

Forever Wild

Newsletter of Friends of Baxter State Park

Fall 2012

Vol. 11 No. 4



President's Column

by Barbara Bentley

A slim little volume that fits in a shirt pocket, the 1949 A.M.C. *KATAHDIN GUIDE* is a gem. A first glance revealed that Ed Werler was ranger at Chimney Pond, and mention of his burros brought back girlhood memories of dodging the untended animals as they returned to Roaring Brook and supper, their burdens left behind at our Chimney Pond destination.

What also emerges from the pages is a description of a wilderness area that is quite different from the one we know today, laced with toteroads, open fields, and camps throughout the area, an easy hike from one another. My parents studied similar historic guides each night by the campfire at Russell Pond, plotting the next day's hike – up the toteroad to Mullen Pond and then to the summit. The directions for Fort Mountain told us it could be “ascended easily” and the tips so helpful then -- “turn L (for left) or R (for right) on this or that toteroad”, and “cross the dam” -- are not at all useful today. So many traces of human impact have gradually disappeared over the 58 years that I've been traveling in the Park. Recent bushwhacks have proven that there is now no easy route up Fort, Mullen, or North Turner mountains, to name just a few.

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Jack Baxter explains how he came to own *Mt. Katahdin* by Maurice Day as he presents the painting to the Maine Historical Society on Baxter Day in Portland. L to R: BSP Director Jensen Bissell, Exec. Director of Maine Historical Society Stephen Bromage, Connie Baxter Marlow, Jack Baxter, and Eric Baxter.
– Photo © Bill Bentley

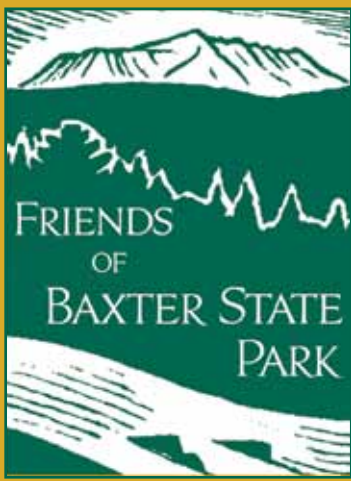
50th Anniversary of Wilderness Legacy Portland Hosts Dawn to Dusk Celebration

As the sun rose, Baxter Boulevard was already alive with walkers, bikers, and dog walkers when around 35 people gathered at the sundial in Barrows Park to hear ... “I, Paul R. LePage, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby proclaim August 22, 2012 as GOVERNOR BAXTER DAY throughout the State of Maine, and urge all citizens to recognize this observance.” Thus began the celebration of the 50th anniversary of Percival P. Baxter's final gift of land for his beloved park. Baxter historian Herb Adams described how both Baxters, father and son, gave up their respective political careers to accomplish conservation projects – James Phinney Baxter gave us Baxter

Boulevard; Percival Proctor Baxter gave us Baxter State Park. Joe Dumais of Portland's Public Works Department outlined restoration work about to begin on the monument.

Throughout the day, at multiple venues, admiration and appreciation were expressed for the good works of the Baxters. On Macworth Island, Teddy Roosevelt greeted more than five dozen people at the Baxter family's summer home. A hike through the woods, along the shore, and to the pet cemetery led the group to the School of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, where Director David Sherry outlined the school's current mandate to integrate its

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Friends of Baxter State Park is a 501(c)(3) organization working to preserve, support, and enhance the wilderness character of Baxter State Park in the spirit of its founder, Percival P. Baxter.

President's Column *Continued from pg.1*

On Baxter Day in Portland, BSP Director Jensen Bissell addressed the impact of change, and human impact, that continues to challenge the mission to keep the Park "forever wild." In some places, Nature is doing a good job herself in mitigating evidence of past human impact. Take a look at the draft of the Huber Lot Assimilation Plan, now available on the Park website, to see how the Park proposes to carry out its mission on this most recent gift of land.

