

Friends of Baxter State Park

President's Column

by Barbara Bentley

At the Trust for Public Land's celebration of its first ten years in Maine, I listened to Senator George Mitchell remind us how each of our efforts in land conservation is important in the global picture. "Our efforts may seem local," he said, "but they need to be replicated all over the world. What we are doing in land conservation is important not just for the present. Future generations will express gratitude and will lead better, more fulfilled lives because of our work today."

Mitchell described the dramatic growth in the world's population - it took 1800 years from the birth of Christ to reach 1 billion. Today we are at 6 1/2 billion; and the pressures on land, water, and air have grown dramatically. He said that it will take strong leadership to meet these pressures in a way that will not destroy the habitability of the earth. "We are fortunate in Maine," he continued, "in that we have a special sense of place, a relationship with land and water. While there are only 1,300,000 people in Maine at present, pressures on our resources will grow."

This got me thinking about Baxter's vision for his wilderness park and his desire that it remain "forever wild." You can read about it for yourselves in Howard Whitcomb's new book,

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Forever Wild

NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF BAXTER STATE PARK
FALL 2008 VOL. 7 NO. 4



Gary Boone (L) and Howard Whitcomb discuss *Governor Baxter's Magnificent Obsession* in the FBSP booth at Trail's End Festival in Millinocket.

- Photo by Bill Bentley

Friends Publishes Whitcomb's New Book

Governor Baxter's Magnificent Obsession

A stunning photograph of Katahdin and Chimney Pond by Bill Bentley wraps around the covers of Howard Whitcomb's new book, *Governor Baxter's Magnificent Obsession: A Documentary History of Baxter State Park 1931-2006*. To paraphrase Percival P. Baxter, Chimney Pond is a beautiful sheet of water where one stands spellbound at the base of one of nature's noblest creations — the serrated peaks of the Knife Edge that ring much of the Great Basin of Katahdin.

This book tells the tale of this man and this mountain. The stories of Baxter and Katahdin were interwoven through much of the 20th century, much as what Baxter himself referred to as the patchwork quilt of gifts to the state that finally became one large piece that is today Baxter State Park.

This includes Katahdin's Baxter Peak, the highest point in Maine.

Whitcomb has set down the fascinating and complex series of events that transpired over half a century until Baxter State Park exceeded 200,000 acres. He continues with the story of a few additional pieces, particularly the Katahdin Lake parcel, that have been added since Baxter's death in 1969. This is the story of one person's determination, obsession if you will, to establish a wilderness park for the people of Maine. Thwarted repeatedly, first by the legislature that declined to purchase Katahdin while he was governor, and later by reluctant landowners and some negative public opinion, still he prevailed. Whitcomb also provides us insights into the philosophy and character of this remarkable yet in some ways private

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Friends of Baxter State Park is an independent citizen group working to preserve, support, and enhance the wilderness character of Baxter State Park, in the spirit of its founder, Governor Percival Baxter.

President's Column — Continued from p. 1

Governor Baxter's Magnificent Obsession, reviewed by Al Howlett on p.1 of this newsletter. Baxter's vision included people in the park, on trails and in campgrounds, learning to value and appreciate wilderness through interaction rather than a drive-by experience.

While preservation of the wilderness is paramount, how to interact with it with the least impact is essential. In Leave No Trace training this summer, I learned that the first footprint makes the greatest impact. It follows then that an established trail or path is preferable to multiple "first footprints" in a given area and that established trails and campsites in wilderness areas are the best way to provide access to the wilderness experience. Friends has just received funding for a pilot project to bring young people to the Park next summer. You can read about this on page 5 of the newsletter. This will provide an opportunity for them to learn about the value of Baxter's wilderness gift to the people of Maine. I trust they'll hit the trail for wild spaces of the Park's interior.

In addition to visiting the Park and encouraging friends and family to do so,

Available for Purchase

Notecards

Assorted BSP Scenes - pkg of 8 - \$10
 Assorted Wildflowers - pkg of 8 - \$10

Bill Bentley Photos

Color \$15, \$30, \$50 sizes
 Black & white \$10, \$25, \$45 sizes

Hats w/ FBSP Logo - \$20

BSP 2009 Calendar - \$12

***Magnificent Obsession* - \$19.95**

How to Contact Us

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Please get in touch. We look forward to hearing from you.

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there are a number of ways in which you can support the Park. Friends of Baxter State Park (FBSP) uses contributions from its members to fund a variety of activities and projects in support of the Park. The recently established Baxter Park Wilderness Fund (BPWF) accepts gifts, and you can also donate money directly to Baxter State Park (BSP). That's the "alphabet soup" of supporting the Park – FBSP, BPWF, BSP. While each has a slightly different role, all three contribute to the work Senator Mitchell urges us all to do.



