

ACADIA

The Friends of Acadia Journal FALL 2022



**TEACHERS ARE
THE STUDENTS**
ACADIA TEACHER FELLOWS

**FROM TRASH
TO TREASURE**
MARIAH READING CREATES ART

**NPS DIRECTOR
VISITS ACADIA**
ADVANCING PRIORITY ISSUES

PURCHASE YOUR PARK PASS!

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



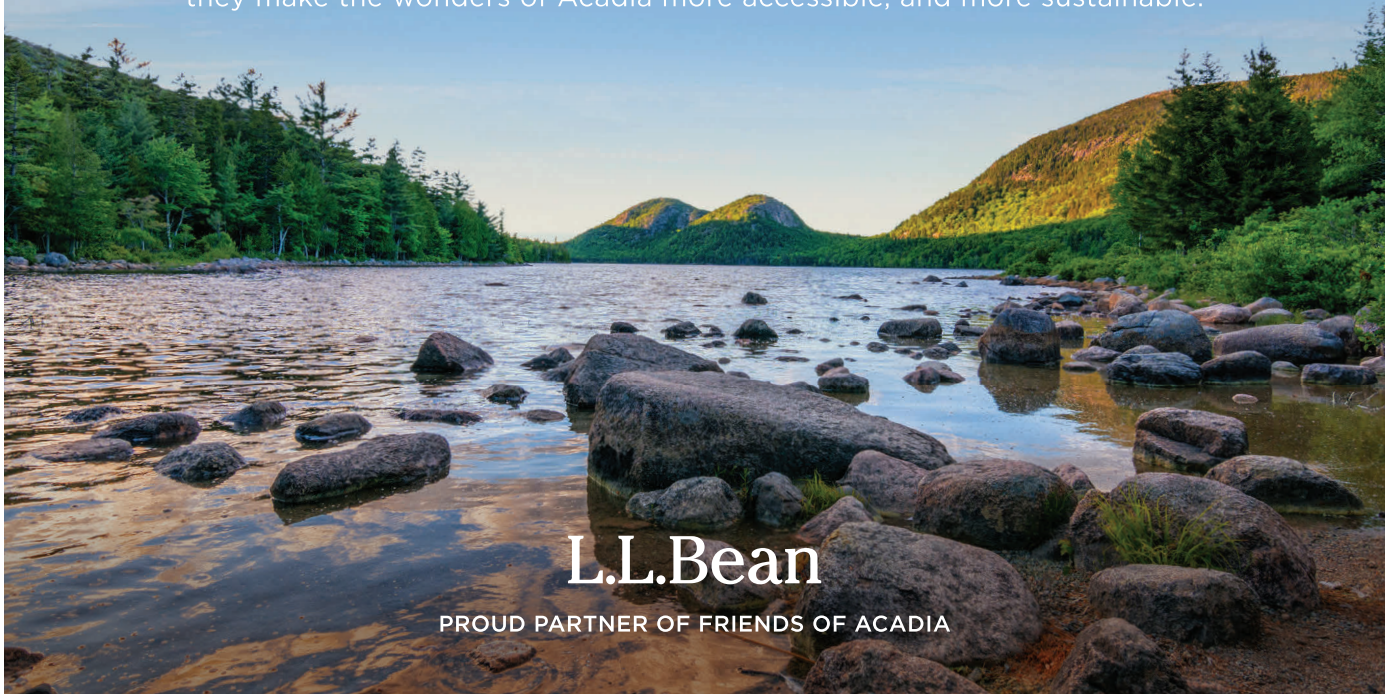
BUY A PASS ONLINE AND PRINT before you arrive at the park. This allows you to drive directly to a trailhead/parking area & display your pass from your vehicle.

Acadia National Park passes are available online:
www.recreation.gov/sitepass/74271

Annual park passes are also available at certain Acadia-area town offices and local chambers of commerce. Visit www.nps.gov/acad/playourvisit/fees.htm

THIS LOOKS EVEN BETTER IN PERSON.

That's why L.L.Bean supports the Island Explorer Buses – they make the wonders of Acadia more accessible, and more sustainable.



L.L.Bean

PROUD PARTNER OF FRIENDS OF ACADIA

IN THIS ISSUE



FEATURES

- 6 HARD-WORKING CORPS** *By Shannon Bryan*
- 8 ONE PERSON'S TRASH IS ANOTHER'S TREASURE** *Artist Mariah Reading Recreates Landscapes on Trash By Julia Walker Thomas*
- 12 TAKE HEED OF THE HEMLOCKS** *Invasive Hemlock Woolly Adelgids By Shannon Bryan*
- 15 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE DIRECTOR SPENDS WEEK IN ACADIA** *By Lori Schaefer*
- 18 TEACHERS ARE THE STUDENTS** *Teacher Fellows Program Helps Educators Cultivate Outdoor Classrooms By Shannon Bryan*
- 22 BENEATH THE LEAVES** *Fall's Leaf Litter Provides Key Habitat By Julia Walker Thomas*
- 25 STARRY, STARRY NIGHT** *Night Sky Research in Acadia By Adam Gibson and Bik Wheeler*
- 26 FRONT & CENTER** *Meet Katherine Strain By Shannon Bryan*
- 28 THE STORIES THIS BUOY CAN TELL** *Monitoring Buoy in Jordan Pond Gathers Data By Bill Gawley*
- 30 REMEMBERING R. ANDERSON PEW** *By Lisa Horsch Clark*
- 32 33RD ANNUAL BENEFIT A RESOUNDING SUCCESS** *By Marisa Marinelli*
- 35 ACADIA VISITATION ON TRACK FOR SECOND BUSIEST YEAR EVER** *By Adam Gibson*
- 36 AMERICAN AQUAFARMS PLEDGES TO RETURN** *By Stephanie Clement*

PERSPECTIVES

- 5** *President's Message We All Benefit*
- 7** *Superintendent's View Making Acadia Accessible*
- 45** *Chair's Letter Cheers to Another Great Summer*
- 48** *My Acadia By Jake Haertel*

DEPARTMENTS

- 3** *Where In Acadia?*
- 33** *New Members*
- 37** *Capturing the Moment*
- 43** *Updates*



ACADIA

The Friends of Acadia Journal

FALL 2022

Volume 27 No. 3

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.

Acadia is published three times a year. Submissions and letters are welcome.

Opinions expressed are the authors.'

EDITOR

Lori Schaefer

PHOTO EDITOR

Julia Walker Thomas

DESIGN

Lisa Williams/Indigo Art Design

PRINTING

Penmor Lithographers

PUBLISHER

Eric Stiles



Artist-in-Residence Mariah Reading stands next to a washed-up aquaculture box that she transformed into a work of art. See story on page 8.
MARIAH READING/ANP ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE

ASHLEY L. CONTI/FOA



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jack Kelley, Chair
Hannah Sistare Clark, Vice Chair
Bill Eacho, Treasurer
Dave Edson, Secretary

Mark Amstutz
Julie Banzhaf-Stone
Justin Bennett
Sam Coplon
Andrew Davis
John Fassak
Elsie Flemings
Eleanor Gnam
C. Boyden Gray
Anne Green
Margaret Jeffery
David Katona
Rob Leary
Story Litchfield
Paul Mayewski
Cora Olgay
Lili Pew
Laura Pierce
Edward L. Samek
Curtis Simard
Christiaan van Heerden

HONORARY TRUSTEES

Eleanor Ames
Robert and Anne Bass
Emily Beck
Fred Benson
Sylvia Blake
Frederic A. Bourke Jr.
Gail Clark
Ruth Colket
Gail Cook
Shelby and Gale Davis
Nat Fenton
Frances Fitzgerald
Sheldon Goldthwait Jr.
Neva Goodwin
Paul and Eileen Growald
Paul Haertel*
Cookie Horner
H. Lee Judd
Debby Jones Lash
Linda Lewis
Liz Martinez
George and Heather Mitchell
Joseph Murphy
Nancy Nimick
Ann R. Roberts
Jeannine Ross
Jack Russell
Howard Solomon*
Diana Davis Spencer
Nonie Sullivan
Julia Merck Utsch
Dick Wolf

EMERITUS TRUSTEES

W. Kent Olson
Charles R. Tyson Jr.

**Deceased*

FRIENDS OF ACADIA STAFF

Shannon Bryan
Content and Website Manager

Nikki Burtis
Stewardship Coordinator

Jennifer Byer
Development Assistant

Lisa Horsch Clark
Director of Development and Donor Relations

Stephanie Clement
Conservation Director

Ashley L. Conti
Acadia Digital Media Team Coordinator

Sarah Curts
Accounting Manager

Brian Henkel
Wild Acadia Project Coordinator

Jason Irwin
Chief Financial Officer

Stephanie Ley
Summit Steward Coordinator

Marisa Marinelli
Senior Development Officer

Lee McWilliams
Development Officer

Amanda Moggridge
Database Manager

Lori Schaefer
Communications Director

Mike Staggs
Office Manager

Becca Stanley
Recreation Technician Lead

Paige Steele
Conservation Projects Manager

Eric Stiles
President and CEO

Julia Walker Thomas
Creative Projects Manager

Lynn Verrill
Administrative Assistant

JoAnne Wood
Development Coordinator



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. Printed with soy-based ink.

Stay In Touch

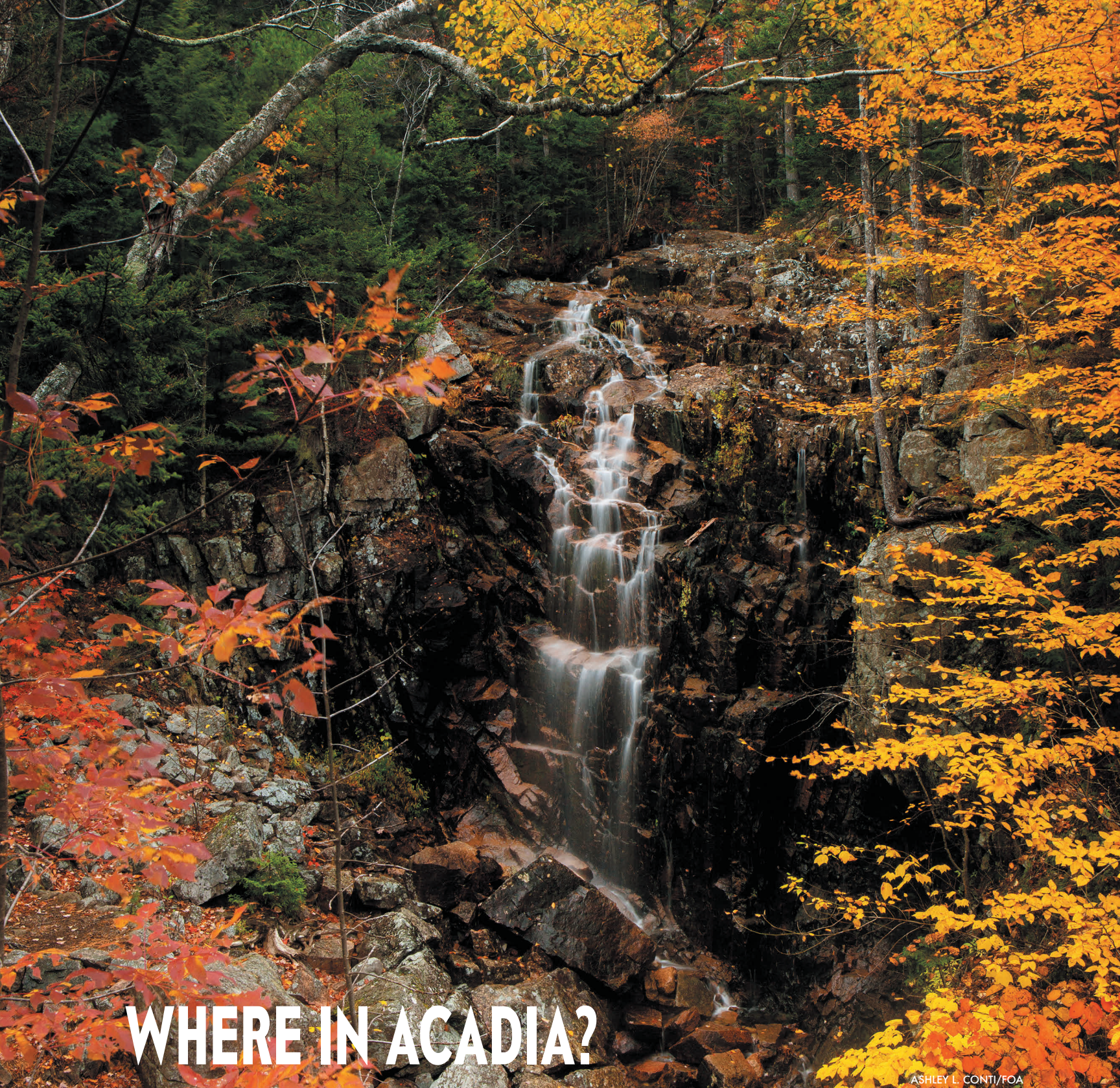
📞 207-288-3340

✉️ info@friendsofacadia.org

🌐 friendsofacadia.org

📘 @FriendsofAcadia

📷 @friendsofacadia



WHERE IN ACADIA?

ASHLEY L. CONTI/FOA

Sometimes just a trickle, this waterfall is a 1-mile hike in from a major island thoroughfare. Though not flying, this seasonal water flow is best viewed from a buttress. Spring is when it's most impressive, but sometimes an autumn storm will bring these falls roaring back to life. Where is it?

If you think you can identify the location of this scene, email us at editor@friendsofacadia.org and include a personal story or memory with your answer. We'll print our favorite responses in the next issue of Acadia and send a Friends of Acadia cap to a randomly selected correct respondent.

READERS RESPOND TO "WHERE IN ACADIA?"



LILY LAREGINA/FOA

Summer Where is it? **View of South Bubble from Pemetec Mountain**

Thanks to all the readers who responded to our “Where in Acadia?” question in the summer magazine and correctly identified the location as South Bubble as seen from Pemetec Mountain. South Bubble is a favorite for many hikers, as is posing with Bubble Rock, a large boulder deposited on the edge of a cliff by a passing glacier.

Below are a few of the correct responses that we received from members.

In each issue of *Acadia* magazine, we post a photo and clues to help readers identify the location. If you think you can correctly identify the location of the photo, email editor@friendsofacadia.org.

We’ll run a few of the correct responses in the forthcoming issue, and we love it when you send photos and stories to accompany your answers. Thanks to all of our readers who play along!

If this is where I think it is, it’s a spectacular photo! I think it’s the south ridge of South Bubble with a bit of Jordan Pond sneaking in on the left. If I’m right, the photographer’s position “across the road” must have been on Pemetec Mountain.

—Charlotte Stetson, Hancock, ME

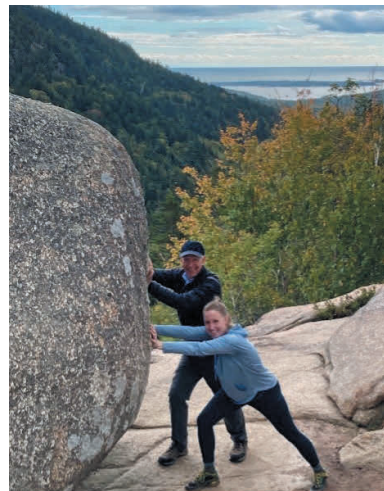


Where? Way too easy. It’s the south face of South Bubble seen from Pemetec. In September 1996, Pemetec was the first sizable mountain we took our first kid up (actual first mountain was the short walk to Beech from the upper lot).

—Gary and Ann Cattarin, Marlborough, MA



Gary and Ann Cattarin with their firstborn hiking (and snacking) on Pemetec Mountain in 1996. What was their first trip to Acadia turned into a yearly tradition! Photos courtesy Gary and Ann Cattarin



Pretending to push Bubble Rock is a classic photo for many who hike South Bubble. Photo courtesy Lynn Monaco

My husband Toby and I believe the photo to be view of South Bubble from Pemetec. South Bubble is one of our longtime favorite climbs - from the days our kids were in elementary school until last October with our daughter who’s now 33.

—Lynn Monaco, Gainesville, FL

That looks like the South Bubble with the north end of Jordan Pond in the background.

A few hundred yards north of this scene is Bubble Rock, which our kids tried to topple off the side of the cliff, like many thousands before and after. It’s still there!

—David and Mo Dowd, Needham, MA

We All Benefit When We All Benefit

As I write this column, kids have headed back to school for another year of learning and my wife, Lydia, has started a new job teaching biology and environmental science at Mount Desert Island High School.

Lydia and I are struck by the incredible commitment of our local communities on Mount Desert Island (MDI) to advance outdoor education and learning opportunities. Outdoor learning has been a passion of ours for more than two decades, but it was not a given in our previous community in New Jersey. So, imagine our joy and pride in discovering that it's clearly a priority in Maine and specifically on MDI.

Friends of Acadia—working in collaboration and partnership with Acadia National Park—plays a huge role in that. Our strategic pillar to help create tomorrow's stewards is squarely focused on expanding access and delivering innovative programming to help students explore, learn, and connect with nature and our favorite national park.

