



FOREVER WILD

Newsletter of Friends of Baxter State Park

Summer 2014

Vol. 13 No. 3



Executive Director's Column

by Aaron Megquier

I began making yearly trips into the Russell Pond area in the mid 1980s, a little over 20 years after Governor Baxter made his final gift of land to the citizens of Maine. As an eight year-old boy, I insisted on water breaks every few minutes and a stop for food once an hour. Walking the seven miles into Russell Pond was an all-day affair, and my Dad had the patience of a saint.

After crossing Wassataquoik Stream on the Tracy Horse Trail, we would always stop for a break at New City. The fields were open and grassy then, with scattered trees. There was a big spruce growing along the trail. We would lounge in the shade under the tree, finding animals in the clouds overhead and eating granola bars. The murmur of Wassataquoik Stream and the wind on Russell Mountain are forever part of my vision of wilderness. For some reason, I was never surprised by the rusty plow beside the trail, or the barrel hoops among the leaves. They were all part of the story.

Three decades later, New City looks quite different, but the changes are largely a matter of botany. First it was timothy and hawkweed, then meadow-sweet and blueberry, now white pine and balsam fir. A few small openings remain, but the spruce where I spent so many happy hours daydreaming has been absorbed by the expanding forest.

Our focus in this issue of *Forever Wild* is the process of 'rewilding'. Elsewhere in these pages, Nancy Orr, Jensen Bissell, and Nate Skvorak ruminate on what this means. For me, one of the defining characteristics of wilderness is that it changes due to natural forces rather than human influence. Natural change does not always fit our aesthetic. A tornado could carve a ragged swath through New City tomorrow, or a lightning strike could ignite a fire and burn the entire area to the ground. Under both scenarios, this part of the Park

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Along the Wassataquoik Stream Trail a mile south of Russell Pond, New City Camps boasted a blacksmith shop, church, and school during its heyday exactly a century ago. The buildings are gone and the fields mostly grown in, but this plow remains as a striking reminder of the rewilding that is occurring in Baxter State Park.

– Photo © Aaron Megquier

REWILDING

by Nancy Orr

This area [Baxter State Park] is to be maintained primarily as a Wilderness and recreational purposes are to be regarded as of secondary importance and shall not encroach upon the main objective of this area which is to be "Forever Wild."

Many of us love Baxter State Park, feel a visceral need to go there, and understand the value of a place forever wild. That Percival Baxter saw merit in protecting Katahdin is less surprising than his vision in adding the other land, logged and/or burned over, and in preserving the area as wilderness

first with recreational uses secondary. Historical photographs show how land allowed to return to the wild is transformed. Anyone who has gone to the Park over many years will have seen the changes created by natural forces and Park policies promoting wildness.

Rewilding addresses the fundamental meaning of being wild. Roderick Nash finds the root meaning of wild to be self-willed (*Wilderness and the American Mind*, 5th edition, 2014). Gary Snyder notes the negativity of dictionary definitions and proposes, among others, self-organizing, playful, surpris-

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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.

Executive Director's Column

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would arguably be wilder than it was before.

This ongoing change allows us to sense the passage of time against a yardstick that is fluid and beautiful. We return year after year to places that are achingly familiar, but ever so slightly different. Is it we who are changed, or the place itself? The only honest answer is both. The forever wild management of Baxter State Park gives us the opportunity to see forces at work that are larger and infinitely more complex than ourselves, and watch them shape the places we love over a lifetime.

Call for photos for the 2016 BSP Calendar

We're looking for photos for the 2016 Baxter State Park calendar! Park staff and FBSP members donate all photos in the calendar each year. Each photographer may submit up to 10 digital photos on CD or DVD. The submission deadline is October 30, 2014. For detailed entry instructions, please visit: www.friendsofbaxter.org.



2015 Calendars now Available

It is time to purchase your 2015 Baxter State Park Calendar for \$12, sales tax and shipping included. All proceeds benefit Friends of Baxter State Park.

