



MAINE CHAPTER

YOUR CONNECTION TO THE OUTDOORS

Maine Chapter
Appalachian Mountain Club
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Portland, Maine 04101

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WILDERNESS MATTERS

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2016 Annual Meeting: Celebrating the Maine Chapter's 60th Anniversary *By Kathleen Miller*

The Maine Chapter's 2016 Annual Meeting was held at the Clarion Hotel in Portland on Saturday, November 12. An energetic crowd of 70+ members attended and kicked off the evening with a cocktail social. During the social hour exhibits were available including an excellent display of historical items from the Maine Chapter's Archives Committee. Tim Hudson, Superintendent for the Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument, presented maps and information on the new national monument. Tony Barrett was there representing the ATC 2017 Conference (co-hosted by the Maine Chapter); and Ed Webster, featured speaker for the evening and author of "Everest The Hard Way", was available to sign books and chat about his famous ascent on Everest (without Sherpas, oxygen, or radios and via a never before attempted route).

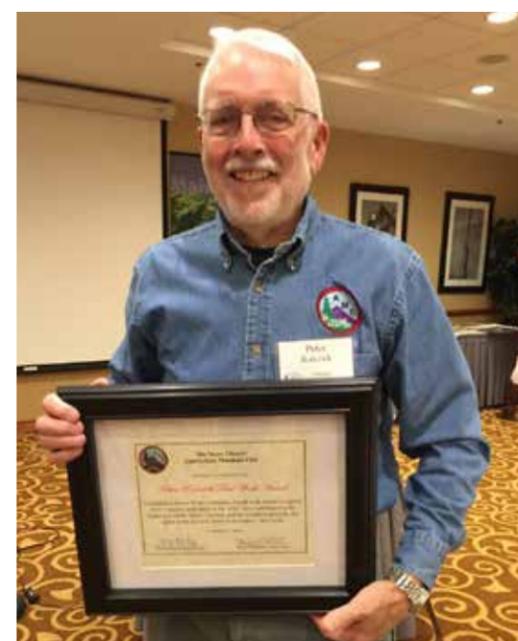
John Mullens, MC for the evening, then welcomed the membership and provided an overview of the 60-year history of the Maine Chapter starting with approximately 70 outdoor enthusiasts that founded the Portland Chapter in 1956, to the Chapter's current membership of over 5,300 strong.

Doug Chamberlin presided over the business meeting and presented the 2016 annual report, highlighting the Chapter's accomplishments for the year. Paul Hahn of the Nominating Committee introduced the slate of officers for the 2017 Executive Committee. A motion was made, and seconded, for the membership to vote on the slate of officers and the slate was approved by a unanimous vote via show of hands by the attendees.

Highlights of the evening included recognitions for volunteers including two "Appie of the Year" awards given to Cindy Caverly and Kristen Grant for their outstanding volunteer efforts throughout the year. Peter Roderick received a lifetime achievement award for his long-term dedication and commitment to the AMC (see article by John Mullens for more details). Bruce Glabe, Chief Strategy

Officer, and self-described Mainer at heart, provided an overview of the news from Joy Street including the vision, challenges and opportunities, for the future Boston AMC headquarters. Featured speaker, Ed Webster, did not disappoint with his presentation of "Everest the Hard Way." Ed grew up in Lexington Massachusetts and shared during his talk that he believed the seeds that resulted in his ascent on Everest were planted in the AMC library on Joy Street. He explained that his Dad would drop him off on his way to Mass General and he would spend the day reading everything he could on Everest and the great climbers that preceded him. The story of his climb up Everest's Kangshung Face was remarkable and you certainly didn't need to be a technical climber to appreciate the magnitude of the challenge or the accomplishment. If you're unfamiliar with Ed Webster, and are interested in learning more, visit his website: <http://mtnimagery.com/author.html>

I think it's safe to say, a good time was had by all.



Peter Roderick receives Lifetime Achievement Award for his hard work and contribution to the Maine Chapter and AMC. Photo by Tony Barrett

Grant and Caverly Honored *By John Mullens*

Kristen Grant and Cindy Caverly were named Appies of the Year at the Maine Chapter's annual meeting and dinner November 12. This award is presented to a member of the Maine Chapter for her or his outstanding contribution to the growth, success, and leadership of the Chapter and/or the Executive Committee within the past year. Typically, the award is presented to one person, but may be presented to two persons if the situation warrants it. And that was the case this year. Peter Roderick, Chair of the Chapter Awards Committee, and Doug Chamberlin, Chapter Chair, presented the awards.



Kristen Grant and Cindy Caverly are presented with the Appie of the Year Award by Doug Chamberlin and Peter Roderick at the Maine Chapter Annual Meeting last November. Photo by Tony Barrett

Kristen Grant is the Chapter Membership and Public Relations Chair. According to the award read by Roderick, Kristen single-handedly brought the Maine Chapter into the 21st Century and spurred the growth and success of the Chapter and of Chapter outings. Kristen took over responsibility for the Chapter's social media functions on Facebook, Meetup, and Instagram. She adapted the Meetup process to accommodate the Chapter's rigorous participant screening requirements for outings, while retaining the spontaneity of the Meet-up process. According to Roderick, her work in the social media venues has increased Chapter online exposure, spurred many Chapter members and friends into more (and more ambitious) outdoor activities, and contributed

significantly to Chapter membership growth and event participation. In her spare time, Kristen participates in trail work outings and is one of the trail adopters for the 3rd Mountain Trail near Gorman Chairback Lodge.

Cindy Caverly is Treasurer for the Chapter. Chair Doug Chamberlin said that Cindy's real strength lay in her responsiveness to the financial needs of the Executive Committee, especially her ability to translate financial concepts into plain English, and her willingness to devise simple spreadsheets for each committee and Chapter officer. Through her

skills and responsiveness, she improved each committee's ability to responsibly care for and conserve chapter funds and to spend them wisely for the benefit of Chapter membership and the public at large toward the fulfillment of the Chapter and Club mission. Chamberlin said that the Maine Chapter is a better steward of Chapter funds because of Cindy's expertise, attitude, and responsiveness. Cindy is an avid hiker, runner, and trail work volunteer.

