

An aerial photograph of a rugged coastline. The top half of the image shows a dense forest of green trees growing on a rocky shore. The bottom half shows a dark, calm body of water. In the lower right, a small green canoe with two people is on the water. The title 'ACADIA' is overlaid in large, light blue letters across the top.

ACADIA

The Friends of Acadia Journal SUMMER 2021

**WOMEN
OF ACADIA**
THEN AND NOW

**SECRETARY
HAALAND**
MAKES ACADIA FIRST VISIT

**ACADIA'S
CHANGING CLIMATE**
AND NATURE'S RESPONSE

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ACADIA

The Friends of Acadia Journal

SUMMER 2021

Volume 26 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 four times a year. Submissions and letters are welcome.

Opinions expressed are the authors'.

EDITOR

Lori Schaefer

PHOTO EDITOR

Julia Walker Thomas

DESIGN

Z Studio

Lisa Williams

PRINTING

Penmor Lithographers

PUBLISHER

David R. MacDonald



Paddlers on Bubble Pond.
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CAROLYN ROGERS

Stay In Touch



207-288-3340



info@friendsofacadia.org



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WHERE IN ACADIA?

On the far side of one of the most pristine lakes in Acadia stands this footbridge to help you safely continue on your way without soggy feet. On less foggy days, this frequently traveled path will reward you with views of five of Acadia's mountains.

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

IN THE SPRING ISSUE OF ACADIA

We heard from a handful of readers who correctly identified the image in the Spring issue as Dorr Point in Compass Harbor. Dave Applegate, Les Heilakka, and John Jeniec were among the first to respond.

Sadly, we don't have room to run all responses. See page 38 for one special response.



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Friends of Acadia Bids Farewell to Three Extraordinary Board Members

BY DAVID MACDONALD



Emily Beck



Gail Clark



Nonie Sullivan

Friends of Acadia is deeply grateful to three extraordinary women who have provided inspiration and leadership while serving on the Friends of Acadia Board of Directors. The fingerprints of Emily Beck, Gail Clark, and Nonie Sullivan are all over our organization's growth and success in recent years,

"Their individual contributions and collective impact have been remarkable."

ANNE GREEN,
Friends of Acadia Board Chair 2017-2021

and everyone at Friends of Acadia salutes their commitment to our mission and the many ways they have contributed to preserving and protecting Acadia National Park.

Emily Beck joined the Friends of Acadia Board in 2009, and her legal expertise, eye for detail in writing

and editing, and passion for addressing climate change at Acadia have strengthened Friends of Acadia's governance, programs, and communication strategies.

Gail Clark also joined the Board in 2009, and her boundless energy, enthusiasm, and extensive contacts throughout Maine and Washington made her critical to our fundraising and advocacy efforts. Together with her husband, Ham, her hospitality at their Northeast Harbor home, *Gulls Way*, was often a highlight of the summer.

Nonie Sullivan joined the Friends of Acadia Board in 1991, and though her quiet leadership style belied her impact and influence, she was an early and generous leader in providing support and momentum to Friends of Acadia's historic Second Century Campaign and through many years of the annual Benefit Auction.

"While we recognize that their board service could not last forever, we know that Emily, Gail, and Nonie's love for Acadia will keep them closely connected to our work," observes Friends of Acadia's recent board chair, Anne Green. "Their individual contributions and collective impact have been remarkable."

DAVID MACDONALD is Friends of Acadia's President and CEO.

Preserving and Protecting Acadia is an Ongoing Act

It was an honor to accept an invitation this spring to be part of a hearing of the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on National Parks and to represent the park partner community in a discussion on “the State of the Park System, including the impacts of COVID-19 on funding and operations.”

My message to the senators: organizations like Friends of Acadia experienced tremendous stress over the past year, but our community has been resilient and resourceful and remains deeply committed to supporting parks and serving the expanded constituency that sought respite in parks during the pandemic. I also called for increased Congressional funding to support the basic operations of parks like Acadia—where the annual “base appropriation” is only \$8 million and has barely changed over the past 20 years, while visitation, public expectations, and the cost of doing business have all grown dramatically.

Why was Friends of Acadia asked to testify? Why did we deserve a slot alongside noted documentary filmmaker Ken Burns and the Acting Director of the National Park Service, Shawn Benge? It is because of you—our members, volunteers, staff, business supporters, partner organizations, dedicated park employees—and all that this community has done collectively over the past 35 years to make Acadia a “partnership park” and a leader on many fronts.

Whether it is the climate change resilience work that was recently featured in a lead article in the *New York Times*; or the transportation plan approved in 2019 that has served as a template for several other parks now considering timed-entry reservation systems; or the rapid adaptation to take ranger programs and learning opportunities to a virtual platform to keep youth connected to the park....in each instance, your support allowed Friends of Acadia to add value, break new ground, and overcome hurdles while also leveraging federal investment in the effort.

The other reason that we were invited to the table

in Washington is the long-standing commitment by the Friends of Acadia Board of Directors that advocacy and government relations are a vital part of our role. Being willing to weigh in with our very supportive Maine Congressional Delegation (and do so in a non-partisan spirit that reflects the full range of political perspectives among Acadia lovers) allows us to share our experience from the front lines and shape policy and funding in Washington, which in turn stretches each membership donation further.

Advocacy on behalf of Acadia is also vital at the state and local levels of government and is often most effective when pursued in collaboration with other local stakeholders. In recent months, Friends of Acadia has been active on several fronts, ranging from visual analysis of proposed cell towers, to joining 30 other conservation organizations in expressing support for legislation intended to recognize and strengthen the sovereignty of Maine’s Wabanaki tribes, particularly around land use and land ownership issues.

Another major project that has required an active role has been the large salmon farming proposal for two sites in Frenchman Bay that pose significant threats to the values of Acadia National Park. Please see the other articles herein and stay tuned for updates on when the review process includes an opportunity for public comment.

Ken Burns commented in his testimony before mine this spring: “Too often, we tend to take parks for granted. Saving such places seems self-evident. We mistakenly assume that doing so is easy or automatic.”

Preserving and protecting a place like Acadia is an ongoing act. Thank you for being part of Friends of Acadia’s commitment to never taking our park for granted and for working in partnership to ensure its long-term future.


—David MacDonald

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE



“Organizations like Friends of Acadia experienced tremendous stress over the past year, but our community has been resilient and resourceful and remains deeply committed to supporting parks...”



EMMA FORTHOFFER/FOA

A LONE HIKER at the top of Beehive during sunrise.

Severe Rainstorm Damages Carriage Roads and Trails

BY LORI SCHAEFER

An early June storm with torrential rains caused extensive damage to 10 miles of Acadia's 45-mile carriage road system, as well as the Wild Gardens of Acadia at Sieur de Monts, Schoodic multi-use paths, Schoodic Head Road, and several miles of hiking trails. The Maple Spring Trail was the trail hardest hit and is expected to be closed until repairs can be made.

The storm packed one heck of a punch. According to park staff, the short duration and intensity of the rainstorm makes it one of the most exceptional weather events in the park's history.

The peak of the storm occurred between 4:30 and 7:30 a.m. on June 9 with rainfall totals varying widely across the park. Recorded rainfall ranged from 2.5 inches at Jordan Pond to 4.7 inches at the Cadillac Summit. The U.S. Geological Survey stream gauge at Otter Creek reached a stage (water level height) of almost 10 feet during the peak of the rainstorm, an increase of 8.5 feet from the week before.

The carriage roads, which were constructed from 1913 to 1940 and engineered to withstand heavy rainfall, were hit especially hard. They consist of multiple layers of rock graduating from large to fine-sized stones at the surface with a substantial crown to ensure good drainage. Stone culverts and deep ditches provide channels to direct runoff away from the

gravel surface of the carriage roads. But this rainstorm was so intense that the volume of water overwhelmed the drainage features and, in many locations, completely removed the top two layers of stone and aggregate.

Repairs are Underway

The total estimated cost to complete repairs to the system damaged by the event is over \$1 million. "We have received most of the emergency funds necessary to repair many of the park's carriage roads, trails, and bike paths," said Keith Johnston, Chief of Facility Management at Acadia National Park. "We're focused on getting sections safe for visitors to use and will continue to make repairs through the season."

To date, the park has restored visitor use on the carriage roads between intersections 11 and 13 and although work remains, those sections are safe to use. The next sections to open will be from 14 to 10 and then 10 to 11 over the next several weeks.

To see the most current information on carriage road closures and updates on current conditions, visit nps.gov/acad/planyourvisit/conditions.htm. ■

LORI SCHAEFER is Friends of Acadia's Communications Director.

"The short duration and intensity of the rainstorm makes it one of the most exceptional weather events in the park's history."



ASHLEY L. CONTI/FOA



ASHLEY L. CONTI/FOA

Sections of carriage road severely damaged by record breaking rainfall in early June.

The View from Acadia

One early summer day this season, my family and I hiked the North Ridge of Cadillac Mountain from the summit down to the bottom. As we hiked down the trail, we marveled at the wonderful views of Acadia's forests leading down to Frenchman Bay, then on to the Porcupine Islands, Jordan Island, Ironbound Island, and Stave Island.

Bounding with my kids down the trail, I couldn't help but reflect on the tireless work of so many partners that help preserve this incredible landscape. The Porcupine Islands are part of Acadia National Park, with Jordan and Ironbound Islands protected by National Park Service conservation easements. Stave Island is preserved thanks to the work of Maine Coast Heritage Trust, private landowners, and conservation easements. The investment in conservation to protect vistas like those that my family and millions of other visitors have enjoyed through the park's history has been tremendous. Undoubtedly, it is these vistas and their scenic beauty that inspire all of us and were a primary reason that Acadia was established as a national park.

And yet as we hiked, I also couldn't help imagining how this landscape might change if a new proposal to create a massive salmon farming operation in Frenchman Bay comes to fruition. American Aquafarms is proposing to develop 120-acres of salmon farming in two sites in Frenchman Bay—one of which is just a mere 2,000 feet from Long Porcupine Island. The proposed industrial fish farm would be capable of producing 65 million pounds of salmon annually—an unprecedented amount of fish for any aquaculture operation in Maine or the United States.

While maintaining a working waterfront is critical to our area, the American Aquafarms proposal goes far beyond this and represents an industrialization of Frenchman Bay. The view I was seeing of a largely undeveloped landscape from the North Ridge Trail would be significantly different.

Preserving Acadia unimpaired for future generations is the very essence of our mission. It is a tall order and one that all of us who work at the park take very seriously. We are conscious of the 105-year history of Acadia National Park, from the park's first superintendent, George B. Dorr, to the philanthropists of yesterday and today who have achieved a vision worthy of such protection.

It is with this in mind that we are carefully reviewing American Aquafarm's proposal. We want to understand how it will impact the fundamental resources and values of Acadia—the very essence of what makes this place so special.

Our team will be looking at all facets of how it impacts the park, including vistas along the park's trails and roads, and how it would alter this nationally recognized historic landscape; impacts to our air quality and the natural soundscape from constantly running electric generators perched on the water; impacts to some of the darkest skies on the Eastern Seaboard from lighting in the midst of Frenchman Bay; and impacts to the park's birds and other wildlife.

While the National Park Service does not have any regulatory authority concerning this proposal, we want to make sure we provide analysis and comments most helpful to agencies that do, so that they can make an informed decision about the project.

Throughout the history of America's national parks, there have been many threats. We are now facing unprecedented rapid environmental change that requires new strategies for management. We recognize that change is happening, and we are applying science, communicating, and widely engaging with partners, stakeholders, and our visitors. The potential impacts from this industrial development only add urgency to that work.

