



Friends of
ACADIA
Journal

Summer 2018
Volume 23 No. 2

A Magazine about Acadia National Park and Surrounding Communities

PURCHASE YOUR PARK PASS!

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IN SEARCH OF QUIET AND SOLITUDE

I love the days when my job here at Friends of Acadia gets me out from behind the desk and into the park, as it did last week when a hike was “required” to better understand some of the trail maintenance and funding issues on which FOA partners with the Park Service. Mine was the first car in the parking lot. I walked through pockets of early morning air that were downright chilly, even on this mid-summer day as I descended into the valley between Beech Mountain and Canada Cliffs.

I hiked for about an hour, took notes on several recent and proposed FOA trail projects, and did not see another soul until I was back at the parking lot.

Even in the height of summer, Acadia offers up experiences like this when solitude, quiet and beauty can be found, despite the park's growing visitation and its challenges in handling vehicular congestion at some of its most popular sites. And even as the public has vigorously discussed the pros and cons of the park's proposed Transportation Plan this spring, most have agreed that preserving a wide range of experiences for visitors of all abilities and inclinations is essential.

Being able to choose from a solo paddle, or a family drive to a busy roadside attraction; from easy, accessible strolls or challenging, precipitous ascents; from star-gazing or sun-bathing, is part of what makes Acadia so appealing.

Peak visitation times in summer can certainly bring more than their fair share of frustration as well. We all understand that the park's roads and parking lots simply were not designed to accommodate the number of vehicles now coming to Acadia. If you reviewed or commented on the Acadia Transportation Plan last month, remember that no matter what the park settles on for future management strategies, implementation of new policies will not begin for at least another year or two. In the meantime, in planning your park outings this summer, try to take a



bicycle or perhaps hike a village connector trail to your destination, hop on the Island Explorer bus, or visit during off-peak times.

As Superintendent Kevin Schneider commented at last year's FOA Annual Meeting, “Business is good at our national parks – and that's a good thing.” It's good for the visitors, who forge deeper connections with our nation's history and beauty. It's good for local businesses, employees, and surrounding communities that benefit from the approximately \$340 million in annual economic activity. It can put a strain, however, on park staff and operating budgets that are not seeing increases in Congressional appropriations to keep pace with the challenges posed by the growing visitation and our warming climate.

One vivid example this year has been the increase in extreme rain events that can overwhelm drainage systems on roads and trails; the washouts on Acadia's carriage roads arising from this winter's deluges were extensive—and expensive. Meanwhile, we had summer-like days in early May and more folks out biking and walking the carriage roads at that time of year than usual. Spring used to be a time when park staff readied the park for the coming summer. Now, visitors are coming earlier—and, ironically, the road crews are the smallest they have been in

years as a result of new hurdles in federal hiring policies and the housing shortage for seasonal staff felt by many employers on MDI.

These were among the topics on the agenda when I sat in on the first meeting of the season of the Volunteer Crew Leaders here at Acadia last month, when twenty or so of the most committed of our volunteers gather to discuss plans and priorities for the coming season. These dedicated individuals not only get their hands dirty building and maintaining trails, they also help serve as recruiters, ambassadors, and leaders for the growing number of people who take part in the “drop-in” volunteer hours on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday mornings. Through each of the program reports and lively discussions, I felt grateful for the mutual respect between the volunteers and park professionals, and the positive outlook shared by all despite the challenges ahead.

Like these volunteers, Friends of Acadia is playing a more important role than ever in preserving and protecting our park. We have only been able to step up due to the park staff's welcoming attitude toward its partners and the generous commitment shown by each of you toward our growing efforts.

I look forward to seeing you out on the trails!


—David R. MacDonald

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FEATURES

- 5 Woman's Artistic Legacy Aids Acadia
By Lisa Horsch Clark
- 10 A View Astern of Acadia's Porcupine Islands
By Angi King Johnston and Zack Klyver
- 16 Raising the Bar Leads to Artistic Discovery
Long-lost Maitland Armstrong Painting Surfaces
By Carl Little
- 20 Volunteers Help Shed Light on Acadia's Bats
By Earl Brechlin
- 32 Uptick in Tiny Pests Prompts Precautions
By Earl Brechlin

PERSPECTIVES

- 1 President's Message
- 7 Technology's Wunderkinds
- 8 Donor Profile
- 9 Superintendent's View
- 15 Special People
- 23 Summit Stewards
- 31 Chair's Letter

*Your Support for Acadia is Vital
AYTT Takes Tech Out and About
David Woodside and Acadia Corporation
Acadia as a Source of Inspiration
Steadfast Financial Steward Retires
Youthful Team Helps Protect Park
FOA is a 'Beehive' of Activity*

DEPARTMENTS

- 4 Where in Acadia?
- 6 It's Benefit Time
- 13 New Members
- 22 Updates
- 30 Recommended Reading



QUILTING FOR ACADIA

By Shawn Keeley

Mary Clark can't remember a time when Mount Desert Island was not a fixture in her life. Her father was born on Gott's Island. Although she was raised in Bangor and Milo, she grew up visiting relatives on the island's "Quietside." At age sixteen she began working summers at Testa's in Bar Harbor, paying her way through the University of Maine at Orono. Those summers were filled with hikes with her Uncle Hack and popovers at the original Jordan Pond House.

One summer she also met her husband Dwight. Together they have explored the trails of Acadia for the past fifty years, taking a particular interest in the art, science, and magic of trail building. Each year they make a point of hiking the trails that are being rebuilt. They revisit them the following year to see the progress. As Mary puts it, "Only by seeing the work that lies beneath the trails can one appreciate the paths that lie on the surface."

Mary has a tremendous spirit of giving, especially when it comes to Acadia. She and Dwight are Trailblazers (monthly donors) and members of the George B. Dorr Society, a group of donors who have included FOA in their estate plans. But the most beautiful displays of Mary's generosity to Acadia are the quilts she designs and stitches for the FOA Benefit each year.

Like the trails that wind through Acadia, her quilts are a labor of love, each a product of thoughtful design. From the small child's quilt



Quiltmaker and FOA Benefit supporter Mary Clark in her garden.

Dwight Clark

with a camping motif that was her first auction donation, to Cattails, a complex masterpiece made for Acadia's Centennial, to Turquoise and Toil which will be featured in this year's benefit, each quilt is made with Acadia at heart.

Even at her quilting studio in Florida, Mary is never too far from Acadia. The window beside her sewing table looks out to a flagstone courtyard featuring a Bates cairn and a well-weathered cedar post that bears the names of her favorite trails and peaks. For her birthday a few years ago, Dwight had a stone bench made with "Acadia" carved into the granite. It sits just outside her studio.

Mary shows us that unique talents and personal passions can be put to use to raise significant amounts of money for a good cause. And she is not alone – each year many artists contribute paintings, sculptures, hooked rugs, jewelry, and other hand-crafted items to FOA's Benefit Auction. To see the items that are featured in this year's silent auction, go to friendsofacadia.org and look for our Benefit Auction Catalog. Even if you are not attending the event, you can place absentee bids online or by emailing benefit@friendsofacadia.org. ✱

SHAWN KEELEY is Friends of Acadia's Senior Development Officer.



Where in Acadia?

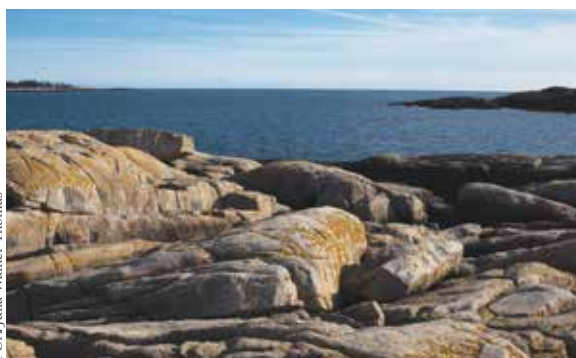


FOA/Julia Walker Thomas

Where in Acadia? If you know the difference between a fjord and fjard then you'll probably have no difficulty identifying this iconic location in Acadia National Park. Several times during the year the "driving" hum of rubber tires meeting the road is replaced by the stead thump of running shoes on pavement as athletes of every stripe, including sergeants, thread their way through the park. Extra credit for naming the silhouetted mountain in the distance. Hint: Its name can be found in the previous wording.

If you think you can identify this scene email us at editor@friendsofacadia.org and feel free to include a personal story or memory about your answer. We'll print our favorite responses in the next issue of the Journal and we'll send a Friends of Acadia cap to the writers.

Spring 2018 Where in Acadia?



FOA/Julia Walker Thomas

Schoodic Peninsula. While my family and I have been visiting and vacationing on Mount Desert Island for 25 years, and in the process have walked, hiked, biked, and kayaked nearly every possible nook and cranny of MDI, we have never driven to Schoodic Peninsula. With that, I have come to appreciate the absolute beauty and the many spectacular vantage points offered in Acadia. So, by process of elimination, my guess is Schoodic. I'm also guessing that the percentage of Acadia visitors to this spot is closer to one percent. We'll be visiting it on our next trip!

— Dave Applegate

I think I recognize the photo in the latest Friends of Acadia Journal. The photo was taken on Schoodic Peninsula. I first visited Schoodic in 2014 when the crowds on MDI had me searching for more open space. I stopped and took a few photographs at what I think is the same location. This past year I made the same trip to Schoodic and enjoyed the quiet and beautiful views again.

— David Hall

Friends of ACADIA Journal

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Volume 25 No.2

A Magazine about Acadia National Park
and Surrounding Communities

Friends of Acadia preserves, protects, and promotes stewardship of the outstanding natural beauty, ecological vitality, and distinctive cultural resources of Acadia National Park and surrounding communities for the inspiration and enjoyment of current and future generations.

The *Journal* is published three times a year. Submissions and letters are welcome. See <http://friendsofacadia.org/news-publications/friends-of-acadia-journal/submissions/>

Opinions expressed are the authors'.