Per Maine Chapter tradition, the Appie of the Year is entrusted with a ceremonial walking stick, engraved with the names of prior recipients. In a humorous twist, Roderick said that as colleagues and co-Appies of the Year, Kristen and Cindy's first task was to figure out how they would share the single walking stick during this coming year.

Wilderness Matters

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Member Center Becomes My Outdoors

For those of you who have previously logged in to the old Member Center and picked your preferences as to how you want to receive your newsletter, what chapter to belong to or what AMC Digest to receive, it's still easy to log in from the Maine Chapter web site. www.amcmaine.org and click on the link on the right side - AMC My Outdoors under the Member Center title.

If you have not or are on the AMC Outdoors web site instead, it's changed. It is no longer called the Member Center. It's now listed as "My Outdoors" under the menu bar. Those who have never logged in before must go to the Outdoors web site to "Validate" their membership and get log in info: <http://www.outdoors.org/my-outdoors/validateMembership.cfm>

Once you are logged in, you can make all your choices. You can update your profile. You can choose what emails to receive for updates. Pick those that interest you or none as you wish. You can sign up for the electronic newsletter and help the club save on printing and postage costs.

Want to know what's coming up for activities? Sign up for the Activity Digest. If you do not pick specific categories, you can get all the activities sent to you or you can weed it down to just those of high interest to you. The more specific you are, the less you may get. Want all that goes on in Maine? Just pick all the areas in Maine in the drop down menu and pick how often you get an email. Do not pick specific categories to get all the activities. Be sure to check "Opt In" and Continue - Voila, done. You will then get anything posted for those areas in an email. The email will list activities coming up in the next 2 weeks. You can set up multiple Digests with your own unique name for each and combination of choices.

You can also find a list of discounts available to AMC members at this site. Several ski areas and businesses in Maine are listed there. Take a look and thank the businesses next time you use their discount.

Submitted by Michelle Moody

Member, Leader, Presentations coordinator (Brunswick)

Meet Some of the New Executive Committee Members

Robin Kerber, At-Large

My name is Robin Kerber and I am an avid globe-trotter, cairn-follower, and sustainable food advocate living in Freeport, Maine. I work on an educational organic farm where I run a small farm-to-table café and organize a variety of events. I didn't plan on returning to Maine until I had spent over a decade away, but on a cross-country bicycle trip in 2014, I spent a lot of time in small, rural communities and realized that I was ready to return and invest in my own Maine community.



Robin Kerber, Incoming At-Large Member of the Maine Chapter

I have spent most of my young life working in restaurants, where my days are stressful and fast-paced. Going to the mountains has always been my opportunity to rejuvenate, process my thoughts, and decompress. The mountains are my therapy, and I spend as much time hiking and exploring them as I can! I am very excited to start taking a more active role with the AMC and bring more young people outdoors!

Kathleen Redmond-Miller, Vice-Chair

I am a 4th generation Mainer who has had a life-long love affair with the great outdoors. I grew up in Cape Elizabeth, later living along the tidal beaches of the Saco River in Biddeford. I attended college in Orono where I met my husband, Paul. We both worked in the University Forest and hiked, paddled, and skied every chance we got. With forestry school came jobs in the great north woods. Hubby had a fabulous job living from a tent and thinning spruce/fir stands. I worked on the Spruce Budworm Spray Project and later as a Campground Ranger at South Branch Pond and Roaring Brook Campground in Baxter State Park. We moved south to start our family, and have lived in Gorham, ME ever since. I make my living as an environmental scientist/project manager helping clients navigate the wilds of the regulatory process. I believe strongly that mountains, forests, and waters have intrinsic worth and provide recreational opportunities, spiritual renewal, and ecological and economic health to the region. I understand these things don't come for free and, therefore, I'm grateful for the opportunity to serve the AMC.



Kathleen Redmond-Miller, Incoming Vice Chair of the Maine Chapter

KTP Donates to the Maine Chapter



Chapter Chair Doug Chamberlin and Regional Director John Mullens accept a donation from Kittery Trading Post in Kittery, Maine, to further the Chapter's efforts to support local under-resourced children to access the MWI area.

Kittery Trading Post (KTP) has donated \$3,185 to the Maine Chapter. This is the second donation to the Chapter from the southern Maine retailer of outdoor gear and clothing, money raised through its "Roundup" Program that invites customers to round up (to the nearest dollar) their purchase to support local non-profits. The donation will further the Chapter's efforts to support local under-resourced children to access the MWI area

through a scholarship program. KTP has long supported AMC by giving AMC members a ten percent discount when customers show their AMC membership card. That discount is good on all clothing and gear, including big-ticket items such as bikes and kayaks. "We thank the Trading Post and its employee-run conservation committee for this donation," said Doug Chamberlin. "Their support will enable local Maine kids to have a significant experience in the Maine woods during their formative years; and we know that can help establish a lifelong conservation ethic."

Bryan Wentzell Moves On *By John Mullens*



Bryan and his son enjoying a day in the Outdoors

After 12 years as AMC's Maine Policy and Program Director, Bryan Wentzell is leaving AMC to become the Executive Director of the Maine Mountain Collaborative.

In his new position, Bryan will elevate and support the organization's mission of using innovative tools and financing to accelerate the pace of land conservation in the Maine mountain region. Collaborative members include the Trust for Public Land, the Forest Society of Maine, New England Forestry Foundation, Maine AT Land Trust, and the AMC.

"I have really enjoyed working with the Maine Chapter over the years," Bryan said when announcing his departure. "The events, meetings, outings, Conservation Committee, and of course the MWI Committee are just some of the successes that your hard work has borne, and has been such an important part of AMC's overall impact in Maine."

Bryan is reflective about his conservation efforts for the AMC. "One main theme that has been driving my work is leveraging the connection between landscape-scale land conservation and local economic and community benefit. That happens by connecting people with these lands, providing outdoor recreation opportunities, quality outdoor experiences, and creating long-term certainty around access that allow businesses and local communities to thrive." Among the major accomplishments in Maine, Bryan includes:

- Helping the Mahoosuc Initiative conserve 100,000 acres and create recreational/visitor resources to highlight the region as a destination.

- Securing 400,000 acres of conservation land around Moosehead Lake and setting up \$1M investment in trails and permanent trail easements paid for by Plum Creek.
- Securing a 5-year/\$1.2 million grant to establish the MWI trails program.