A look at our own organization clearly shows the cumulative effect of 12 years of small changes, of positive growth and development, that positions Friends of Baxter State Park solidly for a big change as we prepare for a transition of leadership in April 2013 and give careful thought to how best to continue our mission. Please let us know what you think is most important in the work we do "to preserve, support, and enhance the wilderness character of Baxter State Park, in the spirit of its founder Percival P. Baxter."

Membership Report

by Sarah Holland, Admin. Manager

Think of the last time you were in the Park – the bog bridges over marshy spots, the carefully placed stones you pranced over when crossing marshy areas, the fact that there was not a fallen tree or thick brush to block your path. Think of your lean-to, cabin, or tent site and the wildlife, fish, and plant life that thrive in the unspoiled forests, waterways, and bogs. Now take a moment to reflect on the trail work, the volunteers, the chainsaw crews, and advocacy efforts it takes to keep the Park in such conditions. And then thank yourselves, because it is your membership and volunteer efforts that help make all that possible. Thank you to all those who have renewed your membership this year! We've recently sent out a reminder to nudge those of you have not yet renewed. Please tell your friends about us because we can always use new Friends!



In Memoriam
 Jeanne Louise (Patten) Whitten
 July 20, 1921 – June 29, 2012

50th Anniversary *Continued from Pg.1*



Teddy Roosevelt himself welcomed visitors to Macworth Island and entrusted to FBSP President Barbara Bentley the bear that was sold at auction during the evening program at the Maine Historical Society.

– Photo © Bill Bentley

students into local school populations and provide state-wide services to many others. After a tour of the Baxter mansion and the adjoining Museum, many headed to the pier for a lunchtime presentation on the geology of the region by retired State Geologist Walter Anderson.

During the afternoon, the impressive Baxter Monument in Evergreen Cemetery gave State Historian Earle Shettleworth

the perfect setting for sharing a selection of personal letters from Percival Baxter. The readings gave a sense of the man as he developed from a landlord in Portland to a statesman and finally to a man with a vision and philosophy. Jeff Tarling, Portland City Arborist, oversaw the unveiling of a new sign at nearby Baxter woods. He thanked Baxter State Park for the new sign and Friends of Baxter State Park "whose members help keep the Baxter spirit alive." Afterward, docent-led tours of a Frederic Church exhibit at the Portland Museum of Art gave visitors insight into the artist's view of the wilderness in the Katahdin region that inspired Baxter as it still inspires so many today.

At an evening reception in the Longfellow Garden, attendees enjoyed refreshments and heard remarks from Steve Bromage, Executive Director of the Maine Historical Society; Barbara Bentley, President of Friends of Baxter State Park; and Jensen Bissell, Director of Baxter State Park. Several Baxter Family members were pres-

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The sun shone brightly on early risers who kicked off the Baxter Day celebration at the sundial on Baxter Boulevard, some of whom lingered for a photo after the ceremony. – Photo © Bill Bentley

50th Anniversary *Continued from Pg.2*

ent; Eric Baxter and Rupert Baxter White shared remarks about their Uncle Percy and his conservation work. Jack Baxter presented to the Maine Historical Society an original Jake Day painting that had been in his possession since Percival Baxter's death. The handwritten inscription on the back reads: *MT. KATAHDIN, Painted by MAURICE DAY for the Hon. PERCIVAL P. BAXTER. To beloved Percival Proctor Baxter on the occasion of his 91st year the people of Maine give this image of Mt. Katahdin majestic in its grandeur yet small as a measure of the regard and gratitude which they hold for him.* – Baxter State Park Authority

Those gathered then repaired to the Shettleworth Lecture Hall in the Maine Historical Society for the evening program. A slide presentation of *Baxter State Park and Katahdin*, a new pictorial history by Howard Whitcomb and John Neff set the stage for a *Theodore Roosevelt Salute to Baxter State Park* by Joe Wiegand, renowned TR reprints. Engaging and entertaining, TR gave historical perspective to the allure, and therapeutic value, of Katahdin wilderness. The entire day was a grand celebration of the high regard and deep gratitude that many still hold for Percival Baxter's wilderness legacy.



Dressed splendidly in evening attire, Teddy Roosevelt reprints Joe Wiegand entertained the crowd at the Maine Historical Society.