Neither rain nor fog kept Rosemary Hastings from summiting this summer during the Friends' Walk in the Park at Chimney Pond. Well done! — Photo by Barbara Bentley

Admin. Manager's Report

As most of you know, Friends occasionally sends out email alerts to its members to remind them of upcoming events. We also send out our newsletter, *Forever Wild*, four times a year. In order to make sure that you receive these, it is important to notify me of any change to your email or mailing address. You can email changes to info@friendsofbaxter.org. Also remember to add our email address to your contacts list. This will assure that messages from us won't be filtered out by your spam filter.

As of the end of September, Friends has 519 memberships. This translates to well over 700 members! Thank you to everyone who has recruited new members. Keep up the good work. Now we all need to work toward retaining the members we have. Suggestions for member activities and events are always welcome. — Rosemary Hastings

Magnificent Obsession — *Continued*
from p. 1

person—Percival Proctor Baxter.

The book's *Foreword* by noted environmental journalist Phyllis Austin provides interesting context for this book. She explains that this is actually a one-volume condensed version of the four-volume set of the deeds and other original records of the acquisition of park lands entitled *Percival P. Baxter's Vision for Baxter State Park* published in a limited edition by Friends of Baxter State Park in May 2005. Part of what makes this such an outstanding book is what lies behind it. Years of research by Professor Whitcomb resulted in the four-volume set that serves as guidance for those charged with oversight of Baxter State Park today and as a research tool. This new book covers the highlights in a very readable form for everyone with an interest in Katahdin and wilderness more generally.

Next is the *Preface* by Barbara Bentley, President of Friends of Baxter State Park, in which she provides a brief recounting of the events that prompted a group of individuals who were concerned about and loved the Park to establish Friends of Baxter State Park. As Bentley states, "Collection of the extant Baxter materials, then scattered about in numerous locations, was high on the organization's agenda from the beginning." This led to support by Friends for Whitcomb's research culminating in the four-volume set.

Whitcomb follows with a fascinating introductory essay on the Park and its history. He has reproduced the best description I have read of Katahdin and its myriad features from an unlikely source: *The Auk*, a publication of the American Ornithologists Union. Then follows the story of Baxter's life, including trips to Katahdin, his gifts to the Park, and the national park controversy of the 1930's. He continues the story with the fulfillment of Baxter's vision upon the addition of Katahdin Lake in 2006.

Whitcomb also provides readable and interesting summaries of the story of each of the 28 acquisitions by the state

through gifts by Percival Baxter. Whitcomb refers to these summaries as the *Annotations to the Deeds of Trust*. A color-coded map that indeed looks like a patchwork quilt helps make sense of it all.

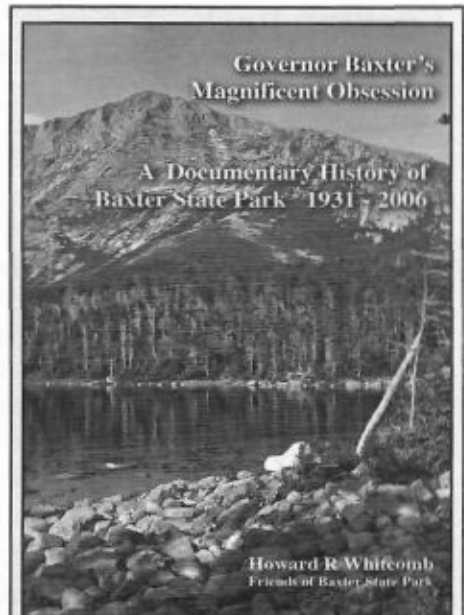
At this point, you may be one of the readers who feel they have enough information, but don't stop reading. Next come the deeds. In the first sentence of the first "whereas" clause in the first deed, we learn that when Baxter gave Katahdin to the state, he only had 3/8 interest in the property! Flipping through page after page of the deeds, stopping to read here and there, will help the reader better understand Baxter's extraordinary effort, his meticulous work, and his obsession to protect this wilderness over a period of many years.

Each deed is accompanied by a letter from Baxter. These are not dry transmittal letters, but rather they contain the strong views and intentions of the donor in making these gifts. They are full of sentiment. They are earnest. They are often intentionally repetitive, reflecting Baxter's hope that through repetition they will stand the test of time. Yet there are changes in wording, new phrases added, and old phrases deleted, reflecting changing circumstances and his evolving thinking on subjects such as roads and hunting.

Baxter lived a long and productive life, but after his death at age 92, the story continued. Whitcomb has summarized these events through his annotations followed by key documents.