With characteristic modesty, Bryan adds "... nothing happens because of one person - it's all part of a team or coalition, so I would not want to take credit for single-handedly doing any of that, and some of it like the Plum Creek plan, I was a worker bee more than a leader."

Susan Arnold, AMC Vice President for Conservation said "I've had the pleasure of working directly with Bryan for my 13 plus years at AMC, and I will miss him as a colleague very much. Bryan has always epitomized the best of AMC to me; I think our mission is engraved in both his head and his heart. I know that he will bring the same passion, intelligence, character, and sense of humor to his new position, and it's a comfort knowing he will be staying in our midst in Maine."

Senior Vice President Walter Graff was also complimentary. "Bryan brought terrific energy and expertise to our Maine team. AMC is in a much better place in Maine thanks to his ability to connect and build relationships with people and organizations throughout the state. Bryan was able to open many doors and by doing so has allowed AMC staff and volunteers to engage in many of the conservation and outdoor recreation issues in the state. I am so glad he is staying put in the Maine conservation realm -- as we need his presence more than ever."

Bryan's final advice for Maine Chapter members is: "Sign up on outdoors.org for the Conservation Action Network to learn about critical issues that affect the outdoor places you love, and pick up the phone and call your elected officials. Don't be shy - they work for YOU! Get your outdoor friends to do the same. Tell them you care about conservation, climate change, trails, clean air, and public lands and ask them to stick up for those values."



Honoring Peter Roderick, Longtime Maine Chapter Volunteer

By John Mullens

At the Chapter's Annual Meeting on November 12, Peter Roderick, longtime Maine Chapter volunteer, was honored for his service to the AMC and the Maine Chapter. During his 19 years as an AMC and Maine Chapter member, Peter has volunteered as Trip Leader, Chapter Chair, Trails Chair, Outings Chair, and MWI Chair. Peter has served as the Chair of the Inter-Chapter Trails Committee and continues as the Regional Leader for the Maine Woods Adopt-A-Trail.

Peter has earned every commendation the Club and the Chapter have established. The Chapter awarded him the Chapter Lifetime Achievement Award. Because of his service to the Club, the Club has awarded him the Marian Pychowska Award, the Warren Hart Award, the Volunteer Leadership Award, and the Distinguished Service Award.

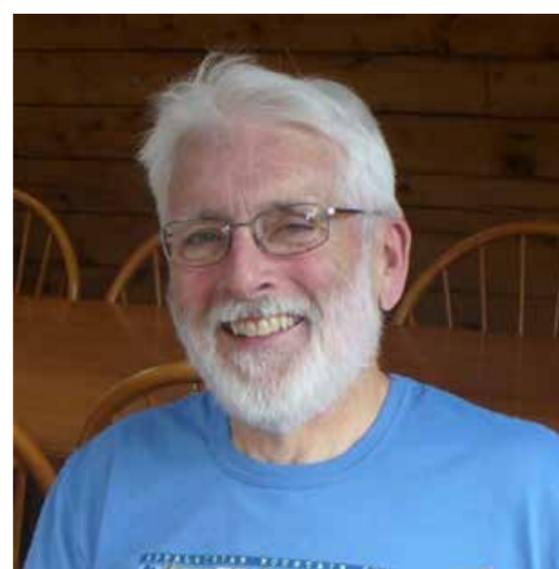
Beyond the elegant awards; however, Peter's greatest contribution is the number of AMC and non-AMC people he has introduced to the Maine Wilderness and the number of hikers he has converted to trail volunteers. Peter is a high-quality and persistent cheerleader for the MWI, introducing scores of folks from all states to the current joys of the MWI and its continued promise for future generations. Peter's infectious attitude toward volunteering and his approach to trail maintenance have sold hikers on the concept of volunteer trail work as partial repayment for the pleasure they derive from hiking well-maintained trails. Indeed, Peter is a great example for how each of us can and should get out and give back to the outdoors and to the organization we love.

To honor Peter's contributions, the Maine Chapter announced the formation of The Peter Roderick Trail Work Award, an annual award established to encourage volunteers to engage in trail work within the AMC's Maine Woods Initiative. A scholarship will be given annually by the

Maine Chapter to one or more volunteers, with preference to first- or second-timers and to Young Member volunteers, to cover the cost of a multi-day volunteer trail work outing in AMC's MWI area in Maine. Until the application process is finalized, interested members may contact Chapter Chair Doug Chamberlin at chair@amcmaine.org for more information.

This scholarship was created to continue Peter's tradition of trail work and to recognize Peter's tireless dedication to the AMC, his contribution to the leadership of the Maine Chapter, and the countless hours he has spent on his favorite form of recreation—trail work.

While we still expect to see Peter out on the trail—hiking, skiing, or building bog bridges—the Chapter takes this moment of transition to thank Peter for the many years of enthusiastic service to the AMC, the Chapter, the MWI, and trails throughout the state. Thank You, Peter!



Chapter Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient Peter Roderick – Awarded November 2016

WINTER CALENDAR: OUTINGS | EVENTS | MEETINGS

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 Bill Brooke, Outings Chair and Master of the Calendar Listings, outings@amcmaine.org or (207) 549-5100. *Note: Please be courteous when contacting trip leaders by doing so before 9:00 PM unless otherwise specified. Thanks!*

Next Deadline for Wilderness Matters (Spring Issue) is March 1, 2017.

Submission info: *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 may 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, captions and any other identifying info plus proper photo credit. Thank you!*

MEETINGS

Thursday, January 5: Protect the Places you Love - AMC's Conservation Work & How to Engage! Join AMC Policy Staff Bryan Wentzell & Kaitlyn Bernard and the ME Chapter Conservation Chair Pete Carney for an update on Maine's current environmental issues and a preview of the 2017-2018 Legislative session. Presentation starts at 7pm. Optional potluck dinner will start at 6pm (please bring a dish to share, bring your own cup, plates and silverware). Doors open at 5:30pm. Free and open to the public. Leader: Michelle Moody, 207-406-5221 before 9pm, meamc@micstan.us, Co-Leader: Stan Moody. PLEASE SEE FULL DESCRIPTION OF THIS PROGRAM ON P. 7 OF THIS NEWSLETTER.

