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 ($10 in the shoulder seasons) and $40 annual pass are available at the following locations in Maine:

Acadia National Park Headquarters (on the Eagle Lake Road/Rte. 233 in Bar Harbor)
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)

Park pass fees make possible vital maintenance projects in Acadia.
In September, lobstermen and other residents decisively crushed a proposal for a liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminal at Prospect Harbor, in Gouldsboro, near the fishing village of Corea. The development also would have affected Acadia National Park, Petit Manan National Wildlife Refuge, and Schoodic National Scenic Byway.

The Corea terminal would have lain inside the 1986 Acadia National Park purchase boundary set by Congress. It extends from the centerline of the Penobscot River and Bay to the Washington County line in Gouldsboro Bay, incorporating the Corea site. Within this border the national park is authorized to acquire conservation easements on islands and on certain mainland properties near Schoodic. The LNG site lay three miles from a park-held conservation easement at Prospect Harbor's western side, opposite Corea. Acadia visitors on Schoodic Head and Cadillac Mountain would have easily seen the industrial structures and the thousand-foot tanker ships motoring in and out.

Units of Petit Manan National Wildlife Refuge dot the coast east and west of the site, which includes a long natural beach. The tankers would have passed near the refuge's islands and mainland components that were permanently set aside as habitat. Fixed industrial structures would have abutted the biologically rich Corea Bog, itself slated for inclusion in Petit Manan.

Schoodic National Scenic Byway, designated in 2000 by the U.S. and Maine departments of transportation, runs on Rte. 186 through Winter Harbor and Gouldsboro. The byway program's purposes are “to preserve and enhance selected roads” that pass through areas with special visual and other qualities. Heavy service vehicles could not have accessed the LNG terminal without using the byway.

Acadia, Petit Manan, and Schoodic Scenic Byway are the federally designated lands, waters, and roads that support tourism and provide access to some of the nation's most beautiful scenery. These assets, whose protection was hard won over a century, help safeguard both the lobster fishery and coastal village life, vital ingredients of the region's economy and culture. Putting heavy industry where a national park overlaps a national wildlife refuge, in an area served by a national scenic byway, would have been contrary to their interrelated conservation purposes — and a terrible precedent. Moreover, land trusts hold conservation reserves and easements in the area.

To its credit, the developer, Cianbro, voluntarily withdrew its proposal amid strong objections from local residents, including Friends of Schoodic. For its part, Friends of Acadia benefited from an intermediary who quietly conveyed our concerns to the company’s top ranks.

In 1996 Friends of Acadia launched the coalition that prevented an ill-designed timber cut at Schoodic and led to a good cut. And in 2001, we stopped the state’s forcible takeover of 26 acres that have since become national park property at Schoodic Point. With the citizens’ defeat of the industrial terminal, it would be nice if Schoodic had a breather. But most conservation victories are mere preludes, and we can anticipate — be sure of it — further attempts to diminish the area's character. Supported by your donations, Friends of Acadia will stay at the job for as long as it takes.

W. Kent Olson, President

Front, Schoodic Loop Road and cobble beaches from Schoodic Head in Acadia National Park, looking northeast. Rear, Prospect Harbor, in Gouldsboro. The approximate location of the proposed LNG terminal is at the right side of photo, along Prospect Harbor’s extensive natural beach.
FEATURE ARTICLES

8 Piecing Together Acadia’s Mercury Puzzle
Catherine Schmitt
Winter may hold the key to some of Acadia’s questions about mercury in its waters.

10 Lepidoptera Blitz in Acadia
Brian Scholtens
Scientists and volunteers join forces to be sure that even the least of them are counted.

18 National Park Service Ceremony Marks 400th Anniversary
Ginny Reams
Passamaquoddy, Canadian, French, and United States dignitaries commemorate a fateful landing on St. Croix Island.

ACTIVITIES/HIGHLIGHTS

7 Memorial — Laurance Rockefeller

12 Updates

19 Book Reviews

21 A Short History of Friends of Acadia

DEPARTMENTS

1 President’s Column
Another Schoodic Threat Defeated
W. Kent Olson

3 Superintendent’s View
A Great Team
Sheridan Steele

5 Chairman’s Letter
Working for the Land
Dianna Emory

7 Poem
And Now
Martin Steingesser

9 Special Person
David Woodside
Kelly S. Dickson

15 Poem
Lunar Eclipse, Obscured by Snow
Robin Pelzman
A GREAT TEAM

One of the best things about working for the National Park Service is the people you get to work with. Everywhere I have been during my 26-year career, I have enjoyed working with highly professional and personally dedicated individuals who have made protecting the parks and sharing them with others their life’s calling. And that is nowhere more true than at Acadia where we have the best managers and partners of any national park in the country.

The Acadia National Park “management team” consists of the managers that meet regularly to set policy, establish direction and priorities, coordinate daily operations, and otherwise make decisions relative to the work of ANP. This group includes the superintendent, deputy superintendent, chief of resource management and science, chief of interpretation and education, chief of maintenance, chief ranger, administrative officer, park planner and concessions specialist. I would like to briefly introduce them to you.

Len Bobinchock is the deputy superintendent or “chief of operations” and as such, he coordinates all of the daily operations, routine business, and special activities managed by park staff through the division chiefs listed below.

David Buccello, chief ranger, oversees the park’s law enforcement, resource protection, fee collection (campgrounds and entrance stations), fire prevention and control, dispatch, and lifeguard programs. He also coordinates the park’s search and rescue, emergency medical, and security programs.

As the administrative officer, Michael Healy is responsible for program management of administrative functions, including human resources, contracting, purchasing, budget, property management, and the park’s computer systems and information management.

David Manski, Acadia’s chief of resource management, supervises programs involving natural, cultural, and social science research, monitoring and data management, ecological restoration, management of rare and exotic species, compliance with federal/state environmental and historic preservation laws, curatorship of the park’s museum collection, and monitoring and protection of park lands, including properties under conservation easement.

The chief of maintenance, Jim Vekasi, manages construction and maintenance programs related to all of Acadia’s man-made facilities — roads, carriage roads, trails, buildings, campgrounds, grounds, utility systems, and equipment fleet.