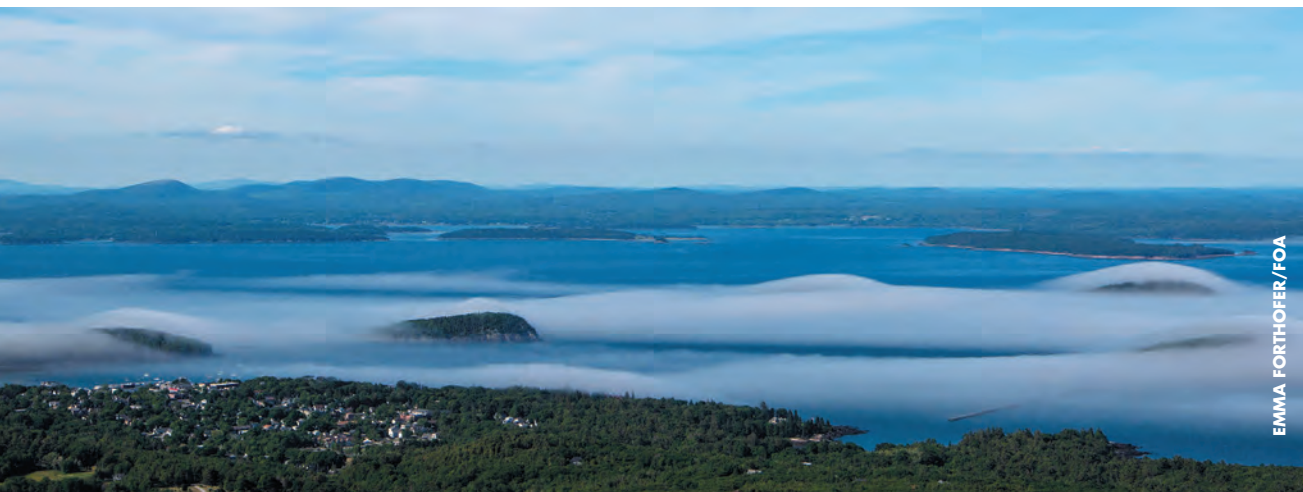


—Kevin Schneider

SUPERINTENDENT'S VIEW



"We are now facing unprecedented rapid environmental change that requires new strategies for management."



EMMA FORTHOFER/FOA

A FOGGY VIEW of the Porcupine Islands from Cadillac Mountain in Acadia National Park.

With this feature, we begin a series recognizing women of Acadia, both past and present, by introducing their stories in pairs. Although a century might separate some of these women, they share one key trait: having an impact on the health and vibrancy of Acadia National Park. And sometimes, as in this case, they exhibit similar traits of leadership.

Women of Acadia

THEN & NOW

When Good Deeds Speak for Themselves

THEN Eliza Homans, Benefactor

In 1908, Eliza Homans donated 140 acres surrounding the Beehive and the Bowl to the Hancock County Trustees of Public Reservations—the first large gift of land for what would become Acadia National Park. If she didn't preserve that land, "my grandchildren may find a 'Merry-Go-Round' established there!" she feared. Homans permitted the land transfer to be publicized, but not her name.

NOW Thérèse Picard, Chief Ranger, Acadia National Park

BY LYNN FANTOM

Thérèse Picard has rushed into burning buildings and flown on lines under rescue helicopters.

After she and three other Zion National Park rangers saved a 230-pound canyonneer hanging by his ankles 80 feet above the ground, she received a Valor award, the Department of Interior's highest level of recognition for heroism.

As Zion National Park's top law enforcement official during a tragic flash flood through a slot canyon, she supervised search operations and served as key contact for press—and families.

It takes serious arm twisting to get Picard to talk about achievements like these, much as Eliza Homans eschewed personal publicity.

She is more likely to acknowledge the teams she leads at Acadia National Park today and say that, as chief ranger, she mostly sits behind a desk handling policy and management decisions.

But she will volunteer that she brings whoopie pies and cookies to teams to acknowledge hard work and long hours. Her leadership style? "I tend to bake," she says.

Currently, Picard oversees 28 permanent employees and about 50 seasonals. Her responsibilities encompass law enforcement, dispatch, wildland firefighting, lifeguards, and the Isle au Haut operation. She also oversees the fee program, which manages entrance passes, campgrounds, and the Cadillac reservation system, involving six different locations.

Her experience at Zion remains relevant today because Acadia's law enforcement rangers serve as EMTs on the trails and search-and-rescue (SAR) responders.

SAR was initially how Picard connected to a National Park Service career, one that is "bookended by Acadia," she adds. After graduating from college in 1993, she moved to Mount Desert Island and worked in hospitality. "I was always in the



Photo courtesy Acadia National Park



Yehyun Kim/FOA

park, always hiking,” she says. She began volunteering with the nonprofit Mount Desert Search and Rescue, and, through that work, interacted with rangers.

In 2005, she was hired under a student program while completing her master’s degree in park and resource management. Her role became permanent in 2006. At the time, she was the first female permanent law enforcement ranger. When she returned to Acadia in 2017 after her nine-year tenure at Zion, she was still the only woman.

But that is changing. There is now one other woman on staff as a permanent ranger and a second expected to transfer to Acadia this summer.

Picard clearly relishes diverse experiences. The Ohio native, who as a five-year-old aspired to be a pig farmer, grew up to attend academically distinguished Carleton College, where she focused on Native American studies. A survivor of Minnesotan winters, she spent summers in Acadia.

A change in landscape is one reason she loved Zion. “A very different environment, the desert—and different cultures,” she adds. “It was wonderful to work in an area that was so diverse, with the Paiutes, Navajos, and Mormons. It exposed me to new ideas and new ways of thinking and truly helped form how

I approach people. When you’re talking to someone from a different culture, it can require adapting to where that person is comfortable.”

Which suggests that strong communication is one of the many talents Picard brings to her role. Ultimately to preserve and protect the park, the challenge is to work effectively with staff, partners, and the public.

That can be a “constant challenge,” she says, with a “fluid workforce” and high expectations from a “massive explosion of tourists” each season.

“We do focus on communication, and it’s not particular to law enforcement transactions,” she notes. “Are you an active listener? Are you really hearing what people are saying? I try to promote a team that is respectful of one another and assumes everyone’s best intentions.”

During a time of increased national park visitation, risk-taking in adventure tourism, and police scrutiny, Acadia is fortunate to have Thérèse Picard on duty. ■

LYNN FANTOM is a former New York advertising executive who has embraced her second career as a freelance writer in Maine.



THIRD GENERATION CONTINUES CARRIAGE ROAD LEGACY

BY EARL BRECHLIN

RESTORING EVERY FOOT OF ACADIA NATIONAL PARK'S 45 MILES OF HISTORIC CARRIAGE ROADS HAS TAKEN A LOT OF TIME,

a lot of effort and no small amount of money. It has also taken an incredible amount of muscle, both human and mechanical.

Over the past two and a half decades, much of that muscle, and the experience and expertise needed to wield it in a subtle, effective, and cost-effective manner, has come from three generations of just one Bar Harbor family, the MacQuinns.

Harold MacQuinn, who founded Harold MacQuinn, Inc. in 1933, spent his early years in the construction industry working on projects for Acadia benefactor John D. Rockefeller Jr. It was Rockefeller who acquired the land, directed the construction of the motor-vehicle-free carriage roads, and funded most of the work.

Among the company's major accomplishments during the 1950s was the building of the graceful granite arch bridge over Duck Brook on the Park Loop Road at Paradise Hill, and the Eagle Lake Road arch bridge that carries the Park Loop Road over that busy state highway.

Harold was soon joined in running the company by son Ronnie who was in charge when the company was selected to widen the bridge on Route 233, over the carriage road at Eagle Lake, in the early 1970s.

The 118-foot long bridge was built in 1927. Decades later, as the Eagle Lake Road became the main east/west highway on Mount Desert Island, the state determined the bridge should be widened, but acknowledged its historic status precluded total replacement.

MacQuinn Construction's bold and innovative solution? Split the bridge in half lengthwise. Skilled craftsmen carefully liberated the 700-ton, 25-foot-high granite block wall on the north side from the rest of the structure. The walls were then slid on special ball bearings 13 feet farther north. All this was done while striving to keep at least one lane of traffic open on the road.

Left Top: Mike Allen, foreman at Harold MacQuinn, Inc., uses a compactor to compress dirt around coping stones after finishing work to regrade an area of the Eagle Lake section of the carriage road.

Left Bottom: Paul MacQuinn of Bar Harbor, left, and his dad Ronnie, the second and third generations of their family to help build and maintain Acadia's carriage roads.

ASHLEY L. CONTI/FOA

COURTESY THE MACQUINN FAMILY

Company masons then built a new center arch, all while preserving the historical character of the original.

In 1975, that herculean effort and the company's legendary Down East ingenuity earned it two prestigious national engineering awards. Harold MacQuinn retired in the mid-1970s passing the baton to Ronnie. Harold passed away in 1984.

Carriage Roads get an Overhaul Thanks to FOA Endowment

By the early 1990s, Acadia's carriage roads needed a major overhaul. Friends of Acadia launched a \$4 million capital campaign to create an endowment to maintain the system in perpetuity, while the federal government agreed to pay for the rehabilitation work. Friends of Acadia's endowment currently provides more than \$200,000 annually for carriage road upkeep.

In June 1994, the National Park Service selected MacQuinn to rehabilitate the first 20 miles of the carriage roads. The carriage paths are not gravel roads in the traditional sense. They are actually "broken stone" roads. They are constructed of multiple layers of various grades of materials and compacted to exacting standards.

MacQuinn crews and equipment, under Ronnie's direction, got the first contract to begin restoring a section near Aunt Betty Pond: digging up the surfaces, re-laying sediments to precise historic standards, replacing culverts, and rehabbing and improving ditches.

By then, Ronnie had been joined by his son Paul who, according to a company history, had been playing on and



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Mike Bunker, foreman at Harold MacQuinn, Inc., evens the dirt while replacing a culvert as part of the restoration of the Eagle Lake section of carriage road.



COURTESY HAROLD MACQUINN, INC.

Harold MacQuinn, Inc. of Bar Harbor won a prestigious national award for its innovative work widening a historically significant highway bridge over one of Acadia's carriage roads in 1975.

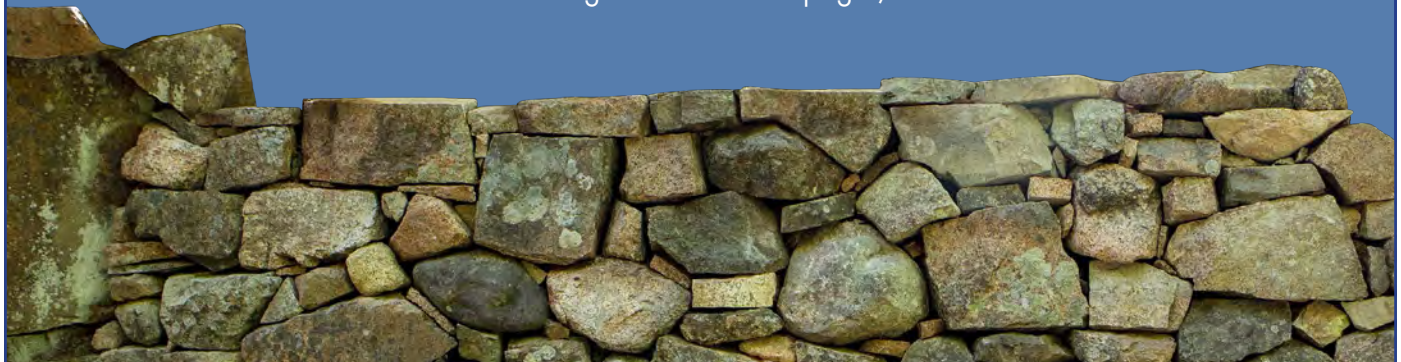
Eagle Lake Carriage Road Construction

The six-mile Eagle Lake Carriage Road loop will receive a major facelift in 2021 as the surface and subsurface of the road, drainage features, stone walls, and rock slopes are rehabilitated. Because of this work, the Eagle Lake Carriage Road will be closed to the public throughout much of the season and the Island Explorer's Bike Express service will not run.

Access to Witch Hole Pond from the Eagle Lake

parking lot on the north side of Route 233 should remain open, and the National Park Service hopes to keep the short distance to the Aunt Betty Pond carriage road open as much as possible.

Completion of the carriage road rehab is expected by mid-September. Visitors are advised to check the status of closures through the alerts on Acadia National Park's website, www.nps.gov/acad. ■





Original cast iron culvert that was recently replaced on the Eagle Lake section of carriage road.

A MacQuinn Construction dump truck moves across the Duck Brook Bridge while that section of the Acadia National Park carriage roads was being rehabilitated during the 1990s.



learning to operate heavy equipment since the age of 10. Paul became president of the company when Ronnie passed away in 2009.

Eagle Lake is the Last Section for Rehab

Fast forward to 2021, and again, it is Harold MacQuinn, Inc. that won the contract for completion of the last piece of rehabilitation of the 44 miles of carriage roads.

The last section of carriage road to be rehabbed, approximately six miles around Eagle Lake, is being done this season. It had been left for last as it was in the best shape when the endeavor began.

