



MAINE CHAPTER

YOUR CONNECTION TO THE OUTDOORS

Maine Chapter
Appalachian Mountain Club
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WILDERNESS MATTERS

VOLUME XXXX • NUMBER 4 • FALL 2015

Maine Chapter Annual Meeting *by Doug Chamberlin*

Over the weekend of November 6-8, 2015 the AMC Maine Chapter will gather to enjoy ourselves at Camp Wavus in Jefferson, Maine, and hold our annual meeting. The meeting proper will take place after dinner Saturday evening at approximately 7pm. This meeting is for election of members to leadership positions and other requirements of our By-Laws. It will be followed by showing of some vintage AMC video productions for your entertainment and education.

Camp Wavus offers a beautiful location. We will have overnight lodging in their bunkrooms which each sleep 12 people. Meals will be provided in the central dining hall. Directions to Camp Wavus can be found on their web site at <http://www.kieve.org/directions/index.htm>

See trip listings for these dates to find activities that are planned for the weekend. There will be some for Saturday and Sunday. Those printed in this issue may be supplemented with more activities so check the web site for the latest info on activities.

Registration will be done through the form on our web site at www.amcmaine.org/2015-annual-meeting/ and payment will be handled through PayPal. You have four options for attendance:

1. Two night stay (Friday and Saturday) with breakfast, lunch and dinner Saturday and breakfast Sunday. \$70/person/any age.
2. One night stay (Saturday) with dinner and breakfast Sunday. \$50/person/any age.
3. Dinner-only. \$25/person/any age. Arrive by 5pm.
4. Meeting only. No charge.

For payment concerns/issues contact Cindy Caverly at treasurer@amcmaine.org

For questions or clarifications, contact Doug Chamberlin at vice@amcmaine.org or 978-761-3815 (7-9pm).



Executive Committee Retreat *by Doug Chamberlin*



ExCom members and guests on retreat: Front row, left to right: Kristen Grant, Susannah Hatch, Mary Riendeau, Cindy Caverly, Sarah Keats, Doug Chamberlin. Back row: Gerry Sawyer, Nancy Jacobson, Peter Roderick, Dave McCarthy, John Mullens. Not pictured: Roger David. Photo credit: Barbara Lehn

During the weekend of September 11-13, 2015 the Maine Chapter Executive Committee met for a strategic planning retreat. We stayed one night at Little Lyford Lodge and a second night at Gorman Chairback Lodge. This gave anyone in the group who had not yet visited these facilities a chance to experience them. Most of the elected leadership attended. Those few who could not make it were missed!

Friday evening we received an update on the Maine Woods Initiative from Steve Tatko, MWI Land Manager, and Rob Hopkinson, trails crew supervisor, about work in progress and being planned. At the end I was confident that the AMC land resources were being managed by a competent and dedicated team.

During the rest of the weekend we had a chance to pool our ideas on the many areas of chapter life we coordinate. This effort produced a rich list of action items for the ExCom members to consider. Those items are being grouped into topical groups and we

will each be thinking them over during the next few weeks. We plan on reconvening for further discussion during the annual meeting weekend in November.

I look forward to sharing some of those ideas as they get finalized into concrete plans. For the moment I will say we plan to increase communication via online media, including social networks. We also plan to partner more with paid staff working on the AMC owned land resources in Maine because the professional-volunteer coordinated efforts have proven to be so successful. We will also step up public relations efforts along with membership recruitment.

If you are interested in sharing your ideas on the future of the Maine Chapter, please do not hesitate to contact any member of the Executive Committee. Attending the annual meeting weekend is also a good time to hear about our plans and share your ideas. See details on the chapter web site and elsewhere in this issue.

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 Outings Chair, outings@amcmaine.org. 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, 2015.

