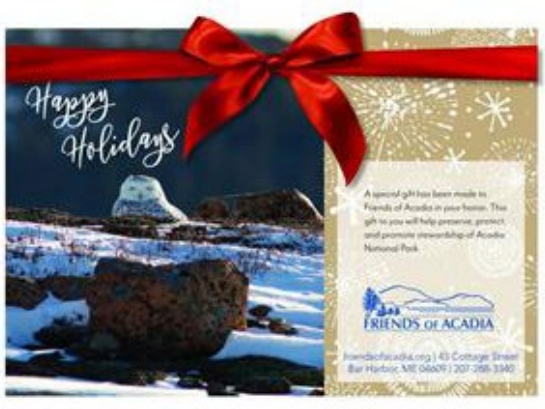
Dear Friends,

As the Winter Solstice approaches this weekend, we look forward to longer days to enjoy all that Acadia has to offer. Though there have been periods of thaw and rain, the cold weather has returned this week and we are hopeful the carriage roads may soon have enough snow for Acadia Winter Trails Association volunteers to groom for cross-country skiing.

Whether you're spending the holidays here in Maine or some other part of the country or world, we at Friends of Acadia send you warm wishes for a joyful holiday season and hope you will have many opportunities to experience the beauty of Acadia this winter and in the coming year.

New Tribute Gift Cards



Looking for the perfect gift for the Acadia lover in your life this holiday season? Making a tribute gift to Friends of Acadia in their honor is the best way to support the park together — and now, you can customize a beautiful card featuring a scene from Acadia with their name to give digitally or print out at home. Please visit our website to make a gift and see all the gorgeous cards, designed right here at our downtown Bar Harbor office: https://friendsofacadia.org/tribute-cards/

Friends of Acadia Winter Journal: In mailboxes now!

The Friends of Acadia Winter Journal is in members' mailboxes all over the country. Packed with articles and photographs featuring Hawk Watch, Outdoor Classrooms, fall color, the Acadia National Park Transportation Plan, a winter animal tracks quiz, and more — this Journal is one you don't want to miss!

Don't receive the Journal? Join Friends of Acadia at the $35 level or above and receive a year's subscription to our gorgeous, insightful magazine.

New Student Board Members

Friends of Acadia recently welcomed two students to the FOA Board of Directors through a new pilot program for visiting student board members. Lundy Stowe from College of the Atlantic and Matt Farragher from the University of Maine are pictured here with FOA board members Emily Beck, Jack Kelley, and Christiaan Van Heerden at FOA's November board meeting in Salisbury Cove.

The new program aims to give college students experience with a non-profit board, while also bringing the perspective of a younger generation to the FOA board table. We look forward to working with these two young conservationists!

Citizen Science Opportunity

With the recent cold snap, lakes across Maine are starting to experience "ice-in." The Lake Stewards of Maine organization is tracking and documenting ice-in reports on their Near Real-Time Lake Data webpage! Anyone, regardless of monitor certification status, can report ice-in data (for more information on lake ice data tracking in Maine, please visit their website). For the snowbirds and folks "from away", please consider asking a neighbor or friend who lives near your lake to share the ice-in date with you — or they may contact LSM directly.

The information gathered by Lake Stewards of Maine is shared with scientists across the state of Maine, including those at Acadia National Park. Information on MDI lakes (and even Long Pond on Isle au Haut) are especially valuable to the park's scientists.

To send in your data, or if you have questions concerning the guidelines for determining ice-in, please email Christine@LakeStewardsME.org.

Acadia on Your Wall

If you've followed us on Facebook during the past two years you've probably seen images from the Acadia Digital Media Team's "Acadia Photos of the Week" albums. Now, just in time for the holidays, these gorgeous photos (and more) from the park are now available for purchase via our SmugMug page. The photos are available as prints and other photographic products (metal prints, canvas wraps, mousepads, mugs, etc.) — shipped directly to you from SmugMug. Best of all, your purchase will help support FOA!

Head over to https://friendsofacadia.smugmug.com/ to see all the photos. You might even see someone you know!

Header Photo: Icicles hang on a ledge on a section of Acadia National Park carriage road. *(Photo by Tom Blagden/Friends of Acadia)*

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