It seems fitting that the latest segment, overseen by Paul, the third generation of his family to run the company, connects with the bridge widened by his grandfather Harold in 1975 and the first section of carriage road redone by his father Ronnie in 1994.

“Visitors for multiple generations have benefited immensely from the long-term preservation experience that the MacQuinn family has brought to bear on the historic resources of Acadia National Park,” says Keith Johnston, Chief of Facility Management at Acadia.

“The gift of carriage road creation came from the Rockefellers and preservation work provided by the MacQuinn family has helped keep the legacy alive.” ■

EARL BRECHLIN is a Registered Maine Guide, former journalist, and award-winning Maine author.

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West Bay Acadia RV
Campground
William Blair & Company
Window Panes

Acadia's Cultural Connections in the Park Program

BY MARIE YARBOROUGH

On a breezy summer day in 2010, I stood in the parking lot of the Jordan Pond House Restaurant scanning for the first sight of David and his red pickup truck. He was never hard to miss—a riot of black curls, a wide smile you could see for miles, and a beautiful handmade birchbark canoe strapped to his roof.

When he pulled up, I headed to the cab to grab his hand tools and baskets while restaurant staff graciously helped to lower his canoe from the truck. David portaged it to the lawn, I laid out his tools and baskets under the apple tree, and within 15 minutes we were ready to go.

Almost immediately, renowned Passamaquoddy birchbark artist David Moses Bridges was surrounded by curious visitors asking about the canoe, how he built it, his technique, how he harvested the bark, then later, about his family, his tribe, the land, his people—the ancestors. David worked on the canoe and spoke with visitors for hours.

As we started to pack up, I glanced at my hand-held counter: it read “310.” We looked at each other in surprise and knew we were on to something. Three hundred and ten visitors had stopped to learn about the canoe, and yet, all of them also left knowing more about the Wabanaki people’s enduring connection, since time immemorial, to this place we now call Acadia National Park.

Over the past 11 years, Acadia’s Cultural Connections in the Park program has hosted 30 different Maine Native artists, musicians, and craftspeople for weekly summer demonstrations in the park, reaching more than 30,000 visitors.



ASHLEY L. CONTI/FOA

The Burnurwurskek Singers, a Penobscot men's drum group, open the Cultural Connections series each year by performing on the true summit of Cadillac Mountain.

In partnership with the Abbe Museum, and with seed funding from Dawnland, LLC, the program has showcased traditional drummers, basket makers, flint knappers, Native language educators and more.

Each week provides another opportunity for Maine Native people to share their talents, expertise, and history with a growing number of Acadia visitors. Not only does the Cultural Connections program provide an important platform to support Wabanaki artists and educators, but it also fills a crucial role in communicating Acadia’s diverse cultural history to park visitors.

On the top of our list for future programming is the construction of a new birchbark wigwam at Sieur de Monts. First built in 2011 during a three-day cultural demonstration by Penobscot birchbark artist Barry Dana and his family, it was rehabilitated over the years by David Moses Bridges and Steve Cayard, master birchbark canoe builder.

Next summer, we hope to rebuild another traditional birchbark wigwam in its place, led by a team of Wabanaki birchbark artists and craftspeople.

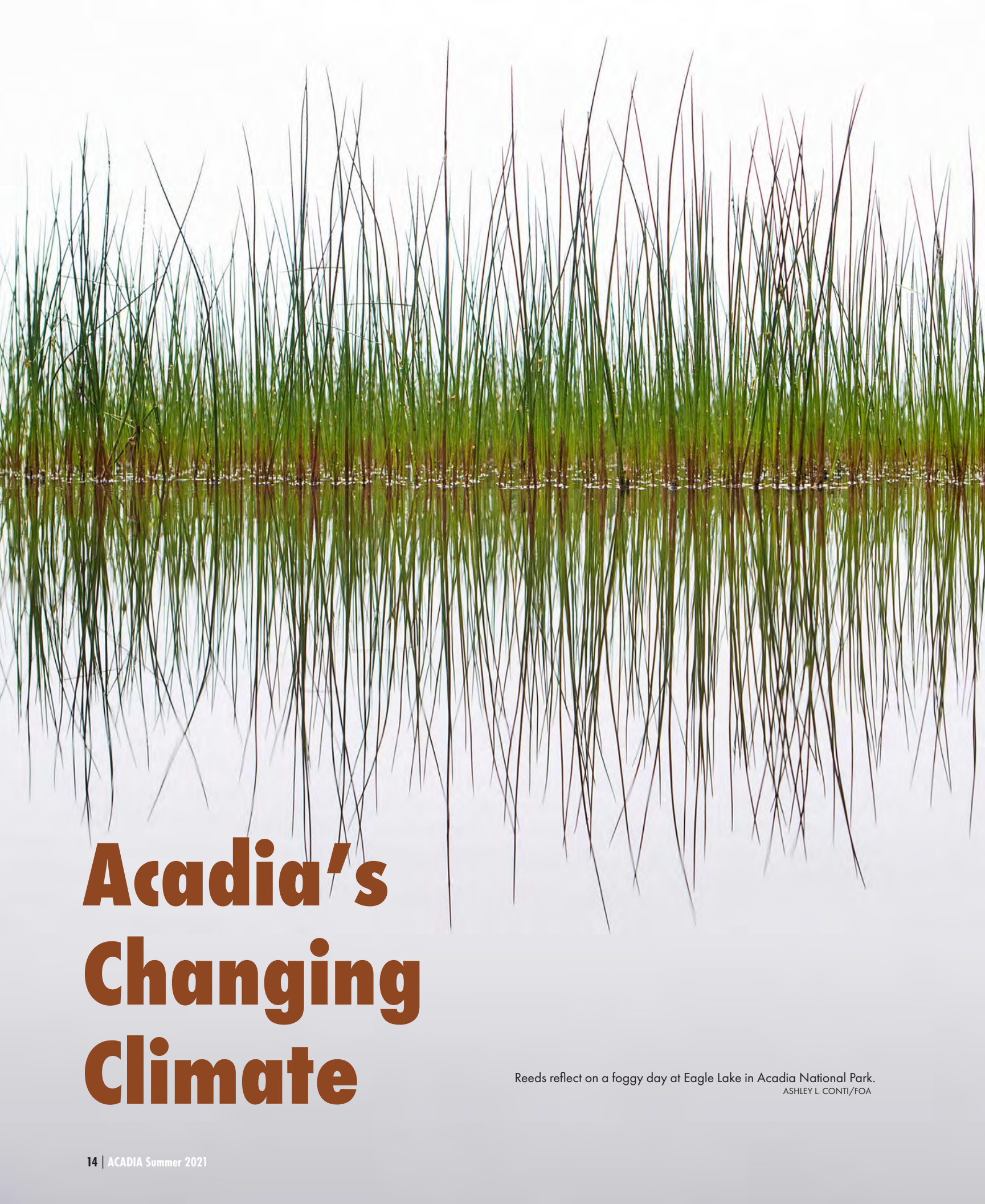
As Acadia continues to amplify Native voices and Native-led interpretation, programs like Cultural Connections remain vital. We must continue to engage modern, contemporary Native people in this Wabanaki homeland today and in the future. ■

MARIE YARBOROUGH is Curator and Cultural Resources and Interpretation Liaison at Acadia National Park.

Left: David Moses Bridges, Passamaquoddy, waterproofs his handmade birchbark canoe with a sealant made from bear fat and tree sap.



MARIE YARBOROUGH/NPS



Acadia's Changing Climate

Reeds reflect on a foggy day at Eagle Lake in Acadia National Park.
ASHLEY L. CONTI/FOA



WILL GREENE/FOA



ASHLEY L. CONTI/FOA



ASHLEY L. CONTI/FOA

A Measurably Different Place

BY ABE MILLER-RUSHING

Acadia National Park is a measurably different place than it was when it was founded 105 years ago.

Average temperatures have warmed by 3°F since 1890. Six inches more precipitation falls each year on average, with bigger storms, more rain, and less snow than in the past. Sea levels have risen by eight inches since 1950, and growing seasons have lengthened by more than two weeks.

These changes in climate, when combined with other environmental changes like pollution and invasive species, have altered the park's forests, lakes, and coasts. One of every six plant species found on Mount Desert Island in the late 1800s no longer occurs on the island, and many more native plant species have declined in abundance, whereas non-native plants have become more common.

Bird populations are shifting too; some species, like boreal chickadees, no longer breed in Acadia, and others have newly arrived and breed here routinely. Coastal ecosystems, archeological sites, and roads, including Acadia's carriage roads, are punished and eroded by stronger coastal storms.

These changes are dramatic but can be surprisingly difficult to see. Visitors still see majestic rocky coasts, spectacular forests, and beautiful lakes and streams. For most of us, it is hard to notice changes in individual plant or animal populations, or the steady rise in sea level. But those who watch closely—the many scientists, naturalists, and other nature watchers we have in our Acadia community—have noticed.

In contrast to these hard to see changes, many people may not realize that most of the visible changes to Acadia have also

been caused by our changing climate. The park is busier well into November, in part because it is warmer longer. Winter storms now routinely damage the railings at Thunder Hole, requiring frequent repairs. And ticks, which carry Lyme and other diseases, have become more common as our winters warm and growing seasons lengthen.

Unfortunately, the pace of change is speeding up. In time, climate-driven changes in Acadia will be noticeable to most everyone. Nine of the 10 most common tree species in Acadia—species like spruce, cedar, and fir—will likely decline or disappear from the park in the next 80 years. Our forests will shift from large swaths of evergreen trees to forests more like those on the eastern part of Mount Desert Island that burned in the fire of 1947 and grew back as birch, maple, and oak. That will mean more color in the fall, more leafless trees in winter, and more new green leaves each spring.

The transition will probably not be smooth. We may lose some species suddenly, like we did the red pine, killed by invasive red pine scale throughout Acadia over the past six years. Hemlock and ash could be next.

With these changes comes a sense of loss. But there is also urgency to act to keep Acadia's resources healthy. You can help. To find out how, please visit friendsofacadia.org/climatechange/ or nps.gov/acad/learn/nature/climate-change.htm.

DR. ABE MILLER-RUSHING is an ecologist and the science coordinator at Acadia National Park



Resist, Accept, Direct: A New Framework for Managing Climate Change in Acadia

BY NICK FISICHELLI

Ongoing and future climate change affects all aspects of park management, including natural and cultural resource protection, operations and infrastructure, and visitor use and experience.

Climate change also presents an opportunity to recognize, appreciate, and work with the dynamism of nature; to work across large landscapes and long spans of time; and to recognize the emerging relevance of parks and other protected areas for climate change mitigation and adaptation. Mitigation is reducing the concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere by cutting emissions and storing or sequestering carbon. Adaptation is, in simple terms, adjusting to changing conditions.

Climate change is an opportunity to move beyond assumptions of a single past condition or reference state for Acadia. For more than a century, the past has guided management interventions to preserve and restore the structure, composition, and function of landscapes.

But climate change challenges this one-size-fits all approach, and strongly points to a future that will not resemble the recent past. For example, Acadia's plants and birds are already different than they were when the park was founded, and they will be changing more in the coming years. The past, therefore, cannot be the sole guide for the future; this is a core challenge of adaptation.

Thus, the National Park Service, Schoodic Institute, and other partners developed a new framework to support resource managers. The Resist-Accept-Direct (RAD) framework lays out a spectrum of potential management strategies: 1) Maintain past conditions (resist), 2) Acknowledge change without attempting to steer conditions (accept), and 3) Actively manage change toward a specific new desired condition (direct).

There is no single adaptation option that is appropriate in all situations; rather, the appropriate strategy will vary across

resources, locations, and time. For example, many resistance strategies are suitable in the near term but are likely to become increasingly risky and costly as time goes on. The stewardship response to climate change therefore needs to be continuous, and continually reassessed.

This paradigm shift in management is promising and will take many decades to fully form, but managers and partners at Acadia National Park are already applying this framework.

Invasive plant management is an example of resisting an undesired change. Larger culverts are an example of accepting and adapting to the heavier rain events driven by climate change. Restoration experiments in the park by Schoodic Institute and partners, including examining how tree species will fare under a changing climate and evaluating vegetation plantings on the summit of Cadillac Mountain, provide managers with critical information on how to direct change toward desired future conditions.

Friends of Acadia's Wild Acadia Initiative and other projects are in turn helping park staff apply the RAD framework to on-the-ground actions that will help steward the future of Acadia.

