



Friends of
ACADIA
Journal

Summer 2019
Volume 24 No. 2

A Magazine about Acadia National Park and Surrounding Communities

PURCHASE YOUR PARK PASS!

Whether driving, walking, bicycling, or riding the Island Explorer through the park, we all must pay the entrance fee. Eighty percent of all fees paid in Acadia stay in Acadia, to be used for projects that directly benefit park visitors and resources.

Open Seasonally:

Bar Harbor Village Green
Blackwoods, Seawall, and Schoodic Woods campgrounds
Hulls Cove Visitor Center
Jordan Pond and Cadillac Mountain Gift Shops
Sand Beach Entrance Station
Thompson Island Information Center

Open Year-Round:

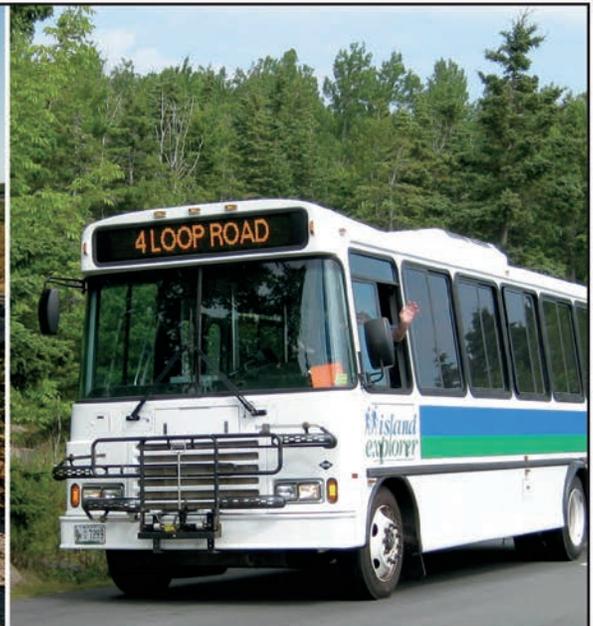
Bar Harbor Chamber of Commerce/Acadia Information Center
Corner of Main and Cottage streets, Bar Harbor 288-5103

Park passes are now available online. Visit

www.yourpassnow.com



Annual park passes are also available at certain Acadia-area town offices and local businesses; contact the park at 207-288-3338 to find additional pass sales locations.



— PROTECTING THE FUTURE OF ACADIA NATIONAL PARK —

Since 2002, L.L.Bean and Friends of Acadia have partnered to preserve and protect the park through scientific research, youth education programs and the Island Explorer bus system.

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MANY CHOICES, MANY VOICES ENHANCE ACADIA

Sometimes when I am planning a hike in Acadia, I feel almost embarrassed by the quantity and quality of choices before me. Do I want to do a loop or out-and-back? Am I in search of an open summit or the deep woods? Am I looking for solitude or the chance to see and interact with others on the trail? Am I up for a scramble over rocks and roots, or will my bones and muscles be happier on the gradual, level carriage roads? Should I include a swimming hole in my route?

My mind scrolls through dozens of options, sifting through these and other criteria before settling on a route and I'm usually on the trail within about ten minutes.

Having choices in one's hike, one's day, or week, or year, adds greatly to our quality of life and richness of our experience. I also find that my decision-making often benefits from hearing different perspectives and ideas from others. My wife or kids or friends might suggest a trail that was not even on my mind and inspire me to branch out beyond some of my favorites.

Here at Friends of Acadia, we too must make a lot of choices about our work and how to best allocate our time and resources in the course of a day or week or year. The needs of our park are even more numerous than the number of trails in its system. And, the views on where to work and invest are nearly as diverse and wide-ranging as FOA's 5,000-strong members.

Although FOA staff and board members have worked closely with the Acadia National Park leadership team to identify four strategic programmatic areas where the majority of our work will be focused—Wild Acadia, Tomorrow's Stewards, the Acadia Experience and Trails & Carriage Roads—we still benefit greatly from the input we constantly receive from the broader community.



Over the winter, FOA reached out to our friends and members with a constituent survey, asking for feedback and ideas for our work, and we were blown away when 1,097 of you took time to fill out the on-line questionnaire or to call or write us. Your thoughtful input will help us do our job better than you!

Thank you for lending a hand, or a voice, in helping FOA make the best possible choices in supporting a thriving and sustainable Acadia National Park.

Similarly, the Acadia National Park Transportation Planning process would not have come to a successful conclusion this spring without the thousands of park users and neighbors who attended meetings, read the draft documents, followed on-line discussions, and weighed in with opinions. In meeting with members of Congress in Washington last month to brief them on the plan, I

was struck by their view that the extent of public involvement in the process was every bit as important to them as the specific result.

And in a recent public presentation on FOA's work with partners to understand how climate change and a history of human manipulation is affecting the health and natural communities of Cromwell Brook and the Great Meadow, our Wild Acadia Project Coordinator Brian Henkel heard perspectives from many in the overflow crowd on their history of involvement there and goals and ideas for its future.

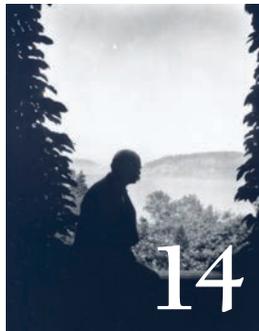
Back here at the FOA office, I am in receipt of regular phone calls, emails, and letters as folks weigh in on subjects such as a trail that might be in need of repair, or perhaps an idea for how to improve an Island Explorer bus route, or asking FOA to explain changes in NPS park entrance fee pricing or park pass sale locations. While the answer is rarely cut and dried—and sometimes not what the caller wants to hear—the opportunity for discussion and learning always deepens my appreciation for the variety of perspectives out there among the many audiences the park serves.

At a time when Acadia faces great challenges with insufficient federal resources, an active and engaged FOA constituency is an invaluable asset. Thank you for lending a hand, or a voice, in helping FOA make the best possible choices in supporting a thriving and sustainable Acadia National Park.


—David MacDonald

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MOTHER-DAUGHTER TEAM ARE TRUE ‘QUESTERS’

By Lynn Fantom

More area residents should take advantage of Acadia Quest—not just visitors to Acadia National Park.

That’s the advice offered by Jody and Cate Brown, a mother-daughter team from Trenton who have been dedicated participants in Friends of Acadia’s Acadia Quest program for several years. Acadia Quest includes a series of outdoor experiences in the park that encourage youth to explore, learn, and protect national parks and other conserved lands and waters.

“The park was always there right in my backyard, but I just didn’t know where to start,” says Jody, who grew up in Aroostook County and now works as the vice president of credit administration at the First National Bank in Bar Harbor. “This provided a little blueprint.”

Jody coined “Brown Party of Two” for her family’s registered team name. As a single woman, she adopted her daughter as a

newborn, and Acadia has become a prime site for their adventures year after year.

On the carriage roads, Cate has progressed from stroller to bicycle. The nine-year-old loves swimming in Echo Lake and seeing wildlife—snowshoe hares, deer crossing the sandbar to Bar Island, or a porcupine (ironically on Bald Mountain, according to Jody).

But it is the Acadia Quest program that has given structure to this exploration and resultant discoveries. There’s a “really fun” app, Jody notes. “That is another way it is like a scavenger hunt, because you can check in and get badges and other things.”

Every year the quest changes. In 2019, one “must-see” on Cate’s list of where a first-time Acadia visitor should go is the Ship Harbor Trail. She also recommends Bubble Rock.

With her hydration system for water and a bag of snacks (preferably gummies and granola bars), the rising fifth grader has advanced to higher peaks over the years.

“We’ve moved up from novice and we’re now a little more adventurous, but we do it just for fun,” Jody says.

“We take our time,” she affirms, quickly adding, “but we’re not slowpokes either.” That may be an understatement since Cate plays softball, soccer, and basketball. And don’t forget gymnastics.

In fact, she appears to be a girl as comfortable in a math class (her favorite subject) as on the softball field. She wants to be a biomedical engineer when she grows up and readily explains what that entails.

Acadia has provided lessons of another type, too: about the environment, peoples’ impact on it, and the principles of “Leave No Trace.” In the end, however, it’s not so much about outside activities as it is personal connections between the participants.

Although she could be talking about the beauty of Acadia, when asked what time spent exploring Acadia means to her family, Jody is thinking about her daughter. “We’re trying to soak it all in for as long as we can.” ✨



The mother-daughter team of Jody and Cate Brown are experienced participants in Friends of Acadia’s Acadia Quest program. Right: Cate Brown takes in the view from atop a mountain in Acadia National Park

Where in Acadia?



Where in Acadia? You won't be far from the madding crowd, but you do have to get a bit off the beaten track to be familiar with the trail from which this iconic view can be seen. While its trusty iron rungs pale in comparison with their more numerous cousins not far to the north, the opportunity for height-averse hikers to grip tight and gasp remains the same. Still, there's no faster way to the top of this granite edifice named for a symbol of agrarian industry. Extra credit if you can name the small pond below.

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 Friends of Acadia Journal, and we'll send a Friends of Acadia cap to the writers.

Spring 2019 Where in Acadia?



I can't count how many times we have visited Acadia. First, when I was dating my husband, then after we were married, and now it's a tradition with our two sons. The Spring "Where is it?" photo must be the top of Cadillac Mountain. This location is a must see—first when we arrive—and once again as we are leaving the park. The last time was most exciting as we awoke to

catch the sunrise; a most memorable visit to Cadillac.

—Wendy Brown-Reilly and Family, East Hanover, NJ

The "Where in Acadia?" picture in the Spring 2019 FOA Journal appears to be on the top of Cadillac Mountain. In our younger days we regularly hiked a loop from Jordan Pond to Bubble Pond, up the West Face Trail, down the ridge past the Featherbed, down the Canon Brook Trail to catch the path around Pemetic Mountain back to Jordan Pond. Now we drive to the top and hike the down the ridge to the overlook above the Featherbed.

We did this in May and encountered winds more ferocious than we have ever experienced before.

—Sherrill Primo, Lewiston, NY

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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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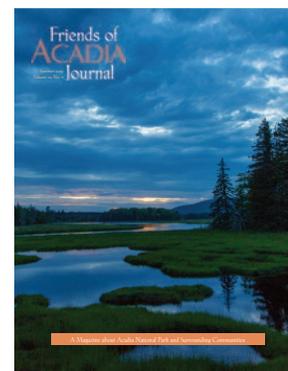
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Sunset over Bass Harbor Marsh.
Cover photo by Nathaniel X. Boëchat FOA/ADMT



This Journal is printed on paper made with 100% recycled fiber and 60% post-consumer waste, processed chlorine free, and manufactured in the USA with 100% Green-e certified renewable energy.
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Island Explorer Marks Twenty Years

The Island Explorer shuttle bus system celebrated its 20th Anniversary in style on June 14, with an event showcasing the addition of 21 new, propane-powered buses to the fleet. The service, which is slated to carry its 8 millionth passenger this summer, was praised at a gathering at the Jordan Pond House. Representatives of Acadia National Park, Maine Department of Transportation, Downeast Transportation, grant funder L.L.Bean, Friends of Acadia, area towns, congressional offices, the Propane Education and Research Council, and bus maker Hometown Manufacturing participated.