Membership Matters

By Sarah Holland, Administrative Manager

Thank you to all those who participated in our Spring Renewal Challenge and membership raffle! Congratulations to Paul & Darby Sabin, Diane Clay & Joel Packer, and Don Stratton who all won prizes.



Despite the success of that renewal challenge, some members have let their membership lapse. If you are one of those, please renew soon! You can check the mailing label of this newsletter for your expiration date, or feel free to contact me to check your status. We now use a rolling renewal system, so your membership will be current for a full year from your date of renewal. We will soon have a "Forever Friends" program that will let you renew automatically with a credit or debit card at a monthly rate, so you don't have to renew every year. Please let us know if you are interested in that program.

FBSP members qualify for discounts at some local establishments, can participate in activities such as Walks in the Park, and can submit photos for the BSP Calendar. The best reason to join or renew, however, is that your membership supports all the projects we endeavor – from trail work and youth groups, to volunteers, training, and education. All this work enhances our mission to keep the Park – your Park – forever wild in the spirit of its founder, Percival Baxter, who gave it to the people of Maine. Thank you for your continued support!

Volunteer Opportunity at Kidney Pond!
Saturday, July 26th, 2014, 8:30am
 We will be staining cabins with potential for additional maintenance activities. Come on July 25, stay through July 27. Volunteer lodging available.

Sign up with Alison by Friday, July 19th:
volunteer@friendsofbaxter.org
 (207) 370-8488

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REWILDING *Continued from pg. 1*

ing, impermanent, complete, orderly, freely manifesting, complex, and quite simple (*Practice of the Wild, 1990, p. 11*).

Within the context of conservation biology, rewilding emerged in the late 20th century and has three major elements: carnivores, core areas, and connections. Carnivores are keystone species strongly impacting the ecosystem. Core areas are those sufficiently large to support a population of carnivores. Connections or permeable landscapes provide for movement of carnivores between core areas. Without large carnivores, herbivore and mid-level carnivore populations increase with resultant loss of plant, bird, and small mammal species. Michael Soule and Reed Noss consider rewilding as essential to restoring self-regulating land communities (*Rewilding and Biodiversity, 1988*).

The reintroduction of wolves into Yellowstone shows the impact of carnivores on an ecosystem. A frequent comment is the elk were forced to become elk again and no longer linger in valleys and along streams. The coyote population was reduced; willows reestablished along streams.

Early conservation efforts were aimed at protecting natural areas for people's enjoyment. Rewilding is less anthropocentric, placing the ecosystem needs over the needs of humans and arguing an ethical responsibility to other species. Given the spatial needs of top carnivores, rewilding is envisioned on a continental scale – so where will people live? Nash proposes an “island civilization” with the remaining land wild. The Wild Foundation's vision is that “Nature Needs Half”. The Rewilding Institute and the Wildlands Network support the creation of four continental corridors with associated core areas. Dave Foreman discusses rewilding and the design of these linkages in *Rewilding North America: A Vision for Conservation in the 21st Century* (2004).

Humans will play a role in protecting land, reintroducing

carnivores, and controlling destructively invasive species, and many will derive enjoyment from rewilded areas. Richard Louv has written of nature-deficit disorder (most recently in *The Nature Principle, 2011*). Perhaps the choice does not need to be to rewild for the sake of the ecosystem or for humans, but can be for both.

Does the objective of maintaining Baxter State Park as forever wild fit within the rewilding paradigm, particularly given the secondary objective of providing for recreational activities? The Baxter State Park Authority and Park staff have struggled with the question of what forever wild means. Among other changes, there is no longer a “wash basin” in the outlet of Chimney Pond, Leave No Trace has replaced open dumps, and firewood from outside is prohibited to reduce the risk of an emerald ash borer and woolly adelgid infestation. The question will become more complicated as the impacts of climate change increase.

To a large extent, the Park is allowed to be self-willed and can be called wilderness in recovery. According to the 2013 Management Plan, 75% of the Park is managed as wilderness, representing a core area of about 225 square miles. Whether large carnivores should be reintroduced is an open question, as is whether wolves and mountain lions will return on their own. If the Park were to adopt a policy of rewilding, connections to other wild areas would have to be explored.