In May, *The New York Times* did a comprehensive piece on the RAD concept titled, "What to Save? Climate Change Forces Brutal Choices at National Parks," in which Acadia National Park was featured. You can read the article at [nytimes.com/2021/05/18/climate/national-parks-climate-change.html](https://www.nytimes.com/2021/05/18/climate/national-parks-climate-change.html).

DR. NICK FISICHELLI is the President and CEO of Schoodic Institute and co-author of "Resist-Accept-Direct (RAD) - A Framework for the 21st-century Natural Resource Manager."



ASHLEY CONTI/POI

Wild Acadia's Summit Restoration Project

BY BRIAN HENKEL & ABE MILLER-RUSHING

Many visitors to Acadia National Park are familiar with the stunning views and congested traffic on Cadillac Mountain, but most are less familiar with the loss of the summit's fragile subalpine plant communities.

Among the large areas of bare or lichen-covered granite are pockets of soil and plants. More than 150 years of trampling has damaged these low-lying plants and the intense rainfall and longer dry periods caused by climate change have combined to wash away much of the thin summit soils.

Starting in the 1990s, park staff roped off sections of remaining summit plants and asked visitors to avoid certain areas in an attempt to stem the loss. Unfortunately, these special plant communities are very slow to regenerate on their own.

In the last few years, with help from the Schoodic Institute, Native Plant Trust, and Friends of Acadia, park staff have begun to restore these pocket communities from the soil up. They have been testing different approaches to see what works.

In this fifth year of restoration, staff and volunteers brought in a specialized sterilized soil mixture to replenish the soil lost from

erosion. They planted seedlings grown from locally collected seeds to help stabilize the soil and rebuild the plant communities.

With a grant from the BAND Foundation and National Park Service funds, the team will continue the restoration work and will use the lessons they learn to expand restoration efforts to other summits in Acadia.

This work is part of the Wild Acadia Initiative—a multifaceted set of programs to help Acadia's native plants and wildlife thrive despite threats from climate change, invasive pests, and other rapid environmental changes. The approach the park is taking to evaluate vegetation plantings on the summit of Cadillac Mountain and other Wild Acadia locations (e.g. Great Meadow and Bass Harbor Marsh) is an example of directing change, a new approach for the National Park Service. (See story on page 16). ■

BRIAN HENKEL is Friends of Acadia's Wild Acadia Project Coordinator. Abe Miller-Rushing is an ecologist and the science coordinator at Acadia National Park.

Virtual Event of the Year

32nd Annual Friends of Acadia Benefit

BY MARISA MARINELLI

The Friends of Acadia Annual Benefit is a chance to celebrate our beloved Acadia and raise significant funds for conservation initiatives in the park. Every year the Benefit Committee and staff plan, friends look forward, and anticipation builds as auction items are unveiled.

In 2020, we brought our in-person event to a virtual format. So many of you showed up for a fun and fast-moving online program and stepped up in big ways when the park needed you most.

This year we're again hosting the Annual Benefit online and it promises to be the virtual event of the season. The best part: You can join from anywhere in the world; you don't have to worry about what shoes to wear; and you can still see your friends, enjoy a fun and engaging evening, and support Acadia.

Whether you choose to participate from your couch in your slippers or get dressed up and host a Watch Party with your friends, the 2021 Annual Benefit is the place to be on August 14.

Here's Everything You Need to Know:

With great appreciation to Chilton Trust Company, the Annual Benefit Presenting Sponsor for the eighth year, Friends of Acadia is hosting its Annual Benefit virtually via Event.gives/Acadia on Saturday, August 14, 2021, from 7-8 p.m. (ET).

Led by Friends of Acadia's Benefit Committee and co-chairs Laura and Vassar Pierce, the newly designed Benefit will include a Live and Silent Auction, an exciting paddle raise, and guest speakers. Plus, we have some fun surprises in store.

REGISTER BY PHONE OR COMPUTER

PHONE: text the word ACADIA to 843-606-5995 and follow the link to register

COMPUTER: visit [EVENT.GIVES/ACADIA](https://event.gives/acadia) to reserve your ticket to the live event

There is no ticket cost this year! For more information, visit friendsofacadia.org/annual-benefit.

2021 PADDLE RAISE: GREENING ACADIA

The Friends of Acadia 2021 Paddle Raise, Greening Acadia, aims to help the park accelerate its efforts to implement sustainable operations and reduce emissions, ensuring that Acadia is continuously improving its environmental performance.

This newly established fund will contribute to projects, equipment, and capital improvements to reduce the carbon footprint and emissions across the park. Installing solar panels on park buildings, adding electric vehicle charging stations at strategic locations,

and replacing vehicles and equipment with electric or more fuel-efficient options will allow Acadia to operate sustainably over time—both environmentally and financially.

CHILTON
TRUST

ASHLEY L. CONTI/FOA

LIVE AND SILENT AUCTION:

Saturday, August 14, 2021, at 7:00 pm (ET)

Like last year, the silent auction will open bidding one week prior to the event on Friday, August 6 and run through Saturday, August 14. The live program on August 14 will feature Christie's auctioneer Lydia Fenet.

Some early auction items include:

A NAMING OPPORTUNITY in John Grisham's upcoming novel, released in 2022

GARDEN TOUR and cocktails at Clove Brook Farm, home of Christopher Spitzmiller

AN AFTERNOON SAIL, cocktails, and garden tour with Martha Stewart at Skylands

A WEEK STAY at an Antigua Beachfront Estate at Jumby Bay

BEAUTIFUL Dan Falt creations

And more!

**TO VIEW
AUCTION ITEMS
IN PERSON,
stop by our Pop-up Shop
at 115 Main Street,
Northeast Harbor**



"The FOA and Acadia partnership is often at the vanguard of movements throughout the National Park Service. I am proud to support the Greening Acadia initiative not only to make an important difference for Acadia, but also to give a model to other national parks and their friends groups on how to green parks throughout the country. This effort, and efforts replicated throughout the country will have a lasting local and global impact."

**Vassar Pierce, Co-chair,
32nd Annual Benefit**



Christie's Lydia Fenet leads the annual auction efforts.

HOST A WATCH PARTY

If you are interested in hosting a Watch Party this year, we want to know! We are looking for new fun and interactive ways to connect with our audience during the event. For more information contact Marisa Marinelli at marisa@friendsofacadia.org.

"Our FOA Benefit Watch party was a small gathering of FOA friends who shared great camaraderie by putting together a consortium around a LIVE auction item-success. Intimate, yet inclusive evening to support Acadia."

– Anne Green, Friends of Acadia Board of Directors

PURCHASE A BENEFIT BOX

Benefit boxes will be available to purchase again this year. Enjoy some of the Benefit's favorite traditions in your home.

QUESTIONS OR AUCTION ITEMS

If you have any questions on registration, auction items, or Watch Parties, please contact Marisa Marinelli, Senior Development Officer, Major Gifts and Events, at 207-288-3340 ext. 115 or marisa@friendsofacadia.org. ■

MARISA MARINELLI is Friends of Acadia's Senior Development Officer for Major Gifts and Events.

Below: Laura and Vassar Pierce, Co-Chairs, 32nd Annual Benefit Auction





Interior Secretary Haaland and Park Superintendent Kevin Schneider meet with seasonal Summit Stewards about congestion on Cadillac Mountain.

Acadia is Secretary Haaland's First National Park Visit

BY LORI SCHAEFER

Acadia National Park was Secretary Deb Haaland's first national park visit since becoming Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior. She was accompanied on the visit by Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Shannon Estenoz.

The June 17-18 visit provided Acadia an opportunity to showcase its infrastructure needs, the challenges posed by climate change, implementation of the park's Transportation Plan (including the new Cadillac Reservations System), housing, and more.

"We were honored that Secretary Haaland chose Acadia National Park for her first official visit to one of the nation's national parks," said Kevin Schneider, park superintendent. "She met many of our staff, toured our headquarters campus and got to see a slice of the behind-the-scenes operations of one of America's busiest national parks."

The primary purpose of the Secretary's visit was to announce a proposed investment of \$2.8 billion in national parks and public lands from the Biden Administration, including appropriations to increase public access and park maintenance as authorized by the Great American Outdoors Act last year."

At a press conference at the Schoodic Education and Research Center, where she was joined by Maine Governor Janet Mills and the Maine congressional delegation, Secretary Haaland said the proposed funding package included \$7.6 million to improve drinking water and wastewater systems at Schoodic and another \$1.3 million for natural resources stewardship and conservation at Acadia.

"I'm so proud that we are making investments to increase visitor access," Secretary Haaland said. "We want to share this beautiful land with as many people as possible."

Friends of Acadia President and CEO David MacDonald joined several of the tours and events, including a visit to Cadillac Mountain where the Secretary met the Friends of Acadia seasonal Summit Stewards and discussed strategies to manage congestion in Acadia. He also accompanied her on a boat ride across Frenchman Bay where he and Maine Coast Heritage Trust President and CEO Tim Glidden had the opportunity to discuss partnerships for land protection and concerns about the proposed industrial size salmon farms with the Secretary.

Secretary Haaland was warm, genuine, and thoughtful in her approach, according to David MacDonald. "She listened, asked great questions, and was generous in her thanks to many park staff and partners working here locally. There was no way to fit everything we wanted to share about Acadia into her 24-hour stay, so we look forward to a return visit!"

Several Friends of Acadia staff and board members also had the opportunity to meet Secretary Haaland at a welcome reception on June 17. Stephanie Clement, Friends of Acadia conservation director said, "I was grateful that many of our seasonal employees who are just beginning their careers were able to meet Secretary Haaland, an inspiring, experienced advocate for public lands. Her gratitude for their work was sincere." ■

LORI SCHAEFER is Friends of Acadia's Communications Director.

"We were honored that Secretary Haaland chose Acadia National Park for her first official visit to one of the nation's national parks."

KEVIN SCHNEIDER, PARK SUPERINTENDENT.



Upper Left: Friends of Acadia President David MacDonald, Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland, and Friends of Acadia Conservation Director Stephanie Clement. Lower Left: The Maine delegation, Governor Janet Mills, and Interior Secretary Deb Haaland during a press conference at Schoodic Institute. Right: Superintendent Kevin Schneider, Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish, Wildlife and Parks Shannon Estenoz, and Friends of Acadia President David MacDonald on a tour of Acadia by boat.

Below: Interior Secretary Haaland greets National Park Service staff as she gets ready to tour Acadia by water.





LILY LAREGINA/FOA

WORLD-RENOWNED CELLIST YO-YO MA SURPRISES ACADIA VISITORS

Offers Inspiration to Connect with Nature, Culture in Emerging from Pandemic

BY LORI SCHAEFER

Can you imagine finishing your hike and as you round the corner from the Jordan Pond Trail to the Jordan Pond House being serenaded by a world-renowned cellist? Or, coming across an impromptu concert where that same famous cellist is accompanied by Wabanaki musicians and the sounds of the sea and the wind?

That's exactly what some very fortunate Acadia National Park visitors experienced June 17 when Grammy award-winning cellist Yo-Yo Ma surprised visitors with two pop-up concerts—one on the Jordan Pond House Lawn and the other at Otter Point.

Yo-Yo Ma returned to Acadia on June 18th to join Wabanaki leaders and musicians for a sunrise concert at Schoodic Point. This private event coincided with U.S. Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland's visit and was described as "magical" by many in attendance.

"Watching Yo-Yo Ma perform with Wabanaki musicians at sunrise was a deeply personal highlight for me," said Kevin Schneider, Acadia National Park Superintendent. "Sunrise represents the optimism of a new day and this event certainly felt that way as we emerge from this terrible pandemic. It was an honor to have Maine's tribal leaders, Secretary Haaland, Governor Mills, and the entire Congressional delegation converge on the park at the same time," he added.

Parks have always been natural places of inspiration. This has never been more prevalent than during the pandemic where Acadia—and parks across the country—provided respite for millions.

"Hosting a creative spirit and bright light such as Yo-Yo Ma, paired with indigenous leaders and musicians, gives us optimism for the future," said Friends of Acadia President and CEO David MacDonald.

"My takeaway from his visit and the collaboration with tribal performers was that we all need to come together to protect a place that is so beloved and so fragile in the face of threats like climate change and stresses from increasing visitation," David said. "Some people are inspired by reading about that; some are inspired by music; and others by action. But no matter our perspective, we all can learn so much from nature and culture."

