



MAINE CHAPTER

YOUR CONNECTION TO THE OUTDOORS

Maine Chapter
Appalachian Mountain Club
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WILDERNESS MATTERS

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AMC's Fall Gathering Is Here in Maine. Don't Miss It! By John Mullens

Maine Chapter Chair Roger David minces no words as he describes what's in store for the weekend of October 17-19 in Midcoast Maine. "It doesn't get any closer or better than this!" he continues. "Fall Gathering is here in Maine and for Mainers wondering what Fall Gathering is all about, this is THE year to find out."

The words nearly tumble out of Roger, so keen is he on Fall Gathering this year. "We've got hikes, bikes, paddles, boat trips, and other iconic Maine coastal adventures planned for everyone. This opportunity won't come around again for us for another 12 years! And for a surprisingly reasonable rate, you'll get two nights of lodging, all meals, access to lots of outings, and opportunities to befriend AMCers from other chapters."

It's true. The Maine Chapter, one of 12 in all of AMC, is hosting Fall Gathering right here in Maine. And this won't happen again until the year 2026. Oh, sure, Fall Gathering will



Photo by Carey Kish

Fall Gathering will feature many great hikes with incredible views.

happen again before then, but Mainers will have to drive a bit to attend those events in other states. This year, however, it's right in our own backyard.

The big three-day event is set at a picture-perfect Maine summer camp, Camp Wavus for Girls on Damariscotta Lake in Jefferson, Maine. The camp has all new facilities on a gorgeous wooded campus with miles of pristine waterfront.

The Maine coast, only a short hop away from camp, will be the focus of many Fall Gathering activities. These include lots of hikes—many to mountain summits with ocean vistas, bike rides to lighthouses and coastal vistas, kayak paddling in the bay, plus guided visits to the Botanical Gardens, the Puffin Center, and the Farnsworth Art Museum. See the full list of Fall Gathering activities elsewhere in this issue of WM.

Fall Gathering also offers a chance to get up close and personal with AMC President John Judge via an open forum where he'll welcome your questions on all things AMC. The Friday

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Elmina B. Sewall Foundation Grants \$1.1 Million to Support Trail Construction in the Moosehead Region

The AMC announced in mid-August that it will work with the Moosehead Lake Region Economic Development Corporation (MLREDC), Plum Creek and the Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands (BPL) to invest \$1.1 million in trail construction and maintenance over the next five years to help build recreational trails in the Moosehead and 100-Mile Wilderness regions as part of a larger effort to further grow the nature-based tourism economy in the region.

The investment is made possible by a grant to AMC from the Elmina B. Sewall Foundation. The expanded trails stewardship effort will include the creation of new trails on AMC lands and support construction and maintenance of trails on surrounding conservation lands owned by Plum Creek BPL. This investment, announced in partnership with Plum Creek and MLREDC, will match an additional \$1 million that has already been committed by Plum Creek to trails construction in the region. BPL is managing the Plum Creek funding and trail construction in partnership with a Moosehead Trails Advisory Committee.

"This investment will play a substantial role in future economic development of the Moosehead Region and will directly benefit communities around Piscataquis County, including Greenville, Shirley and Rockwood," said Craig Watt, MLREDC member.

"Individuals, businesses, and organizations have worked together to conserve hundreds of thousands of acres in the region, and now we can help ensure these lands provide additional opportunities for outdoor recreation and the related economic benefits that come with improved recreational access. We believe these trails will help to solidify the region's status as a true world-class destination for outdoor recreation and nature-based tourism," said Walter Graff, Senior Vice President for the AMC.

"We are thankful to the Elmina B. Sewall Foundation for making this investment in recreational infrastructure in the region," he said.

"We are grateful to AMC and the Elmina B. Sewall Foundation for this generous investment," said Luke Muzzy, Senior Land Manager for Plum Creek. "This additional partnership will help ensure that the expansive trail system is planned, developed and maintained to be a long-term asset to the Moosehead Lake Region."

"This grant from the Elmina B. Sewall Foundation is great news for the support it provides to outdoor recreation coordination in the Moosehead Lake Region," said Rex Turner, Outdoor Recreation Planner with the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry. "The Moosehead Lake Region is one of

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Sunset at Gorman Chairback at AMC's MWI

Photo by Dan Rinaud

FALL CALENDAR: OUTINGS | EVENTS | MEETINGS | EDUCATION

A note about the listings: The listings below—presented in date order by category—include only those posted online prior to the submission deadline for this issue of *Wilderness Matters*. For the most complete and accurate information and up-to-date listings—and so you don't miss spontaneous outings—please periodically check out the calendar online at www.amcmaine.org/calendar.

For general questions or comments regarding these calendar listings, contact Peter Roderick, Outings Co-Chair and Master of the Calendar Listings, outings@amcmaine.org or (207) 293-2704. Note: Please be courteous when contacting trip leaders by doing so before 9:00 PM unless otherwise specified, please and thanks.

Next Deadline for *Wilderness Matters* (Winter Issue) is December 1, 2014.

Wilderness Matters is your chapter newsletter. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to contribute, be it stories, news, opinions, photos, or whatnot. We want to hear from you! Please send submissions to newsletter@amcmaine.org. Submission guidelines: Articles, opinions, stories and such are limited to 400-500 words maximum (word counts greater than that will be edited or may not be accepted). Photos should be reduced in size to 1024 x 768 pixels or thereabouts and include a photo title and any other identifying info plus proper photo credit. Thank you!