The fundamental question is, if Percival Baxter were donating the Park to the people of Maine in the 21st century, with all that has been learned about conservation biology, would he have considered rewilding as part of the primary objective? I am not sure anyone can answer that. However, in 1955, when he established the Scientific Forest Management Area, his stated intent was to create an area where the most modern practices could be demonstrated. Would he have wanted anything less for the wild areas?

In Memoriam: Frank Trautmann



– Photo © Amy Ames

Baxter State Park and FBSP lost one of our most loyal and generous supporters on May 11, 2014, when H. Frank Trautmann passed away in Rockport, Maine on his 93rd birthday. The following is excerpted from Frank's obituary:

Frank was born on May 11, 1921 in Nyack, NY. His mother immigrated to the U.S. from Germany during World War I; his father was a banker in New York City. After graduating from Deerfield Academy in 1938 and Amherst College in 1942, Frank served in the Navy as captain of an ocean-going tugboat in the Pacific during World War II. After the war, he married Gail Greenhalgh and worked first as treasurer in a textile mill in Pawtucket, RI and then as vice president of his brother's printing business in Syosset, NY. Following Gail's death in 1957, he married Margery Guerra, a music and elementary school teacher on Long Island. She died in 2006.

Always drawn to the sea, Frank and Margery purchased a summer home on Islesboro in 1960 and moved there year-round in 1968. During the late 1960s, Frank and his son began a tradition of hiking a section of the Appalachian Trail each year, starting at Katahdin in Baxter State Park. After reaching the White Mountains years later, Frank returned to Baxter and offered to volunteer.

For nearly three decades, he maintained the Appalachian Trail from Mile 5.2 at Katahdin Stream Campground south to the Baxter State Park boundary. Each year, often working alone, he cleared blow-downs, rebuilt bridges, and strove to create the best possible experience for hikers. He cut his own trees on Islesboro, milled them into the components for lean-tos, and transported them in a modified boat trailer to be assembled at the Park. During winters, he made the trail signs for the entire Appalachian Trail in Maine, milling his own cedar and then routing and painting the signs by hand. When forced to give up trail work at age 79 to help Margery cope with cancer, he had six operating chain saws and thousands of board feet of self-milled lumber drying in his barn.

What Frank loved most about Baxter State Park, however, was its people. He never failed to mention the Park's wonderful staff and vol-

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**The Trautmann Family will host a celebration of the lives of
Frank and Margery Trautmann**

**Thursday, August 7, 2014 • Merryspring Nature Center
Camden, ME • For details, contact: barbaramsbentley@gmail.com or 207-542-5207**

unteers and how they inspired him to do his best for the hikers and campers they all served. Following several decades of legal work, Frank and Margery were able to donate their Islesboro residence to the Campaign for Katahdin Lake in 2006. Their gift completed the funding for a key parcel of land that had eluded Governor Baxter in assembling the Park years earlier. The acquisition in effect completed Governor Baxter's original dream and helped keep the Park forever wild by preventing commercial development around this pristine lake.

Trautmann's establishment of the Baxter Park Wilderness Fund, modeled on Baxter's own trusts, also provides annual funding for the Park. As a founding member of Friends of Baxter State Park, Trautmann provided generous support for special projects, including trail restoration and re-construction, publication of Baxter-related books of historical importance, and a new edition of the Park's guidebook.

In reflecting on his contributions to Baxter, Jensen Bissell, Park Director, said, "Frank has given countless hours of labor and love to the trails, facilities, and people of Baxter State Park. His economical, considerate, and fastidious approach to work and life have served as a model for all of us at the Park." Buzz Caverly, former Park director, added, "Other than Governor Baxter, Frank Trautmann has contributed more to the operation and preservation of the Park than any other individual. I am deeply honored to have known and worked with him."