Thank you to Yo-Yo Ma and those collaborating with him, and kudos to the National Park Service for helping to make this happen at Acadia, despite all of the other pressures of their jobs with the recent storm damage and very high visitation in the park. ■

LORI SCHAEFER is Friends of Acadia's Communications Director.



Left: Chris Newell, executive director of the Abbe Museum and a senior partner to the Wabanaki Nations, and Yo-Yo Ma prepare to perform at Otter Point. Center: Yo-Yo Ma performs on the Jordan Pond House lawn in a surprise appearance for visitors. Right: Yo-Yo Ma hugs Chris Newell, executive director of the Abbe Museum and a senior partner to the Wabanaki Nations, after they performed together in a surprise concert at Otter Point.

Exploring Acadia on Two Wheels

BY ANNE LEHMANN

SAM MALLON/FOA

Kai Brewer of Boston, MA, and his aunt, Diane Sillan of Portland, OR, take an early morning bike ride on Park Loop Road in Acadia.

Blazing sun, cool steady breeze, and a slight salt-water scent are all components of biking in Acadia. The vistas are filled with gigantic pines, enormous erratic boulders, and the Atlantic Ocean as far as the eye can see.

The views are so breathtaking that the mechanics of biking seem to just melt away. The variation in bike terrain—flat roads to steep inclines—means there is truly something for everyone. Without doubt, wherever you bike in Acadia, the excursion will be a memory maker.

How and Where to Get Started

With 80 miles of open roads on Mount Desert Island and 45 miles of carriage roads, there are plenty of biking options. Open road and carriage road rides offer different views and experiences, but both can lead to endorphin-releasing exhaustion in the end.

Before you head out, it's best to do a bit of planning. Winding through the heart of the park, Acadia's carriage roads have crushed rock surfaces perfect for bicycling. If you're going to ride the carriage roads, be sure check the Acadia National Park website at www.nps.gov/acad for the current conditions, which may include temporary road or carriage road closures. The Eagle Lake Carriage Road is being rehabilitated for most of the summer due to maintenance on that loop (see story page 11) and a recent high intensity storm

caused damage forcing sections of several carriage roads to close for repair.

In addition, looking at a map or talking with a park ranger about which carriage road loop would work best for your entire group can make your outing run smoothly.

Looking for a Fun, Slower-Paced Loop?

Witch Hole Carriage Road is the perfect fit for this type of ride. It is the easiest loop and has the fewest inclines, a great option if you have younger or older riders. For beginners, starting out on this carriage road is a safe bet.

A Longer Route with Hills

If you're looking for a long, two-hour-plus route with hilly terrain, then take the Amphitheater Carriage Road to signpost 21 and head toward Jordan Pond. This loop takes you over five of the 17 Acadia carriage road bridges with long, breathtaking vistas.

Biking Acadia's Park Loop Road

While the 27-mile Park Loop Road has spectacular views and vistas, it is winding and narrow and often congested with vehicles. It's important to know there is no bike lane on most of the road, so biking is not advised during the busiest part of the day.



LILY LAREGINA/FOA



LILY LAREGINA/FOA

Above: Micki Taylor-Pinney and her husband Markus Pinney, of Lexington, MA, ride past Witch Hole Pond on the carriage roads. Left: Family of cyclists enjoy a ride on the carriage roads near Hulls Cove.

Bike and Safety Rules

Always bring water, wear a helmet, and if the plan is to bike at dusk, have front and back lights on your bike to alert others. Finally, there are some carriage roads that are private, so biking is not allowed on these private grounds.

For help planning your Acadia biking adventure, as well as maps and more information on bike safety and rules, visit the park website at nps.gov/acad/planyourvisit/bicycling. Biking in Acadia is a not-to-miss event. Post-ride, everyone seems to glisten with post-exercise happiness. ■

ANNE LEHMANN is a former business consultant in Boston and now writes for publications in New England including Maine.

Electric or EBiking on Mount Desert Island

In Acadia, only class 1 ebikes are allowed on the carriage roads. Class 1 ebikes require the cyclist to pedal, and the motor only assists up to 20 mph. The carriage roads were designed for “a slow-paced recreational experience,” says Christie Anastasia, public affairs specialist at Acadia National Park. All bicyclists should obey the maximum carriage road speed of 20 mph.

If you would like to explore biking beyond the carriage roads, all classes of electric bikes are allowed anywhere a motor vehicle is allowed. On these open roads, navigating safely is key, while sharing the road with cars. There aren’t many specific bike lanes designated solely for bikers on the roadways, so be aware of curvy terrain as well as drop-offs. ■



ASHLEY L. CONTI/FOA

View of the Porcupine Islands from Cadillac Mountain. The salmon farm proposed by American Aquafarms is slated to be within this viewshed.

Friends of Acadia Opposes Proposed Salmon Farms

BY STEPHANIE CLEMENT

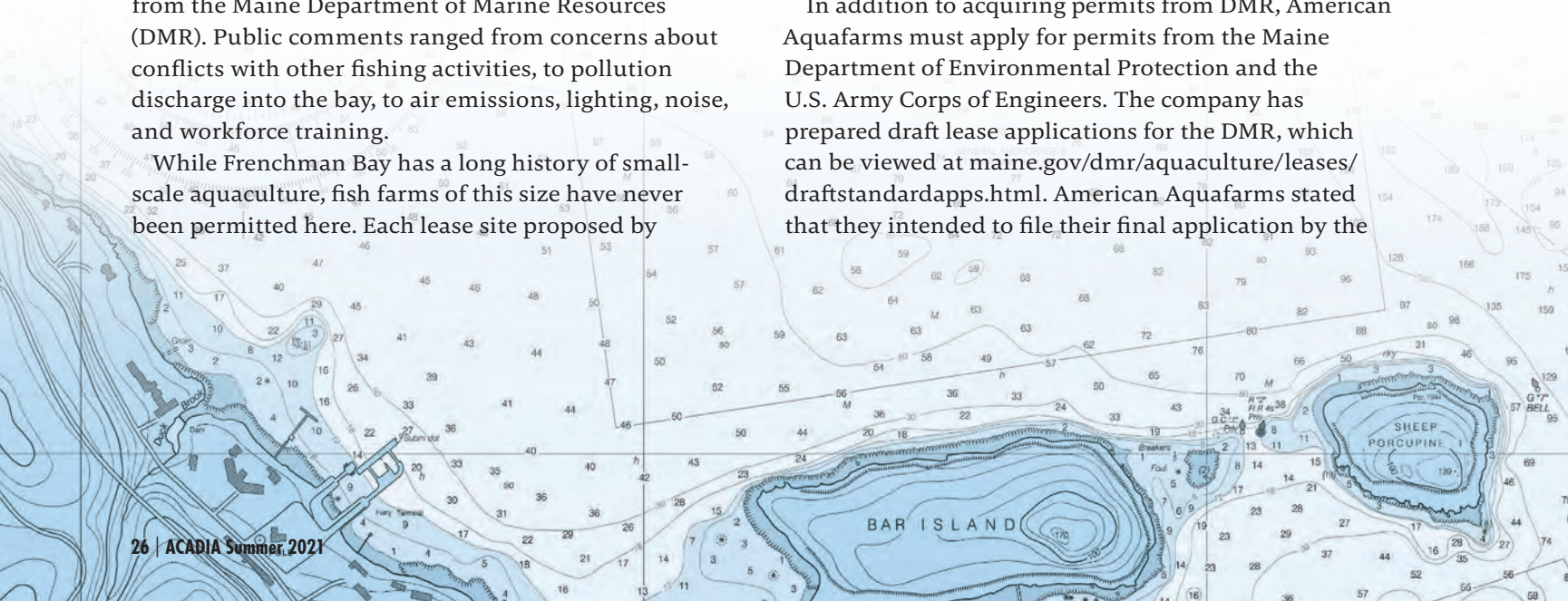
Friends of Acadia and many other concerned citizens and organizations attended a June 23rd online scoping session where they asked hard questions of American Aquafarms about its plans to lease two 60-acre sites for salmon farms in Upper Frenchman Bay.

The session, which was organized by American Aquafarms, was part of the process to receive a permit from the Maine Department of Marine Resources (DMR). Public comments ranged from concerns about conflicts with other fishing activities, to pollution discharge into the bay, to air emissions, lighting, noise, and workforce training.

While Frenchman Bay has a long history of small-scale aquaculture, fish farms of this size have never been permitted here. Each lease site proposed by

American Aquafarms would include fifteen pens (147-foot in diameter each) and a feed/generator barge. The farms would be served by at least two vessels (one at 145-feet in length, and the second at approximately 50-feet in length) traveling year-round from Prospect Harbor where the company would house its land-based hatchery and processing plant.

In addition to acquiring permits from DMR, American Aquafarms must apply for permits from the Maine Department of Environmental Protection and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The company has prepared draft lease applications for the DMR, which can be viewed at maine.gov/dmr/aquaculture/leases/draftstandardapps.html. American Aquafarms stated that they intended to file their final application by the



end of July. After completeness review by the DMR, a formal public hearing will be scheduled.

Advocacy Committee Votes to Oppose

The Friends of Acadia Advocacy Committee unanimously voted to oppose the salmon farms because of concerns about navigation in Frenchman Bay, conflicting uses of the Bay, and impacts to public enjoyment of the park and conserved islands.

This spring, Friends of Acadia wrote a letter to the Army Corps of Engineers to request that the agency require American Aquafarms to complete a full Environmental Impact Statement given the significant environmental controversy over the proposal and the fact that the semi-enclosed salmon pens American Aquafarms plans to use have not been tested in the United States. Part of the process of the Army Corps' review is to consult with other federal agencies, including the National Park Service.

Scenic resources are one of the fundamental resources and values listed in Acadia National Park's foundation document. Friends of Acadia is concerned about the impacts to the viewsheds from the Paradise Hill sections of the carriage roads and motor-road system, both of which are on the National Register of Historic Places, as well as from the public waters of Frenchman Bay and the nearby park-owned islands, including Bar Island, Long Porcupine Island, and the Hop, which are popular destinations for recreational hikers and boaters.

The salmon farms will also be visible from the Bluffs area of Route 3, which has been designated as an "All-American Road," the highest level of scenic classification in the National Scenic Byways Program. The salmon farms will require lighting and continuously operating water pumps, which could degrade the night sky and natural soundscapes over water year-round.

Friends of Acadia will continue to track American Aquafarms' proposal and send alerts to members about opportunities to comment on the proposal. ■

STEPHANIE CLEMENT is Friends of Acadia's Conservation Director.



COURTESY MAINE DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

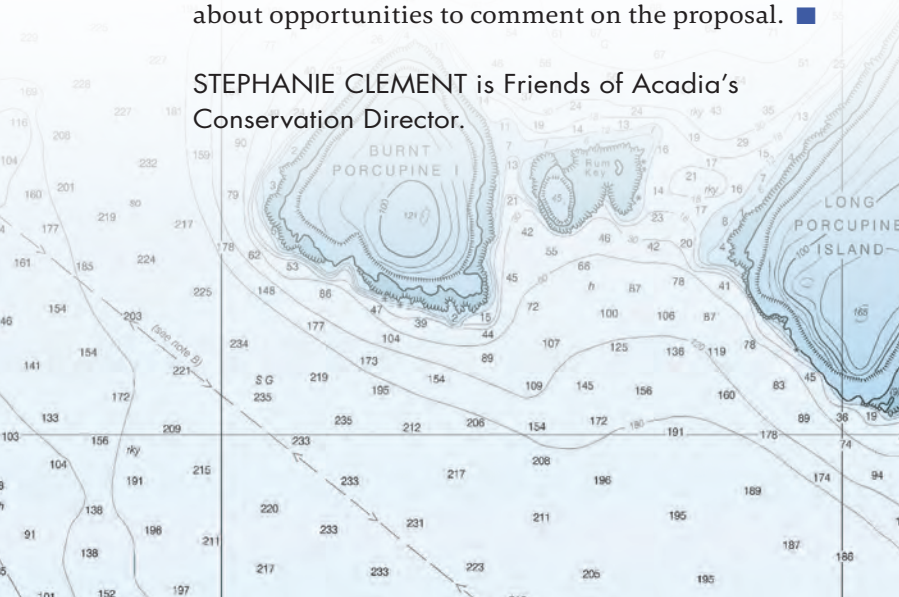


JOHN KELLY/NPS

Friends of Acadia President David MacDonald and Maine Coast Heritage Trust President Tim Glidden discuss concerns about the proposed industrial size salmon farms with Department of Interior Secretary Deb Haaland.