FALL GATHERING

Friday, October 17 – Sunday, October 19: AMC FALL GATHERING 2014 hosted by Maine Chapter Join AMC for its annual Fall Gathering October 17-19, 2014, hosted this year by the AMC Maine Chapter at Camp Wavus on Damariscotta Lake in Jefferson, ME. The entire AMC membership from all 12 chapters is invited to join together for a three-day weekend to experience, enjoy, learn, and celebrate all that is AMC. In addition, a pre-Fall Gathering opportunity invites AMCs to

experience two nights at the gorgeous AMC Maine wilderness lodges outside of Greenville, Maine. Extend your stay to experience more of the Maine coast, its views and seafood. FMI contact Roger David, 207-737-9870, rd04342@gmail.com. Also: www.amcmaine.org/fall.

Friday, October 17: "Blue Lights and Funny Cider" Enjoy "Blue Lights and Funny Cider," a raucous, ribald and sometimes poignant look at Maine Law Enforcement "back in the day." Enjoy Warden Ford and Trooper Nickerson's hilarious anecdotes: booze loving bear in the troopers side car, the deer that wouldn't die, Daddy who?, and other funny tales. Presentation will be after Friday's evening meal. FMI contact Roger David, 207-737-9870, rd04342@gmail.com.

Saturday, October 18: Coastal Maine Lobstering Expedition This introduction to lobstering will include a two-hour trip on a Boothbay lobster boat for a real-life demonstration of how to check traps and measure and harvest lobsters. A lobster boat captain will explain the process, discuss the life cycle of lobsters, and recent changes to lobstering. We'll end with a lobster lunch in Boothbay. Space is limited and trip is weather dependent. Call registrar for information on cost and to register by October 11th. Registrar: Cindy Caverly, 207-465-9097, cindycaverly@gmail.com.

Saturday, October 18: Farnsworth Art Museum and Rockland Gallery Tours Tour Farnsworth Art Museum and Wyeth Center, enjoy lunch in Rockland, take a walking tour to visit the numerous contemporary art galleries. Rockland has been called "Maine's most art-centric town" thanks to the fabulous Farnsworth Museum and the galaxy of independent galleries that surround it. The museum offers an unparalleled opportunity to enjoy a comprehensive collection of American art related to Maine. You will explore why artists have always been drawn to our state and how they have depicted its landscape and people. In addition to the main museum we will also tour The Wyeth Center. The Wyeths are a three-generation family of artists. N.C. Wyeth, son Andrew, and grandson James have all been influenced by Maine and its people since N.C. brought his family to summer here in 1921. Guide: Lisa Graves, lisagraves221@gmail.com.

Sunday, October 19: Project Puffin Visitors Center Come celebrate the success of bringing puffins and other rare seabirds back to historic Maine islands! Up to 25 people can attend a talk by the center's manager, Susie Meadows. Besides the live talk, there are educational and interactive exhibits and a 20 minute video. This activity will be Sunday Oct. 19 at 10 AM. Leader Carla Dow can help coordinate rides to downtown Rockland, where the center is conveniently located very close to the Farnsworth Museum, another gem to visit if time allows. If the group so desires, we can each lunch together in Rockland, before everyone heads home after another terrific AMC fall gathering! Guide: Carla Dow, 207-439-9369, treetopsschool@comcast.net.

Wilderness Matters



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MEETINGS & EDUCATION

Thursday, October 16: Old Tales of the Maine Woods - Enchanting Stories of the Maine Woods with Steve Pinkham, Bangor. Steve Pinkham grew up in western Maine, hearing old stories of hunting and fishing, and has spent much of his life hiking, paddling and discovering the many wonderful places in the backwoods of Maine. After spending ten years searching for articles and books, following up on clues, and spending a vast amount of hours in libraries and historical societies, he published his first book in 2009, *Mountains of Maine*. From his phenomenal collection of over 22,000 articles and stories of the Maine Woods, Steve selected some of the most exciting old hunting and fishing tales, as well as stories of animal encounters, lumbering, canoe trips, and even a few ghost stories for his next book, *Old Tales of the Maine Woods*, which was followed by *More Old Tales of the Maine Woods*. **7:00 PM on Thursday, October 16 at 105 Eastport Hall, UMA/Bangor Campus in Bangor, ME. PLEASE SEE FULL STORY ON THIS PROGRAM ON PAGE 6 OF THIS NEWSLETTER.**

Wednesday, November 12: Dr. George Jacobson of the University of Maine Climate Change Institute, Holden. Maine State Climatologist Dr. Jacobson will share his knowledge of climate change and its effects on our lives. His extensive research has led to a great depth of understanding of the way our world is changing. He has a huge trove of information about how changing climates have affected our world over the last 60,000 years. **Wednesday, November 12 at Fields Pond Audubon Center, 216 Fields Pond Road, Holden, ME.** Optional potluck at 6:00 PM, (please bring a food item to share and a plate and utensils) followed by the presentation at 7:00 PM. **PLEASE SEE FULL STORY ON THIS PROGRAM ON PAGE 4 OF THIS NEWSLETTER.**

Thursday, November 20: Hiking the Haute Route in France and Switzerland, Brunswick Join us as Karen Herold shares her pictures and tales of her experiences hiking the Haute Route in France and Switzerland. Karen and her husband and sister hiked the Haute Route from Chamonix, France, to Zermatt, Switzerland in July, 2013. **Curtis Memorial Library, 23 Pleasant Street, Brunswick on Thursday, November 20, 2014. Optional potluck at 6:00 PM; presentation at 7:00 PM. PLEASE SEE FULL STORY ON THIS PROGRAM ON PAGE 4 OF THIS NEWSLETTER.**