For the policy wonk and the researcher, Whitcomb then reprints the table of contents and a list of locations of publicly-accessible copies of the four-volume set. Whitcomb has also reprinted several related documents of historical significance. I found Baxter's address to the Annual Meeting of the Maine Sportsmen's Fish and Game Association in 1921 particularly enlightening. It's a gem of a book!

— Al Howlett, *FBSP Treasurer and Chair of the Finance Committee*



**A must for your bookshelf
and a great gift for family
and friends!**

*Governor Baxter's Magnificent
Obsession: A Documentary History
of Baxter State Park, 1931-2006*
by Howard R. Whitcomb

ISBN # 978-1-887940-15-3
325 pages • 8.5 x 11 • paperbound
\$24, tax & shipping included

In this gem of a book, our own Whitcomb recounts the indefatigable efforts of visionary Percival P. Baxter to preserve Katahdin as a wilderness area for the people of Maine. Included are his definitive annotations of the Deeds of Trust and new content related to Park acquisitions in '92, '97, and most notably, the Katahdin Lake parcel in '06. The volume's usefulness is enhanced by its thorough documentation, appendices, and index.

Sales fund our mission of preserving, supporting, and enhancing the wilderness character of Baxter State Park.

To order books, send check payable to Friends of Baxter State Park. See "How to Contact Us" on p. 2 of the newsletter for address.

Looking Back ...

Pamola and the Consarn Females

(from the Baxter State Park Archives)

Nearly seventy years ago, four ladies arrived at Chimney Pond fully expecting State Ranger Roy Dudley, teller of tales about his friendship with the mountain's resident deity, to be present to offer them hospitality. He was away from his post for a day or two and the following letter was found tacked to his door when he returned. It read:

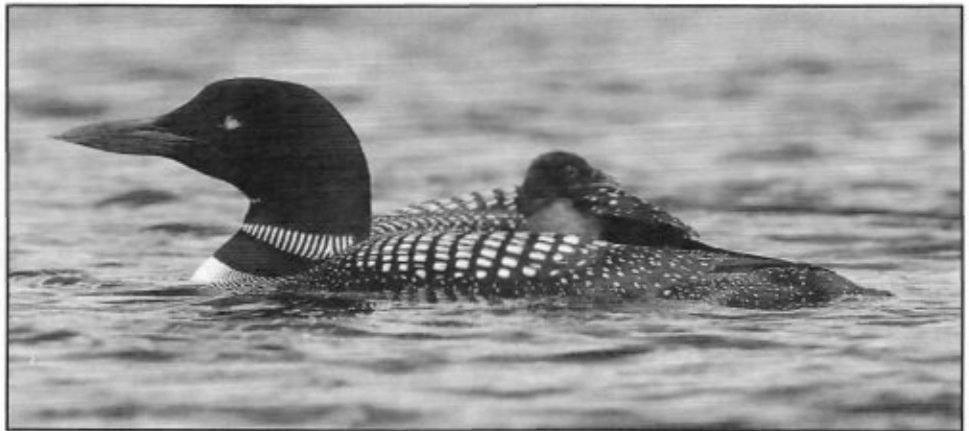
Dear Mr. Dudley,

We the undersigned have a very serious complaint to make. On May 28, 1939, we arrived at Baxter State Park Cabin, cold, hungry and WET after a fearful swim through roaring brooks, fully expecting to see the usual welcoming sign of smoke coming from your cabin. Much to our horror and dismay, it was empty. We accepted your absent hospitality however and started our supper which was stale.

Suddenly we heard terrific noise, rocks rumbling, boulders rolling, then a whirl from a mighty pair of wings. Of course, we knew at once it was Pamola. We looked up to see a pair of eyes staring at us from the window, eyes as big as lights of an automobile. We were able to eat by the light. With a roar, a snort, and a burst of flames, we heard a bellow. "Consarn females, nothing but consarn females, where's Roy?" And with that he flew back.

— *John Neff, Author of Katahdin:*

*An Historic Journey, can be contacted at
jhneff@fairpoint.net*



Laurie Rich has been documenting the progress of the loon family on Kidney Pond this summer by taking photos each week. Here the little one catches a ride on a parent's back. At last report, the young loon was trying to fly. See photo below. — *Photo by Laurie Rich*

Baxter State Park 2009 Calendar on sale NOW! Call for Photos for 2010

It is time to purchase the 2009 BSP calendar, produced by Friends in collaboration with the Park. You'll find it on sale at Park Headquarters, from Friends, or at bookstores and other locations around the state for \$12. To order calendars from Friends, send a check payable to FBSP, and we'll mail them right out. See "How To Contact Us" on p. 2 for address.