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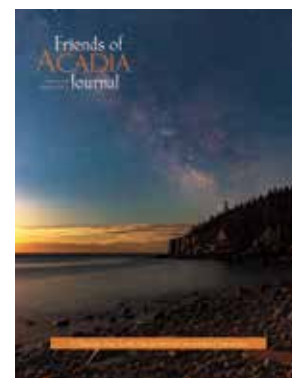
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Sunrise intrudes on the reign of the Milky Way above Otter Cliffs in Acadia National Park. Cover photo by AYTT/Will Greene



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CAMILIA'S LEGACY OF LOVE FOR ACADIA

By Lisa Horsch Clark

Each fall, as seasonal residents headed over the Trenton Bridge, saying goodbye to Acadia for the season, one annual visitor—Camilla Knapp—would cross the bridge heading towards the park for her weeks of rejuvenation and exploration.

My friendship with Camilla began with a phone call at work in 2005, my first year at Friends of Acadia. It was a simple inquiry, but it was the start of a long friendship.

Camilla stayed with Connie Howe and Mel Atherton at Bass Harbor Cottages for more than twenty years. Connie recently said, “Camilla was synonymous with autumn. She was here in the days before cell phones and the internet, when everything was pen and paper, and ‘real’ books. Camilla was always out hiking and appreciated the natural beauty of Acadia.”

Over the years Camilla and I would plan an annual October hike. We would pick a favorite trail of hers or mine and walk and talk. I learned about her family history in conservation, her home in Cazenovia, New York, her love of art, and her dogs. I would share stories about Acadia history, new ini-

tiatives at the park and FOA, and my daughter, Grace.

I always tried to highlight all the good work made possible through her gifts to FOA. Camilla supported FOA operations, trail restoration, and the Second Century Campaign. She was a Trailblazer, making monthly gifts to Friends of Acadia, and also a member of the George B. Dorr Society by virtue of her decision to include FOA in her will.

Sadly, Camilla unexpectedly died early this year. It came as a shock to all who knew her here on MDI. What did not shock me was Camilla's generosity, even in death. As we had discussed over the years, Camilla left us a bequest to support Friends of Acadia.

What we at FOA had not anticipated was her family's wish to honor Camilla with memorial gifts directed to Friends of Acadia and the donation of her sizable collection of Maine art and books. Sixty-five items, representing decades of visits and collecting by Camilla, arrived at the FOA offices in late winter.

You could tell Camilla had her favorites – Gail Cleveland, Peter Ralston, Philip Conkling, and almost any history book about the

park and preserving our beautiful island.

Artist Gail Cleveland recently shared with me that Camilla always scheduled an appointment, so they could have quality time to talk. “She was a great supporter of the arts and artists. She loved Acadia and she loved my *plein air* watercolors of the park, telling me that my paintings gave her the feeling that she was on the trail, and that they gave her great peace.”

It is the wish of the family that FOA sell the paintings and books over the next few years at the Annual Friends of Acadia Benefit (always the second Saturday in August). The proceeds will be put towards conservation and environmental awareness in Acadia.

If you would like to see the artwork, it is happily gracing the walls in the offices at Friends of Acadia. We encourage you to stop by while you are in Bar Harbor, roam the halls, and take in the beauty shared with us by Camilla. Her generosity and commitment to conservation will not be forgotten. ✱

LISA HORSCH CLARK is the Director of Development at Friends of Acadia.



Lisa Horsch Clark



Wini Smart print

Left: Camilla Knapp hiking in her beloved Acadia National Park near Hadlock Pond. Above: Good Sailing by Cathy Altwater

Volunteer Crew Leaders

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Al Wiberly
Marilyn Wiberly



Volunteer Crew Leader Jean Bell

FOA/Earl Brechlin



FOA/MTT

The Bass Harbor Head Lighthouse stands guard along the rocky shores of Acadia National Park at sunset.

RAISE YOUR PADDLE FOR A MAINE/ACADIA ICON

By Shawn Keeley

The Acadian coast has captivated those who have explored its waters and shoreline for centuries. What do you see when you picture this iconic part of Maine? For many of us, the rocky coastline immediately comes to mind, along with hidden beaches, shoals, dense spruce forests, and soaring granite peaks of Acadia National Park. You may also picture the many lighthouses that have helped guide countless navigators through changing tides, fog, and unpredictable weather.

The Bass Harbor Head Light, built in 1858, is perhaps the most iconic of all the lighthouses. Last year the U.S. Coast Guard

began the process of transferring ownership of the tower, keeper's house, and surrounding 2 ½ acres to Acadia National Park while retaining the responsibility to operate and maintain the beacon. Acadia National Park welcomes the opportunity to incorporate this cultural treasure into the park system and has begun the process of determining how the buildings and grounds will be used to increase visitor access and educational opportunities in the future. As the park assumes responsibility in the coming year it will need funding to assess the condition of the property, and to restore, repurpose, or redesign the buildings and grounds. Because the park does not have a dedicated budget for this work, Friends of Acadia, and donors like you, can play an important role in helping to make this transformation possible.

Your gift during the paddle raise at the FOA Annual Benefit at the Asticou on Aug. 11, will help ensure the iconic Bass Harbor Head Light becomes a permanent cultural and educational resource in Acadia National Park, to be enjoyed for generations to come. ✱

SHAWN KEELEY is Friends of Acadia's Senior Development Officer



The bronze bell at the Bass Harbor Head Lighthouse.

FOA/Earl Brechlin

AYTT SHARES ACADIA WITH GLOBAL INFLUENCE

With 3,509,271 visitors last year, a 6.2 percent increase from the previous season, Acadia National Park's annual growth in visitation has helped fuel a growing desire for the frequent online sharing of Acadia images and stories during the summer season.

To help create fresh content, Friends of Acadia employs a five-person Acadia Youth Technology Team to capture the stories of the park through digital photography, time-lapse, and videography. The team is composed of a team coordinator and four interns.

The media produced are used to better communicate with and educate park visitors and helps illustrate FOA's publications and website. Projects include promoting the wide selection of ranger-led programs within Acadia, documenting and informing visitors about the park's wildlife, and demonstrating how fee dollars help serve the park and improve visitor experience. The team produces high-quality multimedia to share not only on Acadia's website, but to the park's ever-growing social media presence. With professional equipment generously donated by Canon U.S.A., the team is able to really capture what makes Acadia special.

In 2016, the AYTT took a new approach by focusing solely on visual content. This is AYTT's seventh season in action in Acadia National Park.

Team members include coordinator Ashley Conti, Will Greene, Emma Forthofer, Yehyun Kim, and Will Newton.

Look for the team's favorite AYTT "Acadia Photos of the week" updated every Friday on the FOA Facebook page and be sure to watch for even more content produced by AYTT on the Acadia National Park website, Facebook, and Instagram.



ASHLEY CONTI



EMMA FORTHOFER



EMMA FORTHOFER



WILL NEWTON



EMMA FORTHOFER



ASHLEY CONTI

ACADIA CORPORATION'S GENEROSITY SPANS YEARS

By Earl Brechlin

Friends of Acadia is fortunate to enjoy robust support from the greater Mount Desert Island business community through the Business Membership program. Among the more than 130 generous members is the Acadia Corporation, a company founded in 1932 that has been serving the visiting public and area residents ever since. The company has been a strong financial supporter of FOA for more than 30 years.

In acknowledgment of the importance of Acadia National Park to the area's quality of life and economic vitality, Acadia Corporation in 2016 instituted a special annual donation program. Two percent of gross sales from its Acadia Park Company store on Main Street in Bar Harbor are given annually to FOA.

"This annual two-percent for the park donation from Acadia Corporation is extremely generous," said FOA President David MacDonald. "It puts the Acadia Corporation among our lead business supporters."

The decision to establish this latest step in a long tradition of generosity was made even though the company, which operated the retail concessions in the park for more than 80 years, was not awarded that contract in 2014. Fortunately, Acadia Corporation had decades earlier embarked on a diversification strategy. It now operates six retail shops and an ice-cream parlor in Bar Harbor, as well as a retail shop in Southwest Harbor. It also has the contract for management and operation of the venerable Asticou Inn in Northeast Harbor.

"Just because we were no longer operating physically in the park doesn't mean we don't love and care about Acadia," company President David Woodside explains. "We've always thought that giving back to Friends of Acadia was an important thing to do."

Woodside joined the company in 1976, running the Cadillac gift shop. Over the years, he helped build the organization from just a handful of workers into one with nearly 50 full and part-time employees.



FOA/JULIA WALKER THOMAS

Acadia Corporation President David Woodside inside the company's Acadia Park Company Store on Main Street in Bar Harbor. Annually a percentage of gross sales from the store is donated to Friends of Acadia.

Running the Acadia Corporation came naturally to the University of Maine graduate whose retail experience included management posts at grocery stores in Atlanta, Georgia and Ellsworth, Maine, as well as running the tiny Otis General Store with his wife, Kathy. It was no surprise that the young couple, who spent their honeymoon in Bar Harbor, decided to make the community their home.

Over the years the Woodsides have involved themselves in many area organizations. Dave served as Vice Chairman of the Bar Harbor Town Council, as President of both the Chamber of Commerce and MDI Rotary Club, and on the board of the YMCA.

Acadia Corporation opened its first shop atop Cadillac Mountain in 1933. The conversion of the ranger station at Thunder Hole into a shop soon followed. After WWII, the Jordan Pond House became part of the concessions mix.

The Acadia Park Company shop, which sports a distinctive merchandising mix, is located at the site of the former Willey's Style Center and Domus Isle shop.

Protecting Acadia was part of the concept from the start. "We felt if we were going to take all we learned from operating in the park and merchandise ourselves as lovers of Acadia, it would be important to give something back," Woodside explains. The company and all its shops played a key role in helping celebrate and commemorate the Acadia's centennial in 2016.