Friends of Acadia works with the National Park Service to support a continuum of youth development and learning opportunities. These include getting teens into the park and engaging them in different facets of the National Park Service through the **Acadia Youth Conservation Corps**; improving and expanding outdoor learning opportunities for students and schools in Maine by funding **outdoor classrooms** on school campuses; supporting education rangers to deliver a host of educational programming, including residential education in the park through the **Schoodic Education Adventure** program. We support teachers' professional development through the **Acadia Teacher Fellows Program** and the **Outdoor Learning Collaborative**, and we're committed to

expanding **grants to support urban youth** visiting the park.

This work is critically important for many reasons.

One of the silver linings of COVID (and there aren't many) is that people are spending time outdoors at a record rate. We know that kids who grow up surrounded by green space have significantly lower rates of depression and anxiety as adults. Additionally, kids who spend significant time outside have much higher performance levels in school—including better attendance and graduation rates. All ages show significant physical health benefits, including lower blood pressure and reduced rates of obesity and diabetes. The benefits are so profound that physicians are beginning to prescribe "spending time in nature" to patients—a movement known as Nature Rx.

A key part of our mission at Friends of Acadia is to inspire the next generation of conservation-minded citizens, instilling in them a deep appreciation for the natural world and motivating them to protect special places like Acadia National Park. All of the programs and partnerships mentioned help ensure that Acadia will be here for generations to come.

Finally, while we continue to expand our work with schools and teachers, we're also working to expand access to Acadia National Park for all. Friends of Acadia and Acadia National Park are striving to remove barriers so that all can enjoy the benefits of this incredible place.

The National Park Service is making efforts in diversity and inclusion, starting with the premise that our parks are for the entire nation. We hope you'll stay tuned and join us in supporting efforts to expand access for all at Acadia.

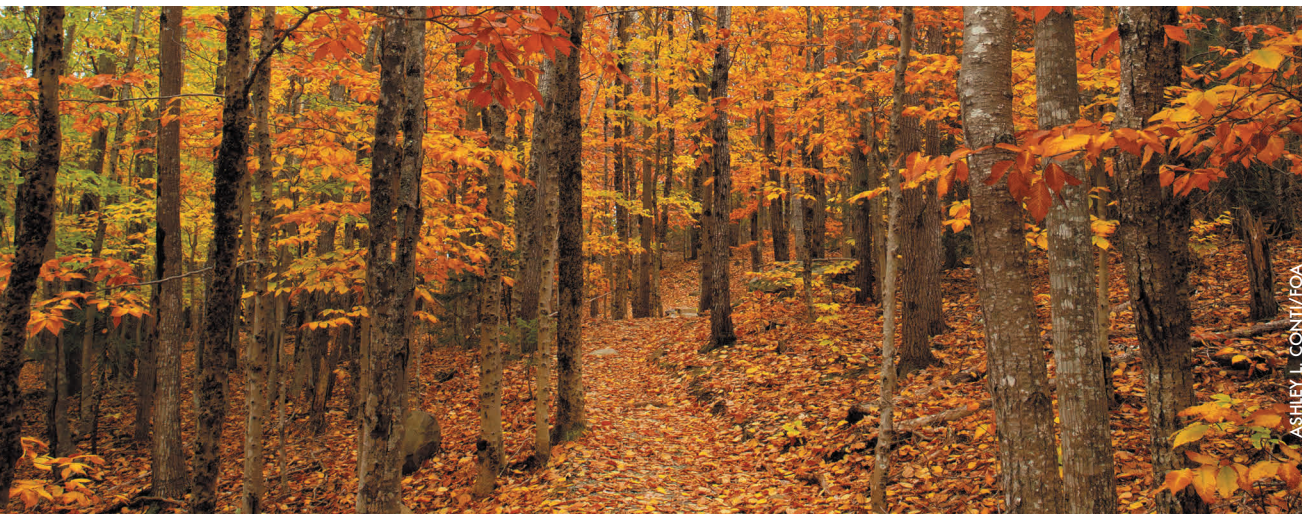


—Eric Stiles

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



"Our mission is to inspire the next generation of conservation-minded citizens, instilling a deep appreciation for the natural world."



FALL FOLIAGE surrounds the Kebo Brook Trail.

ASHLEY L. CONY/FOA

Hard-Working Corps



ASHLEY F. CONN/FOA

Acadia Youth Conservation Corps members Aidan Pepperd, Charlie Kolisch, and Garrett Bohn work alongside Acadia Youth Conservation Corps Crew Leader Shelby Bentley (second from left) and Acadia's Vegetation Program Manager Jesse Wheeler to plant native vegetation near Waterfall Bridge.

BY SHANNON BRYAN

A reimagined Acadia Youth Conservation Corps gives participants diverse experience working alongside multiple divisions of the park.

The Acadia Youth Conservation Corps (AYCC) accomplished a great deal this summer—from replacing 250 feet of bogwalk on the Giant Slide Trail and collecting garbage from 100 yards of beachfront on Isle au Haut, to painting carriage road gates, clearing backdrains, and pulling invasive glossy buckthorn at Kebo Brook Trail and Great Meadow.

It's tough but vital trail work, and the AYCC plays a key role in maintaining Acadia National Park's historic trails and carriage roads.

Friends of Acadia has supported AYCC for years, but the program took a hiatus the last two summers due to the COVID pandemic. During that period, park staff and Friends of Acadia used the time to reimagine the program to give participants more diverse experiences with broader educational opportunities and exposure to other park programs.

In addition, new National Park Service positions were created to lead it: Erica Lobel was hired as this year's AYCC Coordinator, along with AYCC Crew Leaders Christina Stroup and Shelby Bentley.

This summer, the program welcomed seven participants ranging in age from 15 to 18. They spent their first two weeks on the west ridge of Beech Mountain building 65 "checks," which help prevent the trail from eroding. The project involved digging ditches, moving and placing logs, and crushing rocks by hand.

"Probably the hardest day was when we brought 17 six-foot logs up a slope, about 500 feet of elevation over 0.3 miles," said Lobel during the AYCC Family and Friends Day in August. "We were hot, and it was hard, but they carried the logs the whole way through. We kept each other entertained. I'm just so impressed with that and all the other projects."

The Corps' work extended well beyond trail maintenance and included working alongside the vegetation crew to replant 75 plants at Waterfall Bridge and water two revegetation sites. They cleared leaves from natural creek beds—helping to prevent flooding—at the Wild Gardens of Acadia, and collected visitor-use data on the Eagle Lake and Witch Hole carriage roads. They painted tripods and assisted Summit Stewards with visitor engagement and rebuilding of Bates cairns. In their off time, this tireless crew even helped unload trucks at the grocery store on Isle au Haut.

"They got all over the park, every different division," said Lobel. And they did it all with an openness to learning new things and a fun attitude, she added.

Not only will their hard work benefit the park for years to come, but their experience this summer will help each participant continue to be a steward of public land for a lifetime. ■

SHANNON BRYAN is Friends of Acadia's Content and Website Manager.

Making Acadia Accessible for All

I was at the Hulls Cove Visitor Center on a busy August day as swarms of visitors were parking, boarding Island Explorer buses, and climbing the 52 steps up to the visitor center.

A young couple with a baby in a stroller intended to go to the visitor center but was stymied by the stairs and their inability to bring their sleeping baby in the stroller. As I walked up the steps, I passed an elderly person sweating in the hot August sun, breathing heavily from the hike up those stairs. In both cases, I felt bad that we didn't have a better, more accessible solution for them.

Making Acadia as accessible as possible to as many people as possible is a high priority. While many traditionally think of accessibility as helping people in wheelchairs use our facilities and services, it is much broader than that.

Universal accessibility includes ensuring that our park website works for people with low vision. Our Advisory Commission meetings now include a sign-language interpreter. And, of course, accessibility improvements would also help that young couple pushing a stroller and the elderly person struggling to climb all those stairs. These are people who may not have a disability but would benefit from accessible design.

Much of Acadia National Park's infrastructure, like the Hulls Cove Visitor Center, was not designed with accessibility in mind. Most of our infrastructure was constructed prior to the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act or the Architectural Barriers Act. Further, our understanding of how to make assets accessible has changed since these laws were passed. As we complete renovations of assets, we are adapting them to meet accessibility requirements. The list of projects is extensive and will take years to accomplish.

Thanks to funding from Friends of Acadia, we recently completed a comprehensive accessibility analysis of the park. This report outlines many deficiencies with our infrastructure and our services that we will address as we rehabilitate those assets. The scope of this is immense given the size of our asset portfolio.

Also, thanks to Friends of Acadia, this year we purchased an improved accessible carriage for Wildwood Stables, which will allow people who use wheelchairs to bring their wheelchair on the carriage rides operated by Carriages of Acadia. This past spring, we also improved walkways at Wildwood to allow people in wheelchairs to better navigate the site, including ramps, water fountains and trash cans.

Again with Friends of Acadia's help, we are in the process of designing a wheelchair-accessible sidewalk that will link the west and east parking lots on the summit of Cadillac Mountain.

But there is more work to do, and we recognize it. In addition to Hulls Cove, we need to make Sand Beach accessible, as the set of stairs that currently leads to the beach is a barrier for anyone with mobility challenges. The iconic viewing area at Bass Harbor Head Light Station is also not at all accessible, and the current paved path down to the lighthouse is too steep and in disrepair. Each of these are big-ticket items without simple solutions and will require long-term projects to resolve.

We are committed to making sure Acadia meets both the letter and spirit of the law. Accessibility is about inclusion, and we are grateful that we can rely on Friends of Acadia's continued support in helping us make Acadia National Park a place that is both accessible to, and enjoyed by, everyone.



—Kevin Schneider

SUPERINTENDENT'S VIEW



“While many traditionally think of accessibility as helping people in wheelchairs use our facilities and services, it is much broader than that.”



LATE AFTERNOON LIGHT illuminates autumn leaves below the Beehive trail.

LILY LAREGINA/FOA

ONE PERSON'S TRASH IS ANOTHER PERSON'S TREASURE



MARIAH READING

Mariah Reading Creates Impressionist Paintings on Trash to Educate on the Harms of Pollution and Climate Change

BY JULIA WALKER THOMAS

Artist Mariah Reading is no stranger to Acadia. Growing up in Bangor, she visited the park with her parents on weekends and in the summer, on field trips, and after getting her driver's license, with high school friends going to Sand Beach and Cadillac Mountain.

After high school, Reading studied art at Bowdoin College, focusing on painting, specifically landscapes. In 2016 while in a sculpture class, she became very aware of how much trash traditional art materials generate.

"The year I was in that class was the same year as the National Park Centennial, so I was acutely aware of the parks and this helped me pivot to eco art, when the parallel between painting landscapes and feeding landfills became overwhelmingly apparent," Reading said.

Later that year, after getting a job in California as a teacher, she planned a road trip across the country, stopping at several national parks and picking up trash along the way. The trip started in Acadia National Park, where she collected her first piece of trash, thus beginning her Recycled Landscapes series. Her first piece of trash-turned-art was marine debris from the Schoodic Peninsula.

An Artist-in-Residence at Acadia in the Fall of 2019, Reading spent the 14 days of her residency at Schoodic,

Isle Au Haut, and the Brown Mountain Gatehouse, painting trash (mostly marine debris) she found along her treks through the park. Her canvases included ropes, a sweatshirt, parts of lobster traps, a buoy, a frisbee, and a giant aquaculture box. On them she painted the scenes near where they were found.

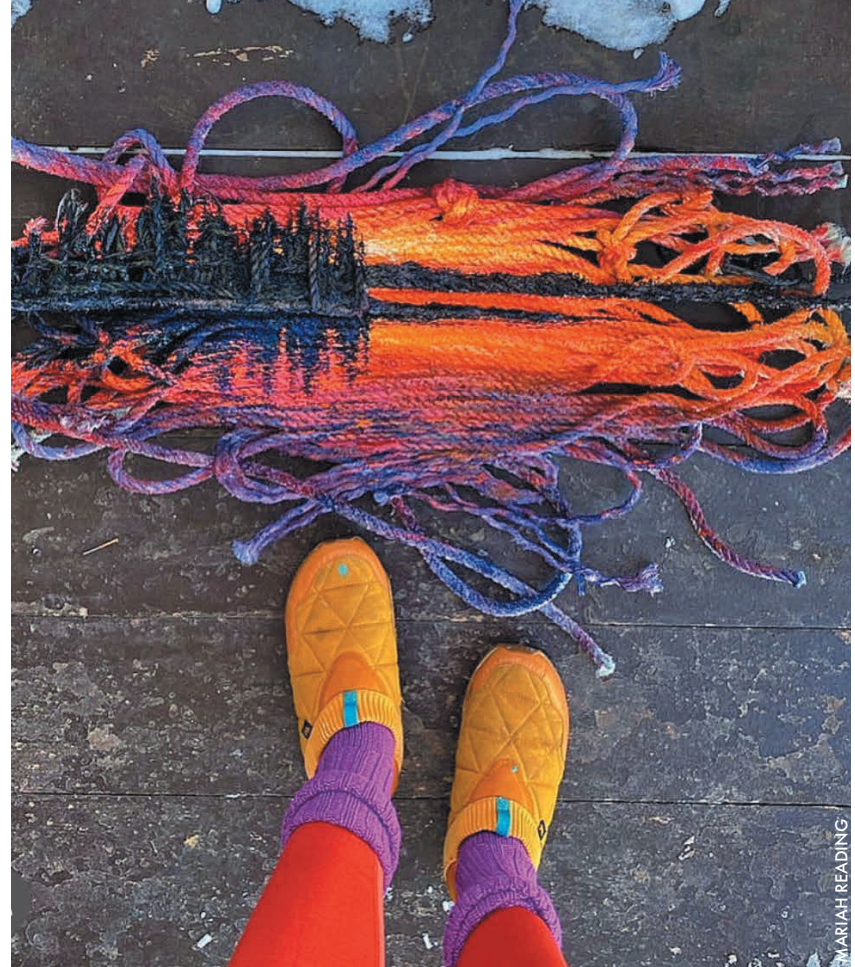
It wasn't until Reading returned to Acadia in 2020 as an interpretive ranger, co-hosting programs like Stars Over Sand Beach, that her knowledge, understanding, and connection to the park grew deeper. She is thankful for that season spent working as a ranger because she was able to reconnect with her home and learn more about it.

"Before I worked as a ranger, I would navigate through Acadia and the coastline and not fully understand geology, ecology, or the indigenous presence here. It was impactful for me to work here and reclaim myself as a Mainer and really appreciate this place," she said

The Recycled Landscapes series has remained fresh for Reading over the years because "it's really this improvised thing—it's always new. I'm constantly looking for shapes in the landscape." She looks for recognizable silhouettes like water bottles, shoes, and buoys because these hard surfaces also take paint well.

Opposite page: A bike helmet found in the Eagle Lake parking lot that Reading painted and then wore as she biked and hiked to an overlook to take this photograph. Below (L-R): Abandoned or discarded items found and painted by Reading in Acadia National Park.





Above L-R: Reading has begun painting and aligning from the water as part of her latest phase of “Recycled Landscapes.” Acrylic on ropes found littered on the coastline of Isle au Haut in 2019. Opposite page T-B: Reading works to untangle ropes used for lobster fishing she found while looking for discarded trash on Hunter’s Beach. Reading in her park uniform after a “Stars Over Sand Beach” Ranger Program she helped lead. Pants transformed into the landscape at Echo Lake. Far right: Mariah Reading and Pattie Gonia.

By blending the object and landscape together, Reading hopes people will see their own habits, waste cycles, and the national parks they love reflected in the objects. “I’m an ‘imperfect environmentalist,’ and I’m working slowly toward more sustainable choices. I hope viewers of my work also feel inspired to consider changes they can make in their own lives to better our environment.”

Like the ending message in her favorite book growing up, *Miss Rumphius*, Reading says she’s tried to create art that “makes the world more beautiful,” and this is what drives her forward to keep creating, big and small, to help inspire others to also “turn ugly, discarded objects into things of beauty.”

Reading currently serves as an interpretive ranger at Isle Royale National Park in Michigan. She says that though Isle Royale is her “heart park” for now, she calls Acadia her “winter home,” where she likes to “hunker down and get a lot of painting done after focusing on

the park service all summer.” She plans to live on Mount Desert Island during the winter, painting and visiting with family, including a brand-new niece. “MDI is my stability among the chaos,” she said.

What’s next in the progression of her work? Reading wants to combine art with her love of water. She has already begun painting scenes from canoes and kayaks and aligning (photographing her paintings against the actual landscape it was inspired by) while swimming. She hopes to get scuba certified to photograph the underwater scenes she has painted on trash collected while in the water, to bring more attention to marine debris and ocean trash.

Read more at friendsofacadia.org/reading or scan the QR code. ■

JULIA WALKER THOMAS is Friends of Acadia’s Visual Storytelling & Creative Projects Manager.