– Photo © Bill Bentley



At the picnic on the pier at Macworth Island, Walter Anderson talked about the geologic history of the island and surrounding region. "These rocks are 340 million years old." L to R: Earl Raymond, Bob Johnston, Walter Anderson, and Baxter Day attendees.

– Photo © Bill Bentley

Our Readers Write... Recommended trip a success

We welcome letters and photos from our readers. Please send your letters, trip reports, and photos to admin@friendsofbaxter.org. Those not published here will be posted on the FBSP website. Please aim for 100-150 words, and include the date, your name, and contact information. Thank you. – Editor

When I was at Katahdin Stream CG to do an evening program and some hiking, Ray Anderson and I took the hike/paddle/hike/paddle trip from Kidney Pond to Lily Pad Pond to Windy Pitch Pond that you mentioned so glowingly a few months back. We had a terrific day and a

great time of it. Lots of wildlife, clear views of the mountains, some great exploring all around the Toll Dam, Big and Little Niagara, etc. on their east side. Finished off with a refreshing swim off Colt Point. Mighty fine day. Thanks for telling me about that.

– John Neff, *Winthrop, ME*

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Call for photos for 2014 Calendar

Deadline for submitting photos for the Baxter State Park Calendar is October 30, 2012. Go to www.friendsofbaxter.org for instructions on how and where to send photos. Remember, there are 12 months of the year!

Mountain Profile ID in the Summer newsletter is Knife Edge from Pamola Peak. Can you guess the current mountain profile?



In Memoriam
George W. Tinker, Jr.
Dec. 27, 1926 – Sept. 19, 2012

Jim Andrews' amazing and wonderful Allagash trip



Bob Goldman is obviously pleased to be on the Allagash River with Jim Andrews' expedition.

– Photo © Bob Goldman

I was the very lucky guy who won a seven-day canoe journey on the Allagash, offered by fellow FBSP member, Jim Andrews, during the last leg of his self-propelled journey from Kittery to Ft. Kent. In exchange for happily making a donation to Friends of Baxter State Park, I joined Jim and his good friend, Kevin Regan, on a most amazing and wonderful Allagash adventure. It was a miraculous journey from beginning to end.

– Bob Goldman, South Portland, ME

Note: Friends thanks both Bob and Jim for the generous contribution! For the full account of Bob's trip, please go to www.friendsofbaxter.org and see Trip Reports.

Northwest Basin Loop

Eager to discover an entirely new part of the Baxter State Park this year and one with a challenging terrain, we opted for the Northwest Basin Loop starting at Roaring Brook, then Russell Pond, and finally Chimney Pond via the Northwest Basin Trail.

– Kerry Gallivan and Lauralee Raymond, Yarmouth, ME

Note: For a detailed account of this trip, go to Trip Reports at www.friendsofbaxter.org



From a vantage point on North Brother, one looks directly into the Northwest Basin and can follow the route of Gallivan's hike from Russell Pond up to Hamlin Peak and beyond. The North Peaks are seen in center of photo.

– Photo © Bill Bentley

Surprise visit at South Branch Pond

During a recent trip to South Branch Pond, John Neff, David Little, and I presented an evening talk on our respective research projects of the past decade. John spoke about Katahdin's history, David about his forthcoming Downeast Books volume on the artists of Katahdin, and I spoke about Percival Baxter's *Magnificent Obsession*. The talk was well-received by two dozen hardy fall campers, including the trio's companions – Ray Anderson, Annie Merrill and Mikki Little. The highlight of the trip, however, was a chance visit with former Park Director Buzz Caverly, who with his wife, Jan, and another couple, was completing a loop of the Park on the Tote Road. During a conversation in our lean-to, Buzz was his enthusiastic self and clearly pleased to see long-time Park users enjoying the varied opportunities afforded at South Branch Pond.

