000 per year to Friends of Acadia to implement the L.L. Bean Acadia Research Fellowship program. The goal of the program is to foster field research at Acadia to understand park resources and find ways to address management issues. The program will be managed by the Acadia Partners for Science and Learning, a non-profit organization partnering with the park to manage the Schoodic Education and Research Center and develop programs for that site.

After the first round of fellowship opportunities was publicized in late January, scientists and academicians submitted 23 proposals for field research at Acadia. Friends of Acadia and representatives of the Park Service, Acadia Partners for Science and Learning, and the academic community reviewed the proposals and selected five projects for L.L. Bean support. An additional two projects are being funded directly by Acadia Partners.

Fellowships in 2006 are:

**Natalie Cleavitt, Cornell University**, will study lichens, mosses, and liverworts at forested and cliff sites in Acadia. She will gather the park baseline information about these species and will examine how the rocks and trees on which these species grow affect species diversity and dominance.

**Holly Ewing, Bates College, and Kathleen Weathers, Institute of Ecosystem Studies**, will sample soils from Acadia’s coniferous and deciduous forests in order to calibrate a model that will be used to better understand and predict how long-term deposition of air pollutants at Acadia will affect natural resources.

**Amanda Little, University of Minnesota at Duluth**, will inventory the number and type of *Sphagnum* moss species in Acadia in order to give the park baseline information for future monitoring and to better understand how these species respond to human and beaver activity.

**Katherine McPhee, University of Maine**, will study the interaction between aphids and the invasive European fire ant which is well established at Acadia. Information collected will determine how the relationship between fire ants and aphids is changing Acadia’s native ecosystem.

**Nishanta Rajakaruna, College of the Atlantic**, will study ecological conditions and biological data for five rare plant species at Acadia. This research will help the park better manage and protect these species, while increasing understanding of the causes and consequences of their rarity.

**Sarah Nelson, University of Maine George J. Mitchell Center for Environment and Watershed Research**, (funded by Acadia Partners) will continue long-term monitoring of mercury in two of Acadia’s watersheds. Sarah will establish a citizen network of volunteer monitors, who will work with mentors to determine the best time and methods for collecting samples that provide essential data for calculating mercury budgets.

**Aimee Phillippi, Unity College**, (funded by Acadia Partners) will monitor the abundance and distribution of the invasive Asian shore crab, which was found recently for the first time at Schoodic. Aimee’s project will study the crab’s effects on intertidal crab and bivalve populations and will gather data on what happens early in the invasion process.

Many of the successful research proposals will foster participation of undergraduate and graduate students as field assistants. Additionally, four of the successful proposals were from universities and colleges new to research at Acadia. Many of the scientists will take advantage of the facilities at the Schoodic Education and Research Center, and several of these studies will hopefully lead to longer-term projects with broader benefits for Acadia.

New at Friends

Sharon Broom recently joined the Friends of Acadia staff as development officer, responsible for membership and the Annual Fund, bringing 25 years of experience with not-for-profit organizations.

Sharon served as development director for the Abbe Museum for seven years before joining the Friends staff. At the Abbe, Sharon helped the museum raise $6.1 million for its capital campaign to expand into the new museum building in downtown Bar Harbor. She also helped to increase substantially the museum’s membership and annual appeal income and coordinated the Abbe’s public relations, publications, and events.

Sharon and her husband, Dick, moved to Bar Harbor in 1999 from Chapel Hill, North Carolina. She is a member of Bar Harbor (MDI) Rotary and serves on the marketing committee of the Bar Harbor Chamber of Commerce.

In North Carolina, Sharon worked for organizations including the North Carolina Museum of Art and PlayMakers Repertory Company. She holds a bachelor’s degree in journalism from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Sharon can be reached at 207-288-3340 or sharon@friendsofacadia.org.

Hannum Dock Denied

In a five-to-two majority vote, the Maine Supreme Judicial Court voted to deny the application of Anne S. Hannum to build a 90-foot pier in Long Cove on the northwest side of Mt. Desert Island. The dock had been proposed for a sensitive ecological area with rocky ledges known as excellent habitat for nesting terns and pupping seals. An endangered roseate tern also had been observed at the site.