ASHLEY L. CONTI/FOA



MARIAH READING



MARIAH READING

A Collaboration with Pattie Gonia

Earlier this year, Reading worked with drag queen, environmentalist, and social media personality, Pattie Gonia. They collaborated to create an “Our Trash is Our Fossil” drag look using found beach trash that Reading sculpted into a dinosaur skull with a matching dress made of trash designed by another artist.

The idea behind the project is to bring attention to how long it takes for trash to break down. “Our bones won’t be the only fossils we leave behind. Our trash will, too. Is this what we want our legacy to be?” they ask.

The collaborators hope this project drives home the impacts our everyday choices make and how those choices are related to climate change.



MARIAH READING

TAKE HEED OF THE HEMLOCKS

Invasive Hemlock Woolly Adelgids are Endangering Eastern Hemlocks and the Ecosystems that Rely on Them

BY SHANNON BRYAN

The hemlock woolly adelgid (pronounced “uh-dell-jid”) is a clingy little insect. Its preferred place to nestle is the underside of new branches and twigs on hemlock trees.

Unfortunately, its affinity for hemlocks isn’t innocent. These aphid-like insects suck nutrients from the hemlock’s twigs, ultimately killing the tree. They’ve already wreaked havoc on many hemlocks on the east coast of North America—and they’ve arrived in Acadia National Park.

Native to Japan, hemlock woolly adelgids are not very disruptive to the hemlock populations there; natural predators keep their numbers in check. But in the U.S. and Canada, the hemlock woolly adelgid has no natural predators.

The insect was first detected on the east coast in Virginia in the 1950s. In the early 1980s, it was found in New York. It continued its creep up the coast and was first spotted in a forest on Mount Desert Island in 2020. This summer, hemlock woolly adelgids were discovered within the boundaries of Acadia.

This certainly isn’t the first invasive species to be detected in the park. Acadia’s Invasive Plant Management Team monitors more than two dozen invasive plant species—including glossy buckthorn, Japanese and common barberry, and exotic bush honeysuckle—removing what they can each year.

But the hemlock woolly adelgid’s presence is particularly worrisome because of the potential domino

effect it could have on Acadia’s forests.

While coastal Maine’s forests are well known for their spruce, “the eastern hemlock is a keystone species,” said Jesse Wheeler, Vegetation Program Manager at Acadia National Park. “Its presence creates a whole habitat and ecosystem. Without it, that ecosystem fundamentally breaks down.”

Healthy eastern hemlocks can live for 800 years or longer. “They’re one of the oldest living organisms in this region’s old-growth forests,” Wheeler said. They’re tolerant of shade and can grow in stands of fellow hemlocks or mixed in with deciduous trees.

Hemlocks provide year-round shade to streams, helping to maintain cool water temperatures, which is critical for stream salamanders and fish, including brook trout. They create a cool and damp environment that supports unique plant communities. Deer and moose eat hemlock needles and twigs; squirrels, chipmunks, and voles will eat the seeds. The black-throated green warbler and blue-headed vireo depend on forests that include hemlock. Look up in the forest canopy and you might spot a porcupine sitting in a hemlock munching on branch tips.

“Even as the climate changes in Acadia, hemlock is expected to do okay,” Wheeler said. The same can’t be said for spruce, fir, and birch. Eastern hemlock’s biggest threat now is the hemlock woolly adelgid’s expediency.

In Shenandoah National Park, hemlock woolly adelgids have decimated upwards of 95 percent of



SAM MALLON/FOA



ASHLEY L. CONT/FOA



ASHLEY L. CONT/FOA

Opposite page: Several hemlock woolly adelgid cling to the twigs of a hemlock tree. The invasive pest is threatening hemlock trees in the area. Above top: Jesse Wheeler, Acadia National Park Vegetation Program Manager, points out hemlock woolly adelgid on a hemlock near Jordan Stream Path. Above bottom: Acadia National Park Biological Science Technician Olivia Zukas trims back hemlock branches on trees near Hemlock Road. Wabanaki Youth in Science trail crew leader Benjamin Collette, left, holds a hemlock branch for Wambli Martinez, Wabanaki Youth in Science trail crew member, to trim.

eastern hemlocks since they were first detected in the park in 1988.

In the northeast, our cold winters help stymie invasive insects. “Farther south, where it’s warmer, hemlocks with hemlock woolly adelgids die within five years,” Wheeler said. “Up here, a healthy tree can survive a decade or 20 years or more.” But projected increases in winter temperatures could mean hemlocks in Acadia succumb to invasive insects at accelerated speeds and that the adelgid’s expansion range increases.

There’s also a question of what might take the hemlocks’ place.

“If we lose hemlocks, what else is going to grow there?” Wheeler wondered. Invasive plants can often

out-compete native plants—they leaf out earlier, their leaves stay on longer, they have fewer, if any, predators. For now, the park’s focus is on monitoring—identifying where the hemlocks are using vegetation maps and remote sensing data from satellites—to detect trees under stress and better prioritize for conservation management.

“Acadia might not always look like a coastal spruce forest, which is unfortunate,” Wheeler said. “That’s where we’re at. But a wholesale change of an ecosystem we don’t want to see.” ■

SHANNON BRYAN is Friends of Acadia’s Content and Website Manager.

How to Spot a Hemlock Woolly Adelgid

Flip over a hemlock twig on an infected tree and you'll find them clinging to the base of the needles. As adults, they're small—1.5 mm—oval, and black. They secrete wax out of glands on their backsides that looks a bit like wool, which makes adelgid look something akin to the end of Q-tip. Newly hatched nymphs—also known as crawlers—are much smaller and reddish-brown.

Hemlock woolly adelgids are remarkably reproductive, too. They produce two generations a year—an overwintering generation and a spring generation. A single female produces an average of 200 eggs; when those eggs mature into adults, each female produces another 200 eggs, resulting in upwards of 40,000 eggs in one year stemming from a single female.

Where are the males? Winged males and females do hatch as part of the spring generation (which also includes wingless females). The winged adelgids fly off to find spruce trees on which to mate and reproduce. Unfortunately for them, none of the spruce species in North America is suitable, and they all soon die off.

YOU CAN HELP reduce the rate of spread by cutting back branches from trails, roads, and driveways. If you are a landowner in Maine and find hemlock woolly adelgids on your hemlocks, contact the Maine Forest Service or report a sighting at appengine.egov.com/apps/me/dacf/mfs-tree-ailment.

Hemlock woolly adelgids were discovered near Cobblestone Bridge (pictured right) south of Jordan Pond. Newly hatched nymphs are hard to spot, but once they grow and begin secreting the “woolly” wax, they look like the tip of a Q-tip.



NATHANIEL X. BOËCHAT/FOA



SAM MALLON/FOA



SAM MALLON/FOA



ASHLEY L. CONTI/FOA

National Park Service Director Spends a Week in Acadia

The Visit Boosted Acadia's Efforts to Build Relationships with National Park Leadership and Advance Priority Issues

BY LORI SCHAEFER

The last week of July at Acadia National Park is always busy, but this year it was extra busy and extra special.

Acadia hosted National Park Service Director Chuck Sams and his chief of staff Susan Faranelli for a week-long visit, and the National Park Foundation held its July Board of Directors and National Council meeting here. Both visits were helpful in Acadia's efforts to build relationships with national parks leadership and to advance priority issues.

Director Sams met with National Park Service (NPS) employees, partners, and visitors to hear their concerns and ideas about the protection and enjoyment of our national parks. A primary purpose of the visit was to discuss shared priorities—including shared Tribal interests and infrastructure improvements that are part of a

concerted effort to address deferred maintenance and repair needs in national parks.

The week was jam-packed with briefings, tours, and discussions on these and a host of other issues. Friends of Acadia board members and staff participated in discussions on affordable workforce housing, the need for more operations funding from Congress, and the importance of public-private partnerships to address the effects of the climate crisis at the Great Meadow Wetland, Bass Harbor Marsh, and Cadillac Summit.

"We were delighted to host Director Sams at Acadia," said Park Superintendent Kevin Schneider. "No virtual or in-person briefing can compete with seeing issues firsthand on the ground."

The moments that stood out for Superintendent Schneider were those where Director Sams interacted with



ASHLEY L. CONTI/FOA

Friends of Acadia Conservation Director Stephanie Clement (center) briefed National Park Service Director Chuck Sams on Friends of Acadia's partnership in climate-smart restoration work in the wetland as part of a press event at Great Meadow. Rebecca Cole Will, Jesse Wheeler, and Kevin Schneider, from NPS staff participated in the briefing.

Acadia National Park staff. "I was so proud of our team as they told him about the work we're doing here, how we're collaborating and engaging partners like Friends of Acadia, what our biggest challenges are today, and how we're doing our best to rise up to meet them. Our people are our most important resource at Acadia, and I felt like we got to "show them off" to the NPS Director," Schneider said.

Shining a Light on Key Priorities

During his visit, Director Sams was briefed on the Great Meadow Wetland restoration project to improve the health and function of the wetland ecosystem. The project received \$500K in federal funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law in 2022.

Park staff explained how federal funds will be used to improve water flow and quality, reduce flooding, expand wildlife passage, remove invasive plants, restore native plants for future climates, and enhance recreational opportunities in the wetland. It builds on six years of work in the wetland by the park and its partners.

"This is a great example of climate resiliency and climate adaptation and bringing back ecosystem function into the wetlands," Director Sams offered, suggesting that Acadia's leadership will lay a foundation for the entire National Park System. "We'll start aggregating that data, doing best management practices, and being able to share those best management practices so nobody is starting from square one," he said.

The \$500K in federal funding leverages significant investments by Friends of Acadia and the NPS in forward-thinking adaptive management. Sams acknowledged the importance of partnership and offered that the restoration efforts at Great Meadow would not be possible without partners such as Friends of Acadia.

"Without these types of public-private partnerships," Sams said, "we wouldn't be able to do nearly everything we need to do to be the good stewards we want to be and are charged to be."

Cue Otter

Friends of Acadia Conservation Director Stephanie Clement accompanied the Director on his visit to the Great Meadow and was happy to share how Friends of Acadia is supporting work to improve the health and functionality of the wetland.

"About five minutes before the Director arrived at the Great Meadow, an otter popped up on one side of the culvert, ran over the Park Loop Road, and swam off into the stream on the other side, perfectly demonstrating why the park needs to replace the undersized culvert at the outlet with an open-bottomed bridge that will keep wildlife safe," Clement said.

No, that "otter moment" was not planned and couldn't be recreated for the Director and the reporters present at the briefing.

Bass Harbor Marsh

The Bass Harbor Marsh ecosystem restoration project will receive funding of \$400K from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law in fiscal year 2023. This project also leverages funding from Friends of Acadia and involves collaboration between the park, Friends of Acadia, and Schoodic Institute.

The marsh is threatened by sea level rise and disturbances from invasive plants that have impacted 156 acres of uplands surrounding the marsh. It is the largest salt marsh in the park and is a culturally significant landscape for traditional harvesting of sweetgrass by Wabanaki people from the four federally recognized Indian Tribes affiliated with Acadia.

Director Sams also met with Wabanaki scientists and sweetgrass gatherers who are working to restore this culturally significant practice to the park.

Housing a Top Priority

Friends of Acadia Board Chair Jack Kelley had several opportunities to meet Director Sams and said he was “approachable, engaged, and sympathetic to a host of issues raised.” Kelley was joined by board members Anne Green and Dave Edson, as well as former Friends of Acadia President David MacDonald, for a discussion with the Director and park leadership about the need

“The real benefit of the visit will be as Director Sams travels to other parks around the country and shares the great work that is being done here in Acadia.”

for investment in affordable workforce housing in our national parks.

Sams toured existing employee housing units and a potential area to be developed for employee housing in Acadia. Park managers, partners, and employees all stressed that modern and affordable housing is an increasingly critical component needed to attract and retain employees.

Superintendent Schneider participated in a panel discussion about employee housing as part of the National Park Foundation’s board meeting. “It was gratifying to see the National Park Foundation Board recognize the importance of employee housing and wrestle with

strategies to help the NPS address this critical need,” Schneider said. “These are major issues for us at Acadia, as we are struggling to provide housing for our workforce.”

“I think the real benefit of the visit will be as Director Sams travels to other parks around the country and shares the great work that is being done here in Acadia,” said Friends of Acadia Conservation Director Stephanie Clement. “A very special thanks to Park Superintendent Kevin Schneider for facilitating Friends of Acadia’s participation and carving out quality time for substantive discussion.” ■

LORI SCHAEFER is Friends of Acadia’s Communications Director

Below left: Friends of Acadia Conservation Director Stephanie Clement (right) accompanied the Director and NPS staff on a boat tour of Frenchman Bay to see the proposed sites for American Aquafarms industrial-scale salmon pens. Below Right: Superintendent Kevin Schneider (L) and Deputy Superintendent Brandon Bies (R), and Friends of Acadia board members Dave Edson, Jack Kelley, and Anne Green, met with Director Sams and his chief of staff to discuss housing and a host of other issues.



TEACHERS ARE THE STUDENTS IN ACADIA'S OUTDOOR CLASSROOM

Acadia Teacher Fellows Program Gives Educators Tools to Cultivate Outdoor Classrooms

SAM MALLON/FOA

BY SHANNON BRYAN

Students are more engaged when they're learning outside.

When the classroom is comprised of open air and soil and things that grow, students are calmer and better able to focus. Research also shows that outdoor learning has positive effects on students' mental health and academic performance, not to mention how exploring the outdoors helps students connect with their natural environments in memorable and energizing ways.

But creating an outdoor space—and a coinciding curriculum that fuels a student's understanding and appreciation of nature—is a challenge for many teachers. Many schools lack green space on campus, particularly in our country's inner cities where asphalt reigns.

Students who haven't spent much time in nature might be nervous about what's "out there," and many teachers, no matter how enthusiastic about the idea, might not know where to start.

The Acadia Teacher Fellows program at Acadia National Park provides teachers with the tools to

When the classroom is comprised of open air and soil and things that grow, students are calmer and better able to focus.

cultivate outdoor classrooms at their schools through an immersive six-week outdoor-learning experience.

Funded by Friends of Acadia, the summer program invites a cohort of teachers from around the country to Acadia where they spend time exploring the park and training on outdoor learning initiatives. "During the program, they develop lesson plans and curriculum

they want to implement in their home classrooms and schools, connecting their lessons to Acadia National Park," said Paige Steele, Friends of Acadia's Conservation Projects Manager.

"National parks are amazing outdoor classrooms, and school campuses can be, too!" said Steele. Learning in Acadia gives

teachers the opportunity to experience an outdoor classroom themselves, connect with other teachers, and gain ideas they can implement back home, even if the landscape around their schools looks different.

"A big part of having an outdoor classroom is teaching students how to engage with the outdoors and helping them learn foundational skills," Steele said. That might include how to dress for the weather, Leave No Trace



ASHLEY L. CONTI/FOA

Left: Acadia Teacher Fellow Leah Guenther takes notes during a Leave No Trace program led by Acadia’s Summit Stewards. Above: Acadia Teacher Fellows Kate Studey (left) and Blair Seney (center) talk with Acadia National Park Teaching Assistant Courtney Martinez during a ranger-led tour in July.

principles, and the appropriate responses to outdoor stimuli – particularly for students who have not previously had much exposure to the outdoors. It might also include building up a cache of outdoor gear for students to use.

But for the teachers who participate, the experience extends far beyond fundamentals. It offers space to rejuvenate and explore alongside fellow educators, encouraging new ideas and a sense of community. That is one of the biggest take-aways for Blair Seney, a special-education teacher from Houston, Texas, who was one of this summer’s Acadia Teacher Fellows.

“It was magic. It was like a summer camp for teachers,” Seney said. “I made lifelong friends this summer.”

The two months in Acadia include a wide range of learning experiences alongside knowledgeable park staff, giving the teacher fellows a behind-the-scenes look into park operations, education, trail maintenance, and more.

“We were able to see the other side of so many things,” said Leah Guenther, who teaches civics, social studies, and English to seventh and eighth graders at a K-8 school in the south side of Chicago. “Not just walking trails but working the trails. Not just looking at vegetation but cutting it back.”

Getting Kids Outdoors is Vital

Blair Seney grew up with a love for the outdoors thanks to her dad, who took her kayaking, camping, fishing, and hunting. When her father passed away two years ago, she sought the outdoors as a place to grieve and heal. Still, she said, “I didn’t understand the depth of change that can happen with students when you get them outdoors, the level of engagement.”

Many of Seney’s students don’t have the same opportunities to get outside that she did growing up. “I co-teach an aquatic science trip to Galveston to visit the ocean, where students catch their own fish,” she said. “It’s the only field trip some of these students have ever been on.” Some schools in her district have already cut the program.

At many schools, outdoor space is lacking. “That’s the thing that holds teachers back the most—there’s no comfortable space,” Seney said. But now she’s determined to create that space for her students. “I think getting kids outdoors is vital. If we want them engaged, we need to get them outdoors.”