"The scale of this development—the equivalent of 16 football fields—is unprecedented in Maine and incongruous with the existing nature and setting of Frenchman Bay and its surrounding lands. It poses significant impacts to Acadia and its visitor experience."

KEVIN SCHNEIDER,
ACADIA NATIONAL PARK SUPERINTENDENT



TO FUTURE STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS: "DO IT! IT HAS BEEN A LIFE CHANGING EXPERIENCE FOR ME AND OPENED SO MANY DOORS. JUMP IN WITH TWO FEET."

LUNDY STOWE,
FOA Student Board Member 2019-21



JULIA WALKER THOMAS/FOA

Lundy Stowe

Meet Friends of Acadia's Student Board Member Pioneers Lundy Stowe and Matt Farragher

BY JULIA WALKER THOMAS

Friends of Acadia has long benefited from the talent, energy, and perspective of young people who have served the organization as volunteers, interns, seasonal employees, and participants in programs. In 2019, with the goal of expanding the impact local college students could make on the organization, Friends of Acadia added two visiting student board positions to its Board of Directors.

Lundy Stowe, an undergraduate student at College of the Atlantic, and Matt Farragher, a master's student at the University of Maine, were selected as the first-ever Friends of Acadia visiting student board members. They were selected in part because of the proximity of their schools to

Acadia, but also because their areas of study aligned closely

with key focus areas of the park.

We wanted to learn what the experience was like for our student board member pioneers and what advice they might give students interested in serving in the future.

LUNDY STOWE: A LEADER WITH A PASSION FOR NATIONAL PARKS AND ENGAGING YOUTH

Lundy Stowe grew up in Groveland, California, a gateway community to Yosemite National Park. Being near the national park, and having parents who were park rangers, instilled a love of national parks and wild places in Lundy from a young age. She chose College of the Atlantic where she is studying Forest Ecology and National Park Management in large part because of its proximity to Acadia National Park.

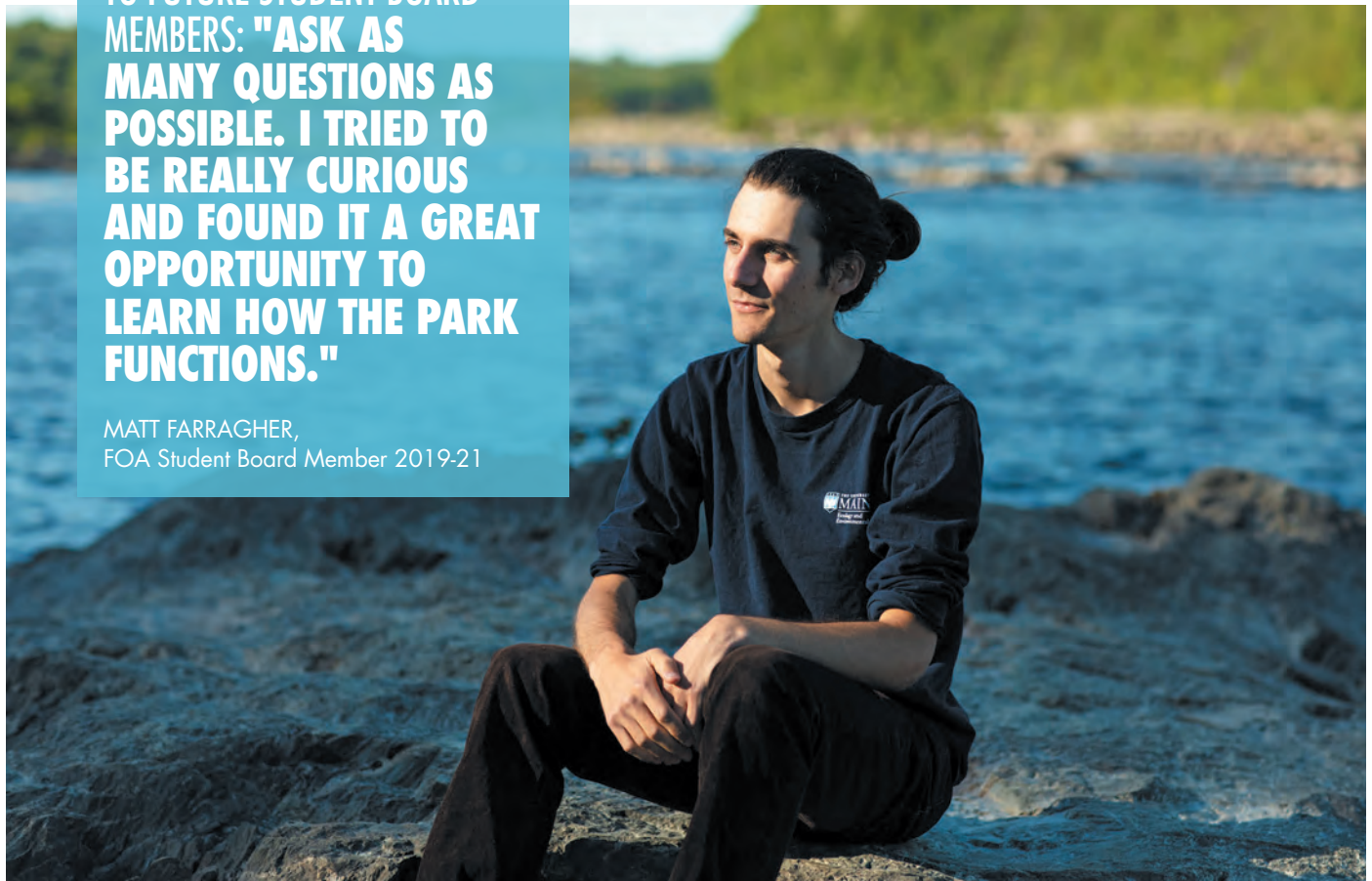
For Lundy, becoming a student board member was



To watch video interviews with Lundy and Matt, visit friendsofacadia.org/student-board-member

TO FUTURE STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS: "ASK AS MANY QUESTIONS AS POSSIBLE. I TRIED TO BE REALLY CURIOUS AND FOUND IT A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN HOW THE PARK FUNCTIONS."

MATT FARRAGHER,
FOA Student Board Member 2019-21



JULIA WALKER THOMAS/FOA

Matt Farragher

significant because she values the work that is happening in the National Park Service and wants to see more youth voices incorporated in the future. She is also interested in exploring ways that college students can engage with the national park through citizen science opportunities outdoor. Lundy believes this involvement will ultimately foster a love and respect for outdoor spaces in the next generation.

"I'm happy to say that in these two years I've seen forward movement in more DEI [diversity, equity, and inclusion] training and investing in more sustainable resources or energy...This student board member program has really helped foster the goals of the next generation and I would like to continue to see those forward movements."

Lundy's advice to those considering applying for a Friends of Acadia Student Board Member position? "Do it! It has been a life changing experience for me and opened so many doors. Jump in with two feet."

MATT FARRAGHER: A SCIENTIST IN TRAINING

Matt Farragher, originally from Albany, New York, is working on his Master's in Ecology and Environmental Science, focusing on Lake Ecology, at the University of Maine. For his master's research, Matt is studying how

different phytoplankton communities in lakes in Acadia National Park respond to environmental drivers, such as dissolved organic carbon concentration.

Matt says this work is important because some of the lakes in Acadia are drinking water sources and understanding how the lakes are responding to environmental change—like climate change—is important.

It was in his role as the aquatic scientist responsible for the Jordan Pond Buoy that he first learned of Friends of Acadia's student board opportunity. His advisor recommended him for the position, and, well, the rest is history.

Through his experience as a board member, Matt has enjoyed getting to know the complexities of operating a national park. He now has a deeper appreciation for the way organizations like Friends of Acadia collaborate with the park to complete important projects.

To future student board members, Matt encourages: "Ask as many questions as possible. I tried to be really curious and found it a great opportunity to learn how the park functions." ■

JULIA WALKER THOMAS is Friends of Acadia's Digital Media Manager.



SAM MALLON/FOA

Businesses Find Creative Ways to Give Back by Donating Proceeds

Support your park by enjoying these very special brews

BY LISA HORSCH CLARK



SAM MALLON/FOA

Patrick Lattimore, Lacey Sinclair, Asa Marsh-Sachs, and Abe Furth of Orono Brewing Company talk with Friend of Acadia President David MacDonald at a release event for Friend of Acadia IPA at Project Social Kitchen and Bar.

FOR THOSE WHO LIKE TO CELEBRATE the end of an active day in the park with a cool, refreshing beverage, Friends of Acadia has great news: several new business donors are giving proceeds from their sales to Friends of Acadia. Orono Brewing launched Friend of Acadia IPA in June with proceeds from the beer supporting our work to preserve and protect Acadia. Orono Brewing co-founder Abe Furth worked with Asa Marsh-Sachs to develop a juicy and refreshing IPA with bright hop flavors. Artwork for the can designed by Orono's general manager Justin Soderberg features the park's beautiful Bass Harbor Lighthouse.

In addition to Orono Brewing, you can buy Friend of Acadia beer at many local stores.

For Alex Maffucci, the president of Atlantic Brewing in Bar Harbor, the idea for the new Flat Hat American Pale Ale came after sharing a beer with Acadia's superintendent, Kevin Schneider. During that conversation and those that followed, they agreed a common thread between good beer and a healthy park and community is good, clean water.

For many years, Friends of Acadia and the park have partnered on a water-quality program at Jordan Pond, an important water source for the town of Mount Desert. Proceeds from the sales of Flat Hat will support the water-quality monitoring program at Jordan Pond. Look for Flat Hat at Atlantic Brewing Midtown this summer.

Other new proceed donors this spring include Three of Strong Spirits in Portland and The Naturalist's Notebook in Seal Harbor. Watch for announcements on our website, in the e-news, on Facebook, and on Instagram for partner updates.

The proceeds program at Friends of Acadia has its roots in the 2016 Acadia Centennial. During that year, 453 Acadia Centennial partners sold products and hosted events pledging proceeds from those programs to Friends of Acadia.

It was in that year the Acadia Park Company, located on Main Street in Bar Harbor, started their 2% for the Park program. They didn't stop when the centennial celebration was over. They have given 2% to Friends of Acadia each and every year since then, supporting resource-protection initiatives, trail building, and volunteer support.

Proceeds donors have the goal of helping Friends of Acadia preserve and protect the park, now and for future generations, and this is another creative way to give back. Thank you to ALL Friends of Acadia Proceeds donors.

To learn more about becoming a partner in the proceeds program, contact Lisa Horsch Clark, at lisahorsch@friendsofacadia.org. ■

LISA HORSCH CLARK is Director of Development and Donor Relations for Friends of Acadia.



Pepper Anderson: Where Passion and Purpose Meet

BY LISA HORSCH CLARK



You don't often hear the CEO of a major financial institution described as giddy. But when I spoke with Chilton Trust CEO Pepper Anderson about what Acadia meant to her when she visited during the pandemic last year, her animated smile answered before she spoke.

Pepper described her arrival on Mount Desert Island (MDI) last summer with her husband and their two children as a welcome time of rejuvenation and sense of returning home. Pepper's great-grandparents first landed on the Island many years ago and she's had the good fortune of visiting most summers of her life.

When the Anderson family first arrived during the pandemic last year, they were struck by three things—just how important Acadia is to them, the resilience of the local community, and the fact that there were way fewer people. They enjoyed the slower pace as it made them feel as though they had gone back in time.

As a savvy businesswoman, Pepper recognized that with fewer visitors on MDI, local merchants might be struggling. Thus, the Andersons made a point to support many of the local businesses as a way of showing their gratitude for this special place. In between hikes, paddles, dog walks, and climbs up Dorr and Champlain Mountains, they shopped locally.

A Happy Coincidence

In July 2019, when Pepper left her 22-year tenure with J.P. Morgan to join Chilton Trust Company, Chilton Trust was already a long-time presenting sponsor of the Friends of Acadia Annual Benefit.