Participants in the 2013 Maine Youth Wilderness Leadership Program hiking on the open ridgeline of North Traveler. – Photo © Will Greene

Wilderness Experience

by Nathan Skvorak

Walking into the headquarters of Baxter State Park on August 3, 2013, I marveled at the array of paintings depicting various landmarks and legends of the piece of Maine that Percival Baxter gifted to generations of the future. Along the walls of the conference room, paintings of Pamola, Katahdin and boulder-filled streams like Wassataquoik and Nesowadnehunk set the tone for our discussion about wilderness prior to venturing into the Park. There were ten of us, students from nearly every corner of Maine who shared a love of the natural world and the exploration and preservation of its wonders. As we were all dedicated, conservation-minded "Mainers," it was no hardship getting to know all of my fellow participants and learning about their personal views of the wilderness.

Though we followed in the footsteps of great thinkers like Thoreau and Baxter, I believe that everyone felt a sense of discovery, as nature is undergoing constant change and the days of decades ago have evolved into the moments that pass before us every second. In other words, what we

see now will never be seen the same again. A sight of a raven battling air currents over a spruce clad knoll, a lake with a low lying blanket of fog, or a shadow cast on a cirque headwall, will never again be repeated exactly as it was at that moment. Each and every one of us sees something different in the same scene. It is no wonder that we all have our own unique definition of wilderness, as our experiences and observations of the wild are molded by what we see, hear, smell, taste, and touch during our time in a wilderness setting.

One of the many things that I learned from the Maine Youth Wilderness Leadership Program is that every person has their own personal and sacred wilderness experience and the only way for us to continue to develop this experience is to advocate for the protection of the wild as our late Governor Baxter did with so much success.

Looking back...

by John Neff, Author of *Katahdin: An Historic Journey*

The "Other" Appalachian Trail

Long before the present iconic long distance trail from Georgia to the summit of Katahdin was laid out in the 1930s, there was a very important "Appalachian Trail" right in the middle of the area east of Katahdin that is today being proposed as a national park. The trail was begun in 1886 and finished in time for a large Appalachian Mountain Club group to hike it in 1887 to reach the Great Basin for their August encampment.

Spotted and built by Clarence Peavey and some of his friends in Patten, the trail began at Wassataquoik Stream's Upper Katahdin Crossing (on the old tote road) and moved overland to the north end of Katahdin Lake where a crude shelter was built for the AMC group. The trail then contin-

ued westward to the Sandy Stream Pond outlet where it veered slightly southwest in order to cross Roaring Brook before reaching Basin Ponds. The trail then turned south to make a partial ascent toward Pamola Peak before heading west on contour to the Great Basin and Chimney Pond. There another shelter was erected for the AMC group. That final section of the trail from the Basin Ponds toward Pamola and over to the Great Basin remained the access route to the basin for many years, until the present trail up the glacial moraine from Basin Ponds to Chimney Pond was built by Roy Dudley in the mid-1920s. All this was a significant accomplishment for that day, and though suffering occasional relocations due to lumbering, it served as one of the major trails toward Katahdin for many years.

Perhaps those of us who love Katahdin and Baxter State Park, when the conversation turns toward the present Appalachian Trail or even its international counterpart, might be forgiven for reminding the listener that we had an historic trail by that name long ago. Our International A.T. friends might also be able to boast that part of their trail east of Katahdin toward Canada was first built in the 1880s and belongs right where it is today.



Picture of the old Wassataquoik Tote Road in 1886. Used with permission of AMC Library and Archives.

Annual Meeting Highlights



Sarah Holland, Administrative Manager for FBSP, greeted over 75 members and guests on their way into the Annual Meeting this year.

— Photo © Jym St. Pierre

The fourteenth annual meeting of Friends of Baxter State Park took place at Viles Arboretum in Augusta, Maine on April 12, 2014. President Charlie Jacobi opened by thanking Ken Spalding, Laurie Rich, Mary Tolles, Sarah Holland, and Barbara and Bill Bentley for their continuing service to the organization. He then announced the opening of our new office at 80B Main Street in Belfast, Maine. Our mailing address and phone number will remain the same for the time being. Charlie expressed excitement about this important step in our development as an organization, and hoped that members would drop by for a visit.