She plans on applying for an outdoor science classroom grant to help create an outdoor space at school



Acadia Teacher Fellows Kate Studey and Blair Seney board a boat after spending the day exploring Baker Island and learning about its history. This summer, the Acadia Teacher Fellow program welcomed teachers from across the country for an immersive six-week experience in the park.

where she and her co-teacher can lead lessons and where other teachers can take their classes, too.

Seney said her time in Acadia as a Teacher Fellow revitalized her: “I got to find that wonder I had outdoors when I was a kid and feel that again.” She wants her students to feel that wonder, too.

Reimagining What’s Possible

Leah Guenther feels comfortable outdoors, but she knows the students at her school in Chicago don’t have the same relationship—or access—to green space.

“There are some city parks where students play sports, and we have a basketball hoop in the school parking lot,” said Guenther. “But in general, being outside is not really a goal for a lot of kids. Our school is a mile from Lake Michigan, but students don’t spend time at the lakefront. It’s not something I hear them talking about.”

Guenther had tossed around the idea of re-imagining the school’s parking lot as an outdoor classroom, but the effort lost steam. “I had given up on that,” she said. “I thought, ‘Well, our school is what it is, our relationship to the outdoors is what it is, we’re in the city and we have the campus we have...’”

“But because of the [Acadia Teacher Fellows] program’s emphasis on outdoor education and my experience, I ended up changing what I thought was possible,” she said.

Now she’s recommitting to transforming the school grounds, and she’s found like-minded colleagues who want to help. “Since I’ve been back home, I have talked to several staff members interested in getting this going, something I didn’t realize was on other people’s minds.”

Guenther also plans to create lesson plans on public lands and national parks, trying to get the message to students that, as Americans, they own these parks and public lands, and it’s their right to be on them. She envisions an outdoor field trip at the end of the students’ eighth-grade year, as a culmination of the national parks’ lessons.

Maybe they’ll go to Indiana Dunes National Park, an hour away from school, for a night of camping or a service project and find a connection to the outdoors they didn’t have before. “My students don’t have that,” she said. “I want them to have that.” ■

SHANNON BRYAN is Friends of Acadia’s Content and Website Manager.



Opportunities to Help Teachers Facilitate Outdoor Learning

Friends of Acadia works with Acadia National Park to support two different opportunities to help teachers facilitate outdoor learning in their classrooms.

The **Acadia Teacher Fellows program** serves teachers from around the country who come to Acadia National Park in the summer for six weeks of immersive learning. They get a hands-on look at an array of park programs, connect with each other, and develop curriculum they can take home to their schools.

The **Outdoor Teacher Collaborative** is a sister program focused on local teachers—typically within an hour of Acadia National Park—who come to Acadia one day a week for four weeks. Teachers who participate in the Outdoor Teacher Collaborative may also be recipients of one of Friends of Acadia's Outdoor Classroom Grants. The Collaborative was initially launched to help teachers implement those grants and create a community of outdoor educators who could connect with and learn from each other.

Teachers can also apply for **outdoor classroom grants**. Outdoor Classroom grants are available for early learning centers and pre-K through 12th grade schools in Maine to build an outdoor classroom at their site. Funding is provided through Friends of Acadia to support more youth engagement with Acadia National Park.

Top to Bottom: Summit Steward Coordinator Steph Ley leads a Leave No Trace program for Acadia Teacher Fellows and Outdoor Teacher Collaborative participants. Leah Guenther, a teacher from Chicago, was one of several teachers from around the country who came to Acadia for the immersive six-week Acadia Teacher Fellows program. Summit Steward Caitlin MacPherson hands out materials during a program for visiting teachers in the Acadia Teacher Fellows and Outdoor Teacher Collaborative programs.



WILL NEWTON/FOA



ASHLEY L. CONTI/FOA



CAROLYN ROGERS/FOA



CAROLYN ROGERS/FOA



ASHLEY L. CONTI/FOA

LILY LAREGINA/FOA



LILY LAREGINA/FOA



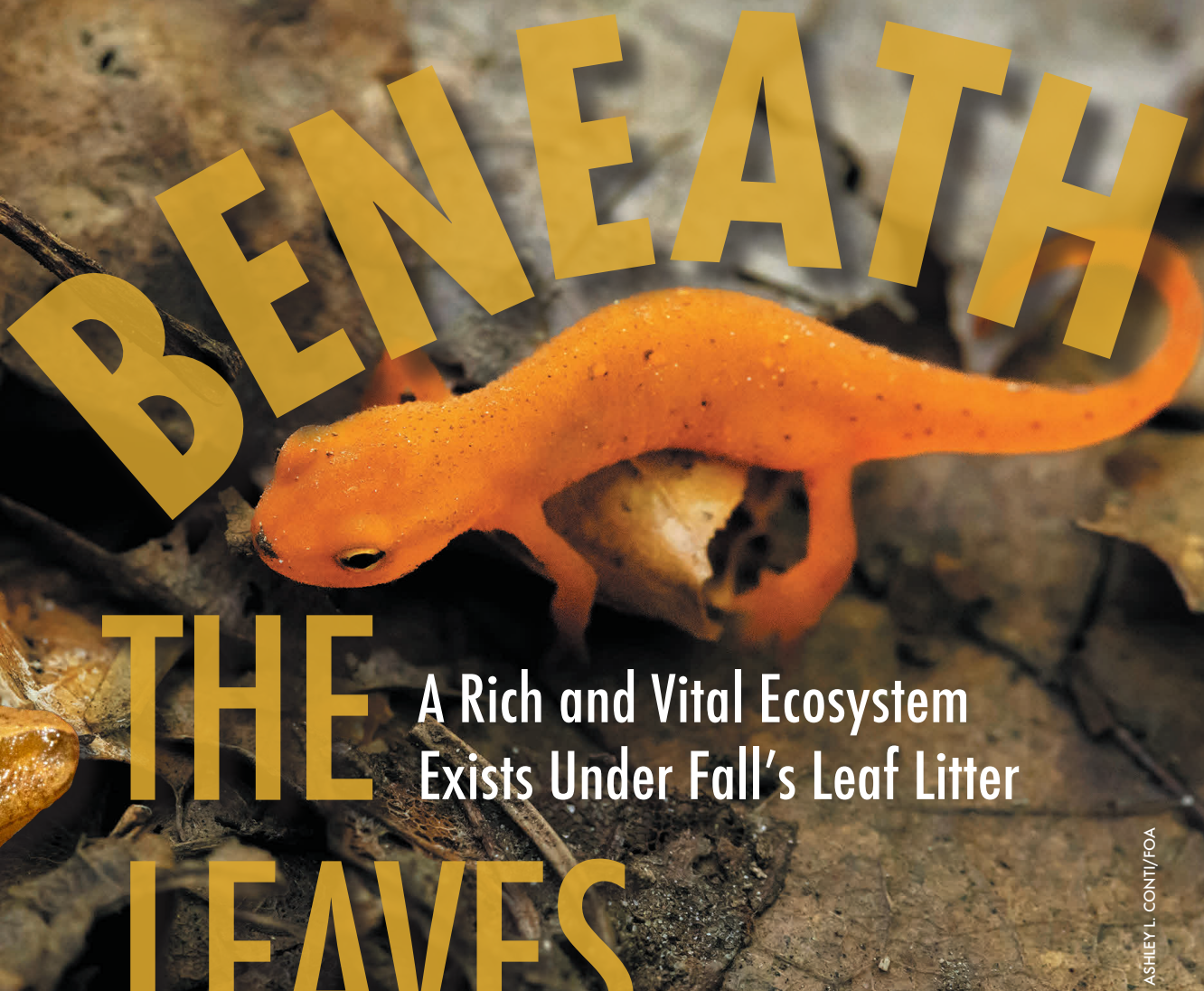
ASHLEY L. CONTI/FOA



SAM MALLON/FOA



ASHLEY L. CONTI/FOA



BENEATH THE LEAVES

A Rich and Vital Ecosystem
Exists Under Fall's Leaf Litter

ASHLEY L. CONTI/FOA

BY JULIA WALKER THOMAS

Dried leaves and pine needles blanket Acadia's forest floor in the fall. The crunching of leaves underfoot is a well-known seasonal soundtrack for those who walk the park's wooded trails and paths. It's easy to assume that this layer of dry, brown leaves is devoid of life—nothing more than the settled remnants of a vibrant growing season. But take a closer look and you'll discover there's a lot happening underneath.

Below that leafy top layer is a moist, insulated, and nutrient-rich habitat that plays host to a diversity of life.

This habitat is key to the winter survival of some of Acadia's poikilothermic animals—animals that rely entirely on external sources to regulate their body

temperature. These cold-blooded vertebrates, insects, and arthropods depend on specific adaptations that help them deal with the stressors of winter in Maine.

Under the leaves, insects and other arthropods like spiders, mites, and isopods have adapted to lower the point at which their bodies freeze or body fluids crystallize. One of the keys to surviving in an icy world is being aided by both the insulation of leaf litter and by species-by-species adaptations for waterproofing, such as the waxy cuticle covering a beetle's body or the mucus sealing the opening of a snail shell.

Some cold-hardy insects even produce natural anti-freeze proteins to suppress the freezing of their cells—

Opposite: Moths like this *Luna* hang *christalae* from leaves which drop into the leaf litter where they overwinter. Beetles overwinter under leaf litter or a few inches under the soil. Wood frogs, snails, slugs, and spiders also overwinter under leaf litter. Raindrops cover maple leaf. Above: Eastern Newts do not overwinter in leaf litter but prefer the moist, cool, and food-rich environment during the spring, summer, and early fall. Insert: Spring peepers are completely freeze tolerant and overwinter under the leaf litter.



ASHLEY L. CONTI/FOA



SAM MALLON/FOA



ASHLEY L. CONTI /FO

freezing would result in instant death. When the insulating leaf litter under snow dips between 5 and 15 degrees Fahrenheit, these animals survive in what is called a supercooled state. Other insects survive protected from the elements inside the swollen nodules or galls on the stems of woody plants like goldenrod, willow, and wild rose—which often stand above the snow all winter.

Many of Acadia’s amphibians survive in the stable and insulated environment beneath the surface of frozen ponds and lakes, but wood frogs and peepers are unique in that they survive by sheltering under the leaf litter and are completely freeze tolerant. However, every time these amphibians’ bodies thaw, energy is used to stabilize internal temperatures.

Less snowpack and fluctuating temperatures in the winter can cause a more complex freeze-thaw cycle, and earlier thawing can strain the limits of the wood frog and peeper’s energy reserves, which has a negative effect on survival. Wood frogs are one of the first amphibians to emerge, well before their food sources, so their energy reserves must be substantial for them to survive through their breeding season and then hang on long enough for their food to emerge so they can eat and re-energize.

All species in Acadia are affected by climate change, but those who hang in the balance of a few degrees during our often harsh winters are especially sensitive to even the slightest change. ■

Acadia Digital Media Team members got out their macro lenses to help illuminate this easily overlooked world. We hope you enjoy this sneak peek at what’s really under the season’s leaf litter.

JULIA WALKER THOMAS is Friends of Acadia’s Visual Storytelling & Creative Projects Manager.

Leave the Leaves and Delay Garden Cleanup

Did you know that keeping your garden and wooded areas “messy” with leaves and stalks can help support overwintering insects and vertebrates? It’s true.

With a good layer of snow, temperatures at the ground surface can remain between about 32 and 23 degrees Fahrenheit, even when air temperatures above the snow dip as low as minus 22 degrees below Fahrenheit.

In addition to their insulating qualities, fallen leaves and dead plants also help overwintering fauna camouflage from predators searching for food in winter.

By “leaving the leaves” and delaying garden cleanup until spring, you can help protect these species and help them survive over winter.

Left T-B: Hummingbird clearwings and fritillary butterflies survive the winter in the leaf litter when their cristae drop with falling leaves. Fireflies overwinter in the larval stage in the soil under leaf litter or in the bark of trees.



STARRY, STARRY NIGHT

Night Sky Research in Acadia

ASHLEY L. CONTI/FOA

BY ADAM GIBSON AND BIK WHEELER

National parks should be dark at night. They should be places where people connect with nature through views of naturally dark night skies, and where animals can find the nighttime qualities they need for survival.

Acadia National Park is such a place. Recreationists recognize Acadia as a premier place for night-sky views; bats and birds recognize Acadia as a nighttime migration corridor. On two nights this past May, BirdCast (a migration calculator) estimated that more than 2 million birds migrated over Hancock County, and eight days later, over 4 million. This fall's migration should see even more birds passing over Acadia.

A group of researchers from Boise State and Penn State Universities were awarded a grant from the National Park Service Natural Sounds and Night Skies Division to conduct night-sky research in Acadia and Grand Teton National Parks. The work began in Acadia this summer at Blackwoods Campground and along the carriage road adjacent to Jordan Pond.

The goal of the research is to better understand lighting systems from a social and biological perspective. Namely, when it comes to nighttime lighting, what do people prefer and what will wildlife tolerate? For example, insects and bats use the nocturnal Acadia landscape every summer night and can serve as indicators for the effects of lights on wildlife. By setting up trial lights and counting bat echolocations, scientists are hoping to find clues about what colors and intensities of lights influence the nocturnal insects

and bats, while at the same time measuring how visitors respond to wildlife-friendly lighting designs.

"Intrusions from sounds and lighting continue to proliferate. Studying the effects of light on people and wildlife allows us to provide data on the best practices for parks and adjacent communities seeking to protect awe-inspiring night skies," says Peter Newman, researcher and Martin Professor of Recreation Park and Tourism Management at Penn State University.

"As a kid, I spent summers at a camp in Maine. My memories are filled with the stars at night. Our goal as a team of park staff and scientists is to ensure the next generation gets the same opportunities," he added.

Managing national parks is complex: protect the natural environment while also providing high-quality experiences to visitors. This dual mandate is difficult because visitor use has environmental impacts. Park leaders rise to the challenge by applying science-backed actions and balancing visitor preferences with natural preservation. Once we understand the influences of lighting on both wildlife and visitors, correcting the negative effects may be as simple as changing a lightbulb or flipping a switch.

So, if you encounter a research project in the dark, don't be alarmed. The friendly social scientists just want to ask you a few questions. ■

DR. ADAM GIBSON manages the Social Science program at Acadia National Park. BIK WHEELER manages the Wildlife Biology program at Acadia National Park.

FRONT & CENTER

In this series, we're spotlighting the talented and dedicated staff of Acadia National Park who deliver an incredible visitor experience day after day. Whether working directly with park visitors or behind the scenes, seasonally or year-round, these are the people who make the park hum. They work hard and wear many hats, keeping the park in incredible shape, keeping park visitors safe, and rising to the occasion as visitation has reached peak levels in recent years. We at Friends of Acadia appreciate the work they do. Thank you!



SAM MALLON/FOA

MEET KATHERINE STRAIN PARK GUIDE AT ACADIA NATIONAL PARK

BY SHANNON BRYAN

The Hulls Cove Visitor Center is the first introduction to Acadia National Park for scores of visitors. All season long, they step up to the information desk full of vacation energy—and questions.

From directions and hiking recommendations to “Where can I take my dog?” and “We’re here for three days, now what?” the park staff behind the information desk field them all.

Park Guide Katherine Strain is one of those helpful and information-filled people who answers questions and points visitors in the right direction (sometimes literally).

Strain grew up in Longmeadow, MA. She came to Acadia to camp with her family every summer. After college, when it came time to apply for jobs, “I only applied to Acadia,” she said.

Strain’s first season working in Acadia was the summer of 2020—the pandemic summer—when the need for open air saw visitor center staff move to the parking lot, under a tent fitted with plexiglass for added protection. With national parks busier than ever that year, Strain said it was quite a learning experience. She was excited to be there, talking about Acadia and guiding visitors, but the plexiglass made those interactions feel less personal. Being able to connect with people is one of the big reasons she loves this job.

She returned in 2021 as a seasonal employee, and this year came on board as one of two permanent park guides.

Strain’s schedule includes shifts on the information

desk at the visitor center, responding to emails and phone calls, guiding “bike with a ranger” tours in the park, and answering questions at the nature center. She gets “roving time,” too—hours spent mingling with visitors in the park at popular areas like Jordan Pond. In the field, she said, “The most common question I get is, ‘Where is the bathroom?’” This winter, her work will move to the visitor center location in downtown Bar Harbor.

She’s keenly aware that her interactions with visitors have an impact. “It might be the thousandth time I’ve given directions to Sand Beach,” Strain said. “But it might be that person’s first time talking to a park ranger.” She endeavors to make those interactions helpful and positive. “I want people to have an emotional connection to Acadia.”

One memorable interaction she had was with a young park visitor who was thrilled to meet her. The little girl’s parents told Strain, “Meeting a park ranger is like meeting Santa Claus to her.”

Strain sees herself working in the National Park Service for a long time, and while she doesn’t know what her future might hold, “When I’m asked what I want to be when I grow up,” she said, “this is it.” ■

SHANNON BRYAN is Friends of Acadia’s Content and Website Manager.



Top: Strain leads a “Bike With a Ranger” program on a carriage road. Middle: Strain assists visitors Judy and Bryan Rudisill, of Chattanooga, TN, in finding the best trails and destinations for their visit. Bottom: Strain jokes with visitors along a carriage road.

