



Dear Friends,

Summer is in full swing, and many lifelong memories are being made in Acadia. Whether your favorite activity is swimming with friends in Acadia's lakes and ponds after a hike, biking the carriage roads, or just taking in the scenery from your favorite mountaintop—we hope you'll get out in the park and enjoy time with those you love. It's also a busy time of year for Friends of Acadia, with plenty of opportunities to engage and support your favorite park.

The 33rd Annual Benefit is Back in Person August 13!

Join us at the Friends of Acadia Annual Benefit on Saturday, August 13, at the Asticou Inn to celebrate Acadia and help raise funds for critical conservation initiatives in our beloved park. We're back in person this year! Tickets are still available for purchase by clicking [HERE](#).



We've learned a great deal from the success of our virtual events over the last two years and will be modeling this year's silent auction and paddle raise to allow everyone to participate.

The Silent Auction opens online from Friday, August 5 through Sunday, August 14. All are encouraged to create an online account and place their highest bid leading up to the closing of the silent auction at noon on Sunday, August 14.

To view silent auction items in person, visit the Asticou Inn at 15 Peabody Drive in Northeast Harbor from Friday, August 5 through Saturday, August 13. To participate in the silent auction (FREE): Click [HERE](#) and click SIGN IN in the upper right-hand corner.

For more information on the live auction, silent auction, paddle raise or dinner program, [click here](#). Or contact Marisa Marinelli at marisa@friendsofacadia.org.

Paddle Raise to Help Address Climate Change in Acadia

There is no more pressing issue for Acadia than the rapid changes we are seeing in the climate. While Acadia's landscape has always been changing, the pace of change has accelerated, and uncertainty has increased. That's why Friends of Acadia is partnering with the National Park Service and Schoodic Institute to act now to ensure that Acadia's beauty and vitality endures, whatever the future may hold.



The Wild Acadia initiative 2.0 is helping to restore essential park habitats, but with an innovative, forward-thinking approach to managing for future expected environmental conditions rather than looking to the past. Your gift to the Wild Acadia 2.0 Paddle Raise will help Friends of Acadia contribute to the long-term resiliency of park ecosystems.

TWO WAYS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 2022 PADDLE RAISE

- 1 – Join us at the live Benefit Auction on August 13 and raise your paddle.
- 2 – Raise your paddle virtually by making an online contribution between August 5 and August 14 via our Benefit Auction site [HERE](#).

Carriage Rides in Acadia just got more accessible!

A new accessible carriage has joined the fleet at Wildwood Stables. The accessible carriage was purchased through Friends of Acadia's endowment originally established by the Shelby Cullom Davis Foundation, now called the Diana Davis Spencer Foundation. It was built by Raber Buggy Works in Indiana and will transfer to any future concessions operations as the contract for carriage rides is re-issued.



Friends of Acadia is reaching out to groups across Maine who work with people with disabilities to let them know of the carriage's availability. Reservations can be made by calling 1-877-276-3622 or 207-276-3622. For more information on the tours offered by Carriages of Acadia, visit acadiahorses.com.

Thank You, Friends!

A special thank you to all who joined us for Acadia Week and the Annual Meeting this year. If you missed the Annual Meeting in person, you can view it [here](#). Acadia Week live broadcasts are all available on our [Facebook](#) page.



Last week, our friends helped raise \$40,000 for Acadia in celebration of Acadia Week and Acadia National Park's birthday. Thank you to the more than 105 generous people with a shared love for Acadia National Park who made gifts over the past week, and to Friends of Acadia board member Julie Banzhaf-Stone and her husband Steve Stone, who provided the \$20,000 match. Because of you, Friends of Acadia will be able to do even more for this special place we all care for so deeply.

Celebrating Paul Haertel

A public celebration of life for former Acadia National Park superintendent Paul Haertel will be held Sunday, July 17, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Wendell Gilley Museum in Southwest Harbor. Haertel was superintendent of Acadia National Park from 1994 to 2002, capping a 41-year career in the National Park Service. He was also a longtime member of the Gilley's Board of Trustees and was serving as vice president of the board this year.



Mr. Haertel's family invites his friends and colleagues to join them to celebrate a man who connected with many people and organizations on Mount Desert Island, the rest of Maine, and the National Park Service.

Acadia Quest

There's still time to register and complete Acadia's favorite experiential scavenger hunt. We're celebrating the 14th anniversary of Acadia Quest with the "Storytellers" edition. This year, Acadia National Park staff were interviewed and are sending teams to their favorite locations in the park.



Questers of all ages are welcome and instructions to the challenges are provided via video message. In addition, a Speed Quest is designed for visitors who are in Acadia for as little as one day. The program is free and open to all, but you need a park pass to participate.

Acadia Quest closes on November 15. All registration forms and documentation must be entered via mail or email by that date to be eligible for prizes, and prizes will be sent to winning teams after the deadline.

For more info and to register, click [here](#).

Join at the Membership Table

Be sure to stop by the Friends of Acadia Membership Table located outside the Jordan Pond House 10:30-3:30pm most weekdays. You'll not only meet passionate Friends of Acadia volunteers, but you will also receive special extras gifts with your membership, not available anywhere else!



We're still looking for volunteers to join us at the membership table. If you enjoy sharing your park experiences with others and would like to meet park visitors from all over the world, the Friends of Acadia membership table at Jordan Pond House is the perfect opportunity. By volunteering a few times over the summer, you will help build our membership base among Acadia lovers who want to support the protection of the park.

It's easy to join this group of dedicated, high-energy volunteers responsible for our most effective program for signing up new members. Please contact Lee McWilliams, Development Officer, at 207-288-3340 or Lee@friendsofacadia.org.

Pints for a Purpose

Running every Thursday until September 22, Friends of Acadia and Terramor will host Pints for a Purpose. Each week, this exciting event will feature a speaker talking about Mount Desert Island's history and highlighting some of the best organizations and people on MDI.



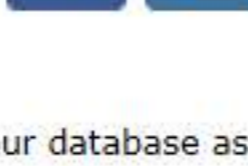
All are welcome to attend at 6 p.m. at Terramor Outdoor Resort on the back porch around the fireplace. In addition, \$1 from every beer purchased during the event will be donated to FOA by Terramor.

Tonight, July 14, Stephanie Clement will give a talk on Transportation Solutions on MDI and in Acadia. July 21, Brian Henkel will educate attendees about Wild Acadia 2.0. For a full list of speakers and RSVP, please visit our Facebook event. <https://fb.me/e/2F6tW2Ba>

In case you missed it:

- [WABIS: Celebrating achievements at Annual Meeting - Friends of Acadia](#)
- [Featured on Fox22: Acadia National Park Trails Foreman retires after 35 years - Friends of Acadia](#)
- [Acadia Stewardship Volunteers are Back in Action - Friends of Acadia](#)
- [National Park Tourism in Maine Creates \\$770 Million in Economic Output - Friends of Acadia](#)
- [Thank You, Acadia Corporation, for Decades of Support - Friends of Acadia](#)

Header Photo: Early morning fog rolls over the trees below the Beehive Trail. (Photo by Lily LaRegina/Friends of Acadia)



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Friends of Acadia
43 Cottage Street P.O. Box 45, Bar Harbor, ME 04609