Wednesday, January 11: Bangor EcoHomes: a case study in affordable high performance building David & Suzanne Kelly will discuss the evolution of Bangor EcoHomes, a 'green pocket neighborhood' of six nearly self-sufficient single family homes (3 complete, with 3 left to build). Leader: Nancy Jacobson, 207-942-4924 Before 9 pm, education@amcmaine.org. PLEASE SEE FULL DESCRIPTION OF THIS PROGRAM ON P. 7 OF THIS NEWSLETTER.

Thursday, February 2: Potluck and Presentation: The A.T. in Maine - Beyond Trail Maintenance Join us for an examination of behind-the-scenes work undertaken by the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, the Maine A.T. Land Trust and the Maine A.T. Club along with AMC to protect the scenic integrity and hiker experience along the trail in Maine. Presentation starts at 7pm. Optional potluck dinner will start at 6pm (please bring a dish to share, bring your own cup, plates and silverware). Doors open at 5:30pm. Free and open to the public. Leader: Michelle Moody, 207-406-5221 before 9pm, meamc@micstan.us, Co-Leader: Stan Moody. PLEASE SEE FULL DESCRIPTION OF THIS PROGRAM ON P. 7 OF THIS NEWSLETTER.

Wednesday, February 8: The Canada Lynx and Other Northern Wildlife - Can We Protect them from Global Warming? Mark McCollough, Ph.D. will talk about how warming temperatures and changing snow conditions could present challenges to moose, pine marten, and northern songbirds that live in the North Maine Woods. Leader: Nancy Jacobson, 207-942-4924 Before 9 pm, education@amcmaine.org. PLEASE SEE FULL DESCRIPTION OF THIS PROGRAM ON P. 7 OF THIS NEWSLETTER.

Thursday, March 2: Potluck and Presentation: The Allagash Wilderness Waterway Sheila and Dean Bennett invite you to a PowerPoint presentation of a 100-mile canoe trip through this place in the wild full of mystery, history, and beauty. They have been paddling this river since 1976 and have much to share. Presentation starts at 7pm. Optional

potluck dinner will start at 6pm (please bring a dish to share, bring your own cup, plates and silverware). Doors open at 5:30pm. Free and open to the public. Leader: Michelle Moody, 207-406-5221 before 9pm, meamc@micstan.us Co-Leader: Stan Moody. PLEASE SEE FULL DESCRIPTION OF THIS PROGRAM ON P. 7 OF THIS NEWSLETTER.

Tuesday, March 7: Utah - A magical landscape: canyons, sandstone sculptures, red rock and so much more. AMC members Michelle and Stan Moody spent 5 months traveling from Maine to the Rockies with many stops along the way. Come join them in a photo review of some of these highlights including petroglyphs and pictographs from ancient native peoples. Journey with them through a canyon so narrow they had to walk sideways and not take a deep breath to avoid getting stuck. Leader: Nancy Jacobson, 207-942-4924 Before 9 pm, Education@amcmaine.org. PLEASE SEE FULL DESCRIPTION OF THIS PROGRAM ON P. 7 OF THIS NEWSLETTER.

Thursday, April 6: The Maine Woods Initiative The history, development and management objectives of 70,000 acres of AMC land in northern Maine with Steve Tatko, Land Manager for MWI AMC's Land Manager will reflect on the first decade of AMC's ownership and what lies ahead. Leader: Nancy Jacobson, 207-942-4924 Before 9pm, education@amcmaine.org. PLEASE SEE FULL DESCRIPTION OF THIS PROGRAM ON P. 7 OF THIS NEWSLETTER.

HIKING & SNOWSHOEING

Sunday, January 1: New Year's Day in a State Park - Camden Hills
SP Join us for the New Year with a hike or snowshoe (depending on conditions) in one of our favorite state parks. We will hike the back side to Bald Rock for great ocean views. About 1,000 feet elevation gain. We can also add the Sky Blue Trail and Cameron Mt. if the group is up to it. Mid-morning start with possibility of lunch on the trail. Stop at the Camden Deli after for those interested. Plan on winter conditions - microspikes or similar traction required, snowshoes if enough snow. Please email leader with info on hiking experience, winter equipment and phone contact to register. Leader: Michelle Moody, 207-406-5221 before 9pm, meamc@micstan.us, Leader: Stan Moody

Saturday, January 7: Intro to Winter Hike at Bradbury Mt. SP Come to learn or practice some winter hiking skills. If there is enough snow, we will use snowshoes. Bring them to practice getting them on and carrying them when not using them. Plan on ice to practice using your traction footwear such as microspikes. A good time to work on layering for cold weather. Bradbury is a fun place to get the feel of climbing a mountain without the work of bigger mountains. Great for those new to winter hiking/snowshoeing. Lovely woods walk with far off views from the top. Call leader for details and recommended gear. Please include information about your level of hiking or snowshoeing and gear you already have. Let leader know if you would like to carpool and from what area. Leader: Michelle Moody, 207-406-5221 before 9pm, meamc@micstan.us, Leader: Stan Moody

Saturday, January 7: Ragged Mountain Hike Ragged Mountain (1,290 ft), this is a 4.5 mile loop and affords good views of Camden village and the ocean. Bring lunch, snacks and water. Moderate pace. Dress for the weather. Bad weather cancels trip. Plan on winter conditions- microspikes or similar traction devices required; snowshoes if enough snow. Please email leader with information on hiking experience, winter equipment and a phone contact to register. Leader: Susan Surabian, 207-474-6100 before 9pm, suebeau1@gmail.com, Leader: Emily Davis

Sunday, January 8: Burnt Meadow Mountain: Beginner Winter Hike (20s, 30s, & Young-at-Heart) Join us for a 3.3 mile round-trip hike of Burnt Meadow Mountain in Brownfield, ME. This classic hike is located just one hour outside of Portland, with beautiful views of Western Maine and the White Mountains of New Hampshire. Trails are maintained by the AMC and Friends of Burnt Meadow Mountains. We will ascend via the Burnt Meadow Trail (moderate) and descend on the Twin Brook Trail (easy), depending on conditions. The hike is designed for those new to winter hiking and will require microspikes/snowshoes, layered synthetic clothing and insulated footwear, among other gear. Leader: Kim Sanders, 207-712-0862 before 9pm, kimberlyannsanders@gmail.com. Co-Leader: Serena Doose