5 WAYS PARK VISITORS CAN EASE THE BURDEN ON HARDWORKING PARK STAFF

1 Visit the park website nps.gov/acadia and review the Top 10 Things to Know Before Visiting Acadia

This will answer many of the frequently asked questions visitors have (like how to purchase a park pass or make a reservation to drive up Cadillac Mountain). It’s also a good expectation-setter, reminding visitors to have a back-up plan for when the park is crowded.

2 Know what you’d like to see or do

You don’t need to have your entire trip planned, but know some basics: Do you want to ride a bike on the carriage roads? Are you eager to eat popovers at Jordan Pond House? Or would you rather explore Acadia’s summits? Park staff can help but arriving with a plan is helpful.

3 Book your reservations on recreation.gov

Park staff are fonts of information. But they can’t make reservations for you. Whether you’re reserving space at a campground or making a reservation to drive up Cadillac, you’ll need to do that yourself on recreation.gov (ideally before you arrive).

4 Know your limits

Acadia offers an array of experiences for every ability level, so take a minute to decide: are you looking for a leisurely walk or do you want a sweat-inducing challenge? Park staff have plenty of recommendations, but it’s up to you to know your fitness and experience level and what kind of adventure you’re aiming to have.

5 Let the park know about your experience

Park staff want to hear about your visit – the good and the bad. If you found a trail sign to be confusing, let them know. If a ranger did an awesome job, they want to know that, too. You can provide feedback on cards at every visitor contact station, or on the NPS “contact us” page.

THE STORIES THIS BUOY CAN TELL

The Monitoring Buoy in Jordan Pond Gathers Data that Helps Inform the Park's Resource Protection Efforts



JULIA WALKER THOMAS/FOA

Acadia National Park staff and University of Maine researchers install a buoy that monitors water quality in Jordan Pond each spring.

BY BILL GAWLEY

Editor's Note: *This article is part of a series highlighting the Jordan Pond Water Quality Project and the monitoring buoy that continuously records physical and chemical conditions in the pond. The first article, "Diving Into Jordan Pond," was published in the summer issue and provides an introduction to the project. Read the series at friendsofacadia.org/buoy or scan the QR code found at the end of this story.*

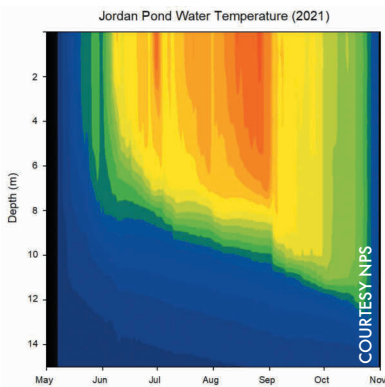
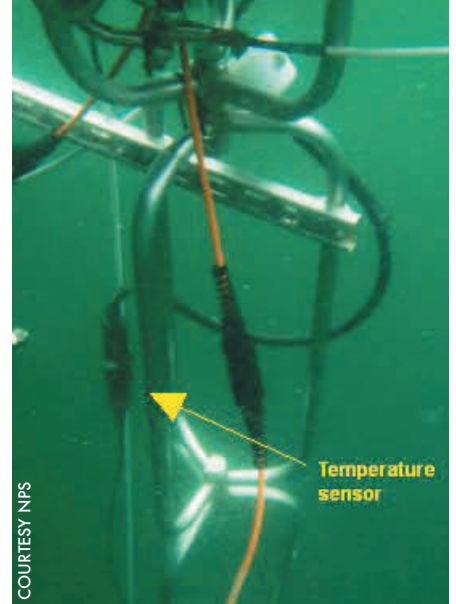
Every spring since 2013, a buoy is placed on its mooring at the deepest spot in Jordan Pond (over 150 feet!) as soon as possible after the lake ice clears. This is the same location from which scientists from Acadia National Park, Maine Department of Environmental Protection, the University of Maine, and others have been collecting data since the early 1980s. The monitoring buoy is an informative tool for the Jordan Pond Water Quality Project, which is funded by Friends of Acadia and implemented by Acadia National Park's Air-Water Resource team and researchers from the

University of Maine's Climate Change Institute.

The key advantage the buoy system has over previous monitoring efforts is that it collects readings every 15 minutes, day and night, until it is removed in early November.

The buoy's high-resolution measurements show how some water quality conditions vary considerably over the course of a day and throughout the monitoring season, while others are surprisingly consistent. Thanks to data collected at the same 15-minute intervals by the weather station on the Jordan Pond House, project staff are gaining a better understanding of how quickly and to what degree water conditions change in response to storms and seasonal weather patterns.

All these observations are used by park managers to aid in resource protection efforts for Jordan Pond and contribute to research efforts to determine how Maine lakes are responding to climate change and other global threats.



Top Clockwise: Acadia National Park Physical Science Technicians Brenda Pizer (left) and Jake Van Gorder (right) conduct monthly water quality tests at the buoy. Close-up of underwater temperature sensor. The water quality sonde contains multiple sensors that hang beneath the buoy at Jordan Pond. The thermal plot of Jordan Pond in 2021 demonstrates how the water warms throughout the summer and creates temperature layers at various depths until the pond gradually cools in the fall, and the water mixes to a more uniform temperature.

Here are some details on the over 3,000 data points collected by the buoy each day:

- Tracking water temperature is key to understanding lake condition, since temperature affects water chemistry and can also determine the kinds of plants and animals found in a lake or pond. Warmer water holds less oxygen than cooler water, which leads to a natural oxygen decline during the summer months as water temperatures rise. This is why fish like brook trout retreat to the cool, deep water as the summer progresses. Algae grows more quickly in warmer temperatures.
- Jordan Pond's water temperature is far from uniform for much of the year. Because of the pond's depth, only the water near the surface warms to levels approaching the air temperature. The buoy has a string of temperature sensors reaching to 16 meters below the surface that record the temperature at each meter. The water below 16 meters rarely gets warmer than about

48° F even on the hottest summer day.

- About one meter below the surface, several other sensors measure oxygen, pH, specific conductance, total algae, and organic matter. Each of these measurements provides information on the overall health of the lake and how it is affected by external factors like weather and air pollution.

Each of these water quality metrics has an interesting story to tell and recognizing how they interact with one another and react to annual and seasonal weather variation and extreme events opens the door to understanding how this complex ecosystem functions.

In the next issue, we'll share more of what we've learned through the project and what clues this information provides about the history and future of Jordan Pond. ■

BILL GAWLEY manages the Air and Water Resources program at Acadia National Park.



REMEMBERING R. ANDERSON "ANDY" PEW 1936-2022



BY LISA HORSCH CLARK

I first met Andy Pew at the Bar Harbor airport in 2005 while waiting in the TSA line. We should have never met that day, but, as he explained, his four-seat Piper Comanche airplane was "in the shop."

As someone newly hired at Friends of Acadia, Andy welcomed me to Mount Desert Island (MDI) and gave me pointers on working in the nonprofit community. Little did I know at the time what a powerhouse Andy was in philanthropy—as a generous donor to Friends of Acadia, longtime chairman of the Pew Charitable Trusts, and a successful fundraiser for many charities both on MDI and at his home outside of Philadelphia.

One of Andy's greatest gifts to the nonprofit community was his mentorship of the next generation of philanthropists and nonprofit leaders.

Lili Pew, Andy's daughter and longtime Friends of Acadia board member and volunteer, recently shared, "My path into nonprofit leadership was inspired by Dad. He was a mentor, teacher, and authentic friend to so many. He led by example and guided by asking questions and not by giving an answer." According to Lili, he coached her that board leadership is through a "we-not-me" philosophy.

Andy loved supporting Friends of Acadia and was a tireless champion for land and ocean conservation. His leadership, along with the team at Pew Charitable Trusts, mobilized national support in passing the Great American Outdoors Act

which will help fund infrastructure improvements at national parks for years to come.

Over the last 30 years, Andy and his family supported many initiatives at Acadia, including renovation of carriage roads and trails, the Wild Gardens of Acadia, and as an annual attendee of the Friends of Acadia Benefit. It was in this last area that Andy gave his final and ultimate gift to Friends of Acadia.

As a part of his estate, Friends of Acadia received his 1941 Ford Super Deluxe Convertible to sell at the 33rd Annual Friends of Acadia Benefit. The timing of the gift was fast, and we had limited time to share the wonderful gift and forthcoming auction item. We reached out to classic car owners up and down the east coast and across the country. As we worked enthusiastically in the 10 days leading up to the Benefit auction, we kept saying, "we are doing it for Friends of Acadia, and we are doing it for Andy."

This was no ordinary car. Andy's mother, Mary Elliott Trowbridge, purchased the car in 1941 in Philadelphia and brought it to MDI. With just three primary drivers in all these years, it was meticulously maintained and had 34,320 original miles when it was auctioned at the Benefit.

In preparation of the sale, we interviewed Mike Guyette, the owner of Cars and Classics, who restored the car in 2009-11. Our Acadia Digital Media Team created a stunning video of

the car traveling along the roads of MDI, and you can view the film at friendsofacadia.org on the Annual Benefit page. We also partnered with the Seal Cove Auto Museum as they featured the car at their Cars and Coffee Ford event in August.

This work all paid off on the night of the Benefit with paddles flying when the car was announced and finishing with two steadfast bidders on the left side of the tent. I am, along with the rest of the staff and board, thankful for Andy's foresight and generosity in making this wonderful gift along with his many other gifts to Friends of Acadia over the years. We hope he would be pleased with the outcome of the auction and all that it will accomplish for his beloved Acadia National Park. ■

LISA HORSCH CLARK is Friends of Acadia's Development Director.



Andy Pew's donated beautifully restored 1941 Ford Convertible.

GEORGE B. DORR SOCIETY HOLDS ANNUAL GATHERING

BY LISA HORSCH CLARK

Friends of Acadia hosted its 18th Annual George B. Dorr Society event on July 25, 2022, both in person at the Hulls Cove School House and virtually via Zoom. The event was a special appreciation event for society members, park staff, and other special guests that featured Acadia National Park Trails Foreman Gary Stellpflug (who has since retired) and Cultural Resource Program Manager Gail Gladstone.

Stellpflug and Gladstone shared the evolution of Acadia's trail system and the importance of recent induction of the trail system to the National Register of Historic Places. A highlight was opening a bottle of champagne and toasting Stellpflug as we celebrated his retirement after stewarding Acadia's trails for more than 35 years.

The George B. Dorr Society for Planned Giving recognizes those members and friends who have documented bequests or other provisions for Friends of Acadia in their estate plans. The society was established in 2005 with 18 founding members and has grown to over 115 member families. The planned and estate giving program is sponsored by William Blair, a global investment banking and wealth management firm based in Chicago.

If you have made provisions for Friends of Acadia in your estate plans or would like information about joining the George B. Dorr Society, please contact Lisa Horsch Clark, Director of Development and Donor Relations, at 207-288-3340 or lisahorsch@friendsofacadia.org.



BENEFIT COMMITTEE

Summer 2022

Cynthia Baker
Bob Bell
Allison Bourke
Sharon Bradley
Antoinette Brewster
Ellie Buchanan
Ildiko Butler
Gail Clark
Hannah Clark
Katie Clark and P.
Hamilton Clark IV
Karen Collins
Whitney Kroeger
Connor
Malinda Crain
Kate Davis
Sydney Davis
Melinda Dennis
Alexandra Doorly
Linda Douglass
Aubin Dupree
Donna Eacho
Ann Fenno
Susan Ferrante-Collier
Leslie Fogg
Ellie Ford
Leandra Fremont-
Smith
Christina Godfrey
Carol Grant
Keely Gray
Anne Green
Emily Griset
Anna Hargraves Hall
Diana Hambleton
Louise Hartwell White
Anne Hopkins
Heather Jervis
Beth Johnson Nixon
Lillie Johnson
Kristin Johnson
Hilary Kärst
Laura and David
Katona
Maggie Kelley
Lydia Kimball
Wilhelmina Kipp
Christina Baker Kline
Elizabeth Lake
Sydie Lansing
Linda Levy Goldberg
Story Litchfield
Jada Loutit
Elizabeth Martinez

Suzanne McCullagh
Linda McGillicuddy
Kathleen McIntyre
Julie Merck Utsch
Charlie Merriman
Frances Milliken Platt
and Nick Platt
Heather Mitchell
Mary Morse
Sunne Savage
Neuman
Ellanor Notides
Susan Paneyko
Jenny Petschek
Lili Pew
Laura and Vassar
Pierce
Hadley Powell
Emilie Price
Bambi Putnam
Katrina Rank
Jennifer Richardson
Deborah Schmidt
Robinson
Diana Rowan
Rockefeller
Martie Samek
Liz Samek-O'Malley
Laura Scott
Elizabeth Seherr-Thoss
Meg Samek-Smith
Diana Davis Spencer
Martha Stewart
Maureen Stewart
Lesley Draper and
Bob Stolar
Christine Strawbridge
Nonie Sullivan
Charlotte Thibodeau
Courtney Urfer
Thompson
Patricia Toogood
Bonnie Van Alen
Christiaan van
Heerden
Melissa Waud
Ariane Wellin
Kim Wentworth
Lynne Wheat
Lynne Williams
Sydney Winthrop
Diana Wister
Effie Wister
Anna Woodward

ADDITIONAL BENEFIT VOLUNTEERS

Summer 2022

Marshall Ginn
Dee Lustusky
Anna Maynard

Judy Rynkiewicz
Lynne Staggs
Sara Yeterian



Guests raise their paddles to support Wild Acadia during Friends of Acadia's 33rd Annual Benefit.

THE 33RD ANNUAL BENEFIT A RESOUNDING SUCCESS

BY MARISA MARINELLI

From our veteran friends to new young people, hundreds gathered under the tent at the Asticou Inn to celebrate and raise funds for Acadia National Park. Friends of Acadia's 33rd Annual Benefit took place Saturday, August 13, with the silent auction held August 5-14.

The energy and passion for Acadia were unmistakable at our first in-person benefit in two years. The evening was a celebration of Acadia with an outpouring of generous support for a park that gives so much to so many.

This year, we adapted the silent auction and paddle raise so people could participate in person, by bidding online, or both. An impressive 830 people participated in this year's benefit: up from about 500 last year.

Thank you to everyone who participated, including those who donated, bid, and won live and silent auction items. It's wonderful to see our community continue to show up for Acadia and the steadfast commitment to preserving and protecting it now and for future generations.

We raised more than \$200,000 through this year's paddle raise for Wild Acadia 2.0. This vital work helps the park combat the effects of climate change with a forward-looking and climate-smart management approach. Acadia is a thought leader in this work and was recognized by National Park Service Director Chuck Sams when he visited Acadia this summer.

"It was exciting to see more than 50 people each raise their paddle to donate \$1,000 or more to this important initiative at the live auction," said Friends of Acadia President and CEO Eric Stiles. "We are grateful for every contribution, both big and small, at the live auction and online."

Thank you to all who supported this year's paddle raise. To learn more or contribute, visit friendsofacadia.org/paddleraise2022 or scan the QR code below.

An incredibly special thank you to the 2022 Honorary Host and Benefit Host Committees, our Benefit Patrons, and Chilton Trust Company, our presenting sponsor for nine years in a row. We could not have had such a successful in-person event without all our event sponsors. ■



Paddle Raise 2022

MARISA MARINELLI is Friends of Acadia's Senior Development Officer.