***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!**

MEETINGS

Wednesday, October 7: Jeff Romano, "Hiking, New England" Jeff

Romano's most recent book, "Day Hiking: New England", with 115 detailed day hikes, is designed to be a pocket edition, and easy to carry along on your hikes. There are plenty of hikes for families with young children, and for older folks wanting to take a leisurely hike. There are keys in the book stating what level the hikes are as far as distance, difficulty, whether it is hike-able all year depending on travelling to the trailhead, snow conditions, etc. Kids come in all ages and sizes and the book is to be used as a guideline, keeping in mind that kids want to be able to see interesting features such as waterfalls, small rock scrambles,

etc. There are also dog friendly hikes mentioned, mainly hikes that are not very crowded or rocky, to keep the dogs comfort in mind. There is mention of wetlands, interesting cliffs and geologic details and historical features, etc. There is also a category for fire lookout towers. The book appeals to those interested in wildlife, flora, fauna and native birds. Jeff did a lot of research on the conservation groups that he mentions in the book. If you hike all of the hikes in this book you would have a greater understanding of the variety of habitat and geology and hiking experiences. There may be a Mt Washington hike, but across the street there is Imp Face, much less challenging. Just south of there you can do the Sugarloaf, with even more variety in a 3-4 mile hike. Come and meet author Jeff Romano, hear his stories of how he prepared for this book, and how you too can explore many of these New England day hikes! Curtis Memorial Library, Pleasant St., Brunswick, ME Doors open at 6:30 PM. Presentation begins at 7:00 PM. Family friendly! Free and open to the public! FMI visit www.amcmaine.org/calendar or for driving directions go to www.amcmaine.org/meetingsandeducation or contact: Lisa Pengel, co-chair of meetings and education at education@amc.maine.org

Friday, November 6 – Sunday, November 8: Maine Chapter Annual Meeting AMC's Maine Chapter will hold its annual meeting on

November 7, 2015 at Camp Wavus (<http://www.kieve.org/directions/index.htm>) in Jefferson, Maine. This is a beautiful site located on a peninsula on Damariscotta Lake. It is the same venue as last year's AMC Fall Gathering and was a big hit with attendees! This link will provide a site tour: http://www.kieve.org/campus_tour/wavus_galleries.htm. The business meeting will follow dinner on Saturday night with some vintage AMC videos showing afterward for your entertainment (and education). We will also have activities scheduled throughout the weekend and you are welcome to stay over Friday and/or Saturday night. An option to purchase dinner-only may be available if you choose to not stay overnight. More details will be provided on the chapter web site, including costs for one and two night stays, as we get closer to the date, but mark your calendars now! Leader: Doug Chamberlin, 978-761-3815, before 9PM, vice@amcmaine.org, Roger David, rd04342@gmail.com

Saturday, November 7: Map and Compass Workshop – Annual Meeting

Intro to Map and Compass The AMC Maine Chapter is holding a basic map and compass training which can also be a refresher for those needing that. We will have a morning classroom session covering all aspects of using a map and compass and if time permits, a very introductory lesson on GPS. Following the classroom session, we will adjourn to the outside practical session putting to use the things learned in the classroom. The location is the Maine Chapter Annual meeting, Camp Wavus. Class size will be limited. Contact leader for more information: Roger David, rd04342@gmail.com

Thursday, November 12: The regularly scheduled November 2015

Executive Committee meeting is cancelled. The meeting will take place during the previous weekend. See above listing for the Maine Chapter Annual Meeting.

HIKING/WALKS

Saturday, October 3: Arethusa Falls and Frankenstein Cliff Moderately-

paced 5-mile loop hike to Arethusa Falls (2000') and Frankenstein Cliff (2150'). 1400 feet cumulative. Arethusa Falls are the highest falls in NH. Cross over to Frankenstein Cliff, and descend directly underneath the North Conway Scenic Railroad trestle. We might even see a train heading along the tracks below us from our perch on Frankenstein Cliff or during our hike down. Leader: Debby Kantor, 207-854-3431, before 9pm, dlkantor@aol.com

Saturday, October 3: Rattlesnake Mountain - Young Members We will

hike Rattlesnake Mountain in Raymond, ME. Enjoy the beautiful fall foliage with views of the surrounding lakes, ponds, and on a clear day, even the White Mountains in NH. We will spot cars and traverse the mountain from Nubble Pond Trailhead to Bri-Mar Trailhead, approx. 3.5 miles and elevation gain 600ft. Optional post-hike apps & BYOB "Happy Hour" nearby. Leader: Denise Fredette, 207-939-3670, after 5PM, deniserae77@gmail.com.