Thursday, December 4: Dogsledding Adventures with Mahoosuc Guide Service, Brunswick Join us as Bryan Courtois and Polly Mahoney share their experiences dog sledding in some interesting places. Polly, a guide with Mahoosuc Guide Service will be bringing two of her sled dogs! **Curtis Memorial Library, 23 Pleasant Street, Brunswick on Thursday, December 4, 2014. Optional potluck at 6:00 PM; presentation at 7:00 PM. PLEASE SEE FULL STORY ON THIS PROGRAM ON PAGE 5 OF THIS NEWSLETTER.**

Saturday, December 13: Intro to Winter Outings Workshop Join experienced winter trip leaders Peter Broderick and Laura Flight for this intro to clothing, gear, snow travel, and taking care of yourself in the winter. Learn to stay warm, dry, and functional. Workshop designed to prepare experienced three-season trampers, and experienced winter trampers who'd like to learn a few tricks. Morning indoor session, potluck lunch, optional outdoor afternoon session. **Workshop at Curtis Library in Brunswick.** Please e-mail or call Laura Flight to register. Leader: Laura Flight, 207-215-5306, flyrodflight@systemfolder.com.

HIKING

Saturday, October 4: Mt Crawford (3119') 5 mile hike via Davis Path to open summit. Elevation gain 2100 ft. No dogs please. Leaders: Lorraine Hussey, 207-619-9444, before 9PM, lorrainehussey66@gmail.com, Debby Kantor, 207-854-3431, dlkantor@aol.com

Saturday, October 18: Camden Hills Fall Gathering Hike Hike up Mt. Battie (800') and ocean lookout, then on to Mt. Megunticook (1385'). Leader: Wayne Newton, 207-897-3072, hikerfig@myfairpoint.net.

Saturday, October 18: Boat Trip & Hike Vinalhaven - Fall Gathering A ferry trip to Vinalhaven Island for a day of hiking. Ferry leaves from Rockland, ME at 8:45 AM and it's a 1.5 hr. trip to the island. Cost for the ferry is \$17.50, parking may be extra. We will visit the Vinalhaven Historical Society building for a history lesson about the island. A mile hike from town is Armburst Hill Wildlife Preserve and Lanes Island Preserve that offer several miles of easy to moderate hikes. Time permitting we can hike a 6-mile loop road around the island. Limited to 10. Bring lunch. Leaders: Larry DeHof, 207-310-8952, ldehof@access4less.net.

Saturday, October 18: Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens Interpretive Hike - Fall Gathering Join Maine Master Naturalists Jeanne Christie and Gerry Sawyer for a daylong visit to the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens. Opened in 2007, this new botanical garden was voted #1 Public Garden in the United States by Trip Advisor in 2013. The spectacular gardens are integrated into the dramatic scenery of the rocky coast and sheltered by tall pines. We will start with a morning tour of the botanical gardens by a docent. We have a room reserved inside the education center for our bag lunches. In the afternoon Jeanne and Gerry will lead a leisurely hike into the more remote parts of the gardens to explore the flora and fauna of a classic Maine coastal forest. The terrain is gently rolling and we expect to cover roughly 4 miles. FMI about the gardens, visit www.maine gardens.org. Leaders: Jeanne Christie, 207-310-8708, jeanne.christie@aswm.org; Gerry Sawyer, 207-234-2425, gerry.sawyer@gmail.com.

Saturday, October 18: Dodge Point Preserve Hike - Fall Gathering 1-3 pm. Carpool from Camp Wavus to Dodge Point for a leisurely, naturalist lead hike progressing through woods, wetlands and along the Damariscotta River. While crossing a variety of terrains, we will see evidence of an old brickyard, Native American shell heaps, old cellars and a stand of large trees. Families welcome. Leader: Peg Nation, 207-583-2720, mjnation11@earthlink.net.

Saturday, October 18: Fall Gathering Hike to Mt. Megunticook, Maiden Cliff Camden Hills State Park. Mt. Megunticook (1,385'). Ocean views, Maiden Cliff Trail. 6.5 miles RT, Leader: Peter Roderick, 207-293-2704, roderick1027@fairpoint.net.

Saturday, October 18: Fall Gathering - Nature Hike at Hidden Valley Nature Center 9-11 AM. Carpool from Camp Wavus to Hidden Valley Nature Center in Jefferson for an easy 3-mile nature hike with a Maine Master Naturalist volunteer to a bog, a beaver lodge, and through mixed woods with fall foliage and fungi. Families welcome. Leader: Kit Pfeiffer, 207-446-9768, kit_pfeiffer@yahoo.com.

Saturday, October 18: Fall Gathering - Nature Hike at Stetser Preserve 1-3 PM. Carpool from Camp Wavus to Sheepscot Valley Conservation Association's Stetser Preserve in Jefferson for an easy 2-mile guided walk with a Maine Master Naturalist volunteer, revealing such natural features as a bog, exposed bedrock, woodpecker habitat, a small pond and mixed woods with fall foliage and fungi. Families welcome. Leader: Kit Pfeiffer, 207-446-9768, kit_pfeiffer@yahoo.com.

Saturday, October 18: Hike Ragged Mountain in Rockport - Fall Gathering Hike to summit of Ragged Mountain (1300 feet), a 5-mile loop on Georges Highland Path (includes 0.6 mile road walk on Route 17). Scenic views of Mirror Lake, Camden and Atlantic Ocean. Carpool from Camp Wavus to trailhead. Leader: Denise Anderson, 207-316-2381, dmanderson62@gmail.com.