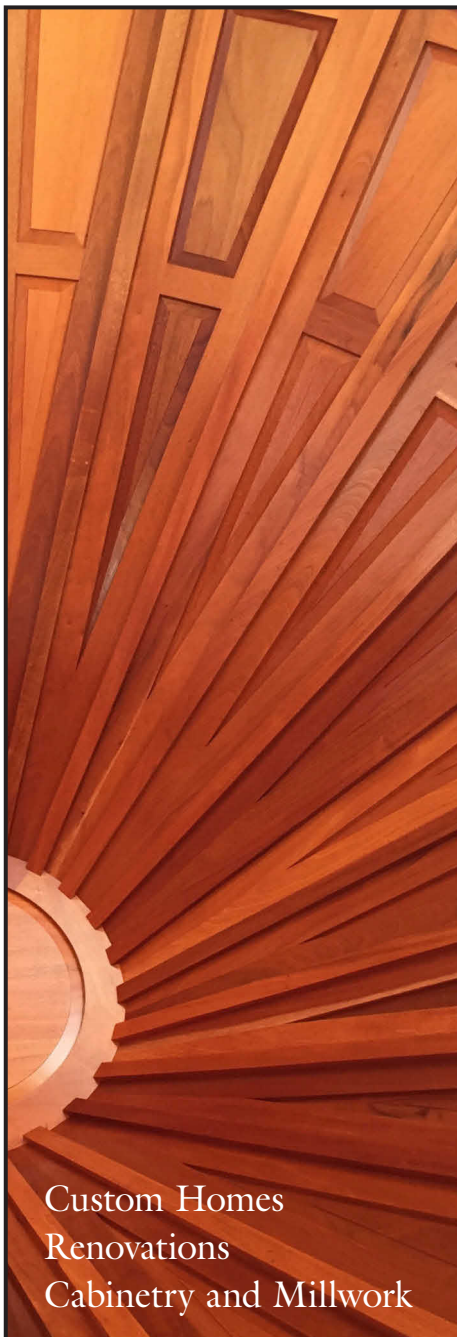
With an overall philanthropic philosophy of contributing to the greater good, conservation is a major focus of Chilton Trust's corporate social responsibility program. In addition to Friends of Acadia, Chilton Trust supports the Everglades

When the Anderson family first arrived during the pandemic last year, they were struck by three things—just how important Acadia is to them, the resilience of the local community, and the fact that there were way fewer people.

Foundation, the Nature Conservancy, the New York Botanical Gardens, and more than 60 other nonprofit organizations.

For Pepper, passion and purpose aligned. With Pepper at the helm of Chilton Trust, we know we have a champion of our mission to preserve and protect Acadia, both now and for future generations. The board, staff, and volunteers of Friends of Acadia are honored to work with Pepper Anderson as we partner with Chilton Trust again for the eighth consecutive year at the 32nd Annual Friends of Acadia Benefit. We're also delighted that we'll be seeing Pepper and her family in the park and around MDI. ■

LISA HORSCH CLARK is Director of Development and Donor Relations for Friends of Acadia.



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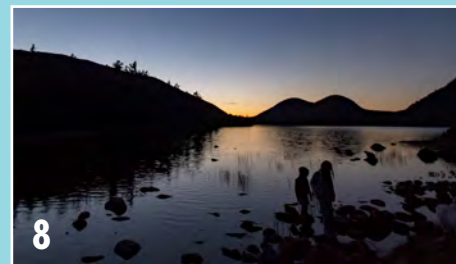
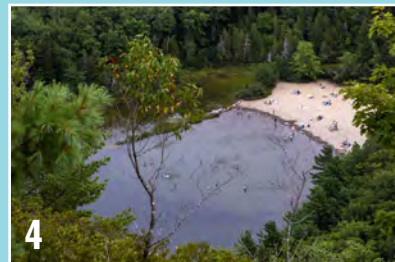
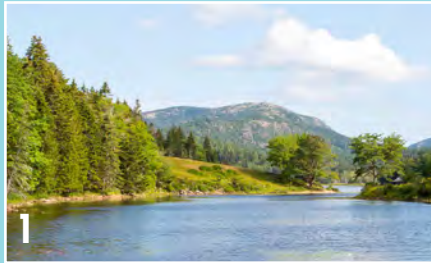
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Can you identify these
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that are located within
Acadia National Park?



_____ The Bowl, _____ Eagle Lake, _____ Echo Lake,
_____ Jordan Pond, _____ Little Long Pond, _____ Lower Hadlock
Pond, _____ Seal Cove Pond, _____ Upper Hadlock Pond

ANSWERS ON PAGE 37



HOW I GOT THE SHOT

By Emily Moses

While out on assignment as part of the Acadia Digital Media Team, coordinator Ashley Conti would often remark, “I can’t believe this is our job!” I always agreed, because being paid to document Acadia was like a dream.

While most jobs can leave you exhausted, a day in Acadia left me revitalized. At the end of each workday, I was never eager to put down my camera and often remained on the hunt for a good photo opportunity.

I spent a day on Sand Beach in hopes of capturing sunny skies. Instead, the day was cloudy but warm and a dense fog swarmed the beach. When I decided to gather my things to leave, sunlight burst through the fog creating a halo around the trees. Suddenly, that sunlight formed

a rainbow above a young couple on the beach. As they leaned in to kiss, I took a photo.

I couldn’t believe that I almost left and missed out on this special moment. It is one that always reminds me of how much love Acadia fosters for visitors, a love that is fully reciprocated by every person who is touched by the magic of Acadia. ■

EMILY MOSES was a member of the Acadia Digital Media Team in 2020. A recent graduate of Western Kentucky University with a degree in Photojournalism, she now works for the Tennessee Comptroller’s Office of the Treasury as a communications specialist.



SAM MALLON/FOA

A ranger scans a visitor's Cadillac reservation at the entrance to Cadillac Summit Road.

Making a Reservation to Visit Cadillac Mountain by Vehicle

BY LORI SCHAEFER

It's been about two months since Acadia National Park implemented its new reservation system for visitors who want to drive up the Cadillac Summit Road. While there have been a few hiccups—as with any new system—the vehicle reservation system is meeting its objectives of helping visitors plan and enjoy a better summit experience.

"We are pleased to see that vehicle reservations have eliminated the severe traffic congestion and competition for parking spaces that visitors have been experiencing for years," said John Kelly, Acadia Management Assistant. "Visitors driving Cadillac Summit Road can now have a safer, more enjoyable experience."

How to Make a Cadillac Reservation

Visitors wishing to visit Cadillac must have both a park entrance pass to enter the park and a vehicle reservation for Cadillac Summit Road. You can purchase both online at Recreation.gov in advance of your trip.

Cadillac reservations cost \$6 per vehicle and are sold online only. Cadillac vehicle reservations are not available for purchase at the park and are not required for hikers, cyclists, and taxis.

To make a Cadillac reservation, visit Recreation.gov, search "Acadia National Park Vehicle Reservations," and then follow the steps. The system will walk you through the process.

It's important to know that 30 percent of vehicle reservations for a particular date are available online 90 days in advance, and the other 70 percent are released just two days in advance at 10 a.m. ET. This is because most people choose to make reservations within one to two days of their visit.

Vehicle reservations are divided into sunrise and daytime tickets. Because sunrise on Cadillac is so popular, visitors may only purchase one sunrise reservation every seven days. Visitors may also purchase one daytime reservation per day. Once you purchase a reservation you can stay on top of Cadillac as long as you like. Reservations have no specific ending time.

Once you make your reservation online, be sure to print your reservation with the QR code or capture an image of it to display at the check-in station as connectivity across the park is unreliable.

For a step-by-step video about how to make a Cadillac reservation, visit FriendsOfAcadia.org/CadillacHowTo. ■

LORI SCHAEFER is Friends of Acadia's Communications Director.



To watch video:
[FriendsOfAcadia.
org/Cadillac
HowTo](https://FriendsOfAcadia.org/CadillacHowTo)

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Judy Hines
Nancy Howland
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Updates

Acadia Accessibility Study Now Underway

The National Center on Accessibility at the Eppley Institute for Parks and Public Lands at Indiana University is sending teams to Acadia in mid-June and mid-September to work with the National Park Service to identify barriers for accessibility at key locations in Acadia. The study is funded by a grant from the Diana Davis Spencer Foundation to Friends of Acadia.

The park formed an interdisciplinary team to identify sites to be examined, focusing first on physical structures that are open to the public. Priority locations to be studied during the June visit include Sand

Beach, bus stops in the park, the Hulls Cove Visitor Center, Bass Harbor Head Light, Wildwood Stables, Echo Lake, and selected trails, way-side signs, and interpretive displays.

The fall visit will include Cadillac Mountain, Sieur de Monts, carriage road entrances, Thunder Hole, and museum spaces.

The overall goal of the accessibility study is to help Acadia National Park reduce barriers for access at these locations and to foster a culture of inclusivity. The study will prioritize short-term and long-term improvements, as well as improvements that can be made easily.



ASHLEY L. CONTI/FOA

Katie Palano (center), graduate student at Bloomington, takes notes as Kate Wiltz, project manager at Eppley Institute at Indiana University, measures the heights of a set of stairs during an ADA accessibility assessment in Acadia National Park.

Island Explorer Routes and Passenger Limits Updated

Island Explorer bus service began May 26 on the Schoodic Peninsula and June 23 on Mount Desert Island. Schedules and routes can be seen online at www.exploreacadia.com.

This spring, Downeast Transportation reorganized the Island Explorer routes because social distancing requirements reduced passenger capacity to 12/bus. Frequency of bus service had to be increased to better serve customers and prevent long waiting times if buses were full.

The Federal Transit Administration has since relaxed social distancing requirements on public transportation, so the Island Explorer will be able to carry additional seated passengers on each bus. This enabled Downeast Transportation to open routes serving Blackwoods Campground and the campgrounds along Route 3 in Bar Harbor.

All passengers must wear face masks. Downeast Transportation and partners hope to return to the regular, full Island Explorer service in 2022.

ANSWERS to Lakes & Ponds IQ quiz on page 32

1. Little Long Pond
2. Lower Hadlock Pond
3. The Bowl
4. Echo Lake
5. Eagle Lake
6. Upper Hadlock Pond
7. Seal Cove Pond
8. Jordan Pond



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State Resolution Supports Outdoor Classroom Learning

This spring, Friends of Acadia reached out to local legislators to help secure support for HP 1087, a Joint Resolution Supporting All Maine Youth Outdoors.

The resolution commended "Maine teachers, administrators and school districts for their innovation in using outdoor settings to increase safety for

youth and staff and to meet youth's physical and mental needs," and expressed support for "opportunities for all Maine youth to enjoy time outdoors to explore and to learn about and build connections to our State's natural resources."

Artists-in-Residence Program

Beginning July 1 through September 30, the Artist-in-Residence program at Acadia National Park will accept online applications for as many as eight available residency opportunities in 2022.

A required application fee of \$25 benefits program operational costs, such as

participant housing and supplies for public display spaces and outreach activities. Learn more at go.nps.gov/AcadiaArt.

The Artist-in-Residence program encourages artists to create fresh and innovative new ways for visitors to experience Acadia National Park through the arts.



STEPHANIE GRAFF

Where in Acadia, continued from page 3

"I could have guessed this one by the clues alone! Clearly, this spot is on Dorr Point where the visitor is looking out at the Porcupine Islands. I've visited this spot every year of my life since I was five, except for the two years that I gave birth to my two sons. It's just a short hike down from the Old Farm ruins where George B. Dorr's family summered and threw elegant parties.

Once a hidden gem of Bar Harbor, known only to locals and those who live in the neighborhood, it's heavily visited now by those who want to get a glimpse into the life of the Father of Acadia. Here's a picture from 2020 of my sister and my son heading toward Dorr Point in their kayak."

—Stephanie Graff, St. Louis, MO and Bar Harbor, ME



Marinelli named Senior Development Officer

Marisa Marinelli joined Friends of Acadia in May as Senior Development Officer for Major Gifts and Events. She is working with individuals, businesses, and partners to raise funds to help preserve and protect Acadia National Park.

Marisa has been a nonprofit fundraiser and event planner for 15 years, working with esteemed organizations such as American Repertory Ballet, Paul Taylor Dance Company, and the New York City Ballet. Most recently, she was Associate Director of Special Events at The Jackson Laboratory, and prior to that served as Advancement Officer at Mount Desert Island (MDI) Hospital.