The Acadia National Park “management team” consists of the managers that meet regularly to set policy, establish direction and priorities, coordinate daily operations, and otherwise make decisions relative to the work of ANP.

Deb Wade, as chief of interpretation, oversees the visitor centers, ranger-led programs, education programs, exhibits, park newspaper, publications, and other efforts to make the park meaningful to visitors (i.e., through “interpretation”).

John Kelly, park planner, coordinates planning and public involvement strategies related to park management and development. He works closely with surrounding communities to reduce impacts from adjacent land uses and to foster support for park planning efforts.

Liz Weston is the concession management specialist, and is responsible for ensuring contract and permit compliance by Acadia’s four concessioners and 120 incidental business permittees.

The larger team consists of our permanent employees, our seasonal employees, and many volunteers. Other team partners include:

- Acadia Partners for Science and Learning, a new nonprofit organization established to help manage the Schoodic Education and Research Center
- Eastern National Association, a nonprofit

Together we provide the range of visitor services required by the 2.5 million or more annual visitors to Acadia and provide for the protection of the natural and cultural resources that make up this spectacular national park.

Friends of Acadia and volunteers, as well as our many other state and local partners, help maintain the high quality experience visitors expect at Acadia National Park. You provide for a margin of excellence that we otherwise could not afford. You also are a strong advocate for the park’s land protection and visitor service functions including the budget necessary to conduct the range of programs listed above. Thank you for all you do to keep Acadia the very special place it is!

Sheridan Steele, Superintendent
A Snoem

Snow falls
No one knows
On the ice
On the snow
What hides inside.

—Dorothy Springarn
written at age 7 (2nd grade)
Saratoga Springs, New York

Family Traditions
I would like to thank you and the rest of FOA for the great work you do for Acadia National Park. My wife’s family has been visiting Acadia since her grandfather answered Mr. Rockefeller’s call for University of Maine students to help fight the fires that threatened to destroy the park back in 1947. We hope that, as our daughter grows up, she gets to enjoy the same beautiful park that we have come to love.

—James Roche
Douglas, Massachusetts

Bobcats on Otter Cliffs?
My family visited Acadia in August and a highlight of our trip was attending some of the ranger-led programs in the park. We participated in “Discovering the Forest” hike with Ranger Mark, and “Mountain Mysteries” with Ranger Donna. Both children and adults learned a great deal from the rangers, which really enhanced our vacation. My 9-year-old son followed Ranger Mark so closely that he was almost in his back pocket. He has “the best job in the world” according to Peter. Ranger Mark was personable and entertaining, as well as knowledgeable, and our wounds from his hands-on porcupine quill demonstration are healing nicely.

Ranger Donna’s program was attended by family members from 6 to 69 years old, and we were all impressed by her ability to explain geology and glaciation in a manner we could all understand. The kids loved her hands-on demonstration and mystery questions.

I believe we enjoyed our hikes and bike rides in the park much more after attending these programs. In this political era of government cutbacks in all areas of environmental protection, I hope such programs will be spared. They really were great and affordable. Thanks again to the National Park Service and their rangers for providing us with great memories of Maine and your beautiful park.

By the way, I made an erroneous entry in the “wildlife sighting log” at the Sieur de Monts Nature Center. The three bobcat cubs I saw on August 5 turned out to be regular housecat kittens that someone had abandoned. Could someone scratch that out?

—Ann Schleckman
Lakewood, Ohio

Correction: With apologies we note that in the Summer/Fall issue of the Journal, we misprinted a line of Annaliese Jakimides’ award-winning poem, “Dragon of Light in the Water.” The line should have read: “She boogies with Che and Martin Luther and Jackie O.” You will find the complete, and corrected, poem on our website at www.friendsofacadia.org/journal.shtml, under the Poetry Competition link.
The carriage roads and their ditches received some loving care in November when hundreds of Acadia National Park enthusiasts gathered for Friends of Acadia’s annual Take Pride in Acadia Day. This and many other Friends-sponsored activities represent our work on behalf of the land — an important part of our mission. Friends’ donors have contributed millions of dollars and built endowments for trail and carriage road rehabilitation. Our volunteers and ANP staff have spent thousands of hours digging, raking, clipping, and hauling in our efforts to care for the park. And we have assisted in protecting treasured views and halting the clear-cutting of more than a thousand acres of forestland abutting the Schoodic unit of Acadia. Now the park needs Friends of Acadia to work for the land in a different way.

With our conservation partners, Friends is committed to assisting Acadia in securing many of the unprotected parcels within the park boundary. In 1986, Congress directed the National Park Service to buy, from willing sellers, private properties inside the Acadia National Park boundaries. Twenty parcels are available now. These properties include 340 acres of wooded areas, marshes, rocky outcroppings, fields, and waterfront. They share common denominators: each is currently available from a willing seller; each, if abused, has the potential to be damaged through obtrusive structures, light and noise pollution, vehicle access, and/or the destruction of wildlife habitat; each is on Superintendent Sheridan Steele’s list of threatened properties.

Friends of Acadia is planning a program to purchase land or obtain conservation easements on these parcels. Friends and our conservation partners, including Acadia National Park and Maine Coast Heritage Trust, will provide the land protection expertise. We look forward to keeping you informed of progress on this project.

Dianna Emory, Board Chair
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**
Gifts may be restricted to a designated program or applied to FOA’s general operating fund.

**Gift of Life Insurance**
Name FOA as policy owner and beneficiary, and receive immediate tax deductions on your premium payments.

**Gift of Property**
Gifts of real estate, boats, or artwork provide FOA with marketable assets and may enable you to avoid capital gains taxes.

**Named Endowment Fund**
The principal of a fund established in your name — or for someone you wish to honor or memorialize — is managed for growth, while the income from the fund supports programs.

**Charitable Remainder Trust /Charitable Lead Trust**
Provide FOA or yourself with a steady income stream and, with a remainder trust, leave a significant future gift to FOA. Both arrangements entitle you to considerable tax savings.