Saturday, October 18: Young Members - Hiking in Acadia National Park - Fall Gathering Leader's choice hikes in Acadia National Park. YM leaders will offer several hike options from easier to more challenging. Possibilities include Pemetic Mountain, which offers some of the best views in Acadia, 1,500 ft. Cadillac Mountain that boasts the first views of the sunrise in the United States for part of the year, with an optional loop (4 to 6 miles), Jordon Pond Nature Trail (0.9 mi), Wonderland Trail (1.9 mi.), and The Beehive (2 miles). May also have the opportunity to explore Acadia on own before heading back to the FG for dinner. All ages welcome. Leaders: Denise Fredette, 207-939-3670, deniserae77@gmail.com; Sarah Keats, 207-756-4226, slkski@gmail.com.

Sunday, November 2: Young Members - Moat Mountain Traverse We'll hike 9.7 miles and gain 3250' while summiting South, Middle, and North Moat mountains. Along the way, we'll enjoy views of Mt. Chocorua. Hike requires a car spot. Traction (e.g. microspikes) for snow/ice may be needed. Limit 10 hikers. Leaders: Carolyn Arcand, carolynarcand@gmail.com; Kim Sanders, kimberlyannsanders@gmail.com.

Sunday, November 2: Morse Mountain - Sewall Beach Conservation Area 4-mile walk to a small mountain and spectacular beach. Group size limited. No dogs allowed. Great birding. Leaders: Lorraine Hussey, 207-619-9444, lorrainehussey66@gmail.com; Debby Kantor, 207-854-3431, dlkantor@aol.com.

Saturday, December 6: Hike Heald & Bradley Ponds Preserve 6-mile hike to three mountains in Lovell, ME. Enjoy lovely views from Whiting Hill (801 feet), Amos Mtn. (955 feet) and Flat Hill (891 feet). No dogs. Leaders: Lorraine Hussey, 207-619-9444, lorrainehussey66@gmail.com; Debby Kantor, 207-854-3431, dlkantor@aol.com.

BIKING

Saturday, October 18: Ride Islesboro, the quintessential Maine biking Island - Fall Gathering Islesboro offers expansive views of the Penobscot Bay and Camden Hills, fishing villages and hidden coves, remote hamlets, and summer homes of the elite, all on one island. A 20-minute ferry ride from Lincolnville brings us to the island and our 28-mile. Moderate pace w/ stops to enjoy scenery. Helmets required. Road bikes recommended. Group size limited. Leaders Judy Oneal, judyoneal@fairpoint.net; Jeanine Libby.

Sunday, October 19: Ride the Rockbound Maine Coast - Fall Gathering This loop ride from Damariscotta to Pemaquid Point and Round Pond. Visit the remains of Fort Pemaquid, Colonial Pemaquid, Pemaquid Point Light, and the lobster and yachting ports of New Harbor and Round Pond. Gently rolling with several gradual hills and one very steep hill. 40 miles at moderate pace. Option for shorter ride. Helmets required. Road bikes recommended. Group size limited. Leaders: Judy Oneal, judyoneal@fairpoint.net; Jeanine Libby.

PADDLING

Saturday, October 18: Fall Gathering Sea Kayaking on Muscongus Bay Join us for a fantastic day on the ocean in island-studded Muscongus Bay. Day paddle, intermediate ability, decked boat, skirt, PFD, comfort in open water. Rental boats available. Leader: Al Mandell, mandell.ah@pg.com, 207-966-1224 (until 10 pm).

Elmina B. Sewall - continued from page 1



Gulf Hags in 100-Mile Wilderness

the state's most iconic destinations with state, private, and non-profit conservation underpinning a variety of tremendous outdoor activities. This grant will help AMC foster stewardship and wonderful experiences associated with a growing and very

notable human-powered trail network in the heart of the Maine woods."

As a part of this investment, AMC is hiring a Moosehead Region Trails Supervisor – a new full-time salaried position based in Greenville to oversee AMC trails and assist in construction and maintenance of regional trails.

Hiking the Haute Route in France and Switzerland with Karen Herold

A Meetings & Education Evening Program in Brunswick Thursday, November 20



Karen Herold, her husband, and her sister hiked the Haute Route from Chamonix, France, to Zermatt, Switzerland, in July, 2013. Among many reasons to do this beautiful hike was the chance to reconnect with the Swiss geography and relatives Karen's family knew growing up with their Swiss father. Long ago Karen was an attorney, and now she's involved in a variety of environmental causes. She always has her next adventure germinating.



This is a spectacular and demanding hike, a strenuous high-level traverse in the French and Swiss Alps, walking from Chamonix in France to Zermatt in Switzerland. The route traverses below the summits of ten out of the twelve of the highest peaks in the Alps, and crosses several high passes. The highest pass is at 2964m (9,800 feet).

Event will be held at Curtis Memorial

Library, 23 Pleasant Street, Brunswick on Thursday, November 20, 2014. Optional potluck at 6:00 PM; presentation at 7:00 PM. For potluck please bring a food item to share, along with your own plate and utensils. FMI: www.amcmaine.org/calendar. Driving directions: www.amcmaine.org/meetingsandeducation. Contact: Lisa Pengel, co-chair, M&E at education@amc.maine.org.

An Evening with Dr. George Jacobson of the University of Maine Climate Change Institute

A Meetings & Education Evening Program at Fields Pond Audubon Center in Holden on Wednesday, November 12. Co-sponsored by Maine Audubon.



Countries are looking forward to Arctic shipping lanes being ice-free year round. But what are climate changes likely to bring to our own area of Maine? Maine State Climatologist Dr. Jacobson will share his knowledge of climate change and its effects on our lives. His extensive research has led to a great depth of understanding of the way our world is changing. He has a huge trove of information about how changing climates have affected our world over the last 60,000 years.