Over the course of the year the Development Committee drafted its first plan. While much of our organization is still driven by grants, more revenue is being generated by membership, special activities, and individual gifts. We received \$5,000 from the Margaret Burnham Charitable Trust, \$3,500 from Patagonia, \$2,000 from the National Environmental Education Foundation, and \$34,000 from the Recreational Trails Program. We also have \$15,000 to continue the Maine Youth Wilderness Leadership Program for the coming year. Thanks to your continued generosity our annual appeal raised \$9,500. Governor Baxter Day in Bangor raised \$2,000. We also received a \$5,000 gift for the Plants of Baxter State Park Project. We received a total of \$1,680 in memorial and honorary gifts, including gifts in memory of Tim Vrabel, Michael Manzo, Jerome Smart, Steve Ellis, and a dog named Minnie. Gifts were also made in honor of the 50th wedding anniversary of Buzz and Jan Caverly, and the wedding of Stu Kellner and Acadia Klain. Cadillac Mountain Sports became our first business sponsor with a wonderful \$1,000 pledge. We held fundraising events at Flatbread Company in Portland, the Bel-

fast Co-op, and the Clewley Farms Restaurant in Eddington.

Gary Friedmann spoke about planned giving as a way of supporting Friends of Baxter State Park. One of the greatest planned gifts in the history of the state was from Percival Baxter, who is our inspiration to create a lasting legacy for the State of Maine. An endowment for Friends could fund trail work, youth programs, advocacy, and more. Gary asked us all to think about what our own "Baxter legacy gift" might look like.

Jym St. Pierre reported on the Policy Committee. In 2013, the Sewall heirs granted a conservation easement for the last in-holding on Katahdin Lake. Also in 2013, your Board of Directors adopted a stance concerning memorials within the Park that is in keeping with Governor Baxter's wishes. We continue to monitor the potential impacts of wind power on the viewshed of the Park. In October 2013, the FBSP Board of Directors toured the Elliotsville Plantation Inc. (EPI) lands east of the Park. In January 2014, the Board met with Lucas St. Clair, President of EPI. He solicited our input for the proposed Katahdin Woods and Waters National Park and National Recreation Area.

Jensen Bissell, Director of Baxter State Park, gave his annual State of the Park address. He assured us that the endowment created by Percival Baxter, which funds two-thirds of the Park's operations, is keeping up with inflation. The remaining one-third of operational funding comes from the fees charged to Park visitors and revenues from the Scientific Forest Management Area. Infrastructure needs can be readily identified, and large-scale improvements will continue to take place. The effects of events outside the Park are more difficult to predict. More details of his address are available in the Summer Supplement, found in the center of this newsletter.

Barbara Bentley, coordinator of the Maine Youth Wilderness Leadership Program, introduced Nate Skvorak, one of the participants in the 2013 program. His remarks, which were very well received by the membership, are on page four of this issue.

Jean Hoekwater, Park Naturalist, spoke about the rich history of scientific research in the Park. Early on, scientists noted that the Katahdin area was unique. Baxter State Park has hosted a wide range of research in many different scientific disciplines,



Friends members electing new Directors during the 2014 Annual Meeting. — Photo © Jym St. Pierre

although there is a notable lack of social science. There is currently research involving beetles, spruce grouse, pine martens, moose, and thirty-seven different species of ants. The Plants of Baxter State Park project is continuing after logging 790 volunteer hours, 7,000 pictures, and discovering over 70 new plant species in the Park. Rick Morrill has completed a list of all the research done in the Park and is getting this scanned and digitized. In answer to a member question, Jean said that there are no wolves in the Park at this time.

Anne Huntington brought forward some proposed changes to our bylaws, which were approved by a vote of the members. Members then elected Karin Tilberg for a new three-year term on the Board of Directors, and Jim Mroch for a new two-year term. Henry Beeuwkes, Jill Ippoliti, Dick Klain, and Bob Johnston were re-elected for three year terms.