Woodside notes that the Acadia Park Company store features knowledgeable staff who spend as much time hiking, exploring, biking, and paddling in the park as they can. "They automatically relate to the customers," Woodside says. And, he hopes, by connecting to customers and the community, and supporting FOA, Acadia Corporation will continue to thrive for another 80 years. "It's nice that we can all have that same affection and affinity for Acadia we've always had." ❄️

For information about becoming a Business Member, please contact Sharon Broom, development officer, at sharon@friendsofacadia.org or 207-288-3340.

ACADIA AS A SOURCE OF INSPIRATION

These gorgeous, long summer days often feel so finite knowing in a few short weeks, school will be resuming, and just a few months later, summer dinners of BBQ on the patio will turn to winter nights of soup or another hearty, warm meal. Wanting to make the most of summer days, I find myself always yearning to get into Acadia; hike on a trail with friends, paddle on a pond with my family; or do a quiet run alone on the carriage roads.

These moments of quiet solitude in the park, often on a weekend day, offer my mind time to process the week's events at work. I find my greatest insight, innovation, or creativity comes from these moments as I finally have time in nature to assimilate thoughts and ideas.

One of those topics that often churns through my mind during my weekend runs is Acadia's transportation plan. Our transportation challenges are exceptionally complex. There are no easy solutions. Quiet time in the park is critical to me in thinking creatively about it and piecing together multiple perspectives.

As this issue of the Friends of Acadia Journal lands in your mailbox, we will be digesting all of the input received during our 60-day comment period on the Draft Transportation Plan. I will read each and every one of those comments so that I can understand the perspectives of people directly. Our entire planning team will be analyzing these comments to look for themes, new ideas, and fresh perspectives.

Over the last two years, members of the park team and I have had numerous conversations with key stakeholders—business owners, partners, local and state government representatives, and community leaders. These conversations, combined with the body of public comments, will help us improve our pre-



AVTT/ASHLEY CONTI

ferred alternative. By hearing these many viewpoints, I am confident that we can find a consensus that will result in a better park experience.

One thing is for sure: decisions about Acadia National Park bring out a lot of passion in people. This is a place people care deeply about. For someone from far away who has dreamed of visiting Acadia for years, and finally makes it here on a trip with loved ones, this place provides a uniquely American national park experience. It will be the source of memories for years to come.

For those of us fortunate enough to live near the park, Acadia is our backyard. For others, Acadia is a place of refuge or solace to return to throughout life.

We recognize that the transportation plan will bring change to the park. Change is always difficult and stirs strong opinions. But clearly, something needs to be done to restore the Acadia experience. Our visitation has grown by nearly 60 percent in the last 10 years. In just five

short years, we will see more than four million visits to Acadia, if we only have a three percent annual growth rate.

We need to begin taking action now so that the Acadia experience remains as vibrant, transformational, and inspirational as it has for the last 102 years.

I hope during these beautiful summer days, you too will spend some quiet time in Acadia. Be a visitor here. The philanthropic gifts that created and continue to help protect Acadia give back so much—on hikes, paddles, or simply a late afternoon picnic among the crashing waves on Ocean Drive or Schoodic Point.

Take some quiet time to let your mind wander, to let it wrestle with whatever challenges you are facing. I am confident that you too will find new insight, new approaches and inspiration.

—Kevin Schneider





ACADIA'S PORCUPINES HAVE STORIED PAST

By Angi King Johnston and Zack Klyver

Frenchman Bay's Porcupine Islands occupy a special place in the scenic and cultural landscape of Acadia National Park. While today they seem natural and untouched, home to flourishing populations of eagles, ospreys, deer, and all manner of wildlife, there is a long tradition of humans interacting with the landscape.

In native Passamaquoddy this group of islands was called "Kci Matuwehsok," literally translated as "the Big Porcupines." Matuwehs, the name for a porcupine, comes from the phrase "Eci matuwehta," which means "it looks like he's having a hard time."

Today, the four Porcupine Islands—Long, Burnt, Sheep, and Bald—are all in the town of Gouldsboro, despite their geographic proximity to Bar Harbor. On a 1785 survey Bar Island was known as Bar Porcupine but lost its "Porcupine" association by the early 19th century. (See related story.)

The distinctive shape of the islands is the result of intricate geologic processes. The Porcupine Islands were created from a pool of magma that hardened into granite. A series of gabbro-diorite granite

sills, layers of intrusive rock, erupted through the sedimentary Bar Harbor Formation about 400 million years ago.

The high points that are today's islands were sculpted by the glaciers causing their profile to be low in the north and high in the south. These shapes are called "roches moutonnées" or commonly known as whalebacks or sheep backs. The southern cliffs most defined by the glaciers can be found on both Long Porcupine and Bald Porcupine, where they can loom 100 feet above the sea. Glaciers compressed and rode up and over the granite as it flowed from the north, plucking rocks of the southerly end of the high points.

During the early 1600s, the waters of Frenchman Bay were undoubtedly visited by a variety of early European explorers. Two more centuries would pass before detailed records of the islands began being kept.

Sheep, Burnt, and Long Porcupine as well as the Hop were first purchased by William W. Parrot, the original owner of the Gloucester Fishing Company. At the time of purchase Sheep Porcupine Island was named Bald Porcupine.

Eventually, sheep were kept on the island, even making the Mount Desert Record newspaper in the 1880s when someone went out to the island and shot a few. Because of its proximity to Bar Harbor, the island was a great place for fishermen and their families to stop, rest, talk, and dry fish. George Hathaway built a store on the northeast corner of the island to cater to those folks.

By the late 1890s the hotelier Rodick family from Bar Harbor were paying taxes for the island. Later owner Norman Shaw gave it to R. Armory Thorndike, a retired summer resident and Trustee from Jackson Lab. Thorndike sold the island to the Bar Harbor Village Improvement Association which decided to give the island to the Hancock County Trustees of Public Reservations. In 1960, Sheep was placed within the protective boundary of Acadia National Park.

Since 1965, Bald Eagles have nested there, in an old red oak tree, on the eastern side of the island.

BURNT PORCUPINE

Sheep Porcupine's neighbor to the northeast, Burnt Porcupine, is named



after the ash colored rocks on the southeastern shore. In those rocks you can see a bit of shatter zone where the hot magma sill forming the gabbro-diorite granite interfaced with the older Bar Harbor formation.

According to tax records, Burnt Porcupine had been owned by the Roberts family since the late 1800s. Tobias Roberts was a well-known entrepreneur, being the first to create the Agamont House for people coming to explore Bar Harbor and Mount Desert Island, and eventually building the first wharf for a variety of passenger boats.

Today this island remains Acadia's number one goal for land acquisition for park boundaries.

LONG PORCUPINE

The largest of the four Porcupine Islands is Long, or Great as it was

originally written in its deed to William Parrot. About three to four times larger than each of the other Porcupines, Long runs from the northeast to the southwest with its own little sibling known as the Hop, which has also been called Little Porcupine Island, the "fish island," or Ash's Island.

At low tide, the two islands are connected by a small bar of rocks, sand, and shells known as a tombolo, for the way the waves and shape of the two islands allow for the deposit and shaping of the bar.

Throughout the 1800s different owners used Long Porcupine for grazing sheep, logging, or haying, but nothing was allowed to interfere with fishing. In 1926, Mary Anne Greely sold the Jarvis House to an Ellsworth lawyer and Maine politician named Hannibal E. Hamlin,

who served as Vice President under Abraham Lincoln's first administration.

Long Porcupine and the Hop were later sold to Clarence Hale, a US Federal Judge. In 1938, Hale, his brother, and Hamlin hired crews to log about 4,000 cords of pulpwood off the islands for the Bucksport mill. The following spring, ownership went to a blueberry distributor, Roy P. Allen, of G.M. Allen and Son, Inc. After two seasons of blueberries, Allen sold the islands to A. Atwater Kent Sr., maker and seller of the first radios and summer resident of Bar Harbor.

In 1977, Kent gave Long Porcupine Island to The Nature Conservancy; however, he kept the Hop. Upon Kent's death, the ownership of the Hop went to his wife Hope Annan who donated it to Acadia National Park. Eventually in 2004, the Nature Conservancy would



BARRY GUTTRADT



BARRY GUTTRADT



BARRY GUTTRADT

also transfer ownership of Long Porcupine to Acadia.

Today, bald eagles proudly nest on the southwest corner of the island but can often be seen sitting on their “back porch,” either watching the world go by or waiting to catch their next meal.

BALD PORCUPINE

The fourth Porcupine island, Bald, is named after its high barren cliffs and has a distinctive breakwater that extends out to the shores of Bar Harbor. Also known as Wheeler’s Island or Wheeler’s Porcupine Island, it had been used seasonally since the mid 1840s.

Wheeler Tracy was a well-known captain in the early 19th century who unfortunately ran aground on a rocky ledge to the west of Bald Porcupine. The August 1872 issue of Harper’s Magazine hailed the island as “the most celebrated” of the Porcupines and described the “villages of fishermen,” including the village on Bald called “Pogueville.”

However, lack of a clear title resulted in Bald Porcupine being taken by the State of Maine and sold. A lawsuit was filed in 1890 with the Maine Supreme Judicial Court.

By 1930, William Mason of Philadelphia would own the entire island. After his death his trust sold the island to summer resident

Ella L. Browning in 1938 for \$2,000. Mrs. Browning lived at Point d’Acadie at Vanderbilt Point on Mount Desert Island. She appreciated looking across and seeing Bald Porcupine from her peaceful backyard.

In 1944, the USS Piper, a submarine built at the Portsmouth Naval Ship Yard in Kittery, Maine, was given permission to practice torpedo runs at her Bald Porcupine Island. The booms and ground-thundering reverberations could be felt throughout Frenchman Bay. Other submarines, Avenger aircraft, and even artillery units used the island for target practice.