Sunday, January 8: Pleasant Mountain Hike Via Fire Wardens Trail. 2.3 miles 1,500 feet elevation gain. Snowshoe or ice grippers depending on trail conditions. Leader: Larry DeHof, 207-310-8952 before 9pm, ldehof@access4less.net, Leader: Jeanne Christie

Saturday, January 14: Table Rock - Grafton Notch Snowshoe hike to follow up the winter hiking workshop. Table Rock (2,350 ft) is a 2.6 mi. round trip hike with an elevation gain of 900 ft. This short but somewhat steep hike provides an opportunity to experience snowshoe hiking in a mountain setting with a spectacular view to reward your efforts. Moderate winter hike suitable for beginner to intermediate winter hikers. Winter gear including snowshoes with crampons/cleats are required. Contact the trip leader to register and for more information. Leader: Bill Brooke, 207-549-5100 before 9pm, bill@mesoft.org

Saturday, January 14: Winter hike of Mt. Pierce (20s, 30s, & Young-at-Heart) Do you have some winter hiking under your belt, and looking to increase your skills? Would you like to enjoy the pristine beauty of the Presidential Mountains with no bugs, smaller crowds, and crisp, clean air? Join the Maine Chapter Young Members (20s and 30s) for an intermediate-level winter hike up Mt. Pierce (4,320 ft). This hike is ideal for those that have some winter hiking experience and all the required gear, and are looking to practice winter exposure above tree line. We will hike 6.4 miles with ~2,400 ft elevation gain at a moderate pace (~1.5 miles/hr), out and back on the Crawford Connector and Crawford Path. The trail is mostly covered on the way up, but is exposed at the summit with a view of the Southern Presidentials including Mount Washington. Leader: Marielle Postava-Davignon, 617-823-6845 Before 9 PM, marielle.pd@gmail.com, Leader: Denise Fredette

Saturday, January 21: Cranberry Peak Snowshoe - Stratton Maine Snowshoe trek to Cranberry Peak near Stratton Maine. Experienced winter hikers with full winter gear for fun day in the Maine woods. With car spot we hike from trailhead near Stratton Maine to Cranberry Peak and on to Cranberry Pond and the junction with the Appalachian Trail. We then head south on the AT to route 27. Trip length 8 miles. Incredible views of the Bigelows and beautiful woods walk especially between the peak and the pond. Contact leader for more information. Leader: Peter Roderick, 207-293-2704 before 9pm, roderick1027@fairpoint.net, Co-Leader: Tennyson Tappan

Saturday, January 21: Explore Portland Trails Portland trails double header! Begin with a walk in the Fore River Sanctuary and a visit to Jewell Falls, Portland's only natural waterfall. Afterwards, we'll explore the network of Portland Trails behind the Evergreen Cemetery. Leader: Debby Kantor, 207-854-3431 before 9pm, dlkantor@aol.com, Leader: Lorraine Hussey

Saturday, January 21: Mt. Garfield (Young Members – 20's, 30s) We will hike Garfield trail after the Gale River Loop Rd, hiking to the exposed summit of Mt. Garfield, where there are beautiful views of the Pemigewasset Wilderness. Rt 12.4 miles and 3,000 ft elevation gain. Mostly moderate ascent, but there is a steep, rocky ascent near summit. Winter hiking experience and gear is required for this hike. Leader: Sarah Keats, slskski@gmail.com, 207-245-2563 before 9pm, Co-Leader: Mariano Scandizzo

Saturday, January 28: Burnt Mt. Winter Hike If you have some experience with winter hiking, here's your chance to bag a snow-topped mountain. Mid-winter hike to 3595' summit of Burnt Mountain. Outstanding views of Sugarloaf, Abraham, Crocker, and Bigelows! 6 miles total with vertical rise of 1600'. Good introduction to above-treeline conditions. Comfortable pace, intended for hikers with full winter gear and previous winter hiking experience. Snowshoes and other traction device (i.e. Katoola Micro-Spikes) required. Leader: Jeff Aceto, 207-650-5674 before 9pm, acetajt@gmail.com, Co-Leader: Marielle Postava-Davignon

Saturday, February 4: Bald Pate Mt. Snowshoe - Great Maine Outdoors Weekend The trails at Bald Pate Mountain offer scenic views, a forest returning from past timber harvests and ice-storm damage, a unique pitch pine habitat with fragile soils at the summit, and a haven for wildlife. A relatively easy mountain hike with options for a steeper climb up 360' to the top or a gentler longer ascent. Summit at 1100'. Views to Pleasant Mountain and the lakes in the area. A mid-morning start with lunch at the top. Snowshoes and traction footwear (ex. microspikes) required. Please include information about your hiking experience and equipment when contacting leader to register. Let leader know if you wish to carpool and from what area. Leader: Michelle Moody, 207-406-5221 before 9pm, meamc@micstan.us, Leader: Stan Moody

Sunday, February 5: Baldpates - Grafton Notch Snowshoe to the west and east peaks of Baldpate Mtn. from Grafton Notch. Round trip distance 8 miles, elevation gain of 2,280 ft. Enjoy extensive views of the western Maine mountains and lakes from the East Peak. This is a moderate to strenuous hike suitable for experienced winter hikers. Full winter gear including snowshoes with crampons/cleats and crampons or micro spikes are required. Contact the trip leader to register and for more information. Leader: Bill Brooke, 207-549-5100 before 9pm, bill@mesoft.org, Leader: Wayne Newton

Saturday, February 11: Little Bigelow Snowshoe/Hike Snowshoe to the 3,040 ft summit of Little Bigelow. This is a moderate 7-mile out and back hike with 1,920 ft of elevation gain. We will have beautiful, panoramic views of Sugarloaf, the Bigelow Range, and Flagstaff Lake. This is an excellent introduction to snowshoeing in the mountains. Winter gear required. Leader: Cindy Caverly, 207-313-7862 Before 8pm, cindycaverly@gmail.com, Co-Leader: Marielle Postava-Davignon