President Charlie Jacobi opens the 2014 Annual Meeting against the backdrop of Katahdin.

— Photo © Jym St. Pierre

President Charlie Jacobi closed the meeting with the presentation of awards to board members Anne Huntington, Henry Beeuwkes, Al Howlett, and Dick Klain. After several additional announcements, the meeting was adjourned. Members then enjoyed an incredible buffet lunch prepared by outgoing board member Anne Huntington.

Trip Report Warm Winter Weekend March 13 - 16, 2014

Once again, New England Outdoor Center offered us a terrific rate and we stayed in Millinocket Stream and Sandy Stream cabins, both with views of Katahdin. Snow conditions were excellent, even fabulous, and the trails were groomed daily. Snowshoes and skis were needed to navigate the deep snow. For the first time during our many years (is it 7?) of Warm Winter Weekend, we did not leave the NEOC campus during our stay there, although Shirley Ellis and Ellen Pariser did go into Abol Pond before heading home on Sunday. Outings on Millinocket Lake and over the trails kept everyone happy. Food was its usual high standard; Thursday night's soups, salads, etc. were elegant; and Friday's Italian spaghetti with and without meatballs was enjoyed by all. Hors d'oeuvres (including salmon, tapenade, etc.) and desserts (including fruit compote, Swedish sponge, blueberry gingerbread, and chocolate of various sorts) were their usual high standard – over the top. There was not a single complaint.

Sleuthing about Katahdin

by David Little, author of *Art of Katahdin*



Cecil Palmer, Doubletop Notch, 1945. Ink on paper, 10" x 7 1/4", private collection.

The Tale of the "Confounded" Ink Bottle

"All in all it's just a fascinating afternoon's walk. When Claude finally arrives, it seems the old ruin is always moved a quarter mile from where it was last time. I swear that old Pamola comes over from Katahdin and stubs his toe on the blooming thing and



Cecil Palmer sitting atop Sentinel Mtn. B & W photograph. Private collection.

in part to illustrate a humorous anecdote about his friend, prankster, and hiking companion Claude Seale and their pilgrimages (twelve) to re-visit fire warden Frank Sawyer's abandoned cabin in the notch between Doubletop Mtn. and Squaw's Bosom. (2)

"The technique now requires that you go to the East summit of Doubletop, search for the better part of an hour for the elusive single string of (telephone) wire and follow it...(bushwhacking) crawling thru, under, and over blowdowns.... Arrive at the shack we eventually do (with bruised shins, ripped britches, a gouged eye, and soaked in sweat) and Claude breathlessly crawls under the caved eaves to search for an old ink bottle reposing on a shelf by the window frame.... Claude picks up the ancient bottle and fingers it preciously and religiously returns it to its niche."

"Still here," he exclaims, "right where Frank put it last time I saw him." (3)

(1) Cecil Palmer recounts this tale set in the Katahdin region in his journal (1943) "The Madawaska Loop." Private collection.

(2) "Many years ago," Palmer writes, "Claude used to visit Frank Sawyer... In those days the trip was but an extra pair of miles over an open trail." Today Squaw's Bosom has been renamed Moose Mountain.

(3) "Every time we do that pilgrimage, I secretly threaten, - yes I do, Claude - to be the last to leave the ruin." Palmer continues, "Later, Claude would receive, by registered express, wrapped in pounds of cotton, one ink bottle at 120 Broadway. I ought to dash it on a rock."

Our Readers Write...

Dear Friends,

This isn't really a trip report, but rather a few thoughts about our last hike and visits in general. Since we are now planning next summer's annual visit to Baxter State Park, I have been thinking a lot about past visits. Last August we had an unadventurous but very enjoyable stay at a Wassataquoik Stream lean-to. We had the time to observe our surroundings at leisure and what we saw, or didn't see, was a bit worrying because of the extremely dry weather. Along the way I spotted exactly

rolls it down the notch a bit." (1)

Artist and scribe Cecil Palmer created the pen and ink drawing of Doubletop Notch (1945) perhaps

two blueberries – slim pickings for berry-eating animals – and what are normally stream crossings were just slightly muddy dips in the trail. When I went down to the little beach in front of lean-to 2, I came face-to-face with a cow moose munching on leaves by the edge of the water. The next day, we saw what must have been the same moose with a bull moose, again along the shore, and realized that this was the only place where they could find vegetation that was still tender.