In 1949, Mrs. Browning was awarded \$3,500 to compensate for damage to her Point d’Acadie estate pool from the explosions. Eight years later, she gave the island to George S. Munson, summer resident of Bar Harbor. On that same day, Munson donated the land to Acadia National Park, with provisions that no buildings, docks, billboards or other structures be built and that no trees shall be cut or trimmed (except to promote health and growth of trees).

From the earliest days of European exploration when intrepid mariners sought shelter from storms in the lee of their rocky shores, to their role in protecting the natural and scenic resources of Acadia National

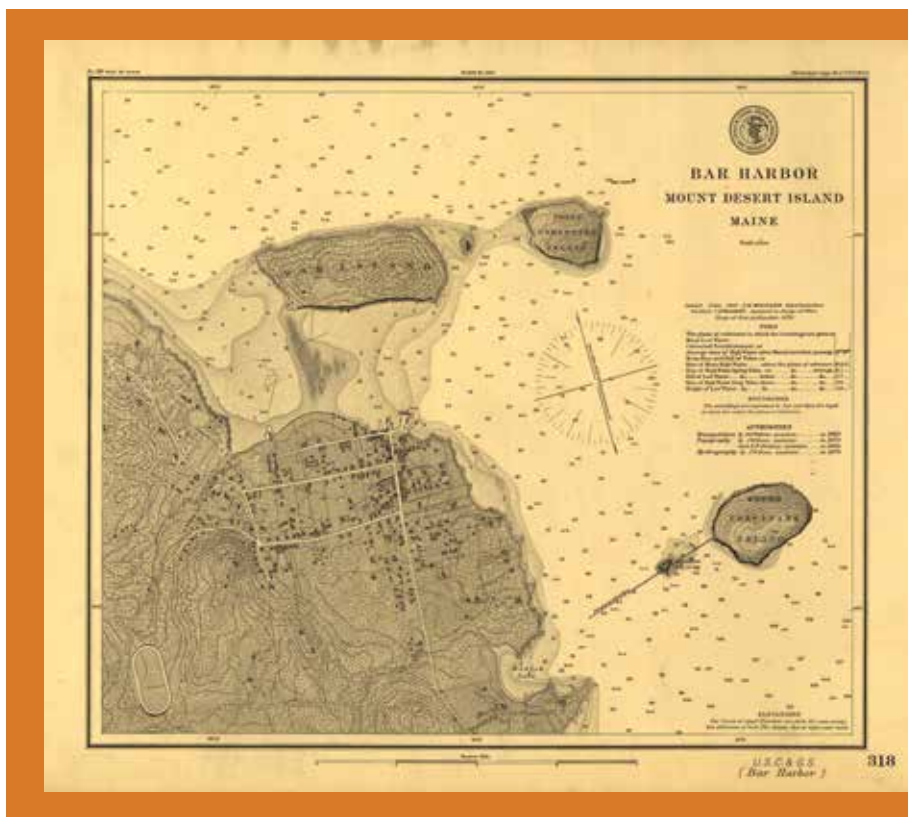
Park, the Porcupine Islands remain an integral part of Downeast Maine’s historic and cultural landscape. ✱

ANGI JOHNSTON worked for Acadia National Park as an interpretive and raptor ranger for twelve seasons. She currently works as a naturalist guide for Bar Harbor Whale Watch Company (BHWWC). ZACK KLYVER has been a naturalist with BHWWC for 30 years.



BARRY GUTTRADT

Naturalist Zack Klyver aboard a Bar Harbor Whale Watch Company sightseeing trip.



U.S. NAVY



Bald Porcupine Island, top, was used for torpedo practice in WWII. Above, an early view of islands off Bar Harbor. At left, a nautical chart for Bar Harbor published in 1885.

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February 1, 2018 –
May 31, 2018

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WHO, WHO, WHO COOKS FOR YOU?



ANTHEMMA FORTHOFFER

Three barred owls perch together on a branch along a hiking trail near Steur de Monts Spring in Acadia National Park in June.

Steady Hand At Financial Tiller Sets Sail

By Earl Brechlin

Spending more than two decades working with an organization that helps preserve and protect Acadia National Park was a dream come true for Diana Roper McDowell of Lamoine, who retired earlier this spring as Friends of Acadia's director of finance and administration.

Her love affair with the park began when she was just four years old, sparked during her first visit with her mom. By the time she was 13, her family had moved here permanently.

"Being part of Friends of Acadia has given me great satisfaction," McDowell shares. "I can't say enough about how much it meant to be working for an organization with a mission that really means something to me personally," she adds.

Dropping out of college where she was studying art, McDowell got a summer job tallying daily receipts for the Acadia Corporation. She also helped generate statistics, such as comparing daily sales volume at shops in and outside the park, to weather conditions and other parameters.

"Then the bookkeeper quit, and they asked me to take that job," McDowell recalls. "I didn't know anything about it, but my boss Ken Goodyear taught me the business from the top down," she continues. "That really is the best way to learn it."

After a stint at Acadia Corporation, and with another area business, McDowell accepted positions with a couple of other area non-profits. Then, in 1998, the accounting position opened up at FOA.

"Right from the start I knew this would be different," she says. "There were always new and interesting things going on. I was just so pleased to be doing work connected to the park."

During her tenure the scope of the organization, and its financial resources, have increased greatly. When she started investments totaled around \$5 million. Today they are closer to \$50 million. "The main thing is that it was always fun," McDow-



Friends of Acadia's director of finance and administration, Diana McDowell, has retired after more than 20 years at the helm of the organization's finances.

ell says. "I loved working with the staff and the board. We always got a lot done because we communicated so well," she adds. She also credited the organization's strong committee structure with keeping it efficient and streamlined.

McDowell's colleagues are unanimous in their praise for what she has meant to the organization. "Diana was such an asset to Friends of Acadia. She gracefully helped our organization thrive, as we increased our staff, grew our investments, and amplified our partnership projects over the last 20 years," says Stephanie Clement, conservation director.

"She exhibited such calm and good humor that helped all of us on the FOA staff through difficult times."

"When I think of Diana, the words 'thorough, thoughtful, creative, hardworking, dedicated, and fun' come to mind," says Lisa Horsch Clark, development director. "Diana was the whole package at FOA and is greatly missed!"

"Thanks to Diana's excellent work and professionalism, my transition into the posi-

tion has been seamless," says FOA's new VP of Finance and Administration, Jason Irwin. "She has been an outstanding steward of the organization's finances."

"Diana has been great to work with in so many ways; her level-headed approach and confidence in people and in the FOA mission has allowed us to accomplish so much during her tenure here," says FOA President and CEO David MacDonald.

Although she spent the majority of her career in finances and management, McDowell never forgot her artistic roots. From a studio in her home she creates beautiful watercolor paintings in a style she refers to as "Abstract realism."

"I hope my art inspires and informs," she explains. "When something captures your imagination, it is so satisfying to inspire people to look at it in a different way and find new appreciation for it."

Acadia and the surrounding woods, islands, and shore provide ample inspiration, she says. One of McDowell's most frequent motifs incorporates sailboats. "I find the lines of a sailboat just incredible," she explains. "When they are racing, and the spinners come out, it's just magnificent with all the colors," she adds.

In each of the past dozen years or so, McDowell has donated one of her sought-after paintings to the Annual FOA Benefit. Another one will be featured this August as well.

According to McDowell, retirement has given her a chance to spend more time in the studio and working on projects around the house she has shared with partner Terry Towne for the past 40 years. There's also more time to get out and enjoy Acadia, her affection for the place she worked so hard to preserve having only intensified over the decades. "I have more time to do things like cook and, of course, to hike," she shares. "I just really love Acadia and love living here." ❁

PAINTING THE BAR TO RODICK'S ISLAND

A New Version of a Classic Acadia Image Comes to Light

By Carl Little

When my brother David and I started assembling our book *Art of Acadia* in 2015, we made a special effort to find images of Mount Desert Island and vicinity that would be new to viewers. At the same time there were well-known depictions of the island we knew we wanted to include. High on our list: David Maitland Armstrong's marvelous *The Bar—Bar Harbor—Mount Desert*, 1883, from the Milwaukee Art Museum

In the painting Armstrong (1836-1918) captured a picturesque part of the Bar Harbor landscape: the sand and gravel bar from which the town got its name. Every detail is appealing, from the beached dory, herring weir and geese in the foreground to Frenchman Bay in the distance. A careened schooner and several small dwellings are visible on what was then called Rodick's Island after the Bar Harbor family that owned it. The island is now completely protected by Acadia National Park.

In his research my brother David discov-

ered a thumbnail sketch Armstrong had made of the painting when it was exhibited at the National Academy of Art in New York City in 1877. He noticed that a few key details were different: The standing figure with fishing pole in the center of the sketch does

The standing figure with fishing pole in the center of the sketch does not appear in the painting; and the geese in the painting are not present in the sketch.

not appear in the painting, and the geese in the painting are not present in the sketch. David assumed that the painting had been reworked at some point after its showing at the Academy.

Then this past fall, John A. Rodick III called out of the blue from his home in Con-

necticut to offer a revelation: He owned another version of the Armstrong painting, one that matched the sketch! Smaller in size, *The Harbor Bar, Mount Desert, Maine*, 1876, is near-identical to the later picture, with the aforementioned changes the most noticeable. Other details are also noteworthy: what looks like a wall along the shore of Rodick Island in the 1883 painting can clearly be seen to be a herring weir of monumental length.

How did the Rodick family come to acquire the painting? A handwritten note, dated May 8, 1956, records the conveyance. In the missive, Helen Macgregor Byrne (1897-1974) related how the painting had been given to her by her husband, Hamilton Fish Armstrong, the artist's son, when she lived in a house facing Rodick Island on Eden Street, on the grounds of what is today College of the Atlantic. She felt it would be "much more appropriate" that the painting belong to a member of the Rodick family.