To submit a photo for the 2010 calendar — which goes to print in the first months of 2009, believe it or not — send it to Bill Bentley at bentleys@tidewater.net. Be sure to include a title for the photo, the month in which it was taken, and the name and contact information of the photographer. Save the photo at the highest resolution possible as the published photo will be 9 3/8" x 13" with horizontal orientation.

CALL for NOMINATIONS

Board of Directors of Friends of Baxter State Park

The fifteen-member Board not only sets policy for the Friends but also, along with volunteers from the membership, does most of the work of the Friends. Elected by the members at the Annual Meeting in April, Board Members serve a three-year term with a maximum of two consecutive three-year terms. Board members are expected to prepare for and attend a Board meeting on the second Monday of every other month, starting in January, and to serve on one or more committees to help complete more detailed or hands-on work. Meetings have been held from 6:00 - 9:00 PM in Augusta. The location of meetings could change if the geographic distribution of the Board changes.

If you are interested in serving on the Board of Directors, or know someone who is, please contact a current Board member whom you know, or the Nominating Committee Chair, Ken Spalding, by email at spaldings4@msn.com or by phone at 207-685-9012.

FBSP Wins Quimby Grant for Wilderness Project

Thanks to the Quimby Family Foundation, Friends of Baxter State Park will soon launch its first endeavor to educate Maine youth about the meaning and values of wilderness. Scheduled for the summer of 2009, a pilot project will bring together ten high schoolers to the Park for a week of back country hiking, recreating, and learning facilitated by the Chewonki Foundation and numerous experienced resource specialists.

In early August, FBSP won a \$10,000 grant to fund *Wilderness Preservation for the Next Generation*, joining some 25 other outdoor organizations as this year's recipients. Grantees were honored at a luncheon and awards ceremony at the Harrasekett Inn in Freeport, hosted by philanthropist Roxanne Quimby and her immediate family.

"After a lifetime of love for the Park and dedication to its preservation, I am eager for our organization to provide this unique opportunity for the next generation who will continue to carry the flag for preserving wild places," said Barbara Bentley, president of FBSP. "We hope the experience will make an indelible mark on these teenagers' lives."

Banking on the belief that what we experience, we can learn to love, and what we love, we will want to protect, the project will, first and foremost, focus on direct experience in the Park wilderness. Members of the group will be accompanied, at scheduled times, by a geologist, a naturalist, and Park personnel, and they will, at all times, be led by seasoned wilderness leaders from Chewonki.

To deepen the experience, students will learn the value of photography,

nature journaling, sketching, and painting in the appreciation of wilderness. We hope they'll make a lifelong connection to the natural world, but we will make certain that they will also have an enjoyable week that is a lot of fun. That's very, very important. One good experience in the wilderness will lead to many more, we believe.

Another component of the week is a service/learning project. Park Director Jensen Bissell hopes the group can participate in trail maintenance activities on two days during the week.



Roxanne Quimby addresses grant recipients at awards ceremony in Freeport.

— Photos by Walter Anderson

Students across the state—in outing clubs, recreation centers, scouting groups, classrooms, nature clubs, and similar places—will be invited to apply, completing both an application and writing an essay about why they would like to participate. Meetings have begun with Park personnel to coordinate plans and with leaders from Teens to Trails, Chewonki, and the FBSP Board to determine the best way to approach the process.

Hopefully, this pilot project can be sustained in future years. Some of the possibilities include soliciting co-sponsorship of the program with other outdoor organizations who share our goals and concerns, soliciting corporate sponsorship, and conducting an annual fund-raising campaign specifically for the project.

Not only does the Park benefit by this ambitious initiative, our organization believes, but the communities from which these teens come will also benefit. They will be affected by the stories, education, and experiences of the teens' newly-acquired connection with nature and wilderness.

Please contact Friends if you know of someone who would be a good candidate for this special week next summer. Applications will be available by the next newsletter.

By the way, the title *Wilderness Preservation for the Next Generation* lacks the appeal teens expect so we are open to suggestions for a name for the project. *Wild Gen?* We'd love to hear from you.

— Linda McKee, FBSP Board Member, Chair of Public Relations Committee, and Project Coordinator for the Wilderness Preservation for the Next Generation

Focus on Youth: *Wilderness Preservation for the Next Generation*

Friends invites contributions from readers for/by young folks. We're looking for information about upcoming opportunities, tips for successful visits to the Park, accounts of past individual and/or group outings, news from outing clubs... you name it! In upcoming newsletters, you will also find information in this column about FBSP's program for high school students in the Park planned for the summer of 2009. See "How to Contact Us" on p. 2 of the newsletter. While you are at it, how about suggesting a name for the column?

Our Readers Write...