A little hare, a creature that had never ventured into our company on previous visits, explored our site every evening and night, searching for the slightest crumb that might have fallen from a cracker. And the food bag, which we hung exactly where we had hung others many times before without incident, was torn on the last morning, apparently by a hungry squirrel leaping from a distant branch and trying unsuccessfully to get at the contents. A light drizzle began to fall the day we walked out and I felt that the whole forest was sighing with relief. But it was too late in the season to produce food for the hungry animals and I wonder how many will have survived this winter.

On the way out of the Park, we stopped at the Visitor Center to buy calendars, as well as *Katahdin Comrades: The Journals of Lester F. Hall*. We very much enjoyed reading this book, imagining what the Park must have been like decades ago and trying to think of bits of evidence of that time that still remain. It made me smile when the author referred to Wassataquoik Lake as the "jewel in the park." It was exactly in such terms that a fellow hiker, met by chance on the trail to Russell Pond, once described the lake to us, saying that one had to see it. Since then, we have often been guided by other hikers' enthusiasm for their own favorite places. Reading this book finally made us decide to follow advice that numerous people have given us for the past few years – that is, to visit the northern part of the Park. We have been looking at photos and hoping that the weather will permit the same beautiful views and canoeing opportunities that they show. Whatever the weather, one thing that I am quite sure of is that we will meet someone at a campsite or on a trail and they'll tell us about their own "jewel in the park" and that we must come back again to visit it.

Jane Macaulay & Marcel Moussette
Quebec City

Meet our New Volunteer Coordinator



Alison Violette is a native of Maine. In her fifth grade classroom, she read *Lost on a Mountain in Maine* and wrote a letter along with her classmates, to the author Donn Fendler. That experience stuck with her, and on

her first trip to Katahdin as a teenager she relived the imagery Fendler painted in his book and vowed to return as much as possible. On most weekends, year-round, she can be found backpacking or day hiking. For the first time, this year she visited Baxter State Park in February, spending a night in the Abol lean-tos.

Alison is a Master Leave No Trace Educator and serves on Leave No Trace Maine's steering committee. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Communication and has a Graduate certificate in Geographical Information Systems. Her experience includes two stints with Americorps and working with a variety of nonprofits in the New England area administering and promoting outdoor recreation and volunteer programs. She is an active volunteer with Mountain Birdwatch and sings in the Portland-based acapella choir Renaissance Voices. She lives with her partner in Scarborough, Maine.

Benefit Night at Flatbread Company on July 15

Please join us at Flatbread Company in Portland on the evening of Tuesday, July 15, for food, great company, and prizes! Flatbread Company will donate a portion of receipts from the evening to FBSP.



Handmade poster for Flatbread Benefit night on July 15, 2014, featuring artwork by Dorothy Beeuwkes.

2014 Walks in the Park

Space is still available for four FBSP Walks in the Park this summer! Advance sign-up is required for all events; please RSVP to Sarah Holland at admin@friendsofbaxter.org.

Family Hike of South Turner: July 19

South Turner Mountain has some of the best views in the Park for only a four-mile round trip hike, with great wildlife watching at Sandy Stream Pond along the way. You may want to get a day use parking reservation or camp the night before. Capacity: 12 people. Host: Aaron Megquier.

Plant Exploration with Glen Mittelhauser: July 26

Join Glen Mittelhauser, lead botanist on the Plants of Baxter State Park project, for an exploration of plant communities on Matagamon Lake and Trout Brook Mountain. An incredible opportunity to spend a day in the field with one of Maine's finest botanists. Capacity: 12 people.