– Howard Whitcomb, Georgetown, ME

Update from the Park

by BSP Director Jensen Bissell

Huber Parcel Draft Assimilation Plan

After several thorough examinations of the parcel with administrative staff and BSP Advisors, we have now posted a Draft Assimilation Plan for the 144-acre parcel of land on the southeast shore of Katahdin Lake donated to the Park by the Huber Corporation in January of 2012. The planning process sought to identify and consider all existing options and issues regarding this property and to arrive at a plan for the most appropriate set of actions that would seamlessly integrate this new parcel into the Park as a whole. We want to thank Jim Page and Holly Hamilton for their positive and thoughtful contributions as respective adjoining landowner and manager. Most of all, we would like to thank the Huber Corporation and Family for this generous gift to Baxter State Park and Maine people. You can view the draft on-line on the Park's website. Follow the menu bar to "More" and then to "Park Reports."



Thoreau Spring Plaque

In 1846, Henry David Thoreau ascended from a nearby campsite on the West Branch of the Penobscot toward what is now known as Baxter Peak. Thoreau's subsequent writings about his experience on Katahdin and in the Maine Woods had a great and lasting effect on people's view of the region.

Nearly eighty years later in 1924, Percival P. Baxter concluded his political career after failing to win the Republican Party's nomination over Owen Brewster of Dexter. Brewster went on to become Governor of Maine. In 1925, he climbed Katahdin with great fanfare as the first sitting Governor to climb Katahdin. The site of the spring at the junction of the Abol and Hunt Trails was christened "Governor's Spring" in 1925 and demarcated by an engraving on a rock near the spring.

In 1933, Baxter completed the purchase of the first parcel of what would eventually become Baxter State Park. Baxter directed that "Governor's Spring" be renamed "Thoreau Spring" and that a plaque be installed in a location near the spring. This was installed, and a photo of the plaque exists in the Park's archives. It can be assumed that the original chiseled demarcation of Governor's Spring was removed at this time for it is no longer extant at the site. (See photo of plaque on p.8.)

Sometime over the years, the original plaque was stolen or removed. On August 22, 2012, almost eighty years from the date of the installation of the original plaque and more than 160 years from Thoreau's ascent of Katahdin, the Park installed a replacement plaque for Thoreau Spring. The wording is identical to the original as specified by Percival Baxter.

I hope the plaque remains in place for at least another 80 years.

Park Season

We are now approaching the end of our 2012 camping season. All indications are that the summer was a very busy one for the

Park. A very sunny and dry summer and the provision of on-line reservation capability after June 15 are a couple of likely reasons for the high use levels. Soon we will be turning our attention to winter as winter reservations will open on November 1. We have a full agenda of policy work ahead of us this winter as we continue our efforts to address issues identified in our management planning process.



– Photo © Bill Bentley

Describing the vast expanse of wilderness one sees from different locations on Katahdin, BSP Director Jensen Bissell remarked that he repeatedly reminds himself that one man owned all this, and he gave it all away.

To Preserve the Wilderness Nature of the Park

Excerpted from comments by BSP Director Jensen Bissell at Baxter Day Reception

A vital component of the Park mission is to protect the Park's natural resources and to preserve the wilderness nature of the Park. This is not an easy task, and the challenges can be disguised by the passing of years. As humans, we generally don't like big changes and generally resist them. Big changes (think hurricanes, house fires, health care changes) often make us uncomfortable, nervous, and fearful. Little changes, however, are a different story.

As a species, we like small changes – especially when the change is our idea. We are always thinking about how we can improve things – often with small changes. These small changes are expressed as good ideas and reflect our positive motivation to make things better. The trouble with these changes in Baxter Park is that, with time, all our small changes can cumulatively add up to a big change. A sign here, a shed there, a short new trail, a little piece of new road – each alone does not seem like much, but together with a hundred others over many years, the Park becomes a different place. I'm not suggesting that we should stop thinking of good ideas to meet our mission, but with each idea we should ask ourselves first: is this change really needed? Will it lead to other changes? Is this change increasing or decreasing human impacts in the Park?