The note is addressed to the current owner's father, John Andrew Rodick (1914-



David Maitland Armstrong, *The Bar, Bar Harbor, Mt. Desert, Maine*, 1883. Oil on canvas, 24 1/8 by 47 1/8 inches Layton Art Collection, Milwaukee Art Museum



Above: The Bar today.

Left: David Maitland Armstrong, The Harbor Bar, Mount Desert, 1877. *Academy Sketches*. Notes by "NEMO," G.P. Putnam's and Sons, New York.

297. "The Harbor Bar, Mount Desert." D. M. ARMSTRONG; and

1972). Rodick III suspects that his grandfather Andrew Stroud Rodick (1880-1969), a 1902 graduate of Bowdoin College and a prominent Bar Harbor businessman (he was a real estate broker and banker), may have known Byrne and suggested to her that the painting be sent to his son.

In *Islands of the Mid-Maine Coast Volume II: Mount Desert Island to Machias Bay* (1989), Charles McLane, chronicler of the Maine archipelago, offers a history of Bar Island that helps explain the gift. A good bit of McLane's account relates to the Rodick family, starting with Daniel, who ventured to the east side of Mount Desert Island before the Revolutionary War and acquired the island from the de Gregoires.

Called Bar Porcupine at the time, the island took on its new owner's name for the next century as members of the Rodick family took possession. McLane notes how Daniel Rodick Jr., who lived his whole life on the island, caught "thousands of pounds of herring in his weirs off the island and sold them to the Grand Banks fleet." A later owner, Edward Stotesbury of Philadelphia, sold the bulk of the island to the Rockefellers who donated it to Acadia National Park where, writes McLane, "it has ever since rested peacefully."

In his highly entertaining autobiography *Day Before Yesterday: Reminiscences of a Varied Life*, published posthumously in 1920, Armstrong describes a life of adventures and

travel. Born on the Hudson River near Newburgh, New York, he attended Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut. After graduating in 1858, he practiced law in New York City.

In 1867, Armstrong traveled to Paris to study painting and then went on to Rome where in 1869 he became the American Consul to Italy. In 1878, he served as director of American Fine Arts for the Paris Exposition Universelle, receiving the French Legion of Honor for his services. He eventually returned to New York where he established Maitland Armstrong & Co., a stained-glass company (he designed the Rose Window for St. Saviour's in Bar Harbor).

In a chapter titled "Some Pleasant Summers," Armstrong recounts various family



David Maitland Armstrong, The Harbor Bar, Mount Desert, Maine, 1876. 13 5/8 by 28 3/4 inches, Collection Mr. & Mrs. John A. Rodick III

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getaways, including stays at Newburyport, Massachusetts. While in Newburyport in 1875 Armstrong visited Bar Harbor and liked it so much he took his family there the following summer. He offers an amusing account of getting to and from Mount Desert Island, noting that the steamer *Ulysses* was known by many as *Useless* and that the lunch fare in the Rockland train station supported writer Charles Dudley Warner's estimation of Downeast Maine as "the region of perpetual pie."

During his visit, Armstrong painted alongside Philadelphia artist Frank Haseltine (1840-1910), the two of them using up "pounds of our best oil colors and most of our other painting materials" in rendering the local scenery. Among their favorite subjects was the Bar, "where the fish-nets for catching herring, a great industry in those days, were picturesque." Armstrong also mentions "paintable bits about the Indian encampment close by." According to Harald Prins and Bunny McBride, in *Indians in Eden* (2005), the Wabanaki name for the bay area with its tidal bar was "Manesayd'ik," the place to gather clams.

Armstrong found Bar Harbor "pretty primitive" despite several large hotels, "Rodick's being the most important." Living was "delightfully inexpensive," he reported, with lobsters costing "three cents apiece." His family stayed till late in the fall, heading to Chestnut Hill, Pennsylvania, to visit the Centennial Exposition in nearby Philadelphia.

Maitland Armstrong, as he was known, "crossed the bar" on May 26, 1918, at his home in New York City. His legacy, we now know, includes not one, but two handsome depictions of the bar leading to Rodick's Island. When next you venture out to Acadia's Bar Island from Bridge Street, consider what it looked like "back in the day" and thank a smitten artist for capturing the place with an eye for its charming aspects. ✱

CARL LITTLE, of Somesville, is an arts critic, freelance writer, poet, and author of numerous books on Maine art and artists who painted here. He is the communications manager for the Maine Community Foundation.

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'BAT WATCH' AIDS STRUGGLING MAMMALS

By Earl Brechlin



FOA/Julia Walker Thomas

Volunteers help with a mist net setup to capture bats for research purposes on a carriage road in Acadia National Park.

The visiting public and long-term volunteers have a unique opportunity to assist Acadia National Park researchers this summer as part of the newly-created “Bat Watch” program.

Since 2011, when researchers confirmed bats on Mount Desert Island were

dying from the deadly fungus known as “white-nose syndrome,” the number of bats seen in regular counts has plunged by 97 percent, according to park biological technician Chris Heilakka.

“Unfortunately, we’ve seen a dramatic decline. The northern long-eared bat used

to be the most common around here,” he explains. “Last year we only recorded two. The year before that we only saw one.”

White-nose syndrome was first identified in New York in 2006. Since then it has killed millions of bats in the northeast.

The three bat species most commonly seen in Acadia include the northern long-eared, little brown, and eastern small-footed bats. All are listed as either threatened or endangered on the state or federal endangered species lists.

Some species prefer to roost in trees, others in rock openings or caves, while others prefer buildings. Getting to known locations to confirm that bats still remain, and scoping out new locales require a lot of people power. And that’s where the idea of Bat Watch was formed.

The program meets every Thursday evening at park headquarters on Eagle Lake Road in Bar Harbor. Researchers share an educational slide show, and then review techniques for doing what are known as “emergence counts.” Groups then fan out



FOA/Julia Walker Thomas

Biologist Erickson Smith uses a directional radio setup to track bats in Acadia National Park.

into the field to look for bats.

In addition to a general assessment of the park's bat populations, emergence counts help park officials plan maintenance projects so they can be scheduled for times when bats are not raising their young. The peak bat maternity period is June and July. Females give birth to just one "pup."

Recent rehabilitation work on the Paradis Hill Road bridge, for instance, was timed to avoid disturbing bats found to be roosting there during "pupping" season.

"We do counts in areas where we know there are bats and for the compliance work as well," Heilakka says.

Volunteers who wish to make a longer term or even season-long commitment can get advanced training.

White-nose syndrome was first identified in New York in 2006. Since then it has killed millions of bats in the northeast.

In addition to watching likely locations for the emergence of bats at dusk, or observing feeding behavior, other survey techniques include acoustic monitoring and the use of mist nets to capture bats so they can be measured, banded, and in some cases, fitted with tiny telemetry devices so their habits and behaviors can be monitored electronically.

Providing there is no more than a 40 percent chance of rain, Bat Watch operates on Thursday evenings through fall. The times are: July: 7 to 9:30 p.m., August: 6:15 to 9 p.m., September: 5:30 to 8 p.m. Advance registration is required. Email: AcadiaWildlife@nps.gov. Please include "Bat Watch" in the subject line. For more information contact Chris Heilakka at 288-8840. ✱

EARL BRECHLIN is Friends of Acadia's Communications Director.



An eastern small-foot bat.

BAT MYTHS

The old expression "blind as a bat" couldn't be further from the truth. They operate quite well in dark environments. The night vision of some species is three times better than humans. They do use echolocation (sound waves) to help navigate.

Bats as pests

Humans actually derive numerous benefits from bats. A single bat can eat thousands of insects in a single evening. The economic benefit of that globally is put at \$53 billion. Bats help pollinate plants, spread seeds, and droppings, known as guano, make excellent fertilizer.

Bats are not mice

Although bats are the only flying mammal, they are not rodents. They are more closely related to chimps. They do not damage structures by chewing on wood, metal or wires like mice and rats.

Bats and Vampires

Only three of the world's 1,200 species of bats consume blood—none in the United States or Canada. Small bats in South America are called "vampire bats. They lick blood from wounds on cattle, not drink it as is often portrayed in works of fiction.

Bats and hair

Bats don't want to get tangled in people's hair or make a nest. In fact, they don't nest at all. The reason they sometimes swoop near people's heads is to capture insects that swarm there.

Bats and rabies

Scientists say bats have lower rates of rabies infections than other mammals such as raccoons and foxes. While those species may display aggressive behavior if sick, bats usually just become paralyzed. Avoiding bats on the ground reduces the risk to almost zero.



FOA/Julia Walker Thomas

Growing like a... *The Annual Wild Gardens of Acadia Benefit Plant Sale set a new sales record this year. Plants shared by area growers, greenhouses, and estates were snapped up by more than 100 area gardeners. Held every June at St. Saviour's Episcopal Church in Bar Harbor, the event helps provide financial support for the Wild Gardens, a volunteer program of Friends of Acadia.*

Boatworks Gets Its 'Blue Duck' in a Row

Islesford Boatworks, a community-based non-profit organization, entered into a new agreement with the National Park Service in May to lease the historic Blue Duck Ship's Store. Islesford Boatworks will host boatbuilding programs in the Blue Duck starting this summer on Little Cranberry Island. The Blue Duck is located across the lawn from the Islesford Historical Museum.

"Thanks to this lease with Islesford Boatworks, we will improve the condition of this historic building, restore a connection to the waterfront for the Islesford community, and benefit kids and adults who participate in Islesford Boatworks' programs," said Acadia Superintendent Kevin Schneider.

As part of Islesford Boatworks' lease of the Blue Duck, they will carefully rehabilitate the building over the next two to three years, keeping in mind its historic integrity. Islesford Boatworks will use the Blue Duck as a demonstration space and teaching shop, highlighting traditional boatbuilding techniques to the island community and summer visitors. Islesford Boatworks uses

the medium of boatbuilding to preserve the local maritime legacy and to teach important educational skills to children, teens, and adults.

The Blue Duck is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It was originally used by the Hadlock family as a ship's store and then as a general store and a sail loft.