Saturday, October 17: Giant Mountain, Adirondacks (Young Members,

Fall Gathering) We will be hiking Giant Mountain (4627 feet- one of the 46) via the Zander Scott trail, previously known as the Ridge trail,

Wilderness Matters



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Newsletter submissions and photographs: Send to Carey Kish, Editor, at newsletter@amcmaine.org | (207) 838-9669

Maine Chapter Executive Committee

Chair: Roger David, chair@amcmaine.org, (207) 737-9870

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Maine Woods Initiative: Paul Hahn, mwi@amcmaine.org, (207) 222-2837

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Young Members co-chair: Denise Fredette, youngmembers@amcmaine.org, (207) 939-3670

Young Members co-chair: Sarah Keats, youngmembers@amcmaine.org, (207) 756-4226

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Office: 30 Exchange St., Portland ME 04101.

Maine Woods Initiative Office

Dan Rinard, MWI Operations & Facilities Manager, drinard@outdoors.org, (207) 695-3085

Office: 15 Moosehead Lake Rd., PO Box 310, Greenville ME 04441

which goes by Giants Washbowl. There are numerous ledges on this hike, which offer great views along the way up and it is steep in sections. From the summit of Giant, you can see the Great Range and other High Peaks, in addition to Lake Champlain and the Green Mountains to the East. 6 miles round-trip and elevation gain of 3,050 feet. This hike is in conjunction with the Fall Gathering which is being hosted by the Mohawk Hudson Chapter and is restricted to Fall Gathering attendees. Fall Gathering registration deadline is October 2nd. Leader: Sarah Keats, 207-756-4226, before 9PM, slkski@gmail.com .

Saturday, October 24: Hike Knight's Pond & Blueberry Hill in Cumberland and North Yarmouth, with Alan Stearns of the Royal River Conservation Trust. Hike Knight's Pond & Blueberry Hill in Cumberland and North Yarmouth, with Alan Stearns of the Royal River Conservation Trust. Saturday, October 24, 2015. Meeting time 9:15 AM, hike begins at 9:30 AM. Hike nearly three miles, for approximately two hours. The Knight's Pond & Blueberry Hill parcel, crossing the town line between Cumberland and North Yarmouth, includes a network of hiking, mountain bike, and equestrian trails covering nearly three miles, and connecting to trail networks through several towns. The parcel has a rare oak-hickory forest, significant waterfowl habitat, views to both Mount Washington and Casco Bay, and so much more. Join us for a hike, exploring the entire property. This parcel has been in the news, with major fundraising and press coverage regarding Land for Maine's Future funding. The project involves the Towns of Cumberland and North Yarmouth, the Chebeague & Cumberland Land Trust (CCLT), the Royal River Conservation Trust (RRCT), and The Trust for Public Land. RRCT Executive Director Alan Stearns and CCLT volunteers will join AMC on the hike, introducing AMC members to the property, its plans, and it's potential. Hike begins at 9:30 am at the dead-end hammerhead of Greely Road Extension (off Route 9) in the Town of Cumberland. Plan on a two-hour trip. Wear blaze orange. Kid-friendly. No bathroom facilities. Group size limited. Sign up today with Lisa Pengel at: lisainmaine3@yahoo.com

Sunday, November 1: Hike Ragged Mountain in Rockport 1280' Strenuous; well worth the climb for westerly views across the Georges River watershed all the way to the White Mountains in New Hampshire, with Penobscot Bay and its islands to the east, and the Acadian and Downeast mountains framing the horizon. 4.5 mile loop from Rte. 17 to the Hope Road. Leaders: Richard Morse III, 207-752-0703, before 9PM, richardmorse3@gmail.com , Emily Davis, emilyjfdavis@gmail.com

Wednesday, November 4: Pine Point Beach Walk We will walk the beach from Pine Point to Old Orchard, have an early lunch in Old Orchard and return along the beach to Pine Point. The round-trip distance is approximately 4 miles. Please register for this trip by calling the leader.

Saturday, November 7: Camden Hills Traverse -Annual Meeting Hike Maiden Cliff (800'), Mt. Megunticook (1380') and Mt. Battie (800'), moderate-paced 5.6 mi. hike with scenic views over harbor. Leader: Debby Kantor, 207-854-3431, before 9pm, dlkantor@aol.com .