**Bequests**
Name FOA as a beneficiary in your will and make a lasting contribution to the organization.

For more information about any of these suggested methods of giving to Friends of Acadia, please contact us at 207-288-3340.
Memorial

LAURANCE S. ROCKEFELLER
1910–2004

Laurance Rockefeller was a premier conservation leader of the 20th century. Long-time associate Henry Diamond notes that he “participated in his father’s [John D. Rockefeller, Jr.] contributions to [the creation of] Redwood, Shenandoah, Mesa Verde, Acadia, and other parks,” and created Virgin Islands and March-Billings-Rockefeller national parks. With his brother David and other family members, Laurance was a major donor to Friends of Acadia’s landmark carriage road endowment.

Laurance chaired the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission under presidents Eisenhower and Kennedy. This body gave birth to the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund, which has helped purchase thousands of now-protected areas across America, including the Allagash Wilderness Waterway, additions to Acadia National Park, and many other Maine parks and recreation sites. The commission spurred some of the greatest conservation legislation ever enacted, including the Wilderness Act.

In Laurance Rockefeller: Catalyst for Conservation, biographer and Yale history professor Robin W. Winks wrote that Laurance’s “persistence in espousing reasonable change within the system helped move concern for nature from obscurity to a full place at the cabinet table, the congressional caucuses, and the corporate boardrooms without the rancor or revolution.” All who enjoy the grandeur and quiet sustenance of America’s wilder places owe much to the vision, drive, and generosity of Laurance Rockefeller.

Poem

AND NOW

Already afternoon, already that afterlight, not yet blue but sunless, already this day backing away, rolling out of reach, all the morning’s busyness — e-mail, phone messages, the run along Bayview, sunlight across the road, the smell of wet earth, snow, manure and pine along the cow pasture; earlier, too, those whispers, sparrows at first light, intimations, a breath in my hair, the brusque crow of love, all the heart’s kindling — now this moment’s words.

The cats find us, the calico stretching out on top the sofa, idling like a Mercedes, the ginger and white asleep on the rocker. You, on a chair across from me, reading Anam Cara and writing notes, don’t look up, say nothing I can use to turn this into a poem. 4:20, already the light dark as blue coal.

Martin Steingesser

MARTIN STEINGESSER lives in Portland, Maine. His poetry has appeared in many publications, including The American Poetry Review, Dogwood, The American Scholar, and Poetry International; and in anthologies, such as Poetry Comes Up Where It Can: An Anthology and The Maine Poets.
Winter at Acadia is quiet. Unlike many islanders, for whom the first drifting snowflake and skin of ice on the Tarn signals a long rest, snowfall is the beginning of the busy season for Sarah Nelson, a doctoral student at the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Environmental and Watershed Research at The University of Maine. Nelson will be sampling snow — and the pollution carried with it — at Acadia National Park this winter.

Due to its prominent topography, Mount Desert Island is often immersed in clouds and coastal fog that can be loaded with pollutants, including mercury. Acadia has some of the highest rates of mercury deposition and accumulation in the Northeast. The highest concentration of mercury ever documented in a Maine fish was at Hodgdon Pond, on the western side of the island. The entire state of Maine is under a fish consumption advisory, because toxic forms of mercury accumulate in humans and wildlife when they eat contaminated fish.

Nelson is part of a team of scientists who have been trying to account for the mercury that enters and leaves Acadia’s ecosystems. Pollutants fall out of the sky attached to dry particles or are washed out by rain and snow. But deposition is not an even blanket across the landscape. Since 1998, researchers have been studying how pollution varies depending on the season, topography, and forest cover at two watersheds in the park, Cadillac Brook and Hadlock Brook. Cadillac Brook runs off the southeast slope of Cadillac Mountain, which burned in the great fire of 1947 and so has younger, hardwood trees and thinner soils. Hadlock Brook drains an unburned watershed of spruce and cedar. Recent research by Nelson created a budget that showed how water and materials, like mercury and other elements, enter and leave the two watersheds. She found that 80 percent of the mercury flowing out of the watersheds was exported in winter by streams and spring snowmelt.

More than half of Acadia’s annual precipitation, which averages 140 cm, falls as rain and snow in the winter, and stream flows are also highest in late winter and early spring. As Nelson was finishing her master’s degree, she realized monitoring data for the growing season might not be enough. “We don’t know if the 80 percent leaving in winter and spring is the result of more mercury coming in at those times, or if something else is going on in the watershed,” says Nelson, who had begun to wonder how much mercury was coming in with snow. “Scientists have often said that there’s no mercury in snow. We’re trying to figure out if that’s true or not at Acadia,” she says.

Nelson and the Mitchell Center research group describe the research as working on pieces of a puzzle. “We’ve been studying these watersheds for six years, filling in pieces and gaps,” says Nelson. “It’s a good example of how science works: research to answer a question leads to more questions. We started out with watershed monitoring, and the park’s resource managers have been so supportive of the science that we’ve been able to expand the project to answer the new questions that arose.”

In order to calculate the amount of mercury that comes in during the winter, Nelson needs to measure how the forest canopy intercepts snowfall, which is no easy feat. It’s difficult to get to the sampling sites — most are off the trail, in the woods on steep hillsides. Nelson will have to rush down to Acadia the day after a snowstorm to catch the snow before it starts to melt. She’ll be watching the weather closely, not wanting to miss a snowfall of opportunity to help solve the mercury puzzle at Acadia.

The international Canon National Park Science Scholars Program is funding Nelson’s research. Her 2003 award was the only one based on work in a U.S. national park.

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.
The visitor experience in Acadia National Park is very different today than it was in the 1970s, and much of this difference can be attributed to the influence of David Woodside. Woodside has served the needs of tourists for 28 years through employment with Acadia Corporation, a private company and park concessionaire.

“We’ve come a long, long way since 1976, when there were rubber lobsters for sale in park stores,” he said.

Woodside has come a long way himself. While earning a bachelor’s degree in business administration at the University of Maine in Orono, he worked summers at a restaurant in Trenton. That’s where he met his wife, Kathy. They married in 1974 and opened a fudge shop in Boothbay Harbor before moving to Georgia. But southern living didn’t suit the Woodsides.