Saturday, February 18: Hike Heald & Bradley Ponds Preserve 6-mile hike to 3 mountains in Lovell, Maine. Join us for the lovely views from Whiting Hill (801), Amos Mtn(955) and Flat Hill (891). No dogs please. Leader: Debby Kantor, 207-854-3431 before 9:00pm, dlkantor@aol.com Leader: Lorraine Hussey

Saturday, February 18: North and South Crocker - Carrabassett Valley Two 4,000 footers in winter. Snowshoe North and South Crocker via the AT south. North peak of Crocker (4,228 ft) is 5.5 miles with 2,500 feet of elevation gain with South Crocker an additional 1 mile and 250 feet of elevation gain for a total of 13 miles and 3,750 feet elevation. Strenuous hike for experienced winter hikers with full winter gear. Contact the trip leader for details. Leader: Bill Brooke, 207-549-5100 before 9pm, bill@mesoft.org, Co-Leader: Rick Charity

Saturday, March 4: North & South Kinsman (20s, 30s & Young @ Heart) Here's your chance to bag 2 4k's in Winter. We will hike North and South Kinsman with a possible stop at the Lonesome Lake Hut along the way. The trip is mostly in the woods until approaching South Kinsman, with an outlook near North Kinsman, South Kinsman is completely exposed affording sweeping views on a clear day. This trip is 10 miles rt out-and-back with 3,550 ft elevation gain. You MUST have recent winter hiking experience with similar mileage and elevation gain and appropriate winter hiking gear required. This hike is listed as "Young Members - 20s & 30s" but is open to ALL. Limit 8 participants and 2 leaders. Leader: Denise Fredette, 207-939-3670 after 5pm, deniserae77@gmail.com, Leader: Marielle Postava-Davignon

Saturday, March 18: Lord Hill 1257ft/Pine Hill 1250ft 5-mile hike via WMNF and Greater Lovell Land Trust Trails. Lovely views overlooking Horseshoe Pond and mountains to the north. Leader: Lorraine Hussey, 207-619-9444 before 9pm, lorrainehussey66@gmail.com Leader: Debby Kantor

Tuesday, April 11: Full Moon Walk/Biddeford, Maine Evening walk to watch the full moon rise over East Point Lighthouse off Biddeford Pool. Leader: Lorraine Hussey, 207-619-9444 before 9pm, lorrainehussey66@gmail.com

Saturday, April 15: Center Pond Preserve 5-7 mile hike on local land trust trails. Leader: Lorraine Hussey, 207-619-9444 before 9pm, lorrainehussey66@gmail.com, Leader: Debby Kantor

Thursday, May 11: Full Moon Walk/Scarborough, Maine -Cliff Walk, Prouts Neck, Scarborough, ME. Evening walk along the shore where Winslow Homer lived and paint to watch the full moon rise over the Atlantic. Leader: Lorraine Hussey, 207-619-9444 before 9pm, lorrainehussey66@gmail.com

SKIING

Sunday, January 29: X-Country Skiing - Maine Huts and Trails 31 miles on Maine Huts and Trails system including stop at hut at Grand Falls. Suitable for fit advanced beginners and above skiers. Leader: Peter Roderick, 207-293-2704 before 9pm, roderick1027@fairpoint.net

Friday, February 17: SKI MAINE HUTS & TRAILS 4TH ANNUAL Ambience in the Maine Woods: glide through the remote Maine woods on groomed tracks in the historic Flagstaff Lake region & enjoy lodge camaraderie at night at Maine Huts & Trails lodges on our ski adventure: * Visit Flagstaff & Grand Falls huts * Groomed & tracked trails * Daily

ski distances for varied abilities from intermediate to advanced * Shuttle bags between huts & car parking * All meals & lodging are included in price Huts are rustic with mixed gender bunk rooms, and state-of-the art off-grid energy facilities for heat, hot water, & showers. Mattresses & pillows provided. Beer & wine available for purchase. Bring two bags: one with most of your gear for use overnight, and another to use while skiing. Trails are generally easy to moderate rolling terrain with machine set tracks. Our base tour will be about 20km (intermediate) to 40km (advanced) on groomed tracks in the forest. Itinerary: All distance & elevation information is approximate based on representative maps. Leaders reserve the right to change the itinerary for reasons such as weather, trail conditions, group preference, & other factors. Distance & pace are on the higher side, conditions are unpredictable in remote area, therefore we rate this is an intermediate-advanced trip for capable day skiers comfortable with being out in the woods all day without external support. Your best skis are double camber, narrow touring center skis in the profile range of 65/46-55/42-60/44 profile so they will fit in cut tracks and allow for nice kick and glide. Trip is co-listed with Rami Haddad from AMC Boston Chapter. Leader: Sarah Keats, 207-756-4226 before 9pm, slskski@gmail.com, Co-Leader: Rami Haddad

SOCIAL

Sunday, February 5: Snow Tubing at Seacoast We're going Snow Tubing!

Join us at Seacoast Fun Park in Windham, ME for some winter fun. They even make their own snow so no worries on what Mother Nature decides to do. Cost is \$20 per person for a Session. Click "Buy Tickets" on the website (<http://www.seacoastadventure.com/snow/>) or call the Park to reserve for the session on Sunday, February 5 from 2:30 - 4:30pm. Reserve your spot early before it fills up! Optional Happy Hour/food/drinks at the on-sight Deckhouse Tavern following the tubing. Join us for Tubing, or the Tavern, or both! Leader: Denise Fredette, 207-939-3670 after 5pm, deniserae77@gmail.com

A New Magazine for the Senior Hiker Community

Deer Isle, ME (27 October 2016). Deer Isle Press, LLC, is pleased to announce the release of *Senior Hiker Magazine*, a new publication by and for avid hikers over the age of 50. The mission of the magazine is to bring alive the experience of wilderness and the wild unexpected life through beautiful writing, photography and artwork.

The first issue features articles on backcountry hiking on and off the trail, photography of wilderness environments, and wood engravings of mountainous landscapes by Siri Beckman. Columns provide practical guidelines on hiking, descriptions of hikes in international locales, and hiking group profiles. The next issue will focus on wildlife, with stories of bear, moose and rattlesnake encounters, wildlife photography and scientific studies in the field. The magazine will be published three times a year.