Saturday, November 7: Georges Highland Path Ragged to Bald Mtn - Annual Meeting Hike Hike the Georges Highland Path over Ragged (1300') and Bald (1280') Mtns. Good views of the ocean and islands. Moderate pace 6.3 miles total. Leader, Bill Brooke, 207-549-5100, Before 9PM, bill@mesoft.org

Saturday, November 7: Nature Walk at Hidden Valley Nature Center Join Maine Master Naturalist Kit Pfeiffer for a walk around Hidden Valley Nature Center in Jefferson. Visit the bog, identify trees by their bark, and look for evidence of birds and mammals. Leader: Kit Pfeiffer, 207-446-9768, before 9PM, kit_pfeiffer@yahoo.com

Sunday, November 8: Mount Battie Hike (part of Maine Annual Meeting Weekend) Enjoy a beautiful fall morning hike before you head home from the weekend! Mount Battie Trail (0.5 mile, moderate): The Mount Battie Trail offers a relatively short, but very rewarding hike up the south-facing side of the mountain. Although there are some steep pitches, and a bit of scrambling through rock and ledge areas is required, the view over Camden and the islands dotting Penobscot Bay makes this climb well worth the effort. Ascending the stone tower on Mount Battie's 780' summit further enhances the opportunity to soak in the 360-degree panorama. Registration is required. Leader: Kim Sanders, kimberlyannsanders@gmail.com

Sunday, February 7-Friday, February 12, 2016: Claybrook Mountain Lodge Ski Week Have you ever thought about checking out the new

Maine Huts and Trails system but the thought of carrying an overnight backpack didn't appeal to you??? We have the solution for you! Join us for a week of great cross country skiing on the Maine Huts and Trails system of well-maintained trails. We'll have the opportunity, weather permitting, to visit each of the 4 huts without the burden of large backpacks. Enjoy the luxury of skiing with just a small daypack while enjoying the magnificent trails and scenery in the Bigelow area. Our accommodations will be in shared twin or triple rooms at the Claybrook Mountain Lodge in Highland Plantation. The lodge is owned by Greg, a certified EMT and Maine Guide, and his wife Pat. Pat is a fantastic cook who will spoil us with her homemade bread, muffins, cookies and multi course meals. Made to order breakfast, trail lunches and dinner are included in the trip fee. All meals from supper on Feb 7th (day of arrival) through and including lunch on the 12th (day of departure). We will eat our trail lunch at one of the MHT huts whenever possible, so we can purchase hot food items as well. The Claybrook Lodge has twin and triple rooms located on 2 levels; with a shared bath on each floor. There is also a living room area on each floor and a large wood stove on the 1st floor. The facility is clean, cozy and rustic surrounded by an array of mountain peaks. Greg will act as our naturalist guide each day and will give us information on tracking, wildlife identification, tree identification and historical perspectives of the area. As a certified Maine Guide and EMT, his skills will increase our enjoyment of the area while maintaining a good level of safety. There will also be two AMC trip leaders on the excursion, both of whom are trained in Wilderness first Aid and CPR. Leader: Ginette Beaudoin, 207-294-6302, before 9PM, ginette4000@yahoo.com

BIKING

Saturday, November 7: Camp Wavus Annual Meeting Bike Ride

Come join the scenic bike ride around the lake, with rolling hills and breathtaking views. Road and Cross Bikes are all welcome. We will be riding at a moderate pace doing roughly 30 miles leaving from Camp Wavus parking lot. Registration required. Leader: Jeanine Libby, 207-872-8194, before 8PM, jjlibby13@roadrunner.com .

Sunday, November 8: Sunday Rise and Shine Bike Ride - Annual Meeting There's no better way to greet the day but on a bike! We will have an earlier start to the day as we hit the road shortly after the sun rises. Come join in on a 20 mile bike ride exploring the area around Camp Wavus. I'm sure we'll find a place that will serve us up a cup of coffee and maybe even a sweet treat! We will be riding at a moderate pace. Road and Cross Bikes are all welcome! Leader: Jeanine Libby ,207-872-8194, before 8PM, jjlibby13@roadrunner.com .