"The big question we're trying to answer in our work is how have forests and forest education patterns responded to climate change in the recent past and in the distant past under different climate regimes. Understanding the long-term variability of the climate gives us the ability to understand the modern world."



Dr. George Jacobson

Dr. Jacobson has been a member of the Climate Change Institute since moving to Maine in 1979 and served as the director for ten years. He is internationally renowned for his research on long-term climate variability and its impact on the environment. During the 1990's, Dr. Jacobson chaired the Scientific Advisory Panel for the NOAA Paleoclimate Program, and more recently he chaired a similar Scientific Advisory Panel for the European Science Foundation. He earned his undergraduate degree from Carleton College in 1968 and received his Ph.D from the University of Minnesota in 1975.

Join AMC and Maine Audubon on Wednesday, November 12 at Fields Pond Audubon Center, 216 Fields Pond Road, Holden, ME. Optional potluck at 6:00 PM, (please bring a food item to share and a plate and utensils) followed by the presentation at 7:00 PM. Free and open to the public.



Cathance River Paddle, Bowdoinham by Mary Robinson

AMC Members Hike Franconia Ridge By Kathy Baillargeon

A group of AMC members hiked Franconia Ridge on July 26 enjoying some great scenery, warm temperatures and great conversation. The trail was busy that day and at 8:00 a.m. the parking lot was already starting to fill. New leader Kathy Baillargeon completed her mentor hike with AMC leaders Wayne Newton and Richard Morse. The group hiked a total of 8.8 miles with 3,860 feet of elevation gain, taking Falling Waters Trail to Little Haystack, over to Lincoln and Lafayette while enjoying the spectacular walk across the ridge and then a nice stop at the Greenleaf Hut. Kathy was very happy with the hike saying, "This is one of my favorite hikes and I could not have asked for a better group of people. I am looking forward to leading many more hikes in the future. I want to thank Wayne and Richard for mentoring my hike that day."





Photo by Carey Kish

Fall Gathering in Maine: This is THE year!

evening program is an anecdote-filled talk by a Maine game warden and a Maine state trooper on both a raucous and poignant look at Maine law enforcement "back in the day." Saturday evening features a contra dance with the Maine band "The Sea Slugs."

But coming to Fall Gathering doesn't just happen by itself; you have to actively register for it! For \$145—about what you'd pay for one night at a Boston hotel—you get lodging for both Friday and Saturday night, Friday night's dinner, three meals on Saturday, and breakfast and lunch on Sunday. What a bargain! Bring your own tent and it will be even cheaper.

Registration is open now via the Maine Chapter website at www.amcmaine.org under "AMC Fall Gathering 2014." As Roger says, "This is really the year for Mainers to understand how fun Fall Gathering is. Don't miss it!"

Fall Gathering hikes, bikes, paddles other many iconic Maine coastal adventures! Fall is a fabulous time to get outdoors and what better opportunity than during Fall Gathering. As of early September, a host of planned outings are on the calendar for the big AMC weekend. Sign up for the outings of your choice via the Chapter website. It'll not only be fun, it'll be your chance to help out-of-staters discover what Maine is all about! Check out the many Fall Gathering activities and outings listed on p. 2 of this newsletter. Get the latest listings at www.amcmaine.org/calendar.

History of the Forest Fire Lookouts of Maine with Bill Cobb

A Meetings & Education Evening Program in Brunswick on Thursday, October 2

Join us for an evening with Bill Cobb, the director of the Maine Chapter of the Forest Fire Lookout Association, a non-profit, nation-wide organization dedicated to preserving fire lookout history. Fire lookouts in Maine are important historic and cultural symbols of Maine's fire detection past. This is especially true since Maine has a very bold history of working forests and lumbering. The fire lookout story begins with Squaw Mountain in 1905 and all through the approximately 86 years when 140+ fire lookouts came and went until they were permanently discontinued in 1991.



Bill Cobb will a talk and present a slide show about how it all came about, walking us through the origin of the Squaw Mountain lookout, the mass build out of the state's lookout network, and the eventual fall and decommission of the massive network. And finally, a virtual tour of the many still-standing fire lookouts and watchman camps around Maine.

Event will be held at Curtis Memorial Library, 23 Pleasant Street, Brunswick on Thursday, October 2, 2014. Optional potluck at 6:00 PM; presentation at 7:00 PM. For potluck please bring a food item to share, along with your own plate and utensils. FMI: www.amcmaine.org/calendar. Driving directions: www.amcmaine.org/meetingsandeducation. Contact: Lisa Pengel, co-chair, M&E at education@amc.maine.org.



Dog sledding Adventures with Bryan Courtois and Polly Mahoney of Mahoosuc Guide Service (and two sled dogs!)

A Meetings & Education Evening Program in Brunswick on Thursday, December 4



Bryan has made several trips to northern Canada including Ungava Bay and Baffin Island. Come and listen to his tales of hunting seal, fishing, looking for polar bear, learning traditional Cree bush medicine, and hunting ptarmigan. Join us as Bryan shares his experiences on these fabulous dog sledding trips and the different lifestyles of each group he spent time with.

Bryan grew up in Millinocket. A Registered Maine Guide, he works seasonally for the Mahoosuc Guide Service as a ski guide and musher. Bryan is president of the Pine Tree Search and Rescue organization in Maine, a Wilderness First Responder, and is currently the Education Director for the Maine Association for Search and Rescue.