“My heart was tied to this area, and we both wanted to come back,” says Dave. He and Kathy returned to Maine in 1975 and Dave helped manage the IGA in Ellsworth, then ran the general store in Otis. “That’s when we kind of quickly decided we didn’t want to make a career of that,” he says. Dave landed a job with Acadia Corporation as seasonal manager of the gift shop on the summit of Cadillac, and enjoyed using his business skills in a park setting. He is now president of the successful company. Kathy works at the Jesup Library and does volunteer work in the community.

In addition to the Jordan Pond House restaurant and gift shop and the gift shops at Cadillac and Thunder Hole, Acadia Corporation operates businesses outside of the park: the Acadia Country Store, the Acadia Shop, Acadia Outdoors, and Acadia Park Wear in Bar Harbor. How does he balance it all? “With the wonders of computers, and hiring the right people,” he explains.

In the late 1990s, the merchandising in gift stores inside Acadia became more educationally oriented. “There are some interpretive displays — it’s a quasi-visitor center approach that has been really fun and successful,” Dave says. “Acadia is not about red lobsters. It’s trying to get folks to understand what is so wonderful about this place.”

Dave has been to most of the well-known national parks, and while places like Yellowstone, Yosemite, and Glacier are amazing, he claims Acadia is the best. “The quality of the visitor services in Acadia is definitely something I feel good about,” he says. “I’ve been here so long I take an intense, personal interest in it.”

He and Kathy enjoy Acadia by walking their dogs — both rescued from animal shelters — on the carriage roads in the early morning or after work. They also enjoy hiking in the off-season.

“For me it really hits home when I’m driving to work,” says Dave. “I drive down Norway Drive onto the Eagle Lake Road with all these other cars heading into Bar Harbor to go to work. Instead, I turn into the park to go to work, and am immediately struck by how quiet it is, and how lucky I am.”

Over the years, Acadia Corporation has contributed more than $70,000 to Friends of Acadia in contributions and in-kind gifts. Acadia Corporation and Friends of Acadia were founded under some of the same principles, he says. “We’re both interested in the betterment of the island and the park.”

Acadia Corporation was recycling beverage containers and cardboard for years before it was required to do so, and has systematically been trying to find ways to reduce the waste stream. Lemon rinds from Jordan Pond House are composted with wood chips to make soil used for on-site landscaping, and leftover popovers are donated to a local farmer for pig feed.

Acadia Corporation has formed a team to help at Friends of Acadia’s Earth Day Roadside Clean-Up, and Dave has also volunteered at Friends’ Take Pride in Acadia Day. He serves on the board of directors for Bar Harbor Bank & Trust, the Abbe Museum, Bar Harbor Congregational Church, and the MDI YMCA, where he enjoys playing basketball at noon.

Friends of Acadia salutes this environmentally conscious businessman and the ways he has enhanced the MDI experience for visitors and year-round residents alike.

—Kelly S. Dickson
As I climbed and then stood on top of Schoodic Head, several things became obvious to me. First, my son Michael’s eyes for spotting insects certainly are now better than mine. He quickly picked out three or four different day-flying inchworm moths as we made the climb. Having him along on a beautiful June day was a wonderful addition to our effort to document the butterfly and moth species of the Schoodic District of Acadia National Park. Second, this was a gorgeous view of the rocky Maine coast. Places like Acadia National Park renew my motivation as a field biologist and remind me of the reasons I love learning about the living world.

Finally, I was reminded how gratifying it is to work with such an enthusiastic group of volunteers. Efforts such as this survey require many dedicated and knowledgeable people. Our two-day effort in early June 2004 definitely had plenty of both.

Acadia National Park is unique in having an excellent baseline of information about its biological diversity. The Proctor collection housed at the park documents over 1,400 species of Lepidoptera from the park. These records are largely from the 1930s and 1940s and focus on the diversity of Mount Desert Island. For both of those reasons, our current survey provided valuable information for the park. It was the beginning of an effort to reexamine the diversity of Lepidoptera in the park, several decades after the initial survey. It also provided a snapshot (albeit at only one time of year) of the diversity of the Schoodic District section of the park.

A survey such as this one is an intensive effort and always results in interesting findings. Several teams spent the first afternoon and most of the next day searching for butterflies and day-flying moths in the various...
habitats on the peninsula. Multiple traps and light sheets were put out at night with samples from these traps coming into the sorting room the next morning. An army of volunteers catalogued, sorted, and recorded the data collected. Cool weather kept the volume of samples down, but with many teams looking and many habitats sampled, a respectable 168 species were identified, with several others awaiting identification. Of these species, 150 were moths (mostly Geometridae and Noctuidae) and 18 were butterflies and skippers. One particularly interesting find was the noctuid moth, *Lepipolys perscripta* (see photo). We recorded what might be the most northerly records for this species, with the rest of its distribution stretching down the East Coast, across the Gulf Coast, and into the Plains States. The occurrence of this species in the Acadia area might be an indication of its spread northward, since it was not recorded by the Proctor survey.

Our survey originated with the Maine Entomological Society, inspired partly by similar efforts in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The Society had previously done an ant survey at Acadia and was interested in continuing work in the park. After participating in my microlepidoptera class at Humboldt Field Research Institute in Steuben, Maine, the previous summer, Charlene Donahue from the Maine Forest Service suggested that Lepidoptera be the focus of this year’s trip, and asked if I would be willing to help out with the effort. Dick Dearborn of the Maine Entomological Society ably organized the effort and recruited volunteers. Reggie Webster, an ecologist from New Brunswick, Canada, headed up the efforts of the butterfly survey and provided invaluable help with moths. The Maine Forest Service provided equipment for the effort, and the staff at Acadia National Park provided support, encouragement, and excellent food and facilities. Obviously, such an effort takes many people, not the least of whom are the volunteers. All who participated made this a great success, and set the stage for similar efforts at other times of the year or with other groups of insects.