Painting the Park

... The painting was from a photograph taken at Rocky Pond looking toward one of my favorites, Doubletop Mountain. Many spring seasons found me helping prepare Kidney Pond campground for opening day so hikes to Rocky were part of the routine (trout for supper).

— Ed Dwyer, Auburn, ME

In the last issue of the newsletter, I invited folks to identify the scene in Ed's painting since members of the FBSP Board had thought it was on the other side of the mountain. Congratulations to Paul Woodward for hitting the nail on the head.

— Editor

Painting ID and Next Generation Suggestions

I'm thinking that the painting in the newsletter by Ed Dwyer was done at Little Rocky Pond of Doubletop Mountain. My photo was taken Sept. 18, 1997.

I agree, be prepared for the next generation if they ever get into the "forever wild" wilderness. They are in a very different kind of wilderness, that of the internet, which is very addictive.

We have a friend... who might have a student that would be interested in this endeavor. I'll send her a copy of the *Forever Wild* newsletter.

Thanks for keeping us posted on the FBSP field trips. Makes me jealous that we are unable to participate.

— Paul Woodward, Bozrah, CT

Climbing the Armadillo

If that climb were 1/2 hour from the road, there'd be a line all the way around the world to get up it!

— John Weaver, Camden, ME

Rained out on the Friends' Walk in the Park to Chimney Pond this summer when bad weather kept him on the Cathedral, Knife Edge, and Dudley, John conquered this technical rock climb on his second trip to the Park this summer.

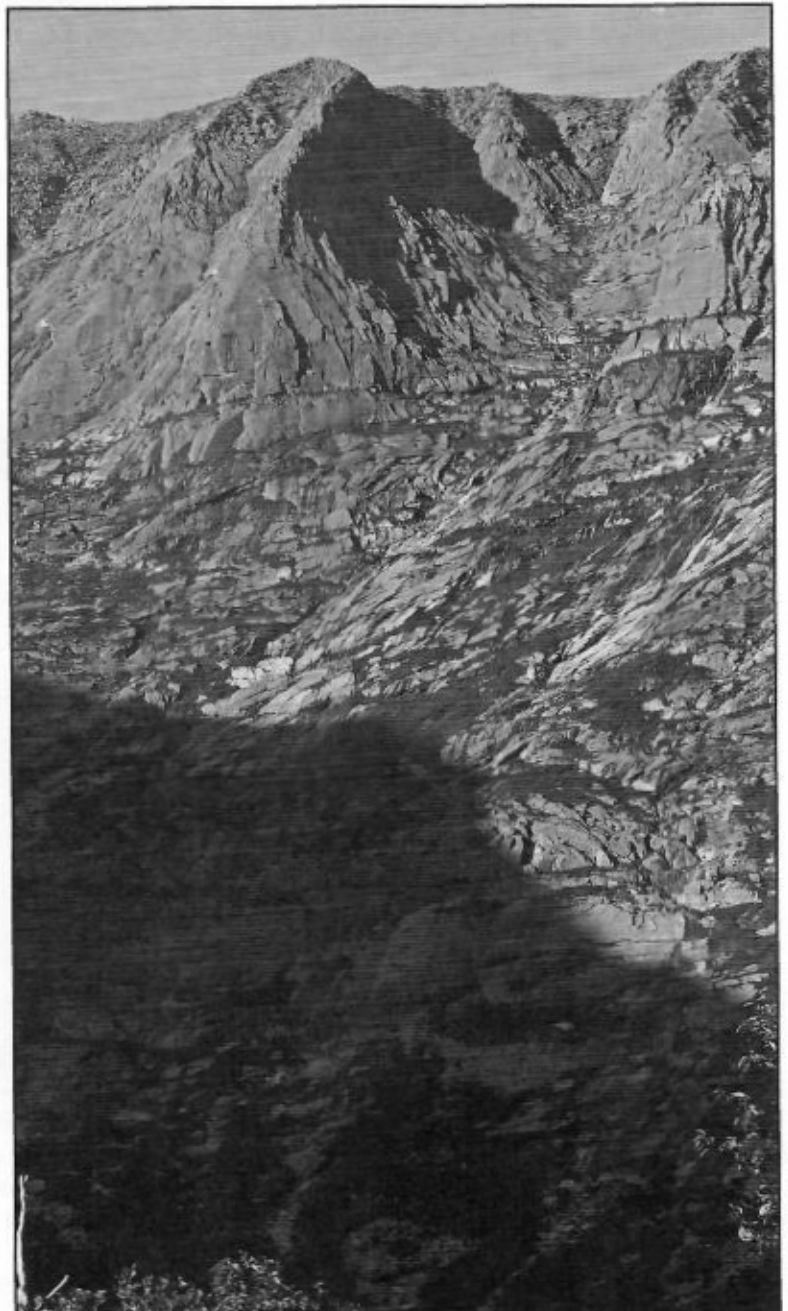
— Editor

Volunteers for Peace at work in the Park

I attended the VFP farewell barbecue at Togue Pond last night. It was great; glad I went; a great star walk later on. That group is 5 - 6 total from Japan, Korea, Germany, Belgium, and Switzerland. The Park organizes the whole program year after year; the volunteers do trail work as well as various hikes. They each did a drawing and spoke about it and the trip as part of closing ceremonies... They had a terrific time.