Polly, a guide with the Mahoosuc Guide Service, is a native Mainer with extensive outdoor experience. She has lived a subsistence lifestyle for ten years in the bush of the Yukon Territory. Her Yukon huskies were essential to survival, hauling her wood and water and serving as her primary transportation in winter. She and her huskies were featured in the movie *Never Cry Wolf*. Seldom has a musher achieved the degree of friendship, loyalty, and obedience from a dog team that Polly has accomplished.

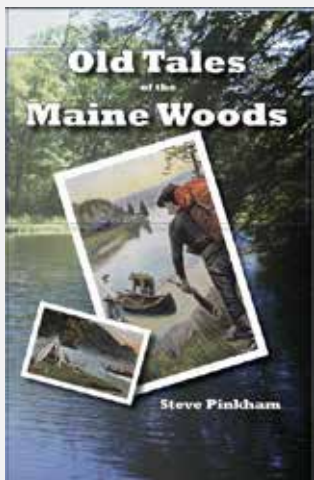


Come and meet Polly and two of her sled dogs! **Event will be held at Curtis Memorial Library, 23 Pleasant Street, Brunswick on Thursday, December 4, 2014. Optional potluck at 6:00 PM; presentation at 7:00 PM.** For potluck please bring a food item to share, along with your own plate and utensils.

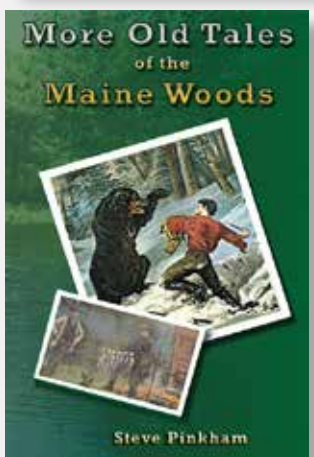
FMI: www.amcmaine.org/calendar. Driving directions: www.amcmaine.org/meetingsandeducation. Contact: Lisa Pengel, co-chair, M&E at education@amc.maine.org.

Old Tales of the Maine Woods: An Evening of Enchanting Stories of the Maine Woods with Steve Pinkham

*A Meetings & Education Evening Program
in Bangor on Thursday, October 16*



Steve Pinkham grew up in western Maine, hearing old stories of hunting and fishing, and has spent much of his life hiking, paddling and discovering the many wonderful places in the backwoods of Maine. After spending ten years searching for articles and books, following up on clues, and spending a vast amount of hours in libraries and historical societies, he published his first book in 2009, *Mountains of Maine*. Selecting from his vast collection for this book, he now spends his time writing and publishing articles and books about the Maine Woods from his home in Quincy, Massachusetts. Steve can answer questions like: How did a mountain get the name Moose's Bosom? Why is another called Picked Chicken Hill? Was Smart Mountain named for a local Einstein? And what's afoot on Toenail Ridge? He researched those and many others in that first book.



From his phenomenal collection of over 22,000 articles and stories of the Maine Woods, Steve selected some of the most exciting old hunting and fishing tales, as well as stories of animal encounters, lumbering, canoe trips, and even a few ghost stories for his next book, *Old Tales of the Maine Woods*. Ranging from 1849

to 1913, the book covers the Maine Woods from Magalloway to Moosehead, and Mopang to Madawaska. He added more of those stories in *More Old Tales of the Maine Woods*. Most people know that Thoreau traveled through Maine several times, wrote eloquently about his travels and coined the phrase "Maine Woods." Steve knows and tells many more stories by known and unknown men and women who also travelled to northern Maine and wrote about their experiences or penned fictional stories set in the backwoods.

Join AMC in listening to Steve Pinkham share some of his favorites at 7:00 PM on Thursday, October 16 at 105 Eastport Hall, UMA/ Bangor Campus in Bangor, ME. Free and open to the public.

Two Maine Chapter Members Take on Key ExCom Roles



*Meetings & Education Co-Chair,
Lisa Pengel*

Lisa Pengel, Meetings & Education Co-Chair. Lisa Pengel has accepted the position of co-chair for Meetings & Education. Lisa started with the AMC as a trip participant and it wasn't too long before she decided to give back and become a trip leader. She has led some interesting hikes, including many in the White Mountains of NH. Lisa has completed all of the 4K footers in New England, and has also completed some high peaks throughout the country. On her "bucket list" is to finish visiting as many of our national parks and monuments as she can. Lisa is a recent graduate of the Maine Master

Naturalist Program and incorporates her love of nature into some of her hikes. She has given lichen talks several times as an AMC volunteer naturalist, and this past May at the annual AMC Naturalist training program in Evans Notch.

Lisa is enjoying her position for M&E which involves a lot of networking to schedule some interesting talks and presentations, which are free and open to the public. When she is not volunteering for AMC, Lisa works full time in the accounting field, most recently as a Senior Accountant for a construction firm. Lisa lives in Durham, Maine with her husband Jeff (our new Trails Chair). She has grown sons and a young grandson who also has a love of the outdoors. Says Lisa: "I welcome your suggestions for

program topics and hope to see you at an upcoming presentation!" Contact Lisa at education@amcmaine.org.



Outings Chair, Kathy Baillargeon

Kathy Baillargeon, Outings Chair. Some of Kathy's greatest loves are hiking, backpacking, road biking—anything that gets her outdoors. She has completed all 4,000 footers in New Hampshire (summer and winter) and will complete the New England 4,000-footer list this year. She has done many long day hikes including the Presidential Traverse (fall, summer and winter), Pemi Loop, Rim-to-Rim in the Grand Canyon, and the Bigelow Range Traverse. Kathy has backpacked in Maine, New Hampshire, Zion National

Park, and in the canyons of Escalante. She is an avid cyclist, most recently completing the bike race up Mt. Washington. She has lead many outdoor trips over the past 6 years and was recently approved as a Maine Chapter leader. She is looking forward to new adventures as a leader with AMC.