Editor and Publisher Lisa Schoonmaker says, "A whole community of older hikers is out there everywhere--next to you on the plane, in line at the store, on the street as well as on the trails. They're an active, high-spirited group with wide-ranging experience and the knowledge of a lifetime. What they share is a love of the outdoors, respect for the environment, and concern for our remaining wilderness. The magazine, we hope, will reflect their vision through thoughtful articles, beautiful imagery, and a humorous touch. It will also issue a challenge to older people to continue to do the things they love, the things that have meaning to them."

The magazine welcomes letters and ideas for articles, photography and artwork of all kinds. To learn more and to subscribe, please visit: seniorhikermag.com, or email Lisa Schoonmaker at schoonmakerlisa@gmail.com

Deer Isle Press, LLC, is a small Maine publishing company located on Deer Isle.

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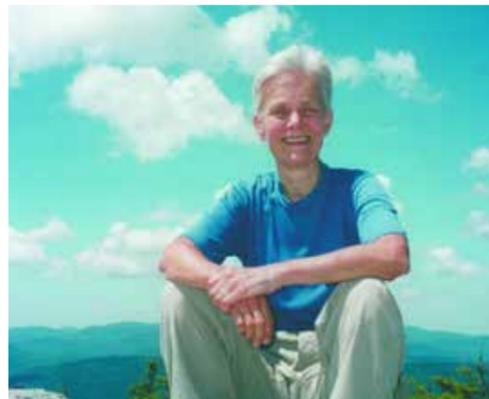
<http://www.facebook.com/MaineAMC/>

Phyllis Austin Remembrance

Phyllis Austin died on November 21, 2016, at her home in Brunswick.

Phyllis may have reported more stories about more conservation issues in Maine than anyone. She spent four years, 1969-1973, covering the Maine State House for the Associated Press. In 1972, she was named the AP's first environmental writer in New England.

From 1974 until 2002, Phyllis was a journalist for the *Maine Times* where she wrote scores, maybe hundreds of stories about a wide array of environmental issues. She also was published in more than a dozen other periodicals. She provided the longest continuous coverage of the forest products industry and of state natural resources agencies, most notably Baxter State Park, of any Maine journalist.



Phyllis Austin, an acclaimed environmental writer who wrote "Wilderness Partners," a book about Buzz Caverly and Baxter State Park, died November 21, 2016.

Photo courtesy Jym St. Pierre

In addition to her short pieces, Phyllis authored two book-length biographies, one about Buzz Caverly's years at Baxter State Park (*Wilderness Partners*, 2008), and more recently about conservation philanthropist Roxanne Quimby (*Queen Bee*, 2015). She also co-edited the book on *Wilderness: Voices from Maine* (2003).

However, Phyllis Austin not only wrote about environmental issues. She also influenced them. For

instance, she organized volunteers to help research land use issues, recreation practices, and remote trout ponds. Her investigative reporting helped lead to the passage of laws and regulations to strengthen our legal environmental protections. She was one of two people who called the original meeting that led to the creation of Friends of Baxter State Park.

Phyllis was an avid hiker. Many of her favorite treks were in the Himalayan mountains in Nepal and in the Scottish Highlands. Her last published piece, "On Reaching the End of the Trail," was printed in the November-December 2016 issue of *AMC Outdoors*.

Phyllis earned a long list of honors including four national journalism fellowships as well as:

- Maine Conservation Award from Natural Resources Council of Maine
- Distinguished Service Award from University of Southern Maine
- Environmental Reporting Award from Sierra Club
- Maine Press Association award for investigative reporting
- Mary Hartman Award for distinguished service from University of Maine
- Restoration Leadership Award from RESTORE: The North Woods

A memorial service is being planned for January 2017.

Medawisla Update

by Paul Hahn, Chair, Maine Chapter MWI Committee

By now all Maine Chapter members should know about Medawisla. Just in case, Medawisla was a sporting camp purchased by the AMC in 2006 as part of the Club's Maine Woods Initiative (MWI). The camp is located north of Greenville and eight miles from Kokadjo on Second Roach Pond. (Delorme Atlas Maps #41 and 42) The camp, after years of use by AMC, but unable to be refurbished economically and too small, was torn down in 2012. New lodge and cabin facilities are now nearing completion.

Some of the cabins will have self-serve kitchens, allowing guests to do their own cooking if they wish to save money and have greater use flexibility. This past fall, the Maine Chapter Leadership made a donation of \$7,500 to the Medawisla project. The money will be used to build dock and boating facilities on Second Roach Pond. Any leftover monies will be used to enhance the self-serve cabin kitchens. This is a commitment by you, Maine Chapter members, of which you can be proud. Medawisla now has a planned opening in Summer 2017. Your Maine Chapter Leadership encourages you to be among the first to use the beautiful new AMC lodge and cabins.

Great Lineup of AMC Programs this Winter in Bangor

Our line-up for Meetings and Education in Bangor includes a mix of themes related to both conservation and recreation. All presentations are at 6pm at the Bangor Public Library in the new first floor, Crofutt Room (unless posted otherwise) and are, as always, free and welcome to all.

Wednesday, January 11, join Suzanne and David Kelly of Bangor for: Bangor EcoHomes: a Case Study in Affordable High Performance Building. The mother and son team will discuss the evolution of Bangor EcoHomes, a 'green pocket neighborhood' of six nearly self sufficient single family homes. They'll discuss the complex balance between affordability, sustainability and performance in the design/build process. Plenty of time will be left to answer questions you might have about your own projects.



Mark McCollough, US Fish and Wildlife Service

Wednesday, February 8, Mark McCollough will present, The Canada Lynx and Other Northern Wildlife - Can we Protect them from Global Warming? Mark is a PhD and the lead biologist for the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the Northeast for the threatened Canada lynx. He is working with a team of wildlife biologists to develop recovery strategies for the Canada lynx and other

endangered species in response to climate change. Mark will talk about how warming temperatures and changing snow conditions could present challenges to moose, pine marten, and northern songbirds that live in the North Maine Woods. By the way, you already know Mark through his art. He created Maine's chickadee and loon license plates.



Michelle Moody in a canyon at Wire Pass, Utah

Tuesday, March 7 brings us talk about exploring Utah with AMC members Michelle and Stan Moody, *Utah – A Magical Landscape of Canyons, Sandstone Sculptures, Red Rock and So Much More*. The Moodys' spent 5 months traveling from Maine to the Rockies with many stops along the way. One of the highlights of their journey was spending over a month exploring Utah. This not only included the very well known and popular Zion, Bryce, Arches, Canyonlands and Capitol Reef National Parks but many fantastic and lesser know spots. Come join them in a

photo review of some of these highlights.