Over the last 20 years, the Island Explorer has grown from a fleet size of eight buses to 31 buses in operation, plus six spare buses, along with four vans and two bicycle trailers.

Nearly \$5 million in funding for the new buses was supported by the National Park Service and the State of Maine. The acquisition was managed by the Maine Department of Transportation in conjunction with Downeast Transportation.



FOA/JOE PHILLIPSON

One of 21 new Island Explorer buses crosses over the Paradise Hill Bridge along the Park Loop Road in Acadia National Park.

Annual operating funding for the Island Explorer is a partnership through Acadia National Park, the U.S. and Maine Departments of Transportation, contributions from L.L.Bean and Friends of Acadia, local municipal appropriations,

fees from businesses that receive front door service, and passenger donations. A portion of every weekly and annual Acadia National Park entrance fee is dedicated to funding the Island Explorer's operations. ✱



FOA/JULIA WALKER THOMAS

MEMBERSHIP VOLUNTEERS 2019

Friends of Acadia's Membership Table Volunteers staff a table at Jordan Pond House every summer to help increase awareness of, participation in, the organization. Left are, front row, from left: Kerri Sands, Kirsten Hardy, Diane Zito, Sandy Smallidge, Mary Galperin; back row: Barbara Loveland, Susie Hokansson, Joan Kleinman, Judi Lyles, Pam Bowie, Rick Lyles, Peg Emple, Josh Yarbrough, Susan Hayward, Georgia Munsell, Phil Galperin, and Ingrid Sunzenauer. Other table volunteers include: Amy Baron, Ann Caswell, Steve Clement, Peter Collier, Tish Davis, Adam Epstein, Ashley Epstein, Nancy Gable, Donna Gaines, Kirsten Hardy, Pamela Hattem, John Holt, Holly Hosmer, Jackie Jacobs, Chris Kirk, Ann Kruger, Joan Mansfield, Cora Olgay, Alan Rosenquist, Barbara Roth, Leroy Tabb, Marsha Tabb, Linda Tschoepe, Tiffany Yarbrough, Sara Yeterian, and Frank Zito.

30TH BENEFIT A BRIDGE TO THE FUTURE

By Shawn Keeley

Friends of Acadia's 30th Annual Benefit is upon us. Each year the event's live auction culminates in a Paddle Raise to fund a specific project in Acadia National Park. During the Paddle Raise, the auctioneer invites bidders to raise their paddle at specific dollar levels and all the money raised supports the project.

As referenced in the Paddle Raise Timeline on pages 16 and 17, projects have ranged from funding youth programs like the Acadia Teacher Fellows in 2013, to protecting land in Acadia by acquiring the western shore of Lower Hadlock Pond in 2011, to last year's paddle raise to help the park acquire and repurpose Bass Harbor Head Lighthouse.

This year's Paddle Raise will help the park restore Acadia's beloved carriage road bridges.

Beginning in 1917 with the Cobblestone Bridge, John D. Rockefeller Jr. commissioned, and local craftsmen constructed, a series of 17 bridges that feature gothic arches, textured masonry surfaces, and protruding scupper drains. Stone and other materials

were locally sourced. While they are first and foremost functional elements that allow park users to safely pass through the terrain, their aesthetic character is timeless. The bridges have become an iconic and inspirational part of Acadia's natural and cultural landscape.

Acadia is several years behind in its effort to restore the carriage road bridges to perfect condition.

Like any structures exposed to the elements, the bridges must be maintained for safety and aesthetics over time. Planned restoration work entails re-pointing, re-bedding, replacing granite where stones and masonry have been dislodged, repairing concrete in the arches where spalling has occurred, and removing efflorescence (calcium buildup on the stones as lime is leached out of the mortar by rain water).

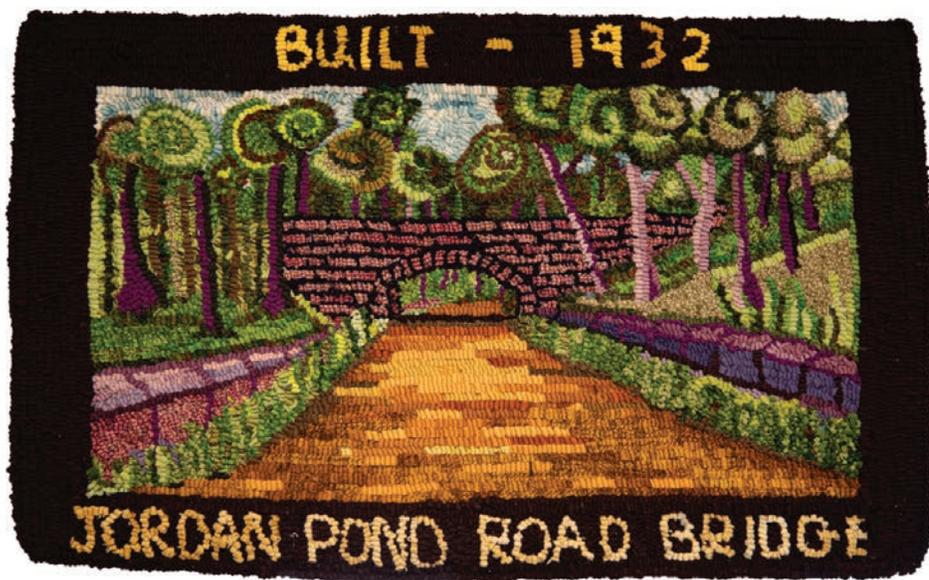
Acadia is several years behind in its

effort to restore the carriage road bridges to perfect condition. While Friends of Acadia's Carriage Road Endowment provides grants for maintenance and improvement of the road surface, there is no dedicated funding source for structures such as bridges. This project is a perfect opportunity for Friends of Acadia donors to provide support to ensure these cultural treasures are preserved.

If you would like to learn more about this year's paddle raise, contribute to the restoration of the carriage road bridges, or have questions about the Annual Benefit, please contact Shawn Keeley, shawn@friendsofacadia.org.

Thanks to all the generous donors who have supported FOA's paddle raise projects over the past 10 years and thanks to this year's Benefit Chair, Lydia Kimball, and the Benefit Host Committee for all their work to create a wonderful 30th anniversary event. ✱

SHAWN KEELEY is Senior Development Officer for Friends of Acadia



FOA/JULIA WALKER THOMAS

For 15 years, artist Rosemary Levin has donated a hooked rug inspired by one of Acadia's carriage road bridges to Friends of Acadia's Annual Benefit Auction. This year's hand-hooked, hand-dyed wool rug is Jordan Pond Road Bridge, number 15 in the series of the 17 carriage road bridges. Rosemary's work can be seen at her gallery, Chapter Two, in Corea, ME on the Schoodic Peninsula.



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ACADIA'S POWER TO HEAL

By Dianna Emory

Cobalt sky and sea, brilliant white snowfields, and white-etched evergreens abound in every direction, but I am focused on a fat, brown porcupine as he edges farther and farther out onto a spindly branch. He is clearly out on a limb, as was I only a few short weeks ago. If he tumbles, he will land in deep, soft snow. I was headed for a harder fall, with a diagnosis of stage 4 metastatic lung cancer.

Then, even a small rise on Acadia's trails was daunting, but now I have skied to the top of the Sargent Mountain carriage road with not a hint of gasping and panting. Only three months ago, I labored up the icy Hadlock trail to the top of Sargent three times, trying not to show how hard it was. If I did not keep going, fear cried out that I might never again see Sargent Mountain's summit, the snowy owls, or so many other Acadian treasures.

One dusky afternoon, we found 13 owls. Another day saw eight. On the third trip, we were skunked—bathed in such thick fog that we could hardly see each other, much less a snowy owl. Every trip up was well worth the coughing, struggling for breath, and exhaustion. I reflected on a year earlier, when I was able to run these trails with joyful ease. So much had changed, and I prayed that times in Acadia would continue. If they didn't, and I was needed elsewhere, solace came in thoughts of dear friends who moved on too soon—Cody, Clare, Beth, Don, and others—each of whom championed Friends of Acadia and Acadia National Park.

As things progressed with the lung cancer and I awaited treatment, I was unable to comfortably get up even a small hill, so I turned to Acadian adventures on the flat. Paddle boarding in 13-degree temperatures on Frenchman Bay offered panoramic views of the mountains of MDI and the Schoodic district, bordered by stalactite-like icicles flowing from ledges. Out there on the bay with the



COURTESY EMORY FAMILY

Author, conservationist Dianna Emory savors the healing power of nature.

eiders, loons, and seals, as I looked at the park that I love, everything came into perspective. At whatever level I could, I pledged to continue to engage with the park and her creatures. Sometimes that meant screeching to a halt, reflecting on times past, examining recalled details, and giving thanks for each person and each experience from a life well-lived.

“Like so many of you, thanks to Acadia National Park and FOA, I have been buoyed up through life’s events by the beauty and wealth of recreation that surrounds us...”

Like so many of you, thanks to Acadia National Park and FOA, I have been buoyed up through life's events by the beauty and wealth of recreation that surrounds us, reaching toward them at every opportunity. Each time, puzzles of existence are sorted out through

endorphin-releasing highs or quiet contemplation in the park.

Nearly thirty-five years ago, Ben and I galloped our horses along the Amphitheatre carriage road, immersed in thoughts of non-medical challenges, while we simultaneously reveled in the thrill of the gallop. Pitching suddenly forward and airborne toward a coping stone, I realized that Chiclet's hoof had gone through the carriage road's imperfect surface. He did not break his leg, but my head has never been quite the same. Not long after, Friends of Acadia and thoughtful donors restored the carriage roads, likely preventing other near-tragedies, and giving multitudes the opportunity to contemplate life while enjoying Acadia's carriage road network.

Several years later, after I became FOA board chair, Acadia Trails Forever took me to a project where I could make a difference, during a time when I was powerless to change my 33-year-old daughter's stage 3 breast cancer diagnosis. Melissa soldiered on, as did I, grabbing every opportunity for restoration in Acadia National Park and other preserved places. Did those engagements play a part in her recovery? I think so. Many years later, she returns when possible to immerse herself in the lands and the waters of the Acadia region, each time feeling revived.

Time in the park was a routine prescription during my 30 years on Mount Desert as a mental health clinician. The benefits of activity outdoors were coupled with other cognitive behavioral strategies that helped patients gain more control over mind and body. Visual imagery of favorite spots in Acadia was a part of treatment for oncology, MS, and other patients, assisting them in moving more easily through surgeries and overwhelming circumstances.