PADDLING

Saturday, November 7: Clary Lake- Annual Meeting Event Join Carolyn Welch, long-time paddling leader for paddle on Clary Lake. Suitable for both canoes and kayaks. Meet at Camp Wavus at 9:30 to carpool to put-in. FMI, contact leader: Carolyn Welch, 207-725-8178, before 9PM, welch6789@gmail.com

VOLUNTEER CORNER

Are you a volunteer in waiting? Well, this is an invitation to take that step. Your AMC chapter has 5000 members and yet we still have some openings for committee chairs. You might be just the person we have been seeking – or you know someone who is! We need Co-Chairs for OUTINGS, the committee that involves most of our members. CONSERVATION also needs a chair. Please remember that the Chapter has no paid staff but you will have the Executive Committee, AMC staff, and our regional director eager to help you get started. The strength of the Chapter is our volunteer members. Please consider this opportunity. Take that first step by contacting Paul Hahn at paulgohahn@gmail.com



AMC Fall Gathering

by Sam Jamke

What exactly is AMC Fall Gathering? AMC's 2015 Fall Gathering is being hosted by the Mohawk Hudson Chapter and is being held at a camp on beautiful Lake George in NY State, October 16-18. If you have never attended a Gathering, let me tell you all about this Club-wide annual event and the spectacular venue for this year's special weekend. All of AMC's chapters take turns hosting this fun event to which all AMCsers, friends and family are welcome. It is a great opportunity for each chapter to showcase hikes, bike rides, cultural sites and other activities in their area, with trips all led by the chapter's experienced leaders. The Fall Gathering is also a great way to meet AMCsers from across the club. I know many people who have maintained friendships with folks they met at a Fall Gathering—even across our whole region!

So what goes on at the annual Fall Gathering? There are numerous activities offered to attendees each day – hikes, bikes, and other outings. Nighttime brings concerts, special speakers, dancing and campfires. (You might be able to sneak in a swim or a paddle, too.) The area around Lake George offers endless possibilities for great outings, including a couple of mountains right next to the camp.

For those of you that are interested in Club governance, the Fall Gathering also hosts meetings of Club-wide committees, like Chapters Committee, Outdoor Leadership Development Committee, Conservation Committee and other special interest groups, like Young Members. These meetings are open to all AMC members who are interested.

So why come this year, you ask? Because Camp Chingachgook is a fabulous location on Lake George! Mohawk Hudson hosted the 2006 Spring Gathering there and it was one of the prettiest venues I have ever been to. Hopefully they can arrange the same spectacular weather, too. Check out the website for info on planned activities and for registration information.

I hope I will see you there!

2015 FALL GATHERING

YMCA Camp Chingachgook • Lake George, New York
Hosted by the Mohawk Hudson Chapter
October 16-18, 2015



Join us for a weekend on scenic Lake George in the Adirondacks! Choose from a variety activities including cycling local bike paths, paddling the coves, hiking summits, relaxing by the lake, and much more. Start planning your fall adventure at outdoors.org/fallgathering today!

Annual Awards

In anticipation of the Maine Chapter annual meeting scheduled for November 7, 2015, please nominate chapter members for the following recognition awards. Explain why you think the recipient should be given the award.

Appie of the Year- Typically awarded yearly at the annual meeting to a member of the Maine Chapter. This member does NOT have to be on the Executive Committee. More than one award can be given in a year if it is merited. The person is recognized for her or his outstanding contributions to the growth, success and leadership of the Chapter and/or the Executive Committee specifically within the past year. The Appie of the Year receives a Maine Chapter Appie hiking stick (tradition started in 2009) with his/her name etched in it.

Lifetime Achievement- Awarded on an as desired basis typically to someone who has served the Chapter in many capacities over several years. She/he is recognized for her or his outstanding contributions to the growth, success and leadership of the Maine Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. Criteria to consider include:

- o The person should have contributed to the Chapter in multiple ways and/or served the Chapter in several capacities. Examples might include trip leader, serving on the Executive Committee, and/or volunteering in Chapter or AMC programs.
- o The person should have contributed to the Chapter over a significant amount of time.
- o The person's contributions should have enhanced the mission of the AMC's conservation, education, and/or recreation core values. Contributions in more than one are preferred.
- o The person should have exhibited a passion for the outdoors and a spirit of positive volunteerism above and beyond a simple tally of total hours contributed.
- o Although the AMC is a regional organization, this Maine Chapter award is intended to recognize an individual's contributions to the Maine Chapter of the AMC. However, it is likely that a person of this stature played other possibly significant roles at the AMC level. Although these can be considered to exemplify general passions and contributions over time, award discretion should focus on contributions to the Maine Chapter.