The other challenge in preserving wilderness comes from the very idea itself. Wilderness is a uniquely human concept – our attempt to define the purest part of the idea of nature in "Human Nature". Along with arguably being an American concept, wilderness is an idea clearly of our time, our age in civilization. The future makes no guarantees that the current idea of wilderness, of valuing wildness for it's sake alone, will persist in the generations yet to come. We must do what we can to ensure that the idea of leaving some land alone, of leaving a light footprint, or none at all, remains important. This is difficult work, but for the future of Baxter Park, it is some of the most important work we can do.

Search and Rescue Volunteers Vital to Park

Baxter State Park has enjoyed a long and successful partnership with Maine Association of Search and Rescue (MASAR). Member search and rescue teams are made up of volunteers, who earn the required certifications, receive training, and respond to missions state-wide – all at their own expense. BSP Chief Ranger Ben Woodard says, "The Park has rescue team coverage through much of our summer and winter camping season. Teams spend much of their time training in the Park, doing backcountry patrols, and



BSP Ranger Rob Tice participates in high angle rescue drill with volunteers from Maine search and rescue teams.
– Photo © Bill Bentley

even helping with projects if needed. Their help and dedication is very much appreciated." There are currently six units, all members of MASAR, that provide regular assistance on weekends at Baxter State Park on a rotating schedule throughout the season: Mahoosuc Mountain Rescue Team, Wilderness Rescue Team, Lin-

coln Search and Rescue, Mount Desert Island Search and Rescue, Franklin Search and Rescue, and Dirigo Search and Rescue. A recent donation to Friends of Baxter State Park by MASAR made possible the purchase by the Park of an additional 2-piece titanium rescue litter. The lightweight nature of the litter allows it to be carried to the accident scene by one person, a savings in both time and energy.

BSP Calendar Travels Abroad



Luiz Guedes is clearly pleased with the BSP calendar presented to him by Al Howlett in Natal, Brazil on June 23, 2012. You could make somebody else happy with a 2013 BSP calendar, available from Friends for \$12.



Rainy weather didn't dampen the spirits of the 2012 MYWLP graduates seen here at Park HQ after 9 days in the Park. L to R: Dustin Ramsay, Deanna Morris, Wes Crawford, Andrew Holt, Krista Marble, Stephan Hand, Sydney Pellerin, Maggie Sullivan, Rosie Allewa, Andrew Hollyday, and leaders Ashley Nadeau and Matt Stern in front row

– Photo © Bill Bentley

Maine Youth Wilderness Leadership Program Graduates Ten One Man's Account of the Trip

I was excited for a week away from summer work doing something I truly love – backpacking. Apprehensive initially, I was glad once we had left headquarters and really got to know each other on the van ride to South Branch Pond Campground. We settled in at South Branch and went swimming, then tucked ourselves into bed in preparation for a busy day ahead. Day two was filled with meeting specialists; in fact, every day was. Meeting and learning from the specialists was my favorite part of the trip.

During the week, we met with a Geologist, Park Rangers, Naturalists, a Botanist, a Journalist, an Artist, and even a poet who shared her salami with us. But, the best of all was a man named Barry Dana. He is a Penobscot Nation Cultural Educator, and he is awesome. We first met with him at the quiet Russell Pond lean-tos. Besides talking with us about his heritage and the Penobscot ways, he shared with us how to make rope from cedar, fire sans matches, and how to quickly build effective and warm survival-shelters. Later once the sun had set, we, barefooted and blindfolded, navigated through the forests guided only by a string connecting trees and bushes. This forced us to rely on our senses other than seeing, something few people do. The next day, he and his family joined us on our trek to Roaring Brook Campground and taught us about edible medicinal plants along the trail.

After spending time learning from Barry, we began our preparation for Katahdin. I, especially, studied the map to get familiar with the terrain, which is so famously adverse. Rain greeted us on the morning of our hike, but failed to stop us or even slow us down. After reaching Chimney Pond, bouldering up the Saddle Trail and crossing the ridge, we picnicked and rested on the fog-flooded and chilly Baxter Peak. On our descent, we joked about the diversity of berries found on the summit, incorporating the word, “berry” into each of our sentences. This joke continued the whole hike down. Despite the many differences we all shared as a group, jokes like this really united us, even in a heated Astronomy Jeopardy competition, which we played our last night in the park.