One year, several troubled children climbed Dorr mountain eight times in a group counseling experience aimed at

continued on page 22



COURTESY OF HOWIE MOTENKO

A time exposure by moonlight gives this view, above, of Little Hunters Beach in Acadia National Park an ethereal quality. Below, center, photographer Howie Motenko sets up his equipment to capture a moonlight image of a grove of trees.

A MARVELOUS PARK FOR A ‘MOON DANCE’

By Lisa Horsch Clark

Look above my desk and see a familiar view—a photograph of the Bass Harbor Marsh with Acadia National Park’s Bernard and Mansell mountains in the distance. It is a favorite vista of mine. I drive past it once a day and have seen it in its fall foliage glory, in ice and snow, and beneath summer’s blue skies. But this photograph has an eerie moodiness to it. When I ask the photographer—longtime Friends of Acadia member and 2019 Acadia Artist in Residence (AIR) Howie Motenko—he explains it was taken at night.

But how? He proudly reveals that he uses the light of the full moon to illuminate his landscape and involves carefully calculated time exposures. The result is a starkness that is otherworldly, while still obviously recognizable as Acadia. A unique result for sure.

Howie has been capturing nighttime images of Acadia for many years. He first manipulated light using a team of volunteers with handheld flashlights for his “Painting Bridges” series done on the carriage roads. It was during this project that Howie and his wife, Brenda

Beckett, first came to Friends of Acadia to offer the proceeds of his photography sales to support FOA’s conservation work.

Don’t Miss “Moon Dance”



FOA/EMMA FORTHOFER, NATHANIEL BOECHAT

Please join Friends of Acadia at the “Moon Dance” exhibit opening reception in the Mellon Room of the Northeast Harbor Library on Friday, October 4 at 5:30 p.m. Proceeds from the exhibit will support Friends of Acadia’s conservation work in Acadia.

Visit www.friendsofacadia.org or www.moondanceacadia.com for more details.

A resident of Seal Harbor, Howie is the recipient of a Maine Arts Commission grant for his “Painting Islands” project and was honored with the Friends of Acadia Community Volunteer Award for “Painting Bridges.” He leads photography tours and workshops through his business, Acadia Photo Safari. He holds a Master of Liberal Arts degree from Harvard University.

After his summer AIR residency and photography this year, Howie will have amassed a portfolio of nighttime images from Mount Desert Island, Schoodic, and Isle au Haut that he will show in the Mellon Room at the Northeast Harbor Library during the month of October. The “Moon Dance” exhibit opening will take place on Friday, October 4.

Once again, the Motenko-Beckett family has pledged to give proceeds from “Moon Dance” sales to Friends of Acadia to preserve and protect Acadia. ✱

LISA HORSCH CLARK is FOA’s Director of Development.

INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

Driving around Mount Desert Island on a Saturday in mid-May feels like someone suddenly flipped a switch. Where just the prior weekend an out-of-state license plate was the exception, now suddenly they are in abundance. The sidewalks in Bar Harbor are brimming with visitors, restaurants and retail stores have re-opened, and I know that Acadia's visitor season has begun once again.

The cycle of the busy and off seasons is a great reminder that in just six months, Acadia National Park will play host to 3.4 million visits.

We are taking critical steps to be better equipped to welcome those visitors in the future. This past spring, Acadia National Park at long last completed our Transportation Plan with the final decision signed in May. While the planning may be completed, it will take a significant amount of time and effort to implement including working with our communities and partners like Friends of Acadia.

This Transportation Plan provides a blueprint for how we address rising visitation to the park, maintain our natural and cultural resources in an unimpaired condition, and improve the quality of visitors' experiences.

The plan includes significant investment in infrastructure. Providing additional parking at Hulls Cove Visitor Center and at the Gateway Center are two of the largest investments. These two areas will complement one another nicely by serving different roles.

The Gateway Center, located along Route 3 in Trenton, will be operated in partnership with the State of Maine. It will serve as a transit hub and provide visitors with orientation to all there is to do in Acadia and throughout Downeast Maine. It will allow visitors staying overnight off MDI (a rapidly growing demographic) a place to leave vehicles behind and ride the Island Explorer



FOIA/TTT/ASHLEY CONTI

into the park. Those who work on MDI but live off-island could also park there and ride the buses to work. Critical to making both of these possible is express Island Explorer service to key destinations.

Finally, the Gateway Center will also provide a place for motor coaches operating tours of the region to transfer their passengers to smaller size, concessioner-operated touring buses for their Acadia experience.

At Hulls Cove, the Transportation Plan envisions expanding the parking lot, constructing a new visitor center at the same elevation as the lot, and better integrating the Island Explorer to improve its function as a transit hub. The Hulls Cove Visitor Center would include inspirational exhibits that help visitors understand why Acadia was made a national park and what makes our ecology unique. The visitor center could also include a multi-purpose room for ranger-led programs for visiting school groups or community meetings, an outdoor amphitheater, and an accessible interpretive boardwalk trail, so that visitors could stretch their legs after a long-day's drive and learn about our forests. And we

envision realigning the carriage road that accesses Witch Hole to eliminate the steep grade that has contributed to numerous accidents over the years.

We are also investing in our back-of-the-house infrastructure. We have received funding from our Washington Office to do pre-design work to rebuild our maintenance building and headquarters at McFarland Hill. The maintenance building was constructed in 1963, is structurally unsound, and does not meet modern requirements for code, accessibility, or space needs. Best illustrating this is the fact that the building has one shared men's and women's restroom for more than 65 employees!

Similarly, our headquarters facility contains significant deferred maintenance, is energy inefficient, and is drastically undersized for our modern needs. Both the maintenance and headquarters buildings form the backbone of our operations. By replacing them we also will achieve benefits to environmental protection by mitigating the risk of hazardous materials entering the Eagle Lake watershed (Bar Harbor's water supply) and mitigating the area's visual impact from Cadillac Mountain vistas. Our ability to serve our visitors – from picking up trash to maintaining trails and carriage roads, to managing invasive plants – depends on these assets.

Addressing deferred maintenance and improving our infrastructure is a high priority for Acadia National Park. Each of these projects will play a key role in making sure we are prepared to serve every one of the park's visitors. I look forward to breaking ground on all of these important projects!

—Kevin Schneider

TRAIL CREW TRIBULATIONS

Trapped Between A Rock And A Hard Place

By Earl Brechlin

Acadia's trail crews pride themselves on being an irresistible force when it comes to dealing with the near-immovable obstacles they encounter while working on the park's historic hiking trails.

But this summer they are wrestling with more than just stubborn granite boulders, downed trees, rain, heat, and biting insects. Due to the partial federal government shutdown last winter that called a halt to the seasonal hiring process, the crew finds itself at only half its usual strength. While in the past, the crew has had as many as 34 people, this summer, there are only 17— even though funding was available for many more.

That has forced postponement of several major rehabilitation projects.

According to Acadia Trail Foreman Gary Stellpflug, the process of hiring seasonal

workers begins in October of the previous year. "By the end of December, you are into it full swing," he explains, adding that notices need to be sent out and applications processed in January and February.

The shutdown ran from December 22, 2018 to January 25, 2019. That's peak time for Acadia managers to hire up to 75 workers for all departments including interpretation, maintenance, law enforcement, and resource protection.

"It didn't just affect us in trails, but the entire park," Stellpflug adds. Once the government reopened, top priority went to bringing on seasonal staff necessary to get the park open on time such as law enforcement, maintenance, and interpretive personnel.

Usually one of the major impediments to filling seasonal slots is a lack of housing, he continues, adding that the inability to get

up to full staff made that a moot point in most cases this year.

According to Stellpflug, many seasonal workers who wanted to return to Acadia were lured away when larger parks out west resumed hiring earlier. "I had two who told me they couldn't wait any longer to take a job," he says. Others took positions in the private sector.

The end result of fewer workers is a less ambitious schedule of projects among the park's 155 miles of trail. "We can get out there and clear blowdowns and take care of any safety issues, but we just can't get to some of these big rebuilding projects without enough crew," Stellpflug says. Among the items delayed by the staff shortage are installing gravel on some rough and rooted sections and completing the rebuilding of the Jordan Cliffs Trail on the east face of Penobscot Mountain.



Acadia National Park trail crew member Isabella Connelly adjusts chains used to maneuver a rock into position while working to repair Kurt Diederich's Climb on Dorr Mountain in Acadia National Park.

FOAMASHLEY L. CONTI



Acadia National Park trail crew member Max Wither works to ease a boulder into place while replacing part of Kurt Diederich's Climb on Dorr Mountain in Acadia National Park.

A wet spring didn't help, although much of the rain fell on weekends when crews aren't in the field anyway. "There's no question it slows us down and forces us to shift what we planned to do," he says.

Work also has to be scheduled around trail closures made to protect nesting peregrine falcons. The most visible spot is along the Precipice, which is closed until late July each year that the birds return. Even once the baby birds fledge, members of the crew have to check every foot of the trail, its bridges and iron ladder rungs to make sure it is safe before reopening. And sometimes, Mother Nature has other ideas. For example, crews rebuilt a key wooden bridge on that trail in 2017. In winter 2018, a major ice fall smashed the bridge to pieces. It had to be replaced last summer before the trail could open.

Along with delaying hiring, the shutdown also threw a monkey wrench into the early spring planning processes. "We were hoping to get a lot of bog walk projects done this season," Stellpflug reports. "We checked into getting a helicopter to ferry loads of planks into remote areas." Because of the shutdown, there was no one available to coordinate the ordering of the planks from a local sawmill or to draft a schedule and reserve a helicopter for the transport. "We have been up against a lot of that sort of thing."

Even with reduced staffing, crews are already working hard on several ongoing projects including the Seaside Path in Seal Harbor and the rehabilitation of Kurt Diederich's Climb on Dorr Mountain (See related photos). Final touches on the Valley Cove Trail should be finished this year as well.

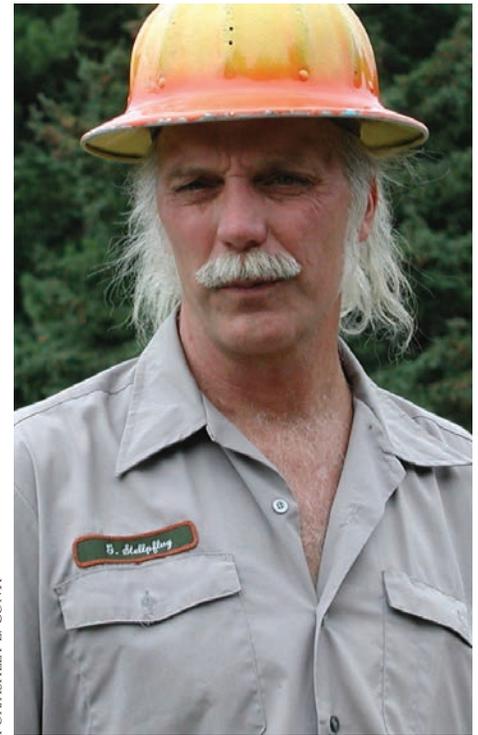
Since the 2000 completion of the Acadia Trails Forever campaign, a public/private endowment spearheaded by Friends of Acadia, considerable resources have been brought to bear to rehabilitate, maintain, and improve the park's trail network.