To learn more about Islesford Boatworks visit islesfordboatworks.org

Ocean Drive Visitor Use and Traffic Model Complete

Friends of Acadia (FOA) and Acadia National Park have been working with the consulting firm RSG to prepare a comprehensive traffic and visitor use model for Ocean Drive. The goal of the project was to provide a scientifically rigorous way for the National Park Service (NPS) to predict the outcomes of different scenarios for managing traffic on Ocean Drive.

FOA funded the project in preparation for the draft Acadia National Park Draft Transportation Plan, released in April 2018.

The data that was used in the model
continued on page 27

FOA Volunteer is honored

Friends of Acadia volunteer Nancy Howland of Bar Harbor has been named the 2018 Elizabeth Fritz Thorndike Award winner. The biennial award, managed by the Maine Community Foundation, honors an individual who has made outstanding contributions to community service on Mount Desert Island.

As part of the award, the Maine Community Foundation has made a \$2,500 donation in Howland's name to Friends of Acadia to support the Wild Gardens of Acadia. Howland also received a bronze statuette, The Helping Hand, by sculptor Constance Pach.

The Thorndike Award honors Betty Thorndike, a long-time resident of Bar Harbor and cofounder of the Wild Gardens who served in many capacities in her community, as a volunteer, board member, town councilor, and patron of the arts.



CARL LITTLE, MAINECF

Nancy Howland at the Wild Gardens of Acadia

On the Wild Side

Area residents and visitors are encouraged to share news of any unusual wildlife or bird sightings with Acadia National Park officials.

Those occasions can range from the rare, although not unheard of, spotting of a moose or bear, to birds outside their normal range, which are called vagrants or accidentals.

Sightings can be reported via email at acadiawildlife@nps.gov.

SUMMIT STEWARDS ARE PARK'S PROTECTORS

From the wind-swept, open granite ledges of the summit of Sargent, to the crowded asphalt parking lots shimmering in the August heat on Cadillac Mountain, Friends of Acadia's Summit Stewards take to the high ground each summer to assist visitors, answer questions, and spread the word about the importance of low-impact visitation.

Stewards also serve as eyes and ears for park resource managers and law enforcement rangers in helping to make the determination that the summit road up Cadillac should be closed due to traffic congestion or other problems. Last year alone, traffic jams or emergencies closed the road to the top 69 times.

Stephanie Ley, Summit Steward Coordinator, oversees a team of nine that covers trails and summits throughout the park, monitoring resources and interacting with visitors. For many years FOA operated a separate backcountry program called Ridge Runners while Summit Stewards focused on Cadillac Mountain. Those programs were

merged in 2017. Members now swap off between spending time hiking to distant summits or being assigned to Cadillac.

"The big focus is Leave No Trace (LNT) education," says Ley. Among the key principles are not trampling vegetation, respecting wildlife, and being considerate of other visitors.

Every opportunity is a chance to talk about the fragile nature of Acadia's resources and how individual visitors can protect them.

Sometimes Stewards just give directions. On other occasions, especially while on patrol on the trails, they share an extra bottle of water with hikers who may be running low or provide a map to someone unsure of where they are. Every opportunity is a chance to talk about the fragile nature of Acadia's resources and how individual visi-

tors can protect them.

Sometimes stewards will position themselves near the base of very difficult trails, such as the Precipice or Beehive, and offer advice to those who appear hesitant to tackle such rigorous climbs.

Nearly every day throughout the park, stewards will explain the unique style of the historic Bates cairns, used to mark the trails on Mount Desert Island's east side.

While on the trail, stewards carry small saws and loppers so they can perform light maintenance such as clearing a downed branch or rebuilding damaged cairns. More and more frequently, however, they also spend time dismantling bootleg cairns and piles of rock art that can confuse visitors and mar the visual landscape.

"It's really astonishing how quickly illegal cairns and rock installations can crop up," Ley explains.

Along with LNT and other training, stewards are also annually certified to be able to provide basic first aid and CPR. They assist park rangers during rescue operations,



Members of the 2018 Friends of Acadia Summit Stewards include, from left, Colleen Laird, Isabella Connelly, John Clark, Zoe Smiarowski, Sean Ducker, Coordinator Stephanie Ley, Chris Spaulding, Bess Fagerstrom, and Alanna McDonough.



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FOA/JULIA WALKER THOMAS

helping to carry injured visitors down hiking trails. “In one case, a Summit Steward was just a short distance away and they were the first one on the scene,” Ley recalls. The steward was able to radio valuable information about the patient’s situation and condition that helped formulate a faster and more streamlined response.

A primary focus of the Summit Steward program is the top of Cadillac Mountain. It is the most popular place to visit for the more than 3 million people who come to Acadia each year.

In addition to sightseers in private vehicles, the top of the highest mountain

within 50 miles of the coast from Maine to Rio de Janeiro is often packed with scores of concession bus tour visitors, cruise ship passengers, and hikers that ascend on trails that approach the peak from all four cardinal directions.

According to park service reports, the summit has a total of 150 parking spaces. At peak visitation times as many as 400 vehicles have been recorded.

During daylight hours, one of the summit stewards’ jobs is to notify park rangers when the traffic situation nears gridlock. “The trigger point is when traffic is backed up to the Blue Hill Overlook,” Ley says. “As soon as we see it’s there and not moving we make a call to dispatch.”

A park dispatcher then sends a ranger to close off the summit road entrance. No new vehicles are allowed up until others have descended.

In the evening, summit stewards will often place traffic barricades across the entrance to the Blue Hill Overlook lot when that fills up at sunset. And, when all summit parking is filled, rangers will be summoned again.

Neither the park nor the Summit Steward program has sufficient staff to conduct similar operations for sunrise.

Along with traffic monitoring and visitor interaction, FOAs Summit Stewards have played a vital role in collecting data that has

NEW TRAILBLAZER MEMBERS

February 1, 2018 – May 31, 2018

- Anita and Robert Hakim
- Cassie and John Hamilton
- Lawrence Inglis
- Diane Kelley
- Rob Kelley
- Maureen and Gary Konecnik
- Barbara Lindop-Higgins
- Kimberly and Anthony Maroldo
- Sydney McLean
- Elizabeth and David Mitchell
- Jamie Roy-Daigle
- Phyllis Stone and Mark Blatchley
- Marguerite Urban

helped shape Acadia's proposed transportation plan. They keep track of the number of vehicles at different times of day as well as the different modes of transportation.

"The Summit Stewards serve a very important role for Friends of Acadia and Acadia National Park," says FOA Conservation Director Stephanie Clement.

"They cover a lot of ground hiking the trails, answering visitor questions—especially on Cadillac—encouraging visitors to be good stewards of Acadia. We're lucky to have such a talented group of young people working as stewardship ambassadors out and about in the park."

For Ley, who is in her third year in the program, her second as coordinator, the rewards of the job far surpass the usual response of a paycheck and sense of accomplishment for helping the public. She says the experience transcends the obvious routine of answering the same question over and over or the frequent stops to offer to take photos of folks with their camera or phones.

"I tell people that I have a job where I can hike in one of the most beautiful places in the country and I get paid to help other people connect with that," she explains. "We protect Acadia. We help people enjoy the park, have a better experience and help them learn—help them feel closer to what's here." ✨

EARL BRECHLIN is Friends of Acadia's Communications Director.



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FOAMIEE BEAL CHURCH



ART/TEMMA FORTHOPE

New Lawn at Jordan Pond House ... A 10-month project to replace the tea lawn at the Jordan Pond House was slated to wrap up in mid-July. The \$365,000 project includes laying down new sod, a brick patio, and installation of an irrigation system. Having tea and popovers on the lawn overlooking the pond and the Bubbles mountains has been a tradition for decades.

included traffic counts at the Sand Beach entrance station; bus ridership counts and passenger estimates on commercial buses, concessions buses, and the Island Explorer; and visitor use patterns including group size, destinations visited, and length of stay at Thunder Hole and Sand Beach. Using this data, the consultants determined traffic levels and visitor patterns that would be expected on a typically busy summer day.

Simultaneously, RSG worked with the NPS to select indicators that could be used to track visitor crowding and traffic conditions (e.g. number of vehicles at one time on Ocean Drive and number of people at one time in the lower walkway area of Thunder Hole).

The results of running the model showed that vehicle traffic exceeds the effective number of parking spaces along Ocean Drive approximately 9.2 percent of the time during a typically busy summer day (7 a.m. to 7 p.m.).

That suggests management action is warranted on Ocean Drive to improve visitor access and the visitor experience. The model can also be used in the future to determine how a variety of management actions could affect traffic and crowding conditions.

For instance, if additional transit service

is provided to Ocean Drive, it could have a beneficial impact on reducing the total number of vehicles on Ocean Drive, but it might also cause pulses in visitation at Thunder Hole that exacerbate the feeling of being crowded at that site. The NPS will be able to wrestle with questions like this through the model to determine the best actions to improve the Ocean Drive visitor experience overall.

Acadia Institutes Bark Ranger Program

Dogs are welcome companions on most of Acadia's trails and carriage roads, and this year furry friends will have the opportunity to achieve a special designation—"Bark Ranger."

Kelly Pontbriand, budget technician for the Interpretive Division of Acadia National Park, brought the program to Acadia after researching it in 17 other national parks across the country. Pontbriand is an experienced dog trainer and handler and works with her specially trained border collie, Drift, on search and rescue operations in Maine. Drift and Kelly appear in the park's "Puppy Pals ProTips" video on the park website.

The focus of the Bark Ranger program here is encouraging proper behaviors. "We

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Updates

wanted to minimize injuries to dogs and conflicts with wildlife and other visitors,” said Lynne Dominy, chief of interpretation and education. “We’re thankful Kelly adapted the program for Acadia and created a friendly, fun way to be a good steward with your dog.” The Acadia Bark Ranger program brings attention to four messages: Bag your poop, Always wear a leash, Respect wildlife, and Know where you can go.