Thursday, April 6, we talk about the Maine Woods Initiative. Steve Tatko, MWI's Land Manager, will discuss the history, development and management objectives for 70,000 acres of AMC land in northern Maine. AMC's most ambitious conservation project, the MWI has afforded the club a tremendous opportunity to practice what it preaches at a landscape scale in one of the most important conservation regions in Maine. Combining sustainable forestry, world-class recreational facilities and trails, and ecological restoration, AMC has been pioneering a new model of conservation ownership in Maine. Steve will reflect on the first decade of AMC's ownership and what lies ahead. Born and raised in Willimantic, ME to a fifth generation slate mining family, he started working for the family business at a young age and gained firsthand experience with logging, road building, and business management skills. He was also a history major and became a Registered Maine Forester.



Steve Tatko, MWI Land Manager in MWI



Check out AMC Programs in Brunswick this Winter

Come join us at the Curtis Memorial Library, 23 Pleasant Road, Brunswick for 3 presentations and potlucks this winter. Presentations start at 7pm. Optional potluck dinner starts at 6pm (please bring a dish to share, help us be green and bring your own cup, plates and silverware). Doors open at 5:30pm. Free and open to the public.



February 2 - AT Sawyer

We start off the 2017 series on **Thursday, January 5**, with a look at the things AMC does behind the scenes in Maine with a presentation called - Protect the Places you Love - AMC's Conservation Work & How to Engage! If you love to hike, paddle, ski, camp or just love our Maine mountains, what happens in the State House and Congress affects YOU! Learn how development, pollution or land conservation can change your trails experience for better or worse and how you can get involved.

Thursday, February 2, we take a look at the important work that most people may not be familiar with involving the Appalachian Trail - The A.T. in Maine - Beyond Trail Maintenance. Join us for an examination of the behind-the-scenes work undertaken by the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, the Maine A.T. Land Trust and the Maine A.T. Club along with AMC to protect the scenic integrity and hiker experience along the trail in Maine.



March 2- Sheila and Dean canoeing

Thursday, March 2, we venture into Maine's Wild and Scenic River - The Allagash Wilderness Waterway. Sheila and Dean Bennett invite you to a PowerPoint presentation of a 100-mile canoe trip through this place in the wild which is full of mystery, history, and beauty. They have been paddling this river since 1976 and have much to share. The Allagash just celebrated its 50th year of protection in 2016.

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!

Finding Strength in the Mountains *By Denise Fredette*

I finished hiking the New England Hundred Highest peaks last July and by the time of this publication, I will have climbed all of New Hampshire's 48 highest peaks in Winter. I learned more about myself in the last four years than I have in my lifetime because hiking is a kind of meditation, where I can slow my mind down enough to focus on myself, instead of the many other things going on in life. Like many people today, I juggle work, school, family, and relationships, forgetting to slow down and appreciate the now. Hiking forces me to slow down (especially on those steep descents). It focuses my mind and gives me confidence in a different kind of strength. Hiking saved my soul.

Ten years ago I hadn't dreamed that I would be the experienced hiker I am today. I was a single parent raising a "special needs" child. Often, I was either working two jobs, going to school while working full-time, and/or volunteering at my son's activities. I didn't know the mountains were so accessible and I didn't stop much to think about how to fuel my own passions. I just moved through life until one day, when my son got older and I realized I needed...something. I needed to focus on my well-being and to find some way to "play" again. I found the Appalachian Mountain Club and the mountains that inspired and renewed me.

Five years ago I did not think I would be trudging up mountains in the Northeastern Winter or navigating to trail-less summits using only a



View of Stratton Pond in VT the morning after a night at the nearby tentsites. Photo by Denise Fredette

map and compass, or even solo backpacking, cooking on a little stove in a remote forest near a beautiful mountain lake. Back then, my idea of exercise was heading to the gym or jogging in the suburbs. I couldn't read a map to save my life, and I had never camped alone. I didn't even like getting up in the middle of the night at camp to go to the bathroom for fear of coming across a stinky nocturnal creature. My family doesn't understand my love for hiking and the outdoors, except my son, who asks me why I never did any of this cool stuff before, when he was young.

I didn't know this hiking world existed before. Back then, I would have liked to share more of the mountains with my son. I would have liked to have more confidence in my ability to learn all of these survival and navigation skills that I thought were beyond me at the time. I was just trying to provide a better life for my family of two. My son is still young enough to take advantage of what I had to wait another ten years to find. The outdoors has so much to offer. It's a place to find solace, inner strength, challenges, and beauty. Some of us take years to find it, some never do. I get excited when I think of introducing new people to hiking and all things outdoors. I guess that's why I became a Trip Leader for the AMC. The mountains show me that I am stronger than I thought. They inspire me to explore more of this world and share what I've found with others.



Between North and South Twin Mountains January 2016. Photo by Sarah Keats

To be added to our Events mailing list, email: amcyoungmembers@amcmaine.org
Join our group on Facebook: [amcmaineyoungmembers](https://www.facebook.com/amcmaineyoungmembers)

Join the Young Members (20's, 30's, & Young at Heart) This Winter!

The Young Members have a great Winter of fun activities planned. We begin our Winter season with the 2nd Annual New Year's Eve Hut weekend at Zealand Hut **December 30-January 1**. We have hikes ranging from beginner through advanced starting with a hike to Burnt Meadow Mountain on **Sunday, January 8** right through March with a hike to North and South Kinsman on **Saturday, March 4**. There will be several Cross-Country ski trips for all skill levels. The first one is scheduled for **Sunday, January 22** at Bretton Woods in NH. We will also have some fun socials like snow tubing on **Sunday, February 5**. For more activities led by the Maine Chapter Young Members, check out the calendar at www.amcmaine.org and our Facebook page at AMC Maine/NH Young Members. See you on the Trails!



A group of friends traverse the Franconia Ridge between Lincoln & Lafayette – pictured Sarah Keats and Mariano Scandizzo. Photo taken by Denise Fredette