For 8 years Kathy has been the Volunteer Supervisor with Androscoggin Home Care & Hospice. She believes it is important to give back and that AMC is a wonderful organization to give back to. She is happy to be the Outings Chair and feels it is a good match for her skills. You may contact Kathy at outings@amcmaine.org.

Trail work at MWI



Photo by Steve Tatko

AMC's Maine Woods Initiative maintenance trail crew worked on improving and replacing bridges on the Hedgehog Gate Trail this summer. Showing off their handiwork (above, from left) are Kirsten Wynne, Ryan Wilford, and Chris Stone. MWI staff are also excited to begin ramping up a new trail-building effort this fall with local partners, beginning with the hiring a new full-time trails supervisor based out of the Greenville office. Partners include the Moosehead Lake Economic Development Corporation, Plum Creek, and the Maine Bureau of Public Lands. AMC received a \$1.1 million grant from the Elmina B. Sewall Foundation to support the project. Plum Creek is also contributing \$1 million to that community focused trails project. AMC expects to have multiple crews on the ground next summer on both AMC land and regional conservation lands.

Go Paperless- Wilderness Matters

Do you prefer to receive this newsletter electronically, sent directly to your e-mail inbox? Register through AMC's Member Center at www.outdoors.org. If you have difficulty, please call the AMC Membership Department at 1-800-372-1758 (M-F, 9-5 PM EST) or e-mail amcmembership@outdoors.org.



Mt Eisenhower trip led by Debby Kantor and Lorraine Hussey

Photo by Jill Gasperini

Maine Woods: Campsites on the Roach Ponds Tract

By Dave McCarthy



The Gorman Chairback and Little Lyford lodges are well known to most AMC Maine Chapter members. Less well known are the campsites that are available in the Maine Woods.

Many campsites and a shelter have been available for some time in the Katahdin Iron Works section of AMC's Maine Woods property. Reservations and fees for these properties are managed by the KI-Jo Mary Multiple Use Forest office. See: www.outdoors.org/lodging/campsites/amc-campsites-in-maine-woods.cfm.

More recently, Maine Chapter volunteers and AMC staff have established campsites on Trout Pond and Second, Third, and Fourth Roach Ponds. These campsites are accessible only by canoe or kayak. For specific locations, see the Maine Woods Summer Recreation Guide at www.outdoors.org/conservation/wherework/maine/me-recreation-guide.cfm. Portages between Trout and Fourth Roach and between Third and Fourth Roach ponds allow exploration of those areas from any of the campsites on those ponds.

The Roach Tract campsites are available without fees on a first come, first served basis. Bring your own canoe/kayak and paddles. All sites except the campsite on the east end of Second Roach have privies and picnic tables. Trails to the launch sites for Trout, Third Roach, and Fourth Roach are marked by signs off the Shawtown Road (the road past Medawisla). Access to the Second Roach site is from Medawisla or on a rough dirt road accessing the east end of the Pond – high clearance 4WD needed. Stop by or contact the office in Greenville at 207-695-3085 for more information.

In line with AMC's Vision 2020 to expand the opportunities for all types of outdoor experiences, the campsites open the Maine Woods to those who prefer tents to cabins/bunkhouses and/or prefer paddling to hiking. Come on up and enjoy the Maine Woods from a tranquil, shoreline campsite.



Out and About...



Photo by Mary Robinson

Cathance River paddle, Bowdoinham

Update on Medawisla

By Dave McCarthy



As this is written, work is being completed on the dam at Medawisla. This is an important first step in bringing Medawisla back on line, as the dam holds the water in Second Roach Pond at its current levels, and the old dam was likely to wash out in a high water event. The new dam also provides better fish passage.

AMC continues to work on designs, regulatory approvals, and fundraising to rebuild and expand the facilities, with the goal of a January 2017 opening. The new Medawisla will provide a range of overnight options. New self-service cabins on the location of the existing cabins will allow guests the option to cook their own meals during certain times of the year. New full-service cabins (bathrooms, showers) will be located down the Lake Trail overlooking Second Roach Pond along with a new lodge. The bunkhouses will be able to accommodate groups of 12, and an open-air pavilion on the site of the former lodge will host gatherings and trainings such as first aid classes, outdoor skills, and educational programs.

Medawisla will be ideal for hosting gatherings of small groups as well as families. Year-round drive-in access will allow for a longer full-service season than our other lodges, providing a place for younger families to be better able to enjoy a winter experience in the Maine Woods. In addition to great paddling on Second, Third and Fourth Roach Ponds, Medawisla will offer hiking, mountain biking and skiing trails for all ability levels. It will also serve as a jumping-off point for hikes to the Spencer Mountains, the Nahmakanta Public Reserve Unit, and even Baxter State Park.

AMC and volunteer trail crews will continue to expand hiking and biking trails and off site campsites to broaden the outdoor opportunities available around Medawisla.

Maine Chapter Officers 2014/2015

Let your voice be heard! As part of Fall Gathering, the AMC Maine Chapter will vote on its slate of officers for 2014/2015. All Maine Chapter members can and should vote! Be sure to check out the slate of officers listed below, and email Paul Hahn (nominating@amcmaine.org) with any questions.