Along with the park's paid trail crews, FOA also fields 16 members of the Acadia Youth Conservation Corps to work on trails. The nine members of FOA's Summit Stewards also routinely repair damaged cairns on hiking trails and remove illegal ones.

"And, I have at least 10 volunteers that are out brushing out trails all summer," Stellpflug adds.

FOA's volunteer stewardship crew leaders take volunteers out into the park several times each week to work on trail maintenance such as brushing and replacing bog walk planks around Jordan Pond. Volunteers from FOA recently replaced steps on the shore at the Bass Harbor Head Lighthouse.

In addition, FOA supports other volunteer efforts such as the park's sign shop. Work is also done by Waldron's Warriors,



Acadia National Park Trails Crew Foreman Gary Stellpflug.

approximately two dozen volunteers who conduct regular trail patrols in the spring and fall to fix historic Bates Cairns and report any major maintenance problems to Stellpflug.

Still, as someone who has constantly had to adjust his crew schedules due to unpredictable events both natural and man-made over the past 20 years, Stellpflug takes the obstacles he encounters in stride. "We adapt, we keep working," he says. "We're always looking for ways to do it better, to become more efficient."

And, Stellpflug notes, all is not gloom and doom. Included in his latest budget is the conversion of one of his seasonal positions to a semi-permanent arrangement. "That means they can start earlier and work longer into the season and they gain more experience," he says.

Fortunately, with federal funding and financial support from Friends of Acadia, along with consistent volunteer efforts, the park's trail network is in pretty good shape. A one-year reduction in effort, while certainly disappointing, shouldn't cause any lasting harm to overall momentum, he stresses. "We've got good people, they're out there, and it's getting better every day," Stellpflug says.

"The volunteers have been great," he adds. "What would we do without them?" ❄

FRIENDS OF ACADIA Seasonal Staff

BY THE NUMBERS

2

Stewardship Assistants



1

Advocacy Intern

9

Summit Stewards

5

Acadia Digital Media Team members

1

Recreation Technician

1

Stream Monitoring Intern



16

Acadia Youth Conservation Corps members

1

Wild Gardens of Acadia Intern

T.A. “TOM” COX

Quiet Conservationist, Visionary Philanthropist

By Lisa Horsch Clark

One of my favorite memories of T.A. “Tom” Cox goes back many years when Friends of Acadia was purchasing the Crippens Creek property in Trenton as the site of the future Acadia Gateway Center.

Tom called to make an appointment so he could hand-deliver his gift of support. As we sat in the FOA conference room in Bar Harbor, he pulled from his belongings two items—his checkbook and a pen. He looked me in the eye and said, “I use this pen to sign all my important documents.” I was honored to be with him that pivotal day.

He could have mailed the check, but Tom wanted to make sure we knew he was 100 percent behind the project. He hand-delivered the donation to us—the FOA staff, fellow defenders of the island and our peaceful way of life. He wanted to help protect Mount Desert Island by investing in our earliest transportation goals and supporting the Island Explorer bus system.

As a young person just joining the conservation business, I learned one of the first lessons Tom taught me that day. If you believe in something, make it known. He didn’t do it for public recognition. In fact, many of Tom’s gifts were anonymous. That was Tom’s style: to quietly do good for the park, our island, and our community. And much good did he accomplish!

As an early member of Friends of Acadia, Tom supported our membership, annual fund, and annual benefit programs with unrestricted gifts to assist in our operations. Tom also supported land protection, trail building, vista restoration, natural resource protection, and, earlier this year, relief for the park during the federal shutdown.

But Tom’s great passion was restoring tranquility to our island by helping with transportation initiatives. In an interview in 2007, Tom shared, “Even if it is not an individual’s primary interest, or might be a slight inconvenience or change, if the



COURTESY OF ARTHUR KELLER

Friends of Acadia supporter T.A. “Tom” Cox was an early champion of efforts to reduce traffic and congestion in Acadia.

project is for the greater good, people should support it.

“I hope that there is a groundswell of support and enthusiasm for the concept and spirit of the project as it relates to Acadia National Park and Mount Desert Island as a whole.”

He believed in providing a robust bus system for Acadia and surrounding communities with frequent stops so that visitors and residents had options other than personal vehicles to navigate around the park and the island. He believed it was better for the environment and the people of MDI. Without Tom, the Island Explorer maintenance facility would never have been built and our work toward the Acadia Gateway Center would never have happened. We are eternally grateful for his early support.

When Tom died in February of this year, it was a shock. Though he had slowed down in life as he celebrated his 85 years, he was still a vibrant thinker, caring friend, and involved citizen. What wasn’t a surprise was Tom’s continued generosity throughout our community. Friends of Acadia was fortunate to receive an unrestricted planned gift as a

part of his estate. Tom had carefully planned several steps to advance his philanthropic goals beyond his lifetime, and had considered how his estate could provide much needed funds for the good conservation work he had come to rely upon at FOA.

After receiving Tom’s gift, FOA President David MacDonald said, “FOA is so grateful and honored to be part of Tom’s ongoing legacy; he loved Maine and Acadia deeply and was ahead of his time in recognizing threats and solutions. I know that he would be pleased to see the Island Explorer carry its 8 millionth rider this summer, and Acadia’s new Transportation Plan move toward implementation in the coming months. His generosity will ensure efforts like this continue.”

An island friend recently described Tom as a “generous yet understated philanthropist.”

I couldn’t agree more. ✱

LISA HORSCH CLARK is FOA’s Director of Development.



THE 'OTHER SIDE' OF GEORGE B. DORR

By Ronald H. Epp

Acadia co-founder George B. Dorr, is silhouetted by the view of Frenchman Bay from the veranda of his home Old Farm in Bar Harbor.

It is 75 years since the Father of Acadia died at Old Farm in Bar Harbor on August 5, 1944. From that family home, George B. Dorr also planned the establishment of the Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory, the Jackson Lab, and Mount Desert Nurseries. In addition to these scientific pursuits, the emerging paranormal science developed at Old Farm has received little notice. Yet ultimately, it too would play a role in the evolution of the national park.

In the late 1870s, his mother, Mary Gray Ward Dorr, enlisted the Boston spiritualist community in her efforts to contact her eldest son William following his death from typhus. This was not the first instance of her reliance on the occult, for the death of her brother John in 1856 initiated a similar effort. Consequently, George Dorr matured in a spiritualistic family. When Old Farm was completed in 1880, some guests that his mother invited were investigators of the spirit realm.

These researchers used existing scientific methods and developed new experiments to analyze premonitions, apparitions, clairvoyance, psychokinesis, telepathy, automatic writing, and other paranormal practices. Mary Dorr favored mediums who “fell asleep” only to awake later apparently as another person—a disincarnate spirit control who manipulated the body of the medium.

Her surviving son's interest, however,

developed out of his relationship with Harvard University's William James, a physician, philosopher, and psychologist. His revolutionary “Principles of Psychology” (1890) substituted the methods of laboratory science for faith-based belief in an immortal soul. James attracted Dorr to his studies because neither dismissed nor accepted paranormal claims.

James and Dorr stood apart in their commitment to be strictly scientific—cautiously perched on the fence of uncertainty. In his memoirs, Dorr expresses the Jamesian view that such phenomena “are not impossible,” reminding us that “the realms explored by science are “extraordinarily complex.”

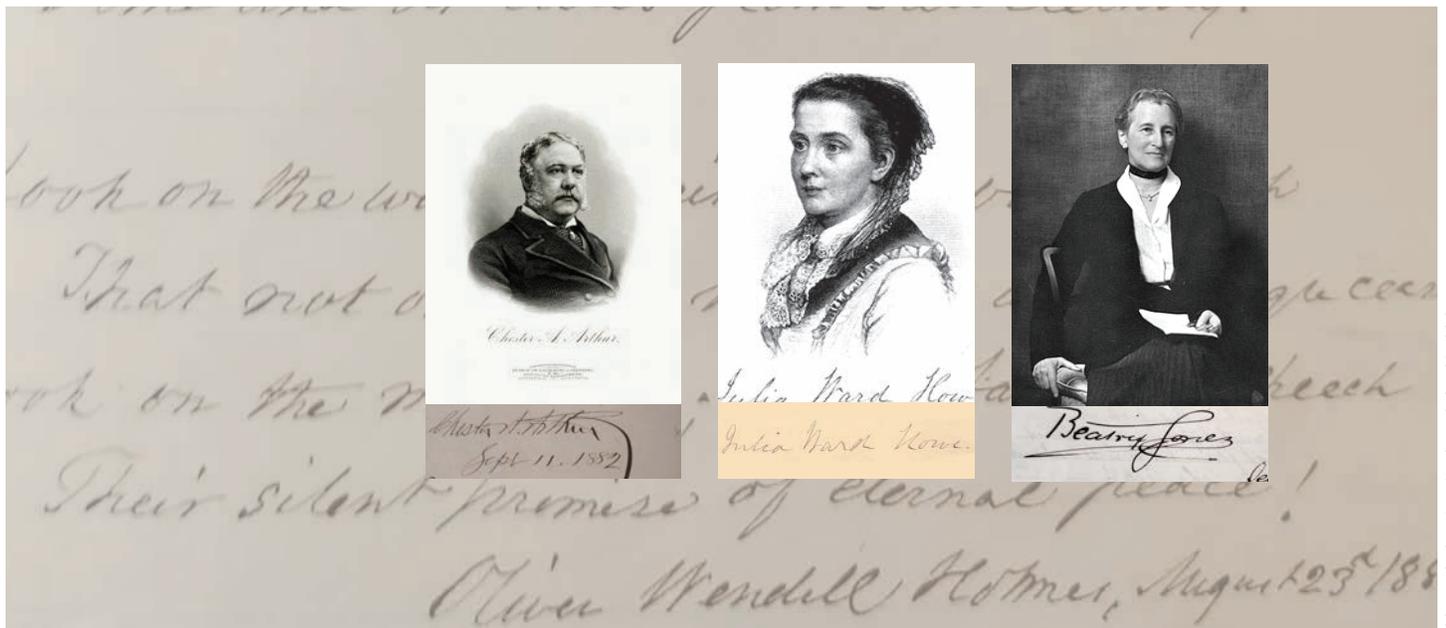
The James family were frequent guests at the Dorr residence. Their signatures are contained in the “Old Farm House Book,” displayed at the Bar Harbor Historical Society Museum. This historic document contains scores of signatures, poems, musical passages, and photographs documenting the positive feelings associated with the property and the island. More than a dozen poems revel in what people

today still celebrate about Acadia National Park, the “endless vistas,” of the island, the “fragrant worlds of steadfast land and sea,” “the mountains ... their silent promises of eternal peace,” many wishing that “this desert was my dwelling place.”