NEW MEMBERS

June 1 – September 1, 2022



ASHLEY L. CONTI/FOA

Anonymous (17)
 Brian Adler
 Joyce Albro
 Peter Alcorn
 Scot Allan
 Janice Allbee
 David Anderson
 Kenny Anderson
 Jonathon Ansley
 Debbie Asbjorn
 Ansgarius Aylward
 Megan and Jon Ball
 Alyson and Bob
 Baranowski
 John Barcelon
 Sheila Barnes
 Leslie and Charlie
 Barrineau
 Jennifer Carter and
 Andre Barry
 Kathleen and Doug
 Bartkowski
 Meredith Basque
 Emma Basto
 Kathryn Baxendell
 Ted Bazenas
 Caley Beal
 Tim Bender
 Bruce Benner
 Richard and Heather
 Bernstein

Kate Betka
 Laura Betka
 Nancy and Rob Betka
 Paul Betka
 Carissa Bielamowicz
 Miller
 Alison and Larry Bieler
 Douglas Bill
 Charles Binder
 John Blane
 Benjamin Blaney
 Paul Boak
 Dylan and Tom
 Boggess
 Sara Bohac
 Bruce Bolger
 Janet Booth
 Izzie Borowski
 Pam Braley-O'Leary
 Kathleen M. Brandes
 David Brittan
 Kathleen Brown
 Shannon Bryan
 Katy and Jeremy Bryer
 Carlie Brzezinski
 Brittany and Maddie
 Burdick
 Elizabeth Burns
 David Burson
 Susan Butler
 Susan Byrd

William Caldarena
 Nancy Callucci
 Jill Campbell
 Bruce Cannon
 William Carroll
 Bryan Carter
 Linda Case
 Susan Case
 Abigail Cename
 Marsha and John
 Chamberlin
 Deborah Christian
 Lindsey and Kristen
 Cianelli
 Donald Clark
 J. Clark
 Andrew, Lauren,
 Finn and Declan
 Clements
 Carol Clements
 Craig Clements
 Joshua, Tarah, Laurel
 and Calla Clements
 Sara Cockrell
 Ian Cohen
 Jeff Colbath
 Clinton Cole
 Margaret Coleman
 Patricia Coler
 Mark Connolly
 M. Deirdre Cook

Kathleen Cooper
 Patricia Corcoran and
 Andres Roomet
 Sarah and Richie
 Cornacchio
 Marlene Cosner
 Felissa and Josh Covin
 Candace Cowan
 Cynthia Cox
 Timothy Crawford
 Garth Cronkite
 Georgia Dan and
 Leon Carter
 Jenny Danber and Bob
 Vashon
 Sally Davis
 Kathy Decker
 Maureen and James
 Dennis
 Noelle Denny-Brown
 Maria Desrosiers
 Mary Devlin and Scott
 Traum
 Odette Dionne
 Jane Disney
 Robin Donovan
 Daniel Dorry
 Ken, Constance, Tyler,
 August Dorsney
 Catherine Drexel
 Nicole Ducca

Sue and Michael Dunn
 Gail Dyer and James
 Peterson
 Joseph Edelstein
 Lisa Edmundson
 William Edwards
 Lynn and Roger
 Eitelman
 Joseph Elorriaga
 Sara Enos
 Steven Epstein
 David Fahey
 Jessica and John
 Falcon
 Danielle and Michael
 Farmer
 Cynthia Claire Fauth
 Rebecca Feger
 Pamela and Richard
 Field
 Katie and Seth
 Fiermonti
 Traci Fiore
 Debbie and Matt
 Fitzer
 Elaine FitzGerald
 Jolene and Patrick
 Fogarty
 Nicki Ford
 Naomi Forman-Katz
 Hillary Fowlkes
 Ali Fradin and Sam
 Patterson
 Bridget Francione
 Dave Franken
 John Friedlander
 Elizabeth Fronsaglia
 Caleb Fuller
 Michael, Karissa,
 Nyah and Taliah
 Fuller
 Brittany Gagne
 Guillaume Gairin

Mark Gallagher
 Brooke Garlick
 E.J. George
 Eric Getz
 Tim Giarrusso
 David Gibiser
 Colleen Gillen
 Rebecca Gilligan
 Paul Ginter
 Devin Glanz
 Brynna Golden
 Juan Gonzalez
 Linda and Steve
 Gorman
 Kathie Gottlieb
 Christine Goulet
 Sue and Bob Graham
 Susan Green
 Lida Greenberg
 Susan Greene
 Richard Greenspan
 Susan and Peter Greif
 Carol Grey
 Gloria Griffin
 Steve Gurin
 Donna Hackley
 Valerie and Jay
 Hadam
 Jim Hager
 Gayle Halfond
 Christopher Hall
 Jenny Han
 Michael Hanrahaw
 Amber Hardwick
 Amy and Todd Harris
 Eileen A. Hartnett
 Aaron Heinlein
 Debra Heldman
 Karen Helfrich
 Doug Henderson
 Elizabeth Herrick
 Tracy Hildebrand and
 Stewart Stokes

NEW TRAILBLAZERS

June 1 – September 1, 2022

Anonymous (2)
 Linda and Bruce
 Alexander
 Eric Allgaier
 Jonathon Ansley
 Sheila Barnes
 Bruce Benner
 Maria Desrosiers
 April and Albert
 Dickson
 Victoria Duarte
 Gloria Griffin
 Steven Hammond
 Tracy Hildebrand
 and Stewart
 Stokes
 Elaine Miller and
 Charles Jucius Jr.

Nancy and Hank
 Lescynski
 Judith Maines-
 Lamarre
 June and Kevin
 Malone
 Lisa Medina
 William Meiners
 Livia Murray
 Mari Beth and
 Randy Nye
 Dresden Soules
 Peters
 Lydia and Eric Stiles
 Bonnie and Clyde
 Voigtlander

NEW MEMBERS *continued*

Jill and Chris Hilderbant
James Hill
Leslie and Wayne Hill
Barry Hobbins
Donna Hobbins
Angie and George Hobbs
Geoff Hocsfeld
J.R. and A.B. Hodgkins
Cynthia Hogue
Emily Holm
Audrey Huffman
Casey Huffman
Tom Hutchins
Eileen Johnson
Kathleen and Eric Johnson
Chris Jones and Anthony Cusa
Kris Jordan
Howard Josephs
Lisa Kagan
Cindy Kaplan
Shana Kaplan and Josh Epstein
Lisa and George Karalis
Dee Karnofsky
Cheryl Katz
Stacey Katz
Kathryn Kelly
Lauren Kelly
Caroline Kemezys and Thomas Videyko
Andrew Kennedy
Daniel Kennedy
Christine Kerr
Chloe Ketchmark
Kristen Keuleman
Maxim Keyler
Ann Kleilein
Emily Klein
Lorraine Klembozyk
Belinda Knight
Richard Knight
Yi-An Ko
Peter Kovner
John Kowalski
Noah and Billy Kraemer-Burby
Mary and Jeff Krapfl
Monica Krebs
Nita Krevans
Georgia Kuhen
Raymond Lambert
Margaret Lamprey
Maryann Landicho
James Lebak
Jessica LePera
Joe and Michael Letko
Claudia Levin
David Levy
Anita Lichman
Jeff Licht
Patti Lieberman
Jean Lifford
Jonathan Locklear
Allan Lurvey
Karen Luse
Tracy MacNab
Joanne and Glenn MacPherson
Kerry Mahoney

Deborah Mallon
Farzin Mansuri
Nathalie Manzano
William Marco
Christopher Marino
Colleen Marocco
Bonnell Martens
Gary Martin
Jeff Martin
Jessica and Brian Martin
David Mosley and Andrew Masland
Robert Massarelli
Mary Mattimore and Tom Schweitzer
Albert Mayer
Julie McCallum
Michelle McCann
Joni McClain
Angela McDonald
Robert McIntyre
Elizabeth McKay
Jean Mcpherson
Ed Meadows
Lisa Medina
William Meiners
Jeanne Meyer
Claire Miles
Heidi, Kevin, and Maia Mitchell
Jane Monahan and Rick Palazola
David Monroe
Hildy Monroe
Michelle Monsour
Marcia Montgomery
Peter Moulton
Colin Murphy
Kristin and Patrick Murphy
Sheila Murphy
Livia Murray
Abhinav Nair
Mal and Joan Nechis
Patricia Needham
Kelly and Timothy Nevins
Andrew Newitt
Maria Niland
Julie Noolan
Mari Beth and Randy Nye
Erin O'Connell
Tamara Olson
Gail O'Mara
Patricia Ostdiek
Karen and Mark Osterheld
Lori Outzen
Ralph Pace
Michael Parker
Makayla Parsons and Vaughn Hitchcock
Sue and Gino Pasqualone
Adam Pauska
Leah Peavey
Michael Pecherer
Alecia Pettengill
Janet and Gerald Pietsch
Grace Pietsch
Katherine Pietsch and John Manktelon
Judith Pinkham
June Pitkow

Laura and Mark Pitt
Anthony Pizzillo
Elias Platte-Bermeo
Michael Popik
Jeff Porthoy
Danielle and Daniel Powell
Maura Powell
Mary Power
Lynda and George Preckwinkle
Norma Preston
Robert Pringle
Elizabeth and Charles Pritchard
Bonnie and Rafi Prober
Faith Pulis
Angela and Aung Pyaesone
Dieu Quan
Mary Beth and Gerald Radke
Scott Radke
Karthik Rajasekaran
Vijay Rana
Marigold Randall
John Raphael
Mara Raskin
Brendon Ratner
Alison Rauch
Kim and John Reed
Sheryl Reich and David Greenberg
Megan Reim
Robert Reynolds
Laura Rice
Ron Richter
Jim Riley
Laura Rivers
Rachel Robb
Patricia Robinson
Kim and Chad Rogers
Raz Rone
Anne Rumizen
J. Scott Rutan
Catherine Rutherford
Judy Rynkiewicz
Dave Sagar
Valerie Salsgiver
Peter Sample
Andrew Sandefur
Diane Santoro
Martha and Steve Sareault
Dean Sateropoulos
Richard, Deborah, Helen, William, John Schlameuss
Mary and Steve Schumer
John Scott
Hans Seherr-Thoss
Robin Seidman
Jennifer and Matthew Sekula
Kathy Serrano
Kevin Shaw
Hillary Shemes
Christopher Shih
Jeremy Silverfine
Hester Louise Simpson
Marilyn Singletary
Nicholas Skipitaris

Laura Slover
Dawna Smith
Carol Smith, Ed. D.
Mandy Smith
Dresden Soules Peters
Judith Soules
Jeremy Springhorn
Catrina Spruce
Jeannine St. Jean
Sharon Stanley
Kelly Starling
Terri Stefanski
Judy and Marc Stettner
Lacey Stevens
Lydia and Eric Stiles
Bethany Strange
Erin and Brian Stratton
Debra Stump
Leo Sutkin
Debra Swain
Jean Sylvia
Edward and Emily Tarasov
Erinn Tarpay
Lisa Taylor
Matthew Terrill
Luc Tessien
Anne Testoni
Carrie Thomas
Peter Thomas
Lisa Anne Thompson Taylor
Eric Thompson
Patricia and Raymond Toher
Linda Trapkin
Joel Treanor
Christine Triantos
Charlotte Triebel
Matt Troyer
Anne Tsai Bennett
Christine Turnier
T.J. Twit
Anna Tyler and John Mahoney
Justine Uhlenbrock
Terence Unter
Tracey Valach
Amy Van Meteren
Paul Vigushin
George Wahlgren
Louise Walker
Shelbie and Ben Waller
Beth Waller
Susan Walter
Danielle Waters
Alexis and Ben Watson
Betsy and Thomas Weiler
Paula and Steven Weiss
Linda Wertlieb
Tim Whelan
Nathan, Shannon, Hailey, Ella and Avery Wilcox
Sterly Wilder
Shelley Wilfong and Pete Beglin
Bessie Wilkerson
Marcy Willow
Christy Winner
Edward Woolsey
Mae Wyler and Jake Wright

Carl Yeager
Ann and Craig Young
Judy and John Zankowski
Paula Zeillin

IN MEMORIAM

June 1 – September 1, 2022

We gratefully acknowledge gifts received in memory of:

Cathryn Adamsky
Vanessa Boyd
Ashley Bryan
Harold Buhl
Robert W. Cardin
David Caswell
William Clack
Barbara Cleaves Cole
John W. Conti, Esq.
Craig Fauth
Anne Floyd
John Winfield French
Richard Frost
Kevin Goss
James Grant
Arthur Grief
Rosemary A. Gurysh
Paul Haertel
Sherry B. Hanson
Joyce Harris
Bob and Anne Horn
Pamela Hilton Humes
Patricia Jackson
Howard Katz
Jennifer Sue Liss
Princess Mahull
Brian Christopher Marsh
Ken Matuszewski
Debra Lucas-McGady
Keith Miller
Melinda Miller
Ruth Neiberg
Catherine T. Novick
Carol O'Brien-Drake
Patti O'Connell
Betty Owens
Bettina Wall Peabody and Manton B. Metcalf III
Sarah Currier Pette
Andy Pew
Arthur M. Pfeiffer
John R. Robinson
Robert Rosenbaum
H. Jackson 'Jack' Ross
Paul Rousseau
Carolyn and Richard Rumill
John Shaw III
Otto M. Siegrist
Mark Simon
Anthony Smalley
Paul Spadone, Jr.
Emily Katherine Sprague
Johanna Steiner
Judith Testa Storey
Pasquale Tursi
Darrell Whittemore
Lilian Dorr Willey



ACADIA VISITATION ON TRACK FOR SECOND BUSIEST YEAR

ON THE HEELS OF A RECORD YEAR, 2022 VISITATION IS SIMILARLY HIGH

ASHLEY L. CONTI/FOA

BY ADAM GIBSON

Last year was a record breaker for the park with an estimated 4.1 million visits. For context, that's greater than the pre-pandemic visitation to Yellowstone National Park, which is about 45 times larger than Acadia!

Reminder: The National Park Service estimates the number of visits, not individual visitors to the park. An individual visitor is counted as a visit each day they enter the park.

The most frequently asked question we're getting this year related to visitation: will visitation in 2022 be equally robust? Or, on the flip side, will the public's interest in outdoor recreation and national parks wane following last year's pandemic-induced surge?

While it is too early to comment on the year's total visitation, it's clear that enthusiasm for national parks and outdoor recreation remains high in 2022. At the same time, the economic costs of visiting have increased.

January, February, and March 2022 visitation numbers were about 38% lower than in 2021. Winter and early spring visitation can be fickle though, and early season visitation was close to average for the last decade. But by April, the numbers suggested that 2022 visitation was likely to be similar to 2021.

July 2022 visitation numbers were among the highest ever for monthly visitation to Acadia, second only to August 2021. However, it is not the visitation

peak that adds most to the yearly sum (August 2021 visitation was only about 4% higher than pre-pandemic August visitation), but the increased visitation during the shoulder seasons of spring and fall. For example, visitation for October 2021 was more than 30% higher than pre-pandemic October visitation levels. In other words: we could be in for a long tourist season.

How does this fit with long-term trends?

Visitation to Acadia has increased dramatically over the last 10 years, and the pandemic amplified this pattern. The central purpose of national parks is to protect natural and cultural resources while allowing people to enjoy those same resources. High visitation makes an already challenging task even more difficult, as cars and crowds congest parking areas and popular destinations within the park, altering the visitor experience.

The increased interest in Acadia is warranted—and all people should have the opportunity to experience the beauty of this amazing park—but we'll need to work together to keep it special. Friends of Acadia has been a valuable partner in this endeavor and we know will continue to be in the future. ■

DR. ADAM GIBSON manages the Social Science program at Acadia National Park.



Downtown Bar Harbor
Southwest Harbor

*SERVING ACADIA VISITORS
SINCE 1932*



ACADIA



Park Company

134 Main Street, Bar Harbor

2% for the Park

*SUPPORTING TRAIL
WORK IN ACADIA
THROUGH
FRIENDS OF ACADIA'S
STEWARDSHIP VOLUNTEER
PROGRAM*

American Aquafarms Pledges to Return

BY STEPHANIE CLEMENT

Friends of Acadia and allies have engaged in a multi-year effort to prevent American Aquafarms from securing two 60-acre leases in Frenchman Bay—near Bald Rock and Long Porcupine Island—where they intend to raise up to 66 million pounds of salmon annually.

At approximately the size of sixteen football fields, the farms would be a massive new industrial use at the center of the Acadian archipelago, degrading the water quality of Frenchman Bay and impairing the scenic vistas, clean air, and natural soundscapes that are vital to the visitor experience in Acadia.

In April 2022, the Maine Department of Marine Resources decided to terminate consideration of American Aquafarms' lease applications based on the company's failure to identify an acceptable source of salmon eggs. Soon thereafter, American Aquafarms filed a lawsuit in Cumberland County Superior Court calling the agency's decision "arbitrary and capricious." After further consideration, however, the company decided to drop its lawsuit "with prejudice." This means that, if the company decides to pursue its project, it must now submit entirely new lease applications.

The fight to prevent industrial-scale aquaculture in Frenchman Bay is not over, though. Tom Brennan, Director of Development for American Aquafarms, was quoted in the July 26 edition of the *Portland Press Herald*, stating that American Aquafarms wanted to come back. Additionally, the company completed its purchase of the former Maine Fair Trade Lobster facility in Prospect Harbor, which is intended to function as the company's hatchery and processing plant.

Friends of Acadia and partners remain vigilant and continue to discuss options for changing Maine's aquaculture regulations to prohibit such large-scale finfish operations. The 131st Maine Legislature will convene in December 2022, presenting new opportunities for legislators to sponsor bills to create change.

Friends of Acadia Programs Intern Jake Haertel researched related bills from the past six legislatures to understand why they passed or failed. Friends of Acadia's Advocacy Committee and staff will use this research in working with conservation partners and legislators to determine the best path forward for ensuring that finfish aquaculture is sited smartly, appropriately scaled, and not harmful to Maine's outstanding natural resources, especially Acadia National Park.

We'll continue to keep you posted on our efforts in Friends of Acadia's E-News and *Acadia* magazine. ■

STEPHANIE CLEMENT is Friends of Acadia's Conservation Director.



CAPTURING THE MOMENT

By Lily LaRegina

I'm not a morning person, but dawn in Acadia is truly special. My weekly sunrise hikes are a highlight and mark the passing of summer into fall. Sometimes I hike solo, starting with a headlamp in the dark with seemingly nothing else awake but me, the trees, and the mountains. Other expeditions are with friends who share in the awe of watching night skies turn brilliantly warm.