That week in August not only allowed me to meet people from all over the state, but also opened my eyes to the value of the park. We have a really precious resource available to use at our whim that must be protected. There's an unquantifiable and important value in Baxter State Park. It really is a special place. So, our week in the park was great. We got to meet great professionals, hike in a pristine area, walk through the woods barefoot, play games, hear stories, read maps, go swimming, but most importantly, we got exposure to a wilderness like no other. We would all agree in saying that MYWLP 2012 was a “berry” good success.

– Andrew Hollyday, Cape Elizabeth, ME



Inventorying plants at Turner Deadwater with Glen Mittelhauser introduced MYWLP participants to the Baxter State Park Flora Project now underway in the Park.

– Photo © Andrew Hollyday

Friends Reaches Turning Point: Strategic Plan Underway

Some wag once said, “If you come to a fork in the road, take it.” If only it were that simple. Friends is at a critical point in its growth as an organization with more than one fork in view, and more than one option to continued and greater success. To help guide us through the planning process and the decision of which fork in the road to take, Friends has contracted with two experienced nonprofit consultants: Marla O’Byrne, past President of Friends of Acadia; and Caroline Pryor, past Vice President and Senior Project Manager for Maine Coast Heritage Trust.

For the past 5½ years, Friends’ volunteer President has been doing the work of a 40-hours-per-week executive director. During this time, Friends has experienced a greatly expanded partnership with Baxter State Park. Grants for trails and the Maine Youth Wilderness Leadership Program are but two examples of funding and program growth. The overall budget has increased 8-fold; membership contributions have more than doubled.

A \$4,825 grant from the National Environmental Education Foundation (NEEF) is currently funding the development of a strategic plan to address leadership succession and organizational structure for FBSP. The plan will define a bold 2020 vision for Friends while providing a trail map to guide the board and staff carrying out their work.

Friends of Baxter State Park celebrates its 13th birthday in April 2013. Which fork in the road will it be? You will read about it right here in *Forever Wild*. Your continued help, guidance, and support are vital. Thank you!

– Charlie Jacobi, FBSP Board Members and Development Chair



Pitchin' In and Steppin' Out
 by Laurie Rich, Volunteer Coordinator
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Another season is just about tucked up. This year, volunteers cleared trails, painted buildings, built and painted picnic tables, worked on trail maintenance, moved and stacked firewood, replaced steps and rails, counted loons, and more.



Volunteers Joe Brasslett and Doug Rich work with BSP Ranger Gabe Williamson to split firewood at South Branch Pond Campground.

– Photo © Laurie Rich

The Volunteers in the Park (VIP) weekends included the campground opening in May with volunteers Bernie Geishauer, Ken Beach, Steve Ellis, Rose Rodrigue, Connie Gatz, William and Barbara Babb, Martha and Jack Lynch, Bruce Hancock, and Dave Asherman. Chainsaw crewmembers were Rosemary Hastings, Doug Rich, Charlie Jacob, Carla Ritchie, Steve Ellis, Bernie Geishauer, and Bill Bentley. The June VIP was a mixed event in the north end of the Park with some repair and painting of an administrative cabin at Trout Brook Farm with Bill and Linda Lee and Jonathon Hinson, and wood splitting and stacking at South Branch Pond Campground accomplished by Sue Lussier, Doug Rich, Joe, Amy and Loren Brasslett. Rose Rodrigue, Connie Gatz, Rosemary Hastings, and Roger Jensen put a new coat of paint on the garage at Roaring Brook campground for the July VIP. Two teams of Brant Miller, Sue Lussier, Dave, Jonah and Hannah Paris, and Julie Cox got 14 new picnic tables painted and ready for placement in the Park for the August and September VIP.

Thank you to all who gave their time and expertise, making the Park that much better. And thank you to those who are willing, but not always able, to give the time. We'll just work a bit harder to find that time and place to make it happen for you.