During the first three decades of Old Farm, Mary and her husband, Charles, entertained academics with paranormal interests. Harvard philosopher Josiah Royce dedicated his influential book on the religious aspects of philosophy to Mrs. Dorr. The stature of physiologist Henry P. Bowditch prompted author Margaret Deland to write in “Golden Yesterdays,” “if a man like Dr. Bowditch is interested in this ‘psychic stuff,’ perhaps there is something in it?” From abroad, English philologist Frederick W.H. Myers and Australian attorney Richard Hodgson entered into their heady dialogues.

These were not just maverick scholars, for they formed the core of a new professional organization. The Society for Psychical Research had been established in London and immediately formed in 1884 an American branch which Hodgson led after its establishment by James. At the same time, G. Stanley Hall received the first American doctorate in psychology under the mentorship of James, quickly rising to the presidency of Clark University—where there is a collection of Dorr-Hall letters on parapsychology.

James' argued that the ideal of every



COURTESY OF BAR HARBOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Among the many luminaries who visited the Dorr family home, Old Farm, in Bar Harbor, and made entries in its guest book were, from left, President Chester Arthur, author of the “Battle Hymn of the Republic” Julia Ward Howe, and Beatrix Jones (Farrand). Behind those photos is an image of a note and autograph by physician and poet Oliver Wendell Holmes Sr.

science—that of a coherent and closed system of truths—necessitates that phenomena unverifiable within the system must be untrue. Consequently, belief that all crows are black is not defensible if one witnesses the appearance of a white crow.

Hodgson, James, and Dorr were the principle investigators in America of a “white crow,” Mrs. Leonora Piper—an Old Farm guest in 1907. A Boston housewife with exceptional powers that appeared first in childhood, she had never been to Bar Harbor. Nonetheless, Piper “recalled” the pansies Mary Dorr spread loosely over the Old Farm table as well her delight in riding the bicycle path that her son built at Beaver Pond at the north end of today’s Champlain Mountain. Careful scrutiny led James and others to conclude that Piper was not telepathic, and that the source of her claims could not be explained. The “Old Farm Series” of experiments were published by James and to this day are referenced in the psychological literature.

James and Dorr stood apart in their commitment to be strictly scientific—cautiously perched on the fence of uncertainty. In his memoirs, Dorr expresses the Jamesian view that such phenomena “are not impossible,” reminding us that “the realms explored by science are “extraordinarily complex.”

In 1905 Hodgson died; five years later James, and six years later Josiah Royce. Dorr

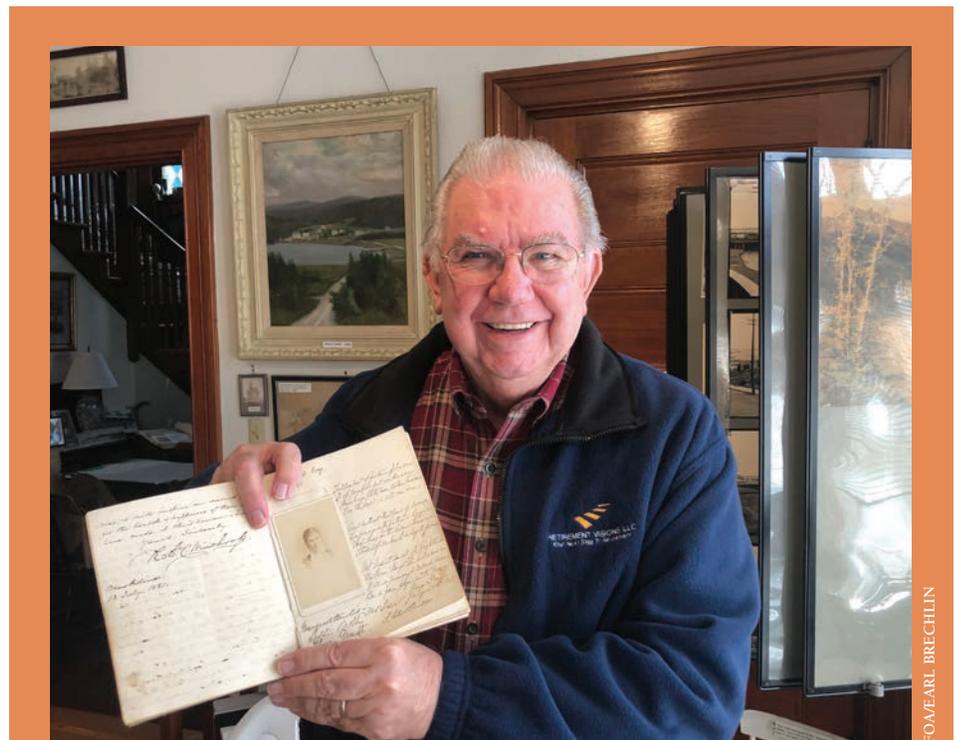
lost interest in paranormal research. Perhaps it was because Clark and Harvard became the first American academic institutions to receive endowments for parapsychology studies. The *New York Times* emphasized that “the acceptance of [Harvard University] funding makes it impossible for any other institution in this country to disregard or to disrespect this work.”

Dorr contrasted the recurring frustration

associated with the supernatural beliefs implicit in psychical research with the satisfactions implicit in efforts begun to protect the natural world celebrated in poetry by many Old Farm guests and other island visitors.

Julia Ward Howe, her daughter and author Laura E. Richards, and others did not document an awareness of the need

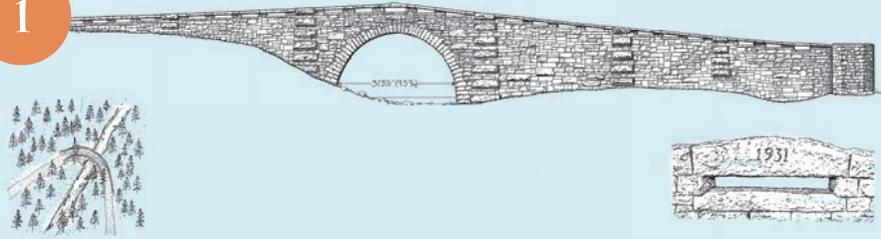
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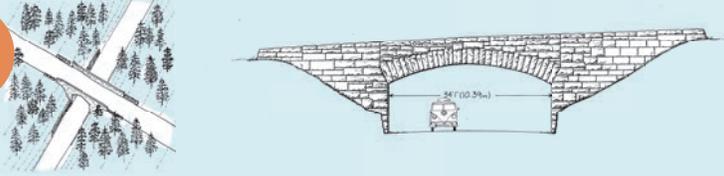
FOAMEARL BRECHLIN

Dorr biographer Ronald H. Epp displays the guest book of the Dorr family home Old Farm which is in the collection of the Bar Harbor Historical Society.

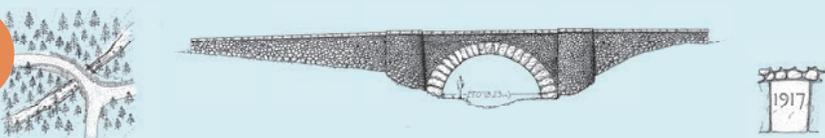
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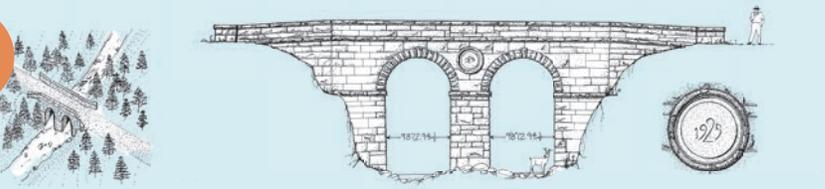
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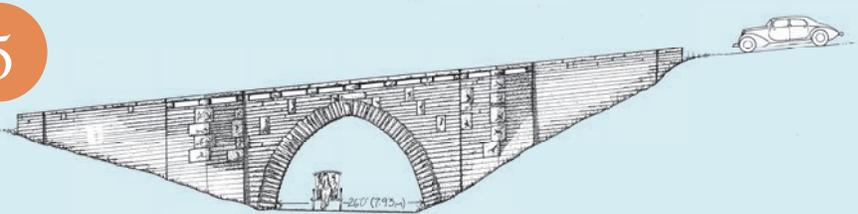
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TEST YOUR ACADIA BRIDGE IQ

Acadia National Park's Carriage Roads include some of the finest examples of granite arch bridges in the country. Each one was individually designed to take maximum advantage of the landscape and views. All were built by Mount Desert Island craftsmen with local stone.

Detailed drawings of each bridge were done as part of the National Park Service's Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) program in the early 1990s.

Match your skill at identifying the bridges on these pages by writing the number associated with each next to the appropriate name in the list. The correct answers appear on page 22.

The paddle raise at this year's Friends of Acadia Annual Benefit on August 10, will provide funds for restoration and maintenance of the 17 carriage road bridges. To support that effort, email: shawn@friendsofacadia.org.

At the bottom of the page is a timeline of previous years' FOA paddle raise successes.

Paddle Raise Timeline

2009 No Child Left Inside

Funds raised helped Friends of Acadia reach hundreds of youth through family programs and events, such as Acadia Quest, volunteerism at Take Pride in Acadia Day, Earth Day Roadside Clean-up and internships such as the Acadia Youth Conservation Corps and Ridge Runners.

2010 Eagle Lake Loop

The six-mile Eagle Lake loop is the most heavily used section of the carriage road system. Funds raised helped Acadia National Park replace and up-size four critically needed culverts to prevent erosion and improve fish passage.

2014 Cadillac Restoration

Funds helped launch Cadillac Mountain restoration, a comprehensive program to improve the visitor experience at the summit by reducing traffic congestion, educating visitors, and restoring natural resources.

2015 Historic Vista Restoration

Funds raised helped restore vistas on the carriage roads and the Park Loop Road. While there are still vistas that need to be cleared, visitors now enjoy more of the stunning scenery of Acadia as intended by John D. Rockefeller, Jr. when the roads were constructed.

2016 Seaside Path and Village Connector Trails

For more than 100 years, the Seaside Path has been an important connector trail linking two iconic places on MDI: Jordan Pond and Seal Harbor Beach. This multi-year trail restoration is nearly complete.