Friends of Acadia was an intervenor in the case, joining neighboring residents and the Maine Attorney General’s office in opposing the dock. The case began in 1999, when Ms. Hannum applied for a Department of Environmental Protection permit to construct the pier. Because of significant public outcry, the case was moved to the Board of Environmental Protection (BEP), which held public hearings on the application. At Friends’ request, Dr. John Anderson of College of the Atlantic testified about the potential negative effects of the proposed pier and associated boating activities on the significant unmanaged tern colony nearby.
The BEP ruled against Ms. Hannum’s application, citing unreasonable impacts on scenery and wildlife and the fact that she had several practicable alternative means to access the water. The case was appealed all the way to the Maine Supreme Judicial Court, which sent it back to the BEP in 2003 citing concern that the Board based its decision partially on speculation that additional docks would be built in the area as a result of Ms. Hannum’s application. The BEP once again ruled in the intervenors’ favor and Ms. Hannum appealed. The Attorney General’s office and lawyers for the intervenors defended the BEP ruling through Superior Court and back to the Maine Supreme Judicial Court.

In its final ruling, the Maine Supreme Judicial Court relied heavily on Dr. Anderson’s testimony about the unique nature of the wildlife habitat and tern colony. After six long years of an uncertain future, the area will remain an important, relatively undisturbed natural area. Friends thanks Dr. Anderson, Robert Shaw, and all who testified during its fight to protect this area, with special thanks to Jamie Nixon and Jim Wholly, lawyers who deftly argued its position throughout the process.

Acadia National Park is facing yet another budget shortfall this year. Acadia’s funding situation for FY 2006 (ending September 30, 2006) shows that despite receiving a base budget increase of $92,000 last year (an across-the-board allocation for all parks) and an $81,000 funding increase to cover Congressionally mandated pay raises, the park is projecting a shortfall of approximately $400,000 this year if they maintain operations at last year’s level.

The losses are the result of appropriations that are not sufficient to keep pace with rising costs, assessments taken by Congress and the National Park Service, and mandated salary increases for federal employees. These losses are compounded each year when the park is forced to respond by making cuts to operations on top of previous year’s cuts. Presently, the park has left vacant fourteen permanent park jobs, reduced seasonal interpretive programs, cut back on park maintenance, and shut down facilities at Blackwoods Campground for winter camping. These compounded losses erode Acadia’s management capabilities and reduce visitor services.

For the FY 2007 budget, the President recommended a $23.4 million increase in National Park Service operations overall – a small increase when compared to the $600 million that the National Parks Conservation Association’s business planning process determined was the overall Park Service operating shortfall. Maine’s Congressional delegation has been extremely supportive of Acadia, and Friends has requested their assistance again this year to stem the erosion of park funding. We encourage you to thank the Maine delegation and express your support for funding Acadia’s operating needs.

If you would like to get more involved in policy issues related to Acadia, consider joining the Acadia Advocacy Network. Send an e-mail to stephanie@friendsofacadia.org with the words, “Subscribe Advocacy Network” in the subject line of the message. You will receive periodic announcements of events or meetings to highlight important issues, opportunities to weigh in with the Maine Congressional delegation, or occasions to comment on park publications.

-American Redstart along Duck Brook, Acadia National Park.\footnote{Tom Bagdon}
Crippens Creek Environmental Assessment Progresses

DMJM Harris Planning consultants are on track to complete the federal Environmental Assessment for the Acadia Gateway Center in early summer of 2006. The Acadia Gateway Center is the transportation and welcome center proposed for the Crippens Creek property, a 369-acre parcel in Trenton on which Friends of Acadia holds an option. Friends will purchase the property in 2006 if the Environmental Assessment determines no significant environmental impacts associated with the project. Facility engineering will commence thereafter, and construction would begin in several years.

The consultants prepared several preliminary site design alternatives that were reviewed by the public at an informational meeting in late March. The alternatives present a diversity of building and parking arrangements—some with the transportation center and park information building combined; others arranged more like a campus. Wetlands and other environmentally sensitive areas will be identified for protection as part of the Environmental Assessment.

Based on public input, the consultants will fine-tune the alternatives and begin identifying potential impacts. A preferred alternative will be selected by the project partners. Once the Environmental Assessment is complete, it will go through a final public review and then will be sent to the Federal Transit Administration and the National Park Service for their determination on whether the project should proceed. For more information, contact Stephanie Clement at 288-3340 or stephanie@friendsofacadia.org.

Friends Welcomes Ridge Runners and Interns

Friends of Acadia is pleased to have two returning interns and four new seasonal employees contacting visitors on the trails of Acadia. The Ridge Runners and Recreation Intern are scheduled to start training in late June and work in the field through late August. Thanks to an endowment from an anonymous donor established as part of Acadia Trails Forever, the Ridge Runners will inform visitors about Leave No Trace principles, distribute park surveys, construct cairns and remove misleading ones, hand out water and maps to unprepared visitors, and serve as an outreach arm of Friends of Acadia.