This image was taken during my first sunrise hike of the 2022 season as a member of the Acadia Digital Media Team. I had struggled to stay

committed to my plan to wake up and hike the Beehive in the dark on my own, arriving at the trailhead just 20 minutes before the sun was due to rise around 4:45 a.m.

I made it up the first few levels of the Beehive before the sun rose, illuminating the mist rising from the trees below with bright pink, orange, and purple hues.

Of all the sunrises I've seen in Acadia, I haven't seen another quite like this. ■

LILY LAREGINA is a member of the Acadia Digital Media Team (2021, 2022). She is from Harrisburg, PA, and recently graduated from Penn State University with a degree in photojournalism.



SAM MALLON/FOA



Volunteers of all ages cleared leaves from the drainage ditches along miles of carriage roads during Take Pride in Acadia Day 2021.

TAKE PRIDE IN ACADIA DAY

Help Acadia “put the carriage roads to sleep” for the winter during Friends of Acadia’s annual Take Pride in Acadia Day on Nov. 5.

Always held the first Saturday of November, Take Pride in Acadia Day attracts enthusiastic volunteers of all ages to rake leaves and clear drainage ditches along miles of carriage roads in preparation for the cold weather.

The well-coordinated volunteer effort focuses on areas where clogged drainage ditches and culverts could result in significant damage to road surfaces during the freeze-and-thaw cycles of a coastal Maine winter. This work is vital to the park’s ability to keep the carriage roads in pristine condition.

Whether you are a seasoned raker or this is your first time, everyone is welcome to participate!

This year’s event will follow a “hybrid” model with individuals and groups meeting out in the field at their assigned work sites at the beginning of the day and coming together in the afternoon for lunch. Yes, we’re serving the four Cs—chilli, cornbread, cider and cake.

Advance registration is required to participate. Register on the website: friendsofacadia.org/takepride

Please email or call Friends of Acadia’s Stewardship Coordinator Nikki Burtis with any questions: nikki@friendsofacadia.org or (207) 370-7938. ■

See You in the Funny Papers

BY EARL BRECHLIN

Acadia National Park’s continued cultural significance found its way into the comic pages of the nation’s newspapers in August.

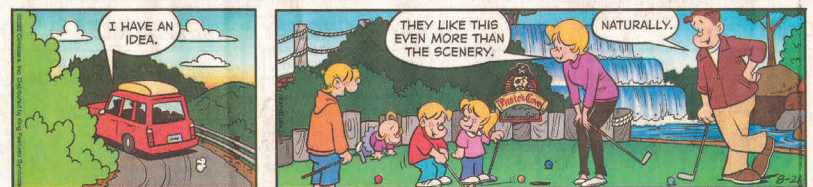
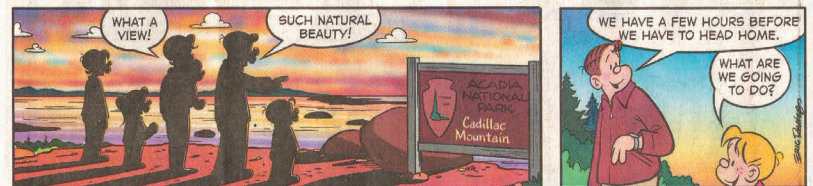
For more than three weeks the daily strip and the color Sunday edition of “Hi and Lois” portrayed the Flagston family as they prepared, traveled to, and enjoyed Acadia and Mount Desert Island. (Lois in that fictional world is a sister to “Beetle Bailey.”)

Along with seeing the sunrise from atop Cadillac Mountain, they visited other sights, hiked, paddled, and enjoyed activities in town such as getting an ice cream at CJ’s Big Dipper and playing miniature golf. ■

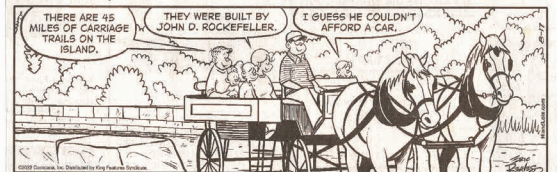
EARL BRECHLIN is the former Friends of Acadia Communications Director.

HI AND LOIS

BY BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



HI & LOIS by Chance Browne



A WONDERFUL TRAILBLAZING DISCOVERY

BY LISA HORSCH CLARK

Friends of Acadia is constantly monitoring, evaluating, and evolving our programs. In that spirit, I recently made an exciting discovery about one of our important donor programs. Drum roll, please...

We've seen a 12-percent increase year-over-year in Friends of Acadia Trailblazers—donors who make a recurring gift either monthly, quarterly, or annually. I am thrilled to report that we now have more than 250 families making recurring gifts to Friends of Acadia each year!

Why is this important? When you become a Trailblazer (recurring giver), you're helping Friends of Acadia save paper and postage costs by eliminating renewal requests, thus freeing up dollars to help us preserve and protect Acadia even more.

The Trailblazer program started in December 1995 with a donor from Cincinnati who has continued his monthly giving for more than 17 years. Ironically, it was another gentleman from Cincinnati—Cliff Wagner—who years later coined the term Trailblazer for the program while serving as a longtime volunteer on the Friends of Acadia Development Committee.

Thank you, Trailblazers! You really are blazing new trails by helping us become even more efficient and effective in preserving and protecting Acadia National Park. It can make giving easier and more efficient for you as well.

To become a Trailblazer, contact me at lisahorsch@friendsofacadia.org or visit friendsofacadia.org/trailblazers. ■

COPLON ASSOCIATES
Landscape Architecture and Planning



coplonassociates.com
207.288.4122 | Bar Harbor, Maine

Serving the Downeast community since 1883

Hale & Hamlin, LLC
Attorneys at Law

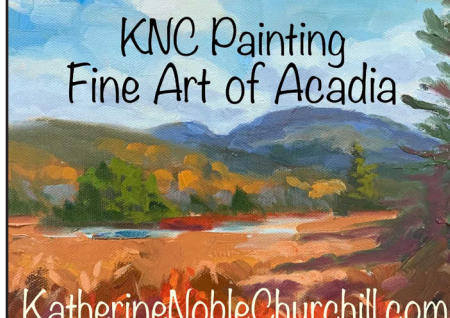
Barry K. Mills • Melissa M. Hale • Justin M. Bennett
Sally N. Mills • Zachary McNally

4 State Street • Ellsworth, ME 04605
207.667.2561 • FAX 207.667.8790
www.halehamlin.com

Michael L. Ross, Esquire
mlr@michaelrosslaw.com

953-1 Bar Harbor Road
Trenton, Maine 04605
Tel: (207) 667-1373
Fax: (207)667-3427

KNC Painting
Fine Art of Acadia



KatherineNobleChurchill.com

THE BLUENOSE INN
A Classic Bar Harbor Hotel



Enjoy our on-site
Looking Glass Restaurant
Great Room Piano Lounge

90 Eden Street | (207) 288-3348
www.barharborhotel.com

BAR HARBOR
BANK & TRUST



www.barharbor.bank • 888-853-7100
Member FDIC Equal Housing Lender

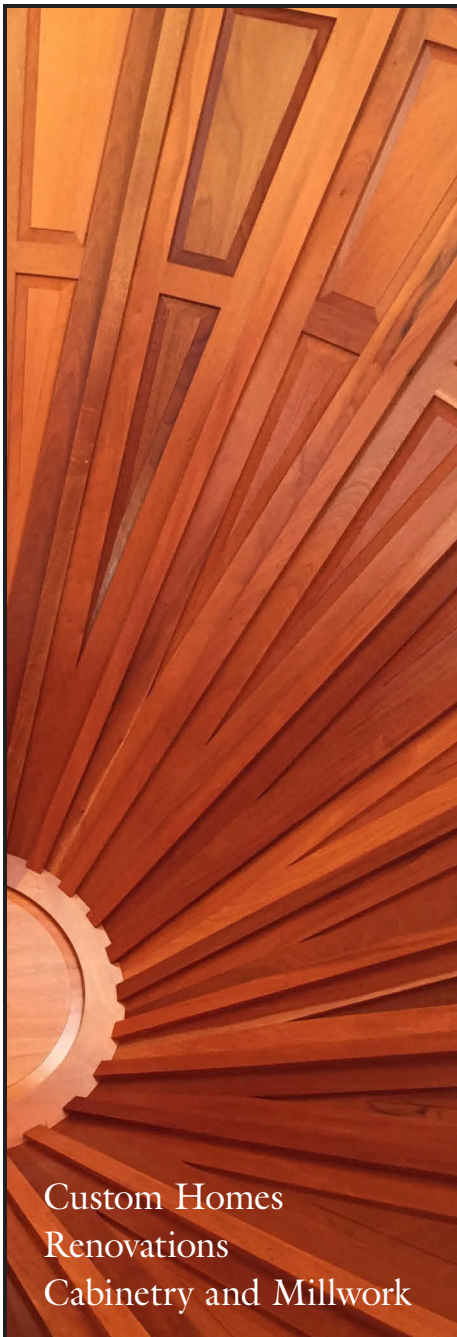


Landscape Design inspired by Mother Nature

BURDICK & ASSOCIATES
landscape design

LANDSCAPE DESIGNER OF THE YEAR ~ APLD

207 664 0091
burdickassociates.com



Custom Homes
Renovations
Cabinetry and Millwork

NELSON F GOODWIN
COMPANY INC.
Seal Harbor, Maine

BUILDING CONTRACTOR

nelsongoodwin.com



First
National Bank

102 Main Street • Bar Harbor

800.564.3195 • TheFirst.com • Member FDIC

WE LOVE ACADIA



Your local home goods store in Bar Harbor

window panes
HOME & GARDEN
windowpanesmai.com
207 288 9550 ■ 166 Main Street, Bar Harbor

LandVest | **CHRISTIE'S**
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

Story Litchfield
slitchfield@landvest.com

Scott McFarland **Jamie O'Keefe**
smcfarland@landvest.com jokeefe@landvest.com

Representing unique properties for buyers and sellers

125 Main Street, Northeast Harbor, ME
207-276-3840 | www.landvest.com

WILD GARDENS OF ACADIA PLANT SALE DONORS

Summer 2022

A.C. Parsons Landscaping and Garden Center
Atlantic Landscape Construction
Bahner Farm
Lili Andrews and Gordon Beck
Charles Butt
Jordan Chalfant
Ruth Colket
Fernwood Nursery & Gardens
Frost Farms
Penny Grover
Susan and Tom Hayward
Home Depot of Ellsworth
Islandscaping Garden Center
J & P's Farm Market
Helen and Philip Koch
Land & Garden Preserve
Geneva and Kevin Langley
Jan and Tom McIntyre
Miller Gardens
Betsy and Quinn Mills
Mary and David Opdyke
Susan Pink
Plants Unlimited
Marlene Priest
Salsbury Hardware
Julia Schloss
Sherwin Williams
Sweet Pea's Farm
Genie and Will Thorndike
Rowena and Raymond Turner



COLLEGE OF THE ATLANTIC
SUMMER INSTITUTE

July 31–August 4, 2023

COA Summer Institute is a week-long ideas festival that welcomes experts from around the world to share perspectives on the most pressing issues of our time.

College of the Atlantic • 105 Eden Street, Bar Harbor, Maine
COA.EDU/SUMMERINSTITUTE

IN-KIND DONORS

June 1 – September 1, 2022

Acadia Bike & Coastal Kayaking Tours
 Acadia Trail Sign Company
 Bar Harbor Historical Society
 The Claremont Hotel
 Lisa Horsch Clark and Bob Clark
 Jerry Miller & Company
 Wallace Events

NEW BUSINESS MEMBER

June 1 – September 1, 2022

Brookshire Homes and Cottages

IN NOMINE

June 1 – September 1, 2022

We gratefully acknowledge gifts received in honor of:

Acadia to Katahdin Virtual Racers	Grace and Eddie Irish
Samuel 'Sandy' Bradbury	Howard Josephs
Peg and Steve Byrd	Katie and Davis Kitchel
Holly Clack	Kristine Marvin
Stephanie Clement	Dan McKay
Ted Kleinman	Elizabeth Mitchell*
Mr. and Mrs. J.P. Cowan	Mark Mogensen
Michael Criqui*	Nana Suzanna
Chamberlain	Heather Peterson
Croghan*	Seamus Russet
Baby DeSteffano	Edward Samek
April and Albert	Patrick Sandefur
Dickson 25th Wedding Anniversary	Jane Sanderson's birthday
Ellen Dux	Keith and Judy Soules
Peg Emple	Nancy W. Sprowls
Sam Patterson and Ali Fradin	Stephanie, Jon, and Baby Owen
the hardworking FOA staff!	Marc Stettner
Aidan Gordon	Dr. David Sugarman
Jane Ingraham	Kip and Jean Warren
Thomas	* Deceased



ASHLEY L. CONTI/FOA



Mount Desert Island Hospital

**Compassion • Community
 Improvement • Integrity
 Respect • Teamwork**

10 Wayman Lane • Bar Harbor, ME
 207.288.5081 • www.mdihospital.org

**LIVE LOCAL.
 BANK LOCAL.**

Since 1902.



Bar Harbor
SAVINGS & LOAN
 YOUR COMMUNITY BANK SINCE 1902

bhsla.com
 103 Main Street, Bar Harbor
 207-288-3685
 Member FDIC



Classic Maine Dining

Fresh Fish, Local Seafood
 Fine Wines, Craft Cocktails

Open April–Nov
 Dine-in or Take-out



Galyn's

17 Main Street, Bar Harbor
 207-288-9706 • galynsbarharbor.com



ACADIA
 NATIONAL PARK

JORDAN POND HOUSE
 THUNDER HOLE • CADILLAC MTN.

The Davis Agency

363 Main Street, SW Harbor
 (207) 244-3891

Your source for **ALL** your Real Estate needs since 1978.
 Also offering a great selection of vacation rentals.

www.daagy.com / Email: davco@daagy.com



WALLACE EVENTS

LET'S GET THIS PARTY STARTED

36 Commerce Park • Ellsworth, ME 04605
 (207) 667-6000

WALLACEEVENTS.COM

Growing beautiful outdoor spaces in Coastal Maine



MDI Nature, Nurtured.™
grows

Landscape Services

207 664 0091 • info@mdigrows.com • mdigrows.com



L.L.BEAN EXTENDS AND GROWS SUPPORT FOR ISLAND EXPLORER

BY STEPHANIE CLEMENT

L.L.Bean has pledged \$1.5 million to support operations of the Island Explorer bus service over the next five years, an increase of fifty percent over their previous annual contributions.

This pledge is the fifth time the outdoor retailer has committed funding to the bus system, bringing their total contributions and pledges in support of the Island Explorer to \$5.5 million since 2002.

“We are immensely grateful to L.L.Bean,” said Eric Stiles, Friends of Acadia President and CEO. “Their sponsorship has sustained fare-free public transportation through Acadia National Park and the surrounding communities over the last 20 years, greatly enhancing the visitor experience, reducing traffic congestion, and connecting visitors and residents to trailheads, carriage road entrances, and local communities.”

L.L.Bean’s contributions have enabled the Island Explorer to make significant service improvements, such as the addition of fall service and the purchase and operation of the Bicycle Express vans and trailers that take bicyclists from Bar Harbor to Eagle Lake throughout the summer.

“We are proud to continue our support of the Island Explorer bus system as it aligns so closely with our

purpose of enabling people to enjoy the restorative power of the outdoors,” says Shawn Gorman, Executive Chairman of L.L.Bean. “Traffic and visitation have increased dramatically in Acadia National Park over the last few years, and the impact of the Island Explorer bus system to reduce congestion is more important than ever.”

Overall, the Island Explorer has carried more than 8.7 million passengers since it began operating in 1999. Friends of Acadia estimates that the Island Explorer has prevented an estimated 3.35 million private vehicle trips through the park and reduced emissions of smog-causing pollutants by more than 46 tons and greenhouse gases by more than 30,000 tons.

“Transit solutions are critical to the future of Acadia and other national parks in reducing traffic congestion while enabling visitors to access key destinations within the park. Thanks to the generous support of L.L. Bean and Friends of Acadia, visitors will be better able to access all that Acadia National Park has to offer,” said Acadia National Park Superintendent Kevin Schneider. ■

STEPHANIE CLEMENT is Friends of Acadia’s Conservation Director.

Updates

Acadia Installs Two Automated Fee Machines

This July, Acadia National Park installed two automated fee machines—one in the parking lot pavilion of the Hulls Cove Visitor Center, and another inside the gatehouse entrance to Schoodic Institute on the Schoodic Peninsula.

Three types of weekly park entrance passes (vehicle, motorcycle, individual) can be purchased by credit card from the automated fee machines, which are available year-round, 24 hours per day.

The park hopes the machines will improve the visitor experience by reducing the time visitors might spend waiting in line to purchase an entrance pass during peak times. The machines are convenient because entrance passes can be purchased any time. So far, about 10% of sales at the automated machine at Hulls Cove occur outside normal business hours. The Hulls Cove machine also increases accessibility, since the 52 steps up to the visitor center can be a barrier for many.