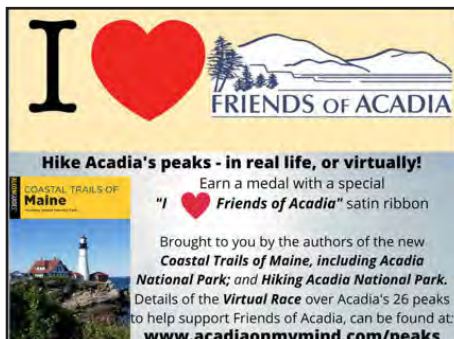
"Marisa's experience will bring a fresh perspective to our fundraising operation," said Lisa Horsch Clark, Friends of Acadia Director of Development. "We're delighted to have Marisa on board and look forward to her taking the helm of our event planning, as well as working with some of our most loyal and generous donors."

"It's truly an honor and a passion to serve a unique community, such as MDI," Marinelli said. "The opportunity to support Acadia National Park—the heart and soul of this community—is an incredible privilege. I am thrilled to be joining the fantastic team at Friends of Acadia."



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Allan MacDonald	Wayne L. Worrell
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Marjorie	

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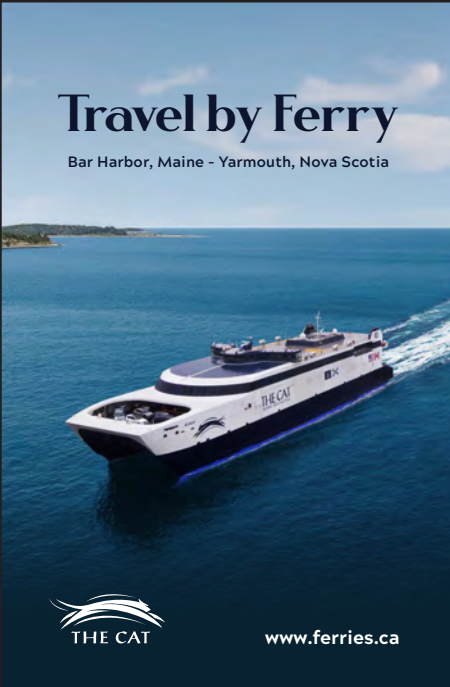
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Earl Brechlin: To Know Him is To Love Him

BY LORI SCHAEFER



You've likely heard the expression "to know him is to love him." That's Earl Brechlin in a nutshell.

Whether you know Earl as a registered Maine guide, joining him on outdoor adventures or seeking his advice...Or you recognize him as an award-winning Maine journalist and author...Or, like me, you've had

the pleasure of working with him...When you ask anyone about Earl, the answer is roughly the same: To know Earl is to love him.

Earl is genuine, outgoing, and laid back in his approach to work and life. He knows, and gets along with, everyone from long-time friends and colleagues to casual acquaintances on the street. He is somewhat of a legend on Mount Desert Island (MDI); when you aren't sure who to call, Earl is the go-to-guy and if he doesn't know the answer, he'll help you find it.

At his essence, Earl is a natural relationship builder and storyteller. He's been writing and taking photographs on MDI for more than 40 years. You can see his fingerprints all over the Island, especially in the Bar Harbor Historical Society where he currently serves as president of the Board.

When Earl tells the story of his career, he says that his job as Friends of Acadia's Communications Director was a dream job. His love of the woods, water, and nature—and of course Acadia—combined with a love of history and storytelling, made it so.

His accomplishments at Friends of Acadia were many. Acadia National Park Superintendent Kevin Schneider remembers how Earl helped the park plan and conduct public outreach on the transportation plan by holding meetings at the public library. The Friends of Acadia Board and members might remember him best for his vision to redesign the Friends of Acadia Journal to the beautifully updated quarterly *Acadia* magazine. Earl was also responsible for the concept of Acadia Week, to celebrate the park's founding.

At a staff going-away party for Earl, we did a wordplay on one of Earl's books and hosted a slideshow called "Wild, Weird, Wonderful Earl," celebrating him. It was a chance for

colleagues to share fun stories that make Earl unique and beloved. Did you know he is an avid model railroader who has been featured in national publications? Or, that he taps his own trees and makes maple syrup?

When Earl "retired" in February of this year, his plans were to begin work on a new book project, curate a new exhibit for the Bar Harbor Historical Society, and travel with his wife Roxie. He promised to stay involved by writing for *Acadia* magazine and volunteering at events. We are fortunate that he's done that and more.

Thank you, Earl, for your leadership in bringing the Friends of Acadia's communications department to where it is today, and for your continued involvement in Friends of Acadia's mission. We'll be seeing you around the Island! ■



Acadia National Park Superintendent Kevin Schneider presented retired Friends of Acadia Communications Director Earl Brechlin with a plaque in honor of his service and help with communication of the transportation plan.

LILLY LAREGINA/FRIENDS OF ACADIA

Saying Farewell and Thank You

This July concludes my second term as Friends of Acadia board chair, and it has been the most rewarding opportunity. I have cherished presiding over and serving as an ambassador for this esteemed organization. It has been an honor to represent the impactful work of Friends of Acadia, the distinguished board, and our beloved national park.

Recently, I was asked what legacy I hoped to leave at Friends of Acadia. While that's not easy to answer, I hope it was evident that my passion for Acadia was a driver of purposeful work, strategic planning, and broad-based relationship building.

A top priority was assessing the organization's strategic plan. Based on board and staff discussions, we wanted a plan that would: reflect a clear course aligned with our mission, address new priorities, and guide the board and staff's work for five years. Using an inclusive process, the board and staff determined that our four strategic pillars remained relevant and identified clear desired outcomes for 2023—including park safety, ecological health, and tapping the next generation of leaders.

In addition, I worked to build and strengthen relationships with those in all areas of the organization. I loved pulling together small groups of friends and donors to hike with the park superintendent and preferred to pick up the phone and get to know other directors by scheduling time in Acadia.

Whether it was outreach to donors, working to deepen board and staff connections (trivia night!), or navigating ways to keep board members informed and engaged during COVID, I cherished my connections within the Friends of Acadia family.

Equally important was the relationship with our park partners at Acadia National Park and Schoodic Institute. As a group, we identified areas where we could unite and leverage our strengths: a working group to address seasonal housing concerns, signing the Philanthropic Partner Agreement, a board

meeting held at the Schoodic campus, and learning how to use our partnership to develop shared messaging around climate change are just a few examples.

The past four years have been unique in history and at Friends of Acadia. A worldwide pandemic led to a first-time virtual Annual Benefit yielding record success. A social justice movement unfolded, bringing attention to our diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts. In conjunction with the transportation plan, Acadia implemented a new vehicle reservation system to improve the visitor experience.

I have relished the opportunity to work with Park Superintendent Kevin Schneider and his talented management team and staff. My chair role benefited from time spent at the Friends Alliance Conferences and the opportunity to network with other friends' groups, park employees, and leadership at the national level.

These accomplishments would not have been possible without the dedication and tireless efforts of the dynamic Friends of Acadia staff and board of directors, and without the tremendous support, teamwork, and preparedness that I have received from President and CEO David MacDonald.

It is with extreme confidence and enthusiasm that I pass the baton to Jack Kelley, a seasoned director bringing vast board experience. I wish Jack all the best in leading this excellent organization into the future.

Thank you to my family and friends who understood the time and commitment needed to serve and generously supported me.

Finally, thank you all for your confidence in me and support of me. You have made this a wonderful experience and one I shall not soon forget.

With gratitude,



Anne B. Green

FROM THE CHAIR

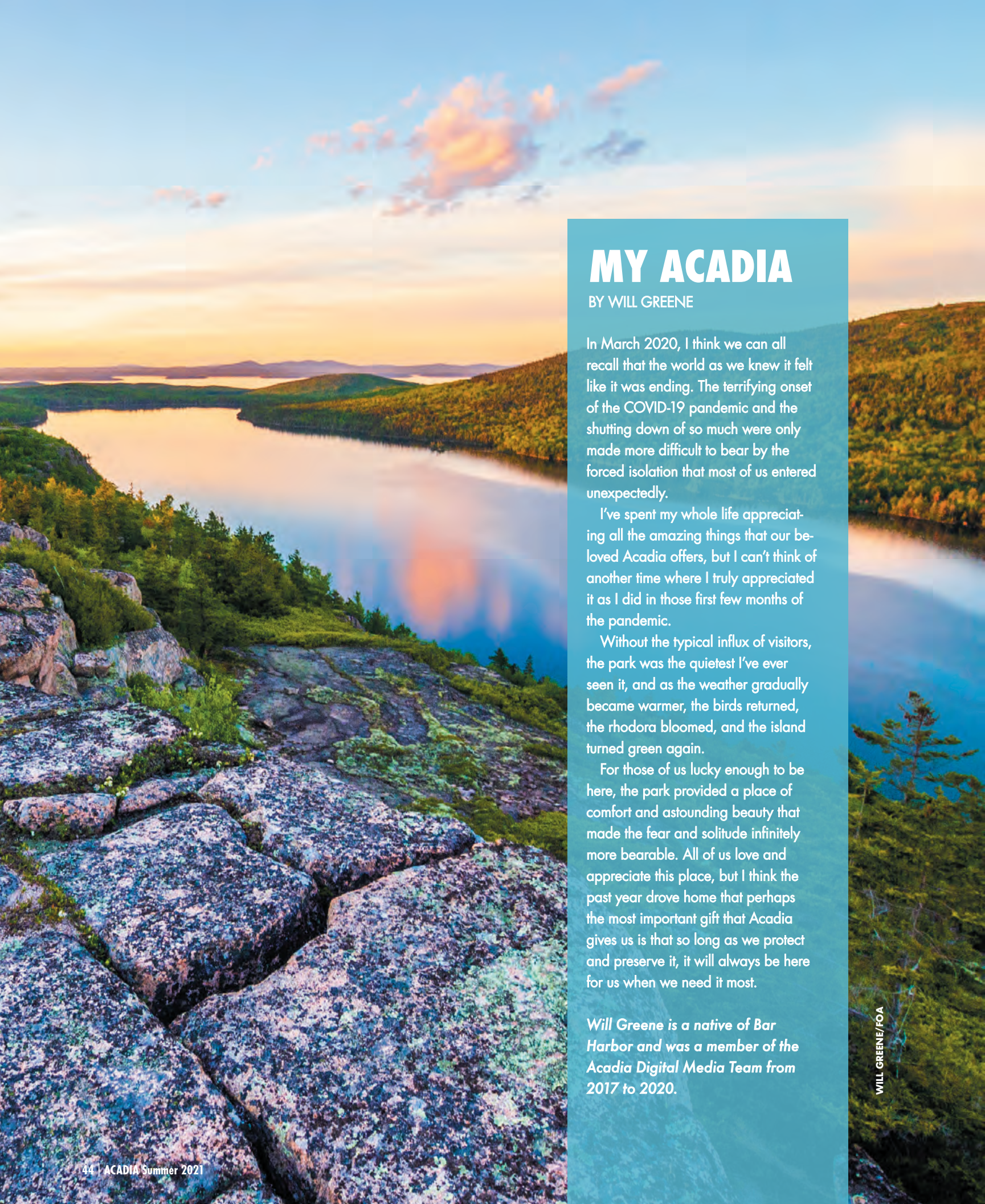


"Whether it was outreach to donors, working to deepen board and staff connections (trivia night!), or navigating ways to keep board members informed and engaged during COVID, I cherished my connections within the Friends of Acadia family."



COURTESY ANNE GREEN

ANNE GREEN on Acadia's trails with friends.



MY ACADIA

BY WILL GREENE

In March 2020, I think we can all recall that the world as we knew it felt like it was ending. The terrifying onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and the shutting down of so much were only made more difficult to bear by the forced isolation that most of us entered unexpectedly.

I've spent my whole life appreciating all the amazing things that our beloved Acadia offers, but I can't think of another time where I truly appreciated it as I did in those first few months of the pandemic.

Without the typical influx of visitors, the park was the quietest I've ever seen it, and as the weather gradually became warmer, the birds returned, the rhodora bloomed, and the island turned green again.

For those of us lucky enough to be here, the park provided a place of comfort and astounding beauty that made the fear and solitude infinitely more bearable. All of us love and appreciate this place, but I think the past year drove home that perhaps the most important gift that Acadia gives us is that so long as we protect and preserve it, it will always be here for us when we need it most.

Will Greene is a native of Bar Harbor and was a member of the Acadia Digital Media Team from 2017 to 2020.

WILL GREENE/FOA

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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.

IN JUNE, Cellist Yo-Yo Ma surprised visitors in Acadia National Park with two pop-up concerts as part of his effort to explore how the intersection of nature and culture can help us shape a better future. Here he performs at Otter