_____ Cobblestone Bridge

_____ Deer Brook Bridge

_____ Stanley Brook Bridge

_____ Kebo Brook Bridge

_____ Little Hunters Brook Bridge

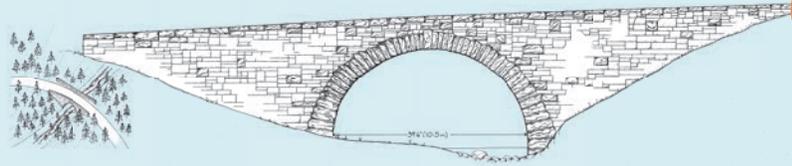
_____ Little Harbor Brook Bridge

_____ Blackwoods Bridge

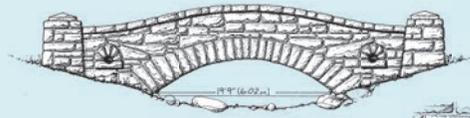
_____ Jordan Pond Dam Bridge

_____ Amphitheater Bridge

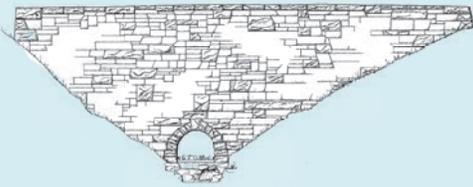
_____ Eagle Lake Bridge



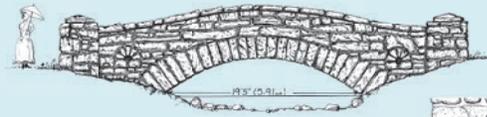
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10



COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

2011 Lower Hadlock Pond

Funds raised enabled Friends of Acadia and Maine Coast Heritage Trust to execute a complex, multi-stage process to protect 37 acres along Hadlock Pond's western shore.

2012 Acadia Youth Technology Team

Funds raised help launch the AYTT (now named the Acadia Digital Media Team), a program comprised of 5 young adults working to determine how technology can improve visitor experiences and connect young people to the park.

2013 Teacher Ranger Teacher Program

The teachers involved in this program (now called Acadia Teacher Fellows) spend 6-8 weeks in Acadia, work side-by-side with education and interpretive rangers, share field teaching methods, and develop curricula to share with their students.

2017 Historic Structures of Acadia

Funds raised have enabled Acadia National Park to begin the restoration of some of the park's most iconic structures: the Brown Mountain and Jordan Pond gatehouses and the keeper's House and Gilley family house on Baker Island.

2018 Bass Harbor Head Lighthouse

Acadia National Park is in the process of acquiring, restoring, and re-purposing Bass Harbor Head Light. Funds raised have already been used to initiate this process, which will continue for the next several years.



FOA GRAPHIC BY LISA WILLIAMS

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THOMAS BLAGDEN

Dorr, continued from page 15



FOA

Old Farm, the family home of the Dorr family, was located near Compass Harbor in Bar Harbor. It was torn down in 1949. An online app, available on the Friends of Acadia website, allows users to take a virtual tour of the property.

to protect Nature from degradation. It was their host, George Dorr, who understood the growing threats and allied himself with Harvard President Charles W. Eliot to establish in 1901 the Hancock County Trustees of Public Reservations, the organization that eventually acquired the lands that became Sieur de Monts National Monument, the core of today's Acadia National Park.

In effect, Dorr's priorities shifted during the first decade of the 20th-

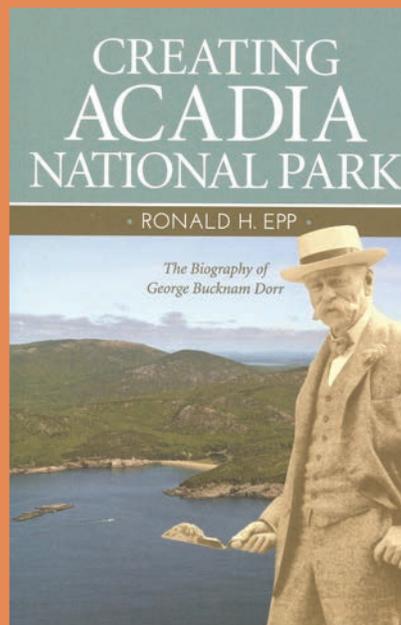
century away from the otherworldliness of spiritualism to the pragmatic yet still spiritually-inspiring national park-building goal: conserve for the public the natural splendors of Mount Desert. ✱

RONALD EPP is the author of "Creating Acadia National Park, The Biography of George Bucknam Dorr," published in 2016 by Friends of Acadia. It is available locally and online at Sherman's Book Store and the Bar Harbor Bookshop.

BOOK PROFILES ACADIA FOUNDER

Copies of *Creating Acadia National Park, The Biography of George Bucknam Dorr* by Ronald Epp can be picked up at Sherman's Bookstore in Bar Harbor, the Bar Harbor Book Shop in Hulls Cove, the Eastern National gift shop at the Acadia National Park Visitor Center (seasonal), and at the Friends of Acadia Office on Cottage Street in Bar Harbor.

For links to order a copy online please visit friendsofacadia.org/epp.



IN NOMINE

We gratefully acknowledge gifts received in honor of:

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Scott and Icy Frantz	PineRevolt
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Steven Katona and	
Susan Lerner	
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Mark Mogensen	

February 1, 2019 –
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*Deceased

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FINDING LIDDY HUBBELL'S ACADIA

By Carl Little

On a late May day in her studio off the Blacks Woods Road in Cherryfield, Liddy Hubbell is considering some changes to a painting she has been working on. It's a night view of Little Long Pond in Seal Harbor. Hubbell had long avoided this iconic vista, favorite of artists dating back at least to Frederick Church in the mid-1800s, but she had finally decided to give it a go, spurred on by a dream of the scene bathed in moonlight. "I'm going to back out the green a bit," she says, "and maybe gray up the mountain? Make it a little lighter?"

"I've painted so much of Acadia," Hubbell says, listing some of the motifs she has explored: Schoodic Point from MDI and MDI from Schoodic; a "nice tree" in the Sand Beach parking lot; Jordan Pond, Eagle

and Echo Lakes; Otter Cliff, the Ladder Trail on Dorr Mountain; and spots along the carriage roads, especially Aunt Betty Pond, Gilmore Meadow, and the cliffs above Wildwood Stables. She loves the shape of the hills—"those curves"—but also the sight of lights on Cadillac as cars descend after sunset: "They look like fireflies."

The carriage roads are "elegant," Hubbell says, and she also loves the built paths. Starting in 2014, she made pen-and-ink with wash drawings of favorite trails. The time capsule assembled for Acadia National Park's centennial includes her 2016 calendar featuring the drawings.

Hubbell's favorite season in Acadia is fall. It's not just the colors that appeal to her. "The fall helps you see," she explains. "Once the trees start turning, they're not



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Artist Libby Hubbell of Bar Harbor in her Cherryfield studio. Her art focuses on sharing indelible interpretations of Acadia's many timeless motifs.

COURTESY OF CARL LITTLE



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CARL LITTLE



Artist Libby Hubbell's paintings span the seasons in a variety of styles and media. At top right, the view from trail heading south from the summit of Penobscot Mountain in Acadia National Park. At left, above, the Milky Way floats above the water and boathouse at Little Long Pond in Seal Harbor. At left, the carriage road at the Waterfall Bridge in Acadia National Park.

just all green anymore—you can make out the different individual forms.” And the skies are beautiful that time of year too.

Hubbell works from memory and photographs and will make small sketches; she gets too distracted working en plein air. She has used Google photographs to make sure she has the line of a hill right because that kind of accuracy is important to her. She largely avoids brushes, preferring rags and a palette knife to create her textured surfaces. She likes to add wax or a gel to the oil paint to build depth in the color and surface. The blend dries well and allows her to cut in and scrape down to bring out the foundation color. The effect is gestural and luminous.

Hubbell shows her landscapes and wire sculptures at the Artemis Gallery in Northeast Harbor. Her work has many admirers, including Maine's new governor, Janet Mills, who has invited her to hang paintings in the Blaine House.

Born Liddy Tebbens, Hubbell grew up in Larchmont, New York. She attended MIT, earning a BA in art and design and a master's in architecture. She credits her professors with developing the foundation of her visual understanding. “It wasn't just how to organize a building,” she recalls: “It was about how to organize a space.”

She met her future husband, Brian (currently State Representative for District 135 that includes Bar Harbor, Lamoine, and Mount Desert) at the school. They both had connections to Maine, she, through family vacations to Rangeley and Deer Isle, he, from summer camp at Craig Pond in Orland. When they started dating, they'd drive up to Acadia in Brian's '48 Chevy truck and camp.

They bought the property in Cherryfield in 1986 and married soon after. At the time, Liddy was doing architecture and Brian was in construction management in the Boston area and they wanted to leave the city. They built a camp and then house,

she handling the wiring, he, most of the carpentry. The house is solar-powered.

When their daughter Nora became school age, the family moved to Bar Harbor. An avid biker, Liddy loved being close to Acadia; “The park really surrounds you,” she says. She has volunteered with Waldron's Warriors, the group that monitors and maintains cairns. She is a Friends of Acadia member and has donated artwork to its annual auction.

When Nora headed off to college in Colorado, the pair moved back to Cherryfield, but they're in the park all the time. “You drive down onto the island and near the airport, you see the western side, and you say, ‘Oh, look at those beautiful mountains.’ And then you see the ones to the east. Oh! It happens to me nearly every time.” ✱

CARL LITTLE co-authored “Art of Acadia” with his brother David. He lives in Somesville.



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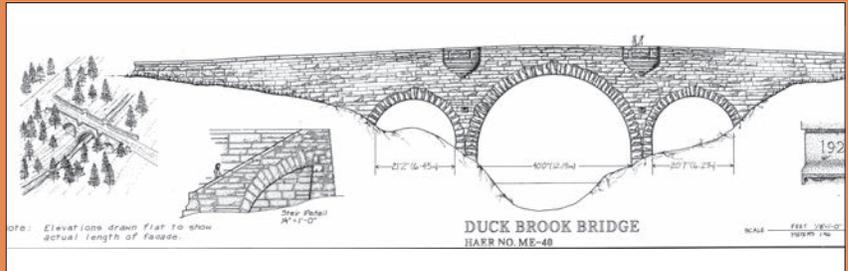
Power to heal, *continued from page 7*

self-esteem development and behavioral change. Over the months, moaning and complaining turned to elation, as their bodies and minds strengthened. Now adults, they are devotees of the park and role models for their own children.