DR. BRIAN SCHOLTENS is an associate professor at the College of Charleston in South Carolina. He has taught “The Biology of Insects” for 11 summers at the University of Michigan Biological Station and courses on Lepidoptera (butterflies and moths) for three summers at Humboldt Field Research Station (Eagle Hill) in Steuben, ME. He is co-coordinator of the Lepidoptera survey in Great Smoky Mountains National Park (part of a larger survey of all living organisms called an All Taxon Biodiversity Inventory – ATBI) with Dr. Dave Wagner of the University of Connecticut. Over the course of the ATBI survey, researchers have documented over 1,600 species of butterflies and moths from the park (about 800 as new records) and expect the total number to reach between 2,000 and 2,500 species.
Art for Acadia
Kelly Dickson (left) and Ken Olson of Friends of Acadia flank Jim Counihan of the Eastern Maine Camera Club at the “Art for Acadia” photography exhibit held this August in Bangor. One of the winning entries, submitted by Joel Holcomb, is displayed on the easel. Winning prints were exhibited August 27 at the By Design gallery, 20 Harlow St., Bangor. Contest entry fees and poster proceeds benefit Friends of Acadia (see poster below).

Bus Passengers Comment
Each August, Tom Crikelair Associates conducts a survey of Island Explorer passengers to solicit feedback on bus operations and to understand rider demographics. This year, passengers were asked two open-ended questions: 1) whether they had any comments or suggestions for improving service, and 2) whether they had any comments about L.L. Bean’s million dollar gift to Friends of Acadia in support of Island Explorer operations. The following are a few of the quotes recorded on the 2004 survey:

• Public transport is vital to reduce car traffic. Car traffic is the least desirable thing in a natural area or a delightful small town...Eden St. passenger from St. Andrews, New Brunswick
• More bike capacity...Sand Beach passenger from Long Island, NY
• Excellent idea. I can finally see something other than the rear of the car in front of me...Sand Beach passenger from Latham, NY
• Increase the number of buses to Sand Beach and Jordan Pond. The free service is the best thing since sliced bread...Jordan Pond passenger from Philadelphia, PA
• Make sure you have service at trailheads until sundown...Sand Beach passenger from New Jersey
• I think [the gift] is very nice of [L.L. Bean]. I use the bus almost every day and have for over 5 years now. I am very grateful for the free service...Blackwoods passenger from Seal Harbor, ME
• [L.L. Bean’s] corporate citizenship is exem-
MDI Loon Study Needs Volunteers

This past summer, the Gorham-based BioDiversity Research Institute (BRI) completed the third year of a five-year project studying common loon breeding activity on Mount Desert Island. This study is a collaborative effort involving BRI, The Somes Meynell Wildlife Sanctuary, and Acadia National Park.

In 2004, 11 MDI lakes and ponds were surveyed to determine: 1) return rates for color-marked birds, 2) the presence of territorial pairs, 3) nest attempts, 4) eggs laid, 5) eggs hatched, and 6) chicks fledged (alive at six weeks of age).

Common loons were observed on all 11 water bodies, but only six were inhabited by breeding pairs. Four of the six lakes and ponds had one pair of loons, and two had multiple pairs (up from one in the previous two years). In all, nine breeding pairs of loons were found on the island.

Of the nine breeding loon pairs, six nested and laid a total of nine eggs. Three of the nine eggs hatched, three were abandoned and collected for scientific analysis, and three were eaten by predators. Of the three chicks observed alive, two survived to be at least six weeks of age.

Human disturbance appears to be a significant factor in the pressures loons on MDI face to successfully nest and hatch young. In 2003, BRI documented cases of human disturbance on two nesting pairs, and in 2004, three nests were affected.

In the final two years of this study, it will be important to continue to monitor the inci...
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Friends of Acadia’s Advocacy Network Grows
The Acadia Advocacy Network is a group established by Friends of Acadia to inform citizen volunteers of opportunities to get involved in park issues, such as funding shortfalls, threats to natural and cultural resources, and park planning. Members receive occasional alerts via email, such as these three sent out this fall:

- In September, Friends learned that Cianbro Corporation, the largest construction company in the state of Maine, was proposing a liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminal for the former Navy facilities in Prospect Harbor, just five miles east of the Schoodic section of Acadia National Park and three miles east of Spruce Point on which Acadia holds a conservation easement. The site would have been visible from Cadillac Mountain and Schoodic Head inside the park. Ocean tankers serving the facility would have navigated through islands and around mainland areas protected by Petit Manan Wildlife Refuge, Acadia National Park, and private land trusts. Friends alerted the Advocacy Network to a public meeting at which Cianbro was scheduled to present its plans to the town selectboard.

- At Friends’ request, a high-placed intermediary contacted the president of Cianbro to indicate our desire to discuss the issues. While Friends was working behind the scenes to find out more about the proposed LNG terminal, Cianbro scheduled an additional meeting with the fishermen from the Schoodic Peninsula. Due to vocal opposition to the project, Cianbro elected not to proceed with its plans. Friends alerted the Advocacy Network that the LNG terminal had been abandoned and thanked Network members for their efforts. (For more about this topic, see page 1.)

- In mid-September, Acadia National Park released its draft General Management Plan (GMP) Amendment and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Schoodic Education and Research Center. Acadia inherited the land and facilities of the former Navy base on the Schoodic Peninsula in 2002. The park is converting the site to a research and education center and proposed three alternatives in the EIS for managing the facilities. Friends supported the park’s preferred alternative — to cooperatively manage the site with a new nonprofit that would assist with recruiting researchers to work in Acadia, scheduling programs, establishing partnerships, and raising funds. Friends also supported the overarching goal of maintaining Schoodic as a quiet, natural place and recommended removing unneeded buildings and replacing the water tower with a less visible structure. Friends outlined the organization’s position to Advocacy Network members and encouraged them to submit public comments.

To sign up to be a member of the Acadia Advocacy Network, contact Stephanie Clement at stephanie@friendsofacadia.org or connect through the Friends of Acadia website, www.friendsofacadia.org. Email addresses of activist network participants are confidential, and participants can remove their names from the list at any time.

FOA Continues the Battle for Long Cove
Friends of Acadia has continued steadfast in its opposition to a 90-foot dock proposed for Long Cove, on the northwest side of Mt. Desert Island. The dock was planned for property adjacent to parcels under conservation easement, including The Nature Conservancy’s Indian Point Blagden Preserve, and the ledges in Long Cove are known excellent habitat for nesting terns and pupping seals. Friends is an interverter in the case, along with several residents of the area.