- Chair:** Roger David
- Vice Chair:** Doug Chamberlin
- Secretary:** Mary Riendeau
- Treasurer:** Cindy Caverly
- At Large and Nominating:** Paul Hahn
- At Large:** Dave McCarthy
- E-Communications:** Tim Flight
- Meetings and Education Co-Chair:** Lisa Pengel
- Meetings and Education Co-Chair:** Gerry Sawyer
- Membership:** Kristen Grant
- Maine Woods Initiative:** Paul Hahn
- Newsletter:** Carey Kish
- Outings:** Kathy Baillargeon
- Past Chair:** Larry Dyer
- Trails:** Jeff Pengel
- Young Members Co-Chair:** Kim Sanders
- Young Members Co-Chair:** Sarah Keats



Roger David gives pointers to AMCs at map and compass course at Bradbury Mountain State Park in June

Photo by Cindy Caverly

Young Members Section

Our focus is to get young folks in their 20's and 30's and the young-at-heart involved in outdoor recreation, raise awareness of conservation and sustainability and have fun!

Scars and Heroes on the Road to Finishing the New England Hundred Highest By Sarah Keats

I started hiking with my family when I was young and hiked my first 4,000-foot Adirondack mountain at age 12. After I finished my Northeast 111/115, I continued on the quest for the New England Hundred Highest (NEHH). The NEHH presented more of the challenges that I had when completing my ADK 46 including trail-less peaks. The infamous entire Scar Ridge bushwhack had a factor of emotional stress that changed my perspective on hiking and the elements of danger and survival that accompany it.

The group started hiking into East Pond at 8 a.m. At the determined location we took our compass bearing and began bushwhacking. It immediately became steep and we were crawling and pushing our way through thick trees. Around 12:15 p.m. we ate lunch. The leader said we had not gone as far as he had hoped because we hadn't found the line where the spruce wasn't as thick. He was concerned about returning across the ridge to get to our cars after reaching our final peak, Scar Ridge, near Loon Mountain. The leader decided we would hike out Loon's ski trails and try to find someone to give 11 hikers a ride back to our cars on Tripoli Rd. Eventually I left a voicemail for my friends camping nearby, asking them to pick us up at Loon about 7 p.m.

The spruce was so thick that most of the time we were barely able to see the nearest person. At times we would call out numbers to make sure we were all there. Swimming through spruce, balancing on fallen trees that might not hold our weight, we pushed our way through the branches that were pushing us backwards. Trey was wonderful at keeping the group spirit up by cracking jokes. We talked about how we would not like to see a Christmas tree because of the abuse from the spruce. The tight squeezes through the trees made me feel trapped. I was relieved whenever we reached a space where trees were not touching me, but this only happened a few times, on the tops of East and Middle peaks of Scar Ridge.

It started raining before we hit our last peak, and although we attempted to put on rain gear, the wet spruce soaked us and some of the hikers were shivering. I sent my friends a message that we might make it there around 10 p.m. We found a herd path on top of Scar, but it disappeared soon after. We were back to following the compass bearing and we saw Loon Mountain in the distance before darkness fell.

Some of us were running out of water. I only had Gatorade left, and although I'd brought food, it was hard to eat and push my way through the spruce. We stopped briefly at times because we could only go as far



Sarah Keats finally makes it to the top of Scar Ridge. The sign says it all!



Sarah and friends headed to the top of Chain of Ponds Snow.



Sarah completing the NEHH on Chain of Ponds Snow. L to R: Ken Winitzer, Dolores Rebolledo, Sarah Keats, Jill Winitzer, Denise Fredette, Ed Koman.

as the next person's backpack and sometimes we would hear; "We can't get through here." We had to force our way through and as every person went through the bushwhack line some of the branches broke making it easier.

Morale was low, the hike felt endless, and around 9:30 p.m. we were facing the bottom of a cliff. The group decided to go to the left and luckily we found our way around it. I was praying that we would find deciduous trees, especially birch trees that are so smooth to slide over. I was rethinking my obsession with peak bagging and wondering what I was doing with my life. It was really hard to see with a headlamp and trying to aim the beam underneath the branches to see where to place my feet was difficult.

Sometime after we left the cliff, we found a herd path and some of us cheered when we spotted beer cans, signs of civilization. Finally we came out on top of a ski slope. I was relieved to be on an open trail but it was painfully steep in soaked boots and socks. I updated my friends at 11 p.m.

As we reached the ski lodge, partiers leaned out and asked us what we were doing out there at 1 a.m. with our headlamps glowing. We'd been hiking for 16 hours. I gave my friends the biggest hugs as I was so thankful to see them. To this day, the Scar Ridge survivors call Denise and Frank our heroes. Who would have picked up 11 smelly, wet hikers on the Kanc Highway at 1 a.m.? I had numerous bruises and dirt-encrusted scratches all over my body. I still find spruce needles in my bathroom where I washed my pack twice to get out the wet spruce smell. On the anniversary of this trip's date—June 22, 2014—I finished my NEHH on Chain of Ponds Snow with peak bagging friends and surrounded by great views.

I've found over my many years of hiking that both I and others have a strength inside that helps in situations where it's easy to panic. It's this calm that takes over and lets me work through and adapt to what is happening. I've learned that you never know what can happen, which is why you need to be prepared for anything. Hiking is about survival sometimes. You're focused on basic human needs and that can be very grounding in this world of technology.

Sometimes you have to concentrate on putting one foot in front of the other, even through hunger, exhaustion and fear. The wilderness needs to be respected. My group was lucky because no one was seriously injured. I love the mountains and how they can be tough on us. It's this challenge that keeps me returning for more. Where else can you push your mind and body and enjoy some amazing experiences? I can't wait for my next adventure and where it may take me.

To be added to our Events mailing list, email: amyoungmembers@amcmaine.org

Join our group on Facebook: [amcmaineyoungmembers](https://www.facebook.com/amcmaineyoungmembers)