Visitors can pick up the Bark Ranger activity checklist at park campgrounds, the Sieur de Monts Nature Center, or the Hulls Cove Visitor Center. Canine-friendly activities on the checklist include hiking on a permitted park trail, exploring the carriage roads, and strolling along the water. Participants must follow the stewardship rules, such as picking up and properly disposing poop, keeping dogs on a leash no longer than six feet, restraining dogs around wildlife, and staying out of prohibited areas such as the Wild Gardens of Acadia, ladder trails, water supplies, park buildings, and Sand Beach and Echo Lake Beach (May 15 to October 15).

Once canines and their humans have completed one of the activities on the Bark Ranger checklist, the human must talk with a ranger and read the Bark Ranger oath. The dog is then sworn in as a Bark Ranger, and the owner can show their



Star-studded Festival

The 10th Annual Acadia Night-Sky Festival is set for September 5-9, 2018. As in the past, the celebration will include workshops, speakers and hands-on experiences.

Acadia is one of the best spots along the Eastern Seaboard for viewing the night sky free of the negative effects of light pollution.

Events include night sky viewing with area astronomers and “star parties” at Seawall and the summit of Cadillac Mountain in Acadia National Park.

Find out more at acadianightskyfestival.com.

ACADIA YOUTH TECHNOLOGY TEAM

signed card to the bookstore at the Hulls Cove Visitor Center to be eligible to purchase a special tag for the dog’s collar.

For more information about visiting Acadia with your dog and to meet Drift in the “Puppy Pals” video, go to nps.gov/acad/planyourvisit/pets.htm. Pontbriand and Drift will also be giving ranger programs at Schoodic this summer.

Volunteers Rock Roadside Cleanup

Inspired by the love for their communi-

ties, more than 270 volunteers came out to clean up state and local roads during the Friends of Acadia Annual Roadside Cleanup in April.

Participating groups and individuals collected 488 bags of trash from 80 miles of Route 3, Route 233, and Route 102 in the Mount Desert Island and Trenton areas. “Groups reported that there was less trash in many areas, so the annual cleanup appears to be making a difference for the better,” said FOA Conservation Projects Manager Paige Steele.



COURTESY TEAM MOOSE AND GOOSE

HIKE WITH MOOSE FOR GOOSE... Friends of Acadia Development Director Lisa Horsch Clark and her daughter, Grace, represented FOA at the Hike with Moose in Honor of Goose walk in June in Connecticut. More than 50 walkers raised \$1,600. Team Moose and Goose, one of FOA’s most loyal Acadia Quest teams, was composed of mom Laura Mathews and son Neil, of Torrington, CT. Neil, age 11, passed away unexpectedly last fall. Laura plans to do the memorial walk again next year to benefit FOA.

Updates

Participating groups included Bar Harbor Bank & Trust, Bar Harbor Congregational Church, Bar Harbor Rotary, Bar Harbor Savings & Loan, Brownie Troop #256, Cadillac Mountain Sports, Camp Beech Cliff, Gamma Sigma Sigma from the University of Maine, Girl Scout Troop 760, Hadley's Point Campground, Knowles Company, MDI National Honor Society, Town of Trenton, and the United States Coast Guard.

Many area businesses recruited volunteers and Hannaford Supermarket provided water and snacks. The Maine Department of Transportation collected the bagged trash. 2018 sponsors include: Bar Harbor Bank & Trust, Bar Harbor Savings and Loan, The Bluenose Inn, Burdick & Associates Landscape Design, Dawnland, Evergreen Home and Hearth, Fiore Artisan Olive Oils & Vinegars, The First, Gallery at Somes Sound, Galyn's, John Williams Boat Company, Knowles Company, Lynam Agencies, Machias Savings Bank, MDI Hospital, Pedego Acadia, and Window Panes. ❄



Acadia Quest is celebrating its 10th anniversary, with the second version of the digital quest under construction with our new partner OnCell. The updated digital version will be launched during National Park Week next April and will be found in the app store by searching "Friends of Acadia." For 2018, the original paper version will be available at visitor centers and online for teams to quest per usual. This year's theme is "Acadia Quest: Greatest Hits" in honor of the 10th anniversary. The quest includes the most popular activities over the past decade, such as swimming and boating in Acadia, biking to a famous carriage road bridge, becoming a junior ranger, and hiking a "south ridge" trail. The program began in early June and runs through fall.

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NEW BOOKS CELEBRATE NATURE, ACADIA

Bonding with Nature

By Dianna Emory

Former Friends of Acadia Board President and current Honorary Trustee, Dianna Emory is out this summer with a book exploring the transformative power of national parks and the importance of maintaining personal connections to the natural world. In *Bonding with Nature, Responding to Life's Challenges and the Aging Process*, Emory shares wisdom gathered during her own personal journey, beating cancer as a child, and explorations in beautiful places around the globe.

Acadia, FOA, and exploring how volunteerism can help improve quality of life are among the subjects covered.

\$19.95, Paperback, 310 pages

Numerous photos

Available at area booksellers and online.

Sailor for the Wild

By Ben Emory

As an Acadia National Park Advisory Commission member and former Executive Director of Maine Coast Heritage Trust Ben Emory is no stranger to land trust organizations across Maine over the years. He has released his first book, *Sailor for the Wild, On Maine, Conservation, and Boats*.

In this memoir, Emory shares a lifetime of adventure on the ocean and his professional and volunteer land conservation enterprises including many involving Acadia and Mount Desert Island.

Includes maps by Jane Crosen.

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Maine Mountain Guide

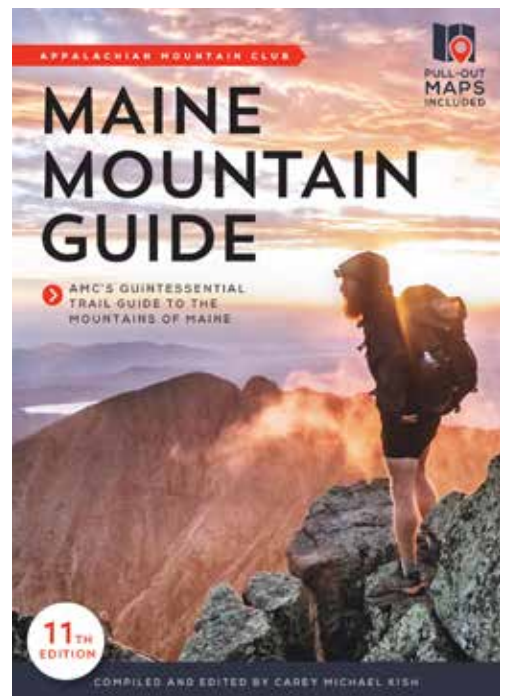
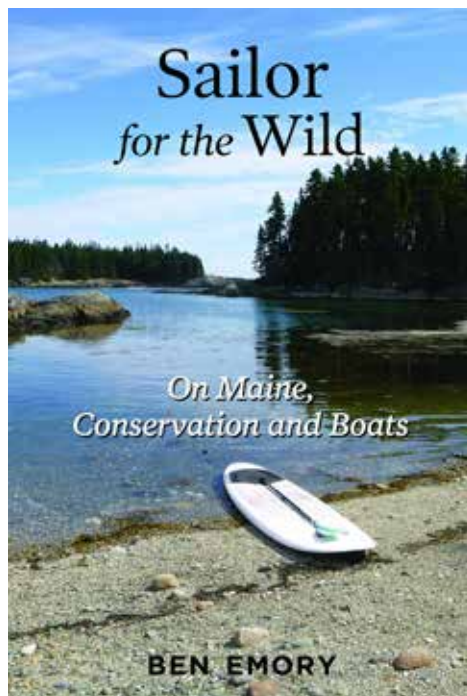
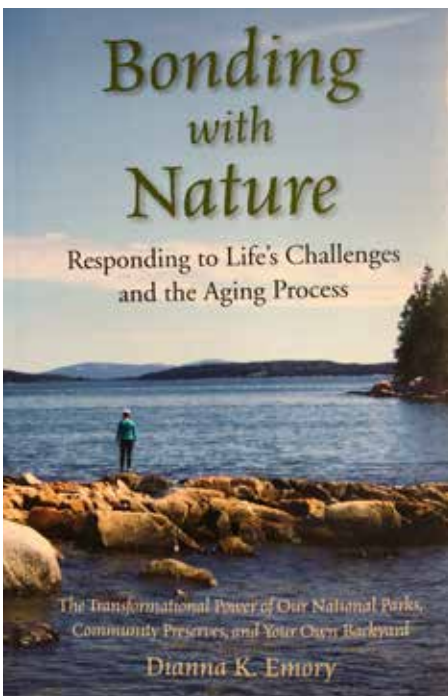
By Carey Kish

The Appalachian Mountain Club's indispensable trail guide to hiking in Maine is out in its 11th edition this month. It was edited and ground-truthed by Mount Desert resident Carey Kish, who also writes a regular hiking column in the *Maine Sunday Telegram*. The book includes updates of previous trails, as well as 175 new trails on 50 "new" mountains.

In addition to detailed trail descriptions, this authoritative work includes several pullout maps, including covering most of the popular Acadia trails on the east side of MDI. Other maps include: Baxter State Park/Katahdin, the 100-Mile Wilderness, the Bigelow Range, Camden Hills, the Maahoosuc Range, and Evans Notch.

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FOA IS A 'BEEHIVE' OF ACTIVITY

Greetings, Friends,

Who isn't looking forward to sharing time this summer with family and friends in Acadia? What adventures do you have in mind?

One of my goals is to utilize the Island Explorer from the Northeast Harbor Marina to access the trails at Jordan Pond House. We're also planning to bike the 10-mile loop in Schoodic to view the easternmost section of Acadia National Park.

Summer is now in full swing; the calendar is filling up and the daily pace will intensify. I marvel at how many activities we all juggle as the season flies by.