Please forward all nominations to:

Peter Roderick, Awards Committee Chair
1027 Watson Pond Road, Rome, ME 04963
roderick1027@fairpoint.net

Chapter Annual Meeting

The main order of business at our annual meeting will be the election of members to leadership positions. Let your voice be heard! 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.

Maine Chapter Officers 2015/2016

Chair: Doug Chamberlin

Vice Chair: *volunteer opportunity available*

Secretary: Mary Riendeau

Treasurer: Cindy Caverly

At Large and Nominating: Paul Hahn

At Large: Dave McCarthy

Conservation: *volunteer opportunity available*

E-Communications: Tim Flight

Historian: *volunteer opportunity available*

Meetings and Education Co-Chair (North): Nancy Jacobson

Meetings and Education Co-Chair (South): Lisa Pengel

Membership: Kristen Grant

Maine Woods Initiative: Paul Hahn

Newsletter: Carey Kish

Outings Co-Chair: Peter Roderick

Outings Co-Chair: *volunteer opportunity available*

Past Chair: Roger David

Trails: Jeff Pengel

Young Members Co-Chair: Denise Fredette

Young Members Co-Chair: Sarah Keats



Updates from AMC's Maine Policy Staff



AMC staff were fully engaged in First Regular Session of the 127th Legislature from December through adjournment in July 2015. Our focus continued to be land conservation, recreation access, protecting our public lands and waters, and our outdoor recreation experiences. Legislators had a whirlwind session dealing with hundreds of issues, a contentious budget, and countless vetoes from Governor LePage. Our key issues this session included advocating for the Land for Maine's Future program, working to maintain strict environmental protections for metallic mineral mining, and ensuring wind energy development doesn't unduly impact Maine's natural resources and outdoor recreational experiences.

AMC led an effort to clarify wind siting criteria around cumulative visual impact and increase the visual impact assessment (VIA) distance requirements for project applications. We worked closely with our members and with the Maine Appalachian Trail Club on this issue. The Environment & Natural Resources Committee ultimately pulled the VIA distance out of the bill, but passed new definitions of cumulative visual impact which were approved by the full Legislature and signed into law by the Governor. We'll continue to work on this issue in the next session, which convenes in January 2016.

The Environment & Natural Resources Committee also worked through the issue of Maine's metallic mineral mining rules – an issue Maine legislators have been grappling with for several years. The Maine DEP resubmitted

the exact same set of rules that were rejected by the Legislature in April 2014. The Committee again spent a substantial amount of time trying to rework the rules, but ultimately the final draft was not protective enough to pass a vote in the full House. The defeat of these weak rules – which would have put Maine's public lands, waters, and environment at risk – represents a substantial win for the environmental community.

Finally, the Land for Maine's Future (LMF) program was rightly the focus of numerous articles and much public outcry after this popular program continued to be purposefully sabotaged by Governor LePage. Late in the session a bill - LD 1378, was introduced by Senator Roger Katz (R-Augusta) to release the bonds and curtail the Governor's ability to withhold voter approved bond money for LMF. This bill was initially passed by the Legislature in June but was quickly vetoed by Governor LePage. The Legislature took up the vote to decide whether or not to override the veto on the absolute last day of the session in July and while the veto was easily overridden in the Senate, failed to gather the 2/3 vote required in the House to override. Governor LePage and his allies put intense pressure on Legislators across the state in the weeks leading up to the override vote and we are very disappointed that this bill did not pass. Fortunately, the conservation community was able to submit a last minute Legislative Resolve supporting the LMF program and we are well positioned to pick back up on this when the Legislature reconvenes in January.

We can always use the voice of AMC's members in Augusta to speak to their legislators about these issues, now or during the session. If you'd like help or just to learn more about AMC's legislative policies in Maine or get involved, please contact Kaitlyn Bernard (kbernard@outdoors.org).

Adult Volunteer Trail Vacations: Maintain hiking trails in beautiful locations!