Like those young ones, I moaned my way to a pinnacle. I was rewarded by memories of magnificent owls in a pristine landscape that will last a lifetime. The details of the experience have already been used for visual imagery that has enhanced my treatment. Thanks to the existence of Acadia, the boost of excellence that FOA gives the park, and the medical miracle of attacking lung cancer with targeted therapy, I think I will be up there again next winter,

marveling at the sight of the snowy owls, and thanking God for Acadia—the elixir for all wounds. ✨

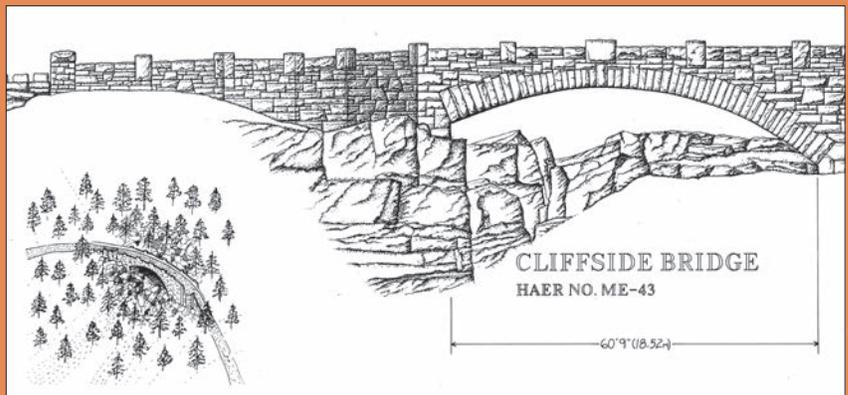
DR. DIANNA EMORY is a retired clinical mental health counselor and founder of the Behavioral Medicine Institute. She is the author of “Bonding with Nature: Responding to Life’s Challenges and the Aging Process” and the upcoming book, “Assess, Adjust, Advance: Facing Adversity and Finding Your Silver Lining.” She has served in many nonprofit board leadership roles, including at Friends of Acadia, the Schoodic Institute, Maine Coast Heritage Trust, and College of the Atlantic.



A drawing of Duck Brook Bridge in Acadia National Park.

Bridge IQ, Correct answers
from page 17

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Amphitheater Bridge | 6. Kebo Brook Bridge |
| 2. Blackwoods Bridge | 7. Jordan Pond Dam Bridge |
| 3. Cobblestone Bridge | 8. Little Hunters Brook Bridge |
| 4. Deer Brook Bridge | 9. Little Harbor Brook Bridge |
| 5. Eagle Lake Bridge | 10. Stanley Brook Bridge |



The Cliffside Bridge on the Carriage Road along the east side of Penobscot Mountain in Acadia National Park.

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Wetland Restoration Outreach

Wild Acadia Coordinator Brian Henkel led a discussion this winter at the Jesup Library in Bar Harbor about how the Great Meadow within the Cromwell Brook watershed has changed over time and what conditions people might like to see in the future. Henkel shared information about historical cranberry harvesting, ditching, and roadbuilding. He also talked about current efforts to remove invasive plants, monitor water levels, and improve wildlife passage along stream corridors as they cross under roads. The event was well attended, and a positive opportunity to share Wild Acadia monitoring initiatives, habitat improvement strategies, and projects to restore ecological resiliency. On October 16, Henkel will give a similar talk to the Southwest Harbor Historical Society, sharing what is known about the Marshall Brook Watershed and seeking feedback from the public about issues of concern and desired improvements.

continued on page 27



FO/ASHLEY CONTI

Atlantic Landscape Construction's Pablo Perez (left) and Josue Lopez plant a tree in the wetland restoration area at Sieur de Monts in Acadia National Park. Restoration of a forested wetland at the former septic field site followed a plan prepared by Roger St. Amand of Atlantic Resource Co. LLC. Last fall, Friends of Acadia hired Atlantic Landscape to complete the soil manipulations and plant appropriate tree and shrub species. The new habitat will continue to develop over time to match the surrounding landscape.



FO/JULIA WALKER THOMAS

FRESH FACES... *Friends of Acadia Seasonal workers gathered in June for orientation and training. Those included in the photograph above include, from left in front, Acadia Digital Media Team (ADMT) members Emma Forthofer, Will Greene, Ashley Conti, Nathaniel Boëchat, Advocacy Intern Maya Sosland, and ADMT member Joe Philipson. In rear, Summit Stewards Cindy Pearce, Connor Huck, Cobi Richardson, Zoë Smiarowski, Chris Spaulding, Jordan Gibeault, John Clarke and Ben Watson. Not pictured, Wild Gardens Intern Maya McDonald, Stewardship Assistant Sean Ducker, Wild Gardens Coordinator Geneva Langley, Summit Stewards Coordinator Stephanie Ley, and Recreation Technician Becca Stanley.*

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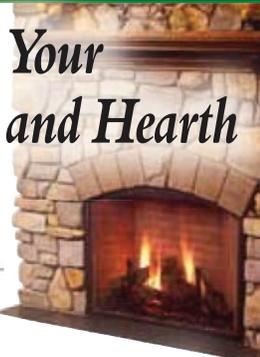


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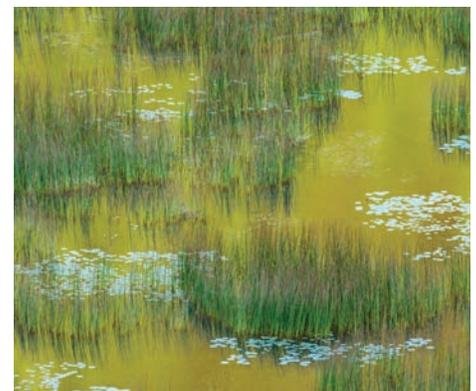
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February 1, 2019 –
 May 31, 2019



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Buyers peruse hundreds of annual and perennial plants at the annual Wild Gardens of Acadia Plant Sale in June.

continued from page 24

Wild Gardens Plant Sale Blossoms

On a bright, beautiful Saturday morning in June, more than 20 volunteers gathered at St. Saviour's Episcopal Church in Bar Harbor to prepare and run the Wild Gardens of Acadia plant sale. The sale featured annual and perennial plants, veggie seedlings, house plants, trees, shrubs and native plants donated by area businesses, estates, and individuals. Sales were very strong again this year, generating critically needed funds that support the staffing and maintenance of the gardens. The Wild Gardens are an important educational display at Sieur de Monts of over

400 plants native to Acadia in 13 habitats representing areas in the park such as mountains, coniferous woods, bogs, beaches, and meadows.

Volunteers and Friends of Acadia staff at the plant sale missed long-time volunteer Barbara "Bobbie" Cole, who passed away last fall. Bobbie started volunteering in the Wild Gardens in the late 1960s and was a leader on the Executive Committee of the Wild Gardens for many years. While not formally trained in botany, Bobbie gained great knowledge over the years about native plants and garden management

continued on page 28



GEARING UP... More than 30 people reserved booths for the 1st Annual Friends of Acadia Gear Sale and Swap at Mount Desert Island High School on May 18. The event was aimed at helping people recycle and repurpose their outdoor adventure gear by providing bargains to potential buyers. Among the items offered were tents, sleeping bags, kayaks, canoes, skis, bicycles and stand up paddleboards. Booth space and admission was free. More than 200 people attended the sale with a line forming for the opening.

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Updates

continued from page 27

from the Gardens' founders. She mentored new volunteers, shared her knowledge with many interns, and created new generations of park stewards by sharing the wonders of native plants with thousands of children who visited the Gardens. Bobbie also cheerfully managed the donation boxes at the Gardens, counting hundreds of dollar bills and quarters contributed by visitors. Bobbie's spirit, humor, and energy will be missed.

48 Down, Two To Go

Friends of Acadia currently has members living in 48 states—all but Alaska and North Dakota—but we would like to be represented in all 50! Can you help? If you have friends or family in these states, please encourage them to visit our website at www.friendsofacadia.org, learn more about us, and make a membership gift to support our work to preserve Acadia National Park.

We also have members in 13 countries on six continents every—continent but Antarctica. If you know someone who lives there, please send them our website and encourage them to join.

Moose and Goose

More than 50 hikers gathered at Burr Pond State Park in Torrington, CT on June 9 for the 2nd Annual Hike with Moose



FOA/EARL BRECHLIN

The late Neil "Goose" O'Keefe rides the ferry to Isle au Haut during his 2014 Acadia Quest.

in Honor of Goose event. Neil "Goose" O'Keefe participated in FOA's Acadia Quest annually for many years with his mother, Laura Mathews. Their Quest team name was Moose and Goose.

After finishing the Quest and returning home to Connecticut in 2017, Goose died unexpectedly in his sleep. He especially loved two things in life—Star Wars and Acadia National Park. We all like to think of Neil as a Jedi defender of Acadia. To that end, and as a way to honor Goose, Laura plans the hike-a-thon each year at a beautiful park in her hometown and donates all the proceeds to Friends of Acadia to help protect Acadia and support our youth programming and conservation work in the park.

To learn more about the event or this

year's Acadia Quest, contact Lisa Horsch Clark or Paige Steele at the FOA offices at 207-288-3340.

May the force be with you!

Membership Survey Complete

In late February of this year, Friends of Acadia launched a comprehensive survey of its members, donors, volunteers, and friends. The goal was to better understand who our members and supporters are, what they like most about FOA's programs and Acadia National Park, what they believe is the most important role FOA can play in helping to preserve and protect Acadia, and what they see as the most important issues facing FOA and the park.

The 50-question survey was offered electronically online and via a mailed paper survey. We emailed a link to 16,000 constituents in February, included the link in the March E-news, and shared it on our social media platforms in February and March. The goal was to have more than 1,000 respondents. When the survey closed on April 11, we had 1,097.

The data book for the survey is 271 pages long and we are still analyzing the results. The FOA staff has enjoyed reading the many thoughtful comments and good ideas shared by constituents. According to survey results, most respondents are familiar with Earth Day, Take Pride in Acadia Day, and the Island Explorer bus system. Many respondents feel that an FOA membership is a good value for their

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A computer-generated word cloud displays the relative priority of words used in responses to the recent Friends of Acadia Membership Survey.

continued on page 30

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FOAMSHLEY L. CONTI

New bike racks at Jordan Pond House were funded with proceeds from the sale of merchandise during Acadia's Centennial.

continued from page 28

money. Eighty-eight respondents said they have included FOA in their estate plans and an additional 181 respondents said they would consider including FOA in their estate plans in the future.

Friends of Acadia was fortunate to have longtime FOA member Brian Robertson, Vice President of Research at Market Decision Research, vet the questions, interpret results, and provide additional pro bono expertise throughout the process.

We always welcome emails and phone calls from members, volunteers, and friends. Please call the office at 207-288-3340 or email lisahorsch@friendsofacadia.org.

Centennial Sales Fund Bike Racks, Water Stations

If you stop by the Jordan Pond House this summer, park your bike on the new bicycle racks and stay awhile. The racks were funded with proceeds from Acadia Centennial products. As part of the 2016 Centennial celebrations, 140 businesses and organizations designed and sold products that were approved by the Acadia Centennial Task Force. Sellers agreed to contribute at least 5 percent of the proceeds back for projects in the park.

FOA also bought five new water-filling stations that will be installed at key

destinations in the park. They will help reduce plastic waste by giving visitors easy ways to hydrate using their own water bottles.

None of these projects would have been possible without the spirit, creativity, and generosity of the Acadia Centennial Partners. Acadia's visitors will benefit throughout the park's next century. ✨

Seeking Info from Respondents

Are you one of the 88 respondents who indicated in the survey that they have included FOA in their estate plans or have made a bequest in their will to benefit Friends of Acadia and the park? If so, thank you! We would love to know who you are and invite you to join us at a future George B. Dorr Society event. Simply contact Lisa or another FOA team member at GBD@friendsofacadia.org or 207-288-3340.