Your FOA board works hard year-round preserving and protecting our beloved park to make all this, and more, a reality. Thanks to Friends of Acadia's busy bees, hundreds of people have the opportunity to volunteer at the spring Roadside Cleanup, and Take Pride in Acadia Day. FOA's story has been shared at more intimate events throughout the spring in Boston, New York, and Washington D.C.

Advocacy members also traveled to D.C. for the Friends Alliance Conference and to advocate on Capitol Hill.

In May, FOA's Board of Directors approved an updated vision for the future and strategic plan to get us there. With the assistance of a very active Planning Committee comprising FOA board members, staff, and park leadership, key issues facing the park were addressed.

The Draft Transportation Plan for Acadia National Park was released and FOA helped inform the public. We were well represented by board and staff at the many public informational sessions.

Needless to say, our board is a hive of worker bees buzzing around in Acadia.



While each has its own talents and tasks, our board community collectively builds and protects the park resources as the numbers of visitors swell. In that regard, I want to acknowledge and thank four prolific members who will be "flying off" the FOA board this year.

BROWNIE CARSON has been a terrific resource in environmental issues and served on the Advocacy and Resource Protection Committees. Brownie has been an eloquent voice for the natural resources of the park, always encouraging Friends of Acadia to be strong advocates for protection. Brownie has also given particular attention to climate change and its anticipated affects at Acadia.

JILL GOLDTHWAIT has been a force on the advocacy front. She has a keen understanding of how the park and local communities interact. This has been especially helpful when working on park issues such as the boundary, clamming

and worming, and transportation. Jill was also helpful in shepherding relationships at the state level before, during, and after the centennial year.

LINDA JENSEN has brought FOA great expertise in nonprofit accounting.

Her financial wisdom and experience shared on the Investment, Finance, and Audit committees have been a tremendous asset. Her consistent preparedness for committee meetings, reviewing the books, and good questions for the budget were especially valued. We wish Linda well in her relocation to Virginia.

JACK RUSSELL was born and raised on MDI and is an Acadia lover like no other!

Jack has a unique gift for writing. I will always treasure his heartfelt communications occasionally written to me under challenging circumstances. The FOA board has benefited from his precision focus on many committees, including his leadership as co-chair of the Acadia Centennial Task Force. Onward, Jack!

Thank you, Brownie, Jill, Linda, and Jack for everything we have learned from you and for your long-term engagement and dedicated service.

Additionally, a special note of thanks to the FOA Honorary Trustees who make significant contributions and support the organization year-round.

See you all in the park!

With Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anne B. Green".

—Anne B. Green

TICKS ARE A GROWING OUTDOOR CHALLENGE

By Earl Brechlin

Like wearing proper footwear, bringing plenty of water, and using sun screen, taking precautions against ticks is now a reality of spending time in the woods and fields of Acadia National Park.

Several species of ticks are prevalent in the park (see related chart). Most are active in late spring until early fall. Bites from infected ticks can spread a variety of serious diseases including Lyme, Babesiosis, Anaplasmosis, and, just recently identified, Powassan, which can be fatal.

Surveys done in Acadia showed about 10 percent of ticks collected thirty years ago harbored Lyme bacteria. More recent studies have shown that number is now 40 percent—which is not out of line with other areas along the Maine coast. “Everything seems to be moving faster than anticipated,” explains Acadia resource specialist Bruce Connery.

The chances of becoming infected vary. Not all ticks harbor harmful bacteria and only about 5 percent of people bitten by ticks will be infected.

Scientists believe an attached tick must be present and feeding for more than 24 to 36 hours before Lyme is transmitted. For other diseases the timeframe may be shorter.

Of particular concern on Mount Desert Island are deer or long-legged ticks during the summer, from



late June into July and August. “They are really, really hard to see, just the size of a dot made by a fine-point marker,” Connery explains.

In Maine, about 1,000 to 1,200 people are reported with Lyme disease annually. Officials, however,

believe the number of infections to be ten times that figure.

(See related story on how to guard against ticks)

In Acadia, a variety of methods are employed by those who spend a lot of time in the field, including trail and vegetation crews, water and wildlife researchers. Employees are urged to wear long-sleeve shirts, long pants, full socks, and gaiters treated with permethrin, even on the hottest days. Employees can also send out up to eight items of clothing at a time to be treated with permethrin.

According to trail crew leader Gary Stellpflug, taking tick precautions isn't mandatory, but there are constant reminders on how to avoid being bitten. Time is allowed at the end of every shift for crews to conduct tick checks.

Friends of Acadia's seasonal workers and volunteers are also trained on how to avoid tick bites.

Connery shares that several studies are being done in Acadia this summer related to ticks and public awareness. One will study small mammals that play host to ticks during their life cycle. Also, two

surveys will be done to gauge the public's attitudes and awareness of tick-related issues. ✨

EARL BRECHLIN is Friends of Acadia's Communications Director.

Guard Against Ticks

Taking steps to protect yourself and your family from getting a tick bite is the best defense against Lyme disease and other tick-borne infections. Whether you're working, enjoying the park, your yard, camping, hiking, hunting or otherwise in the outdoors, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommends that people:

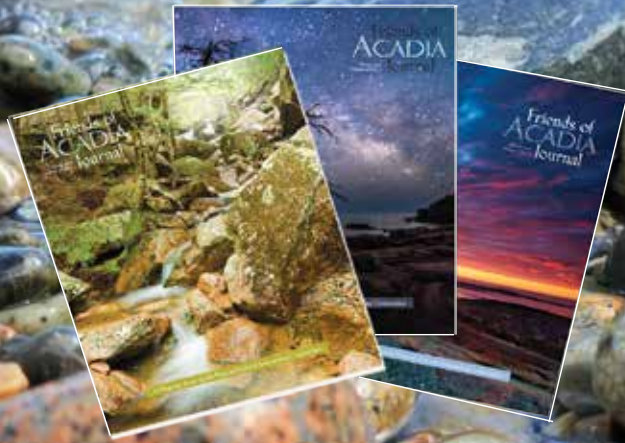
- Avoid areas with high grass and leaf litter and walk in the center of trails when hiking.
- Use Environmental Protection Agency-registered insect repellents containing DEET, picaridin, IR3535, oil of lemon eucalyptus, para-menthane-diol, or 2-undecanone. EPA's helpful search tool can help you find the product that best suits your needs. Always follow product instructions.
- Use products that contain permethrin to treat clothing and gear, such as boots, pants, socks, and tents or look for clothing pre-treated with permethrin.

- Treat dogs for ticks. Dogs are very susceptible to tick bites and to some tick-borne diseases. They may also bring ticks into your home. Talk to your veterinarian about the best tick prevention products for your dog.
- Bathe or shower as soon as possible after coming indoors to wash off and more easily find crawling ticks before they bite you.
- Conduct a full-body tick check using a hand-held or full-length mirror to view all parts of your body upon returning from tick-infested areas. Parents should help children check thoroughly for ticks. Remove any ticks right away.
- Tumble dry clothes in a dryer on high heat for 10 minutes to kill ticks on dry clothing after you come indoors. If the clothes are damp, additional time may be needed.

Source: CDC

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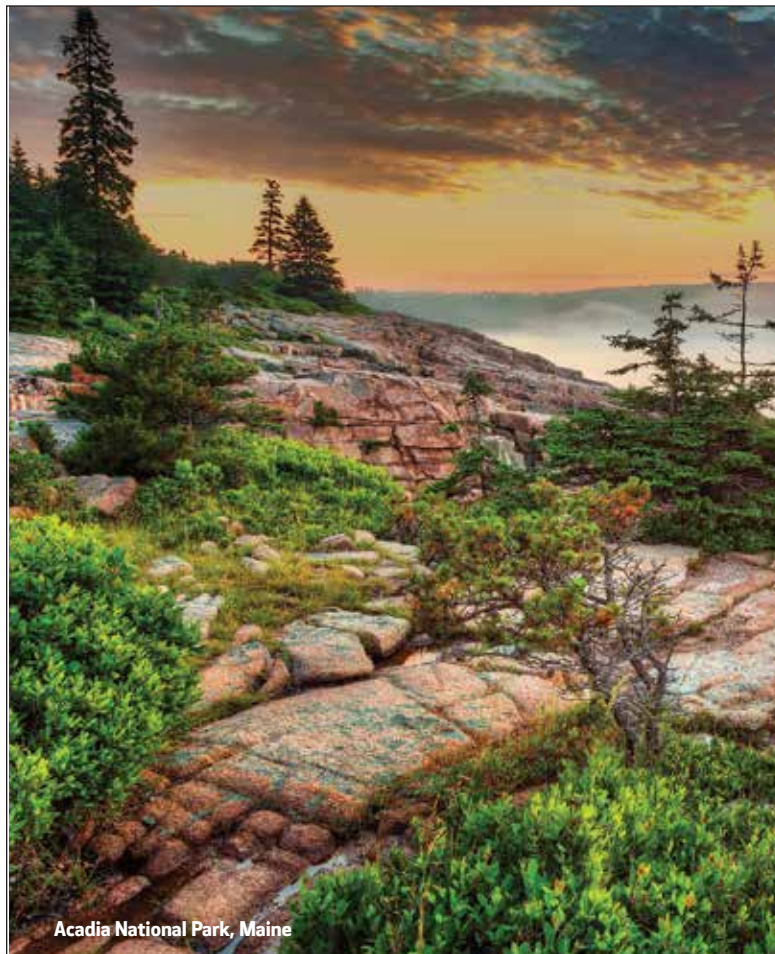


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THOMAS BLAGDEN

A North American beaver (Castor-canadensis) enjoys a leisurely summer swim in a pond in Acadia National Park.

Mission

Friends of Acadia preserves, protects, and promotes stewardship of the outstanding natural beauty, ecological vitality, and distinctive cultural resources of Acadia National Park and surrounding communities for the inspiration and enjoyment of current and future generations.