Fee covers Lodging, Food, Transportation while at project site, and Leadership.

Winter 2016

October 4-9, 2015	Cold River Camp Crew	AMC Cold River Camp, NH	18-70+	\$350/\$385
January 23-30, 2016	Costa Rica Hut Trail Crew	San Luis de Monteverde, Costa Rica	18-70+	\$385/\$425
February 13-20, 2016	Virgin Islands National Park Volunteer Vacation	Cinnamon Bay, St. John, USVI	18-70+	\$350/\$385
February 20-27, 2016	Virgin Islands National Park Volunteer Vacation	Cinnamon Bay, St. John, USVI	18-70+	\$375/\$410

Contact: Alison Violette, Volunteer Trails Administrative Supervisor • (603)466-8156 • aviolette@outdoors.org

A Brand New Fall Is Upon Us!

Meetings & Education Programs

Bangor Meetings and Education is eagerly getting ready for a new season with some new programs and people plus some old favorites. We will have a new chair in the person of Nancy Jacobson - see welcome article elsewhere in this newsletter. Fields Pond Audubon will continue to be a valued partner in many of our programs and there may be a new venue or two introduced. Bangor Public Library continues to be unavailable, probably for another year, as they continue with their remodeling project. We look forward to their brand new space in 2017.

Although details have not been finalized yet, we want to give you a sneak peek at some of the expected lineup for the coming season.

Peter Kick has a new book, *Desperate Steps*, to tell us about. In this all-new collection from the publisher of *Not Without Peril* and *No Limits But the Sky*, author Peter W. Kick recounts 20 true tales of backcountry misadventure and misfortune, including incidents along the famed Appalachian Trail, and seeks the lessons learned in each. From close-calls to unsolved mysteries, these stories illuminate the realities faced by outdoorspeople across the Northeast. Weather is

unpredictable. The best laid plans go awry. And in the worst of times, even the best decision may not be enough to turn the tides.

Dr. Hal Borns, founder of Maine's Climate Change Institute, will share his knowledge of glaciation and its relation to climate change which led to his national award winning "Maine's Ice Age Trail: Down East, Map and Guide".

Wayne Newton and Carey Kish, two of our perpetual contributors, are currently through-hiking the AT. Both are on tap to share their most recent conquest of this famed trail with us. It will be interesting to hear their reactions to the recent incidents in Baxter State Park and on the mountain. We know that Wayne takes multitudes of pictures and Carey is giving us updates in his blog, if you wish to follow his progress.

Dr. Deborah Walters is a promising star for later in the season when we hope to hear about her 2,500-mile journey from Portland, Maine, to Guatemala. Her long-distance kayak adventure will take over a year, and by traveling this great distance, Dr. Walters aims to raise money and awareness for Safe Passage, a nonprofit organization based out of Maine and Guatemala.

Welcome to Maine, to Bangor, to AMC and to Meetings & Education!

On a recent trip to the sometimes placid sometimes treacherous waters in AMC's Maine holdings, it became very clear that Nancy Jacobson is a great example of an AMC member. Nancy is an avid outdoorswoman always ready to share her skills and enthusiasm with others. She is also always ready to learn and help out wherever she can. It is the latter trait that led us to ask if she would be willing to be the Bangor co-chair of Meetings & Education. Her acceptance of the challenge was no surprise. Gerry Sawyer, the current co-chair promises to be there to lend her the helping hand when she needs it but she is learning rapidly. Nancy has backgrounds in both in the outdoors field and in education.

Nancy has degrees in biology, environmental engineering and water resource management. Before moving to Maine she worked as a ranger in the national parks and was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Ecuador. In Maine she has worked with communities to resolve drinking water, sanitation and watershed protection issues. In recent years she has taught science to adult learners and English to immigrants while raising her family.

In her own words: On my first AMC trail-work trip I was awed by the beauty of the lands and by the wonderful and committed people in this organization. I am so pleased to be able to take a part in supporting AMC through its education and conservation missions.