SUMMER SWINGS INTO HIGH SEASON

After many months of anticipation, high summer is now here. The busy season has quickly unfurled. Some highlights I have been looking forward to all winter include welcoming Friends of Acadia's seasonal hires as they get to work in the park in June, attending the annual meeting at the Bar Harbor Club in July, the Annual Benefit Auction held in August celebrating 30 years of success, and most importantly, coveted quality time out in the park with family and friends.

This summer, I plan to utilize the Island Explorer shuttle bus more often especially when I need to be in Bar Harbor. I hope to establish a routine of using the bus to go to Jordan Pond House for a popover or to access some of Acadia's busier trailheads and parking lots. With a little pre-planning, using the Explorer is easy, and ridership is free.

This year marks a significant milestone for the shuttle. Thanks to state, federal and local government support, and backing by FOA and grants from L.L.Bean over the years, the system has flourished, transporting nearly 8 million visitors over its 20 years. Who can imagine what the visitor experience would be like without it?

Another summer aspiration is to spend time in the less-traveled places in the park.

One potential off-the-beaten-track destination is somewhat ambitious—Isle au Haut, an island in the Penobscot Bay.

With access via ferry from Stonington, there are more than 20 miles of hiking trails along the rugged coast of cliffs, coves and craggy beaches. A visit to Isle au Haut will appeal to curious souls looking to wander more remote areas.

Schoodic Peninsula is a part of Acadia that I try to visit at least once a summer season. I confess it often feels like there are not enough hours in the day to fully explore the landscape or become familiar with the expanded network of trails.

Schoodic is a true ethereal beauty situated on the rocky coast with commanding views of Frenchman Bay



and Cadillac Mountain. The sweeping pink granite shoreline has been magically weathered by eons of wind and waves. The verdant forest canopy is lush and includes a wide diversity of trees, shrubs, and plants. Ideally when I go, I will pack my camera and take my bike so I can leisurely explore and focus on the majestic viewsheds.

Wherever your path leads you this summer, be it remote or well-traveled, I hope you will prioritize any opportunity to be out in the natural beauty of Acadia, soaking up all that nature has to offer.

This August FOA will hold our summer board meeting at the Schoodic Education and Research Center campus where we will also gather with the Schoodic Institute's board and staff. One of my favorite buildings is Rockefeller Hall, an architectural gem on the Schoodic campus; it was masterly designed by the renowned Grosvenor Atterbury who also designed the Brown Mountain and Jordan Pond gate houses on Mount Desert Island.

John D. Rockefeller, Jr. commissioned Atterbury to design it in the French Norman Revival-style and the structure is now a flagship building featuring a museum interpreting the history of the region including the former Naval base, and a hub for the activities of Schoodic Institute.

FOA and Schoodic Institute are key partners always striving to work more closely, learning from one another. That long-running, collaborative relationship strengthens both organizations as we strive for the advancement and betterment of Acadia National Park.

A fine example of establishing a new partnership came this past spring when FOA joined forces with the Brandywine Conservancy and Museum of Art for an event in Chadd's Ford, Pennsylvania. While our two communities are many miles apart, we each share long traditions of conservation and philanthropy, as well as many members in common. Sharing stories and broadening relationships geographically and culturally has tremendous benefits to all. The gathering was a terrific opportunity to catch up with many FOA supporters and friends in the offseason.

Wherever your path leads you this summer, be it remote or well-traveled, I hope you will prioritize any opportunity to be out in the natural beauty of Acadia, soaking up all that nature has to offer.

And, thanks to our many, many FOA members and friends who continue to support the vital work of preserving, protecting and caring for Acadia in its second century. Happy Trails.

In Gratitude,

—Anne B. Green

MARY AND PHIL GALPERIN

By Earl Brechlin

During their first visit to Acadia on their honeymoon in 1988, Mary and Phil Galperin planned to spend some time in Maine celebrating their love and the beginning of their life together. Little did they realize at the time it also was the start of a decades-long love affair with a special place that also captured their hearts.

“We originally thought we’d spend a few days and then continue on to Quebec,” recalls Mary. “By the third day we decided to just spend all of our time right here.”

For the next 18 years the couple, then living in coastal New Jersey, spent at least a week in Acadia annually. Before long, those trips morphed into occasional stays lasting a month, or more. And it was during those visits that they decided to volunteer for one of Friends of Acadia’s drop-in trail work days.

“We read about the trail crew in the *FOA Journal*,” explains Mary. “We enjoyed the hard work, digging ditches, cutting brush, moving rocks, using a Pulaski,” she adds.

They became Friends of Acadia members and eventually worked their way up from drop-in volunteers to experienced hands and crew leaders. Among the projects they lent their hearts and hands to were the rehabilitation of the Ocean Path along Ocean Drive, as well as trails in the Schooner Head and Duck Brook areas.

Eight years ago, Phil, a retired lieutenant with the Philadelphia Fire Department, and Mary, who worked in insurance and banking, bought property in downtown Bar Harbor and built a modest home. Most for their friends at the time thought they were crazy, Mary recalls. “They thought we should be moving to Florida.”

It was around that time that another volunteer suggested that, in addition to trail work, the Galperins might be good candidates for FOA’s Membership Table at the Jordan Pond House. They have been serving there, sharing the news about all of



FOA/JULIA WALKER THOMAS

Mary and Phil Galperin have been sharing their love for Acadia National Park as Friends of Acadia volunteers for three decades.

FOA’s good works, ever since.

“I just love this park and being able to talk to people and share in their experiences,” Mary explains. Many jump at the chance to join as a method of protecting a place they have connected with in a special way, she continues. “Often they don’t realize they were looking for a way to give back until we talk about it,” she says.

“There is great satisfaction and enjoyment in connecting to families that appreciate what this park represents,” Phil adds.

Over the years, Phil says he has come to deeply appreciate the diversity of experiences available in the park. Acadia’s mix of sea and shore, forest and mountains, lakes and trails offer unlimited recreational and spiritual renewal, he believes. “There’s something here for people at every age,” he notes.

Along with being members and volunteers, the Galperins also have been regular donors to FOA. They are members

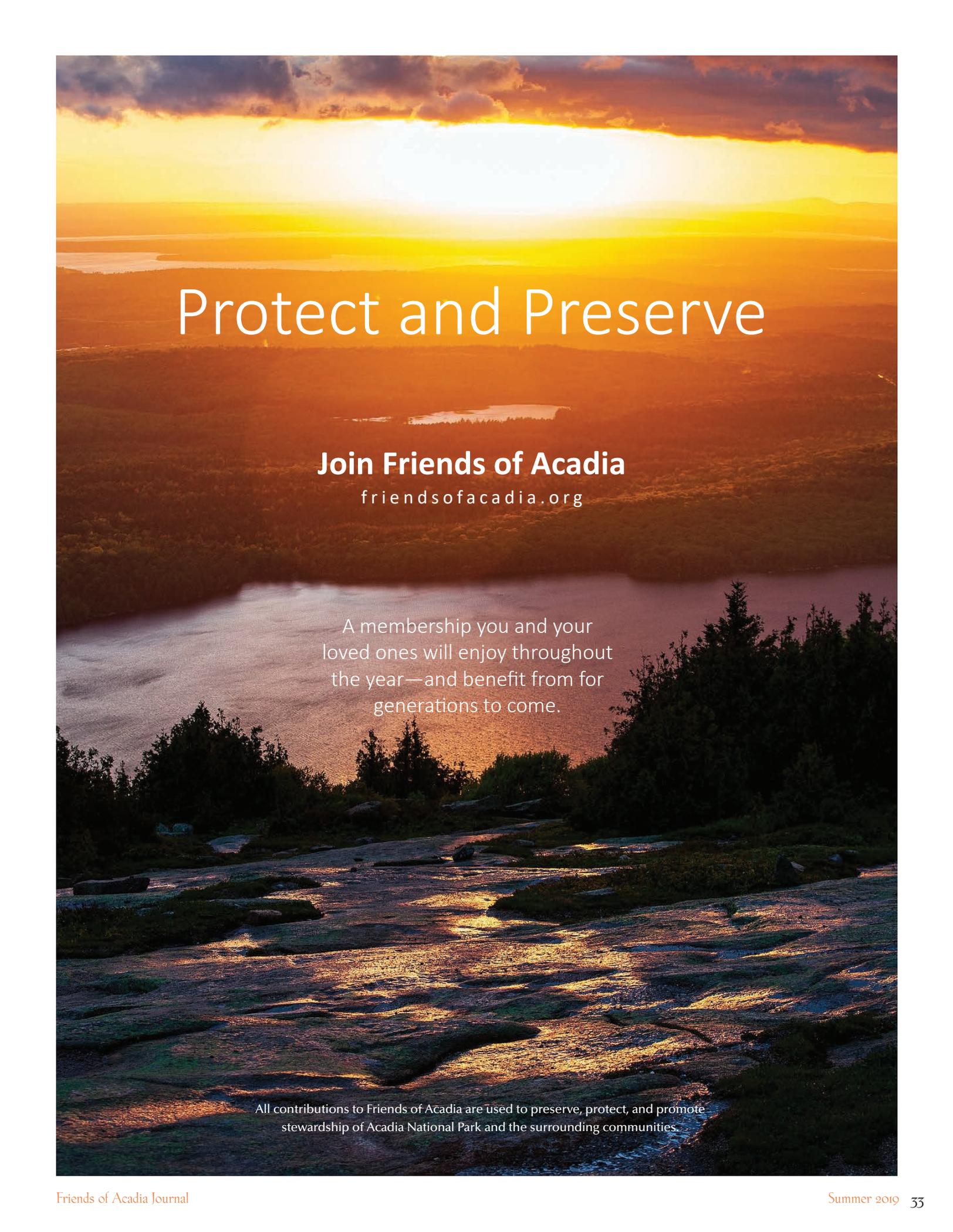
of FOA’s George B. Dorr Society, composed of folks who have made provisions to continue their support in their estate plans.

According to Mary, that first trip to Acadia more than 30 years ago set the couple on a path that has been extraordinarily rewarding. “You get more than you give when you’re truly part of the team that takes care of this park,” Mary explains. “We all have a common purpose and goal.”

Those rewards also come in the form of long and lasting friendships the couple have made with other volunteers and people in the community as their lives shifted to focus around Acadia.

“We fell in love. We came here. We fell in love all over again,” she says. ✨

EARL BRECHLIN is Friends of Acadia’s Communications Director.



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Join Friends of Acadia

friendsofacadia.org

A membership you and your loved ones will enjoy throughout the year—and benefit from for generations to come.

All contributions to Friends of Acadia are used to preserve, protect, and promote stewardship of Acadia National Park and the surrounding communities.



43 Cottage Street, PO Box 45
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FOA/JOE PHILLIPSON

Following a rain shower, visitors enjoy a misty view across Eagle Lake from the western side of Cadillac Mountain.

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.