... Shibasa from Japan ... will be staying with us in Yarmouth and spending the day with Lois and me at CGF. Maybe we can get her to help at the booth! Her English isn't great; but she loves Katahdin and everything about her program as far as I can tell. These volunteers are older than our group will be; Shibasa turned 21 at Katahdin.

— Al Howlett, Yarmouth, ME



The Armadillo is one-way traffic to the top. —Photo by Bill Bentley

Al and his wife hosted Shibasa after her stay in the Park. Laurie Rich, who coordinated the hosting effort for Friends and the Park, also welcomed volunteers into her home. Many thanks to all of you!

— Editor

Cooks' Corner

Backpacking Recipes for the Trail

Every summer, we spend a week backpacking in the Park. Our numbers vary, but we usually have 6-10 in the group. With that number, we like to cook over a fire, which also allows use of a reflector oven. The objectives for meals are that they should be tasty, satisfying, lightweight, assembled from "off the shelf" ingredients in the supermarket, and easy to cook in a single pot. Here's a favorite dinner menu:

Soup: Very easy to do a pot of soup. Lots and lots of dry soup mixes available in the supermarket. I usually increase water by 50% from package direction. Goal is to give everyone a large cup of soup as a starter while the rest of the dinner is cooking.

Chili: This dinner requires a pot for the chili and a second pot for the rice, but otherwise meets all the criteria, and also satisfies the vegetarians. Quantities are for 8 and are easily scalable.

- 1 1/2 cups black beans
- 1 1/2 cups red kidney beans
- 2 cups freeze-dried corn
- 2 cups freeze-dried tomato
- 1/2 cup dried minced onion
- 1 cup textured vegetable protein
- 2 pkts Carroll Shelby's Chili Mix
- 2 cups Basmati rice

Beans need to be soaked (overnight if possible) and rinsed. Then boil



Supper is on the fire, baking's in the reflector oven, as folks model their footwear - cros of many colors. —Photo by Charlie Jacobi

beans and onion in 4 quarts of water until beans are almost tender. At that point, add textured vegetable protein (I use "Bob's Red Mill" which looks like ground beef when hydrated) and chili mix (lots of different mixes out there). After 5 minutes, add freeze-dried corn and tomato (readily available in pint containers in Whole Foods Markets in our area) and cook until thoroughly re-hydrated. Monitor the amount of liquid — you may need to add more. If you like your chili milder, do not add all of the red pepper flakes in the chili mix!

Cook the rice separately. If the rice is done before the chili, move rice off the fire. Serve chili over rice. Optional to carry some grated cheese to sprinkle on top.

Baking: Our group does something in the reflector oven for each breakfast and dinner. By the time the rest of the

meal is finished, the baking is done. There are lots of prepackaged mixes for corn bread, muffins, brownies, and biscuits (cake mixes do not work well). Don't bother to try to carry eggs or oil, despite what the packages may say. If you add 2 tablespoons of baking powder, your baking will rise nicely. Or use a mix (Bisquick is one) that says just add water or milk. If blueberries are plentiful, put them in the baking! Dice up some of your dried fruit. Or take along some extra raisins and cinnamon. Freeze-dried fruit (from Whole Foods) works well. Each dry baking mix is bagged separately (double-bagged, actually) before the trip. Here is the basic mix, to which you can add whatever else is available:

- 2 1/2 cups biscuit mix
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 2 TBSP baking powder
- 1/4 pkg powdered milk

Pour the bag of mix into a small pot for mixing. Add whatever fruit is available. Pour in about a cup of water. Stir, and add more water GRADUALLY until the mixture is thoroughly mixed, and is neither stiff nor soupy. Then grease the baking pan, and pour in the mixture. Set the reflector oven in front of the fire, being sure to adjust so that the pan is level. You need a brightly burning fire, not coals. While you're cooking dinner, monitor the baking. Usually takes about 15 minutes for the front to brown and start to pull away from the edge. At that point, turn the pan so that both edges are cooked equally. If the baking is done before the meal is finished, pull the oven a couple of feet back from the fire so that the baking remains warm.