In October 2003, the Maine Supreme Judicial Court remanded the case to the Board of Environmental Protection for further consideration and documentation of findings. In June 2004, The Board ruled for a second time against the landowner, stating, “[the dock] would unreasonably interfere with existing scenic and aesthetic uses in that the project would cause an unreasonable adverse impact to aquatic life and the aquatic habitat supporting seals and terns in the cove, and would unreasonably interfere with the existing public viewing of those wildlife species.” The Board also felt that the landowner had not adequately demonstrated that other alternatives to constructing the dock were not practicable.

The landowner has appealed the Board’s
decision, and a hearing is expected before Hancock County Superior Court sometime after November. Depending upon the outcome of that decision, the case may proceed to the Maine Supreme Judicial Court, for a second time, next year.

Additional Support for Island Explorer System

Assistant Secretary of the Interior Lynn Scarlett visited Acadia National Park on August 25, 2004, to announce a $1.2-million grant from the Federal Lands Highway Program toward the 2006 purchase of additional propane Island Explorer buses. Maine Department of Transportation Commissioner David Cole announced an additional $900,000 from a state bond and USDOT. The secretary and the commissioner thanked the bus partnership for creating a national model for alternative, low-emissions public transit. Island Explorer has prevented tons of pollutants and eliminated 557,807 automobile trips on MDI since 1999.

Intern Studies Year-round Transit System Concept for MDI

Friends of Acadia was privileged to host Mike Mahoney, a McGill University student, who donated his time this summer as an intern for Mount Desert Island (MDI) Tomorrow. MDI Tomorrow is a forum bringing citizens together to work collaboratively toward goals for the future of the MDI area. Friends of Acadia has served on the Steering Committee for this effort, ranging in topics from transportation, community design and land use, communi-

ROBIN PELZMAN’S poems have appeared in The Antigonish Review, Salamander, and The Comstock Review, among others, and in Mercy of Tides: Poems for a Beach House. She lives in Brookline, Massachusetts, with her family.

From left: Secretary Scarlett; Janet Wyper, Manager of Community Relations, L.L. Bean, which donated $1 million to Friends of Acadia for Island Explorer; and Ken Olson, President, Friends of Acadia.
ty housing, and MDIs youth. As a student in Urban Planning and Geography, Mike’s skills fit nicely with several MDI Tomorrow projects.

Mike explored the concept of replacing the yellow school bus system on MDI with a community bus system that would serve both students and residents. The MDI Tomorrow transportation group wanted to know if, by combining school transportation with Downeast Transportation’s year-round bus service, operating dollars could be stretched further while improving transportation services for commuters, youth, and transit-dependent residents. The idea gained momentum at an April MDI Tomorrow conference where approximately half of the conference participants selected this concept as the most worthwhile option for improving year-round transportation services on MDI.

Anecdotally, students call the yellow school buses “loser cruisers,” and have been more likely to opt for rides with family, friends, or to drive themselves. Between the years 1992–2001, youth (ages 16–21) were involved in just over 1,000 crashes (including seven fatalities) on MDI and in Trenton and Lamoine. Several of the youth centers on MDI have been looking for ways to improve after-school activities, but they lack means of transporting students to those offerings.

Mike’s report proposes alternatives to address these concerns, which include implementing a “bus host” program with community volunteers or paid employees monitoring each of the buses and assisting young students during accidents. If community buses were to replace the yellow school bus system on MDI, these design features would have to be taken into account before the state could approve the system for student transport.

Some community members interviewed didn’t like the concept of elementary-age students riding buses with unfamiliar teenagers or adults. Some worried that a community bus system would be overwhelming to young students, providing them with too many options, rather than directly delivering them to school or home.

Mike’s report proposes alternatives to address these concerns, which include implementing a “bus host” program with community volunteers or paid employees monitoring each of the buses and assisting young students during school hours. Also, seats closest to the driver could be reserved for young people. Preliminary research revealed that, ultimately, if MDI communities were to decide to retain the yellow school bus system for elementary students, all cost savings of combining bus systems would be lost.
Another potential barrier is the difficulty of designing a bus system convenient for commuters that also picks up students in the traditional door-to-door fashion. Transportation officials pointed out that commuters ride buses only if the service is close to the convenience and time of driving personal automobiles. If buses stop in multiple locations to pick up students, time savings may be lost. Multiple bus routes and relatively frequent service would be needed to cover the entire MDI region and make the system attractive for commuters.

All in all, the barriers to implementing a combined year-round transportation system on MDI are significant. The MDI Tomorrow transportation committee has recommended further study, specifically to survey student and parent opinions about eliminating the yellow school bus system. Mike’s early work has helped identify the considerations for implementation and will carry the concept into the next phase.

Outstanding Contributions

Debbie Weatherly, Majority Staff Director of the U.S. House Appropriations Subcommittee on the Interior, received the Friends of Acadia Award for Distinguished Public Service for her “outstanding contributions over many years to the protection of America’s classiest real estate, the National Park System; for her balance, judgment, and good cheer in the face of ceaseless withering fire from all political quarters; and not least for her special attention to the financial needs of Acadia without her being unfair to other parks.”

Volunteer of Letters

Philip Dane Levin has served as the poetry editor of the Friends of Acadia Journal since 1995. His influence is tangible in every journal. Philip initiated the Friends of Acadia Nature Poetry Competition in 1998, which has attracted talented poets from New England and nationwide. His poems and essays have appeared in numerous journals.

For the Cause and the Environment

A pair of 2004 Toyota Prius hybrid cars, donated by Downeast Toyota of Brewer, garnered the highest bids — $31,000 — at the 15th annual Friends of Acadia Benefit Gala on August 14. Powered by gasoline and electricity, the low emissions Prius is rated at 50 mpg on the highway.

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On June 26, 2004, four hundred years after Pierre Dugua and his expedition first set foot on Saint Croix Island, French, Canadian, Passamaquoddy, and American officials participated in a solemn ceremony commemorating the anniversary of French settlement on the island. Officials were transported to the fog-shrouded island on boats piloted by local volunteers.

The ceremony highlighted the cooperation between the French settlers and the Passamaquoddy during the 1604–1605 settlement, and officials expressed their hopes for continuation of good relations among the four nations present. The Passamaquoddy Nation was presented with the French Medal of the Legion of Honor, Commander Rank, and two ceremonial swords. Handmade Passamaquoddy baskets, a reproduction of a 17th-century petroglyph, and a letter to President Jacques Chirac to begin the process of renewing a centuries-old concord of peace and friendship were presented to the French delegation by the Passamaquoddy.