The 2006 Ridge Runners and Recreation Intern are:

Heather Bleich. Heather received undergraduate degrees in geology and business administration from St. Norbert College in 2003 and completed her masters program in Earth and Environmental Sciences at Vanderbilt University in 2005. She has worked as a geology specialist at the College of William and Mary and has taught undergraduate laboratory classes as well as presented hands-on science activities to elementary and mid-
dle school students.

Kim Counts. Kim graduated from Presbyterian College in elementary education in 2002 and is pursuing a masters degree in environmental studies at the College of Charleston. Kim is a Registered Maine Guide and has led kayak tours and education programs around Mount Desert Island for several summers.

Pat Mahoney. Pat graduated from Bowdoin College in 2005 with degrees in environmental studies and Latin American studies. Pat worked for Friends of Acadia in the 2005 season as the Recreation Intern. He has prior experience working on stewardship projects for the Maine Island Trail Association and Maine Coast Heritage Trust.

Bhupi Nagpure. Bhupi received his baccalaureate degree in human ecology from College of the Atlantic in 2006. Last summer, he worked as an intern in the Wild Gardens of Acadia. He returns to the Friends of Acadia staff this summer as the Recreation Intern. Bhupi is a Davis Scholar and will continue his education in the fall in the masters program at the University of Maine School of Engineering.

Vassar Pierce. Vassar completed a degree in business administration at Bucknell University in 2006. Having worked as a corporate trainer and sales representative for a business solutions company, he has extensive experience speaking with the public—a skill that has prepared him for the Ridge Runner job.

We look forward to sending these talented young employees into the field as roving ambassadors for both Acadia National Park and Friends of Acadia.

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**ACADIA**

**by the numbers**

**AMERICA’S PROTECTED LANDS**

1 of every 5

US acres managed by the Department of the Interior

388

Number of units (National Parks, Monuments, Historic Areas, etc.) in the National Park System

58

National parks in the National Park Service (NPS)

$600 million

Estimated operating shortfall for NPS

$4.5 billion - $9.7 billion

Estimated NPS maintenance backlog

**2005 AT ACADIA**

2,051,484

Recreation visits

526,859

Recreation visits in August

7.1%

Decline in visits from 2004
**Book Reviews**

**Back to Nature**

*Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder*


“...the adventures we’ve had together in nature will always exist. These will be their turtle tales.”

From *Last Child in the Woods*

Paul, a San Diego fourth-grader, explained his feelings about the out-of-doors this way: “I like to play indoors better, ‘cause that’s where all the electrical outlets are.” Paul’s story is just one of hundreds that Louv tells in making his case that children are disengaged from nature in ways that go beyond anything we have seen before.

It’s a cause for concern. As Acadia Superintendent Sheridan Steele said in the last issue of this publication, “The future of the national parks, at least the public support for them, may depend on how today’s youth come to view our vast array of natural and cultural resources that make up our collective heritage.”

Louv’s stories about children’s experience with nature—or the lack of it—show that the problem is more than just too much TV. In Louv’s telling the causes include restrictive covenants, our approach to environmental education, fear about children’s safety, the need for tort reform, and ... you get the idea.

Which is the problem with the book. It does a better job of sounding the alarm than it does with telling you how to get your hands on—a fire extinguisher. But sounding the alarm is a good thing. And, if Louv’s stories get your attention, his notes at the back point you to sources that take a more analytical look at the problem and at possible solutions.

One solution does come through: those of us who love the parks need to do even more to get children learning about nature—hands on—by exploring tide pools, rocks, and life on the forest floor.

—Bill Zoellick

**The Flavor of Maine**

*Recipes from a Very Small Island*


Linda Greenlaw, Isle au Haut’s resident celebrity and bestselling author of *The Hungry Ocean, All Fishermen are Liars,* and *The Lobster Chronicles* co-authored this cookbook with her mother, Martha Greenlaw. *Recipes from a Very Small Island* is chock-full of character and authenticity. More than a cookbook, it’s a visual and virtual trip to Maine. The recipes are interspersed with vibrant, larger-than-life photographs and charming anecdotes of coastal life, friends, and community. The 75 or so recipes are rich in the flavors of coastal Maine, including lobster, crabs, blueberries, cranberries, and the traditional staple, beans.

Witty verse and wonderful imagery aside, this cookbook is notable for the ease of preparation and nutritional value of many of its recipes. Each calls for fresh, wholesome Maine ingredients. Most can be prepared in a relatively short time, adding up to a collection of traditional recipes that are, in fact, quite modern in the way they fit current lifestyles. And some of the recipes are downright trendy, for instance: “Grilled Marinated Scallops with Ginger and Sesame,” “Madeira-Sautéed Lobster on Angel Hair Pasta,” “Grilled Salmon with Fresh Blueberry Corn Salsa,” “Roasted Root Vegetables with Thyme and Marjoram Vinaigrette,” and, of course, the “Cranberry-Orange Jell-O-Shots.”