For cold weather lovers, there are projects that need doing during the winter months. If this appeals to you, please let us know. Keeping in mind that spring is not that far away, remember chain saw operators are always needed and training starts in the early spring. If sharing a love of the Park is your thing – bird watching, photography, science, history, etc. – and you would like to host a Walk in the Park in 2013, start thinking of a date, time, and location. Let us know before we make reservations on Opening Day in January. Looking forward to hearing from you and sharing a volunteer moment.

Women on High 2012



Women on High donned 1920s outfits, replete with customized bandana designed by Marsha Donahue, and once again commemorated the women mountaineers of the past by ascending Katahdin in period attire, this year via the Abol Slide. Ferried to the Park in a period auto, they enjoyed

fair weather and a surprising reward of ice cream cones at the summit that helped beat the heat. Clockwise from bottom left: Holly Hamilton (Durham, ME), Doreen Olson (Charleston, ME), Carla Ritchie (Etna, ME), Wanda Greatorex (Corinth, ME), Donna Gordon (Scarborough, ME), and Joellyn Pollock (Phoenix, AZ and Brooklin, ME)

– Photo © Holly Hamilton

Russell Pond Walk in the Park

Ellen Klain, in spite of her 40 # pack, weathered the 7.2-mile hike into Russell Pond to enjoy the FBSP *Walk in the Park* with friends Mark and Linda Nelson. For a full, and entertaining, account of this trip, *Russell Pond – No Walk in the Park*, go to www.friendsofbaxter.org Trip Reports.

Kidney Pond Walk in the Park



Linda Babcock seen here canoing on Kidney Pond had a terrific time in the Walk in the Park and says her spirit is revived and inspired.

– Photo © Linda Babcock

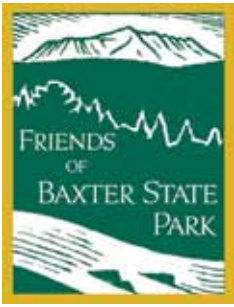
Three Receive Leave No Trace Scholarships

Each year in the Park, Gabe and Marcia Williamson offer a Leave No Trace training. Friends offers scholarships to educators and people who work with youth in the outdoors. This year's three scholarship recipients report on how they use what they learned in the course.

Carol M. Corkran is a recent graduate in Experiential Education and teacher at Belfast's River School will integrate LNT principles into her classes. She says, "Developing the habits and values of responsible wild-land use in an environment close to home (local parks, trails, and preserves), people can better understand our dynamic engagement with the natural world."

Aislinn Sarnacki writes for the Bangor Daily News "Outdoor" and "Living" sections, covering stories about outdoor recreation, Maine Authors, and occasionally art, fashion, and culture. She says that since the LNT course, "I notice things – good and bad – that I do in the wilderness that might impact it. And more importantly, these things affect me emotionally more than they used to. In other words, I care more." She will use what she learned in her writing, particularly on her blog that is viewed more than 3,000 times a week.

Sara M. Caldwell is an Environmental Educator in the Bigelow Preserve and works with children and adults at campsites and on the trails and teaches LNT principles in the field, using examples in the surroundings. She found it helpful in the training to use real life examples and act them out with other participants.



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Thank you!



Maine Conservation Corps Field Team members take a break from trail construction on Mt. OJL to check in with BSP Trail Supervisor Paul Sannicandro. In background is Mick Rogers, Manager of Grants and Community Recreation, ME Division of Parks and Public Lands, on site to view progress on this project funded by Friends of Baxter State Park. – Photo © Bill Bentley



BSP Director Jensen Bissell thanks Bill Greaves of the Maine Forest Service and MFS pilot Lincoln Mazzei for their critical support in the effort to install this new plaque at Thoreau Springs in August saying it would not have accomplished it without their help and cites BSP Resource Manager Rick Morrill as a great work mate in this mission. – Photo © BSP Staff

Baxter State Park Trivia

– Puzzle Master Al Howlett

Henry David Thoreau spent the final night before his attempted ascent of Katahdin:

- a) just below the treeline near what is now the Abol Trail
- b) near what is now Abol Campground
- c) near what is now Abol Bridge
- d) at the Bangor Motor Inn