— John Mirick, Princeton, MA

Our Readers Write...

Continued from p. 6



L to R: Volunteer for Peace Shibasa and her hosts, Al and Lois Howlett, helped man the Friends booth at Common Ground Fair.

— Photo by Bill Bentley

There are some pretty amazing meals dished up in the backcountry. I invite you to share your recipes. I met a back-packer at Wassataquoik Lake this summer with a sweet potato in her gear. Hope we get that recipe! — Editor



Update from the Park

September has evolved into one of the busiest months in our year. Despite some very dreary weather in late July and the first half of August, our visitor use and revenue numbers held almost exactly to 2007 numbers for the month and year-to-date.

Led by Rod Angotti, the Park's maintenance crew has been very productive and in early September completed the removal of the deteriorating wooden dam at the outlet of Abol Pond. (See photo below.) The dam was replaced with a rock lining that will maintain pond water levels and provide an impediment to the upstream movement of non-native fish species in the Penobscot's West Branch.

This season has been a busy one for video production efforts with interest in filming inside the Park. The Park's recently enacted Media Policy was put to good use this summer, and we will be continuing work on adding some additional components to this policy this winter.

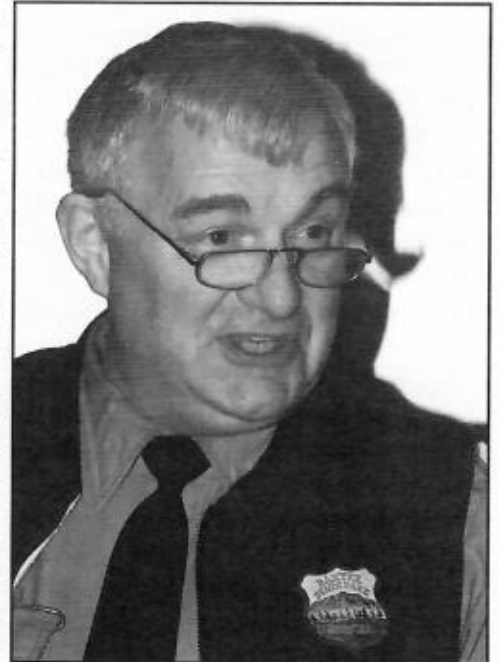
After 36 years, Chief Ranger Chris Drew decided to put down the hard hat and pick up the fly rod. Chris began his retirement on September 1st. We are looking forward to thanking Chris for his years of service with a banquet at Jeff's Catering from 3 to 6 pm on Saturday, October 25. If you are interested in attending, be sure to contact Ada Angotti (207-723-9500) for information.

I have been working hard with the Administrative Team on the first stages of the selection process for a new Chief Ranger. There has been strong competition for this position, and the Authority hopes to announce a selection by early November.

Our season is now starting to wind down as the last day of camping approaches on October 15th. We will be holding our annual Fall Staff Meeting on October 16, followed by the Fall Authority Meeting at Kidney Pond Campground on Friday, October 17. The agenda for this meeting will be going out soon.

This may be the last meeting attended by former Authority Chair Steve Rowe as he will be terming out of the Attorney General position in early January of 2009. Steve has been a knowledgeable and dedicated Authority member and a stalwart and unwavering defender of the Park and the Deeds of Trust. He will be missed by the Park staff, and we wish Steve the best in his future endeavors.

— Jensen Bissell, BSP Director



Retired Chief Ranger Chris Drew spoke at FBSP Annual Meeting in April.

— Photo by Bill Bentley



Work shown above in progress on dam removal at the outlet of Abol Pond has been completed.

— Photo by BSP Staff

Russell Pond Campground Turns 60 Soon

At a fortuitous reunion of Russell Pond enthusiasts in August, it was determined that the Russell Pond Campground will be 60 years old shortly. While the historians among us have yet to establish the exact date, it is not too early to start preparations for the celebration.

In an upcoming issue of the newsletter, there will be two pages devoted to photos, stories, and eyewitness accounts about life and adventure at RP. Some may recall the washing machine on the peninsula, the float plane dodging Clorox-bottle buoys as it landed on the pond, and a toothpaste-hoarding red squirrel. Raging river crossings, late night returns of overdue hikers, winter trips, and fishing successes — all are tales worth telling. Please send us yours!

Right: L - R: Russell Pond Ranger Greg Hamer, former BSP Ranger Keith Smith, and BSP Alpine Ranger Rob Tice stand on the dock in front of the Ranger's cabin at R.P.

Above left on p. 8: Russell Pond panorama shows reflections in still water.