Nancy with a young paddler



Sea kayaking on the New Meadows River in Brunswick *by Carolyn Welch*

The weather was very pleasant, about 70 degrees, bright and sunny on Sunday August 9th. We met at the Sawyer Park boat launch at 9:30. Three young men, with a 9:00 reservation for kayak rentals from Sea Spray on the other side of the river, did not join us because Sea Spray was not yet open. We waved to the prospective paddlers across the river, and were in touch by cell phone. I explained we would have to leave, but if Sea Spray staff arrived they could decide whether to go out on the river on their own, or to get a refund. This is a protected estuary with modest tidal low, and the 3 paddlers were well able to be on their own.

Our AMC group left at 10:30. High tide had been at 7:26. Paddling out was easy, only a slight breeze. At the end of Foster Point, we paused at a friend's house and he brought out some popsicles for us. A nice treat. We continued on to the small island just west of Bragdon, one of the islands known locally as The Three Sisters, arriving about noon. There is a nice shell beach on the southwest side and plenty of rocks for lunching and lounging. (But watch out for the poison ivy.) We reveled in the beauty of this glorious summer day on the ocean. There were some darkening clouds, but they blew away in a mild off shore breeze.

The tide seemed to be more slack than incoming as we paddled back to the Sawyer Park put in, arriving about 4:00. A very pleasant sea kayak outing on a lovely summer day. Because of the later return, and other commitments, we decided to forego refreshments on the river view veranda at the Sea Dog.

When I checked in with the paddlers left behind, I learned Sea Spray had opened shortly after 10:30. The 3 paddlers were able to get a tandem and a solo kayaks, were not able to catch up with us, but had a pleasant time paddling on their own in the river.

Later I spoke with the Sea Spray owner to express my concerns. He explained they had a last minute request from the Bath YMCA to deliver several boats to the Androscoggin River early that the morning. In their rush, staff had not made arrangements to cover the shop. He apologized, gave me assurances this would not happen again, offered to rent to any paddlers coming on my upcoming Androscoggin trip for \$25 instead of \$35. Unfortunately the Androscoggin trip was canceled due to a thundershower forecast.

So the moral of the story is: Most of life is Plan B, and don't let a good paddling day slip by.

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!

Young Members Moat Traverse *By Denise Fredette*



First views on Moat Traverse - Ascending South Moat Mtn August 29, 2015

The day started out with a chill in the air, as late August mornings in New Hampshire tend to. The weather forecast; however, was for sunny, mostly clear skies and warmth, which we soon found to be true. The hike this Young Members group was planning to do has been on my wish list for a while and required a car spot. With eight of us meeting up at the northern terminus, there were enough vehicles to leave behind as we carpoled over to the southern terminus of the Moat Mountain Trail, about a 20 minute drive.

The Moat Mountains Traverse exceeded my expectations. The day flew by as we crossed three open, rocky peaks, taking in the spectacular views of the mountain ranges surrounding us on what is an incredible ridge walk. The sun remained brilliant in the sky and we were able to take well-deserved breaks on each of the peaks.

As we descended the final peak of North Moat mountain, our thoughts were on the long awaited reward of a dip in Diana's Baths, a series of swimming holes and waterfalls less than a mile from the North Moat trailhead. When we reached Diana's Baths we could tell it was a popular spot. We still managed to find a vacant swimming hole. Some of us took the full plunge into the icy cold water while others cooled their feet in the pools and sitting on the rocks.

We had made great time on this 9.8 mile hike, and the group was in good spirits as we said our goodbyes at the ending trailhead. The option to cool off in the water before returning to the cars was an added bonus you don't find in many hikes. This traverse is a hike I would definitely do again and recommend to others.

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

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



Junction of Moat Mountain Trail and Red Ridge Trail before ascending North Moat
- Photo by Frank Brooks

AMC Fall Gathering – Don't Miss it!

This year the AMC Fall Gathering will be held in Lake George, NY at Camp Chingachgook and hosted by the Mohawk Hudson Chapter. After last year's successful showing of Young Members at the Fall Gathering hosted by the Maine Chapter at Camp Wavus, we are hoping to increase attendance by Young Members this year. Folks from all of the AMC Chapter are invited to stay at Camp Chingachgook. There are many hikes and other activities planned over the course of this weekend as well as campfires and other entertainment. Don't miss out on this awesome weekend!

To make your reservation go to: <http://www.outdoors.org/about/fallgathering/>. Be sure to email Susannah Hatch (shatch@outdoors.org) with any questions and let her know you are a "Young Member".