Passamaquoddy elders Joan Dana and Blanche Sockabasin provided a welcome and led the procession to the ceremony.

In 1604, Pierre Dugua led a French expedition that landed on Saint Croix Island in the middle of the river that would one day mark the boundary between the United States and Canada. From 1604 to 1605, 79 members of the expedition, including explorer Samuel Champlain, spent a harsh winter on the 6.5-acre island. The settlers were friendly with the Passamaquoddy, Native Americans who had lived in the area for thousands of years, and traded European goods for game and furs. During the severe winter, the settlers were cut off from this vital contact and 35 men died, apparently of scurvy, before the Passamaquoddy were able to reach them with fresh game in the spring and assist in their recovery. The French left the island when ships returned from France in early summer and established a new settlement at Port Royal, Nova Scotia.

Dugua’s outpost on Saint Croix Island was one of the earliest European settlements in North America, and the first attempt by the French to establish a year-round colony in the territory known as l’Acadie (Acadia). The events on the island led to a lasting French presence in North America that continues to this day.

In recognition of its historic significance, the island became part of the National Park Service (NPS) in 1949. Saint Croix Island International Historic Site was established in 1984 and remains the only international historic site in the NPS. The site has units in both the NPS and Parks Canada. It includes Saint Croix Island, as well as two parcels of land on the U.S. and Canadian mainlands. Because of the fragile nature of the island, visitors are encouraged to explore the mainland sites. The U.S. site on Highway 1 at Red Beach features an interpretive trail with cast figures of the French and Passamaquoddy, as well as displays that discuss historical events and the interaction of the two cultures, a picnic area, and outdoor restroom facilities.

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

THE MEETING OF TWO WORLDS: 400 YEARS LATER

Representatives of four nations — Passamaquoddy, Canada, France, and the United States — joined to commemorate the 400th anniversary of French settlement on St. Croix Island. Participants included:

Mark Alvater, Lieutenant Governor, Pleasant Point (Siyaki) Passamaquoddy
Robert Newell, Governor, Indian Township (Me-doc-me-duc) Passamaquoddy
Hugh Akagi, Chief, St. Andrews (Qonasqamkuk) Passamaquoddy
Viola Léger, Senator, New Brunswick
Bernard Lord, New Brunswick Premier
Carol Sheedy, Director, Atlantic Region, Atlantic Parks for Parks Canada
Xavier Darcos, Minister Delegate of Cooperation, Development, and Francophony
Philippe Guelluy, French Ambassador to Canada
Paul Cellucci, American Ambassador to Canada
Michael Michaud, U.S. Congressman, Maine
Gail Kelly, representing U.S. Senator Olympia Snowe, Maine
Marie Rust, Director, Northeast Region, National Park Service
Sheridan Steele, Superintendent, Acadia National Park
The Perfect Companion


Sure Acadia is one of the most beautiful spots on Earth, but it is also one of the most important bird habitats in the United States. In its guide, the American Bird Conservancy presents an A-list of the 500 best bird places, which include some of the country’s best-known National Parks, such as Great Smoky Mountains and Acadia, more than 160 National Wildlife Refuges and 60 National Forests; and hundreds of state, local, and privately owned lands.

Unlike a field guide that focuses on species, this book identifies and describes places essential to rare, declining, or migrating birds. Each entry includes highlights about the sites, information about ownership, descriptions of the habitats and land use, a guide to the species to look for, and an overview of conservation issues.

It’s a unique source of information for naturalists, conservationists, and birdwatchers—a perfect companion to the traditional bird guide.

— Pipit Sprague

Coast Guide


The author of several books and essays, including the weekly column “Nature,” Ruth Grierson has a talent for making the natural world familiar and understandable for all audiences. In Living on the Edge, author Tom Vining has joined Grierson to compile an unusual guide to the habitats, seaweeds, seaside plants, and tidepool animals along the Atlantic coast of New England.

Color photographs accompany descriptions, which include essays on habitats and tidepools, at least one recipe, and a little New England history—“Years ago [eelgrass] was used as packing or insulation around houses not far from the beaches... In old ice houses it was placed between the 18” insulating space that separated the inner and outer walls of such buildings.”

The introduction provides good instruction—take your time. Time to browse the book, time in the habitats, time to go back and watch with more awareness. You don’t need to be a naturalist to appreciate this guide, but you just might feel like one after using it.

— Marina Zostera

Underwater


Some of the best cetacean and marine photographers, including the author, are brought together to create an absolutely stunning presentation in Discovering Whales of the East Coast by Stephen Mullane. The photographs and drawings show the various whales and dolphins that reside along the east coast. Stationed on Mount Desert Rock for four years as part of Allied Whale, Mullane is uniquely qualified to expound on the subject of whales. The waters around Mount Desert Rock—located 25 miles off Mount Desert Island and Acadia National Park—mark the southern range for several northern whale species and the northern range for some southern whale species.

The book provides good physiological details. For instance, whales have a body temperature of around 98.6 degrees, maintained by a blubber layer up to two feet thick. The shape and distribution of the blubber layer is designed to reduce drag and help the whale move efficiently through the water. Communication, hunting, feeding, and reproducing are all discussed.

Field identification drawings, maps, and a chart of the best whale-watching places and times are included. The book also discusses the effects of history on the whale population and current problems and population restoration efforts.

— Rose O. Sharon
ACADIA FOREVER

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. You need add only one sentence to your will, or a codicil:

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

2. I hereby bequeath $______ to Friends of Acadia, Inc., a Maine charitable corporation, PO 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, PO Box 45, Bar Harbor, Maine 04609, for its charitable purposes: [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.

Please call us at 207-288-3340 for more information.
O
n July 25, 1985, hikers on a ranger-led walk discussed the need for citizens to help Acadia National Park. In 1985, Stephen K. Koster, a lawyer, suggested to Marianne Edwards, a teacher, that an organization be formed. Park Superintendent Ron Wrye approved the idea.