— Photos by Bill Bentley



Ten Years in Maine for TPL

The Trust for Public Land celebrated its first decade in Maine in September at the home of Helen and Walter Norton in Harpswell. A speaker at the event, George Mitchell received a framed print of a Katahdin Lake painting by Evelyn Dunphy in recognition for his work in land conservation in general and for his generous support of the 2006 Katahdin Lake Campaign in particular.

L-R: TPL staff person, Senator George Mitchell, and artist Evelyn Dunphy

— Photo by Bill Bentley



Friends sponsored this Maine Conservation Corps (MCC) crew at work here on Martin Ponds trail — side hilling are (L - R) Cora Campbell from Ashland, ME, and Team Leader Chris Bartlett, and building stairs are (L - R) Noah Wachtel from CA; Jen Comfort from Corning, NY; and John Stephen from Fayette, ME.

— Photos by Bill Bentley

Friends of Baxter State Park
P.O. Box 1442
Bangor, ME 04402-1442

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

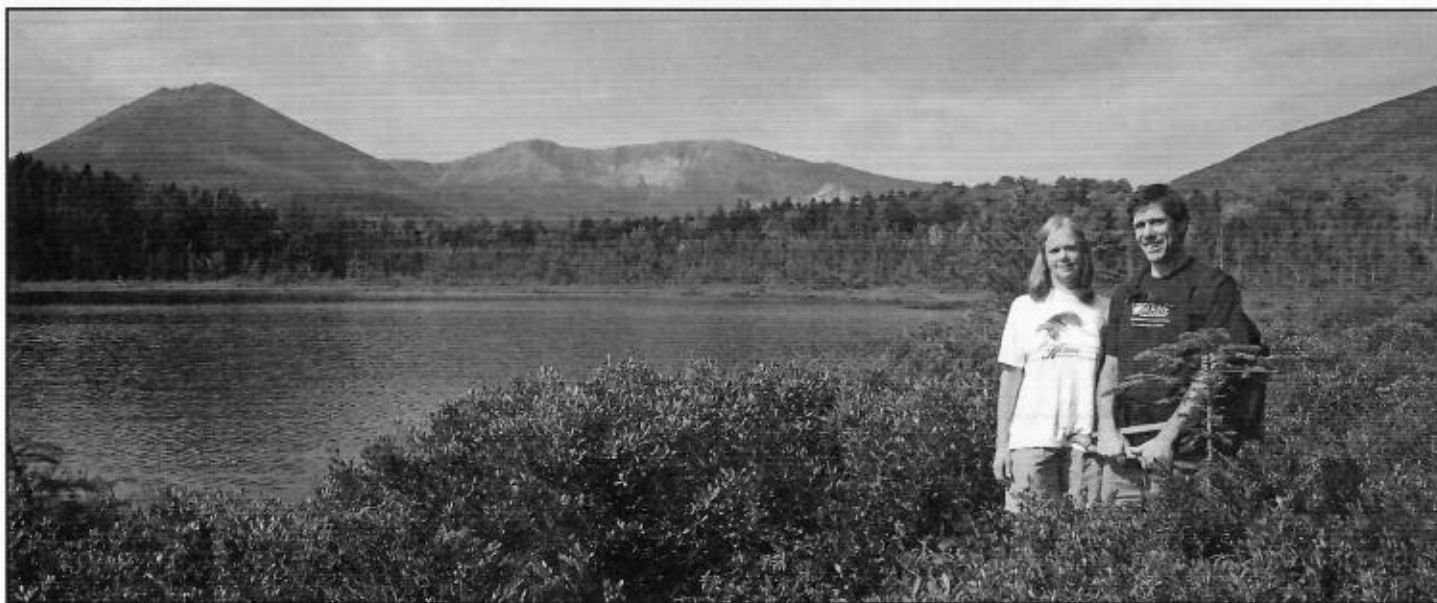
Please make checks payable to Friends of Baxter State Park. Dues and contributions are tax deductible to the extent provided by law. Send to

Friends of Baxter State Park,
P.O. Box 1442, Bangor, ME 04402-1442.
Online at www.friendsofbaxter.org

Thank you!

Volunteer Opportunities & Walks in the Park - 2009

In addition to sponsoring a professional trail crew for a week, FBSP sent a chainsaw crew, trail stewards, and trail volunteers to the Park this year. In the spring, we'll be looking to continue these efforts as well as find volunteers to construct a lean-to at Martin Pond. Let us know if you're interested in helping out. It's fun.



Pictured here on the shore of Martin Pond, Cindy and Jim Dunham joined other Friends for a couple of beautiful days in the Park at the end of September. After hiking the newly-constructed Martin Ponds trail loop and visiting with the MCC crew at work on side hill and step construction, the group concentrated on corridor definition on the Katahdin Lake trail. — Photo by Bill Bentley