Mount OJI: August 3

Come check out the new trail up Mount OJI! Supported by FBSP, and built by the Maine Conservation Corps, the new trail climbs to the saddle between OJI and West Peak, and then approaches the OJI summit from the west. Capacity: 12 people. Host: Carla Ritchie.

Chimney Pond: August 22 - 24

**** FULL ****

South Branch Pond: September 5 - 7

**** FULL ****

SFMA Forestry Tour with Rick Morrill: September 6

Join BSP Resource Manager and forester Rick Morrill for a tour of the Scientific Forest Management Area (SFMA). The 30,000 acres of the SFMA are managed as working forest, providing income as well as wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities.



Cadillac Mountain Sports sponsors Friends

This winter, Cadillac Mountain Sports became the first official business sponsor of Friends with a wonderful \$1,000 pledge for 2014! We deeply appreciate this support of our work. Cadillac Mountain Sports has locations in Ellsworth, Bar Harbor, and Bangor, Maine.

For more information about business sponsorship, or how your business can support our work on behalf of Baxter State Park, please contact Aaron Megquier at 207-975-3787.

Baxter State Park Trivia

Puzzle Master Al Howlett

In 1963, helicopters dropped what animals onto the Northwest Plateau?

- a) Caribou
- b) Elk
- c) Reindeer
- d) Velociraptors

Send Trivia answers to admin@friendsofbaxter.org



Answer: Trivia Question in Spring Newsletter

Once again, our Puzzle Master stumped everyone! In our spring issue, we asked: "On the morning that Henry David Thoreau made his attempt to reach Baxter Peak, he reported that his breakfast included _____." The answer was C, raw pork, although fat of bears and musquash were both good guesses!



Friends of Baxter State Park

P.O. Box 609

Union, ME 04862-0609

Visit us at www.friendsofbaxter.org

Email us at info@friendsofbaxter.org



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We're looking for new Friends!

_____ \$1,000 Governor Baxter Society

_____ \$500 Katahdin Club

_____ \$250 Knife Edger

_____ \$100 Hamlin Peaker

_____ \$50 Sponsor

_____ \$30 Family

_____ \$25 Individual

Please make checks payable to Friends of Baxter State Park.

Dues and contributions are tax deductible to the extent provided by law. Send to:

Friends of Baxter State Park

P.O. Box 609

Union, ME 04862-0609

Thank you!

Speaker Series on Wilderness and Nature-based Tourism

Friends of Baxter State Park is proud to present a speaker series on Wilderness and Nature-based Tourism in Millinocket this summer. All events will be held at 7:00pm at Baxter State Park Headquarters, located at 64 Balsam Drive in Millinocket.

July 24: Thoreau's Maine Woods: An American Wilderness

Scot Miller, author of *Thoreau, The Maine Woods: A Photographic Journey through an American Wilderness*, will kick off the series on July 24. An award-winning photographer, Scot hails from Texas and is a frequent visitor to the Katahdin region.

August 28: The Business of Nature-Based Tourism

Legendary Maine Guide Alexandra Conover Bennett, entrepreneur Matt Polstein, and recreation expert Steve Spencer will share ideas and experience on wilderness and being part of the recreation economy.

September 11: Fish of the Wilderness: Maine's Native Brook Trout

Fisheries biologist Forrest Bonney will speak about Maine's native brook trout, their wilderness habitat, and the world-class recreational fishery that Maine offers. Bonney is the author of *Squaretails: Biology and Management of Maine's Brook Trout*.

October 5: Wild Nephin – Stories from Ireland's First Wilderness

Bill Murphy will give a talk highlighting the Wild Nephin wilderness area in County Mayo, Ireland, some of the projected economic benefits of the Nephin project, and parallels with the Katahdin region.

The speaker series is funded by an Every Day Events Grant from the National Environmental Education Foundation, with generous support from Toyota. All events are free and open to the public. For more information, please visit www.friendsofbaxter.org or call 207-975-3787.

Need a place to stay in Millinocket after a talk? The Ice Fish Inn is offering FBSP members a 20% lodging discount.