You will experience Maine all over again, wherever you are, with this wonderful collection of recipes.

—Bridget Moore
That a long-established relationship exists between the National Park Service and the arts is unquestionable. From the spectacular wonder of Acadia’s shores to the rugged awe of Yosemite’s terrain, our national parks stimulate creativity. The beauty of the American landscape, the splendor of nature, the drama of history, and the diversity of humanity have long been captured in lasting works of art. painters, sculptors, authors, photographers, composers, and other artists have traditionally studied, interpreted, and preserved our park’s natural and cultural resources. They have documented our parks flora, fauna, geography, and geology. Inspired by our parks, they have illustrated our country’s history, portrayed its societies, and depicted its people. They have brought pleasure, furthered understanding, encouraged appreciation, advocated protection, and championed conservation. During their three-week stay at Schoodic, the artists are provided housing on the Schoodic Education and Research Center (SERC) campus and work with the 5th–8th grade students of the Schoodic Education and Research Adventure (SEA) program.

Friends of Schoodic supports these artists by providing them with a local point of contact in addition to the park rangers responsible for administering the program. FOS volunteers are available to welcome the artists to Schoodic, answer their questions about the resources and culture of the local community and Downeast area, and provide a range of assistance and support. They serve as liaisons between the visiting artists and the local arts community, bringing the visiting and local artists together in an exchange of creative experiences. They are prepared to assist with programs that showcase the artists’ work and enable them to share their talents and perspectives with the public.

Through our involvement with the Artist-in-Residence program at Schoodic, Rosemary and I have perceived a synergy between SERC and the arts. We speculate about further opportunities for the arts here. We imagine, for example, the creation of a space dedicated to the artistic tradition of the national parks. We can conceive of an arts center at SERC for cataloging and displaying works donated to the park. We can envision a gallery hosting exhibitions that support the National Park Service mission by featuring works celebrating nature and humanity, encouraging stewardship, and advocating protection and preservation. A SERC arts center might also sponsor educational and outreach opportunities and foster interaction between science and the arts. Such a center could serve a wide array of audiences, attract a variety of partners, enrich interdisciplinary programs, and provide diverse opportunities to celebrate the natural and cultural resources of Acadia National Park, the Schoodic peninsula, Downeast Maine, and our nation.

Rosemary and I are excited about the arts at Acadia and SERC because the distinctive nature of the Schoodic District inspires us, as it does the other Friends of Schoodic members, all of whom have an extraordinary level of energy and commitment. FOS welcomes new participants, helpers, ideas, and suggestions. We meet at 7:00 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month on the SERC campus. You can find out more about FOS on the web at www.friendsofschoodic.org, or by contacting us at P.O. Box 194, Prospect Harbor, ME 04669. We invite you to join us—our only requirement is a love for Acadia National Park and a special passion for the undeveloped splendor that is Schoodic.

— Garry Levin

GARRY LEVIN is chairman of Friends of Schoodic, a committee of Friends of Acadia.
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.

**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.
FRIENDS OF ACADIA’S ANNUAL MEETING

Friday, July 14, 2006
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 House of the Regency Hotel
Bar Harbor

Meet Friends of Acadia’s new president, John Courtin; celebrate the 20th anniversary of Friends; and learn more about how you have contributed to the betterment of the magnificent landscape that is Acadia National Park.

Casual dress.

RSVP by July 7 to Terry at 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

TRAVEL WRITING WORKSHOPS

at Acadia National Park at Schoodic Point

FOUR DAY-LONG WORKSHOPS MASTERING THE CRAFT OF TRAVEL WRITING.

Workshop Schedule:

July 29 - Introduction to Science Writing
Writing about the plants, animals, geology, and natural systems that make a place special.

August 5 - Researching Local Places
Every place has a story - find the narrative of locations abroad and close to home.

August 12 - Taking your Writing to Market
Tips for writers who want to begin publishing their work. Finding an agent, selling free-lance magazine work, exploring self-publishing.

August 17 - Epicurean Prose
Good travel writing is often about good food. Explore writing about local produce and regional ingredients. Sample regional Maine treats.

Instruction coordinated by Dr. Kathryn Miles, Associate Professor and Director of the Writing Program at Unity College, assisted by practicing professional writers in the different practice areas.

Call Michelle Bierman at Acadia Partners for Science and Learning, 207-288-1326, for information about pricing and overnight accommodations.
Friends of Acadia

Mission

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.