The automated machines may help to alleviate the pressure of staffing challenges. This year, Acadia was short 20 fee collectors because it couldn't fill those positions, at least in part due to lack of affordable housing.

Visitors will still need to purchase a separate vehicle reservation from Recreation.gov if they intend to visit the Cadillac Mountain Summit by vehicle during peak season when the reservation system is in place.



SWAN AGENCY
REAL ESTATE

207.288.5818
INFO@SWANAGENCY.COM

WWW.SWANAGENCY.COM



LS Robinson Co.

Insurance for MDI
Families and Businesses
Since 1932

339 Main Street, Southwest Harbor 

LSRIns.com | (207) 244-7246

I ♥ FRIENDS OF ACADIA

Hike Acadia's peaks - in real life, or virtually!

Earn a medal with a special
"I ♥ Friends of Acadia" satin ribbon

Brought to you by the authors of *Hiking Acadia National Park*, 4th edition out July 1, 2022.
Details about the *Virtual Race* over Acadia's 26 peaks to help support Friends of Acadia:
www.acadiaonmymind.com/peaks



A&J HODGKINS

traditionally crafted homes

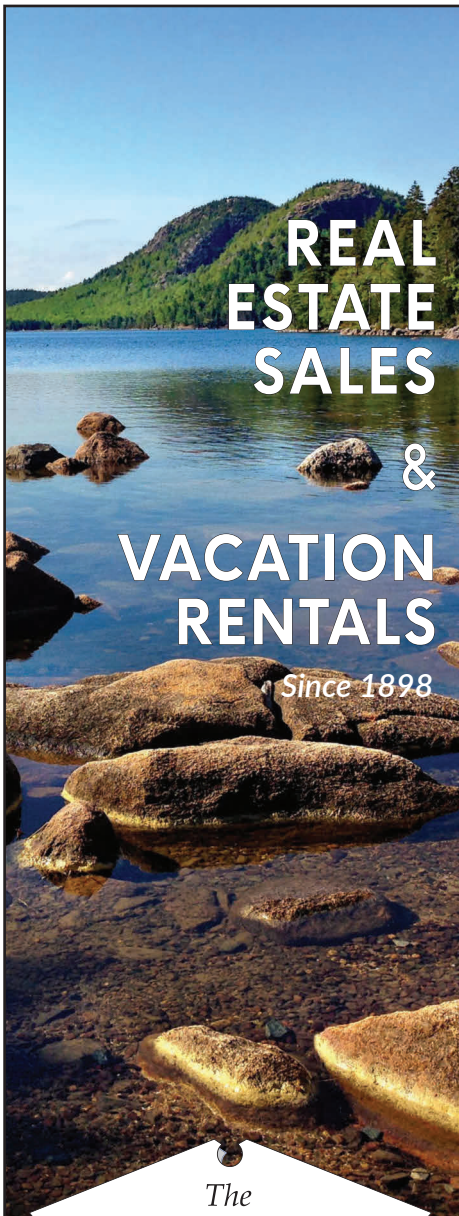


OLIVE OIL & BALSAMIC VINEGAR TASTING ROOMS

Come In And Taste For Yourself

BAR HARBOR FREEPORT ROCKLAND

207.801.2580 | FIOREoliveoils.com | info@FIOREoliveoils.com



REAL ESTATE SALES & VACATION RENTALS

Since 1898

The KNOWLES COMPANY

Distinctive properties. Legendary service.

1 Summit Road
Northeast Harbor, ME
(207) 276-3322
info@KnowlesCo.com

www.KnowlesCo.com

Asticou Inn

At the Asticou Inn, everything is designed to help you step back in time and escape from it all.



Take in the breathtaking views of Northeast Harbor, experience our locally sourced, chef-driven menu, famous popovers, and enjoy all the amenities of Mount Desert Island in a warm, relaxed environment.



For hotel & restaurant reservations, please contact us directly at 207-276-3344 or visit us at asticou.com

Updates

Urban Youth Visit Acadia and Get Inspired

Since 2017, Friends of Acadia has partnered with organizations working with urban and diverse youth to provide grants to support field trips to Acadia.

The grants help defray the costs of transportation, gear, and recreation in the park, and support Friends of Acadia's mission to provide opportunities for youth to experience Acadia and to engage them to become tomorrow's stewards of conserved lands. Once the youth return home, they share their experience with the community through art, music, presentation, mentorship, and more.

Three youth organizations visited the park this summer, including

Teens Take on Climate, who traveled to Maine from Chicago, IL. Each group spent about a week in Acadia National Park exploring, learning, stewarding, and playing in the park.

Members of the youth organization, Teens Take on Climate, which is a program supported by the Comer Family Foundation, received one of the grants and created a video to share their experience with the community.

You can view the video and learn more at friendsofacadia.org/youth-climate or by scanning the QR code.



VIDEO



COURTESY OF JASMIN SHAH/TEENS TAKE ON CLIMATE, 2022

Top left: A Teens Take on Climate intern works with National Park Service Ranger Alexa Pezzano to learn more about the impacts of climate on invasive green crabs in the Gulf of Maine. Top right: Teens Take On Climate interns from Chicago participate in citizen science at Acadia National Park. Above: Exploring glacial history on Cadillac Mountain is a highlight of the Teens Take On Climate field experience at Acadia National Park.

Cheers to Another Great Summer and All We've Accomplished Together

Every summer for the past several years, our group of close Mount Desert Island (MDI) friends has found occasion to raise a toast “to the best summer ever.” We say it knowing that next summer is going to be even better, and we’ll offer the same toast then. This does not mean, of course, to exclude the other three seasons here on MDI.

2022 was a GREAT summer season for Acadia National Park, Friends of Acadia, and MDI for many reasons, including:

- The weather was outstanding, and we seem to have moved out from under the shadow of COVID-19;
- Park visitation wasn't as totally overwhelming as it was last year;
- Funding is in place for several long-overdue park construction projects;
- The American Aquafarms project is in a serious “holding pattern;” and
- The island is beginning to make progress (however modest) on the housing shortage issue.

At Friends of Acadia:

- We made it very successfully through our 33rd Annual Benefit and Auction many thanks to our hard-working staff and volunteers.
- Staff and board members joined park staff in face-to-face meetings with National Park Services Director Chuck Sams (a very approachable gentleman); and, last but not least,
- New President and CEO, Eric Stiles, is surely and firmly taking over the Friends of Acadia “controls” in our corner office.

All (or just about all) things have been proven to be possible at this time and in this place.

Further, I have two serendipitous circumstances to offer—both having to do with this special place and the people in it.

The first is that, from the porch of our easterly facing cottage on Somes Sound, one can look past Flying Mountain and Valley Peak and then across the Sound, over Norumbega, Parkman, and Penobscot Mountains, over the ridge at Sargent Mountain, and see the access road to the top of Cadillac just beyond Pemetic Mountain. Each of these mountains has trails to be enjoyed. Late in the afternoon, sunlight reflects off automobile windshields on their way to the top of our Acadia National Park. What good fortune we all have to enjoy these mountains and their trails. What good fortune for the Kelleys that our cottage chose us as its residents for this period in time.

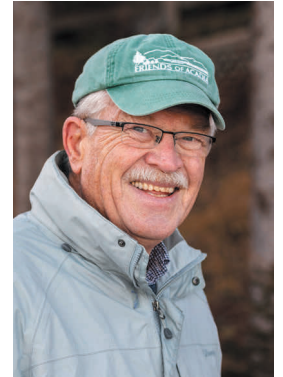
The second bit of serendipity is the fact that seldom is anyone seen hiking, biking, or boating alone on Mount Desert Island and in Acadia National Park. We are drawn together in this place. We come here to protect and celebrate the wonders of nature and do so through the sharing of fellowship, companionship, camaraderie, and family. It is a place not only to celebrate the wonders of nature, but to celebrate the condition of being human.

Every one of us here is fortunate. Under these circumstances, and together, we can accomplish anything!



—Jack Kelley

FROM THE CHAIR



“We are drawn together in this place. We come here to protect and celebrate the wonders of nature and do so through the sharing of fellowship, companionship, camaraderie, and family.”



THE SUN SETS behind the ridges of Penobscot and Sargent Mountains, viewed from the summit of Pemetic Mountain.

JW John Williams
Boat Company

Building & Maintaining
Quality Yachts Since 1973

Mount Desert, Maine
207.244.7854 • JWBoatCo.com

MACHIASAVINGS.BANK

WE SAY **YES** TO MOVING
MAINE FORWARD ONE
COMMUNITY AT A TIME.



LYNAM AGENCY
INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE




Lynam
REAL ESTATE

Serving the Acadia Community for Over 130 Years
227 Main Street, Bar Harbor
207-288-3334 • lynamins.com • lynams.com

SALES • SERVICE • RENTALS

- Bicycles
- E-Bikes
- Child Trailers


Largest selection
of bicycles in
the state



141 Cottage Street, Bar Harbor
(207) 288-3886 | www.barharborbike.com

VOTED #1 BIKE SHOP on Mt. Desert Island
Locally owned and operated for over 40 years

OlisTrolley.com
Ride
the Trolley!




A Fun Way to See
Acadia National Park!
Acadia's Only Trolley Tour!

1 West Street
Bar Harbor
207 - 288 - 9899

N NATURALIST'S
NOTEBOOK

a place for everyone who's even a little curious about the
last 13.8 billion years (give or take)

L: 16 Main St., Seal Harbor, ME 04675
P: 207-801-2777
W: thenaturalistsnotebook.com
F: @naturalistsnotebookmaine

Your
Mount Desert Island
Source for News

Mount
Desert **Islander**
The Island's Hometown Voice

310 Main Street
Downtown Bar Harbor
207-288-0556 • mdislander.com

William Blair

Updates

David MacDonald Receives Acadia Partners Award



Each year, Acadia National Park presents a series of awards to park employees, volunteers, and partners for outstanding service.

This year, former Friends of Acadia President & CEO David MacDonald received the Acadia Partners Award, which is given to a partner who has made significant contributions to Acadia.

In presenting the award, Park Superintendent Kevin Schneider said, "David has been an outstanding partner to Acadia National Park, developing deep relationships across our organization. As a result of David's leadership, the relationship between Acadia and FOA has been significantly strengthened."

Join us in congratulating David on this well-earned award and decade of service to Friends of Acadia and the park.

Three other Friends of Acadia staff members received recognition by being nominated for the award. Congratulations to Wild Acadia Coordinator Brian Henkel, Summit Steward Coordinator Stephanie Ley, and Stewardship Assistant Zoe Smiarowski for being nominated by their park peers.

A committee representing the park's various workforce divisions selected the winners.

Updates

Jennifer Byer Hired as Development Assistant

Jennifer Byer has joined Friends of Acadia as a part-time Development Assistant. This spring and summer, she assisted the development team with the Annual Benefit and Auction in a temporary role. She'll continue to be involved in all aspects of the annual fundraiser, helping to make the Benefit such a success. Originally from Nova Scotia, Canada, Jen moved to Bar Harbor in 2020 with her husband and three daughters.



WILD GARDENS OF ACADIA VOLUNTEERS

October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| Lili Andrews | Marci Lash |
| Pauline Angione | Andrea Lepcio |
| Debbie Asbjorn | Jim Linnane |
| Laurie Beal | Suzie Manger |
| Unn Boucher | Betty Massie |
| Maureen Brooks | Larry Mobraaten |
| Peter Buchsbaum | Phyllis Mobraaten |
| J.C. Camelio | Cora Olgay |
| Jordan Chalfant | Kathy Olson |
| Claire Daniel | Mary Opdyke |
| Bronwen Day | Carole Puglisi |
| Liz Delaittre | Alan Rosenquist |
| Leah Rae Donahue | Barbara Roth |
| David Donovan | Roberta Sharp |
| Roberta Flynn | Roberta Sprague |
| Nancy Gable | Charlotte Stetson |
| Ellen Gellerstedt | Sandy Swinburne |
| Julie Havener | Charlotte Thibodeau |
| Susan Hayward | Sari Thomas |
| Tom Hayward | Genie Thorndike |
| Sandra Henderson | Ray Turner |
| John Holt | Christiaan van Heerden |
| Barbara Hopcroft | Ruth Werier |
| Barbara Knowles | Griffin Winer |
| Helen Koch | Karen Zimmerman |
| Anne Kozak | |
| Paul Kozak | |
| Dawn Lamendola | |

BEAL'S LOBSTER PIER

We are proud to support Friends of Acadia

Fresh Maine lobster and seafood on the pier, or shipped to your home year round. Boaters welcome! Tie up and refuel while you eat.

182 Clark Point Rd, Southwest Harbor
Open 11:00am - 9:00pm | bealslobster.com

Mount Desert Island's Premier Outfitter

207-288-9605

Acadiabike.com
Acadiafun.com

48 Cottage Street
Bar Harbor, Maine

Travel by Ferry

Bar Harbor, Maine - Yarmouth, Nova Scotia

THE CAT

www.ferries.ca

TERRAMOR

OUTDOOR RESORT // BAR HARBOR

PROUDLY SUPPORTS FRIENDS OF ACADIA

fair trade Winds

ACADIA NATIONAL PARK MEMENTOS, FAIR TRADE GIFTS AND MORE!

119 MAIN STREET
BAR HARBOR, MAINE

Shop Online: FAIRTRADEWINDS.NET

Courthouse Gallery Fine Art

Representing Contemporary Maine Artists

Judy Belasco

"Misty Surf, Schoodic"

oil on canvas, 24 x 30 inches

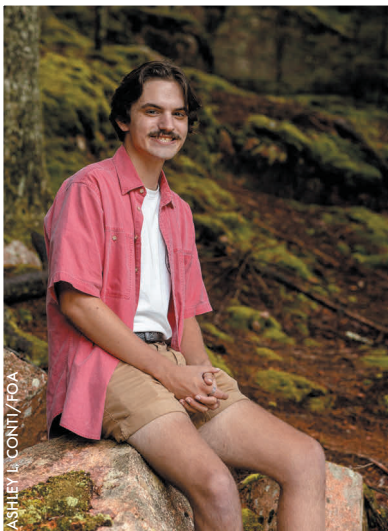
6 Court Street, Ellsworth, Maine courthousegallery.com 207 667 6611



ASHLEY L. CONTI/FOA

MY ACADIA

BY JAKE HAERTEL



ASHLEY L. CONTI/FOA

Everyone here knows me as Paul Haertel's grandson. The moment I introduce myself as Jacob Haertel, a conversation is sparked about how wonderful a man my grandfather was.

He truly was a wonderful man. A man whose love of Acadia and the outdoors led me to spend this summer on Mount Desert Island

(MDI) working with Friends of Acadia. I see reminders of him constantly.

When I'm out exploring the park, I remember my summers here as a kid, going on hikes with him as he'd teach me about the bird songs we'd hear and the plants that we'd see. While I'm at work, digging into old organizational documents, I see his name pop up.

My grandfather wasn't the kind of man to brag about his accomplishments, so getting to see records of some of his work helped me to better understand the influence he had. One day, I hope to have even a tenth of the impact on the world that he had, and my summer at Friends of Acadia was a great place to start that journey.

In my time here, I've had the opportunity to work with wonderful people doing very important work. I've also gotten to meet people who work for the park, other organizations,

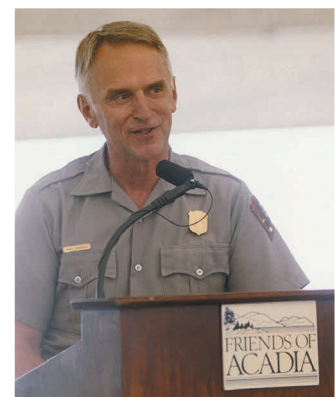
and in the community who have also made a big impact on me. And of course, I get to spend my free time in one of the most beautiful places I've ever been.

Acadia continues to amaze me, and I feel like I could spend a lifetime here and still find little nooks and crannies that are filled with natural beauty. Every hike I go on is another chance to see something awe-inspiring, as truly every part of this island is gorgeous. I never dreamed I would have the opportunity to live somewhere so beautiful, yet here I am.

Friends of Acadia has given me the opportunity to understand what made this little corner of the world so special to my grandfather. From the bird songs to the ocean, the mountains to the lakes, and especially the people, I can see why he fell in love with this special place.

I'm honored to say I'm related to someone who made such a positive impact on this community. So yes, everyone knows me as Paul Haertel's grandson. And I wouldn't have it any other way. ■

Editor's Note: *Jake Haertel, a senior at Western Washington University's College of the Environment, was a Program Intern at Friends of Acadia this summer. Jake's grandfather Paul Haertel had a long career in the National Park Service, serving as Superintendent at Acadia from 1994-2002.*



Paul Haertel, Jake's grandfather

Supporting Acadia for over 35 Years

friendsofacadia.org



PRESERVE • PROTECT • SUPPORT

We appreciate all that you do for Acadia National Park and hope you consider supporting our continued efforts with an Annual Fund gift.



Give Now



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.

FALL FOLIAGE
along the Jesup
Path Boardwalk
in Acadia

ASHLEY L. CONTI/FOA