In 1986, Edwards, conservationist John Kauffmann, ecologist William Drury, John March, Erwin Soule, Sandra Haggett, and attorney Michael Ross became the first board members of a new nonprofit called Friends of Acadia. The Park Service appointed Lois Winter as its liaison, with Joe Abrell and Gary Stellpflug pitching in. The young organization provided volunteers, made small cash grants, and promoted an ethic of appreciation. In July, the treasury held $254.

The IRS granted tax-exempt status to Friends on January 6, 1988. Jim Batchelder, a College of the Atlantic graduate, became half-time executive director in February. The October fund balance was $17,900.

Duane Pierson, Ph.D., became the full-time director in 1989 and later assumed the title of president. In 1990, Friends had revenues of $85,000. Board chairs Jeannine Ross, Charlie Tyson, and Linda Lewis launched the organization into a new stratum of conservation activity. Philanthropists David Rockefeller and Rick Bourke, Senator George Mitchell, Representative Olympia Snowe, Acadia Superintendent Jack Hauptman, and Friends of Acadia formed a plan by which Friends raised $4 million to match a $4-million Congressional appropriation (which was subsequently raised to $6 million). The public funds reconstructed the carriage roads, and Friends’ money endowed their annual maintenance.

The acclaimed partnership was a watershed for Friends of Acadia. By virtue of the endowment, Friends had become a permanent element in park financial and policy matters. The multimillion-dollar project transformed the tiny organization into a powerful nonprofit force.

Pierson left in early 1995 and Tyson agreed to serve as interim president until a permanent replacement could be hired. Ken Olson became president and chief executive in October. FOA had 1,500 members, a budget of $512,000, and endowments worth $4.5 million.

The mid-90s saw significant growth. Successive chairmen Linda Lewis and Lee Judd initiated strategic plans, financial audits, and the $13-million Acadia Trails Forever campaign. The goal included $4 million in park entry fees authorized by Acadia Superintendent Paul Haertel and Park Service Director Bob Stanton. Friends received the first-ever $5-million gift to a Maine conservation organization, from philanthropists Ruth M. and Tristram C. Colket, Jr., for a ten-year rehabilitation of the park’s 130-mile trails complex. Acadia Trails Forever became the largest such effort since President Franklin Roosevelt’s Civilian Conservation Corps worked here in the 1930s. Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt, during a 1999 visit, praised Acadia as the only national park with an endowed trail system.

By 2004, Friends of Acadia revenues were $4.2 million, membership had doubled to 3,000, and endowments had tripled to $14 million. Guided by Chairman Dianna Emory, Friends has built up its fundraising, outreach, and governance capacities. Today a full-time staff of seven manages a $1.4-million budget, whose grants make possible the employment of nearly a hundred people working in or directly serving Acadia National Park. Project Tranquility raised $1.2 million to protect Friends’ investments and plan an Island Explorer transit center off-island. The objectives are to further reduce congestion and restore a measure of “islandness” to MDI.

Friends of Acadia has granted $4.6 million to the park and communities since 1995. Proceeds from the annual Benefit Gala during the period totaled $2.3 million, contributing significantly to the organization’s conservation activities. Gala and other revenues helped Friends ban jet-skis on all MDI ponds, limit a timber cut at the park’s edge, protect threatened land inside the boundary at Schoodic, advocate successfully for Acadia’s retention of entry fees, create the Acadia Youth Conservation Corps and Ridge Runner programs, attract a $1-million L.L. Bean grant to the Island Explorer, and underwrite the park’s new easement monitoring program.

Friends of Acadia’s enduring mission is to preserve the outstanding natural beauty, ecological vitality, and cultural distinctiveness of Acadia National Park and surrounding communities. The organization does so by defending park lands, lobbying for public funds, mobilizing volunteers, and harnessing private wealth.

From the inspired vision and early generosity of a handful of hikers, Friends has become an award-winning philanthropy recognized nationally for its innovative endowments, effective conservation and advocacy projects, strong volunteer programs, and positive influence within the National Park Service and Congress.

Friends of Acadia is grateful to all who continue to make possible this important work.

Heart of the Matter

“The land belongs to the future . . . We come and go but the land is always here. And the people who love it and understand it are the people who own it — for a little while.”

Willa Cather, O Pioneers!

Friends of Acadia Journal

Winter 2004/2005 21
In Gratitude

Trail and Carriage Road Volunteer Crew Leaders
Bucky and Maureen Brooks
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CORRECTION: In our gala catalogue, we incor-
rectly identified sponsors Laura and Bernard
Hamilton. We apologize for the error.
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.
The Perfect Gift

Question:
What's the perfect gift for the person who is impossible to shop for?

Answer:
A gift membership in Friends of Acadia!

Share your love of Acadia by giving a special gift membership in Friends of Acadia. For a limited time, we’re offering a special gift membership package for only $40. Here’s what the recipient will receive:

- *The Rusticator’s Journal*, a lovely book of essays and photographs of Mount Desert Island and Acadia National Park
- A one-year subscription to the *FOA Journal*
- A Friends of Acadia window decal
- A Friends of Acadia bookmark
- The satisfaction of knowing that membership in Friends of Acadia helps to preserve the remarkable beauty of Acadia National Park

We will send gift memberships with a card noting that the gift is from you. Be sure to fill in your name and address on the return envelope.

For more information about gift memberships, call Kelly Dickson or Terry Begley at 800-625-0321 or email: membership@friendsofacadia.org.

2005 Volunteer Events Calendar

Earth Day Roadside Clean Up
Saturday, April 30, 9:00 – Noon
Honor the spirit of Earth Day by removing polluting trash from MDI and area roadways.

National Trails Day
Saturday, June 4, 8:30 – Noon
Kick off the volunteer season on Acadia’s trails and carriage roads with a project in the park.

Trails and Carriage Road Volunteers
Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday mornings, 8:30 – 12:30, June into October
Spend a morning clearing vegetation, rebuilding small stone walls or drainages, or a host of other projects on Acadia’s trails and carriage roads.

Take Pride in Acadia Day
Saturday, November 5, 8:30 – Noon
Rake leaves along the carriage roads to reduce erosion.

To learn more about these and other volunteer opportunities, visit our website at www.friendsofacadia.org.
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.